

Service bulletin

Monthly Railway Carloadings

August 2009



Highlights

- The Canadian railway industry saw a decline in the volume of cargo carried in August, the result of a drop in commodities loaded in Canada as well as traffic received from the U.S.
- Total freight traffic originating in Canada and freight received from the United States dropped to 21.2 million metric tonnes in August, a decline of 16.8% from August 2008. This marked the lowest amount of traffic carried for the month of August in 10 years.
- Freight loaded by the Canadian railway industry's core transportation systems, non-intermodal and intermodal, accounted for the majority of the overall drop in cargo loaded. The industry loaded 18.8 million metric tonnes of cargo in August, down 17.0% from August 2008.
- Non-intermodal freight loadings, which are typically carried in bulk or loaded in box cars, fell 16.9% to 16.7 million metric tonnes. The decrease was the result of reduced loadings in the majority of the commodity groups carried by the railways. The commodity groups with the largest declines by tonnage were iron ore and concentrates (down 1.2 million metric tonnes), potash, coal, and iron and steel – primary or semi-finished.
- Despite the overall drop in non-intermodal loadings, the industry saw significant gains in tonnage loadings of wheat, other cereal grains, and animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours.
- Intermodal freight loadings, transported through containers and trailers loaded onto flat cars, decreased 18.3% compared with August 2008 to 2.0 million metric tonnes.
- Rail freight traffic coming from the United States dropped to 2.5 million metric tonnes, down 15.0% from August 2008.
- From a geographic perspective, 58.7% of the overall volume of cargo loaded by Canadian railways was in the Western division of Canada, with the remainder loaded in the Eastern division. The Eastern and Western Divisions, for statistical purposes, are separated by an imaginary line running from Thunder Bay to Armstrong, Ontario. Freight loaded at Thunder Bay is included in the Western Division while loadings at Armstrong are reported in the Eastern Division.

Statistical tables

Table 1

Railway carloading statistics for non-intermodal traffic by commodity in Canada — Total

	August 2009		August 2008	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	16,140	1,489,449	10,244	935,429
Other cereal grains	4,936	396,616	4,175	316,499
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	1,898	173,672	3,458	317,404
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	4,332	355,537	4,418	361,320
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	471	37,500	507	40,634
Animal feed and products	1,849	151,049	2,064	169,150
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	1	64	3	203
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	1,024	82,334	1,117	86,985
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	2,953	237,160	2,223	179,164
Sugar	363	32,425	383	33,172
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	279	14,051	205	14,682
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	213	15,774	172	12,440
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	2,484	216,707	3,982	354,652
Salt	722	63,727	701	63,008
Phosphate rock	1,026	92,166	1,053	94,511
Sulphur	4,690	447,871	6,169	584,044
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	2,144	199,179	4,242	370,041
Iron ores and concentrates	23,966	2,173,584	36,620	3,414,645
Copper ores and concentrates	1,106	97,124	998	89,154
Nickel ores and concentrates	90	8,277	2,415	186,453
Lead ores and concentrates	201	14,540	235	18,147
Zinc ores and concentrates	899	72,462	970	80,662
Other metallic ores and concentrates	4,874	464,318	5,501	524,944
Coal	25,530	2,642,830	29,678	3,069,051
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	3,171	240,416	3,355	256,997
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	5,253	426,070	5,073	403,637
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	4,741	300,200	4,240	274,865
Coal coke and petroleum coke	2,315	169,155	2,330	161,213
Other refined petroleum and coal products	2,633	204,924	2,712	210,627
Sulphuric acid	2,422	219,782	2,598	234,213
Alumina	2,593	237,148	3,191	293,532
Other basic chemicals	6,690	582,344	6,590	572,536
Potash	6,878	686,365	11,546	1,138,046
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	3,958	326,636	4,187	351,842
Other chemical products and preparations	503	41,270	1,079	92,515
Plastic and rubber	3,108	271,701	2,916	257,114
Logs and other wood in the rough	849	51,554	1,183	72,961
Wood chips	3,380	201,890	3,895	235,458
Lumber	7,567	633,050	9,176	771,394
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	3,005	244,970	3,260	266,651
Wood pulp	8,411	706,496	9,996	820,126
Newsprint	3,064	208,424	4,585	311,598
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	3,233	233,906	4,241	299,975
Cement	2,393	230,864	2,631	245,934
Other non-metallic mineral products	102	8,826	224	18,441
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	2,024	170,301	6,309	515,423
Copper, primary or semi-finished	331	27,950	475	38,601
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	2,517	213,049	2,897	241,834
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	590	50,380	692	50,968
Articles of base metal	754	57,968	991	70,727
Machinery	121	5,565	150	5,576
Automobiles and mini-vans	7,340	124,026	7,987	131,792
Freight motor vehicles	5,655	104,213	7,040	127,034
Other vehicles	11	158	216	4,617
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	635	19,280	1,019	26,109
Other transportation equipment	1,521	22,151	1,583	17,488
Metallic waste and scrap	2,240	176,243	2,845	213,569
Non-metallic waste and scrap	476	22,606	594	37,243
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	135	8,354	141	9,029
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	88	3,840	301	12,486
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	278	7,492	301	8,594
Less than carload shipments	...	116	...	59
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	203,176	16,718,099	244,082	20,117,218

