

## Service bulletin

# Monthly Railway Carloadings

March 2012



### Highlights

- Canadian railways carried 26.7 million tonnes of freight in March, virtually unchanged from March 2011. A drop in domestic loadings was fully offset by an increase in cargo received from U.S. connections.
- Total domestic freight loadings, comprised of non-intermodal traffic (i.e., carried in bulk or loaded in box cars) and intermodal traffic (i.e., containers and trailers on flat cars), dropped 1.6% to 23.4 million tonnes over the same 12-month period.
- Non-intermodal cargo loadings declined 2.8% to 20.9 million tonnes. The decrease was the result of reduced traffic in more than one-third of the commodity classifications carried by the railways. The commodity groups with the largest declines in tonnage were potash, iron ores and concentrates and coal.
- In contrast, several commodity groups registered increases. Loadings of wheat led the pack, followed by fuel oils and crude petroleum and colza seeds (canola).
- Intermodal freight loadings rose 9.7% to 2.5 million tonnes. The increase occurred solely on the strength of containerized cargo shipments as trailers loaded onto flat cars declined.
- Traffic received from U. S. connections advanced 13.1% to 3.3 million tonnes. The increase was driven by both non-intermodal and intermodal traffic.
- Geographically, 59.6% of the freight traffic originating in Canada was in the Western Division of Canada, with the remainder loaded in the Eastern Division. For statistical purposes, cargo loadings from Thunder Bay, Ontario, to the Pacific Coast are classified to the Western Division while loadings from Armstrong, Ontario to the Atlantic Coast are classified to the Eastern Division.

## Statistical tables

Table 1

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

	March 2012		March 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	21,876	2,056,395	16,831	1,577,833
Other cereal grains	4,395	372,408	4,404	365,612
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	2,328	214,999	3,159	294,111
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	25	435	20	659
Colza seeds (canola)	10,348	846,716	8,179	661,155
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	2,552	230,690	1,515	132,112
Animal feed and products	2,628	224,390	2,679	223,832
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	7	138	17	364
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	1,361	100,735	1,165	87,341
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	5,482	466,058	4,729	400,472
Sugar	394	33,578	428	37,007
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	341	17,197	329	17,756
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	912	70,717	855	63,597
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	2,565	242,621	2,307	212,949
Salt	739	65,621	739	64,478
Phosphate rock	428	38,584	809	73,082
Sulphur	4,996	473,468	5,364	503,487
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals <sup>1</sup>	2,015	189,620	2,285	215,394
Iron ores and concentrates	26,756	2,446,777	33,262	3,048,727
Copper ores and concentrates	748	68,575	1,249	113,291
Nickel ores and concentrates	1,187	92,633	1,637	129,201
Lead ores and concentrates	203	14,559	191	13,680
Zinc ores and concentrates	1,041	85,130	1,049	84,176
Other metallic ores and concentrates	3,450	315,621	3,581	325,849
Coal	25,149	2,615,005	29,771	3,083,613
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	2,700	213,641	3,571	278,636
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	8,823	707,647	5,602	458,696
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	5,460	344,674	5,409	341,555
Coal coke and petroleum coke	2,957	212,076	2,332	161,574
Other refined petroleum and coal products	5,010	399,216	3,326	262,979
Sulphuric acid	2,452	220,548	2,377	212,977
Alumina	2,544	237,386	2,847	263,869
Other basic chemicals	8,285	700,144	7,650	646,965
Potash	12,201	1,186,908	18,251	1,800,046
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	4,394	363,429	5,776	484,601
Other chemical products and preparations	995	61,082	1,052	68,167
Plastic and rubber	4,030	328,243	4,000	326,166
Logs and other wood in the rough	661	41,755	758	46,764
Wood chips	3,940	231,318	3,356	199,658
Lumber	10,565	866,580	10,468	865,443
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	4,072	346,448	3,581	298,825
Wood pulp	9,337	790,520	9,206	779,774
Newsprint	2,278	154,551	2,648	180,791
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	3,127	219,845	3,909	270,829
Cement	1,893	186,260	1,610	155,429
Other non-metallic mineral products	219	13,912	253	16,654
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	5,746	471,447	5,539	464,130
Copper, primary or semi-finished	154	13,402	146	12,676
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	2,435	209,527	2,558	217,646
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	900	78,887	761	65,290
Articles of base metal	1,272	82,230	1,118	72,998
Machinery	543	8,293	265	4,742
Automobiles and mini-vans	13,544	246,434	11,206	187,214
Freight motor vehicles	7,552	135,181	6,984	124,650
Other vehicles	35	780	46	576
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	737	18,015	764	19,069
Other transportation equipment	719	27,675	724	30,850
Metallic waste and scrap	4,201	330,116	3,500	276,224
Non-metallic waste and scrap	1,091	56,433	709	31,176
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	253	9,777	284	12,936
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	21	229	14	164
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	8,711	123,548	9,760	142,862
Less than carload shipments	...	32	...	394
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>265,783</b>	<b>20,920,859</b>	<b>268,914</b>	<b>21,513,773</b>

