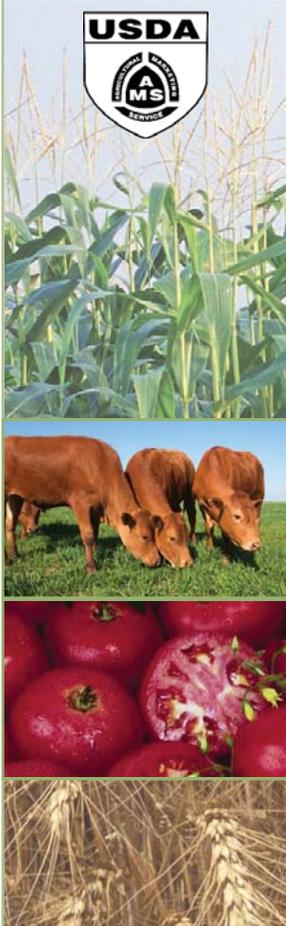


Mexico Transport Cost Indicator Report



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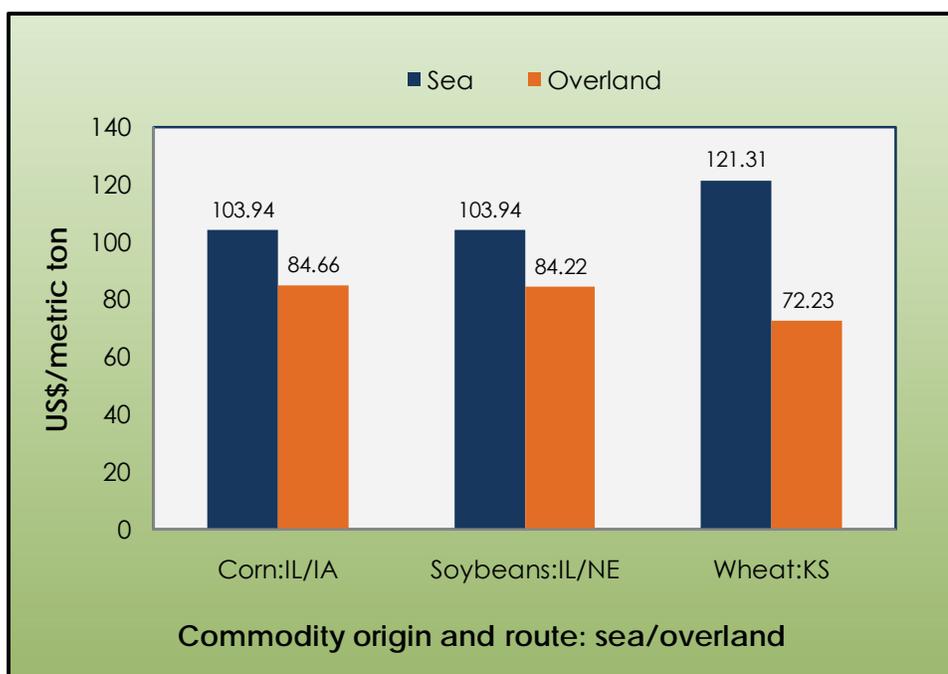
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Grains and Soybeans

- Total Landed Cost.** During the first three quarters of the year, it cost more to ship U.S. corn, soybeans, and wheat to Guadalajara, Mexico, by sea than overland, by rail and truck. During the 3rd quarter 2008, total transportation cost by sea declined 1–7 percent from the previous quarter due to a drop in truck and ocean freights (see figure 1 and table 1). The 19-percent increase in barge rates was not enough to offset the 4–15 percent decline in truck and ocean rates from the U.S. Gulf to Veracruz. Overland transportation cost increased 5–7 percent. Total landed cost is the farm value plus transportation cost excluding handling cost.
- Rail.** Several disruptions in 2008 combined to cause increases in rail rates and affect service for U.S. bulk agricultural commodities destined for Mexico. The Midwest floods in June affected rail traffic in major corn and soybean producing States, and in September hurricanes Gustav and Ike hit the Gulf Coast, causing delays and backlogs. The first three quarters also saw fuel price increases, as crude oil reached new heights due to demand in the summer travel season and the run-up to the Olympics, coupled with worries over supply. Fuel prices were the major factor in increased rail shipping costs to Mexico. For example, the average corn rate from Iowa to Guadalajara increased \$5.95 per metric ton (mt) from the first quarter to the third quarter. The tariff rate over the same period decreased \$0.10 per mt and the fuel surcharge increased \$6.05 per mt. During the 3rd quarter, rail rates from Veracruz to Guadalajara did not change from the previous quarter, averaging \$39.54 per mt.

Figure 1. Average cost of shipping U.S. corn, wheat, and soybeans to Guadalajara, by route, January-June 2008



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



- **Ocean:** Ocean shipping rates for shipping bulk grain to Mexico fell during the 3rd quarter as the global demand for bulk shipping declined. The cost per mt declined as the load size increased. For example, vessels carrying 25,000 mt of grain charged about \$31.55 per mt, down 14 percent from the 2nd quarter. A load size between 25,000 to 35,000 mt cost \$28.30 per mt, down 15 percent from the 2nd quarter. The rates peaked at \$39.80 and \$36.40 during May and have continued to decline since then. Bulk shipping rates started falling after the close of the summer Olympic, as the Chinese demand for steel, iron ore, and coal slowed down. In addition, port congestion around the world eased. Finally, economic slowdown in the United States and other countries has contributed to declining shipments of bulk commodities and lower ocean bulk shipping rates.

