

Service bulletin

Monthly Railway Carloadings

October 2009



Highlights

- The volume of cargo carried by Canadian railways fell in October, as both commodity loadings in Canada as well as traffic received from the United States declined.
- Total freight traffic originating in Canada and received from the United States dropped to 24.5 million metric tonnes in October, down 9.7% from October 2008.
- Compared with October 2008, freight loaded in Canada fell 5.4% to 22.5 million metric tonnes in October. The Canadian railway industry's core transportation systems, non-intermodal and intermodal, each impacted on the drop in cargo loaded.
- Non-intermodal freight loadings, which are typically carried in bulk or loaded in box cars, declined 4.9% to 20.3 million metric tonnes. The decrease was the result of reduced loadings in the majority of the commodity groups carried by the railways. The commodity groups with the largest declines in tonnage were potash, lumber, nickel ores and concentrates, iron and steel (primary or semi-finished) and newsprint.
- Despite these declines there were several commodity groups that registered strong gains. Loadings of coal led the pack, rising 12.2% to over 3.0 million metric tonnes, followed by gains in several agricultural related commodity groups including colza seeds (canola), other oil seeds and nuts and other agricultural products, and wheat.
- Intermodal freight loadings, transported through containers and trailers loaded onto flat cars, decreased 10.3% to 2.2 million metric tonnes in October, compared with the same month the previous year.
- Rail freight traffic coming from the United States fell to about 2.0 million metric tonnes, down 40.4% from October 2008. Both non-intermodal and intermodal freight transported from the United States contributed to the decline.
- From a geographic perspective, 56.0% of the overall volume of cargo loaded by Canadian railways was in the Western Division of Canada, with the remainder loaded in the Eastern Division. 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.

Statistical tables

Table 1

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

	October 2009		October 2008	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	18,572	1,719,141	16,846	1,553,189
Other cereal grains	4,439	363,136	6,186	495,765
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	3,209	292,753	2,100	189,544
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	39	708	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	13,507	1,104,805	10,931	892,438
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	4,104	368,670	2,055	172,062
Animal feed and products	2,622	218,435	2,536	205,408
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	47	1,534	2	66
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	1,194	89,227	1,187	93,890
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	2,991	240,281	3,116	250,792
Sugar	264	23,025	483	42,444
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	287	13,953	319	21,174
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	379	19,804	229	16,232
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	3,066	266,343	3,214	285,642
Salt	868	75,073	1,093	96,606
Phosphate rock	717	64,275	1,073	96,285
Sulphur	4,739	450,526	5,026	475,239
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	3,344	302,519	5,123	457,964
Iron ores and concentrates	29,941	2,850,229	33,261	2,985,763
Copper ores and concentrates	1,199	106,279	963	86,003
Nickel ores and concentrates	140	10,160	2,841	217,520
Lead ores and concentrates	181	12,991	220	17,037
Zinc ores and concentrates	771	62,794	1,084	91,789
Other metallic ores and concentrates	4,648	443,293	4,978	475,120
Coal	29,662	3,080,751	26,651	2,745,737
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	3,456	264,242	2,463	186,580
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	4,874	398,457	4,972	396,638
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	5,616	351,401	6,015	378,772
Coal coke and petroleum coke	2,528	180,620	2,451	173,899
Other refined petroleum and coal products	2,290	174,994	2,717	210,536
Sulphuric acid	2,031	184,143	2,388	215,319
Alumina	2,479	225,953	3,081	282,632
Other basic chemicals	7,209	619,848	7,675	661,994
Potash	7,373	714,768	12,951	1,271,753
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	4,409	362,551	5,360	449,198
Other chemical products and preparations	605	42,800	748	61,221
Plastic and rubber	2,974	239,916	2,827	246,091
Logs and other wood in the rough	1,015	59,428	2,305	131,851
Wood chips	3,355	200,049	4,736	284,954
Lumber	7,792	648,940	10,585	888,755
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	2,743	224,328	3,537	288,336
Wood pulp	7,878	660,982	9,164	747,095
Newsprint	2,485	173,058	5,107	341,562
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	4,505	305,333	5,032	356,036
Cement	2,348	224,946	2,851	270,897
Other non-metallic mineral products	194	13,174	210	18,206
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	3,340	270,042	5,463	446,429
Copper, primary or semi-finished	323	27,867	326	26,556
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	2,718	230,803	3,278	277,101
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	675	57,596	795	58,463
Articles of base metal	1,088	73,825	1,362	97,055
Machinery	268	3,768	79	3,558
Automobiles and mini-vans	9,608	176,193	10,216	177,277
Freight motor vehicles	5,816	103,230	4,793	90,506
Other vehicles	26	251	50	773
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	490	15,684	826	23,904
Other transportation equipment	2,002	26,070	2,890	41,550
Metallic waste and scrap	2,462	190,335	2,366	178,983
Non-metallic waste and scrap	556	26,535	883	49,580
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	249	10,064	112	7,242
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	112	4,716	210	9,032
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	7,068	105,037	306	9,269
Less than carload shipments	...	25	...	96
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	245,890	20,289,160	262,647	21,323,408

