

Transportation Information Update*

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Associate Editor:

AIR TRANSPORTATION

1. Fly the Flag: Air Canada Unveils Celebratory Canadian Olympic and Paralympic Team Livery Featuring Canadian Athletes Headed to the Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Games

Air Canada on November 27, 2025 proudly unveiled a special livery honouring our Canadian Olympians and Paralympians competing in the Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. This bold design on Fin 940, an Airbus A330, features images of Team Air Canada Athlete Ambassadors and embodies the strength, dedication and national pride of Team Canada. The first scheduled flight for this special Team Canada livery is flight AC894 on November 27, 2025 headed for Milan! Air Canada will transport more than 750 athletes and delegation members to and from the Games and eight Team Canada members named Team Air Canada Athlete Ambassadors.

2. Air Cargo Demand Sets New Record in October, up 4.1%, Marking Eight Straight Months of Growth

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) released data for October 2025 global air cargo markets showing: 1. Total demand, measured in cargo tonne-kilometers (CTK), rose by 4.1% compared to October 2024 levels (+4.8% for international operations). 2. Capacity, measured in available cargo tonne-kilometers (ACTK), increased by 5.1% compared to October 2024 (+6.4% for international operations). Willie Walsh, IATA's Director General said "Air cargo demand grew 4.1% year-on-year in October, marking the eighth consecutive month of expansion and setting a new monthly record for volumes. While the Asia-North America trade lane extended its contraction to six months, October saw double-digit or near double-digit growth within Asia, between the Middle East and Europe, and between Europe and Asia. This shifting growth pattern shows that air cargo is enabling global supply chains to adapt to the impact of US tariffs. This positive news is especially significant as the air cargo sector enters the peak fourth quarter shipping season."

3. October Air Passenger Demand Growth Accelerates to 6.6%

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) released data for October 2025 global passenger demand with the following highlights: 1. **Total demand**, measured in revenue passenger kilometers (RPK), was up 6.6% compared to October 2024. Total capacity, measured in available seat kilometers (ASK), was up 5.8% year-on-year. The October load factor was 84.6% (+0.7 ppt compared to October 2024). 2. **International demand** rose 8.5% compared to October 2024. Capacity was up 7.1% year-on-year, and the load factor was 84.6% (+1.1 ppt compared to October 2024). 3. **Domestic demand** increased 3.4% compared to October 2024. Capacity was up 3.6% year-on-year. The load factor was 84.6% (-0.1 ppt compared to October 2024). Willie Walsh, IATA's Director General said "October was a strong month for air travel with demand up 6.6% on the previous year. Of particular note is the 4.5% international traffic growth for carriers based in North America which comes after several months of basically flat performance."

AIR TRANSPORTATION Canada

1. Fly the Flag: Air Canada Unveils Celebratory Canadian Olympic and Paralympic Team Livery Featuring Canadian Athletes Headed to the Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Games, November 27, 2025, www.aircanada.ca
2. Air Cargo Demand Sets New Record in October, up 4.1%, Marking Eight Straight Months of Growth, November 28, 2025, www.iata.org
3. October Air Passenger Demand Growth Accelerates to 6.6%, November 28, 2025, www.iata.org
4. Expanded air transport agreements with Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates to allow more passenger and cargo flights, December 1, 2025, www.tc.gc.ca
5. Screened passenger traffic at Canadian airports, October 2025, December 1, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca
6. Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Launches New Initiative to Revitalize Dulles Airport into The International Gateway Our Nation's Capital Deserves, December 2, 2025, www.dot.gov
7. Package travels: new rules on traveller protection, December 3, 2025, www.europa.eu
8. Porter Airlines lands in lush Costa Rica with start of new service, December 4, 2025, www.flyporter.com
9. WestJet and Air Transat passengers fight back after airlines falsely claim they can't film disputes, December 1, 2025, www.cbc.ca
10. Air Transat pilots give union the power to declare a strike, December 4, 2025, www.cbc.ca
11. Strike Notice at Air Transat, December 7, 2025, www.airtransat.com
12. Olá, tudo bem? Air Canada Launches Non-Stop Service to Rio de Janeiro, Direct to Sun, Samba, Copacabana and Ipanema!, December 5, 2025, www.aircanada.ca
13. Minister of Transport and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons marks International Civil Aviation Day, December 7, 2025, www.tc.gc.ca
14. U.S. Airlines' October 2025 Aviation Fuel Consumption up 6.2%, and Fuel Cost per Gallon up 1.7% from September 2025, December 4, 2025, www.bts.gov
15. IATA Unveils 2026 Events Calendar, December 6, 2025, www.iata.org
16. Star Alliance Named World's Leading

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

4. Expanded air transport agreements with Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates to allow more passenger and cargo flights

On December 1, 2025, the Honourable Steven MacKinnon, Minister of Transport and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, and the Honourable Maninder Sidhu, Minister of International Trade, announced that Canada has expanded its air transport agreements with Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). These expanded agreements come following successful negotiations at the International Civil Aviation Organization's 17th annual Air Services Negotiation Event (ICAN 2025), hosted this year by the Dominican Republic. The expanded Canada–Saudi-Arabia Air Transport Agreement includes: 1. Up to 14 passenger flights per week per country, up from four. 2. Unlimited all-cargo flights, up from three weekly per country. 3. Open fifth-freedom rights for all-cargo services, which allow an airline to carry passengers or cargo between two foreign countries on a flight that begins or ends in its home country. Building on the Prime Minister's recent visit to the UAE where more direct commercial flights between both countries were announced, the expanded Canada–United Arab Emirates Air Transport Agreement includes: 1. An additional 14 passenger flights per week per country, for a total of 35 per country; 2. Unlimited all-cargo flights, up from four weekly per country; and 3. Open fifth freedom rights for all-cargo services. Airlines can begin offering services under these expanded agreements immediately.

5. Screened passenger traffic at Canadian airports, October 2025

In October 2025, 5.0 million passengers were recorded passing through pre-board security screening at checkpoints operated at Canada's eight largest airports. This is a 4.5% increase over October 2024 and 9.9% higher than the pre-COVID-19 pandemic level from October 2019. It is worthwhile noting that International traffic rises sharply, while transborder traffic wanes.

6. Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Launches New Initiative to Revitalize Dulles Airport into The International Gateway Our Nation's Capital Deserves

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy on December 2, 2025 announced a new initiative to explore the revitalization of Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD). The Secretary is inviting proposals and public-private partnership plans from the best and brightest developers, architects, and engineers to construct completely new terminals and concourses at IAD. These structures would replace or build on the existing main terminal and satellite concourses at IAD.

7. Package travels: new rules on traveller protection

The European Union Parliament has struck a deal with Council on updating protection rules for package holidaymakers, based on lessons learned from the pandemic and high-profile bankruptcies. The draft law informally agreed by Parliament and Council negotiators clarifies the definition of a travel package, conditions for cancelling a trip, and travellers' rights to information, help and refund in various situations, including when their travel organiser goes bankrupt or extraordinary circumstances cause travel disruptions.

8. Porter Airlines lands in lush Costa Rica with start of new service

Porter Airlines is taking off to Costa Rica with the start of roundtrip service between Toronto Pearson International Airport (YYZ) and Liberia, Costa Rica (LIR). This marks the airline's first route to Central America. The Toronto-Liberia route operates up to six times weekly. It is the fourth in a series of new southern routes that Porter is launching this winter, including Cancun, Puerto Vallarta and Nassau. It also complements joint venture partner Air Transat's network, giving travellers even more options for reaching southern vacation destinations.

9. WestJet and Air Transat passengers fight back after airlines falsely

Airline Alliance Once Again, December 8, 2025, www.aircanada.ca

17. Transportation Secretary Duffy Launches "Make Travel Family Friendly Again" Campaign, Announces \$1B in Funding to Support Initiative, December 8, 2025, www.dot.gov

18. Airline Profitability Stabilizes with 3.9% Net Margin Expected in 2026, December 9, 2025, www.iata.org

19. European Air Traffic Control Delays Double Over Last Decade, December 9, 2025, www.iata.org

20. Strike averted after Air Transat and pilots union reach tentative agreement, December 9, 2025, www.financialpost.ca

21. U.S. Cargo and Passenger Airlines Gained 17,187 Jobs in October 2025, December 8, 2025, www.bts.gov

22. The Quiet Giant - Why Air Freight Deserves Greater Recognition and Fair Access to Airport Slots, December 10, 2025, www.iata.org

23. Air Canada Holiday Spot Highlights Dreams Take Flight and The Thousands of Volunteers including Employees Who Bring it to Life, December 10, 2025, www.aircanada.ca

24. Air Canada's 2025 12 Days of Holiday Cheer: A Year of Expanding Global Connections and Elevating the Passenger Experience, December 11, 2025, www.aircanada.ca

25. Canada transport regulator reviews pilot fatigue rules following industry complaints, December 11, 2025, www.ajot.com

26. September 2025 U.S. Airline Traffic Data Down 0.9% from the Same Month Last Year, December 11, 2025, www.bts.gov

27. Porter Airlines launches first international flights from Hamilton, December 12, 2025, www.flyporter.com

28. Porter preps for start of five sun routes from Ottawa, December 12, 2025, www.flyporter.com

29. Airline Service Quality Performance Data – September 2025, December 12, 2025, www.bts.gov

30. Minister of Transport and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons announces first-time air transport agreement with the Republic of Albania, December 15, 2025, www.tc.gc.ca

31. Porter takes off to Grand Cayman with first flights from Toronto, December 16, 2025, www.flyporter.com

32. Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Launches First-Ever National Advanced Air Mobility Strategy to Unlock the Future of Flight, December 17, 2025, www.dot.gov

33. US Airlines net profit was \$1.6 billion in third quarter 2025, a decrease in profit over third quarter 2024, December 17, 2025, www.bts.gov

34. Air Canada Prepares to Welcome More than 2.3 Million Customers Onboard this Holiday Season, December 18, 2025, www.aircanada.ca

35. Air Transat's parent company reports \$12.5M loss in latest quarter, December 18, 2025, www.cbc.ca

claim they can't film disputes

Jason Huang says he and three older relatives were simply trying to get back to Toronto in August 2025, when a routine check-in at the WestJet counter at Edmonton International Airport escalated into a confrontation. "The manager suddenly grabbed my phone," said Huang. "I was shocked." The family was wrapping up a trip to Banff, Jasper and Calgary and had already checked in online and printed their boarding passes. But Huang says at the check-in counter, a WestJet agent issued new ones for a later flight — without explanation. Legal expert says passengers are within their rights to record airport disputes.

36. WestJet wrapped 2025: A look back at the year that flew by, December 19, 2025, www.westjet.ca

37. Reflections from WestJet's 2025 Make-A-Wish Canada group wish trip, December 16, 2025, www.westjet.ca

38. Porter Airlines Achieves Major Milestone with 50th Embraer E195-E2, December 23, 2025, www.flyporter.com

39. Aircraft movement and civil aviation statistics, October 2025, December 23, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca

10. Air Transat pilots give union the power to declare a strike

The union that represents Air Transat's pilots said on Wednesday, December 3, 2025 that its members have voted overwhelmingly to authorize a strike. While the results give the pilot union's governing body the authority to declare a strike as soon as Dec. 10, 2025 it is not in itself an immediate strike notice, the Air Line Pilots Association (ALPA) said in a news release. Air Transat stressed that this is a "common step in the collective bargaining process" and that operations were continuing as normal.

11. Strike Notice at Air Transat

The union representing Air Transat pilots has informed Air Transat of a strike notice on December 7, 2025 which may be exercised within 72 hours. This means the strike could officially begin on December 10, 2025 and our flight operations will be disrupted until an agreement is reached. This notice compels us to implement an action plan that includes the gradual and orderly shutdown of our operations over the next three days. We understand that this situation may cause uncertainty and concern. Our priority is to remain transparent, to support you, and to answer any questions you may have. Negotiations are ongoing, and our goal remains to reach an agreement so we can maintain our flights as much as possible and minimize disruptions for you.

12. Olá, tudo bem? Air Canada Launches Non-Stop Service to Rio de Janeiro, Direct to Sun, Samba, Copacabana and Ipanema!

Air Canada's first flight from Toronto to Rio de Janeiro arrived this morning (December 5, 2025), linking Canada to the picturesque seaside city in Brazil. The seasonal service, offered three days a week, runs until the end of March 2026. A ceremony was held at Toronto Pearson International Airport to mark the occasion. "We are thrilled to introduce non-stop seasonal service between Toronto and Rio de Janeiro, connecting two vibrant cities and offering Canadians more opportunities to experience Brazil's rich culture and stunning landscapes. This route reflects Air Canada's commitment to expanding our international network and providing our customers with exceptional travel options," said Alexandre Lefevre, Vice President - Network Planning at Air Canada.

13. Minister of Transport and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons marks International Civil Aviation Day

The Minister of Transport and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, the Honourable Steven MacKinnon, on December 7, 2025 issued the following statement to mark International Civil Aviation Day. "On International Civil Aviation Day, Canada joins the global aviation community in recognizing the essential role air transport plays in connecting people, economies, and cultures around the world. International aviation supports global prosperity, and advances safe, efficient, and sustainable air transport, and Canada has been central to that progress. ... We are incredibly proud to host ICAO in Montréal, the world capital of civil aviation. ... Looking ahead, Canada will continue to work with ICAO and other member states to reduce aviation emissions, ... We look forward to ongoing, strengthened strategic collaboration and cooperation in the years ahead."

14. U.S. Airlines' October 2025 Aviation Fuel Consumption up 6.2%, and Fuel Cost per Gallon up 1.7% from September 2025

The Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) on December 4, 2025 released U.S. airlines' October 2025 fuel cost and consumption numbers indicating U.S. scheduled service airlines used 1.608 billion gallons of fuel, 6.2% more fuel than in September 2025 (1.514 billion gallons) and 2.0% more fuel than October 2024 (1.576 billion gallons). The cost per gallon of fuel in October 2025 (\$2.34) was up 4 cents (1.7%) from September 2025 (\$2.30) and up 5 cents (2.2%) from October 2024 (\$2.29). Total October 2025 fuel expenditure (\$3.77B) was up 8.0% from September 2025 (\$3.49B) and up 4.3% from October 2024 (\$3.61B).

15. IATA Unveils 2026 Events Calendar

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has unveiled its [2026 event calendar](#), bringing together industry and government leaders to focus on the air transport industry's most pressing challenges. The *new events include*: 1. IATA World Maintenance & Engineering Symposium (23-25 June, Madrid, Spain); and 2. Wings of Change Middle

East & North Africa (8-9 September, Manama, Bahrain): *Other key events include:* 1. World Cargo Symposium (10-12 March, Lima, Peru); 2. World Data Symposium (8-9 April, Singapore); 3. World Safety and Operations Conference (6-8 October, Istanbul, Türkiye); 4. World Sustainability Symposium (October, Brussels, Belgium); 5. World Passenger Symposium (Q4 2026, TBC); and 6. World Financial Symposium (Q4 2026, TBC).

16. Star Alliance Named World’s Leading Airline Alliance Once Again

Star Alliance has once again been recognised as the World’s Leading Airline Alliance at the World Travel Awards 2025, continuing its six-year winning streak. This year’s recognition reflects the Alliance’s continued focus on shaping a more seamless experience across the customer journey — from booking and airport to connections and loyalty. The honour was announced at the Grand Final Gala Ceremony, held in Bahrain. Commenting on the achievement, Star Alliance CEO Theo Panagiotoulis said, “We are truly honoured to be named the World’s Leading Airline Alliance once again, especially knowing it reflects the trust of travellers and industry peers. Our focus has always been on making customer journeys feel effortless, and our lounges bring the experience to life. This recognition belongs to the teams across member airlines and the Alliance headquarters who make that possible every day, and we’re deeply grateful to our customers for their continued support.” Earlier in the year, the Star Alliance Los Angeles Airport Lounge was also celebrated at the World Travel Awards, taking home the title of North America’s Leading Airport Lounge for the sixth consecutive year. The recognition reflects the lounge’s consistent focus on comfort, design, and the unique details that travellers appreciate.

17. Transportation Secretary Duffy Launches “Make Travel Family Friendly Again” Campaign, Announces \$1B in Funding to Support Initiative

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy on December 8, 2025 launched his “Make Travel Family Friendly Again” campaign ahead of a busy holiday travel season. To improve families’ experiences in airport terminals, Secretary Duffy announced \$1 billion in funding to incentivize more family-friendly resources in airport terminals. This can include: 1. Creating more children’s play areas or exercise areas; 2. Adding mothers’ rooms or nursing pods; 3. Reconfiguring security checkpoints to create family screening lanes; 4. Building sensory rooms for children with special needs; and 5. Other creative terminal projects that focus on enhancing the family travel journey. As part of the campaign launch, Secretary Duffy was joined by Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr., Dr. Paul Saladino, a double board-certified Physician Nutrition Specialist, Isabel Brown, a content creator and young mom, and Luke Saunders, the CEO and Founder of Farmer’s Fridge.

