

Transportation Information Update*

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AIR TRANSPORTATION

1. JetBlue, United partnership gets go-ahead from U.S. Transportation Department

JetBlue and United Airlines have cleared the U.S. Department of Transportation's review of their planned partnership which allows them to proceed with the implementation, the companies said on July 29, 2025. JetBlue had been seeking partnerships after a federal judge blocked its alliance with American Airlines in 2023. In May 2025, JetBlue and United unveiled a partnership, dubbed "Blue Sky", that would allow travelers to book flights on both carriers' websites, while interchangeably earning and using points in their frequent flyer programs. Under the agreement, JetBlue would also provide United access to slots at the congested JFK International Airport at New York for up to seven daily round-trip flights, set to begin in 2027. The company said that the partnership is expected to contribute \$50 million more in incremental operating profit than it had initially planned.

2. Air Canada expands Landline Luxury Motorcoach Service, Connects Kingston to its Global Network

Air Canada on July 29, 2025 announced the expansion of its multi-modal Landline service that will enable customers at Kingston Norman Rogers Airport to seamlessly connect with its global hub at Toronto Pearson International Airport. The new luxury motorcoach service, with features such as spacious leather seats and fast, free Wi-Fi, will begin operating September 23, 2025 with two return trips daily that are conveniently timed for connections to and from flights across Air Canada's worldwide network.

3. Airport activity approaches pre-pandemic cruising altitude in 2024

In 2024, the number of passengers enplaned and deplaned at Canadian airports increased 4.0% from 2023 to 156.7 million. This was just under the 2019 level (96.2%), prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. Passenger traffic at Canada's four largest airports was up in 2024—Toronto/Lester B. Pearson International (+4.3%), Vancouver International (+3.8%), Montréal/Pierre Elliott Trudeau International (+5.7%), and Calgary International (+2.5%). Nevertheless, this was a marked slowdown from the double-digit increases at these airports in 2023. Airports saw much faster growth in transborder (Canada-United States) and other international passenger numbers than for domestic air travel. Domestic cargo increased 5.9% from 2023 to 802 000 tonnes and international cargo grew 8.2% to 534 000 tonnes, while transborder cargo fell 3.5% to 243 000 tonnes in 2024.

4. Porter Airlines Deploys Digital Winglets For Best-in-Class Fuel Savings, On-time Performance and Schedule

Porter Airlines, the fastest growing airline in Canada, and APiJET, the developer of the leading flight path optimization offering, Digital Winglets™, have announced the deployment of Digital Winglets™ across Porter Airlines' North American fleet of Embraer E195-E2 aircraft. Digital Winglets™ is a flight path optimization (FPO) solution that builds on NASA's Traffic Aware state data solutions, enable air carriers worldwide to make deconflicted, route-

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2. Air Canada expands Landline Luxury Motorcoach Service, Connects Kingston to its Global Network, July 29, 2025, www.aircanada.ca
3. Airport activity approaches pre-pandemic cruising altitude in 2024, July 29, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca
4. Porter Airlines Deploys Digital Winglets For Best-in-Class Fuel Savings, On-time Performance and Schedule, July 30, 2025, www.flyprtr.com
5. June Air Cargo Demand Up 0.8% Despite Trade Disruptions, July 31, 2025, www.iata.org
6. Screened passenger traffic at Canadian airports, June 2025, July 31, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca
7. Porter Airlines continues building Hamilton presence with new Florida flights, July 31, 2025, www.flyporter.com
8. Passenger Growth Slows to 2.6% in June, July 31, 2025, www.iata.org
9. Flair Airlines Ltd. penalized for violations of the APPR July 31, 2025, www.cta-otc.gc.ca
10. IATA Launches 2024 World Air Transport Statistics Report, August 4, 2025, www.iata.org
11. BTS' New OD40 Program Takes Flight, August 1, 2025, www.bts.gov
12. Air Canada flight attendants vote in favour of strike mandate, August 5, 2025, www.financialpost.ca
13. Air Canada Redefines How Members Earn Aeroplan Points and Achieve Aeroplan Elite Status, August 6, 2025, www.aircanada.ca
14. Canada's Airlines and Airports Release Budget 2025 Recommendations, August 6, 2025, www.cacairports.ca
15. Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Unveils Rule to Unleash American Drone Dominance as Part of His Innovation Agenda August 5, 2025, www.dot.gov
16. Air Canada flight attendants to return to bargaining on Friday, union says, August 6, 2025, www.ajot.com
17. U.S. Airlines' June 2025 Aviation Fuel Consumption up 3.0% and Fuel Cost per Gallon up 0.2% from May 2025, August 5, 2025, www.bts.gov
18. Air Canada flight attendants could strike next week. Here's what you need to know, August 8, 2025, www.cbc.ca

* The news indicated from the citations is those of the authors and not of Industry Canada or the CTRF.

state data solutions, enable air carriers worldwide to make deconflicted, route-specific flight optimization decisions to save fuel, improve schedule reliability and on-time performance, and reduce carbon emissions.

5. June Air Cargo Demand Up 0.8% Despite Trade Disruptions

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) released data for June 2025 global air cargo markets showing: 1. Total demand, measured in cargo tonne-kilometers (CTK), rose by 0.8% compared to June 2024 levels (1.6% for international operations). 2. Capacity, measured in available cargo tonne-kilometers (ACTK), increased by 1.7% compared to June 2024 (2.8% for international operations). Willie Walsh, IATA's Director General said "Overall, air cargo demand grew by a modest 0.8% year-on-year in June, but there are very differing stories behind that number for the industry's major players. Trade tensions saw North American traffic fall by 8.3% and European growth stagnate at 0.8%. But Asia-Pacific bucked the trend to report a 9.0% expansion. Meanwhile disruptions from military conflict in the Middle East saw the region's cargo traffic fall by 3.2%."

6. Screened passenger traffic at Canadian airports, June 2025

In June 2025, 5.1 million passengers passed through pre-board security screening at checkpoints operated at Canada's eight largest airports, a 3.4% increase over June 2024 and 5.7% higher than the June 2019 level, before the COVID-19 pandemic. For the fifth consecutive month, transborder passenger traffic (to the United States) decreased year over year, down 4.3% to 1.3 million in June 2025. Moreover, transborder passenger counts were slightly lower (-0.4%) than the pre-pandemic level recorded in June 2019. Calgary International was the only one of the eight largest airports to post higher transborder volumes in June 2025 (+4.3%) compared with the same month a year earlier. Domestic passenger traffic in June was 2.5 million, 6.4% higher than the same month in 2024 and surpassing the pre-pandemic level in June 2019 by 7.6%. The number of passengers screened for other international travel (outside the United States) in June 2025 was 1.4 million, 6.1% higher than the same month in 2024 and 8.5% above the level posted in June 2019.

7. Porter Airlines continues building Hamilton presence with new Florida flights

Porter Airlines continues expanding its network at Hamilton International Airport (YHM) with new routes to Orlando International Airport (MCO) and Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL) beginning in December 2025. Flights to Orlando begin Dec. 12, 2025 and Fort Lauderdale on Dec. 13, 2025 both with three weekly roundtrips. Porter is the only airline offering nonstop flights between these cities, operating seasonally until April 2026. These destinations also mark Porter's first U.S. flights from Hamilton.

8. Passenger Growth Slows to 2.6% in June

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) released data for June 2025 global passenger demand with the following highlights: 1. **Total demand**, measured in revenue passenger kilometers (RPK), was up 2.6% compared to June 2024. Total capacity, measured in available seat kilometers (ASK), was also up 3.4% year-on-year. The June load factor was 84.5% (-0.6 ppt compared to June 2024). 2. **International demand** rose 3.2% compared to June 2024. Capacity was up 4.2% year-on-year, and the load factor was 84.4% (-0.8 ppt compared to June 2024). 3. **Domestic demand** increased 1.6% compared to June 2024. Capacity was up 2.1% year-on-year. The load factor was 84.7% (-0.4 ppt compared to June 2024).

9. Flair Airlines Ltd. penalized for violations of the APPR

The Canadian Transportation Agency (CTA) has issued administrative

19. Walsh welcomes competing Heathrow proposals, August 5, 2025, www.arlines.iata.org
20. Air Canada flight attendants to picket at four Canadian airports, August 11, 2025, www.ajot.com
21. Airline Service Quality Performance Data – May 2025, August 11, 2025, www.bts.gov
22. Air Canada Receives 72-Hour Strike Notice from CUPE and Issues Lockout Notice in Response, August 13, 2025, www.aircanada.ca
23. Air Canada's flight attendants plan to strike from Saturday, August 13, 2025, www.financialpost.ca
24. U.S. Cargo and Passenger Airlines Gained 8,962 Jobs in June 2025, August 12, 2025, www.bts.gov
25. U.S. Transportation Secretary & Acting NASA Administrator Sean P. Duffy Joins President Trump Executive Order Signing to Boost U.S. Space Competitiveness, August 13, 2025, www.dot.gov
26. Air Canada Provides Clarity on its Offer to CUPE, August 14, 2025, www.aircanada.ca
27. May 2025 U.S. Airline Traffic Data Down 2.1% from the Same Month Last Year, August 14, 2025, www.bts.gov
28. Air Canada travellers face chaos, added costs as flight attendant strike grounds hundreds of planes, August 17, 2025, www.nationalpost.ca
29. Air Canada resuming flights after Ottawa forces binding arbitration with flight attendants, August 17, 2025, www.aircanada.ca
30. Air Canada Suspends Plans to Restart Operations after CUPE Defies CIRB Directive to Return to Work, August 17, 2025, www.aircanada.ca
31. Air Canada suspends third quarter and full year 2025 guidance, August 17, 2025, www.aircanada.ca
32. Ottawa-imposed 'airport rent' is driving up cost of plane tickets, think tank finds, August 17, 2025, www.nationalpost.ca
33. CIRB Declares Flight Attendant Strike at Air Canada Unlawful and Orders CUPE Leaders to Direct Flight Attendants Back to Work, August 18, 2025, www.aircanada.ca; Air Canada union says attendants will continue strike, August 18, 2025, www.reuters.com; Labour groups pushing back as Air Canada flight attendants' strike poised to continue, August 18, 2025, www.ctv.ca; Carney 'disappointed' by Air Canada impasse, urges both sides to reach a deal, August 18, 2025, www.ctvnews.ca
34. Air Canada Flight Attendants Union to Disobey Second Back-to-Work Order, August 18, 2025, www.msn.com
35. Air Canada and flight attendants union reach tentative deal to end strike, August 19, 2025, www.financialpost.ca
36. Air Canada to Gradually Resume Service Today after Reaching a Mediated Settlement with its Flight Attendant Union, August 19, 2025, www.aircanada.ca

monetary penalties totalling \$174,000 against Flair Airlines Ltd. for violations of the Air Passenger Protection Regulations (APPR). On or about August 17, 2024, Flair Airlines Ltd., committed 48 violations of subsection 18 (1.1) of the APPR by failing to provide passengers with the option of receiving a confirmed reservation for the next available flight that was operated by any carrier travelling on any reasonable air route from the airport at which passengers were located, or another airport that was within a reasonable distance of that airport, to the destination that was indicated on passengers' original ticket. On or about September 18, 2024, Flair Airlines Ltd., committed 24 violations of subsection 18.2 (2) of the APPR by failing to refund the unused portion of a ticket to passengers within 30 days after the day on which the carrier became obligated to do so. Flair Airlines Ltd., has until August 30, 2025, to request reviews before the Transportation Appeal Tribunal of Canada.

10. IATA Launches 2024 World Air Transport Statistics Report

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has released the latest edition of the World Air Transport Statistics (WATS) with comprehensive statistical data for 2024. Updated annually with data from over 240 international airlines, the WATS database provides a complete overview of airline metrics related to demand, supply, and performance. The report includes a detailed breakdown of scheduled passenger and cargo traffic demand, scheduled passenger and cargo capacity, overview of the global airline fleet, and top airport pairs. The report also provides details on the financial health of the industry with in-depth information on operating costs and revenue, aircraft utilization and number of airline employees.

11. BTS' New OD40 Program Takes Flight

On August 1, 2025, the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) officially launched the Origin-Destination Survey of Airline Passengers (OD40) program. OD40 is a major milestone for the BTS and the aviation industry, as the amount of origin-destination data will increase from a 10 percent sample of tickets collected quarterly from large carriers (OD10) to a 40 percent sample of tickets collected monthly from existing and new reporting carriers (OD40). Data collected includes the fare and itinerary of each sampled ticket. Today, airline carriers can begin submitting data under the expanded OD40 program. This expansion is based on a final rule published in the Federal Register on January 31, 2023, and will provide better data on travel that will inform airport planning and investments as well as other aspects of aviation policy.

12. Air Canada flight attendants vote in favour of strike mandate

Canada's biggest airline could face a strike if a deal not reached by Aug. 16, 2025. Air Canada flight attendants have voted to give their union a strike mandate. The Air Canada component of the Canadian Union of Public Employees says members voted 99.7 per cent in favour. The mandate does not mean that a strike is guaranteed, only that union members support the measure if the bargaining team decides to call for a work stoppage. The vote kicked off July 28 and finished earlier on Tuesday, August 12, 2025 after the airline and union concluded the conciliation process without reaching a deal. The two sides have been in contract talks since the start of the year.

13. Air Canada Redefines How Members Earn Aeroplan Points and Achieve Aeroplan Elite Status

Effective for travel on or after January 1, 2026, Aeroplan members will earn points on eligible Air Canada flights based on dollars spent rather than the distance they travel. On the same date, Air Canada will introduce Status Qualifying Credits (SQC), a new single path for achieving Aeroplan Elite status, that will change how members qualify for status based on their activities from January 1, 2026 onward. Members will be able to get SQC through eligible flight purchases, Aeroplan credit card spending, and activity with the program's travel and everyday partners. These changes are designed to better recognize Aeroplan members who spend more and travel more with Air Canada and who actively engage across the program, while keeping Aeroplan Elite status truly special. It will lead to new structure to earn points faster.

14. Canada's Airlines and Airports Release Budget 2025 Recommendations

37. Airline Baggage Statistics Available, August 18, 2025, www.bts.gov
38. Getting Planes Back in the Skies, Getting Canadians Moving, August 19, 2025, www.aircanada.ca
39. Air Canada won't punish flight attendants over illegal strike, will pay for pre-flight work in new deal: union, August 19, 2025, www.nationalpost.ca; and CUPE sues government to block 'unconstitutional' power used to end flight attendant strike, August 19, 2025, www.nationalpost.ca
40. Quarterly civil aviation statistics, first quarter 2025, August 19, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca
41. Air Canada flight attendants win pay for pre-flight work, August 19, 2025, www.financialpost.ca
42. Air Canada Employees Accelerate the Recovery; Airline Updates Goodwill Policy for Customers to Exceptionally Include Accommodation and Out-of-Pocket Costs, August 21, www.aircanada.ca
43. Air Canada strike will hit earnings, but not for long, say analysts, August 21, 2025, www.financialpost.ca
44. Air travelers face lengthy backlog in resolving complaints through CTA, August 25, 2025, www.financialpost.ca
45. Aircraft movement and civil aviation statistics, June 2025, August 27, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca
46. Porter introduces new Fort McMurray-Ottawa route, August 27, 2025, www.flyporter.com
47. Screened passenger traffic at Canadian airports, July 2025, August 28, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca
48. WestJet announces new interline agreement with Copa Airlines, expanding connectivity across Latin America, August 28, 2025, www.ajot.com
49. Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy, FAA Launch Process to Select Prime Integrator for Brand New Air Traffic Control System, August 28, 2025, www.dot.gov
50. July Air Cargo Up 5.5%, August 29, 2025, www.iata.org

The National Airlines Council of Canada (NACC), representing Canada's largest air carriers (Air Canada, Air Transat, Jazz Aviation LP and WestJet), and the Canadian Airports Council (CAC), the voice of Canada's airports, on August 6, 2025, published their joint submission to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance's pre-budget consultation. NACC and the CAC are calling for the federal government to adopt the following recommendations for inclusion in Budget 2025 to enhance air travel in Canada: 1. Accelerate the adoption of a digitization strategy for air travel in Canada that is in line with digitized travel experience embraced in other countries. 2. Reduce regulatory burden to ensure regulations are modern, aligned with international standards and recommended practices, and leading to lower costs. 3. Include airport infrastructure in federal funding programs, including the National Trade Diversification Fund and Projects of National Significance. 4. Cap crown rent charged to airports at 2024 levels. 5. Reform Airport Zoning Regulations (AZR) and airspace protections, including noise, to address emerging challenges introduced by recent high-density residential developments in proximity to airports.

15. Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Unveils Rule to Unleash American Drone Dominance as Part of His Innovation Agenda

On August 5, 2025, U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy unveiled a new proposed rule – Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS). This rule will unleash American innovation and safely integrate unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) into the national airspace system. The FAA's proposed rule for safely normalizing Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) drone operations includes detailed requirements for operations, aircraft manufacturing, keeping drones safely separated from other aircraft, operational authorizations and responsibility, security, information reporting and record keeping. Previously, operators would have to get individual waivers or exemptions to use their drones without visual line of sight. These were approved on a case-by-case basis, and the process was cumbersome. By eliminating these requirements for BVLOS operations, the proposal will significantly expand the use-case for drone technologies in areas like: manufacturing, farming, energy production, filmmaking, and the movement of products including lifesaving medications.

16. Air Canada flight attendants to return to bargaining on Friday, union says

Air Canada flight attendants are heading back to the bargaining table with the airline on August 8, 2025, after overwhelmingly approving a strike mandate this week that could allow them to walk off the job as early as August 16, their union said on August 6, 2025. The Canadian Union of Public Employees, which represents more than 10,000 flight attendants at the country's largest carrier, would need to give 72 hours' notice before initiating any strike. Both sides have said they prefer resolving flight attendants' demands for higher pay through a negotiated settlement. Air Canada was not immediately available for comment. The Montreal-based carrier has said that there is enough time to reach a settlement and avert a possible strike.

