

Service bulletin

Monthly Railway Carloadings

July 2012



Highlights

- Canadian railways carried 27.5 million tonnes of freight in July, up 6.2% from July 2011. The gain was the result of increases in both domestic and international cargo loadings.
- On the domestic front, freight loadings, composed 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), increased 4.7% to 23.9 million tonnes over the same 12-month period.
- Non-intermodal cargo loadings rose 4.6% to 21.4 million tonnes. The gain was the result of increased traffic in half of the commodity classifications carried by the railways. The commodity groups with the largest increases in tonnage were coal, fuel oils and crude petroleum, and other refined petroleum and coal products. However, there were notable decreases in loadings of wheat, followed by colza seeds (canola) and sulphur.
- Intermodal freight loadings grew 5.6% to 2.5 million tonnes. The increase occurred solely on the strength of containerized cargo shipments, as trailers loaded onto flat cars declined.
- Internationally, total rail traffic received from the United States advanced 16.6% to 3.6 million tonnes. The increase was driven by both non-intermodal and intermodal traffic.
- Geographically, 58.7% of the freight traffic originating in Canada was loaded 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

	July 2012		July 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	16,572	1,545,002	19,131	1,793,264
Other cereal grains	4,854	395,530	3,487	295,343
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	1,668	154,996	3,076	288,655
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	9	149	15	248
Colza seeds (canola)	6,233	508,313	8,181	662,940
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	1,635	148,027	870	73,794
Animal feed and products	2,541	219,715	2,542	215,214
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	2	91	7	176
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	1,223	95,196	1,104	83,154
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	4,827	410,757	4,413	373,188
Sugar	455	39,269	491	41,436
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	270	12,195	248	12,209
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	1,203	96,796	930	70,513
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	5,178	484,341	3,974	374,865
Salt	590	53,136	578	51,531
Phosphate rock	857	77,387	915	82,724
Sulphur	4,287	395,424	5,764	546,095
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	1,821	170,577	1,884	178,266
Iron ores and concentrates	31,591	2,894,141	32,162	2,960,941
Copper ores and concentrates	701	63,241	919	83,303
Nickel ores and concentrates	1,305	100,206	1,527	117,695
Lead ores and concentrates	129	9,298	151	10,898
Zinc ores and concentrates	1,026	84,817	970	78,446
Other metallic ores and concentrates	6,770	608,391	6,851	613,303
Coal	33,690	3,500,892	26,996	2,816,558
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	3,596	280,466	4,163	320,996
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	10,221	815,553	5,195	419,501
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	5,035	315,105	4,509	284,446
Coal coke and petroleum coke	3,035	242,340	2,958	216,268
Other refined petroleum and coal products	4,965	396,236	3,291	255,386
Sulphuric acid	2,698	242,292	2,404	215,483
Alumina	3,014	281,360	2,830	263,113
Other basic chemicals	7,662	650,250	7,970	674,266
Potash	11,909	1,182,954	11,290	1,128,646
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	3,900	327,254	4,042	337,278
Other chemical products and preparations	876	53,008	1,061	73,708
Plastic and rubber	3,925	309,853	4,007	316,324
Logs and other wood in the rough	569	35,287	567	34,743
Wood chips	3,079	178,915	3,024	176,457
Lumber	10,423	862,755	9,233	760,589
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	4,011	341,257	3,169	264,896
Wood pulp	8,192	700,422	9,161	779,523
Newsprint	2,330	157,341	2,429	165,770
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	3,001	215,699	3,944	277,866
Cement	2,364	233,608	2,406	233,742
Other non-metallic mineral products	261	18,499	268	19,085
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	4,480	380,540	4,940	413,092
Copper, primary or semi-finished	94	8,225	181	15,802
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	2,213	191,823	2,552	215,315
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	960	83,972	815	70,592
Articles of base metal	1,320	88,375	1,430	88,377
Machinery	876	23,897	266	2,942
Automobiles and mini-vans	9,960	184,756	7,296	122,354
Freight motor vehicles	4,703	83,743	2,374	41,951
Other vehicles	27	413	27	280
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	444	11,018	425	9,969
Other transportation equipment	732	27,383	823	25,157
Metallic waste and scrap	3,330	263,637	3,531	282,156
Non-metallic waste and scrap	958	54,946	799	38,337
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	487	21,063	202	4,858
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	27	401	13	146
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	6,609	98,068	7,357	107,702
Less than carload shipments	...	68	...	41
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	261,723	21,430,669	248,138	20,481,916

