

Trade Update

February 2023 – Issue no. 39

February 2023 container volumes decrease on the prior year

Total container throughput (full & empty) for February 2023 were down 18.4% over February 2022 with a total of 219,606 TEU. Year to date container volumes are consistent with prior year.

Full overseas exports were down 4.4% on February 2022, with hay & fodder, pulp & wastepaper, and dried milk all below last year's levels.

Full overseas imports were down 28.9% on February 2022 with miscellaneous manufactures, furniture, metal manufactures, domestic appliances, textiles, and paperboard, all below last year's levels.

Total empty container movements were 21.1% below February 2022.

February 2023 trade performance compared with February 2022 was as follows:



Full overseas container imports (excl. transshipments)
-28.9% below February 2022
-3.2% below FYTD22



Dry bulk trade
-8.3% below February 2022
-3.3% below FYTD22



Full overseas container exports (excl. transshipments)
-4.4% below February 2022
-2.3% below FYTD22



Break bulk trade
-36.8% below February 2022
-0.5% below FYTD22



Total empty containers moved
-21.1% below February 2022
+6.2% above FYTD22



Liquid bulk trade
-16.2% below February 2022
+4.4% above FYTD22



Bass Strait full container trade (excl. transshipments)
-5.0% below February 2022
-2.3% below FYTD22



Motor vehicle imports
-1.3% below February 2022
(+1,269 units)
+20.9% above FYTD22



Full container transshipments
39.2% above February 2022
15.3% above FYTD22



Trade outlook

Container trade for March 2023 is tracking below the comparative month in 2022.

Port of Melbourne

