

# Intermodal Analyzed

December 14, 2021, 2:00 PM ET



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# Housekeeping

- Audience will be muted
- A question & answer session will follow the presentation
- Submit questions by clicking the Q&A icon at the bottom of your screen
- A recording of this webinar, including the slides, will be available in the near future





### Today's Presenter

### Larry Gross

President & Founder

Gross Transportation Consulting





## Hello!

**Larry Gross:** 

President Gross Transportation Consulting

516-455-8988 Igross@intermodalindepth.com

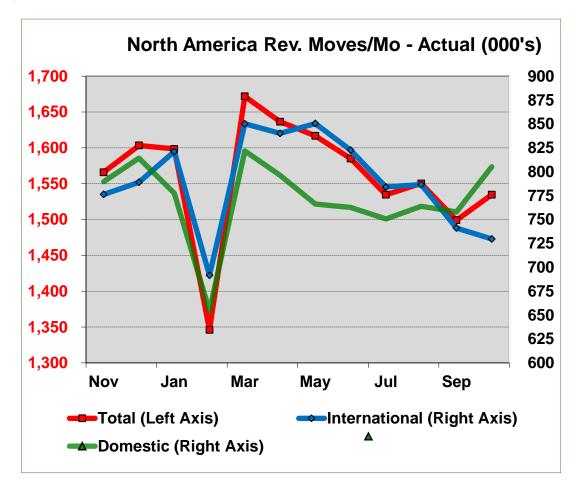
@Intermodalist

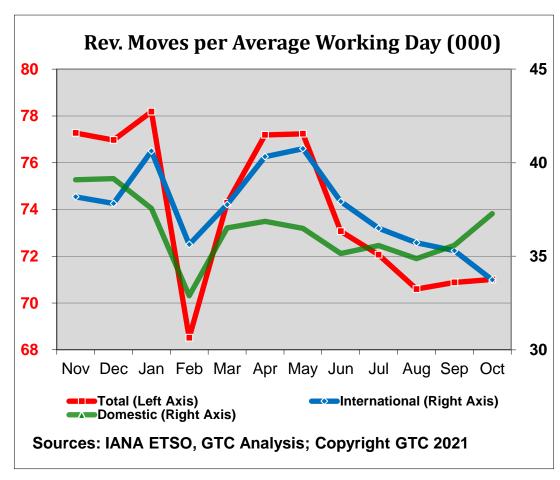
INTERMODAL ANALYZED

For: IANA

December 14, 2021

### 2021 HAS BEEN A UNIQUE YEAR THUS FAR

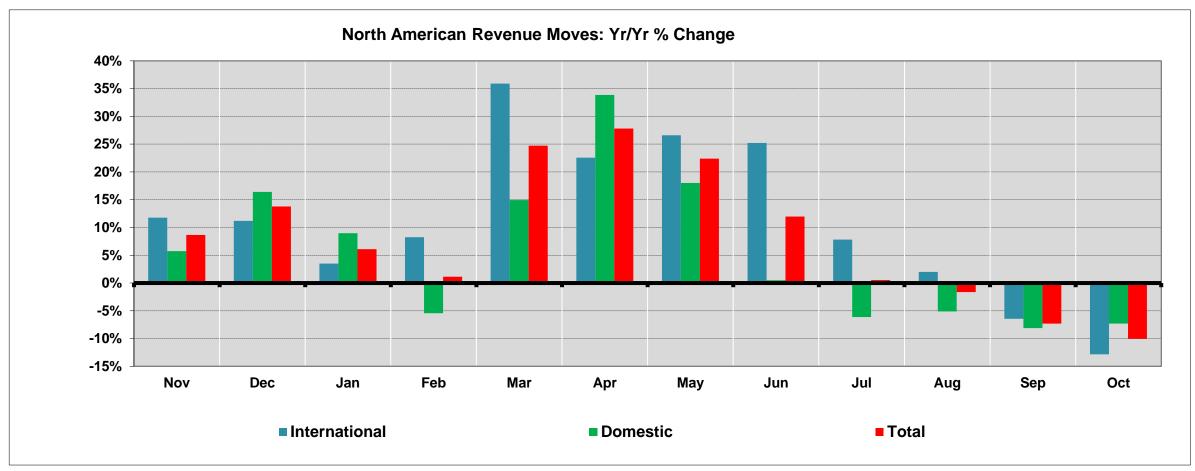




Sources: IANA ETSO, GTC Analysis



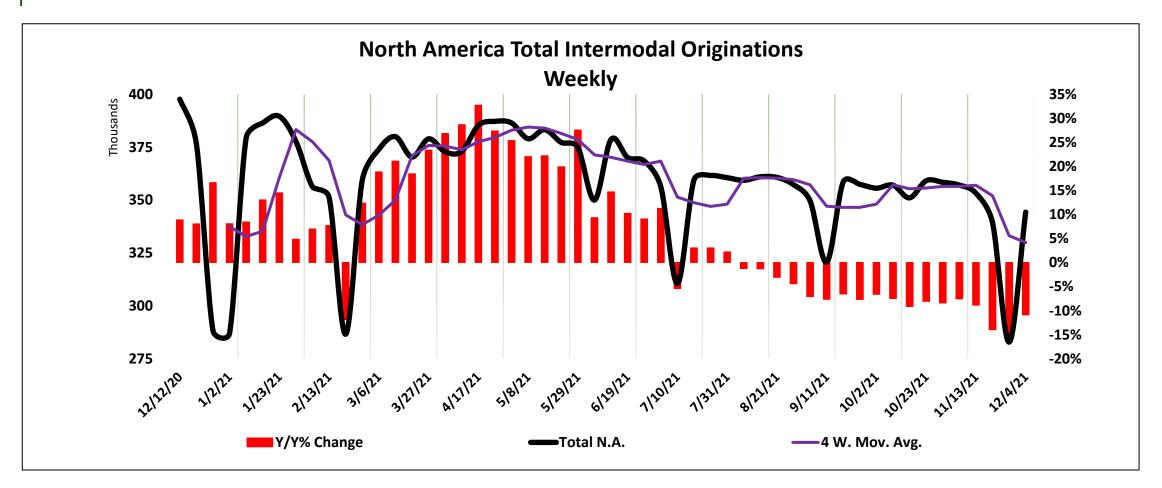
### 2021 HAS BEEN A UNIQUE YEAR THUS FAR



