



# Mexico Transport Cost Indicator Report

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## With Reduced Landed Cost, Mexico Imported More Corn During Fourth

**Quarter.** Mexico imported more corn during the fourth quarter of 2015, compared to the same period a year ago, as the landed costs for corn, wheat, and soybeans generally declined. The landed costs fell during the quarter, and also compared to a year earlier (see [Grain Transportation Report \(GTR\), dated 02/25/16](#)). The reduced landed costs were caused by both lower transportation costs and lower farm prices. The transportation costs for shipping corn and soybeans from Illinois to Veracruz, Mexico, via the water route decreased by 9 percent from the previous quarter, while the cost of shipping wheat from Kansas to Veracruz remained relatively unchanged during the quarter. The cost of transporting corn and wheat to Guadalajara, Mexico, by land decreased by 1 and 3 percent, respectively, while the cost of transporting soybeans increased by 1 percent. However, the cost of transporting all grains, either through the water route or by land, decreased from a year ago. Transportation costs for the water route were pushed down by reduced truck, barge, and ocean freight rates. The costs of shipping corn and wheat by land fell due to decreased truck and rail tariff rates. Truck rates declined during the quarter partly due to lower diesel fuel costs (see Figure 13 inside the [GTR, dated 02/25/16](#)). Similarly, rail tariff rates were pushed down in part by falling fuel surcharges (see Figure 7 inside the [GTR, dated 02/25/16](#)). Barge and ocean freight rates fell from their relative peaks in September during the harvest season (see figures 8 and 17 inside the [GTR, dated 02/25/16](#), respectively).

With the exception of soybeans in Nebraska, farm prices fell or remained relatively unchanged, resulting in lower landed costs compared to the previous quarter, and a year earlier. The landed costs ranged from \$186 to \$369 per metric ton (mt) (see Table 1 and Figure 1) for the water route, and from \$230 to \$408 per mt for the land route (see Table 1 and Figure 2). Transportation costs as percent of the landed costs are mixed (see Table 1). The costs of transporting corn from Illinois by water route, and soybeans from Nebraska by land to Mexico represented a smaller percentage of the landed cost, compared to the previous quarter. The costs of transporting Illinois soybeans by water route and Iowa corn by land represented the same proportion of the landed costs as they did last quarter, while the costs of transporting wheat from Kansas on both routes represented an increase proportion of the landed cost, compared to the previous quarter. The transportation share of the landed costs ranged from 11 to 26 percent for the water route and from 24 to 39 percent for the land route.

**Market Analysis and Outlook:** Amid attractive farm prices, Mexico imported 2.90 million metric tons (mmt) of corn during the fourth quarter—30 percent more than the same period a year earlier. Despite the moderate prices, the total value of the corn Mexico imported was \$535 million—a 27 percent increase over a year ago. Mexico imported 11.8 mmt of corn from the United States during calendar year 2015, a 14 percent increase over a year earlier. However, Mexico imported less wheat and soybeans during calendar year 2015, compared to a year ago. Despite the negative impact of cooler weather in Sinaloa's corn production area during December 2015, Mexico's corn production estimate remained unchanged for the marketing year (MY) 2015/16 as the damages were insignificant ([USDA, FAS GAIN Report #: MX6004](#)).



