

# Mexico Transport Cost Indicator Report



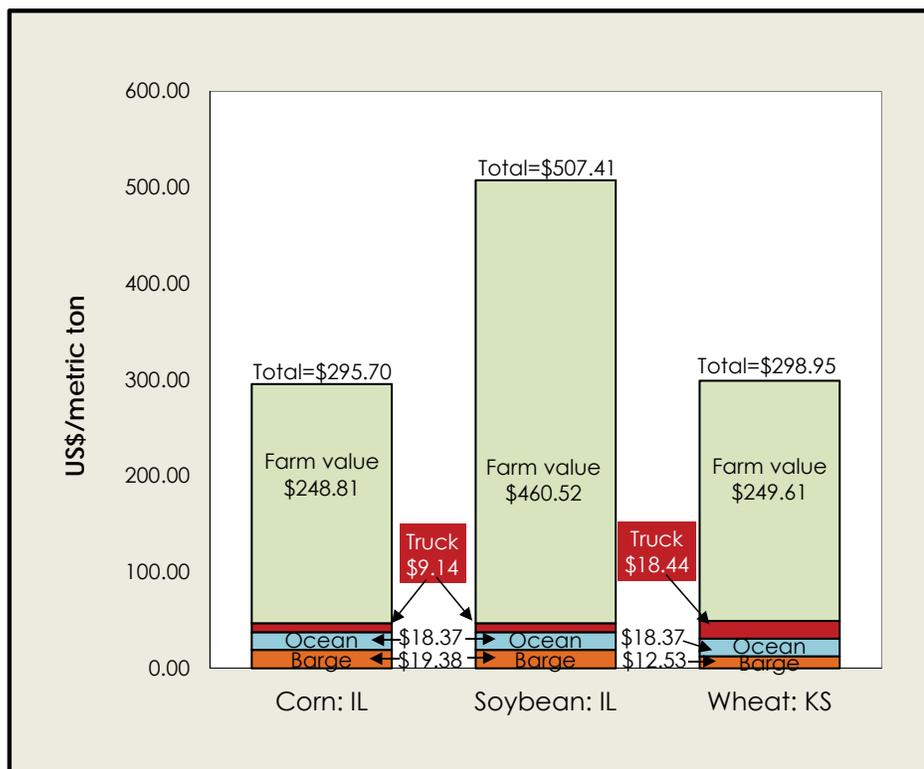
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[www.ams.usda.gov/AgTransportation](http://www.ams.usda.gov/AgTransportation)

## Grain and Soybeans

Mexico's grain production continued to be hampered by extremely dry weather during the first quarter. Mexico's corn production estimate for marketing year 2011/12 was revised downward due to lower-than-expected planted area and adverse weather conditions (USDA, FAS GAIN Report # MX2005). Mexico's wheat production is facing the same situation. During the first quarter of 2012, Mexico imported a total of 5.2 million metric tons (mmt) of grains and feed from the United States—a 40-percent increase over a year ago (USDA, GATS). During the same period, Mexico imported about 3.1 mmt of corn and 1.1 mmt of wheat. Mexican corn imports were 89 percent above the same period last year; wheat imports were 32 percent higher. Mexico imported 25 percent more soybeans from the United States during the first quarter than it did a year earlier—0.82 mmt, compared to 0.66 mmt a year ago. The growth in Mexican grain imports could be attributed to lower-than-estimated domestic production caused by adverse weather conditions.

Figure 1. Water route shipment costs to Veracruz, Mexico



The cost of shipping corn, soybeans, and wheat from Midwest locations (Illinois and Kansas) to Veracruz, Mexico, via the water route decreased significantly from a year ago. The cost of shipping corn and soybeans fell 17 percent from last year and the cost of shipping wheat fell 22 percent. The cost of transporting corn and soybeans overland from Iowa and Nebraska to Guadalajara, Mexico, increased by 9 and 11 percent, respectively. The cost of transporting Kansas wheat to Guadalajara increased by 8 percent from a year ago. Increased rail rates were responsible for the increases in

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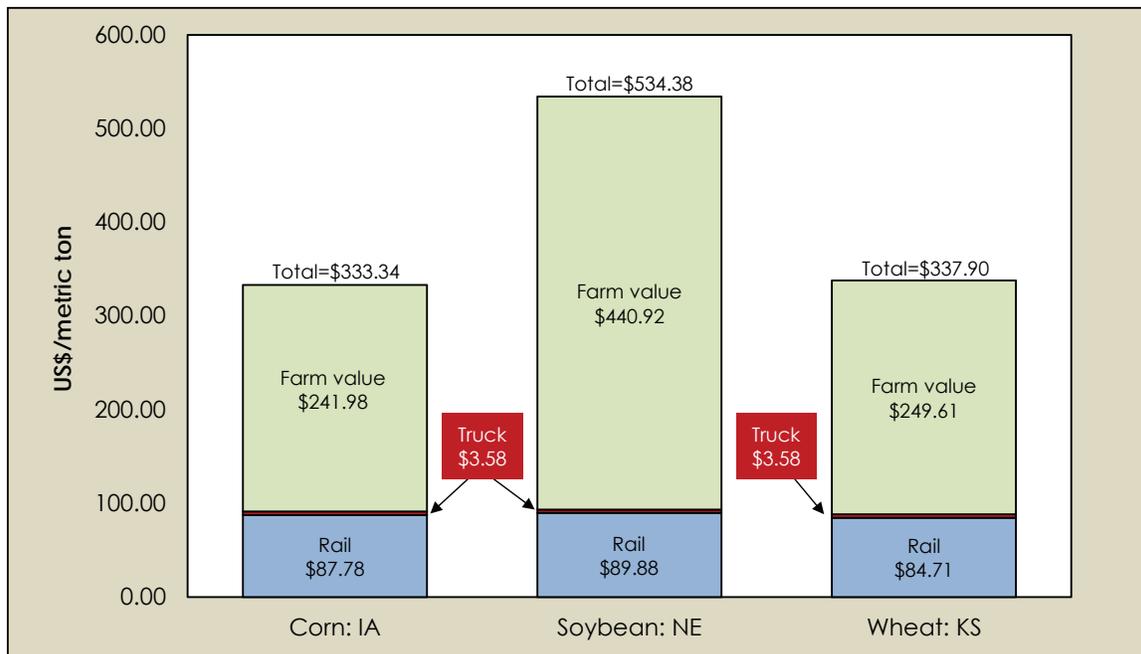
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Figure 2. Land route shipment costs to Guadalajara, Mexico



