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### **Shipper Perspectives**



AAPA/NAWE/MARAD Marine Terminal Management Training Program Role of Marine Terminal Operations in the Global Supply Chain October 25, 2010

Dr. Walter Kemmsies, Chief Economist Moffatt & Nichol



Alliance of the Ports of Canada, the Caribbean, Latin America and the United States



## Key Themes

- > Gateway-centric, not port-centric
  - > Supply chain is only as strong as its weakest link
  - Supply chain partners have alternatives
- > Shipping costs limit the size of addressable import and export markets
  - Productivity impacts shipping costs
  - Reliability impacts inventory carrying costs
  - Compatibility different shippers have different business models and strategies
- Worry about what worries the supply chain partners
  - Where will their markets be tomorrow?
  - Environmental accountability matters



### **Issues For Importers**

#### > Fallout from ocean carriers' financial troubles

- Equipment shortages
- Some carriers no longer providing chassis
- Higher rates and fewer slots

#### Fallout from higher fuel costs

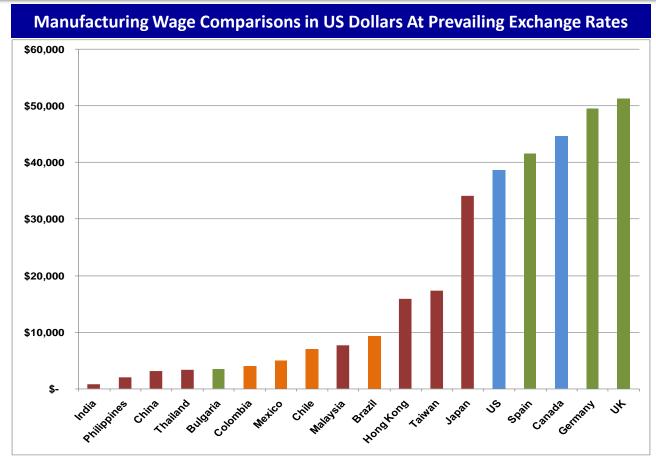
- > Fuel surcharges
- Slow steaming
- Re-think warehouse/distribution center locations

#### Uncertainty about consumer markets

- Costs are difficult to pass on to consumers
- > What will happen to those markets?

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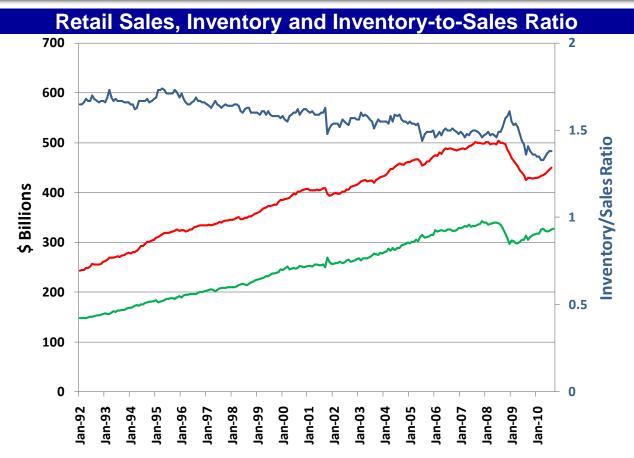
# Manufacturing Industry Wage Comparisons



- Low wages in emerging markets are partly due to their younger populations
- Outsourcing services maturing markets more cheaply and accesses growing markets
- Low wages in Latin America indicate they are prime locations for manufacturing "near-sourcing"

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**Declining Inventory/Sales Ratio** 

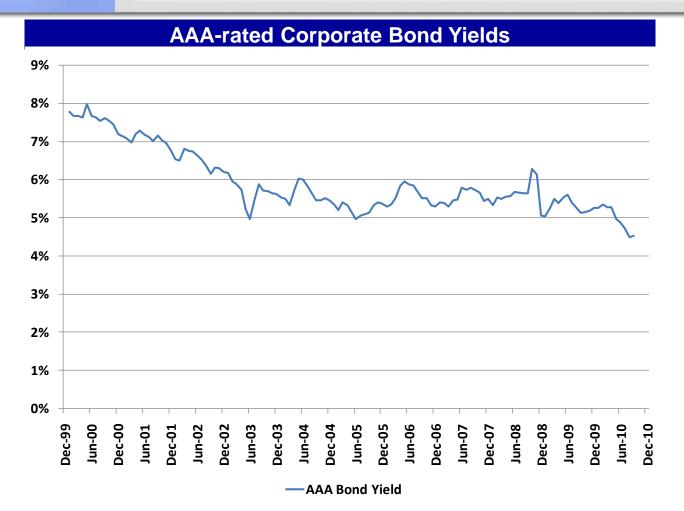


-Inventory -Retail Sales Inventory/Sales Ratio (right axis)

