



Mexico Transport Cost Indicator Report

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With Fourth Quarter Transportation Costs Mixed, Mexico Imports More U.S.

Grain and Oilseeds. The fourth quarter of 2016 showed mixed transportation costs of shipping grains from the United States to Mexico. However, Mexico imported more corn, soybeans, and wheat during the quarter, as well as for calendar year 2016, compared to the same period a year earlier. The transportation costs of waterborne corn and soybeans each decreased 10 percent compared to the previous quarter ([see February 16, 2017 Grain Transportation Report \(GTR\)](#)). During the quarter, however, it cost 2 and 3 percent more, respectively, to ship wheat to Mexico via the waterborne and land routes. The cost of shipping corn by land also increased 2 percent during the quarter. The costs of shipping corn and soybeans by the water route decreased mainly due to a 22 percent decline in barge rates, compared to the previous quarter. For waterborne wheat, rail tariff, and ocean rates remained relatively stable, but the truck rate increased during the quarter, moving the transportation cost up slightly.

Truck and rail tariff rates increased the transportation costs for corn and wheat transported via the land route. However, the reduction in rail tariff rates for soybeans was more than enough to offset the increase in truck rates, which caused the transportation cost for soybeans transported through the land route to fall slightly. During the quarter, the landed cost for corn shipped by the land route was up 1 percent, while the landed cost for this route for soybeans and wheat was down by 4 and 1 percent, respectively. However, the landed cost for all three commodities for the water route were down. During the quarter for the water route, the farm value for Illinois corn remained unchanged but lower transportation costs pushed down the landed costs. Year-to-year transportation costs increased for waterborne corn and soybeans, and generally for wheat. However, year-to-year landed costs decreased for both corn and wheat as their farm values fell significantly compared to last year, while soybean farm values improved over last year. The landed costs for the water route ranged from \$162 to \$399 per metric ton (mt) (see table 1 and figure 1), and \$185/mt to \$435/mt for the land route (see table 1 and figure 2). The transportation share of the landed costs ranged from 10 to 34 percent for the water route (see table 1 and figure 1), and 22 to 42 percent for the land route (see table 1 and figure 2). Only the wheat transportation share of the landed costs increased from quarter to quarter.

Market Analysis and Outlook: In 2016, Mexico imported 3.16 million metric tons (mmt) of corn from the United States during the fourth quarter of 2016—12 percent more than the same period a year ago (FAS, GATS Data). The total value of corn imports was \$57.3 million. During 2016, Mexico imported 13.92 mmt of corn, 18 percent more than 2015. During the fourth quarter, Mexico also imported 0.81 and 1.10 mmt of wheat and soybeans, respectively. The quantity of wheat imported was 71 percent more than the same period a year earlier, while the quantity of soybeans increased by 13 percent. In 2016, Mexico imported 2.76 and 3.64 mmt of wheat and soybeans, respectively. The quantity of wheat imported was 6 percent more than the same period a year earlier, while the quantity of soybeans increased by 2 percent. According to USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), Mexican corn imports for marketing year (MY) 2016/17 are estimated at 12.5 mmt, and wheat imports at 4.3 mmt ([FAS, GAIN Report #: MX6023](#)). Mexico's soybean imports for MY 2016/17 are forecasted at 4 mmt ([FAS, GAIN Report #: MX6014](#)). According to FAS, production, supply, and distribution data, Mexico corn production in 2016 at 24.5 mmt is lower than 2015 at 25.8 mmt. Reduced Mexican domestic production could boost imports from the United States. In addition, the United States' proximity to Mexico is a major advantage to U.S. suppliers of soybeans to Mexico, making their prices very competitive.

