

Service bulletin

Monthly Railway Carloadings

December 2013



Highlights

- The Canadian railway industry carried 26.0 million tonnes of freight in December, an amount virtually unchanged from the same month last year. The industry benefited from a strong growth in shipments received from the United States, which helped to offset a decline in domestic shipments.
- Rail freight originating in Canada and destined within Canada and other parts of the world decreased 1.6% to 22.8 million tonnes. These shipments are comprised of non-intermodal freight (i.e., cargo moved via box cars or loaded in bulk) and intermodal freight (i.e., cargo moved via containers and trailers on flat cars).
- Non-intermodal freight loadings fell 2.1% to 253,000 carloads in December. The amount of freight loaded into these cars totalled 20.5 million tonnes, itself a decrease of 2.0%. The tonnage decline in shipments was brought on by a drop in the majority of the 64 commodities loaded by Canadian railways.
- Partially offsetting the decline, however, were gains in fuel oils and crude petroleum (up 324,000 tonnes); other chemical products and preparations (up 177,000 tonnes); and fresh, chilled or dried vegetables (up 138,000 tonnes).
- Intermodal freight loadings rose in December to 153,000 units, a gain of 3.7%. The increase was spurred by increased containerized cargo shipments and trailers loaded onto flat cars. From a tonnage perspective, intermodal traffic rose 2.9% to 2.3 million tonnes.
- Rail freight traffic received from the United States advanced 12.7% to reach a high of 3.2 million tonnes for the month of December. Both non-intermodal and intermodal shipments increased during the month.

Note to readers

Data in this release are not seasonally adjusted.

For non-intermodal traffic, rail 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 data.

The Monthly Railway Carloadings publication, catalogue number 52-001-WXE, is now discontinued. The December 2013 issue represents the last issue for this publication.

Statistical tables

Table 1

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

	December 2013		December 2012	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	18,640	1,772,992	20,223	1,910,703
Other cereal grains	3,883	326,067	4,298	356,216
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	3,364	318,690	1,948	181,096
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	1	19	22	412
Colza seeds (canola)	8,795	728,312	9,222	756,439
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	4,652	420,238	3,708	333,608
Animal feed and products	2,857	253,636	2,421	216,160
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	3	43	16	218
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	981	71,577	1,050	79,811
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	4,244	365,157	4,751	412,036
Sugar	285	24,705	392	33,504
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	274	14,987	302	16,668
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	1,031	83,834	1,485	123,469
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	1,046	97,099	1,490	137,196
Salt	851	76,415	960	88,325
Phosphate rock	787	77,854	734	66,296
Sulphur	4,057	383,919	5,317	499,609
Gypsum	1,027	100,627	999	97,705
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	719	63,162	680	59,003
Iron ores and concentrates	27,201	2,458,632	28,123	2,538,609
Copper ores and concentrates	794	73,792	772	72,375
Nickel ores and concentrates	1,250	91,581	1,770	131,109
Lead ores and concentrates	0	0	146	10,561
Zinc ores and concentrates	438	38,371	1,233	100,704
Other metallic ores and concentrates	4,166	378,213	4,062	368,866
Coal	28,099	2,904,442	29,111	3,053,967
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	2,010	159,105	2,437	186,170
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	16,031	1,333,071	12,302	1,009,467
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	7,161	447,932	7,257	454,883
Coal coke and petroleum coke	2,446	164,331	3,229	253,153
Other refined petroleum and coal products	3,666	287,790	4,962	399,531
Sulphuric acid	2,407	216,354	2,540	228,510
Alumina	3,277	302,122	3,351	309,603
Other basic chemicals	7,573	646,469	7,586	647,591
Potash	10,824	1,076,006	12,357	1,202,952
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	3,643	299,799	4,160	340,807
Other chemical products and preparations	2,736	223,426	712	46,068
Plastic and rubber	4,062	333,785	4,002	332,663
Logs and other wood in the rough	332	20,912	390	24,736
Wood chips	2,556	148,282	2,547	147,399
Lumber	9,429	775,669	8,448	686,165
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	3,761	321,820	3,639	313,820
Wood pulp	7,338	628,220	8,326	715,416
Newsprint	2,182	151,256	2,555	172,927
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	2,849	212,007	2,827	199,798
Cement	1,297	129,773	1,425	137,702
Other non-metallic mineral products	285	21,610	111	7,634
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	3,139	265,800	3,519	302,420
Copper, primary or semi-finished	236	20,445	143	12,419
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	2,491	214,566	2,748	237,253
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	1,185	102,327	981	86,406
Articles of base metal	975	68,246	1,190	81,941
Machinery	357	8,272	473	7,731
Automobiles and mini-vans	11,040	200,554	10,520	195,147
Freight motor vehicles	4,078	70,434	5,319	95,933
Other vehicles	22	283	171	4,863
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	416	9,421	517	12,284
Other transportation equipment	610	23,289	508	15,279
Metallic waste and scrap	3,473	283,227	2,706	215,376
Non-metallic waste and scrap	763	42,907	757	45,800
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	305	15,211	281	12,285
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	9	123	3	78
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	8,513	132,023	8,188	118,957
Less than carload shipments	...	27	...	25
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	252,922	20,481,258	258,422	20,905,857

