

# Container Registrations

## October 2015

Release date: 23 December 2015

	Oct 15	Sep 15	Aug 15	Jul 15
<b>Total</b>	704	753	607	669
Business	421	450	378	382
Private	283	303	229	287

### A slight drop in registrations

Container registrations fell slightly by 6.5% over the month, as a result of both private and business container registrations decreasing. However it is still higher than those of the same time last year. Import payments rose over the month driven by a rise in payments for construction materials. This reflects a lively construction sector with expected spill-over effects to the distribution and trade sector as well. It also supports the anticipated growth in the near future for both sectors.

Total container registrations rose by 17.0% over the year to October. Annual import payments increased by 10.9% in support of the yearly movement in registrations. The large number of events held over the year and high activity within the informal sector coincide with the yearly rise in container registrations. Additionally, the evident rise in large construction projects supports this increase. This is further supported by the rise in payments for construction material imports which more than doubled over the year.

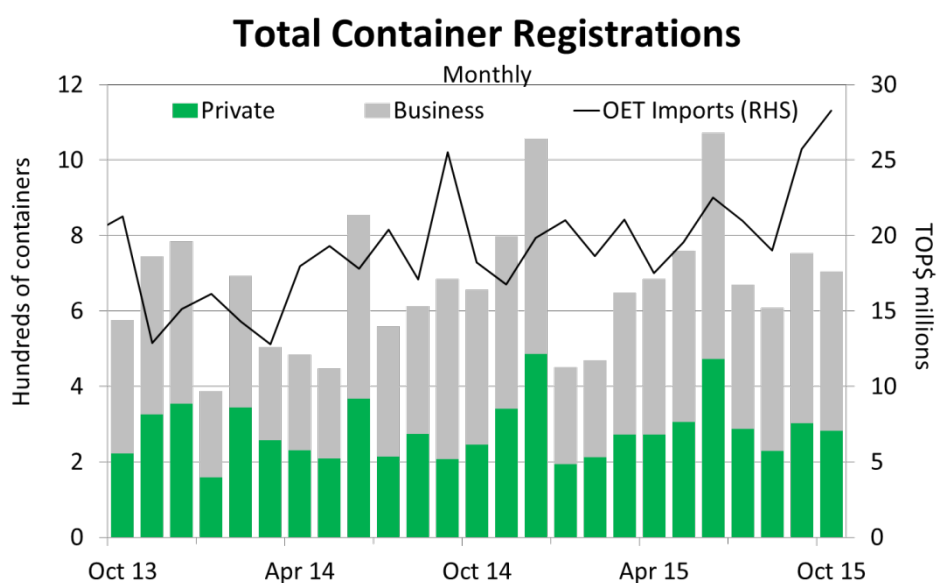
The NRBT expects imports and consequently container registrations to generally increase in 2015/16. New loan commitments for business and housing have recently increased which supports this projection. Furthermore, liaison discussions with the construction and transport sector expect more imports due to high demand. On-going projects such as the construction of the St. George

Palace and renovations of the Tanoa Hotel are anticipated to contribute to the rise. Spillover effects on the trade, tourism and construction sectors are also expected.

**Container Registrations**  
Total Number of Containers

	Month ended			Oct 14	Year ended		Share of Total
	Oct 15	Sep 15	Aug 15		Oct 15	Oct 14	
Total containers	704	753	607	656	8,671	7,411	100
Business	421	450	378	410	5,013	4,223	58
Private	283	303	229	246	3,658	3,188	42

Source: Tonga Ports Authority



Sources: NRBT, Statistics Department, Tonga Ports Authority