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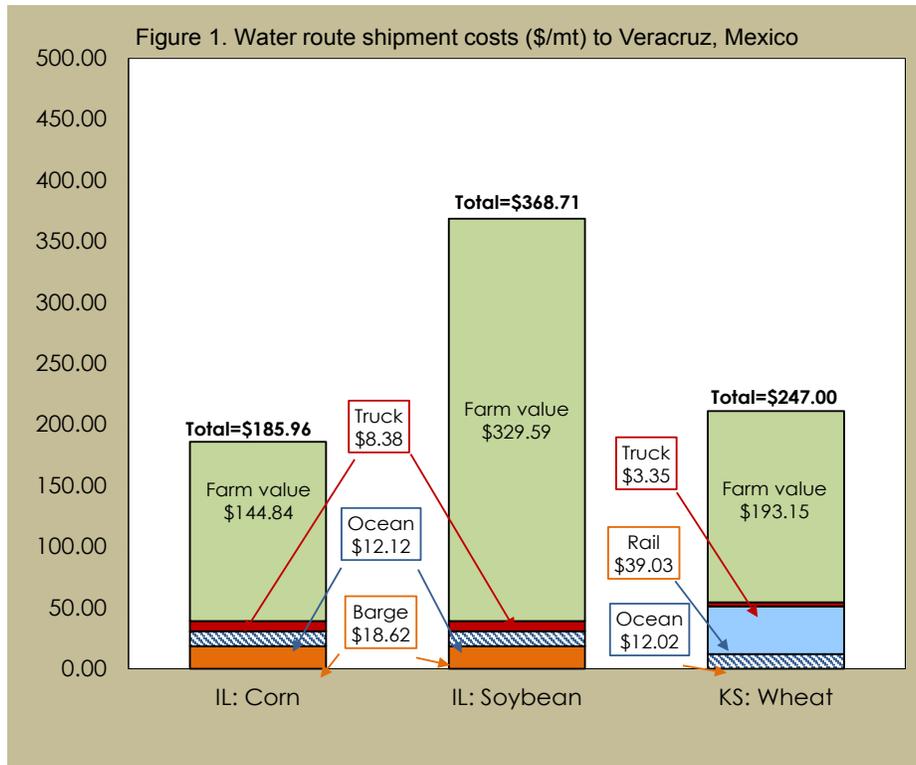
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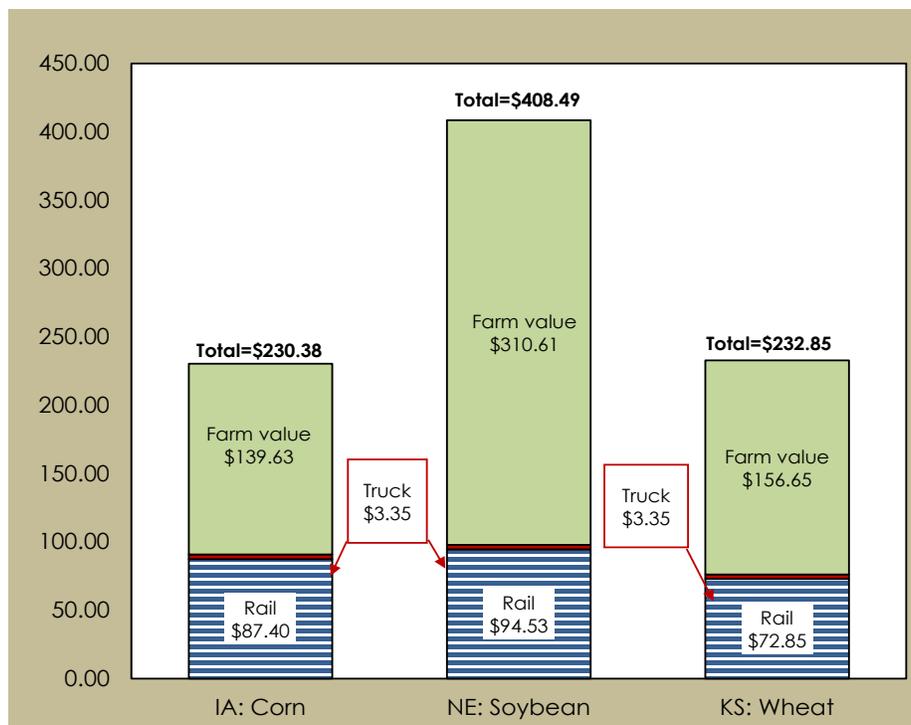


**Figure 1. Water route shipment costs (\$/mt) to Veracruz, Mexico**



Source: USDA Agricultural Marketing Service

**Figure 2. Land route shipment costs (\$/mt) to Guadalajara, Mexico**



Source: USDA Agricultural Marketing Service



**Table 1. Quarterly costs of transporting U.S. grain and soybeans to Mexico**

-----2015-----										
	Water route (to Veracruz)					Land route (to Guadalajara)				
	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Avg	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Avg
	US\$/metric ton					US\$/metric ton				
<b>Corn</b>										
<b>Origin</b>	<b>IL</b>					<b>IA</b>				
Truck	12.02	12.02	8.50	8.38	10.23	3.91	3.91	3.66	3.35	3.71
Rail <sup>1</sup>						90.21	87.88	88.22	87.40	88.43
Ocean <sup>2</sup>	11.63	11.89	12.85	12.12	12.12					
Barge	21.94	20.46	21.43	18.62	20.61					
Total transportation cost	45.59	44.37	42.78	39.12	42.97	94.12	91.79	91.88	90.75	92.14
Farm price	149.47	144.09	146.58	146.84	146.75	150.42	143.04	144.61	139.63	144.43
Landed cost	195.06	188.46	189.36	185.96	189.71	244.54	234.83	236.49	230.38	236.56
Transport % of landed cost	23.4	23.5	22.6	21.0	22.6	38.5	39.1	38.9	39.4	38.9
<b>Soybeans</b>										
<b>Origin</b>	<b>IL</b>					<b>NE</b>				
Truck	12.02	12.02	8.50	8.38	10.23	3.91	3.91	3.66	3.35	3.71
Rail <sup>1</sup>						94.87	93.01	93.28	94.53	93.92
Ocean <sup>2</sup>	11.63	11.89	12.85	12.12	12.12					
Barge	21.94	20.46	21.43	18.62	20.61					
Total transportation cost	45.59	44.37	42.78	39.12	42.97	98.78	96.92	96.94	97.88	97.63
Farm price	376.01	359.60	353.84	329.59	354.76	356.66	343.06	239.76	310.61	312.52
Landed cost	421.60	403.97	396.62	368.71	397.73	455.44	439.98	336.70	408.49	410.15
Transport % of landed cost	10.8	11.0	10.8	10.6	10.8	21.7	22.0	28.8	24.0	24.1
<b>Wheat</b>										
<b>Origin</b>	<b>KS</b>					<b>KS</b>				
Truck	3.91	3.91	3.66	3.35	3.71	3.91	3.91	3.66	3.35	3.71
Rail <sup>1</sup>	35.94	38.05	38.05	39.03	37.77	74.52	74.00	74.94	72.85	74.08
Ocean <sup>2</sup>	11.63	11.89	12.85	12.12	12.12					
Total transportation cost	51.48	53.85	54.56	54.50	53.60	78.43	77.91	78.60	76.20	77.79
Farm price	202.46	193.15	173.06	156.65	181.33	202.46	193.15	173.06	156.65	181.33
Landed cost	253.94	247.00	227.62	211.15	234.93	280.89	271.06	251.66	232.85	259.12
Transport % of landed cost	20.3	21.8	24.0	25.8	23.0	27.9	28.7	31.2	32.7	30.2

<sup>1</sup>Rail rates include U.S. and Mexico portions of the movement. Mexico rail rates are estimated based on actual quoted market rates. BNSF and Union Pacific quoted rail tariff rates are through rates for shuttle trains.