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 2013		December 2012	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	1,009	92,560	805	73,536
Other cereal grains	1,452	124,203	1,583	138,903
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	19	1,405	96	8,895
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	1	19	22	412
Colza seeds (canola)	88	7,112	49	3,817
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	2,691	244,419	2,441	223,057
Animal feed and products	846	68,958	725	60,981
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	3	43	16	218
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	280	13,828	264	15,037
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	471	35,946	843	68,439
Sugar	280	24,348	360	31,257
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	83	1,340	87	1,384
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	999	81,441	1,450	120,596
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	484	43,471	429	37,133
Salt	238	20,167	277	24,604
Phosphate rock	0	0	734	66,296
Sulphur	208	18,519	183	13,719
Gypsum	960	94,391	912	89,549
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	635	55,185	568	48,850
Iron ores and concentrates	27,201	2,458,632	28,123	2,538,609
Copper ores and concentrates	203	17,561	217	18,726
Nickel ores and concentrates	1,247	91,312	1,770	131,109
Lead ores and concentrates	0	0	146	10,561
Zinc ores and concentrates	337	29,526	1,114	90,287
Other metallic ores and concentrates	4,166	378,213	4,062	368,866
Coal	1,400	117,970	1,588	130,896
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	1,494	118,052	1,987	151,908
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	4,945	405,338	4,833	397,832
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	3,626	228,417	3,368	214,498
Coal coke and petroleum coke	1,656	98,888	1,434	97,293
Other refined petroleum and coal products	1,234	94,586	1,173	88,860
Sulphuric acid	2,057	185,589	2,171	195,986
Alumina	3,277	302,122	3,351	309,603
Other basic chemicals	3,586	298,445	3,490	287,768
Potash	406	40,761	396	39,824
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	289	24,571	226	18,877
Other chemical products and preparations	682	46,845	649	41,212
Plastic and rubber	1,632	117,311	1,486	108,002
Logs and other wood in the rough	118	7,443	234	14,440
Wood chips	850	52,298	740	45,549
Lumber	2,658	210,606	2,209	169,025
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	1,080	81,568	718	52,525
Wood pulp	1,600	131,342	1,976	165,629
Newsprint	1,950	135,138	2,225	152,911
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	2,253	164,726	2,138	146,448
Cement	523	53,010	635	60,209
Other non-metallic mineral products	176	12,252	60	3,238
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	2,779	233,917	3,175	271,930
Copper, primary or semi-finished	236	20,445	143	12,419
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	2,468	212,569	2,696	232,588
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	836	73,263	570	52,578
Articles of base metal	557	37,524	566	36,001
Machinery	352	7,829	461	6,996
Automobiles and mini-vans	9,419	179,835	9,268	178,095
Freight motor vehicles	3,646	65,144	5,243	94,810
Other vehicles	22	283	27	684
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	416	9,421	517	12,284
Other transportation equipment	244	11,941	45	1,140
Metallic waste and scrap	2,370	197,434	1,563	131,088
Non-metallic waste and scrap	397	29,778	472	35,707
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	291	14,466	268	11,490
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	6	57	0	0
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	8,506	131,388	8,168	117,169
Less than carload shipments	...	27	...	25
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	113,938	8,055,198	117,545	8,272,378

