

Service bulletin

Monthly Railway Carloadings

May 2008



Highlights

- The Canadian railway industry saw a decline in its loadings for the month of May for the first time in 4 years as loadings for the majority of the commodity classifications decreased.
- Railways loaded 24.3 million metric tonnes of freight in May, a 6.1% decline from May 2007 levels. The drop in loadings is entirely attributable to a decrease in non-intermodal loadings.
- Compared to the same month last year, non-intermodal loadings decreased 6.9% to 21.7 million metric tonnes. The decrease in loadings was widespread, as 41 out of the 64 commodity classifications saw a decline in loadings. Among those in decline were four of the five largest commodity classifications by tonnage - wheat, coal, potash and lumber.
- The drop in loadings for the 4 principal commodity classifications is the result of decreased demand inside and outside of Canada. For lumber, in particular, loadings are at their lowest level for the month of May since 1999 as the forest industry continues to face a weak housing market in the United States.
- In contrast to the decline in non-intermodal loadings, intermodal loadings increased 2.2% over the same month last year to 2.5 million metric tonnes.
- The rise in intermodal loadings is attributable to a rise in both the amount of containers and trailers loaded on flat cars received from connections in Canada and the United States. For the month, container loadings increased 3.5% from May 2007 to over 157,000 units, while trailer loadings increased 12.9% to more than 7000 units.
- Rail freight traffic coming from the United States also increased on a year-over-year basis, with freight traffic increasing 4.6% to 2.8 million metric tonnes.

Statistical tables

Table 1

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

	May 2008		May 2007	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	18,256	1,678,845	23,421	2,128,326
Other cereal grains	7,245	580,601	2,838	227,141
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	1,543	139,274	2,489	222,042
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	4,830	394,006	5,503	440,576
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	614	49,877	1,207	100,970
Animal feed and products	2,565	207,839	2,156	175,701
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	1	64	6	384
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	1,285	99,457	1,257	98,160
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	2,593	207,803	2,651	215,181
Sugar	426	37,057	409	35,724
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	247	17,827	282	20,688
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	181	13,496	123	9,934
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	4,036	353,657	3,260	275,931
Salt	640	57,132	535	47,575
Phosphate rock	1,048	94,464	614	55,386
Sulphur	6,532	626,237	7,191	690,027
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	4,728	410,310	5,496	499,500
Iron ores and concentrates	35,929	3,237,447	30,597	2,913,819
Copper ores and concentrates	1,222	108,200	1,258	109,794
Nickel ores and concentrates	2,790	212,709	2,866	216,845
Lead ores and concentrates	224	17,273	208	16,039
Zinc ores and concentrates	726	61,531	688	57,514
Other metallic ores and concentrates	4,991	476,714	5,059	482,949
Coal	30,398	3,150,118	33,892	3,471,804
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	3,148	242,621	3,029	235,733
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	5,228	416,367	5,525	443,628
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	4,312	275,208	5,073	325,032
Coal coke and petroleum coke	1,721	125,920	1,541	108,224
Other refined petroleum and coal products	2,480	187,012	2,984	231,896
Sulphuric acid	2,503	226,167	2,648	238,560
Alumina	2,918	268,023	3,032	275,107
Other basic chemicals	6,755	587,612	6,890	603,699
Potash	15,055	1,476,743	18,142	1,755,933
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	4,547	372,980	4,683	383,569
Other chemical products and preparations	1,094	91,467	721	60,780
Plastic and rubber	3,802	332,796	4,132	358,635
Logs and other wood in the rough	1,388	83,079	2,765	151,863
Wood chips	4,650	280,890	5,113	300,907
Lumber	11,025	925,605	16,017	1,349,047
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	3,919	318,498	6,454	510,822
Wood pulp	9,384	770,235	9,554	774,264
Newsprint	4,825	324,588	5,149	335,013
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	4,188	293,525	5,590	389,348
Cement	2,603	246,994	3,052	285,671
Other non-metallic mineral products	244	20,998	318	27,431
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	6,206	516,698	6,456	531,896
Copper, primary or semi-finished	346	28,781	415	34,641
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	2,923	244,845	2,628	216,998
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	634	51,324	784	61,655
Articles of base metal	1,487	107,189	1,695	124,031
Machinery	186	7,938	91	3,484
Automobiles and mini-vans	9,264	151,668	9,925	164,665
Freight motor vehicles	5,978	110,893	8,111	143,755
Other vehicles	91	1,117	97	1,609
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	1,053	29,397	2,511	69,911
Other transportation equipment	2,242	36,906	1,264	34,185
Metallic waste and scrap	3,659	280,340	3,297	249,727
Non-metallic waste and scrap	758	42,137	578	28,648
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	114	7,228	118	6,817
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	294	12,398	400	20,412
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	373	10,599	341	11,012
Less than carload shipments	...	193	...	17
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	264,447	21,738,912	285,129	23,360,629

