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Agricultural Refrigerated Truck Quarterly

a quarterly publication of the Agricultural Marketing Service

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Fruit and Vegetable Shipments

Total reported third-quarter 2024 U.S. truck shipments of fresh produce were 9.06 million tons—down 17 percent from the previous quarter and down 2 percent from third quarter 2023.

Also, in third quarter 2024, shipments from California were 2.96 million tons—a higher volume than from any other reported origin. Shipments from California accounted for 33 percent of the total reported shipments of fresh fruit and vegetables. Shipments from the next five top regions by volume were as follows: Mexico, 2.11 million tons (23 percent of the total); Pacific Northwest (PNW), 1.38 million tons (15 percent of the total); Canada, 589,000 tons (7 percent of the total); Southeast, 324,000 tons (4 percent of the total); and finally, Great Lakes, 319,000 tons (4 percent of the total).

These top five commodities accounted for 41 percent of reported truck movements in third quarter 2024:

- ► Seedless watermelons (12 percent)
- ► Potatoes (11 percent)
- ► Apples (6 percent)
- ► Dry onions (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 average U.S. truck rates provided below were calculated using weighted regional rates and volumes.

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

	0-500 miles	501-1,500 miles	1,501-2,500 miles	2,501+ miles
Q3 2023	6.46	2.68	2.52	1.32
Q4 2023	5.31	2.54	2.46	1.33
Q1 2024	5.20	2.50	2.25	1.46
Q2 2024	6.44	2.84	2.47	1.61
Q3 2024	6.99	2.58	2.37	1.28
Q3 Change from Previous Quarter	9%	-9%	-4%	-20%
Q3 Change from Same Quarter Last Year	8%	-4%	-6%	-2%

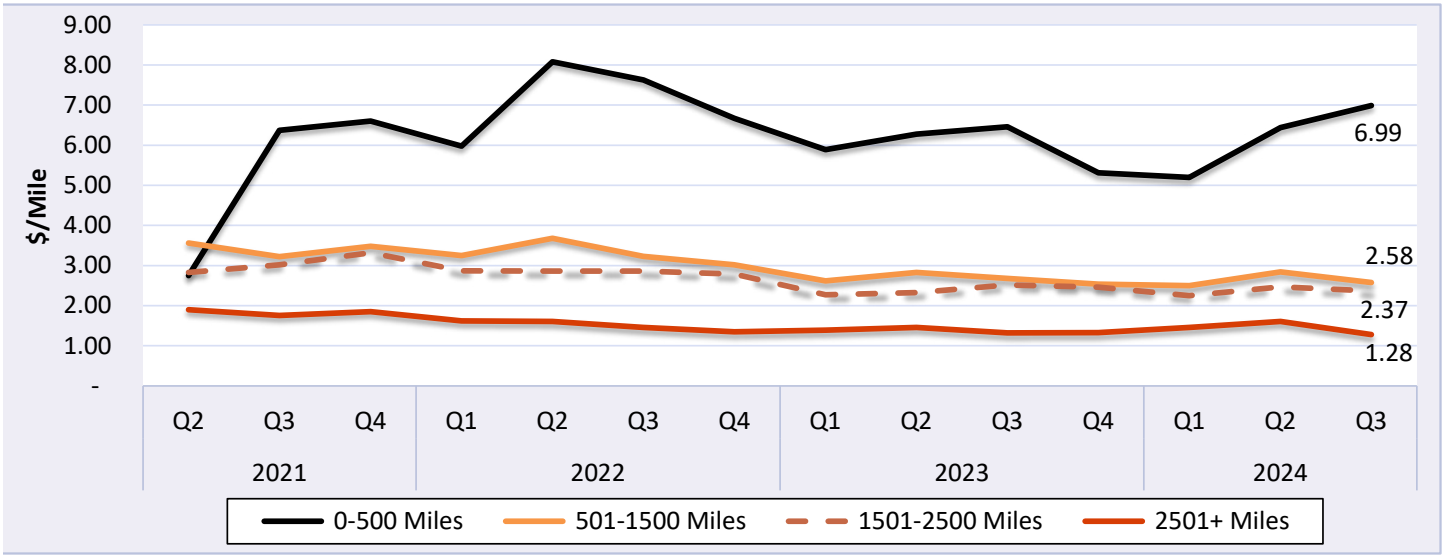
Note: The rates for 8 long-haul fruit and vegetable truck corridors are included in the national rate, weighted by commodity and origin volume. Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.
Source: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Diesel Fuel

During third quarter 2024, the U.S. diesel fuel price averaged $3.69 per gallon—down 4 percent from the previous quarter and down 14 percent from the same quarter in 2023.

U.S. Truck Rates

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



Note: The rates for 8 long-haul fruit and vegetable truck corridors are included in the national rates, weighted by commodity and origin volume.
Source: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

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

	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
2024	2.50	2.84	2.58	
2023	2.62	2.83	2.68	2.54
2022	3.25	3.68	3.23	3.02
2021	2.92	3.56	3.22	3.48
2020	2.57	2.53	2.58	2.94
2019	2.60	2.62	2.48	2.55
2018	2.84	3.01	2.76	2.85
2017	1.85	2.43	2.47	2.57
2016	2.23	2.38	2.44	2.06
2015	2.47	2.66	2.54	2.37
2014	2.21	2.70	2.67	2.50
2013	2.25	2.63	2.65	2.29
2012	2.12	2.57	2.48	2.32

Note: The rates for 8 long-haul fruit and vegetable truck corridors are included in the national rate, weighted by commodity and origin volume. Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.
Source: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

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

	3rd Quarter, 2024			2nd Quarter, 2024		
U.S. Origin	July	August	September	April	May	June
California	3.34	3.42	3.23	2.89	2.88	2.95
Florida	3.13	n/a	n/a	2.69	3.37	2.86
Great Lakes	4.23	4.29	4.29	4.16	4.16	4.16
Mexico-Arizona	2.64	2.68	n/a	2.71	2.79	2.68
Mexico-Texas	2.38	2.17	2.29	2.62	2.68	2.51
New York	3.18	3.18	3.18	3.18	3.18	3.18
Other	3.00	3.00	3.00	2.97	2.97	2.99
PNW	2.72	2.68	2.51	2.81	2.78	2.66
Southeast	3.65	3.00	2.72	n/a	3.57	3.66

Note: "n/a" indicates rates not available.
Source: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Truck Rates for Select Routes

Table 3: Origin-Destination Truck Rates for Select Routes, 3rd Quarter 2024 ($/Mile)

U.S. Origin	Atlanta	Baltimore	Boston	Chicago	Dallas	Los Angeles	Miami	New York	Philadelphia	Seattle
California	2.86	2.83	2.61	2.43	3.12	13.51	2.79	2.67	2.63	2.69
Florida	3.47	3.03	3.20	2.48	n/a	n/a	n/a	3.62	3.31	n/a
Great Lakes	4.42	4.26	4.23	5.80	3.64	n/a	3.60	4.27	n/a	n/a
Mexico-Arizona	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.65	n/a	2.83	n/a	n/a
Mexico-Texas	2.44	2.25	n/a	2.13	3.33	1.77	2.39	n/a	2.51	n/a
Mid-Atlantic	2.85	8.93	4.54	1.86	n/a	n/a	n/a	6.63	7.45	n/a
New York	3.50	n/a	15.59	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.86	15.15	9.35	n/a
Other	3.29	3.20	2.90	3.93	3.05	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
PNW	2.61	2.73	2.54	2.45	2.54	2.64	2.56	2.72	2.57	7.10
Southeast	6.90	3.47	3.24	2.91	2.62	1.74	4.07	3.42	3.49	n/a

Note: "n/a" indicates rates not available.
Source: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Table 4: Origin-Destination Truck Rates for Select Routes, 3rd Quarter 2024 ($/Truck)

