TOP 30 U.S. PORT REPORT

Ranking 2020 Maritime Port Performance & COVID-19 Impact

Reporting the latest available annual data from the U.S. Census and Bills of Lading data with cumulative trade values and volumes compared with previous years.

Port rankings based on data collected at the end of 2020, the latest full year of data.
KEEPING TRACK OF U.S. IMPORT TRENDS

Prior to COVID-19, it was already a challenge for industry leaders to keep pace with supply chain changes and trends. From duty and tariff changes, to economic fluctuations, changes in demand, and more, the volume and value of commodities and the trade lanes used to bring those goods into the U.S. can shift dramatically. In addition, over the last few decades, globalization has prompted businesses to be more connected, meaning global imports and exports flow more quickly and any small changes can have a far-reaching impact.

Today, as industries begin to recover from the pandemic, it is critical that market leaders stay informed. This is where accurate, current, and fully reviewed global trade data comes in.

ABOUT THIS REPORT

Designed as a reference on U.S. import trade trends for port authorities, carriers, logistics providers, importers and shippers, this report analyzes the top U.S. ports and measures the total volume and values of imports entering the United States compared to previous years.

ABOUT THE DATA

The data source for this report is Descartes Datamyne™, provider of the world’s largest searchable trade database covering the global commerce of 230 markets across 5 continents.

The U.S. import data in this report has been gathered by Descartes Datamyne from U.S. Census data that document all U.S. imports and exports. U.S. Census data provides accurate valuations on imported commodities. Countries of origin reported are the countries from which shipments departed bound for the United States.

Descartes Datamyne delivers business intelligence with comprehensive, accurate, up-to-date, import and export information. Request a demo to get started.
## Top U.S. Ports
### By TEU Ocean Imports 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Port</th>
<th>2020 TEU</th>
<th>2019 TEU</th>
<th>TEU Change</th>
<th>2020 Value</th>
<th>2019 Value</th>
<th>Value Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>LOS ANGELES, CA</td>
<td>4,832,315</td>
<td>4,666,928</td>
<td>3.54%</td>
<td>230,695,908,313</td>
<td>244,145,021,450</td>
<td>-5.52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>LONG BEACH, CA</td>
<td>4,642,266</td>
<td>3,710,980</td>
<td>25.32%</td>
<td>222,436,443,228</td>
<td>221,390,392,316</td>
<td>0.47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>NEW YORK / NEWARK</td>
<td>3,891,771</td>
<td>3,721,509</td>
<td>4.02%</td>
<td>169,463,647,342</td>
<td>157,521,068,926</td>
<td>7.51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>SAVANNAH, GA</td>
<td>3,377,486</td>
<td>3,218,203</td>
<td>4.98%</td>
<td>76,827,203,051</td>
<td>78,830,055,670</td>
<td>-2.52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>HOUSTON, TX</td>
<td>3,390,192</td>
<td>2,401,799</td>
<td>44.67%</td>
<td>25,057,951,004</td>
<td>20,976,046,484</td>
<td>19.12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>NORFOLK, VA</td>
<td>3,258,759</td>
<td>3,183,838</td>
<td>2.35%</td>
<td>44,491,188,280</td>
<td>45,046,008,195</td>
<td>-1.28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>CHARLESTON, SC</td>
<td>3,033,119</td>
<td>2,979,249</td>
<td>1.81%</td>
<td>46,401,356,151</td>
<td>47,684,292,894</td>
<td>-2.76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>OAKLAND, CA</td>
<td>2,916,104</td>
<td>2,423,321</td>
<td>20.06%</td>
<td>31,117,642,141</td>
<td>30,851,195,645</td>
<td>0.85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>TACOMA, WA</td>
<td>2,708,748</td>
<td>2,415,041</td>
<td>12.09%</td>
<td>39,771,762,947</td>
<td>40,771,762,947</td>
<td>-2.47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>SEATTLE, WA</td>
<td>2,671,695</td>
<td>2,671,146</td>
<td>-0.02%</td>
<td>15,286,868,168</td>
<td>16,835,895,426</td>
<td>-8.72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>BALTIMORE, MD</td>
<td>2,101,914</td>
<td>2,168,932</td>
<td>-3.15%</td>
<td>43,815,872,758</td>
<td>46,035,895,111</td>
<td>-5.03%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>MIAMI, FL</td>
<td>1,982,146</td>
<td>2,210,711</td>
<td>-10.76%</td>
<td>14,029,418,208</td>
<td>16,209,648,806</td>
<td>-13.63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>PHILADELPHIA, PA</td>
<td>277,816</td>
<td>284,747</td>
<td>-2.45%</td>
<td>19,576,406,480</td>
<td>20,745,805,279</td>
<td>-5.69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>PORT EVERGLADES, FL</td>
<td>330,541</td>
<td>319,101</td>
<td>5.92%</td>
<td>9,118,325,609</td>
<td>10,483,668,284</td>
<td>-12.92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>JACKSONVILLE, FL</td>
<td>227,800</td>
<td>235,730</td>
<td>-3.41%</td>
<td>16,346,172,456</td>
<td>21,944,526,949</td>
<td>-24.72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>MOBILE, AL</td>
<td>212,302</td>
<td>202,817</td>
<td>4.62%</td>
<td>11,552,456,521</td>
<td>15,496,618,758</td>
<td>-25.08%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>WILMINGTON, DE</td>
<td>197,000</td>
<td>198,946</td>
<td>-1.01%</td>
<td>5,969,752,662</td>
<td>6,429,803,383</td>
<td>-6.41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>SAN JUAN, PR</td>
<td>195,107</td>
<td>179,819</td>
<td>8.07%</td>
<td>6,340,022,915</td>
<td>6,708,708,285</td>
<td>-5.48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>BOSTON, MA</td>
<td>187,946</td>
<td>178,830</td>
<td>5.16%</td>
<td>7,315,831,796</td>
<td>9,080,070,460</td>
<td>-20.28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>NEW ORLEANS, LA</td>
<td>175,047</td>
<td>126,411</td>
<td>40.07%</td>
<td>10,320,701,000</td>
<td>16,029,046,982</td>
<td>-66.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>MILWAUKI, WI</td>
<td>121,055</td>
<td>121,345</td>
<td>-0.24%</td>
<td>6,904,002,172</td>
<td>6,902,804,975</td>
<td>0.26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>CHESTER, PA</td>
<td>114,002</td>
<td>110,408</td>
<td>3.27%</td>
<td>5,266,113,119</td>
<td>6,240,566,385</td>
<td>-15.19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>PORT HENDEE, FL</td>
<td>87,433</td>
<td>82,169</td>
<td>6.50%</td>
<td>4,616,624,599</td>
<td>5,096,109,649</td>
<td>-9.49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>GULFPORT, MS</td>
<td>77,644</td>
<td>85,120</td>
<td>-8.56%</td>
<td>1,686,724,042</td>
<td>1,548,107,665</td>
<td>-8.91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>TAMPA, FL</td>
<td>76,234</td>
<td>89,960</td>
<td>-15.34%</td>
<td>1,931,143,500</td>
<td>1,381,781,246</td>
<td>-25.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>SAN DIEGO, CA</td>
<td>76,329</td>
<td>71,419</td>
<td>6.99%</td>
<td>4,126,069,354</td>
<td>5,806,435,491</td>
<td>-29.73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>PORT MANATEE, FL</td>
<td>75,141</td>
<td>80,272</td>
<td>-6.37%</td>
<td>1,310,951,089</td>
<td>1,407,046,054</td>
<td>-6.98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>FREEPORT, TX (CF 1)</td>
<td>75,779</td>
<td>70,527</td>
<td>7.48%</td>
<td>3,901,219,367</td>
<td>3,537,747,670</td>
<td>11.12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>WEST PALM BEACH, FL</td>
<td>26,644</td>
<td>27,096</td>
<td>-1.61%</td>
<td>3,634,196,425</td>
<td>3,633,406,519</td>
<td>0.22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>PANAMA CITY, FL</td>
<td>25,814</td>
<td>25,046</td>
<td>3.06%</td>
<td>1,958,075,082</td>
<td>1,956,421,984</td>
<td>0.33%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The diagram displays the top U.S. ports ranked by TEU Ocean Imports for 2020.
While many ports experienced a substantial recovery in the second half of 2020, the wider economic effects of coronavirus can still be felt on U.S. maritime ports.

