

# Economic importance of the Belgian maritime and inland ports Report 2020

Working paper by Ilse Rubbrecht

Presented by Vice-governor Steven Vanackere

The effect of COVID-19 on the Belgian ports was modest thanks to government support measures

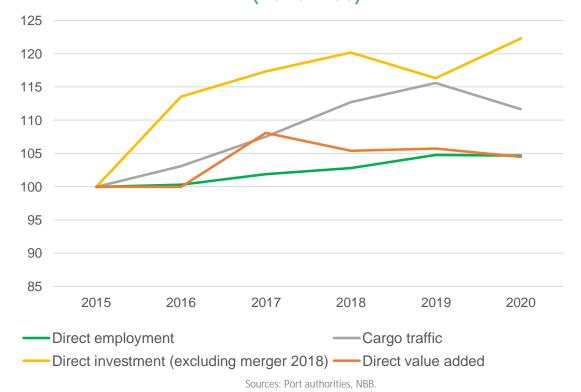
- Number of failures: very low in 2020
- Profitability of median port company slightly declined, liquidity and solvency improved
- Direct and indirect value added fell by 1.8% to € 31.8 billion in 2020, representing 7% of Belgian GDP
- Direct and indirect employment fell by 0.3% to 254 611 FTEs in 2020, representing 5.9% of Belgian domestic employment
- Investment rose by 5% to € 5.1 billion in 2020



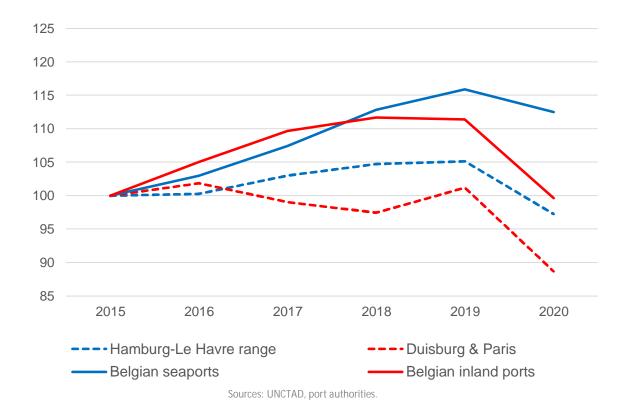


### Competitive position and economic importance of the Belgian ports

#### Maritime cargo traffic, direct value added, employment and investment in Belgian ports (2015=100)

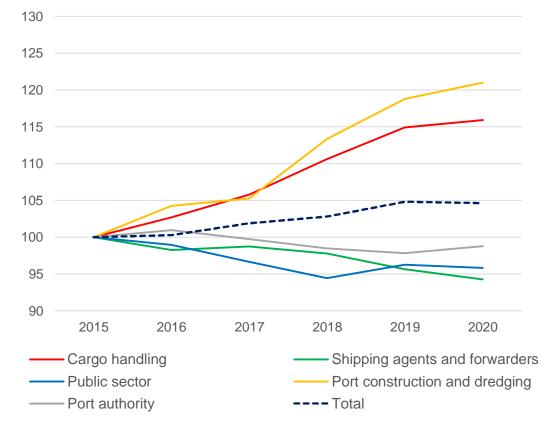


# Maritime cargo traffic in the ports (2015=100)



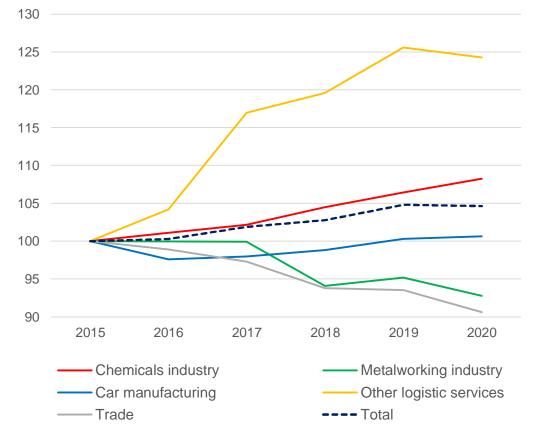
### Direct employment in the Belgian ports: evolution over 2015-2020

# Largest maritime sectors (2015=100)



Source: NBB.

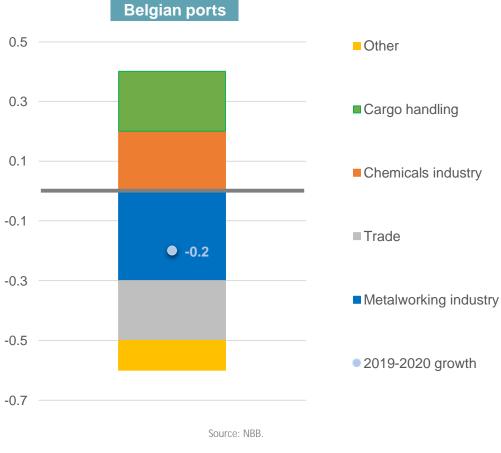
# Largest non-maritime sectors (2015=100)





### Direct employment in the Belgian ports

#### Breakdown of growth 2019-2020 by sector



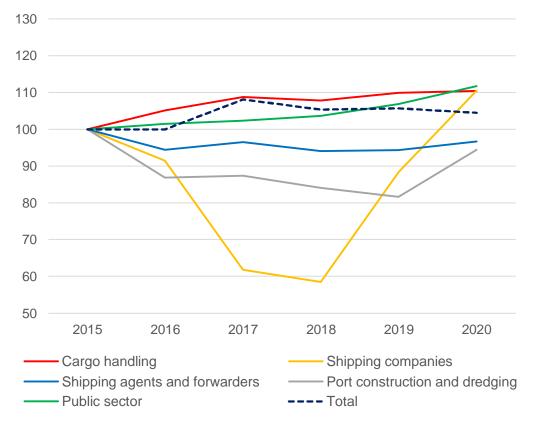
# Direct employment remained quite stable (-0.2%) in 2020 compared to 2019

