

LOGISTEED America: FAQ on the ILA Strike and Its Impact

1. What is the current status of the ILA strike?

As of 12:00 a.m. on October 1, 2024, the International Longshoremen's Association (ILA) has initiated a strike across all U.S. East and Gulf Coast port terminals. This has resulted in the complete shutdown of these key shipping hubs, and no goods are currently being picked up or delivered at these ports.

2. Which ports are affected by the strike?

The strike affects the following major U.S. ports:

- Port of New York/New Jersey
- Port of Savannah, GA
- Port of Houston, TX
- Port of Miami, FL
- Port of Boston, MA
- Port of New Orleans, LA
- Port of Charleston, SC
- Port of Baltimore, MD
- Port of Philadelphia, PA
- Port of Wilmington, DE
- Port of Mobile, AL
- Port of Tampa, FL
- Port of Freeport, TX
- Port of Jacksonville, FL

3. What are the key issues in the ILA strike?

The ILA's main demands include:

- A wage increase of 78% over six years.
- Opposition to the implementation of automation and new technology that could affect longshore jobs.

Negotiations with the United States Maritime Alliance (USMX) have stalled, leading to the initiation of the strike.

4. How will this strike affect shipping operations?

The strike will result in:

- **Complete Halt of Shipping Operations:** All cargo movement to and from U.S. East and Gulf Coast ports is suspended. No cargo will be moved, leading to significant delays and disruptions.
- **Vessel Congestion:** Ships scheduled to arrive at these ports will be unable to dock, leading to congestion and further delays in operations once the strike ends.
- **Supply Chain Disruptions:** Industries such as retail, manufacturing, and logistics will be severely impacted. Key commodities such as machinery, textiles, motor vehicles, and fresh produce will be delayed.
- **Indefinite Shipping Schedules:** All schedules are currently undetermined, and there is no firm estimate for when normal operations will resume.

5. What specific goods will be impacted by the strike?

Goods that are most likely to face delays and shortages include:

- **Machinery:** 62% of U.S. machinery imports move through East Coast ports.
- **Apparel and Textiles:** 55% of apparel, textiles, and leather goods shipments are affected.
- **Vehicles:** Major ports like Baltimore and New York/New Jersey handle significant volumes of vehicle imports.
- **Perishable Goods:** Ports like Wilmington, DE, are major hubs for fresh produce, including bananas and other fruits. Delays could impact the shelf life of these goods.
- **Pharmaceuticals and Medical Supplies:** Critical imports such as vaccines and medical instruments, particularly through the Port of Savannah, may also face disruptions.

6. What are the broader consequences of this strike for businesses?

- **Severe Delays:** Due to port closures, shipments will face significant delays both during and after the strike. Each day the ports remain closed could take up to a week to recover.

- **Increased Costs:** Businesses may face additional costs for storage, rerouting shipments, and securing alternative transportation. Equipment, trucking, and rail resources will likely become more expensive.
- **Force Majeure:** Most ocean carriers, including Yang Ming and Ocean Network Express (ONE), have declared force majeure for shipments in and out of the affected ports. This means that they are no longer responsible for delays or disruptions caused by the strike, as the situation is beyond their control.

7. What is LOGISTEED America doing to help?

LOGISTEED America is closely monitoring the situation and stands ready to assist our customers in navigating these disruptions. We can help by:

- Providing alternative shipping solutions.
- Assisting with rerouting and securing additional logistics resources such as rail and trucking.
- Offering guidance on how to mitigate costs and delays during this challenging period.

8. How long will it take to recover after the strike ends?

For every day the ports remain closed, it is estimated that recovery could take up to a week. This means that even after the strike is resolved, there will be prolonged delays as operations gradually return to normal.

9. How will this impact the global supply chain?

The halt in U.S. East and Gulf Coast port operations will ripple across global supply chains, affecting not only U.S.-bound goods but also international logistics networks. Expect delays in overseas shipments, shortages of essential goods, and potential cost increases across industries.

10. How can I stay informed on the latest updates during the strike?

To ensure you receive the most up-to-date information, we highly recommend signing up for the [LOGISTEED America Industry Newsletter](#). This newsletter will provide you with timely updates on the ILA strike, as well as other important industry developments. Stay informed by subscribing to receive alerts straight to your inbox.



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LOGISTEED America will also provide regular updates through your representative. Please stay in close contact with us to ensure you're aware of any changes or opportunities to adjust your operations during this period.

For any additional questions or concerns, please reach out to us. LOGISTEED America is here to help you navigate these uncertain times and ensure your operations remain as smooth as possible. We are happy to step in and provide the solutions you need to mitigate the strike's impact on your business.