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**

	March 2012		March 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	604	55,237	1,393	125,809
Other cereal grains	1,321	118,730	1,370	121,546
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	37	3,166	91	7,936
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	25	435	16	298
Colza seeds (canola)	0	0	1	53
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	2,077	190,759	1,136	100,180
Animal feed and products	1,065	83,048	1,191	97,188
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	7	138	17	364
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	301	15,449	245	13,664
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	742	57,068	463	36,344
Sugar	359	31,002	397	34,596
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	123	2,233	109	2,432
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	875	67,828	768	56,869
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	648	57,783	781	65,633
Salt	248	20,659	304	24,862
Phosphate rock	428	38,584	809	73,082
Sulphur	183	16,381	203	18,219
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals <sup>1</sup>	1,738	164,569	2,073	195,592
Iron ores and concentrates	26,756	2,446,777	33,262	3,048,727
Copper ores and concentrates	171	14,074	583	49,840
Nickel ores and concentrates	1,187	92,633	1,637	129,201
Lead ores and concentrates	203	14,559	191	13,680
Zinc ores and concentrates	971	79,075	1,022	81,810
Other metallic ores and concentrates	3,450	315,621	3,575	325,332
Coal	1,487	123,959	1,655	145,491
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	2,149	170,455	2,466	193,059
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	4,183	332,150	2,853	226,093
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	2,676	170,637	2,425	156,249
Coal coke and petroleum coke	1,241	68,329	1,320	73,905
Other refined petroleum and coal products	1,861	142,130	1,482	114,148
Sulphuric acid	2,037	184,342	1,931	174,192
Alumina	2,543	237,296	2,847	263,869
Other basic chemicals	3,788	305,753	3,563	289,251
Potash	816	81,882	872	87,846
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	401	34,116	485	41,057
Other chemical products and preparations	878	52,688	967	62,224
Plastic and rubber	1,682	117,982	1,522	106,208
Logs and other wood in the rough	397	25,096	573	34,695
Wood chips	1,048	65,385	1,108	71,278
Lumber	2,274	181,759	2,569	210,184
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	754	52,618	741	52,107
Wood pulp	2,198	178,486	2,607	217,992
Newsprint	1,985	134,724	2,358	160,711
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	2,290	154,857	3,009	199,306
Cement	820	81,465	689	67,444
Other non-metallic mineral products	136	6,548	157	8,415
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	5,166	421,074	5,046	419,984
Copper, primary or semi-finished	154	13,402	146	12,676
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	2,359	202,877	2,554	217,348
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	497	45,947	333	29,831
Articles of base metal	776	46,391	625	37,363
Machinery	534	7,701	254	4,359
Automobiles and mini-vans	10,387	201,345	9,083	157,197
Freight motor vehicles	7,439	133,386	6,802	121,733
Other vehicles	34	757	45	522
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	737	18,015	764	19,069
Other transportation equipment	240	12,162	403	20,478
Metallic waste and scrap	2,411	195,908	2,275	182,222
Non-metallic waste and scrap	499	38,122	267	18,711
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	217	7,570	252	11,123
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	1	18	0	0
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	8,711	123,548	9,747	142,227
Less than carload shipments	...	32	...	394
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>121,325</b>	<b>8,256,720</b>	<b>128,432</b>	<b>8,974,218</b>

