



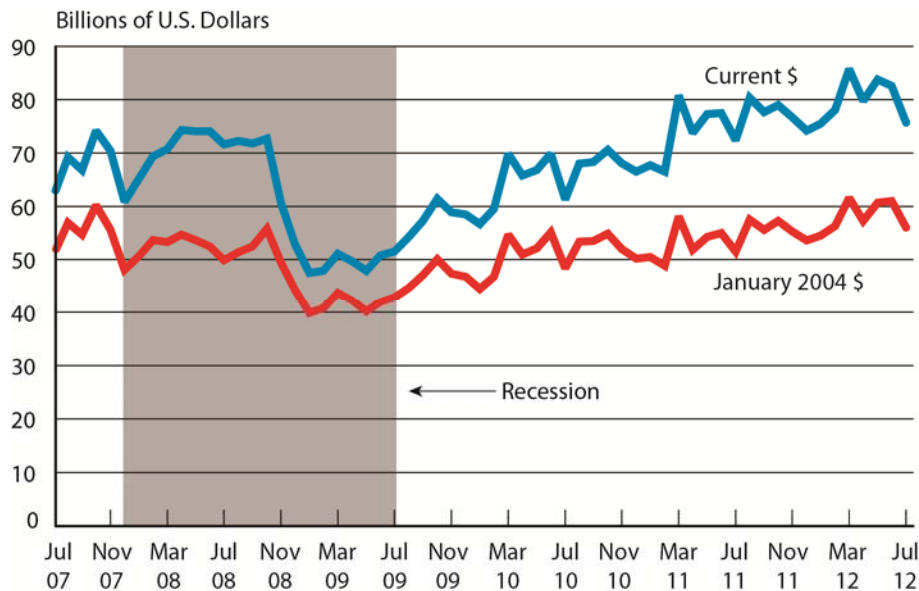
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**BTS Data**

BTS 45-12  
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**July 2012 Surface Trade with Canada and Mexico Rose 4.6 Percent From July 2011**

**Figure 1: Trade Among the U.S. and NAFTA Countries, July 2007-July 2012**  
 Unadjusted and Adjusted for Inflation and Exchange Rate Fluctuations



U.S. export data adjusted based on Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), [U.S. Exports by End Use Category for All Commodities](#). U.S. imports adjusted based on BLS [U.S. Import Price Indexes for Canada and Mexico](#). January 2004 = 100. See Technical Note.

Trade using surface transportation between the United States and its North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) partners, Canada and Mexico, was 4.6 percent higher in July 2012 than in July 2011, totaling \$75.7 billion, unadjusted for inflation (*Table 1 and Figure 1*), according to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

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## NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS

### ADD ONE

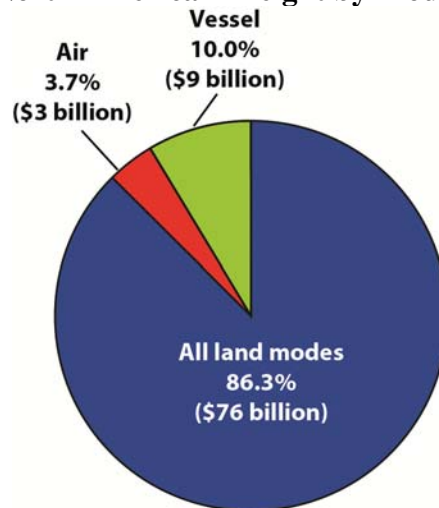
BTS, a part of the Research and Innovative Technology Administration, reported that the 4.6 percent annual increase is the lowest year-to-year rise since increases resumed in December 2009 following the recession. The lower growth rate reflects the reduced cost of oil and gas, the largest commodity traded by value. Adjusted for inflation and exchange rates, the July 2012 total was \$56.0 billion in 2004 dollars, up 8.8 percent from July 2011.

The July 2012 value of U.S. surface transportation trade with Canada and Mexico rose 5.7 percent from July 2008 during the last recession (*Table 3*). Data in the press release are not adjusted for inflation, except for monthly totals in Figure 1.

The value of U.S. surface transportation trade with Canada and Mexico in July increased by 82.8 percent compared to July 2002, a period of 10 years. Imports in July were up 66.7 percent since July 2002, while exports were up 105.1 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](#) modes of transport. In July, 86.3 percent of U.S. trade by value with Canada and Mexico moved via land, 10.0 percent moved by vessel, and 3.7 percent moved by air (*Figure 2*).

