

Transportation Information Update*

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AIR TRANSPORTATION

1. Passenger Demand Growth Accelerates to 10% in January

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) released data for January 2025 global passenger demand with the following highlights: *Total demand*, measured in revenue passenger kilometers (RPK), was up 10.0% compared to January 2024. Total capacity, measured in available seat kilometers (ASK), was up 7.1% year-on-year. The January load factor was 82.1% (+2.2 ppt compared to January 2024), an all-time high for January. *International demand* rose 12.4% compared to January 2024. Capacity was up 8.7% year-on-year, and the load factor was 82.6% (+2.7 ppt compared to January 2024), an all-time high for January. *Domestic demand* rose 6.1% compared to January 2024. Capacity was up 4.5% year-on-year. The load factor was 81.2% (+1.2 ppt compared to January 2024), an all-time high for January. Willie Walsh, IATA's Director General said "We've seen a notable acceleration in demand this January, with a particularly strong performance by carriers based in the Asia-Pacific region. The record high load factors that accompany this strong demand are yet another reminder of the persistent supply chain issues in the aerospace sector."

2. Air Cargo Demand up 3.2% in January

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) released data for January 2025 global air cargo markets showing: *Total demand*, measured in cargo tonne-kilometers (CTK), rose by 3.2% compared to January 2024 levels (3.6% for international operations) for an 18th consecutive month of growth. *Capacity*, measured in available cargo tonne-kilometers (ACTK), increased by 6.8% compared to January 2024 (7.3% for international operations). Willie Walsh, IATA's Director General said "January marked 18 consecutive months of growth for air cargo, but the month's 3.2% year-on-year growth is a moderation from double-digit peaks in 2024. Similarly, yields, while still above January 2024 levels, saw a 9.9% decline from December as cargo load factors also declined by an average of 1.5 percentage points. While external factors such as trade growth, declining fuel costs and expanding e-commerce remain positive for air cargo, it is important to closely watch the evolution of market conditions at this time. In particular, the wild card is the potential for tariff-driven trade policies from the US Trump Administration. Fortunately, the air cargo industry is well practiced at dealing with shifts in the operating environment."

3. U.S. Airlines' January 2025 Fuel Cost per Gallon up 4.2% from December 2024; Aviation Fuel Consumption down 0.6% from Pre-Pandemic January 2020

The Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) on March 4, 2025 released U.S. airlines' January 2025 fuel cost and consumption numbers indicating U.S. scheduled service airlines used 1.453 billion gallons of fuel, 8.9% less fuel than in December 2024 (1.594 billion gallons) and 0.6% less than in pre-pandemic January 2020. The cost per gallon of fuel in January 2025 (\$2.42) was up 10 cents (4.2%) from December 2024 (\$2.32) and up \$0.44 (22.2%) from January 2020. Total January 2025

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2. Air Cargo Demand up 3.2% in January, February 27, 2025, www.aita.org
3. U.S. Airlines' January 2025 Fuel Cost per Gallon up 4.2% from December 2024; Aviation Fuel Consumption down 0.6% from Pre-Pandemic January 2020, March 4, 2025, www.bts.gov
4. IATA World Cargo Symposium 2025: Navigating Geopolitical Shifts with Technology & Innovation, March 5, 2025, www.iata.org
5. Air Canada Partners with Michelin-starred Chef Masaki Hashimoto to Elevate Signature Class Dining on Japan Routes, March 6, 2025, www.aircanada.ca
6. Canada reaches first-time air transport agreement with Ghana, March 5, 2025, www.tc.gc.ca
7. International Women's Day: Air Canada and CAE Announce the 2025 Captain Judy Cameron Scholarship Recipients, March 6, 2025, www.aircanada.ca
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12. US airlines slash earnings forecasts as economic concerns grow, March 11, 2025, www.ajot.com
13. Canada expands air transport agreement with Senegal, March 11, 2025, www.tc.gc.ca
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15. Air Travel Consumer Report: December 2024, Full Year 2024 Numbers, March 14, 2025, www.dot.gov
16. WestJet Cargo sells Virgin Atlantic's cargo capacity from Toronto-London and beyond, March 17, 2025, www.ajot.com

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fuel expenditure (\$3.52B) was down 5.1% from December 2024 (\$3.71B) and up 21.5% from pre-pandemic January 2020. Year-over-year changes in fuel consumption and cost for January 2025 includes a 0.2% increase in domestic fuel consumption, a 10.4% decrease in domestic fuel cost, and a 10.6% decrease in cost per gallon. Domestic fuel consumption decreased 9.8% from December 2024 to January 2025, while decreasing 2.4% from January 2020. Increased fuel consumption reflects an increase in airline passenger travel over the same period.

4. IATA World Cargo Symposium 2025: Navigating Geopolitical Shifts with Technology & Innovation

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) announced that the 2025 World Cargo Symposium (WCS) will focus on digitalization, sustainability and safety/security as the key issues in helping the global air cargo industry as it adapts to unfolding geopolitical shifts. "Air cargo demonstrated its resilience in adapting to the post-pandemic world. In 2024, more cargo was transported by air than ever before. But the world is moving at an even faster pace with technological advancements, geopolitical shifts, evolving risks, and changing customer needs. At WCS in Dubai, we'll collectively take stock of what's next for air cargo, focusing on digitalization, sustainability, safety/security, and e-commerce. The growing demand for air cargo underscores its critical role," said Willie Walsh, IATA's Director General. WCS is taking place in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, from 15 to 17 April 2025 hosted by Emirates SkyCargo and dnata. It is the second time the WCS is hosted in the United Arab Emirates, with the first in 2017.

5. Air Canada Partners with Michelin-starred Chef Masaki Hashimoto to Elevate Signature Class Dining on Japan Routes

Air Canada has announced the addition of Michelin-starred Chef Masaki Hashimoto to its culinary panel. Based in Toronto, Chef Hashimoto is the owner of Kaiseki Yu-zen Hashimoto, one of Canada's only restaurants dedicated to the traditional art of Kaiseki cuisine. Since immigrating more than 40 years ago, he has devoted his career to mastering and sharing this multi-course culinary tradition. His exclusive creations debuted March 1, 2025 in Air Canada Signature Class, on all flights between Canada and Japan.

6. Canada reaches first-time air transport agreement with Ghana

On March 5, 2025, the Minister of Transport and Internal Trade, the Honourable Anita, announced that Canada has recently reached a first-time air transport agreement with Ghana. The new agreement with Ghana includes: 1. The right for Canada and Ghana to designate multiple airlines to operate scheduled air services between the two countries. 2. The right for those airlines to serve any points in the two countries. 3. A capacity of 14 weekly passenger flights and 10 weekly all-cargo flights for the airlines of each country. Airlines can offer services under this new agreement immediately.

7. International Women's Day: Air Canada and CAE Announce the 2025 Captain Judy Cameron Scholarship Recipients

In celebration of International Women's Day on March 8, Air Canada and CAE proudly announce the eight winners of the 2025 Captain Judy Cameron Scholarships. The two Montreal-based global aviation companies have again joined forces to award scholarships to eight women from across Canada who are pursuing careers as commercial pilots or aircraft maintenance engineers.

8. Government of Canada releases policy statement on airport investment

On March 7, 2025, the Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry, the Honourable François-Philippe Champagne, on behalf of the Minister of Transport and Internal Trade, the Honourable Anita Anand, released a policy statement on investment for Canada's National Airports System airports. This statement is a commitment from Budget 2024 to support and encourage investments in airport facilities. The National Airports System is made up of 26 airports, 22 of which are run by private, not-for-profit airport authorities. While these authorities are operationally and financially independent, the airports themselves are located on land leased from the Government of Canada. The policy statement

17. IATA CO2 Connect Enhanced with SAF Accounting, March 18, 2025, www.iata.org

18. Air Canada Is Named One of Montreal's Top Employers for the 12th Consecutive Year, March 18, 2025, www.aircanada.ca

19. U.S. Cargo and Passenger Airlines Lost 5,188 Jobs in January 2025, March 18, 2025, www.bts.gov

20. Trans-Atlantic air cargo demand surges ahead of US tariffs, March 18, 2025, www.joc.com

21. Aviation Security Leaders Call for Digital Identity, March 19, 2025, www.iata.org

22. VIPorter members can now redeem points for flights with Air Transat and Alaska Airlines, March 19, 2025, www.flyporter.com

23. Air Canada's New Café at Montréal-Trudeau International Airport Provides Domestic Customers Added Comfort and Hospitality, Mar. 21, 2025, www.aircanada.ca

24. How Much Do Airlines Make From Cargo?, March 21, 2025, www.cargonews.com

25. Power outage at Heathrow causes flight chaos but will it be short-lived?, March 21, 2025, www.ajot.com

26. Porter Airlines, BMO and Mastercard Launch First Canadian Credit Card Program Granting Immediate Airline Loyalty Benefits, March 24, 2025, www.flyporter.com

27. Pilots' union calls WestJet's use of Temporary Foreign Worker program 'problematic', March 21, 2025, www.financialpost.ca

28. SAF Registry to be Operated by the Civil Aviation Decarbonization Organization, March 24, 2025, www.iata.org

29. Star Alliance Enhances Intermodal Connectivity with Austria's ÖBB, March 25, 2025, www.aircanada.ca

30. Porter Airlines and Pascan Aviation announce key Canadian aviation partnership, March 26, 2025, www.flyporter.com

31. Letter to Political Parties, March 24, 2025, www.atac.ca

32. Canada-US Air Traffic Drops Over 70% Amid Trump's Tariff War, March 28, 2025, www.cargonews.com

highlights the existing flexibilities under the governance model for Canada's airport authorities to attract investment, including from pension funds. It outlines three avenues, subleases, subcontracts and subsidiaries, for private investors and developers to collaborate with airport authorities. The policy statement also indicates that the government intends to explore negotiations to extend airport authority leases to facilitate third party investment and development projects on airport lands.

9. Policy statement on investment at National Airports System airports operated by airport authorities

Canada's airports are operated through several different models. Most of the National Airports System (NAS) airports, including the country's largest airports, are operated on federal land through long-term ground leases, by private, not-for-profit, non-share-capital corporations called airport authorities. Working within the existing ownership structures, over the past 3 decades, Canada's airports have grown with the help of private sector investments, mostly in the form of long-term debt from Canadian sources. Investment decisions made at airports impact connectivity, prosperity, sustainability, and national security for decades. This can, in turn, further support government goals, such as affordability and economic growth in local communities. To encourage more private investment, the Government of Canada is issuing this policy statement to clarify the investment tools available to airports operated by NAS airport authorities. Investments should support the financial self-sufficiency and sustainability of airport authorities and their operations. They should also support long term infrastructure development that benefits Canadians. Numerous opportunities exist for infusing private sector investment into National Airport System airports. Investors can: 1. work with NAS airport authorities to enter into subleases that will develop airport lands; 2. provide subcontracted services for certain aspects of airport operations, and 3. work with airport authority subsidiaries to take advantage of private investment opportunities. Investment from institutional investors like Canadian pension funds could diversify NAS airport authorities' funding sources and enhance their financial flexibility, which could help reduce risk and make the Canadian air transportation system more resilient. Further details are contained in the Policy Statement.

10. Canadian Airports Council's Response to Government's Policy Statement on Investment at National Airports System Airports

The Canadian Airports Council (CAC) welcomes the Government of Canada's recent policy statement, which clarifies the investment tools currently available for National Airports System (NAS) airports and sets policy direction to explore lease extensions. Canada's airports play a critical role in connecting people, supporting trade, and driving economic growth. "Airports have long advocated for greater financial flexibility in their ground leases and extensions to unlock investment opportunities that could benefit both the community and travelers," said Monette Pasher, President of the Canadian Airports Council. "We are pleased to see this policy statement that will allow airports to explore the extension of airport ground leases, which would provide the long-term stability needed for significant capital projects and infrastructure development on airport lands and business parks." "It is just good business to have more financial tools in the toolbox and access to longer investment terms is part of that," stated Pasher. "It'll be up to each airport to look at their opportunities and assess what is needed to accelerate growth and trade for their respective communities."

11. U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces Permanent FAA Actions to Secure Airspace Over Nation's Capital Following NTSB Preliminary Report

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy on March 11, 2025 held a press conference to announce that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is accepting both of the National Transportation Safety Board's (NTSB) safety recommendations, including permanently restricting non-essential helicopter operations around Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA) and eliminating mixed helicopter and fixed wing traffic. This is a continuation of the immediate action Secretary Duffy and the FAA took to restrict air space for helicopter operations following the tragic January 29, 2025 mid-air collision near DCA.

12. US airlines slash earnings forecasts as economic concerns grow

More U.S. airlines cut their earnings estimates on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, following a similar announcement from Delta Air Lines, saying mounting economic uncertainty has led to a pullback in corporate and consumer spending. They also warned that near-term economic pressures would prompt the industry to further reduce capacity after the summer travel peak to prevent any discounting pressure. U.S. consumer and business confidence has weakened over the fallout from tariffs imposed by President Donald Trump and threats of additional levies, and increasing concerns about higher prices. The Atlanta Federal Reserve's closely followed GDPNow tracker suggests the economy could shrink in the first three months of the year. Since travel spending closely tracks broader economic activity, investors and analysts say a downturn would spell trouble for the airline industry. Carriers' revenue from government has already taken a hit due to a crackdown on federal spending since Trump's return to the White House. "Economic uncertainty is a big deal," American Airlines CEO Robert Isom said at a JPMorgan industry conference.

13. Canada expands air transport agreement with Senegal

On March 11, 2025, the Minister of Transport and Internal Trade, the Honourable Anita Anand, announced that Canada has recently expanded the Canada-Senegal Air Transport Agreement. The expanded agreement with Senegal includes:

1. The right for airlines of either country to operate direct flights to any destination in the other country's territory. 2. A capacity allowance of 14 weekly passenger flights and 10 weekly all-cargo flights for the airlines of each country. 3. Significant operating flexibility for all-cargo services. Airlines can begin offering services under this new agreement immediately.

14. December 2024 U.S. Airline Traffic Data Up 5.9% from December 2023

U.S. airlines carried 83.3 million systemwide (domestic and international) scheduled service passengers in December 2024, according to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS). When adjusted for seasonality, December enplanements are up 0.2% from November and reached a new all-time high in December 2024. BTS reported 72.1 million domestic passengers and 11.2 million international passengers on U.S. airlines flights in December, not adjusting for seasonality. U.S. airline traffic reports are filed monthly with BTS.

15. Air Travel Consumer Report: December 2024, Full Year 2024 Numbers

For December 2024, DOT reported: *On-time arrival rate*: 78.0%, down from both 84.9% in November 2024 and from 83.9% in December 2023. *Flight Cancellations* : Marketing carriers cancelled 0.7% of their scheduled domestic flights, higher than both the rate of 0.5% in November 2024 and the rate of 0.4% in December 2023. *Tarmac Delays*: Airlines reported 46 tarmac delays of more than three hours on domestic flights, compared to eight tarmac delays of more than three hours on domestic flights reported in November 2024. *Mishandled Baggage*: Marketing carriers handled 45.7 million bags and posted a mishandled baggage rate of 0.60%, higher than both the rate of 0.39% in November 2024 and the rate of 0.50% in December 2023. *Mishandled Wheelchairs and Scooters*: Carriers reported checking 76,630 wheelchairs and scooters and mishandling 925, for a rate of 1.21% mishandled wheelchairs and scooters, lower than both the rate of 1.22% mishandled in November 2024 and the rate of 1.39% mishandled in December 2023. *Bumping/Oversales*: This data, unlike other air carrier data, are reported quarterly rather than monthly. For the fourth quarter of 2024, the 10 U.S. reporting marketing carriers posted an involuntary denied boarding, or bumping, rate of 0.25 per 10,000 passengers, higher than the rate of 0.20 in the fourth quarter of 2023, but lower than the rate of 0.28 in the third quarter of 2024. **For the full year 2024**, 1.4% of flights were cancelled, higher than the 1.3% cancellation rate in 2023, and carriers reported a bumping / oversales rate of 0.28%, down from 0.30% in 2023.

