



Agricultural Refrigerated Truck Quarterly

a quarterly publication of the Agricultural Marketing Service

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NATIONAL SUMMARY

Quarterly Overview

Fruit and Vegetable Shipments

During third quarter 2020, reported U.S. truck shipments of fresh produce were 9.06 million tons, 15 percent lower than the previous quarter but 4 percent higher than the same quarter last year.

Also, in the third quarter, shipments from California were 3.26 million tons, higher than those from any other reported origin and accounting for 36 percent of the total reported shipments of fresh fruit and vegetables. Looking at the top five regions by volume, shipments from the Mexico border, were 1.88 million tons, representing 21 percent of the total. Shipments from the Pacific Northwest (PNW) were 1.66 million tons, representing 18 percent of the total. Movements from the Southeast were 425,000 tons, representing 5 percent of the reported total. These top five commodities accounted for 42 percent of the reported truck movements during third quarter 2020:

- ▶ Potatoes (12 percent)
- ▶ Watermelons, seedless (11 percent)
- ▶ Apples (8 percent)
- ▶ Onions, dry (6 percent)
- ▶ Grapes (4 percent)

Truck Rates

The table below provides a snapshot of quarterly truck rates for U.S. produce shipments over four mileage categories—0-500; 501-1,500; 1,501-2,500; and 2,500+ miles. Please note the U.S. average truck rates provided below were calculated using weighted regional rates and volumes.

Average U.S. Truck Rates for Selected Routes Between 501 and 1,500 Miles (\$/Mile)

	0-500 miles	501-1,500 miles	1,501-2,500 miles	2,501+ miles
Q3 2019	4.94	2.47	2.30	1.35
Q4 2019	3.21	2.52	2.29	1.37
Q1 2020	2.73	2.56	2.36	1.60
Q2 2020	2.58	2.51	2.27	1.54
Q3 2020	2.95	2.56	2.53	1.44
Q3 Change from Previous Quarter	14%	2%	11%	-7%
Q3 Change from Same Quarter Last Year	-40%	4%	10%	7%

Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Note: Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.

Note: The rates for 8 long-haul fruit and vegetable truck corridors are included in the national rate, weighted by commodity and origin volume.

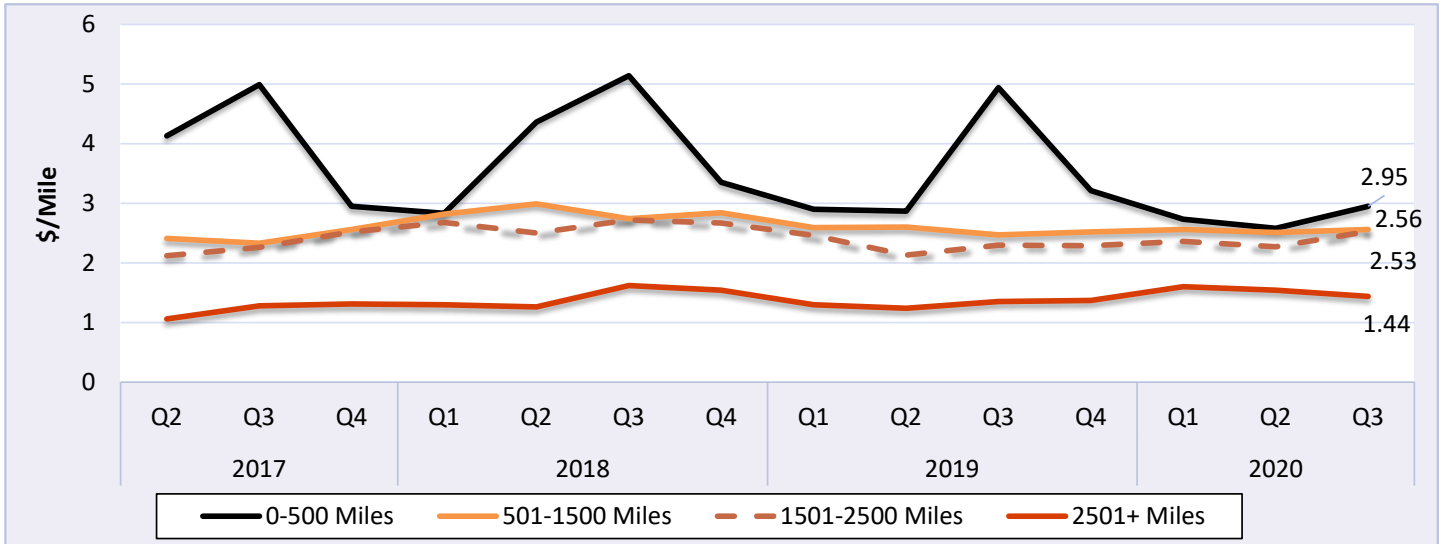
Diesel Fuel

During third quarter 2020, the U.S. diesel fuel price averaged \$2.43 per gallon—unchanged from the previous quarter but 20 percent lower than the same quarter last year.



U.S. Truck Rates

Figure 1: Average Truck Rates for Selected Routes (\$/Mile)



Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Note: The rates for 8 long-haul fruit and vegetable truck corridors are included in the national rates, weighted by commodity and origin volume.

Table 1: Average U.S. Truck Rates for Selected Routes Between 501 and 1,500 Miles (\$/Mile)

Year	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
2020	2.56	2.51	2.56	
2019	2.59	2.60	2.47	2.52
2018	2.82	2.99	2.74	2.84
2017	1.86	2.41	2.33	2.56
2016	2.22	2.37	2.49	2.06
2015	2.47	2.63	2.59	2.36
2014	2.32	2.67	2.64	2.49
2013	2.24	2.60	2.62	2.27
2012	2.10	2.54	2.45	2.29
2011	2.02	2.60	2.77	2.26
2010	1.82	2.21	2.33	1.94
2009	1.85	1.99	2.02	1.86
2008	2.02	2.56	2.77	2.24

Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Note: The rates for 8 long-haul fruit and vegetable truck corridors are included in the national rate, weighted by commodity and origin volume.

Note: Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 3, 2020

Table 2: Quarterly Rates for Key Origins by Month; 501-1,500 miles (\$/Mile)

U.S. Origin	3rd Quarter, 2020			2nd Quarter, 2020		
	July	August	September	April	May	June
Arizona	3.17	n/a	n/a	2.85	3.04	3.18
California	3.01	2.98	3.15	2.73	2.67	2.99
Florida	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.07	2.45	2.34
Great Lakes	3.40	3.49	3.73	3.43	3.41	3.34
Mexico-Arizona	2.23	1.70	n/a	2.24	2.65	2.71
Mexico-Texas	2.32	2.26	2.44	2.35	2.11	2.28
New York	n/a	n/a	5.29	3.06	3.06	3.06
Other	2.41	2.39	2.46	2.50	2.30	2.37
PNW	1.93	1.91	2.20	2.09	1.95	1.91
Southeast	4.09	5.49	6.02	3.79	3.28	3.43
Texas	2.54	2.81	3.06	n/a	2.22	2.43

Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Note: "n/a" indicates rates not available.

Truck Rates for Selected Routes

Table 3: Origin-Destination Truck Rates for Selected Routes, 3rd Quarter 2020 (\$/Mile)

U.S. Origin	Destination								
	Atlanta	Baltimore	Boston	Chicago	Dallas	Los Angeles	Miami	New York	Philadelphia
Arizona	2.87	2.95	2.94	2.81	3.17	n/a	2.72	3.04	3.04
California	2.76	2.79	2.66	2.67	3.09	n/a	2.73	2.76	2.81
Great Lakes	3.42	3.99	3.37	4.38	2.83	n/a	2.67	4.33	3.67
Mexico-Arizona	2.56	2.38	2.41	2.11	2.59	1.91	2.24	2.47	2.46
Mexico-Texas	2.53	2.42	2.37	2.17	2.97	1.77	2.66	2.46	2.41
Midatlantic	3.09	9.95	4.63	2.13	n/a	n/a	n/a	6.28	8.25
New York	5.24	4.67	6.73	5.43	n/a	n/a	5.19	n/a	4.38
Other	2.96	2.50	2.37	2.53	3.56	2.10	2.37	2.60	2.33
PNW	2.40	2.53	2.46	2.49	2.34	2.04	2.36	2.60	2.49
Southeast	7.63	8.64	5.40	3.75	3.44	1.62	5.76	6.66	7.21
Texas	3.17	2.87	2.74	2.78	4.39	1.96	2.89	2.90	2.85

Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Note: "n/a" indicates rates not available.



