



# Grain Transportation Report

A weekly publication of the Agricultural Marketing Service  
[www.ams.usda.gov/GTR](http://www.ams.usda.gov/GTR)

Contact Us

## WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

December 26, 2019

### Contents

Article/  
Calendar

Grain  
Transportation  
Indicators

Rail

Barge

Truck

Exports

Ocean

Brazil

Mexico

Grain Truck/Ocean  
Rate Advisory

Datasets

Specialists

Subscription  
Information

The next  
release is  
January 2, 2020

### Grain Inspections Down From Past Week

For the week ending December 19, **total inspections of grain** (corn, wheat, and soybeans) for export from all major U.S. export regions reached 2.1 million metric tons (mmt). Total grain inspections were down 19 percent from the previous week, down 9 percent from last year, and down 26 percent from the 3-year average. Total inspections for corn and soybeans were down 45 and 19 percent, respectively, from the previous week. However, wheat inspections increased 13 percent from week to week. Grain inspections in the Pacific Northwest (PNW) decreased 24 percent from the past week, and Mississippi Gulf inspections decreased 19 percent.

### Heading Into Winter, Heightened River-Water Levels and Flooding Recovery

For the week ending December 21, southbound tows on the Lower Mississippi River continued to be reduced by five loads in response to high water levels according to the American Commercial Barge Line (ACBL). The Plaquemine area of the Lower Mississippi River is operating under daily one-way traffic restrictions through December 27 because of seasonal mat-sinking activities, conducted by the Vicksburg District of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to shield the riverbank from erosion and sloughing caused by channel currents and turbulent water associated with river flood stages. On the Arkansas River, tow sizes remained limited to six loads because of Arkansas River flooding and recovery efforts. According to ACBL, 12-barge tows will return some time in 2020.

### Congress Passes FY 2020 Energy and Water Spending Bill

The Energy and Water Development Spending Bill funds the civil works program of the Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) at \$7.65 billion, \$652 million above the FY 2019 level and \$2.69 billion above the budget request. Notably, the construction-cost share for Chickamauga Lock is 65 percent for general revenue funding and 35 percent for the Inland Waterways Trust Fund (IWTF) (compared to the traditional 50/50 split), with the aim of reducing final project costs and speeding completion on current construction. In addition, the bill will fully use the estimated receipts and previous year's revenues of IWTF, resulting in a \$317 million investment level for FY 2020. Investigations are funded at \$151 million—a \$26 million increase above the FY 2019 level and \$74 million above the request—and enable funding for studies in the 2020 USACE work plan. Construction will be funded at \$2.68 billion—a \$498 million increase above the FY 2019 level and \$1.37 billion above the request. Operation and Maintenance are funded at \$3.79 billion—an increase of \$1.86 billion above the request. The Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund projects will receive \$1.63 billion—an increase of \$665 million above the request. Mississippi Rivers and Tributaries (MR&T) will receive \$375 million.

### Snapshots by Sector

#### Export Sales

For the week ending December 12, **unshipped balances** of wheat, corn, and soybeans totaled 23.7 mmt. This represented a 22-percent decrease in outstanding sales, compared to the same time last year. Net **corn export sales** reached 1.71 mmt, up 96 percent from the past week. Net **soybean export sales** were 1.43 mmt, up 36 percent from the previous week. Net weekly **wheat export sales** reached .869 mmt, up 73 percent from the previous week.

#### Rail

U.S. Class I railroads originated 20,709 **grain carloads** during the week ending December 14. This was a 11-percent decrease from the previous week, 8 percent fewer than last year, and 12 percent fewer than the 3-year average.

There were no shuttle or non-shuttle secondary railcar bids/offers this week.

#### Barge

For the week ending December 21, **barge grain movements** totaled 478,028 tons. This was a 33-percent decrease from the previous week and 35 percent less than the same period last year.

For the week ending December 21, 388 grain barges **moved down river**—135 fewer barges than the previous week. There were 706 grain barges **unloaded in New Orleans**, 3 percent more than the previous week.

#### Ocean

For the week ending December 19, 26 **oceangoing grain vessels** were loaded in the Gulf—16.1 percent fewer than the same period last year. Within the next 10 days (starting December 20), 40 vessels were expected to be loaded—29.8 percent fewer than the same period last year.

As of December 19, the rate for shipping a metric ton (mt) of grain from the U.S. Gulf to Japan was \$46.50. This was 1.6 percent less than the previous week. The rate from PNW to Japan was \$25.50 per mt, 1 percent less than the previous week.

#### Fuel

For the week ending December 23, the U.S. average **diesel fuel price** decreased 0.5 cents from the previous week to \$3.041 per gallon, 3.6 cents below the same week last year.

# Feature Article/Calendar

Date	Event	Location	Website
Jan. 12-16	Transportation Research Board's 99th Annual Meeting	Washington, DC	<a href="http://www.trb.org/AnnualMeeting/AnnualMeeting.aspx">http://www.trb.org/AnnualMeeting/AnnualMeeting.aspx</a>
Jan. 12-18	U.S. Wheat Associates and National Association of Wheat Growers Joint Winter Meeting	Washington, DC	<a href="https://www.uswheat.org/meeting/2020-usw-nawg-joint-winter-meeting/">https://www.uswheat.org/meeting/2020-usw-nawg-joint-winter-meeting/</a>
Jan. 13-15	Michigan Agribusiness Association Meeting	Lansing, MI	<a href="https://www.miagbiz.org/index.php/events/winter-conference">https://www.miagbiz.org/index.php/events/winter-conference</a>
Jan. 14-16	Midwest Association of Rail Shippers 2020 Winter Meeting	Lombard, IL	<a href="https://www.mwrailshippers.com/event/mars-2020-winter-meeting/">https://www.mwrailshippers.com/event/mars-2020-winter-meeting/</a>
Jan. 15-16	South Dakota Ag Expo	Sioux Falls, SD	<a href="https://www.agexpo-sd.org/">https://www.agexpo-sd.org/</a>
Jan. 19-21	North Dakota Grain Dealers Association 108th Annual Convention & Trade Show	Fargo, ND	<a href="https://www.ndgda.org/events/convention-information">https://www.ndgda.org/events/convention-information</a>
Jan. 28-30	International Feed Expo	Atlanta, GA	<a href="https://www.ippexpo.org/">https://www.ippexpo.org/</a>
Jan. 29	AgTC Ag Shipper Workshop	Portland, OR	<a href="http://www.agtrans.org/workshops">www.agtrans.org/workshops</a>
Jan. 31	AgTC Ag Shipper Workshop	Boise, ID	<a href="http://www.agtrans.org/workshops">www.agtrans.org/workshops</a>
Feb. 11-12	Agribusiness Showcase/Conference	Des Moines, IA	<a href="https://www.agribizshowcase.com/">https://www.agribizshowcase.com/</a>
Feb. 16-18	Grain and Feed Association of Illinois	Springfield, IL	<a href="https://www.gfai.org/annual-conference.html">https://www.gfai.org/annual-conference.html</a>
Feb. 18	AgTC Ag Shipper Workshop	Sacramento, CA	<a href="http://www.agtrans.org/workshops">www.agtrans.org/workshops</a>
Feb. 19	AgTC Ag Shipper Workshop	Fresno, CA	<a href="http://www.agtrans.org/workshops">www.agtrans.org/workshops</a>
Feb. 20-21	USDA's 96th Agricultural Outlook Forum	Arlington, VA	<a href="https://www.usda.gov/oce/forum/">https://www.usda.gov/oce/forum/</a>
Feb. 26-28	GEAPS 24th Annual Great Lakes Regional Conference	Sandusky, OH	<a href="https://www.geapsglc.com/">https://www.geapsglc.com/</a>
Mar. 3-5	Minnesota Grain and Feed Association's 113th Annual Convention and Industry Trade Show	Bloomington, MN	<a href="https://www.mgfa.org/convention-trade-show/convention-info">https://www.mgfa.org/convention-trade-show/convention-info</a>
Mar. 8-10	National Grain and Feed Association's 124th Annual Convention	Austin, TX	<a href="http://www.ngfa.org">www.ngfa.org</a>
Mar. 12-13	Transportation Research Forum's 61st Annual Meeting	Jersey City, NJ	<a href="http://annualforum.trforum.org/">http://annualforum.trforum.org/</a>
Apr. 27-29	Transportation and Logistics Council's 46th Annual Conference	Orlando, FL	<a href="https://tlcouncil.org/home">https://tlcouncil.org/home</a>

# Grain Transportation Indicators

Table 1

## Grain transport cost indicators<sup>1</sup>

For the week ending	Truck	Rail		Barge	Ocean	
		Unit train	Shuttle		Gulf	Pacific
12/25/19	204	n/a	n/a	177	208	181
12/18/19	204	n/a	207	188	211	183

<sup>1</sup>Indicator: Base year 2000 = 100. Weekly updates include truck = diesel (\$/gallon); rail = near-month secondary rail market bid and monthly tariff rate with fuel surcharge (\$/car); barge = Illinois River barge rate (index = percent of tariff rate); ocean = routes to Japan (\$/metric ton); n/a = not available.

Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.

Table 2

## Market Update: U.S. origins to export position price spreads (\$/bushel)

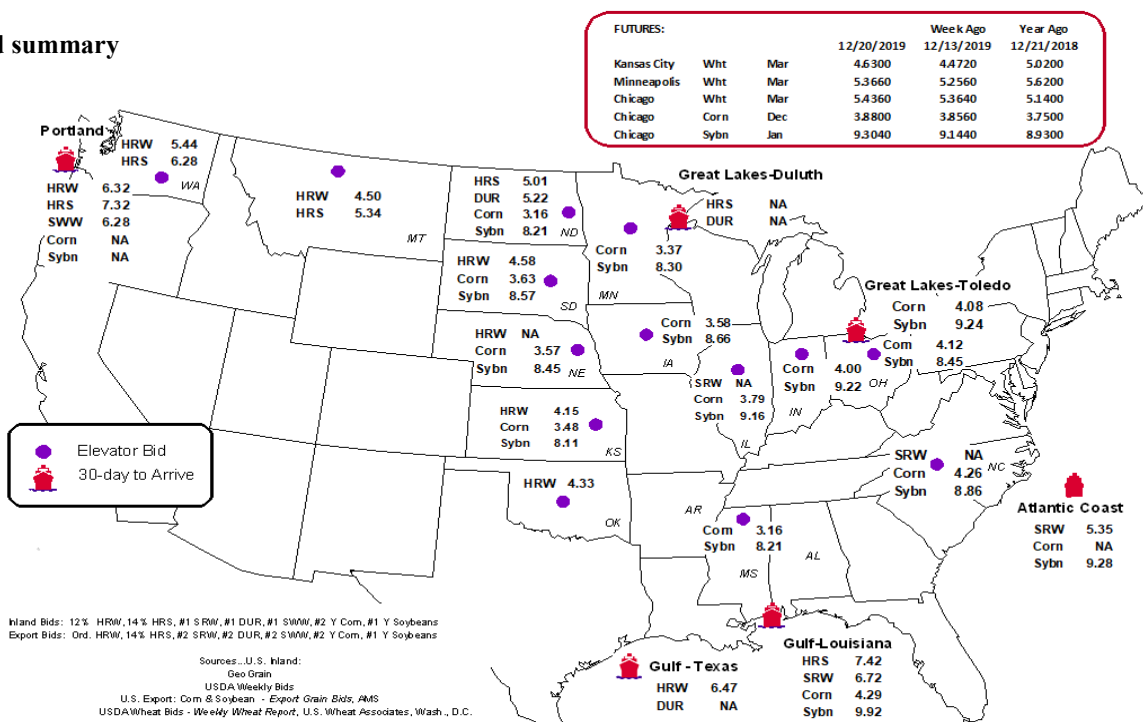
Commodity	Origin-destination	12/20/2019	12/13/2019
Corn	IL-Gulf	-0.50	-0.51
Corn	NE-Gulf	-0.72	-0.70
Soybean	IA-Gulf	-1.26	-1.23
HRW	KS-Gulf	-2.32	-2.32
HRS	ND-Portland	-2.31	-2.44

Note: nq = no quote; n/a = not available; HRW = hard red winter wheat; HRS = hard red spring wheat.

Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.

The **grain bid summary** illustrates the market relationships for commodities. Positive and negative adjustments in differential between terminal and futures markets, and the relationship to inland market points, are indicators of changes in fundamental market supply and demand. The map may be used to monitor market and time differentials.

Figure 1  
Grain bid summary



# Rail Transportation

Table 3  
**Rail deliveries to port (carloads)<sup>1</sup>**

For the week ending	Mississippi		Pacific	Atlantic &	Total	Week ending	Cross-border Mexico <sup>3</sup>
	Gulf	Texas Gulf	Northwest	East Gulf			
12/18/2019 <sup>P</sup>	442	447	4,652	259	5,800	12/14/2019	2,914
12/11/2019 <sup>F</sup>	650	565	4,307	168	5,690	12/7/2019	2,748
2019 YTD <sup>F</sup>	40,541	50,605	248,020	16,095	355,261	2019 YTD	124,664
2018 YTD <sup>F</sup>	21,916	46,261	306,376	20,925	395,478	2018 YTD	127,073
2019 YTD as % of 2018 YTD	185	109	81	77	90	% change YTD	98
Last 4 weeks as % of 2018 <sup>2</sup>	357	61	85	44	85	Last 4wks. % 2018	94
Last 4 weeks as % of 4-year avg. <sup>2</sup>	120	31	72	24	64	Last 4wks. % 4 yr.	133
Total 2018	22,118	46,532	310,449	21,432	400,531	Total 2018	129,116
Total 2017	28,796	75,543	287,267	21,312	412,918	Total 2017	119,661

<sup>1</sup>Data is incomplete as it is voluntarily provided.

<sup>2</sup> Compared with same 4-weeks in 2018 and prior 4-year average.

<sup>3</sup> Cross-border weekly data is approximately 15 percent below the Association of American Railroads' reported weekly carloads received by Mexican railroads, to reflect switching between Kansas City Southern de Mexico (KCSM) and Grupo Mexico.

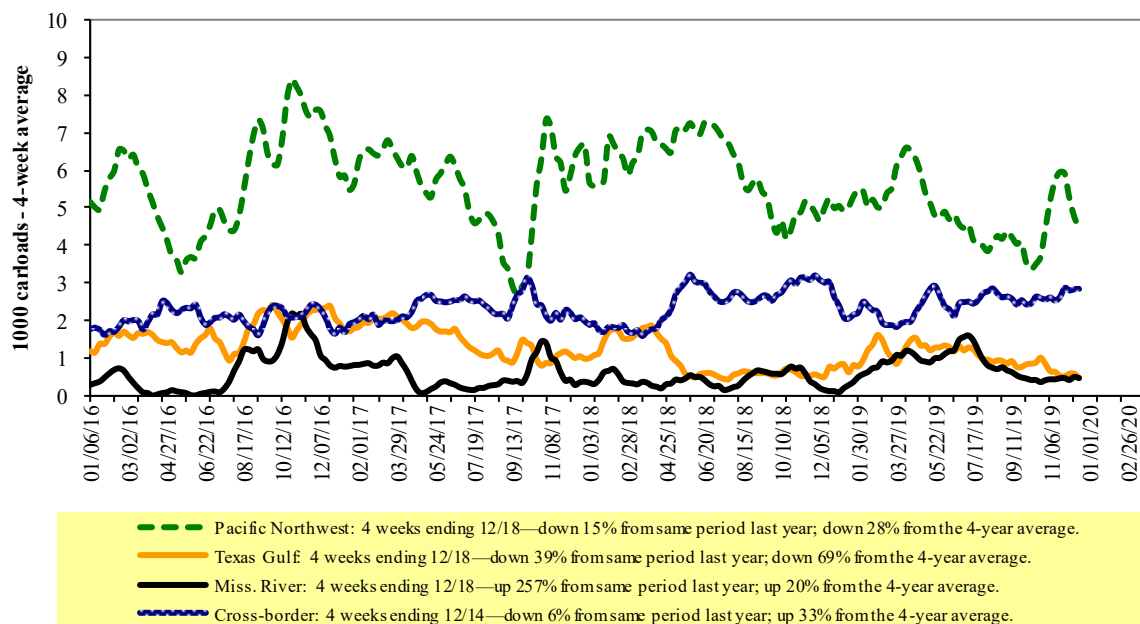
**YTD = year-to-date; p = preliminary data; r = revised data; n/a = not available; wks. = weeks; avg. = average.**

Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.

Railroads originate approximately 24 percent of U.S. grain shipments. Trends in these loadings are indicative of market conditions and expectations.

Figure 2

## Rail deliveries to port



Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.

Table 4

**Class I rail carrier grain car bulletin (grain carloads originated)**

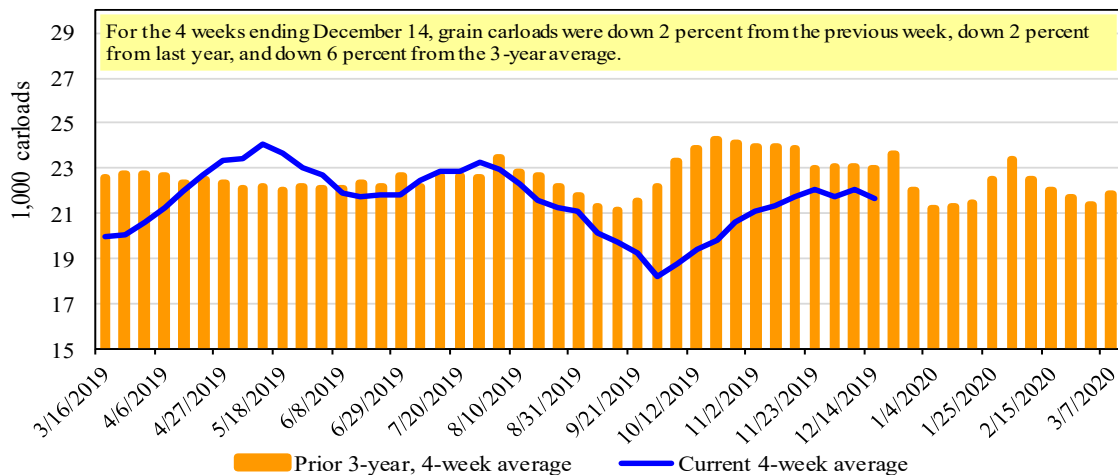
For the week ending: 12/14/2019	East		West			U.S. total	Canada	
	CSXT	NS	BNSF	KCS	UP		CN	CP
This week	1,554	2,169	11,424	870	4,692	20,709	5,484	4,596
This week last year	1,328	2,590	12,547	1,143	4,985	22,593	4,015	5,154
2019 YTD	88,830	132,884	548,835	56,617	251,684	1,078,850	206,000	227,253
2018 YTD	95,707	127,671	612,922	46,943	258,478	1,141,721	203,318	236,127
2019 YTD as % of 2018 YTD	93	104	90	121	97	94	101	96
Last 4 weeks as % of 2018*	99	93	99	113	96	98	107	105
Last 4 weeks as % of 3-yr. avg.**	89	88	97	117	88	94	113	102
Total 2018	98,978	133,281	635,458	48,638	267,713	1,184,068	211,634	244,697

\*The past 4 weeks of this year as a percent of the same 4 weeks last year.

\*\*The past 4 weeks as a percent of the same period from the prior 3-year average. YTD = year-to-date; avg. = average; yr. = year.

Source: Association of American Railroads.

Figure 3

**Total weekly U.S. Class I railroad grain car loads**

Source: Association of American Railroads.

Table 5

**Railcar auction offerings<sup>1</sup> (\$/car)<sup>2</sup>**

For the week ending: 12/19/2019		Delivery period							
		Jan-20	Jan-19	Feb-20	Feb-19	Mar-20	Mar-19	Apr-20	Apr-19
BNSF <sup>3</sup>	COT grain units	n/a	0	n/a	-37	n/a	0	n/a	no bids
	COT grain single-car	n/a	86	n/a	18	n/a	2	n/a	2
UP <sup>4</sup>	GCAS/Region 1	n/a	10	n/a	no bid	n/a	no offer	n/a	n/a
	GCAS/Region 2	n/a	no bid	n/a	no bid	n/a	no offer	n/a	n/a

<sup>1</sup>Auction offerings are for single-car and unit train shipments only.

<sup>2</sup>Average premium/discount to tariff, last auction. n/a = not available.

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

<sup>4</sup>UP - GCAS = Grain Car Allocation System.

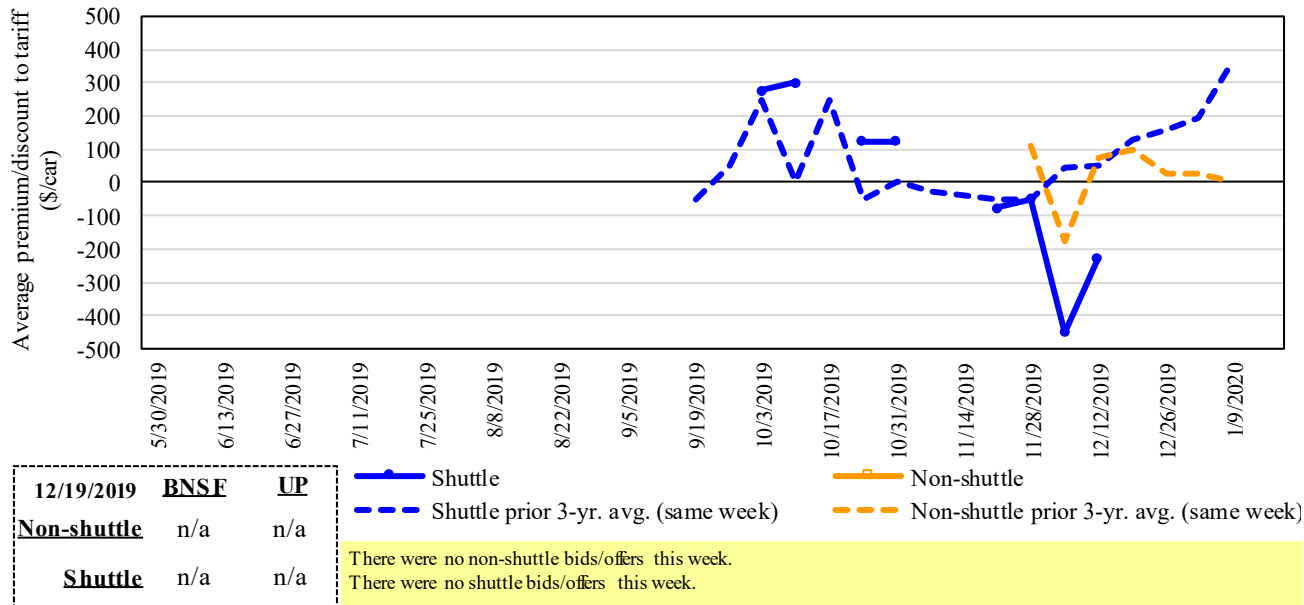
Region 1 includes: AR, IL, LA, MO, NM, OK, TX, WI, and Duluth, MN.

