



Grain Transportation Report

A weekly publication of the Agricultural Marketing Service
www.ams.usda.gov/GTR

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WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

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Panama Canal Suspends Third Draft Restrictions

On May 15, the Panama Canal Authority (ACP) announced the suspension of the third draft restrictions until further notice due to the arrival of the rainy season, and based on the current and projected level of Gatun Lake. The restrictions had been previously postponed until June 6 and had originally been scheduled to take effect May 9 (see 05/19/16 [Grain Transportation Report](#)). The maximum authorized transit draft will remain at 11.74 meters (38.5 feet). The ACP pledged to continue monitoring the level of Gatun Lake, adjust, and announce any draft restrictions in a timely manner. For more information, <https://www.panacanal.com/common/maritime/advisories/2016/a-28-2016.pdf>

Grain Inspections Down but Wheat and Soybean Inspections Up

For the week ending May 26, **total inspections of grain** (corn, wheat, soybeans) for export reached 1.49 million metric tons (mmt), down 3 percent from the past week, up 2 percent from last year, and unchanged from the 3-year average. Despite the decrease in total grain inspected, wheat and soybean inspections increased 64 and 107 percent from the previous week. Wheat and soybean shipments increased mainly to Latin America and Asia. Corn inspection, however dropped 31 percent from the previous week, as shipments—primarily those to Latin America—decreased. Total inspections of grain increased 15 percent from the past week in the Pacific Northwest (PNW) but dropped 22 percent in the Mississippi Gulf. Outstanding export sales (unshipped) of grain were down for wheat, but up the second consecutive week for corn and soybeans.

Rain Impacts Houston Ship Channel

On May 29, flood levels and record setting water currents coming from the San Jacinto River caused a closure of the Houston Ship Channel (HSC) after 12 barges broke free. In 2015, the Port of Houston ranked 3rd in the nation for total waterborne agricultural exports and 11th for containerized exports. More than 6.4 million metric tons of agricultural exports moved through the port in 2015, consisting of 83 percent bulk and 17 percent container. The top agricultural commodity moved in bulk was grain; the top by container was grocery items. On May 30, the HSC was reopened to ships, but restricted for barge traffic. Most barge traffic is for petroleum products. Portions of the Houston area have had record flooding and are expecting an additional 5 to 8 inches of rain this week. The rainfall causing widespread flooding in Texas has not had significant impact on the Mississippi River System. River levels on the Mississippi River have been above average for most of 2016, although a section of the Upper Mississippi River near Dubuque, IA, was closed on May 27 due to low water and silting. The section was dredged and reopened on May 31.

Snapshots by Sector

Export Sales

During the week ending May 19, **unshipped balances** of wheat, corn, and soybeans totaled 20 mmt, up 21 percent from the same time last year. Net weekly **wheat export sales** were down notably from the previous week. Net **corn export sales** were 1.38 mmt, down 6 percent from the previous week, and net **soybean export sales** were .457 mmt, down 17 percent from the past week.

Rail

U.S. Class I railroads originated 19,196 **grain carloads** for the week ending May 21, up 4 percent from the previous week, down 3 percent from last year, and up 4 percent from the 3-year average.

Average June shuttle **secondary railcar bids/offers** per car were \$113 below tariff for the week ending May 26, up \$13 from last week, and \$267 higher than last year. There were no non-shuttle secondary railcar bids/offers this week.

Barge

For the week ending May 28, **barge grain movements** totaled 841,449 tons, 1 percent lower than last week, and up 26 percent from the same period last year.

For the week ending May 28, 549 grain barges **moved down river**, up 2 percent from last week; 465 grain barges were **unloaded in New Orleans**, down 7 percent from the previous week.

Ocean

For the week ending May 26, 28 **ocean-going grain vessels** were loaded in the Gulf, 20 percent less than the same period last year. Fifty vessels are expected to be loaded within the next 10 days, 28 percent more than the same period last year.

For the week ending May 26, the ocean freight rate for shipping bulk grain from the Gulf to Japan was \$27.25 per metric ton, up 3 percent from the previous week. The cost of shipping from the PNW to Japan was \$16.50 per metric ton, up 3 percent from the previous week.

Fuel

During the week ending May 30, U.S. average **diesel fuel prices** increased 2 cents from the previous week at \$2.38 per gallon, down \$0.53 from the same week last year.

Feature Article/Calendar

Upper Mississippi River Winter Closure Impacted Soybean Transportation Costs During First Quarter

The transportation costs of shipping soybeans from Minneapolis, MN, and Davenport, IA, to Hamburg, Germany (Table 1), and Shanghai, China (Table 2), increased during the first quarter, compared to the previous quarter. Since the upper section of Mississippi River was closed for navigation, the soybeans that moved during the quarter were transported by rail to St. Louis, MO, and then loaded onto barges for shipment to New Orleans. Transportations costs from Minneapolis and Davenport to Hamburg increased by 26 and 28 percent, respectively, and the costs from the same locations to Shanghai increased by 15 percent. However, the costs of shipping soybeans from Fargo, ND, and Sioux Falls, SD, to Shanghai decreased by 5 percent each during the quarter. Similarly, the transportation costs of shipping soybeans from North Mato Grosso (North MT) and South Goiás (South GO), Brazil, to both Hamburg and Shanghai decreased during the quarter. It cost 4 and 2 percent less, respectively, to ship from North MT and South GO to Hamburg, and 5 percent less to ship from the same locations to Shanghai compared to the previous quarter.

Table 1-Quarterly costs of transporting soybeans from U.S. and Brazil to Hamburg, Germany

| | 2015 1 st qtr. | 2015 4 th qtr. | 2016 1 st qtr. | Percent change | | 2015 1 st qtr. | 2015 4 th qtr. | 2016 1 st qtr. | Percent change | |
|----------------------------|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|--------|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------|--------|
| | United States (via U.S. Gulf) | | | | | | | | | |
| | Minneapolis, MN --\$/mt-- | | | | | Davenport, IA --\$/mt-- | | | | |
| Truck | 12.02 | 8.38 | 8.18 | -31.95 | -2.39 | 12.02 | 8.38 | 8.18 | -31.95 | -2.39 |
| Barge | 14.07 | 34.05 | 7.96 | -43.43 | -76.62 | 14.07 | 25.51 | 7.96 | -43.43 | -68.80 |
| Ocean ¹ | 14.03 | 13.81 | 11.65 | -16.96 | -15.64 | 14.03 | 13.81 | 11.65 | -16.96 | -15.64 |
| Rail ² | 42.09 | - | 43.30 | 2.87 | - | 31.20 | - | 33.12 | 6.15 | - |
| Total transportation | 82.21 | 56.24 | 71.09 | -13.53 | 26.40 | 71.32 | 47.70 | 60.91 | -14.60 | 27.69 |
| Farm Value ³ | 361.31 | 314.77 | 301.54 | -16.54 | -4.20 | 365.97 | 315.02 | 309.63 | -15.39 | -1.71 |
| Landed Cost ⁴ | 443.52 | 371.01 | 372.63 | -15.98 | 0.44 | 437.29 | 362.72 | 370.54 | -15.26 | 2.16 |
| Transport % of landed cost | 18.54 | 15.16 | 19.08 | | | 16.31 | 13.15 | 16.44 | | |
| | Brazil | | | | | | | | | |
| | North MT ⁵ - Santos ⁶ --\$/mt-- | | | | | South GO ⁵ - Paranagua ⁶ --\$/mt-- | | | | |
| Truck | 89.60 | 76.94 | 74.65 | -16.69 | -2.98 | 51.40 | 45.06 | 44.60 | -13.23 | -1.02 |
| Ocean ⁷ | 22.00 | 17.00 | 16.00 | -27.27 | -5.88 | 22.00 | 17.00 | 16.00 | -27.27 | -5.88 |
| Total transportation | 111.60 | 93.94 | 90.65 | -18.77 | -3.50 | 73.40 | 62.06 | 60.60 | -17.44 | -2.35 |
| Farm Value ⁸ | 312.34 | 286.43 | 268.28 | -14.11 | -6.34 | 329.95 | 289.68 | 278.59 | -15.57 | -3.83 |
| Landed Cost | 423.94 | 380.37 | 358.93 | -15.33 | -5.64 | 403.35 | 351.74 | 339.19 | -15.91 | -3.57 |
| Transport % of landed cost | 26.32 | 24.70 | 25.26 | | | 18.20 | 17.64 | 17.87 | | |

¹Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting

²Rail rates include fuel surcharges, but do not include the cost of purchasing empty rail cars in the secondary rail markets, which could exceed the rail tariff rate plus fuel surcharge shown in the table.

³Source: USDA/NASS

⁴Landed cost is total cost plus farm value

⁵Producing regions: MT= Mato Grosso, GO = Goiás

⁶Export ports

⁷Source: ESALQ/ USP (University of São Paulo, Brazil) and USDA/AMS

⁸Source: Companhia Nacional de Abastecimento (CONAB) www.conab.gov.br

Note: Total may not add exactly due to rounding

The costs of shipping soybeans from Minneapolis and Davenport through the Gulf increased mainly because of the substitution of rail for barge for the upper segment of the shipment as both truck and ocean rates decreased during the quarter. The truck rates declined partly because of lower diesel fuel prices during the quarter. Ocean rates declined because of the continued excess supply and lagging demand for bulk vessel in the market.

Quarter-to-quarter landed costs were mixed in the United States, while they declined in Brazil. The landed costs of shipping from Davenport to Hamburg and Shanghai increased slightly from quarter to quarter, while those from Fargo and Sioux Falls to Shanghai decreased. Year-to-year transportation costs

and farm prices fell in the United States and Brazil causing the year-to-year landed costs for soybeans to decline in both countries. The U.S. landed costs ranged from \$371 to \$382 per metric ton (mt), and Brazil's landed costs ranged from \$339 to \$360 per mt. However, the U.S. transportation share of the landed costs ranged from 16 to 21 percent, and 18 to 26 percent in Brazil.

Table 2-Quarterly costs of transporting soybeans from U.S. and Brazil to Shanghai, China

| | 2015 | 2015 | 2015\6 | Percent change | | 2015 | 2015 | 2016 | Percent change | |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------|--------------|
| | 1 st qtr. | 4 th qtr. | 1 st qtr. | Yr. to Yr. | Qtr. to Qtr. | 1 st qtr. | 4 th qtr. | 1 st qtr. | Yr. to Yr. | Qtr. to Qtr. |
| United States (via U.S. Gulf) | | | | | | | | | | |
| Minneapolis, MN | | | | | | | | | | |
| | --\$/mt-- | | | | | Davenport, IA | | | | |
| | --\$/mt-- | | | | | --\$/mt-- | | | | |
| Truck | 12.02 | 8.38 | 8.18 | -31.95 | -2.39 | 12.02 | 8.38 | 8.18 | -31.95 | -2.39 |
| Barge | 14.07 | 34.05 | 7.96 | -43.43 | -76.62 | 14.07 | 25.51 | 7.96 | -43.43 | -68.80 |
| Ocean ¹ | 30.41 | 27.77 | 21.34 | -29.83 | -23.15 | 30.41 | 27.77 | 21.34 | -29.83 | -23.15 |
| Rail ² | 42.09 | - | 43.30 | 2.87 | - | 31.20 | - | 33.12 | 6.15 | - |
| Total transportation | 98.59 | 70.20 | 80.78 | -18.06 | 15.07 | 87.70 | 61.66 | 70.60 | -19.50 | 14.50 |
| Farm Value ³ | 361.31 | 314.77 | 301.54 | -16.54 | -4.20 | 365.97 | 315.02 | 309.63 | -15.39 | -1.71 |
| Landed Cost ⁴ | 459.90 | 384.97 | 382.32 | -16.87 | -0.69 | 453.67 | 376.68 | 380.23 | -16.19 | 0.94 |
| Transport % of landed cost | 21.44 | 18.24 | 21.13 | | | 19.33 | 16.37 | 18.57 | | |
| Via PNW | | | | | | | | | | |
| Fargo, ND | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sioux Falls, SD | | | | | | | | | | |
| Truck | 12.02 | 8.38 | 8.18 | -31.95 | -2.39 | 12.02 | 8.38 | 8.18 | -31.95 | -2.39 |
| Ocean | 16.70 | 14.90 | 12.30 | -26.35 | -17.45 | 16.70 | 14.90 | 12.30 | -26.35 | -17.45 |
| Rail | 57.17 | 53.68 | 52.83 | -7.59 | -1.58 | 58.46 | 54.80 | 53.85 | -7.89 | -1.73 |
| Total transportation | 85.89 | 76.96 | 73.31 | -14.65 | -4.74 | 87.18 | 78.08 | 74.33 | -14.74 | -4.80 |
| Farm Value | 338.78 | 304.97 | 298.60 | -11.86 | -2.09 | 346.74 | 308.65 | 303.01 | -12.61 | -1.83 |
| Landed Cost | 424.67 | 381.93 | 371.91 | -12.42 | -2.62 | 433.92 | 386.73 | 377.34 | -13.04 | -2.43 |
| Transport % of landed cost | 20.23 | 20.15 | 19.71 | | | 20.09 | 20.19 | 19.70 | | |
| Brazil | | | | | | | | | | |
| North MT⁵ - Santos⁶ | | | | | | | | | | |
| South GO⁵ - Paranagua⁶ | | | | | | | | | | |
| | --\$/mt-- | | | | | --\$/mt-- | | | | |
| Truck | 89.60 | 76.94 | 74.65 | -16.69 | -2.98 | 51.40 | 45.06 | 44.60 | -13.23 | -1.02 |
| Ocean ⁷ | 29.50 | 20.00 | 17.50 | -40.68 | -12.50 | 31.50 | 20.50 | 18.00 | -42.86 | -12.20 |
| Total transportation | 119.10 | 96.94 | 92.15 | -22.63 | -4.94 | 82.90 | 65.56 | 62.60 | -24.49 | -4.51 |
| Farm Value ⁸ | 312.34 | 286.43 | 268.28 | -14.11 | -6.34 | 329.95 | 289.68 | 278.59 | -15.57 | -3.83 |
| Landed Cost | 431.44 | 383.37 | 360.43 | -16.46 | -5.98 | 412.85 | 355.24 | 341.19 | -17.36 | -3.96 |
| Transport % of landed cost | 27.61 | 25.29 | 25.57 | | | 20.08 | 18.46 | 18.35 | | |

