

Service bulletin

Monthly Railway Carloadings

April 2012



Highlights

- Canadian rail freight traffic rose 2.0% from April 2011 to 27.2 million tonnes in April. The gain was solely due to increases in international cargo loadings, as domestic freight shipments declined.
- Total domestic freight loadings, composed of non-intermodal traffic (i.e., carried in bulk or loaded in box cars) and intermodal traffic (i.e., containers and trailers on flat cars), fell 0.7% to 23.8 million tonnes over the same 12-month period.
- Non-intermodal cargo loadings declined 1.6% to 21.3 million tonnes. The decrease was the result of reduced traffic in more than half of the commodity classifications carried by the railways. The commodity groups with the largest declines in tonnage were coal, iron ores and concentrates, and other cereal grains.
- In contrast, several commodity groups registered increases. Loadings of wheat increased the most, followed by fuel oils and crude petroleum, and other refined petroleum and coal products.
- Intermodal freight loadings grew 8.1% to 2.5 million tonnes. The increase occurred solely on the strength of containerized cargo shipments, as trailers loaded onto flat cars declined.
- Internationally, total rail traffic received from the United States advanced 25.2% to 3.4 million tonnes. The increase was driven by both non-intermodal and intermodal traffic.
- Geographically, 60.2% of the freight traffic originating in Canada was in the Western Division of Canada, with the remainder loaded in the Eastern Division. For statistical purposes, cargo loadings from Thunder Bay, Ontario, to the Pacific Coast are classified to the Western Division while loadings from Armstrong, Ontario, to the Atlantic Coast are classified to the Eastern Division.



Statistical tables

Table 1

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

	April 2012		April 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	24,058	2,258,325	19,479	1,830,190
Other cereal grains	3,194	268,587	5,002	418,696
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	2,633	243,403	3,469	324,611
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	7	122	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	8,372	689,045	7,910	642,415
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	1,313	112,865	1,121	96,947
Animal feed and products	2,544	217,390	2,591	222,639
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	1	17	6	185
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	1,326	99,710	1,243	93,665
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	5,352	456,508	4,653	393,185
Sugar	434	37,572	429	36,888
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	264	14,099	234	12,879
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	1,142	90,481	815	61,492
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	2,449	226,155	2,017	173,535
Salt	700	64,635	726	63,915
Phosphate rock	924	83,418	871	78,676
Sulphur	4,723	446,325	5,630	532,492
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	2,065	194,330	2,499	238,895
Iron ores and concentrates	29,218	2,694,009	33,483	3,083,930
Copper ores and concentrates	845	77,651	860	78,486
Nickel ores and concentrates	1,153	89,957	1,497	116,807
Lead ores and concentrates	91	6,502	152	10,942
Zinc ores and concentrates	1,030	85,166	1,109	89,518
Other metallic ores and concentrates	5,543	500,029	5,683	509,832
Coal	27,076	2,839,314	33,021	3,428,815
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	3,457	274,192	3,832	299,172
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	7,205	578,661	5,013	406,513
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	4,541	289,917	3,851	244,440
Coal coke and petroleum coke	3,028	225,684	2,250	166,236
Other refined petroleum and coal products	4,505	362,837	2,678	210,801
Sulphuric acid	2,365	212,436	2,020	181,816
Alumina	2,590	241,303	2,843	263,287
Other basic chemicals	6,966	587,114	7,070	602,789
Potash	16,576	1,637,389	16,080	1,574,281
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	5,061	420,177	4,998	417,581
Other chemical products and preparations	929	58,224	1,108	77,093
Plastic and rubber	3,833	309,450	3,737	307,402
Logs and other wood in the rough	505	30,698	723	44,188
Wood chips	3,247	188,769	3,649	212,882
Lumber	9,732	801,528	9,727	798,010
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	4,277	365,373	3,814	314,745
Wood pulp	8,547	723,560	9,631	810,977
Newsprint	2,185	147,950	2,508	171,975
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	2,897	204,552	3,625	246,934
Cement	2,255	220,147	1,709	166,957
Other non-metallic mineral products	207	13,093	267	21,452
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	5,068	428,907	5,811	482,013
Copper, primary or semi-finished	157	13,728	179	15,453
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	2,254	193,508	2,300	193,701
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	871	76,848	892	77,649
Articles of base metal	918	56,730	1,168	80,195
Machinery	427	5,194	215	2,786
Automobiles and mini-vans	12,700	232,269	9,735	163,229
Freight motor vehicles	7,065	126,902	6,043	108,203
Other vehicles	32	519	63	1,302
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	494	12,409	645	15,522
Other transportation equipment	546	18,608	608	30,365
Metallic waste and scrap	3,630	293,502	3,213	253,585
Non-metallic waste and scrap	1,067	61,298	677	33,194
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	237	9,135	256	10,906
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	26	281	15	181
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	7,568	108,630	8,756	125,923
Less than carload shipments	...	30	...	30
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	264,425	21,327,167	266,209	21,673,403