Overall, U.S. maritime import volume as measured by twenty-foot equivalent units increased in 2020 compared to 2019 by 2.9 percent. This stems from sizable increases in total volume imported from Asia. China, the top country of origin for U.S. maritime imports, increased its total volume of TEUs exported to the United States by 2.3 percent, South Korea by 4.9 percent, and Taiwan by 5.5 percent.

One of the highlight points for U.S. supply chains has been the emergence of Vietnam as a top supplier of U.S. maritime importers. Since 2017, Vietnam has increased its share of the U.S. market by 3 percent and now accounts for 7.6 percent of the volume of all U.S. maritime imports. In 2020, the U.S. saw a 24.6 percent increase in the volume of exports from Vietnam.

This increase in the volume of imports has not resulted in an increase in the value of imports into the United States. In fact, the value of maritime imports into the United States, derived from U.S. Census data, has fallen by more than $120 billion USD, or 10.8 percent.

2020 was a year unlike any seen before and the full impact of COVID-19 will take years to completely understand. In the interim, business leaders need to the tools available to them to identify opportunities and mitigate potential risk.
1. LOS ANGELES, CA

TEUs: 4,832,315 | SHIPMENTS: 2,516,304

With China being by far the leading source for imports into the Port of Los Angeles, the early impact of COVID-19 was dramatic. Total Twenty-foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) volumes dropped nearly 100k per month during February, March, and May. This led to a total decline of 21.1 percent during the first half of the year compared to 2019.

However, imports from July-December surged as the country slowly reopened for business, which resulted in an overall year-over-year increase in total volume of 3.5 percent.

The value of these imports did not reflect this increase in year-over-year volume. The total FOB value for maritime imports into the Port of Los Angeles fell 3.8 percent compared to 2019.

Leading Importers

SAMSUNG AMERICA INC
LG ELECTRONICS USA INC
TARGET CORPORATION
TOYOTA MOTOR MANUFACTURING
HANKOOK TIRE AMERICA CORP

Top Carriers

EVERGREEN LINE
OCEAN NETWORK EXPRESS PTE LTD
CMA-CGM
AMERICAN PRESIDENT LINES LLC
MAERSK LINE

2. LONG BEACH, CA

TEUs: 4,042,266 | SHIPMENTS: 1,920,825

Unsurprisingly, given the Port of Long Beach’s reliance on Chinese exports, the impact of COVID-19 resulted in an overall decline in import volume of 8.37 percent during the first quarter of 2020. Of interest is the fact that this is a far less dramatic drop than the Port of Los Angeles despite both ports receiving a similar percentage of its goods from China (55 percent for the Port of LA and 59 percent for Long Beach).

