

Port of Oakland beef export volume up 25 percent in 2021

Proof of cold chain strategy, even in a year beset by shipping woes

Port of Oakland beef exports – almost exclusively to Asia – increased 25 percent this year between January and July. The Port called the surge extraordinary in a year when shipping disruptions have hobbled global supply chains.

“Demand for high-quality U.S. meat products is off the charts,” said Port of Oakland Maritime Director Bryan Brandes. “We’re in the best position to help American exporters meet that demand.”

Oakland exported the equivalent of 25,200 20-foot containers of beef through July. The number for the same period last year was 20,100. Oakland estimated the total value of beef exports at \$1.5 billion in the first seven months of 2021.

Asian markets have received nearly all of the beef exported from Oakland this year as measured by container volume, the Port said.

The percentage breakdown by country:

- Japan, 55 percent;
- China, (including Hong Kong and Taiwan), 24 percent; and
- South Korea, 19 percent.

Port officials said soaring demand for U.S. beef in China is driving the export boom. American-produced beef accounts for 5 percent of all containerized exports to China. COVID-related restrictions on restaurant dining have sparked a jump in Asian retail beef sales, the Port explained. [→ 04](#)

Impact Transportation’s Ron Cancilla



Ron Cancilla came to the Port of Oakland in 1992 as a kid with a dream to become an Owner-Operator. As a single parent with full custody Ron needed a decent income and most of all flexibility. [→ 02](#)



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Ron Cancilla *from page 1*

Ron found that with a long-time family-owned company based on K street (which is now SSA Marine) called Boland CFS. The Boland Trucking family took Ron in and taught him to be much more than a driver. Ron bought his first truck in 1996 and drove the then 11 terminals and two rail yards for Boland for just over two years when the family talked him into coming into the office and dispatching.

Meanwhile, Ron kept that truck and hired a driver. Little did he know at the time that one truck and one employee would soon become the start of a growing business - Impact Transportation. Over the years the motor carrier company has flourished and became a long-time tenant of the Port of Oakland.

Today Ron Cancilla is the President and CEO (Chief Executive Officer) of Impact Transportation. Impact is still serving some of the same customers Boland handed down many years ago.

According to Ron, Impact Transportation strives to make a positive impact on all its customers, its staff, its IC's (Intelligence Communities) and pretty much anyone who calls for advice on all things Port of Oakland.

Located on the former Oakland Army Base in a 250,000 sq ft warehouse at 2497 19th Street, Impact Transportation is known to be service oriented. Walk into Ron's office and you will see a large sign reading "Class. Service. Excellence." which Ron's staff strive to deliver every day.

Today Impact Transportation employees stand for a lot more than just trucking. They can successfully implement major projects. For example, they have successfully coordinated and delivered the products and structural elements needed for entire buildings on several large-scale Bay Area projects. Impact Transportation staff are keeping the Boland tradition of warehousing, crossdocking, Central Freight Station, oversized cargo, heavy haul and much more thriving at the Oakland Seaport. ●

Port of Oakland import volume edged up in August

Fewer vessel calls, result of West Coast cargo delays in prior months

Port of Oakland import cargo volume edged up last month while the number of vessel services has been reduced. The Port received the equivalent of 97,850 20-foot import containers in August. That was up 1.6 percent from August 2020.

The Port contrasted rising imports with a 40 percent drop in the number of container ships calling at Oakland. According to the Port, 68 ships arrived in August, compared to 113 a year ago.

The Port attributed declining vessel calls to ship diversions earlier this year. Several carriers rerouted vessels to avoid congestion at West Coast ports that resulted from surging import volume. According to the Port, Oakland has cleared up crowding at its vessel berths and container yards.

"We're pleased to see that imports continued strong, despite the challenges ports faced earlier this year," said Port of Oakland Maritime Director Bryan Brandes. "We've regained operating efficiency and we're prepared for continued strength in the import market."

The Port said exports shipped from Oakland declined 5.8 percent in August. For the full year through August, imports were up 14 percent and exports down 1.8 percent, the Port added.

According to the Port, import volume is expected to grow in coming months. That's because the shipping industry is in the midst of peak season. It's the time of year when U.S. retailers bolster inventories for upcoming holiday sales. Goods imported primarily from Asian manufacturers fill container ships and West Coast marine terminals.

The Port said imports have accounted for 55 percent of its laden container volume in 2021. Exports make up 45 percent of the cargo mix, the Port said. Oakland has traditionally reported a near 50-50 split between imports and exports. The swing toward greater import volume reflects a year-long surge in U.S. consumer spending, the Port explained. ●



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“Together we can build on trends for increased cargo capacity that are placing Oakland in the spotlight.”

PHOTO, left to right: David Kim, California State Transportation Agency Secretary; Danny Wan, Port of Oakland Executive Director, and Carl Bentzel, Federal Maritime Commissioner

Port of Oakland shows top transportation leaders future of trade U.S., state leaders at roundtable, learn how a global gateway stays strong

Top transportation officials learned what it takes to maintain the Port of Oakland’s international trade status – collaboration and transparency. That’s what Port executives discussed with Federal Maritime Commissioner Carl W. Bentzel and California State Transportation Agency Secretary David S. Kim during an August 30, 2021 visit to Oakland. The pair joined nearly two dozen shipping leaders for a roundtable on Oakland’s future as a global trade gateway.