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

-----2016-----										
	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				
Corn										
Origin	IL					IA				
Truck	8.18	12.10	10.58	10.58	10.36	3.29	3.45	3.14	3.94	3.46
Rail ¹						86.61	85.41	84.04	84.85	85.23
Ocean ²	10.44	11.65	13.20	13.26	12.14					
Barge	13.66	14.78	21.12	16.52	16.52					
Total transportation cost	32.28	38.53	44.90	40.36	39.02	89.90	88.86	87.18	88.79	88.68
Farm price	144.74	150.25	132.15	132.41	139.89	137.79	142.64	127.16	128.21	133.95
Landed cost	177.02	188.78	177.05	172.77	178.91	227.69	231.50	214.34	217.00	222.63
Transport % of landed cost	18.2	20.4	25.4	23.4	21.8	39.5	38.4	40.7	40.9	39.8
Soybeans										
Origin	IL					NE				
Truck	8.18	12.10	10.58	10.58	10.36	3.29	3.45	3.14	3.94	3.46
Rail ¹						94.26	93.93	94.36	92.64	93.80
Ocean ²	10.44	11.65	13.20	13.26	12.14					
Barge	13.66	14.78	21.12	16.52	16.52					
Total transportation cost	32.28	38.53	44.90	40.36	39.02	97.55	97.38	97.50	96.58	97.25
Farm price	324.94	367.19	372.34	359.11	355.90	306.20	347.60	353.84	338.29	336.48
Landed cost	357.22	405.72	417.24	399.47	394.91	403.75	444.98	451.34	434.87	433.74
Transport % of landed cost	9.0	9.5	10.8	10.1	9.8	24.2	21.9	21.6	22.2	22.5
Wheat										
Origin	KS					KS				
Truck	3.29	3.45	3.14	3.94	3.46	3.29	3.45	3.14	3.94	3.46
Rail ¹	38.49	37.76	38.28	38.30	38.21	72.39	72.19	72.41	73.69	72.67
Ocean ²	10.44	11.65	13.20	13.26	12.14					
Total transportation cost	52.22	52.86	54.62	55.50	53.80	75.68	75.64	75.55	77.63	76.13
Farm price	151.63	143.67	111.09	106.92	128.33	151.63	143.67	111.09	106.92	128.33
Landed cost	203.85	196.53	165.71	162.42	182.13	227.31	219.31	186.64	184.55	204.45
Transport % of landed cost	25.6	26.9	33.0	34.2	29.9	33.3	34.5	40.5	42.1	37.6

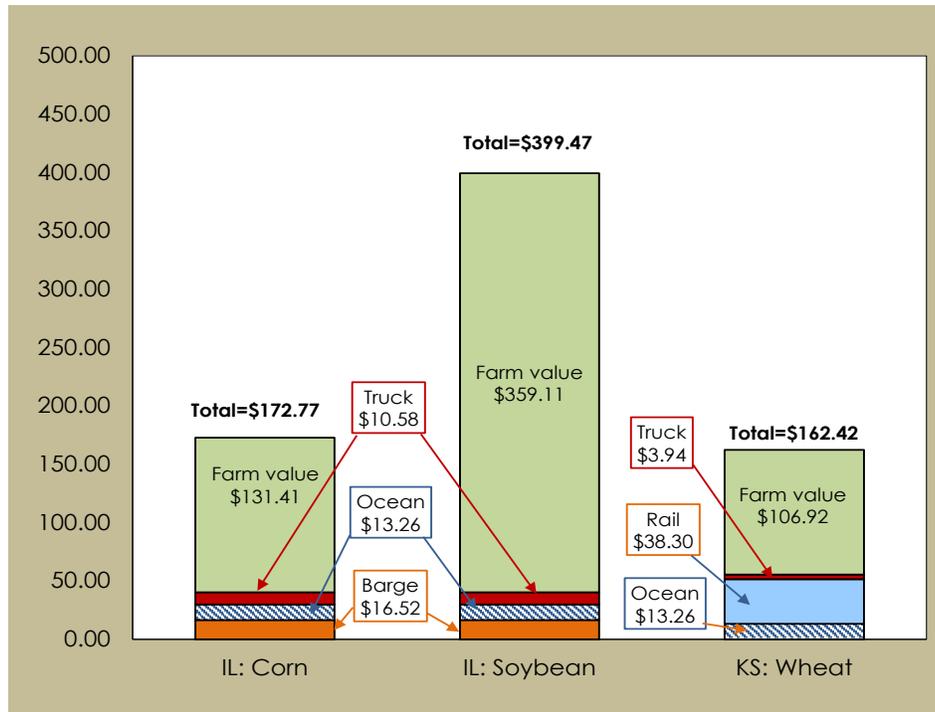
¹Rail rates include U.S. and Mexico portions of the movement. Mexico rail rates are estimated based on actual quoted market rates. BNSF and Union Pacific quoted rail tariff rates are through rates for shuttle trains.

