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December 2005 Surface Trade with Canada and Mexico Grew 13.5 Percent from December 2004

Trade using surface transportation between the United States and its North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) partners Canada and Mexico was 13.5 percent higher in December 2005 than in December 2004, reaching \$59.1 billion, according to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) of the U.S. Department of Transportation (*Table 1*).

BTS, a part of the Research and Innovative Technology Administration (RITA), reported that total North American surface transportation trade fell 6.0 percent in December from November (*Table 2*). Month-to-month changes can be affected by seasonal variations and other factors.

Surface transportation consists largely of freight movements by truck, rail and pipeline. About 90 percent of U.S. merchandise trade by value with Canada and Mexico moves on land.

Total North American surface transportation trade value in December was up 54.5 percent compared to December 2001, and up 102.3 percent compared to December 1995, a period of 10 years (*Table 3*). Imports in December were up 120.7 percent compared to December 1995, while exports were up 81.1 percent.

U.S. Surface Transportation Trade with Canada

U.S.–Canada surface transportation trade totaled \$39.2 billion in December, up 16.2 percent compared to December 2004 (*Table 4*). The value of imports carried by truck was 4.6 percent higher in December 2005 than December 2004 while the value of exports carried by truck was 8.8 percent higher.

Michigan led all states in surface trade with Canada in December with \$6.2 billion (*Table 5*).

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U.S. Surface Transportation Trade with Mexico

U.S. – Mexico surface transportation trade totaled \$19.9 billion in December, up 8.5 percent compared to December 2004 (*Table 6*). The value of imports carried by truck was 6.1 percent higher in December 2005 than December 2004 while the value of exports carried by truck was 6.9 percent higher.

Texas led all states in surface trade with Mexico in December with \$6.5 billion (*Table 7*).

The Transborder Freight Dataset is a special extract of the official U.S. foreign trade statistics. The data are tabulated for BTS monthly by the U.S. Census Bureau's Foreign Trade Division. December transborder numbers include data received by BTS as of Feb. 13.

The news release and summary tables can be found at www.bts.gov. More information on transborder freight data and data from previous months are posted on the BTS website at <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>. BTS will release additional annual 2005 transborder numbers on March 14 and January transborder numbers on March 28.

Table 1. Value of Monthly U.S. Surface Trade with Canada and Mexico
(millions of dollars)

Month	2004	2005	Percent Change 2004-2005
January	45,686	52,334	14.6
February	48,170	53,592	11.3
March	56,269	59,436	5.6
April	53,195	58,297	9.6
May	53,155	57,870	8.9
June	55,422	59,431	7.2
July	48,096	49,690	3.3
August	53,577	60,188	12.3
September	54,913	61,166	11.4
October	56,880	63,985	12.5
November	56,134	62,894	12.0
December	52,065	59,104	13.5
Year-to-date	633,563	697,987	10.2
Annual	633,563	697,987	10.2

Source: BTS Transborder Surface Freight Dataset,

<http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

Note: Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding.

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Table 2. U.S. Merchandise Trade with Canada and Mexico by Surface Modes of Transportation
(millions of dollars)

Mode		December 2004	November 2005	December 2005	Percent Change Nov.– Dec. 2005	Percent Change December 2004-2005
All Surface Modes	Imports	29,668	36,387	34,525	-5.1	16.4
	Exports	22,397	26,507	24,579	-7.3	9.7
	Total	52,065	62,894	59,104	-6.0	13.5
Truck	Imports	19,141	23,095	20,142	-12.8	5.2
	Exports	17,758	20,899	19,197	-8.1	8.1
Rail	Imports	6,199	7,440	7,497	0.8	21.0
	Exports	2,528	3,125	3,049	-2.4	20.6
Pipeline	Imports	3,309	4,753	5,402	13.7	63.2
	Exports	238	212	279	31.3	17.2

Source: BTS Transborder Surface Freight Dataset, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

Note: The value of all surface modes is not equal to the sum of truck, rail and pipeline modes. The value of trade for all surface modes includes shipments made by truck, rail, pipeline, mail, foreign trade zones, other and unknown modes of transportation. For additional detail refer to the Transborder Surface Freight data "Sources and Reliability" statement: <http://www.bts.gov/ntda/tbscd/srfin.html>; Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding.

