

Trade Update

March 2023 – Issue no. 40



March 2023 container volumes decrease on the prior year

Total container throughput (full & empty) in March 2023 were down 2.3% over March 2022 with a total of 267,294 TEU. Year to date container volumes were down 0.2%.

Full overseas imports were up 2.66% on March 2022 with clothing, paperboard and electrical machinery all above last year's volumes and miscellaneous manufactures, furniture and domestic appliances below last year's volumes.

Full overseas exports were down 1.83% on March 2022, with paperboard, hay & fodder and wine all below last year's volume.

Total empty container movements were 4.5% above March 2022.

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



Full overseas container imports
(excl. transshipments)
+2.66% above March 2022
-2.56% below FYTD22



Dry bulk trade
+8.7% above March 2022
-1.8% below FYTD22



Full overseas container exports
(excl. transshipments)
-1.83% below March 2022
-2.21% below FYTD22



Break bulk trade
+25.8% above March 2022
+1.9% above FYTD22



Total empty containers moved
+4.5% above March 2022
+6.0% above FYTD22



Liquid bulk trade
+22.9% above March 2022
+6.6% above FYTD22



Bass Strait full container trade
(excl. transshipments)
-1.67% below March 2022
-1.9% below FYTD22



Motor vehicle imports
-2.6% below March 2022
(-870 units)
+17.9% above FYTD22



Full container transshipments
-40.3% below March 2022
+5.2% above FYTD22



Trade outlook

Container trade for April 2023 is tracking above the comparative month in 2022.

Port of Melbourne

