

March 2018



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March 2018

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Editorial: The Threat of a Trade War

Fixation on the negative balance of payments in trade has created a clear and present threat to global trade. What started out as an announcement of tariffs on steel and aluminum by President Trump is rapidly turning into a potential trade war. The unnerving thing about this is the false premise on which the tariffs are based.

China is being blamed for flooding the market with cheap steel due to its excessive production, yet the two largest exporters to the United States are Canada and the European Union. China, Korea and Taiwan only have small shares of the market, yet it is these countries with whom the United States has the largest trade deficits.

With threats and counter-threats of tariffs on goods such as cars, whisky and blue jeans, we can witness how trade wars begin. The global economy is drifting into increasing uncertainty just at a time when all the signs for sustained growth were otherwise clearly visible. In the United States, real gross domestic product increased 2.3 percent in 2017 over 2016 – far stronger than the 1.5 percent growth seen in 2016 – and 2018 has been expected to improve on this. Manufacturing output, although slowing marginally, remained strong in February. The only weakness was month-tomonth growth in consumer spending, and even there year-over-year growth was strong.

Our projections for this year reflect all of this, with container imports now forecast to grow 4.1 percent, down from last month's projection of 4.4 percent. With the total shipping capacity on the transpacific routes expected to increase by at least eight percent to both U.S. coasts, shippers can expect ocean freight rates to remain weak.

The danger is that a potential tariff war would have a negative impact on cargo growth to the detriment of both the consumer and U.S. industry. The likelihood of an increase in exports evaporates as well, killing off any chance for an improvement in the balance of trade. The art of the deal does not work in this environment and can cause both strategic and economic damage as we lash out at our closest partners.

-Ben Hackett



www.globalporttracker.com

Ben Hackett | +1.202.558.5292 | ben@hackettassociates.com | www.hackettassociates.com

Jon Gold | +1.202.626.8193 | goldj@nrf.com| www.nrf.com



Executive Summary

- The total volume of loaded imports at the tracked ports increased by 21,000 TEUs in January to 1.97 million TEUs. This represents a 1.1 percent gain over December and a 3.1 percent year-on-year increase.
- The combined loaded import volume at the monitored West Coast ports increased by an estimated 2,000 TEUs between December and January, which equates to a 0.3 percent gain. The total import volume was 1.11 million TEUs, which equates to a 1.1 percent increase over last year and is a record high for the month. The ports of LALB, Vancouver, and Prince Rupert posted increases over December, while the Northwest Seaport Alliance experienced a double-digit percentage decrease. From a year-on-year perspective, Prince Rupert experienced a double-digit gain while the Northwest Seaport Alliance posted a double-digit decrease. The forecast for loaded imports in 2018 is 13.62 million TEUs, which would equate to a 4.1 percent increase over 2017.
- The combined loaded import volume at the monitored East Coast ports increased by an estimated 23,000 TEUs between December and January, which equates to a 3.0 percent gain. The import volume of 778,000 TEUs is a record high for the month and equates to a 5.7 percent gain year-onyear. The ports of Montreal and Savannah posted double-digit percentage gains both month-on-month and year-on-year. The forecast for loaded imports in 2018 is 9.62 million TEUs, which would equate to a 4.0 percent increase over 2017.
- Loaded imports at Houston decreased in January by 4,000 TEUs to 89,000 TEUs (a record high for the month of January) for a 4.6 percent slide from December but a 5.7 percent gain year-on-year.

			Dec-17		Jan-17
	LALB	7	2.2%	7	4.6%
	Oakland	2	-4.5%	21	-6.6%
West	Seaport Alliance		-17.9%	V	-25.0%
Coast	Vancouver*	7	6.4%	7	8.6%
	Prince Rupert	7	6.4%	1	13.1%
	Coast Total	7	0.3%	7	1.1%
	Montreal	$\mathbf{\hat{T}}$	11.1%	\mathbf{T}	25.0%
	NYNJ*	7	1.0%	7	6.3%
	Virginia	2	-1.6%	7	2.8%
East	Charleston	2	-2.8%	21	-5.9%
Coast	Savannah	\mathbf{r}	14.6%	$\mathbf{\hat{T}}$	10.0%
COast	Jacksonville	2	-8.5%	7	2.9%
	Miami	7	4.6%	21	-0.7%
	Everglades	2	-7.6%	⇒	0.0%
	Coast Total	7	3.0%	7	5.7%
Gulf	Houston	2	-4.6%	7	5.7%

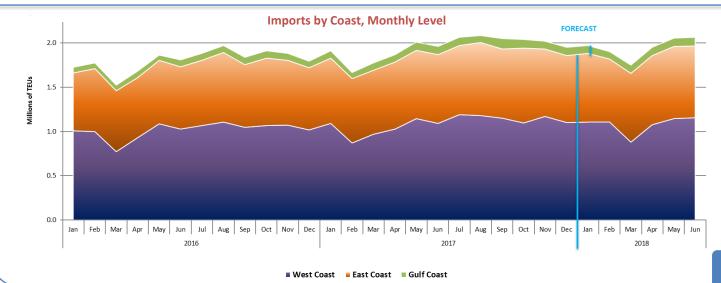
Change in Import Volume, January 2018 versus:

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January figures for NYNJ and Vancouver are estimated.

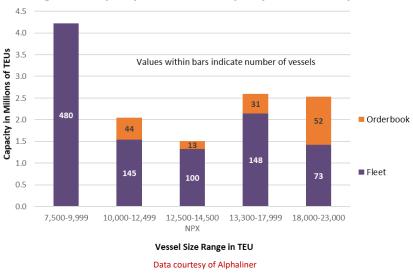
The North Europe edition of the Global Port Tracker reported that total container volumes across the sixport range increased by 24,000 TEUs or 0.7 percent in December with 3.53 million TEUs, for a 5.2 percent yearon-year increase. For loaded incoming volumes, the north range posted a 1.0 percent increase over November and was up 6.1 percent year-on-year, while loaded outgoing volumes were up 0.4 percent for a 4.4 percent gain year-on-year. Loaded imports to Europe posted a 14.0 percent increase (for a 6.4 percent gain year-on-year) while total exports were up 0.6 percent (for a 9.6 percent increase year-on-year). Preliminary figures for 2017 for the North Range show the loaded incoming volume increased by 7.4 percent while loaded outgoing volume posted a 5.4 percent increase.





Global Economic Overview

- According to Alphaliner, mega-vessels in the 18,000 to 23,000 TEU size range continue to dominate the order book, accounting for 40.8 percent of the total capacity on order as of February 1st. This will surely increase following the news that Hyundai Merchant Marine will place an order for an as-yet unknown number of mega-vessels in the first half of this year. The existing orders for the 18,000+ TEU vessels will nearly double the current capacity of the size class, from 1.42 million TEUs to 2.53 million TEUs.
- In China, the National Bureau of Statistics reported that the Manufacturing PMI decreased in February from 51.3 in January to 50.3. The low reading suggests that the rate of deceleration in economic growth may be faster than previously anticipated.



Existing Vessel Capacity vs Orderbook Capacity, as of February 1st, 2018

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Impact on Container Trade of New U.S. Tariffs on Imported Metals by Paul Bingham

Do the new US steel and aluminum import tariffs threaten the baseline forecasts of US import container volumes this year? That question is on the minds of shippers rightly fearing the effects of the new tariffs. The answer can't be known given the path of retaliation and subsequent US response back-and-forth is not clear. While there are characteristics of the way these new tariffs are being justified and applied that are very unusual, the likely responses by trade partners can be anticipated to some degree.

Much of the steel and aluminum targeted for tariffs is imported as breakbulk cargo rather than as containerized cargo (due to the size and weight characteristics). The uncertainty for the import container volumes therefore is primarily due to two factors:

- 1) if additional product categories are newly tariffed as a further response to retaliation against the US; or
- 2) if the resulting price responses lead to shifts in manufactured product trade competitiveness that could increase US import TEU volumes of now relatively-cheaper finished machinery and equipment products.

We can learn from past trade disputes between the US and its trade partners, even if those disputes aren't similar in process or timing to these new tariffs. Past retaliation has typically seen a measured response by other countries. Instead of responding dollar-for-dollar or commodity-by-commodity, more effective has been the imposition of narrowly-targeted retaliatory tariffs on US exports of commodities important to the voters in states of influential US Senators and Congressional Representatives. The likely EU response already cited is in line with this approach: retaliatory tariffs against Kentucky bourbon from US Senate Majority Leader McConnell's home state, and Harley Davidson motorcycles from US Speaker of the House Ryan's home state. The volume of export TEUs affected won't be large in that case (as long as the US doesn't further respond with additional tariffs).

As US steel and aluminum prices rise with the tariffs, the world prices may drop due to reduced export sales made to the US. The increased metal prices in the US will make users in US manufacturing less price competitive for exports of machinery and equipment. It is possible that the US steel and aluminum producers become less competitive inside the US, resulting in an increase in imports of products containing steel and aluminum. Under this scenario it is entirely possible that the net result will be an increase in US import TEU volumes, as the reduced US import volumes are more in breakbulk cargo while the container volumes of finished goods such as machinery, equipment and appliances with high metal content could increase.

The net impact on TEU volumes likely depends on how extensive the potential back-and-forth on tariffs becomes if a trade war breaks out. In an expanded trade war, the aggregate demand for goods overall could fall and the US, and perhaps the world, could fall into recession. In that worst-case scenario, the echo of the 20,000 commodities covered under the 1930 Smoot-Hawley Tariffs during the Great Depression could haunt the US economy. Yet such an extreme scenario seems unlikely as the political cost to the politicians in an election year seems likely to prevent a trade war being allowed to develop.



North America Economic Overview

- Following on from last month's examination of 2017's import growth and market share change, this month we turn our focus towards exports. Almost every port covered by the Global Port Tracker experienced an increase in loaded export volume between 2016 and 2017, although East Coast ports fared better than West Coast ports. The Port of Prince Rupert was the only West Coast port to post an increased market share in 2017, albeit at just a 0.1 percent gain in share; the Seaport Alliance gave up 0.6 percent of its market share compared to 2016. In contrast, the Port of Charleston gained 0.3 percent of the market and Savannah gained 0.5 percent. At the coastal level, the West Coast experienced a 0.6 percent decrease compared to a 5.2 percent gain on the East Coast and a 5.5 percent increase on the Gulf Coast. This translated to a shift in market share, with the East Coast gaining 1.2 percentage points and the Gulf Coast adding 0.2 percent, while the West Coast's share shrank by 1.4 percentage points. The market share held by the East and West Coasts stands at 46.3 percent and 46.8 percent respectively.
- The Manufacturing PMI reading for the US from ISM rebounded in February as it increased by 1.7 percentage points to grow from 59.1 in January to 60.8. The New Orders index retreated again, sliding 1.2 percentage points to 64.2, while the Production index decreased 2.5 points to 62.0. Inventories grew at a faster pace as the index increased by 4.4 points (for an 8.2 point increase in just two months) to reach 56.7 in February.
- In the US, the Michigan Index of Consumer Sentiment rebounded in February as it increased 4.2 percent over January's reading of 95.7 to 99.7. This is up 3.5 percent year on year.

