



BULLETIN

FACILITATION OF TRANSPORT AND TRADE IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Port container traffic in Latin America and the Caribbean 2011

I. Share of Latin America and the Caribbean in world container port throughput 2011

In 2011, ports in Latin America and the Caribbean handled 41.3 million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs), up 11.1% over 2010. Despite growth, the region continued to account for about 7% of the world total, as table 1 indicates. In 2011, Asia (except China) led world container traffic, with a 31.1% share, or 175 million TEUs; followed by China, with 29.1% (164 million TEUs); Northern Europe, with 11% (62 million TEUs). Asia (including China) accounted for over 60% of the world's container port traffic, followed by Europe (including the Mediterranean), with 18.2%.

Table 1
SHARE OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN IN WORLD
CONTAINER PORT THROUGHPUT
(Thousands of TEUs)

	2010	2011 ^a	Percent change	2010 share	2011 share
North America (excl. Mexico)	44 010	45 000	2.2	8.5%	8.0%
Northern Europe	57 325	62 000	8.2	11.1%	11.0%
Mediterranean	42 411	46 650	10.0	8.2%	8.3%
China	147 585	164 000	11.1	28.5%	29.1%
Asia (excl. China)	161 199	175 855	9.1	31.1%	31.2%
Latin America and the Caribbean	37 205	41 317	11.1	7.2%	7.3%
Other regions	25 734	27 140	5.5	5.0%	4.8%
World Total	517 845	563 779	8.9	100.0%	100.0%

Source: Infrastructure Services Unit, ECLAC, 2012.

^a Estimate.

This issue of the *FAL Bulletin* analyses port container traffic in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2011.

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I. Share of Latin America and the Caribbean in world container port throughput 2011



II. Port container traffic ranking for Latin America and the Caribbean (2009-2011)



III. Ranking for port traffic in the Caribbean (2010-2011)



IV. Average annual change 1990-2010



UNITED NATIONS

ECLAC

The ECLAC ranking for 2011 includes information for 143 ports in Latin America and the Caribbean. This year, special efforts were made to collect more and better figures from Caribbean countries. On this basis, for total (international traffic, empty, transshipment and cabotage) port traffic, Brazil led, handling 19.1% of the region's total, followed by Panama (16%) and Mexico (10.23%), as table 2 shows. Chile (8.21%) was fourth, followed by Colombia (5.16%) and Argentina (5.21%). For the Caribbean, Jamaica stood

first at the subregional level and seventh (4.58%) at the regional level, followed by the Bahamas (2.7%), mainly reflecting transshipment of containers in its ports. The full list follows (countries for which figures were not available in our database are not included).

According to our ranking for port container traffic in Latin America and the Caribbean 2011, the region's 20 main container ports posted 12.3% growth, with just two of the 20 experiencing a slight decline compared to 2010.

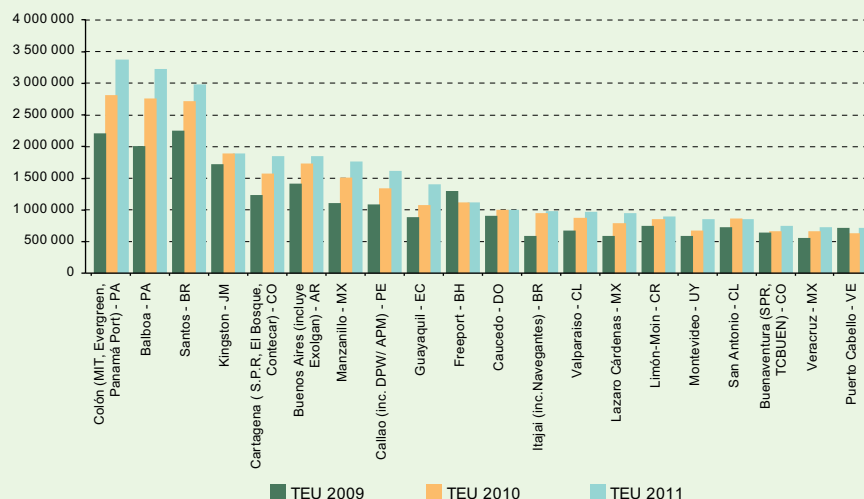
Table 2
CONTAINER TRAFFIC IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN 2011, BY COUNTRY
(Thousands of TEUs)