17. U.S. Airlines' June 2025 Aviation Fuel Consumption up 3.0% and Fuel Cost per Gallon up 0.2% from May 2025

The Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) on August 5, 2025 released U.S. airlines' June 2025 fuel cost and consumption numbers indicating U.S. scheduled service airlines used 1.688 billion gallons of fuel, 3.0% more fuel than in May 2025 (1.639 billion gallons) and 0.4% more fuel than in June 2024 (1.682 billion gallons). The cost per gallon of fuel in June 2025 (\$2.22) was up 0.4 cents (0.2%) from May 2025 (\$2.21) and down 32 cents (12.7%) from June 2024 (\$2.54). Total June 2025 fuel expenditure (\$3.74B) was up 3.2% from May 2025 (\$3.63B) and down 12.4% from June 2024 (\$4.27B).

18. Air Canada flight attendants could strike next week. Here's what you need to know

Air Canada flight attendants could walk off the job as early as next week after voting overwhelmingly to approve a strike mandate. Members of the Air Canada component of the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) voted 99.7 per cent in favour of a strike mandate. But a strike isn't set in stone yet, with both parties back at the bargaining table starting August 8, 2025. More than 10,000 Air Canada flight attendants could walk off the job as early as next week if an agreement isn't reached for a new contract between the union and Air Canada.

19. Walsh welcomes competing Heathrow proposals

Director General Willie Walsh said the trade body applauds the government decision to expand Heathrow, but warned that it must not assume the current operator is the best fit for all parties as the plans move forward. "There are clear economic arguments pointing to the benefits of expanding airport capacity in the Southeast of the UK—that includes the UK's only global hub, Heathrow Airport," said Willie Walsh, IATA's Director General. "We applaud the government's decision to support the UK's global aspirations by advancing plans to expand Heathrow. This must not, however, come at any cost or make any assumption that the current operator is best placed to deliver the value that the UK's economy will critically need for growth." Aviation is a critical industrial sector for the UK, contributing \$160 billion to its economy (4.8% of GDP) and employing some 1.6 million people. IATA has welcomed proposals for the future development of London's Heathrow Airport by Heathrow Airport Limited (HAL) and by the Arora Group. HAL estimates its plans would be completed within a decade, including building a third runway at 3500m long which would

create capacity to 756,000 flights and 150 million passengers a year. The airport currently serves 84 million people annually. Arora Group said its Heathrow West plan could have a new operational runway by 2035, while a new terminal would open in phases, in 2036 and 2040.

20. Air Canada flight attendants to picket at four Canadian airports

Air Canada flight attendants plan to picket at four airports on August 11, 2025 to highlight their pay demands in contract negotiations with Canada's largest airline, but its operations will not be affected, the union said. The Canadian Union of Public Employees said in a statement on Sunday, August 10, 2025 that the demonstrations would take place at airports in Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver and Calgary at 1 p.m. ET. Negotiators for the two sides returned to the bargaining table on August 8, 2025 after flight attendants overwhelmingly approved a strike mandate last week that could allow them to walk off the job as early as August 16, 2025. The union said the main issues include making sure the airline's 10,000 flight attendants get paid for all working hours, not just when planes are in motion, and improving "poverty wages that are no longer consistent with the economic reality of 2025."

21. Airline Service Quality Performance Data – May 2025

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) on August 11, 2025 released its Airline Service Quality Performance data compiled for the month of May 2025 for on-time performance, mishandled baggage, mishandled wheelchairs, and scooters. For additional information and interactive charts on transportation's role in aviation, please visit BTS' Aviation Facts and Figures. BTS regularly updates TranStats, with both Marketing Carrier On-Time Performance (Beginning January 2018) and the Reporting Carrier On-Time Performance (1987-present).

22. Air Canada Receives 72-Hour Strike Notice from CUPE and Issues Lockout Notice in Response

Air Canada on August 13, 2025 said that it has issued the statutory 72-hour lockout notice to the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) representing 10,000 flight attendants at Air Canada and Air Canada Rouge after the union provided notice it intends to begin a strike. To provide customers certainty, Air Canada will begin a phased wind down of most of its operations to be completed over the next three days. The airline has also sought government-directed arbitration to resolve the situation. Customers whose flights are cancelled will be notified and can obtain a full refund; Customers without confirmed flights should not go to the airport. Despite eight months of good faith negotiations that included the assistance of federal conciliators, and an offer to enter binding arbitration, Air Canada has been unable to reach a tentative agreement with the union. Air Canada tabled a revised comprehensive proposal to the union on August 11, which sought no concessions in return from its Flight Attendants and provided for a 38 per cent total compensation increase over four years. The offer also addressed the issue of ground pay, improved pensions and benefits, increased crew rest and contained other improvements. In an additional attempt to prevent travel disruption, Air Canada had also offered to CUPE to enter third-party, binding arbitration to settle the outstanding points of discussion. CUPE has responded by issuing a notice to begin a strike as early as August 16.

23. Air Canada's flight attendants plan to strike from Saturday

Air Canada's more than 10,000 flight attendants said they'll strike for three days beginning Saturday, August 16, 2025 after rejecting a sweetened offer from the airline and declining arbitration. Flight attendants have served a 72-hour strike notice after failing to reach a deal, their union said in a statement. Members voted 99.7 per cent in favour of a strike mandate, it added.

24. U.S. Cargo and Passenger Airlines Gained 8,962 Jobs in June 2025

U.S. airline industry (passenger and cargo airlines combined) employment increased to 1,021,493 workers in June 2025, 8,962 (0.89%) more workers than in May 2025 (1,012,531). U.S. scheduled-service passenger airlines employed 551,287 workers in June 2025, or 54% of the industry-wide total. Passenger airlines gained 1,356 employees in June 2025. Delta Air Lines led scheduled passenger carriers, adding 731 employees; Southwest Airlines added 530, and United Air Lines added 378. U.S. cargo airlines employed 465,930 workers in June 2025, or 46% of the industry-wide total. Cargo carriers gained 7,584 employees in June. FedEx, the leading air cargo employer, increased employment by 7,691 jobs.

25. U.S. Transportation Secretary & Acting NASA Administrator Sean P. Duffy Joins President Trump Executive Order Signing to Boost U.S. Space Competitiveness

U.S. Transportation Secretary and Acting NASA Administrator Sean P. Duffy joined President Donald J. Trump on August 13, 2025 at the White House for the historic signing of the Executive Order "Enabling Competition in the Commercial Space Industry." In brief, the Order highlights: The "Enabling Competition in the Commercial Space Industry" EO will help to: 1. Streamline commercial license and permit approvals for United States-based operators. 2. Cut unnecessary red tape to make it easier to build new spaceports in the U.S. 3. Promote new space activities like in-space manufacturing and orbital refuelling. 4. Establish a new position in the Office of the Secretary.

26. Air Canada Provides Clarity on its Offer to CUPE

Air Canada on August 14, 2025 clarified commentary that has been made publicly about its offer to the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) representing 10,000 flight attendants at the airline. Under the proposal, which seeks no

concessions, there is a 38 per cent increase in total compensation over four years and: 1. A new provision for ground pay that is industry leading in Canada. 2. Hourly rates would go as high as \$94 an hour in the first year. 3. Hourly pay would increase by 12-to-16 per cent in the first year. This consists of a combined eight per cent increase in the hourly wage plus another four-to-eight per cent increase through a new ground pay formula in the first year alone. 4. By 2027, senior flight attendants would earn \$87,000 annually on average, and 20 per cent of flight attendants would earn \$90,000 or more a year. 5. There would be significant improvements to health benefits and pension plans, including the legacy Defined Benefit pension plan. Air Canada is the only airline in the country to offer its flight attendants access to a pension that includes a defined benefit component. 6. Meaningful quality of life improvements, including an increase to paid vacation, and measures to address union concerns about rest and work-life balance. This includes changes to crew complement on aircraft to reduce inflight workloads. 7. It will make Air Canada Flight Attendants the best compensated in Canada. Already, cabin crew earn up to \$17 more per hour than their counterparts at the company's largest domestic competitor.

27. May 2025 U.S. Airline Traffic Data Down 2.1% from the Same Month Last Year

U.S. airlines carried 85.2 million systemwide (domestic and international) scheduled service passengers in May 2025, according to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS). When adjusted for seasonality, May enplanements are up 0.5% from April and down 3.5% from the all-time high reached in June 2024. BTS reported 74.2 million domestic passengers and 11 million international passengers on U.S. airlines flights in May 2025, not adjusting for seasonality. U.S. airline traffic reports are filed monthly with BTS.

28. Air Canada travellers face chaos, added costs as flight attendant strike grounds hundreds of planes

Passengers were still scrambling to rebook their flights home on Sunday, as Air Canada cancelled more commutes amid an ongoing labour dispute with the union representing more than 10,000 employees. James Hart and Zahara Virani were visiting Toronto from Calgary for what they thought would be a fun weekend. But they ended up paying \$2,600 to fly with another airline on a later day after their Air Canada flight from Toronto Pearson International Airport got cancelled due to the strike and lockout that began Saturday. Hart said the couple heard late Saturday August 16, 2025 that their Sunday, August 17, 2025 flight home had been cancelled, forcing them to also miss work.

29. Air Canada resuming flights after Ottawa forces binding arbitration with flight attendants

Air Canada says it plans to resume flights August 17, 2025 after the federal government stepped in and ordered binding arbitration to end a flight attendants' strike Saturday, August 17, 2025. The Montreal-based airline says the first flights will resume this evening, but that it will take several days before its operations return to normal. Air Canada says it has been directed by the Canada Industrial Relations Board to resume operations and have flight attendants continue their duties by 2 p.m. ET. The federal government ordered the airline and its flight attendants back to work Saturday, ending a strike and lockout after less than 12 hours. Canada said on Sunday that the CIRB has ordered the terms of the collective agreement between the union and the airline that expired on March 31 be extended until a new agreement is reached. The Canadian Union of Public Employees, which represents the flight attendants, has accused federal Jobs Minister Patty Hajdu of caving to Air Canada's demands.

30. Air Canada Suspends Plans to Restart Operations after CUPE Defies CIRB Directive to Return to Work

Air Canada said it has suspended its plan to resume limited flying by Air Canada and Air Canada Rouge August 17, 2025 after the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) illegally directed its flight attendant members to defy a direction from the Canadian Industrial Relations Board (CIRB) to return to work. The airline will resume flights as of tomorrow evening. All operations of Air Canada and Air Canada Rouge were suspended on August 16, 2025, due to a strike by CUPE. In accordance with the Government of Canada's direction, the CIRB ordered a resumption of our activities and directed our flight attendants to return to work. This order ended both CUPE's strike and the lockout Air Canada had imposed in response. Approximately 240 flights scheduled to operate beginning this afternoon have now been cancelled. Typically, the carriers operate 700 flights a day.

31. Air Canada suspends third quarter and full year 2025 guidance

On August 17, 2025, the Canadian Industrial Relations Board (CIRB) directed Air Canada to resume airline operations and for all Air Canada and Air Canada Rouge flight attendants to resume their duties by 14:00 EDT on August 17, 2025. The CIRB further ordered that the term of the collective agreement between Air Canada and CUPE that expired on March 31, 2025, be extended to include the period beginning on April 1, 2025 and ending on the day on which the new collective agreement between the parties comes into effect. The CIRB also imposed final binding arbitration to resolve the outstanding terms of the collective agreement. The arbitration procedure would be addressed in the coming days and weeks. Later, on August 17, 2025, CUPE illegally directed its flight attendant members to defy the direction from the CIRB to return to work resulting in Air Canada suspending its plan to resume limited flying by Air Canada and Air Canada Rouge. Given the effects of the labour disruption and related impact on operations, Air Canada is suspending its guidance for third quarter and full-year 2025 operating results provided in its July 28, 2025 news release.

32. Ottawa-imposed 'airport rent' is driving up cost of plane tickets, think tank finds

A leading free-market think tank is calling on Ottawa to stop playing landlord to major airports, arguing that exorbitant land rental fees are driving up the cost of domestic air travel. Airports paid a record \$494.8 million in rental fees to Ottawa last year. “Using airports as cash cows instead of treating them as critical infrastructure hurts families, workers, and patients who depend on reliable air service for treatment access,” says Samantha Dages, the communications manager at the Montreal Economic Institute (MEI). This was a 68 per cent increase from 2014. Each airport’s rental fee is calculated based on its gross revenue, topping out at 12 per cent. These costs are passed down to air travellers, making up as much as a third of the airport improvement fee tacked onto the price of their ticket. The average airport improvement fee charged on a Canadian domestic flight is \$38, [according to Westjet](#). This is twice the corresponding Australian fee and four times more than what U.S. air travellers pay on their tickets. Canadian air travellers also pay higher airport security charges and, indirectly, aviation fuel excise taxes than their [Australian and U.S. peers](#).

33. CIRB Declares Flight Attendant Strike at Air Canada Unlawful and Orders CUPE Leaders to Direct Flight Attendants Back to Work – Labour pushes back – Prime Minister urged both sides to reach a deal

Air Canada on August 18, 2025 said the Canada Industrial Relations Board (CIRB) has [declared ongoing strike activity by the company’s 10,000 flight attendants is unlawful](#) and has ordered the leadership of the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) to direct its members to return to work. Following a hearing on August 17, the CIRB declared that CUPE’s strike is unlawful. It ordered the union leadership, which authorized the strike, to immediately tell its members to end the work stoppage. It also directed individual members of the union to cease all unlawful activities and return to work. In its ruling the board declared: 1. The union and its officers are ordered to immediately cease all activities that declare or authorize an unlawful strike of its members and to direct the members of the bargaining unit to resume the performance of their duties; 2. The members of the union’s bargaining unit are directed to resume the performance of their duties immediately and to refrain from engaging in unlawful strike activities; and 3. The union and its officers shall provide written public notice, either through its website or other means, to all members by 12:00 pm EDT on August 18, 2025, that it has revoked its declaration or authorization of strike activities and that all members are required to resume the performance of their duties. Notwithstanding the CIRB order, **Air Canada flight attendants** said they will remain on **strike** and spurn a government return-to-work order, calling it unconstitutional. The group called Jobs Minister Patty Hajdu’s intervention an “unconstitutional attack on workers’ rights” and said Canada’s labour groups were unanimously calling on the federal government to withdraw its intervention. CUPE says it filed a challenge in Federal Court on Sunday against an order by the Canada Industrial Relations Board that said more than 10,000 flight attendants had to return to work as of 2 p.m. ET that afternoon. On Monday afternoon (August 18) Prime Minister Mark Carney said that he’s disappointed that Air Canada and the union representing its flight attendants weren’t able to reach a deal after eight months of negotiations. Carney said he is urging both sides to quickly resolve the situation causing major chaos for travellers. “We are in a situation where literally hundreds of thousands of Canadians and visitors to our country are being disrupted by this action,” he said.

34. Air Canada Flight Attendants Union to Disobey Second Back-to-Work Order

Union leaders for Air Canada’s 10,000 flight attendants face fines and criminal charges after defying a second order from Canada’s federal labor board to end their “unlawful” strike that has prompted the cancellation of about 500,000 customers’ flights. The Canada Industrial Relations Board set a return-to-work deadline of noon Eastern Time on Monday (August 18, 2025) for flight attendants represented by the Canadian Union of Public Employees. But CUPE’s national president, Mark Hancock, said the flight attendants would remain on strike until there is a negotiated settlement.

35. Air Canada and flight attendants union reach tentative deal to end strike

[Air Canada](#) and the union representing its flight attendants have reached a tentative deal to end a strike that began on Saturday morning, August 16, 2025. The airline says it will gradually begin operations today. The two sides met through the night with a federal mediator before reaching a tentative agreement that will be brought to members of the Air Canada component of the [Canadian Union of Public Employees](#). The union also says it must advise that members must “fully co-operate with resumption of operations.”

36. Air Canada to Gradually Resume Service Today after Reaching a Mediated Settlement with its Flight Attendant Union

Air Canada said it will gradually restart its operations on August 19, 2025 after reaching a mediated agreement with the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) through a process overseen by a mutually agreed-to mediator, William Kaplan. Mediation discussions began on the basis that the union commit to have the airline’s 10,000 flight attendants immediately return to work, allowing the airline to resume the operations of Air Canada and Air Canada Rouge, which have been grounded since August 16, 2025. “The suspension of our service is extremely difficult for our customers. We deeply regret and apologize for the impact on them of this labour disruption. Our priority now is to get them moving as quickly as possible. Restarting a major carrier like Air Canada is a complex undertaking. Full restoration

may require a week or more, so we ask for our customers' patience and understanding over the coming days. I assure them that everyone at Air Canada is doing everything possible to enable them to travel soon," said Michael Rousseau, President and Chief Executive Officer of Air Canada.

37. Airline Baggage Statistics Available

The Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) added mishandled baggage, wheelchair and scooters reporting to its TranStats database. Each month, airlines submit multiple data to BTS as required by law. The monthly mishandled baggage, wheelchair and scooter data, which is incorporated into BTS' monthly Airline Service Quality Performance (ASQP) data, the mishandled baggage and wheelchair monthly data is now accessible on TranStats.

38. Getting Planes Back in the Skies, Getting Canadians Moving

With the departures of AC009 from Toronto to Tokyo-Narita, AC556 from Vancouver to Los Angeles and AC489 from Montreal to Toronto, Air Canada resumed operations on August 19, 2025 to get Canadians moving again. The three flights were the first of 155 scheduled for the day as the airline gradually resumes service, beginning with a limited number of international flights this evening. This will gradually increase as the airline restores service in Canada, the U.S. and around the world over the coming days. "We're laser-focused on getting our customers moving again. Restoring global operations will take up to ten days, as aircraft and crew are out of position. Additionally, mandatory maintenance checks are required, as aircraft have been on the ground for more than three days. Regrettably, during this period some flights will be cancelled until the schedule is stabilized, and we'll notify customers well in advance and provide options," said Mark Nasr, Executive Vice President and Chief Operations Officer, at Air Canada. To cover transport expenses an exceptional disruption policy will be implemented.

