

THE CONNECTING FORCE BEHIND INTERMODAL FREIGHT

# THE BUSINESS OF INTERMODAL CONTINUES





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Intermodal Analyzed
With Larry Gross of Gross
Transportation Consulting

October 27, 2020, 2:00 PM ET

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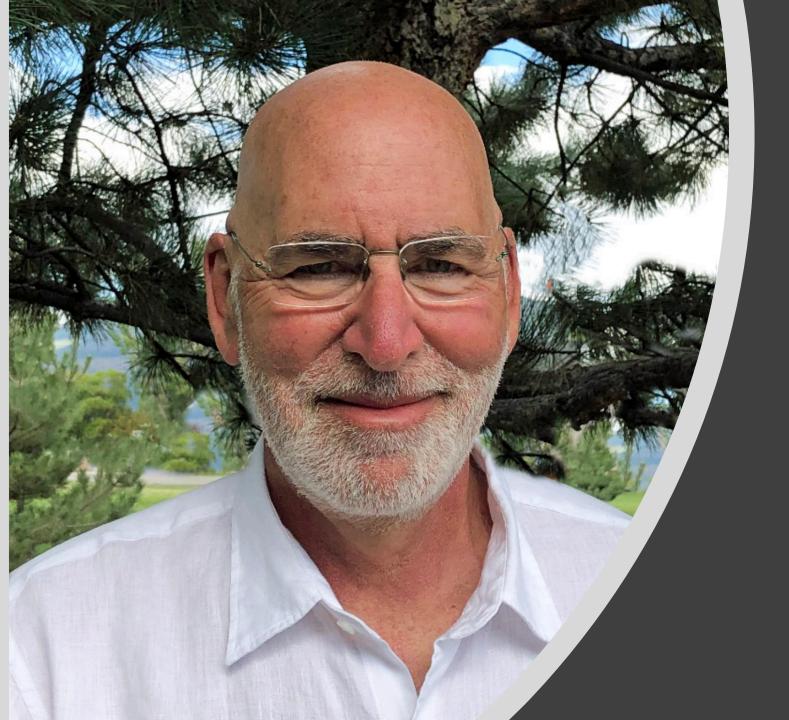




Our Moderator

Hal Pollard
Director of Education
IANA





Our Guest

Larry Gross
President
Gross
Transportation
Consulting

#### Hello!

Larry Gross:

President
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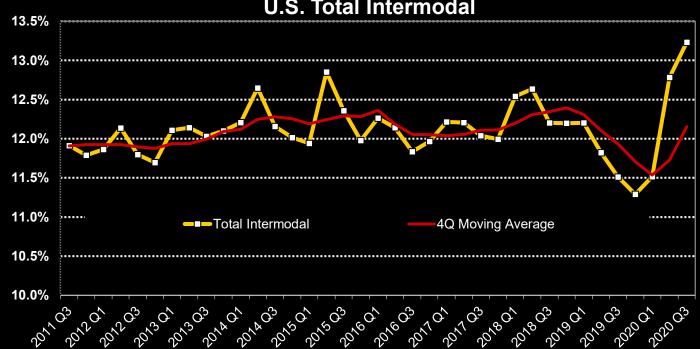
INTERMODAL ANALYZED

Intermodal Association of North America

October 27, 2020

## THE HEADLINE: INTERMODAL MARKET SHARE HAS SURGED





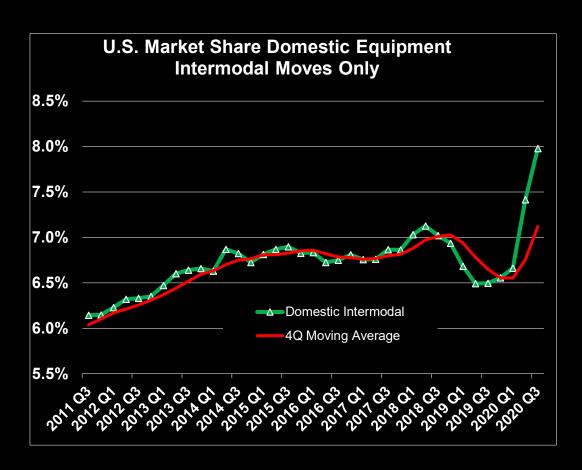
U.S. Intermodal Share:

