



Agricultural Refrigerated Truck Quarterly

a quarterly publication of the Agricultural Marketing Service

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NATIONAL SUMMARY

Quarterly Overview

Fruit and Vegetable Shipments

USDA reported third-quarter 2021 U.S. truck shipments of fresh produce were 9.50 million tons—18 percent lower than the previous quarter and 5 percent higher than the same quarter last year.

Also, in the third quarter, shipments from California were 3.18 million tons, higher than those from any other reported origin. Shipments from California accounted for 33 percent of the total reported shipments of fresh fruits and vegetables. Shipments from the next four top regions by volume were as follows: Mexico, 2.21 million tons (23 percent of the total); Pacific Northwest (PNW), 1.48 million tons (16 percent of the total); Southeast, 421,000 tons (4 percent of the total); and finally, Great Lakes, 324,000 tons (3 percent of the total).

These top five commodities accounted for 39 percent of reported truck movements in third quarter 2021:

- ▶ Potatoes (11 percent)
- ▶ Seedless Watermelons (10 percent)
- ▶ Dry Onions (7 percent)
- ▶ Apples (6 percent)
- ▶ Grapes (5 percent)

Truck Rates

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

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

	0-500 miles	501-1,500 miles	1,501-2,500 miles	2,501+ miles
Q3 2020	2.95	2.56	2.53	1.44
Q4 2020	3.26	2.92	2.85	1.66
Q1 2021	2.70	2.90	2.57	1.76
Q2 2021	3.13	3.70	2.97	1.92
Q3 2021	3.32	3.21	3.03	1.80
Q3 Change from Previous Quarter	6%	-13%	2%	-6%
Q3 Change from Same Quarter Last Year	13%	25%	20%	25%

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

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

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

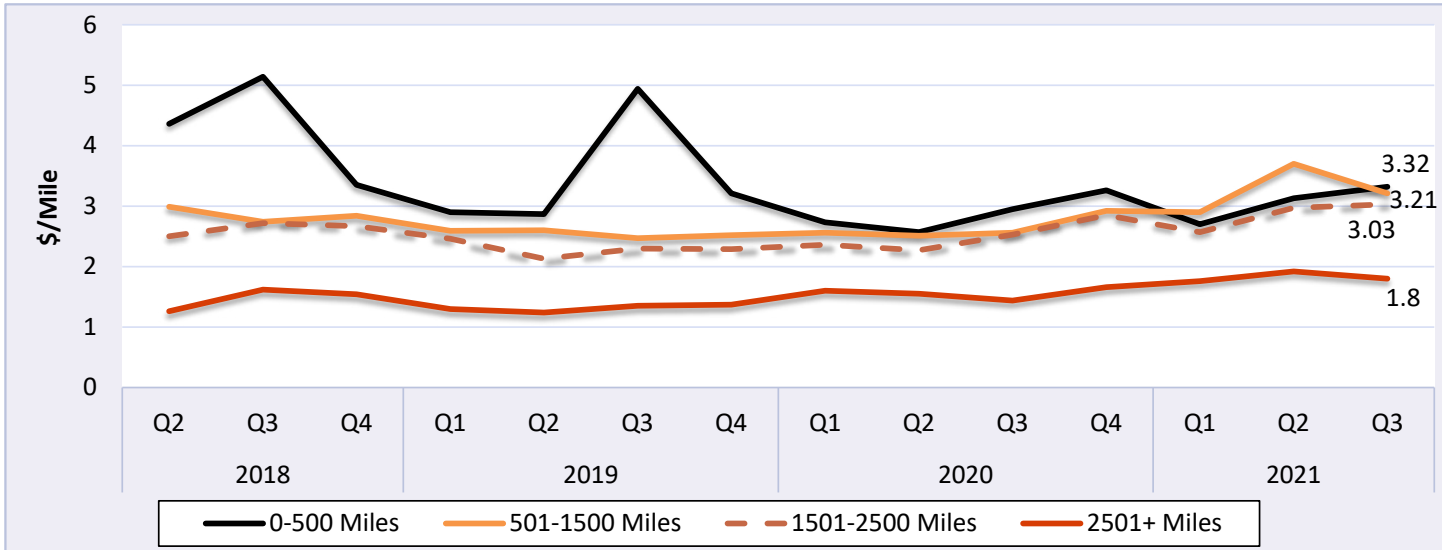
Diesel Fuel

During third quarter 2021, the U.S. diesel fuel price averaged \$3.36 per gallon—up 5 percent from the previous quarter and 38 percent from the same quarter last year.



U.S. Truck Rates

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



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

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

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

Year	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
2021	2.90	3.70	3.21	
2020	2.56	2.51	2.56	2.92
2019	2.59	2.60	2.47	2.52
2018	2.82	2.99	2.74	2.84
2017	1.86	2.41	2.33	2.56
2016	2.22	2.37	2.49	2.06
2015	2.47	2.63	2.59	2.36
2014	2.32	2.67	2.64	2.49
2013	2.24	2.60	2.62	2.27
2012	2.10	2.54	2.45	2.29
2011	2.02	2.60	2.77	2.26
2010	1.82	2.21	2.33	1.94
2009	1.85	1.99	2.02	1.86

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

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

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



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 3, 2021

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

U.S. Origin	3rd Quarter, 2021			2nd Quarter, 2021		
	July	August	September	April	May	June
Arizona	6.09	n/a	n/a	4.17	n/a	5.27
California	4.93	4.67	4.47	3.99	4.50	4.80
Florida	4.21	n/a	n/a	3.55	3.99	3.81
Great Lakes	3.86	4.20	4.81	3.97	4.01	3.77
Mexico-Arizona	2.66	1.59	2.05	3.29	4.56	3.85
Mexico-Texas	3.06	2.77	2.90	3.03	3.33	3.20
New York	4.40	3.86	3.86	4.40	4.40	4.40
Other	3.42	3.16	2.81	2.98	3.20	3.47
PNW	2.49	2.43	2.59	2.51	2.56	2.57
Southeast	4.93	5.05	6.03	4.33	4.49	4.63
Texas	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.98	3.36	n/a

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

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

Truck Rates for Selected Routes

Table 3: Origin-Destination Truck Rates for Selected Routes, 3rd Quarter 2021 (\$/Mile)

U.S. Origin	Destination								
	Atlanta	Baltimore	Boston	Chicago	Dallas	Los Angeles	Miami	New York	Philadelphia
Arizona	4.41	4.02	3.69	4.24	6.09	n/a	3.83	3.96	3.98
California	4.08	3.94	3.83	3.83	4.55	n/a	3.89	3.97	3.90
Florida	3.52	4.55	4.38	2.97	n/a	n/a	n/a	4.77	4.39
Great Lakes	4.16	4.72	4.33	4.59	3.19	n/a	3.47	4.86	4.44
Mexico-Arizona	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	4.44	1.92	n/a	3.82	n/a
Mexico-Texas	3.15	3.04	2.87	2.64	3.38	1.98	2.89	3.11	3.01
Mid-Atlantic	4.17	11.33	5.86	3.03	n/a	n/a	n/a	6.98	9.05
New York	4.06	5.76	15.37	n/a	n/a	n/a	3.92	13.00	9.57
Other	3.31	3.22	2.72	3.48	5.05	n/a	3.57	3.58	3.31
PNW	2.99	3.18	3.16	3.00	3.02	2.51	2.97	3.31	3.19
Southeast	6.38	5.58	7.29	3.97	3.36	1.35	4.34	5.13	10.78

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

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



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 3, 2021

Table 4: Origin-Destination Truck Rates for Selected Routes, 3rd Quarter 2021 (\$/Truck)

U.S. Origin	Destination								
	Atlanta	Baltimore	Boston	Chicago	Dallas	Los Angeles	Miami	New York	Philadelphia
Arizona	9,267	10,450	10,700	8,617	7,917	n/a	9,950	10,700	10,550
California	9,204	10,833	11,688	8,163	6,877	n/a	10,919	11,260	10,844
Florida	1,550	4,050	5,600	3,450	n/a	n/a	n/a	5,100	4,350
Great Lakes	3,927	3,838	5,152	1,309	3,445	n/a	5,822	4,695	4,140
Mexico-Arizona	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	4,350	1,077	n/a	9,550	n/a
Mexico-Texas	3,623	5,446	6,319	3,781	1,688	3,162	4,415	6,215	5,712
Mid-Atlantic	2,922	1,133	2,639	2,422	n/a	n/a	n/a	1,606	1,267
New York	4,063	1,900	2,613	n/a	n/a	n/a	5,688	1,950	2,200
Other	2,825	5,766	5,845	2,826	2,558	n/a	6,610	6,024	6,089
PNW	6,960	7,823	8,665	5,402	5,567	2,529	8,859	8,477	8,009
Southeast	1,773	2,663	5,957	3,385	3,193	3,268	2,765	3,504	5,181

