A weekly publication of the
Transportation and Marketing Programs/Transportation Services Division
www.ams.usda.gov/GTR

Agricultural Marketing Service

Contact Us

July 7, 2011

Contents

Article/ Calendar

Grain Transportation Indicators

Rail

Barge

Truck

Exports

Ocean

Brazil

Mexico

Quarterly Updates

Specialists

Subscription Information

The next release is July 14, 2011

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Total Inspections Rebound, Pace Needs to Remain Strong Through Summer to Reach USDA Projections

For the week ending June 30, **total inspections of grain** (corn, wheat, and soybeans) for export from all major U.S. export regions reached 1.57 million metric tons (mmt), up 13 percent from the previous week and 6 percent above the previous 4-week average. Corn inspections (0.790 mmt) increased by 21 percent from the previous week, but soybean inspections (0.076 mmt) dropped 60 percent from the previous week. Based on the **unshipped export balances** for the week ending June 23, the weekly inspections need to increase to an average 0.965 mmt for corn and 0.391 mmt for soybeans through August 31 (the end of the marketing year) in order to meet the June USDA projected marketing year total exports of **48.3 mmt of corn** and **42.2 mmt of soybeans**.

Barge Movements Improve

During the week ending July 2, **barge grain movements** totaled 693,787 tons, 37 percent higher than the previous week but 12 percent lower than the same period last year. Further increases in barge movements can be expected because navigation conditions on the lower Mississippi River have improved over the last several weeks. However, continuous high Missouri River flows into the Mississippi may cause navigation restrictions near St. Louis to continue in the immediate future.

Flood Conditions Remain Throughout the Missouri River Basin

High water continues to cause rail delays in the movement of grain due to miles of track closures in Montana, North Dakota, Kansas, and Missouri. The Souris River in Minot, ND, has crested and is slowly receding. One of the BNSF main line tracks in Minot, ND, is now back in service, but the second line is still out of service. Floods along the Missouri River have left miles of track under water between Omaha, NE, and Kansas City, MO, and between Kansas City and Jefferson City, MO. Lengthy detours due to road and bridge closures continue, including parts of Interstate 29 and the many roads leading to it in Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska. Many highways in North Dakota remain closed, including northwest crossings with Canada, as well as roads around Minot, Towner, and other parts of the State.

Bulk Ocean Freight Rates Remain Relatively Stable Despite Increase in Vessel Scrapping

Ocean freight rates for shipping bulk commodities, including grain, have been relatively stable and low despite an increase in bulk vessel scrapping and retirement. According to a Bloomberg report, 48 capesize bulk vessels used to haul coal and iron have been scrapped so far this year, compared to 18 such vessel during the previous year. However, the effect of increased scrapping on ocean freight rates has been mitigated as 117 new capesize vessels have been launched this year. Currently, the ocean rate for shipping bulk grain from the U.S. Gulf to Japan at $52 per mt is the lowest in the past six weeks. The rate from the Pacific Northwest to Japan at $28 per mt is the lowest in the past 10 weeks.

Snapshots by Sector

Rail

U.S. railroads originated 20,676 **carloads of grain** during the week ending June 25, down 3 percent from last week, up 14 percent from last year, and 10 percent higher than the 3-year average.

During the week ending June 30, average July **non-shuttle secondary railcar bids/offers** were $6.50 below tariff, down $13 from last week. Average shuttle rates were $354 below tariff, up $2.50 from last week.

Barge

During the week ending July 2, 446 grain barges **moved down river**, up 37.7 percent from last week, and 415 grain barges were **unloaded in New Orleans**, down 0.2 percent from the previous week.

Ocean

During the week ending June 30, 38 **ocean-going grain vessels** were loaded in the Gulf, up 19 percent from last year. Forty-four vessels are expected to be loaded within the next 10 days, 21 percent less than the same period last year.

During the week ending July 1, the average ocean freight rate for shipping bulk grain from the Gulf to Japan was $52 per mt, unchanged from the previous week. The cost of shipping from the Pacific Northwest to Japan was $28.00 per mt, 3 percent less than the previous week.

Fuel

During the week ending July 2, U.S. average **diesel fuel prices** decreased 4 cents to $3.85 per gallon—1 percent lower than the previous week but 31.7 percent higher than the same week last year.

Calendar of Events

Jul. 13-17, '11	Florida Feed Association Convention	Longboat Key, FL	813-633-6944
Jul. 25-27, '11	U.S. Grain Council Annual Board Meeting	San Francisco, CA	202-789-0879
Aug. 22-24, '11	Midwest Specialty Grains Conference & Trade Show and 2011 Grain Export Shipping Conference	Seattle, Washington	www.grainconference.org
Aug. 22-25, '11	American Coalition for Ethanol Annual Conference	Des Moines, IA	605-334-3381
Aug. 24-26, '11	International Conference on Agricultural, Food and Animal Sciences (ICAFAS 2011)	Paris, France	www.aset.org/conferences
Sept. 13-15, '11	AFIA Liquid Feed Symposium	Kansas City, MO	www.afia.org
Sept. 20-21, '11	Canada Maritime Conference	Montreal, Canada	www.joc.com
Oct. 03-04, '11	Biofuels International Canada Expo and Conference	Calgary, Canada	www.biofuelsinternationalexpo.com
Oct. 11-12, '11	California Seed Association Mid Year Training	Monterey, CA	www.calseed.org
Oct. 11-12, '11	5th Annual Trans Pacific Conference	Shenzhen, China	www.joc.com
Oct. 16-20, '11	International Symposium on Sunflower Genetic Resources	Kusadasi, Turkey	www.ttae.gov.tr
Oct. 25-27, '11	Breakbulk Americas Transportation Conference	New Orleans, LA	www.joc.com
Nov. 15-17, '11	Latin and Caribbean Executive Management Conference	New Orleans, LA	www.aapa-ports.org.com
Nov. 16-17, '11	Kansas Agribusiness Exposition	Overland Park, KS	785-234-0464
Dec. 11-13, '11	NGFA Elevator Conference	Savannah, GA	www.aapa-ports.org.com
Dec. 11-13, '11	NGFA Country Elevator Conference and Trade Show	Chicago, IL	www.afia.org
Feb. 21-23, '12	2012 Annual Meeting of Prairie Grain Development Committee	Banf, Alberta, Canada	www.pgdc.ca
Feb. 28 - Mar. 1, '12	2012 International Marketing Conference	Panama City, Panama	703-706-4705
Mar. 18-20, '12	NGFA 116th Annual Convention	Charleston, SC	www.ngfa.org

Grain Transportation Indicators

Table 1
Grain Transport Cost Indicators[1]

Week ending	Truck	Rail[2]	Barge	Ocean Gulf	Ocean Pacific
07/06/11	258	89	256	233	199
06/29/11	261	102	247	233	206

[1]Indicator: Base year 2000 = 100; Weekly updates include truck = diesel ($/gallon); rail = nearby secondary rail market ($/car); barge = Illinois River barge rate (index = percent of tariff rate); and ocean = routes to Japan ($/metric ton)

[2]The rail indicator is not an index. It is the difference between the nearby secondary rail market bid for this week and the average bid for year 2000 (+) 100.
Source: Transportation & Marketing Programs/AMS/USDA

Table 2
Market Update: U.S. Origins to Export Position Price Spreads ($/bushel)

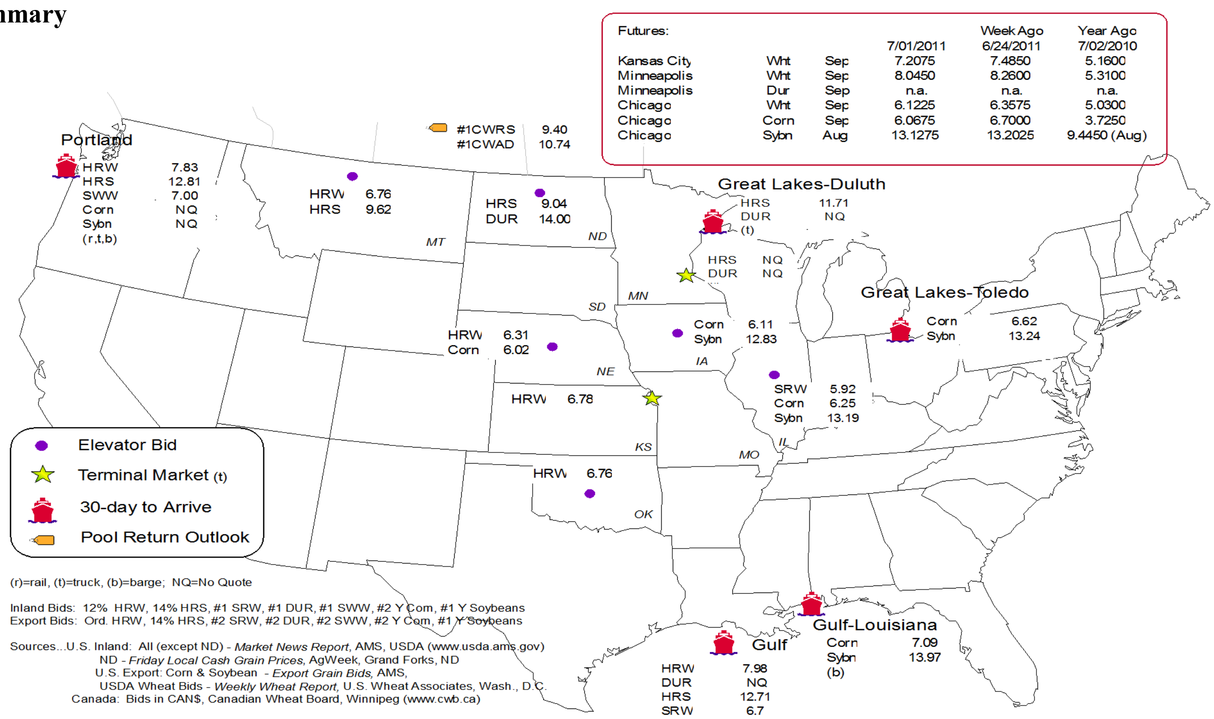
Commodity	Origin--Destination	7/1/2011	6/24/2011
Corn	IL--Gulf	-0.84	-0.64
Corn	NE--Gulf	-1.07	-0.84
Soybean	IA--Gulf	-1.14	-1.10
HRW	KS--Gulf	-1.20	-1.20
HRS	ND--Portland	-3.77	-4.03