- Some job losses in
  - Trade
  - Metalworking industry
- Partly compensated by some extra jobs in
  - Chemicals industry
  - Cargo-handling

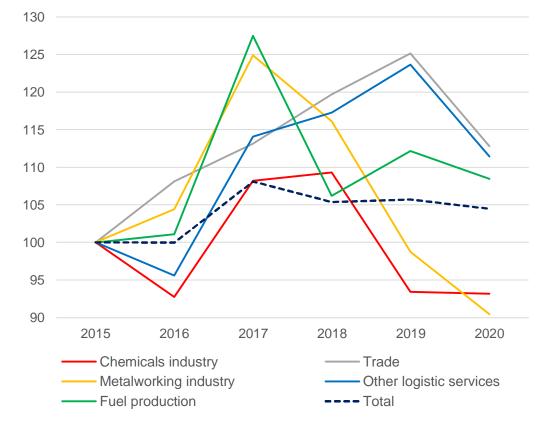


## Direct value added in the Belgian ports: evolution over 2015-2020

Largest maritime sectors (2015=100)







Source: NBB

Source: NBB.

NationaleBank

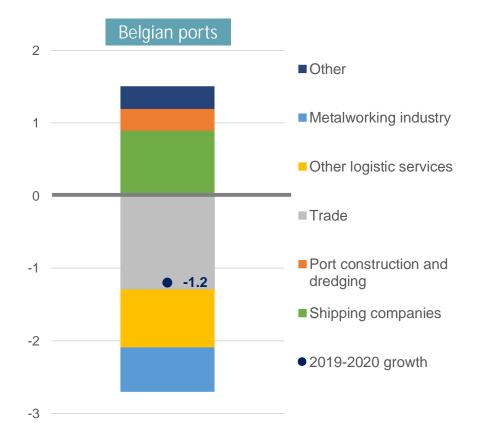
VAN BELGIË

DE BELGIOUI

6

#### Direct value added in the Belgian ports

#### Breakdown of growth 2019-2020 by sector



Source: NBB

Negative growth in direct value added of -1.2 % in 2020 compared to 2019 due to

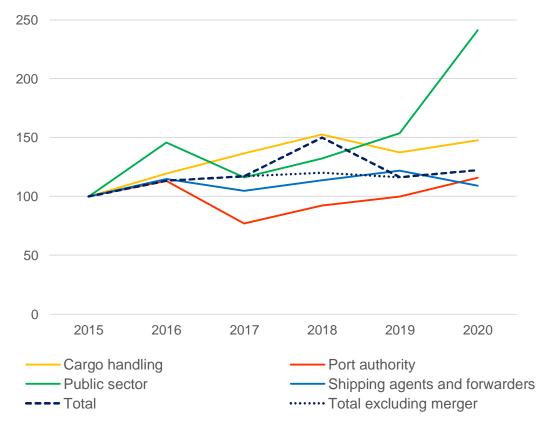
• Trade

- Partly hit by imposed closures of non-food shops
- Other logistic services
  - Companies cut back budgets for consultancy, R&D, training
- Metalworking industry
  - Lower demand for steel
- Partly offset by
  - Shipping companies
  - Dredging activities



### Direct investment in the Belgian ports: evolution over 2015-2020

#### Largest maritime sectors (2015=100)



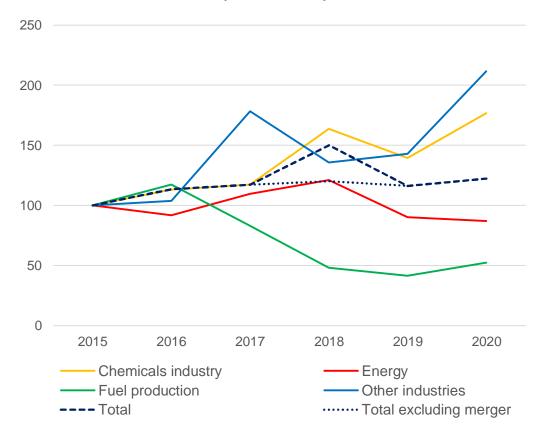
Source: NBB

NationaleBank

VAN BELGIË

DE BELGIOUE

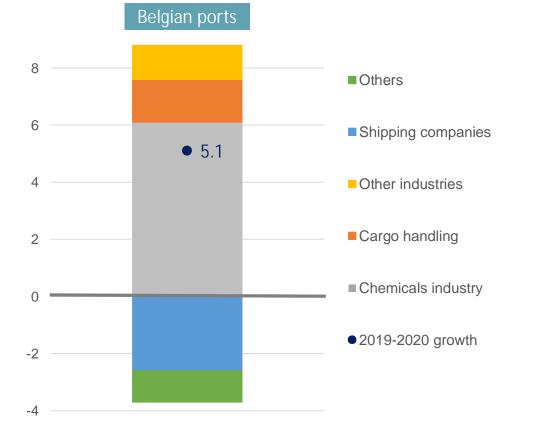
# Largest non-maritime sectors (2015=100)



