



Mexico Transport Cost Indicator Report



A quarterly publication of the Agricultural Marketing Service
www.ams.usda.gov/services/transportation-analysis

Fourth Quarter 2019 (October, November, December)
Published April 29, 2020

CONTENTS

Summary: What Happened?	1
Quarterly Bulk Grain and Soybeans	5
Fruit and Vegetable	9
Subscription Information	13
Data Sets	13

SUMMARY: WHAT HAPPENED?

Grain Transportation Costs to Mexico In Fourth Quarter 2019

Mexico is the largest importer of U.S. grain (corn, soybeans, and wheat). Based on the past 3-year average, Mexico is the leading importer of U.S. [corn](#) and the second largest importer of U.S. [wheat](#) and [soybeans](#). Grain can be transported to Mexico by land or shipped by water to an appropriate port for inland distribution. In this report, we examine the costs of transporting U.S. grain to Mexico by land and water and track how those costs change from third quarter to fourth quarter 2019 (quarter to quarter) and from fourth quarter 2018 to fourth quarter 2019 (year to year).

Transportation costs: Quarter to quarter, the transportation costs of shipping grain to Mexico by water declined, while the costs of shipping by land remained steady (see [March 5, 2020, Grain Transportation Report \(GTR\)](#)). The decline in waterborne shipping costs resulted partly from the drop in ocean freight rates for bulk commodities, including grain. Ocean freight rates dropped in response to weak trade of iron ore and coal (see [January 16, 2020 GTR](#)). Lower barge and ocean freight rates pushed down the transportation costs of waterborne corn and soybeans. Lower truck and ocean freight rates pushed down the transportation cost of shipping wheat by water. The transportation costs of shipping corn and soybeans to Mexico by land remained relatively unchanged from quarter to quarter, while the costs of shipping corn by land fell by less than 1 percent. Tariff rail rates remained fairly steady during the quarter.

Restoration of barge service. Quarter to quarter, the decline in barge rates likely resulted from a higher-than-average empty barge supply in the Mississippi River System in the fourth quarter. More grain barges were [unloaded](#) in New Orleans in the fourth quarter than in the third quarter. This pattern, in turn, sent 258 more empty barges (4 percent) returning upriver in the fourth quarter than in the third quarter. In addition, the navigational difficulties that had plagued the river through most of the summer cleared up by the fourth quarter, making travel easier. A lower risk of delays made carriers more willing to sell their services, as there was less

CONTACT INFORMATION

[Surajudeen Olowolayemo](#),
Coordinator/Ocean Bulk Shipments/Livestock Analyst

[Jesse Gastelle](#), Rail/Fruit and Vegetables Analyst

[April Taylor](#), Container Shipments/ Fruit and Vegetables Analyst



Mexico Transport Cost Indicator Report

risk of unanticipated cost overruns. Better navigation also made shippers more willing to ship their commodities because deliveries to export elevators became more reliable. In the fourth quarter, 9.16 million tons of grain were shipped downriver, versus 6.35 million tons in the third quarter.

Landed Costs. Lower quarter-to-quarter landed costs for corn (over both water and land) reflected reduced transportation costs and farm values. However, quarter-to-quarter soybean landed costs increased—mostly from the increase in the farm values—while the landed costs for wheat were unchanged. Fourth-quarter landed costs for all grains via the water route ranged from \$192 per metric ton (mt) to \$375 per mt (see table and fig. 1). Landed costs via the land route ranged from \$230 per mt to \$407 per mt (see table and fig. 2). The share of landed costs for transportation ranged from 12 percent to 31 percent for the water route and from 25 percent to 41 percent for the land route (see table). Higher farm values pushed up the year-to-year landed costs for corn and soybeans, while lower year-to-year landed costs for wheat reflected farm values that were lower than in fourth quarter 2018.

Export volumes. Although, quarter to quarter, Mexico imported slightly less grain from the United States, year to year, it imported more. According to USDA's grain inspection data, in fourth quarter 2019, Mexico imported 3.07 million metric tons (mmt) of corn, 1.30 mmt of soybeans, and 0.86 mmt of wheat—down 3 percent, 0 percent, and 8 percent quarter to quarter, respectively. However, year to year, U.S. inspections for export to Mexico rose 10 percent for soybeans and 33 percent for wheat, while corn inspections fell 14 percent. The recently signed trade agreement among the United States, Mexico, and Canada could boost U.S. grain export to Mexico.

