

Statistics on vessels, port cargo and containers for the third quarter of 2018

The Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) today (December 6) released the statistics on vessels, port cargo and containers for the third quarter of 2018.

In the third quarter of 2018, total port cargo throughput decreased by 13.0% compared with a year earlier to 61.7 million tonnes. Within this total, inward port cargo and outward port cargo decreased by 15.4% and 9.0% compared with a year earlier to 37.3 million tonnes and 24.4 million tonnes respectively.

For the first nine months of 2018, total port cargo throughput decreased by 6.4% compared with a year earlier to 193.5 million tonnes. Within this total, inward port cargo and outward port cargo decreased by 6.6% and 6.2% compared with a year earlier to 119.5 million tonnes and 73.9 million tonnes respectively.

On a seasonally adjusted quarter-to-quarter comparison, total port cargo throughput decreased by 6.7% in the third quarter of 2018. Within this total, inward port cargo and outward port cargo decreased by 9.7% and 1.7% respectively compared with the preceding quarter. The seasonally adjusted series enables more meaningful shorter-term comparison to be made for discerning possible variations in trends.

Port cargo

Within port cargo, seaborne and river cargo decreased by 8.1% and 21.0% in the third quarter of 2018 compared with a year earlier to 40.5 million tonnes and 21.2 million tonnes respectively.

Within inward port cargo, imports and inward transshipment decreased by 18.6% and 11.0% in the third quarter of 2018 compared with a year earlier to 20.8 million tonnes and 16.5 million tonnes respectively. For outward port cargo, exports (including domestic exports and re-exports) and outward transshipment decreased by 10.7% and 8.1% compared with a year earlier to 8.3 million tonnes and 16.1 million tonnes respectively.

Within port cargo, seaborne and river cargo decreased by 7.3% and 4.9% in the first nine months of 2018 compared with a year earlier to 123.4 million tonnes and 70.1 million tonnes respectively.

Within inward port cargo, imports and inward transshipment decreased by 5.4% and 8.2% in the first nine months of 2018 compared with a year earlier to 68.7 million tonnes and 50.8 million tonnes respectively. For outward port cargo, exports and outward transshipment decreased by 6.9% and 5.9% compared

with a year earlier to 25.5 million tonnes and 48.5 million tonnes respectively.

The detailed port cargo statistics are summarised in Table 1.

The main countries/territories of loading of inward port cargo and countries/territories of discharge of outward port cargo are shown in Table 2 and Table 3 respectively.

Comparing the third quarter of 2018 with the third quarter of 2017, double-digit increase was recorded in the tonnage of inward port cargo loaded in Vietnam (+17.1%). On the other hand, double-digit decreases were recorded in the tonnage of inward port cargo loaded in the United States of America (-32.7%), Japan (-28.9%), Korea (-26.1%), the mainland of China (-18.3%), Singapore (-13.7%) and Taiwan (-11.4%). For outward port cargo, double-digit increase was recorded in the tonnage of outward port cargo discharged in the Philippines (+29.7%). On the other hand, double-digit decreases were recorded in the tonnage of outward port cargo discharged in Macao (-40.7%), Taiwan (-37.3%), Malaysia (-22.7%), Korea (-20.3%), Thailand (-15.0%) and Japan (-12.5%).

Comparing the first nine months of 2018 with the first nine months of 2017, double-digit increase was recorded in the tonnage of inward port cargo loaded in Malaysia (+12.5%). On the other hand, double-digit decreases were recorded in the tonnage of inward port cargo loaded in Japan (-20.4%), Singapore (-20.0%), the United States of America (-14.3%) and Korea (-13.9%). For outward port cargo, double-digit increase was recorded in the tonnage of outward port cargo discharged in the Philippines (+10.4%). On the other hand, double-digit decreases were recorded in the tonnage of outward port cargo discharged in Macao (-54.6%), Korea (-17.5%), Thailand (-16.0%), Taiwan (-13.7%) and Malaysia (-12.3%).

The principal commodities of inward port cargo and outward port cargo are shown in Table 4 and Table 5 respectively.