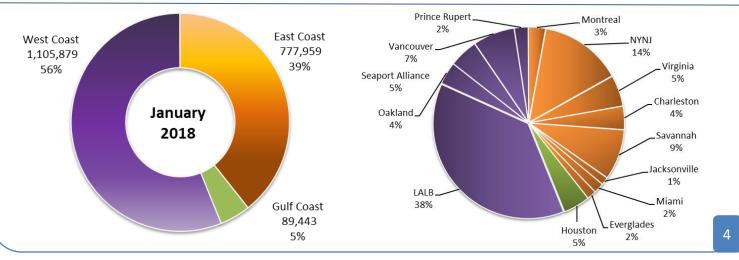
		2017 Growth vs 2016	2017 Market Share	Share Change vs 2016
	LALB	A 0.7%	24.2%	-0.4%
	Oakland	-1.9%	6.7%	-0.3%
West	Seaport Alliance	-5.7%	6.7%	-0.6%
Coast	Vancouver	▲ 0.0%	7.9%	-0.2%
	Prince Rupert	A 7.2%	1.4%	a 0.1%
	Montreal	6 .1%	4.3%	a 0.1%
	NYNJ	4 .3%	10.2%	a 0.2%
	Virginia	a 0.8%	7.3%	-0.1%
East	Charleston	A 7.4%	5.8%	a 0.3%
Coast	Savannah	A 7.7%	9.8%	a 0.5%
	Jacksonville	A 7.4%	2.9%	a 0.1%
	Everglades	▲ 5.7%	3.2%	a 0.1%
	Miami	A 2.9%	2.8%	- 0.0%
Gulf	Houston	▲ 5.5%	6.9%	a 0.2%
Const	West	-0.6%	46.8%	-1.4%
Coast	East	▲ 5.2%	46.3%	1.2%
Totals	Gulf	▲ 5.5%	6.9%	a 0.2%

2017 Loaded Export Growth and Market Share Change

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- The IPSOS Consumer Confidence Index for Canada stood at 55.3 in February 2018, up from 55.0 in January. In contrast, the reading for Mexico stood at 48.1 (up from 47.5) while the US posted a 62.1 (up from 61.1).
- IHS Markit stated that Canada's Manufacturing PMI decreased to 55.6 in February from 55.9 in. IHS Markit also reported that the Manufacturing PMI reading in Mexico decreased, slipping from 52.6 in January to 51.6.
- The Association of American Railroads reported that intermodal traffic for the month of February totaled 1.10 million containers and trailers, an increase of 6.9 percent year-on-year. U.S. intermodal volumes for the first 9 weeks of 2017, through March 3rd, are up 5.0 percent with 2.41 million units. Year-to-date Canadian intermodal volumes through the same period are up 6.3 percent with 588,000 units, while Mexico's total of 158,000 units is down 1.1 percent versus 2016.



GPT: North American Trade Outlook, March 2018

NRF RETAIL **Global Port Tracker Overview** 7,000 6,409 6.272 6,194 6,071 Quarterly Import Volumes 6.012 5,697 5,841 6,000 5,678 5.627 5,591 5,343 5,424 5,147 5,022 5,359 5,356 5,045 5,065 5,049 4,664 4.856 4.721 5,000 4,304 4.548 4,000 000s of TEUs 3,000 2,000 1,000 0 Q1 Q2 Q3 Q4 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 Actual Forecast

Quarterly Change

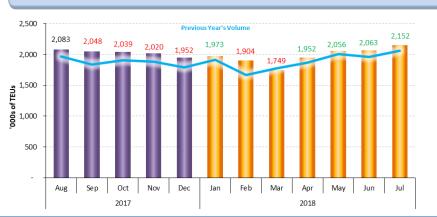
			Percent Change					
			vs F	Prior Quarter	VS	Prior Year		
	2015	Q3	27	4.7%	7	6.3%		
	2015	Q4	2	-9.3%	7	1.9%		
		Q1	21	-2.4%	7	3.4%		
Ļ.	2016	Q2	2	6.6%	2	-1.3%		
ĕ∩.	2016	Q3	77	6.4%	7	0.3%		
ACTUAL		Q4	2	-1.9%	27	8.6%		
٩.	2017	Q1	2	-4.1%	7	6.7%		
		Q2	2	9.0%	71	9.1%		
	2017	Q3	2	6.0%	7	8.7%		
		Q4	2	-2.9%	7	7.5%		
t:		Q1	21	-6.4%	7	5.0%		
CAS	2018	Q2	27	7.9%	7	3.9%		
FORECAST	2018	Q3	2	5.6%	71	3.5%		
		Q4	2	-2.1%	7	4.3%		

Monthly Change

			Percent Change					
			VS	Prior Month	vs Prior Year			
	2016	Dec	2	-4.8%	7	8.4%		
		Jan	21	6.7%	T	11.0%		
		Feb	쎚	-12.8%	21	-6.0%		
		Mar	71	6.4%	1	16.7%		
		Apr	2	5.3%	T	11.2%		
ACTUAL		May	71	7.5%	71	7.7%		
Ē	2017	Jun	2	-2.2%	7	8.5%		
A O	2017	Jul	71	5.0%	71	9.5%		
		Aug	21	1.0%	21	5.6%		
		Sep	2	-1.7%	T	11.3%		
		Oct	2	-0.4%	7	6.7%		
		Nov	2	-0.9%	7	7.2%		
		Dec	\mathbf{M}	-3.4%	7	8.8%		
		Jan	21	1.1%	7	3.1%		
		Feb	2	-3.5%	1	14.1%		
AST		Mar	2	-8.2%	2	-1.5%		
FORECAST	2018	Apr	\mathbf{T}	11.6%	71	4.5%		
8		May	7	5.3%	71	2.4%		
		Jun	71	0.3%	71	5.0%		
_		Jul	7	4.3%	7	4.3%		

Headlines

- > Imports to the ports tracked by the North American edition of the Global Port Tracker rebounded by an estimated 1.1 percent in January (the Ports of Vancouver and New York/New Jersey did not release figures in time for publication). The 21,000 TEU increase to 1.97 million TEUs equates to a 3.1 percent gain over the same month of 2017 and is a record high for the month of January.
- \geq The loaded volume exported in 2017 totaled 13.93 million TEUs for a 2.4 percent increase over the 13.60 million TEUs exported in 2016.
- \triangleright Compared to the 100-point base year of 2012, the Import Index for January is 129.4. This is 3.8 points higher than the 125.6 that was recorded in the same month of 2017.
- \triangleright The forecast projects a 2.0 percent decrease in imports between February and July versus the past six months (August through January), compared to a 0.3 percent increase between the same two periods of last year.
- \geq The first half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 4.4 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017, with 11.70 million TEUs. The second half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 3.9 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017, with 12.68 million TEUs.
- \geq The forecast volume for 2018 is 24.38 million TEUs, which would be a 4.1 percent increase over last year.



Monthly Import Volumes

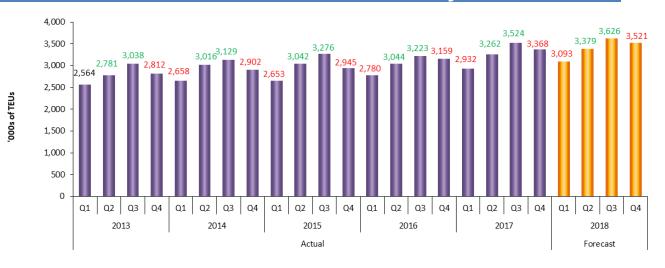
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GPT: North American Trade Outlook, March 2018

West Coast Port Activity



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Quarterly Change

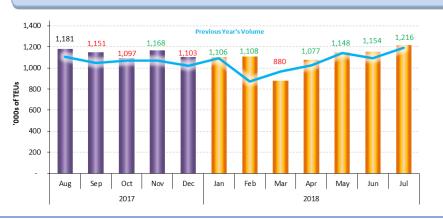
			Percent Change				
			VS	Prior Quarter	vs	Prior Year	
	2015	Q3	7	7.7%	7	4.7%	
	2015	Q4		-10.1%	7	1.5%	
		Q1	2	-5.6%	7	4.8%	
Ę.	2016	Q2	2	9.5%	->	0.1%	
ACTUAL	2016	Q3	71	5.9%	2	-1.6%	
\ C T		Q4	2	-2.0%	71	7.2%	
4	2017	Q1	21	-7.2%	7	5.5%	
		Q2	\mathbf{T}	11.2%	71	7.1%	
	2017	Q3	21	8.0%	7	9.3%	
		Q4	2	-4.4%	71	6.6%	
H		Q1	2	-8.1%	7	5.5%	
CAS	2018	Q2	71	9.2%	71	3.6%	
FORECAST	2018	Q3	7	7.3%	71	2.9%	
		Q4	2	-2.9%	7	4.6%	

Monthly Change

	Percent Change						
			VS	Prior Month	vs Prior Year		
	2016	Dec	2	-4.7%	7	8.0%	
		Jan	21	7.3%	71	8.6%	
		Feb	Ψ	-20.3%	Ψ	-12.8%	
		Mar	\mathbf{T}	10.8%	1	25.1%	
		Apr	21	6.3%	Ŷ	10.3%	
IAL		May	1	11.4%	71	5.4%	
ACTUAL	2017	Jun	2	-4.7%	71	6.1%	
A O		Jul	71	9.3%	Ŷ	11.7%	
		Aug	2	-0.9%	71	6.6%	
		Sep	\mathbb{N}	-2.6%	71	9.8%	
		Oct	2	-4.7%	71	2.6%	
		Nov	7	6.5%	71	9.1%	
		Dec	2	-5.6%	71	8.2%	
		Jan	7	0.3%	71	1.1%	
		Feb	21	0.2%	1	27.0%	
AST		Mar	↓	-20.6%	2	-9.0%	
FORECAST	2018	Apr	\mathbf{T}	22.4%	71	4.9%	
ß		May	2	6.5%	71	0.3%	
		Jun	77	0.6%	71	5.8%	
		Jul	7	5.4%	7	2.1%	

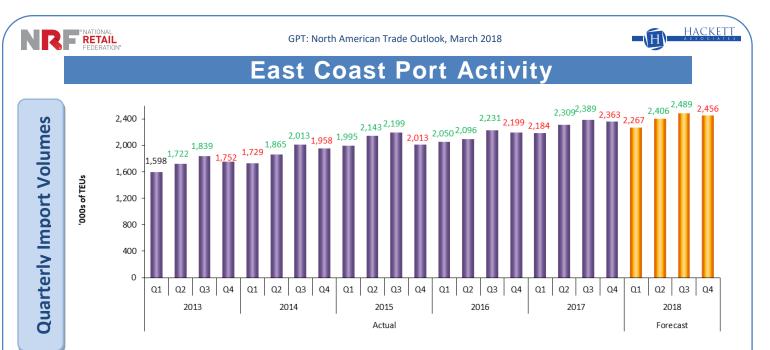
Headlines

- Imports rebounded by an estimated 0.3 percent in January to 1.11 million TEUs (the Port of Vancouver did not release figures in time for publication). The 3,000 TEU increase equates to a 1.1 percent gain over the same month of 2017 and is a record high for the month of January.
- The loaded volume exported in 2017 totaled 6.52 million TEUs for a 0.6 percent decrease from the 6.56 million TEUs exported in 2016.
- Compared to the 100-point base year of 2012, the Import Index for January is 121.1. This is 1.3 points higher than the 119.8 that was recorded in the same month of 2017.
- The forecast projects a 3.3 percent decrease in imports between February and July versus the past six months (August through January), compared to a 1.8 percent slide between the same two periods of last year.
- > Year-on-year gains are projected in each of the four upcoming quarters.
- The first half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 4.5 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017, with 6.47 million TEUs.
- The second half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 3.7 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017, with 7.15 million TEUs.
- The forecast volume for 2018 is 13.62 million TEUs, which would be a 4.1 percent increase over last year.



