

U.S. Department of Transportation
Office of Public Affairs
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590
http://www.dot.gov/briefingroom

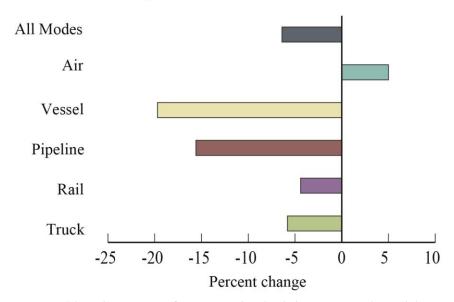
BTS Data

BTS 44-16

Thursday, August 25, 2016 Contact: Dave Smallen Tel: 202-366-5568 david.smallen@dot.gov

June 2016 North American Freight Numbers

Figure 1. Percent Change in Value of U.S.-NAFTA Freight Flows by Mode: June 2015-2016



SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, TransBorder Freight Data

All transportation modes except air carried less cross-border freight by value in June 2016 compared to June 2015 resulting in a 6.4 percent decrease to \$92.7 billion in the total current dollar value of freight moved. June was the 18th consecutive month that the total value of U.S. freight with North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) partners Canada and Mexico declined from the same month of the previous year, according to the TransBorder Freight Data released today by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) (Figure 1, Table 1).

Freight by Mode

The value of commodities moving by air increased 5.0 percent, mainly due to a 35.6 percent increase in the value of imports of pearls, precious stones, and metals. The value of freight carried on other modes declined: rail 4.4 percent; truck 5.8 percent; pipeline 15.6 percent; and vessel 19.7 percent (Figure 1, Table 2). A drop in the price of crude oil played a key role in the large declines in the dollar value of products shipped by vessel and pipeline. Crude oil (a component of mineral fuels) comprises a large share of the commodities carried by these modes. Average monthly prices for crude petroleum and refined fuel are available from the U.S. Energy Information Administration. Mineral fuels, a commodity category that includes crude oil and coal, accounted for 9.4 percent of total value of U.S.-NAFTA trade in June.

Trucks carried 65.4 percent of U.S.-NAFTA freight and continued to be the most heavily utilized mode for moving goods to and from both U.S.-NAFTA partners. Trucks accounted for \$31.2 billion of the \$49.2 billion of imports (63.5 percent) and \$29.4 billion of the \$43.5 billion of exports (67.5 percent) (Table 2).

Rail remained the second largest mode by value, moving 15.2 percent of all U.S.-NAFTA freight, followed by vessel, 6.0 percent; pipeline, 4.5 percent; and air, 4.0 percent. The surface transportation modes of truck, rail and pipeline carried 85.1 percent of the total value of U.S.-NAFTA freight flows (Table 2).

U.S.-Canada Freight

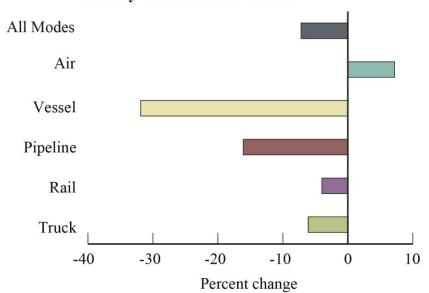


Figure 2. Percent Change in Value of U.S.-Canada Freight Flows by Mode: June 2015-2016

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, <u>TransBorder Freight Data</u>

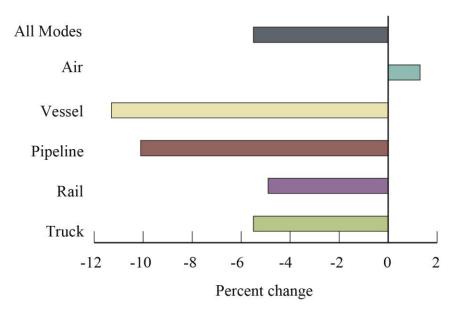
From June 2015 to June 2016, the value of U.S.-Canada freight flows fell 7.2 percent to \$48.2 billion as all modes of transportation except air carried a lower value of U.S.-Canada freight than a year earlier.

Lower crude oil prices contributed to a year-over-year decrease in the value of freight moved between the U.S. and Canada. Crude oil is a large share of freight carried by pipeline and vessel, which were down 16.1 percent and 31.9 percent respectively year-over-year (Figure 2, Table 3).

Trucks carried 60.4 percent of the value of the freight to and from Canada. Rail carried 15.8 percent followed by pipeline, 7.9 percent; air, 4.9 percent; and vessel, 4.0 percent. The surface transportation modes of truck, rail and pipeline carried 84.1 percent of the value of total U.S.-Canada freight flows (Table 3).