1. Includes loadings of gypsum.

2. Excludes goods transported in containers or trailers on flat cars.

Table 2
Railway carloading statistics for non-intermodal traffic by commodity in Canada — Eastern Division

	August 2009		August 2008	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	274	23,509	667	57,048
Other cereal grains	76	6,219	306	26,683
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	23	1,900	63	5,160
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	0	0	1	70
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	57	3,725	73	5,008
Animal feed and products	644	51,692	726	57,052
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	0	0	2	139
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	43	3,618	57	4,296
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	395	30,521	298	22,215
Sugar	320	28,558	333	29,100
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	8	522	7	607
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	126	9,287	114	7,742
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	521	40,609	928	74,274
Salt	268	22,493	234	20,361
Phosphate rock	1,026	92,166	1,053	94,511
Sulphur	285	24,933	166	14,555
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	1,813	168,733	3,810	330,649
Iron ores and concentrates	23,966	2,173,584	36,620	3,414,645
Copper ores and concentrates	540	46,605	453	40,263
Nickel ores and concentrates	90	8,277	2,405	185,500
Lead ores and concentrates	201	14,540	235	18,147
Zinc ores and concentrates	787	62,926	912	76,002
Other metallic ores and concentrates	4,874	464,318	5,501	524,944
Coal	1,759	154,026	2,394	209,716
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	2,502	190,488	2,565	197,224
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	2,346	185,464	2,776	218,792
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	2,670	170,273	2,344	153,856
Coal coke and petroleum coke	941	55,412	1,060	58,766
Other refined petroleum and coal products	1,217	90,366	1,160	86,283
Sulphuric acid	2,125	193,502	2,224	201,103
Alumina	2,592	237,054	3,191	293,532
Other basic chemicals	2,996	255,874	2,946	253,723
Potash	196	19,297	305	27,860
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	394	33,359	147	12,934
Other chemical products and preparations	441	36,498	1,018	87,686
Plastic and rubber	854	71,865	1,025	88,135
Logs and other wood in the rough	504	28,619	788	47,037
Wood chips	1,162	74,026	1,349	86,991
Lumber	1,284	105,257	1,938	158,769
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	669	44,445	792	59,493
Wood pulp	2,054	161,626	2,886	226,709
Newsprint	2,740	186,648	3,973	270,914
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	2,324	164,340	3,002	206,516
Cement	1,335	127,882	1,440	136,280
Other non-metallic mineral products	29	2,459	68	5,534
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	1,704	144,225	5,489	443,660
Copper, primary or semi-finished	272	22,907	406	33,343
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	2,514	212,791	2,888	241,098
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	231	20,048	253	15,129
Articles of base metal	323	24,208	359	24,748
Machinery	106	4,641	123	4,128
Automobiles and mini-vans	5,631	100,160	6,065	104,793
Freight motor vehicles	5,409	100,805	6,587	120,559
Other vehicles	9	74	216	4,617
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	635	19,280	1,019	26,109
Other transportation equipment	787	9,689	906	9,097
Metallic waste and scrap	1,230	98,546	1,339	100,185
Non-metallic waste and scrap	187	13,122	294	23,005
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	61	3,354	48	3,307
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	87	3,822	297	12,418
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	269	6,906	299	8,535
Less than carload shipments	...	116	...	59
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	88,926	6,652,209	120,943	9,271,614

