

Mexico Transport Cost Indicator Report

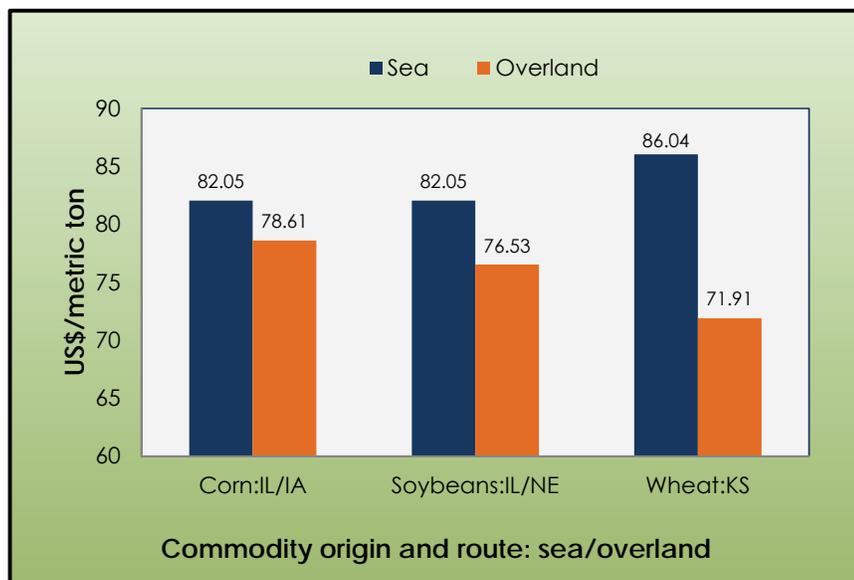


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www.ams.usda.gov/AgTransportation

Grain and Soybeans

Corn and Soybean Exports Down, Transportation Costs Up. During the 1st quarter 2011, corn and soybean exports to Mexico were 25 and 27 percent lower, respectively, than the 1st quarter of 2010 (FAS/GATS). The total transportation cost for shipping corn, soybeans, and wheat from the United States to Guadalajara, Mexico, by both sea and overland increased in the 1st quarter 2011 from the same time last year. Costs on both routes were driven up by increases in rail and barge, which offset decreased rates for ocean vessels. Overall, it was cheaper to ship overland than by maritime. Rail is the preferred mode to ship corn and soybeans to Mexico because of rail efficiencies caused by larger trains, shorter shipping times and no transshipments at the border crossing compared with grain shipped by ocean (U.S. Grain and Soybean Exports to Mexico: A Modal Share Transportation Analysis, 2007-2010). Transportation accounted for 15-32 percent of the total landed cost of shipping grains for the first 3 months of the year. Higher commodity prices lowered transportation as a percentage of total landed cost from last year.

Figure 1. Average cost of shipping U.S. corn, wheat, and soybeans to Guadalajara, Mexico, by route, January-March 2010



Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

- Ocean.** Ocean freight rates for shipping bulk grain from the United States to Mexico declined during the 1st quarter 2011 from the same period a year ago. The cost of shipping a metric ton (mt) of grain in a 25,000-tons capacity vessel was \$21.71—down 6 percent from a year ago. Costs declined for larger vessels (35-40,000-ton capacity) almost 10 percent, from \$20.75 to \$18.75 per mt. Although the global economy is improving and the U.S. economy is slowly recovering, global bulk vessel supply is still outpacing cargo demand, moderating ocean freight rates.

May 25, 2011

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- **Rail.** During the 1st quarter 2011, rail rates from the United States to selected destinations in Mexico rose 6.4 percent from the same time last year. Tariff rail rates rose 6.3 percent year-over-year, reflecting increased railroad costs and preferred demand for direct services to major Mexican consumption and production centers. Fuel surcharges are directly related to diesel price; they increased by 7.8 percent year-over-year. The full impact of higher diesel prices is not reflected during this quarter because Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) changed its strike price from \$1.25 per gallon of diesel fuel to \$2.50 per gallon of diesel fuel effective March 1. The strike price is the diesel price at which fuel surcharges begin to take effect.

Livestock

Livestock border crossing exports to Mexico are down 47.7 percent in the 1st quarter of 2011 compared to the 1st quarter of 2010, with lower exports in all categories except horses. Most of the drop can be attributed to a fall in live sheep border crossings, which fell 84.7 percent quarter-over-quarter. This comes at a time of record high prices for lamb and mutton, as producers are faced with a dilemma of whether to withhold stock to rebuild herds in anticipation of sustained higher prices or reap the benefits immediately ([LDP March 2011](#)). The U.S. exports only 2 percent of its sheep production with roughly 99 percent of exports going to Mexico and Canada ([FAS/GATS](#)). Mexico has been the top importer of live U.S. sheep for several years, but steadily increasing demand from Canada over the past five years has brought its imports almost to the level of Mexico's ([FAS/GATS](#)). All live sheep entering Mexico must pass through the inspection station at Del Rio, TX.

