

SR 11 OTAY MESA EAST

PORT OF ENTRY

Economic Impact



As the U.S.-Mexico border region grows, there is a need to improve the commercial movement of goods and services through an efficient, integrated system to bolster the local, state, federal, and international economies.

The State Route 11 (SR 11)/Otay Mesa East Port of Entry project, will facilitate job growth and new economic opportunities for private sectors on both sides of the border.

The Economic Need for a Modern Port of Entry

The Otay Mesa Port of Entry in San Diego is the busiest commercial vehicle crossing California and Mexico and the second largest along the U.S. southern border. In 2018 alone, the Otay Mesa and Tecate ports of entry processed a combined \$47.5 billion in total bilateral trade value via trucks¹, and that number is expected to grow over the coming years.



Trade between the United States and Mexico has increased by **45%** over the past decade.

- In 2018, **\$47.5 billion** in goods passed through the Otay Mesa and Tecate ports of entry.
- This trade supports more than **566,000** jobs in California.²



More than 90 percent of California-Mexico trade is **moved by truck**.

- According to the United States Bureau of Transportation Statistics, more than **960,000 commercial vehicles** crossed northbound through the Otay Mesa Port of Entry in 2018.

California exported more than \$24.7 billion in goods by truck and rail to Mexico in 2018.



Current wait times can exceed **120 minutes** for passenger vehicles and **150 minutes for commercial vehicles**.

- The 2007 Border Wait Time Economic Impact Study estimated **\$7.2 billion** in foregone economic output for the United States and Mexico.
- This results in an **estimated loss of 62,000 jobs** in the two countries.



Every year, commodities that Californians consume on a daily basis come from Mexico as they are the United States' second largest supplier of goods and imports, and the largest supplier of agricultural imports.

- Top 2017 imports include **\$84 billion** in vehicles, **\$62 billion** in electronic machinery including Samsung, LG, and Panasonic televisions, and **\$14 billion** in optical and medical instruments.
- U.S. total imports of agricultural products from Mexico totaled **\$25 billion** in 2017 with approximately **\$6.0 billion** in fresh fruit and **\$5.5 billion** in fresh vegetables.

^{1,3} 2018 San Diego-Baja California Border Crossing and Trade Highlights, SANDAG. Hyperlink: https://www.sandag.org/uploads/projectid/projectid_451_25900.pdf

² Trade and Competitiveness in North America: A Focus on the Cali Baja Mega-Region, World Trade Center San Diego. Hyperlink: https://usmex.ucsd.edu/_files/072018_trade-and-competitiveness-report-english.pdf