

Trade Update

May 2023 – Issue no. 42

May 2023 container volumes decrease on the prior year

Total container throughput (full & empty) in May 2023 were down 6.3% over May 2022 with a total of 254,310 TEU. Year to date container volumes were down 1.0%.

Full overseas imports were down 13.4% on May 2022 with furniture, domestic appliances, clothing, paperboards and textiles below last year's volumes.

Full overseas exports were down 17.8% on May 2022, wheat, pulp & wastepaper, wool and scrap metal below last year's volumes.

Total empty container movements were 6.9% above May 2022.

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



Full overseas container imports
(excl. transshipments)
-13.4% below May 2022
-3.7% below FYTD22



Dry bulk trade
+3.6% above May 2022
-0.2% below FYTD22



Full overseas container exports
(excl. transshipments)
-17.8% below May 2022
-3.8% below FYTD22



Break bulk trade
-23.7% below May 2022
-3.8% below FYTD22



Total empty containers moved
+6.9% above May 2022
+5.2% above FYTD22



Liquid bulk trade
+31.2% above May 2022
+8.5% above FYTD22



Bass Strait full container trade
(excl. transshipments)
-4.5% below May 2022
-2.6% below FYTD22



Motor vehicle imports
+14.8% above May 2022
(+5,057 units)
+14.4% above FYTD22



Full container transshipments
+49.6% above May 2022
+9.6% above FYTD22



Trade outlook

Container trade for June 2023 is currently tracking in line with the comparative month in 2022.

Port of Melbourne

