

SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

LOCAL MARKET SURVEY

AUGUST 2023

This report provides a monthly review of selected agricultural produce available at the Local Markets in Upolu and Savaii based on the price data and volume index survey. Corresponding tables are attached for ease of reference.

Key findings:

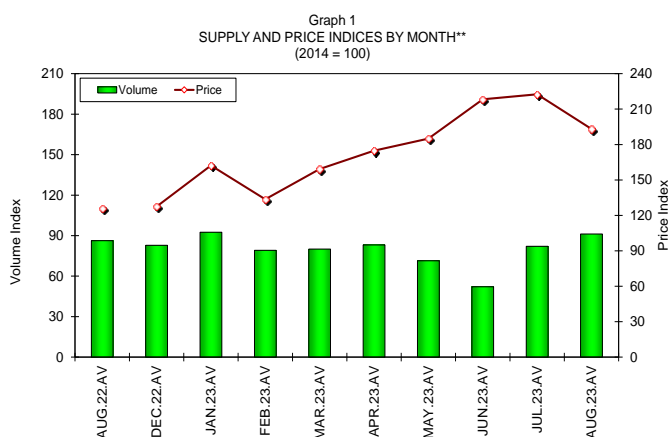
The Local Market Survey in August 2023 showed that the overall supply increased by 11 percent while average prices declined by 13 percent when compared to July 2023.

- A significant increase in the supply of most of the agricultural produce supplied to the Local Markets strongly contributed to the decline in the price index.
- The total value of supplies fell 4 percent to \$112,200 from the previous month.
- The total number of sellers increased 14 percent to 271 in August 2023 from the 238 recorded in July 2023.

Issue: 01/08/23

OVERVIEW

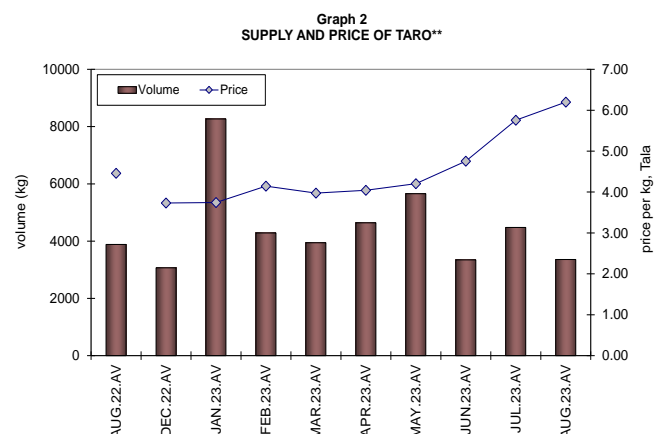
The monthly survey of Agricultural food supplies at the local markets by the Samoa Bureau of Statistics in August 2023 showed that the overall volume increased 11 percent from July 2023. This reflects the significant increases in the supply of most agricultural produce at the markets with exception of taro and cucumber. When compared to August 2022, current supply increased by 6 percent. (See Graph 1 and Tables 4 & 5)



The increase in the overall supply of most agricultural produce led to the 13 percent decline in the overall price level with the exception of taro and ta'amu. When compared with August 2022, the current overall price level went up by 54 percent.

TARO

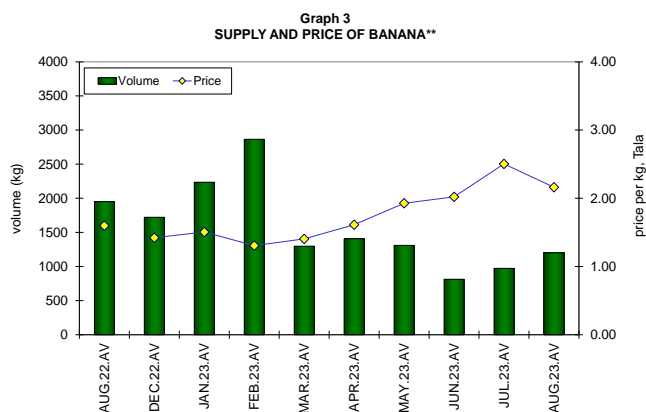
The supply of taro supply to the Local Markets in August 2023 fell 25 percent (to 3,358 kilograms) from the previous month; a level that was 14 percent lower than the same month last year. The average price of taro increased 8 percent (to \$6.20 per kilogram) from the previous month. When compared to August 2022, price for taro also rose 39 percent. (See Graph 2 and Tables 1&2)



Taro supply and prices both increased by 21 percent and 23 percent respectively in the twelve-month period ending August 2023 in comparison to the twelve-month period ending August 2022.

