

Service bulletin

Monthly Railway Carloadings

August 2008



Highlights

- Canadian railways loaded 22.6 million metric tonnes in August, a decrease of 9.0% from August 2007.
- The drop in loadings was largely the result of declines in non-intermodal loadings of agricultural and food products, such as wheat and colza seeds, and forestry and paper products, such as lumber and other wood products. Manufactured products, particularly parts and accessories for motor vehicles, also fell during the month.
- The decline in these commodity groups, combined with decreases in other groups, pushed non-intermodal loadings down to 20.2 million metric tonnes, a decrease of 9.7% from last year's level.
- Intermodal loadings fell 3.6% from August 2007, to 2.5 million metric tonnes. The decline was the result of a drop in both containers and trailers loaded on flat cars.
- Rail freight traffic received from the U.S. increased 1.0% from last year's level to 2.9 million metric tonnes.

Note: CANSIM Table 404-0002 has been modified to include additional railway carloading components from January 1999 to July 2008.

Statistical tables

Table 1

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

	August 2008		August 2007	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	10,305	942,321	19,573	1,782,089
Other cereal grains	4,207	319,397	3,872	293,655
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	3,468	318,296	4,579	416,716
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	4,418	361,347	5,494	445,666
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	509	40,801	1,011	83,304
Animal feed and products	2,063	168,990	2,148	169,982
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	3	203	2	128
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	1,119	87,141	1,209	94,328
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	2,227	179,411	2,805	225,019
Sugar	383	33,172	404	35,291
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	205	14,682	310	22,551
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	173	12,723	142	11,207
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	3,981	354,562	3,027	255,835
Salt	702	63,097	667	59,647
Phosphate rock	1,053	94,511	792	71,435
Sulphur	6,209	587,986	6,772	652,983
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	4,243	370,349	5,930	530,027
Iron ores and concentrates	36,620	3,414,645	36,466	3,338,278
Copper ores and concentrates	998	89,154	1,254	110,186
Nickel ores and concentrates	2,415	186,453	1,977	154,155
Lead ores and concentrates	235	18,147	230	17,735
Zinc ores and concentrates	970	80,662	773	65,686
Other metallic ores and concentrates	5,501	524,944	5,544	528,184
Coal	29,657	3,066,929	28,869	2,961,829
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	3,372	258,285	3,723	284,472
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	5,143	406,077	5,743	463,035
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	4,250	275,377	5,315	337,184
Coal coke and petroleum coke	2,333	161,475	1,949	120,573
Other refined petroleum and coal products	2,727	211,365	2,954	229,615
Sulphuric acid	2,603	234,730	2,773	250,278
Alumina	3,191	293,532	3,249	297,904
Other basic chemicals	6,601	573,662	7,081	618,005
Potash	11,590	1,143,233	12,194	1,196,457
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	4,192	352,197	3,675	314,460
Other chemical products and preparations	1,081	92,594	1,027	87,771
Plastic and rubber	2,925	257,924	4,268	371,504
Logs and other wood in the rough	1,184	73,093	2,198	117,971
Wood chips	3,891	235,195	5,041	295,960
Lumber	9,180	771,771	13,771	1,159,203
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	3,262	266,808	5,297	423,947
Wood pulp	10,014	821,627	10,431	853,706
Newsprint	4,591	311,955	5,375	356,140
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	4,242	300,053	5,625	404,638
Cement	2,640	246,806	2,941	274,488
Other non-metallic mineral products	226	18,534	298	25,503
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	6,314	515,864	4,712	381,797
Copper, primary or semi-finished	475	38,601	448	37,807
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	2,897	241,815	2,982	247,063
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	692	50,966	651	53,114
Articles of base metal	1,003	71,254	1,357	102,269
Machinery	150	5,608	169	6,586
Automobiles and mini-vans	8,013	132,206	7,875	135,273
Freight motor vehicles	7,043	127,051	9,064	160,013
Other vehicles	216	4,617	44	1,064
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	1,019	26,109	2,557	69,595
Other transportation equipment	1,400	20,090	806	23,801
Metallic waste and scrap	2,893	218,223	2,961	232,210
Non-metallic waste and scrap	594	37,237	526	21,962
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	142	9,183	112	5,886
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	301	12,486	258	12,858
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	302	8,084	386	11,081
Less than carload shipments	...	59	...	118
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	244,356	20,155,669	273,686	22,311,227