¹Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting

²Rail rates include fuel surcharges, but do not include the cost of purchasing empty rail cars in the secondary rail markets, which could exceed the rail tariff rate plus fuel surcharge shown in the table.

³Source: USDA/NASS

⁴Landed cost is transportation cost plus farm value

⁵Producing regions: MT= Mato Grosso, GO = Goiás

⁶Export ports

⁷Source: ESALQ/ USP (University of São Paulo, Brazil) and USDA/AMS

⁸Source: Companhia Nacional de Abastecimento (CONAB) www.conab.gov.br

Note: Total may not add exactly due to rounding

Market Analysis and Outlook

China imported 8.04 million metric tons (mmt) of soybeans from the United States during January-March, 4 percent more than the same period last year (USDA, FAS GATS Data). The value of the imports was about \$2.86 billion, which is 15 percent less than a year ago due to lower soybean prices. Also, during January-March, the United States exported 1.48 mmt of soybeans to Europe, slightly 2 percent less than the same period a year ago. The U.S. exports to Europe were worth \$0.52 billion. China continues to be the largest importer of soybeans in the world. China imported 60 percent of the world total and 58 percent of total U.S. soybean exports during marketing year (MY) 2014/15 ([USDA, FAS GAIN Report #: CH16022](#)). China soybean imports are expected to reach 82 mmt in MY 2015/16 and 84.5 mmt in MY 16/17. Strong soybean imports are driven by rising incomes, urbanization, and modernization of domestic feed and livestock sectors ([USDA, FAS GAIN Report #: CH16022](#)). In addition, land constraints, policy challenges, and stagnating yields could hamper domestic oilseeds and soybean production in China, making U.S. exports more competitive.

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Grain Transportation Indicators

Table 1

Grain Transport Cost Indicators¹

| For the week ending | Truck | Rail | | Barge | Ocean | |
|---------------------|-------|------------|---------|-------|-------|---------|
| | | Unit Train | Shuttle | | Gulf | Pacific |
| 06/01/16 | 160 | 253 | 197 | 134 | 122 | 117 |
| 05/25/16 | 158 | 255 | 195 | 131 | 119 | 113 |

¹Indicator: Base year 2000 = 100; Weekly updates include truck = diesel (\$/gallon); rail = near-month secondary rail market bid and monthly tariff rate with fuel surcharge (\$/car); barge = Illinois River barge rate (index = percent of tariff rate); and ocean = routes to Japan (\$/metric ton)

Source: Transportation & Marketing Programs/AMS/USDA

Table 2

Market Update: U.S. Origins to Export Position Price Spreads (\$/bushel)

| Commodity | Origin--Destination | 5/27/2016 | 5/20/2016 |
|-----------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Corn | IL--Gulf | -0.49 | -0.56 |
| Corn | NE--Gulf | -0.73 | -0.81 |
| Soybean | IA--Gulf | -1.12 | -1.08 |
| HRW | KS--Gulf | -1.05 | -1.02 |
| HRS | ND--Portland | -1.82 | -1.83 |

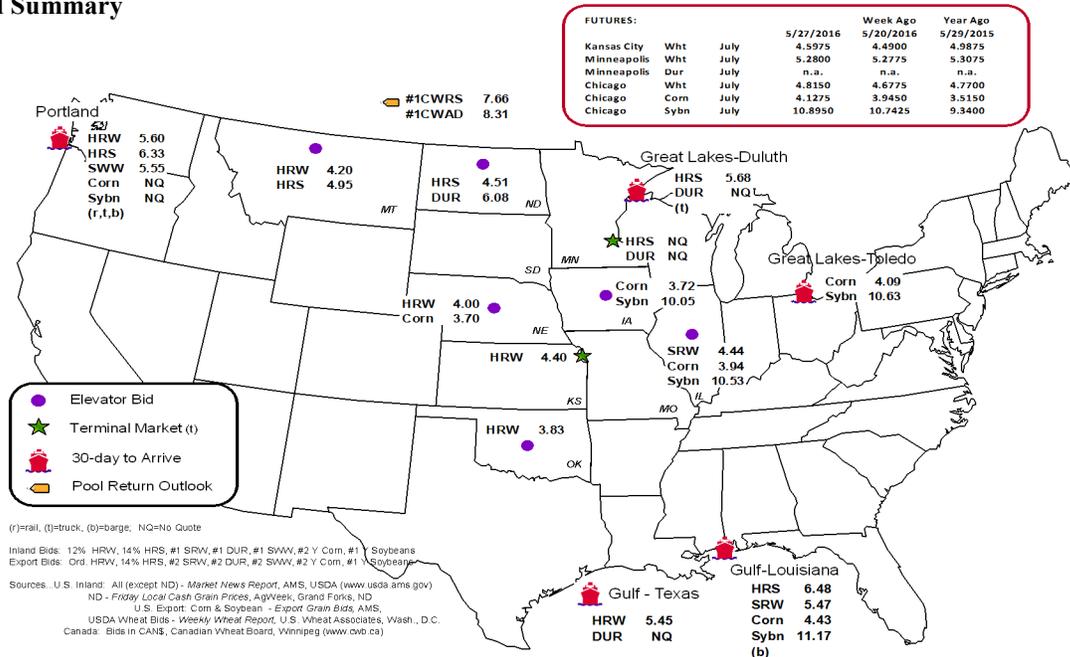
Note: nq = no quote

Source: Transportation & Marketing Programs/AMS/USDA

The **grain bid summary** illustrates the market relationships for commodities. Positive and negative adjustments in differential between terminal and futures markets, and the relationship to inland market points, are indicators of changes in fundamental market supply and demand. The map may be used to monitor market and time differentials.

Figure 1

Grain bid Summary



Rail Transportation

Table 3

Rail Deliveries to Port (carloads)¹

| For the Week Ending | Mississippi | | Pacific | Atlantic & | Total | Week ending | Cross-Border Mexico ³ |
|---|-------------|------------|-----------|------------|---------|------------------|----------------------------------|
| | Gulf | Texas Gulf | Northwest | East Gulf | | | |
| 5/25/2016 ^p | 21 | 1,698 | 4,355 | 98 | 6,172 | 5/21/2016 | 2,534 |
| 5/18/2016 ^r | 49 | 983 | 3,157 | 206 | 4,395 | 5/14/2016 | 3,291 |
| 2016 YTD ^r | 5,829 | 30,703 | 106,716 | 9,141 | 152,389 | 2016 YTD | 43,295 |
| 2015 YTD ^r | 10,673 | 30,248 | 100,527 | 12,370 | 153,818 | 2015 YTD | 35,981 |
| 2016 YTD as % of 2015 YTD | 55 | 102 | 106 | 74 | 99 | % change YTD | 120 |
| Last 4 weeks as % of 2015 ² | 48 | 81 | 154 | 41 | 116 | Last 4wks % 2015 | 126 |
| Last 4 weeks as % of 4-year avg. ² | 50 | 82 | 133 | 54 | 102 | Last 4wks % 4 yr | 124 |
| Total 2015 | 29,054 | 60,819 | 239,029 | 26,730 | 355,632 | Total 2015 | 97,736 |
| Total 2014 | 44,617 | 83,674 | 256,670 | 32,107 | 417,068 | Total 2014 | 98,422 |

¹ Data is incomplete as it is voluntarily provided

² Compared with same 4-weeks in 2015 and prior 4-year average.

³ Cross-border weekly data is approximately 15 percent below the Association of American Railroads' reported weekly carloads received by Mexican railroads to reflect switching between KCSM and FerroMex.

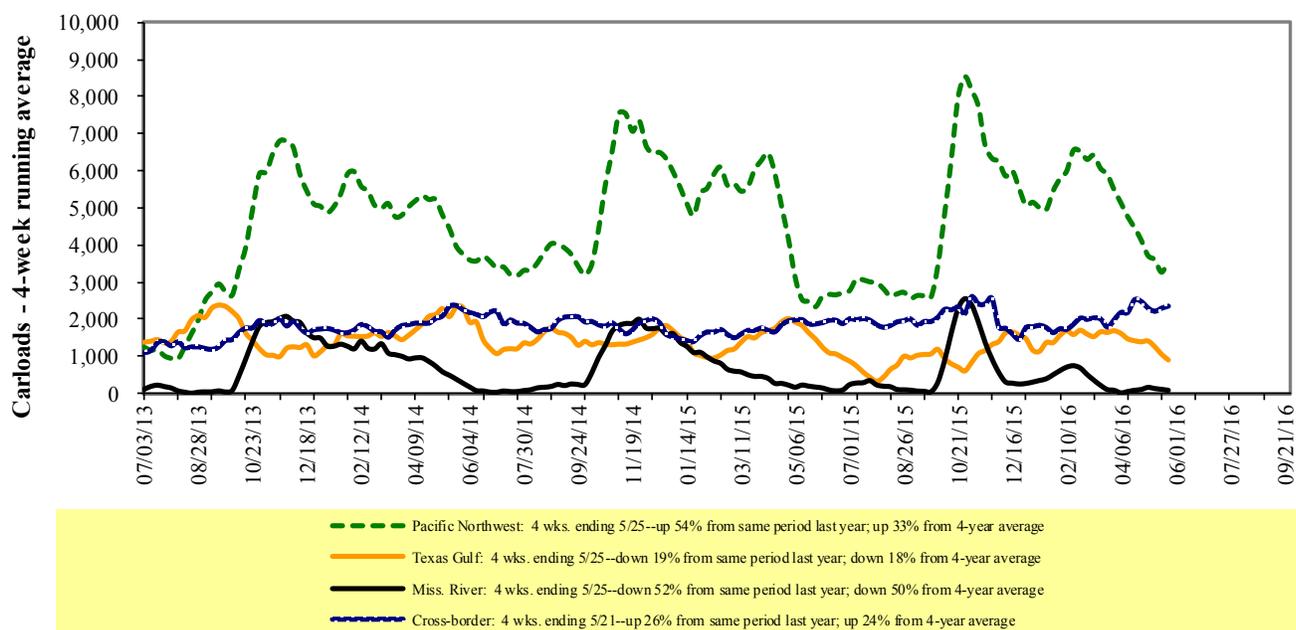
YTD = year-to-date; p = preliminary data; r = revised data; n/a = not available

Source: Transportation & Marketing Programs/AMS/USDA

Railroads originate approximately 24 percent of U.S. grain shipments. Trends in these loadings are indicative of market conditions and expectations.