1. Includes loadings of gypsum.

2. Excludes goods transported in containers or trailers on flat cars.

Table 2
Railway carloading statistics for non-intermodal traffic by commodity in Canada — Eastern Division

	May 2008		May 2007	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	286	25,405	342	30,425
Other cereal grains	383	32,977	233	20,116
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	27	2,265	6	491
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	1	82	0	0
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	146	11,539	232	20,564
Animal feed and products	995	78,648	915	71,878
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	0	0	0	0
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	53	4,096	44	3,380
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	341	26,515	297	23,407
Sugar	387	34,101	376	33,129
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	36	2,983	53	4,559
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	123	8,736	60	4,759
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	1,210	93,989	1,123	89,565
Salt	280	24,479	305	26,578
Phosphate rock	1,048	94,464	614	55,386
Sulphur	184	16,211	122	10,849
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	4,253	367,328	5,016	456,784
Iron ores and concentrates	35,929	3,237,447	30,597	2,913,819
Copper ores and concentrates	547	47,551	534	45,514
Nickel ores and concentrates	2,785	212,224	2,855	215,853
Lead ores and concentrates	224	17,273	208	16,039
Zinc ores and concentrates	672	57,204	593	49,712
Other metallic ores and concentrates	4,979	475,706	5,039	481,197
Coal	2,230	199,377	2,293	199,149
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	2,326	181,246	2,411	188,154
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	2,796	222,689	2,653	209,716
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	2,598	165,747	3,131	200,476
Coal coke and petroleum coke	655	41,168	640	36,493
Other refined petroleum and coal products	1,277	96,340	1,289	96,468
Sulphuric acid	2,159	195,584	2,359	212,792
Alumina	2,918	268,023	3,032	275,107
Other basic chemicals	2,911	251,356	3,096	267,746
Potash	592	53,762	850	77,947
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	164	14,422	208	18,185
Other chemical products and preparations	1,062	89,103	670	56,861
Plastic and rubber	1,520	128,916	1,868	157,508
Logs and other wood in the rough	945	53,428	2,177	114,881
Wood chips	1,697	107,688	1,406	81,133
Lumber	2,533	209,448	4,085	341,253
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	941	69,643	1,863	137,135
Wood pulp	3,003	232,816	3,144	243,347
Newsprint	4,162	281,973	4,484	289,202
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	2,957	202,384	4,348	300,966
Cement	1,480	139,321	1,763	164,048
Other non-metallic mineral products	74	6,270	163	14,332
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	5,482	453,910	5,863	482,218
Copper, primary or semi-finished	264	22,532	317	27,173
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	2,901	243,011	2,611	215,689
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	222	18,344	275	22,579
Articles of base metal	517	37,647	487	36,580
Machinery	137	5,800	78	2,613
Automobiles and mini-vans	6,497	112,458	7,391	126,977
Freight motor vehicles	5,649	105,820	7,801	139,478
Other vehicles	7	8	5	9
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	1,053	29,397	2,511	69,911
Other transportation equipment	1,407	21,794	991	25,696
Metallic waste and scrap	1,923	147,740	1,948	148,865
Non-metallic waste and scrap	331	25,395	121	8,549
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	54	3,864	61	3,798
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	291	12,323	396	20,268
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	369	10,453	341	11,012
Less than carload shipments	...	193	...	17
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	122,993	9,332,612	128,694	9,598,332

