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Research and Innovative Technology Administration BTS Data

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# Surface Trade with Canada and Mexico Reached a Monthly Record High in March 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 2.3 percent higher in March 2007 than in March 2006, reaching \$69.8 billion, the highest monthly level ever recorded, 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 the value of U.S. surface transportation trade with Canada and Mexico rose 16.9 percent in March from February (*Table 2*). Month-to-month changes can be affected by seasonal variations and other factors.

Trucks carried \$49.1 billion of the March trade with Canada and Mexico (*Table 2*), the highest monthly number ever recorded. Trade by truck with Canada in March was valued at \$29.0 billion (*Table 4*) and trade by truck with Mexico was \$20.1 billion (*Table 6*).

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.

The value of U.S. surface transportation trade with Canada and Mexico in March was up 53.0 percent compared to March 2002, and up 97.0 percent compared to March 1997, a period of 10 years (*Table 3*). Imports in March were up 110.4 percent compared to March 1997, while exports were up 81.6 percent.

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

U.S.—Canada surface transportation trade totaled \$45.1 billion in March, up 2.4 percent compared to March 2006 (*Table 4*). The value of imports carried by truck was 1.6 percent higher in March 2007 than March 2006, while the value of exports carried by truck was 0.4 percent higher.

Michigan led all states in surface trade with Canada in March with \$7.5 billion (*Table 5*).

### NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS ADD ONE

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

U.S. – Mexico surface transportation trade totaled \$24.7 billion in March, up 2.1 percent compared to March 2006 (*Table 6*). The value of imports carried by truck was 8.4 percent higher in March 2007 than March 2006 while the value of exports carried by truck was 5.9 percent lower.

Texas led all states in surface trade with Mexico in March with \$7.5 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. March TransBorder numbers include data received by BTS as of May 22.

The news release and summary tables can be found at <a href="www.bts.gov">www.bts.gov</a>. More information on TransBorder Freight Data and data from previous months are posted on the BTS website at <a href="http://www.bts.gov/transborder/">http://www.bts.gov/transborder/</a>. BTS will release April TransBorder numbers on June 28.

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

Month	2005	2006	2007	Percent Change 2005-2006	Percent Change 2006-2007
January	52,334	61,189	60,649	16.9	-0.9
February	53,592	59,804	59,667	11.6	-0.2
March	59,436	68,213	69,768	14.8	2.3
April	58,297	61,742		5.9	
May	57,870	65,994		14.0	
June	59,431	66,898		12.6	
July	49,690	55,939		12.6	
August	60,188	66,354		10.2	
September	61,166	63,295		3.5	
October	63,985	66,846		4.5	
November	62,894	64,805		3.0	
December	59,104	59,049		-0.1	
Year-to-date	165,362	189,205	190,083	14.4	0.5
Annual	697,987	760,127		8.9	

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

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

## NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS ADD TWO

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

(millions of dollars)

Mode		March 2006	February 2007	March 2007	Percent Change Feb. 2007 - Mar. 2007	Percent Change March 2006-2007
All Surface Modes	Imports	38,440	33,978	39,912	17.5	3.8
	Exports	29,772	25,689	29,856	16.2	0.3
	Total	68,213	59,667	69,768	16.9	2.3
Truck	Imports	24,751	22,141	25,910	17.0	4.7
	Exports	23,615	20,290	23,191	14.3	-1.8
Rail	Imports	8,068	6,696	8,465	26.4	4.9
	Exports	3,556	3,090	4,018	30.1	13.0
Pipeline	Imports	4,378	3,968	4,313	8.7	-1.5
	Exports	368	285	271	-4.9	-26.4

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

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 Freight Data "Sources and Reliability" statement: <a href="http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/transborder/tbdr">http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/transborder/tbdr</a>; Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding.

Table 3. March 2007 Surface Trade with Canada and Mexico Compared with March of Prior Years

_	Percent Change			
Compared to	Total Surface			
March in	Imports	Exports	Trade	
2006	3.8	0.3	2.3	
2005	18.7	15.7	17.4	
2004	24.6	23.1	24.0	
2003	39.1	44.4	41.3	
2002	52.4	53.8	53.0	
2001	40.0	37.5	38.9	
2000	38.3	26.9	33.2	
1999	64.4	55.4	60.5	
1998	85.1	55.2	71.0	
1997	110.4	81.6	97.0	

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data,

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

## NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS ADD THREE

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

**Percent Percent** Change Change March **February** March Feb. 2007 -March Mode 2006 2007 2007 Mar. 2007 2006-2007 24,644 21,275 25,187 2.2 **Imports** 18.4 All Surface **Exports** 19,359 16.841 19,865 18.0 2.6 Modes Total 44,002 38,116 45,053 18.2 2.4 13,522 11,709 13,737 17.3 1.6 **Imports** Truck **Exports** 15,238 13,281 15,306 15.2 0.4 **Imports** 5,707 4,692 6,188 31.9 8.4 Rail **Exports** 2,048 1,657 2,343 41.4 14.4 **Imports** 4,378 3,960 4,282 8.1 -2.2 **Pipeline Exports** 310 254 222 -12.4 -28.5

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, 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 Freight Data "Sources and Reliability" statement: <a href="http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/transborder/tbdr">http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/transborder/tbdr</a>; Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding.

**Table 5. Top 10 States Trading with Canada** by Surface Modes of Transportation

Ranked by March 2007 Surface Trade Value

(millions of dollars)

Rank	State	March 2007
1	Michigan	7,488
2	Illinois	3,049
3	Ohio	2,975
4	New York	2,972
5	California	2,820
6	Texas	2,124
7	Washington	1,701
8	Pennsylvania	1,688
9	Indiana	1,646
10	Tennessee	1,395

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data,

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

## NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS ADD FOUR

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

Mode		March 2006	February 2007	March 2007	Percent Change Feb. 2007 - Mar. 2007	Percent Change March 2006-2007
All Surface	Imports	13,796	12,703	14,724	15.9	6.7
	<b>Exports</b>	10,414	8,848	9,991	12.9	-4.1
Modes	Total	24,210	21,551	24,715	14.7	2.1
Truck	Imports	11,229	10,432	12,173	16.7	8.4
	Exports	8,376	7,009	7,885	12.5	-5.9
Rail	Imports	2,361	2,005	2,277	13.6	-3.5
	Exports	1,508	1,433	1,676	17.0	11.1
Pipeline	Imports	0	8	31	312.5	NA
	Exports	58	31	49	56.1	-15.2

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

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 Freight data "Sources and Reliability" statement: <a href="http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/transborder/tbdr">http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/transborder/tbdr</a>; Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding. NA – not applicable

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

Parked by March 2007 Surface Trade Value

Ranked by March 2007 Surface Trade Value (millions of dollars)

(minions of donars)				
Rank	State	March 2007		
1	Texas	7,473		
2	California	4,245		
3	Michigan	2,607		
4	Arizona	1,022		
5	Illinois	881		
6	Ohio	599		
7	Tennessee	571		
8	Indiana	477		
9	New York	442		
10	North Carolina	439		

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data,

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