Ocean freight rates: Ocean freight rates for shipping bulk grains to Mexico decreased quarter to quarter, varied year to year, and were up from the 4-year average. The fourth-quarter cost of shipping a metric ton of grain, via 25,000 ton-capacity vessels from the U.S. Gulf to Veracruz, Mexico, averaged \$17.98 per mt. This was down 2 percent quarter to quarter, unchanged from year to year, and 13 percent more than the 4-year average. The cost of shipping in a 35,000-40,000 ton-capacity vessel averaged \$15.23 per mt. This was down 2 percent quarter to quarter, down 3 percent year to year, and up 10 percent from the 4-year average. Weak movements of coal and iron ore pushed down the rates for shipping bulk commodities, including grain in the fourth quarter (see [January 16, 2020 GTR](#)).

Railroad: In fourth quarter 2019, railroads transported 41,664 carloads of grain and oilseeds to Mexico, up 4 percent quarter to quarter but down 4 percent year to year. Tariff rail rates per grain car averaged \$7,701, up 1 percent quarter to quarter, up 2 percent year to year, and up 4 percent from the prior-3-year average. Fuel surcharges per railcar averaged \$239, down 2 percent quarter to quarter, up 11 percent year to year, and up 79 percent from the prior-3-year average. Overall, rail transportation costs (tariff rates plus fuel surcharges) were up 1 percent quarter to quarter, up 3 percent year to year, and up 5 percent from the prior-3-year average.

Fruit and Vegetables

In fourth quarter 2019, total reported truck shipments of fruits and vegetables from Mexico were 2.35 million tons, up 5 percent year to year. The top five commodities summed to 983,000 tons, up 2 percent year to year. Avocados had the largest shipments to the United States, with 293,000 tons, up 18 percent year to year.

Truck rates. In fourth quarter 2019, truck rates for shipments between 501 miles and 1,500 miles from Arizona border crossings averaged \$2.21 per mile, down 12 percent quarter to quarter and down 11 percent year to year. Rates for shipments between 501 miles and 1,500 miles from Texas border crossings averaged \$2.23 per mile, up 9 percent quarter to quarter, but down 5 percent year to year.

Fuel prices. Diesel fuel prices for border crossings from Arizona averaged \$3.33 per gallon, increasing 5 percent quarter to quarter but decreasing 4 percent year to year. Diesel fuel prices for border crossings from Texas averaged \$2.79 per gallon, up 0.2 percent quarter to quarter, but down 8-percent year to year.

Truck availability. Shippers reported adequate truck availability for crossing the Arizona border in October through mid-November; at the end of November, conditions changed to slight shortage. In the beginning of December, truck availability was reported as adequate, then shifted to shortage by the end of the month. At Texas border-crossing locations, shippers reported adequate truck availability throughout fourth quarter 2019.