Fruit and Vegetables: From January–September, reported truck shipments of Mexican fruits and vegetables totaled 9 billion pounds, 12 percent higher than the same period last year. Price, climate, location, and seasonal constraints have all contributed to increased U.S. demand for Mexican fruits and vegetables. Following the normal seasonal trend, 3rd quarter shipments declined 72 percent from the 2nd quarter but were 2 percent higher than the same quarter last year. Shipments of tomatoes, peppers, watermelons, limes and cucumbers account for 50 percent of shipments from Mexico annually. Mexico's improvements in production, quality, phytosanitary conditions, and food safety have helped to build U.S. consumer confidence, increasing fresh fruit and vegetable demand.

- Truck rates for fruit and vegetable shipments through Nogales, Arizona, increased 25 percent from the 2nd quarter 2008, and were 37 percent higher than the same quarter last year. Truck rates for crossings through Pharr, Texas, increased 14 percent compared to the same quarter last year but declined 3 percent from the 2nd quarter 2008. This decline in rates could be attributed to a surplus of trucks during August and September (see table 11).

Container Shipments: Containerized shipments to Mexico vary by season. In 2007, vegetables were the top containerized export product to Mexico, followed by foodstuff, pastes sauces, soups, and tobacco. Data from January–September shows the same trend. For example, during 2008, vegetables were the top exported commodities for the 1st quarter. Dairy products were the top exported commodity during the 2nd quarter, and coco, butter, and cake powder were the top products in the 3rd quarter. The port of Manzanillo received the largest number of U.S. containers, followed by Veracruz. They accounted for over 4,000 Twenty Foot Equivalent Units in 2007. The total number of containers exported from U.S. to Mexican ports during the first three quarters of 2008 increased 40 percent over the same period in last year.

Livestock: Preliminary total livestock shipments to Mexico totaled 250,170 head from January–September 2008. Sheep were the largest shipment, accounting for about 34 percent, followed by hogs and dairy cattle. U.S. cattle imports from Mexico are down 32 percent over the same period last year while exports are higher. U.S. hog exports to Mexico declined about 39 percent due to a 98-percent drop in the 3rd quarter.

In this report, AMS weekly data are used for exports across U.S.–Mexico border crossings due to their timeliness. However, these data will not necessarily agree with the total U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census data. For more information about data sources, see: International Trade Data: Sources, Uses and Limitations at www.lmic.info.



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

	-----2008-----									
	Water route					Land route				
	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Avg.	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Avg.
	US\$/metric ton					US\$/metric ton				
Corn										
Origin	IL					IA				
Truck	12.11	12.38	11.86			4.97	4.65	5.88		
Rail ¹	36.15	39.54	39.54			76.74	79.05	82.69		
Ocean ²	26.13	33.54	28.38							
Barge	22.56	22.71	26.93							
Total transportation cost	96.95	108.17	106.71			81.71	83.70	88.57		
Farm value	172.56	211.41	204.58			171.51	203.27	206.81		
Landed cost	269.51	319.58	311.29			253.22	286.97	295.38		
Transport % of landed cost	36.0	33.8	34			32.3	29.2	30		
Soybeans										
Origin	IL					NE				
Truck	12.11	12.38	11.86			4.97	4.65	5.88		
Rail ¹	36.15	39.54	39.54			75.82	78.67	82.66		
Ocean ²	26.13	33.54	28.38							
Barge	22.56	22.71	26.93							
Total transportation cost	96.95	108.17	106.71			80.79	83.32	88.54		
Farm value	415.20	469.09	469.09			410.30	456.85	447.05		
Landed cost	512.15	577.26	575.80			491.09	540.17	535.59		
Transport % of landed cost	18.9	18.7	19			16.5	15.4	17		
Wheat										
Origin	KS					KS				
Truck	41.79	38.12	30.05			3.77	5.83	5.88		
Rail ¹	36.15	39.54	39.54			63.51	66.42	71.69		
Ocean ²	26.13	33.54	28.38							
Barge	15.41	15.58	19.70							
Total transportation cost	119.48	126.78	117.67			67.28	72.25	77.57		
Farm value	340.74	314.28	280.72			340.74	314.28	280.72		
Landed cost	460.22	441.06	398.39			408.02	386.53	358.29		
Transport % of landed cost	26.0	28.7	30			16.5	18.7	22		

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

²Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting, Inc.

