



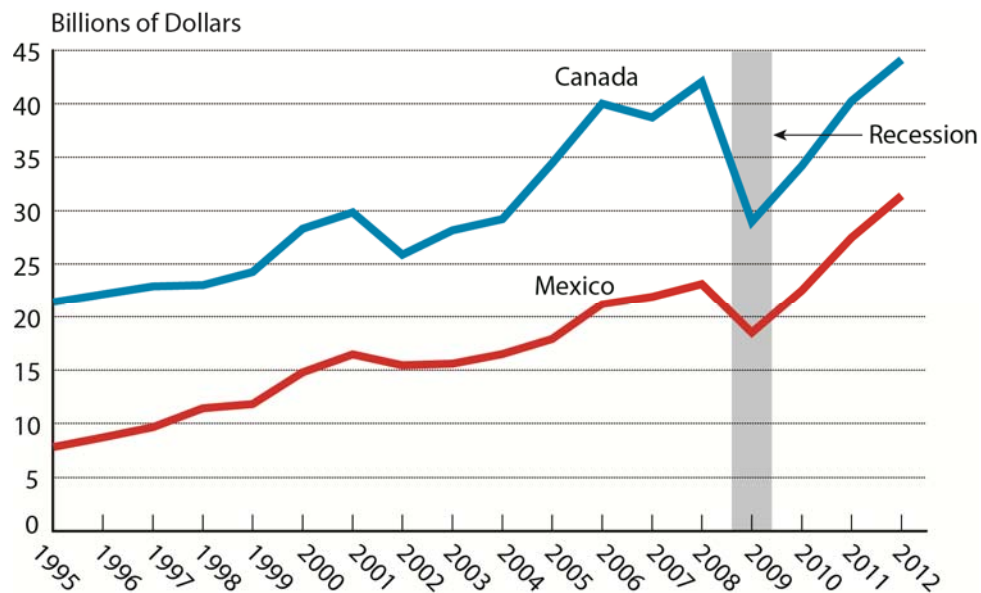
U.S. Department of Transportation
Office of Public Affairs
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590
www.dot.gov/briefing-room.html

BTS Data

BTS 15-12
Tuesday, March 27, 2012
Contact: Dave Smallen
Tel: 202-366-5568

January 2012 Surface Trade with Canada and Mexico Rose 11.5 Percent from January 2011

North American Surface Trade, Month of January 1995-2012 (Figure 1)



Trade using surface transportation between the United States and its North American neighbors, Canada and Mexico, was 11.5 percent higher in January 2012 than in January 2011, totaling \$75.5 billion (*Table 1*), according to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

- more -

NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS

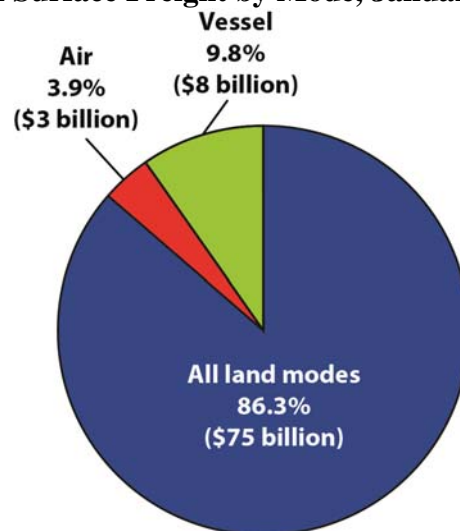
ADD ONE

BTS, a part of the Research and Innovative Technology Administration, reported that the January 2012 value of U.S. surface transportation trade with Canada and Mexico, the United States' North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) partners, rose 15.9 percent from January 2008, which was one month after the start of the recession, and 59.2 percent from January 2009, in the middle of the recession (*Table 3*).

The value of U.S. surface transportation trade with Canada and Mexico in January increased by 82.8 percent compared to January 2002, a period of 10 years. Imports in January were up 72.7 percent since January 2002, while exports were up 96.5 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 January, 86.3 percent of U.S. trade by value with Canada and Mexico moved via land, 9.8 percent moved by vessel, and 3.9 percent moved by air (*Figure 2*). By all modes of transportation, U.S.-Canada trade and U.S.-Mexico trade accounted for 16.2 percent and 12.8 percent, respectively, of total U.S.-world trade in January 2012.

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



The value of U.S. surface transportation trade with Canada and Mexico increased 1.8 percent in January 2012 from December 2011 (*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 both increased compared to January 2011 with U.S.-Canada reaching \$44.1 billion, a 9.6 percent increase, and U.S.-Mexico reaching \$31.4 billion, a 14.3 percent increase. For trade statistics by mode, see Table 4 for Canada and Table 6 for Mexico.

In January trade by state, Michigan led all states in surface trade with Canada as it has in previous years, at \$5.6 billion, a 14.0 percent increase from January 2011 (*Table 5*). Of the top 10 states by value, Illinois had the largest percentage increase over January 2011, at 26.2 percent. About half of the \$5.0 billion in Illinois-Canada trade was in the importation of oil and gas via pipeline. The top commodity category transported between the U.S. and Canada by surface modes of transportation in January was oil and gas, valued at \$8.3 billion (*Table 8*). Most of this

NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS

ADD ONE

trade, \$7.3 billion, consisted of U.S. imports from Canada, including \$6.7 billion of oil and gas imports via pipeline. U.S. imports of oil and gas from Canada via all surface modes peaked in July 2008 at \$9.5 billion.

