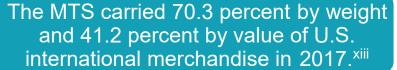
U.S. Marine Transportation System

MTS Fact Sheet

CMTS CMTS CMTS 15th Anniversary

Components and Functions

The U.S. Marine Transportation System (MTS) is composed of an array of interdependent components: Over 25,000 miles of navigable waterways and harbors, 239 locks at 193 locations, hundreds of bridges, and 8,477 U.S. waterway facilities, including docks and locks (Table 1).



MTS in American Life

The MTS is an integral part of the national economic supply chain, bringing food, clothes, oil, manufactured goods, and many other items to our shores and around the country.

Table 1. Key MTS Facts	
Miles of coastline (2019)	12,380 ⁱ
Miles of commercially navigable waterways (2018)	25,000 ⁱⁱ
Total U.S. waterways facilities (2018)	8,477 ***
Lock chambers at 193 sites (2018)	239 ⁱⁱⁱ
Cargo handling docks	8,238 ⁱⁱⁱ
Total U.S. ports handling over 250,000 short tons annually (2018)	181 ⁱⁱⁱ
U.S. mariners with unlimited credentials	11,768 iv
Vessel calls at U.S. ports (2015)	82,044 °
Total U.S. waterborne commerce (short tons) (2018)	2.4 billion iii
U.S. foreign waterborne commerce (short tons) (2016)	1.4 billion iii
Ferry passengers (2016)	118.9 million vi
Adults and children under that went boating (2016)	142 million vii
Total sales generated by commercial and recreational fishing (2016)	\$212 billion viii
Jobs supported by commercial and recreational fishing (2016)	1.7 million ix
U.S. cruise passengers (2018)	14.2 million ^x
Federal Aids to Navigation including Automatic Identification System (AIS) & Wreck (WR) Buoys (2018)	44,571 ^{xi}



National Security

The MTS enables most U.S. military power to move around the world by ship, providing logistical support for the rapid deployment of American forces and materials.

A typical tow of 15 barges can take over 1,000 trucks off the roads and move a ton of freight almost 600 miles on a gallon of fuel. XiV

Vital to Local Economies

In 2016, deep sea, inland, coastal, and Great Lakes water based transportation generated over \$4 billion in annual wages to over 67,710 employees. xiii

For more info about the MTS, go to:

www.CMTS.gov





Challenges facing the MTS

Growth

Many ports are under pressure to service and supply increasingly larger ships. Operational challenges can impact navigational safety and efficiency, increasing costs to consumers and reducing competitiveness of U.S. exports.

The US Congressional Budget Office estimates that a one week shut down of the container ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach may result in losses of \$65 million to \$150 million per day.XVi

Environment

As waterborne trade increases, stresses to sensitive marine environments will continue. Increased efforts to make the MTS safer and more efficient (e.g. through technologies developed by the CMTS Future of Navigation Integrated Action Team, for example) comes with a corresponding decrease in risks environment.

Cybersecurity

The National Maritime Cybersecurity Plan prioritizes actions in support of a secure unifies The Plan MTS. cybersecurity resources and aggressively mitigates maritime cyberspace supporting vulnerabilities while National Strategy for Maritime Security.

Safety and Security

The Federal Government, along with local entities, is responsible for insuring the safety and security of the MTS. For example, every day the U.S. Coast Guard conducts 45 search and rescue cases, screens 360 vessels for security threats prior to arrival in U.S. ports, and conducts 105 marine inspections.



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