Fruit and Vegetables

Despite a 17 percent drop between the 1st quarters of 2010 and 2011, tomato exports are higher than in 2007 through 2009. In addition, yearly tomato exports from Mexico have increased each year between 2007 and 2010 despite the total area planted for tomatoes decreasing year-to-year. The decrease reflects a jump in yields from 28 MT/ha in 2000 to an expected 39 MT/ha in 2010 ([FAS/GAIN Report MX0037 2010](#)). Tomatoes remain the top fruit and vegetable commodity imported from Mexico by the United States, which typically consumes 99 percent of all Mexican tomato exports ([FAS/GAIN Report MX0037 2010](#)). Fewer U.S. tomato imports in the 1st quarter of 2011 was concurrent with a surplus in truck availability in Nogales, AZ, compared with the 1st quarter of 2010 when there was a relative truck shortage. Accordingly, truck rates at Nogales dropped from \$1.97 to \$1.88 between the two quarters. In contrast, Pharr, TX, which does not handle as much tomato traffic as Nogales, experienced similar truck availability between the two quarters while seeing rates rise from \$1.70 to \$1.97.



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

-----2011-----										
	Water route					Land route				
	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Avg	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Avg
	US\$/metric ton					US\$/metric ton				
Corn										
Origin	IL					IA				
Truck	11.34				11.34	3.50				3.50
Rail ¹	43.99				43.99	80.58				80.58
Ocean ²	18.75				18.75					
Barge	26.24				26.24					
Total transportation cost	100.32				100.32	84.08				84.08
Farm price	216.92				216.92	209.83				209.83
Landed cost	317.24				317.24	293.91				293.91
Transport % of landed cost	31.6				31.6	28.6				28.6
Soybeans										
Origin	IL					NE				
Truck	11.34				11.34	3.50				3.50
Rail ¹	43.99				43.99	80.51				80.51
Ocean ²	18.75				18.75					
Barge	26.24				26.24					
Total transportation cost	100.32				100.32	84.01				84.01
Farm price	461.75				461.75	445.82				445.82
Landed cost	562.07				562.07	529.83				529.83
Transport % of landed cost	17.8				17.8	15.9				15.9
Wheat										
Origin	KS					KS				
Truck	25.71				25.71	3.50				3.50
Rail ¹	43.99				43.99	78.19				78.19
Ocean ²	18.75				18.75					
Barge	18.40				18.40					
Total transportation cost	106.85				106.85	81.69				81.69
Farm price	280.72				280.72	280.72				280.72
Landed cost	387.57				387.57	362.41				362.41
Transport % of landed cost	27.6				27.6	22.5				22.5

¹Rail 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

²Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting, Inc.



Table 2. Quarterly tariff rail rates for U.S. bulk grain shipments to Mexico (US\$/car), 2011

Commodity	Origin state	Destination	Tariff rate/car ¹				Fuel surcharge per car ²					
			1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Avg	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Avg
Wheat	MT	Chihuahua, CI	6,854				6,854	649				649
	OK	Cuautitlan, EM	6,191				6,191	554				554
	KS	Guadalajara, JA	6,825				6,825	828				828
	TX	Salinas Victoria, NL	3,458				3,458	199				199
Corn	IA	Guadalajara, JA	7,056				7,056	831				831
	SD	Penjamo, GJ	6,619				6,619	849				849
	NE	Queretaro, QA	6,240				6,240	609				609
	SD	Salinas Victoria, NL	4,785				4,785	645				645
	MO	Tlalnepantla, EM	5,428				5,428	593				593
	SD	Torreon, CU	5,681				5,681	711				711
Soybeans	MO	Bojay (Tula), HG	6,256				6,256	713				713
	NE	Guadalajara, JA	7,069				7,069	810				810
	IA	El Castillo, JA	7,157				7,157	843				843
	KS	Torreon, CU	5,717				5,717	534				534
Sorghum	OK	Cuautitlan, EM	4,729				4,729	644				644
	TX	Guadalajara, JA	5,781				5,781	552				552
	NE	Penjamo, GJ	6,407				6,407	736				736
	KS	Queretaro, QA	5,641				5,641	445				445
	NE	Salinas Victoria, NL	4,500				4,500	446				446
	NE	Torreon, CU	5,546				5,546	581				581

¹Rates 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.