BANANA

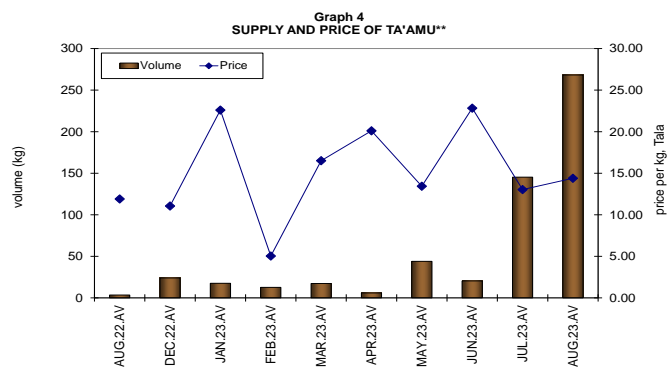
The supply of banana to the local markets in August 2023 increased 24 percent (to 1,202 kilograms) from July 2023 while its average price went down by 14 percent (to \$2.16 per kilogram). When compared with the same month last year, current supply of banana fell 38 percent while its average price increased 35 percent. (See Graph 3 and Tables 1&2).



Annually, banana supplies decreased 10 percent compared to the year ended August 2022, while its average price increased 27 percent.

TA'AMU

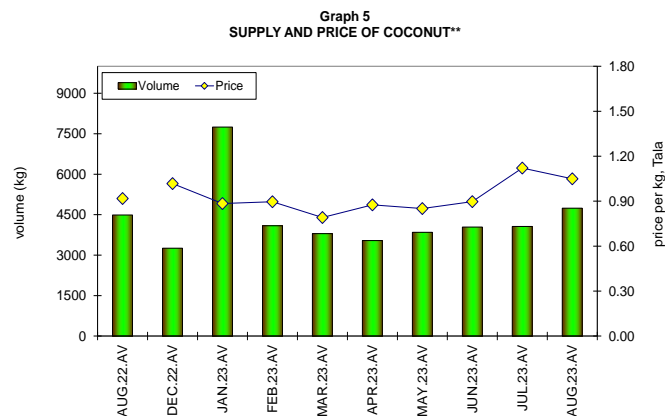
At an average of 268 kilograms, ta'amu supplied at the markets in August 2023 increased 85 percent compared to its volume in the previous month while increased demand pushed its average price up by 10 percent (to \$14.39 per kilogram). In comparison to the same month last year, current supply of ta'amu was much higher while its average price increased by 21 percent. (See Graph 4 and Tables 1&2)



In the year ending August 2023, volume of ta'amu supplied to the markets increased 22 percent while its price increased more than double its price in the year ending August 2022.

COCONUT

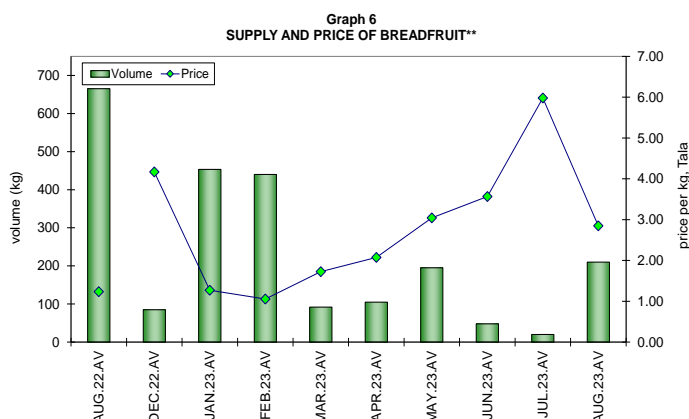
Coconut supplies at 4,741 kilograms increased by 17 percent from July 2023 while its average price decreased by 6 percent (to \$1.05 per kilogram). In comparison to August 2022, current supply of coconut rose 6 percent while its average price also increased by 14 percent. (See Graph 5 and Tables 1&2)



In the twelve months ending August 2023, supply of coconut increased 3 percent while its average price rose 13 percent when compared to the twelve months ending August 2022.