Rail rates include fuel surcharges, 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.

²Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting, Inc.; Landed cost is total transportation cost plus the farm price.

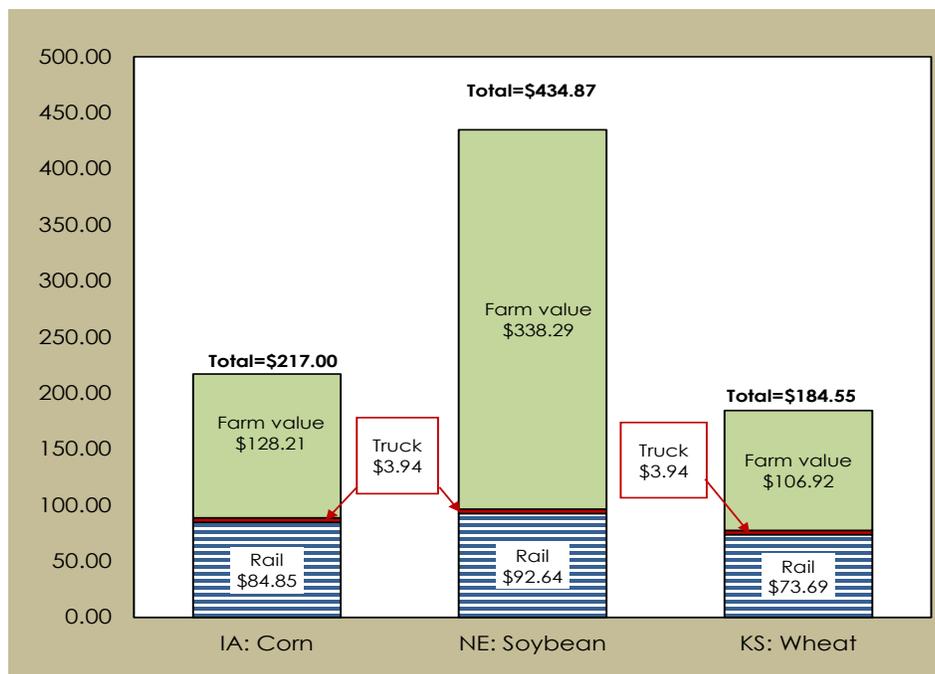


Figure 1. Water route shipment costs (\$/mt) to Veracruz, Mexico



Source: USDA Agricultural Marketing Service

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



Source: USDA Agricultural Marketing Service



Ocean Freight Rates: Ocean freight rates for shipping bulk grains to Mexico increased during the fourth quarter, compared to the same period a year ago, but less than the 4-year averages. The cost of shipping a metric ton of grain from the U.S. Gulf to Veracruz, Mexico, in a 25,000 ton-capacity vessel averaged \$14.85 per mt during the quarter—17 percent more than the same period last year, but 14 percent below the 4-year average. The cost of shipping in a 35-40,000 ton-capacity vessel averaged \$13.26 per mt—9 percent more than the same period last year, but 11 percent below the 4-year average. Although ocean freight rates increased due to increased iron ore, coal, and grain trade during the quarter (see January 19, 2017 [GTR](#)), the rates were still lower than the 4-year averages as excess vessel supply persists in the market.

Railroad: During the fourth quarter of 2016, railroads transported 27,404 carloads of grain and oilseeds to Mexico, down 17 percent from the previous quarter, down 3 percent from the fourth quarter of 2015, and down 3 percent from the prior 3-year average for the third quarter. Tariff rail rates per grain car averaged \$7,317, unchanged from the third quarter of 2016 and the fourth quarter 2015, but up 4 percent from the prior 3-year average. Fuel surcharges per railcar averaged \$63, up 23 percent from the previous quarter, but down 29 percent from the fourth quarter 2015, and down 87 percent from the prior 3-year average. Overall, rail transportation costs (tariff rates plus fuel surcharges) were unchanged from the previous quarter, down 1 percent from 4th quarter 2015, and were down 2 percent from the prior 3-year average.

