



GOVERNMENT OF SAMOA

## SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

### IMPORT PRICE INDEX – March 2019 QUARTER (Base Period: March 2009 quarter = 100.0)

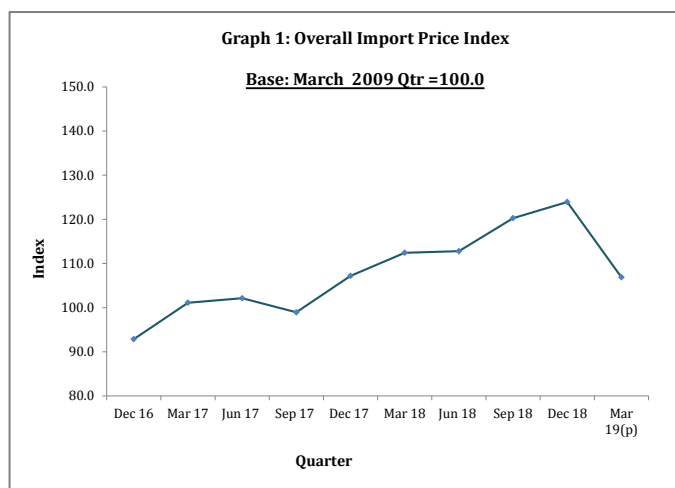
#### Highlights of the quarter

- Import Price Index fell 13.8 percent from the December 2018 quarter.
- Mineral Products index recorded the largest decrease (down 24.7 percent).

#### Overview

The Import Price Index for the March 2019 quarter showed an overall decrease of 13.8 percent from the December 2018 quarter. Mineral products index was the main driver for the current decrease (down 24.7 percent). In comparison with the March 2018 quarter, the current import price index fell 4.9 percent.

The four quarters ending March 2019 showed a 10.3 percent increase in the overall import price index compared with the four quarters ending March 2018 quarter. See table 1 and graph 1.

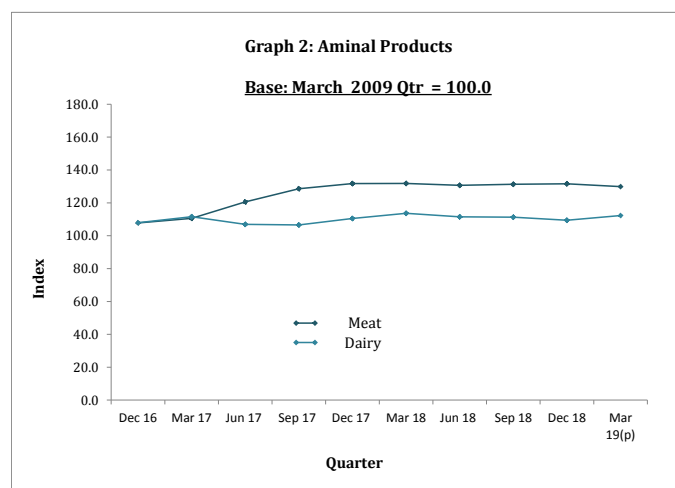


Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

#### HS Section 1: Live Animals; Animal Products prices fall 0.3%.

In the March 2019 quarter, 'Live animals and animal products' price fell 0.3 percent from the December 2018 quarter. This fall was influenced by lower prices of meat products (down 1.3 percent), reflecting lower prices of poultry meats (down 9 percent). When compared with the March 2018 quarter, the current live animals and animal products index decreased 1.4 percent.

Reviewing the four quarters ending March 2019 over the four quarters ending March 2018, the current overall live animals and animal products index increased 1.9 percent. See tables 1 and 2 and graph 2.



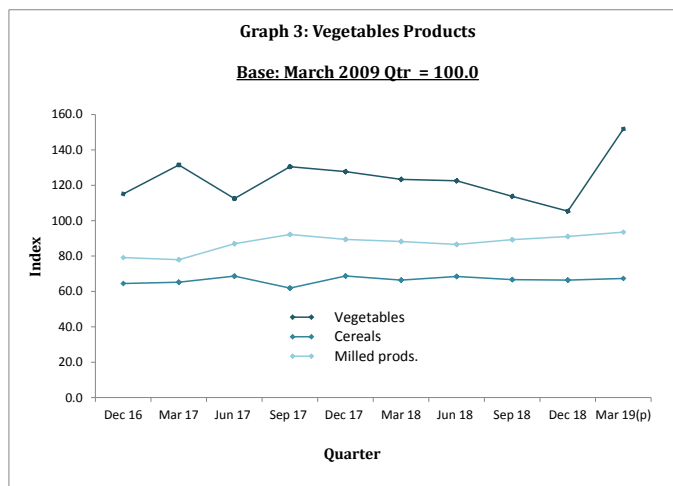
Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

#### HS Section 2: Vegetable Products prices rise 11.1%.

Import prices for 'Vegetable Products' in the March 2018 quarter rose 11.1 percent from the December 2018 quarter. This was mainly led by higher prices of vegetable products (up 44.1 percent). Prices for cereals and milled products

were also increased. In comparison with the corresponding quarter of 2018, the current vegetable products index increased 9.1 percent.