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

	August 2008		August 2007	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	668	57,105	358	31,771
Other cereal grains	331	28,909	84	7,067
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	63	5,160	36	2,988
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	1	70	0	0
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	73	5,008	67	5,521
Animal feed and products	726	57,042	830	65,178
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	2	139	0	0
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	57	4,296	54	4,171
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	299	22,293	345	27,532
Sugar	333	29,100	377	33,244
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	7	607	57	4,859
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	115	8,025	79	6,141
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	928	74,274	1,164	93,051
Salt	234	20,361	284	24,847
Phosphate rock	1,053	94,511	792	71,435
Sulphur	166	14,555	150	13,302
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	3,811	330,738	5,356	479,195
Iron ores and concentrates	36,620	3,414,645	36,466	3,338,278
Copper ores and concentrates	453	40,263	590	51,050
Nickel ores and concentrates	2,405	185,500	1,973	153,799
Lead ores and concentrates	235	18,147	230	17,735
Zinc ores and concentrates	912	76,002	690	59,210
Other metallic ores and concentrates	5,501	524,944	5,511	525,294
Coal	2,393	209,628	2,214	192,957
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	2,582	198,427	2,725	208,498
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	2,777	218,879	2,325	184,219
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	2,346	153,981	3,223	204,244
Coal coke and petroleum coke	1,060	58,766	1,213	63,422
Other refined petroleum and coal products	1,174	87,013	1,197	88,902
Sulphuric acid	2,227	201,435	2,422	219,205
Alumina	3,191	293,532	3,249	297,904
Other basic chemicals	2,949	253,963	2,920	250,292
Potash	291	26,580	365	33,185
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	147	12,934	137	11,574
Other chemical products and preparations	1,015	87,357	982	84,157
Plastic and rubber	1,026	88,224	1,757	147,825
Logs and other wood in the rough	791	47,259	1,812	94,557
Wood chips	1,349	86,991	1,213	70,810
Lumber	1,939	158,862	2,941	246,416
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	792	59,493	1,556	115,242
Wood pulp	2,889	226,939	3,115	241,625
Newsprint	3,977	271,134	4,696	310,460
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	3,003	206,585	4,241	304,133
Cement	1,441	136,382	1,667	155,501
Other non-metallic mineral products	69	5,586	97	8,249
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	5,492	443,899	4,021	323,174
Copper, primary or semi-finished	406	33,343	335	28,942
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	2,888	241,079	2,976	246,641
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	253	15,127	250	20,981
Articles of base metal	366	25,005	405	29,759
Machinery	123	4,160	123	4,362
Automobiles and mini-vans	6,072	104,877	6,362	112,827
Freight motor vehicles	6,591	120,625	8,536	151,559
Other vehicles	216	4,617	5	44
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	1,019	26,109	2,557	69,595
Other transportation equipment	787	9,712	632	17,630
Metallic waste and scrap	1,339	100,225	1,538	122,615
Non-metallic waste and scrap	292	22,830	70	4,907
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	49	3,461	48	2,429
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	297	12,418	257	12,850
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	300	8,025	383	10,939
Less than carload shipments	...	59	...	118
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	120,911	9,277,215	130,058	9,708,417

