

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 global passenger demand data for March 2025 for air travel with the following highlights: 1. *Total demand*, measured in revenue passenger kilometers (RPK), was up 3.3% compared to March 2024. Total capacity, measured in available seat kilometers (ASK), was up 5.3% year-on-year. The March load factor was 80.7% (-1.6 ppt compared to March 2024). 2. *International demand* rose 4.9% compared to March 2024. Capacity was up 7.0% year-on-year, and the load factor was 79.9% (-1.7 ppt compared to March 2024). 3. *Domestic demand* increased 0.9% compared to March 2024. Capacity was up 2.5% year-on-year. The load factor was 82.0% (-1.3 ppt compared to March 2024). Willie Walsh, IATA’s Director General said “Passenger demand grew by 3.3% year-on-year in March, a slight strengthening from the 2.7% growth reported for February. A capacity expansion of 5.3%, however, outpaced the demand expansion leading to a load factor decline from record highs to 80.7% systemwide. There remains a lot of speculation around the potential impacts of tariffs and other economic headwinds on travel. While the small decline in demand in North America needs to be watched carefully, March numbers continued to show a global pattern of growth for air travel. That means the challenges associated with accommodating more people who need to travel—specifically alleviating supply chain problems and ensuring sufficient airport and air traffic management capacity—remain urgent.”

2. Air Cargo Demand Grows 4.4% in March

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) released data for March 2025 global air cargo markets showing: 1. Total demand, measured in cargo tonne-kilometers (CTK), increased by 4.4% compared to March 2024 levels (+5.5% for international operations), a historic peak for March. 2. Capacity, measured in available cargo tonne-kilometers (ACTK), expanded by 4.3% compared to March 2024 (+6.1% for international operations). Willie Walsh, IATA’s Director General said “March cargo volumes were strong. It is possible that this is partly a front-loading of demand as some businesses tried to beat the well-telegraphed 2 April tariff announcement by the Trump Administration. The uncertainty over how much of the 2 April proposals will be implemented may eventually weigh on trade. In the meantime, the lower fuel costs—which are also a result of the same uncertainty—are a short-term positive factor for air cargo. And, within the temporary pause on implementation we hope that political leaders will be able to shift trade tensions to reliable agreements that can restore confidence in global supply chains.”

3. JetBlue negotiates partnership with United Airlines, sources say

JetBlue Airways and United Airlines have been negotiating a partnership, three industry sources familiar with the matter told Reuters. The New York-based airline has been seeking partnerships after a federal judge blocked its so-called Northeast Alliance with American Airlines in 2023. The partner-

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2. Air Cargo Demand Grows 4.4% in March, April 29, 2025, www.iata.org
3. JetBlue negotiates partnership with United Airlines, sources say, April 30, 2025, www.ajot.com
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15. DHL cuts ties with cargo airlines as efficiency initiative ramps up, April 2, 2025, www.frieghtwaves.com
16. WestJet suspends nine U.S. routes as Canadians avoid America, May 6, 2025, www.nationalpost.ca
17. Air Canada, Porter offer service to LaGuardia, JFK amid Newark airport troubles, May 6, 2025, www.financialpost.ca
18. Air Canada Renews Agreement with The Landline Company for Luxury Motorcoach

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

ship with United is envisioned as quite different from the NEA, the sources said. While the alliance is expected to focus on providing greater connectivity to customers and allowing them to earn and burn frequent-flier miles, the two carriers will not coordinate on schedules and pricing, they added. The sources said the two airlines have yet to finalize all the details and cautioned that things could still change. Asked for comment, a JetBlue spokesperson referred to remarks made earlier on April 28, 2025 by the airline's president, Marty St. George, on a conference call after the company released quarterly results. St. George told analysts and investors that the company was negotiating with a domestic airline with a larger network and that an announcement was expected in the current quarter. He did not elaborate. Chicago-based United said it does not comment on industry speculation. JetBlue has been struggling to return to sustained profitability after the COVID-19 pandemic. It has managed to post a profit in just two of the past nine quarters. Its shares have fallen about 47% this year. In a sign of bearish investor sentiment, short interest in the company's shares has risen by 35% since early February 2025. A slump in travel demand as a result of the economic uncertainty caused by President Donald Trump's trade war has only exacerbated its pain. Earlier on Tuesday, JetBlue withdrew its outlook for 2025.

4. Fast, Free Wi-Fi for Aeroplan Members sponsored by Bell now on Air Canada, Air Canada Rouge and Air Canada Express flights in North America, Mexico and the Caribbean

Fast, free Wi-Fi for Aeroplan members took off on May 1, 2025 on board Air Canada's flights across North America and to-and-from Sun destinations in Mexico and the Caribbean. Sponsored by Bell, the new service means customers can enjoy streaming video services and gaming on their personal devices and makes Air Canada a leader in connectivity. "Quality connectivity has become indispensable for all travelers. Starting today we're thrilled to offer complimentary Wi-Fi on North American, Mexican and Caribbean flights for Aeroplan Members, by partnering with Bell," said Mark Nasr, Executive Vice President & Chief Operations Officer at Air Canada. "This initiative underscores Air Canada's focus on elevating the customer experience, with leadership in providing streaming quality connectivity, at a pace unmatched by other airlines — at home and around the world. We now offer Wi-Fi on 88 per cent of our fleet, with the remaining installations to be completed by early 2026. This will include an industry first with the upcoming launch of Wi-Fi on Air Canada Express Q400s serving Toronto's Billy Bishop Airport." Certification and Wi-Fi installation on Q400 fleet operating at Toronto Billy Bishop is expected later this year. It will be available to Aeroplan Members expanding to international flights in 2026.

5. Porter Airlines launches service to New York LaGuardia

Porter Airlines is expanding its New York presence with the launch of year-round service between Toronto Pearson International Airport (YYZ) and LaGuardia Airport (LGA). The addition of LaGuardia further deepens Porter's commitment to the New York Metropolitan Area, where the airline has operated between Newark Liberty International Airport and Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport since 2008. With up to three daily roundtrip flights between Toronto Pearson and LaGuardia's new Terminal B, Porter now offers more choice and flexibility for travellers to one of the world's most in-demand business and leisure destinations.

6. Air Transat launches exclusive non-stop service between Québec City and Fort-de-France

Air Transat, voted 2024 World's Best Leisure Airline by Skytrax, is consolidating its leadership in the French Antilles with an innovative route

- Land-Air Connections in Southern Ontario, May 7, 2025, www.aircanada.ca
- 19. Air Canada Reports First Quarter 2025 Financial Results, May 8, 2025, www.aircanada.ca
- 20. Onex selling minority stakes in WestJet to Delta and Korean Air, May 9, 2025, www.cbc.ca
- 21. Porter Airlines penalized for violations of the ATPDR, May 8, 2025, www.cta-otc.gc.ca
- 22. Airline Service Quality Performance Data – January 2025, May 8, 2025, www.bts.gov
- 23. U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Unveils Plan to Build Brand New State-of-the-Art Air Traffic Control System, May 8, 2025, www.dot.gov
- 24. February 2025 U.S. Airline Traffic Data Down 4.6% from the Same Month Last Year, May 9, 2025, www.bts.gov
- 25. WorldACD Weekly Air Cargo Trends (week 18) – 2025, May 9, 2025, www.ajot.com
- 26. Air Canada announces terms of \$500,000,000 substantial issuer bid, May 13, 2025, www.aircanada.ca
- 27. US Airlines net profit was \$6.7 billion in 2024, a decrease over 2023, May 13, 2025, www.bts.gov
- 28. Ground Handling Priorities: Safety, Baggage, Global Standards and Sustainability, May 13, 2025, www.iata.org
- 29. IATA Launches Global Baggage Roadmap, May 13, 2025, www.iata.org
- 30. Air Canada, flight attendants union head to conciliation amid impasse in contract negotiations May 14, 2025, www.nationalpost.ca
- 31. Porter Airlines celebrates first flight between Kelowna-Toronto Pearson, May 14, 2025, www.flyporter.com
- 32. Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces Progress on Key Drone Rules as Part of His Innovation Agenda, May 14, 2025, www.dot.gov
- 33. U.S. Cargo and Passenger Airlines Gained 4,231 Jobs in March 2025 May 14, 2025, www.bts.gov
- 34. Porter Airlines launches non-stop service between Ottawa and Victoria, May 15, 2025, www.flyporter.com
- 35. WestJet expands European network via Air France-KLM codeshare partnership, May 15, 2025, www.ajot.com
- 36. Ciao, Napoli! Air Canada Inaugurates Flights to the Gateway of the Amalfi Coast, May 17, 2025, www.aircanada.ca
- 37. Recognizing the future importance of data, May 15, 2025, www.airlines.iata.org
- 38. Why Canada's north relies on 50-year-old jets to keep passengers, supplies moving, May 19, 2025, www.financialpost.ca
- 39. Adapting to the needs of the customer, May 20, 2025, Airlines, www.iata.org
- 40. WHAT THEY ARE SAYING: U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces Progress on Key Drone Rules as Part of His Innovation Agenda, May 21, 2025, www.dot.gov
- 41. Air Transat innovates with a new route to Medellín via Cartagena ^{SEP} from Toronto, May

from Québec City. The airline is the first to offer a direct connection between Québec City Jean Lesage International Airport (YQB) and Martinique Aimé Césaire International Airport (FDF). The weekly flight, which is now available for booking, will operate on Sundays from December 14, 2025, to April 26, 2026. “This new non-stop service to Fort-de-France strengthens our position as the leading carrier to the South from Québec City,” said Sebastian Ponce, Chief Revenue Officer of Transat. “It not only allows us to expand our presence in Martinique, which we already offer year-round from Montréal, but also increases the productivity of our network and the use of our A321LR aircraft. The Québec City region is a priority market for Air Transat, and the opening of this route is a direct response to rapidly growing demand.”

7. Bombardier buoyant despite trade hurdles, forecasts big demand for business jets

In the face of tariffs, trade uncertainty and a potential recession, Bombardier Inc. chief executive Eric Martel is feeling upbeat. He pointed on May 1, 2025 to the business jet maker’s “strong start to the year” and a bright financial

outlook that foresees higher revenue, profits and plane deliveries this year. The Montreal-based company expects to crank out more than 150 aircraft in 2025 versus 146 last year. Martel also anticipates a revenue boost of at least seven per cent to more than US\$9.25 billion and an adjusted earnings increase of 14 per cent to more than US\$1.55 billion. The confident tone marks a striking change from three months ago, when Bombardier held off on giving financial guidance due to the uncertainty posed by United States President Donald Trump’s tariff threats. “We need to exercise caution until we see how this all unfolds,” Martel said on Feb. 6, adding that he was “very disappointed” he could not provide targets. Since then, Bombardier has achieved “tariff clarity,” he told analysts on a conference call May 1, 2025.

8. Potential impacts remain as March traveler figures grow

Global passenger demand for March 2025 air travel has been released by IATA, with the following highlights. Willie Walsh, IATA’s Director General said “Passenger demand grew by 3.3% year-on-year in March, a slight strengthening from the 2.7% growth reported for February. A capacity expansion of 5.3%, however, outpaced the demand expansion leading to a load factor decline from record highs to 80.7% systemwide. There remains a lot of speculation around the potential impacts of tariffs and other economic headwinds on travel. While the small decline in demand in North America needs to be watched carefully, March numbers continued to show a global pattern of growth for air travel. That means the challenges associated with accommodating more people who need to travel—specifically alleviating supply chain problems and ensuring sufficient airport and air traffic management capacity—remain urgent.”

9. U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Unveils New Package to Boost Air Traffic Controller Workforce

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy on May 1, 2025 unveiled a new package of actions to further supercharge the air traffic controller workforce. The package will allow more of the best and brightest candidates to get into air traffic facilities and on the job faster, as well as increase retention of experienced controllers. Secretary Duffy first launched the supercharge program in February.

10. Aeroplan Wins Big at the Prestigious 2025 Freddie Awards

In the first week of May 2025, Air Canada's Aeroplan loyalty program was recognized with three prestigious Freddie Awards, including Best Program of the Year (Airline), Best Elite Program (Airline) and Best Promotion (Airline) for Aeroplan’s 40th Anniversary. “We’re incredibly proud to be honoured among our peers at this year’s Freddie Awards and this is especially meaningful as the culmination of our 40th Anniversary celebration,” said Scott O’Leary, Vice President, Loyalty & Product at Air Canada. “A special thanks to our Aeroplan members for their support, and to our loyalty team, for bringing their full energy and commitment to the membership experience every day.”

11. WestJet cancels new Austin route as U.S.-Canada travel demand slips

WestJet Airlines Ltd. has cancelled its plans to launch new nonstop routes to some U.S. cities due to a drop in demand for travel between Canada and the United States. The airline announced earlier this week it was suspending its planned service to Austin, Texas, from Vancouver. The flights were scheduled to operate three times a week for the summer season, beginning May 11, 2025. “Due to a downward shift in demand for U.S. travel, WestJet has made the difficult decision to suspend scheduled direct service between Vancouver, BC and Austin, Texas,” WestJet spokesperson Julia Kaiser said in an email statement.

12. ‘How bad will it get?’ – Air cargo market awaits impact of tariffs and de minimis changes

Global air cargo volumes grew +4% year-on-year in April 2025 but with today’s removal of the de minimis threshold for shipments from China into the United States expected to dramatically disrupt e-commerce volumes in the coming weeks and massive uncertainty hanging over the macroeconomic outlook, the question for the air cargo market in 2025 has become ‘how bad will it be?’, according to industry analysts Xeneta. Over the past 10 years, US consumers have

22, 2025, www.ajot.com

42. New Report: Regional Air Service Crucial to Canada’s Economic Future, Connectivity and Way of Life, May 26, 2025, www.cac.ca

43. WestJet Cargo expands capacity to Japan with daily Dreamliner service, May 26, 2025, www.ajot.com

44. Lufthansa Cargo uses AI to process booking requests faster, May 27, 2025, www.ajot.com

45. Quarterly civil aviation statistics, fourth quarter 2024, May 28, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca

46. Aircraft movement and civil aviation statistics, March 2025, May 28, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca

47. Airline Service Quality Performance Data – February 2025, May 28, 2025, www.bts.gov

48. Air Cargo Demand up 5.8% in April, May 29, 2025, www.iata.org

paid no duty on shipments valued at \$800 or less, causing the volume of cross-border packages into the US to soar to some 1.35bn annually. Similar (but lower) exemptions exist in other countries. From today (May 2, 2025), however, low-value products sourced from China and Hong Kong into the US will now be subject to 145% new tariffs, with products sourced from postal services paying a different 120% duty on the value of the goods or a \$100 flat fee, rising to \$200 on June 1, 2025.

13. Air Canada Significantly Expands its Schedule to Latin America this Winter with Four New Destinations, 13 New Routes and 16% More Capacity

Air Canada on May 5, 2025 announced its winter sun schedule, reflecting its largest network expansion to Latin America to date with 16 per cent more seat capacity over last winter. Highlights of the carrier's exciting new services for the Winter 2025-26 season include new destinations to Rio de Janeiro, Cartagena, Guatemala City, and Guadalajara. As well, 13 new routes including routes to Santiago, Pointe-a-Pitre, Fort-de-France, Nassau, Montego Bay, and Huatulco are being introduced, along with additional frequencies to popular vacation destinations. In total, with over 55 daily flights and more than 80,000 seats weekly, Air Canada will offer the most comprehensive offering of any Canadian carrier flying to Latin America. All flights are now available for sale at aircanada.com, through Air Canada Contact Centres and via travel agents.

14. U.S. Airlines' March 2025 Fuel Cost per Gallon down 0.5% and Aviation Fuel Consumption up 18.4% from February 2025

The Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) on May 5, 2025 released U.S. airlines' March 2025 fuel cost and consumption numbers indicating U.S. scheduled service airlines used 1.609 billion gallons of fuel, 18.4% more fuel than in February 2025 (1.359 billion gallons) and 5.4% more than in pre-pandemic March 2019. The cost per gallon of fuel in March 2025 (\$2.43) was down 1.3 cents (0.5%) from February 2025 (\$2.45). Total March 2025 fuel expenditure (\$3.92B) was up 17.8% from February 2025 (\$3.33B). Year-over-year changes in fuel consumption and cost for March 2025 includes a 0.5% increase in domestic fuel consumption, a 12.2% decrease in domestic fuel cost, and a 12.7% decrease in cost per gallon. Domestic fuel consumption increased 17.8% from February 2025 to March 2025, while increasing 4.4% from March 2019. The increase in fuel consumption reflects growth in airline passenger travel over the same period.

15. DHL cuts ties with cargo airlines as efficiency initiative ramps up

DHL's recent cancellation of transport partnerships with third-party airlines supporting its courier and freight forwarding networks is part of a new cost improvement campaign that helped the Express division achieve first-quarter operating profit despite lower shipment volume and rising trade volatility. DHL Express' operating profit increased 4.8% year over year to \$754 million as efficiency measures ramped up, while better pricing and product mix boosted revenue 2%, according to DHL Group financial results released on April 30, 2025. Management said improved capacity utilization, seasonal network adjustments and higher yields countered the drop in volume. Demand for time-definite international parcels, the Express division's core product, fell 7.1% to 975,000 items per day, while aviation supply costs for DHL's own fleet and purchased transportation declined 7% year over year. Operating costs at Express air hubs decreased 1%.

16. WestJet suspends nine U.S. routes as Canadians avoid America

WestJet is suspending nine routes between Canada and the U.S. due to lower demand. The Canadian airline's service from Vancouver to Austin — a new route that was originally slated to start next week — is now on hold until October 2025. Other previously popular cross-border flights, including routes to Orlando, Los Angeles and Chicago, have been halted for various periods between June and August 2025, spokesperson Josh Yeats told Bloomberg News. The cancellations include routes for which WestJet is the only provider of nonstop flights.

17. Air Canada, Porter offer service to LaGuardia, JFK amid Newark airport troubles

Air Canada and Porter Airlines Inc. are offering complimentary moves to New York airports for customers affected by ongoing delays and cancellations at Newark Liberty International Airport in New Jersey. The disruptions at Newark peaked on May 3, 2025 as a shortage of air traffic controllers affected the airport's operations and those of its many carriers. The issue was exacerbated by ongoing runway construction and this week's bad weather. Air Canada said it had implemented "scheduling measures" ahead of time to mitigate the impact of the air traffic control delays. The airline said travel advisories are also in place for customers, which allow them to rebook flights to LaGuardia Airport and John F. Kennedy International Airport if they are travelling point to point. It recommends passengers contact Newark airport for more information. Similarly, Porter Airlines is offering complimentary booking changes allowing customers with flexibility the option of travelling between LaGuardia and Toronto Pearson International Airport, when space permits.

