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[Logistics Market Snapshot - June 2016](#) **[1]**

On 20 Jun, 2016



JUNE LOGISTICS 2016 MARKET SNAPSHOT

MULTIMODAL:

Dow Jones Transportation Index	Dow Jones Transportation index increased 0.87% during the month of May 2016. <i>(Stock performance of twenty large, well-known U.S. companies in the transportation industry, average of May 1st thru June 15th)</i>
NASDAQ Transportation Index	NASDAQ Transportation Index increased 0.62% in May 2016. <i>(Averaged share weights of NASDAQ-listed companies classified as transportation companies, average of May 1st thru June 15th)</i>
DOT Freight Transportation Index	The USDOT's freight transportation services index increased 1.3% in April. The index's reading of 121.1 was 27.9% above the April 2009 low during the most recent recession, and was 2% below the all-time high level of 123.6 in December 2014. (Source: US DOT)
Cass Freight Index	The April shipments index increased 0.6% from the previous month to 1.077 and decreased 4.9% year-over-year. The April expenditures index increased 0.2% for the month to 2.292, and decreased 8.3% year-over-year. (Source: Cass Information Systems Cassinfo.com) <i>(Based upon transportation dollars and shipments of Cass clients comprised of over 400 shipping companies)</i>
Import Volumes	In April, the U.S. imported \$178.9 billion of cargo, increasing 2.4 % from March. The April imports of services (\$41.4 billion) were the highest on record . (Source: US Census)
Export Volumes	In April, the U.S. exported \$120.1 billion of cargo, increasing 2.5% from March. The April exports to South Korea (\$3.0 billion) were the lowest since January 2010 . (Source: US Census)
Import & Export Price Index	U.S. import prices increased 1.4% in May. The increase was driven by higher fuel prices, although nonfuel prices also increased. U.S. export prices increased 1.1% in May. Both agricultural and nonagricultural export prices contributed to the May advance. (Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics)
Shippers Conditions Index	The Shippers Conditions Index was 0.04 in March, down from 4.70 in February and up from -4.86 in April 2015 . (Source: FTR Transportation Intelligence ftrintel.com) (Figures below zero indicate a less-than-ideal environment for shippers)
E-Commerce	E-Commerce revenue was up 8% in May compared to May 2015. Mobile shopping (phones and tablets) accounted for 31% of online shopping, up from 27% in May 2015. (Source: Custora E-Commerce Pulse)
Multimodal News Clips:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U.S. light vehicle sales were a seasonally adjusted and annualized 17.4 million in May 2016, up 0.2% from April and down 6.1% from May 2015. (Source: AAR) • Walmart, the county's largest retailer, is testing the use of flying drones to handle inventory at its large warehouses, which supply the thousands of Walmart stores throughout the nation. In six to nine months, the company said, the machines may be used in one or more of its distribution centers. (Source: NY Times)

RAIL:

U.S. Freight Rail Traffic	Originations of carloads in May 2016 totaled 962,571, a decrease of 10.3% from May 2015 and the 16th straight year-over-year monthly decline . Weekly average total carloads in May 2016 were 240,643, the third lowest for any month since sometime prior to 1988 , when AAR's data began. (Source: AAR.org) <i>(Report includes rail car loadings by 19 different major commodity categories as well as intermodal units)</i>
U.S. Intermodal Rail Traffic	Intermodal rail traffic totaled 1,049,631 units in May, a decrease of 3.3% from May 2015 . This is the third straight year-over-year percentage decline for intermodal and the sixth in the past eight months. (Source: AAR.org) <i>(Report includes rail car loadings by 19 different major commodity categories as well as intermodal units)</i>
Intermodal Competitive Index	The Intermodal Competitive Index stood at a level of 4.8 in March, indicating generally positive but not stellar intermodal conditions. Improved service and rising fuel prices are positives, while generally slack demand and ample truck capacity are among the negatives. (Source: FTR Transportation Intelligence ftrintel.com) (Index includes factors like relative rates vs. truck, industry capacity vs. demand, fuel prices, and intermodal service levels. Figures above 0 indicate favorable conditions for intermodal to compete with truck)
Railroad Fuel Price Index	The index of average railroad fuel prices in April was 254.7, up 4.38% from the previous month and 28.8% lower year-over-year . (Source: AAR.org) <i>(Average monthly price for oil used by freight railroads; includes federal excise taxes, transportation, and handling expenses)</i>
Class 1 Railroad Employment	Railroad employment in April decreased 0.37% from the previous month, to 153,143 employees total. Railroad employment has fallen for 12 consecutive months. (Source: U.S. STB)
Short Line Rail Traffic	In May 2016, short line railroad shipments across North America decreased 6.02% compared to the same month last year. A sampling of about 431 small railroads in the U.S. and Canada loaded 502,773 railcars and intermodal units during the month of May. (Source: RailConnect Index GE Transportation)



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