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

	July 2012		July 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	966	86,394	925	84,889
Other cereal grains	1,217	108,796	1,779	159,172
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	24	2,118	39	3,202
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	9	149	15	248
Colza seeds (canola)	0	0	0	0
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	1,362	125,734	452	40,248
Animal feed and products	1,029	85,097	895	70,427
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	2	91	6	112
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	264	15,695	206	10,784
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	557	43,514	540	42,731
Sugar	413	36,004	454	38,648
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	127	2,084	96	1,417
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	1,178	94,777	893	67,407
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	799	62,841	683	56,344
Salt	274	23,276	308	26,863
Phosphate rock	857	77,387	915	82,724
Sulphur	209	16,935	210	18,584
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	1,555	145,447	1,665	157,591
Iron ores and concentrates	31,591	2,894,141	32,162	2,960,941
Copper ores and concentrates	240	19,775	208	16,958
Nickel ores and concentrates	1,305	100,206	1,527	117,695
Lead ores and concentrates	129	9,298	151	10,898
Zinc ores and concentrates	897	73,682	925	74,533
Other metallic ores and concentrates	6,770	608,391	6,851	613,303
Coal	1,323	105,978	1,181	92,664
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	3,172	247,178	3,173	245,568
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	4,040	316,333	2,048	160,722
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	3,097	192,734	2,983	187,069
Coal coke and petroleum coke	825	52,773	1,356	77,917
Other refined petroleum and coal products	1,658	125,155	1,395	103,861
Sulphuric acid	2,281	205,979	2,020	182,127
Alumina	3,014	281,360	2,830	263,113
Other basic chemicals	3,302	270,808	3,827	311,743
Potash	711	71,393	571	57,459
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	296	25,248	487	42,707
Other chemical products and preparations	820	48,749	980	67,218
Plastic and rubber	1,774	116,843	1,614	102,712
Logs and other wood in the rough	377	23,433	423	25,734
Wood chips	742	45,880	617	39,555
Lumber	2,138	172,519	2,010	163,045
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	787	53,582	673	45,491
Wood pulp	1,921	160,598	2,453	204,122
Newsprint	2,102	142,232	2,190	150,255
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	2,224	154,552	3,147	216,524
Cement	1,106	108,577	1,042	102,122
Other non-metallic mineral products	168	10,339	156	9,601
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	4,073	344,614	4,662	388,314
Copper, primary or semi-finished	94	8,225	181	15,802
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	2,159	187,057	2,537	214,172
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	508	46,635	433	38,960
Articles of base metal	526	30,595	634	38,487
Machinery	782	19,725	264	2,851
Automobiles and mini-vans	7,788	154,190	6,413	109,167
Freight motor vehicles	4,529	81,066	2,295	40,605
Other vehicles	23	247	26	244
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	444	11,018	425	9,969
Other transportation equipment	237	11,706	114	3,798
Metallic waste and scrap	1,596	132,580	2,153	175,989
Non-metallic waste and scrap	437	35,390	309	24,422
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	368	12,935	184	3,753
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	2	98	1	11
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	6,606	97,795	7,290	104,117
Less than carload shipments	...	68	...	41
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	119,824	8,738,019	117,002	8,677,750