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

	April 2012		April 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	777	70,948	1,605	146,444
Other cereal grains	858	78,431	1,721	154,455
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	19	1,665	35	2,950
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	7	122	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	0	0	0	0
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	792	70,022	308	27,784
Animal feed and products	971	77,560	1,087	89,574
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	1	17	4	57
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	310	17,643	201	10,397
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	746	58,602	625	48,920
Sugar	414	36,114	396	34,360
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	78	1,283	66	1,115
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	1,096	86,858	753	56,420
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	657	54,678	1,027	78,853
Salt	252	23,098	302	25,314
Phosphate rock	924	83,418	871	78,676
Sulphur	150	13,510	170	15,286
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	1,847	173,880	2,285	218,543
Iron ores and concentrates	29,218	2,694,009	33,483	3,083,930
Copper ores and concentrates	226	18,645	204	16,559
Nickel ores and concentrates	1,153	89,957	1,497	116,807
Lead ores and concentrates	91	6,502	152	10,942
Zinc ores and concentrates	948	77,938	1,066	85,754
Other metallic ores and concentrates	5,543	500,029	5,682	509,819
Coal	751	67,593	1,680	148,060
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	2,892	228,676	3,063	240,980
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	3,343	262,719	2,702	214,571
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	2,769	178,552	2,273	145,371
Coal coke and petroleum coke	1,214	70,490	1,149	71,199
Other refined petroleum and coal products	1,528	120,068	1,115	85,719
Sulphuric acid	2,061	185,834	1,669	151,009
Alumina	2,589	241,213	2,843	263,287
Other basic chemicals	3,555	292,549	3,214	264,245
Potash	426	42,631	648	65,251
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	356	30,206	396	34,481
Other chemical products and preparations	861	53,797	1,037	71,540
Plastic and rubber	1,775	124,357	1,335	94,228
Logs and other wood in the rough	264	15,920	457	26,591
Wood chips	743	45,367	1,177	72,608
Lumber	2,333	189,010	2,382	193,704
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	903	64,786	766	50,222
Wood pulp	2,272	186,293	2,967	245,461
Newsprint	1,868	126,741	2,213	150,759
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	2,113	143,017	2,852	187,448
Cement	1,013	99,319	856	83,925
Other non-metallic mineral products	154	8,590	157	12,003
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	4,523	380,455	5,401	445,992
Copper, primary or semi-finished	157	13,728	179	15,453
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	2,194	188,126	2,296	193,436
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	518	47,789	456	41,353
Articles of base metal	593	33,702	536	32,654
Machinery	421	4,903	205	2,078
Automobiles and mini-vans	10,303	198,815	8,592	147,532
Freight motor vehicles	6,936	124,982	5,825	104,765
Other vehicles	30	365	47	529
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	493	12,405	644	15,517
Other transportation equipment	151	5,521	337	21,496
Metallic waste and scrap	2,064	173,226	1,916	155,362
Non-metallic waste and scrap	534	43,288	297	22,615
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	175	6,904	229	9,352
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	2	21	0	0
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	7,568	108,630	8,756	125,923
Less than carload shipments	...	30	...	30
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	119,523	8,355,547	126,207	9,019,708