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 3, 2020

Table 4: Origin-Destination Truck Rates for Selected Routes, 3rd Quarter 2020 (\$/Truck)

U.S. Origin	Destination								
	Atlanta	Baltimore	Boston	Chicago	Dallas	Los Angeles	Miami	New York	Philadelphia
Arizona	6,033	7,667	8,517	5,700	4,117	n/a	7,067	8,200	8,050
California	6,253	7,653	8,185	5,685	4,632	n/a	7,754	7,888	7,849
Great Lakes	3,205	3,342	4,857	1,211	3,086	n/a	4,525	3,818	3,248
Mexico-Arizona	4,600	5,600	6,500	3,800	2,533	1,070	5,100	6,167	5,900
Mexico-Texas	2,912	4,323	5,219	3,104	1,485	2,831	4,065	4,912	4,581
Midatlantic	2,160	995	2,085	1,700	n/a	n/a	n/a	1,445	1,155
New York	5,236	1,540	1,144	4,565	n/a	n/a	7,524	n/a	1,007
Other	2,525	4,485	5,123	2,271	1,787	1,951	4,853	4,471	4,300
PNW	5,550	6,212	6,768	4,446	4,283	2,087	6,856	6,615	6,260
Southeast	2,728	3,150	4,274	3,179	3,919	3,800	4,289	3,782	3,414
Texas	2,912	4,323	5,219	3,104	1,485	2,831	4,073	4,912	4,581

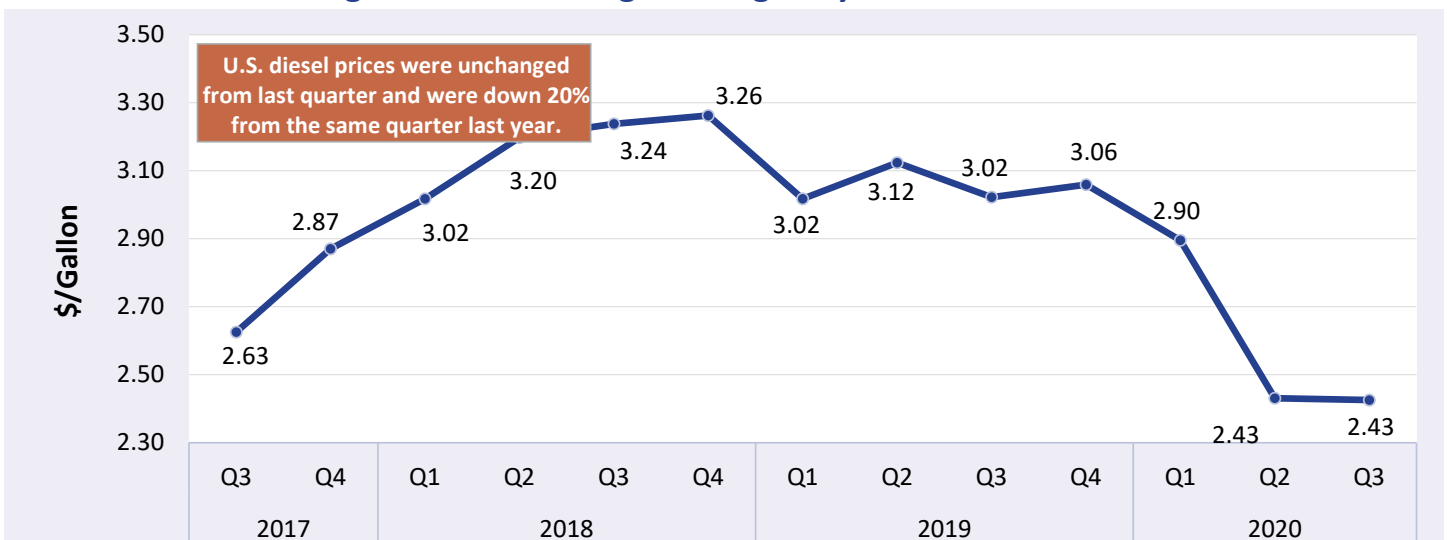
Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Note: "n/a" indicates rates not available.

U.S. Diesel Fuel Prices

The diesel fuel price provides a proxy for trends in U.S. truck rates. Diesel fuel is a significant component underlying truck rates.

Figure 2: U.S. Average On-Highway Diesel Fuel Prices



Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of Energy Information Administration/U.S. Department of Energy data.



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Quarter 3, 2020

Table 5: Average Diesel Fuel Prices (All Types)

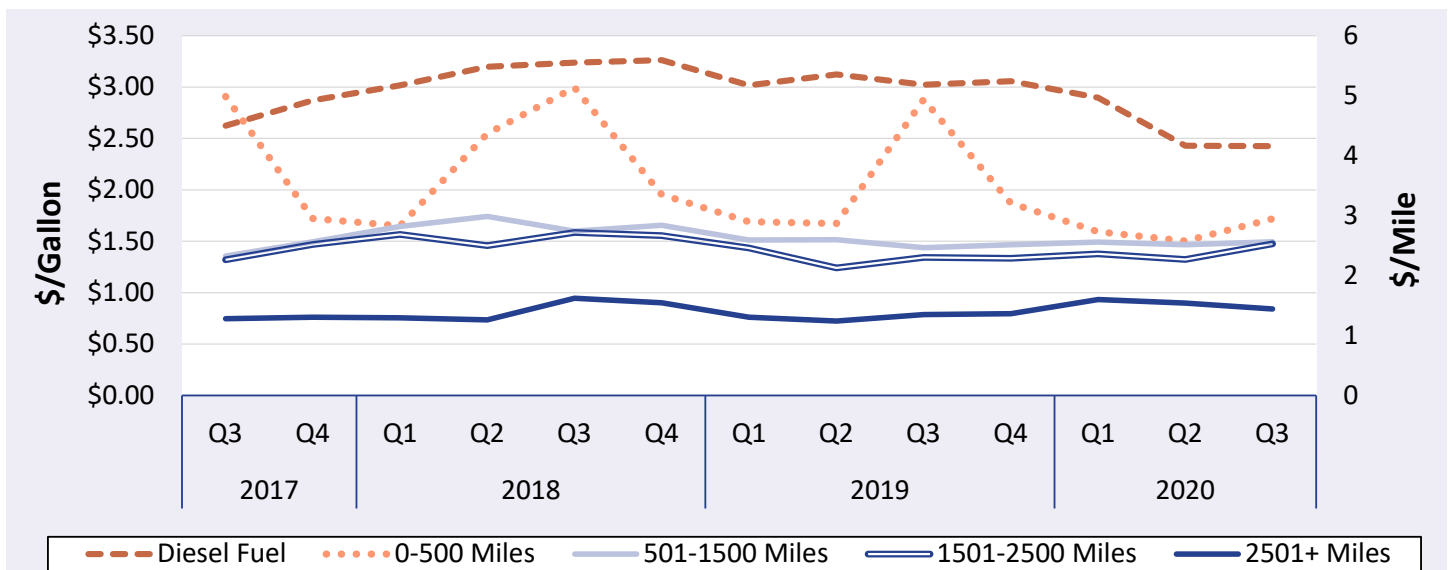
Region	3rd Quarter 2020 Price \$/Gallon	Change From Last Quarter	Change From Last Year
East Coast	2.51	-1%	-17%
California	3.26	1%	-17%
New England	2.62	-2%	-15%
Central Atlantic	2.69	-1%	-16%
Lower Atlantic	2.37	-1%	-19%
Gulf Coast	2.18	-1%	-22%
Midwest	2.3	1%	-22%
Rocky Mountain	2.36	-1%	-21%
West Coast Except California	2.58	-1%	-19%
U.S.	2.43	0%	-20%

Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of Energy Information Administration/U.S. Department of Energy data.
 Note: Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.

Relationship Between Diesel Fuel and Truck Rates

The diesel fuel price provides a proxy for trends in U.S. truck rates. Diesel fuel is a significant expense for fruit and vegetable movements.

Figure 3: U.S. Average On-Highway Diesel Fuel Prices and Truck Rates



Sources: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data and Energy Information Administration/U.S. Department of Energy data.

Note: The rates for 8 long-haul fruit and vegetable truck corridors are included in the national rates, weighted by origin volume.



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 3, 2020

Table 6: Average Diesel Fuel Prices and Truck Rates

Year	Quarter	Diesel Fuel (\$/gallon)	Truck Rates (\$/mile) 501-1500 miles	% Change From			
				Last Quarter		Last Year	
				Diesel	Truck	Diesel	Truck
2017	Q3	2.63	2.33	3%	-4%	10%	-7%
	Q4	2.87	2.56	9%	10%	16%	25%
2018	Q1	3.02	2.82	5%	10%	18%	51%
	Q2	3.20	2.99	6%	6%	25%	24%
	Q3	3.24	2.74	1%	-8%	23%	18%
	Q4	3.26	2.84	1%	4%	14%	11%
2019	Q1	3.02	2.59	-8%	-9%	< 1%	-8%
	Q2	3.12	2.60	4%	< 1%	-2%	-13%
	Q3	3.02	2.47	-3%	-5%	-7%	-10%
	Q4	3.06	2.52	1%	2%	-6%	-11%
2020	Q1	2.90	2.56	-5%	2%	-4%	-1%
	Q2	2.43	2.51	-16%	-2%	-22%	-3%
	Q3	2.43	2.56	> -1%	2%	-20%	4%

Sources: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data and Energy Information Administration/U.S. Department of Energy data.

Note: Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 3, 2020

Quarterly Truck Availability

Table 7: U.S. Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Truck Availability

Truck availability legend															
1=Surplus		2=Slight surplus			3=Adequate			4=Slight shortage			5=Shortage				
California, Central, And Western Arizona	Commodities	7/7	7/14	7/21	7/28	8/4	8/11	8/18	8/25	9/1	9/8	9/15	9/22	9/29	
Imperial, Palo Verde And Coachella Valleys, California And Central And Western Arizona	Bell Peppers, Corn, Beans, Eggplant, Melons	3	3	3											
	Kern District California	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	
	Salinas-Watsonville California	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	
	San Joaquin Valley California	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	
	Santa Maria California	Broccoli, Cauliflower, Celery, Lettuce, Romaine, Leaf Lettuce, Strawberries	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
	South District California	Citrus, Avocados	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	3
Great Lakes (MI & WI)	Commodities	7/7	7/14	7/21	7/28	8/4	8/11	8/18	8/25	9/1	9/8	9/15	9/22	9/29	
Central Wisconsin	Potatoes, Onions	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	5	
Michigan	Apples, Cucumbers		3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	3		3	
Pacific Northwest (ID, OR, & WA)	Commodities	7/7	7/14	7/21	7/28	8/4	8/11	8/18	8/25	9/1	9/8	9/15	9/22	9/29	
Columbia Basin Washington	Potatoes, Onions	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	5	5	5	5	5	
Idaho And Malheur County, Oregon	Onions							3	3	5	5	5	5	5	
Upper Valley, Twin Falls-Burley District Idaho	Potatoes	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	5	5	5	5	5	
Yakima Valley & Wenatchee District Washington	Apples, Pears, Peaches, Nectarines, Cherries, Prunes, Apricots	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	

Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Note: Empty cells were not reported.