overland transportation costs. However, care should be exercised in comparing the cost of shipping through the water route and the land route because the water route terminates at the port of Veracruz, and the land route terminates directly at Guadalajara. The costs of shipping grain through the water route are illustrated in figure 1 and the land route costs are illustrated in figure 2.

### Ocean Freight Rates

Ocean freight rates for shipping bulk grains to Mexico decreased during the first quarter, from both the previous quarter and the same period a year ago. The rates were also lower than their 3-year averages. The cost of shipping a metric ton (mt) of grain from the U.S. Gulf to Veracruz, Mexico, in a 25,000 ton-capacity vessel averaged \$20.28 per mt during the quarter—down 13 percent from the previous quarter, 7 percent from last year and 9 percent from the 4-year average. The cost of shipping in a 35-to-40,000 ton-capacity vessel averaged \$18.37 per mt—down 13 percent from the previous quarter, 2 percent from last year and 5 percent from the 4-year average. Ocean rates for shipping bulk grains continued to be moderate due to increasing vessel supply and sluggish demand for bulk shipments (see GTR, dated 05/03/12).

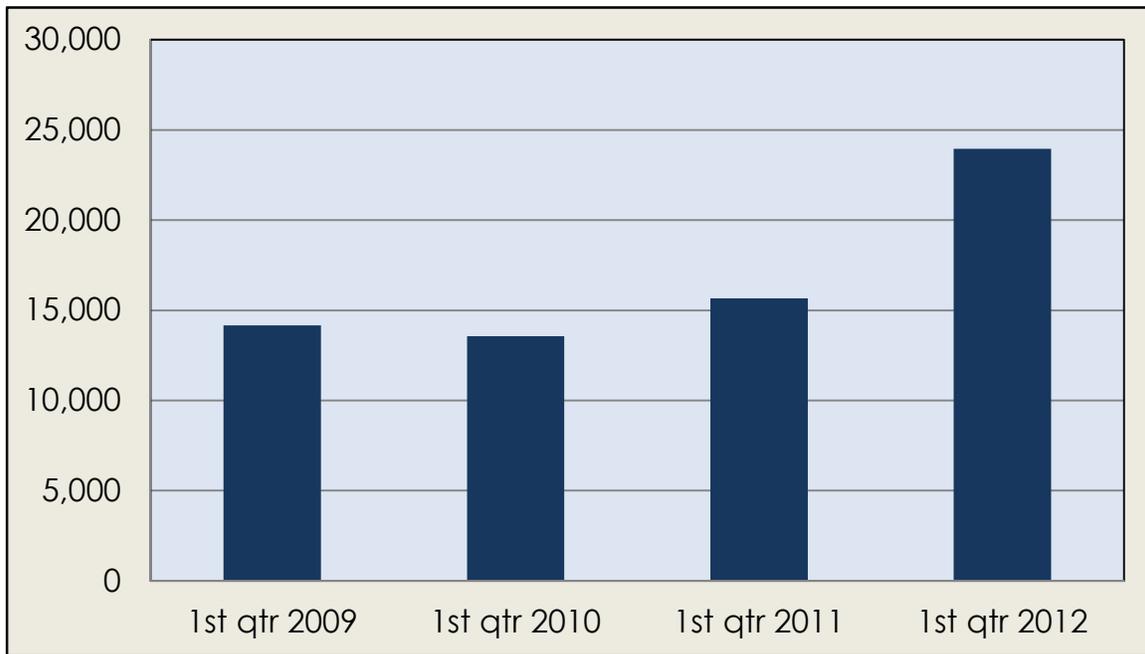
### Rail Volumes of Grain to Mexico Increase Compared to Last Year

Rail movements of U.S. grain to Mexico increased to 14,938 railcars during the first quarter 2012, a 70 percent increase from the first quarter 2011.<sup>1</sup> First quarter average rail tariff rates plus fuel surcharges from the Grain Transportation Report, Table 8, are up 12.1 percent compared to first quarter 2011, and up 1.2 percent compared to the fourth quarter 2011. Rail tariff rates on grain destined to Mexico are up 13.1 percent compared to this time last year, and first quarter 2012 rail tariff rates increased 0.9 percent compared to the fourth quarter 2011. Quarterly rail fuel surcharges have increased 3.3 percent year-over-year, and are up 4 percent compared to last quarter.

<sup>1</sup> Source: Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service, Transportation Services Division. From Grain Transportation Report, Rail Deliveries to Port database.