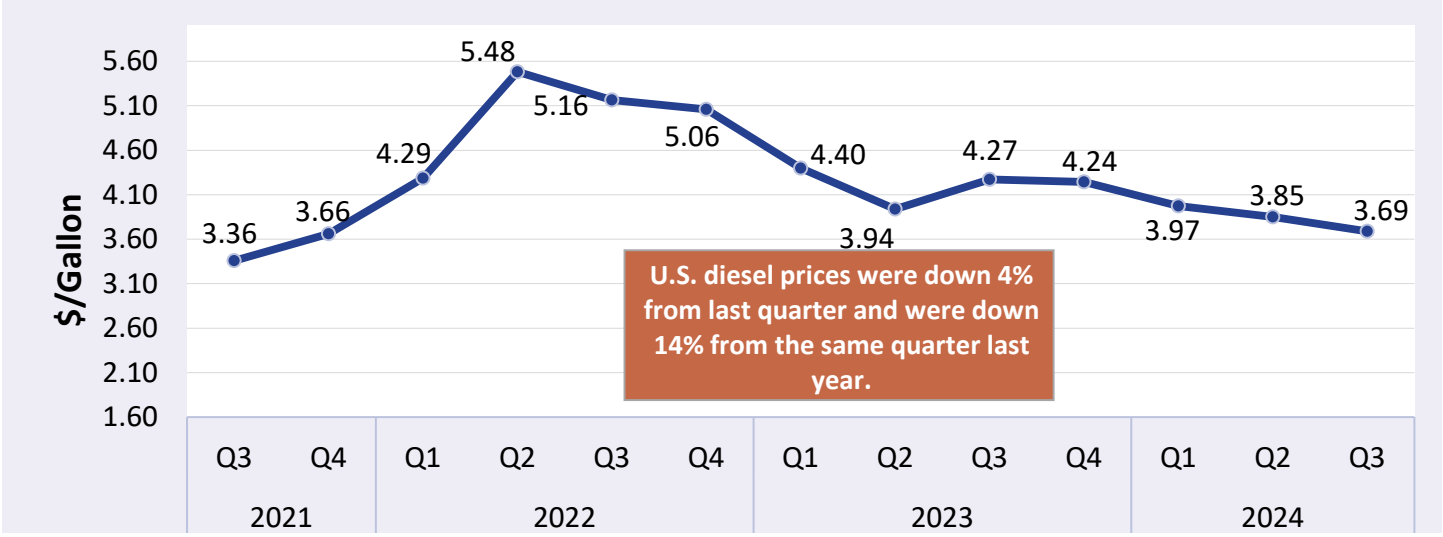
U.S. Origin	Atlanta	Baltimore	Boston	Chicago	Dallas	Los Angeles	Miami	New York	Philadelphia	Seattle
California	6,261	7,751	8,091	5,205	4,756	1,613	7,947	7,681	7,422	3,982
Florida	1,525	2,700	4,100	2,875	n/a	n/a	n/a	3,875	3,275	n/a
Great Lakes	4,200	4,000	4,650	1,450	4,000	n/a	5,838	4,400	n/a	n/a
Mexico-Arizona	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1,486	n/a	7,075	n/a	n/a
Mexico-Texas	2,812	4,035	n/a	3,046	1,665	2,838	3,654	n/a	4,769	n/a
Mid-Atlantic	1,998	893	2,043	1,489	n/a	n/a	n/a	1,525	1,043	n/a
New York	3,500	n/a	2,650	n/a	n/a	n/a	4,150	2,273	2,150	n/a
Other	3,545	5,725	6,225	1,729	2,225	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
PNW	6,085	6,709	7,263	4,422	4,732	2,772	7,679	6,964	6,946	994
Southeast	1,242	2,430	3,567	2,545	2,491	4,092	2,037	3,077	2,788	n/a

Note: "n/a" indicates rates not available.
Source: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

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 Economics Division analysis of Energy Information Administration/U.S. Department of Energy data.

Table 5: Average Diesel Fuel Prices (All Types)

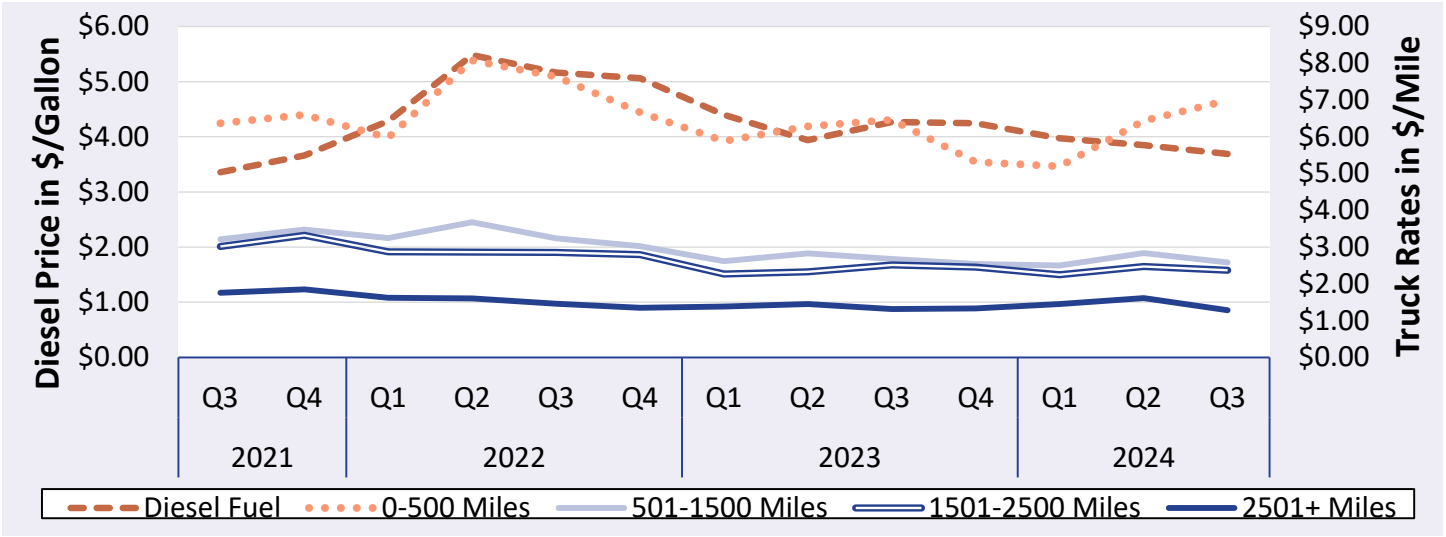
Region	3rd Quarter 2024 Price $/Gallon	Change From Last Quarter	Change From Last Year
East Coast	3.76	-5%	-12%
California	4.8	-6%	-13%
New England	3.99	-5%	-8%
Central Atlantic	3.95	-5%	-11%
Lower Atlantic	3.66	-5%	-13%
Gulf Coast	3.37	-5%	-15%
Midwest	3.65	-3%	-13%
Rocky Mountain	3.67	-3%	-17%
West Coast Except California	3.92	-3%	-17%
U.S.	**3.69**	**-4%**	**-14%**

Note: Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.
Source: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of Energy Information Administration/U.S. Department of Energy data.

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



Note: The rates for 8 long-haul fruit and vegetable truck corridors are included in the national rates, weighted by origin volume.
Sources: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data and Energy Information Administration/U.S. Department of Energy data.

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
2024	Q3	3.69	2.58	-4%	-9%	-14%	-4%
	Q2	3.85	2.84	-3%	14%	-2%	< 1%
	Q1	3.97	2.50	-6%	-2%	-10%	-5%
2023	Q4	4.24	2.54	-1%	-5%	-16%	-16%
	Q3	4.27	2.68	8%	-5%	-17%	-17%
	Q2	3.94	2.83	-10%	8%	-28%	-23%
	Q1	4.4	2.62	-13%	-13%	3%	-19%
2022	Q4	5.06	3.02	-2%	-7%	38%	-13%
	Q3	5.16	3.23	-6%	-12%	54%	1%
	Q2	5.48	3.68	28%	13%	71%	3%
	Q1	4.29	3.25	17%	-7%	48%	11%
2021	Q4	3.66	3.48	9%	8%	48%	18%
	Q3	3.36	3.22	5%	-10%	38%	25%

Note: Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.
Source: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data and Energy Information Administration/U.S. Department of Energy data.

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	7/2	7/9	7/16	7/23	7/30	8/6	8/13	8/20	8/27	9/3	9/10	9/17	9/24
Imperial, Coachella Valleys Ca, Central And Western Az, Mexico Crossings Through Calexico And San Luis	Celery, Sweet Corn, Bell Peppers	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Kern District California	Carrots, Grapes	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Northern California Including San Joaquin Valley	Pears					3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Oxnard District California	Artichokes, Brussels Sprouts, Cabbage, Celery, Cilantro, Kale Greens, Parsley, Radishes, Spinach	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Salinas-Watsonville California	Broccoli, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Endive, Escarole, Kale Greens, Boston Lettuce, Green Leaf Lettuce, Iceberg Lettuce, Red Leaf Lettuce, Romaine Lettuce, Green Onions, Parsley, Spinach	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
San Joaquin Valley California	Grapes, Nectarines, Peaches, Plums						3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Santa Maria California	Broccoli, Cauliflower, Celery, Chinese Cabbage, Cilantro, Kale Greens, Green Leaf Lettuce, Iceberg Lettuce, Red Leaf Lettuce, Romaine Lettuce, Miscellaneous Asian Vegetables, Parsley, Spinach	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
South And Central District California	Lemons, Oranges, Grapefruit	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

Florida	Commodities	7/2	7/9	7/16	7/23	7/30	8/6	8/13	8/20	8/27	9/3	9/10	9/17	9/24
North And West Florida	Tomatoes, Cherry Tomatoes, Grape Tomatoes, Plum Tomatoes, Watermelons	3	3											

Great Lakes (MI & WI)	Commodities	7/2	7/9	7/16	7/23	7/30	8/6	8/13	8/20	8/27	9/3	9/10	9/17	9/24
Central Wisconsin	Potatoes	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

