

2020 Quebec Thaw Season

(Dates last reviewed March 26th)

Each spring, the Ministry determines the thaw period dates for the three Thaw Zones across Québec. During this time, heavy vehicles and shippers traveling on the road network must reduce their authorized loads, in accordance with the limits imposed by the Vehicle Load and Size Limits Regulation.

FOLLOWING THE CURRENT SITUATION WITH THE COVID-19 CRISIS, THE THAW PERIOD IN QUEBEC HAS BEEN SUSPENDED FOR FOOD AND PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.

MAXIMUM WEIGHT PER TRAILER / CONTAINER

Semi-trailers refr Gross weight*

2-axle 24 000 kgs

3-axle 29 500 kgs

Intermodal Container (Chilled pork and frozen)

3-axle 26 000 kgs

Maritime Container 40 feet with Genset

3-axle 26 000 kgs (net)

Maritime Container 40 feet without Genset

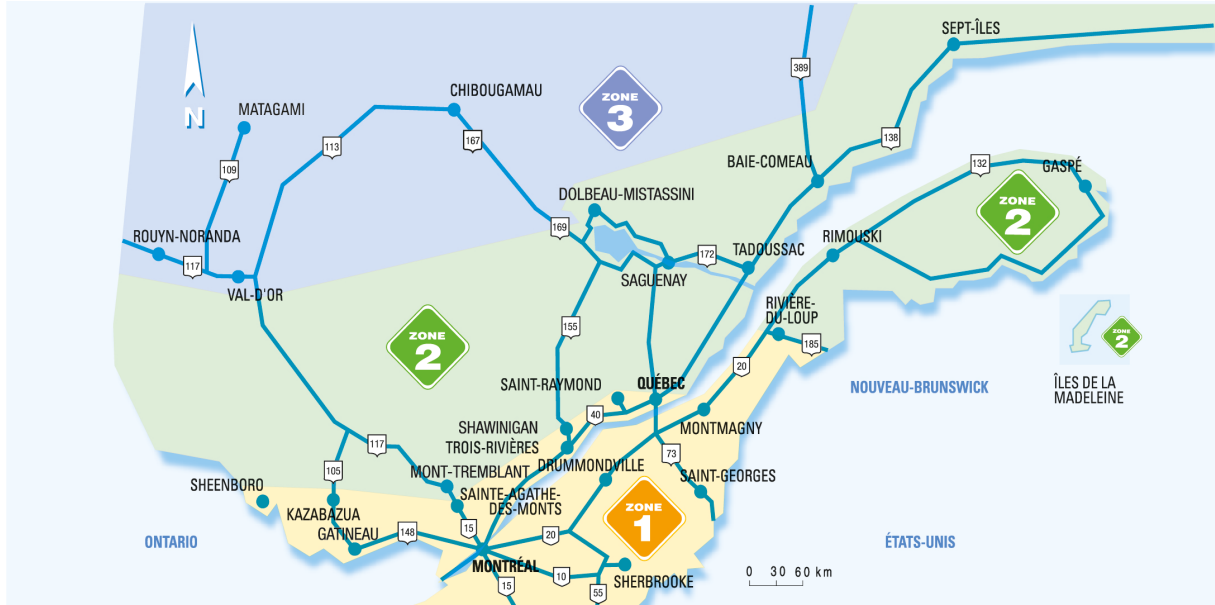
3-axle 27 000 kgs (net)

*Weight includes product, packaging and pallet.

DATA BEFORE THE COVID-19 ANNOUNCEMENT.

- **Zone 1** - From Monday, March 9 (00:01) to Friday, May 8 (23:59)
- **Zone 2** - From Monday, March 16 (00:01) to Friday, May 15 (23:59)
- **Zone 3** - From Monday, March 23 (00:01) to Friday, May 22 (23:59)

Thaw - zones



Detailed map available <https://www.transports.gouv.qc.ca/fr/entreprises-partenaires/ent-camionnage/degel/Documents/degel.pdf>

Zone 1 includes the Québec territory located south of the following demarcation line, hereinafter referred to as the “demarcation line between zones 1 and 2”.





From the intersection point of the centre line of the Ottawa River (Québec-Ontario border).

Zone 2 includes Îles-de-la-Madeleine and the Québec territory contained between the “demarcation line between zones 1 and 2” heretofore described and the following line, hereinafter referred to as the “demarcation line between zones 2 and 3”.

Zone 3 includes the Québec territory located north of the “demarcation line between zones 2 and 3” heretofore described.

Equipment	Regular Allowed Weight	Thawing Period Allowed Weight
2 Axle Ref. Trailer	23 100 kg	18 100 kg (39 902 lbs.)
3 Axle Ref. Trailer	29 500 kg	23 000 kg (50 705 lbs.)






TABLE 1 : Axle Load Limit

Class of axles			Period		Reduction
			Normal	Thaw	
B.10	Single axle		10000kg	8000kg	20%
B.21	Tandem	 $d \geq 1.2\text{m}$	18000kg	15500kg	14%
B.33	Tridem or tridem equivalent	 $3.6\text{m} \leq d \leq 3.7\text{m}$	26000kg ¹	22000kg ¹	15%
B.45	A self-steering axle in front of a tridem ²	 $2.5 < b \leq 3.0\text{m}$ $3.6\text{m} \leq c \leq 3.7\text{m}$	34000kg	29500kg	13%

¹ The limit is reduced by 1 000 kg in the case of a tridem equivalent.

² This class of axles must be equipped with a suspension system designed to distribute the mass evenly among all axles, within about 1 000 kg, and without possible adjustment.

TABLE 2 : Total Loaded Mass Limits

Class of vehicles or combinations of vehicles	Period		Reduction
	Normal	Thaw	
	25 250 kg	22 750 kg	10%
	41 500 kg	36 500 kg	12%
	49 500 kg	43 000 kg	13%
	57 500 kg	50 500 kg	12%
	62 500 kg	57 500 kg	8%