Rail rates include fuel surcharges, but do not include the cost of purchasing empty rail cars in the secondary market, which could exceed the rail tariff rate plus the fuel surcharge shown in the table.

<sup>2</sup>Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting, Inc.

<sup>3</sup>Landed cost is total transportation cost plus the farm price



Mexico's corn imports for MY 2015/16 is estimated slightly up at 11.3 mmt. Mexican feed grain importers are encouraged by favorable corn prices, compared to sorghum, thus importing a higher level of feed corn instead of sorghum. In addition, Mexico's wheat production in MY 2015/16 is forecast to be down. The lower-than-expected wheat production may encourage imports from the United States. Key corn importers, such as starch companies, have signaled their intentions to import more U.S. yellow corn during the rest of the marketing year because of quality concerns with domestic production and to add to the reduced domestic supply in Mexico ([USDA, FAS GAIN Report #: MX6004](#)).

**Ocean Freight Rates:** During the fourth quarter, ocean freight rates for shipping bulk grains to Mexico decreased compared to the previous quarter, the same period a year ago and the 4-year averages. The cost of shipping a metric ton (mt) of grain from the U.S. Gulf to Veracruz, Mexico in a 25,000 ton-capacity vessel averaged \$13.95 per mt during the quarter—4 percent less than the previous quarter, 14 percent below the same period last year, and 29 percent below the 4-year average. The cost of shipping in a 35-40,000 ton-capacity vessel averaged \$12.12 per mt—6 percent less than the previous quarter, 13 percent less than the same period last year and 30 percent below the 4-year average. Lower ocean freight rates are due to the excess vessel supply in the market.

**Railroad:** During the fourth quarter of 2015, railroads transported 30,489 carloads of grain and oilseeds to Mexico, down 6 percent from the third quarter of 2015, up 11 percent from the fourth quarter of 2014, and up 19 percent from the prior-3-year average for the fourth quarter. Tariff rail rates per grain car averaged \$7,289, up 1 percent from the third quarter of 2015 and up 6 percent from fourth quarter 2014. Fuel surcharges averaged \$85 per railcar and were down 57 percent and 87 percent from the third quarter of 2015 and fourth quarter 2014, respectively. Overall rail transportation costs (tariff rates plus fuel surcharges) were unchanged from the third quarter 2015 and were down 3 percent from the fourth quarter 2014. Fourth quarter exports of U.S. Distillers' Dried Grains with Solubles were 463 metric tons, up 12 percent from the third quarter 2015, and up 21 percent from the prior-3-year average for the fourth quarter.

### Fruit and Vegetables

Total reported shipments of fruits and vegetables from Mexico during the fourth quarter of 2015 increased 9 percent from the same quarter in 2014. The sum of the top 5 commodities (avocados, cucumbers, tomatoes, peppers and limes) also increased 8 percent. The majority of this increase came from a 25 percent jump in avocado shipments or 245,000 tons in the 4th quarter of 2015. Cucumber shipments from Mexico (2nd in volume this quarter) remained unchanged in the fourth quarter compared the previous one. The majority of cucumber shipments to the United States from Mexico (125,000 tons) travel through Arizona.

Truck rates for shipments between 501 and 1,500 miles through the Texas border crossings averaged \$2.27 per mile, down 9 percent from last quarter, and 7 percent higher than the same quarter last year. Rates for shipments between 501 and 1,500 miles through the Arizona border crossings averaged \$2.51 per mile, up 9 percent from last quarter and 7 percent lower than the same quarter last year. Diesel fuel prices for border crossings through Texas averaged \$2.27 per gallon, 8 percent lower than the previous quarter, and 35 percent lower than the same quarter in 2014. Diesel fuel prices for border crossings through Arizona averaged \$2.64 per gallon, 7 percent lower than the previous quarter and 29 percent lower than the same period in 2014. Truck availability showed a slight surplus through October and then became adequate in November; availability tightened in December, moving toward a slight shortage.