Note: Empty cells were not reported. District and availabilities data come from the weekly Specialty Crops Truck Rate reports: https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/filerepo/reports?field_slug_id_value=2375.
Source: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

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

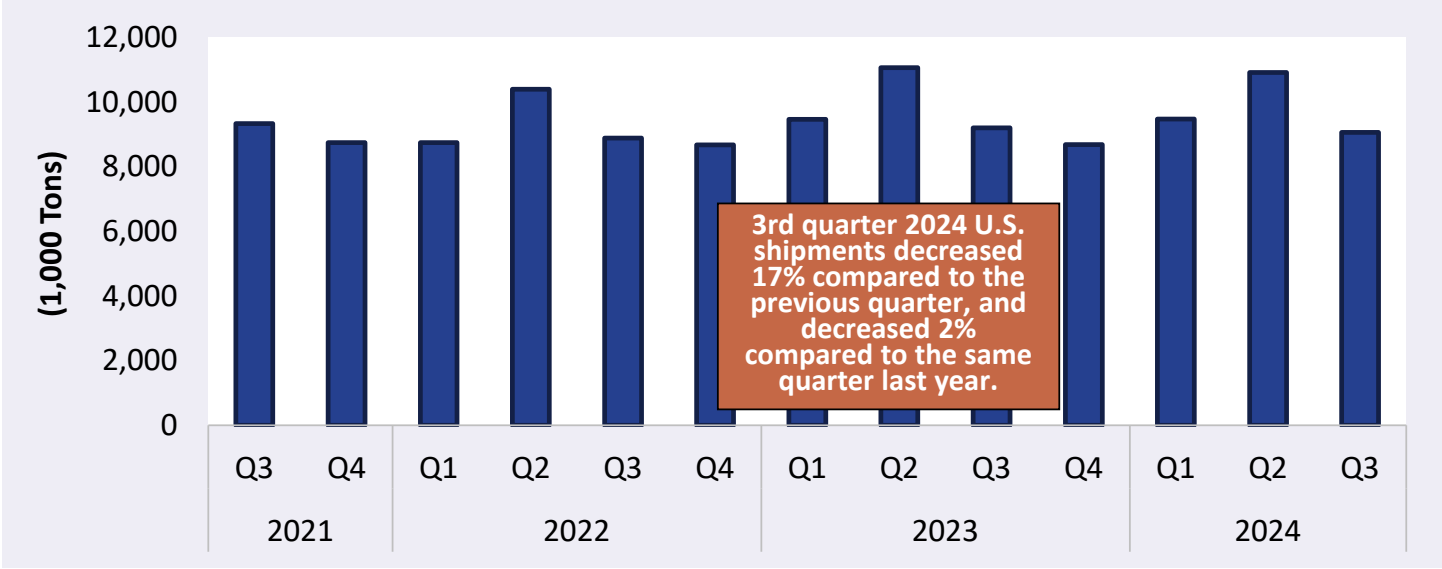
U.S.-Mexico border	Commodities	7/2	7/9	7/16	7/23	7/30	8/6	8/13	8/20	8/27	9/3	9/10	9/17	9/24
Imperial, Coachella Valleys Ca, Central And Western Az, Mexico Crossings Through Calexico And San Luis	Celery, Sweet Corn, Bell Peppers	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Nogales, Arizona	Mangos, Grapes	3	3	3	2	1	3	3						
South Texas	Asparagus, Broccoli, Carrots, Chayote, Cilantro, Cucumbers, Grapefruit, Limes, Oranges, Papaya, Anaheim Peppers, Bell Peppers, Habanero Peppers, Jalapeno Peppers, Poblano Peppers, Serrano Peppers, Pineapples, Tomatillos, Tomatoes, Grape Tomatoes, Plum Tomatoes, Watermelons, Mangos	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Pacific Northwest (ID, OR, &, WA)	Commodities	7/2	7/9	7/16	7/23	7/30	8/6	8/13	8/20	8/27	9/3	9/10	9/17	9/24
Columbia Basin Washington	Dry Onions, Potatoes	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Upper Valley, Twin Falls-Burley District Idaho	Potatoes	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Yakima Valley And Wenatchee District, Washington	Apples, Blueberries, Cherries, Peaches, Pears, Prunes, Rhubarb	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

Note: Empty cells were not reported. District and availabilities data come from the weekly Specialty Crops Truck Rate reports: https://mymarketnews.ams.usda.gov/filerepo/reports?field_slug_id_value=2375.
Source: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Reported U.S. Shipments

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



Source: AMS Transportation Economics 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
2024	9,476	10,921	9,064		29,462
2023	9,473	11,067	9,204	8,684	38,429
2022	8,751	10,404	8,891	8,678	36,724
2021	9,742	11,265	9,334	8,749	39,091
2020	9,749	10,502	8,872	8,677	37,799
2019	9,027	9,983	8,483	8,329	35,822
2018	9,019	10,463	8,581	8,139	36,202
2017	7,706	9,369	8,279	7,873	33,228
2016	7,745	9,562	8,329	7,777	33,413
2015	7,664	9,267	7,994	7,392	32,317
2014	7,300	8,859	7,827	7,249	31,236
2013	6,948	8,821	7,718	7,051	30,537
2012	7,071	8,792	7,703	7,230	30,797
2011	6,474	8,809	7,582	7,076	29,942
2010	6,532	8,739	7,845	7,070	30,187
2009	6,646	8,530	7,653	6,902	29,732
2008	6,654	8,449	7,259	6,568	28,931

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

Reported Shipments by Select Commodities

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

Commodity	3rd Quarter 2024	Previous Quarter	Same Quarter Last Year	Current Quarter as % change from:	
				Previous Qtr	Same Qtr Last Year
Watermelons	1,089	1,307	1,191	-17%	-9%
Potatoes	1,040	1,084	1,002	-4%	4%
Apples	589	608	544	-3%	8%
Onions, Dry	580	602	517	-4%	12%
Grapes	419	219	364	91%	15%
Tomatoes	358	361	398	-1%	-10%
Cucumbers	340	375	320	-9%	6%
Strawberries	336	481	334	-30%	1%
Tomatoes, Plum Type	306	345	269	-11%	14%
Cantaloupes	278	162	260	71%	7%

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

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

Origin	3rd Quarter 2024 Volume	% Change from Last Quarter	% Change From Same Quarter Last Year
California	2958	-10%	-5%
Mexico	2112	-40%	-2%
PNW	1381	10%	9%
Canada	589	67%	4%
Southeast	324	-39%	-18%
Great Lakes	319	93%	-7%
Indiana	241	-	7%
Mid-Atlantic	191	-	0%
Colorado	165	-3%	22%
New York	112	167%	37%

Note: The Regional Markets section of this report excludes Canada, because it lacks rate and availability data. Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding. Any "-" in the table indicates no reported shipments during the quarter or a percentage change with an at- or near-zero denominator.
Source: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Regional Markets

California

Volume

In third quarter 2024, USDA reported total shipments of fruit and vegetables from California were 2.96 million tons—down 5 percent from third quarter 2023 (year to year). The summed volume of the top five commodities shipped from California increased 5 percent year to year. Four of the top five commodities saw year-to-year volume increases, including grapes (up 21 percent); cantaloupes (up 7 percent); and strawberries (up 1 percent). Shipments of romaine lettuce decreased 8 percent and shipments of iceberg lettuce decreased less than 1 percent.

Rates

The quarterly average truck rate for shipments between 501 miles and 1,500 miles was $3.33 per mile—up 15 percent quarter to quarter, but unchanged year to year.

