

WJZ TV CHANNEL 13 NEWS

Port Of Baltimore Busiest Auto Shipping Hub In U.S.

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<http://baltimore.cbslocal.com/2011/09/20/port-of-baltimore-busiest-auto-shipping-hub-in-us/>

BALTIMORE SUN

Port of Baltimore leads U.S. in autos in first half

Baltimore surpasses New York in key category

By Michael Dresser, The Baltimore Sun

7:10 PM EDT, September 19, 2011

Baltimore surpassed New York to handle more auto tonnage than any other port in the United States during the first six months of 2011, the Maryland Port Administration reported Monday.

The agency said it handled more than 538,000 tons of autos during the first half of the year, compared with 413,403 tons for New York — last year's market leader — during the same period.

Port spokesman Richard Scher said Baltimore posted a 15 percent increase over the same period last year, while New York registered a 21 percent decline.

Helen Delich Bentley, the former congresswoman for whom the port is named, hailed the results.

"We have been running a very close second for a long time, and it is with much joy that we have jumped over New York," said Bentley, now a consultant to the maritime industry.

The port agency said the data were compiled by the U.S. Census Bureau and analyzed by Global Trade Atlas.

While Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley hailed the results as "another good step forward in continuing to rebound from one of our country's most challenging economic periods," it is unclear whether Baltimore — previously the No. 2 port for autos — can hold the No. 1 spot for long.

Scher said the world auto market was heavily affected by this spring's earthquake and tsunami in Japan. He said New York and Jacksonville, Fla., the No. 3 automobile port, are highly dependent on imports from Japan.

Baltimore, by contrast, does a strong business in exports by American producers — especially Chrysler — and in imports by German manufacturer Mercedes-Benz.

"It's obviously a very good sign to lead off the year, but keep in mind that Japanese effect," Scher said.

The port spokesman also noted that exports of American autos through Baltimore were up 38 percent during the first half, compared with a 25 percent increase for New York.

Scher said Baltimore's port has helped boost its auto business by instituting a "white-glove treatment" program, under which it holds regular meetings with members of the auto supply chain with the aim of improving performance.

According to the port administration, about 270,700 cars crossed Baltimore's docks from January through June, up 30,000 vehicles from last year. Overall cargo shipments increased 13 percent, to 4.5 million tons, during the six-month period, the agency said.

If the port can hold the lead in cars, the auto trade would join roll-on/roll-off equipment — agriculture and construction vehicles — as well as trucks and imports of gypsum, forest products, sugar, salt and iron, all categories in which Baltimore leads the industry.

The port administration estimates that the auto trade through Baltimore generates 1,150 jobs in the region.

NEWSDAY.COM

Port of Baltimore busiest auto shipping hub in US

September 19, 2011 by The Associated Press /

(AP) -- Port of Baltimore officials say the port has surpassed New York as the busiest international automobile shipping hub in the United States in the first half of this year.

Baltimore handled 270,700 vehicles from January through June. This was about 30,000 than the same period last year.

The Daily Record of Baltimore (<http://bit.ly/nROud3>) reports that general cargo totaled 4.5 million tons during the first six months of the year, a 13 percent increase. Foreign commerce at the public and private terminals grew 12 percent to 19.3 million tons.

WALL STREET JOURNAL

Port of Baltimore busiest auto shipping hub in US

SEPTEMBER 19, 2011, 6:04 P.M. ET

BALTIMORE — Port of Baltimore officials say the port has surpassed New York as the busiest international automobile shipping hub in the United States in the first half of this year.

Baltimore handled 270,700 vehicles from January through June. This was about 30,000 than the same period last year.

The Daily Record of Baltimore reports that general cargo totaled 4.5 million tons during the first six months of the year, a 13 percent increase. Foreign commerce at the public and private terminals grew 12 percent to 19.3 million tons.

BALTIMORE BUSINESS JOURNAL

Port of Baltimore tops for auto cargo in first half of 2011

Date: Monday, September 19, 2011, 1:31pm EDT

Scott Dance

Senior Reporter/Projects Editor - Baltimore Business Journal

The Port of Baltimore led the nation in international auto tonnage for the first half of 2011, according to U.S. Census data.

The port handled 538,000 tons of autos over the first six months of the year. That was 15 percent more than auto tonnage recorded over the first six months of 2010, when Baltimore ranked second behind New York in that category.

Overall cargo has been surging at the port since dropping during the recession. Port officials said last month Baltimore had moved up one spot in national rankings for cargo tonnage and two spots for the value of its cargo, to No. 13 and No. 11, respectively.