BREADFRUIT

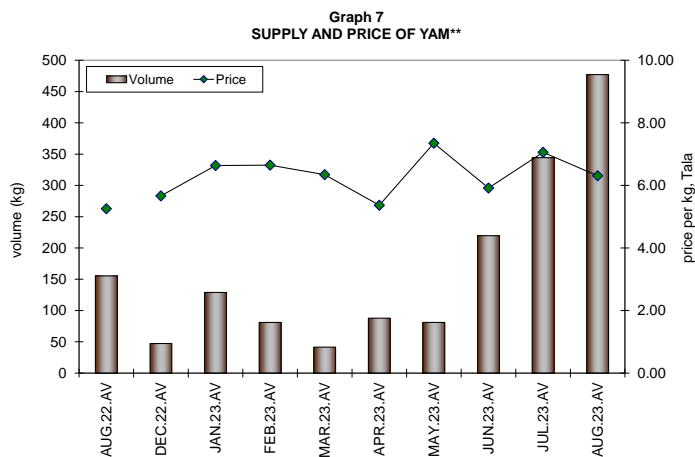
The supply of breadfruit in August 2023 increased more than ten times higher than the previous month. The increase in supply to the markets pushed its average price down 52 percent (to \$2.85 per kilogram). When compared to August 2022, current supply of breadfruit decreased by 68 percent while its average prices increased more than doubled. (See Graph 6 and Tables 1&2)



Annually, supply and price of breadfruit decreased 38 percent while average prices increased 84 percent over the year ended August 2022.

YAM

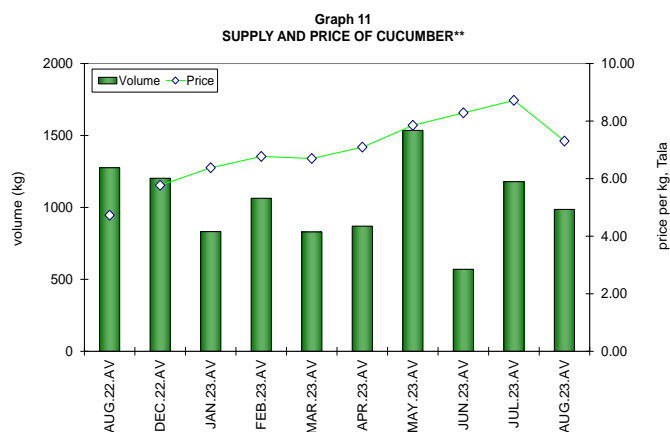
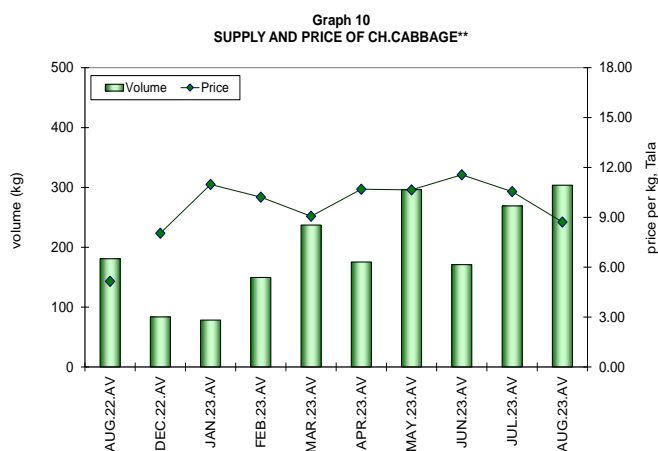
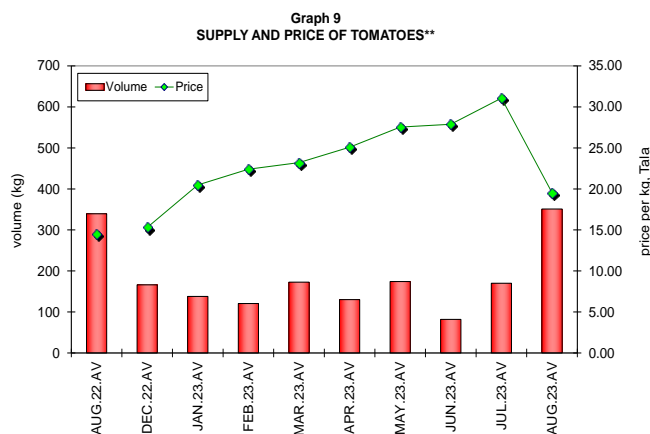
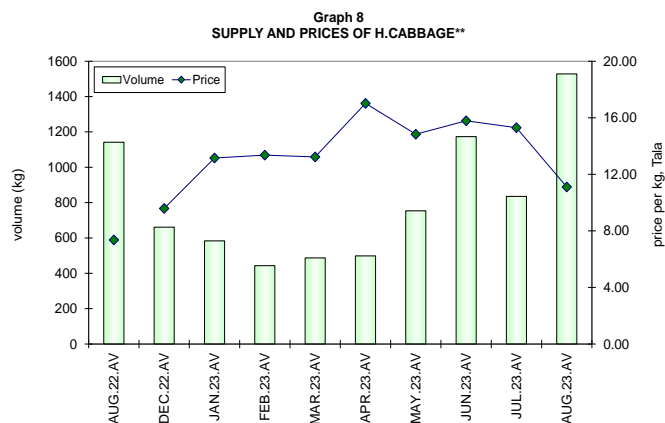
In the month under review, yam supplies increased 39 percent (to 477 kilograms) from the previous month, while increased supply pushed its average price down 11 percent (to \$6.31 per kilogram). Current supply of yam was more than tripled its supply in August 2022 while its average price increased by 20 percent. (See Graph 7 and Tables 1 & 2)