Source: NBB

#### Direct investment in the Belgian ports

#### Breakdown of growth 2019-2020 by sector



Source: NBB

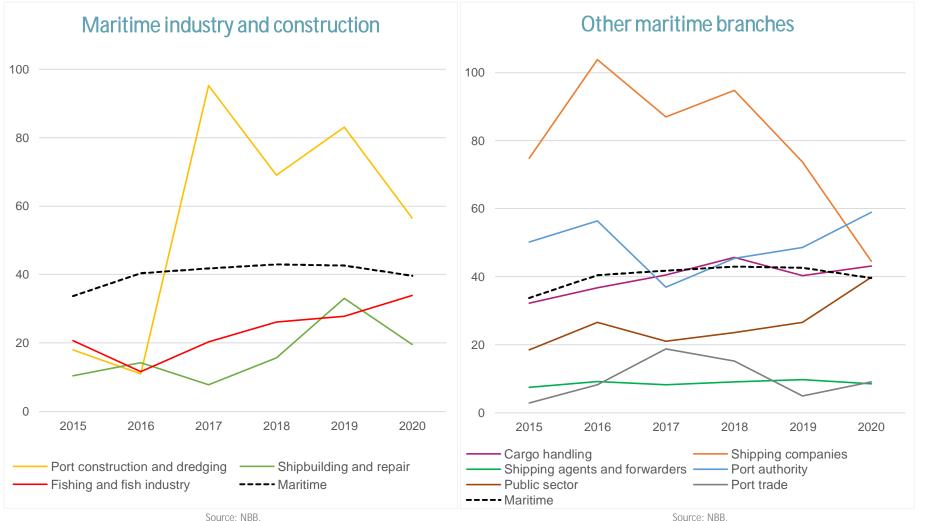
# Investment rose by 5.1% in 2020 compared to 2019 due to higher investment volumes in

- Chemicals industry
- Cargo-handling
- Other industries

The pattern of investment can be volatile since it is linked to specific projects



