



GREATER HOUSTON
PARTNERSHIP

UPDATE



FOREIGN
TRADE

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February 11, 2019

Over 264.5 million metric tons in goods and commodities passed through the Houston-Galveston Customs District during the first eleven months of '18. That figure represents a 9.1 percent increase over same period in '17. Those shipments were valued at over \$214.3 billion, a 22.8 percent increase over '17, which was the largest increase among the top ranked districts.

HOUSTON-GALVESTON CUSTOMS DISTRICT				
	Value - \$ Billions		Metric Tons - Millions	
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
Nov '18 YTD	128.7	85.6	177.2	87.3
Nov '17 YTD	98.5	76.1	144.0	98.4
% Change	+30.7	+12.5	+23.1	-11.2
	Total Value (\$ Billions)		Total Tonnage (Million Metric Tons)	
Nov '18 YTD	214.3		264.5	
Nov '17 YTD	174.6		242.4	
% Change	+22.8		+9.1	

Source: WISERTrade from U.S. Census Bureau data

Houston ranked first in tonnage and seventh in value among U.S. customs districts during the first eleven months of '18. Houston and New Orleans have been the busiest two districts in tonnage for decades. Houston has held the top spot in seven of the past 10 years.

BUSIEST U.S. CUSTOMS DISTRICTS – NOV '18 YTD				
Value			Metric Tons	
Rank	District	\$ Billions	District	Millions
1	Los Angeles	418.8	Houston	264.5
2	New York	361.5	New Orleans	257.3
3	Laredo	302.4	Los Angeles	112.1
4	Detroit	248.1	Port Arthur	81.9
5	Chicago	231.6	New York	73.8
6	New Orleans	217.2	Norfolk	55.8
7	Houston	214.3	San Francisco	55.1

Source: WISERTrade from U.S. Census Bureau data

Houston exported to 214 countries and imported from 194 during the first eleven months of '18. Mexico remains the region's top trading partner, followed by China, Brazil, the Netherlands and South Korea. Even the Marshall Islands and Comoros received cargoes shipped from Houston this year.

TOP TRADING PARTNERS – NOV '18 YTD*			
Houston/Galveston Customs District			
Rank	Country	\$ Billions	% of Total
1	Mexico	22.8	10.7
2	China	18.8	8.8
3	Brazil	11.7	5.5
4	Netherlands	9.5	4.4
5	South Korea	9.2	4.3
6	Germany	8.9	4.2
7	Japan	8.5	4.0
8	Italy	6.7	3.1
9	United Kingdom	6.6	3.1
10	India	6.1	2.8
Total Top 10		108.8	50.8
All Others		105.4	49.2
Total Trade		214.3	100.0

* Combined imports and exports

Source: WISERTrade from U.S. Census Bureau data

During the first eleven months of '18, the district handled goods and commodities from 97 trade categories—everything from gasoline to live animals to cork. The top five exports, accounting for 81.8 percent of all exports by value, include crude and refined products, chemicals, industrial machinery, plastics and motor vehicles. The top five imports, accounting for 63.4 percent of all imports by value, include crude and refined products, industrial machinery, iron and steel, motor vehicles and chemicals.

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