



# 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 fourth quarter 2020, reported U.S. truck shipments of fresh produce were 9.01 million tons, 1 percent lower than the previous quarter but 3 percent higher than the same quarter last year.

Also, in the fourth quarter, shipments from the Mexico border were 2.68 million tons, higher than those from any other reported origin and accounting for 30 percent of the total reported shipments of fresh fruit and vegetables. The remainder of the top five regions by volume are as follows: shipments from California, were 2.34 million tons, representing 26 percent of the total, shipments from the Pacific Northwest (PNW) were 1.84 million tons, representing 20 percent of the total, movements from Arizona were 386,000 tons, representing 4 percent of the reported total, and finally, Florida shipments were 305,000 tons, representing 3 percent of the reported total.

These top five commodities accounted for 38 percent of the reported truck movements during fourth quarter 2020:

- ▶ Potatoes (13 percent)
- ▶ Apples (10 percent)
- ▶ Onions, dry (6 percent)
- ▶ Oranges (5 percent)
- ▶ Tomatoes (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 2,501+ 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
<b>Q4 2019</b>	3.21	2.52	2.29	1.37
<b>Q1 2020</b>	2.73	2.56	2.36	1.60
<b>Q2 2020</b>	2.57	2.51	2.27	1.55
<b>Q3 2020</b>	2.95	2.56	2.53	1.44
<b>Q4 2020</b>	3.26	2.92	2.85	1.66
<b>Q4 Change from Previous Quarter</b>	11%	14%	13%	15%
<b>Q4 Change from Same Quarter Last Year</b>	2%	16%	24%	21%

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.

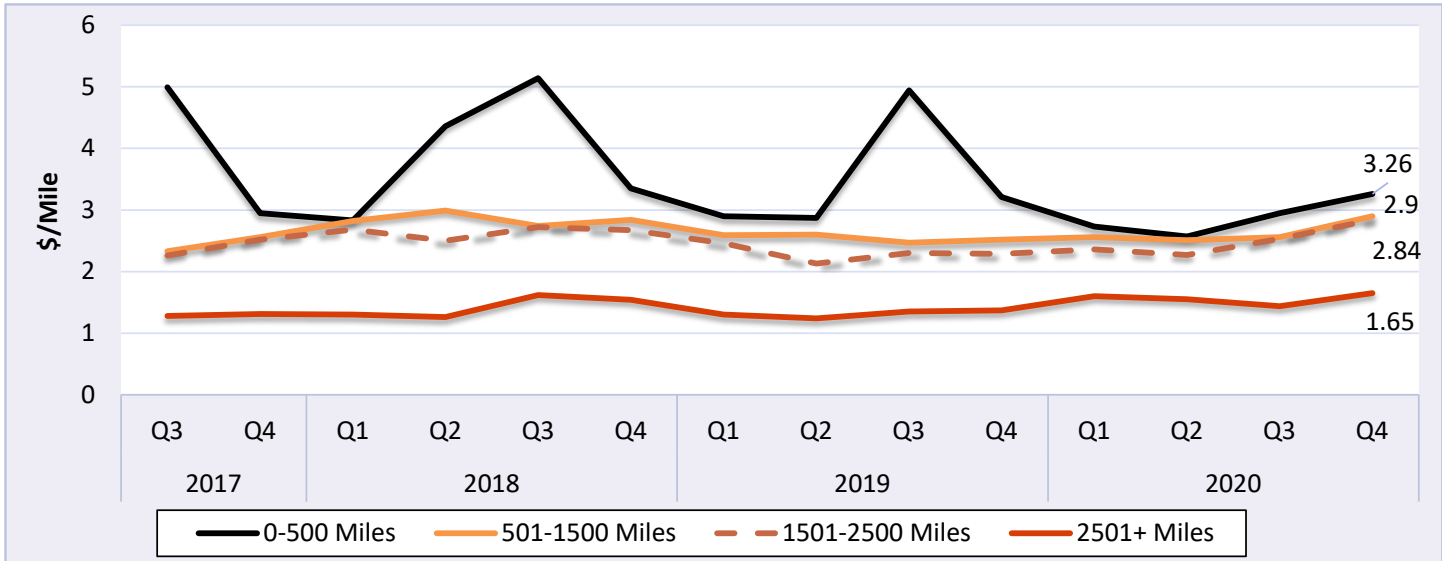
### Diesel Fuel

During fourth quarter 2020, the U.S. diesel fuel price averaged \$2.466 per gallon—up 2 percent from the previous quarter but 19 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	2.92
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 4, 2020

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

U.S. Origin	4th Quarter, 2020			3rd Quarter, 2020		
	October	November	December	July	August	September
Arizona	n/a	n/a	4.09	3.17	n/a	n/a
California	3.24	4.34	3.84	3.01	2.98	3.15
Florida	2.33	2.27	2.53	n/a	n/a	n/a
Great Lakes	3.84	3.93	3.94	3.40	3.49	3.73
Mexico-Arizona	2.47	2.98	2.94	2.23	1.70	n/a
Mexico-Texas	2.66	2.79	3.13	2.32	2.26	2.44
New York	5.05	4.80	4.80	n/a	n/a	5.29
Other	2.52	2.52	2.52	2.41	2.39	2.46
PNW	2.25	2.40	2.43	1.93	1.91	2.20
Southeast	6.85	5.21	4.24	4.09	5.49	6.02
Texas	3.34	3.48	3.86	2.54	2.81	3.06

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, 4th Quarter 2020 (\$/Mile)**

U.S. Origin	Destination								
	Atlanta	Baltimore	Boston	Chicago	Dallas	Los Angeles	Miami	New York	Philadelphia
Arizona	3.28	3.14	3.03	3.10	4.09	n/a	3.29	3.14	3.13
California	3.22	3.16	3.03	3.19	3.90	n/a	3.15	3.14	3.22
Florida	3.19	2.39	2.45	1.93	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.61	2.35
Great Lakes	3.73	4.21	3.74	4.60	3.24	n/a	3.07	4.38	4.00
Mexico-Arizona	2.98	3.12	3.07	2.56	3.26	2.36	3.07	3.15	3.17
Mexico-Texas	3.20	3.09	2.95	2.56	3.23	2.19	2.94	3.00	3.00
New York	5.21	6.49	11.74	5.41	n/a	n/a	4.02	n/a	8.95
Other	3.03	2.48	3.07	2.41	3.70	2.17	2.60	2.91	2.21
PNW	2.75	2.90	2.85	2.83	2.73	2.37	2.70	2.96	2.89
Southeast	9.01	10.58	6.15	4.39	3.92	n/a	5.23	7.64	8.56
Texas	4.33	3.96	3.60	3.65	5.38	2.50	3.26	3.78	3.80

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 4, 2020

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

U.S. Origin	Destination								
	Atlanta	Baltimore	Boston	Chicago	Dallas	Los Angeles	Miami	New York	Philadelphia
Arizona	6,888	8,163	8,788	6,288	5,313	n/a	8,550	8,488	8,288
California	7,220	8,602	9,230	6,717	5,756	n/a	8,867	8,924	8,902
Florida	1,147	2,376	3,424	2,026	n/a	n/a	n/a	3,065	2,574
Great Lakes	3,806	3,897	5,148	1,602	3,579	n/a	5,546	4,435	3,919
Mexico-Arizona	5,365	7,331	8,296	4,600	3,196	1,319	6,992	7,877	7,612
Mexico-Texas	3,681	5,538	6,496	3,654	1,615	3,504	4,504	6,004	5,700
New York	5,211	2,141	1,995	4,544	n/a	n/a	5,823	n/a	2,059
Other	2,478	4,446	6,603	2,279	1,961	2,018	5,339	4,298	4,068
PNW	6,363	7,150	7,837	5,032	4,986	2,367	8,010	7,512	7,265
Southeast	3,604	3,491	4,549	3,729	4,710	n/a	4,030	3,974	3,680
Texas	3,681	5,538	6,488	3,654	1,615	3,504	4,504	6,015	5,700

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.



# AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 4, 2020

**Table 5: Average Diesel Fuel Prices (All Types)**

Region	4th Quarter 2020 Price \$/Gallon	Change From Last Quarter	Change From Last Year
East Coast	2.52	< 1%	-17%
California	3.28	1%	-17%
New England	2.58	-2%	-16%
Central Atlantic	2.72	1%	-16%
Lower Atlantic	2.38	< 1%	-18%
Gulf Coast	2.22	2%	-20%
Midwest	2.37	3%	-20%
Rocky Mountain	2.45	4%	-22%
West Coast Except California	2.65	3%	-20%
U.S.	2.47	2%	-19%

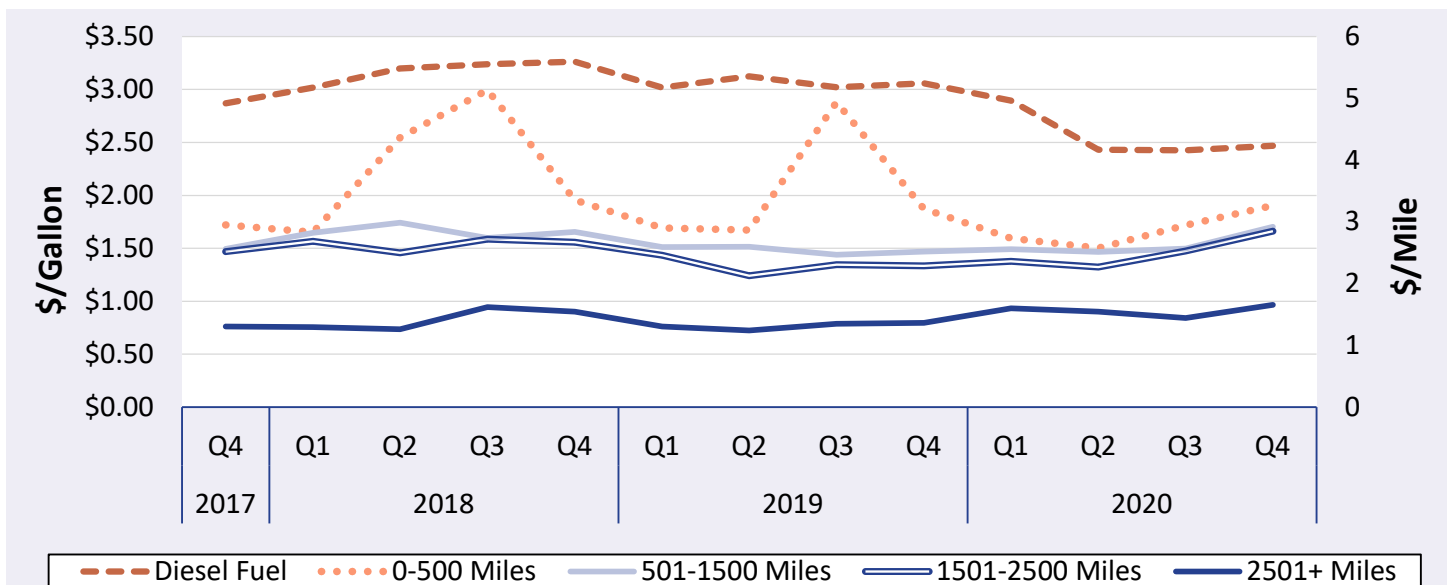
Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of Energy Information Administration/U.S. Department of Energy data.

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 4, 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
<b>2017</b>	Q4	2.87	2.56	9%	10%	16%	25%
<b>2018</b>	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%
<b>2019</b>	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%
<b>2020</b>	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%
	Q4	2.47	2.92	2%	14%	-19%	16%

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 4, 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	10/6	10/13	10/20	10/27	11/3	11/10	11/17	11/24	12/1	12/8	12/15	12/22	12/29
<b>Imperial, Coachella &amp; Palo Verde Valleys Ca, Central &amp; Western Az &amp; Mx Crossings Thru Southern Calif And San Luis</b>	Lettuce, Leaf Lettuce, Broccoli, Cauliflower, Cantaloupe, Honeydews, Peppers, Romaine, Corn, Beans						4	5	5	5				
<b>Imperial, Palo Verde And Coachella Valleys, California And Central And Western Arizona</b>	Lettuce, Leaf Lettuce, Broccoli, Cauliflower, Peppers											3	3	4
<b>Kern District California</b>	Carrots, Grapes	3	3	3	3	3	3	5	5	5	4	3	3	4
<b>Northern California Including San Joaquin Valley</b>	Pears	3	3	3	3	3								
<b>Oxnard District California</b>	Celery, Strawberries, Cilantro, Cabbage, Romaine, Parsley, Kale						4	5	5	5	4	3	3	4
<b>Salinas-Watsonville California</b>	Broccoli, Cauliflower, Celery, Strawberries, Berries, Lettuce, Romaine, Leaf Lettuce	3	3	3	3	3	4	5	5	5	4			
<b>San Joaquin Valley California</b>	Grapes, Apples, Peaches, Nectarines, Plums	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	5	5	3	3	3	3
<b>Santa Maria California</b>	Broccoli, Cauliflower, Celery, Strawberries, Lettuce, Romaine, Leaf Lettuce	3	3	3	3	3	4	5	5	5	4	3	3	4
<b>South District California</b>	Citrus, Avocados	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	5	5	3	3	3	4
Florida	Commodities	10/6	10/13	10/20	10/27	11/3	11/10	11/17	11/24	12/1	12/8	12/15	12/22	12/29
<b>Central &amp; South Florida</b>	Vegetables, Berries					3	3	4	5	5	3	3	5	5
<b>West District Florida</b>	Vegetables	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5					
Great Lakes (MI & WI)	Commodities	10/6	10/13	10/20	10/27	11/3	11/10	11/17	11/24	12/1	12/8	12/15	12/22	12/29
<b>Central Wisconsin</b>	Potatoes, Onions	5	3	3	4	4	4	5	5	4	4	3	3	4
<b>Michigan</b>	Apples	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	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 4, 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										
Pacific Northwest (ID, OR, & WA)	Commodities	10/6	10/13	10/20	10/27	11/3	11/10	11/17	11/24	12/1	12/8	12/15	12/22	12/29
	<b>Columbia Basin Washington</b> Potatoes, Onions	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4
	<b>Idaho And Malheur County, Oregon</b> Onions	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4
	<b>Upper Valley, Twin Falls-Burley District Idaho</b> Potatoes	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4	4	5
	<b>Yakima Valley &amp; Wenatchee District Washington</b> Apples, Pears	3	3	3	4	5	5	5	5	4	3	3	3	4
Southeast (GA, SC, & NC)	Commodities	10/6	10/13	10/20	10/27	11/3	11/10	11/17	11/24	12/1	12/8	12/15	12/22	12/29
	<b>Eastern North Carolina</b> Sweet Potatoes	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	3	4	4	5	5
Texas and Oklahoma	Commodities	10/6	10/13	10/20	10/27	11/3	11/10	11/17	11/24	12/1	12/8	12/15	12/22	12/29
	<b>Texas</b> Watermelons	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	5	3	3	5	5
U.S.-Mexico border	Commodities	10/6	10/13	10/20	10/27	11/3	11/10	11/17	11/24	12/1	12/8	12/15	12/22	12/29
	<b>Nogales, Arizona</b> Cucumbers, Eggplant, Squash, Cantaloupe, Honeydew, Watermelon	3	3	4	4	4	4	5	5	3	3	4	5	5
	<b>Texas</b> Limes, Mangos, Tomatoes, Broccoli, Mixed Fruit and Vegetables	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	5	3	3	5	5

