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October Surface Trade with Canada and Mexico Fell 2.1 Percent from October 2007 (State Rankings in Tables 5 and 7)

Trade using surface transportation between the United States and its North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) partners Canada and Mexico was 2.1 percent lower in October 2008 than in October 2007, reaching \$72.7 billion, according to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) of the U.S. Department of Transportation (*Table 1*).

The value of U.S. surface transportation trade with Canada and Mexico rose 1.2 percent in October from September (*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 88 percent of U.S. trade by value with Canada and Mexico moves on land.

The value of U.S. surface transportation trade with Canada and Mexico in October was up 38.8 percent compared to October 2003, and up 74.9 percent compared to October 1998, a period of 10 years (*Table 3*). Imports in October were up 75 percent compared to October 1998, while exports were up 74.8 percent.

U.S. Surface Transportation Trade with Canada

U.S.–Canada surface transportation trade totaled \$44.8 billion in October, down 6.1 percent compared to October 2007 (*Table 4*). The value of imports carried by truck was 17.5 percent lower in October 2008 compared to October 2007, while the value of exports carried by truck was 9.5 percent lower.

Michigan led all states in surface trade with Canada in October with \$5.3 billion (*Table 5*).

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U.S. Surface Transportation Trade with Mexico

U.S.–Mexico surface transportation trade totaled \$27.9 billion in October, up 5.1 percent compared to October 2007 (*Table 6*). The value of imports carried by truck was 5.9 percent lower in October 2008 than October 2007 while the value of exports carried by truck was 18.4 percent higher.

Texas led all states in surface trade with Mexico in October with \$9.0 billion (*Table 7*).

The TransBorder Freight Data are a unique subset of official U.S. foreign trade statistics released by the U.S. Census Bureau. New data are tabulated monthly and historical data are not adjusted for inflation. October TransBorder numbers include data received by BTS as of Dec. 17.

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 November TransBorder numbers on Jan. 29.

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

Month	2006	2007	2008	Percent Change 2006-2007	Percent Change 2007-2008
January	61,189	60,649	65,160	-0.9	7.4
February	59,804	59,667	69,406	-0.2	16.3
March	68,213	69,768	70,787	2.3	1.5
April	61,742	65,015	74,317	5.3	14.3
May	65,994	69,423	74,128	5.2	6.8
June	66,898	69,526	74,139	3.9	6.6
July	55,939	61,823	71,628	10.5	15.9
August	66,354	69,158	72,254	4.2	4.5
September	63,295	66,771	71,801	5.5	7.5
October	66,846	74,249	72,683	11.1	-2.1
November	64,805	70,352		8.6	
December	59,049	60,902		3.1	
Jan-Oct	636,273	666,049	716,304	4.7	7.5
Annual	760,127	797,303		4.9	

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

Note: Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding. Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

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

Mode		October 2007	September 2008	October 2008	Percent Change September 2008 – October 2008	Percent Change October 2007-2008
All Surface Modes	Imports	41,974	40,304	39,905	-1.0	-4.9
	Exports	32,275	31,497	32,778	4.1	1.6
	Total	74,249	71,801	72,683	1.2	-2.1
Truck	Imports	27,065	23,896	23,824	-0.3	-12.0
	Exports	25,310	24,175	25,316	4.7	0.0
Rail	Imports	8,199	7,327	7,625	4.1	-7.0
	Exports	4,169	4,423	4,842	9.5	16.1
Pipeline	Imports	5,130	7,430	6,789	-8.6	32.4
	Exports	151	505	303	-40.0	100.1

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

Notes: Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding. Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding. The value of trade for all surface modes is not equal to the sum of truck, rail and pipeline modes, it also includes shipments made by mail, foreign trade zones, other and unknown modes of transportation. For additional detail refer to the "Data Fields" Section of the TransBorder web page: http://www.bts.gov/transborder/TBDR_DataFields.html.

Pipeline export data are not currently available for March 2008.

**Table 3. October 2008 Surface Trade with Canada and
Mexico Compared with October of Prior Years**

Compared to October in...	Percent Change		Total Surface Trade
	Imports	Exports	
2007	-4.9	1.6	-2.1
2006	5.2	13.4	8.7
2005	7.3	22.4	13.6
2004	22.5	34.9	27.8
2003	33.6	45.7	38.8
2002	41.6	52.8	46.4
2001	49.0	57.2	52.6
2000	36.2	46.2	40.5
1999	59.0	60.0	59.4
1998	75.0	74.8	74.9

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data,
<http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

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

Mode		October 2007	September 2008	October 2008	Percent Change September 2008 – October 2008	Percent Change October 2007-2008
All Surface Modes	Imports	26,309	26,708	25,048	-6.2	-4.8
	Exports	21,375	20,069	19,704	-1.8	-7.8
	Total	47,684	46,778	44,752	-4.3	-6.1
Truck	Imports	14,206	12,611	11,720	-7.1	-17.5
	Exports	16,683	15,354	15,098	-1.7	-9.5
Rail	Imports	5,698	5,408	5,233	-3.2	-8.2
	Exports	2,368	2,658	2,577	-3.1	8.8
Pipeline	Imports	5,117	7,416	6,768	-8.7	32.3
	Exports	108	206	217	5.4	100.9

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

Note: Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding. Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding. The value of trade for all surface modes is not equal to the sum of truck, rail and pipeline modes, it also includes shipments made by mail, foreign trade zones, other and unknown modes of transportation. For additional detail refer to the "Data Fields" Section of the TransBorder web page:

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Pipeline export data are not currently available for March 2008.

Table 5. Top 10 States Trading with Canada by Surface Modes of Transportation
Ranked by October 2008 Surface Trade Value
(millions of dollars)

Rank	State	October 2008
1	Michigan	5,291
2	Illinois	4,203
3	Ohio	3,096
4	New York	2,775
5	California	2,768
6	Texas	2,312
7	Washington	1,937
8	Pennsylvania	1,847
9	Minnesota	1,704
10	Indiana	1,302

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data,
<http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

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

Mode		October 2007	September 2008	October 2008	Percent Change September 2008 – October 2008	Percent Change October 2007-2008
All Surface Modes	Imports	15,665	13,596	14,857	9.3	-5.2
	Exports	10,901	11,427	13,074	14.4	19.9
	Total	26,565	25,023	27,932	11.6	5.1
Truck	Imports	12,859	11,285	12,104	7.3	-5.9
	Exports	8,626	8,821	10,218	15.8	18.4
Rail	Imports	2,501	1,919	2,392	24.7	-4.3
	Exports	1,802	1,765	2,265	28.4	25.7
Pipeline	Imports	13	14	21	47.1	67.4
	Exports	43	299	86	-71.4	97.9

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

Note: Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding. Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding. The value of trade for all surface modes is not equal to the sum of truck, rail and pipeline modes, it also includes shipments made by mail, foreign trade zones, other and unknown modes of transportation.

For additional detail refer to the "Data Fields" Section of the TransBorder web page:

http://www.bts.gov/transborder/TBDR_DataFields.html

Table 7. Top 10 States Trading with Mexico
by Surface Modes of Transportation

Ranked by October 2008 Surface Trade Value

(millions of dollars)

Rank	State	October 2008
1	Texas	9,043
2	California	4,812
3	Michigan	2,835
4	Illinois	1,160
5	Arizona	1,002
6	Ohio	836
7	Tennessee	580
8	Pennsylvania	503
9	North Carolina	477
10	Indiana	416

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data,

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

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