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]

Week ending	Mississippi Gulf	Texas Gulf	Cross-Border Mexico	Pacific Northwest	Atlantic & East Gulf	Total
6/29/2011[p]	218	629	664	3,211	198	4,920
6/22/2011[r]	231	1,341	1,016	3,771	401	6,760
2011 YTD	21,030	54,553	23,283	100,490	15,195	214,551
2010YTD	8,330	34,081	24,110	85,302	17,397	169,220
2011 YTD as % of 2010 YTD	252	160	97	118	87	127
Last 4 weeks as % of 2010[2]	122	119	83	123	206	117
Last 4 weeks as % of 4-year avg.[2]	66	86	109	100	98	96
Total 2010	33,971	83,492	42,794	177,896	32,780	370,933
Total 2009	33,423	57,646	36,738	175,965	30,328	334,100

[1] Data is incomplete as it is voluntarily provided

[2] Compared with same 4-weeks in 2010 and prior 4-year average.

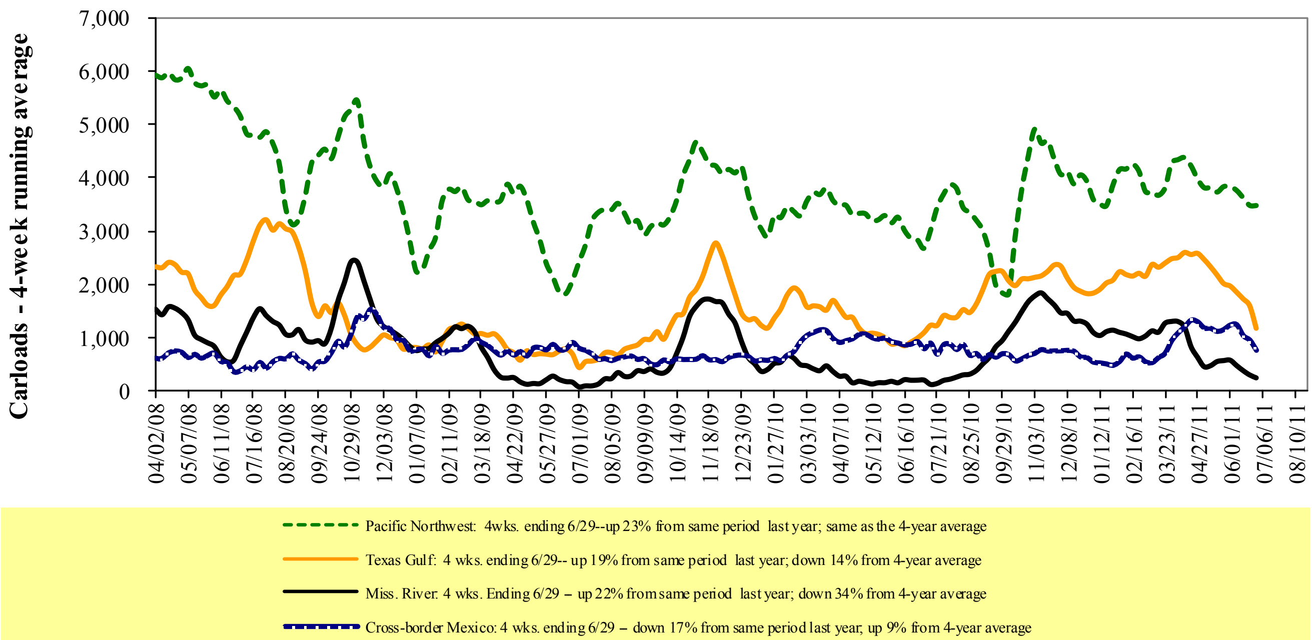
YTD = year-to-date; p = preliminary data; r = revised data; n/a = not available

Source: Transportation & Marketing Programs/AMS/USDA

Railroads originate approximately 35 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)

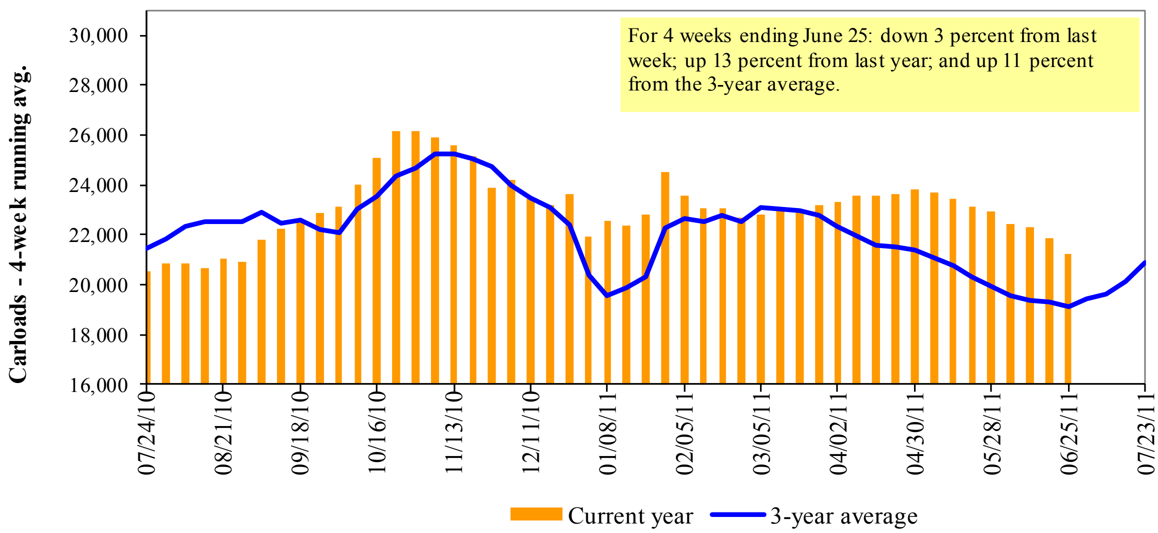
Week ending	East		West			U.S. total	Canada	
	CSXT	NS	BNSF	KCS	UP		CN	CP
06/25/11	1,502	3,417	8,949	603	6,205	20,676	3,667	4,522
This week last year	2,127	2,878	7,824	675	4,607	18,111	2,999	3,791
2011 YTD	50,489	77,013	278,993	16,757	153,447	576,699	99,160	121,880
2010 YTD	55,857	76,174	250,644	18,844	131,056	532,575	98,430	131,990
2011 YTD as % of 2010 YTD	90	101	111	89	117	108	101	92
Last 4 weeks as % of 2010[1]	81	112	114	116	124	113	107	115
Last 4 weeks as % of 3-yr avg.[1]	78	111	115	121	119	111	95	105
Total 2010	111,935	159,836	546,901	35,807	295,361	1,149,840	203,038	265,835

[1]As a percent of the same period in 2009 and 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

Rail Car Auction Offerings[1] ($/car)[2]

Week ending 6/30/2011	Delivery period: Jul-11	Jul-10	Aug-11	Aug-10	Sep-11	Sep-10	Oct-11	Oct-10
BNSF[3]								
COT grain units	no offer	1	11	1	no offer	no offer	no offer	no offer
COT grain single-car[5]	0 . . 50	7 . . 115	0 . . 100	45 . . 115	no offer	201	62 . . 150	37 . . 201
UP[4]								
GCAS/Region 1	no bids	no bids	no bids	no bids	no bids	no bids	n/a	n/a
GCAS/Region 2	no bids	no bids	no bids	no bids	no bids	1	n/a	n/a

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

[2]Average premium/discount to tariff, last auction

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

[4]UP - 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.

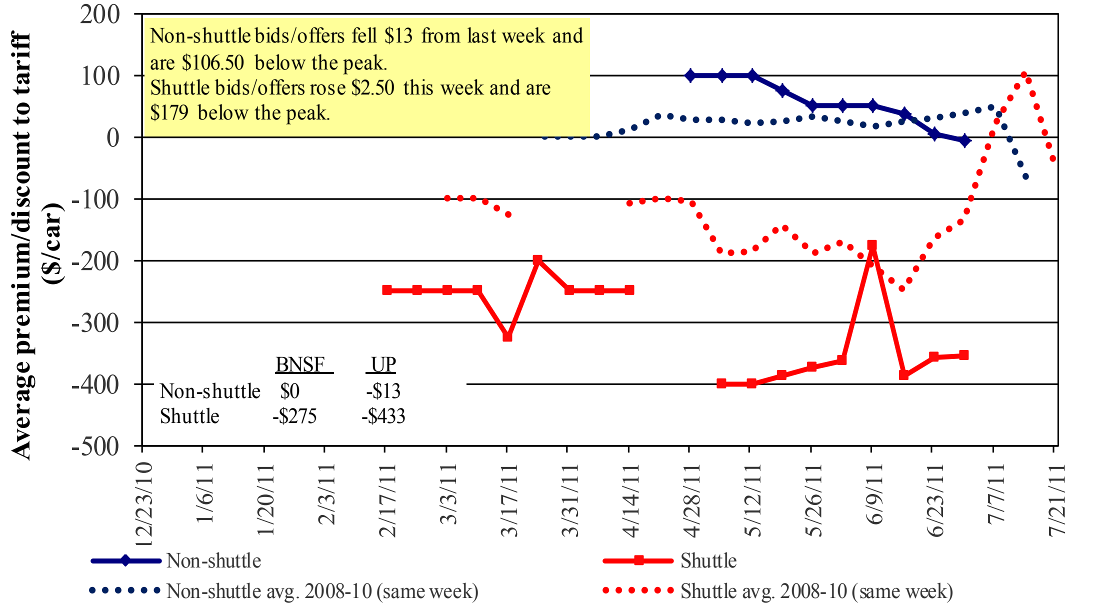
[5]Range is shown because average is not available. Not available = n/a.