Reviewing the four quarters ending March 2019 over the four quarters ending March 2018, the current overall vegetable products index increased 0.8 percent. See tables 1 & 2 and graph 3.

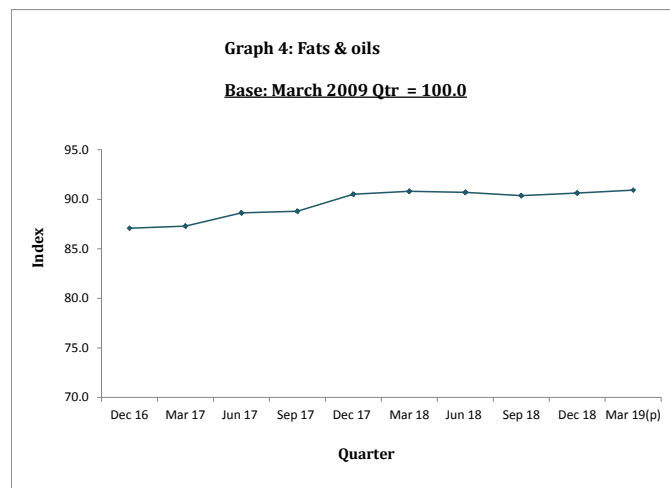


Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

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

Animal or Vegetable fats & oils price rose 0.3 percent in the March 2019 quarter from the previous quarter. The current increase was driven by higher prices for margarine (up 2.3 percent). In comparison with the March 2018 quarter, the current animal or vegetable fats and oils index increased 0.1 percent.

The four quarters ending March 2019 showed a 1.1 percent increase in the overall animal or vegetable fats and oils index over the four quarters ending March 2018. See tables 1 & 2 and graph 4.

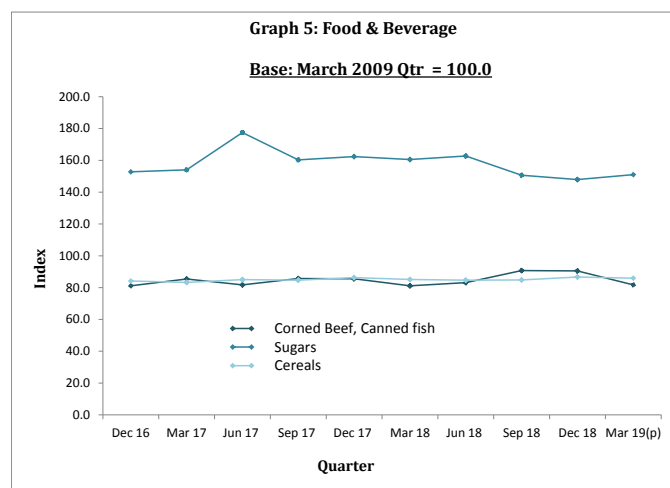


Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

**HS Section 4: Food and Beverages prices fall 3.3 %.**

'Food and Beverages' import prices fell 3.3 percent in the March 2019 quarter. This fall was mainly driven by lower prices for canned fish (down 12.1 percent) and corned beef (down 6.0 percent). In comparison with the March 2018 quarter, the current food and beverages index decreased 1.8 percent.

In comparing the four quarters ending March 2019 over the four quarters ending March 2018, the overall food and beverages index decreased 1.5 percent. See tables 1 & 2 and graph 5.