The auto cargo business directly creates about 1,150 jobs, port officials said.

The number of actual cars moving through the port was 270,700.

PATCH.COM

Port of Baltimore Handling Record Number of Cars

Baltimore eclipsed New York in the first six months of 2011 for handling auto tonnage.

By Ron Cassie Email the author September 19, 2011

The Port of Baltimore continues to be one of the bright spots in the local economy handling a record amount of cars in the first half of 2011, according to a Maryland Port Administration press release. The increase in auto tonnage over the first six months of this year marks a 15 percent increase over 2010, the Monday release stated.

Approximately 1,150 direct jobs at the Port of Baltimore are generated by the Port's auto business, according to the port administration.

In August, Marlin Steel Wire, which produces custom-made wire baskets, wire forms and sheet metal fabrications, announced expansion plans that expected to further boost port business.

Additionally, overall general cargo at the Port of Baltimore's public and private terminals during the first half of 2011 was 4.5 million tons, a 13 percent increase over last year.

Recently, the Port Administration announced that Baltimore now ranks 11th nationally (up from 12th) for the total dollar value of cargo, and 13th (up from 15th) for the amount of cargo tonnage handled among 44 U.S. port districts.

Earlier this year, the Port of Baltimore also inked a 5-year deal with Cruise America. The cruise line has weekly cruises from Baltimore harbor.

Here is Monday's full press release from the Maryland Port Administration:

Governor Martin O'Malley announced today that the Port of Baltimore had a record first half of 2011 for cars, handling more international auto tonnage than any other U.S. port, including New York which handled the most cars in 2010. More than 538,000 tons of autos made their way over Baltimore's public and private marine terminals during the first six months of 2011, a 15 percent increase over the same time period of 2010. The statistics were compiled by the U.S. Census and analyzed by Global Trade Atlas.

"This is another good step forward in continuing to rebound from one of our country's most challenging economic periods," said Governor O'Malley. "More cars that come across our docks means more business for the Port of Baltimore, which is very good news for the thousands of men and women who depend on a healthy and vibrant port to support their families."

The number of actual cars that came across the port's docks during the first six months of 2011 was 270,700, about 30,000 more than during the same time in 2010. Baltimore ranked second in the nation in 2010 for autos behind New York. Approximately 1,150 direct jobs at the Port are generated by the Port's auto business.

Overall general cargo at the port's public and private terminals during the first six months was 4.5 million tons, a 13 percent increase from 2010. The total amount of foreign commerce from both the public and private terminals was 19.3 million tons, a 12 percent increase from the first half of 2010. The total dollar value of foreign cargo was \$24.1 billion, a 24 percent jump from the same period in 2010.

All targeted commodities at the port's public terminals were up in the first half of 2011. In addition to autos, roll on/roll off (farm and construction machinery) was up 51 percent; containers were up 10 percent; pulp (used to produce paper towels, tissues, diapers) was up 12 percent; breakbulk was up 11 percent; and paper was up six percent.

Recently it was announced that Baltimore ranked 11th nationally (up from 12th) for the total dollar value of cargo and 13th (up from 15th) for the amount of cargo tonnage handled out of 44 port districts in the U.S.

Out of about 360 U.S. ports, the Port of Baltimore ranks as the top port in the nation for handling roll on/roll off, trucks, imported forest products, imported gypsum,

imported sugar, imported salt, and imported iron ore. Besides autos, it also ranks second in the U.S. for exported coal and imported aluminum.

Business at the Port of Baltimore generates about 16,700 direct jobs, while about 120,000 jobs in Maryland are linked to port activities. The Port is responsible for \$3.7 billion in personal wages and salary and nearly \$400 million in state and local taxes."

WBFF TV FOX 45

Port of Baltimore busiest auto shipping hub in US

September 19, 2011 18:03 EDT

BALTIMORE (AP) -- Port of Baltimore officials say the port has surpassed New York as the busiest international automobile shipping hub in the United States in the first half of this year.

Baltimore handled 270,700 vehicles from January through June. This was about 30,000 than the same period last year.

The Daily Record of Baltimore reports that general cargo totaled 4.5 million tons during the first six months of the year, a 13 percent increase. Foreign commerce at the public and private terminals grew 12 percent to 19.3 million tons.

JOURNAL OF COMMERCE

Baltimore Reports Record Auto Volume

Joseph Bonney | Sep 19, 2011 2:47PM GMT

Vehicle shipments in the first half of the year up 12 percent year-over-year

Vehicle shipments through the Port of Baltimore rose 12 percent to a record 270,700 units during the first six months of this year, the Maryland Port Administration said.