- > Supply chains are longer due to outsourcing but less responsive to changing market conditions
- Less inventory = lower financial cost and less risk of over-stocking
- Higher productivity = higher origin to market speed
- Greater reliability = less safety stock

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### Inventory Has To Be Financed

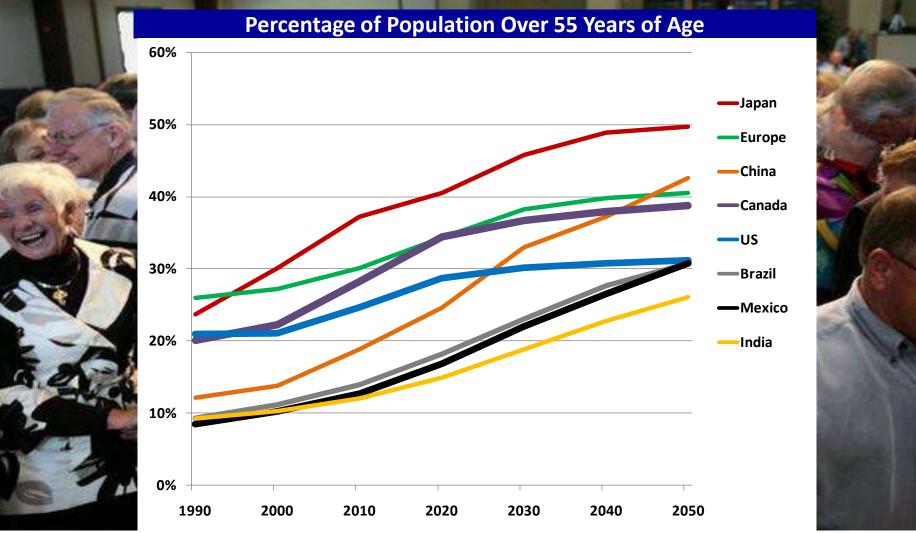


> At 5%, \$450 billion of inventory costs companies \$22.5 billion per year

> A 1% reduction in inventory would save companies \$225 million in financing costs

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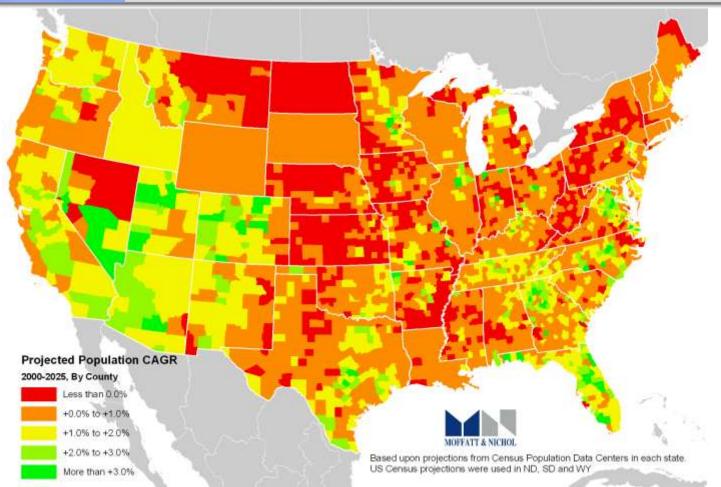
## Major Shippers' Markets Are Changing



World consumer markets are changing due to the significant rise in developed economies' elderly populations and rising income in emerging markets