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 3, 2020

Table 7, continued: U.S. Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Truck Availability

Truck availability legend														
1=Surplus	2=Slight surplus	3=Adequate	4=Slight shortage	5=Shortage										
Southeast (GA, SC, & NC)	Commodities	7/7	7/14	7/21	7/28	8/4	8/11	8/18	8/25	9/1	9/8	9/15	9/22	9/29
Eastern North Carolina	Sweet Potatoes	5	5	4	3	4	3	3	3	3	5	4	4	5
North Carolina	Melons				5	5	5	5	4	5	5	5	5	5
South Carolina	Melons, Tomatoes	5	4	4	5	5								
South Georgia	Watermelon, Cantaloupe, Corn, Cucumber, Eggplant, Squash	3	3	3	3									
Vidalia District Georgia	Onions	3	3	3	3	3								
Texas and Oklahoma	Commodities	7/7	7/14	7/21	7/28	8/4	8/11	8/18	8/25	9/1	9/8	9/15	9/22	9/29
Lower Rio Grande Valley, Texas	Watermelons, Onions	3	4	3	4	3								
Texas	Watermelons, Onions						3	3	3	4	3	3	3	4
U.S.-Mexico border	Commodities	7/7	7/14	7/21	7/28	8/4	8/11	8/18	8/25	9/1	9/8	9/15	9/22	9/29
Nogales, Arizona	Mangos, Grapes	2	3	3	3	3								
Texas	Limes, Mangos, Tomatoes, Broccoli, Mixed Fruit and Vegetables	3	4	3	4	3	3	3	3	4	3	3	3	4
Southern New Mexico	Onions	4	4	4	4	4	4	4						

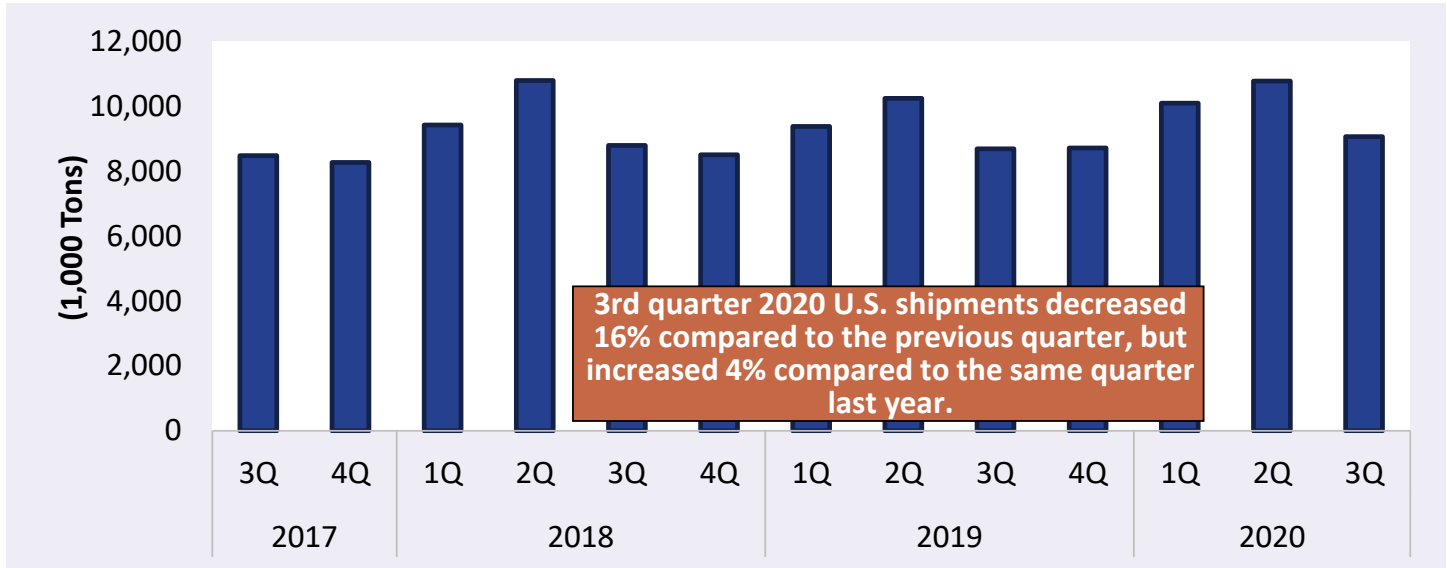
Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Note: Empty cells were not reported.



Reported U.S. Shipments

Figure 4: Reported U.S. Fruit and Vegetable Shipments (1,000 Tons)



Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Table 8: Reported U.S. Fruit and Vegetable Shipments (1,000 Tons)

Year	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Annual
2020	10,091	10,772	9,061		29,923
2019	9,381	10,246	8,687	8,714	37,028
2018	9,421	10,795	8,789	8,503	37,508
2017	8,072	9,642	8,479	8,267	34,459
2016	8,094	9,761	8,541	8,188	34,583
2015	8,118	9,630	8,324	7,771	33,842
2014	7,733	9,139	8,080	7,725	32,677
2013	7,451	8,972	7,762	7,527	31,712
2012	7,577	9,008	7,774	7,532	31,890
2011	7,007	8,981	7,887	7,988	31,863
2010	7,065	8,881	7,985	7,522	31,454
2009	7,158	8,728	7,990	7,270	31,147
2008	7,059	8,666	7,426	6,904	30,057
2007	6,959	8,585	7,475	7,099	30,118
2006	6,335	8,400	7,854	6,960	29,550
2005	6,877	8,324	7,737	7,387	30,325
2004	6,867	8,331	6,876	6,732	28,807

Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Note: Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

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Reported Shipments by Selected Commodities

Table 9: Reported Top 10 Commodity Shipments (1,000 Tons)

Commodity	3rd Quarter 2020	Previous Quarter	Same Quarter Last Year	Current Quarter as % change from:	
				Previous Qtr	Same Qtr Last Year
Potatoes	1,082	1,108	1,062	-2%	2%
Watermelons, Seedless	1,032	1,468	915	-30%	13%
Apples	707	761	621	-7%	14%
Onions Dry	611	771	587	-21%	4%
Avocados	532	577	476	-8%	12%
Tomatoes	495	499	391	-1%	27%
Grapes	383	386	403	-1%	-5%
Limes	358	355	332	1%	8%
Tomatoes, Plum Type	354	466	317	-24%	12%
Lettuce, Iceberg	345	360	340	-4%	1%

Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.
 Note: Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.

Table 10: Reported Top 10 Regions (1,000 Tons)

Origin	3rd Quarter 2020 Volume	% Change from Last Quarter	% Change From Same Quarter Last Year
California	3,258	-4%	-4%
Mexico	1,880	-36%	8%
PNW	1,659	9%	7%
Southeast	425	-34%	12%
Great Lakes	376	180%	12%
Indiana	239	n/a	28%
Canada	216	2%	659%
Texas	185	-40%	-12%
Midatlantic	168	1,346%	-4%
Colorado	134	-15%	-16%

Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.
 Note: Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.

Note: On Jan. 1, 2020, Specialty Crops Market News transitioned to the Department of Homeland Security ACE reporting system. According to AMS Specialty Crops Program, ACE is a more complete data system than their prior source and is an important factor behind the large increase in movements from the Canada border.



REGIONAL MARKETS

California

Volume

Total reported shipments of fruits and vegetables from California during third quarter 2020 were 3.26 million tons, a decrease of 4 percent from the same quarter last year (year to year). The top five commodities decreased by 3 percent from year to year. Four of the top 5 commodities saw year-to-year decreases this quarter, including oranges (15 percent), strawberries (4 percent), romaine lettuce (1 percent), and grapes (2 percent). Shipments of iceberg lettuce increased by 3 percent.

Rates

The quarterly average truck rate for shipments between 501 miles and 1,500 miles was \$3.05 per mile, a 9-percent increase quarter to quarter, and a 4-percent increase year to year.

Truck Overview

Diesel fuel prices averaged \$3.26 per gallon, a 1-percent increase quarter to quarter but a 17-percent decrease year to year. Shippers in California reported adequate truck availability throughout the quarter.

Table 11: Reported Top Five Commodities Shipped from California (1,000 tons)

Commodity	3rd Quarter 2020	Share of California Total	Previous Quarter	Same Quarter Last Year	Current Quarter as % change from:	
					Previous Qtr	Same Qtr Last Year
Grapes	364	11%	17	369	2,024%	-2%
Lettuce, Iceberg	315	10%	305	307	3%	3%
Strawberries	276	8%	387	288	-29%	-4%
Lettuce, Romaine	237	7%	250	239	-5%	-1%
Oranges	205	6%	662	241	-69%	-15%
Top 5 Total	1,396	43%	1,620	1,445	-14%	-3%
California Total	3,258	100%	3,388	3,407	-4%	-4%

Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Any "-" in the table indicates no reported shipments during the quarter or a percentage change with an at- or near-zero denominator.

