

### Trailer Shipments, 1988 vs 1989

	1988	1989	% Dif
Complete trailers	186,483	181,478	-3%
Total vans	131,991	130,163	-1%
Insulated	21,285	19,986	-6%
Semi-insulated	3,577	4,901	37%
Dropframe	5,974	6,267	5%
Livestock	1,511	1,765	17%
Dry freight	96,390	94,027	-2%
Open tops	3,254	3,218	-1%
Tanks (total)	5,075	4,789	-6%
Flammable liquids	2,016	2,005	-1%
Chemical & acid	1,591	1,562	-2%
All other tanks	1,125	1,222	9%
Bulk commodity	1,065	1,848	74%
Pole & logging	710	780	10%
Platforms	17,648	18,411	4%
Lowbeds	10,508	9,586	-9%
Dump trailers	9,295	7,860	-15%
Auto transporters	1,005	953	-5%
All other trailers	9,186	7,088	-23%
Containers & chassis	42,952	24,779	-42%
Dollies & converter gear	2,917	2,673	-8%

### Census Bureau Revises 1989 Trailer Shipment Totals

Trailer shipments in 1989 were significantly higher than originally estimated, according to a Census Bureau report received just before presstime.

In its recently published *Summary for 1989 (Current Industrial Reports—Truck Trailers)*, the Bureau estimates the industry shipped 181,478 complete truck trailers. This is 12,574 more trailers than the preliminary total derived by adding the Census Bureau's estimate for each month of 1989. As a result of the revision, trailer shipments in 1989 were down only 2.7% compared with 1988, rather than the 9% derived from the original totals computed nine months ago.

The new totals include 7,225 more vans. Insulated, semi-insulated, and dropframe vans all were revised downward, while dry freight vans picked up almost 9,000 in the new totals.

The biggest under-reporting was in dry bulk tanks. The final figure (1,848) was more than double the 895 units originally estimated for 1989. With the increased shipments, dry bulk trailers were up 74% from 1988.

Shipments of petroleum trailers declined slightly in 1989. However, the value of those shipments declined even more. While the average value of most trailers increased in 1989 over 1988, petroleum trailer values dropped. The average flammable liquid trailer shipped in 1988 had a factory value of \$37,012. In 1989, that average was \$36,064, a decline of 2½%.

Including containers, chassis, converter dollies, and other incomplete trailers, the industry shipped 208,925 units last year, 23,427 fewer than were shipped in 1988. Last year's shipments were valued at \$3.17 billion, an increase of \$28 million from 1988.

This month's *Truck-tistics* figures are based on the original estimates. The revised figures will be reflected in next month's issue.