Monthly Import Volumes

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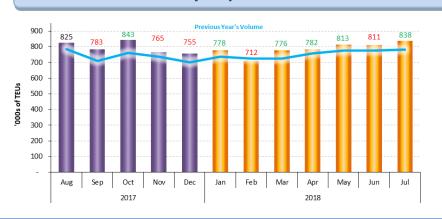
			Percent Change					
			vs F	Prior Quarter	VS	Prior Year		
	2015	Q3	21	2.6%	77	9.3%		
	2015	Q4	21	-8.5%	77	2.8%		
		Q1	77	1.9%	27	2.8%		
	2016	Q2	7	2.2%	21	-2.2%		
	2016	Q3	7	6.4%	Z	1.4%		
ACTUAL		Q4	21	-1.4%	77	9.2%		
⊲	2017	Q1	2	-0.7%	Z	6.5%		
		Q2	7	5.7%	1	10.1%		
	2017	Q3	7	3.5%	Z	7.1%		
		Q4	21	-1.1%	77	7.5%		
H		Q1	2	-4.1%	Z	3.8%		
CAS	2018	Q2	71	6.1%	77	4.2%		
FORECAST	2018	Q3	71	3.5%	Z V	4.2%		
<u> </u>		Q4	2	-1.3%	7	3.9%		

Monthly Change

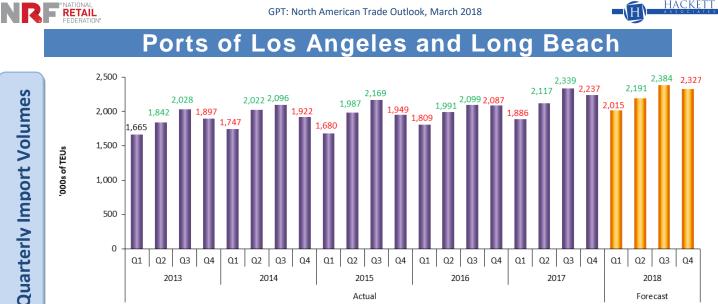
			Percent Change					
			VS	Prior Month	V	vs Prior Year		
	2016	Dec	2	-4.8%	7	8.0%		
		Jan	71	5.1%	1	12.8%		
		Feb	21	-1.7%	71	1.8%		
		Mar	⇒	0.0%	71	5.4%		
		Apr	71	4.6%	T	12.3%		
AL		May	71	2.3%	71	8.1%		
астиаг	2017	Jun	71	0.2%	T	10.1%		
ΑC	2017	Jul	71	0.6%	77	5.9%		
		Aug	71	5.7%	77	5.1%		
		Sep	2	-5.1%	1	10.6%		
		Oct	71	7.6%	T	10.6%		
		Nov	2	-9.2%	71	4.0%		
		Dec	\ge	-1.3%	7	7.8%		
		Jan	7	3.0%	7	5.7%		
		Feb	\mathbb{M}	-8.4%	2	-1.5%		
AST		Mar	71	9.0%	7	7.3%		
FORECAST	2018	Apr	71	0.7%	7	3.3%		
ß		May	7	3.9%	7	4.9%		
		Jun	2	-0.2%	7	4.5%		
		Jul	7	3.3%	7	7.3%		

Headlines

- Imports rebounded by an estimated 3.0 percent in January to 778,000 TEUs (the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey did not release figures for January in time for publication). The 23,000 TEU increase equates to a 5.7 percent gain over the same month of 2017 and is a record high for the month of January.
- The loaded volume exported in 2017 totaled 6.45 million TEUs for a 5.2 percent increase over the 6.13 million TEUs exported in 2016.
- Compared to the 100-point base year of 2012, the Import Index for January is 138.6. This is 7.4 points higher than the 131.2 that was recorded in the same month of 2017.
- The forecast projects a 0.4 percent decrease in imports between February and July versus the past six months (August through January), compared to a 2.4 percent gain between the same two periods of last year.
- The first half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 4.0 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017, with 4.67 million TEUs.
- The second half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 4.0 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017, with 4.94 million TEUs.
- The forecast volume for 2018 is 9.62 million TEUs, which would be a 4.0 percent increase over last year.







Quarterly Import Volumes

		Percent Change						
			VS	Prior Quarter	V	s Prior Year		
	2015	Q3	27	9.1%	Z	3.4%		
	2015	Q4	•	-10.1%	7	1.4%		
		Q1	2	-7.2%	77	7.7%		
Ļ	2016	Q2	T	10.1%	7	0.2%		
\geq 2016	2010	Q3	7	5.4%	21	-3.2%		
ACTUAL		Q4	2	-0.6%	7	7.1%		
4	2017	Q1	2	-9.6%	77	4.3%		
		Q2	T	12.3%	7	6.3%		
	2017	Q3	Ŷ	10.5%	Ŷ	11.4%		
		Q4	2	-4.4%	7	7.1%		
H.		Q1	2	-9.9%	71	6.8%		
CAS	2018	Q2	7	8.7%	71	3.5%		
FORECAST	2018	Q3	7	8.8%	71	1.9%		
		Q4	2	-2.4%	71	4.1%		

Monthly Change

			Percent Change					
			VS	Prior Month	vs Prior Year			
	2016	Dec	2	-5.9%	7	7.8%		
		Jan	71	7.3%	T	10.6%		
		Feb	₩	-23.2%	Ψ	-17.9%		
		Mar	Ŷ	13.5%	\mathbf{T}	25.9%		
		Apr	77	6.0%	T	11.7%		
-		May	Ŷ	13.5%	71	2.5%		
∩∀	2017	Jun	21	-5.6%	21	5.7%		
астиац	2017	Jul		12.5%	1	14.6%		
٩		Aug	21	-1.0%	21	7.5%		
		Sep	2	-4.2%	1	12.4%		
		Oct	21	-4.3%	21	1.2%		
		Nov	7	8.4%	1	10.6%		
		Dec	2	-6.6%	71	9.8%		
	2018	Jan	7	2.2%	7	4.6%		
		Feb	2	-3.7%	Ŷ	31.2%		
H		Mar	$\mathbf{\Psi}$	-23.9%	Ψ	-12.1%		
CAS	2018	Apr	Ŷ	27.4%	71	5.7%		
FORECAST	2018	May	7	6.7%	2	-0.7%		
		Jun	77	0.6%	71	5.8%		
		Jul	$\overline{\mathcal{A}}$	6.8%	7	0.5%		

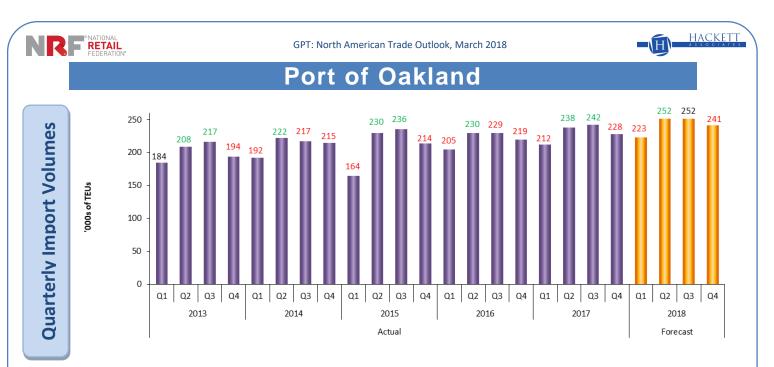
Headlines

- >Imports rebounded by 2.2 percent in January to 747,000 TEUs. The 16,000 TEU increase equates to a 4.6 percent gain over the same month of 2017 and is a record high for the month of January.
- ≻ The loaded volume exported in 2017 totaled 3.37 million TEUs for a 0.7 percent increase over the 3.35 million TEUs exported in 2016. The Port of Los Angeles posted a 4.5 percent increase over 2016 while the Port of Long Beach experienced a 3.9 percent decrease from 2016.
- Imports at the Port of Los Angeles increased by 9.7 percent over \geq December, while the volume at the Port of Long Beach decreased by 6.1 percent. In terms of year-on-year change, the two ports experienced a 1.8 percent gain and an 8.6 percent increase respectively.
- Compared to the 100-point base year of 2012, the Import Index for January \triangleright is 125.4. This is 5.6 points higher than the 119.8 that was recorded in the same month of 2017.
- \geq The forecast projects a 6.0 percent decrease in imports between February and July versus the past six months (August through January), compared to a 2.9 percent slide between the same two periods of last year.
- The forecast volume for 2018 is 8.92 million TEUs, which would be a 3.9 percent increase over last year.



Monthly Import Volumes

HACKETT



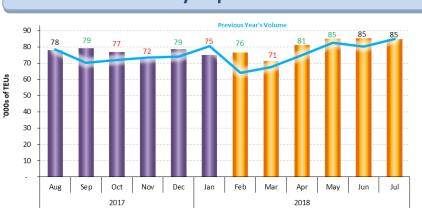
	Percent Change							
			vs l	Prior Quarter	V	s Prior Year		
	2015	Q3	77	2.7%	77	8.5%		
	2015	Q4	21	-9.3%	21	-0.6%		
		Q1	2	-4.1%	T	24.9%		
	2016	Q2	Ŷ	12.2%	71	0.2%		
ACTUAL	2016	Q3	21	-0.3%	21	-2.7%		
CT		Q4	21	-4.3%	71	2.7%		
4	2017	Q1	2	-3.4%	7	3.5%		
		Q2	T	12.1%	71	3.4%		
	2017	Q3	27	1.8%	77	5.5%		
		Q4	21	-5.9%	7	3.8%		
н.		Q1	2	-2.2%	7	5.1%		
CAS	2010	Q2	T	13.0%	71	5.9%		
FORECAST	2018	Q3	⇒	0.0%	27	4.0%		
		Q4	2	-4.2%	71	5.8%		

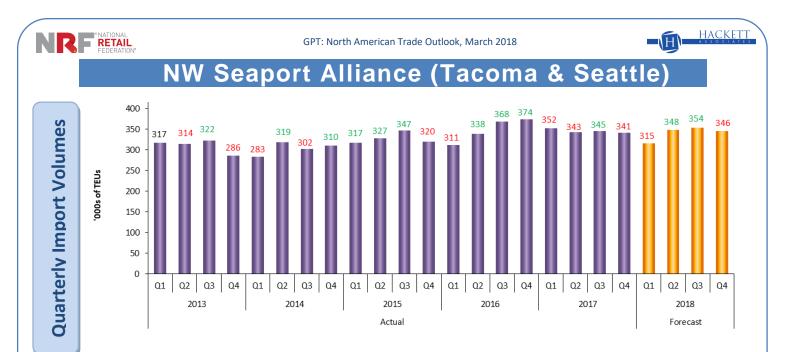
Monthly Change

	Percent Change							
			VS	Prior Month	V	s Prior Year		
	2016	Dec	7	0.6%	7	6.1%		
		Jan	71	8.8%	71	3.6%		
		Feb		-20.3%	21	-9.2%		
		Mar	27	5.3%	1	19.1%		
		Apr	T	11.1%	77	3.7%		
-		May	77	9.9%	77	1.4%		
CTUAL	2017	Jun	2	-2.7%	37	5.1%		
CT	2017	Jul	27	5.7%	27	5.4%		
۲		Aug	2	-8.1%	2	-0.6%		
		Sep	77	1.5%	\mathbf{T}	12.6%		
		Oct	2	-3.1%	27	6.4%		
		Nov	2	-5.7%	2	-1.6%		
		Dec	77	8.8%	27	6.4%		
	2018	Jan	2	-4.5%	2	-6.6%		
		Feb	77	1.8%	1	19.3%		
E.		Mar	21	-6.9%	2	5.4%		
CAS	2018	Apr		14.1%	71	8.4%		
FORECAST	2018	May	77	4.7%	2	3.2%		
-		Jun	77	0.4%	77	6.4%		
		Jul	2	-0.8%	2	-0.2%		

Headlines

- Imports decreased by 4.5 percent in January to 75,000 TEUs. The 4,000 TEU slide equates to a 6.6 percent decrease from the same month of 2017.
- The loaded volume exported in 2017 totaled 930,000 TEUs for a 1.9 percent decrease from the 949,000 TEUs exported in 2016.
- Compared to the 100-point base year of 2012, the Import Index for January is 113.8. This is 8.1 points lower than the 121.9 that was recorded in the same month of 2017.
- The forecast projects a 5.2 percent increase in imports between February and July versus the past six months (August through January), compared to a 1.2 percent gain between the same two periods of last year.
- Single-digit percentage year-on-year gains are projected in each of the four upcoming quarters.
- The first half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 5.5 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017.
- The second half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 4.9 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017.
- The forecast volume for 2018 is 967,000 TEUs, which would be a 5.2 percent increase over last year.