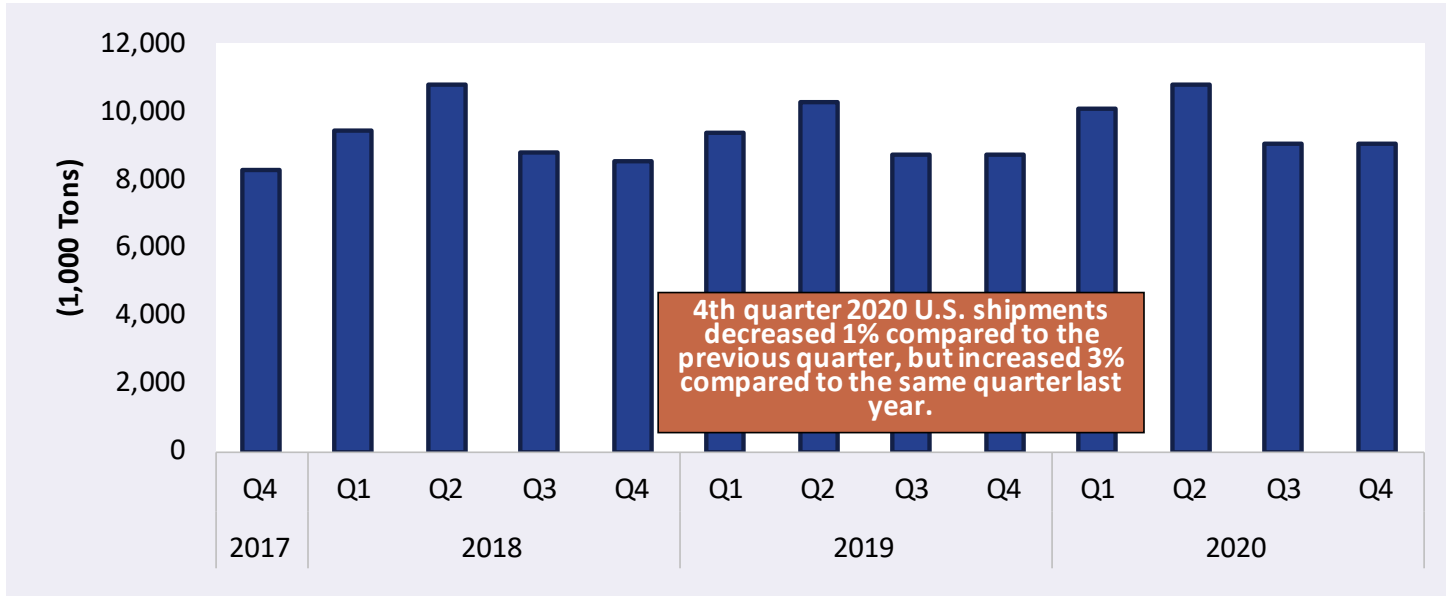
Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

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	10,081	10,750	9,060	9,009	38,899
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.



## Reported Shipments by Selected Commodities

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

Commodity	4th Quarter 2020	Previous Quarter	Same Quarter Last Year	Current Quarter as % change from:	
				Previous Qtr	Same Qtr Last Year
Potatoes	1,166	1,082	1,090	8%	7%
Apples	882	707	903	25%	-2%
Onions Dry	577	611	552	-5%	5%
Oranges	437	211	486	108%	-10%
Tomatoes	380	495	499	-23%	-24%
Grapes	361	383	345	-6%	5%
Avocados	339	532	592	-36%	-43%
Cucumbers	295	316	451	-7%	-35%
Lettuce, Iceberg	289	345	353	-16%	-18%
Celery	255	200	254	27%	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	4th Quarter 2020 Volume	% Change from Last Quarter	% Change From Same Quarter Last Year
Mexico	2,676	42%	15%
California	2,339	-28%	-4%
PNW	1,841	11%	-2%
Arizona	386	2,054%	-9%
Florida	305	1,340%	-21%
Great Lakes	284	-24%	7%
Colorado	248	86%	11%
Southeast	180	-58%	-11%
Canada	180	-17%	706%
New York	141	68%	-5%

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

## U.S.-Mexico Border

### Volume

Total reported shipments of fruits and vegetables from Mexico during fourth quarter 2020 were 2.7 million tons, a 15-percent increase year to year. The sum of the top five commodities also increased 15 percent year to year. Each of the top five commodities increased, with particularly sharp increases of tomatoes (35 percent) and cucumbers (15 percent).

### Rates

In fourth quarter 2020, truck rates for shipments between 501 miles and 1,500 miles from the Arizona border averaged \$2.81 per mile, up 30 percent from quarter to quarter and up 27 percent year to year. Rates for shipments between 501 miles and 1,500 miles from the Texas border averaged \$2.88 per mile, up 22 percent quarter to quarter and up 29 percent year to year.

### Truck Overview

Diesel fuel prices for border crossings from Arizona averaged \$2.65 per gallon, increasing by 3 percent quarter to quarter but decreasing by 21 percent year to year. Diesel fuel prices for border crossings from Texas averaged \$2.22 per gallon, a 2-percent increase quarter to quarter, but a 20-percent decrease year to year. Shippers at the Arizona-Mexico border and the Texas-Mexico border both reported adequate availability in October and slight shortage in November and December.

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

Commodity	4th 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	320	12%	227	292	41%	9%
Cucumbers	237	9%	104	205	128%	15%
Tomatoes	227	8%	153	168	48%	35%
Squash	170	6%	30	157	464%	8%
Peppers, Other	169	6%	132	156	28%	8%
<b>Top 5 Total</b>	<b>1,122</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>646</b>	<b>979</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>Mexico Total</b>	<b>2,676</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,880</b>	<b>2,332</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>15%</b>

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

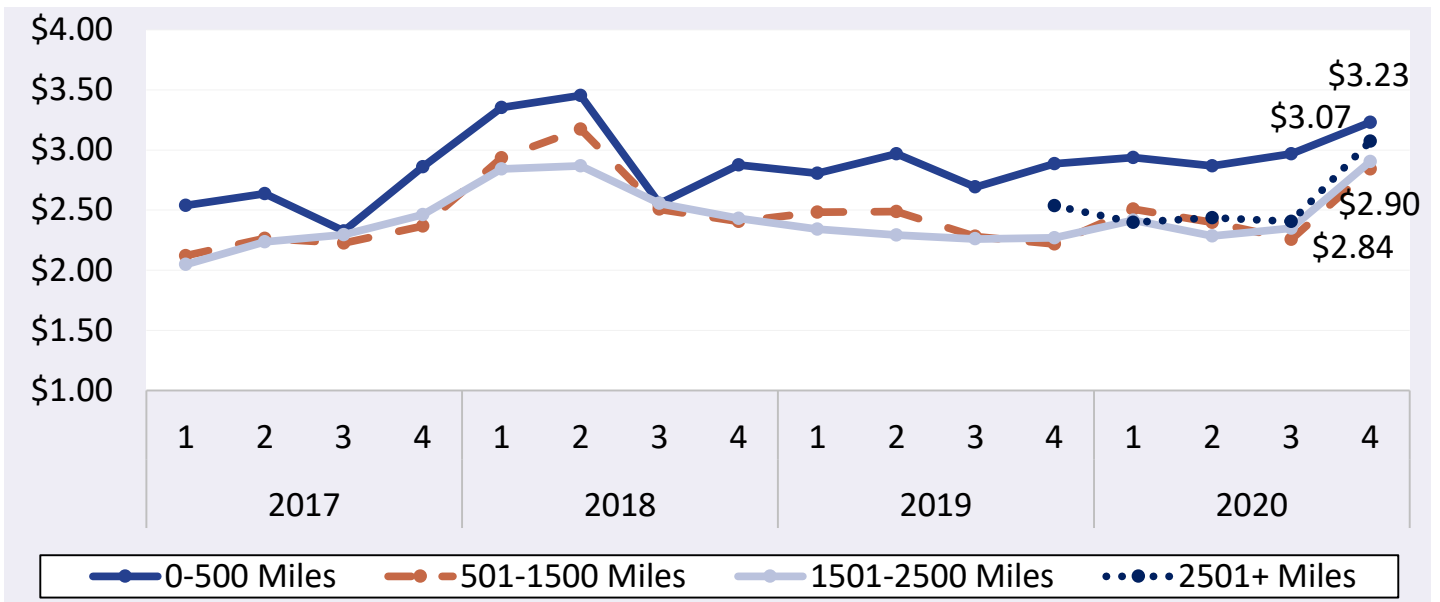
Quarter 4, 2020

**Table 12: Top 5 Commodities Shipped to U.S. from Mexico by State of Entry (1,000 tons)**

Texas		California		Arizona		New Mexico	
Commodity	4th Quarter 2020	Commodity	4th Quarter 2020	Commodity	4th Quarter 2020	Commodity	4th Quarter 2020
Avocados	314	Tomatoes, Plum Type	49	Cucumbers	153	Peppers, Other	81
Tomatoes	181	Onions Green	43	Squash	149	Corn-Sweet	< 1
Limes	138	Misc Tropical	35	Watermelons, Seedless	133	Misc Tropical	< 1
Tomatoes, Plum Type	95	Peppers, Other	20	Peppers, Bell Type	53	Watermelons	< 1
Broccoli	79	Asparagus	18	Tomatoes	35	Cactus Leaf (Nopales)	< 1
<b>Mexico through TX Total</b>	<b>1,508</b>	<b>Mexico through CA Total</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>Mexico through AZ Total</b>	<b>741</b>	<b>Mexico through NM Total</b>	<b>82</b>