Region 2 includes: CO, IA, KS, MN, NE, WY, and Kansas City and St. Joseph, MO.

Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.

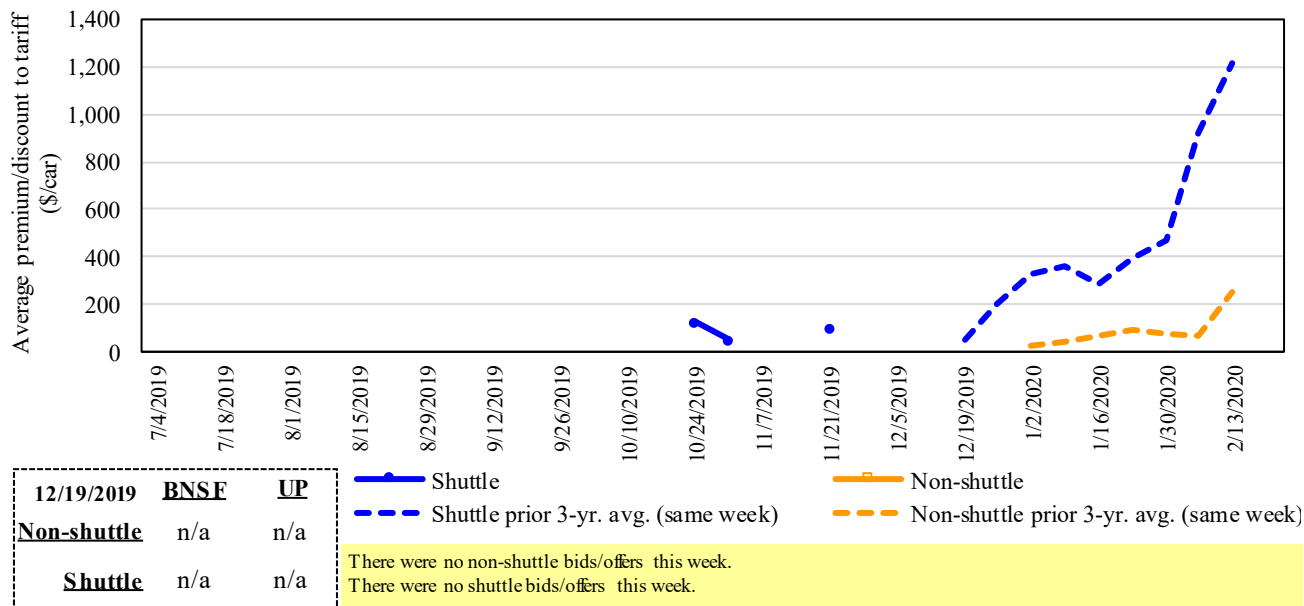
The **secondary rail market** information reflects trade values for service that was originally purchased from the railroad carrier as some form of guaranteed freight. The **auction and secondary rail** values are indicators of rail service quality and demand/supply.

**Figure 4**  
**Bids/offers for railcars to be delivered in January 2020, secondary market**



Note: Non-shuttle bids include unit-train and single-car bids. n/a = not available; avg. = average; yr. = year.  
 Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.

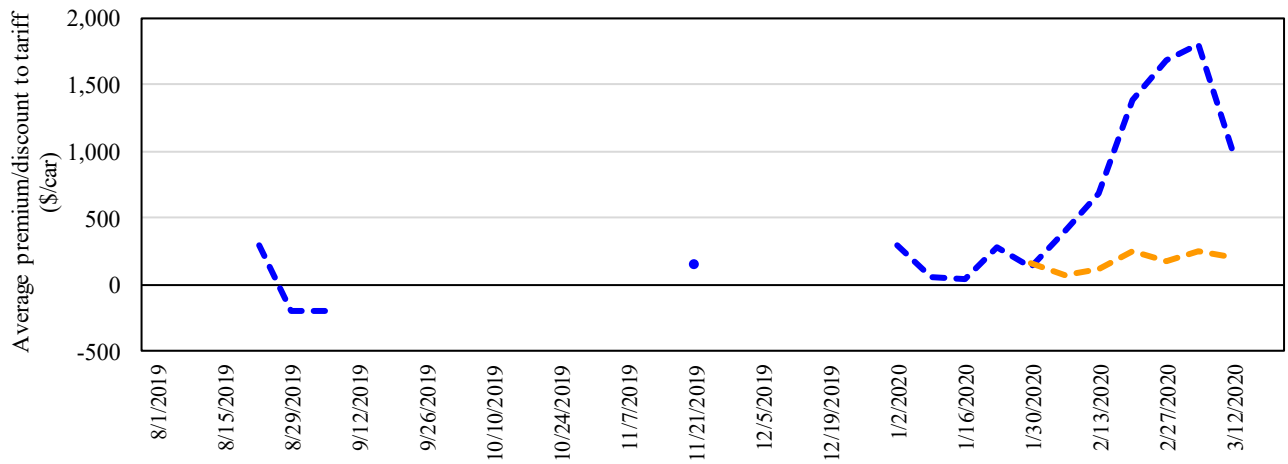
**Figure 5**  
**Bids/offers for railcars to be delivered in February 2020, secondary market**



Note: Non-shuttle bids include unit-train and single-car bids. n/a = not available; avg. = average; yr. = year.  
 Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.

Figure 6

**Bids/offers for railcars to be delivered in March 2020, secondary market**



12/19/2019	BNSF	UP	
<b>Non-shuttle</b>	n/a	n/a	
<b>Shuttle</b>	n/a	n/a	

— Shuttle  
- - - Shuttle prior 3-yr. avg. (same week)  
— Non-shuttle  
- - - Non-shuttle prior 3-yr. avg. (same week)

There were no non-shuttle bids/offers this week.  
 There were no shuttle bids/offers this week.

Note: Non-shuttle bids include unit-train and single-car bids. n/a = not available; avg. = average; yr. = year.  
 Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.

Table 6

**Weekly secondary railcar market (\$/car)<sup>1</sup>**

For the week ending:		Delivery period					
		Jan-20	Feb-20	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20
Non-shuttle	<b>12/19/2019</b>						
	<b>BNSF-GF</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Change from last week	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Change from same week 2018	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	<b>UP-Pool</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Change from last week	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Change from same week 2018	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Shuttle	<b>BNSF-GF</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Change from last week	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Change from same week 2018	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	<b>UP-Pool</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Change from last week	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Change from same week 2018	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

<sup>1</sup> Average premium/discount to tariff, \$/car-last week.

Note: Bids listed are market indicators only and are not guaranteed prices. n/a = not available; GF = guaranteed freight; Pool = guaranteed pool.

Data from James B. Joiner Co., Tradewest Brokerage Co.

Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.

The **tariff rail rate** is the base price of freight rail service and—together with **fuel surcharges** and any **auction and secondary rail** values—constitute the full cost of shipping by rail. Typically, auction and secondary rail values are a small fraction of the full cost of shipping by rail relative to the tariff rate. High auction and secondary rail values, during times of high rail demand or short supply, can exceed the cost of the tariff rate plus fuel surcharge.

Table 7

**Tariff rail rates for unit and shuttle train shipments<sup>1</sup>**

December 2019	Origin region <sup>3</sup>	Destination region <sup>3</sup>	Tariff rate/car	Fuel surcharge per car	Tariff plus surcharge per:		Percent change Y/Y <sup>4</sup>
					metric ton	bushel <sup>2</sup>	
<b>Unit train</b>							
Wheat	Wichita, KS	St. Louis, MO	\$3,983	\$101	\$40.56	\$1.10	-1
	Grand Forks, ND	Duluth-Superior, MN	\$4,333	\$0	\$43.03	\$1.17	2
	Wichita, KS	Los Angeles, CA	\$7,240	\$0	\$71.90	\$1.96	1
	Wichita, KS	New Orleans, LA	\$4,525	\$178	\$46.70	\$1.27	-1
	Sioux Falls, SD	Galveston-Houston, TX	\$6,976	\$0	\$69.28	\$1.89	1
	Northwest KS	Galveston-Houston, TX	\$4,801	\$195	\$49.61	\$1.35	-1
	Amarillo, TX	Los Angeles, CA	\$5,121	\$271	\$53.55	\$1.46	-1
Corn	Champaign-Urbana, IL	New Orleans, LA	\$3,900	\$201	\$40.73	\$1.03	-4
	Toledo, OH	Raleigh, NC	\$6,816	\$0	\$67.69	\$1.72	4
	Des Moines, IA	Davenport, IA	\$2,415	\$43	\$24.41	\$0.62	6
	Indianapolis, IN	Atlanta, GA	\$5,818	\$0	\$57.78	\$1.47	3
	Indianapolis, IN	Knoxville, TN	\$4,874	\$0	\$48.40	\$1.23	4
	Des Moines, IA	Little Rock, AR	\$3,800	\$125	\$38.98	\$0.99	-2
	Des Moines, IA	Los Angeles, CA	\$5,680	\$365	\$60.03	\$1.52	-2
Soybeans	Minneapolis, MN	New Orleans, LA	\$3,631	\$194	\$37.98	\$1.03	-13
	Toledo, OH	Huntsville, AL	\$5,630	\$0	\$55.91	\$1.52	3
	Indianapolis, IN	Raleigh, NC	\$6,932	\$0	\$68.84	\$1.87	3
	Indianapolis, IN	Huntsville, AL	\$5,107	\$0	\$50.71	\$1.38	3
	Champaign-Urbana, IL	New Orleans, LA	\$4,645	\$201	\$48.13	\$1.31	-3
<b>Shuttle train</b>							
Wheat	Great Falls, MT	Portland, OR	\$4,143	\$0	\$41.14	\$1.12	2
	Wichita, KS	Galveston-Houston, TX	\$4,361	\$0	\$43.31	\$1.18	2
	Chicago, IL	Albany, NY	\$7,074	\$0	\$70.25	\$1.91	20
	Grand Forks, ND	Portland, OR	\$5,801	\$0	\$57.61	\$1.57	1
	Grand Forks, ND	Galveston-Houston, TX	\$6,121	\$0	\$60.78	\$1.65	1
	Northwest KS	Portland, OR	\$6,012	\$320	\$62.88	\$1.71	0
	Minneapolis, MN	Portland, OR	\$5,180	\$0	\$51.44	\$1.31	0
Corn	Sioux Falls, SD	Tacoma, WA	\$5,140	\$0	\$51.04	\$1.30	0
	Champaign-Urbana, IL	New Orleans, LA	\$3,820	\$201	\$39.93	\$1.01	-1
	Lincoln, NE	Galveston-Houston, TX	\$3,880	\$0	\$38.53	\$0.98	0
	Des Moines, IA	Amarillo, TX	\$4,220	\$157	\$43.47	\$1.10	3
	Minneapolis, MN	Tacoma, WA	\$5,180	\$0	\$51.44	\$1.31	0
	Council Bluffs, IA	Stockton, CA	\$5,000	\$0	\$49.65	\$1.26	0
	Sioux Falls, SD	Tacoma, WA	\$5,850	\$0	\$58.09	\$1.58	2
	Minneapolis, MN	Portland, OR	\$5,900	\$0	\$58.59	\$1.59	2
	Fargo, ND	Tacoma, WA	\$5,750	\$0	\$57.10	\$1.55	2
	Council Bluffs, IA	New Orleans, LA	\$4,875	\$232	\$50.71	\$1.38	1
Soybeans	Toledo, OH	Huntsville, AL	\$4,805	\$0	\$47.72	\$1.30	4
	Grand Island, NE	Portland, OR	\$5,860	\$327	\$61.44	\$1.67	1

<sup>1</sup>A unit train refers to shipments of at least 25 cars. Shuttle train rates are generally available for qualified shipments of

75-120 cars that meet railroad efficiency requirements.