				Percent	: Cha	nge
			vs l	Prior Quarter	V	s Prior Year
	2015	Q3	71	5.9%	Ŷ	14.9%
	2015	Q4	21	-7.8%	71	3.1%
		Q1	2	-2.7%	2	-1.8%
	2016	Q2	71	8.7%	71	3.3%
ACTUAL	2016	Q3	77	8.8%	7	6.1%
CT		Q4	71	1.8%	1	17.2%
⊲		Q1	2	-6.1%	$\mathbf{\hat{T}}$	13.1%
	2017	Q2	21	-2.6%	71	1.3%
	2017	Q3	71	0.8%	2	-6.2%
		Q4	21	-1.2%	21	-8.9%
H		Q1	2	-7.5%	↓	-10.3%
CAS	2018	Q2	♠	10.5%	77	1.7%
FORECAST	2018	Q3	71	1.5%	7	2.4%
		Q4	2	-2.2%	71	1.3%

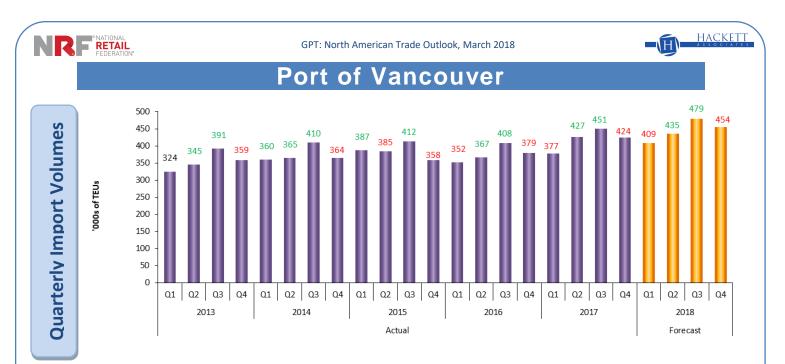
Monthly Change

				Percen	t Cha	inge
			VS	Prior Month	v	s Prior Year
	2016	Dec	2	-7.3%	1	13.6%
		Jan	7	4.3%	Ŷ	18.9%
		Feb	Ψ.	-20.3%	21	-4.2%
		Mar		16.9%	1	25.9%
		Apr	21	-7.7%	71	6.2%
ų.		May	77	4.6%		10.3%
∩∀	2017	Jun	21	-0.1%	Ψ	-10.0%
ACTUAL	2017	Jul	2	-5.7%	21	-2.3%
٩		Aug	27	9.5%	27	0.9%
		Sep	2	-2.5%	$\mathbf{\Psi}$	-15.4%
		Oct	21	-5.7%	2	-6.5%
		Nov	71	3.2%	Ψ	-14.8%
		Dec	77	3.8%	2	-4.7%
	2018	Jan	•	-17.9%	V	-25.0%
		Feb	1	22.8%	\mathbf{T}	15.6%
E.		Mar	Ψ.	-15.7%	₩	-16.7%
CAS	2018	Apr		11.4%	71	0.5%
FORECAST	2018	May	7	6.1%	71	1.9%
<u> </u>		Jun	71	0.5%	71	2.6%
		Jul	2	-0.1%	7	8.7%

Headlines

- Imports plunged by 17.9 percent in January to 97,000 TEUs. The 21,000 TEU decrease equates to a 25.0 percent slide from the same month of 2017.
- The loaded volume exported in 2017 totaled 927,000 TEUs for a 5.7 percent decrease from the 984,000 TEUs exported in 2016.
- Compared to the 100-point base year of 2012, the Import Index for January is 86.2. This is 28.8 points lower than the 115.0 that was recorded in the same month of 2017.
- The forecast projects a 1.8 percent increase in imports between February and July versus the past six months (August through January), compared to an 11.2 percent drop between the same two periods of last year.
- Year-on-year gains are projected in three of the four upcoming quarters, with a low double-digit percentage decrease anticipated in Q1.
- The first half of 2018 is forecast to decrease by 4.4 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017.
- The second half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 1.9 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017.
- The forecast volume for 2018 is 1.36 million TEUs, which would be a 1.3 percent decrease from last year.





				Percent	: Cha	nge
			vs	Prior Quarter	VS	s Prior Year
	2015	Q3	71	7.2%	77	0.5%
	2015	Q4	Ψ.	-13.2%	21	-1.7%
		Q1	2	-1.6%	2	-9.0%
<u> </u>	2016	Q2	71	4.1%	21	-4.7%
ACTUAL	2010	Q3	T	11.1%	21	-1.2%
CT		Q4	21	-6.9%	71	6.0%
⊲		Q1	2	-0.6%	77	7.0%
	2017	Q2	Ŷ	13.1%	\mathbf{T}	16.3%
	2017	Q3	27	5.7%	个	10.6%
		Q4	21	-6.0%	Ŷ	11.6%
H		Q1	2	-3.5%	77	8.4%
CAS	2018	Q2	71	6.4%	77	1.9%
FORECAST	2018	Q3	T	10.3%	77	6.4%
		Q4	2	-5.3%	7	7.2%

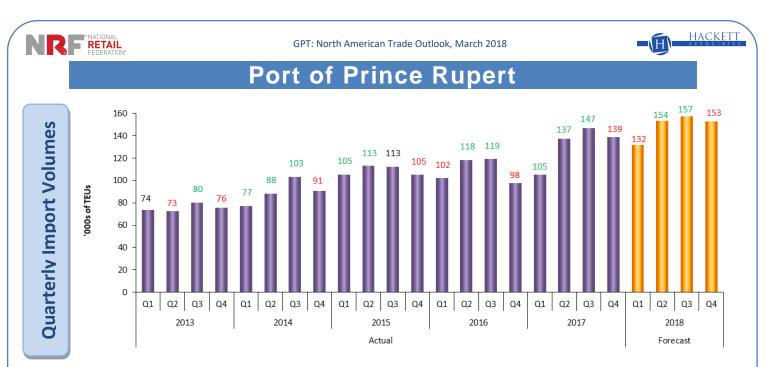
Monthly Change

				Percent	t Cha	nge
			VS	Prior Month	VS	s Prior Year
	2016	Dec	2	-6.2%	7	6.1%
		Jan	71	7.5%	\mathbb{N}	-4.7%
		Feb	21	-1.8%	7	7.6%
		Mar	21	-4.4%	Ŷ	22.3%
		Apr	T	13.0%	Ŷ	13.0%
ACTUAL		May	Ŷ	12.7%	Ŷ	21.1%
D L	2017	Jun	Ψ	-12.3%	Ŷ	14.5%
AC	2017	Jul	Ŷ	13.5%	1	13.3%
		Aug	2	-5.2%	77	4.2%
		Sep	7	4.2%	1	14.5%
		Oct	2	-8.3%	77	6.1%
		Nov	7	9.8%	1	19.1%
		Dec	Ψ	-13.7%	77	9.7%
		Jan	7	6.4%	7	8.6%
		Feb	71	4.4%	$\mathbf{\hat{T}}$	15.5%
AST		Mar	Ψ.	-16.7%	27	0.7%
FORECAST	2018	Apr	\mathbf{T}	13.3%	77	1.0%
ß		May	2	6.8%	21	-4.3%
		Jun	71	0.7%	77	9.9%
		Jul	7	8.0%	71	4.7%

Headlines

- The Port of Vancouver did not release data in time for inclusion in this month's report.
- Imports are projected to have rebounded by 6.4 percent in January to 140,000 TEUs. The 8,000 TEU increase would equate to an 8.6 percent gain over the same month of 2017 and would be a record high for the month of January.
- The loaded volume exported in 2017 totaled 1.10 million TEUs which is unchanged from 2016.
- Compared to the 100-point base year of 2012, the Import Index for January is 124.7. This is 9.9 points higher than the 114.8 that was recorded in the same month of 2017.
- The forecast projects a 0.4 percent decrease in imports between February and July versus the past six months (August through January), compared to a 6.1 percent gain between the same two periods of last year.
- The first half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 5.0 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017. The second half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 6.8 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017.
- The forecast volume for 2018 is 1.78 million TEUs, which would be a 5.9 percent increase over last year.





				Percent	: Cha	nge
			vs	Prior Quarter	VS	s Prior Year
	2015	Q3	2	-0.6%	77	9.0%
	2015	Q4	21	-6.6%	Ŷ	15.9%
		Q1	2	-2.9%	2	-3.0%
<u> </u>	2016	Q2		15.8%	71	4.4%
ACTUAL	2016	Q3	27	0.8%	Z J	5.8%
CT		Q4	$\mathbf{\Psi}$	-17.8%	21	-6.8%
⊲		Q1	27	7.6%	77	3.2%
	2017	Q2		30.5%	Ŷ	16.3%
	2017	Q3	77	6.9%	1	23.3%
		Q4	21	-5.5%	Ŷ	41.8%
H		Q1	2	-5.1%	T	25.0%
FORECAST	2018	Q2	Ŷ	16.8%	1	11.9%
ORE	2018	Q3	2	2.4%	77	7.2%
		Q4	2	-2.6%	1	10.4%

