

Multi-modal Transportation Market Forecasts to 2032 – Global Analysis By Solution (Cargo Visibility & Tracking, Route Optimization Software, Load Planning & Scheduling, Multimodal Booking Platforms, Carrier Integration Systems, Risk & Compliance Management and Digital Freight Matching), Service Type, Transportation Mode, Shipment Type, End User and By Geography

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Abstracts

According to Statistics MRC, the Global Multi-modal Transportation Market is accounted for \$53.49 billion in 2025 and is expected to reach \$99.69 billion by 2032 growing at a CAGR of 9.3% during the forecast period. Multi-modal transportation involves combining multiple types of transport—like road, rail, air, and sea—within one trip for moving goods or people. This method boosts efficiency, shortens delivery times, and cuts transportation expenses by using each mode's advantages. It also supports environmental sustainability through better fuel efficiency and lower emissions. Moreover, it enhances supply chain adaptability and consistency, enabling smooth transitions across transport modes. Both public and private entities are focusing on developing multi-modal infrastructure, including intermodal hubs and terminals, to meet increasing trade volumes and urban transport demands globally.

According to India's Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, the PM GatiShakti initiative has unified planning across 44 ministries and 36 States/UTs using a GIS-based platform. This has accelerated multimodal infrastructure development, including roads, railways, ports, and airports, enabling seamless freight movement and reducing logistics costs.

Market Dynamics:

Driver:

Increasing global trade

Rising international trade significantly propels the multi-modal transportation market. With increasing cross-border shipments, companies need efficient and economical methods to transport goods globally. Multi-modal systems combine various transport methods—air, road, rail, and sea—to streamline logistics, minimize delays, and enhance supply chain efficiency. The surge in e-commerce and consumer demand for faster deliveries further drives the use of integrated transportation solutions. Additionally, governmental investments in infrastructure, such as ports, rail networks, and intermodal terminals, support smoother international trade operations. Consequently, multi-modal transportation has become a crucial element in facilitating global commerce and meeting the requirements of an increasingly interconnected market.

Restraint:

High infrastructure costs

The high cost of infrastructure is a major challenge for the multi-modal transportation sector. Building intermodal hubs, cargo facilities, and interconnected networks across road, rail, air, and maritime transport demands heavy financial investment. Smaller businesses may struggle to afford these costs, hindering the broader adoption of multi-modal solutions. Furthermore, modernizing existing transport systems to ensure smooth transitions between different modes is expensive and time-intensive. Although government support can alleviate some financial burdens, limited budgets and other priorities slow infrastructure development. Consequently, substantial capital requirements restrict the expansion of multi-modal transportation, particularly in emerging economies where investment in integrated logistics networks remains inadequate.

Opportunity:

Investment in smart infrastructure

Investing in intelligent transportation and intermodal infrastructure offers major growth

prospects for the multi-modal transportation sector. Both governments and private players are funding modern terminals, logistics hubs, and smart ports equipped with real-time monitoring, automated cargo systems, and digital tracking. These technologies ensure smooth integration between transport modes, increasing operational efficiency, minimizing delays, and enhancing shipment visibility. Moreover, smart infrastructure promotes sustainable logistics by improving fuel efficiency and reducing carbon emissions. As countries modernize transportation networks to handle rising trade volumes and urban transit needs, investing in advanced multi-modal infrastructure creates lucrative opportunities for transport operators, tech providers, and logistics service companies seeking to expand in the market.

Threat:

Geopolitical tensions and trade barriers

Geopolitical conflicts and trade barriers are significant threats to the multi-modal transportation industry. Wars, sanctions, and protectionist policies can disrupt global supply chains, cause shipment delays, and raise operational costs. International logistics involving multiple countries face challenges from differing customs regulations, tariffs, and import/export restrictions. Political instability in crucial trade hubs may require rerouting of goods or temporary suspension of operations, reducing efficiency and increasing expenses. These uncertainties can deter investments in multi-modal infrastructure and limit the adoption of integrated transport solutions. Therefore, geopolitical and trade-related risks represent major obstacles that could slow the growth and profitability of the multi-modal transportation market worldwide.

Covid-19 Impact:

The COVID-19 crisis had a major effect on the multi-modal transportation sector by interrupting global logistics and limiting the movement of cargo and passengers. Measures such as lockdowns, closed borders, and reduced workforce availability led to delays and higher costs across rail, road, air, and maritime transport. Reduced demand in several industries and volatile fuel prices further challenged profitability for logistics operators. On the positive side, the pandemic accelerated the implementation of digital monitoring, automation, and contactless logistics solutions to maintain operational continuity. It underscored weaknesses in multi-modal networks while encouraging investment in resilient, flexible, and technology-enabled transportation infrastructure for future crises.