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

	July 2012		July 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	15,606	1,458,608	18,206	1,708,375
Other cereal grains	3,637	286,734	1,708	136,171
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	1,644	152,878	3,037	285,453
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	6,233	508,313	8,181	662,940
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	273	22,293	418	33,546
Animal feed and products	1,512	134,618	1,647	144,787
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	0	0	1	64
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	959	79,501	898	72,370
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	4,270	367,243	3,873	330,457
Sugar	42	3,265	37	2,788
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	143	10,111	152	10,792
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	25	2,019	37	3,106
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	4,379	421,500	3,291	318,521
Salt	316	29,860	270	24,668
Phosphate rock	0	0	0	0
Sulphur	4,078	378,489	5,554	527,511
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	266	25,130	219	20,675
Iron ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Copper ores and concentrates	461	43,466	711	66,345
Nickel ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Lead ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Zinc ores and concentrates	129	11,135	45	3,913
Other metallic ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Coal	32,367	3,394,914	25,815	2,723,894
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	424	33,288	990	75,428
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	6,181	499,220	3,147	258,779
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	1,938	122,371	1,526	97,377
Coal coke and petroleum coke	2,210	189,567	1,602	138,351
Other refined petroleum and coal products	3,307	271,081	1,896	151,525
Sulphuric acid	417	36,313	384	33,356
Alumina	0	0	0	0
Other basic chemicals	4,360	379,442	4,143	362,523
Potash	11,198	1,111,561	10,719	1,071,187
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	3,604	302,006	3,555	294,571
Other chemical products and preparations	56	4,259	81	6,490
Plastic and rubber	2,151	193,010	2,393	213,612
Logs and other wood in the rough	192	11,854	144	9,009
Wood chips	2,337	133,035	2,407	136,902
Lumber	8,285	690,236	7,223	597,544
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	3,224	287,675	2,496	219,405
Wood pulp	6,271	539,824	6,708	575,401
Newsprint	228	15,109	239	15,515
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	777	61,147	797	61,342
Cement	1,258	125,031	1,364	131,620
Other non-metallic mineral products	93	8,160	112	9,484
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	407	35,926	278	24,778
Copper, primary or semi-finished	0	0	0	0
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	54	4,766	15	1,143
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	452	37,337	382	31,632
Articles of base metal	794	57,780	796	49,890
Machinery	94	4,172	2	91
Automobiles and mini-vans	2,172	30,566	883	13,187
Freight motor vehicles	174	2,677	79	1,346
Other vehicles	4	166	1	36
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	0	0	0	0
Other transportation equipment	495	15,677	709	21,359
Metallic waste and scrap	1,734	131,057	1,378	106,167
Non-metallic waste and scrap	521	19,556	490	13,915
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	119	8,128	18	1,105
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	25	303	12	135
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	3	273	67	3,585
Less than carload shipments	...	0	...	0
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	141,899	12,692,650	131,136	11,804,166

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 July 2012		January 2011 to July 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	130,923	12,290,160	123,811	11,606,608
Other cereal grains	29,249	2,459,300	29,146	2,444,348
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	12,605	1,160,585	20,624	1,921,529
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	86	1,473	40	703
Colza seeds (canola)	61,010	4,992,568	55,417	4,490,694
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	15,033	1,341,308	9,464	828,288
Animal feed and products	17,820	1,540,333	16,978	1,444,551
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	17	361	107	2,535
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	8,866	671,247	8,364	625,824
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	34,133	2,903,145	30,745	2,601,252
Sugar	2,937	251,501	3,027	259,662
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	2,114	107,980	1,898	100,042
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	8,401	676,135	6,991	540,338
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	23,391	2,183,655	19,905	1,843,291
Salt	4,967	452,178	4,911	435,835
Phosphate rock	4,917	443,576	5,847	528,082
Sulphur	33,449	3,148,812	36,393	3,433,782
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	13,318	1,250,700	13,933	1,313,935
Iron ores and concentrates	195,279	17,939,751	204,730	18,713,321
Copper ores and concentrates	5,349	491,066	6,992	634,444
Nickel ores and concentrates	7,971	611,369	9,527	744,277
Lead ores and concentrates	1,109	79,468	1,179	84,442
Zinc ores and concentrates	7,100	581,177	7,268	584,633
Other metallic ores and concentrates	34,154	3,088,235	35,253	3,172,990
Coal	204,870	21,414,311	194,224	20,150,881
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	20,698	1,624,252	25,350	1,968,141
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	58,445	4,713,323	37,265	3,024,040
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	38,320	2,421,179	35,021	2,213,067
Coal coke and petroleum coke	20,016	1,501,962	17,169	1,236,416
Other refined petroleum and coal products	32,152	2,574,746	21,485	1,681,032
Sulphuric acid	17,353	1,559,661	14,989	1,345,453
Alumina	18,274	1,703,439	19,494	1,809,049
Other basic chemicals	52,840	4,463,149	53,392	4,512,515
Potash	90,487	8,929,212	108,343	10,696,879
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	29,869	2,461,906	33,152	2,765,343
Other chemical products and preparations	6,470	400,158	7,006	472,177
Plastic and rubber	26,339	2,121,235	26,107	2,113,186
Logs and other wood in the rough	3,990	249,560	4,726	289,635
Wood chips	23,569	1,379,860	22,620	1,326,834
Lumber	70,029	5,769,408	64,709	5,323,385
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	27,554	2,349,721	23,121	1,933,291
Wood pulp	59,202	5,041,694	63,882	5,416,634
Newsprint	16,085	1,088,326	17,240	1,179,339
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	21,155	1,490,656	25,955	1,810,477
Cement	14,771	1,453,337	12,400	1,207,459
Other non-metallic mineral products	1,449	98,767	1,680	121,853
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	33,963	2,870,357	35,417	2,931,942
Copper, primary or semi-finished	880	76,739	1,072	93,016
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	15,642	1,344,906	17,170	1,450,096
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	6,035	526,794	5,160	442,840
Articles of base metal	7,680	505,059	7,973	532,048
Machinery	3,925	74,193	1,762	29,111
Automobiles and mini-vans	85,431	1,560,831	67,741	1,170,165
Freight motor vehicles	47,959	859,443	37,309	665,888
Other vehicles	258	5,458	275	4,715
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	4,309	104,923	4,273	104,845
Other transportation equipment	4,775	157,587	3,469	137,396
Metallic waste and scrap	25,772	2,041,219	24,241	1,918,303
Non-metallic waste and scrap	7,231	395,178	5,244	250,396
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	1,999	79,924	1,688	67,648
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	141	1,701	97	1,204
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	53,733	783,495	57,278	821,016
Less than carload shipments	...	314	...	676
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	1,807,868	144,864,069	1,752,049	141,573,798

