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GOVERNMENT OF SAMOA

SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

IMPORT PRICE INDEX – March 2018 QUARTER (Base Period: March 2009 quarter = 100.0)

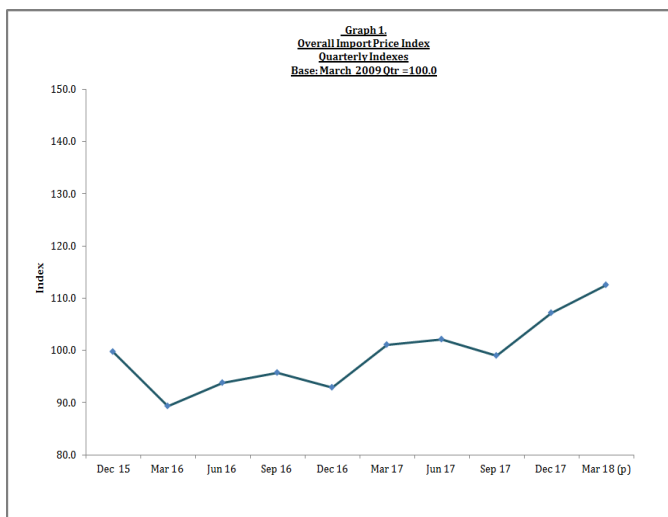
Highlights of the quarter

- Import Price Index rose 4.9 percent from the December 2017 quarter.
- Mineral Products index recorded the largest increase (up 11.1 percent).

Overview

The Import Price Index for the March 2018 quarter showed an overall increase of 4.9 percent from the December 2017 quarter. Mineral products index was the main driver for the current increase (up 11.1 percent). In comparison with the March 2017 quarter, the current import price index increased 11.2 percent.

The four quarters ending March 2018 showed a 9.7 percent increase in the overall import price index compared with the four quarters ending March 2017 quarter. See table 1 and graph 1.

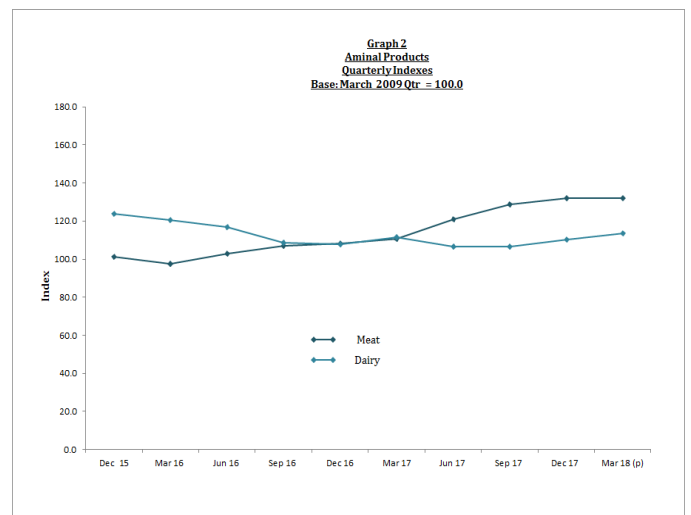


Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

HS Section 1: Live Animals; Animal Products prices rise 0.8%.

Import prices for 'Live animals and animal products' in the March 2018 quarter rose 0.8 percent from the December 2017 quarter. This increase was mainly led by higher prices of dairy products (up 2.9 percent). Prices of meat products also increased (up 0.1 percent). In comparison with the March 2017 quarter, the current live animals and animal products index increased 14.2 percent.

Reviewing the four quarters ending March 2018 over the four quarters ending March 2017, the current overall live animals and animal products index increased 13.5 percent. See tables 1 and 2 and graph 2.



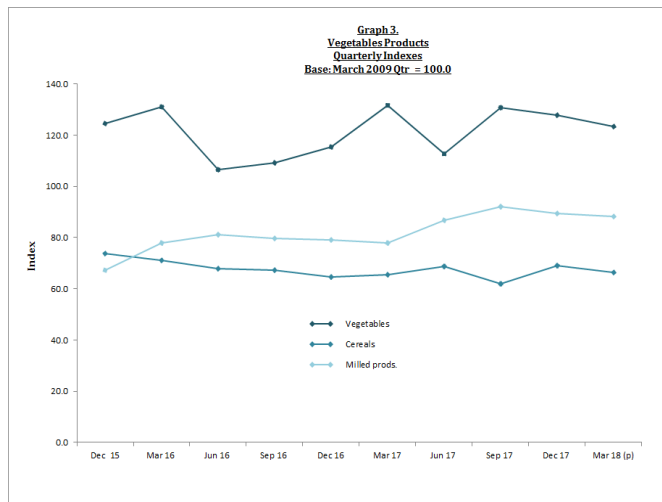
Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

HS Section 2: Vegetable Products prices fall 2.4%.