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

	October 2009		October 2008	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	1,339	120,881	673	59,049
Other cereal grains	737	64,140	238	19,309
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	136	11,659	33	2,630
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	39	708	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	8	548	43	3,568
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	3,485	318,067	717	62,918
Animal feed and products	1,251	103,440	915	73,340
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	47	1,534	1	2
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	245	11,574	57	4,414
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	593	45,216	425	33,473
Sugar	246	21,691	452	39,719
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	64	1,100	18	1,549
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	244	11,599	144	10,031
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	732	53,521	720	57,879
Salt	329	26,493	264	21,465
Phosphate rock	716	64,257	1,073	96,285
Sulphur	155	13,646	287	24,817
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	3,024	272,922	4,610	411,296
Iron ores and concentrates	29,941	2,850,229	33,261	2,985,763
Copper ores and concentrates	645	56,394	391	34,765
Nickel ores and concentrates	140	10,160	2,834	216,881
Lead ores and concentrates	181	12,991	220	17,037
Zinc ores and concentrates	704	57,211	1,029	87,521
Other metallic ores and concentrates	4,648	443,293	4,976	474,944
Coal	1,823	162,309	1,620	139,178
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	2,606	199,642	1,795	137,887
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	2,463	195,410	3,451	274,773
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	2,385	154,493	2,600	164,275
Coal coke and petroleum coke	1,086	58,102	1,059	63,688
Other refined petroleum and coal products	1,277	94,191	1,419	107,094
Sulphuric acid	1,731	157,900	2,001	180,977
Alumina	2,479	225,953	3,081	282,632
Other basic chemicals	3,294	275,349	3,485	295,447
Potash	279	27,572	635	60,326
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	309	25,357	436	38,335
Other chemical products and preparations	536	37,140	698	57,338
Plastic and rubber	969	60,882	973	81,478
Logs and other wood in the rough	762	42,490	1,736	93,383
Wood chips	1,080	70,213	1,588	101,066
Lumber	1,506	120,554	2,619	216,081
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	533	32,831	871	64,011
Wood pulp	1,821	144,572	2,644	203,709
Newsprint	2,371	164,094	4,517	301,546
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	3,521	230,948	3,806	262,158
Cement	1,307	124,526	1,488	141,906
Other non-metallic mineral products	77	2,970	73	6,467
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	2,857	227,613	4,741	384,152
Copper, primary or semi-finished	270	23,347	243	20,231
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	2,712	230,278	3,257	275,358
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	304	26,604	317	20,215
Articles of base metal	402	21,571	381	26,625
Machinery	262	3,431	51	2,044
Automobiles and mini-vans	7,958	152,459	8,283	148,442
Freight motor vehicles	5,535	99,214	4,215	82,109
Other vehicles	25	191	14	19
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	489	15,682	826	23,904
Other transportation equipment	758	5,629	1,669	24,693
Metallic waste and scrap	1,341	104,404	1,176	88,790
Non-metallic waste and scrap	226	15,125	415	30,290
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	183	5,910	61	3,926
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	107	4,650	208	8,995
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	7,058	104,309	302	9,124
Less than carload shipments	...	25	...	96
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	114,351	8,737,697	122,135	9,161,423