Comparing the third quarter of 2018 with the third quarter of 2017, double-digit decreases were recorded in the tonnage of inward port cargo of "stone, sand and gravel" (-37.5%), "logs and timber; wood, simply worked" (-14.1%), "machinery" (-13.5%) and "coal, coke and briquettes" (-11.7%). As for outward port cargo, double-digit decreases were recorded in the tonnage of "metalliferous ores and metal scrap" (-39.1%), "pulp and waste paper" (-21.5%) and "logs and timber; wood, simply worked" (-13.4%).

Comparing the first nine months of 2018 with the first nine months of 2017, double-digit decreases were recorded in the tonnage of inward port cargo of "artificial resins and plastic materials" (-12.4%) and "stone, sand and gravel" (-11.4%). As for outward port cargo, double-digit decreases were recorded in the tonnage of "metalliferous ores and metal scrap" (-27.4%) and "pulp and waste paper" (-10.5%).

Containers

In the third quarter of 2018, the port of Hong Kong handled 4.77 million TEUs of containers, representing a decrease of 10.1% compared with a year earlier. Within this total, laden and empty containers decreased by 7.7% and 23.2% to 4.14 million TEUs and 0.63 million TEUs respectively. Among laden containers, inward and outward containers decreased by 7.5% and 7.9% to 2.12 million TEUs and 2.02 million TEUs respectively.

For the first nine months of 2018, the port of Hong Kong handled 14.64 million TEUs of containers, representing a decrease of 5.9% compared with a year earlier. Within this total, laden and empty containers decreased by 6.0% and 5.6% to 12.50 million TEUs and 2.13 million TEUs respectively. Among laden containers, inward and outward containers decreased by 5.8% and 6.2% to 6.47 million TEUs and 6.04 million TEUs respectively.

On a seasonally adjusted quarter-to-quarter comparison, laden container throughput decreased by 2.5% in the third quarter of 2018. Within this total, inward and outward laden containers decreased by 2.9% and 2.0% respectively.

In the third quarter of 2018, seaborne and river laden containers decreased by 6.7% and 10.3% compared with a year earlier to 2.99 million TEUs and 1.15 million TEUs respectively.

Within inward laden containers, imports and inward transshipment decreased by 4.2% and 8.9% in the third quarter of 2018 compared with a year earlier to 0.64 million TEUs and 1.49 million TEUs respectively. For outward laden containers, exports and outward transshipment decreased by 10.8% and 6.8% to 0.57 million TEUs and 1.45 million TEUs respectively.

In the first nine months of 2018, seaborne and river laden containers decreased by 7.9% and 0.7% compared with a year earlier to 8.92 million TEUs and 3.58 million TEUs respectively.

Within inward laden containers, imports and inward transshipment decreased by 5.0% and 6.1% in the first nine months of 2018 compared with a year earlier to 1.93 million TEUs and 4.54 million TEUs respectively. For outward laden containers, exports and outward transshipment decreased by 7.7% and 5.6% to 1.68 million TEUs and 4.35 million TEUs respectively.

The detailed container statistics are summarised in Table 6.

Port cargo and laden container statistics are compiled from a sample of consignments listed in the cargo manifests supplied by shipping companies and agents to the C&SD.

Vessel arrivals

Comparing the third quarter of 2018 with the third quarter of 2017, the number of ocean vessel arrivals decreased by 8.2% to 6 227, with the total capacity also decreasing by 9.4% to 97.5 million net registered tons. Meanwhile, the number of river vessel arrivals decreased by 7.5% to 36 187, with the total capacity also decreasing by 10.3% to 26.4 million net registered tons.

Comparing the first nine months of 2018 with the first nine months of 2017, the number of ocean vessel arrivals decreased by 6.1% to 18 983, with the total capacity also decreasing by 6.4% to 298.6 million net registered tons. Meanwhile, the number of river vessel arrivals decreased by 5.0% to 112 203, with the total capacity also decreasing by 8.4% to 82.0 million net registered tons.

The statistics on vessel arrivals in Hong Kong are given in Table 7.

Vessel statistics are compiled by the Marine Department primarily from general declarations submitted by ship masters and authorised shipping agents. Pleasure vessels and fishing vessels plying exclusively within the river trade limits are excluded.