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**

	March 2012		March 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	21,272	2,001,158	15,438	1,452,024
Other cereal grains	3,074	253,678	3,034	244,066
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	2,291	211,833	3,068	286,175
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	4	361
Colza seeds (canola)	10,348	846,716	8,178	661,102
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	475	39,931	379	31,932
Animal feed and products	1,563	141,342	1,488	126,644
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	0	0	0	0
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	1,060	85,286	920	73,677
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	4,740	408,990	4,266	364,128
Sugar	35	2,576	31	2,411
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	218	14,964	220	15,324
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	37	2,889	87	6,728
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	1,917	184,838	1,526	147,316
Salt	491	44,962	435	39,616
Phosphate rock	0	0	0	0
Sulphur	4,813	457,087	5,161	485,268
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals <sup>1</sup>	277	25,051	212	19,802
Iron ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Copper ores and concentrates	577	54,501	666	63,451
Nickel ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Lead ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Zinc ores and concentrates	70	6,055	27	2,366
Other metallic ores and concentrates	0	0	6	517
Coal	23,662	2,491,046	28,116	2,938,122
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	551	43,186	1,105	85,577
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	4,640	375,497	2,749	232,603
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	2,784	174,037	2,984	185,306
Coal coke and petroleum coke	1,716	143,747	1,012	87,669
Other refined petroleum and coal products	3,149	257,086	1,844	148,831
Sulphuric acid	415	36,206	446	38,785
Alumina	1	90	0	0
Other basic chemicals	4,497	394,391	4,087	357,714
Potash	11,385	1,105,026	17,379	1,712,200
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	3,993	329,313	5,291	443,544
Other chemical products and preparations	117	8,394	85	5,943
Plastic and rubber	2,348	210,261	2,478	219,958
Logs and other wood in the rough	264	16,659	185	12,069
Wood chips	2,892	165,933	2,248	128,380
Lumber	8,291	684,821	7,899	655,259
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	3,318	293,830	2,840	246,718
Wood pulp	7,139	612,034	6,599	561,782
Newsprint	293	19,827	290	20,080
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	837	64,988	900	71,523
Cement	1,073	104,795	921	87,985
Other non-metallic mineral products	83	7,364	96	8,239
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	580	50,373	493	44,146
Copper, primary or semi-finished	0	0	0	0
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	76	6,650	4	298
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	403	32,940	428	35,459
Articles of base metal	496	35,839	493	35,635
Machinery	9	592	11	383
Automobiles and mini-vans	3,157	45,089	2,123	30,017
Freight motor vehicles	113	1,795	182	2,917
Other vehicles	1	23	1	54
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	0	0	0	0
Other transportation equipment	479	15,513	321	10,372
Metallic waste and scrap	1,790	134,208	1,225	94,002
Non-metallic waste and scrap	592	18,311	442	12,465
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	36	2,207	32	1,813
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	20	211	14	164
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	0	0	13	635
Less than carload shipments	...	0	...	0
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>144,458</b>	<b>12,664,139</b>	<b>140,482</b>	<b>12,539,555</b>

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 2012 to March 2012		January 2011 to March 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	59,235	5,572,225	45,281	4,241,390
Other cereal grains	13,695	1,159,890	12,616	1,044,491
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	4,800	438,474	9,705	902,735
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	53	922	28	798
Colza seeds (canola)	33,085	2,707,062	23,253	1,883,255
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	8,722	788,968	6,474	576,499
Animal feed and products	8,094	694,396	7,538	640,926
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	12	221	85	1,998
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	3,760	278,987	3,404	254,436
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	15,791	1,341,007	13,362	1,134,087
Sugar	1,227	104,346	1,200	104,057
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	1,004	54,807	847	44,561
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	2,528	197,630	2,845	219,964
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	6,223	585,582	5,417	500,308
Salt	2,555	228,372	2,401	210,941
Phosphate rock	1,712	154,194	2,334	210,661
Sulphur	15,263	1,449,411	14,772	1,380,684
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals <sup>1</sup>	5,262	494,811	5,328	496,202
Iron ores and concentrates	76,645	6,958,993	85,415	7,767,363
Copper ores and concentrates	2,289	209,796	3,432	310,254
Nickel ores and concentrates	3,311	255,194	4,772	373,641
Lead ores and concentrates	559	40,068	600	43,002
Zinc ores and concentrates	2,981	242,050	2,884	232,310
Other metallic ores and concentrates	8,682	801,395	8,654	791,106
Coal	83,871	8,741,438	74,192	7,683,638
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	6,985	547,376	9,435	733,213
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	24,464	1,979,022	17,884	1,465,354
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	18,933	1,193,654	17,730	1,118,822
Coal coke and petroleum coke	8,517	607,892	6,948	469,069
Other refined petroleum and coal products	13,480	1,074,909	8,714	686,014
Sulphuric acid	7,369	663,198	6,760	606,388
Alumina	7,467	696,099	7,971	739,059
Other basic chemicals	24,349	2,048,338	22,517	1,900,916
Potash	30,299	2,949,324	49,299	4,852,187
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	13,625	1,124,847	15,221	1,270,622
Other chemical products and preparations	2,801	168,074	2,756	179,112
Plastic and rubber	11,487	932,251	10,970	897,123
Logs and other wood in the rough	1,893	119,791	2,147	132,999
Wood chips	10,339	609,746	9,049	535,766
Lumber	29,799	2,449,010	27,052	2,233,056
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	10,966	936,073	9,228	773,718
Wood pulp	26,410	2,237,910	27,132	2,299,717
Newsprint	6,927	471,153	7,535	514,828
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	9,389	654,013	11,041	764,492
Cement	5,243	516,489	3,970	385,392
Other non-metallic mineral products	573	37,386	619	41,302
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	15,458	1,293,898	13,724	1,152,437
Copper, primary or semi-finished	442	38,483	524	45,314
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	6,962	599,469	7,234	610,099
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	2,553	223,385	2,176	186,420
Articles of base metal	3,231	212,906	3,108	210,214
Machinery	1,337	17,552	696	11,991
Automobiles and mini-vans	37,067	685,691	29,702	524,461
Freight motor vehicles	21,694	387,288	18,362	326,629
Other vehicles	147	3,778	107	1,408
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	2,088	50,388	1,894	47,082
Other transportation equipment	1,931	66,558	2,048	80,304
Metallic waste and scrap	11,853	923,162	10,016	780,632
Non-metallic waste and scrap	2,986	157,584	2,046	92,396
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	602	21,853	751	31,254
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	51	608	27	369
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	26,128	375,425	25,423	373,738
Less than carload shipments	...	87	...	483
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>767,204</b>	<b>60,574,909</b>	<b>728,655</b>	<b>58,123,687</b>

