

Brazil Soybean Transportation

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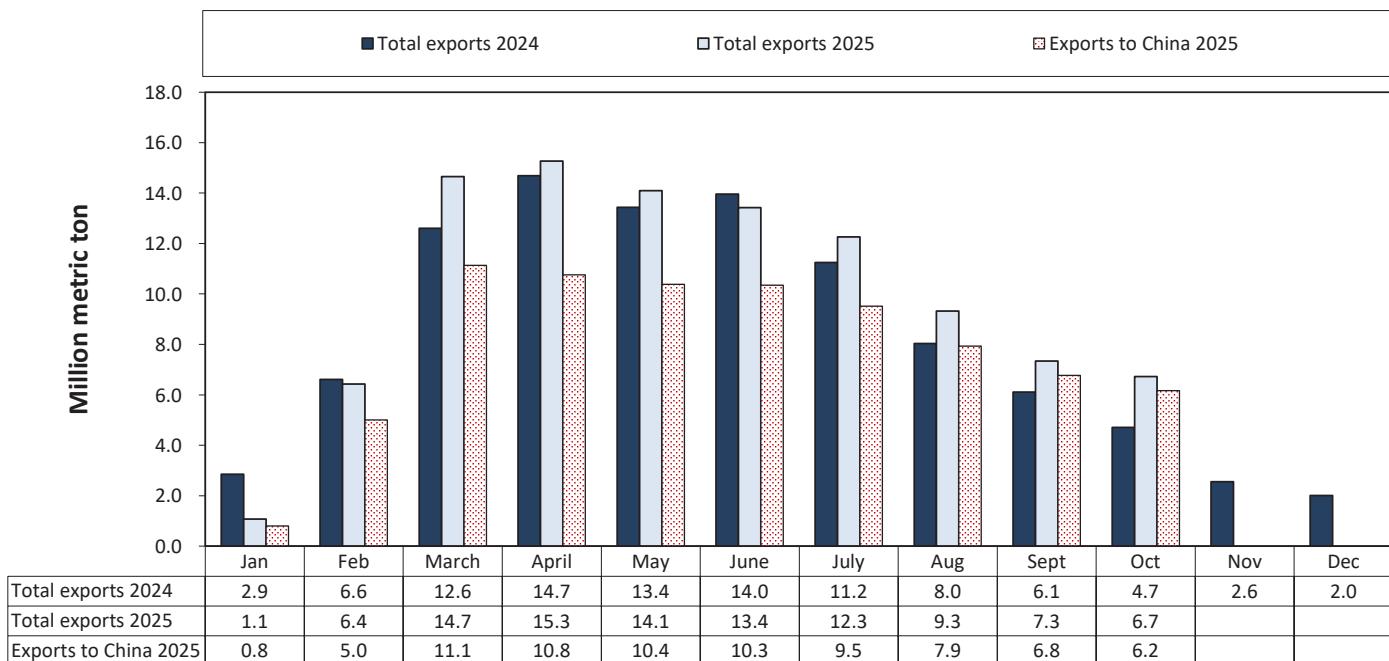
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Record soybean exports raise transportation costs

Inland and ocean freight rates—year to year. From third quarter 2024 to third quarter 2025 (year to year), costs rose to transport Brazilian soybeans by inland modes (i.e., truck, rail, and barge). Brazil's cost of shipping a metric ton (mt) of soybeans 100 miles by truck increased 17 percent, from \$7.24 per mt to \$8.50 per mt ([table 8](#)). Especially in July, truck rates rose with high demand to move not only record soybean exports, but also the winter corn harvest (July-September) (fig. 1) ([Comex Stat, MDIC](#)).¹

Despite these upward pressures, truck rates stayed below the third-quarter record high of \$10.23 per mt (set in 2023). Year to year, rates were up 17 percent for the rail route of North Mato Grosso to Santos and up 39 percent for the barge route from Barcarena to Santos ([tables 1a, 1b, 2a, and 2b](#)). Barcarena barge rates recovered from a steep decline in third quarter 2024 caused by a drought in Brazil's Arco Norte region. (During the drought, shippers had used alternate modes and routes to export soybeans ([Salin 2024](#))).

Figure 1. Brazil's average monthly soybean exports, January 2024-October 2025



Source: Comex Stat, Ministério do Desenvolvimento, Indústria, Comércio e Serviços.

1 In this report, the source of Brazil export data is the Comex Stat, Ministério do Desenvolvimento, Indústria, Comércio e Serviços (MDIC).



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Ocean shipping rates also increased 7-8 percent year to year (tables [1a](#), [1b](#), [2a](#), [2b](#), and [9](#)).

Year to year, total soybean transportation costs increased for the selected routes considered in this report. For the route to Shanghai, China, from Sorriso, Mato Grosso (the largest Brazilian soybean-producing State) via Santos—soybean transportation costs rose 11-14 percent ([table 1a](#)). To Shanghai from Sorriso via Barcarena costs increased 20 percent ([table 1b](#)).

Year to year, soybean transportation costs to Shanghai, China—as a share of total landed costs—increased 9-11 percent for the routes from northern Mato Grosso via Santos and rose 16 percent from Barcarena via Santos (tables [1a](#) and [1b](#)).

Farm gate prices and depreciation of Brazilian real. Year to year, Brazil's soybean exports rose from 25.4 million metric tons (mmt) to 28.9 mmt ([fig. 1](#)). The average third-quarter 2025 Brazilian soybean export price (\$414.18) was down 5 percent from both third quarter 2024's average (\$434.91) and the average for all of 2024 (\$434.65). Measured in U.S. dollars, Brazil's average farm gate prices for soybeans rose 1 percent—from \$363.33/mt to \$367.66/mt. Measured in reais, the same prices declined less than 1 percent—from R\$ 2,014.56/mt to R\$ 2,001.98/mt ([CONAB](#)).

The real's appreciation against the U.S. dollar resulted in slightly lower domestic farm prices. Soybeans are priced in U.S. dollars but paid in reais. Year to year, the Brazilian real appreciated nearly 2 percent against the U.S. dollar—from R\$5.54 per U.S. dollar to R\$5.45 per U.S. dollar ([Brazil Central Bank](#)).

Brazilian port shares of soybean exports to China. In third quarter 2025, Brazil's soybean exports to China totaled 24.2 mmt—up 26 percent from third quarter 2024's total of 19.2 mmt ([fig. 1](#)). From January to September 2025, cumulative exports to China reached 72.6 mmt, valued at \$29 billion, and accounted for 77 percent of Brazil's total soybean record exports for the period (93.9 mmt). The next highest shares of Brazil's soybean exports (in declining order) went to Spain, Thailand, Turkey, and Pakistan.

The Port of Santos was the largest Brazilian export gateway to China, followed by Paranaguá, São Luís, Rio Grande, Barcarena, and São Francisco do Sul. Together, in the first 9 months of 2025, these six ports accounted for 89 percent of Brazilian soybean exports to China. Also, in the first 9 months of 2025, 66 percent of Brazil's soybean exports to China originated from the southern ports of Santos, Rio Grande, Paranaguá, and São Francisco do Sul; 23 percent, from the northeastern ports of São Luís, Vitória, and Salvador; and 11 percent from the ports of Barcarena, Manaus, and Santarém, along the Amazon River. For more information, contact Delmy L. Salin at delmy.salin@usda.gov.