1. Includes loadings of gypsum.

2. Excludes goods transported in containers or trailers on flat cars.

Table 3
Railway carloading statistics for non-intermodal traffic by commodity in Canada — Western Division

	August 2009		August 2008	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	15,866	1,465,940	9,577	878,381
Other cereal grains	4,860	390,397	3,869	289,816
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	1,875	171,772	3,395	312,244
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	4,332	355,537	4,417	361,250
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	414	33,775	434	35,626
Animal feed and products	1,205	99,357	1,338	112,098
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	1	64	1	64
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	981	78,716	1,060	82,689
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	2,558	206,639	1,925	156,949
Sugar	43	3,867	50	4,072
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	271	13,529	198	14,075
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	87	6,487	58	4,698
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	1,963	176,098	3,054	280,378
Salt	454	41,234	467	42,647
Phosphate rock	0	0	0	0
Sulphur	4,405	422,938	6,003	569,489
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	331	30,446	432	39,392
Iron ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Copper ores and concentrates	566	50,519	545	48,891
Nickel ores and concentrates	0	0	10	953
Lead ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Zinc ores and concentrates	112	9,536	58	4,660
Other metallic ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Coal	23,771	2,488,804	27,284	2,859,335
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	669	49,928	790	59,773
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	2,907	240,606	2,297	184,845
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	2,071	129,927	1,896	121,009
Coal coke and petroleum coke	1,374	113,743	1,270	102,447
Other refined petroleum and coal products	1,416	114,558	1,552	124,344
Sulphuric acid	297	26,280	374	33,110
Alumina	1	94	0	0
Other basic chemicals	3,694	326,470	3,644	318,813
Potash	6,682	667,068	11,241	1,110,186
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	3,564	293,277	4,040	338,908
Other chemical products and preparations	62	4,772	61	4,829
Plastic and rubber	2,254	199,836	1,891	168,979
Logs and other wood in the rough	345	22,935	395	25,924
Wood chips	2,218	127,864	2,546	148,467
Lumber	6,283	527,793	7,238	612,625
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	2,336	200,525	2,468	207,158
Wood pulp	6,357	544,870	7,110	593,417
Newsprint	324	21,776	612	40,684
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	909	69,566	1,239	93,459
Cement	1,058	102,982	1,191	109,654
Other non-metallic mineral products	73	6,367	156	12,907
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	320	26,076	820	71,763
Copper, primary or semi-finished	59	5,043	69	5,258
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	3	258	9	736
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	359	30,332	439	35,839
Articles of base metal	431	33,760	632	45,979
Machinery	15	924	27	1,448
Automobiles and mini-vans	1,709	23,866	1,922	26,999
Freight motor vehicles	246	3,408	453	6,475
Other vehicles	2	84	0	0
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	0	0	0	0
Other transportation equipment	734	12,462	677	8,391
Metallic waste and scrap	1,010	77,697	1,506	113,384
Non-metallic waste and scrap	289	9,484	300	14,238
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	74	5,000	93	5,722
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	1	18	4	68
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	9	586	2	59
Less than carload shipments	...	0	...	0
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	114,250	10,065,890	123,139	10,845,604