Country	TEUs	Share of regional total
Brazil	7 909	19.14%
Panama	6 630	16.05%
Mexico	4 226	10.23%
Chile	3 393	8.21%
Colombia	2 845	6.89%
Argentina	2 131	5.16%
Jamaica	1 892	4.58%
Peru	1 805	4.37%
Ecuador	1 527	3.70%
Dominican Republic	1 382	3.34%
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	1 335	3.23%
Guatemala	1 176	2.85%
Bahamas	1 116	2.70%
Costa Rica	1 069	2.59%
Uruguay	861	2.08%
Honduras	663	1.60%
Cuba	247	0.60%
Trinidad and Tobago	171	0.41%
El Salvador	160	0.39%
Guadaloupe	151	0.36%
Curaçao	94	0.23%
Nicaragua	84	0.20%
Barbados	77	0.19%
Saint Maarten	77	0.19%
Saint Lucia	60	0.15%
Guyana	60	0.14%
Aruba	54	0.13%
Caiman Islands	45	0.11%
Belize	34	0.08%
Antigua and Barbuda	22	0.05%
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	16	0.04%
Saint Kitts and Nevis	3	0.01%
Anguilla	3	0.01%
Total Latin America and the Caribbean	41 317	100.00%

Source: Gabriel Pérez Salas, with information from Maritime Profile #48 (April 2012), ECLAC.

Figure 1

CHANGE IN PORT CONTAINER TRAFFIC IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



Source: Gabriel Pérez Salas with information from Maritime Profile #48 (April 2012), ECLAC.

2. Port container traffic ranking for Latin America and the Caribbean (2009-2011)

Table 3 shows the 2011 ranking for the 100 main container-handling ports in Latin America and the Caribbean. As usual, ECLAC combined data from public sources, ports

themselves and national organizations. The complete, most current version of this ranking is available on line, at: <http://www.ECLAC.org/id.asp?id=45897>

Table 3
PORT CONTAINER TRAFFIC IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN 2011, BY PORT
(Thousands of TEUs)

Port	Country	2009	2010	2011	Percentage change
1 Colón (MIT, Evergreen, Panamá Port)	Panama	2 210 720	2 810 657	3 371 714	20.00
2 Balboa	Panama	2 011 778	2 758 506	3 232 265	17.20
3 Santos	Brazil	2 255 862	2 715 568	2 985 922	10.00
4 Cartagena (inc. S.P.R., El Bosque, Contecar,ZP)	Colombia	1 237 873	1 581 401	1 853 342	17.20
5 Buenos Aires (inc. Exolgan)	Argentina	1 412 462	1 730 831	1 851 687	7.00
6 Manzanillo	Mexico	1 110 356	1 511 378	1 762 508	16.60
7 Kingston	Jamaica	1 728 042	1 891 770	1 756 832 ^a	-7.10
8 Callao (inc. DPW/ APM)	Peru	1 089 838	1 346 186	1 616 165	20.10
9 Guayaquil	Ecuador	884 100	1 123 098	1 405 762	25.2
10 Freeport	Bahamas	1 297 000	1 125 000	1 116 272	-0.80
11 Itajai (inc. Navegantes)	Brazil	593 359	957 130	983 985	2.80
12 Valparaiso	Chile	677 432	878 787	973 012	10.70
13 Caucedo	Dominican Republic	906 279	1 004 901	960 000 ^b	-4.50
14 Lazaro Cárdenas	Mexico	591 467	796 023	953 497	19.80
15 San Antonio	Chile	729 033	870 719	928 432	6.60
16 Limón-Moin	Costa Rica	748 029	858 176	901 330	5.00
17 Montevideo	Uruguay	588 410	671 952	861 164	28.20
18 Buenaventura (inc. SPR, TCBUEN and ZP)	Colombia	647 323	662 821	748 305	12.90
19 Veracruz	Mexico	564 315	662 537	732 538	10.60



Table 3 (continued)

