

# 1974 Remains Record For Trailer Shipments

For those who like to keep score, 1974 is still the most productive year in trailer manufacturing history, according to the Current Industrial Reports trailer shipment summary for 1979.

Manufacturers shipped 209,522 complete trailers in 1979, just 87 fewer than were shipped during 1974.

Also produced last year were 9,154 containers, 14,700 containers chassis, and 8,000 dollies and converter gear. Overall, this is slightly below 1974 production of 16,359 containers, 14,922 container chassis, and 2,238 dollies and converter gear.

Last year's shipments of complete trailers were 7% more than those of 1978. Semi-insulated trailers and automobile transporters were the only single types of trailers to finish lower than the previous year. Specifically:

**Van trailers** increased 7% compared with 1978. Among them refrigerated vans (19,772) increased 12%, semi-insulated (1,443) fell 24%, drop frames (6,508) were up 7%, livestock vans (3,145) jumped 113%, dry freight vans (103,447) climbed 6%, and open top vans (6,354) enjoyed a 48% increase.

**Tank trailers** (8,586) finished 17% ahead of 1978. Tanks for flammable liquids (3,604) increased 13%, chemical and acid tanks were up 46%, and all other tank trailers climbed 7%.

**Bulk commodity trailers** (3,671) enjoyed a 9% increase.

**Pole trailers** manufacturers shipped 1,543 trailers, a 26% increase.

**Platform trailers** (33,822) increased 6%.

**Heavy haulers** (6,699) were up 17%.

**Dump Trailers** (10,819) climbed 11%.

**Auto transporters** (1,275) fell 27%.

**Miscellaneous trailers** (4,623) finished 17% below 1978

**Containers** (9,154) jumped 41% above 1978 shipments

**Container chassis** (14,700) fell 50% from the 29,775 units shipped in 1978.

**Dollies and converter gear** (8,000) increased an estimated 38%.

Trailer	1979	% of Total Shipments	1978	% of Total Shipments
Total trailers	209,522		194,976	
Vans (total)	138,484	66%	128,566	65%
Insulated	19,972	9%	17,660	9%
Semi-Insulated	1,443	1%	1,905	1%
Drop Frame	6,508	3%	6,060	1%
Livestock	3,145	2%	1,472	1%
Closed Top	103,447	49%	97,190	49%
Tank	8,586	4%	7,330	4%
Bulk Commodity	3,671	2%	3,363	2%
Pole	1,543	1%	1,220	1%
Platform	33,822	16%	31,678	16%
Heavy Hauler	6,699	3%	5,696	3%
Dump	10,819	5%	9,788	5%
Auto Carrier	1,275	1%	1,762	1%
Miscellaneous	4,623	2%	5,573	3%