



2016 Containerized US Car Exports



Containerized US Car Exports in 2016

During 2016, the United States exported 512,487 vehicles in containers. The volume was down just 1% compared to 2015. Whether new or used, classic or vintage; nearly any type of vehicle you can think of gets loaded into a container and shipped overseas.

Europe is the largest growing market for US cars. A 25% increase in volume has shown that despite a strong US dollar, importers in Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, France and Sweden purchased more US cars. The UK is the only European country that has seen a fall in imports, and that is due to the uncertainty surrounding Brexit.

Booming demand is driven in large part by classic cars and new US manufactured vehicles. As values on classics continue to level out in the US, Europeans are seeing more incentive to buy classics here. Old American muscle cars, pickups, classic German and English sports cars are popular.

However over in the land down under, Australia saw a dip in car imports. Despite their love of American classics and muscle cars, Aussie car importers face hefty import duties and registration fees. Many expect this to change, as the government looks to lower duties in the near future.

Cars exports to New Zealand on the other hand have grown by a modest 5% in 2016. It's a market that's about half the size of Australia's.

The Americas has now overtaken the Middle East as the biggest destination for US cars. Americas includes South America, Central America, and the Caribbean. The growing demand for new cars in Guatemala, Honduras, Costa Rica, and El Salvador ensured the top spot on the import charts.

# of Cars in Containers from the USA		
Region	vs 2015	2016 total
1. Americas	8%	119,876 cars
2. Middle East	-16%	116,423 cars
3. Europe	25%	109,318 cars
4. Asia	-14%	89,134 cars
5. Africa	2%	69,206 cars
7. Oceania	-8%	8,530 cars
Total	-1%	512,487 cars

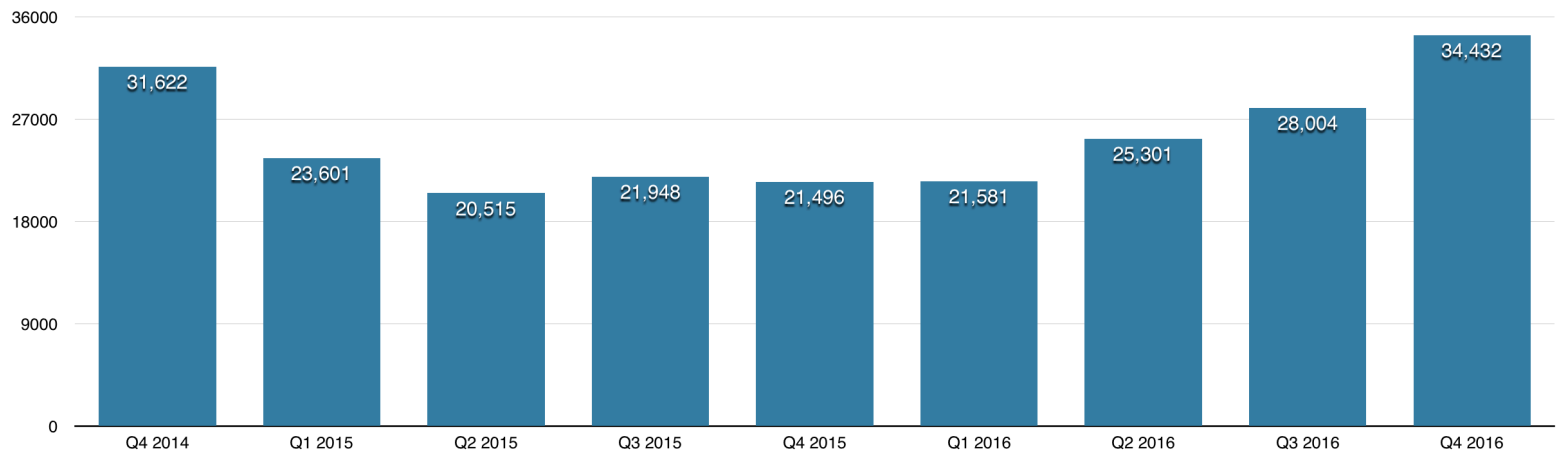
On the other side of the world, exports to the Middle East have dropped as a result of economic uncertainties surrounding falling oil prices. Iraq and Oman were just two of the growing destinations in the Middle East. An influx of used cars were responsible for the uptick.