Truck Overview

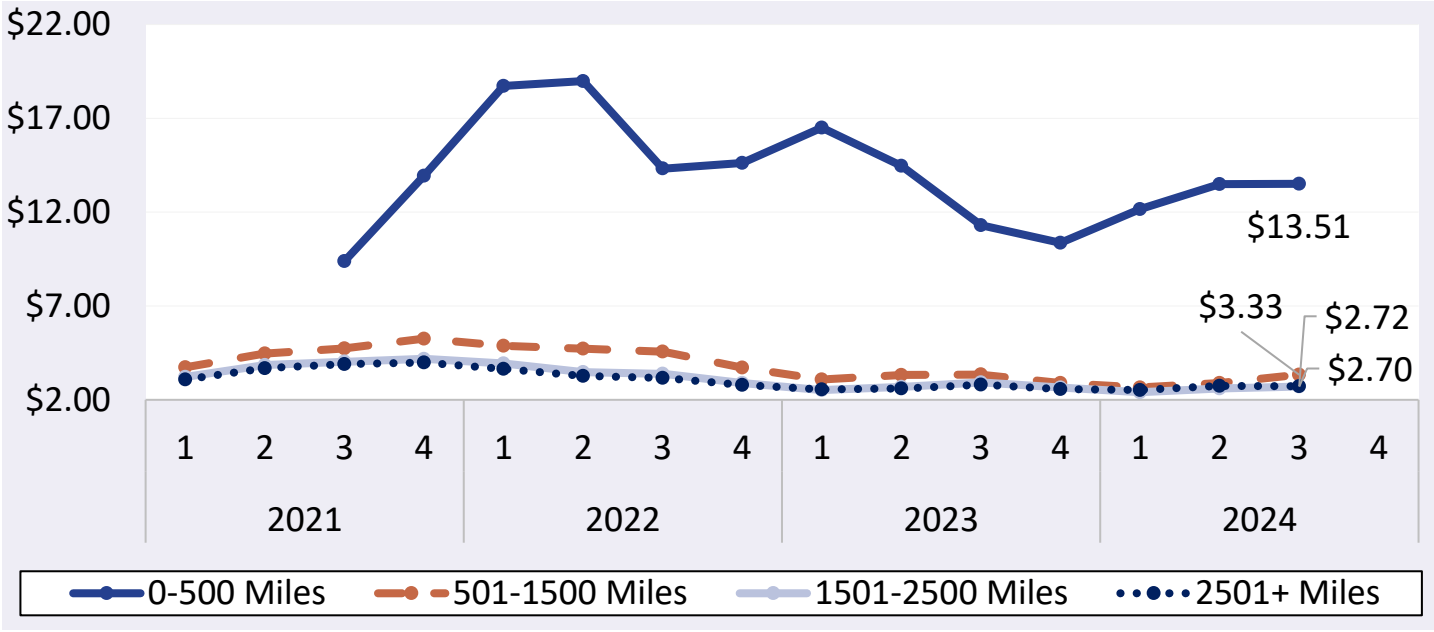
Diesel fuel prices averaged $4.80 per gallon—down 6 percent quarter to quarter and down 13 percent year to year. San Joaquin Valley did not report in July and reported adequate availability in August and September. All other districts reported adequate truck availability throughout the quarter.

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

Commodity	3rd Quarter 2024	Share of California Total	Previous Quarter	Same Quarter Last Year	Current Quarter as % change from:	
					Previous Qtr	Same Qtr Last Year
Grapes	408	14%	16	338	2,465%	21%
Strawberries	332	11%	424	328	-22%	1%
Lettuce, Iceberg	258	9%	233	259	11%	> -1%
Lettuce, Romaine	223	8%	236	243	-6%	-8%
Cantaloupes	217	7%	45	203	383%	7%
Top 5 Total	**1,438**	**49%**	**954**	**1,371**	**51%**	**5%**
California Total	**2,958**	**100%**	**3,286**	**3,098**	**-10%**	**-5%**

Note: Any "-" in the table indicates no reported shipments during the quarter or a percentage change with an at- or near-zero denominator. Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.
Source: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

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



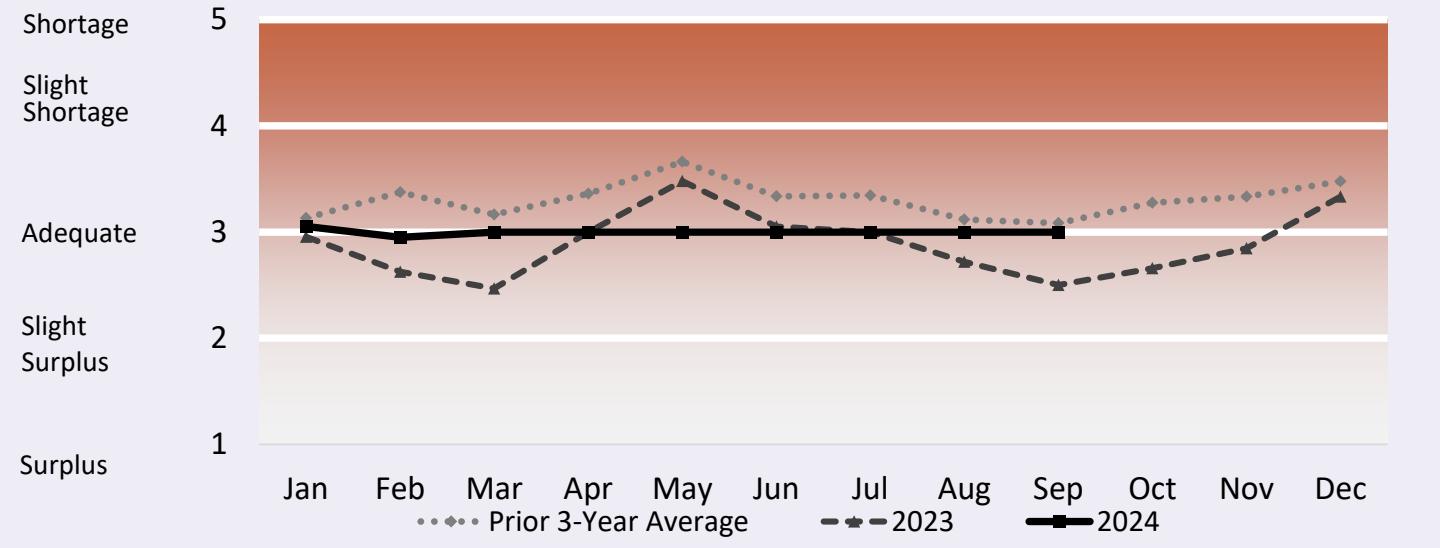
Note: Any gaps in the chart lines are the result of quarters with no reported data for the region.
Source: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

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

Region/Reporting District	July	August	September	3rd Quarter
Kern District California	3	3	3	3
Northern California Including San Joaquin Valley	3	3	3	3
Oxnard District California	3	3	3	3
Salinas-Watsonville California	3	3	3	3
San Joaquin Valley California	-	3	3	3
Santa Maria California	3	3	3	3
South And Central District California	3	3	3	3
Regional Average Availability	3	3	3	3
Diesel Fuel Price ($/gallon)	**4.90**	**4.76**	**4.73**	**4.80**

Note: AMS Specialty Crops Program defines regions by commodity, which may overlap in truck availability reporting. Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding. Any "-" in the table indicates no reported shipments during the quarter.
Source: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Figure 6: Refrigerated Truck Availability Monthly Ratings for California



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

U.S. Mexico Border

Volume

Total reported shipments of fruit and vegetables from Mexico in third quarter 2024 were 2.11 million tons, down 2 percent year to year. The summed volume of the top five commodities shipped from the U.S. Mexico border increased 2 percent year to year. Avocados, for which volumes fell 6 percent year to year, were the only one of the top five commodities to show year-to-year decreases. Shipments of limes were unchanged. Shipments of plum tomatoes, cucumbers, and mangoes showed increases of 11 percent, 2 percent, and 1 percent, respectively.

Rates

In third quarter 2024, truck rates for shipments between 501 miles and 1,500 miles from Arizona-Mexico border crossings averaged $2.65 per mile—down 3 percent quarter to quarter and up 1 percent year to year. Rates for shipments between 501 miles and 1,500 miles from Texas-Mexico border crossings averaged $2.29 per mile—down 12 percent quarter to quarter and down 19 percent year to year.

Truck Overview

Diesel fuel prices for border crossings from Arizona averaged $3.92 per gallon—down 3 percent quarter to quarter and down 17 percent year to year. Diesel fuel prices for border crossings from Texas averaged $3.37—down 5 percent quarter to quarter and down 15 percent year to year. Mexico crossings through Calexico and San Luis reported adequate truck availability throughout the quarter. Mexico crossings through Nogales, AZ, reported adequate truck availability in July and August, and did not report in September. Mexico crossings through South Texas reported a surplus of trucks throughout the quarter.