²Approximate 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



Table 3. Quarterly tariff plus fuel surcharge rail rates for U.S. bulk grain shipments to Mexico, 2011

Commodity	Origin state	Destination	US\$/metric ton				US\$/bushel ²					
			1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Avg	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Avg
Wheat	MT	Chihuahua, CI	76.66				76.66	2.08				2.08
	OK	Cuautitlan, EM	68.92				68.92	1.87				1.87
	KS	Guadalajara, JA	78.19				78.19	2.13				2.13
	TX	Salinas Victoria, NL	37.36				37.36	1.02				1.02
Corn	IA	Guadalajara, JA	80.58				80.58	2.04				2.04
	SD	Penjamo, GJ	76.30				76.30	1.94				1.94
	NE	Queretaro, QA	69.98				69.98	1.78				1.78
	SD	Salinas Victoria, NL	55.48				55.48	1.41				1.41
	MO	Tlalnepantla, EM	61.53				61.53	1.56				1.56
	SD	Torreon, CU	65.31				65.31	1.66				1.66
Soybeans	MO	Bojay (Tula), HG	71.21				71.21	1.94				1.94
	NE	Guadalajara, JA	80.51				80.51	2.19				2.19
	IA	Penjamo (Celaya), GJ	81.75				81.75	2.22				2.22
	KS	Torreon, CU	63.87				63.87	1.74				1.74
Sorghum	OK	Cuautitlan, EM	54.90				54.90	1.39				1.39
	TX	Guadalajara, JA	64.71				64.71	1.64				1.64
	NE	Penjamo, GJ	72.99				72.99	1.85				1.85
	KS	Queretaro, QA	62.18				62.18	1.58				1.58
	NE	Salinas Victoria, NL	50.53				50.53	1.28				1.28
	NE	Torreon, CU	62.60				62.60	1.59				1.59

¹Rates 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.

²Approximate 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 4. Quarterly tariff rail rates for U.S. Distillers' Dried Grains with Soluble (DDGS) shipments to the Mexico border (US\$/car), 2011

Origin state	Destination	Tariff rate/car ¹					Fuel surcharge per car				
		1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Avg	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Avg
IA	Eagle Pass, TX	3,929				3,929	498				498
MN		4,400				4,400	689				689
NE		3,921				3,921	469				469
SD		4,302				4,302	589				589
IA	El Paso, TX	3,838				3,838	458				458
MN		4,320				4,320	653				653
NE		3,827				3,827	416				416
SD		4,175				4,175	536				536

¹Rates are based upon published tariff rates for unit trains. Unit trains are available for qualified shipments of 80-100 cars. Fuel surcharges were revised. Source: www.bnsf.com

Table 5. 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
2007	164	170	184	190	708
2008	247	284	332	325	1,188
2009	316	377	371	395	1,459
2010	439	399	424	383	1,645
2011	506				

*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



Table 6. Quarterly ocean freight rate for bulk shipments from the U.S. Gulf to Veracruz, Mexico (US\$/metric ton)

Vessel capacity (metric ton)	1st qtr 2008	2nd qtr 2008	3rd qtr 2008	4th qtr 2008	Average
25,000	30.79	36.77	31.55	14.08	28.3
35-40,000	26.7	33.3	28.3	11.58	24.97
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				21.71
35-40,000	18.75				18.75

Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting



**Table 7. U.S. livestock exports to Mexico by border crossings*,
January-March, 2011 (head)**

Category					
Border Crossing	TX	NM	AZ	CA	Total
Beef cattle					
Slaughter	0	0	0	0	0
Breeding males	107	0	0	0	107
Breeding females	86	39	52	0	177
Total beef	193	39	52	0	284
Hogs					
Slaughter	0	0	0	0	0
Breeding males	300	0	38	0	338
Breeding females	1,143	0	472	0	1,615
Total hogs	1,443	0	510	0	1,953
Sheep					
Slaughter lambs	0	0	0	0	0
Slaughter ewes	3263	0	0	0	3,263
Breeding males	0	0	0	0	0
Breeding females	0	0	0	0	0
Total sheep	3263	0	0	0	3,263
Dairy cattle					
Breeding males	10	0	0	0	10
Breeding females	2,165	747	279	0	3,191
Total dairy	2,175	747	279	0	3,201
Goats					
Angora	0	0	0	0	0
Spanish	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Total goats	0	0	0	0	0
Horses					
Slaughter	10,164	3,226	0	0	13,390
Breeding males	462	257	127	0	846
Breeding females	748	294	153	0	1,195
Geldings	116	77	28	0	221
Burro/mule/pony	10	0	1	0	11
Total horses	11,500	3,854	309	0	15,663
Exotics**	49	0	0	0	49
Grand total	18,623	4,640	1,150	0	24,413

