



SECURING PORTS AND SHIPPING

June 2006

➤ **An enormous volume of goods flows through U.S. seaports.**

In 2004, about 1.4 billion tons of freight flowed through 361 U.S. cargo ports. Much of it was shipped inside 20 million ocean cargo containers processed each year at container terminals. Goods in containers account for 59.3% of the total value of all U.S. maritime trade and 14.9% of its total volume. Accordingly, container trade receives the bulk of the attention in debates about port security.

➤ **Combined, California's largest ports form the 5th largest container facility in the world.**

The adjacent ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach (see map) are located on San Pedro Bay. Together, they processed more than 7.2 million containers in 2005. More than half of these went through Terminal Island, which has limited access and is therefore more vulnerable to a terrorist attack. The economic cost of such an attack on Terminal Island could total more than \$40 billion in the first year. It is unlikely, however, that such an attack would have national economic repercussions.

➤ **About 70 percent of all containers unloaded in California arrive under provisions of the Container Security Initiative.**

CSI is a federal program that formally enlists the help of foreign ports in screening containers that are destined for the United States. Currently, 42 foreign ports participate in CSI. More than 70 percent of containers unloaded in California arrive from these ports, about 6 percent of more than 750 ports worldwide that ship containers to California.

➤ **Developing security and response strategies at the San Pedro Bay port complex requires coordination among 15 separate government agencies.**

These include nine at the federal level, among them the Coast Guard, Customs and Border Protection, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and the Transportation Security Administration; the California Highway Patrol and California Lands Commission at the state level; and local agencies such as the Los Angeles County sheriff's and fire departments, Los Angeles city police and fire departments, City of Long Beach police and fire departments, the Los Angeles Port Police Department and Long Beach Harbor Patrol.

➤ **California's ports have received significant funding for security through federal grant programs.**

The federal government has helped finance port security improvements through a grant program, but California's share of these grants is far below its share of containerized trade, or even overall maritime trade. In the years since September 11, California ports have received \$150 million out of \$779 million in total grants through three programs—the Port Security Grant Program, the Urban Areas Security Initiative, and Operation Safe Commerce. California ports received an additional \$5 million of federal money passed through a state grant program.

Los Angeles/Long Beach Port Complex



California's Share of Trade and of Federal Security Grants

