

# TIME RELEASE STUDY 2022



NEW ZEALAND  
**CUSTOMS SERVICE**  
TE MANA ĀRAI O AOTEAROA

## SUMMARY

A Time Release Study is a World Customs Organization method of measuring customs performance in clearing cargo moving across the border, measuring the times of various events and procedures from arrival to release to market.

Customs is just one component in the supply chain and there are myriad factors affecting the international movement of cargo. By measuring our performance, we can establish a baseline of indicators, assess our effectiveness and identify improvements which help grow the economy by not delaying the delivery of trade.

Customs conducted this Time Release Study during a week in September 2022.

During this week, Customs analysed data from **12,112** import entries and **5,267** export entries across both sea and air cargo that arrived or departed from New Zealand seaports and airports.

The study also used data from industry partners involved in border clearance, including port and air freight companies.

## KEY RESULTS

Import entries that are correctly reported are cleared fast and on average before the arrival of the vessel carrying that cargo.

Exports entries that are correctly reported are cleared in advance of loading for export.

### \$values for the entries that were studied for the TRS week

	Total VFD	Total Payable
Sea Cargo Import FCL	\$400,094,738	\$80,137,995
Air Cargo Import	\$141,139,421	\$22,880,839
	Total FOB	Total Drawback
Sea Cargo Export FCL	\$685,589,392	\$104,318
Air Cargo Export	\$66,281,651	\$28,802

## SEA CARGO

**91.5%**

of import entries for full containers were lodged and released by Customs before arrival into New Zealand.

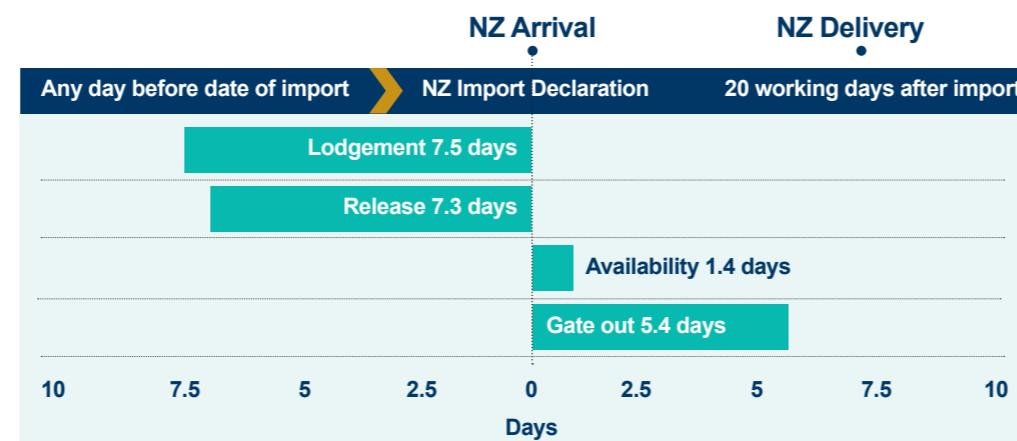
**91.3%**

of export entries for full containers were lodged 48 hours before loading.