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

	August 2008		August 2007	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	9,637	885,216	19,215	1,750,318
Other cereal grains	3,876	290,488	3,788	286,588
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	3,405	313,136	4,543	413,728
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	4,417	361,277	5,494	445,666
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	436	35,793	944	77,783
Animal feed and products	1,337	111,948	1,318	104,804
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	1	64	2	128
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	1,062	82,845	1,155	90,157
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	1,928	157,118	2,460	197,487
Sugar	50	4,072	27	2,047
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	198	14,075	253	17,692
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	58	4,698	63	5,066
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	3,053	280,288	1,863	162,784
Salt	468	42,736	383	34,800
Phosphate rock	0	0	0	0
Sulphur	6,043	573,431	6,622	639,681
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	432	39,611	574	50,832
Iron ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Copper ores and concentrates	545	48,891	664	59,136
Nickel ores and concentrates	10	953	4	356
Lead ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Zinc ores and concentrates	58	4,660	83	6,476
Other metallic ores and concentrates	0	0	33	2,890
Coal	27,264	2,857,301	26,655	2,768,872
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	790	59,858	998	75,974
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	2,366	187,198	3,418	278,816
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	1,904	121,396	2,092	132,940
Coal coke and petroleum coke	1,273	102,709	736	57,151
Other refined petroleum and coal products	1,553	124,352	1,757	140,713
Sulphuric acid	376	33,295	351	31,073
Alumina	0	0	0	0
Other basic chemicals	3,652	319,699	4,161	367,713
Potash	11,299	1,116,653	11,829	1,163,272
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	4,045	339,263	3,538	302,886
Other chemical products and preparations	66	5,237	45	3,614
Plastic and rubber	1,899	169,700	2,511	223,679
Logs and other wood in the rough	393	25,834	386	23,414
Wood chips	2,542	148,204	3,828	225,150
Lumber	7,241	612,909	10,830	912,787
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	2,470	207,315	3,741	308,705
Wood pulp	7,125	594,688	7,316	612,081
Newsprint	614	40,821	679	45,680
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	1,239	93,468	1,384	100,505
Cement	1,199	110,424	1,274	118,987
Other non-metallic mineral products	157	12,948	201	17,254
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	822	71,965	691	58,623
Copper, primary or semi-finished	69	5,258	113	8,865
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	9	736	6	422
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	439	35,839	401	32,133
Articles of base metal	637	46,249	952	72,510
Machinery	27	1,448	46	2,224
Automobiles and mini-vans	1,941	27,329	1,513	22,446
Freight motor vehicles	452	6,426	528	8,454
Other vehicles	0	0	39	1,020
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	0	0	0	0
Other transportation equipment	613	10,378	174	6,171
Metallic waste and scrap	1,554	117,998	1,423	109,595
Non-metallic waste and scrap	302	14,407	456	17,055
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	93	5,722	64	3,457
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	4	68	1	8
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	2	59	3	142
Less than carload shipments	...	0	...	0
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	123,445	10,878,454	143,628	12,602,810