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 July 2011, Secondary Market

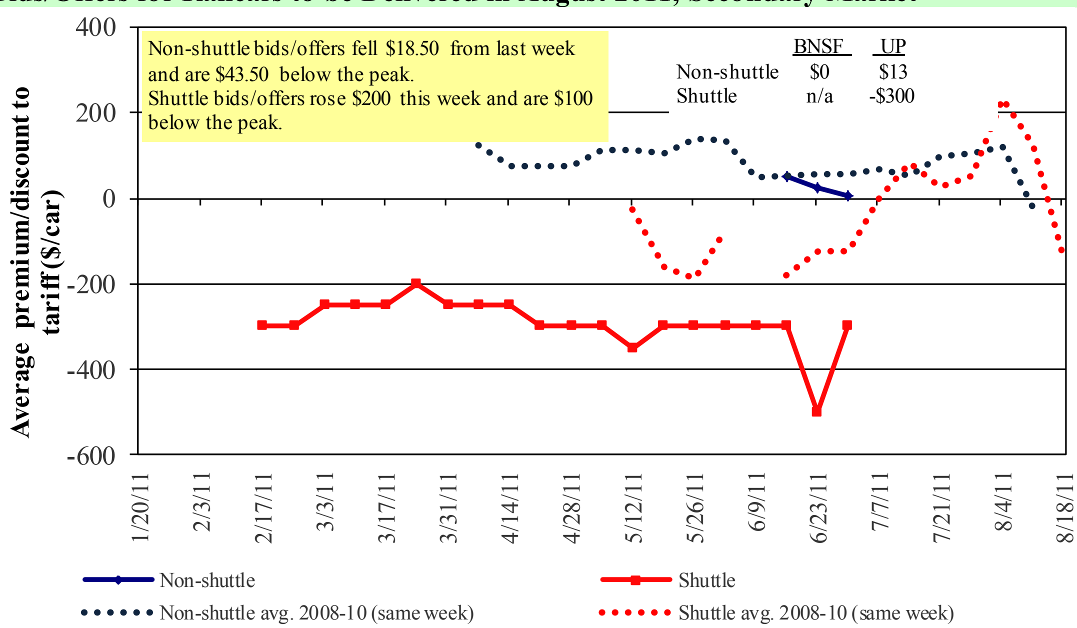


Non-shuttle bids include unit-train and single-car bids. n/a = not available.

Source: Transportation & Marketing Programs/AMS/USDA

Figure 5

Bids/Offers for Railcars to be Delivered in August 2011, Secondary Market

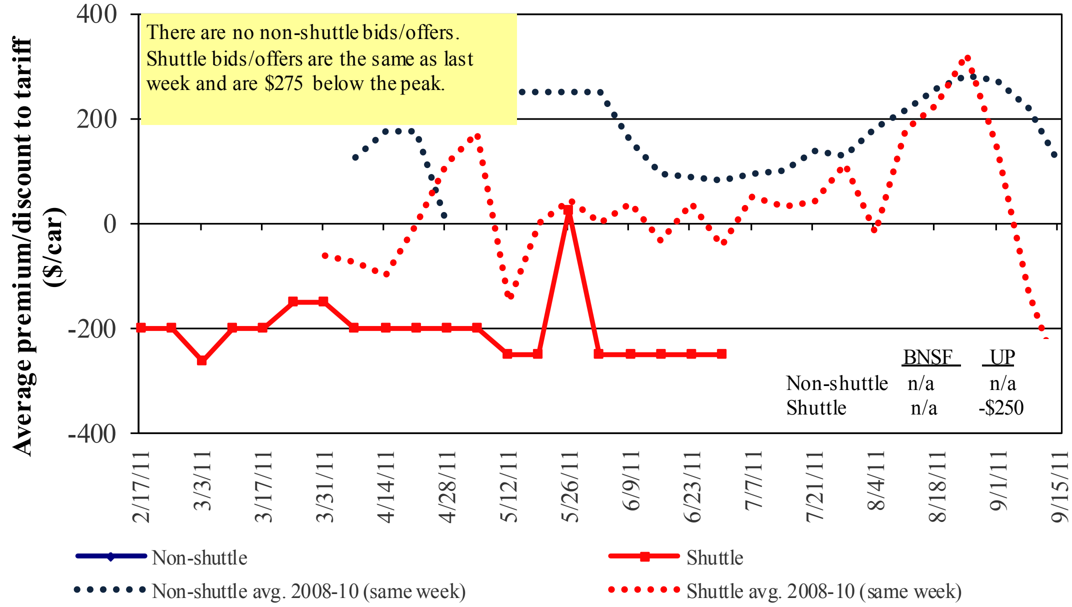


Non-shuttle bids include unit-train and single-car bids. n/a = not available.

Source: Transportation & Marketing Programs/AMS/USDA

Figure 6

Bids/Offers for Railcars to be Delivered in September 2011, Secondary Market



Non-shuttle bids include unit-train and single-car bids. n/a = not available.

Source: Transportation & Marketing Programs/AMS/USDA

Table 6

Weekly Secondary Rail Car Market ($/car)[1]

Week ending	Delivery period					
6/30/2011	Jul-11	Aug-11	Sep-11	Oct-11	Nov-11	Dec-11
Non-shuttle						
BNSF-GF	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Change from last week	-	-	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Change from same week 2010	(3)	(10)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
UP-Pool	(13)	13	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Change from last week	(26)	(37)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Change from same week 2010	(13)	8	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Shuttle[2]						
BNSF-GF	(275)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Change from last week	(12)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Change from same week 2010	(75)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
UP-Pool	(433)	(300)	(250)	425	n/a	n/a
Change from last week	17	200	-	(75)	n/a	n/a
Change from same week 2010	(220)	n/a	(225)	n/a	n/a	n/a

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

[2]Shuttle bids are a new data series; prior to this we provided only non-shuttle rates.

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 Atwood/ConAgra, Harvest States Co-op, James B. Joiner Co., Tradewest Brokerage Co.

Table 7

Tariff Rail Rates for Unit and Shuttle Train Shipments[1]

Effective date: 7/5/2011	Origin region*	Destination region*	Tariff rate/car	Fuel surcharge per car	Tariff plus surcharge per: metric ton	bushel[2]	Percent change Y/Y[3]
Unit train							
Wheat	Wichita, KS	St. Louis, MO	$2,992	$197	$31.67	$0.86	11
	Grand Forks, ND	Duluth-Superior, MN	$2,822	$116	$29.18	$0.79	16
	Wichita, KS	Los Angeles, CA	$5,710	$597	$62.63	$1.70	10
	Wichita, KS	New Orleans, LA	$3,492	$347	$38.12	$1.04	11
	Sioux Falls, SD	Galveston-Houston, TX	$5,410	$490	$58.59	$1.59	6
	Northwest KS	Galveston-Houston, TX	$3,760	$380	$41.11	$1.12	11
	Amarillo, TX	Los Angeles, CA	$3,959	$529	$44.57	$1.21	12
Corn	Champaign-Urbana, IL	New Orleans, LA	$2,812	$392	$31.82	$0.87	7
	Toledo, OH	Raleigh, NC	$3,760	$450	$41.81	$1.14	14
	Des Moines, IA	Davenport, IA	$1,843	$83	$19.13	$0.52	-1
	Indianapolis, IN	Atlanta, GA	$3,196	$338	$35.09	$0.96	12
	Indianapolis, IN	Knoxville, TN	$2,760	$217	$29.56	$0.80	12
	Des Moines, IA	Little Rock, AR	$2,938	$244	$31.60	$0.86	7
	Des Moines, IA	Los Angeles, CA	$4,835	$711	$55.07	$1.50	20
Soybeans	Minneapolis, MN	New Orleans, LA	$3,109	$439	$35.24	$0.96	17
	Toledo, OH	Huntsville, AL	$2,921	$320	$32.18	$0.88	11
	Indianapolis, IN	Raleigh, NC	$3,830	$453	$42.54	$1.16	13
	Indianapolis, IN	Huntsville, AL	$2,613	$217	$28.10	$0.76	11
	Champaign-Urbana, IL	New Orleans, LA	$3,156	$392	$35.24	$0.96	10
Shuttle Train							
Wheat	Great Falls, MT	Portland, OR	$3,239	$343	$35.57	$0.97	13
	Wichita, KS	Galveston-Houston, TX	$3,144	$267	$33.87	$0.92	7
	Chicago, IL	Albany, NY	$3,497	$422	$38.92	$1.06	-3
	Grand Forks, ND	Portland, OR	$4,702	$593	$52.58	$1.43	12
	Grand Forks, ND	Galveston-Houston, TX	$5,648	$617	$62.22	$1.69	10
	Northwest KS	Portland, OR	$4,727	$624	$53.13	$1.45	11
Corn	Minneapolis, MN	Portland, OR	$4,680	$722	$53.64	$1.46	13
	Sioux Falls, SD	Tacoma, WA	$4,640	$661	$52.64	$1.43	13
	Champaign-Urbana, IL	New Orleans, LA	$2,677	$392	$30.48	$0.83	7
	Lincoln, NE	Galveston-Houston, TX	$3,190	$385	$35.50	$0.97	10
	Des Moines, IA	Amarillo, TX	$3,330	$307	$36.12	$0.98	7
	Minneapolis, MN	Tacoma, WA	$4,680	$716	$53.59	$1.46	13
	Council Bluffs, IA	Stockton, CA	$4,080	$741	$47.87	$1.30	13
Soybeans	Sioux Falls, SD	Tacoma, WA	$4,840	$661	$54.63	$1.49	10
	Minneapolis, MN	Portland, OR	$4,830	$722	$55.13	$1.50	11
	Fargo, ND	Tacoma, WA	$4,730	$588	$52.81	$1.44	9
	Council Bluffs, IA	New Orleans, LA	$3,510	$452	$39.35	$1.07	9
	Toledo, OH	Huntsville, AL	$2,536	$320	$28.36	$0.77	13
	Grand Island, NE	Portland, OR	$4,520	$638	$51.23	$1.39	11

[1]A unit train refers to shipments of at least 25 cars. Shuttle train rates are available for qualified shipments of 90-110 cars that meet railroad efficiency requirements.