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

	April 2012		April 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	23,281	2,187,377	17,874	1,683,746
Other cereal grains	2,336	190,156	3,281	264,241
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	2,614	241,738	3,434	321,661
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	8,372	689,045	7,910	642,415
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	521	42,843	813	69,163
Animal feed and products	1,573	139,830	1,504	133,065
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	0	0	2	128
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	1,016	82,067	1,042	83,268
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	4,606	397,906	4,028	344,265
Sugar	20	1,458	33	2,528
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	186	12,816	168	11,764
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	46	3,623	62	5,072
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	1,792	171,477	990	94,682
Salt	448	41,537	424	38,601
Phosphate rock	0	0	0	0
Sulphur	4,573	432,815	5,460	517,206
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	218	20,450	214	20,352
Iron ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Copper ores and concentrates	619	59,006	656	61,927
Nickel ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Lead ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Zinc ores and concentrates	82	7,228	43	3,764
Other metallic ores and concentrates	0	0	1	13
Coal	26,325	2,771,721	31,341	3,280,755
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	565	45,516	769	58,192
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	3,862	315,942	2,311	191,942
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	1,772	111,365	1,578	99,069
Coal coke and petroleum coke	1,814	155,194	1,101	95,037
Other refined petroleum and coal products	2,977	242,769	1,563	125,082
Sulphuric acid	304	26,602	351	30,807
Alumina	1	90	0	0
Other basic chemicals	3,411	294,565	3,856	338,544
Potash	16,150	1,594,758	15,432	1,509,030
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	4,705	389,971	4,602	383,100
Other chemical products and preparations	68	4,427	71	5,553
Plastic and rubber	2,058	185,093	2,402	213,174
Logs and other wood in the rough	241	14,778	266	17,597
Wood chips	2,504	143,402	2,472	140,274
Lumber	7,399	612,518	7,345	604,306
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	3,374	300,587	3,048	264,523
Wood pulp	6,275	537,267	6,664	565,516
Newsprint	317	21,209	295	21,216
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	784	61,535	773	59,486
Cement	1,242	120,828	853	83,032
Other non-metallic mineral products	53	4,503	110	9,449
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	545	48,452	410	36,021
Copper, primary or semi-finished	0	0	0	0
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	60	5,382	4	265
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	353	29,059	436	36,296
Articles of base metal	325	23,028	632	47,541
Machinery	6	291	10	708
Automobiles and mini-vans	2,397	33,454	1,143	15,697
Freight motor vehicles	129	1,920	218	3,438
Other vehicles	2	154	16	773
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	1	4	1	5
Other transportation equipment	395	13,087	271	8,869
Metallic waste and scrap	1,566	120,276	1,297	98,223
Non-metallic waste and scrap	533	18,010	380	10,579
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	62	2,231	27	1,554
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	24	260	15	181
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	0	0	0	0
Less than carload shipments	...	0	...	0
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	144,902	12,971,620	140,002	12,653,695