18. Air Canada Renews Agreement with The Landline Company for Luxury Motorcoach Land-Air Connections in Southern Ontario

Air Canada on May 7, 2025 said that after a year of successful operation it has extended its agreement with The Landline Company to continue providing seamless, luxury motorcoach land-air connections between Toronto Pearson and the John C. Munro Hamilton International Airport and the Region of Waterloo International Airport. "Air Canada has been very pleased with the response to this innovative initiative that we launched as a pilot program a year ago. The results show our multimodal strategy is a popular and effective means to increase connectivity within our network while offering customers additional, convenient travel options....," said Ranbir Singh, Director, Regional Airlines and Markets at Air Canada.

19. Air Canada Reports First Quarter 2025 Financial Results

Air Canada on May 8, 2025 reported its first quarter 2025 financial results. The highlights were as follows: 1. Operating revenues of \$5.196 billion for the first quarter of 2025, 1% lower year over year. 2. Operating loss of \$108 million and adjusted EBITDA of \$387 million with adjusted EBITDA margin of 7.4%. 3. Cash flow from operating activities of \$1.526 billion and free cash flow of \$831 million, a year-over-year decrease of \$66 million and \$225 million respectively. 4. Leverage ratio of 1.3 at March 31, 2025, compared to 1.4 at end of 2024. 5. Completed purchase and cancellation of over 15 million shares in the quarter, completing the normal course issuer bid announced in November 2024. 6. Intention to launch substantial issuer bid (SIB) to purchase and cancel up to \$500 million of shares. Michael Rousseau, President and Chief Executive Officer of Air Canada said "Our first quarter 2025 results show Air Canada is effectively managing through a turbulent period. Total operating revenues of nearly \$5.2 billion were stable year-over-year on similar capacity. Our revenue diversification strategy remains sound; sixth freedom revenues grew, and Air Canada Cargo and Air Canada Vacations delivered solid results in the period. We recorded adjusted EBITDA of \$387 million. Winter is always a challenging test, yet in the quarter we made progress in on-time performance, baggage delivery and customer satisfaction. Most importantly, we carried our nearly 10.8 million passengers safely and I thank all employees for their hard work taking care of our customers."

20. Onex selling minority stakes in WestJet to Delta and Korean Air

In a deal announced on May 9, 2025, Delta will acquire a 15 per cent stake in the Calgary-based WestJet for \$330 million US, while Korean Air will buy a 10 per cent stake for \$220 million US. Onex Corp. is selling minority stakes in WestJet to Delta Air Lines and Korean Air for a total of \$550 million US. Under the deals announced on May 9, 2025, Delta will acquire a 15 per cent stake in the Calgary-based airline for \$330 million US, while Korean Air will buy a 10 per cent stake for \$220 million US. After the deal closes, Delta plans to sell a 2.3 per cent stake in WestJet to its joint venture partner Air France-KLM for \$50 million US. Onex acquired WestJet in 2019. "Delta, Korean and Air France-KLM are among the world's most prominent and best-managed airlines," Tawfiq Popatia, co-head of Onex Partners, said in a statement. WestJet also signs deal with Lufthansa Technik for maintenance facility at Calgary airport "Onex is delighted to welcome them as shareholders in WestJet."

21. Porter Airlines penalized for violations of the ATPDR

The Canadian Transportation Agency (CTA) has issued administrative monetary penalties totaling \$120,000 against Porter Airlines for violations of the Accessible Transportation for Persons with Disabilities Regulations (ATDPR). On September 8, 2024, Porter Airlines refused to transport a person with a disability and their service dog on a flight departing Toronto Pearson International Airport. These contraventions relate to subsections 51(1) (4) and 60(1) of the ATPDR. Porter Airlines has 30 days to request reviews before the Transportation Appeal Tribunal of Canada.

22. Airline Service Quality Performance Data – January 2025

The Bureau of Transportation Statistics' (BTS) on May 8, 2025 released its Airline Service Quality Performance (ASQP) data compiled for the month of [January 2025](#). The data indicates a decline in operated domestic flights in January 2025 to 580 thousands from 627 thousands in December 2024. For additional information and interactive charts on transportation's role in aviation, please visit BTS' [Aviation Facts and Figures](#). BTS regularly updates [TranStats](#), with both [Marketing Carrier On-Time Performance \(Beginning January 2018\)](#) and the [Reporting Carrier On-Time Performance \(1987-present\)](#).

23. U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Unveils Plan to Build Brand New State-of-the-Art Air Traffic Control System

U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Secretary Sean P. Duffy on May 8, 2025 unveiled a plan to build a brand new, state-of-the-art air traffic control system that will be the envy of the world. By replacing the current, antiquated system, the FAA will enhance safety in the sky, reduce delays, and unlock the future of air travel. This plan also ensures hard-working air traffic controllers have a system they can rely on and one they deserve.

24. February 2025 U.S. Airline Traffic Data Down 4.6% from the Same Month Last Year

U.S. airlines carried 67.2 million systemwide (domestic and international) scheduled service passengers in February 2025, according to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS). When adjusted for seasonality, February enplanements are down 0.2% from January 2025 and down 2.6% from the all-time high reached in December 2024.

BTS reported 58.2 million domestic passengers and 9 million international passengers on U.S. airlines flights in February 2025, not adjusting for seasonality. U.S. airline traffic reports are filed monthly with the BTS.

25. WorldACD Weekly Air Cargo Trends (week 18) – 2025

Air cargo tonnages declined steeply last week from Asia Pacific, and specifically from China and Hong Kong to the USA, ahead of the changes to US ‘de minimis’ rules on 2 May, with 1 May ‘Labor Day’ holidays and Japan’s ‘Golden Week’ holidays also contributing significantly to week-on-week (WoW) declines in worldwide flown cargo. According to the latest figures from WorldACD Market Data, worldwide air cargo tonnages dropped by -3%, WoW, in week 18 (28 April to 4 May). Cargo from Asia Pacific origins recorded by far the biggest WoW decrease of -11%, with Central & South America (CSA) origin cargo recording a -3% drop, after spiking in recent weeks due to high Mother’s Day flower shipment volumes. Cargo from Africa, and from Middle East & South Asia (MESA) was flat, WoW, with a small increase from North America (+1%), and a +7% rise from Europe origins, related to post-Easter recovery.

26. Air Canada announces terms of \$500,000,000 substantial issuer bid

Air Canada on May 13, 2025 announced the terms of its previously announced substantial issuer bid (the “Offer”) pursuant to which Air Canada will offer to purchase for cancellation up to \$500 million of its Class A Variable Voting Shares and Class B Voting Shares (collectively, the “Shares”). All dollar amounts are in Canadian dollars. The Offer is expected to commence on May 16, 2025 and expire at 11:59 pm (Eastern time) on June 20, 2025, unless extended, varied or withdrawn by Air Canada.

27. US Airlines net profit was \$6.7 billion in 2024, a decrease over 2023

U.S. scheduled passenger airlines reported a 2024 after-tax net profit of \$6.7 billion and a pre-tax operating profit of \$13.5 billion. Pre-tax operating profit/loss was \$13.5 billion profit in 2024 compared to \$13.2 billion profit in 2023. Other statistics are as follows: Total 2024 operating revenue: \$247.2 billion; Share of total 2024 operating revenue: Fares: \$185.3 billion, 75.0% compared to 75.8% in 2023; Baggage fees: \$7.3 billion, 2.9% compared to 3.0% in 2023; and Reservation change fees: \$1.0 billion, 0.4% compared to 0.4% in 2023.

28. Ground Handling Priorities: Safety, Baggage, Global Standards and Sustainability

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) highlighted four priorities for ground handling at the [IATA Ground Handling Conference \(IGHC\)](#) which opened in Nairobi May 13, 2025 hosted by Kenya Airways: 1. Embedding safety in every action; 2. Driving global standardization; 3. Enhancing baggage operations; 4. Building a sustainable and inclusive way forward.

29. IATA Launches Global Baggage Roadmap

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) launched a 10-year Global Baggage Roadmap to modernize baggage operations. Developed with airlines, airports, and industry partners, the roadmap sets a clear path to improve both operational efficiency and traveler satisfaction. “Baggage is important for travelers. When they check a bag, they expect it to arrive on time. And if it doesn’t, they want to know where it is. That is confirmed by recent IATA polling showing 81% of travelers want better tracking, 74% expect real-time updates on their mobile phones and 67% are willing to switch to electronic bag tags. The Global Baggage Roadmap will move us closer to the automated digital baggage services that travelers want,” said Monika Mejstrikova, IATA’s Director of Ground Operations. The Roadmap is built around three pillars: 1. Baggage Information Exchange and Data Standardization. 2. Baggage Tracking and Automation. 3. Streamlining the baggage claim process, combating fraud, and enhancing the customer experience.

30. Air Canada, flight attendants union head to conciliation amid impasse in contract negotiations

The union representing Air Canada flight attendants says it has filed for conciliation with the federal labour minister after reaching an impasse in contract negotiations with the airline. The Air Canada component of CUPE, which represents 10,000 Air Canada and Air Canada Rouge flight attendants, said its top priority is boosting compensation, noting an entry-level full-time salary is roughly \$1,951 per month.

31. Porter Airlines celebrates first flight between Kelowna-Toronto Pearson

Porter Airlines has landed in Kelowna with nonstop service from Toronto Pearson International Airport (YYZ). The schedule begins with five weekly roundtrip flights, increasing to daily roundtrip flights on June 23, 2025. Kelowna complements Porter’s growing presence in British Columbia with existing flights to Vancouver and Victoria. The route is operated on the new 132-seat Embraer E195-E2 aircraft, the quietest and most fuel-efficient aircraft in its class. The two-by-two configuration means no middle seats on any Porter flight.

32. Trump’s Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces Progress on Key Drone Rules as Part of His Innovation Agenda

The Federal Aviation Administration’s two proposed rules – Beyond Visual Line of Sight Operations (BVLOS) and restricting UAS operations at a fixed site facility – were recently submitted to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, which is a key step towards making these regulatory improvements a reality. *“From drones delivering your packages to conducting critical infrastructure inspections, unmanned aircraft represent the future of aviation. As part of my innovation agenda, we’ve put forward two long-overdue rules that will speed up deployment and enhance safety.*

Under President Trump's leadership, this Department will continue to push to bring about the next wave of innovation in our skies," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy.

33. U.S. Cargo and Passenger Airlines Gained 4,231 Jobs in March 2025

U.S. airline industry (passenger and cargo airlines combined) employment increased to 1,008,949 workers in March 2025, 4,231 (0.42%) more workers than in February 2025 (1,004,718). U.S. scheduled-service passenger airlines employed 546,947 workers in March 2025, or 54% of the industry-wide total. Passenger airlines gained 2,791 employees in March 2025. American Airlines Inc. led scheduled passenger carriers, adding 1,478 employees; United Air Lines Inc. added 859, and Delta Air Lines Inc. added 586. U.S. cargo airlines employed 457,877 workers in March 2025, or 46% of the industry-wide total. Cargo carriers gained 1,525 employees in March. FedEx, the leading air cargo employer, increased employment by 1,584 jobs.

34. Porter Airlines launches non-stop service between Ottawa and Victoria

Porter Airlines is further enhancing its cross-Canada service with the launch of new non-stop service between Ottawa International Airport (YOW) and Victoria International Airport (YYJ). The new service is the only route connecting the two capitals. Flights begin with four weekly roundtrips, increasing to daily roundtrips on June 16, 2025. Operated by Porter's 132-seat Embraer E195-E2 aircraft, all flights feature a two-by-two seat configuration, meaning no middle seats for any passenger.

35. WestJet expands European network via Air France-KLM codeshare partnership

WestJet announced an expansion of its codeshare partnerships with Air France and KLM Royal Dutch Airlines (KLM), offering guests connecting through Amsterdam Airport Schiphol and Paris Charles de Gaulle enhanced access a broader network of European destinations all with the ease of a single booking. "As part of our commitment to flying Canadians where they want to go, these expanded partnerships provide WestJet guests with more options to explore 59 sought-after European destinations this summer," said Jared Mikoch-Gerke, WestJet Director of Airport Affairs and Alliances. "With WestJet's recent transatlantic network expansions, guests travelling from across the country will benefit from more choice and convenience when travelling through Paris and Amsterdam. For guests originating in, or connecting through Atlantic Canada in particular, these enhancements are a gamechanger – offering guests travelling from or through Halifax and St. John's more destinations, fewer layovers and convenient access to Europe."

36. Ciao, Napoli! Air Canada Inaugurates Flights to the Gateway of the Amalfi Coast

Air Canada's newest international flight from Montréal touched down this morning in Naples, Italy, the gateway to the Amalfi coast. This flight marks the first Air Canada service to Naples and is the airline's fourth non-stop connection between Canada and Italy.

37. Recognizing the future importance of data

Data underpins aviation's operational efficiency and is increasingly central to the strategies of individual airlines and industry initiatives. Operationally, physical connectivity is driven by data connectivity. This means the data, most notably passenger name records, advanced passenger information, and passport details, should be easily transferred across borders. But numerous checks and rules could apply that often contradict each other. In fact, there are at least 160 countries with unique data protection laws. "This can be complicated by the increasingly high level of dual nationalities among passengers and transit traffic," says Kim Macaulay, IATA's Chief Information and Data Officer. "Some data protection rules are extraterritorial in nature, some overlap, and there are even different legal definitions of such terms as "consent". Airlines are left in a compliance nightmare." An IATA whitepaper on Data Protection and International Carriage by Air in May 2024 accelerated efforts in this field. The paper underpinned efforts to formalize the subject at ICAO level under the Legal Committee to ensure that the multiple data protection frameworks have a high degree of harmonization and mutual recognition. This proposal was agreed in November 2024 and a workgroup comprising technical, legal, and industry experts will feed in its findings to the ICAO General Assembly in September 2025.

38. Why Canada's north relies on 50-year-old jets to keep passengers, supplies moving

Thirteen of the 30 oldest jets in the world carrying travellers on scheduled or charter routes are operating in Canada. Each morning, travellers and cargo take off from Montreal's Trudeau airport for a 1,600-kilometre flight to Puvirnituq in northern Quebec aboard a nearly 50-year-old Air Inuit plane. This seasoned Boeing 737 previously cruised the skies above Europe and Central Africa for now-defunct carriers in France, Gabon and the Congo. But now its trips are all-Canadian, shuttling people, food and building materials between the country's second-biggest city and a village of 2,100.

39. Adapting to the needs of the customer

Bob Jordan, Southwest President and CEO, speaks to Graham Newton about the major shifts in the airline's strategy. It's certainly been an exciting year. But in many respects our fundamental strengths are no different from what they've always been. We have a strong network from so many places, our operations are as efficient as they've ever been, which means our costs are being managed well, and, in my mind, we have the best people and service in the business.

But we can't deny there has been enormous pressure on our financial performance. We used to lead the industry in terms of profitability, and we want to regain that position. That means we can't ignore revenue streams of which other carriers are taking advantage, like bag fees. We must adapt to the needs of the modern customer and that is behind the decision to develop assigned seating. Every customer has a different reason for flying and we need to offer services that reflect those reasons. We need to give the customer choice. Over time, Southwest grew to be the largest domestic airline in the United States. We are now starting the next phase of our journey. Our partnership with Icelandair is part of this. It allows travelers to book connecting flights between our domestic network and Icelandair's European routes. We have started with Baltimore, Denver, and Nashville but have plans to expand. We are exploring other geographies, other partnerships. For us and our customers, it's exciting to think about different geographies and potential partners.

40. WHAT THEY ARE SAYING: U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces Progress on Key Drone Rules as Part of His Innovation Agenda

Last week, U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy submitted two proposed rules to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs. Specifically, he submitted Beyond Visual Line of Sight Operations (BVLOS) and restricting Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) operations at a fixed site facility. These are both critical steps toward making these regulatory improvements a reality, and key stakeholders and leaders have praised this progress.

41. Air Transat innovates with a new route to Medellín via Cartagena 1 SEP from Toronto

Air Transat, voted 2024 World's Best Leisure Airline by Skytrax, continues to explore new horizons in South America with the launch of an exclusive new route between Toronto (YYZ) and Medellín (MDE), via Cartagena (CTG). This new twice-weekly service will connect Canadians with one of Colombia's most dynamic and mountainous cities, while also improving access to the popular destination of Cartagena. "Adding Medellín to our network reflects our desire to expand our network while meeting a real demand from our clients for both leisure travel and family reunions," said Sebastian Ponce, Transat's Chief Revenue Officer. "This expansion is in line with our strategy of targeted growth from Toronto, focusing on high-potential markets such as Colombia." The new service will also add a frequency to the flight schedule to Cartagena from Toronto, strengthening Air Transat's presence in this destination of choice. This innovative approach enables the airline to optimize the use of its fleet while serving cities that are not yet easily accessible by direct flight from Canada.

42. New Report: Regional Air Service Crucial to Canada's Economic Future, Connectivity and Way of Life

The Canadian Airports Council (CAC) is encouraging federal and provincial governments to consider measures that will strengthen and support Canada's regional air service, following the release of a comprehensive new study on the state of regional connectivity across the country. Prepared by InterVISTAS Consulting and commissioned by the CAC, the report entitled "[*Keeping Canada Connected: The Challenge of Regional Air Service and Federal Policy*](#)" examines the importance of regional air service and reveals a trend line that is accelerating in the wrong direction. "Air service is the backbone of connectivity for many parts of Canada—essential to interprovincial trade, economic growth, and everyday life," said Monette Pasher, President of the Canadian Airports Council. "Regional air service is more than business, it connects Canadians to healthcare, education, trade and economic opportunities, and we need to work together to create the framework of support that is required to build our nation and connect Canadians in all corners of our country." The *Key Findings are*: 1. Flight frequency at regional airports is down 36% since 2014. From 2019 to 2024, regional airports experienced a 10% drop in domestic connectivity (International Air Transport Association, IATA, Index), and a 14% drop in overall connectivity (domestic + international). 2. A single regional route operating daily can generate over 125 jobs and create an impact of \$40 million in economic output annually. 3. Regions hardest hit include Alberta, Manitoba, and parts of Atlantic Canada.

43. WestJet Cargo expands capacity to Japan with daily Dreamliner service

WestJet Cargo has announced the expansion of its trans-Pacific capacity with the launch of daily year-round service between Calgary and Tokyo Narita International Airport. Operated by WestJet's Boeing 787 Dreamliner aircraft, each flight offers 22 tons and 80 cubic meters of cargo capacity, providing consistent and reliable lift between North America and Asia. "Expanding our cargo capacity to Japan through daily Dreamliner service is a pivotal step forward for WestJet Cargo," said Julius Mooney, Director of Commercial at WestJet Cargo. "This route enables Canadian exporters and global shippers to move high-value and time-sensitive goods with speed and reliability, while also strengthening Western Canada's role as a key gateway to Asia." This enhanced service supports strong bilateral trade. Japan is exporting industrial, automotive, electronic, high-tech, and manufacturing goods through WestJet Cargo's growing network across Canada, the U.S., Mexico, and Europe. In return, Canadian perishables, meat, seafood, and general freight are reaching Japan faster and more efficiently than ever before.

