FedEx Freight Segment

FedEx Freight service offerings include priority LTL services when speed is critical and economy services when time can be traded for savings. The following table compares revenues, operating expenses, operating expenses as a percent of revenue, operating income (dollars in millions), operating margin and selected statistics for the years ended May 31:

				Percent Change				
							2017/	2016/
		2017		2016		2015	2016	2015
Revenues	\$	6,443	\$	6,200	\$	6,191	4	_
Operating expenses:								
Salaries and employee							_	
benefits		3,058		2,925		2,698	5	8
Purchased transportation		988		962		1,045	3	(8)
Rentals		136		142		129	(4)	10
Depreciation and amortization		269		248		230	8	8
Fuel		384		363		508	6	(29)
Maintenance and repairs		215		206		201	4	2
Intercompany charges		497		456		444	9	3
Other		499		472		452	6	4
Total operating								
expenses		6,046		5,774		5,707	5	1
Operating income	\$	397	\$	426	\$	484	(7)	(12)
Operating margin		6.29	%	6.9%	6	7.8%	(70)bp	(90)b
Average daily LTL shipments (in thousands	١.							
Priority).	70.6		67.7		66.9	4	1
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Economy Total average daily LTL		31.0		31.1		28.6	_	9
shipments		101.6		98.8		95.5	3	3
Weight per LTL shipment:								
Priority		1,176		1,191		1,272	(1)	(6)
Economy		1,129		1,145		1,003	(1)	14
Composite weight per								
LTL shipment		1,161		1,177		1,191	(1)	(1)
LTL revenue per shipment:			_		_			<i>(</i> _)
Priority	\$	221.67	\$	218.50	\$	229.57	1	(5)
Economy		265.77		261.27		264.34	2	(1)
Composite LTL revenue per								
shipment	\$	235.20	\$	232.11	\$	240.09	1	(3)
LTL revenue per hundredweight:								
Priority	\$	18.85	\$	18.35	\$	18.05	3	2
Economy	•	23.55	•	22.81	Ψ	26.34	3	(13)
Composite LTL		_0.00					ŭ	, ,
revenue per	_	00.55	_	40 = -			_	/=1
hundredweight	\$	20.25	\$	19.73	\$	20.15	3	(2)

	Percent of Revenue			
	2017	2016	2015	
Operating expenses:				
Salaries and employee benefits	47.5%	47.2%	43.6%	
Purchased transportation	15.3	15.5	16.9	
Rentals	2.1	2.3	2.1	
Depreciation and amortization	4.2	4.0	3.7	
Fuel	6.0	5.8	8.2	
Maintenance and repairs	3.3	3.3	3.2	
Intercompany charges	7.7	7.4	7.2	
Other	7.7	7.6	7.3	
Total operating expenses	93.8	93.1	92.2	
Operating margin	6.2%	6.9%	7.8%	

FedEx Freight Segment Revenues

FedEx Freight segment revenues increased 4% in 2017 primarily due to higher average daily LTL shipments and higher LTL revenue per shipment. Average daily LTL shipments increased 3% in 2017 due to higher demand for our LTL service offerings. LTL revenue per shipment increased 1% due to higher base rates and fuel surcharges, partially offset by lower weight per shipment. Base rate increases were the result of our ongoing yield management initiatives.

FedEx Freight segment revenues were flat in 2016 as higher average daily shipments were offset by lower revenue per shipment. Average daily LTL shipments increased 3% in 2016 due to increased volume primarily related to small and mid-sized customers. LTL revenue per shipment decreased 3% in 2016 due to lower fuel surcharges and lower weight per shipment.

The weekly indexed LTL fuel surcharge is based on the average of the U.S. on-highway prices for a gallon of diesel fuel, as published by the Department of Energy. The indexed LTL fuel surcharge ranged as follows for the years ended May 31:

	2017	2016	2015
Low	20.20%	18.50%	20.90%
High	21.60	23.10	26.20
Weighted-average	21.00	20.60	24.30

On January 2, 2017, FedEx Freight implemented a 4.9% average increase in certain U.S. and other shipping rates. On January 4, 2016, FedEx Freight implemented zone-based pricing on U.S. and other LTL shipping rates. Also, on January 4, 2016 and January 5, 2015, FedEx Freight implemented a 4.9% average increase in certain U.S. and other shipping rates. On February 2, 2015, FedEx Freight updated the tables used to determine fuel surcharges.