

U.S. - Canada Border Planning

Promoting Trade and Mobility Along Our Northern Border



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

What is U.S. - Canada border planning?

Border planning facilitates the development and maintenance of the surface transportation system along our Nation's border with Canada. The Northern Border transportation system includes land ports of entry (LPOEs) and the roadways and railways leading to LPOEs.

An effective and efficient border transportation system is important for economic competitiveness, mobility, accessibility, sustainability, and quality of life. The trade relationship between the U.S. and Canada is the largest in the world, and border transportation systems ensure that people and goods can travel smoothly between the two countries.



Rainbow International Bridge, Niagara Falls. Image credit: Wikimedia / Verne Equinox

FHWA on the Northern Border

Along the Northern Border, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Border Planning Team supports:

Projects



FHWA is providing technical assistance and coordination to support the replacement of the aging **Baudette – Rainy River International Bridge** between Minnesota and Ontario.

Policy, Plans, and Programs



The **Border Infrastructure Investment Plan (BIIP)**, now in its third iteration, exemplifies FHWA's support for binational planning. BIIP 3.0 includes information about planned infrastructure projects at major ports of entry.

Research



Recent FHWA-sponsored research includes a **Border Freight Operations Study** and a **Border Radio-Frequency Identification (RFID) Pilot Project** to help reduce border wait times using modern technology.

Coordination



In February 2016, U.S. DOT Secretary Anthony Foxx and Transport Canada Minister of Transport Marc Garneau signed an updated **Memorandum of Cooperation** to strengthen binational transportation planning and cooperation between the U.S. and Canada.

To learn more, visit:
www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/border_planning

FHWA Project Spotlight:

Transportation Border Working Group

In 2001, FHWA and Transport Canada created the U.S.-Canada Transportation Border Working Group (TBWG) to enhance binational cooperation on transportation planning and facilitate the efficient, safe, and environmentally responsible movement of people and goods across the border. Biannual TBWG plenaries provide a forum for interagency collaboration between transportation and border agencies from both countries. The 2015-2017 TBWG Action Plan, available at www.thetbwg.org, describes planned projects and areas of focus for TBWG.

FHWA Project Spotlight:

Vehicle Survey Data Workshops

In 2015 and 2016, FHWA and the Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) sponsored a series of workshops on how U.S. stakeholders along the Northern Border can use Ontario's commercial and passenger vehicle survey data to improve transportation and border planning. The workshops also provided participants with information about how to conduct their own intercept surveys.

For more information, contact:

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U.S. - Canada Border Planning Facts and Figures




Image credit: 123rf.com (mg7)

Did you know?

- + At 5,525 miles long, the U.S.-Canada border is the longest international border in the world.
- + There are 120 active land border crossings and 5 rail crossings along the Northern Border, in 11 U.S. states and 8 Canadian provinces.
- + In 2014, the busiest U.S.-Canada ports (as measured by number of vehicles entering the U.S.) were: ¹
 - Buffalo-Niagara Falls, New York
 - Detroit, Michigan
 - Blaine, Washington
- + Approximately 38 million vehicles crossed into the U.S. from Canada in 2014, including: ¹

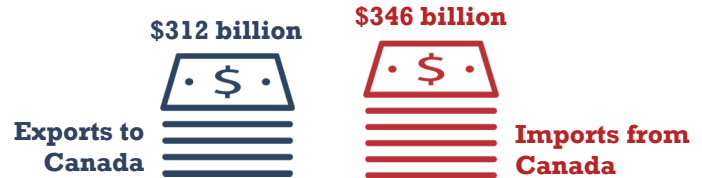
 **32 million personal vehicles,** carrying 60 million people

 **5.8 million trucks,** carrying 60 million tons of freight

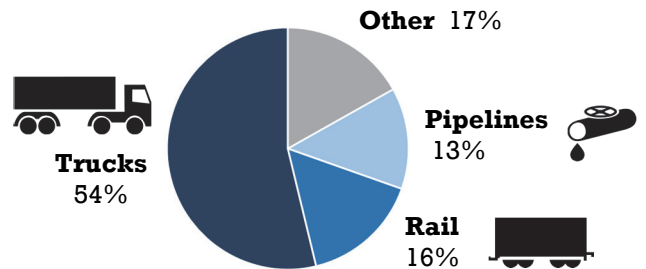
 **104,000 buses,** carrying 2.2 million people

Importance of U.S. - Canada border transportation to the U.S. economy

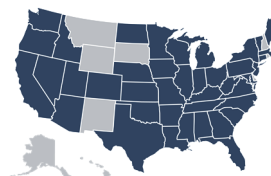
- + Canada is U.S.'s largest export market and second-largest import market. ² In 2014, trade with Canada totaled \$658 billion. ¹



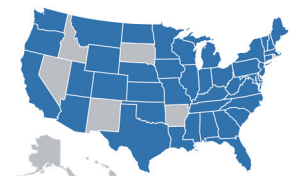
- + By value, 83% of trade with Canada in 2014 moved across the border by surface transportation modes—trucks, rail, or pipelines. ¹



- + Trade with Canada is not limited to the Northern Border States: In 2014, 41 states exported more than \$1 billion in goods to Canada, and 42 states imported more than \$1 billion in goods from Canada. ¹



Exported more than \$1 billion to Canada
All except AK, DE, HI, MT, NH, NM, RI, SD, WY



Imported more than \$1 billion from Canada
All except AK, AR, HI, ID, NM, NV, RI, SD

Sources:

- 1) Bureau of Transportation Statistics. <http://transborder.bts.gov>.
- 2) U.S. Census. census.gov/foreign-trade/statistics/highlights/toppartners.html



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