

HAD opens temporary heat shelters

The Home Affairs Department will continue to open 19 community halls/community centres as temporary heat shelters today (September 3).

The temporary heat shelters will remain open for people to take refuge from the heat when the Very Hot Weather Warning is in force. From 10.30pm to 8am the next day, the temporary heat shelters will also provide bedding and a sleeping place for people in need. The shelters are manned by duty attendants.

For further information, please call the department's hotline before midnight on 2572 8427.

The heat shelters are located at:

Hong Kong Island:

Central and Western –

Sai Ying Pun Community Complex Community Hall

3/F, Sai Ying Pun Community Complex

2 High Street, Sai Ying Pun

Eastern –

Causeway Bay Community Centre

3/F, 7 Fook Yum Road, Causeway Bay

Southern –

Lei Tung Community Hall

Lei Tung Estate, Ap Lei Chau

Wan Chai –

Wan Chai Activities Centre

LG/F, Wan Chai Market, 258 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai

Kowloon Districts:

Kowloon City –

Hung Hom Community Hall

1/F, Kowloon City Government Offices

42 Bailey Street, Hung Hom

Kwun Tong –

Lam Tin (West) Estate Community Centre

71 Kai Tin Road, Lam Tin

Sham Shui Po –

Shek Kip Mei Community Hall

G/F, Block 42, Shek Kip Mei Estate, Sham Shui Po

Wong Tai Sin –
Tsz Wan Shan (South) Estate Community Centre
45 Wan Wah Street, Tsz Wan Shan

Yau Tsim Mong –
Henry G Leong Yaumatei Community Centre
60 Public Square Street, Yau Ma Tei

New Territories Districts:

Islands –
Tung Chung Community Hall
G/F, Tung Chung Municipal Services Building, 39 Man Tung Road, Tung Chung

Kwai Tsing –
Kwai Shing Community Hall
Podium, Block 6, Kwai Shing West Estate, Kwai Chung

North –
Cheung Wah Community Hall
Cheung Wah Estate, Fanling

Sai Kung –
Hang Hau Community Hall
G/F, Sai Kung Tseung Kwan O Government Complex, 38 Pui Shing Road, Hang Hau,
Tseung Kwan O

Sha Tin –
Lung Hang Estate Community Centre
Lung Hang Estate, Sha Tin

Tai Po –
Tai Po Community Centre
2 Heung Sze Wui Street, Tai Po

Tsuen Wan –
Lei Muk Shue Community Hall
G/F, Hong Shue House, Lei Muk Shue Estate, Tsuen Wan

Tuen Mun –
Butterfly Bay Community Centre
Butterfly Estate (near Tip Sum House), Tuen Mun

Yuen Long –
Long Ping Community Hall
Long Ping Estate, Yuen Long

Yuen Long –
Tin Yiu Community Centre
Tin Yiu Estate, Tin Shui Wai

In addition to the above heat shelters, a number of community halls/community centres can also be used for taking refuge from the heat during their operating hours. For their address details, please browse the following document: www.had.gov.hk/file_manager/en/documents/public_services/emergency_services/List_CH_CC_Day_E.pdf.

CE meets Secretary of CPC Jiangxi Provincial Committee (with photo)

â€‹The Chief Executive, Mr John Lee, met the Secretary of the CPC Jiangxi Provincial Committee, Mr Yin Hong, at Government House today (September 3) to exchange views on strengthening Hong Kong's co-operation with Jiangxi. Also attending the meeting were the Chief Secretary for Administration, Mr Chan Kwok-ki; the Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs, Mr Erick Tsang Kwok-wai; and the Director of the Chief Executive's Office, Ms Carol Yip.

Mr Lee welcomed Mr Yin's visit to Hong Kong with his delegation. Noting that Hong Kong and Jiangxi have been maintaining close economic and trade relations, Mr Lee said that Hong Kong is the largest source of external investment and an important trading partner for Jiangxi, as well as the main capital market for Jiangxi enterprises listed overseas. He encouraged Jiangxi Province to leverage Hong Kong's unique and dual roles in going global and attracting foreign investment, with a view to bringing its economic development to a higher level.

Mr Lee said that the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Wuhan of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) will continue to serve as a bridge to promote exchanges and co-operation between Hong Kong and Jiangxi. Noting that the number of students choosing to pursue studies in Jiangxi high schools has been increasing in recent years, Mr Lee expressed his gratitude to Jiangxi Province and the relevant high schools and organisations for their ongoing care and support for Hong Kong students. He also said that the HKSAR Government will continue to actively encourage young people in Hong Kong to explore the enormous development opportunities on the Mainland and to integrate into the overall development of the country, thereby contributing to the country and Hong Kong.



