The ports of Seattle and Tacoma partnered to fund a joint economic impact study of the two seaports. Together, the two ports form a gateway that fosters economic growth for the Pacific Northwest and the U.S. They form the third-largest gateway in North America, based on the number of containers (twenty-foot equivalent units) that come through the seaports. The economic reach of the two ports provide significant jobs and revenue to the state.

36.1 m short tons of cargo moved through the two ports (2013)

3rd largest by total TEUs when combined, among North America ports (2013)

$77 b imported & exported through the two ports (2013)

4th largest port by export value when combined (2013)

THE PORTS’ ECONOMIC IMPACTS

Revenues and Incomes

Ports’ related economic activity is affiliated with $138.1 billion in total economic activity in the state, which is 1/3 of Washington’s GDP.

Business Revenues by Major Category

$4.3 b in 2013

Regional Fiscal Impacts

Maritime Cargo Activity

Every dollar of income to Port-related direct jobs correlates to an additional $2.70 in personal income in the Seattle and Tacoma area.
Direct Jobs: 18,900 (2013)
- Surface Transportation
- Terminal Employees & Dockworkers
- Port Admin

Indirect Jobs: 11,100 (2013)
- Jobs Among Suppliers & Supporting Industries

Induced Jobs: 18,100 (2013)
- Additional Jobs

Total Jobs supported by the two ports: 48,100 (2013)

SPENDING
Port of Tacoma & Seattle Generate...

$1.1 b Direct Income
$2.4 b Induced Income
$554.3 m Indirect Income
$4.1 b in Total Income & Re-Spending (2013)

EXTERNAL CHALLENGES
The Industry Is Shifting

- Competition
- Panama & Suez Canal Expanded Use
- Anticipated Trade Growth
- Rising Fuel Prices
- Lower Costs per Unit Shipped

Order Larger Ships
Industry Consolidation