39. Air Canada won't punish flight attendants over illegal strike, will pay for pre-flight work in new deal: union

Air Canada has agreed not to discipline flight attendants who continued to strike illegally on Monday, August 18, 2025 as part of a tentative agreement that would increase base salaries immediately by at least eight per cent and offer pay for ground work, CUPE says. During a Zoom call with members, leadership of the Air Canada component at the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) said the four-year tentative agreement struck with the airline after a tumultuous strike weekend was a mixed bag. Whereas some of the gains made for flight attendants were "monumental," other aspects of the deal such as wage increases were not what union representatives hoped for, they told hundreds of members during the Tuesday, August 19, 2025 call attended by National Post. "Did we do the best we could? Yes. It is the best (deal)? No, none of us believe it is," CUPE Air Canada Component President Wesley Lesosky said. "Could we have done better? I don't know, because interest arbitration could have ripped it apart," he added about looming binding arbitration that was controversially ordered on the parties by Job Minister Patty Hajdu on Saturday. During the two-hour call, Lesosky explained that almost the entirety of the tentative agreement had been approved by the bargaining team. The only exception was wage increases, which will be put to a 10-day vote to members starting this week. He said that tentative deal included a 12 per cent salary increase for many Air Canada and all Air Canada Rouge flight attendants this year, followed by annual increases of three per cent, 2.5 per cent and 2.75 per cent by 2028. Canada's largest union is suing the federal government to stop it from ever again invoking the controversial legal tool the Liberals used to order striking Air Canada flight attendants back to work.

40. Quarterly civil aviation statistics, first quarter 2025

Operating revenue for the 24 largest Canadian air carriers totalled \$8.3 billion in the first quarter of 2025, down 0.5% compared with the same quarter of 2024. At \$7.2 billion, passenger revenue was the main revenue source for airlines in the first quarter of 2025, while air cargo generated \$569.3 million in revenue. In the 2025 first quarter, these Canadian carriers transported 21.8 million passengers on scheduled and charter services.

41. Air Canada flight attendants win pay for pre-flight work

Air Canada's contract offer to its 10,500 flight attendants includes payment for work done before the plane is in motion, a response to a major complaint by employees of the country's biggest airline. The airline and the union representing cabin crew struck a tentative agreement early Tuesday, August 19, 2025 morning, ending a three-day strike that caused the cancellation of more than 2,000 flights. Union members must still vote on the offer, which includes 60 minutes of pre-flight pay for crew on narrowbody planes and 70 minutes on widebody jets, a union official said by phone. The pay for that work will start at 50 per cent of flight attendants' hourly rate in year one of the contract, rising to 70 per cent by year four, said the official with the [Canadian Union of Public Employees](#).

42. Air Canada Employees Accelerate the Recovery; Airline Updates Goodwill Policy for Customers to Exceptionally Include Accommodation and Out-of-Pocket Costs

Air Canada continues to ramp up its operations and expects to deliver close to its full network schedule by Friday, August 22. On August 21, 2025, the airline updated its goodwill policy to cover reasonable additional accommodation and out-of-pocket expenses incurred by customers as a result of the labour disruption at the airline. The updated, exceptional policy applies to customers whose original travel was disrupted between August 15 and 23, 2025 inclusive and builds on the flexible rebooking policy implemented earlier to cover transport costs.

43. Air Canada strike will hit earnings, but not for long, say analysts

[Air Canada](#) flights partially resumed Tuesday, August 19, 2025 afternoon following a multi-day strike that left thousands of customers grounded, but the true impact to the company's stock might still be up in the air. The [Canadian Union of Public Employees \(CUPE\)](#), the union representing Air Canada's flight attendants, said the company had failed to address key issues, such as low wages and unpaid work, and the two parties had been in a months' long labour dispute over the renegotiation of contracts for months. About 10,000 flight attendants went on strike August 16, 2025 morning, while Air Canada estimated about 500,000 customers' flights were cancelled. While a tentative deal was reached on Tuesday, ensuring ground pay for workers and allowing about 53 per cent of flights to take off, Canada's flag carrier said it could take up to seven to 10 days before operations fully resume as normal. The company's stock was trading at just above \$19 on Thursday, August 21, 2025 at 1 p.m. Here's what analysts are saying about the strike's repercussions to Air Canada's stock.

44. Air travelers face lengthy backlog in resolving complaints through CTA

[Air Canada](#) customers looking to lodge a complaint with the regulator over their experience during the flight attendants' strike should prepare for a wait. The [Canadian Transportation Agency](#) says its backlog of air travel complaints stood at about 85,000 as of Aug. 14, 2025 two days before the strike started. The backlog has been growing since the federal government passed rules that came into force in 2019 that set compensation amounts for flight delays, cancellations and the like. The CTA says it put in a new system in 2023 to ramp up its capacity to deal with complaints, but the number of gripes being submitted has also swelled. The agency received more than 42,000 complaints a year in the past three years, up from around 12,000 in the fiscal 2021-22 year. It says that in the 2024-25 fiscal year, it closed more than 33,600 complaints, a sharp increase from previous years, but not enough to reduce the growing backlog.

45. Aircraft movement and civil aviation statistics, June 2025

Major Canadian airlines flew 7.5 million passengers on scheduled and charter services in June 2025, up 0.7% from June 2024. Aircraft movements at Canada's major and select small airports totalled 563,211 in June 2025, up 8.2% from one year earlier. Year over year, itinerant movements were up 6.2%, while local movements rose 13.1%.

46. Porter introduces new Fort McMurray-Ottawa route

Porter Airlines is introducing new service between Ottawa International Airport and Fort McMurray International Airport. Porter is the only airline offering nonstop service between the two destinations. The year-round service takes off November 17, 2025, with three weekly nonstop roundtrip flights. The new route also connects Fort McMurray to Porter's extensive Eastern Canada network through Ottawa, including St. John's, Halifax, Moncton and Toronto.

Screened passenger traffic at Canadian airports, July 2025

In July 2025, 5.8 million passengers were recorded passing through pre-board security screening at checkpoints operated at Canada's eight largest airports, a 3.6% increase over July 2024, and 7.8% higher than the pre-COVID-19 pandemic level from July 2019. In July 2025, 1.6 million passengers were screened for international flights (outside the United States), up 9.4% year over year. Moreover, international traffic was significantly higher (+12.3%) than the pre-pandemic level recorded in July 2019. Conversely, in July 2025, transborder passenger traffic (to the United States) decreased year over year for the sixth consecutive month, down 7.8% to 1.5 million, albeit on par (+0.5%) with the pre-pandemic level in July 2019. Domestic passenger traffic was 2.8 million in July 2025, 7.3% higher than in July 2024 and surpassing (+9.4%) the passenger counts recorded in July 2019.

WestJet announces new interline agreement with Copa Airlines, expanding connectivity across Latin America

WestJet on August 28, 2025 announced a new interline partnership agreement with Copa Airlines, significantly enhancing connectivity across both carriers' networks. The agreement allows WestJet guests to seamlessly travel beyond its newly announced destination, Panama City, with access to 37 Copa Airlines destinations across Central and South America. Additionally, Copa guests travelling north will gain access to WestJet's extensive North American network. "Building on the announcement of our new direct service from Calgary to Panama City, this new interline partnership agreement will increase access to destinations across Central and South America for Canadian travellers," said John Weatherill, WestJet Executive Vice-President and Chief Commercial Officer. "We remain focused on connecting guests to the world's most popular sun and leisure destinations this winter, while also meeting the needs of business travellers by continuing to provide convenient access to some of South America's largest markets." WestJet announced its new service between Calgary and Panama City beginning December 13, 2025, operating four times weekly this winter. This new route between WestJet's global hub in Calgary and Copa Airlines' hub in Panama City provides new opportunities for business and leisure guests to visit more of the Americas.

Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy, FAA Launch Process to Select Prime Integrator for Brand New Air Traffic Control System

U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy August 28, 2025 announced the next step in the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) process to identify a Prime Integrator to manage the building of a brand new air traffic control system. All interested parties may provide proposals through a [Request for Solutions \(RFS\)](#) by Sept. 21,

2025. To meet the ambitious goal of implementing a new system within 3-4 years, the DOT and FAA have expedited the procurement process and crafted an innovative, first of its kind federal procurement contract that will incentivize results and holds the integrator accountable for any missed deadlines.

July Air Cargo Up 5.5%

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) released data for July 2025 global air cargo markets showing: 1. Total demand, measured in cargo tonne-kilometers (CTK), rose by 5.5% compared to July 2024 levels (+6.0% for international operations). 2. Capacity, measured in available cargo tonne-kilometers (ACTK), increased by 3.9% compared to July 2024 (+4.5% for international operations). Willie Walsh, IATA's Director General said "Air cargo demand grew 5.5% in July, a strong result. Most major trade lanes reported growth, with one significant exception: Asia-North America, where demand was down 1.0% year-on-year. A sharp decline in e-commerce, as the US de minimis exemptions on small shipments expired, was likely offset by shippers frontloading goods in advance of rising tariffs for imports to the US. August will likely reveal more clearly the impact of shifting US trade policies. While much attention is rightly being focused on developments in markets connected to the US, it is important to keep a broad perspective on the global network. A fifth of air cargo travels on the Europe-Asia trade lane, which marked 29 months of consecutive expansion with 13.5% year-on-year growth in July."

WATER TRANSPORTATION

1. Bahamas Maritime Authority cites partnerships with China and Greece

The Bahamas Maritime Authority has been gaining ground as a maritime registry by marketing itself internationally, including with Greek shipowners, while developing a growing relationship with China. On its website, the Bahamas Maritime Authority (BMA) cites its relationship with China as one of the key advantages for shipowners to fly the Bahamas flag enhanced by a 28% discount on Chinese port charges: "Bahamas and the People's Republic of China (PRC) share a reciprocal maritime transport agreement, first signed in 2003, to strengthen their cooperation across the shipping sector. The agreement was developed to reinforce and enhance the relationship between the two governments." BMA says that in 2025, "The Bahamas registry is the world's 4th largest flag by the commercial value of fleet."

2. Hutchison confirms Chinese investor interest in BlackRock-TiL ports sale

CK Hutchison is in talks with a "major strategic investor from China" to join the BlackRock-Terminal Investment Limited (TiL) consortium in their planned \$23 billion purchase of Hutchison's non-China terminals, the Hong Kong conglomerate confirmed on July 28, 2025. Hutchison, whose businesses include ports, telecoms, real estate and retail, did not provide details on the Chinese investor, although it is widely thought to be Cosco Shipping Holdings. Cosco's potential involvement follows speculation the Chinese government was pushing for a Chinese shipping group to join the BlackRock-TiL group as a condition of Beijing giving regulatory approval to the deal, announced in March.

3. Georgia Ports container trade up 8.6 percent in fiscal year 2025

The Georgia Ports Authority moved 5.7 million twenty-foot equivalent container units in fiscal year 2025 (July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025), an increase of 8.6 percent or 450,000 TEUs compared to the previous fiscal year. FY2025 was the Port of Savannah's second busiest year on record, and the rate of growth shows continuing strength in Georgia's logistics trajectory. In the pandemic year of FY2022, GPA handled 5.76 million TEUs. "On behalf of the entire state, I want to congratulate the incredible team at the Georgia Ports Authority on another great year," said Governor Brian Kemp. "Our ports drive economic opportunity in communities all across Georgia, and I'm confident in this team's ability to continue delivering results for the No. 1 state for business." "Georgia Ports continues to grow U.S. East Coast market share and with the shifting trade patterns in Asia and India, that bodes well for

WATER TRANSPORTATION

1. Bahamas Maritime Authority cites partnerships with China and Greece, July 29, 2025, www.ajot.com
2. Hutchison confirms Chinese investor interest in BlackRock-TiL ports sale, July 28, 2025, www.joc.com
3. Georgia Ports container trade up 8.6 percent in fiscal year 2025, July 29, 2025, www.ajot.com
4. Big US ports ask Congress to follow law for equal funding of dredging work, August 1, 2025, www.joc.com
5. Port of NY & NJ is the second-busiest U.S. port for loaded containers in the first half of 2025, August 4, 2025, www.ajot.com
6. Canada eyes Arctic Ocean port to ship gas, commodities to Europe, August 7, 2025, www.financialpost.ca
7. Update on construction timeline for the Port of Montreal Contrecoeur expansion project, August 7, 2025, www.ajot.com
8. Maersk boosts profit outlook as container demand defies trade fears, August 7, 2025, www.ajot.com
9. Savannah containers post best FY since pandemic, August 7, 2025, www.freightwaves.com
10. Port of Long Beach achieves busiest July on record, August 8, 2025, www.ajot.com
11. US retailers project big year-over-year import declines to close out 2025, August 8, 2025, www.joc.com
12. Transport Canada ensuring safety on the water by restricting vessel traffic on the St. Clair River on August 17, 2025, August 12, 2025, www.tc.gc.ca
13. U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces \$175 Million to Build and Improve Ferry Boat Service, August 12, 2025, www.dot.gov
14. Port Authority of NY & NJ breaks ground on expanded truck parking plaza at JFK to improve cargo movement, August 11, 2025, www.ajot.com
15. Whipsaw from Trump's tariffs drove US container import record in July, August 13, 2025, www.joc.com

our future,” said Griff Lynch, President and CEO of Georgia Ports. Savannah’s volume grew at a 4.5% compound annual growth rate (CAGR) for fiscal year-to-date (FYTD) 2025 compared to FYTD2016, while the entire U.S. container port market experienced a 2.7% CAGR during the same period.

4. Big US ports ask Congress to follow law for equal funding of dredging work

US port officials say they could be shortchanged about \$1 billion for dredging and maintenance projects because the current budget for the US Army Corps of Engineers does not follow through on a 2020 law aimed at more equal distribution of the fees importers pay for maintaining US harbors. In a letter sent on July 31, 2025 to a joint Congressional committee on energy and water, the American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA), along with the directors of 22 ports, said the Corps fiscal year 2025 budget allocation for dredging and other maintenance does not adhere to a provision of the Water Resources Development.

5. Port of NY & NJ is the second-busiest U.S. port for loaded containers in the first half of 2025

The Port of New York and New Jersey continued to see strong growth over the first half of the year despite broad global uncertainty across the supply chain. The port handled 4,417,282 TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units) during the first six months of the year. The total was a 4.9 percent increase over the same period of 2024 and a jump of 20.9 percent over pre-pandemic 2019. The port finished both the month of June and the full first half of the year as the second-busiest in the country for loaded containers, handling 467,335 loaded TEUs in June and 2,945,962 loaded TEUs for the first half of the year.

6. Canada eyes Arctic Ocean port to ship gas, commodities to Europe

The Canadian government is looking hard at developing a remote northern port on Hudson Bay as a conduit for exporting [natural gas](#), potash, canola and other commodities as the country tries to reduce its economic dependence on the United States. Energy Minister [Tim Hodgson](#) said he sees “tremendous potential” for turning the port of Churchill, Man., into a much larger export hub, opening new trade routes to Europe and other markets. The minister said he has seen multiple pitches for projects to move goods through the location, which is at almost the same latitude as Oslo, Norway. “I believe there is an opportunity to make Churchill a far more strategic port,” Hodgson said in an interview with Bloomberg News. “If you look at what the Russians are doing, they ship for most of the year from their Arctic ports.” The idea of a northern port enjoys the enthusiastic backing of politicians from Canada’s resource-rich western region, including Alberta Premier [Danielle Smith](#) and Saskatchewan Premier [Scott Moe](#), whose provinces are major exporters of oil, gas and agricultural commodities.

7. Update on construction timeline for the Port of Montreal Contrecoeur expansion project

The Montreal Port Authority (MPA) has submitted its notice of intent to begin preliminary construction work for the Port of Montreal’s Contrecoeur expansion as early as September 29, 2025, pending receipt of the final required approvals. “This step allows us to meet the conditions required to move forward with a project that positions Quebec and Canada more strongly to diversify international trade,” said Julie Gascon, President and CEO of the MPA. “Once all the necessary approvals are in place, we’ll be ready to begin work on this major strategic project that is essential to the future of our supply chains.” The initial work will focus primarily on preparing the project site for more significant construction activities which could take place, in 2026. All work remains contingent upon receiving the appropriate regulatory approvals. The full project timeline and a description of the planned activities are available on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry website.

8. Maersk boosts profit outlook as container demand defies trade fears

Maersk raised its full-year profit forecast on August 7, 2025 as robust global container demand defied fears that tariffs would hit trade, although the company predicted a slowdown later this year. Maersk, viewed as a barometer of world

16. The Port of Los Angeles moved 1M containers in July, August 14, 2025, [www.ajot.com](#)

17. Intra-Asia carriers see H1 profits surge on higher freight rates, cargo volumes, August 18, 2025, [www.joc.com](#)

18. Key LA-Long Beach truck, rail metrics unfazed by record container surge August 18, 2025, [www.freightwaves.com](#)

19. Panama Canal celebrates 111 years, August 18, 2025, [www.ajot.com](#)

20. Toll of US tariffs begins to emerge on unsettled trans-Pacific, August 19, 2025, [www.joc.com](#)

21. Port of Oakland container volume surges in July and Port of New Orleans cargo volumes continue to climb, August 19, 2025, [www.ajot.com](#)

22. Trans-Pacific spot market exposure drags down Zim’s Q2 earnings, August 20, 2025, [www.joc.com](#)

23. Port of Halifax: Accumulated container traffic April to June 2025, August 21, 2025, [www.portofhalifax.ca](#)

24. Trans-Atlantic carriers limit capacity cuts despite ongoing rate weakness, August 21, 2025, [www.joc.com](#)

25. EU invests €116 million in 13 projects to restore ocean and waters, August 22, 2025, [www.europa.eu](#)

26. Port Houston records double-digit gains in standout July, August 27, 2025, [www.ajot.com](#)

27. European ports face continued congestion; Asia gateways saw mixed results in Q2: analysis, August 27, 2025, [www.joc.com](#)

28. EU-US pact to steady trans-Atlantic trade, forwarder says — with one exception, August 26, 2025, [www.freightwaves.com](#)

29. Tariffs pointing to historic import gap for U.S. container ports: Analyst, August 28, 2025, [www.freightwaves.com](#)

trade, said it now expected global container volumes to increase by 2% to 4% this year, compared with a range of down 1% to up 4% estimated in May. The new range implies lower second-half growth, it said. A drop in U.S. imports after President Donald Trump unleashed a barrage of tariffs on foreign goods "was more than offset" by strong growth in imports into other regions, including Europe, the Danish firm said in its second-quarter earnings statement. CEO Vincent Clerc told reporters that most customers - which include Walmart and Nike - are taking a wait-and-see approach to potential changes in their supply chains, and that container shipping was immune to trade tariffs in the short term. Chinese shipments into Europe and other regions started increasing last year and continued into 2025, Clerc said, adding that Maersk's own data did not suggest this growth was fuelled by U.S. tariffs.