#### Investment degree of maritime branches over 2015-2020



*Investment degree* =

total acquisition of PPE in t value added in t

#### In maritime cluster, high investment degree for

- Shipping companies
  - Port authorities
- Port construction/dredging

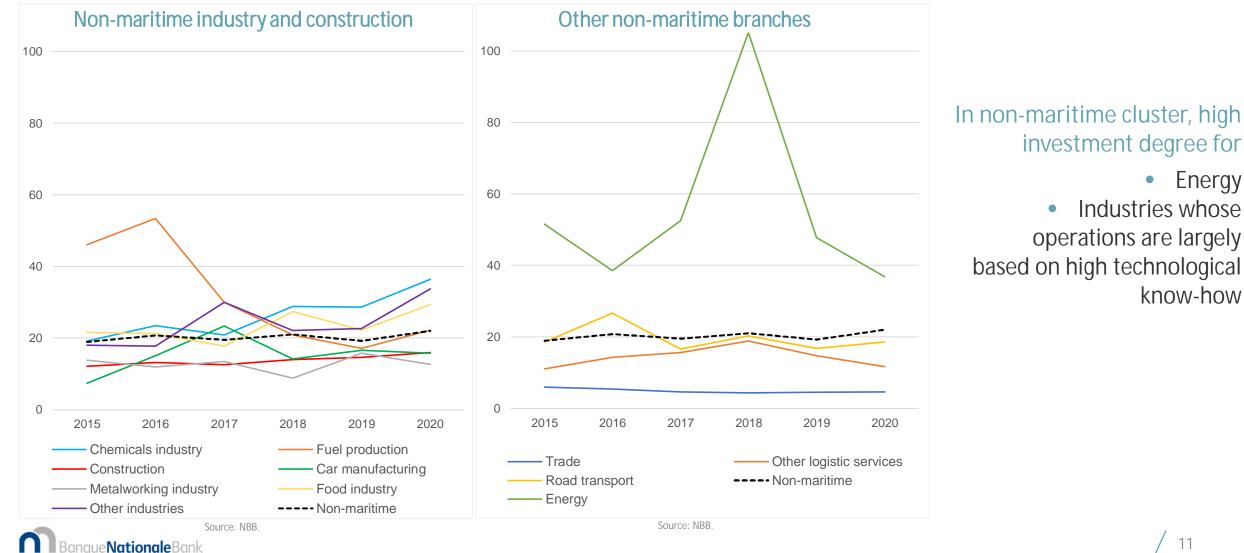
NationaleBank

VAN BEI GI

#### Investment degree of non-maritime branches over 2015-2020

DE BELGIOUI

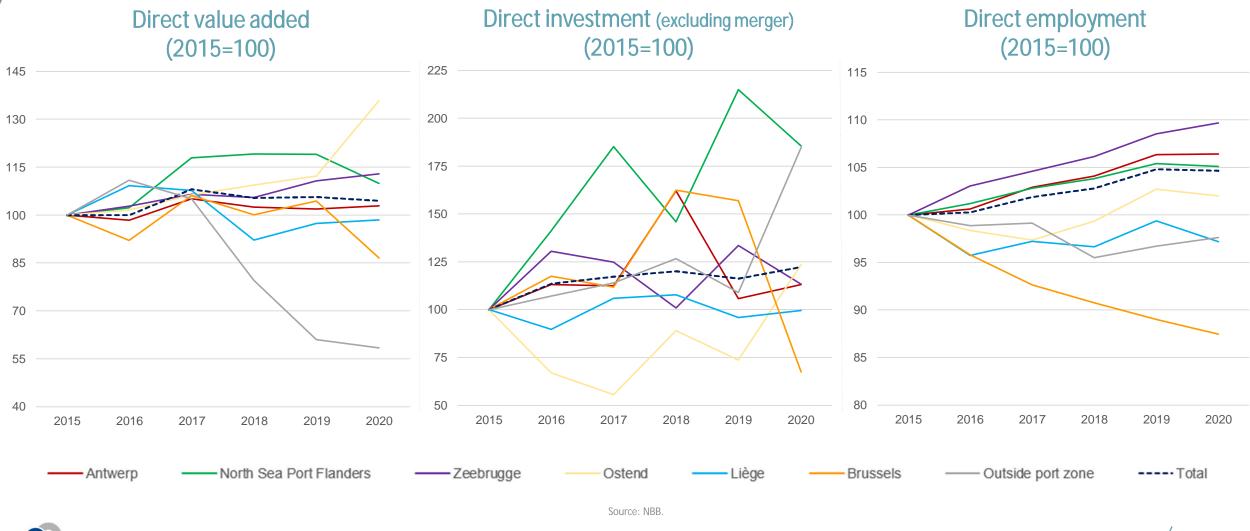
VAN BELGIË



11

Energy

### Evolution over 2015-2020



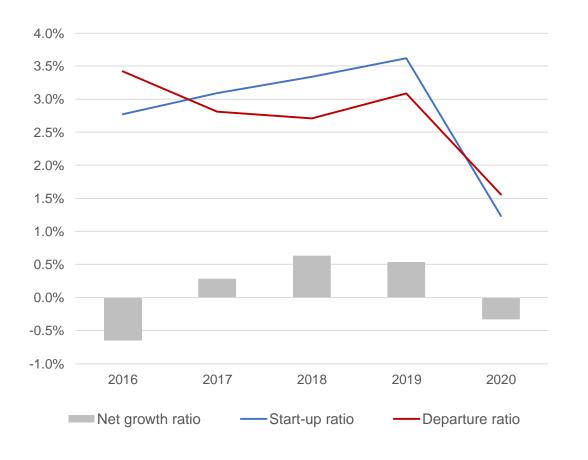
Banque Nationale Bank

#### Port of Antwerp-Bruges in 2020

Port of Antwerp-Bruges in 2020							
	Value Added - VA	Employment - EMPL	Investment - IN				
Direct	€12 262.6 million	72 605 FTEs	€3 554.2 million				
Indirect	€ 8 287.0 million	81 106 FTEs					
Total	€20 549.6 million	153 711 FTEs					
In % Belgian ports	65% of total VA	60% of total EMPL	70% of total direct IN				
In % Belgian economy	4.5% of Belgian GDP	3.6% of Belgian domestic employment					



### Demography within the Belgian ports



Start-up, departure and net growth ratios, year on year

#### Level of company failures was lowest in 2020

Various temporary government support measures and moratoria on insolvencies prevented port companies from going bankrupt

#### Level of start-ups was low as well

Restrictions hardly created a beneficial environment for new companies to start up

Source: NBB.

NationaleBank

VAN BEI GIË

14

## Profitability

In 2020, median port company's profitability declined slightly (except for Zeebrugge)

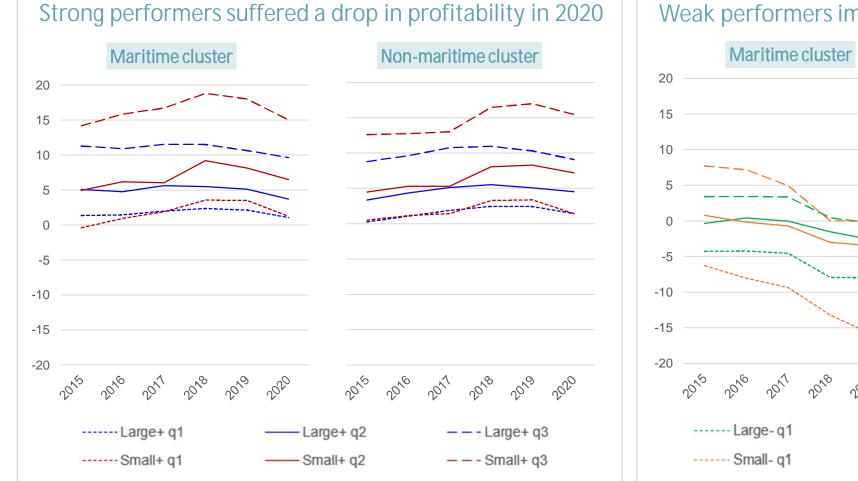
#### Return on Asset ratio per port (in %)

Median							
	Antwerp	North Sea Port Flanders	Zeebrugge	Ostend	Liège	Brussels	Total
2018	3.1	4.1	3.8	3.0	2.8	4.1	3.4
2019	3.0	3.8	3.4	2.7	2.2	4.0	3.3
2020	2.8	3.8	4.2	2.7	1.9	3.9	3.2

Source: NBB.

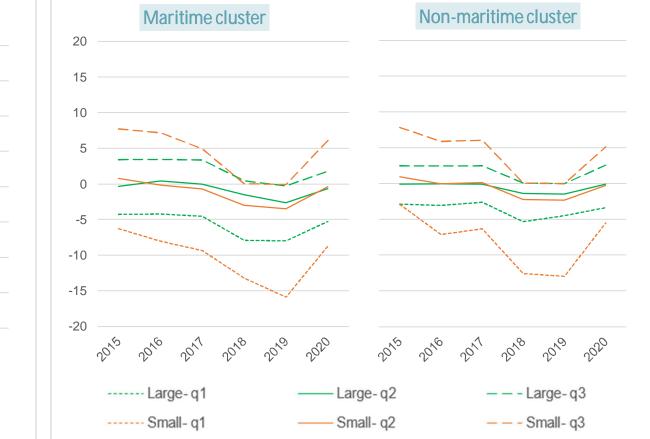


#### Profitability



Source: NBB.

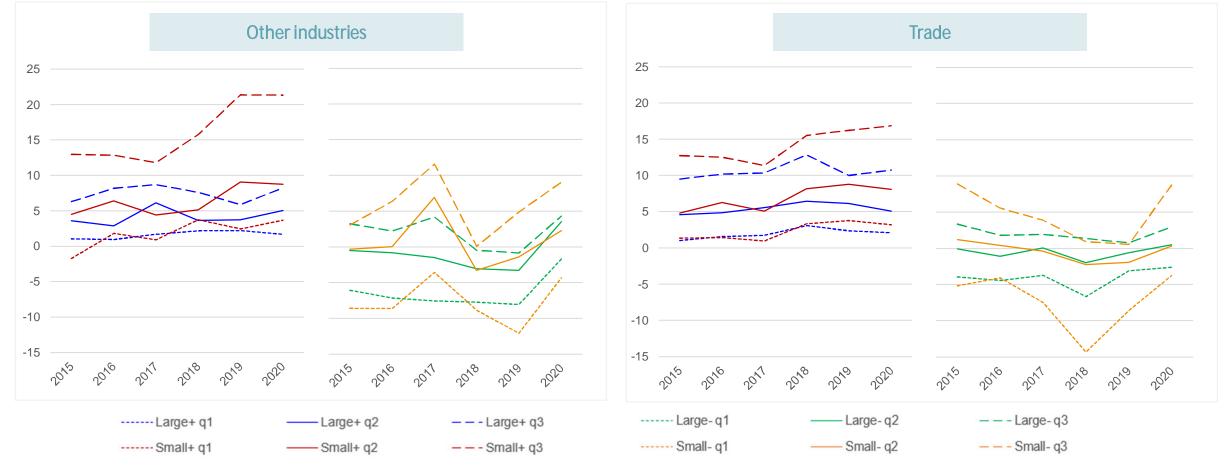
#### Weak performers improved profitability in 2020