Mexico Transport Cost Indicator Report

Table 1. Quarterly costs of transporting U.S. grain and soybeans to Mexico, 2019

	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					US\$/metric ton				
Corn										
Origin	IL					IA				
Truck	8.78	10.98	9.18	11.46	10.10	4.37	4.38	4.72	4.19	4.42
Rail ¹						91.00	91.96	95.44	96.23	93.66
Barge	24.50	21.74	23.89	18.46	22.15					
Ocean ²	13.89	14.01	15.50	15.23	14.66					
Total transportation cost	47.17	46.73	48.57	45.15	46.91	95.37	96.34	100.16	100.42	98.07
Farm price ³	141.20	145.79	155.50	146.45	147.24	139.49	145.01	154.06	146.06	146.16
Landed cost ⁴	188.37	192.52	204.07	191.60	194.14	234.86	241.35	254.22	246.48	244.23
Transport % of landed cost	25.0	24.3	23.8	23.6	24.2	40.6	39.9	39.4	40.7	40.2
Soybeans										
Origin	IL					NE				
Truck	8.78	10.98	9.18	11.46	10.10	4.37	4.38	4.72	4.19	4.42
Rail						94.21	95.11	97.91	98.86	96.52
Barge	24.50	21.74	23.89	18.46	22.15					
Ocean	13.89	14.01	15.50	15.23	14.66					
Total transportation cost	47.17	46.73	48.57	45.15	46.91	98.58	99.49	102.63	103.05	100.94
Farm price ³	321.87	308.77	317.10	329.96	319.43	302.89	291.26	293.83	304.12	298.03
Landed cost ⁴	369.04	355.50	365.67	375.11	366.33	401.47	390.75	396.46	407.17	398.96
Transport % of landed cost	12.8	13.1	13.3	12.0	12.8	24.6	25.5	25.9	25.3	25.3
Wheat										
Origin	KS					KS				
Truck	4.37	4.38	4.72	4.19	4.42	4.37	4.38	4.72	4.19	4.42
Rail	42.66	42.88	43.31	43.31	43.04	79.65	80.31	83.12	83.13	81.55
Ocean	13.89	14.01	15.50	15.23	14.66					
Total transportation cost	60.92	61.27	63.53	62.73	62.11	84.02	84.69	87.84	87.32	85.97
Farm price	181.39	167.67	141.10	142.57	158.18	181.39	167.67	141.10	142.57	158.18
Landed cost	242.31	228.94	204.63	205.30	220.30	265.41	252.36	228.94	229.89	244.15
Transport % of landed cost	25.1	26.8	31.0	30.6	28.4	31.7	33.6	38.4	38.0	35.4

¹Rail rates include U.S. and Mexico portions of the movement. Mexico rail rates are estimated based on actual quoted market rates. BNSF and Union Pacific quoted rail tariff rates are through rates for shuttle trains. Rail rates include fuel surcharges, but do not include the cost of purchasing empty rail cars in the secondary market, which could exceed the rail tariff rate plus the fuel surcharge shown in the table.

²Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting, Inc.

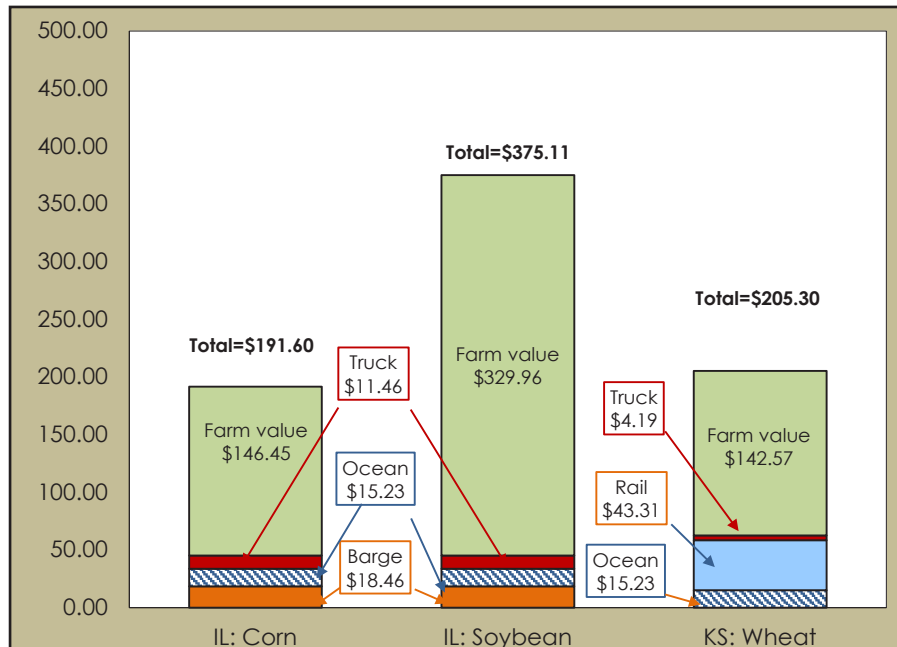
³Source: USDA/NASS

⁴Landed cost is total transportation cost plus the farm price.