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

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

U.S. Diesel Fuel Prices

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

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



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



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

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Table 5: Average Diesel Fuel Prices (All Types)

Region	3rd Quarter 2021 Price \$/Gallon	Change From Last Quarter	Change From Last Year
East Coast	3.32	4%	32%
California	4.27	6%	31%
New England	3.27	4%	25%
Central Atlantic	3.48	4%	29%
Lower Atlantic	3.23	5%	36%
Gulf Coast	3.09	3%	42%
Midwest	3.27	4%	42%
Rocky Mountain	3.63	9%	54%
West Coast Except California	3.64	8%	41%
U.S.	3.36	5%	38%

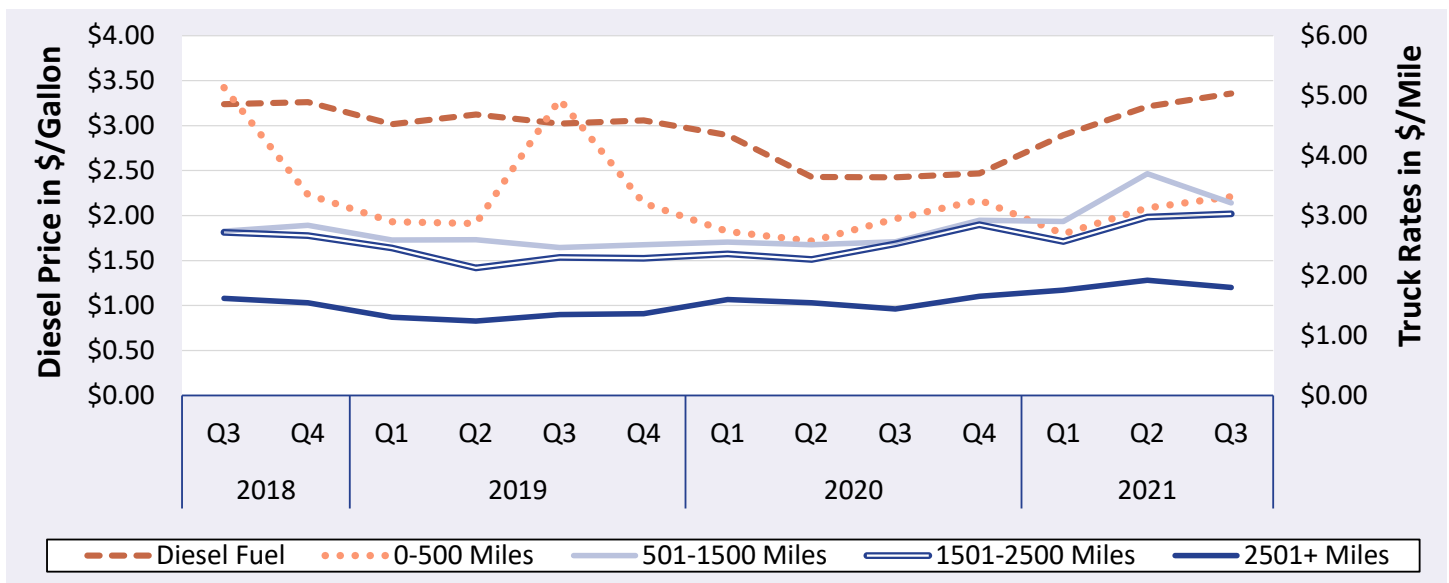
Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of Energy Information Administration/U.S. Department of Energy data.

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

Relationship Between Diesel Fuel and Truck Rates

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

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



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

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



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Table 6: Average Diesel Fuel Prices and Truck Rates

Year	Quarter	Diesel Fuel (\$/gallon)	Truck Rates (\$/mile) 501-1500 miles	% Change From			
				Last Quarter		Last Year	
				Diesel	Truck	Diesel	Truck
2018	Q3	3.24	2.74	1%	-8%	23%	18%
	Q4	3.26	2.84	1%	4%	14%	11%
2019	Q1	3.02	2.59	-8%	-9%	< 1%	-8%
	Q2	3.12	2.60	4%	< 1%	-2%	-13%
	Q3	3.02	2.47	-3%	-5%	-7%	-10%
	Q4	3.06	2.52	1%	2%	-6%	-11%
2020	Q1	2.90	2.56	-5%	2%	-4%	-1%
	Q2	2.43	2.51	-16%	-2%	-22%	-3%
	Q3	2.43	2.56	> -1%	2%	-20%	4%
	Q4	2.47	2.92	2%	14%	-19%	16%
2021	Q1	2.89	2.90	17%	-1%	> -1%	14%
	Q2	3.21	3.70	11%	27%	32%	47%
	Q3	3.36	3.21	5%	-13%	38%	25%

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

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



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 3, 2021

Quarterly Truck Availability

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

Truck availability legend														
1=Surplus	2=Slight surplus	3=Adequate	4=Slight shortage				5=Shortage							
California, Central, And Western Arizona	Commodities	7/6	7/13	7/20	7/27	8/3	8/10	8/17	8/24	8/31	9/7	9/14	9/21	9/28
Imperial, Palo Verde And Coachella Valleys, California And Central And Western Arizona	Cantaloupe, Sweet Corn, Honeydews, Galia Melon, Hami Melon, Juan Canary Melon, Orange-Flesh Melon, Bell Peppers, Watermelons	4	4	4										
Kern District California	Carrots, Grapes	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	4
Northern California Including San Joaquin Valley	Pears			4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	3
Oxnard District California	Cabbage, Cilantro, Kale Greens, Parsley, Strawberries, Celery	4	4											
Salinas-Watsonville California	Broccoli, Cauliflower, Celery, Boston Lettuce, Green Leaf Lettuce, Iceberg Lettuce, Red Leaf Lettuce, Romaine Lettuce	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	4
San Joaquin Valley California	Grapes, Nectarines, Peaches, Apricots	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	3	5
Santa Maria California	Broccoli, Cauliflower, Celery, Green Leaf Lettuce, Iceberg Lettuce, Red Leaf Lettuce, Romaine Lettuce	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	4
South District California	Avocados, Grapefruit, Lemons, Oranges	5	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	5	5
Florida	Commodities	7/6	7/13	7/20	7/27	8/3	8/10	8/17	8/24	8/31	9/7	9/14	9/21	9/28
North & West Florida	Tomatoes, Cherry Tomatoes, Grape Tomatoes, Plum Tomatoes, Watermelons	5												
Great Lakes (MI & WI)	Commodities	7/6	7/13	7/20	7/27	8/3	8/10	8/17	8/24	8/31	9/7	9/14	9/21	9/28
Central Wisconsin	Dry Onions, Potatoes	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5
Michigan	Cucumbers, Squash		4			4	4	4	4	4		4		
Mid-Atlantic (MD, VA, & DE)	Commodities	7/6	7/13	7/20	7/27	8/3	8/10	8/17	8/24	8/31	9/7	9/14	9/21	9/28
Delaware, Maryland And Eastern Shore Virginia	Cantaloupe, Watermelons					5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5

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

Note: Empty cells were not reported.



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 3, 2021

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

Truck availability legend														
1=Surplus	2=Slight surplus	3=Adequate	4=Slight shortage				5=Shortage							
Pacific Northwest (ID, OR, & WA)	Commodities	7/6	7/13	7/20	7/27	8/3	8/10	8/17	8/24	8/31	9/7	9/14	9/21	9/28
Columbia Basin Washington	Dry Onions, Potatoes	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	4	4	5	5
Idaho And Malheur County, Oregon	Dry Onions									3	4	4	4	4
Upper Valley, Twin Falls-Burley District Idaho	Potatoes	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	4	4	5	5
Yakima Valley & Wenatchee District Washington	Apples, Pears, Blueberries, Cherries, Apricots	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	5	5	5	5
U.S.-Mexico border	Commodities	7/6	7/13	7/20	7/27	8/3	8/10	8/17	8/24	8/31	9/7	9/14	9/21	9/28
Nogales, Arizona	Mangos, Grapes	3	3	3	3	1	1	2	1	3	3	3	3	3
South Texas	Broccoli, Carrots, Chayote, Cilantro, Cucumbers, Limes, Mangos, Papaya, Anaheim Peppers, Bell Peppers, Habanero Peppers, Jalapeno Peppers, Poblano Peppers, Serrano Peppers, Pineapples, Tomatillos, Tomatoes, Grape Tomatoes, Plum Tomatoes, Watermelons	4	3	2	2	3	2	3	2	3	3	3	3	3
Southern New Mexico	Dry Onions	4	4											
Southeast (GA, SC, & NC)	Commodities	7/6	7/13	7/20	7/27	8/3	8/10	8/17	8/24	8/31	9/7	9/14	9/21	9/28
Eastern North Carolina	Sweet Potatoes	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4	4
South Carolina	Watermelons, Cantaloupe, Tomatoes, Cherry Tomatoes, Grape Tomatoes	5	5	5	5	5								
South Georgia	Sweet Corn, Cucumbers, Eggplant, Bell Peppers, Other Peppers, Watermelons	5	5											
Vidalia District Georgia	Dry Onions	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2			