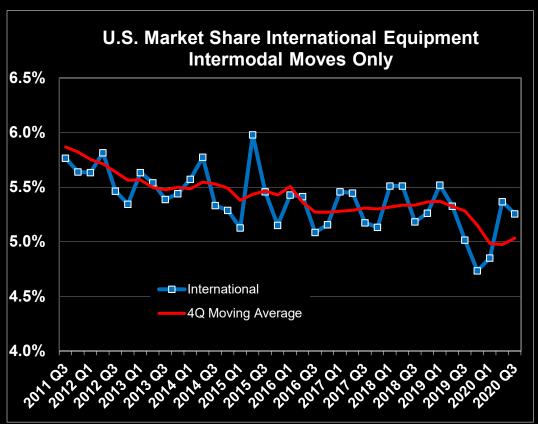
13.2% in Q3

Source: IANA ETSO, Transport Futures, GTC Analysis



## THE DOMESTIC SECTOR HAS PROVIDED MOST OF THE MARKET SHARE MOMENTUM





Source: IANA ETSO, Transport Futures, GTC Analysis



## THE MAGNITUDE OF THE RECENT DOMESTIC SURGE IS UNPRECEDENTED

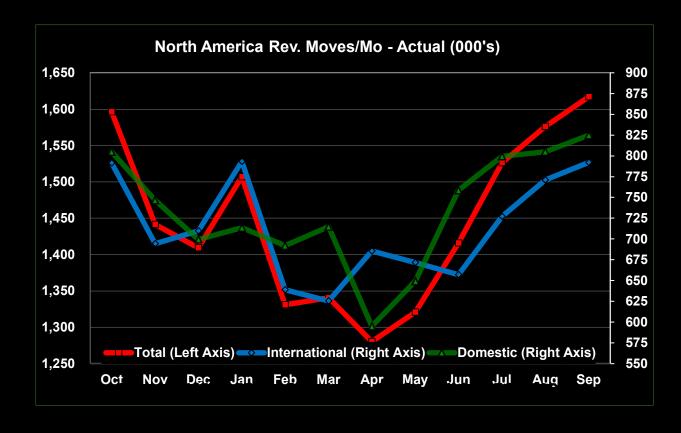
#### Intermodal U.S. Market Share - Domestic



Source: IANA ETSO, Transport Futures, GTC Analysis



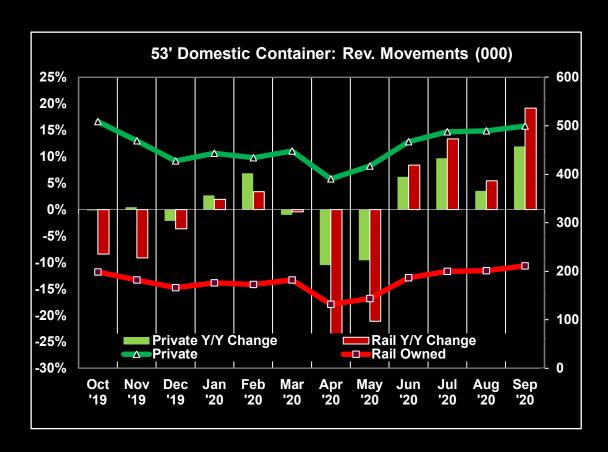
### DOMESTIC GREW AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER IPI ALSO GAINED, MOVING INTO THE BLACK