#### Profitability

In 2020, profitability of strong performers operating in 'other industries' and 'trade' remained stable or even increased





## Liquidity

#### In 2020, port companies' liquidity was stable or even improved slightly due to

- (In)direct support to wage payments
- (Para)fiscal transfers

#### Narrow liquidity ratio per port

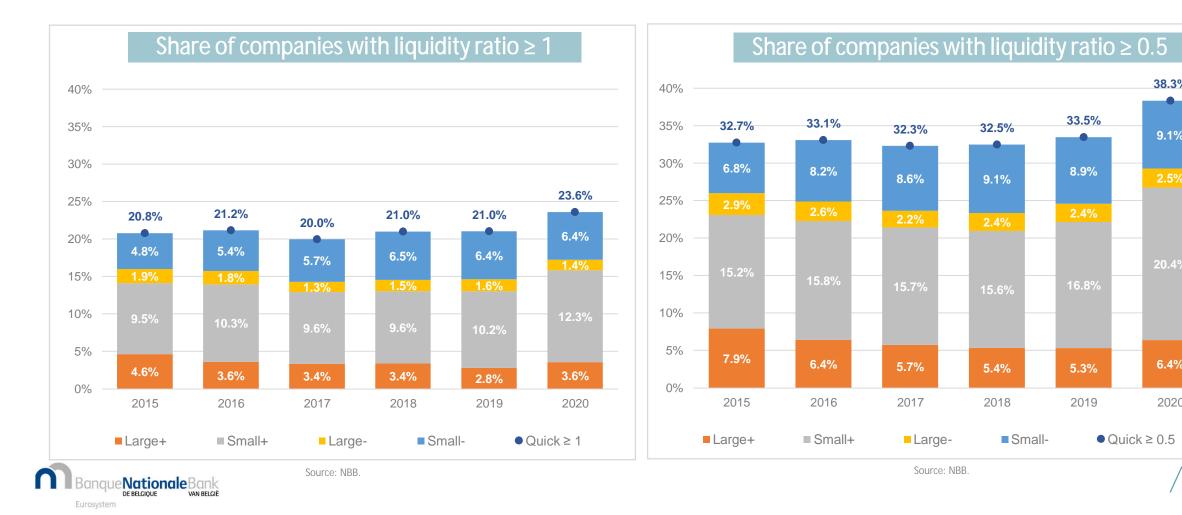
Median							
	Antwerp	North Sea Port Flanders	Zeebrugge	Ostend	Liège	Brussels	Total
2018	0.18	0.17	0.16	0.24	0.12	0.23	0.19
2019	0.18	0.19	0.18	0.21	0.12	0.23	0.19
2020	0.23	0.25	0.24	0.24	0.19	0.29	0.25

Source: NBB.



## Liquidity

#### Government measures focussed on supporting companies that were viable before the outbreak of COVID-19



38.3%

9.1%

6.4%

2020

• Quick  $\geq 0.5$ 

33.5%

8.9%

5.3%

2019

## Solvency

In 2020, port companies improved their solvency too

#### Equity ratio per port (in %)

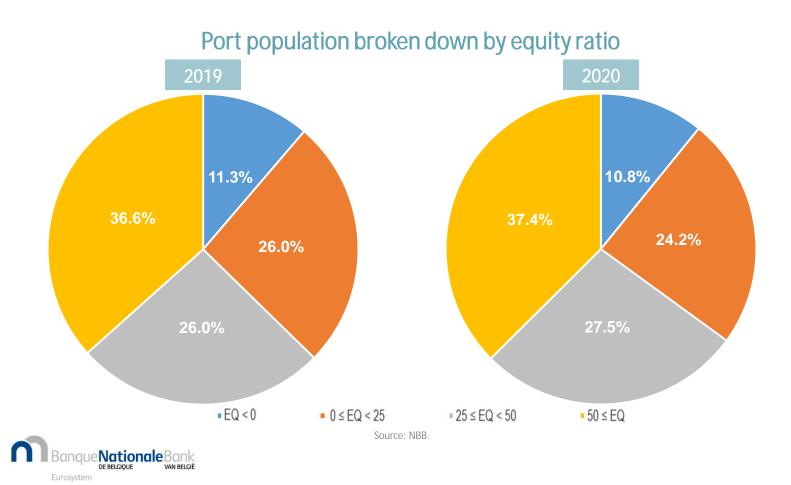
Median							
	Antwerp	North Sea Port Flanders	Zeebrugge	Ostend	Liège	Brussels	Total
2018	31.0	43.0	35.5	42.0	34.0	37.0	34.7
2019	32.9	39.3	37,9	39.3	33.9	39.6	35.9
2020	33.6	40.7	39,4	40.1	37.5	41.7	37.3

Source: NBB.



## Solvency

Government measures to patch up corporate liquidity, did support the solvency position of port companies



#### CONCLUSIONS



## CONCLUSIONS





# Q&A

http://www.nbb.be/

MAERSK

MAERSK

MAERSK

# Port of Antwerp-Bruges

Hoe verzoent Port of Antwerp-Bruges economie met klimaat, mens & omgeving?

