



# NWSA container volumes in April slide 24% due to global pandemic

## All terminals in Seattle and Tacoma remain open and operational

May 18 2020



The Northwest Seaport Alliance handled 247,675 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) in April 2020 as total container volumes declined 23.5% year over year. The economic fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic continues to disrupt the global supply chain. Compared to April 2019, full imports declined 13.9% while full exports decreased 17.6%.

During the first four months of 2020, the NWSA handled 1,036,556 TEUs. Our gateway experienced a total of 39 void sailings through April, driven by the lingering trade dispute with China and the global coronavirus pandemic. As a result, total container cargo volumes are down 17.5% year to date.

Our total year-to-date domestic container volumes dipped 2.7%. Alaska and Hawaii volumes declined 2.5% and 4%, respectively.

As seaports play a critical role in supporting the nation's economic recovery, all marine cargo terminals in Seattle and Tacoma remain [open and operational](#). We continue to work closely with our terminal operators, labor, warehouse companies and supply chain partners on customized COVID-19 solutions to ensure the gateway operates at a high level.

Other cargo highlights:

Breakbulk cargo volumes were down 0.9% year over year to 90,010 metric tons.

NWSA auto volumes year to date were 46,224 units, down 7.8% year over year.

View the April 2020 cargo reports:

[Container volumes – April 2020](#)

[Cargo statistics – April 2020](#)

### About The Northwest Seaport Alliance

The Northwest Seaport Alliance is a marine cargo operating partnership of the ports of Seattle and Tacoma. Combined, the ports are the fourth-largest container gateway in North America. Regional marine cargo facilities also are a major center for bulk, breakbulk, project/heavy-lift cargoes, automobiles and trucks.

### Media Contact

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