<sup>2</sup>Approximate load per car = 111 short tons (100.7 metric tons): corn 56 pounds per bushel (lbs/bu), wheat and soybeans 60 lbs/bu.

<sup>3</sup>Regional economic areas are defined by the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA).

<sup>4</sup>Percentage change year over year (Y/Y) calculated using tariff rate plus fuel surcharge.

Source: BNSF Railway, Canadian National Railway, CSX Transportation, and Union Pacific Railroad.



Table 8

**Tariff rail rates for U.S. bulk grain shipments to Mexico**

Commodity	Origin state	Destination region	Tariff rate/car <sup>1</sup>	Fuel		Percent change <sup>4</sup>	
				surchage per car <sup>2</sup>	Tariff plus surcharge per: metric ton <sup>3</sup> bushel <sup>3</sup>		
Date: December 2019							
Wheat	MT	Chihuahua, CI	\$7,509	\$0	\$76.72	\$2.09	3
	OK	Cuautitlan, EM	\$6,775	\$139	\$70.65	\$1.92	0
	KS	Guadalajara, JA	\$7,534	\$609	\$83.19	\$2.26	4
	TX	Salinas Victoria, NL	\$4,329	\$84	\$45.09	\$1.23	-1
Corn	IA	Guadalajara, JA	\$8,902	\$523	\$96.30	\$2.44	5
	SD	Celaya, GJ	\$8,140	\$0	\$83.17	\$2.11	3
	NE	Queretaro, QA	\$8,278	\$284	\$87.49	\$2.22	0
	SD	Salinas Victoria, NL	\$6,905	\$0	\$70.55	\$1.79	0
	MO	Tlalnepantla, EM	\$7,643	\$277	\$80.92	\$2.05	0
	SD	Torreón, CU	\$7,690	\$0	\$78.57	\$1.99	3
Soybeans	MO	Bojay (Tula), HG	\$8,547	\$489	\$92.32	\$2.51	4
	NE	Guadalajara, JA	\$9,172	\$511	\$98.94	\$2.69	5
	IA	El Castillo, JA	\$9,490	\$0	\$96.97	\$2.64	4
	KS	Torreón, CU	\$7,964	\$355	\$84.99	\$2.31	4
Sorghum	NE	Celaya, GJ	\$7,772	\$464	\$84.15	\$2.14	4
	KS	Queretaro, QA	\$8,108	\$174	\$84.62	\$2.15	1
	NE	Salinas Victoria, NL	\$6,713	\$140	\$70.01	\$1.78	1
	NE	Torreón, CU	\$7,157	\$330	\$76.50	\$1.94	3

<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.

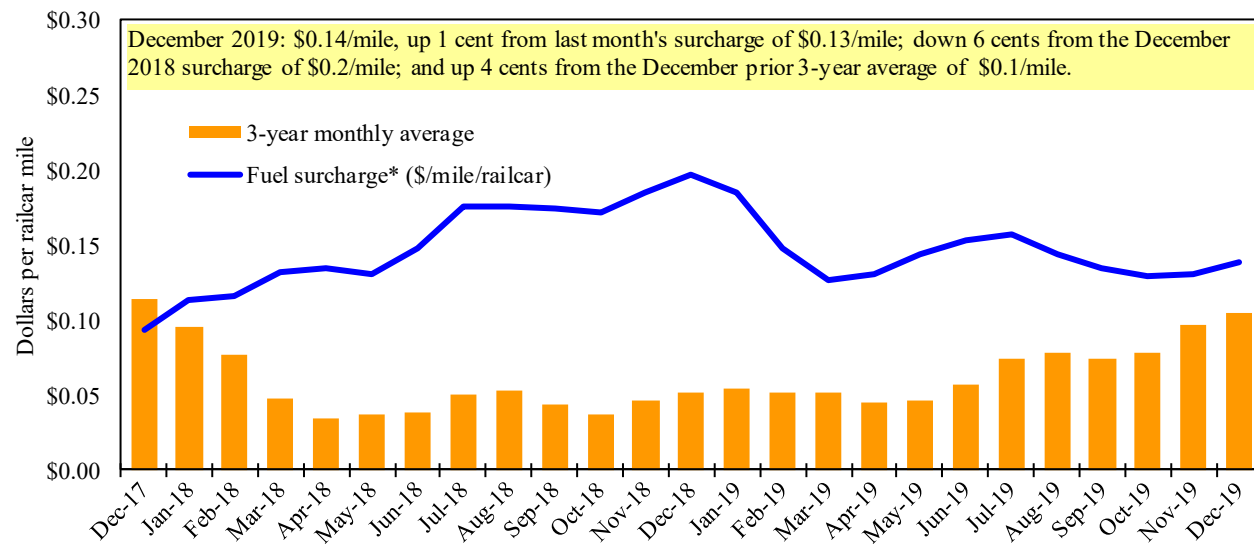
<sup>2</sup>Fuel surcharge adjusted to reflect the change in Ferrocarril Mexicano, S.A. de C.V railroad fuel surcharge policy as of 10/01/2009.

<sup>3</sup>Approximate load per car = 97.87 metric tons: Corn & Sorghum 56 lbs/bu, Wheat & Soybeans 60 lbs/bu.

<sup>4</sup>Percentage change calculated using tariff rate plus fuel surcharge; Y/Y = year over year.

Sources: BNSF Railway, Union Pacific Railroad, Kansas City Southern.

Figure 7

**Railroad fuel surcharges, North American weighted average<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Weighted by each Class I railroad's proportion of grain traffic for the prior year.

\* Beginning January 2009, the Canadian Pacific fuel surcharge is computed by a monthly average of the bi-weekly fuel surcharge.

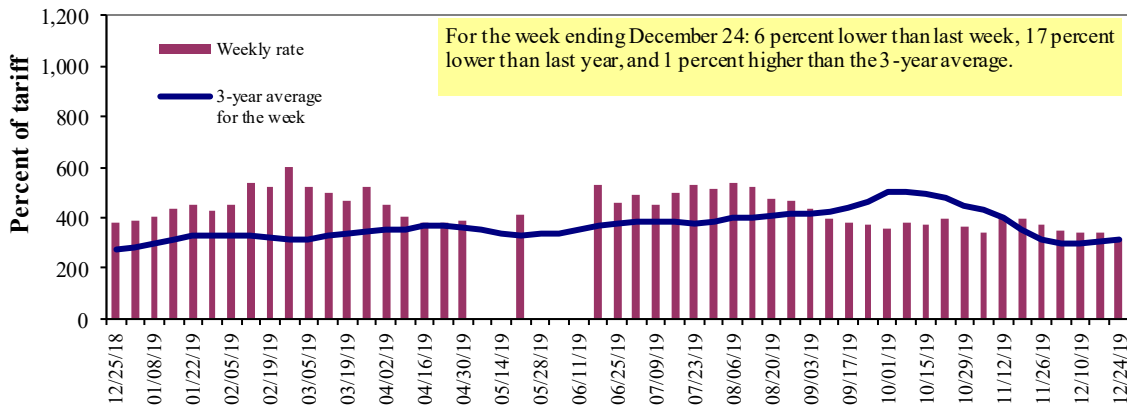
\*\* CSX strike price changed from \$2.00/gal. to \$3.75/gal. starting January 1, 2015.

Sources: BNSF Railway, Canadian National Railway, CSX Transportation, Canadian Pacific, Union Pacific Railroad, Kansas City Southern, Norfolk Southern Corp.

# Barge Transportation

Figure 8

## Illinois River barge freight rate<sup>1,2</sup>



<sup>1</sup>Rate = percent of 1976 tariff benchmark index (1976 = 100 percent); <sup>2</sup>4-week moving average of the 3-year average.

Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.

Table 9

### Weekly barge freight rates: Southbound only

		Twin Cities	Mid-Mississippi	Lower Illinois River	St. Louis	Cincinnati	Lower Ohio	Cairo-Memphis
<b>Rate<sup>1</sup></b>	12/24/2019	-	-	318	225	237	237	210
	12/17/2019	-	-	338	235	243	243	218
<b>\$/ton</b>	12/24/2019	-	-	14.76	8.98	11.12	9.57	6.59
	12/17/2019	-	-	15.68	9.38	11.40	9.82	6.85
<b>Current week % change from the same week:</b>								
	Last year	-	-	-17	-21	-35	-35	-24
	3-year avg. <sup>2</sup>	-	-	1	-2	-14	-14	4
<b>Rate<sup>1</sup></b>	January	-	-	355	238	240	240	218
	March	-	-	358	238	247	247	218

<sup>1</sup>Rate = percent of 1976 tariff benchmark index (1976 = 100 percent); <sup>2</sup>4-week moving average; ton = 2,000 pounds; "-" not available due to closure

Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.

### Figure 9 Benchmark tariff rates

**Calculating barge rate per ton:**  
(Rate \* 1976 tariff benchmark rate per ton)/100

Select applicable index from market quotes included in tables on this page. The 1976 benchmark rates per ton are provided in map.

