

Service bulletin

Monthly Railway Carloadings

December 2012



Highlights

- Canadian railways carried a total of 26.0 million tonnes of freight traffic in December, an increase of 0.7% from December 2011. Freight loaded domestically as well as traffic received from United States connections both rose during the month, with the United States traffic providing the strongest growth.
- Domestically, combined loadings of non-intermodal freight (i.e., freight moved via box cars or loaded in bulk) and intermodal freight (i.e., freight moved via containers and trailers on flat cars) rose 0.3% to 23.1 million tonnes.
- Non-intermodal freight rose 0.2% to 20.9 million tonnes. Key commodities that contributed to the growth in tonnage were loadings of fuel oils and crude petroleum, and iron ores and concentrates. At the other end of the spectrum, a number of commodities saw declines in tonnage during the month. Colza seeds (canola), coal and iron and steel (primary or semi-finished) were the principal commodities that led the decline.
- Intermodal freight increased 1.4% to 2.2 million tonnes. The gain was solely the result of higher volumes of containerized cargo shipments as trailers loaded on flat cars fell during the month.
- The Western Division accounted for 60.0% of the domestic freight loadings, down 2.8% to 13.8 million tonnes compared to the same month in 2011. The remainder was loaded in the Eastern Division which saw its loadings increase by 5.4% to 9.3 million tonnes. 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.
- Freight traffic received from United States connections gained 3.8% to 2.9 million tonnes. Similar to the domestic scene, both non-intermodal and intermodal loadings rose in December compared with December 2011.

Statistical tables

Table 1
Railway carloading statistics for non-intermodal traffic by commodity in Canada — Total

	December 2012		December 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	20,223	1,910,703	20,174	1,898,086
Other cereal grains	4,298	356,216	5,239	441,933
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	1,948	181,096	1,653	152,427
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	22	412	12	214
Colza seeds (canola)	9,222	756,439	14,188	1,165,340
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	3,708	333,608	1,478	133,630
Animal feed and products	2,421	216,160	2,861	244,185
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	16	218	4	112
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	1,050	79,811	1,178	86,372
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	4,751	412,036	5,132	434,283
Sugar	392	33,504	391	33,542
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	302	16,668	361	19,671
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	1,485	123,469	669	51,085
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	1,490	137,196	1,881	177,962
Salt	960	88,325	906	80,532
Phosphate rock	734	66,296	703	63,440
Sulphur	5,317	499,609	5,701	538,504
Gypsum	999	97,705	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	680	59,003	1,176	109,763
Iron ores and concentrates	28,123	2,538,609	24,485	2,226,653
Copper ores and concentrates	772	72,375	917	84,180
Nickel ores and concentrates	1,770	131,109	1,492	113,589
Lead ores and concentrates	146	10,561	176	12,819
Zinc ores and concentrates	1,233	100,704	971	77,343
Other metallic ores and concentrates	4,062	368,866	4,716	429,451
Coal	29,111	3,053,967	32,073	3,326,413
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	2,437	186,170	2,871	219,943
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	12,302	1,009,467	7,199	578,101
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	7,257	454,883	6,468	409,209
Coal coke and petroleum coke	3,229	253,153	2,273	154,946
Other refined petroleum and coal products	4,962	399,531	3,625	288,197
Sulphuric acid	2,540	228,510	2,692	242,387
Alumina	3,351	309,603	3,199	297,117
Other basic chemicals	7,586	647,591	7,821	664,360
Potash	12,357	1,202,952	12,230	1,211,191
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	4,160	340,807	4,643	386,621
Other chemical products and preparations	712	46,068	898	60,683
Plastic and rubber	4,002	332,663	3,615	297,228
Logs and other wood in the rough	390	24,736	529	33,847
Wood chips	2,547	147,399	3,215	190,190
Lumber	8,448	686,165	9,055	745,971
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	3,639	313,820	3,300	281,402
Wood pulp	8,326	715,416	8,534	725,943
Newsprint	2,555	172,927	2,069	140,479
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	2,827	199,798	3,287	221,261
Cement	1,425	137,702	1,436	141,323
Other non-metallic mineral products	111	7,634	114	7,844
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	3,519	302,420	4,748	400,532
Copper, primary or semi-finished	143	12,419	186	16,039
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	2,748	237,253	2,776	235,708
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	981	86,406	1,079	94,042
Articles of base metal	1,190	81,941	1,241	83,421
Machinery	473	7,731	366	10,389
Automobiles and mini-vans	10,520	195,147	11,365	205,882
Freight motor vehicles	5,319	95,933	6,424	114,194
Other vehicles	171	4,863	29	733
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	517	12,284	382	9,299
Other transportation equipment	508	15,279	885	30,259
Metallic waste and scrap	2,706	215,376	3,519	273,841
Non-metallic waste and scrap	757	45,800	959	51,630
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	281	12,285	301	14,814
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	3	78	8	125
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	8,188	118,957	8,296	121,759
Less than carload shipments	...	25	...	43
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	258,422	20,905,857	260,174	20,862,482

