



Monthly Railway Carloadings

All prices exclude sales tax

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Highlights

March 2004

Canadian railways recorded their largest monthly increase in freight in more than five years in March, thanks to bigger loads of coal, wheat, potash, lumber and canola.

Railways loaded a total 24.7 million metric tonnes, a gain of 3.8 million tonnes, or 18%, from February. This was the largest monthly increase since January 1999.

Non-intermodal freight totalled 22.4 million tonnes, an 18.5% increase from February. This freight load occupied 286,000 carloads. All commodities except gaseous hydrocarbons incurred large increases.

The top five commodity groupings by metric tonnes and number of rail cars, March 2004

Commodity Grouping	Millions of tonnes	Commodity Grouping	Thousands of rail cars
Coal	3.1	Coal	31.1
Iron ores	2.7	Iron ores	29.6
Potash	1.5	Wheat	16.4
Wheat	1.4	Potash	15.6
Lumber	1.2	Lumber	14.8

These top five groups of commodities accounted for 44% of the March tonnage and 37% of the total car loadings.

The intermodal portion, that is containers and trailers hauled on flat cars, also showed an important increase up 13.7%. Loadings totalled 2.3 million tonnes in March, and accounted for 9.3% of the total tonnage.

Freight coming from the United States, either destined for or passing through Canada, reached 2.9 million tonnes, a 14% increase from February.

On a year-over-year basis, non-intermodal tonnage for March was up 16.1% from March last year. Intermodal traffic was up 6.2%, while traffic received from the United States rose 4.5%. The year over year figures include an increase in coverage.

On a quarterly basis, the cumulative total for non intermodal loadings went from 54.6 million tones in 2003 to 60 million tones in 2004, up 9.9%. Intermodal loadings totalled 6.4 million tonnes, up 4.9%, while traffic received from the United States and destined for Canada reached 8.1 million tonnes, up 4.3% from the first three months of 2003.

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For further information please contact Transportation Statistics, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0T6 (Telephone: 1-866-500-8400, Internet: TransportationStatistics@statcan.ca).

May 2004

Note of Appreciation

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Table 1

Railway Carloading Statistics for Non-Intermodal Traffic by Commodity in Canada - Total¹

Commodity	March 2004		March 2003	
	Cars	Metric tonnes	Cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	15,610	1,396,201	11,308	1,014,330
Other cereal grains	6,147	491,450	1,393	107,828
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	1,818	155,749	562	44,486
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	5,440	434,193	3,155	244,247
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	675	51,849	347	28,571
Animal feed and products	2,237	177,719	1,728	138,011
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	1	55	3	193
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	1,013	78,155	935	71,041
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	3,109	248,692	1,754	142,368
Sugar	390	34,085	328	28,977
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	293	17,966	226	9,602
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	66	5,165	73	5,413
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	3,302	279,757	4,232	344,726
Salt	1,432	127,435	1,361	121,876
Phosphate rock	947	85,662	945	85,754
Sulphur	7,186	687,019	6,462	622,541
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ²	5,263	443,299	6,338	524,570
Iron ores and concentrates	29,610	2,714,648	30,049	2,730,450
Copper ores and concentrates	1,271	111,868	1,219	106,720
Nickel ores and concentrates	3,119	226,334	2,765	198,040
Lead ores and concentrates	368	32,792	388	34,634
Zinc ores and concentrates	1,213	108,282	1,330	118,575
Other metallic ores and concentrates	390	34,370	391	34,148
Coal	31,134	3,096,441	24,283	2,426,477
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	2,375	178,297	2,466	185,094
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	5,831	470,773	6,308	502,683
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	6,161	399,215	6,821	439,668
Coal coke and petroleum coke	1,893	117,051	1,542	98,935
Other refined petroleum and coal products	2,736	211,725	2,051	154,563
Sulphuric acid	2,566	226,502	2,515	221,803
Alumina	6,170	559,547	4,574	422,814
Other basic chemicals	8,727	756,116	7,154	613,525
Potash	16,387	1,548,685	15,471	1,470,928
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	5,168	435,051	4,520	381,492
Other chemical products and preparations	908	78,102	750	64,323
Plastic and rubber	4,361	374,587	4,276	364,883
Logs and other wood in the rough	4,386	267,030	4,221	262,033
Wood chips	6,661	385,370	6,159	360,505
Lumber	14,794	1,181,382	12,314	972,133
Other wood products (plywood, veneer et cetera)	6,399	488,301	5,054	386,191
Wood pulp	12,215	978,109	11,165	911,093
Newsprint	7,295	472,635	6,136	385,475
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	4,524	289,448	3,910	252,814
Cement	2,029	186,127	1,547	142,479
Other non-metallic mineral products	592	46,065	415	32,183
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	5,571	464,762	4,102	339,659
Copper, primary or semi-finished	481	40,569	310	26,634
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	2,604	211,104	2,289	181,874
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	887	71,361	882	69,966
Articles of base metal	936	66,538	768	54,845
Machinery	104	4,137	109	6,199
Automobiles and mini-vans	10,894	184,407	10,728	175,911
Freight motor vehicles	10,300	180,299	9,245	166,771
Other vehicles	846	18,724	818	16,805
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	3,075	101,405	2,374	74,544
Other transportation equipment	1,308	42,399	1,155	36,336
Metallic waste and scrap	2,780	219,432	2,918	231,280
Non-metallic waste and scrap	682	37,228	607	35,873
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	281	18,123	245	14,737
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	684	30,833	625	28,994
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	535	12,678	429	24,005
Less than carload shipments	...	34	...	19
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded³	286,180	22,393,337	248,548	19,293,647