Figure 2

Rail Deliveries to Port



Source: Transportation & Marketing Programs/AMS/USDA

Table 4

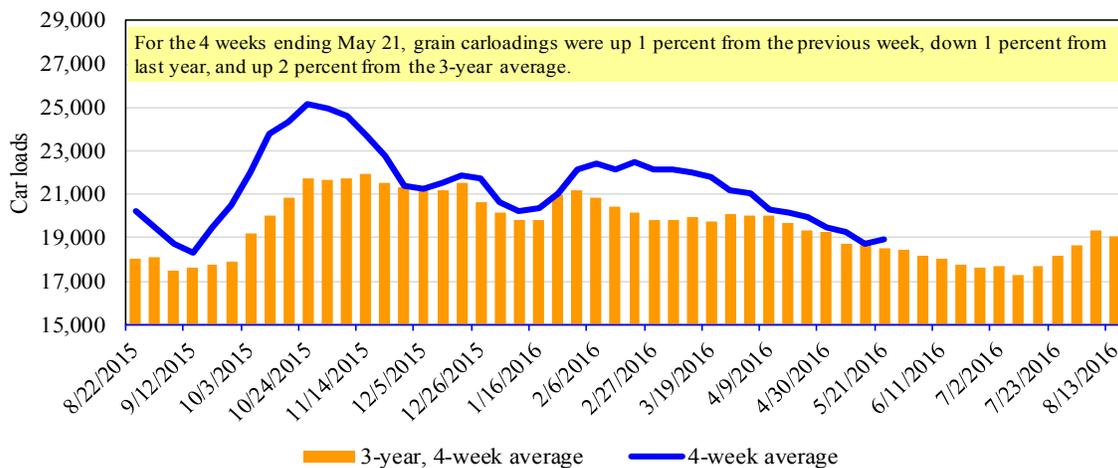
Class I Rail Carrier Grain Car Bulletin (grain carloads originated)

| For the week ending: | East | | West | | | U.S. total | Canada | |
|----------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|--------|---------|------------|---------|---------|
| | CSXT | NS | BNSF | KCS | UP | | CN | CP |
| 5/21/2016 | | | | | | | | |
| This week | 1,814 | 2,804 | 8,874 | 801 | 4,903 | 19,196 | 2,865 | 4,322 |
| This week last year | 2,100 | 2,766 | 8,767 | 1,154 | 4,936 | 19,723 | 3,187 | 4,407 |
| 2016 YTD | 37,315 | 54,721 | 202,524 | 17,664 | 104,924 | 417,148 | 66,763 | 87,883 |
| 2015 YTD | 42,153 | 61,323 | 205,674 | 17,487 | 105,311 | 431,948 | 82,586 | 86,550 |
| 2016 YTD as % of 2015 YTD | 89 | 89 | 98 | 101 | 100 | 97 | 81 | 102 |
| Last 4 weeks as % of 2015* | 83 | 87 | 99 | 88 | 118 | 99 | 70 | 90 |
| Last 4 weeks as % of 3-yr avg.** | 100 | 94 | 98 | 123 | 110 | 102 | 71 | 76 |
| Total 2015 | 104,039 | 149,043 | 536,173 | 45,445 | 267,720 | 1,102,420 | 211,868 | 236,263 |

*The past 4 weeks of this year as a percent of the same 4 weeks last year.

**The past 4 weeks as a percent of the same period from the prior 3-year average. YTD = year-to-date.

Source: Association of American Railroads (www.aar.org)

Figure 3**Total Weekly U.S. Class I Railroad Grain Car Loadings**

Source: Association of American Railroads

Table 5

Railcar Auction Offerings¹ (\$/car)²

| For the week ending: | | Delivery period | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|---------|---------|---------|----------|----------|--------|--------|
| 5/26/2016 | | Jun-16 | Jun-15 | Jul-16 | Jul-15 | Aug-16 | Aug-15 | Sep-16 | Sep-15 |
| BNSF ³ | COT grain units | 0 | 2 | 0 | no bids | 0 | no offer | 0 | 86 |
| | COT grain single-car ⁵ | 0 | no bids | 0 | 1 | 0 | no offer | 0 | 66..78 |
| UP ⁴ | GCAS/Region 1 | no bids | no bids | no bids | no bids | no offer | no bids | n/a | n/a |
| | GCAS/Region 2 | no bids | no bids | no bids | no bids | no offer | no bids | n/a | n/a |

¹Auction offerings are for single-car and unit train shipments only.

²Average premium/discount to tariff, last auction

³BNSF - COT = Certificate of Transportation; north grain and south grain bids were combined effective the week ending 6/24/06.

⁴UP - GCAS = Grain Car Allocation System

Region 1 includes: AR, IL, LA, MO, NM, OK, TX, WI, and Duluth, MN.

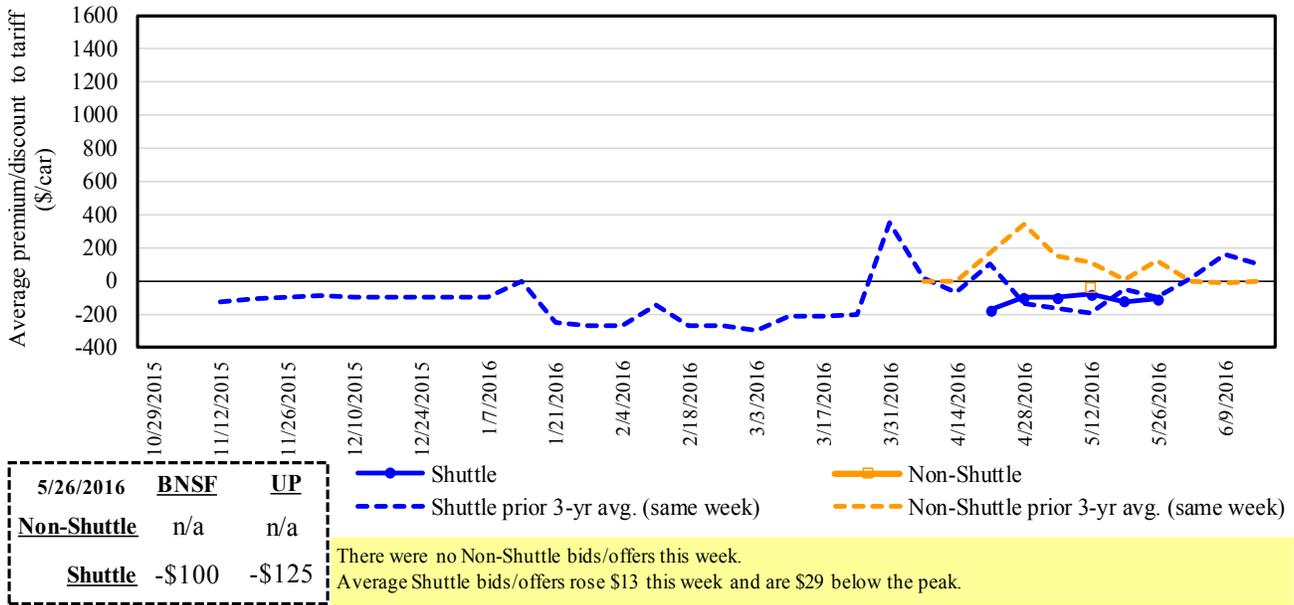
Region 2 includes: CO, IA, KS, MN, NE, WY, and Kansas City and St. Joseph, MO.

⁵Range is shown because average is not available. Not available = n/a.

Source: Transportation & Marketing Programs/AMS/USDA.

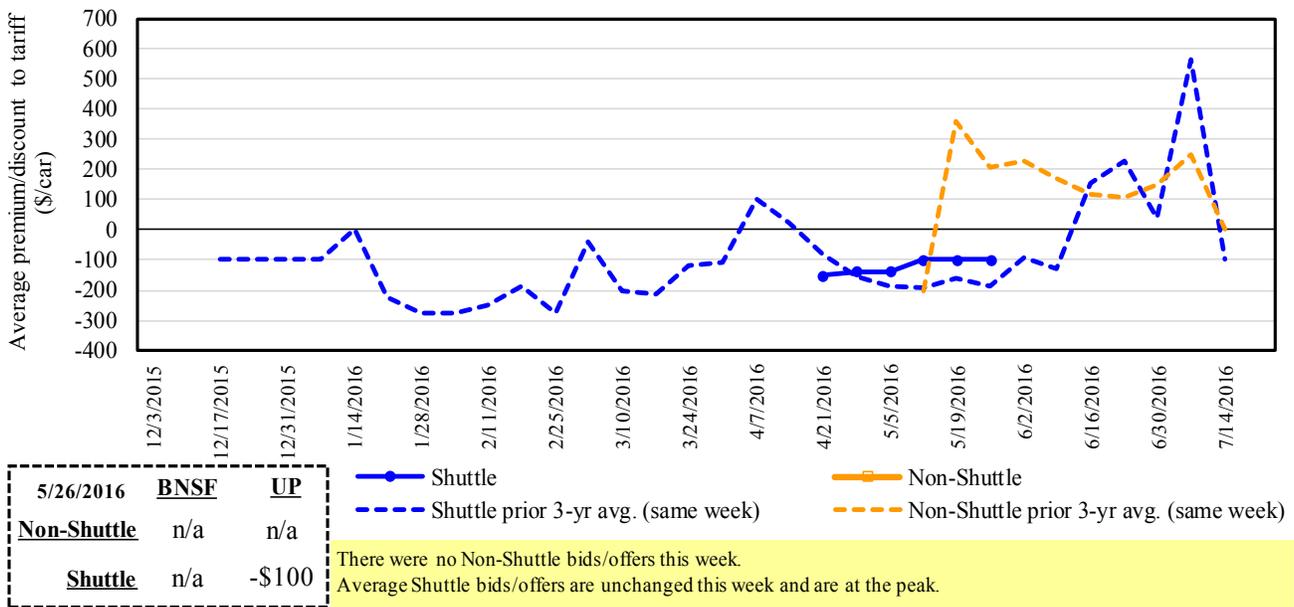
The **secondary rail market** information reflects trade values for service that was originally purchased from the railroad carrier as some form of guaranteed freight. The **auction and secondary rail** values are indicators of rail service quality and demand/supply.

Figure 4
Bids/Offers for Railcars to be Delivered in June 2016, Secondary Market



Non-shuttle bids include unit-train and single-car bids. n/a = not available.
 Source: Transportation & Marketing Programs/AMS/USDA

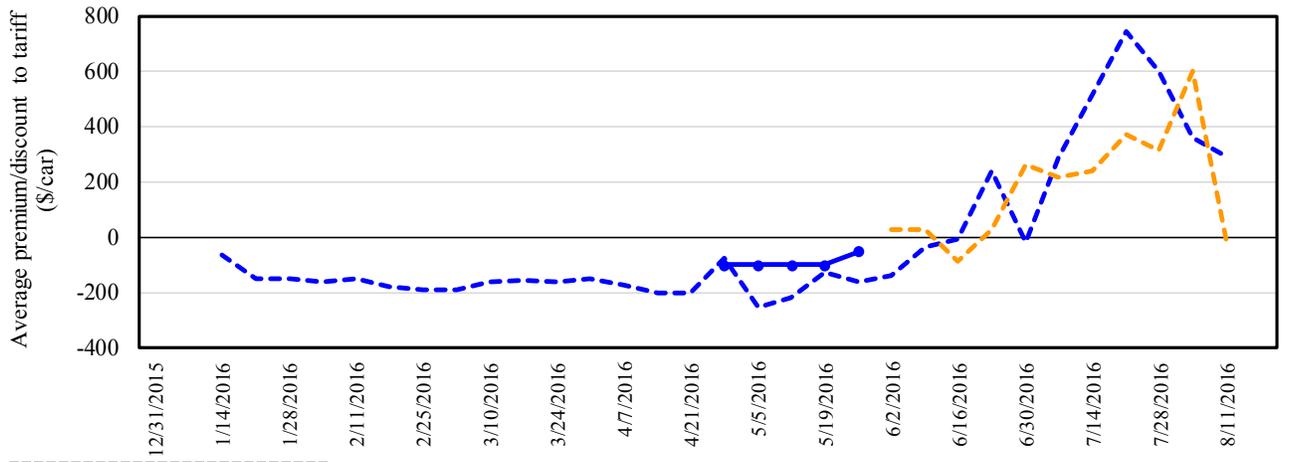
Figure 5
Bids/Offers for Railcars to be Delivered in July 2016, Secondary Market



Non-shuttle bids include unit-train and single-car bids. n/a = not available.
 Source: Transportation & Marketing Programs/AMS/USDA

Figure 6

Bids/Offers for Railcars to be Delivered in August 2016, Secondary Market



| | | | | |
|--------------------|-------------|-----------|--|--|
| 5/26/2016 | BNSF | UP | | |
| Non-Shuttle | n/a | n/a | | |
| Shuttle | n/a | -\$50 | | |

—●— Shuttle
- - - Shuttle prior 3-yr avg. (same week)
—■— Non-Shuttle
- - - Non-Shuttle prior 3-yr avg. (same week)

There were no Non-Shuttle bids/offers this week.
 Average Shuttle bids/offers rose \$50 this week and are at the peak.