Compared to Los Angeles, the Port of Long Beach had a far more substantial recovery from the coronavirus. Beginning in June, the volume of imports per month increased by up to 100k TEUs. This surge led to a year-over-year increase in import volume of 8.9 percent, the largest increase among the ten top ports by volume.

Leading Importers

SAMSUNG AMERICA INC
TARGET CORPORATION
LG ELECTRONICS USA INC
LIVING SPACES FURNITURE LLC
IKEA HOLDING US INC

Top Carriers

COSCO SHIPPING LINES CO LTD
MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S A
ORIENT OVERSEAS CONTAINER LINE LTD
MAERSK LINE
OCEAN NETWORK EXPRESS PTE LTD

Countries of Origin (TEUs)

With China being by far the leading source for imports into the Port of Los Angeles, the early impact of COVID-19 was dramatic. Total Twenty-foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) volumes dropped nearly 100k per month during February, March, and May. This led to a total decline of 21.1 percent during the first half of the year compared to 2019.

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Leading Importers

SAMSUNG AMERICA INC
LG ELECTRONICS USA INC
TARGET CORPORATION
TOYOTA MOTOR MANUFACTURING
HANKOOK TIRE AMERICA CORP

Top Carriers

EVERGREEN LINE
OCEAN NETWORK EXPRESS PTE LTD
CMA-CGM
AMERICAN PRESIDENT LINES LLC
MAERSK LINE

2. LONG BEACH, CA

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Leading Importers

SAMSUNG AMERICA INC
TARGET CORPORATION
LG ELECTRONICS USA INC
LIVING SPACES FURNITURE LLC
IKEA HOLDING US INC

Top Carriers

COSCO SHIPPING LINES CO LTD
MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S A
ORIENT OVERSEAS CONTAINER LINE LTD
MAERSK LINE
OCEAN NETWORK EXPRESS PTE LTD

Countries of Origin (TEUs)
3. NEW YORK/NEWARK

TEUs: 3,891,771 | SHIPMENTS: 2,087,357

Import TEUs 2020 vs. 2019

Leading Importers
SAMSUNG AMERICA INC
LG ELECTRONICS USA INC
RAYMOUR & FLANIGAN FURNITURE
AT HOME PROCUREMENT INC
WILLIAMS SONOMA INC

Top Carriers
MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S A
MAERSK LINE
HAPAG LLOYD A G
EVERGREEN LINE
CMA-CGM

The value of these imports did decline slightly, with the total value by vessel dropping 1.2 percent compared to 2019. This is due to a substantial drop in the value of petroleum imports under HS 271019, which fell 47.2 percent in 2020 compared to 2019.

4. SAVANNAH, GA

TEUs: 2,307,446 | SHIPMENTS: 855,167

Import TEUs 2020 vs. 2019

Leading Importers
WALMART INC
KUBOTA TRACTOR CORPORATION
KETER NORTH AMERICA INC
TARGET CORPORATION
ELECTROLUX MAJOR APPLIANCES

Top Carriers
OCEAN NETWORK EXPRESS PTE LTD
MAERSK LINE
CMA-CGM
MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S A
ZIM INTEGRATED SHIPPING SERVICES LTD

The value for goods imported into Savannah held steady in 2020 compared to 2019, only dropping 0.4 percent. This value was boosted by a substantial increase in the imports of medicaments (excluding vaccines) under HS 300490. Imports of the pharmaceuticals increased 19.2 percent in value compared to 2019 to a total value of $340.8 million USD.
5. HOUSTON, TX

**TEUs: 1,290,192 | SHIPMENTS: 558,578**

**Import TEUs 2020 vs. 2019**

Climbing to number five among the most active ports in the country, the Port of Houston saw year-over-year volumes increase of 3.9 percent in 2020 compared to 2019. This is the result of a very modest COVID-19 impact which was only a major disruption during the months of March and June. The Port of Houston did not experience the same surge of imports as other top ports, with the volume of imports in October-December only increasing by about 60k TEUs.

Similar to other top ports, Houston did see a year-over-year decline in value due to dropping petroleum prices. Overall, the total value by vessel fell 4.4 percent in 2020 compared to 2019. Import value of crude petroleum and refined fell by 43.7 percent and 34.3 percent respectively.

Of particular interest to those monitoring trade lanes, the top carriers into the Port of Houston have shifted substantially; Maersk, the top carrier in 2019, fell to number three behind CMA-CGM and Mediterranean Shipping Company S A.

### Leading Importers
- WALMART INC
- RED BULL NORTH AMERICA
- ROOMS TO GO FURNITURE CORP
- IKEA HOLDING US INC
- ANHEUSER BUSCH INBEV

### Top Carriers
- CMA-CGM
- MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S A
- MAERSK LINE
- HAPAG LLOYD A G
- COSCO SHIPPING LINES CO LTD

### Countries of Origin (TEUs)

![Countries of Origin (TEUs)](image)

6. NORFOLK, VA

**TEUs: 1,258,789 | SHIPMENTS: 520,286**

**Import TEUs 2020 vs. 2019**

After seeing the most substantial impact from COVID-19 during the first half of the year among top U.S. ports, the Port of Norfolk did not experience the same surge in imports in the latter half of the year. The result of this was that overall year-over-year volume fell by 4.7 percent in 2020 compared to 2019.