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 2012 to March 2012		January 2011 to March 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	2,184	199,995	4,560	411,662
Other cereal grains	3,112	278,213	3,427	304,235
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	110	9,641	153	12,673
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	53	922	24	437
Colza seeds (canola)	1	83	6	444
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	6,739	618,495	4,907	442,221
Animal feed and products	3,304	263,004	3,446	285,461
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	12	221	83	1,870
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	815	40,739	673	33,745
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	2,362	184,328	1,391	109,910
Sugar	1,106	95,486	1,103	96,546
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	286	4,768	283	5,248
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	2,424	189,253	2,643	203,807
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	1,577	139,490	1,663	145,184
Salt	758	63,798	845	68,796
Phosphate rock	1,711	154,156	2,334	210,661
Sulphur	533	47,946	545	48,793
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals <sup>1</sup>	4,461	422,305	4,697	438,253
Iron ores and concentrates	76,645	6,958,993	85,415	7,767,363
Copper ores and concentrates	521	42,417	1,666	142,648
Nickel ores and concentrates	3,311	255,194	4,772	373,641
Lead ores and concentrates	559	40,068	600	43,002
Zinc ores and concentrates	2,693	216,952	2,770	222,730
Other metallic ores and concentrates	8,681	801,330	8,646	790,409
Coal	4,390	359,791	3,737	323,572
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	5,260	415,029	6,318	491,244
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	12,561	997,478	9,525	758,820
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	8,882	569,552	8,036	518,046
Coal coke and petroleum coke	3,733	207,231	4,106	225,933
Other refined petroleum and coal products	5,369	412,644	4,301	330,035
Sulphuric acid	6,172	558,802	5,599	505,304
Alumina	7,466	696,009	7,970	738,972
Other basic chemicals	11,333	912,598	10,461	847,752
Potash	2,205	221,029	2,065	207,985
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	1,183	99,193	1,350	114,991
Other chemical products and preparations	2,415	138,295	2,482	158,267
Plastic and rubber	4,754	328,784	4,069	284,378
Logs and other wood in the rough	1,156	73,972	1,596	97,652
Wood chips	2,712	171,521	2,728	175,803
Lumber	6,396	511,918	6,421	524,722
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	1,987	136,420	1,893	133,692
Wood pulp	6,020	489,311	7,777	645,821
Newsprint	6,009	409,584	6,700	456,589
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	7,033	470,126	8,722	583,009
Cement	2,110	209,125	1,694	166,040
Other non-metallic mineral products	403	22,634	409	23,187
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	13,604	1,129,658	12,335	1,028,822
Copper, primary or semi-finished	442	38,483	524	45,314
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	6,845	589,266	7,212	608,474
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	1,324	122,772	973	86,841
Articles of base metal	2,299	142,987	1,863	116,841
Machinery	1,317	16,352	671	10,625
Automobiles and mini-vans	29,629	582,367	24,386	449,838
Freight motor vehicles	21,054	378,034	17,930	319,811
Other vehicles	143	3,547	106	1,354
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	2,088	50,388	1,894	47,082
Other transportation equipment	703	27,151	1,101	49,393
Metallic waste and scrap	6,992	562,959	6,566	520,437
Non-metallic waste and scrap	1,439	109,473	944	58,985
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	489	14,694	663	26,122
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	2	48	1	54
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	26,122	375,121	25,379	371,597
Less than carload shipments	...	87	...	483
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>347,999</b>	<b>23,582,230</b>	<b>347,159</b>	<b>24,213,626</b>