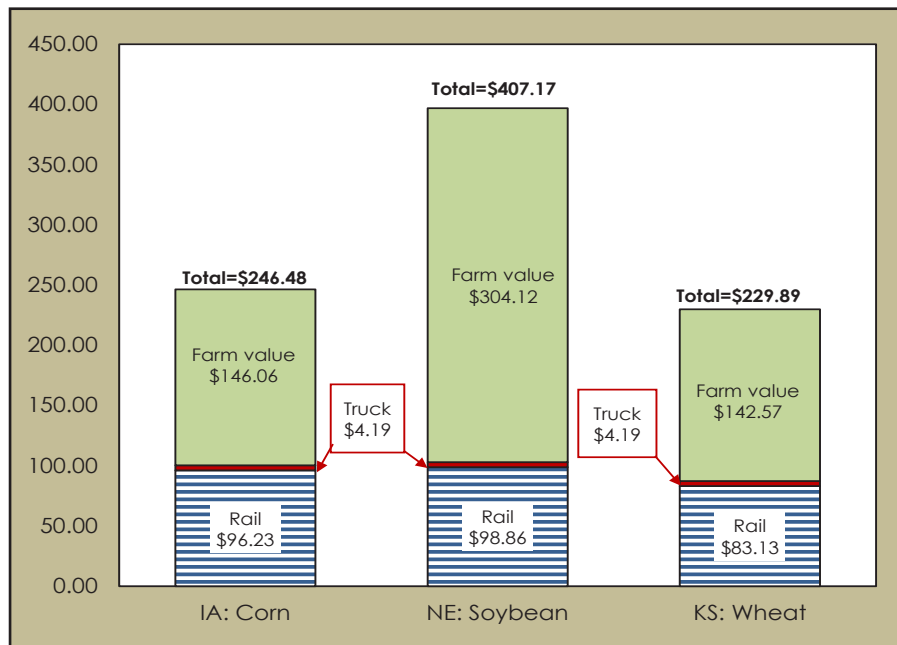
Mexico Transport Cost Indicator Report

Figure 1. Water route shipment costs (\$/mt) to Veracruz, Mexico



Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service

Figure 2. Land route shipment costs (\$/mt) to Guadalajara, Mexico



Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service



Mexico Transport Cost Indicator Report

QUARTERLY BULK GRAIN AND SOYBEANS

Table 2. Quarterly tariff rail rates for U.S. bulk grain shipments to Mexico (US\$/car), 2019

Commodity	Origin State	Destination	Tariff rate/car ¹					Fuel surcharge per car ²				
			1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Avg	1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	Avg
Wheat	MT	Chihuahua, CI	7,284	7,284	7,434	7,509	7,378	0	0	0	0	0
	OK	Cuautitlan, EM	6,743	6,710	6,775	6,775	6,751	149	137	142	135	141
	KS	Guadalajara, JA	7,371	7,371	7,534	7,534	7,452	424	489	601	603	529
	TX	Salinas Victoria, NL	4,329	4,329	4,329	4,329	4,329	91	84	86	81	86
Corn	IA	Guadalajara, JA	8,528	8,578	8,828	378	422	378	422	512	517	457
	SD	Celaya, GJ	7,880	7,880	8,140	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	NE	Queretaro, QA	8,207	8,207	8,207	311	287	311	287	295	275	292
	SD	Salinas Victoria, NL	6,905	6,905	6,905	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MO	Tlalnepantla, EM	7,573	7,573	7,573	303	279	303	279	288	268	285
	SD	Torreon, CU	7,480	7,480	7,690	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Soybeans	MO	Bojay (Tula), HG	8,284	8,355	8,497	8,547	8,420	350	395	485	482	428
	NE	Guadalajara, JA	8,842	8,888	9,075	9,172	8,994	379	420	508	504	453
	IA	El Castillo, JA	9,110	9,110	9,297	9,490	9,252	0	0	0	0	0
	KS	Torreon, CU	7,714	7,747	7,880	7,964	7,826	277	299	353	349	319
Sorghum	NE	Celaya, GJ	7,527	7,570	7,787	7,772	7,664	346	380	457	457	410
	KS	Queretaro, QA	8,000	8,000	8,000	8,108	8,027	186	171	177	168	175
	NE	Salinas Victoria, NL	6,633	6,633	6,633	6,713	6,653	149	137	142	135	141
	NE	Torreon, CU	6,962	6,997	7,172	7,157	7,072	262	279	326	324	298

¹Rates are based upon published tariff rates for high-capacity shuttle trains. Shuttle trains are available for qualified shipments of 75-110 cars that meet railroad efficiency requirements. The cost of obtaining empty grain cars in the Secondary Grain Car markets, which in times of high demand may exceed the tariff rate plus fuel surcharge, is not included.