The multimodal booking platforms segment is expected to be the largest during the forecast period

The multimodal booking platforms segment is expected to account for the largest market share during the forecast period. These platforms consolidate multiple transport modes—road, rail, air, and sea—into a unified digital system, allowing shippers to plan, reserve, and oversee shipments with greater efficiency. They provide real-time tracking, automated paperwork, and optimized routing, improving operational performance and lowering expenses. The rising need for integrated, comprehensive logistics solutions, along with the ongoing digitalization of the supply chain sector, has fueled the expansion of this segment. As companies demand more cohesive and transparent logistics services, multimodal freight booking platforms have become indispensable in contemporary transportation management.

The retail & e-commerce segment is expected to have the highest CAGR during the forecast period

Over the forecast period, the retail & e-commerce segment is predicted to witness the highest growth rate. This rapid expansion is fueled by the rising need for efficient logistics solutions to manage the increasing volume of online orders and complex global supply chains. E-commerce companies are turning to multimodal transportation to ensure timely deliveries, minimize costs, and improve customer experience. By leveraging a combination of transportation modes—such as road, rail, air, and sea—businesses can optimize delivery routes and gain greater flexibility. As online retail continues to thrive, the demand for integrated transportation solutions is expected to accelerate, propelling the sector's growth in the multimodal transportation market.

Region with largest share:

During the forecast period, the Asia Pacific region is expected to hold the largest market share due to its strategic location, rapid economic development, and pivotal role in global trade. Nations such as China, India, Japan, and Southeast Asian countries act as key manufacturing and export hubs, fueling the need for efficient and cost-effective logistics solutions. The region boasts well-developed infrastructure, including state-of-the-art ports, extensive rail systems, and comprehensive road networks, enabling smooth integration of multiple transportation modes. Furthermore, proactive government policies and substantial investments in logistics infrastructure continue to support and enhance the growth of multimodal transportation services across the Asia-Pacific region.

Region with highest CAGR:

Over the forecast period, the Asia Pacific region is anticipated to exhibit the highest CAGR. Factors such as accelerated industrialization, urban expansion, and substantial infrastructure investments in nations like China, India, and Southeast Asia are key drivers. APAC's central role in global manufacturing and trade amplifies the need for seamless and cost-effective logistics solutions. Moreover, supportive government policies and the enhancement of transportation networks, including ports, railways, and highways, facilitate the widespread adoption of multimodal transportation services, establishing the region as a frontrunner in the industry's expansion.

Key players in the market

Some of the key players in Multi-modal Transportation Market include DB Schenker, DHL International GmbH, Kuehne + Nagel International AG, C & S Transportation, CEVA Logistics, Deutsche Post AG, C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc., Geodis SA, Marubeni Logistics Corporation, A. P. Moller-Maersk, UPS Inc, CMA CGM, TCI (Transport Corporation of India), TVS Supply Chain Solutions and All Cargo Logistics.

Key Developments:

In August 2025, Kuehne+Nagel expands its collaboration with ABB in Chile, a global leader in electrification and automation technologies. The new agreement covers solutions for Contract Logistics, including last-mile transportation and fulfilment operations. With a global partnership spanning over 30 years, ABB and Kuehne+Nagel have also collaborated in Chile for more than a decade, particularly in air logistics, supporting ABB's divisions with import services from Europe and the U.S.

In June 2025, CEVA Logistics and bol recently signed an early contract renewal to extend their current partnership through 2029 with an option to extend to 2032. The contract renewal adds mutual ESG targets around sustainability and employee well-being.

In April 2025, DHL Group has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the e-commerce marketplace Temu to deepen their cooperation and to further expand their successful partnership. The agreement aims to enhance collaboration to better support local small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in established markets as well as in growth markets, such as Eastern Europe and the Middle East. Both parties are

committed to fostering compliant trade and sustainable practices.