**Sources: IANA ETSO, GTC Analysis** 



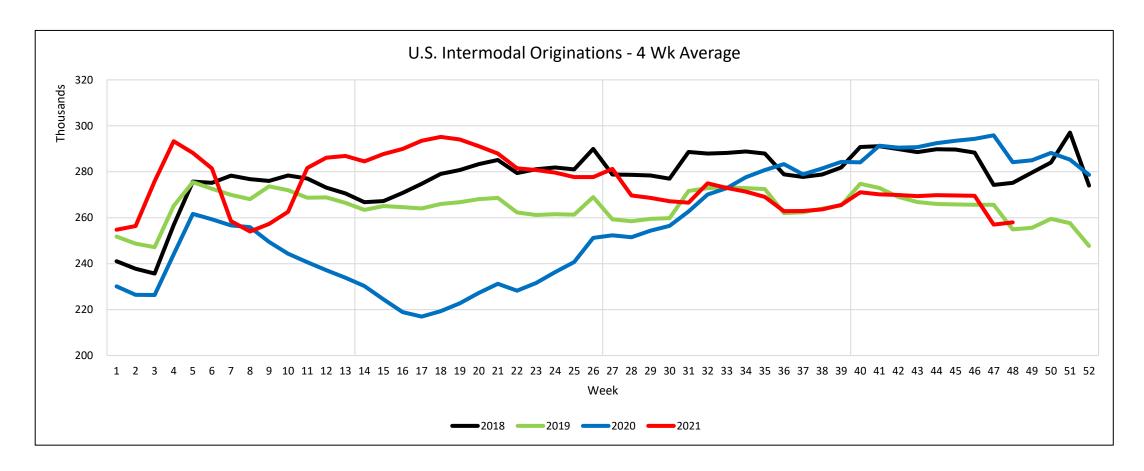
### NORMAL PEAK SEASON MIA IN 2021



Sources: AAR, GTC Analysis, Copyright GTC 2021



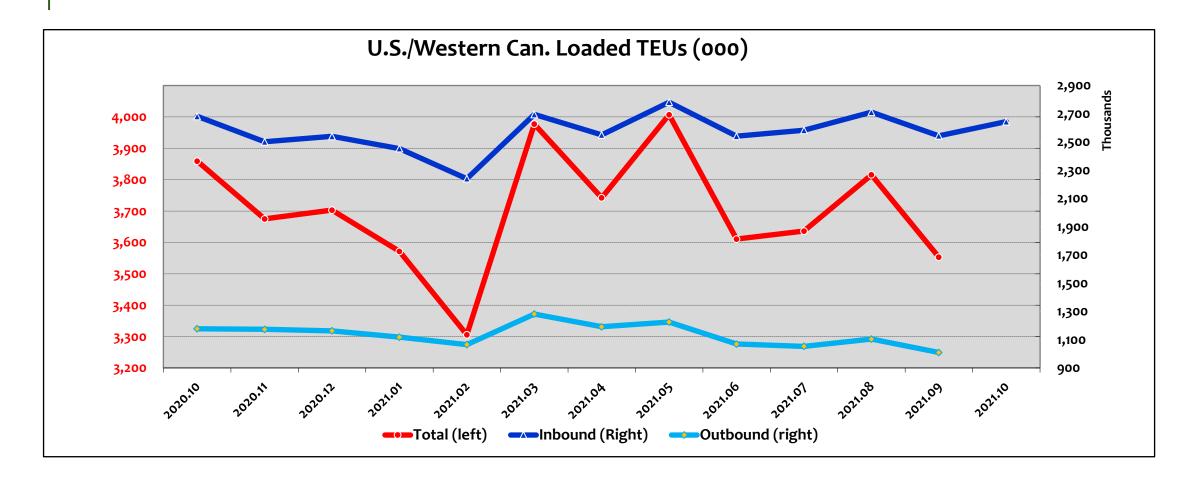
# CURRENT VOLUMES ARE NOT REMARKABLE



Sources: AAR, GTC Analysis, Copyright GTC 2021



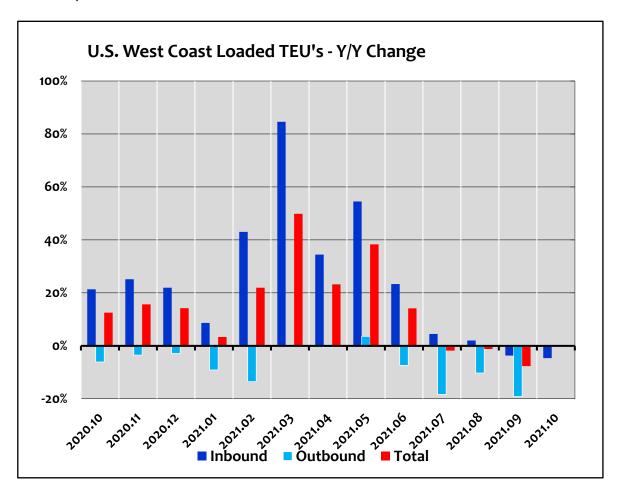