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

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



Mexico Transport Cost Indicator Report

Table 3. Quarterly tariff rail rates plus fuel surcharges for U.S. bulk grain shipments to Mexico, 2019

			Tariff ¹ plus fuel surcharge per:									
			US\$/metric ton					US\$/bushel ²				
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	74.43	74.43	75.96	76.72	75.38	2.02	2.02	2.07	2.09	2.05
	OK	Cuautitlan, EM	70.42	69.96	70.67	70.60	70.41	1.91	1.90	1.92	1.92	1.91
	KS	Guadalajara, JA	79.65	80.31	83.12	83.13	81.55	2.17	2.18	2.26	2.26	2.22
	TX	Salinas Victoria, NL	45.16	45.08	45.11	45.06	45.10	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.23	1.23
Corn	IA	Guadalajara, JA	91.00	91.96	95.44	96.23	93.66	2.31	2.33	2.42	2.44	2.38
	SD	Celaya, GJ	80.51	80.51	83.17	83.17	81.84	2.04	2.04	2.11	2.11	2.08
	NE	Queretaro, QA	87.03	86.78	86.87	87.40	87.02	2.21	2.20	2.20	2.22	2.21
	SD	Salinas Victoria, NL	70.55	70.55	70.55	70.55	70.55	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79	1.79
	MO	Tlalnepantla, EM	80.48	80.23	80.32	80.83	80.47	2.04	2.04	2.04	2.05	2.04
	SD	Torreon, CU	76.43	76.43	78.57	78.57	77.50	1.94	1.94	1.99	1.99	1.97
Soybeans	MO	Bojay (Tula), HG	88.22	89.40	91.77	92.25	90.41	2.40	2.43	2.49	2.51	2.46
	NE	Guadalajara, JA	94.21	95.11	97.91	98.86	96.53	2.56	2.59	2.66	2.69	2.62
	IA	El Castillo, JA	93.08	93.08	94.99	96.97	94.53	2.53	2.53	2.58	2.64	2.57
	KS	Torreon, CU	81.64	82.21	84.13	84.94	83.23	2.22	2.24	2.29	2.31	2.26
Sorghum	NE	Celaya, GJ	80.44	81.24	84.23	84.08	82.50	2.04	2.06	2.14	2.13	2.09
	KS	Queretaro, QA	83.64	83.49	83.55	84.56	83.81	2.12	2.12	2.12	2.15	2.13
	NE	Salinas Victoria, NL	69.29	69.17	69.22	69.97	69.41	1.76	1.76	1.76	1.78	1.76
	NE	Torreon, CU	73.81	74.34	76.61	76.44	75.30	1.87	1.89	1.94	1.94	1.91

¹Rates are based upon published tariff rates for high-capacity shuttle trains. Shuttle trains are available for qualified shipments of 75-110 cars that meet railroad efficiency requirements. The cost of obtaining empty grain cars in the Secondary Grain Car markets, which in times of high demand may exceed the tariff rate plus fuel surcharge, is not included.

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

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



Mexico Transport Cost Indicator Report

Table 4. 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
2009	316	377	371	395	1,459
2010	439	399	424	383	1,645
2011	506	430	476	369	1,781
2012	426	388	352	332	1,498
2013	284	329	290	381	1,285
2014	356	420	366	435	1,577
2015	497	276	413	463	1,649
2016	483	467	470	490	1,910
2017	604	475	551	551	2,181
2018	516	516	514	467	2,013
2019	410	574	475	491	1,950

*Data are for brewers' and distillers' dregs and waste, of which Distillers' Dried Grains with Soluble is a principal component.

Source: USDA, Economic Research Service (ERS), Feed grains database



Mexico Transport Cost Indicator Report

Table 5. Quarterly ocean freight rate for bulk grain shipments from the U.S. Gulf to Veracruz, Mexico

