



**M O V I N G T H E**  
**AMERICAN**  
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**August 2008 Surface Trade with Canada and Mexico Rose 4.5 Percent from August 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 4.5 percent higher in August 2008 than in August 2007, reaching \$72.3 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 0.9 percent in August from July (*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 August was up 60.5 percent compared to August 2003, and up 101.9 percent compared to August 1998, a period of 10 years (*Table 3*). Imports in August were up 107.5 percent compared to August 1998, while exports were up 95.2 percent.

**U.S. Surface Transportation Trade with Canada**

U.S.–Canada surface transportation trade totaled \$46.8 billion in August, up 8.6 percent compared to August 2007 (*Table 4*). The value of imports carried by truck was 6.1 percent lower in August 2008 than August 2007, while the value of exports carried by truck was 1.0 percent higher.

Michigan led all states in surface trade with Canada in August with \$5.8 billion (*Table 5*).

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### U.S. Surface Transportation Trade with Mexico

U.S.–Mexico surface transportation trade totaled \$25.5 billion in August, down 2.4 percent compared to August 2007 (*Table 6*). The value of imports carried by truck was 8.2 percent lower in August 2008 than August 2007 while the value of exports carried by truck was 4.5 percent higher.

Texas led all states in surface trade with Mexico in August with \$8.3 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. August TransBorder numbers include data received by BTS as of Oct. 15.

The news release and summary tables can be found at [www.bts.gov](http://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 September TransBorder numbers on Dec. 1.

**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	<b>65,160</b>	-0.9	<b>7.4</b>
February	59,804	59,667	<b>69,406</b>	-0.2	<b>16.3</b>
March	68,213	69,768	<b>70,787</b>	2.3	<b>1.5</b>
April	61,742	65,015	<b>74,317</b>	5.3	<b>14.3</b>
May	65,994	69,423	<b>74,128</b>	5.2	<b>6.8</b>
June	66,898	69,526	<b>74,139</b>	3.9	<b>6.6</b>
July	55,939	61,823	<b>71,628</b>	10.5	<b>15.9</b>
August	66,354	69,158	<b>72,254</b>	4.2	<b>4.5</b>
September	63,295	66,771		5.5	
October	66,846	74,249		11.1	
November	64,805	70,352		8.6	
December	59,049	60,902		3.1	
Year-to-date (8 months)	506,132	525,028	<b>571,819</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>8.9</b>
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		August 2007	July 2008	August 2008	Percent Change July 2008 – August 2008	Percent Change August 2007-2008
All Surface Modes	Imports	39,356	40,241	40,821	1.4	3.7
	Exports	29,802	31,387	31,434	0.2	5.5
	Total	69,158	71,628	72,254	0.9	4.5
Truck	Imports	24,681	23,038	22,919	-0.5	-7.1
	Exports	23,377	23,762	23,917	0.7	2.3
Rail	Imports	8,419	6,981	8,287	18.7	-1.6
	Exports	3,663	4,598	4,779	3.9	30.5
Pipeline	Imports	4,733	8,551	8,151	-4.7	72.2
	Exports	189	612	367	-40.0	93.9

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](http://www.bts.gov/transborder/TBDR_DataFields.html).

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

Compared to August in...	Percent Change		Total Surface Trade
	Imports	Exports	
<b>2007</b>	3.7	5.5	4.5
<b>2006</b>	8.2	9.8	8.9
<b>2005</b>	18.3	22.4	20.0
<b>2004</b>	30.7	40.7	34.9
<b>2003</b>	57.3	64.9	60.5
<b>2002</b>	52.6	57.3	54.6
<b>2001</b>	52.7	54.0	53.3
<b>2000</b>	44.7	42.2	43.6
<b>1999</b>	68.0	67.7	67.9
<b>1998</b>	107.5	95.2	101.9

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		August 2007	July 2008	August 2008	Percent Change July 2008 – August 2008	Percent Change August 2007-2008
All Surface Modes	Imports	24,029	26,794	26,804	0.0	11.5
	Exports	19,049	20,068	19,986	-0.4	4.9
	Total	43,078	46,862	46,791	-0.2	8.6
Truck	Imports	12,255	11,623	11,510	-1.0	-6.1
	Exports	14,809	14,952	14,960	0.1	1.0
Rail	Imports	5,801	5,292	6,054	14.4	4.4
	Exports	2,019	2,730	2,856	4.6	41.4
Pipeline	Imports	4,722	8,527	8,126	-4.7	72.1
	Exports	139	477	291	-38.9	109.9

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](http://www.bts.gov/transborder/TBDR_DataFields.html).

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

Rank	State	August 2008
1	Michigan	5,796
2	Illinois	5,040
3	New York	3,226
4	Ohio	2,977
5	California	2,838
6	Texas	2,436
7	Pennsylvania	1,830
8	Washington	1,792
9	Minnesota	1,777
10	Tennessee	1,332

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		August 2007	July 2008	August 2008	Percent Change July 2008 – August 2008	Percent Change August 2007-2008
All Surface Modes	Imports	15,326	13,447	14,016	4.2	-8.5
	Exports	10,753	11,319	11,448	1.1	6.5
	Total	26,079	24,766	25,464	2.8	-2.4
Truck	Imports	12,426	11,416	11,410	-0.1	-8.2
	Exports	8,568	8,810	8,958	1.7	4.5
Rail	Imports	2,618	1,689	2,233	32.2	-14.7
	Exports	1,643	1,868	1,923	3.0	17.0
Pipeline	Imports	12	24	25	4.2	114.4
	Exports	51	136	76	-44.2	50.1

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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](http://www.bts.gov/transborder/TBDR_DataFields.html)

**Table 7. Top 10 States Trading with Mexico by Surface Modes of Transportation**  
Ranked by August 2008 Surface Trade Value  
(millions of dollars)

Rank	State	August 2008
1	Texas	8,285
2	California	4,248
3	Michigan	2,547
4	Illinois	987
5	Ohio	790
6	Arizona	787
7	Tennessee	486
8	North Carolina	482
9	Georgia	424
10	Pennsylvania	411

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data,

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

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