Import prices for 'Vegetable Products' in the March 2018 quarter fell 2.4 percent from the December 2017 quarter. This was led by vegetable products, cereals and milled products

reflecting lower prices of brown potatoes (down 11.4 percent), rice (down 3.5 percent) and wheat (down 1.4 percent) respectively. In comparison with the corresponding quarter of 2017, the current vegetable products index increased 5.1 percent.

Reviewing the four quarters ending March 2018 over the four quarters ending March 2017, the current overall vegetable products index increased 7.8 percent. See tables 1 & 2 and graph 3.

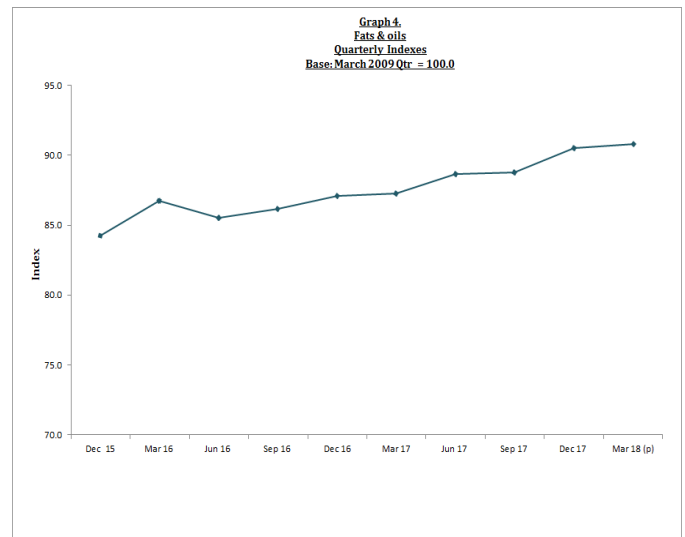


Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

HS Section 3: Animal or Vegetable fats & oils prices rise 0.3%.

Import prices for ‘Animal or Vegetable Fats and Oils’ in the March 2018 quarter rose 0.3 percent. This increase was mainly driven by higher prices of margarine (up 2.8 percent). When compared with the March 2017 quarter, the current animal or vegetable fats and oils index increased 4.0 percent.

The four quarters ending March 2018 showed a 3.7 percent increase in the overall animal or vegetable fats and oils index over the four quarters ending March 2017. See tables 1 & 2 and graph 4.

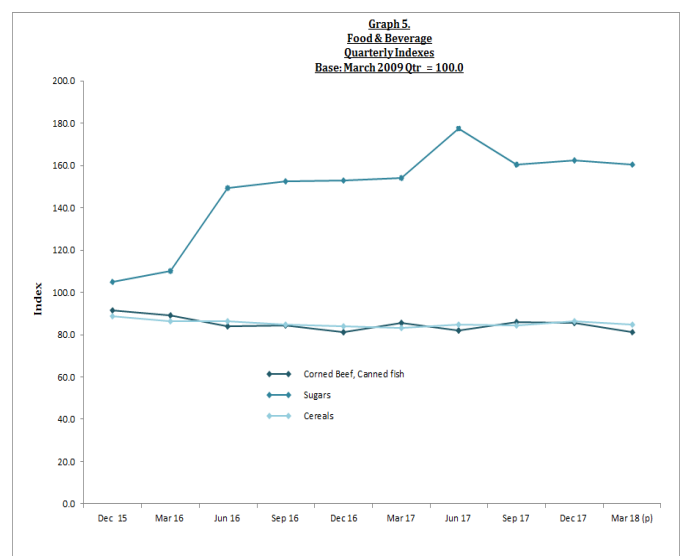


Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

HS Section 4: Food and Beverages prices fall 2.7%.

‘Food and Beverages’ import prices fell 2.7 percent in the March 2018 quarter. This fall was mainly driven by canned meat/fish, reflecting lower prices of canned fish (down 9.0 percent). Import prices of sugar and cereals also decreased. In comparison with the March 2017 quarter, the current food and beverages index increased 0.3 percent.

In comparing the four quarters ending March 2018 over the four quarters ending March 2017, the overall food and beverages index increased 3.2 percent. See tables 1 & 2 and graph 5.