The decline in import value was even more dramatic, falling by more than $5 billion USD or 10.8 percent compared to 2019. The reason for this decline in value by vessel was a shift in supply chains. While other ports saw a substantial increase in their imports of medicaments under HS 3004, the Port of Norfolk had a drastic decline of 7.2 percent. As pharmaceuticals are the top commodity by value imported into the Port of Norfolk, this drop had a substantial impact in total yearly import values.

An even more substantial impact came from the second ranked commodity by value, parts and accessories for printers [HS 844399], whose value fell by $442 billion in 2020 compared to 2019.

### Leading Importers
- WALMART INC
- TARGET CORPORATION
- RED BULL NORTH AMERICA
- BSH HOME APPLIANCES CORP
- QVC USA

### Top Carriers
- MAERSK LINE
- CMA-CGM
- MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S A
- HAPAG LLOYD A G
- OCEAN NETWORK EXPRESS PTE LTD

### Countries of Origin (TEUs)

![Countries of Origin (TEUs)](image)
7. CHARLESTON, SC
TEUs: 1,033,119 | SHIPMENTS: 409,582

Seventh-ranked Port of Charleston saw a decline in imports volumes of 5.44 percent during the economic slowdown of COVID-19 and compared to other top ports, its recovery has been slow. Overall year-over-year volume and value lag behind 2019 by 3.2 percent and 1.5 percent respectively.

Among the current administration's top priorities, the vulnerability of semiconductor imports is prevalent in the Port of Charleston. Semiconductors imported under HS 854140 are now ranked as the ninth most valuable import into the port, increasing in value by 123.9 percent off a volume increase of just over 6.3 percent.

2019's top ranked commodities, automotive parts [HS 8708] and aircraft parts [8803], both saw values decline substantially. Former top-valued commodity automotive parts fell to eighth in total maritime value, declining 18.3 percent in value while former second-ranked aircraft parts dropped to eighteenth with a decline of 27.2 percent in value.

Leading Importers
MERCEDES BENZ INTERNATIONAL
SAMSUNG AMERICA INC
ADIDAS INTERNATIONAL TRADING
ELEMENT TV COMPANY LP
VOLVO CARS OF NORTH AMERICA

Top Carriers
MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S A
MAERSK LINE
HAPAG LLOYD A G
BLUE ANCHOR AMERICA LINE
CMA-CGM

8. OAKLAND, CA
TEUs: 986,104 | SHIPMENTS: 796,266

Experiencing only a moderate decline in imports due to COVID-19 compared to the other California ports, the Port of Oakland ended 2020 with an overall increase in import volume of 2.5 percent.

Of substantial interest in the Port of Oakland is the increase in shipments processed by the port in terms of Bills of Lading. While total TEU volume, as mentioned, only increased 2.5 percent, the number of Bills of Lading processed by the Port of Oakland increased by 110.7 percent. This indicates that the dynamics of supply chains might be changing for the port with more shipments cleared being small volume ecommerce and B2C shipments whereas, historically, the Port of Oakland has largely dealt with B2B commodities and supplies.

Leading Importers
EURO MARKET DESIGNS INC
BOC INTERNATIONAL INC
SAVERGLASS INC
COSTCO WHOLESALE CORPORATION
LIFESTYLE SOLUTIONS INC

Top Carriers
EVERGREEN LINE
MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S A
HAPAG LLOYD A G
APEX SHIPPING CO
AMERICAN PRESIDENT LINES LLC
9. TACOMA, WA

**TEUs: 738,768 | SHIPMENTS: 353,801**

The top performing of the two Washington sister ports, the Port of Tacoma saw the largest year-over-year percentile decline in volume among the top ten U.S. ports in 2020, second only to Jacksonville among the top thirty ports. Much like the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, Tacoma’s declining volumes are the result of dramatically reduced imports from China during the first half of 2020. Unlike other ports, however, the Port of Tacoma did not experience a surge of imports in the second half of the year.

The decline in value of imports into the Port of Tacoma was even more dramatic than the drop in volume. Total value by vessel fell 16.4 percent compared to 2019. Parts for motor vehicles imported under HS 870323, the top ranked import by value, fell 7.6 percent in total value.

Like the Port of Charleston, imports into the Port of Tacoma provide support to administration’s concern over the health of U.S. supply chains. While the price for semiconductor imports has been surging nationally, imports for the machines and apparatus for their manufacture [HS 848620] fell by 49.9 percent in 2020 compared to 2019.

**Leading Importers**
- TARGET CORPORATION
- TOYOTA MOTOR MANUFACTURING
- FRED MEYER INC
- LES SCHEAWB WAREHOUSE CENTER
- SUMITOMO WIRING SYSTEMS

**Top Carriers**
- OCEAN NETWORK EXPRESS PTE LTD
- EVERGREEN LINE
- YANG MING MARINE TRANSPORT CORP
- HYUNDAI MERCHANT MARINE
- EXPEDITORS INTERNATIONAL OF WA

**Countries of Origin (TEUs)**
- CHINA: 15%
- VIETNAM: 15%
- JAPAN: 13%
- TAIWAN: 8%
- TAIWAN: 8%
- ORLAND: 5%
- OTHER: 51%

10. SEATTLE, WA

**TEUs: 617,995 | SHIPMENTS: 246,089**

Unlike its sister port, the Port of Tacoma, the Port of Seattle did see an end-of-year surge in imports starting in August. This counteracted the substantial impact of COVID-19 and the sluggish peak shipping season of 2018.