See footnote(s) at the end of tables.

Table 2
Railway Carloading Statistics for Non-Intermodal Traffic by Commodity in Canada - Eastern Division

Commodity	March 2004		March 2003	
	Cars	Metric tonnes	Cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	586	52,052	346	31,371
Other cereal grains	251	20,977	126	10,643
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	15	1,193	47	4,165
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	3	238	0	0
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	18	1,378	37	3,303
Animal feed and products	1,181	91,680	1,017	80,049
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	1	55	2	120
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	50	4,021	45	3,740
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	311	23,337	219	16,773
Sugar	293	25,486	286	25,164
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	10	767	113	2,768
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	25	1,729	36	2,371
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	1,452	114,887	1,505	104,094
Salt	1,154	103,477	1,064	96,146
Phosphate rock	947	85,662	945	85,754
Sulphur	179	15,696	118	10,446
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ²	4,831	404,723	5,926	488,001
Iron ores and concentrates	29,610	2,714,648	30,049	2,730,450
Copper ores and concentrates	622	53,984	661	56,687
Nickel ores and concentrates	3,119	226,334	2,765	198,040
Lead ores and concentrates	150	13,485	142	12,765
Zinc ores and concentrates	1,030	92,046	1,075	95,999
Other metallic ores and concentrates	281	24,590	284	24,529
Coal	2,491	214,847	2,778	246,666
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	1,976	147,585	2,104	158,482
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	3,175	254,361	3,746	299,225
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	3,297	216,725	3,409	224,315
Coal coke and petroleum coke	1,184	64,074	824	42,069
Other refined petroleum and coal products	1,363	102,894	1,045	76,502
Sulphuric acid	2,246	198,135	2,161	190,808
Alumina	6,170	559,547	4,574	422,814
Other basic chemicals	3,569	300,619	2,582	211,777
Potash	1,355	124,197	1,549	141,900
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	311	27,522	177	15,256
Other chemical products and preparations	781	68,449	638	55,307
Plastic and rubber	2,138	178,818	2,099	175,053
Logs and other wood in the rough	2,459	135,654	2,387	125,406
Wood chips	1,546	82,873	1,363	78,101
Lumber	4,590	360,955	4,010	309,584
Other wood products (plywood, veneer et cetera)	2,204	164,454	1,579	117,964
Wood pulp	4,174	324,407	3,705	305,985
Newsprint	6,349	409,011	5,123	317,716
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	3,676	234,499	3,062	195,360
Cement	1,138	103,762	658	58,812
Other non-metallic mineral products	261	19,734	159	11,671
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	4,968	411,971	3,676	302,363
Copper, primary or semi-finished	390	33,262	211	17,653
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	2,592	210,226	2,273	180,483
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	452	38,876	418	35,540
Articles of base metal	550	39,029	319	21,880
Machinery	84	3,001	102	5,715
Automobiles and mini-vans	8,604	156,159	8,334	146,449
Freight motor vehicles	9,673	172,736	8,724	160,805
Other vehicles	843	18,509	815	16,610
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	3,075	101,405	2,372	74,370
Other transportation equipment	1,128	35,672	943	27,920
Metallic waste and scrap	1,698	134,017	2,034	165,472
Non-metallic waste and scrap	333	20,361	327	20,858
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	172	12,667	139	10,106
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	679	30,653	620	28,763
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	289	8,007	267	9,827
Less than carload shipments	...	34	...	19
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded³	138,102	9,792,152	128,114	9,088,984