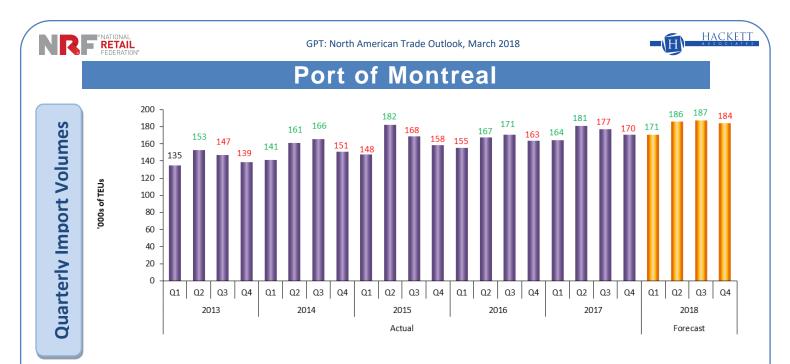
Monthly Change

				Percent	t Cha	inge
			VS	Prior Month	v	s Prior Year
	2016	Dec	1	30.6%	7	4.2%
		Jan	1	13.8%	71	3.7%
		Feb	Ψ	-27.3%	Ψ	-17.7%
		Mar	1	15.9%	T	31.5%
		Apr	T	26.9%	71	3.5%
ų.		May	21	-4.7%	71	3.1%
ACTUAL	2017	Jun	T	24.2%	T	46.8%
CT	2017	Jul	2	-6.7%	71	7.8%
<		Aug	77	3.3%		28.5%
		Sep	2	-2.9%	T	37.2%
		Oct	77	0.3%		42.1%
		Nov	2	-4.5%	T	68.5%
		Dec	2	-6.3%		21.0%
	2018	Jan	7	6.4%	T	13.1%
		Feb	2	-0.3%		55.2%
÷		Mar	$\mathbf{\Psi}$	-15.6%	T	13.0%
CAS	2018	Apr		24.7%		11.1%
FORECAST	2018	May	7	7.6%	♠	25.4%
<u>.</u>		Jun	71	0.6%	71	1.6%
		Jul	⇒	0.0%	7	8.9%

Headlines

- Imports rebounded by 6.4 percent in January to 46,000 TEUs. The 3,000 TEU increase equates to a 13.1 percent surge over the same month of 2017 and is a record high for the month of January.
- The loaded volume exported in 2017 totaled 190,000 TEUs for a 7.2 percent increase over the 177,000 TEUs exported in 2016.
- Compared to the 100-point base year of 2012, the Import Index for January is 175.0. This is 20.4 points higher than the 154.6 that was recorded in the same month of 2017.
- The forecast projects a 2.8 percent increase in imports between February and July versus the past six months (August through January), compared to a 17.3 percent gain between the same two periods of last year.
- Year-on-year growth is projected in each of the four upcoming quarters. With double-digit percentage gains in three.
- The first half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 17.6 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017.
- The second half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 8.7 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017.
- The forecast volume for 2018 is 596,000 TEUs, which would be a 12.8 percent increase over last year.





				Percent	Char	nge
			vs F	Prior Quarter	VS	Prior Year
	2015	Q3	2	-7.5%	77	1.7%
	2015	Q4	21	-6.0%	71	5.1%
		Q1	2	-1.9%	7	5.3%
	2016	Q2	21	7.7%	21	-8.1%
ACTUAL	2016	Q3	27	1.9%	77	1.3%
CT		Q4	21	-4.2%	71	3.2%
∢		Q1	77	0.6%	7	5.8%
	2017	Q2	Ŷ	10.1%	7	8.2%
	2017	Q3	21	-2.3%	77	3.6%
		Q4	21	-3.6%	7	4.3%
H		Q1	77	0.1%	7	3.8%
CAS	2018	Q2	21	8.8%	7	2.6%
FORECAST	2018	Q3	27	0.9%	77	6.0%
		Q4	2	-1.8%	77	7.9%

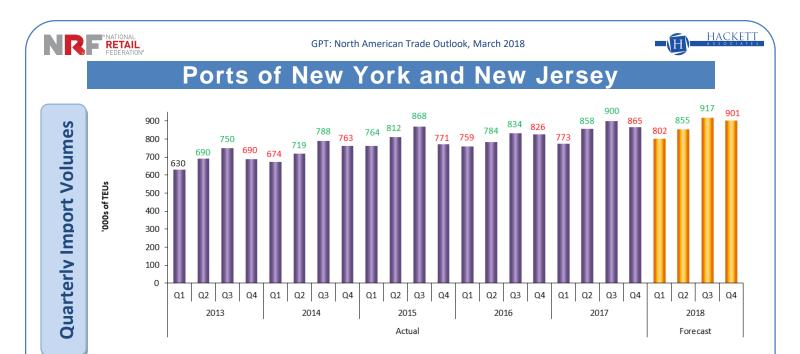
Monthly Change

				Percen	t Cha	ange
			VS	Prior Month	v	s Prior Year
	2016	Dec	V	-25.4%	V	-10.3%
		Jan	2	-2.5%	\mathbf{T}	14.7%
		Feb	T	16.7%	$\mathbf{\Psi}$	-12.4%
		Mar	1	19.5%		20.0%
		Apr	21	-7.3%	3	9.6%
Ļ.		May	77	5.7%	T	15.5%
٩N	2017	Jun	2	-7.4%	7	0.1%
ACTUAL	2017	Jul	77	0.7%	71	7.3%
<		Aug	2	-3.4%	Ψ.	-12.7%
		Sep	77	7.8%	T	20.7%
		Oct	2	-3.0%		12.7%
		Nov	2	-0.3%	2	-6.7%
		Dec	Ψ.	-12.3%	71	9.7%
	2018	Jan	1	11.1%	T	25.0%
		Feb	2	-7.8%	2	-1.3%
÷		Mar	T	12.7%	2	-7.0%
CAS	2018	Apr	77	1.2%	7	1.6%
FORECAST	2018	May	77	3.2%	2	-0.8%
<u> </u>		Jun	77	0.2%	7	7.4%
		Jul	77	1.6%	71	8.3%

Headlines

- Imports rebounded by 11.1 percent in January to 58,000 TEUs. The 6,000 TEU increase equates to a 25.0 percent surge over the same month of 2017 and is a record high for the month of January.
- The loaded volume exported in 2017 totaled 598,000 TEUs for a 6.1 percent increase over the 564,000 TEUs exported in 2016.
- Compared to the 100-point base year of 2012, the Import Index for January is 118.7. This is 23.7 points higher than the 95.0 that was recorded in the same month of 2017.
- The forecast projects a 4.7 percent increase in imports between February and July versus the past six months (August through January), compared to a 10.0 percent gain between the same two periods of last year.
- Single-digit percentage year-on-year gains are projected in each of the four upcoming quarters.
- The first half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 3.2 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017.
- The second half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 6.9 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017.
- The forecast volume for 2018 is 728,000 TEUs, which would be a 5.1 percent increase over last year.





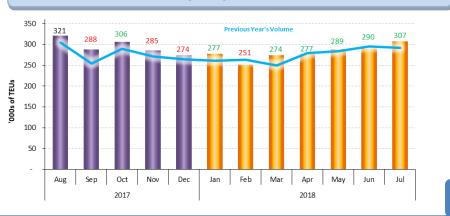
				Percent	t Cha	nge
			vs	Prior Quarter	VS	Prior Year
	2015	Q3	7	6.9%	Ŷ	10.1%
	2015	Q4	Ψ	-11.2%	21	1.0%
		Q1	2	-1.5%	2	-0.5%
<u> </u>	2016	Q2	71	3.3%	21	-3.4%
ACTUAL	2010	Q3	7	6.3%	\mathbb{N}	-4.0%
\ C T		Q4	2	-1.0%	7	7.1%
4		Q1	2	-6.3%	77	1.9%
	2017	Q2	1	10.9%	77	9.4%
	2017	Q3	7	5.0%	77	8.0%
		Q4	2	-3.9%	7	4.8%
H		Q1	2	-7.3%	77	3.7%
CAS	2018	Q2	71	6.6%	\ge	-0.3%
FORECAST	2010	Q3	71	7.2%	7	1.8%
		Q4	2	-1.7%	77	4.2%

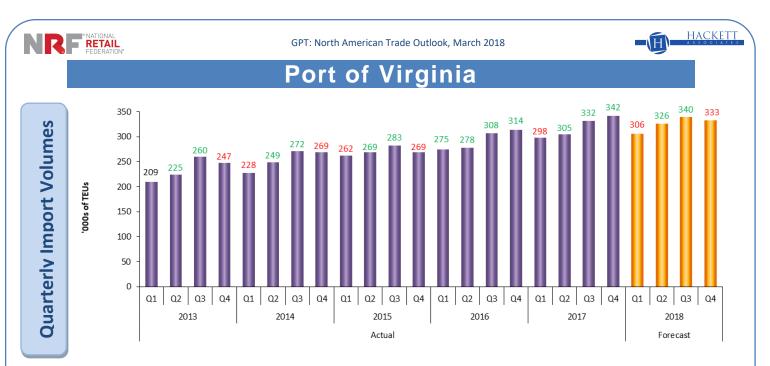
Monthly Change

				Percen	t Cha	nge
			VS	Prior Month	V	s Prior Year
	2016	Dec	2	-2.6%	7	5.1%
		Jan	2	-1.5%	71	5.5%
		Feb	7	0.8%	71	1.8%
		Mar	2	-5.0%	2	-1.6%
		Apr	T	11.6%	T	14.0%
ACTUAL		May	71	1.6%	71	5.4%
	2017	Jun	71	4.1%	27	9.1%
AC	2017	Jul	2	-1.2%	77	6.0%
		Aug	77	10.0%	77	5.4%
		Sep	Ψ.	-10.3%		13.3%
		Oct	71	6.2%	77	5.8%
		Nov	2	-6.8%	71	4.9%
		Dec	2	-3.8%	77	3.6%
		Jan	7	1.0%	7	6.3%
		Feb	2	-9.5%	2	-4.6%
AST		Mar	7	9.3%	71	9.8%
FORECAST	2018	Apr	71	0.9%	2	-0.8%
5 B		May	7	4.4%	77	1.9%
		Jun	71	0.3%	2	-1.9%
		Jul	7	6.0%	7	5.3%

Headlines

- The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey did not release data in time for inclusion in this month's report.
- Imports rebounded by an estimated 1.0 percent in January to 277,000 TEUs. The 3,000 TEU increase equates to a 6.3 percent gain over the same month of 2017 and would be a record high for the month of January.
- The loaded volume exported in 2017 totaled 1.41 million TEUs for a 4.3 percent increase over the 1.36 million TEUs exported in 2016.
- Compared to the 100-point base year of 2012, the Import Index for January is 120.9. This is 7.1 points higher than the 113.8 that was recorded in the same month of 2017.
- The forecast projects a 3.6 percent decrease in imports between February and July versus the past six months (August through January), compared to a 1.1 percent increase between the same two periods of last year.
- The first half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 1.6 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017.
- The second half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 3.0 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017.
- The forecast volume for 2018 is 3.48 million TEUs, which would be a 2.3 percent increase over last year.





