

Stronger container volumes seen in August

Strong volumes have been seen in August as the traditional peak season commences.

August 2022 saw total container throughput (full and empty) up 9.5% over August 2021 with a total of 284,487 TEU. Year to date container volumes are up 6.5%.

Full overseas imports were up 11.2% on August 2021 with strong trade flowing with the commencement of the traditional peak season, whilst full overseas container exports were up 8.2% on August 2021, with raw cotton, wheat, cottonseed and hay and chaff above last year's levels.

Total empty container movements were 7.9% above August 2021.

August 2022 trade performance compared with August 2021 was as follows:



Full overseas container imports (excl. transhipments)

12.2% above August 2021 8.5% above FYTD22



Full overseas container exports (excl. transhipments)

9.3% above August 2021 1.6% above FYTD22



Total empty containers moved

7.9% above August 2021 12.3% above FYTD22



Bass Strait full container trade (excl. transhipments)

7.0% above August 2021 0.3% below FYTD22



Full container transhipments

2.8% above August 2021 3.8% below FYTD22



Dry bulk trade

10.6% below August 2021 7.1% above FYTD22



Break bulk trade

6.7% above August 2021 25.1% above FYTD22



Liquid bulk trade

24.5% above August 2021 14.4% above FYTD22



Motor vehicle imports

25.6% above August 2021 (+8,531 units) 18.9% above FYTD22







Trade outlook

Container trade for early September 2022 is tracking below the comparative month in 2021.

Supply chain

Globally, congestion and delays are still being seen however schedule reliability globally continues to improve. Container freight rates continued to decline during August, although still well above prepandemic levels.

Trade volumes to Australia remain strong with vessel bunching and some congestion still being seen at several ports. Locally the supply chain remains resilient and we continue to monitor the situation throughout peak season and ahead of the traditional 'Golden Week' holidays.

Please call your Port of Melbourne contact or email us at information@portofmelbourne.com if you have any queries.