#### INBOUND TEUS ARE LIMITED BY SYSTEM CAPACITY



Sources: Port Reports, IHS PIERS Data, GTC Analysis



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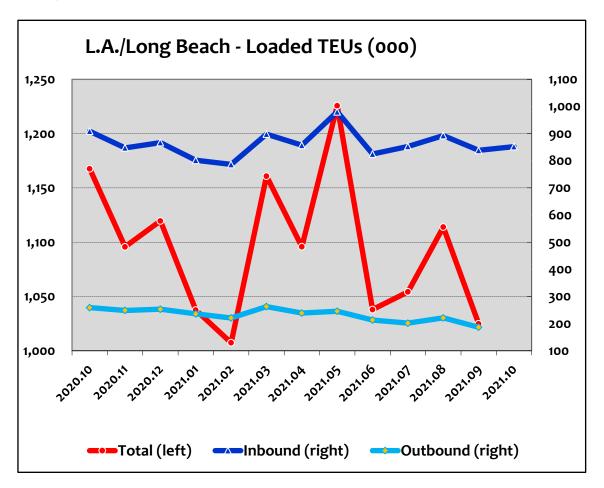


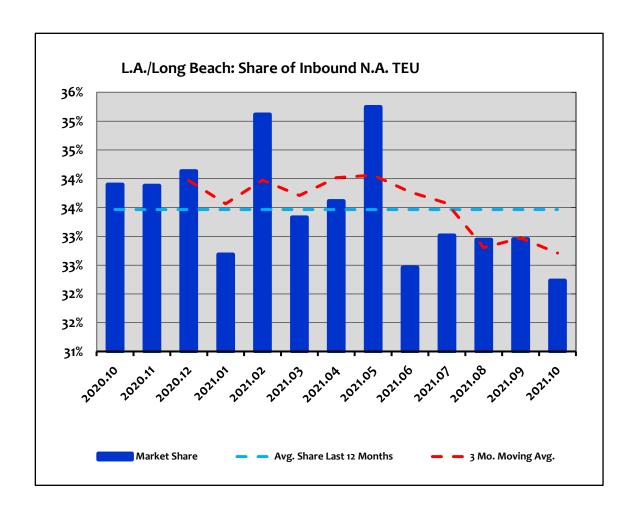
East/Gulf Coast Loaded TEU's - Y/Y Change 50% 40% 30% 20% 10% -10%

