



# Monthly Railway Carloadings

**All prices exclude sales tax**

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## Highlights

### December 2003

Canadian railways carried slightly less tonnage overall in 2003 despite a record-setting second half of the year. Overall, tonnage declined a marginal 0.7% from 2002 to 259.8 million metric tonnes.

During the first half of the year, railways carried 125.1 million metric tonnes, the lowest level since 1999. However, in the second half, they carried a record 134.7 million metric tonnes, up 7.6% from the first six months of 2003.

On a quarterly basis, first-quarter tonnage was the lowest since 1999. However, tonnage rose 5.5% in the second quarter, 1.0% in the third and 7.6% in the fourth, all compared with the previous quarter.

Tonnage for intermodal traffic, which is “containers and trailers on flat cars”, rose 6.2% over 2002 to 26.3 million metric tonnes. Non-intermodal traffic was down 1.4% to 233.5 million metric tonnes.

In 2003, intermodal traffic made up 10% of the overall tonnage. This proportion has slowly increased since 1999 where it occupied a little less than 9%.

On a monthly basis, railway carloadings actually increased in December for the first time since 1999. Railways carried 23 million metric tonnes in December, up 100,000 tonnes, or 1%, from November. This was mostly due to a significant increase in wheat loadings and a smaller decline than usual in other commodities.

**The top five commodity groupings in metric tonnes and rail cars, December 2003**

Commodity Grouping	Millions of tonnes	Commodity Grouping	Thousands of rail cars
Iron ores & concentrates	2.7	Iron ores & concentrates	30
Coal	2.6	Coal	26
Wheat	1.7	Wheat	19
Potash	1.1	Wood pulp	12
Wood pulp	1.0	Lumber	12

These top five groups of commodities accounted for 43.7% of the December tonnage and for 37.9% of the car loadings.

February 2004

**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 and governments. Accurate and timely statistical information could not be produced without their continued cooperation and goodwill.

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In December 2003, the non-intermodal portion of freight loaded on Canadian railroads totalled 265 000 carloads and 20.9 million tonnes. This represents a 1.4% rise from November of this year and a 14.5% increase in tonnage over December of last year. Non intermodal freight represents approximately 91% of the total tonnage loaded on Canadian railways.

Loadings for the intermodal portion, which is "containers and trailers on flat cars", totalled 2.1 million tonnes. Intermodal loadings showed a 7.1% drop from November 2003 and a 3.9% rise from December 2002.

The cumulative total for January to December of 2003 (excluding intermodal loadings) climbed to 233.5 million tonnes, compared with 236.9 million tonnes for the same period in 2002.

Cumulative tonnage for intermodal traffic for January to December reached 26.3 million tonnes, compared with 24.8 million tonnes for the same period of 2002.

Traffic received from the United States destined for Canada or passing through Canada back into the United States reached 2.7 million tonnes, up 1.4% from November. From January to December, U.S. loadings destined for Canada reached 30.8 million tonnes, compared with 26.9 million tonnes in the same period of 2002.

Available on **Cansim**: table 4040002

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**Table 1**  
**Railway Carloading Statistics for Non-Intermodal Traffic by Commodity in Canada - Total<sup>1</sup>**