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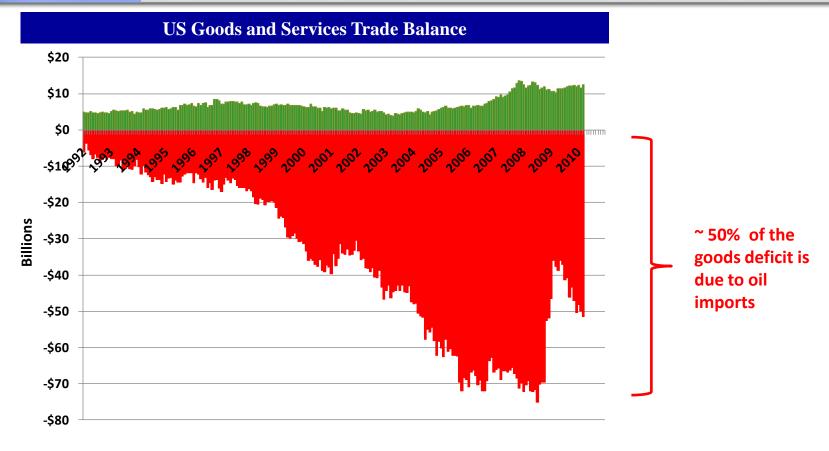
### Markets Locations Are Changing



- US population is moving to urban, coastal and Southern locations
- > Shippers are constantly re-thinking their logistics and the supply chain is reacting too
- > Similar trends are evident in other parts of the Americas e.g., Canada and Brazil

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## Weak Outlook For The US Dollar



Goods Services

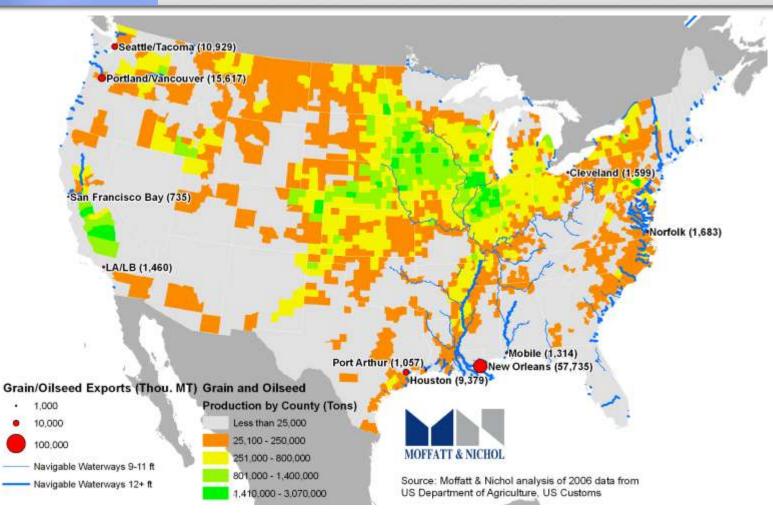
- > It is unlikely that the US service sector surplus will ever offset the goods trade deficit
- Until the US trade deficit begins to reverse, the dollar will weaken further, which will help exports and eventually hinder imports
- > Latin American exporters may be negatively impacted by this



- Relative to faster growing Emerging Markets, the US has
  - Lower cost of capital, higher cost of labor
  - More advanced biotechnology
  - More reliable quality control and surveillance of compliance
  - Relative abundance of scare resources such as water
- A partial list of high potential exports fitting these advantages:
  - Low labor-content capital goods
  - Grain and oilseed
  - Meat
  - Wood pellets

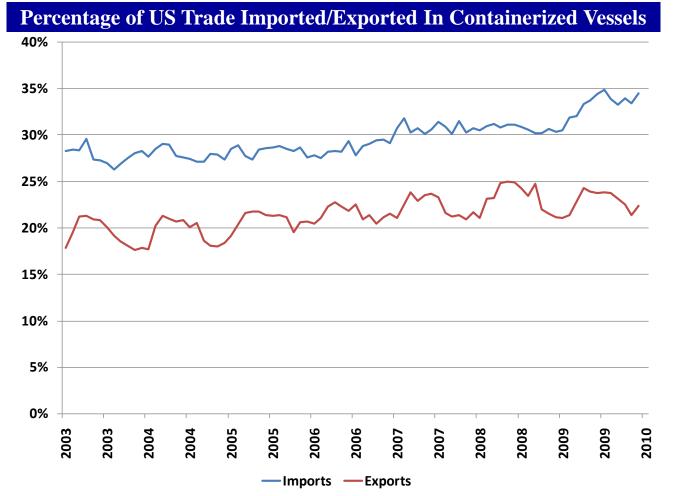
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### America Is The World's Bread Basket