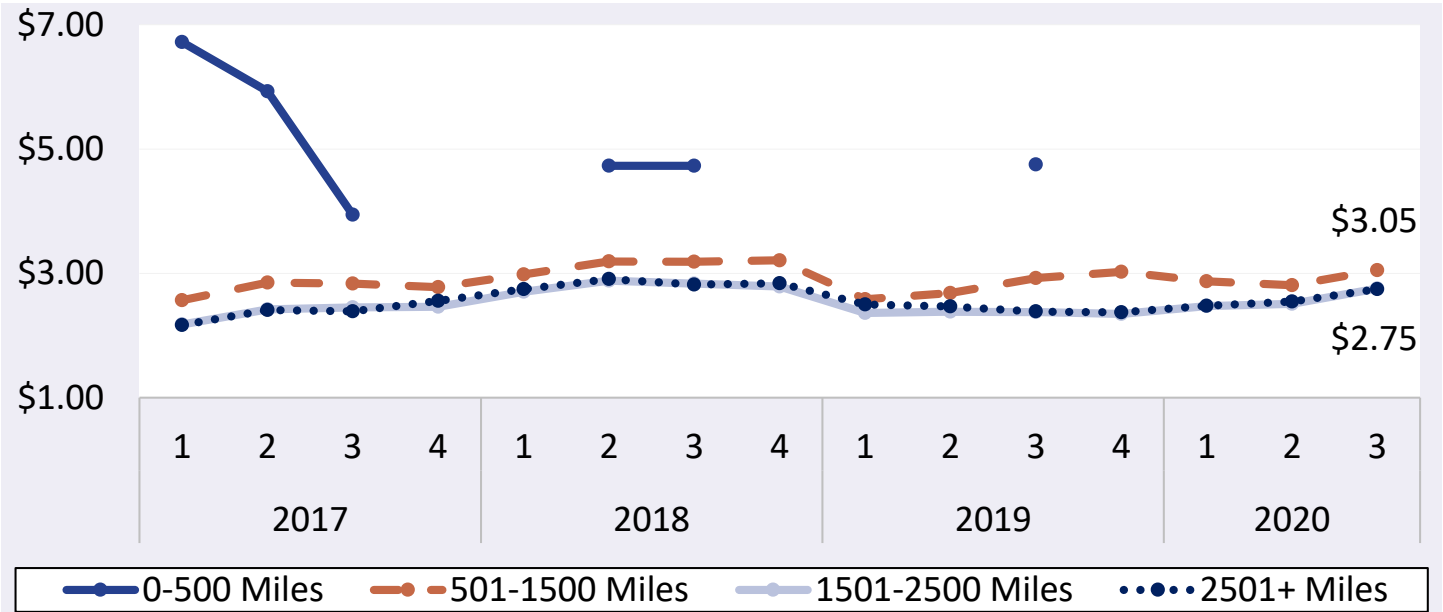
Note: Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 3, 2020

Figure 5: California Truck Rates (\$/Mile by Distance Travelled)



Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.
Any gaps in the chart lines are the result of quarters with no reported data for the region.

Table 12: California Truck Overview (Availability Rating: 1=Surplus to 5=Shortage)

Region/Reporting District	July	August	September	3rd Quarter
Imperial, Palo Verde And Coachella Valleys, California And Central And Western Arizona	3	-	-	3
Kern District California	3	3	3	3
Salinas-Watsonville California	3	3	3	3
San Joaquin Valley California	3	3.30	3	3.10
Santa Maria California	3	3	3	3
South District California	3	4	3	3.33
Regional Average Availability	3	3.26	3	3.09
Diesel Fuel Price (\$/gallon)	3.25	3.26	3.26	3.26

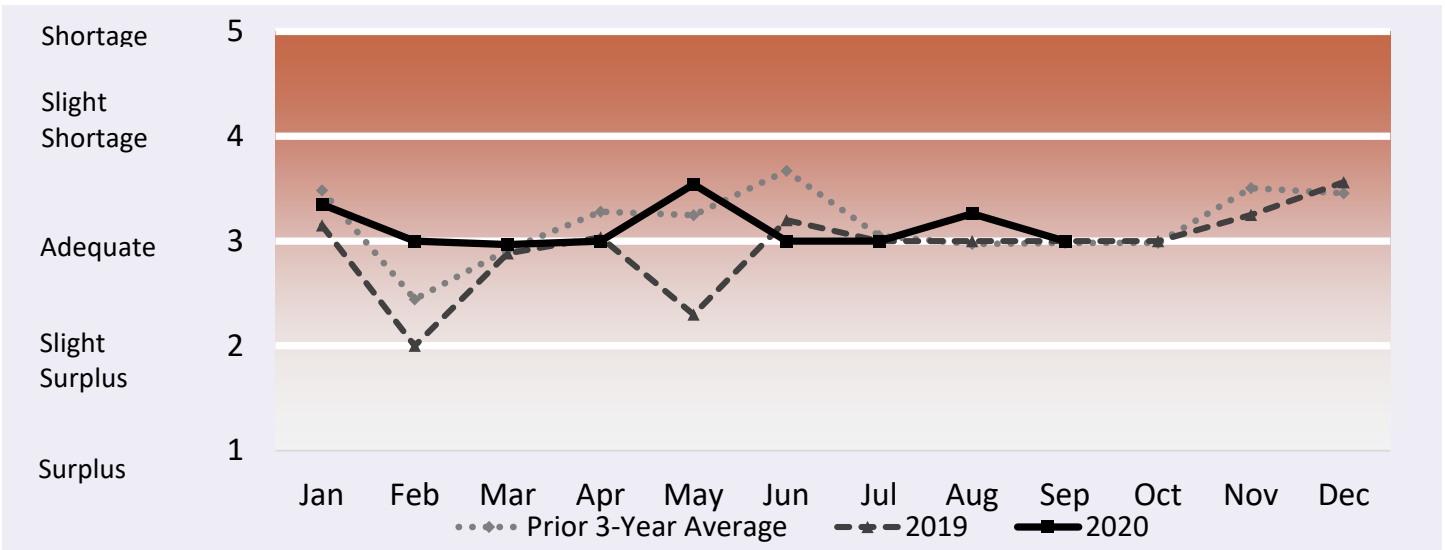
Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.
Any "-" in the table indicates no reported shipments during the quarter.

Note: Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.

Note: AMS Specialty Crops Program defines regions by commodity, which may overlap in truck availability reporting.



Table 13: Refrigerated Truck Availability Monthly Ratings for California



Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.
Any gaps in the chart lines are the result of quarters with no reported data for the region.



U.S.-Mexico Border

Volume

Total reported shipments of fruits and vegetables from Mexico during third quarter 2020 were 1.88 million tons, an 8-percent increase year to year. The sum of the top five commodities increased 14 percent year to year. Each of the top five commodities increased, with particularly sharp increases of tomatoes and mangoes.

Rates

In third quarter 2020, truck rates for shipments between 501 miles and 1,500 miles from the Arizona border crossings averaged \$2.16 per mile, down 15 percent from quarter to quarter and down 14 percent year to year. Rates for shipments between 501 miles and 1,500 miles from the Texas border crossings averaged \$2.35 per mile, up 4 percent quarter to quarter and up 15 percent year to year.

Truck Overview

Diesel fuel prices for border crossings from Arizona averaged \$2.58 per gallon, decreasing by 0.5 percent quarter to quarter and by 19 percent year to year. Diesel fuel prices for border crossings from Texas averaged \$2.18 per gallon, a 1-percent decrease quarter to quarter, and a 22-percent decrease year to year. Shippers at the Arizona-Mexico border crossings reported adequate availability through early August, data was not provided for the remainder of the quarter. Shippers at the Texas-Mexico border crossing reported conditions fluctuated between adequate and slight shortage through the quarter.

Table 14: Reported Top Five Commodities Shipped from Mexico (1,000 tons)

Commodity	3rd Quarter 2020	Share of Mexico-Total Total	Previous Quarter	Same Quarter Last Year	Current Quarter as % change from:	
					Previous Qtr	Same Qtr Last Year
Avocados	227	12%	242	211	-6%	8%
Limes	179	10%	178	166	1%	8%
Mangoes	169	9%	173	147	-2%	15%
Tomatoes, Plum Type	156	8%	218	139	-29%	12%
Tomatoes	153	8%	160	117	-5%	31%
Top 5 Total	884	47%	972	779	-9%	14%
Mexico Total	1,880	100%	2,942	1,740	-36%	8%

Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Any "-" in the table indicates no reported shipments during the quarter or a percentage change with an at- or near-zero denominator.

Note: Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

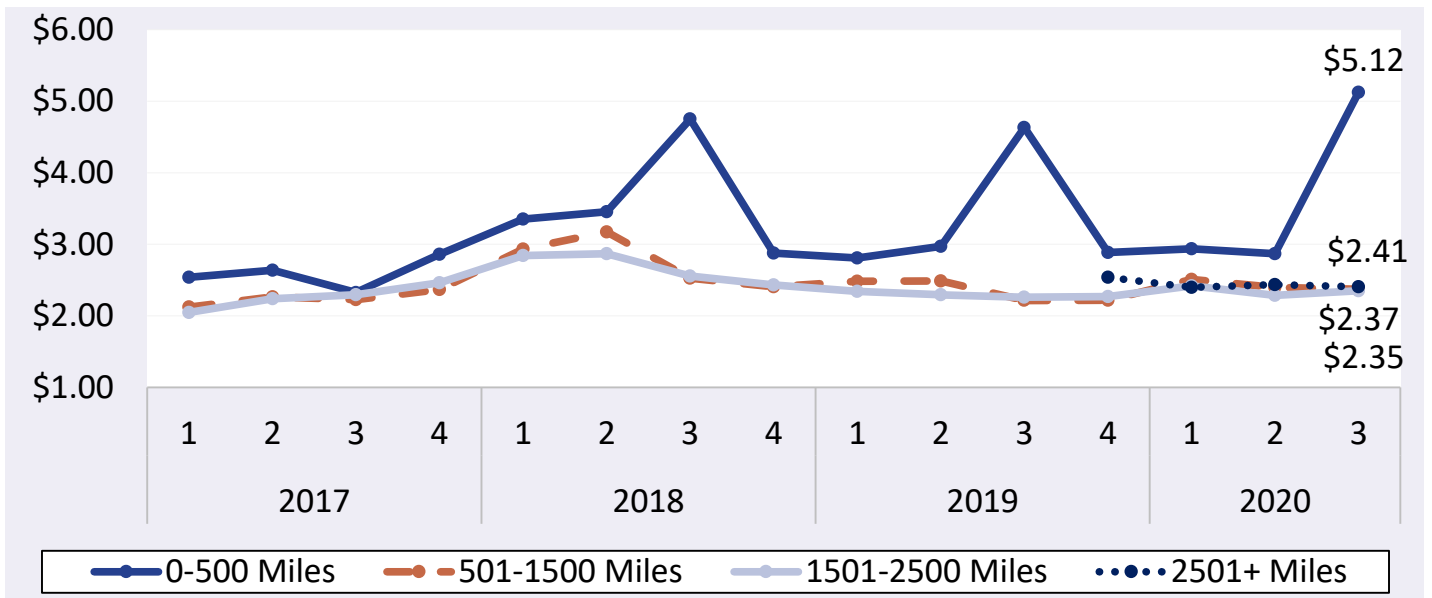
Quarter 3, 2020

Table 15: Top 5 Commodities Shipped to U.S. from Mexico by State of Entry (1,000 tons)