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

[3]Percentage change year over year calculated using tariff rate plus fuel surchage

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

Effective date: 7/4/2011				Fuel			Percent
	Origin		Tariff	surcharge	Tariff plus surcharge per:		change
Commodity	state	Destination region	rate/car[1]	per car[2]	metric ton[3]	bushel[3]	Y/Y[4]
Wheat	MT	Chihuahua, CI	$7,491	$627	$82.95	$2.26	15
	OK	Cuautitlan, EM	$6,610	$649	$74.17	$2.02	13
	KS	Guadalajara, JA	$7,210	$884	$82.70	$2.25	11
	TX	Salinas Victoria, NL	$3,656	$263	$40.04	$1.09	12
Corn	IA	Guadalajara, JA	$7,445	$918	$85.45	$2.17	11
	SD	Penjamo, GJ	$7,245	$821	$82.41	$2.09	9
	NE	Queretaro, QA	$6,802	$832	$78.00	$1.98	14
	SD	Salinas Victoria, NL	$5,360	$624	$61.14	$1.55	13
	MO	Tlalnepantla, EM	$5,959	$811	$69.17	$1.76	15
	SD	Torreon, CU	$6,248	$687	$70.86	$1.80	13
Soybeans	MO	Bojay (Tula), HG	$6,705	$803	$76.71	$2.09	10
	NE	Guadalajara, JA	$7,519	$913	$86.16	$2.34	14
	IA	El Castillo, JA[5]	$7,770	$815	$87.72	$2.39	12
	KS	Torreon, CU	$6,042	$628	$68.15	$1.85	15
Sorghum	OK	Cuautitlan, EM	$5,350	$623	$61.03	$1.55	18
	TX	Guadalajara, JA	$6,289	$534	$69.71	$1.77	12
	NE	Penjamo, GJ	$6,905	$845	$79.18	$2.01	8
	KS	Queretaro, QA	$6,038	$573	$67.54	$1.71	13
	NE	Salinas Victoria, NL	$4,818	$546	$54.81	$1.39	13
	NE	Torreon, CU	$5,804	$673	$66.18	$1.68	11

[1]Rates are based upon published tariff rates for high-capacity shuttle trains. Shuttle trains are available for qualified shipments of 75--110 cars that meet railroad efficiency requirements.

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

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

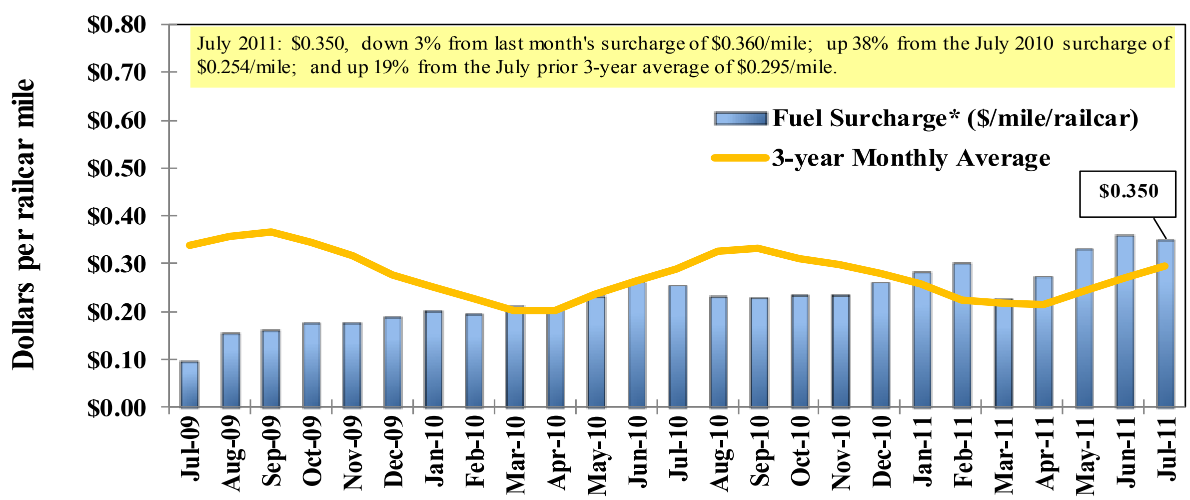
[4]Percentage change year over year calculated using tariff rate plus fuel surchage

[5] Beginning 12/6/10, El Castillo, JA replaced Penjamo, GJ as the destination

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

Figure 7

Railroad Fuel Surcharges, North American Weighted Average[1]



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

* Mileage-based fuel surcharges for March and April 2007 are estimated. Beginning January 2009, the Canadian Pacific fuel surcharge is computed by a monthly average of the bi-weekly fuel surcharge.

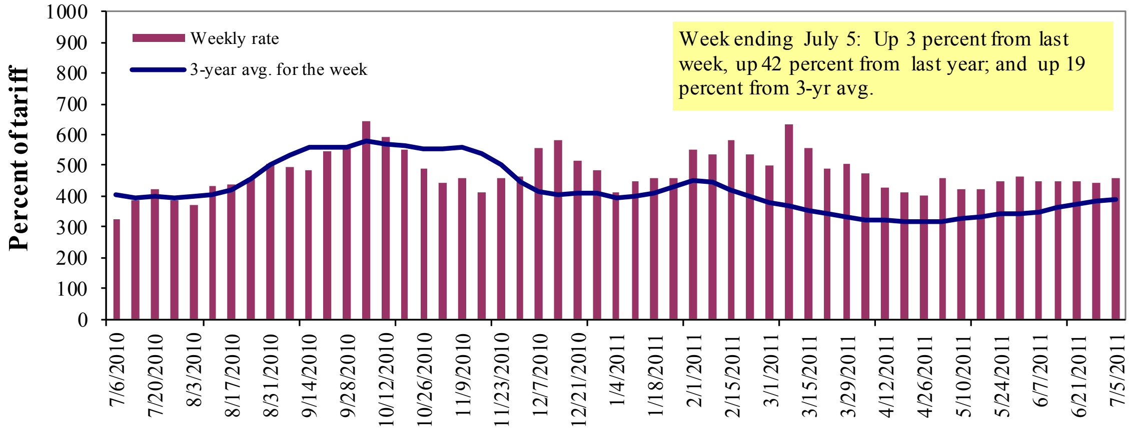
** BNSF strike price (diesel price when fuel surcharges begin) changed from $1.25/gal. to $2.50/gal starting March 1, 2011. As a result, the weighted average fuel surcharge for March 2011 was $0.227/mile instead of $0.331/mile.

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]



[1]Rate = percent of 1976 tariff benchmark index (1976 = 100 percent); [2]4-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
Rate[1]	7/5/2011	548	477	460	342	398	395	312
	6/28/2011	550	468	445	337	405	405	303
$/ton	7/5/2011	33.92	25.38	21.34	13.65	18.67	15.96	9.80
	6/28/2011	34.05	24.90	20.65	13.45	18.99	16.36	9.51
Current week % change from the same week:								
	Last year	35	44	42	53	60	59	54
	3-year avg. [2]	26	23	19	22	22	21	23
Rate[1]	August	542	490	483	400	475	475	392
	October	708	670	667	608	667	667	600

[1]Rate = percent of 1976 tariff benchmark index (1976 = 100 percent); [2]4-week moving average; ton = 2,000 pounds

Source: Transportation & Marketing Programs/AMS/USDA

Calculating barge rate per ton:
(Index * 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 (see figure 9).

Figure 9

Benchmark tariff rates

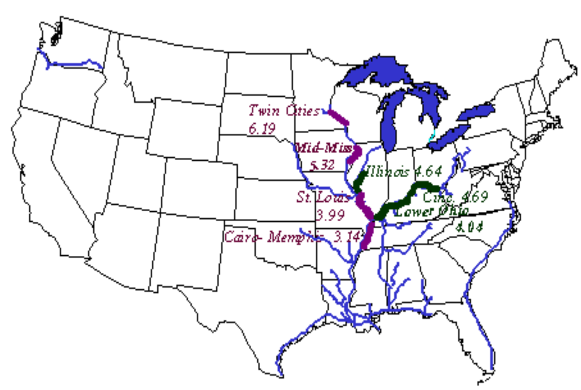
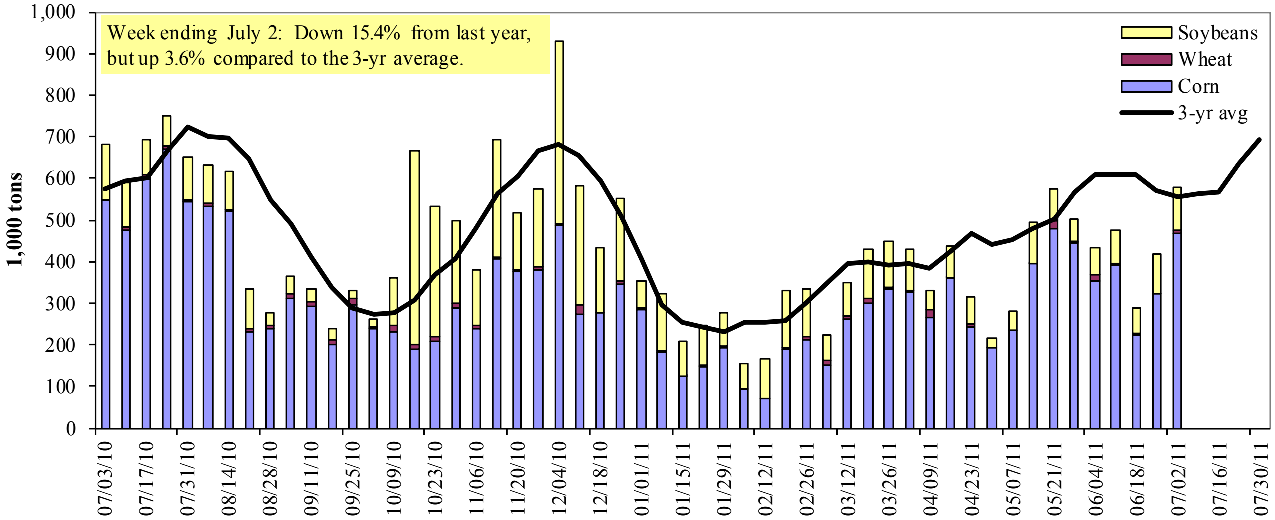