US\$/metric ton					
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	20.79	20.68	18.73	20.12
35-40,000	18.37	18.62	18.53	16.73	18.06
Vessel capacity (metric ton)	1st qtr 2013	2nd qtr 2013	3rd qtr 2013	4th qtr 2013	Average
25,000	20.19	19.59	20.47	20.01	20.07
35-40,000	17.89	17.58	17.85	17.13	17.61
Vessel capacity (metric ton)	1st qtr 2014	2nd qtr 2014	3rd qtr 2014	4th qtr 2014	Average
25,000	20.08	17.48	15.75	16.32	17.41
35-40,000	17.53	15.48	13.56	13.96	15.13
Vessel capacity (metric ton)	1st qtr 2015	2nd qtr 2015	3rd qtr 2015	4th qtr 2015	Average
25,000	13.67	14.23	14.59	13.95	14.11
35-40,000	11.63	11.89	12.85	12.12	12.12
Vessel capacity (metric ton)	1st qtr 2016	2nd qtr 2016	3rd qtr 2016	4th qtr 2016	Average
25,000	12.34	13.47	15.00	14.85	13.92
35-40,000	10.44	11.65	13.20	13.26	12.14
Vessel capacity (metric ton)	1st qtr 2017	2nd qtr 2017	3rd qtr 2017	4th qtr 2017	Average
25,000	16.03	14.85	15.16	16.69	15.68
35-40,000	14.27	12.95	12.98	14.26	13.62
Vessel capacity (metric ton)	1st qtr 2018	2nd qtr 2018	3rd qtr 2018	4th qtr 2018	Average
25,000	16.11	16.20	16.68	17.94	16.73
35-40,000	13.97	14.07	14.68	15.63	14.59
Vessel capacity (metric ton)	1st qtr 2019	2nd qtr 2019	3rd qtr 2019	4th qtr 2019	Average
25,000	16.37	16.65	18.27	17.98	17.32
35-40,000	13.89	14.01	15.50	15.23	14.66

Source: O'Neil Commodity Consulting



Mexico Transport Cost Indicator Report

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE

Table 6. Fruit and vegetable truck rates for shipments between 501 to 1,500 miles crossing the U.S.-Mexico border

US\$/mile					
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2011	2nd qtr 2011	3rd qtr 2011	4th qtr 2011	Average
Nogales, Arizona	1.87	2.38	1.85	1.80	1.97
Pharr, Texas	1.84	2.12	1.77	1.87	1.90
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2012	2nd qtr 2012	3rd qtr 2012	4th qtr 2012	Average
Nogales, Arizona	2.00	2.57	1.84	1.92	2.08
Pharr, Texas	1.97	2.26	1.89	2.09	2.05
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2013	2nd qtr 2013	3rd qtr 2013	4th qtr 2013	Average
Nogales, Arizona	2.34	2.59	1.63	2.33	2.22
Pharr, Texas	2.15	2.33	2.02	2.01	2.13
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2014	2nd qtr 2014	3rd qtr 2014	4th qtr 2014	Average
Nogales, Arizona	2.46	2.69	1.74	2.31	2.30
Pharr, Texas	2.32	2.53	2.12	2.13	2.28
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2015	2nd qtr 2015	3rd qtr 2015	4th qtr 2015	Average
Nogales, Arizona	2.41	2.49	2.71	2.51	2.53
Pharr, Texas	2.26	2.23	2.50	2.27	2.32
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2016	2nd qtr 2016	3rd qtr 2016	4th qtr 2016	Average
Nogales, Arizona	2.31	2.43	2.53	2.65	2.48
Pharr, Texas	2.98	2.17	2.24	2.34	2.43
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2017	2nd qtr 2017	3rd qtr 2017	4th qtr 2017	Average
Nogales, Arizona	2.05	2.32	2.45	2.38	2.30
Pharr, Texas	2.16	2.21	2.00	2.36	2.18
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2018	2nd qtr 2018	3rd qtr 2018	4th qtr 2018	Average
Nogales, Arizona	2.92	3.21	2.75	2.47	2.84
Pharr, Texas	2.95	3.13	2.27	2.34	2.67
Origin/border crossing	1st qtr 2019	2nd qtr 2019	3rd qtr 2019	4th qtr 2019	Average
Nogales, Arizona	2.52	2.7	2.52	2.21	2.49
Pharr, Texas	2.45	2.28	2.04	2.23	2.25

Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), Specialty Crops Program, Market News Division



Mexico Transport Cost Indicator Report

Table 7. Quarterly U.S.-Mexico border crossing fresh fruit and vegetables truck availability

4th quarter 2019															
Legend:		1 = Surplus	2 = Slight surplus	3 = Adequate	4 = Slight shortage	5 = Shortage									
Truck availability															
Mexico border crossings/month		October					November				December				
Week ending		10/1	10/8	10/15	10/22	10/29	11/5	11/12	11/19	11/26	12/3	12/10	12/17	12/24	12/31
Through Nogales, AZ	Tomatoes, Squash, Cucumbers, Mangoes, Honeydew, Watermelons, Mixed Fruits, Vegetables	NA	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	3	2	3	5	5
Through TX	Vegetables, Limes, Mangoes, Onions, Tomatoes, Broccoli, Mixed Fruits	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

Note: NA = not available.