9. Savannah containers post best FY since pandemic

The Georgia Ports Authority moved 5.7 million twenty foot equivalent container units (TEUs) in fiscal year 2025, an increase of 8.6% or 450,000 TEUs compared to the previous fiscal year. The fiscal period ending June 30 was the Port of Savannah's second-busiest year on record, after the pandemic year of FY2022, when GPA handled 5.76 million TEUs. "Georgia Ports continues to grow U.S. East Coast market share and with the shifting trade patterns in Asia and India, that bodes well for our future," said Griff Lynch, president and chief executive of Georgia Ports, in a release. Savannah's volume grew at a 4.5% compound annual growth rate for fiscal year-to-date compared to 2016, ahead of the 2.7% increase for the entire U.S. container port market. Savannah moved 410,400 TEUs in June as GPA terminals averaged more than 475,000 TEUs per month in the fiscal year. March, April and May each totalled more than 500,000 TEUs.

10. Port of Long Beach achieves busiest July on record

A pause in tariffs in recent months lifted the Port of Long Beach to its most active July on record and the third-busiest month in its 114-year history. Dockworkers and terminal operators processed 944,232 twenty-foot equivalent units in July 2025, up 7% from the previous record set in July 2024. Imports rose 7.6% to 468,081 TEUs and exports declined 12.9% to 91,328 TEUs. Empty containers moving through the Port increased 12.3% to 384,824 TEUs. "Retailers are now seeing the arrival of goods that were purchased for lower costs during the temporary pause placed on tariffs and retaliatory tariffs earlier this year," said Port of Long Beach CEO Mario Cordero. "Due to the ongoing uncertainty caused by shifting trade policies, our Supply Chain Information Highway digital tracking tool forecasts that cargo will be down about 10 percent in the second half of 2025, resulting in a flat year for volume." "We appreciate our terminal operators, truckers, dockworkers and all the individuals who are moving cargo through the Port at a record-setting pace," said Long Beach Harbor Commission President Frank Colonna. "We continue to work closely with labor and industry to meet the evolving needs of our customers." The Port has moved 5,690,863 TEUs through the first seven months of 2025, up 10% from the same period in 2024.

11. US retailers project big year-over-year import declines to close out 2025

US imports for the last four months of 2025 will show sharp year-over-year declines due to a combination of the frontloading that took place at the end of 2024 amid longshore labor concerns and this year's early peak season driven by tariff deadlines, US retailers said on August 8, 2025. The latest Global Port Tracker (GPT) from the National Retail Federation (NRF) and Hackett Associates made just minimal upgrades to import forecasts for September, October and November from projections made in July. Still, the NRF expects significant year-over-year reductions overall, with import volumes for September through December forecast. The National Retail Federation forecasts US imports for all of 2025 will slide to 24.1 million TEUs, down 5.6% from 25.5 million TEUs last year.

12. Transport Canada ensuring safety on the water by restricting vessel traffic on the St. Clair River on August 17, 2025

Transport Canada issued a notice to inform all boaters about temporary vessel traffic restrictions during an expected increase in the number of people using the St. Clair River during the Port Huron Float Down event on Sunday, August 17, 2025. To ensure the safety of everyone on the water, Transport Canada is restricting the movement of vessel traffic within the public Port of Sarnia. Under these restrictions, no unauthorized traffic will be permitted on the Canadian side of the St. Clair River, from the Blue Water Bridge to the upper end of Stag Island, between 12 p.m. and 7 p.m. on August 17, 2025. A Navigational Warning (NAVWARN) about temporary vessel restrictions for this day was issued on August 12, 2025.

13. U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces \$175 Million to Build and Improve Ferry Boat Service

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy on August 12, 2025 announced \$175 million in funding under the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Ferry Boat Program (FBP) to 35 states, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands and American Samoa. The formula funding will improve ferry service and provide more cost-effective travel options for communities across the country that rely on ferries to get to work, promote tourism, and enable commerce. "We make life easier when we make the transportation of people and products smoother," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy. "In places like Alaska, our maritime highways are critical arteries for commuters and regional supply chains."

From our skies to our roads, rail networks, and waterways, America is building again thanks to President Trump.”

14. Port Authority of NY & NJ breaks ground on expanded truck parking plaza at JFK to improve cargo movement

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey on August 11, 2025 joined with elected officials and community leaders from southeast Queens to break ground on a project that will expand a truck parking facility at John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK), tripling the number of trucks that can park on-airport, and adding new concessions and bathrooms. Expanded on-airport truck parking will help to better manage the increasing cargo operations at JFK while also addressing community concerns with the growing number of trucks that park illegally on neighborhood streets near the airport. “Breaking ground for the expansion of truck parking facilities at JFK Airport is a win for the airport, a win for the community and a win for the drivers who support our cargo operations and help to keep our region moving,” said Port Authority Executive Director Rick Cotton.

15. Whipsaw from Trump’s tariffs drove US container import record in July

Tariff-driven frontloading pushed US containerized imports to an all-time high in July 2025, with most ports seeing double-digit volume growth over June’s numbers. While China remained the top source for overseas goods, US shippers appeared more eager to move freight from other tariff targets in southern Europe and Southeast Asia. Total US container volumes last month reached 2.609 million TEUs, the most ever recorded for a single month by PIERS, a sister company of the *Journal of Commerce* within S&P Global. July’s volume was a 17.5% gain from June.

16. The Port of Los Angeles moved 1M containers in July

The Port of Los Angeles moved 1,019,837 container units in July 2025, which surpassed its May 2021 pandemic high mark, according to Eugene Seroka, Executive Director, Port of Los Angeles. Speaking at the Port of Los Angeles media briefing on August 13th, 2025 Seroka said: “No other port in the Western Hemisphere has moved over a million containers in a single month. Now we’ve done it twice. This achievement is reflected in the data as July volume outpaced last year by 8 1/2%.” He added that: “We had 107 vessel calls in July, 30% more than average over the past five years, 16 of those ships at a capacity over 13,000 TEUs, setting another all-time mark. We saw 11 unscheduled ship arrivals, known as extra loaders, the most since the pandemic.” Seroka said the volumes were driven by companies getting ahead of tariff hikes: “Not surprisingly, much of this volume was fueled by importers hustling to bring in cargo ahead of potential tariff hikes later this month and beyond.” Seroka noted rises in imports and exports: “... our July imports soared to 544,000 TEUS, setting yet another benchmark at the Port of Los Angeles that outpaces last year by 8% and is 19% higher than our July five-year average. Shifting over to exports, the Port handled 122,000 TEUS, a 6% year-over-year increase.”

17. Intra-Asia carriers see H1 profits surge on higher freight rates, cargo volumes

Intra-Asia carriers saw net profits surge in the first half of the year on the back of strong gains in freight rates and cargo volumes. The upbeat results have led several carriers to invest in new tonnage, with vessels scheduled for delivery in 2027 and 2028. Forwarders said rates and container volumes have been supported by tight capacity partly caused by mainline carriers blanking sailings in April and May 2025. Highlighting the buoyant trading environment, Hong Kong-listed SITC said average revenue per TEU in the first half increased 23% to \$776 per TEU from \$632/TEU in the prior year.

18. Key LA-Long Beach truck, rail metrics unfazed by record container surge

Record-setting container volumes failed to flummox local trucking at the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach in July 2025. The busiest U.S. import gateway complex said marine terminal fluidity remained stable, with relatively low dwell times for both truck and rail cargo in the face of surging frontloaded volumes and tariff-twisted fluctuations in seaport traffic. Local truck dwell averaged 2.87 days, solidly within this past year’s range of 2.55 to 3.25 days, according to monthly data compiled by the Pacific Merchant Shipping Association. That compared favorably with the average of 2.81 days in July 2024, “and continues to reflect adequate trucking capacity and efficient coordination between terminal operators, drayage providers, and cargo owners,” the PMSA said. The numbers bear out commentary earlier this year by Port of Los Angeles Executive Director Gene Seroka, who said that his port had capacity to spare even during a run-up in container volume.

19. Panama Canal celebrates 111 years

The Panama Canal marks 111 years of operations, renewing its commitment to a sustainable future through a water strategy focused on public well-being and an operational vision that enhances the country’s logistical competitiveness. Since the waterway’s inauguration in 1914, with the historic transit of the steamship Ancón, which, for the first time, connected the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, the canal has been a driver of Panama’s economic and social development while also a transformer of global maritime trade. This impact has grown over the past 25 years under Panamanian administration, during which the interoceanic waterway has contributed B/. 28.266 billion in direct payments to the National Treasury, in addition to B/. 15 billion investments in capital projects, operational maintenance, and watershed management.

20. Toll of US tariffs begins to emerge on unsettled trans-Pacific

The true toll of US tariffs on China is just beginning to be felt on the trans-Pacific. Months of frontloading that drove an earlier peak season have come to an end, and US retailers are pulling back on ordering for the rest of the year in the face of a slowing US economy and higher tariff costs. Shippers and consignees are also racking up stiffer demurrage and storage bills because demand uncertainty is slowing their pickup of containers from marine terminals. Rising demurrage at major US ports signals greater uncertainty about demand, with cargo owners and consignees in no rush to receive inbound containers. A sense of uncertainty — if not alarm — about future demand and tariff levels on China has slowed.

21. Port of Oakland container volume surges in July and Port of New Orleans cargo volumes continue to climb

Port of Oakland July 2025 container volume marked a strong rebound from June 2025, with volumes climbing sharply as importers moved cargo early to get ahead of the announced August 1, 2025 tariff deadlines. Loaded imports jumped from 70,334 TEUs (twenty-foot containers) in June 2025 to 92,392 TEUs in July 2025, a 31.4% increase and the highest monthly import total so far in 2025. The Port of New Orleans (Port NOLA) is proud to announce continued growth in cargo volumes and trade activity through the first half of 2025; thanks to rising container imports and improved schedule reliability that's helping shippers gain confidence and plan more efficiently. Through the first six months of this year, Port NOLA's overall container volumes are up 2% year-over-year, and 9% compared to the second half of 2024. In total, Port NOLA has moved 263,961 TEUs (Twenty-foot Equivalent Units) so far in calendar year 2025, up from 258,758 TEUs at this time last year.

22. Trans-Pacific spot market exposure drags down Zim's Q2 earnings

Zim Integrated Shipping Services' heavy exposure to the trans-Pacific spot market dragged down its revenue, earnings and volume in a tariff-disrupted second quarter. Second-quarter volume carried by Zim fell 6% to 895,000 TEUs. While the carrier doubles down on cost controls and improving its fleet management, there was no escape from the volatile US-China tariff dispute with 70% of its volume exposed to spot rates. "It has been an unpredictable 2025 so far, with wide swings in freight rates, but we are confident in our competitive position in the industry," Eli Glickman, Zim's president and CEO, told analysts during an earnings call Wednesday, August 21, 2025.

23. Port of Halifax: Accumulated container traffic April to June 2025

For the Halifax, for the 2025 second quarter, total traffic in terms of TEUs changed 5% i.e. to 130,290 from 124,120. Total import traffic for the second quarter of 2025 changed 4.8% i.e. to 65,541 from 62,526. Total export traffic for the second quarter of 2025 changed 5.1% i.e. to 64,749 from 61,594. Year to date (January-June 2025) total traffic changed 11.2% i.e. to 258,917 from 232,767. Total import traffic for January to June 2025 changed 13.6% i.e. to 131,980 from 116,163. Total export traffic for the above period changed 8.9% i.e. to 126,937 from 116,604.

24. Trans-Atlantic carriers limit capacity cuts despite ongoing rate weakness

Rates on the trans-Atlantic westbound ocean trade — a route dominated by Gemini Cooperation and Mediterranean Shipping Co. — have been stuck at loss-making levels for weeks, yet carriers are showing little appetite for blank sailings to raise prices. Spot rates assessed by Platts, a sister company of the *Journal of Commerce*, are at \$1,600 per FEU this week, far below the breakeven level ocean carriers say is near \$2,100/FEU. Rates have lost only \$100 since mid-May. While carriers on the North Europe-US East Coast route are scheduled to increase deployed capacity to 376,132 TEUs in September, up 2%. MSC increased its Atlantic market share from 41.1% to 41.8% over the past year.

25. EU invests €116 million in 13 projects to restore ocean and waters

A new wave of projects has secured funding under the latest EU Mission Ocean and Waters calls. With a total budget of €116 million, the 13 projects selected will deliver a wide variety of benefits to the ocean and waters in the EU and beyond, as well as the communities that rely on them. The projects will be implemented across various sea basins, including the Black Sea, Danube River, Baltic and North Sea, Mediterranean Sea, and Atlantic and Arctic regions. The projects focus on: 1. preserving offshore marine protected areas; 2. protecting and restoring the habitats of migratory fish in the Danube area; 3. reducing the environmental impact of fisheries on marine species and habitats; 4. strengthening citizen science in the marine sector; 5. mobilising communities to act for our ocean and waters; 6. ensuring an operational [European Digital Twin of the Ocean](#); and 7. preparing a digital representation of the ocean and its multiple components. The projects involve SMEs, research organisations, local authorities, schools, and businesses.

26. Port Houston records double-digit gains in standout July

July 2025 was a standout month for Port Houston's public terminals, with double-digit growth in key sectors that pushed year-to-date totals to new heights. Container volumes for July were up a remarkable 21% compared to July 2024, reaching 392,829 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs). This is one of the Port's strongest single-month performances on record. Throughout this year Port Houston has continued to demonstrate strong capacity for growth in containerized cargo and has seen its largest volumes ever. Year-to-date, Port Houston has handled 2,562,506 TEUs, up 6% and making this year the fastest paced in the Port's history. Loaded import growth at Port Houston surged 19% for the month of July 2025 compared to last year, the largest increase seen in a top five U.S. container port. Loaded exports,

primarily resins, have steadily grown throughout the year and reached an 18% increase in July compared to last year. Port Houston continues to be the market leader for resins exports. Total loaded containers at Port Houston are up 5% so far this year.

27. European ports face continued congestion; Asia gateways saw mixed results in Q2: analysis

A new port performance analysis underscores the extent of congestion in European ports in the second quarter, flow challenges for Asian ports and how US ports were able to handle elevated, tariff-driven volumes. S&P Global Market Intelligence's Global Port Congestion Analysis shows that half of Northern Europe's ports reported year-over-year declines in port moves per hour in the second quarter, while Asian ports faced higher arrival process times and mixed efficiency results. Meanwhile, most North American ports maintained average call sizes year over year while improving their arrival process time. Congestion at European ports has been a growing problem for shippers, as the disparity between available capacity and demand leaves deep-sea container terminals facing the potential of years-long bottlenecks.

28. EU-US pact to steady trans-Atlantic trade, forwarder says — with one exception

The eagerly awaited official framework for the EU-U.S. trade truce has been released, signalling a halt in the escalating tensions that have burdened trans-Atlantic trade, and should help steady container flows, said forwarder Kuehne & Nagel. While not yet legally enforceable, the agreement maintains the 15% tariff on most European Union exports to the U.S. and the 27.5% duty on automobiles. These tariffs will remain in place until Brussels implements reciprocal tariff reductions on a wide array of American industrial and agricultural products. For container shipping, the implications are significant but nuanced, said Paolo Montrone, global head of trade, Sea Logistics, for Swiss-based K&N. "In the near term, cargo flows on core EU-U.S. lanes should stabilize, particularly for pharmaceuticals, industrial goods, and agricultural commodities spared from further escalation," Montrone wrote in a note to customers. "This could bring more predictable volumes to carriers serving the North Europe-U.S. East Coast and Gulf routes." However, Montrone said a delay in car tariff reductions continues to strain automotive exports, a key driver of high-value westbound cargo.

29. Tariffs pointing to historic import gap for U.S. container ports: Analyst

While inbound traffic through the top 10 ports registered a 3.2% improvement year-on-year, analysis by shipping consultant John McCown characterized the gains as temporary as U.S. tariffs hinder near-term trade flows across the globe. "[July was] a temporary reprieve and was driven by frontloading to get goods in prior to additional tariffs going into effect in early August," McCown wrote in a monthly update, noting the slight bounceback followed decreases of 8.3% in June and 6.6% in May. "The trailing three-month figures continue to show inbound volume in a pronounced downtrend that has now been going on for six months. Outbound volume in July 2025 was down 0.3%, the fourth straight decline coming after decreases of 1.7% in June 2025 and 2.3% in May 2025. For the three months ending in July 2025, inbound volume was down 3.7% and it has been in a consistent downward trend since the three months ending in January when it showed a 14.0% increase." The National Retail Federation expects total 2025 import volume to be off 5.6% y/y.