Health risk category for Air Quality Health Index may reach "Serious" Level

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has recorded higher than normal air pollution levels in some areas since yesterday afternoon (September 2). According to the EPD's forecast, it is expected that the health risk category of Air Quality Health Index (AQHI) at some air quality monitoring stations may reach the "Serious" level later today.

Under the influence of an anticyclone, the weather today is hot and mainly fine with light winds. Light winds are unfavourable for pollutant dispersion. The intense sunshine enhances photochemical smog activity, leading to the rapid formation of ozone and fine particulates in the Pearl River Delta region. The high ozone level also promotes the formation of nitrogen dioxide.

According to the Hong Kong Observatory, Tropical Cyclone Yagi is expected to gradually edge closer to the coast of southern China and further intensify over the next couple of days. Under its influence, the weather along the coast of Guangdong will deteriorate in the latter part of this week. It will be windy with heavy squally showers. It is expected that air quality levels will improve by then.

With a health risk category in the "Very High" range or above, children, the elderly and persons with existing heart or respiratory illnesses are advised to reduce physical exertion and outdoor activities to a minimum or avoid such activities. The general public is advised to reduce, or reduce to a minimum, outdoor physical exertion, and to reduce time outdoors, especially in areas with heavy traffic. As health effects of air pollutants may vary for individuals, persons who are in doubt or experience discomfort should seek advice from healthcare professionals. The public may visit the Centre for Health Protection's website (www.chp.gov.hk/en/content/9/460/3557.html) for

more information on health effects of air pollution and relevant health advice.

The Education Bureau (EDB) urges all schools to visit the EDB website for appropriate measures to safeguard students' health and take note of changes in the index. The relevant hyperlink is as follows:
www.edb.gov.hk/en/sch-admin/admin/about-activities/sch-activities-guidelines/index.html.

When AQHI is at the "Very High" level, employers of outdoor workers performing heavy manual work are advised to assess the risk of outdoor work and take appropriate preventive measures to protect the health of their employees, such as reducing outdoor physical exertion and the time of their stay outdoors, especially in areas with heavy traffic. At the "Serious" level, employers of all outdoor workers are advised to assess the risk of outdoor work and take appropriate preventive measures to protect the health of their employees.

Members of the public can check the current AQHI readings on the EPD's website (www.aqhi.gov.hk/en.html) or by calling the hotline 2827 8541.

Postal services to Australia subject to delay

Hongkong Post announced today (September 3) that, as advised by the postal administration of Australia, due to the impact of severe weather, mail delivery services to Victoria and Tasmania for areas with the postcodes listed below are subject to delay.

Areas	Postcodes
Victoria	3089 – 3096, 3172 – 3280, 3350, 3429 – 3437, 3620 – 3632, 3813 – 3871, 3909, 3930 – 3996
Tasmania	7000 – 7923

Statistics on vessels, port cargo and containers for the second quarter of 2024

The Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) today (September 3) released the statistics on vessels, port cargo and containers for the second quarter of 2024.

In the second quarter of 2024, total port cargo throughput increased by 2.9% to 45.8 million tonnes over a year earlier. Within this total, inward port cargo and outward port cargo increased by 0.9% and 6.5% to 28.6 million tonnes and 17.2 million tonnes respectively.

For the first half of 2024, total port cargo throughput increased by 3.4% to 88.6 million tonnes over a year earlier. Within this total, inward port cargo and outward port cargo increased by 2.8% and 4.3% to 56.1 million tonnes and 32.5 million tonnes respectively.

On a seasonally adjusted quarter-to-quarter comparison, total port cargo throughput decreased by 4.7% in the second quarter of 2024. Within this total, inward port cargo decreased by 7.3% compared with the preceding quarter, while outward port cargo remained virtually unchanged 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

In the second quarter of 2024, within port cargo, seaborne cargo decreased by 5.9% to 28.4 million tonnes over a year earlier, while river cargo increased by 21.6% to 17.5 million tonnes over a year earlier.

In the first half of 2024, within port cargo, seaborne cargo decreased by 3.8% to 55.3 million tonnes over a year earlier, while river cargo increased by 17.9% to 33.3 million tonnes over a year earlier.

Comparing the second quarter of 2024 with a year earlier, double-digit increases were recorded in the tonnage of inward port cargo loaded in Korea (+28.0%), Singapore (+15.3%) and the mainland of China (+10.6%). On the other hand, double-digit decreases were recorded in the tonnage of inward port cargo loaded in the United States of America (-25.9%), Vietnam (-24.3%), Malaysia (-19.3%), Japan (-18.5%) and Thailand (-13.7%). For outward port cargo, double-digit increases were recorded in the tonnage of outward port cargo discharged in Australia (+30.4%), the mainland of China (+21.4%) and Vietnam (+20.2%). On the other hand, double-digit decreases were recorded in the tonnage of outward port cargo discharged in Thailand (-31.3%), the Philippines (-28.6%), Japan (-20.3%), Malaysia (-19.0%) and Korea (-18.4%).