Quarterly Bulk Grain and Soybeans

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

			-----2008-----							
			Tariff rate/car ¹				Fuel surcharge per car ²			
Commodity	Origin state	Destination	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr
Wheat	MT	Chihuahua, CI	5,694	5,694	5,767		852	1,024	1,356	
	OK	Cuautitlan, EM	4,918	5,059	5,305		692	856	1,172	
	KS	Guadalajara, JA	5,498	5,607	5,784		719	894	1,233	
	TX	Salinas Victoria, NL	2,998	2,825	2,956		263	301	424	
Corn	IA	Guadalajara, JA	6,678	6,701	6,668		833	1,035	1,425	
	SD	Penjamo, GJ	6,615	6,582	6,515		1,115	1,340	1,774	
	NE	Queretaro, QA	5,950	6,021	6,021		732	917	1,302	
	SD	Salinas Victoria, NL	4,567	4,597	4,597		847	1,018	1,348	
	MO	Tlalnepantla, EM	5,299	5,429	5,429		709	893	1,268	
	SD	Torreon, CU	5,510	5,510	5,510		934	1,122	1,486	
Soybeans	MO	Bojay (Tula), HG	6,115	6,131	6,131		719	895	1,234	
	NE	Guadalajara, JA	6,597	6,674	6,674		824	1,026	1,416	
	IA	Penjamo (Celaya), GJ	6,471	6,546	6,546		1,108	1,331	1,763	
	KS	Torreon, CU	5,282	5,282	5,282		549	687	954	
Sorghum	OK	Cuautitlan, EM	4,144	4,224	4,224		846	1,017	1,347	
	TX	Guadalajara, JA	4,720	4,570	4,720		726	872	1,155	
	NE	Penjamo, GJ	6,208	6,248	6,248		757	945	1,308	
	KS	Queretaro, QA	5,261	5,341	5,341		538	677	946	
	NE	Salinas Victoria, NL	4,224	4,279	4,279		549	685	946	
	NE	Torreon, CU	5,210	5,210	5,210		624	778	1,077	

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

²Approximate load per car = 97.87 mt: corn & sorghum 56 lbs/bu, wheat & soybeans 60 lbs/bu

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



Table 3. Quarterly tariff rail rates for U.S. bulk grain shipments to Mexico, 2008

			Tariff ¹ plus fuel surcharge per:							
			US\$/metric ton				US\$/bushel ²			
Commodity	Origin state	Destination	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr
Wheat	MT	Chihuahua, CI	66.89	68.64	72.78		1.82	1.87	1.98	
	OK	Cuautitlan, EM	57.32	60.43	66.18		1.56	1.64	1.80	
	KS	Guadalajara, JA	63.51	66.42	71.69		1.73	1.81	1.95	
	TX	Salinas Victoria, NL	33.31	31.94	34.54		0.91	0.87	0.94	
Corn	IA	Guadalajara, JA	76.74	79.05	82.69		1.95	2.01	2.10	
	SD	Penjamo, GJ	78.98	80.94	84.70		2.00	2.05	2.15	
	NE	Queretaro, QA	68.28	70.88	74.82		1.73	1.80	1.90	
	SD	Salinas Victoria, NL	55.32	57.37	60.75		1.40	1.46	1.54	
	MO	Tlalnepantla, EM	61.39	64.59	68.43		1.56	1.64	1.74	
	SD	Torreon, CU	65.84	67.76	71.48		1.67	1.72	1.81	
Soybeans	MO	Bojay (Tula), HG	69.82	71.78	75.25		1.90	1.95	2.05	
	NE	Guadalajara, JA	75.82	78.67	82.66		2.06	2.14	2.25	
	IA	Penjamo (Celaya), GJ	77.44	80.49	84.90		2.11	2.19	2.31	
	KS	Torreon, CU	59.57	60.98	63.71		1.62	1.66	1.73	
Sorghum	OK	Cuautitlan, EM	50.99	53.55	56.92		1.29	1.36	1.44	
	TX	Guadalajara, JA	55.64	55.60	60.02		1.41	1.41	1.52	
	NE	Penjamo, GJ	71.17	73.50	77.20		1.81	1.87	1.96	
	KS	Queretaro, QA	59.25	61.49	64.24		1.50	1.56	1.63	
	NE	Salinas Victoria, NL	48.77	50.72	53.39		1.24	1.29	1.35	
	NE	Torreon, CU	59.60	61.18	64.23		1.51	1.55	1.63	

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

²Approximate load per car = 97.87 mt: corn & sorghum 56 lbs/bu, wheat & soybeans 60 lbs/bu

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



Quarterly Bulk Grain and Soybeans

Table 4. Quarterly ocean freight rate for bulk shipments from the U.S. Gulf to Veracruz, Mexico (US\$/metric ton)

Vessel capacity (metric ton)	1st qtr 2008	2nd qtr 2008	3rd qtr 2008	4th qtr 2008
25,000	30.19	37.00	31.62	
35-40,000	26.13	33.54	28.38	

Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting



Table 5. U.S. livestock exports to Mexico by border crossings*, January - September, 2008 (head)

Category					
Border Crossing	TX	NM	AZ	CA	Total
Beef cattle					
Slaughter	0	0	0	0	0
Breeding males	95	410	40	0	545
Breeding females	249	80	4	0	333
Total beef	344	490	44	0	878
Hogs					
Slaughter	72,985	0	0	0	72,985
Breeding males	627	0	0	0	627
Breeding females	3,988	0	1,432	0	5,420
Total hogs	77,600	0	1,432	0	79,032
Sheep					
Slaughter lambs	0	0	0	0	0
Slaughter ewes	84,644	0	0	0	84,644
Breeding males	0	0	0	0	0
Breeding females	0	0	0	0	0
Total sheep	84,644	0	0	0	84,644
Dairy cattle					
Breeding males	31	0	0	0	31
Breeding females	15,364	10,824	0	0	26,188
Total dairy	15,395	10,824	0	0	26,219
Goats					
Angora	0	0	0	0	0
Spanish	10,160	0	0	0	10,160
Other	0	0	0	0	0
Total goats	10,160	0	0	0	10,160
Horses					
Slaughter	31,083	9,705	0	0	40,788
Breeding males	1,488	460	170	0	2,118
Breeding females	2,532	669	216	0	3,417
Geldings	569	1,260	33	0	1,862
Burro/mule/pony	115	0	2	0	117
Total horses	35,787	12,094	421	0	48,302
Exotics**	935	0	0	0	935
Grand total	224,865	23,408	1,897	0	250,170