Figure 3. 1st Quarter Horses Export, 2009-2012



### Livestock

During the first quarter of 2012, total cross-border livestock exports from the United States to Mexico were 23 percent greater than the first quarter of 2011. The rise is due to an increase in horse exports from 15,663 head to 23,961 head, an increase of 53 percent. Beef cattle and hog exports to Mexico also increased by even greater ratios, 106 percent and 122 percent respectively (AMS, Market News). Most of the horses exported to Mexico are slaughtered, and the meat is exported from Mexico to European countries, China, and Japan. The first quarter export of horses is trending upwards and will likely continue while demand outside of the United States stays strong. No sheep and only 1,178 head of dairy cattle were exported to Mexico in the first quarter of 2012 compared to 3,201 head in the first quarter of 2011 (AMS, Market News).

### Fruit and Vegetables

Mexican fruit and vegetable exports to the United States were up 11 percent from the first quarter of 2011. Shipments of asparagus and strawberries grew 71 and 34 percent from last year, to replace broccoli and miscellaneous tropical fruits in the top 10 commodities. Recent articles in *The Packer* indicate that asparagus is continuing to grow in popularity with consumers and has been replacing broccoli, green beans, and mixed vegetables on restaurant menus. Asparagus is viewed as a premium vegetable, and restaurants are responding to consumer preferences. *The Packer* also mentions that despite slowdowns in the foodservice sector since the 2008 recession, shipments of asparagus have not been hurt. Mexican strawberries have benefitted from mild winter weather and were especially colorful and tasty during the first quarter, according to *The Packer*. Large declines in retail prices for both commodities from a year ago stimulated increased demand and kept shipments strong.

First quarter truck rates were nearly identical at the Nogales, AZ, and Pharr, TX, border crossings—\$2.12 and \$2.11, respectively. This is a 12-percent increase at Nogales and a 7-percent increase at Pharr from last year. Over the past 6 years, rates at these two crossings have tended to converge during the first quarter, with Arizona truck rates being higher during the remaining quarters of each year. Truck availability was mostly adequate during January and February with a slight shortage in March for both crossings. While similar to last year's availability for Texas, this is a reduction from the surplus capacity shippers had at the Arizona border crossing during the first quarter last year.



# Quarterly Bulk Grain and Soybeans

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

-----2012-----										
	Water route (to Veracruz)					Land route (to Guadalajara)				
	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Avg	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Avg
US\$/metric ton										
Corn										
Origin	IL					IA				
Truck	9.14				9.14	3.58				3.58
Rail <sup>1</sup>						87.78				87.78
Ocean <sup>2</sup>	18.37				18.37					
Barge	19.38				19.38					
Total transportation cost	46.89				46.89	91.36				91.36
Farm price	248.81				248.81	241.98				241.98
Landed cost	295.70				295.70	333.34				333.34
Transport % of landed cost	15.9				15.9	27.4				27.4
Soybeans										
Origin	IL					NE				
Truck	9.14				9.14	3.58				3.58
Rail <sup>1</sup>						89.88				89.88
Ocean <sup>2</sup>	18.37				18.37					
Barge	19.38				19.38					
Total transportation cost	46.89				46.89	93.46				93.46
Farm price	460.52				460.52	440.92				440.92
Landed cost	507.41				507.41	534.38				534.38
Transport % of landed cost	9.2				9.2	17.5				17.5
Wheat										
Origin	KS					KS				
Truck	18.44				18.44	3.58				3.58
Rail <sup>1</sup>						84.71				84.71
Ocean <sup>2</sup>	18.37				18.37					
Barge	12.53				12.53					
Total transportation cost	49.34				49.34	88.29				88.29
Farm price	249.61				249.61	249.61				249.61
Landed cost	298.95				298.95	337.90				337.90
Transport % of landed cost	16.5				16.5	26.1				26.1

<sup>1</sup>Rail 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.

<sup>2</sup> Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting, Inc.

Rail rates include fuel surcharges.



Table 2. Quarterly tariff rail rates for U.S. bulk grain shipments to Mexico (US\$/car), 2012

Commodity	Origin state	Destination	Tariff rate/car <sup>1</sup>				Fuel surcharge per car <sup>2</sup>					
			1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Avg	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Avg
Wheat	MT	Chihuahua, CI	7,741				7,741	568				568
	OK	Cuautitlan, EM	6,766				6,766	595				595
	KS	Guadalajara, JA	7,411				7,411	880				880
	TX	Salinas Victoria, NL	3,703				3,703	242				242
Corn	IA	Guadalajara, JA	7,699				7,699	892				892
	SD	Penjamo, GJ	7,776				7,776	743				743
	NE	Queretaro, QA	7,048				7,048	766				766
	SD	Salinas Victoria, NL	5,650				5,650	565				565
	MO	Tlalnepantla, EM	6,263				6,263	746				746
	SD	Torreon, CU	6,522				6,522	623				623
Soybeans	MO	Bojay (Tula), HG	6,946				6,946	777				777
	NE	Guadalajara, JA	7,904				7,904	892				892
	IA	El Castillo, JA	8,255				8,255	739				739
	KS	Torreon, CU	6,396				6,396	608				608
Sorghum	OK	Cuautitlan, EM	5,670				5,670	564				564
	TX	Guadalajara, JA	6,653				6,653	484				484
	NE	Penjamo, GJ	7,433				7,433	834				834
	KS	Queretaro, QA	6,353				6,353	528				528
	NE	Salinas Victoria, NL	5,103				5,103	502				502
	NE	Torreon, CU	6,068				6,068	646				646

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

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

Sources: [www.bnsf.com](http://www.bnsf.com), [www.uprr.com](http://www.uprr.com), [www.kcsouthern.com](http://www.kcsouthern.com)