1. Includes loadings of gypsum.

2. Excludes goods transported in containers or trailers on flat cars.

Table 4
Railway carloading statistics for non-intermodal traffic by commodity in Canada (year to date) — Total

	January 2009 to August 2009		January 2008 to August 2008	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	159,355	14,734,599	117,243	10,757,876
Other cereal grains	31,235	2,532,593	41,992	3,305,201
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	22,441	2,041,150	14,817	1,336,193
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	66,230	5,428,866	48,086	3,925,396
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	5,097	412,518	5,343	437,882
Animal feed and products	15,549	1,271,894	18,199	1,452,006
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	16	1,028	21	1,304
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	8,985	712,222	9,625	747,327
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	23,043	1,859,935	21,036	1,684,241
Sugar	2,625	234,224	2,892	250,680
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	2,094	116,607	2,090	146,231
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	1,806	130,687	1,279	95,745
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	13,000	1,156,930	25,842	2,284,247
Salt	5,673	500,058	5,763	514,142
Phosphate rock	6,800	610,290	6,697	602,686
Sulphur	39,344	3,768,611	51,162	4,896,376
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	18,711	1,746,460	34,309	2,978,299
Iron ores and concentrates	212,152	18,948,686	256,581	23,130,347
Copper ores and concentrates	8,804	780,118	8,296	728,662
Nickel ores and concentrates	9,537	736,585	20,857	1,591,012
Lead ores and concentrates	1,587	115,187	1,717	132,435
Zinc ores and concentrates	7,205	587,374	6,033	507,617
Other metallic ores and concentrates	39,222	3,741,527	41,549	3,962,356
Coal	175,428	18,163,576	231,769	23,872,449
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	24,091	1,834,124	22,371	1,707,685
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	40,087	3,251,130	43,218	3,473,657
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	43,205	2,724,148	42,459	2,709,713
Coal coke and petroleum coke	14,586	1,029,682	15,730	1,082,432
Other refined petroleum and coal products	20,200	1,567,567	21,688	1,673,401
Sulphuric acid	18,394	1,668,953	21,090	1,904,030
Alumina	22,540	2,060,707	23,809	2,185,056
Other basic chemicals	53,994	4,697,601	54,910	4,788,726
Potash	37,124	3,618,259	121,704	11,922,342
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	35,220	2,948,303	35,043	2,926,983
Other chemical products and preparations	4,130	337,207	8,443	719,888
Plastic and rubber	23,982	2,090,130	29,117	2,537,638
Logs and other wood in the rough	7,424	463,146	11,128	648,241
Wood chips	25,602	1,522,981	33,727	2,032,415
Lumber	59,159	4,957,216	81,762	6,862,444
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	22,125	1,813,382	28,511	2,318,024
Wood pulp	62,148	5,172,259	76,979	6,311,140
Newsprint	28,425	1,926,017	38,124	2,561,387
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	28,030	2,023,707	33,049	2,312,848
Cement	13,807	1,330,226	18,175	1,712,941
Other non-metallic mineral products	1,248	110,106	1,913	165,277
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	17,970	1,528,472	51,785	4,250,739
Copper, primary or semi-finished	2,527	214,490	3,259	270,702
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	21,229	1,799,933	23,609	1,965,652
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	5,056	422,532	5,336	422,350
Articles of base metal	7,755	570,626	10,643	769,256
Machinery	512	24,580	1,056	50,084
Automobiles and mini-vans	54,686	900,746	64,709	1,059,585
Freight motor vehicles	31,828	568,009	48,721	894,235
Other vehicles	206	3,650	450	8,895
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	3,683	117,369	10,086	298,169
Other transportation equipment	17,674	186,827	15,861	220,400
Metallic waste and scrap	17,532	1,374,219	24,084	1,823,071
Non-metallic waste and scrap	4,029	197,850	5,108	299,376
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	1,069	75,679	964	56,886
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	871	37,614	2,019	86,317
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	2,002	66,993	2,419	71,599
Less than carload shipments	...	520	...	2,047
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	1,650,089	135,568,685	2,006,257	164,446,341