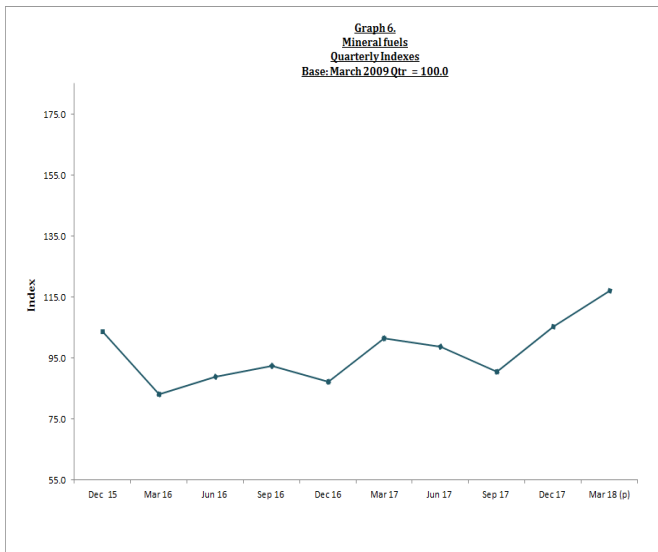
Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

HS Section 5: Mineral Products price rise 11.1%.

‘Mineral products’ import prices recorded a 11.1 percent increase in the March 2018 quarter.

When compared with the March 2017 quarter, the current mineral products index increased 15.5 percent.

The overall mineral products index in the four quarters ending March 2018 was 11.4 percent higher than the four quarters ending March 2017. See tables 1 & 2 and graph 6.



Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

Technical Notes

The Import Price Index (MPI) measures changes in the cost, insurance, and freight (CIF) prices of imports of merchandise into Samoa. It is a fixed weight index with March 2009 quarter = 100.0 and is calculated on a quarterly basis using the International Harmonized System of Trade Classification (HS). The items included in the index were selected on the basis of their importance to the total import.

The scope of the MPI relates to the following sections of the International Harmonized System of Trade Classification (HS): 1. Live Animals: Animal Products, 2. Vegetable Products, 3. Animal or Vegetable fats and oils, 4. Food and Beverages and 5. Mineral Products, The index represents 50 percent of total Imports.

The June 2018 quarter MPI report is expected to be available on July 31st 2018.

Aliimuamua Malaefono Taua – T. Faasalaina
GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN/(CEO)

IMPORT PRICE INDEX
Base: March 2009 Quarter = 100.0

Table 1

CODE	DESCRIPTION	Weight	Dec 15	2016				2017				2018	% Change	
				Mar 16	Jun 16	Sep 16	Dec 16	Mar 17	Jun 17	Sep 17	Dec 17	Mar 18 (p)	Mar 18 / Dec - 17	Mar 18 / Mar 17
I	ANIMAL PRODUCTS	18.9	107.5	104.2	106.9	107.3	107.9	110.9	116.7	122.3	125.6	126.6	0.8	14.2
2	Meat	71.2	100.9	97.5	102.8	106.7	107.8	110.6	120.6	128.6	131.7	131.8	0.1	19.2
4	Dairy	28.8	124.0	120.6	117.0	108.9	107.9	111.6	106.9	106.6	110.5	113.7	2.9	1.9
II.	VEGETABLE PRODUCTS	9.7	79.0	84.7	81.2	80.8	80.6	83.0	85.5	89.1	89.4	87.2	-2.4	5.1
7	Vegetables	17.0	124.4	130.8	106.5	109.2	115.2	131.5	112.5	130.5	127.7	123.3	-3.4	-6.2
10	Cereals	31.7	73.6	71.0	67.7	67.0	64.5	65.2	68.7	62.0	68.8	66.4	-3.5	1.8
11	Milled prods.	51.3	67.3	78.0	81.2	79.9	79.1	77.9	87.0	92.1	89.4	88.2	-1.4	13.1
III.	FATS & OILS	1.9	84.3	86.7	85.6	86.2	87.1	87.3	88.6	88.8	90.5	90.8	0.3	4.0
15	Fats & oils	100.0	84.3	86.7	85.6	86.2	87.1	87.3	88.6	88.8	90.5	90.8	0.3	4.0
IV.	FOOD & BEVERAGE	19.8	93.8	93.1	100.5	100.8	99.4	101.2	105.8	103.3	104.2	101.5	-2.7	0.3
16	Corned Beef, Canned fish	43.6	91.3	88.9	83.9	84.2	81.3	85.4	81.7	85.7	85.6	81.2	-5.2	-5.0
17	Sugars	24.0	105.1	110.0	149.4	152.6	152.8	154.0	177.5	160.3	162.4	160.5	-1.1	4.2
19	Cereals	32.4	88.9	86.3	86.5	84.7	84.1	83.3	85.0	84.7	86.3	85.1	-1.4	2.2
V.	MINERAL PRODUCTS	49.6	103.7	83.2	88.8	92.6	87.2	101.4	98.9	90.6	105.5	117.2	11.1	15.5
27	Mineral fuels	100	103.7	83.2	88.8	92.6	87.2	101.4	98.9	90.6	105.5	117.2	11.1	15.5
	Total, All groups	100	99.7	89.3	93.7	95.7	92.9	101.1	102.1	99.0	107.2	112.4	4.9	11.2