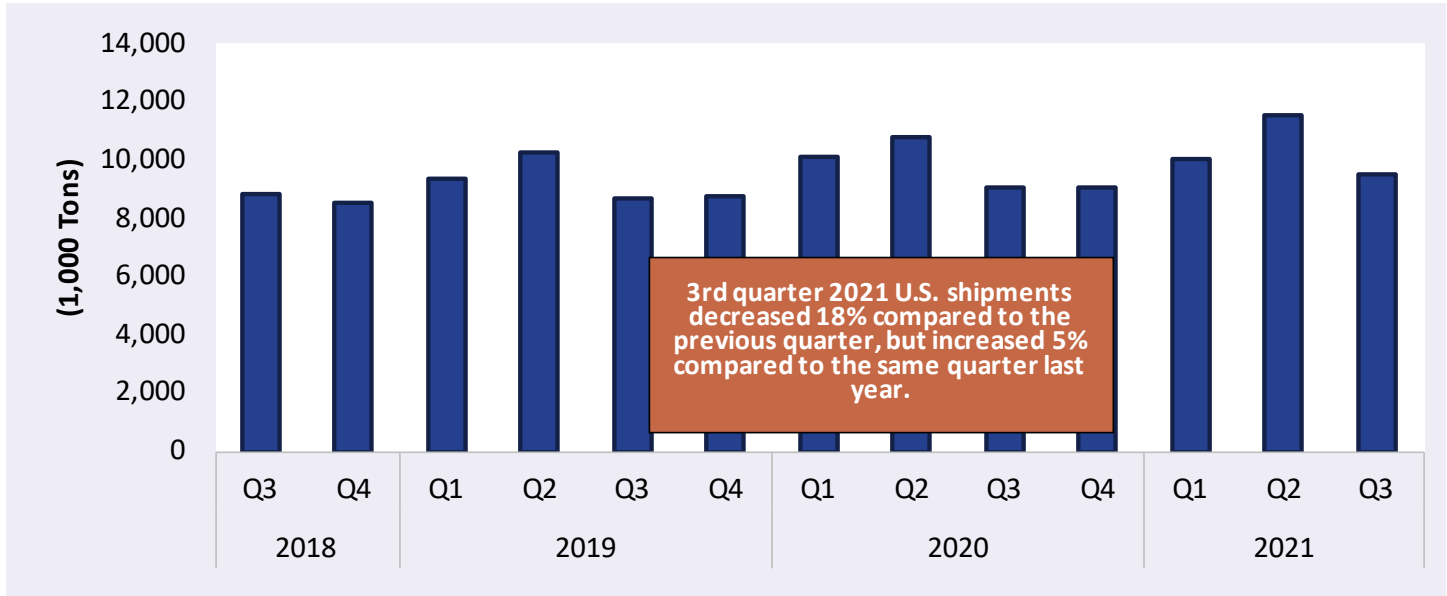
Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Note: Empty cells were not reported.



Reported U.S. Shipments

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



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

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

Year	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Annual
2021	10,051	11,521	9,501		31,073
2020	10,081	10,750	9,058	9,007	38,895
2019	9,381	10,246	8,687	8,714	37,028
2018	9,421	10,795	8,789	8,503	37,508
2017	8,072	9,642	8,479	8,267	34,459
2016	8,094	9,761	8,541	8,188	34,583
2015	8,118	9,630	8,324	7,771	33,842
2014	7,733	9,139	8,080	7,725	32,677
2013	7,451	8,972	7,762	7,527	31,712
2012	7,577	9,008	7,774	7,532	31,890
2011	7,007	8,981	7,887	7,988	31,863
2010	7,065	8,881	7,985	7,522	31,454
2009	7,158	8,728	7,990	7,270	31,147
2008	7,059	8,666	7,426	6,904	30,057
2007	6,959	8,585	7,475	7,099	30,118
2006	6,335	8,400	7,854	6,960	29,550
2005	6,877	8,324	7,737	7,387	30,325

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

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



Reported Shipments by Selected Commodities

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

Commodity	3rd Quarter 2021	Previous Quarter	Same Quarter Last Year	Current Quarter as % change from:	
				Previous Qtr	Same Qtr Last Year
Potatoes	1,073	1,101	1,082	-3%	-1%
Seedless Watermelons	975	1,588	1,032	-39%	-5%
Dry Onions	625	825	611	-24%	2%
Apples	614	730	707	-16%	-13%
Grapes	403	378	383	7%	5%
Tomatoes	343	647	495	-47%	-31%
Iceberg Lettuce	338	366	345	-8%	-2%
Strawberries	330	534	276	-38%	19%
Cucumbers	294	586	316	-50%	-7%
Avocados	278	658	532	-58%	-48%

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

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

Origin	3rd Quarter 2021 Volume	% Change from Last Quarter	% Change From Same Quarter Last Year
California	3178	-8%	-2%
Mexico	2209	-37%	18%
PNW	1476	-2%	-11%
Canada	519	57%	140%
Southeast	421	-31%	-1%
Great Lakes	324	209%	-14%
Indiana	214	50,742%	-11%
Texas	186	-10%	0%
Mid-Atlantic	166	1,643%	-1%
Colorado	159	-9%	19%

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



REGIONAL MARKETS

California

Volume

Total reported shipments of fruits and vegetables from California in third quarter 2021 were 3.18 million tons, down 2 percent year to year. The top five commodities shipped from California increased 6 percent from third quarter 2020 to third quarter 2021 (year to year). Four of the top 5 commodities saw year-to-year increases in the third quarter, including strawberries (14 percent), grapes (9 percent), romaine lettuce (8 percent), and oranges (3 percent). Shipments of iceberg lettuce decreased by 3 percent.

Rates

The quarterly average truck rate for shipments between 501 miles and 1,500 miles was \$4.74 per mile—a 6-percent increase from second quarter 2021 to third quarter 2021 (quarter to quarter) and a 55-percent increase year to year.

Truck Overview

Diesel fuel prices averaged \$4.27 per gallon—a 6-percent increase quarter to quarter, and a 31-percent increase year to year. Throughout the quarter, monthly average truck availability was reported as a slight shortage for all California districts, except for a few districts that did not report in August and September.

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

Commodity	3rd Quarter 2021	Share of California Total	Previous Quarter	Same Quarter Last Year	Current Quarter as % change from:	
					Previous Qtr	Same Qtr Last Year
Grapes	396	12%	14	364	2,779%	9%
Strawberries	314	10%	353	276	-11%	14%
Iceberg Lettuce	307	10%	297	315	3%	-3%
Romaine Lettuce	255	8%	260	236	-2%	8%
Oranges	212	7%	650	205	-67%	3%
Top 5 Total	1,484	47%	1,574	1,395	-6%	6%
California Total	3,178	100%	3,439	3,256	-8%	-2%

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

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

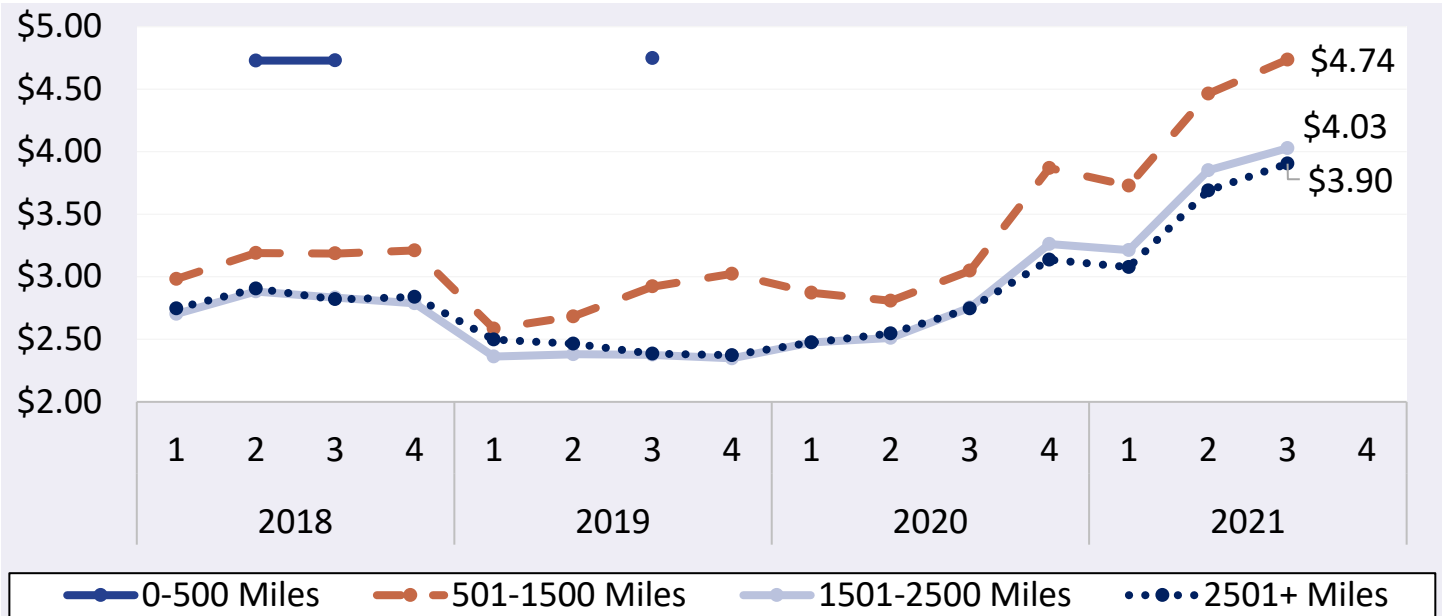
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AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 3, 2021