18. Airline Profitability Stabilizes with 3.9% Net Margin Expected in 2026

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) released its latest financial outlook for the global airline industry showing a stabilization of profitability even as supply chain issues persist. Highlights include: 1. Airlines are expected to achieve a combined **total net profit** of \$41 billion in 2026 (up from \$39.5 billion in 2025). While this would set a new record, the net profit margin is expected to be unchanged from 2025 at 3.9%. Net profit per passenger transported is expected to be \$7.90 (below the 2023 high of \$8.50, and unchanged from 2025). 2. **Operating profit** in 2026 is expected to be \$72.8 billion (up from \$67.0 billion in 2025) for a net operating margin of 6.9% (improving the 6.6% expected for 2025). 3. **Return on invested capital (ROIC)** is expected to be 6.8% (unchanged from 2025). Despite deleveraging and improved operating profitability, ROIC is expected to remain below the weighted average cost of capital (WACC) estimated to be 8.2% in 2026. 4. **Total industry revenues** are expected to reach \$1.053 trillion in 2026 (up 4.5% on the \$1.008 trillion expected revenues in 2025). 5. **Load factors** are forecast to continue to set record highs with airlines expected to fill 83.8% of all seats over the year 2026. 6. **Passenger numbers** are expected to reach 5.2 billion in 2026 (up 4.4% on 2025). 7. **Cargo volumes** are expected to reach 71.6 million tonnes in 2026 (up 2.4% on 2025).

19. European Air Traffic Control Delays Double Over Last Decade

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) released a [report](#) revealing that Air Traffic Control (ATC) delays in Europe have more than doubled over the last decade, causing significant disruption for passengers. Air Traffic Flow Management (ATFM) delays in the region rose by 114% in the period 2015-2024. This is against a rise of only 6.7% in flight numbers over the same period. The analysis excluded delays caused by weather. Flight cancellations induced by ATC strikes were also not included in the analysis. Capacity limitations and staff shortages account for the majority of delays, issues that have been known for some time but inadequately mitigated, especially in France and Germany. The Air Navigation Service Providers (ANSPs) of France and Germany are responsible for more than 50% of all delays.

20. Strike averted after Air Transat and pilots union reach tentative agreement

[Transat A.T. Inc.](#) announced Tuesday evening (December 9, 2025) that it had reached a tentative deal with its pilots’ union for the renewal of their collective agreement. It said the agreement marked an “important milestone” in the bargaining process, that the strike threat had been lifted, and that its operations were returning to normal. The airline had cancelled 18 flights as of Tuesday afternoon in preparation for potential [strike](#) action by its pilots early Wednesday, December 10, 2025 morning. The [Air Line Pilots Association](#), which represents Air Transat’s 700 pilots, served its [72-](#)

[hour strike notice](#) on Dec. 7, 2025. In anticipation of this, the airline had been repatriating flights as part of a gradual and orderly shutdown of operations. As the clock wound down toward Wednesday's strike deadline, Air Transat had taken several precautionary measures to bring travellers home from abroad. Some passengers originally scheduled to return on Dec. 10, 2025 (Wednesday) were offered flights on Monday and Tuesday instead. The airline [added four new flights](#) on Monday and three on Tuesday morning. In its last update Tuesday afternoon, the company said it remained at the bargaining table and that "improved offers have been submitted in the past few hours, along with significant concessions, reflecting our determination to find common ground." By evening, the airline announced the tentative deal, which the ALPA will be taking to its members for ratification in the coming days.

21. U.S. Cargo and Passenger Airlines Gained 17,187 Jobs in October 2025

U.S. airline industry (passenger and cargo airlines combined) employment increased to 1,049,241 workers in October 2025, 17,187 (1.67%) more workers than in September 2025 (1,032,054). U.S. scheduled-service passenger airlines employed 550,170 workers in October 2025, or 53% of the industry-wide total. Passenger airlines gained 1,911 employees in October 2025. American Airlines led scheduled passenger carriers, adding 783 employees; United Air Lines added 663, and Southwest Airlines added 268. U.S. cargo airlines employed 494,738 workers in October 2025, or 47% of the industry-wide total. Cargo carriers gained 15,288 employees in October 2025. FedEx, the leading air cargo employer thanks in part to inclusion of its ground operations, increased employment by 15,660 jobs. Other cargo carriers lost 372 employees in October 2025.

22. The Quiet Giant - Why Air Freight Deserves Greater Recognition and Fair Access to Airport Slots

While air cargo matters more than ever to our modern way of life, it is increasingly at the back of the queue for airport slot coordination. Air cargo is a cornerstone of world trade. Just 1% of global trade by volume travels by air, but it accounts for 35% of the total value. In monetary terms, air cargo moves goods worth around \$8 trillion annually—an amount almost twice the GDP of Japan. From aircraft components to medical supplies, semiconductors, and luxury items, industries depend on the speed, safety, and reliability of air freight to meet tight margins and critical deadlines. The rise of e-commerce has turbocharged the demand for air cargo. Today's businesses—whether global conglomerates or small exporters—rely on just-in-time air freight to minimize storage costs and ensure swift market entry. This reliability enables even the smallest players to compete alongside industry giants. Despite its economic and social contributions, air cargo often faces significant hurdles in airport slot allocation. Many airports, including Bogotá and Dubai, restrict cargo carriers to temporary ad hoc slots rather than granting historic allocations. In China, cargo flights are confined to midnight–6 a.m. operations. Major UK airports like Heathrow and Gatwick also deny historic slots to cargo, limiting their operational flexibility. Parking restrictions compound the problem. These disparities stem from local regulations, not global guidelines. The [IATA Worldwide Airport Slot Guidelines \(WASG\)](#) calls for fair, non-discriminatory, and transparent slot allocation, regardless of the type of operation being flown. Regulators, airport operators, and slot coordinators should review and align local rules with WASG principles. Ring-fencing slots for cargo is not the solution—it can lead to inefficiencies and unintended consequences. The focus should be on maximizing airport capacity for all users.

23. Air Canada Holiday Spot Highlights Dreams Take Flight and The Thousands of Volunteers including Employees Who Bring it to Life

In keeping with tradition, Air Canada is celebrating the holiday season with a heartwarming new spot, [Holiday Dreams Take Flight](#). This year's live-action spot focuses on Dreams Take Flight, a long-running initiative powered by Air Canada employees, volunteers, sponsors and the Air Canada Foundation. *Holiday Dreams Take Flight* launches on December 10, 2025 in multiple forms. A combination of 90-second, 30-second and 15-second versions will be shown on social media and digital platforms.

24. Air Canada's 2025 12 Days of Holiday Cheer: A Year of Expanding Global Connections and Elevating the Passenger Experience

As 2025 draws to a close, Air Canada reflects on a year marked by significant achievements and milestones. With gratitude for the loyalty of its customers, the dedicated professionalism of its employees and the support of its partners, Air Canada celebrates its global leadership. This is captured in the airline's [12 Days of Cheer video](#), which also underscores Air Canada's commitment to building on its successes as it looks ahead to a bright 2026. The key developments were: 1. There were 12 new international destinations were launched in 2025 and 7 are already announced for 2026. 2. There were new on-board additions such as fast, free Wi-Fi* in North America, complimentary beer and wine for all customers and premium snacks.

25. Canada transport regulator reviews pilot fatigue rules following industry complaints

Canada's transport regulator is reviewing its regulations to curb pilot fatigue due to industry concerns they are too complex, in the latest case of a country wrestling with rules designed to improve safety. Transport Canada told Reuters on Tuesday, December 9, 2025 that it has been "diligently reviewing" pilots' flight and duty time regulations in consultation with pilots and air operators. Since the current rules took effect in 2018, industry participants had shared

concerns over the "complexity and inoperability of the current framework," the regulator said. The head of a global pilot union group said this week that India's decision to grant the exemption from the rest rules was concerning, while in Canada, a union representing aviators said Transport Canada had proposed exemptions to the country's duty-time regulations. The Air Line Pilots Association said Transport Canada had proposed allowing pilots to work up to 23 days in a row rather than having a guaranteed day off per week. Transport Canada did not comment on the proposed exemptions. Canada and other countries have introduced regulations over the years to limit the maximum number of hours that commercial pilots can fly and cap the time they remain on duty to improve safety. Transport Canada said in 2018 that the rules would lower the number of flight hours to 1,000 from 1,200 over 365 days and set a maximum work day anywhere from nine to 13 hours, depending on start time. A commercial airline pilot's flight duty period was previously capped at 13 hours and 45 minutes.

26. September 2025 U.S. Airline Traffic Data Down 0.9% from the Same Month Last Year

Systemwide (domestic and international), U.S. airlines carried 76.8 million systemwide (80.9 million seasonally adjusted) scheduled service passengers in September 2025, according to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS). When adjusted for seasonality, September enplanements are down 1.2% from August and down 2.8% from the all-time high reached in June 2024. BTS reported 67.4 million domestic passengers and 9.4 million international passengers on U.S. airlines flights in September, not adjusting for seasonality. U.S. airline traffic reports are filed monthly with BTS.

27. Porter Airlines launches first international flights from Hamilton

Porter Airlines is expanding its network from John C. Munro Hamilton International Airport (YHM), with new international, nonstop service to Florida and Mexico. First up are flights to Orlando (MCO) and Fort Lauderdale (FLL), taking off today and tomorrow (i.e. December 12 and 13, 2025), respectively. Both routes will start with three roundtrips weekly. Later this month, inaugural flights from Hamilton to Mexico are departing. Cancun (CUN) begins Dec. 17, 2025 with up to four weekly roundtrips, and Puerto Vallarta (PVR) begins Dec. 18, with two weekly roundtrips.

28. Porter preps for start of five sun routes from Ottawa

Porter Airlines is inaugurating its winter schedule from Ottawa International Airport (YOW), bringing the National Capital Region closer to five southern destinations in Mexico, the Caribbean and Costa Rica. Beginning this week, travellers can fly non-stop from Ottawa to Puerto Vallarta (PVR), Nassau (NAS), Cancun (CUN), Liberia (LIR) and Grand Cayman (GCM), with all routes starting within the next seven days. Notably, Porter is now the only airline offering nonstop service from Ottawa to Grand Cayman and Liberia, providing exclusive access to these exciting destinations.

29. Airline Service Quality Performance Data – September 2025

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) on December 12, 2025 released its Airline Service Quality Performance data compiled for the month of September 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).

30. Minister of Transport and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons announces first-time air transport agreement with the Republic of Albania

On December 15, 2025, the Honourable Steven MacKinnon, Minister of Transport and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, announced that Canada has secured a new air transport agreement with the Republic of Albania. The new agreement allows for: 1. Multiple airlines to operate scheduled services between Canada and Albania; 2. Up to 14 passenger flights per week per country; 3. Up to 10 all-cargo flights per week per country; and 4. Access to any point in each country's territory, Airlines can begin offering services under this agreement immediately.

31. Porter takes off to Grand Cayman with first flights from Toronto

Porter Airlines is inaugurating nonstop service on December 16, 2025 between Toronto Pearson International Airport and Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands, with up to three times weekly frequency. This route is complemented by twice weekly non-stop flights operating from Ottawa beginning Dec. 19, 2025.

32. Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Launches First-Ever National Advanced Air Mobility Strategy to Unlock the Future of Flight

U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy on December 17, 2025 unveiled the nation's first ever Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) National Strategy setting an ambitious roadmap to accelerate American aviation innovation and transform our skies for the better. The Strategy and accompanying action plan outline 40 recommendations to safely and efficiently support AAM operations. The Strategy will also help advance President Trump's "America First" agenda—unleashing America's economic strength and ensuring the U.S., and not our adversaries, remain a global leader in next-generation aviation.

33. US Airlines net profit was \$1.6 billion in third quarter 2025, a decrease in profit over third quarter 2024

U.S. scheduled passenger airlines reported a third-quarter 2025 after-tax net income of \$1.6 billion and a pre-tax operating profit of \$2.7 billion. One year earlier, in the third quarter of 2024, the airlines reported an after-tax net income of \$2.1 billion and a pre-tax operating profit of \$3.1 billion.

34. Air Canada Prepares to Welcome More than 2.3 Million Customers Onboard this Holiday Season

Tis the season for making memories, and for more than 2.3 million Air Canada customers, that starts the moment they arrive at the airport. Between December 18, 2025 and January 4, 2026 the airline expects to welcome close to 130,000 customers a day in one of its busiest travel weeks of the year. The highlights expected are: 1. Airline bringing festive cheer to customers on more than 18,000 flights to over 180 destinations worldwide over the holiday season; 2. Air Canada teams across the world are ready to go above and beyond to make journeys as smooth as possible, with extra attention for customers with accessibility needs and minors travelling unaccompanied; and 3. Air Canada will provide additional airport support, including personalized care and seasonal surprises, combined with digital tools to make travel easier and more enjoyable

35. Air Transat's parent company reports \$12.5M loss in latest quarter

The parent company of Air Transat reported a loss of \$12.5 million in its latest quarter, compared with a profit of \$41.2 million in the same quarter last year. Transat A.T. Inc. said the loss amounted to 52 cents per diluted share for the quarter that ended Oct. 31, 2025 compared with a profit of \$1.05 per diluted share one year earlier. Revenue in what was Transat's fourth quarter totalled \$771.6 million, down from \$788.8 million a year ago, when it benefited from compensation related to Pratt & Whitney GTF engine issues. Excluding the impact of this lower compensation, Transat said revenue increased by 1.5 per cent compared with a year ago.

36. WestJet wrapped 2025: A look back at the year that flew by

As 2025 comes to a close, WestJet is unwrapping the numbers that made this year soar. From the most-watched movies at 35,000 feet to the cookies that kept guests smiling, the airline has compiled the quirkiest stats from across its network. Behind every takeoff and touchdown, 2025 was packed with milestones. From the busiest travel days to the inaugural flights that expanded WestJet's network, this year kept the Canadian skies buzzing. With hundreds of destinations served and countless journeys completed, here's a snapshot of the numbers that tell the story of a year well flown: 2025 wasn't just about travel; it was about making connections that went the distance. From hours volunteered to cargo packed, WestJet employees showed up for their communities. Between WestJet's charitable partners and employee giving programs, the airline made 2025 count in more ways than one:

37. Reflections from WestJet's 2025 Make-A-Wish Canada group wish trip

Make-A-Wish Canada creates life-changing wishes for children between the ages of 3 and 17 with critical illnesses. In November 2025 the dreams of 29 wish kids came true as they embarked on a trip to Walt Disney World! Make-A-Wish® Canada's 2025 group wish trip took place November 4 to 11, with the 29 wish kids and their families enjoying a worry-free week together filled with magic, hope and memories. This trip continued WestJet's long-standing partnership with Make-A-Wish® Canada and celebrated the power of travel to transform lives and bring joy to children with critical illnesses. In October, WestJet and Sunwing team members participated in five wish reveals. This is where the magic begins as the wish kids learn their dreams are coming true! We had the privilege of helping deliver wish boxes to Chace, Owen, Xander, Liam and Ryla. To wrap up the trip and show how meaningful this annual initiative is, we are excited to once again share stories from some of the families. Aurora, Natalie, and Xander's parents graciously took the time to write about their experience and what the trip meant to them.

38. Porter Airlines Achieves Major Milestone with 50th Embraer E195-E2

Embraer has delivered the 50th E195-E2 aircraft to Porter Airlines, marking a major milestone in one of North America's most dynamic fleet expansions. Since receiving its first E2 jet in December 2022, Porter set out to reshape travel across North America and set a new standard for passenger experience. Porter has firm orders for 75 aircraft, with purchase rights for an additional 25, potentially bringing its fleet up to 100 E2s. The E195-E2 has enabled Porter's impressive network expansion across Canada, the U.S., and now the Caribbean, Mexico and Central America.

39. Aircraft movement and civil aviation statistics, October 2025

Major Canadian airlines flew 7.1 million passengers on scheduled and charter services in October 2025, up 2.2% from October 2024. Aircraft movements at Canada's major and select small airports totalled 514,143 in October 2025, down 0.6% from the same month the previous year. Local movements declined 3.8% year over year, while itinerant movements increased 0.9%.

WATER TRANSPORTATION

1. Canada re-elected to the International Maritime Organization Council

On November 28, 2025, Canada was re-elected to the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Council for the 2026-27 term. This demonstrates Canada's record of leadership in the Organization, and its role in promoting a safe, secure, and environmentally sustainable global maritime sector.

2. Port-wide vessel scheduling now operational, giving Canada's largest port a powerful tool to keep trade flowing

The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority has completed the final phase of its centralized scheduling system implementation, bringing the Fraser River, Roberts Bank, and the English Bay anchorage area into the system and achieving a full port-wide coverage. This milestone marks a significant step forward for the port authority-led [Active Vessel Traffic Management Program](#) and comes at a pivotal time for Canada's supply chains as the country seeks to diversify markets and strengthen resilience amid shifting global trade dynamics. With full coverage now in place, the system will support efficient, safe ship movements for more than 3,000 annual port calls across 29 marine terminals, including approximately 800 deep-sea vessel calls in the Fraser River and at Roberts Bank—areas where over \$200 billion worth of trade flows each year.