44. Lufthansa Cargo uses AI to process booking requests faster

Lufthansa Cargo has recently started utilizing a software solution it developed internally to automatically enter booking requests received by email into the airline's booking system. This is made possible through the use of artificial

intelligence (AI) and robotic process automation (RPA). Consequently, requests for the desired route can be processed even faster. Customers then receive a fully automated booking confirmation instantly.

45. Quarterly civil aviation statistics, fourth quarter 2024

Operating revenue for the 24 largest Canadian air carriers totalled \$8.7 billion in the 2024 fourth quarter, up 8.1% compared with the same quarter of 2023. At \$7.4 billion, passenger revenue was the main revenue source for airlines in the fourth quarter of 2024, while air cargo generated \$672.2 million in revenue. On an annual basis, the 24 largest Canadian air carriers earned \$35.2 billion in operating revenue in 2024, up 5.6% from 2023.

46. Aircraft movement and civil aviation statistics, March 2025

Major Canadian airlines flew 7.5 million passengers on scheduled and charter flights in March, down 1.7% from March 2024. Aircraft movements at Canada's major and select small airports totalled 457,016 in March 2025, up 2.9% from the previous year. Local movements rose 7.8% year over year, while itinerant movements increased 0.5%. Consult the Aviation Data Visualization Hub to explore aircraft movement statistics and monthly civil aviation statistics in an interactive format.

47. Airline Service Quality Performance Data – February 2025

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) on May 28, 2025 released its Airline Service Quality Performance data compiled for the month of **February 2025** for on-time performance, mishandled baggage, mishandled wheelchairs, and scooters. For additional information and interactive charts on transportation's role in aviation, please visit BTS' [Aviation Facts and Figures](#). BTS regularly updates [TranStats](#), with both [Marketing Carrier On-Time Performance \(Beginning January 2018\)](#) and the [Reporting Carrier On-Time Performance \(1987-present\)](#).

48. Air Cargo Demand up 5.8% in April

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) released data for April 2025 global air cargo markets showing: 1. Total demand, measured in cargo tonne-kilometers (CTK), rose by 5.8% compared to April 2024 levels (+6.5% for international operations). 2. Capacity, measured in available cargo tonne-kilometers (ACTK), increased by 6.3% compared to April 2024 (+6.9% for international operations). Willie Walsh, IATA's Director General said "Air cargo demand grew strongly in April, with volumes up 5.8% year-on-year, building on March's solid performance. Seasonal demand for fashion and consumer goods—front-loading ahead of US tariff changes—and lower jet fuel prices have combined to boost air cargo. With available capacity at record levels and yields improving, the outlook for air cargo is encouraging. While April brought good news, stresses in world trade are no secret. Shifts in trade policy, particularly in the US, are already reshaping demand and export dynamics. Airlines will need to remain flexible as the situation develops over the coming months."

49. Appeals court temporarily restores US tariffs

US importers ended May 29, 2025 with little clarity on the permanence of sweeping tariffs after an appeals court allowed President Donald Trump's tax to go forward for a least a week-and-a-half. The US Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit's decision May 29, 2025 to pause the International Trade Court's rejection of the tariffs on May 28, 2025, citing a lack of constitutionality, comes in the early days of peak season and with inbound capacity from Asia generally booked through next month. The appeals court laid out a briefing schedule through June 9, 2025 but did not detail its reasoning for the pause.

WATER TRANSPORTATION

1. Container lines warn of congestion threat when Asia imports rebound

Container line executives warn that the inevitable rebound in Asian imports that will come at some point after the expected plunge in volumes linked to US tariffs may overwhelm major US ports because the supporting systems aren't significantly better prepared than they were during the pandemic. The timing and scale of the rebound isn't yet known. But import volumes from Asia are expected to recover eventually either because tariffs are eased or cargo owners ultimately decide there's no relief coming and eat the higher costs due to a need to replenish inventories. Regardless of whether the demand will go up the resumption last week of shipments from China by Walmart, Target and other major importers is pushing industry attention toward what a volume recovery could look like.

2. Shipping volume will plummet 35% next week, LA port official says in CNBC interview

The Los Angeles port is expecting a 35% drop in cargo from Asia next week, Gene Seroka, the port's executive director, said in a CNBC interview on April

WATER TRANSPORTATION

1. Container lines warn of congestion threat when Asia imports rebound, April 29, 2025, www.joc.com
2. Shipping volume will plummet 35% next week, LA port official says in CNBC interview, April 29, 2025, www.ajot.com
3. West Coast politicians, port executives protest 'reckless' tariffs, May 2, 2025, www.freightwaves.com
4. McCown: U.S. ports may see an unprecedented 25% drop in volume by July, May 5, 2025, www.ajot.com
5. AAPA praises Trump budget for continuing port infrastructure grants but vows to fight \$1 billion cut in HMTF, May 7, 2025, www.aot.com
6. First cruise ship refuels with LNG in Vancouver, May 9, 2025, www.ajot.com
7. Panama Canal Administrator outlines the waterway's evolving role in global trade at

29, 2025. "It's a precipitous drop in volume with a number of major American retailers stopping all shipments from China based on the tariffs," Seroka said. Major American retailers have now stopped all shipments from China and that contributes to around 45% of traffic in Los Angeles, he said. Seroka said that until some accord or framework is reached with China, the volume coming out of the country, except for some commodities, would be very light at best. Seroka also reiterated his forecast for imports at the Port of Los Angeles to fall at least 10% in the second half of this year. The adjacent ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach are the most exposed to the boiling trade war between the United States and China. Those Southern California ports are the preferred entry gates for goods from China, which is the No. 1 source of imports.

3. West Coast politicians, port executives protest 'reckless' tariffs

A coalition of West Coast politicians and ports are warning that the Trump administration's tariffs are precipitating significant supply chain disruptions that will have far-reaching consequences for both regional and national economies. The officials from Washington, Oregon and California in a virtual press conference on May 1, 2025 said that the window to minimize economic damage is rapidly closing, with small businesses already facing dire consequences comparable to those experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic. According to Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash., the Trump administration inherited a "remarkably strong and resilient American economy" but is now "single-handedly pushing this nation towards a painful Republican recession while forcing a tax increase on everyone."

4. McCown: U.S. ports may see an unprecedented 25% drop in volume by July

Based on current projections, U.S. ports could see an unprecedented year over year reduction in container volumes of 25% by July 2025, according to John McCown, publisher the *John McCown Container Report*. In an interview with *AJOT*, McCown said that based on the current impact of the Trump administration tariffs on U.S. imports, container volumes at U.S. ports will be "if nothing else changes, I see the year over year reduction ... in volume ... potentially printing in at the 25% range." McCown said he expected the 25% drop to impact U.S. ports by July: "I would speculate probably by July ... is going to be the first time that we start to see an impact. In May ... more on the West Coast. June is going to be kind of more on the East Coast but ... June will probably start to be pretty meaningful. But July would seem to have the effect of everything that is in place now." He noted that "40% of the inbound containers the U.S. come from, come from China and imposing a 145% tariff pretty much knocks the stuffing out of that."

5. AAPA praises Trump budget for continuing port infrastructure grants but vows to fight \$1 billion cut in HMTF

The American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA) praised the proposed Trump Administration Fiscal Year 2026 budget for "significant increases "in the Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) but opposed proposed "deep cuts" to the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund (HMTF) that will undermine "deep harbors that are properly maintained." On May 2nd, AAPA President and CEO, Cary Davis explained: "With robust proposed funding for competitive grants like PIDP and INFRA in President Trump's FY26 Budget, this Administration deserves tremendous credit for prioritizing the interests and needs of our nation's maritime industry. Regrettably, the billion-dollar proposed cuts to the self-sustaining HMTF are incompatible with the Administration's desire and aims to revitalize our nation's maritime industry and power. A strong maritime industry requires deep harbors that are properly maintained. We call on Congress to continue releasing the unspent balance accumulated in the HMTF."

6. First cruise ship refuels with LNG in Vancouver

The first-ever cruise ship has filled up with an alternative fuel at the Port of Vancouver, receiving LNG (liquefied natural gas) from Seaspan Energy's LNG bunker vessel Seaspan Garibaldi as it prepares to sail to Alaska. LNG is the first alternative fuel available in significant quantities for the international maritime sector that has been approved for

Northwestern University, May 9, 2025, www.ajot.com

8. Ocean lines welcome tariff pause, but is the supply chain ready?, May 12, 2025, www.freightwaves.com

9. DP World agrees to launch \$760M port & free trade zone in Dominican Republic, May 12, 2025, www.ajot.com

10. Port of Long Beach trade supports 2.7 million U.S. jobs, May 13, 2025, www.ajot.com

11. Port of Halifax: Accumulated Container Traffic January to December 2024, April 29, 2025, www.portofhalifax.ca

12. Tariff two-step: After pause, China-US container bookings soar 277%, May 14, 2025, www.freightwaves.com

13. SC Ports maintains productive, reliable service in Southeast, May 15, 2025, www.ajot.com

14. MSC, Zim plan to rework Asia-US Gulf network as demand drops, May 16, 2025, www.joc.com

15. Introducing the Boaters' Handbook for safe navigation within the busy waters of the Port of Vancouver, May 16, 2025, www.portmetrovancover.com

16. Ports look to delay proposed US tariffs on Chinese-made cranes, May 19, 2025, www.joc.com

17. Port of Oakland April container volume drops 14.7% vs. March, May 19, 2025, www.ajot.com

18. Port Houston reports strong April volumes, May 19, 2025, www.ajot.com

19. Port of LA reports volume down 30% in first week of May, May 20, 2025, www.ajot.com

20. Drewry: China-US container rates up by double digits, May 23, 2026, www.freightwaves.com

21. Ocean carriers bring in more trans-Pacific container services amid rate surge, May 27, 2025, www.joc.com

22. Port Authority of New York and New Jersey reports agency volumes for April 2025, May 28, 2025, www.ajot.com

23. Federal court ruling blocking tariffs resets shipping outlook, May 28, 2025, www.joc.com

49. Appeals court temporarily restores US tariffs, May 29, 2025, www.joc.com

local bunkering—or ship refueling services—with deep-sea vessels now able to refuel with it at the Port of Vancouver. The adoption of LNG bunkering at the port marks an important milestone as the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority supports industry efforts to enhance sustainability and reduce emissions.

7. Panama Canal Administrator outlines the waterway’s evolving role in global trade at Northwestern University

The Panama Canal Administrator, Dr. Ricaurte Vásquez Morales, delivered the 43rd Annual William A. Patterson Distinguished Transportation Lecture, the week of May 5th, in which he laid out the crucial role the Panama Canal has played in the development of global trade and the impact it has had on the greater evolution of humanity in Panama, and throughout the world. Tracing the evolution of the waterway’s conception as a 16th century crossroads, to its 1914 debut as a formal channel for global shipping, Vásquez expertly described the innovation and evolution among the canals earliest customers and supporters that allowed the canal to develop into the crucial position it holds today within the transportation industry, “We created a track record of reliability on the Panama Canal. Today we support about 6% of international maritime trade”. “Location, geography, and other elements [have] allowed Panama to become the natural trading place of the Americas”, the Administrator added. Today, the powerhouse hub known around the world as the Panama Canal links the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans and connects more than 1,920 ports throughout 170 countries. Its mere presence shortens shipping routes by as much as 8,000 nautical miles and provides global consumers a faster, more reliable supply chain than on land.

8. Ocean lines welcome tariff pause, but is the supply chain ready?

Ocean container lines say they are ready to pivot back to normalized trans-Pacific operations following the 90-day pause in the tariff war between the United States and China. It’s likely there will be a surge in demand for eastbound vessel capacity on the part of cargo owners, but the outlook is rife with uncertainty. “We welcome the agreement between the U.S. and China — which sends an important positive signal on the importance and future of global trade,” said a spokesman for German carrier Hapag-Lloyd, in an email to FreightWaves. “We expect bookings from China to the U.S. to increase which should help us to have a good start into the peak season.” Prior to the pause, the Gemini Cooperation of Hapag-Lloyd ([HLAG.DE](#)) and Maersk ([MAERSK-B.CO](#)) of Denmark had planned to deploy smaller ships for services from China to the U.S. East and West coasts, but may reverse that if demand is strong. “We have not blanked any sailings or taken out any services, so we will fully continue our weekly operations from and to China,” the spokesman said. Shipping executives cautioned that there are too many unknowns along the supply chain to predict to what degree of normalization business will resume on the trans-Pacific. How cargo owners respond to the tariff pause is also an open question.

9. DP World agrees to launch \$760M port & free trade zone in Dominican Republic

DP World has signed a landmark US\$760 million Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the government of the Dominican Republic to expand the Port of Caucedo and its Free Trade Zone, setting the stage for the country to become a leading manufacturing and logistics hub for the Americas. The MoU, signed with the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, and MSMES (MICM), initiates negotiations that will raise Caucedo’s container handling capacity from 2.5 million TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units) to approximately 3.1 million TEUs, while unlocking 225 hectares of development-ready land for the Free Trade Zone. Sultan Ahmed bin Sulayem, Chairman and Group CEO of DP World, said: “This agreement marks a major step forward in our vision – shared with our local partners and stakeholders – to enhance the country’s competitiveness and connectivity, creating greater opportunities for local communities and businesses to thrive.”

10. Port of Long Beach trade supports 2.7 million U.S. jobs

Trade facilitated by the Port of Long Beach is a key pillar of economic vitality in the United States, driving consumer spending, job creation and innovation, according to a new economic impact analysis released Monday, May 12th, 2025. As one of the busiest seaports in the United States, the Port of Long Beach supports 2.7 million jobs across the nation, including more than 1.1 million in California, the Port-commissioned study conducted by Boston-based EBP US found. In the five-county Southern California region, more than 691,000 jobs are connected to Port trade, construction and tourism, or 1 out of 17 jobs.

11. Port of Halifax: Accumulated Container Traffic January to December 2024

The Port of Halifax released its data for 2024. For the 2024 final quarter, total traffic in terms of TEUs changed 24.7% i.e. to 167,710 from 134,511 from the same quarter in 2023. Total import traffic for the final quarter of 2024 changed 39.1% i.e. to 92,791 from 66,711. Total export traffic for the final quarter of 2024 changed 10.5% i.e. to 74,919 from 67,800. Despite the substantial increase in traffic for the fourth quarter, it was not sufficient to bring a turn around in the total for the entire year of 2024, resulting in a 6.8% decline in total traffic to 509, 773 TEUs from 546, 163 TEUs. For the final quarter of 2024, cruise traffic (passengers) increased 5.6% to 103,715 from 98,195 from the same quarter in 2023. Year to date cruise traffic increased 19.9% to 359,579 in 2024 from 300,005 in 2023. Vessel calls increased 12.9% to 201 in 2024 from 178 in 2023.

12. Tariff two-step: After pause, China-US container bookings soar 277%

And just like that, the United States is back in the China import business. Demand soared as shippers rushed to book space on container vessels headed to the U.S., just one day after the trade partners agreed to pause reciprocal tariffs that had reduced by a third volumes on the eastbound trans-Pacific. Some of the first hard data to come out of the tariff timeout showed just how much inventory was sitting in warehouses, factories and ports waiting for a resolution to what had become a global trade war. A rolling seven-day average of container bookings from China to the U.S. saw 5,709 twenty-foot equivalent units on May 5, Ben Tracy, vice president of strategic business development for shipping analyst Vizion, wrote in a LinkedIn post. As of May 13, 2025 that figure had rocketed to 21,530 TEUs, an increase of 277%.

13. SC Ports maintains productive, reliable service in Southeast

South Carolina Ports remains focused on providing highly productive, reliable port service to support companies' supply chains throughout the Southeast and beyond. "As carriers and shippers navigate current market conditions, customers can count on SC Ports and our broader port community to deliver quality port service," SC Ports President and CEO Barbara Melvin said. "We excel at quickly working ships and moving goods through our terminals. We have available chassis, trucking capacity and rail connections to further speed goods to market." Charleston's 52-foot harbor depth further expedites logistics, and new carrier services at the Port of Charleston provide shippers with much-needed flexibility and access to key markets.

14. MSC, Zim plan to rework Asia-US Gulf network as demand drops

Zim Integrated Shipping looks to withdraw capacity from an Asia-US Gulf Coast service it operates with Mediterranean Shipping Co. (MSC) in response to a "drastic drop" in trans-Pacific cargo bookings. The withdrawal and other changes show how the Trump administration's tariffs against China continue to redraw container services. In a Federal Maritime Commission filing last week, MSC and Zim said they were making interim changes to their vessel sharing agreement (VSA) struck last September for six trans-Pacific services to US East and Gulf coasts. The interim changes, which take effect in the third week of May 2025.

15. Introducing the Boaters' Handbook for safe navigation within the busy waters of the Port of Vancouver

Vancouver has a busy harbour. With thousands of commercial and recreational vessels moving through the waters that make up the Port of Vancouver every year, alongside ferries and seaplanes, it is crucial for all marine users to be aware of the rules and procedures to follow to ensure safety and harmony on the water. As part of our ongoing efforts to raise that awareness and promote boating safety within the limits of the Port of Vancouver, we've developed the Boaters' Handbook. The handbook is designed to help boaters and paddlers have safe and enjoyable cruising experiences within the shared waters of the Port of Vancouver, including English Bay, Burrard Inlet, and the Fraser River. It covers all the safety rules and procedures that either apply to—or directly impact—recreational marine users at the Port of Vancouver. It also provides guidelines and best practices to help protect local ecosystems and be good neighbours to nearby communities.

16. Ports look to delay proposed US tariffs on Chinese-made cranes

US ports face almost \$7 billion in tariff costs under the Trump administration's proposed levy on Chinese container cranes, according to the American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA), which has joined other stakeholders in calling for a delay to allow a domestic crane industry to develop before cutting China out of the market. AAPA delivered the estimate in prepared comments ahead of a hearing on May 19, 2025 on the new tariffs at the United States Trade Representative (USTR). The USTR in April unveiled the proposed tariffs on Chinese-made cranes, containers, chassis and similar equipment as part of its one-year-old investigation into China's policy.