Commodity	December 2003		December 2002	
	Cars	Metric tonnes	Cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	19,018	1,713,646	5,518	493,975
Other cereal grains	5,126	414,617	2,234	176,674
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	2,035	177,809	1,150	95,912
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	5,897	468,673	2,958	231,090
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	712	57,011	875	70,695
Animal feed and products	1,865	149,175	1,475	114,774
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	2	109	1	62
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	885	68,280	923	69,256
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	2,713	216,535	1,696	138,487
Sugar	369	31,929	305	26,855
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	273	14,908	161	9,306
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	60	4,699	66	5,025
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	2,881	247,082	2,371	210,455
Salt	1,794	162,482	1,404	124,340
Phosphate rock	805	72,957	1,027	94,204
Sulphur	6,878	659,262	6,513	617,206
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals <sup>2</sup>	5,117	424,851	5,119	421,715
Iron ores and concentrates	30,074	2,738,134	28,943	2,648,297
Copper ores and concentrates	1,123	98,837	1,076	94,948
Nickel ores and concentrates	3,078	223,385	3,222	234,099
Lead ores and concentrates	265	23,555	411	36,465
Zinc ores and concentrates	1,295	115,318	1,207	107,295
Other metallic ores and concentrates	302	26,150	264	23,365
Coal	26,283	2,573,045	25,810	2,591,435
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	2,365	178,672	2,083	156,541
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	5,157	415,524	5,426	435,997
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	8,732	559,749	9,527	608,624
Coal coke and petroleum coke	1,638	105,480	2,342	152,693
Other refined petroleum and coal products	2,653	206,252	2,092	154,780
Sulphuric acid	2,424	214,085	2,367	207,070
Alumina	6,332	582,185	5,380	497,688
Other basic chemicals	6,862	589,375	7,213	614,301
Potash	11,514	1,095,792	9,002	863,949
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	4,560	380,001	4,887	411,269
Other chemical products and preparations	779	66,639	722	61,479
Plastic and rubber	4,554	388,991	4,340	368,588
Logs and other wood in the rough	3,811	250,713	3,550	215,042
Wood chips	6,076	358,462	5,768	336,112
Lumber	12,371	991,593	11,593	922,779
Other wood products (plywood, veneer et cetera)	5,772	445,953	5,352	414,442
Wood pulp	12,474	995,049	11,735	949,596
Newsprint	6,249	393,282	5,637	349,812
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	4,047	268,596	4,164	267,215
Cement	1,645	150,961	1,243	113,846
Other non-metallic mineral products	476	39,604	1,335	118,671
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	4,827	404,358	4,494	369,112
Copper, primary or semi-finished	501	43,953	361	31,706
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	2,726	220,731	2,185	174,312
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	718	56,834	750	59,647
Articles of base metal	649	50,171	920	66,790
Machinery	204	9,542	174	9,648
Automobiles and mini-vans	8,693	143,949	7,652	133,009
Freight motor vehicles	8,756	158,958	6,517	116,327
Other vehicles	659	14,460	570	11,484
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	2,275	72,033	1,795	52,339
Other transportation equipment	1,066	37,799	989	25,048
Metallic waste and scrap	2,359	183,626	2,275	182,497
Non-metallic waste and scrap	785	46,560	646	37,033
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	150	8,277	554	44,508
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	590	28,037	423	19,950
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	317	16,362	354	18,776
Less than carload shipments	...	25	...	0
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>264,616</b>	<b>20,855,082</b>	<b>231,146</b>	<b>18,208,615</b>

See footnote(s) at the end of tables.