Figure 10

Barge Movements on the Mississippi River[1] (Locks 27 - Granite City, IL)



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

Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (www.mvr.usace.army.mil/mvrimi/omni/webrpts/default.asp)

Table 10

Barge Grain Movements (1,000 tons)

Week ending 7/2/2011	Corn	Wheat	Soybeans	Other	Total
Mississippi River					
Rock Island, IL (L15)	166	8	30	0	204
Winfield, MO (L25)	378	14	74	0	466
Alton, IL (L26)	465	8	100	0	573
Granite City, IL (L27)	467	8	102	0	577
Illinois River (L8)	112	0	22	0	134
Ohio River (L52)	16	54	10	0	81
Arkansas River (L1)	0	28	5	4	36
Weekly total - 2011	484	90	116	4	694
Weekly total - 2010	594	25	155	13	787
2011 YTD[1]	9,312	699	3,876	160	14,046
2010 YTD	11,888	583	4,257	247	16,975
2011 as % of 2010 YTD	78	120	91	65	83
Last 4 weeks as % of 2010[2]	64	141	80	52	70
Total 2010	22,768	1,220	10,373	481	34,841

[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.

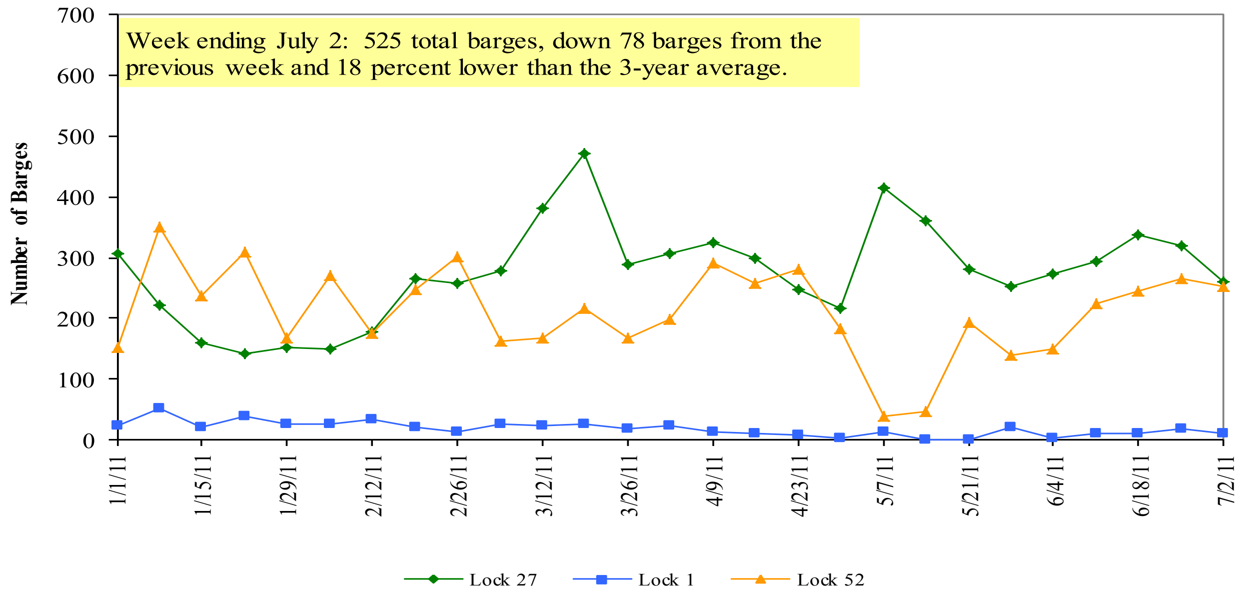
[2] As a percent of same period in 2010.

Note: Total may not add exactly, due to rounding

Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (www.mvr.usace.army.mil/mvrimi/omni/webrpts/default.asp)

Figure 11

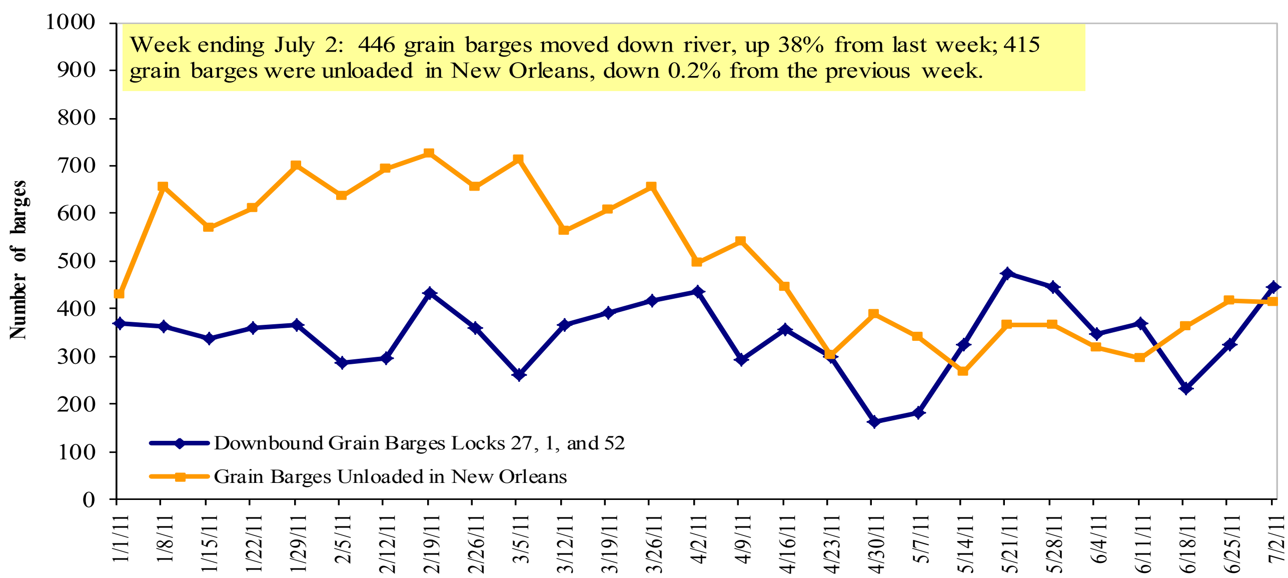
Upbound Empty Barges Transiting Mississippi River Locks 27, Arkansas River Lock and Dam 1, and Ohio River Locks and Dam 52



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 Prices[1], Week Ending 7/2/2011 (US $/gallon)

Region	Location	Price	Change from Week ago	Change from Year ago
I	East Coast	3.870	-0.044	0.926
	New England	4.009	-0.029	0.976
	Central Atlantic	3.978	-0.036	0.923
	Lower Atlantic	3.812	-0.048	0.923
II	Midwest[2]	3.818	-0.024	0.928
III	Gulf Coast[3]	3.798	-0.036	0.932
IV	Rocky Mountain	3.851	-0.034	0.923
V	West Coast	3.993	-0.076	0.916
	California	4.065	-0.081	0.933
Total	U.S.	3.850	-0.038	0.926

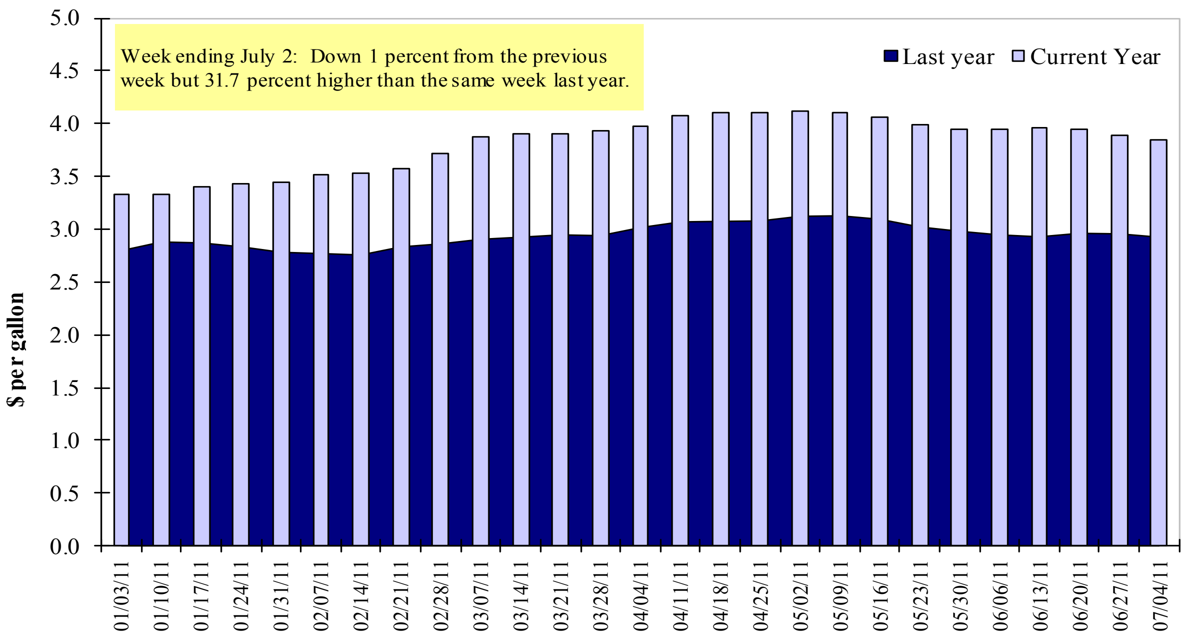
[1]Diesel fuel prices include all taxes. Prices represent an average of all types of diesel fuel.