Non-shuttle bids include unit-train and single-car bids. n/a = not available.
 Source: Transportation & Marketing Programs/AMS/USDA

Table 6

Weekly Secondary Railcar Market (\$/car)¹

| For the week ending: | | Delivery period | | | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | | 5/26/2016 | Jun-16 | Jul-16 | Aug-16 | Sep-16 | Oct-16 |
| Non-shuttle | BNSF-GF | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| | Change from last week | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| | Change from same week 2015 | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| | UP-Pool | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| | Change from last week | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| | Change from same week 2015 | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a |
| Shuttle | BNSF-GF | (100) | n/a | n/a | 700 | 1050 | 200 |
| | Change from last week | n/a | n/a | n/a | 300 | n/a | n/a |
| | Change from same week 2015 | 250 | n/a | n/a | 300 | n/a | n/a |
| | UP-Pool | (125) | (100) | (50) | 0 | 450 | 225 |
| | Change from last week | 0 | 0 | 50 | n/a | 25 | 25 |
| | Change from same week 2015 | 283 | 150 | n/a | 300 | n/a | n/a |

¹Average premium/discount to tariff, \$/car-last week

Note: Bids listed are market INDICATORS only & are NOT guaranteed prices,

n/a = not available; GF = guaranteed freight; Pool = guaranteed pool

Sources: Transportation and Marketing Programs/AMS/USDA

Data from James B. Joiner Co., Tradewest Brokerage Co.

The **tariff rail rate** is the base price of freight rail service, and together with **fuel surcharges** and any **auction and secondary rail** values constitute the full cost of shipping by rail. Typically, auction and secondary rail values are a small fraction of the full cost of shipping by rail relative to the tariff rate. High auction and secondary rail values, during times of high rail demand or short supply, can exceed the cost of the tariff rate plus fuel surcharge.

Table 7

Tariff Rail Rates for Unit and Shuttle Train Shipments¹

| Effective date: | | | Tariff | Fuel | Tariff plus surcharge per: | | Percent |
|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------|-------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 6/1/2016 | Origin region* | Destination region* | rate/car | surcharge per car | metric ton | bushel ² | change Y/Y ³ |
| Unit train | | | | | | | |
| Wheat | Wichita, KS | St. Louis, MO | \$3,605 | \$0 | \$35.80 | \$0.97 | -2 |
| | Grand Forks, ND | Duluth-Superior, MN | \$3,463 | -\$24 | \$34.15 | \$0.93 | -17 |
| | Wichita, KS | Los Angeles, CA | \$6,950 | -\$122 | \$67.80 | \$1.85 | -3 |
| | Wichita, KS | New Orleans, LA | \$4,243 | \$0 | \$42.14 | \$1.15 | -3 |
| | Sioux Falls, SD | Galveston-Houston, TX | \$6,486 | -\$100 | \$63.41 | \$1.73 | -3 |
| | Northwest KS | Galveston-Houston, TX | \$4,511 | \$0 | \$44.80 | \$1.22 | -3 |
| | Amarillo, TX | Los Angeles, CA | \$4,710 | \$0 | \$46.77 | \$1.27 | -4 |
| Corn | Champaign-Urbana, IL | New Orleans, LA | \$3,681 | \$0 | \$36.55 | \$0.93 | 6 |
| | Toledo, OH | Raleigh, NC | \$6,061 | \$0 | \$60.19 | \$1.53 | 9 |
| | Des Moines, IA | Davenport, IA | \$2,168 | \$0 | \$21.53 | \$0.55 | -1 |
| | Indianapolis, IN | Atlanta, GA | \$5,004 | \$0 | \$49.69 | \$1.26 | 5 |
| | Indianapolis, IN | Knoxville, TN | \$4,311 | \$0 | \$42.81 | \$1.09 | 5 |
| Soybeans | Des Moines, IA | Little Rock, AR | \$3,444 | \$0 | \$34.20 | \$0.87 | 1 |
| | Des Moines, IA | Los Angeles, CA | \$5,052 | \$0 | \$50.17 | \$1.27 | -1 |
| | Minneapolis, MN | New Orleans, LA | \$3,699 | \$0 | \$36.73 | \$1.00 | -3 |
| | Toledo, OH | Huntsville, AL | \$5,051 | \$0 | \$50.16 | \$1.37 | 8 |
| | Indianapolis, IN | Raleigh, NC | \$6,178 | \$0 | \$61.35 | \$1.67 | 10 |
| Indianapolis, IN | Huntsville, AL | \$4,529 | \$0 | \$44.98 | \$1.22 | 4 | |
| Champaign-Urbana, IL | New Orleans, LA | \$4,395 | \$0 | \$43.64 | \$1.19 | 7 | |
| Shuttle Train | | | | | | | |
| Wheat | Great Falls, MT | Portland, OR | \$3,853 | -\$70 | \$37.56 | \$1.02 | -6 |
| | Wichita, KS | Galveston-Houston, TX | \$3,871 | -\$55 | \$37.90 | \$1.03 | -4 |
| | Chicago, IL | Albany, NY | \$5,492 | \$0 | \$54.54 | \$1.48 | 16 |
| | Grand Forks, ND | Portland, OR | \$5,511 | -\$122 | \$53.52 | \$1.46 | -6 |
| | Grand Forks, ND | Galveston-Houston, TX | \$5,831 | -\$127 | \$56.65 | \$1.54 | -14 |
| | Northwest KS | Portland, OR | \$5,478 | \$0 | \$54.40 | \$1.48 | -4 |
| Corn | Minneapolis, MN | Portland, OR | \$5,000 | -\$148 | \$48.18 | \$1.22 | -9 |
| | Sioux Falls, SD | Tacoma, WA | \$4,960 | -\$136 | \$47.91 | \$1.22 | -8 |
| | Champaign-Urbana, IL | New Orleans, LA | \$3,481 | \$0 | \$34.57 | \$0.88 | 6 |
| | Lincoln, NE | Galveston-Houston, TX | \$3,600 | -\$79 | \$34.96 | \$0.89 | -5 |
| | Des Moines, IA | Amarillo, TX | \$3,795 | \$0 | \$37.69 | \$0.96 | 0 |
| | Minneapolis, MN | Tacoma, WA | \$5,000 | -\$147 | \$48.19 | \$1.22 | -9 |
| Soybeans | Council Bluffs, IA | Stockton, CA | \$4,640 | -\$152 | \$44.57 | \$1.13 | -6 |
| | Sioux Falls, SD | Tacoma, WA | \$5,490 | -\$136 | \$53.17 | \$1.45 | -8 |
| | Minneapolis, MN | Portland, OR | \$5,510 | -\$148 | \$53.25 | \$1.45 | -8 |
| | Fargo, ND | Tacoma, WA | \$5,380 | -\$121 | \$52.23 | \$1.42 | -8 |
| | Council Bluffs, IA | New Orleans, LA | \$4,425 | \$0 | \$43.94 | \$1.20 | -4 |
| | Toledo, OH | Huntsville, AL | \$4,226 | \$0 | \$41.97 | \$1.14 | 10 |
| Grand Island, NE | Portland, OR | \$5,360 | \$0 | \$53.23 | \$1.45 | -4 | |

¹A unit train refers to shipments of at least 25 cars. Shuttle train rates are available for qualified shipments of 75-120 cars that meet railroad efficiency requirements.

²Approximate load per car = 111 short tons (100.7 metric tons): corn 56 lbs./bu., wheat & soybeans 60 lbs./bu.

³Percentage change year over year calculated using tariff rate plus fuel surcharge

Sources: www.bnsf.com, www.cpr.ca, www.csx.com, www.uprr.com

*Regional economic areas defined by the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)

Table 8

Tariff Rail Rates for U.S. Bulk Grain Shipments to Mexico

| Commodity | Origin state | Destination region | Tariff rate/car ¹ | Fuel surcharge per car ² | Tariff plus surcharge per: | | Percent change ⁴ Y/Y |
|-----------|--------------|----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| | | | | | metric ton ³ | bushel ³ | |
| Wheat | MT | Chihuahua, CI | \$7,459 | \$0 | \$76.21 | \$2.07 | -3 |
| | OK | Cuautitlan, EM | \$6,514 | \$0 | \$66.55 | \$1.81 | -5 |
| | KS | Guadalajara, JA | \$6,995 | \$70 | \$72.19 | \$1.96 | -4 |
| | TX | Salinas Victoria, NL | \$4,142 | \$0 | \$42.32 | \$1.15 | -1 |
| Corn | IA | Guadalajara, JA | \$8,137 | \$49 | \$83.64 | \$2.12 | -5 |
| | SD | Celaya, GJ | \$7,480 | \$0 | \$76.43 | \$1.94 | -6 |
| | NE | Queretaro, QA | \$7,879 | \$0 | \$80.50 | \$2.04 | 0 |
| | SD | Salinas Victoria, NL | \$6,545 | \$0 | \$66.87 | \$1.70 | 6 |
| | MO | Tlalnepantla, EM | \$7,238 | \$0 | \$73.96 | \$1.88 | 0 |
| | SD | Torreon, CU | \$7,080 | \$0 | \$72.34 | \$1.84 | -2 |
| Soybeans | MO | Bojay (Tula), HG | \$8,652 | \$54 | \$88.95 | \$2.42 | 1 |
| | NE | Guadalajara, JA | \$9,142 | \$52 | \$93.93 | \$2.55 | 0 |
| | IA | El Castillo, JA | \$9,470 | \$0 | \$96.76 | \$2.63 | 0 |
| | KS | Torreon, CU | \$7,439 | \$30 | \$76.31 | \$2.07 | 1 |
| Sorghum | NE | Celaya, GJ | \$7,344 | \$41 | \$75.45 | \$1.91 | -3 |
| | KS | Queretaro, QA | \$7,563 | \$0 | \$77.27 | \$1.96 | 2 |
| | NE | Salinas Victoria, NL | \$6,168 | \$0 | \$63.02 | \$1.60 | 2 |
| | NE | Torreon, CU | \$6,672 | \$25 | \$68.42 | \$1.74 | -2 |

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.

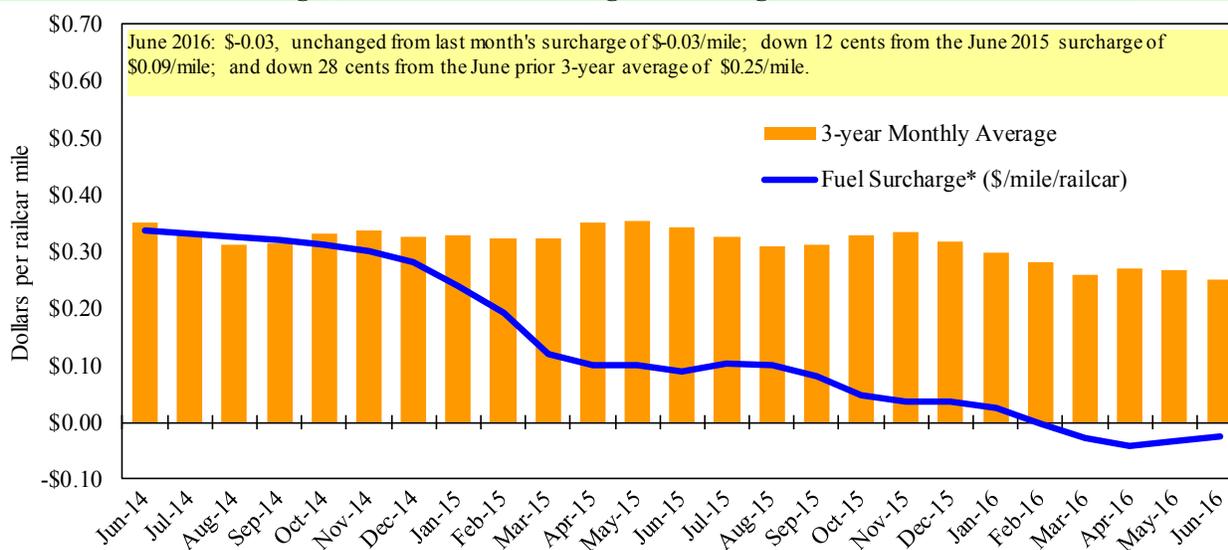
²Fuel surcharge adjusted to reflect the change in Ferrocarril Mexicano, S.A. de C.V railroad fuel surcharge policy as of 10/01/2009

³Approximate load per car = 97.87 metric tons: Corn & Sorghum 56 lbs/bu, Wheat & Soybeans 60 lbs/bu

⁴Percentage change calculated using tariff rate plus fuel surcharge

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

Figure 7

Railroad Fuel Surcharges, North American Weighted Average¹

¹ Weighted by each Class I railroad's proportion of grain traffic for the prior year.