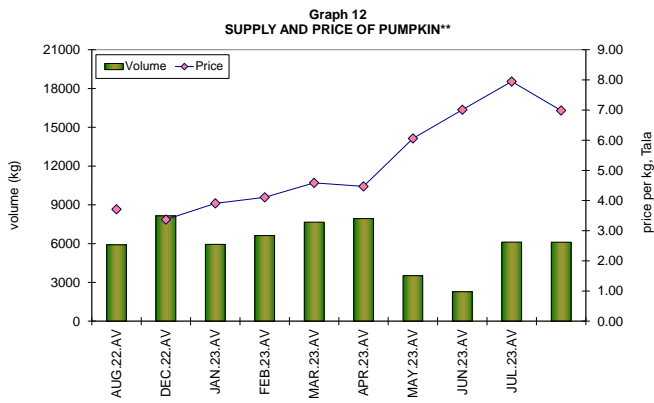


Supply of yam in the twelve months ending August 2023 increased 46 percent in comparison to the twelve months ending August 2022. Its average price rose 30 percent.

VEGETABLE PRODUCE

Most of the vegetable produce supplied to the local markets in August 2023 experienced significant increases with the exception of cucumber which decreased 16 percent (to 987 kilograms) from the previous month. Tomato supply registered the largest increase which was more than doubled its supply in the previous month, followed by head cabbage and Chinese cabbage which increased 83 percent (to 1,528 kilograms) and 13 percent (to 304 kilograms) respectively. Supply of pumpkin, tomato and cucumber has more than doubled, to 6,123 kilograms, 170 kilograms and to 1,179 kilograms respectively. No change in the supply of pumpkin when compared to the previous month. (See Graphs 8 to 12 and Tables 1 & 2)