[2]Same as North Central [3]Same 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)

	Wheat						Corn	Soybeans	Total
Week ending	HRW	SRW	HRS	SWW	DUR	All wheat			
Export Balances[1]									
6/23/2011	2,180	891	1,958	1,231	103	6,363	8,686	3,517	18,566
This week year ago	2,104	549	961	1,039	250	4,902	10,389	2,266	17,557
Cumulative exports-marketing year[2]									
2010/11 YTD	921	187	440	339	51	1,937	36,515	37,973	76,425
2009/10 YTD	528	167	365	274	36	1,369	38,318	37,021	76,708
YTD 2010/11 as % of 2009/10	174	112	121	124	142	141	95	103	100
Last 4 wks as % of same period 2009/10	94	132	182	109	60	97	89	156	100
2009/10 Total	8,458	2,733	5,329	3,897	983	21,400	47,700	39,285	108,385
2008/09 Total	11,244	5,100	5,408	3,420	454	25,626	44,650	33,705	103,981

[1] Current unshipped export sales to date

[2] Shipped export sales to date; the new marketing year now in effect for wheat

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 Importers[1] of U.S. Corn

Week ending 06/23/11	Total Commitments[2]			% change	Exports[3]
	2011/12	2010/11	2009/10	current MY	
	Next MY	Current MY	Last MY	from last MY	2009/10
		- 1,000 mt -			- 1,000 mt -
Japan	854	13,863	14,430	(4)	14,343
Mexico	1,798	6,780	7,843	(14)	7,999
Korea	1	5,617	7,685	(27)	7,562
Taiwan	0	2,507	2,959	(15)	2,949
Egypt	40	2,800	2,627	7	2,935
Top 5 importers	**2,693**	**31,566**	**35,543**	**(11)**	**35,788**
Total US corn export sales	**4,833**	**45,201**	**48,707**	**(7)**	**50,460**
% of Projected	11%	94%	97%		
Change from Last Week	243	692	650		
Top 5 importers' share of U.S. corn export sales	56%	70%	73%		
USDA forecast, June 2011	**45,720**	**48,260**	**50,460**	**(4)**	
Corn Use for Ethanol USDA forecast, Ethanol June 2011	**128,270**	**127,000**	**116,027**	**9**	

(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.

[3]FAS Marketing Year Final Reports - www.fas.usda.gov/export-sales/myfi_rpt.htm.

Table 14

Top 5 Importers[1] of U.S. Soybeans

Week Ending 06/23/2011	Total Commitments[2] 2011/12 Next MY	2010/11 Current MY	2009/10 Last MY	% change current MY from last MY	Exports[3] 2009/10
		- 1,000 mt -			- 1,000 mt -
China	6,313	25,494	22,259	15	22,454
Mexico	131	3,057	3,083	(1)	3,276
Japan	122	2,317	2,417	(4)	2,347
EU-25	60	2,599	2,698	(4)	2,647
Taiwan	0	1,370	1,563	(12)	1,556
Top 5 importers	**6,626**	**34,836**	**32,019**	**9**	**32,280**
Total US soybean export sales	**7,490**	**41,489**	**39,286**	**6**	**40,850**
% of Projected	18%	98%	96%		
Change from last week	458	(336)	264		
Top 5 importers' share of U.S. soybean export sales	88%	84%	82%		
USDA forecast, June 2011	**41,910**	**42,180**	**40,850**	**3**	
Soybean Use for Biodiesel USDA forecast, June 2011	**8,393**	**5,755**	**4,031**	**43**	

(n) indicates negative number.

[1] Based on FAS 2008/09 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.

[3] FAS Marketing Year Final Reports - www.fas.usda.gov/export-sales/myfi_rpt.htm.

Table 15

Top 10 Importers[1] of All U.S. Wheat

Week Ending 06/23/2011	Total Commitments[2] 2011/12 Current MY	2010/11 Last MY	% change current MY from last MY	Exports[3] 2010/11
	- 1,000 mt -			- 1,000 mt -
Nigeria	870	875	(1)	3,233
Japan	1,143	767	49	3,148
Mexico	765	803	(5)	2,601
Philippines	936	721	30	1,518
Korea	231	436	(47)	1,111
Peru	351	236	49	923
Taiwan	237	104	128	913
Colombia	249	204	22	783
Indonesia	200	79	153	781
Yemen	167	0		659
Top 10 importers	**5,148**	**4,225**	**22**	**15,670**
Total US wheat export sales	**8,300**	**6,272**	**32**	**33,439**
% of Projected	29%	18%		
Change from last week	545	418		
Top 10 importers' share of U.S. wheat export sales	62%	67%		
USDA forecast, June 2011	**28,580**	**35,240**	**(19)**	

(n) indicates negative number.

[1] Modified from the FAS **2010/11** Marketing Year Ranking Reports - www.fas.usda.gov; Marketing year = Jun 1 - May 31.

[2] Cumulative Exports (shipped) + Outstanding Sales (unshipped), FAS Weekly Export Sales Report.

[3] FAS 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	Week ending 06/30/11	Previous Week[1]	Current Week as % of Previous	2011 YTD[1]	2010 YTD[1]	2011 YTD as % of 2010 YTD	Last 4-weeks as % of 2010	Last 4-weeks as % of 3-yr. avg.	Total[1] 2010
Pacific Northwest									
Wheat	337	163	207	7,480	5,454	137	108	145	11,062
Corn	192	227	84	4,940	4,999	99	128	114	9,950
Soybeans	20	85	24	3,266	4,386	74	125	60	10,191
Total	**549**	**474**	**116**	**15,686**	**14,839**	**106**	**118**	**117**	**31,203**
Mississippi Gulf									
Wheat	90	79	113	2,729	1,886	145	174	145	4,199
Corn	567	402	141	13,290	14,946	89	80	81	29,794
Soybeans	53	106	50	9,716	8,841	110	103	46	22,519
Total	**709**	**587**	**121**	**25,735**	**25,672**	**100**	**89**	**79**	**56,512**
Texas Gulf									
Wheat	232	271	86	7,341	3,773	195	207	155	9,339
Corn	31	5	660	755	937	81	799	189	1,859
Soybeans	0	0	na	763	667	114	0	0	1,916
Total	**264**	**276**	**96**	**8,859**	**5,376**	**165**	**228**	**159**	**13,115**
Great Lakes									
Wheat	43	5	821	612	217	281	621	532	1,897
Corn	0	16	0	25	31	80	0	78	119
Soybeans	0	0	na	22	0	na	na	na	655
Total	**43**	**21**	198	**659**	**248**	**265**	**712**	**272**	**2,672**
Atlantic									
Wheat	5	33	14	562	193	291	63	49	343
Corn	0	0	na	166	195	85	15	19	469
Soybeans	3	0	na	431	695	62	162	154	1,417
Total	**8**	**33**	**25**	**1,159**	**1,083**	**107**	**61**	**53**	**2,229**
U.S. total from ports[2]									
Wheat	706	551	128	18,722	11,523	162	146	148	26,839
Corn	790	650	121	19,177	21,107	91	95	92	42,192
Soybeans	76	191	40	14,199	14,589	97	111	51	36,699
Total	**1,573**	**1,391**	**113**	**52,098**	**47,219**	**110**	**113**	**103**	**105,730**

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

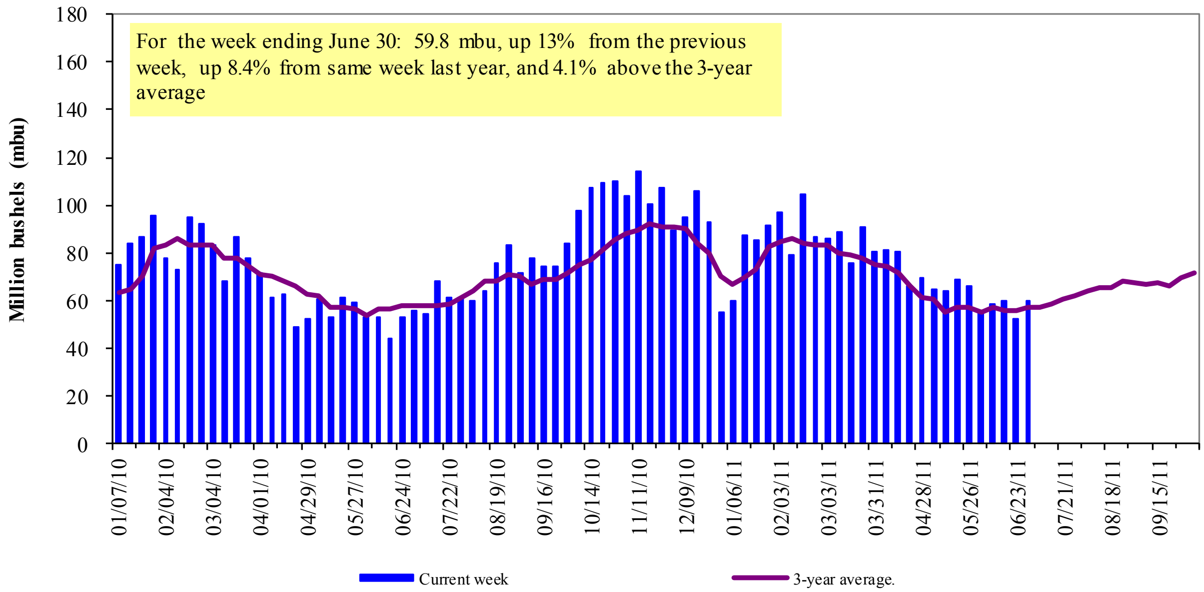
[2] Total includes only port regions shown above

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 61 percent of the U.S. export grain shipments departed through the U.S. Gulf region in 2010.