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



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

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

Region/Reporting District	July	August	September	3rd Quarter
Imperial, Palo Verde And Coachella Valleys, California And Central And Western Arizona	4	-	-	4
Kern District California	4	4	3.75	3.92
Northern California Including San Joaquin Valley	4	3.8	3	3.6
Oxnard District California	4	-	-	4
Salinas-Watsonville California	4	4	3.75	3.92
San Joaquin Valley California	4	3	3.75	3.58
Santa Maria California	4	4	3.75	3.92
South District California	4.23	3	4.5	3.91
Regional Average Availability	4.03	3.63	3.75	3.80
Diesel Fuel Price (\$/gallon)	4.20	4.29	4.32	4.27

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

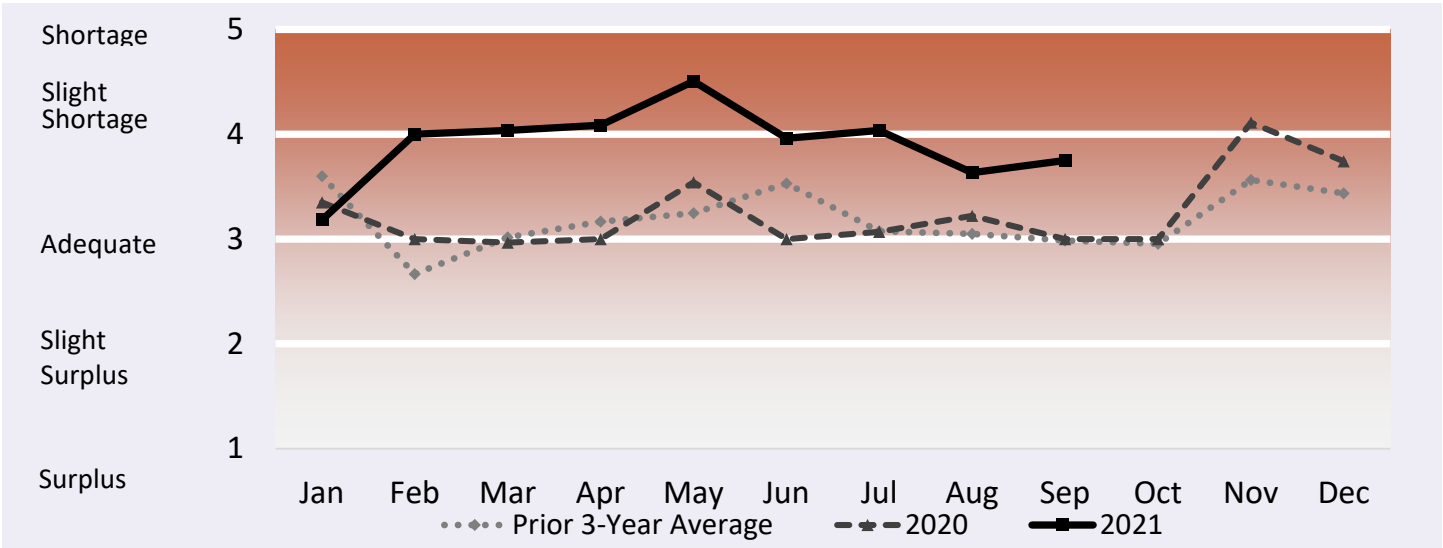
Any "-" in the table indicates no reported shipments during the quarter.

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

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



Figure 6: Refrigerated Truck Availability Monthly Ratings for California



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



U.S.-Mexico Border

Volume

USDA reported total shipments of fruits and vegetables from Mexico, in third quarter 2021, were 2.21 million tons, an 18-percent increase year to year. The sum of the top five commodities shipped from the US-Mexico border also increased 16 percent year to year. Three of top five commodities saw year-to-year increases in the third quarter, including cucumbers (51 percent); plum type tomatoes (39 percent); and limes (18 percent). Shipments of mangoes decreased by 4 percent and, of avocados, by 3 percent.

Rates

In third quarter 2021, truck rates for shipments between 501 miles and 1,500 miles from the Arizona border crossings averaged \$2.10 per mile. This was down 46 percent quarter to quarter and down 3 percent year to year. Rates for shipments between 501 miles and 1,500 miles from the Texas border crossings averaged \$2.90 per mile, down 9 percent quarter to quarter and up 23 percent year to year.

Truck Overview

Diesel fuel prices for border crossings from Arizona averaged \$3.64 per gallon—a 8-percent increase quarter to quarter and a 41-percent increase year to year. Diesel fuel prices for border crossings from Texas averaged \$3.09 per gallon—down 3 percent quarter to quarter and up 42 percent year to year. All Mexico crossings districts reported adequate monthly average truck availability in July and September and a slight surplus in August.

Table 13: Reported Top Five Commodities Shipped from Mexico (1,000 tons)

Commodity	3rd Quarter 2021	Share of Mexico-Total Total	Previous Quarter	Same Quarter Last Year	Current Quarter as % change from:	
					Previous Qtr	Same Qtr Last Year
Avocados	221	10%	293	227	-25%	-3%
Plum Type Tomatoes	216	10%	211	156	2%	39%
Limes	211	10%	177	179	19%	18%
Mangoes	162	7%	175	169	-8%	-4%
Cucumbers	156	7%	241	104	-35%	51%
Top 5 Total	965	44%	1,097	835	-12%	16%
Mexico Total	2,209	100%	3,506	1,879	-37%	18%

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

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

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



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

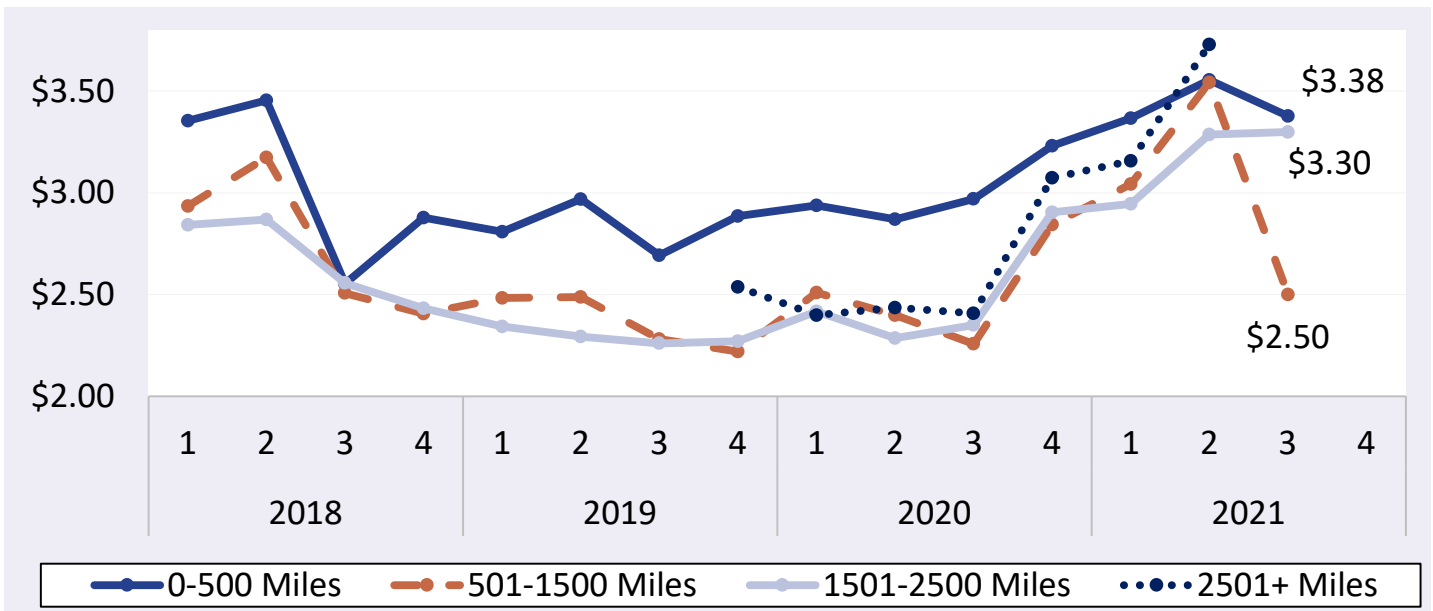
Quarter 3, 2021

Table 14: Top 5 Commodities Shipped to U.S. from Mexico by State of Entry (1,000 tons)