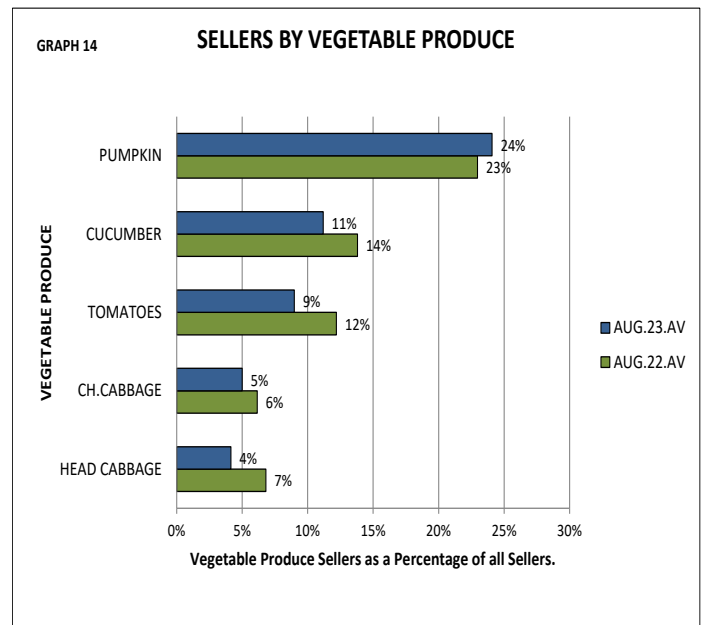
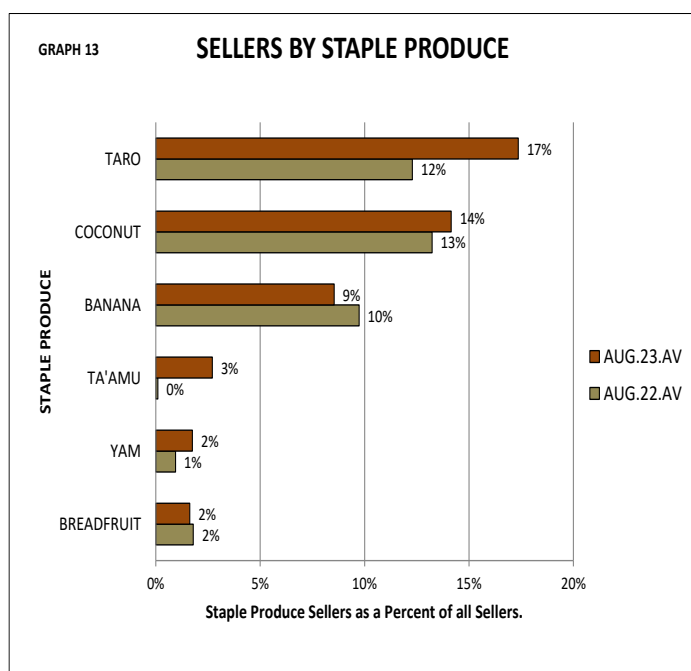




Following the increase in the supply of most of the vegetable produce available at the local markets in the month under review, average prices fell for all of this produce. The increases in the supply for tomato, head cabbage and Chinese cabbage have led to the decline in their average prices by 37 percent (to \$19.55 per kilogram), 27 percent (to \$11.10 per kilogram) and 17 percent (to \$8.72 per kilogram) respectively. Average price for cucumber fell 16 percent (to \$7.30 per kilogram) followed by pumpkin price declining 12 percent (to \$6.98 per kilogram) when compared to August 2022.

SELLERS

At 271, the average number of sellers at the local markets in August 2023 rose 14 percent from the previous month and up 3 percent when compared with the same month a year ago. (See Graphs 13 and 14 and Table 6).



In August 2023, pumpkin sellers at 65 were the largest group at the local markets, increasing from 53 in the previous month and 61 in the same month last year. Taro sellers followed with a total of 47, increasing from 31 last month and 33 in the same month a year ago.

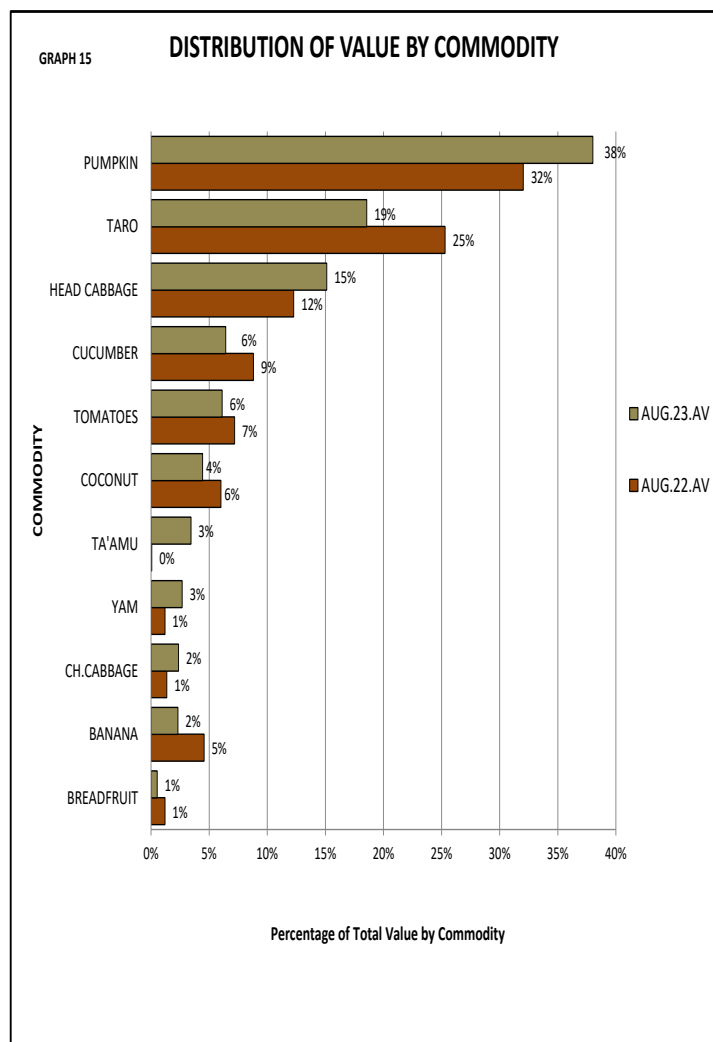
Coconut sellers recorded a total of 38, up from the 32 in the previous and the 35 in the same month a year ago. The number of cucumber sellers was 30, decreasing from the 41 in the previous month and the 37 in the same month a year ago. Tomato sellers recorded a total of 24, increasing from the 18 in the previous month but were lower than the 32 in the same month a year ago.