U.S.-Mexico Freight

Figure 3. Percent Change in Value of U.S.-Mexico Freight Flows by Mode: June 2015-2016



SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, TransBorder Freight Data

From June 2015 to June 2016, the value of U.S.-Mexico freight declined 5.5 percent to \$44.5 billion as all modes of transportation except air carried a lower value of U.S.-Mexico freight than a year earlier. Freight carried by air increased 1.3 percent. Rail decreased 4.9 percent and truck decreased by 5.5 percent. Pipeline and vessel freight value dropped by 10.1 percent and 11.3 percent respectively, both due mainly to lower crude oil prices (Figure 3, Table 4).

Trucks carried 70.8 percent of the value of freight to and from Mexico. Rail carried 14.5 percent followed by vessel, 8.1 percent; air, 3.0 percent; and pipeline, 0.7 percent. The surface transportation modes of truck, rail and pipeline carried 86.1 percent of the value of total U.S.-Mexico freight flows (Table 4).

Commodities

In June 2016, the top commodity category transported between the U.S. and Canada by all modes was vehicles and parts, of which \$5.6 billion, or 57.0 percent, moved by truck and \$4.0 billion, or 40.7 percent, moved by rail (Figure 4). The top commodity category transported between the U.S. and Mexico by all modes in June 2016 was electrical machinery, of which \$8.0 billion, or 91.2 percent, moved by truck (Figure 5).

Reporting Notes

BTS press releases and the BTS website define surface transportation modes as truck, rail and pipeline. See North American TransBorder Freight Data on the BTS website for additional data for surface modes since 1995 and all modes since 2004. The category of all modes of transportation cited in the following tables includes freight movements by truck, rail, vessel, pipeline, air, other and unknown modes of transport.

Data in this press release are not seasonally adjusted and are not adjusted for inflation. Additional summary data adjusted for inflation and exchange rates can be found on the BTS website under TransBorder Indexed Freight Flow Data. The BLS indexes used in the adjustments for inflation and exchange rates might be revised in each of the three months after original publication. For more information, see TransBorder Press Releases for previous press releases and summary tables. See TransBorder Freight Data for data from previous months, and for additional state, port, and commodity data. BTS has scheduled the release of July TransBorder numbers for Sept. 22.

Table 1. Value of Monthly U.S.-NAFTA Freight Flows

(millions of current dollars)

Month	2014	2015	2016	Percent Change 2014-2015	Percent Change 2015-2016
January	90,326	89,258	82,430	-1.2	-7.7
February	89,557	85,723	84,038	-4.3	-2.0
March	101,478	96,070	90,462	-5.3	-5.8
April	100,141	93,327	90,380	-6.8	-3.2
May	103,942	92,707	89,840	-10.8	-3.1
June	102,978	99,030	92,671	-3.8	-6.4
July	101,075	92,995		-8.0	
August	100,624	92,442		-8.1	
September	102,245	93,246		-8.8	
October	108,243	96,624		-10.7	
November	96,252	88,154		-8.4	
December	95,811	86,748		-9.5	
Year-to-date	588,422	556,115	529,820	-5.5	-4.7
Annual	1,192,671	1,106,325		-7.2	

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, <u>TransBorder Freight Data</u>

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

Table 2. Value of Monthly U.S.-NAFTA Freight Flows by Mode of Transportation (millions of current dollars)

Mode		June 2015	June 2016	Percent Change June 2015-2016	
All Modes	Imports	53,799	49,160	-8.6	
	Exports	45,231	43,511	-3.8	
Wiodes	Total	99,030	92,671	-6.4	
All	Imports	46,853	43,173	-7.9	
Surface	Exports	37,120	35,646	-4.0	
Modes	Total	83,973	78,819	-6.1	
	Imports	33,155	31,234	-5.8	
Truck	Exports	31,192	29,378	-5.8	
	Total	64,346	60,612	-5.8	
	Imports	9,680	8,769	-9.4	
Rail	Exports	5,032	5,290	5.1	
	Total	14,712	14,059	-4.4	
	Imports	4,019	3,170	-21.1	
Pipeline	Exports	896	977	9.1	
	Total	4,914	4,147	-15.6	
Vessel	Imports	3,893	2,720	-30.1	
	Exports	3,001	2,813	-6.3	
	Total	6,894	5,533	-19.7	
Air	Imports	1,411	1,646	16.6	
	Exports	2,125	2,068	-2.7	
	Total	3,537	3,714	5.0	