17. Port of Oakland April container volume drops 14.7% vs. March

The Port of Oakland handled 185,499 TEUs (twenty-foot containers) in April 2025, marking a 14.7% decrease in overall cargo volume from March 2025. The slowdown is driven by market uncertainty as well as softening demand in exports — both influenced by recent shifts in U.S. trade policy. Despite the dip for the month of April 2025, total volume for the first four months of 2025 reached 787,028 TEUs handled, which still registered 4.3% growth overall compared to the same period last year. "Container volume remained stable during the first four months of 2025; however, uncertainty and high tariff impacted our China volume. We anticipate similar volume in May with a strong recovery in June," said Port of Oakland Maritime Director Bryan Brandes. "The Port remains focused on service reliability, and close coordination with our partners and customers, as market dynamics continue to evolve." Full imports totaled 78,965 TEUs in April 2025. Although imports for April 2025 were still 4.8% higher compared to April 2024, they declined 10.2% from March. The March 2025 uptick of 9.1% over February 2025, which brought full imports to their highest monthly total of the year at 87,896 TEUs, was driven by market anticipation of new tariffs to be announced by the administration. With 45% of Oakland's imports sourced from China, the formal announcement and implementation of new duties in early April are expected to affect inbound flows starting more significantly in May. Full exports dipped 4.2% year over year, with the Port processing 64,723 TEUs in April 2025, compared to 67,566 TEUs in April 2024. Loaded exports saw a 15% decrease from March 2025's 76,157 TEUs. The decrease in exports was caused by market uncertainty.

18. Port Houston reports strong April volumes

Port Houston had a strong April 2025 in terms of containers, handling 387,478 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) across its public terminals, a double-digit increase of 20% compared to last year. April's gains set a new record for April container volumes at Port Houston, and follow a record-setting March 2025 as well. Year-to-date volumes are 1,456,173 TEUs through April 2025, up 4% compared to last year. Loaded containerized imports rose 21% and loaded exports increased 16% compared to April 2024, with total loaded volumes reaching 316,543 TEUs, a 19% year-over-year increase. While a small portion of Port Houston's total loaded volumes, imports of containerized refrigerated cargo, or reefers, was up 46% in April compared to reefers in April 2024, corresponding with peak season for many citrus and other fruits. At the Port's multipurpose terminals, steel imports were up 40% for the month and are up 17% this year thus far. General cargo volumes climbed 18% year-to-date. Collectively, total tonnage across all of Port Houston's public facilities is up so far this year 3%, reaching 18,087,097 tons through the end of April.

19. Port of LA reports volume down 30% in first week of May

The Port of Los Angeles reported that container volumes are down 30% for the first week in May 2025 due to the imposition of tariffs on imports, according to Eugene Seroka, Executive Director Port of Los Angeles. Speaking at the Port's May 19th media briefing, Seroka said: "Volume in the first week of May here at the Port of LA was down more than 30% on the import side of our ledger." He added that the decline for the rest of the month is likely to be "substantial when we close the books on this month. Although it is difficult to forecast right now with the sliding ... vessel utilizations and seemingly the stop/start focus on various (trade and tariff) negotiations." In a statement issued on May 12th, Seroka said: "The 90-day pause and reduction of tariffs between the United States and China is welcome news for consumers, American businesses, workers and the supply chain. Even with this announcement, tariffs remain elevated compared to April 1, 2025. To avoid further uncertainty and disruption of trade, both sides should work together swiftly toward a long-term agreement. Additionally, it's important for the United States to work with other nations to reduce existing tariffs." Seroka said that on the cargo side of the business, cancelled sailings are reducing volumes: "The impact is real ... for the month of May, 80 or so, sailings were expected to arrive in Los Angeles. 17 of those have been cancelled as of right now, 10 cancellations remain on the books for the month of June." The impact of existing tariffs is raising the price of imported goods based on the Yale University Budget Lab, "estimating that the effective tariff on Americans is between 16% and 18%, the highest it has been since 1934."

20. Drewry: China-US container rates up by double digits

Container freight rates out from China to the United States are surging after the trading partners agreed to pause tariffs. Freight rates from Shanghai to New York surged 19% or \$704 to \$4,350 per 40-foot container, and those from Shanghai to Los Angeles shot up 16% or \$423 to \$3,136 per 40-foot container, according to maritime consultant Drewry. Rates from New York to Rotterdam, Netherlands, Europe's busiest port, increased just 1% or \$10 to \$824 per container. Prices from Shanghai to Rotterdam, Shanghai to Genoa, Italy, and Rotterdam to New York fell 1% to \$2,035, \$2,742 and \$1,961, respectively. Rates from Rotterdam to Shanghai and Los Angeles to Shanghai were unchanged. In a note, Drewry said it expects an increase in trans-Pacific spot rates in the coming week due to a shortage in capacity following the latest U.S.-China trade developments.

21. Ocean carriers bring in more trans-Pacific container services amid rate surge

Maersk and Hapag-Lloyd are adding a new trans-Pacific express service to the US West Coast, while Mediterranean Shipping Co. looks to restart a suspended East Coast service. The moves signal new confidence about trans-Pacific demand as rates continue to strengthen going into June 2025. Maersk and Hapag-Lloyd said in statements on Monday May 26, 2025 that the Gemini Cooperation vessel-sharing agreement between them would offer a new express service connecting China and South Korea to the West Coast, branded respectively as the TP9/WC6.

22. Port Authority of New York and New Jersey reports agency volumes for April 2025

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey today announced that its commercial airports recorded their third-busiest April ever in April 2025, welcoming 11.9 million passengers. The Port of New York and New Jersey maintained strong growth, with cargo activity growing 6 percent from April 2024. The PATH commuter rail system recorded its second busiest month since the pandemic, welcoming 5.2 million passengers and reaching 74 percent of pre-pandemic ridership, while the agency's vehicular crossings continued robust performance on par with prior years.

23. Federal court ruling blocking tariffs resets shipping outlook

A federal trade court's striking down of President Donald Trump's series of tariffs against most of its trading partners resets shipping expectations after months of whiplash but adds yet more uncertainty for importers. The US Court of International Trade on May 28, 2025 blocked Trump's use of emergency powers to impose a 10% tax across most countries and the 145% tariff hanging over US imports from China amid a 90-day reprieve. The decision will almost certainly be appealed, adding uncertainty to importers.

RAIL TRANSPORTATION

1. CPKC Increases Dividend By 20 Percent

The Board of Directors of Canadian Pacific Kansas City Limited (CPKC) on April 29, 2025 declared a quarterly dividend of \$0.228 per share on the outstanding Common Shares, an increase of 20 percent to the previous dividend of \$0.19 per share.

2. Freight Rail Services Price Index, April 2025

Data for April for the Freight Rail Services Price Index (2018=100) for April 2025 are now available on the Statistics Canada website. The index was 129.3 for April 2025 down from 130.1 for the previous month but marginally higher than the index a year ago (128.3). Components of the index showed marginal change.

3. CPKC reports first quarter results; solid demand, precision execution and a resilient network powers strong start to 2025

Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC) on April 30, 2025 announced its first-quarter results, including revenues of \$3.8 billion, diluted earnings per share (EPS) of \$0.97 and core adjusted diluted EPS of \$1.06. The highlights of the first quarter results were: 1. Revenues increased by eight percent to \$3.8 billion from \$3.5 billion in Q1 2024; 2. Reported operating ratio (OR) decreased by 210 basis points to 65.3 percent from 67.4 percent in Q1 2024; 3. Core adjusted OR decreased 150 basis points to 62.5 percent from 64.0 percent in Q1 2024; 4. Reported diluted EPS increased 17 percent to \$0.97 from \$0.83 in Q1 2024; 5. Core adjusted diluted EPS increased 14 percent to \$1.06 from \$0.93 in Q1 2024; 6. Volumes, as measured in Revenue Ton-Miles (RTMs), increased four percent; 7. Federal Railroad Administration (FRA)-reportable personal injury frequency decreased to 0.98 from 1.14 in Q1 2024; and 8. FRA-reportable train accident frequency decreased to 0.38 from 0.90 in Q1 2024. Keith Creel, CPKC President and Chief Executive Officer said “These first-quarter results demonstrate the power and resiliency of our unrivalled North American network. Our talented team of world-class railroaders executed our precision scheduled operating plan to safely and efficiently move solid freight demand to start 2025, producing strong first-quarter results amidst ongoing turbulent market and macroeconomic conditions.”

4. First look: CPKC earnings

Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC) on April 30, 2025 said first-quarter profit rose on higher revenues from increased freight on its network. Calgary, Alberta-based CPKC reported revenues increased by 8% to \$3.8 billion from \$3.5 billion in the year-ago quarter as freight measured in revenue ton-miles increased 4%. Diluted earnings per share of 97 cents was 17% higher from 83 cents, while core adjusted diluted EPS of \$1.06 improved by 14% from 93 cents y/y. CPKC is the only Class I railroad that operates from Mexico, through the United States, to Canada. The operating ratio (OR), a key indicator of efficiency, decreased by 210 basis points to 65.3% from 67.4% that is efficiency increased. Core adjusted OR decreased 150 bps to 62.5% from 64% y/y.

5. U.S. Rail Traffic Uptick Continues in Week 17

Total U.S. rail traffic was up for the ninth consecutive week, according to the Association of American Railroads’ (AAR) latest report. For this week, total U.S. weekly rail traffic was 502,105 carloads and intermodal units, up 5.5 percent compared with the same week last year. Total carloads for the week ending April 26 were 233,411 carloads, up 9.0 percent compared with the same week in 2024, while U.S. weekly intermodal volume was 268,694 containers and trailers, up 2.6 percent compared to 2024. Seven of the 10 carload commodity groups posted an increase compared with the same week in 2024. They included coal, up 14,090 carloads, to 59,726; grain, up 4,945

Railway Transportation

1. CPKC Increases Dividend By 20 Percent, April 29, 2025, www.cpkc.ca
2. Freight Rail Services Price Index, April 2025, April 30, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca
3. CPKC reports first quarter results; solid demand, precision execution and a resilient network powers strong start to 2025, April 30, 2025, www.cpkc.ca
4. First look: CPKC earnings, April 30, 2025, www.freightwaves.com
5. U.S. Rail Traffic Uptick Continues in Week 17, April 30, 2025, www.railwayage.com
6. CN Announces First Quarter Results, May 1, 2025, www.cn.ca
7. CSX Signalman, Boilermakers Ratify Five-Year Deals, May 1, 2025, www.railwayage.com
8. CN Declares Second-Quarter 2025 Dividend, May 2, 2025, www.cn.ca
9. Union Pacific: Working with customers to reduce our collective carbon footprint, May 2, 2025, www.ajot.com
10. BNSF 1Q25: Revenue Up, OR Down, May 5, 2025, www.railwayage.com
11. Tariffs threaten model railroading as industry group seeks relief, May 6, 2025, www.freightwaves.com
12. USDOT Approves \$3.2B for 180 Infrastructure Grants, May 6, 2025, www.railwayage.com
13. CN Presents the 2024 Safe Handling Award to 213 Rail Shippers, May 7, 2025, www.cn.ca
14. Railroads want feds to scrap 2-person train crew rule, May 7, 2025, www.freightwaves.com
15. AAR: North American Rail Volume Up Through Week 18, May 7, 2025, www.railwayage.com
16. CSX lost out on \$1 million a day in Q1 amid hurricane, tunnel work, May 13, 2025, www.freightwaves.com
17. AAR: North American Rail Volume Up Through Week 19, May 14, 2025, www.railwayage.com
18. Tariffs temper Canadian National outlook, May 15, 2025, www.freightwaves.com
19. CN Investing \$3.4 Billion to Build Capacity and Power Sustainable Growth, May 15, 2025, www.cn.ca
20. CN to Invest \$600 Million in Ontario to Build Capacity and Power Sustainable Growth, May 21, 2025, www.cn.ca; and CN to Invest \$510 Million in Alberta to Build Capacity and Power Sustainable Growth, May 21, 2025, www.cn.ca
21. Regulatory risk a red signal to rail mergers, investors told, May 21, 2025, www.freightwaves.com
22. AAR Week 20: U.S. Traffic Continues Modest Gains, May 21, 2025, www.railwayage.com; and AAR reports rail traffic for the week ending May 17, 2025, May 21, 2025, www.ajot.com
22. CN to Invest \$165 Million in Manitoba to Build Capacity and Power Sustainable Growth, May 22, 2025, www.cn.ca; and CN to Invest \$615 Million in British Columbia to Build Capacity and Power Sustainable Growth, May 23, 2025, www.cn.ca

carloads, to 25,181; and chemicals, up 1,379 carloads, to 35,183. Commodity groups that posted decreases compared with the same week in 2024 were nonmetallic minerals, down 1,834 carloads, to 32,343; motor vehicles and parts, down 1,448 carloads, to 15,618; and petroleum and petroleum products, down 63 carloads, to 9,732. Canadian railroads reported 94,065 carloads for the week, up 1.0 percent, and 80,430 intermodal units, up 6.4 percent compared with the same week in 2024. For the first 17 weeks of 2025, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 2,730,377 carloads, containers and trailers, up 0.2 percent.

6. CN Announces First Quarter Results

CN on May 1, 2025 reported its financial and operating results for the first quarter ended March 31, 2025. The –Quarterly highlights were as follows: 1. Revenue ton miles (RTMs) increased 1% to 60,049 (millions). 2. Revenues of C\$4,403 million increased C\$154 million, or 4%. 3. Operating income of C\$1,610 million increased \$64 million, or 4%. 4. Operating ratio, defined as operating expenses as a percentage of revenues was 63.4%, an improvement of 0.2 points. 5. Diluted earnings per share (EPS) of C\$1.85 increased 8%. Tracy Robinson, President and Chief Executive Officer, CN said “Our team delivered a strong performance this quarter through tight cost control and disciplined adherence to our plan, mitigating the impact of winter conditions. In the context of a volatile macroeconomic and geopolitical environment, we will remain focused on agility and customer collaboration. We are committed to continue driving operational and service excellence across our network in 2025 to deliver for our customers and shareholders.”

7. CSX Signalman, Boilermakers Ratify Five-Year Deals

CSX on April 30, 2025 reported securing the ratification of new five-year collective bargaining agreements with the Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen (BRS) and the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Forgers & Helpers (IBB).

8. CN Declares Second-Quarter 2025 Dividend

CN announced on May 2, 2025 that its Board of Directors has approved a second-quarter 2025 dividend on the Company’s common shares outstanding. A quarterly dividend of eighty-eight and three-quarter cents (C\$0.8875) per common share will be paid on June 30, 2025, to shareholders of record at the close of business on June 9, 2025.

9. Union Pacific: Working with customers to reduce our collective carbon footprint

When Union Pacific Railroad opened an intermodal terminal in Phoenix last year, thousands of trucks that once traveled between ocean ports in Southern California and key markets in Arizona were replaced by trains. The shift reduced highway traffic but, perhaps more important, it also helped shippers and businesses who switched to rail reduce their collective carbon footprint. Railroads and their rolling, low-friction steel-on-steel operations are simply the most fuel-efficient way to transport goods and material over land, with one train able to move one ton of freight nearly 500 miles on a single gallon of gas. However, Union Pacific isn’t sitting on its laurels. The railroad is continuously exploring new technologies and new ways of doing business to reduce fuel consumption and GHG emissions.

10. BNSF 1Q25: Revenue Up, OR Down

BNSF on May 5, 2025 released first-quarter 2025 results, including operating income of \$1.8 billion, a 6% increase from the prior-year period’s \$1.720 billion, and an operating ratio (OR) of 67.9%, a 1.6% decrease compared to 2024’s 69.5%. Total revenues for the first quarter 2025 increased 1% to \$ 5,693 million compared to 2024. Net income increased 6% to \$ 1,214 million in the first quarter compared to the same quarter a year ago.

11. Tariffs threaten model railroading as industry group seeks relief

The model railroad industry, along with other hobby sectors, faces an existential crisis as Trump administration tariffs of up to 145% on Chinese imports dramatically increase costs for manufacturers, retailers and consumers. In response, the Hobby Industry Coalition launched a national campaign on May 5, 2025 seeking targeted tariff relief to protect American small businesses and the creative industries they support. The coalition, which represents a broad spectrum of the U.S. toy and hobby industry, highlights the potentially severe unintended consequences of current trade policies on low-risk consumer products that pose no national security concerns. Model railroading, a hobby enjoyed by millions of Americans, is particularly vulnerable as manufacturers rely heavily on overseas production for components and finished products.

24. Railway carloadings, March 2025, May 22, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca

25. Ontario Takes Next Step to Build Hamilton LRT, May 21, 2025, www.mto.gov.on.ca

26. Rail agenda steams up as short lines blitz Congress, May 22, 2025, www.freightwaves.com

27. CN to Invest \$290 Million in Saskatchewan to Build Capacity and Power Sustainable Growth, May 26, 2025, www.cn.ca; and CN to Invest \$475 Million in Quebec to Build Capacity and Power Sustainable Growth, May 26, 2025, www.cn.ca

28. Via Rail workers give Unifor strike mandate, could take action as soon as June 22, May 26, 2025, www.nationalpost.ca

29. Via Rail subsidiary paid Quebec marketing firm \$330K as it pivoted to high-speed rail May 28, 2025, www.financialpost.ca

30. Province Breaks Ground on Ontario Line’s Queen Station, May 28, 2025, www.mto.gov.on.ca

31. AAR: North American Rail Volume Rises Through Week 21, May 28, 2025, www.railwayage.com; and AAR Reports Weekly Rail Traffic for the Week Ending May 24, 2025, May 28, 2025, www.aar.org

32. Supreme Court rules in favor of Utah crude oil railway, May 29, 2025, www.freightwaves.com

12. USDOT Approves \$3.2B for 180 Infrastructure Grants

Grants to be administered by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) will support 24 projects for freight and passenger rail/transit, valued at a total of \$282.4 million. These projects were from the list of 180 projects that the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) on May 6, 2025 reported signing off as infrastructure grants, totalling more than \$3.2 billion.

13. CN Presents the 2024 Safe Handling Award to 213 Rail Shippers

CN on May 7, 2025 announced the winners of its 2024 Safe Handling Award. CN's Safe Handling Award recognizes customers who load freight cars with dangerous goods and meet rigorous safety standards in the handling and transportation of regulated products. Recipients must meet established criteria based on the total number of shipments of dangerous goods across all facilities. This award aligns with CN's ambition to be the safest railway in North America.

14. Railroads want feds to scrap 2-person train crew rule

The biggest U.S. railroads are asking the Trump administration to repeal a federal rule requiring two-person crews on freight trains. The trade group representing six Class I railroads in the U.S. and Canada termed the Biden-era rule "an unsubstantiated mandate that conflicts with the Trump administration's policy goals of regulatory reform, technological advancement, and data-driven rule-making." The filing marks a resumption of the railroads' campaign for single-person crews they say have been successfully implemented by hundreds of smaller railroads. Comments on the rule, which was finalized by the Federal Railroad Administration in April 2024, were filed by the Association of American Railroads after an April 3 request for information by the U.S. Department of Transportation.