Asia didn't do much better. China's dramatic 43% drop in car imports was attributed to a weak demand for new cars, along with stronger demand for locally produced cars.

Whichever direction the global automotive market takes us, my team and I are here to provide the optimal logistics solutions for your business.

-Alex
Operations Manager at West Coast Shipping

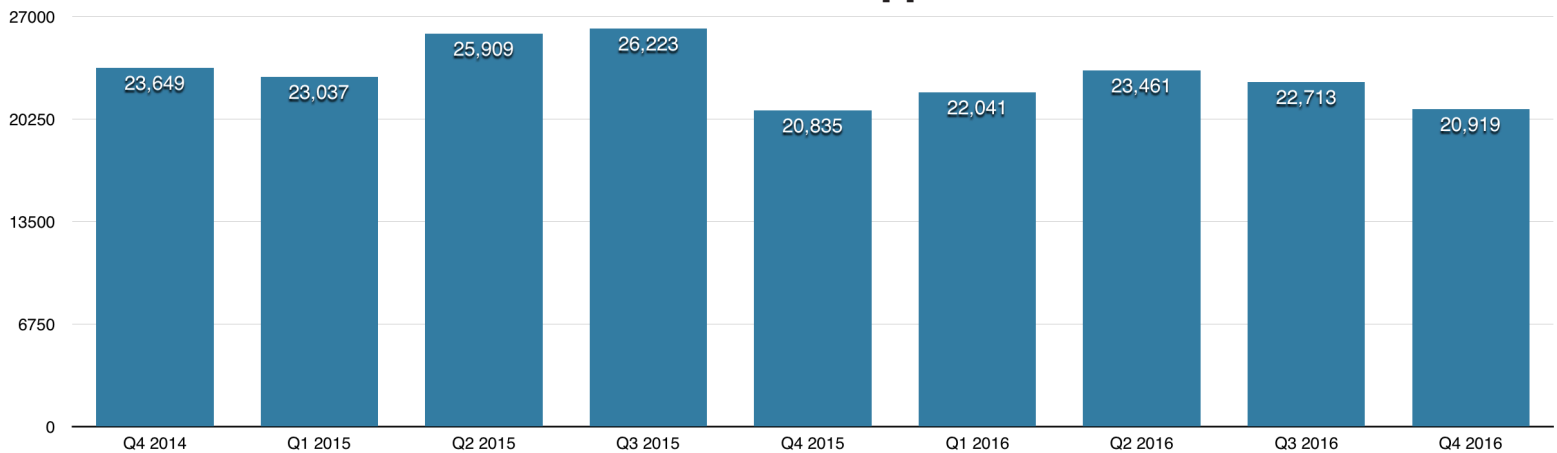
Number of Vehicles Shipped to Europe



The European market continued to grow in 2016, with imports from the US up by 25% compared to 2015. Germany leads with 20,867 cars imported of which a sizable chunk were classic cars. The country of Georgia closely follows in volume. But Georgia's rise in volume is due to the growing popularity of luxury SUVs and budget Japanese sedans. It should be noted that the majority of cars are re-exported to surrounding countries. This is similar to Lithuania, which is also a major re-export hub for Eastern Europe. Russia increased by 136%, the largest growth in all of Europe. This was due to new BMWs being delivered from the US. The Netherlands, Poland, Belgium, France, and Sweden all have classic cars to thank for their recent growth. The UK is the only major importer of classic cars that's down in volume compared to 2015, and that's due to the Brexit.