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

Commodity	3rd Quarter 2024	Share of Mexico Total	Previous Quarter	Same Quarter Last Year	Current Quarter as % change from:	
					Previous Qtr	Same Qtr Last Year
Tomatoes, Plum Type	231	11%	292	208	-21%	11%
Avocados	199	9%	279	211	-29%	-6%
Limes	196	9%	184	195	7%	< 1%
Mangoes	186	9%	169	185	10%	1%
Cucumbers	172	8%	248	168	-31%	2%
Top 5 Total	**984**	**47%**	**1,171**	**967**	**-16%**	**2%**
Mexico Total	**2,112**	**100%**	**3,520**	**2,165**	**-40%**	**-2%**

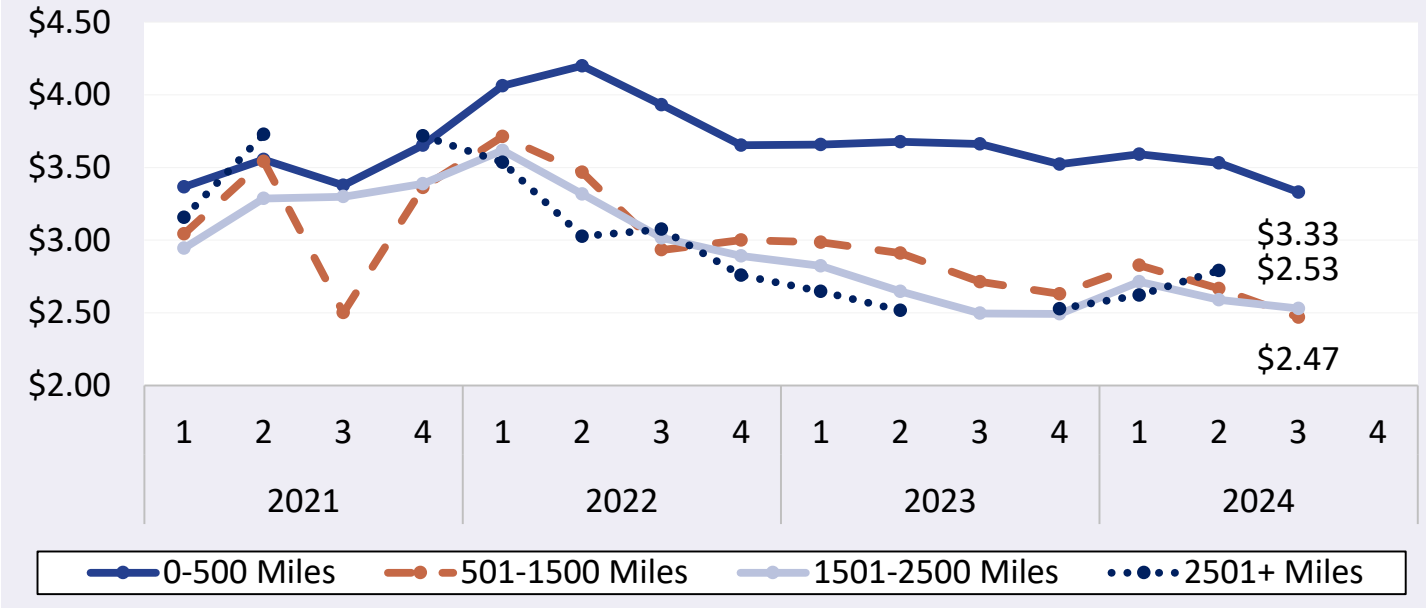
Note: Any "-" in the table indicates no reported shipments during the quarter or a percentage change with an at- or near-zero denominator. Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.
Source: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

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 2024	Commodity	3rd Quarter 2024	Commodity	3rd Quarter 2024	Commodity	3rd Quarter 2024
Avocados	195	Tomatoes, Plum Type	97	Mangoes	68	Peppers, Jalapeno	25
Limes	167	Cucumbers	76	Cucumbers	22	Onions, Dry	17
Tomatoes, Plum Type	123	Onions, Green	39	Tomatoes	21	Peppers, Other	12
Mangoes	118	Tomatoes	28	Watermelons	14	Peppers, Anaheim	10
Tomatoes	92	Limes	27	Peppers, Bell Type	11	Watermelons	9
Mexico through TX Total	**1,387**	**Mexico through CA Total**	**502**	**Mexico through AZ Total**	**222**	**Mexico through NM Total**	**79**

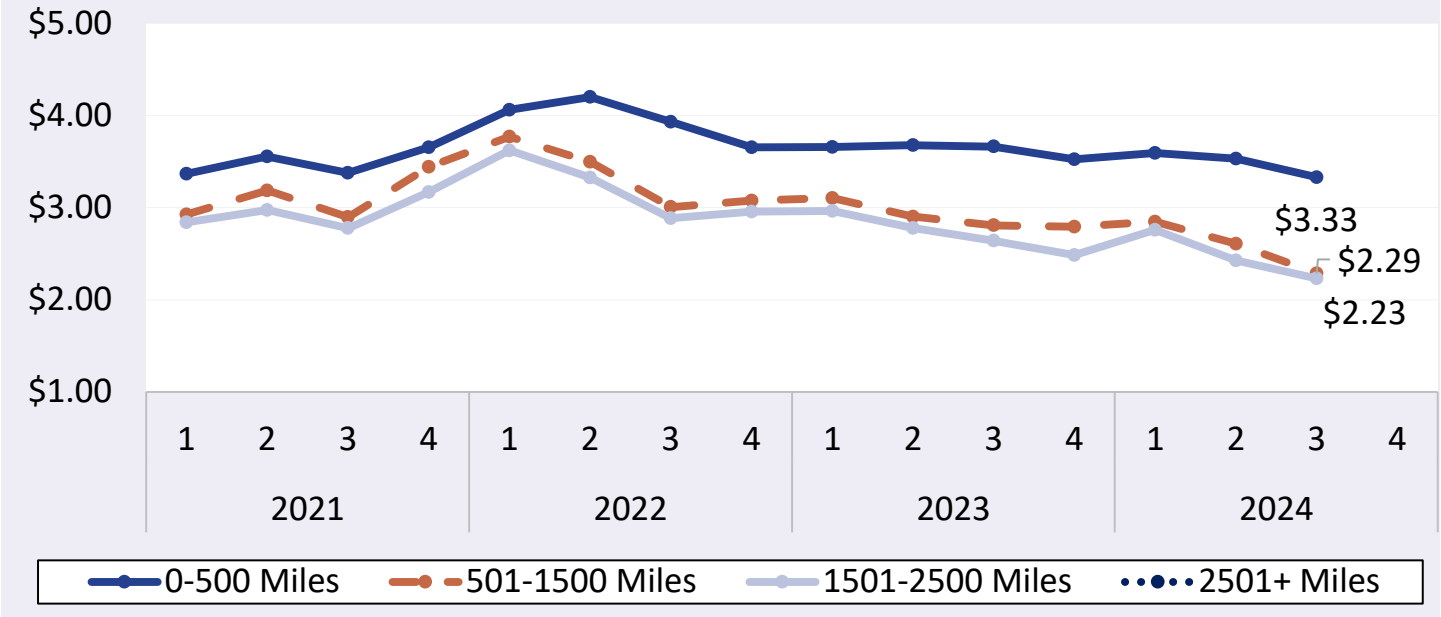
Note: Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding. Any "-" in the table indicates no reported shipments during the quarter.
Source: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

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



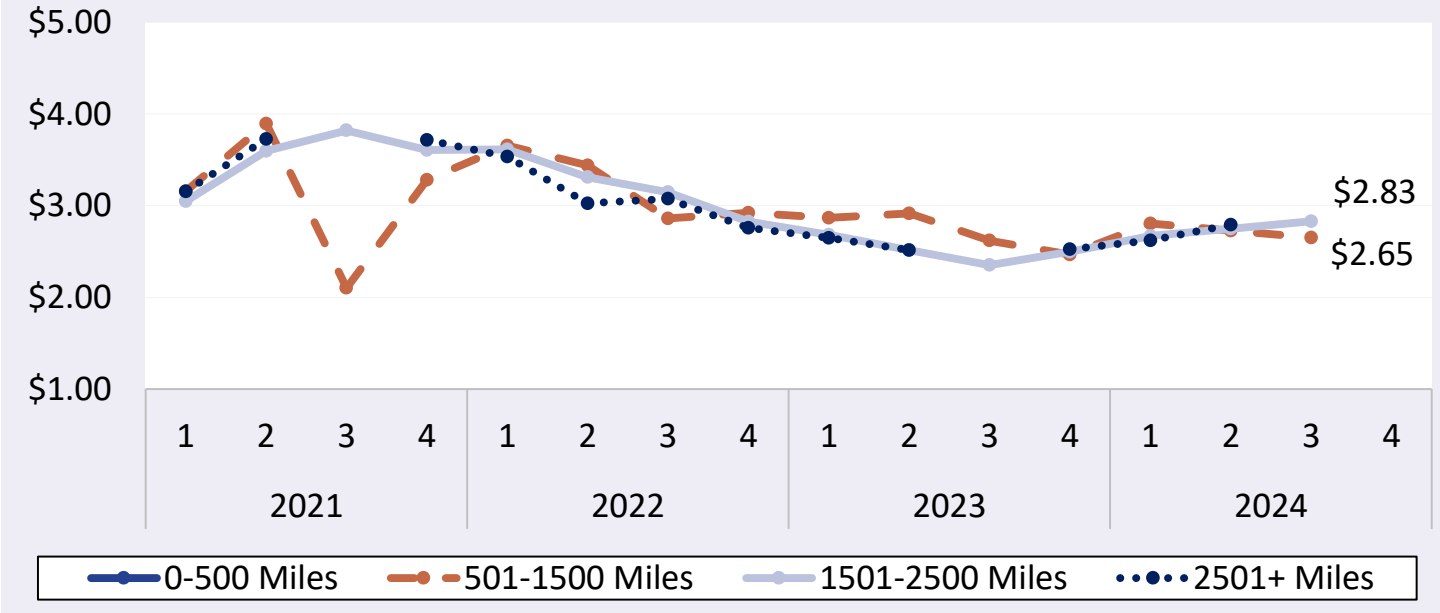
Note: Any gaps in the chart lines are the result of quarters with no reported data for the region.
Source: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