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

	December 2012		December 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	805	73,536	622	56,693
Other cereal grains	1,583	138,903	1,598	144,961
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	96	8,895	37	3,289
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	22	412	12	214
Colza seeds (canola)	49	3,817	0	0
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	2,441	223,057	1,203	111,086
Animal feed and products	725	60,981	1,041	82,379
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	16	218	3	48
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	264	15,037	250	10,665
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	843	68,439	765	60,046
Sugar	360	31,257	353	30,621
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	87	1,384	98	1,382
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	1,450	120,596	629	47,791
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	429	37,133	443	39,823
Salt	277	24,604	231	18,993
Phosphate rock	734	66,296	703	63,440
Sulphur	183	13,719	166	14,674
Gypsum	912	89,549	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	568	48,850	1,040	97,729
Iron ores and concentrates	28,123	2,538,609	24,485	2,226,653
Copper ores and concentrates	217	18,726	232	19,513
Nickel ores and concentrates	1,770	131,109	1,492	113,589
Lead ores and concentrates	146	10,561	176	12,819
Zinc ores and concentrates	1,114	90,287	911	72,183
Other metallic ores and concentrates	4,062	368,866	4,716	429,451
Coal	1,588	130,896	2,248	185,332
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	1,987	151,908	2,148	165,678
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	4,833	397,832	3,957	310,522
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	3,368	214,498	2,873	184,948
Coal coke and petroleum coke	1,434	97,293	1,411	81,059
Other refined petroleum and coal products	1,173	88,860	1,387	106,238
Sulphuric acid	2,171	195,986	2,239	202,954
Alumina	3,351	309,603	3,199	297,117
Other basic chemicals	3,490	287,768	3,515	286,707
Potash	396	39,824	473	47,584
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	226	18,877	354	30,051
Other chemical products and preparations	649	41,212	797	53,128
Plastic and rubber	1,486	108,002	1,258	86,846
Logs and other wood in the rough	234	14,440	319	20,833
Wood chips	740	45,549	657	42,209
Lumber	2,209	169,025	1,872	147,536
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	718	52,525	579	39,127
Wood pulp	1,976	165,629	1,847	152,480
Newsprint	2,225	152,911	1,818	124,101
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	2,138	146,448	2,497	161,437
Cement	635	60,209	627	61,954
Other non-metallic mineral products	60	3,238	69	4,020
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	3,175	271,930	4,099	341,764
Copper, primary or semi-finished	143	12,419	186	16,039
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	2,696	232,588	2,757	234,159
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	570	52,578	561	51,750
Articles of base metal	566	36,001	790	51,040
Machinery	461	6,996	356	9,806
Automobiles and mini-vans	9,268	178,095	9,130	176,767
Freight motor vehicles	5,243	94,810	6,147	110,365
Other vehicles	27	684	27	606
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	517	12,284	382	9,299
Other transportation equipment	45	1,140	496	17,759
Metallic waste and scrap	1,563	131,088	2,083	168,551
Non-metallic waste and scrap	472	35,707	429	34,859
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	268	11,490	276	13,382
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	0	0	1	26
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	8,168	117,169	8,296	121,759
Less than carload shipments	...	25	...	43
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	117,545	8,272,378	113,366	7,807,877