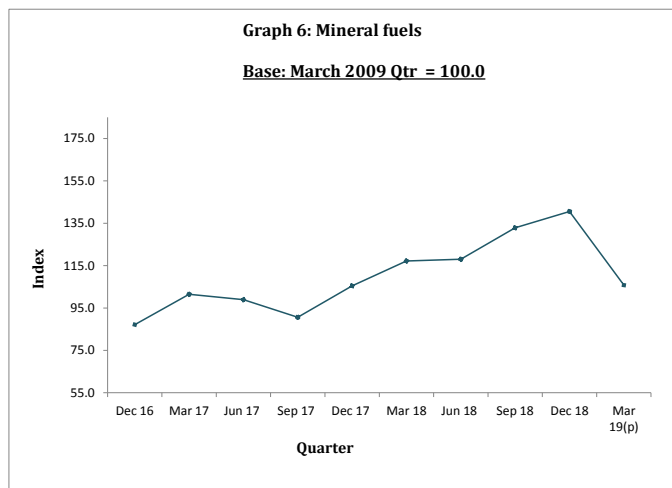


Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

**HS Section 5: Mineral Products price rise 24.7%.**

In the March 2019 quarter, mineral products import prices recorded a 24.7 percent decrease from the previous quarter. In comparison with the March 2018 quarter, the current mineral products index decreased 9.7 percent.

The overall mineral products index in the four quarters ending March 2019 was 20.6 percent higher than the four quarters ending March 2018. 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.

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The June 2019 quarter MPI report is expected to be available on 9<sup>th</sup> August 2019.

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

## IMPORT PRICE INDEX

Base: March 2009 Quarter = 100.0

Table 1

| CODE | DESCRIPTION                | Weight     | 2016        | 2017         |              |             |              | 2018         |              |              |              | 2019         | % Change        |                 |
|------|----------------------------|------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|      |                            |            | Dec 16      | Mar 17       | Jun 17       | Sep 17      | Dec 17       | Mar 18       | Jun 18       | Sep 18       | Dec 18       | Mar 19(p)    | Mar 19 / Dec 18 | Mar 19 / Mar 18 |
| I    | <b>ANIMAL PRODUCTS</b>     | 18.9       | 107.9       | 110.9        | 116.7        | 122.3       | 125.6        | 126.6        | 125.1        | 125.5        | 125.2        | 124.8        | -0.3            | -1.4            |
| 2    | Meat                       | 71.2       | 107.8       | 110.6        | 120.6        | 128.6       | 131.7        | 131.8        | 130.7        | 131.3        | 131.6        | 129.9        | -1.3            | -1.5            |
| 4    | Dairy                      | 28.8       | 107.9       | 111.6        | 106.9        | 106.6       | 110.5        | 113.7        | 111.5        | 111.3        | 109.4        | 112.3        | 2.6             | -1.2            |
| II.  | <b>VEGETABLE PRODUCTS</b>  | 9.7        | 80.6        | 83.0         | 85.5         | 89.1        | 89.4         | 87.2         | 86.9         | 86.2         | 85.7         | 95.1         | 11.1            | 9.1             |
| 7    | Vegetables                 | 17.0       | 115.2       | 131.5        | 112.5        | 130.5       | 127.7        | 123.3        | 122.5        | 113.7        | 105.4        | 151.9        | 44.1            | 23.1            |
| 10   | Cereals                    | 31.7       | 64.5        | 65.2         | 68.7         | 62.0        | 68.8         | 66.4         | 68.4         | 66.7         | 66.4         | 67.3         | 1.4             | 1.5             |
| 11   | Milled prods.              | 51.3       | 79.1        | 77.9         | 87.0         | 92.1        | 89.4         | 88.2         | 86.5         | 89.2         | 91.0         | 93.5         | 2.7             | 6.1             |
| III. | <b>FATS &amp; OILS</b>     | 1.9        | 87.1        | 87.3         | 88.6         | 88.8        | 90.5         | 90.8         | 90.7         | 90.4         | 90.6         | 90.9         | 0.3             | 0.1             |
| 15   | Fats & oils                | 100.0      | 87.1        | 87.3         | 88.6         | 88.8        | 90.5         | 90.8         | 90.7         | 90.4         | 90.6         | 90.9         | 0.3             | 0.1             |
| IV.  | <b>FOOD &amp; BEVERAGE</b> | 19.8       | 99.4        | 101.2        | 105.8        | 103.3       | 104.2        | 101.5        | 102.7        | 103.2        | 103.0        | 99.7         | -3.3            | -1.8            |
| 16   | Corned Beef, Canned fish   | 43.6       | 81.3        | 85.4         | 81.7         | 85.7        | 85.6         | 81.2         | 83.1         | 90.8         | 90.5         | 81.7         | -9.7            | 0.7             |
| 17   | Sugars                     | 24.0       | 152.8       | 154.0        | 177.5        | 160.3       | 162.4        | 160.5        | 162.7        | 150.7        | 147.9        | 151.0        | 2.1             | -5.9            |
| 19   | Cereals                    | 32.4       | 84.1        | 83.3         | 85.0         | 84.7        | 86.3         | 85.1         | 84.7         | 84.8         | 86.7         | 85.9         | -0.9            | 1.0             |
| V.   | <b>MINERAL PRODUCTS</b>    | 49.6       | 87.2        | 101.4        | 98.9         | 90.6        | 105.5        | 117.2        | 118.0        | 132.9        | 140.6        | 105.8        | -24.7           | -9.7            |
| 27   | Mineral fuels              | 100        | 87.2        | 101.4        | 98.9         | 90.6        | 105.5        | 117.2        | 118.0        | 132.9        | 140.6        | 105.8        | -24.7           | -9.7            |
|      | <b>Total, All groups</b>   | <b>100</b> | <b>92.9</b> | <b>101.1</b> | <b>102.1</b> | <b>99.0</b> | <b>107.2</b> | <b>112.4</b> | <b>112.8</b> | <b>120.3</b> | <b>123.9</b> | <b>106.9</b> | <b>-13.8</b>    | <b>-4.9</b>     |