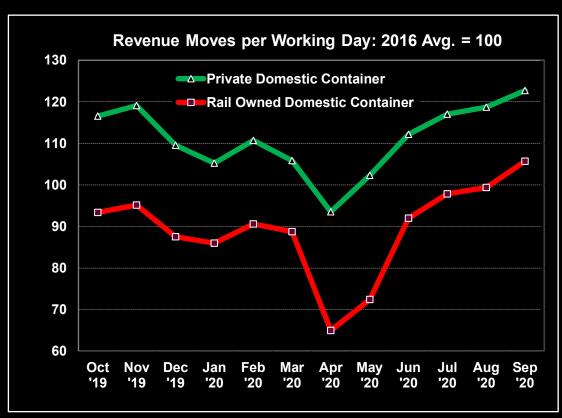


August 2020 M/M Y/Y International +2.7% +2.9% -0.7% +15.7%Short Trailer +1.3% +16.5% 53' Trailer +0.7% Total Trailer +16.3%+1.9% +12.5%Private Domestic Container +4.9% +19.1%Rail Domestic Container Total Domestic Container +2.8% +14.4% +2.5% +14.6% **Domestic Grand Total** +2.6% +8.6%

Source: IANA ETSO, GTC Analysis

#### RAIL-OWNED DOMESTIC CONTAINERS HAVE BEEN STAGING A RECOVERY

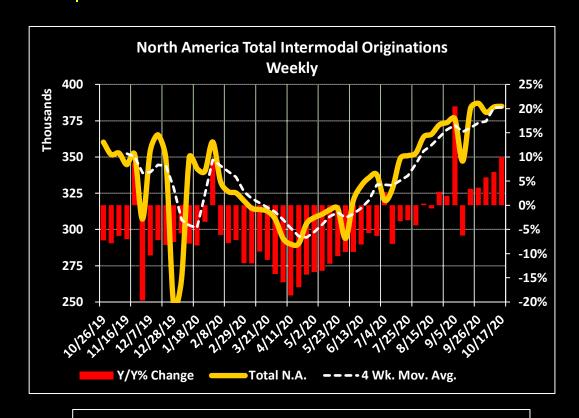




Source: IANA ETSO, GTC Analysis



### AAR WEEKLY DATA INDICATES THE RALLY MAY BE STARTING TO FLATTEN OUT





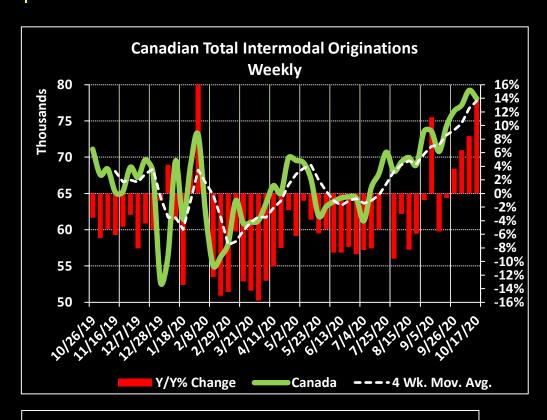
- Last Week: +10.1% Y/Y
- Last 4 Weeks: +6.6% Y/Y