Map Credit: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service

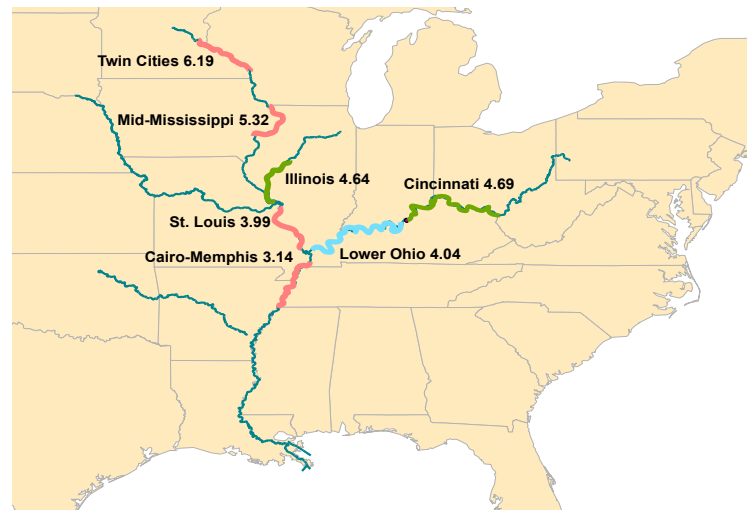
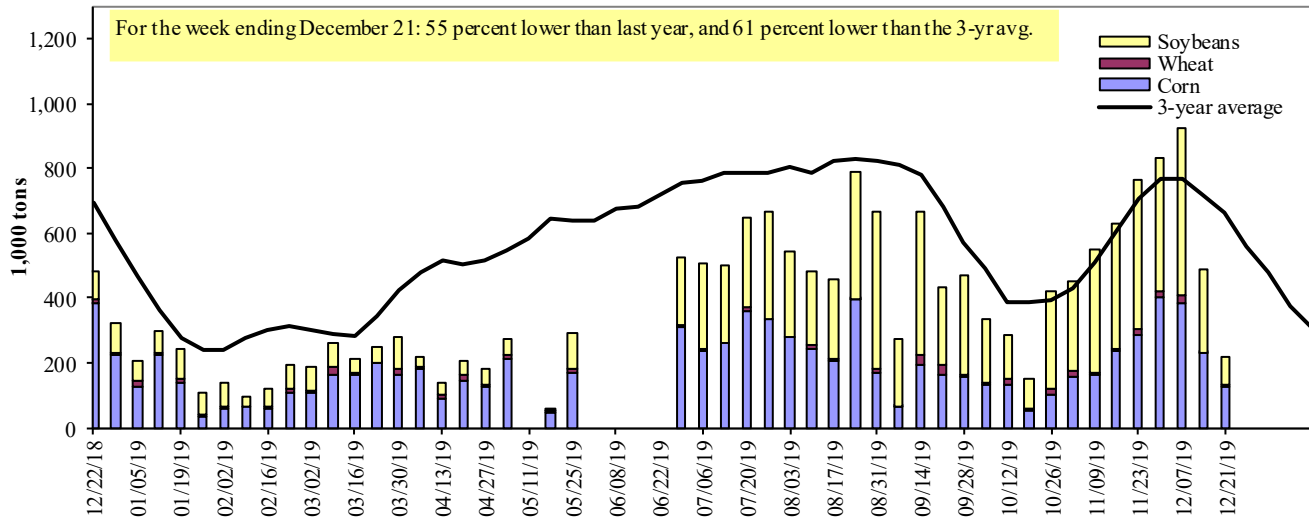


Figure 10

**Barge movements on the Mississippi River<sup>1</sup> (Locks 27 - Granite City, IL)**



<sup>1</sup> The 3-year average is a 4-week moving average.

Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Table 10

**Barge grain movements (1,000 tons)**

For the week ending 12/21/2019	Corn	Wheat	Soybeans	Other	Total
<b>Mississippi River</b>					
Rock Island, IL (L15)	0	0	0	0	0
Winfield, MO (L25)	0	0	0	0	0
Alton, IL (L26)	97	12	97	0	206
Granite City, IL (L27)	86	15	90	0	191
<b>Illinois River (LAGRANGE)</b>	125	9	84	0	218
<b>Ohio River (OLMSTED)</b>	66	9	130	9	214
<b>Arkansas River (L1)</b>	0	20	53	0	73
Weekly total - 2019	152	44	273	9	478
Weekly total - 2018	472	16	247	0	735
2019 YTD <sup>1</sup>	12,533	1,615	14,353	152	28,653
2018 YTD <sup>1</sup>	23,034	1,635	12,602	130	37,401
2019 as % of 2018 YTD	54	99	114	117	77
Last 4 weeks as % of 2018 <sup>2</sup>	72	125	166	31	109
Total 2018	23,349	1,674	12,819	133	37,975

<sup>1</sup> Weekly total, YTD (year-to-date), and calendar year total include MS/27, OH/OLMSTED, and AR/1; Other refers to oats, barley, sorghum, and rye. L (as in "L15") refers to a lock or lock and dam facility.

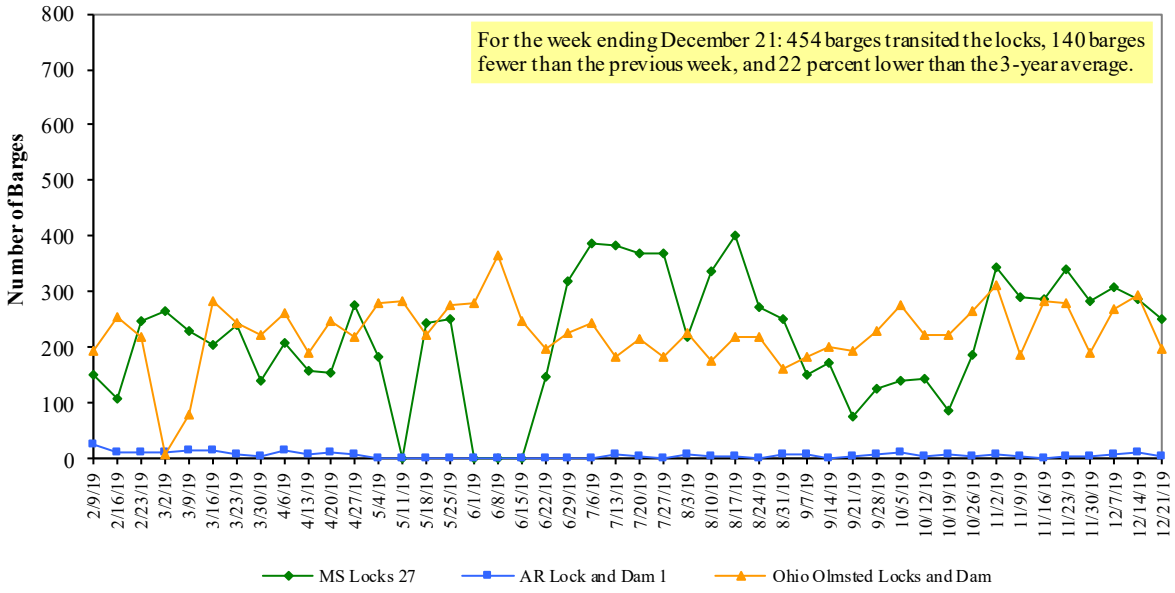
<sup>2</sup> As a percent of same period in 2018.

Note: 1. Total may not add exactly, due to rounding.

2. Starting from 11/24/2018, weekly movement through Ohio 52 is replaced by Olmsted.

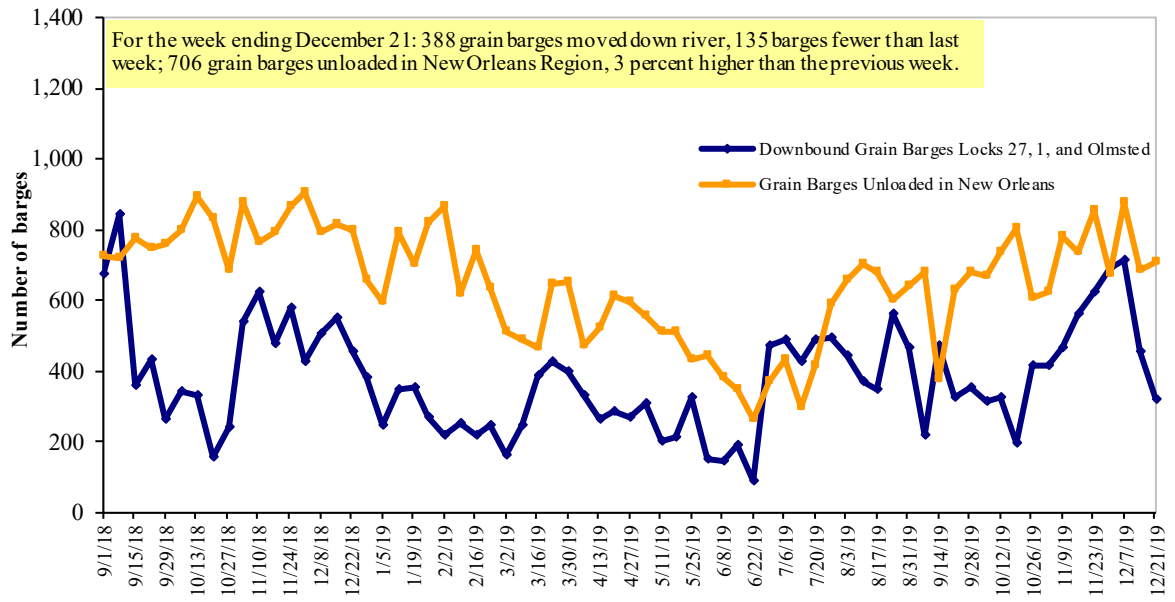
Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

**Figure 11**  
**Upbound empty barges transiting Mississippi River Locks 27, Arkansas River Lock and Dam 1, and Ohio River Olmsted Locks and Dam**



Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

**Figure 12**  
**Grain barges for export in New Orleans region**



Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and USDA, Agricultural Market Service.

# Truck Transportation

The **weekly diesel price** provides a proxy for trends in U.S. truck rates as diesel fuel is a significant expense for truck grain movements.

Table 11

**Retail on-highway diesel prices, week ending 12/23/2019 (U.S. \$/gallon)**

Region	Location	Price	Change from	
			Week ago	Year ago
I	East Coast	3.052	-0.001	-0.080
	New England	3.098	0.015	-0.139
	Central Atlantic	3.245	0.006	-0.065
	Lower Atlantic	2.913	-0.008	-0.074
II	Midwest	2.968	-0.002	0.024
III	Gulf Coast	2.763	0.000	-0.106
IV	Rocky Mountain	3.127	-0.034	0.017
	West Coast	3.594	-0.022	0.006
V	West Coast less California	3.252	-0.028	-0.029
	California	3.866	-0.016	0.034
Total	U.S.	3.041	-0.005	-0.036

<sup>1</sup>Diesel fuel prices include all taxes. Prices represent an average of all types of diesel fuel.