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

	October 2009		October 2008	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	17,233	1,598,260	16,173	1,494,140
Other cereal grains	3,702	298,996	5,948	476,456
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	3,073	281,094	2,067	186,914
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	13,499	1,104,257	10,888	888,870
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	619	50,603	1,338	109,144
Animal feed and products	1,371	114,995	1,621	132,068
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	0	0	1	64
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	949	77,653	1,130	89,476
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	2,398	195,065	2,691	217,319
Sugar	18	1,334	31	2,725
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	223	12,853	301	19,625
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	135	8,205	85	6,201
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	2,334	212,822	2,494	227,763
Salt	539	48,580	829	75,141
Phosphate rock	1	18	0	0
Sulphur	4,584	436,880	4,739	450,422
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	320	29,597	513	46,668
Iron ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Copper ores and concentrates	554	49,885	572	51,238
Nickel ores and concentrates	0	0	7	639
Lead ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Zinc ores and concentrates	67	5,583	55	4,268
Other metallic ores and concentrates	0	0	2	176
Coal	27,839	2,918,442	25,031	2,606,559
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	850	64,600	668	48,693
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	2,411	203,047	1,521	121,865
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	3,231	196,908	3,415	214,497
Coal coke and petroleum coke	1,442	122,518	1,392	110,211
Other refined petroleum and coal products	1,013	80,803	1,298	103,442
Sulphuric acid	300	26,243	387	34,342
Alumina	0	0	0	0
Other basic chemicals	3,915	344,499	4,190	366,547
Potash	7,094	687,196	12,316	1,211,427
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	4,100	337,194	4,924	410,863
Other chemical products and preparations	69	5,660	50	3,883
Plastic and rubber	2,005	179,034	1,854	164,613
Logs and other wood in the rough	253	16,938	569	38,468
Wood chips	2,275	129,836	3,148	183,888
Lumber	6,286	528,386	7,966	672,674
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	2,210	191,497	2,666	224,325
Wood pulp	6,057	516,410	6,520	543,386
Newsprint	114	8,964	590	40,016
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	984	74,385	1,226	93,878
Cement	1,041	100,420	1,363	128,991
Other non-metallic mineral products	117	10,204	137	11,739
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	483	42,429	722	62,277
Copper, primary or semi-finished	53	4,520	83	6,325
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	6	525	21	1,743
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	371	30,992	478	38,248
Articles of base metal	686	52,254	981	70,430
Machinery	6	337	28	1,514
Automobiles and mini-vans	1,650	23,734	1,933	28,835
Freight motor vehicles	281	4,016	578	8,397
Other vehicles	1	60	36	754
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	1	2	0	0
Other transportation equipment	1,244	20,441	1,221	16,857
Metallic waste and scrap	1,121	85,931	1,190	90,193
Non-metallic waste and scrap	330	11,410	468	19,290
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	66	4,154	51	3,316
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	5	66	2	37
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	10	728	4	145
Less than carload shipments	...	0	...	0
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	131,539	11,551,463	140,512	12,161,985