### Livestock

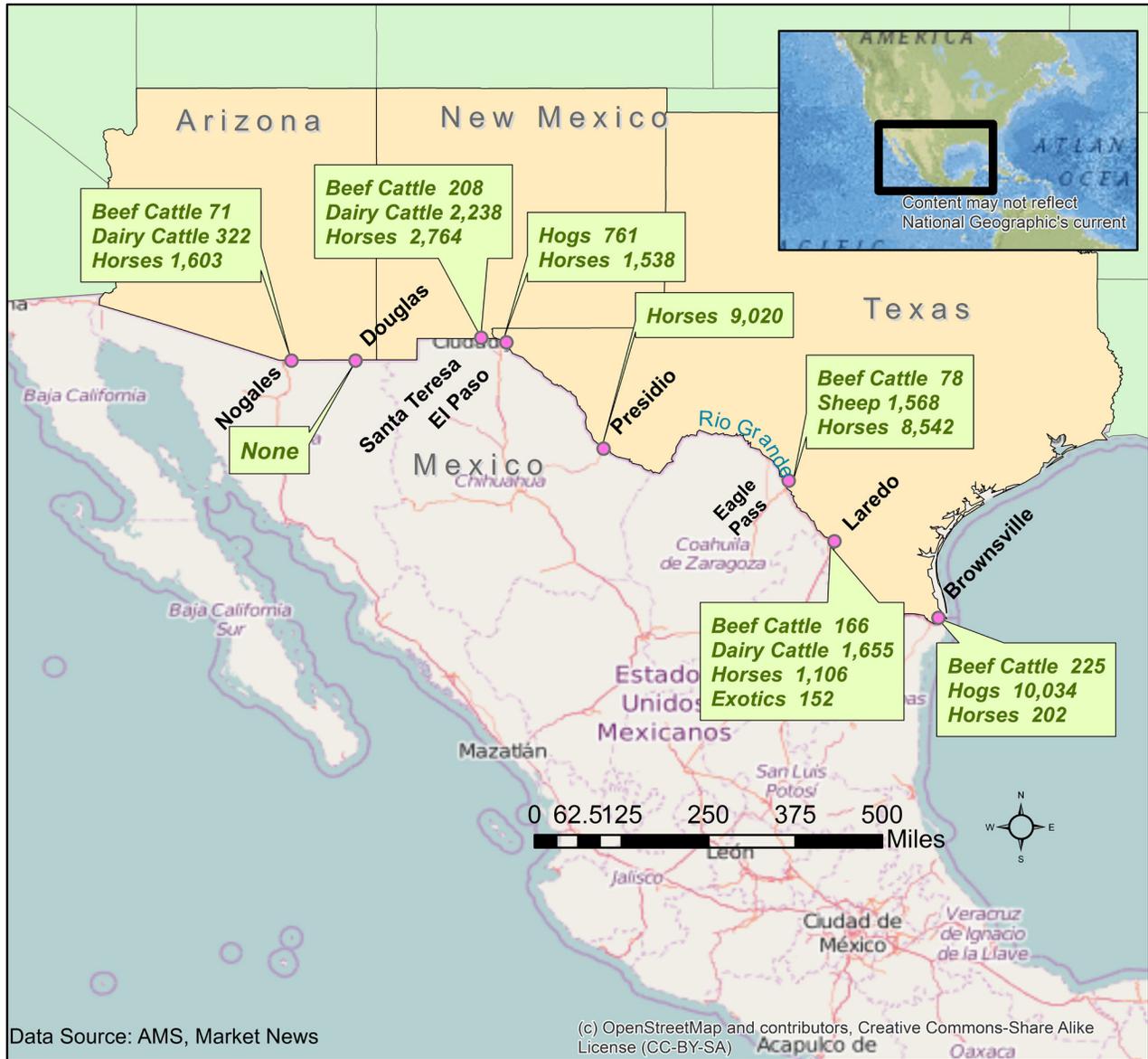
A total of 41,174 head of U.S. livestock were exported to Mexico during the 4th quarter of 2015, an increase of 27 percent from the previous quarter (32,322 head of livestock). Horses remain the largest livestock export to Mexico (57 percent), followed by hogs (27 percent) and dairy cattle (9 percent). There were 23,810 U.S. horses exported to Mexico in the 4th quarter of 2015. The majority of these crossed through Eagle Pass and Presidio, TX. Horse exports increased slightly (4.5 percent) from last quarter but decreased (24 percent) from the same quarter last year. The large majority of the horses (21,050 or about 88 percent) were destined to the slaughter house for processing before the meat was exported to Europe, Japan, and Russia.

Beef cattle, hog exports had large increases in the 4th quarter. Compared to the previous quarter, beef cattle increased to 782 from 558 animals, hogs increased the most to 10,955 from 5,293 animals, and exotics increased to 152 from 79 animals. Almost all of the exotic animals were exported to Mexico through Laredo, TX. This group includes animals not otherwise categorized, such as zebras, deer, elephants, and yaks.