Source: AAR, GTC Analysis

- Last Week: +11.3% Y/Y
- Last 4 Weeks: +8.0% Y/Y



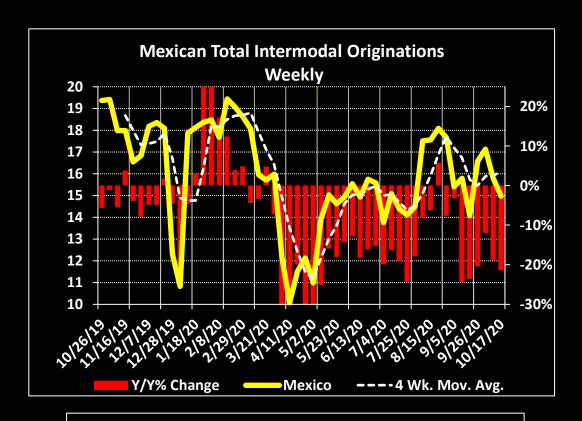
#### CANADA HAS BEEN GROWING STRONGLY BUT MEXICO HAS BEEN HOBBLED BY PROTESTS





Last 4 Weeks: +8.0% Y/Y

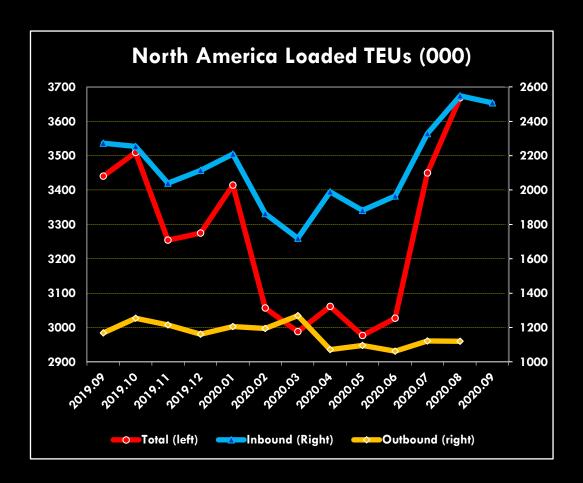
Source: AAR, GTC Analysis

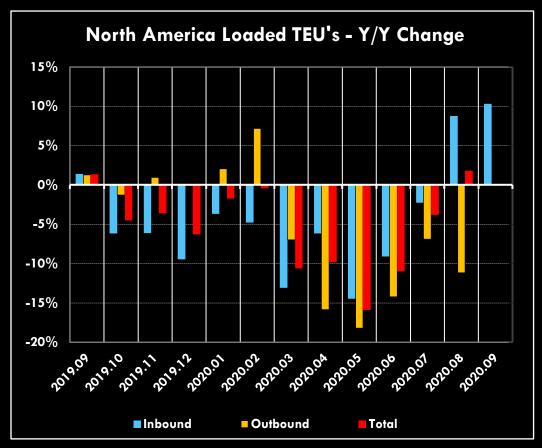


- Last Week: -21.4% Y/Y
- Last 4 Weeks: -18.2% Y/Y



#### IMPORTS EASED IN SEPTEMBER BUT THE Y/Y GAINS REMAINED VERY STRONG, NOT SO FOR EXPORTS





Source: Port Reports, IHS PIERS, GTC Analysis



## U.S. WEST COAST IMPORT SHARE STILL LOOKING STRONG IN SEPTEMBER

September Import TEUs	M/M	Y/Y
North America	-1.6%	+10.3%
LA/LB	+1.4%	+18.0%
Nor Cal	-2.5%	+10.6%
PNW	+4.7%	-12.2%
W. Can	-7.8%	-1.6%
Northeast	0.0%	+12.6%
Southeast	-8.8%	+5.6%
Gulf	+1.0%	+12.5%

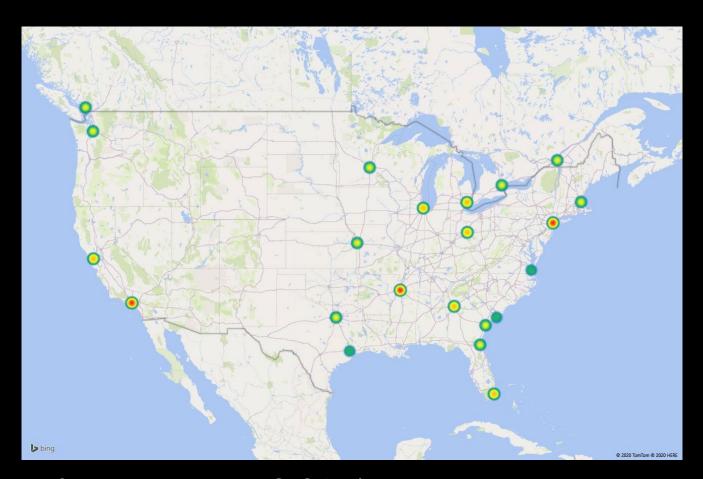
U.S. West Coast: Share of Inbound N.A. TEU