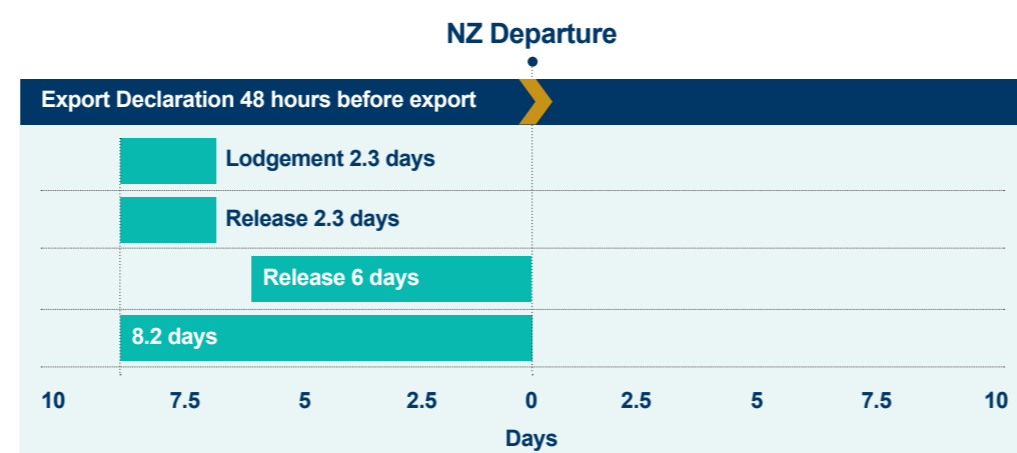
### End-to-end-timelines

The following diagrams show average processing and movement times for cargo studied during the TRS week. Times for reporting and customs status are overlaid on the physical transport process.

### SEA CARGO IMPORTS (FOR FCL)



### SEA CARGO EXPORTS (FOR FCL)



## AIR CARGO

**67%**

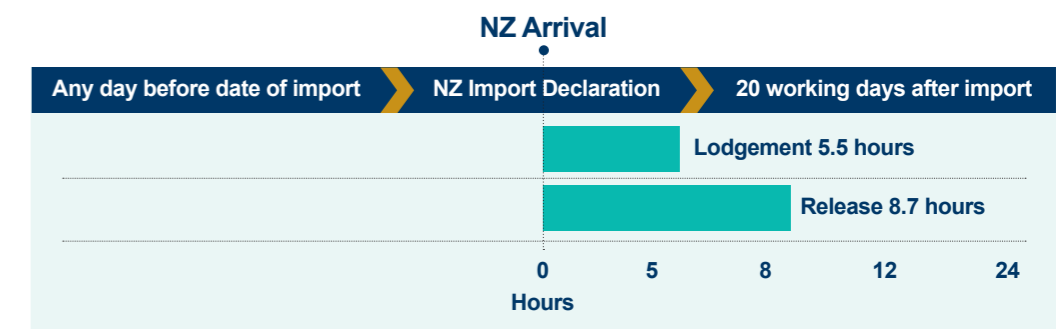
of import entries for air cargo were lodged and released by Customs before arrival into New Zealand.

On average, import entries for air cargo were lodged and released by Customs 8.5 hours after the arrival of the aircraft. This reflects the much shorter flight times from an overseas departure point to the aircraft landing.

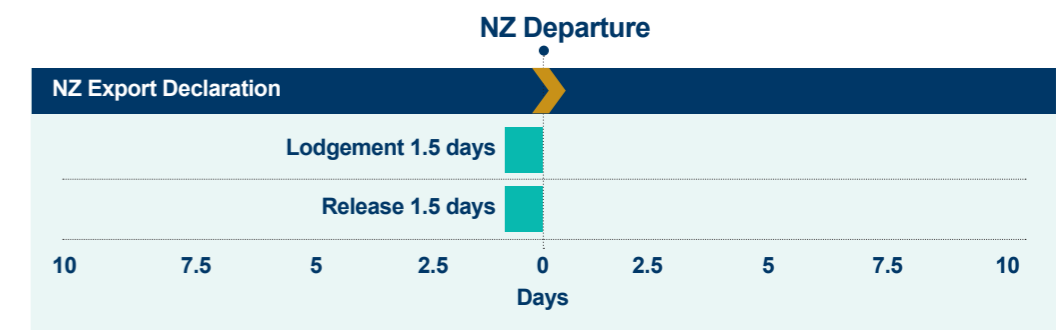
**99.1%**

of export entries for air cargo were cleared before the departure time of the aircraft.

### AIR CARGO IMPORTS



### AIR CARGO EXPORTS



Customs has efficient systems in place to ensure we can process cargo easily and quickly through the border. This includes:

- electronic reporting
- a risk management and alerts system
- deferred payment and credit facility system
- post-entry auditing capability
- ongoing engagement with industry

If goods are reported to us correctly, they are cleared in seconds.

Findings from this study will be shared with the World Customs Organization and industry.