**Table 3. Quarterly tariff plus fuel surcharge rail rates for U.S. bulk grain shipments to Mexico, 2012**

			Tariff <sup>1</sup> plus fuel surcharge per:									
			US\$/metric ton					US\$/bushel <sup>2</sup>				
Commodity	Origin State	Destination	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Avg	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Avg
Wheat	MT	Chihuahua, CI	84.90				84.90	2.31				2.31
	OK	Cuautitlan, EM	75.21				75.21	2.04				2.04
	KS	Guadalajara, JA	84.71				84.71	2.30				2.30
	TX	Salinas Victoria, NL	40.31				40.31	1.10				1.10
Corn	IA	Guadalajara, JA	87.78				87.78	2.23				2.23
	SD	Penjamo, GJ	87.05				87.05	2.21				2.21
	NE	Queretaro, QA	79.84				79.84	2.03				2.03
	SD	Salinas Victoria, NL	63.50				63.50	1.61				1.61
	MO	Tlalneantla, EM	71.62				71.62	1.82				1.82
	SD	Torreon, CU	73.00				73.00	1.85				1.85
Soybeans	MO	Bojay (Tula), HG	78.91				78.91	2.15				2.15
	NE	Guadalajara, JA	89.88				89.88	2.44				2.44
	IA	Penjamo (Celaya), GJ	91.90				91.90	2.50				2.50
	KS	Torreon, CU	71.57				71.57	1.95				1.95
Sorghum	OK	Cuautitlan, EM	63.70				63.70	1.62				1.62
	TX	Guadalajara, JA	72.92				72.92	1.85				1.85
	NE	Penjamo, GJ	84.47				84.47	2.14				2.14
	KS	Queretaro, QA	70.30				70.30	1.78				1.78
	NE	Salinas Victoria, NL	57.26				57.26	1.45				1.45
	NE	Torreon, CU	68.60				68.60	1.74				1.74

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

<sup>2</sup>Approximate load per car = 97.87 mt; corn & sorghum 56 lbs/bu, wheat & soybeans 60 lbs/bu

Sources: [www.bnsf.com](http://www.bnsf.com), [www.uprr.com](http://www.uprr.com), [www.kcsouthern.com](http://www.kcsouthern.com)



**Table 4. Tariff Rail Rates for U.S. Distillers' Dried Grains (DDGS) Shipments to Mexico Destinations (US\$/metric ton), 2012**

Origin BEA <sup>2</sup>	Border Crossing	Destination	Tariff rate/metric ton <sup>1</sup>					Fuel surcharge/metric ton				
			1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Avg	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Avg
Des Moines, IA	Eagle Pass	Guadalajara, JA	97.36				97.36	13.00				13.00
	El Paso	Guadalajara, JA	97.20				97.20	12.97				12.97
	Eagle Pass	Aguascalientes, AGS	88.55				88.55	11.27				11.27
	El Paso	Aguascalientes, AGS	88.78				88.78	11.31				11.31
	Eagle Pass	Yurecuaro, MIC	91.07				91.07	11.76				11.76
	El Paso	Yurecuaro, MIC	91.34				91.34	11.81				11.81
	Eagle Pass	Torreon, COA	83.46				83.46	10.27				10.27
	El Paso	Torreon, COA	83.63				83.63	10.30				10.30
Minneapolis, MN	Eagle Pass	Guadalajara, JA	105.70				105.70	14.42				14.42
	El Paso	Guadalajara, JA	104.12				104.12	13.73				13.73
	Eagle Pass	Aguascalientes, AGS	96.89				96.89	12.68				12.68
	El Paso	Aguascalientes, AGS	95.70				95.70	12.08				12.08
	Eagle Pass	Yurecuaro, MIC	99.41				99.41	13.18				13.18
	El Paso	Yurecuaro, MIC	98.26				98.26	12.58				12.58
	Eagle Pass	Torreon, COA	91.80				91.80	11.68				11.68
	El Paso	Torreon, COA	90.55				90.55	11.06				11.06
Sioux Falls, SD	Eagle Pass	Guadalajara, JA	105.87				105.87	13.58				13.58
	El Paso	Guadalajara, JA	105.93				105.93	13.19				13.19
	Eagle Pass	Aguascalientes, AGS	97.06				97.06	11.85				11.85
	El Paso	Aguascalientes, AGS	97.51				97.51	11.53				11.53
	Eagle Pass	Yurecuaro, MIC	99.58				99.58	12.35				12.35
	El Paso	Yurecuaro, MIC	100.07				100.07	12.04				12.04
	Eagle Pass	Torreon, COA	91.97				91.97	10.85				10.85
	El Paso	Torreon, COA	92.36				92.36	10.52				10.52

<sup>1</sup> 1 to 24 railcars per shipment. C-114 heavy axle load railcars loaded to 90 metric tons per railcar.

<sup>2</sup>Business Economic Areas (BEA) as defined by the Department of Commerce.

Sources: Gavilon de Mexico S.A. de C.V. for the Mexican portion of the rates and BNSF Railway and Union Pacific Railroad for the U.S. portion of the rates.