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 2009 to October 2009		January 2008 to October 2008	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	201,231	18,602,653	150,180	13,789,746
Other cereal grains	53,175	4,439,598	53,524	4,229,109
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	29,495	2,684,503	21,030	1,901,208
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	53	962	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	86,611	7,098,471	69,118	5,641,597
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	15,807	1,368,393	7,835	644,544
Animal feed and products	21,822	1,783,361	22,947	1,838,307
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	82	2,999	23	1,370
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	12,998	955,719	11,994	933,600
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	30,954	2,491,349	26,784	2,146,289
Sugar	3,273	288,937	3,785	328,606
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	3,051	150,340	2,666	185,657
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	3,811	214,056	1,692	125,204
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	19,604	1,729,690	33,347	2,954,124
Salt	7,271	639,227	7,765	691,602
Phosphate rock	8,497	762,299	8,721	784,353
Sulphur	48,950	4,680,809	62,059	5,931,108
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	25,486	2,349,764	44,017	3,848,873
Iron ores and concentrates	268,977	24,226,746	322,225	29,035,807
Copper ores and concentrates	11,059	980,281	10,262	904,266
Nickel ores and concentrates	9,745	753,089	26,262	2,005,872
Lead ores and concentrates	1,965	142,371	2,149	165,856
Zinc ores and concentrates	8,941	728,197	7,982	671,226
Other metallic ores and concentrates	48,551	4,632,025	51,692	4,930,214
Coal	233,746	24,210,393	284,432	29,339,068
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	33,280	2,519,293	27,826	2,119,249
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	51,377	4,176,965	52,831	4,238,067
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	53,247	3,357,673	53,177	3,386,545
Coal coke and petroleum coke	19,547	1,388,404	20,385	1,408,248
Other refined petroleum and coal products	25,243	1,955,324	27,219	2,103,390
Sulphuric acid	22,721	2,061,564	26,432	2,386,248
Alumina	27,424	2,506,521	30,146	2,765,942
Other basic chemicals	68,784	5,900,002	70,379	6,118,602
Potash	52,561	5,126,908	147,291	14,438,527
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	43,701	3,642,057	45,675	3,819,934
Other chemical products and preparations	6,585	451,412	10,074	855,176
Plastic and rubber	31,672	2,601,180	35,473	3,088,122
Logs and other wood in the rough	9,399	580,016	15,586	902,138
Wood chips	32,786	1,950,962	43,037	2,590,706
Lumber	75,133	6,269,016	102,618	8,612,644
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	28,418	2,298,242	35,697	2,902,000
Wood pulp	77,478	6,461,827	95,266	7,802,657
Newsprint	33,302	2,256,980	48,008	3,223,706
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	37,306	2,596,421	42,980	3,009,114
Cement	18,857	1,815,741	23,864	2,254,136
Other non-metallic mineral products	2,065	145,528	2,310	199,365
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	25,195	2,089,352	62,370	5,126,222
Copper, primary or semi-finished	3,149	267,788	3,990	330,514
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	26,526	2,246,924	30,298	2,528,431
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	6,482	542,800	6,885	535,492
Articles of base metal	10,324	710,834	13,224	952,937
Machinery	2,886	49,958	1,266	59,234
Automobiles and mini-vans	72,985	1,242,306	84,423	1,403,132
Freight motor vehicles	44,144	784,295	59,911	1,105,223
Other vehicles	326	4,721	516	10,093
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	5,013	155,754	11,548	340,730
Other transportation equipment	22,124	227,060	20,942	288,529
Metallic waste and scrap	24,115	1,882,725	29,480	2,231,896
Non-metallic waste and scrap	5,340	260,787	6,722	392,607
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	2,190	104,570	1,204	72,155
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	1,141	48,746	2,510	107,416
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	72,761	1,056,536	2,966	88,096
Less than carload shipments	...	648	...	2,277
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	2,230,742	178,170,555	2,527,020	206,827,106