Texas		California		Arizona		New Mexico	
Commodity	3rd Quarter 2021	Commodity	3rd Quarter 2021	Commodity	3rd Quarter 2021	Commodity	3rd Quarter 2021
Avocados	216	Plum Type Tomatoes	74	Mangoes	59	Other Peppers	50
Limes	179	Cucumbers	68	Tomatoes	21	Dry Onions	16
Plum Type Tomatoes	123	Misc Tropical	43	Plum Type Tomatoes	19	Misc Tropical	< 1
Mangoes	101	Other Peppers	31	Cucumbers	17	Plum Type Tomatoes	< 1
Tomatoes	86	Green Onions	29	Seedless Watermelons	14	Green Onions	< 1
Mexico through TX Total	1,432	Mexico through CA Total	502	Mexico through AZ Total	209	Mexico through NM Total	66

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

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



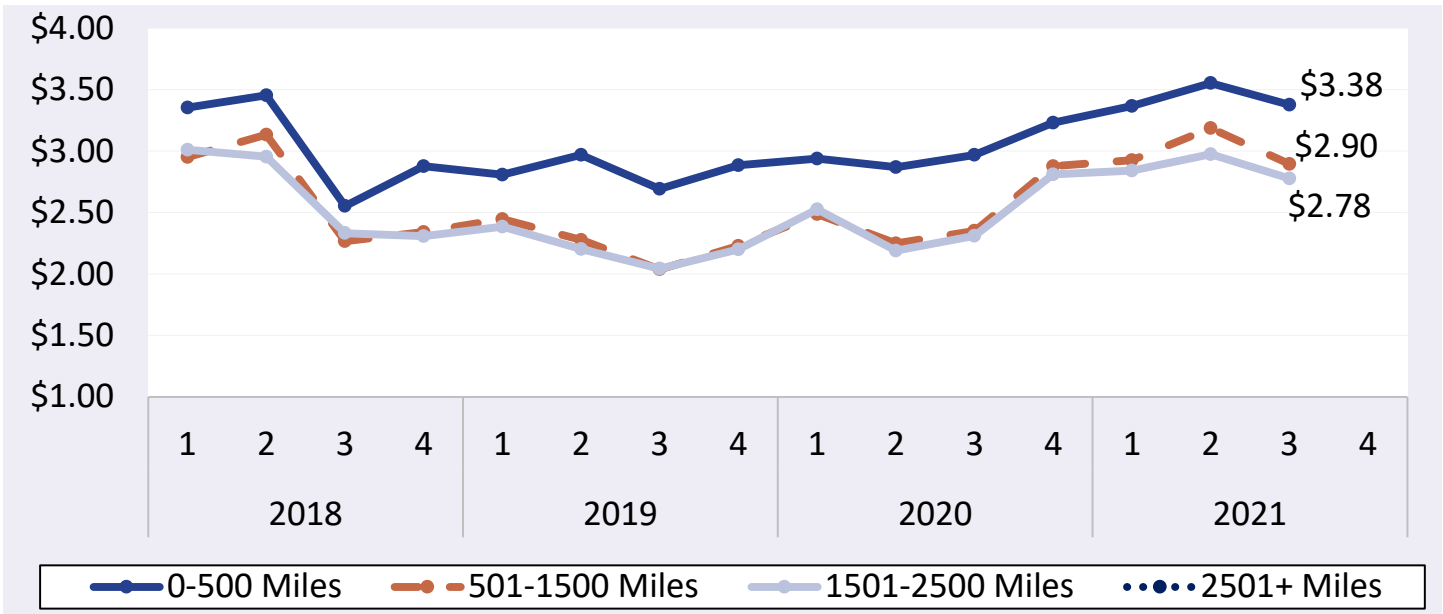
Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.
 Any gaps in the chart lines are the result of quarters with no reported data for the region.



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

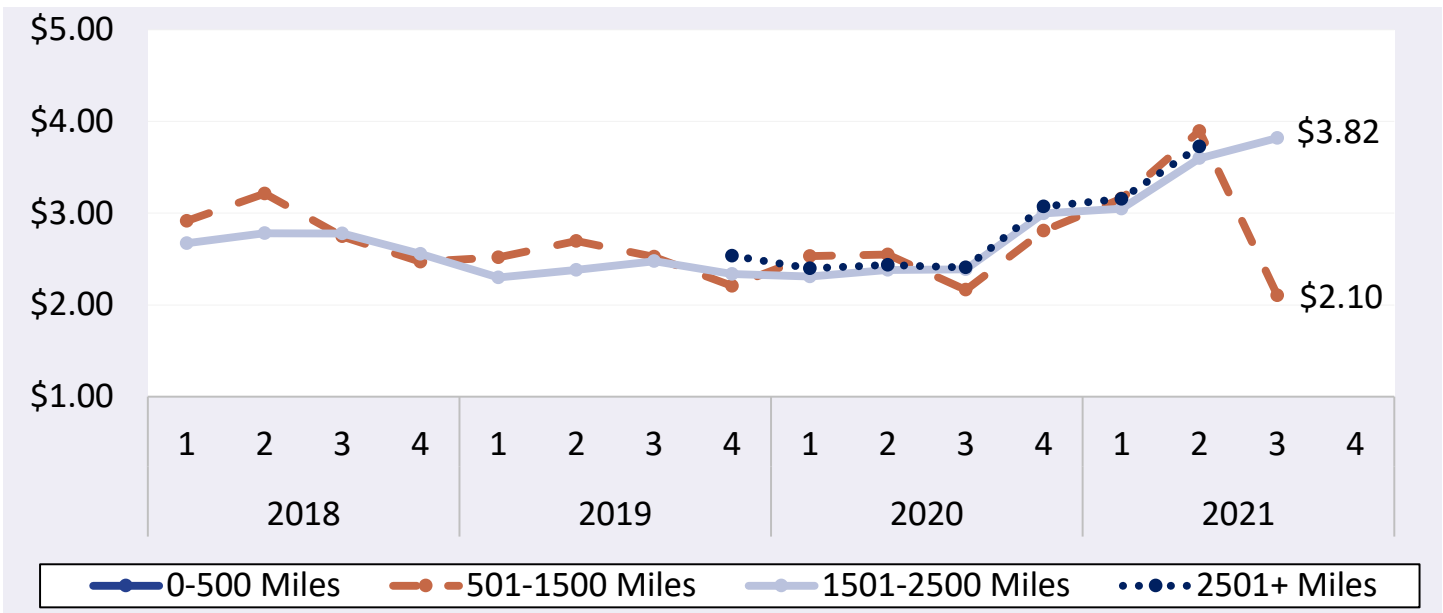
Quarter 3, 2021

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



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

Figure 9: Arizona Truck Rates from U.S.-Mexico Border (\$/Mile by Distance Traveled)



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



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 3, 2021

Table 15: Truck Overview from the U.S.-Mexico Border

Region/Reporting District	July	August	September	3rd Quarter
Mexico Crossings Through Nogales, Arizona	3.17	1.6	3	2.59
Mexico Crossings Through South Texas	2.75	2.68	3	2.81
Regional Average Availability	2.96	2.14	3	2.70
Diesel Fuel Price (\$/gallon), through Texas	3.08	3.07	3.12	3.09
Diesel Fuel Price (\$/gallon), through Arizona	3.58	3.66	3.66	3.64