Port	Country	2009	2010	2011	Percentage change
20 Puerto Cabello	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	715 739	629 895	721 500	14.50
21 Paranaguá	Brazil	630 597	546 564	681 678	24.70
22 Rio Grande	Brazil	629 586	647 188	618 039	-4.50
23 Puerto Cortes	Honduras	484 148	538 853	576 752	7.00
24 Altamira	Mexico	400 968	488 013	547 612	12.20
25 Santo Tomas de Castilla	Guatemala	329 946	431 002	494 908	14.80
26 La Guaira	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	371 669	328 447	467 300	42.30
27 San Vicente (SVTI)	Chile	494 275	363 557	425 967	17.20
28 Suape	Brazil	242 765	324 191	417 666	28.80
29 Rio de Janeiro	Brazil	350 295	315 489	415 446	31.70
30 Manaus	Brazil	309 700	412 500	...	...
31 Port of Spain	Trinidad and Tobago	401 206	388 960	...	...
32 Puerto Quetzal	Guatemala	212 941	251 034	363 684	44.90
33 Haina	Dominican Republic	277 971	288 417	353 159	22.40
34 Puerto Barrios	Guatemala	317 646	326 833	317 804	-2.80
35 Lirquen	Chile	206 541	231 636	314 956	36.00
36 Vitória	Brazil	209 096	243 788	280 262	15.00
37 La Habana	Cuba	190 454	228 346	246 773	8.10
38 Salvador	Brazil	244 204	233 736	242 758	3.90
39 Iquique	Chile	207 940	264 974	237 758	-10.30
40 Puerto Plata	Dominican Republic	33 029	44 147	211 452	...
41 Pecem	Brazil	139 102	167 209	190 656	14.00
42 Itaguaí /Sepetiba	Brazil	206 667	125 196	183 601	46.70
43 São Francisco do Sul	Brazil	190 321	113 251	177 793	57.00
44 Coronel	Chile	118 253	139 474	170 771	22.40
45 Point Lisas	Trinidad and Tobago	164 183	184 257	170 581	-7.40
46 Arica	Chile	109 572	130 984	170 110	29.90
47 Caldera	Costa Rica	127 658	155 307	168 039	8.20
48 Jarry	Guadeloupe	142 692	150 534	165 096	9.70
49 Acajutla	El Salvador	115 165	145 774	160 069	9.80
50 Puerto Angamos	Chile	117 924	129 000	158 323	22.70
51 Chibatao	Brazil	...	154 244	155 727	1.00
52 Paita	Peru	114 216	126 520	153 653	21.40
53 Barranquilla (Inc.SPR and ZP)	Colombia	83 926	103 869	148 093	42.60
54 Ensenada	Mexico	110 952	135 606	132 727	-2.10
55 Zárate	Argentina	63 920	86 814	107 928	24.30
56 Willemstad	Curaçao	97 913	93 603	...	...
57 Antofagasta	Chile	81 414	103 795	88 213	-15.00
58 Santa Marta (inc. SPR and ZP)	Colombia	85 772	91 161	87 320	-4.20

Table 3 (concluded)