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 2013		December 2012	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	17,631	1,680,432	19,418	1,837,167
Other cereal grains	2,431	201,864	2,715	217,313
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	3,345	317,285	1,852	172,201
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	8,707	721,200	9,173	752,622
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	1,961	175,819	1,267	110,551
Animal feed and products	2,011	184,678	1,696	155,179
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	0	0	0	0
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	701	57,749	786	64,774
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	3,773	329,211	3,908	343,597
Sugar	5	357	32	2,247
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	191	13,647	215	15,284
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	32	2,393	35	2,873
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	562	53,628	1,061	100,063
Salt	613	56,248	683	63,721
Phosphate rock	787	77,854	0	0
Sulphur	3,849	365,400	5,134	485,890
Gypsum	67	6,236	87	8,156
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	84	7,977	112	10,153
Iron ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Copper ores and concentrates	591	56,231	555	53,649
Nickel ores and concentrates	3	269	0	0
Lead ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Zinc ores and concentrates	101	8,845	119	10,417
Other metallic ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Coal	26,699	2,786,472	27,523	2,923,071
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	516	41,053	450	34,262
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	11,086	927,733	7,469	611,635
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	3,535	219,515	3,889	240,385
Coal coke and petroleum coke	790	65,443	1,795	155,860
Other refined petroleum and coal products	2,432	193,204	3,789	310,671
Sulphuric acid	350	30,765	369	32,524
Alumina	0	0	0	0
Other basic chemicals	3,987	348,024	4,096	359,823
Potash	10,418	1,035,245	11,961	1,163,128
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	3,354	275,228	3,934	321,930
Other chemical products and preparations	2,054	176,581	63	4,856
Plastic and rubber	2,430	216,474	2,516	224,661
Logs and other wood in the rough	214	13,469	156	10,296
Wood chips	1,706	95,984	1,807	101,850
Lumber	6,771	565,063	6,239	517,140
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	2,681	240,252	2,921	261,295
Wood pulp	5,738	496,878	6,350	549,787
Newsprint	232	16,118	330	20,016
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	596	47,281	689	53,350
Cement	774	76,763	790	77,493
Other non-metallic mineral products	109	9,358	51	4,396
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	360	31,883	344	30,490
Copper, primary or semi-finished	0	0	0	0
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	23	1,997	52	4,665
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	349	29,064	411	33,828
Articles of base metal	418	30,722	624	45,940
Machinery	5	443	12	735
Automobiles and mini-vans	1,621	20,719	1,252	17,052
Freight motor vehicles	432	5,290	76	1,123
Other vehicles	0	0	144	4,179
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	0	0	0	0
Other transportation equipment	366	11,348	463	14,139
Metallic waste and scrap	1,103	85,793	1,143	84,288
Non-metallic waste and scrap	366	13,129	285	10,093
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	14	745	13	795
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	3	66	3	78
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	7	635	20	1,788
Less than carload shipments	...	0	...	0
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	138,984	12,426,060	140,877	12,633,479