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Table 1a. Quarterly costs of transporting Brazilian soybeans from the southern ports to Shanghai, China

Item	North MT - Santos by truck			Northwest RS - Rio Grande		
	—US\$/mt—		% Change	—US\$/mt—		% Change
	3rd qtr. 2024	3rd qtr. 2025	2024-25	3rd qtr. 2024	3rd qtr. 2025	2024-25
Truck	82.31	92.10	11.9	26.79	31.13	16.2
Ocean	36.00	39.00	8.3	36.50	39.50	8.2
Total transportation	118.31	131.10	10.8	63.29	70.63	11.6
Farm gate price	366.60	361.89	-1.3	358.95	373.71	4.1
Landed cost	484.91	492.99	1.7	422.24	444.34	5.2
Transport % of landed cost	24.4	26.6	9.0	15.0	15.9	6.0
Item	North MT - Santos by rail			North MT - Paranaguá		
	—US\$/mt—		% Change	—US\$/mt—		% Change
	3rd qtr. 2024	3rd qtr. 2025	2024-25	3rd qtr. 2024	3rd qtr. 2025	2024-25
Truck	28.22	32.70	15.9	80.92	91.19	12.7
Rail	43.01	50.34	17.0	-	-	-
Ocean	36.00	39.00	8.3	37.50	40.50	8.0
Total transportation	107.23	122.04	13.8	118.42	131.69	11.2
Farm gate price	366.60	361.89	-1.3	366.60	361.89	-1.3
Landed cost	473.83	483.93	2.1	485.02	493.58	1.8
Transport % of landed cost	22.6	25.2	11.4	24.4	26.7	9.3

Producing regions: MT= Mato Grosso and RS = Rio Grande Do Sul.

Export ports = Santos, Rio Grande, and Paranaguá.

The source of the farm gate price is the Brazilian Government, Companhia Nacional de Abastecimento (CONAB).

In Brazil, there are no published rail tariff rates. Rail rates can be up to 30 percent lower than truck rates, depending on the volumes hauled and the terms of contracts signed between the railroad company and shippers.

Note: qtr. = quarter. mt = metric ton. A hyphen in an otherwise empty cell denotes that the data are not available.

Source: University of São Paulo, Escola Superior de Agricultura "Luiz de Queiroz," Brazil (ESALQ/ USP) and USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.



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Table 1b. Quarterly costs of transporting Brazilian soybeans from the northern and northeastern ports to Shanghai, China

Item	North MT - Santarém			South MA - São Luís		
	—US\$/mt—		% Change	—US\$/mt—		% Change
	3rd qtr. 2024	3rd qtr. 2025	2024-25	3rd qtr. 2024	3rd qtr. 2025	2024-25
Truck	58.70	60.16	2.5	37.01	37.60	1.6
Ocean	39.00	41.95	7.6	39.50	42.40	7.3
Total transportation	97.70	102.11	4.5	76.51	80.00	4.6
Farm gate price	366.60	361.89	-1.3	357.15	370.83	3.8
Landed cost	464.29	463.99	-0.1	433.67	450.83	4.0
Transport % of landed cost	21.0	22.0	4.6	17.6	17.7	0.6
Item	Southwest PI - São Luís			North MT - Barcarena		
	—US\$/mt—		% Change	—US\$/mt—		% Change
	3rd qtr. 2024	3rd qtr. 2025	2024-25	3rd qtr. 2024	3rd qtr. 2025	2024-25
Truck	38.46	43.68	13.6	44.96	55.03	22.4
Barge	-	-	-	17.42	24.23	39.1
Ocean	39.50	42.40	7.3	39.75	42.75	7.5
Total transportation	77.96	86.08	10.4	102.12	122.01	19.5
Farm gate price	363.76	375.49	3.2	366.60	361.89	-1.3
Landed cost	441.72	461.56	4.5	468.72	483.90	3.2
Transport % of landed cost	17.6	18.6	5.7	21.8	25.2	15.7

Producing regions: MT= Mato Grosso, PI = Piauí, and MA = Maranhão.

Export ports = Santarém, São Luís, and Barcarena.

The source of the farm gate price is the Brazilian Government, Companhia Nacional de Abastecimento (CONAB).

In Brazil, there are no published barge rates. Barge rates can be up to 60 percent lower than truck rates, depending on the volumes hauled and the terms of contracts signed between the barge company and shippers. The distance is in nautical miles.

Note: qtr. = quarter. mt = metric ton. A hyphen in an otherwise empty cell denotes that the data are not available.

Source: University of São Paulo, Escola Superior de Agricultura “Luiz de Queiroz,” Brazil (ESALQ/ USP) and USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.



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Table 2a. Quarterly costs of transporting Brazilian soybeans from the southern ports to Hamburg, Germany

Item	North MT - Santos by truck			Northwest RS - Rio Grande		
	—US\$/mt—		% Change	—US\$/mt—		% Change
	3rd qtr. 2024	3rd qtr. 2025	2024-25	3rd qtr. 2024	3rd qtr. 2025	2024-25
Truck	82.31	92.10	11.9	26.79	31.13	16.2
Ocean	33.80	36.50	8.0	34.60	37.30	7.8
Total transportation	116.11	128.60	10.8	61.39	68.43	11.5
Farm gate price	366.60	361.89	-1.3	358.95	373.71	4.1
Landed cost	482.71	490.49	1.6	420.34	442.14	5.2
Transport % of landed cost	24.1	26.2	9.0	14.6	15.5	6.0
Item	North MT - Santos by rail			North MT - Paranaguá		
	—US\$/mt—		% Change	—US\$/mt—		% Change
	3rd qtr. 2024	3rd qtr. 2025	2024-25	3rd qtr. 2024	3rd qtr. 2025	2024-25
Truck	28.22	32.70	15.9	80.92	91.19	12.7
Barge	43.01	50.34	17.0	-	-	-
Ocean	33.80	36.50	8.0	33.50	36.30	8.4
Total transportation	105.03	119.54	13.8	114.42	127.49	11.4
Farm gate price	366.60	361.89	-1.3	366.60	361.89	-1.3
Landed cost	471.63	481.43	2.1	481.02	489.38	1.7
Transport % of landed cost	22.3	24.8	11.5	23.8	26.1	9.5

Producing regions: MT= Mato Grosso and RS = Rio Grande Do Sul.

Export ports = Santos, Rio Grande, and Paranaguá.

The source of the farm gate price is the Brazilian Government, Companhia Nacional de Abastecimento (CONAB).

In Brazil, there are no published rail tariff rates. Rail rates can be up to 30 percent lower than truck rates, depending on the volumes hauled and the terms of contracts signed between the railroad company and shippers.

Note: qtr. = quarter. mt = metric ton. A hyphen in an otherwise empty cell denotes that the data are not available.

Source: University of São Paulo, Escola Superior de Agricultura “Luiz de Queiroz,” Brazil (ESALQ/ USP) and USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.