RAIL TRANSPORTATION

1. Union Pacific to buy Norfolk in \$85 billion mega US railroad deal

Union Pacific said on July 29, 2025 that it would buy smaller rival Norfolk Southern in an \$85 billion deal to create the nation's first coast-to-coast freight rail operator and reshape the movement of goods from grains to autos across the country. If approved, the deal would be the largest-ever buyout in the sector and combine Union Pacific's stronghold in the western two-thirds of the U.S. with Norfolk's 19,500 mile network that primarily spans 22 eastern states. The two railroads are expected to have a combined enterprise value of \$250 billion and would unlock about \$2.75 billion in annualized synergies, the companies said. The deal will face lengthy regulatory scrutiny amid union concerns over potential rate increases, service disruptions and job losses. The 1996 merger of Union Pacific and Southern Pacific had temporarily led to severe congestion and delays across the Southwest. The deal reflects a shift in antitrust enforcement under U.S. President Donald Trump's administration. Executive orders aimed at removing barriers to consolidation have opened the door to mergers that were previously considered unlikely. Surface Transportation Board Chairman Patrick Fuchs,

Railway Transportation

1. Union Pacific to buy Norfolk in \$85 billion mega US railroad deal, July 29, 2025, www.ajot.com
2. Norfolk Southern reports second quarter 2025 results, July 29, 2025, www.norfolksouthern.investor.com
3. CPKC second quarter delivers strong growth, carries momentum into second half of 2025, July 30, 2025, www.cpkc.ca
4. Canadian Pacific Kansas City Limited declares dividend, July 30, 2025, www.cpkc.ca
5. AAR: U.S. Carloads, Intermodal Up Slightly for Week 30, July 30, 2025, www.railwayage.com
6. Freight Rail Services Price Index, July 2025, July 31, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca
7. CN Releases 2025-2026 Grain Plan: Strengthening Canada's Supply Chain, July 31, 2025, www.cn.ca
8. BNSF earnings gain on lower costs, August 3,

appointed in January 2025, has advocated for faster preliminary reviews and a more flexible approach to merger conditions. Even under an expedited process, the review could take from 19 to 22 months, according to a person involved in the discussions. Major railroad unions have long opposed consolidation, arguing that such mergers threaten jobs and risk disrupting rail service.

2. Norfolk Southern reports second quarter 2025 results

Norfolk Southern Corporation (NSC) announced on July 29, 2025 its second quarter 2025 financial results. For the quarter, revenue was \$3.1 billion, income from railway operations was \$1.2 billion, operating ratio was 62.2%, and diluted earnings per share were \$3.41. Recoveries related to the Eastern Ohio incident exceeded incremental costs in the quarter. After adjusting the results to exclude restructuring and other charges as well as the effects of the Eastern Ohio incident, second quarter income from railway operations was \$1.1 billion, the operating ratio was 63.4%, and diluted earnings per share were \$3.29. NSC reported net income and EPS growth of 4% and 5%, respectively; adjusted net income and EPS improved 7% and 8%, respectively and expects 2%-3% growth in revenues and 100–150 bps of improvement in adjusted OR for the full year. President and CEO Mark George said "This quarter, Norfolk Southern delivered another set of strong results — growing volumes, managing costs, and delivering 8% EPS growth. While we remain clear-eyed about market uncertainty, our performance reflects the strength of our strategy and our ability to continue disciplined execution, relentless focus on safety and seamless customer service. We're controlling what we can control and, in fact, are ahead of schedule on our productivity targets thanks to the exceptional efforts of our Thoroughbred team."

3. CPKC second quarter delivers strong growth, carries momentum into second half of 2025

Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC) on July 30, 2025 announced its second-quarter results, including revenues of \$3.7 billion, diluted earnings per share (EPS) of \$1.33 and core adjusted diluted EPS of \$1.12. The second-quarter 2025 highlights were: 1. Volumes, as measured in Revenue Ton-Miles, increased seven percent; 2. Revenues increased three percent to \$3.7 billion from \$3.6 billion in Q2 2024; 3. Reported operating ratio (OR) decreased 110 basis points to 63.7 percent from 64.8 percent in Q2 2024; 4. Core adjusted OR1 decreased 110 basis points to 60.7 percent from 61.8 percent in Q2 2024; 5. Reported diluted EPS increased to \$1.33 from \$0.97 in Q2 2024; 6. Core adjusted diluted EPS1 increased seven percent to \$1.12 from \$1.05 in Q2 2024; 7. Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)-reportable personal injury frequency decreased to 0.77 from 0.84 in Q2 2024; and 8. FRA-reportable train accident frequency increased to 0.97 from 0.70 in Q2 2024. Keith Creel, CPKC President and Chief Executive Officer said "Our exceptional team of railroaders again delivered strong operating and financial results in the second quarter as we realize more of the value created by this unrivalled North American network. Our dedicated team pulled together to overcome challenges in portions of our southern U.S. network following our complex system integration. Across our network, we are focused on delivering the service that our customers expect as we carry growing momentum into the second half of 2025."

4. Canadian Pacific Kansas City Limited declares dividend

The Board of Directors of Canadian Pacific Kansas City Limited on July 30, 2025 declared a quarterly dividend of \$0.228 per share on the outstanding Common Shares. The dividend is payable on October 27, 2025, to holders of record at the close of business on September 26, 2025, and is an "eligible" dividend for purposes of the Income Tax Act (Canada) and any similar provincial/territorial legislation.

2025, www.freightwaves.com

9. Port of Los Angeles sees UP-NS merger as 'seamless transit' to East Coast, August 6, 2025, www.ajot.com

10. AAR: North American Rail Volume Up Through Week 31, August 6, 2025, www.railwayage.com

11. Intermodal savings dipped in Q2; surcharges to factor into Q3 decisions, August 6, 2025, www.joc.com

12. NTSB Issues Preliminary Report for CN July 6 Derailment, August 7, 2025, www.railwayage.com

13. Americold Opens First Import-Export Hub in Partnership with CPKC, Unlocking a New Era of Food Flow Across North America, August 12, 2025, www.cpkc.ca

14. AAR: U.S. Rail Traffic Up Through Week 32, August 13, 2025, www.joc.com

15. Union Pacific train derailed in Texas, no hazardous material leaks, August 13, 2025, www.ajot.com

16. Province Breaks Ground on Second Ontario Line Tunnel, August 14, 2025, www.mto.gov.on.ca

17. Activist investor urges CSX to engage in alternative merger discussions, August 19, 2025, www.freightwaves.com

18. AAR: U.S. Rail Traffic Dips Slightly Through Week 33, August 20, 2025, www.railwayage.com

19. Railway carloadings, June 2025, August 21, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca

20. Record \$4.5 million raised for cardiac care as CPKC Ambassador Brooke Henderson claims her second CPKC Women's Open victory, August 24, 2025, www.cpkc.ca

21. BNSF, CSX unveil new joint intermodal lanes in aftermath of UP-NS merger, August 22, www.joc.com

22. Union Pacific celebrates its newest intermodal terminal, August 21, 2025, www.ajot.com

23. Buffett: Berkshire will not bid for CSX or Norfolk Southern, August 25, 2025, www.freightwaves.com

24. US lawmakers, unions oppose railroad plan to automate track safety inspections, August 25, 2025, www.ajot.com

25. UP-NS deal would trigger 'unnecessary wave' of rail mergers: CPKC, August 19, 2025, www.joc.com

26. Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Cancels California's Additional Rail Fantasy Projects, August 26, 2025, www.dot.gov

27. CPKC: Further rail consolidation not necessary, August 26, 2025, www.cpkc.ca

28. AAR reports rail traffic for the week ending August 23, 2025, August 27, 2025, www.ajot.com

29. Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces Schedule for New York Penn Station "Transformation" Project, New \$43 Million Grant to Jumpstart Work, August 27, 2025, www.dot.gov

30. Trump move to oust STB's Primus boosts likelihood of UP-NS approval, August 28, 2025, www.joc.com

5. AAR: U.S. Carloads, Intermodal Up Slightly for Week 30

U.S. rail traffic for the week ending July 26, 2025 (Week 30) came in at 514,279 carloads and intermodal units, rising 1.1% from the same week last year, based on 231,029 carloads—up. Total carloads for the week ending July 26 were 231,029 carloads, up 0.9 percent compared with the same week in 2024, while U.S. weekly intermodal volume was 283,250 containers and trailers, up 1.3 percent compared to 2024. Seven of the 10 carload commodity groups posted an increase compared with the same week in 2024. They included grain, up 1,289 carloads, to 22,108; coal, up 986 carloads, to 62,386; and motor vehicles and parts, up 459 carloads, to 15,306. Commodity groups that posted decreases compared with the same week in 2024 were farm products excl. grain, and food, down 839 carloads, to 15,971; nonmetallic minerals, down 816 carloads, to 32,422; and metallic ores and metals, down 64 carloads, to 21,386. Canadian railroads reported 86,414 carloads for the week, up 2.2 percent, and 73,206 intermodal units, up 14.1 percent compared with the same week in 2024. For the first 30 weeks of 2025, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 4,874,958 carloads, containers and trailers, up 1.5 percent.

6. Freight Rail Services Price Index, July 2025

Data for July for the Freight Rail Services Price Index (2018=100) are now available on Statcan website. The index for July 2025 was 126.8 up from 126.5 from June 2025 up from 126.7 in July 2024.

7. CN Releases 2025–2026 Grain Plan: Strengthening Canada’s Supply Chain

CN on July 31, 2025 published its 2025–2026 Grain Plan. The plan demonstrates CN’s commitment to delivering high-performance service through disciplined planning, targeted infrastructure investments, and proactive supply chain collaboration. CN delivered a record volume of grain to both domestic and international markets this past crop year. Current projections suggest Western Canadian movement for 2024-25 will total approximately 31 MMT, roughly one million metric tonnes higher than the previous record. That figure includes bulk and processed grain by carload. Tracy Robinson, President and Chief Executive Officer, CN said “Our Grain Plan reflects CN’s unwavering commitment to Canadian agriculture and the global competitiveness of our farmers and grain handlers. We’ve taken a comprehensive, end-to-end view of the supply chain by investing where it matters most, collaborating with partners, and ensuring we have the people, equipment and processes in place to move the new crop.”

8. BNSF earnings gain on lower costs

BNSF Railway reported pre-tax earnings increased 11.5% in the second quarter to \$2 billion from \$1.8 billion, and 8.6% to \$3.8 billion from \$3.5 billion in the first six months of 2025 compared to 2024. Operating revenues for the Fort Worth-based subsidiary of holding company Berkshire Hathaway increased slightly in both the second quarter and the first six months, to \$5.73 billion from \$5.71 billion and \$11.4 billion from \$11.3 billion year over year as lower operating costs offset weaker revenue per car, to \$3.7 billion from \$3.9 billion, and \$7.5 billion from \$7.8 billion. Net earnings climbed to \$1.5 billion from \$1.2 billion y/y in the 2025 second quarter, and to \$2.7 billion from \$2.4 billion in the first six months of the year. Freight volumes edge higher by 1.4% and 2.7% in the second quarter and first half, respectively, year over year.

9. Port of Los Angeles sees UP-NS merger as ‘seamless transit’ to East Coast

The proposed Union Pacific/Norfolk Southern rail merger could provide the Port of Los Angeles with “seamless transit by rail from Los Angeles to New York and other East Coast ... cities,” according to Eugene Seroka, Executive Director, Port of Los Angeles. In an interview with AJOT, Seroka said that the proposed merger would provide Port customers with direct rail service to the East Coast that had not been possible before: “I think it gives us access to the most populous third of the nation that has otherwise been stitched together through handoffs.” Seroka said the proposed merger will make the Port more competitive with East Coast ports: “Yes, we’ll be more competitive to get cargo to the Eastern seaboard of the US for several reasons. Number one, you’ll have one company that carries your cargo from LA to New York to Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Norfolk, Baltimore, et cetera, all the way down the Eastern seaboard. Today, that cargo gets handed off in Northern Chicago ... from the UP to an East Coast railroad.” Seroka argues, “So, we have got growth opportunities ... and the discretionary cargo that amounts to about a third of all the business we do has an easy way to ... get to the Midwestern locations. And now, opening up that Eastern Seaboard to us makes a more compelling argument for the Port of Los Angeles to grow its discretionary market of intermodal rail.”

10. AAR: North American Rail Volume Up Through Week 31

North American carload and intermodal traffic for the first 31 weeks of 2025 (ending Aug. 2) was up 2.9% from the prior-year period, according to the Association of American Railroads’ (AAR) latest rail traffic report. While the United States and Canada both saw gains, Mexico experienced a loss. North American rail volume for the week ending August 2, 2025, on 9 reporting U.S., Canadian and Mexican railroads totaled 337,571 carloads, up 4.5 percent compared with the same week last year, and 363,089 intermodal units, up 2.7 percent compared with last year. Total combined weekly rail traffic in North America was 700,660 carloads and intermodal units, up 3.6 percent. North American rail volume for the first 31 weeks of 2025 was 20,943,417 carloads and intermodal units, up 2.9 percent compared with 2024. Nine of the 10 carload commodity groups posted an increase compared with the same week in 2024. They included grain, up

4,402 carloads, to 21,557; coal, up 2,871 carloads, to 61,962; and motor vehicles and parts, up 1,467 carloads, to 15,822. One commodity group posted a decrease compared with the same week in 2024: petroleum and petroleum products, down 185 carloads, to 10,829. Canadian railroads reported 88,410 carloads for the week, down 2.2 percent, and 72,286 intermodal units, up 13.0 percent compared with the same week in 2024. For the first 31 weeks of 2025, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 5,035,654 carloads, containers and trailers, up 1.6 percent.

11. Intermodal savings dipped in Q2; surcharges to factor into Q3 decisions

US shippers saved an average of 17% on spot market freight and nearly 24% on contract loads in the second quarter by using domestic intermodal instead of long-haul trucking with tepid pricing continuing through midyear, according to the latest *Journal of Commerce* Intermodal Savings Index (ISI). Intermodal contract rates were flat in the second quarter compared with a year ago — up less than 1% excluding fuel, but down less than 1% including fuel, while contract truckload rates rose between 0% and 2%.

12. NTSB Issues Preliminary Report for CN July 6 Derailment

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) has released a preliminary report for its ongoing investigation of the July 6, 2025, CN train derailment with hazardous materials release in Sardis, Miss. What Happened? The location where a Canadian National train derailed in Glendora, Miss., was under a 30-mph speed restriction following work to address track defects found by an autonomous track inspection vehicle, according to the National Transportation Safety Board's preliminary report on the July 5, 2025, incident issued today (Aug. 5, 2025). A tank car of benzene, among 22 cars that derailed, caught fire, forcing the evacuation of about 160 residents in a 1-mile radius. The derailment occurred about 2:26 p.m.; the evacuation order was lifted shortly after the fire was extinguished about 11:30 p.m. No injuries or fatalities were reported; CN estimated damages at about \$1.5 million. The train involved was en route from Memphis, Tenn., to Baton Rouge when it derailed at milepost 97.63 of CN's Yazoo Subdivision. Twenty-three of its 139 cars carried hazardous materials. The train was traveling about 29 mph at the time of the derailment, which involved cars 29 through 50. The CN track inspection device had recorded two superelevation defects in the derailment area on July 2. The track was resurfaced on July 3, with the next two trains operating under a 10-mph speed restriction through the site, after which the restriction was increased to 30 mph. That restriction was still in place. On-scene investigation by the NTSB included reviewing data from the lead locomotive's event recorder and inward- and outward-facing cameras, interviews, reviews of CN engineering standards and procedures, and inspection of train equipment. The ongoing investigation will focus on CN procedures relating to track inspections, mitigation of defects, employee training and testing, and emergency response.

13. Americold Opens First Import-Export Hub in Partnership with CPKC, Unlocking a New Era of Food Flow Across North America

Americold Realty Trust, a global leader in temperature-controlled logistics, real estate, and value-added services, on August 12, 2025 celebrates the grand opening of its new \$120+ million Import-Export Hub in Kansas City, Missouri. Developed in partnership with Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC), the 335,000-square-foot facility is Americold's first on the CPKC rail network and a key hub for the Mexico Midwest Express (MMX), North America's only single-line rail service for refrigerated goods between the U.S. and Mexico.

14. AAR: U.S. Rail Traffic Up Through Week 32

U.S. rail traffic not only rose for the week ending Aug. 9, 2025, vs. the same week last year but also realized a modest gain through 2025's first 32 weeks, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported Aug. 13, 2025. Total carloads for the week ending August 9 were 227,327 carloads, up 2.4 percent compared with the same week in 2024, while U.S. weekly intermodal volume was 283,867 containers and trailers, up 3.4 percent compared to 2024. Seven of the 10 carload commodity groups posted an increase compared with the same week in 2024. They included metallic ores and metals, up 1,825 carloads, to 21,247; grain, up 1,052 carloads, to 19,454; and coal, up 810 carloads, to 61,843. Commodity groups that posted decreases compared with the same week in 2024 were petroleum and petroleum products, down 232 carloads, to 10,092; chemicals, down 123 carloads, to 32,838; and farm products excl. grain, and food, down 33 carloads, to 16,161. Canadian railroads reported 84,689 carloads for the week, down 5.6 percent, and 74,518 intermodal units, up 11.4 percent compared with the same week in 2024. For the first 32 weeks of 2025, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 5,194,861 carloads, containers and trailers, up 1.6 percent.