Source: Port Reports, IHS PIERS, GTC Analysis



### DRAYAGE DEMAND INDEX SHOWS WILDLY VARIABLE CONDITIONS



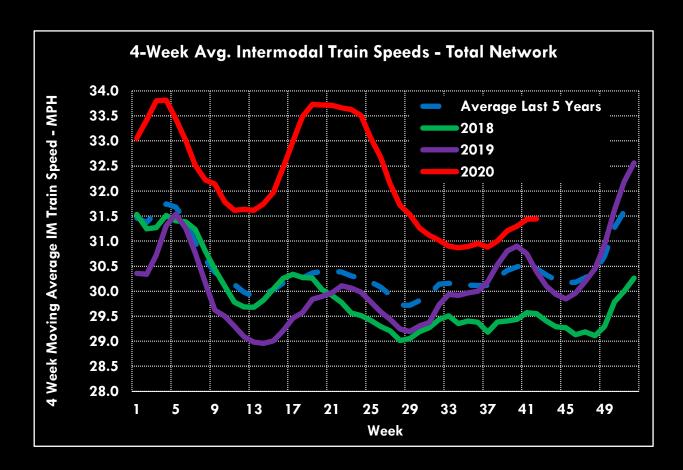
0 to 50	Blue	Loose
51 to 100	Green	Low Normal
101 to 150	Yellow	High Normal
150 to 200	Orange	Tight
Above 200	Red	Very Tight

- Critical conditions in LA, Memphis, NYC Montreal improved
- Generally placid elsewhere

Source: Drayage.com, GTC Analysis



#### INTERMODAL TRAIN SPEEDS HAVE SEEN SEASONAL IMPROVEMENT



- Average speed most recent week: 31.4 mph
- 3.3%/0.9 mph better than 5-year average
- 3.5%/1.0 mph better than prior year
- But terminal delays and rolled cargo are problematic

Source: STB EP 724 Rail Service Issues Reports, GTC Analysis



## THE STARS HAVE ALIGNED IN FAVOR OF INTERMODAL

- Recovering demand for long-haul trucking has collided with capacity reductions, resulting in market tightness
- Depleted supply chains needed restocking
- Heavy import flows benefited intermodal disproportionally
- Intermodal –friendly port routings have compounded the benefit

## READING THE TEA LEAVES PEAK SEASON

- Domestic achieved peak levels in September, and further growth appears unlikely due to capacity issues
- But volume may stay stronger for longer than normal
- Imports would typically decline from August through December, but does normal mean anything this year?
- Inbound Trans-Pacific volumes are reported to be strong.
- Potential upside for IPI

### A MULTITUDE OF CONCERNS REMAIN REGARDING THE LONGER TERM

- Virus continues to accelerate as weather cools and people congregate indoors.
- Measures to stem the spread are meeting political resistance and general "Pandemic Fatigue"
- Vaccine efforts on track but will not have concrete widespread impacts until mid-next year at best
- Near-term continuance of Federal economic support remains out of reach politically
- Rehiring appears stalled out at the moment
- Foreclosure and small business bankruptcy waves still looming
- Societal fears still high
- Election anxiety "off the charts"

For me, the balance appears negative. But I didn't see the freight wave coming either. Caveat Emptor!



#### INTERMODAL IN DEPTH

#### Intermodal In Depth is a monthly analytical report that summarizes the latest trends

Drawing from a variety of data sources, Intermodal In Depth provides a timely and detailed look at the key drivers of the North American intermodal sector. More than just data, Intermodal In Depth goes deep to analyze what the data means, providing the reader with a thorough understanding of the current state of Intermodal. All the information and analysis presented in one convenient package.



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#### Thanks! Questions?

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# Q&A

Please type your questions in the control panel



#### For more information about IANA data, including and the Volume Analyzer & ETSO Database And now:



Visit: <u>intermodal.org/data-statistics</u> or e-mail us at: **info@intermodal.org** 

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