18 mei 2022

**Luc Arnouts** 





# Wie zijn we?







## **Eén haven** Twee locaties

Zeebrugge

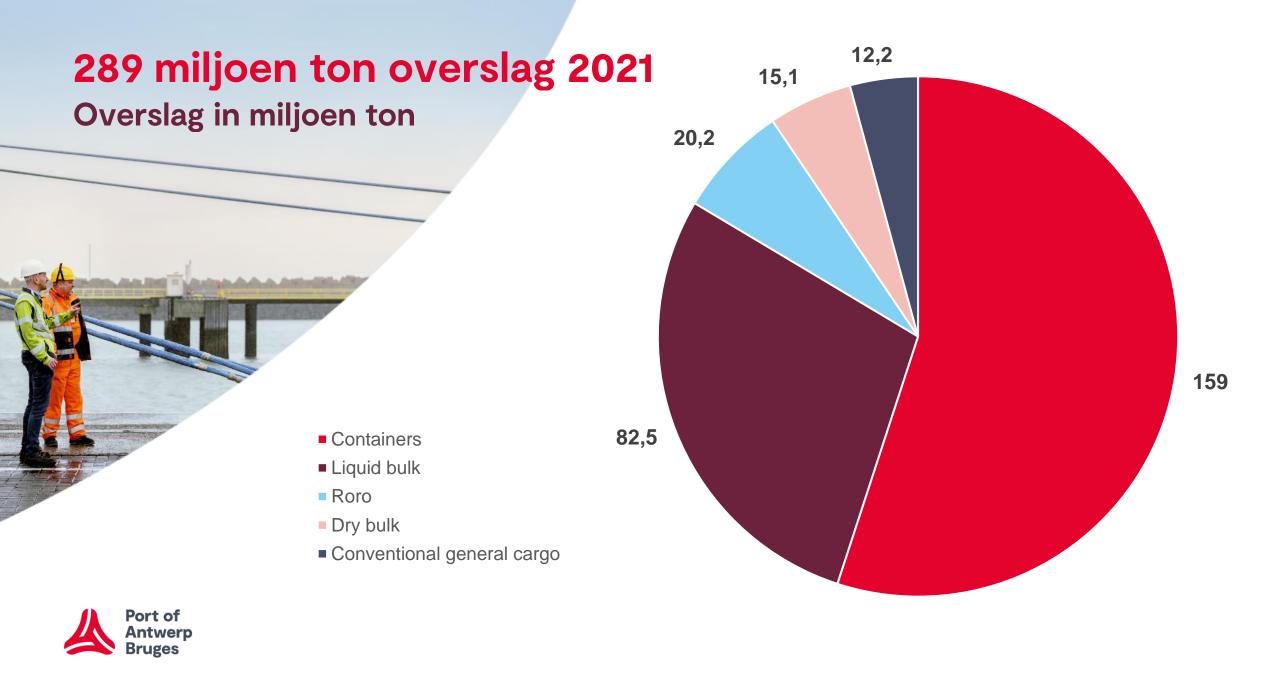
Antwerpen

Port of Antwerp Bruges









## Thuishaven als hefboom voor een duurzame toekomst

Port of Antwerp Bruges

# Ondernemingsplan voor de toekomst

3

Samen op weg naar een wereldhaven die economie, klimaat en mens verzoent

Port of Antwern Bruges

# Wat doen we?





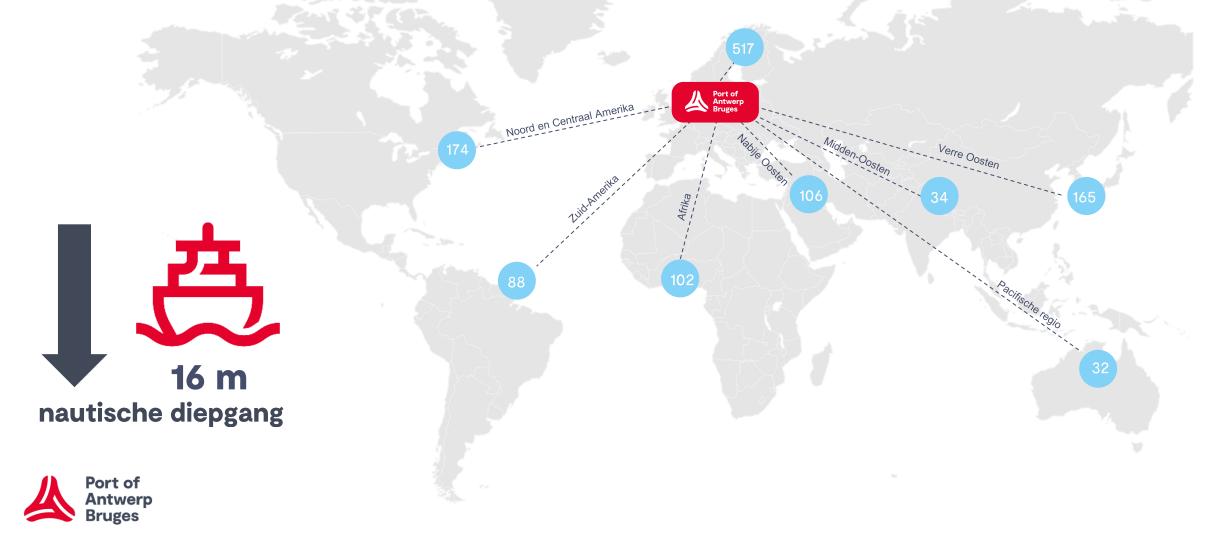
# Connectiviteit

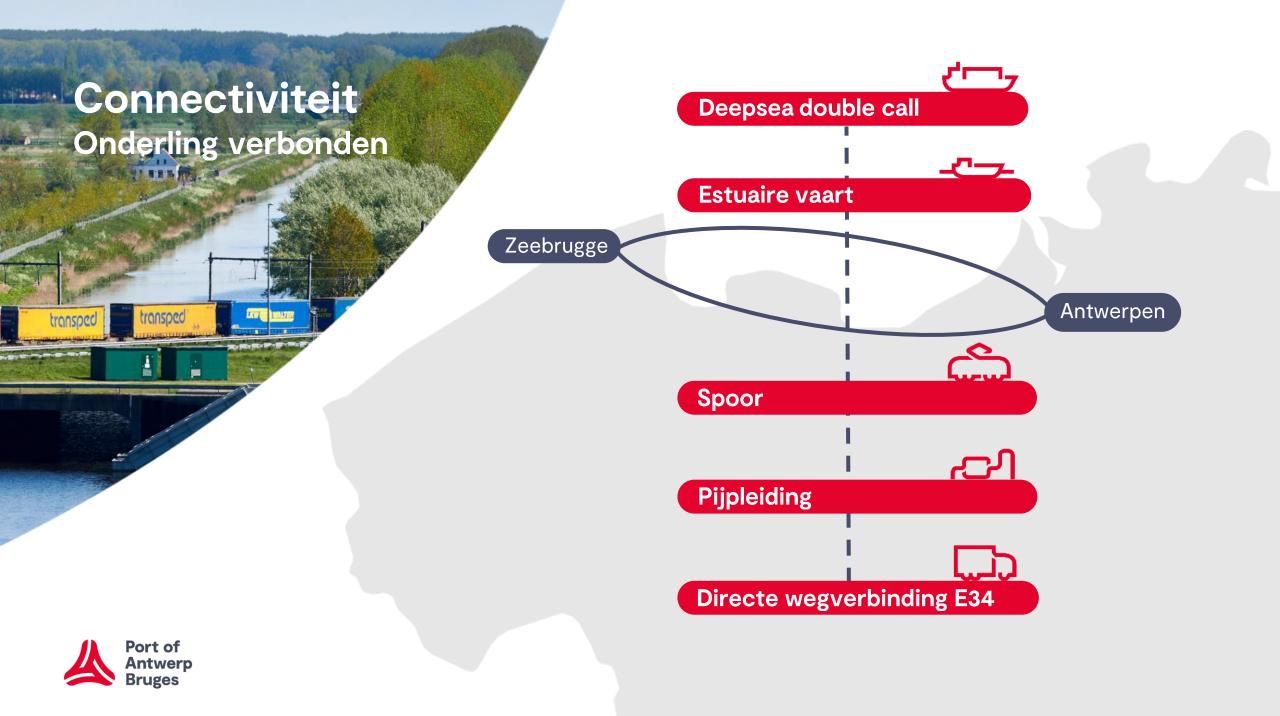




# Connectiviteit

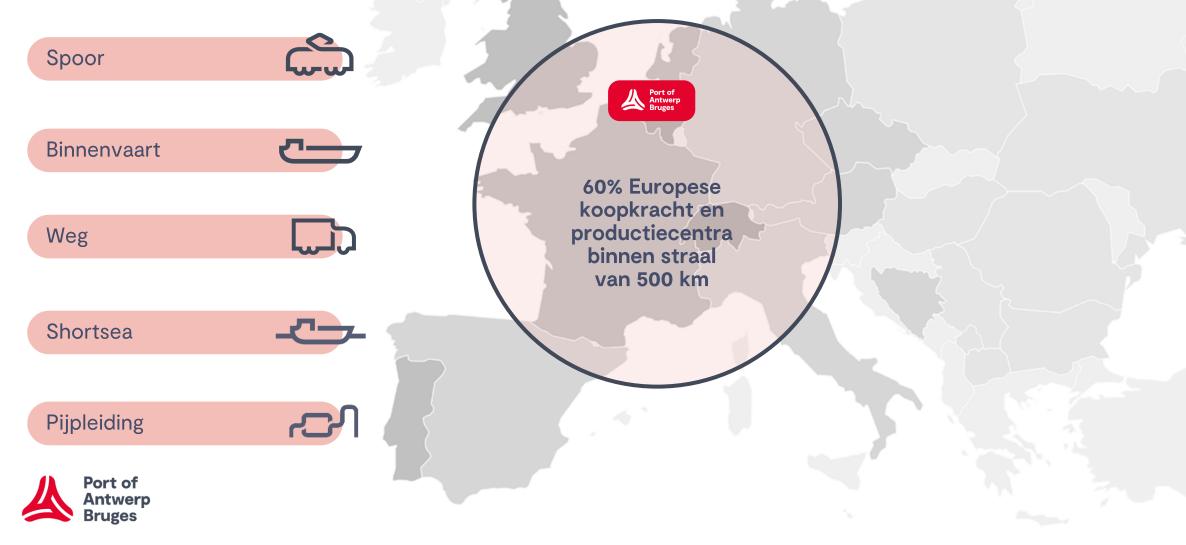
## Maritieme verbindingen naar meer dan 1 200 havens





# Connectiviteit

Multimodaal ontsloten met het Europese achterland