3. PortMiami announces banner year for growth in cargo TEU volumes

PortMiami announced results for Fiscal Year 2025, which started October 1, 2024 and ended September 30, 2025, in both cruise and cargo operations. The port welcomed an unprecedented 8,564,225 cruise passengers, up from 8,233,056 the previous fiscal year, a 4.02% increase and the highest annual passenger count in the seaport's history. PortMiami also achieved another significant accomplishment in cargo performance. The port recorded 1,115,058 TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units), up from 1,089,443 TEUs the previous fiscal year, a 2.35% growth and marking 11 consecutive years exceeding one million TEUs. Hydi Webb, PortMiami Director and CEO said "PortMiami's record performance across both cruise and cargo operations reflects the dedication of our entire team and the strength of our partnerships with the cruise industry, cargo carriers, and the business community. As we continue to expand and modernize our facilities, our focus remains on providing safe, efficient, and resilient operations that support Miami-Dade County's economic growth and strengthen our position as a global gateway for travel and trade."

4. Trans-Pacific carriers tweak pricing strategy to keep rates from collapsing

Container lines over the past two months have been able to keep spot rates from crashing in the eastbound trans-Pacific despite US imports from Asia falling and while they deployed significantly more tonnage in the same period. But that high-wire act will become increasingly precarious over the next two months. Import volume declines are expected to accelerate over the next 60 days as forwarders bemoan a deep lull in new bookings due to shipper uncertainty. Yet carriers plan to keep capacity elevated, with tonnage from Asia to the US West Coast set to rise almost 13% year over year in 2026.

5. Port of Vancouver launches new dashboard to boost supply chain visibility

The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority has launched an open-access, web-based dashboard designed to provide real-time insights into intermodal cargo movements, a move the port authority says will help strengthen supply chain resilience and day-to-day coordination at Canada's largest port. The port authority says the tool offers a dozen metrics related to train, vessel and container truck performance, updated daily with up to two years of historical data. The dashboard is intended to help users identify trends, allocate

WATER TRANSPORTATION

Canada

1. Canada re-elected to the International Maritime Organization Council, November 28, 2025, www.tc.gc.ca
2. Port-wide vessel scheduling now operational, giving Canada's largest port a powerful tool to keep trade flowing, November 25, 2025, www.portmetrovancover.com
3. PortMiami announces banner year for growth in cargo TEU volumes, December 2, 2025, www.ajot.com
4. Trans-Pacific carriers tweak pricing strategy to keep rates from collapsing, December 3, 2025, www.joc.com
5. Port of Vancouver launches new dashboard to boost supply chain visibility, December 3, 2025, www.insidelogistics.ca
6. Hapag-Lloyd buyout offer for Zim unlikely to get far: report, December 4, 2025, www.joc.com
7. Vancouver's new scheduling system gives 96-hour advance notice of vessel arrivals, December 5, 2025, www.joc.com
8. Red Sea container comeback: CMA CGM launches new Suez service, December 5, 2025, www.ajot.com
9. Global container volume growth slows on US, EU declines, December 8, 2025, www.joc.com
10. Prince Rupert Gateway Partners Celebrate Sustainability Milestone, December 10, 2025, www.rupertport.com
11. US container volumes set for weak 2026 amid ongoing trade uncertainty, December 10, 2025, www.joc.com
12. The Suez Canal Authority and Maersk Group sign a strategic partnership agreement, December 10, 2025, www.ajot.com
13. Arctic Gateway Group, NSSI sign deal to strengthen Churchill-Nunavut supply route, December 11, 2025, www.insidelogistics.ca
14. PRPA Announces New Interim President, December 12, 2025, www.rupertport.com
15. US freight industry enters 2026 with low growth expectations, December 15, 2025, www.joc.com
16. House reauthorizes FMC and adds to its oversight powers, December 16, 2025, www.joc.com
17. Carriers look to higher rates, fewer sailings on key Asia-US route, December 16, 2025, www.freightwaves.com
18. Port of Los Angeles on track for third best cargo year on record, December 16, 2025, www.ajot.com
19. ONE returns to Red Sea with new service, December 17, 2025, www.freightwaves.com
20. Port Houston volumes dip in November, December 17, 2025, www.ajot.com
21. Port of Vancouver operations remain fluid amid heavy rainfall in B.C., December 16, 2025, www.insidelogistics.ca
22. Port of Long Beach on course to achieve busiest year, December 18, 2025, www.ajot.com
23. Carriers plan rate hikes, revamp services on Asia-Latin America trade, December 19, 2025,

resources more efficiently and better anticipate delays or disruptions. The launch comes as Canada seeks to bolster economic resilience and diversify trade. The port authority says improved “actionable visibility” can help stakeholders optimize operations and make more effective use of infrastructure, supporting national objectives and maintaining the port’s competitiveness.

www.joc.com

24. Hapag-Lloyd, ONE expand terminal networks with deals in Brazil, China, December 23, 2025, www.joc.com

25. Australian shippers call for end to ocean carrier anti-trust immunity, December 29, 2025, www.joc.com

6. Hapag-Lloyd buyout offer for Zim unlikely to get far: report

Israeli business newspaper *Globes* reported on December 3, 2025 that Zim received a buyout offer from Hapag-Lloyd as part of the strategic review its board of directors is undertaking. Zim’s board is considering offers to sell the company, including one from its own Chief Executive Eli Glickman. Zim Integrated Shipping Services is reportedly fielding offers from other ocean carriers for a buyout, but the Israeli government’s stake in Zim and the partial Arabic state ownership of one potential suitor are complicating a possible deal. The state of Israel has a special share in Zim that requires government approval for any merger or sales transaction.

7. Vancouver’s new scheduling system gives 96-hour advance notice of vessel arrivals

The completion of a centralized scheduling system at the Port of Vancouver will provide marine terminals with at least four days of advance notice of container ship arrivals, allowing for better labor and equipment planning to mitigate import surges. Shipping lines are now sharing vessel arrival information with terminal operators and other port stakeholders at least 96 hours in advance of vessel arrivals so they can marshal their labor and equipment needs. The system, launched two years ago by the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority, helps coordinate the five different types of vessels, ranging from bulk to cruise ships, that call on some 29 marine terminals in three different districts. The port also presents unique navigational challenges, from confined waters to changing river flow conditions, said Capt. Gord Cooper, chair of the Fraser River.

8. Red Sea container comeback: CMA CGM launches new Suez service

CMA CGM has announced its INDAMEX service will transit the Suez Canal on fronthaul and backhaul voyages between India/Pakistan and US East Coast in a notable step towards a large-scale return of container ships to the Red Sea region. The first vessel to complete a full service loop via the Suez Canal will be CMA CGM VERDI, sailing from Karachi to New York on 15 January, 2026. Peter Sand, Chief Analyst at Xeneta – the ocean freight intelligence platform - said: “We are still some way from a large-scale return of container shipping to the Red Sea, but CMA CGM’s announcement of a full east-west loop via Suez is certainly a notable step in the right direction. “We have seen carriers, particularly CMA CGM, testing the water recently by transiting the Suez Canal on a select few voyages, particularly backhaul legs to Asia when there is less cargo onboard.”

9. Global container volume growth slows on US, EU declines

Global container volume growth in October 2025 fell to its slowest pace since February 2025 as increased trade in Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Latin America was offset by falling US and European imports, according to new data from Container Trades Statistics (CTS). Global volumes expanded 2.1% year over year in October 2025, with volumes in the first 10 months up 4.4% compared with a year earlier, according to CTS. The softer global growth in October 2025 pulled the 12-month rolling average down to the lowest level in 20 months, according to Simon Heaney, senior manager of container research at Drewry. Container growth has shifted away from North America toward so-called secondary trades, with African and Middle Eastern volumes driving global gains.

10. Prince Rupert Gateway Partners Celebrate Sustainability Milestone

The Prince Rupert Port Authority (PRPA) and 13 Prince Rupert Gateway partners teamed up in 2025 to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from port operations by replacing more than two million litres of conventional diesel with Petro-Canada EcoDiesel™. Petro-Canada EcoDiesel produces roughly 67 percent less greenhouse gas over its lifecycle than conventional diesel, based on B.C.’s Low Carbon Fuel Standard, supporting the PRPA’s Renewable Diesel Initiative. Participating Gateway partners opted to use the drop-in fuel made from renewable feedstocks for a wide variety of purposes, including on-dock cargo handling equipment, drayage trucks, locomotives, tugs, and pilot and patrol vessels. Collaborating with supplier Suncor, owner of Petro-Canada™, and distributor Jepson Petroleum, PRPA secured a consistent supply of Petro-Canada EcoDiesel for use port wide. Terminal operators and service providers, operating on both land and water, collectively displaced nearly 24 percent of the 8.42 million litres of conventional diesel consumed in port operations annually.

11. US container volumes set for weak 2026 amid ongoing trade uncertainty

US ports face another down year for volumes in 2026 due to ongoing uncertainty over the direction of US trade and tariff policy, according to an S&P Global credit outlook. The forecast drop in container volumes echoes similar outlooks from major US port operators whose fortunes are not expected to turn around until 2027. S&P Global Ratings said Tuesday, December 9, 2025 that while US economic output and employment are expected to remain stable through

next year (i.e. 2026), ports face a down year as the Trump administration's wide-ranging tariffs against most US trade partners likely make shippers cautious and continue to reshore production.

12. The Suez Canal Authority and Maersk Group sign a strategic partnership agreement

Maersk-affiliated vessels will resume transiting the Suez Canal in early December 2025 as a precursor to a full-capacity return. CMA CGM is also expected to return at full capacity next month. CEO of A.P. Moller–Maersk, Vincent Clerc, affirmed that the Suez Canal “has been and remains a pivotal lynchpin” for the Group’s shipping traffic, adding that Maersk’s return will likely encourage other shipping lines to follow. In a joint statement, the Suez Canal Authority (SCA) and Maersk announced the decision following bilateral discussions that culminated in signing a new strategic partnership agreement. Admiral Ossama Rabiee, Chairman and Managing Director of the SCA, and Mr. Clerc witnessed the signing at the New Marina building in Ismailia. The agreement builds on decades of cooperation and sets an integrated framework for future collaboration. Adm. Rabiee stated that Maersk’s return reflects a move back toward the optimal, shortest, and most secure route for global supply chains. He noted that in 2023, Maersk-operated vessels recorded 1,158 transits with 127 million tons of net tonnage, generating \$733 million in revenue.

13. Arctic Gateway Group, NSSI sign deal to strengthen Churchill–Nunavut supply route

Arctic Gateway Group and Nunavut Sealink and Supply Inc. have signed a memorandum of understanding aimed at rebuilding and expanding northern supply chains between the Port of Churchill and Nunavut’s Kivalliq region. “The Port of Churchill is ready to supply businesses and families in Nunavut with the goods they need, reliably and with improved service,” said Chris Avery, president and CEO of Arctic Gateway Group. He said the Churchill–Nunavut relationship was disrupted in 2017 when the rail line fell into disrepair and service stopped, but added that ongoing port upgrades and a reliably operating Hudson Bay Railway mean the company is “ready to rebuild that connection and re-establish Churchill as the natural, northern gateway for the Kivalliq.” Under the MOU, the two organizations will work to strengthen multimodal supply chains, including rail, port operations and sealift, and explore launching a Churchill-origin sealift as early as 2026.

14. PRPA Announces New Interim President

The Prince Rupert Port Authority (PRPA) announced on December 12, 2025 that Kurt Slocombe has been appointed by the Board of Directors as Interim President effective January 1st, 2026. Mr. Slocombe joined PRPA in 2019 as Vice President, Operations, Planning and Infrastructure. He has an extensive background in gateway operations.

15. US freight industry enters 2026 with low growth expectations

US freight demand enters 2026 with import container volumes in retraction and surface freight demand in a three-year slump. Container volumes will be flat to down next year, according to forecasts from S&P Global Ratings and Moody’s, while truckload and less-than-truckload (LTL) operators steer themselves for another so-so year. US air cargo growth is declining, with volumes down on a year-over-year basis for six straight months through October 2025, according to the International Air Transport Association. Intermodal growth, meanwhile, has notably fared well. Despite negative headlines on unemployment and retail confidence, economists expect the US economy to muster on, most likely avoiding a recession.

16. House reauthorizes FMC and adds to its oversight powers

Congress has reauthorized the Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) for another four years while adding new powers to the agency for monitoring shipping exchanges and non-US ocean carriers. The House of Representatives voted on December 16, 2025 to fund the FMC through 2029, with the agency’s annual budget set to rise from \$49.2 million currently to \$57 million over the next four years. Along with the funding, the reauthorization codified new responsibilities for the FMC under the Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 2022 (OSRA-22). The FMC will now be expected to report on whether ocean carrier business practices create trade imbalances. The bill now goes to the Senate, but there is no timeline for when it will vote.

17. Carriers look to higher rates, fewer sailings on key Asia-US route

Deep in the heart of the slow shipping season and as they prepare for New Year contract negotiations, ocean container carriers have yet to find a good way to re-synch demand and capacity on the trans-Pacific. Rates on the benchmark Asia-U.S. trade lane diverged in the latest week, according to analyst *Freightos*. Capacity reductions and an array of announced blanked sailings on the trans-Pacific have so far failed to bolster recent general rate increases (GRIs). “Last week West Coast rates retreated 6% from a start of the month GRI bump, to \$1,963 per FEU (forty foot equivalent unit),” said *Freightos* Head of Research Judah Levine, in a note to clients. “Prices to the East Coast increased 8% to \$3,150 per FEU this week, but are down 15% from a month ago. Despite that sawtooth profile, “carriers have succeeded in keeping rates above October lows of \$1,400 per FEU and \$3,000 per FEU, respectively, likely with benefits of higher rates for short periods in between the dips.”

18. Port of Los Angeles on track for third best cargo year on record

The Port of Los Angeles processed 782,249 Twenty-Foot Equivalent Units (TEUs) in November, a decrease of 12% compared to last year’s elevated cargo levels. With one month left in the year, the Port has handled 9,447,731 TEUs,

1% more than 2024. “Even with all the trade uncertainty, we’ll finish 2025 north of 10 million TEUs, putting this year firmly in our top three of all time,” Port Executive Director Gene Seroka said at a media briefing. “All that cargo moved without congestion and not a single ship backed up. “That’s a credit to our longshore labor, truckers, terminal operators, rail partners and every stakeholder who keeps this complex system running smoothly,” Seroka added. “That kind of reliability is why 200,000 importers and exporters each year continue to choose Los Angeles – and trust us in any market condition.” Joining Seroka for the briefing was Constance Hunter, Chief Economist at the Economist Intelligence Unit. Hunter discussed the impact of tariffs on trade and the economy, as well as the outlook for 2026. November 2025 loaded imports came in at 406,421 TEUs, 11% less than last year. Loaded exports landed at 113,706 TEUs, an 8% drop compared to 2024. The Port handled 262,122 empty container units, 13% less than last year.

19. ONE returns to Red Sea with new service

Ocean Network Express plans a return to the Red Sea with the launch of the new RCS (Red-Sea China Service). The announcement comes as part of a slot charter agreement with Regional Container Lines – and several other carriers – on its RCL China Red Sea Service inaugurated in November. “This new service has been introduced to meet the demand between China and Red Sea ports, allowing us to better serve our customers with optimized network coverage and reliable shipping solutions,” Singapore-based ONE said in a release. Interest in a return to the Red Sea has picked up following a ceasefire in Gaza. Houthi rebels said they would end attacks on shipping as long as the ceasefire holds.

20. Port Houston volumes dip in November

Port Houston’s handled 4,186,264 short tons in November, which was down 15% compared to the same month last year, but remains up 4% in total tonnage year-to-date, with 50,383,531 short tons. Container activity also slowed. TEUs through the public terminals were down 9% for the month, with a total of 335,275 TEUs. Loaded imports softened with a 12% decline, and loaded exports dipped 2% in November 2025. However, resin and other Gulf-region manufactured goods continue to support strong export activity, resulting in a year-to-date increase of 8% in loaded exports. Through November 2025, Port Houston has handled 3,971,643 total TEUs, a solid 5% year-to-date gain that keeps Port Houston on track for another record container year.

21. Port of Vancouver operations remain fluid amid heavy rainfall in B.C.

Heavy rainfall from a series of atmospheric rivers continues to affect coastal areas in British Columbia, prompting a travel advisory for parts of the Fraser Valley. The Ministry of Transportation and Transit said some major highways have been impacted, but terminal and rail operations at the Port of Vancouver remain fluid and operational. The region is expected to see continued precipitation in the coming days. The port said it is working closely with terminal operators, railways and all levels of government to monitor conditions and will provide updates as they become available. For the latest information on road conditions and closures, drivers are advised to visit [DriveBC](#).

22. Port of Long Beach on course to achieve busiest year

Goods moved before tariffs started earlier this year helped put the Port of Long Beach on course to have its all-time busiest year, exceeding the record-setting 9.6 million cargo containers moved in 2024. The Port of LA achieved its second-busiest November 2025, when dockworkers and terminal operators moved 817,561 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) of cargo, down 7.5% from the record set in Nov. 2024. Imports declined 7.5% to 400,505 TEUs and exports decreased 7.5% to 110,122 TEUs. Empty containers moving through the Port were down 8.2% to 306,934 TEUs.