* Beginning January 2009, the Canadian Pacific fuel surcharge is computed by a monthly average of the bi-weekly fuel surcharge.

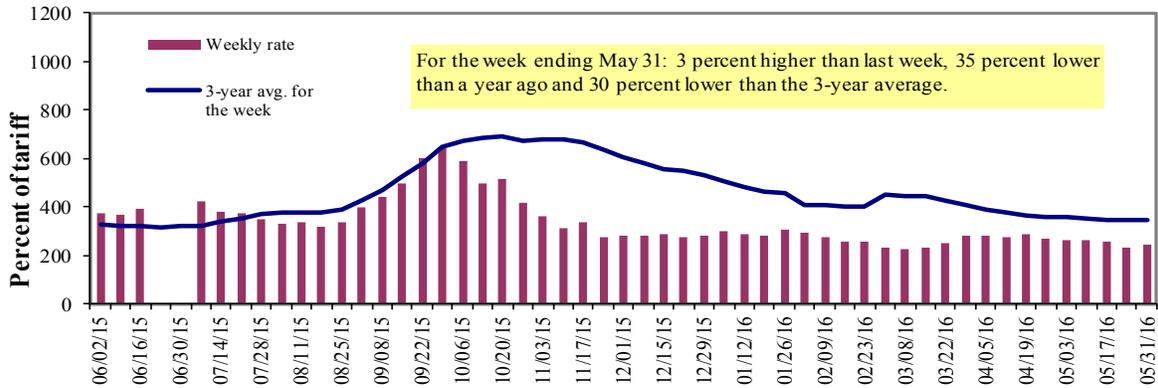
**CSX strike price changed from \$2.00/gal. to \$3.75/gal. starting January 1, 2015.

Sources: www.bnsf.com, www.cn.ca, www.cpr.ca, www.csx.com, www.kcsi.com, www.nscorp.com, www.uprr.com

Barge Transportation

Figure 8

Illinois River Barge Freight Rate^{1,2}



¹Rate = percent of 1976 tariff benchmark index (1976 = 100 percent); ²4-week moving average of the 3-year average.

Source: Transportation & Marketing Programs/AMS/USDA

Table 9

Weekly Barge Freight Rates: Southbound Only

| | | Twin Cities | Mid-Mississippi | Lower Illinois River | St. Louis | Cincinnati | Lower Ohio | Cairo-Memphis |
|--|--------------------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------|------------|------------|---------------|
| Rate¹ | 5/31/2016 | 317 | 252 | 242 | 173 | 167 | 167 | 168 |
| | 5/24/2016 | 323 | 255 | 235 | 172 | 172 | 172 | 170 |
| \$/ton | 5/31/2016 | 19.62 | 13.41 | 11.23 | 6.90 | 7.83 | 6.75 | 5.28 |
| | 5/24/2016 | 19.99 | 13.57 | 10.90 | 6.86 | 8.07 | 6.95 | 5.34 |
| Current week % change from the same week: | | | | | | | | |
| | Last year | -27 | -33 | -35 | -31 | -27 | -27 | -23 |
| | 3-year avg. ² | -23 | -28 | -30 | -27 | -24 | -24 | -17 |
| Rate¹ | June | 323 | 263 | 253 | 180 | 173 | 173 | 180 |
| | August | 377 | 352 | 337 | 273 | 300 | 300 | 278 |

¹Rate = percent of 1976 tariff benchmark index (1976 = 100 percent); ²4-week moving average; ton = 2,000 pounds;

Source: Transportation & Marketing Programs/AMS/USDA

Figure 9

Benchmark tariff rates

Calculating barge rate per ton:

(Rate * 1976 tariff benchmark rate per ton)/100

Select applicable index from market quotes included in tables on this page. The 1976 benchmark rates per ton are provided in map.

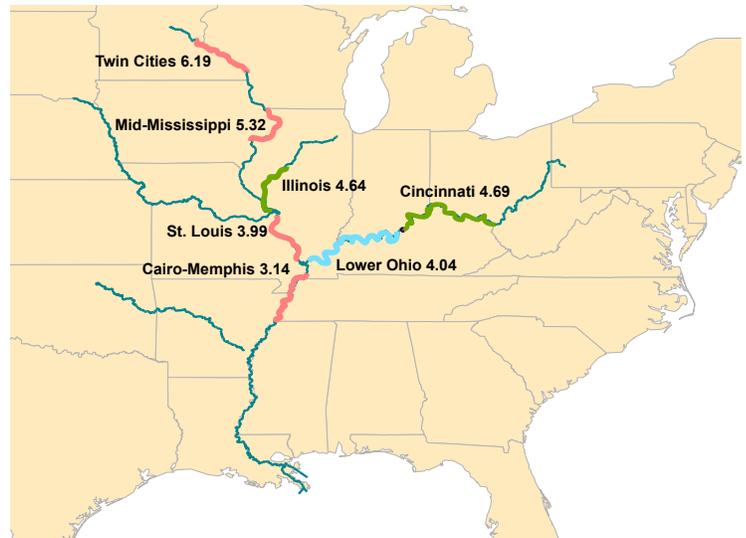
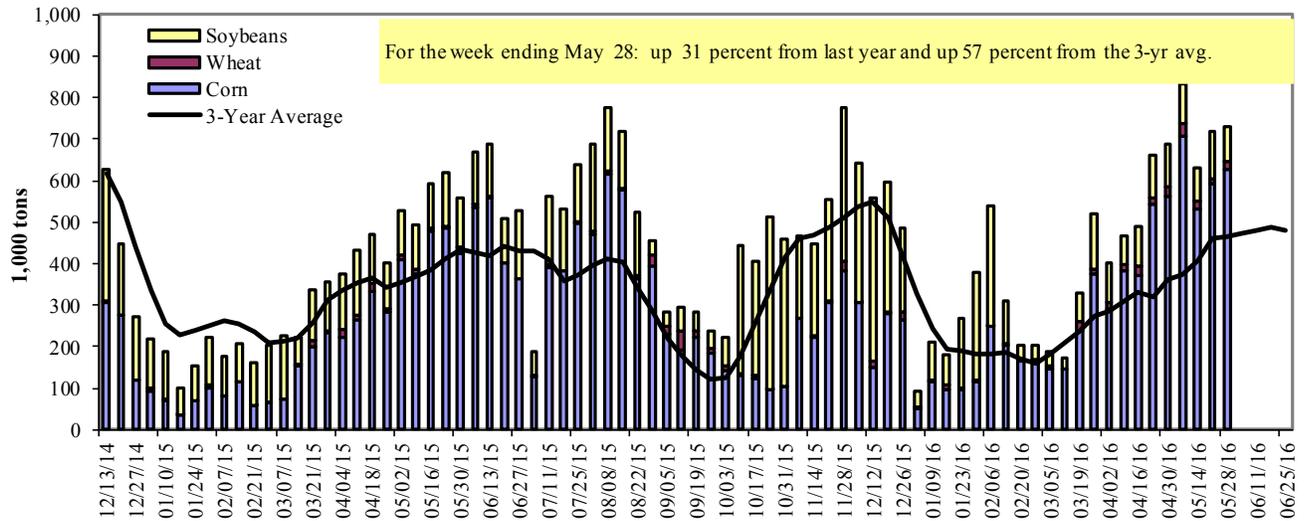


Figure 10

Barge Movements on the Mississippi River¹ (Locks 27 - Granite City, IL)



¹ The 3-year average is a 4-week moving average.

Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Table 10

Barge Grain Movements (1,000 tons)

| For the week ending 5/28/2016 | Corn | Wheat | Soybeans | Other | Total |
|--|--------|-------|----------|-------|--------|
| Mississippi River | | | | | |
| Rock Island, IL (L15) | 314 | 3 | 68 | 0 | 386 |
| Winfield, MO (L25) | 406 | 9 | 80 | 0 | 495 |
| Alton, IL (L26) | 577 | 14 | 77 | 0 | 668 |
| Granite City, IL (L27) | 626 | 20 | 85 | 0 | 731 |
| Illinois River (L8) | 168 | 5 | 9 | 0 | 183 |
| Ohio River (L52) | 43 | 7 | 14 | 0 | 64 |
| Arkansas River (L1) | 0 | 15 | 32 | 0 | 47 |
| Weekly total - 2016 | 669 | 42 | 131 | 0 | 841 |
| Weekly total - 2015 | 502 | 21 | 144 | 2 | 669 |
| 2016 YTD ¹ | 9,213 | 727 | 4,268 | 119 | 14,327 |
| 2015 YTD | 8,009 | 573 | 4,567 | 93 | 13,243 |
| 2016 as % of 2015 YTD | 115 | 127 | 93 | 127 | 108 |
| Last 4 weeks as % of 2015 ² | 119 | 290 | 88 | 903 | 118 |
| Total 2015 | 19,215 | 1,686 | 14,191 | 359 | 35,451 |

¹ Weekly total, YTD (year-to-date) and calendar year total includes Miss/27, Ohio/52, and Ark/1; "Other" refers to oats, barley, sorghum, and rye.

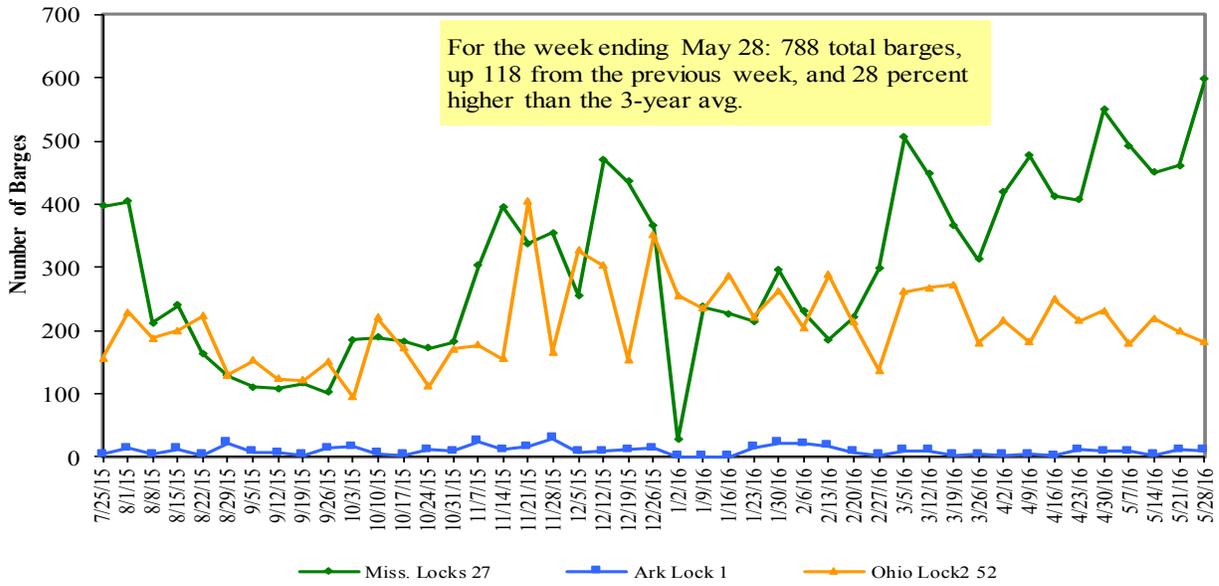
² As a percent of same period in 2015.

