



**M O V I N G T H E  
AMERICAN  
ECONOMY**

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**BTS Data**

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## **Transportation Services Index (TSI) Fell 0.3 Percent in February from January**

The Transportation Services Index (TSI) fell 0.3 percent in February from its January level, falling for the second consecutive month, the U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) reported today (Table 1).

The February decline was the sixth monthly decline in the past nine months and the 20<sup>th</sup> decline in the 38 months since January 2004 (Table 2). The index is 2.6 percent below its peak in May 2006.

Year-to-date, the index declined 0.8 percent, the second consecutive December-to-February decline (Table 3).

The February level of 109.2 for the combined freight and passenger index was 0.2 percent lower than the February 2006 level, the second consecutive decline from February of the previous year (Table 4). The February 2007 level was 6.5 percent higher than the February level of the base year of 2000 (Table 5).

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. For additional historical data prior to 2004, go to <http://www.bts.gov/xml/tsi/src/index.xml>. Release of the March index is scheduled for May 9.

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# TRANSPORTATION SERVICES INDEX RELEASE

## ADD ONE

### **Transportation Services Index for Freight**

The TSI for freight fell 0.2 percent in February from the January level, falling for the second consecutive month (Table 6). The February freight index of 107.7 was down 1.8 percent from its February 2006 level, and down 4.6 percent from its peak of 112.8 first achieved in January 2005 (Table 7). Year-to-date, the freight index declined 0.7 percent, the second consecutive December-to-February decline (Table 3).

### **Transportation Services Index for Passengers**

The TSI for passengers fell 0.3 percent in February from the January level, falling for the second consecutive month (Table 8). The Passenger TSI February 2007 level of 111.0 was 2.1 percent higher than the February 2006 level, the fifth consecutive annual increase since a decline in 2002 (Table 9). Year-to-date, the passenger index declined 1.2 percent, the third consecutive December-to-February decline and the largest decline in period since 2003 (Table 3).

### **More on TSI**

Note: TSI numbers for October 2006 (Total, Freight, and Passenger) were revised because of revisions in the output data of the component transportation services. The October TSI is 110.0, revised from the 110.3 reported in the March release. The October Freight TSI is 108.5, revised from 109.1. The October Passenger TSI is 113.5, revised from 111.3. The TSI for November, December, January and February are preliminary.

TSI revision policy: TSI is updated monthly with the latest four months' index numbers considered preliminary. Each month BTS releases the latest preliminary TSI, and replaces the oldest preliminary TSI with a revised TSI. More information about the revision policy and the TSI index is available at <http://www.bts.gov/xml/tsi/src/index.xml>.

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TRANSPORTATION SERVICES INDEX RELEASE  
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**Table 1: Transportation Services Index Since August 2006**  
**Percent Change by Month**  
(Seasonally Adjusted, Monthly Average of 2000 = 100)

	TSI		Freight		Passenger	
	Index	Pct. Change	Index	Pct. Change	Index	Pct. Change
August	109.0	-2.1	107.8	-2.7	112.0	-0.1
September	110.0	0.9	108.6	0.8	113.2	1.1
October <sup>R</sup>	110.0	0.0	108.5	-0.1	113.5	0.3
November <sup>P</sup>	109.1	-0.7	107.6	-0.9	111.0	-2.2
December <sup>P</sup>	110.1	0.9	108.4	0.8	112.4	1.2
January <sup>P</sup>	109.5	-0.6	107.9	-0.4	111.4	-0.9
<b>February<sup>P</sup></b>	109.2	<b>-0.3</b>	107.7	<b>-0.2</b>	111.0	<b>-0.3</b>

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

NOTE: P = preliminary; R = revised

NOTE: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

**Table 2: Transportation Services Index Monthly Changes, 2004-2007**  
**Percent change from previous month**

	2004 % Growth	2005 % Growth	2006 % Growth	2007 % Growth
January	-1.4	1.5	0.3	(P) -0.6
<b>February</b>	2.8	-1.4	-1.3	<b>(P) -0.3</b>
March	0.7	1.5	1.3	
April	0.7	0.0	-0.3	
May	-0.4	0.4	1.5	
June	1.0	-0.5	-0.3	
July	-0.2	-0.1	-0.4	
August	-0.4	-0.1	-2.1	
September	0.5	-0.3	0.9	
October	0.1	-0.9	(R) 0.0	
November	0.9	1.6	(P) -0.7	
December	-0.3	-0.9	(P) 0.9	

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

NOTE: P = preliminary; R = revised

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**Table 3: Transportation Services Index Annual Change, 1998-2007**  
Percent change from December of previous year  
December to February