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 2009 to October 2009		January 2008 to October 2008	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	10,201	924,454	4,754	416,686
Other cereal grains	15,953	1,432,172	3,265	279,358
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	684	58,750	295	23,975
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	53	962	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	14	965	111	9,083
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	10,335	918,663	1,502	122,385
Animal feed and products	9,385	750,396	7,928	625,428
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	68	2,103	8	410
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	2,426	112,640	612	46,314
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	6,383	500,963	3,442	265,513
Sugar	2,968	261,737	3,375	296,384
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	654	12,736	397	26,972
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	3,069	160,465	1,127	79,848
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	4,635	379,088	8,694	702,384
Salt	2,631	217,929	2,780	238,555
Phosphate rock	8,496	762,281	8,721	784,353
Sulphur	2,758	239,520	1,878	164,931
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	22,297	2,056,752	39,809	3,468,025
Iron ores and concentrates	268,977	24,226,746	322,224	29,035,748
Copper ores and concentrates	5,242	458,447	4,624	401,924
Nickel ores and concentrates	9,706	749,570	26,171	1,997,521
Lead ores and concentrates	1,964	142,283	2,149	165,856
Zinc ores and concentrates	8,322	677,519	7,424	626,839
Other metallic ores and concentrates	48,539	4,631,040	51,580	4,920,540
Coal	18,625	1,618,304	19,610	1,726,025
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	25,498	1,931,338	20,889	1,598,624
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	26,913	2,148,431	29,493	2,354,859
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	27,836	1,772,839	27,626	1,780,130
Coal coke and petroleum coke	9,299	551,851	9,796	561,664
Other refined petroleum and coal products	12,359	919,715	12,477	934,756
Sulphuric acid	20,111	1,829,930	23,205	2,099,412
Alumina	27,420	2,506,164	30,145	2,765,852
Other basic chemicals	32,910	2,761,276	30,692	2,632,959
Potash	1,916	187,437	6,588	603,333
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	3,626	302,106	2,101	183,138
Other chemical products and preparations	5,773	385,069	9,655	822,337
Plastic and rubber	10,823	745,871	13,946	1,176,591
Logs and other wood in the rough	5,650	336,466	11,067	606,738
Wood chips	10,567	673,342	14,268	907,571
Lumber	15,252	1,225,828	23,250	1,921,635
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	6,263	413,165	8,493	633,125
Wood pulp	18,157	1,432,994	28,915	2,249,179
Newsprint	30,119	2,034,958	41,854	2,813,991
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	28,128	1,894,379	31,070	2,125,057
Cement	10,859	1,042,463	12,254	1,153,634
Other non-metallic mineral products	1,133	65,230	879	77,978
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	22,122	1,824,975	55,675	4,545,645
Copper, primary or semi-finished	2,524	214,590	3,145	266,124
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	26,351	2,232,481	30,048	2,507,346
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	2,996	251,661	2,559	187,392
Articles of base metal	4,090	249,295	4,516	321,173
Machinery	2,695	40,631	881	37,118
Automobiles and mini-vans	54,910	988,242	64,137	1,109,506
Freight motor vehicles	41,267	744,334	54,890	1,032,786
Other vehicles	208	1,721	353	6,619
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	5,012	155,752	11,547	340,714
Other transportation equipment	10,159	94,761	12,805	179,591
Metallic waste and scrap	13,881	1,105,175	14,811	1,139,162
Non-metallic waste and scrap	2,266	155,351	3,075	234,766
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	1,579	65,600	531	33,436
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	1,119	48,306	2,475	106,643
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	72,444	1,034,008	2,933	86,954
Less than carload shipments	...	648	...	2,277
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	1,058,620	76,181,351	1,175,524	88,564,872