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



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

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



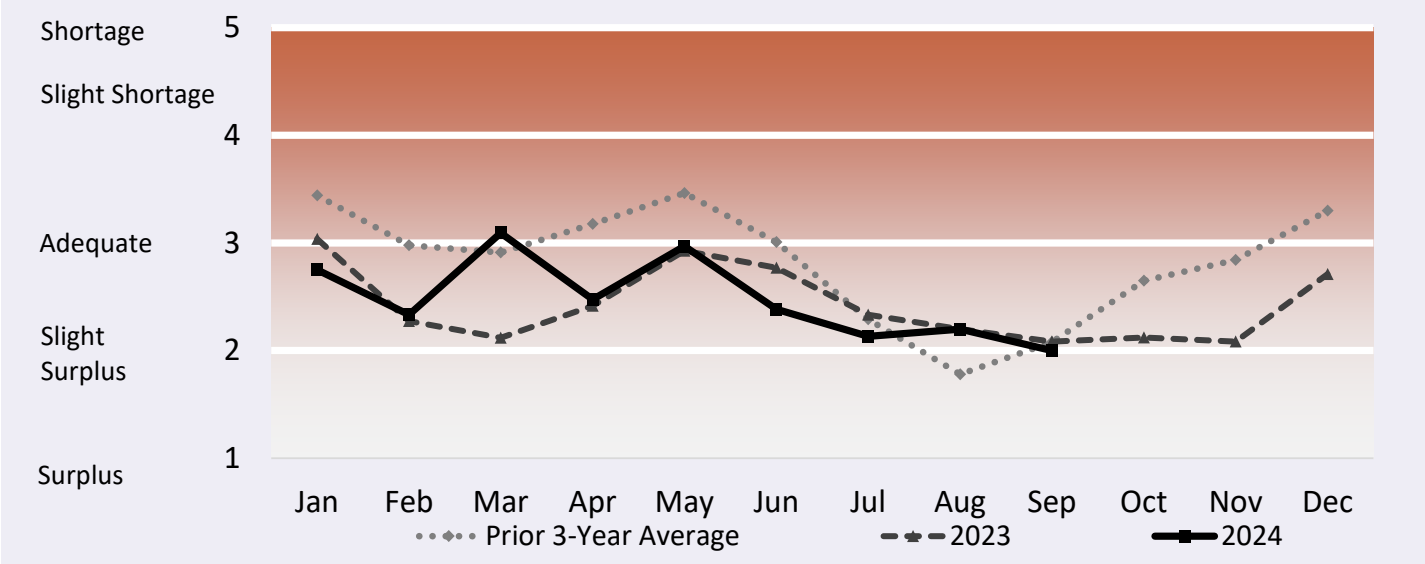
Note: Any gaps in the chart lines are the result of quarters with no reported data for the region.
Source: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Table 15: Truck Overview from the U.S.-Mexico Border (Availability Rating: 1=Surplus to 5=Shortage)

Region/Reporting District	July	August	September	3rd Quarter
Imperial, Coachella Valleys Ca, Central And Western Az, Mexico Crossings Through Calexico And San Luis	3	3	3	3
Mexico Crossings Through Nogales, Arizona	2.57	3	-	2.79
Mexico Crossings Through South Texas	1	1	1	1
Regional Average Availability	2.19	2.33	2	2.17
Diesel Fuel Price ($/gallon), through Texas	**3.53**	**3.37**	**3.21**	**3.37**
Diesel Fuel Price ($/gallon), through Arizona	**4.01**	**3.92**	**3.83**	**3.92**

Note: AMS Specialty Crops Program defines regions by commodity, which may overlap in truck availability reporting. Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding. Any "-" in the table indicates no reported shipments during the quarter.
Source: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

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



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

PNW

Volume

In third quarter 2024, total reported shipments of fruit and vegetables from PNW were 1.38 million tons, up 9 percent year to year. The summed volume of the top five commodities shipped from PNW also increased 11 percent year to year. Four of the top five commodities saw year-to-year volume increases, including blueberries (up 19 percent); potatoes (up 19 percent); apples (up 9 percent); and dry onions (up 6 percent). Shipments of cherries decreased 6 percent.

Rates

The quarterly average truck rate for shipments between 501 miles and 1,500 miles was $2.64 per mile—down 4 percent quarter to quarter, but up 3 percent year to year.

Truck Overview

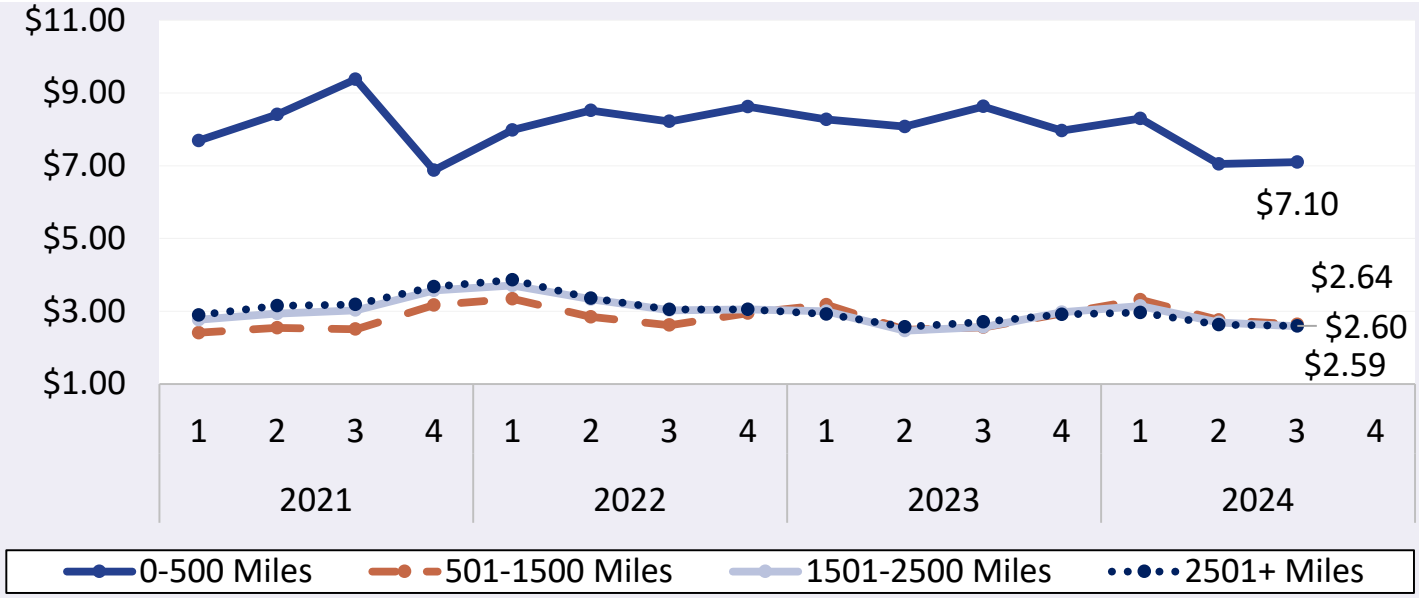
Diesel fuel prices averaged $3.92 per gallon—down 3 percent quarter to quarter and down 17 percent year to year. All districts reported adequate availability throughout the quarter.

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

Commodity	3rd Quarter 2024	Share of PNW Total	Previous Quarter	Same Quarter Last Year	Current Quarter as % change from:	
					Previous Qtr	Same Qtr Last Year
Potatoes	504	36%	503	423	< 1%	19%
Apples	490	36%	499	451	-2%	9%
Onions, Dry	236	17%	135	222	76%	6%
Cherries	82	6%	66	88	25%	-6%
Blueberries	34	2%	1	28	2,458%	19%
Top 5 Total	**1,347**	**98%**	**1,204**	**1,212**	**12%**	**11%**
PNW Total	**1,381**	**100%**	**1,253**	**1,265**	**10%**	**9%**

Note: Any "-" in the table indicates no reported shipments during the quarter or a percentage change with an at- or near-zero denominator. Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.
Source: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