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

	December 2012		December 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	19,418	1,837,167	19,552	1,841,393
Other cereal grains	2,715	217,313	3,641	296,972
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	1,852	172,201	1,616	149,138
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	9,173	752,622	14,188	1,165,340
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	1,267	110,551	275	22,544
Animal feed and products	1,696	155,179	1,820	161,806
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	0	0	1	64
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	786	64,774	928	75,707
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	3,908	343,597	4,367	374,237
Sugar	32	2,247	38	2,921
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	215	15,284	263	18,289
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	35	2,873	40	3,294
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	1,061	100,063	1,438	138,139
Salt	683	63,721	675	61,539
Phosphate rock	0	0	0	0
Sulphur	5,134	485,890	5,535	523,830
Gypsum	87	8,156	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	112	10,153	136	12,034
Iron ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Copper ores and concentrates	555	53,649	685	64,667
Nickel ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Lead ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Zinc ores and concentrates	119	10,417	60	5,160
Other metallic ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Coal	27,523	2,923,071	29,825	3,141,081
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	450	34,262	723	54,265
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	7,469	611,635	3,242	267,579
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	3,889	240,385	3,595	224,261
Coal coke and petroleum coke	1,795	155,860	862	73,887
Other refined petroleum and coal products	3,789	310,671	2,238	181,959
Sulphuric acid	369	32,524	453	39,433
Alumina	0	0	0	0
Other basic chemicals	4,096	359,823	4,306	377,653
Potash	11,961	1,163,128	11,757	1,163,607
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	3,934	321,930	4,289	356,570
Other chemical products and preparations	63	4,856	101	7,555
Plastic and rubber	2,516	224,661	2,357	210,382
Logs and other wood in the rough	156	10,296	210	13,014
Wood chips	1,807	101,850	2,558	147,981
Lumber	6,239	517,140	7,183	598,435
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	2,921	261,295	2,721	242,275
Wood pulp	6,350	549,787	6,687	573,463
Newsprint	330	20,016	251	16,378
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	689	53,350	790	59,824
Cement	790	77,493	809	79,369
Other non-metallic mineral products	51	4,396	45	3,824
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	344	30,490	649	58,768
Copper, primary or semi-finished	0	0	0	0
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	52	4,665	19	1,549
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	411	33,828	518	42,292
Articles of base metal	624	45,940	451	32,381
Machinery	12	735	10	583
Automobiles and mini-vans	1,252	17,052	2,235	29,115
Freight motor vehicles	76	1,123	277	3,829
Other vehicles	144	4,179	2	127
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	0	0	0	0
Other transportation equipment	463	14,139	389	12,500
Metallic waste and scrap	1,143	84,288	1,436	105,290
Non-metallic waste and scrap	285	10,093	530	16,771
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	13	795	25	1,432
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	3	78	7	99
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	20	1,788	0	0
Less than carload shipments	...	0	...	0
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	140,877	12,633,479	146,808	13,054,605

