

## Service bulletin

# Monthly Railway Carloadings

May 2012



### Highlights

- Canadian railways carried 26.0 million tonnes of freight in May, down 0.9% from May 2011. The drop was solely the result of decreases in domestic freight shipments, as international cargo loadings rose.
- On the domestic front, 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 3.5% to 22.5 million tonnes over the same 12-month period.
- Non-intermodal cargo loadings declined 4.2% to 20.1 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 wheat, coal and potash.
- In contrast, several commodity groups registered increases. Loadings of fuel oils and crude petroleum increased the most, followed by sand, gravel and crushed stone, and iron ores and concentrates.
- Intermodal freight loadings grew 2.3% to 2.4 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 20.3% to 3.5 million tonnes. The increase was driven by both non-intermodal and intermodal traffic.
- Geographically, 57.3% 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**

	May 2012		May 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	14,422	1,353,572	20,705	1,940,722
Other cereal grains	3,416	291,345	4,152	354,546
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	1,744	160,726	2,278	212,363
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	4	67	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	6,809	553,350	8,584	697,566
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	1,741	152,389	384	31,233
Animal feed and products	2,311	200,397	2,409	202,093
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	1	16	6	150
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	1,212	95,116	1,362	98,982
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	4,075	346,726	4,203	356,477
Sugar	442	38,131	528	45,264
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	203	10,230	286	15,246
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	1,137	90,471	1,135	87,941
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	4,887	445,736	2,774	253,458
Salt	574	51,817	629	56,180
Phosphate rock	586	52,873	883	79,716
Sulphur	4,551	425,174	5,103	484,657
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals <sup>1</sup>	2,239	212,626	1,887	178,352
Iron ores and concentrates	30,665	2,829,917	29,463	2,689,100
Copper ores and concentrates	642	59,884	832	75,865
Nickel ores and concentrates	1,018	76,368	902	67,431
Lead ores and concentrates	224	16,035	169	12,027
Zinc ores and concentrates	1,100	90,035	1,283	103,168
Other metallic ores and concentrates	6,014	540,764	6,394	572,589
Coal	27,803	2,919,657	31,323	3,254,418
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	3,249	255,829	3,933	305,591
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	7,583	613,982	4,660	374,225
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	4,715	298,503	4,202	266,713
Coal coke and petroleum coke	2,255	184,058	2,379	179,060
Other refined petroleum and coal products	4,299	342,279	3,006	234,701
Sulphuric acid	2,577	231,111	2,100	189,001
Alumina	2,617	244,840	2,879	267,664
Other basic chemicals	6,809	574,755	7,768	660,360
Potash	14,741	1,458,258	16,416	1,621,157
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	3,913	314,614	5,057	420,380
Other chemical products and preparations	872	58,084	1,083	72,515
Plastic and rubber	3,432	278,121	3,546	284,403
Logs and other wood in the rough	514	32,006	708	43,092
Wood chips	3,802	222,729	3,451	200,660
Lumber	10,239	842,338	8,871	726,349
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	4,290	366,292	3,427	285,437
Wood pulp	7,983	678,850	8,983	759,649
Newsprint	2,402	160,994	2,638	182,077
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	2,884	205,802	3,699	260,356
Cement	2,184	214,199	1,964	191,638
Other non-metallic mineral products	211	16,587	273	20,643
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	4,299	363,286	5,476	450,062
Copper, primary or semi-finished	127	11,089	145	12,685
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	2,194	188,658	2,532	215,186
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	878	76,516	678	58,052
Articles of base metal	920	59,603	1,068	74,458
Machinery	420	5,614	293	6,649
Automobiles and mini-vans	11,619	205,237	10,477	180,083
Freight motor vehicles	6,781	122,801	5,482	98,189
Other vehicles	24	447	51	1,197
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	675	15,970	658	16,552
Other transportation equipment	610	19,267	322	14,421
Metallic waste and scrap	3,700	296,171	3,732	297,733
Non-metallic waste and scrap	1,148	62,607	842	41,749
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	301	12,178	296	14,476
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	23	266	23	256
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	5,847	88,223	8,329	119,043
Less than carload shipments	...	49	...	61
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>248,957</b>	<b>20,135,635</b>	<b>259,121</b>	<b>21,016,067</b>