Fruit and Vegetables

Total reported shipments of fruits and vegetables from Mexico during the 4th quarter 2016 were 2.2 million tons, a 13 percent increase from the same quarter last year. The sum of the top five commodities increased 12 percent from last year. Peppers shipments were up 47 percent and cucumber shipments were up 11 percent from last year. Avocado shipments, however, were down 18 percent compared to the same quarter last year.

Truck rates for shipments between 501 and 1,500 miles through the Texas border crossings averaged \$1.82 per mile, 18 percent higher than last quarter, but 7 percent lower than the same quarter last year. Rates for shipments between 501 and 1,500 miles through the Arizona border crossings averaged \$1.94 per mile, up 39 percent from last quarter, but 9 percent less than the same quarter last year. Rates for shipments between 501 and 1,500 miles through the Texas border crossings averaged \$1.89 per mile, up 3 percent from last quarter, but 4 percent less than the same quarter last year.

Diesel fuel prices for border crossings through Texas averaged \$2.34 per gallon, 4 percent higher than the previous quarter, and 3 percent higher than the same quarter last year. Diesel fuel prices for border crossings through Arizona averaged \$2.65 per gallon, 5 percent higher than the previous quarter, and 6 percent higher than the same period last year. Truck availability was either “a slight surplus” or “adequate” for Nogales and at the Texas border.

Livestock

The U.S. exported 39,442 head of livestock to Mexico during the 4th quarter, an increase of 24 percent from the previous quarter (31,875). Horses remain the largest livestock export to Mexico (58 percent), followed by dairy cattle (14 percent), and hogs (12 percent). There were 22,777 horses exported to Mexico. The majority of them crossed through Eagle Pass and Presidio, TX. Horse exports increased slightly (0.3 percent) from last quarter, but decreased (5 percent) from the same quarter last year.

Beef and dairy cattle, sheep, horses, and exotic animal exports had large increases in the 4th quarter. Compared to the previous quarter, beef cattle increased to 3,693 from 612 animals, dairy cattle increased to 5,631 from 2,247 animals, and exotics increased to 302 from 105 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 2016