1. Includes loadings of gypsum.

2. Excludes goods transported in containers or trailers on flat cars.

Table 3
Railway carloading statistics for non-intermodal traffic by commodity in Canada — Western Division

	May 2008		May 2007	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	17,970	1,653,440	23,079	2,097,901
Other cereal grains	6,862	547,624	2,605	207,025
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	1,516	137,009	2,483	221,551
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	4,829	393,924	5,503	440,576
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	468	38,338	975	80,406
Animal feed and products	1,570	129,191	1,241	103,823
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	1	64	6	384
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	1,232	95,361	1,213	94,780
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	2,252	181,288	2,354	191,774
Sugar	39	2,956	33	2,595
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	211	14,844	229	16,129
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	58	4,760	63	5,175
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	2,826	259,668	2,137	186,366
Salt	360	32,653	230	20,997
Phosphate rock	0	0	0	0
Sulphur	6,348	610,026	7,069	679,178
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	475	42,982	480	42,716
Iron ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Copper ores and concentrates	675	60,649	724	64,280
Nickel ores and concentrates	5	485	11	992
Lead ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Zinc ores and concentrates	54	4,327	95	7,802
Other metallic ores and concentrates	12	1,008	20	1,752
Coal	28,168	2,950,741	31,599	3,272,655
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	822	61,375	618	47,579
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	2,432	193,678	2,872	233,912
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	1,714	109,461	1,942	124,556
Coal coke and petroleum coke	1,066	84,752	901	71,731
Other refined petroleum and coal products	1,203	90,672	1,695	135,428
Sulphuric acid	344	30,583	289	25,768
Alumina	0	0	0	0
Other basic chemicals	3,844	336,256	3,794	335,953
Potash	14,463	1,422,981	17,292	1,677,986
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	4,383	358,558	4,475	365,384
Other chemical products and preparations	32	2,364	51	3,919
Plastic and rubber	2,282	203,880	2,264	201,127
Logs and other wood in the rough	443	29,651	588	36,982
Wood chips	2,953	173,202	3,707	219,774
Lumber	8,492	716,157	11,932	1,007,794
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	2,978	248,855	4,591	373,687
Wood pulp	6,381	537,419	6,410	530,917
Newsprint	663	42,615	665	45,811
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	1,231	91,141	1,242	88,382
Cement	1,123	107,673	1,289	121,623
Other non-metallic mineral products	170	14,728	155	13,099
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	724	62,788	593	49,678
Copper, primary or semi-finished	82	6,249	98	7,468
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	22	1,834	17	1,309
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	412	32,980	509	39,076
Articles of base metal	970	69,542	1,208	87,451
Machinery	49	2,138	13	871
Automobiles and mini-vans	2,767	39,210	2,534	37,688
Freight motor vehicles	329	5,073	310	4,277
Other vehicles	84	1,109	92	1,600
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	0	0	0	0
Other transportation equipment	835	15,112	273	8,489
Metallic waste and scrap	1,736	132,600	1,349	100,862
Non-metallic waste and scrap	427	16,742	457	20,099
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	60	3,364	57	3,019
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	3	75	4	144
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	4	146	0	0
Less than carload shipments	...	0	...	0
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	141,454	12,406,300	156,435	13,762,297