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Table 2b. Quarterly costs of transporting Brazilian soybeans from the northern and northeastern ports to Hamburg, Germany

Item	North MT - Santarém			South MA - São Luís		
	—US\$/mt—		% Change	—US\$/mt—		% Change
	3rd qtr. 2024	3rd qtr. 2025	2024-25	3rd qtr. 2024	3rd qtr. 2025	2024-25
Truck	58.70	60.16	2.5	37.01	37.60	1.6
Ocean	31.20	33.75	8.2	36.10	38.90	7.8
Total transportation	89.90	93.91	4.5	73.11	76.50	4.6
Farm gate price	366.60	361.89	-1.3	357.15	370.83	3.8
Landed cost	456.49	455.79	-0.2	430.27	447.33	4.0
Transport % of landed cost	19.7	20.6	4.6	17.0	17.1	0.6
Item	Southwest PI - São Luís			North MT - Barcarena		
	—US\$/mt—		% Change	—US\$/mt—		% Change
	3rd qtr. 2024	3rd qtr. 2025	2024-25	3rd qtr. 2024	3rd qtr. 2025	2024-25
Truck	38.46	43.68	13.6	44.96	55.03	22.4
Barge	-	-	-	17.42	24.23	39.1
Ocean	36.10	38.90	7.8	30.60	32.80	7.2
Total transportation	74.56	82.58	10.7	92.97	112.06	20.5
Farm gate price	363.76	375.49	3.2	366.60	361.89	-1.3
Landed cost	438.32	458.06	4.5	459.57	473.95	3.1
Transport % of landed cost	17.0	18.0	6.0	20.2	23.6	16.9

Producing regions: MT= Mato Grosso, PI = Piauí, and MA = Maranhão.

Export ports = Santarém, São Luís, and Barcarena.

The source of the farm gate price is the Brazilian Government, Companhia Nacional de Abastecimento (CONAB).

In Brazil, there are no published barge rates. Barge rates can be up to 60 percent lower than truck rates, depending on volumes hauled and the terms of contracts signed between the barge company and shippers. The distance is in nautical miles.

Note: qtr. = quarter. mt = metric ton. A hyphen in an otherwise empty cell denotes that the data are not available.

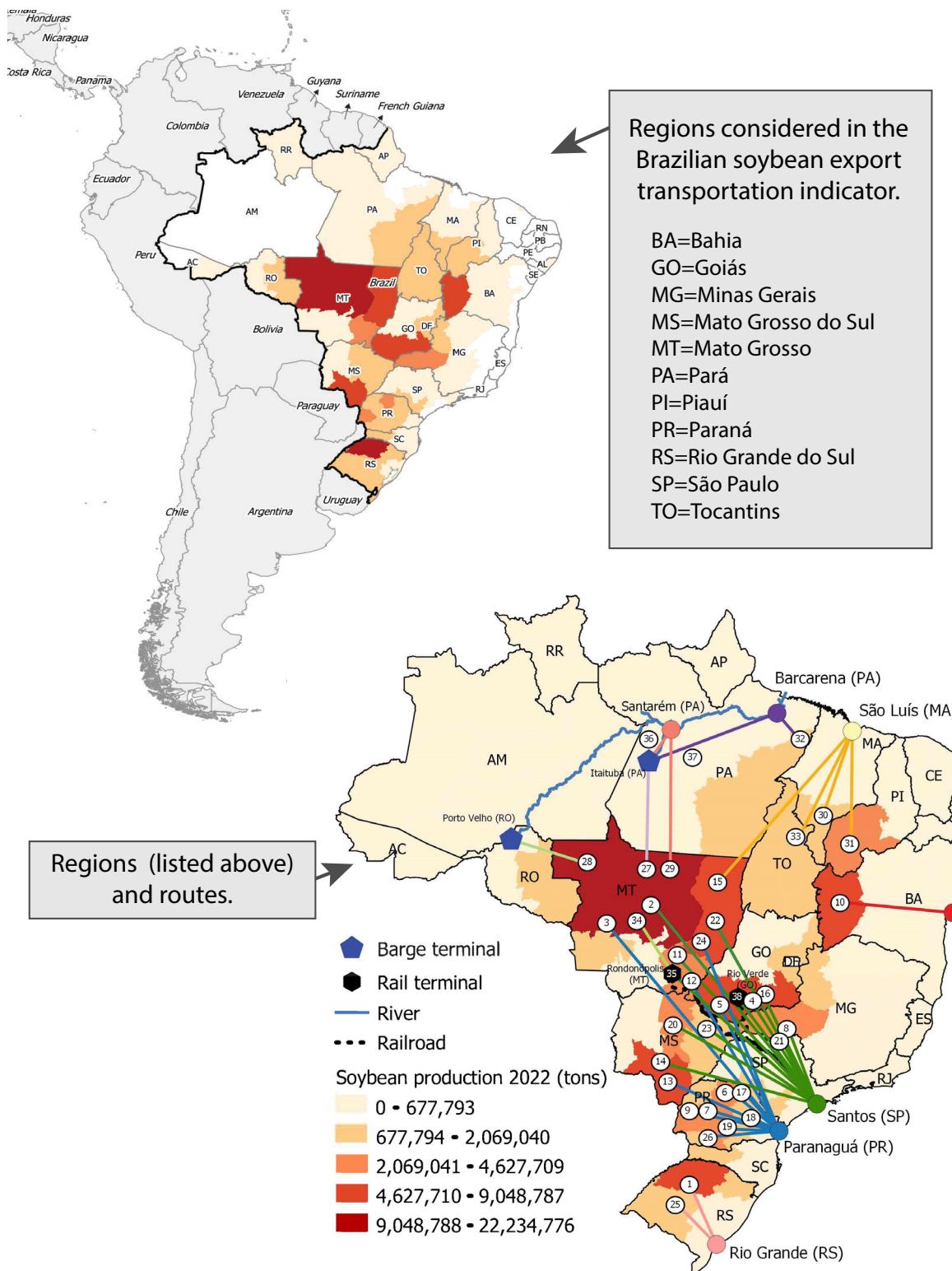
Source: University of São Paulo, Escola Superior de Agricultura “Luiz de Queiroz,” Brazil (ESALQ/ USP) and USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.



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Indicators

Figure 2. Routes and regions considered in the Brazilian soybean export transportation indicator



Notes: Table defining routes by number is shown on page 12. Regions comprised about 78 percent of Brazilian soybean production, 2022 (Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics—Produção Agrícola Municipal).

Source: University of São Paulo, Escola Superior de Agricultura “Luiz de Queiroz,” Brazil (ESALQ/ USP) and USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.



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Table 3. Quarterly costs of transporting Brazilian soybeans from the southern ports to Shanghai, China, 2025

Item	North MT - Santos by truck —US\$/mt—					North MT - Paranaguá —US\$/mt—				
	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	Avg.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	Avg.
Truck	83.54	87.35	92.10		87.66	82.41	85.75	91.19		86.45
Ocean	36.00	37.00	39.00		37.33	37.50	38.50	40.50		38.83
Total transportation	119.54	124.35	131.10		125.00	119.91	124.25	131.69		125.28
Farm gate price	317.36	325.53	361.89		334.92	317.36	325.53	361.89		334.92
Landed cost	436.89	449.88	492.99		459.92	437.26	449.77	493.58		460.20
Transport % of landed cost	27.4	27.6	26.6		27.2	27.4	27.6	26.7		27.2
Item	North MT - Santos by rail —US\$/mt—					Northwest RS - Rio Grande —US\$/mt—				
	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	Avg.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	Avg.
Truck	29.29	30.27	32.70		30.75	28.81	27.96	31.13		29.30
Rail	48.90	46.59	50.34		48.61	-	-	-		-
Ocean	36.00	37.00	39.00		37.33	36.50	37.50	39.50		37.83
Total transportation	114.19	113.86	122.04		116.70	65.31	65.46	70.63		67.13
Farm gate price	317.36	325.53	361.89		334.92	359.26	367.15	373.71		366.71
Landed cost	431.55	439.39	483.93		451.62	424.57	432.61	444.34		433.84
Transport % of landed cost	26.5	25.9	25.2		25.9	15.4	15.1	15.9		15.5

Producing regions: RS = Rio Grande do Sul and MT= Mato Grosso.