Sources: Port Reports, IHS PIERS Data, GTC Analysis



# L.A./LONG BEACH IS THE EPICENTER OF THE PROBLEM

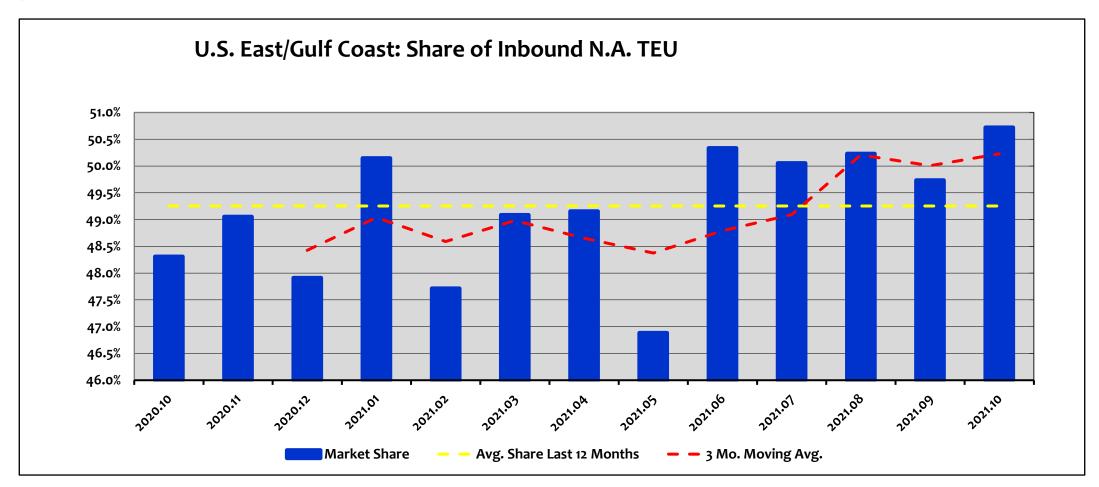




Sources: Port Reports, IHS PIERS Data, GTC Analysis



#### INBOUND TEU TIDE IS SHIFTING EASTWARD

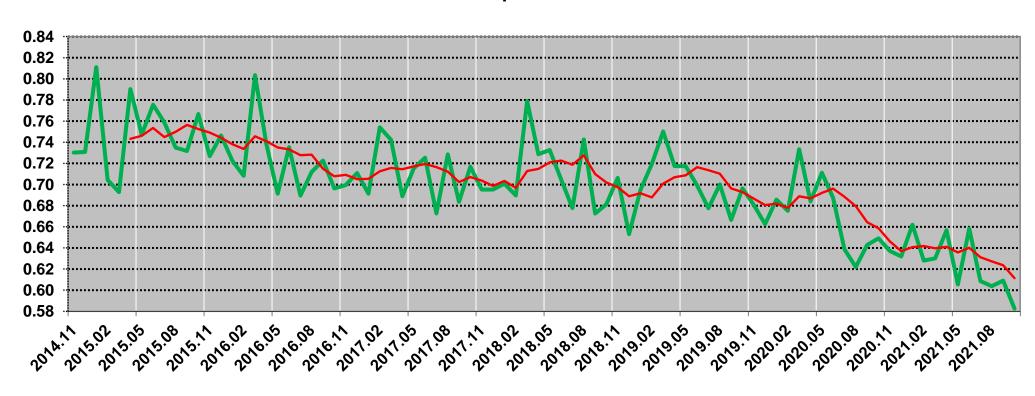


Sources: Port Reports, IHS PIERS Data, GTC Analysis



### INTERMODAL PARTICIPATION IN IMPORT FLOWS HAS DECLINED

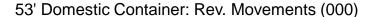
**IPI + SoCal Transload TEUs vs. Import TEUs** 