15. AAR: North American Rail Volume Up Through Week 18

North American carload and intermodal traffic for the first 18 weeks of 2025 (ending May 3) was up 3.4% from the prior-year period, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported on May 7, 2025. The United States and Canada saw gains, while Mexico experienced a loss. Total carloads for the week ending May 3 were 225,641 carloads, up 5.6 percent compared with the same week in 2024, while U.S. weekly intermodal volume was 273,052 containers and trailers, up 9.4 percent compared to 2024. Five of the 10 carload commodity groups posted an increase compared with the same week in 2024. They included coal, up 11,602 carloads, to 58,614; chemicals, up 1,965 carloads, to 34,376; and farm products excl. grain, and food, up 1,386 carloads, to 16,772. Commodity groups that posted decreases compared with the same week in 2024 included nonmetallic minerals, down 1,999 carloads, to 30,919; metallic ores and metals, down 1,085 carloads, to 19,231; and petroleum and petroleum products, down 1,032 carloads, to 9,607. Canadian railroads reported 94,256 carloads for the week, down 0.7 percent, and 78,395 intermodal units, up 3.3 percent compared with the same week in 2024. For the first 18 weeks of 2025, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 2,903,028 carloads, containers and trailers, up 0.2 percent.

16. CSX lost out on \$1 million a day in Q1 amid hurricane, tunnel work

Rebuilding from hurricane damage and a major tunnel project, cost CSX a million dollars a day in lost revenue in the first three months of the year, the railroad's top financial executive told an investor conference. "We got hit in the first quarter; it was a difficult winter," said Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Sean Pelkey, speaking at the Bank of America conference in New York. "There were a hundred million dollars in revenue opportunities we missed, a million dollars a day, because of constraints on our network." The railroad continues to rebuild its 60-mile line through eastern Tennessee and western North Carolina after Hurricane Helene devastated the region in September 2024. Pelkey said reconstruction is expected to last "through the better part of this year" before completion in October or November. "There's a massive amount of work there," he said.

17. AAR: North American Rail Volume Up Through Week 19

For the first 19 weeks of 2025 (ending May 10), North American carload and intermodal traffic was up 3.5% from the same period last year, according to the Association of American Railroads' (AAR) latest report. Both the United States and Canada saw gains, but Mexico experienced a loss. Total carloads for the week ending May 10 were 222,238 carloads, up 6.2 percent compared with the same week in 2024, while U.S. weekly intermodal volume was 273,314 containers and trailers, up 5.4 percent compared to 2024. Six of the 10 carload commodity groups posted an increase compared with the same week in 2024. They included coal, up 9,760 carloads, to 56,488; grain, up 3,433 carloads, to 20,661; and nonmetallic minerals, up 1,198 carloads, to 32,661. Commodity groups that posted decreases compared with the same week in 2024 included metallic ores and metals, down 2,079 carloads, to 18,501; chemicals, down 742 carloads, to 32,329; and petroleum and petroleum products, down 656 carloads, to 10,342. Canadian railroads reported 94,378 carloads for the week, down 0.3 percent, and 79,891 intermodal units, up 8.6 percent compared with the same week in 2024. For the first 19 weeks of 2025, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 3,077,297 carloads, containers and trailers, up 0.4 percent.

18. Tariffs temper Canadian National outlook

Canadian National expects to haul slightly more rail freight in 2025 than a year ago, as President Donald Trump's tariff war tempers expectations for cross-border trade. "There was a new Trump administration to start the year, so we thought there would be lots of uncertainty," Chief Executive Tracy Robinson told the Bank of America industrials conference on May 13, 2025 in New York. "We continue to be optimistic that trade deals are going to get done, as we saw over the weekend." A third of the Montreal-based railroad's freight, including steel, grain and containers, originates in or goes to the United States. But that relationship has been upended by Trump's escalating tariffs — and his increasingly aggressive rhetoric. "We haven't seen a big impact from tariffs so far," Robinson said, or from fewer ships sailing from China prior to the tariff pause as ocean lines blanked scheduled services. Robinson affirmed CN's target of 10%-15% earnings-per-share growth this year, including profits that were 8% higher in Q1.

19. CN Investing \$3.4 Billion to Build Capacity and Power Sustainable Growth

CN on May 15, 2025 announced its 2025 capital expenditures program, underscoring its commitment to growing capacity, enhancing safety, and powering sustainable growth across its North American network. CN will invest approximately \$3.4 billion CAD in capital projects this year, net of customer reimbursements. This year's capital program includes approximately \$2.9 billion allocated to its maintenance and strategic infrastructure initiatives across Canada and the United States. Projects already underway include over 225 miles of new rail installation and approximately 8 capacity building projects in Western Canada scheduled to come online by the end of this year. As part of this investment CN is also allocating over \$500 million to upgrade and expand its rolling stock, reinforcing the Company's focus on providing safe, reliable, and efficient service for customers across its network.

20. CN to Invest \$600 Million in Ontario to Build Capacity and Power Sustainable Growth and to Invest \$510 Million in Alberta to Build Capacity and Power Sustainable Growth,

CN announced on May 21, 2025 plans to invest approximately \$600 million CAD in Ontario and approximately \$510 million CAD in Alberta, as part of its 2025 capital investment program. This investment will support track maintenance and strategic infrastructure initiatives in the province. This includes projects that continue to invest in technology as well as ongoing multi-year projects that will build capacity and support growth across the network. These projects will help ensure the safe movement of goods and support long-term sustainable growth in Ontario and across CN's network.

21. Regulatory risk a red signal to rail mergers, investors told

Executives from Canadian National, CPKC, CSX and Norfolk Southern poured cold water on talk about potential Class I railroad mergers during an investment conference this week. Mergers have become a hot topic in some railroad boardrooms in recent months amid stagnant rail volume, revenue and stock prices. Some see a U.S. transcontinental merger as a way to jump-start volume and earnings growth. CPKC Chief Executive Keith Creel, who put together the historic 2023 merger of Canadian Pacific and Kansas City Southern, said the Surface Transportation Board's tougher 2001 merger review rules are an insurmountable barrier. "There's always been an argument why it could make sense, but the arguments would have to be able to ignore the regulatory risk that is undeniably there," Creel told the Wolfe Research 18th Annual Global Transportation & Industrials Conference on Wednesday, May 21, 2025.

22. AAR Week 20: U.S. Traffic Continues Modest Gains

For this week (ending May 17, 2025), total U.S. weekly rail traffic was 490,775 carloads and intermodal units, up 3.4 percent compared with the same week last year. Total carloads for the week were 229,226 carloads, up 7.1 percent compared with the same week in 2024, while U.S. weekly intermodal volume was 261,549 containers and trailers, up 0.3 percent compared to 2024. Eight of the 10 carload commodity groups posted an increase compared with the same week in 2024. They included coal, up 8,809 carloads, to 59,207; miscellaneous carloads, up 1,221 carloads, to 10,279; and grain, up 1,195 carloads, to 21,108. Commodity groups that posted decreases compared with the same week in 2024 were forest products, down 266 carloads, to 7,937; and petroleum and petroleum products, down 56 carloads, to 10,274. Canadian railroads reported 92,712 carloads for the week, up 0.0 percent, and 77,376 intermodal units, up 6.8 percent compared with the same week in 2024. For the first 20 weeks of 2025, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 3,247,385 carloads, containers and trailers, up 0.6 percent.

23. CN to invest \$165 Million in Manitoba and \$615 million CAD in British Columbia to Build Capacity and Power Sustainable Growth

CN announced on May 22, 2025 plans to invest approximately \$165 million CAD in Manitoba and \$615 million CAD in British Columbia, as part of its 2025 capital investment program. This investment will support track maintenance and strategic infrastructure initiatives in the provinces, including upgrade projects to improve operations of rail yards in Winnipeg. These investments will help ensure the safe movement of goods and support long-term sustainable growth in Manitoba and in British Columbia and across CN's network.

24. Railway carloadings, March 2025

In March 2025, the volume of cargo carried by Canadian railways reached 33.3 million tonnes, up 1.7% from March 2024. Higher carloadings of wheat, canola and coal largely contributed to the increase. The overall freight volume in March 2025 was slightly above the five-year average of 32.8 million tonnes for the month. For the first quarter of 2025,

the cumulative volume was 92.3 million tonnes, 1.0% below the same January-to-March period in 2024. Non-intermodal freight traffic in Canada was up 3.9% year over year to 26.5 million tonnes in March 2025, led by large increases in carloadings of certain grains. In March 2025, intermodal shipments—mainly containers—originating in Canada also contributed to the overall growth, increasing 6.4% year over year to 3.4 million tonnes, the highest level for the month of March in four years. Freight loadings from US rail connections totalled 3.4 million tonnes in March 2025, a decline of 16.1%, or 655 000 tonnes, from the same month a year earlier.

25. Ontario Takes Next Step to Build Hamilton LRT

The Ontario government has issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the first package of civil and utility work for the Hamilton Light Rail Transit (LRT). This marks another milestone in the province's plan to protect Ontario by building transit, reducing gridlock, and creating thousands of good-paying jobs in one of Ontario's fastest-growing cities.

26. Rail agenda steams up as short lines blitz Congress

Short line railroads had a longer than usual wishlist when they converged in Washington D.C. for the annual Railroad Day on Capitol Hill lobby blitz organized by the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association. There's a new administration in office to educate and inform, along with many new members of Congress and their staffs. But there's much more on the agenda: 1. A federal appropriations bill, including Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements (CRISI) grants; 2. Reauthorization of the Surface Transportation Board, which includes \$300 billion over five years for federal highway, rail, transit and safety programs; 3. Modal equity, specifically regarding truck size and weight; and 4. Expansion of 45G short line tax credit, which returns a portion of spending on track maintenance. The consensus among attendees May 7, 2025 was that the message was well-received as they sought to put a face on the issues, and that senators and representatives, and their staffs, were better informed of rail issues than has been the case in prior years.

27. CN to Invest \$290 Million in Saskatchewan and \$475 Million in Quebec to Build Capacity and Power Sustainable Growth

CN announced on May 26, 2025 plans to invest approximately \$290 million CAD in Saskatchewan and approximately \$475 million CAD in Quebec, as part of its 2025 capital investment program. This investment will support track maintenance and strategic infrastructure initiatives in the province. This includes major projects to support customer initiatives and our agriculture industry partners to improve the movement of grain and fertilizers, etc.. These investments will help ensure the safe movement of goods and support long-term sustainable growth in Saskatchewan and across CN's network and support long-term sustainable growth in Quebec and across CN's network.

28. Via Rail workers give Unifor strike mandate, could take action as soon as June 22

Unifor says almost 98 per cent of the Via Rail workers it represents have voted to give the union the power to launch a strike next month. The union alleges the company is pushing for major concessions and has failed to meet its members' monetary demands. The union says members belonging to Unifor Council 4000 and Local 100 gave it a 97.5 per cent strike mandate. Council 4000 represents 1,800 workers in Via Rail stations, call centres, administrative offices and onboard service, while Local 100's members include 700 skilled trades and mechanical workers. The strike mandate does not mean these workers will immediately walk off the job because the union is going through a federal conciliation process. Unifor says the conciliation period which ends May 31 will be followed by a 21-day cooling-off, so it won't be able to strike before June 22.

29. Via Rail subsidiary paid Quebec marketing firm \$330K as it pivoted to high-speed rail

A federal Crown corporation paid more than \$330,000 to an outside marketing firm to rebrand a planned passenger rail project between Toronto and Quebec City and boost its popularity. Documents obtained by The Canadian Press detail how the corporation, concerned about "widespread disinterest" in a high-frequency rail corridor announced in 2021, decided to change its name and pivot to high-speed rail instead. As part of that shift, the VIA Rail Canada Inc. subsidiary hired a Quebec-based firm, Cossette Communication Inc., to develop a marketing plan that would reflect a new direction — signalled by the Crown corporation's chief executive, Martin Imbleau — to ensure the project placed a greater emphasis on speed. VIA's work with the marketing firm dates back to at least 2023, when it signed a contract to develop a "brand narrative"

30. Province Breaks Ground on Ontario Line's Queen Station

The Ontario government has started excavation work at the Ontario Line's Queen Station, marking another milestone in the province's plan to protect Ontario by building world-class transit, reducing gridlock and creating thousands of good-paying jobs in Canada's fastest-growing city. "Under the leadership of Premier Ford, we're building the Ontario Line to keep people moving across the city with faster, more reliable transit," said Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation. "The Ontario Line is a game-changer for our economy, connecting more people to housing and supporting thousands of good-paying construction jobs at a time when we must protect Ontario workers and businesses from growing threats south of the border."

31. AAR: North American Rail Volume Rises Through Week 21

North American carload and intermodal traffic for the first 21 weeks of 2025 (ending May 24) was up 3.3% from the prior-year period, according to the Association of American Railroads' (AAR) latest rail traffic report. While the United States and Canada both saw gains, Mexico experienced a loss. For this week, total U.S. weekly rail traffic was 488,709 carloads and intermodal units, up 0.7 percent compared with the same week last year. Five of the 10 carload commodity groups posted an increase compared with the same week in 2024. They included coal, up 6,096 carloads, to 56,416; miscellaneous carloads, up 1,703 carloads, to 10,537; and nonmetallic minerals, up 1,090 carloads, to 32,051. Commodity groups that posted decreases compared with the same week in 2024 included petroleum and petroleum products, down 778 carloads, to 10,559; chemicals, down 358 carloads, to 33,088; and forest products, down 247 carloads, to 8,343. Canadian railroads reported 87,174 carloads for the week, up 2.9 percent, and 72,688 intermodal units, up 2.6 percent compared with the same week in 2024. For the first 21 weeks of 2025, Canadian railroads reported cumulative rail traffic volume of 3,407,247 carloads, containers and trailers, up 0.7 percent.

32. Supreme Court rules in favor of Utah crude oil railway

The Surface Transportation Board's environmental review of the proposed Uinta Basin Railway was proper, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled on May 29, 2025 in an 8-0 decision that overturns a lower court's order that blocked construction of the 88-mile Utah railroad. The STB in December 2021 approved the project, noting that the transportation merits of the rail line outweighed its potential environmental impacts. The line would be used to transport waxy crude oil from the remote Uinta Basin to a connection with Union Pacific's former Rio Grande main line. From there the crude would be hauled to Gulf Coast refineries. Eagle County, Colorado, and several environmental groups subsequently filed suit against the STB and the Seven County Infrastructure Coalition, the Utah group seeking to build the railway.

HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION

1. Ontario Fighting Auto Theft by Cracking Down on Car Thieves

As part of a series of proposed changes to protect Ontario communities by cracking down on crime, the province is proposing new legislation that would amend the *Highway Traffic Act* to give police the authority to search for and seize electronic devices that are intended to be used for vehicle theft. The change would provide law enforcement with stronger tools to keep keyless devices off the streets and out of the hands of would-be criminals. “No matter where you live, every family deserves peace of mind knowing their homes – and their vehicles – are safe,” said Prabmeet Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation. “By cracking down on these illegal devices, we’re disrupting criminal activity and giving police the tools they need to stop thefts before they happen, helping keep our communities safe for everyone.”

2. UPS profit beats estimates, to cut 20,000 jobs on economic worries

United Parcel Service reported 2025 first-quarter profit that beat market expectations and said it will cut 20,000 jobs as the parcel giant looks to trim costs in an uncertain economy, sending its shares up more than 5% before the bell on April 29, 2025. Extensive tariffs by U.S. President Donald Trump have slowed down trade and led companies to reduce costs in anticipation of a demand hit. For parcel delivery firms, the slowdown is likely to reduce the need for shipping services between companies. “The actions we are taking to reconfigure our network and reduce cost across our business could not be timelier,” CEO Carol Tome said. UPS said it was not providing any updates to its full-year outlook due to the economic uncertainty even as it lowers costs through jobs cuts, warehouse closures, increased automation and asset sales. The company last year said it cut its workforce by 12,000 jobs. UPS said on Tuesday, April 29, 2025 that it will shut 73 leased and owned buildings by the end of June 2025. The company expects to save \$3.5 billion from its initiatives in 2025. Its first-quarter revenue fell marginally to \$21.5 billion but beat Wall Street expectations of \$21.05 billion, according to data compiled by LSEG. Its U.S. domestic segment revenue grew 1.4% to \$14.46 billion in the first quarter, driven by increase in air cargo and improving revenue per piece, even as volumes declined. UPS posted an adjusted profit per share of \$1.49 compared with expectations of \$1.38. The world’s largest package delivery firm had in January forecast full-year revenue of \$89 billion and operating margin of about 10.8%.

3. Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index, March 2025

The Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index (2019=100) is now available for March 2025 on the Statistics Canada website. The index was 144.7 for March 2025 unchanged from February 2025 but was higher than the 134.7 index a year ago. The courier component of the index showed a small change (-0.1) and the local index rose marginally (0.5).

4. Canadian Trucking Alliance Launches Enhanced Website, Strengthening Advocacy and Industry Connection

The Canadian Trucking Alliance is thrilled to unveil its newly redesigned website, cantruck.ca. This enhanced platform is *the* central destination for advocacy priorities, the latest industry news, and crucial resources, further uniting the trucking sector and serving as a key resource for all industry stakeholders. The revitalized CTA website offers a more intuitive, in-depth user experience. Visitors will find detailed insights into the Alliance’s advocacy work across key pillars, including safety and compliance, supply chain efficiency, and workforce development. It will be the go-to source for staying informed on the latest developments and understanding the critical issues shaping Canadian trucking.

HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION

1. Ontario Fighting Auto Theft by Cracking Down on Car Thieves, April 29, 2025, www.mto.gov.on.ca
2. UPS profit beats estimates, to cut 20,000 jobs on economic worries, April 29, 2025, www.ajot.com
3. Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index, March 2025, April 30, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca
4. Canadian Trucking Alliance Launches Enhanced Website, Strengthening Advocacy and Industry Connection, May 1, 2025, www.ontruck.ca
5. Freight fraud losses surpass \$455M in 2024, May 2, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com
6. Lion Electric likely to be liquidated, court-appointed monitor says, May 5, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com
7. CTA Responds to Proposed Immigration Reforms, May 6, 2025, www.cantruck.ca
8. OTA marks progress in fight against driver misclassification, labor abuse, May 7, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com
9. Motor Fuel Prices – April 2025, May 6, 2025, www.bts.gov
10. CTA Writes Carney About Fixing Rampant Underground Economy and other Trucking Issues, May 8, 2025, www.ontruck.ca
11. Reminder: Manitoba Moving Forward with NSC# Marking Requirements on Trucks Effective July 1, May 9, 2025, www.cantruck.ca
12. Shippers, carriers need to share risk to drive zero-emission adoption strategies, May 9, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com
13. New trucking standards to streamline Metro Vancouver freight, May 12, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com
14. CTA Ready to Work with New Ministers to Rid Trucking of Trade Barriers, Tariffs and Underground Economy, May 13, 2025, www.ontruck.ca
15. Canada Post pauses negotiations with union as May deadline nears, May 14, 2025, www.nationalpost.ca
16. DHL eCommerce UK to merge with Evri to create UK’s premier parcel delivery business, May 14, 2025, www.ajot.com
17. OTA Lauds Ontario Budget to Support Workers, Provide Fuel Tax Relief in the Face of Tariffs, May 15, 2025, www.ontruck.ca
18. Titanium grows Q1 revenue, becomes more asset-light, May 15, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com
19. Small businesses gear up — again — for a possible Canada Post strike, May 16, 2025, www.financialpost.ca
20. Urban public transit, March 2025, May 16, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca
21. Tariffs Trigger Pre-buy; Steep Freight Decline Incoming: Report, May 16, 2025, www.cantruck.ca
22. KAG Canada buys Atlantic Canada’s largest milk hauler, May 19, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com
23. Permitting, policy, planning shape the pace of port electrification, May 19, 2025, www.todaystrucking.com
24. Canada Post receives strike notice, workers set to walk out on Friday, May 19, 2025, www.nationalpost.ca

5. Freight fraud losses surpass \$455M in 2024

Freight fraud surged last year, with more than US\$455 million in reported losses tied to theft, double brokering, and impersonation scams, according to Truckstop's 2024 Freight Fraud Report. The report reveals that 65,000 thefts recorded last year, representing a 40% increase from 2023. Nearly half (46%) of all thefts occurred in three states: California, Texas, and Illinois. Though, in an email to TruckNews.com, Truckstop said that there is no geographical discernment since fraud comes from all over the world trying to access the U.S. freight market. The scams are becoming more sophisticated, with online impersonation tactics and fake carrier schemes increasingly targeting small fleets. Double brokering activity has soared by as much as 400% in certain regions, the report says, worsening operational challenges for both brokers and carriers.