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 December 2012		January 2011 to December 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	229,177	21,534,284	218,494	20,475,007
Other cereal grains	55,916	4,624,696	56,464	4,700,391
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	28,715	2,657,800	36,486	3,396,388
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	225	3,943	168	2,944
Colza seeds (canola)	110,462	9,036,420	112,462	9,165,714
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	33,472	3,019,320	20,193	1,797,138
Animal feed and products	31,072	2,711,091	30,513	2,590,591
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	65	1,399	134	3,227
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	14,714	1,110,014	14,400	1,081,604
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	58,210	4,975,165	54,862	4,631,209
Sugar	5,008	431,177	5,187	443,923
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	3,812	197,725	3,486	181,262
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	15,100	1,224,980	10,820	829,935
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	41,093	3,840,458	41,367	3,847,223
Salt	8,608	782,233	8,566	761,124
Phosphate rock	8,796	793,909	9,544	861,753
Sulphur	57,934	5,441,445	64,785	6,118,795
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	21,210	1,983,067	23,035	2,173,929
Iron ores and concentrates	352,443	32,320,026	364,386	33,708,539
Copper ores and concentrates	9,419	870,629	11,727	1,064,760
Nickel ores and concentrates	13,891	1,063,742	17,977	1,392,966
Lead ores and concentrates	2,379	171,308	1,896	135,824
Zinc ores and concentrates	12,117	996,673	11,662	940,997
Other metallic ores and concentrates	63,576	5,734,096	65,678	5,903,750
Coal	348,102	36,448,636	345,191	35,826,676
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	34,527	2,684,488	43,029	3,319,471
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	112,907	9,151,686	68,158	5,517,427
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	69,087	4,349,275	63,044	3,971,061
Coal coke and petroleum coke	35,919	2,771,175	28,316	2,047,359
Other refined petroleum and coal products	57,199	4,584,567	40,128	3,144,794
Sulphuric acid	30,084	2,706,857	27,528	2,473,095
Alumina	34,435	3,203,415	33,937	3,150,338
Other basic chemicals	90,551	7,669,123	93,333	7,873,915
Potash	144,585	14,168,040	173,220	17,112,888
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	53,107	4,380,426	56,373	4,695,611
Other chemical products and preparations	10,521	661,934	11,640	799,362
Plastic and rubber	44,962	3,630,838	44,513	3,598,768
Logs and other wood in the rough	6,788	425,997	7,825	478,818
Wood chips	39,533	2,311,345	39,735	2,334,251
Lumber	118,535	9,753,759	112,223	9,253,931
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	47,255	4,036,932	41,052	3,454,076
Wood pulp	100,307	8,565,858	105,704	8,967,205
Newsprint	28,850	1,955,961	28,210	1,946,390
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	35,847	2,515,201	43,417	3,009,538
Cement	25,559	2,515,872	23,996	2,339,945
Other non-metallic mineral products	2,318	165,607	2,583	186,951
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	53,411	4,526,419	62,560	5,182,194
Copper, primary or semi-finished	1,503	131,149	2,016	174,999
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	26,698	2,295,742	30,180	2,557,929
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	11,191	982,755	9,971	866,091
Articles of base metal	13,561	899,688	15,217	1,011,986
Machinery	6,982	124,424	3,138	54,558
Automobiles and mini-vans	147,481	2,692,863	121,388	2,134,341
Freight motor vehicles	82,359	1,475,695	69,321	1,235,262
Other vehicles	1,189	30,777	552	10,700
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	7,172	175,348	7,147	175,683
Other transportation equipment	7,505	245,434	7,052	256,213
Metallic waste and scrap	41,896	3,321,071	43,361	3,416,441
Non-metallic waste and scrap	11,836	668,938	9,901	487,438
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	3,904	153,933	2,754	110,215
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	155	2,044	144	2,004
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	92,922	1,357,196	98,559	1,423,747
Less than carload shipments	...	496	...	955
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	3,161,034	253,549,194	3,100,708	250,811,620

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 December 2012		January 2011 to December 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	12,802	1,174,454	13,572	1,234,335
Other cereal grains	12,727	1,121,290	16,996	1,525,274
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	571	51,660	373	30,585
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	225	3,943	168	2,944
Colza seeds (canola)	460	36,274	7	473
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	24,653	2,256,175	14,005	1,274,121
Animal feed and products	11,740	965,711	11,904	959,515
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	61	1,042	123	2,523
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	3,396	185,027	2,730	137,221
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	8,865	702,721	7,691	603,358
Sugar	4,624	402,789	4,784	412,770
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	1,328	23,888	1,164	18,568
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	14,665	1,190,029	10,185	778,154
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	7,510	618,506	8,957	730,169
Salt	2,742	238,292	2,918	245,946
Phosphate rock	8,795	793,871	9,539	861,312
Sulphur	2,260	187,955	2,252	201,272
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	18,484	1,729,885	19,903	1,883,125
Iron ores and concentrates	352,443	32,320,026	364,386	33,708,539
Copper ores and concentrates	2,437	202,987	3,696	307,472
Nickel ores and concentrates	13,891	1,063,742	17,977	1,392,966
Lead ores and concentrates	2,379	171,308	1,896	135,824
Zinc ores and concentrates	10,872	887,698	11,116	894,844
Other metallic ores and concentrates	63,571	5,733,807	65,668	5,903,003
Coal	13,469	1,117,735	17,787	1,443,011
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	29,163	2,271,001	31,523	2,438,904
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	47,687	3,807,338	33,578	2,647,194
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	36,924	2,349,732	33,137	2,107,459
Coal coke and petroleum coke	13,116	815,045	14,231	850,542
Other refined petroleum and coal products	18,658	1,435,323	17,960	1,363,530
Sulphuric acid	25,311	2,289,886	22,708	2,053,108
Alumina	34,433	3,203,235	33,936	3,150,251
Other basic chemicals	41,859	3,415,405	43,651	3,525,669
Potash	6,762	679,338	6,867	691,217
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	4,333	367,994	4,988	430,021
Other chemical products and preparations	9,503	584,102	10,581	717,870
Plastic and rubber	19,495	1,349,494	16,755	1,133,923
Logs and other wood in the rough	4,276	266,826	5,579	338,757
Wood chips	10,433	648,309	9,952	631,385
Lumber	27,049	2,162,776	25,898	2,098,442
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	9,200	648,145	8,329	573,263
Wood pulp	24,005	2,005,252	28,874	2,401,334
Newsprint	25,343	1,725,278	25,193	1,743,439
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	26,552	1,791,544	34,290	2,305,308
Cement	11,284	1,107,179	10,546	1,035,802
Other non-metallic mineral products	1,362	81,782	1,540	97,230
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	47,859	4,034,659	57,243	4,708,173
Copper, primary or semi-finished	1,503	131,149	2,016	174,999
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	26,097	2,243,599	30,040	2,546,797
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	6,297	579,748	4,914	448,741
Articles of base metal	7,768	471,988	8,367	517,210
Machinery	6,641	107,744	3,013	46,870
Automobiles and mini-vans	122,219	2,348,990	102,857	1,876,384
Freight motor vehicles	79,796	1,437,184	66,921	1,197,841
Other vehicles	851	20,177	515	8,542
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	7,169	175,281	7,142	175,584
Other transportation equipment	1,530	56,331	2,079	99,494
Metallic waste and scrap	23,265	1,912,861	26,418	2,136,473
Non-metallic waste and scrap	5,973	468,648	4,241	320,186
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	3,312	122,992	2,432	90,879
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	8	205	8	314
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	92,811	1,348,175	98,272	1,409,864
Less than carload shipments	...	496	...	955
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	1,457,469	101,907,450	1,446,391	102,781,281