# Uniek ecosysteem

# **Uniek ecosysteem**





# Uniek ecosysteem





container & cold chain | roro | gas

# Antwerpen

Container & cold chain | breakbulk | chemie





#### **Roro & automotive**

Belangrijkste Europese en intercontinentale roro hub **3 160 000 wagens/jaar** 

# Breakburk Linde

Expertise terminals

#### State-of-the-art handling & lifting

#### **Breakbulk**

AND MALLARD AND THE AND A STATE

Brown Kraftliner 6607 1250 150 1250

Europese hub voor staal, woudproducten, project cargo and heavy lift

Port of Antwerp Bruges

## Containers



#### Containertrafiek groeit wereldwijd

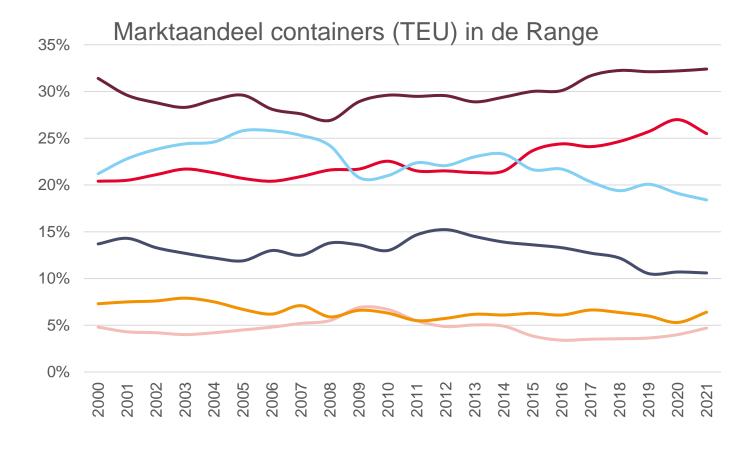
Meer wereldhandel = meer containertrafiek = meer nood aan capaciteit

