



TEXAS SEAPORTS & WATERWAYS

The importance of Texas ports will become increasingly evident when the Panama Canal widening is completed in 2014. The Port of Houston is in a unique position as the number one port on the Gulf Coast in terms of value (\$169 billion in 2011) and container traffic (67%) to capitalize this opportunity. The Gulf Intracoastal Waterway is a man-made canal that runs from Brownsville, TX to St. Mark's, Florida. The canal allows barges to travel between Gulf ports and inland waterways. The 423-mile-long Texas stretch handled 74.6 million tons of freight in 2011. This amounted to over 66% of freight moved on the entire corridor.



QUICK FACTS:

- Texas ports handle more tonnage than any other state's ports on the Gulf Coast
- Port of Houston is the 2nd busiest port in the US, and 12th in the world
- Texas has over 1,000 miles of navigable channels
- Over 564 million tons are handled by Texas ports annually
- Texas ports account for 19% of total US port tonnage
- Texas ports are responsible for directly and indirectly creating almost 1.4 million jobs
- Marine cargo activities bring over \$277 billion in economic activity to the state
- Texas port activities account for one quarter of the Texas GDP
- The Ports of Beaumont and Corpus Christi rank in the top 10 among all US ports for total cargo volume

According to the Texas Ports Association, port activities produce one-quarter of the Texas Gross Domestic Product.