*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 8. Quarterly U.S. livestock exports to Mexico through Texas border crossing* (head)

Category	1st qtr 2011	2nd qtr 2011	3rd qtr 2011	4th qtr 2011	Total
Beef cattle					
Slaughter	0				0
Breeding males	107				107
Breeding females	86				86
Total beef	193				193
Hogs					
Slaughter	0				0
Breeding males	300				300
Breeding females	1,143				1,143
Total hogs	1,443				1,443
Sheep					
Slaughter lambs	0				0
Slaughter ewes	3,263				3,263
Breeding males	0				0
Breeding females	0				0
Total sheep	3,263				3,263
Dairy cattle					
Breeding males	10				10
Breeding females	2,165				2,165
Total dairy	2,175				2,175
Goats					
Angora	0				0
Spanish	0				0
Other	0				0
Total goats	0				0
Horses					
Slaughter	10,164				10,164
Breeding males	462				462
Breeding females	748				748
Geldings	116				116
Burro/mule/pony	10				10
Total horses	11,500				11,500
Exotics**	49				49
Grand total	18,623				18,623

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



Table 9. Quarterly U.S. livestock exports to Mexico through New Mexico border crossing* (head)

Category	1st qtr 2011	2nd qtr 2011	3rd qtr 2011	4th qtr 2011	Total
Beef cattle					
Slaughter	0				0
Breeding males	0				0
Breeding females	39				39
Total beef	39				39
Hogs					
Slaughter	0				0
Breeding males	0				0
Breeding females	0				0
Total hogs	0				0
Sheep					
Slaughter lambs	0				0
Slaughter ewes	0				0
Breeding males	0				0
Breeding females	0				0
Total sheep	0				0
Dairy cattle					
Breeding males	0				0
Breeding females	747				747
Total dairy	747				747
Goats					
Angora	0				0
Spanish	0				0
Other	0				0
Total goats	0				0
Horses					
Slaughter	3,226				3,226
Breeding males	257				257
Breeding females	294				294
Geldings	77				77
Burro/mule/pony	0				0
Total horses	3,854				3,854
Exotics**	0				0
Grand total	4,640				4,640

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



Table 10. Quarterly U.S. livestock exports to Mexico through Arizona border crossing* (head)

Category	1st qtr 2011	2nd qtr 2011	3rd qtr 2011	4th qtr 2011	Total
Beef cattle					
Slaughter	0				0
Breeding males	0				0
Breeding females	52				52
Total beef	52				52
Hogs					
Slaughter	0				0
Breeding males	38				38
Breeding females	472				472
Total hogs	510				510
Sheep					
Slaughter lambs	0				0
Slaughter ewes	0				0
Breeding males	0				0
Breeding females	0				0
Total sheep	0				0
Dairy cattle					
Breeding males	0				0
Breeding females	279				279
Total dairy	279				279
Goats					
Angora	0				0
Spanish	0				0
Other	0				0
Total goats	0				0
Horses					
Slaughter	0				0
Breeding males	127				127
Breeding females	153				153
Geldings	28				28
Burro/mule/pony	1				1
Total horses	309				309
Exotics**	0				0
Grand total	1,150				1,150

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



Table 11. Fruit and vegetable truck rates for selected U.S.-Mexico border crossing* (US\$/mile)

Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2006	2nd qtr 2006	3rd qtr 2006	4th qtr 2006	Average
Nogales, Arizona	1.70	1.77	2.22	1.78	1.87
Pharr, Texas	1.75	1.80	1.64	1.63	1.71
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2007	2nd qtr 2007	3rd qtr 2007	4th qtr 2007	Average
Nogales, Arizona	1.90	1.89	2.05	2.00	1.96
Pharr, Texas	1.65	1.83	1.86	1.74	1.77
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2008	2nd qtr 2008	3rd qtr 2008	4th qtr 2008	Average
Nogales, Arizona	1.96	2.24	2.80	1.97	2.24
Pharr, Texas	1.93	2.19	2.12	1.87	2.03
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2009	2nd qtr 2009	3rd qtr 2009	4th qtr 2009	Average
Nogales, Arizona	1.72	2.01	2.15	1.79	1.92
Pharr, Texas	1.70	1.71	1.59	1.58	1.65
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2010	2nd qtr 2010	3rd qtr 2010	4th qtr 2010	Average
Nogales, Arizona	1.97	2.25	2.26	2.23	2.17
Pharr, Texas	1.70	2.02	1.67	1.69	1.77
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2011	2nd qtr 2011	3rd qtr 2011	4th qtr 2011	Average
Nogales, Arizona	1.88				
Pharr, Texas	1.97				