23. Carriers plan rate hikes, revamp services on Asia-Latin America trade

Ocean carriers are pushing rate increases and revamping services on Asia-to-Latin American routes amid booming trade, especially between China and Brazil. Trade between China and Mexico, however, faces tariff headwinds beginning in January 2026. CMA CGM said it would increase rates by \$1,000 per container from all Asia ports to the East and West coasts of South America, Mexico and the Caribbean from Jan. 1, 2026. The price hike would apply to dry, reefer, paying empties and out-of-gauge cargo, the carrier said in an advisory Thursday, on December 18, 2025.

24. Hapag-Lloyd, ONE expand terminal networks with deals in Brazil, China

Hapag-Lloyd and Ocean Network Express (ONE) are expanding their container terminal portfolios with separate deals for facilities in Brazil and China, the carriers announced Tuesday, December 23, 2025. In Brazil, Hanseatic Global Terminals, Hapag-Lloyd’s ports division, has signed a joint venture agreement with the Imetame Group to take a 50% stake in Imetame Logística Porto (ILP), which focuses on container terminal operations. Under the deal, Hanseatic and Imetame will build and operate the 1.2 million-TEU capacity Hanseatic Global Terminals Aracruz container terminal at Aracruz in Brazil’s Espírito Santo state, about 310 miles north of Rio de Janeiro.

25. Australian shippers call for end to ocean carrier anti-trust immunity

Shipper groups in Australia will urge the abolition of ocean carrier anti-trust immunity and the implementation of legal controls on port and related fees in their submission to a government inquiry into productivity within the country’s maritime and logistics sectors. “The FTA [Freight & Trade Alliance] and the Australian Peak Shippers Association [ASPA] consider both the end of anti-trust immunity and the introduction of a mandatory port-related fees code central to improving productivity...”

RAIL TRANSPORTATION

1. Freight Rail Services Price Index, November 2025

Data for November for the Freight Rail Services Price Index (2018=100) are now available on statcan website. The index for November 2025 was 131.3 compared to 126.7 for the same month a year ago and 130.2 in October 2025.

2. Ports urge strict review of intermodal impacts from UP-NS merger

The National Association of Waterfront Employers (NAWE) became the first group in ocean freight to weigh in on the proposed merger of Union Pacific and Norfolk Southern, arguing a combined railroad could mean less competition and further erosion in intermodal service reliability at US ports. In a Dec. 1, 2025 letter to the US Surface Transportation Board (STB), NAWE said its members are concerned that reducing the number of Class I railroads through UP's \$85 billion acquisition of NS will further degrade intermodal service at ports. Marine terminals need an intermodal rail service to handle increasing volumes of trade.

3. Building A Sustainable Future: CN Publishes Sustainability Report

CN on December 2, 2025 announced the release of its 2024 Delivering Responsibly Sustainability Report. The key highlights from the 2024 Delivering Responsibly Report are: 1. On **Environment**, CN achieved a 4% improvement in Scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions intensity compared to 2023 and increased renewable fuel use to nearly 10% of locomotive fuel. CN maintained progress toward its science-based 2030 and 2050 ambitions. 2. On **Safety**, CN recorded the second-best injury performance in CN's history and improved train accident frequency by nearly 8% year over year and deployed enhanced behaviour-based safety training to identify and control workplace safety risks for frontline supervisors. 3. On **People**, CN delivered more than 1 million hours of training, expanded accessibility upgrades across more than 30 facilities in Canada, and strengthened wellness programs for employees. 4. On **Community**, CN contributed approximately \$20 million to community initiatives, managed more than 56,000 public line inquiries, and trained 97% of CN's Procurement and Supply Management team on sustainable procurement. 5. On **Governance**, CN was ranked first among 215 companies on the S&P/TSX Composite Index for governance practices, reinforcing CN's commitment to integrity and transparency. As CN moves forward on its sustainability journey, the Company recognizes that collaboration is essential to success.

4. VIA rail marks the international day of persons with disabilities and unveils its new three-year accessibility plan

VIA Rail Canada (VIA Rail) welcomed elected officials, partners, and members of its Accessibility Advisory Committee to its Ottawa Station on December 3, 2025 to mark the International Day of Persons with Disabilities and to unveil its **2026–2029 Accessibility Plan**, recently submitted to the Government of Canada. "As Canada's national intercity passenger rail carrier, we have a responsibility to make transportation accessible to as many people as possible," said Mario Pélouquin, President and Chief Executive Officer of VIA Rail. "With unprecedented federal support and the guidance of our accessibility partners, we are delivering a travel experience that removes barriers and expands mobility for all Canadians."

5. Ahead of mega-merger, railroads say they steady economy, supply chain

As regulators prepare to evaluate a controversial railroad merger that would reverberate through the U.S. supply chain, the leading industry trade group sought to boost the chances of that deal's approval by emphasizing rail's critical role in the economy. [Analysis](#) by the Washington-based Association

RAIL TRANSPORTATION

Canada

1. Freight Rail Services Price Index, November 2025, November 28, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca
2. Ports urge strict review of intermodal impacts from UP-NS merger, December 1, 2025, www.joc.com
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24. Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy to Enforce English Language Proficiency Among Rail Crews Along the Southern Border,

of American Railroads (AAR) says rail acts to steady the supply chain compared to other freight modes. “Freight rail is more than a transportation mode; it is a critical tool for controlling costs, mitigating inflation and keeping our economy moving,” said Rand Ghayad, AAR senior vice president of policy and economics, in a release. “This analysis shows those same advantages act as a shock absorber for consumers – keeping goods moving and costs predictable even during turbulent times.” The study comes as Union Pacific and Norfolk Southern prepare to file their formal merger application with the Surface Transportation Board. The deal, if approved, would create the first coast-to-coast freight-only railroad.

6. AAR: U.S. Rail Traffic Continues Downward Trend

Total U.S. carload and intermodal traffic for the week ending Nov. 29, 2025, dipped 1.8% from the same point last year, marking the eighth consecutive week of fall offs, according to the Association of American Railroads’ latest report, released Dec. 3, 2025. Six of the 10 carload commodity groups posted an increase compared with the same week in 2024. They included coal, up 4,818 carloads, to 56,972; nonmetallic minerals, up 2,858 carloads, to 23,353; and grain, up 2,424 carloads, to 21,019. Commodity groups that posted decreases compared with the same week in 2024 included miscellaneous carloads, down 1,046 carloads, to 6,769; forest products, down 849 carloads, to 6,848; and chemicals, down 679 carloads, to 29,583. For the first 48 weeks of 2025, U.S. railroads reported cumulative volume of 10,660,309 carloads, up 1.8 percent from the same point last year; and 12,997,055 intermodal units, up 1.9 percent from last year. Total combined U.S. traffic for the first 48 weeks of 2025 was 23,657,364 carloads and intermodal units, an increase of 1.9 percent compared to last year. Canadian railroads reported 90,821 carloads for the week, up 2.6 percent, and 71,365 intermodal units, up 2.1 percent compared with the same week in 2024. For the first 48 weeks of 2025, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 7,781,352 carloads, containers and trailers, up 2.3 percent.

7. New analysis supports freight rail’s role in containing inflation and strengthening supply chains

A new analysis from the Association of American Railroads (AAR) Policy and Economics team underscores freight rail’s critical role as a supply chain stabilizer—helping mitigate inflationary pressures and reduce price volatility compared to other freight modes. The research highlights how railroads’ structural and operational advantages—such as predictable pricing, resilience following disruptions and unmatched fuel efficiency—power a transportation solution that keeps costs in check and goods moving. Representing nearly 40% of long-distance freight by ton-miles, rail’s price stability delivers significant macroeconomic benefits – namely taming inflation. “Freight rail is more than a transportation mode; it is a critical tool for controlling costs, mitigating inflation and keeping our economy moving,” said Rand Ghayad, AAR Senior Vice President of Policy and Economics. “This analysis shows those same advantages act as a shock absorber for consumers—keeping goods moving and costs predictable even during turbulent times.” consecutive week of fall offs, according to the Association of American Railroads’ latest report, released Dec. 3, 2025. Six of the 10 carload commodity groups posted an increase compared with the same week in 2024. They included coal, up 4,818 carloads, to 56,972; nonmetallic minerals, up 2,858 carloads, to 23,353; and grain, up 2,424 carloads, to 21,019. Commodity groups that posted decreases compared with the same week in 2024 included miscellaneous carloads, down 1,046 carloads, to 6,769; forest products, down 849 carloads, to 6,848; and chemicals, down 679 carloads, to 29,583. For the first 48 weeks of 2025, U.S. railroads reported cumulative volume of 10,660,309 carloads, up 1.8 percent from the same point last year; and 12,997,055 intermodal units, up 1.9 percent from last year. Total combined U.S. traffic for the first 48 weeks of 2025 was 23,657,364 carloads and intermodal units, an increase of 1.9 percent compared to last year. Canadian railroads reported 90,821 carloads for the week, up 2.6 percent, and 71,365 intermodal units, up 2.1 percent compared with the same week in 2024. For the first 48 weeks of 2025, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 7,781,352 carloads, containers and trailers, up 2.3 percent.

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December 19, 2025, www.dot.gov

25. CN Railroaders Making a Difference in Your Community, December 23, 2025, www.cn.ca

26. Carriers, POLA back UP-NS deal, citing lower transit times, costs, December 22, 2025, www.joc.com

27. Declining ferry reliability increases costs for carriers in Eastern P.E.I., December 23, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com

28. Hapag-Lloyd, ONE expand terminal networks with deals in Brazil, China, December 23, 2025, www.joc.com

29. CPKC Holiday Train raises record \$2 million, collects 175,000 pounds of food in 2025, December 23, 2025, www.cpkc.ca

30. Freight Rail Services Price Index, December 2025, December 24, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca

31. AAR: U.S. Carloads, Intermodal Down for Week 51, Dec. 24, 2025, www.railwayage.com

8. Rail sector recognizes safety and environmental innovation with 2025 awards

The Railway Association of Canada has announced the recipients of its annual Safety and Environment Awards, honouring companies and employees advancing safer and more sustainable rail operations. “Canada’s railways are built on a foundation of innovation, discipline, and pride in the work we do every day,” said Eric Harvey, president and CEO of the association. “This year’s Safety and Environment award recipients demonstrate what is possible when we challenge ourselves to think differently and to lead with purpose. Their initiatives strengthen our industry, protect our communities and pave the way for a stronger future. I’m proud to congratulate each of them on their outstanding contributions.” The Safety Awards recognized Cando Rail & Terminals for its Passing Knowledge initiative, a virtual, podcast-style program designed to enhance safety culture and share best practices. Metrolinx was honoured for its Red Zone Green Zone Program, which improves planning and communication for construction and maintenance within rail corridors. On the environmental front, CN received an award for its redesigned B.C.

9. CN Reports November Grain Movement

CN announced on December 8, 2025 a new monthly record for grain movement in November 2025. CN moved over 3.28 million metric tonnes of grain from Western Canada last month, higher by 230,000 metric tonnes from its previous set record for November in 2020. This is CN’s third consecutive record month for grain movement. Janet Drysdale, Executive Vice-President and Chief Commercial Officer at CN said "Achieving a third consecutive record month of grain movement demonstrates what’s possible with strong customer collaboration, thoughtful planning, and a dedicated team of railroaders."

10. Rail service shakes off prior disruptions to close 2025 on high note

US Class I railroads have delivered a year of consistent, reliable intermodal service based on publicly reported metrics such as train speeds, railcars idling with containers on top, and the number of trains stopped while in transit. Among the four US Class I railroads, average intermodal train speeds have exceeded year-ago levels for 30 consecutive weeks dating back to early May 2025, according to the Association of American Railroads (AAR). Train speeds were higher for all US railroads between January and November 2025 compared with a year ago. In light of this, rail service is poised to close 2025 on a high note.

11. Union Pacific sets date for historic rail merger filing

Union Pacific and Norfolk Southern plan to file their formal merger application with federal regulators on Dec. 19, 2025. The date for the filing covering the creation of the first freight-only transcontinental railroad was contained in a [document](#) advising of a delayed filing submitted to the Surface Transportation Board Dec. 5, 2025 and has not been previously reported. UP Chief Executive Jim Vena earlier [said](#) that the application would be filed by Dec. 16, 2025. According to a timeline posted on the STB [website](#), the filing of what Union Pacific has said will be a 4,000-page document triggers a statutory 30-day review by the STB for completeness after which the regulator can accept a complete application, or reject it as incomplete. This phase is separate and involves no evaluation of the merger itself.

12. AAR: U.S. Rail Traffic Down in Week 49

Total U.S. carload and intermodal traffic for the week ending Dec. 6, 2025, dipped 2.3% from the same point last year, marking the ninth consecutive week of fall offs, according to the American Association of Railways. Total carloads for the week ending December 6 were 228,823 carloads, up 1.7 percent compared with the same week in 2024, while U.S. weekly intermodal volume was 280,176 containers and trailers, down 5.4 percent compared to 2024. Five of the 10 carload commodity groups posted an increase compared with the same week in 2024. They included coal, up 3,147 carloads, to 61,026; grain, up 1,952 carloads, to 25,098; and nonmetallic minerals, up 1,161 carloads, to 29,330. Commodity groups that posted decreases compared with the same week in 2024 included chemicals, down 1,054 carloads, to 32,548; metallic ores and metals, down 601 carloads, to 19,706; and miscellaneous carloads, down 387 carloads, to 8,897. Canadian railroads reported 94,333 carloads for the week, up 2.5 percent, and 67,986 intermodal units, down 1.8 percent compared with the same week in 2024. For the first 49 weeks of 2025, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 7,943,671 carloads, containers, and trailers, up 2.3 percent.

13. VIA Rail ‘mechanical failure’ triggers overnight delays, some 300 riders stranded

The Via passenger rail service faced significant overnight disruptions across eastern Ontario after one of its trains suffered a mechanical failure near Brockville. Passengers aboard Train 669 were reportedly stuck for over 13 hours after a “mechanical failure” occurred on the tracks. The issue also prompted delays to trains 48 and 54, according to a statement from Via Rail. Rail officials said the incident caused extensive service impacts, with passengers experiencing hours-long delays in challenging weather conditions. According to the operator, multiple attempts to repair the disabled train on site were unsuccessful.

14. Ottawa-Montreal chosen as first leg of high-speed rail project

The first leg of the federal government’s planned [high-speed rail project](#) will connect Ottawa and Montreal. Construction of the high-speed rail line is expected to start in 2029. Transport Minister Steven MacKinnon made the

announcement Friday, December 12, 2025 morning alongside several Ottawa politicians and Martin Imbleau, CEO of Alto, the crown corporation overseeing the project. “We want to begin construction of this major project, one of the largest public works ever contemplated in the history of our country,” MacKinnon said. Construction is expected to begin in 2029. MacKinnon said the Ottawa-Montreal segment, spanning approximately 200 kilometres between the two cities, was the most logical place to start the project. The span is relatively short and straight, he said, providing an opportunity for construction teams in Ontario and Quebec to develop the skills they need to build out the rest of the network to the east and west. The route between the cities is not yet set in stone, but will include a stop in Laval, Que., which neighbours Montreal to the northwest.

15. Inland rail connectivity key to Port of Long Beach growth: new CEO

Expanding the Port of Long Beach’s intermodal infrastructure and expediting the handoff of containers from marine terminals to trains will help the port expand its share of the discretionary cargo up for grabs among both West and East coast ports, Long Beach’s incoming CEO says. Noel Hacegaba, now the port’s chief operating officer, was confirmed earlier this week by the Board of Harbor Commissioners as Long Beach’s next CEO, effective Jan. 1 upon the retirement of current chief Mario Cordero. Long Beach is devoting \$2 billion of its \$3.2 billion capex program over the coming decade to rail infrastructure.

16. How the US freight rail industry got dirtier than coal power plants

BNSF Railway, one of the crown jewels of Warren Buffett’s sprawling Berkshire Hathaway conglomerate, calls itself an environmental leader in the U.S. rail industry with the cleanest locomotive fleet in North America. “When you see our orange locomotives’ and freight cars’ steel wheels moving on steel rails, think green,” BNSF says in its latest sustainability overview. But the company is the largest player in an industry that has a pollution problem: U.S. freight railroads are a major source of pollution, chuffing out more nitrogen oxide, the primary component of smog, than all the nation’s coal-fired power plants combined, according to a Reuters calculation using government data. U.S. railroads together produced about 485,000 tons of nitrogen oxide in 2024, compared to 452,000 tons emitted by U.S. coal-fired power plants, according to a Reuters calculation of reported annual fuel consumption multiplied by the EPA’s 2023 weighted-average emission rates. BNSF, the nation’s largest freight railroad, accounts for about a third of that total, producing 161,500 tons of smog-causing nitrogen oxide in 2024, according to the data. “We don’t dispute your number. BNSF is the biggest Class I railroad by volume,” BNSF said in an email. BNSF’s position as largest in the rail industry, as well as its profitability, will be challenged if regulators approve the planned \$85 billion merger of Union Pacific and Norfolk Southern, which would create the first U.S. coast-to-coast freight rail operator, Morningstar railroad analyst Gregory Warren said.