Solutions Covered:

Cargo Visibility & Tracking

Route Optimization Software

Load Planning & Scheduling

Multimodal Booking Platforms

Carrier Integration Systems

Risk & Compliance Management

Digital Freight Matching

Service Types Covered:

Freight Forwarding

Warehousing & Distribution

Customs Brokerage

Transshipment Services

Last-Mile Delivery

Consolidation & Deconsolidation

Documentation & Compliance

Transportation Modes Covered:

Rail-Road

Road-Air

Road-Water

Air-Sea

Pipeline-Truck

Inland Waterways-Rail

Sea-Rail

Air-Rail

Shipment Types Covered:

Full Container Load (FCL)

Less-than-Container Load (LCL)

Bulk Cargo

Breakbulk

Palletized Goods

Time-Sensitive Shipments

End Users Covered:

Retail & E-commerce

Automotive

Aerospace & Defense

Chemicals & Hazardous Goods

Food & Beverage

Healthcare & Pharmaceuticals

Construction & Mining

Agriculture & Agro-Logistics

Electronics & Semiconductors

Oil & Gas

Regions Covered:

North America

US

Canada

Mexico

Europe

Germany

UK

Italy

France

Spain

Rest of Europe

Asia Pacific

Japan

China

India

Australia

New Zealand

South Korea

Rest of Asia Pacific

South America

Argentina

Brazil

Chile

Rest of South America

Middle East & Africa

Saudi Arabia

UAE

Qatar

South Africa

Rest of Middle East & Africa

What our report offers:

- Market share assessments for the regional and country-level segments
- Strategic recommendations for the new entrants
- Covers Market data for the years 2024, 2025, 2026, 2028, and 2032
- Market Trends (Drivers, Constraints, Opportunities, Threats, Challenges, Investment Opportunities, and recommendations)
- Strategic recommendations in key business segments based on the market estimations
- Competitive landscaping mapping the key common trends
- Company profiling with detailed strategies, financials, and recent developments
- Supply chain trends mapping the latest technological advancements

Free Customization Offerings:

All the customers of this report will be entitled to receive one of the following free customization options:

Company Profiling

Comprehensive profiling of additional market players (up to 3)

SWOT Analysis of key players (up to 3)

Regional Segmentation

Market estimations, Forecasts and CAGR of any prominent country as per the client's interest (Note: Depends on feasibility check)

Competitive Benchmarking

Benchmarking of key players based on product portfolio, geographical presence, and strategic alliances

Contents

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2 PREFACE

- 2.1 Abstract
- 2.2 Stake Holders
- 2.3 Research Scope
- 2.4 Research Methodology
 - 2.4.1 Data Mining
 - 2.4.2 Data Analysis
 - 2.4.3 Data Validation
 - 2.4.4 Research Approach
- 2.5 Research Sources
 - 2.5.1 Primary Research Sources
 - 2.5.2 Secondary Research Sources
 - 2.5.3 Assumptions

3 MARKET TREND ANALYSIS

- 3.1 Introduction
- 3.2 Drivers
- 3.3 Restraints
- 3.4 Opportunities
- 3.5 Threats
- 3.6 End User Analysis
- 3.7 Emerging Markets
- 3.8 Impact of Covid-19

4 PORTERS FIVE FORCE ANALYSIS

- 4.1 Bargaining power of suppliers
- 4.2 Bargaining power of buyers
- 4.3 Threat of substitutes
- 4.4 Threat of new entrants
- 4.5 Competitive rivalry

5 GLOBAL MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION MARKET, BY SOLUTION

Multi-modal Transportation Market Forecasts to 2032 – Global Analysis By Solution (Cargo Visibility & Tracking...

- 5.1 Introduction
- 5.2 Cargo Visibility & Tracking
- 5.3 Route Optimization Software
- 5.4 Load Planning & Scheduling
- 5.5 Multimodal Booking Platforms
- 5.6 Carrier Integration Systems
- 5.7 Risk & Compliance Management
- 5.8 Digital Freight Matching

6 GLOBAL MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION MARKET, BY SERVICE TYPE

- 6.1 Introduction
- 6.2 Freight Forwarding
- 6.3 Warehousing & Distribution
- 6.4 Customs Brokerage
- 6.5 Transshipment Services
- 6.6 Last-Mile Delivery
- 6.7 Consolidation & Deconsolidation
- 6.8 Documentation & Compliance

7 GLOBAL MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION MARKET, BY TRANSPORTATION MODE

- 7.1 Introduction
- 7.2 Rail-Road
- 7.3 Road-Air
- 7.4 Road-Water
- 7.5 Air-Sea
- 7.6 Pipeline-Truck
- 7.7 Inland Waterways-Rail
- 7.8 Sea-Rail
- 7.9 Air-Rail

8 GLOBAL MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION MARKET, BY SHIPMENT TYPE

- 8.1 Introduction
- 8.2 Full Container Load (FCL)
- 8.3 Less-than-Container Load (LCL)