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 2009 to October 2009		January 2008 to October 2008	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	191,030	17,678,199	145,426	13,373,060
Other cereal grains	37,222	3,007,426	50,259	3,949,751
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	28,811	2,625,753	20,735	1,877,233
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	86,597	7,097,506	69,007	5,632,514
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	5,472	449,730	6,333	522,159
Animal feed and products	12,437	1,032,965	15,019	1,212,879
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	14	896	15	960
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	10,572	843,079	11,382	887,286
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	24,571	1,990,386	23,342	1,880,776
Sugar	305	27,200	410	32,222
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	2,397	137,604	2,269	158,685
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	742	53,591	565	45,356
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	14,969	1,350,602	24,653	2,251,740
Salt	4,640	421,298	4,985	453,047
Phosphate rock	1	18	0	0
Sulphur	46,192	4,441,289	60,181	5,766,177
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	3,189	293,012	4,208	380,848
Iron ores and concentrates	0	0	1	59
Copper ores and concentrates	5,817	521,834	5,638	502,342
Nickel ores and concentrates	39	3,519	91	8,351
Lead ores and concentrates	1	88	0	0
Zinc ores and concentrates	619	50,678	558	44,387
Other metallic ores and concentrates	12	985	112	9,674
Coal	215,121	22,592,089	264,822	27,613,043
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	7,782	587,955	6,937	520,625
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	24,464	2,028,534	23,338	1,883,208
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	25,411	1,584,834	25,551	1,606,415
Coal coke and petroleum coke	10,248	836,553	10,589	846,584
Other refined petroleum and coal products	12,884	1,035,609	14,742	1,168,634
Sulphuric acid	2,610	231,634	3,227	286,836
Alumina	4	357	1	90
Other basic chemicals	35,874	3,138,726	39,687	3,485,643
Potash	50,645	4,939,471	140,703	13,835,194
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	40,075	3,339,951	43,574	3,636,796
Other chemical products and preparations	812	66,343	419	32,839
Plastic and rubber	20,849	1,855,309	21,527	1,911,531
Logs and other wood in the rough	3,749	243,550	4,519	295,400
Wood chips	22,219	1,277,620	28,769	1,683,135
Lumber	59,881	5,043,188	79,368	6,691,009
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	22,155	1,885,077	27,204	2,268,875
Wood pulp	59,321	5,028,833	66,351	5,553,478
Newsprint	3,183	222,022	6,154	409,715
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	9,178	702,042	11,910	884,057
Cement	7,998	773,278	11,610	1,100,502
Other non-metallic mineral products	932	80,298	1,431	121,387
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	3,073	264,377	6,695	580,577
Copper, primary or semi-finished	625	53,198	845	64,390
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	175	14,443	250	21,085
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	3,486	291,139	4,326	348,100
Articles of base metal	6,234	461,539	8,708	631,764
Machinery	191	9,327	385	22,116
Automobiles and mini-vans	18,075	254,064	20,286	293,626
Freight motor vehicles	2,877	39,961	5,021	72,437
Other vehicles	118	3,000	163	3,474
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	1	2	1	16
Other transportation equipment	11,965	132,299	8,137	108,938
Metallic waste and scrap	10,234	777,550	14,669	1,092,734
Non-metallic waste and scrap	3,074	105,436	3,647	157,841
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	611	38,970	673	38,719
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	22	440	35	773
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	317	22,528	33	1,142
Less than carload shipments	...	0	...	0
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	1,172,122	101,989,204	1,351,496	118,262,234

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

	October 2009			October 2008		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	20,289,160	.	.	21,323,408
Container-on-flat-car	141,172	269,918	2,157,215	158,626	295,943	2,402,636
Trailer-on-flat-car	6,158	.	77,499	6,925	.	89,411
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	1,962,835	.	.	3,292,978
Total traffic carried	.	.	24,486,709	.	.	27,108,433
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	9,871	19,434	145,064	22,517	41,068	310,969
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	1,680	.	25,222	1,725	.	25,095
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	2,436,627	.	.	2,751,503

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

	October 2009			October 2008		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	8,737,697	.	.	9,161,423
Container-on-flat-car	68,958	134,209	1,102,092	81,004	152,774	1,280,424
Trailer-on-flat-car	5,882	.	71,189	6,397	.	78,464
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	569,560	.	.	646,395
Total traffic carried	.	.	10,480,538	.	.	11,166,706
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	5,317	10,565	69,722	5,888	11,672	74,018
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	2	.	24	52	.	731
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	1,433,144	.	.	2,254,235

