Surface Transportation Board
Freight Commodity Statistics
General instructions

All Class I railroads are required to report their car loadings and total revenues by commodity code. 49 C.F.R. § 1248.

The template consists of two Excel (.xlsx) files. Each Excel file includes two tabs – one with carrier information and the other with data. Please do not leave remarks in the Excel files.

One Excel template is for public reporting. Individual cells representing less than three shippers must be filed confidentially using the Excel file marked confidential. If there is no confidential data, there is no need to submit a blank confidential Excel file. In the public filing, there is a note on whether confidential data exists. Every quarter, beginning with the reporting for Q1 2025, reporting entities must submit the Excel file(s).

Please note that the revised template no longer requires creating total carloads and tons by STCC nor are annual reports required. The STB will make those calculations. This substantially reduces the number of reporting fields but makes it critical that any data revisions from prior periods are promptly filed with the agency.

Public Excel file

Numerical formatting:

- Enter numbers without comma separators, dollar signs, or other formatting.
- All dollar values units must be **rounded to the nearest dollar** and tons rounded to the nearest ton.

The respondent information in the QCS_cover tab must be entered in column B.

QCS_data tab, Columns C through K represent the following:

- C: Revenue freight originating on respondents' road; terminating on line; carloads
- D: Revenue freight originating on respondents' road; terminating on line; tons
- E: Revenue freight originating on respondents' road; delivered to connections; carloads
- F: Revenue freight originating on respondents' road; delivered to connections; tons
- G: Revenue freight received from connecting carriers; terminating on line; carloads
- H: Revenue freight received from connecting carriers; terminating on line; tons
- I: Revenue freight received from connecting carriers; delivered to connections; carloads
- J: Revenue freight received from connecting carriers; delivered to connections; tons
- K: Gross freight revenue dollars

Fill out each cell in QCS_data worksheet with the information corresponding to the line-column combination implied by that cell. Do not delete any rows in the worksheet, even if there is no freight corresponding to a specific STCC.

Confidential Excel file

For the QCS_data worksheet, the confidential Excel template has the same column schema as the public datasheet. However, since STCCs corresponding to confidential information may vary from quarter to quarter, you will also need to fill in:

- Column A: STCC code: use the same coding format as the public file.
- Column B: STCC description: use the same description as the public file.

Fill in the cells corresponding to the lines you produced in columns C through K.

File names must follow the naming convention:
STB_FCS_PUBLIC_RRRR_YEAR_QQ_YYYYMMDDHHMM.xlsx

STB_FCS_CONFIDENTIAL_RRRR_YEAR_QQ_YYYYMMDDHHMM.xlsx.

- RRRR is the reporting mark of the carrier (e.g., CSXT, NS, BNSF, UP, GTC, CPKC), YEAR is the year of the reporting date, QQ is the reference quarter, and YYYYMMDDHHMM is the approximate timestamp the data was extracted from source systems (YYYYMMDD is the date format for year, month, day and HHMM is the military time (2400)). If a railroad needs to submit a replacement CSV file upload, the second file must have an updated YYYYMMDDHHMM according to the file name convention

Spreadsheets must never include additional added rows or columns, and data must be in the same cells that are provided in the templates. Failure to follow specific instructions may result in a need to refile. Submissions are electronically checked for numeric consistency.

Please note that the information on railroad employee name and contact information are for internal STB use only and will not be included in any files posted to our website.

Filings are due 60 days after the end of the calendar quarter and must be submitted via email to stb-data@stb.gov. Please do not email data to individual agency staff. You will receive an email confirming submission. If you have any questions, please contact the Office of Economics at the same email address used for data submissions.