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



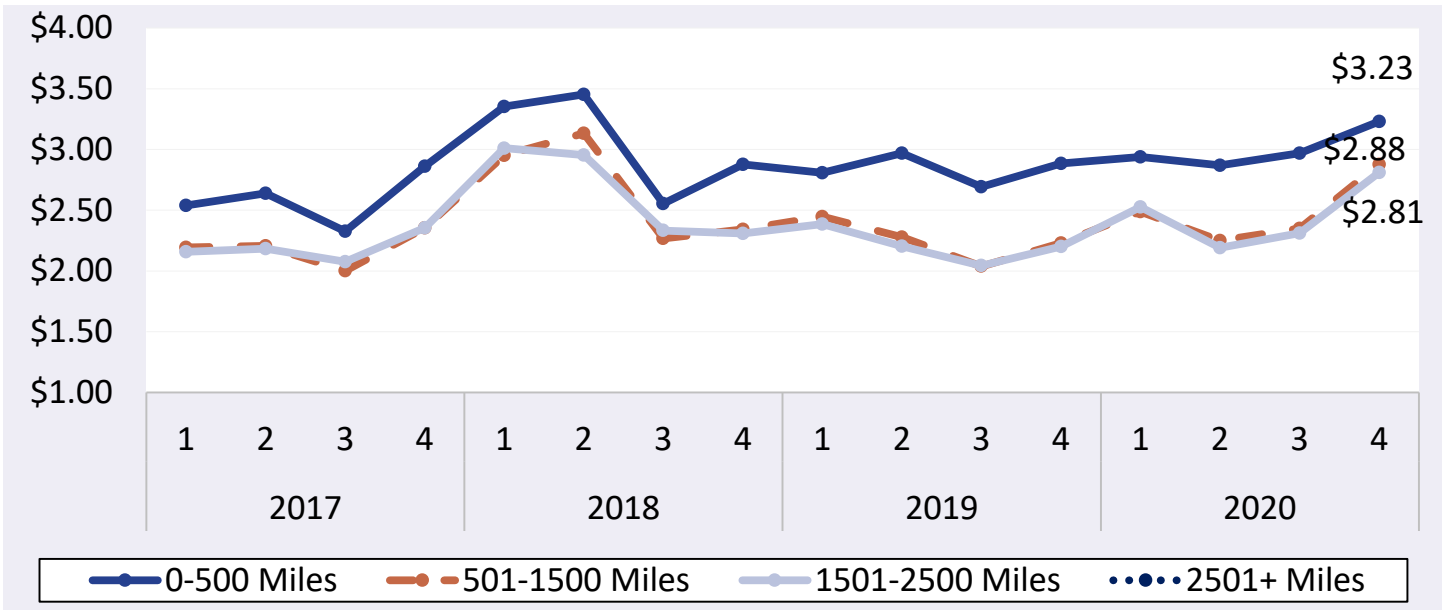
Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.  
 Any gaps in the chart lines are the result of quarters with no reported data for the region.



# AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

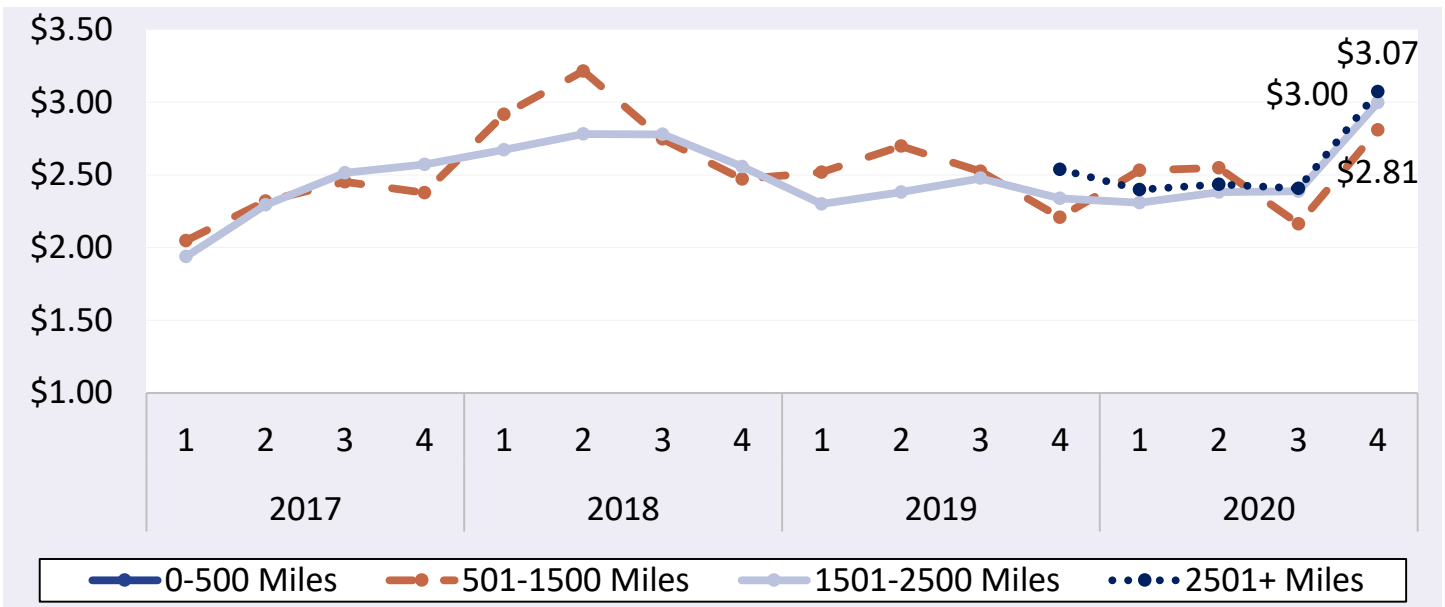
Quarter 4, 2020

**Figure 6: 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 7: 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 4, 2020

**Table 13: Truck Overview from the U.S.-Mexico Border**

Region/Reporting District	October	November	December	4th Quarter
Mexico Crossings Through Nogales, Arizona	3.47	4.5	4	3.99
Mexico Crossings Through Texas	3.25	4	4.2	3.82
Regional Average Availability	3.36	4.25	4.1	3.90
Diesel Fuel Price (\$/gallon), through Texas	2.15	2.18	2.34	2.22
Diesel Fuel Price (\$/gallon), through Arizona	2.54	2.65	2.75	2.65

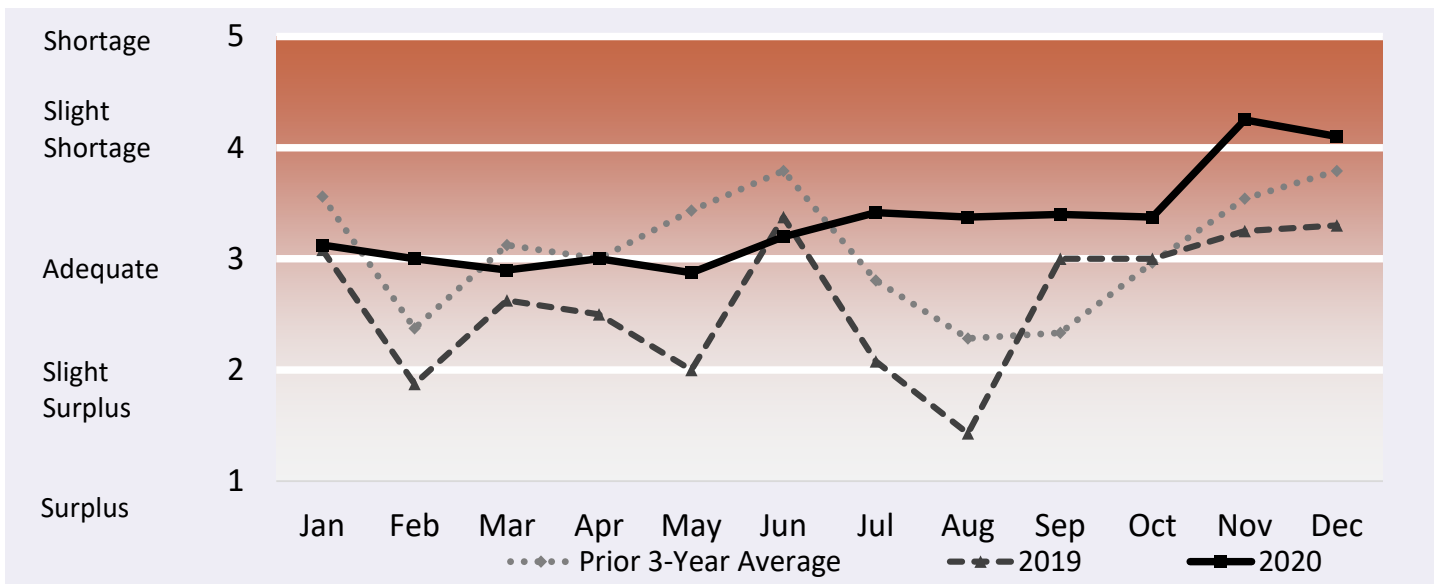
Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

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 8: 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.