Year	TSI	Freight	Passenger
1998	0.8	1.0	0.4
1999	1.5	1.9	0.5
2000	0.5	-0.9	4.0
2001	0.3	0.7	-0.4
2002	2.1	1.7	3.1
2003	-2.9	-2.5	-3.9
2004	1.4	1.0	2.2
2005	0.0	0.2	-0.5
2006	-1.0	-1.1	-0.7
<b>2007<sup>P</sup></b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>-1.2</b>

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

NOTE: P = preliminary

**Table 4: Transportation Services Index from Year-to-Year**  
Percent change in the February TSI  
(Monthly average of 2000 = 100)

Year	TSI	Percent change from same month previous year
1998	95.7	6.0
1999	99.1	3.6
2000	102.6	3.5
2001	98.9	-3.6
2002	97.0	-1.9
2003	99.5	2.5
2004	107.3	7.8
2005	110.0	2.5
2006	109.4	-0.5
<b>2007<sup>P</sup></b>	<b>109.2</b>	<b>-0.2</b>

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

NOTE: P = preliminary

NOTE: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

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**Table 5: Transportation Services Index from Previous Years  
Percent Change to 2007 (February to February)**

Percent change to February 2007	Since February ...	Duration in years
-0.2	2006	1
-0.6	2005	2
1.8	2004	3
9.8	2003	4
12.6	2002	5
10.4	2001	6
6.5	2000	7
10.2	1999	8
14.1	1998	9
20.9	1997	10

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics  
Note: The percent changes to February 2007 are all preliminary.

**Table 6: Freight Transportation Services Index Monthly Changes, 2004-2007  
Percent change from previous month**

	2004 % Growth	2005 % Growth	2006 % Growth	2007 % Growth
January	-1.6	1.4	0.2	(P) -0.4
<b>February</b>	2.6	-1.2	-1.3	<b>(P) -0.2</b>
March	0.9	1.0	0.9	
April	0.6	0.0	-0.9	
May	-0.3	0.2	2.1	
June	0.8	-0.5	-0.3	
July	-0.5	-0.5	-0.8	
August	-0.6	0.4	-2.7	
September	0.5	-1.3	0.8	
October	-0.5	-0.6	(R) -0.1	
November	1.3	2.0	(P) -0.9	
December	-0.4	-1.1	(P) 0.8	

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics  
NOTE: P = preliminary; R = revised

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TRANSPORTATION SERVICES INDEX RELEASE  
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**Table 7: Freight Transportation Services Index from Year-to-Year  
Percent change in the February Freight TSI  
(Monthly average of 2000 = 100)**

	<b>Freight TSI</b>	<b>Percent change from same month previous year</b>
1998	98.1	7.7
1999	101.8	3.7
2000	104.2	2.4
2001	98.4	-5.6
2002	98.9	0.4
2003	101.9	3.0
2004	109.2	7.2
2005	111.5	2.1
2006	109.7	-1.6
<b>2007<sup>P</sup></b>	<b>107.7</b>	<b>-1.8</b>

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

NOTE: P = preliminary

NOTE: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

**Table 8: Passenger Transportation Services Index Monthly Changes, 2004-2007  
Percent change from previous month**

	<b>2004 % Growth</b>	<b>2005 % Growth</b>	<b>2006 % Growth</b>	<b>2007 % Growth</b>
January	-1.1	1.5	0.6	(P) -0.9
<b>February</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>-2.0</b>	<b>-1.3</b>	<b>(P) -0.3</b>
March	0.1	2.9	2.1	
April	0.8	-0.1	0.5	
May	-0.7	0.8	0.5	
June	1.6	-0.5	-0.4	
July	0.5	0.9	0.3	
August	0.1	-1.3	-0.1	
September	0.5	2.3	1.1	
October	1.6	-1.9	(R) 0.3	
November	-0.2	0.4	(P) -2.2	
December	-0.2	-0.4	(P) 1.2	

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

NOTE: P = preliminary; R = revised

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES INDEX RELEASE  
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**Table 9: Passenger Transportation Services Index from Year-to-Year  
Percent change in the February Passenger TSI  
(Monthly average of 2000 = 100)**

	<b>Passenger TSI</b>	<b>Percent change from same month previous year</b>
1998	90.3	2.3
1999	93.1	3.2
2000	98.9	6.1
2001	99.9	1.1
2002	92.5	-7.4
2003	93.8	1.4
2004	102.6	9.3
2005	106.2	3.5
2006	108.7	2.4
<b>2007<sup>P</sup></b>	<b>111.0</b>	<b>2.1</b>

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

NOTE: P = preliminary

NOTE: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

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# TRANSPORTATION SERVICES INDEX RELEASE

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### **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,

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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