

## Commodities by Tons Shipped: 2007 and 2012

Millions of Tons of Commodities

	2007	2012
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,543</b>	<b>11,299</b>
Live animals and fish	6	2
Cereal grains	514	479
Agricultural products	212	219
Animal feed and other products of animal origin	246	239
Meat, seafood, and their preparations	98	90
Milled grain and bakery products	120	115
Other prepared foodstuffs*	468	527
Alcoholic beverages and denatured alcohol*	114	99
Tobacco products	3	3
Monumental or building stone	29	11
Natural sands	460	438
Gravel and crushed stone	2,039	1,538
Other non-metallic minerals	272	145
Metallic ores and concentrates	77	95
Coal	1,416	1,048
Gasoline, aviation turbine fuel, and ethanol*	959	1,244
Fuel oils*	642	843
Other coal and petroleum products	578	528
Basic chemicals	413	343
Pharmaceutical products	19	16
Fertilizers	150	194
Other chemical products and preparations	124	106
Plastics and rubber	186	183
Logs and other wood in the rough	108	35
Wood products	324	297
Pulp, newsprint, paper, and paperboard	145	123
Paper or paperboard articles	82	77
Printed products	51	39
Articles of textiles or leather	47	40
Non-metallic mineral products	1,157	793
Base metal in primary or semi-finished forms	365	305
Articles of base metal	132	101
Machinery	67	75
Electronic and other electrical equipment	48	46
Motorized and other vehicles	133	130
Transportation equipment	7	8
Precision instruments and apparatus	6	7
Furniture, mattresses, and lighting	27	28
Miscellaneous manufactured products	92	74
Waste and scrap	306	241
Mixed freight	301	374

\* - Due to definition changes, data from 2007 is not strictly comparable.

**Notes:** Shipments of unknown commodities were less than 1 million tons in 2007 and were 1 million tons in 2012.

**Source:** Bureau of Transportation Statistics and U.S. Census Bureau, American FactFinder, 2012 Commodity Flow Survey, Table A06; available at <http://factfinder2.census.gov/>.

CFS data and other freight-related data can be obtained by the following methods:

### BTS Website:

[http://www.rita.dot.gov/bts/sites/rita.dot.gov/bts/files/publications/commodity\\_flow\\_survey/index.html](http://www.rita.dot.gov/bts/sites/rita.dot.gov/bts/files/publications/commodity_flow_survey/index.html)

### Email:

[answers@dot.gov](mailto:answers@dot.gov) or [cfs@dot.gov](mailto:cfs@dot.gov)

### U.S. Mail:

U.S. Department of Transportation  
Bureau of Transportation Statistics  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

### Phone:

(800) 853-1351

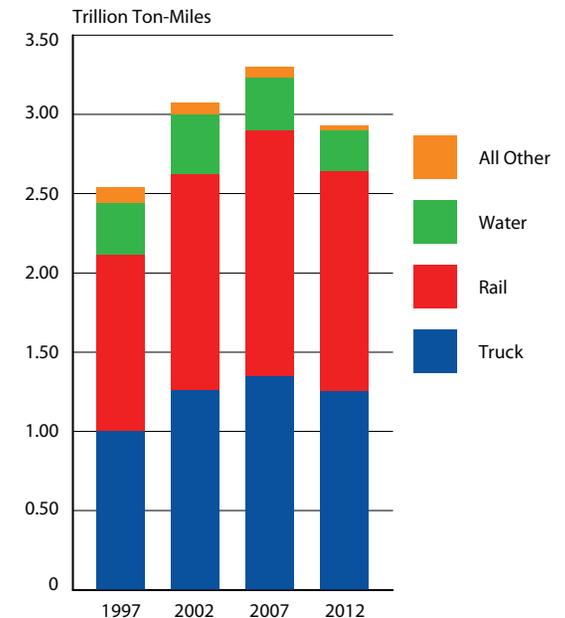


BTS Photo

# The Commodity Flow Survey

A rich source of data on the movement of goods in the United States

## Ton-Miles by Transportation Mode: 1997-2012



**Notes:** All Other includes air, parcel, unknown mode (2007 and before), and other modes.

**Sources:** Bureau of Transportation Statistics and U.S. Census Bureau, 2012 Commodity Flow Survey, National Data, Table 2b; 2007 Commodity Flow Survey, National Data, Table 2b; and 2002 Commodity Flow Survey, National Data, Table 2b.



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U.S. Department of Transportation  
Bureau of Transportation Statistics

The Commodity Flow Survey (CFS) is a joint effort by the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) and the U.S. Census Bureau. The CFS produces data on the type, value, weight, origin and destination, and mode of commodity shipments originating from U.S. manufacturing, mining, wholesale, and select retail establishments.

The CFS is part of the Economic Census and is conducted every 5 years in years ending in 2 and 7. Final data tables for the 2012 CFS are available through American FactFinder. Additionally, 2012 CFS print publications and public-use microdata can be accessed through the BTS website ([http://www.rita.dot.gov/bts/sites/rita.dot.gov/bts/files/publications/commodity\\_flow\\_survey/index.html](http://www.rita.dot.gov/bts/sites/rita.dot.gov/bts/files/publications/commodity_flow_survey/index.html)).

The CFS is the principal source of data for the Freight Analysis Framework (FAF). FAF augments CFS with other datasets, resulting in a comprehensive dataset on freight flows in the U.S. CFS data are used to measure volumes and mode choices, and also to establish distribution patterns in the FAF.

CFS data are used by policy makers and transportation planners in Federal, State, and local agencies to assess demand for transportation facilities and services, energy use, safety risk, and environmental concerns. Additionally, business owners, private researchers, and analysts use the CFS data to analyze trends in the movement of goods, map spatial patterns of commodity and vehicle flows, forecast demands for the movement of goods, and determine needs for associated infrastructure and equipment.

## CFS PRODUCTS AND PUBLICATIONS

- The CFS is a primary data collection program that produces a rich source of information on the movement of goods in the United States. Three principal reports, coproduced by BTS and the U.S. Census Bureau, and additional data sources are available online:
- **United States: National Data** — Provides national-level data tables on domestic shipments that cover a wide mix of parameters, including transportation mode, distance shipped, shipment weight, commodity code, industry, temperature control, and origin and destination.
- **United States: Hazardous Materials** — Provides data tables on domestic hazardous materials shipments, including hazardous material shipments by mode, hazard class, selected UN numbers, hazardous versus nonhazardous characteristics, and state of origin and destination.
- **United States: Exports** — Presents data on value, tons, and domestic ton-miles for shipments from the U.S. to a foreign country or to a U.S. possession or territory. Data are calculated from survey responses on foreign country and city destination, U.S. port of exit, and domestic and export modes.
- **American FactFinder** — This Census Bureau website (<http://factfinder2.census.gov>) is the access point for all available CFS data. Tables are available for value, weight, ton-miles, and average distance per shipment in various combinations of commodity, origin and destination geography, mode, temperature control, shipment distance, shipment weight, and industry. The tables also include the Hazardous Material and Export series.
- **CFS Public-Use Microdata** — Contains shipment-level information on commodity, weight, value, regions of origin and destination, distance, mode, and industry. This is new for the 2012 CFS and will allow researchers to create tailored tabulations. The microdata file can be accessed at <https://www.census.gov/econ/cfs/pums.html>.
- **State Summaries: Commodity Flow Survey** — Provides tables for each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia for value and weight of shipments, major commodities shipped, mode, distance shipped, destination state, and industry. This report is produced by BTS and will be available on the BTS website in early 2016.