## California

### Volume

Total reported shipments of fruits and vegetables from California during fourth quarter 2020 were 2.34 million tons, a decrease of 4 percent from the same quarter last year (year to year). The top five commodities decreased by 1 percent from year to year. Two of the top 5 commodities saw year-to-year decreases this quarter, including oranges (12 percent) and lemons (12 percent). Shipments of celery increased by 16 percent, grapes by 5 percent, and clementines by 4 percent.

### Rates

The quarterly average truck rate for shipments between 501 miles and 1,500 miles was \$3.87 per mile, a 27-percent increase quarter to quarter, and a 28-percent increase year to year.

### Truck Overview

Diesel fuel prices averaged \$3.28 per gallon, a 1-percent increase quarter to quarter but a 17-percent decrease year to year. All districts in California reported adequate truck availability in October. In November San Joaquin Valley reported adequate availability while all other districts reported a slight truck shortage. In December, Oxnard District reported a slight truck shortage while all other districts reported adequate truck availability.

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

Commodity	4th Quarter 2020	Share of California Total	Previous Quarter	Same Quarter Last Year	Current Quarter as % change from:	
					Previous Qtr	Same Qtr Last Year
Oranges	369	16%	205	417	80%	-12%
Grapes	361	15%	364	345	-1%	5%
Clementines	240	10%	-	231	-	4%
Celery	233	10%	171	201	36%	16%
Lemons	179	8%	138	204	30%	-12%
<b>Top 5 Total</b>	<b>1,382</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>877</b>	<b>1,398</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>-1%</b>
<b>California Total</b>	<b>2,339</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3,258</b>	<b>2,439</b>	<b>-28%</b>	<b>-4%</b>

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.

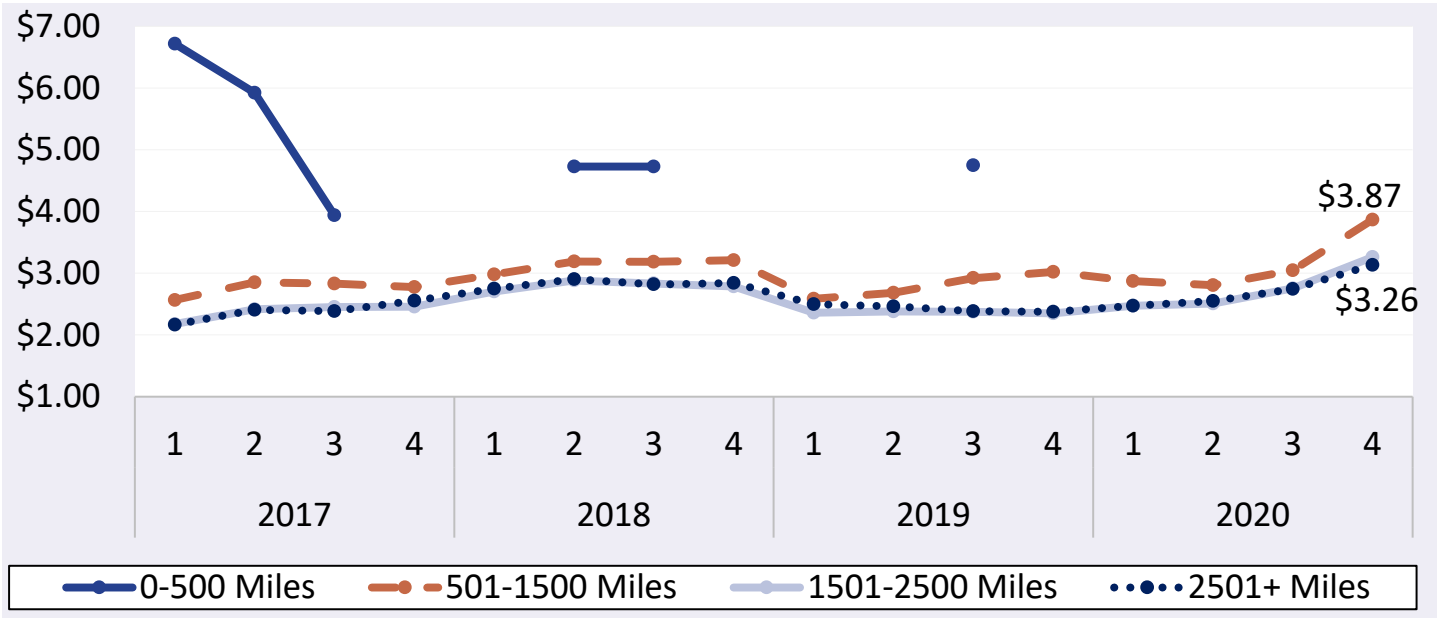




## AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 4, 2020

**Figure 9: 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 15: California Truck Overview (Availability Rating: 1=Surplus to 5=Shortage)**

Region/Reporting District	October	November	December	4th Quarter
Imperial, Palo Verde And Coachella Valleys, California And Central And Western Arizona	-	-	3.33	3.33
Kern District California	3	4	3.8	3.6
Oxnard District California	-	4.67	3.8	4.23
Salinas-Watsonville California	3	4.25	4.5	3.92
San Joaquin Valley California	3	3.5	3.4	3.3
Santa Maria California	3	4.25	3.8	3.68
South District California	3	4	3.6	3.53
<b>Regional Average Availability</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4.11</b>	<b>3.75</b>	<b>3.62</b>
<b>Diesel Fuel Price (\$/gallon)</b>	<b>3.25</b>	<b>3.25</b>	<b>3.36</b>	<b>3.28</b>

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

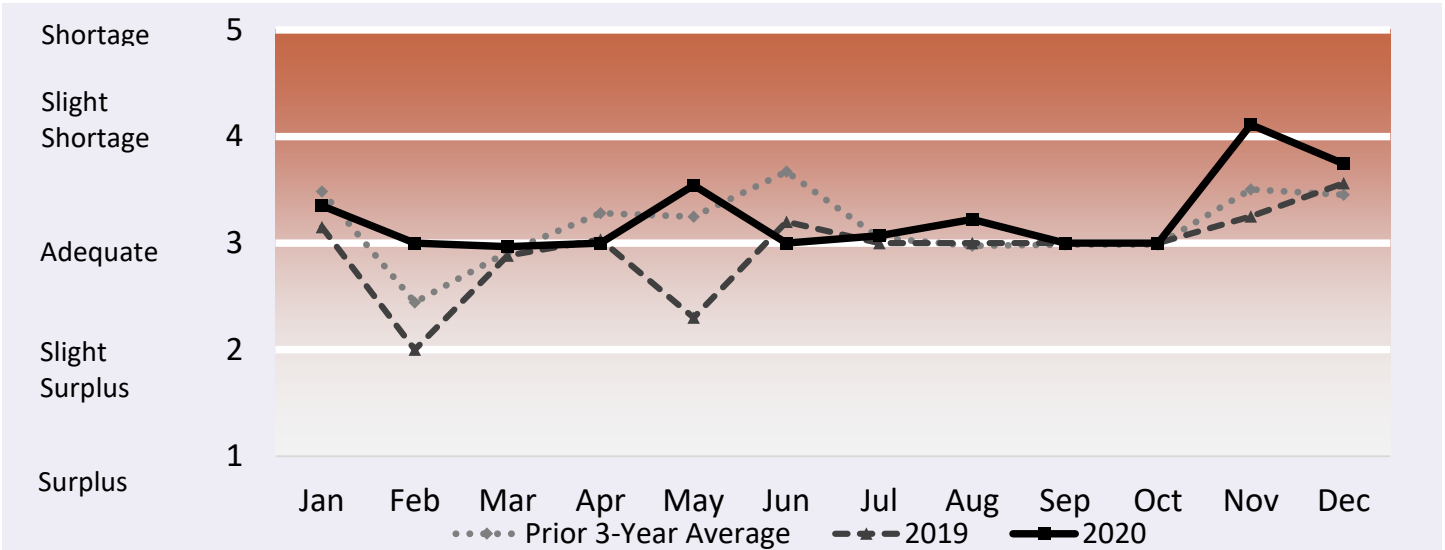
Any "-" in the table indicates no reported shipments during the quarter.