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 July 2012		January 2011 to July 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	5,876	535,475	8,732	792,779
Other cereal grains	7,898	709,343	11,147	999,492
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	195	17,469	245	19,605
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	86	1,473	40	703
Colza seeds (canola)	104	8,069	6	444
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	11,398	1,034,512	5,879	527,782
Animal feed and products	7,292	594,725	6,944	565,800
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	17	361	101	2,151
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	1,962	109,206	1,596	81,732
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	4,807	379,689	3,640	286,741
Sugar	2,686	232,894	2,775	240,400
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	761	13,685	616	10,362
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	8,146	655,995	6,566	505,821
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	4,462	369,574	4,848	399,430
Salt	1,739	153,255	1,996	169,923
Phosphate rock	4,916	443,538	5,842	527,641
Sulphur	1,249	109,029	1,305	116,428
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	11,560	1,088,370	12,311	1,162,386
Iron ores and concentrates	195,279	17,939,751	204,730	18,713,321
Copper ores and concentrates	1,333	109,470	2,462	207,215
Nickel ores and concentrates	7,971	611,369	9,527	744,277
Lead ores and concentrates	1,109	79,468	1,179	84,442
Zinc ores and concentrates	6,396	519,788	6,961	558,720
Other metallic ores and concentrates	34,152	3,088,105	35,243	3,172,243
Coal	7,259	602,966	9,008	733,861
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	17,467	1,372,601	18,586	1,446,782
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	27,130	2,148,020	18,862	1,488,644
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	20,976	1,340,826	19,308	1,230,123
Coal coke and petroleum coke	7,473	437,702	8,551	498,105
Other refined petroleum and coal products	11,651	902,087	10,087	765,181
Sulphuric acid	14,638	1,322,957	12,266	1,107,905
Alumina	18,272	1,703,259	19,493	1,808,962
Other basic chemicals	25,497	2,076,975	25,293	2,056,625
Potash	4,647	466,759	4,443	447,294
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	2,371	200,076	3,170	275,487
Other chemical products and preparations	5,839	352,530	6,386	424,347
Plastic and rubber	11,665	806,728	9,866	671,111
Logs and other wood in the rough	2,636	165,666	3,433	206,918
Wood chips	5,920	369,499	6,242	394,151
Lumber	15,344	1,235,217	14,855	1,207,811
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	5,419	380,698	4,734	324,234
Wood pulp	14,237	1,182,503	18,211	1,517,489
Newsprint	14,046	953,839	15,345	1,049,485
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	15,748	1,068,422	20,614	1,395,831
Cement	6,351	626,117	5,875	575,848
Other non-metallic mineral products	968	56,830	1,000	63,547
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	30,296	2,544,722	32,384	2,661,823
Copper, primary or semi-finished	880	76,739	1,072	93,016
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	15,313	1,316,061	17,097	1,444,426
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	3,186	292,980	2,324	208,015
Articles of base metal	4,579	276,566	4,340	268,964
Machinery	3,679	62,489	1,701	24,877
Automobiles and mini-vans	68,270	1,321,695	57,555	1,027,363
Freight motor vehicles	46,638	839,913	36,255	649,157
Other vehicles	247	4,869	255	3,749
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	4,307	104,871	4,270	104,773
Other transportation equipment	1,297	45,278	852	54,114
Metallic waste and scrap	14,185	1,163,382	15,095	1,223,170
Non-metallic waste and scrap	3,368	266,535	2,291	164,876
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	1,563	56,522	1,491	55,845
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	8	205	3	70
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	53,679	778,731	57,088	812,143
Less than carload shipments	...	314	...	676
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	828,443	57,728,764	824,392	58,376,639