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, <u>TransBorder Freight Data</u>

NOTES: Numbers might not add to totals due to rounding. Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding. The value of trade for all modes is not equal to the sum of truck, rail, pipeline, vessel and air 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 3. Value of Monthly U.S.-Canada Freight Flows by Mode of Transportation (millions of current dollars)

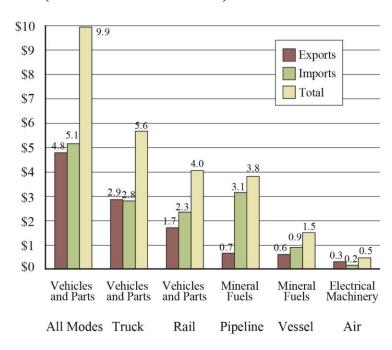
Mode		June 2015	June 2016	Percent Change June 2015-2016
All Modes	Imports	27,208	24,254	-10.9
	Exports	24,747	23,955	-3.2
	Total	51,955	48,208	-7.2
All	Imports	23,457	21,016	-10.4
Surface	Exports	20,040	19,531	-2.5
Modes	Total	43,496	40,547	-6.8
	Imports	14,161	13,117	-7.4
Truck	Exports	16,865	16,010	-5.1
	Total	31,026	29,128	-6.1
	Imports	5,299	4,746	-10.4
Rail	Exports	2,618	2,851	8.9
	Total	7,917	7,597	-4.0
Pipeline	Imports	3,997	3,152	-21.1
	Exports	557	670	20.5
	Total	4,554	3,823	-16.1
Vessel	Imports	1,708	1,164	-31.9
	Exports	1,106	752	-32.0
	Total	2,814	1,916	-31.9
Air	Imports	872	1,068	22.5
	Exports	1,350	1,314	-2.7
	Total	2,222	2,382	7.2

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, <u>TransBorder Freight Data</u>

NOTES: Numbers might not add to totals due to rounding. Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding. The value of trade for all modes is not equal to the sum of truck, rail, pipeline, vessel and air 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:

 $\underline{http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/TransBorder/TBDR_DataFields.html}$

Figure 4. Top Commodity Transported between the U.S. and Canada for Each Mode of Transportation, June 2016 (billions of current dollars)



SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, <u>TransBorder Freight Data</u> NOTES: Import and export numbers might not add to totals due to rounding.

Table 4. Value of Monthly U.S.-Mexico Freight Flows by Mode of Transportation (millions of current dollars)

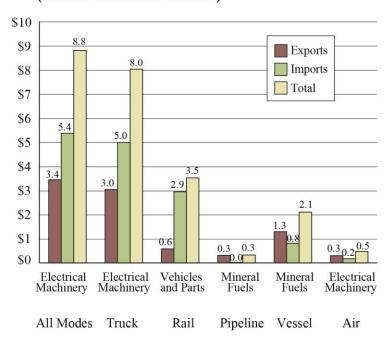
Mode		June 2015	June 2016	Percent Change June 2015-2016
All Modes	Imports	26,591	24,907	-6.3
	Exports	20,484	19,556	-4.5
Wiodes	Total	47,075	44,463	-5.5
All	Imports	23,397	22,157	-5.3
Surface	Exports	17,080	16,114	-5.7
Modes	Total	40,477	38,271	-5.4
	Imports	18,994	18,116	-4.6
Truck	Exports	14,327	13,368	-6.7
	Total	33,320	31,484	-5.5
	Imports	4,381	4,022	-8.2
Rail	Exports	2,414	2,440	1.0
	Total	6,796	6,462	-4.9
Pipeline	Imports	22	18	-17.5
	Exports	339	307	-9.6
	Total	361	324	-10.1
Vessel	Imports	2,184	1,556	-28.8
	Exports	1,896	2,061	8.7
	Total	4,080	3,617	-11.3
Air	Imports	540	577	7.0
	Exports	775	755	-2.7
	Total	1,315	1,332	1.3

SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, <u>TransBorder Freight Data</u>

NOTES: Numbers might not add to totals due to rounding. Percent changes based on numbers prior to rounding. The value of trade for all modes is not equal to the sum of truck, rail, pipeline, vessel and air 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:

 $\underline{http://www.bts.gov/programs/international/TransBorder/TBDR_DataFields.html}$

Figure 5. Top Commodity Transported between the U.S. and Mexico for Each Mode of Transportation, June 2016 (billions of current dollars)



SOURCE: Bureau of Transportation Statistics, <u>TransBorder Freight Data</u> NOTES: Import and export numbers might not add to totals due to rounding.