Figure 3. Livestock Border Crossing to Mexico during the 4th quarter 2015





# Quarterly Bulk Grain and Soybeans

**Table 2. Quarterly tariff rail rates for U.S. bulk grain shipments to Mexico (US\$/car), 2015**

Commodity	Origin state	Destination	Tariff rate/car <sup>1</sup>				Fuel surcharge per car <sup>2</sup>					
			1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Avg	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Avg
Wheat	MT	Chihuahua, CI	6,960	7,386	7,632	7,459	7,359	348	145	150	27	168
	OK	Cuautitlan, EM	6,565	6,628	6,714	6,514	6,605	423	193	197	80	223
	KS	Guadalajara, JA	7,010	7,073	7,159	6,995	7,059	409	224	229	135	249
	TX	Salinas Victoria, NL	3,885	3,995	4,086	4,142	4,027	159	87	88	43	94
Corn	IA	Guadalajara, JA	8,349	8,401	8,427	8,417	8,398	481	253	256	137	282
	SD	Penjamo, GJ	7,656	7,739	7,780	7,840	7,754	456	189	196	35	219
	NE	Queretaro, QA	7,535	7,602	7,618	7,879	7,659	427	279	284	143	283
	SD	Salinas Victoria, NL	5,880	5,983	6,035	6,545	6,111	346	144	149	27	167
	MO	Tlalnepantla, EM	6,887	6,949	6,963	7,238	7,009	415	272	277	139	276
	SD	Torreon, CU	6,855	7,007	7,050	7,240	7,038	382	159	164	29	184
Soybeans	MO	Bojay (Tula), HG	8,211	8,347	8,365	8,615	8,384	406	231	234	125	249
	NE	Guadalajara, JA	8,822	8,910	8,929	9,108	8,942	464	258	262	144	282
	IA	El Castillo, JA	9,055	9,232	9,270	9,403	9,240	453	188	195	35	218
	KS	Torreon, CU	7,155	7,214	7,226	7,405	7,250	288	186	188	104	191
Sorghum	TX	Guadalajara, JA	7,153	7,184	7,150	2,383	5,968	297	123	128	41	147
	NE	Penjamo, GJ	7,287	7,365	7,404	7,404	7,365	414	235	238	127	253
	KS	Queretaro, QA	6,795	7,118	7,422	7,563	7,224	260	187	189	91	182
	NE	Salinas Victoria, NL	5,500	5,772	5,883	6,168	5,830	304	170	173	77	181
	NE	Torreon, CU	6,485	6,614	6,662	6,827	6,647	340	197	200	103	210

<sup>1</sup>Rates are based upon published tariff rates for high-capacity shuttle trains. Shuttle trains are available for qualified shipments of 75-110 cars that meet railroad efficiency requirements. The cost of obtaining empty grain cars in the Secondary Grain Car markets, which in times of high demand may exceed the tariff rate plus fuel surcharge, is not included.

<sup>2</sup>Approximate load per car = 97.87 mt: corn & sorghum 56 lbs/bu, wheat & soybeans 60 lbs/bu

Sources: www.bnsf.com, www.uprr.com, www.kcsouthern.com



## Quarterly Bulk Grain and Soybeans

**Table 3. Quarterly tariff plus fuel surcharge rail rates for U.S. bulk grain shipments to Mexico, 2015**

			Tariff <sup>1</sup> plus fuel surcharge per:									
			US\$/metric ton					US\$/bushel <sup>2</sup>				
Commodity	Origin State	Destination	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Avg	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Avg
Wheat	MT	Chihuahua, CI	74.67	76.95	79.51	76.49	76.90	2.03	2.09	2.16	2.08	2.09
	OK	Cuautitlan, EM	71.40	69.69	70.61	67.37	69.77	1.94	1.89	1.92	1.83	1.90
	KS	Guadalajara, JA	75.80	74.56	75.49	72.85	74.67	2.06	2.03	2.05	1.98	2.03
	TX	Salinas Victoria, NL	41.33	41.71	42.65	42.76	42.11	1.12	1.13	1.16	1.16	1.14
Corn	IA	Guadalajara, JA	90.21	88.42	88.72	87.40	88.69	2.29	2.24	2.25	2.22	2.25
	SD	Penjamo, GJ	82.88	81.01	81.50	80.46	81.46	2.10	2.06	2.07	2.04	2.07
	NE	Queretaro, QA	81.35	80.53	80.74	81.97	81.15	2.06	2.04	2.05	2.08	2.06
	SD	Salinas Victoria, NL	63.62	62.61	63.19	67.15	64.14	1.61	1.59	1.60	1.70	1.63
	MO	Tlalnepanitla, EM	74.60	73.78	73.98	75.38	74.44	1.89	1.87	1.88	1.91	1.89
	SD	Torreon, CU	73.95	73.22	73.71	74.28	73.79	1.88	1.86	1.87	1.88	1.87
Soybeans	MO	Bojay (Tula), HG	88.04	87.65	87.86	89.30	88.21	2.39	2.38	2.39	2.43	2.40
	NE	Guadalajara, JA	94.87	93.67	93.91	94.53	94.25	2.58	2.55	2.55	2.57	2.56
	IA	Penjamo (Celaya), GJ	97.15	96.25	96.71	96.44	96.64	2.64	2.62	2.63	2.62	2.63
	KS	Torreon, CU	76.05	75.60	75.75	76.72	76.03	2.07	2.06	2.06	2.09	2.07
Sorghum	TX	Guadalajara, JA	76.12	74.67	74.36	73.48	74.66	1.93	1.89	1.89	1.86	1.89
	NE	Penjamo, GJ	78.68	77.65	78.08	76.95	77.84	2.00	1.97	1.98	1.95	1.98
	KS	Queretaro, QA	72.08	74.65	77.77	78.20	75.67	1.83	1.89	1.97	1.98	1.92
	NE	Salinas Victoria, NL	59.31	60.71	61.87	63.80	61.42	1.51	1.54	1.57	1.62	1.56
	NE	Torreon, CU	69.73	69.59	70.11	70.81	70.06	1.77	1.77	1.78	1.80	1.78

<sup>1</sup>Rates are based upon published tariff rates for high-capacity shuttle trains. Shuttle trains are available for qualified shipments of 75-110 cars that meet railroad efficiency requirements. The cost of obtaining empty grain cars in the Secondary Grain Car markets, which in times of high demand may exceed the tariff rate plus fuel surcharge, is not included.

