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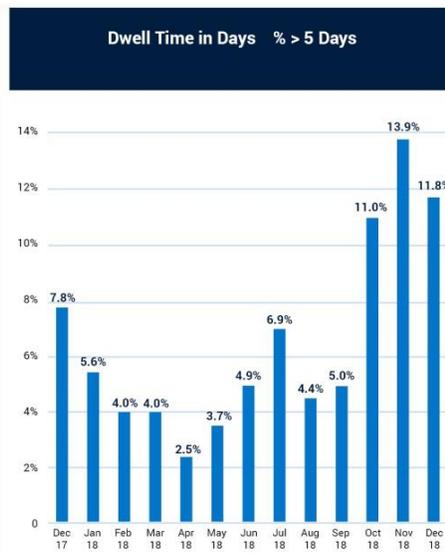
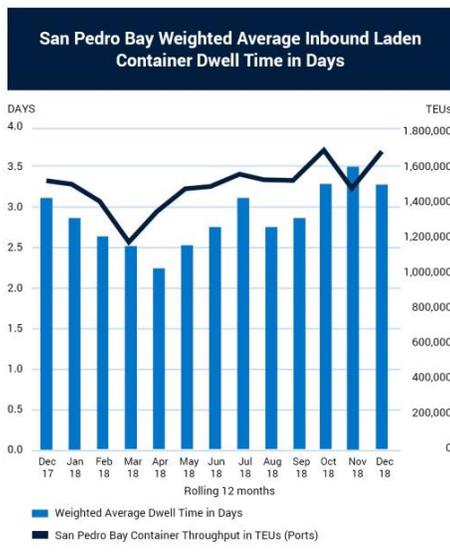
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**Terminals are not Storage Facilities**

Container dwell time for the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach remains a significant concern. Increasing dwell time has played a big role in decreasing terminal efficiency resulting in more unproductive container moves that translates into congestion. Containers remained at terminals an average of 3.31 days before getting picked up for delivery during the month of December. While that was slightly lower than the average container dwell time in November of 3.51 days, it was still too high for a fluid operation.

The average dwell time, since PMSA began recording this data, is under three days – anything over three days creates a barrier to improving efficiency. There were a lot more containers coming onto San Pedro Bay terminals in recent months. “Longer dwell times mean more unproductive moves – digging through layers of containers in order to get the container to be delivered - every time a container is going to be picked up.” Stated Jessica Alvarenga, Manager of Government Affairs at the Pacific Merchant Shipping Association. “When containers are not picked up in a timely manner, boxes get stacked on top of boxes, creating more work and requiring more time to get at the cargo being picked up to leave the terminal.”

Dwell time is important data for all parties involved. “The container terminals’ job is to unload vessels and load containers onto a truck that will then take them to their destination – not store them,” explained Alvarenga. During the month of December, 11.8% of containers exceeded five days at a terminal. “It is difficult for terminals to do their job efficiently when they’re treated as storage facilities,” continued Alvarenga. “Containers that are not picked up in a timely manner create a negative domino effect throughout the supply chain.”



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**About the Pacific Merchant Shipping Association (PMSA)**

The Pacific Merchant Shipping Association (PMSA) is an independent, not-for-profit association focused on global trade. PMSA operates offices in Oakland, Long Beach and Seattle, and represents owners and operators of marine terminals and U.S. and foreign vessels operating throughout the world.