Export ports = Santos, Paranaguá, and Rio Grande.

The source of the farm gate price is the Brazilian Government, Companhia Nacional de Abastecimento (CONAB).

In, Brazil, there are no published rail tariff rates. Rail rates can be up to 30 percent lower than truck rates, depending on volumes hauled and the terms of contracts signed between the railroad company and shippers.

Note: qtr. = quarter. mt = metric ton. Avg. = average. A hyphen in an otherwise empty cell denotes that the data are not available.

Source: University of São Paulo, Escola Superior de Agricultura “Luiz de Queiroz,” Brazil (ESALQ/ USP) and USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.



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Table 4. Quarterly costs of transporting Brazilian soybeans from the southern ports to Hamburg, Germany, 2025

Item	North MT - Santos by truck —US\$/mt—					North MT - Paranaguá —US\$/mt—				
	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	Avg.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	Avg.
Truck	83.54	87.35	92.10		87.66	82.41	85.75	91.19		86.45
Ocean	33.90	34.75	36.50		35.05	33.60	34.50	36.30		34.80
Total transportation	117.44	122.10	128.60		122.71	116.01	120.25	127.49		121.25
Farm gate price	317.36	325.53	361.89		334.92	317.36	325.53	361.89		334.92
Landed cost	434.79	447.63	490.49		457.64	433.36	445.77	489.38		456.17
Transport % of landed cost	27.0	27.3	26.2		26.8	26.8	27.0	26.1		26.6
Item	North MT - Santos by rail —US\$/mt—					Northwest RS - Rio Grande —US\$/mt—				
	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	Avg.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	Avg.
Truck	29.29	30.27	32.70		30.75	28.81	27.96	31.13		29.30
Rail	48.90	46.59	50.34		48.61	-	-	-		-
Ocean	33.90	34.75	36.50		35.05	34.60	35.50	37.30		35.80
Total transportation	112.09	111.61	119.54		114.41	63.41	63.46	68.43		65.10
Farm gate price	317.36	325.53	361.89		334.92	359.26	367.15	373.71		366.71
Landed cost	429.45	437.14	481.43		449.34	422.67	430.61	442.14		431.81
Transport % of landed cost	26.1	25.5	24.8		25.5	15.0	14.7	15.5		15.1

Producing regions: RS = Rio Grande do Sul and MT= Mato Grosso.

Export ports = Santos, Paranaguá, and Rio Grande.

The source of the farm gate price is the Brazilian Government, Companhia Nacional de Abastecimento (CONAB).

In, Brazil, there are no published rail tariff rates. Rail rates can be up to 30 percent lower than truck rates, depending on volumes hauled and the terms of contracts signed between the railroad company and shippers.

Note: qtr. = quarter. mt = metric ton. Avg. = average. A hyphen in an otherwise empty cell denotes that the data are not available.

Source: University of São Paulo, Escola Superior de Agricultura “Luiz de Queiroz,” Brazil (ESALQ/ USP) and USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.



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Table 5. Quarterly costs of transporting Brazilian soybeans from the northern and northeastern ports to Shanghai, China, 2025

Item	North MT ¹ - Santarém ² —US\$/mt—					South MA ¹ - São Luís ² —US\$/mt—				
	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	Avg.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	Avg.
Truck	54.63	56.01	60.16		56.93	33.64	36.35	37.60		35.86
Ocean	39.00	40.00	41.95		40.32	39.65	40.50	42.40		40.85
Total transportation	93.63	96.01	102.11		97.25	73.29	76.85	80.00		76.71
Farm gate price	317.36	325.53	361.89		334.92	333.41	343.28	370.83		349.17
Landed cost	410.99	421.54	463.99		432.17	406.70	420.13	450.83		425.89
Transport % of landed cost	22.8	22.8	22.0		22.5	18.0	18.3	17.7		18.0
Item	Southwest PI ¹ - São Luís ² —US\$/mt—					North MT ¹ - Barcarena ² —US\$/mt—				
	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	Avg.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	Avg.
Truck	39.63	39.97	43.68		41.09	45.99	49.74	55.03		50.25
Barge	-	-	-		-	23.08	24.08	24.23		23.80
Ocean	39.65	40.50	42.40		40.85	39.75	40.75	42.75		41.08
Total transportation	79.28	80.47	86.08		81.94	108.82	114.57	122.01		115.13
Farm gate price	338.33	336.73	375.49		350.18	317.36	325.53	361.89		334.92
Landed cost	417.61	417.20	461.56		432.13	426.18	440.09	483.90		450.06
Transport % of landed cost	19.0	19.3	18.6		19.0	25.5	26.0	25.2		25.6

Producing regions: MT= Mato Grosso, PI = Piauí, and MA = Maranhão.

Export ports = Santarém, São Luís, and Barcarena.

The source of the farm gate price is the Brazilian Government, Companhia Nacional de Abastecimento (CONAB).

In Brazil, there are no published barge rates. Barge rates can be up to 60 percent lower than truck rates, depending on volumes hauled and the terms of contracts signed between the barge company and shippers. The distance is in nautical miles.

Note: qtr. = quarter. mt = metric ton. Avg. = average. A hyphen in an otherwise empty cell denotes that the data are not available.

Source: University of São Paulo, Escola Superior de Agricultura “Luiz de Queiroz,” Brazil (ESALQ/ USP) and USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.



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Table 6. Quarterly costs of transporting Brazilian soybeans from the northern and northeastern ports to Hamburg, Germany, 2025

Item	North MT - Santarém —US\$/mt—					South MA - São Luís —US\$/mt—				
	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	Avg.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	Avg.
Truck	54.63	56.01	60.16		56.93	33.64	36.35	37.60		35.86
Ocean	31.30	32.10	33.75		32.38	36.20	37.00	38.90		37.37
Total transportation	85.93	88.11	93.91		89.32	69.84	73.35	76.50		73.23
Farm gate price	317.36	325.53	361.89		334.92	333.41	343.28	370.83		349.17
Landed cost	403.29	413.64	455.79		424.24	403.25	416.63	447.33		422.40
Transport % of landed cost	21.3	21.3	20.6		21.1	17.3	17.6	17.1		17.3
Item	Southwest PI - São Luís —US\$/mt—					North MT - Barcarena —US\$/mt—				
	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	Avg.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	Avg.
Truck	39.63	39.97	43.68		41.09	49.61	49.74	55.03		51.46
Barge	-	-	-		-	23.08	24.08	24.23		23.80
Ocean	36.20	37.00	38.90		37.37	30.40	31.20	32.80		31.47
Total transportation	75.83	76.97	82.58		78.46	103.09	105.02	112.06		106.72
Farm gate price	338.33	336.73	375.49		350.18	317.36	325.53	361.89		334.92
Landed cost	414.16	413.70	458.06		428.64	420.45	430.54	473.95		441.65
Transport % of landed cost	18.3	18.6	18.0		18.3	24.5	24.4	23.6		24.2

Producing regions: MT= Mato Grosso, PI = Piauí, and MA = Maranhão.

Export ports = Santarém, São Luís, and Barcarena.

The source of the farm gate price is the Brazilian Government, Companhia Nacional de Abastecimento (CONAB).

In Brazil, there are no published barge rates. Barge rates can be up to 60 percent lower than truck rates, depending on volumes hauled and the terms of contracts signed between the barge company and shippers. The distance is in nautical miles.