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 August 2008		January 2007 to August 2007	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	117,409	10,772,810	159,165	14,489,626
Other cereal grains	42,044	3,309,620	25,872	2,051,689
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	14,853	1,339,277	17,749	1,584,363
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	48,142	3,929,363	46,477	3,734,552
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	5,346	438,132	6,739	553,167
Animal feed and products	18,201	1,452,045	15,887	1,278,984
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	21	1,304	34	2,176
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	9,634	748,040	8,908	694,733
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	21,046	1,684,923	19,838	1,601,022
Sugar	2,893	250,764	3,124	272,996
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	2,091	146,311	2,267	162,066
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	1,281	96,115	980	78,753
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	25,843	2,284,346	21,324	1,832,053
Salt	5,764	514,231	5,908	524,132
Phosphate rock	6,697	602,686	4,481	404,036
Sulphur	51,291	4,909,835	51,534	4,967,716
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	34,390	2,986,612	43,066	3,789,539
Iron ores and concentrates	256,581	23,130,347	230,006	21,213,366
Copper ores and concentrates	8,303	728,915	9,177	805,192
Nickel ores and concentrates	20,857	1,591,012	16,630	1,279,856
Lead ores and concentrates	1,717	132,435	1,790	138,081
Zinc ores and concentrates	6,033	507,617	5,636	474,581
Other metallic ores and concentrates	41,549	3,962,356	41,606	3,967,813
Coal	231,750	23,869,681	224,308	22,905,560
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	22,390	1,709,122	22,702	1,748,269
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	43,308	3,477,591	44,983	3,643,761
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	42,528	2,714,085	45,133	2,868,009
Coal coke and petroleum coke	15,741	1,083,390	13,168	874,174
Other refined petroleum and coal products	21,727	1,675,778	21,895	1,701,509
Sulphuric acid	21,095	1,904,568	20,780	1,871,193
Alumina	23,809	2,185,056	23,945	2,190,486
Other basic chemicals	54,941	4,791,326	54,818	4,792,174
Potash	121,786	11,930,969	119,696	11,634,269
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	35,053	2,927,791	36,750	3,067,013
Other chemical products and preparations	8,457	721,085	6,299	534,195
Plastic and rubber	29,144	2,539,707	32,851	2,855,321
Logs and other wood in the rough	11,140	648,799	18,914	1,044,420
Wood chips	33,728	2,032,451	40,137	2,395,019
Lumber	81,776	6,863,681	115,624	9,729,258
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	28,517	2,318,440	46,954	3,708,137
Wood pulp	77,027	6,315,072	78,096	6,351,189
Newsprint	38,140	2,562,458	41,587	2,726,596
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	33,056	2,313,365	42,959	3,006,847
Cement	18,184	1,713,813	19,669	1,840,616
Other non-metallic mineral products	1,917	165,536	2,547	215,896
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	51,811	4,252,798	45,402	3,733,578
Copper, primary or semi-finished	3,259	270,702	3,400	284,768
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	23,617	1,966,305	22,390	1,847,280
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	5,337	422,447	5,969	479,955
Articles of base metal	10,675	771,248	12,126	888,676
Machinery	1,052	49,962	1,225	49,775
Automobiles and mini-vans	64,736	1,059,691	68,269	1,153,422
Freight motor vehicles	48,725	894,070	61,813	1,097,681
Other vehicles	456	9,001	542	21,017
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	10,086	298,169	17,557	484,029
Other transportation equipment	16,067	231,449	9,014	252,671
Metallic waste and scrap	24,135	1,828,203	23,848	1,830,419
Non-metallic waste and scrap	5,111	299,544	4,352	221,437
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	968	57,231	1,126	66,984
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	2,019	86,122	2,558	128,448
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	2,423	71,263	2,963	89,501
Less than carload shipments	...	2,047	...	380
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	2,007,627	164,553,112	2,094,567	170,234,424

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 August 2008		January 2007 to August 2007	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	2,595	227,653	2,669	238,478
Other cereal grains	2,715	234,214	1,593	132,146
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	245	19,953	227	18,446
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	51	4,108	1	80
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	722	55,177	793	65,205
Animal feed and products	6,287	493,784	6,174	485,474
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	7	408	0	0
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	491	36,899	297	23,513
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	2,678	205,785	2,421	190,114
Sugar	2,536	223,083	2,867	253,268
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	362	24,034	370	31,297
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	854	61,240	504	39,959
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	7,163	579,176	7,180	595,825
Salt	2,216	191,777	3,014	265,755
Phosphate rock	6,697	602,686	4,481	404,036
Sulphur	1,367	120,835	1,001	89,466
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	31,166	2,695,299	39,531	3,474,660
Iron ores and concentrates	256,580	23,130,288	230,006	21,213,366
Copper ores and concentrates	3,801	328,382	4,237	366,361
Nickel ores and concentrates	20,779	1,583,872	16,545	1,272,356
Lead ores and concentrates	1,717	132,435	1,779	137,170
Zinc ores and concentrates	5,579	471,283	4,989	423,382
Other metallic ores and concentrates	41,439	3,952,858	41,436	3,952,928
Coal	17,386	1,530,658	16,203	1,392,491
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	16,872	1,289,739	16,979	1,313,862
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	23,435	1,872,908	21,689	1,725,507
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	22,578	1,459,695	24,748	1,581,598
Coal coke and petroleum coke	7,712	441,571	7,033	385,382
Other refined petroleum and coal products	9,771	730,406	9,451	706,627
Sulphuric acid	18,607	1,683,333	18,274	1,647,908
Alumina	23,808	2,184,966	23,945	2,190,486
Other basic chemicals	23,134	1,991,874	23,584	2,030,841
Potash	5,147	469,011	5,829	533,322
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	1,224	106,709	1,314	114,783
Other chemical products and preparations	8,118	694,466	5,955	506,922
Plastic and rubber	11,715	991,154	14,444	1,216,288
Logs and other wood in the rough	7,657	422,669	14,999	796,406
Wood chips	11,169	710,327	11,213	682,527
Lumber	17,949	1,483,451	27,367	2,288,804
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	6,665	499,186	14,230	1,044,807
Wood pulp	23,558	1,833,835	24,263	1,873,208
Newsprint	33,148	2,230,876	35,718	2,324,315
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	23,550	1,610,636	33,150	2,307,271
Cement	9,320	874,249	11,124	1,039,670
Other non-metallic mineral products	743	66,387	1,152	99,161
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	46,560	3,797,646	40,120	3,286,860
Copper, primary or semi-finished	2,588	219,572	2,642	226,385
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	23,444	1,951,794	22,277	1,838,617
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	1,952	149,953	2,350	199,773
Articles of base metal	3,563	255,008	3,523	257,373
Machinery	770	33,069	1,015	39,758
Automobiles and mini-vans	47,976	818,910	53,281	932,035
Freight motor vehicles	44,739	837,177	58,508	1,047,217
Other vehicles	332	6,585	366	16,834
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	10,085	298,153	17,557	484,029
Other transportation equipment	9,905	139,210	6,761	184,596
Metallic waste and scrap	12,206	940,669	13,442	1,051,497
Non-metallic waste and scrap	2,310	178,654	1,300	90,830
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	421	26,493	513	32,817
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	1,989	85,452	2,535	127,830
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	2,395	70,310	2,868	87,235
Less than carload shipments	...	2,047	...	380
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	932,498	70,364,037	963,837	71,379,537

