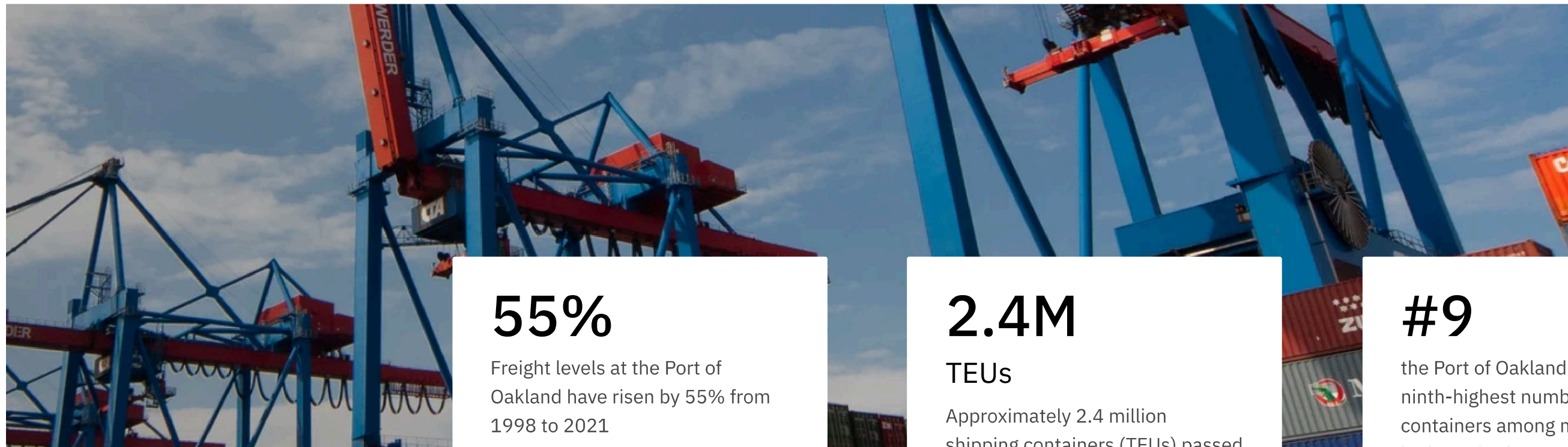




Introduction

What quantity of goods are entering or exiting the Bay Area by sea?

Seaports play a crucial role in today's globalized economy, serving as entry and exit points for billions of dollars' worth of goods. While their primary role is to facilitate the movement of freight from producers to consumers, wherever those consumers may reside, the ports themselves are significant economic engines for the regions in which they are located. Ports compete against each other for shippers' business, and an individual port's success depends not only on the overall level of global trade but also on its unique competitive advantages, such as location or operational efficiency.

Regional Performance

Cargo activity at the Port of Oakland has been relatively constant in recent years.

The Port of Oakland, the region’s primary cargo seaport, has seen a gradual increase in the number of containers processed over the past decade, leading to record-high traffic in 2018. While container volumes dipped during the Great Recession and again in 2015 due to a labor dispute, container volume at the Port of Oakland has remained relatively constant in recent years. This is true even during COVID-19 when total container volume moving through the port remained virtually unchanged between 2020 and 2021.

While the Port of Oakland handles 99% of the containerized goods moving through Northern California, minor ports in the Bay Area each have a niche role in cargo movement. For example, the Port of Benicia has developed a specialty in cars and petrocoke, Redwood City in construction materials, Richmond in liquid bulk and cars, and San Francisco in dry bulk. The Port of San Francisco has recently included other maritime uses, such as hosting cruise ship calls.