Source: USDA, Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), Specialty Crop Program, Market News Division, Fruit and Vegetable Truck Rate Report

Table 8. Top ten commodities shipped by truck to the U.S. from Mexico, 2019 (10,000 lbs)

Commodity	4th qtr 2019	Rank
Avocados	293	1
Cucumbers	207	2
Tomatoes	168	3
Peppers, other	159	4
Squash	157	5
Tomatoes, plum type	152	6
Limes	143	7
Peppers, bell type	126	8
Watermelon, seedless	105	9
Broccoli	80	10

Source: USDA, AMS, Specialty Crops Program, Market News Division



Mexico Transport Cost Indicator Report

Table 9. Top five commodities shipped by truck to the U.S. from Mexico (10,000 lbs)

Commodity	1st qtr 2012	2nd qtr 2012	3rd qtr 2012	4th qtr 2012	Total 2012
Tomatoes (all varieties)	99,264	69,282	41,120	57,099	266,765
Peppers (all varieties)	56,506	33,399	25,990	33,073	148,968
Cucumbers	42,668	25,798	11,919	30,383	110,768
Onions (dry and green)	29,949	20,020	8,122	8,744	66,835
Squash	26,776	16,033	3,401	19,556	65,766
Subtotal	255,163	164,532	90,552	148,855	659,102
Other	200,550	256,945	122,889	190,616	771,000
Total	455,713	421,477	213,441	339,471	1,430,102
Commodity	1st qtr 2013	2nd qtr 2013	3rd qtr 2013	4th qtr 2013	Total 2013
Tomatoes (all varieties)	88,753	75,505	43,373	52,154	259,785
Peppers (all varieties)	55,952	35,111	27,341	51,481	169,885
Avocados	38,933	26,387	15,049	30,766	111,135
Cucumbers	38,877	30,555	11,592	31,523	112,547
Onions (dry and green)	24,818	22,138	7,584	8,070	62,610
Subtotal	247,333	189,696	104,939	173,994	715,962
Other	206,944	271,688	126,051	168,680	773,363
Total	454,277	461,384	230,990	342,674	1,489,325
Commodity	1st qtr 2014	2nd qtr 2014	3rd qtr 2014	4th qtr 2014	Total 2014
Tomatoes (all varieties)	102,175	77,596	40,598	56,783	277,152
Peppers (all varieties)	62,356	33,083	27,349	48,167	170,955
Cucumbers	47,565	30,978	12,150	35,905	126,598
Avocados	37,085	26,363	26,044	39,140	128,632
Squash	29,622	16,334	3,814	22,495	72,265
Subtotal	278,803	184,354	109,955	202,490	775,602
Other	214,020	306,544	126,219	160,627	807,410
Total	492,823	490,898	236,174	363,117	1,583,012
Commodity	1st qtr 2015	2nd qtr 2015	3rd qtr 2015	4th qtr 2015	Total 2015
Tomatoes (all varieties)	99,053	73,537	42,002	61,571	276,163
Peppers (all varieties)	61,334	34,579	28,060	46,690	170,663
Cucumbers	50,114	34,601	14,335	35,947	134,997
Avocados	44,510	37,667	39,582	49,063	170,822
Squash	29,026	18,088	3,527	23,863	74,504
Subtotal	284,037	198,472	127,506	217,134	827,149
Other	225,053	334,134	130,249	179,649	869,085
Total	509,090	532,606	257,755	396,783	1,696,234

