



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Ports of Indiana 2021 shipments were up 33.6%.
Burns Harbor & Jeffersonville achieved highest shipment totals.
*Five-year totals equal 58.7 million tons for all three Ports***

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. (Jan.27, 2022) – The Ports of Indiana handled more than **11.2 million tons** of cargo in 2021, resulting in a **33.6% increase** from 2020. The **past five years' shipments** (2017-2021), including the hard-hit pandemic of 2020, have totaled more than **58.7 million tons**, which set a new five-year high for the three Ports. (In comparison, the previous five years' shipments (2012-2016) totaled 49.1 million tons.)

Both Burns Harbor and Jeffersonville achieved its highest shipment totals to date. In the history of Ports of Indiana, more than 259.8 million tons have been shipped using its three Ports.

Major cargo increases in 2021 for the Ports of Indiana overall included a rebound in coal (213%), salt (141%), steel (40%), grain (39%), minerals (23%), oils (21%) and limestone (20%). Additional increases included coke and project cargo such as wind turbines.

"The Ports of Indiana recovered very well after a down pandemic year," said Ports of Indiana chief executive officer Vanta E Coda II. "Burns Harbor and Jeffersonville had their best tonnage years ever thanks to our core businesses growing, a steady economy and new shipment opportunities taking advantage of our world-class infrastructure and value-add partners."

- On Lake Michigan, the **Ports of Indiana-Burns Harbor** handled **3.39 million tons** in 2021, up nearly 50% compared to 2020 and **reached its highest annual shipment total** since it began operation in 1970. (The second-highest year was in 2014.) The **past five years' shipments** (2017-2021) totaled **13.77 million tons**.

Limestone was up 92% from the previous year. Steel shipments continued to grow by 67% compared to 2020. Project cargo, including wind turbines and mega storage

tanks, was down compared to its best year in 2020, but remained well above all other prior years.

“For Burns Harbor, 2021 was ripe for opportunities,” said port direct Ryan McCoy. “We had several non-scheduled freight shipments that landed at just the right time. Our infrastructure was ready, and we were able to capture new projects. It was a banner year.”

The approximately \$20 million Burns Harbor expansion, partly funded by a FASTLANE grant, will continue to be developed over the next few years and include new shipping berths, a truck marshalling yard, 1,200-foot expansion of a cargo dock and a new cargo terminal with multimodal connections for handling cargo transfers between ships, barges, rail cars, and trucks. The construction of two new rail yards has already been completed.

[BURNS HARBOR PHOTO HERE](#)

- The **Ports of Indiana-Jeffersonville** on the Ohio River handled **3.22 million tons**, up 21.6% compared to 2020 and **reached its highest annual shipment total** since it began operation in 1985. (The second-highest year was in 2015.) Salt was up (59%) from 2020, while grain was up (49%), adding more than 1 million tons. Steel also increased (21.6%).

A \$10 million Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant initiated substantial changes in Jeffersonville a few years back. The grant provided partial funding for \$24 million in infrastructure enhancements that has added nearly four miles to the port’s existing 11-mile rail network. The project will enhance and overhaul the railroad infrastructure and intermodal capabilities throughout the entire port. **The project is in the final stages** and will officially be completed this spring. The scope included construction of:

- Siding to accommodate unit train delivery to and from the port
- Waterfront railroad infrastructure including two new rail loops
- Waterfront intermodal facility that more than doubles the capacity of bulk commodities transferred from rail cars to barges
- Rail yard that allows cargo to be transferred between trucks and rail cars

[JEFFERSONVILLE PHOTO HERE](#)

- Also on the Ohio River, the **Ports of Indiana-Mount Vernon** handled **4.65 million tons**, up 32% from 2020. Coal shipments were up 241%, especially in the third and fourth

quarters meeting export demand, yet down considerably compared to prior years. Salt (143%), minerals (73%), grain (90%), steel (32%) and fertilizer (21%) were all up in 2021. A large grain crop with strong prices prompted producers to invest in fertilizer, resulting in an increase for both products. A rebound in manufacturing drove steel coil volumes up.

Mount Vernon gained a new rail switching operator in November 2021. POI's common carrier Southwind Shortline Railroad, dba Port Terminal Railroad, is now operated by Squaw Creek Southern Railroad. Having rail switching services provided by Port Terminal Railroad aligns the Port's operations with federal common carrier standards and provides a viable economic basis to support the Port's rail infrastructure. It is customer and Port focused, which prioritizes operating standards, best-in-class services and public stewardship.

[MOUNT VERNON PHOTO HERE.](#)

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About the Ports of Indiana: The Ports of Indiana is a statewide port authority managing three ports on the Ohio River and Lake Michigan. Established in 1961, the Ports of Indiana is a self-funded enterprise dedicated to growing Indiana's economy by developing and maintaining a world-class port system.

Information: portsofindiana.com. Follow us on Twitter: [@PortsofIndiana](https://twitter.com/PortsofIndiana).

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