16. WestJet Cargo sells Virgin Atlantic's cargo capacity from Toronto–London and beyond

2025 marks a commercial year-round collaboration that will significantly boost cargo capacity between the East Coast of Canada to London and beyond on Virgin Atlantic network. This commercial partnership strengthens trade links between Canada and key destinations across Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and Asia, as Virgin Atlantic serves numerous strategic cities from London Heathrow, including DEL, BOM, BLR, JNB, CPT, DXB, RUH, LOS. In addition, it signifies the airline's return to the Canadian cargo market after more than two decades, leveraging WestJet Cargo's proven expertise to manage and sell this key route. Starting at the end of March 2025, WestJet Cargo will sell cargo capacity on Virgin Atlantic's wide-body flights from Toronto to London offering up to 20Tonnes of capacity per day. The commercial partnership will provide customers with reliable access to both WestJet Cargo's and Virgin Atlantic Cargo's full suite of services — areas in which both carriers have established a strong track record. All shipments from Toronto will be moved under a WestJet Cargo Air Waybill (AWB).

17. IATA CO2 Connect Enhanced with SAF Accounting

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has enhanced its [IATA CO2 Connect](#) emissions calculator to account for carbon emissions reductions related to the usage of Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF). This follows the recent publication of the [IATA SAF Accounting & Reporting Methodology](#) which includes specific accounting rules and practices on how to include SAF in per-passenger CO2 data. Initially, CO2 Connect will apply equal per-passenger emission reductions across an airline's network, meaning that all flights will benefit from an equal (percentage) reduction based on total SAF purchases. In future enhancements, the ability to allocate per-passenger SAF emission reductions to specific routes will be added. "Corporations and individual travelers want to clearly understand how sustainable their flying is. And, particularly if they have invested in SAF, they want to know what impact it is having. By enhancing CO2 Connect with the IATA SAF Accounting and Reporting Methodology we are providing the transparency and accuracy that individuals and corporates demand," said Frederic Leger, IATA's Senior Vice President Commercial Products and Services.

18. Air Canada Is Named One of Montreal's Top Employers for the 12th Consecutive Year

Air Canada has once again been recognized, for the 12th consecutive year, as one of Montreal's top employers for 2025 in the latest edition of the Montréal's Top Employers Awards. This award reflects the company's commitment to employees and its efforts to create a positive and inclusive work environment. "It is an honour to be recognized as one of Montreal's Top Employers for the 12th consecutive year! This milestone is a moment of immense pride for all of us at Air Canada, and especially for the more than 10,000 Air Canada employees who live and work here in Montreal where our global headquarters are located," said Arielle Meloul-Wechsler, Executive Vice President, Chief Human Resources Officer and Public Affairs.

19. U.S. Cargo and Passenger Airlines Lost 5,188 Jobs in January 2025

U.S. airline industry (passenger and cargo airlines combined) employment decreased to 1,009,141 workers in January 2025, 5,188 (0.51%) less workers than in December 2024 (1,014,329). U.S. scheduled-service passenger airlines employed 543,887 workers in January 2025, or 54% of the industry-wide total. Passenger airlines lost 411 employees in January 2025. United Air Lines, Inc. led scheduled passenger carriers, adding 791 employees; Southwest Airlines Co. added 194, and Envoy Air added 098. U.S. cargo airlines employed 461,029 workers in January 2025, or 46% of the industry-wide total. Cargo carriers lost 5,018 employees in January. FedEx, the leading air cargo employer, decreased employment by 4,966 jobs.

20. Trans-Atlantic air cargo demand surges ahead of US tariffs

Forwarders are scrambling to support an unseasonal surge in air freight frontloading on westbound trans-Atlantic routes ahead of new US tariffs on the European Union set to be implemented on April 2, 2025. The rising demand is starting to push up air cargo rates that jumped 8% this week to almost \$5 per kilogram, a price last seen during the peak shipping period ahead of Lunar New Year in late January 2025. Niall van de Wouw, chief air freight officer at rate benchmarking platform Xeneta, said volume from Western Europe to the US was up 11% year over year in the first few months of 2025. Airline summer schedules on the trans-Atlantic will add belly capacity to the trade lane, easing the current tight space on westbound routes.

21. Aviation Security Leaders Call for Digital Identity

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) is calling for the rapid adoption of digital identity technologies to enhance aviation security and operational efficiency. Leading government and industry stakeholders in aviation security participating in the Sydney Leaders Week Conference supported this position, emphasizing the need for collaboration in implementing Verifiable Credentials (VC) and Decentralized Identifiers (DIDs). Sydney Leaders Week, hosted by Qantas, is being attended by industry experts and government representatives from Australia, Canada, China, New Zealand, the UK, and the US. It is widely accepted that digital identity can bring the following benefits to aviation security: 1. **Stronger Document Integrity:** Reducing fraud and unauthorized access. 2. **Global Trust:** Enabling secure, cross-border, interoperable identity verification. 3. **Operational Efficiency:** Streamlining document verification for a smoother passenger experience, strengthening regulatory oversight, and optimizing resource allocation.

22. VIPorter members can now redeem points for flights with Air Transat and Alaska Airlines

Porter Airlines is expanding its VIPorter loyalty program, giving members even more ways to earn and redeem points for travel. For the first time, members can redeem VIPorter points for flights with partner airlines, starting with Air Transat and Alaska Airlines. Over 2,000 routes are now available for reward travel with this update. This marks the next phase of partnership in the joint venture of Porter and Air Transat, and a deepening of the commercial partnership launched with Alaska in December 2023.

23. Air Canada's New Café at Montréal-Trudeau International Airport Provides Domestic Customers Added Comfort and Hospitality

Air Canada is introducing its newest Air Canada Café™ at the Montréal-Trudeau International Airport, offering a seamless, premium grab and go experience for eligible domestic travellers. Designed for convenience and comfort, this new addition, located near Gate A2, opens tomorrow and marks the third Air Canada Café location, reinforcing the airline's commitment to improving premium lounge offerings at its Montréal hub. Jacqueline Harkness, Managing Director, Product & Services at Air Canada said "We've created a premium experience tailored to the needs of our busiest customers, while celebrating the essence of Montréal's vibrant café culture. Every detail of the Air Canada Café is designed for productivity and comfort, bringing together efficiency with the warmth and energy that make it a beloved product amongst our customers."

24. How Much Do Airlines Make From Cargo?

[Cargo](#) traffic grew exponentially during the pandemic, with many passenger airlines increasing or, in some cases, launching their cargo operations. Although less than 1% of global trade is transported by air (the vast majority is moved by road, rail, and sea), air freight is often made up of perishable, high-value, and time-sensitive goods, which collectively account for around 35% of world trade by value. Despite the recent boom, cargo traffic is showing no sign of slowing down - the latest data from the [International Air Transport Association](#) (IATA) shows that cargo demand in January 2025 was 3.2% higher than in January 2024, and overall demand is approximately 30% higher than it was pre-pandemic. The region with the strongest growth was Latin America, which showed an 11.2% increase compared to the same period last year. The world's largest international air cargo market is between East Asia and North America. The East-Asia market share is 34.2% and North American share is 25.8%

25. Power outage at Heathrow causes flight chaos but will it be short-lived?

London Heathrow has been the scene of flight chaos on March 21, 2025 after a major fire at a nearby electrical substation, late yesterday evening local time, cut off power supplies at Europe's busiest airport. Earlier on March 21, the

airport's operating company warned of "significant disruption over the coming days," urging all travelers and cargo stakeholders not to approach the airport until further notice.

26. Porter Airlines, BMO and Mastercard Launch First Canadian Credit Card Program Granting Immediate Airline Loyalty Benefits

Porter Airlines, BMO and Mastercard are announcing the launch of two new BMO VIPorter Mastercard credit cards – creating the first and only travel credit card program in Canada that grants immediate frequent flyer benefits for cardholders in an airline's loyalty program, while enabling accelerated travel rewards. More than 30,000 people have joined the pre-launch waitlist since the program was announced in January 2025 as Canadians seek more choice and benefits from their travel credit cards.

27. Pilots' union calls WestJet's use of Temporary Foreign Worker program 'problematic'

The Air Line Pilots Association (ALPA) is calling out WestJet Airline Ltd.'s use of the Temporary Foreign Worker (TFW) Program, and the government's approval of the company's application, to fill vacancies during what the industry says is a pilot labour shortage. Tim Perry, who leads the Canadian arm of the group, said it 'Will cause irreparable damage to labour relations,' and the pilots union is deeply concerned that WestJet is citing an inability to attract Canadian pilots to its airline as the rationale for hiring temporary foreign pilots.

28. SAF Registry to be Operated by the Civil Aviation Decarbonization Organization

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has established the Civil Aviation Decarbonization Organization (CADO) to manage the IATA-developed Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) Registry when it is released. "CADO will turbo-charge the imminent launch of the IATA-developed SAF Registry. Its mandate is to manage the SAF Registry as a separate entity from IATA with an open and global approach that supports the scrutiny needed to build trust among all stakeholders. In fact, the door is open for any stakeholder in the SAF value chain, including governments, to join CADO. This inclusive approach should also be a force for the harmonization of the principles on which all SAF registries operate," said Marie Owens Thomsen, IATA's Senior Vice President Sustainability and Chief Economist.

29. Star Alliance Enhances Intermodal Connectivity with Austria's ÖBB

Continuing its commitment to enhanced global connectivity, Star Alliance, together with 25 member airlines, welcomed ÖBB as its newest intermodal partner. This partnership allows customers of ÖBB and Star Alliance member airlines to seamlessly begin or conclude their long-distance journey on ÖBB's eco-friendly Railjet trains, connecting from or to Graz, Linz, Salzburg, and Innsbruck. Peter Hanke, Federal Minister for Innovation, Mobility and Infrastructure said: "Cooperation between various providers is crucial if we want to overcome the current challenges in the area of mobility. The partnership between ÖBB, Austrian Airlines, and Star Alliance perfectly symbolises my understanding of a minister's role as a bridge-builder between the various mobility options. Infrastructure is the foundation for a functioning location, but also for domestic economy, tourism, and society."

30. Porter Airlines and Pascan Aviation announce key Canadian aviation partnership

A new partnership between Porter Airlines and Pascan Aviation will improve access to air travel across Eastern Canada, taking advantage of Porter's growing North American network and Pascan's Québec and Maritimes-focused regional flights. Porter-Pascan connections can currently be made through Halifax and Québec City, with more than 90 connecting routes available, linking eight Pascan destinations across Canada's eastern provinces with Porter flights to points across North America.

31. Letter to Political Parties

On March 24, 2025, ATAC wrote letters to all the political party leaders. ATAC understand and wholeheartedly support that the government is currently focused on dealing with the ongoing trade dispute challenges with the United States. However, we also need to ensure that the government does not overlook key issues of concern which threaten our industry's competitiveness and ability to continue to offer Canadians the quality commercial air services that they have come to enjoy and depend on.

32. Canada-US Air Traffic Drops Over 70% Amid Trump's Tariff War

The number of air passengers travelling between Canada and the United States has fallen sharply, with new data pointing to a staggering decline of more than 70% amid ongoing trade tensions fuelled by US President Donald Trump's tariff war. According to aviation analytics firm OAG, transborder flight bookings between the two countries have seen a drastic downturn, particularly between July and August, historically the busiest travel months of the year. Data comparing ticket reservations from March 2024 to March 2025 shows that bookings for the April-to-September period dropped between 71-76% compared to the previous year. Airlines cut over 3,20,000 seats on Canada-US routes.

WATER TRANSPORTATION

1. Red Sea, tariffs among ‘decisive factors’ for liner market in 2025: CMA CGM

New ship deliveries, the possible resumption of Suez Canal transits and the impact of US tariffs on trade are the three key issues that will define the container shipping sector this year, CMA CGM said on February 28, 2025. “Deliveries of new vessels, combined with any developments in the Red Sea situation, will be decisive factors in shaping the market,” the French carrier said while reporting its fourth-quarter and full-year 2024 results. CMA CGM expects global container volumes to grow 3% this year, the same as global GDP. CMA CGM’s container volumes rose almost 8% to 23.6 million TEUs last year. “The prospect of higher tariffs announced in the United States could have an impact on shipping volumes.

2. Government of Canada announces funding for Indigenous communities to purchase marine equipment and advance training opportunities in British Columbia

Transport Canada’s Marine Safety Equipment and Training (MSET) Initiative provides funding to Indigenous communities along the Trans Mountain Expansion Project marine shipping route to purchase marine safety equipment and provide training to community members. It is part of the Government of Canada’s commitment to listen, engage, and work with Indigenous communities to respond to marine safety concerns. In total, \$2.3 million in funding was announced through the MSET Initiative in this round of the program. The Ucluelet First Nation, Uchucklesaht Tribe (Maa-nulth), Snuneymuxw First Nation, Ditidaht First Nation, Halalt First Nation, and Toquaht Nation (Maa-nulth) are among the communities receiving funding to purchase marine safety equipment and provide training to community members.

3. Port Houston sees biggest January on record

Port Houston kicked off the year handling 356,407 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) in January 2025, reflecting a 7% increase compared to the same month last year. This represents the biggest January on record for containerized cargo at Port Houston. East Asia imports soared, in preparation for lunar new year sales. Asia imports represent 56% of total container imports for Port Houston facilities, based on YTD November 2024 data. This January, loaded imports rose by 10% compared to the same month last year, while loaded exports declined by 1%. “We are starting the year strong, reaching milestones with completion and acceptance by USACE of Segment 1B for Project 11 and operations records at our terminals,” said Charlie Jenkins, CEO of Port Houston. “Looking ahead, we are reminded of the importance this channel has been for all users, a robust petrochemical complex, and more than 8,000 vessels calling this port every year. Our work as the advocate for the Houston Ship Channel helps us build prosperity for the region.”

4. Hutchison inks \$22.8 billion deal to sell majority of port holdings to BlackRock, TiL

Hutchison’s control of its Panama ports has come under scrutiny from the Trump administration due to the company’s alleged links to the Chinese government, which the company has denied. Amid growing ire within the new Trump administration over alleged Chinese influence in the operation of the Panama Canal, Hong Kong-based CK Hutchison stunned the maritime world Tuesday March 4, 2025 by announcing it had agreed to sell the majority of its Hutchison Port Holdings (HPH) global terminals network to a consortium comprised of BlackRock Group and Mediterranean Shipping Co.’s Terminal Investment Limited (TiL) in a \$22.8 billion deal. The deal

WATER TRANSPORTATION

1. Red Sea, tariffs among ‘decisive factors’ for liner market in 2025: CMA CGM, February 28, 2025, www.joc.com

2. Government of Canada announces funding for Indigenous communities to purchase marine equipment and advance training opportunities in British Columbia, March 3, 2025, www.tc.gc.ca; and Transport Canada announces funding for Indigenous communities to purchase marine equipment and advance training opportunities in British Columbia, March 3, 2025, www.tc.gc.ca

3. Port Houston sees biggest January on record, March 3, 2025, www.ajot.com

4. Hutchison inks \$22.8 billion deal to sell majority of port holdings to BlackRock, TiL, March 4, 2025, www.joc.com; and After Trump pressure, China sells Panama port terminals to US private equity firm, MSC, March 4, 2025, www.freightwaves.com

5. Growing port in Manitoba gives more access to international markets amid U.S. trade uncertainty, March 5, 2025, www.financialpost.ca

6. Trump says US plans tax breaks, investment in shipbuilding, March 5, 2025, www.freightwaves.com

7. As tariff window closes, trans-Pacific ocean container rates tumble, March 6, 2025, www.freightwaves.com

8. Trump hails \$20 billion investment by shipping firm CMA CGM, March 9, 2025, www.ajot.com

9. California exports surge; Outlook for trade downright clouded, March 10, 2025, www.ajot.com

10. Cargo ship captain arrested over deadly collision in North Sea March 12, 2025, www.cargonews.com

11. ILA, port employers sign historic 6-year contract, March 12, 2024, www.freightwaves.com

12. Taiwan’s Big Three carriers report robust profit, revenue gains for 2024, March 13, 2025, www.joc.com

13. Container imports headed for summer doldrums, says NRF, March 13, 2025, www.freightwaves.com

14. FMC probes ocean chokepoints as Trump looks to rule the waves, March 14, 2025, www.joc.com

15. Amid ocean container liner gains, Zim earnings shine, March 14, 2025, www.freightwaves.com

16. Container Shipping Sector Fourth Quarter Results, March 14, 2025, www.ajot.com

17. Australian shippers back competition probe into DP World’s deal for Silk Logistics, March 17, 2025, www.joc.com

18. Canada ports facing container delays due to weather, rail issues, March 18, 2025, www.freightwaves.com

19. IMO to develop global strategy for maritime digitalization, March 18, 2025, www.ajot.com

20. Montreal seeking longshore deal ahead of capacity expansions, March 19, 2025,

announced on March 4, 2025 will see the consortium BlackRock-TiL acquire 90% of Hutchison's stake in the Panama facilities as well as the China company's 80% controlling interest in 199 berths at 43 ports in 23 countries.

