



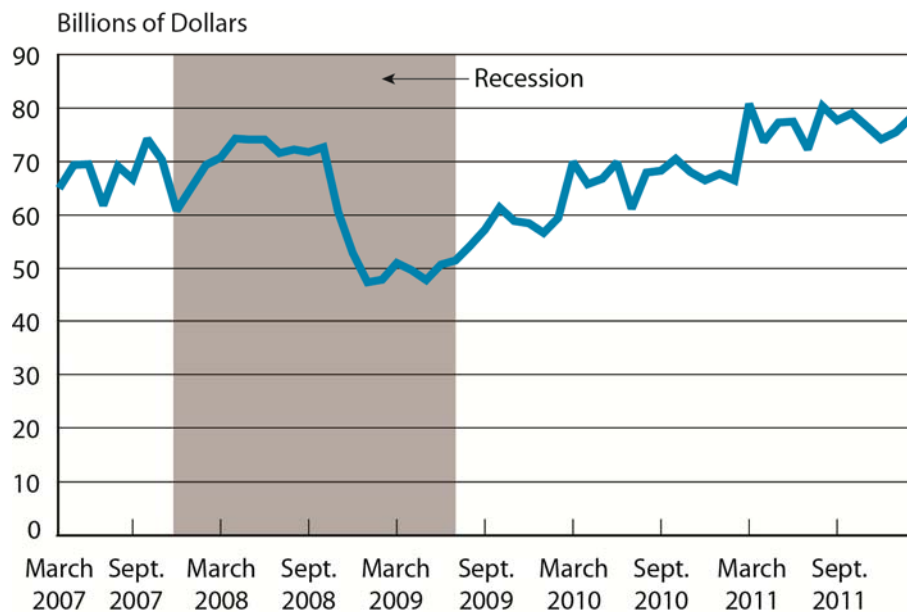
U.S. Department of Transportation
Office of Public Affairs
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590
www.dot.gov/briefing-room.html

BTS Data

BTS 22-12
Tuesday, May 1, 2012
Contact: Dave Smallen
Tel: 202-366-5568

February 2012 Surface Trade with Canada and Mexico Rose 17.4 Percent from February 2011

North American Surface Trade, Five Years: March 2007-February 2012 (Figure 1)



Trade using surface transportation between the United States and its North American neighbors, Canada and Mexico, was 17.4 percent higher in February 2012 than in February 2011, totaling \$78.1 billion (*Table 1*), according to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

- more -

NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS

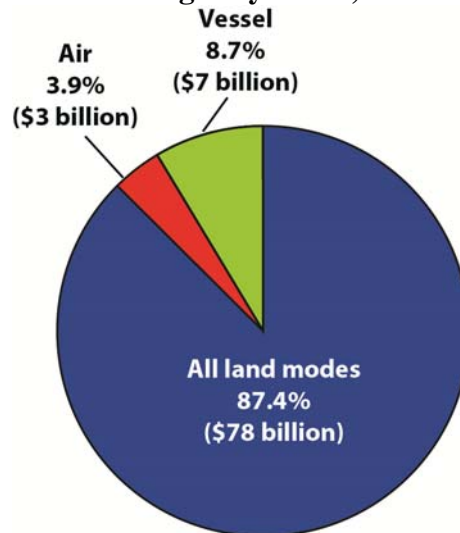
ADD ONE

BTS, a part of the Research and Innovative Technology Administration, reported that the February 2012 value of U.S. surface transportation trade with Canada and Mexico, the United States' North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) partners, rose 12.6 percent from February 2008, which was two months after the start of the recession, and 63.0 percent from February 2009, in the middle of the recession (*Table 3*).

The value of U.S. surface transportation trade with Canada and Mexico in February increased by 87.3 percent compared to February 2002, a period of 10 years. Imports in February were up 75.9 percent since February 2002, while exports were up 102.8 percent (*Table 3*). See [Transborder Press Releases](#) for historical data.

Surface transportation includes freight movements by truck, rail, pipeline, mail, Foreign Trade Zones, and [other](#). In February, 87.4 percent of U.S. trade by value with Canada and Mexico moved via land, 8.7 percent moved by vessel, and 3.9 percent moved by air (*Figure 2*).

North American Surface Freight by Mode, February 2012 (Figure 2)



The value of U.S. surface transportation trade with Canada and Mexico increased 3.4 percent in February 2012 from January 2012 (*Table 2*). Month-to-month changes can be affected by seasonal variations and other factors.