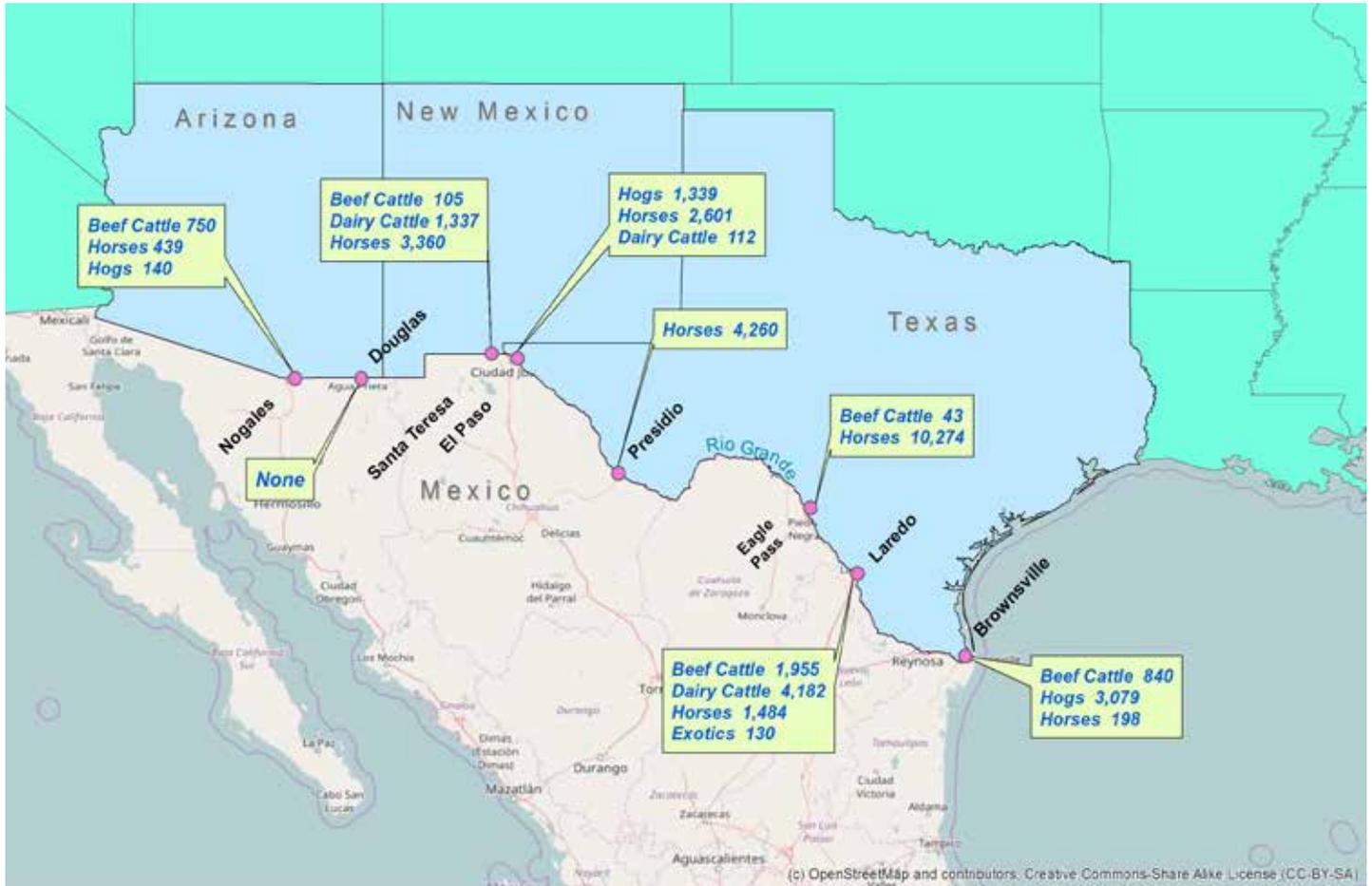




Table 2. Quarterly tariff rail rates for U.S. bulk grain shipments to Mexico (US\$/car), 2016

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	7,459	7,459			7,459	0	0	0	0	0
	OK	Cuautitlan, EM	6,514	6,514			6,514	30	0	44	46	30
	KS	Guadalajara, JA	6,995	6,995			6,995	90	70	92	135	97
	TX	Salinas Victoria, NL	4,142	4,142			4,142	15	0	26	27	17
Corn	IA	Guadalajara, JA	8,397	8,310			8,354	79	49	88	117	83
	SD	Celaya, GJ	7,840	7,720			7,780	0	0	0	0	0
	NE	Queretaro, QA	7,879	7,879			7,879	38	0	86	90	53
	SD	Salinas Victoria, NL	6,545	6,545			6,545	0	0	0	0	0
	MO	Tlalnepantla, EM	7,238	7,238			7,238	37	0	83	88	52
	SD	Torreon, CU	7,240	7,187			7,213	0	0	0	0	0
Soybeans	MO	Bojay (Tula), HG	8,652	8,652			8,652	82	54	89	122	87
	NE	Guadalajara, JA	9,142	9,142			9,142	84	52	94	125	89
	IA	El Castillo, JA	9,470	9,470			9,470	0	0	0	0	0
	KS	Torreon, CU	7,439	7,439			7,439	58	30	68	87	60
Sorghum	NE	Celaya, GJ	7,364	7,344			7,354	72	41	82	107	75
	KS	Queretaro, QA	7,563	7,563			7,563	38	0	55	58	38
	NE	Salinas Victoria, NL	6,168	6,168			6,168	30	0	44	47	30
	NE	Torreon, CU	6,724	6,672			6,698	54	25	65	81	56

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. 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.