- 8.4 Bulk Cargo
- 8.5 Breakbulk
- 8.6 Palletized Goods
- 8.7 Time-Sensitive Shipments

9 GLOBAL MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION MARKET, BY END USER

- 9.1 Introduction
- 9.2 Retail & E-commerce
- 9.3 Automotive
- 9.4 Aerospace & Defense
- 9.5 Chemicals & Hazardous Goods
- 9.6 Food & Beverage
- 9.7 Healthcare & Pharmaceuticals
- 9.8 Construction & Mining
- 9.9 Agriculture & Agro-Logistics
- 9.10 Electronics & Semiconductors
- 9.11 Oil & Gas

10 GLOBAL MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION MARKET, BY GEOGRAPHY

- 10.1 Introduction
- 10.2 North America
 - 10.2.1 US
 - 10.2.2 Canada
 - 10.2.3 Mexico
- 10.3 Europe
 - 10.3.1 Germany
 - 10.3.2 UK
 - 10.3.3 Italy
 - 10.3.4 France
 - 10.3.5 Spain
 - 10.3.6 Rest of Europe
- 10.4 Asia Pacific
 - 10.4.1 Japan
 - 10.4.2 China
 - 10.4.3 India
 - 10.4.4 Australia
 - 10.4.5 New Zealand

- 10.4.6 South Korea
- 10.4.7 Rest of Asia Pacific
- 10.5 South America
 - 10.5.1 Argentina
 - 10.5.2 Brazil
 - 10.5.3 Chile
 - 10.5.4 Rest of South America
- 10.6 Middle East & Africa
 - 10.6.1 Saudi Arabia
 - 10.6.2 UAE
 - 10.6.3 Qatar
 - 10.6.4 South Africa
 - 10.6.5 Rest of Middle East & Africa

11 KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- 11.1 Agreements, Partnerships, Collaborations and Joint Ventures
- 11.2 Acquisitions & Mergers
- 11.3 New Product Launch
- 11.4 Expansions
- 11.5 Other Key Strategies

12 COMPANY PROFILING

- 12.1 DB Schenker
- 12.2 DHL International GmbH
- 12.3 Kuehne + Nagel International AG
- 12.4 C & S Transportation
- 12.5 CEVA Logistics
- 12.6 Deutsche Post AG
- 12.7 C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc.
- 12.8 Geodis SA
- 12.9 Marubeni Logistics Corporation
- 12.10 A. P. Moller-Maersk
- 12.11 UPS Inc
- 12.12 CMA CGM
- 12.13 TCI (Transport Corporation of India)
- 12.14 TVS Supply Chain Solutions
- 12.15 All Cargo Logistics

List Of Tables

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Region (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 2 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Solution (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 3 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Cargo Visibility & Tracking (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 4 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Route Optimization Software (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 5 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Load Planning & Scheduling (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 6 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Multimodal Booking Platforms (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 7 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Carrier Integration Systems (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 8 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Risk & Compliance Management (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 9 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Digital Freight Matching (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 10 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Service Type (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 11 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Freight Forwarding (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 12 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Warehousing & Distribution (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 13 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Customs Brokerage (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 14 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Transshipment Services (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 15 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Last-Mile Delivery (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 16 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Consolidation & Deconsolidation (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 17 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Documentation & Compliance (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 18 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Transportation Mode

(2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 19 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Rail-Road (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 20 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Road-Air (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 21 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Road-Water (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 22 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Air-Sea (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 23 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Pipeline-Truck (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 24 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Inland Waterways-Rail (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 25 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Sea-Rail (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 26 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Air-Rail (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 27 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Shipment Type (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 28 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Full Container Load (FCL) (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 29 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Less-than-Container Load (LCL) (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 30 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Bulk Cargo (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 31 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Breakbulk (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 32 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Palletized Goods (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 33 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Time-Sensitive Shipments (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 34 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By End User (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 35 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Retail & E-commerce (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 36 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Automotive (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 37 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Aerospace & Defense (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 38 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Chemicals & Hazardous Goods (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 39 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Food & Beverage (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 40 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Healthcare & Pharmaceuticals (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 41 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Construction & Mining (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 42 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Agriculture & Agro-Logistics (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 43 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Electronics & Semiconductors (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Table 44 Global Multi-modal Transportation Market Outlook, By Oil & Gas (2024-2032) (\$MN)

Note: Tables for North America, Europe, APAC, South America, and Middle East & Africa Regions are also represented in the same manner as above.

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