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 2012 to March 2012		January 2011 to March 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	57,051	5,372,230	40,721	3,829,728
Other cereal grains	10,583	881,677	9,189	740,256
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	4,690	428,833	9,552	890,062
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	4	361
Colza seeds (canola)	33,084	2,706,979	23,247	1,882,811
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	1,983	170,473	1,567	134,278
Animal feed and products	4,790	431,392	4,092	355,465
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	0	0	2	128
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	2,945	238,248	2,731	220,691
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	13,429	1,156,679	11,971	1,024,177
Sugar	121	8,860	97	7,511
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	718	50,039	564	39,313
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	104	8,377	202	16,157
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	4,646	446,092	3,754	355,124
Salt	1,797	164,574	1,556	142,145
Phosphate rock	1	38	0	0
Sulphur	14,730	1,401,465	14,227	1,331,891
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals <sup>1</sup>	801	72,506	631	57,949
Iron ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Copper ores and concentrates	1,768	167,379	1,766	167,606
Nickel ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Lead ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Zinc ores and concentrates	288	25,098	114	9,580
Other metallic ores and concentrates	1	65	8	697
Coal	79,481	8,381,647	70,455	7,360,066
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	1,725	132,347	3,117	241,969
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	11,903	981,544	8,359	706,534
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	10,051	624,102	9,694	600,776
Coal coke and petroleum coke	4,784	400,661	2,842	243,136
Other refined petroleum and coal products	8,111	662,265	4,413	355,979
Sulphuric acid	1,197	104,396	1,161	101,084
Alumina	1	90	1	87
Other basic chemicals	13,016	1,135,740	12,056	1,053,164
Potash	28,094	2,728,295	47,234	4,644,202
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	12,442	1,025,654	13,871	1,155,631
Other chemical products and preparations	386	29,779	274	20,845
Plastic and rubber	6,733	603,467	6,901	612,745
Logs and other wood in the rough	737	45,819	551	35,347
Wood chips	7,627	438,225	6,321	359,963
Lumber	23,403	1,937,092	20,631	1,708,334
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	8,979	799,653	7,335	640,026
Wood pulp	20,390	1,748,599	19,355	1,653,896
Newsprint	918	61,569	835	58,239
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	2,356	183,887	2,319	181,483
Cement	3,133	307,364	2,276	219,352
Other non-metallic mineral products	170	14,752	210	18,115
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	1,854	164,240	1,389	123,615
Copper, primary or semi-finished	0	0	0	0
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	117	10,203	22	1,625
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	1,229	100,613	1,203	99,579
Articles of base metal	932	69,919	1,245	93,373
Machinery	20	1,200	25	1,366
Automobiles and mini-vans	7,438	103,324	5,316	74,623
Freight motor vehicles	640	9,254	432	6,818
Other vehicles	4	231	1	54
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	0	0	0	0
Other transportation equipment	1,228	39,407	947	30,911
Metallic waste and scrap	4,861	360,203	3,450	260,195
Non-metallic waste and scrap	1,547	48,111	1,102	33,411
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	113	7,159	88	5,132
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	49	560	26	315
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	6	304	44	2,141
Less than carload shipments	...	0	...	0
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>419,205</b>	<b>36,992,679</b>	<b>381,496</b>	<b>33,910,061</b>

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**

	March 2012			March 2011		
	Units	TEUs <sup>1</sup>	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs <sup>1</sup>	Metric tonnes
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded</b>	.	.	<b>20,920,859</b>	.	.	<b>21,513,773</b>
Container-on-flat-car	158,858	299,542	2,442,126	141,126	268,287	2,201,532
Trailer-on-flat-car	4,076	.	58,237	5,161	.	76,778
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	3,296,828	.	.	2,913,698
<b>Total traffic carried</b>	.	.	<b>26,718,050</b>	.	.	<b>26,705,781</b>
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	11,166	22,597	162,381	10,037	20,360	140,016
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	1,920	.	25,967	2,042	.	28,952
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	3,581,108	.	.	2,227,265