U.S.-Canada and U.S.-Mexico surface transportation trade in February 2012 both increased compared to February 2011 with U.S.-Canada reaching \$45.4 billion, a 13.7 percent increase, and U.S.-Mexico reaching \$32.7 billion, a 23.0 percent increase. For trade statistics by mode, see *Table 4* for Canada and *Table 6* for Mexico.

In February trade by state, Michigan led all states in surface trade with Canada as it has in previous years, at \$5.9 billion, an 18.2 percent increase from February 2011 (*Table 5*). Of the top 10 states by value, Illinois had the largest percentage increase over February 2011, at 30.1 percent. About half of the \$5.1 billion in Illinois-Canada trade was imports of oil and gas via pipeline.

NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS ADD TWO

The top commodity category transported between the U.S. and Canada by surface modes of transportation in February was vehicles (other than railway), valued at \$8.7 billion (*Table 8*).

Texas also continued to lead all states in surface trade with Mexico at \$11.7 billion, a 29.3 percent increase from February 2011 (*Table 7*). February 2012 was the second highest month on record for Texas–Mexico surface trade, which peaked in August 2011 at \$11.9 billion. Of the top 10 states by value, Tennessee had the biggest percentage increase, 32.5 percent. Of the \$725 million in Tennessee–Mexico trade, \$203 million was in computer related machinery and parts. The top commodity category transported between the U.S. and Mexico by surface modes of transportation in February was electrical machinery with \$6.6 billion in trade (*Table 9*).

For more information, see [Transborder Press Releases](#) for previous' press releases and summary tables. See [TransBorder Freight Data](#) for data from previous months, and individual state data. BTS has scheduled release of March TransBorder numbers for May 29.

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

Month	2010	2011	2012	Percent Change 2010-2011	Percent Change 2011-2012
January	56,697	67,734	75,534	19.5	11.5
February	59,492	66,534	78,135	11.8	17.4
March	69,943	80,822		15.6	
April	65,831	73,767		12.1	
May	66,805	77,318		15.7	
June	69,859	77,521		11.0	
July	61,260	72,363		18.1	
August	67,964	80,406		18.3	
September	68,324	77,725		13.8	
October	70,565	79,040		12.0	
November	68,060	76,672		12.7	
December	66,530	74,230		11.6	
Year-to-date	116,189	134,268	153,669	15.6	14.4
Annual	791,329	904,133		14.3	

SOURCE: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/transborder/>

NOTE: Numbers might not add to totals due to rounding. Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

- more -

NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS
ADD THREE

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

Mode		February 2011	January 2012	February 2012	Percent Change January 2012 - February 2012	Percent Change February 2011 - 2012
All Surface Modes	Imports	36,277	40,953	42,198	3.0	16.3
	Exports	30,257	34,581	35,937	3.9	18.8
	Total	66,534	75,534	78,135	3.4	17.4
Truck	Imports	22,307	25,280	26,087	3.2	16.9
	Exports	23,527	26,866	27,491	2.3	16.8
Rail	Imports	7,252	7,754	8,668	11.8	19.5
	Exports	3,748	4,562	4,751	4.1	26.7
Pipeline	Imports	5,554	6,720	6,032	-10.2	8.6
	Exports	711	710	1,144	61.2	60.7

SOURCE: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/transborder/>

NOTES: Numbers might 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, and other transportation. For additional detail, please refer to the "Data Fields" section of the TransBorder web page: http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/transborder/TBDR_DataFields.html

NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS
ADD FOUR

Table 3. February 2012 Surface Trade with Canada and Mexico Compared with February of Prior Years

Compared to February in...	Percent Change		
	Imports	Exports	Total Surface Trade
2011	16.3	18.8	17.4
2010	29.7	33.4	31.3
2009	64.9	60.8	63.0
2008	6.7	20.3	12.6
2007	24.2	39.9	31.0
2006	22.0	42.6	30.7
2005	36.8	58.0	45.8
2004	51.6	76.8	62.2
2003	66.0	95.2	78.2
2002	75.9	102.8	87.3

