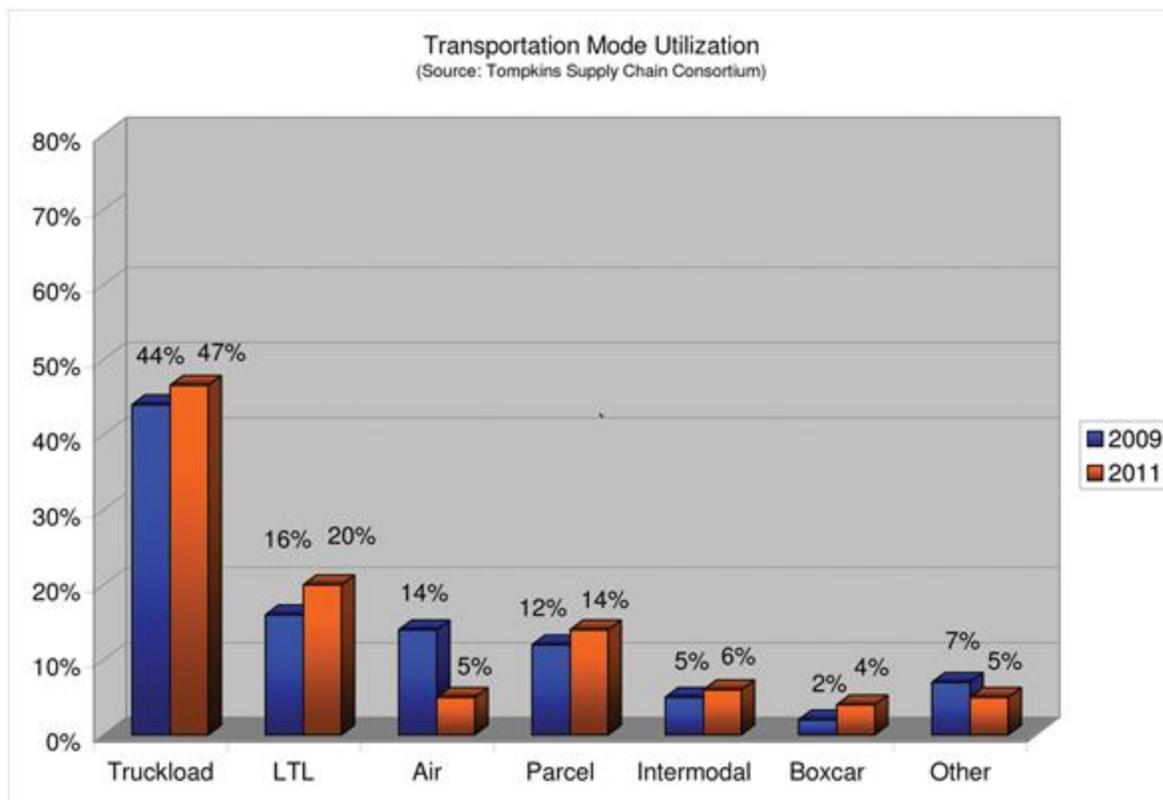


**RALEIGH, NC, July 13, 2011** — An economy stuck in the recovery phase has thrown transportation industry players into a battle of wits over which mode will seize any new or wavering volume, according to a recent [Domestic Transportation Report](#) just released by [Tompkins Supply Chain Consortium](#).

“The transportation industry is contending with diminished capacity, higher regulations, rising equipment costs, a graying workforce, and an economy that is moving back on track but not quite stable,” says Chris Ferrell, Director of the Consortium and author of the report. “And, now, the transportation policies implemented over the past couple of years are about to be put to the test as all of the modes compete to gain volume now and in the future.”

As the chart below indicates, all of the more efficient modes have experienced noticeable increases in the past two years. This has happened almost entirely at the expense of air freight, which is down more than 9%.



At the same time, the transportation industry is facing prospects of new regulations by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. The proposed changes for Hours of Service (HOS) and Compliance, Safety, Accountability (CSA) have received less than positive reactions across all modes. With fewer drivers working fewer hours and a lack of container availability, each mode is competing with the others as well as trying to gauge the effect of new regulations that may soon be put into place by the federal government.

Read more about the HOS and CSA proposals and the Tompkins Supply Chain Consortium findings in the *Domestic Transportation Report*: <http://www.tompkinsinc.com/publications/executive-briefing/domestic-transportation-balance>.

More in-depth analysis of the proposed regulations and truck carrier impacts can be found [in this blog post](#).

The Consortium also has a [LinkedIn group and Xing group](#) for organizations that are interested in staying current on the latest in supply chain benchmarking and best practices.

### **About Tompkins Supply Chain Consortium**

**Tompkins Supply Chain Consortium** is the premier source for supply chain benchmarking and best practices knowledge. With more than 500 participating retail, manufacturing and wholesale/distribution companies, the Consortium sponsors a comprehensive repository of 17,000-plus benchmarks complemented by search capabilities, online analysis tools, topic forums and peer networking for supply chain executives and practitioners. The Consortium is led by the needs of its membership and an Advisory Board that includes executives from Ingram Micro, Kane is Able, Limited Brands, Miller-Coors, The Coca-Cola Company, Target and University of Wisconsin. To learn more about how your company can become a member of the Supply Chain Consortium, contact John Foley, 919-855-5461 or visit [www.supplychainconsortium.com](http://www.supplychainconsortium.com)