Table 2

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

Commodity	December 2003		December 2002	
	Cars	Metric tonnes	Cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	358	31,896	148	13,352
Other cereal grains	316	27,944	134	11,421
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	19	1,644	29	2,312
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	23	1,220	21	1,049
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	56	5,052	86	7,445
Animal feed and products	1,031	81,268	936	71,989
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	2	109	1	62
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	61	4,697	41	3,351
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	252	18,795	234	18,249
Sugar	301	26,016	288	25,261
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	4	239	14	819
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	18	1,221	26	1,714
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	964	76,431	614	54,050
Salt	1,027	93,494	1,038	93,334
Phosphate rock	805	72,957	1,027	94,204
Sulphur	109	9,624	115	10,200
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals <sup>2</sup>	4,709	388,075	4,862	398,553
Iron ores and concentrates	30,074	2,738,134	28,943	2,648,297
Copper ores and concentrates	556	48,078	465	40,121
Nickel ores and concentrates	3,078	223,385	3,222	234,099
Lead ores and concentrates	80	7,192	145	13,035
Zinc ores and concentrates	1,067	95,166	1,029	91,563
Other metallic ores and concentrates	188	16,122	146	12,714
Coal	3,878	324,051	1,945	174,743
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	1,943	145,894	1,665	125,792
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	2,685	215,911	3,376	271,139
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	4,752	311,010	5,181	333,382
Coal coke and petroleum coke	1,002	56,635	1,600	95,936
Other refined petroleum and coal products	1,285	96,713	1,122	81,781
Sulphuric acid	2,149	189,664	2,010	176,082
Alumina	6,332	582,185	5,380	497,688
Other basic chemicals	3,040	251,376	2,579	205,365
Potash	791	72,500	192	17,700
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	252	22,474	242	21,428
Other chemical products and preparations	646	55,894	588	50,454
Plastic and rubber	2,251	186,632	2,149	178,505
Logs and other wood in the rough	1,956	113,759	1,982	104,354
Wood chips	1,575	87,583	1,333	76,415
Lumber	3,254	253,845	3,676	285,643
Other wood products (plywood, veneer et cetera)	1,910	145,419	1,858	142,840
Wood pulp	4,338	334,757	4,526	359,188
Newsprint	5,350	331,710	4,580	280,475
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	3,199	207,955	3,367	211,130
Cement	950	85,874	615	55,032
Other non-metallic mineral products	288	25,097	1,188	107,088
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	4,210	349,512	4,027	327,841
Copper, primary or semi-finished	382	33,158	263	22,816
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	2,716	219,953	2,177	173,663
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	364	31,588	318	27,533
Articles of base metal	408	30,169	334	25,025
Machinery	185	8,117	154	8,616
Automobiles and mini-vans	6,706	118,889	6,177	113,191
Freight motor vehicles	8,298	153,626	6,131	110,731
Other vehicles	657	14,404	570	11,484
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	2,273	71,852	1,795	52,339
Other transportation equipment	801	29,664	557	17,657
Metallic waste and scrap	1,431	112,689	1,469	119,464
Non-metallic waste and scrap	399	27,043	317	19,504
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	69	4,870	184	13,293
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	587	27,833	420	19,803
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	234	9,238	251	9,768
Less than carload shipments	...	25	...	0
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>128,644</b>	<b>9,308,327</b>	<b>119,862</b>	<b>8,772,082</b>

See footnote(s) at the end of tables.

Table 3

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

Commodity	December 2003		December 2002	
	Cars	Metric tonnes	Cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	18,660	1,681,750	5,370	480,623
Other cereal grains	4,810	386,673	2,100	165,253
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	2,016	176,165	1,121	93,600
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	5,874	467,453	2,937	230,041
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	656	51,959	789	63,250
Animal feed and products	834	67,907	539	42,785
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	0	0	0	0
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	824	63,583	882	65,905
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	2,461	197,740	1,462	120,238
Sugar	68	5,913	17	1,594
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	269	14,669	147	8,487
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	42	3,478	40	3,311
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	1,917	170,651	1,757	156,405
Salt	767	68,988	366	31,006
Phosphate rock	0	0	0	0
Sulphur	6,769	649,638	6,398	607,006
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals <sup>2</sup>	408	36,776	257	23,162
Iron ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Copper ores and concentrates	567	50,759	611	54,827
Nickel ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Lead ores and concentrates	185	16,363	266	23,430
Zinc ores and concentrates	228	20,152	178	15,732
Other metallic ores and concentrates	114	10,028	118	10,651
Coal	22,405	2,248,994	23,865	2,416,692
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	422	32,778	418	30,749
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	2,472	199,613	2,050	164,858
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	3,980	248,739	4,346	275,242
Coal coke and petroleum coke	636	48,845	742	56,757
Other refined petroleum and coal products	1,368	109,539	970	72,999
Sulphuric acid	275	24,421	357	30,988
Alumina	0	0	0	0
Other basic chemicals	3,822	337,999	4,634	408,936
Potash	10,723	1,023,292	8,810	846,249
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	4,308	357,527	4,645	389,841
Other chemical products and preparations	133	10,745	134	11,025
Plastic and rubber	2,303	202,359	2,191	190,083
Logs and other wood in the rough	1,855	136,954	1,568	110,688
Wood chips	4,501	270,879	4,435	259,697
Lumber	9,117	737,748	7,917	637,136
Other wood products (plywood, veneer et cetera)	3,862	300,534	3,494	271,602
Wood pulp	8,136	660,292	7,209	590,408
Newsprint	899	61,572	1,057	69,337
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	848	60,641	797	56,085
Cement	695	65,087	628	58,814
Other non-metallic mineral products	188	14,507	147	11,583
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	617	54,846	467	41,271
Copper, primary or semi-finished	119	10,795	98	8,890
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	10	778	8	649
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	354	25,246	432	32,114
Articles of base metal	241	20,002	586	41,765
Machinery	19	1,425	20	1,032
Automobiles and mini-vans	1,987	25,060	1,475	19,818
Freight motor vehicles	458	5,332	386	5,596
Other vehicles	2	56	0	0
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	2	181	0	0
Other transportation equipment	265	8,135	432	7,391
Metallic waste and scrap	928	70,937	806	63,033
Non-metallic waste and scrap	386	19,517	329	17,529
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	81	3,407	370	31,215
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	3	204	3	147
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	83	7,124	103	9,008
Less than carload shipments	...	0	...	0
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>135,972</b>	<b>11,546,755</b>	<b>111,284</b>	<b>9,436,533</b>