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 3. Quarterly tariff plus fuel surcharge rail rates for U.S. bulk grain shipments to Mexico, 2016

			Tariff ¹ plus fuel surcharge per:									
			US\$/metric ton					US\$/bushel ²				
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	76.21	76.21	76.21	76.21	76.21	2.07	2.07	2.07	2.07	2.07
	OK	Cuautitlan, EM	66.86	66.55	67.00	67.87	67.07	1.82	1.81	1.82	1.85	1.82
	KS	Guadalajara, JA	72.39	72.19	72.41	73.69	72.67	1.97	1.96	1.97	2.00	1.98
	TX	Salinas Victoria, NL	42.47	42.32	42.58	43.16	42.63	1.15	1.15	1.16	1.17	1.16
Corn	IA	Guadalajara, JA	86.61	85.41	84.04	84.85	85.23	2.20	2.17	2.13	2.15	2.16
	SD	Celaya, GJ	80.11	78.88	76.43	77.45	78.22	2.03	2.00	1.94	1.97	1.98
	NE	Queretaro, QA	80.90	80.50	81.38	81.73	81.13	2.05	2.04	2.07	2.07	2.06
	SD	Salinas Victoria, NL	66.87	66.87	66.87	67.79	67.10	1.70	1.70	1.70	1.72	1.70
	MO	Tlalnepanitla, EM	74.33	73.96	74.81	75.16	74.56	1.89	1.88	1.90	1.91	1.89
	SD	Torreon, CU	73.98	73.43	72.34	73.36	73.28	1.88	1.86	1.84	1.86	1.86
Soybeans	MO	Bojay (Tula), HG	89.23	88.95	89.31	89.59	89.27	2.43	2.42	2.43	2.44	2.43
	NE	Guadalajara, JA	94.26	93.93	94.36	92.64	93.80	2.56	2.55	2.57	2.52	2.55
	IA	El Castillo, JA	96.76	96.76	96.76	91.55	95.46	2.63	2.63	2.63	2.49	2.60
	KS	Torreon, CU	76.59	76.31	76.69	77.40	76.75	2.08	2.07	2.09	2.10	2.09
Sorghum	NE	Celaya, GJ	75.97	75.45	75.87	74.28	75.39	1.93	1.91	1.93	1.89	1.91
	KS	Queretaro, QA	77.66	77.27	77.83	78.32	77.77	1.97	1.96	1.98	1.99	1.97
	NE	Salinas Victoria, NL	63.33	63.02	63.47	63.95	63.44	1.61	1.60	1.61	1.62	1.61
	NE	Torreon, CU	69.25	68.42	68.84	68.33	68.71	1.76	1.74	1.75	1.73	1.74

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. 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.

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 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
2016	483	467	470	490	1,910

*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
Vessel capacity (metric ton)	1st qtr 2016	2nd qtr 2016	3rd qtr 2016	4th qtr 2016	Average
25,000	12.34	13.47	15.00	14.85	13.92
35-40,000	10.44	11.65	13.20	13.26	12.14

Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting



**Table 6. U.S. livestock exports to Mexico by border crossing* (head)
October -December 2016**

Border Crossing	NM	AZ	TX	Total
Beef cattle				
Slaughter	0	680	1,959	2,639
Breeding males	74	46	306	426
Breeding females	31	24	573	628
Total beef	105	750	2,838	3,693
Hogs				
Slaughter	0	0	0	0
Breeding males	0	140	843	983
Breeding females	0	0	3,575	3,575
Total hogs	0	140	4,418	4,558
Sheep				
Slaughter lambs	0	0	0	0
Slaughter ewes	0	0	2,653	2,653
Breeding males	0	0	0	0
Breeding females	0	0	0	0
Total sheep	0	0	2,653	2,653
Dairy cattle				
Breeding males	0	0	11	11
Breeding females	1,337	0	4,283	5,620
Total dairy	1,337	0	4,294	5,631
Goats				
Angora	0	0	0	0
Spanish	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
Total goats	0	0	0	0
Horses				
Slaughter	2,689	0	17,507	20,196
Breeding males	242	184	398	824
Breeding females	322	201	603	1,126
Geldings	107	54	168	329
Burro/mule/pony	0	0	302	302
Total horses	3,360	439	18,978	22,777
Exotics**	0	0	96	96
Grand total	4,802	1,329	33,311	39,442