99%

The Port of Oakland handles 99% of the containerized goods moving through Northern California

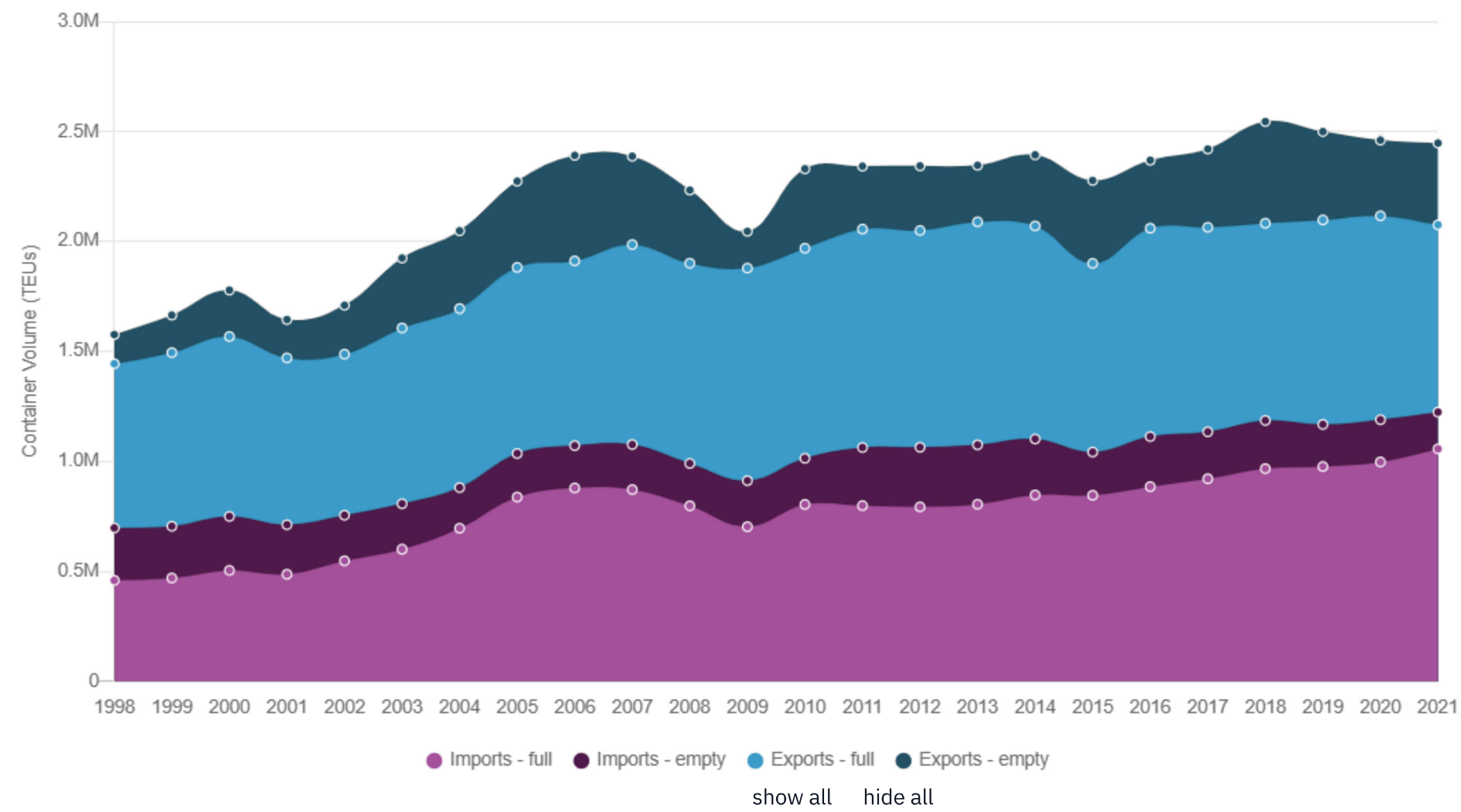
Historical Trend for Seaport Activity — Port of Oakland

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Sources & Methodology

Methodology Notes

Container volumes include both empty and full containers that move through a given port; they include imports, exports and domestic freight flows.

Data Sources

- Port of Oakland
1998-2021
- American Association of Port Authorities: Western Hemisphere Port TEU Container Volumes
1990-2018
- U.S. Department of Transportation, Bureau of Transportation Statistics: Monthly TEU Data

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