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 2013 to December 2013		January 2012 to December 2012	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	224,731	21,319,741	229,177	21,534,284
Other cereal grains	53,062	4,439,717	55,916	4,624,696
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	42,416	3,998,140	28,715	2,657,800
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	136	2,398	225	3,943
Colza seeds (canola)	89,493	7,389,785	110,462	9,036,420
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	34,420	3,095,333	33,472	3,019,320
Animal feed and products	32,354	2,863,495	31,072	2,711,091
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	86	1,364	65	1,399
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	13,404	1,020,038	14,714	1,110,014
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	49,628	4,285,565	58,210	4,975,165
Sugar	4,574	395,171	5,008	431,177
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	4,312	220,766	3,812	197,725
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	14,327	1,169,949	15,100	1,224,980
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	40,413	3,770,044	41,093	3,840,458
Salt	9,237	849,309	8,608	782,233
Phosphate rock	5,108	473,195	8,796	793,909
Sulphur	55,277	5,208,635	57,934	5,441,445
Gypsum	16,330	1,599,744	15,418	1,513,901
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	10,115	879,652	8,669	751,796
Iron ores and concentrates	390,145	35,657,077	352,443	32,320,026
Copper ores and concentrates	9,168	860,171	9,419	870,629
Nickel ores and concentrates	19,508	1,447,368	13,891	1,063,742
Lead ores and concentrates	770	55,627	2,379	171,308
Zinc ores and concentrates	7,405	626,456	12,117	996,673
Other metallic ores and concentrates	66,446	5,975,152	63,576	5,734,096
Coal	382,571	39,728,896	348,102	36,448,636
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	23,685	1,863,369	34,527	2,684,488
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	164,221	13,518,260	112,907	9,151,686
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	72,070	4,524,626	69,087	4,349,275
Coal coke and petroleum coke	37,157	2,819,917	35,919	2,771,175
Other refined petroleum and coal products	58,028	4,630,577	57,199	4,584,567
Sulphuric acid	31,264	2,809,230	30,084	2,706,857
Alumina	42,204	3,896,221	34,435	3,203,415
Other basic chemicals	93,780	7,990,883	90,551	7,669,123
Potash	167,566	16,507,833	144,585	14,168,040
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	49,396	4,021,856	53,107	4,380,426
Other chemical products and preparations	23,305	1,794,996	10,521	661,934
Plastic and rubber	48,027	3,855,410	44,962	3,630,838
Logs and other wood in the rough	6,910	443,288	6,788	425,997
Wood chips	37,778	2,210,206	39,533	2,311,345
Lumber	128,422	10,529,985	118,535	9,753,759
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	50,954	4,366,627	47,255	4,036,932
Wood pulp	96,100	8,212,924	100,307	8,565,858
Newsprint	28,107	1,913,824	28,850	1,955,961
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	36,654	2,670,717	35,847	2,515,201
Cement	24,806	2,460,156	25,559	2,515,872
Other non-metallic mineral products	3,377	253,307	2,318	165,607
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	45,573	3,913,507	53,411	4,526,419
Copper, primary or semi-finished	2,282	196,567	1,503	131,149
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	33,055	2,856,814	26,698	2,295,742
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	13,274	1,138,621	11,191	982,755
Articles of base metal	13,643	941,397	13,561	899,688
Machinery	5,685	112,439	6,982	124,424
Automobiles and mini-vans	143,427	2,662,677	147,481	2,692,863
Freight motor vehicles	64,971	1,151,509	82,359	1,475,695
Other vehicles	502	11,458	1,189	30,777
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	7,335	173,944	7,172	175,348
Other transportation equipment	6,397	241,009	7,505	245,434
Metallic waste and scrap	44,718	3,631,646	41,896	3,321,071
Non-metallic waste and scrap	10,611	591,141	11,836	668,938
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	4,505	194,642	3,904	153,933
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	43	1,058	155	2,044
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	101,321	1,538,745	92,922	1,357,196
Less than carload shipments	...	459	...	496
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	3,283,136	266,826,587	3,161,034	253,549,194