The Port said public/private sector collaboration would be key to strengthening Oakland’s place in the global supply chain and to strengthen the state and federal economies. It asked for support from maritime leaders to streamline seaport operations and collaborate on making the supply chain transparent for customers and operators.

“Together we can build on trends for increased cargo capacity that are placing Oakland in the spotlight,” said Port of Oakland Executive Director Danny Wan. “The opportunity is here, if we can agree to seize it.”

The Port said Oakland is breaking containerized cargo handling records midst an unprecedented U.S. import surge. The boom in volume may become permanent, the Port added, due to factors that include:

- **Oakland’s improved ability to handle the world’s largest container ships;**
- **Northern California’s rise as a center for e-commerce distribution; and**
- **The Port’s proximity to California’s Central Valley, a predominant U.S. agricultural region.**

Shipping lines increasingly view Oakland as an essential gateway in the U.S.-Asia trade, the Port said. As evidence: three carriers have launched first-call Oakland services in 2021. First-call ports are where vessels from Asia make their first North America stops. Most U.S. imports are discharged at first-call ports.

Port officials told roundtable attendees that increased business has created new jobs in the transportation and logistics sectors. Growth has also posed operational challenges in Oakland, the Port added. There’s a scramble to keep up with the surge in container volume, the Port said. That’s where collaboration comes in, the Port explained.

The Port lauded marine terminal operators who’ve invested millions to update their operations and equipment. It said more would be needed for big-ticket items such

as ship-to-shore cranes. The Port asked continued fiscal support from government to finance sustainable transportation initiatives to ensure a transition into zero-emissions cargo operations. It called on waterfront labor and management to continue working together to ensure a skilled workforce to keep operations fluid and cargo moving.

“Ports are essential to the U.S. economy, and just as essential is how they operate” said Commissioner Bentzel. “Operational discussions like this are critical to strengthening our supply chain and improving efficiency to meet current and post-pandemic cargo demand.”

“California’s ports serve as the gateway to the freight world – where cargo is transferred and distributed through the state to the rest of the nation,” said California State Transportation Agency Secretary David S. Kim. “As our ports play a major role in economic vitality and environmental stewardship, I’m pleased to join with our federal partners, the Port of Oakland and its operators, shippers and beneficial cargo owners to discuss what’s needed to maintain and increase competitiveness.” → 04

Future of trade *from page 3*

Economic Impact:

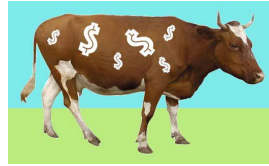
- 1 The Port of Oakland and its business partners support more than 84,000 jobs in the region and more than 1 million related jobs across the country (Martin Associates economic impact study). For example, the International Longshore and Warehouse Union recently added hundreds of casuals to the local workforce this summer to handle the cargo growth at the Port of Oakland.
- 2 Locally, the activity at the Port of Oakland's business lines spurs \$12.9 billion in yearly economic impact and generates \$698 million in annual local taxes.
- 3 The cargo activity at the Oakland Seaport and Oakland International Airport generates a financial output of more than \$117 billion a year.
- 4 American ports' cargo activity annually supports 31 million U.S. jobs, creates \$5.4 trillion in economic activity, and generates \$378 billion in local, state and federal taxes. (American Association of Port Authorities) ●



“As our ports play a major role in economic vitality and environmental stewardship, I’m pleased to join with our federal partners and the Port of Oakland and its operators, shippers and beneficial cargo owners ... to maintain and increase competitiveness.”

David S. Kim —
California State Transportation Agency Secretary

Beef export volume up *from page 1*



Surging beef exports validate Port investments in the international cold chain. Oakland has, significantly expanded chilled and frozen cargo handling capacity

in the past five years. California and Midwest producers ship tons of beef to Oakland in rail cars. Product transfers at the temperature-controlled storage facilities in the heart of the Oakland Seaport to containers, then moves down the street to waiting ships.

Oakland is a principal U.S. gateway for beef exports to Asia. That’s because most ships make Oakland their final North American stop before returning to Asia. Beef spends less time on board a ship if it’s loaded in Oakland rather than some other American port.

The Port credited U.S. beef producers with sustaining the export boom despite shipping woes. Shortages of containers and vessel space have restricted exports throughout 2021, the Port said. Shortages of refrigerated containers – essential for beef shipments – have been particularly acute, the Port added. It said beef exporters displayed exceptional diligence in finding the means to get cargo on ships. ●

Free COVID Vaccinations



Free COVID vaccinations are available. According to the California Department of Public Health website: “The vaccine is free to all. No insurance required. Safe, free, effective COVID-19 vaccines are available to everyone age 12 and up — regardless of immigration or insurance status. Stay healthy, protect others and help us end the pandemic. Find a walk-in clinic or make an appointment today.”

Click on the links below for more information.

- ▲ **MY TURN CALIFORNIA CLINIC LOCATION SITE:**
<https://myturn.ca.gov/clinic.html>
- ▲ **ALAMEDA COUNTY RESIDENTS:**
<https://my.primary.health/r/alco-vax-signup>
- ▲ **CONTRA COSTA COUNTY RESIDENTS:**
<https://covidvaccine.cchealth.org/COVIDVaccine/>