Note: qtr. = quarter. mt = metric ton. Avg. = average. A hyphen in an otherwise empty cell denotes that the data are not available.

Source: University of São Paulo, Escola Superior de Agricultura “Luiz de Queiroz,” Brazil (ESALQ/ USP) and USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.



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Table 7. Quarterly truck rates for selected Brazilian soybean export transportation routes, 2025

Route #	Origin (reference city)	Destination	Distance (miles)	Share (%)	Freight price (US\$/mt/100 miles)				
					1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	Avg.
1	Northwest RS (Cruz Alta)	Rio Grande	288	5.2	10.00	9.71	10.81		10.17
2	North MT (Sorriso)	Santos	1,190	3.3	7.02	7.34	7.74		7.37
3	North MT (Sorriso)	Paranaguá	1,262	3.1	6.53	6.79	7.23		6.85
4	South GO (Rio Verde)	Santos	587	5.4	6.94	7.10	7.74		7.26
5	South GO (Rio Verde)	Paranaguá	726	4.4	6.98	7.02	7.66		7.22
6	North Central PR (Londrina)	Paranaguá	268	3.1	9.98	9.81	11.35		10.38
7	Western Central PR (Mamborê)	Paranaguá	311	2.4	9.25	9.19	10.55		9.66
8	Triangle MG (Uberaba)	Santos	339	3.5	9.70	9.59	10.93		10.07
9	West PR (Assis Chateaubriand)	Paranaguá	377	2.7	8.35	8.36	9.39		8.70
10	West Extreme BA (São Desidério)	Salvador	535	6.5	7.56	7.90	8.47		7.98
11	Southeast MT (Primavera do Leste)	Santos	901	2.6	6.45	6.63	7.25		6.78
12	Southeast MT (Primavera do Leste)	Paranaguá	975	2.4	6.15	6.22	6.78		6.38
13	Southwest MS (Maracaju)	Paranaguá	612	3.8	7.41	6.97	8.25		7.54
14	Southwest MS (Maracaju)	Santos	652	3.6	7.45	7.84	8.29		7.86
15	Northeast MT (Canarana)	São Luís	1,177	2.3	6.14	6.52	6.88		6.51
16	East GO (Cristalina)	Santos	585	1.6	7.97	8.24	8.85		8.36
17	North PR (Cornélio Procópio)	Paranaguá	306	1.6	8.12	7.97	9.19		8.43
18	Eastern Central PR (Castro)	Paranaguá	130	1.7	13.50	12.84	15.57		13.97
19	South Central PR (Guarapuava)	Paranaguá	204	2.3	11.53	11.43	13.66		12.21
20	North Central MS (São Gabriel do Oeste)	Santos	720	2.6	6.55	6.91	7.33		6.93
21	Ribeirão Preto SP (Guairá)	Santos	314	0.5	7.95	7.93	9.08		8.32
22	Northeast MT (Canarana)	Santos	950	2.8	6.56	6.76	7.27		6.86
23	East MS (Chapadão do Sul)	Santos	607	1.6	6.49	6.52	7.27		6.76

The main city in the region is considered as a reference to establish the freight price.

Distance from the main city of the considered region to the mentioned ports.

Share of exports is measured as a percentage of total production.

Average monthly exchange rate from “Banco Central do Brasil” was used to convert Brazilian reais to the U.S. dollars.

RS=Rio Grande do Sul, MT=Mato Grosso, GO=Goiás, PR=Paraná, MG=Minas Gerais, BA=Bahia, MS=Mato Grosso do Sul, SP=São Paulo, PI=Piauí, MA=Maranhão, PA=Pará, and TO=Tocantins.

In Brazil, there are no published rail tariff rates. Rail rates can be up to 30 percent lower than truck rates, depending on the volumes hauled and the terms of contracts signed between the railroad company and shippers.

In Brazil, there are no published barge rates. Barge rates can be up to 60 percent lower than truck rates, depending on the volumes hauled and the terms of contracts signed between the barge company and shippers. The distance is in nautical miles.

Note: qtr. = quarter. mt = metric ton. Avg. = average.

For more details, on the definitions/calculations contact esalqlog@esalqlog.esalq.usp.br.

Source: University of São Paulo, Escola Superior de Agricultura “Luiz de Queiroz,” Brazil (ESALQ/ USP) and USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.



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Route #	Origin (reference city)	Destination	Distance (miles)	Share (%)	Freight price (US\$/mt/100 miles)				
					1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	Avg.
24	Northeast MT (Canarana)	Paranaguá	1,075	2.5	6.52	6.89	7.26	6.89	
25	Western Central RS (Tupanciretã)	Rio Grande	273	1.1	9.34	8.73	10.03	9.37	
26	Southwest PR(Chopinzinho)	Paranaguá	291	1.7	9.21	9.10	10.36	9.56	
27	North MT (Sorriso)	Itaituba	672	6.6	6.85	7.40	8.19	7.48	
28	North MT (Sorriso)	Porto Velho	632	6.2	6.52	6.71	6.97	6.73	
29	North MT (Sorriso)	Santarém	876	4.5	6.24	6.39	6.87	6.50	
30	South MA (Balsas)	São Luís	482	1.8	6.99	7.55	7.81	7.45	
31	Southwest PI (Bom Jesus)	São Luís	606	2.7	6.54	6.60	7.21	6.78	
32	Southeast PA (Paragominas)	Barcarena	249	2.1	7.20	7.47	8.12	7.60	
33	East TO (Campos Lindos)	São Luís	842	2.1	6.21	6.31	6.81	6.44	
Weighted average			587	100.0	7.60	7.72	8.50	7.94	
34	North MT (Sorriso)	Rondonópolis (Rail terminal)	382		7.67	7.92	8.56	8.05	
35	Rondonópolis MT (Rail terminal)	Santos	1,019		4.80	4.57	4.94	4.77	
36	Itaituba PA (Barge terminal)	Santarém	153		6.24	6.24	7.03	6.50	
37	Itaituba PA (Barge terminal)	Barcarena	600		3.85	4.01	4.04	3.97	
38	South GO (Rio Verde) (Rail terminal)	Santos	546		6.07	6.18	6.88	6.38	

The main city in the region is considered as a reference to establish the freight price.

Distance from the main city of the considered region to the mentioned ports.

Share of exports is measured as a percentage of total production.

Average monthly exchange rate from “Banco Central do Brasil” was used to convert Brazilian reais to the U.S. dollars.

RS=Rio Grande do Sul, MT=Mato Grosso, GO=Goiás, PR=Paraná, MG=Minas Gerais, BA=Bahia, MS=Mato Grosso do Sul, SP=São Paulo, PI=Piauí, MA=Maranhão, PA=Pará, and TO=Tocantins.

In Brazil, there are no published rail tariff rates. Rail rates can be up to 30 percent lower than truck rates, depending on the volumes hauled and the terms of contracts signed between the railroad company and shippers.

In Brazil, there are no published barge rates. Barge rates can be up to 60 percent lower than truck rates, depending on the volumes hauled and the terms of contracts signed between the barge company and shippers. The distance is in nautical miles.

Note: qtr. = quarter. mt = metric ton. Avg. = average.

For more details, on the definitions/calculations contact esalqlog@esalqlog.esalq.usp.br.

Source: University of São Paulo, Escola Superior de Agricultura “Luiz de Queiroz,” Brazil (ESALQ/ USP) and USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.