Texas		California		Arizona		New Mexico	
Commodity	3rd Quarter 2020	Commodity	3rd Quarter 2020	Commodity	3rd Quarter 2020	Commodity	3rd Quarter 2020
Avocados	224	Onions Green	33	Mangoes	69	Peppers, Other	66
Limes	160	Tomatoes, Plum Type	33	Tomatoes	24	Onions Dry	13
Tomatoes	122	Misc Tropical	31	Tomatoes, Plum Type	22	Misc Tropical	< 1
Tomatoes, Plum Type	100	Cucumbers	30	Cucumbers	16	Corn-Sweet	< 1
Mangoes	99	Peppers, Other	22	Watermelons, Seedless	11		
Mexico through TX Total	1,317	Mexico through CA Total	277	Mexico through AZ Total	207	Mexico through NM Total	80

Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.
 Any "-" in the table indicates no reported shipments during the quarter.
 Note: Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.

Figure 6: Truck Rates from U.S.-Mexico Border (\$/Mile by Distance Traveled)



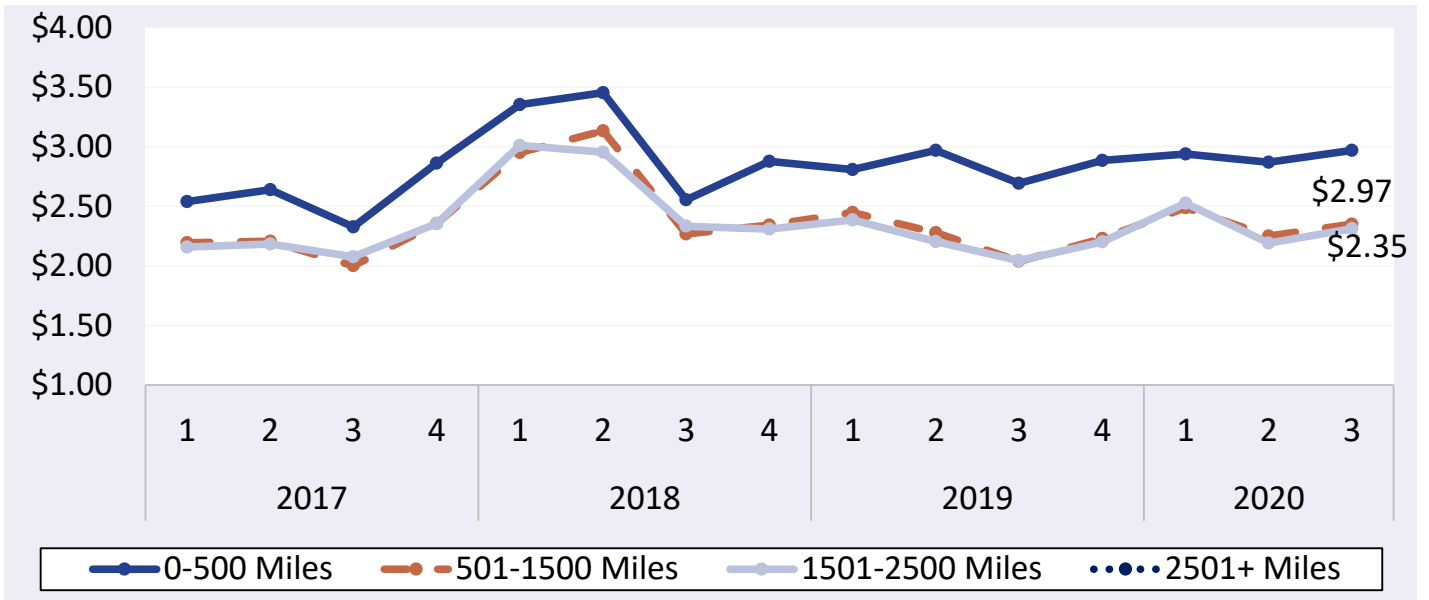
Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.
 Any gaps in the chart lines are the result of quarters with no reported data for the region.



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

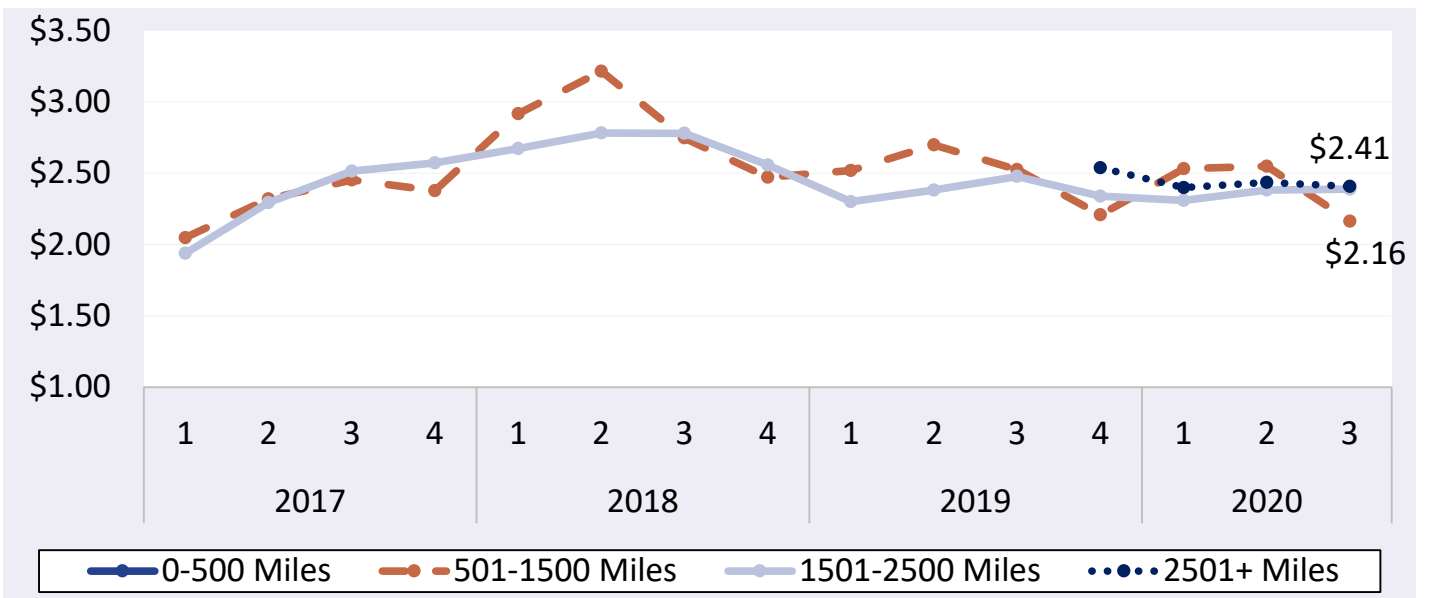
Quarter 3, 2020

Figure 7: Texas Truck Rates from U.S.-Mexico Border (\$/Mile by Distance Traveled)



Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data. Any gaps in the chart lines are the result of quarters with no reported data for the region.

Figure 8: Arizona Truck Rates from U.S.-Mexico Border (\$/Mile by Distance Traveled)



Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data. Any gaps in the chart lines are the result of quarters with no reported data for the region.



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 3, 2020

Table 16: Truck Overview from the U.S.-Mexico Border

Region/Reporting District	July	August	September	3rd Quarter
Mexico Crossings Through Nogales, Arizona	2.55	3	-	2.78
Mexico Crossings Through Texas	3.5	3	3.4	3.3
Regional Average Availability	3.03	3	3.4	3.14
Diesel Fuel Price (\$/gallon), through Texas	2.20	2.18	2.17	2.18
Diesel Fuel Price (\$/gallon), through Arizona	2.59	2.59	2.57	2.58