General cargo volume through the port's public and private terminals totaled 4.5 million tons between January and June, a 13 percent year-over-year increase.

Commodity categories posting increases included containers, 10 percent; roll-on, roll-off shipments of farm and construction machinery, 10 percent; woodpulp, 12 percent and paper, 6 percent.

WBAL RADIO

Record Auto Tonnage Through Port

Monday, September 19, 2011

John Patti

The Port of Baltimore had a record first half of 2011 for cars.

The port handled more international auto tonnage than any other U.S. port including New York, which handled the most cars in 2010.

More than 538,000 tons of autos past through the Port of Baltimore in the first 6 months of this year. That is a 15% increase over the same period last year.

Governor O'Malley calls this "another step forward in continuing to rebound from one of our country's most challenging economic periods."

The number of actual cars that came across the port's docks during the first six months of 2011 was 270,000 which was about 30,000 more than during the same time in 2010.

Baltimore ranked second in the nation in 2010 for autos behind New York.

Maryland Port Administration officials say about 1,150 direct jobs are generated by the port's auto business.

The port administration also says that overall general cargo at the port's public and private terminals during the first six months of the year was 4.5 million tons, a 13 percent increase from 2010.

MARYLAND DAILY RECORD

Port of Baltimore now No. 1 international auto shipping hub

Posted: 2:32 pm Mon, September 19, 2011

By Nicholas Sohr

Daily Record Business Writer

The Port of Baltimore was the busiest international automobile shipping hub in the United States in the first half of 2011, according to figures released Monday.

Baltimore eclipsed New York, the top auto shipper last year, with 270,700 vehicles handled from January through June, about 30,000 more than in the corresponding period in 2010.

Those vehicles totaled some 538,000 tons, a 15 percent increase over 2010.

Gov. Martin O'Malley called the figures "another good step forward in continuing to rebound from one of our country's most challenging economic periods" in a statement released Monday.

But, that rebound may not be as high in the second half of the year.

Last week, Transportation Secretary Beverley K. Swaim-Staley said her department is "seeing a little bit of a dip in some of the port revenues" in recent reports.

Swaim-Staley did not say where the port's business had sagged, but did say the Department of Transportation expects gasoline tax revenues and titling taxes on vehicle purchases, which were on the rise earlier this year, to flatten in August. That could indicate softening demand in an economy rocked by the federal debt ceiling deal, the downgrade of the U.S. bond rating, the European debt crises and faltering consumer confidence.

The auto shipping figures were released on the heels of U.S. Census Bureau data that showed Baltimore moved up one spot in terms of the values of the goods shipped in 2010, claiming the 11th spot of the more than 360 ports nationwide.

The strong performance continued into 2011.

General cargo totaled 4.5 million tons during the first six months of the year, a 13 percent increase. Foreign commerce at the public and private terminals grew 12 percent to 19.3 million tons.

Farm and construction machinery shot up 51 percent; container traffic increased 10 percent; pulp used to produce paper products, 12 percent; and break bulk, 11 percent.

The port is scheduled to open a major expansion in August that port officials expect to bring in even more shipping business. A 50-foot berth and extra-large container cranes at the Seagirt Marine Terminal will allow the largest cargo ships to visit Baltimore.

The plus-sized accommodations will allow Seagirt to bring in freighters fully loaded with 12,000 20-foot shipping containers, about two or three times larger than the ships that visit now.

A wider Panama Canal channel, expected to be finished in 2014, will bring those ships from China and Japan, and state officials hope continued growth in Southeast Asia will bring more shipping traffic from that region as well.

The \$105 million Seagirt expansion is being undertaken by Ports America Chesapeake, a private port operator that holds a 50-year lease on the terminal.

CARGO BUSINESS NEWS

Baltimore reports record H1 for auto handling

Monday, September 19, 2011

The Port of Baltimore reported a record first half of 2011 for international auto tonnage at 538,000 tons, a 15 percent increase over the same period in 2010, claiming it was more than any other U.S. port according to statistics the port authority cited by the U.S. Census that were analyzed by Global Trade Atlas.

"This is another good step forward in continuing to rebound from one of our country's most challenging economic periods," said Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley in a statement.

The port handled 270,000 autos for this year's first six months, up by 30,000 vehicles over 2010's first half, when the Port of Baltimore said it ranked second in the U.S. for autos handled behind New York.