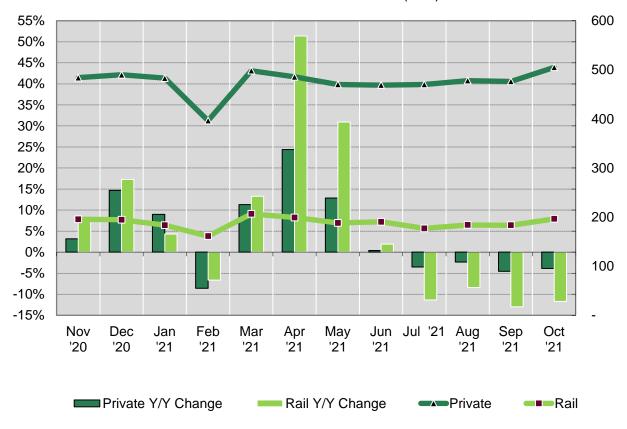


Sources: IANA ETSO; IHS Markit PIERS Data, GTC Analysis

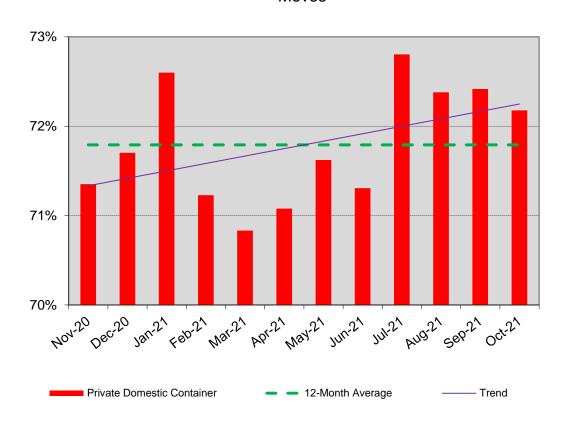


## LOWER EQUIPMENT VELOCITY IS CHEWING UP DOMESTIC CONTAINER CAPACITY





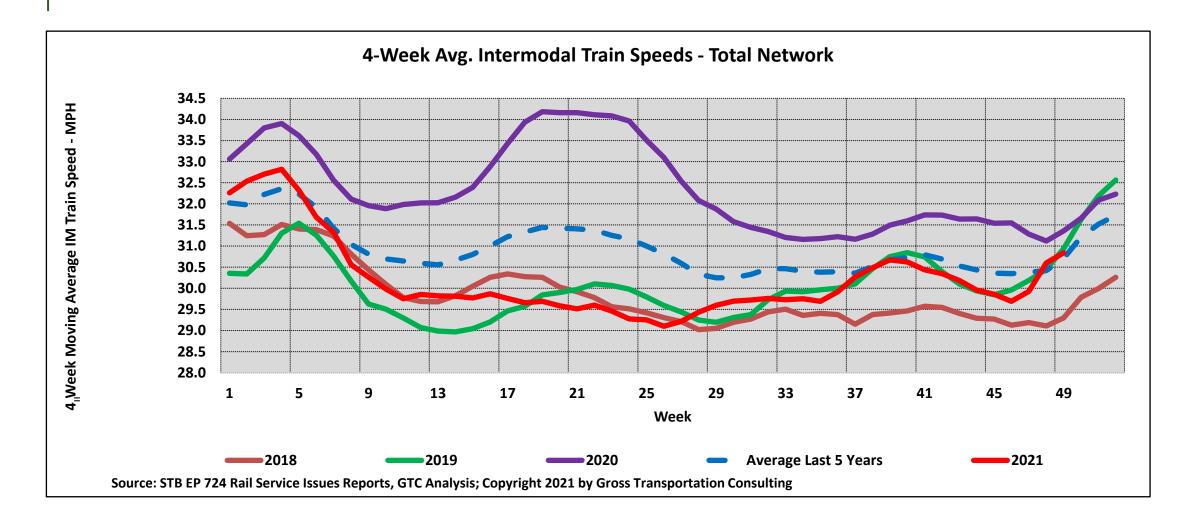
#### Private Domestic Container Share of Domestic Container Moves