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



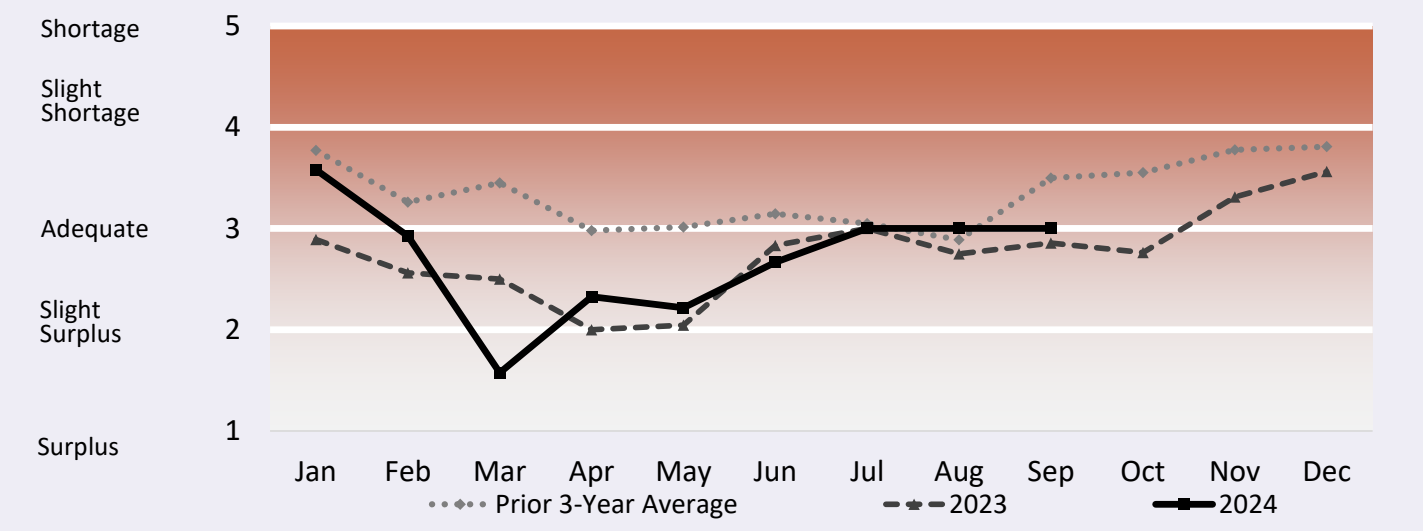
Note: Any gaps in the chart lines are the result of quarters with no reported data for the region.
Source: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

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

Region/Reporting District	July	August	September	3rd Quarter
Columbia Basin Washington	3	3	3	3
Upper Valley, Twin Falls-Burley District Idaho	3	3	3	3
Yakima Valley And Wenatchee District, Washington	3	3	3	3
Regional Average Availability	3	3	3	3
Diesel Fuel Price ($/gallon)	**4.01**	**3.92**	**3.83**	**3.92**

Note: AMS Specialty Crops Program defines regions by commodity, which may overlap in truck availability reporting. Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding. Any "-" in the table indicates no reported shipments during the quarter.
Source: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Figure 12: Refrigerated Truck Availability Monthly Ratings for PNW



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

Southeast

Volume

During third quarter 2024, total reported shipments of fruit and vegetables from the Great Lakes were 324,000 tons—down 18 percent from second quarter 2024. The summed volume of the top five commodities shipped from the Great Lakes also decreased 14 percent year to year. Four of the top five commodities saw year-to-year volume decreases in the third quarter, including bell peppers (down 43 percent); tomatoes (down 42 percent); and watermelons (down 25 percent). Shipments of dry onions increased 122 percent.

Rates

The quarterly average truck rate for shipments between 501 miles and 1,500 miles was $3.22 per mile— down 11 percent quarter to quarter and down 7 percent year to year.

Truck Overview

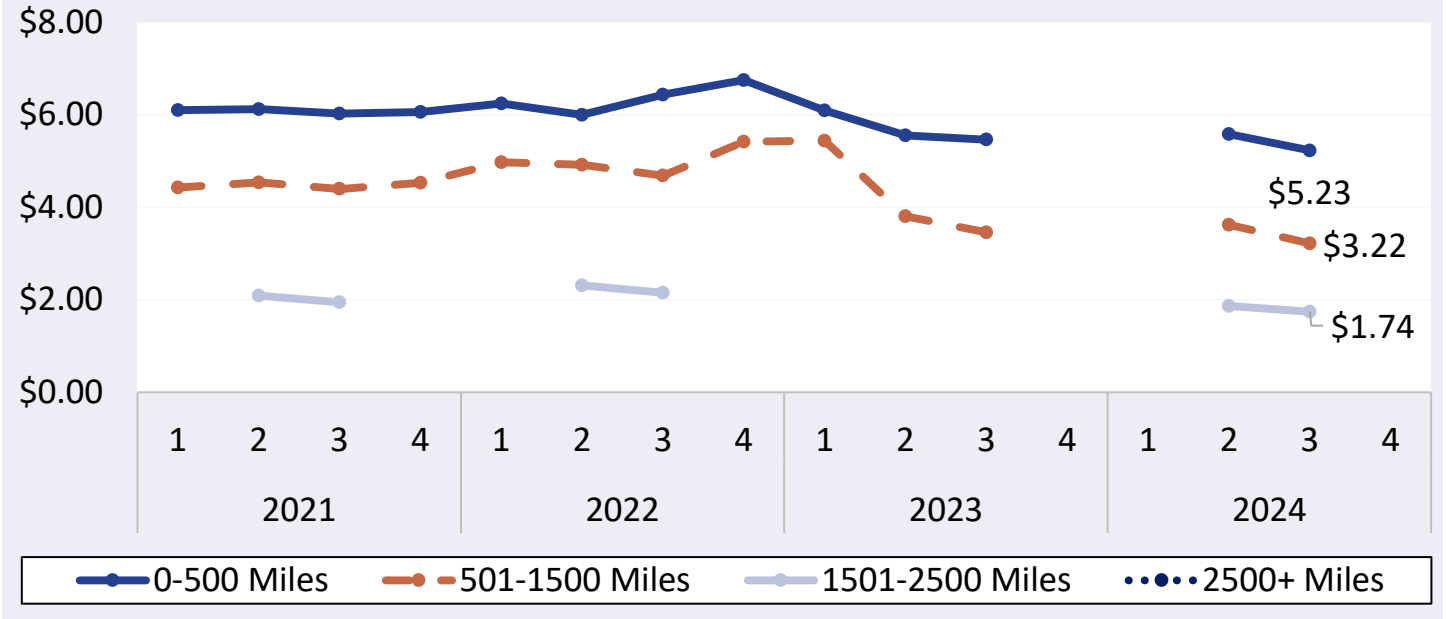
Diesel fuel prices averaged $3.66 per gallon—down 5 percent quarter to quarter and down 13 percent year to year. The South Georgia district reported adequate truck availability in July, and did not report in August or September. The Vidalia district reported adequate truck availability throughout the quarter.

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

Commodity	3rd Quarter 2024	Share of Southeast Total	Previous Quarter	Same Quarter Last Year	Current Quarter as % change from:	
					Previous Qtr	Same Qtr Last Year
Watermelons	201	62%	263	270	-24%	-25%
Onions, Dry	56	17%	69	25	-19%	122%
Sweet Potatoes	27	8%	49	30	-45%	-8%
Tomatoes	5	2%	8	9	-32%	-42%
Peppers, Bell Type	5	2%	7	9	-32%	-43%
Top 5 Total	**295**	**91%**	**397**	**343**	**-26%**	**-14%**
Southeast Total	**324**	**100%**	**529**	**395**	**-39%**	**-18%**

Note: Any "-" in the table indicates no reported shipments during the quarter or a percentage change with an at- or near-zero denominator. Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.
Source: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

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



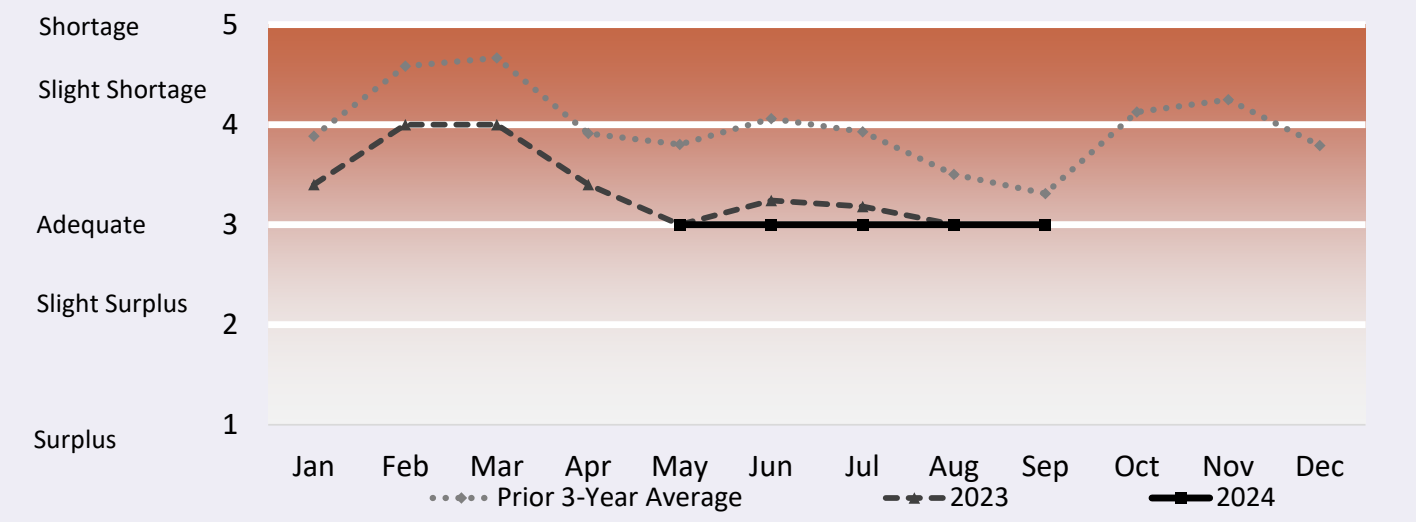
Note: Any gaps in the chart lines are the result of quarters with no reported data for the region.
Source: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