<sup>2</sup>Approximate load per car = 97.87 mt: corn & sorghum 56 lbs/bu, wheat & soybeans 60 lbs/bu

Sources: [www.bnsf.com](http://www.bnsf.com), [www.uprr.com](http://www.uprr.com), [www.kcsouthern.com](http://www.kcsouthern.com)



## Quarterly Bulk Grain and Soybeans

**Table 4. Quarterly exports of U.S. Distillers' Dried Grains with Soluble (DDGS) to Mexico\***

Year	Thousand metric tons				
	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Total
2009	316	377	371	395	1,459
2010	439	399	424	383	1,645
2011	506	430	476	369	1,781
2012	426	388	352	332	1,498
2013	284	329	290	381	1,285
2014	356	420	366	435	1,577
2015	497	276	413	463	1,649

\*Data are for brewers' and distillers' dregs and waste of which Distillers' Dried Grains with Soluble is a principal component. On November 2, 2010, data was revised.

Source: USDA, Economic Research Service (ERS), Feed grains database



## Quarterly Bulk Grain and Soybeans

**Table 5. Quarterly ocean freight rate for bulk shipments from the U.S. Gulf to Veracruz, Mexico (US\$/metric ton)**

Vessel capacity (metric ton)	1st qtr 2009	2nd qtr 2009	3rd qtr 2009	4th qtr 2009	Average
25,000	13.58	17.53	19.86	22.65	18.41
35-40,000	11.46	15.46	17.78	20.22	16.23
Vessel capacity (metric ton)	1st qtr 2010	2nd qtr 2010	3rd qtr 2010	4th qtr 2010	Average
25,000	23.04	23.83	24.33	21.89	23.27
35-40,000	20.75	22.34	21.64	19.83	21.14
Vessel capacity (metric ton)	1st qtr 2011	2nd qtr 2011	3rd qtr 2011	4th qtr 2011	Average
25,000	21.71	21.13	21.96	23.29	22.02
35-40,000	18.75	18.86	19.89	21.21	19.68
Vessel capacity (metric ton)	1st qtr 2012	2nd qtr 2012	3rd qtr 2012	4th qtr 2012	Average
25,000	20.28	20.79	20.68	18.73	20.12
35-40,000	18.37	18.62	18.53	16.73	18.06
Vessel capacity (metric ton)	1st qtr 2013	2nd qtr 2013	3rd qtr 2013	4th qtr 2013	Average
25,000	20.19	19.59	20.47	20.01	20.07
35-40,000	17.89	17.58	17.85	17.13	17.61
Vessel capacity (metric ton)	1st qtr 2014	2nd qtr 2014	3rd qtr 2014	4th qtr 2014	Average
25,000	20.08	17.48	15.75	16.32	17.41
35-40,000	17.53	15.48	13.56	13.96	15.13
Vessel capacity (metric ton)	1st qtr 2015	2nd qtr 2015	3rd qtr 2015	4th qtr 2015	Average
25,000	13.67	14.23	14.59	13.95	14.11
35-40,000	11.63	11.89	12.85	12.12	12.12

Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting



**Table 6. U.S. livestock exports to Mexico by border crossing\* (head) October-December 2015**

Border Crossing	NM	AZ	TX	Total
<b>Beef cattle</b>				
Slaughter	0	0	0	0
Breeding males	49	36	288	373
Breeding females	159	69	181	409
Total beef	208	105	469	782
<b>Hogs</b>				
Slaughter	0	0	0	0
Breeding males	0	160	807	967
Breeding females	0	0	9,988	9,988
Total hogs	0	160	10,795	10,955
<b>Sheep</b>				
Slaughter lambs	0	0	0	0
Slaughter ewes	0	0	1,568	1,568
Breeding males	0	0	0	0
Breeding females	0	0	0	0
Total sheep	0	0	1,568	1,568
<b>Dairy cattle</b>				
Breeding males	0	0	22	22
Breeding females	2,238	0	1,647	3,885
Total dairy	2,238	0	1,669	3,907
<b>Goats</b>				
Angora	0	0	0	0
Spanish	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
Total goats	0	0	0	0
<b>Horses</b>				
Slaughter	2,167	0	18,883	21,050
Breeding males	224	167	467	858
Breeding females	295	199	716	1,210
Geldings	78	52	196	326
Burro/mule/pony	0	0	366	366
Total horses	2,764	418	20,628	23,810
<b>Exotics**</b>	0	0	152	152
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>5,210</b>	<b>683</b>	<b>35,281</b>	<b>41,174</b>

\*Weekly AMS data will not necessarily sum to the total U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census data

\*\*Refer to animals that are not included in other categories such as zebras, deer, elephants, and yaks.

Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), Livestock and Seed Programs



**Table 7. Fruit and vegetable truck rates for shipments between 500 and 1,500 miles crossing the U.S.-Mexico border\* (US\$/mile)**

Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2007	2nd qtr 2007	3rd qtr 2007	4th qtr 2007	Average
Nogales, Arizona	1.77	2.03	2.36	1.99	2.04
Pharr, Texas	1.58	1.91	1.76	1.68	1.74
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2008	2nd qtr 2008	3rd qtr 2008	4th qtr 2008	Average
Nogales, Arizona	2.06	2.35	2.06	2.18	2.16
Pharr, Texas	1.78	2.21	1.91	1.74	1.91
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2009	2nd qtr 2009	3rd qtr 2009	4th qtr 2009	Average
Nogales, Arizona	1.93	1.74	1.26	1.86	1.70
Pharr, Texas	1.61	1.61	1.38	1.42	1.50
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2010	2nd qtr 2010	3rd qtr 2010	4th qtr 2010	Average
Nogales, Arizona	1.97	2.09	1.65	1.89	1.90
Pharr, Texas	1.60	1.86	1.53	1.58	1.64
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2011	2nd qtr 2011	3rd qtr 2011	4th qtr 2011	Average
Nogales, Arizona	1.87	2.38	1.85	1.80	1.97
Pharr, Texas	1.84	2.12	1.77	1.87	1.90
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2012	2nd qtr 2012	3rd qtr 2012	4th qtr 2012	Average
Nogales, Arizona	2.00	2.57	1.84	1.92	2.08
Pharr, Texas	1.97	2.26	1.89	2.09	2.05
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2013	2nd qtr 2013	3rd qtr 2013	4th qtr 2013	Average
Nogales, Arizona	2.34	2.59	1.63	2.33	2.22
Pharr, Texas	2.15	2.33	2.02	2.01	2.13
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2014	2nd qtr 2014	3rd qtr 2014	4th qtr 2014	Average
Nogales, Arizona	2.46	2.69	1.74	2.31	2.30
Pharr, Texas	2.32	2.53	2.12	2.13	2.28
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2015	2nd qtr 2015	3rd qtr 2015	4th qtr 2015	Average
Nogales, Arizona	2.41	2.49	2.71	2.51	2.53
Pharr, Texas	2.26	2.23	2.50	2.27	2.32

\*Voluntarily reported to AMS, Market News  
 Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), Fruit and Vegetable Programs



**Table 8. Quarterly U.S.-Mexico border crossing fresh fruit and vegetables truck availability, 4th quarter, 2015**

Legend:		Truck availability														
1 = Surplus		2 = Slight Surplus														
3 = Adequate		4 = Slight Shortage														
5 = Shortage																
Mexico border crossings/month		October				November				December						
Week		10/6	10/13	10/20	10/27	11/3	11/10	11/17	11/24	12/1	12/8	12/15	12/22	12/29		
Mexico Crossings Through Nogales, AZ	Mangoes, Melons, Grapes and Mixed Vegetables	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	5		
Mexico Crossings Through TX	Carrots, Citrus, Mixed Fruit and Veg, Tomatoes, Watermelon				2	1	1	3	3	2	1	2	3	5		

Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Market News Branch, *Fruit and Vegetable Truck Rate Report*

**Table 9. Top ten commodities shipped by truck to the U.S. from Mexico (10,000 lbs)**

Commodity	4th qtr 2015	Rank
Avocados	49,063	1
Cucumbers	35,947	2
Tomatoes	32,478	3
Peppers, Other	31,171	4
Limes	25,293	5
Tomatoes, Plum Type	25,227	6
Squash	23,863	7
Watermelons, Seedless	17,881	8
Peppers, Bell Type	15,519	9
Misc Tropical	14,734	10

Source: USDA, AMS, Market News



**Table 10. Top five commodities shipped to the U.S. from Mexico (10,000 lbs.)**

Commodity	1st qtr 2009	2nd qtr 2009	3rd qtr 2009	4th qtr 2009	Total 2009
Tomatoes (all varieties)	62,337	64,976	21,173	44,530	193,016
Peppers (all varieties)	43,303	23,396	21,903	33,946	122,548
Watermelon	21,643	64,976	1,949	21,428	109,996
Limes	17,499	21,253	23,706	19,829	82,287
Cucumbers	32,819	20,464	8,059	29,719	91,061
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>177,601</b>	<b>195,065</b>	<b>76,790</b>	<b>149,452</b>	<b>598,908</b>
Other	181,069	143,027	80,567	129,714	534,377
<b>Total</b>	<b>181,069</b>	<b>338,092</b>	<b>157,357</b>	<b>279,166</b>	<b>955,684</b>
Commodity	1st qtr 2010	2nd qtr 2010	3rd qtr 2010	4th qtr 2010	Total 2010
Tomatoes (all varieties)	113,379	77,048	34,226	43,291	267,944
Peppers (all varieties)	52,381	29,135	18,481	33,718	133,715
Cucumbers	39,925	23,695	9,314	30,169	103,103
Squash	24,242	12,827	2,852	19,740	59,661
Avocados	20,065	15,120	8,696	17,242	61,123
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>249,992</b>	<b>157,825</b>	<b>73,569</b>	<b>144,160</b>	<b>625,546</b>
Other	178,749	264,046	116,397	133,112	692,304
<b>Total</b>	<b>428,741</b>	<b>421,871</b>	<b>189,966</b>	<b>277,272</b>	<b>1,317,850</b>
Commodity	1st qtr 2011	2nd qtr 2011	3rd qtr 2011	4th qtr 2011	Total 2011
Tomatoes (all varieties)	93,831	61,825	40,136	40,329	236,121
Peppers (all varieties)	49,137	27,150	21,775	30,018	128,080
Cucumbers	31,749	27,481	9,879	22,275	91,384
Onions (dry and green)	30,159	20,994	6,747	7,090	64,990
Watermelon	25,181	66,908	3,082	14,777	109,948
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>230,057</b>	<b>204,358</b>	<b>81,619</b>	<b>114,489</b>	<b>630,523</b>
Other	181,726	199,596	109,240	103,717	594,279
<b>Total</b>	<b>411,783</b>	<b>403,954</b>	<b>190,859</b>	<b>218,206</b>	<b>1,224,802</b>