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



Table 12. Quarterly U.S.-Mexico border crossing fresh fruit and vegetables truck availability, 1st quarter, 2011

Legend:		Truck availability														
1 = Surplus		2 = Slight Surplus														
3 = Adequate		4 = Slight Shortage														
5 = Shortage																
Mexico border crossings/month		January				February				March						
Week		1/4	1/11	1/18	1/25	2/1	2/8	2/15	2/22	3/1	3/8	3/15	3/22	3/29		
Through Pharr, TX	Citrus, Mixed Fruit and Vegetables	5	5	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	5	4	3		
	Tomatoes, Watermelon	5	5	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	5	4	3		
	Mangoes							3	3	3	3	5	4	3		
Through Nogales, AZ	Tomatoes, Melons, Mixed Vegetables	5	4	2	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	2	2	2		
	Mangoes							1	1	1	1	2	2	2		

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



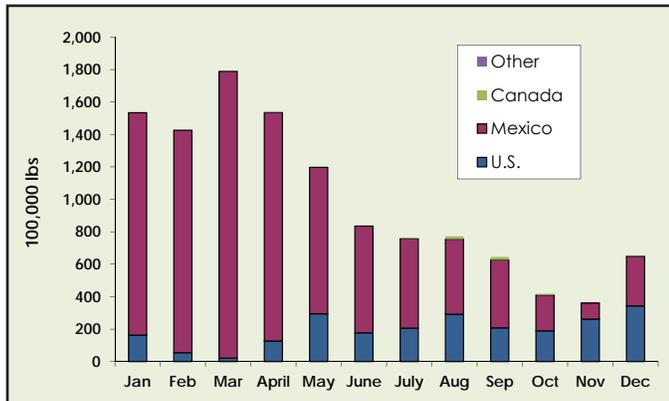
Fruit and Vegetables

Table 13. Top ten commodities shipped to the U.S. from Mexico (10,000 lbs)		
Commodity	1st qtr 2011	Ranking
Tomatoes	93,831	1
Peppers	49,137	2
Cucumbers	31,749	3
Onions	30,159	4
Watermelon	25,181	5
Avocados	21,256	6
Squash	20,975	7
Limes	14,214	8
Miscellaneous tropical	12,521	9
Lettuce	12,335	10

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

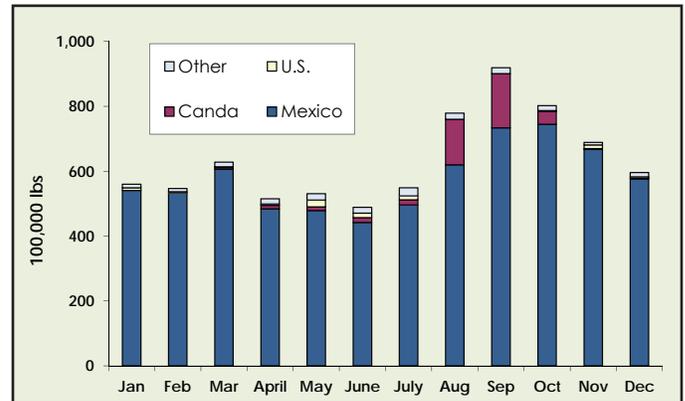


Figure 2. Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported plum tomatoes, 2010



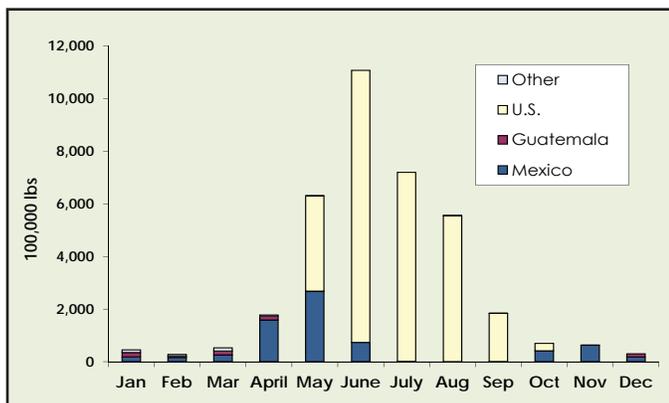
Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), USDA

Figure 3. Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported peppers, 2010