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 10: 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.



## AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 4, 2020

# PNW

### Volume

During fourth quarter 2020, total reported shipments of fruits and vegetables from the PNW were 1.84 million tons, decreasing by 2 percent year to year. The sum of the top five commodities also decreased by 2 percent year to year. Except for dry onions (3 percent increase), the rest of the top five commodities saw year-to-year decreases this quarter: cranberries (23 percent), pears (7 percent), apples (4 percent), and potatoes (1 percent).

### Rates

The quarterly average truck rate for shipments between 501 miles and 1,500 miles was \$2.37 per mile, increasing 16 percent quarter to quarter, and 8 percent year to year.

### Truck Overview

Diesel fuel prices averaged \$2.65 per gallon, with an increase of 3 percent quarter to quarter but a 21 percent decrease year to year. Shippers in all districts except the Yakima Valley and Wenatchee District of Washington reported shortage of truck availability in October, all districts reported shortage in November, and in December Yakima Valley and Wenatchee District reported adequate truck availability while all other districts reported a slight shortage.

**Table 16: Reported Top Five Commodities Shipped from PNW (1,000 tons)**

Commodity	4th Quarter 2020	Share of PNW Total	Previous Quarter	Same Quarter Last Year	Current Quarter as % change from:	
					Previous Qtr	Same Qtr Last Year
<b>Apples</b>	714	39%	652	741	9%	-4%
<b>Potatoes</b>	527	29%	534	531	-1%	-1%
<b>Onions Dry</b>	445	24%	282	431	58%	3%
<b>Pears</b>	154	8%	46	165	231%	-7%
<b>Cranberries</b>	1	< 1%	< 1	2	-	-23%
<b>Top 5 Total</b>	<b>1,840</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,515</b>	<b>1,871</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>-2%</b>
<b>PNW Total</b>	<b>1,841</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,659</b>	<b>1,871</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>-2%</b>

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.

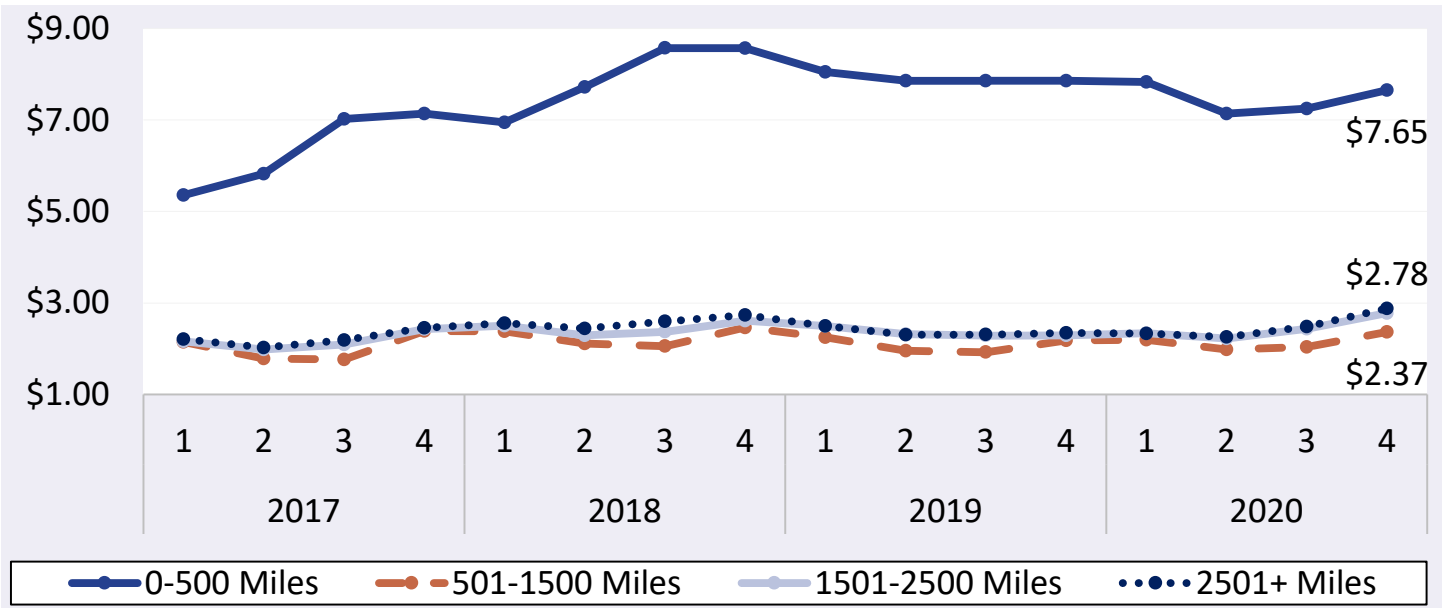
Note: Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.



## AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 4, 2020

**Figure 11: 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 17: PNW Truck Overview (Availability Rating: 1=Surplus to 5=Shortage)**

Region/Reporting District	October	November	December	4th Quarter
Columbia Basin Washington	5	5	4.4	4.8
Idaho And Malheur County, Oregon	5	5	4.4	4.8
Upper Valley, Twin Falls-Burley District Idaho	5	5	4.2	4.73
Yakima Valley & Wenatchee District Washington	3.25	5	3.4	3.88
<b>Regional Average Availability</b>	<b>4.56</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>4.55</b>
<b>Diesel Fuel Price (\$/gallon)</b>	<b>2.54</b>	<b>2.65</b>	<b>2.75</b>	<b>2.65</b>

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.

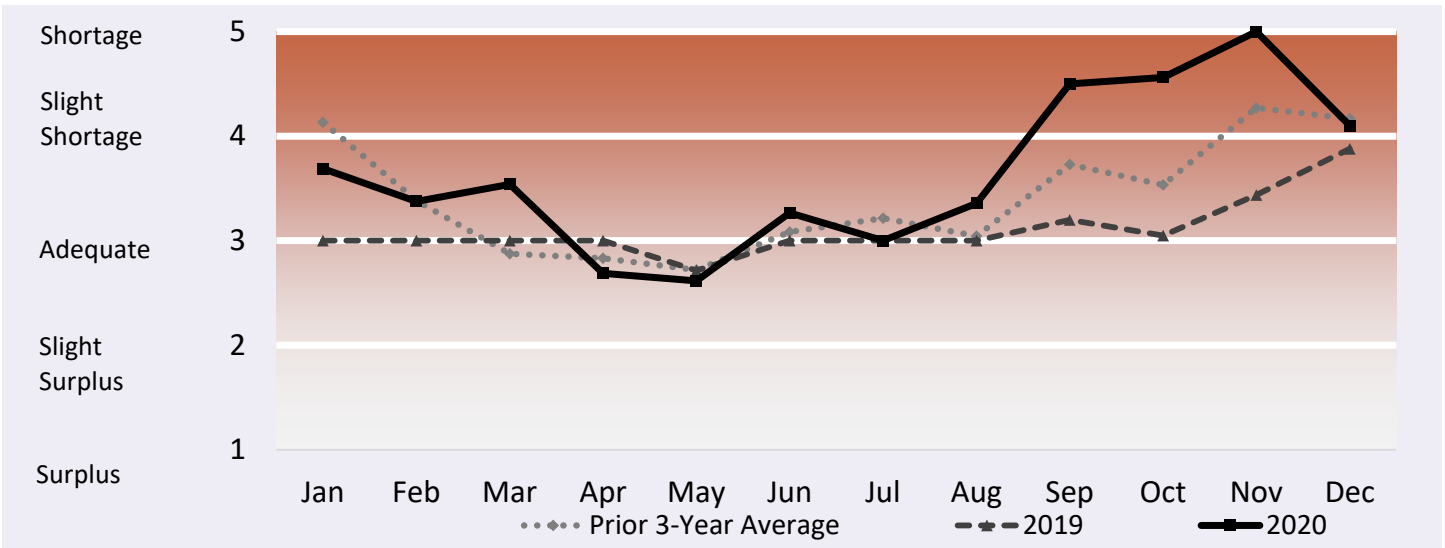
Note: AMS Specialty Crops Program defines regions by commodity, which may overlap in truck availability reporting.



# AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

## Quarter 4, 2020

**Figure 12: 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.



## Arizona

### Volume

During fourth quarter 2020, total reported shipments of fruits and vegetables from Arizona were 386,000 tons, down 9 percent year to year. The sum of the top five commodities also decreased 5 percent year to year. Decreases in broccoli (20 percent), iceberg lettuce (18 percent) and romaine lettuce (9 percent) offset strong increases in cantaloupe (54 percent) and moderate increases in processed lettuce (11 percent).

### Rates

The quarterly average truck rate for shipments between 501 miles and 1,500 miles was \$4.09 per mile, up 29 percent quarter to quarter and up 37 percent year to year.

### Truck Overview

Diesel fuel prices averaged \$2.65 per gallon, up 2 percent quarter to quarter but down 21 percent year to year. Data on truck availability were available only for the month of December for Imperial Palo Verde and Coachella Valleys, which reported adequate truck availability for that month.

**Table 18: Reported Top Five Commodities Shipped from Arizona (1,000 tons)**

Commodity	4th Quarter 2020	Share of Arizona Total	Previous Quarter	Same Quarter Last Year	Current Quarter as % change from:	
					Previous Qtr	Same Qtr Last Year
Lettuce, Iceberg	105	27%	-	128	-	-18%
Lettuce, Romaine	104	27%	-	114	-	-9%
Lettuce, Processed	61	16%	-	55	-	11%
Cantaloupe	42	11%	6	27	651%	54%
Broccoli	13	3%	-	17	-	-20%
<b>Top 5 Total</b>	<b>325</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>5,689%</b>	<b>-5%</b>
<b>Arizona Total</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>2,054%</b>	<b>-9%</b>

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.

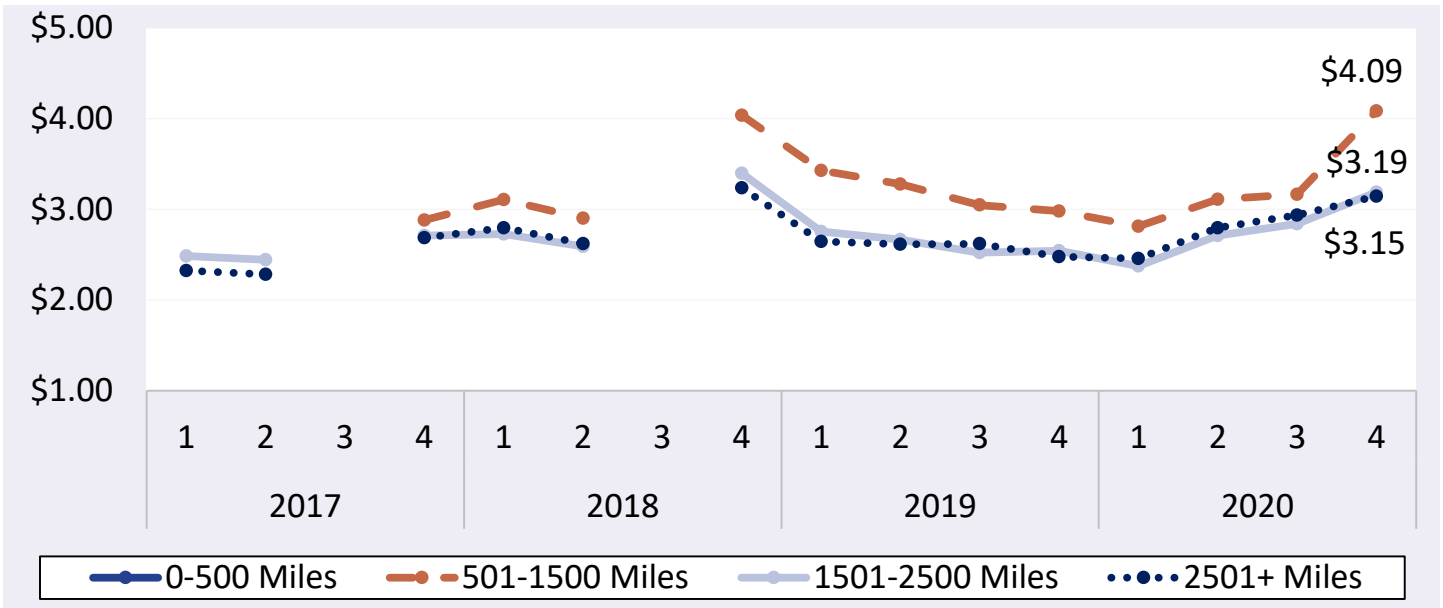
Note: Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.



## AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 4, 2020

**Figure 13: Arizona 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 19: Arizona Truck Overview (Availability Rating: 1=Surplus to 5=Shortage)**

Region/Reporting District	October	November	December	4th Quarter
<b>Imperial, Palo Verde And Coachella Valleys, California And Central And Western Arizona</b>	-	-	3.33	3.33
<b>Regional Average Availability</b>	-	-	3.33	3.33
<b>Diesel Fuel Price (\$/gallon)</b>	2.54	2.65	2.75	2.65

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

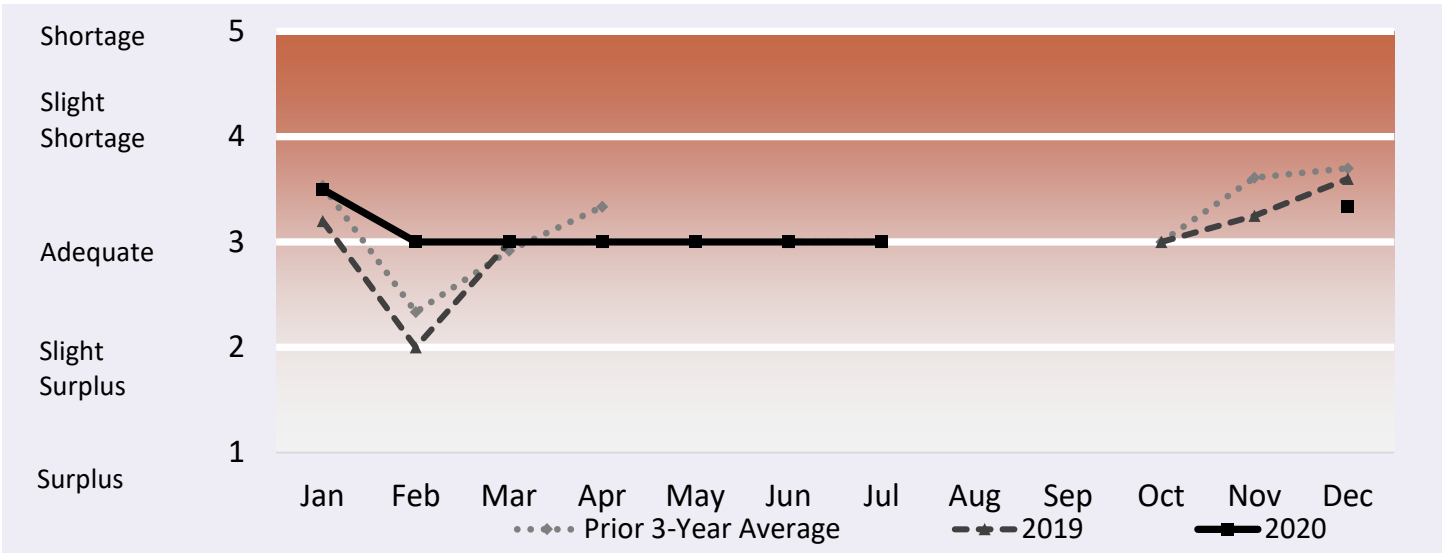
Any "-" in the table indicates no reported shipments during the quarter.