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 August 2008		January 2007 to August 2007	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	114,814	10,545,157	156,496	14,251,148
Other cereal grains	39,329	3,075,406	24,279	1,919,543
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	14,608	1,319,324	17,522	1,565,917
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	48,091	3,925,255	46,476	3,734,472
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	4,624	382,955	5,946	487,962
Animal feed and products	11,914	958,261	9,713	793,510
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	14	896	34	2,176
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	9,143	711,141	8,611	671,220
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	18,368	1,479,138	17,417	1,410,908
Sugar	357	27,681	257	19,728
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	1,729	122,277	1,897	130,769
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	427	34,875	476	38,794
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	18,680	1,705,170	14,144	1,236,228
Salt	3,548	322,454	2,894	258,377
Phosphate rock	0	0	0	0
Sulphur	49,924	4,789,000	50,533	4,878,250
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	3,224	291,313	3,535	314,879
Iron ores and concentrates	1	59	0	0
Copper ores and concentrates	4,502	400,533	4,940	438,831
Nickel ores and concentrates	78	7,140	85	7,500
Lead ores and concentrates	0	0	11	911
Zinc ores and concentrates	454	36,334	647	51,199
Other metallic ores and concentrates	110	9,498	170	14,885
Coal	214,364	22,339,023	208,105	21,513,069
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	5,518	419,383	5,723	434,407
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	19,873	1,604,683	23,294	1,918,254
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	19,950	1,254,390	20,385	1,286,411
Coal coke and petroleum coke	8,029	641,819	6,135	488,792
Other refined petroleum and coal products	11,956	945,372	12,444	994,882
Sulphuric acid	2,488	221,235	2,506	223,285
Alumina	1	90	0	0
Other basic chemicals	31,807	2,799,452	31,234	2,761,333
Potash	116,639	11,461,958	113,867	11,100,947
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	33,829	2,821,082	35,436	2,952,230
Other chemical products and preparations	339	26,619	344	27,273
Plastic and rubber	17,429	1,548,553	18,407	1,639,033
Logs and other wood in the rough	3,483	226,130	3,915	248,014
Wood chips	22,559	1,322,124	28,924	1,712,492
Lumber	63,827	5,380,230	88,257	7,440,454
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	21,852	1,819,254	32,724	2,663,330
Wood pulp	53,469	4,481,237	53,833	4,477,981
Newsprint	4,992	331,582	5,869	402,281
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	9,506	702,729	9,809	699,576
Cement	8,864	839,564	8,545	800,946
Other non-metallic mineral products	1,174	99,149	1,395	116,735
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	5,251	455,152	5,282	446,718
Copper, primary or semi-finished	671	51,130	758	58,383
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	173	14,511	113	8,663
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	3,385	272,494	3,619	280,182
Articles of base metal	7,112	516,240	8,603	631,303
Machinery	282	16,893	210	10,017
Automobiles and mini-vans	16,760	240,781	14,988	221,387
Freight motor vehicles	3,986	56,893	3,305	50,464
Other vehicles	124	2,416	176	4,183
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	1	16	0	0
Other transportation equipment	6,162	92,239	2,253	68,075
Metallic waste and scrap	11,929	887,534	10,406	778,922
Non-metallic waste and scrap	2,801	120,890	3,052	130,607
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	547	30,738	613	34,167
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	30	670	23	618
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	28	953	95	2,266
Less than carload shipments	...	0	...	0
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	1,075,129	94,189,075	1,130,730	98,854,887