Figure 14

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

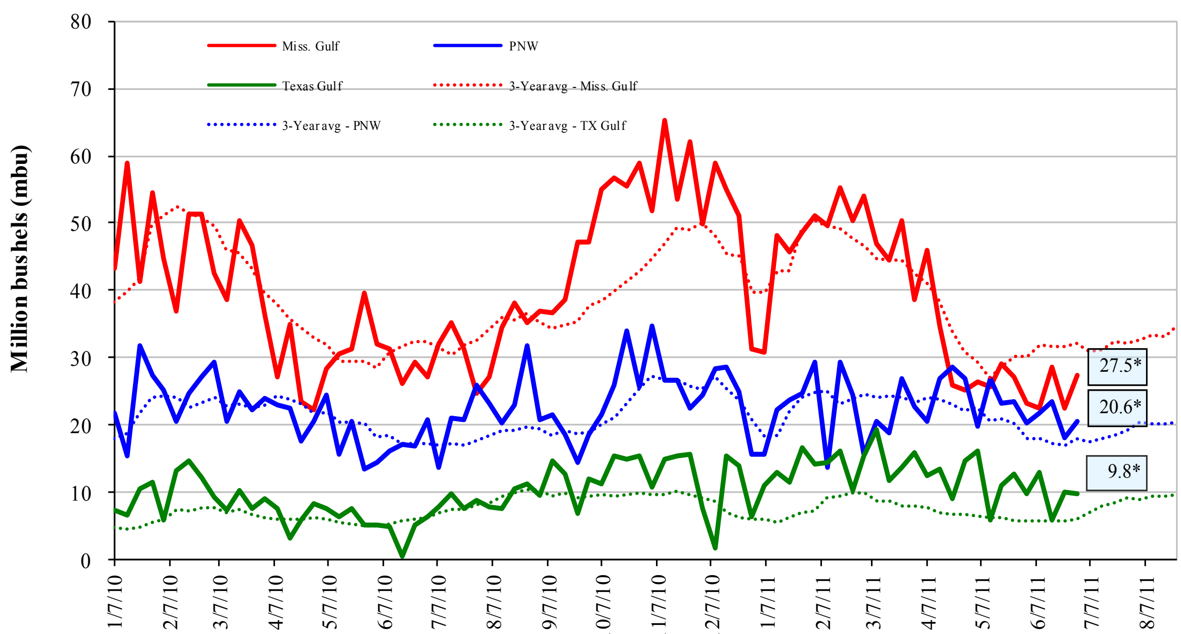


Source: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration/USDA (www.gipsa.usda.gov)

Note: 3-year average consists of 4-week running average

Figure 15

U.S. Grain Inspections: U.S. Gulf and PNW[1] (wheat, corn, and soybeans)



Source: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration/USDA (www.gipsa.usda.gov); *mbu, this week.

June 30 % change from:	MS Gulf	TX Gulf	U.S. Gulf	PNW
Last week	up 22	down 4	up 14	up 15
Last year (same week)	up 1	up 55	up 11	down 1
3-yr avg. (4-wk mov. avg.)	down 14	up 61	down 2	up 4

Ocean Transportation

Table 17

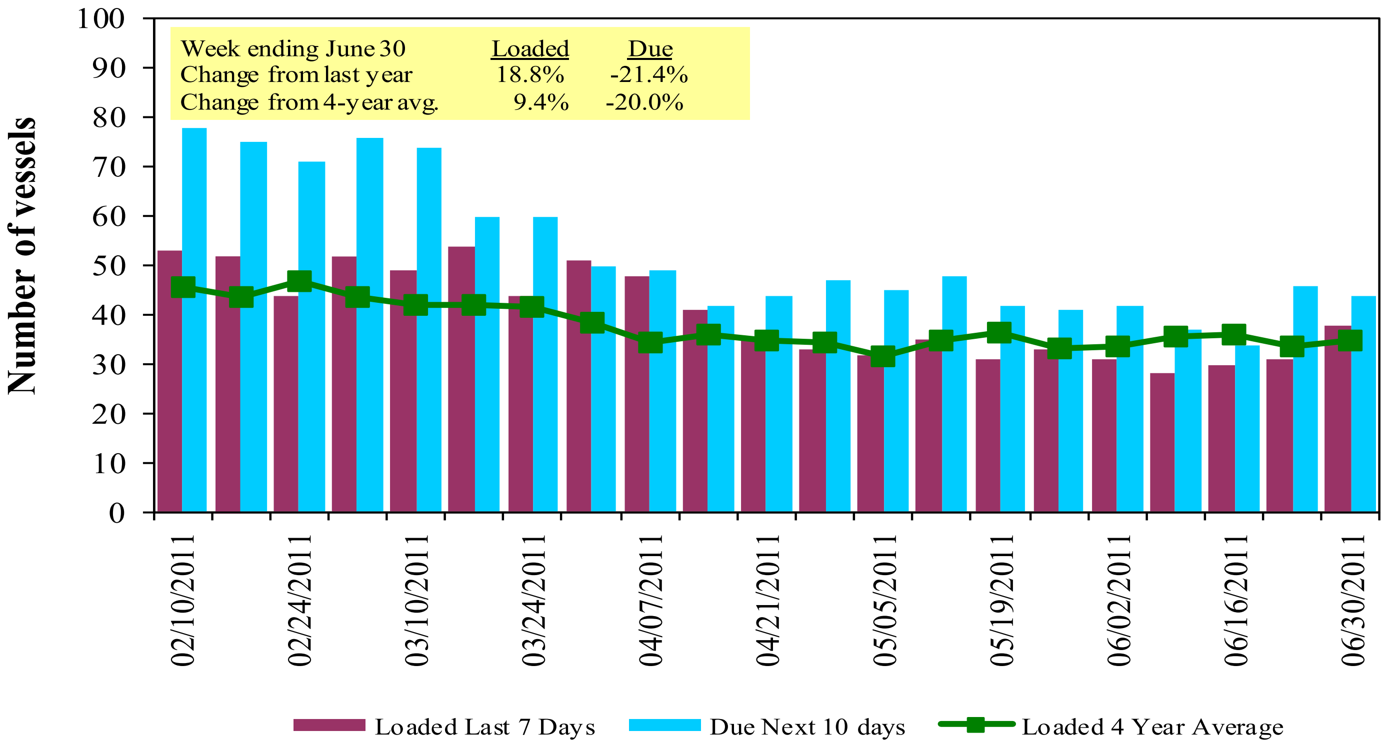
Weekly Port Region Grain Ocean Vessel Activity (number of vessels)

	Gulf			Pacific Northwest	Vancouver B.C.
Date	In port	Loaded 7-days	Due next 10-days	In port	In port
6/30/2011	28	38	44	14	10
6/23/2011	24	31	46	20	10
2010 range	(15..69)	(30..57)	(33..84)	(4..24)	(2..20)
2010 avg.	41	42	58	12	11

Source: Transportation & Marketing Programs/AMS/USDA

Figure 16

U.S. Gulf[1] Vessel Loading Activity

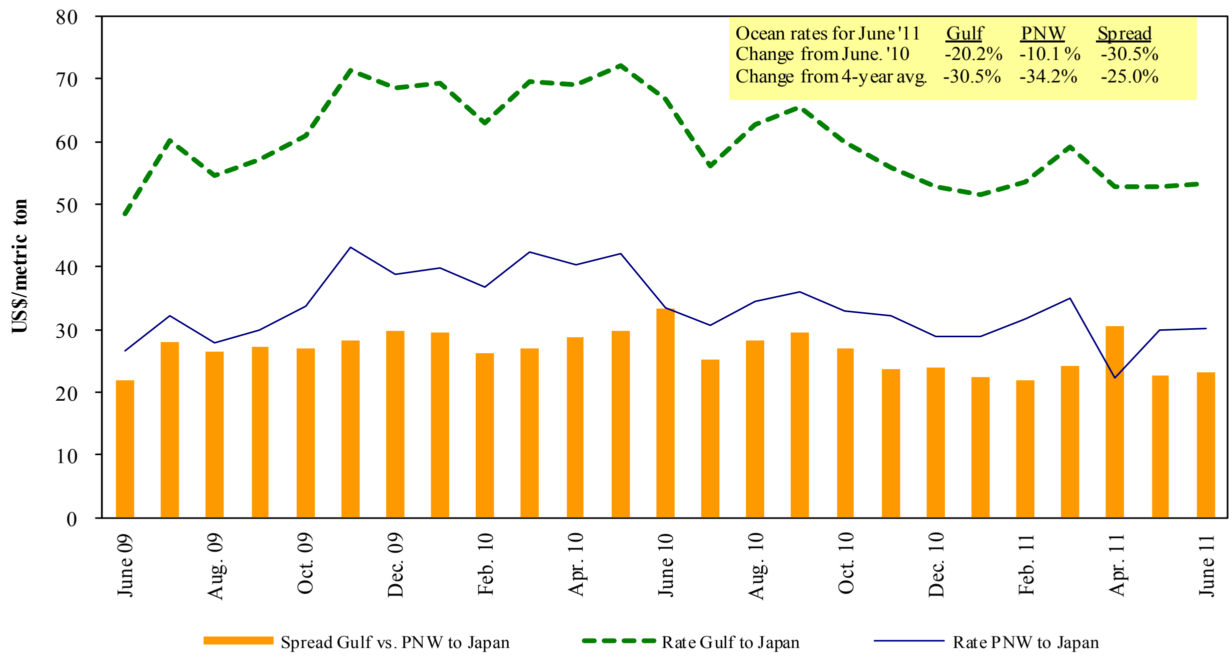


Source:Transportation & Marketing Programs/AMS/USDA

[1]U.S. Gulf includes Mississippi, Texas, and East Gulf.