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Table 8. Monthly Brazilian soybean export truck transportation cost index

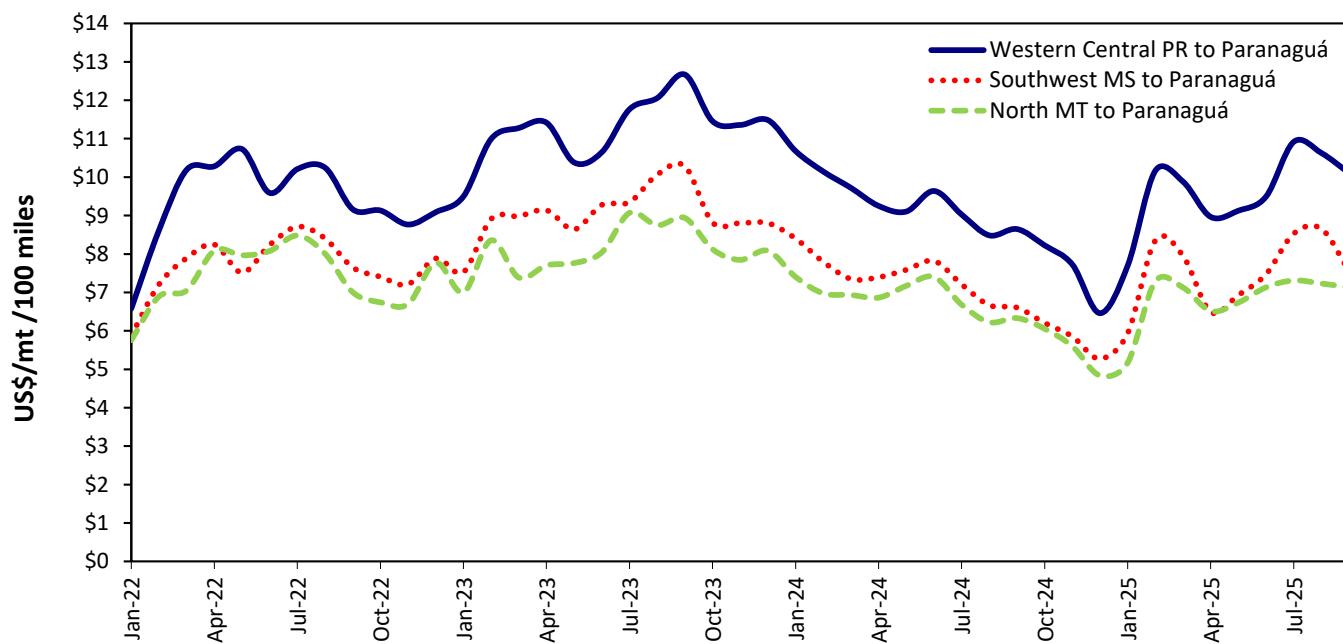
Month	Freight price (US\$/mt/100 miles)	Index variation (%) (Base: prior month)	Index value (Base: Jan-05=100)	Month	Freight price (US\$/mt/100 miles)	Index variation (%) (Base: prior month)	Index value (Base: Jan-05=100)
Jan-18	7.59	5.0	130.90	Jan-22	5.94	30.9	102.42
Feb-18	8.65	13.9	149.04	Feb-22	7.77	30.8	134.02
Mar-18	10.59	22.5	182.61	Mar-22	8.59	10.4	147.99
Apr-18	9.78	-7.7	168.59	Apr-22	8.83	2.9	152.27
May-18	8.96	-8.4	154.45	May-22	9.05	2.4	155.94
Jun-18	8.89	-0.8	153.24	Jun-22	8.83	-2.4	152.18
Jul-18	8.97	0.9	154.58	Jul-22	8.98	1.7	154.78
Aug-18	8.24	-8.1	142.00	Aug-22	8.79	-2.1	151.51
Sep-18	7.24	-12.1	124.78	Sep-22	7.93	-9.8	136.68
Oct-18	7.69	6.2	132.55	Oct-22	7.71	-2.7	132.98
Nov-18	7.51	-2.3	129.44	Nov-22	7.42	-3.9	127.84
Dec-18	7.19	-4.3	123.87	Dec-22	7.94	7.1	136.89
Jan-19	7.72	7.5	133.13	Jan-23	7.97	0.4	137.38
Feb-19	8.19	6.0	141.15	Feb-23	9.41	18.1	162.28
Mar-19	7.34	-10.3	126.61	Mar-23	9.39	-0.3	161.87
Apr-19	7.16	-2.6	123.35	Apr-23	9.57	1.9	164.91
May-19	6.73	-5.9	116.02	May-23	9.27	-3.1	159.82
Jun-19	6.94	3.1	119.56	Jun-23	9.38	1.1	161.64
Jul-19	8.33	20.1	143.60	Jul-23	10.09	7.6	173.97
Aug-19	7.85	-5.8	135.23	Aug-23	10.09	0.0	173.94
Sep-19	7.09	-9.7	122.17	Sep-23	10.50	4.1	181.01
Oct-19	6.57	-7.4	113.19	Oct-23	9.38	-10.7	161.66
Nov-19	6.41	-2.3	110.54	Nov-23	9.36	-0.2	161.31
Dec-19	5.93	-7.5	102.21	Dec-23	9.55	2.0	164.60
Jan-20	6.03	1.7	103.90	Jan-24	8.57	-10.3	147.66
Feb-20	6.76	12.2	116.52	Feb-24	8.31	-3.0	143.29
Mar-20	6.20	-8.2	106.95	Mar-24	8.00	-3.7	137.96
Apr-20	5.86	-5.5	101.09	Apr-24	7.70	-3.8	132.68
May-20	5.26	-10.4	90.58	May-24	7.83	1.7	134.89
Jun-20	5.45	3.7	93.95	Jun-24	8.05	2.9	138.74
Jul-20	5.44	-0.2	93.74	Jul-24	7.56	-6.1	130.31
Aug-20	5.41	-0.4	93.34	Aug-24	7.08	-6.4	122.03
Sep-20	5.58	3.0	96.14	Sep-24	7.09	0.1	122.21
Oct-20	4.97	-10.8	85.71	Oct-24	6.75	-4.7	116.41
Nov-20	4.58	-7.9	78.95	Nov-24	6.33	-6.3	109.10
Dec-20	4.32	-5.8	74.39	Dec-24	5.36	-15.4	92.32
Jan-21	4.26	-1.3	73.39	Jan-25	6.24	16.5	107.54
Feb-21	5.60	31.5	96.50	Feb-25	8.40	34.7	144.83
Mar-21	6.93	23.8	119.49	Mar-25	8.15	-3.0	140.52
Apr-21	6.20	-10.5	106.96	Apr-25	7.45	-8.6	128.42
May-21	5.76	-7.2	99.22	May-25	7.69	3.2	132.52
Jun-21	5.87	2.0	101.22	Jun-25	8.01	4.2	138.03
Jul-21	5.09	-13.4	87.70	Jul-25	8.63	7.7	148.70
Aug-21	5.09	0.1	87.81	Aug-25	8.62	-0.1	148.52
Sep-21	5.31	4.2	91.53	Sep-25	8.27	-4.1	142.49
Oct-21	4.49	-15.5	77.36				
Nov-21	4.28	-4.6	73.80				
Dec-21	4.54	6.0	78.26				

Note: Weighted average is calculated from production-based shares to weigh high-volume routes more heavily than low-volume routes. The share associated with each route is used to define the weight of a given route's freight price in the composition of the monthly weighted export truck freight index. Source: University of São Paulo, Escola Superior de Agricultura "Luiz de Queiroz," Brazil (ESALQ/ USP) and USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.