Tussenoplossing nodig in afwachting van ECA (Extra Containercapaciteit Antwerpen)

14,2 mio TEU in 2021

# Containers

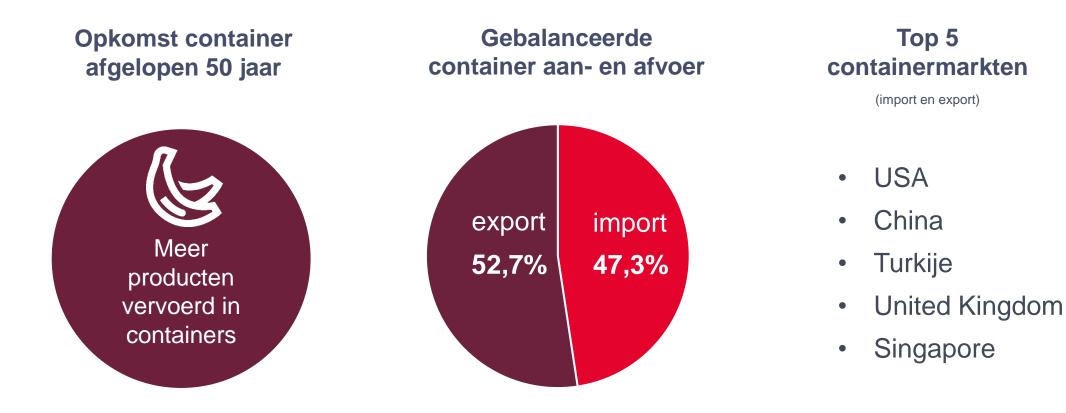
#### Marktaandeel daalt door onder andere capaciteitsproblemen





# Containers

#### Groeiend belang van de container







## **Cold chain**

# ຳ້ຳ້ຳ

Gespecialiseerde dienstverleners

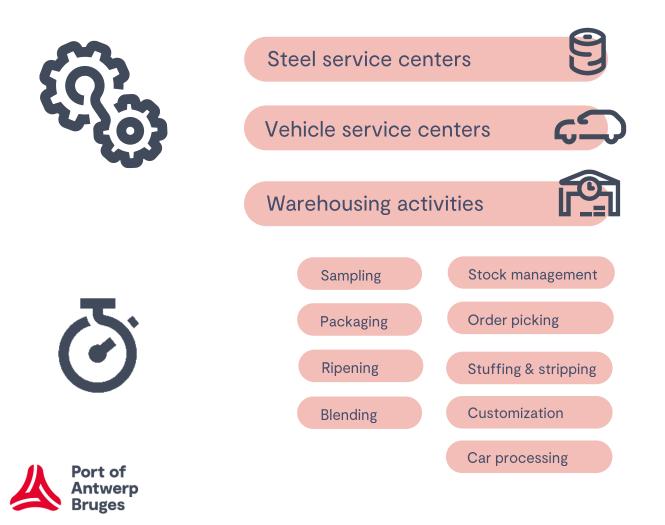


#### Snelle en efficiënte douaneafhandeling



+ 175 000 temperatuurgecontroleerde palletplaatsen

# **Logistiek** Toegevoegde waarde diensten: kostenefficiënt







# Industrie

Synergie productstromen mogelijk door investeringen in chemiesector



### NextGen District proeftuin in Antwerpen voor circulaire chemie

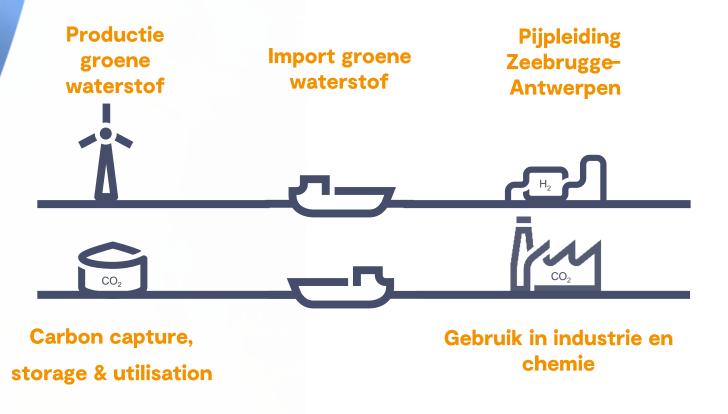


# Voortrekker energieen digitale transitie



## Voortrekker energietransitie

### Ambitie als belangrijkste importhub voor waterstof in Europa



Port of Antwerp Bruges

# Voortrekker energietransitie

Projecten in energie, industrie en scheepvaart



Sustainable **Energy** 



**Expand Onshore wind** production capacity - **Hyoffwind** 



Backbones for sustainable flows (H2, CO2, waste heat & steam)



Hydrogen Import Coalition / Pilots



Sustainable **Industry** 



**NextGen District** – hotspot for circular Economy

Antwerp@C – CCS



**Power-to-Methanol** green methanol production (CCU)



Sustainable **Shipping** 

the way
CONTRACTOR OF

Multi Fuel Port – alternative fuels on offer



Onshore power supply for vessels



Tugboats on H2 & methanol





# **Digital transition**

Technologie: Antwerpen en Zeebrugge als open innovation platform





# "We moeten willen pionieren"

VISITOR

Jacques Vandermeiren,

**CEO** Port of Antwerp-Bruges