Figure 17

Grain Vessel Rates, U.S. to Japan



Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting

Table 18

Ocean Freight Rates For Selected Shipments, Week Ending 07/02/2011

Export region	Import region	Grain types	Loading date	Volume loads (metric tons)	Freight rate (US$/metric ton)
U.S. Gulf	China	Heavy Grain	May 1/10	55,000	56.00
U.S. Gulf	China	Heavy Grain	Mar 20/29	52,000	52.00
U.S. Gulf	China	Heavy Grain	Mar 8/15	55,000	53.60
U.S. Gulf	Egypt	Grain	May 1/10	60,000	28.50
U.S. Gulf	Japan	Heavy Grain	June 1/12	54,000	52.50
U.S. Gulf	Isreal	Wheat	May 20/30	50,000	36.00
U.S. Gulf	Nigeria	Wheat	Apr 17/23	25,000	46.50
U.S. Gulf	Djibouti[1]	Wheat	Mar 31/Apr 9	17,260	129.95
Brazil	China	Heavy Grain	May 18/27	60,000	49.50
Brazil	China	Heavy Grain	April 5/15	60,000	51.00
Brazil	Turkey	Heavy Grain	May 20/30	50,000	32.00
River Plate	Algeria	Corn	July 15/25	25,000	43.50
River Plate	Algeria	Corn	July 1/10	25,000	42.90
River Plate	Algeria	Corn	June 15/25	25,000	42.75
River Plate	Algeria	Corn	May 15/25	25,000	42.25
River Plate	Morocco	Heavy Grain	Apr 25/28	2,500	44.50
River Plate	Spain	Maize	May 16/18	25,000	44.00
River Plate	Spain	Corn	Apri 24/25	2,500	46.00
Ukraine	Spain Med	Corn	May 20/24	25,000	18.00

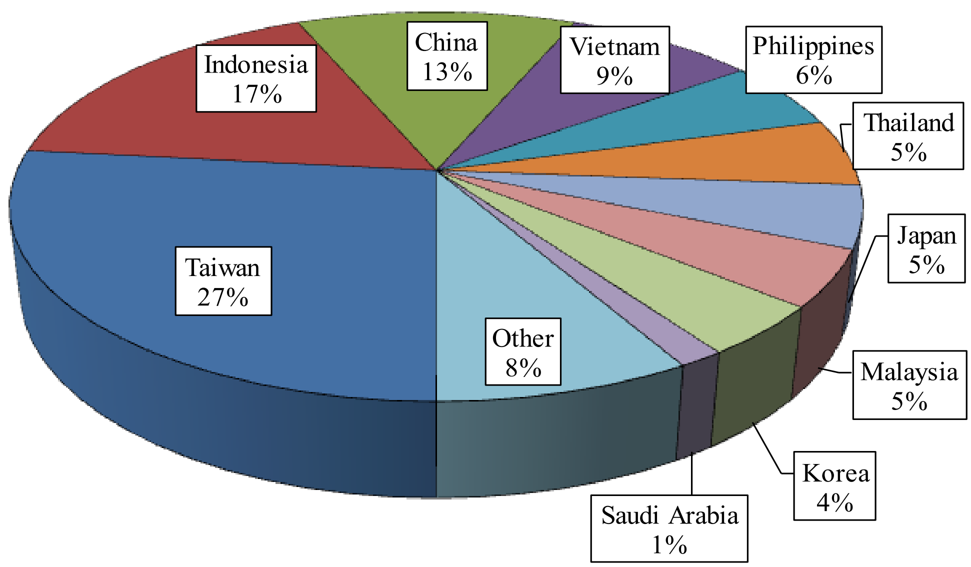
Rates shown are for metric ton (2,204.62 lbs. = 1 metric ton), F.O.B., except where otherwise indicates; op = option

[1]75 percent of food aid from the United States is required to be shipped on U.S.-flag vessels.

Source: Maritime Research Inc. (www.maritime-research.com)

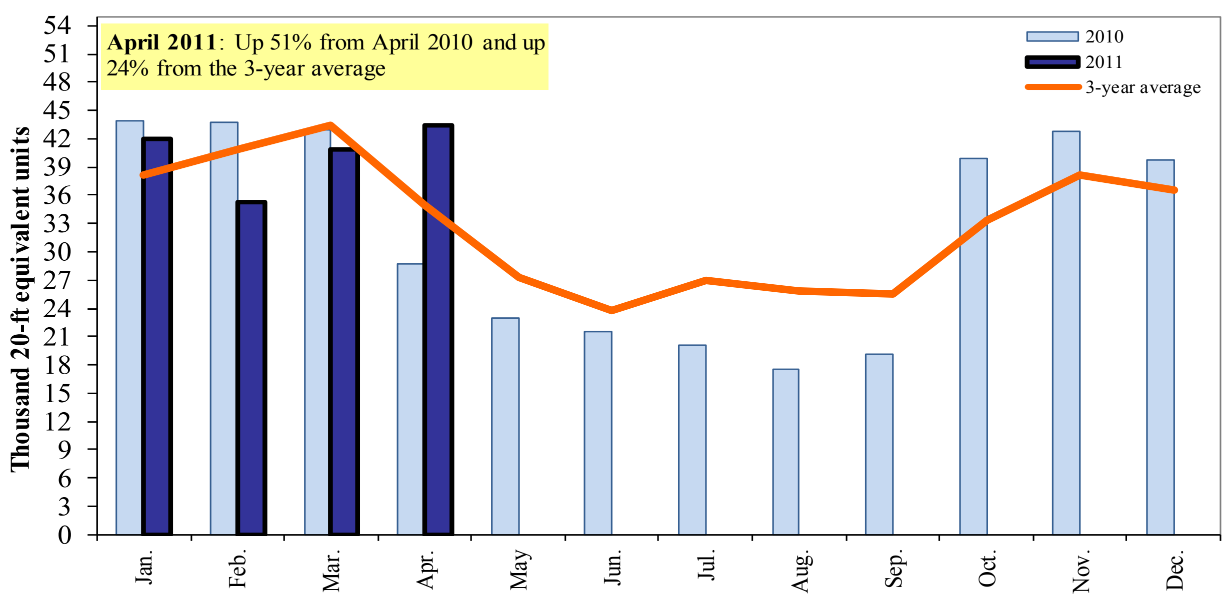
In 2010, containers were used to transport 5 percent of total U.S. waterborne grain exports, and 7 percent of U.S. grain exports to Asia. Asia is the top destination for U.S. containerized grain exports—94 percent in 2010.

Figure 18
Top 10 Destination Markets for U.S. Containerized Grain Exports, March 2011



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 (recently added codes are highlighted in bold type): 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 (recently added codes are highlighted in bold type): 100190, 100200, 100300, 100400, 100590, 100700, 110100, 230310, 110220, 110290, 120100, 230210, 230990, **230330**, and **120810**.

Contacts and Links

Coordinators		
Surajudeen (Deen) Olowolayemo	surajudeen.olowolayemo@ams.usda.gov	(202) 720 - 0119
Pierre Bahizi	pierre.bahizi@ams.usda.gov	(202) 690 - 0992
Weekly Highlight Editors		
Marina Denicoff	marina.denicoff@ams.usda.gov	(202) 690 - 3244
Surajudeen (Deen) Olowolayemo	surajudeen.olowolayemo@ams.usda.gov	(202) 720 - 0119
April Taylor	april.taylor@ams.usda.gov	(202) 295 - 7374
Grain Transportation Indicators		
Surajudeen (Deen) Olowolayemo	surajudeen.olowolayemo@ams.usda.gov	(202) 720 - 0119
Rail Transportation		
Marvin Prater	marvin.prater@ams.usda.gov	(202) 720 - 0299
Johnny Hill	johnny.hill@ams.usda.gov	(202) 690 - 3295
Adam Sparger	adam.sparger@ams.usda.gov	(202) 205 - 8701
Christie McKinney	christie.mckinney@ams.usda.gov	
Barge Transportation		
Nicholas Marathon	nick.marathon@ams.usda.gov	(202) 690 - 4430
April Taylor	april.taylor@ams.usda.gov	(202) 295 - 7374
Truck Transportation		
April Taylor	april.taylor@ams.usda.gov	(202) 295 - 7374
Grain Exports		
Johnny Hill	johnny.hill@ams.usda.gov	(202) 690 - 3295
Marina Denicoff	marina.denicoff@ams.usda.gov	(202) 690 - 3244
Christie McKinney	christie.mckinney@ams.usda.gov	
Ocean Transportation		
Surajudeen (Deen) Olowolayemo (Freight rates and vessels)	surajudeen.olowolayemo@ams.usda.gov	(202) 720 - 0119
April Taylor (Container movements)	april.taylor@ams.usda.gov	(202) 295 - 7374

Subscription Information: Send relevant information to **GTRContactUs@ams.usda.gov** for an electronic copy *(printed copies are also available upon request)*.