5. Growing port in Manitoba gives more access to international markets amid U.S. trade uncertainty

As reliable Canadian access to the United States continues to be uncertain, one group is continuing its efforts to give the country's shippers more options for selling their goods. Arctic Gateway Group LP, which owns and operates the Port of Churchill in northern Manitoba, said it plans to double the amount of critical minerals, specifically zinc concentrate, that will be shipped out of the port. It also announced plans to triple the port's critical mineral storage capacity.

6. Trump says US plans tax breaks, investment in shipbuilding

The Trump administration may offer tax breaks as part of a wide-ranging effort to revitalize U.S. shipbuilding and blunt the dominance of China in the global maritime industry. In a speech on March 4, 2025 to a joint session of Congress, President Donald Trump reiterated his support for the latest proposals to resurrect domestic capacity for the national defense and merchant maritime sectors. Plans include a new office of shipbuilding within the White House, part of a package of proposals included in a bill introduced in the House of Representatives on Feb. 24, 2025. "We used to make so many ships. We don't make 'em anymore very much, but we're gonna make them very fast, very soon," Trump said.

7. As tariff window closes, trans-Pacific ocean container rates tumble

The seasonal lull and end to frontloading by importers is driving down container rates on trans-Pacific transits to the United States. Shippers for months have pulled forward imports in a bid to stay ahead of tariffs promised by the Trump administration. Those levies are now up to 25%, with the threat of 60% tariffs and other reciprocal charges that could land as soon as April 2025. Asia-U.S. West Coast rates fell by 18% to \$3,558 per forty-foot equivalent unit, according to the Freightos Baltic Index for the week ending Feb. 28. Asia-U.S. East Coast prices dropped 21% to \$4,490 per FEU.

8. Trump hails \$20 billion investment by shipping firm CMA CGM

U.S. President Donald Trump on March 6, 2025 said French-based shipping firm CMA CGM would invest \$20 billion in the United States to build out shipping logistics and terminals. The Trump administration wants to revive shipbuilding in the United States and weaken China's grip on the sector. The president's team is preparing an executive order that would impose a levy on ships linked to China when they call at U.S. ports, and wants U.S. allies to do the same. CMA CGM is the world's third-largest container shipping line and is part of a vessel-sharing alliance with companies including China's COSCO. CMA CGM said last week that U.S. port fees on China-built ships would have a big impact on all shipping firms. Trump said on Thursday, March 6, 2025 he would announce a new program for building ships in the United States next week or the following week, including incentives. CMA CGM CEO Rodolphe Saade, who joined Trump in the Oval Office, confirmed the \$20 billion investment and said it would create 10,000 jobs. Saade, a French-Lebanese billionaire who controls CMA CGM with other family members, told Trump at the White House that his group was looking at supporting the building of container ships and would make an announcement "in the coming weeks".

9. California exports surge; Outlook for trade downright clouded

Beacon Economics is not at all sanguine about the near-term prospects for growth in U.S. exports, although we do believe that California industry is better positioned to cope with the latest tariffs, counter-tariffs, tariff exemptions, tariff pauses, and unilaterally suspended tariffs, than many. Like everyone else, we have no idea what trade policies the White House might eventually pursue for a period longer than one day (as this Outlook was drafted, the news arrived that President Trump has decided to pause the tariffs he had just announced on imports from Mexico). Canada, however, remains Mr. Trump's Least-Favored Nation. The highly provisional nature of President Trump's tariffs makes economic forecasting, not to mention the more serious business of corporate planning, profoundly challenging. In our California Trade Report following the November 2024 election, we wrote that we looked forward to seeing concrete policy proposals emerge to replace Mr. Trump's often incendiary campaign rhetoric about foreign trade. We expected

www.joc.com

21. Port of Oakland container volume starts new year with 8.5% increase, March 19, 2025, www.ajot.com

22. New capacity coming to Asia-Mexico trade despite recent rate pressure, March 20, 2025, www.joc.com

23. Port of Long Beach posts ninth straight monthly cargo gain, March 20, 2025, www.freightwaves.com

24. Escalating tariffs will cause 'profound' trade pattern changes: Cosco, March 21, 2025, www.jc.com; and China's largest shipping line sees stunning gains in revenue, profits, March 22, 2025, www.freightwaves.com

25. New projects funded under the Safety Equipment and Basic Marine Infrastructure in Northern Communities Initiative March 21, 2025, www.tc.gc.ca

26. New projects funded under the Safety Equipment and Basic Marine Infrastructure in Northern Communities Initiative, March 21, 2024, www.tc.gc.ca

27. APM to spend \$500 million to enhance cargo handling at Elizabeth terminal, March 24, 2025, www.joc.com

28. Seaspan expands AI adoption with 100 more ships equipped with Orca AI for enhanced safety and efficiency, March 24, 2024, www.ajot.com

29. Truck appointment system to cut wait times at Halifax port container terminal, March 25, 2025, www.todaystrucking.ca

30. Trade groups, businesses speak to both sides of proposed US port fees, March 25, 2025, www.freightwaves.com

31. Trump tariff fears plague ocean container rates, March 26, 2025, www.freightwaves.com

32. Drewry World Container Index - 27 March, March 27, 2025, www.ajot.com

that the appointment of a Commerce Secretary, a Treasury Secretary, and a U.S. Trade Representative would result in a coherent statement about the administration's intentions with respect to foreign trade. Nearly seven weeks in, we're still waiting for a measure of consistency in the application of whatever trade policy has evolved.

10. Cargo ship captain arrested over deadly collision in North Sea

The captain of the Solong which collided with oil tanker Stena Immaculate has been arrested, according to the vessel's owner. Humberside Police confirmed that a 59-year-old man was arrested on suspicion of gross negligence manslaughter in relation to the North Sea collision. Additionally, Humberside Police have launched a criminal investigation into the incident, working alongside the UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency and the Marine Accident Investigation Branch. In the aftermath of the incident, one crew member of the cargo ship is now presumed deceased as 13 of the 14 crew members were rescued. Furthermore, Assistant Chief Coastguard John Craig noted that salvage operations are underway for both vessels, though flames are still visible on the Solong. While there had been concerns that the cargo ship might sink, Transport Secretary Heidi Alexander reassured that both vessels are expected to remain afloat.

11. ILA, port employers sign historic 6-year contract

The International Longshoremen's Association and United States Maritime Alliance signed a new six-year master contract covering U.S. Eastern Seaboard and Gulf Coast ports. The deal, which gives union members a 62% raise over the course of the contract and job protections linked to automation technology, is retroactive to Oct. 1, 2024, and runs through Sept. 30, 2030. The pact covers 24,000 employees in container handling at 14 ports from Texas to Massachusetts. ILA International President Harold Daggett, who served as the union's chief negotiator, celebrated the deal as the best package ever secured for members.

12. Taiwan's Big Three carriers report robust profit, revenue gains for 2024

Evergreen Marine said on March 13, 2025 that it has increased its stake in Egypt's Abu Qir Container Terminal Company after paying \$13 million to acquire an additional 5% interest from Hutchison Ports North Africa and Shibaya Marine. Evergreen Marine, the largest of Taiwan's Big Three carriers, said in a filing on March 13, 2025 to the country's stock exchange that its net profit last year jumped to \$4.2 billion, an almost four-fold increase over 2023. Revenue rose about 60% to \$14 billion amid higher freight rates and strong demand. Evergreen's filing said it would spend \$187 million this year to buy 66,500 containers from Dong Fang International Container (Hong Kong) and Singamas Container. The carrier, meanwhile, has also increased its stake in Egypt's Abu Qir Container Terminal Company after paying \$13 million to acquire an additional 5% interest from Hutchison Ports.

13. Container imports headed for summer doldrums, says NRF

Imports at major U.S. container ports are expected to remain high through spring but could see year-over-year declines this summer, according to the latest *Global Port Tracker* report from the National Retail Federation and Hackett Associates. The ongoing tariff situation continues to impact import volumes and strategies. "Retailers are continuing to bring as much merchandise into the country ahead of rising tariffs as possible," said Jonathan Gold, NRF vice president for supply chain and customs policy, in a release. While recent tariff changes on goods from Canada and Mexico are not expected to directly affect port volumes, new levies on Chinese imports remain a significant concern. Tariffs on Chinese goods have already doubled from 10% to 20%, with potential for additional reciprocal tariffs starting in April.

14. FMC probes ocean chokepoints as Trump looks to rule the waves

The US Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) is asking shipping interests to weigh in on the biggest global maritime chokepoints they face as part of US waterborne commerce. The probe, part of the FMC's regular work under US shipping law, comes amid the Trump administration's moves to assert US power across the global maritime sector and to develop a US-based shipping industry. The FMC said on March 13, 2024 it is investigating "transit constraints at international maritime chokepoints" as part of its regular annual report to Congress about practices in the ocean shipping industry. The maritime chokepoints being investigated by the FMC include spots along Canada, Greenland and Panama, locations where Donald Trump has asserted the role of the US.

15. Amid ocean container liner gains, Zim earnings shine

Zim Integrated Shipping Services Ltd. results saw a significant turnaround as strategic operational expansions and increased market penetration yielded substantial gains in 2024. The world's 10th-largest carrier said full-year revenues soared to \$8.43 billion, up 63% year over year as net income of \$2.15 billion improved a loss of \$2.69 billion in 2023. Adjusted earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization reached \$3.69 billion, up 252% y/y. Fourth-quarter revenues climbed to \$2.17 billion, an 80% increase from the same period in 2023. Net income stood at \$563 million, from a loss of \$147 million.

16. Container Shipping Sector Fourth Quarter Results

The container shipping industry had total net income of \$15.8 billion in 4Q24, an \$11.0 billion and 41.0% decrease sequentially from the \$26.8 billion earnings reported in 3Q24. Compared to last year's fourth quarter, net income in this quarter represented an increase of \$16.5 billion from the \$0.7 billion loss in the year ago quarter. This quarter was a

reversal after three straight quarters of exponential bottom line increases following the year ago net loss that itself was the nadir of six straight quarters of earnings decline. Driven by the capacity tightening resulting from the Red Sea situation and augmented by robust volume, the sector moved to a \$5.4 billion 1Q24 profit that was doubled in 2Q24 and then more than doubled again in 3Q24. Prior to this reversal, the industry experienced a downward earnings trend for six quarters from the earnings peak of \$63.1 billion in 2Q22.

17. Australian shippers back competition probe into DP World's deal for Silk Logistics

Australia's competition watchdog is weighing whether a combined DP World and Silk could leverage its stevedoring dominance to increase charges or degrade service quality for competing transport providers' ports such as Brisbane Shippers in Australia are backing a probe by the country's competition authority into DP World's planned US\$110 million acquisition of leading forwarder Silk Logistics, saying the deal could lead to higher charges and anti-competitive behavior. "[The deal] has major implications for competition in Australia's container freight sector, with potential impacts on supply chain costs for importers, exporters and transport operators," said Paul Zalai, director of the shippers group Freight & Trade Alliance (FTA). Zalai said the FTA has urged the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) "to oppose the acquisition due to the significant risk of market concentration, potential discrimination; etc.

18. Canada ports facing container delays due to weather, rail issues

Delays are hampering intermodal operations at several container ports in North America as weather and rail woes hit gateways on both coasts, according to a DHL port update for March 2025. On the east coast, Canada's Port of Halifax is seeing significant vessel delays due to harsh North Atlantic weather conditions. Compounding this issue is an exceptionally high rail dwell time, averaging 18 days. This combination is creating a bottleneck that requires careful planning for shipments routing through this port. Vessels continue to arrive in Halifax off proforma, or deviating significantly from schedule, primarily due to weather over the North Atlantic, the forwarder said in the update. Import rail dwell has marginally improved and is currently 18 days as PSA Atlantic Hub is struggling with high ground counts and a shortage of labor. Some containers are experiencing dwells as high as 30 days. PSA and CN are working together to further maximize daily rail productivity.

19. IMO to develop global strategy for maritime digitalization

During its 49th session in London from 10 to 14 March, IMO's Facilitation Committee (FAL) outlined a work plan for developing the IMO Strategy on Maritime Digitalization, which is set to be adopted by the Organization's highest governing body – the IMO Assembly – by the end of 2027. The cross-cutting strategy will span different areas of IMO's work, fostering a fully interconnected, harmonized and automated global maritime sector. To guide this process, the Facilitation Committee established a Correspondence Group to define the strategy's scope, key objectives and implementation framework. The Group will work over the coming year to identify existing and emerging technologies, standards and methodologies that can support maritime digitalization, while ensuring alignment across IMO's various committees.

20. Montreal seeking longshore deal ahead of capacity expansions

The Port of Montreal's chief says a new contract with the port's longshore union will help restore shipper trust in sending cargoes through Canada's main eastern gateway. That labor peace will be critical as Montreal expects to play a larger role in the country's international trade due to the ongoing tensions between the Trump administration and Ottawa. One year into her new role, Montreal Port Authority Chief Executive Julie Gascon told the *Journal of Commerce* last week that after the port's last labor disruption in 2024 — its third in as many years — shippers began diverting cargo.

21. Port of Oakland container volume starts new year with 8.5% increase

The Port of Oakland starts 2025 with growth in both imports and exports. Loaded container volume recorded 146,187 TEUs (twenty-foot containers) in January 2025. This is an 8.5% increase over January 2024, when 144,405 TEUs passed through the Port. "Strong import growth reflects the resilience of Northern California's economy and the confidence cargo owners have in our gateway," said Port of Oakland Maritime Director Bryan Brandes. "Export volumes remain steady, highlighting the continued global demand for U.S. agricultural and manufactured goods. This growth is a testament to the hard work and collaboration of our labor force, terminal operators, and supply chain partners. We appreciate their commitment and will continue working together to maintain efficiency and expand capacity to support our customers." Loaded imports experienced a 13% increase this year. The Port processed 81,453 TEUs in January 2025, compared to 72,081 TEUs in January 2024. Loaded exports registered more modest growth, rising 3.4%, with 64,735 TEUs passing through Port facilities in January 2025, in contrast to 62,596 TEUs in January 2024.

22. New capacity coming to Asia-Mexico trade despite recent rate pressure

A consortium of seven regional Asia-based carriers will expand into the long-haul trans-Pacific trade in April 2025 with a joint North Asia-Mexico weekly express service, bringing at least 15,000 TEUs of new capacity to the growing trade.

But forwarders say spot rates may already be under pressure due to overcapacity. Each of the seven carriers will provide one vessel with a nominal capacity of between 2,200 to 2,800 TEUs, Dubai's Emirates Shipping said this week. Other carriers in the service group include Hong Kong-listed TS Lines, Singapore-headquartered SeaLead, Thailand's Regional Container Lines, Sinotrans Container Line from China, and South Korean carriers.