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**

	May 2012		May 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	887	80,680	982	89,188
Other cereal grains	1,354	122,479	2,141	194,719
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	20	1,782	7	241
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	4	67	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	87	6,710	0	0
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	1,332	118,258	73	6,180
Animal feed and products	976	78,953	932	73,763
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	1	16	5	86
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	254	16,680	286	13,061
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	659	52,638	550	43,038
Sugar	404	35,292	480	41,606
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	70	1,132	88	1,335
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	1,104	88,439	1,066	82,250
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	930	70,965	705	56,540
Salt	224	19,021	284	24,789
Phosphate rock	586	52,873	883	79,716
Sulphur	188	16,217	197	17,543
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals <sup>1</sup>	2,008	191,016	1,629	153,849
Iron ores and concentrates	30,665	2,829,917	29,463	2,689,100
Copper ores and concentrates	143	11,833	192	15,522
Nickel ores and concentrates	1,018	76,368	902	67,431
Lead ores and concentrates	224	16,035	169	12,027
Zinc ores and concentrates	997	81,055	1,232	99,022
Other metallic ores and concentrates	6,014	540,764	6,394	572,589
Coal	336	27,353	1,410	116,449
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	3,066	241,603	2,925	226,988
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	2,995	235,477	2,543	199,369
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	2,912	185,837	2,734	172,959
Coal coke and petroleum coke	598	42,567	1,021	64,008
Other refined petroleum and coal products	1,475	114,019	1,359	102,008
Sulphuric acid	2,218	199,947	1,708	154,648
Alumina	2,617	244,840	2,879	267,664
Other basic chemicals	3,764	310,553	3,886	320,314
Potash	616	61,864	572	57,545
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	283	24,168	433	39,227
Other chemical products and preparations	804	53,061	988	65,097
Plastic and rubber	1,602	114,462	1,376	91,366
Logs and other wood in the rough	411	25,523	512	30,365
Wood chips	983	61,151	930	56,695
Lumber	2,417	195,380	1,987	161,264
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	964	70,422	741	49,735
Wood pulp	1,889	155,480	2,478	207,141
Newsprint	2,076	140,407	2,340	161,950
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	2,106	145,852	2,982	204,829
Cement	939	92,248	1,038	101,389
Other non-metallic mineral products	108	7,500	128	8,191
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	3,902	327,573	5,015	408,393
Copper, primary or semi-finished	127	11,089	145	12,685
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	2,143	184,225	2,524	214,599
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	508	46,443	304	27,055
Articles of base metal	554	32,687	608	38,720
Machinery	413	5,134	283	5,897
Automobiles and mini-vans	9,064	169,399	9,268	163,725
Freight motor vehicles	6,563	119,427	5,354	96,191
Other vehicles	23	409	51	1,197
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	674	15,922	657	16,500
Other transportation equipment	191	6,227	97	6,603
Metallic waste and scrap	1,980	161,552	2,215	181,496
Non-metallic waste and scrap	505	41,218	346	27,834
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	218	9,659	266	12,656
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	2	38	0	0
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	5,817	85,435	8,310	118,499
Less than carload shipments	...	49	...	61
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>118,012</b>	<b>8,475,390</b>	<b>121,073</b>	<b>8,524,907</b>