See footnote(s) at the end of tables.

Table 4

Railway Carloading Statistics for Non-Intermodal Traffic by Commodity in Canada (YTD) - Total<sup>1</sup>

Commodity	January 2003 to December 2003		January 2002 to December 2002	
	Cars	Metric tonnes	Cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	165,304	14,883,289	164,412	14,772,118
Other cereal grains	37,759	2,982,075	40,277	3,211,277
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	17,098	1,452,123	15,751	1,306,383
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	51,368	4,036,772	36,859	2,890,478
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	9,966	806,011	10,580	862,176
Animal feed and products	19,872	1,599,368	18,734	1,440,419
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	27	1,926	7	488
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	11,665	885,925	13,095	970,464
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	25,384	2,049,943	20,679	1,687,690
Sugar	4,378	383,863	3,910	339,757
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	2,981	134,721	1,833	105,121
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	890	67,642	1,216	89,234
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	35,651	3,030,343	34,382	2,939,493
Salt	15,425	1,377,961	15,310	1,356,805
Phosphate rock	11,028	997,445	11,078	1,010,890
Sulphur	76,817	7,388,377	74,274	7,070,191
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals <sup>2</sup>	62,371	5,276,605	67,524	5,714,722
Iron ores and concentrates	358,528	32,931,378	330,133	30,090,565
Copper ores and concentrates	12,834	1,131,031	14,716	1,290,160
Nickel ores and concentrates	23,093	1,673,627	32,278	2,342,605
Lead ores and concentrates	4,604	410,499	6,386	570,858
Zinc ores and concentrates	15,204	1,355,078	12,420	1,105,271
Other metallic ores and concentrates	4,221	369,018	4,229	372,412
Coal	307,310	30,605,781	350,952	35,170,729
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	27,993	2,105,005	27,005	2,027,965
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	63,438	5,088,248	55,016	4,339,271
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	77,478	4,993,932	77,195	4,955,392
Coal coke and petroleum coke	18,994	1,165,549	23,964	1,725,958
Other refined petroleum and coal products	28,564	2,181,333	30,430	2,319,201
Sulphuric acid	25,793	2,283,700	28,413	2,522,065
Alumina	63,568	5,849,602	64,325	5,909,080
Other basic chemicals	84,087	7,173,652	88,257	7,464,922
Potash	154,527	14,734,582	136,863	13,094,382
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	53,877	4,510,208	58,761	4,945,944
Other chemical products and preparations	8,539	729,440	10,177	871,731
Plastic and rubber	49,987	4,242,763	49,844	4,193,154
Logs and other wood in the rough	42,103	2,647,131	47,601	2,963,865
Wood chips	71,415	4,224,113	81,707	4,878,802
Lumber	153,565	12,209,438	156,903	12,276,801
Other wood products (plywood, veneer et cetera)	66,407	5,122,878	63,921	4,864,808
Wood pulp	133,616	10,619,570	139,922	11,301,321
Newsprint	70,023	4,410,828	71,302	4,380,429
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	50,167	3,305,534	55,421	3,672,253
Cement	24,711	2,262,102	26,525	2,410,397
Other non-metallic mineral products	5,763	459,481	17,319	1,505,074
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	48,397	4,035,052	54,408	4,432,121
Copper, primary or semi-finished	4,623	404,435	6,623	566,070
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	28,270	2,276,170	26,379	2,115,583
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	9,357	749,110	7,136	582,504
Articles of base metal	7,920	584,202	9,995	713,379
Machinery	2,932	148,137	2,601	136,657
Automobiles and mini-vans	117,370	1,992,887	118,131	2,054,129
Freight motor vehicles	98,536	1,768,172	99,286	1,790,095
Other vehicles	9,406	203,498	8,682	192,210
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	28,145	903,334	27,566	845,080
Other transportation equipment	13,756	448,107	12,481	317,705
Metallic waste and scrap	31,701	2,436,942	27,948	2,173,980
Non-metallic waste and scrap	8,550	518,493	9,877	603,782
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	3,110	192,707	5,105	377,661
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	8,262	404,675	8,072	382,160
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	4,935	269,755	5,461	294,977
Less than carload shipments	...	298	...	32
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>2,973,663</b>	<b>233,485,864</b>	<b>3,021,657</b>	<b>236,911,246</b>