23. Port of Long Beach posts ninth straight monthly cargo gain

In February 2025, trade passing through the Port of Long Beach, California, experienced significant growth, marking the ninth consecutive month of increased cargo movement, and corresponding with retailers' strategic efforts to move goods in advance of anticipated tariffs. Volume totalled 765,385 twenty-foot equivalent units, reflecting a 13.4% increase from February of the previous year. Imports surged by 11.8% to 368,669 TEUs, while exports saw a 2.9% rise to 90,026 TEUs. Meanwhile, the movement of empty containers jumped by 19.1%, to 306,690 TEUs.

24. Escalating tariffs will cause 'profound' trade pattern changes: Cosco

Cosco Shipping Holdings said on March 21, 2025 that the industry will experience "profound changes in global cargo flow patterns" due to tariff- and trade-related policies after reporting strong profits in 2024. Container shipping demand growth is set to moderate this year, the carrier said, thanks to the combined effects of an easing of "global inflationary pressures and accommodative monetary policies in Europe and the United States." The carrier, the fourth-largest by tonnage, according to *Alphaliner*, said changes among the major container shipping alliances are expected to trigger increased competition this year. Cosco said it will accelerate the scaled development of its dual-brand fleet, consisting of Cosco Shipping Lines and Hong Kong subsidiary Orient Overseas Container Line. China's largest container shipping line saw massive gains in revenue and profits in 2024. Cosco Shipping Holdings reported operating revenue of \$33.29 billion in 2024, an increase of 33.29% from the previous year. The world's fourth-largest container carrier said earnings before interest and taxes totaled \$9.79 billion, an increase of 90.74% year over year. Net profit soared by 95% to \$7.75 billion, while net profit attributable to shareholders was \$6.87 billion, an increase of 105.78% from the previous year.

25. New projects funded under the Safety Equipment and Basic Marine Infrastructure in Northern Communities Initiative

Transport Canada is investing up to \$57.8 million through the [Safety Equipment and Basic Marine Infrastructure in Northern Communities](#) (SEBMINC) Initiative to fund 15 projects that will improve the safety and efficiency of sealift and resupply operations in 47 Arctic and Northern coastal communities. In Quebec \$1.07 million to the *Fédération des coopératives du Nouveau-Québec*. In Newfoundland and Labrador \$2.52 million to the Nunatsiavut Government and \$3.5 million to the Innu Nation. In Nunavut \$44.7 million to the Government of Nunavut. In Northwest Territories \$5 million to the Government of the Northwest Territories and \$1.03 million to the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation.

26. New projects funded under the Safety Equipment and Basic Marine Infrastructure in Northern Communities Initiative

On March 21, 2025, the Minister of Transport and Internal Trade, the Honourable Chrystia Freeland, announced an investment of up to \$57.8 million for 15 projects through the Oceans Protection Plan's Safety Equipment and Basic Marine Infrastructure in Northern Communities Initiative. This funding will allow Arctic and Northern coastal communities to expand storage facilities and upgrade sealift area infrastructure to improve the safety and efficiency of local sealift and resupply operations. An estimated 47 Northern communities will benefit from this investment, creating local jobs, building stronger supply chains, improving marine safety, and reducing environmental risks.

27. APM to spend \$500 million to enhance cargo handling at Elizabeth terminal

APM Terminals will invest more than \$500 million to improve cargo handling capacity at its 350-acre Elizabeth terminal after it agreed to a 33-year lease extension with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, the two parties announced on March 24, 2025. The Elizabeth terminal has a current capacity of 2.3 million TEUs over 6,000 feet of wharfage. The current lease, which was due to expire in December 2029, will be extended to December 2062, according to the new agreement. The deal will be voted on by the port authority's board of commissioners on March 27, 2025.

28. Seaspan expands AI adoption with 100 more ships equipped with Orca AI for enhanced safety and efficiency

Orca AI, a leader in maritime technology, celebrates a major milestone as Seaspan Corporation, a global containership powerhouse, integrates its cutting-edge SeaPod digital watchkeeper across its entire fleet, to support significant safety improvements and operational cost savings. As part of its digitalisation strategy, Seaspan began using Orca AI's SeaPod digital watchkeeper on select vessels to enhance situational awareness for navigation. An analysis of Seaspan's fleet performance from 2023–2024 revealed positive results: a 35% increase in the minimum average distance between vessels in open waters and a 37% decrease in close encounters. By using Orca AI, Seaspan crew managed to minimise extreme manoeuvres and unnecessary course changes during navigation. As a result, Seaspan has been able to achieve annual fuel savings of \$100,000 per vessel, preventing the release of 500 metric tons of CO₂ per ship.

29. Truck appointment system to cut wait times at Halifax port container terminal

A truck appointment system introduced this month at the Port of Halifax, N.S., is aimed at reducing waiting times and improving overall turnaround times. Container terminal operator PSA Halifax, owned and operated by PSA International, recently announced a temporary adjustment to the free time policy to support the transition to the appointment system, and Hakka – a new online payment platform. Effective April 1, 2025, the free time – a grace period for loading or unloading cargo without extra fees – for import loaded local Halifax cargo will be increased from five calendar days to seven calendar days from the day of container discharge to when transactions are completed through Hakka. The GPN (Global Portnet) truck appointment system allows trucking companies to book gate appointments to deliver or collect their containers, Jonathan Chia, deputy managing director, head of commercial and corporate development at PSA Halifax told *TruckNews.com*. More than 4,000 truck appointments have been made since the launch of the system on March 1, he added.

30. Trade groups, businesses speak to both sides of proposed US port fees

Comments regarding proposed punitive U.S. port fees on Chinese-operated and -manufactured cargo ships continue to roll into the Office of the United States Trade Representative, which is holding hearings on the matter this week in Washington. The fees, which can run as high as \$1.5 million per ship per call, are designed to help underwrite a revival of the U.S. shipbuilding industry and fight China’s unfair trade practices. China in 2024 for the first time assumed the top position among shipbuilding nations, claiming more than a combined half of the global operating fleet and orderbook for new vessels. While there is general agreement that the U.S. military and merchant fleets would benefit from revitalized domestic shipyards, businesses say the fees incurred by the preponderance of Chinese-built ships in the fleets of the largest container carriers, and proposed escalating requirements that American exports be hauled on U.S.-built and -flagged vessels, would mean serious financial and logistical hardships on U.S. industry and its customers. Exporters worry that proposed port fees could make U.S. coal uncompetitive in global markets.

31. Trump tariff fears plague ocean container rates

Trans-Pacific ocean container rates have eased post-Lunar New Year, despite volumes estimated to be significantly stronger than a year ago. The latest Freightos Baltic Index pegs rates to the West Coast of around \$2,200 per forty-foot equivalent unit and to the East Coast of approximately \$3,300 per FEU, more than 20% below 2024 lows. This trend is likely due to increased competition and less effective capacity management from new carrier alliance rollouts, as well as continued fleet growth, said Judah Levine, *Freightos* head of research, in a release. Asia-Mediterranean rates of around \$3,500 per FEU are about 20% lower than post-Lunar New Year 2024, while Asia-Europe rates of \$2,565 per FEU are 20% below the 2024 floor despite ongoing port congestion at European hubs. Without tariff frontloading as a factor, easing demand and new carrier alliances are pushing rates down on these lanes, Levine said.

32. Drewry World Container Index - 27 March

Drewry’s World Container Index decreased 4% to \$2,168 per 40ft container this week. 1. The Drewry WCI composite index fell 4% to \$2,168 per 40ft container, 79% below the previous pandemic peak of \$10,377 in September 2021 and the lowest since January 2024. However, the index was 53% higher than the average \$1,420 in 2019 (pre-pandemic). 2. The average YTD composite index closed at \$3,053 per 40ft container, \$167 higher than the 10-year average of \$2,886 (inflated by the exceptional 2020-22 Covid period). 3. Freight rates from Rotterdam to New York decreased 7% or \$154 to \$2,162 per 40ft container and those from Shanghai to Los Angeles fell 6% or \$171 to \$2,487 per 40ft container. Rates from Shanghai to Rotterdam and Shanghai to New York decreased 4% to \$2,370 and \$3,622 per 40ft container, respectively, while those from Shanghai to Genoa reduced 3% or \$115 to \$3,171 per 40ft container. Conversely, rates from Rotterdam to Shanghai increased 3% or \$16 to \$500 per 40ft container and those from Los Angeles to Shanghai increased 1% or \$7 to \$709 per 40ft container. Meanwhile, rates from New York to Rotterdam remained stable. Drewry expects rates to decrease slightly in the upcoming weeks.

RAIL TRANSPORTATION

1. VIA Rail launches a request for qualifications for the Dorval hub project

On February 28, 2025, VIA Rail Canada (VIA Rail) launched a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to find a co-development partner for its Dorval hub project. With the launch of this RFQ, VIA Rail is seeking to meet two needs. First, investment in the Dorval station is needed to continue offering passengers facilities that meet their needs. These investments are also an opportunity for VIA Rail to advance the next phase of a project aimed at better integrating its operations with the public transit services of the Greater Montréal area, in one location, to offer passengers a more seamless experience. Second, as part of its VIAAction 2030 strategic plan, VIA Rail

Railway Transportation

1. VIA Rail launches a request for qualifications for the Dorval hub project, February 28, 2025, www.viarail.ca
2. New AAR Study Underscores ‘Substantial’ Economic Impact of U.S. Rail Transportation Industry, www.railwayage.com
3. Freight Rail Services Price Index, February 2025, March 3, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca
4. CPKC names Cargill Elva, Elbow Lake Co-op grain elevators of the year, March 3, 2025, www.cpkc.ca
5. CN and Iowa Northern Railway Officially

aims to become a leader in integrated mobility.

2. New AAR Study Underscores ‘Substantial’ Economic Impact of U.S. Rail Transportation Industry

A new study by the Association of American Railroads (AAR) underscores the “substantial” economic impact of the rail transportation industry in the U.S. In 2023, the rail transportation sector contributed \$233.4 billion in total economic output, supporting nearly 749,000 jobs across various industries.

3. Freight Rail Services Price Index, February 2025

Data for February for the Freight Rail Services Price Index (2018=100) are now available on the Statistics Canada website. The index was 129.1 for February 2025 remaining the same from the previous month. The index for February 2024 was 127.1.

4. CPKC names Cargill Elva, Elbow Lake Co-op grain elevators of the year

Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC) said on March 3, 2025 it has named Cargill Elva in Canada and Elbow Lake Co-op Grain in the United States grain elevators of the year for the 2023-2024 crop year. Each crop year, CPKC presents its Elevator of the Year award to one grain customer in Canada and one in the United States in recognition of facilities that move high volumes from a single loading point while consistently demonstrating efficient railcar loading and a strong commitment to safety.

5. CN and Iowa Northern Railway Officially Join their Operations

CN and Iowa Northern Railway Company officially joined their operations on March 1, 2025, as previously authorized by the U.S. Surface Transportation Board. With the closing of this transaction, CN and Iowa Northern can begin integrating their two railroads to better serve customers, the Iowa economy and communities along the network. Tracy Robinson, President and Chief Executive Officer, CN said “This additional investment in the United States underscores our dedication to delivering outstanding rail service while driving economic growth. CN customers and partners along this network will benefit from single-line service offering new options and access to new markets.”

6. VIA rail launches locomotive engineer apprenticeship program in Northern Manitoba

VIA Rail Canada (VIA Rail) is proud to announce the launch of its Locomotive Engineer Apprenticeship Program (LEAP) in Northern Manitoba, offering a unique opportunity for individuals in the region to start a rewarding career in the rail industry. As VIA Rail continues its long-term modernization efforts—including the procurement of a new fleet for its long-distance, regional, and remote routes—this program ensures the company has a highly skilled workforce ready to support the future of passenger rail in Canada and keep communities connected.

7. TPM25: BNSF CEO says fighting cargo theft requires collective effort

Combating cargo theft is a critically important issue for BNSF Railway, but it will require local, state and federal law enforcement to fully eradicate the increasingly organized and brazen criminal acts, the company’s CEO said. There has been a recent spike in US cargo thefts, including a Jan. , 2025 incident in Arizona during which thieves stole 1,985 pairs of unreleased Nike shoes worth more than \$440,000 from a BNSF train, according to the *Los Angeles Times*. In Nov. 2024, criminals sabotaged another BNSF train in Arizona, forcing it to stop to steal.

8. AAR: North American Rail Volume Up Through Week 9

For the first nine weeks of the year, ending March 1, 2025, North American carload and intermodal traffic increased 2.3% from the prior-year period, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported March 5, 2025. The United States saw a gain, while Canada and Mexico experienced losses. For this week, total U.S. weekly rail traffic was 508,531 carloads and intermodal units, up 5.4 percent compared with the same week last year. Total carloads for the week ending March 1 were 222,757 carloads, up 1.4 percent compared with the same week in 2024, while U.S. weekly intermodal volume was 285,774 containers and trailers, up 8.8 percent compared to 2024. Six of the 10 carload

Join their Operations, March 3, 2025, www.cn.ca

6. VIA rail launches locomotive engineer apprenticeship program in Northern Manitoba, March 3, 2025, www.viarail.com

7. TPM25: BNSF CEO says fighting cargo theft requires collective effort, March 5, 2025, www.joc.com

8. AAR: North American Rail Volume Up Through Week 9, March 5, 2025, www.railwayage.com

9. Federal Railroad Administration Data confirms rail safety progress with record-low injury and accident rates, March 7, 2025, www.ajot.com

10. AAR Study: Railroads drive \$233 billion in economic activity, supporting nearly 750,000 jobs, March 10, 2025, www.ajot.com

11. CSX announces increase to quarterly dividend, March 10, 2025, www.ajot.com

12. CPKC announces US \$1.2 billion debt offering, March 12, 2025, www.cpkc.gov

13. AAR reports rail traffic for the week ending March 08, 2025, March 12, 2025, www.ajot.com

14. Patriot Rail, CPKC Partner on Texas Transload, March 13, 2025, www.railwayage.com

15. STB to NS: Proposed NPBL Acquisition Is ‘Significant’ Transaction, March 14, 2025, www.railwayage.com

16. USW ratifies new collective bargaining agreement with CPKC, March 17, 2025, www.cpkc.ca

17. U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy to NYC: Clean up Metro Transit, March 18, 2025, www.dot.gov

18. UP, NCFO Reach Tentative Agreement, March 19, 2025, www.railwayage.com

19. AAR: U.S. Carloads, Intermodal Up for Week 11, Mar. 19, 2025, www.railwayage.com

20. Nearly 9,000 rail teamsters ratify contract, March 21, 2025, www.ajot.com

21. Support for the Hudson Bay Railway and Port of Churchill Canada, March 21, 2025, www.tc.gc.ca

22. CPKC announces filing of proxy circular, March 25, 2025, www.cpkc.ca

23. Calgary Region Hydrogen Hub Opens, March 24, 2025, www.railwayage.com

24. CSX reaches five-year agreement with signalmen union, March 25, 2025, www.ajot.com

25. AAR: North American Rail Volume Up Through Week 12, March 26, 2025, www.railwayage.com; and AAR reports rail traffic for the week ending March 22, 2025, March 26, 2025, www.ajot.com

26. CPKC container dwell better but still a concern at top Canada port, March 27, 2025, www.freightwaves.com

commodity groups posted an increase compared with the same week in 2024. They included coal, up 2,692 carloads, to 60,073; grain, up 1,491 carloads, to 20,924; and motor vehicles and parts, up 543 carloads, to 16,435. Commodity groups that posted decreases compared with the same week in 2024 included nonmetallic minerals, down 1,424 carloads, to 27,396; metallic ores and metals, down 723 carloads, to 18,964; and farm products excl. grain, and food, down 224 carloads, to 17,567. Canadian railroads reported 91,245 carloads for the week, up 2.4 percent, and 66,807 intermodal units, down 6.0 percent compared with the same week in 2024. For the first nine weeks of 2025, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 1,384,628 carloads, containers and trailers, down 0.7 percent.