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 2013 to December 2013		January 2012 to December 2012	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	12,928	1,179,454	12,802	1,174,454
Other cereal grains	18,232	1,592,901	12,727	1,121,290
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	858	76,511	571	51,660
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	136	2,398	225	3,943
Colza seeds (canola)	574	46,245	460	36,274
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	21,807	1,969,947	24,653	2,256,175
Animal feed and products	11,237	933,923	11,740	965,711
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	86	1,364	61	1,042
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	3,157	174,574	3,396	185,027
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	5,940	471,917	8,865	702,721
Sugar	4,330	377,635	4,624	402,789
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	1,544	26,599	1,328	23,888
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	13,912	1,136,822	14,665	1,190,029
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	8,775	746,922	7,510	618,506
Salt	2,990	265,850	2,742	238,292
Phosphate rock	3,584	323,020	8,795	793,871
Sulphur	2,307	200,877	2,260	187,955
Gypsum	14,601	1,435,771	13,766	1,355,689
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	8,919	768,037	7,370	635,620
Iron ores and concentrates	389,840	35,628,355	352,443	32,320,026
Copper ores and concentrates	2,079	177,727	2,437	202,987
Nickel ores and concentrates	19,462	1,443,212	13,891	1,063,742
Lead ores and concentrates	770	55,627	2,379	171,308
Zinc ores and concentrates	6,032	505,967	10,872	887,698
Other metallic ores and concentrates	66,329	5,964,871	63,571	5,733,807
Coal	18,327	1,524,656	13,469	1,117,735
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	18,175	1,442,357	29,163	2,271,001
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	52,320	4,307,508	47,687	3,807,338
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	37,604	2,380,541	36,924	2,349,732
Coal coke and petroleum coke	16,761	1,049,303	13,116	815,045
Other refined petroleum and coal products	16,338	1,245,061	18,658	1,435,323
Sulphuric acid	26,814	2,418,542	25,311	2,289,886
Alumina	42,204	3,896,221	34,433	3,203,235
Other basic chemicals	43,429	3,569,206	41,859	3,415,405
Potash	6,558	659,107	6,762	679,338
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	3,500	292,326	4,333	367,994
Other chemical products and preparations	10,375	697,010	9,503	584,102
Plastic and rubber	20,415	1,386,460	19,495	1,349,494
Logs and other wood in the rough	3,681	230,847	4,276	266,826
Wood chips	12,513	769,983	10,433	648,309
Lumber	34,037	2,685,672	27,049	2,162,776
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	12,247	894,356	9,200	648,145
Wood pulp	24,531	2,057,140	24,005	2,005,252
Newsprint	25,166	1,710,383	25,343	1,725,278
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	27,757	1,969,738	26,552	1,791,544
Cement	10,422	1,031,423	11,284	1,107,179
Other non-metallic mineral products	1,871	120,735	1,362	81,782
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	40,844	3,495,920	47,859	4,034,659
Copper, primary or semi-finished	2,282	196,567	1,503	131,149
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	32,606	2,818,240	26,097	2,243,599
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	8,255	721,922	6,297	579,748
Articles of base metal	6,497	415,833	7,768	471,988
Machinery	5,537	101,610	6,641	107,744
Automobiles and mini-vans	121,238	2,362,767	122,219	2,348,990
Freight motor vehicles	60,948	1,094,299	79,796	1,437,184
Other vehicles	484	10,652	851	20,177
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	7,330	173,732	7,169	175,281
Other transportation equipment	1,945	95,094	1,530	56,331
Metallic waste and scrap	28,170	2,368,737	23,265	1,912,861
Non-metallic waste and scrap	5,357	401,783	5,973	468,648
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	4,193	176,360	3,312	122,992
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	15	133	8	205
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	101,188	1,527,321	92,811	1,348,175
Less than carload shipments	...	459	...	496
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	1,498,910	106,648,484	1,457,469	101,907,450