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**

	May 2012		May 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	13,535	1,272,892	19,723	1,851,534
Other cereal grains	2,062	168,866	2,011	159,827
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	1,724	158,944	2,271	212,122
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	6,722	546,640	8,584	697,566
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	409	34,131	311	25,053
Animal feed and products	1,335	121,444	1,477	128,330
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	0	0	1	64
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	958	78,436	1,076	85,921
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	3,416	294,088	3,653	313,439
Sugar	38	2,839	48	3,658
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	133	9,098	198	13,911
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	33	2,032	69	5,691
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	3,957	374,771	2,069	196,918
Salt	350	32,796	345	31,391
Phosphate rock	0	0	0	0
Sulphur	4,363	408,957	4,906	467,114
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals <sup>1</sup>	231	21,610	258	24,503
Iron ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Copper ores and concentrates	499	48,051	640	60,343
Nickel ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Lead ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Zinc ores and concentrates	103	8,980	51	4,146
Other metallic ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Coal	27,467	2,892,304	29,913	3,137,969
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	183	14,226	1,008	78,603
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	4,588	378,505	2,117	174,856
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	1,803	112,666	1,468	93,754
Coal coke and petroleum coke	1,657	141,491	1,358	115,052
Other refined petroleum and coal products	2,824	228,260	1,647	132,693
Sulphuric acid	359	31,164	392	34,353
Alumina	0	0	0	0
Other basic chemicals	3,045	264,202	3,882	340,046
Potash	14,125	1,396,394	15,844	1,563,612
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	3,630	290,446	4,624	381,153
Other chemical products and preparations	68	5,023	95	7,418
Plastic and rubber	1,830	163,659	2,170	193,037
Logs and other wood in the rough	103	6,483	196	12,727
Wood chips	2,819	161,578	2,521	143,965
Lumber	7,822	646,958	6,884	565,085
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	3,326	295,870	2,686	235,702
Wood pulp	6,094	523,370	6,505	552,508
Newsprint	326	20,587	298	20,127
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	778	59,950	717	55,527
Cement	1,245	121,951	926	90,249
Other non-metallic mineral products	103	9,087	145	12,452
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	397	35,713	461	41,669
Copper, primary or semi-finished	0	0	0	0
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	51	4,433	8	587
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	370	30,073	374	30,997
Articles of base metal	366	26,916	460	35,738
Machinery	7	480	10	752
Automobiles and mini-vans	2,555	35,838	1,209	16,358
Freight motor vehicles	218	3,374	128	1,998
Other vehicles	1	38	0	0
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	1	48	1	52
Other transportation equipment	419	13,040	225	7,818
Metallic waste and scrap	1,720	134,619	1,517	116,237
Non-metallic waste and scrap	643	21,389	496	13,915
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	83	2,519	30	1,820
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	21	228	23	256
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	30	2,788	19	544
Less than carload shipments	...	0	...	0
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>130,945</b>	<b>11,660,245</b>	<b>138,048</b>	<b>12,491,160</b>

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 May 2012		January 2011 to May 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	97,855	9,197,665	85,484	8,014,270
Other cereal grains	20,502	1,737,668	21,770	1,817,847
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	9,171	842,378	15,456	1,439,969
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	64	1,109	24	437
Colza seeds (canola)	48,445	3,963,841	39,752	3,223,561
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	12,281	1,098,708	7,974	704,673
Animal feed and products	13,144	1,135,190	12,347	1,051,526
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	14	253	97	2,332
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	6,294	473,473	6,009	447,078
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	25,197	2,145,534	22,200	1,881,923
Sugar	2,105	180,214	2,157	186,207
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	1,498	80,528	1,367	72,685
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	6,003	481,998	4,795	369,393
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	13,564	1,257,771	10,208	927,093
Salt	3,826	348,445	3,756	333,072
Phosphate rock	3,222	290,485	4,088	369,053
Sulphur	24,536	2,320,795	25,505	2,397,810
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals <sup>1</sup>	9,819	924,836	9,714	913,444
Iron ores and concentrates	136,528	12,482,919	148,361	13,540,393
Copper ores and concentrates	3,775	347,261	5,124	464,603
Nickel ores and concentrates	5,487	421,949	7,171	557,877
Lead ores and concentrates	874	62,605	921	65,971
Zinc ores and concentrates	5,111	417,249	5,276	424,994
Other metallic ores and concentrates	20,239	1,842,188	20,731	1,873,526
Coal	139,272	14,563,361	138,552	14,341,566
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	13,692	1,077,489	17,230	1,339,549
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	39,156	3,170,497	27,521	2,236,720
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	28,145	1,784,823	26,102	1,647,364
Coal coke and petroleum coke	13,799	1,017,533	11,577	814,362
Other refined petroleum and coal products	22,239	1,782,929	14,879	1,167,656
Sulphuric acid	12,303	1,107,072	10,896	977,920
Alumina	12,674	1,182,243	13,693	1,270,008
Other basic chemicals	38,041	3,208,266	37,360	3,159,911
Potash	61,470	6,030,463	81,795	8,047,621
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	22,592	1,859,112	25,291	2,109,585
Other chemical products and preparations	4,594	283,591	4,949	328,425
Plastic and rubber	18,750	1,520,062	18,231	1,487,117
Logs and other wood in the rough	2,914	182,603	3,578	220,276
Wood chips	17,375	1,020,429	16,149	949,307
Lumber	49,764	4,092,990	45,649	3,756,134
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	19,526	1,667,240	16,469	1,373,851
Wood pulp	42,945	3,651,969	45,746	3,873,624
Newsprint	11,513	779,958	12,681	868,877
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	15,170	1,065,018	18,365	1,274,710
Cement	9,680	950,785	7,643	743,985
Other non-metallic mineral products	991	67,396	1,159	83,956
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	24,829	2,099,173	25,014	2,068,689
Copper, primary or semi-finished	726	63,300	848	73,452
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	11,408	981,445	12,066	1,018,984
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	4,310	377,284	3,746	322,118
Articles of base metal	5,050	328,366	5,337	363,554
Machinery	2,183	28,407	1,204	21,861
Automobiles and mini-vans	61,376	1,123,490	49,914	869,898
Freight motor vehicles	35,541	637,324	29,887	534,593
Other vehicles	204	4,860	221	3,905
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	3,257	78,762	3,197	79,155
Other transportation equipment	2,797	89,863	2,127	95,693
Metallic waste and scrap	19,147	1,515,392	16,930	1,337,138
Non-metallic waste and scrap	5,186	281,201	3,673	176,253
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	1,140	42,972	1,303	56,664
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	100	1,152	65	805
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	39,633	573,892	41,465	588,393
Less than carload shipments	...	166	...	574
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>1,283,046</b>	<b>102,347,940</b>	<b>1,252,799</b>	<b>100,763,990</b>