9. Federal Railroad Administration Data confirms rail safety progress with record-low injury and accident rates

Newly released 2024 data from the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) confirm that continued investments in innovation, infrastructure, and workforce expertise are making rail transportation even safer. Railroads continue to make strides to improve employee safety with Class I railroads setting a second consecutive all-time record-low rate of injuries and fatalities last year. Additionally, the train accident rate declined for all railroads by 33% since 2005 and 15% year-over-year. “A relentless safety culture and sustained private investments continue to make railroads safer for both the communities they serve and the dedicated rail employees who keep the industry moving,” said AAR President and CEO Ian Jefferies. “Railroads remain focused on an even safer future, and 2024 results demonstrate real progress.”

10. AAR Study: Railroads drive \$233 billion in economic activity, supporting nearly 750,000 jobs

A new study by the Association of American Railroads (AAR) underscores the substantial economic impact of the rail transportation industry in the United States. In 2023, the rail transportation sector contributed \$233.4 billion in total economic output, supporting nearly 749,000 jobs across various industries. “Railroads are a key pillar of American commerce, powering our supply chains and driving economic growth nationwide,” said AAR President and CEO Ian Jefferies. “With billions invested annually and a highly skilled workforce, railroads generate economic activity that extends from major industries to small businesses across the country. This study confirms that today’s rail investments build tomorrow’s jobs and prosperity.” As the nation’s heavy hauler, freight railroads provide safe, efficient and sustainable transportation solutions that are vital to modern American life and economic activity. By delivering bulk goods cost-effectively and connecting businesses to global markets, railroads help strengthen supply chains and foster economic growth. In 2023 alone, freight railroads invested \$26.8 billion in capital improvements, modernizing their operations, enhancing safety and expanding long-term growth opportunities for businesses nationwide. These substantial investments have significant ripple effect on the U.S. economy with every \$1 invested in rail transportation drives \$2.50 in economic activity.

11. CSX announces increase to quarterly dividend

CSX Corp. announced that the Company’s Board of Directors approved an eight percent increase in its quarterly dividend, from \$0.12 to \$0.13 per share. The new \$0.13 quarterly dividend is payable on March 14, 2025, to shareholders of record at the close of business on February 28, 2025.

12. CPKC announces US \$1.2 billion debt offering

Canadian Pacific Kansas City Limited (“CPKC”) announced that its wholly-owned subsidiary, Canadian Pacific Railway Company, is issuing US \$600 million of 4.800% Notes due 2030 and US\$600 million of 5.200% Notes due 2035, which will be guaranteed by CPKC. The offering is expected to close on March 17, 2025, subject to the satisfaction of customary closing conditions.

13. AAR reports rail traffic for the week ending March 08, 2025

The Association of American Railroads (AAR) on March 12, 2025 reported U.S. rail traffic for the week ending March 8, 2025. For this week, total U.S. weekly rail traffic was 497,412 carloads and intermodal units, up 5.4% compared with the same week last year. Total carloads for the week ending March 8 were 219,457 carloads, up 2.6 percent compared with the same week in 2024, while U.S. weekly intermodal volume was 277,955 containers and trailers, up 7.7 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 2,815 carloads, to 57,977; grain, up 2,414 carloads, to 21,710; and miscellaneous carloads, up 1,114 carloads, to 8,897. Commodity groups that posted decreases compared with the same week in 2024 included metallic ores and metals, down 868 carloads, to 17,939; chemicals, down 675 carloads, to 33,079; and forest products, down 171 carloads, to 8,188. Canadian railroads reported 91,042 carloads for the week, up 1.6%, and 70,776 intermodal units, down 1.2 percent compared with the same week in 2024. For the first ten weeks of 2025, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 1,546,446 carloads, containers and trailers, down 0.6 percent.

14. Patriot Rail, CPKC Partner on Texas Transload

Patriot Rail Company, a U.S. operator of U.S. Class II and III freight railroads, transloading and other rail services, will partner with Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC) to establish a new multi-commodity transload facility on CPKC’s Alliance Subdivision in Denton, Tex. The facility, the companies say, “will offer reliable, competitive transload services and logistics solutions to customers in the Dallas – Fort Worth Metropolitan area.

15. STB to NS: Proposed NPBL Acquisition Is ‘Significant’ Transaction

The Surface Transportation Board (STB) on March 14, 2025 reported that it will review Norfolk Southern's (NS) proposal to acquire Norfolk & Portsmouth Belt Line Railroad Company (NPBL), a Virginia S&T (switching and terminal) railroad, as a "significant" transaction. NPBL operates approximately 36 miles of rail line from Portsmouth to Norfolk and approximately 27 miles of trackage rights over NS track from Chesapeake to Norfolk. These trackage rights facilitate NPBL's access to the Norfolk International Terminals (NIT), which is one of two primary container terminals at the Port of Virginia; the other is Virginia International Gateway. The NPBL Line connects with CSX Transportation (CSXT) at Portsmouth, with NS and Genesee & Wyoming's Chesapeake & Albemarle Railroad at Chesapeake, and with the Buckingham Branch Railroad at Norfolk.

16. USW ratifies new collective bargaining agreement with CPKC

Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC) on March 17, 2025 said that United Steelworkers (USW), representing approximately 600 clerical and intermodal employees in Canada, has ratified a new four-year collective agreement. "We are pleased to have received strong support for another collective agreement, the third in Canada reached this year at the bargaining table providing long-term labor stability, increased wages and improved benefits for thousands of CPKC employees across the country," said CPKC President and Chief Executive Officer Keith Creel. "With this agreement and ratification, made possible through collaboration with the United Steelworkers, our railroaders remain focused on continuing to safely and efficiently serve our customers, moving Canada's supply chain and supporting the North American economy." This is the third new collective agreement ratified this year by CPKC employees in Canada. Teamsters Canada Rail Conference Maintenance of Way Employees Division representing approximately 2,300 engineering services employees in Canada and Unifor representing approximately 1,200 mechanical employees both ratified new four-year collective agreements in February 2025.

17. U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy to NYC: Clean up Metro Transit

On March 18, 2025, U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy pushed the nation's largest transit agency to clean up its subways and buses so passengers and workers can enjoy a safer, crime-free commute. As noted in the letter, the MTA should act promptly to ensure compliance and avoid additional Federal Transit Administration (FTA) enforcement actions, such as the redirecting or withholding of federal funding. *"Violent crime, homelessness, and other threats to public safety...are unacceptable"*

18. UP, NCFO Reach Tentative Agreement

Union Pacific (UP) and the National Conference of Firemen & Oilers (NCFO) on March 19 announced a tentative agreement that covers a five-year term and includes wage increases, additional vacation time, health and welfare benefits, and minor work rule changes.

19. AAR: U.S. Carloads, Intermodal Up for Week 11

U.S. rail traffic for the week ending March 15, 2025 (Week 11), came in at 503,473 carloads and intermodal units, rising 6.2% from the same week last year, based on 226,027 carloads—up 3.1% from 2024—and intermodal volume of 277,446 containers and trailers—up 8.8%, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported March 19, 2025. Six of the 10 carload commodity groups posted an increase compared with the same week in 2024. They included coal, up 5,956 carloads, to 61,459; metallic ores and metals, up 932 carloads, to 19,585; and nonmetallic minerals, up 380 carloads, to 29,705. Commodity groups that posted decreases compared with the same week in 2024 included petroleum and petroleum products, down 352 carloads, to 9,599; farm products excl. grain, and food, down 148 carloads, to 17,240; and motor vehicles and parts, down 144 carloads, to 16,501. Canadian railroads reported 92,864 carloads for the week, down 3.3 percent, and 73,247 intermodal units, up 3.2 percent compared with the same week in 2024. For the first 11 weeks of 2025, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 1,712,557 carloads, containers and trailers, down 0.6 percent.

20. Nearly 9,000 rail teamsters ratify contract

Over 8,700 workers represented by the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees Division (BMWED) of the Teamsters Rail Conference have voted to ratify a new contract with the National Carriers' Conference Committee (NCCC). BMWED workers from more than 20 railroads bargained together as part of the NCCC. These workers include welders, track inspectors, electricians, and more who ensure trains operate effectively and efficiently. "Our members come from railroads of all classes from Los Angeles to Pennsylvania and everywhere in between," said Tony Cardwell, President of the BMWED. "By coming together, they were able to secure a great contract that will provide them with security and stability for years to come." Workers from these railroads are now guaranteed raises of 17.5 percent over the life of the new contract. They also secured stronger benefits — including more paid vacation time and improved health care.

21. Support for the Hudson Bay Railway and Port of Churchill Canada

On March 21, 2025, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada, the Honourable Terry Duguid, on behalf of the Minister of Transport and Internal Trade, the Honourable Chrystia Freeland, announced an investment of \$175 million over five years to support operations and maintenance of the Hudson Bay Railway (HBR) and pre-development

activities at the Port of Churchill, owned by Arctic Gateway Group (AGG). AGG is a partnership of 29 First Nations and 12 isolated communities served by HBR in Northern Manitoba. The Hudson Bay Railway is critical to Indigenous reconciliation, connecting communities, and economic development, including the development of critical minerals and tourism, in northern Manitoba. Both the HBR and the Port of Churchill play an important role in ensuring supplies reach northern Manitoba and Nunavut. Canada is strongest when we are united. There should be one Canadian economy, not thirteen. Creating one Canadian economy will create higher paying jobs, improve affordability, and strengthen our national security.

22. CPKC announces filing of proxy circular

Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC) announced on March 25, 2025 that it has filed its notice of meeting and management proxy circular for CPKC's 2025 annual and special meeting of shareholders with Canadian and U.S. securities regulators. A copy of the proxy material is available at investor.cpkcr.com. The annual meeting of shareholders will be held virtually on April 30, 2025 at 9 a.m. MT.

23. Calgary Region Hydrogen Hub Opens

Canadian Pacific Kansas City on March 21 hosted Calgary Economic Development Ltd. (CED) as it launched the Calgary Region Hydrogen Hub, which CED said “builds on the region’s strengths as Canada’s energy capital to drive investment, create jobs, and position the region at the forefront of the clean hydrogen sector.” The hub will “aggregate demand for hydrogen at scale as an economically sustainable fuel source by enabling collaboration between Alberta’s existing hydrogen producers and the businesses and facilities that will act as demand centers for hydrogen consumption,” according to CED. It will also “bring together experts across industries with early potential to anchor a self-sustaining hydrogen economy, working closely with industry partners to coordinate research and initiatives, facilitate application of hydrogen solutions, and overcome barriers to hydrogen development.”

24. CSX reaches five-year agreement with signalmen union

Railroad operator CSX said on March 25, 2025 that it had reached a five-year tentative agreement with the Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen (BRS). The Jacksonville, Florida-based company said the tentative collective bargaining agreement is subject to ratification by the union's members. BRS represents 1,215 railway workers operating signals and points at the company. Railroad operators in the U.S. have been agreeing to union talks after the Biden administration had called for better benefits for freight railroad workers including paid sick leaves. CSX said on March 2, 2025 that the terms of the agreement with BRS provide equivalent packages of improved wages, healthcare and paid time-off benefits. CSX in January 2025 ratified a five-year agreement with nearly 4,200 workers represented by the Teamsters union. The deal included a wage raise of 18.77%. Earlier this month, workers represented by the International Association of Machinists & Aerospace Workers ratified a five-year collective bargaining agreement with CSX.

25. AAR: North American Rail Volume Up Through Week 12

For the first 12 weeks of 2025, ending March 22, North American carload and intermodal traffic was up 2.6% from the same point last year, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported March 26, 2025. The United States saw a gain, while Canada and Mexico experienced losses. Total carloads for the week ending March 22 were 224,904 carloads, up 4.5 percent compared with the same week in 2024, while U.S. weekly intermodal volume was 271,310 containers and trailers, up 6.3 percent compared to 2024. Nine of the 10 carload commodity groups posted an increase compared with the same week in 2024. They included coal, up 3,766 carloads, to 57,497; nonmetallic minerals, up 2,014 carloads, to 29,612; and metallic ores and metals, up 1,685 carloads, to 20,198. One commodity group posted a decrease compared with the same week in 2024: forest. North American rail volume for the week ending March 22, 2025, on 9 reporting U.S., Canadian and Mexican railroads totaled 333,674 carloads, up 3.0 percent compared with the same week last year, and 358,481 intermodal units, up 5.3 percent compared with last year. Canadian railroads reported 93,141 carloads for the week, up 1.8 percent, and 76,988 intermodal units, up 4.5 percent compared with the same week in 2024. For the first 12 weeks of 2025, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 1,882,686 carloads, containers and trailers, down 0.2 percent.

26. CPKC container dwell better but still a concern at top Canada port

Container dwell times at the Port of Vancouver, Canada’s busiest intermodal hub, continue to be a significant issue since the start of the year. Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC) has been particularly affected, with over 89,000 feet of containers sitting at Deltaport for more than seven days, according to port data. This is an improvement from the peak of nearly 160,000 feet in mid-March, but still presents a substantial challenge. In contrast, Canadian National (CN) has managed to decrease on-dock footage across all Vancouver terminals in recent weeks. CN has responded to increased container volume through Vancouver with notable success, analyst *RailState* told *FreightWaves*. By adding more trains and expanding average train size, CN has achieved a 25% increase in daily twenty-foot equivalent unit movement, and 52,388 feet of containers at Deltaport. This strategy has led to a consistent decline in on-dock footage and dwell times throughout March 2025. Compared to last year, CN’s performance is strong.

HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION

1. Freight Forwarders Join Trucking Industry's Fight Against Driver Inc, Underground Economy

CIFFA Corp, which represents freight forwarders, customs brokers, freight brokers, drayage truckers, and warehousing firms across Canada, who manage about 80% of the country's import and export trade, is joining the Canadian Trucking Alliance and others responsible stakeholders in calling for the government to put an end to the "unchecked" underground economy in trucking.

2. Transport Canada launches free driver distraction mitigation program for fleets

Transport Canada has introduced the [Driver Distraction Mitigation Program](#) for commercial vehicle drivers, providing motor carriers and drivers with tools and training to help reduce the risks associated with distracted driving. Developed in partnership with the Virginia Tech Transportation Institute, the free program offers evidence- and research-based guidance on implementing distraction reduction strategies, equipping drivers with skills to better manage their attention on the road, Transport Canada said in a release. The program provides motor carriers with two key resources: an implementation guide to help fleets launch a distraction mitigation program; and driver training material designed to educate drivers on the causes and consequences of distraction.

3. For-hire Motor Carrier Freight Services Price Index, fourth quarter 2024

The For-hire Motor Carrier Freight Services Price Index (2021=100) is now available for the fourth quarter. The general freight truck index was 121.4 in the fourth quarter of 2024 compared to 122 in the third quarter of 2024 and 121.9 in the 2023 fourth quarter.

4. Trucking Industry Urges Relief in the Wake of Tariffs

The 25 percent tariffs announced last night by US President Trump will devastate a trucking industry already suffering from the worst freight economy in 40 years. "Widespread tariffs on our customers' freight to US suppliers and consumers will have shocking effects on our membership and the overall supply chain. The longer these tariffs are applied, the more strain there will be on carriers, which will lead to jobs losses and permanent closures of fleets," said Stephen Laskowski, CEO and president, Canadian Trucking Alliance. Trucking moves most (70 percent by value) of Canada-US trade. In March 2024, total value of Canada-US trade moved by all four transport modes totalled \$77 billion.

5. OTA Asks Ford to Provide Tax/Fee Relief to Compliant Carriers Grappling with Tariffs and Unfair Competition

As Premier Ford continues to respond to US tariffs, the Ontario Trucking Association is encouraging the Ontario government to implement quick relief measures for the Ontario trucking sector, which is expecting demand for its services to be severely impacted due to the imposition of 25 percent tariffs. The Ontario trucking industry is the dominant mode moving Ontario's export economy. These tariffs, depending on their duration and application, will lead to significant closures of trucking businesses and layoffs of employees. Even before the tariffs were implemented this week, nearly one in three OTA member carriers indicated they had begun downsizing, OTA reported in a [recent survey](#). About 62% of respondents said they would need to lay off employees in the event of a prolonged trade war with the US.