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 2008 to May 2008		January 2007 to May 2007	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	79,957	7,339,024	97,895	8,909,374
Other cereal grains	29,667	2,356,639	18,261	1,460,085
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	9,670	869,112	10,617	944,175
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	1	9	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	32,116	2,621,728	26,851	2,154,173
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	3,221	265,768	3,289	269,473
Animal feed and products	12,137	956,265	9,708	796,612
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	12	714	25	1,600
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	6,035	468,296	5,565	434,049
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	13,666	1,094,168	11,911	964,647
Sugar	1,706	147,370	1,904	166,174
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	1,413	98,187	1,352	96,694
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	829	62,565	615	49,428
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	12,049	1,045,731	12,547	1,092,842
Salt	3,730	333,104	4,276	377,841
Phosphate rock	3,844	346,558	2,218	199,917
Sulphur	32,233	3,093,016	31,249	3,009,786
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	20,842	1,779,594	24,688	2,166,453
Iron ores and concentrates	154,035	13,726,684	125,344	11,546,359
Copper ores and concentrates	5,380	469,857	5,857	513,286
Nickel ores and concentrates	13,963	1,059,513	11,374	869,946
Lead ores and concentrates	1,036	79,887	1,140	87,905
Zinc ores and concentrates	3,309	279,721	3,391	283,488
Other metallic ores and concentrates	25,852	2,465,658	25,514	2,434,031
Coal	145,775	14,995,333	136,642	13,900,689
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	13,445	1,025,627	12,475	963,769
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	27,610	2,224,924	28,688	2,328,593
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	29,353	1,869,903	30,473	1,934,038
Coal coke and petroleum coke	9,039	617,939	8,309	571,144
Other refined petroleum and coal products	13,089	1,004,151	13,766	1,072,009
Sulphuric acid	13,262	1,197,437	12,972	1,166,991
Alumina	14,757	1,354,444	14,569	1,331,921
Other basic chemicals	34,033	2,968,663	34,070	2,979,968
Potash	82,037	8,006,700	78,819	7,630,048
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	23,248	1,940,752	23,828	1,979,837
Other chemical products and preparations	5,245	450,351	3,503	295,392
Plastic and rubber	19,082	1,658,212	20,252	1,758,263
Logs and other wood in the rough	7,216	414,506	12,482	687,296
Wood chips	21,220	1,280,242	26,182	1,576,499
Lumber	52,079	4,372,403	73,496	6,182,365
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	18,403	1,492,397	30,675	2,416,894
Wood pulp	47,974	3,926,900	47,896	3,882,764
Newsprint	24,570	1,640,377	25,994	1,703,348
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	20,377	1,420,247	26,523	1,841,195
Cement	9,968	937,605	11,151	1,043,243
Other non-metallic mineral products	1,254	110,004	1,606	135,229
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	32,294	2,652,790	28,579	2,366,898
Copper, primary or semi-finished	1,980	165,672	2,231	186,012
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	14,997	1,247,528	13,679	1,125,747
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	3,342	269,996	3,810	302,498
Articles of base metal	7,142	512,926	7,278	535,675
Machinery	487	25,399	710	27,189
Automobiles and mini-vans	41,252	683,811	44,464	752,401
Freight motor vehicles	29,685	546,386	38,657	688,999
Other vehicles	223	4,260	478	19,673
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	6,673	206,896	11,399	314,100
Other transportation equipment	10,759	166,210	6,316	176,889
Metallic waste and scrap	15,119	1,155,678	15,217	1,158,101
Non-metallic waste and scrap	3,217	183,198	2,846	152,071
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	579	33,841	687	41,970
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	1,125	48,407	1,651	83,014
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	1,538	46,444	1,789	53,434
Less than carload shipments	...	1,835	...	127
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	1,270,101	103,819,544	1,289,753	104,194,625