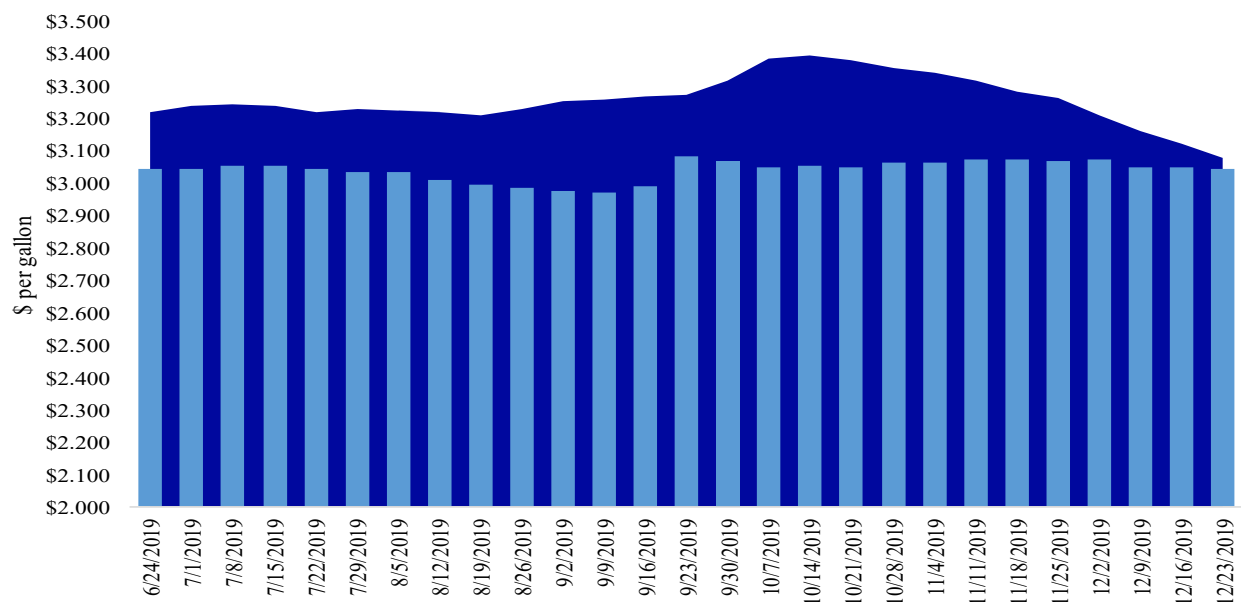
Source: U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration.

Figure 13

**Weekly diesel fuel prices, U.S. average**

For the week ending December 23, the U.S. average diesel fuel price decreased 0.5 cents from the previous week to \$3.041 per gallon, 3.6 cents below the same week last year.

■ Last year \$3.077  
■ Current year \$3.041



Source: U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration, Retail On-Highway Diesel Prices.

# Grain Exports

Table 12

## U.S. export balances and cumulative exports (1,000 metric tons)

For the week ending	Wheat					All wheat	Corn	Soybeans	Total
	HRW	SRW	HRS	SWW	DUR				
<b>Export balances<sup>1</sup></b>									
12/12/2019	1,441	542	1,374	1,028	141	4,525	9,603	9,588	23,716
This week year ago	1,625	853	1,731	1,135	104	5,447	12,929	12,124	30,500
<b>Cumulative exports-marketing year<sup>2</sup></b>									
2019/20 YTD	5,134	1,485	3,632	2,490	560	13,301	7,596	18,837	39,734
2018/19 YTD	3,385	1,296	3,478	2,763	302	11,224	16,696	15,414	43,334
YTD 2019/20 as % of 2018/19	152	115	104	90	185	119	45	122	92
Last 4 wks as % of same period 2018/19	81	63	74	81	161	77	67	82	75
2018/19 Total	8,591	3,204	6,776	5,164	479	24,214	48,924	46,189	119,327
2017/18 Total	9,150	2,343	5,689	4,854	384	22,419	57,209	56,214	135,842

<sup>1</sup> Current unshipped (outstanding) export sales to date

<sup>2</sup> Shipped export sales to date; new marketing year now in effect for wheat, corn, and soybeans.

Note: Marketing Year: wheat = 6/01-5/31, corn and soybeans = 9/01-8/31. YTD = year-to-date; wks = weeks; HRW= hard red winter; srw= soft red winter; HRS= hard red spring; SWW= soft white wheat; DUR= durum.

Source: USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service.

Table 13

## Top 5 importers<sup>1</sup> of U.S. corn

For the week ending 12/12/2019	Total commitments <sup>2</sup>		% change current MY from last MY	Exports <sup>3</sup> 3-yr. avg. 2016-18
	2019/20 current MY	2018/19 last MY		
	- 1,000 mt -			
Mexico	8,532	10,069	(15)	14,659
Japan	2,460	5,778	(57)	11,955
Korea	26	2,219	(99)	4,977
Colombia	1,281	1,888	(32)	4,692
Peru	15	1,236	(99)	2,808
<b>Top 5 Importers</b>	<b>12,314</b>	<b>21,189</b>	<b>(42)</b>	<b>39,091</b>
<b>Total U.S. corn export sales</b>	<b>17,198</b>	<b>29,625</b>	<b>(42)</b>	<b>54,024</b>
% of projected exports	37%	56%		
Change from prior week <sup>2</sup>	<b>1,709</b>	<b>1,974</b>		
<b>Top 5 importers' share of U.S. corn export sales</b>	72%	72%		72%
<b>USDA forecast December 2019</b>	<b>47,074</b>	<b>52,545</b>	<b>(10)</b>	
<b>Corn use for ethanol USDA forecast, December 2019</b>	<b>136,525</b>	<b>136,551</b>	<b>(0)</b>	

<sup>1</sup> Based on USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) marketing year ranking reports for 2018/19; marketing year (MY) = Sep 1 - Aug 31.

<sup>2</sup> Cumulative exports (shipped) + outstanding sales (unshipped), FAS weekly export sales report, or export sales query. Total commitments change (net sales) from prior week could include revisions from previous week's outstanding sales or accumulated sales.

<sup>3</sup> FAS marketing year ranking reports (carryover plus accumulated export; yr. = year; avg. = average).

Note: (n) indicates negative number; mt = metric ton

Source: USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service.

Table 14

**Top 5 importers<sup>1</sup> of U.S. soybeans**

For the week ending 12/12/2019	Total commitments <sup>2</sup>		% change current MY from last MY	Exports <sup>3</sup> 3-yr. avg. 2016-18
	2019/20 current MY	2018/19 last MY		
	- 1,000 mt -			- 1,000 mt -
China	10,537	2,017	423	25,733
Mexico	2,787	3,744	(26)	4,271
Indonesia	833	1,121	(26)	2,386
Japan	1,106	1,291	(14)	2,243
Egypt	1,229	1,107	11	1,983
<b>Top 5 importers</b>	<b>16,492</b>	<b>9,280</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>36,616</b>
<b>Total U.S. soybean export sales</b>	<b>28,425</b>	<b>27,538</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>53,746</b>
% of projected exports	59%	58%		
change from prior week <sup>2</sup>	<b>1,431</b>	<b>2,836</b>		
<b>Top 5 importers' share of U.S. soybean export sales</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>34%</b>		<b>68%</b>
<b>USDA forecast, December 2019</b>	<b>48,365</b>	<b>47,629</b>	<b>102</b>	

<sup>1</sup>Based on USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) marketing year ranking reports for 2018/19; Marketing year (MY) = Sep 1 - Aug 31.

<sup>2</sup>Cumulative exports (shipped) + outstanding sales (unshipped), FAS weekly export sales report, or export sales query. The total commitments change (net sales) from prior week could include revisions from previous week's outstanding sales and/or accumulated sales.

<sup>3</sup>FAS Marketing year ranking reports (carryover plus accumulated export); yr. = year; avg. = average.

Note: (n) indicates negative number; mt = metric ton

Source: USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service.

Table 15

**Top 10 importers<sup>1</sup> of all U.S. wheat**

For the week ending 12/12/2019	Total commitments <sup>2</sup>		% change current MY from last MY	Exports <sup>3</sup> 3-yr. avg. 2016-18
	2019/20 current MY	2018/19 last MY		
	- 1,000 mt -			- 1,000 mt -
Philippines	2,264	2,294	(1)	3,047
Mexico	2,599	2,021	29	3,034
Japan	1,884	2,020	(7)	2,695
Nigeria	991	866	14	1,564
Indonesia	581	626	(7)	1,381
Korea	1,003	1,130	(11)	1,355
Taiwan	869	754	15	1,164
Egypt	101	220	(54)	821
Thailand	630	758	(17)	747
Iraq	262	364	(28)	574
<b>Top 10 importers</b>	<b>11,186</b>	<b>11,053</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>16,382</b>
<b>Total U.S. wheat export sales</b>	<b>17,827</b>	<b>16,671</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>24,388</b>
% of projected exports	67%	65%		
change from prior week <sup>2</sup>	<b>869</b>	<b>314</b>		
<b>Top 10 importers' share of U.S. wheat export sales</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>66%</b>		<b>67%</b>
<b>USDA forecast, December 2019</b>	<b>26,567</b>	<b>25,504</b>	<b>4</b>	

<sup>1</sup>Based on USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) marketing year ranking reports for 2018/19; Marketing year (MY) = Jun 1 - May 31.

<sup>2</sup>Cumulative exports (shipped) + outstanding sales (unshipped), FAS weekly export sales report, or export sales query. The total commitments change (net sales) from prior week could include revisions from the previous week's outstanding and/or accumulated sales.

<sup>3</sup>FAS marketing year final reports (carryover plus accumulated export); yr. = year; avg. = average.

(n) indicates negative number; mt = metric ton.

Table 16

## Grain inspections for export by U.S. port region (1,000 metric tons)

Port regions	For the week ending 12/19/19	Previous week*	Current week as % of previous	2019 YTD*	2018 YTD*	2019 YTD as % of 2018 YTD	Last 4-weeks as % of:		2018 total*
							Last year	Prior 3-yr. avg.	
<b>Pacific Northwest</b>									
Wheat	402	240	168	13,703	13,028	105	76	86	13,315
Corn	0	40	1	7,027	19,674	36	4	5	20,024
Soybeans	129	423	30	11,897	7,719	154	642	98	7,719
<b>Total</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>704</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>32,628</b>	<b>40,420</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>41,058</b>
<b>Mississippi Gulf</b>									
Wheat	13	81	16	4,436	3,846	115	71	77	3,896
Corn	245	475	52	20,532	33,252	62	59	65	33,735
Soybeans	845	813	104	30,588	27,479	111	129	102	28,124
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,103</b>	<b>1,369</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>55,555</b>	<b>64,578</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>65,755</b>
<b>Texas Gulf</b>									
Wheat	69	78	88	5,967	3,157	189	53	52	3,198
Corn	0	0	n/a	608	730	83	100	51	730
Soybeans	0	0	n/a	2	69	2	n/a	0	69
<b>Total</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>6,577</b>	<b>3,956</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>3,997</b>
<b>Interior</b>									
Wheat	70	63	112	1,963	1,596	123	169	187	1,614
Corn	135	172	79	7,723	8,586	90	122	118	8,650
Soybeans	148	145	102	6,921	6,668	104	114	122	6,729
<b>Total</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>16,608</b>	<b>16,850</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>16,993</b>
<b>Great Lakes</b>									
Wheat	54	75	72	1,314	894	147	149	143	894
Corn	0	0	n/a	11	404	3	n/a	0	404
Soybeans	0	0	n/a	473	1,192	40	0	0	1,192
<b>Total</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>1,798</b>	<b>2,491</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>2,491</b>
<b>Atlantic</b>									
Wheat	0	0	n/a	37	69	54	n/a	0	69
Corn	0	0	n/a	99	138	72	0	0	138
Soybeans	19	25	77	1,339	2,040	66	57	36	2,047
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>1,475</b>	<b>2,246</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>2,253</b>
<b>U.S. total from ports*</b>									
Wheat	609	537	113	27,421	22,590	121	82	88	22,986
Corn	380	687	55	36,001	62,784	57	53	59	63,682
Soybeans	1,141	1,405	81	51,220	45,166	113	149	96	45,879
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,130</b>	<b>2,630</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>114,642</b>	<b>130,540</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>132,547</b>

\*Data includes revisions from prior weeks; some regional totals may not add exactly due to rounding.