See footnote(s) at the end of tables.

Table 3

Railway Carloading Statistics for Non-Intermodal Traffic by Commodity in Canada - Western Division

Commodity	March 2004		March 2003	
	Cars	Metric tonnes	Cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	15,024	1,344,149	10,962	982,959
Other cereal grains	5,896	470,473	1,267	97,185
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	1,803	154,556	515	40,321
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	5,437	433,955	3,155	244,247
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	657	50,471	310	25,268
Animal feed and products	1,056	86,039	711	57,962
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	0	0	1	73
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	963	74,134	890	67,301
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	2,798	225,355	1,535	125,595
Sugar	97	8,599	42	3,813
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	283	17,199	113	6,834
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	41	3,436	37	3,042
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	1,850	164,870	2,727	240,632
Salt	278	23,958	297	25,730
Phosphate rock	0	0	0	0
Sulphur	7,007	671,323	6,344	612,095
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ²	432	38,576	412	36,569
Iron ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Copper ores and concentrates	649	57,884	558	50,033
Nickel ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Lead ores and concentrates	218	19,307	246	21,869
Zinc ores and concentrates	183	16,236	255	22,576
Other metallic ores and concentrates	109	9,780	107	9,619
Coal	28,643	2,881,594	21,505	2,179,811
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	399	30,712	362	26,612
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	2,656	216,412	2,562	203,458
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	2,864	182,490	3,412	215,353
Coal coke and petroleum coke	709	52,977	718	56,866
Other refined petroleum and coal products	1,373	108,831	1,006	78,061
Sulphuric acid	320	28,367	354	30,995
Alumina	0	0	0	0
Other basic chemicals	5,158	455,497	4,572	401,748
Potash	15,032	1,424,488	13,922	1,329,028
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	4,857	407,529	4,343	366,236
Other chemical products and preparations	127	9,653	112	9,016
Plastic and rubber	2,223	195,769	2,177	189,830
Logs and other wood in the rough	1,927	131,376	1,834	136,627
Wood chips	5,115	302,497	4,796	282,404
Lumber	10,204	820,427	8,304	662,549
Other wood products (plywood, veneer et cetera)	4,195	323,847	3,475	268,227
Wood pulp	8,041	653,702	7,460	605,108
Newsprint	946	63,624	1,013	67,759
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	848	54,949	848	57,454
Cement	891	82,365	889	83,667
Other non-metallic mineral products	331	26,331	256	20,512
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	603	52,791	426	37,296
Copper, primary or semi-finished	91	7,307	99	8,981
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	12	878	16	1,391
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	435	32,485	464	34,426
Articles of base metal	386	27,509	449	32,965
Machinery	20	1,136	7	484
Automobiles and mini-vans	2,290	28,248	2,394	29,462
Freight motor vehicles	627	7,563	521	5,966
Other vehicles	3	215	3	195
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	0	0	2	174
Other transportation equipment	180	6,727	212	8,416
Metallic waste and scrap	1,082	85,415	884	65,808
Non-metallic waste and scrap	349	16,867	280	15,015
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	109	5,456	106	4,631
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	5	180	5	231
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	246	4,671	162	14,178
Less than carload shipments	...	0	...	0
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded³	148,078	12,601,185	120,434	10,204,663

See footnote(s) at the end of tables.