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 2008 to May 2008		January 2007 to May 2007	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	1,387	122,124	1,709	153,474
Other cereal grains	1,446	123,544	1,244	102,378
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	116	9,554	119	9,561
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	1	9	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	8	639	1	80
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	422	33,765	557	45,529
Animal feed and products	4,311	339,072	3,834	302,777
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	3	138	0	0
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	254	19,066	167	13,390
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	1,770	137,958	1,412	110,207
Sugar	1,471	129,102	1,747	154,259
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	315	20,407	203	17,528
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	550	39,712	313	24,732
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	4,382	357,079	3,852	332,841
Salt	1,450	125,862	2,252	199,117
Phosphate rock	3,844	346,558	2,218	199,917
Sulphur	790	69,828	517	46,168
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	19,031	1,616,647	22,680	1,987,466
Iron ores and concentrates	154,034	13,726,625	125,344	11,546,359
Copper ores and concentrates	2,501	214,163	2,711	234,122
Nickel ores and concentrates	13,904	1,054,169	11,305	863,950
Lead ores and concentrates	1,036	79,887	1,140	87,905
Zinc ores and concentrates	3,005	255,518	3,004	253,044
Other metallic ores and concentrates	25,742	2,456,160	25,405	2,424,494
Coal	10,616	938,168	9,753	831,763
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	10,186	777,851	9,501	737,807
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	15,341	1,231,430	14,549	1,159,134
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	14,959	971,011	15,557	997,542
Coal coke and petroleum coke	4,846	283,623	4,142	238,173
Other refined petroleum and coal products	6,157	461,520	6,136	461,481
Sulphuric acid	11,793	1,066,564	11,561	1,041,240
Alumina	14,756	1,354,354	14,569	1,331,921
Other basic chemicals	14,085	1,211,597	14,797	1,274,449
Potash	3,270	297,574	3,887	356,490
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	806	70,046	787	68,536
Other chemical products and preparations	5,063	435,834	3,281	277,869
Plastic and rubber	8,351	704,979	9,150	771,153
Logs and other wood in the rough	4,899	263,755	9,925	524,207
Wood chips	7,113	451,737	8,026	496,559
Lumber	11,537	956,889	17,898	1,495,431
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	4,262	321,003	9,224	676,487
Wood pulp	14,777	1,147,553	14,946	1,152,650
Newsprint	21,446	1,434,158	22,378	1,454,507
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	14,458	986,079	20,562	1,420,917
Cement	4,865	453,175	6,077	567,075
Other non-metallic mineral products	549	50,236	804	69,364
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	29,169	2,383,388	25,425	2,100,668
Copper, primary or semi-finished	1,572	134,584	1,801	153,245
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	14,880	1,237,541	13,593	1,119,083
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	1,223	100,521	1,505	127,467
Articles of base metal	2,225	160,051	2,228	163,857
Machinery	353	16,844	617	23,536
Automobiles and mini-vans	30,285	526,135	34,534	605,226
Freight motor vehicles	27,347	512,804	36,819	660,503
Other vehicles	101	1,922	343	16,531
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	6,672	206,880	11,399	314,100
Other transportation equipment	6,860	106,334	4,841	132,070
Metallic waste and scrap	7,954	621,418	8,766	683,040
Non-metallic waste and scrap	1,427	110,080	1,006	70,533
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	243	15,490	323	22,373
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	1,109	47,992	1,634	82,525
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	1,515	45,701	1,703	51,525
Less than carload shipments	...	1,835	...	127
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	578,793	43,376,225	585,781	42,840,461