1. Includes loadings of gypsum.

2. Excludes goods transported in containers or trailers on flat cars.

Table 5
Railway carloading statistics for non-intermodal traffic by commodity in Canada (year to date) — Eastern Division

	January 2009 to August 2009		January 2008 to August 2008	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	1,711	148,887	2,593	227,567
Other cereal grains	1,122	97,207	2,688	231,825
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	133	10,806	245	19,953
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	2	91	51	4,108
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	640	45,427	722	55,177
Animal feed and products	5,658	450,676	6,288	493,816
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	3	196	7	408
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	450	34,570	491	36,899
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	3,403	268,070	2,677	205,707
Sugar	2,339	208,450	2,535	222,999
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	131	4,001	362	24,034
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	1,296	92,129	852	60,870
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	2,906	252,606	7,163	579,176
Salt	2,082	173,476	2,216	191,777
Phosphate rock	6,800	610,290	6,697	602,686
Sulphur	2,282	198,666	1,367	120,835
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	16,181	1,514,302	31,086	2,687,232
Iron ores and concentrates	212,152	18,948,686	256,580	23,130,288
Copper ores and concentrates	4,063	355,009	3,794	328,129
Nickel ores and concentrates	9,498	733,066	20,779	1,583,872
Lead ores and concentrates	1,586	115,099	1,717	132,435
Zinc ores and concentrates	6,693	545,588	5,579	471,283
Other metallic ores and concentrates	39,210	3,740,542	41,439	3,952,858
Coal	14,487	1,254,468	17,384	1,530,541
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	17,958	1,371,499	16,853	1,288,387
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	20,437	1,629,587	23,414	1,871,224
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	23,079	1,464,902	22,573	1,459,372
Coal coke and petroleum coke	7,122	429,226	7,713	441,650
Other refined petroleum and coal products	9,769	729,238	9,753	729,413
Sulphuric acid	16,358	1,488,002	18,600	1,682,643
Alumina	22,537	2,060,427	23,808	2,184,966
Other basic chemicals	25,675	2,220,039	23,123	1,990,989
Potash	1,195	116,619	5,161	470,291
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	2,878	244,258	1,225	106,796
Other chemical products and preparations	3,443	281,209	8,112	693,941
Plastic and rubber	7,195	596,911	11,705	990,551
Logs and other wood in the rough	4,163	251,838	7,646	422,157
Wood chips	8,275	525,808	11,168	710,258
Lumber	12,122	994,801	17,946	1,483,190
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	4,560	324,994	6,664	499,141
Wood pulp	15,059	1,186,354	23,540	1,832,406
Newsprint	25,487	1,722,955	33,136	2,230,117
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	20,765	1,465,727	23,548	1,610,475
Cement	7,889	758,412	9,319	874,147
Other non-metallic mineral products	551	50,307	741	66,254
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	15,823	1,344,477	46,540	3,796,099
Copper, primary or semi-finished	2,004	170,006	2,588	219,572
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	21,065	1,786,428	23,436	1,951,141
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	2,330	195,156	1,951	149,865
Articles of base metal	2,617	193,409	3,544	254,169
Machinery	345	16,474	774	33,191
Automobiles and mini-vans	39,609	689,778	47,968	818,826
Freight motor vehicles	29,515	535,902	44,733	837,075
Other vehicles	90	737	326	6,479
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	3,683	117,369	10,085	298,153
Other transportation equipment	8,198	79,958	9,941	137,397
Metallic waste and scrap	9,638	775,945	12,205	940,543
Non-metallic waste and scrap	1,618	115,350	2,310	178,728
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	576	44,444	417	26,148
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	856	37,284	1,989	85,647
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	1,723	46,929	2,391	70,646
Less than carload shipments	...	520	...	2,047
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	731,035	55,865,587	932,258	70,338,569