Sources: Samoa Bureau Statistics (Economics Division)

(P) Provisional figures

IMPORT PRICE INDEX
Base: March 2009 Quarter = 100.0

Table 2

	Weight	2016					2017				2018	%Change
		Dec 2015	Mar 2016	Jun 2016	Sep 2016	Dec 2016	Mar 2017	Jun 2017	Sep 2017	Dec 2017	Mar 2018	Mar 18/Dec 17
I. ANIMAL PRODUCTS												
02 Meat	100.0	100.9	97.5	102.8	106.7	107.8	110.6	120.6	128.6	131.7	131.8	0.1
0204 Sheep	33.7	162.4	155.7	156.7	164.8	174.4	182.5	198.7	209.0	212.9	224.6	5.5
0207 Poultry	66.3	69.6	67.9	75.4	77.1	74.0	74.0	80.9	87.7	90.5	84.7	-6.4
04 Dairy	100.0	124.0	120.6	117.0	108.9	107.9	111.6	106.9	106.6	110.5	113.7	2.9
0401 Milk	42.0	109.8	107.2	98.6	93.9	91.1	93.6	92.9	92.6	95.2	100.2	5.2
0402 Milk, conc.	17.9	132.9	129.0	120.7	120.8	122.3	127.1	122.8	131.2	124.9	128.7	3.1
0405 Butter	24.1	85.5	83.0	85.3	90.2	90.1	96.4	96.5	100.9	96.0	99.0	3.1
0407 Eggs	16.0	209.3	203.1	208.7	162.9	162.9	164.2	141.6	124.4	156.2	154.4	-1.2
II. VEGETABLE PRODUCTS												
07 Vegetables	100.0	124.4	130.8	106.5	109.2	115.2	131.5	112.5	130.5	127.7	123.3	-3.4
0701 Potatoes	56.5	127.2	149.7	110.5	88.9	89.5	125.7	123.1	153.8	151.8	134.5	-11.4
0703 Onions	43.5	120.8	106.3	101.4	135.5	148.5	139.0	98.7	100.3	96.5	108.8	12.8
10 Cereals	100.0	73.6	71.0	67.7	67.0	64.5	65.2	68.7	62.0	68.8	66.4	-3.5
1006 Rice	100.0	73.6	71.0	67.7	67.0	64.5	65.2	68.7	62.0	68.8	66.4	-3.5
11 Milled prods.	100.0	67.3	78.0	81.2	79.9	79.1	77.9	87.0	92.1	89.4	88.2	-1.4
1101 Wheat	100.0	67.3	78.0	81.2	79.9	79.1	77.9	87.0	92.1	89.4	88.2	-1.4
III. FATS & OILS												
15 Fats & oils	100.0	84.3	86.7	85.6	86.2	87.1	87.3	88.6	88.8	90.5	90.8	0.3
1507 Soya-bean	27.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0
1516 Hydrogenated	36.7	69.6	79.0	73.5	73.6	76.0	75.9	80.7	78.5	85.8	84.2	-1.8
1517 Margarine	35.7	87.0	84.4	86.7	88.3	88.5	89.1	87.9	90.6	88.0	90.4	2.8
IV. FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO												
16 Meat, fish	100.0	91.3	88.9	83.9	84.2	81.3	85.4	81.7	85.7	85.6	81.2	-5.2
1602 Corned Beef	31.0	101.4	108.3	116.5	118.1	118.1	119.7	113.6	117.2	113.0	113.4	0.4
1604 Canned fish	69.0	86.8	80.1	69.3	68.9	64.8	70.1	67.4	71.6	73.3	66.7	-9.0
17 Sugars	100.0	105.1	110.0	149.4	152.6	152.8	154.0	177.5	160.3	162.4	160.5	-1.1
1701 Cane, beet	100.0	105.1	110.0	149.4	152.6	152.8	154.0	177.5	160.3	162.4	160.5	-1.1
19 Cereals	100.0	88.9	86.3	86.5	84.7	84.1	83.3	85.0	84.7	86.3	85.1	-1.4
1902 Pasta	56.0	90.5	86.8	86.1	83.2	82.0	82.0	82.6	79.0	82.0	80.1	-2.3
1905 Bread	44.0	86.7	85.8	86.9	86.7	86.9	84.9	88.0	91.9	91.8	91.5	-0.4
V. MINERAL PRODUCTS												
27 Mineral fuels	100.0	103.7	83.2	88.8	92.6	87.2	101.4	98.9	90.6	105.5	117.2	11.1
2710 Petroleum oils	100.0	103.7	83.2	88.8	92.6	87.2	101.4	98.9	90.6	105.5	117.2	11.1

Source: Samoa Bureau Statistics (Economics Division)

(P) Provisional figures