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May Surface Trade with Canada and Mexico Rose 8.9 Percent from May 2004

Trade using surface transportation between the United States and its North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) partners Canada and Mexico rose 8.9 percent in May 2005 from May 2004 to a total of \$57.9 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 surface transportation trade fell 0.7 percent in May from April (*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. trade by value with Canada and Mexico moves on land.

Total surface transportation trade value in May was up 19.3 percent compared to May 2002, when North American surface trade reached its low point of any May since 2000, and up 79.2 percent compared to May 1995, a period of 10 years (*Table 3*). Imports in May were up 91.5 percent compared to May 1995, while exports were up 65.6 percent (*Table 3*).

U.S. Surface Transportation Trade with Canada

U.S. – Canada surface transportation trade totaled \$37.9 billion in May, up 9.8 percent compared to May 2004. Trucks carried 59 percent of imports and 78 percent of exports by value. The value of imports carried by truck rose 10.3 percent in May 2005 from May 2004 while the value of exports rose 11.1 percent (*Table 4*).

Michigan led all states in surface trade with Canada in May with \$6.0 billion (*Table 5*).

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U.S. Surface Transportation Trade with Mexico

U.S. – Mexico surface transportation trade totaled \$20.0 billion in May, up 7.0 percent compared to May 2004. Trucks carried 82 percent of imports and 80 percent of exports by value. The value of imports carried by truck rose 9.1 percent in May 2005 from May 2004 while the value of exports rose 5.2 percent (*Table 6*).

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

The Transborder Surface 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. May transborder numbers include data received by BTS as of July 15, 2005.

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 June transborder numbers on August 29.

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		
July	48,096		
August	53,577		
September	54,913		
October	56,880		
November	56,134		
December	52,065		
Year-to-date	256,475	281,529	9.8
Annual	633,563		

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

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

Mode		May 2004	April 2005	May 2005	Percent Change April - May	Percent Change May 2004-2005
All Surface Modes	Imports	30,201	33,201	32,503	-2.1	7.6
	Exports	22,954	25,096	25,367	1.1	10.5
	Total	53,155	58,297	57,870	-0.7	8.9
Truck	Imports	19,725	21,455	21,659	1.0	9.8
	Exports	18,317	19,706	19,967	1.3	9.0
Rail	Imports	7,061	6,940	6,786	-2.2	-3.9
	Exports	2,702	3,134	3,106	-0.9	14.9
Pipeline	Imports	2,616	3,429	2,939	-14.3	12.3
	Exports	155	251	347	38.4	124.4

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>

Table 3: May 2005 Surface Trade Compared with May of Prior Years

Compared to May in...	Percent Change		
	Imports	Exports	Total Surface Trade
2004	7.6	10.5	8.9
2003	17.2	20.3	18.6
2002	17.9	21.0	19.3
2001	14.5	19.6	16.7
2000	18.5	17.4	18.0
1999	42.3	38.0	40.4
1998	58.3	43.2	51.3
1997	67.5	55.7	62.1
1996	66.6	51.1	59.4
1995	91.5	65.6	79.2

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

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**NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS
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**Table 4. U.S. Merchandise Trade with Canada by Surface Modes of Transportation
(millions of dollars)**

Mode		May 2004	April 2005	May 2005	Percent Change April - May	Percent Change May 2004- 2005
All Surface Modes	Imports	19,596	21,635	21,128	-2.3	7.8
	Exports	14,899	16,491	16,778	1.7	12.6
	Total	34,495	38,126	37,906	-0.6	9.8
Truck	Imports	11,206	11,901	12,364	3.9	10.3
	Exports	11,762	12,868	13,070	1.6	11.1
Rail	Imports	5,179	5,115	4,899	-4.2	-5.4
	Exports	1,535	1,748	1,803	3.1	17.5
Pipeline	Imports	2,616	3,429	2,939	-14.3	12.3
	Exports	154	239	295	23.7	91.9

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>

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

Rank	State	May 2005
1	Michigan	6,046
2	Ohio	2,620
3	Illinois	2,512
4	California	2,423
5	New York	2,382
6	Texas	1,682
7	Pennsylvania	1,436
8	Indiana	1,319
9	Washington	1,185
10	Tennessee	1,093

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		May 2004	April 2005	May 2005	Percent Change April - May	Percent Change May 2004-2005
All Surface Modes	Imports	10,606	11,566	11,375	-1.7	7.3
	Exports	8,054	8,605	8,588	-0.2	6.6
	Total	18,660	20,172	19,963	-1.0	7.0
Truck	Imports	8,519	9,553	9,295	-2.7	9.1
	Exports	6,555	6,838	6,897	0.9	5.2
Rail	Imports	1,882	1,825	1,887	3.4	0.3
	Exports	1,168	1,385	1,303	-6.0	11.6
Pipeline	Imports	0	0	0	NA	NA
	Exports	1	12	52	328.3	7,174.7

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>

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

Rank	State	May 2005
1	Texas	6,477
2	California	3,367
3	Michigan	2,046
4	Arizona	753
5	Illinois	687
6	Ohio	482
7	Indiana	453
8	Tennessee	444
9	New York	388
10	North Carolina	380

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

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