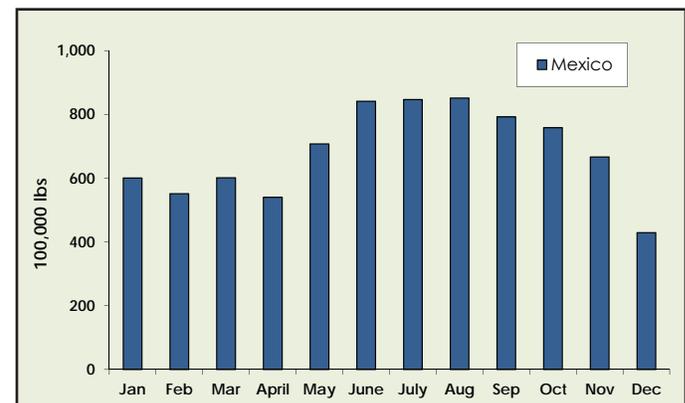
Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), USDA

Figure 4. Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported seedless watermelons, 2010



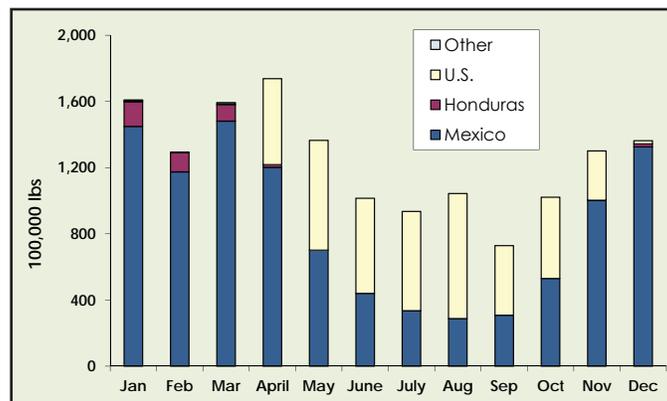
Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), USDA

Figure 5. Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported limes, 2010



Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), USDA

Figure 6. Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported cucumbers, 2010



Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), USDA



Table 14. Top five commodities shipped to the U.S. from Mexico (10,000 lbs.)

Commodity	1st qtr 2007	2nd qtr 2007	3rd qtr 2007	4th qtr 2007	Total 2007
Tomatoes, Plum	81,569	49,510	16,541	26,462	174,082
Peppers	39,988	21,882	16,609	30,259	108,738
Watermelon, Seedless	19,736	60,559	306	18,214	98,815
Limes	15,931	20,420	21,860	19,090	77,301
Cucumbers	31,681	17,622	4,709	22,438	76,450
Other	151,494	159,783	77,029	108,830	497,136
Subtotal border crossing	188,905	169,993	60,025	116,463	535,386
Total quarterly	340,399	329,776	137,054	225,293	1,032,522
Commodity	1st qtr 2008	2nd qtr 2008	3rd qtr 2008	4th qtr 2008	Total 2008
Tomatoes, Plum	66,049	53,659	15,156	26,271	161,135
Peppers	43,219	38,961	17,356	27,565	127,101
Watermelon, Seedless	26,601	73,261	2,202	18,531	120,595
Limes	15,557	26,505	20,834	18,705	81,601
Cucumbers	31,017	29,092	5,415	21,587	87,111
Other	156,348	207,080	74,194	113,146	550,768
Subtotal border crossing	182,443	221,478	60,963	112,659	577,543
Total quarterly	338,791	428,558	135,157	225,805	1,128,311
Commodity	1st qtr 2009	2nd qtr 2009	3rd qtr 2009	4th qtr 2009	Total 2009
Tomatoes, Plum	62,337	64,976	21,173	44,530	193,016
Peppers	43,303	23,396	21,903	33,946	122,548
Watermelon, Seedless	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
Other	181,069	143,027	80,567	129,714	534,377
Subtotal border crossing	177,601	195,065	76,790	149,452	598,908
Total quarterly	358,670	338,092	157,357	279,166	1,133,285

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



**Table 14. Top five commodities shipped to the U.S. from Mexico (10,000 lbs.)
—Continued—**

Commodity	1st qtr 2010	2nd qtr 2010	3rd qtr 2010	4th qtr 2010	Total 2010
Tomatoes, Plum	113,379	77,048	34,226	43,291	267,944
Peppers	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
Other	178,749	264,046	116,397	133,112	692,304
Subtotal border crossing	249,992	157,825	73,569	144,160	625,546
Total quarterly	428,741	421,871	189,966	277,272	1,317,850
Commodity	1st qtr 2011	2nd qtr 2011	3rd qtr 2011	4th qtr 2011	Total 2011
Tomatoes	93,831				93,831
Peppers	49,137				49,137
Cucumbers	31,749				31,749
Onions	30,159				30,159
Watermelon	25,181				25,181
Other	181,726				181,726
Subtotal border crossing	230,057				230,057
Total quarterly	411,783				411,783

