



PORT OF OAKLAND

Port of Oakland container volume dipped 1.8 percent in 2019

Decline is result of fewer empty boxes but loaded imports/exports set record

Press Releases, Seaport

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Oakland, Calif. – January 17, 2020: Port of Oakland 2019 container volume decreased 1.8 percent from 2018, according to data released today. The Port attributed the decline to fewer empty containers but said loaded import and export containers were at a record high.

Oakland handled the equivalent of 2.5 million 20-foot containers (TEUs) in 2019 versus 2.55 million in 2018. The Port attributed the dip to a 13 percent drop in empty container handling.

On the other hand, export volume increased 3.7 percent last year, the Port said. Imports were up 1 percent. As a result, the Port set a record for loaded containers in 2019 with 1.9 million TEUs. The Port broke a 2018 record of 1.86 million loaded TEUs. The Port said the results were promising given a China-U.S. tariff standoff that dampened global trade in 2019.

“We’re encouraged that our loaded imports and exports set annual records,” said Port of Oakland Maritime Director John Driscoll. “We are looking to improve on this cargo performance in the coming year, especially if the U.S. and China can continue to break down trade barriers.”

The Port attributed export volume growth to continued demand for U.S. agricultural products. Shippers are increasingly finding markets outside China to grow their businesses, the Port said.

Continued strong U.S. consumer spending kept import volume growing despite tariffs on Chinese goods, the Port said. It added that Northern California’s vibrant economy contributed to the rise of imports.

For more details about the Port of Oakland's monthly container statistics, please [CLICK HERE](#).

About the Port of Oakland

The Port of Oakland oversees the Oakland Seaport, Oakland International Airport, and nearly 20 miles of waterfront including Jack London Square. The Port's 5-year strategic plan - Growth with Care - pairs business expansion with community benefits, envisioning more jobs and economic stimulus as the Port grows. Together with its business partners, the Port supports more than 84,000 jobs. Connect with the [Port of Oakland](#) and [Oakland International Airport](#) through Facebook, or with the Port on Twitter, YouTube, and at www.portofoakland.com.

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