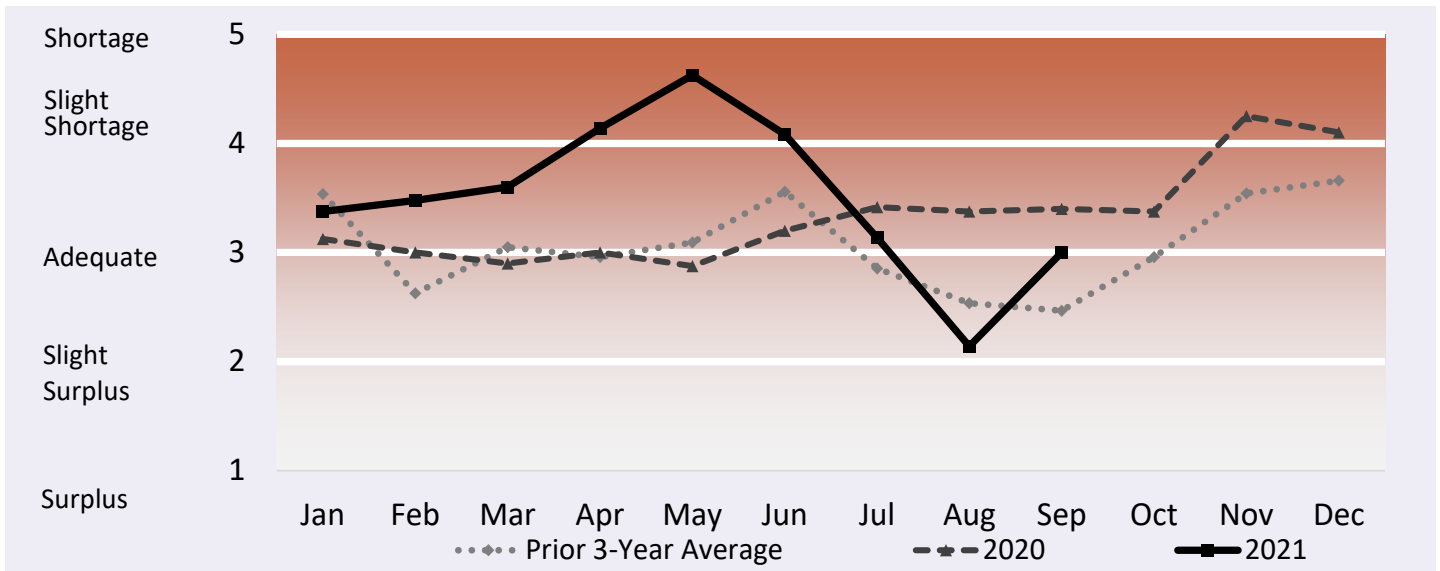
Source: AMS Transportation Services Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

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

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

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

Figure 10: Refrigerated Truck Availability Monthly Ratings from the U.S.-Mexico Border



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

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



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 3, 2021

PNW

Volume

During third quarter 2021, total reported shipments of fruits and vegetables from PNW were 1.48 million tons, decreasing 11 percent year to year. The sum of the top five commodities shipped from PNW also decreased 11 percent year to year. Except for cherries (8-percent increase), the rest of the top five commodities saw year-to-year decreases this quarter: dry onions (down 16 percent), apples (down 13 percent), pears (down 11 percent), and potatoes (down 10 percent).

Rates

The quarterly average truck rate for shipments between 501 miles and 1,500 miles was \$2.51 per mile, decreasing 1 percent quarter to quarter and increasing 23 percent year to year.

Truck Overview

Diesel fuel prices averaged \$3.64 per gallon—an 8-percent increase quarter to quarter and a 41-percent increase year to year. Monthly average truck availability was reported as a slight shortage for each district throughout the quarter, except for Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon, which didn't report in July.

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

Commodity	3rd Quarter 2021	Share of PNW Total	Previous Quarter	Same Quarter Last Year	Current Quarter as % change from:	
					Previous Qtr	Same Qtr Last Year
Apples	566	38%	667	652	-15%	-13%
Potatoes	483	33%	481	534	< 1%	-10%
Dry Onions	236	16%	208	282	13%	-16%
Cherries	105	7%	75	97	40%	8%
Pears	41	3%	62	46	-34%	-11%
Top 5 Total	1,431	97%	1,494	1,612	-4%	-11%
PNW Total	1,476	100%	1,504	1,659	-2%	-11%

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

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

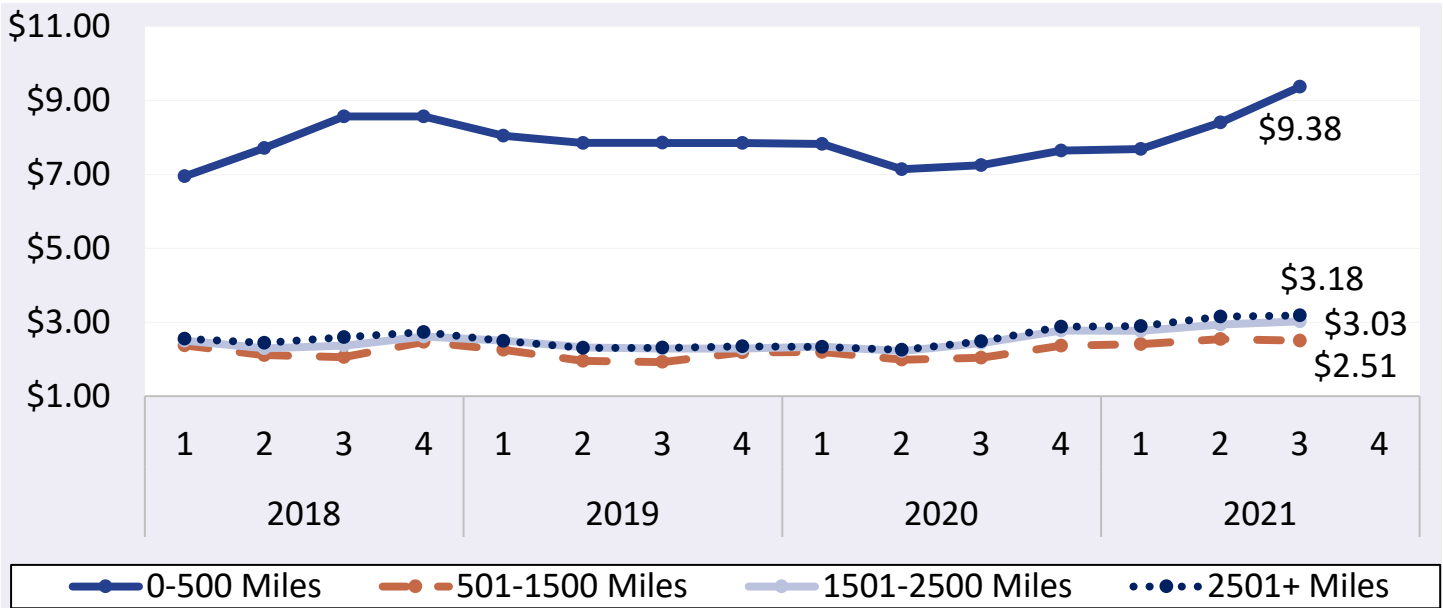
Note: Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 3, 2021

Figure 11: PNW Truck Rates (\$/Mile by Distance Travelled)



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

Table 17: PNW Truck Overview (Availability Rating: 1=Surplus to 5=Shortage)

Region/Reporting District	July	August	September	3rd Quarter
Columbia Basin Washington	4	3.2	4.5	3.9
Idaho And Malheur County, Oregon	-	3	4	3.5
Upper Valley, Twin Falls-Burley District Idaho	4	3.8	4.5	4.1
Yakima Valley & Wenatchee District Washington	3.25	3.2	5	3.82
Regional Average Availability	3.75	3.3	4.5	3.85
Diesel Fuel Price (\$/gallon)	3.58	3.66	3.66	3.64

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

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

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

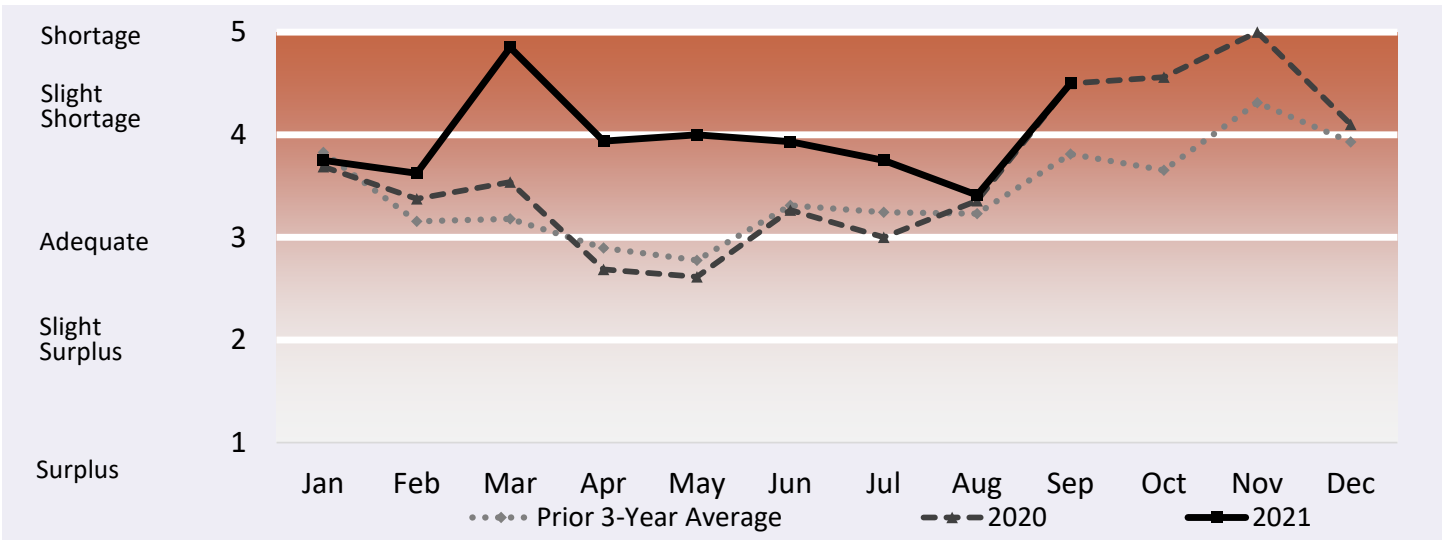
Note: AMS Specialty Crops Program defines regions by commodity, which may overlap in truck availability reporting.



