

Container Registrations

June 2015

Release date: 3 August 2015

	Jun 15	May 15	Apr 15	Mar 15
Total	1,072	760	684	648
Business	599	455	412	375
Private	473	305	272	273

Highest number of registrations

Over June, the total number of container registrations rose by 41.1% to 1,072, the highest number on record yet. This was driven by increases in both private and business container registrations. The monthly increase could be due to festivities and special events scheduled for June and July, which include the coronation, Heilala festival, school anniversaries, and church conferences. In addition, banking data shows that import payments rose by 44% over the month of May, indicating potential lag effect which coincides with the increase in container registrations. Furthermore, business and household loans increased by 2.2% and 0.25% respectively further supporting the monthly rise. Similarly, the annual number of total container registrations increased by 15.3% with private and business container registrations increasing by 11.4% and 18.2% respectively.

On the outlook, the NRBT expects imports and consequentially container registrations to generally increase in the new financial year. Banking data for June shows an increase suggesting a lag effect, indicating higher imports for the upcoming month and possibly exerting downward pressure on the foreign reserves. On-going construction projects and other special preparations are anticipated to drive the rise. These upcoming events are also expected to have spillover effects on the trade, tourism, and construction sectors. The NRBT will continue to closely monitor the country's economic and financial conditions in

order to maintain an adequate level of foreign reserves and promote price stability.

Container Registrations							
Total Number of Containers							
	Month ended			Jun 14	Year ended		Share of Total
	Jun 15	May 15	Apr 15		Jun 15	Jun 14	
Total containers	1072	760	684	855	8,450	7,329	100
Business	599	455	412	487	4,953	4,191	59
Private	473	305	272	368	3,497	3,138	41

Source: Tonga Ports Authority