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 May 2012		January 2011 to May 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	3,926	358,690	7,147	647,546
Other cereal grains	5,531	497,816	7,289	653,524
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	149	13,431	195	15,763
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	64	1,109	24	437
Colza seeds (canola)	88	6,793	6	444
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	9,369	851,353	5,288	476,507
Animal feed and products	5,446	442,517	5,274	434,667
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	14	253	92	2,012
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	1,377	74,902	1,160	57,201
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	3,768	298,727	2,567	201,761
Sugar	1,926	167,063	1,979	172,510
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	462	8,640	437	7,697
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	5,824	468,149	4,462	342,474
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	3,170	265,525	3,395	280,371
Salt	1,234	109,691	1,431	120,937
Phosphate rock	3,221	290,447	4,088	369,053
Sulphur	871	77,670	912	81,601
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals <sup>1</sup>	8,569	810,275	8,611	810,642
Iron ores and concentrates	136,528	12,482,919	148,361	13,540,393
Copper ores and concentrates	890	72,907	2,062	174,728
Nickel ores and concentrates	5,487	421,949	7,171	557,877
Lead ores and concentrates	874	62,605	921	65,971
Zinc ores and concentrates	4,638	375,945	5,068	407,506
Other metallic ores and concentrates	20,238	1,842,123	20,722	1,872,817
Coal	5,477	460,835	6,843	562,779
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	11,218	885,316	12,336	960,788
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	18,821	1,495,173	14,734	1,163,389
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	14,554	938,910	13,362	853,766
Coal coke and petroleum coke	5,545	320,286	6,276	361,139
Other refined petroleum and coal products	8,347	651,277	7,256	553,905
Sulphuric acid	10,443	944,912	8,992	811,677
Alumina	12,672	1,182,063	13,692	1,269,921
Other basic chemicals	18,641	1,516,186	17,566	1,428,160
Potash	3,232	324,604	3,285	330,779
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	1,818	153,311	2,194	189,703
Other chemical products and preparations	4,073	244,398	4,509	294,609
Plastic and rubber	8,141	568,924	6,758	468,163
Logs and other wood in the rough	1,831	115,412	2,565	154,606
Wood chips	4,438	278,038	4,835	305,105
Lumber	11,145	896,872	10,789	878,410
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	3,853	271,685	3,400	233,601
Wood pulp	10,187	842,792	13,222	1,101,707
Newsprint	9,952	676,595	11,253	769,295
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	11,252	759,648	14,556	978,214
Cement	4,062	400,691	3,588	351,354
Other non-metallic mineral products	665	39,056	694	43,941
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	22,030	1,850,478	22,754	1,867,386
Copper, primary or semi-finished	726	63,300	848	73,452
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	11,180	961,427	12,032	1,016,507
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	2,358	217,541	1,733	155,247
Articles of base metal	3,442	209,521	3,000	186,904
Machinery	2,150	26,450	1,159	19,037
Automobiles and mini-vans	48,991	950,933	42,246	763,222
Freight motor vehicles	34,552	622,762	29,109	522,340
Other vehicles	197	4,437	204	3,078
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	3,255	78,710	3,195	79,098
Other transportation equipment	822	25,872	684	48,097
Metallic waste and scrap	11,028	903,407	10,666	862,484
Non-metallic waste and scrap	2,464	193,776	1,695	118,350
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	882	31,064	1,158	48,158
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	6	107	1	54
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	39,597	570,800	41,402	585,708
Less than carload shipments	...	166	...	574
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>587,711</b>	<b>40,679,234</b>	<b>593,253</b>	<b>41,709,146</b>