Further information

More detailed statistics on port cargo, containers and vessels are published in the report "Hong Kong Shipping Statistics, Third Quarter 2018". Users can download this publication free of charge at the website of the C&SD (www.censtatd.gov.hk/hkstat/sub/sp130.jsp?productCode=B1020008).

For enquiries about port cargo and container statistics, please contact the Outward Processing and Shipping Statistics Section of the C&SD (Tel: 2582 2126 or email: shipping@censtatd.gov.hk). For enquiries about vessel statistics, readers may contact the Statistics Section under the Planning, Development and Port Security Branch of the Marine Department (Tel: 2852 3661 or email: st-sec@mardep.gov.hk).

Interest rate of the fifth interest payment for iBond Series due 2019

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA), as representative of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government (HKSAR Government), announces today (December 6) the relevant per annum interest rate for the fifth interest payment of iBond Series due 2019 (Issue Number 03GB1906R; Stock Code: 4231) (the Bonds) issued under the Retail Bond Issuance Programme of the Government Bond Programme.

According to the Issue Circular dated May 19, 2016 for the Bonds, the fifth interest payment of the Bonds is scheduled to be made on December 20, 2018, and the relevant interest rate is scheduled to be determined and announced on December 6, 2018 as the higher of the prevailing Floating Rate and Fixed Rate.

On December 6, 2018, the Floating Rate and Fixed Rate are as follows:

Floating Rate: +2.43% (Note)

Fixed Rate: +1.00%

Based on the Floating Rate and Fixed Rate set out above, the relevant interest rate for the fifth interest payment is determined and announced as 2.43% per annum.

Note:

Month	Year-on-year rates of change in the 2014/15-based Composite Consumer Price Index (%)
May 2018	+2.10
June 2018	+2.40
July 2018	+2.40
August 2018	+2.30
September 2018	+2.70
October 2018	+2.70
Arithmetic Average	+2.43

[SEN to visit Guangzhou tomorrow](#)

The Secretary for the Environment, Mr Wong Kam-sing, will tomorrow (December 7) lead a delegation to attend meetings of the Hong Kong-Guangdong Joint Working Group on Sustainable Development and Environmental Protection (JWGSDEP) and the Hong Kong-Guangdong Joint Working Group on Cleaner Production (JWGCP) in Guangzhou.

In the morning, Mr Wong will co-chair with the Director-General of the Department of Ecology and Environment of Guangdong Province, Mr Lu Xiulu, the 18th meeting of the JWGSDEP to review the progress of environmental collaboration in 2018, and agree on a work plan for 2019.

In the afternoon, Mr Wong will co-chair the fifth meeting of the JWGCP with the Director-General of the Department of Industry and Information Technology of Guangdong Province, Mr Tu Gaokun, to review the work progress of 2018 and discuss the work plan for 2019.

Prior to the meeting, they will also jointly officiate at the presentation ceremony of the Hong Kong-Guangdong Cleaner Production Partners Recognition Scheme to recognise the efforts of Hong Kong and Guangdong enterprises in pursuing cleaner production to help protect the environment in the region.

Mr Wong will return to Hong Kong tomorrow evening.

Suspicious mobile application related to The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) wishes to alert members of the public to a press release issued by The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited on suspicious mobile application (App), which has been reported to the HKMA. Hyperlink to the press release is available on [the HKMA website](#) for ease of reference by members of the public.

Anyone who has provided his or her personal information to the App concerned or has conducted any financial transactions through the App should contact the bank concerned using the contact information provided in the press release, and report to the Police or contact the Cyber Security and Technology Crime Bureau of the Hong Kong Police Force at 2860 5012.

LegCo Committee meetings

The following is issued on behalf of the Legislative Council Secretariat:

The meeting of the Legislative Council (LegCo) Finance Committee (FC) originally scheduled at 3pm tomorrow (December 7) in Conference Room 1 of the LegCo Complex will start at 3.30pm (or an earlier time between 3.15pm and 3.30pm). If the preceding House Committee meeting ends before 3.15pm, the FC meeting will start at 3.15pm.

Meanwhile, the first meeting of the Subcommittee on Banking (Amendment) Ordinance 2018 (Commencement) (No. 2) Notice 2018 and Three Items of Subsidiary Legislation under the Banking Ordinance originally scheduled for tomorrow at 10.45am has been cancelled.