6. Lion Electric likely to be liquidated, court-appointed monitor says

Lion Electric will very likely be liquidated following the Quebec government's refusal to invest more public funds in the company, says the court-appointed monitor for the electric-vehicle maker. Jean-François Nadon, a restructuring specialist with Deloitte, said in a Superior Court hearing on April 5, 2025 that government aid would have been a condition of any sale of the struggling company. With that possibility off the table, he said, it's unlikely any buyer will step forward with a plan to relaunch the St-Jérôme, Que.-based manufacturer, which sought protection from its creditors in December. "The likelihood of a liquidation of assets is very high," he said. Nadon said the government's recent announcement that it would not inject any more public money into Lion Electric was a "shock wave" for the company.

7. CTA Responds to Proposed Immigration Reforms

At his first post-election press conference, Prime Minister Mark Carney announced his government's plan to cap the number of international students and temporary foreign workers. The Canadian Trucking Alliance (CTA) is advising the Government of Canada and the future cabinet that immigration reform policy shouldn't just be based on the number of immigrants, but also how newcomers are brought to Canada, which sectors they work for and, most importantly, scrutinizing the employers that employ these workers and ensuring all labour standards and laws are upheld.

8. OTA marks progress in fight against driver misclassification, labor abuse

The Ontario Trucking Association (OTA) says it is making headway in its fight against the misclassification of drivers, under a scheme it refers to as Driver Inc. Three key provincial and federal agencies — Ontario's Ministry of Transportation (MTO), Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) and Ontario's Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) — gathered at the Whitby, Ont., inspection station in March to explore the issue and raise awareness. In addition to inspecting trucks for their weights and safety fitness, the organizations also checked drivers to ensure their carriers are obeying labor laws. The OTA says that, beyond enforcement conducting dozens of Level 3 inspections, ESDC handed out information about drivers' labor rights, while identifying companies deserving of a potential audit.

9. Motor Fuel Prices – April 2025

On May 6, 2025, the [Bureau of Transportation Statistics \(BTS\)](#) released [monthly motor fuels prices](#) for April 2025. In April 2025, the average price for regular motor gasoline was \$3.17; up 2.4% from March 2025. The April 2025 price for regular motor gasoline was down 12.2% from April 2024. There were minor differences between regional prices.

10. CTA Writes Carney About Fixing Rampant Underground Economy and other Trucking Issues

The Canadian Trucking Alliance formally congratulated Mark Carney on being elected the 24th Prime Minister of Canada, while also urging him to implement reforms to boost Canadian productivity and strongly consider the

25. 'A critical time': Why Canada Post workers are set to strike again and what it means for businesses, May 20, 2025, [www.financialpost.ca](#)

26. Shippers, carriers push ahead on last-mile electrification plans, May 20, 2025, [www.todaystrucking.com](#)

27. An alarming reality: 4% of truckers on US highways lack valid licenses, May 20, 2025, [www.freightwaves.com](#)

28. U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Signs Order Announcing New Guidance to Enforce English Proficiency Requirement for Truckers, May 20, 2025, [www.dot.gov](#)

29. Canada Post makes new offers ahead of strike deadline, May 21, 2025, [www.financialpost.ca](#)

30. North American Transborder Freight rose 8.4% in March 2025 from March 2024, May 21, 2025, [www.bts.gov](#)

31. US DOT initiates crackdown on non-English-speaking truckers, May 21, 2025, [www.joc.com](#)

32. Journal of Commerce Rankings: US LTL sector defies soft demand, regains traction, May 22, 2025, [www.joc.com](#)

33. US Secretary of Transport Responds to President's Executive Order on English Proficiency and Trucking, May 22, 2025, [www.ontruck.ca](#)

34. New Canada Post Needs to Eliminate Misclassified and Forced Labour From Contracts: CTA, May 22, 2025, [www.ontruck.ca](#)

35. Union says Canada Post offers 'fall short' as strike deadline nears, May 22, 2025, [www.financialpost.ca](#)

36. CTA raises concerns about Canada Post, May 22, 2025, [www.todaystrucking.com](#)

37. Canada Post and union resume talks as overtime ban threatens delivery delays, May 25, 2025, [www.nationalpost.ca](#)

38. ECONOMIC TRUCKING TRENDS: Truck tonnage, trailer orders fall, while spot market gets anticipated Roadcheck bump, May 23, 2025, [www.todaystrucking.com](#)

39. Trucking's historic slump: How overcapacity and undocumented drivers reshaped the industry, May 26, 2025, [www.freightwaves.com](#)

40. CTA Hopeful PM's Mandate Aligned with Trucking Industry, May 26, 2025, [www.ontruck.ca](#)

41. Reducing internal trade barriers tops priorities for businesses: KPMG poll, May 27, 2025, [www.todaystrucking.com](#)

42. Truckload rates continue upward trend but growth slows: RXO, May 28, 2025, [www.insidelogistics.com](#)

43. U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces Over \$1.5 Billion to Repair Roads and Bridges Damaged by Natural Disasters, Including Hurricane Helene, May 28, 2025, [www.dot.gov](#)

longstanding core issues and concerns of compliant, responsible Canadian trucking businesses when selecting his cabinet. In its first letter to the new Prime Minister, CTA told Carney that he is presiding over a pivotal time in Canada's history as we face a trade war with our largest trading partner, while our own economy has sputtered and inflation has skyrocketed. "The tariff threat from the US is exacerbated by severe domestic economic headwinds and a stagnant, unproductive economy," wrote CTA president Stephen Laskowski. "It is evident there is much work to do to reshape and redirect the path towards achieving a brighter economic future." This negative economic outlook is further compounded by an "absolute state of lawlessness and a rampant underground economy," in the trucking sector, which "is fueled by the lack of federal government enforcement of labour law violations, human trafficking and tax evasion," Laskowski explained. Although the Government of Canada has been aware of this issue for a decade, there has not enough political motivation by any party, at all political levels, to seriously address the problem.

11. Reminder: Manitoba Moving Forward with NSC# Marking Requirements on Trucks Effective July 1

Following up on previous articles, carriers are reminded that the province of Manitoba is confirming their new requirement for trucks to display their National Safety Code (NSC#) number will apply to out of province trucks that operate into and through Manitoba. Out-of-province carriers are not exempt from this requirement when travelling in Manitoba. Out-of-province carriers are required to mark their vehicles with their NSC, or equivalent number issued in their jurisdiction (i.e. CVOR or NIR), when traveling in Manitoba.

12. Shippers, carriers need to share risk to drive zero-emission adoption strategies

Shippers and carriers say sustainability remains a shared priority, but transitioning to zero-emission freight still hinges on pilot projects, cost-effective technologies, and deeper, stronger partnerships to share the risks and 'walk the walk'. Speaking at a panel during the ACT Expo in Anaheim, Calif., executives from Amazon Freight, IMC Logistics, Unilever, and WattEV acknowledged growing pressure to decarbonize operations while highlighting economic constraints and infrastructure gaps that continue to slow down progress. Ari Silkey, general manager at Amazon Freight, described how Amazon has spent the past eight years building out its transportation network through a technology-first approach. Starting in 2016, the company developed core systems including mobile apps, tracking tools, relay hubs, and carrier interfaces to support both consumer and commercial freight. With that foundation in place, Amazon scaled up to over-the-road and yard operations, procuring more than 60,000 trailers and 20,000 intermodal containers.

13. New trucking standards to streamline Metro Vancouver freight

Vancouver's transportation network, serving public transit, major roads, and bridges — launched an initiative to streamline trucking standards across Metro Vancouver, aiming to cut costs and simplify the permitting process for commercial vehicles operating in the region. Inconsistent rules between municipalities have long created barriers for transport trucks, often requiring separate permits and limiting access to specific routes based on local definitions of size and weight. According to TransLink's news release, the new regional standards, developed in consultation with local governments and industry partners, will align these regulations and make it easier for carriers to operate across municipal boundaries. If fully adopted, it will standardize the definition of a heavy truck to vehicles with a gross vehicle weight over 11,793 kilograms. This change has already been adopted by roughly 98% of Metro Vancouver municipalities. Nearly half of local governments have also aligned their rules around oversized and overweight vehicles, a process that is expected to be completed within the next year.

14. CTA Ready to Work with New Ministers to Rid Trucking of Trade Barriers, Tariffs and Underground Economy

The Canadian Trucking Alliance (CTA) is welcoming Prime Minister Carney's new cabinet ministers, who will be tasked with working with a trucking sector that continues to struggle with systemic internal trade barriers and the economic blowback from a tariff war with our largest trading partner; as well as a regulatory environment that has been a drag on productivity and unfair competition in an industry that has become a breeding ground for noncompliance and scofflaws. "The Canadian Trucking Alliance is eager to work with Prime Minister Carney and his team of ministers in what will be arguably the most important legislative period in modern Canadian history," said CTA President and CEO Stephen Laskowski. "There is much to do in our sector, but we strongly believe these obstacles can be overcome by having the leadership and political will that is necessary to deliver the policy reforms and direction of ministerial of resources required to address what is ailing the Canadian trucking industry."

15. Canada Post pauses negotiations with union as May deadline nears

Canada Post says it's pressing pause on negotiations with the union representing postal workers with a little over a week before the deadline to get a deal. The Crown corporation says the past few days of negotiations with the Canadian Union of Postal Workers have been fruitless, and this temporary pause will allow the postal service to come back to the table with "comprehensive proposals" that it hopes can move discussions forward. The union calls the pause "reprehensible," in part because there's no clear date for when these new proposals will arrive. Ottawa asked the

federal labour board to send workers back to the job in December when talks were at an impasse and a strike was disrupting holiday mail deliveries.

16. DHL eCommerce UK to merge with Evri to create UK's premier parcel delivery business

Evri, one of the UK's largest dedicated parcel delivery companies, and DHL eCommerce, the e-commerce logistics specialist of DHL Group, have announced a strategic transaction that will see the merger of DHL eCommerce UK with Evri. The merged Evri business will deliver over 1 billion parcels and a further 1 billion business letters annually and is poised to bring significant benefits to consumers and businesses by offering greater choice and cost competitive solutions. As part of the transaction, DHL Group will acquire a significant minority stake in Evri. Evri's cost-effective and flexible courier offer will be complemented with the addition of DHL eCommerce's premium van delivery network. Rebranded Evri Premium – a network of DHL eCommerce, this will remain a dedicated and secure, separate network that will offer fast, time-sensitive deliveries with enhanced shipping security protection for high-value and large items for B2B and B2C parcel services.

17. OTA Lauds Ontario Budget to Support Workers, Provide Fuel Tax Relief in the Face of Tariffs

OTA applauded the release of the 2025 Ontario budget, released by the Ford Government on May 15, 2025, which focuses on providing investment and support in the wake of trade and economic uncertainties. The budget announced the creation of the Protecting Ontario Account, a \$5 billion fund designed to provide businesses with critical support to protect jobs, transform businesses and grow strategic sectors of the economy that are facing significant tariff-related business disruptions. The government states this fund will provide immediate liquidity relief as an emergency backstop for Ontario businesses that have exhausted available funding.

18. Titanium grows Q1 revenue, becomes more asset-light

Titanium Transportation is focusing on becoming more asset-light and reducing its debt as it navigates the uncertainty caused by a global trade war. It reported overall Q1 revenue of \$121 million, a 7.5% increase year over year, while its logistics revenue jumped 17.6% with 9% volume growth. The company divested \$1.7 million in non-core assets in the quarter and paid \$10.7 million toward loan and lease liabilities. However, it reported a \$3.39 million loss on the quarter compared to a \$681,000 profit during Q1 2024.

19. Small businesses gear up — again — for a possible Canada Post strike

Small businesses and shipping firms are preparing for a possible [Canada Post](#) strike as early as next week, a disruption they warn could strain supply chains and freeze millions of packages as well as billions of dollars in sales. Mom-and-pop shops and [e-commerce](#) companies have started making alternative arrangements to get their packages to consumers and clients — but many are already frustrated. In Cape Breton, N.S., yarn retailer Tracy Hubbard says she's begun tallying the hit to her bottom line if she's forced to ship through a large courier, which typically charges more for parcels than Canada Post. While a burgeoning crop of last-mile carriers and shipping platforms saw their volumes surge during last year's month-long postal strike, many were caught off guard and found they could handle only a fraction of the demand.

20. Urban public transit, March 2025

In March 2025, Canada's urban transit systems logged nearly 136 million passenger trips, 2.0% higher than in March 2024. Urban transit ridership in March 2025 recovered just over 82% of the pre-COVID-19 pandemic passenger trips reported in March 2019. In March 2025, transit agency operating revenue (excluding subsidies) totalled \$341.4 million—an increase of 8.4%, or \$26.4 million, from March 2024.

21. Tariffs Trigger Pre-buy; Steep Freight Decline Incoming: Report

Tariff uncertainty are prompting businesses to make short-term decisions, which analysts warn could hinder sustained economic growth, reports CCJ magazine. Analysts warn the whiplash from the Trump administration's "back-and-forth" tariff policy is causing businesses to make significant responses to the environment with short-term decisions, losing out on long-term growth. "We're kind of in this fog of war," said Jonathan Starks, CEO of FTR Transportation Intelligence, during its State of Freight webinar on May 15, 2025. "There's also a lot of fear out there, and that creates a bit of a crippling environment when it comes to making decisions." Bill Witte, chief forecaster at Witte Econometrics, said the situation is so unprecedented that his forecasts require a trigger warning as it paints a bleak outlook. Avery Vise, VP of trucking at FTR, said FTR estimated U.S. tariff rate from 2% to 21% globally, driven by a 121% increase in tariffs on China. Canada, Mexico and the European Union saw a 12% rise.

22. KAG Canada buys Atlantic Canada's largest milk hauler

Kenan Advantage Group Canada has purchased Shubenacadie, N.S.-based Fisher Transport, Atlantic Canada's largest milk hauler. The fleet of 60 tractors and 70 specialized trailers hauls more than 200 million liters of raw milk annually, and cements KAG Canada's presence in Atlantic Canada, the company announced in a release. Fisher also hauls other food-grade products, chemicals and non-food-grade bulk commodities. "I am pleased the Fisher team will join KAG Canada, who share the same values, commitment to customer service and recognition of our specialized team who have been instrumental in achieving our success," said Ken MacDonald, CEO of Fisher Transport. "I look forward to the

opportunities that will emerge for the Fisher group of companies and for the valued members of our team by joining KAG, the industry leader in bulk transportation,” MacDonald continued. Jordan MacDonald, president, and Charlie Eisener, CFO, will remain with the company. KAG Canada adds 60 drivers and 15 staff, who operate out of three locations in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Newfoundland and Labrador.

23. Permitting, policy, planning shape the pace of port electrification

Electric trucks are already proving themselves in demanding port operations. But panelists at the EV & Charging Expo in Toronto said the pace of adoption is now shaped less by vehicle capability and more by how quickly infrastructure, permitting, and policy can adapt. With short, repeatable duty cycles and centralized traffic flows, terminals and depots offer ideal conditions for electrification — but the real electrification potential depends on aligning land use planning, utility coordination, and investor support. Ports and yards offer some of the best early use cases for electrification — and the results are already compelling, said Bill Hamlin, executive director of sales for port and rail at Orange EV. The company’s first electric terminal tractor, sold to DHL in 2015, is still in operation. “It’s got over 30,000 hours on it, and it’s on the original battery pack. It’s still over 80% state of health,” Hamlin said. In pilot programs across Canada, Orange EV trucks have also operated in sub-zero conditions with no performance loss.

24. Canada Post receives strike notice, workers set to walk out on Friday

Canada Post said on May 19, 2025 that it has received strike notices from the union representing more than 55,000 postal workers, with operations poised to shut down by the end of the week — for the second time in six months. The union informed management that employees plan to hit the picket line starting (May 23, 2025) Friday morning at midnight, the Crown corporation said. A work stoppage would affect millions of residents and businesses who typically receive more than two billion letters and roughly 300 million parcels a year via the service.

25. 'A critical time': Why Canada Post workers are set to strike again and what it means for businesses

In a statement issued on Monday (May 19), Canada Post said that it had received a strike notice from the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW) indicating that the union, which represents 55,000 workers, plans to begin strike activity on Friday (May 23). Confirming the 72-hour strike notice on Tuesday, CUPW said that it took the step “in part to respond to the employer’s recent indication that it may unilaterally change working conditions and suspend employee benefits.” The threat follows months of disagreement on the shape of a new labour contract, as Canada Post faces deep financial challenges and a changing competitive landscape. Thousands of *Canada Post* employees are expected to go on strike Friday in a move that could impact millions of Canadians and businesses who rely on the delivery service. If they go through with the job action, it will mark the second time the *Canadian Union of Postal Workers* has gone off the job in about six months, with the previous strike starting in November and disrupting pre-Christmas mail service. So why are they going on strike again and how will it affect Canadians and businesses? The Financial Post explains.

26. Shippers, carriers push ahead on last-mile electrification plans

Major shippers and carriers are accelerating their electrification timelines for last-mile delivery, even as infrastructure and cost challenges continue to slow broader fleet transitions. Purolator, for example, has 6% of its last-mile fleet electrified today (May 20) and plans to reach 14% by the end of 2025. “Our goal is to get to 60% of our last-mile by 2030,” said Cindy Bailey, corporate sustainability officer at Purolator, during a zero-emission panel at the recent EV & Charging Expo in Toronto. The carrier now delivers about 400,000 packages per month in EVs across Canada and has electrified 11 sites, with 10 more planned this year, Bailey said. She added growing customer expectations are helping push the company to stay the course. “What I’m starting to see is that customers really feel that this is now table stakes for them. I’ve had some customers very recently where you couldn’t even come to the table if you didn’t have electric vehicles or low-carbon transportation solutions to offer,” she said. “Especially when we think about a lot of our European customers; they have very ambitious targets that they have to meet.”