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 2003 to December 2003		January 2002 to December 2002	
	Cars	Metric tonnes	Cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	5,165	462,734	2,649	238,667
Other cereal grains	2,162	185,060	1,992	164,270
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	493	42,359	600	51,498
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	353	21,122	329	18,960
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	1,160	102,732	979	86,312
Animal feed and products	11,274	892,268	10,896	818,293
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	14	819	5	332
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	670	54,486	793	59,896
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	2,303	175,212	2,143	161,751
Sugar	3,720	325,132	3,528	304,527
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	365	12,779	211	12,738
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	421	28,990	761	51,623
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	13,010	1,022,386	12,259	995,175
Salt	10,639	965,614	11,145	1,001,808
Phosphate rock	11,028	997,445	11,078	1,010,890
Sulphur	1,257	111,040	1,276	112,239
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals <sup>2</sup>	56,838	4,783,237	62,250	5,244,191
Iron ores and concentrates	358,388	32,918,776	330,132	30,090,478
Copper ores and concentrates	6,218	537,561	7,830	673,413
Nickel ores and concentrates	23,093	1,673,627	32,278	2,342,605
Lead ores and concentrates	1,592	142,586	1,821	164,042
Zinc ores and concentrates	12,180	1,086,327	11,343	1,008,314
Other metallic ores and concentrates	2,630	227,097	2,914	254,009
Coal	31,679	2,690,234	31,147	2,727,669
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	22,022	1,654,472	21,691	1,645,974
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	38,325	3,064,327	31,013	2,440,358
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	45,274	2,948,221	44,565	2,864,716
Coal coke and petroleum coke	11,744	600,260	16,128	1,119,919
Other refined petroleum and coal products	13,951	1,038,332	16,185	1,191,772
Sulphuric acid	21,686	1,921,002	25,006	2,221,048
Alumina	63,567	5,849,511	64,256	5,903,991
Other basic chemicals	32,516	2,631,991	31,598	2,504,859
Potash	11,453	1,050,831	8,055	739,084
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	3,459	309,464	4,150	371,774
Other chemical products and preparations	7,229	623,078	8,292	710,570
Plastic and rubber	24,791	2,050,559	25,808	2,120,058
Logs and other wood in the rough	24,656	1,343,794	26,576	1,393,753
Wood chips	18,418	1,057,105	18,491	1,092,774
Lumber	46,844	3,614,870	51,285	3,855,128
Other wood products (plywood, veneer et cetera)	22,210	1,705,448	25,891	1,964,249
Wood pulp	47,365	3,671,359	53,343	4,189,825
Newsprint	58,855	3,656,613	57,599	3,515,581
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	39,837	2,584,286	39,247	2,493,425
Cement	13,259	1,195,306	12,806	1,144,153
Other non-metallic mineral products	2,663	210,002	13,802	1,217,761
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	41,888	3,459,993	46,961	3,826,544
Copper, primary or semi-finished	3,584	310,188	3,978	346,201
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	28,082	2,260,859	26,020	2,086,479
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	4,108	353,320	3,849	333,561
Articles of base metal	3,968	281,005	4,370	307,506
Machinery	2,728	134,732	2,129	106,850
Automobiles and mini-vans	92,674	1,686,370	93,164	1,725,426
Freight motor vehicles	93,309	1,710,304	94,588	1,727,995
Other vehicles	9,047	191,290	8,016	169,553
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	28,128	901,931	27,554	844,688
Other transportation equipment	10,836	339,473	7,376	177,003
Metallic waste and scrap	20,718	1,624,778	17,373	1,377,880
Non-metallic waste and scrap	4,249	266,845	4,161	254,262
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	1,345	94,222	1,844	130,421
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	8,106	392,471	7,952	375,597
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	3,454	143,262	4,010	166,759
Less than carload shipments	...	298	...	32
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>1,483,000</b>	<b>106,391,795</b>	<b>1,489,491</b>	<b>106,251,229</b>