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 2008 to May 2008		January 2007 to May 2007	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	78,570	7,216,900	96,186	8,755,900
Other cereal grains	28,221	2,233,095	17,017	1,357,707
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	9,554	859,558	10,498	934,614
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	32,108	2,621,089	26,850	2,154,093
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	2,799	232,003	2,732	223,944
Animal feed and products	7,826	617,193	5,874	493,835
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	9	576	25	1,600
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	5,781	449,230	5,398	420,659
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	11,896	956,210	10,499	854,440
Sugar	235	18,268	157	11,915
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	1,098	77,780	1,149	79,166
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	279	22,853	302	24,696
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	7,667	688,652	8,695	760,001
Salt	2,280	207,242	2,024	178,724
Phosphate rock	0	0	0	0
Sulphur	31,443	3,023,188	30,732	2,963,618
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	1,811	162,947	2,008	178,987
Iron ores and concentrates	1	59	0	0
Copper ores and concentrates	2,879	255,694	3,146	279,164
Nickel ores and concentrates	59	5,344	69	5,996
Lead ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Zinc ores and concentrates	304	24,203	387	30,444
Other metallic ores and concentrates	110	9,498	109	9,537
Coal	135,159	14,057,165	126,889	13,068,926
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	3,259	247,776	2,974	225,962
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	12,269	993,494	14,139	1,169,459
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	14,394	898,892	14,916	936,496
Coal coke and petroleum coke	4,193	334,316	4,167	332,971
Other refined petroleum and coal products	6,932	542,631	7,630	610,528
Sulphuric acid	1,469	130,873	1,411	125,751
Alumina	1	90	0	0
Other basic chemicals	19,948	1,757,066	19,273	1,705,519
Potash	78,767	7,709,126	74,932	7,273,558
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	22,442	1,870,706	23,041	1,911,301
Other chemical products and preparations	182	14,517	222	17,523
Plastic and rubber	10,731	953,233	11,102	987,110
Logs and other wood in the rough	2,317	150,751	2,557	163,089
Wood chips	14,107	828,505	18,156	1,079,940
Lumber	40,542	3,415,514	55,598	4,686,934
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	14,141	1,171,394	21,451	1,740,407
Wood pulp	33,197	2,779,347	32,950	2,730,114
Newsprint	3,124	206,219	3,616	248,841
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	5,919	434,168	5,961	420,278
Cement	5,103	484,430	5,074	476,168
Other non-metallic mineral products	705	59,768	802	65,865
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	3,125	269,402	3,154	266,230
Copper, primary or semi-finished	408	31,088	430	32,767
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	117	9,987	86	6,664
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	2,119	169,475	2,305	175,031
Articles of base metal	4,917	352,875	5,050	371,818
Machinery	134	8,555	93	3,653
Automobiles and mini-vans	10,967	157,676	9,930	147,175
Freight motor vehicles	2,338	33,582	1,838	28,496
Other vehicles	122	2,338	135	3,142
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	1	16	0	0
Other transportation equipment	3,899	59,876	1,475	44,819
Metallic waste and scrap	7,165	534,260	6,451	475,061
Non-metallic waste and scrap	1,790	73,118	1,840	81,538
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	336	18,351	364	19,597
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	16	415	17	489
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	23	743	86	1,909
Less than carload shipments	...	0	...	0
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	691,308	60,443,319	703,972	61,354,164

1. Includes loadings of gypsum.

2. Excludes goods transported in containers or trailers on flat cars.

Table 7
Railway carloading statistics for intermodal and non-intermodal traffic in Canada — Total

	May 2008			May 2007		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	21,738,912	.	.	23,360,629
Container-on-flat-car	157,440	280,865	2,436,485	152,186	270,134	2,397,751
Trailer-on-flat-car	7,383	.	98,822	6,538	.	83,219
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	2,833,267	.	.	2,709,265
Total traffic carried	.	.	27,107,486	.	.	28,550,864
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	23,530	41,091	315,211	21,489	36,767	297,386
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	2,230	.	33,547	1,817	.	27,243
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	3,056,215	.	.	3,559,888

1. Estimated numbers.

Note(s): Unit of measure "TEUs" means: twenty-foot equivalent units.

Table 8
Railway carloading statistics for intermodal and non-intermodal traffic in Canada — Eastern Division

	May 2008			May 2007		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	9,332,612	.	.	9,598,332
Container-on-flat-car	80,633	145,915	1,310,255	81,272	144,935	1,313,264
Trailer-on-flat-car	6,944	.	89,740	6,110	.	74,071
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	670,810	.	.	789,946
Total traffic carried	.	.	11,403,417	.	.	11,775,613
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	5,900	11,961	74,065	5,520	10,822	71,482
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	178	.	4,903	198	.	3,983
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	2,618,452	.	.	2,994,674

1. Estimated numbers.

Note(s): Unit of measure "TEUs" means: twenty-foot equivalent units.