6. Uber teams up with Waymo to start selling driverless rides in Austin, Texas

Uber will shift into a new gear in Austin, Texas, on March 4, 2025 when its

HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION

1. Freight Forwarders Join Trucking Industry's Fight Against Driver Inc, Underground Economy, February 28, 2025, [www.ontruck.ca](#)

2. Transport Canada launches free driver distraction mitigation program for fleets, February 28, 2025, [www.todaystrucking.ca](#)

3. For-hire Motor Carrier Freight Services Price Index, fourth quarter 2024, March 3, 2025, [www.statcan.gc.ca](#)

4. Trucking Industry Urges Relief in the Wake of Tariffs, March 4, 2025, [www.ontruck.ca](#); and Trucking groups speak out against Trump-imposed tariffs, March 4, 2025, [www.todaystrucking.ca](#)

5. OTA Asks Ford to Provide Tax/Fee Relief to Compliant Carriers Grappling with Tariffs and Unfair Competition, March 5, 2025, [www.ontruck.ca](#)

6. Uber teams up with Waymo to start selling driverless rides in Austin, Texas, March 4, 2025, [www.cargonews.com](#)

7. B.C. poised to toll U.S. trucks driving to Alaska through province in tariff response, March 6, 2025, [www.todaystrucking.com](#)

8. Motor Fuel Prices – February 2025, March 7, 2025, [www.bts.gov](#)

9. February 2025 U.S. Transportation Sector Unemployment (4.7%) Falls Below the February 2024 Level (5.9%) But Rises Above the Pre-Pandemic February 2019 Level (4.3%), March 7, 2025, [www.bts.gov](#)

10. Ontario Awards Construction Contract for East Harbour Transit Hub, March 7, 2025, [www.mto.gov.on.ca](#)

11. Media Flurry Over Tariff Impact on Trucking, March 7, 2025, [www.ontruck.ca](#)

12. Trimac buys California bulk carrier, March 7, 2025, [www.todaystrucking.com](#)

13. Truck parts and labor costs came down in Q4'24, March 9, 2025, [www.todaystrucking.com](#)

14. Government of Canada funds innovative projects to tackle auto theft, March 8, 2025, [www.tc.gc.ca](#)

15. Cross-border spot truck rates rise as shippers ride tariff rollercoaster, March 10, 2025, [www.joc.com](#)

16. CTA Offers Plan & Caution Regarding Trucking Support Amid Tariffs, March 10, 2025, [www.ontruck.ca](#)

17. TransForce, which hires thousands of drivers a year, eyeing smaller fleets, March 11, 2025, [www.freightwaves.com](#)

18. CTA Lauds Carbon Tax Removal; Urges Practical Enviro Measures, March 14, 2025, [www.ontruck.ca](#)

19. Docked Bikeshare Trips – February 2025, March 17, 2025, [www.bts.gov](#)

20. Urban public transit, January 2025, March 18, 2025, [www.statcan.gc.ca](#)

21. Doepker buys Peerless and Scona brands from Manac, March 18, 2025, [www.todaystrucking.ca](#)

22. Carriers big and small at TCA wait for signs of freight market turnaround, March 19, 2025, [www.freightwaves.com](#)

23. FedEx says economic uncertainty slowing parcel and freight demand, March 20, 2025, [www.freightwaves.com](#)

24. NTSB recommends 68 bridges in US be

ride-hailing service will begin dispatching self-driving cars to pick up passengers. The autonomous option is being provided through a partnership that brings together Uber and robotaxi pioneer Waymo, which already sells self-driving vehicle rides through its own app in [Phoenix](#), [San Francisco](#) and [Los Angeles](#). Waymo is now trying to expand into more cities by teaming up with Uber — an alliance that was announced last September.

7. B.C. poised to toll U.S. trucks driving to Alaska through province in tariff response

British Columbia Premier David Eby says Canada should maintain retaliatory measures against the United States — such as possible tolls facing commercial trucks heading to Alaska — despite some tariffs being paused for a month. Eby said during a news conference on January 6, 2025 that the province will introduce legislation in the coming days giving it the ability to levy fees on U.S. trucks traveling through the province to Alaska. The legislation, if passed, would also give B.C. the authority to remove internal trade barriers with other Canadian jurisdictions, as well as the capability for rapid response to sudden and unexpected announcements from U.S. President Donald Trump. “My message for the prime minister, for my colleagues across the country — and it’s one I’m sure they want to deliver to me too — is stand strong,” Eby said of the tariff threats. “This is unacceptable, and we’re going to ensure that the Americans understand how pissed off we are, how unified we are, how committed we are to working as a country to stand up for each other,” Eby said. “And I say we don’t let up until the president takes the threat off the table.”

8. Motor Fuel Prices – February 2025

In February 2025, the average price for regular motor gasoline was \$3.12; up 1.5% from January 2025. The February 2025 price for regular motor gasoline was down 2.8% from February 2024.

9. February 2025 U.S. Transportation Sector Unemployment (4.7%) Falls Below the February 2024 Level (5.9%) But Rises Above the Pre-Pandemic February 2019 Level (4.3%)

The unemployment rate in the U.S. transportation sector was 4.7% (not seasonally adjusted) in February 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 February 2025, the transportation sector unemployment rate fell 1.2 percentage points from 5.9% in February 2024 but was above the pre-pandemic February 2019 level of 4.3%. 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 February 2025 was 4.5% or 0.2 percentage points below the transportation sector rate. Seasonally adjusted, the U.S. unemployment rate in February 2025 was 4.1%.

10. Ontario Awards Construction Contract for East Harbour Transit Hub

The Ontario government has awarded the construction contract for the East Harbour Transit Hub, which will improve access to transit for thousands of residents and support more than 50,000 jobs in the area. This all-new transit hub is part of the government’s plan to deliver faster and more convenient transit for people across the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA) and will connect transit users to both GO Transit and the Ontario Line. This historic project will serve approximately 100,000 transit users every day once completed.

11. Media Flurry Over Tariff Impact on Trucking

CTA and the provincial associations were busy this week explaining to Canada and US media the devastating impact tariffs would have on the Canadian trucking industry and supply chain. See a selection of headline coverage from the following major news outlets: *New York Times*: As U.S. Tariffs Become Reality, Canadians Prepare for Economic Pain. *CTV*: Truckers scramble for new routes as tariffs bring shipments to a halt. *CBC National*: Cross-border truckers face uncertainty as U.S. tariffs take hold. *CBC Toronto*: How U.S. tariffs will likely affect Ontario industries like steel, trucking and auto

12. Trimac buys California bulk carrier

Trimac has expanded in Southern California with the acquisition of Valley Bulk, which closed its doors last year. Trimac says the deal expands its footprint in the California bulk market, by integrating Valley Bulk’s operations. “The acquisition of Valley Bulk is a natural fit for Trimac, as both companies share core values of family, safety and service,” said Trimac president and CEO Matt Faure. “By combining our strengths and aligning our cultures, we are better positioned to serve our customers with even greater efficiency and reliability. We look forward to the valuable

evaluated for risk of collapse from vessel strike, March 20, 2025, [www.ajot.com](#)
25. CTA Sends Party Leaders a Message to Restore Productivity & Fairness to Trucking, March 20, 2025, [www.ontruck.ca](#)
26. NTSB faults Maryland in Key Bridge collapse, warns dozens of other bridges at risk, March 24, 2025, [www.freightwaves.com](#)
27. Descartes snaps up rival to double down on domestic TMS market, March 25, 2025, [www.joc.com](#)
28. Ottawa Introduces Measures to Support Those Affected by Tariffs, March 26, 2025, [www.ntruck.ca](#)
29. KAG Canada using dual-fuel hydrogen truck for Edmonton fuel deliveries, March 26, 2025, [www.todaystrucking.ca](#)
30. Uber Freight offering drop-and-hook option as dedicated-like product for shippers, March 26, 2025, [www.joc.com](#)
31. CTA: Tariffs on Auto Sector a Breach of CUSMA, March 27, 2025, [www.ontruck.ca](#)
32. North American Transborder Freight rose 8.2% in January 2025 from January 2024, March 27, 2025, [www.bts.gov](#)

contributions Valley Bulk’s team will bring to the Trimac family.” Valley Bulk provides dry bulk transport services across Southern and Central California, Nevada, Arizona and Utah. It was founded in 1995 by Jim Golson and his son Jeff Golson, who grew the fleet to more than 50 trucks and 90 trailers.

13. Truck parts and labor costs came down in Q4’24

Truck parts and labor costs pulled back in the fourth quarter of 2024, after a rise in the previous quarter, according to the latest data from the Technology & Maintenance Council (TMC) and service platform Decisiv. “Q3 threw us for a loop,” Robert Ziemba, Decisiv’s vice-president of marketing said during a TMC press conference, noted it came on the heels of a steady run of decreasing costs for maintenance managers. “There was increasing parts and labor costs pretty much across the board.” Decisiv uses machine learning to assign VMRS codes to service events across its network, which covers 74,000 fleets and 7 million commercial vehicles. This allows it to measure the year-over-year and quarter-over-quarter pricing trends across some 25 VMRS event types. The good news is, the blip in costs was short-lived, and in the fourth quarter, combined parts and labor costs once again declined. Parts costs pulled back 1.5% while labor costs decreased 1.9% from Q3. Compared to Q4 2024, parts costs were down 2% and labor costs down 0.9%.

14. Government of Canada funds innovative projects to tackle auto theft

On March 8, 2025, the Minister of Transport and Internal Trade, the Honourable Anita Anand, announced that the Government of Canada is providing over \$1.1 million to eight innovative projects aimed at reducing auto theft. The projects are part of the Vehicle Theft Prevention challenge, launched in August 2024 under the Innovative Solutions Canada Program and funded by Transport Canada, in collaboration with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) and Public Safety Canada. The challenge invited Canadian small or medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to propose innovative solutions to deter auto theft.

15. Cross-border spot truck rates rise as shippers ride tariff rollercoaster

The flow of goods moving across the US-Canada border shrank last week, but not the cost of moving them, as a trade war between the two neighbors deepened. Rates in the Toronto-to-Chicago lane, one of the heaviest for cross-border truck traffic between the US and Canada, rose 18% week over week while spot volumes dropped 20% in the week ended March 7, 2025 according to *DAT Freight & Analytics*. From Chicago to Toronto, rates rose 8% while loads dropped 2% week over week. Canadian spot market capacity has been shrinking.

16. CTA Offers Plan & Caution Regarding Trucking Support Amid Tariffs

CTA proposed the following immediate measures: 1. Accelerate/implement solutions to intra-provincial trade barriers trucking pilot. 2. Announce the immediate removal of the carbon tax, especially on the eve of another slated increase for April 1, 2025. 3. Along with suspending the carbon tax, CTA is calling on the federal government to remove or reduce the federal excise tax on diesel – a tax that serves no useful policy purpose. 4. Develop an immediate trucking tax relief program related to such measures as reducing the current level of on-road provincial diesel fuel taxes and reducing the base cost of plates/fees or providing rebates for previously paid amounts related to plates/fee associated with the trucking industry. 5. Ensure government procurement practices related to truck transportation are not awarded to participants in the trucking underground economy. 6. Government of Canada increase on-road meal allowance deductibility to 100 percent for truck drivers facing reduced demands for their service. 7. Ensure that any relief packages or program, like the work sharing program, will only be available to individuals on payroll or independent contractors who have voluntarily opted into EI. These programs cannot be exploited by the [underground economy](#) and carriers who violate labour and tax laws, as occurred with the COVID wage subsidy programs.

17. TransForce, which hires thousands of drivers a year, eyeing smaller fleets

With a new chairman and CEO at the helm, TransForce, which supplies labor solutions that range from training to providing actual workers, is rolling out an expanded key offering. Rafael Andres Diaz-Granados is the new head of the company. He was most recently the chairman and CEO of ParagonISG, an energy and environmental services company. He will stay on as chairman there. He also had a 15-year career in numerous roles at General Electric. When the list of the biggest employers in trucking is rattled off, TransForce’s name rarely comes up. But the reality is that many of the drivers it supplies to its clients are actually W-2 employees of TransForce, and their numbers at any given time can be in the thousands. TransForce is now eyeing smaller fleets.

18. CTA Lauds Carbon Tax Removal; Urges Practical Enviro Measures

The Canadian Trucking Alliance applauds Prime Minister Mark Carney’s announcement on March 14, 2025 that the federal government will cancel the carbon tax. In his first action after being sworn in, Carney announced the removal of the tax for consumers, effective April 1, 2025 through what’s known as an order-in-council. CTA has been calling on the federal government to scrap the tax for years and recently raised the volume in asking for removal of the tax as a measure to provide relief to the trucking industry grappling with skyrocketing costs, an already depressed freight market and the spectre of tariffs disrupting the supply chain.

19. Docked Bikeshare Trips – February 2025

On March 17, 2025, the [Bureau of Transportation Statistics \(BTS\)](#) released [docked bikeshare trips](#) for February 2025. From February 2024 to February 2025, docked bikeshare trips starting and ending at a docking station on six of the largest systems fell 5.7%. By area served and system (six largest), the number of docked bikeshare trips in February 2025 and the percentage change from February 2024 were as follows: 1. New York, NY (CitiBike), 2.06 million (down 2.7%); 2. Washington, DC Metro (Capital Bikeshare), 0.22 million (down 8.0%); 3. San Francisco, CA (Bay Wheels), 0.23 million (up 29.3%); 4. Chicago, IL (Divvy), 0.11 million (down 40.1%); 5. Boston Metro, MA (Blue Bikes), 0.17 million (down 27.5%); 6. Jersey City, NJ (CitiBike), 0.05 million (down 16.8%)

20. Urban public transit, January 2025

In January 2025, Canada's urban transit ridership totalled 132.2 million trips, up 7.0% from the same month in 2024 and 82.2% of January's 2019 ridership, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. There were about 28.7 million fewer rides in January 2025 compared with the same month in 2019, as volumes continue to lag pre-pandemic levels. In January 2025, transit agency operating revenue (excluding subsidies) amounted to \$317.5 million. This was an increase of 6.6%, or \$19.7 million, from the same month a year ago, albeit \$32.3 million below the pre-pandemic level recorded in January 2019.

21. Doepker buys Peerless and Scona brands from Manac

Saskatchewan-based trailer manufacturer Doepker Group of Companies has acquired the Peerless and Scona brands from Manac. The acquisitions expand Doepker's presence in the oil and gas, mining, forestry, logging and construction segments. Andy McEachern joins Doepker as senior vice-president, with production of both trailer lines moving to Saskatchewan. The current Peerless sales team will continue to support the brand and engineering, retail parts, and truck rigout operations will remain in Penticton, B.C.

22. Carriers big and small at TCA wait for signs of freight market turnaround

If there was a freight market bull at the annual meeting of the Truckload Carriers Association, that person was keeping pretty quiet. Conversations from the stage, at receptions and at meals had a consistent theme: Can you believe we're still talking about this freight recession? In 2025? Didn't we say at this meeting last year that things would be better by the end of 2024? At the Large Carrier panel, Dave Williams, senior vice president of equipment and government relations at Knight Swift, summed up the sentiment heard so often at the conference. "We had expected to see a recovery," Williams said. "We had expected things to turn by now. In fact, some of our businesses saw the signs of a meaningful recovery in December and January, and then things kind of turned after that."

23. FedEx says economic uncertainty slowing parcel and freight demand

FedEx Corp. shares fell more than 5% in aftermarket trading Thursday, March 20, 2025 after the integrated parcel giant reduced its full-year guidance for the third consecutive quarter because of intensifying macroeconomic headwinds and uncertainty in the U.S. industrial economy, which are crimping higher margin B2B shipping services. FedEx said it expects revenue to be flat to slightly down year over year from the previous outlook of flat revenue. The estimated range of earnings per share, excluding certain costs, is \$18 to \$18.60 compared to the prior forecast of \$19 to \$20 per share. FedEx is merging its Express and Ground networks to improve efficiency and profitability.