1. Includes loadings of gypsum.

2. Excludes goods transported in containers or trailers on flat cars.

Table 6
Railway carloading statistics for non-intermodal traffic by commodity in Canada (year to date) — Western Division

	January 2009 to August 2009		January 2008 to August 2008	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	157,644	14,585,712	114,650	10,530,309
Other cereal grains	30,113	2,435,386	39,304	3,073,376
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	22,308	2,030,344	14,572	1,316,240
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	66,228	5,428,775	48,035	3,921,288
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	4,457	367,091	4,621	382,705
Animal feed and products	9,891	821,218	11,911	958,190
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	13	832	14	896
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	8,535	677,652	9,134	710,428
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	19,640	1,591,865	18,359	1,478,534
Sugar	286	25,774	357	27,681
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	1,963	112,606	1,728	122,197
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	510	38,558	427	34,875
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	10,094	904,324	18,679	1,705,071
Salt	3,591	326,582	3,547	322,365
Phosphate rock	0	0	0	0
Sulphur	37,062	3,569,945	49,795	4,775,541
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	2,530	232,158	3,223	291,067
Iron ores and concentrates	0	0	1	59
Copper ores and concentrates	4,741	425,109	4,502	400,533
Nickel ores and concentrates	39	3,519	78	7,140
Lead ores and concentrates	1	88	0	0
Zinc ores and concentrates	512	41,786	454	36,334
Other metallic ores and concentrates	12	985	110	9,498
Coal	160,941	16,909,108	214,385	22,341,908
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	6,133	462,625	5,518	419,298
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	19,650	1,621,543	19,804	1,602,433
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	20,126	1,259,246	19,886	1,250,341
Coal coke and petroleum coke	7,464	600,456	8,017	640,782
Other refined petroleum and coal products	10,431	838,329	11,935	943,988
Sulphuric acid	2,036	180,951	2,490	221,387
Alumina	3	280	1	90
Other basic chemicals	28,319	2,477,562	31,787	2,797,737
Potash	35,929	3,501,640	116,543	11,452,051
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	32,342	2,704,045	33,818	2,820,187
Other chemical products and preparations	687	55,998	331	25,947
Plastic and rubber	16,787	1,493,219	17,412	1,547,087
Logs and other wood in the rough	3,261	211,308	3,482	226,084
Wood chips	17,327	997,173	22,559	1,322,157
Lumber	47,037	3,962,415	63,816	5,379,254
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	17,565	1,488,388	21,847	1,818,883
Wood pulp	47,089	3,985,905	53,439	4,478,734
Newsprint	2,938	203,062	4,988	331,270
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	7,265	557,980	9,501	702,373
Cement	5,918	571,814	8,856	838,794
Other non-metallic mineral products	697	59,799	1,172	99,023
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	2,147	183,995	5,245	454,640
Copper, primary or semi-finished	523	44,484	671	51,130
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	164	13,505	173	14,511
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	2,726	227,376	3,385	272,485
Articles of base metal	5,138	377,217	7,099	515,087
Machinery	167	8,106	282	16,893
Automobiles and mini-vans	15,077	210,968	16,741	240,759
Freight motor vehicles	2,313	32,107	3,988	57,160
Other vehicles	116	2,913	124	2,416
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	0	0	1	16
Other transportation equipment	9,476	106,869	5,920	83,003
Metallic waste and scrap	7,894	598,274	11,879	882,528
Non-metallic waste and scrap	2,411	82,500	2,798	120,648
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	493	31,235	547	30,738
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	15	330	30	670
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	279	20,064	28	953
Less than carload shipments	...	0	...	0
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	919,054	79,703,098	1,073,999	94,107,772