Texas also continued to lead all states in surface trade with Mexico at \$11.5 billion, a 20.1 percent increase from January 2011 (*Table 7*). January 2012 was the second highest month on record for Texas – Mexico trade, which peaked in August 2011 at \$11.9 billion. Of the top 10 states by value, Tennessee had the biggest percentage increase, 32.3 percent. Of the \$703 million in Tennessee – Mexico trade, \$188 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 January was electrical machinery with \$6.4 billion in trade (*Table 8*).

The news release and summary tables can be found at www.bts.gov. More information on TransBorder Freight Data, data from previous months, and individual state data are available online on the BTS website at <http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/transborder/>. BTS has scheduled release of February TransBorder numbers for May 1.

- more -

NORTH AMERICAN SURFACE TRADE NUMBERS
ADD TWO

**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		11.8	
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	56,697	67,734	75,534	19.5	11.5
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		January 2011	December 2011	January 2012	Percent Change Dec. 2011 – Jan. 2012	Percent Change January 2011 - 2012
All Surface Modes	Imports	36,740	40,469	40,953	1.2	11.5
	Exports	30,993	33,761	34,581	2.4	11.6
	Total	67,734	74,230	75,534	1.8	11.5
Truck	Imports	22,547	23,999	25,280	5.3	12.1
	Exports	24,101	26,126	26,866	2.8	11.5
Rail	Imports	7,460	8,689	7,754	-10.8	3.9
	Exports	3,634	4,463	4,562	2.2	25.5
Pipeline	Imports	5,466	6,398	6,720	5.0	23.0
	Exports	780	583	710	21.6	-9.1

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. January 2012 Surface Trade with Canada and Mexico Compared with January of Prior Years

Compared to January in...	Percent Change		
	Imports	Exports	Total Surface Trade
2011	11.5	11.6	11.5
2010	30.8	36.2	33.2
2009	60.3	57.8	59.2
2008	11.7	21.3	15.9
2007	17.0	34.9	24.5
2006	13.6	37.6	23.4
2005	36.1	55.5	44.3
2004	55.5	78.7	65.3
2003	62.3	86.7	72.6
2002	72.7	96.5	82.8

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		January 2011	December 2011	January 2012	Percent Change Dec. 2011 – Jan. 2012	Percent Change January 2011 - 2012
All Surface Modes	Imports	21,635	23,819	24,079	1.1	11.3
	Exports	18,625	20,404	20,056	-1.7	7.7
	Total	40,260	44,223	44,135	-0.2	9.6
Truck	Imports	10,121	10,541	10,985	4.2	8.5
	Exports	14,310	15,702	15,435	-1.7	7.9
Rail	Imports	5,163	5,805	5,580	-3.9	8.1
	Exports	1,940	2,355	2,303	-2.2	18.7
Pipeline	Imports	5,446	6,375	6,700	5.1	23.0
	Exports	416	348	445	28.1	7.1

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 January 2012 Surface Trade Value
(millions of dollars)

State	January 2011		January 2012		Percent Change January 2011 - 2012
	Value	Rank	Value	Rank	
Michigan	4,976	1	5,671	1	14.0
Illinois	3,962	2	5,000	2	26.2
Ohio	2,613	3	2,785	3	6.6
California	2,587	4	2,701	4	4.4
Texas	2,425	5	2,669	5	10.1
New York	2,164	6	2,324	6	7.4
Pennsylvania	1,578	8	1,740	7	10.3
Washington	1,591	7	1,680	8	5.6
Minnesota	1,437	9	1,480	9	3.0
Indiana	1,229	10	1,398	10	13.7

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		January 2011	December 2011	January 2012	Percent Change Dec. 2011 – Jan. 2012	Percent Change January 2011 - 2012
		All Surface Modes	Imports	15,105	16,649	16,875
	Exports	12,368	13,357	14,524	8.7	17.4
	Total	27,473	30,007	31,399	4.6	14.3
Truck	Imports	12,426	13,458	14,295	6.2	15.0
	Exports	9,790	10,424	11,431	9.7	16.8
Rail	Imports	2,297	2,884	2,173	-24.6	-5.4
	Exports	1,693	2,108	2,259	7.2	33.4
Pipeline	Imports	20	22	20	-9.8	3.2
	Exports	365	236	264	12.0	-27.5

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 January 2012 Surface Trade Value
(millions of dollars)

State	January 2011		January 2012		Percent Change January 2011-2012
	Value	Rank	Value	Rank	
Texas	9,610	1	11,545	1	20.1
California	3,991	2	4,605	2	15.4
Michigan	3,025	3	3,120	3	3.1
Arizona	1,084	4	1,129	4	4.1
Illinois	906	5	1,068	5	17.9
Ohio	742	6	810	6	9.1
Tennessee	532	7	703	7	32.3
Indiana	507	8	551	8	8.7
North Carolina	429	9	480	9	11.8
Wisconsin	385	13	435	10	12.9

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

NOTE: Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding

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, January 2012
(millions of dollars)

Commodities	Exports	Imports	Total
Oil and Gas	1,014	7,284	8,299
Vehicles Other than Railway	3,287	4,358	7,645
Computer-Related Machinery and Parts	3,061	1,461	4,522
Electrical Machinery; Equipment and Parts	1,525	537	2,062
Plastics	939	823	1,763

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, January 2012
(millions of dollars)

Commodities	Exports	Imports	Total
Electrical Machinery; Equipment and Parts	2,604	3,839	6,444
Computer-Related Machinery and Parts	2,905	3,378	6,283
Vehicles Other than Railway	1,528	3,241	4,770
Plastics	1,075	277	1,352
Measuring and Testing Equipment	373	756	1,129

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--