Table 4
Railway Carloading Statistics for Non-Intermodal Traffic by Commodity in Canada (YTD) - Total¹

Commodity	January 2004 to March 2004		January 2003 to March 2003	
	Cars	Metric tonnes	Cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	42,878	3,848,175	27,012	2,438,964
Other cereal grains	14,590	1,170,292	5,296	409,666
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	4,483	385,686	2,704	222,164
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	11,988	955,728	7,567	589,763
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	1,275	98,201	738	61,120
Animal feed and products	5,857	470,392	4,594	365,155
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	2	138	3	193
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	2,648	204,333	2,642	199,692
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	8,181	655,744	4,963	405,455
Sugar	1,113	97,175	924	81,446
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	758	46,892	579	25,847
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	189	14,870	225	17,129
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	8,862	754,014	8,714	722,281
Salt	4,538	406,531	4,402	389,641
Phosphate rock	2,586	234,138	2,476	223,104
Sulphur	20,348	1,944,366	17,912	1,722,618
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ²	14,621	1,220,297	13,925	1,174,645
Iron ores and concentrates	86,107	7,813,549	81,275	7,371,389
Copper ores and concentrates	3,658	321,736	3,260	285,751
Nickel ores and concentrates	8,407	609,565	7,716	557,029
Lead ores and concentrates	1,061	94,654	1,280	113,960
Zinc ores and concentrates	3,464	308,828	3,444	306,964
Other metallic ores and concentrates	1,064	92,523	1,099	96,141
Coal	76,194	7,552,326	77,448	7,723,354
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	6,185	465,410	6,521	491,885
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	16,839	1,365,952	18,131	1,446,257
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	22,617	1,445,884	23,877	1,544,694
Coal coke and petroleum coke	5,238	329,463	4,664	290,872
Other refined petroleum and coal products	7,556	583,075	6,529	487,015
Sulphuric acid	6,872	607,816	7,147	631,695
Alumina	16,123	1,470,051	11,911	1,099,263
Other basic chemicals	23,192	2,010,747	21,724	1,869,473
Potash	42,002	3,960,648	40,460	3,848,537
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	13,743	1,151,965	13,651	1,147,075
Other chemical products and preparations	2,204	187,900	2,154	185,387
Plastic and rubber	12,575	1,073,908	12,741	1,084,334
Logs and other wood in the rough	11,853	745,946	12,769	804,033
Wood chips	18,094	1,054,547	17,691	1,036,278
Lumber	37,486	2,998,912	35,764	2,847,907
Other wood products (plywood, veneer et cetera)	17,062	1,305,213	14,874	1,144,190
Wood pulp	34,326	2,746,368	32,293	2,631,174
Newsprint	20,178	1,313,415	17,406	1,091,359
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	12,415	801,051	12,340	798,732
Cement	4,737	433,977	4,071	373,903
Other non-metallic mineral products	1,481	112,456	1,152	87,795
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	15,513	1,291,697	11,607	967,377
Copper, primary or semi-finished	1,301	110,761	988	86,183
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	7,280	591,798	6,820	547,393
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	2,399	191,056	2,507	199,609
Articles of base metal	2,538	180,685	1,831	133,025
Machinery	244	8,280	335	22,333
Automobiles and mini-vans	27,950	469,550	29,318	481,910
Freight motor vehicles	25,497	449,256	25,509	461,308
Other vehicles	2,274	49,987	2,322	46,810
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	8,232	270,030	7,211	222,917
Other transportation equipment	2,939	106,359	3,873	98,265
Metallic waste and scrap	7,029	541,246	7,677	606,760
Non-metallic waste and scrap	1,862	103,756	1,927	113,127
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	751	45,676	707	42,899
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	1,785	84,931	1,793	86,148
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	1,379	41,224	1,076	52,879
Less than carload shipments	...	80	...	54
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded³	766,623	60,001,229	703,569	54,614,326

See footnote(s) at the end of tables.