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 May 2012		January 2011 to May 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	93,929	8,838,975	78,337	7,366,724
Other cereal grains	14,971	1,239,852	14,481	1,164,323
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	9,022	828,947	15,261	1,424,206
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	48,357	3,957,048	39,746	3,223,117
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	2,912	247,355	2,686	228,166
Animal feed and products	7,698	692,673	7,073	616,859
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	0	0	5	320
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	4,917	398,571	4,849	389,877
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	21,429	1,846,807	19,633	1,680,162
Sugar	179	13,151	178	13,697
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	1,036	71,888	930	64,988
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	179	13,849	333	26,919
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	10,394	992,246	6,813	646,722
Salt	2,592	238,754	2,325	212,135
Phosphate rock	1	38	0	0
Sulphur	23,665	2,243,125	24,593	2,316,209
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals <sup>1</sup>	1,250	114,561	1,103	102,802
Iron ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Copper ores and concentrates	2,885	274,354	3,062	289,875
Nickel ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Lead ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Zinc ores and concentrates	473	41,304	208	17,488
Other metallic ores and concentrates	1	65	9	709
Coal	133,795	14,102,526	131,709	13,778,787
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	2,474	192,173	4,894	378,761
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	20,335	1,675,324	12,787	1,073,331
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	13,591	845,913	12,740	793,598
Coal coke and petroleum coke	8,254	697,247	5,301	453,223
Other refined petroleum and coal products	13,892	1,131,652	7,623	613,751
Sulphuric acid	1,860	162,160	1,904	166,243
Alumina	2	180	1	87
Other basic chemicals	19,400	1,692,080	19,794	1,731,751
Potash	58,238	5,705,859	78,510	7,716,842
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	20,774	1,705,801	23,097	1,919,882
Other chemical products and preparations	521	39,193	440	33,816
Plastic and rubber	10,609	951,138	11,473	1,018,954
Logs and other wood in the rough	1,083	67,191	1,013	65,670
Wood chips	12,937	742,391	11,314	644,202
Lumber	38,619	3,196,118	34,860	2,877,724
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	15,673	1,395,555	13,069	1,140,250
Wood pulp	32,758	2,809,177	32,524	2,771,917
Newsprint	1,561	103,363	1,428	99,582
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	3,918	305,370	3,809	296,496
Cement	5,618	550,094	4,055	392,631
Other non-metallic mineral products	326	28,340	465	40,015
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	2,799	248,695	2,260	201,303
Copper, primary or semi-finished	0	0	0	0
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	228	20,018	34	2,477
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	1,952	159,743	2,013	166,871
Articles of base metal	1,608	118,845	2,337	176,650
Machinery	33	1,957	45	2,824
Automobiles and mini-vans	12,385	172,557	7,668	106,676
Freight motor vehicles	989	14,562	778	12,253
Other vehicles	7	423	17	827
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	2	52	2	57
Other transportation equipment	1,975	63,991	1,443	47,596
Metallic waste and scrap	8,119	611,985	6,264	474,654
Non-metallic waste and scrap	2,722	87,425	1,978	57,903
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	258	11,908	145	8,506
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	94	1,045	64	751
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	36	3,092	63	2,685
Less than carload shipments	...	0	...	0
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>695,335</b>	<b>61,668,706</b>	<b>659,546</b>	<b>59,054,844</b>