24. NTSB recommends 68 bridges in US be evaluated for risk of collapse from vessel strike

The National Transportation Safety Board recommended on March 20, 2025 that 30 owners of 68 bridges across 19 states conduct a vulnerability assessment to determine the risk of bridge collapse from a vessel collision, part of the ongoing investigation into the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore. The NTSB found that the Key Bridge, which collapsed after being struck by the containership Dali on March 26, 2024, was almost 30 times above the acceptable risk threshold for critical or essential bridges, according to guidance established by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, or AASHTO. Over the last year, the NTSB identified 68 bridges that were designed before the AASHTO guidance was established — like the Key Bridge — that do not have a current vulnerability assessment. The recommendations are issued to bridge owners to calculate the annual frequency of collapse for their bridges using AASHTO's Method II calculation.

25. CTA Sends Party Leaders a Message to Restore Productivity & Fairness to Trucking

The Canadian Trucking Alliance (CTA) has prepared a document to assist members of parliament to better understand the trucking industry's views on critical issues facing our sector and Canada's economy. CTA sent the document — [a Platform to Restore Productivity, Competitiveness and Tax Fairness to Trucking](#) — on March 2025 to the leaders of Canada's main political parties. "As Canada heads towards a monumental federal election amid ongoing tariff threats from the U.S., it is critical the trucking industry's voice is heard in Ottawa," says CTA president Stephen Laskowski. "Government measures designed to improve the productivity, efficiency and safety of the trucking industry impact millions of Canadians who we share the roadways with and who rely on the countless sectors of the economy we serve."

26. NTSB faults Maryland in Key Bridge collapse, warns dozens of other bridges at risk

The National Transportation Safety Board said a proper risk assessment by the state of Maryland may have avoided the deadly Key Bridge collapse in 2024, and the agency warned that dozens of other bridges are at similar risk throughout the United States. The warning comes as part of the NTSB's ongoing investigation into the March 2024 allision of the containership Dali with the Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore, which killed six road workers. In a new report, the NTSB said it conducted a vulnerability assessment of the Key Bridge and found that the risk level was almost 30 times greater than the acceptable threshold for bridges considered essential to the national highway network.

27. Descartes snaps up rival to double down on domestic TMS market

Logistics software company Descartes has acquired 3GTMS, a widely used domestic transportation management system (TMS) provider, the companies said on March 25, 2025. The \$115 million all-cash deal strengthens Descartes' TMS reach within the US shipper community, especially in managing truckload, less-than-truckload and parcel shipments. 3GTMS was founded in 2013 by transportation management pioneer Mitch Weseley to focus on shippers with complicated domestic freight networks. 3GTMS adds to an existing catalog of TMS products that Descartes offers, including ones specifically for shippers and brokers. Descartes Chief Commercial Officer Andrew Roszko, in a statement, called the two TMSs "highly complementary" for domestic modes. "The acquisition also expands our carrier reach in North America...."

28. Ottawa Introduces Measures to Support Those Affected by Tariffs

The Federal Government announced two new measures to provide some relief to businesses and workers who have been impacted by the ongoing trade tensions with the United States and to support those affected by tariffs. To support workers, the new government announced it will: 1. Temporarily waive the one-week employment insurance (EI) waiting period. 2. Suspend rules around separation for a six-month period, so workers don't have to exhaust severance pay before collecting EI. 3. Make it easier to access EI by increasing regional unemployment rate percentages. This announcement signals the government's intention to introduce new temporary employment insurance (EI) measures to support Canadian workers whose jobs are impacted by the current economic uncertainty.

29. KAG Canada using dual-fuel hydrogen truck for Edmonton fuel deliveries

KAG Canada has deployed a Class 8 truck equipped with Innovative Fuel Systems' (IFS) hydrogen dual-fuel system to deliver fuel to the Edmonton International Airport. KAG has used IFS's Multi-Fuel Technology Platform (MFTP) system for more than three-and-a-half years using natural gas, which it says slashed its fuel costs by 15%. The retrofit system can offset the diesel usage with cleaner burning fuels like hydrogen or natural gas. "When it comes to the future of cleaner burning alternative fuel, I am confident that industry will advance this decision based on infrastructure, alternative fuel supply and price," said Chris Chapman, vice-president of fleet services with KAG Canada. "In partnership with Innovative Fuel Systems, we have now successfully tested hydrogen and are currently commercially utilizing natural gas (in the form of CNG) on several units in Western Canada as well as Eastern Canada." IFS says its system provides up to 25% in fuel savings while slashing emissions.

30. Uber Freight offering drop-and-hook option as dedicated-like product for shippers

Uber Freight has extended the reach of its drop-and-hook program to target truckload moves in the 500- to 1,000-mile range, so-called "tweener" shipments that have previously been elusive for the freight broker to serve with the program. The trailer pool that supports Uber Freight's drop-and-hook program, called Powerloop, was launched in 2018 with the goal of reducing the turnaround time for a driver at a facility compared with a live load or unload. To that end, Uber Freight said this week it is now offering bundled drop-and-hook loads to carriers that enable it to serve large shippers with high volumes.

31. CTA: Tariffs on Auto Sector a Breach of CUSMA

The Canadian Trucking Alliance said that yesterday's (March 26, 2025) executive order by President Trump is a contravention of the Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement (CUSMA) which will devastate many Canadian trucking companies. The Executive Order, entitled [Adjusting Imports of Automobiles and Automobile parts into the United States](#), states President Trump ordered an investigation in his first term, which concluded that automobiles and certain automobile parts are being imported into the United States in quantities' and under such circumstances that threaten to impair the national security of the United States. In 2019, the United States engaged in discussions with the European Union (EU) and Japan to resolve this matter but were subsequently left unresolved in the opinion of President Trump.

32. North American Transborder Freight rose 8.2% in January 2025 from January 2024

Transborder freight between the U.S. and North American countries Canada and Mexico for January 2025 compared to January 2024 was as follows: 1. Total transborder freight: \$134.4 billion of transborder freight moved by all modes of transportation, increasing 8.2% compared to January 2024; 2. Freight between the U.S. and Canada: \$64.8 billion, up 8.6% from January 2024; 3. Freight between the U.S. and Mexico: \$69.6 billion, up 7.9% from January 2024; 4. Trucks moved \$87.6 billion of freight, up 10.2% compared to January 2024; 5. Railways moved \$15.2 billion of freight, down 2.7% compared to January 2024; 6. Pipelines moved \$10.4 billion of freight, up 7.0% compared to January 2024; 7. Vessels moved \$8.2 billion of freight, down 18.3% compared to January 2024; 8. Air moved \$6.1 billion of freight, up

48.3% compared to January 2024. US-Canada transborder freight by the following modes were as follows: Truck: \$35.6b; Pipeline: \$9.6b; Rail: \$7.8b; Vessel: \$2.9b; and Air: \$4.0b

GENERAL TRANSPORTATION

1. National Travel Survey, third quarter 2024

During the 2024 third quarter, Canadian residents took 105.0 million trips in Canada and abroad, up 5.3% from the same quarter in 2023 and an increase of 3.4% from the third quarter in 2019, before the COVID-19 pandemic. Most of the trips from July to September 2024 were domestic (89.9%), followed by trips to the United States (7.6%) and overseas (2.5%). Total expenditures by Canadian residents spent \$27.4 billion on *domestic travel*, and although this was little changed from the third quarter of 2023, it was an increase of 26.7% from the same quarter in 2019. Total expenditures by Canadian residents during trips to the *United States* reached \$6.4 billion in the third quarter, up 5.7% from the same quarter in 2023 and an increase of 30.5% from the same quarter in 2019. Canadian visitors spent \$6.8 billion *overseas* in the third quarter of 2024, up 19.9% from the same quarter in 2023 and an increase of 38.3% from the same quarter in 2019. Spending by Canadian residents on cruises to the United States and overseas reached \$203.6 million in the third quarter of 2024. This level was up 68.3% from the same quarter in 2023 and over double (+107.5%) compared with the third quarter of 2019.

2. Visitor Travel Survey, third quarter 2024

In the 2024 third quarter, visitors from the United States and overseas countries made 11.1 million trips to Canada, up 6.6% from the same quarter in 2023. From July to September 2024, nearly four out of five non-resident trips (78.5%) were made by US resident. Meanwhile, spending by non-resident visitors to Canada totalled \$11.6 billion in the 2024 third quarter, an increase of 8.5% from the same quarter in 2023. The average expenditure stood at \$1,038 per trip during the third quarter of 2024.

3. BTS Updates National Transportation Statistics 2/28/2025

The Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) on February 28, 2025 released its monthly update to National Transportation Statistics (NTS), a guide to historical national-level transportation trends.

4. Minister of Transport and Internal Trade announces creation of the Supply Chain Advisory Council

On February 28, 2025, the Honourable Anita Anand, Minister of Transport and Internal Trade, announced the establishment of the Supply Chain Advisory Council, comprised of experts and senior leaders in their fields. The non-partisan Council will provide strategic advice on strengthening supply chains to boost productivity, increase competitiveness and support trade diversification.

5. U.S. President Donald Trump says 25% across-the-board tariffs on imports from Canada and Mexico, with a lower 10% levy on Canadian energy, will start Tuesday.

Trump says there's no room left for America's closest neighbors to negotiate a way out of the devastating duties. The president says both countries would have to build car plants and "other things" in the United States to get the levies removed. Trump's executive order to implement economy wide tariffs was delayed until Tuesday March 4, 2025 after Canada and Mexico agreed to introduce new security measures at the border. The order initially tied the tariffs to the illegal flow of people and drugs across the borders — but Trump previously said the delay would allow time for an "economic" deal. It remains unclear what the president wants to see from Canada in exchange for dropping the tariff threat for good.

General Transportation

1. National Travel Survey, third quarter 2024, February 28, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca
2. Visitor Travel Survey, third quarter 2024, February 28, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca
3. BTS Updates National Transportation Statistics 2/28/2025, February 28, 2025, www.bts.gov
4. Minister of Transport and Internal Trade announces creation of the Supply Chain Advisory Council, February 28, 2025, www.tc.gc.ca
5. U.S. President Donald Trump says 25% across-the-board tariffs on imports from Canada and Mexico, with a lower 10% levy on Canadian energy, will start Tuesday, March 3, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com
6. Trump will 'probably' cut Mexico and Canada tariffs - US commerce chief, March 5, 2025, www.bbc.com
7. Commission boosts European automotive industry's global competitiveness, March 4, 2025, www.europa.eu
8. Canadian international merchandise trade, January 2025, March 6, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca
9. Perspectives on country attribution in Canadian international merchandise trade statistics, March 6, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca
10. U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Urges D.C. Leaders to Improve Transportation Safety in our Nation's Capital as Workers Return to Office, March 6, 2025, www.dot.gov
11. Trump delays tariffs for goods covered under Mexico, Canada trade deal, March 6, 2025, www.ajot.com
12. Borderlands Mexico: Cartels a barrier to growing cross-border trade, expert says, March 9, 2025, www.freightwaves.com
13. Leading indicator of international arrivals to Canada, February 2025, March 10, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca
14. U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Rescinds Memos Issued By Biden Administration That Injected Social Justice, Radical Environmental Agenda Into Infrastructure Funding Decisions, March 10, 2025, www.dot.gov
15. Canada's dairy industry says tariffs less scary than threats to supply management, March 11, 2025, www.financialpost.ca
16. WHAT THEY ARE SAYING: U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Ends Social Justice, Radical Environmental Agenda in USDOT Infrastructure Funding Decisions, March 12, 2025, www.dot.gov
17. January 2025 Freight Transportation Services Index (TSI) Down 0.4% from the Previous Month and Up 1.9% from the Same Month Last Year, March 12, 2025, www.bts.gov

6. Trump will 'probably' cut Mexico and Canada tariffs - US commerce chief

US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick has said President Donald Trump will "probably" announce a deal to reduce tariffs on Canada and Mexico on Wednesday, January 5, 2025. "Both the Canadians and Mexicans were on the phone with me all day today trying to show that they'll do better" on reducing the flow of the synthetic opioid fentanyl into the US, Lutnick said in an interview with Fox Business Network. But Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs Mélanie Joly told the BBC's Newsnight that her office had not been contacted about the plan. Canada and Mexico announced retaliatory import levies on the US after Washington's 25% tariffs on its two neighbours came into effect on Tuesday, March 4, 2025.

7. Commission boosts European automotive industry's global competitiveness

The European automotive sector is at **critical turning point**, challenged by **rapid technological changes and increasing competition**. To address the changes ahead, President **von der Leyen** in January 2025 launched a [Strategic Dialogue on the Future of the European Automotive Industry](#), a collaborative and inclusive process designed to tackle the sector's most pressing challenges. The Commission on March 4, 2025 puts forward an Action Plan, which builds on the Strategic Dialogue, and presents concrete actions that will ensure a robust and sustainable automotive sector and help unleash its innovative power. To maintain a strong European production base and avoid strategic dependencies, they will make available €1.8 billion to create a **secure and competitive supply chain for battery raw materials**, which will help support the growth of the European automotive industry.

8. Canadian international merchandise trade, January 2025

In January 2025, in the context of tariff threats on Canadian goods, Canada's merchandise exports increased 5.5% while imports were up 2.3%. Canada's merchandise trade surplus with the world widened from a revised \$1.7 billion in December to \$4.0 billion in January. This was the largest surplus since May 2022.

9. Perspectives on country attribution in Canadian international merchandise trade statistics

In Canadian international merchandise trade statistics, import and export data are available by partner country to provide insight into the countries with which Canada trades. On March 6, 2025, the introduction of two new data tables offers more direct insight into country attributions in these trade statistics. For each table, data are available for Canada's 27 principal trading partners as well as the product sections and groups of the trade variant of the North American Product Classification System (NAPCS) 2022.

10. U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Urges D.C. Leaders to

Improve Transportation Safety in our Nation's Capital as Workers Return to Office On March 6, 2025, the U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy took action to urge Washington, D.C. leaders to restore greatness to our Nation's Capital with a focus on improving the safety and security of the city's transportation systems. In a series of letters, Secretary Duffy urged D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser, Amtrak CEO Stephen Gardner, and Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) CEO Randy Clarke to prioritize improvements to passenger security, crime reduction, and roadway safety.

11. Trump delays tariffs for goods covered under Mexico, Canada trade deal

President Donald Trump on March 6, 2025 exempted goods from both Canada and Mexico under a North American trade pact for a month from the 25% tariffs that he had imposed earlier this week, the latest twist in fast-shifting trade policy that has whipsawed financial markets and business leaders. The exemption, which will expire on April 2, 2025 covers both of the two largest U.S. trading partners. Trump had earlier only mentioned an exemption for Mexico, but the amendment he signed to his order for 25% levies on imports from both - which went into effect on March 4 - covers Canada as well. For Canada, the amended order also excludes duties on potash, a critical fertilizer for U.S. farmers, but

18. Transportation Consumer Price Index – February 2025, March 12, 2025, www.bts.gov
19. ICYMI: The Washington Times: U.S. Transportation Secretary Duffy Is 'Reasserting Common Sense', March 13, 2025, www.dot.gov
20. Transportation Producer Price Index – February 2025, March 13, 2025, www.bts.gov
21. CTA: Looming Tariff Threat Throwing Trucking, Supply Chain in "Chaos", March 13, 2025, www.ontruck.ca
22. Government of Canada Appoints New Minister of Transport, March 14, 2025, www.westac.ca
23. Steel, aluminum tariffs may hurt auto industry, supply chain risk expert says, March 17, 2025, www.freightwaves.com
24. Interprovincial trade flows and frictions, March 19, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca
25. Canadian Transportation Agency recognized as one of the National Capital Region's top employers for a second year in a row, March 20, 2025, www.cta-otc.gc.ca
26. Monthly Energy Transportation and Storage Survey, January 2025, March 20, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca
27. Trans Border Freight Annual Report 2024, March 20, 2025, www.bts.gov
28. Travel between Canada and other countries, January 2025, March 21, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca
29. Borderlands Mexico: Tariffs could lead Mexico into recession, report says, March 23, 2025, www.freightwaves.com
30. Official Fed Govt Guidance on Removing Carbon Tax, April 1, March 25, 2025, www.cantruck.ca
31. U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Advocates for Enhancing Pipeline Safety in New Advisory, March 25, 2025, www.dot.gov
32. Carney pledges \$2 billion for Canada's auto sector in trade war, March 26, 2025, www.financialpost.ca
33. EU Preparedness Union Strategy to prevent and react to emerging threats and crises, March 25, 2025, www.europa.eu
34. National tourism indicators, fourth quarter 2024, March 27, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca
35. U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces Update on I-40 Recovery as FHWA Fast-Tracks Mineral Access for North Carolina, March 27, 2025, www.dot.gov

does not fully cover energy products, on which Trump has imposed a separate 10% levy. A White House official said that is because not all energy products imported from Canada are covered under the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement on trade that Trump negotiated in his first term as president.