Table 5
Railway Carloading Statistics for Non-Intermodal Traffic by Commodity in Canada (YTD) - Eastern Division

Commodity	January 2004 to March 2004		January 2003 to March 2003	
	Cars	Metric tonnes	Cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	1,472	131,421	839	76,000
Other cereal grains	653	54,383	397	33,787
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	42	3,389	137	11,891
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	19	1,530	3	229
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	140	12,006	154	13,339
Animal feed and products	3,207	252,226	3,000	236,735
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	1	55	2	120
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	150	12,186	121	10,188
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	695	52,745	555	42,856
Sugar	876	76,263	810	71,042
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	19	1,421	253	5,448
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	74	5,298	104	7,135
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	3,498	275,354	2,932	217,191
Salt	3,081	277,563	3,150	284,816
Phosphate rock	2,586	234,138	2,476	223,104
Sulphur	399	35,279	320	28,312
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ²	13,488	1,118,829	12,818	1,076,864
Iron ores and concentrates	86,107	7,813,549	81,275	7,371,389
Copper ores and concentrates	1,997	173,257	1,640	140,731
Nickel ores and concentrates	8,407	609,565	7,716	557,029
Lead ores and concentrates	480	43,152	415	37,308
Zinc ores and concentrates	2,894	258,484	2,785	248,378
Other metallic ores and concentrates	789	67,845	798	69,273
Coal	5,691	488,325	6,855	567,620
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	5,043	376,741	5,388	406,202
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	9,169	737,082	10,679	855,729
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	12,229	796,241	12,260	811,581
Coal coke and petroleum coke	3,128	167,931	2,641	132,262
Other refined petroleum and coal products	3,765	284,252	3,344	244,842
Sulphuric acid	5,980	528,707	6,065	536,482
Alumina	16,123	1,470,051	11,911	1,099,263
Other basic chemicals	9,900	834,184	7,499	616,244
Potash	3,070	281,188	3,466	318,078
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	907	80,661	547	47,964
Other chemical products and preparations	1,875	162,625	1,909	165,679
Plastic and rubber	6,348	528,238	6,291	523,027
Logs and other wood in the rough	6,034	345,283	6,399	338,952
Wood chips	4,466	246,791	3,959	229,918
Lumber	11,309	889,887	11,238	876,319
Other wood products (plywood, veneer et cetera)	5,601	420,938	4,456	337,188
Wood pulp	12,424	958,569	10,681	879,198
Newsprint	17,482	1,129,476	14,394	892,409
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	10,036	646,790	9,741	622,687
Cement	2,572	231,704	1,919	171,144
Other non-metallic mineral products	801	59,456	446	33,499
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	13,894	1,150,103	10,094	834,657
Copper, primary or semi-finished	1,119	96,147	690	59,149
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	7,230	587,965	6,778	543,871
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	1,131	96,912	1,104	94,301
Articles of base metal	1,380	98,184	933	66,911
Machinery	208	6,218	308	20,696
Automobiles and mini-vans	21,892	394,139	22,884	401,822
Freight motor vehicles	24,262	435,289	24,171	445,590
Other vehicles	2,259	49,341	2,319	46,615
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	8,205	269,468	7,209	222,743
Other transportation equipment	2,359	83,723	3,145	73,134
Metallic waste and scrap	4,295	334,564	5,040	410,443
Non-metallic waste and scrap	898	56,081	1,045	66,535
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	385	28,570	417	30,326
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	1,771	84,551	1,684	76,736
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	852	29,473	806	30,839
Less than carload shipments	...	80	...	54
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded³	377,167	26,975,866	353,415	24,893,874

See footnote(s) at the end of tables.