17. VIA Rail CEO stepping down as Crown corporation faces increasing scrutiny

President and CEO of VIA Rail Mario Pélouquin will be stepping down in January 2026 as the Crown corporation has faced heightened scrutiny in recent years. Pélouquin will be retiring in mid-January, according to a news release from Transport Minister Steven MacKinnon’s office. “I would like to thank Mario for his dedication and commitment to VIA Rail over the past two-and-a-half years, and I wish him continued success in his future endeavours,” MacKinnon’s statement said.

18. AAR: Downward U.S. Rail Traffic Trend Continues in Week 50

Total U.S. carload and intermodal traffic for the week ending Dec. 13, 2025, dipped 1.4% from the same point last year, marking the 10th consecutive week of fall offs, according to the Association of American Railroads’ (AAR) latest report, released Dec. 17, 2025. Total carloads for the week ending December 13 were 224,620 carloads, down 1.7 percent compared with the same week in 2024, while U.S. weekly intermodal volume was 294,284 containers and trailers, down 1.2 percent compared to 2024. Three of the 10 carload commodity groups posted an increase compared with the same week in 2024. They were miscellaneous carloads, up 764 carloads, to 9,514; metallic ores and metals, up 501 carloads, to 19,269; and coal, up 345 carloads, to 61,733. Commodity groups that posted decreases compared with the same week in 2024 included nonmetallic minerals, down 1,919 carloads, to 27,814; grain, down 1,321 carloads, to 22,944; and chemicals, down 858 carloads, to 32,013. Canadian railroads reported 91,707 carloads for the week, down 0.02 percent, and 66,869 intermodal units, down 1.4 percent compared with the same week in 2024. For the first 50 weeks of 2025, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 8,102,247 carloads, containers and trailers, up 2.2 percent.

19. Railway carloadings, October 2025

In October 2025, the volume of cargo carried by Canadian railways reached 33.2 million tonnes, down slightly (-0.9%) from October 2024. Nevertheless, total freight carried in October 2025 was on par with the five-year average for the month of October (33.0 million tonnes). Large increases in carloadings of wheat and other cereal grains helped to offset lower shipments of canola as well as the continuing decline in freight traffic from US rail connections.

20. CPKC statement on UP-NS merger application filing

Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC) on December 19, 2025 released the following statement regarding the merger application filed by Union Pacific (UP) and Norfolk Southern (NS) with the Surface Transportation Board (STB) on Dec. 19, 2025: CPKC has only just obtained the lengthy UP-NS merger application formally filed today and will be thoroughly reviewing it over the coming days. We will be examining the application from at least two perspectives: 1. Whether it complies with the Board’s 2001 Major Merger Rules and provides the STB and interested parties an adequate basis for evaluating the public interest consequences of the UP-NS proposal. 2. Whether the UP-NS proposal is consistent with the public interest.

21. BNSF CEO: Rail merger still a “significant threat” to economy, consumers

At least one rival railroad is doubling down on its opposition to the transcontinental merger of Union Pacific and Norfolk Southern after the companies filed their former application with federal regulators on Friday, December 19, 2025. “While we are still reviewing the [Surface Transportation Board] filing and will have more to say soon, what we have seen so far does not change BNSF’s opposition to the proposed merger,” said Chief Executive Katie Farmer, in a statement. “The transaction poses a significant threat to the U.S. economy and the American consumer through its long-term competitive harms. It would leave shippers with fewer options – driving higher rates and ultimately higher prices for consumers. “This didn’t begin with customers asking for this merger, and the claimed public benefits appear to accrue primarily to shareholders. Past mergers demonstrate the risk of serious service failures with destructive impacts to customers, the U.S. rail network and the American economy.”

22. CN Statement on UP-NS STB Filing

The application filed this morning (December 19, 2025) by Union Pacific and Norfolk Southern fails to demonstrate that the merger would enhance competition or generate significant public benefits that would require a merger. It falls well below both the 2001 and old merger rules set out by the Surface Transportation Board (STB). Protecting competition is not optional, it is essential to keep costs down and the economy sound. The fact is that this merger would reduce rail transportation options for customers while creating a single entity that controls more than 40% of the US freight rail market. Without real railroad competition, prices go up and consumers lose. CN will be actively participating in the STB process and encourages all stakeholders to participate to ensure all voices are heard and that competition is enhanced.

23. UP, NS Deliver 6,700-Page ‘Christmas Present’

’Twas one week before Christmas, and all through the land, rail stakeholders were stirring, as Union Pacific and Norfolk Southern dealt their merger hand. As had been speculated, Union Pacific and Norfolk Southern on Dec. 19 filed their merger application with the Surface Transportation Board: *Union Pacific Corporation—Control—Norfolk Southern Corporation, Docket No. FD 36873.* UP and NS entered into their merger agreement on July 29, 2025, in which UP is the acquiring carrier. They described the proposed transaction as an “end-to-end combination [that] will enhance competition and deliver broad public benefits.” [The four-volume, 6,700 page application](#)—described as a “Christmas present” by one analyst participating in the mostly scripted announcement webcast (though probably not a gift to anyone required to study it over the Holidays)—“provides comprehensive and compelling new details” as well as “a record-breaking 2,000 letters of support from stakeholders, joining shareholders at both companies who cast votes that were 99% in favor of the merger.” UP and NS expect the transaction to be completed by “early 2027” (February of that year has been suggested). [STB went as far as to deploy UP-NS Merger Resources, an area of its website dedicated to the merger application.](#)

24. Trump’s Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy to Enforce English Language Proficiency Among Rail Crews Along the Southern Border

Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy on December 19, 2025 announced that the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) is cracking down on cross-border train operators who lack basic English language proficiency to make rail operations safer in the U.S. In conducting routine regulatory oversight of cross-border operations this past fall on Canadian Pacific Kansas City Limited (CPKC) and Union Pacific Railroad (UP), FRA inspectors discovered instances in which inbound crew members appeared to have difficulty interpreting General Track Bulletins and communicating safety requirements in English with inspectors.

25. CN Railroaders Making a Difference in Your Community

During this season of giving, CN is proud to highlight the generosity of its railroaders. In 2025, CN has supported more than 772 organizations through its sponsorship and donation programs in communities across its North American network. This year, nearly 1000 employees and pensioners logged over 120,000 volunteer hours supporting approximately 361 charitable organizations that they care about in their communities. As part of CN’s *Railroaders in the Community* program, the Company donated more than \$2.1 million in recognition of employee volunteer hours, extending the impact of railroaders’ support in the communities where they live and work. Olivier Chouc, Senior Vice-President and Chief Legal Officer at CN said “In challenging times, the importance of our work extends beyond our network. Our railroaders are deeply committed to supporting their communities and their generosity is a powerful

reflection of CN's shared values. We know that many people are facing uncertainty right now, and we're committed to showing up thoughtfully and responsibly. By supporting causes that strengthen people, enhance safety and protect the environment, we are helping build more resilient communities across our network for generations to come."

26. Carriers, POLA back UP-NS deal, citing lower transit times, costs

Union Pacific Railroad (UP) has received support from the Port of Los Angeles and ocean carriers Ocean Network Express (ONE) and SM Lines for its proposed acquisition of Norfolk Southern Railway (NS), with the parties citing faster transit times, potential new business opportunities and reduced drayage costs for international intermodal freight. ONE and SM Line are ocean carrier partners to Union Pacific on the West Coast, and a majority of UP's international intermodal volume originates at the Port of Los Angeles. All three provided letters of support for the \$85 billion acquisition that were included in the nearly 7,000-page application.

27. Declining ferry reliability increases costs for carriers in Eastern P.E.I.

Declining reliability on the Wood Islands–Caribou ferry is driving up transportation costs for carriers serving eastern Prince Edward Island and straining supply chains across the region's export-dependent industries, according to a report on the ferry's economic role. Produced by Jupia Consultants for the Eastern P.E.I. Chamber of Commerce (EPEICC), the report found that repeated disruptions, berth limitations and dredging-related weight restrictions have eroded confidence in a service long considered essential for commercial trucking. Blair Aitken, EPEICC president, said the ferries must run on a regular schedule to demonstrate reliability. "The only thing that's going to improve reliability is dependability," he said. Commercial vehicle traffic on the ferry has dropped 46% since 2019, even as eastern P.E.I. manufacturers, agriculture producers, forestry operators and trucking firms continue to rely on the crossing to reach mainland markets. The decline is tied not to lower demand but to unpredictable service, which forces trucks into longer, more expensive trips over the Confederation Bridge when ferries are offline. Those detours carry a steep cost. Truck transportation on P.E.I. typically ranges from \$2.50 to \$4 per kilometre. A truck making about 180 annual trips to Halifax saves roughly 24,000 kilometres a year by using the ferry rather than the bridge — worth \$30,000 to \$40,000 per vehicle.

28. Hapag-Lloyd, ONE expand terminal networks with deals in Brazil, China

Hapag-Lloyd and Ocean Network Express (ONE) are expanding their container terminal portfolios with separate deals for facilities in Brazil and China, the carriers announced Tuesday, December 23, 2025. In Brazil, Hanseatic Global Terminals, Hapag-Lloyd's ports division, has signed a joint venture agreement with the Imetame Group to take a 50% stake in Imetame Logística Porto (ILP), which focuses on container terminal operations. Under the deal, Hanseatic and Imetame will build and operate the 1.2 million-TEU capacity Hanseatic Global Terminals Aracruz container terminal at Aracruz in Brazil's Espírito Santo state, about 310 miles north of Rio de Janeiro.

29. CPKC Holiday Train raises record \$2 million, collects 175,000 pounds of food in 2025

Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC) on December 23, 2025 announced that the 2025 [CPKC Holiday Train](#), which rolled through hundreds of communities across Canada and the United States, raised more than \$2 million and collected more than 175,000 pounds of food in support of local food banks. The train's annual journey embodies the spirit of the holidays, bringing families and neighbours together while helping those in need in our communities.

30. Freight Rail Services Price Index, December 2025

Data for December for the Freight Rail Services Price Index (2018=100) are now available on Statcan website. For December 2025, the index was 131.2 point 0.1 higher than November 2025 and 3.6 points higher in December 2024 (127.6). For the final quarter of 2025, the index was 130.9 compared to 128.3 in the third quarter of 2025 and 126.9 in the final quarter of 2024

31. AAR: U.S. Carloads, Intermodal Down for Week 51

The Association of American Railroads (AAR) on Dec. 24, 2025 reported that total U.S. rail traffic was 487,138 carloads and intermodal units for Week 51 (ending Dec. 20, 2025), down 7% from the prior-year period. Total carloads for the week ending December 20 were 206,674 carloads, down 10.5 percent compared with the same week in 2024, while U.S. weekly intermodal volume was 280,464 containers and trailers, down 4.3 percent compared to 2024. Two of the 10 carload commodity groups posted an increase compared with the same week in 2024. They were grain, up 1,294 carloads, to 23,272; and motor vehicles and parts, up 177 carloads, to 16,024. Commodity groups that posted decreases compared with the same week in 2024 included coal, down 9,571 carloads, to 51,534; miscellaneous carloads, down 8,235 carloads, to 1,044; and chemicals, down 3,662 carloads, to 31,508. Canadian railroads reported 89,678 carloads for the week, down 3.5 percent, and 66,363 intermodal units, down 3.9 percent compared with the same week in 2024. For the first 51 weeks of 2025, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 8,258,288 carloads, containers and trailers, up 2.1 percent.

HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION

1. Ontario expands roadside emissions enforcement

Ontario is expanding its emissions enforcement by equipping roadside officers with the same testing technology used in DriveON inspection centers, allowing them to conduct full diesel emissions checks on commercial vehicles on highways across the province. The Ministry of Transportation (MTO) said in a letter to stakeholders that the move strengthens its transition of emissions legislation from the *Environmental Protection Act* to the *Highway Traffic Act* and builds on on-road inspections that began in 2021.

2. 'Tis the season for the annual capacity purge

As truckers celebrate the Thanksgiving holidays, the U.S. trucking industry stands on the brink of another tradition: the annual capacity purge. The annual capacity purge happens between Thanksgiving and Valentine's Day, each year and involves a significant increase in motor carriers leaving the industry compared to other times in the year. This seasonal trend, clearly captured in SONAR's Carrier Detail Net Changes in Trucking Authorities (CDNCA) data, shows a consistent surge in net authority losses during this period—outpacing new entrants even in the best economic years. The trucking industry has been an economic backwater for a couple of years and many carrier balance sheets are underwater by the damage done during the Great Freight Recession, the longest economic downturn in trucking history.

3. FMCSA to survey drivers to quantify benefits of new truck parking spaces

The U.S. Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration is launching a nationwide study to quantify the economic and safety benefits of creating new truck parking spaces. FMSCA says the survey is aimed at giving state and local governments clearer data that would help them make informed decisions about the parking construction. The agency says the effort comes at a time when parking shortages continue to top driver concerns lists, citing the American Transportation Research Institute's 2024 survey, which ranked parking as the second-highest concern overall and the top concern among drivers for the second consecutive year. In a 25-minute online survey, FMCSA plans on asking truck drivers in-depth questions about how often they face issues finding legal parking, how far and how frequently they deviate off-route to locate a space, and whether they have had to park illegally or shut down early to secure a spot. The agency will ask other related questions.

4. DHL partners with AI startup to deploy agentic AI across global supply chain operations

DHL Group is expanding its enterprise-wide artificial intelligence strategy through a new partnership between DHL Supply Chain and AI startup HappyRobot, aiming to streamline communication and improve both customer service and employee experience. The logistics giant has already deployed HappyRobot's AI agents in several regions for tasks such as appointment scheduling, driver follow-up calls and high-priority warehouse coordination. The agents autonomously manage phone and email interactions to increase speed and consistency.

5. For-hire Motor Carrier Freight Services Price Index, third quarter 2025

The For-hire Motor Carrier Freight Services Price Index (2021=100) is now available for the third quarter on statcan website. The index was 121.2 for the third quarter of 2025 compared to 122.0 for the same quarter a year ago and 121.5 for the second quarter of 2025. Sub components of the sector are provided on the website.

HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION Canada

1. Ontario expands roadside emissions enforcement, November 26, 2025, www.todaystrucking.ca
2. 'Tis the season for the annual capacity purge, November 27, 2025, www.freightwaves.com
3. FMCSA to survey drivers to quantify benefits of new truck parking spaces, November 27, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com
4. DHL partners with AI startup to deploy agentic AI across global supply chain operations, November 28, 2025, www.insidelogistics.ca
5. For-hire Motor Carrier Freight Services Price Index, third quarter 2025, November 28, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca
6. Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index, October 2025, November 2, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca
7. Ontario Awards Contracts to Advance Work on Bradford Bypass, November 28, 2025, www.mto.gov.on.ca
8. Workhorse Group, Motiv merger approved, November 28, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com
9. Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Exposes Illegally Issued Non-Domiciled CDLs in Minnesota, December 1, 2025, www.dot.gov
10. Ontario Extending One Fare to Keep Transit Costs Down for Riders December 1, 2025, www.mto.on.gc.ca
11. Motor Fuel Prices – November 2025, December 2, 2025, www.bts.gov
12. Ontario Achieves Substantial Completion of Eglinton Crosstown LRT, December 5, 2025, www.mto.gov.on.ca
13. T4A Enforcement Moratorium Lifted, December 5, 2025, www.cantruck.ca
14. Element Fleet Management buys Car IQ, December 6, 2025, www.todaystrucking.ca
15. CBSA – SSC Issue Report to Minister on IT Outages; Action Plan Introduced to Prevent Future Disruptions, December 8, 2025, www.ontruck.ca
16. Morgan Stanley sees supply-side 'spark' for trucking in 2026, December 8, 2025, www.freightwaves.com
17. Ontario Advancing Work on Highway 413, December 9, 2025, www.mto.gov.on.ca
18. Trucking groups raise concerns over safety, compliance and media portrayals, December 12, 2025, www.insidelogistics.ca
19. U.S. Signals to Canadian Govt & Trucking Industry: Lawless Trucking in Canada Needs to be Addressed, December 11, 2025, www.ontruck.ca
20. Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Uncovers Latest Bombshell: Over 50% of NY's Non-Domiciled Trucking Licenses Were Issued Illegally, December 12, 2025, www.dot.gov
21. ROUTE Act would allow young US CDL-holders to cross state lines, December 12, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com
23. Manitoulin opens two new terminals in eastern Canada, December 15, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com
24. FMCSA crash data highlights growing safety concerns, December 15, 2025,

6. Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index, October 2025

The Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index (2019=100) is now available for October 2025 on statcan website. The index for October 2025 was 143.1 compared to 136.0 for the same month a year ago and 142.5 in September 2025.

7. Ontario Awards Contracts to Advance Work on Bradford Bypass

The Ontario government has awarded contracts for the detail design of the central and east sections of the Bradford Bypass, marking a significant milestone in the province's plan to build the four-lane, 16-kilometre highway that will relieve gridlock and cut travel times across York Region and Simcoe County by 35 minutes. The province has also awarded a program management consultant contract to oversee the full Bradford Bypass project, including design, quality assurance, schedule and construction oversight. Construction of the highway will support more than 2,200 jobs per year and contribute \$286 million to Ontario's GDP.