Overall, the volume of imports into the Port of Seattle remained steady compared to 2019, with only a slight increase of 1.4 percent. The value of these imports did see a more sizeable shift, mainly the result of the reduced value of automotive parts and the parts for airplanes and helicopters which fell by 49.7 percent. The total decline in the value by vessel for imports into the Port of Seattle was 7 percent.

Imports into the Port of Seattle give the first indication about the health of the United States’ lithium ion battery supply chain, another concern of the U.S. administration. In 2020, import values of lithium ion batteries shipped in under HS 850760 saw an increase in value of 186.2 percent to a total value increase of over $100 million USD.

**Leading Importers**
- TARGET CORPORATION
- IKEA HOLDING US INC
- E DRAY
- SAMSUNG AMERICA INC
- DOLE FOOD COMPANY INC

**Top Carriers**
- CMA-CGM
- MAERSK LINE
- MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S A
- HAPAG LLOYD A G
- COSCO SHIPPING LINES CO LTD

**Countries of Origin (TEUs)**
- CHINA: 23%
- VIETNAM: 51%
- SOUTH KOREA: 4%
- HONG KONG: 3%
- JAPAN: 3%
- OTHER: 33%
11. BALTIMORE, MD

TEUs: 512,314 | SHIPMENTS: 206,944

Increases in imports from nations in Asia other than China reduced the impact of COVID-19 on the Port of Baltimore. That being said, the overall year-over-year performance of the port was still a little sluggish. Compared to 2019, overall import volume fell 0.9 percent. Value, however, is where the Port of Baltimore experienced the majority of the impact of COVID-19. Among the top ten commodities by value in 2019, categorized by the four-digit HS code, all ten plummeted in 2020.

Vehicles, imported under HS 8703 and the top-ranked maritime import by value, had the most substantial impact on the decline in total value of Baltimore’s imports. While not as large of a percentile drop as some other top commodities, the 8.1 percent decline represented $1.3 billion USD – 19.3 percent of the Port of Baltimore’s entire drop in value.

Leading Importers
IKEA HOLDING US INC
ARAUCO WOOD PRODUCTS
BOB’S DISCOUNT FURNITURE
LG CHEM AMERICA INC
HEINEKEN USA INCORPORATED

Top Carriers
MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S A
EVERGREEN LINE
MAERSK LINE
HAMBURG SÜD
ATLANTIC CONTAINER LINE AB

12. MIAMI, FL

TEUs: 488,146 | SHIPMENTS: 272,571

After experiencing the sharpest single month decline in imports during the early months of COVID-19, the Port of Miami struggled to fully recover and did not experience the late-year surge boosting the yearly totals of other ports. Compared to 2019, the overall maritime volume imported into the Port of Miami fell 4.6 percent, dropping below 500k TEUs for the first time in two years. This drop-off can largely be attributed to the decline in imports from China. Despite being a port on the East coast of the United States, the Port of Miami still imports nearly 20 percent of its total volume from China.

The decline in value for maritime imports into the Port of Miami was also substantial. Compared to 2019, the total value of imports by vessel fell 11.4 percent. This drop is largely due to a decline in retail goods. Top-ranked clothing imported under HS 6109 fell 26.6 percent in total year-over-year value compared to 2019.

Leading Importers
CITY FURNITURE AND APPLIANCES
GILDAN USA INC
PRICE SMART INC
EL DORADO FURNITURE CORP
MIAMI AGRO IMPORT INC

Top Carriers
SEABOARD MARINE LTD
CMA-CGM
MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S A
MAERSK LINE
ORIENT EXPRESS CONTAINER CO INC

Countries of Origin (TEUs)
Unlike the majority of ports across the country, the Port of Philadelphia saw relatively little impact from the COVID-19 outbreak with overall import volume only declining 2.3 percent in the early months of 2020 compared to 2019. The port also experienced the peak season surge of imports similar to many others. The result of this peak season combined with the minute impact of COVID-19 was a year-over-year volume increase of 3.6 percent. Initially, it was believed the year-over-year values of imports into the Port of Philadelphia depended on whether the value of petroleum recovered. The value did not recover as imports of crude petroleum under HS 2709 fell 45.7 percent in total and refined petroleum under HS 2710 fell 42.9 percent.

The total value of maritime imports into the Port of Philadelphia, however, increased by 13.5 percent despite this decline in petroleum value. This increase is almost entirely due to the value of imported consumer products increasing substantially compared to 2019.

With its imports impacted substantially by COVID-19, Port Everglades was unable to recover during peak season and saw a year-over-year decline in value of 5.5 percent and a 10 percent drop in value.

The impact of the drop the value of petroleum imports on Port Everglades cannot be overstated. The decline in Port Everglades’ yearly maritime import values can almost exclusively be attributed to the 56.8 percent drop in the value of refined petroleum.
Among the top 30 most active maritime ports in the United States, the Port of Jacksonville had the most substantial percentile reaction to COVID-19. By the end of May, imports into the Port of Jacksonville had fallen 15.7 percent compared to the same period in 2019. That decline was largely the result of a 33.1 percent plunge on imports from China.

Over the rest of 2020, this volume did not recover. Compared to 2019, the total import volume into the Port of Jacksonville fell 11.3 percent. The value of these imports also declined sharply, falling 18.9 percent over the course of the year.