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 2003 to December 2003		January 2002 to December 2002	
	Cars	Metric tonnes	Cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	160,139	14,420,555	161,763	14,533,451
Other cereal grains	35,597	2,797,015	38,285	3,047,007
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	16,605	1,409,764	15,151	1,254,885
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	51,015	4,015,650	36,530	2,871,518
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	8,806	703,279	9,601	775,864
Animal feed and products	8,598	707,100	7,838	622,126
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	13	1,107	2	156
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	10,995	831,439	12,302	910,568
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	23,081	1,874,731	18,536	1,525,939
Sugar	658	58,731	382	35,230
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	2,616	121,942	1,622	92,383
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	469	38,652	455	37,611
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	22,641	2,007,957	22,123	1,944,318
Salt	4,786	412,347	4,165	354,997
Phosphate rock	0	0	0	0
Sulphur	75,560	7,277,337	72,998	6,957,952
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals <sup>2</sup>	5,533	493,368	5,274	470,531
Iron ores and concentrates	140	12,602	1	87
Copper ores and concentrates	6,616	593,470	6,886	616,747
Nickel ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Lead ores and concentrates	3,012	267,913	4,565	406,816
Zinc ores and concentrates	3,024	268,751	1,077	96,957
Other metallic ores and concentrates	1,591	141,921	1,315	118,403
Coal	275,631	27,915,547	319,805	32,443,060
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	5,971	450,533	5,314	381,991
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	25,113	2,023,921	24,003	1,898,913
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	32,204	2,045,711	32,630	2,090,676
Coal coke and petroleum coke	7,250	565,289	7,836	606,039
Other refined petroleum and coal products	14,613	1,143,001	14,245	1,127,429
Sulphuric acid	4,107	362,698	3,407	301,017
Alumina	1	91	69	5,089
Other basic chemicals	51,571	4,541,661	56,659	4,960,063
Potash	143,074	13,683,751	128,808	12,355,298
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	50,418	4,200,744	54,611	4,574,170
Other chemical products and preparations	1,310	106,362	1,885	161,161
Plastic and rubber	25,196	2,192,204	24,036	2,073,096
Logs and other wood in the rough	17,447	1,303,337	21,025	1,570,112
Wood chips	52,997	3,167,008	63,216	3,786,028
Lumber	106,721	8,594,568	105,618	8,421,673
Other wood products (plywood, veneer et cetera)	44,197	3,417,430	38,030	2,900,559
Wood pulp	86,251	6,948,211	86,579	7,111,496
Newsprint	11,168	754,215	13,703	864,848
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	10,330	721,248	16,174	1,178,828
Cement	11,452	1,066,796	13,719	1,266,244
Other non-metallic mineral products	3,100	249,479	3,517	287,313
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	6,509	575,059	7,447	605,577
Copper, primary or semi-finished	1,039	94,247	2,645	219,869
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	188	15,311	359	29,104
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	5,249	395,790	3,287	248,943
Articles of base metal	3,952	303,197	5,625	405,873
Machinery	204	13,405	472	29,807
Automobiles and mini-vans	24,696	306,517	24,967	328,703
Freight motor vehicles	5,227	57,868	4,698	62,100
Other vehicles	359	12,208	666	22,657
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	17	1,403	12	392
Other transportation equipment	2,920	108,634	5,105	140,702
Metallic waste and scrap	10,983	812,164	10,575	796,100
Non-metallic waste and scrap	4,301	251,648	5,716	349,520
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	1,765	98,485	3,261	247,240
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	156	12,204	120	6,563
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	1,481	126,493	1,451	128,218
Less than carload shipments	...	0	...	0
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>1,490,663</b>	<b>127,094,069</b>	<b>1,532,166</b>	<b>130,660,017</b>