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 14: Refrigerated Truck Availability Monthly Ratings for Arizona**



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.





## Florida

### Volume

Total reported shipments of fruits and vegetables from Florida during fourth quarter 2020 were 305,000 tons, down 21 percent year to year. The sum of the top five commodities decreased 13 percent year to year. Of the top five commodities, only grapefruit (4 percent) and oranges (3 percent) increased. Shipments decreased 23 percent for bell peppers, 22 percent for tomatoes, and 15 percent for plum tomatoes

### Rates

The quarterly average truck rate for shipments between 501 miles and 1,500 miles was \$2.36 per mile, up 25 percent year to year. Data were not available for third quarter truck rates.

### Truck Overview

Diesel fuel prices averaged \$2.38 per gallon, up 1 percent quarter to quarter but down 19 percent year to year. Shippers in Florida reported slight shortage in truck availability in the fourth quarter.

**Table 20: Reported Top Five Commodities Shipped from Florida (1,000 tons)**

Commodity	4th Quarter 2020	Share of Florida Total	Previous Quarter	Same Quarter Last Year	Current Quarter as % change from:	
					Previous Qtr	Same Qtr Last Year
Tomatoes	83	27%	1	106	-	-22%
Oranges	39	13%	1	38	2,966%	3%
Grapefruit	36	12%	1	34	-	4%
Tomatoes, Plum Type	25	8%	< 1	29	-	-15%
Peppers, Bell Type	18	6%	-	24	-	-23%
<b>Top 5 Total</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>6,906%</b>	<b>-13%</b>
<b>Florida Total</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>1,340%</b>	<b>-21%</b>

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.

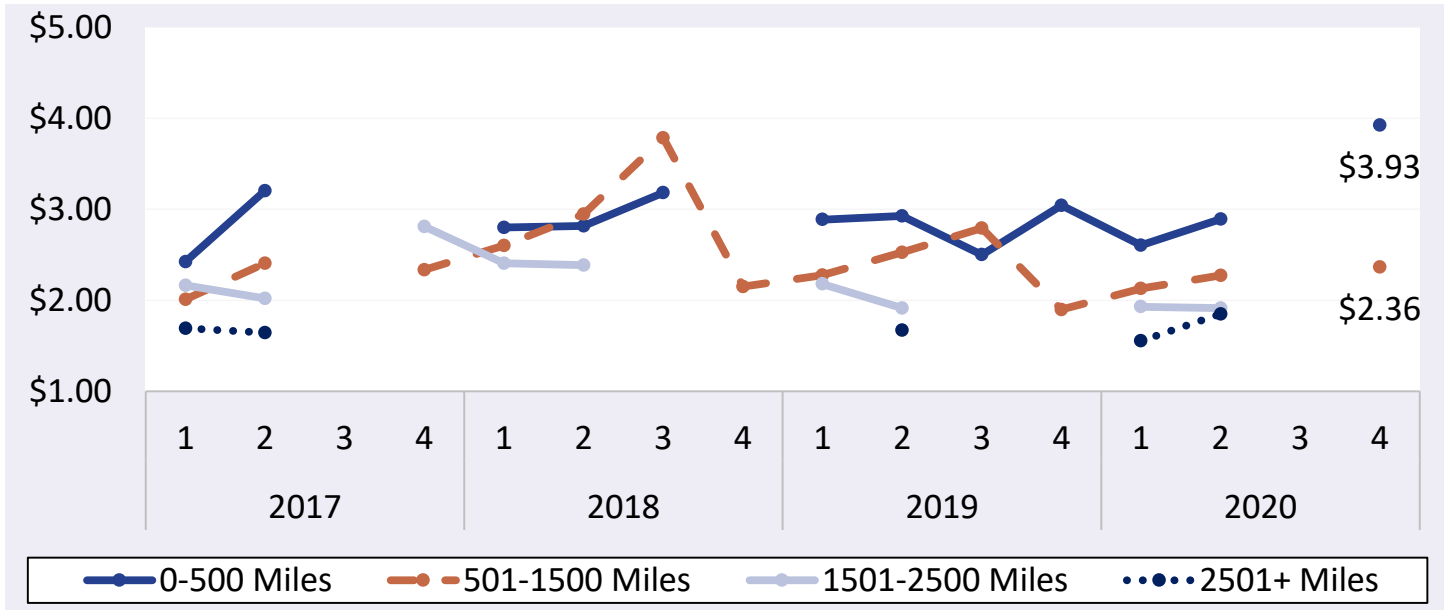
Note: Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.



# AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 4, 2020

**Figure 15: Florida 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 21: Florida Truck Overview (Availability Rating: 1=Surplus to 5=Shortage)**

Region/Reporting District	October	November	December	4th Quarter
Central & South Florida	-	3.75	4.2	3.98
West District Florida	4	4.25	-	4.13
<b>Regional Average Availability</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>4.07</b>
<b>Diesel Fuel Price (\$/gallon)</b>	<b>2.32</b>	<b>2.34</b>	<b>2.49</b>	<b>2.38</b>

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

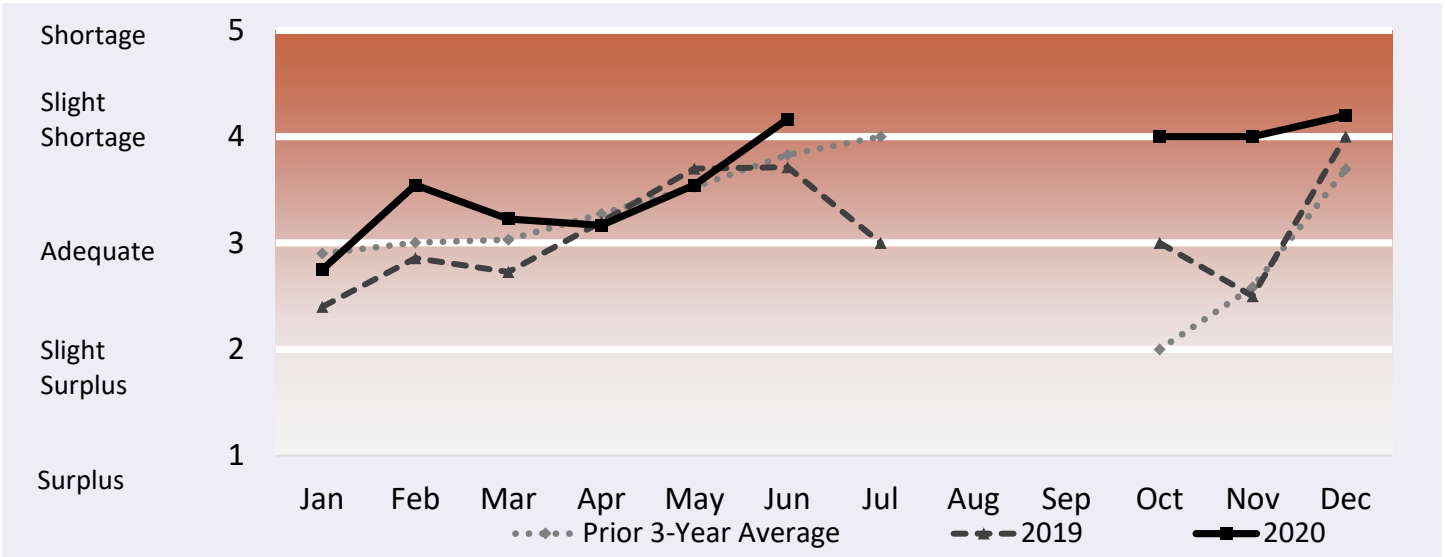
Any "-" in the table indicates no reported shipments during the quarter.

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 16: Refrigerated Truck Availability Monthly Ratings for Florida**



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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### Related Websites

USDA's Agricultural Transportation Open Data Platform

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

Specialty Crops Program

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

Specialty Crops Truck Rate Report

[https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/filerepo/reports?field\\_slug\\_id\\_value=2375](https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/filerepo/reports?field_slug_id_value=2375)

Specialty Crops Movement Reporting

<https://www.marketnews.usda.gov/mnp/fv-report-config-step1?type=movement>

Economic Research Service Vegetable and Pulses

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

Economic Research Service Fruit and Tree Nuts

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

National Agricultural Statistics Service, Crops

[https://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics\\_by\\_Subject/index.php?sector=CROPS](https://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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