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 2012 to April 2012		January 2011 to April 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	83,424	7,842,937	64,760	6,071,580
Other cereal grains	17,101	1,447,346	17,618	1,463,187
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	7,427	681,320	13,174	1,227,346
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	60	1,044	28	798
Colza seeds (canola)	41,655	3,412,203	31,163	2,525,670
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	10,541	946,554	7,595	673,446
Animal feed and products	10,837	931,467	10,129	863,565
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	13	238	91	2,183
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	5,083	378,442	4,647	348,101
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	21,136	1,796,895	18,015	1,527,272
Sugar	1,661	141,918	1,629	140,945
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	1,294	70,240	1,081	57,440
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	4,870	391,713	3,660	281,456
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	8,684	812,485	7,434	673,843
Salt	3,254	292,909	3,127	274,856
Phosphate rock	2,636	237,612	3,205	289,337
Sulphur	19,987	1,895,816	20,402	1,913,176
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	7,528	706,934	7,827	735,097
Iron ores and concentrates	105,863	9,653,002	118,898	10,851,293
Copper ores and concentrates	3,134	287,447	4,292	388,740
Nickel ores and concentrates	4,464	345,151	6,269	490,448
Lead ores and concentrates	650	46,570	752	53,944
Zinc ores and concentrates	4,011	327,216	3,993	321,828
Other metallic ores and concentrates	14,225	1,301,424	14,337	1,300,938
Coal	111,187	11,607,446	107,213	11,112,453
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	10,442	821,568	13,267	1,032,385
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	31,585	2,552,021	22,897	1,871,867
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	23,457	1,482,552	21,581	1,363,262
Coal coke and petroleum coke	11,544	833,480	9,198	635,305
Other refined petroleum and coal products	17,945	1,435,561	11,392	896,815
Sulphuric acid	9,727	875,426	8,780	788,204
Alumina	10,057	937,402	10,814	1,002,346
Other basic chemicals	31,274	2,633,874	29,587	2,503,705
Potash	46,883	4,587,409	65,379	6,426,468
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	18,679	1,544,405	20,219	1,688,203
Other chemical products and preparations	3,724	226,089	3,864	256,205
Plastic and rubber	15,314	1,241,329	14,707	1,204,525
Logs and other wood in the rough	2,399	150,546	2,870	177,187
Wood chips	13,586	798,515	12,698	748,648
Lumber	39,528	3,250,298	36,779	3,031,066
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	15,241	1,301,242	13,042	1,088,463
Wood pulp	34,961	2,961,813	36,763	3,110,694
Newsprint	9,113	619,164	10,043	686,803
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	12,283	858,342	14,666	1,011,426
Cement	7,497	736,611	5,679	552,349
Other non-metallic mineral products	780	50,479	886	62,754
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	20,532	1,723,293	19,535	1,634,450
Copper, primary or semi-finished	599	52,211	703	60,767
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	9,216	792,978	9,534	803,800
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	3,433	300,859	3,068	264,069
Articles of base metal	4,144	269,602	4,276	290,409
Machinery	1,763	22,789	911	14,777
Automobiles and mini-vans	49,762	917,917	39,437	687,690
Freight motor vehicles	28,760	514,181	24,405	434,832
Other vehicles	180	4,414	170	2,710
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	2,582	62,797	2,539	62,604
Other transportation equipment	2,432	83,723	2,656	110,669
Metallic waste and scrap	15,469	1,214,729	13,229	1,034,217
Non-metallic waste and scrap	4,053	218,882	2,723	125,590
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	839	30,989	1,007	42,160
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	77	889	42	550
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	33,788	485,693	34,179	499,661
Less than carload shipments	...	117	...	513
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	1,034,373	82,150,518	994,864	79,797,090

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 2012 to April 2012		January 2011 to April 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	3,045	278,485	6,165	558,106
Other cereal grains	4,180	375,363	5,148	458,690
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	129	11,306	188	15,623
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	60	1,044	24	437
Colza seeds (canola)	1	83	6	444
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	8,038	733,326	5,215	470,005
Animal feed and products	4,473	360,138	4,533	375,035
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	13	238	87	1,927
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	1,124	58,306	874	44,142
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	3,111	243,190	2,016	158,830
Sugar	1,520	131,600	1,499	130,906
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	391	7,449	349	6,363
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	4,720	379,713	3,396	260,227
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	2,245	194,837	2,690	224,037
Salt	1,010	86,896	1,147	94,110
Phosphate rock	2,635	237,574	3,205	289,337
Sulphur	683	61,456	715	64,079
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	6,509	613,978	6,982	656,796
Iron ores and concentrates	105,863	9,653,002	118,898	10,851,293
Copper ores and concentrates	747	61,062	1,870	159,207
Nickel ores and concentrates	4,464	345,151	6,269	490,448
Lead ores and concentrates	650	46,570	752	53,944
Zinc ores and concentrates	3,641	294,890	3,836	308,484
Other metallic ores and concentrates	14,224	1,301,359	14,328	1,300,228
Coal	5,141	427,384	5,417	471,632
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	8,152	643,705	9,381	732,224
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	15,827	1,254,437	12,227	973,391
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	11,648	747,911	10,309	663,417
Coal coke and petroleum coke	4,947	277,721	5,255	297,132
Other refined petroleum and coal products	6,874	531,916	5,416	415,754
Sulphuric acid	8,226	744,428	7,268	656,313
Alumina	10,055	937,222	10,813	1,002,259
Other basic chemicals	14,883	1,204,845	13,675	1,111,997
Potash	2,631	263,660	2,713	273,236
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	1,535	129,049	1,746	149,472
Other chemical products and preparations	3,270	191,883	3,519	229,807
Plastic and rubber	6,526	453,052	5,404	378,606
Logs and other wood in the rough	1,420	89,892	2,053	124,243
Wood chips	3,455	216,888	3,905	248,411
Lumber	8,728	700,874	8,803	718,426
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	2,890	201,206	2,659	183,914
Wood pulp	8,299	676,195	10,744	891,282
Newsprint	7,878	536,386	8,913	607,348
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	9,143	612,920	11,574	770,457
Cement	3,123	308,444	2,550	249,965
Other non-metallic mineral products	557	31,224	566	35,190
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	18,130	1,510,311	17,736	1,474,814
Copper, primary or semi-finished	599	52,211	703	60,767
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	9,039	777,393	9,508	801,910
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	1,851	171,187	1,429	128,194
Articles of base metal	2,890	176,872	2,399	149,495
Machinery	1,737	21,298	876	12,703
Automobiles and mini-vans	39,929	781,143	32,978	597,370
Freight motor vehicles	27,989	502,990	23,755	424,576
Other vehicles	174	4,029	153	1,883
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	2,581	62,793	2,538	62,599
Other transportation equipment	850	32,492	1,438	70,889
Metallic waste and scrap	9,053	735,564	8,482	675,799
Non-metallic waste and scrap	1,974	152,843	1,241	81,600
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	664	21,599	892	35,474
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	4	69	1	54
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	33,782	485,389	34,135	497,520
Less than carload shipments	...	117	...	513
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	469,930	32,146,558	473,366	33,233,334