Maintaining its newly anointed position from 2017 among the most active U.S. ports, the Port of Mobile had TEU imports totalling over 212 thousand in 2020, a respectable 4.2 percent increase from 2019 during the coronavirus pandemic. This firmly establishes Mobile as one of the top ports in the United States and hints at continued growth in the years to come after the $535 million USD investments in shore-side and channel improvements as well as a $50 million expansion undertaken in 2018.

The Port of Mobile had significant growth in the total value of goods imported, rising 9.7 percent to nearly $6.5 billion in 2020.
Among top U.S. ports, the Port of Wilmington was among the few to see a modest growth in import volume during the first half of 2020. This was largely due to a dramatic increase in volume from Guatemala, the port’s top country of origin in 2020. The volume of shipments from Guatemala grew 20.28 percent in 2020, despite the ongoing pandemic.

As the year progressed, however, this volume increase did not continue, and a sluggish peak season resulted in a 1.04 percent decline in total volume.

The value of maritime imports into the Port of Wilmington saw a dramatic fall in 2020, the most substantial in the country at 54.9 percent. Crude petroleum, imported under HS 2709, accounts for this decline and fell 71.7 percent in value in 2020, nearly the entire decline in value experienced by the port.

In 2020, import volumes into the Port of San Juan increased substantially by 14.3 percent to a total of just over 195 thousand TEUs. This is despite a 5.6 percent decline in the first half of the year which was due to a slowing of shipments from China of 19.9 percent compared to the same period in 2019.

However, starting in July of 2020, imports saw some of the largest month-over-month increases in volume in the last five years. This is the combined effect of the end-of-year surge experienced by many ports across the country and the recovery of the Port of San Juan after Hurricane Maria in 2017.
19. BOSTON, MA
TEUs: 137,286 | SHIPMENTS: 66,002

The Port of Boston had TEU imports totalling just over 137 thousand, an 8.7 percent decrease over 2019. Prior to COVID-19, the port had been seeing a steady growth of 14.9 percent in 2019 and 13.7 percent in 2018. The total maritime value of goods imported to Boston fell to just under $7.6 billion USD, a substantial 18.2 percent decrease from 2019. This decline in value is due to the leading product by value for the port, Petroleum Oils [HS 2710]. Much like the rest of the country, the value of petroleum oil fell sharply in 2020, In the Port of Boston, the maritime value of petroleum imports fell by $1.2 billion USD, a 38.9 percent decline from 2019.

Leading Importers
BJ’S WHOLESALE CLUB INC
BOBS DISCOUNT FURNITURE
UNITED LIQUOR LIMITED
RAVENSBURGER USA INC
EMD MILLIPORE CORPORATION

Top Carriers
MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S A
EVERGREEN LINE
COSCO SHIPPING LINES CO LTD
SEAMASTER LOGISTICS INC
BLUE ANCHOR AMERICA LINE

20. NEW ORLEANS, LA
TEUs: 135,847 | SHIPMENTS: 49,991

Despite maintaining steady imports during the first half of 2020, drop-offs in the months of June-August resulted in a slight decline of 0.4 percent in yearly volume compared to 2019. The value of imports in the Port of New Orleans did fall substantially by nearly $4 billion USD. This 21.1 percent decline is, much like many ports across the country, due to the drop in petroleum import values. Refined petroleum fell in value by 38.6 percent while crude fell 42.9 percent in total maritime value. The loss in value of these two commodities, ranked top two among four-digit HS codes for the Port of New Orleans, accounted for over half the total decline in maritime value for the port during 2020.

Leading Importers
THE FOLGER COFFEE COMPANY
ROOMS TO GO FURNITURE CORP
COTTONDALE WOOD PRODUCTS
SYNGENTA INC
O.F. LUMBER SALES

Top Carriers
MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S A
CMA-CGM
HAPAG LLOYD A G
HAMBURG SÜD
MAERSK LINE

Countries of Origin (TEUs)
CHINA
GERMANY
ITALY
VIETNAM
HONG KONG
OTHER

Countries of Origin (TEUs)
BRAZIL
CHINA
GERMANY
MEXICO
VIETNAM
OTHER
Surging imports in January and February helped stave off a year-over-year decline for the Port of Wilmington, NC. The total import volume for 2020 was 3.2 percent higher than 2019 to just over 125k twenty-foot equivalent units.

Despite the increase in volume, the total value of maritime imports into the port fell 8.8 percent compared to 2019. Nine of the top ten commodities by value in 2019 saw substantial declines in 2020. Accounting for over half of the entire value lost, the value of clothing imported under HS 6110 dropped by more than $235 million USD – a 56.9 percent decrease compared to 2019.

Leading Importers
GILDAN USA INC
ROOMS TO GO FURNITURE CORP
SWAFFORD WAREHOUSING INC
ZIEHL ABEGG INC
E D G DEVELOPMENT

Top Carriers
INDEPENDENT CONTAINER LINE LTD
OCEAN NETWORK EXPRESS PTE LTD
ZIM INTEGRATED SHIPPING SERVICES LTD
YANG MING MARINE TRANSPORT CORP
CROWLEY LATIN AMERICA SERVICES LLC

After facing a substantial decrease in the number of shipments cleared, determined by processed Bills of Lading, during the first half of 2020 due to COVID-19, the peak season surge experienced by the Port of Chester was substantial. More than 2k more bills of lading were cleared in the second half of 2020 compared to the same period in 2019. This, like the Port of Oakland, demonstrates a shifting dynamic in the types of imports cleared by the port.

Total volume for the port, by twenty-foot equivalent units, saw a year-over-year increase of 3.3 percent. Cleared bills of lading increased by 4.5 percent in 2020 compared to 2019.