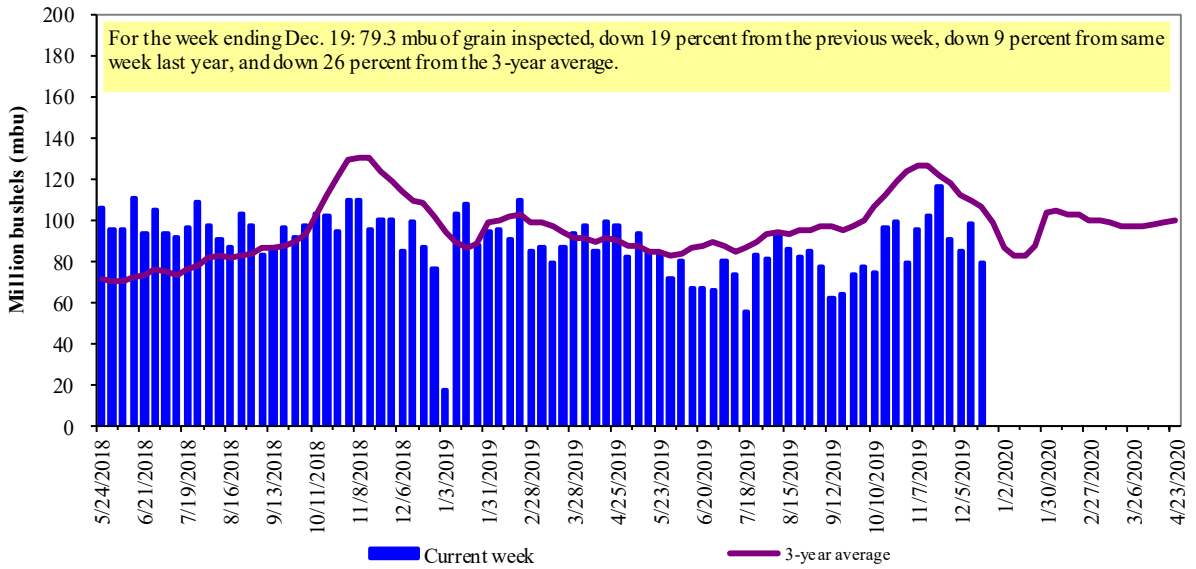
Source: USDA, Federal Grain Inspection Service; YTD= year-to-date; n/a = not applicable or no change.

The United States exports approximately one-quarter of the grain it produces. On average, this includes nearly 45 percent of U.S.-grown wheat, 50 percent of U.S.-grown soybeans, and 20 percent of the U.S.-grown corn. Approximately 53 percent of the U.S. export grain shipments departed through the U.S. Gulf region in 2018.



Figure 14

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

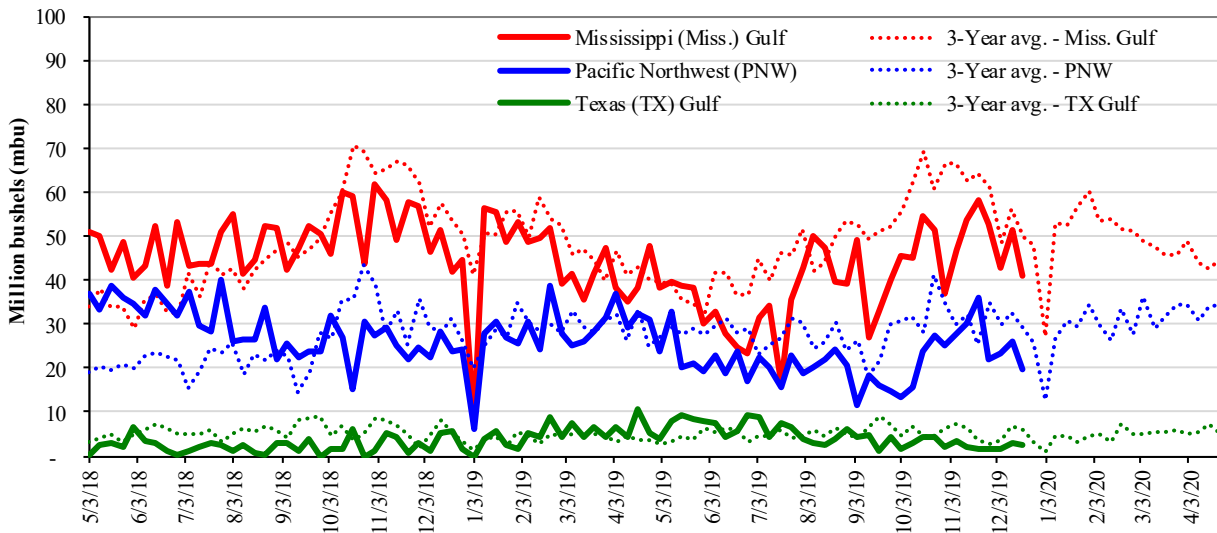


Note: 3-year average consists of 4-week running average.

Source: USDA, Federal Grain Inspection Service.

Figure 15

**U.S. Grain inspections: U.S. Gulf and PNW<sup>1</sup> (wheat, corn, and soybeans)**



<u>Week ending 12/19/19 inspections (mbu):</u>	<u>Percent change from:</u>	<u>MS Gulf</u>	<u>TX Gulf</u>	<u>U.S. Gulf</u>	<u>PNW</u>
MS Gulf: 41.2	Last wk:	down 20	down 12	down 20	down 25
PNW: 19.5	Last Year (same wk):	down 2	down 56	down 8	down 18
TX Gulf: 2.5	3-yr avg. (4-wk. mov. Avg):	down 23	down 48	down 25	down 38

Source: USDA, Federal Grain Inspection Service.

# Ocean Transportation

Table 17

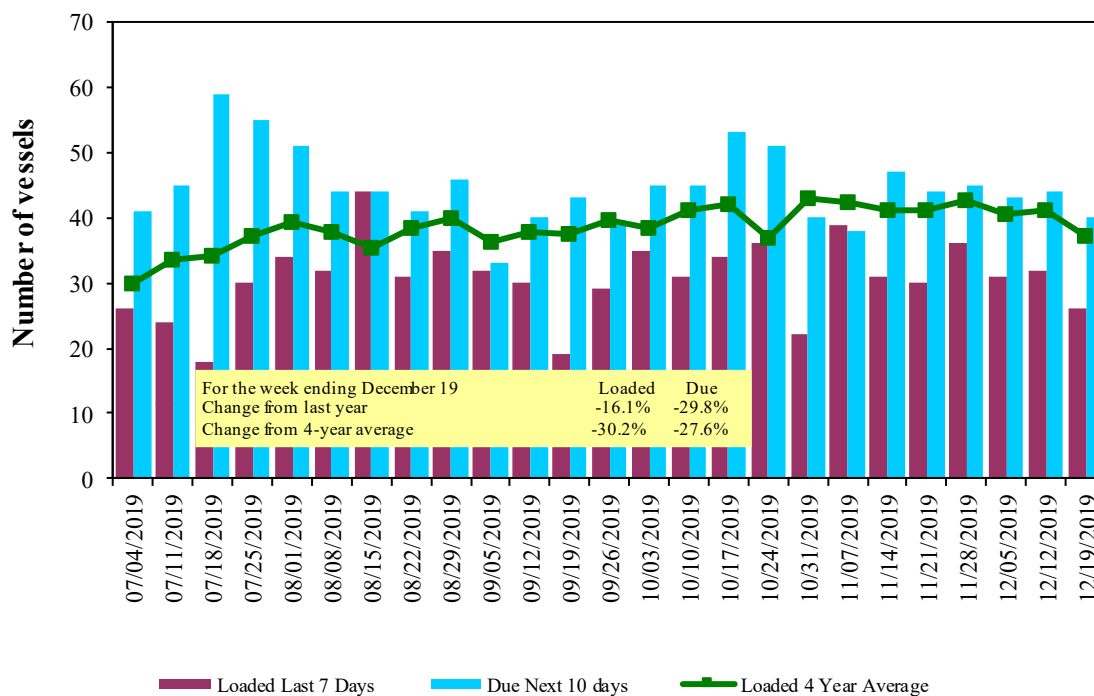
**Weekly port region grain ocean vessel activity (number of vessels)**

Date	Gulf			Pacific Northwest
	In port	Loaded 7-days	Due next 10-days	In port
12/19/2019	31	26	40	11
12/12/2019	28	32	44	13
2018 range	(23...88)	(24...41)	(38...67)	(4...30)
2018 average	40	34	54	17

Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.

Figure 16

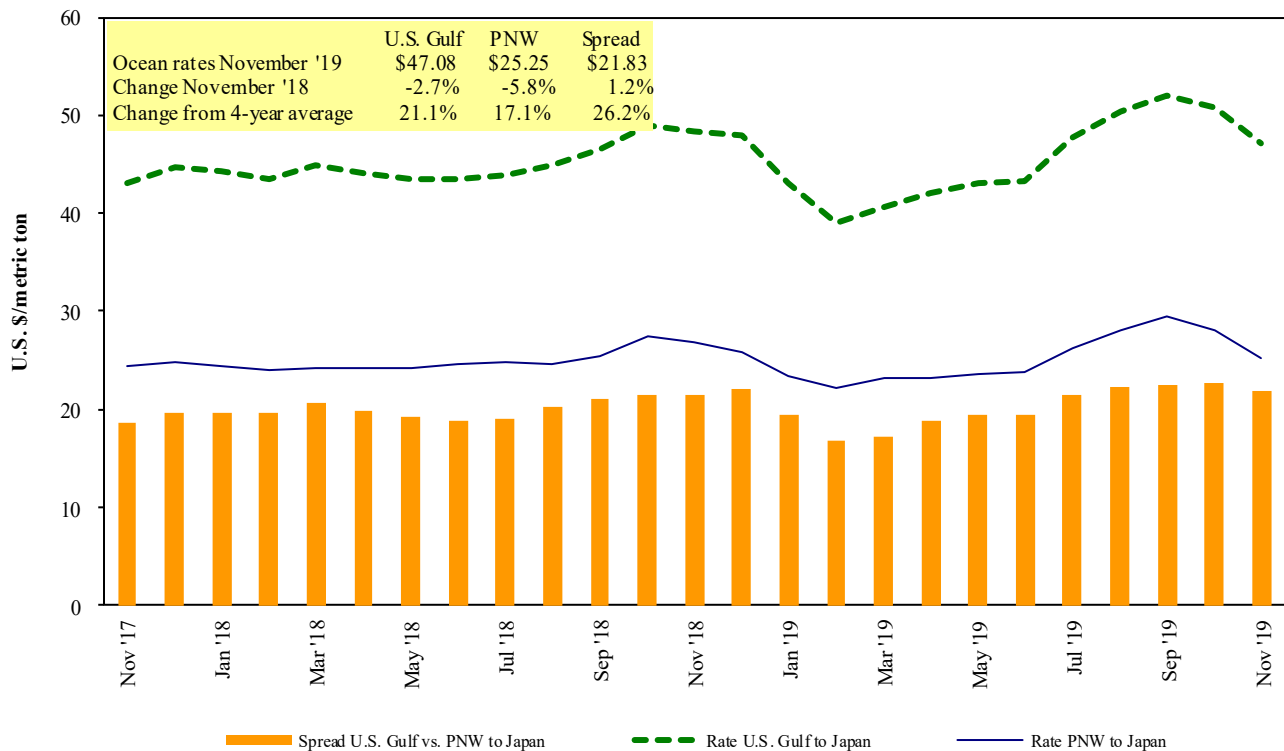
**U.S. Gulf<sup>1</sup> vessel loading activity**



<sup>1</sup>U.S. Gulf includes Mississippi, Texas, and East Gulf.  
 Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service.