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



Mexico Transport Cost Indicator Report

Commodity	1st qtr 2016	2nd qtr 2016	3rd qtr 2016	4th qtr 2016	Total 2016
Tomatoes (all varieties)	122,571	105,099	49,289	66,534	343,493
Peppers (all varieties)	57,984	46,626	33,631	65,270	203,511
Cucumbers	45,829	37,791	14,670	39,803	138,093
Avocados	57,605	40,197	34,993	40,457	173,252
Squash	31,051	26,672	5,322	30,711	93,756
Subtotal	315,040	256,385	137,905	242,775	952,105
Other	242,834	350,555	162,307	204,561	960,257
Total	557,874	606,940	300,212	447,336	1,912,362
Commodity	1st qtr 2017	2nd qtr 2017	3rd qtr 2017	4th qtr 2017	Total 2017
Tomatoes (all varieties)	107,194	82,449	48,893	73,581	312,117
Peppers (all varieties)	67,337	38,757	30,928	59,131	196,153
Cucumbers	47,202	32,892	16,021	44,297	140,412
Avocados	49,557	36,996	31,683	47,011	165,247
Squash	31,937	20,737	5,099	33,126	90,899
Subtotal	303,227	211,831	132,624	257,146	904,828
Other	289,814	339,353	170,127	206,746	1,006,040
Total	593,041	551,184	302,751	463,892	1,910,868
Commodity	1st qtr 2018	2nd qtr 2018	3rd qtr 2018	4th qtr 2018	Total 2018
Tomatoes (all varieties)	105,274	80,008	49,400	62,553	297,235
Peppers (all varieties)	73,682	46,268	35,266	57,763	212,979
Cucumbers	44,297	36,450	36,046	50,126	190,506
Avocados	47,011	49,914	14,131	43,301	145,221
Squash	33,126	22,075	6,150	27,782	137,900
Subtotal	303,390	234,715	140,993	241,525	984,341
Other	304,695	335,630	156,881	205,849	939,337
Total	608,085	570,345	297,874	447,374	1,923,678
Commodity	1st qtr 2019	2nd qtr 2019	3rd qtr 2019	4th qtr 2019	Total 2019
Tomatoes (all varieties)	98,631	81,296	55,836	69,366	29,9085
Peppers (all varieties)	68,655	50,059	38,006	56,847	206,197
Cucumbers	66,751	88,960	42,135	5,8520	183,439
Avocados	50,934	41,293	11,138	30,506	154,677
Squash	36,760	39,066	18,919	4,1334	143,596
Subtotal	321,731	300,674	166,034	256,573	986,994
Other	284,125	310,400	182,481	213,013	93,1202
Total	605,856	611,074	348,515	469,586	1,918,196

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



Mexico Transport Cost Indicator Report

Subscription Information:

Please sign up by entering your email address at the following link and selecting your preference to receive Transportation Research and Analysis:

https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDAAMS/subscriber/new?topic_id=USDAAMS_177.

Related Websites:

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

Data Sets (all XLS files):

- [Figure 1: Water route shipment costs \(\\$/mt\) to Veracruz, Mexico](#)
- [Figure 2: Land route shipment costs \(\\$/mt\) to Guadalajara, Mexico](#)
- [Table 1: Quarterly costs of transporting U.S. grain and soybeans to Mexico, 2019](#)
- [Table 2: Quarterly tariff rail rates for U.S. bulk grain shipments to Mexico \(US\\$/car\), 2019](#)
- [Table 3: Quarterly tariff rail rates plus fuel surcharge for U.S. bulk grain shipments to Mexico, 2019](#)
- [Table 4: Quarterly exports of U.S. Distillers' Dried Grains with Soluble \(DDGS\) to Mexico](#)
- [Table 5: Quarterly ocean freight rate for bulk shipments from the U.S. Gulf to Veracruz, Mexico](#)
- [Table 6: Fruit and vegetable truck rates for shipments between 501 and 1,500 miles crossing the U.S.-Mexico border](#)
- [Table 7: Quarterly U.S.-Mexico border crossing fresh fruit and vegetables truck availability](#)
- [Table 8: Top ten commodities shipped by truck to the U.S. from Mexico, 2019 \(10,000 lbs\)](#)
- [Table 9: Top five commodities shipped by truck to the U.S. from Mexico \(10,000 lbs\)](#)

Preferred Citation:

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service. *Mexico Transport Cost Indicator Reports*. April 2020. Web. <<http://dx.doi.org/10.9752/TS054.04-2020>>

Photo Credit: USDA

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

For assistance with accessibility issues related to this document, please email sharonc.williams@usda.gov.