**Figure 2: North American Freight by Mode, July 2012**



The value of U.S. surface transportation trade with Canada and Mexico decreased 8.4 percent in July 2012 from June 2012 (*Table 2*). Month-to-month changes can be affected by seasonal variations and other factors.

U.S. trade by surface transportation with Mexico has increased at a faster pace than trade with Canada. U.S.-Canada and U.S.-Mexico surface transportation trade in July 2012 both increased compared to July 2011 with U.S.-Canada trade reaching \$42.9 billion, a 1.0 percent increase, and U.S.-Mexico trade reaching \$32.7 billion, a 9.7 percent increase. For trade statistics by mode, see Table 4 for Canada and Table 6 for Mexico.

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## NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS ADD TWO

In July, Illinois led all states in surface trade with Canada, at \$4.9 billion, a 9.3 percent increase from July 2011 (*Table 5*). This is the first time that Illinois has surpassed Michigan in surface trade with Canada since July 2009. Many automotive plants in Michigan retool their production facilities in July for the upcoming model year, which reduces Michigan trade with Canada, as much of that trade is in automobiles and auto parts.

The top commodity category transported between the U.S. and Canada by surface modes of transportation in July was oil and gas, valued at \$7.9 billion (*Table 8*). Oil and gas displaced vehicles as the top commodity in July, due to auto plant retooling in July.

Texas continued to lead all states in surface trade with Mexico at \$11.9 billion, an 11.8 percent increase from July 2011. Of the top 10 states by value, Tennessee had the biggest percentage increase, 31.7 percent (*Table 7*). The top commodity category transported between the U.S. and Mexico by surface modes of transportation in July was electrical machinery with \$6.7 billion in trade (*Table 9*).

Technical Note: The BLS indexes used for Figure 1 adjustment may be revised in each of the three months after original publication. For example, index values released in January 2012 will be subject to revision in February, March and April of that year.

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 the release of August TransBorder numbers for Oct. 30.

**Table 1. Value of Monthly U.S. Surface Transportation Trade with Canada and Mexico (millions of current U.S. 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	85,827	15.6	6.2
April	65,831	73,767	79,784	12.1	8.2
May	66,805	77,318	83,770	15.7	8.3
June	69,859	77,521	82,601	11.0	6.6
<b>July</b>	<b>61,260</b>	<b>72,363</b>	<b>75,694</b>	<b>18.1</b>	<b>4.6</b>
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	
<b>Year-to-date</b>	<b>449,886</b>	<b>516,059</b>	<b>561,345</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>8.8</b>
<b>Annual</b>	<b>791,329</b>	<b>904,133</b>		<b>14.3</b>	

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.

NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS  
ADD THREE

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

<b>Mode</b>		<b>July 2011</b>	<b>June 2012</b>	<b>July 2012</b>	<b>Percent Change June 2012 - July 2012</b>	<b>Percent Change July 2011 - 2012</b>
All Surface Modes	Imports	38,788	44,079	40,126	-9.0	3.4
	Exports	33,576	38,523	35,568	-7.7	5.9
	Total	72,363	82,601	75,694	-8.4	4.6
Truck	Imports	23,695	27,690	25,103	-9.3	5.9
	Exports	25,872	29,853	27,292	-8.6	5.5
Rail	Imports	7,644	9,356	8,181	-12.6	7.0
	Exports	4,389	5,282	4,811	-8.9	9.6
Pipeline	Imports	6,349	5,549	5,446	-1.9	-14.2
	Exports	796	675	750	11.0	-5.7

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

NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS  
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**Table 3. July 2012 Surface Transportation Trade with Canada and Mexico Compared with July of Prior Years**

Compared to July in...	Percent Change		
	Imports	Exports	Total Surface Trade
2011	3.4	5.9	4.6
2010	23.5	23.7	23.6
2009	45.3	48.6	46.9
2008	-0.3	13.3	5.7
2007	14.2	33.3	22.4
2006	25.1	49.0	35.3
2005	39.8	69.5	52.3
2004	42.5	78.4	57.4
2003	62.7	98.2	77.7
2002	66.7	105.1	82.8