Europe Top 10	Q1 '16 YoY	Q2 '16 YoY	Q3 '16 YoY	Q4 '16 YoY	Total Cars in 2016	vs 2015
1. Germany	-32%	22%	22%	34%	20,867 cars	7%
2. Georgia	7%	74%	48%	73%	20,746 cars	48%
3. Netherlands	10%	3%	15%	-2%	13,660 cars	6%
4. Russia	-89%	-42%	131%	2361%	11,631 cars	136%
5. Lithuania	36%	52%	43%	84%	11,171 cars	54%
6. Poland	-15%	35%	4%	40%	6,050 cars	17%
7. United Kingdom	-20%	-1%	-27%	-22%	5,804 cars	-18%
8. Belgium	119%	28%	-29%	4%	5,018 cars	17%
9. France	11%	20%	26%	37%	3,905 cars	23%
10. Sweden	-12%	33%	-2%	16%	3,381 cars	9%

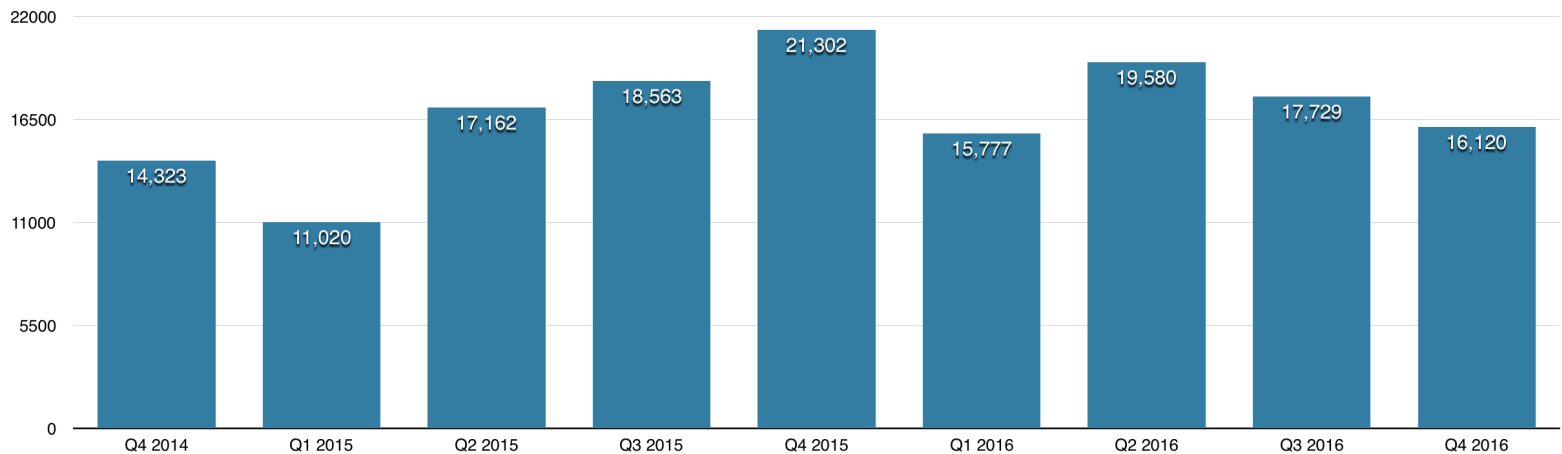
Number of Vehicles Shipped to Asia



Asia continued to lose volume as interest in luxury cars dropped. China, previously the 2nd largest importer of US cars in the world, fell 43% and dropped to 10th place. After seeing strong growth in Cambodia during 2015, demand for used car imports leveled out and volume dipped 2%. Out of the top 10 countries importing US cars in Asia, just Guam and Vietnam experiencing growing demand. Guam, because of new car shipments by General Motors, Chrysler, Jaguar and Land Rover. Vietnam on the other hand saw growth in the form of demand for 2016 and 2015 luxury models like Lexus and Mercedes.

Asia Top 10	Q1 '16	Q2 '16	Q3 '16	Q4 '16	Total Cars in 2016	vs 2015
1. Cambodia	7%	8%	-13%	-6%	26,496 cars	-2%
2. China	-52%	-46%	-40%	-30%	17,401 cars	-43%
3. Taiwan	-39%	-17%	27%	45%	9,409 cars	-4%
4. South Korea	-25%	-17%	-18%	-2%	6,283 cars	-17%
5. Guam	129%	91%	35%	26%	6,054 cars	68%
6. India	36%	-15%	-7%	-16%	6,040 cars	-1%
7. Hong Kong	41%	-14%	-28%	-39%	4,563 cars	-15%
8. Vietnam	15%	37%	-30%	61%	4,295 cars	18%
9. Japan	58%	41%	-35%	-24%	2,842 cars	1%
10. Philippines	-37%	-16%	-43%	-57%	1,287 cars	-37%