Table 9
Railway carloading statistics for intermodal and non-intermodal traffic in Canada — Western Division

	May 2008			May 2007		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	12,406,300	.	.	13,762,297
Container-on-flat-car	76,807	134,950	1,126,230	70,914	125,199	1,084,487
Trailer-on-flat-car	439	.	9,082	428	.	9,148
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	2,162,457	.	.	1,919,319
Total traffic carried	.	.	15,704,069	.	.	16,775,251
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from						
United States connections	17,630	29,130	241,146	15,969	25,945	225,904
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from						
United States connections	2,052	.	28,644	1,619	.	23,260
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	437,763	.	.	565,214

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 2008 to May 2008			January 2007 to May 2007		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	103,819,544	.	.	104,194,625
Container-on-flat-car	738,647	1,307,438	11,446,166	715,609	1,250,304	11,224,160
Trailer-on-flat-car	32,708	.	428,201	30,440	.	396,703
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	14,091,243	.	.	12,807,414
Total traffic carried	.	.	129,785,154	.	.	128,622,902
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from						
United States connections	114,800	196,455	1,586,493	98,558	170,207	1,325,187
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from						
United States connections	10,186	.	149,447	7,483	.	110,863
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	15,140,418	.	.	17,375,982

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 2008 to May 2008			January 2007 to May 2007		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	43,376,225	.	.	42,840,461
Container-on-flat-car	381,081	678,942	6,192,171	376,545	661,991	6,057,516
Trailer-on-flat-car	30,535	.	384,961	28,212	.	350,515
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	3,385,220	.	.	3,639,114
Total traffic carried	.	.	53,338,577	.	.	52,887,606
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	25,460	50,337	327,107	26,153	51,814	318,883
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	961	.	19,563	965	.	16,568
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	12,801,351	.	.	14,764,149

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 2008 to May 2008			January 2007 to May 2007		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	60,443,319	.	.	61,354,164
Container-on-flat-car	357,566	628,496	5,253,995	339,064	588,313	5,166,644
Trailer-on-flat-car	2,173	.	43,240	2,228	.	46,188
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	10,706,023	.	.	9,168,300
Total traffic carried	.	.	76,446,577	.	.	75,735,296
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	89,340	146,118	1,259,386	72,405	118,393	1,006,304
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	9,225	.	129,884	6,518	.	94,295
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	2,339,067	.	.	2,611,833

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.ca.)

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

2. Non-Intermodal traffic is freight carried in bulk or loaded in box cars.

3. The Eastern and Western Divisions, for statistical purposes, are separated by an imaginary line running from Thunder Bay to Armstrong, Ontario. Freight loaded at Thunder Bay is included in the Western Division while loadings at Armstrong are reported in the Eastern Division.

Release date: July 2008

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

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 at www.statcan.ca and select "Publications" > "Free Internet 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.

La version française de cette publication est disponible sur demande (n° 52-001-X au catalogue).

Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada. © Minister of Industry, 2008. All rights reserved. The content of this electronic publication may be reproduced, in whole or in part, and by any means, without further permission from Statistics Canada, subject to the following conditions: that it be done solely for the purposes of private study, research, criticism, review or newspaper summary, and/or for non-commercial purposes; and that Statistics Canada be fully acknowledged as follows: Source (or "Adapted from", if appropriate): Statistics Canada, year of publication, name of product, catalogue number, volume and issue numbers, reference period and page(s). Otherwise, no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form, by any means—electronic, mechanical or photocopy—or for any purposes without prior written permission of Licensing Services, Client Services Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0T6.

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.ca under "About us" > "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.