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

**Refer to animals that are not included in other categories such as zebras, deer, elephants, and yaks.

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

Livestock



Table 6. Quarterly U.S. livestock exports to Mexico through Texas border crossings* (head)

Category	1st qtr 2008	2nd qtr 2008	3rd qtr 2008	4th qtr 2008	Total
Beef cattle					
Slaughter	0	0	0		
Breeding males	0	31	64		
Breeding females	0	40	209		
Total beef	0	71	273		
Hogs					
Slaughter	61,355	11,247	383		
Breeding males	99	253	275		
Breeding females	596	1,201	2,191		
Total hogs	62,050	12,701	2,849		
Sheep					
Slaughter lambs	0	0	0		
Slaughter ewes	27,240	33,746	23,658		
Breeding males	0	0	0		
Breeding females	0	0	0		
Total sheep	27,240	33,746	23,658		
Dairy cattle					
Breeding males	19	8	4		
Breeding females	7,167	7,373	824		
Total dairy	7,186	7,381	828		
Goats					
Angora	0	0	0		
Spanish	775	6,820	2,565		
Other	0	0	0		
Total goats	775	6,820	2,565		
Horses					
Slaughter	9,801	11,559	9,723		
Breeding males	431	426	631		
Breeding females	829	607	1,096		
Geldings	194	122	253		
Burro/mule/pony	57	52	6		
Total horses	11,312	12,766	11,709		
Exotics**	504	249	182		
Grand total	109,067	73,734	42,064		

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

**Refer to animals that are not included in other categories such as zebras, deer, elephants, and yaks.

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



Table 7. Quarterly U.S. livestock exports to Mexico through New Mexico border crossings* (head)

Category	1st qtr 2008	2nd qtr 2008	3rd qtr 2008	4th qtr 2008	Total
Beef cattle					
Slaughter	0	0	0		
Breeding males	0	313	97		
Breeding females	0	0	80		
Total beef	0	313	177		
Hogs					
Slaughter	0	0	0		
Breeding males	0	0	0		
Breeding females	0	0	0		
Total hogs	0	0	0		
Sheep					
Slaughter lambs	0	0	0		
Slaughter ewes	0	0	0		
Breeding males	0	0	0		
Breeding females	0	0	0		
Total sheep	0	0	0		
Dairy cattle					
Breeding males	0	0	0		
Breeding females	4,541	5,418	865		
Total dairy	4,541	5,418	865		
Goats					
Angora	0	0	0		
Spanish	0	0	0		
Other	0	0	0		
Total goats	0	0	0		
Horses					
Slaughter	2,194	2,759	4,752		
Breeding males	0	155	305		
Breeding females	0	263	406		
Geldings	670	384	206		
Burro/mule/pony	0	0	0		
Total horses	2,864	3,561	5,669		
Exotics**	0	0	0		
Grand total	7,405	9,292	6,711		

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

**Refer to animals that are not included in other categories such as zebras, deer, elephants, and yaks.

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

Livestock



Table 8. Quarterly U.S. livestock exports to Mexico through Arizona border crossings* (head)

Category	1st qtr 2008	2nd qtr 2008	3rd qtr 2008	4th qtr 2008	Total
Beef cattle					
Slaughter	0	0	0		
Breeding males	0	0	40		
Breeding females	0	0	4		
Total beef	0	0	44		
Hogs					
Slaughter	0	0	0		
Breeding males	0	0	0		
Breeding females	516	713	203		
Total hogs	516	713	203		
Sheep					
Slaughter lambs	0	0	0		
Slaughter ewes	0	0	0		
Breeding males	0	0	0		
Breeding females	0	0	0		
Total sheep	0	0	0		
Dairy cattle					
Breeding males	0	0	0		
Breeding females	0	0	0		
Total dairy	0	0	0		
Goats					
Angora	0	0	0		
Spanish	0	0	0		
Other	0	0	0		
Total goats	0	0	0		
Horses					
Slaughter	0	0	0		
Breeding males	55	42	73		
Breeding females	66	73	77		
Geldings	4	12	17		
Burro/mule/pony	0	0	2		
Total horses	125	127	169		
Exotics**	0	0	0		
Grand total	641	840	416		

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

**Refer to animals that are not included in other categories such as zebras, deer, elephants, and yaks.

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



Table 9. Quarterly U.S. cattle exports to Mexico and Canada (head)