Source: IANA ETSO, GTC Analysis



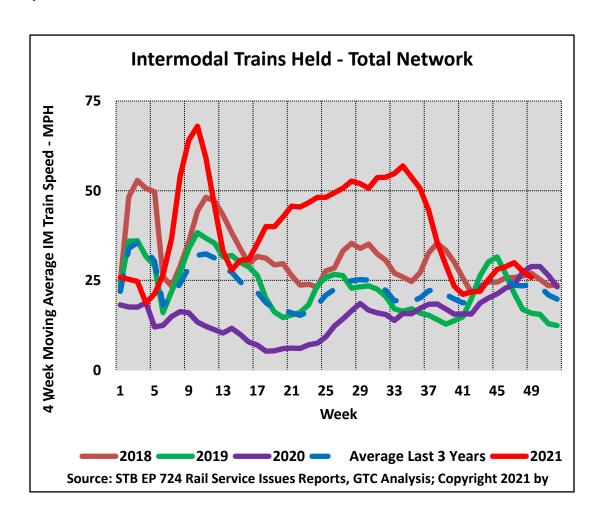
#### STB SERVICE STATS PRESENTING A MIXED PICTURE

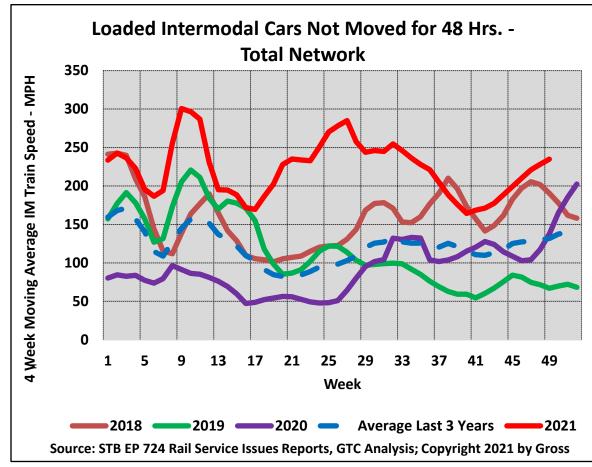






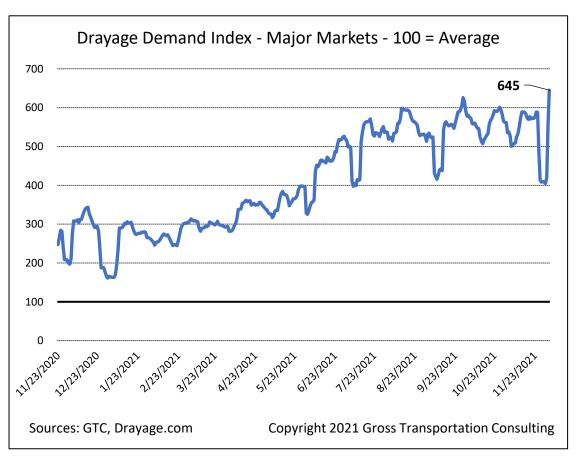
#### STB SERVICE STATS PRESENTING A MIXED PICTURE







#### DRAYAGE IS STILL IN NOSEBLEED TERRITORY

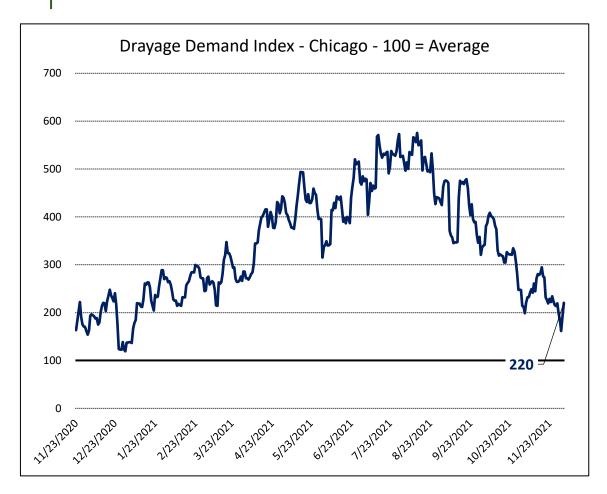


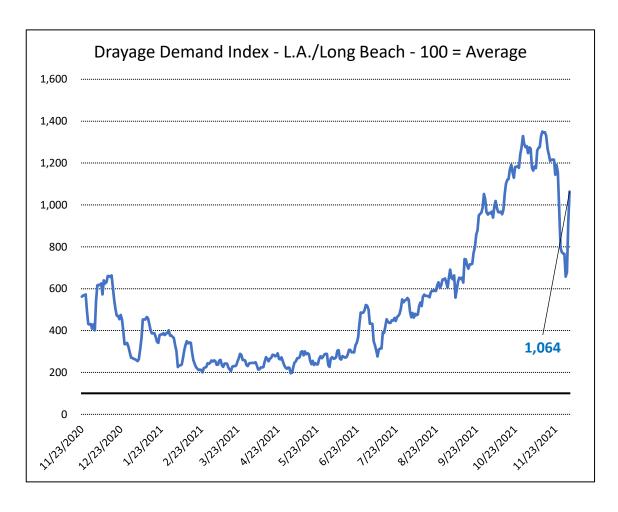


Source: Drayage.com, GTC Analysis



### COASTAL REGIONS FARING WORSE THAN INLAND

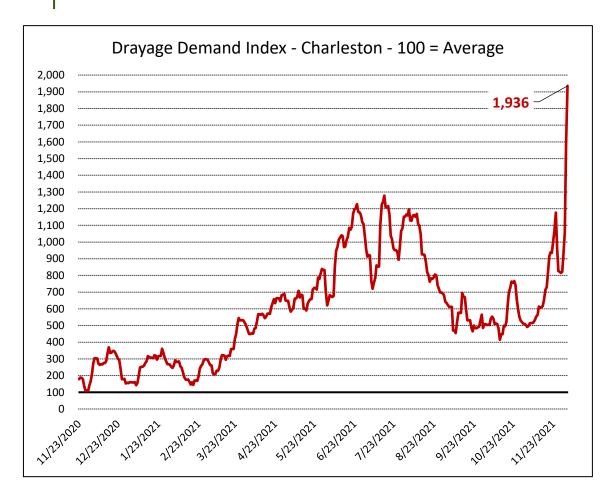


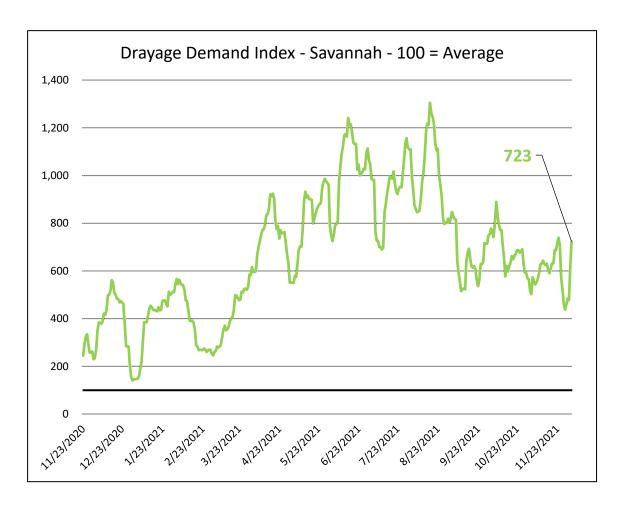


Source: Drayage.com, GTC Analysis



#### INTERESTING SITUATION IN THE SOUTHEAST

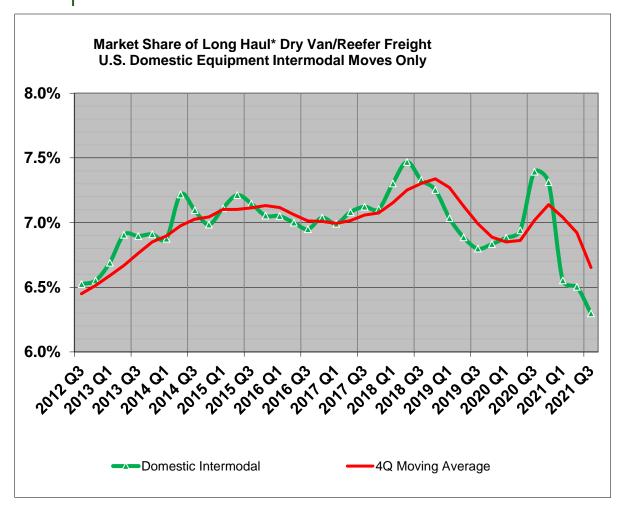


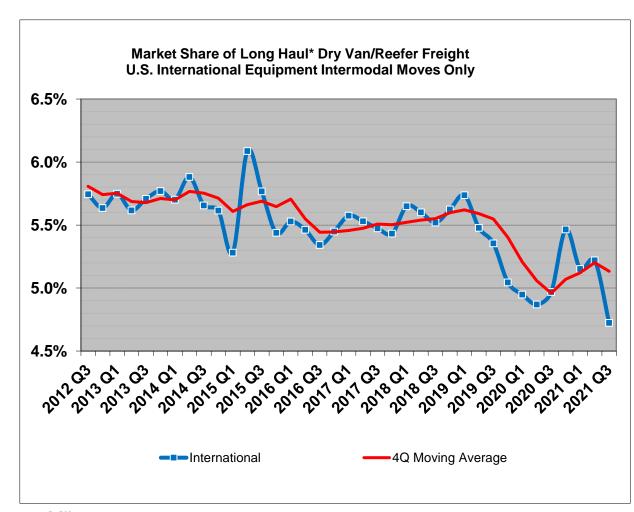


Source: Drayage.com, GTC Analysis



#### TOTAL INTERMODAL SHARE IS AT 11.0% - LOWEST SINCE 2009 Q4





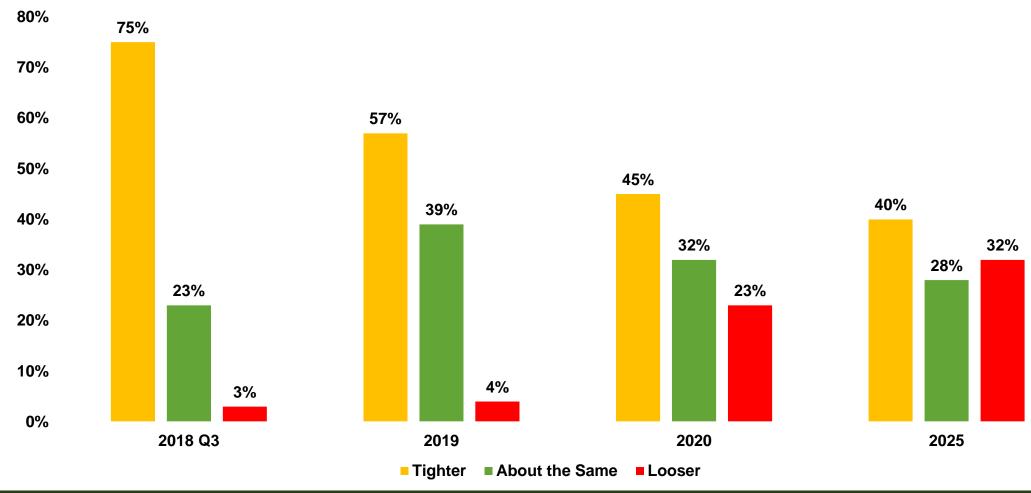
Sources: GTC, Transport Futures, ETSO Report





<sup>\*</sup> Long Haul = 500+ Miles

# REMINDER: THIS WON'T LAST FOREVER 2018-06 SURVEY: TRUCKING CAPACITY FORECAST







### WHY DID THE CRISIS OCCUR?

- Quick snap-back from pandemic lockdown "recession" caught everyone flat-footed
- Years of "right-sizing" has left the system fragile and lacking surge capacity