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

	August 2008			August 2007		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	20,155,669	.	.	22,311,227
Container-on-flat-car	161,138	289,803	2,398,124	162,586	288,559	2,485,683
Trailer-on-flat-car	6,966	.	91,619	7,481	.	96,191
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	2,903,101	.	.	2,875,522
Total traffic carried	.	.	25,548,513	.	.	27,768,623
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	24,003	41,848	333,783	22,480	38,834	307,790
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	1,705	.	25,000	2,029	.	27,790
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	3,022,094	.	.	3,534,167

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

	August 2008			August 2007		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	9,277,215	.	.	9,708,417
Container-on-flat-car	79,619	144,356	1,265,941	85,924	153,510	1,383,809
Trailer-on-flat-car	6,559	.	83,144	6,946	.	85,766
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	684,910	.	.	864,866
Total traffic carried	.	.	11,311,210	.	.	12,042,858
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	6,319	12,570	77,439	5,948	11,530	74,425
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	30	.	367	23	.	293
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	2,437,036	.	.	2,686,743

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

	August 2008			August 2007		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	10,878,454	.	.	12,602,810
Container-on-flat-car	81,519	145,447	1,132,183	76,662	135,049	1,101,874
Trailer-on-flat-car	407	.	8,475	535	.	10,425
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	2,218,191	.	.	2,010,656
Total traffic carried	.	.	14,237,303	.	.	15,725,765
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	17,684	29,278	256,344	16,532	27,304	233,365
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	1,675	.	24,633	2,006	.	27,497
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	585,058	.	.	847,424

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 August 2008			January 2007 to August 2007		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	164,553,112	.	.	170,234,424
Container-on-flat-car	1,208,497	2,150,894	18,555,389	1,181,713	2,074,982	18,433,219
Trailer-on-flat-car	53,545	.	686,436	50,567	.	662,590
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	22,685,835	.	.	20,799,016
Total traffic carried	.	.	206,480,772	.	.	210,129,249
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	186,452	322,206	2,568,294	161,927	278,992	2,209,896
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	16,263	.	237,282	13,176	.	192,189
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	23,791,113	.	.	27,661,885

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 August 2008			January 2007 to August 2007		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	70,364,037	.	.	71,379,537
Container-on-flat-car	618,305	1,107,811	10,006,827	622,835	1,100,009	10,047,053
Trailer-on-flat-car	50,090	.	615,598	46,785	.	583,652
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	5,334,034	.	.	5,932,978
Total traffic carried	.	.	86,320,496	.	.	87,943,220
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	44,987	90,066	564,915	42,532	83,770	530,560
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	1,160	.	22,706	1,294	.	22,871
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	20,008,917	.	.	22,980,946

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 August 2008			January 2007 to August 2007		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	94,189,075	.	.	98,854,887
Container-on-flat-car	590,192	1,043,083	8,548,562	558,878	974,973	8,386,166
Trailer-on-flat-car	3,455	.	70,838	3,782	.	78,938
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	17,351,801	.	.	14,866,038
Total traffic carried	.	.	120,160,276	.	.	122,186,029
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	141,465	232,140	2,003,379	119,395	195,222	1,679,336
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	15,103	.	214,576	11,882	.	169,318
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	3,782,196	.	.	4,680,939

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: October 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

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