27. An alarming reality: 4% of truckers on US highways lack valid licenses

A recent study by trucking expert Adam Wingfield, analyzing the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration database, revealed a troubling trend: Approximately 4% of truckers on U.S. highways operate without a valid commercial driver’s license. This issue transcends regulatory oversight, posing a serious threat to all who share the road with these massive vehicles. Unlicensed operators handling trucks weighing over 26,000 pounds endanger motorists, passengers and pedestrians. A CDL is a vital certification, ensuring truckers have the training and skills to safely operate large, potentially hazardous vehicles.

28. U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Signs Order Announcing New Guidance to Enforce English Proficiency Requirement for Truckers

On May 20, 2025, U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) Secretary Sean P. Duffy signed an order at a trucking event in Austin announcing new guidelines to strengthen English language enforcement for commercial truck operators. Under the new guidance, commercial motor vehicle (CMV) drivers who fail to comply with Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration’s (FMCSA) longstanding English-language proficiency (ELP) requirements will be placed out-of-service. “*America First means safety first. Americans are a lot safer on roads alongside truckers who can*

understand and interpret our traffic signs. This common-sense change ensures the penalty for failure to comply is more than a slap on the wrist,” said U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy.

29. Canada Post makes new offers ahead of strike deadline

Canada Post has issued a new set of offers to the union representing postal workers as the clock ticks down to a possible strike. The Crown corporation confirmed on May 21, 2025 that it has filed a new set of proposals for workers in the urban bargaining unit and the rural and suburban units. The Canadian Union of Postal Workers said its negotiating team was set to examine the proposals this afternoon. The new offers come days after the union issued a strike notice that could see postal workers back on the picket line on Friday, May 23, 2025. Canada Post also said it has rejected the union’s request for two weeks to consider the proposals. “After two years of discussions, a lengthy strike and a five month pause for the Industrial Inquiry Commission, our employees, customers and Canadians are looking for the certainty that only agreements can provide. Further delay is in no one’s interest,” Canada Post spokesperson Lisa Liu said in a statement on May 21, 2025. The Canadian Press has not independently confirmed that the union has requested a delay. CUPW negotiator Jim Gallant say the union would ask for two weeks to review any new offer in an interview with CTV earlier this week. A separate statement from CUPW released Wednesday (May 29) afternoon said it will be “taking time to carefully analyze and review the offers” and repeated its claim that Canada Post walked away from the bargaining table on multiple occasions.

30. North American Transborder Freight rose 8.4% in March 2025 from March 2024

Transborder freight between the U.S. and North American countries Canada and Mexico in March 2025 was as follows: 1. Total transborder freight: \$144.8 billion of transborder freight moved by all modes of transportation, increased 8.4% compared to March 2024; 2. Freight between the U.S. and Canada: \$67.5 billion, was up 3.7% from March 2024; 3. Freight between the U.S. and Mexico was: \$77.3 billion, up 13.0% from March 2024; 4. Trucks moved \$94.2 billion of freight, up 9.5% compared to March 2024; 5. Railways moved \$18.4 billion of freight, down 0.6% compared to March 2024; 6. Pipelines moved \$9.1 billion of freight, up 6.1% compared to March 2024; 7. Vessels moved \$9.1 billion of freight, down 10.1% compared to March 2024; and 8. Air moved \$6.0 billion of freight, up 35.5% compared to March 2024. US – Canada freight for March 2025 was as follows: 1. Truck: \$ \$38.7b; 2. Pipeline: \$8.5b; 3. Rail \$9.7b; 4. Vessel \$2.8b and; 5. Air. \$2.7b

31. US DOT initiates crackdown on non-English-speaking truckers

Truck drivers in the US who can’t speak English are facing a crackdown, with the Department of Transportation (DOT) promising to take them off the road. The step to ensure commercial drivers comply with US law requiring English-language proficiency (ELP) will have ramifications for shippers, carriers and drivers. Loads could be delayed, driver hours of service affected, and truck capacity may get tighter. But supporters of the move claim US highways will be safer and point out that ELP is the law.

32. Journal of Commerce Rankings: US LTL sector defies soft demand, regains traction

Bankrupt less-than-truckload (LTL) carrier Yellow has a long reach, although its zombie-like grip on the US LTL market is loosening almost two years after its demise. The combined revenue of the Top 25 US LTL carriers dropped 1.3% to \$48.2 billion in 2024, when \$2.4 billion of Yellow revenue prior to the company’s July 2023 bankruptcy is included in an annualized comparison by SJ Consulting Group. However, excluding that revenue from Yellow in the first half of 2023 and the Top 25 LTL carriers increased their top line by 3.9% last year, reversing a 13.9% drop in 2023.

33. US Secretary of Transport Responds to President’s Executive Order on English Proficiency and Trucking

U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) Secretary Sean P. Duffy signed an order this week announcing new guidelines regarding enforcement of English language proficiency for commercial truck operators when operating in the United States. Under the new guidance, commercial motor vehicle (CMV) drivers who fail to comply with Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration’s (FMCSA) longstanding English-language proficiency (ELP) requirements will be issued a citation; placed out-of-service when the CVSA driver out-of-service criteria go into effect June 25th; and could potentially have their drivers licenses disqualified when warranted and will no longer be able to use technological assistance to comply with English language requirements. The policy announcement was prompted by a recent [Presidential Executive Order](#).

34. New Canada Post Needs to Eliminate Misclassified and Forced Labour From Contracts: CTA

As another nation-wide strike at Canada Post looms, a report last week by the Industrial Inquiry Commissioner highlighted the state of the service and the need for Ottawa to consult with the private sector. There are many recommendations by both union and management in the report to correct longstanding issues. Both sides emphasized greater expansion into the parcel delivery market, including cross-border shipments. The report stated: *Expansion of parcel delivery, however, provides an opportunity – although it is very far from a sure thing – for Canada Post to continue its USO and move toward sustainability. As discussed below, both Canada Post and CUPW agree that a parcel-centric Canada Post is its future.* “Both management and unions are attempting to identify the best path forward

for Canada Post. However, the question which must be asked is – does a government organization need to be in this space competing against the private sector?” said Canadian Trucking Alliance president & CEO Stephen Laskowski.

35. Union says Canada Post offers 'fall short' as strike deadline nears

Canada Post's offers amount to a little more than 13% in wage increases over four years. The union representing about 55,000 [Canada Post](#) employees said the latest offers from the postal service “fall short” with hours to go until a looming strike deadline. Canada Post meanwhile said on May 22, 2025 that it's already seeing mail volumes decline ahead of another possible labour disruption and is pushing for an urgent resolution. Spokesperson Lisa Liu said Canada Post hasn't yet received a response from the union about its proposals issued a day earlier.

36. CTA raises concerns about Canada Post

As a Canada Post strike looms, the Canadian Trucking Alliance (CTA) has raised concerns about the future of the Crown corporation. This, after a [report from the Industrial Inquiry Commissioner](#) that included suggestions from the union and management that the organization extend its reach into the handling of parcel delivery. “Expansion of parcel delivery, however, provides an opportunity – although it is very far from a sure thing – for Canada Post to continue its USO [Universal Service Obligation] and move toward sustainability. As discussed below, both Canada Post and CUPW [Canadian Union of Postal Workers] agree that a parcel-centric Canada Post is its future,” the report said. “Both management and unions are attempting to identify the best path forward for Canada Post. However, the question which must be asked is – does a government organization need to be in this space competing against the private sector?” responded CTA president and CEO Stephen Laskowski in a press release. The alliance also said it will be asking the Minister of Procurement, Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), and Canada Post to introduce measures that would eliminate the ability of for-hire trucking companies using forced labor and misclassified labor to compete for contracts sent out to bid by Canada Post.

37. Canada Post and union resume talks as overtime ban threatens delivery delays

A mediator will work with the parties who have been deadlocked for months in efforts to secure a new collective bargaining agreement. Canada Post was set to meet with negotiators from its union Sunday (May 25, 2025) amid warnings of mail delivery delays tied to a national ban on overtime for postal workers. Sunday's meeting will be the first of the weekend, a spokesperson for the Crown corporation said. A mediator will be on hand to work with the parties who have been deadlocked for months in efforts to secure a new collective bargaining agreement. Canada Post presented its latest offers to the union on Wednesday (May 21), which included a hike in pay and plans to roll out a fleet of part-time workers. The Canadian Union of Postal Workers has yet to offer a formal response to the proposals, but its request for a two-week “truce” to consider the deal was rejected by the employer. [‘The people will be with us’: Inside the thoughts of Canada Post workers considering a strike](#) On Sunday, the union said its negotiators had “worked hard to carefully evaluate the offers and prepare responses” ahead of the day's meeting with the employer and the mediators. In an email, CUPW criticized Canada Post for rejecting its truce proposal, which it said left negotiators with only a few days to comb through the legal wording of the 700-page offer. “If instability hangs over these negotiations, it's due to Canada Post's uncompromising stance and time management,” the union wrote in a statement. The most recent agreement between the parties, which was extended by the industrial relations board after Ottawa intervened in the month-long holiday season strike late last year, expired Thursday (May 22).

38. ECONOMIC TRUCKING TRENDS: Truck tonnage, trailer orders fall, while spot market gets anticipated Roadcheck bump

We have mixed indicators to consider this week (third week of May 2025), with for-hire truck tonnage giving back gains from early in 2025 while the spot market surged thanks to the Roadcheck inspection blitz. Trailer orders are in a rut, as fleets continue to be cautious about how they deploy capital. Trucking conditions improved in March 2025, but industry forecaster FTR warns there are tougher times ahead as the impact of tariffs is felt along the supply chain. For-hire truck tonnage in the U.S. slipped 0.3% in April 2025, on the heels of a 1.5% decline in March 2025, wiping out much of the gains from the beginning of the year. “After surging 2.8% in February, and hitting the highest level since late May 2024, tonnage fell a combined 1.8% in March and April,” said ATA chief economist Bob Costello. “Unfortunately, a recovery that was expected this year hasn't transpired as the industry deals with a freight market in flux from tariffs and softening economic indicators.”

39. Trucking's historic slump: How overcapacity and undocumented drivers reshaped the industry

The trucking industry has faced its longest and deepest downturn in history, beginning in March 2022. This prolonged slump, known as the Great Freight Recession, has driven many trucking companies out of business. A sluggish goods economy contributed, but the primary cause is excess capacity. During the COVID-19 pandemic, high freight rates and government stimulus, coupled with cheap credit, spurred an influx of new trucking companies. Unfortunately, this overcorrection flooded the market with capacity, causing freight rates to collapse. To avoid bankruptcy, trucking firms slashed costs. The largest expense—driver wages—proved challenging to cut, as experienced, documented drivers resisted reductions. Many small firms turned to hiring drivers without work permits to reduce expenses. These workers

often obtained Commercial Driver's Licenses (CDLs) in the U.S. without passing a domestic CDL test. Some states accepted foreign CDLs without verifying the driver's experience or qualifications, meaning many never proved they could safely operate an 80,000-pound truck. Additionally, some drivers lacked proficiency in English, complicating communication and compliance. Trucking became a lifeline for many immigrants, offering steady work, decent pay, and a place to live, as most truckers reside in their vehicles. For many, it marked a significant improvement over poverty in their home countries. These undocumented workers often accepted lower wages than their American counterparts and endured poor working conditions and unsafe equipment.

40. CTA Hopeful PM's Mandate Aligned with Trucking Industry

The Canadian Trucking Alliance looks forward to working with Prime Minister Mark Carney and his cabinet on several government priorities the PM outlined in his mandate letter this week. In a letter to Carney, CTA wrote that many of the PM's goals are aligned with the trucking industry, including the need to remove interprovincial trade barriers; turnaround a stagnant economy and restore productivity; immigration reform, securing the Canada-US border; and addressing border security concerns, while executing the very difficult task of striking a new trade deal with the US in the midst of a trade war. CTA also reminded the Prime Minister that businesses in the trucking sector are not immune to these cascading effects, but their predicament has been further exacerbated by other crises, namely the proliferation of the undergrowth economy, which is creating unfettered and expanding lawlessness in the trucking sector.

41. Reducing internal trade barriers tops priorities for businesses: KPMG poll

A new report says nearly two-thirds of Canadian businesses want the government to work to reduce the barriers to internal trade to improve productivity. A KPMG poll of 250 business leaders in Canada found that 64% of those surveyed say the government should remove interprovincial trade barriers and harmonize regulations and credentials as a top priority. The online survey, conducted between May 9 and May 20, 2025 also found that 82% of business leaders believe eliminating interprovincial trade barriers will improve their company's efficiency and productivity. Among other top priorities identified by business leaders in the survey was a comprehensive tax review to improve competitiveness at 58%, while 56% said they want the government to streamline processes and expedite resource and major infrastructure projects. The poll comes ahead of the speech from the throne on Tuesday, May 27, 2025 that is expected to lay out the new Liberal government's priorities. Prime Minister Mark Carney was elected last month on promises to improve Canada's economic resilience and nation-building projects in the face of U.S. tariffs.

42. Truckload rates continue upward trend but growth slows: RXO

Spot truckload rates across North America continued to rise year-over-year in the first quarter of 2025, though the pace of that growth has slowed, according to RXO's latest *Curve* market forecast update. The North Carolina-based transportation solutions provider reported a 9.1 per cent year-over-year increase in spot rates for Q1, down from 11.6 per cent in the previous quarter. The report noted early-quarter volatility driven by post-holiday shipping and weather, followed by a return to pre-peak levels for capacity and rates.

43. U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces Over \$1.5 Billion to Repair Roads and Bridges Damaged by Natural Disasters, Including Hurricane Helene

In an ongoing effort to support national hurricane preparedness and help communities move quickly to recover from devastating storms, U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy on May 28, 2025 announced more than \$1.5 billion in federal funding to help states and U.S. territories accelerate repairs to roads, bridges and other transportation infrastructure damaged by natural disasters, including more than \$683 million to repair damage caused by Hurricane Helene. Secretary Duffy visited some of the hardest hit areas as one of his first actions when taking office. Repairs resulting from these events will receive federal reimbursement funding under the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Emergency Relief (ER) program.

GENERAL TRANSPORTATION

1. Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces Effort to Update Outdated Liquefied Natural Gas Regulations

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy on April 29, 2025 announced that the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) is seeking comment to inform a rulemaking proposal to update decades old regulations for liquified natural gas (LNG) facilities, fast-track new LNG infrastructure projects, expand domestic export capacity, and grow the small-scale LNG market. This is one of several "Unleashing American Energy" rulemakings that are expected to reduce regulatory burdens on industry.

2. US economy contracts as tariffs unleash flood of imports

The U.S. economy contracted for the first time in three years in the 2025 first

General Transportation

1. Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces Effort to Update Outdated Liquefied Natural Gas Regulations, April 29, 2025, www.dot.gov
2. US economy contracts as tariffs unleash flood of imports, April 30, 2025, www.ajot.com
3. BTS Updates National Transportation Statistics 4/30/2025, April 30, 2025, www.bts.gov
4. April 2025 U.S. Transportation Sector Unemployment (3.6%) Falls Below the April 2024 Level (4.7%) And the Pre-Pandemic April 2019 Level (3.7%), May 2, 2025,

quarter, swamped by a flood of imports as businesses raced to avoid higher costs from tariffs and underscoring the disruptive nature of President Donald Trump's often chaotic trade policy. The Commerce Department's advance gross domestic product (GDP) report on April 30, 2025, however, grossly exaggerated the economy's dimming prospects. Though consumer spending slowed considerably, the pace of growth remained healthy. Businesses also boosted investment in equipment. Nonetheless, both consumer and business spending likely reflected front-loading before the import duties kicked in. As such, the report reinforced Americans' growing disapproval of Trump's handling of the economy as he marks 100 days in office. Trump swept to victory last November (i.e. 2024) on voter angst over the economy, especially inflation. Consumer confidence is near five-year lows and business sentiment has tanked, while airlines have pulled their 2025 financial forecasts, citing uncertainty over spending on nonessential travel because of tariffs, which economists said will raise costs for companies and households.

3. BTS Updates National Transportation Statistics 4/30/2025

The US Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) on April 30, 2025 released its monthly update to National Transportation Statistics (NTS), a guide to historical national-level transportation trends. It also indicates a list of papers that have been updated.

4. April 2025 U.S. Transportation Sector Unemployment (3.6%) Falls Below the April 2024 Level (4.7%) And the Pre-Pandemic April 2019 Level (3.7%)

The unemployment rate in the U.S. transportation sector was 3.6% (not seasonally adjusted) in April 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 April 2025, the transportation sector unemployment rate fell 1.1 percentage points from 4.7% in April 2024 and was just below the pre-pandemic April 2019 level of 3.7%. Unemployment in the transportation sector reached its highest level during the COVID-19 pandemic (15.7%) in May 2020 and July 2020. Unemployment in the transportation sector was lower than overall unemployment. BLS reports that the U.S. unemployment rate, not seasonally adjusted, in April 2025 was 3.9% or 0.3 percentage points above the transportation sector rate. Seasonally adjusted, the U.S. unemployment rate in April 2025 was 4.2%.

5. Canada's Big Bank economists predict zero growth to come as first quarter sputters

Canada's [gross domestic product](#) likely rebounded slightly in March 2025 after contracting more than expected in February 2025, leading some economists to signal that first-quarter growth will fall short of the Bank of Canada's estimate and be followed by a no-growth second quarter or worse. A flash estimate for March released by [Statistics Canada](#) on April 30, 2025 said the economy grew 0.1 per cent month over month, but growth contracted 0.2 per cent in February 2025 compared with economists' estimate for no change. The agency said poor weather in February contributed to some of the pullback in February, but economists said Canada's economy has been slowing since posting monthly growth of 0.4 per cent in January.

6. Canadian international merchandise trade, March 2025

In March 2025, Canada's merchandise exports decreased 0.2%, while imports were down 1.5%. As a result, Canada's merchandise trade deficit with the world narrowed from \$1.4 billion in February 2025 to \$506 million in March 2025. The March deficit is within the typical bounds for monthly revisions applied to imports and exports in subsequent months.

7. Canadian international trade in services, March 2025

Canada's monthly international trade in services deficit narrowed from \$0.6

www.bts.gov

5. Canada's Big Bank economists predict zero growth to come as first quarter sputters, April 30, 2025, www.financialpost.ca

6. Canadian international merchandise trade, March 2025, May 6, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca

7. Canadian international trade in services, March 2025, March 2025, May 6, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca

8. U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Approves Another 180 Grants to Get America Building Again, May 6, 2025, www.dot.gov

9. The EESC demands immediate action to remove single market barriers and cut soaring living costs, May 6, 2025, www.europa.eu

10. Trump heralds 'breakthrough' deal with UK, May 8, 2025, www.ajot.com

11. Leading indicator of international arrivals to Canada, April 2025, May 12, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca

12. Transportation Consumer Price Index – April 2025, May 13, 2025, www.bts.gov

13. Global stocks rally after US, China pause tariff war, but uncertainty remains, May 13, 2025, www.ajot.com

14. Traffic Flow Dashboard, May 15, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca

15. Transportation Producer Price Index – April 2025, May 15, 2025, www.bts.gov

16. March 2025 Freight Transportation Services Index (TSI) Down 1.1% from the Previous Month and Up 0.4% from the Same Month Last Year, May 15, 2025, www.bts.gov

17. U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces Federal Funding to Get America Building Again with Expansion of Bus Manufacturing, Strips DEI Requirements, May 15, 2025, www.dot.gov

18. Trump's U.S. Department of Transportation Announces First-of-its-kind Agreement with Connecticut DOT to Get America Building Again, May 15, 2025, www.dot.gov

19. Trade in goods by exporter characteristics, 2024, May 16, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca

20. Transportation Secretary Duffy and Sen. Kennedy Announce New LNG Project As America Is Building Again, May 19, 2025, www.dot.gov

21. Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces Key Step Towards Building Cars in America Again, May 19, 2025, www.dot.gov

22. Transportation Secretary Duffy and Sen. Kennedy Announce New LNG Project As America Is Building Again, May 19, 2025, www.dot.gov

23. UK-EU trade deal designed to ease Brexit-driven border frictions, May 20, 2025, www.joc.com

24. Nearly €1 billion awarded to boost development of renewable hydrogen, May 19, 2025, www.europa.eu

25. Travel between Canada and other countries, March 2025, May 22, 2025, www.statcan.gc.ca

26. Trump pushes EU to cut tariffs or face extra duties, FT reports, May 23, 2025, www.ajot.com

billion in February 2025 to \$0.4 billion in March 2025. Overall, imports of services declined 0.9% to \$18.1 billion, while exports of services edged up 0.3% to \$17.7 billion. Imports of transportation services fell 5.3% to \$3.1 billion in March 2025, as services related to the transportation of goods declined alongside lower imports of goods. Imports of travel services declined 2.9% to \$4.7 billion in March 2025, due to lower spending by Canadian-resident travellers in the United States. Imports of commercial services increased 1.5% to \$10.2 billion in March 2025, led by higher imports of financial services. Exports of transportation services were up 3.6% to \$2.0 billion in March 2025, while exports of commercial services edged down 0.2% to \$10.2 billion.

27. Canada March retail sales rise 0.8%; seen up 0.5% in April, May 2, 2025, www.ajot.com
28. Ontario invests \$3.1B in Indigenous-led critical minerals supply chain, May 28, 2025, www.insidelogistics.com
29. National AccessAbility Week – Message from the Chair, May 26, 2025, www.otc-cta.gc.ca
30. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Slashes Red Tape Across FHWA, NHTSA, and FMCSA to Unburden Americans of Costly Regulations, May 29, 2025, www.dot.gov

8. U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Approves Another 180 Grants to Get America Building Again

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy on May 6, 2025 announced the Department has approved another 180 infrastructure grants to get America building again. The latest grants, which total more than \$3.2 billion, are part of the unprecedented backlog of more than 3,200 projects the previous administration announced but did not execute. Since assuming office, Secretary Duffy and the Department of Transportation have approved a total of 329 grants, or roughly 10% of the Biden–Buttigieg backlog.

9. The EESC demands immediate action to remove single market barriers and cut soaring living costs

Despite steadily decreasing inflation in Europe, cost of living remains a concern, as millions of Europeans — especially the 94.6 million people at risk of poverty or social exclusion — continue to struggle with elevated prices. In its opinion *How single market dysfunctions contribute to the rising cost of living*, adopted at its plenary session on 29 April, the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) identified single market fragmentation as a major driver of persistently high costs and called for swift measures to strengthen competition, lower prices and boost investment. ‘The cost of living in Europe is fuelled by dysfunctions in the single market. We call for urgent action to tackle barriers that affect the costs of products (such as territorial supply constraints), and to speed up proceedings against national rules that infringe EU law,’ said **Emilie Prouzet**, rapporteur of the opinion.

10. Trump heralds ‘breakthrough’ deal with UK

President Donald Trump and British Prime Minister Keir Starmer on Thursday (May 8, 2025) announced a "breakthrough deal" on trade that leaves in place a 10% tariff on goods imported from the UK while Britain agreed to lower its tariffs to 1.8% from 5.1% and provide greater access to U.S. goods. The agreement announced by Trump from the Oval Office marked the first since Trump triggered a global trade war with a barrage of levies on trading partners following his return to the White House in January 2025. "It opens up a tremendous market for us," Trump said. "This is a really fantastic, historic day," Starmer said by teleconference. With the British economy struggling to grow, the tariffs had added to the pressure on his government. Jaguar Land Rover paused its shipments to the U.S. for a month and the government was forced to seize control of British Steel to keep it operating. The deal will reduce U.S. tariffs on British auto imports to 10% from the current 27.5% according to a UK statement. The lower rate will apply to a quota of 100,000 British vehicles, almost the total exported to the U.S. last year. U.S. tariffs on imports from the struggling UK steel industry will fall to zero from 25%, while British tariffs on U.S. ethanol will fall to zero from 19%. Both sides have agreed new reciprocal market access on beef – with UK farmers given a tariff-free quota for 13,000 metric tonnes. There will be no weakening of UK food standards on imports.

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

In April 2025, the preliminary number of international arrivals (returning Canadian residents and non-residents combined) to Canada by air and automobile was 4.5 million, down 15.2% from April 2024. This was the third consecutive month of year-over-year declines. In April 2025, *non-resident arrivals to Canada by air* totalled 632,600, down 1.2% year over year. In April, *Canadian-resident return trips by air* from abroad stood at 1.8 million, edging down 1.7% from the same month one year earlier. In April 2025, the number of *US-resident trips to Canada by automobile* (820,700) showed a decline by 10.7% from the same month in 2024. In April 2025, the number of *Canadian-resident return trips by automobile* from the United States totalled 1.2 million, a steep decline (-35.2%) from the same month in 2024.

12. Transportation Consumer Price Index – April 2025

The CPI for all transportation goods and services fell 1.5% from April 2024 to April 2025. Transportation dampened 10.0% to the 2.3% increase in the price of all goods and services, per the CPI. Motor vehicle insurance contributed the most to inflation, rising 6.4% year-over-year and contributing 7.9% to the annual change in the price of all goods and services. By item, the top three contributors to inflation in April 2025 were: 1. Motor vehicle insurance: +7.9%; 2. Motor vehicle maintenance and repair: +2.7%; and 3. Used cars and trucks: +1.6%.

13. Global stocks rally after US, China pause tariff war, but uncertainty remains

Global stock markets surged on Monday (May 12, 2025) after the U.S. and China agreed to slash steep tariffs for at least 90 days, tapping the brakes on a trade war between the world's two biggest economies that had fed fears of a global recession. But the temporary pause did little to address the underlying schisms that led to the dispute, including the U.S. trade deficit with China and U.S. President Donald Trump's demand for more action from Beijing to combat the U.S. fentanyl crisis.

14. Traffic Flow Dashboard

Statistics Canada has launched the Traffic Flow Dashboard as a source of experimental statistics to provide information on the traffic flow on selected road segments in the cities of Calgary and Toronto. This dashboard shows traffic count data that are obtained from traffic camera imagery using a computer vision-based system developed at Statistics Canada's Data Exploration and Integration Lab.

15. Transportation Producer Price Index – April 2025

On May 15, 2025, the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) released the change in the costs faced by producers purchasing transportation services and industries producing them, from April 2024 to April 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 1.7% in April 2025 from April 2024. Increases in transportation services PPI indicate increases in production costs faced by industries purchasing the services. From April 2024 to April 2025, the transportation services PPI changed, by mode as follows: 1. Air: +3.6%; 2. Rail: +2.0%; 3. Truck: +0.6%; 4. Water: +4.0%; and 5. Arrangement of freight and cargo: +7.3%.

16. March 2025 Freight Transportation Services Index (TSI) Down 1.1% from the Previous Month and Up 0.4% 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 1.1% in March 2025 from February 2025, falling after a one-month increase, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS). From March 2024 to March 2025 the index rose 0.4%.

17. U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces Federal Funding to Get America Building Again with Expansion of Bus Manufacturing, Strips DEI Requirements

U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy on May 15, 2025 announced the availability of approximately \$1.5 billion in competitive grant funding for projects that expand bus manufacturing as part of his agenda to get America building again. This new federal funding from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) will help create jobs within the industry by building and renovating bus facilities and expanding accessibility for American families utilizing commuter transit.

18. Trump's U.S. Department of Transportation Announces First-of-its-kind Agreement with Connecticut DOT to Get America Building Again

U.S. Deputy Transportation Secretary Steven G. Bradbury on May 15, 2025 joined state officials in Connecticut to announce a first-of-its-kind programmatic agreement establishing a unified federal review process and delegating authority to the state to accelerate the review of individual transportation projects that may affect historic properties under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. This move is the latest in a series of innovative actions to ensure America is building again. The U.S. Department of Transportation estimates that this new type of streamlined agreement could cut up to 6 weeks or more off from the schedules of at least 90 projects in Connecticut per year, including the Gold Star Memorial Bridge between New London and Groton, a new Bus Rapid Transit system in New Haven and Metro-North Railroad Customer Service Improvements along the New Haven Line.

19. Trade in goods by exporter characteristics, 2024

There were 48,036 Canadian exporting enterprises in 2024, down 1.4% from the previous year. This marked the first year since 2020 that the number of goods exporters declined. Fewer small and medium-sized enterprises (-1.5%) exported goods in 2024, while the number of large exporting enterprises edged up 0.6%. Despite fewer exporting enterprises, the overall value of goods exported by SMEs, defined as having fewer than 500 employees, was up \$2.4 billion (+0.9%) in 2024. The value of goods exported by large enterprises also increased, up by \$7.1 billion (+1.7%). In 2024, most Canadian exporting enterprises (97.4%) were SMEs. By value, SMEs generated two-fifths (40.0%) of goods exports, while large enterprises made up the remaining 60.0%.

20. Transportation Secretary Duffy and Sen. Kennedy Announce New LNG Project As America Is Building Again

Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy and Louisiana Sen. John Kennedy (R-LA) announced a new project on May 19, 2025 to promote President Trump's energy dominance agenda. In line with the president's order to build in America again, McNeese State University in Lake Charles, La. was selected as the site of the PHMSA National Center of

Excellence for Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Safety. McNeese is the first undergraduate institution in the U.S. to offer a certificate program in LNG Business and is already the site of its own LNG Center of Excellence.

21. Trump's Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Announces Key Step Towards Building Cars in America Again

U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy on May 19, 2025 announced the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration recently submitted the interpretive rule, "Resetting the Corporate Average Fuel Economy Program (CAFE)," to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs for review. This is a key step towards reversing the prior administration's illegal interpretation of CAFE standards that made cars more expensive for working class families. *"Under President Trump's leadership, we are making life more affordable with cars made in America again. The Biden-Buttigieg administration illegally used CAFE standards as a backdoor electric vehicle mandate – driving the price of cars up. Resetting CAFE standards as Congress' intended will lower vehicle costs and ensure the American people can purchase the cars they want,"* said U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy.

22. Transportation Secretary Duffy and Sen. Kennedy Announce New LNG Project As America Is Building Again

Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy and Louisiana Sen. John Kennedy (R-LA) announced a new project on May 19, 2025 to promote President Trump's energy dominance agenda. In line with the president's order to build in America again, McNeese State University in Lake Charles, La. was selected as the site of the PHMSA National Center of Excellence for Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Safety. McNeese is the first undergraduate institution in the U.S. to offer a certificate program in LNG Business and is already the site of its own LNG Center of Excellence.

23. UK-EU trade deal designed to ease Brexit-driven border frictions

The trade deal hammered out between the UK and the European Union is being hailed by business groups and the logistics industry as a positive step toward reducing border frictions that have been in place since Britain formally left the EU in 2020. But even as the ink dries on the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement signed May 19, 2025, business leaders are urging both sides to ensure the streamlined cross-border measures agreed to are implemented in full. A third of all UK-EU trade volume passes through the Port of Dover on England's southeast coast. Steve Parker, director-general of the British International Freight Association (BIFA), said "It is now down to government to work out the most practical solutions,"

24. Nearly €1 billion awarded to boost development of renewable hydrogen

On May 19, 2025, the Commission announced the selection of **15 renewable hydrogen production projects** for public funding across the European Economic Area (EEA). The projects, located across five countries, are **expected to produce nearly 2.2 million tonnes of renewable hydrogen over ten years, avoiding more than 15 million tonnes of CO₂ emissions**. The hydrogen will be produced in sectors such as transportation, the chemical industry, or the production of methanol and ammonia. They will receive **a total of €992 million in EU funding**, from the Innovation Fund sourced from the EU Emissions Trading System (ETS). The winning bidders, awarded after the second European Hydrogen Bank (EHB) auction, will produce the renewable hydrogen in Europe with a subsidy that will help to close the price difference between their production costs and the market price and accelerate the deployment of cleaner fuels.

25. Travel between Canada and other countries, March 2025

In March 2025, the number of trips to Canada by US residents decreased 6.6% year over year to 1.2 million trips. The number of trips to Canada by overseas residents fell 17.4%, marking a sixth consecutive month of year-over-year declines. The number of Canadian-resident return trips from abroad (United States and overseas combined) was also down in March 2025, declining 14.9% compared with the same month in 2024. On a seasonally adjusted monthly basis, non-resident arrivals (United States and overseas residents combined) in Canada increased 2.4% in March 2025, while returning Canadian-resident arrivals fell 7.1%.

26. Trump pushes EU to cut tariffs or face extra duties, FT reports

President Donald Trump's trade negotiators are pushing the EU to make unilateral tariff reductions on U.S. goods, saying without concessions the bloc will not progress in talks to avoid additional 20% "reciprocal" duties. U.S. Trade Representative Jamieson Greer is preparing to tell European Trade Commissioner Maros Sefcovic on Friday (May 23, 2025) that a recent "explanatory note" shared by Brussels for the talks falls short of U.S. expectations, the newspaper said, citing unnamed sources. Reuters was unable to immediately verify the report. The Office of the United States Trade Representative did not respond to a Reuters request for comment outside regular business hours. "The priority for the EU is to seek a fair, balanced deal with the U.S., one that our massive trade and investment relationship deserves," Olof Gill, the European Commission spokesperson for trade, told Reuters in an email. The European Union continues to actively engage with the U.S., with Commissioner Sefcovic due to speak to Greer on Friday (May 30, 2025), Gill added. The FT reported that the European Union has been pushing for a jointly agreed framework text for the talks but the two sides remain too far apart. The U.S. imposed 25% tariffs on EU cars, steel and aluminium in March and 20% tariffs on other EU goods in April. It then halved the 20% rate until July 8, setting a 90-day window for

talks to reach a more comprehensive tariff deal. In response, the 27-nation EU suspended its own plans to impose retaliatory tariffs on some U.S. goods and proposed zero duties for all industrial goods on both sides.

27. Canada March retail sales rise 0.8%; seen up 0.5% in April

Canadian retail sales grew by 0.8% in March 2025 from February 2025, more than analysts had forecast, and looked set to increase by 0.5% in April 2025, Statistics Canada data indicated on Friday (May 23). The largest increase was the 4.8% gain posted by motor vehicle and parts dealers, the first rise in three months. Analysts suggested one reason was consumers rushing to buy cars before U.S. tariffs took effect in April 2025. Analysts had expected a 0.7% increase in March. "Canadian consumers haven't tightened the purse strings much it seems in the face of tariff uncertainty," said Andrew Grantham, senior economist at CIBC Capital Markets. In March 2025, sales were up in six of nine subsectors, representing 58.9% of retail trade. In volume terms, retail sales increased by 0.9%. Bank of Canada Governor Tiff Macklem said on Thursday (May 22) he expected second-quarter growth to be "quite a bit weaker" than the first quarter, and that it could be worse in subsequent quarters if the uncertainty around tariffs continued. Currency swap market bets show odds of a 25 basis point rate cut in June 2025 at 32%, unchanged from before the data release.

28. Ontario invests \$3.1B in Indigenous-led critical minerals supply chain

The Ontario government is investing \$3.1 billion to support Indigenous participation in the province's growing critical minerals sector, aiming to establish a made-in-Ontario supply chain grounded in shared ownership and opportunity. The Progressive Conservative government announced the funding package includes \$3 billion through the new Indigenous Opportunities Financing Program, which will help Indigenous partners expand into high-growth sectors beyond electricity. An additional \$70 million over four years will go to the Indigenous Participation Fund to build community capacity in regions with significant mineral activity. The province will also provide \$10 million over three years in scholarships for Indigenous postsecondary students pursuing careers in resource development.

29. National AccessAbility Week – Message from the Chair

As we recognize *National AccessAbility Week* from May 25 to May 31, 2025, I am proud to reflect on the Canadian Transportation Agency's (CTA) ongoing commitment to help achieve consistent, cohesive, and connected transportation services for persons with disabilities. The CTA is dedicated to ensuring that transportation services are accessible to all Canadians. Our efforts include: 1. Engaging with the community to understand their experiences and needs, ensuring that our policies and services reflect their insights; 2. Continuing to enforce our regulations, to help ensure that transportation services are barrier-free; and 3. Providing comprehensive training for our staff on accessibility and disability inclusion, fostering a culture of understanding and respect. One of our key focuses continues to be issues related to mobility aids, as this remains the highest volume of complaints we receive. We have been actively working with stakeholders on several fronts to raise awareness on the importance of mobility aids and the services provided to passengers who rely on them. For example, in partnership with the National Research Council Canada and Transport Canada, earlier this year job aids for transportation industry mobility aid handlers, consisting of visual aids to help them quickly recall their training during operations, were developed. Mobility aids are the extension of a person's body and need to be protected and returned to the people who depend on them so that they can complete their travel journey autonomously.

30. Transportation Secretary Sean P. Duffy Slashes Red Tape Across FHWA, NHTSA, and FMCSA to Unburden Americans of Costly Regulations

Secretary of Transportation Sean P. Duffy announced on May 29, 2025, 52 deregulatory actions across Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). In total, the deregulatory package will rescind, withdraw, or amend burdensome regulations that do not enhance safety. These actions also help streamline the Code of Federal Regulations by deleting over 73,000 words from the Federal Register.