Port	Country	2009	2010	2011	Percentage change	
59	Puerto Castilla	Honduras	87 772	81 014	85 892	6.00
60	Corinto	Nicaragua	55 742	64 816	80 075	23.50
61	Bridgetown	Barbados	82 832	80 430	77 051	-4.20
62	Phillipsburg	Sint Maarten	68 253	70 862	76 701	8.20
63	Esmeraldas	Ecuador	44 341	62 017	66 764	7.70
64	Ushuaia	Argentina	39 593	63 359	63 049	-0.50
65	Progreso	Mexico	53 517	56 434	61 925	9.70
66	Georgetown	Guyana	52 000	59 850	...	...
67	Guanta	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	41 001	42 039	58 500	39.20
68	Maracaibo	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	41 915	41 974	58 300	38.90
69	Fortaleza	Brazil	55 169	69 796	57 011	-18.30
70	Oranjestad	Aruba	51 164	49 558	53 952	8.90
71	Puerto Bolichange	Ecuador	68 530	61 940	53 943	-12.90
72	Rosario (inc.G.Lagos, P.Alv., A.Seco, V.G.Galvez)	Argentina	39 138	50 420	49 819	-1.20
73	Georgetown-Cayman	Cayman Islands	51 198	45 649	44 766	-1.90
74	Ilo	Peru	27 823	31 250	35 322	13.00
75	Santo Domingo (ITTS)	Dominican Republic	23 799	21 654	34 382	58.80
76	Belize city	Belize	31 344	31 917	34 200	7.20
77	Vila do Conde	Brazil	27 691	30 840	33 528	8.70
78	Vieux Fort	Saint Lucia	21 756	21 831	33 047	51.40
79	Bahia Blanca (inc. Ing White, P.Galvan, Sitio21)	Argentina	28 558	16 565	31 196	88.30
80	El Guamache	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	30 718	24 240	28 900	19.20
81	Madryn	Argentina	20 453	23 346	27 755	18.90
82	Castries	Saint Lucia	30 186	30 648	27 295	-10.90
83	Almirante (Bocas Fruit)	Panama	20 696	23 702	25 964	9.50
84	Belém	Brazil	43 572	34 496	25 148	-27.10
85	Punta Arenas (Empresa Portuaria Austral)	Chile	22 636	24 359	...	...
86	Mazatlán	Mexico	29 322	25 795	22 744	-11.80
87	St John	Antigua and Barbuda	31 332	26 366	21 824	-17.20
88	Matarani	Peru	19 584	18 278	21 601	18.20
89	Natal	Brazil	15 046	17 215	19 405	12.70
90	CPCP (Campden Park Container Port)	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	14 704	15 569	15 345	-1.40
91	Manzanillo-DO	Dominican Republic	10 880	14 949	...	...
92	Imbituba	Brazil	20 063	25 462	13 587	-46.60
93	Recife	Brazil	...	...	7 231	...
94	Maceio	Brazil	7 302	6 740	...	...
95	Santarém	Brazil	4 716	5 516	6 087	10.40
96	Puerto Morelos	Mexico	4 443	4 657	5 515	18.40
97	Arlen Siu/El Rama	Nicaragua	3 293	3 223	4 035	25.20
98	La Guajira (Cerrejon)	Colombia	...	3 941	4 025	2.10
99	Salina Cruz	Mexico	13 111	5 434	3 737	-31.20
100	Boca Chica	Dominican Republic	10 985	7 977	3 287	-58.80

Source: Gabriel Pérez Salas, Infrastructure Services Unit, Natural Resources and Infrastructure Division (NRID), ECLAC, United Nations, 2012.

Note: The ranking is prepared using public information or data provided by ports themselves or national organizations to ECLAC. The most up-to-date version of this ranking is available on line at: <http://www.ECLAC.org/id.asp?id=45897>.

^a Estimate.

^b Provisional.

3. Ranking for port traffic in the Caribbean (2010-2011)

Last year, activity fell at Kingston and Freeport, the two main ports specializing in transshipment. Activity rose over 2010 in only 5 of the 18 ports in the list, while other

Caribbean ports do not appear because they do not handle containers or the ECLAC database does not contain current information for them.

Table 4
PORT CONTAINER TRAFFIC IN THE CARIBBEAN, 2008-2011
(TEUs)

Port	Country	2008	2009	2010	2011	Change 2011/2010
1	Kingston	1 915 951	1 728 042	1 891 770	1 756 832	-7.10%
2	Freeport	1 702 000	1 297 000	1 125 000	1 116 272	-0.80%
3	Port of Spain	385 000	401 206	388 960	...	...
4	Point Lisas	166 655	164 183	184 257	170 581	-7.40%
5	Jarry	170 729	142 692	150 534	165 096	9.70%
6	Willemstad	102 082	97 913	93 603	...	...
7	Bridgetown	87 253	82 832	80 430	77 051	-4.20%
8	Phillipsburg	...	68 253	70 862	76 701	8.20%
9	Georgetown	55 530	52 000	59 850	...	...
10	Oranjestad	49 300	51 164	49 558	53 952	8.90%
11	Georgetown	54 584	51 198	45 649	44 766	-1.90%
12	Vieux Fort	34 225	21 756	21 831	33 047	51.40%
13	Castries	35 977	30 186	30 648	27 295	-10.90%
14	St John	35 350	31 332	26 366	21 824	-17.20%
15	CPCP	11 426	14 704	15 569	15 345	-1.40%
16	Long Point Port	2 353	3 002	2 424	3 046	25.70%
17	Road Bay Port	...	...	2 863	2 543	-11.20%
18	Kingstown	5 084	1 534	1 398	1 070	-23.50%

Source: Gabriel Pérez Salas, Infrastructure Services Unit, DRNI | ECLAC | United Nations, 2012.