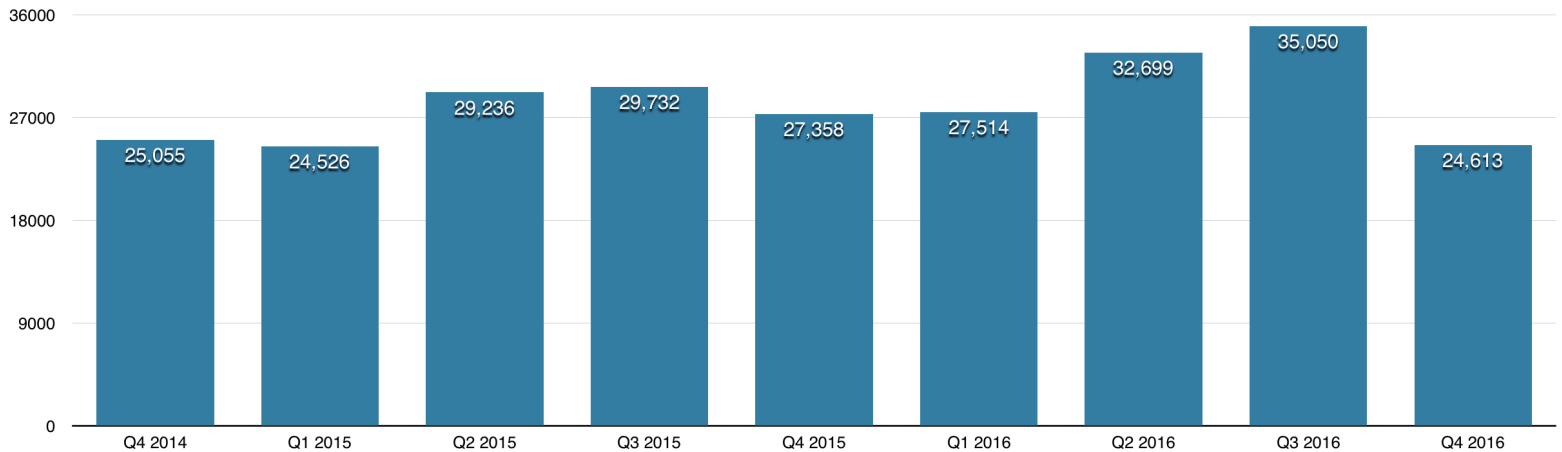
Number of Vehicles Shipped to Africa



Out of the top 10 most popular destinations for US cars in Africa, 8 have seen growth in volume compared to 2015. Whilst a modest 2% increase in total volume to Africa, Ghana, Senegal, Ivory Coast, and The Gambia all grew by over 20%. Some of the countries benefited, as surrounding nations clamped down on salvage and used car imports. Nigeria fell by 12% as the government began changing laws on import duties. Benin, used as an import hub for countries ultimately going to Nigeria, followed with a 51% reduction in volume.

Africa Top 10	Q1 '16	Q2 '16	Q3 '16	Q4 '16	Total Cars in 2016	vs 2015
1. Ghana	68%	43%	13%	-14%	23,432 cars	21%
2. Nigeria	10%	2%	-14%	-32%	21,725 cars	-12%
3. Liberia	59%	2%	5%	-19%	5,188 cars	6%
4. Sierra Leone	205%	8%	-23%	-13%	4,213 cars	12%
5. Cameroon	114%	23%	-13%	-6%	3,029 cars	7%
6. Senegal	132%	58%	-6%	-18%	2,462 cars	24%
7. Guinea	132%	3%	-17%	-33%	1,820 cars	4%
8. Ivory Coast	86%	10%	37%	-16%	1,595 cars	20%
9. The Gambia	82%	16%	39%	-8%	1,366 cars	26%
10. Benin	-25%	-42%	-45%	-75%	1,191 cars	-51%