See footnote(s) at the end of tables.



**Table 7**  
**Railway Carloading Statistics for Intermodal and Non-Intermodal Traffic in Canada - Total<sup>1</sup>**

	December 2003			December 2002		
	Units	TEUs <sup>e</sup>	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs <sup>e</sup>	Metric tonnes
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded<sup>3</sup></b>			<b>20,855,082</b>			<b>18,208,615</b>
Container-on-flat-car	120,978	237,415	1,975,530	120,103	235,016	1,907,029
Trailer-on-flat-car	9,786	.	147,014	9,467	.	136,258
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	2,718,070	.	.	2,291,216
<b>Total traffic carried<sup>3</sup></b>			<b>25,695,696</b>			<b>22,543,118</b>
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	14,476	28,220	206,185	14,046	27,161	179,883
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	1,662	.	20,251	2,011	.	26,325
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	4,165,683	.	.	4,066,436

See footnote(s) at the end of tables.

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

	December 2003			December 2002		
	Units	TEUs <sup>e</sup>	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs <sup>e</sup>	Metric tonnes
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded<sup>3</sup></b>			<b>9,308,327</b>			<b>8,772,082</b>
Container-on-flat-car	67,729	132,334	1,130,246	65,119	127,208	1,068,050
Trailer-on-flat-car	9,001	.	132,971	8,337	.	117,194
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	902,318	.	.	914,537
<b>Total traffic carried<sup>3</sup></b>			<b>11,473,862</b>			<b>10,871,863</b>
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	4,317	8,531	66,989	5,255	9,746	64,156
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	406	.	6,591	1,127	.	15,084
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	2,905,749	.	.	2,793,958

See footnote(s) at the end of tables.

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

	December 2003			December 2002		
	Units	TEUs <sup>e</sup>	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs <sup>e</sup>	Metric tonnes
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded<sup>3</sup></b>			<b>11,546,755</b>			<b>9,436,533</b>
Container-on-flat-car	53,249	105,081	845,284	54,984	107,808	838,979
Trailer-on-flat-car	785	.	14,043	1,130	.	19,064
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	1,815,752	.	.	1,376,679
<b>Total traffic carried<sup>3</sup></b>			<b>14,221,834</b>			<b>11,671,255</b>
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	10,159	19,689	139,196	8,791	17,415	115,727
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	1,256	.	13,660	884	.	11,241
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	1,259,934	.	.	1,272,478

See footnote(s) at the end of tables.