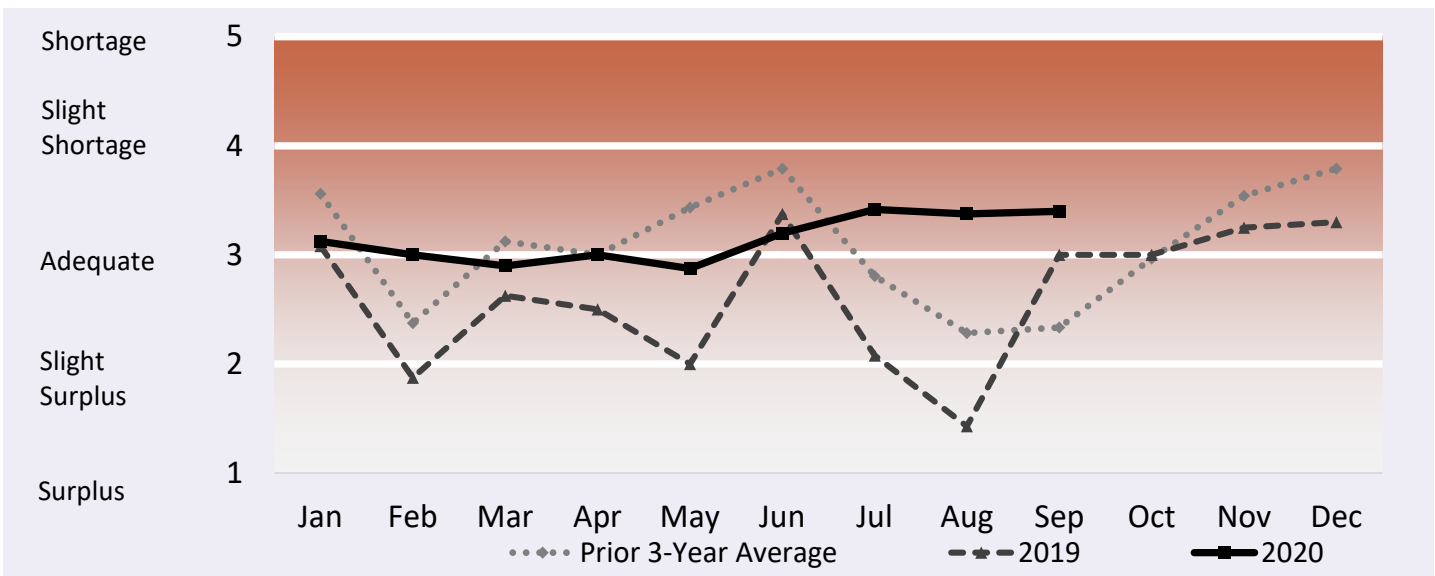
Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Any "-" in the table indicates no reported shipments during the quarter.

Note: Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.

Note: AMS Specialty Crops Program defines regions by commodity, which may overlap in truck availability reporting.

Figure 9: Refrigerated Truck Availability Monthly Ratings from the U.S-Mexico Border



Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Any gaps in the chart lines are the result of quarters with no reported data for the region.



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 3, 2020

PNW

Volume

During third quarter 2020, total reported shipments of fruits and vegetables from the PNW were 1.66 million tons, increasing by 7 percent year to year. The sum of the top five commodities also increased by 7 percent year to year. Decreases in shipments of potatoes (2 percent), cherries (9 percent), and pears (10 percent), were offset by increases in shipments of apples (17 percent) and dry onions (16 percent).

Rates

The quarterly average truck rate for shipments between 501 miles and 1,500 miles was \$2.04 per mile, increasing 3 percent quarter to quarter, and by 6 percent year to year.

Truck Overview

Diesel fuel prices averaged \$2.58 per gallon, with decreases of 0.5 percent quarter to quarter and 19 percent year to year. Potato and onion shippers in the PNW reported adequate truck availability until the last week in August when slight shortage and shortage conditions continued through the end of September. Shippers in the Yakima Valley and Wenatchee District of Washington, on average, reported adequate truck availability in July, slight shortage conditions in August, and adequate conditions in September.

Table 17: Reported Top Five Commodities Shipped from PNW (1,000 tons)

Commodity	3rd Quarter 2020	Share of PNW Total	Previous Quarter	Same Quarter Last Year	Current Quarter as % change from:	
					Previous Qtr	Same Qtr Last Year
Apples	652	39%	685	558	-5%	17%
Potatoes	534	32%	511	547	5%	-2%
Onions Dry	282	17%	154	242	83%	16%
Cherries	97	6%	92	107	6%	-9%
Pears	46	3%	70	52	-33%	-10%
Top 5 Total	1,612	97%	1,512	1,505	7%	7%
PNW Total	1,659	100%	1,523	1,551	9%	7%

Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Any "-" in the table indicates no reported shipments during the quarter or a percentage change with an at- or near-zero denominator.

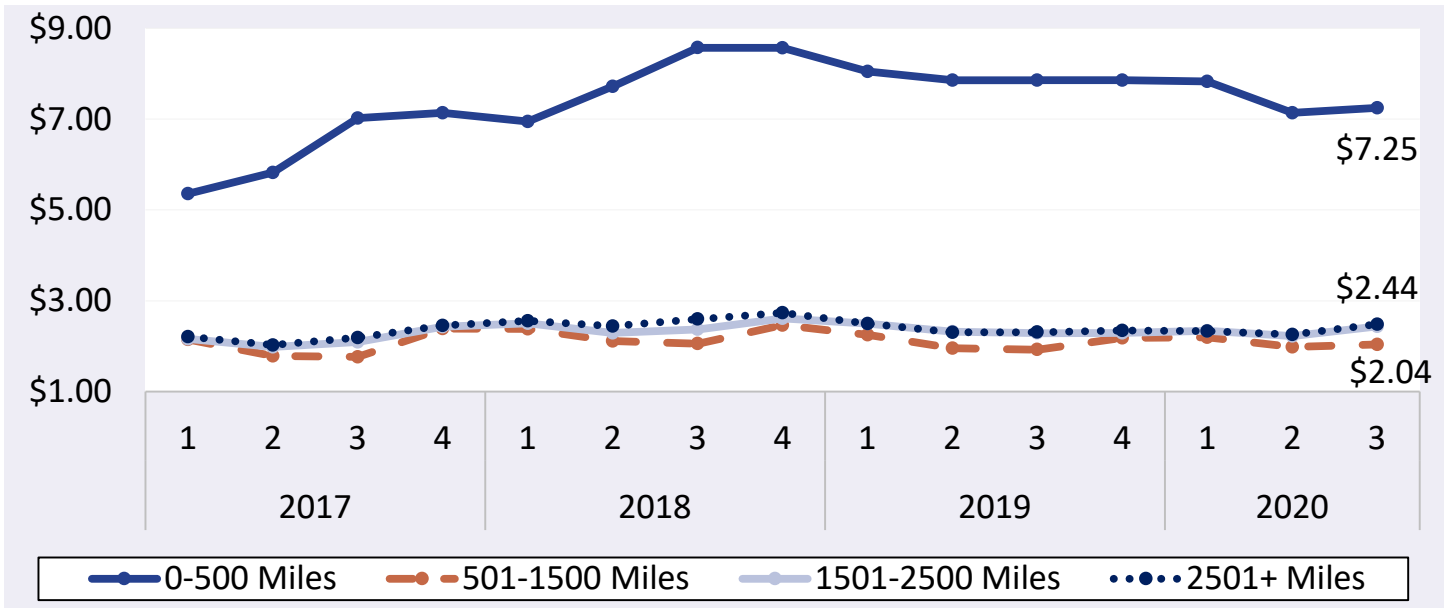
Note: Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 3, 2020

Figure 10: PNW Truck Rates (\$/Mile by Distance Travelled)



Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.
Any gaps in the chart lines are the result of quarters with no reported data for the region.

Table 18: PNW Truck Overview (Availability Rating: 1=Surplus to 5=Shortage)

Region/Reporting District	July	August	September	3rd Quarter
Columbia Basin Washington	3	3.25	5	3.75
Idaho And Malheur County, Oregon	-	3	5	4
Upper Valley, Twin Falls-Burley District Idaho	3	3	5	3.67
Yakima Valley & Wenatchee District Washington	3	4	3	3.33
Regional Average Availability	3	3.31	4.5	3.60
Diesel Fuel Price (\$/gallon)	2.59	2.59	2.57	2.58

Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Any "-" in the table indicates no reported shipments during the quarter.

Note: Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.

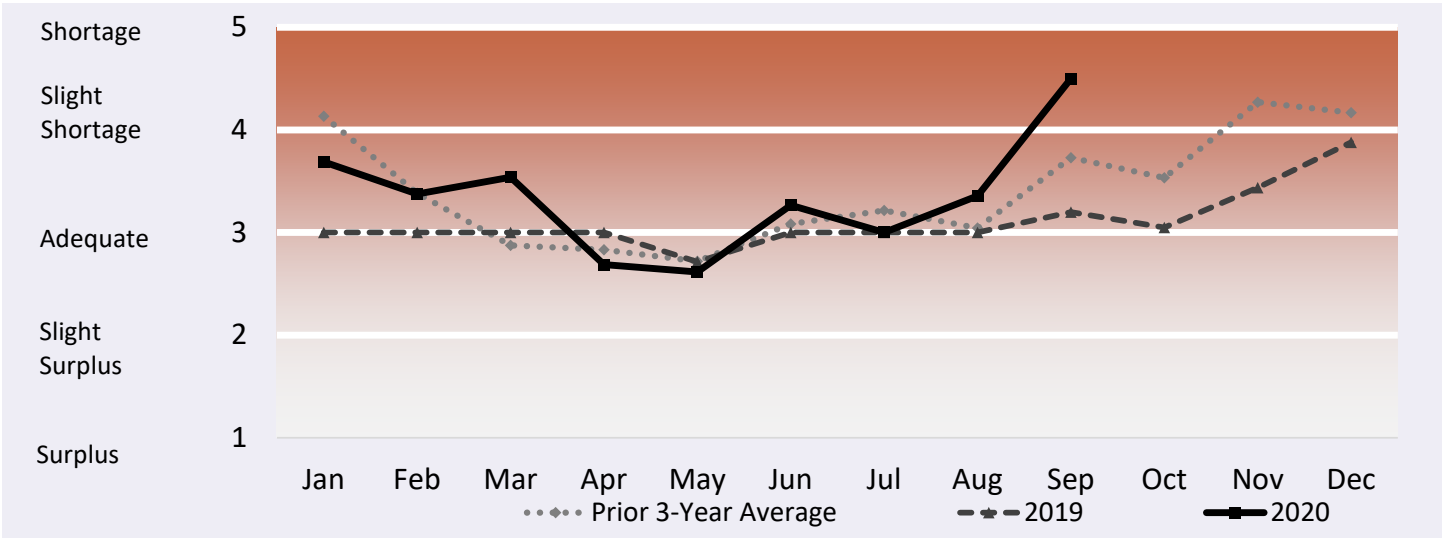
Note: AMS Specialty Crops Program defines regions by commodity, which may overlap in truck availability reporting.