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



Container Shipments

Table 15. Top ten U.S. containerized agricultural exports to Mexico*, 2010

1st qtr	Commodity	Quantity (mt)	# of TEUs**	Percentage share	Rank
	Vegetables	4,929	276	32	1
	Dairy products	2,410	165	16	2
	Tobacco	1,649	156	11	3
	Grocery Items	913	85	6	4
	Beer and ale	744	72	5	5
	Fruit	691	64	5	6
	Cheese	681	92	4	7
	Frozen fish	508	30	3	8
	Liquor, brandy, and spirits	490	65	3	9
	Tomatoes, prepared	279	33	2	10
Subtotal		13,294	1,038	87	
Other		2,002	181	13	
Total Exports		15,296	1,219	100	
2nd qtr	Commodity	Quantity (mt)	# of TEUs**	Percentage share	Rank
	Vegetables	4,063	236	23	1
	Dairy products	2,477	159	14	2
	Fruit	1,959	171	11	3
	Coffee	1,933	120	11	4
	Tomatoes, processed	1,533	114	9	5
	Dextrose, glucose	1,146	48	6	6
	Grocery items	745	89	4	7
	Animal feed	362	19	2	8
	Tea	346	28	2	9
	Bulbs and seeds	334	31	2	10
Subtotal		14,899	1,015	83	
Other		3,093	319	17	
Total Exports		17,992	1,334	100	

—Continued on next page—

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

**Twenty Foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) is a 20-foot shipping container

Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), Journal of Commerce, 2010



Container Shipments

Table 15. Top ten U.S. containerized agricultural exports to Mexico*, 2010
—Continued—

3rd qtr	Commodity	Quantity (mt)	# of TEUs**	Percentage share	Rank
	Dextrose, glucose	4,458	168	21	1
	Vegetables	3,424	193	16	2
	Coffee	3,421	276	16	3
	Dairy products	2,777	203	13	4
	Fruit	1,869	164	9	5
	Beer, ale	1,052	105	5	6
	Tobacco products	828	87	4	7
	Grocery items	504	69	2	8
	Poultry	322	27	1	9
	Meat	250	17	1	10
Subtotal		18,906	1,309	88	
Other		2,591	240	12	
Total Exports		21,497	1,548	100	
4th qtr	Commodity	Quantity (mt)	# of TEUs**	Percentage share	Rank
	Vegetables	5,535	313	37	1
	Dextrose, glucose	3,554	139	24	2
	Tobacco products	1,099	100	7	3
	Grocery items	867	104	6	4
	Dairy products	770	62	5	5
	Edible nuts	409	39	3	6
	Beer, ale	264	24	2	7
	Wine	247	21	2	8
	Liquor, brandy, and spirits	245	26	2	9
	Meat	232	24	2	10
Subtotal		13,222	852	89	
Other		1,628	179	11	
Total Exports		14,850	1,031	100	

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

**Twenty Foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) is a 20-foot shipping container

Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), Journal of Commerce, 2010



Table 16. Top five U.S. bulk agricultural exports to Mexico*, 2009-2010

Commodity	2009	2010	Percentage share	Rank
	Quantity (mt)			
Bulk grains	3,262,754	4,034,836	47%	1
Bread, cereal, flour	1,397,970	89,023	20%	2
Soybeans	1,303,882	1,364,463	19%	3
Rice	509,612	446,206	7%	4
Grocery items	208,509	29	3%	5
Subtotal	6,682,727	5,934,557	95%	
Other	317,469	1,338,216	5%	
Total Exports	7,000,196	7,272,773	100%	

*PIERS data will not necessarily sum to the total U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census data
 Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), Journal of Commerce, 2010

Table 17. Top ten U.S. agricultural container exports to Mexico*, 2009-2010

Commodity	2009	2010	Percentage share	Rank
	# of TEUs**			
Vegetables	623	1,019	20%	1
Dairy products	1,075	588	11%	2
Fruit	699	426	8%	3
Coffee	8	403	8%	4
Tobacco products	615	362	7%	5
Dextrose, glucose	0	355	7%	6
Grocery items	401	353	7%	7
Beer, ale	276	214	4%	8
Tomatoes, prepared	330	156	3%	9
Frozen fish	130	120	2%	10
Subtotal	4,156	3,996	78%	
Other	1,763	1,136	22%	
Total Exports	5,919	5,132	100%	

*PIERS data will not necessarily sum to the total U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census data
 **Twenty Foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) is a 20-foot shipping container
 Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), 2010