15. Union Pacific train derails in Texas, no hazardous material leaks

A Union Pacific Railroad train derailed two miles east of Gordon, Texas, on August 12, 2025, the company said, and emergency responders said the derailed cars did not appear to be leaking their contents. The emergency responders in Palo Pinto County said that, nonetheless, the derailment was "being treated as a HazMat situation." "At about 2 p.m. CDT on August 12, 2025, approximately 35 Union Pacific cars derailed," the company said in a statement. It was not clear what caused the derailment just outside Gordon, a town with a population of 460 located about 95 miles (153 kilometers) west of Dallas. The company did not immediately respond to a request for comment on what materials were being carried in the derailed cars. Officials with the Palo Pinto County Emergency Services District 1 said the

derailment had sparked some small grass fires, which firefighters were working to control. "At this time, there are no confirmed hazardous material leaks," the emergency officials wrote on social media. They said that nobody was hurt in the incident and all railroad personnel had been accounted for. The railroad said additional crews were in transit and an incident investigation was underway.

16. Province Breaks Ground on Second Ontario Line Tunnel

The Ontario government has broken ground on the second tunnel launch shaft near the site of the future Gerrard Station on the Ontario Line, marking another milestone in the province's plan to protect Ontario by creating jobs, cutting commute times across the Greater Toronto Area and bringing nearly 230,000 more people within walking distance of public transit. "The Ontario Line will introduce all-new rapid transit to the Gerrard and Carlaw community and surrounding neighbourhoods, part of our nearly \$70 billion investment to deliver the largest transit expansion in North America," said Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation. "In the face of U.S. tariffs and economic uncertainty, we are protecting Ontario's economy by building the next generation of subway service that will create thousands of good-paying jobs and fuel long-term economic growth."

17. Activist investor urges CSX to engage in alternative merger discussions

Ancora Holdings, a prolific activist investor in transports, has once again set its sights on an underperforming Class I railroad and its CEO. In a move that mirrored its successful intervention with Norfolk Southern, Ancora has penned a pointed letter to the board of directors at CSX Corporation, urging immediate action to explore merger options. If the Surface Transportation Board allows Union Pacific to acquire Norfolk Southern, then CSX's primary competitor will be able to offer seamless coast-to-coast service, and CSX won't. If CSX assumes that a merger with BNSF will come, and it doesn't actively pursue other options (like a Canadian rail), Ancora argued, it will be at a distinct disadvantage in merger talks and may be forced to accept a lower valuation dictated by Berkshire Hathaway / BNSF. "BNSF is a cash buyer that would bring a highly disciplined approach to any negotiations, rendering CSX in a vulnerable position if it does not have alternative parties to speak with," Ancora wrote. The letter, dated August 6 and addressed to CSX's independent board members, highlights Ancora's dissatisfaction with the company's current trajectory under the leadership of CEO Joe Hinrichs. Ancora emphasizes that CSX's lackluster performance, especially in light of the recent Union Pacific and Norfolk Southern merger, necessitates a swift recalibration of strategy. The letter underscores a pressing need for CSX to engage actively in merger discussions to avoid being left behind in the rapidly evolving rail sector.

18. AAR: U.S. Rail Traffic Dips Slightly Through Week 33

Total U.S. weekly rail traffic for the week ending Aug. 16, 2025 (Week 33) came in at 512,970 carloads and intermodal units, down 0.7% from the same week in 2024, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported Aug. 20, 2025. Total carloads for the week ending August 16 were 228,884 carloads, down 0.9 percent compared with the same week in 2024, while U.S. weekly intermodal volume was 284,086 containers and trailers, down 0.6 percent compared to 2024. Two of the 10 carload commodity groups posted an increase compared with the same week in 2024. They were coal, up 1,807 carloads, to 63,878; and forest products, up 181 carloads, to 8,236. Commodity groups that posted decreases compared with the same week in 2024 included miscellaneous carloads, down 1,236 carloads, to 7,881; metallic ores and metals, down 940 carloads, to 19,559; and grain, down 665 carloads, to 20,981. Canadian railroads reported 79,619 carloads for the week, down 8.1 percent, and 71,459 intermodal units, up 3.6 percent compared with the same week in 2024. For the first 33 weeks of 2025, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 5,345,939 carloads, containers and trailers, up 1.5 percent.

19. Railway carloadings, June 2025

In June 2025, the volume of cargo carried by Canadian railways reached 29.8 million tonnes, down 3.1% from June 2024. Cargo tonnage in June 2025 was equal to the five-year monthly average, while the cumulative volume for the first half of the year was 188.0 million tonnes, down 0.9% (-1.8 million tonnes) from the same January-to-June period of 2024. Iron ores and lead were the major contributors for the decline and wheat and potash moderated this decline. In June 2025, intermodal shipments—mainly containers—originating in Canada increased year over year for the fourth month in a row, up 8.7% in June to 3.2 million tonnes. However, freight loadings from US rail connections declined, totalling 3.1 million tonnes or 17.3%

20. Record \$4.5 million raised for cardiac care as CPKC Ambassador Brooke Henderson claims her second CPKC Women's Open victory

The 2025 CPKC Women's Open attracted enthusiastic crowds and showcased unforgettable performances, enabling CPKC to help raise a record *\$4.5 million for cardiac healthcare in Ontario*. On Sunday, CPKC presented a donation of *\$4 million* to MacKids, the arm of Hamilton Health Sciences Foundation dedicated to fundraising for McMaster Children's Hospital, and \$502,000 to Trillium Health Partners.

21. BNSF, CSX unveil new joint intermodal lanes in aftermath of UP-NS merger

BNSF Railway and CSX Transportation are adding new joint intermodal routes linking the US West Coast to the Southeast, a competitive counterpunch to Union Pacific and Norfolk Southern (NS) as they seek federal approval for their proposed merger. BNSF and CSX said Friday they will launch bi-directional trains from Southern California to Charlotte, North Carolina, and to Jacksonville, Florida, supplementing their existing joint service to Atlanta. They also announced a new service that will connect Phoenix and Atlanta, opening an intermodal option in a lane long dominated by truckload carriers.

22. Union Pacific celebrates its newest intermodal terminal

Union Pacific Railroad celebrated the grand opening of its newest intermodal terminal in Kansas City, Kansas. This is the fourth intermodal facility Union Pacific has opened since 2021 as part of its ongoing commitment to quickly meet customers' needs and grow the railroad's intermodal footprint. The Kansas City Intermodal Terminal (KCIT) is strategically located near several key highway and interstate arteries that will provide shippers seamless access to Union Pacific's intermodal rail network, with fast, truck-competitive transit times. "This new terminal reflects our commitment to building for the future and providing our customers with convenient and cost-effective access to the U.S. supply chain," said Kenny Rocker, executive vice president-Marketing and Sales at Union Pacific Railroad. "Our customers want faster, more reliable freight options and this terminal delivers." The terminal will serve both domestic and international containerized shipments of grains, consumer goods, refrigerated products, and auto parts in the Midwest region, and will help to convert more truck traffic to rail, which will reduce congestion on the nation's highways and lower greenhouse gas emissions.

23. Buffett: Berkshire will not bid for CSX or Norfolk Southern

Five days after Union Pacific announced its \$85 billion deal to acquire Norfolk Southern, Berkshire Hathaway Chairman Warren Buffett and Chief Executive-designate Greg Abel told CSX CEO Joe Hinrichs that they would not bid for the Eastern railroad. Rather, Buffett told CNBC in an interview on August 25, 2025 that Berkshire believes that its BNSF Railway should forge closer ties with CSX to gain growth synergies without the expense and regulatory risk of a merger. Buffett also told CNBC that Berkshire would not launch a competing bid for Norfolk Southern. CSX stock fell 5% after the cable network's report. Wall Street analysts and industry observers have expected that BNSF would seek to acquire CSX as a competitive response to the UP-NS merger.

24. US lawmakers, unions oppose railroad plan to automate track safety inspections

A U.S. railroad industry plan to rely more heavily on technology instead of humans to conduct routine track safety inspections has drawn a backlash from labor groups and lawmakers who voiced worry that automated inspections will result in more accidents. The dispute reflects simmering tensions in the global transport industry over the rise of automation. Also, U.S. President Donald Trump wants to slash regulations he says are holding back economic growth. The Association of American Railroads (AAR) in April requested a waiver from the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) that would allow freight railroads that use automation to slash the frequency of human-conducted track inspections by 75%. If approved, the waiver would allow operators employing a so-called "track geometry measurement system" (TGMS), which can be attached to rail cars and spot derailment risks like tracks that are warped or too far apart, to cut human inspections to twice per month from twice per week. The waiver would also provide railroads up to 72 hours to address defects, while human inspectors can immediately make repairs or choose to slow or stop trains. The association, along with manufacturing and agriculture trade groups that back the proposal, say the change would result in earlier detection and remediation of track defects. Tony Cardwell, president of the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division (BMWED) union that represents track inspectors and other rail workers, called AAR's analysis flawed. The technology only checks about a quarter of the items in track defect inspections, he said. Human inspectors also see foundation issues like broken rail ties or water damage earlier, allowing problems to be fixed before they get serious enough for the technology to flag them. "Track geometry is the end result of a defect, not the cause of a defect," Cardwell said.

25. UP-NS deal would trigger 'unnecessary wave' of rail mergers: CPKC

Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC) on August 26, 2025 urged federal regulators to reject Union Pacific Railroad's proposed acquisition of Norfolk Southern Railway, arguing the deal, which would create the US' first coast-to-coast railroad, would not serve the public interest and that shippers can achieve similar benefits through stronger rail partnerships. The opposition comes two years after US regulators approved Canadian Pacific's takeover of Kansas City Southern, the last major rail merger that created CPKC. "We believe that a transcontinental merger would trigger permanent restructuring of the industry and result in a disproportionately large railway. CPKC doesn't believe UP must acquire NS to create service efficiencies, pointing to partnerships between BNSF and CSX.

26. Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Cancels California's Additional Rail Fantasy Projects

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy on August 26, 2025 announced that the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) withdrew funding for four projects related to California's High-Speed Rail boondoggle. The move will save the

American people over \$175 million in federal dollars that would have otherwise been wasted to make improvements to this failed high-speed rail project.

27. CPKC: Further rail consolidation not necessary

Canadian Pacific Kansas City said on August 26, 2025 that the company is not interested in participating in immediate rail industry consolidation, despite the suggestions by some that it take part. CPKC does not believe that further rail consolidation is necessary for the industry as currently structured. The company remains focused on delivering more of the benefits and unique value-creating opportunities of its three-nation network, which connects shippers in all parts of North America via effective interline service options. CPKC strongly feels, given what the existing competitive landscape has shown it can deliver, any major rail merger poses unique and unprecedented risks to customers, rail employees and the broader supply chain. Those risks would be exacerbated by the inevitable follow-on consolidation. “We believe that a transcontinental merger would trigger permanent restructuring of the industry and result in a disproportionately large railway whose size and scope would require others to take action,” said Keith Creel, CPKC President and CEO. “This will likely result in an unnecessary wave of railway mergers that today is not the best way to support American businesses nor the public interest, and has the potential to create more issues than it solves.”

28. AAR reports rail traffic for the week ending August 23, 2025

The Association of American Railroads (AAR) on August 27, 2025 reported U.S. rail traffic for the week ending August 23, 2025. For this week, total U.S. weekly rail traffic was 512,333 carloads and intermodal units, down 0.8 percent compared with the same week last year. Four of the 10 carload commodity groups posted an increase compared with the same week in 2024. They included grain, up 1,723 carloads, to 20,389; motor vehicles and parts, up 1,001 carloads, to 17,681; and farm products excl. grain, and food, up 640 carloads, to 16,140. Commodity groups that posted decreases compared with the same week in 2024 included petroleum and petroleum products, down 1,068 carloads, to 9,769; coal, down 370 carloads, to 62,043; and miscellaneous carloads, down 249 carloads, to 9,100. For the first 34 weeks of 2025, U.S. railroads reported cumulative volume of 7,514,403 carloads, up 2.6 percent from the same point last year; and 9,184,705 intermodal units, up 4.2 percent from last year. Total combined U.S. traffic for the first 34 weeks of 2025 was 16,699,108 carloads and intermodal units, an increase of 3.5 percent compared to last year. Canadian railroads reported 80,067 carloads for the week, up 23.8 percent, and 73,564 intermodal units, up 47.7 percent compared with the same week in 2024. For the first 34 weeks of 2025, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 5,499,570 carloads, containers and trailers, up 2.2 percent.

29. Trump’s Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces Schedule for New York Penn Station “Transformation” Project, New \$43 Million Grant to Jumpstart Work

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy and Special Advisor Andy Byford on August 27, 2025 announced that the New York Penn Station “Transformation” Project will begin construction by the end of 2027. A detailed breakdown of the project schedule can be found [here](#). To jumpstart this aggressive schedule, Secretary Duffy also announced on August 27, 2025 that the Department of Transportation will provide Amtrak with nearly \$43 million in federal grant funding.

30. Trump move to oust STB’s Primus boosts likelihood of UP-NS approval

President Donald Trump’s move to oust Robert Primus from the US Surface Transportation Board (STB) would seem to eliminate a key obstacle to securing regulatory approval for Union Pacific Railroad’s \$85 billion acquisition of Norfolk Southern Railway (NS). Trump “fired” Primus from the STB on August 27, 2025, according to *The Wall Street Journal*. But Primus, who called the move “legally invalid,” said he would continue performing his duties as a member of the board, *The Journal* reported. His removal, if upheld, comes as the board prepares to evaluate Union Pacific’s proposed acquisition of Norfolk Southern in the coming months. Removing Robert Primus from the STB would seem to give the UP-NS deal a far easier avenue to gain the required approval from federal regulators.

HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION

1. Acquisitions drive Mullen's revenue growth, as pricing remains under pressure

Mullen Group rode acquisitions to record quarterly revenue in Q2, but profit margins remained under pressure due to soft freight demand and a stagnant economy. Overall revenue grew 9.1% to \$540.9 million in the second quarter, the company reported. Profits slipped 22.2% to \$25.6 million versus Q2 2024. The revenue gains were driven by acquisitions including customs brokerage Cole Group, as well as contributions from the newly integrated ContainerWorld and Pacific Northwest Moving businesses. "Second quarter consolidated revenues were positively impacted by acquisitions which, as we have suggested for some time now, is the only plausible means of growing during uncertain times and given the current supply/demand imbalance situation in nearly all segments of the logistics industry," chairman and senior executive officer Murray Mullen said in a release. "Overall freight demand remains solid but thus far there has been no sustained economic growth to generate additional demand, a necessity in our view to alter the current excess industry supply situation. As it currently stands, shippers hold the balance of power when it comes to pricing, making it difficult to grow profitably or to improve margins."

2. Cargo theft trends in U.S. shift in June as pilferage dominates, timing evens out

Cargo theft remained a persistent threat in June 2025, with overall incident levels holding steady amid seasonal increases in freight volumes, as the month marked the close of the first half of the year and the beginning of a season traditionally associated with heightened economic and logistical activity. In its report, Overhaul says that while activity occasionally spiked in the first three weeks of the month, reports declined toward the end — though risk remains high due to continued supply chain pressures. California continued to lead as the top hotspot for theft, followed by Tennessee, Texas, Illinois, and Pennsylvania — now overtaking Georgia for fifth place. Philadelphia was identified as a key risk zone, with a growing trend of overnight pilferage targeting unattended trailers parked outside logistics hubs. June also saw a shift in timing patterns, according to Overhaul. Theft incidents were more evenly spread across the week, peaking on Mondays and Fridays, compared to May's midweek concentration Wednesday through Friday. Overhaul suggests this shift means that criminal groups are adapting their operations to less predictable schedules. Risk remained constant throughout the day, with thefts almost equally divided between overnight (00:00–06:00), morning (06:00–12:00), and afternoon (12:00–18:00) hours, each representing roughly 26% of all incidents. Pilferage accounted for over 50% of cases, remaining the primary method of cargo theft. Warehouses, distribution centers, and truck stops remained the most common locations targeted.

3. The Next Test for Ottawa: How to Respond to GHG Rules Being Rolled Back by the U.S. EPA

The Canadian Trucking Alliance (CTA) has spent a great deal of effort to inform the Government of Canada that the realities of the Canadian supply chain and the service requirements of the Canadian trucking industry are not currently compatible with electric truck and zero-emission vehicle mandates. A white paper completed by the environmental group Pollution Probe, which was commissioned by CTA, outlined the realities of decarbonization in trucking and strongly supports the position of the Alliance (link to old PR).

4. Canada Post workers reject Canada Post's final offer

Canada Post Workers wrapped up Friday (August 1, 2025) on the Crown

HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION

1. Acquisitions drive Mullen's revenue growth, as pricing remains under pressure, July 27, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com
2. Cargo theft trends in U.S. shift in June as pilferage dominates, timing evens out, July 30, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com
3. The Next Test for Ottawa: How to Respond to GHG Rules Being Rolled Back by the U.S. EPA, July 31, 2025, www.cantruck.ca
4. Canada Post workers reject Canada Post's final offer, August 2, 2025, www.torontostar.ca
5. Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index, June 2025, August 1, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca
6. OTA: Expand Operation Deterrence as President Trump Raises Tariffs Again, August 1, 2025, www.ontruck.ca
7. Is Canada Post too big to fail?, August 4, 2025, www.freightwaves.com
8. New US de minimis policy could trim DHL profit by 3%, August 5, 2025, www.freightwaves.com
9. Canada Post workers reject 'final offers' — what happens next?, August 5, 2025, www.financialpost.ca
10. Canada and Ontario Invest in Public Transit Infrastructure for North Bay Residents, August 6, 2025, www.mto.gov.on.ca
11. Ontario rolls out autonomous truck pilot program, Aug 7, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com
12. UPS closing operations in three states as downsizing spreads, August 11, 2025, www.freightwaves.com
13. CCMTA Announces Steps to Restore Safety Confidence, Law and Order in Trucking, August 13, 2025, www.ontruck.ca
14. Canada Post to meet CUPW on Friday after workers rejected 'best and final' contract offer, August 13, 2025, www.nationalpost.ca
15. U.S. trucking industry calls on EPA to delay NOx rule until 2031, August 14, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com
16. Docked Bikeshare Trips – July 2025, August 18, 2025, www.bts.gov
17. Urban public transit, June 2025, August 19, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca
18. Trump's Transportation Secretary Announces Investigation into Deadly Florida Truck Crash, Shares Preliminary Findings, August 19, 2025, www.dot.gov
19. Canada Post union tables new offers seeking higher wages, August 20, 2025, www.nationalpost.ca
20. North American Transborder Freight decreased 2.4% in June 2025 from June 2024, August 20, 2025, www.bts.gov
21. Pembina Institute suggests shifting more Calgary freight to...bicycle?, August 21, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com
22. U.S. suspends issuing of visas to foreign truck drivers, August 22, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com
23. Limited mileage range of EVs slowing US drayage adoption, August 25, 2025, www.joc.com
24. Canada Post records worst-ever quarterly loss, with labour strife contributing 'significantly' to deteriorating outlook, August 26, 2025, www.financialpost.ca
25. CTA Urges Permanent Full Expensing to

corporation's 'final' offer — a vote ordered by federal jobs minister Patty Hadju a month after a report declared Canada Post effectively insolvent. [Canada Post](#) workers have voted down the Crown corporation's "final" contract offer, and labour experts say it's unclear exactly what will happen next in the already bitter dispute. Members of the Canadian Union of Postal Workers' urban unit voted the offer down 68.5 per cent to 31.5, while members of their suburban and rural unit turned it down 69.4 per cent to 30.6. Just under 81 per cent of the 53,000 eligible CUPW members cast their ballot. The offer included a 13% percent increase over four years plus \$1000 signing bonus. couriers' component was 141.1 in June 2025 compared to 138.1 a year ago.