**Table 5. Quarterly exports of U.S. Distillers' Dried Grains with Soluble (DDGS) to Mexico\***

Year	Thousand metric tons				
	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Total
2008	247	284	332	325	1,188
2009	316	377	371	395	1,459
2010	439	399	424	383	1,645
2011	506	430	476	369	1,781
2012	426				

\*Data are for brewers' and distillers' dregs and waste of which Distillers' Dried Grains with Soluble is a principal component. On November 2, 2010, data was revised.  
 Source: USDA, Economic Research Service (ERS), Feed grains database

**Table 6. Quarterly ocean freight rate for bulk shipments from the U.S. Gulf to Veracruz, Mexico (US\$/metric ton)**

Vessel capacity (metric ton)	1st qtr 2009	2nd qtr 2009	3rd qtr 2009	4th qtr 2009	Average
25,000	13.58	17.53	19.86	22.65	18.41
35-40,000	11.46	15.46	17.78	20.22	16.23
Vessel capacity (metric ton)	1st qtr 2010	2nd qtr 2010	3rd qtr 2010	4th qtr 2010	Average
25,000	23.04	23.83	24.33	21.89	23.27
35-40,000	20.75	22.34	21.64	19.83	21.14
Vessel capacity (metric ton)	1st qtr 2011	2nd qtr 2011	3rd qtr 2011	4th qtr 2011	Average
25,000	21.71	21.13	21.96	23.29	22.02
35-40,000	18.75	18.86	19.89	21.21	19.68
Vessel capacity (metric ton)	1st qtr 2012	2nd qtr 2012	3rd qtr 2012	4th qtr 2012	Average
25,000	20.28				20.28
35-40,000	18.37				18.37

Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting



**Table 7. U.S. livestock exports to Mexico by border crossing\* (head) January-March 2012**

Border Crossing	TX	NM	AZ	Total
<b>Beef cattle</b>				
Slaughter	0	0	0	0
Breeding males	0	41	78	119
Breeding females	0	353	113	466
Total beef	0	394	191	585
<b>Hogs</b>				
Slaughter	0	0	0	0
Breeding males	0	281	320	601
Breeding females	0	1,516	2,211	3,727
Total hogs	0	1,797	2,531	4,328
<b>Sheep</b>				
Slaughter lambs	0	0	0	0
Slaughter ewes	0	0	0	0
Breeding males	0	0	0	0
Breeding females	0	0	0	0
Total sheep	0	0	0	0
<b>Dairy cattle</b>				
Breeding males	0	0	0	0
Breeding females	0	0	1,178	1,178
Total dairy	0	0	1,178	1,178
<b>Goats</b>				
Angora	0	0	0	0
Spanish	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0
Total goats	0	0	0	0
<b>Horses</b>				
Slaughter	1,512	0	20,445	21,957
Breeding males	176	184	406	766
Breeding females	231	200	538	969
Geldings	49	56	98	203
Burro/mule/pony	0	2	64	66
Total horses	1,968	442	21,551	23,961
Exotics**	0	2	10	12
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>1,968</b>	<b>2,635</b>	<b>25,461</b>	<b>30,064</b>

\*Weekly AMS data 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



**Table 8. Fruit and vegetable truck rates for selected U.S.-Mexico border crossing\* (US\$/mile)**

Origin/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
Origin/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
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2008	2nd qtr 2008	3rd qtr 2008	4th qtr 2008	Average
Nogales, Arizona	1.96	2.24	2.80	1.97	2.24
Pharr, Texas	1.93	2.19	2.12	1.87	2.03
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2009	2nd qtr 2009	3rd qtr 2009	4th qtr 2009	Average
Nogales, Arizona	1.72	2.01	2.15	1.79	1.92
Pharr, Texas	1.70	1.71	1.59	1.58	1.65
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2010	2nd qtr 2010	3rd qtr 2010	4th qtr 2010	Average
Nogales, Arizona	1.97	2.25	2.26	2.23	2.17
Pharr, Texas	1.70	2.02	1.67	1.69	1.77
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2011	2nd qtr 2011	3rd qtr 2011	4th qtr 2011	Average
Nogales, Arizona	1.88	2.52	2.17	2.20	2.19
Pharr, Texas	1.97	2.20	1.98	2.08	2.06
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2012	2nd qtr 2012	3rd qtr 2012	4th qtr 2012	Average
Nogales, Arizona	2.12				
Pharr, Texas	2.11				

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



Table 9. Quarterly U.S.-Mexico border crossing fresh fruit and vegetables truck availability, 1st quarter, 2012

Legend:		Truck availability												
		1 = Surplus		2 = Slight Surplus		3 = Adequate		4 = Slight Shortage		5 = Shortage				
Mexico border crossings/month		January				February				March				
Week		1/3	1/10	1/17	1/24	1/31	2/7	2/14	2/21	2/28	3/6	3/13	3/20	3/27
Through TX	Mixed Fruit and Vegetables	5	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	5	4	4
	Carrots, Broccoli	5	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	5	4	4
	Citrus, Tomatoes, Cucumbers	5	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	5	4	4
Through Nogales, AZ	Melons	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	4	4	5	4
	Mixed Vegetables	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	4	4	5	4
	Mangoes									3	4	4	5	4

Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Market News Branch, *Fruit and Vegetable Truck Rate Report*



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

Commodity	1st quarter 2012	Rank
Tomatoes	99,264	1
Peppers	56,506	2
Cucumbers	42,668	3
Onions	29,949	4
Squash	26,776	5
Avocados	25,456	6
Limes	19,723	7
Watermelon	19,414	8
Asparagus	15,603	9
Strawberries	12,385	10

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



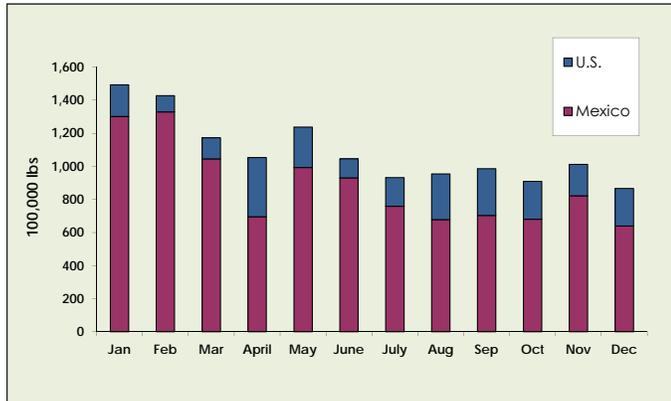
**Table 11. Top five commodities shipped to the U.S. from Mexico (10,000 lbs.)**