SOURCE: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/transborder/>

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

Mode		February 2011	January 2012	February 2012	Percent Change January 2012 - February 2012	Percent Change February 2011 - 2012
All Surface Modes	Imports	21,234	24,079	23,950	-0.5	12.8
	Exports	18,717	20,056	21,489	7.1	14.8
	Total	39,952	44,135	45,440	3.0	13.7
Truck	Imports	10,039	10,985	11,193	1.9	11.5
	Exports	14,402	15,435	16,124	4.5	12.0
Rail	Imports	4,901	5,580	5,696	2.1	16.2
	Exports	2,048	2,303	2,581	12.1	26.0
Pipeline	Imports	5,536	6,700	6,015	-10.2	8.6
	Exports	475	445	807	81.2	69.9

SOURCE: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/transborder/>

NOTES: Numbers might 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, and other transportation. For additional detail, please refer to the "Data Fields" section of the TransBorder web page:

http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/transborder/TBDR_DataFields.html

NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS
ADD FIVE

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

Ranked by February 2012 Surface Trade Value
(millions of dollars)

State	February 2011		February 2012		Percent Change February 2011-2012
	Value	Rank	Value	Rank	
Michigan	5,007	1	5,919	1	18.2
Illinois	3,946	2	5,133	2	30.1
Ohio	2,475	3	2,849	3	15.1
California	2,364	5	2,645	4	11.9
Texas	2,187	6	2,588	5	18.4
New York	2,427	4	2,159	6	-11.1
Washington	1,564	7	1,690	7	8.1
Pennsylvania	1,540	8	1,683	8	9.3
Minnesota	1,392	9	1,614	9	15.9
Indiana	1,313	10	1,570	10	19.6

SOURCE: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

NOTES: Numbers might not add to totals due to rounding. Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding.

NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS
ADD FIVE

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

Mode						Percent Change January 2012 - February 2012	Percent Change February 2011 - 2012
		February 2011	January 2012	February 2012			
All Surface Modes	Imports	15,043	16,875	18,248		8.1	21.3
	Exports	11,540	14,524	14,447		-0.5	25.2
	Total	26,583	31,399	32,696		4.1	23.0
Truck	Imports	12,268	14,295	14,894		4.2	21.4
	Exports	9,125	11,431	11,367		-0.6	24.6
Rail	Imports	2,350	2,173	2,972		36.7	26.5
	Exports	1,700	2,259	2,170		-3.9	27.6
Pipeline	Imports	18	20	18		-11.0	2.0
	Exports	237	264	337		27.4	42.3

SOURCE: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

NOTES: Numbers might 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, and other transportation. For additional detail, please refer to the "Data Fields" section of the TransBorder web page:

http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/transborder/TBDR_DataFields.html

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

Ranked by February 2012 Surface Trade Value
(millions of dollars)

State	February 2011		February 2012		Percent Change February 2011- 2012
	Value	Rank	Value	Rank	
Texas	9,077	1	11,741	1	29.3
California	3,761	2	4,520	2	20.2
Michigan	3,126	3	3,875	3	24.0
Arizona	981	4	1,182	4	20.5
Illinois	931	5	1,110	5	19.2
Ohio	758	6	877	6	15.6
Tennessee	547	7	725	7	32.5
Indiana	493	8	622	8	26.2
North Carolina	431	9	533	9	23.7
Wisconsin	374	12	443	10	18.5

SOURCE: BTS TransBorder Freight Data, <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>

NOTE: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding

- more -

NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS
ADD SEVEN

Table 8. Top Five Commodities Transported between the U.S. and Canada by All Surface Modes of Transportation, February 2012 (millions of dollars)

Commodities	Exports	Imports	Total
Vehicles Other than Railway	4,010	4,720	8,730
Oil and Gas	1,334	7,307	8,642
Computer-Related Machinery and Parts	3,443	1,583	5,027
Electrical Machinery; Equipment and Parts	1,747	578	2,326
Plastics	1,028	856	1,884

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Transportation, Research and Innovative Technology Administration, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, based on Transborder Freight Data, available at <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>, as of March 20, 2012.

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

Table 9. Top Five Commodities Transported between the U.S. and Mexico by All Surface Modes of Transportation, February 2012 (millions of dollars)

Commodities	Exports	Imports	Total
Electrical Machinery; Equipment and Parts	2,500	4,125	6,625
Computer-Related Machinery and Parts	2,812	3,412	6,223
Vehicles Other than Railway	1,618	4,050	5,667
Plastics	1,100	309	1,409
Measuring and Testing Instruments	362	805	1,167

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Transportation, Research and Innovative Technology Administration, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, based on Transborder Freight Data, available at <http://www.bts.gov/transborder/>, as of March 13, 2012.

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

--End--