



U.S. Department of Transportation
Office of the Secretary of Transportation

Bureau of Transportation Statistics

BTS Container Freight Programs

BTS Container Freight Initiatives

Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 2022

The COVID-19 induced surge in import containerized cargo pushed U.S. supply chain infrastructure beyond capacity.

Containers and chassis were held beyond normal dwell times putting strain on available equipment and increasing congestion.

Congress enacted the Ocean Shipping Reform Act of 2022. Section 16 mandates BTS to collect statistics on intermodal equipment including:

- Chassis Street Dwell Times
- Chassis Out of Service Statistics
- Marine Container Street Dwell Times



BTS Container Freight Initiatives

Empty Container Availability Report

U.S. exporters report finding available containers as one of the most serious challenges to move cargo.

Data will provide insight on the supply of available empty containers for export at coastal ports and inland hubs

- BTS partnering with FMC to collect data on the location of empty marine shipping containers
- Weekly data will include current availability plus the following 2 weeks



BTS Container Freight Initiatives

Container Export Initiative:

BTS is developing a new program designed to analyze how the U.S. transportation system is servicing U.S. containerized exports.

This program will provide context and expand on the analysis and utility of the data collected from OSRA and the Empty Container Availability Report.

Early ideas explore challenges in the following areas:

- Container equipment availability
- Supply and demand forecasting
- Transit scheduling
- Seasonal dynamics