*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 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
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2016	2nd qtr 2016	3rd qtr 2016	4th qtr 2016	Average
Nogales, Arizona	2.31	2.43	2.53	2.65	2.48
Pharr, Texas	2.98	2.17	2.24	2.34	2.43

*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, 2016

Legend:		Truck availability												
														1 = Surplus
Mexico border crossings/month		October				November				December				
Week		10/4	10/11	10/18	10/25	11/1	11/8	11/15	11/22	11/29	12/6	12/13	12/20	12/27
Through Nogales, AZ	Peppers, Tomatoes, Mangoes, Melons, Mixed Vegetables, Squash, Cucumbers	2	2	1	3	3	3	4	3	2	1	1	3	3
Through TX	Carrots, Broccoli, Tomatoes, Lemons, Limes, Mixed Fruits, Vegetables	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	4

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 2016	Rank
Peppers, Other	45,895	1
Avocados	40,457	2
Cucumbers	39,803	3
Tomatoes	36,420	4
Squash	30,711	5
Limes	27,425	6
Tomatoes, Plum Type	25,615	7
Watermelons, Seedless	25,334	8
Peppers, Bell Type	19,375	9
Misc Tropical	16,269	10

Source: USDA, AMS, Market News



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

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
Subtotal	249,992	157,825	73,569	144,160	625,546
Other	178,749	264,046	116,397	133,112	692,304
Total	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 (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
Subtotal	230,057	204,358	81,619	114,489	630,523
Other	181,726	199,596	109,240	103,717	594,279
Total	411,783	403,954	190,859	218,206	1,224,802
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
Subtotal	255,163	164,532	90,552	148,855	659,102
Other	200,550	256,945	122,889	190,616	771,000
Total	455,713	421,477	213,441	339,471	1,430,102

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 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
Subtotal	247,333	189,696	104,939	173,994	715,962
Other	206,944	271,688	126,051	168,680	773,363
Total	454,277	461,384	230,990	342,674	1,489,325
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
Subtotal	278,803	184,354	109,955	202,490	775,602
Other	214,020	306,544	126,219	160,627	807,410
Total	492,823	490,898	236,174	363,117	1,583,012
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
Subtotal	284,037	198,472	127,506	217,134	827,149
Other	225,053	334,134	130,249	179,649	869,085
Total	509,090	532,606	257,755	396,783	1,696,234
Commodity	1st qtr 2016	2nd qtr 2016	3rd qtr 2016	4th qtr 2016	Total 2016
Tomatoes (all varieties)	122,571	105,099	49,289	66,534	343,493
Peppers (all varieties)	57,984	46,626	33,631	65,270	203,511
Cucumbers	45,829	37,791	14,670	39,803	138,093
Avocados	57,605	40,197	34,993	40,457	173,252
Squash	31,051	26,672	5,322	30,711	93,756
Subtotal	315,040	256,385	137,905	242,775	952,105
Other	242,834	350,555	162,307	204,561	960,257
Total	557,874	606,940	300,212	447,336	1,912,362

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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Related Websites:

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

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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](#)
- ◆ [Table 1: Quarterly costs of transporting U.S. grain and soybeans to Mexico](#)
- ◆ [Table 2: Quarterly tariff rail rates for U.S. bulk grain shipments to Mexico \(US\\$/car\), 2016](#)
- ◆ [Table 3: Quarterly tariff plus fuel surcharge rail rates for U.S. bulk grain shipments to Mexico, 2016](#)
- ◆ [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 \(US\\$/metric ton\)](#)
- ◆ [Table 6: U.S. livestock exports to Mexico by border crossing \(head\) October-December 2016](#)
- ◆ [Table 7: Fruit and vegetable truck rates for shipments between 500 and 1,500 miles crossing the U.S.-Mexico border \(US\\$/mile\)](#)
- ◆ [Table 8: Quarterly U.S.-Mexico border crossing fresh fruit and vegetables truck availability, 4th quarter, 2016](#)
- ◆ [Table 9: Top ten commodities shipped to the U.S. from Mexico \(10,000 lbs\)](#)
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