



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

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BTS Data

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## **April Surface Trade with Canada and Mexico Rose 9.6 Percent from April 2004**

The United States traded \$58.3 billion in goods using surface transportation in April 2005 with its North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) partners Canada and Mexico. This represents an increase of 9.6 percent from April 2004, according to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) of the U.S. Department of Transportation (*Table 1*).

The report issued by BTS, a part of the Research and Innovative Technology Administration (RITA), shows that total surface transportation trade fell 1.9 percent in April from March (*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 90 percent of U.S. trade by value with Canada and Mexico moves on land.

Total surface transportation trade value in April was up 24.6 percent compared to April 2002 and 91.3 percent compared to April 1995, a period of ten years (*Table 3*). Exports in April were up 75.7 percent compared to April 1995, while imports were up 105.0 percent (*Table 3*).

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

U.S.–Canada surface transportation trade totaled \$38.1 billion in April, up 10.5 percent compared to April 2004. Exports by truck, the mode carrying the largest amount by value, increased 11.9 percent from April 2004 while imports by truck rose 5.4 percent (*Table 4*).

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

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# NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS

## ADD ONE

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

U.S. – Mexico surface transportation trade totaled \$20.2 billion in April, up 7.8 percent compared to April 2004. Imports by truck, the mode carrying the largest amount by value, increased 10.0 percent compared to April 2004, while exports by truck rose 1.6 percent (*Table 6*).

Texas led all states in surface trade with Mexico in April with \$6.5 billion (*Table 7*).

The Transborder Surface Freight Dataset is a special extract of the official U.S. foreign trade statistics. The data are tabulated for BTS monthly by the U.S. Census Bureau's Foreign Trade Division. April transborder numbers include data received by BTS as of June 13, 2005.

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 May transborder numbers on July 28.

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

Month	2004	2005	Percent Change 2004-2005
January	45,686	52,334	14.6
February	48,170	53,592	11.3
March	56,269	59,436	5.6
April	53,195	58,297	9.6
May	53,155		
June	55,422		
July	48,096		
August	53,577		
September	54,913		
October	56,880		
November	56,134		
December	52,065		
Year to Date	203,320	223,659	10.0
Annual	633,563		

Source: BTS Transborder Surface Freight Dataset,  
<http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

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

Mode		April 2004	March 2005	April 2005	Percent Change March - April	Percent Change April 2004-2005
All Surface Modes	Imports	30,400	33,627	33,201	-1.3	9.2
	Exports	22,795	25,808	25,096	-2.8	10.1
	Total	53,195	59,436	58,297	-1.9	9.6
Truck	Imports	19,972	21,955	21,455	-2.3	7.4
	Exports	18,231	20,317	19,706	-3.0	8.1
Rail	Imports	6,646	7,075	6,940	-1.9	4.4
	Exports	2,645	3,210	3,134	-2.4	18.5
Pipeline	Imports	2,756	3,550	3,429	-3.4	24.4
	Exports	157	359	251	-30.2	60.0

Source: BTS Transborder Surface Freight Dataset, <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 Surface Freight data "Sources and Reliability" statement: <http://www.bts.gov/ntda/tbscd/srfin.html>

**Table 3: April 2005 Surface Trade Compared with April of Prior Years**

Compared to April in...	Percent Change		
	Imports	Exports	Total Surface Trade
2004	9.2	10.1	9.6
2003	25.1	23.6	24.5
2002	24.1	25.3	24.6
2001	24.5	24.6	24.6
2000	28.2	19.7	24.4
1999	48.6	36.2	43.0
1998	61.9	37.5	50.4
1997	71.6	46.9	60.0
1996	81.2	55.1	68.9
1995	105.0	75.7	91.3

Source: BTS Transborder Surface Freight Dataset, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

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

Mode		April 2004	March 2005	April 2005	Percent Change March - April	Percent Change April 2004-2005
All Surface Modes	Imports	19,919	22,234	21,635	-2.7	8.6
	Exports	14,569	17,269	16,491	-4.5	13.2
	Total	34,488	39,503	38,126	-3.5	10.5
Truck	Imports	11,288	12,449	11,901	-4.4	5.4
	Exports	11,502	13,445	12,868	-4.3	11.9
Rail	Imports	5,077	5,364	5,115	-4.6	0.7
	Exports	1,479	1,897	1,748	-7.8	18.2
Pipeline	Imports	2,756	3,550	3,429	-3.4	24.4
	Exports	156	331	239	-27.9	52.8

Source: BTS Transborder Surface Freight Dataset, <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 Surface Freight data "Sources and Reliability" statement: <http://www.bts.gov/ntda/tbscd/srfin.html>

**Table 5. Top 10 States Trading with Canada  
by Surface Modes of Transportation, Ranked  
by April 2005 Surface Trade Value  
(millions of dollars)**

Rank	State	April 2005
1	Michigan	5,786
2	Illinois	2,527
3	New York	2,498
4	California	2,496
5	Ohio	2,443
6	Texas	1,745
7	Pennsylvania	1,417
8	Indiana	1,314
9	Washington	1,256
10	Minnesota	1,214

Source: BTS Transborder Surface Freight Dataset,  
<http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

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

Mode		April 2004	March 2005	April 2005	Percent Change March - April	Percent Change April 2004-2005
All Surface Modes	Imports	10,481	11,394	11,566	1.5	10.3
	Exports	8,226	8,539	8,605	0.8	4.6
	Total	18,708	19,933	20,172	1.2	7.8
Truck	Imports	8,684	9,506	9,553	0.5	10.0
	Exports	6,729	6,872	6,838	-0.5	1.6
Rail	Imports	1,569	1,712	1,825	6.6	16.3
	Exports	1,166	1,313	1,385	5.5	18.9
Pipeline	Imports	0	0	0	NA	NA
	Exports	1	28	12	-57.2	1978.5

Source: BTS Transborder Surface Freight Dataset, <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 Surface Freight data "Sources and Reliability" statement: <http://www.bts.gov/ntda/tbscd/srfin.html>

**Table 7. Top 10 States Trading with Mexico  
by Surface Modes of Transportation, Ranked  
by April 2005 Surface Trade Value  
(millions of dollars)**

Rank	State	April 2005
1	Texas	6,481
2	California	3,419
3	Michigan	2,036
4	Arizona	742
5	Illinois	718
6	Indiana	527
7	Ohio	503
8	Tennessee	433
9	New York	411
10	Georgia	355

Source: BTS Transborder Surface Freight Dataset,  
<http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

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