Note: Total may not add exactly, due to rounding

Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Figure 11

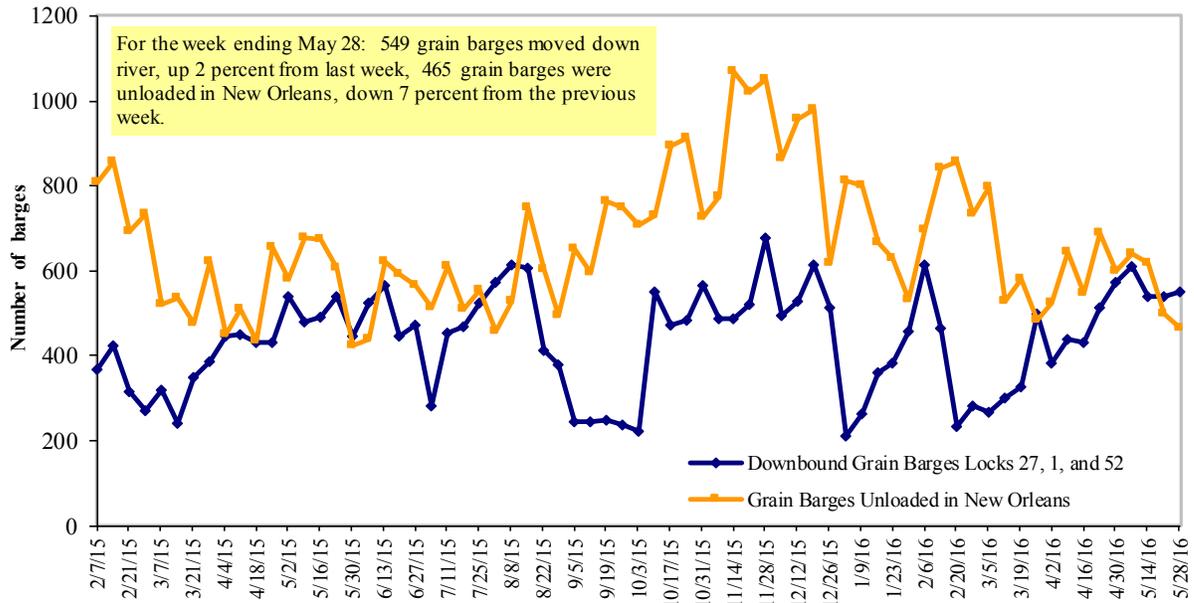
Upbound Empty Barges Transiting Mississippi River Locks 27, Arkansas River Lock and Dam 1, and Ohio River Locks and Dam 52



Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Figure 12

Grain Barges for Export in New Orleans Region



Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and GIPSA

Truck Transportation

The **weekly diesel price** provides a proxy for trends in U.S. truck rates as diesel fuel is a significant expense for truck grain movements.

Table 11

Retail on-Highway Diesel Prices¹, Week Ending 5/30/2016 (US \$/gallon)

| Region | Location | Price | Change from | |
|--------|----------------------------|-------|-------------|----------|
| | | | Week ago | Year ago |
| I | East Coast | 2.405 | 0.026 | -0.596 |
| | New England | 2.442 | 0.031 | -0.650 |
| | Central Atlantic | 2.505 | 0.041 | -0.638 |
| | Lower Atlantic | 2.322 | 0.014 | -0.552 |
| II | Midwest ² | 2.342 | 0.017 | -0.462 |
| III | Gulf Coast ³ | 2.254 | 0.021 | -0.545 |
| IV | Rocky Mountain | 2.375 | 0.017 | -0.460 |
| V | West Coast | 2.650 | 0.053 | -0.513 |
| | West Coast less California | 2.718 | 0.216 | -0.337 |
| | California | 2.565 | -0.108 | -0.684 |
| Total | U.S. | 2.382 | 0.025 | -0.527 |

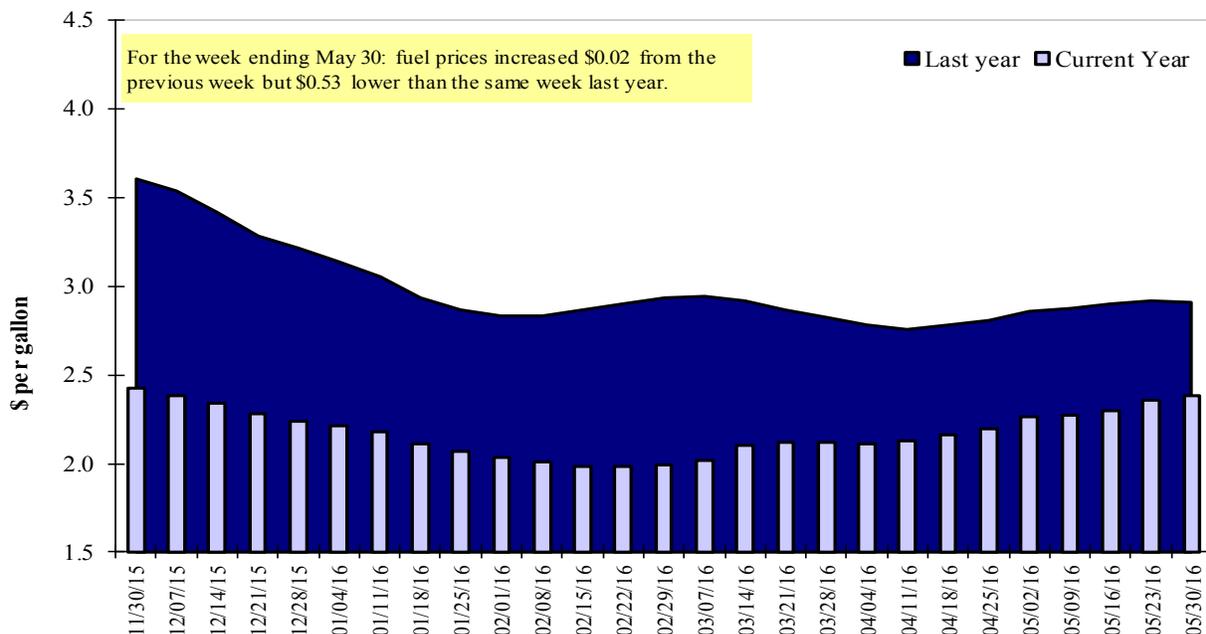
¹Diesel fuel prices include all taxes. Prices represent an average of all types of diesel fuel.

²Same as North Central ³Same as South Central

Source: Energy Information Administration/U.S. Department of Energy (www.eia.doe.gov)

Figure 13

Weekly Diesel Fuel Prices, U.S. Average



Source: Retail On-Highway Diesel Prices, Energy Information Administration, Dept. of Energy

Grain Exports

Table 12

U.S. Export Balances and Cumulative Exports (1,000 metric tons)

| For the week ending | Wheat | | | | | | Corn | Soybeans | Total |
|--|--------|-------|-------|-------|-----|-----------|--------|----------|---------|
| | HRW | SRW | HRS | SWW | DUR | All wheat | | | |
| Export Balances¹ | | | | | | | | | |
| 5/19/2016 | 573 | 158 | 700 | 425 | 44 | 1,899 | 13,794 | 4,596 | 20,288 |
| This week year ago | 425 | 187 | 459 | 260 | 51 | 1,381 | 11,759 | 3,574 | 16,715 |
| Cumulative exports-marketing year² | | | | | | | | | |
| 2015/16 YTD | 5,409 | 3,051 | 6,168 | 3,422 | 658 | 18,707 | 28,022 | 42,790 | 89,520 |
| 2014/15 YTD | 6,914 | 3,625 | 7,067 | 3,674 | 650 | 21,929 | 31,237 | 46,369 | 99,534 |
| YTD 2015/16 as % of 2014/15 | 78 | 84 | 87 | 93 | 101 | 85 | 90 | 92 | 90 |
| Last 4 wks as % of same period 2014/15 | 168 | 104 | 169 | 203 | 96 | 164 | 114 | 117 | 119 |
| 2014/15 Total | 7,009 | 3,654 | 7,250 | 3,758 | 665 | 22,336 | 45,205 | 49,614 | 117,155 |
| 2013/14 Total | 11,465 | 7,307 | 6,338 | 4,367 | 486 | 29,963 | 46,868 | 44,478 | 121,309 |

¹ Current unshipped (outstanding) export sales to date

² Shipped export sales to date; new marketing year now in effect for corn and soybeans

Note: YTD = year-to-date. Marketing Year: wheat = 6/01-5/31, corn & soybeans = 9/01-8/31

Source: Foreign Agricultural Service/USDA (www.fas.usda.gov)

Table 13

Top 5 Importers¹ of U.S. Corn

| For the week ending 5/19/2016 | Commitments ² | | | % change current MY from last MY | Exports ³ 3-year avg 2012-2014 |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--|---|
| | 2016/17 Next MY | 2015/16 Current MY | 2014/15 Last MY | | |
| | | - 1,000 mt - | | | - 1,000 mt - |
| Japan | 651 | 6,144 | 10,134 | (39) | 9,244 |
| Mexico | 1,605 | 11,843 | 9,992 | 19 | 7,448 |
| Korea | 0 | 1,926 | 3,005 | (36) | 2,630 |
| Colombia | 37 | 4,322 | 3,883 | 11 | 1,727 |
| Taiwan | 19 | 1,620 | 1,857 | (13) | 1,224 |
| Top 5 Importers | 2,311 | 25,854 | 28,871 | (10) | 22,273 |
| Total US corn export sales | 3,529 | 41,816 | 42,996 | (3) | 34,445 |
| % of Projected | | 95% | 91% | | |
| Change from prior week | 260 | 1,381 | 655 | | |
| Top 5 importers' share of U.S. corn export sales | 65% | 62% | 67% | | 65% |
| USDA forecast, May 2016 | 48,346 | 43,893 | 47,430 | (7) | |
| Corn Use for Ethanol USDA forecast, May 2016 | 134,620 | 133,350 | 132,080 | 1 | |

(n) indicates negative number.

¹ Based on FAS Marketing Year Ranking Reports - www.fas.usda.gov; Marketing year (MY) = Sep 1 - Aug 31.

² Cumulative Exports (shipped) + Outstanding Sales (unshipped), FAS Weekly Export Sales Report, or Export Sales Query--<http://www.fas.usda.gov/esrquery/>

³ FAS Marketing Year Ranking Reports - <http://apps.fas.usda.gov/export-sales/myrkaug.htm>; 3-yr average

Table 14

Top 5 Importers¹ of U.S. Soybeans

| For the week ending 5/19/2016 | Total Commitments ² | | | % change current MY from last MY | Exports ³ 3-yr avg. 2012-2014 |
|--|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--|--|
| | 2016/17 | 2015/16 | 2014/15 | | |
| | Next MY | Current MY | Last MY | | |
| | - 1,000 mt - | | | | - 1,000 mt - |
| China | 1,537 | 27,323 | 30,094 | (9) | 24,211 |
| Mexico | 573 | 3,163 | 3,192 | (1) | 2,971 |
| Indonesia | 15 | 1,647 | 1,636 | 1 | 1,895 |
| Japan | 118 | 2,084 | 1,784 | 17 | 1,750 |
| Taiwan | 37 | 1,161 | 1,220 | (5) | 1,055 |
| Top 5 importers | 2,279 | 35,378 | 37,926 | (7) | 31,882 |
| Total US soybean export sales | 2,572 | 47,386 | 49,943 | (5) | 39,169 |
| % of Projected | | 100% | 99% | | |
| Change from prior week | (850) | 457 | 322 | | |
| Top 5 importers' share of U.S. soybean export sales | 89% | 75% | 76% | | 81% |
| USDA forecast, May 2016 | 51,362 | 47,411 | 50,218 | (6) | |

(n) indicates negative number.