- Once we fell behind, congestion and bottlenecks sapped productivity, making recovery even harder
- Normally, the system eventually gets a break to recover. Not in 2020/2021!



### WHO'S TO BLAME FOR THE CRISIS?

- Shippers Decisions made sense individually but collectively created a problem
- Ocean Carriers Optimized their port-to-port operations without regard for inland consequences
- Ports Fell behind and never caught up
- Chassis Lessors Disfunctional system and incentives impeded operations
- Railroads PSR practices proved incapable of fully dealing with the surge
- Dray Carriers Reduced turns made hanging onto drivers difficult



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### LOOKING FORWARD - NEAR TERM

- Without substantial improvement in throughput (unlikely) volume will remain behind prior year for the rest of the year.
- We will have a 2021 plateau rather than a peak.
- Recovery not likely until volume begins to subside in Q1 2022 or Q2.
- Rate environment will continue to be very strong.

### LOOKING FORWARD - NEXT YEAR

- The current seemingly endless surge will end.
- Once network fluidity is restored, substantial capacity will be released, plus substantial additional private domestic capacity will come on stream.
- Trucking capacity utilization will loosen.
- Normal competitive conditions will resurface.
- Things will feel very, very different than they do now perhaps closer to 2019 than 2021.

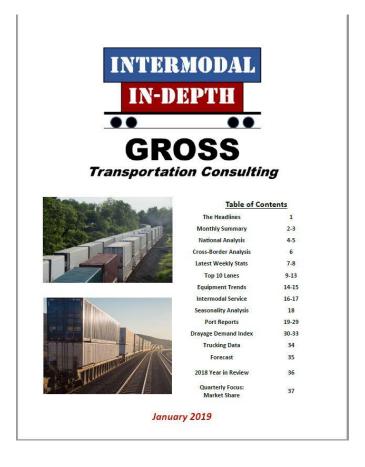


### LONG-TERM CONSIDERATIONS

- Trucking capacity will be more abundant, but truck rates will not significantly fall
- Intermodal's reputation has taken a major hit, but the damage is reparable
- Lower share represents growth opportunity once the industry gets its act back together
- If at the end of all this, intermodal returns to "business as usual" and no significant changes result, that will be a major failure
- Major supply chain "givens" are open to modification after the crisis. Examples include "just in time" inventories and globalization.



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# Thanks! Questions?

Larry Gross:

President
Gross Transportation Consulting

516-455-8988 Igross@intermodalindepth.com

@Intermodalist

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# QAA

Enter your questions using the Q&A button





# For more information about IANA data, including the Volume Analyzer & ETSO Database

Visit: intermodal.org/data-statistics

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THE CONNECTING FORCE BEHIND INTERMODAL FREIGHT

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