

Freight Volume Forecasts

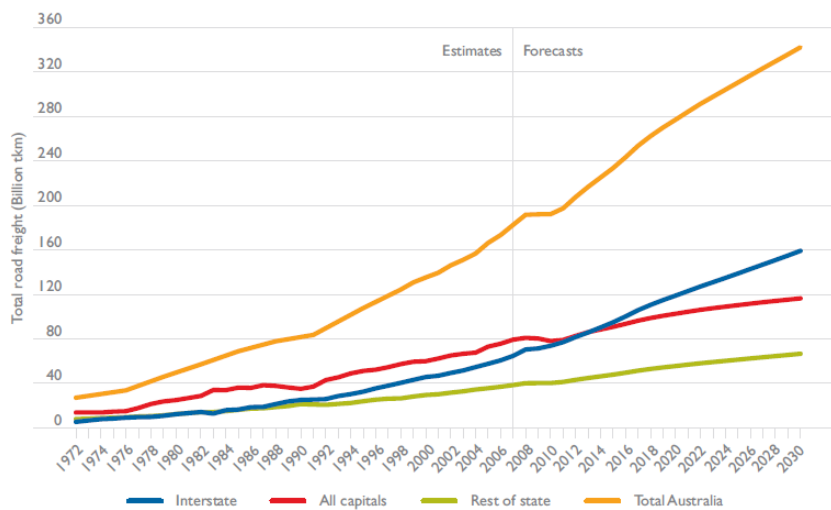
The Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics

Freight volume forecasts are produced by the Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics (BITRE), which is part of the Policy and Research Division of the Australian Government Department of Infrastructure and Transport. BITRE is responsible for economic analysis, research and statistics on infrastructure, transport and regional development issues. BITRE also holds unique aviation, maritime and rail transport data collections and publishes the results of individual research projects.¹ The information published by BITRE helps the transport and logistics industry to make predictions about future freight volume statistics.

Domestic Freight Forecasts

BITRE has recently forecast that the domestic freight task will grow at approximately 2.7 per cent each year until 2030 as illustrated in the table below.

F2.2 Road freight estimates and forecasts by interstate (sum of 'from', 'to' and 'through'), capital cities and rest of state, Australia, 1972–2030



Note: From 1972 to 2007, estimates; while from 2008–30, forecasts.
 Source: BITRE estimates.

¹ <http://www.btre.gov.au/info.aspx?NodeId=112>

Rail Freight Forecasts

BITRE predicts rail freight is also set to grow significantly. In fact, both road and rail freight volumes are projected to more than double by 2030. The growth in future road freight is underpinned by the domestic demand for manufactured goods, while the predicted rail freight growth is supported by expected mineral export growth.²

Container and Ship Movement Forecasts

A recent BITRE study into container and ship movement through Australia provides projections up to and including 2024/25.³ The report looks at both international non-containerised and containerised trade.

International non-containerised trade accounts for 85.5% of non-containerised trade. International non-containerised trade is predicted to increase by:

- 3.9% a year to approximately 1.2 billion tonnes by 2024/25;
- 4.1% a year to around 1.1 billion export tonnes in 2024-25; and
- 1.7% a year to 75.1 million import tonnes in 2024-25.

International containerised trade accounts for 86.7% of Australia's total containerised trade with total international containerised trade being exports and half imports. International containerised trade is expected to increase by:

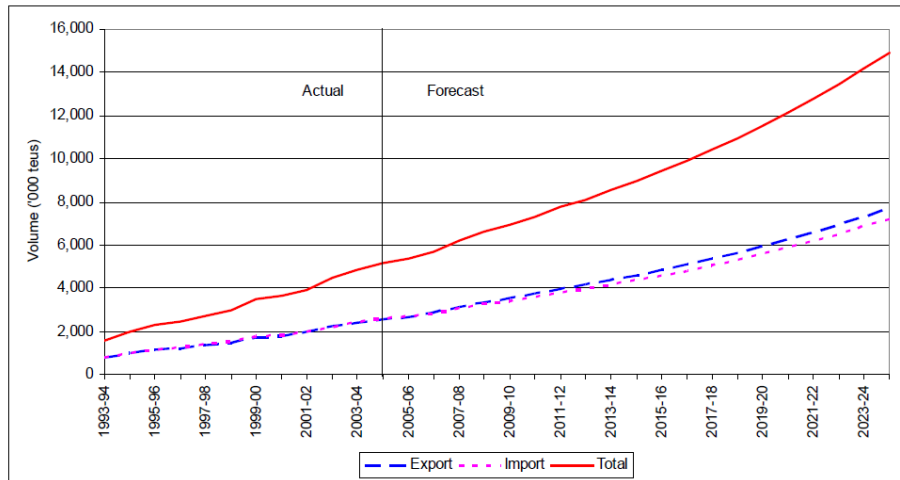
- 5.5% a year over the next twenty years to 13.1 million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) in 2024-25.
- 5.7% (exports) and 5.3% (imports) a year to 6.7 and 6.3 million TEUs in 2024-25.

The table overleaf provides more detailed information

² http://www.bitre.gov.au/publications/23/Files/IS34_RoadRailFreight.pdf

³ *Container and Ship Movements through Australian Ports 2004-05 to 2024-25*, Working Paper 65
<http://www.bitre.gov.au/publications/41/Files/wp65.pdf>

FIGURE 4.18 CONTAINERISED TRADE, 1993-94 TO 2024-25: ALL PORTS



Further Information

For more freight information, reports, forecasts and trends visit the BITRE Freight publications page at: <http://www.bitre.gov.au/info.aspx?NodeId=18>