¹Based on FAS Marketing Year Ranking Reports - www.fas.usda.gov; Marketing year (MY) = Sep 1 - Aug 31.²Cumulative Exports (shipped) + Outstanding Sales (unshipped), FAS Weekly Export Sales Report, or Export Sales Query--<http://www.fas.usda.gov/esrquery/>³FAS Marketing Year Final Reports - www.fas.usda.gov/export-sales/myfi_rpt.htm. (Carryover plus Accumulated Exports)

Table 15

Top 10 Importers¹ of All U.S. Wheat

| For the week ending 5/19/2016 | Total Commitments ² | | | % change current MY from last MY | Exports ³ 3-yr avg 2012-2014 |
|---|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--|---|
| | 2016/17 | 2015/16 | 2014/15 | | |
| | Next MY | Current MY | Last MY | | |
| | - 1,000 mt - | | | | - 1,000 mt - |
| Japan | 188 | 2,519 | 3,143 | (20) | 3,113 |
| Mexico | 353 | 2,394 | 2,722 | (12) | 2,807 |
| Nigeria | 92 | 1,518 | 2,082 | (27) | 2,512 |
| Philippines | 463 | 2,451 | 4,298 | (43) | 2,105 |
| Brazil | 0 | 507 | 1,534 | (67) | 2,091 |
| Korea | 187 | 1,139 | 1,180 | (3) | 1,273 |
| Taiwan | 0 | 1,087 | 1,000 | 9 | 1,007 |
| Indonesia | 25 | 545 | 635 | (14) | 751 |
| Colombia | 20 | 672 | 583 | 15 | 662 |
| Thailand | 110 | 560 | 677 | | 618 |
| Top 10 importers | 1,328 | 12,832 | 17,175 | (25) | 16,939 |
| Total US wheat export sales | 3,858 | 20,606 | 23,311 | (12) | 26,361 |
| % of Projected | | 97% | 100% | | |
| Change from prior week | 355 | (10) | 42 | | |
| Top 10 importers' share of U.S. wheat export sales | 34% | 62% | 74% | | 64% |
| USDA forecast, May 2016 | 23,842 | 21,253 | 23,270 | (9) | |

(n) indicates negative number.

¹Based on FAS Marketing Year Ranking Reports - www.fas.usda.gov; Marketing year = Jun 1 - May 31.²Cumulative Exports (shipped) + Outstanding Sales (unshipped), FAS Weekly Export Sales Report, or Export Sales Query--<http://www.fas.usda.gov/esrquery/>³FAS Marketing Year Final Reports - www.fas.usda.gov/export-sales/myfi_rpt.htm.

Table 16

Grain Inspections for Export by U.S. Port Region (1,000 metric tons)

| Port Regions | For the Week Ending 05/26/16 | Previous Week* | Current Week as % of Previous | 2016 YTD* | 2015 YTD* | 2016 YTD as % of 2015 YTD | Last 4-weeks as % of: | | 2015 Total* |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|----------------|
| | | | | | | | Last Year | Prior 3-yr. avg. | |
| Pacific Northwest | | | | | | | | | |
| Wheat | 281 | 205 | 137 | 4,874 | 4,783 | 102 | 147 | 126 | 10,985 |
| Corn | 170 | 188 | 91 | 3,531 | 3,909 | 90 | 192 | 176 | 7,232 |
| Soybeans | 0 | 0 | n/a | 4,425 | 4,043 | 109 | 131 | 36 | 11,809 |
| Total | 451 | 393 | 115 | 12,831 | 12,735 | 101 | 165 | 142 | 30,027 |
| Mississippi Gulf | | | | | | | | | |
| Wheat | 57 | 31 | 185 | 1,455 | 1,719 | 85 | 62 | 63 | 4,504 |
| Corn | 402 | 671 | 60 | 11,771 | 12,558 | 94 | 83 | 116 | 26,701 |
| Soybeans | 133 | 57 | 235 | 9,291 | 9,972 | 93 | 62 | 100 | 29,593 |
| Total | 592 | 758 | 78 | 22,517 | 24,249 | 93 | 78 | 107 | 60,797 |
| Texas Gulf | | | | | | | | | |
| Wheat | 143 | 42 | 342 | 1,158 | 1,666 | 69 | 83 | 49 | 3,724 |
| Corn | 28 | 37 | 75 | 377 | 210 | 180 | 201 | 154 | 596 |
| Soybeans | 0 | 0 | n/a | 92 | 210 | 44 | n/a | 0 | 864 |
| Total | 171 | 79 | 217 | 1,627 | 2,086 | 78 | 93 | 56 | 5,184 |
| Interior | | | | | | | | | |
| Wheat | 7 | 26 | 29 | 505 | 539 | 94 | 110 | 96 | 1,388 |
| Corn | 151 | 209 | 72 | 2,765 | 2,456 | 113 | 115 | 154 | 6,201 |
| Soybeans | 49 | 31 | 159 | 1,585 | 1,525 | 104 | 76 | 85 | 3,518 |
| Total | 207 | 266 | 78 | 4,855 | 4,520 | 107 | 104 | 126 | 11,106 |
| Great Lakes | | | | | | | | | |
| Wheat | 32 | 15 | 220 | 161 | 198 | 82 | 90 | 62 | 997 |
| Corn | 22 | 22 | 100 | 64 | 110 | 58 | 178 | 296 | 485 |
| Soybeans | 0 | 0 | n/a | 23 | 66 | 35 | 38 | 107 | 733 |
| Total | 54 | 36 | 148 | 249 | 374 | 66 | 85 | 86 | 2,216 |
| Atlantic | | | | | | | | | |
| Wheat | 0 | 0 | n/a | 182 | 249 | 73 | 594 | 62 | 520 |
| Corn | 0 | 0 | n/a | 14 | 61 | 22 | 0 | 0 | 277 |
| Soybeans | 10 | 6 | 174 | 856 | 913 | 94 | 59 | 92 | 2,053 |
| Total | 10 | 6 | 171 | 1,051 | 1,224 | 86 | 93 | 49 | 2,850 |
| U.S. total from ports** | | | | | | | | | |
| Wheat | 521 | 318 | 164 | 8,335 | 9,155 | 91 | 109 | 85 | 22,118 |
| Corn | 772 | 1,127 | 69 | 18,522 | 19,304 | 96 | 100 | 130 | 41,492 |
| Soybeans | 192 | 93 | 207 | 16,272 | 16,729 | 97 | 64 | 93 | 48,570 |
| Total | 1,485 | 1,538 | 97 | 43,129 | 45,188 | 95 | 97 | 110 | 112,180 |

* Data includes revisions from prior weeks; some regional totals may not add exactly due to rounding.

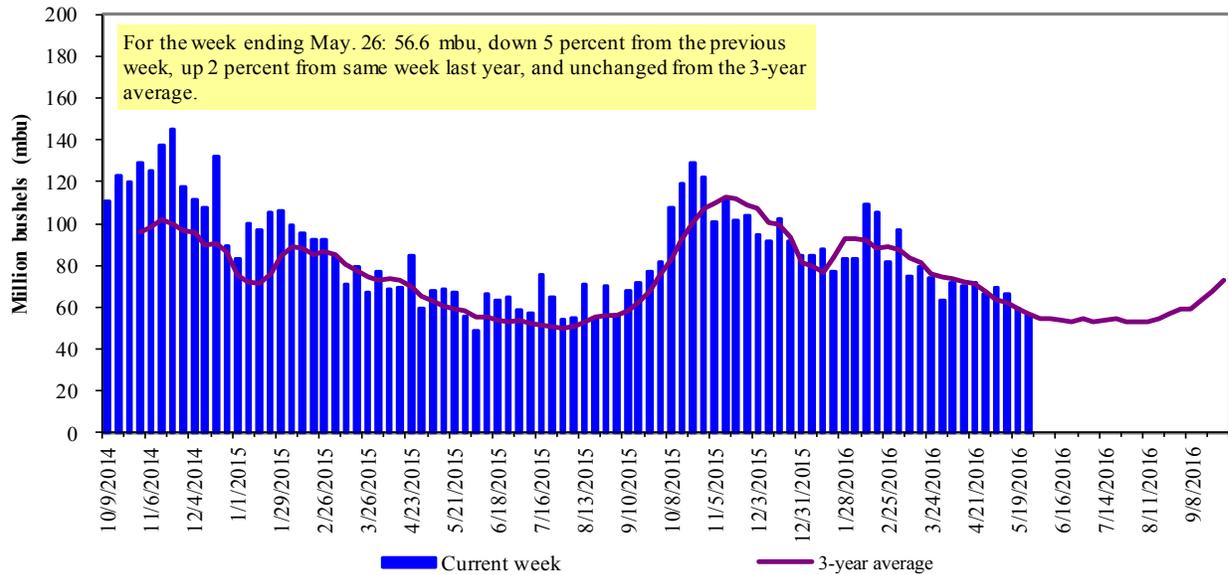
**Total only includes regions shown above

Source: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration/USDA (www.gipsa.usda.gov); YTD= year-to-date; n/a = not applicable

The United States exports approximately one-quarter of the grain it produces. On average, this includes nearly 45 percent of U.S.-grown wheat, 35 percent of U.S.-grown soybeans, and 20 percent of the U.S.-grown corn. Approximately 59 percent of the U.S. export grain shipments departed through the U.S. Gulf region in 2015.

Figure 14

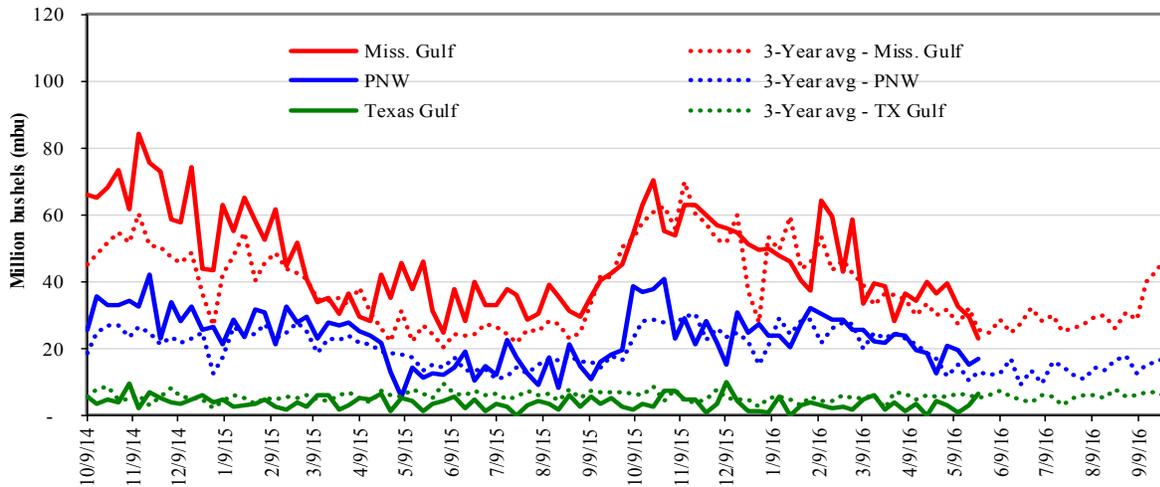
U.S. grain inspected for export (wheat, corn, and soybeans)



Source: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration/USDA (www.gipsa.usda.gov)
 Note: 3-year average consists of 4-week running average

Figure 15

U.S. Grain Inspections: U.S. Gulf and PNW¹ (wheat, corn, and soybeans)



| Week ending 05/26/16 inspections (mbu): | | Percent change from: | | | | |
|---|------|-----------------------------|---------|---------|-----------|-------|
| Mississippi Gulf: | 22.8 | Last Week: | MS Gulf | TX Gulf | U.S. Gulf | PNW |
| PNW: | 17.0 | Last Year (same week): | down 23 | up 112 | down 11 | up 14 |
| Texas Gulf: | 6.4 | 3-yr avg. (4-wk. mov. Avg): | down 27 | up 88 | down 15 | up 36 |
| | | | down 22 | up 10 | down 16 | up 35 |

Source: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration/USDA (www.gipsa.usda.gov)