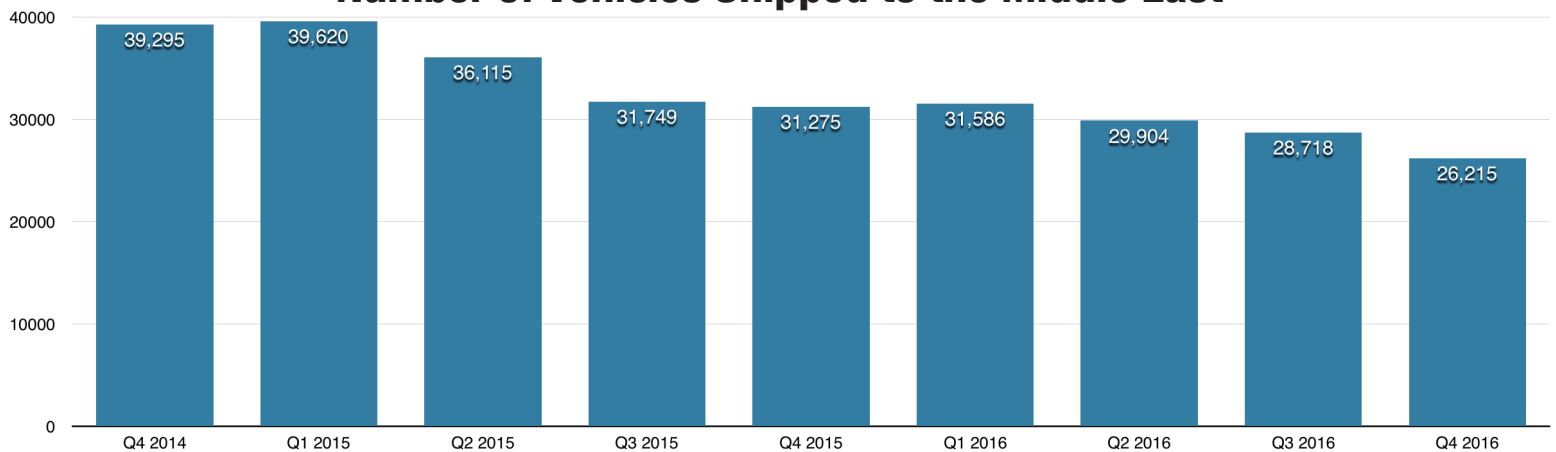
Number of Vehicles Shipped to the Americas



The Americas, consisting of South America, Central America, and the Caribbean, is now the region that imports the most containerized cars from the US. Nations showing the largest growth can attribute it to manufacturers choosing to ship new vehicles in containers instead of roll-on/roll-off ships. Honduras, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Panama, and the Virgin Islands have all seen notable growth. Guatemala, the largest importer in the Americas, remained virtually unchanged with 1% growth. Nations losing the largest volume were Puerto Rico, Venezuela, and Brazil. All are experiencing their own political and economic issues.

Americas Top 10	Q1 '16	Q2 '16	Q3 '16	Q4 '16	Total Cars in 2016	vs 2015
1. Guatemala	5%	10%	17%	-33%	25,447 cars	1%
2. Honduras	91%	51%	58%	27%	23,993 cars	54%
3. Costa Rica	33%	32%	39%	17%	18,194 cars	31%
4. El Salvador	18%	9%	33%	31%	14,348 cars	22%
5. Venezuela	-25%	5%	-30%	-40%	5,309 cars	-22%
6. Chile	-11%	-15%	-15%	6%	4,447 cars	-9%
7. Virgin Islands	79%	45%	86%	-16%	3,379 cars	36%
8. Brazil	-67%	-26%	7%	-32%	3,195 cars	-32%
9. Puerto Rico	-82%	-73%	145%	91%	2,914 cars	-48%
10. Panama	149%	29%	27%	-17%	2,837 cars	32%