1. Includes loadings of gypsum.

2. Excludes goods transported in containers or trailers on flat cars.

Table 7
Railway carloading statistics for intermodal and non-intermodal traffic in Canada — Total

	August 2009			August 2008		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	16,718,099	.	.	20,117,218
Container-on-flat-car	130,795	248,895	1,963,560	161,107	289,717	2,397,692
Trailer-on-flat-car	5,557	.	70,993	6,968	.	91,759
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	2,456,997	.	.	2,889,722
Total traffic carried	.	.	21,209,649	.	.	25,496,391
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	17,445	32,394	251,276	23,980	41,805	333,334
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	1,778	.	27,119	1,719	.	25,184
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	1,827,878	.	.	3,019,062

1. Estimated numbers.

Note(s): Unit of measure "TEUs" means: twenty-foot equivalent units.

Table 8
Railway carloading statistics for intermodal and non-intermodal traffic in Canada — Eastern Division

	August 2009			August 2008		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	6,652,209	.	.	9,271,614
Container-on-flat-car	64,442	124,041	1,034,104	79,579	144,282	1,265,272
Trailer-on-flat-car	5,278	.	64,717	6,557	.	83,109
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	547,552	.	.	680,813
Total traffic carried	.	.	8,298,582	.	.	11,300,808
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	4,999	10,095	67,898	6,308	12,548	77,225
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	3	.	6	30	.	367
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	1,186,065	.	.	2,436,104

1. Estimated numbers.

Note(s): Unit of measure "TEUs" means: twenty-foot equivalent units.

Table 9
Railway carloading statistics for intermodal and non-intermodal traffic in Canada — Western Division

	August 2009			August 2008		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	10,065,890	.	.	10,845,604
Container-on-flat-car	66,353	124,854	929,456	81,528	145,435	1,132,420
Trailer-on-flat-car	279	.	6,276	411	.	8,650
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	1,909,445	.	.	2,208,909
Total traffic carried	.	.	12,911,067	.	.	14,195,583
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	12,446	22,299	183,378	17,672	29,257	256,109
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	1,775	.	27,113	1,689	.	24,817
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	641,813	.	.	582,958

1. Estimated numbers.

Note(s): Unit of measure "TEUs" means: twenty-foot equivalent units.

Table 10
Railway carloading statistics for intermodal and non-intermodal traffic in Canada (year to date) — Total

	January 2009 to August 2009			January 2008 to August 2008		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	135,568,685	.	.	164,446,341
Container-on-flat-car	1,020,605	1,938,040	15,809,904	1,208,318	2,150,586	18,551,964
Trailer-on-flat-car	45,949	.	562,214	53,396	.	688,344
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	18,228,588	.	.	22,651,840
Total traffic carried	.	.	170,169,391	.	.	206,338,489
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	140,466	256,734	1,992,736	186,375	322,073	2,566,928
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	14,306	.	210,373	16,296	.	238,076
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	14,812,001	.	.	23,785,856

1. Estimated numbers.

Note(s): Unit of measure "TEUs" means: twenty-foot equivalent units.

Table 11
Railway carloading statistics for intermodal and non-intermodal traffic in Canada (year to date) — Eastern Division

	January 2009 to August 2009			January 2008 to August 2008		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	55,865,587	.	.	70,338,569
Container-on-flat-car	517,435	995,212	8,406,778	618,193	1,107,607	10,004,752
Trailer-on-flat-car	42,791	.	494,268	49,920	.	615,675
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	4,036,805	.	.	5,324,483
Total traffic carried	.	.	68,803,438	.	.	86,283,479
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	36,452	72,659	480,705	44,952	90,004	564,125
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	135	.	2,099	1,161	.	22,826
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	11,497,646	.	.	20,006,139

1. Estimated numbers.

Note(s): Unit of measure "TEUs" means: twenty-foot equivalent units.

