



Waterways and Marine

Ships and barges

- Ships and barges move more than 20 million tons of cargo a year, or about 5.5 percent of Oregon's freight.
- More than 18.7 million tons of cargo moved through the Port of Portland alone in 2005.
- Marine traffic carries more than 1.5 percent of the total value of all freight moved in Oregon.
- Petroleum and petroleum products, grains and forest products, containerized cargo and automobiles are the main cargoes shipped through Oregon's ports and waterways.
- Portland is the largest wheat and barley exporting port in the United States.
- Manufactured products account for a small proportion of total cargo shipped but have a higher dollar value than bulk commodities.
- Cars and trucks from Asia and exports from U.S. factories are among the manufactured products shipped through marine terminals in Portland.
- Portland ranks third nationally in automobile shipping and ranks first on the West Coast.

Deep draft shipping

- Oceangoing ships on the Columbia River carry about \$14 billion worth of U.S. products to world markets each year.
- Oregon has deep draft terminals in Astoria, Columbia County and Portland.
- Below Portland, the Columbia River shipping channel has a minimum 40-foot depth.
- Federal agencies have approved deepening the Columbia River shipping channel to 43 feet to accommodate bigger ships.
- Deep-draft terminals also are located in Coos Bay-North Bend and Newport.
- Coos Bay was Oregon's No. 2 port in 2005 with 2 million tons shipped.
- Forest products are the primary cargoes shipped through Oregon's smaller deep-draft ports.

Shallow draft shipping

- Shallow draft commercial marine traffic uses the 465-mile Columbia River-Snake River system as far inland as Lewiston, Idaho.
- Shallow draft ports are located in The Dalles, Arlington, Boardman and Umatilla.
- Upstream from Portland, the Columbia River channel has a minimum 14-foot depth.

A container crane passed under the Astoria-Megler Bridge on its way up the Columbia River in April, 2006. The container stood 199 feet above the water line; the bridge measured 208 feet between the deck and the river — making clearance less than 10 feet.