Note: This ranking is prepared using public information or data provided by ports themselves or national organizations to ECLAC. The most up-to-date ranking is available on line at: <http://www.ECLAC.org/id.asp?id=45899>.

For total metric tons handled, both in containers and as general cargo, Jamaican ports experienced a significant increase, in line with the tendency observed

in the other ports listed. Caribbean ports and countries not included reflect the lack of current figures in our database.

Table 5
PORT TRAFFIC IN THE CARIBBEAN, 2008-2011
(Metric tons)

Port	Country	TON 2008	TON 2009	TON 2010	TON 2011	Change 2011/2010
1	Kingston	16 340 168	16 201 507	17 437 635	19 403 321	11.3%
2	Port Rhoades	5 415 948	3 886 136	5 283 624	6 281 937	18.9%
3	Jarry	3 582 054	3 010 669	3 582 054	3 443 234	-3.9%
4	Rock Point	1 664 175	1 917 988	1 976 040	2 016 731	2.1%
5	Port Esquivel	2 659 107	991 233	816 063	1 483 371	81.8%
6	Bridgetown	1 210 215	1 065 143	1 083 971	1 034 647	-4.6%
7	St John	1 372 232	1 175 059	978 935	921 762	-5.8%
8	Willemstad	1 028 830	856 236	794 206	...	...
9	Montego Bay	784 697	806 568	698 459	687 612	-1.6%
10	Castries	403 512	447 546	482 488	405 281	-16.0%
11	Point Lisas	560 979	356 864	341 505	378 988	11.0%

Table 5 (concluded)

Port	Country	TON 2008	TON 2009	TON 2010	TON 2011	Change 2011/2010
12	Georgetown	Cayman Islands	668 335	427 845	349 009	...
13	Ocho Rios	Jamaica	203 131	173 023	243 601	...
14	Vieux Fort	Saint Lucia	270 246	132 833	145 744	231 285
15	CPCP	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	...	...	...	229 141
16	Kingstown	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	263 110	204 508	192 786	176 155
17	Rio Bueno	Jamaica	46 139	96 057	143 276	...
18	Little Bay	Montserrat	188 963	161 766	56 432	142 551
19	Long Point Port	Saint Kitts and Nevis	95 069	97 219	82 043	86 751
20	Road Bay Port	Anguilla	...	...	80 783	69 781

Source: Gabriel Pérez Salas, Infrastructure Services Unit, DRNI | ECLAC | United Nations, 2012.

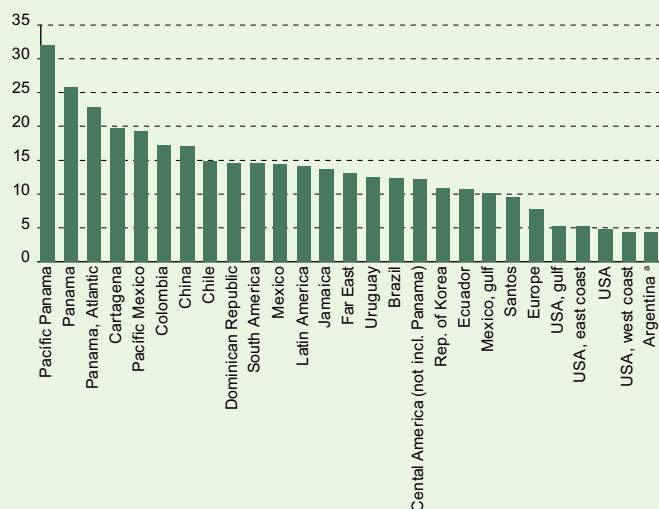
Note: This ranking is prepared using public information or data provided by ports themselves or national organizations to ECLAC. The most up-to-date ranking is available on line at: <http://www.ECLAC.org/id.asp?id=45899>.

4. Average annual change 1990-2010

From 1990-2010, Panama's Pacific ports posted average annual growth of almost 32%, similar to Cartagena, which grew more than the national average for Colombia. Average annual growth for Latin America and the Caribbean overall was 14.1%, in the same period.