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

	October 2009			October 2008		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	11,551,463	.	.	12,161,985
Container-on-flat-car	72,214	135,709	1,055,123	77,622	143,169	1,122,212
Trailer-on-flat-car	276	.	6,310	528	.	10,947
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	1,393,275	.	.	2,646,583
Total traffic carried	.	.	14,006,171	.	.	15,941,727
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	4,554	8,869	75,342	16,629	29,396	236,951
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	1,678	.	25,198	1,673	.	24,364
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	1,003,483	.	.	497,268

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 2009 to October 2009			January 2008 to October 2008		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	178,170,555	.	.	206,827,106
Container-on-flat-car	1,298,744	2,470,989	20,029,567	1,520,261	2,724,200	23,238,417
Trailer-on-flat-car	58,480	.	723,064	67,514	.	872,744
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	17,959,461	.	.	29,011,203
Total traffic carried	.	.	216,882,647	.	.	259,949,470
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	88,717	173,939	1,292,132	231,310	402,625	3,185,244
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	17,715	.	260,859	19,707	.	287,630
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	19,457,015	.	.	29,386,432

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 2009 to October 2009			January 2008 to October 2008		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	76,181,351	.	.	88,564,872
Container-on-flat-car	651,597	1,257,155	10,545,828	774,148	1,398,178	12,468,816
Trailer-on-flat-car	54,654	.	637,184	63,091	.	779,885
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	5,143,244	.	.	6,638,075
Total traffic carried	.	.	92,507,607	.	.	108,451,648
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	45,014	90,618	586,224	56,776	113,479	708,070
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	142	.	2,146	1,281	.	24,736
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	14,229,016	.	.	24,514,668

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 2009 to October 2009			January 2008 to October 2008		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	101,989,204	.	.	118,262,234
Container-on-flat-car	647,147	1,213,834	9,483,739	746,113	1,326,022	10,769,601
Trailer-on-flat-car	3,826	.	85,880	4,423	.	92,859
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	12,816,217	.	.	22,373,128
Total traffic carried	.	.	124,375,040	.	.	151,497,822
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	43,703	83,321	705,908	174,534	289,146	2,477,174
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	17,573	.	258,713	18,426	.	262,894
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	5,227,999	.	.	4,871,764

1. Estimated numbers.

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

Methodology and concepts

The **Railway Carloadings (Monthly)** publication presents essential data for timely analysis of the Rail Transport Industry and its contribution to the Canadian economy. Approximately 40 rail carriers report each month on their total intermodal¹ and non-intermodal² traffic. For non-intermodal traffic, the carriers report the number of cars and tonnes by commodity of revenue-generating freight that they have loaded in Canada. For intermodal freight, the carriers report the number of units and tonnes for containers-on-flat-cars (C.O.F.C.) and trailers-on-flat-cars (T.O.F.C.), with no commodity detail. The carriers also report the total tonnage of revenue freight received from United States connections.

The total quantity of freight carried in Canada is the sum of the non-intermodal and intermodal freight loaded and the traffic received from U.S. connections. Additional information provided includes the number of units and tonnes of C.O.F.C. and T.O.F.C. received from U.S. connections and the total tonnes of cargo that the carriers received from other Canadian connections. This freight that is exchanged among Canadian based carriers is counted only once in the total quantity of freight moved as it is counted only when loaded. For intermodal freight, twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) are derived from the dimensions of the freight-laden containers. Empty containers are not included in these statistics.

The data are collected via questionnaires and electronic reports that are filed with Statistics Canada eight working days after the reference month. These questionnaires are captured and edited and the data are then aggregated to produce tables for all of Canada and the Eastern and Western divisions of Canada.³ Tables show the data for the reference month and the year-to-date. These year-to-date figures include revisions of data from previous months.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Release date: December 2009

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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