Source: Samoa Bureau Statistics (Economics Division)

(P) Provisional figures

**IMPORT PRICE INDEX**  
**Base: March 2009 Quarter = 100.0**

**Table 2**

|  | 2016         | 2017         |              |              |              | 2018         |              |              |              | 2019         | %Change       |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
|  | Dec 2016     | Mar 2017     | Jun 2017     | Sep 2017     | Dec 2017     | Mar 2018     | Jun 2018     | Sep 2018     | Dec 2018     | Mar 2019     | Mar 19/Dec 18 |
| <b>I. ANIMAL PRODUCTS</b>                |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |               |
| <b>02 Meat</b>                           | <b>107.8</b> | <b>110.6</b> | <b>120.6</b> | <b>128.6</b> | <b>131.7</b> | <b>131.8</b> | <b>130.7</b> | <b>131.3</b> | <b>131.6</b> | <b>129.9</b> | <b>-1.3</b>   |
| 0204 Sheep                               | 174.4        | 182.5        | 198.7        | 209.0        | 212.9        | 224.6        | 221.4        | 220.6        | 227.3        | 237.0        | 4.3           |
| 0207 Poultry                             | 74.0         | 74.0         | 80.9         | 87.7         | 90.5         | 84.7         | 84.5         | 85.9         | 82.9         | 75.5         | -9.0          |
| <b>04 Dairy</b>                          | <b>107.9</b> | <b>111.6</b> | <b>106.9</b> | <b>106.6</b> | <b>110.5</b> | <b>113.7</b> | <b>111.5</b> | <b>111.3</b> | <b>109.4</b> | <b>112.3</b> | <b>2.6</b>    |
| 0401 Milk                                | 91.1         | 93.6         | 92.9         | 92.6         | 95.2         | 100.2        | 96.6         | 96.7         | 93.7         | 95.9         | 2.4           |
| 0402 Milk, conc.                         | 122.3        | 127.1        | 122.8        | 131.2        | 124.9        | 128.7        | 125.2        | 125.1        | 123.2        | 127.4        | 3.4           |
| 0405 Butter                              | 90.1         | 96.4         | 96.5         | 100.9        | 96.0         | 99.0         | 98.2         | 96.1         | 94.6         | 97.9         | 3.4           |
| 0407 Eggs                                | 162.9        | 164.2        | 141.6        | 124.4        | 156.2        | 154.4        | 155.3        | 156.8        | 157.7        | 160.1        | 1.5           |
| <b>II. VEGETABLE PRODUCTS</b>            |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |               |
| <b>07 Vegetables</b>                     | <b>115.2</b> | <b>131.5</b> | <b>112.5</b> | <b>130.5</b> | <b>127.7</b> | <b>123.3</b> | <b>122.5</b> | <b>113.7</b> | <b>105.4</b> | <b>151.9</b> | <b>44.1</b>   |
| 0701 Potatoes                            | 89.5         | 125.7        | 123.1        | 153.8        | 151.8        | 134.5        | 135.9        | 131.1        | 101.6        | 158.6        | 56.1          |
| 0703 Onions                              | 148.5        | 139.0        | 98.7         | 100.3        | 96.5         | 108.8        | 105.1        | 91.2         | 110.4        | 143.1        | 29.6          |
| <b>10 Cereals</b>                        | <b>64.5</b>  | <b>65.2</b>  | <b>68.7</b>  | <b>62.0</b>  | <b>68.8</b>  | <b>66.4</b>  | <b>68.4</b>  | <b>66.7</b>  | <b>66.4</b>  | <b>67.3</b>  | <b>1.4</b>    |
| 1006 Rice                                | 64.5         | 65.2         | 68.7         | 62.0         | 68.8         | 66.4         | 68.4         | 66.7         | 66.4         | 67.3         | 1.4           |
| <b>11 Milled prods.</b>                  | <b>79.1</b>  | <b>77.9</b>  | <b>87.0</b>  | <b>92.1</b>  | <b>89.4</b>  | <b>88.2</b>  | <b>86.5</b>  | <b>89.2</b>  | <b>91.0</b>  | <b>93.5</b>  | <b>2.7</b>    |