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

Region/Reporting District	July	August	September	3rd Quarter
South Georgia	3	-	-	3
Vidalia District Georgia	3	3	3	3
Regional Average Availability	3	3	3	3
Diesel Fuel Price ($/gallon)	**3.81**	**3.68**	**3.50**	**3.66**

Note: AMS Specialty Crops Program defines regions by commodity, which may overlap in truck availability reporting. Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding. Any "-" in the table indicates no reported shipments during the quarter.
Source: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Figure 14: Refrigerated Truck Availability Monthly Ratings for Southeast



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

Great Lakes

Volume

During third quarter 2024, total reported shipments of fruit and vegetables from the Great Lakes were 319,000 tons—down 7 percent from second quarter 2024. The summed volume of the top five commodities shipped from the Great Lakes also decreased 2 percent year to year. Three of the top five commodities saw year-to-year volume decreases in the third quarter, including cucumbers (down 21 percent); bell peppers (down 16 percent); and potatoes (down 3 percent). Shipments of apples increased 4 percent, and shipments of watermelons increased 10 percent.

Rates

The quarterly average truck rate for shipments between 501 miles and 1,500 miles was $4.27 per mile—up 3 percent quarter to quarter and up 2 percent year to year.

Truck Overview

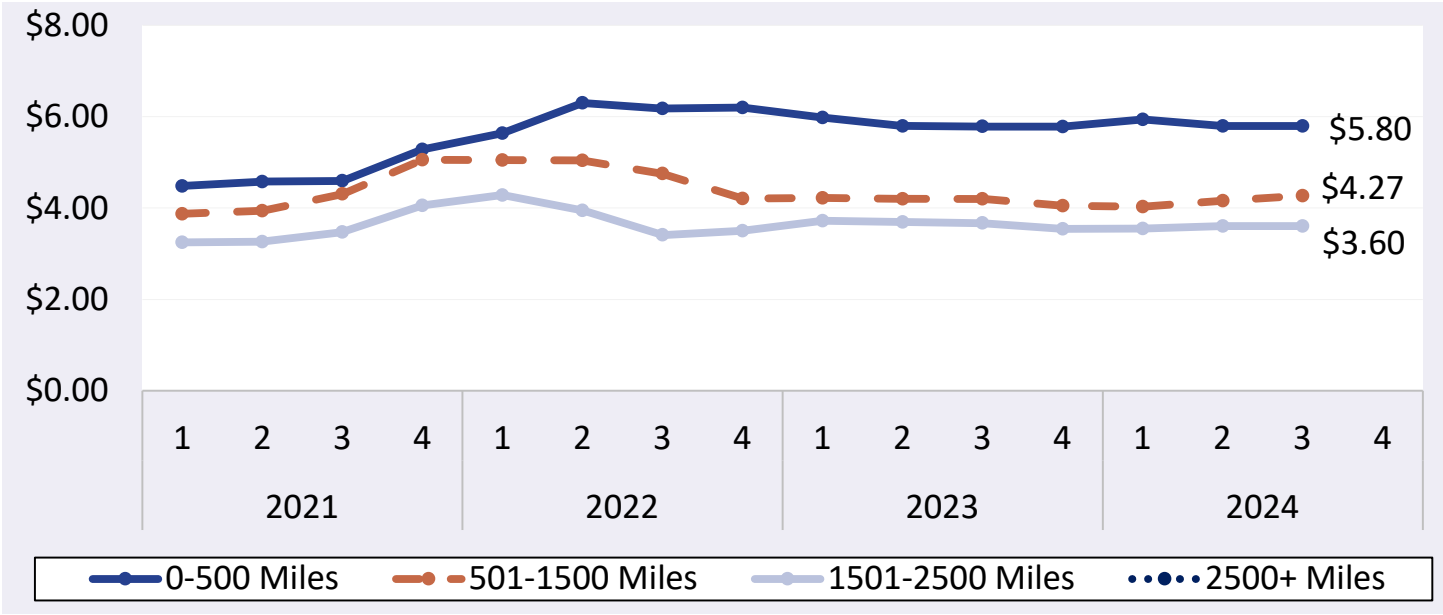
Diesel fuel prices averaged $3.65 per gallon—down 3 percent quarter to quarter and down 13 percent year to year. The Central Wisconsin district reported adequate availability throughout the quarter.

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

Commodity	3rd Quarter 2024	Share of Great Lakes Total	Previous Quarter	Same Quarter Last Year	Current Quarter as % change from:	
					Previous Qtr	Same Qtr Last Year
Potatoes	140	44%	109	144	29%	-3%
Watermelons	62	19%	-	56	-	10%
Apples	36	11%	41	35	-12%	4%
Peppers, Bell Type	19	6%	-	23	-	-16%
Cucumbers	17	5%	< 1	22	-	-21%
Top 5 Total	**275**	**86%**	**150**	**279**	**83%**	**-2%**
Great Lakes Total	**319**	**100%**	**165**	**344**	**93%**	**-7%**

Note: Any "-" in the table indicates no reported shipments during the quarter or a percentage change with an at- or near-zero denominator. Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding.
Source: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

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



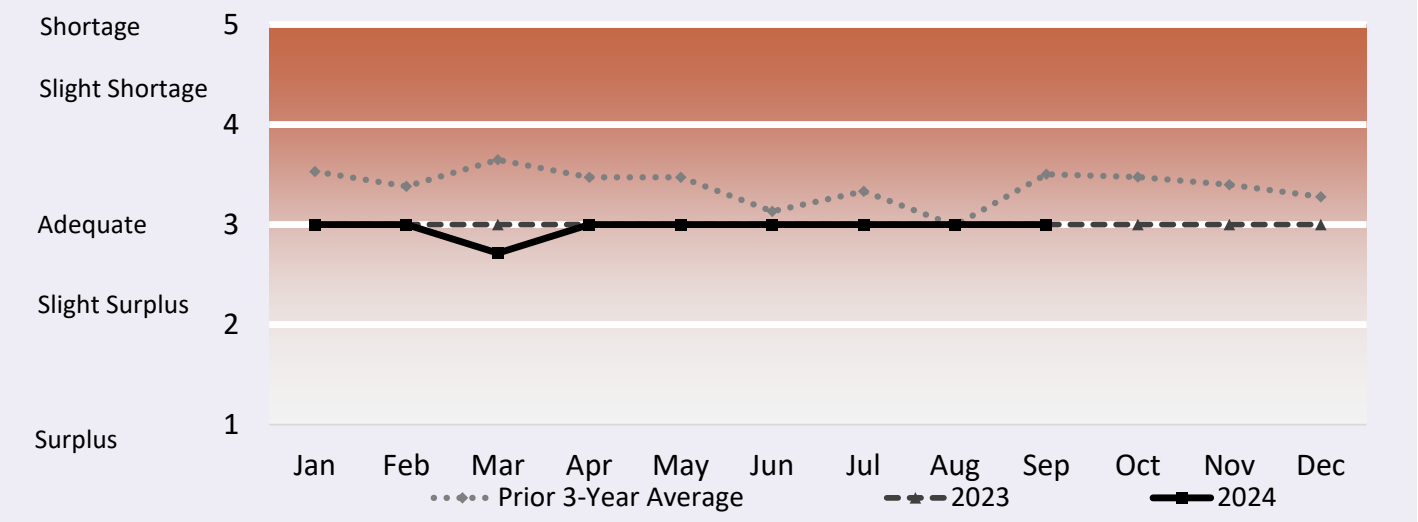
Note: Any gaps in the chart lines are the result of quarters with no reported data for the region.
Source: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

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

Region/Reporting District	July	August	September	3rd Quarter
Central Wisconsin	3	3	3	3
Regional Average Availability	3	3	3	3
Diesel Fuel Price ($/gallon)	**3.75**	**3.68**	**3.53**	**3.65**

Note: AMS Specialty Crops Program defines regions by commodity, which may overlap in truck availability reporting. Table values may not conform exactly due to rounding. Any "-" in the table indicates no reported shipments during the quarter.
Source: AMS Transportation Economics Division analysis of AMS Specialty Crops Program Market News data.

Figure 16: Refrigerated Truck Availability Monthly Ratings for Great Lakes



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

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
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Protecting Perishable Foods During Transport by Truck and Rail
https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/pdffiles/HS/HS132800.pdf

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