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 2012 to April 2012		January 2011 to April 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	80,379	7,564,452	58,595	5,513,474
Other cereal grains	12,921	1,071,983	12,470	1,004,497
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	7,298	670,014	12,986	1,211,723
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	4	361
Colza seeds (canola)	41,654	3,412,120	31,157	2,525,226
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	2,503	213,228	2,380	203,441
Animal feed and products	6,364	571,329	5,596	488,530
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	0	0	4	256
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	3,959	320,136	3,773	303,959
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	18,025	1,553,705	15,999	1,368,442
Sugar	141	10,318	130	10,039
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	903	62,791	732	51,077
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	150	12,000	264	21,229
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	6,439	617,648	4,744	449,806
Salt	2,244	206,013	1,980	180,746
Phosphate rock	1	38	0	0
Sulphur	19,304	1,834,360	19,687	1,849,097
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	1,019	92,956	845	78,301
Iron ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Copper ores and concentrates	2,387	226,385	2,422	229,533
Nickel ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Lead ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Zinc ores and concentrates	370	32,326	157	13,344
Other metallic ores and concentrates	1	65	9	710
Coal	106,046	11,180,062	101,796	10,640,821
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	2,290	177,863	3,886	300,161
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	15,758	1,297,584	10,670	898,476
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	11,809	734,641	11,272	699,845
Coal coke and petroleum coke	6,597	555,759	3,943	338,173
Other refined petroleum and coal products	11,071	903,645	5,976	481,061
Sulphuric acid	1,501	130,998	1,512	131,891
Alumina	2	180	1	87
Other basic chemicals	16,391	1,429,029	15,912	1,391,708
Potash	44,252	4,323,749	62,666	6,153,232
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	17,144	1,415,356	18,473	1,538,731
Other chemical products and preparations	454	34,206	345	26,398
Plastic and rubber	8,788	788,277	9,303	825,919
Logs and other wood in the rough	979	60,654	817	52,944
Wood chips	10,131	581,627	8,793	500,237
Lumber	30,800	2,549,424	27,976	2,312,640
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	12,351	1,100,036	10,383	904,549
Wood pulp	26,662	2,285,618	26,019	2,219,412
Newsprint	1,235	82,778	1,130	79,455
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	3,140	245,422	3,092	240,969
Cement	4,374	428,167	3,129	302,384
Other non-metallic mineral products	223	19,255	320	27,564
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	2,402	212,982	1,799	159,636
Copper, primary or semi-finished	0	0	0	0
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	177	15,585	26	1,890
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	1,582	129,672	1,639	135,875
Articles of base metal	1,254	92,730	1,877	140,914
Machinery	26	1,491	35	2,074
Automobiles and mini-vans	9,833	136,774	6,459	90,320
Freight motor vehicles	771	11,191	650	10,256
Other vehicles	6	385	17	827
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	1	4	1	5
Other transportation equipment	1,582	51,231	1,218	39,780
Metallic waste and scrap	6,416	479,165	4,747	358,418
Non-metallic waste and scrap	2,079	66,039	1,482	43,990
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	175	9,390	115	6,686
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	73	820	41	496
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	6	304	44	2,141
Less than carload shipments	...	0	...	0
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	564,443	50,003,960	521,498	46,563,756