12. Borderlands Mexico: Cartels a barrier to growing cross-border trade, expert says

An international trade expert sees promise in Mexico's approach to enhancing trade but says organized crime remains an obstacle. The U.S. and Mexico have cooperated in the past to curb cartel crimes, including the Mérida Initiative in 2008. On Jan. 13, 2025 Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum unveiled Plan Mexico, an ambitious initiative aimed at ultimately lifting her country from 12th place to among the top 10 economies in the world. Plan Mexico includes a portfolio of \$277 billion in national and foreign investments to be distributed across 2,000 projects in sectors such as the automotive, pharmaceutical, aerospace, agribusiness, electromobility and textile industries. The initiative also includes increasing Mexico's share in global exports to 15%, reducing the time to approve investment projects in the country from 2.6 years to one year and solidifying the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement to help North America compete against China.

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

In February 2025, the preliminary number of international arrivals to Canada by air and automobile was 4.1 million, down 10.9% from February 2024. This was the first year-over-year decline since March 2021. In brief: Non-resident trips to Canada by air decline; Canadian-resident return trips by air down; US-resident trips to Canada by automobile decrease; and Canadian-resident return trips from US by automobile decline.

14. U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Rescinds Memos Issued By Biden Administration That Injected Social Justice, Radical Environmental Agenda Into Infrastructure Funding Decisions

On March 10, 2025, U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy announced the department has rescinded two memorandums issued during the Biden Administration which injected a social justice and environmental agenda into decisions for critical infrastructure projects.

15. Canada's dairy industry says tariffs less scary than threats to supply management

Before the trade war, the U.S. dairy that Canada imported wasn't tariffed at all because it was less than the limit agreed upon by the two countries in the existing free-trade deal. Canada imports more dairy from the U.S. than it exports, which suggests a dairy tariff war would hurt American farmers. Members of Canada's dairy industry say they're less worried about the threat of steep United States tariffs than about a looming battle over supply management. U.S. President Donald Trump has threatened to impose what he calls "reciprocal" tariffs on Canadian dairy, saying they're a response to Canada's 250 per cent duty on U.S. dairy imports. Quebec farmer Markus Schnegg says nearly all the dairy produced in Canada is sold for domestic consumption, meaning the U.S. tariffs would only affect a small fraction of the market.

16. WHAT THEY ARE SAYING: U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Ends Social Justice, Radical Environmental Agenda in USDOT Infrastructure Funding Decisions

In the second week of March 2025, U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy announced the department has rescinded two memorandums issued during the Biden Administration which injected a social justice and environmental agenda into decisions for critical infrastructure projects. Outside groups and key stakeholders have praised this decision for overturning the memo, which had imposed significant financial and time burdens.

17. January 2025 Freight Transportation Services Index (TSI) Down 0.4% from the Previous Month and Up 1.9% from the Same Month Last Year

The Freight Transportation Services Index (TSI), which is based on the amount of freight carried by the for-hire transportation industry, fell 0.4% in January 2025 from December 2024, following a marginal increase in December, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS). From January 2024 to January 2025 the index rose 1.9%.

18. Transportation Consumer Price Index – February 2025

The CPI for all transportation goods and services rose 1.7% from February 2024 to February 2025. Transportation contributed 9.8% to the 2.8% increase in the price of all goods and services, per the CPI. Motor vehicle insurance contributed the most to inflation, rising 11.1% year-over-year and contributing 11.1% to the annual change in the price of all goods and services. By item, the top three contributors to inflation in February 2025 were: 1. Used cars and trucks: +0.6%; 2. Motor vehicle maintenance and repair: +2.5%; and 3. Motor vehicle insurance: +11.1%. The top three items dampening transportation's contribution to inflation in February 2025 were: 1. Gasoline (all types): -3.8%; 2. Other intercity fare: -0.4%; and 3. Car and truck rental: -0.4%. Other intercity fare includes intercity bus and rail transportation.

19. ICYMI: The Washington Times: U.S. Transportation Secretary Duffy Is 'Reasserting Common Sense'

Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy is reasserting common sense when deciding how to pay for the systems that are supposed to keep the public safe. On March 10, 2025, he tore up a pair of Biden administration directives that diverted

transportation dollars into social justice programs. Mr. Duffy's predecessor, Pete Buttigieg, was determined to stamp out what he called "racism physically built into some of our highways." The former mayor of South Bend, Indiana, used his Cabinet post to distribute funds to anything that advanced the left-wing agenda, which helped build his name recognition to the point that he is thinking of taking another run at the White House or a Senate seat. He also left a mess that Mr. Duffy must now clean up. "Prioritizing projects that meet Green New Scam and DEI standards is why our infrastructure is crumbling," Mr. Duffy wrote Tuesday, March 18, 2025 on X.

20. Transportation Producer Price Index – February 2025

March 13, 2025, the [Bureau of Transportation Statistics \(BTS\)](#) released the change in the costs faced by producers purchasing transportation services and industries producing them, from February 2024 to February 2025, as measured by the Producer Price Index (PPI). The PPI measures inflation from the perspective of costs to industry or producers of products. [Transportation equipment PPI](#) indicate the changes in transportation equipment prices faced by transportation providers, and any increase, increases providers costs. The PPI shows that prices increased for freight transportation and equipment 1.5% in February 2025 from February 2024. Increases in transportation services PPI indicate increases in production costs faced by industries purchasing the services. From February 2024 to February 2025, the [transportation services PPI](#) changed, by mode.

21. CTA: Looming Tariff Threat Throwing Trucking, Supply Chain in "Chaos"

The North American trade relationship has grown exponentially for all three partners through a structured certainty based on NAFTA/CUSMA agreements, which have acted as a foundation for the business community in Canada, Mexico and the United States. This framework has provided the stability and predictability which allows each nation to produce and ship products into other markets, benefitting and strengthening each other's economies. The tariff threats have brought unparalleled uncertainty, creating an untenable situation for Canadian trucking fleets and their US/Canadian customers. Based on information supplied by the Canadian Trucking Alliance's national membership of over 5000 trucking companies, CTA reports the Canadian-US supply chain is now in panic mode.

22. Government of Canada Appoints New Minister of Transport

The Right Honourable Mark Carney and his Cabinet were sworn in as the 30th Ministry in a ceremony earlier on March 14, 2025. The accompanying announcement noted that, "this team reflects the ambition that makes Canada strong, and it will work each day to protect workers, families, and businesses. It will take action to unite Canadians, defend Canada's sovereignty in the face of unjustified trade actions by the United States, make Canada an energy superpower in both conventional and clean energy, create new trade corridors with reliable partners, and build one Canadian economy – the strongest economy in the G7." Hon. Chrystia Freeland was appointed Minister of Transport and Internal Trade.

23. Steel, aluminum tariffs may hurt auto industry, supply chain risk expert says

President Donald Trump said on Sunday, March 16, 2025 that there won't be exemptions on steel and aluminum tariffs and reaffirmed that additional import duties on everything from autos to lumber to appliances will go into effect in April. "It's going to be reciprocal — in other words, whatever they're charging, we're charging," Trump told reporters on Air Force One on Sunday, [CNN](#) reported. "Then in addition to that, on autos, on steel, on aluminum, we're going to have some additional tariffs." Trump was asked by a reporter if he would consider any exemptions on those tariffs, and he replied: "I have no intention of it." Trump's 25% tariffs on all aluminum and steel imported into the U.S. went into effect on Wednesday, March 12, 2025, prompting Canada and the European Union to immediately retaliate by imposing duties on about [\\$49 billion worth of U.S. goods](#).

24. Interprovincial trade flows and frictions

Canada has a longstanding reputation as a trading nation, with its economy being heavily reliant on global trade. However, the vital role of internal trade in Canada is often overlooked. Internal trade is a key part of the Canadian economy, contributing to economic competitiveness by generating jobs, enabling business growth, broadening consumer options and fostering overall economic development. Approximately \$532 billion worth of goods and services were traded across provincial and territorial borders in 2023, accounting for 18.1% of Canada's gross domestic product (GDP). Of this total, \$301 billion (56.6%) was for services, while the remainder was for merchandise trade. The contribution of internal trade to Canada's GDP has seen a notable decline over the last four decades, falling from 26.7% in 1981 to 18.1% in 2023. While internal exports and imports grew by 440.8% during this period, international trade (both exports and imports) expanded at a much faster rate, exceeding 900% growth. This long-term trend highlights a structural shift in Canada's economy, potentially reflecting factors such as increased international trade agreements, changes in domestic consumption patterns, or shifts in the economic importance of internal trade relative to other economic activities.

25. Canadian Transportation Agency recognized as one of the National Capital Region's top employers for a second year in a row

The Canadian Transportation Agency (CTA) has been named as one of the National Capital Region's Top Employers for 2025. This special designation recognizes employers in the Ottawa-Gatineau area that are leaders in providing exceptional places to work. It identifies the CTA as an organization that offers competitive benefits, professional development opportunities, and a supportive workplace culture.

26. Monthly Energy Transportation and Storage Survey, January 2025

Data for January 2025 on the transportation and storage of crude oil and other liquid petroleum products are now available on the Statistics Canada website.

27. TransBorder Freight Annual Report 2024

The Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) compiled the dollar value of commodities that moved across the United States' land borders with Canada and Mexico by mode of transportation in 2024. Manufacturing and logistics sectors across North America are linked and interdependent. America's land borders with Canada and Mexico are economically vital conduits for North American supply chains, with nearly \$3.5 billion in daily cross-border freight shipments. Besides oil and energy products, automobiles, and electronics, Canada and Mexico are also America's largest trade partners in agricultural goods. U.S. land borders with Canada and Mexico consistently facilitate over \$1 trillion in cross-border trade annually. To put things in perspective, in 2024 the value of total U.S.-international trade was \$5.3 trillion, of which U.S. trade with Canada and Mexico comprised 30.0 percent. In 2024, U.S. freight flows with Canada and Mexico equalled \$1.6 trillion dollars, a 1.8% increase over 2023. Surface modes of transportation (truck + rail) lead North American commerce, together accounting for 77.1% of all freight flows by dollar value in 2024. Trucking continues to be the dominant form of freight transportation in North America, accounting for 55.5% of total flows with Canada

28. Travel between Canada and other countries, January 2025

In January 2025, trips to Canada by US residents increased 20.8% to reach 1.1 million trips. In contrast, trips to Canada by overseas residents experienced a fourth consecutive month of year-over-year declines that began in October 2024. Canadian resident trips abroad (United States and overseas combined) saw a slight decline of 0.5% in January 2025 compared with the same month in 2024. Using seasonally adjusted data, on a month-to-month basis, non-resident arrivals (US and overseas residents combined) in Canada increased by 1.5% in January 2025. Meanwhile, the number of returning Canadian-resident arrivals fell by 5.6% from the previous month, breaking a two-month streak of consecutive monthly increases.

29. Borderlands Mexico: Tariffs could lead Mexico into recession, report says

Mexico's economy could be the most affected by an escalating global trade war, leading the nation into a recession by the end of the year, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development says in a [report](#). The OECD's "Interim Economic Outlook," released recently, predicted Mexico could fall into a recession with a 1.3% contraction in GDP in 2025. That compares to a GDP growth forecast of 1.2% the OECD estimated in a [report](#) released in December 2024.

30. Official Fed Govt Guidance on Removing Carbon Tax, April 1

The [Department of Finance Canada](#) has issued an official guidance document on removing the consumer carbon price, effective April 1, 2025. The federal fuel charge currently applies in Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Nunavut and Yukon (referred to as listed provinces). Under the *Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act*, the fuel charge generally applies to 21 fossil fuels and combustible waste upon delivery, importation or use in listed provinces. The federal government removed the fuel charge, effective April 1, 2025, via regulations. It will also be considering broader amendments to the *Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act*, including proposed amendments to complete the orderly wind-down of the fuel charge. After March 31, 2025, the applicable fuel charge rates for all types of fuel and for combustible waste will be set to zero. Therefore, beginning on April 1, 2025, the fuel charge ceases to apply.

31. U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Advocates for Enhancing Pipeline Safety in New Advisory

On March 25, 2025, U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy announced that the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) will be encouraging all regulated pipeline owners and operators to voluntarily adopt new safety management systems (SMS). The utilization of SMS will enhance pipeline safety and is supported by the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB). *"We are committed to carrying out President Trump's agenda to unleash American energy in all ways – big and small. Here at the Department of Transportation, that mission includes ensuring our natural resources can efficiently and securely reach consumers. Enhancing pipeline safety through innovative management systems is just one way we can boost our energy security and lower costs for the American people,"* said U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy.

32. Carney pledges \$2 billion for Canada's auto sector in trade war

Liberal Party Leader [Mark Carney](#) promised a \$2 billion "strategic response fund" to help Canadian auto manufacturing and strengthen a supply chain that's under threat from [United States tariffs](#). Carney, who became prime minister less

than two weeks ago, said a government led by him would try to build an “all-in-Canada” network for auto parts, working with industry to make more parts in the country and limit the number that have to cross the Canada-U.S. border during production. But he gave few details on how that would work. Trump’s 25% tariff on autos goes into effect on April 2, 2025.

33. EU Preparedness Union Strategy to prevent and react to emerging threats and crises

On March 25, 2025, the Commission and High Representative launch the Preparedness Union Strategy to support Member States and enhance Europe's capability to prevent and respond to emerging threats. It comes as the European Union is facing increasingly complex crises and challenges that cannot be ignored. From growing geopolitical tensions and conflicts, hybrid and cybersecurity threats, foreign information manipulation and interference, to climate change and increasing natural disasters, the EU needs to be ready to protect its citizens and the key societal functions that are crucial for democracy and daily life. Concretely, the Strategy includes **30 key actions** and a detailed **Action Plan** to advance the Preparedness Union's objectives, as well as developing a ‘preparedness by design culture’ across all EU.

34. National tourism indicators, fourth quarter 2024

Tourism spending in Canada increased 1.5% in the fourth quarter of 2024, following a 0.4% decline in the third quarter. Annually, tourism spending rose 3.6% in 2024, following a 15.3% increase in 2023. Tourism gross domestic product rose 1.6% in the fourth quarter of 2024 and was up 3.8% annually. Passenger air transport (+2.8%) and accommodation services (+2.6%) were the main contributors to growth in tourism spending in the fourth quarter. Annually, passenger air transport spending (+7.4%) contributed the most to overall growth in 2024. Tourism GDP rose 1.6% in the fourth quarter, following a 0.7% decrease in the third quarter. Accommodation services (+2.8%) and transportation (+1.6%) were the main contributors to overall growth. Economy-wide real GDP by industry rose 0.4% in the fourth quarter, and tourism's share of GDP increased to 1.78% on a nominal basis. Annually, tourism GDP rose 3.8% in 2024, compared with the economy-wide real GDP by industry growth of 1.6%.

35. U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces Update on I-40 Recovery as FHWA Fast-Tracks Mineral Access for North Carolina

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy announced a major milestone in the Interstate-40 recovery efforts in North Carolina. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) successfully cleared a number of legal barriers to allow the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) to acquire construction material from the adjacent Pisgah National Forest sooner than originally anticipated. The materials, which are just 1 to 3 miles away from the construction site, were originally expected to be sourced from 20 to 50 miles away – increasing project costs and slowing the rebuild effort. By significantly expediting the process, the Department of Transportation has delivered estimated savings of two-thirds in both cost and time— amounting to hundreds of millions of dollars.