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 3, 2020

Figure 11: Refrigerated Truck Availability Monthly Ratings for PNW



Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.
 Any gaps in the chart lines are the result of quarters with no reported data for the region.



Southeast

Volume

During third quarter 2020, total reported shipments of fruits and vegetables from the Southeast were 425,000 tons, up 12 percent year to year. The sum of the top five commodities also increased 12 percent year to year. Decreases in dry onions (61 percent), and peaches (5 percent) only slightly offset strong increases in seedless watermelons (21 percent), sweet potatoes (30 percent) and seeded watermelons (86 percent).

Rates

The quarterly average truck rate for shipments between 501 miles and 1,500 miles was \$5.04 per mile, up 47 percent quarter to quarter and up 10 percent year to year.

Truck Overview

Diesel fuel prices averaged \$2.37 per gallon, down 0.7 percent quarter to quarter and down 19 percent year to year. Sweet potato and melon shippers in North Carolina struggled to find available trucks much of the quarter. Tomato and melon shippers in South Carolina reported shortage and slight shortage conditions in July and early August; data was not available for the remainder of the quarter. Shippers in Georgia reported adequate availability in July and early August; data was not available for the remainder of the quarter.

Table 19: Reported Top Five Commodities Shipped from Southeast (1,000 tons)

Commodity	3rd Quarter 2020	Share of Southeast Total	Previous Quarter	Same Quarter Last Year	Current Quarter as % change from:	
					Previous Qtr	Same Qtr Last Year
Watermelons, Seedless	263	62%	213	218	23%	21%
Sweet Potatoes	54	13%	66	42	-19%	30%
Peaches	19	5%	24	20	-19%	-5%
Onions Dry	15	3%	77	38	-81%	-61%
Watermelons, Seeded	13	3%	13	7	-4%	86%
Top 5 Total	364	86%	394	324	-8%	12%
Southeast Total	425	100%	640	379	-34%	12%

Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Any "-" in the table indicates no reported shipments during the quarter or a percentage change with an at- or near-zero denominator.

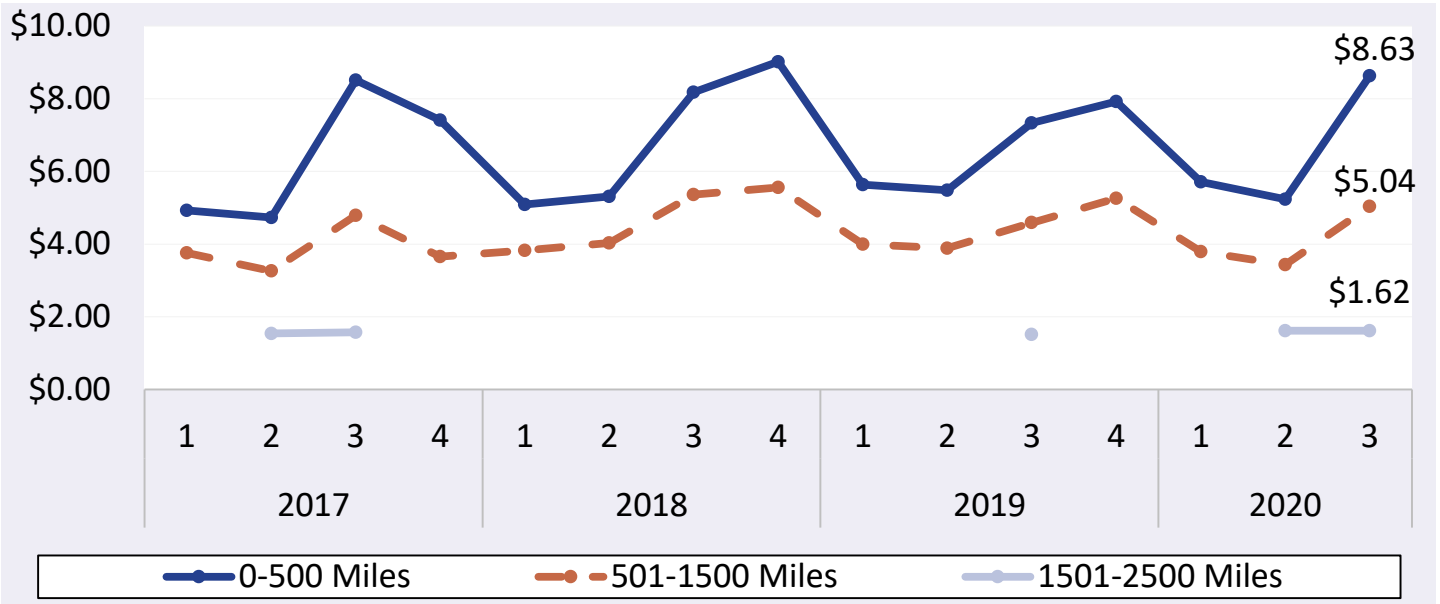
Note: Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 3, 2020

Figure 12: Southeast Truck Rates (\$/Mile by Distance Travelled)



Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.
Any gaps in the chart lines are the result of quarters with no reported data for the region.

Table 20: Southeast Truck Overview (Availability Rating: 1=Surplus to 5=Shortage)

Region/Reporting District	July	August	September	3rd Quarter
Eastern North Carolina	4.25	3.25	4.2	3.9
North Carolina	5	4.75	5	4.92
South Carolina	4.5	5	-	4.75
South Georgia	3	-	-	3
Vidalia District Georgia	3	3	-	3
Regional Average Availability	3.95	4	4.6	4.18
Diesel Fuel Price (\$/gallon)	2.38	2.37	2.35	2.37

Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

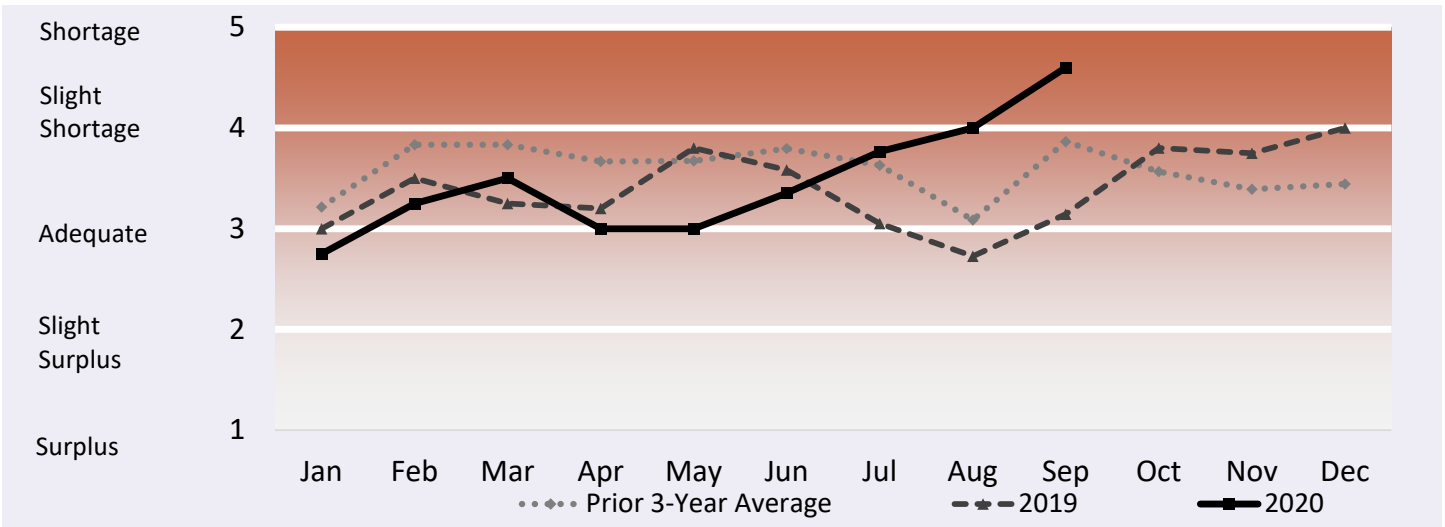
Any "-" in the table indicates no reported shipments during the quarter.

Note: Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.

Note: AMS Specialty Crops Program defines regions by commodity, which may overlap in truck availability reporting.



Figure 13: Refrigerated Truck Availability Monthly Ratings for Southeast



Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.
 Any gaps in the chart lines are the result of quarters with no reported data for the region.



Great Lakes

Volume

Total reported shipments of fruits and vegetables from the Great Lakes during third quarter 2020 were 376,000 tons, up 12 percent year to year. The sum of the top five commodities increased 17 percent year to year. Four of the top five commodities increased, including potatoes (28 percent), seedless watermelon (23 percent), bell peppers (7 percent), and cabbage (15 percent). Shipments of cucumbers fell by 17 percent.

Rates

The quarterly average truck rate for shipments between 501 miles and 1,500 miles was \$3.59 per mile, up 6 percent quarter to quarter, and up 2 percent year to year.

Truck Overview

Diesel fuel prices averaged \$2.30 per gallon, up 1 percent quarter to quarter but down 21 percent year to year. Shippers in the Great Lakes region reported adequate truck availability through the first week in September, then slight shortage and shortage conditions emerged in Central Wisconsin and Minnesota for the remainder of the month.