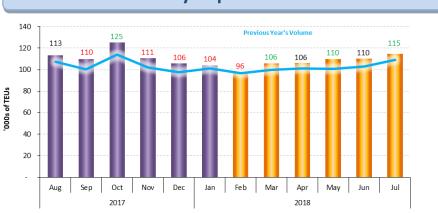
				Percent	: Cha	nge
			VS	Prior Quarter	VS	s Prior Year
	2015	Q3	77	5.1%	77	4.0%
	2015	Q4	21	-5.0%	21	-0.1%
		Q1	27	2.4%	27	4.9%
<u> </u>	2016	Q2	77	1.2%	71	3.6%
× ۵.	2016	Q3	Ŷ	10.5%	27	8.8%
ACTUAL		Q4	77	2.0%		16.8%
⊲		Q1	2	-5.0%	Z	8.3%
	2017	Q2	77	2.3%	77	9.4%
	2017	Q3	77	9.0%	Z	8.0%
		Q4	77	2.9%	77	8.9%
H		Q1	•	-10.3%	Z	2.8%
CAS	2018	Q2	7	6.5%	7	7.1%
FORECAST	2018	Q3	77	4.2%	Z	2.3%
<u> </u>		Q4	2	-1.9%	2	-2.4%

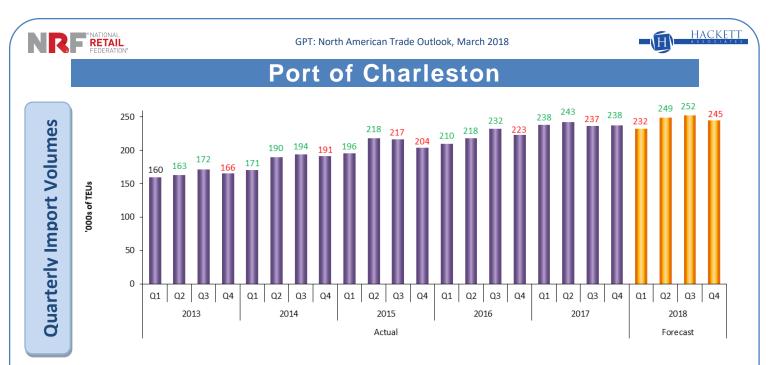
Monthly Change

2016 Dec ≥ -4.1% 1 Jan 3.7% 1 Feb -4.3% 2 Mar 2.8% 2 Apr 1.5% 2 2017 Jun 2.4% Jul 3 6.0%	20.3% -3.0% 9.5% 9.4% 8.8%
Jan 7 3.7% Feb 1 -4.3% Mar 2.8% Apr 7 1.5%	20.3% -3.0% 9.5% 9.4% 8.8%
Feb 2 -4.3% Mar 7 2.8% Apr 7 1.5%	-3.0% 9.5% 9.4% 8.8%
Mar 7 2.8% Apr 7 1.5%	9.5% 9.4% 8.8%
Apr 🐬 1.5%	9.4% 8.8%
	8.8%
→ May 🎽 -0.5% 🖉	
jun ⊼ 2.4%	10.0%
2017	
2017 Jul 🔊 6.0%	9.1%
🔍 🗛 Aug 🏹 3.6% 🏹	5.5%
Sep 🔌 -3.1% 🔊	9.5%
Oct 🛉 14.0% 🖉	9.6%
Nov 🌵 -11.5% 🔊	8.7%
Dec 🔌 -4.3% 🖉	8.3%
2018 Jan 🔌 -1.6% 🐬	2.8%
Feb 🔌 -7.5% 🔰	-0.6%
🛏 Mar 🀬 9.7% 🏹	6.1%
🕺 2010 Apr 🏹 0.6% 🏹	5.2%
2018 Apr 7 0.6% 7 May 7 3.3%	9.2%
Jun 🀬 0.2% 🏹	6.8%
Jul 🀬 4.2% 🏹	5.0%

Headlines

- Imports decreased by 1.6 percent in January to 104,000 TEUs. The 2,000 TEU decrease equates to a 2.8 percent gain over the same month of 2017 and is a record high for the month of January.
- The loaded volume exported in 2017 totaled 1.01 million TEUs for a 0.8 percent increase over the 1.01 million TEUs exported in 2016.
- Compared to the 100-point base year of 2012, the Import Index for January is 143.6. This is 3.9 points higher than the 139.7 that was recorded in the same month of 2017.
- The forecast projects a 3.8 percent decrease in imports between February and July versus the past six months (August through January), compared to a 1.9 percent slide between the same two periods of last year.
- > Year-on-year growth is projected in three of the four upcoming quarters.
- The first half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 5.0 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017.
- The second half of 2018 is forecast to decrease by 0.1 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017.
- The forecast volume for 2018 is 1.31 million TEUs, which would be a 2.3 percent increase over last year.





			Percent Change					
			vs l	Prior Quarter	VS	s Prior Year		
	2015	Q3	2	-0.7%	$\mathbf{\hat{T}}$	11.8%		
	2015	Q4	21	-6.0%	7	6.6%		
		Q1	77	3.0%	7	7.2%		
<u> </u>	2016	Q2	71	3.7%	21	-0.2%		
\geq 2010	2016	Q3	77	6.7%	7	7.1%		
ACTUAL		Q4	21	-4.0%	7	9.4%		
⊲		Q1	77	6.7%	\mathbf{T}	13.3%		
	2017	Q2	71	1.9%	$\mathbf{\hat{T}}$	11.4%		
	2017	Q3	21	-2.4%	7	1.9%		
		Q4	71	0.4%	71	6.6%		
H		Q1	2	-2.4%	2	-2.5%		
CAS	2018	Q2	71	7.5%	77	2.8%		
FORECAST	2018	Q3	21	1.2%	7	6.6%		
		Q4	2	-3.0%	7	3.0%		

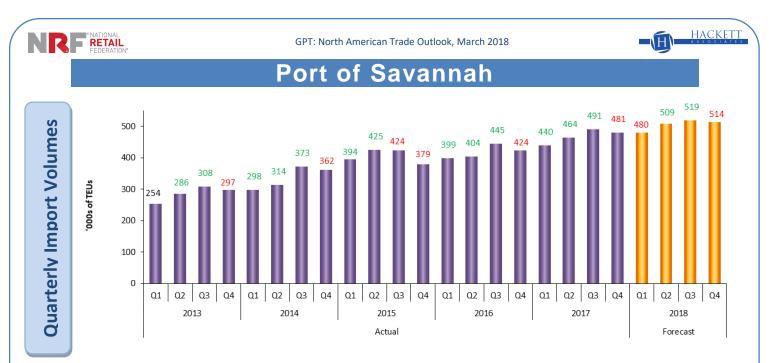
Monthly Change

			Percent Change					
			VS	Prior Month	V	s Prior Year		
	2016	Dec	2	-4.2%	7	6.7%		
		Jan		17.3%		25.3%		
		Feb	$\mathbf{\Psi}$	-11.1%	7	6.3%		
		Mar	7	9.9%	7	9.2%		
		Apr	2	2.2%	Ŷ	20.5%		
-		May	2	-5.4%	71	1.5%		
∩∀	2017	Jun	27	3.7%	T	13.2%		
ACTUAL		Jul	2	-2.1%	2	-1.8%		
٩		Aug	21	-1.9%	77	1.1%		
		Sep	7	1.4%	71	6.9%		
		Oct	27	2.0%	77	3.0%		
		Nov	2	-5.1%	71	3.6%		
		Dec	27	5.0%	T	13.6%		
	2018	Jan	2	-2.8%	2	-5.9%		
		Feb	\ge	-5.8%	2	-0.3%		
H		Mar	2	9.1%	2	-1.1%		
ECAS	2018	Apr	77	1.1%	2	-2.1%		
FORECAST	2018	May	2	3.6%	77	7.2%		
<u>.</u>		Jun	71	0.2%	77	3.6%		
		Jul	7	1.1%	71	6.9%		

Headlines

- Imports decreased by 2.8 percent in January to 78,000 TEUs. The 2,000 TEU slide equates to a 5.9 percent decrease from the same month of 2017.
- The loaded volume exported in 2017 totaled 804,000 TEUs for a 7.4 percent increase over the 749,000 TEUs exported in 2016.
- Compared to the 100-point base year of 2012, the Import Index for January is 145.0. This is 9.1 points lower than the 154.1 that was recorded in the same month of 2017.
- The forecast projects a 3.3 percent increase in imports between February and July versus the past six months (August through January), compared to a 4.3 percent gain between the same two periods of last year.
- Year-on-year gains are projected in three of the four upcoming quarters, with all changes anticipated to be in the single-digit percentage range.
- The first half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 0.2 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017.
- The second half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 4.8 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017.
- The forecast volume for 2018 is 979,000 TEUs, which would be a 2.5 percent increase over last year.





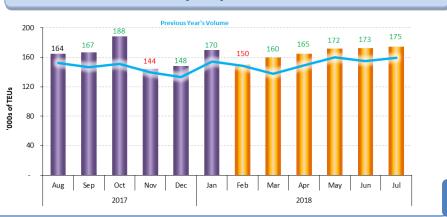
			Percent Change					
			VS	Prior Quarter	VS	s Prior Year		
	2015	Q3	2	-0.2%	$\mathbf{\hat{T}}$	13.7%		
	2015	Q4	$\mathbf{\Psi}$	-10.7%	21	4.6%		
		Q1	27	5.2%	27	1.1%		
<u> </u>	2010	Q2	77	1.3%	21	-5.1%		
2016	2016	Q3	Ŷ	10.2%	27	4.8%		
ACTUAL		Q4	21	-4.6%	Ŷ	11.9%		
⊲		Q1	27	3.8%	Ŷ	10.4%		
	2017	Q2	77	5.4%	Ŷ	15.0%		
	2017	Q3	27	5.8%	Ŷ	10.4%		
		Q4	21	-2.1%	Ŷ	13.3%		
H		Q1	21	-0.2%	77	9.0%		
CAS	2018	Q2	77	6.1%	77	9.7%		
FORECAST	2018	Q3	2	2.0%	77	5.8%		
<u> </u>		Q4	2	-1.1%	7	6.9%		

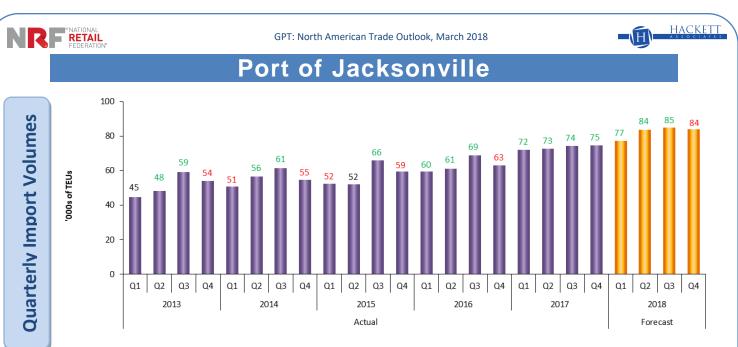
Monthly Change

			Percent Change						
			VS	Prior Month	V	s Prior Year			
	2016	Dec	2	-4.5%	1	19.8%			
		Jan	\mathbf{T}	15.7%	T	19.1%			
		Feb	2	-3.9%	27	5.5%			
		Mar	21	-7.4%	77	7.0%			
		Apr	7	8.6%	T	14.6%			
Ļ.		May	71	7.3%		13.5%			
o ⊳	2017	Jun	2	-3.3%	\mathbf{T}	17.0%			
ACTUAL	2017	Jul	71	3.1%	77	9.5%			
<		Aug	7	3.1%	77	8.0%			
		Sep	7	1.5%		13.9%			
		Oct	Ŷ	12.9%	T	24.8%			
		Nov		-23.5%	71	3.2%			
		Dec	7	2.7%	1	11.0%			
	2018	Jan	\mathbf{T}	14.6%	7	10.0%			
		Feb	↓	-11.4%	71	1.3%			
E.		Mar	7	6.3%	T	16.3%			
ECAS	2018	Apr	71	3.0%	Ŷ	10.2%			
FORECAST	2018	May	7	4.5%	2	7.4%			
		Jun	71	0.4%	1	11.5%			
		Jul	7	1.2%	77	9.4%			

Headlines

- Imports surged by 14.6 percent in January to 170,000 TEUs. The 22,000 TEU gain equates to a 10.0 percent increase over the same month of 2017 and is a record high for the month of January.
- The loaded volume exported in 2017 totaled 1.37 million TEUs for a 7.7 percent increase over the 1.27 million TEUs exported in 2016.
- Compared to the 100-point base year of 2012, the Import Index for January is 187.2. This is 17.0 points higher than the 170.2 that was recorded in the same month of 2017.
- The forecast projects a 1.2 percent increase in imports between February and July versus the past six months (August through January), compared to a 3.7 percent gain between the same two periods of last year.
- Single-digit percentage year-on-year gains are projected in each of the four upcoming quarters.
- The first half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 9.3 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017.
- The second half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 6.3 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017.
- The forecast volume for 2018 is 2.02 million TEUs, which would be a 7.8 percent increase over last year.