**Table 10**
**Railway Carloading Statistics for Intermodal and Non-Intermodal Traffic in Canada (YTD) - Total<sup>1</sup>**

	January 2003 to December 2003			January 2002 to December 2002		
	Units	TEUs <sup>e</sup>	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs <sup>e</sup>	Metric tonnes
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded<sup>3</sup></b>			<b>233,485,864</b>			<b>236,911,246</b>
Container-on-flat-car	1,522,206	2,998,258	24,332,036	1,440,249	2,834,780	23,006,646
Trailer-on-flat-car	133,624	.	1,991,589	121,977	.	1,791,723
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	30,753,179	.	.	26,918,659
<b>Total traffic carried<sup>3</sup></b>			<b>290,562,668</b>			<b>288,628,274</b>
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	188,046	364,710	2,497,569	177,070	346,137	2,248,363
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	25,918	.	344,831	23,948	.	340,420
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	50,987,810	.	.	46,554,461

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 2003 to December 2003			January 2002 to December 2002		
	Units	TEUs <sup>e</sup>	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs <sup>e</sup>	Metric tonnes
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded<sup>3</sup></b>			<b>106,391,795</b>			<b>106,251,229</b>
Container-on-flat-car	859,906	1,683,313	14,148,591	825,916	1,621,282	13,423,729
Trailer-on-flat-car	121,017	.	1,775,944	105,139	.	1,508,553
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	11,138,110	.	.	11,575,663
<b>Total traffic carried<sup>3</sup></b>			<b>133,454,440</b>			<b>132,759,174</b>
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	59,493	116,470	794,141	70,672	134,639	873,711
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	5,795	.	99,562	9,846	.	152,783
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	35,434,412	.	.	32,758,958

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 2003 to December 2003			January 2002 to December 2002		
	Units	TEUs <sup>e</sup>	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs <sup>e</sup>	Metric tonnes
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded<sup>3</sup></b>			<b>127,094,069</b>			<b>130,660,017</b>
Container-on-flat-car	662,300	1,314,945	10,183,445	614,333	1,213,498	9,582,917
Trailer-on-flat-car	12,607	.	215,645	16,838	.	283,170
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	19,615,069	.	.	15,342,996
<b>Total traffic carried<sup>3</sup></b>			<b>157,108,228</b>			<b>155,869,100</b>
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	128,553	248,240	1,703,428	106,398	211,498	1,374,652
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	20,123	.	245,269	14,102	.	187,637
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	15,553,398	.	.	13,795,503

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-intermodal<sup>1</sup> 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 Canada<sup>2</sup>. Tables show the data for the reference month and the year-to-date. These year-to-date figures include revisions of data from previous months.

Users of **Railway Carloadings (Monthly)** current and historical data should be aware of a break in the continuity of these data. Starting with the January 1999 reference period, the commodities presented in the **Railway Carloadings (Monthly)** publication were modified to conform to the Standard Classification of Transported Goods (SCTG) and the number of carriers surveyed more than doubled from the eighteen carriers surveyed prior to 1999.

The additional carriers were primarily shortline carriers whose data were previously included with the data of mainline carriers. The change in commodity classes has had negligible impact on the reporting of bulk commodities (e.g., wheat, potash and coal) which represent the majority of the total number of cars and tonnes. However, the reporting of manufactured and miscellaneous goods has changed significantly.

Details of the commodities included in each SCTG class presented in **Railway Carloadings (Monthly)** are available upon request. For further information, please contact Transportation Statistics, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0T6 (tel.: 1-866-500-8400, Internet: [TransportationStatistics@statcan.ca](mailto:TransportationStatistics@statcan.ca).)

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

<sup>2</sup> 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.

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### Footnotes:

- <sup>1</sup> Data included in table 1 and 4 represent about 40 railway carriers.
- <sup>2</sup> Includes carloadings of gypsum.
- <sup>3</sup> 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
- 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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Statistics Canada is committed to serving its client in a prompt, reliable and courteous manner and in the official language of their choice. To this end, the agency has developed standards of service, which its employees observe in serving its clients. To obtain a copy of these service standards, please contact your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre.