The State of Freight in Kentucky

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Kentucky Facts and Figures

According to the most recent CFS, coal is the number one commodity being traded within, from, and to Kentucky by weight and ton-miles. The number one commodity by value is motorized vehicles.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE OF ORIGIN</th>
<th>All Modes</th>
<th>Truck</th>
<th>Rail</th>
<th>Water</th>
<th>Air</th>
<th>Multiple Modes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Value (millions of dollars)</td>
<td>241,879</td>
<td>164,037</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>2,210</td>
<td>1,082</td>
<td>17,714</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight (thousands of tons)</td>
<td>408,434</td>
<td>207,000</td>
<td>126,808</td>
<td>36,754</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>19,309</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ton-Miles (millions)</td>
<td>111,257</td>
<td>25,016</td>
<td>64,033</td>
<td>7,567</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>14,278</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

S: Data did not meet publication standard

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE OF DESTINATION</th>
<th>All Modes</th>
<th>Truck</th>
<th>Rail</th>
<th>Water</th>
<th>Air</th>
<th>Multiple Modes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Value (millions of dollars)</td>
<td>225,715</td>
<td>164,106</td>
<td>7,100</td>
<td>2,122</td>
<td>2,767</td>
<td>27,274</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight (thousands of tons)</td>
<td>299,035</td>
<td>217,094</td>
<td>40,058</td>
<td>10,800</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>15,524</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ton-Miles (millions)</td>
<td>68,991</td>
<td>22,960</td>
<td>36,131</td>
<td>4,069</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>5,103</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Coal** (nonagglomerated bituminous coal) continues to account for the **most ton-miles** - 59.6%. If petroleum products are included, the total rises to 61.6%.
- **Coal** also continues to have the **highest percentage for tons shipped** – 48.2%. If petroleum products are included, the total rises to 58%.
- **Motorized vehicles** and other vehicles (including parts) have the **highest percentage by value** with 27.2%.

Freight in Kentucky

The Commodity Flow Survey (CFS) is the primary source of national and state level data on domestic freight shipments. According to the most recent Commodity Flow Survey (CFS) conducted in 2007, in Kentucky...

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Photo courtesy of John Michael Johnson, KYTC’s District 12.
Kentucky Participation in Freight Coalitions

What is a Freight Coalition? A freight coalition is a group of interested parties that have found it beneficial to join together to make decisions about freight mobility regardless of state borders.

Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) – “ARC is a federal-state partnership that works for sustainable community and economic development in Appalachia. ARC has four main goals; 1) Increase job opportunities and per capita income in Appalachia to reach parity with the nation. 2) Strengthen the capacity of the people of Appalachia to compete in the global economy. 3) Develop and improve Appalachia’s infrastructure to make the Region economically competitive. 4) Build the Appalachian Development Highway System to reduce Appalachia’s isolation.” For more info go to: www.arc.gov

Delta Regional Authority (DRA) – “The Delta Regional Authority works to improve life for the residents of 252 counties and parishes in parts of eight states. Led by a federal co-chairman appointed by the president and the governors of the eight states, the DRA fosters partnerships throughout the region as it attempts to improve the Delta economy. DRA funds can be used to leverage other federal and state programs.” For more info go to: www.dra.gov

Institute for Trade and Transportation Studies (ITTS) – “The Institute for Trade and Transportation Studies provides research data and expert opinions to its Members concerning the effects of commercial freight movements on domestic and international activities, with reference to infrastructure and transportation needs, and safety implications.” For more info go to: www.ittsresearch.org

Mid-America Freight Coalition (MAFC) – “The Mid-America Freight Coalition is a regional organization that cooperates in the planning, operation, preservation, and improvement of transportation infrastructure in the Midwest.” For more info: www.midamericafreight.org

Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway Development Council – “The Council was formed to provide a forum for the multitude of public and private interests in the operation and use of the waterway. The non-profit organization is governed by an independent board of directors and officers elected by its membership. The Council represents commercial users in the operation and maintenance of the project and addresses research needs and technical matters that may impact its potential benefits. The economic interests of its membership are far ranging, including industrial development, recreation, tourism, and trade.” For more info go to: www.tenntom.org/organizations
Airways (2010 data)
- 62 regional or local airports
  - 6 major air carrier airports, 2 of which are international airports
  - 3 major hub operations (Delta, DHL, and UPS)
- Over 12.4 million passengers annually
  - LEX - 1,104,558; SDF (LOU) - 3,349,162; CVG (CIN) - 977,588
- Over 13.1 billion pounds of freight handled annually
  - LEX - 164,801; SDF - 4,777,478,457; CVG - 8,313,842,000

Highways (2009 data)
- 47.2 billion vehicle miles of travel annually
- 78,913 miles of public roads and streets.
  - 27,662 miles of state-maintained highways (2010)
  - 2,888 miles on the National Highway System (2010)
- 8,937 state-maintained bridges (2010)
- 9 interstate highways
- 10 state parkways

Railways (2008 data)
- 2,558 miles of railroad track, 28th among the states in rail mileage
- 13 operating railroads
- 269.4 million tons of freight originated, terminated, or passed through KY
  - 86.1 million tons carried by rail annually (originating)
  - 39.2 million tons carried by rail annually (terminating)
- 2 Amtrak long-distance trains
- 5 Amtrak stations
- 8,996 Amtrak passengers annually

Waterways (2011 data)
- 90,961 miles of rivers, creeks, streams, and tributaries
- 1,269 miles of navigable waterways
  - Ohio River - 664 miles
  - Kentucky River - 259 miles
  - Green River - 103 miles
  - Cumberland River - 102 miles
  - Tennessee River - 64 miles
  - Mississippi River - 63 miles
  - Big Sandy River - 10 miles
  - Licking River - 4 miles
- 10 ferry boat operations
- 12 public river port authorities; 7 active, 5 developing
- 14 navigation locks and dams
In 2007 federal legislation established a portion of the future I-69 corridor through Kentucky. The proposed section is 145 miles long and will utilize existing roadways: Breathitt Parkway, Western Kentucky Parkway, Purchase Parkway and a portion of I-24. For more info go to: www.corridors.dot.gov

**Corridor of the Future in Kentucky**

Interstate 69, one of the proposed Corridors of the Future, would pass through the western part of Kentucky.

**America’s Marine Highway Initiative**

“America’s Marine Highway Initiative encompasses commercial waterborne transportation which does not transit an ocean. It is an alternative form of commercial transportation that utilizes inland, coastal waterways and our Great Lakes to move commercial freight from one destination to another.” The map below was generated by the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Maritime Administration and shows the three marine corridors that will impact Kentucky. For more info go to: www.marad.dot.gov

The three marine highways that will impact Kentucky are:

- **M55** on the Mississippi River
- **M65** on the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway
- **M70** on the Ohio River