- Growing income in emerging markets increases demand for meat and grain feedstock
- > Lack of investment in inland waterway infrastructure is a significant bottleneck for US exports

## **Containerization Is Still Increasing**



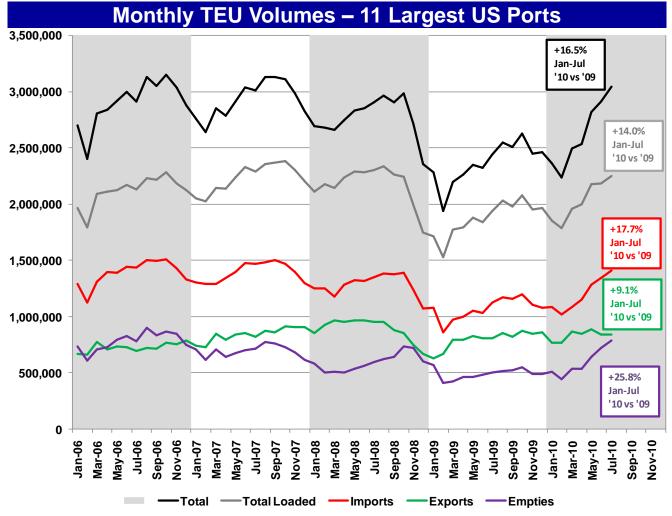
- Both imports and exports are increasingly containerized:
  - Partly due to technical requirements for handling genetically modified grain/oilseeds
  - Partly due to shippers' desires to be flexible in order to keep shipping costs down

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## Port Container Volumes Reflect Macro Data

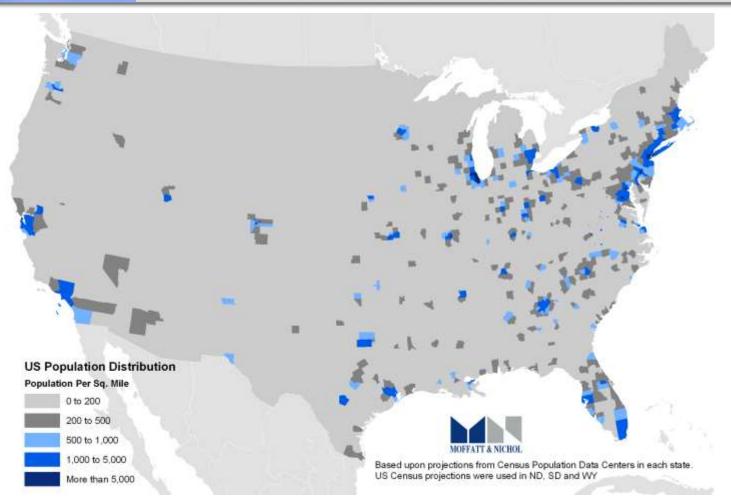


- Imported and empty containers are leading port volume growth
- Exports have been flat since March despite growth of the global economy

Source: AAPA, port authorities, Moffatt & Nichol

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# **Containers Concentrate In Population Centers**



- > These are the locations where the bulk of consumption takes place
- Containers are increasingly retained near ports exporters need transflow facilities at or near ports



### **Environmental Impact**

Shippers are making great strides to improve truck fleet efficiency

- Nitrogen-filled low rolling resistance tires
- Trailer side-skirts
- Idling time management
- Driver training
- Nitrogen refrigeration
- Shippers are using trains to reduce emissions
- Ports are expected to contribute too
  - Cold ironing
  - Equipment electrification
  - Efficient gate management



### Summary

Shippers need high productivity and reliability

- Larger ships are good for shippers
- Gate management
- Equipment availability
- Shippers want supply chain partners/stakeholder managers
  - Understand their business model
- Anticipate their future needs
  - How will they supply their markets?
  - Environmental accountability will become increasingly important