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

	April 2012			April 2011		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	21,327,167	.	.	21,673,403
Container-on-flat-car	160,148	300,003	2,414,957	145,207	274,376	2,215,028
Trailer-on-flat-car	3,999	.	55,789	4,799	.	71,151
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	3,424,827	.	.	2,735,753
Total traffic carried	.	.	27,222,740	.	.	26,695,335
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	11,212	22,940	165,333	9,665	19,829	131,311
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	2,172	.	30,473	1,962	.	27,744
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	3,198,125	.	.	2,040,943

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

	April 2012			April 2011		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	8,355,547	.	.	9,019,708
Container-on-flat-car	67,443	130,968	1,074,213	70,924	136,765	1,134,327
Trailer-on-flat-car	3,753	.	51,545	4,380	.	62,241
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	853,348	.	.	680,681
Total traffic carried	.	.	10,334,653	.	.	10,896,957
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	5,209	11,223	69,487	5,414	11,333	69,915
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	5	.	56	0	.	0
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	2,580,287	.	.	1,444,613

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

	April 2012			April 2011		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	12,971,620	.	.	12,653,695
Container-on-flat-car	92,705	169,035	1,340,744	74,283	137,611	1,080,701
Trailer-on-flat-car	246	.	4,244	419	.	8,910
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	2,571,479	.	.	2,055,072
Total traffic carried	.	.	16,888,087	.	.	15,798,378
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	6,003	11,717	95,846	4,251	8,496	61,396
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	2,167	.	30,417	1,962	.	27,744
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	617,838	.	.	596,330

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 2012 to April 2012			January 2011 to April 2011		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	82,150,518	.	.	79,797,090
Container-on-flat-car	603,950	1,139,999	9,210,432	548,528	1,037,762	8,414,567
Trailer-on-flat-car	15,967	.	230,891	18,219	.	270,285
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	12,637,353	.	.	10,565,899
Total traffic carried	.	.	104,229,194	.	.	99,047,841
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	42,642	87,170	627,368	35,704	72,354	508,729
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	7,792	.	110,592	7,517	.	110,551
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	11,690,984	.	.	8,445,470

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 2012 to April 2012			January 2011 to April 2011		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	32,146,558	.	.	33,233,334
Container-on-flat-car	257,810	503,024	4,125,045	264,302	509,913	4,253,766
Trailer-on-flat-car	14,616	.	203,185	16,563	.	233,235
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	3,121,990	.	.	2,689,814
Total traffic carried	.	.	39,596,778	.	.	40,410,149
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	19,401	41,640	255,861	19,752	40,991	261,063
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	12	.	101	1	.	6
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	9,286,823	.	.	5,733,604

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 2012 to April 2012			January 2011 to April 2011		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	50,003,960	.	.	46,563,756
Container-on-flat-car	346,140	636,975	5,085,387	284,226	527,849	4,160,801
Trailer-on-flat-car	1,351	.	27,706	1,656	.	37,050
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	9,515,363	.	.	7,876,085
Total traffic carried	.	.	64,632,416	.	.	58,637,692
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	23,241	45,530	371,507	15,952	31,363	247,666
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	7,780	.	110,491	7,516	.	110,545
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	2,404,161	.	.	2,711,866

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: June 2012

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
*	significantly different from reference category ($p < 0.05$)

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