8. Workhorse Group, Motiv merger approved

Workhorse Group's shareholders have approved the company's planned merger with Motiv Electric Trucks, the companies announced Nov. 25, 2025. The merger is part of the companies' effort to accelerate the development and wider rollout of medium-duty electric trucks. The deal is expected to close in the coming weeks, subject to final conditions, including the entrance by Workhorse and Motiv's largest investor into a new debt financing facility and the receipt of approval from Nasdaq.

9. Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Exposes Illegally Issued Non-Domiciled CDLs in Minnesota

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy on December 1, 2025 exposed that one third of Minnesota's non-domiciled commercial driver's licenses (CDLs) reviewed by Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) were issued illegally. Minnesota has 30 days to come into compliance and revoke the illegally issued licenses—or risk losing up to \$30.4 million in federal highway funding. After months of deadly crashes caused by illegal foreign drivers, the Department is cracking down on states that have failed to follow the law.

10. Ontario Extending One Fare to Keep Transit Costs Down for Riders

Building on the success of One Fare, which is saving transit users in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA) up to \$1,600 per year, the Ontario government is extending the program for an additional two years to continue keeping transit costs down for riders. Since launching in 2024, One Fare has saved Ontarians nearly \$200 million and enabled nearly 62 million free transfers across participating transit agencies. Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation said that "Under the leadership of Premier Ford, our government is delivering on our promise to protect the hardworking people of Ontario in the face of tariffs and economic uncertainty. We're extending the elimination of double fares through One Fare to make transit more affordable and convenient, saving commuters up to \$1,600 each year."

11. Motor Fuel Prices – November 2025

On December 2, 2025, the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) released monthly motor fuels prices for November 2025. In November 2025, the average price for regular motor gasoline was \$3.05 per gallon; down 0.3% from October 2025 and down 0.1% from November 2024. By region, the average price for regular motor gasoline in November 2025 year-over-year change were as follows: 1. West Coast: \$4.12 (up 5.4%); 2. Central Atlantic: \$3.10 (down 0.7%); 3. New England: \$2.97 (down 0.9%); 4. Rocky Mountain: \$2.92 (down 2.1%); 5. Midwest: \$2.88 (down 0.4%); 6. Lower Atlantic: \$2.83 (down 3.1%); 7. Gulf Coast: \$2.59 (down 1.5%). The average price for diesel no. 2 was \$3.82 in November 2025, up 3.9% from October 2025, and up 8.5% from November 2024.

12. Ontario Achieves Substantial Completion of Eglinton Crosstown LRT

www.freightwaves.com

25. Urban public transit, October 2025, December 16, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca

26. Project Long Haul results in transport theft arrest, December 16, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com

27. Docked Bikeshare Trips – November 2025, December 15, 2025, www.bts.gov

28. UN General Assembly adopts landmark convention shaping the future of negotiable cargo documents, December 16, 2025, www.ajot.com

29. Canada, Ontario and the Region of Waterloo invest in public transit improvements, December 17, 2025, www.mto.gov.on.ca

30. Fuel Transport launches \$8M AI transport optimization initiative, December 17, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com

31. Manitoulin opens new Quebec terminal, expands capacity in Labrador, December 18, 2025, www.insidelogistics.ca

32. Ontario Enhancing Road Safety and Creating Jobs in Prince Edward County, December 17, 2025, www.mto.gov.on.ca

33. Uber launches new ski service in select Canadian markets, December 18, 2025, www.nationalpots.ca

34. US manufacturing survey shows uptick in optimism, December 18, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com

35. Canada Post, union reach tentative agreements, with vote expected in new year, December 22, 2025, www.nationalpost.ca

36. Feds to reveal future of EV mandate in 2026, as Liberals urged to relent on 100% target, December 22, 2025, www.naionalpost.ca

37. Compliant Carriers 'Can't Survive' Competing vs Fraud Trucking: Trucknews Poll, December 19, 2025, www.cantruck.ca

38. Purolator donates eight retired delivery trucks to food banks, December 22, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com

39. Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Blasts Colorado for Slow Walking Purge of Illegally Issued Truck Licenses, Threatens \$24M in Funding, December 22, 2025, www.dot.gov

40. Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index, November 2025, December 24, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca

41. Top 10 Canadian trucking stories of 2025, December 25, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com

42. Trucking's top 10 regulatory headlines of 2025, Dec. 26, 2025, www.freightwaves.com

43. DOT invests \$1 billion into building big, beautiful infrastructure to make American roads safer, December 24, 2025, www.ajot.com

The Ontario government has successfully completed testing for the Eglinton Crosstown Light Rail Transit (LRT), which will reduce end-to-end travel time from Kennedy Station to Mount Dennis Station by nearly one hour. On December 5, 2025 the project reached Substantial Completion, where independent engineers verified the line is ready for service. Full operational control of the line is being transferred to the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) which will determine the start date of passenger service early next year with the support of Metrolinx. Service levels will continue to ramp up over the coming months, reflecting the standard approach for bringing major LRT projects into service worldwide.

13. T4A Enforcement Moratorium Lifted

The Canadian Trucking Alliance is lauding the federal government's swift decision to honour its promise in Budget 2025 to end the moratorium on T4As, ushering in a crucial era of tax compliance for the trucking industry. "Promises made; promises kept," said CTA Chair Greg Arndt. "The trucking industry would like to thank Minister of National Revenue François-Philippe Champagne and Secretary of State Wayne Long for their leadership and commitment to deliver this mandate swiftly so enforcement action can take effect and impact the 2025 tax year," added Arndt. Lifting the T4A moratorium will allow the government to better track links to the out-of-control PSB-model tax scam in trucking, which has been masquerading as small-business entrepreneurship and allowing thousands of operators to avoid filing taxes and to evade payroll taxes and other obligations.

14. Element Fleet Management buys Car IQ

Element Fleet Management has announced its acquisition of Car IQ, expanding the company's connected fleet ecosystem with the addition of connected vehicle payments. The company says it now offers the first vehicle-initiated payments technology embedded into a full-suite fleet management system. Element customers will be able to access connected mobility, data and fleet management offerings integrated with digital payments capabilities, the company announced. Car IQ's technology allows vehicles to autonomously initiate, authenticate and complete transactions with merchants, eliminating physical cards, PINs and manual reconciliation.

15. CBSA – SSC Issue Report to Minister on IT Outages; Action Plan Introduced to Prevent Future Disruptions

The Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) and Shared Services Canada (SSC) have provided the Minister of Public Safety with a report on the major IT outages that occurred between September 28 and October 5, 2025. The Canadian Trucking Alliance (CTA) [has urged the CBSA and the Government of Canada](#) to release the report and action plan, and to address the ongoing outages that [continue to disrupt supply chains](#) and carrier operations. The newly released report – available in [English](#) and [French](#) – includes a forward-looking action plan aimed at addressing the impacts and root causes of the outages. The disruptions stemmed from two unrelated IT changes that resulted in overlapping outages, initially triggered by "human error" that caused significant system corruption.

16. Morgan Stanley sees supply-side 'spark' for trucking in 2026

Morgan Stanley said trucking's supply side is producing the "spark" needed for a recovery next year, but acknowledged it will take improved demand to fan the flames. The investment firm noted on Monday, December 8, 2025 that the past three trucking upcycles started with a supply-side catalyst. It pointed to precursors to the 2014 (polar vortex), 2018 (electronic-logging-device mandate) and 2020 (Covid and the Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse) recoveries, which were quickly supported by positive inflections in demand. Heightened regulatory enforcement on the driver pool (English-language proficiency requirements, non-domiciled CDL restrictions, and ELD and driver school crackdowns) could remove more than 5% of industry capacity, Morgan Stanley estimates. The latest mandates could be the catalyst to tip the scales for an industry that is already purging capacity due to untenable operating conditions (excessive cost inflation and depressed rates).

17. Ontario Advancing Work on Highway 413

The Ontario government is issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP) to design an extension of Highway 410 that will connect to the future Highway 413, marking another milestone in the province's plan to better connect the regions of Halton, Peel and York, getting drivers out of gridlock and shortening travel times by up to 30 minutes per trip. The construction of Highway 413 will support more than 6,000 jobs per year and contribute more than \$1 billion to Ontario's annual gross domestic product.

18. Trucking groups raise concerns over safety, compliance and media portrayals

Two national trucking organizations are raising alarms over safety, compliance and public perceptions within Canada's trucking sector, as federal lawmakers continue examining the controversial Driver Inc. model. The Canadian Trucking Alliance (CTA) says regulators in both Canada and the United States are increasingly noticing Canadian fleet owners engaging in practices that threaten highway safety and may be tied to illegal cross-border smuggling. The group wants Ottawa and Washington to explore updating or developing new security programs to ensure cross-border carriers are compliant, safe and free of criminal associations. The Canadian Truck Operators Association (CTOA) is calling for fact-based dialogue from political leaders and the media, warning that misinformation stigmatizes communities and distracts from real safety improvements.

19. U.S. Signals to Canadian Govt & Trucking Industry: Lawless Trucking in Canada Needs to be Addressed

As the Federal Standing Committee on Transport, Infrastructure and Communities (TRAN) continues to examine Driver Inc, trucking regulatory and oversight bodies, including the U.S. Government, continue to notice the growing trend of Canadian fleet owners engaging in behaviour that jeopardizes highway safety and potential connections to illegal cross-border smuggling. Interviewed by [La Presse](#), U.S. diplomats who have been following the TRAN hearings, stated their concerns over truck safety, forced labour, unfair competition, and potential criminal activity conducted by cross-border carriers: “Solving the tax issue does not resolve the problems related to driver training... We are concerned that when they perform cross-border work these drivers endanger the safety of American citizens on the roads... This also does not solve the problem of the vulnerability of these workers, nor that of the over-indebtedness in which they are trapped, and does not entirely remedy the fact that the process offered by these trucking companies are unfair... If they (drivers) are being forced to work, our concern is what else are they being forced to participate in?”

20. Trump’s Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Uncovers Latest Bombshell: Over 50% of NY’s Non-Domiciled Trucking Licenses Were Issued Illegally

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy on December 12, 2025 announced that the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration’s (FMCSA) [nationwide audit](#) of non-domiciled commercial driver’s licenses (CDLs) uncovered that the New York Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) has been routinely issuing CDLs to foreign drivers illegally. The federal audit exposed a shocking 53 percent failure rate in the records sampled, indicating a total collapse in the administration of New York’s CDL program. The Department is now moving to withhold \$73 million in federal funding if New York fails to follow the law, revoke every illegally issued license

21. ROUTE Act would allow young US CDL-holders to cross state lines

A bill introduced by Rep. Harriet Hageman, R-Wyo., aims to eliminate restrictions that prevent young commercial drivers from crossing state lines. Currently, 18- to 20-year-old truck drivers are prohibited from interstate driving, but the Responsible Opportunity for Under-21 Trucking Engagement Act, known as the ROUTE Act, would instead limit how far they can travel from their home terminal to 150 air miles. “Federal barriers prevent capable young Americans from entering the trucking industry. At the same time, we are removing illegal aliens who unlawfully obtained CDLs. That makes it even more important to open doors for American workers to fill these jobs and strengthen our economy,” Hageman said in a release. “Wyoming and other rural states face needless challenges because federal regulation blocks young CDL holders from making short interstate trips. It makes no sense that drivers are allowed to travel from Gillette to Evanston but prohibited from driving right across the state line to Belle Fourche, S.D. America should never rely on illegal labor to move our goods.”

23. Manitoulin opens two new terminals in eastern Canada

Manitoulin Transport has opened new terminals in Val-d’Or, Que., and Wabush, Nfld., strengthening its presence in eastern Canada. The Val-d’Or opening marks the fleet’s eighth terminal in Quebec. It features 11 cross-dock doors and covers 6,000 sq.-ft. “The opening of our Val-d’Or terminal is a direct investment in the success of our customers operating throughout Quebec,” said Jeff King, president, Manitoulin Transport, in a release. “This new terminal underscores our commitment to providing the most comprehensive LTL network in Canada.” It also opened a newly upgraded terminal in Wabush, Nfld., expanding its service offering in Labrador City and surrounding areas. It more than doubles Manitoulin’s capacity in the region, features 12 dock doors and 16,920 sq.-ft. of operational space.

24. FMCSA crash data highlights growing safety concerns

2025 is drawing to a busy close as the trucking industry rushes to move freight during America’s holiday peak retail season. For carriers, the year isn’t quite over yet, but the industry can still begin reviewing their performance this year. New data highlights persistent safety challenges in the U.S. trucking industry. An analysis of Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) records reveal stark differences in crash rates among motor carriers, with midsize fleets showing significantly higher incident rates per driver compared to larger operators. *FreightWaves* and a data partner have analyzed FMCSA crash data to discover the carriers with the highest number of crashes year-to-date (as of November 30) per driver.

25. Urban public transit, October 2025

In October 2025, 142.6 million passenger trips were made on urban transit networks in Canada, down 3.6% from October 2024, representing 5.4 million fewer trips. This was the sixth consecutive year-over-year decline. In October 2025, transit agency operating revenue (excluding subsidies) totalled \$362.7 million, an increase of 2.9%, or \$10.1 million, from the same month the previous year.

26. Project Long Haul results in transport theft arrest

Hamilton Police Service and Peel Regional Police Service combined efforts to make an arrest in an organized truck theft scheme spanning southern Ontario. Project Long Haul targeted the theft of commercial transport trucks. Between January and May of 2025, the accused was alleged to have participated in the thefts and attempted thefts of multiple Freightliner trucks from secured trucking facilities. The thefts totalled more than \$1 million, Hamilton police said in a

news release. The accused, a Brampton man who police did not name, is charged with several occurrences of: break and enter; vehicle theft and attempted vehicle theft; possession of property obtained by crime over \$5,000; and failure to comply with release order. Police say the accused is alleged to be a member of an organized criminal group involved in transport truck thefts through southern Ontario and “has multiple matters before the courts.

27. Docked Bikeshare Trips – November 2025

On December 15, 2025, the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) released docked bikeshare trips for November 2025. From November 2024 to November 2025, docked bikeshare trips starting and ending at a docking station on seven of the largest systems fell 5.4%. By area served and system, the number of docked bikeshare trips in November 2025 and the percentage change from November 2024 are: 1. New York, NY (CitiBike): 3,403,764 (down 7.8%); 2. Boston Metro, MA (Blue Bikes): 343,051 (down 13.2%); 3. Washington, DC Metro (Capital Bikeshare): 341,532 (down 3.6%); 4. San Francisco, CA (Bay Wheels): 330,832 (up 38.0%); 5. Chicago, IL (Divvy): 231,948 (down 4.9%); 6. Jersey City, NJ (CitiBike): 76,122 (down 10.4%); and 7. Pittsburgh, PA (POGOH): 52,764 (up 26.7%).

28. UN General Assembly adopts landmark convention shaping the future of negotiable cargo documents

The United Nations General Assembly adopted the United Nations Convention on Negotiable Cargo Documents (NCD Convention) on December 15, 2025, marking a significant milestone for international trade, multimodal transport and the digitalisation of global supply chains. FIATA, as the global representative body of freight forwarders and logistics providers and a long standing participant in the work on the Convention since its inception under the auspices of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) Working Group VI, welcomes this landmark development. The NCD Convention, which reflects the long established role of freight forwarders and logistics providers in organising end-to-end multimodal transport, is expected to be a key enabler of innovation, digital trade and new market opportunities in regions all over the world. A formal signature ceremony for the Convention is expected to take place in Accra, Ghana, in the second half of 2026.

29. Canada, Ontario and the Region of Waterloo invest in public transit improvements

Canada, Ontario and the Region of Waterloo are investing more than \$291 million through the Public Transit Infrastructure Stream of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program to increase access to public transit, reduce emissions and improve service and accessibility for commuters in Waterloo Region.

30. Fuel Transport launches \$8M AI transport optimization initiative

Montreal-based Fuel Transport has announced an \$8-million investment in transport optimization, a new AI-driven initiative aimed at improving pricing, quoting and carrier selection across its North American operations. The company said the project was developed in collaboration with Scale AI, Vooban, CRIM, Geloso Group and Les Camions Fuel, and is designed to enhance daily processes in its Canadian, U.S. and Mexican operations through deeper AI integrations and harnessing predictive intelligence. Robert Piccioni, CEO of Fuel Transport, in a release said “At Fuel, we believe true progress happens when intelligent technology works hand in hand with human instinct. With this initiative, we are not only elevating operational efficiency, but also redefining what it means to lead with insight, agility, and responsibility in the logistics sector.”

31. Manitoulin opens new Quebec terminal, expands capacity in Labrador

Manitoulin Transport has opened a new terminal in Val-d’Or, Que., and unveiled a newly upgraded facility in Wabush, Nfld., expanding capacity and service coverage in both regions. The Val-d’Or facility, Manitoulin’s eighth terminal in Quebec, is located at 1520 4e rue and features 11 dock doors and 6,000 square feet of space. The terminal adds 65 new service points to the company’s network and is integrated into Manitoulin’s national infrastructure of 85 terminals and more than 7,100 direct service points. “The opening of our Val-d’Or terminal is a direct investment in the success of our customers operating throughout Quebec,” said Jeff King, president of Manitoulin Transport. “This new terminal underscores our commitment to providing the most comprehensive LTL network in Canada.”

