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Transportation Services Index (TSI) Fell 0.6 Percent in June from May

The Transportation Services Index (TSI) fell 0.6 percent in June to 112.0 (2000=100) from the May level of 112.6, the first monthly decline following three consecutive increases, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) reported today (Table 1).

BTS, a part of DOT's Research and Innovative Technology Administration (RITA), reported that the June level of 112.0 for the combined freight and passenger index was 2.4 percent higher than the June 2004 level of 109.4 (Table 2). The June 2005 level was 11.7 percent higher than the June level of the base year of 2000 (Table 3).

TSI is a single seasonally adjusted index of the month-to-month changes in the output of services provided by the for-hire transportation industries, including railroad, air, truck, inland waterways, pipeline, and local transit.

The index includes historic data from 1990 to the present. The TSI is still under development and is considered experimental. The index measures changes from the monthly average of the base year of 2000. The next release of TSI numbers is scheduled for Oct. 6.

Transportation Services Index for Freight

The TSI for freight fell 0.5 percent to 112.6 in June from the May level of 113.1, the first monthly decline following three consecutive increases (Table 1). The June 2005 level of 112.6 is 1.1 percent higher than the June 2004 level of 111.4 (Table 4).

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**TRANSPORTATION SERVICES INDEX RELEASE
ADD ONE**

Transportation Services Index for Passengers

The TSI for passengers fell 0.8 percent to 110.3 in June from the May level of 111.2, the first monthly decrease since February (Table 1). The June 2005 level of 110.3 is 5.6 percent higher than the June 2004 level of 104.4 (Table 5).

More on TSI

During the six months ending in June, the TSI rose 1.8 percent, the Freight TSI rose 1.2 percent and the Passenger TSI rose 3.3 percent (Table 1).

Notes: TSI numbers for March 2005 (Total, Freight, and Passenger) were scheduled to be revised because of revisions in the output data of the component transportation services. The March TSI remained at the 111.6 level reported in the August release. The March Freight TSI remained at 112.5. The March Passenger TSI is 109.3, revised from 109.2. The TSI for April, May and June are preliminary.

TSI revision policy: TSI is updated monthly with the latest three months' index numbers considered preliminary. Each month BTS releases the latest preliminary TSI, and replaces the oldest preliminary TSI with a revised TSI. The TSI for the oldest preliminary month, March, has been revised. All other revisions are held until an annual comprehensive revision of the TSI which will be released as part of the following July TSI release. More information about the revision policy is available at <http://www.bts.gov/xml/tsi/src/index.xml>.

Table 1: Percent changes in the Transportation Services Index by Month Since December 2004 (Seasonally Adjusted, Monthly Average of 2000 = 100)

	TSI		Freight		Passenger	
	Index	Pct. Change	Index	Pct. Change	Index	Pct. Change
December	109.9	-0.3	111.2	-0.4	106.8	-0.2
January	111.6	1.5	112.8	1.4	108.4	1.5
February	110.0	-1.4	111.5	-1.2	106.2	-2.0
March ^R	111.6	1.5	112.5	1.0	109.3	2.9
April ^P	111.7	0.1	112.6	0.1	109.3	0.0
May ^P	112.6	0.8	113.1	0.5	111.2	1.8
June ^P	112.0	-0.6	112.6	-0.5	110.3	-0.8

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

Note: P = preliminary

R = revised

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TRANSPORTATION SERVICES INDEX RELEASE**ADD TWO****Table 2: Percent changes in the Transportation Services Index from Year-to-Year June TSI (Monthly average of 2000 = 100)**

	TSI	Percent change from same month previous year
1996	86.9	2.0
1997	91.1	4.8
1998	97.7	7.3
1999	99.8	2.1
2000	100.2	0.5
2001	99.3	-1.0
2002	99.2	-0.1
2003	100.7	1.5
2004	109.4	8.6
2005 ^P	112.0	2.4

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

Note: P = preliminary

Table 3: Percent Changes in the Transportation Services Index from Previous Years to 2005, June to June

Percent change to June 2005	Since June ...	Duration in years
2.4	2004	1
11.2	2003	2
12.9	2002	3
12.8	2001	4
11.7	2000	5
12.2	1999	6
14.6	1998	7
23.0	1997	8
28.8	1996	9

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

Table 4: Percent changes in the Freight Transportation Services Index from Year-to-Year June Freight TSI (Monthly average of 2000 = 100)

	Freight TSI	Percent change from same month previous year
1996	87.7	0.1
1997	92.4	5.3
1998	101.3	9.7
1999	102.4	1.0
2000	100.3	-2.1
2001	98.9	-1.4
2002	101.4	2.6
2003	103.5	2.0
2004	111.4	7.7
2005 ^P	112.6	1.1

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

Note: P = preliminary

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES INDEX RELEASE

ADD THREE

Table 5: Percent changes in the Passenger Transportation Services Index from Year-to-Year, June Passenger TSI (Monthly average of 2000 = 100)

	Passenger TSI	Percent change from same month previous year
1996	84.6	6.3
1997	87.8	3.7
1998	89.6	2.1
1999	93.8	4.6
2000	100.2	6.9
2001	100.2	0.0
2002	93.9	-6.2
2003	94.0	0.0
2004	104.4	11.1
2005 ^P	110.3	5.6

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

Note: P = preliminary

Brief Explanation of the TSI

The Transportation Services Index (TSI) is a measure of the month-to-month changes in the output of services provided by the for-hire transportation industries.

The TSI tells us how the output of transportation services has increased or decreased from month to month. The index can be examined together with other economic indicators to produce a better understanding of the current and future course of the economy. The movement of the index over time can be compared with other economic measures to understand the relationship of changes in transportation output to changes in Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

The TSI is still under development and is therefore considered experimental. It is being examined for refinements in data sources, methodologies and interpretations.

The freight transportation index consists of:

For hire trucking (not including parcel services),

Railroad freight services (including rail based intermodal shipments such as containers on flat cars),

Inland waterways transportation,

Pipeline transportation (including principally petroleum and petroleum products and natural gas), and

Air freight.

The index does not include international or coastal waterborne movements, private trucking, courier services, or the US Postal Service.

The passenger transportation index consists of:

Local transit,

Intercity passenger rail, and

Passenger air transportation.

The index does not include intercity bus, sight seeing services, ferry services, taxi service, private automobile usage, or bicycling and other non-motorized transportation.

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