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**

	May 2012			May 2011		
	Units	TEUs <sup>1</sup>	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs <sup>1</sup>	Metric tonnes
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded</b>	.	.	<b>20,135,635</b>	.	.	<b>21,016,067</b>
Container-on-flat-car	153,064	289,751	2,347,177	147,814	278,341	2,272,934
Trailer-on-flat-car	3,218	.	46,498	4,696	.	67,510
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	3,458,695	.	.	2,875,183
<b>Total traffic carried</b>	.	.	<b>25,988,005</b>	.	.	<b>26,231,694</b>
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	12,493	25,623	180,836	9,198	19,168	123,201
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	2,286	.	32,489	2,067	.	29,625
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	2,612,373	.	.	2,703,921

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**

	May 2012			May 2011		
	Units	TEUs <sup>1</sup>	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs <sup>1</sup>	Metric tonnes
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded</b>	.	.	<b>8,475,390</b>	.	.	<b>8,524,907</b>
Container-on-flat-car	67,913	133,571	1,098,158	71,099	136,654	1,144,374
Trailer-on-flat-car	3,029	.	43,141	4,250	.	57,351
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	856,873	.	.	780,423
<b>Total traffic carried</b>	.	.	<b>10,473,562</b>	.	.	<b>10,507,055</b>
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	6,245	13,343	79,323	4,690	10,152	60,591
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	2	.	27	0	.	0
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	2,119,641	.	.	2,127,573

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**

	May 2012			May 2011		
	Units	TEUs <sup>1</sup>	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs <sup>1</sup>	Metric tonnes
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded</b>	.	.	<b>11,660,245</b>	.	.	<b>12,491,160</b>
Container-on-flat-car	85,151	156,180	1,249,019	76,715	141,687	1,128,560
Trailer-on-flat-car	189	.	3,357	446	.	10,159
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	2,601,822	.	.	2,094,760
<b>Total traffic carried</b>	.	.	<b>15,514,443</b>	.	.	<b>15,724,639</b>
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	6,248	12,280	101,513	4,508	9,016	62,610
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	2,284	.	32,462	2,067	.	29,625
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	492,732	.	.	576,348

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 May 2012			January 2011 to May 2011		
	Units	TEUs <sup>1</sup>	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs <sup>1</sup>	Metric tonnes
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded</b>	.	.	<b>102,347,940</b>	.	.	<b>100,763,990</b>
Container-on-flat-car	757,039	1,432,423	11,557,484	696,342	1,316,103	10,687,496
Trailer-on-flat-car	19,259	.	279,275	22,915	.	337,791
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	16,104,871	.	.	13,750,238
<b>Total traffic carried</b>	.	.	<b>130,289,570</b>	.	.	<b>125,539,515</b>
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	55,138	112,817	808,182	44,902	91,522	631,926
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	10,077	.	143,063	9,584	.	140,176
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	14,338,983	.	.	10,888,324

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 May 2012			January 2011 to May 2011		
	Units	TEUs <sup>1</sup>	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs <sup>1</sup>	Metric tonnes
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded</b>	.	.	<b>40,679,234</b>	.	.	<b>41,709,146</b>
Container-on-flat-car	325,794	637,480	5,224,136	335,401	646,567	5,398,137
Trailer-on-flat-car	17,645	.	246,327	20,813	.	290,584
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	3,995,001	.	.	3,779,396
<b>Total traffic carried</b>	.	.	<b>50,144,698</b>	.	.	<b>51,177,263</b>
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	25,649	54,991	335,197	24,442	51,143	321,653
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	14	.	128	1	.	6
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	11,443,993	.	.	7,600,113

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 May 2012			January 2011 to May 2011		
	Units	TEUs <sup>1</sup>	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs <sup>1</sup>	Metric tonnes
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded</b>	.	.	<b>61,668,706</b>	.	.	<b>59,054,844</b>
Container-on-flat-car	431,245	794,943	6,333,348	360,941	669,536	5,289,359
Trailer-on-flat-car	1,614	.	32,948	2,102	.	47,207
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	12,109,870	.	.	9,970,842
<b>Total traffic carried</b>	.	.	<b>80,144,872</b>	.	.	<b>74,362,252</b>
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	29,489	57,826	472,985	20,460	40,379	310,273
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	10,063	.	142,935	9,583	.	140,170
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	2,894,990	.	.	3,288,211

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 intermodal<sup>1</sup> and non-intermodal<sup>2</sup> 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.<sup>3</sup> 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](mailto: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: July 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 <sup>s</sup>	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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