Table 21: Reported Top Five Commodities Shipped from Great Lakes (1,000 tons)

Commodity	3rd Quarter 2020	Share of Great Lakes Total	Previous Quarter	Same Quarter Last Year	Current Quarter as % change from:	
					Previous Qtr	Same Qtr Last Year
Potatoes	158	42%	95	124	67%	28%
Watermelons, Seedless	55	15%	-	45	-	23%
Cucumbers	33	9%	1	40	4,561%	-17%
Peppers, Bell Type	25	7%	-	23	-	7%
Cabbage	20	5%	1	17	1,313%	15%
Top 5 Total	290	77%	97	248	201%	17%
Great Lakes Total	376	100%	134	336	180%	12%

Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Any "-" in the table indicates no reported shipments during the quarter or a percentage change with an at- or near-zero denominator.

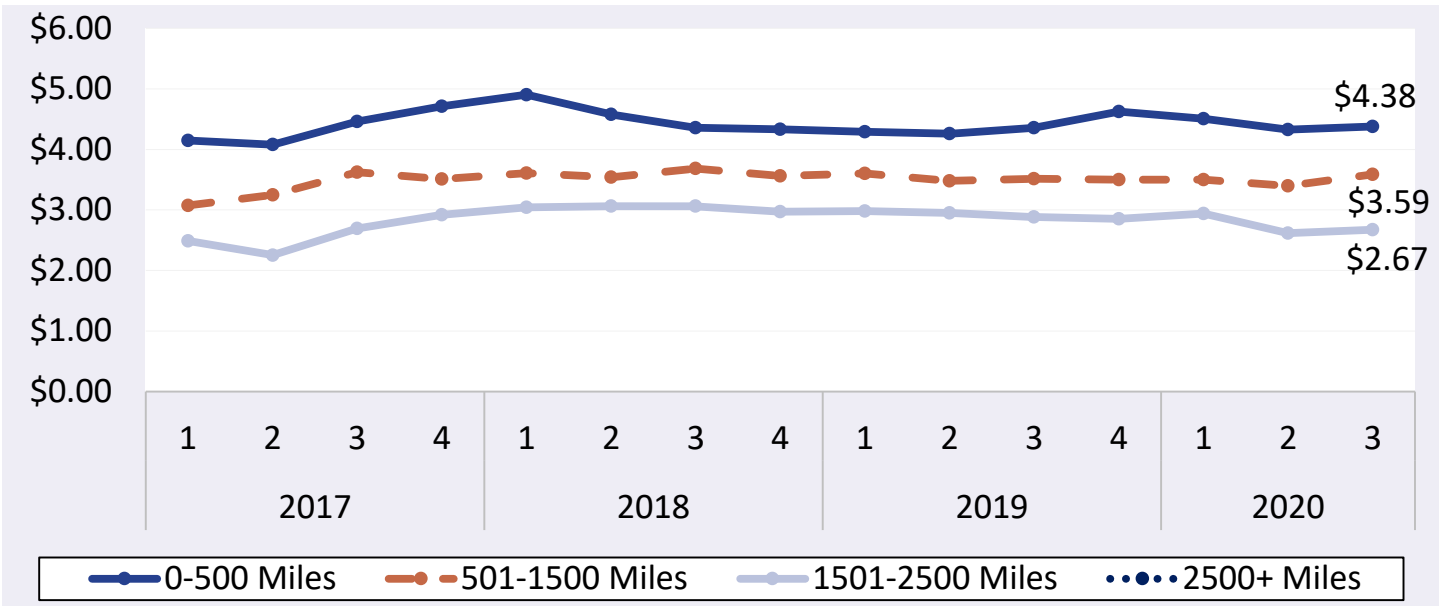
Note: Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 3, 2020

Figure 14: Great Lakes Truck Rates (\$/Mile by Distance Travelled)



Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.
Any gaps in the chart lines are the result of quarters with no reported data for the region.

Table 22: Great Lakes Truck Overview (Availability Rating: 1=Surplus to 5=Shortage)

Region/Reporting District	July	August	September	3rd Quarter
Big Lake And Central Minnesota	-	3.89	4.25	4.07
Central Wisconsin	3	3	3.85	3.28
Michigan	3	3	3.21	3.07
Regional Average Availability	3	3.30	3.77	3.36
Diesel Fuel Price (\$/gallon)	2.31	2.31	2.30	2.30

Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Any "-" in the table indicates no reported shipments during the quarter.

Note: Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.

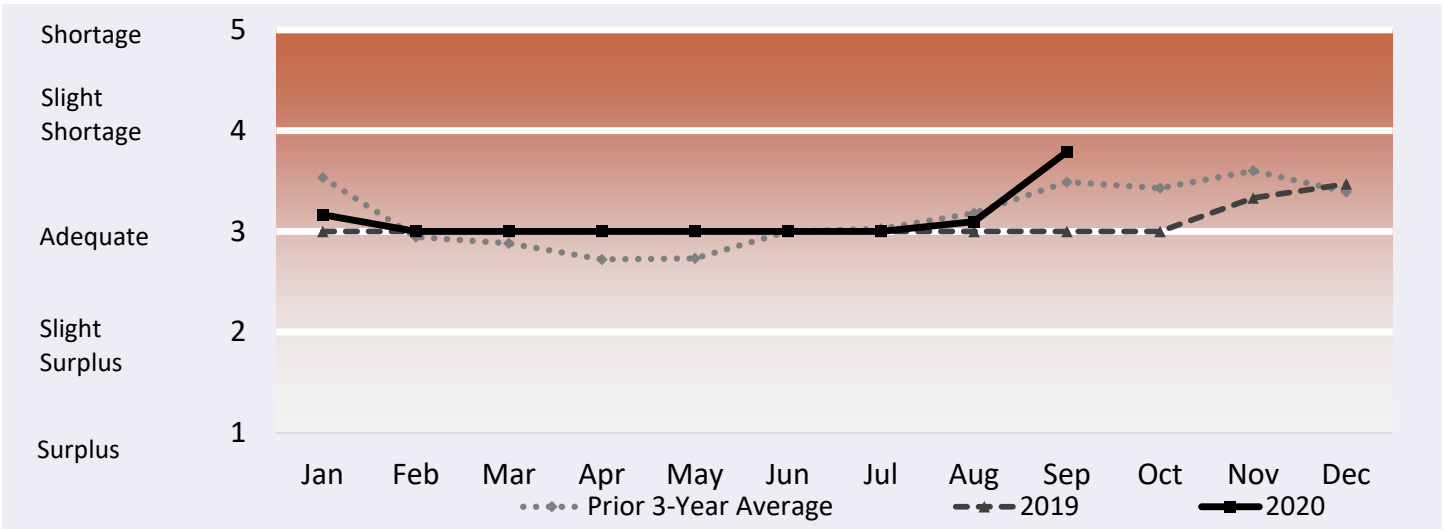
Note: AMS Specialty Crops Program defines regions by commodity, which may overlap in truck availability reporting.



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 3, 2020

Figure 15: Refrigerated Truck Availability Monthly Ratings for Great Lakes



Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.
 Any gaps in the chart lines are the result of quarters with no reported data for the region.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Terms and References

Data Sources

This information is compiled from the weekly Specialty Crops Truck Rate Report by USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), Specialty Crops Program, Market News Division. The website is:

<https://www.marketnews.usda.gov/mnp/fv-home>.

Regional Markets

For the regional markets, some States are grouped into producing regions. The Pacific Northwest region includes Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. The Great Lakes region includes Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. The Southeast region includes North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia.

Shipment Volumes

Truck shipments for all commodities and origins are not available. Those obtainable are reported, but should not be interpreted as representing complete movements of a commodity. Truck shipments from all States are collected at shipping points and include both interstate and intrastate movements. They are obtained from various sources, including Federal marketing orders, administrative committees, Federal State Inspection Service, and shippers. Volume amounts are represented in 10,000 pound units, or 1,000 10-lb packages but are converted to 1,000 tons for this report. Mexican border crossings through Arizona and Texas data is obtained from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), U.S. Customs and Border and Protection (CBP) through USDA, AMS, Market News.

Rates

This information is compiled from the weekly Specialty Crops Truck Rate Report. Rates quoted represent open (spot) market rates that shippers or receivers pay depending on basis of sale, per load, including truck brokers fees for shipments in truck load volume to a single destination. Extra charges for delivery to terminal markets, multipickup and multidrop shipments are not included unless otherwise stated. Rates are based on the most usual loads in 48-53 foot trailers from the origin shipping area to the destination receiving city. In areas where rates are based on package rates, per load rates were derived by multiplying the package rate by the number of packages in the most usual load in a 48-53 foot trailer. Slightly cheaper rates will be reported during Quarters 2 and 3 as about 50 percent of onion shipments from California are hauled on open flatbed trailers. During Quarter 3, less than 20 percent of onions hauled from Washington, Idaho, and Oregon are on open flatbeds.

Regional Rates

Rate data for 10 destination markets are used to calculate average origin regional rates.

National Rates

The national rates reflect the average of the regional rates, separated by mileage category and weighted by volume between origin and destination.



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For assistance with accessibility issues related to this document, please e-mail SharonC.Williams@usda.gov.

Related Websites

USDA's Agricultural Transportation Open Data Platform

<https://agtransport.usda.gov/>

Specialty Crops Program

<http://www.ams.usda.gov/about-ams/programs-offices/specialty-crops-program>

Specialty Crops Truck Rate Report

<http://www.ams.usda.gov/market-news/fruits-vegetables>

Economic Research Service Vegetable and Pulses

<https://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/crops/vegetables-pulses/>

Economic Research Service Fruit and Tree Nuts

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/crops/fruit-tree-nuts.aspx>

National Agricultural Statistics Service, Crops

http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_Subject/index.php?sector=CROPS

Refrigerated Truck Quarterly Datasets

<https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/transportation-analysis/agricultural-refrigerated-truck-quarterly-datasets>

Protecting Perishable Foods During Transport by Truck and Rail

<https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/pdffiles/HS/HS132800.pdf>

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