Ocean Transportation

Table 17

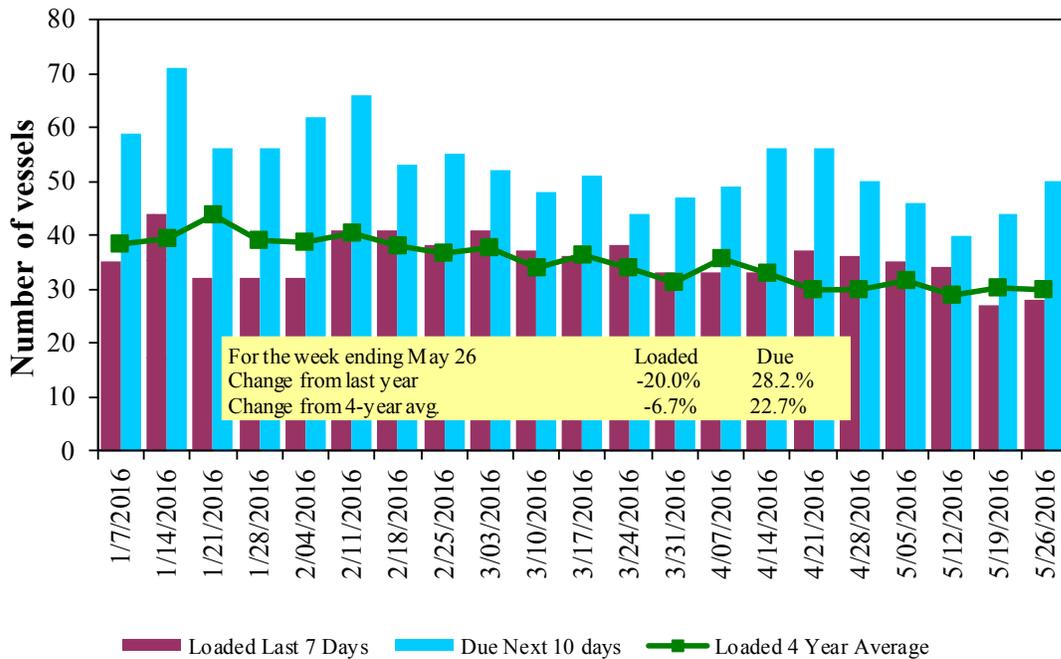
Weekly Port Region Grain Ocean Vessel Activity (number of vessels)

| Date | Gulf | | | Pacific Northwest | Vancouver B.C. |
|------------|----------|---------------|------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| | In port | Loaded 7-days | Due next 10-days | In port | In port |
| 5/26/2016 | 34 | 28 | 50 | 8 | n/a |
| 5/19/2016 | 24 | 27 | 44 | 7 | n/a |
| 2015 range | (25..54) | (28..54) | (36..80) | (3..26) | n/a |
| 2015 avg. | 42 | 38 | 56 | 11 | n/a |

Source: Transportation & Marketing Programs/AMS/USDA

Figure 16

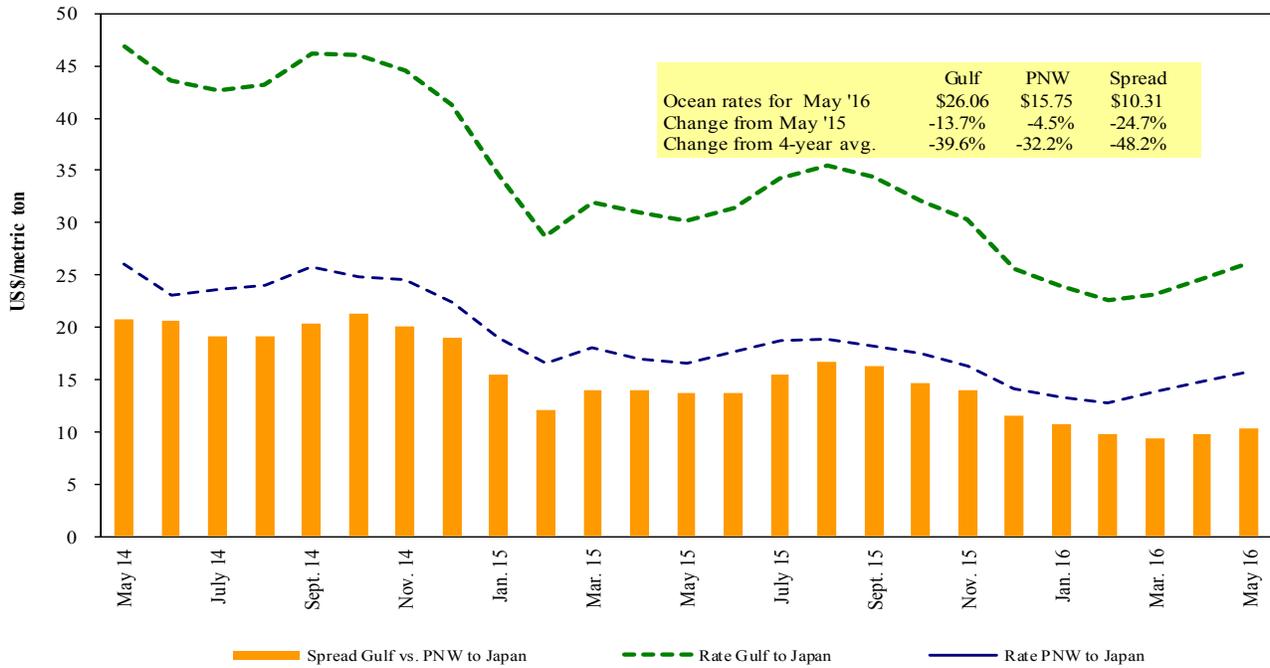
U.S. Gulf¹ Vessel Loading Activity



Source: Transportation & Marketing Programs/AMS/USDA
¹U.S. Gulf includes Mississippi, Texas, and East Gulf.

Figure 17

Grain Vessel Rates, U.S. to Japan



Data Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting

Table 18

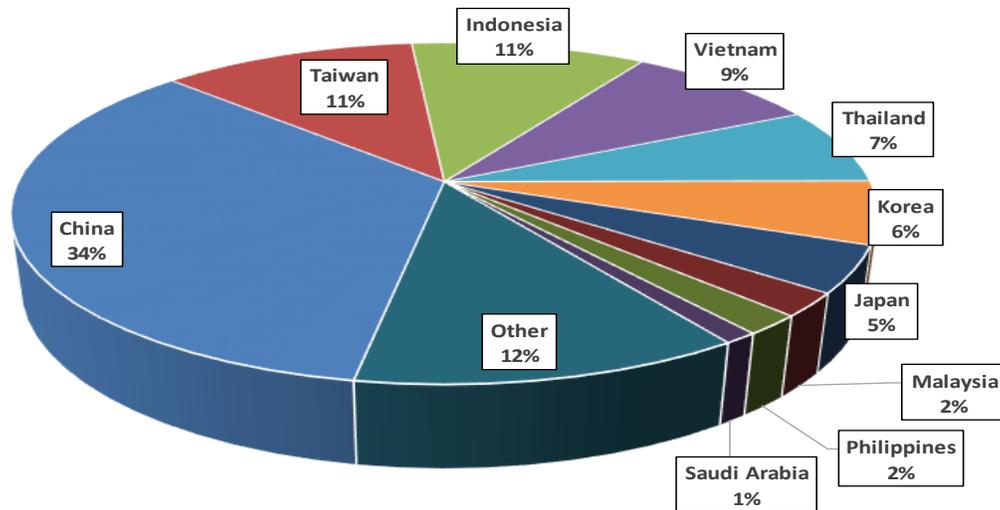
Ocean Freight Rates For Selected Shipments, Week Ending 05/28/2016

| Export region | Import region | Grain types | Loading date | Volume loads (metric tons) | Freight rate (US\$/metric ton) |
|-------------------|---------------|----------------------|--------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| U.S. Gulf | China | Heavy Grain | Jun 7/17 | 66,000 | 17.50 |
| U.S. Gulf | China | Heavy Grain | May 20/30 | 60,000 | 18.25 |
| U.S. Gulf | Japan | Heavy Grain | Apr 5/18 | 52,000 | 21.25 |
| U.S. Gulf | Djibouti | Sorghum ¹ | Apr 18/28 | 15,000 | 64.63 |
| PNW | Japan | Heavy Grain | Jun 20/Jul 1 | 60,000 | 15.00 |
| PNW | Japan | Heavy Grain | May 17/26 | 59,800 | 15.45 |
| Brazil | China | Heavy Grain | Jun 28/Jul 4 | 60,000 | 18.00 |
| Brazil | China | Heavy Grain | May 20/30 | 60,000 | 18.25 |
| Brazil | China | Heavy Grain | May 1/20 | 60,000 | 15.50 |
| Brazil | China | Heavy Grain | May 1/16 | 66,000 | 15.25 |
| Brazil | China | Heavy Grain | May 1/15 | 66,000 | 15.50 |
| Brazil | China | Heavy Grain | May 1/10 | 60,000 | 16.65 |
| Brazil | China | Heavy Grain | April 20/30 | 60,000 | 17.50 |
| Dominica Republic | Belgium | Heavy Grain | May 11/15 | 62,000 | 8.50 |
| EC S America | China | Heavy Grain | May/June | 60,000 | 14.75 |
| France | Algeria | Wheat | May 1/5 | 30,000 | 15.75 |
| Germany | Saudi Arabia | Heavy Grain | May 15/20 | 60,000 | 20.00 |
| River Plate | China | Heavy Grain | Jun 23/30 | 60,000 | 22.60 |
| Ukraine | Spain | Heavy Grain | May 22/26 | 60,000 | 10.50 |

Rates shown are for metric ton (2,204.62 lbs. = 1 metric ton), F.O.B., except where otherwise indicates; op = option

In 2014, containers were used to transport 7 percent of total U.S. waterborne grain exports. Approximately 63 percent of U.S. waterborne grain exports in 2014 went to Asia, of which 11 percent were moved in containers. Approximately 95 percent of U.S. waterborne containerized grain exports were destined for Asia.

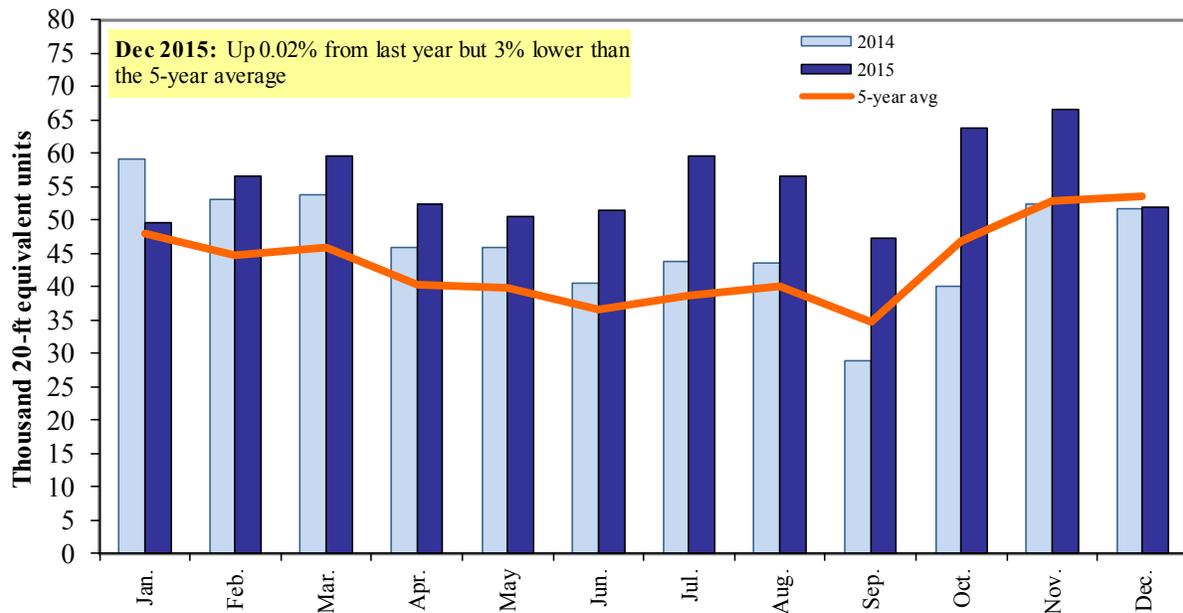
Figure 18
Top 10 Destination Markets for U.S. Containerized Grain Exports, January–December 2015



Source: USDA/Agricultural Marketing Service/Transportation Services Division analysis of Port Import Export Reporting Service (PIERS) data

Note: The following Harmonized Tariff Codes are used to calculate containerized grains movements: 100190, 100200, 100300, 100400, 100590, 100700, 110100, 230310, 110220, 110290, 120100, 230210, 230990, 230330, and 120810.

Figure 19
Monthly Shipments of Containerized Grain to Asia



Source: USDA/Agricultural Marketing Service/Transportation Services Division analysis of Port Import Export Reporting Service (PIERS) data.

Note: The following Harmonized Tariff Codes are used to calculate containerized grains movements: 100190, 100200, 100300, 100400, 100590, 100700, 110100, 230310, 110220, 110290, 120100, 230210, 230990, 230330, and 120810.

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