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 2013 to December 2013		January 2012 to December 2012	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	211,803	20,140,287	216,375	20,359,830
Other cereal grains	34,830	2,846,816	43,189	3,503,406
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	41,558	3,921,629	28,144	2,606,140
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	88,919	7,343,540	110,002	9,000,146
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	12,613	1,125,386	8,819	763,145
Animal feed and products	21,117	1,929,572	19,332	1,745,380
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	0	0	4	357
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	10,247	845,464	11,318	924,987
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	43,688	3,813,648	49,345	4,272,444
Sugar	244	17,536	384	28,388
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	2,768	194,167	2,484	173,837
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	415	33,127	435	34,951
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	31,638	3,023,122	33,583	3,221,952
Salt	6,247	583,459	5,866	543,941
Phosphate rock	1,524	150,175	1	38
Sulphur	52,970	5,007,758	55,674	5,253,490
Gypsum	1,729	163,973	1,652	158,212
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	1,196	111,615	1,299	116,176
Iron ores and concentrates	305	28,722	0	0
Copper ores and concentrates	7,089	682,444	6,982	667,642
Nickel ores and concentrates	46	4,156	0	0
Lead ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Zinc ores and concentrates	1,373	120,489	1,245	108,975
Other metallic ores and concentrates	117	10,281	5	289
Coal	364,244	38,204,240	334,633	35,330,901
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	5,510	421,012	5,364	413,487
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	111,901	9,210,752	65,220	5,344,348
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	34,466	2,144,085	32,163	1,999,543
Coal coke and petroleum coke	20,396	1,770,614	22,803	1,956,130
Other refined petroleum and coal products	41,690	3,385,516	38,541	3,149,244
Sulphuric acid	4,450	390,688	4,773	416,971
Alumina	0	0	2	180
Other basic chemicals	50,351	4,421,677	48,692	4,253,718
Potash	161,008	15,848,726	137,823	13,488,702
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	45,896	3,729,530	48,774	4,012,432
Other chemical products and preparations	12,930	1,097,986	1,018	77,832
Plastic and rubber	27,612	2,468,950	25,467	2,281,344
Logs and other wood in the rough	3,229	212,441	2,512	159,171
Wood chips	25,265	1,440,223	29,100	1,663,036
Lumber	94,385	7,844,313	91,486	7,590,983
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	38,707	3,472,271	38,055	3,388,787
Wood pulp	71,569	6,155,784	76,302	6,560,606
Newsprint	2,941	203,441	3,507	230,683
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	8,897	700,979	9,295	723,657
Cement	14,384	1,428,733	14,275	1,408,693
Other non-metallic mineral products	1,506	132,572	956	83,825
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	4,729	417,587	5,552	491,760
Copper, primary or semi-finished	0	0	0	0
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	449	38,574	601	52,143
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	5,019	416,699	4,894	403,007
Articles of base metal	7,146	525,564	5,793	427,700
Machinery	148	10,829	341	16,680
Automobiles and mini-vans	22,189	299,910	25,262	343,873
Freight motor vehicles	4,023	57,210	2,563	38,511
Other vehicles	18	806	338	10,600
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	5	212	3	67
Other transportation equipment	4,452	145,915	5,975	189,103
Metallic waste and scrap	16,548	1,262,909	18,631	1,408,210
Non-metallic waste and scrap	5,254	189,358	5,863	200,290
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	312	18,282	592	30,941
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	28	925	147	1,839
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	133	11,424	111	9,021
Less than carload shipments	...	0	...	0
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	1,784,226	160,178,103	1,703,565	151,641,744

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 2013			December 2012		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	20,481,258	.	.	20,905,857
Container-on-flat-car	148,345	279,083	2,234,249	143,722	269,832	2,185,036
Trailer-on-flat-car	4,603	.	67,688	3,778	.	51,802
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	3,220,177	.	.	2,856,753
Total traffic carried	.	.	26,003,372	.	.	25,999,448
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	12,924	26,056	209,288	11,086	22,219	164,597
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	1,360	.	18,571	1,617	.	22,821
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	2,211,317	.	.	3,092,739

