

2026 Economic Impact Study Public Ports



Industries that Depend on Missouri's Waterways

- Agriculture
- Chemical Manufacturing
- Aggregates
- Metals

Missouri Ranks

10th

in the Nation for
Inland Waterway Miles



1,050

Inland Waterway Miles



Missouri's 1,050-mile Inland Waterway connects state shippers/receivers to the entire Mississippi River system and its tributaries – including the Ohio, Tennessee, and Illinois Rivers, as well as the Gulf Coast ports (New Orleans and Mobile).



1.888.MO.PORTS

MoPorts@modot.mo.gov

www.modot.org/lrtp-sfrp

SFRP State Freight & Rail Plan

Statewide Economic Impacts

Total annual economic impacts generated by Missouri Public Ports:



Every Invested
\$1 equals
\$74
ROI
Return on Investment

The Public Ports produce \$74 in economic output for every \$1 of capital investment.



Generates
\$5.6B
Economic Output



Provides
\$1.5B
Income



Generates
\$475.9M
Tax Revenue



Supports
31K
Jobs

Cargo Activity

Beyond at-port transport and warehousing services, Missouri's ports facilitate the movement of inbound materials and outbound shipments. This is particularly crucial for agricultural exports, which rely on port transport to reach their intended markets due to the cost-effectiveness and logistical efficiency of port transport.



As of 2025, an annual average of 6.4 million tons of freight is moved through Missouri Public Ports. This freight is valued at over \$2.7 billion.

Exports account for 82% of the total tonnage and 74% of the total freight value, showing the dependence of public ports for exporting bulk goods.



Top Export Commodities	Tonnage	Value
Grains	1.9M	\$362M
Earth Material	976K	\$798M
Soybeans	961K	\$563M



Top Import Commodities	Tonnage	Value
Fertilizer	975K	\$493M
Crude Petroleum	76K	\$31M
Earth Material	46K	\$37M