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 July 2012		January 2011 to July 2011	
	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes	Number of rail cars	Metric tonnes
Wheat	125,047	11,754,685	115,079	10,813,829
Other cereal grains	21,351	1,749,957	17,999	1,444,856
Fresh, chilled or dried vegetables	12,410	1,143,116	20,379	1,901,924
Fresh, chilled or dried fruit and nuts	0	0	0	0
Colza seeds (canola)	60,906	4,984,499	55,411	4,490,250
Other oil seeds and nuts, other agricultural product	3,635	306,796	3,585	300,506
Animal feed and products	10,528	945,608	10,034	878,751
Meat, fish, seafood and preparations	0	0	6	384
Milled grain production and preparations, bakery products	6,904	562,041	6,768	544,092
Animal or vegetable fats, oils and flours	29,326	2,523,456	27,105	2,314,511
Sugar	251	18,607	252	19,262
Prepared food stuffs, not elsewhere classified	1,353	94,295	1,282	89,680
Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages	255	20,140	425	34,517
Sand, gravel and crushed stone	18,929	1,814,081	15,057	1,443,861
Salt	3,228	298,923	2,915	265,912
Phosphate rock	1	38	5	441
Sulphur	32,200	3,039,783	35,088	3,317,354
Gypsum	x	x	x	x
Other non-metallic minerals ¹	1,758	162,330	1,622	151,549
Iron ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Copper ores and concentrates	4,016	381,596	4,530	427,229
Nickel ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Lead ores and concentrates	0	0	0	0
Zinc ores and concentrates	704	61,389	307	25,913
Other metallic ores and concentrates	2	130	10	747
Coal	197,611	20,811,345	185,216	19,417,020
Gasoline and aviation turbine fuel	3,231	251,651	6,764	521,359
Fuel oils and crude petroleum	31,315	2,565,303	18,403	1,535,396
Gaseous hydrocarbons, including liquid petroleum gas (LPG's)	17,344	1,080,353	15,713	982,944
Coal coke and petroleum coke	12,543	1,064,260	8,618	738,311
Other refined petroleum and coal products	20,501	1,672,659	11,398	915,851
Sulphuric acid	2,715	236,704	2,723	237,548
Alumina	2	180	1	87
Other basic chemicals	27,343	2,386,174	28,099	2,455,890
Potash	85,840	8,462,453	103,900	10,249,585
Fertilizers (excluding potash)	27,498	2,261,830	29,982	2,489,856
Other chemical products and preparations	631	47,628	620	47,830
Plastic and rubber	14,674	1,314,507	16,241	1,442,075
Logs and other wood in the rough	1,354	83,894	1,293	82,717
Wood chips	17,649	1,010,361	16,378	932,683
Lumber	54,685	4,534,191	49,854	4,115,574
Other wood products (plywood, veneer)	22,135	1,969,023	18,387	1,609,057
Wood pulp	44,965	3,859,191	45,671	3,899,145
Newsprint	2,039	134,487	1,895	129,854
Paper and paperboard, except printed products	5,407	422,234	5,341	414,646
Cement	8,420	827,220	6,525	631,611
Other non-metallic mineral products	481	41,937	680	58,306
Iron and steel, primary or semi-finished	3,667	325,635	3,033	270,119
Copper, primary or semi-finished	0	0	0	0
Aluminum, primary or semi-finished	329	28,845	73	5,670
Other non-ferrous metal, primary or semi-finished	2,849	233,814	2,836	234,825
Articles of base metal	3,101	228,493	3,633	263,084
Machinery	246	11,704	61	4,234
Automobiles and mini-vans	17,161	239,136	10,186	142,802
Freight motor vehicles	1,321	19,530	1,054	16,731
Other vehicles	11	589	20	966
Parts and accessories for motor vehicles	2	52	3	72
Other transportation equipment	3,478	112,309	2,617	83,282
Metallic waste and scrap	11,587	877,837	9,146	695,133
Non-metallic waste and scrap	3,863	128,643	2,953	85,520
Other manufactured and miscellaneous goods	436	23,402	197	11,803
Pool car traffic of freight forwarder and ship associated	133	1,496	94	1,134
Mixed loads or unidentified freight	54	4,764	190	8,873
Less than carload shipments	...	0	...	0
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded ²	979,425	87,135,305	927,657	83,197,159