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 2013			December 2012		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	8,055,198	.	.	8,272,378
Container-on-flat-car	61,256	119,055	973,535	62,315	121,681	1,007,626
Trailer-on-flat-car	4,465	.	65,001	3,589	.	48,224
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	725,797	.	.	740,376
Total traffic carried	.	.	9,819,531	.	.	10,068,604
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	5,035	11,063	68,508	4,749	10,023	63,626
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	8	.	104	3	.	33
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	1,701,700	.	.	2,514,499

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 2013			December 2012		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	12,426,060	.	.	12,633,479
Container-on-flat-car	87,089	160,028	1,260,714	81,407	148,151	1,177,410
Trailer-on-flat-car	138	.	2,687	189	.	3,578
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	2,494,380	.	.	2,116,377
Total traffic carried	.	.	16,183,841	.	.	15,930,844
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	7,889	14,993	140,780	6,337	12,196	100,971
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	1,352	.	18,467	1,614	.	22,788
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	509,617	.	.	578,240

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 2013 to December 2013			January 2012 to December 2012		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	266,826,587	.	.	253,549,194
Container-on-flat-car	1,941,965	3,686,321	29,327,258	1,877,082	3,559,595	28,415,911
Trailer-on-flat-car	55,258	.	825,328	46,025	.	667,997
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	40,465,883	.	.	39,145,616
Total traffic carried	.	.	337,445,056	.	.	321,778,718
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	175,222	358,844	2,681,672	136,710	280,025	2,006,066
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	23,188	.	322,447	24,525	.	348,703
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	29,703,406	.	.	35,245,800

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 2013 to December 2013			January 2012 to December 2012		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	106,648,484	.	.	101,907,450
Container-on-flat-car	842,575	1,644,725	13,471,619	813,590	1,595,919	13,011,555
Trailer-on-flat-car	51,918	.	760,043	42,576	.	596,217
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	8,993,011	.	.	9,639,397
Total traffic carried	.	.	129,873,157	.	.	125,154,619
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	73,643	160,835	939,860	64,961	139,296	854,017
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	16	.	183	33	.	392
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	23,239,497	.	.	27,857,428

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 2013 to December 2013			January 2012 to December 2012		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	160,178,103	.	.	151,641,744
Container-on-flat-car	1,099,390	2,041,596	15,855,639	1,063,492	1,963,676	15,404,356
Trailer-on-flat-car	3,340	.	65,285	3,449	.	71,780
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	31,472,872	.	.	29,506,219
Total traffic carried	.	.	207,571,899	.	.	196,624,099
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	101,579	198,009	1,741,812	71,749	140,729	1,152,049
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	23,172	.	322,264	24,492	.	348,311
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	6,463,909	.	.	7,388,372

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 2014

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 ($p < 0.05$)

To access this product

This product, Catalogue no. 52-001-X, is available free in electronic format. To obtain a single issue, visit our website, www.statcan.gc.ca and browse by "Key resource" > "Publications."

Frequency: Monthly / ISSN 1496-8592

For information on the wide range of data available from Statistics Canada, please call our national inquiries line at 1-800-263-1136.

Cette publication est également disponible en français.

Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada. © Minister of Industry, 2014.

All rights reserved. Use of this publication is governed by the *Statistics Canada Open License Agreement*.

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/reference/copyright-droit-auteur-eng.htm>

Standards of service to the public

Statistics Canada is committed to serving its clients in a prompt, reliable and courteous manner. To this end, Statistics Canada has developed *standards of service* that its employees observe.

To obtain a copy of these service standards, please contact Statistics Canada toll-free at 1-800-263-1136. The service standards are also published on www.statcan.gc.ca under "About us" > "The agency" > "Providing services to Canadians."

Note of appreciation

Canada owes the success of its statistical system to a long-standing partnership between Statistics Canada, the citizens of Canada, its businesses, governments and other institutions. Accurate and timely statistical information could not be produced without their continued cooperation and goodwill.