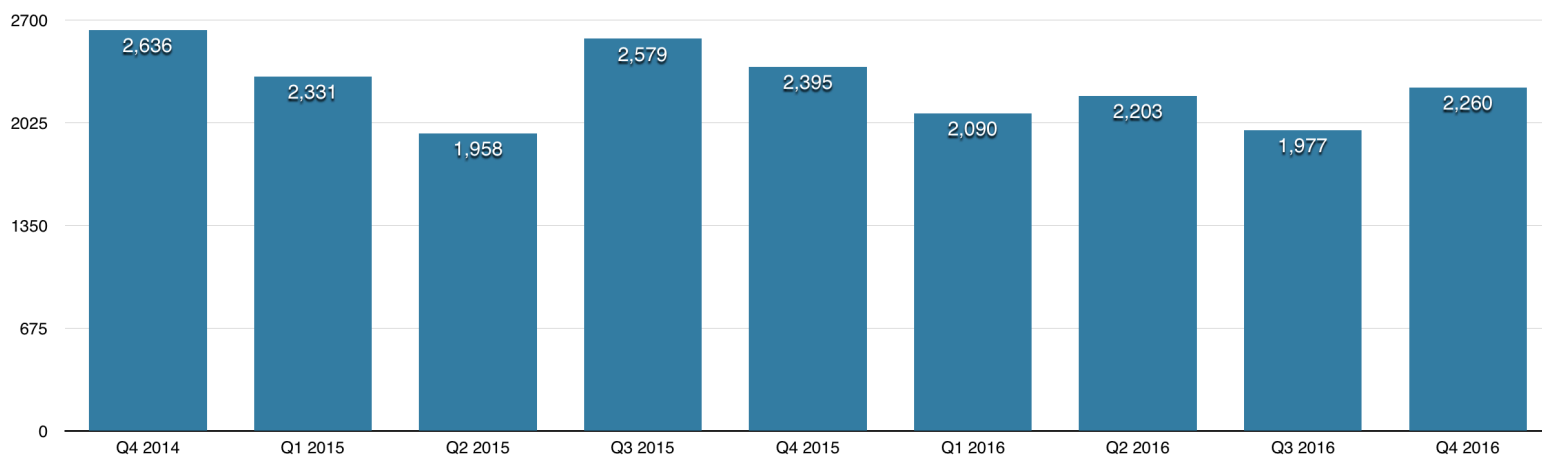
Number of Vehicles Shipped to the Middle East



The Middle East used to be the leader in US car imports, but that changed in 2016. As oil prices went into turmoil, local economies followed. Imports to the United Arab Emirates, the largest importer in the region, fell by 24%. Many surrounding nations depend on the UAE due to its vast automotive industry which re-exports many of the vehicles around the region. Iraq and Oman were the only countries in the Middle East seeing growing volumes.

Middle East Top 10	Q1 '16	Q2 '16	Q3 '16	Q4 '16	Total Cars in 2016	vs 2015
1. United Arab Emirates	-20%	-30%	-18%	-29%	61,444 cars	-24%
2. Lebanon	3%	1%	-3%	4%	12,950 cars	1%
3. Jordan	59%	7%	14%	-37%	11,624 cars	6%
4. Iraq	-41%	72%	175%	128%	6,426 cars	58%
5. Yemen	-76%	116%	786%	95%	4,491 cars	-22%
6. Saudi Arabia	4%	-30%	-27%	-63%	2,916 cars	-31%
7. Israel	-41%	-36%	-35%	-31%	2,016 cars	-36%
8. Oman	50%	10%	39%	106%	1,562 cars	46%
9. Bahrain	-7%	-59%	-52%	-68%	914 cars	-46%
10. Kuwait	-15%	-23%	-47%	-39%	862 cars	-32%

Number of Vehicles Shipped to Oceania



Oceania is the smallest region of them all, importing just over 8,500 vehicles from the US. The region includes Australia and New Zealand, two countries which are big fans of classic American muscle cars, pickups, and sedans. They are also one of the top importers of new muscle cars, only second to Europe. However as the US dollar grew stronger in 2016, vehicle exports to the region fell by 8%.

Middle East Top 10	Q1 '16	Q2 '16	Q3 '16	Q4 '16	Total Cars in 2016	vs 2015
1. Australia	-11%	13%	-33%	-13%	5,875 cars	-13%
2. New Zealand	-8%	10%	2%	15%	2,644 cars	5%

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