Table 18. Top three Mexican bulk agricultural exports to the U.S.*, 2010

Commodity	Quantity (mt)	Percentage share	Rank
Sugar	406,839	54%	1
Rum	238,658	32%	2
Molasses, treacle	78,879	10%	3
Subtotal	724,376	96%	
Other	30,840	4%	
Total	755,216	100%	

*PIERS data will not necessarily sum to the total U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census data
 Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), 2010

Table 19. Top ten Mexican agricultural container exports to the U.S.*, 2010

Commodity	# of TEUs**	Percentage share	Rank
Bananas	6,259	25%	1
Beer, ale	6,082	24%	2
Coffee	2,510	10%	3
Bitters, brandy, liquor	1,716	7%	4
Vegetables	1,666	7%	5
Bread, cereal, flour	1,335	5%	6
Sugar	679	3%	7
Fruit	490	2%	8
Grocery items	398	2%	9
Pineapple	343	1%	10
Subtotal	21,479	84%	
Other	4,024	16%	
Total Exports	25,503	100%	

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

**Twenty Foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) is a 20-foot shipping container

Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), 2010



Table 20. U.S. agricultural container shipments to Mexico by port*, 2009-2010

U.S. region**	Mexican port	2009	2010
		Number of TEUs***	
U.S. Gulf	Manzanillo	2	17
Pacific Northwest		690	1184
West Coast		1,520	652
East Coast		67	100
TOTAL		2,279	1,953
U.S. Gulf	Lazaro Cardenas	-	-
Pacific Northwest		325	193
West Coast		1200	753
East Coast		-	-
TOTAL		1,524	946
U.S. Gulf	Veracruz	47	307
Pacific Northwest		-	-
West Coast		1	1
East Coast		257	242
TOTAL		305	550
U.S. Gulf	Progreso	208	486
Pacific Northwest		-	-
West Coast		-	-
East Coast		2	-
TOTAL		210	486
U.S. Gulf	Altamira	-	-
Pacific Northwest		-	-
West Coast		-	-
East Coast		655	393
TOTAL		655	393

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

**U.S. Gulf includes Houston, New Orleans, Port Everglades

Pacific Northwest includes Seattle, Portland

West Coast includes Oakland, Long Beach, Los Angeles

East Coast includes New York, Baltimore, Norfolk, Charleston, Savannah, Jacksonville, West Palm Beach, Miami

*** Twenty Foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) is a 20-foot shipping container

Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), 2010



Table 21. U.S. agricultural container exports to Mexico by port*, 2009-2010

Mexican port	2009	2010	Percentage share	Rank
	# of TEUs**			
Manzanillo	2,279	1,953	38%	1
Lazaro Cardenas	1,528	952	19%	2
Veracruz	341	565	11%	3
Progreso	210	486	9%	4
Altamira	657	396	8%	5
Subtotal	5,015	4,352	85%	
Other	904	780	15%	
Total Exports	5,919	5,132	100%	

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

** Twenty Foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) is a 20-foot shipping container

Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), 2010

Table 22. U.S. bulk agricultural exports to Mexico by receiving port*, 2009-2010

Mexican port	2009	2010	Percentage share	Rank
	Quantity (mt)			
Veracruz	5,124,123	4,847,113	70%	1
Progreso	971,322	1,151,637	13%	2
Coatzacoalcos	570,641	656,708	8%	3
Tuxpan	406,120	338,249	6%	4
Guaymas	-	5,242	0%	5
Subtotal	7,072,205	6,998,950	97%	
Other	200,568	1,246	3%	
Total Exports	7,272,773	7,000,196	100%	

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

Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), 2010



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Related Websites:

- ◆ [U.S. Grain and Soybean Exports to Mexico — A Modal Share Transportation Analysis \(PDF\)](#)
- ◆ [Grain Transportation Report](#)
- ◆ [Agricultural Refrigerated Truck Quarterly](#)



Data Sets:

- ◆ Figure 1: Average cost of shipping U.S. corn, wheat, and soybeans to Guadalajara, Mexico, by route, January-March 2010
- ◆ Figure 2: Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported plum tomatoes, 2010
- ◆ Figure 3: Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported peppers, 2010
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- ◆ Table 1: Quarterly costs of transporting U.S. grain and soybeans to Guadalajara, Mexico
- ◆ Table 2: Quarterly tariff rail rates for U.S. bulk grain shipments to Mexico (US\$/car), 2011
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- ◆ Table 7: U.S. livestock exports to Mexico by border crossings, January-March, 2011 (head)
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- ◆ Table 20: U.S. agricultural container shipments to Mexico by port, 2009-2010
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