Source: Data is obtained from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) through USDA, AMS, Market News

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**Table 10. Top five commodities shipped to the U.S. from Mexico (10,000 lbs.)  
-continued-**

Commodity	1st qtr 2012	2nd qtr 2012	3rd qtr 2012	4th qtr 2012	Total 2012
Tomatoes (all varieties)	99,264	69,282	41,120	57,099	266,765
Peppers (all varieties)	56,506	33,399	25,990	33,073	148,968
Cucumbers	42,668	25,798	11,919	30,383	110,768
Onions (dry and green)	29,949	20,020	8,122	8,744	66,835
Squash	26,776	16,033	3,401	19,556	65,766
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>255,163</b>	<b>164,532</b>	<b>90,552</b>	<b>148,855</b>	<b>659,102</b>
Other	200,550	256,945	122,889	190,616	771,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>455,713</b>	<b>421,477</b>	<b>213,441</b>	<b>339,471</b>	<b>1,430,102</b>
Commodity	1st qtr 2013	2nd qtr 2013	3rd qtr 2013	4th qtr 2013	Total 2013
Tomatoes (all varieties)	88,753	75,505	43,373	52,154	259,785
Peppers (all varieties)	55,952	35,111	27,341	51,481	169,885
Avocados	38,933	26,387	15,049	30,766	111,135
Cucumbers	38,877	30,555	11,592	31,523	112,547
Onions (dry and green)	24,818	22,138	7,584	8,070	62,610
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>247,333</b>	<b>189,696</b>	<b>104,939</b>	<b>173,994</b>	<b>715,962</b>
Other	206,944	271,688	126,051	168,680	773,363
<b>Total</b>	<b>454,277</b>	<b>461,384</b>	<b>230,990</b>	<b>342,674</b>	<b>1,489,325</b>
Commodity	1st qtr 2014	2nd qtr 2014	3rd qtr 2014	4th qtr 2014	Total 2014
Tomatoes (all varieties)	102,175	77,596	40,598	56,783	277,152
Peppers (all varieties)	62,356	33,083	27,349	48,167	170,955
Cucumbers	47,565	30,978	12,150	35,905	126,598
Avocados	37,085	26,363	26,044	39,140	128,632
Squash	29,622	16,334	3,814	22,495	72,265
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>278,803</b>	<b>184,354</b>	<b>109,955</b>	<b>202,490</b>	<b>775,602</b>
Other	214,020	306,544	126,219	160,627	807,410
<b>Total</b>	<b>492,823</b>	<b>490,898</b>	<b>236,174</b>	<b>363,117</b>	<b>1,583,012</b>
Commodity	1st qtr 2015	2nd qtr 2015	3rd qtr 2015	4th qtr 2015	Total 2015
Tomatoes (all varieties)	99,053	73,537	42,002	61,571	276,163
Peppers (all varieties)	61,334	34,579	28,060	46,690	170,663
Cucumbers	50,114	34,601	14,335	35,947	134,997
Avocados	44,510	37,667	39,582	49,063	170,822
Squash	29,026	18,088	3,527	23,863	74,504
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>284,037</b>	<b>198,472</b>	<b>127,506</b>	<b>217,134</b>	<b>827,149</b>
Other	225,053	334,134	130,249	179,649	869,085
<b>Total</b>	<b>509,090</b>	<b>532,606</b>	<b>257,755</b>	<b>396,783</b>	<b>1,696,234</b>

Source: Data is obtained from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) through USDA, AMS, Market News



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## Data Sets:

- ◆ [Figure 1: Water route shipment costs \(\\$/mt\) to Veracruz, Mexico](#)
- ◆ [Figure 2: Land route shipment costs \(\\$/mt\) to Guadalajara, Mexico](#)
- ◆ [Figure 3: Livestock Border Crossing to Mexico during the 4th quarter 2015](#)
- ◆ [Table 1: Quarterly costs of transporting U.S. grain and soybeans to Mexico](#)
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- ◆ [Table 4: Quarterly exports of U.S. Distillers' Dried Grains with Soluble \(DDGS\) to Mexico](#)
- ◆ [Table 5: Quarterly ocean freight rate for bulk shipments from the U.S. Gulf to Veracruz, Mexico \(US\\$/metric ton\)](#)
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- ◆ [Table 7: Fruit and vegetable truck rates for shipments between 500 and 1,500 miles crossing the U.S.-Mexico border \(US\\$/mile\)](#)
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