Country	1st qtr 2006	2nd qtr 2006	3rd qtr 2006	4th qtr 2006	Total
Canada	8,436	12,272	9,244	6,966	36,918
Mexico	0	193	27	507	727
Other countries	285	8	978	10,762	12,033
Total	8,721	12,473	10,249	18,235	49,678
Mexico % share	0.0	1.5	0.3	2.8	1.5
Canada % share	96.7	98.4	90.2	38.2	74.3
Country	1st qtr 2007	2nd qtr 2007	3rd qtr 2007	4th qtr 2007	Total
Canada	9,160	14,811	9,828	10,299	44,098
Mexico	0	9	453	13,317	13,779
Other countries	4,563	292	160	3,491	8,506
Total	13,723	15,112	10,441	27,107	66,383
Mexico % share	41.0	53.8	34.5	44.5	43.7
Canada % share	0.0	0.1	4.3	49.1	20.8
Country	1st qtr 2008	2nd qtr 2008	3rd qtr 2008	4th qtr 2008	Total
Canada	10,279	13,322	8,203		
Mexico	27,623	16,689	2,047		
Other countries	417	564	4,931		
Total	38,319	30,575	15,181		
Mexico % share	72.1	54.6	13.5		
Canada % share	26.8	43.6	54.0		

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census



Table 10. Quarterly U.S. cattle imports from Mexico and Canada (head)

Country	1st qtr 2006	2nd qtr 2006	3rd qtr 2006	4th qtr 2006	Total
Mexico	366,297	284,421	215,413	390,842	1,256,973
Canada	342,383	185,755	202,704	301,028	1,031,870
Other countries	0	0	0	0	0
Total	708,680	470,176	418,117	691,870	2,288,843
Mexico % share	51.7	60.5	51.5	56.5	54.9
Canada % share	48.3	39.5	48.5	43.5	45.1
Country	1st qtr 2007	2nd qtr 2007	3rd qtr 2007	4th qtr 2007	Total
Mexico	258,079	278,799	159,641	393,575	1,090,094
Canada	371,078	239,374	302,718	491,701	1,404,871
Other countries	0	0	0	0	0
Total	629,157	518,173	462,359	885,276	2,494,965
Mexico % share	41.0	53.8	34.5	44.5	43.7
Canada % share	59.0	46.2	65.5	55.5	56.3
Country	1st qtr 2008	2nd qtr 2008	3rd qtr 2008	4th qtr 2008	Total
Mexico	171,725	184,274	59,122		
Canada	510,449	378,292	346,048		
Other countries	0	0	29		
Total	682,174	562,566	405,199		
Mexico % share	25.2	32.8	14.6		
Canada % share	74.8	67.2	85.4		

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census



Table 11. Quarterly U.S. hog exports to Mexico and Canada (head)

Country	1st qtr 2006	2nd qtr 2006	3rd qtr 2006	4th qtr 2006	Total
Mexico	75,082	23,208	32,046	21,022	151,358
Canada	1,728	807	964	569	4,068
Other countries	1,421	1,550	3,653	2,571	9,195
Total	78,231	25,565	36,663	24,162	164,621
Mexico % share	96.0	90.8	87.4	87.0	91.9
Canada % share	2.2	3.2	2.6	2.4	2.5
Country	1st qtr 2007	2nd qtr 2007	3rd qtr 2007	4th qtr 2007	Total
Mexico	32,895	11,106	38,381	38,654	121,036
Canada	1,677	977	1,442	240	4,336
Other countries	2,382	3,296	4,491	1,275	11,444
Total	36,954	15,379	44,314	40,169	136,816
Mexico % share	89.0	72.2	86.6	96.2	88.5
Canada % share	4.5	6.4	3.3	0.6	3.2
Country	1st qtr 2008	2nd qtr 2008	3rd qtr 2008	4th qtr 2008	Total
Mexico	57,411	16,086	741		
Canada	771	2,696	3,380		
Other countries	1,807	3,154	6,589		
Total	59,989	21,936	10,710		
Mexico % share	95.7	73.3	6.9		
Canada % share	1.3	12.3	31.6		

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census



Table 12. Quarterly U.S. hog imports (head)

Country	1st qtr 2006	2nd qtr 2006	3rd qtr 2006	4th qtr 2006	Total
Canada	2,132,639	2,087,934	2,204,344	2,338,461	8,763,378
Other countries	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2,132,639	2,087,934	2,204,344	2,338,461	8,763,378
Canada % share	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Country	1st qtr 2007	2nd qtr 2007	3rd qtr 2007	4th qtr 2007	Total
Canada	2,301,898	2,369,502	2,463,940	2,868,977	10,004,317
Other countries	0	25	0	0	25
Total	2,301,898	2,369,527	2,463,940	2,868,977	10,004,342
Canada % share	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Country	1st qtr 2008	2nd qtr 2008	3rd qtr 2008	4th qtr 2008	Total
Canada	2,914,533	2,149,388	2,201,248		
Other countries	0	0	0		
Total	2,914,533	2,149,388	2,201,248		
Canada % share	100.0	100.0	100.0		

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census



Table 13. Fruit and vegetable truck rates for selected U.S.-Mexico border crossing* (US\$/mile)