Table 6

Railway Carloading Statistics for Non-Intermodal Traffic by Commodity in Canada (YTD) - Western Division

Commodity	January 2004 to March 2004		January 2003 to March 2003	
	Cars	Metric tonnes	Cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	41,406	3,716,754	26,173	2,362,964
Other cereal grains	13,937	1,115,909	4,899	375,879
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	4,441	382,297	2,567	210,273
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	11,969	954,198	7,564	589,534
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	1,135	86,195	584	47,781
Animal feed and products	2,650	218,166	1,594	128,420
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	1	83	1	73
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	2,498	192,147	2,521	189,504
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	7,486	602,999	4,408	362,599
Sugar	237	20,912	114	10,404
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	739	45,471	326	20,399
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	115	9,572	121	9,994
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	5,364	478,660	5,782	505,090
Salt	1,457	128,968	1,252	104,825
Phosphate rock	0	0	0	0
Sulphur	19,949	1,909,087	17,592	1,694,306
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ²	1,133	101,468	1,107	97,781
Iron ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Copper ores and concentrates	1,661	148,479	1,620	145,020
Nickel ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Lead ores and concentrates	581	51,502	865	76,652
Zinc ores and concentrates	570	50,344	659	58,586
Other metallic ores and concentrates	275	24,678	301	26,868
Coal	70,503	7,064,001	70,593	7,155,734
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	1,142	88,669	1,133	85,683
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	7,670	628,870	7,452	590,528
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	10,388	649,643	11,617	733,113
Coal coke and petroleum coke	2,110	161,532	2,023	158,610
Other refined petroleum and coal products	3,791	298,823	3,185	242,173
Sulphuric acid	892	79,109	1,082	95,213
Alumina	0	0	0	0
Other basic chemicals	13,292	1,176,563	14,225	1,253,229
Potash	38,932	3,679,460	36,994	3,530,459
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	12,836	1,071,304	13,104	1,099,111
Other chemical products and preparations	329	25,275	245	19,708
Plastic and rubber	6,227	545,670	6,450	561,307
Logs and other wood in the rough	5,819	400,663	6,370	465,081
Wood chips	13,628	807,756	13,732	806,360
Lumber	26,177	2,109,025	24,526	1,971,588
Other wood products (plywood, veneer et cetera)	11,461	884,275	10,418	807,002
Wood pulp	21,902	1,787,799	21,612	1,751,976
Newsprint	2,696	183,939	3,012	198,950
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	2,379	154,261	2,599	176,045
Cement	2,165	202,273	2,152	202,759
Other non-metallic mineral products	680	53,000	706	54,296
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	1,619	141,594	1,513	132,720
Copper, primary or semi-finished	182	14,614	298	27,034
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	50	3,833	42	3,522
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	1,268	94,144	1,403	105,308
Articles of base metal	1,158	82,501	898	66,114
Machinery	36	2,062	27	1,637
Automobiles and mini-vans	6,058	75,411	6,434	80,088
Freight motor vehicles	1,235	13,967	1,338	15,718
Other vehicles	15	646	3	195
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	27	562	2	174
Other transportation equipment	580	22,636	728	25,131
Metallic waste and scrap	2,734	206,682	2,637	196,317
Non-metallic waste and scrap	964	47,675	882	46,592
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	366	17,106	290	12,573
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	14	380	109	9,412
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	527	11,751	270	22,040
Less than carload shipments	...	0	...	0
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded³	389,456	33,025,363	350,154	29,720,452

See footnote(s) at the end of tables.

Table 7
Railway Carloading Statistics for Intermodal and Non-Intermodal Traffic in Canada - Total¹

	March 2004			March 2003		
	Units	TEUs ^e	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ^e	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded³			22,393,337			19,293,647
Container-on-flat-car	131,449	255,352	2,157,297	124,373	245,060	1,976,665
Trailer-on-flat-car	8,456	.	129,390	11,852	.	176,856
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	2,907,439	.	.	2,783,474
Total traffic carried³			27,587,463			24,230,642
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	18,415	35,838	279,860	16,782	32,381	218,946
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	1,429	.	20,481	2,480	.	34,318
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	4,928,848	.	.	4,466,984

See footnote(s) at the end of tables.