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 3, 2021

Figure 12: Refrigerated Truck Availability Monthly Ratings for PNW



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



Southeast

Volume

During third quarter 2021, total reported shipments of fruits and vegetables from the Southeast were 421,000 tons, down 1 percent year to year. The sum of the top five commodities shipped from Southeast also fell less than 1 percent year to year. Three of the top five commodities saw year-to-year increases, including dry onions (up 245 percent), peaches (up 45 percent) and sweet corn (up 8 percent). Shipments of sweet potatoes decreased by 22 percent and seedless watermelons by 12 percent.

Rates

The quarterly average truck rate for shipments between 501 miles and 1,500 miles was \$5.16 per mile—up 14 percent quarter to quarter and up 2 percent year to year.

Truck Overview

Diesel fuel prices averaged \$3.23 per gallon—up 4 percent quarter to quarter and up 36 percent year to year. Vidalia District Georgia reported adequate availability throughout the quarter. All other regions reported shortages throughout the quarter, except for a few districts that did not report in August and September.

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

Commodity	3rd Quarter 2021	Share of Southeast Total	Previous Quarter	Same Quarter Last Year	Current Quarter as % change from:	
					Previous Qtr	Same Qtr Last Year
Seedless Watermelons	231	55%	187	263	24%	-12%
Dry Onions	51	12%	81	15	-37%	245%
Sweet Potatoes	42	10%	74	54	-43%	-22%
Peaches	28	7%	26	19	6%	45%
Sweet Corn	11	3%	46	11	-75%	8%
Top 5 Total	363	86%	414	362	-12%	< 1%
Southeast Total	421	100%	609	425	-31%	-1%

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

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

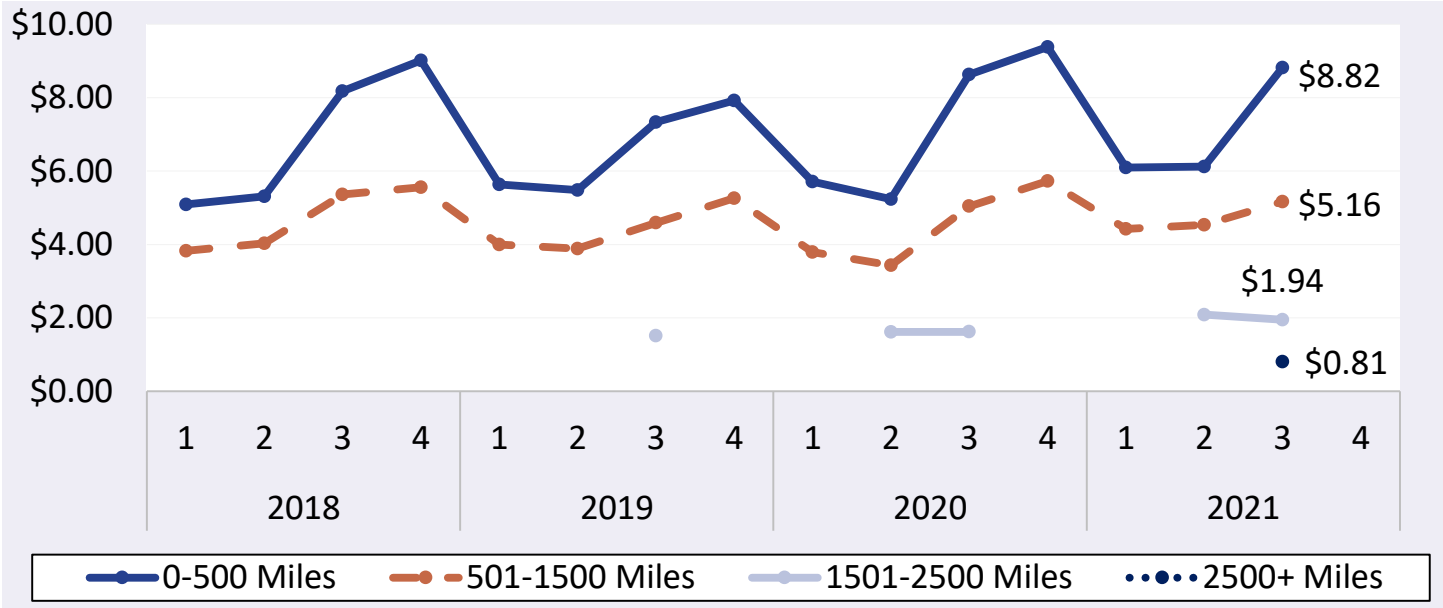
Note: Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 3, 2021

Figure 13: Southeast Truck Rates (\$/Mile by Distance Travelled)



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

Table 19: Southeast Truck Overview (Availability Rating: 1=Surplus to 5=Shortage)

Region/Reporting District	July	August	September	3rd Quarter
Eastern North Carolina	5	5	4	4.67
South Carolina	5	5	-	5
South Georgia	5	-	-	5
Vidalia District Georgia	3.5	2.82	2.11	2.81
Regional Average Availability	4.63	4.27	3.06	3.98
Diesel Fuel Price (\$/gallon)	3.21	3.21	3.26	3.23

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

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

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

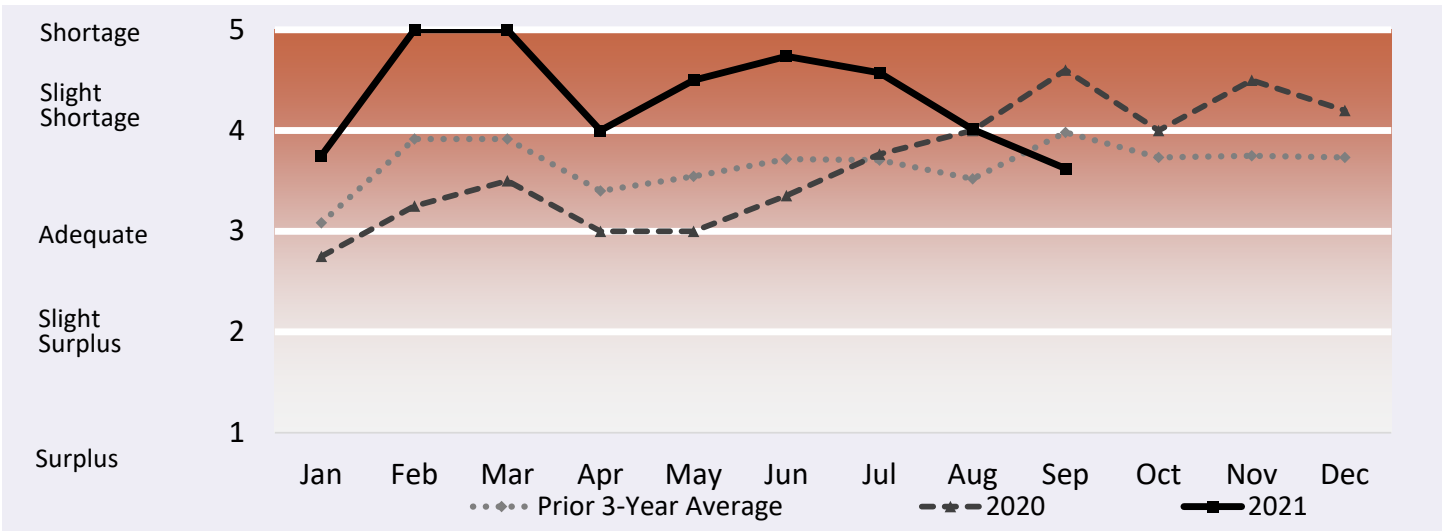
Note: AMS Specialty Crops Program defines regions by commodity, which may overlap in truck availability reporting.



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 3, 2021

Figure 14: Refrigerated Truck Availability Monthly Ratings for Southeast



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



Great Lakes

Volume

Total reported shipments of fruits and vegetables from Great Lakes in third quarter 2021 were 324,000 tons, down 14 percent year to year. The sum of the top five commodities shipped from Great Lakes decreased 13 percent year to year. All the top five commodities decreased year to year: cabbage (down 28 percent), seedless watermelons (down 16 percent), cucumbers (down 12 percent), potatoes (down 11 percent), and bell peppers (down 10 percent).