Border crossing	1st qtr 2005	2nd qtr 2005	3rd qtr 2005	4th qtr 2005	Average
Nogales, Arizona	1.58	1.83	2.10	1.92	1.86
Pharr, Texas	1.51	1.84	1.70	1.87	1.73
Border crossing	1st qtr 2006	2nd qtr 2006	3rd qtr 2006	4th qtr 2006	Average
Nogales, Arizona	1.70	1.77	2.22	1.78	1.87
Pharr, Texas	1.75	1.80	1.64	1.63	1.71
Border crossing	1st qtr 2007	2nd qtr 2007	3rd qtr 2007	4th qtr 2007	Average
Nogales, Arizona	1.90	1.89	2.05	2.00	1.96
Pharr, Texas	1.65	1.83	1.86	1.74	1.77
Border crossing	1st qtr 2008	2nd qtr 2008	3rd qtr 2008	4th qtr 2008	Average
Nogales, Arizona	1.96	2.24	2.80		
Pharr, Texas	1.93	2.19	2.12		

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

Table 14. Quarterly U.S.-Mexico border crossing fresh fruit and vegetables truck availability, 3rd quarter, 2008

Legend:		Truck availability													
1 = Surplus	2 = Slight Surplus														
3 = Adequate	4 = Slight Shortage														
5 = Shortage															
Mexico border crossings/month		July					August				September				
Week		7/1	7/8	7/15	7/23	7/29	8/5	8/12	8/19	8/26	9/2	9/9	9/16	9/23	9/30
Through Pharr, TX	Citrus	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	Mixed Vegetables	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	Avocados	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	Mangoes	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	1			
	Asparagus	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	1	1	1				
Through Nogales, AZ	Melons	3													
	Grapes	3													
	Mangoes	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), Fruit and Vegetable Programs



Fruit and Vegetables

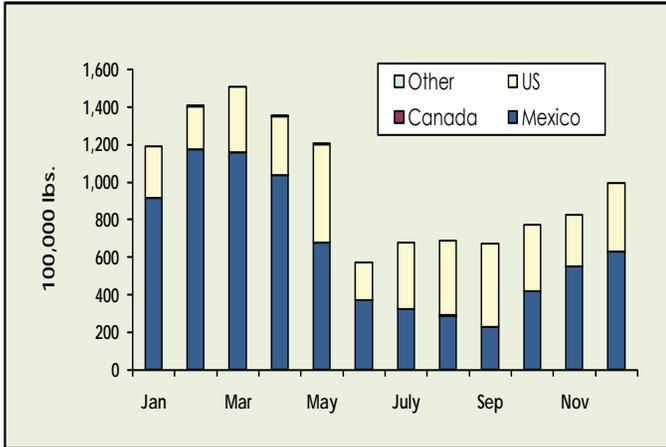
Table 15. Top five commodities shipped* to the U.S. from Mexico (10,000 lbs.)

Commodity	1st qtr 2005	2nd qtr 2005	3rd qtr 2005	4th qtr 2005	Total 2005
Tomatoes	67,805	38,786	23,654	42,107	172,352
Peppers	34,747	19,029	7,081	22,048	82,905
Watermelon	22,105	42,067	399	13,085	77,656
Limes	14,267	18,443	22,133	17,954	72,797
Cucumbers	23,075	16,103	5,990	20,954	66,122
Other	133,687	146,750	68,471	97,493	446,401
Subtotal border crossing	161,999	134,428	59,257	116,148	471,832
Total quarterly	295,686	281,178	127,728	213,641	918,233
Commodity	1st qtr 2006	2nd qtr 2006	3rd qtr 2006	4th qtr 2006	Total 2006
Tomatoes	82,610	39,406	16,120	25,537	163,673
Peppers	45,651	22,486	10,898	17,911	96,946
Watermelon	25,772	54,987	1,107	17,570	99,436
Limes	13,246	19,980	23,772	19,637	76,635
Cucumbers	25,162	15,230	5,062	24,882	70,336
Other	139,947	143,295	67,001	96,306	446,549
Subtotal border crossing	192,441	152,089	56,959	105,537	507,026
Total quarterly	332,388	295,384	123,960	201,843	953,575
Commodity	1st qtr 2007	2nd qtr 2007	3rd qtr 2007	4th qtr 2007	Total 2007
Tomatoes	81,569	49,510	16,541	26,462	174,082
Peppers	39,988	21,882	16,609	30,259	108,738
Watermelon	19,736	60,559	306	18,214	98,815
Limes	15,931	20,420	21,860	19,090	77,301
Cucumbers	31,681	17,622	4,709	22,438	76,450
Other	151,494	159,783	77,029	108,830	497,136
Subtotal border crossing	188,905	169,993	60,025	116,463	535,386
Total quarterly	340,399	329,776	137,054	225,293	1,032,522
Commodity	1st qtr 2008	2nd qtr 2008	3rd qtr 2008	4th qtr 2008	Total 2008
Tomatoes	66,049	53,659	15,156		
Peppers	43,219	38,961	17,356		
Watermelon	26,601	73,261	2,202		
Limes	15,557	26,505	20,834		
Cucumbers	31,017	29,092	5,415		
Other	156,348	207,080	74,194		
Subtotal border crossing	182,443	221,478	60,963		
Total quarterly	338,791	428,558	135,157		