Table 12
Railway carloading statistics for intermodal and non-intermodal traffic in Canada (year to date) — Western Division

	January 2009 to August 2009			January 2008 to August 2008		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	79,703,098	.	.	94,107,772
Container-on-flat-car	503,170	942,828	7,403,126	590,125	1,042,979	8,547,212
Trailer-on-flat-car	3,158	.	67,946	3,476	.	72,669
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	14,191,783	.	.	17,327,357
Total traffic carried	.	.	101,365,953	.	.	120,055,010
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	104,014	184,075	1,512,031	141,423	232,069	2,002,803
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	14,171	.	208,274	15,135	.	215,250
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	3,314,355	.	.	3,779,717

1. Estimated numbers.

Note(s): Unit of measure "TEUs" means: twenty-foot equivalent units.

Methodology and concepts

The **Railway Carloadings (Monthly)** publication presents essential data for timely analysis of the Rail Transport Industry and its contribution to the Canadian economy. Approximately 40 rail carriers report each month on their total intermodal¹ and non-intermodal² traffic. For non-intermodal traffic, the carriers report the number of cars and tonnes by commodity of revenue-generating freight that they have loaded in Canada. For intermodal freight, the carriers report the number of units and tonnes for containers-on-flat-cars (C.O.F.C.) and trailers-on-flat-cars (T.O.F.C.), with no commodity detail. The carriers also report the total tonnage of revenue freight received from United States connections.

The total quantity of freight carried in Canada is the sum of the non-intermodal and intermodal freight loaded and the traffic received from U.S. connections. Additional information provided includes the number of units and tonnes of C.O.F.C. and T.O.F.C. received from U.S. connections and the total tonnes of cargo that the carriers received from other Canadian connections. This freight that is exchanged among Canadian based carriers is counted only once in the total quantity of freight moved as it is counted only when loaded. For intermodal freight, twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) are derived from the dimensions of the freight-laden containers. Empty containers are not included in these statistics.

The data are collected via questionnaires and electronic reports that are filed with Statistics Canada eight working days after the reference month. These questionnaires are captured and edited and the data are then aggregated to produce tables for all of Canada and the Eastern and Western divisions of Canada.³ Tables show the data for the reference month and the year-to-date. These year-to-date figures include revisions of data from previous months.

Users of **Railway Carloadings (Monthly)** current and historical data should be aware of a break in the continuity of these data. Starting with the January 1999 reference period, the commodities presented in the **Railway Carloadings (Monthly)** publication were modified to conform to the Standard Classification of Transported Goods (SCTG) and the number of carriers surveyed more than doubled from the eighteen carriers surveyed prior to 1999.

The additional carriers were primarily shortline carriers whose data were previously included with the data of mainline carriers. The change in commodity classes has had negligible impact on the reporting of bulk commodities (e.g., wheat, potash and coal) which represent the majority of the total number of cars and tonnes. However, the reporting of manufactured and miscellaneous goods has changed significantly.

Details of the commodities included in each SCTG class presented in **Railway Carloadings (Monthly)** are available upon request. For further information, please contact Transportation Statistics, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0T6 (tel.: 1-866-500-8400, Internet: TransportationStatistics@statcan.gc.ca).

1. Intermodal traffic is freight carried in containers or truck trailers that are loaded onto flat cars.

2. Non-Intermodal traffic is freight carried in bulk or loaded in box cars.

3. The Eastern and Western Divisions, for statistical purposes, are separated by an imaginary line running from Thunder Bay to Armstrong, Ontario. Freight loaded at Thunder Bay is included in the Western Division while loadings at Armstrong are reported in the Eastern Division.

Release date: October 2009

Symbols

The following standard symbols are used in Statistics Canada publications:

.	not available for any reference period
..	not available for a specific reference period
...	not applicable
0	true zero or a value rounded to zero
0 ^s	value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded
P	preliminary
r	revised
x	suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the <i>Statistics Act</i>
E	use with caution
F	too unreliable to be published

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