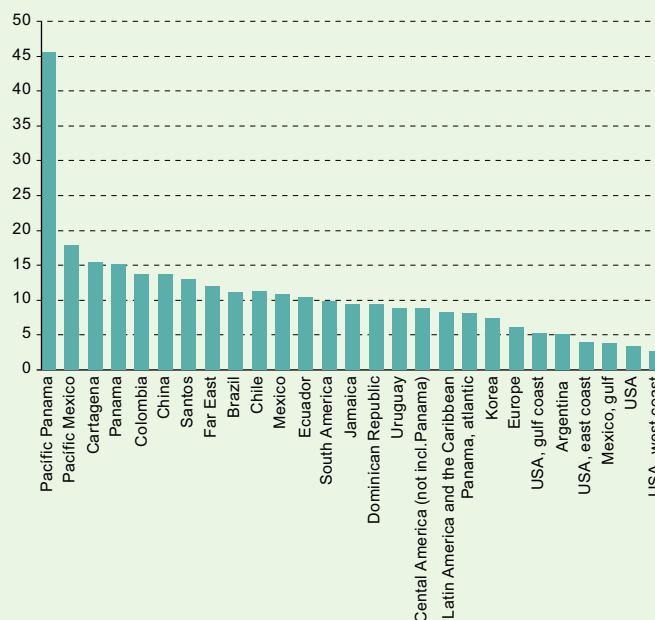
seaboard of the United States rose 4%. The average annual change for Latin America and the Caribbean was 8.3% for the same period.

Figure 2
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN AVERAGE ANNUAL CHANGE 1990-2010 (TEUs) (Percentages)



Source: Maricel Ulloa, Infrastructure Services Unit, 2012.
^a Average Annual Change 1997-2010, for lack of data.

Figure 3
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN AVERAGE ANNUAL CHANGE, 2000-2010 (TEUs) (Percentages)



Source: Maricel Ulloa, Infrastructure Services Unit, 2012.

Similarly, for 2000-2010, Panama's Pacific coast grew steadily (averaging 45.7% annually), while Mexico rose somewhat less (17%), at the same time as the eastern

Finally, the ECLAC ranking for the main container ports for 2005-2011 also posted some interesting shifts, shown in figure 4. Santos, in Brazil, for example, led the ranking

until 2008, when it fell behind the Colon port cluster in Panama. New ports also posted noteworthy growth, among them Balboa (Panama), soaring from fourteenth spot in 2005 to second in 2009. Lázaro Cárdenas (Mexico)

posted steady growth, appearing for the first time in the ECLAC ranking of the top 20 ports in 2008, and reaching fourteenth place last year. Cartagena has also posted steady growth for 2005-2011.

Table 6
SHIFTS IN RANKINGS FOR PORT CONTAINER TRAFFIC IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN (2005-2011)

	RNK2005	RNK2006	RNK2007	RNK2008	RNK2009	RNK2010	RNK2011
Santos	1	1	1	1	1	3	3
Colón	2	3	2	2	2	1	1
Kingston	3	2	3	4	4	4	4
Buenos Aires	4	4	5	5	5	5	6
Freeport	5	5	6	6	6	9	10
Callao	6	8	8	8	9	8	8
Manzanillo	7	6	7	7	8	7	7
San Antonio	8	14	17	18	13	14	17
Puerto Cabello	9	9	12	13	14	21	20
Cartagena	10	10	9	9	7	6	5
Guayaquil	11	12	13	11	11	10	9
Limón-Moin	12	11	11	12	12	15	15
Rio Grande	13	18	18	21	18	20	22
Balboa	14	7	4	3	3	2	2
Itajai	15	13	16	17	19	12	12
Veracruz	16	15	14	16	22	19	19
Puerto Cortes	17	20	22	23	24	23	23
Montevideo	18	19	19	19	21	17	16
Paranáguá	19	21	20	22	17	22	21
Valparaíso	20	17	10	10	15	13	13
Buenaventura	21	16	15	14	16	18	18
Caucedo	33	35	21	15	10	11	11
Lázaro Cárdenas	42	41	31	24	20	16	14

Source: Gabriel Pérez Salas with information from Maritime Profile, ECLAC 2012.