Table 3: December 2005 Surface Trade with Canada and Mexico Compared with December of Prior Years

Compared to December in...	Percent Change		Total Surface Trade
	Imports	Exports	
2004	16.4	9.7	13.5
2003	33.1	26.1	30.1
2002	46.3	42.9	44.9
2001	58.4	49.4	54.5
2000	34.8	28.4	32.0
1999	47.7	26.6	38.1
1998	69.4	46.4	59.0
1997	82.1	52.3	68.4
1996	99.1	53.1	77.0
1995	120.7	81.1	102.3

Source: BTS Transborder Surface Freight Dataset, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

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**Table 4. U.S. Merchandise Trade with Canada by Surface Modes of Transportation
(millions of dollars)**

Mode		December 2004	November 2005	December 2005	Percent Change Nov.– Dec. 2005	Percent Change December 2004-2005
All Surface Modes	Imports	19,306	24,074	23,378	-2.9	21.1
	Exports	14,444	16,974	15,850	-6.6	9.7
	Total	33,750	41,048	39,228	-4.4	16.2
Truck	Imports	10,666	12,894	11,152	-13.5	4.6
	Exports	11,357	13,379	12,353	-7.7	8.8
Rail	Imports	4,527	5,546	5,562	0.3	22.9
	Exports	1,364	1,716	1,617	-5.8	18.6
Pipeline	Imports	3,309	4,753	5,402	13.7	63.2
	Exports	226	147	212	44.3	-6.1

Source: BTS Transborder Surface Freight Dataset, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

Note: The value of all surface modes is not equal to the sum of truck, rail and pipeline modes. The value of trade for all surface modes includes shipments made by truck, rail, pipeline, mail, foreign trade zones, other and unknown modes of transportation. For additional detail refer to the Transborder Surface Freight data "Sources and Reliability" statement: <http://www.bts.gov/ntda/tbscd/srfin.html>; Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding.

**Table 5. Top 10 States Trading with Canada
by Surface Modes of Transportation, Ranked
by December 2005 Surface Trade Value
(millions of dollars)**

Rank	State	December 2005
1	Michigan	6,225
2	Illinois	2,893
3	New York	2,820
4	Ohio	2,460
5	California	2,455
6	Texas	1,766
7	Washington	1,492
8	Pennsylvania	1,338
9	Tennessee	1,323
10	Indiana	1,159

Source: BTS Transborder Surface Freight Dataset,
<http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

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Table 6. U.S. Merchandise Trade with Mexico by Surface Modes of Transportation
(millions of dollars)

Mode		December 2004	November 2005	December 2005	Percent Change Nov.– Dec. 2005	Percent Change December 2004-2005
All Surface Modes	Imports	10,362	12,312	11,147	-9.5	7.6
	Exports	7,953	9,534	8,729	-8.4	9.8
	Total	18,315	21,846	19,876	-9.0	8.5
Truck	Imports	8,475	10,200	8,991	-11.9	6.1
	Exports	6,401	7,519	6,844	-9.0	6.9
Rail	Imports	1,672	1,894	1,936	2.2	15.8
	Exports	1,164	1,409	1,432	1.7	23.0
Pipeline	Imports	0	0	0	NA	NA
	Exports	12	66	67	2.0	445.5

Source: BTS Transborder Surface Freight Dataset, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

Note: The value of all surface modes is not equal to the sum of truck, rail and pipeline modes. The value of trade for all surface modes includes shipments made by truck, rail, pipeline, mail, foreign trade zones, other and unknown modes of transportation. For additional detail refer to the Transborder Surface Freight data "Sources and Reliability" statement: <http://www.bts.gov/ntda/tbscd/srfin.html>; Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding.

Table 7. Top 10 States Trading with Mexico
by Surface Modes of Transportation, Ranked
by December 2005 Surface Trade Value
(millions of dollars)

Rank	State	December 2005
1	Texas	6,456
2	California	3,415
3	Michigan	2,100
4	Arizona	790
5	Illinois	603
6	Ohio	511
7	Tennessee	443
8	New York	395
9	Indiana	366
10	North Carolina	364

Source: BTS Transborder Surface Freight Dataset,
<http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

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