Rates

The quarterly average truck rate for shipments between 501 miles and 1,500 miles was \$4.31 per mile—up 9 percent quarter to quarter and up 20 percent year to year.

Truck Overview

Diesel fuel prices averaged \$3.27 per gallon—up 4 percent quarter to quarter and up 25 percent year to year. For the whole Great Lakes region, slight truck shortages were reported in July, August, and September. The Michigan region reported slight shortages throughout the quarter. The Central Wisconsin region reported slight shortages in July and August and shortages in September. The Big Lake and Central Wisconsin region reported adequate availability in August and slight shortage in September.

Table 20: Reported Top Five Commodities Shipped from Great Lakes (1,000 tons)

Commodity	3rd Quarter 2021	Share of Great Lakes Total	Previous Quarter	Same Quarter Last Year	Current Quarter as % change from:	
					Previous Qtr	Same Qtr Last Year
Potatoes	141	43%	79	158	77%	-11%
Seedless Watermelons	46	14%	-	55	-	-16%
Cucumbers	29	9%	< 1	33	-	-12%
Bell Peppers	22	7%	-	25	-	-10%
Cabbage	14	4%	1	20	1,033%	-28%
Top 5 Total	252	78%	81	290	213%	-13%
Great Lakes Total	324	100%	105	376	209%	-14%

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

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

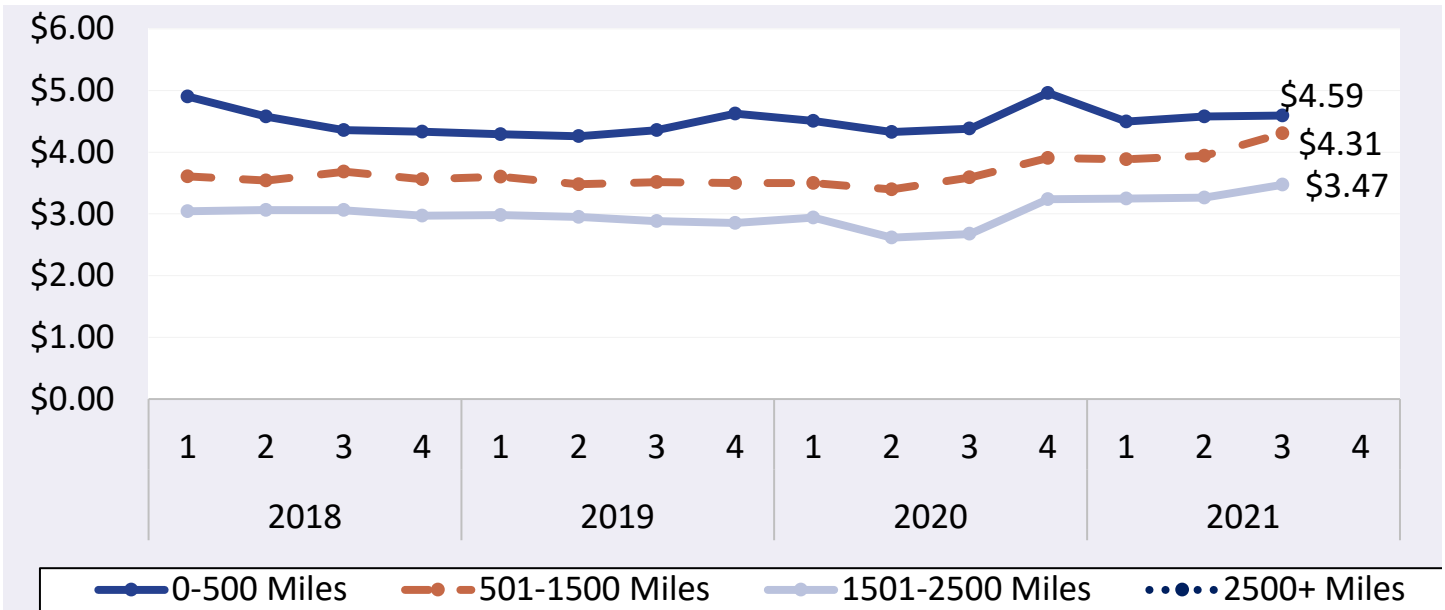
Note: Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 3, 2021

Figure 15: Great Lakes Truck Rates (\$/Mile by Distance Travelled)



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

Table 21: Great Lakes Truck Overview (Availability Rating: 1=Surplus to 5=Shortage)

Region/Reporting District	July	August	September	3rd Quarter
Big Lake And Central Minnesota	-	3.5	4.33	3.92
Central Wisconsin	4	4.10	4.89	4.33
Michigan	4	4	4	4
Regional Average Availability	4	3.87	4.41	4.09
Diesel Fuel Price (\$/gallon)	3.26	3.25	3.30	3.27

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

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

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

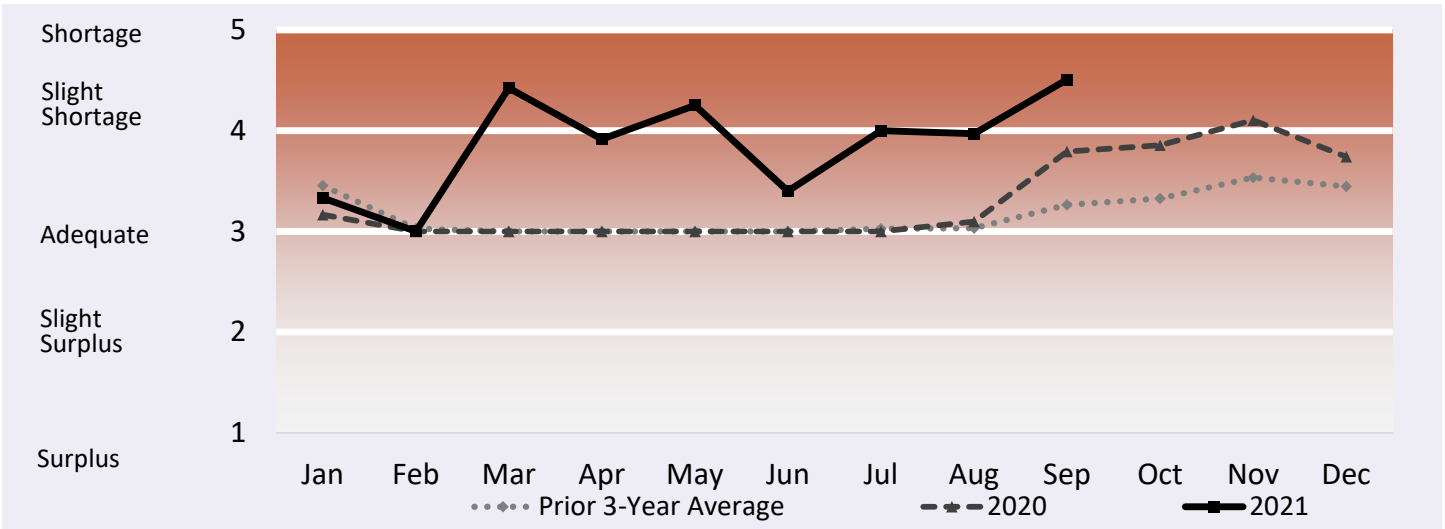
Note: AMS Specialty Crops Program defines regions by commodity, which may overlap in truck availability reporting.



AGRICULTURAL REFRIGERATED TRUCK QUARTERLY

Quarter 3, 2021

Figure 16: Refrigerated Truck Availability Monthly Ratings for Great Lakes



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



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Terms and References

Data Reporting and Publication Window

The publication date of each Agricultural Refrigerated Truck Quarterly (AgRTQ) depends on the timing of data reporting. Reporting of truck shipments in some regions can be delayed 2-3 months past their respective quarter. We publish the AgRTQ one month after that lag in order to capture a more complete picture of truck shipments during the quarter.

Data Sources

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

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

Regional Markets

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

Shipment Volumes

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

Rates

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

Regional Rates

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

National Rates

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



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Related Websites

USDA's Agricultural Transportation Open Data Platform

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

Specialty Crops Program

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

Specialty Crops Truck Rate Report

https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/filerepo/reports?field_slug_id_value=2375

Specialty Crops Movement Reporting

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

Economic Research Service Vegetable and Pulses

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

Economic Research Service Fruit and Tree Nuts

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

National Agricultural Statistics Service, Crops

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

Refrigerated Truck Quarterly Datasets

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

Protecting Perishable Foods During Transport by Truck and Rail

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

Preferred Citation

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service. *Agricultural Refrigerated Truck Quarterly Report*. April 2022 Web. <<https://dx.doi.org/10.9752/TS051.04-2022>>

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