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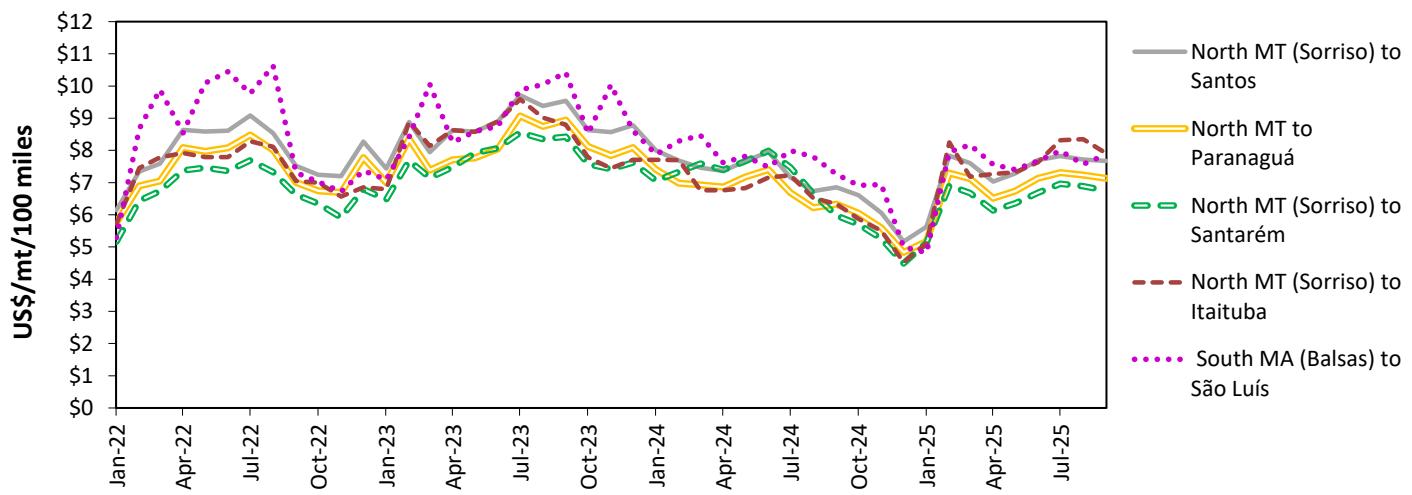
Figure 3. Truck rates for selected southern Brazilian soybean export transportation routes, 2022-25



Note: mt = metric ton. PR = Paraná, MT= Mato Grosso, and MS = Mato Grosso do Sul.

Source: University of São Paulo, Escola Superior de Agricultura "Luiz de Queiroz," Brazil (ESALQ/ USP) and USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.

Figure 4. Truck rates for selected north, south, and northeastern Brazilian soybean export transportation routes, 2022-25



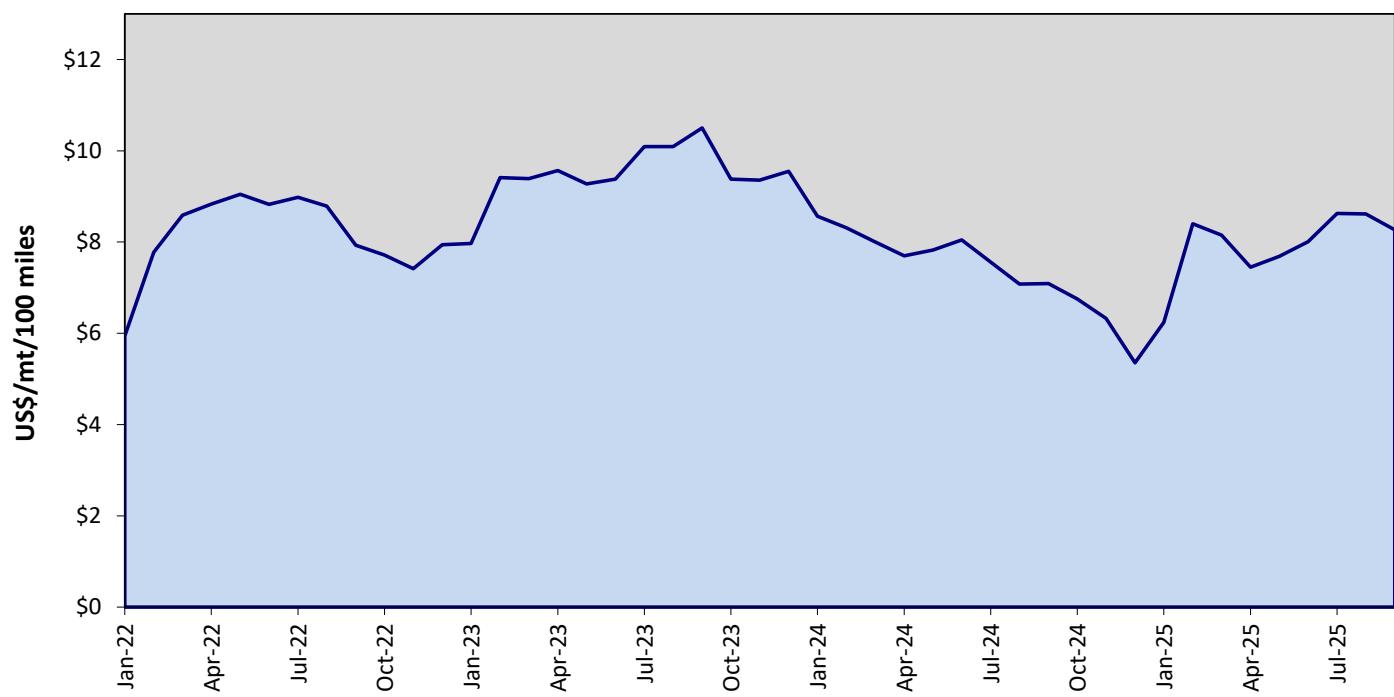
Note: mt = metric ton. MT= Mato Grosso and MA = Maranhão.

Source: University of São Paulo, Escola Superior de Agricultura "Luiz de Queiroz," Brazil (ESALQ/ USP) and USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.



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Figure 5. Brazilian soybean export truck transportation weighted average prices, 2022-25



Note: mt = metric ton.

Source: University of São Paulo, Escola Superior de Agricultura “Luiz de Queiroz,” Brazil (ESALQ/ USP) and USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.



