

Panama ports container volumes up 15.1% in 2024

For the first time in three years Panamanian ports container volume showed strong growth in 2024 benefitting from restrictions at the Panama Canal.

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January 28, 2025



PSA-Panama terminalCredit: PSA

Container ports in [Panama](#) reported a combined volume of 9.57 million teu, up 15.1% compared to 8.32 million teu in 2023, mostly due to the impact of the [Panama Canal](#) draught restrictions that forced many liners to unload and load cargo on both sides of the waterway.

All terminals recorded double digit growth during the first semester while Evergreen's Colon Container Terminal (CCT) and [PSA](#)-Panama ended the year hitting record figures of 1.57m teu and 1.38m teu respectively.

Container cargo transshipment represent 89.1% of the total cargo while 10% corresponds to import/export containers (10.3% in teu) and 0.6% represents the total volume handled through the Colon Free Zone. The majority of containers, some 58.1%, moved in the Atlantic side and 41.9% in the Pacific side.

On the Atlantic side, Colon Container Terminal (CCT) owned by the Taiwanese group [Evergreen](#) posted a record 1.57m teu, up 16% compared to 2023. The Atlantic terminal had invested \$23 million in RTGs to expand its capacity.

Its neighbour, SSA Marine MIT saw volumes grow by 3.4% to 2.71million teu, some 100,000 teu short of its own record.

Cristobal, the Atlantic terminal administrated by [Hutchison's](#) Panama Ports Company (PPC), benefitted from the Panama Canal draught restrictions, and increased volume by 24.6% to 1.11 million teu.

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On the Pacific side, Balboa also administrated by PPC. volume increased by 13.7%, registering 2.63 million teu.

PSA-Panama posted an impressive growth of 30.9%, the highest of Panama's terminals and its own record with 1.39 million teu. The Singapore run terminal celebrates its 15th anniversary of operations in December 2025.

"2024 was an exceptional year in which PSA Panama reaffirmed its role as a vital bridge for trade across the Americas," highlighted Enrique Piqueras, CEO of PSA-Panama. "In a challenging global environment, we worked closely with our customers to provide tailored solutions that meet their needs, strengthening our position of a trusted partner in the regional and global supply chain."

"In 2025, PSA-Panama will celebrate 15 years of operations, with a forward-looking vision centered on strategic projects focused on innovation, security, sustainability, and the well-being of our team and communities," said Piqueras.