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**

	March 2012			March 2011		
	Units	TEUs <sup>1</sup>	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs <sup>1</sup>	Metric tonnes
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded</b>	.	.	<b>8,256,720</b>	.	.	<b>8,974,218</b>
Container-on-flat-car	72,579	141,091	1,155,017	74,684	143,980	1,192,440
Trailer-on-flat-car	3,825	.	53,673	4,695	.	66,417
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	785,549	.	.	757,230
<b>Total traffic carried</b>	.	.	<b>10,250,959</b>	.	.	<b>10,990,305</b>
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	5,015	10,659	65,218	5,538	11,510	69,489
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	5	.	31	1	.	6
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	2,939,619	.	.	1,397,965

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

	March 2012			March 2011		
	Units	TEUs <sup>1</sup>	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs <sup>1</sup>	Metric tonnes
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded</b>	.	.	<b>12,664,139</b>	.	.	<b>12,539,555</b>
Container-on-flat-car	86,279	158,451	1,287,109	66,442	124,307	1,009,092
Trailer-on-flat-car	251	.	4,564	466	.	10,361
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	2,511,279	.	.	2,156,468
<b>Total traffic carried</b>	.	.	<b>16,467,091</b>	.	.	<b>15,715,476</b>
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	6,151	11,938	97,163	4,499	8,850	70,527
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	1,915	.	25,936	2,041	.	28,946
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	641,489	.	.	829,300

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 2012 to March 2012			January 2011 to March 2011		
	Units	TEUs <sup>1</sup>	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs <sup>1</sup>	Metric tonnes
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded</b>	.	.	<b>60,574,909</b>	.	.	<b>58,123,687</b>
Container-on-flat-car	443,673	837,432	6,795,029	403,321	763,386	6,199,539
Trailer-on-flat-car	11,859	.	172,383	13,420	.	199,134
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	9,433,583	.	.	7,830,146
<b>Total traffic carried</b>	.	.	<b>76,975,904</b>	.	.	<b>72,352,506</b>
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	31,431	64,227	462,068	26,039	52,525	377,418
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	5,620	.	80,119	5,555	.	82,807
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	8,496,976	.	.	6,404,527

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 2012 to March 2012			January 2011 to March 2011		
	Units	TEUs <sup>1</sup>	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs <sup>1</sup>	Metric tonnes
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded</b>	.	.	<b>23,582,230</b>	.	.	<b>24,213,626</b>
Container-on-flat-car	190,320	370,986	3,050,347	193,378	373,148	3,119,439
Trailer-on-flat-car	10,862	.	151,621	12,183	.	170,994
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	2,269,461	.	.	2,009,133
<b>Total traffic carried</b>	.	.	<b>29,053,659</b>	.	.	<b>29,513,192</b>
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	14,192	30,416	186,387	14,338	29,658	191,148
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	7	.	45	1	.	6
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	6,709,954	.	.	4,288,991

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 2012 to March 2012			January 2011 to March 2011		
	Units	TEUs <sup>1</sup>	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs <sup>1</sup>	Metric tonnes
<b>Total non-intermodal traffic loaded</b>	.	.	<b>36,992,679</b>	.	.	<b>33,910,061</b>
Container-on-flat-car	253,353	466,446	3,744,682	209,943	390,238	3,080,100
Trailer-on-flat-car	997	.	20,762	1,237	.	28,140
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	7,164,122	.	.	5,821,013
<b>Total traffic carried</b>	.	.	<b>47,922,245</b>	.	.	<b>42,839,314</b>
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	17,239	33,811	275,681	11,701	22,867	186,270
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	5,613	.	80,074	5,554	.	82,801
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	1,787,022	.	.	2,115,536

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 intermodal<sup>1</sup> and non-intermodal<sup>2</sup> 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.<sup>3</sup> Tables show the data for the reference month and the year-to-date. These year-to-date figures include revisions of data from previous months.

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

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

Details of the commodities included in each SCTG class presented in **Railway Carloadings (Monthly)** are available upon request. For further information, please contact Transportation Statistics, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0T6 (tel.: 1-866-500-8400, Internet: [TransportationStatistics@statcan.gc.ca](mailto: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: May 2012

### 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 <sup>s</sup>	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
*	significantly different from reference category ( $p < 0.05$ )

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