| 1101 Wheat                               | 79.1         | 77.9         | 87.0         | 92.1         | 89.4         | 88.2         | 86.5         | 89.2         | 91.0         | 93.5         | 2.7           |
| <b>III. FATS &amp; OILS</b>              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |               |
| <b>15 Fats &amp; oils</b>                | <b>87.1</b>  | <b>87.3</b>  | <b>88.6</b>  | <b>88.8</b>  | <b>90.5</b>  | <b>90.8</b>  | <b>90.7</b>  | <b>90.4</b>  | <b>90.6</b>  | <b>90.9</b>  | <b>0.3</b>    |
| 1507 Soya-bean                           | 100.0        | 100.0        | 100.0        | 100.0        | 100.0        | 100.0        | 100.0        | 100.0        | 100.0        | 100.0        | 0.0           |
| 1516 Hydrogenated                        | 76.0         | 75.9         | 80.7         | 78.5         | 85.8         | 84.2         | 85.8         | 86.1         | 87.8         | 86.7         | -1.3          |
| 1517 Margarine                           | 88.5         | 89.1         | 87.9         | 90.6         | 88.0         | 90.4         | 88.5         | 87.3         | 86.2         | 88.2         | 2.3           |
| <b>IV. FOOD, BEVERAGES &amp; TOBACCO</b> |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |               |
| <b>16 Meat, fish</b>                     | <b>81.3</b>  | <b>85.4</b>  | <b>81.7</b>  | <b>85.7</b>  | <b>85.6</b>  | <b>81.2</b>  | <b>83.1</b>  | <b>90.8</b>  | <b>90.5</b>  | <b>81.7</b>  | <b>-9.7</b>   |
| 1602 Corned Beef                         | 118.1        | 119.7        | 113.6        | 117.2        | 113.0        | 113.4        | 112.6        | 120.7        | 112.6        | 105.8        | -6.0          |
| 1604 Canned fish                         | 64.8         | 70.1         | 67.4         | 71.6         | 73.3         | 66.7         | 69.8         | 77.3         | 80.6         | 70.8         | -12.1         |
| <b>17 Sugars</b>                         | <b>152.8</b> | <b>154.0</b> | <b>177.5</b> | <b>160.3</b> | <b>162.4</b> | <b>160.5</b> | <b>162.7</b> | <b>150.7</b> | <b>147.9</b> | <b>151.0</b> | <b>2.1</b>    |
| 1701 Cane, beet                          | 152.8        | 154.0        | 177.5        | 160.3        | 162.4        | 160.5        | 162.7        | 150.7        | 147.9        | 151.0        | 2.1           |
| <b>19 Cereals</b>                        | <b>84.1</b>  | <b>83.3</b>  | <b>85.0</b>  | <b>84.7</b>  | <b>86.3</b>  | <b>85.1</b>  | <b>84.7</b>  | <b>84.8</b>  | <b>86.7</b>  | <b>85.9</b>  | <b>-0.9</b>   |
| 1902 Pasta                               | 82.0         | 82.0         | 82.6         | 79.0         | 82.0         | 80.1         | 79.7         | 79.8         | 83.0         | 80.4         | -3.2          |
| 1905 Bread                               | 86.9         | 84.9         | 88.0         | 91.9         | 91.8         | 91.5         | 90.9         | 91.2         | 91.4         | 93.0         | 1.7           |
| <b>V. MINERAL PRODUCTS</b>               |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |              |               |
| <b>27 Mineral fuels</b>                  | <b>87.2</b>  | <b>101.4</b> | <b>98.9</b>  | <b>90.6</b>  | <b>105.5</b> | <b>117.2</b> | <b>118.0</b> | <b>132.9</b> | <b>140.6</b> | <b>105.8</b> | <b>-24.7</b>  |
| 2710 Petroleum oils                      | 87.2         | 101.4        | 98.9         | 90.6         | 105.5        | 117.2        | 118.0        | 132.9        | 140.6        | 105.8        | -24.7         |

Sources: Samoa Bureau Statistics (Economics Division)

(P) Provisional figures