Commodity	1st qtr 2009	2nd qtr 2009	3rd qtr 2009	4th qtr 2009	Total 2009
Tomatoes, Plum	62,337	64,976	21,173	44,530	193,016
Peppers	43,303	23,396	21,903	33,946	122,548
Watermelon, Seedless	21,643	64,976	1,949	21,428	109,996
Limes	17,499	21,253	23,706	19,829	82,287
Cucumbers	32,819	20,464	8,059	29,719	91,061
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>177,601</b>	<b>195,065</b>	<b>76,790</b>	<b>149,452</b>	<b>598,908</b>
Other	181,069	143,027	80,567	129,714	534,377
<b>Total</b>	<b>181,069</b>	<b>338,092</b>	<b>157,357</b>	<b>279,166</b>	<b>955,684</b>
Commodity	1st qtr 2010	2nd qtr 2010	3rd qtr 2010	4th qtr 2010	Total 2010
Tomatoes, Plum	113,379	77,048	34,226	43,291	267,944
Peppers	52,381	29,135	18,481	33,718	133,715
Cucumbers	39,925	23,695	9,314	30,169	103,103
Squash	24,242	12,827	2,852	19,740	59,661
Avocados	20,065	15,120	8,696	17,242	61,123
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>249,992</b>	<b>157,825</b>	<b>73,569</b>	<b>144,160</b>	<b>625,546</b>
Other	178,749	264,046	116,397	133,112	692,304
<b>Total</b>	<b>428,741</b>	<b>421,871</b>	<b>189,966</b>	<b>277,272</b>	<b>1,317,850</b>
Commodity	1st qtr 2011	2nd qtr 2011	3rd qtr 2011	4th qtr 2011	Total 2011
Tomatoes	93,831	61,825	40,136	40,329	236,121
Peppers	49,137	27,150	21,775	30,018	128,080
Cucumbers	31,749	27,481	9,879	22,275	91,384
Onions	30,159	20,994	6,747	7,090	64,990
Watermelon	25,181	66,908	3,082	14,777	109,948
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>230,057</b>	<b>204,358</b>	<b>81,619</b>	<b>114,489</b>	<b>630,523</b>
Other	181,726	199,596	109,240	103,717	594,279
<b>Total</b>	<b>411,783</b>	<b>403,954</b>	<b>190,859</b>	<b>218,206</b>	<b>1,224,802</b>
Commodity	1st qtr 2012	2nd qtr 2012	3rd qtr 2012	4th qtr 2012	Total 2012
Tomatoes	99,264				99,264
Peppers	56,506				56,506
Cucumbers	42,668				42,668
Onions	29,949				29,949
Squash	26,776				26,776
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>255,163</b>				<b>255,163</b>
Other	200,550				200,550
<b>Total</b>	<b>455,713</b>				<b>455,713</b>

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

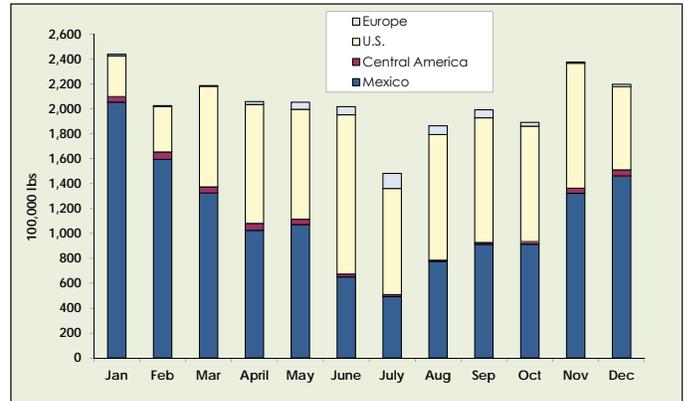


Figure 4. Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported plum tomatoes, 2011



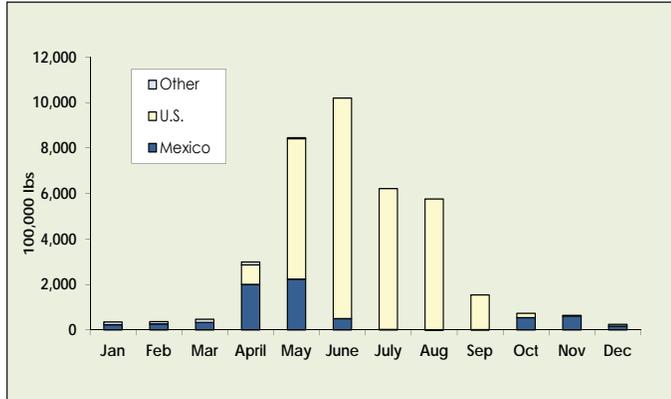
Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), USDA

Figure 5. Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported peppers (all varieties), 2011



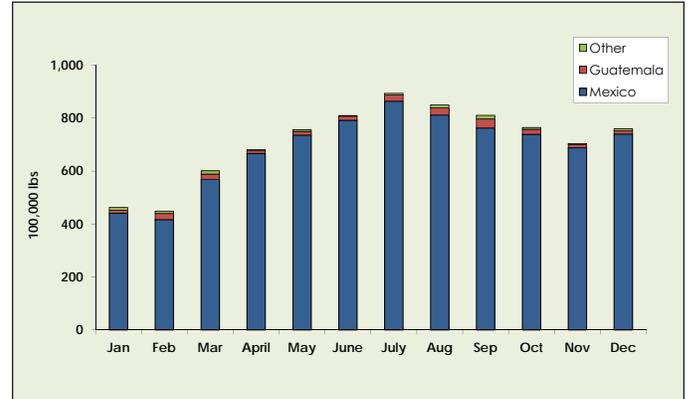
Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), USDA