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

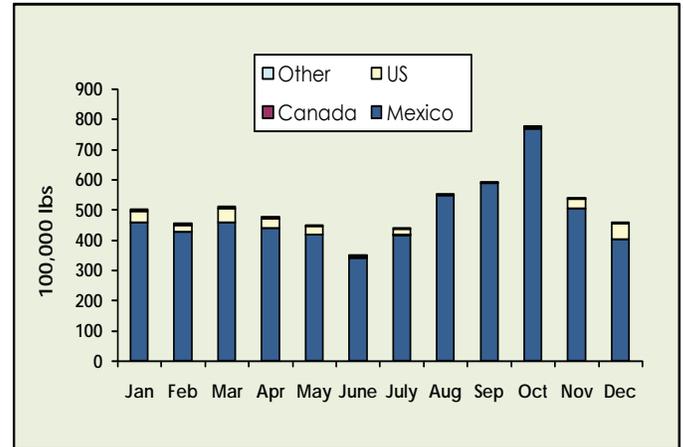


Figure 2. Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported plum tomatoes, 2007



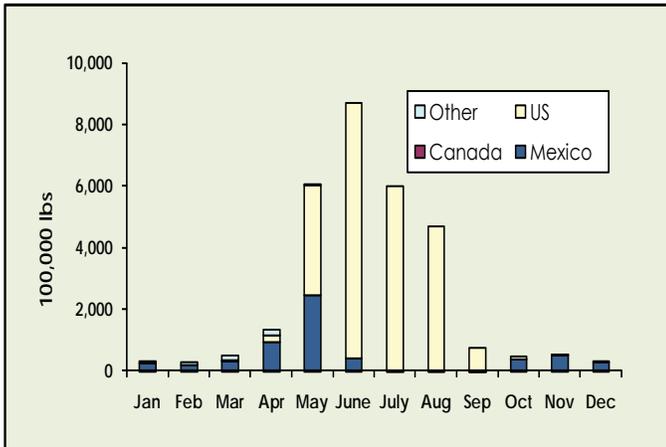
Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), USDA

Figure 3. Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported peppers, 2007



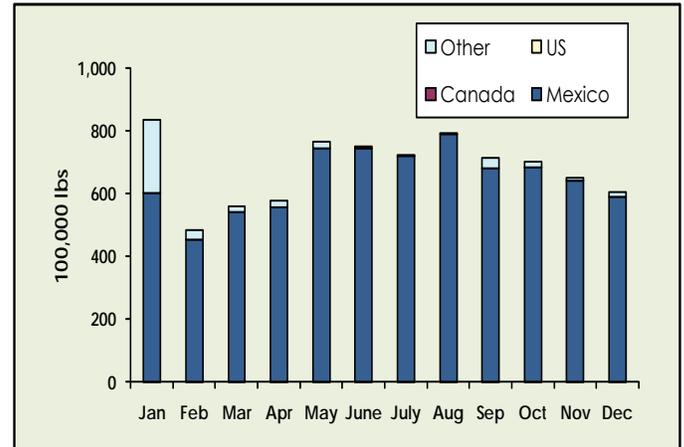
Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), USDA

Figure 4. Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported seedless watermelons, 2007



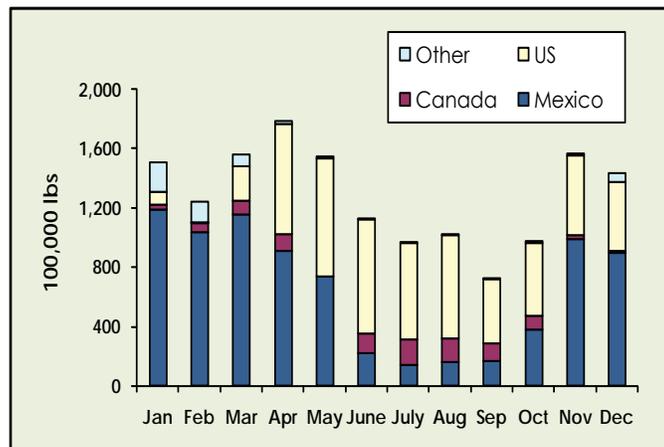
Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), USDA

Figure 5. Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported limes, 2007



Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), USDA

Figure 6. Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported cucumbers, 2007



Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), USDA

Container Shipments



Table 16. Top ten U.S. container agricultural exports to Mexico, 2008

1st qtr	Commodity	# of TEUs*	Percentage share	Rank
	Vegetables	188	18	1
	Grocery items	132	13	2
	Dairy products	123	12	3
	Herbs and spices	90	9	4
	Tobacco, leaf, processed	52	5	5
	Animal feed	51	5	6
	Beverage	44	4	7
	Fruit	35	3	8
	Tuna	34	3	9
	Frozen fish	34	3	10
Subtotal		782	77	
Other		235	23	
Total Exports		1018	100	
2nd qtr	Commodity	# of TEUs*	Percentage share	Rank
	Dairy products	151	17	1
	Tobacco, leaf, processed	122	14	2
	Grocery items	83	9	3
	Herbs and spices	77	9	4
	Meat	61	7	5
	Vegetables	42	5	6
	Cocoa butter	42	5	7
	Beverage	42	5	8
	Frozen fish	38	4	9
	Canned fruit	21	2	10
Subtotal		680	76	
Other		210	24	
Total Exports		890	100	
3rd qtr	Commodity	# of TEUs*	Percentage share	Rank
	Cocoa butter	194	21	1
	Grocery items	119	13	2
	Herbs and spices	84	9	3
	Vegetables	55	6	4
	Dairy products	52	6	5
	tomatoes prepared	42	4	6
	Tobacco, leaf, processed	38	4	7
	Candy and confections	38	4	8
	Meat	36	4	9
	Frozen fish	31	3	10
Subtotal		690	74	
Other		248	26	
Total Exports		938	100	

