



# Louisiana Ports Deliver!

*Growing Jobs, Driving the Economy*



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*Louisiana is a maritime state and its ports impact every parish. Ports connect and enhance major industries, such as oil and gas, agriculture and petrochemical, along with manufacturers to reach global markets. In turn, ports enhance Louisiana's economy, with more than \$182 billion in economic output.*

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## Did you know?

- The five ports on the Lower Mississippi River comprise the largest port complex in the world.
- More than 500 million tons of cargo is handled by ports on the Lower Mississippi River annually.
- More than 60 percent of the nation's grain and 20 percent of petroleum and energy commodities are handled by Louisiana ports each year.
- Coastal ports support more than 90 percent of the nation's offshore oil and gas production in the Gulf of Mexico.
- Inland ports are the economic engines of their local economies and produce thousands of jobs in their communities.
- Louisiana ports create 525,000 jobs, or one-in-five jobs in the state.
- Louisiana ports are responsible for \$32.9 billion in annual personal earnings, more than \$2.4 billion in state taxes and \$1.8 billion in local taxes.
- Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and Louisiana Economic Development determined for every \$1 invested in port infrastructure, \$8 is returned to Louisiana coffers.

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## Port Priority Program

DOTD's Port Construction and Development Priority Program is a vital source of funding for ports large and small. For the last four years the program has been funded at a level of about \$40 million. All public ports are eligible for the grant program, which funds up to \$15 million per project.

## Channel Maintenance, Deepening

Ships in the Gulf of Mexico are growing larger and the workhorse vessels today and in the future will have greater capacities. These ships require deeper drafts to handle more cargo. Support for channel maintenance and deepening is critical to the overall competitiveness of the State. Corps estimates show one foot of draft equals about \$1 million in cargo. It is vital Louisiana focuses on support of deepening its shipping channels and maintaining the authorized draft of its waterways.

## Investment and Support

Louisiana's natural resources present a strong advantage to seize and grow its maritime industry if properly funded and prioritized. The Mississippi, Calcasieu, Red and Atchafalaya rivers, along with our coastal waterways all have huge untapped potential for industrial, cargo, offshore service and cruise development. Louisiana is poised to grow all segments of its maritime industry through focus and planning.