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Table 9. Quarterly ocean freight rates for shipping soybeans from selected Brazilian ports to Germany and China (US\$/metric ton)

Port	Destination	1st qtr. 2020	2nd qtr. 2020	3rd qtr. 2020	4th qtr. 2020	Average 2020
Santos	Germany (Hamburg)	29.25	20.50	24.00	25.25	24.75
Paranaguá	Germany (Hamburg)	30.00	21.50	25.00	25.35	25.46
Rio Grande	Germany (Hamburg)	29.50	20.75	24.50	25.75	25.13
Santarém	Germany (Hamburg)	25.00	16.00	20.75	22.00	20.94
São Luís	Germany (Hamburg)	22.25	17.50	25.00	26.30	22.76
Barcarena	Germany (Hamburg)	24.00	15.00	20.50	21.75	20.31
Santos	China (Shanghai)	35.50	27.08	31.33	31.67	31.40
Paranaguá	China (Shanghai)	37.25	28.83	33.08	33.42	33.15
Rio Grande	China (Shanghai)	37.00	28.58	32.83	33.17	32.90
Santarém	China (Shanghai)	36.50	28.08	34.83	35.21	33.66
São Luís	China (Shanghai)	36.75	28.33	35.33	35.67	34.02
Barcarena	China (Shanghai)	38.50	28.33	36.33	36.67	34.96
Port	Destination	1st qtr. 2021	2nd qtr. 2021	3rd qtr. 2021	4th qtr. 2021	Average 2021
Santos	Germany (Hamburg)	31.25	42.70	54.00	52.50	45.11
Paranaguá	Germany (Hamburg)	31.00	41.90	53.00	51.50	44.35
Rio Grande	Germany (Hamburg)	32.00	43.80	55.50	53.80	46.28
Santarém	Germany (Hamburg)	28.65	40.00	50.60	49.10	42.09
São Luís	Germany (Hamburg)	33.25	45.90	58.00	56.30	48.36
Barcarena	Germany (Hamburg)	28.10	38.90	49.20	47.80	41.00
Santos	China (Shanghai)	37.00	50.60	64.00	62.00	53.40
Paranaguá	China (Shanghai)	38.75	52.40	66.00	64.00	55.29
Rio Grande	China (Shanghai)	37.25	51.00	64.75	62.75	53.94
Santarém	China (Shanghai)	40.54	55.60	67.50	65.60	57.31
São Luís	China (Shanghai)	41.00	56.60	68.00	66.00	57.90
Barcarena	China (Shanghai)	42.00	58.20	70.00	68.00	59.55
Port	Destination	1st qtr. 2022	2nd qtr. 2022	3rd qtr. 2022	4th qtr. 2022	Average 2022
Santos	Germany (Hamburg)	52.70	55.85	42.60	42.20	48.34
Paranaguá	Germany (Hamburg)	51.50	54.60	41.60	41.20	47.23
Rio Grande	Germany (Hamburg)	54.00	57.20	43.60	43.10	49.48
Santarém	Germany (Hamburg)	49.10	52.00	46.00	39.60	46.68
São Luís	Germany (Hamburg)	56.50	60.00	40.00	39.80	49.08
Barcarena	Germany (Hamburg)	48.00	50.80	39.70	39.20	44.43
Santos	China (Shanghai)	62.00	65.75	48.70	47.70	56.04
Paranaguá	China (Shanghai)	64.00	67.75	49.00	48.60	57.34
Rio Grande	China (Shanghai)	62.75	66.50	49.00	48.40	56.66
Santarém	China (Shanghai)	66.00	69.90	56.00	54.80	61.68
São Luís	China (Shanghai)	66.20	70.00	56.00	55.00	61.80
Barcarena	China (Shanghai)	68.00	72.00	55.40	55.50	62.73

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Port	Destination	1st qtr. 2023	2nd qtr. 2023	3rd qtr. 2023	4th qtr. 2023	Average 2023
Santos	Germany (Hamburg)	31.65	33.20	35.00	33.00	33.21
Paranaguá	Germany (Hamburg)	31.00	32.50	34.20	32.10	32.45
Rio Grande	Germany (Hamburg)	32.50	34.20	36.00	33.80	34.13
Santarém	Germany (Hamburg)	30.00	31.50	33.00	31.00	31.38
São Luís	Germany (Hamburg)	34.50	36.30	38.20	36.00	36.25
Barcarena	Germany (Hamburg)	29.40	31.00	32.50	30.50	30.85
Santos	China (Shanghai)	33.50	35.20	37.00	35.00	35.18
Paranaguá	China (Shanghai)	35.00	36.70	37.50	35.50	36.18
Rio Grande	China (Shanghai)	34.00	35.70	38.50	35.50	35.93
Santarém	China (Shanghai)	37.50	39.40	41.40	39.00	39.33
São Luís	China (Shanghai)	38.00	40.00	42.00	39.50	39.88
Barcarena	China (Shanghai)	38.25	40.20	42.20	39.60	40.06
Port	Destination	1st qtr. 2024	2nd qtr. 2024	3rd qtr. 2024	4th qtr. 2024	Average 2024
Santos	Germany (Hamburg)	32.60	31.30	33.80	32.20	32.48
Paranaguá	Germany (Hamburg)	32.20	31.00	33.50	32.10	32.20
Rio Grande	Germany (Hamburg)	33.40	32.00	34.60	33.00	33.25
Santarém	Germany (Hamburg)	30.40	29.20	31.20	29.70	30.13
São Luís	Germany (Hamburg)	35.20	33.80	36.10	34.50	34.90
Barcarena	Germany (Hamburg)	29.90	28.70	30.60	29.10	29.58
Santos	China (Shanghai)	34.70	33.30	36.00	34.40	34.60
Paranaguá	China (Shanghai)	36.20	34.80	37.50	35.80	36.08
Rio Grande	China (Shanghai)	35.20	33.80	36.50	34.70	35.05
Santarém	China (Shanghai)	38.00	36.50	39.00	37.30	37.70
São Luís	China (Shanghai)	38.30	37.10	39.50	37.80	38.18
Barcarena	China (Shanghai)	38.50	37.40	39.75	38.00	38.41
Port	Destination	1st qtr. 2025	2nd qtr. 2025	3rd qtr. 2025	4th qtr. 2025	Average 2025
Santos	Germany (Hamburg)	33.90	34.75	36.50		35.05
Paranaguá	Germany (Hamburg)	33.60	34.50	36.30		34.80
Rio Grande	Germany (Hamburg)	34.60	35.50	37.30		35.80
Santarém	Germany (Hamburg)	31.30	32.10	33.75		32.38
São Luís	Germany (Hamburg)	36.20	37.00	38.90		37.37
Barcarena	Germany (Hamburg)	30.40	31.20	32.80		31.47
Santos	China (Shanghai)	36.00	37.00	39.00		37.33
Paranaguá	China (Shanghai)	37.50	38.50	40.50		38.83
Rio Grande	China (Shanghai)	36.50	37.50	39.50		37.83
Santarém	China (Shanghai)	39.00	40.00	41.95		40.32
São Luís	China (Shanghai)	39.65	40.50	42.40		40.85
Barcarena	China (Shanghai)	39.75	40.75	42.75		41.08

Notes: The rates correspond to the average actual values negotiated between shippers and carriers and weighted according to the magnitude of the shipped volume. qtr. = quarter.

Source: University of São Paulo, Escola Superior de Agricultura "Luiz de Queiroz," Brazil (ESALQ/ USP) and USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.



Brazil Soybean Transportation

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Data Sets (XLS files):

- [Figure 3. Truck rates for selected southern Brazilian soybean export transportation routes, 2022-25](#)
- [Figure 4. Truck rates for selected north, south, and northeastern Brazilian soybean export transportation routes, 2022-25](#)
- [Figure 5. Brazilian soybean export truck transportation weighted average prices, 2022-25](#)
- [Table 1a. Quarterly costs of transporting Brazilian soybeans from the southern ports to Shanghai, China](#)
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- [Table 2a. Quarterly costs of transporting Brazilian soybeans from the southern ports to Hamburg, Germany](#)
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- [Table 8. Monthly Brazilian soybean export truck transportation cost index](#)
- [Table 9. Quarterly ocean freight rates for shipping soybeans from selected Brazilian ports to Germany and China \(US\\$/metric ton\)](#)

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Salin, Delmy. Brazil Soybean Transportation. November 2025. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service. Web. <<http://dx.doi.org/10.9752/TS052.11-2025>>

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