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

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

Mode		July 2011	June 2012	July 2012	Percent Change	Percent Change
					June 2012 - July 2012	July 2011 - 2012
All Surface Modes	Imports	22,374	24,764	22,155	-10.5	-1.0
	Exports	20,138	23,630	20,792	-12.0	3.2
	Total	42,512	48,394	42,946	-11.3	1.0
Truck	Imports	10,422	12,049	10,625	-11.8	1.9
	Exports	15,304	18,080	15,558	-13.9	1.7
Rail	Imports	4,806	6,039	4,967	-17.8	3.3
	Exports	2,335	3,008	2,728	-9.3	16.8
Pipeline	Imports	6,318	5,523	5,430	-1.7	-14.0
	Exports	563	455	510	12.1	-9.3

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:

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NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS  
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**Table 5. Top 10 States Trading with Canada by All Surface Modes of Transportation**

Ranked by July 2012 Surface Trade Value  
(millions of current U.S. dollars)

State	July 2011		July 2012		Percent Change July 2011-2012
	Value	Rank	Value	Rank	
<b>Illinois</b>	4,474	<b>2</b>	4,892	<b>1</b>	9.3
<b>Michigan</b>	4,524	<b>1</b>	4,558	<b>2</b>	0.7
<b>California</b>	2,213	<b>6</b>	2,856	<b>3</b>	29.0
<b>Ohio</b>	2,392	<b>4</b>	2,614	<b>4</b>	9.3
<b>Texas</b>	2,374	<b>5</b>	2,585	<b>5</b>	8.9
<b>New York</b>	2,435	<b>3</b>	2,180	<b>6</b>	-10.5
<b>Washington</b>	1,696	<b>8</b>	1,747	<b>7</b>	3.0
<b>Pennsylvania</b>	1,753	<b>7</b>	1,539	<b>8</b>	-12.3
<b>Minnesota</b>	1,548	<b>9</b>	1,515	<b>9</b>	-2.1
<b>Indiana</b>	1,352	<b>10</b>	1,448	<b>10</b>	7.1

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

NOTE: Numbers may not add to totals due to rounding. Percent change based on numbers prior to rounding.

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NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS  
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**Table 6. U.S. Surface Transportation Trade with Mexico**  
(millions of current U.S. dollars)

Mode		July 2011	June 2012	July 2012	Percent Change June 2012 - July 2012	Percent Change July 2011 - 2012
All Surface Modes	Imports	16,413	19,314	17,971	-7.0	9.5
	Exports	13,438	14,893	14,777	-0.8	10.0
	Total	29,851	34,207	32,748	-4.3	9.7
Truck	Imports	13,273	15,641	14,478	-7.4	9.1
	Exports	10,568	11,773	11,734	-0.3	11.0
Rail	Imports	2,838	3,317	3,215	-3.1	13.3
	Exports	2,053	2,274	2,083	-8.4	1.4
Pipeline	Imports	31	27	16	-41.5	-50.6
	Exports	233	220	240	8.9	3.0

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:

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

Ranked by July 2012 Surface Trade Value  
(millions of current U.S. dollars)

State	July 2011		July 2012		Percent Change July 2011-2012
	Value	Rank	Value	Rank	
Texas	10,726	1	11,988	1	11.8
California	4,498	2	4,553	2	1.2
Michigan	3,308	3	3,897	3	17.8
Illinois	1,072	4	1,145	4	6.8
Arizona	779	5	909	5	16.7
Ohio	753	6	890	6	18.3
Tennessee	545	8	717	7	31.7
Indiana	550	7	564	8	2.6
North Carolina	496	9	549	9	10.7
Wisconsin	388	12	440	10	13.6

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

NOTE: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding

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NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS  
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**Table 8. Top Five Commodities Transported between the U.S. and Canada by All Surface Modes of Transportation, July 2012**  
(millions of current U.S. dollars)

Commodities	Exports	Imports	Total
Oil and Gas	1,091	6,869	7,960
Vehicles Other than Railway	3,367	3,374	6,741
Computer-Related Machinery and Parts	3,522	1,435	4,956
Electrical Machinery; Equipment and Parts	1,704	498	2,202
Plastics	1,112	833	1,946

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 July 20, 2012.

NOTE: Numbers July 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, July 2012**  
(millions of current U.S. dollars)

Commodities	Exports	Imports	Total
Electrical Machinery; Equipment and Parts	2,575	4,093	6,668
Computer-Related Machinery and Parts	2,822	3,564	6,386
Vehicles Other than Railway	1,606	4,309	5,915
Plastics	1,151	313	1,464
Measuring and Testing Instruments	385	839	1,225

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 July 13, 2012.

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

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