Table 8
Railway Carloading Statistics for Intermodal and Non-Intermodal Traffic in Canada - Eastern Division

	March 2004			March 2003		
	Units	TEUs ^e	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ^e	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded³			9,792,152			9,088,984
Container-on-flat-car	76,648	147,392	1,322,699	71,527	140,129	1,172,160
Trailer-on-flat-car	7,815	.	117,770	10,544	.	154,916
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	1,051,834	.	.	1,019,323
Total traffic carried³			12,284,455			11,435,383
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	4,837	9,356	87,585	5,016	9,693	62,849
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	437	.	7,958	500	.	9,040
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	3,638,009	.	.	3,186,186

See footnote(s) at the end of tables.

Table 9
Railway Carloading Statistics for Intermodal and Non-Intermodal Traffic in Canada - Western Division

	March 2004			March 2003		
	Units	TEUs ^e	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ^e	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded³			12,601,185			10,204,663
Container-on-flat-car	54,801	107,960	834,598	52,846	104,931	804,505
Trailer-on-flat-car	641	.	11,620	1,308	.	21,940
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	1,855,605	.	.	1,764,151
Total traffic carried³			15,303,008			12,795,259
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	13,578	26,482	192,275	11,766	22,688	156,097
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	992	.	12,523	1,980	.	25,278
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	1,290,839	.	.	1,280,798

See footnote(s) at the end of tables.

Table 10

Railway Carloading Statistics for Intermodal and Non-Intermodal Traffic in Canada (YTD) - Total¹

	January 2004 to March 2004			January 2003 to March 2003		
	Units	TEUs ^e	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ^e	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded³			60,001,229			54,614,326
Container-on-flat-car	364,022	712,355	5,961,585	350,040	690,249	5,590,453
Trailer-on-flat-car	26,034	.	401,161	32,384	.	476,856
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	8,062,482	.	.	7,730,558
Total traffic carried³			74,426,457			68,412,193
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	50,724	98,951	745,467	47,691	92,110	616,499
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	5,802	.	83,913	6,604	.	89,549
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	13,724,586	.	.	12,277,963

See footnote(s) at the end of tables.

Table 11

Railway Carloading Statistics for Intermodal and Non-Intermodal Traffic in Canada (YTD) - Eastern Division

	January 2004 to March 2004			January 2003 to March 2003		
	Units	TEUs ^e	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ^e	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded³			26,975,866			24,893,874
Container-on-flat-car	205,123	398,967	3,488,540	196,673	386,786	3,238,340
Trailer-on-flat-car	23,870	.	362,648	28,894	.	418,585
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	2,960,654	.	.	2,789,550
Total traffic carried³			33,787,708			31,340,349
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	13,672	26,720	230,728	14,853	28,468	181,992
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	1,902	.	34,773	1,407	.	24,627
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	10,208,627	.	.	8,524,965

See footnote(s) at the end of tables.

Table 12

Railway Carloading Statistics for Intermodal and Non-Intermodal Traffic in Canada (YTD) - Western Division

	January 2004 to March 2004			January 2003 to March 2003		
	Units	TEUs ^e	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ^e	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded³			33,025,363			29,720,452
Container-on-flat-car	158,899	313,388	2,473,045	153,367	303,463	2,352,113
Trailer-on-flat-car	2,164	.	38,513	3,490	.	58,271
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	5,101,828	.	.	4,941,008
Total traffic carried³			40,638,749			37,071,844
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	37,052	72,231	514,739	32,838	63,642	434,507
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	3,900	.	49,140	5,197	.	64,922
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	3,515,959	.	.	3,752,998

See footnote(s) at the end of tables.

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 and non-intermodal¹ traffic of the previous month. 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 Canada². 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.ca.)

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

² 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.

Footnotes:

- ¹ Data included in table 1 and 4 represent about 40 railway carriers.
- ² Includes carloadings of gypsum.
- ³ Excludes goods transported in containers or trailers on flat cars.

Symbols:

- . 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 *Statistics Act*
- E use with caution
- F too unreliable to be published

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