Comparing the first half of 2024 with a year earlier, double-digit increases were recorded in the tonnage of inward port cargo loaded in Singapore (+22.8%), Taiwan (+15.1%), the mainland of China (+12.5%) and Korea (+10.7%). On the other hand, double-digit decreases were recorded in the tonnage of inward port cargo loaded in the United States of America (-25.2%), Malaysia (-18.2%), Vietnam (-17.4%) and Japan (-16.2%). For outward port cargo, double-digit increases were recorded in the tonnage of outward port cargo discharged in Australia (+30.8%), the mainland of China (+13.2%) and Vietnam (+11.1%). On the other hand, double-digit decreases were recorded in the tonnage of outward port cargo discharged in the Philippines (-19.7%), Thailand (-17.3%), Korea (-17.2%), Japan (-16.5%) and the United States of America (-12.0%).

Comparing the second quarter of 2024 with a year earlier, double-digit increases were recorded in the tonnage of inward port cargo of "coal, coke and briquettes" (+26.4%), "stone, sand and gravel" (+19.7%) and "petroleum, petroleum products and related materials" (+10.6%). As for outward port cargo, triple-digit or double-digit changes were recorded in the tonnage of "stone, sand and gravel" (+388.5%) and "live animals chiefly for food and edible animal products" (-17.6%).

Comparing the first half of 2024 with a year earlier, double-digit increases were recorded in the tonnage of inward port cargo of "stone, sand and gravel" (+24.8%), "coal, coke and briquettes" (+18.7%) and "petroleum, petroleum products and related materials" (+13.2%). As for outward port cargo, triple-digit or double-digit changes were recorded in the tonnage of "stone, sand and gravel" (+231.6%) and "live animals chiefly for food and edible animal products" (-18.7%).

Containers

In the second quarter of 2024, the port of Hong Kong handled 3.44 million TEUs of containers, representing a decrease of 6.6% over a year earlier. Within this total, laden and empty containers decreased by 5.9% and 9.3% to 2.73 million TEUs and 0.71 million TEUs respectively. Among laden containers, inward and outward containers decreased by 6.1% and 5.8% to 1.47 million TEUs and 1.26 million TEUs respectively.

For the first half of 2024, the port of Hong Kong handled 6.77 million TEUs of containers, representing a decrease of 5.0% over a year earlier. Within this total, laden and empty containers decreased by 4.1% and 8.3% to 5.40 million TEUs and 1.37 million TEUs respectively. Among laden containers, both inward and outward containers decreased by 4.1% to 2.90 million TEUs and 2.50 million TEUs respectively.

On a seasonally adjusted quarter-to-quarter comparison, laden container throughput decreased by 8.3% in the second quarter of 2024. Within this total, inward and outward laden containers decreased by 9.6% and 6.7% respectively.

In the second quarter of 2024, seaborne laden containers decreased by 8.4% to 1.92 million TEUs over a year earlier, while river laden containers increased by 0.5% to 0.82 million TEUs.

In the first half of 2024, seaborne and river laden containers decreased by 5.6% and 0.4% to 3.80 million TEUs and 1.60 million TEUs respectively over a year earlier.

Vessel arrivals

Comparing the second quarter of 2024 with a year earlier, the number of ocean vessel arrivals decreased by 4.6% to 4 565, with the total capacity also decreasing by 8.2% to 70.8 million net tons. Meanwhile, the number of river vessel arrivals increased by 13.0% to 20 850, with the total capacity also increasing by 15.4% to 21.2 million net tons.

Comparing the first half of 2024 with a year earlier, the number of ocean vessel arrivals decreased by 2.1% to 9 120, with the total capacity also decreasing by 2.4% to 144.4 million net tons. Meanwhile, the number of river vessel arrivals increased by 23.0% to 40 785, with the total capacity also increasing by 12.1% to 40.0 million net tons.

Further information

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 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.

Table 1 presents the detailed port cargo statistics.

Table 2 and Table 3 respectively present the inward and outward port cargo statistics by main countries/territories of loading and discharge.

Table 4 and Table 5 respectively present the inward and outward port cargo statistics by principal commodities.

Table 6 presents the detailed container statistics.

Table 7 presents the statistics on vessel arrivals in Hong Kong.

More detailed statistics on port cargo, containers and vessels are published in the report "Hong Kong Shipping Statistics, Second Quarter 2024". Users can browse and download this publication at the website of the C&SD (www.censtatd.gov.hk/en/EIndexbySubject.html?pcode=B1020008&scode=230).

For enquiries about port cargo and container statistics, please contact the Electronic Trading Services and Cargo 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 3662 or email: st-sec@mardep.gov.hk).