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 December 2012		January 2011 to December 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	216,375	20,359,830	204,922	19,240,672
Other cereal grains	43,189	3,503,406	39,468	3,175,117
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	28,144	2,606,140	36,113	3,365,803
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	110,002	9,000,146	112,455	9,165,241
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	8,819	763,145	6,188	523,017
Animal feed and products	19,332	1,745,380	18,609	1,631,076
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	4	357	11	704
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	11,318	924,987	11,670	944,383
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	49,345	4,272,444	47,171	4,027,851
Sugar	384	28,388	403	31,153
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	2,484	173,837	2,322	162,694
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	435	34,951	635	51,781
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	33,583	3,221,952	32,410	3,117,054
Salt	5,866	543,941	5,648	515,178
Phosphate rock	1	38	5	441
Sulphur	55,674	5,253,490	62,533	5,917,523
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	2,726	253,182	3,132	290,804
Iron ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Copper ores and concentrates	6,982	667,642	8,031	757,288
Nickel ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Lead ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Zinc ores and concentrates	1,245	108,975	546	46,153
Other metallic ores and concentrates	5	289	10	747
Coal	334,633	35,330,901	327,404	34,383,665
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	5,364	413,487	11,506	880,567
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	65,220	5,344,348	34,580	2,870,233
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	32,163	1,999,543	29,907	1,863,602
Coal coke and petroleum coke	22,803	1,956,130	14,085	1,196,817
Other refined petroleum and coal products	38,541	3,149,244	22,168	1,781,264
Sulphuric acid	4,773	416,971	4,820	419,987
Alumina	2	180	1	87
Other basic chemicals	48,692	4,253,718	49,682	4,348,246
Potash	137,823	13,488,702	166,353	16,421,671
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	48,774	4,012,432	51,385	4,265,590
Other chemical products and preparations	1,018	77,832	1,059	81,492
Plastic and rubber	25,467	2,281,344	27,758	2,464,845
Logs and other wood in the rough	2,512	159,171	2,246	140,061
Wood chips	29,100	1,663,036	29,783	1,702,866
Lumber	91,486	7,590,983	86,325	7,155,489
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	38,055	3,388,787	32,723	2,880,813
Wood pulp	76,302	6,560,606	76,830	6,565,871
Newsprint	3,507	230,683	3,017	202,951
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	9,295	723,657	9,127	704,230
Cement	14,275	1,408,693	13,450	1,304,143
Other non-metallic mineral products	956	83,825	1,043	89,721
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	5,552	491,760	5,317	474,021
Copper, primary or semi-finished	0	0	0	0
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	601	52,143	140	11,132
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	4,894	403,007	5,057	417,350
Articles of base metal	5,793	427,700	6,850	494,776
Machinery	341	16,680	125	7,688
Automobiles and mini-vans	25,262	343,873	18,531	257,957
Freight motor vehicles	2,563	38,511	2,400	37,421
Other vehicles	338	10,600	37	2,158
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	3	67	5	99
Other transportation equipment	5,975	189,103	4,973	156,719
Metallic waste and scrap	18,631	1,408,210	16,943	1,279,968
Non-metallic waste and scrap	5,863	200,290	5,660	167,252
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	592	30,941	322	19,336
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	147	1,839	136	1,690
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	111	9,021	287	13,883
Less than carload shipments	...	0	...	0
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	1,703,565	151,641,744	1,654,317	148,030,339