Maintain Industry Competitiveness, August 26, 2025, www.ontruck.ca
26. McKinsey & Company research examines impact of tariffs on truck OEMs, March 26, 2025, www.todaystrucking.ca
27. Number of Canadian commuters increases for fourth straight year in 2025, August 16, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca

5. Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index, June 2025

The Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index (2019=100) is now available for June 2025 on Statistics Canada website. The Couriers and Messengers Services, the Price Index (CMSPI) was 137.9 in June 2025 compared to 136.1 a year ago. The

6. OTA: Expand Operation Deterrence as President Trump Raises Tariffs Again

The Ontario Trucking Association (OTA) is calling on Premier Ford and his cabinet to increase resources to the Ministry of Transportation (MTO), the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) and other agencies to expand enforcement efforts through [Operation Deterrence](#). OTA's call comes in response to US President [Trump's announcement to increase tariffs to 35 percent](#) on non-CUSMA qualifying goods due to ongoing concerns over drug trafficking and immigration issues at the northern border.

7. Is Canada Post too big to fail?

Unionized mail carriers at Canada Post have overwhelmingly voted to reject the company's latest contract offer, raising questions about the potential for a strike or lockout that could further undermine delivery service and whether the government considers the troubled organization too big to fail. The result was expected by some experts who said front-line workers feel they have the upper hand because Canada Post is state-owned and has a universal service obligation. "The union believes, probably correctly, that at least for the foreseeable future, the government will continue to backstop any losses, so why would you take that offer?" said Eric Miller, president of cross-border government relations consultancy Rideau Potomac Strategy Group and a former industrial policy official in the Canadian government. Left unresolved is the core issue of how to run a universal mail service in an age of highly capable private carriers that are taking a bigger share of the nearly \$17 billion Canadian parcel market. The government-owned postal operator is looking for a new labor deal as the permission structure for modernizing an outdated business model, with the goal of turning around its finances and improving service for residents and businesses.

8. New US de minimis policy could trim DHL profit by 3%

DHL express shipments fell sharply when the U.S. government recently eliminated a waiver on duties and fees for small-dollar shipments arriving from China and Hong Kong. Applying the new rule worldwide at the end of August could reduce projected full-year operating profit by \$231 million, the company's chief financial officer said on August 5, 2025. DHL Group increased profits during the second quarter, despite a rise in protectionism and fighting in the Middle East that lowered shipment volume, by successfully eliminating structural costs and improving yield management. The integrated parcel logistics giant reported second quarter revenue decreased 3.9% to \$22.9 billion, but operating profit grew 5.7% to \$1.6 billion with profit margins improving 0.7 of a point to 7.2%. Slower trade activity and negative effects of exchange rates diminished results.

9. Canada Post workers reject 'final offers' — what happens next?

Labour experts say another postal service strike is unlikely. So what happens next? Adam King, assistant professor in the labour studies program at the University of Manitoba, said the forced ratification vote ordered by the federal government and administered by the Canada Industrial Relations Board was a "distraction." "Hopefully, at the end of the day, we see an agreement reached at the table — where it should have been in the beginning," he said in an interview. "Canada Post management is really going to have to put something on the table that the union actually thinks members will accept."

10. Canada and Ontario Invest in Public Transit Infrastructure for North Bay Residents

North Bay is gearing up for more sustainable and convenient transit thanks to a combined investment of over \$20.6 million from the federal and provincial governments and the City of North Bay. Announced on August 6, 2025 by MP Pauline Rochefort, MPP Vic Fedeli and Mayor Peter Chirico, this funding will make transit safer and easier while cutting down on carbon emissions. The investment will replace eight conventional buses with hybrid buses in the North Bay Transit fleet and support new sidewalks and stormwater system upgrades. The city will also use these funds to

upgrade a transit terminal and the fare collection system. Investments in public transit help Canadians get where they need to be, create new manufacturing and construction jobs, reduce pollution and make life more affordable.

11. Ontario rolls out autonomous truck pilot program

Ontario has launched a [pilot program](#) for the testing of specific truck configurations that weigh more than 4,500 kg and are equipped with automated driving systems that meet the SAE International standard for Level 3, 4, or 5 autonomy. The 10-year pilot program runs from Aug. 1, 2025 to Aug. 1, 2035, the provincial government revealed on its website. The program will allow approved participants to safely test automated commercial motor vehicle (ACMV) technologies on Ontario roads to evaluate their performance, assess opportunities to improve road safety and support the trucking sector. The pilot has two streams. A driver-supervised stream, where a driver will be present in the driver's seat and be prepared to engage and take control of the vehicle as necessary.

12. UPS closing operations in three states as downsizing spreads

UPS continues to lay off workers as it moves forward with a strategy of consolidating parcel distribution facilities to reduce excess capacity. The latest job cuts are in Dallas, Texas, and Wilmington, North Carolina. The integrated parcel logistics company notified the Texas Workforce Commission last week that it plans to release 62 workers at its Dallas facility on Monroe Drive. Layoffs began Aug. 5. A UPS spokeswoman told The Dallas Express, [which first reported on the workforce reduction](#), that the jobs were expendable because the company is eliminating a day shift at the facility as part of a major network reconfiguration aimed at eliminating 200 sortation centers over five years and deploying automation to improve productivity. The delivery giant on Aug. 8 2025 closed a parcel facility in Pocahontas, Arkansas, spokeswoman Karen Tomaszewski Hill told FreightWaves. She did not have information on how many jobs are impacted.

13. CCMTA Announces Steps to Restore Safety Confidence, Law and Order in Trucking

A delegation of the Canadian Trucking Alliance (CTA) in July 2025 asked the Deputy Ministers of Transportation and their collective officials from across Canada to begin a dramatic uptick in enforcement on Driver Inc. carriers of all their illegal practices like misclassification, tax evasion and, most importantly for transportation safety leaders, a complete disregard for public safety. This week, CCMTA officials, who all report to the deputies, announced three days of meetings with the industry to craft how to fix the issues and move on recommendations that will be presented to the Council of Ministers Responsible for Transportation and Highways Safety in February.

14. Canada Post to meet CUPW on Friday after workers rejected 'best and final' contract offer

CUPW president said the union has been urging Canada Post to come back to the bargaining table. [Canada Post](#) will meet with the [Canadian Union of Postal Workers](#) (CUPW) on Friday, August 15, 2025 to hear why it rejected the crown corporation's "best and final" contract offer on Aug. 1, 2025 even though the [union](#) on Wednesday, August 13, 2025 said "Canada Post has failed to acknowledge that its offers just didn't cut it." The two sides will meet to "resume good faith discussions with the assistance of federal mediators," Canada Post said in a release on Wednesday. "While negotiations remain unresolved, there remains an urgent need to modernize Canada Post and protect this vital national service for Canadians."

15. U.S. trucking industry calls on EPA to delay NOx rule until 2031

A coalition of U.S. trucking associations urged the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to delay implementation of its heavy-duty NOx rule until 2031, citing substantial added costs amid already-existing economic and operational pressures facing the trucking industry. In a letter to EPA administrator Lee Zeldin, the industry thanked EPA for reevaluating the heavy-duty NOx regulation. The letter was signed by the American Trucking Associations, its federation of 49 state trucking associations, the Truckload Carriers Association, and the National Tank Truck Carriers. In the letter, ATA stressed that today's modern trucks already meet stringent emissions standards, producing 99% fewer NOx and particulate matter emissions than previous generations. The industry argued that delaying the rule would preserve affordable, reliable equipment while allowing continued environmental progress.

16. Docked Bikeshare Trips – July 2025

On August 18, 2025, the [Bureau of Transportation Statistics \(BTS\)](#) released [docked bikeshare trips](#) for July 2025. From July 2024 to July 2025, docked bikeshare trips starting and ending at a docking station on seven of the largest systems grew 4.2%. By area served and system, the number of docked bikeshare trips in July 2025 and the percentage change from July 2024 on six of the largest systems with data is provided on the BTS website.

17. Urban public transit, June 2025

In June 2025, the number of urban transit passenger trips in Canada totalled 125.2 million, down slightly (-0.9%) from the same month in 2024. In June 2025, transit agency operating revenue (excluding subsidies) increased 3.4% over the same month in 2024, reaching \$324.7 million.

18. Trump's Transportation Secretary Announces Investigation into Deadly Florida Truck Crash, Shares Preliminary Findings

U.S. Secretary of Transportation Sean P. Duffy on August 19, 2025 announced the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has launched an investigation into the recent deadly Florida highway crash. The investigation will focus on the driver involved in the crash and the motor carrier, White Hawk Carriers, Inc. Preliminary results of the investigation have found when interviewed the driver did not speak English, and both Washington State and New Mexico violated FMCSA rules.

19. Canada Post union tables new offers seeking higher wages

The Canadian Union of Postal Workers says it presented new offers to Canada Post on August 20, 2025 seeking higher wages than the Crown corporation's latest proposal. Unionized workers rejected Canada Post's most recent offers in a direct vote earlier this month. Plans to rekindle talks late last week were delayed due to a lack of federal government mediators.

20. North American Transborder Freight decreased 2.4% in June 2025 from June 2024

Total Transborder freight between the U.S. and North American countries, Canada and Mexico for June 2025 is as follows: 1. Total transborder freight: \$131.0 billion of transborder freight moved by all modes of transportation, a decrease of 2.4% compared to June 2024; 2. Freight between the U.S. and Canada: \$58.1 billion, down 9.7% from June 2024; 3. Freight between the U.S. and Mexico: \$73.0 billion, up 4.4% from June 2024; 4. Trucks moved \$84.9 billion of freight, down 2.4% compared to June 2024; 5. Railways moved \$15.4 billion of freight, down 11.9% compared to June 2024; 6. Vessels moved \$10.0 billion of freight, down 4.4% compared to June 2024; 7. Pipelines moved \$7.9 billion of freight, down 11.6% compared to June 2024; and 8. Air moved \$5.0 billion of freight, up 8.5% compared to June 2024. US-Canada transborder trade in June 2025 by mode is as follows: Truck \$31.4b; Air \$2.5b ; Rail \$6.9b; Vessel \$4.1b; and Pipeline \$7.1b.

21. Pembina Institute suggests shifting more Calgary freight to...bicycle?

A new report from the Pembina Institute studied the opportunity to shift more last-mile delivery to electric bike, tapping into a trend dubbed cyclelogistics. The report notes between 2019 and 2025 there's been a surge in online sales, which combined with ongoing urbanization is leading to city streets that are more crowded with delivery trucks. The report focused on Calgary, where truck traffic has increased more than 55% from 1996 and 2021, according to the institute. "Cities are increasingly looking to sustainable delivery methods. One emerging solution is cyclelogistics — using bicycles, tricycles and multi-wheeled cycles to transport goods," the report indicated. "By shifting even a small portion of deliveries from trucks to bikes, cities can reduce the distance travelled by trucks and vans, along with associated emissions, congestion and other urban freight impacts. Cargo e-bikes also offer operational advantages, including flexible parking and the ability to bypass traffic. Currently, cargo e-bike delivery is not widely adopted in Calgary. Realizing its potential requires supportive policies, infrastructure and business models."

22. U.S. suspends issuing of visas to foreign truck drivers

The U.S. continues to crack down on underqualified foreign truck drivers, with U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio taking to social media platform X to make the announcement. "Effective immediately we are pausing all issuance of worker visas for commercial truck drivers. The increasing number of foreign drivers operating large tractor-trailer trucks on U.S. roads is endangering American lives and undercutting the livelihoods of American truckers," he posted. While Canadian truck drivers do not require visas to operate commercial motor vehicles to and from the U.S., some foreign drivers – including those based in Canada and Mexico – do. The Private Motor Truck Council of Canada reached out to the U.S. consulate for clarification on the potential impact on Canadian-domiciled drivers. "We have confirmed this order only effects E and H visas. This order does not affect B1/B2 visas, which most third-country-national drivers in Canada use to enter the United States, so the order should not affect them," the consulate advised. "Relatedly though, as part of their visa interview they must display a strong level of English language skills, or they can be refused the visa."

23. Limited mileage range of EVs slowing US drayage adoption

Advances in electric truck technology are making zero-emission vehicles more viable for container drayage, but operators say demand in the sector will only take off if the driving range of electric vehicle (EV) trucks is extended beyond the current limit of about 200 miles. The 200-mile mark is significant because most drayage operators need to run trucks at least 500 miles per day to make sufficient turns to cover their operating costs. While EVs are cheaper to operate than conventional diesel-burning trucks, they cost nearly twice as much to purchase at approximately \$300,000 per rig. Drayage operators in California have access to state and port subsidies to help pay for electric trucks, which can cost more than twice as much as a conventional diesel-powered rig.

24. Canada Post records worst-ever quarterly loss, with labour strife contributing 'significantly' to deteriorating outlook

[Canada Post Corp.](#)'s finances continue to deteriorate as the Crown corporation reported its worst-ever quarterly results, which it attributed to ongoing [labour strife](#). "The ongoing labour uncertainty has contributed significantly to the losses in 2024 and this year," Canada Post said in a release. Its \$407-million loss in the second quarter was its worst ever in a

single quarter, compared with a \$46-million profit before taxes a year ago, blaming a sharp 37 per cent decline in parcel delivery revenue and volume. First-half losses before taxes totalled \$448 million, compared with \$30 million in the first half of 2024. By signing up you consent to receive the above newsletter from Postmedia Network Inc. “Over 50 per cent of year-to-date losses occurred in June, when labour uncertainty was at its peak,” Canada Post said.

25. CTA Urges Permanent Full Expensing to Maintain Industry Competitiveness

In its pre-budget submission, the Canadian Trucking Alliance called on the Government of Canada to implement a permanent full expensing policy for capital investments, a crucial move to safeguard the long-term competitiveness of Canada’s trucking and logistics industry. The appeal follows the recent passage of legislation in the U.S. enshrining 100-percent bonus depreciation for qualifying assets, including trucks, trailers, and logistics technology. This policy – part of the so-called “Big Beautiful Bill” – allows U.S. fleets to fully deduct the cost of capital investments in the year they are made. The resulting improvement in cash flow and reinvestment incentives gives American carriers a significant advantage over their Canadian counterparts.

26. McKinsey & Company research examines impact of tariffs on truck OEMs

Commercial truck makers in North America will be challenged by an uncertain tariff environment in the short-term but will be able to benefit from increased aftermarket parts sales and services as fleets extend equipment life. And strong underlying consumer demand will require fleets to begin replacing their existing trucks...eventually. That’s a key finding Umesh Goel, partner at McKinsey & Company, global co-leader of commercial trucks, off-highway and specialty vehicles, shared with trucknews.com after researching how tariffs are affecting the commercial vehicle industry. Ultimately, said Goel, OEMs will see demand for new trucks gradually return as trucking companies submit to the uncertainty and rising maintenance costs and begin replacing their existing fleet. “I would describe the current period as a bit of a period of uncertainty,” Goel said in an interview with trucknews.com. “And the period of uncertainty is from two different aspects – one is regulation and the second is tariff.”

27. Number of Canadian commuters increases for fourth straight year in 2025

For the fourth year in a row, the proportion of employed people mostly working from home was down in May 2025 (17.4%) compared with May 2024 (18.7%), resulting in more commuters on the roads. The share of commuters mainly using a car, truck or van to get to work decreased 0.6 percentage points over the previous year to 80.9% in May 2025, continuing the downward trend recorded since May 2022. At the same time, the proportion of public transit commuters increased for the fourth year in a row, up 0.5 percentage points from May 2024 to 11.9% May 2025, though it remained below its pre-COVID-19 pandemic level (12.6% in May 2016). For many Canadians, commuting is a major part of their daily routine and longer commutes can impact workers' well-being and work-life balance. Moreover, understanding changes in how Canadians commute has important implications for transportation planning and environmental sustainability.

GENERAL TRANSPORTATION

1. Carney says U.S.-Canada trade negotiations at 'intense phase'

Prime Minister [Mark Carney](#) said his government is still in deep trade talks with the Trump administration despite recent comments from the United States president that suggested a deal with Canada wasn’t a priority. Carney downplayed President [Donald Trump](#)’s claim last week that the U.S. is not focused on Canada and [may not reach an agreement](#) on tariffs. “It’s a negotiation,” Carney told reporters on July 28, 2025. “Take what’s said in the public domain as part of that context.” Talks with the U.S. “are at an intense phase,” Carney said, and he pledged to only sign a pact “that’s a good deal for Canada.”