Maritime import values did drop 16.2 percent compared to 2019. This, like the majority of ports seeing declines in import values across the country, is due to the decline in petroleum. 88.1 percent of the maritime import value decline experienced by the Port of Chester came from the $918 million USD drop in value of crude petroleum.

Leading Importers
THE SOL GROUP MARKETING
CAMPOSOL FRESH USA
MERCEDES BENZ INC
J&K FRESH EAST
HORTIFRUIT IMPORTS INC

Top Carriers
INDEPENDENT CONTAINER LINE LTD
SEABOARD MARINE LTD
AGRIEX SHIPPING LIMITED
BLUE ANCHOR AMERICA LINE EXPEDITORS
INTERNATIONAL OF WASHINGTON INC
23. PORT HUENEME, CA
TEUs: 87,403 | SHIPMENTS: 19,382

Among the top 30 most active ports in the United States, the Port of Hueneme experienced the second-largest percentile growth in 2020, falling only behind Port Panama City. The total volume of imports into the Port of Hueneme increased 40.6 percent compared to 2019. This comes from a surge in the imports of produce, imports of bananas and plantains under HS 0803, the top commodity by volume, increasing 37.5 percent compared to 2019.

The value of maritime imports into the Port of Hueneme did fall off significantly. This was due to a steep decline in imports of passenger vehicles. Vehicles imported under HS 8703 account for 81.8 percent of the total value of goods cleared by the port, and, in 2020, that value fell by 19.2 percent compared to 2019.

Leading Importers
- CHIQUITA FRESH NA LLC
- THE SOL GROUP MARKETING
- DEL MONTE FRESH PRODUCE
- FYFFES NORTH AMERICA INC
- CHESTNUT HILL FARMS LLC

Top Carriers
- SEALAND
- GREAT WHITE FLEET CORP
- TRANSFRUT EXPRESS LIMITED
- TROPICAL FRUIT AMERICAS LLC
- NETWORK SHIPPING LTD

Countries of Origin (TEUs)
- ARGENTINA
- GUATEMALA
- ECUADOR
- COSTA RICA
- MEXICO
- OTHER

24. GULFPORT, MS
TEUs: 77,064 | SHIPMENTS: 18,470

The Port of Gulfport, Mississippi’s most active port but routinely outperformed by its neighbours in Mobile and New Orleans, has long been an established port for smaller-volume imports of consumer goods such as produce and clothing.

In 2020, due to supply chain shifts to its neighbouring ports, the volume of imports cleared by the Port of Gulfport declined 9.5 percent.

The value of imports cleared fell by 30.2 percent, the second sharpest decline seen by the top 30 ports in the United States. This value drop-off is due entirely to a decline in value of clothing imports, which account for seven of the top ten commodities by value imported into Gulfport.

Leading Importers
- DOLE FOOD COMPANY INC
- CHIQUITA FRESH NA LLC
- VF JEANSWEAR LIMITED
- SHOWA BEST GLOVE INC
- EMPIRE ELECTRONICS EL PASO

Top Carriers
- TRANSFRUT EXPRESS LIMITED
- GREAT WHITE FLEET CORP
- TROPICAL FRUIT AMERICAS LLC
- CROWLEY LATIN AMERICA SERVICES LLC
- DOLE OCEAN CARGO EXPRESS

Countries of Origin (TEUs)
- HONDURAS
- GUATEMALA
- COSTA RICA
- EL SALVADOR
- COLOMBIA
- OTHER
25. TAMPA, FL
TEUs: 76,226 | SHIPMENTS: 28,303

Import TEUs 2020 vs. 2019

Leading Importers
ROOMS TO GO FURNITURE CORP
MULBERRY DISTRIBUTION CENTER
SAMSUNG AMERICA INC
ARRAY TECHNOLOGIES INC
LG ELECTRONICS USA INC

Top Carriers
CMA-CGM
COSCO SHIPPING LINES CO LTD
MAERSK LINE
HONOUR LANE SHIPPING LTD
MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY S A

Seeing a 27.1 percent increase in import volume and a 2.4 percent decline in maritime value indicated a significant shift in the types of imports cleared by the Port of Tampa.

Foodstuffs and consumer goods fell off significantly in 2020, with third-ranked commodity by volume Fruit Juice [HS 2009] having an 81.6 percent decline in import volume. This drop in fruit juice specifically accounts for much of the decline in total value cleared by the Port, with import values of fruit juice plummeting by $122.7 million USD.

Propping up imports into the Port of Tampa was furniture. Imports of furniture under HS 9403 increased 99.4 percent in total volume and 85.1 percent in value, claiming the top ranked commodity in both categories.

26. SAN DIEGO, CA
TEUs: 73,629 | SHIPMENTS: 33,609

Import TEUs 2020 vs. 2019

Leading Importers
DOLE FOOD COMPANY INC
AMAZON PRODUCE NETWORK LLC
J&K FRESH EAST
H&N GROUP INC
PACIFIC BREEZE SEAFOOD INC

Top Carriers
TRANSFRUT EXPRESS LIMITED
TROPICAL FRUIT AMERICAS LLC
DOLE OCEAN CARGO EXPRESS
TOP SHIPPING SYSTEMS CORP
BLUE ANCHOR AMERICA LINE

A 3.1 percent increase in the volume of imports the Port of San Diego could not stave off a 31.4 percent decline in value, the second largest in the country behind the Port of Wilmington Delaware.