32. Ontario Enhancing Road Safety and Creating Jobs in Prince Edward County

The Ontario government is building a new roundabout in Prince Edward County at the intersection of Highway 62 and County Road 1. The roundabout will improve road safety and create good-paying jobs, protecting Ontario’s economy in the face of U.S. tariffs and global economic uncertainty.

33. Uber launches new ski service in select Canadian markets

Uber recently launched a new service aimed at making it easier for Canadians to reach some of the country's top resorts: With many enthusiasts already hitting the slopes across the nation, Uber has launched what it calls an easier way to reach select Canadian resorts: Uber Ski. A seasonal offering that is expected to run until the end of March, Uber Ski is currently available at certain resorts in Vancouver, Kelowna, Edmonton, Gatineau, London, Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto. The new service is also available at ski meccas across the globe in countries like the United States, Switzerland and France.

34. US manufacturing survey shows uptick in optimism

Optimism across the U.S. manufacturing sector is rising, but trade uncertainties and health care costs remain top concerns, according to the National Association of Manufacturers' (NAM) fourth-quarter outlook survey. NAM said 69.9% of survey respondents reported a positive outlook for their companies, up from 65% in the third quarter. "In line with the improvement in the outlook, companies expect most indices to improve marginally over the next 12 months," said NAM Chief Economist Victoria Bloom. "For example, manufacturers predict sales will increase 2.8%, up from 2.6% in Q3, and capital investments will grow 1.4%, up from 1% in the prior quarter. That said, while sentiment has improved, we are still below the historical average of 74%." The increase in optimism was tied to certain Trump administration policies like regulatory changes and tax levels in the *One Big Beautiful Bill Act*.

35. Canada Post, union reach tentative agreements, with vote expected in new year

Canada Post and the Canadian Union of Postal Workers say they have reached tentative agreements. The deals announced Monday, December 22, 2025 cover both the Urban Postal Operations and Rural and Suburban Mail Carriers bargaining units. CUPW's national board is recommending members accept the deals during ratification votes set to be held in early 2026. CUPW national president Jan Simpson said "These outcomes reflect the strength and solidarity of postal workers. In the face of extraordinary challenges, we stood together, secured meaningful improvements and pushed back on significant rollbacks."

36. Feds to reveal future of EV mandate in 2026, as Liberals urged to relent on 100% target

As Prime Minister Mark Carney ushers in a new era of climate policy for the Liberals, a key decision is hanging over the governing party's approach to electric vehicles. Namely, will the 2035 sales mandate be kept or outright repealed? The regulation currently requires manufacturers to hit certain sales targets for zero-emission vehicles, with those targets progressively rising until all new vehicle sales are zero emissions by 2035. Kean Nembhard, a spokesman for Environment Minister Julie Dabrusin, said in a statement that "we will have more to share in the new year," regarding the results of the 60-day review and the future of its zero-emission vehicle policy.

37. Compliant Carriers 'Can't Survive' Competing vs Fraud Trucking: Trucknews Poll

Industry professionals say fraud seems to be everywhere in trucking — it is widely seen as systemic, normalized, and insufficiently enforced, according to respondent's to Trucknews.com's latest Pulse Reader Survey. About 76% said they are extremely concerned about fraudulent practices in the industry, while another 16% said they are moderately concerned. Just 2% indicated no concerns at all. When asked whether they have personally experienced or directly witnessed fraud, more than half (52%) said they've experienced it multiple times, while another 14% said they had experienced it once. One reader wrote, "Fraud in the industry today is rampant and the bodies responsible for safety and anti-fraud have been asleep at the wheel for many years. Enforcement, enforcement, enforcement!" Another one said, "Our whole industry is full of fraud, most of it right under everyone's nose." Eighty-four percent of respondents highlighted fraudulent or improperly obtained licences as the biggest problem facing the industry right now. Fraudulent safety inspections and fake safety decals followed closely at 77%. It is not that surprising that other common issues included employee misclassification, also known as Driver Inc., followed by questionable practices at some of the testing facilities, cargo theft and more.

38. Purolator donates eight retired delivery trucks to food banks

Purolator has donated eight retired delivery trucks to food banks across Canada as part of its nationwide Purolator Tackle Hunger campaign, aiming to help food banks address a long-standing transportation challenge. This initiative builds on Purolator's 2024 donation of a truck to Feed Scarborough, which was transformed into a food truck to help the organization deliver hot meals directly to neighbourhoods in need. The refurbished trucks will be distributed to food banks in eight provinces. The receivers are: Agapè Centre in Ottawa; Boston Bar North Bend Food Bank in Hope, B.C.; Feed NB in Moncton; Harvest Manitoba in Winnipeg; Moose Jaw and District Food Bank in Saskatchewan; North York Harvest in Toronto, Ont.; The Ricochet Centre Montreal; and Wood Buffalo Food Bank in Fort McMurray, Alta.

39. Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Blasts Colorado for Slow Walking Purge of Illegally Issued Truck Licenses, Threatens \$24M in Funding

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy on December 22, 2025 blasted the State of Colorado for slow walking a purge of illegally issued truck licenses. If Colorado does not immediately pull these licenses and come into compliance, the state will lose \$24 million in federal highway funds and the Department of Transportation has the option to decertify Colorado's CDL program entirely.

40. Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index, November 2025

The Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index (2019=100) is now available for November 2025 on Statcan website. For November 2025, the index was 143.6 compared to 143.1 in October 2025 and 136.5 in November 2024.

41. Top 10 Canadian trucking stories of 2025

Uncertainty was the theme of early 2025 and later in the year compliance dominated the headlines in both Canada and the U.S. And it was those stories on regulatory compliance that dominated our list of the most widely read stories on

trucknews.com. Here's a recap of the Top 10 stories of the year, based on readership. 10: Nearly a third of Ontario carriers lay off workers as U.S. tariffs loom; 9: Caledon, Ont., secures several convictions against illegal trucking operations; 8: Ontario pushes reset button on MELT for new truck drivers; 7: Accusations emerge about conduct of Panjaab Transport, currently in receivership; 6: Investigation: Is unsafe Ontario equipment being allowed to operate with unethically obtained safety inspection decals?; 5: Halton Hills, Ont., struggling to uproot illegal truck yards sprouting on farmland; 4: Canada Cartage takes over Walmart Canada's fleet business; 3: U.S. visa suspensions a warning Canadian trucking must heed: CTA; 2: Alberta shuts down five unsafe truck driver training schools, 13 carriers; and 1: MTO suspends truckers' licenses after uncovering dishonest testing, training

42. Trucking's top 10 regulatory headlines of 2025

In the wake of a new US presidential administration that swept into D.C. in January 2025 came a wave of regulatory policy changes affecting truck markets. Here are 10 of the biggest that made headlines in 2025: 1. March 12: EPA announces rollback of Biden-Harris emissions rules; 2. April 28: Trump requiring that truckers speak and read English; 3. June 27: DOT will crack down on non-domiciled CDL holders; 4. July 23: Feds axe truck speed limiter mandate citing data gaps; 5. September 4: FMCSA pumps brakes on broker transparency, side guards; 6. October 7: Barrs confirmed as new FMCSA administrator; 7. October 30: Duffy declares war on CDL mills and fleets that hire from them; 8. November 26: FMCSA to poll 'several thousand' drivers on truck parking; 9. December 1: FMCSA overhauls vetting of truckers' ELDs; and 10 Will marijuana rescheduling be a trucking game changer? Overall Foreign-driver qualifications and deregulation are shaking up trucking markets.

43. DOT invests \$1 billion into building big, beautiful infrastructure to make American roads safer

Department of Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy on December 24, 2025 announced nearly \$1 billion in funding to make roads safer for American families. This investment will support projects that improve intersection safety, build roundabouts, upgrade sidewalks, and strengthen emergency response services—making streets safer in communities across the country.

GENERAL TRANSPORTATION

Canada

1. Report says Canada faces infrastructure shortfall as trade demands grow

Canada's trade-enabling infrastructure is falling behind global competitors, with aging assets, capacity bottlenecks and decades of underinvestment threatening the country's ability to support future growth, according to a new analysis. The report, from Perna Sharma, senior economist, Economic and Political Intelligence Centre (EPIC) at Export Development Canada (EDC), says Canada invests less in infrastructure than many Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) peers. In 2018 (the most recent year with comparable data), Canada spent 0.6 per cent of its GDP on infrastructure, compared to an average of 0.72 per cent in France, Germany, Italy and Japan. Transport Canada estimates the country will require \$4.4 trillion in trade-enabling infrastructure investments by 2070, with the current deficit estimated between \$110 billion and \$270 billion.

2. Canada's economy grows 2.6%, beating expectations and avoiding recession

The Canadian economy grew at an annualized rate of 2.6 per cent in the 2025 third quarter, blowing well past the expectations of the Bank of Canada and economists. Forecasters had predicted gross domestic product (GDP) would expand by a much more modest 0.5 per cent. The momentum was driven by Canada's strengthening trade balance, with a decrease in imports and an increase in exports during the quarter, Statistics Canada said on Friday, November 28, 2025. It was also helped by increased capital spending by governments, with business investment remaining flat.

3. National Travel Survey and Visitor Travel Survey, second quarter 2025

GENERAL TRANSPORTATION

Canada

1. Report says Canada faces infrastructure shortfall as trade demands grow, November 25, 2025, www.insidelogistics.ca
2. Canada's economy grows 2.6%, beating expectations and avoiding recession, November 28, 2025, www.financialpost.ca
3. National Travel Survey and Visitor Travel Survey, second quarter 2025 December 2, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca
4. CTA Welcomes Federal Enforcement Blitz to Crack Down on Driver Inc. Misclassification, December 1, 2025, www.ontruck.ca
5. Premier Eby hints at being open to second oil pipeline to Vancouver, December 2, 2025, www.financialpost.ca
6. World economy shows surprising tariff resilience, OECD says, Dec. 2, 2025, www.financialpost.ca
7. Ontario Completes Construction of Grand River Bridges, December 3, 2025, www.mto.gov.on.ca
8. Quebec's Eco-Trucking program back in business, December 3, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com
9. President Trump & Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Unveil New "Freedom Means Affordable Cars" Initiative to Reset Fuel Economy Standards, December 3, 2025, www.dot.gov
10. Amazon's growing clout in US shipping market, December 4, 2025, www.ajot.com
11. USMCA as industry groups push for renewal, December 7, 2025, www.freightwaves.com
12. Global trade set to grow 7% to pass record \$35 trillion this year, UN agency says, December 9, 2025, www.ajot.com
13. Leading indicator of international arrivals to Canada, November 2025, December 11, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca
14. The October 2025 Freight Transportation

During the second quarter of 2025, Canadian residents took 99.3 million trips within Canada and abroad, up 8.5% from the same quarter in 2024. From April to June 2025, visitors from the United States and overseas countries made 8.0 million trips to Canada, a 3.1% year-over-year decrease. The observed trends were as follows: 1. Domestic tourism: Canadian-resident visits within Canada increase; 2. Outbound tourism: Canadian-resident visits to the United States decrease, while visits to overseas countries increase; and 3. Inbound tourism: US visitors to Canada decrease, while overseas visitors increase.

4. CTA Welcomes Federal Enforcement Blitz to Crack Down on Driver Inc. Misclassification

The Canadian Trucking Alliance (CTA) applauds the Government of Canada's newly announced enforcement blitz targeting worker misclassification in the federally regulated trucking sector. This decisive action is an important step toward ensuring fairness, safety, and long-term stability across Canada's transportation industry. The enforcement blitz in Hamilton and the Greater Toronto Area will focus on identifying and addressing cases of misclassification under the Driver Inc. model. This practice improperly treats employees as independent contractors, denying them basic employment protections, fueling labour abuse, and creating an uneven playing field for compliant carriers.

5. Premier Eby hints at being open to second oil pipeline to Vancouver

Premier David Eby would be less hostile to the prospect of a new pipeline from Alberta to the B.C. coast if it were to a port that didn't require lifting Canada's moratorium on oil tanker traffic off the North Coast, he said on November 30, 2025. Shifting destinations to the South Coast, however, wouldn't overcome questions about long-term demand for a new oil pipeline or how well it would fit in the already busy Port of Vancouver, according to resource industry expert Tom Gunton. "That's a question that would require a fairly detailed feasibility assessment, whether (the port) could handle it or not," said Gunton, director of the resource and environmental management planning program at Simon Fraser University. Resource industry expert questions long-term demand for a new oil pipeline and how well it would fit in the already busy Port of Vancouver.

6. World economy shows surprising tariff resilience, OECD says

The global economy is weathering Donald Trump's trade tariffs better than expected as activity gets a boost from strong investment in artificial intelligence and supportive fiscal and monetary policies, the OECD said. It continues to predict global growth will slow to 2.9% in 2026 from 3.2% in 2025. The Paris-based organization raised its U.S. and euro-area growth forecasts for this year and next, and made small upward adjustments for other major economies in its latest outlook. Still, it continues to predict global growth will slow to 2.9 per cent in 2026 from 3.2% in 2025 as the full effects of levies on trade have yet to be felt.

7. Ontario Completes Construction of Grand River Bridges

The Ontario government has completed construction of the Grand River bridges on Highway 401 in Kitchener and the rehabilitation of the King Street overpass between Kitchener and Cambridge, shortening travel times through this corridor and laying the groundwork for future widening of the highway from six to 10 lanes. The project is part of the government's nearly \$30 billion plan to build, expand and repair highways, roads and bridges across the province, helping to protect Ontario's economy and keep thousands of workers on the job in the face of U.S. tariffs and economic uncertainty.

8. Quebec's Eco-Trucking program back in business

Quebec's Eco-Trucking program has been officially reopened with \$145.4 million in funding now available for fleets looking to improve their sustainability. The program was suspended last fall when funds were depleted. Several

Services Index (TSI) Fell 1.2% from September 2025 and Fell 1.2% from October 2024, December 10, 2025, www.bts.gov

15. Canadian international trade in services, September 2025, Dec. 11, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca

16. Canadian international merchandise trade, September 2025, Dec. 11, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca

17. The October 2025 Freight Transportation Services Index (TSI) Fell 1.2% from September 2025 and Fell 1.2% from October 2024, December 11, 2025, www.bts.gov

18. Customs: Council agrees to levy customs duty on small parcels as of 1 July 2026 December 12, 2025, www.europa.eu

19. China's trade surplus with Europe is larger than US for the first time, December 12, 2025, www.ajot.com

20. Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces \$1.5 Billion in Infrastructure Funding to Get America Building Again, December 15, 2025, www.dot.gov

21. November 2025 U.S. Transportation Sector Unemployment (4.8%) Was the Same as the November 2024 Level (4.8%) Tuesday, December 16, 2025, December 17, 2025, www.bts.gov

22. Transportation Consumer Price Index – November 2025, December 18, 2025, www.bts.gov

23. EU to provide €90 billion in support for Ukraine in 2026 and 2027, December 18, 2025, www.europa.eu

24. Carney says U.S. tariff reprieve 'unlikely' to happen before CUSMA review talks, December 18, 2025, www.nationalpost.ca

25. Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces \$33M in University Grants to Unleash American Innovation, December 19, 2025, www.dot.gov

26. Borderlands Mexico: U.S.–Mexico trade stays dominant in September, tops \$71B, December 21, 2025, www.freightwaves.com

27. Travel between Canada and other countries, October 2025, December 22, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca

28. Global GDP projected to grow 2.8% in 2026, December 22, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com

29. Gross domestic product by industry, October 2025, December 23, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca

30. Trump's Transportation Secretary Invests \$1 Billion into Building Big, Beautiful Infrastructure to Make American Roads Safer, December 25, 2025, www.dot.gov

31. Trump's tariffs predicted to de-escalate in 2026, says Bank of America CEO, December 28, 2025, www.nationalpost.ca

32. Survey says most Canadians want auto strategy focused on domestic manufacturing, December 30, 2025, www.insidelogistics.ca

industry players — including the Quebec Trucking Association (QTA), Propulsion Québec and many carriers — had called for its relaunch in [a joint statement](#). “It is essential to support the road freight transport industry in its transition to green technologies. I am aware that the renewal of the Eco-Trucking program was expected by the industry, and it has now been done,” said Jonatan Julien, minister of transport and sustainable mobility. “I encourage companies in the sector to submit their funding applications and embrace sustainable mobility.” The program is funded through March 2028.

