

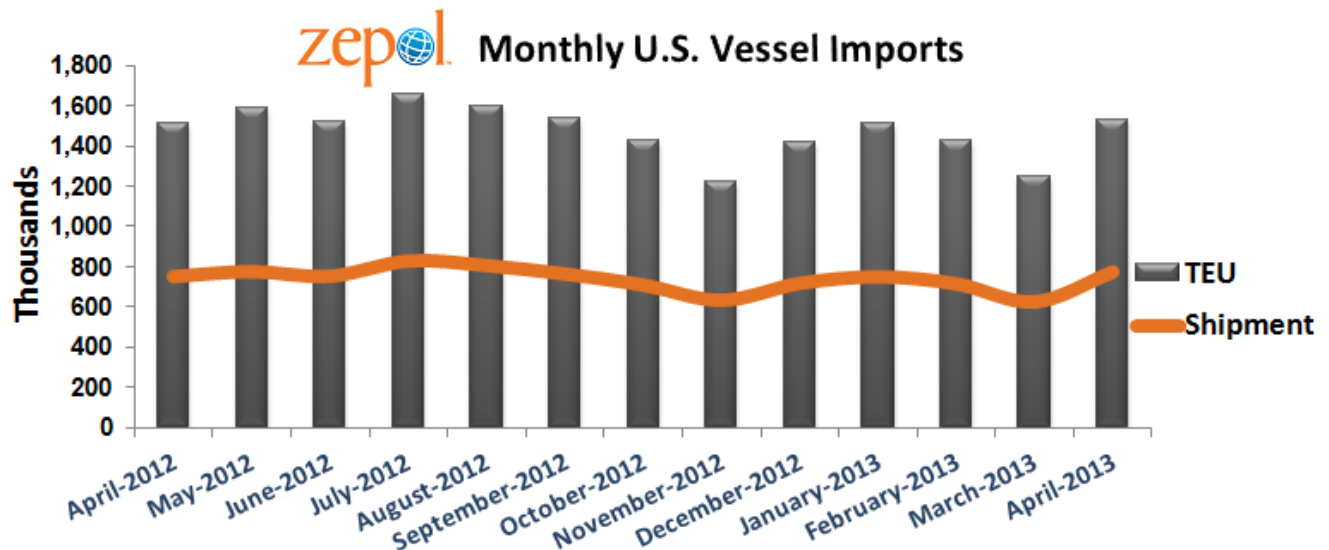


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Zepol's Data Says U.S. Imports in April Skyrocket from March
U.S. imports haven't been this high for the month of April since 2007.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. (May 15, 2013) — Zepol Corporation, [the leading trade intelligence company](#), reports that U.S. vessel imports are way up in April. Container ship imports increased 22.7% compared to March and are 1.3% higher than April of 2012. There hasn't been this dramatic of an increase (month-to-month) in over a year and April imports haven't been this high since 2007. The United States has not seen this much ocean-cargo imports in one month since September of 2012, which also makes April the largest import month yet in 2013.

"So far this year, U.S. imports are about 1% higher than last year and over 4% higher than 2011," states Zepol's CEO Paul Rasmussen, "Although 2013 is still 5% below 2007, the highest year recorded for ocean imports, it could still turn out to have the highest import volume the United States has seen in the last five years."



Quick Stats for U.S. Imports in April of 2013:

- Exporting Countries-** U.S. imports from Asia are way up from last month, though not a huge surprise since that's where most imports originate. China exported about 47.1% more in April and South Korea increased by 12.7%. What was a surprise was Japan. The third largest supplier of Asian goods to the United States actually decreased in ocean exports by about 3%. As for Europe, imports were also up about 4.5% this month with German exports down 2%, but Italian exports up over 16% from March. ([See More Regional Stats on Our Blog](#))
- U.S. Ports-** All of the top ten U.S. ports have posted increases from March to April. The nation's two largest ports, Los Angeles and Long Beach, both rose by over 40% in loaded TEU volume. The Port of Newark and New York, the third largest U.S. port, increased 18.5% and the Port of Savannah saw a significant rise in TEUs by over 26%. (You can read more about the [top 20 U.S. ports for 2012 in this report](#))
- Carriers-** In April, every ocean carrier in the top 20 posted increases in TEUs from March. At the top of the list once again was Maersk Line which had a 19.4% increase from last month and APL Co. which rose 25.9%. The largest increase in the top 10 was China Ocean Shipping Company posting a 47% rise in U.S. cargo imports...what a ship load!



About Zepol Corporation:

Zepol Corporation is a Minnesota-based company that works to provide the most complete and up-to-date U.S. trade information with four unique online subscription tools: TradeIQ Import, TradeIQ Export, TradeView, and ComplianceIQ. This release's data is derived from U.S. Customs and Border Protection's Automated Commercial Environment (ACE), excludes shipments from empty containers, excludes shipments labeled as freight remaining on board, and may contain other data anomalies.

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