2. President Trump’s Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy: Biden-Buttigieg Ignored the Dangers of Wind Turbines Near Railroads & Highways, Put Climate Religion Ahead of Safety

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy on July 29, 2025 announced that the Department of Transportation (USDOT) will restore safety recommendations previously overruled by the Biden-Buttigieg administration for wind turbines built near highways and railroads.

3. Trump revokes de minimis privilege for global e-commerce imports

Not content to wait two years for this month’s congressional repeal of the de minimis exemption to take effect, President Donald Trump on Wednesday, July

General Transportation

1. Carney says U.S.-Canada trade negotiations at 'intense phase', July 28, 2025, [www.financialpost.ca](#)
2. President Trump’s Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy: Biden-Buttigieg Ignored the Dangers of Wind Turbines Near Railroads & Highways, Put Climate Religion Ahead of Safety, July 29, 2025, [www.dot.gov](#)
3. Trump revokes de minimis privilege for global e-commerce imports, July 30, 2025, [www.freightwaves.com](#)
4. President Trump’s Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Commits \$6.2 Billion to Manage America’s Ready Reserve Force, July 30, 2025, [www.dot.gov](#)
5. Trump hikes tariffs on Canada to 35%, but keeps CUSMA exemption, July 31, 2025, [www.financialpost.ca](#)
6. US and Mexico agree to 90-day extension to land trade deal, July 31, 2025, [www.freightwaves.com](#)
7. July 2025 U.S. Transportation Sector Unemployment (4.3%) Falls Below the July 2024 Level (5.7%) But Rises Above the Pre-Pandemic July 2019 Level (4.2%), August 1,

30, 2025 [signed an executive order](#) that ends the ability of low-value goods to enter the U.S. duty-free and with minimal customs processing on Aug. 29, 2025. Trump said suspending the trade privilege for individual parcel shipments was necessary to prevent people from using the system to evade tariffs systematically being imposed on all nations. The President earlier this year eliminated de minimis privileges for small-dollar items shipped from China and Hong Kong. The new policy will force importers to pay the full tariff amount for shipments valued at \$800 or less and originating from all countries. The decision is a blow for e-commerce retailers, including mom-and-pop enterprises, that source goods from overseas and ship them directly to online buyers via cross-border parcel networks. International logistics providers and cargo airlines are also expected to lose business.

4. President Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Commits \$6.2 Billion to Manage America's Ready Reserve Force

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy on July 30, 2025 announced that the Maritime Administration (MARAD) has signed 20 contracts totalling \$6.2 billion to manage its Ready Reserve Force (RRF). The RRF, through MARAD, provides strategic sealift support for the rapid deployment of U.S. military forces and equipment during conflicts, crises, and emergencies. MARAD and USDOT are one step closer to fulfilling President Trump's Executive Order on Restoring Maritime Dominance.

5. Trump hikes tariffs on Canada to 35%, but keeps CUSMA exemption

President [Donald Trump](#) said the United States will put a [35 per cent tariff](#) on some imports from Canada, escalating the tensions between two countries that have impaired one of the world's largest trading relationships. The new rate represents an increase from the 25 per cent tariffs Trump imposed in early March 2025 under an emergency law. "Canada has failed to cooperate in curbing the ongoing flood of fentanyl and other illicit drugs, and it has retaliated against the United States" for Trump's earlier tariffs, the White House said in a fact sheet published on July 31, 2025 evening. But the U.S. administration kept in place an exemption for goods traded under the rules of the [Canada-United-States-Mexico Agreement \(CUSMA\)](#). U.S. automakers and other companies with integrated North American supply chains had pushed for that carve-out, which has allowed U.S. importers to continue bringing in the bulk of Mexican and Canadian products without duties.

6. US and Mexico agree to 90-day extension to land trade deal

President Donald Trump said on July 31, 2025 that he had agreed with Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum to extend an existing trade deal with Mexico for 90 days while negotiations continue for a long term agreement. The 90-day extension means a 25% tariff rate will stay in place for Mexico instead of a 30% levy that would have started on August 1, 2025 as part of the Trump administration's global "reciprocal" tariff policy. "The complexities of a Deal with Mexico are somewhat different than other Nations because of both the problems, and assets, of the Border," Trump wrote on [Truth Social](#). Mexico is

currently the top U.S. trade partner, with two-way trade totalling \$74.5 billion in May, according to [Census Bureau data](#). In 2024, U.S.-Mexico trade reached a record breaking \$840 billion. Sheinbaum said they will continue to work with the Trump administration on a trade agreement.

7. July 2025 U.S. Transportation Sector Unemployment (4.3%) Falls Below the July 2024 Level (5.7%) But Rises Above the Pre-Pandemic July 2019 Level (4.2%)

The unemployment rate in the U.S. transportation sector was 4.3% (not seasonally adjusted) in July 2025, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). These data have been updated on the Bureau of Transportation Statistics' (BTS) [Unemployment in Transportation dashboard](#). In July 2025, the transportation sector's unemployment rate fell 1.4 percentage points from 5.7% in July 2024, but was just above the pre-pandemic July 2019 level of 4.2%. Unemployment in the transportation sector reached its highest level during the COVID-19 pandemic (15.7%) in May 2020 and July 2020. Unemployment in the transportation sector was lower than the overall unemployment rate. BLS

2025, [www.bts.gov](#)

8. Canadian international merchandise trade, June 2025, August 5, 2025, [www.statcan.gc.ca](#)

9. Canadian international trade in services, June 2025, August 5, 2025, [www.statcan.gc.ca](#)

10. President Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces \$3.89 Billion Loan to a Public-Private Partnership in Georgia to Get America Building Again, August 5, 2025, [www.dot.gov](#)

11. Leading indicator of international arrivals to Canada, July 2025, August 11, 2025, [www.statcan.gc.ca](#)

12. Transportation Consumer Price Index – July 2025, August 12, 2025, [www.bts.gov](#)

13. Supply chain disruptions feared as Air Canada prepares for strike, August 14, 2025, [www.freightwaves.com](#)

14. The June 2025 Freight Transportation Services Index (TSI) Fell 0.4% from the Previous Month and Fell 0.5% from the Same Month Last Year, August 14, 2025, [www.bts.gov](#)

15. Transportation Producer Price Index – July 2025, August 14, 2025, [www.bta.gov](#)

16. U.S. Department of Transportation Announces \$46 Million Available for Innovative Finance and Asset Concession Grants, August 15, 2025, [www.dot.gov](#)

17. Borderlands Mexico: US trade with Mexico tops \$73B in June, August 17, 2025, [www.freightwaves.com](#)

18. Trump Returns to Washington After Putin Talks Yield No Ukraine Deal, August 17, 2025, [www.nytimes.com](#)

19. Canada's Carney spoke to Trump and discussed trade, Ottawa says, August 21, 2025, [www.ajot.com](#)

20. Travel between Canada and other countries, June 2025, August 22, 2025, [www.statcan.gc.ca](#)

21. Global postal operators suspend parcel service to US, August 22, 2025, [www.freightwaves.com](#)

22. National Travel Survey and Visitor Travel Survey, first quarter 2025, August 25, 2025, [www.statcan.gc.ca](#)

23. Tariff jitters spark jump in USMCA claims on Mexico, Canada goods, August 27, 2025, [www.freightwaves.com](#)

24. FONOM calls on feds to make Trans-Canada Highway modernization a nation-building project, August 28, 2025, [www.todaystrucking.com](#)

reports that the U.S. unemployment rate, not seasonally adjusted, in July 2025 was 4.6% or 0.3 percentage points above the transportation sector rate. Seasonally adjusted, the U.S. unemployment rate in July 2025 was 4.2%.

8. Canadian international merchandise trade, June 2025

In June 2025, Canada's merchandise imports were up 1.4%, while exports increased 0.9%. As a result, Canada's merchandise trade deficit with the world widened from \$5.5 billion in May to \$5.9 billion in June. Exports to the United States increased 3.1% in June. However, on a year-over-year basis, exports to the United States were 12.5% lower compared with June 2024.

9. Canadian international trade in services, June 2025

Canada's monthly international trade in services deficit narrowed from \$0.9 billion in May 2025 to \$0.7 billion in June. Overall, imports of services edged down 0.2% to \$18.7 billion, and exports of services rose 1.0% to \$18.0 billion. Imports of travel services fell 0.8% to \$4.5 billion in June 2025, while imports of transportation services increased 1.1% to \$3.2 billion. Imports of commercial services fell 0.3% to \$10.8 billion, led by a decrease in financial services. Exports of commercial services increased 1.2% to \$10.8 billion in June 2025, mostly due to an increase in non-financial commercial services. Exports of travel services also increased 1.2%, reaching \$5.2 billion. Exports of transportation services edged down 0.3% to \$1.9 billion.

10. President Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces \$3.89 Billion Loan to a Public-Private Partnership in Georgia to Get America Building Again

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy on August 5, 2025 announced a loan of up to \$3.89 billion from the Build America Bureau to a public-private partnership between the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), the State Road and Tollway Authority (SRTA), and SR 400 Peach Partners, LLC (Peach Partners). The funding, made possible by the Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA), is the largest loan approved to a single borrower to date.

11. Leading indicator of international arrivals to Canada, July 2025

In July 2025, the preliminary number of international arrivals to Canada (returning Canadian residents and non-residents combined) by air and automobile was 6.3 million, down 15.6% from July 2024. This was the sixth consecutive month of year-over-year declines. Although non-resident arrivals by air increased, this was not enough to offset the decline. The sharpest decline in July 2025, was the number of Canadian-resident return trips by automobile from the United States totalling 1.7 million, a steep decline (-36.9%) from the same month in 2024.

12. Transportation Consumer Price Index – July 2025

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for all transportation goods and services was unchanged 0.0% from July 2024 to July 2025. Transportation contributed 1.0% to the 2.7% increase in the price of all goods and services, per the CPI. Motor vehicle insurance contributed the most to inflation, rising 5.3% year-over-year and contributing 5.6% to the annual change in the price of all goods and services. By item, the top three contributors to inflation in July 2025 were: 1. Motor vehicle insurance: +5.6%; 2. Used cars and trucks: +4.1%. 3. Motor vehicle maintenance and repair: +2.7%. Gasoline prices decreased.

13. Supply chain disruptions feared as Air Canada prepares for strike

Air Canada has begun cancelling long-haul international flights, which carry most of the airline's cargo, in preparation for a planned work stoppage by flight attendants on Saturday, August 16, 2025, executives said on August 14, 2025. The news conference in Toronto was cut short after union members walked in front of the stage with signs, such as "Unpaid work won't fly," critical of Air Canada's negotiating position in stalled contract talks. Air Canada will gradually suspend flights until all flights are grounded by Saturday morning. Dozens of flights will be cancelled on August 14, 2025 and by the end of August 15, 2025 about 500 flights will be cancelled, impacting more than 100,000 travelers.

14. The June 2025 Freight Transportation Services Index (TSI) Fell 0.4% from the Previous Month and Fell 0.5% from the Same Month Last Year

The Freight Transportation Services Index (TSI), fell 0.4% in June 2025 from May 2025, falling for the first month after two consecutive months of growth, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS). From June 2024 to June 2025 the freight index fell 0.5%. The freight TSI measures the amount of freight carried by the for-hire transportation industry.

15. Transportation Producer Price Index – July 2025

On August 14, 2025, the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) released the change in the costs faced by producers purchasing transportation services and industries producing them, from July 2024 to July 2025, as measured by the Producer Price Index (PPI). The PPI measures inflation from the perspective of costs to industry or producers of products. Transportation equipment PPI indicate the changes in transportation equipment prices faced by transportation providers, and any increase, increases providers costs. The PPI shows that prices increased for freight transportation and equipment 1.9% in July 2025 from July 2024. Increases in transportation services PPI indicate increases in production

costs faced by industries purchasing the services. From July 2024 to July 2025, the transportation services PPI changed, by mode: 1. Air: +3.6%; 2. Rail: +1.4%; 3. Truck: -0.6%; 4. Water: -0.5%; and 5. Arrangement of freight and cargo: +1.1%

16. U.S. Department of Transportation Announces \$46 Million Available for Innovative Finance and Asset Concession Grants

The U.S. Department of Transportation's (USDOT) Build America Bureau (Bureau) on August 15, 2025 released a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the Innovative Finance and Asset Concession Grant Program (IFAC), making \$45.98 million available to assist public entities in facilitating and evaluating public-private partnerships and exploring innovative financing and alternative delivery opportunities for Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA)-eligible projects. Grants are available for up to \$2 million, with the first \$1 million requiring no local match. This is the second NOFO for IFAC, with funds allocated from fiscal years 2024, 2025, and 2026 (if available). Applications are due no later than October 1, 2025. Two types of grants are available under the program: technical assistance and expert services.

17. Borderlands Mexico: US trade with Mexico tops \$73B in June

Despite ongoing trade uncertainty caused by tariffs, U.S. commerce with Mexico rose 4.4% year-over-year in June to \$73 billion. Canada was the No. 2 trade partner of the U.S. during June at \$58 billion, a 9.6% year-over-year decrease compared to the same period in 2024. China was the third-ranked U.S. trade partner in the month, totalling \$28.4 billion, a 36% year-over-year decline. During June, the U.S. imported \$44.9 billion worth of goods from Mexico, while exporting \$28.1 billion in products and services to the country.

18. Trump Returns to Washington After Putin Talks Yield No Ukraine Deal

President Trump returned to Washington early Saturday, August 17, 2025 after his summit with President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia ended without a stated agreement on any issue, much less on ending the war in Ukraine. Mr. Trump spoke after the summit with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine, who said he would travel to Washington on Monday, August 18, 2025. Mr. Zelensky, who was not invited to the summit with Mr. Putin in Alaska, said he would meet with President Trump and "discuss all of the details regarding ending the killing and the war." Mr. Zelensky said that he "had a long and substantive conversation" with Mr. Trump, who discussed his meeting Mr. Putin.

19. Canada's Carney spoke to Trump and discussed trade, Ottawa says

Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney spoke to U.S. President Donald Trump on August 21, 2025 and had "a productive and wide-ranging conversation" on trade challenges and other issues, Carney's office said in a statement. The leaders discussed current trade challenges, opportunities, and shared priorities in a new economic and security relationship between Canada and the U.S. The leaders also discussed how to build on the President's leadership to support long-term peace and security for Ukraine and Europe. The leaders agreed to reconvene shortly.

20. Travel between Canada and other countries, June 2025

In June 2025, the number of Canadian-resident return trips from the United States was down 28.7% year over year, and the number of trips to Canada by US residents decreased 5.8%. Despite these decreases, for the first time since June 2006 (excluding August and September 2021, during the COVID-19 pandemic), more US residents made trips to Canada than Canadian residents travelled to the United States. In June 2025, the number of trips to Canada by overseas residents fell 3.9% from June 2024, while the number of Canadian-resident return trips from overseas increased 6.9%.

21. Global postal operators suspend parcel service to US

European postal operators are alerting businesses and individuals that end of the U.S. de minimis exemption on small-dollar shipments from all countries, which currently can be imported duty-free, has curtailed their ability to ship packages to the United States. Posts in Asia are also pausing service. The new measure will significantly impact postal operators and customers worldwide. Postal operators across Europe are actively working together on solutions to meet the new requirements imposed by the United States. PostEurope, which represents 51 European postal companies, said on Tuesday that key details, such as how U.S. customs duties will be collected and what data must be submitted to U.S. authorities, have yet to be fully defined. U.S. Customs and Border Protection issued limited technical guidance on Aug. 15, leaving little time for full implementation by the deadline. "If critical issues and processes are not defined and, thus, compliant solutions cannot be found before the regulations take effect on Aug. 29, PostEurop members . . . may be constrained to temporarily restrict or suspend the shipping of goods via the postal networks to the United States," the trade association said in a statement.

22. National Travel Survey and Visitor Travel Survey, first quarter 2025

During the first quarter, Canadian residents took 77.4 million trips within Canada and abroad, up 1.3% from the same quarter in 2024. From January to March 2025, visitors from the United States and overseas countries made 4.3 million trips to Canada, a 1.8% year-over-year decrease.

23. Tariff jitters spark jump in USMCA claims on Mexico, Canada goods

U.S. businesses are racing to claim United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) exemptions as rising tariffs on

steel, aluminum, and other goods push import costs higher. The percentage of goods from Canada classified as USMCA compliant rose to 81% in June 2025, up from 56% in May 2025, according to U.S. Customs and Border Protection data reviewed by Fitch Ratings. Mexican imports that met USMCA criteria in June increased to 77%, compared to 42% the previous month. Third-party logistics providers report growing inquiries as companies look for ways to navigate higher U.S. tariffs. “Yes, activity is up. We’re seeing more clients ask about USMCA for U.S./Canada/Mexico flows, especially where most-favored nation (MFN) duties are significant or production has shifted to North America,” Bernie Hart, Flexport’s vice president of customs, told *FreightWaves*.

24. FONOM calls on feds to make Trans-Canada Highway modernization a nation-building project

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) is calling on the federal government to make modernizing the Trans-Canada Highway across Northern Ontario part of its nation-building mandate. The twinning of Hwys. 11 and 17 across Northern Ontario should be a priority, the organization says, both to improve highway safety and also to smooth the road for some 8,400 trucks that move \$200 million in goods across the region daily. Truck traffic is expected to double in the next decade, FONOM claims, and by 2035 trucks will represent nearly half of all traffic along the corridor. “Ontario cannot remain the weak link in Canada’s national highway system,” said Danny Whalen, FONOM president. “This project is about saving lives, supporting our economy, and ensuring national security. It is not just Northern Ontario’s issue — it’s Canada’s.” FONOM is proposing strategic four-lane widening, selective twinning and the use of 2+1 highways on rural stretches to improve safety, reduce costs and minimize environmental impacts on the 3,000-km stretch between Quebec and Manitoba.