Figures are for the public seaport terminals only

Headlines

- ≻ Imports decreased by 2,000 TEUs in January to a total of 26,000 TEUs. The 8.5 percent decrease from December is 2.9 percent higher than the same month of 2017 and is a record high for the month of January.
- The loaded volume exported in 2017 totaled 411,000 TEUs for a 7.4 \geq percent increase over the 382,000 TEUs exported in 2016.
- \geq Compared to the 100-point base year of 2012, the Import Index for January is 160.6. This is 4.4 points higher than the 156.2 that was recorded in the same month of 2017.
- >The forecast projects an 8.1 percent increase in imports between February and July versus the past six months (August through January), compared to a 6.4 percent gain between the same two periods of last year.
- >Year-on-year growth is projected in each of the four upcoming quarters, with double-digit percentage gains anticipated in three.
- \succ The first half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 11.1 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017.
- >The second half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 13.2 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017.
- The forecast volume for 2018 is 329,000 TEUs, which would be a 12.2 \geq percent increase over last year.

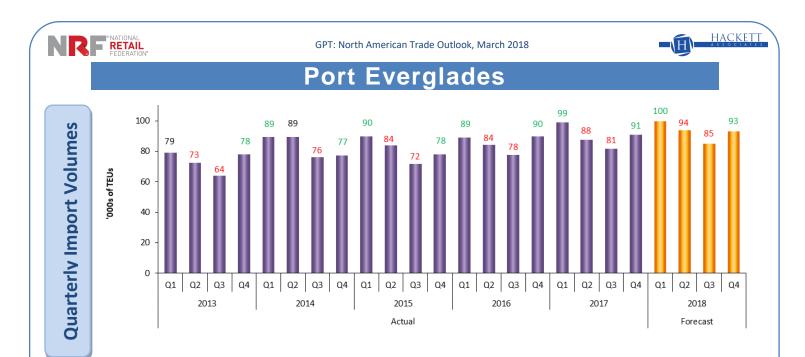


Quarterly Change

			Percent Change					
			VS	Prior Quarter	VS	s Prior Year		
	2015	Q3	\mathbf{T}	26.9%	77	7.7%		
	2015	Q4	$\mathbf{\Psi}$	-10.2%	71	8.9%		
		Q1	7	0.4%	T	13.9%		
	2016	Q2	21	2.7%	Ŷ	17.6%		
Ν	2016	Q3	Ŷ	12.2%	77	4.0%		
ACTUAL		Q4	21	-8.3%	71	6.2%		
4		Q1	T	14.3%	T	20.9%		
	2017	Q2	21	0.8%	Ŷ	18.6%		
	2017	Q3	77	2.4%	77	8.2%		
		Q4	77	0.5%	1	18.6%		
H		Q1	7	3.3%	7	7.1%		
CAS	2018	Q2	21	8.2%	Ŷ	15.0%		
FORECAST	2018	Q3	37	1.6%	个	14.2%		
		Q4	2	-1.2%	1	12.3%		

Monthly Change

			Percent Change					
			VS	Prior Month	V	s Prior Year		
	2016	Dec	$\mathbf{\Psi}$	-13.7%	2	-4.9%		
		Jan	Ŷ	28.6%	T	15.1%		
		Feb	2	-4.7%	^	29.9%		
		Mar	21	-2.8%	1	18.8%		
		Apr	2	-4.6%	1	14.1%		
		May	1	20.2%	1	26.8%		
CTUAL	2017	Jun	2	-9.9%	1	14.6%		
CT	2017	Jul	2	-1.8%	77	6.1%		
Ā		Aug		13.9%	1	28.9%		
		Sep	4	-10.1%	2	-6.6%		
		Oct	2	-1.9%	1	12.3%		
		Nov	2	-2.7%	77	2.0%		
		Dec	$\mathbf{\hat{T}}$	22.4%	1	44.6%		
	2018	Jan	21	-8.5%	7	2.9%		
		Feb	2	-2.3%	7	5.5%		
E.		Mar	3	4.6%	1	13.4%		
CAS	2010	Apr	3	2.9%	1	22.4%		
FORECAST	2018	May	37	4.1%	77	6.0%		
		Jun	71	0.4%	1	18.1%		
		Jul	7	1.2%	1	21.7%		



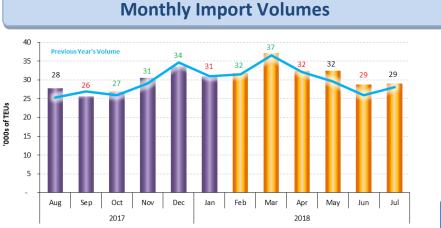
			Percent Change					
			VS	Prior Quarter	VS	Prior Year		
	2015	Q3	4	-14.5%	2	-6.0%		
	2015	Q4	77	8.7%	21	0.6%		
		Q1	Ŷ	14.5%	2	-0.7%		
<u> </u>	2016	Q2	21	-5.4%	7	0.7%		
ACTUAL	2010	Q3	2	-7.9%	27	8.4%		
\ C T		Q4	Ŷ	15.5%	1	15.3%		
4		Q1	Ŷ	10.4%	$\mathbf{\hat{T}}$	11.1%		
	2017	Q2	$\mathbf{\Psi}$	-11.5%	77	4.0%		
	2017	Q3	2	-7.1%	77	4.9%		
		Q4	Ŷ	11.7%	7	1.4%		
ta l		Q1	7	9.7%	7	0.8%		
CAS	2018	Q2	2	-6.1%	27	6.9%		
FORECAST	2018	Q3	2	-9.3%	77	4.3%		
		Q4	7	9.5%	7	2.3%		

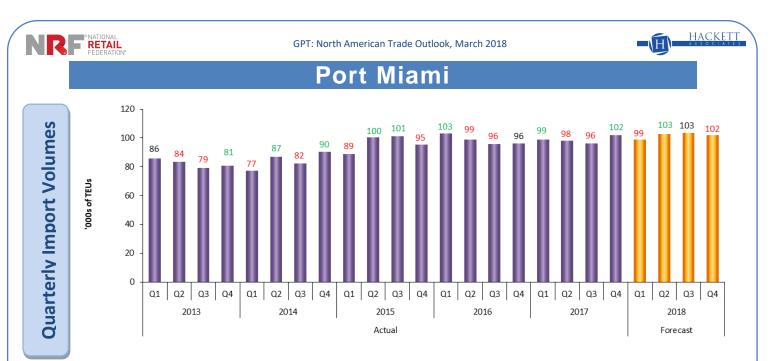
Monthly Change

			Percent Change						
			VS	Prior Month	V	s Prior Year			
	2016	Dec	1	18.9%	1	16.1%			
		Jan	쎚	-10.5%	7	8.7%			
		Feb	7	1.6%	77	7.3%			
		Mar		16.3%	1	16.9%			
		Apr		-12.1%	2	-3.9%			
Ļ.		May	2	-8.1%	77	7.0%			
ACTUAL	2017	Jun	4	-12.1%		11.8%			
CT	2017	Jul	77	7.9%	1	10.2%			
<		Aug	2	-0.8%	27	9.7%			
		Sep	2	-7.7%	2	-4.6%			
		Oct	27	4.9%	27	3.7%			
		Nov	\mathbf{T}	13.6%	77	5.0%			
		Dec	27	9.6%	2	-3.2%			
	2018	Jan	2	-7.6%	->>	0.0%			
		Feb	77	2.7%	71	1.1%			
÷		Mar	T	16.5%	7	1.2%			
CAS	2018	Apr	$\mathbf{\Psi}$	-12.3%	71	1.0%			
FORECAST	2018	May	2	-0.1%	71	9.8%			
		Jun	$\mathbf{\Psi}$	-11.2%	T	10.9%			
		Jul	2	0.8%	77	3.6%			

Headlines

- Imports decreased by 7.6 percent in January to 31,000 TEUs. The 3,000 TEU slide is level with the same month of 2017.
- The loaded volume exported in 2017 totaled 442,000 TEUs for a 5.7 percent increase over the 419,000 TEUs exported in 2016.
- Compared to the 100-point base year of 2012, the Import Index for January is 142.8. This is level with the reading that was recorded in the same month of 2017.
- The forecast projects a 9.2 percent increase in imports between February and July versus the past six months (August through January), compared to a 6.3 percent gain between the same two periods of last year.
- Single-digit percentage year-on-year gains are projected in each of the four upcoming quarters.
- The first half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 3.7 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017.
- The second half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 3.2 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017.
- The forecast volume for 2018 is 371,000 TEUs, which would be a 3.5 percent increase over last year.





			Percent Change					
			vs l	Prior Quarter	V	s Prior Year		
	2015	Q3	21	1.1%	Ŷ	23.2%		
	2015	Q4	21	-5.8%	7	5.7%		
		Q1	77	8.2%	\mathbf{T}	16.3%		
<u> </u>	2016	Q2	21	-4.3%	21	-1.4%		
ACTUAL	2016	Q3	21	-3.2%	21	-5.5%		
CT		Q4	71	0.5%	71	0.7%		
⊲		Q1	7	2.8%	21	-4.3%		
	2017	Q2	21	-0.6%	21	-0.6%		
	2017	Q3	21	-2.0%	7	0.6%		
		Q4	71	6.0%	77	6.2%		
E		Q1	2	-3.3%	21	-0.1%		
CAS	2018	Q2	71	4.1%	77	4.6%		
FORECAST		Q3	71	0.5%	7	7.3%		
		Q4	2	-1.5%	2	-0.3%		

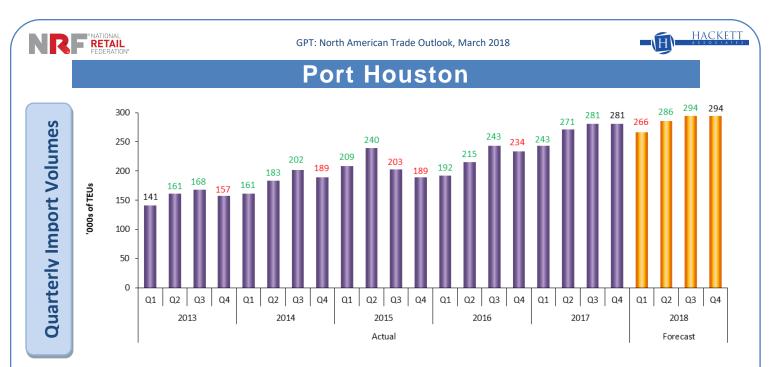
Monthly Change

			Percent Change						
			VS	Prior Month	V	s Prior Year			
	2016	Dec	2	-3.1%	2	-1.6%			
		Jan	27	6.5%	2	-0.8%			
		Feb	2	-6.7%	2	-3.7%			
		Mar	2	-1.9%	2	-8.4%			
		Apr	21	-1.1%	7	1.5%			
ų.		May	71	5.8%	21	-2.5%			
∩∀	2017	Jun	27	1.1%	21	-0.8%			
ACTUAL	2017	Jul	Ψ.	-10.0%	21	-7.3%			
٩		Aug	T	22.8%	T	13.5%			
		Sep	Ψ.	-22.0%	2	-4.8%			
		Oct	T	14.5%	T	10.6%			
		Nov	7	8.7%	7	7.1%			
		Dec	2	-8.5%	7	1.1%			
	2018	Jan	7	4.6%	2	-0.7%			
		Feb	2	-9.5%	2	-3.7%			
H		Mar	2	6.2%	7	4.2%			
-ORECAST	2018	Apr	77	1.0%	7	6.4%			
ORE	2018	May	71	3.8%	7	4.4%			
<u>.</u>		Jun	2	-0.2%	7	3.1%			
		Jul	7	0.7%	1	15.3%			

Headlines

- Imports rebounded by 4.6 percent in January to 34,000 TEUs. The 2,000 TEU increase equates to a 0.7 percent decrease from the same month of 2017.
- The loaded volume exported in 2017 totaled 390,000 TEUs for a 2.9 percent increase over the 379,000 TEUs exported in 2016.
- Compared to the 100-point base year of 2012, the Import Index for January is 119.4. This is 0.8 points lower than the 120.2 that was recorded in the same month of 2017.
- The forecast projects a 0.4 percent dip in imports between February and July versus the past six months (August through January), compared to a 0.7 percent decrease between the same two periods of last year.
- Year-on-year gains are projected in two of the four upcoming quarters, with all changes anticipated to be in the single-digit percentage range.
- The first half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 2.2 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017.
- The second half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 3.4 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017.
- The forecast volume for 2018 is 406,000 TEUs, which would be a 2.8 percent increase over last year.





