



PORT OF OAKLAND

Port of Oakland imports up 1.9 percent in June

Surprise gain for inbound cargo as 10 percent of voyages canceled, but overall volume down

Press Releases, Seaport

July 9th, 2020

Oakland, Calif. – July 9, 2020: Port of Oakland loaded import volume grew 1.9 percent last month from June 2019, according to data released today. The gain was unexpected given that shipping lines canceled 10 percent of their scheduled Oakland visits due to the trade-related impact of coronavirus.

The Port attributed the uptick in imports to retailers accelerating shipments to the U.S. in light of:

Cargo-carrying capacity that dwindles each month as shipping lines continue to cancel voyages; and
An anticipated rise in freight rates.

Oakland's overall container volume – which includes imports, exports and empty containers - declined 2.3 percent in June from 2019 totals. The Port handled the equivalent of 199,011 twenty-foot containers in June 2020 compared to 203,730 a year ago. The Port said the cargo decrease resulted from a coronavirus pandemic that continues to dampen global trade.

According to the Port, June export volume declined 5.7 percent. The Port said that the weakening export performance was likely due to reduced consumer demand in foreign markets caused by COVID-19 disruptions. Additionally, China instituted new restrictions on wastepaper exports from the United States which further dampened export volumes. The return of empty containers to origins in Asia decreased 14.5 percent.

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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