



**M O V I N G T H E**  
**AMERICAN**  
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## **September 2008 Surface Trade with Canada and Mexico Rose 7.5 Percent from September 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 7.5 percent higher in September 2008 than in September 2007, reaching \$71.8 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 fell 0.6 percent in September from August (*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 September was up 46.9 percent compared to September 2003, and up 82.8 percent compared to September 1998, a period of 10 years (*Table 3*). Imports in September were up 87.6 percent compared to September 1998, while exports were up 76.9 percent.

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

U.S.–Canada surface transportation trade totaled \$46.8 billion in September, up 9.7 percent compared to September 2007 (*Table 4*). The value of imports carried by truck was unchanged in September 2008 compared to September 2007, while the value of exports carried by truck was 2.6 percent higher.

Michigan led all states in surface trade with Canada in September with \$5.9 billion (*Table 5*).

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

U.S.–Mexico surface transportation trade totaled \$25.0 billion in September, up 3.8 percent compared to September 2007 (*Table 6*). The value of imports carried by truck was 0.7 percent lower in September 2008 than September 2007 while the value of exports carried by truck was 16.6 percent higher.

Texas led all states in surface trade with Mexico in September with \$8.2 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. September TransBorder numbers include data received by BTS as of Nov. 13.

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 October TransBorder numbers on Jan. 8, 2009.

**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	<b>71,801</b>	5.5	<b>7.5</b>
October	66,846	74,249		11.1	
November	64,805	70,352		8.6	
December	59,049	60,902		3.1	
Jan-Sep	<b>569,427</b>	<b>591,799</b>	<b>643,620</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>8.8</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		September 2007	August 2008	September 2008	Percent Change August 2008 – September 2008	Percent Change September 2007-2008
All Surface Modes	Imports	37,574	40,821	40,304	-1.3	7.3
	Exports	29,197	31,434	31,497	0.2	7.9
	Total	66,771	72,254	71,801	-0.6	7.5
Truck	Imports	23,977	22,919	23,896	4.3	-0.3
	Exports	22,524	23,917	24,175	1.1	7.3
Rail	Imports	8,299	8,287	7,327	-11.6	-11.7
	Exports	3,990	4,779	4,423	-7.5	10.8
Pipeline	Imports	4,125	8,151	7,430	-8.8	80.1
	Exports	391	367	505	37.5	29.0

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).

Pipeline export data are not currently available for March 2008.

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

Compared to September in...	Percent Change		Total Surface Trade
	Imports	Exports	
2007	7.3	7.9	7.5
2006	11.2	16.4	13.4
2005	13.6	22.6	17.4
2004	28.1	34.3	30.8
2003	43.4	51.7	46.9
2002	53.9	60.7	56.8
2001	64.7	75.0	69.0
2000	44.0	48.7	46.0
1999	66.3	64.6	65.6
1998	87.6	76.9	82.8

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		September 2007	August 2008	September 2008	Percent Change August 2008 – September 2008	Percent Change September 2007-2008
All Surface Modes	Imports	23,300	26,804	26,708	-0.4	14.6
	Exports	19,354	19,986	20,069	0.4	3.7
	Total	42,654	46,791	46,778	-0.0	9.7
Truck	Imports	12,610	11,510	12,611	9.6	0.0
	Exports	14,961	14,960	15,354	2.6	2.6
Rail	Imports	5,702	6,054	5,408	-10.7	-5.2
	Exports	2,278	2,856	2,658	-6.9	16.7
Pipeline	Imports	4,113	8,126	7,416	-8.7	80.3
	Exports	325	291	206	-29.3	-36.5

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 September 2008 Surface Trade Value  
(millions of dollars)

Rank	State	September 2008
1	Michigan	5,898
2	Illinois	4,748
3	New York	3,184
4	Ohio	3,078
5	California	2,698
6	Texas	2,213
7	Pennsylvania	1,985
8	Washington	1,916
9	Minnesota	1,696
10	Indiana	1,344

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		September 2007	August 2008	September 2008	Percent Change August 2008 – September 2008	Percent Change September 2007-2008
All Surface Modes	Imports	14,274	14,016	13,596	-3.0	-4.8
	Exports	9,843	11,448	11,427	-0.2	16.1
	Total	24,118	25,464	25,023	-1.7	3.8
Truck	Imports	11,367	11,410	11,285	-1.1	-0.7
	Exports	7,563	8,958	8,821	-1.5	16.6
Rail	Imports	2,597	2,233	1,919	-14.1	-26.1
	Exports	1,712	1,923	1,765	-8.2	3.1
Pipeline	Imports	12	25	14	-42.1	24.1
	Exports	67	76	299	293.8	349.0

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

Ranked by September 2008 Surface Trade Value

(millions of dollars)

Rank	State	September 2008
1	Texas	8,227
2	California	4,358
3	Michigan	2,254
4	Illinois	1,008
5	Ohio	782
6	Arizona	771
7	Tennessee	498
8	North Carolina	474
9	Pennsylvania	421
10	Georgia	378

Source: BTS TransBorder Freight Data,

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

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