			Percent Change					
			VS	Prior Quarter	V	s Prior Year		
	2015	Q3	$\mathbf{\Psi}$	-15.4%	\mathbb{Z}	0.4%		
	2015	Q4	21	-6.8%	21	-0.1%		
		Q1	27	1.8%	2	-7.8%		
<u> </u>	2016	Q2	Ŷ	12.1%	쎚	-10.1%		
× ۵.	2010	Q3	Ŷ	12.9%	Ŷ	20.1%		
ACTUAL		Q4	21	-3.8%	Ŷ	23.9%		
4		Q1	27	4.0%	T	26.5%		
	2017	Q2	Ŷ	11.4%	Ŷ	25.8%		
	2017	Q3	27	3.8%	Ŷ	15.6%		
		Q4	21	-0.2%	Ŷ	20.0%		
H		Q1	21	-5.1%	2	9.5%		
FORECAST	2018	Q2	77	7.4%	7	5.5%		
ORE	2018	Q3	27	2.8%	2	4.6%		
		Q4	⇒	0.1%	7	4.8%		

Monthly Change

			Percent Change					
			VS	Prior Month	vs Prior Year			
	2016	Dec	2	-6.2%	T	16.9%		
		Jan	Ŷ	13.7%		29.7%		
		Feb	$\mathbf{\Psi}$	-13.2%	Ŷ	14.0%		
		Mar	Ŷ	16.1%		36.1%		
		Apr	2	-1.0%	Ŷ	12.0%		
-		May	71	6.0%		42.8%		
ACTUAL	2017	Jun	27	8.4%		25.4%		
CT	2017	Jul	21	-6.7%	1	13.1%		
٩		Aug		-15.0%	21	-3.7%		
		Sep	Ŷ	48.0%	1	36.5%		
		Oct	쎚	-12.4%	T	24.1%		
		Nov	$\mathbf{\Psi}$	-12.4%	Ŷ	10.1%		
		Dec	7	7.4%	1	26.1%		
	2018	Jan	2	-4.6%	7	5.7%		
		Feb	2	-5.8%	1	14.9%		
E.		Mar	7	9.9%	7	8.7%		
CAS	2018	Apr	71	0.2%	T	10.0%		
FORECAST	2018	May	77	3.0%	7	6.9%		
<u> </u>		Jun	77	2.0%	71	0.5%		
		Jul	$\overline{\mathcal{A}}$	0.9%	7	8.7%		

Headlines

- Imports decreased by 4.6 percent in January to 89,000 TEUs. The 4,000 TEU slide equates to a 5.7 percent increase over the same month of 2017 and is a record high for the month of January.
- The loaded volume exported in 2017 totaled 966,000 TEUs for a 5.5 percent increase over the 916,000 TEUs imported in 2016.
- Compared to the 100-point base year of 2012, the Import Index for January is 178.1. This is 9.7 points higher than the 168.4 that was recorded in the same month of 2017.
- The forecast projects a 0.1 percent increase in imports between February and July versus the past six months (August through January), compared to a 7.9 percent gain between the same two periods of last year.
- Single-digit percentage year-on-year gains are projected in each of the four upcoming quarters.
- The first half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 7.4 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017.
- The second half of 2018 is forecast to increase by 4.7 percent versus the equivalent period of 2017.
- The forecast volume for 2018 is 1.14 million TEUs, which would be a 6.0 percent increase over last year.







Year to Date Totals

Values are Import Loaded TEUs. Purple indicates reported numbers, orange indicates forecast numbers. The totals cover through January.

	West Coast	East Coast	All Ports (incl. Gulf)
2017	1,093,874	736,320	1,914,783
2018	1,105,879	777,959	1,973,281
Percent Change	1.1%	5.7%	3.1%

		Prince			
	LA&LB	Oakland	Alliance	Vancouver	Rupert
2017	714,413	80,441	128,892	129,139	40,989
2018	747,488	75,136	96,683	140,201	46,371
Percent Change	4.6%	-6.6%	-25.0%	8.6%	13.1%

	Montreal	NYNJ	Virginia	Charleston	Savannah
2017	46,156	260,725	101,302	83,098	154,363
2018	57,678	277,060	104,150	78,169	169,758
Percent Change	25.0%	6.3%	2.8%	-5.9%	10.0%

		Port		
	Jacksonville	Everglades	Port Miami	Houston
2017	25,010	30,982	34,684	84,589
2018	25,727	30,978	34,439	89,443
Percent Change	2.9%	0.0%	-0.7%	5.7%





Raw Monthly Data

Values are Import Loaded TEUs. Purple indicates reported numbers, orange indicates forecast numbers.

				NW Seaport		Prince		
		LA&LB	Oakland	Alliance	Vancouver	Rupert	Montreal	NYNJ
	Feb	548,734	64,106	102,697	126,759	29,789	53,857	262,875
	Mar	623,083	67,517	120,018	121,139	34,535	64,384	249,788
	Apr	660,248	74,991	110,821	136,935	43,819	59,661	278,868
	Jun	749,615	82,440	115,960	154,291	41,747	63,035	283,466
	Jun	707,600	80,253	115,788	135,290	51,834	58,347	295,221
2017	Jul	795,911	84,835	109,182	153,554	48,343	58,784	291,760
	Aug	788,194	77,985	119,529	145,523	49,949	56,783	320,848
	Sep	754,968	79,135	116,589	151,635	48,521	61,225	287,753
	Oct	722,398	76,706	109,983	139,049	48,688	59,373	305,729
	Nov	782,900	72,330	113,451	152,686	46,493	59,188	285,070
	Dec	731,213	78,703	117,743	131,803	43,581	51,926	274,366
	Jan	747,488	75,136	96,683	140,201	46,371	57,678	277,060
	Feb	719,829	76,473	118,719	146,427	46,238	53,155	250,870
	Mar	547,449	71,193	100,027	122,038	39,030	59,885	274,318
2018	Apr	697,552	81,254	111,418	138,304	48,675	60,590	276,676
	May	744,267	85,043	118,220	147,708	52,356	62,537	288,985
	Jun	748,774	85,382	118,844	148,749	52,676	62,672	289,716
	Jul	799,532	84,671	118,720	160,719	52,659	63,681	307,116

						Port		Port
		Virginia	Charleston	Savannah	Jacksonville	Everglades	Port Miami	Houston
	Feb	96,921	73,855	148,374	23,838	31,474	32,361	73,389
	Mar	99,665	81,137	137,392	23,181	36,601	31,757	85,214
	Apr	101,114	82,897	149,258	22,111	32,163	31,403	84,399
	Jun	100,594	78,398	160,086	26,576	29,550	33,227	89,483
	Jun	103,006	81,307	154,738	23,932	25,972	33,578	97,042
2017	Jul	109,215	79,630	159,570	23,505	28,025	30,218	90,506
	Aug	113,188	78,083	164,496	26,765	27,798	37,107	76,889
	Sep	109,716	79,150	166,885	24,064	25,668	28,940	113,804
	Oct	125,075	80,728	188,369	23,618	26,918	33,122	99,641
	Nov	110,673	76,580	144,181	22,972	30,580	36,006	87,306
	Dec	105,867	80,423	148,121	28,111	33,514	32,939	93,771
	Jan	104,150	78,169	169,758	25,727	30,978	34,439	89,443
	Feb	96,387	73,622	150,323	25,148	31,812	31,166	84,294
	Mar	105,727	80,285	159,751	26,299	37,056	33,093	92,630
2018	Apr	106,328	81,142	164,512	27,069	32,490	33,422	92,844
	May	109,825	84,062	171,857	28,169	32,447	34,677	95,614
	Jun	110,060	84,256	172,535	28,271	28,807	34,623	97,488
	Jul	114,692	85,150	174,548	28,616	29,028	34,850	98,375





How to Read the Tables and Charts

The North American edition of the Global Port Tracker provides details on import volumes at 14 ports at the monthly and quarterly level. Each port is examined on a separate page, with information on actual and forecast import volumes, key pieces of news, and an analysis of any trends. Furthermore, a table and graphs that depict detailed information accompany each port page.

Quarterly and annual change for each port is indicated in a table. In addition to the actual percentage changes, a series of icons are included to help make trends apparent. A quarter or year with a 10 percent decrease or more has a downward red arrow; between negative ten and zero a downward yellow arrow; between zero and positive ten an upward yellow arrow; and an increase greater than 10 percent has an upward green arrow.

		Fercent change						
	vs Prior Quarter			vs Prior Year				
Q1	Ŷ	-10.0%	Ŷ	-10.0%				
Q2	\mathbf{M}	-5.0%	\mathbf{M}	-5.0%				
Q3	$\overline{\sim}$	5.0%	$\overline{\mathcal{A}}$	5.0%				
Q4	☆	10.0%		10.0%				

Percent Change

The quarterly bar chart depicts actual and forecast import levels for each port at the quarterly level, measured in thousands of TEUs. The chart details five and a half years of historical data and forecasts one year of future activity. Each bar represents the volume of imports for a single quarter and is one of either two colors: a purple bar indicates the value is based on actual data, while an orange bar indicates that the data is based on forecast estimates.

The exact value of trade each quarter is indicated above each bar in thousands of TEUs, and is color coded to assist in viewing trends in the data. A green number indicates an increase from the prior quarter, while a red quarter indicates a decrease. A black value is used for the first quarter's data, and reflects no change.

The monthly bar chart depicts actual and forecast import levels for each port at the monthly level, measured in thousands of TEUs. The chart details one year of activity, of which between seven and eight months are projections (depending on the port). As with the quarterly chart, each bar represents the volume of imports, with a purple bar for actual data and an orange bar for estimated data.

The exact value of trade each month is indicated above each bar in thousands of TEUs, and is again color coded to assist in viewing trends in the data. The blue line indicates the volume of trade in the same month one year earlier.

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