9. President Trump & Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Unveil New “Freedom Means Affordable Cars” Initiative to Reset Fuel Economy Standards

U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy alongside President Donald J. Trump in the Oval Office on December 3, 2025 unveiled the Administration’s new “Freedom Means Affordable Cars” proposal to reset the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)’s corporate average fuel economy (CAFE) standards. The Biden-Buttigieg administration broke the law by setting standards that went far beyond the requirements mandated by Congress – all to artificially juice supply for electric vehicles that American consumers didn’t ask for. The Trump Administration’s new standards will save American families from bearing a hidden cost-of-living increase in auto prices because of the Biden-Buttigieg illegal rule. They will also revive the beating heart of American manufacturing and unshackle the nation’s automotive industry to produce safer, more affordable cars that American families want to buy. The “Freedom Means Affordable Cars” proposal is projected to save the American people \$109 billion over the next five years and save families \$1,000 on the average cost of a new vehicle. By helping more Americans buy newer, safer vehicles, NHTSA also estimates more than 1,500 lives would be saved and almost a quarter-of-a-million serious injuries would be prevented through 2050.

10. Amazon’s growing clout in US shipping market

Amazon's investments in new fulfillment centers and delivery stations have gradually cemented the online giant's position as a key player in the nearly \$193 billion U.S. parcel industry, long dominated by UPS, FedEx, and the U.S. Postal Service. The company said on Thursday, December 4, 2025 that it was in discussions with the U.S. Postal Service about the relationship and was considering its options before the current contract expires next year. Here's a snapshot of the U.S. delivery market: 1. The U.S. courier and parcel market is expected to grow to \$239.38 billion by 2030, data from *Mordor Intelligence* shows. 2. Amazon surpassed UPS and FedEx in delivery volumes last year, according to *Pitney Bowes'* parcel shipping index report. 3. Americans shipped 22.37 billion parcels in 2024, with Amazon delivering 6.3 billion of them, narrowly trailing USPS' 6.9 billion, the report showed. 4. Amazon is on track to exceed USPS volumes by 2028 with 8.4 billion parcels, *Pitney Bowes'* forecast in 2024. 5. Amazon accounted for a 15.3% market share by revenue in 2024, marginally behind USPS' 15.8%. 6. UPS and Amazon are already scaling back their partnership, with UPS planning to cut the volume it handles for the retailer by more than 50% by 2026. 7. US President Donald Trump said in February he was considering merging USPS -- which posted a \$9.5 billion loss last year -- with the Commerce Department, a move Democrats said would violate federal law. 8. Amazon pledged more than \$4 billion in April 2025 to expand its U.S. rural delivery network by the end of next year. Amazon.com said on Thursday, December 4, 2025 the e-commerce giant is in discussions with the U.S. Postal Service about its future relationship and considering its options before its current contract expires next year. The Washington Post reported Thursday new Postmaster General David Steiner plans to hold a reverse auction in early 2026 that might create more competition within the Post Office for Amazon's business by offering access to postal facilities to the highest bidder, rather than directly to Amazon. It would make the company compete with national retail brands and regional shipping firms.

11. USMCA as industry groups push for renewal

While major industry groups are urging federal authorities to extend the U.S.–Mexico–Canada Agreement (USMCA) for another full 16-year term, the Trump administration said it is considering scrapping the trade pact and negotiating a new one. U.S. Trade Representative Jamieson Greer told [Politico](#) “the president’s view is he only wants deals that are a good deal. The reason why we built a review period into USMCA was in case we needed to revise it, review it or exit it.” Greer, who discussed the USMCA with Politico’s White House bureau chief Dasha Burns in a podcast episode that aired December 5, 2025, said Trump has also raised the idea of negotiating separately with Canada and Mexico and dividing the agreement into two parts. The U.S., Mexico and Canada are preparing for the first six-year joint review of the USMCA in 2026. The USMCA was negotiated during Trump’s first term as president and replaced the North American Free Trade Agreement in 2020.

12. Global trade set to grow 7% to pass record \$35 trillion this year, UN agency says

Global trade is set to grow by about 7% in 2025 and is on track to exceed a record \$35 trillion, the UN Trade and Development Agency said on Tuesday, December 9, 2025. “The new data confirm that trade continued expanding through the second half of 2025, even as geopolitical tensions, higher costs and uneven global demand slowed momentum,” the agency said in a statement.

13. Leading indicator of international arrivals to Canada, November 2025

In November 2025, the preliminary number of international arrivals to Canada (returning Canadian residents and non-residents combined) by air and automobile was 4.1 million, down 13.5% from November 2024. This was the 10th consecutive month of year-over-year declines. The declines were in all categories: Non-resident trips to Canada by air; Canadian-resident return trips by air; US-resident trips to Canada by automobile; and Canadian-resident return trips from the United States by automobile.

14. The October 2025 Freight Transportation Services Index (TSI) Fell 1.2% from September 2025 and Fell 1.2% from October 2024

Starting in 2026, alongside our regular monthly releases covering all the modes, BTS will introduce a brand-new freight index focused exclusively on truck and rail shipments. The Freight Transportation Services Index (TSI), fell 1.2% in October 2025 from September 2025, falling for the second consecutive month, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS). From October 2024 to October 2025 the index fell 1.2%. The freight TSI measures the amount of freight carried by the for-hire transportation industry.

15. Canadian international trade in services, September 2025

Canada's monthly international trade in services surplus was essentially unchanged from the previous month at \$0.2 billion in September 2025. Overall, imports of services were up 0.8% to \$19.8 billion, and exports of services increased 0.7% to \$20.0 billion. Imports of commercial services rose 2.4% to \$11.6 billion in September 2025, driven by an increase in financial services. The overall increase in imports was partially offset by decreases in imports of travel services (-1.9% to \$4.9 billion) and of transportation services (-0.8% to \$3.3 billion). Exports of commercial services were the main contributor to the increase in services exports, climbing 0.9% to reach \$12.2 billion in September 2025. Exports of travel services increased 0.7% to \$5.8 billion, mostly due to an increase in spending in Canada by travellers from the United States. From August 2025 to September 2025, exports of transportation services were essentially unchanged at \$1.9 billion.

16. Canadian international merchandise trade, September 2025

In September 2025, Canada's merchandise exports increased 6.3%, while imports were down 4.1%. Because of these strong opposing movements, Canada's merchandise trade deficit with the world went from a deficit of \$6.4 billion in August to a slight surplus of \$153 million in September, essentially a balanced position. The major highlights were: 1. Exports rose sharply; 2. Gold imports fell; 3. Exports to the US increased; 4. Exports and imports with countries other than the United States posted strong opposing movements; 5. Exports rose (2.4%) and imports fell (2%) in the third quarter of 2025.

17. The October 2025 Freight Transportation Services Index (TSI) Fell 1.2% from September 2025 and Fell 1.2% from October 2024

Starting in 2026, alongside our regular monthly releases covering all the modes, BTS will introduce a brand-new freight index focused exclusively on truck and rail shipments. Because this data becomes available sooner, the BTS will roll out this specialized index on the very first business day of each month—about two weeks ahead of the full release. This means users eager for an early glimpse into the trends shaping transportation services will get timely, actionable insights right when they need them! The Freight Transportation Services Index (TSI), fell 1.2% in October 2025 from September 2025, falling for the second consecutive month, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS). From October 2024 to October 2025 the index fell 1.2%. The freight TSI measures the amount of freight carried by the for-hire transportation industry.

18. Customs: Council agrees to levy customs duty on small parcels as of 1 July 2026

The European Council on December 18, 2025 agreed to apply a **fixed customs duty of €3 on small parcels valued at less than €150** entering the EU, largely via e-commerce, **from 1 July 2026**. This temporary measure responds to the fact **that such parcels currently enter the EU duty free, leading to unfair competition for EU sellers, health and safety risks** for consumers, high levels of fraud and environmental concerns. The measure will stay in place until the permanent arrangement for such parcels, agreed in November 2025, enters into force. The €3 duty will be applied to each different item, according to their tariff headings, contained in a consignment. As of 1 July 2026, goods entering the EU in small consignments and valued at less than €150 will be subject to a fixed €3 customs duty. The rate will be applied to all goods entering the EU for which non-EU sellers are registered in the EU's import one-stop shop (IOSS) for value-added tax purposes. This encompasses 93% of all e-commerce flows to the EU.

19. China's trade surplus with Europe is larger than US for the first time

For the first time, China had a larger trade surplus with Europe than with the US over the period of the last 12 months, posing serious questions over the future of European industry. Except for three months in 2008, following the exceptional circumstances of the subprime crisis that severely impacted the US economy, this has never happened before. According to Chinese customs data, between October 2024 and October 2025, the surplus with Europe reached \$310 billion, compared with \$302 billion for the surplus with the US. Since 2019, China's trade surplus with Europe

has almost doubled, and everything suggests that with Trump's tariffs, which make many Chinese imports far less attractive to the US market, this phenomenon is set to grow and continue. Admittedly, with Chinese products being rerouted via Vietnam, Mexico, or other countries before reaching the US, it is likely that Beijing's surplus with Washington is underestimated. Nevertheless, it is the U.S. that is taking a protectionist stance and closing its borders, not Europe, which finds itself exposed to Chinese industry and its exports.

20. Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces \$1.5 Billion in Infrastructure Funding to Get America Building Again

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy on December 15, 2025 announced a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) through Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) Grants for Fiscal Year 2026 that makes \$1.5 billion available for infrastructure projects across the country. Under Secretary Duffy, the merit criteria of BUILD grants will prioritize increasing safety measures, expanding transportation options for American families, as well as projects that: 1. Beautify transportation infrastructure with context-appropriate design that enhance user experience while maintaining safety and operational efficiency; 2. Improve roadway capacity and makes transportation more affordable; 3. Improve the travel experience for families through dedicated facilities for mothers, accessibility for those with disabilities, intuitive design elements, clear signage, intuitive layouts, and predictable operations for caregivers; 4. Facilitate tourism; and 5. Support U.S. energy dominance.

21. November 2025 U.S. Transportation Sector Unemployment (4.8%) Was the Same as the November 2024 Level (4.8%) Tuesday, December 16, 2025

The unemployment rate in the U.S. transportation sector was 4.8% (not seasonally adjusted) in November 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 November 2025, the transportation sector unemployment rate remained unchanged from 4.8% in November 2024. 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 higher than overall unemployment. BLS reports that the U.S. unemployment rate, not seasonally adjusted, in November 2025 was 4.3% or 0.5 percentage points below the transportation sector rate. Seasonally adjusted, the U.S. unemployment rate in November 2025 was 4.6%.

22. Transportation Consumer Price Index – November 2025

On December 18, 2025, the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) released the change in the costs faced by consumers for transportation goods and services, from November 2024 to November 2025, as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The annual change in CPI is a measure of inflation. The CPI for all transportation goods and services rose 1.6% from November 2024 to November 2025. Transportation contributed 9.7% to the 2.7% increase in the price of all goods and services, per the CPI. Used cars and trucks contributed the most to inflation, rising 3.6% year-over-year and contributing 3.1% to the annual change in the price of all goods and services. By item, the top three contributors to inflation in November 2025 were: 1. Used cars and trucks: +3.1%; 2. Motor vehicle maintenance and repair: +2.6%; 3. New vehicles: +1.0%; and 4. Gasoline (all types): +1.0%

23. EU to provide €90 billion in support for Ukraine in 2026 and 2027

EU leaders decided to provide a loan of €90 billion to Ukraine, based on EU borrowing, to address the country's urgent financing needs for the next two years. They also discussed the next long-term EU budget, EU enlargement and geoeconomics.

24. Carney says U.S. tariff reprieve 'unlikely' to happen before CUSMA review talks

Prime Minister Mark Carney said on Thursday, December 18, 2025 that efforts to see U.S. President Donald Trump remove or lessen tariffs on Canadian sectors will now be dealt with alongside their joint review of the trilateral trade agreement with Mexico. Carney said there won't be time to negotiate a tariff reprieve, given that Canada failed to reach a deal with the U.S. before the president broke talks off in late October and with both countries now heading into their first review of the Canada-U.S.-Mexico-Agreement (CUSMA), slated for 2026.

25. Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces \$33M in University Grants to Unleash American Innovation

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy on December 19, 2025 announced \$33 million in funding for the Department's University Transportation Centers (UTC) Program. This Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) will advance transportation science and innovation to solve for tomorrow's problems today. In May 2025, Secretary Duffy terminated seven woke university grants totalling \$54M for funding woke initiatives instead of American interests. The grant program has been refocused to prioritize innovative ways to increase safety on American transportation, including through automated vehicles and driving systems, artificial intelligence and machine learning, digital infrastructure, and human-machine interface technologies.

26. Borderlands Mexico: U.S.-Mexico trade stays dominant in September, tops \$71B

Mexico ranked as the United States' largest trading partner in September, reinforcing its central role in North American supply chains despite tariff uncertainty and shifting global trade dynamics. Total trade between the U.S. and Mexico reached about \$71.8 billion during the month, outpacing trade with Canada and China, according to [Commerce Department](#) data. Mexican exports to the U.S. totalled \$44.6 billion, while U.S. exports to Mexico reached \$27.2 billion, making Mexico the top destination for U.S. goods for a second consecutive month.

27. Travel between Canada and other countries, October 2025

In October 2025, the number of Canadian-resident return trips from the United States was down 26.3% year over year, while the number of trips to Canada by US residents was up 3.0%. In October 2025, the number of trips to Canada by overseas residents (+11.7%) and Canadian-resident return trips from overseas (+9.1%) increased compared with the same month a year earlier. On a seasonally adjusted monthly basis, the number of Canadian-resident return trips from abroad was up 2.3% in October 2025. Meanwhile, US-resident arrivals (+1.5%) and overseas-resident arrivals (+2.5%) both recorded an increase.

28. Global GDP projected to grow 2.8% in 2026

Global gross domestic product will increase 2.8% in 2026, above the consensus forecast of 2.5%, according to a new report from Goldman Sachs Research. In the United States, economic growth is expected to accelerate to 2.6%, while China's GDP will expand 4.8%, as strong exports outweigh sluggish domestic demand. Tax cuts, easier financial conditions, and a reduced drag from tariffs will fuel the growth in the United States. "We expect especially strong GDP growth in the first half of next year," said Jan Hatzius, chief economist and head of Goldman Sachs Research. The report stated that in the United States, inflation has remained elevated due to tariff pass-through. Excluding tariffs, Goldman estimates that inflation has continued to fall, and currently stands at 2.3%. In 2026, "the impact on year-on-year inflation will diminish sharply in the second half," assuming tariffs remain near current levels, the report said. Goldman also projects that the U.S. Federal Reserve will reduce its policy rate by at least 50 basis points to 3%-3.25% in 2026. If inflation remains tame, the Fed may be able to make further reductions. The report also found that the impact of artificial intelligence on jobs and productivity has so far mainly been confined to the technology sector. Larger productivity benefits from AI remain a few years away.

29. Gross domestic product by industry, October 2025

Real gross domestic product (GDP) decreased 0.3% in October 2025, offsetting a 0.2% increase in September 2025, driven by contractions in goods-producing and services-producing industries. Overall, 11 of 20 industrial sectors contracted in October 2025. Goods-producing industries were down 0.7% in October 2025, as most sectors comprising the grouping contracted, led by the manufacturing sector. Services-producing industries declined 0.2% in the month, impacted by a few labour stoppages that dampened the overall activity.

30. Trump's Transportation Secretary Invests \$1 Billion into Building Big, Beautiful Infrastructure to Make American Roads Safer

U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy on December 23, 2025 announced nearly \$1 billion in funding to make roads safer for American families. This investment will support projects that improve intersection safety, build roundabouts, upgrade sidewalks, and strengthen emergency response services—making streets safer in communities across the country. Through the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) competitive grant program, \$982,231,998 will be awarded to 521 projects across 48 states, 18 tribes, and Puerto Rico. The SS4A program helps improve roadway safety by investing in safety strategies that will reduce serious injuries and fatalities among pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, motorists, and truck drivers. In [April](#) 2025, Secretary Duffy announced the program had been retooled to remove DEI and environmental justice requirements installed by the last administration. These absurd requirements were bogging down the system and making it harder for dollars to flow to critical safety projects across the country.

31. Trump's tariffs predicted to de-escalate in 2026, says Bank of America CEO

Bank of America Corp. Chief Executive Officer Brian Moynihan said he expects the Trump administration to de-escalate trade tensions next year after tariffs sent shockwaves through the U.S. economy in 2025. Moynihan said in an interview taped earlier in December and aired Sunday on CBS News' Face the Nation that Bank of America now sees "de-escalation, not escalation," with an average of 15 per cent tariffs, and higher rates for countries that won't commit to U.S. purchases or lowering non-tariff barriers.

32. Survey says most Canadians want auto strategy focused on domestic manufacturing

Nearly three in four Canadians worry ongoing trade tensions and tariffs will push new vehicle prices out of reach, according to a new KPMG Canada survey, even as six in 10 say they plan to buy a new car within the next five years. The survey found 61 per cent of Canadians expect to purchase a new vehicle in that time frame, but 62 per cent say they would not spend more than \$50,000, down from 75 per cent in a 2022 KPMG survey. Price and brand trust remain the top considerations for buyers, cited by 80 per cent and 71 per cent respectively. Canadians are also paying closer attention to where vehicles are made. Seventy-two per cent say it is very or somewhat important that their vehicle is

assembled or built in Canada. “With U.S. tariffs disrupting the industry, Canadians in the market for a new vehicle are looking to the brands they trust at prices they can afford in models they want, and increasingly, on where those vehicles are built,” said Dave Power, partner and national automotive sector leader at KPMG in Canada.