Figure 6. Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported seedless watermelons, 2011



Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), USDA

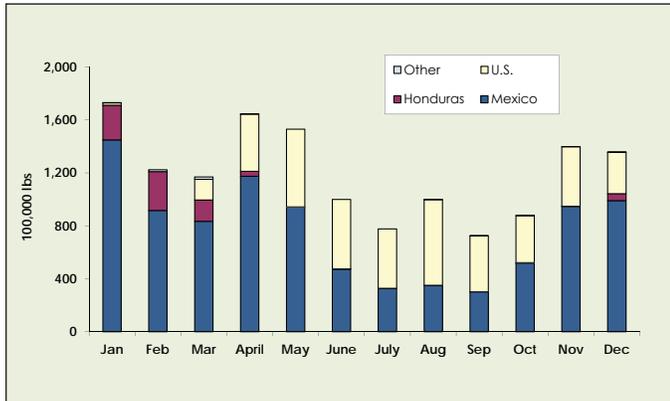
Figure 7. Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported limes, 2011



Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), USDA

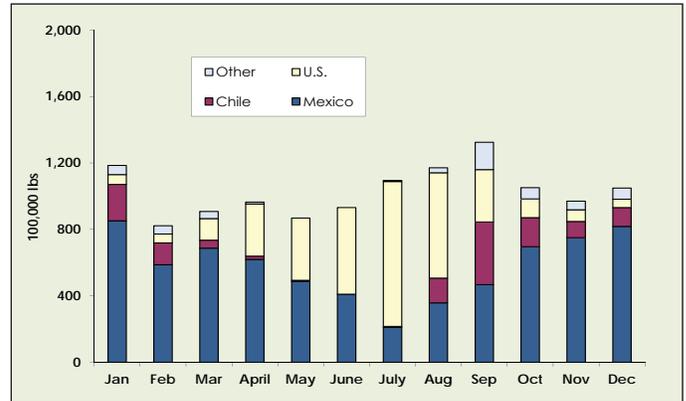


Figure 8. Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported cucumbers, 2011



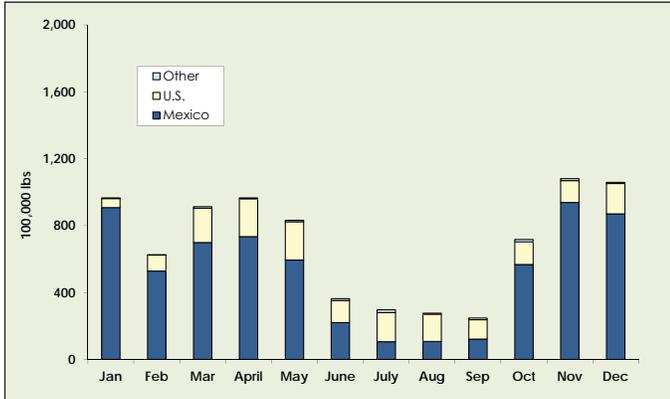
Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), USDA

Figure 9. Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported avocados, 2011



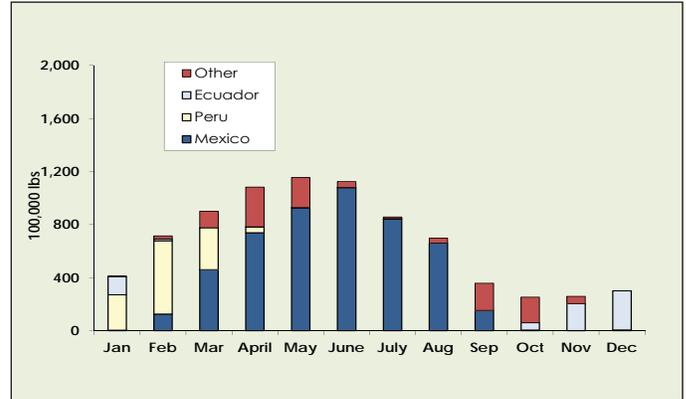
Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), USDA

Figure 10. Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported squash, 2011



Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), USDA

Figure 11. Monthly U.S. shipments of domestic and imported mangoes, 2011



Source: Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), USDA



## Container Shipments

**Table 12. Top ten U.S. containerized agricultural exports to Mexico\*, 2012**

1st qtr	Commodity	Quantity (mt)	# of TEUs**	Percentage share	Rank
	Vegetables	4,235	168	32	1
	Tobacco products	1,638	166	13	2
	Dextrose, glucose	1,046	66	8	3
	Coffee	945	57	7	4
	Dairy products	640	88	5	5
	Wine	639	74	5	6
	Beer, ale	371	23	3	7
	Grocery items	371	38	3	8
	Bulbs & seeds	362	25	3	9
	Edible nuts	300	41	2	10
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>10,547</b>	<b>746</b>	<b>81</b>	
Other		2,499	231	19	
<b>Total Exports</b>		<b>13,046</b>	<b>977</b>	<b>100</b>	

\*PIERS data will not necessarily sum to the total U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census data

\*\*Twenty Foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) is a 20-foot shipping container

Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), 2012

**Table 13. Top five U.S. bulk agricultural exports to Mexico\*, 2010-2011**

Commodity	2010	2011	Percentage share	Rank
	Quantity (mt)			
Bulk grains	3,262,754	3,584,153	46	1
Bread, cereal, flour	1,397,970	1,430,153	18	2
Soybeans	1,303,882	993,827	13	3
Rice	509,612	579,825	7	4
Vegetables	98,702	439,123	6	5
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>6,572,920</b>	<b>7,027,081</b>	<b>91</b>	
Other	427,276	713,369	9	
<b>Total Exports</b>	<b>7,000,196</b>	<b>7,740,450</b>	<b>100</b>	

\*PIERS data will not necessarily sum to the total U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census data

Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), Journal of Commerce, 2011



**Table 14. U.S. bulk agricultural exports to Mexico by receiving port\*, 2010-2011**

Mexican port	2010	2011	Percentage share	Rank
	Quantity (mt)			
Veracruz	4,847,113	5,171,025	67	1
Progreso	1,151,637	1,154,845	15	2
Coatzacoalcos	656,708	704,571	9	3
Tuxpan	338,249	498,342	6	4
Manzanillo	40	89,589	1	5
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>6,993,747</b>	<b>7,618,372</b>	<b>98</b>	
Other	6,449	122,078	2	
<b>Total Exports</b>	<b>7,000,196</b>	<b>7,740,450</b>	<b>100</b>	

\*PIERS data will not necessarily sum to the total U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census data  
 Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), 2011

**Table 15. Top ten U.S. agricultural container exports to Mexico\*, 2011**

Commodity	2011	Percentage share	Rank
	# of TEUs**		
Tobacco products	852	14	1
Vegetables	793	13	2
Dextrose, glucose	672	11	3
Dairy products	606	10	4
Fruit	541	9	5
Grocery items	501	8	6
Edible nuts	327	5	7
Beer, ale	204	3	8
Wine	203	3	9
Coffee	187	3	10
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>4,886</b>	<b>78</b>	
Other	1,403	22	
<b>Total Exports</b>	<b>6,289</b>	<b>100</b>	

\*PIERS data will not necessarily sum to the total U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census data  
 \*\*Twenty Foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) is a 20-foot shipping container  
 Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), 2011



**Table 16. Top 5 U.S. agricultural container shipments to Mexico by port\*, 2010-2011**

U.S. region**	Mexican port	2010	2011	% change
		Number of TEUs***		
U.S. Gulf	Manzanillo	17	-	-
Pacific Northwest		1,184	865	-27.0
West Coast		652	1,139	74.7
East Coast		100	100	0.5
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>1,953</b>	<b>2,104</b>	<b>7.7</b>
U.S. Gulf	Lázaro Cárdenas	-	-	-
Pacific Northwest		193	35	-81.9
West Coast		753	1,058	40.5
East Coast		-	4	-
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>946</b>	<b>1,097</b>	<b>16.0</b>
U.S. Gulf	Altamira	307	-	-
Pacific Northwest		-	-	-
West Coast		1	-	-
East Coast		242	866	257.8
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>550</b>	<b>866</b>	<b>57.4</b>
U.S. Gulf	Merida	486	700	44.1
Pacific Northwest		-	-	-
West Coast		-	-	-
East Coast		-	-	-
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>486</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>44.1</b>
U.S. Gulf	Vera Cruz	-	199	-
Pacific Northwest		-	-	-
West Coast		-	-	-
East Coast		393	239	-39.3
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>393</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>11.3</b>
<b>Total of Top 5 Ports</b>		<b>4,328</b>	<b>5,205</b>	<b>20.3</b>
<b>Other Ports</b>		<b>804</b>	<b>1,084</b>	<b>34.8</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>5,132</b>	<b>6,289</b>	<b>22.5</b>

\*PIERS data will not necessarily sum to the total U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census data

\*\*U.S. Gulf includes Houston, New Orleans, Port Everglades

Pacific Northwest includes Seattle, Portland

West Coast includes Oakland, Long Beach, Los Angeles

East Coast includes New York, 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), 2011



**Table 17. U.S. agricultural container exports to Mexico by port\*, 2010-2011**

Mexican Port	2010	2011	Percentage share	Rank
	# of TEUs**			
Manzanillo	1,953	2,104	33	1
Lazaro Carden	952	1,097	17	2
Altamira	396	866	14	3
Merida	99	700	11	4
Vera Cruz	565	438	7	5
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>3,965</b>	<b>5,205</b>	<b>83</b>	
Other	1,167	1,084	17	
<b>Total Exports</b>	<b>5,132</b>	<b>6,289</b>	<b>100</b>	

\*PIERS data will not necessarily sum to the total U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census data  
 \*\*Twenty Foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) is a 20-foot shipping container  
 Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), 2011

**Table 18. U.S. agricultural container exports to Mexico by port\*, 2011-2012**

Mexican Port	2011 1st qtr	2012 1st qtr	% Change	YTD 2011	YTD 2012	% Change
	# of TEUs**			# of TEUs**		
Merida	168	179	6	168	179	6
Manzanillo	930	139	-85	930	139	-85
Altamira	459	167	-64	459	167	-64
Puerto Morelos	23	93	301	23	93	301
Vera Cruz	257	76	-70	257	76	-70
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,836</b>	<b>653</b>	<b>-64</b>	<b>1,836</b>	<b>653</b>	<b>-64</b>
Other	454	323	-29	454	324	-29
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,290</b>	<b>977</b>	<b>-57</b>	<b>2,290</b>	<b>977</b>	<b>-57</b>

\*PIERS data will not necessarily sum to the total U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of Census data  
 \*\*Twenty Foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) is a 20-foot shipping container  
 Source: Port Import Export Reporting Services (PIERS), 2011 and 2012



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**Related Websites:**

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



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