While the import of fruits dominates the volume of imports into San Diego, passenger vehicles account for 78.6 percent of the total value brought into the port. Partially due to COVID-19, the value of imported passenger vehicles cleared by the Port dropped 36.3 percent. Of the total decline in year-over-year value of $1.84 billion USD, $1.8 billion was for passenger motor vehicles.

The value of transportation motor vehicles, under HS 8704, also saw a steep decline of 41.5 percent.
27. PORT MANATEE, FL

**TEUs: 52,619 | SHIPMENTS: 12,576**

Import TEUs 2020 vs. 2019

The third largest increase in volume among top ports in the country of 32.3 percent only amounted to a 0.3 percent increase in value for Port Manatee, Florida.

This change in volumes and values stems from a shift in the types of goods cleared by the port. In previous years, fruit imported under HS 08 dominated both the value and volume of shipments for Port Manatee. In 2020, larger imports (in terms of physical size) such as refrigerators and air conditioners were among the top imports cleared by the port.

**Leading Importers**

DEL MONTE FRESH PRODUCE
SAMSUNG AMERICA INC
DEKALB FARMERS MARKET
AJ ARANGO
COLGATE PALMOLIVE

**Top Carriers**

WORLD DIRECT SHIPPING LLC
NETWORK SHIPPING LTD
TRANSPLACE DE MEXICO
ORIENT EXPRESS CONTAINER CO INC
TRANSPLACE INTERNATIONAL INC

28. FREEPORT (5311), TX

**TEUs: 26,370 | SHIPMENTS: 8,614**

Import TEUs 2020 vs. 2019

An 8.2 percent decline in volume generated a significant 21.7 percent drop in value for Port Freeport. Though still one of the fastest growing ports in Texas, imports into the state largely shifted towards the larger-capacity Port of Houston.

Beyond COVID-19, the extremely active 2020 Atlantic hurricane season had a significant impact of the imports processed by Port Freeport with the majority of the year-over-year declines occurring during the months of July-October.

As expected, the decline in value stems from imports of petroleum which account for 42.5 percent of the total value of maritime imports. Refined petroleum’s import value into Port Freeport fell 37.1 percent in 2020 compared to 2019.

**Leading Importers**

DOLE FOOD COMPANY INC
CHIQUITA FRESH NA LLC
FYFFES NORTH AMERICA INC
SINTEX MINERALS & SERVICES INC
EDT USA CORPORATION

**Top Carriers**

TRANSFRUT EXPRESS LIMITED
TROPICAL FRUIT AMERICAS LLC
GREAT WHITE FLEET CORP
DOLE OCEAN CARGO EXPRESS
CMA-CGM

Countries of Origin (TEUs)
29. WEST PALM BEACH, FL

TEUs: 25,664 | SHIPMENTS: 28,543

Import TEUs 2020 vs. 2019

Experiencing only a slight impact in both import volumes and values due to COVID-19, the peak season surge balanced out the imports into the Port of Palm Beach and year-over-year volumes increased 0.7 percent and maritime value decreased 0.3 percent.

While the total volume and values were stagnant, the makeup of imports into the Port of Palm Beach did change significantly. Traditionally importing a variety of goods from foodstuffs to peat and natural gas containers, 2020 saw the Port of Palm Beach become slightly more specialized. Imports of plastics under HS 3903 increased by 73.4 percent in volume as measured by twenty-foot equivalent units and the value of these goods increased by 34.3 percent.

Leading Importers
SCOTTS MIRACLE GRO
DIAGEO NORTH AMERICA INC
JIM BEAM BRANDS CO
BARTOW ETHANOL LLC
ASSOCIATED ASPHALT

Top Carriers
TROPICAL SHIPPING & CONSTRUCTION CO
SOUTH AMERICAN INDEPENDENT LINE
BAHAMAS FERRIES LTD
RAPIDUS (PROMPTUS LLC)
BDP TRANSPORT, INC

Widely varied in the types of goods imported by volume, Port Panama City had the largest year-over-year percentile increase in volume in the United States. Of note, however, is that the 48.6 percent in twenty-foot equivalent units cleared by the port actually resulted in a 3.2 percent decline in maritime value.

This decline in value is due to a significant drop-off in the imports of the top ranked commodity cleared by the port. Refined copper imported under HS 7403 accounted for 5.8 percent of the total volume of imports in 2019 but 74.5 percent of the total value. In 2020, the volume of refined copper imports decreased 83.5 percent. However, the value of these commodities only fell by 1.1 percent, meaning the individual price for these imports increased substantially.

Leading Importers
THE AMERICAN BOTTLING COMPANY
ANHEUSER BUSCH INBEV
SCOTT HOFFMAN LCB
SOUTHERN VALLEY INC
VF JEANSWEAR LTD

Top Carriers
LINEA PENINSULAR INC
SEABOARD MARINE LTD
CHRISTAL LINES
CENTRAL DISPATCH INC

Countries of Origin (TEUs)
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With a comprehensive database of accurate, up-to-date import-export information, Descartes Datamyne delivers actionable intelligence for market research, sales insight, supply chain management, enhanced security and competitive strategy. The solution is powered by the world’s largest searchable trade database, covering the global commerce of 230 markets across 5 continents.

Manufacturers, shippers wholesalers, transport and logistics service providers, management consultants, legal practitioners, industry analysts and more use our exceptionally accurate and granular data to initiate growth strategies, explore new markets, benchmark performance, monitor commodity volumes and values, simplify trade data research, discover buyer seller relationships and refine sourcing strategies.

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