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

	December 2012			December 2011		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	20,905,857	.	.	20,862,482
Container-on-flat-car	143,722	269,832	2,185,036	141,904	264,435	2,149,212
Trailer-on-flat-car	3,778	.	51,802	4,098	.	56,157
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	2,856,753	.	.	2,751,458
Total traffic carried	.	.	25,999,448	.	.	25,819,309
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	11,086	22,219	164,597	9,488	19,389	143,704
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	1,617	.	22,821	1,703	.	24,230
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	3,092,739	.	.	3,163,493

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

	December 2012			December 2011		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	8,272,378	.	.	7,807,877
Container-on-flat-car	62,315	121,681	1,007,626	62,390	119,707	990,251
Trailer-on-flat-car	3,589	.	48,224	3,806	.	50,132
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	740,376	.	.	749,222
Total traffic carried	.	.	10,068,604	.	.	9,597,482
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	4,749	10,023	63,626	3,893	8,493	54,897
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	3	.	33	0	.	0
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	2,514,499	.	.	2,547,503

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

	December 2012			December 2011		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	12,633,479	.	.	13,054,605
Container-on-flat-car	81,407	148,151	1,177,410	79,514	144,728	1,158,961
Trailer-on-flat-car	189	.	3,578	292	.	6,025
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	2,116,377	.	.	2,002,236
Total traffic carried	.	.	15,930,844	.	.	16,221,827
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	6,337	12,196	100,971	5,595	10,896	88,807
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	1,614	.	22,788	1,703	.	24,230
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	578,240	.	.	615,990

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 December 2012			January 2011 to December 2011		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	253,549,194	.	.	250,811,620
Container-on-flat-car	1,877,082	3,559,595	28,415,911	1,757,130	3,315,391	26,743,297
Trailer-on-flat-car	46,025	.	667,997	54,263	.	787,165
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	39,145,616	.	.	35,597,725
Total traffic carried	.	.	321,778,718	.	.	313,939,807
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	136,710	280,025	2,006,066	113,991	234,390	1,629,939
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	24,525	.	348,703	23,292	.	336,284
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	35,245,800	.	.	30,160,352

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 December 2012			January 2011 to December 2011		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	101,907,450	.	.	102,781,281
Container-on-flat-car	813,590	1,595,919	13,011,555	820,763	1,583,677	13,145,002
Trailer-on-flat-car	42,576	.	596,217	49,763	.	686,091
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	9,639,397	.	.	9,361,302
Total traffic carried	.	.	125,154,619	.	.	125,973,676
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	64,961	139,296	854,017	57,559	122,658	758,472
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	33	.	392	8	.	74
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	27,857,428	.	.	22,241,793

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 December 2012			January 2011 to December 2011		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	151,641,744	.	.	148,030,339
Container-on-flat-car	1,063,492	1,963,676	15,404,356	936,367	1,731,714	13,598,295
Trailer-on-flat-car	3,449	.	71,780	4,500	.	101,074
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	29,506,219	.	.	26,236,423
Total traffic carried	.	.	196,624,099	.	.	187,966,131
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	71,749	140,729	1,152,049	56,432	111,732	871,467
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	24,492	.	348,311	23,284	.	336,210
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	7,388,372	.	.	7,918,559

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: February 2013

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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