Figure 17

**Grain vessel rates, U.S. to Japan**



Note: PNW = Pacific Northwest.

Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting.

Table 18

**Ocean freight rates for selected shipments, week ending 12/21/2019**

Export region	Import region	Grain types	Loading date	Volume loads (metric tons)	Freight rate (US\$/metric ton)
U.S. Gulf	Bangladesh	Wheat	Dec 10/20	48,990	79.92*
U.S. Gulf	China	Heavy Grain	Dec 15/20	65,000	49.75
U.S. Gulf	China	Heavy Grain	Nov 15/18	66,000	49.00
U.S. Gulf	Pt Sudan	Sorghum	Sep 20/30	24,960	58.15*
PNW	Bangladesh	Wheat	Dec 10/20	23,080	74.44*
PNW	Philippines	Soybean Meal	Oct 31/31	15,390	49.82*
PNW	Vietnam	Soybean Meal	Oct 21/31	3,200	49.82*
PNW	Yemen	Wheat	Sep 20/30	35,000	62.19*
Brazil	China	Heavy Grain	Oct 1/10	65,000	32.00
Brazil	Japan	Corn	Dec 22/31	49,000	37.25 op 37.15
Ukraine	Egypt Med	Heavy Grain	Oct 19/23	60,000	13.50

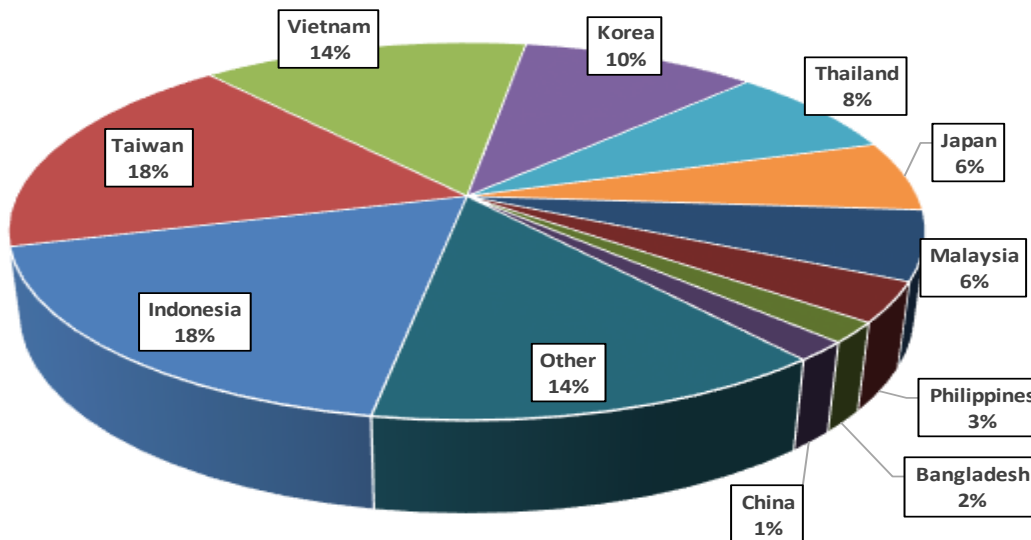
\*50 percent of food aid from the United States is required to be shipped on U.S.-flag vessels.

Note: Rates shown are per metric ton (2,204.62 lbs. = 1 metric ton), free on board (F.O.B), except where otherwise indicated; op = option.

Source: Maritime Research, Inc.

In 2018, containers were used to transport 8 percent of total U.S. waterborne grain exports. Approximately 55 percent of U.S. waterborne grain exports in 2018 went to Asia, of which 13 percent were moved in containers. Approximately 94 percent of U.S. waterborne containerized grain exports were destined for Asia.

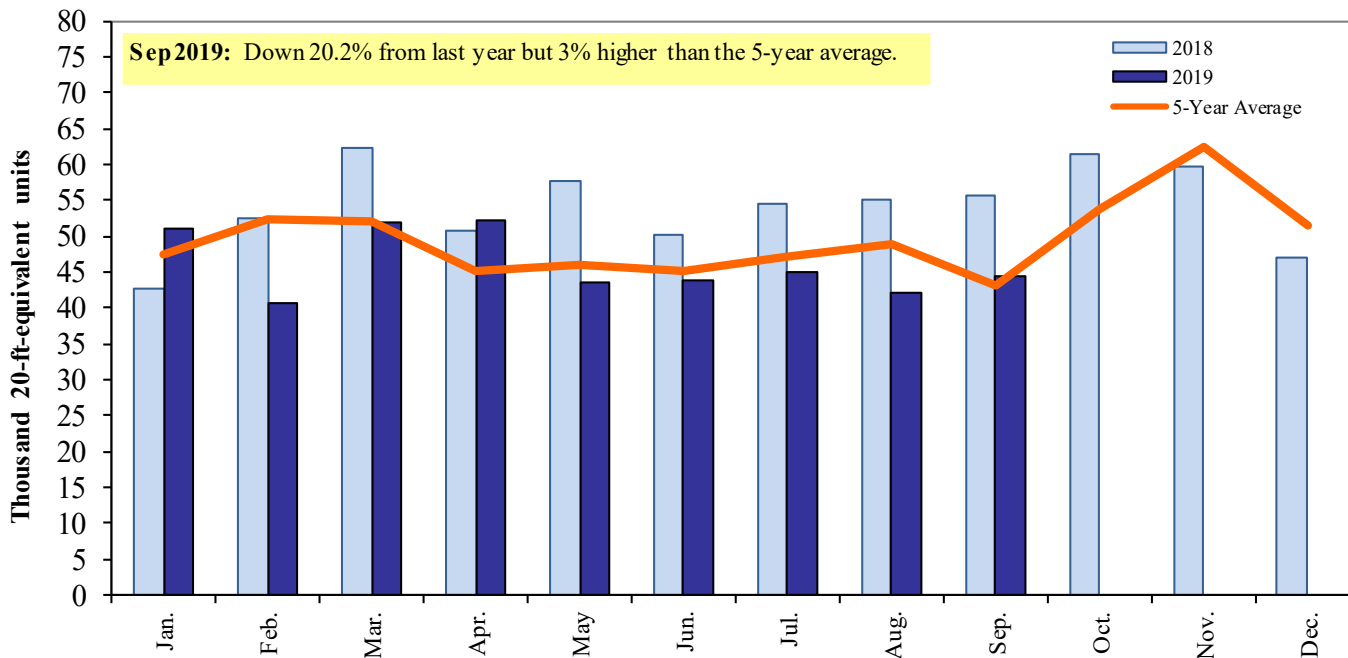
**Figure 18**  
**Top 10 destination markets for U.S. containerized grain exports, Jan-Sep 2019**



Note: The following Harmonized Tariff Codes are used to calculate containerized grains movements: 1001, 100190, 1002, 1003 100300, 1004, 100400, 1005, 100590, 1007, 100700, 1102, 110100, 230310, 110220, 110290, 1201, 120100, 230210, 230990, 230330, and 120810.

Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, Transportation Services Division analysis of PIERS data.

**Figure 19**  
**Monthly Shipments of Containerized Grain to Asia**



Note: The following Harmonized Tariff Codes are used to calculate containerized grains movements: 100190, 100200, 100300, 100400, 100590, 100700, 110100, 110220, 110290, 120100, 120810, 230210, 230310, 230330, and 230990.

Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service, Transportation Services Division analysis of PIERS data.

# Contacts and Links

## Coordinators

Surajudeen (Deen) Olowolayemo	<a href="mailto:surajudeen.olowolayemo@usda.gov">surajudeen.olowolayemo@usda.gov</a>	(202) 720 - 0119
Maria Williams	<a href="mailto:maria.williams@usda.gov">maria.williams@usda.gov</a>	(202) 690 - 4430
Bernadette Winston	<a href="mailto:bernadette.winston@usda.gov">bernadette.winston@usda.gov</a>	(202) 690 - 0487

## Grain Transportation Indicators

Surajudeen (Deen) Olowolayemo	<a href="mailto:surajudeen.olowolayemo@usda.gov">surajudeen.olowolayemo@usda.gov</a>	(202) 720 - 0119
-------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------

## Rail Transportation

Johnny Hill	<a href="mailto:johnny.hill@usda.gov">johnny.hill@usda.gov</a>	(202) 690 - 3295
Jesse Gastelle	<a href="mailto:jesse.gastelle@usda.gov">jesse.gastelle@usda.gov</a>	(202) 690 - 1144
Peter Caffarelli	<a href="mailto:petera.caffarelli@usda.gov">petera.caffarelli@usda.gov</a>	(202) 690 - 3244

## Barge Transportation

April Taylor	<a href="mailto:april.taylor@usda.gov">april.taylor@usda.gov</a>	(202) 720 - 7880
Kelly P. Nelson	<a href="mailto:kelly.nelson@usda.gov">kelly.nelson@usda.gov</a>	(202) 690 - 0992
Bernadette Winston	<a href="mailto:bernadette.winston@usda.gov">bernadette.winston@usda.gov</a>	(202) 690 - 0487

## Truck Transportation

April Taylor	<a href="mailto:april.taylor@usda.gov">april.taylor@usda.gov</a>	(202) 720 - 7880
--------------	------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------

## Grain Exports

Johnny Hill	<a href="mailto:johnny.hill@usda.gov">johnny.hill@usda.gov</a>	(202) 690 - 3295
Kranti Mulik	<a href="mailto:kranti.mulik@usda.gov">kranti.mulik@usda.gov</a>	(202) 756 - 2577

## Ocean Transportation

Surajudeen (Deen) Olowolayemo (Freight rates and vessels)	<a href="mailto:surajudeen.olowolayemo@usda.gov">surajudeen.olowolayemo@usda.gov</a>	(202) 720 - 0119
April Taylor (Container movements)	<a href="mailto:april.taylor@usda.gov">april.taylor@usda.gov</a>	(202) 720 - 7880

## Editor

Maria Williams	<a href="mailto:maria.williams@usda.gov">maria.williams@usda.gov</a>	(202) 690-4430
----------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------

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

Preferred citation: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service. *Grain Transportation Report*. December 26, 2019. Web: <http://dx.doi.org/10.9752/TS056.12-26-2019>

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.