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

	July 2012			July 2011		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	21,430,669	.	.	20,481,916
Container-on-flat-car	161,414	303,655	2,415,358	150,576	283,238	2,267,808
Trailer-on-flat-car	3,333	.	47,627	4,282	.	64,442
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	3,615,826	.	.	3,101,040
Total traffic carried	.	.	27,509,480	.	.	25,915,206
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	11,043	22,950	165,575	9,039	18,988	129,150
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	2,256	.	32,485	2,035	.	29,132
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	3,036,394	.	.	2,682,028

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

	July 2012			July 2011		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	8,738,019	.	.	8,677,750
Container-on-flat-car	67,885	132,128	1,085,360	68,933	132,726	1,107,172
Trailer-on-flat-car	3,178	.	44,836	3,926	.	56,509
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	853,906	.	.	798,562
Total traffic carried	.	.	10,722,121	.	.	10,639,993
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	5,507	11,978	74,850	4,578	10,051	59,094
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	3	.	48	1	.	7
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	2,432,015	.	.	2,073,008

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

	July 2012			July 2011		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	12,692,650	.	.	11,804,166
Container-on-flat-car	93,529	171,527	1,329,998	81,643	150,512	1,160,636
Trailer-on-flat-car	155	.	2,791	356	.	7,933
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	2,761,920	.	.	2,302,478
Total traffic carried	.	.	16,787,359	.	.	15,275,213
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	5,536	10,972	90,725	4,461	8,937	70,056
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	2,253	.	32,437	2,034	.	29,125
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	604,379	.	.	609,020

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 July 2012			January 2011 to July 2011		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	144,864,069	.	.	141,573,798
Container-on-flat-car	1,085,121	2,051,595	16,515,519	996,052	1,880,235	15,230,469
Trailer-on-flat-car	26,322	.	384,337	31,958	.	471,563
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	23,135,259	.	.	19,662,454
Total traffic carried	.	.	184,899,184	.	.	176,938,284
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	78,611	161,388	1,152,946	63,697	130,887	894,407
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	14,734	.	211,294	13,798	.	201,631
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	19,905,643	.	.	15,839,871

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 July 2012			January 2011 to July 2011		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	57,728,764	.	.	58,376,639
Container-on-flat-car	464,954	909,556	7,454,848	474,969	914,865	7,647,152
Trailer-on-flat-car	24,179	.	340,261	29,143	.	408,375
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	5,648,776	.	.	5,325,902
Total traffic carried	.	.	71,172,649	.	.	71,758,068
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	37,470	80,511	491,533	33,914	71,775	441,918
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	19	.	189	2	.	13
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	15,849,251	.	.	11,475,750

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 July 2012			January 2011 to July 2011		
	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes	Units	TEUs ¹	Metric tonnes
Total non-intermodal traffic loaded	.	.	87,135,305	.	.	83,197,159
Container-on-flat-car	620,167	1,142,039	9,060,671	521,083	965,370	7,583,317
Trailer-on-flat-car	2,143	.	44,076	2,815	.	63,188
Traffic received from United States connections	.	.	17,486,483	.	.	14,336,552
Total traffic carried	.	.	113,726,535	.	.	105,180,216
Container-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	41,141	80,877	661,413	29,783	59,112	452,489
Trailer-on-flat-car included in receipts from United States connections	14,715	.	211,105	13,796	.	201,618
Traffic received from Canadian connections	.	.	4,056,392	.	.	4,364,121

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: September 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 ^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
*	significantly different from reference category ($p < 0.05$)

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