*Twenty Foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) is a 20-foot shipping container
 Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), Journal of Commerce, 2008



Table 17. Top six U.S. bulk agricultural exports to Mexico, 2007

Commodity	Quantity (mt)	Percentage share	Rank
Bulk grain	5,024,221	62	1
Soybeans	1,574,049	19	2
Grain products, flour, and cereal	661,654	8	3
Rice, crackers, and pasta	429,275	5	4
Tallow grease	156,271	2	5
Animal feed	84,495	1	6
Subtotal	7,929,965	98	
Other	142,433	2	
Total Exports	8,072,398	100	

Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), Journal of Commerce, 2007

Table 18. Top ten U.S. agricultural container exports to Mexico, 2007

Commodity	# of TEUs*	Percentage share	Rank
Vegetables	773	15	1
Grocery items	524	10	2
Tobacco	487	9	3
Fruit	463	9	4
Herbs and spices	362	7	5
Cocoa butter	356	7	6
Cocoa beans	348	7	7
Frozen fish	184	3	8
Tomatoes, prepared	153	3	9
Dairy products	151	3	10
Subtotal	3,801	71	
Other	1,525	29	
Total Exports	5,326	100	

*Twenty Foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) is a 20-foot shipping container
 Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), Journal of Commerce, 2007

Container Shipments

Table 19. Top ten Mexican bulk agricultural exports to the U.S., 2007

Commodity	Quantity (mt)	Percentage share	Rank
Beer and ale	506,592	53	1
Sugars	127,836	13	2
Molasses and treacle	71,030	7	3
Sunflower seed	51,999	5	4
Coffee	49,281	5	5
Vegetables	28,543	5	6
Liquor, brandy and spirits	20,328	3	7
Sardines	13,094	2	8
Animal feed	8,054	1	9
Fish	7,218	1	10
Subtotal	883,975	93	
Other	70,491	7	
Total Exports	954,466	100	

Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), Journal of Commerce, 2007

Table 20. Top ten Mexican agricultural container exports to the U.S., 2007

Commodity	# of TEUs*	Percentage share	Rank
Beer and ale	6,599	28	1
Vegetables	2,834	12	2
Coffee	2,476	11	3
Liquor, brandy and spirits	2,100	9	4
Sardines	982	4	5
Animal feed	797	4	6
Frozen fish	630	3	7
Grain products, flour, and cereal	547	3	8
Meat	508	2	9
Sugars	479	2	10
Subtotal	17,952	79	
Other	5,333	23	
Total Exports	23,285	100	

*Twenty Foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) is a 20-foot shipping container
 Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), Journal of Commerce, 2007



Table 21. U.S. agricultural container shipments to Mexico by port, 2007

U.S. region*	Mexican port	Number of TEUs**
U.S. Gulf	Manzanillo	40
Pacific Northwest		744
West Coast		3,024
East Coast		1,050
TOTAL		4,858
Pacific Northwest	Zacatecas	2890
West Coast		502
East Coast		57
TOTAL		3,449
U.S. Gulf	Altamira	58
Pacific Northwest		-
West Coast		-
East Coast		1,465
TOTAL		1,523
U.S. Gulf	Veracruz	2,334
Pacific Northwest		12
West Coast		156
East Coast		1,882
TOTAL		4,384
U.S. Gulf	Progreso	36
East Coast		2,007
TOTAL		2,043

*U.S. Gulf includes Houston, New Orleans, Tampa, Port Everglades
 Pacific Northwest includes Seattle, Vancouver, BC, New Westminster
 West Coast includes Oakland, Long Beach, Los Angeles, San Diego
 East Coast includes New York, Wilmington, Baltimore, Norfolk, Charleston, Savannah, Jacksonville, West Palm Beach, Miami

** Twenty Foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) is a 20-foot shipping container
 Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), Journal of Commerce, 2007

Container Shipments

Table 22. U.S. agricultural container exports to Mexico by port, 2007

Mexican port	# of TEUs*	Percentage share	Rank
Manzanillo	4,858	21	1
Veracruz	4,384	19	2
Zacatecas	3,449	15	3
Progreso	2,043	9	4
Altamira	1,523	7	5
Subtotal	16,257	70	
Other	7,028	30	
Total Exports	23,285	100	

* Twenty Foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) is a 20-foot shipping container
 Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), Journal of Commerce, 2007

Table 23. U.S. bulk agricultural exports to Mexico by receiving port, 2007

Mexican port	Quantity (mt)	Percentage share
Veracruz	5,190,875	64
Progreso	1,404,492	17
Coatzacoalcos	622,469	8
Tuxpan	559,211	7
Altamira	177,963	2
Subtotal	7,954,998	
Other	117,400	1
Total Exports 2007	8,072,398	100

* Twenty Foot Equivalent Unit is a 20-foot shipping container
 Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), Journal of Commerce, 2007



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



Data Sets:

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- ◆ Figure 2: Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported plum tomatoes, 2007
- ◆ Figure 3: Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported peppers, 2007
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