Sellers of banana recorded a total of 23 increasing from the 19 in the previous month but were lower than the 26 in the same month last year. Sellers of Chinese cabbage recorded a total of 14 increasing from the 18 and 16 in the previous month and the same month last year, while head cabbage sellers decreased from the 15 in July 2023 and 18 in August 2022.

Ta'amu sellers at 7, increased from the 3 in the previous month and the same month a year ago, followed by yam sellers which went down by 5 from 7 in the previous month but were higher than 3 in the same month a year ago, while breadfruit seller increased by 4 from 1 in July 2023 but went down by 5 in August 2022.

VALUE OF SUPPLIES

The average value of selected produce supplied to the local markets was \$112,200 in August 2023, it declined by 4 percent from the previous month but increased by 64 percent when compared to August 2022.



Shares of cucumber and tomato both accounted for 6 percent each to total value; with cucumber supplies declined from the 9 percent in the previous month and the same month a year ago, while tomato supplies increased from 5 percent in the previous month but went down by 7 percent in the same month a year ago.

Coconut supplies recorded a share of 4 percent, remained unchanged from the previous month but lower than the 6 percent in the same month a year ago. Supplies of ta'amu and yam both accounted for 3 percent each of total value; with ta'amu shares increasing from 2 percent in the previous month while yam shares increasing from the 2 percent and 1 percent in the previous month and the same month a year ago.

Chinese cabbage and banana both contributed 2 percent each to total value with Chinese cabbage shares remained unchanged from the previous month and were higher than the 1 percent in the same month last year, while banana shares remained unchanged from July 2023 but were lower than the 5 percent in August 2022. Shares of breadfruit contributed 1 percent to total value increasing from the last month and remained unchanged when compared with the same month last year. (See Graph 15 & Table 3)

Pumpkin supplies contributed the most to the total value of produce supplied to the markets with a share of 38 percent in August 2023; a level that was lower than the 42 percent in the previous month but were higher than the 32 percent in the same month a year ago.

Supplies of taro contributed 19 percent of total value decreasing from the 22 percent and 25 percent in the previous month and the same month a year ago. Head cabbage supplies followed with a 15 percent of total value, increasing from the 11 percent in July 2023 and 12 percent when compared with August 2022.

Technical Notes

The Local Market Survey measures the price and volume of selected agricultural produce from the Local Markets at **Fugalei, Taufusi, Vaitele, Lotopa, Ululoloa, Afega, Saleimoa, Savaia, Vaoala, Faatoia and Salelologa** every month. Prices for selected produce are taken from the Consumer Price Index.

*** Data shown reflects the average availability and prices of selected produce. This survey is conducted on each Thursday for rural markets on Upolu and Savaii and each Friday for urban markets on Upolu in the months under reference.*

Weights for selected produce have been revised using 2014 as the base period and have been incorporated starting from June 2016 report.

The Local Market Survey Report for September 2023 will be available on 20th October 2023.

SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

*Economic Statistics Division
FMFM II Building, Level 1
P O Box 1151
Apia, Samoa*

*Phone: (685) 62014/62015
Fax: (685) 24675
E-mail: info.stats@sbs.gov.ws
Website: www.sbs.gov.ws*

SUMMARY OF MARKET SURVEY

Table 1: Quantity Supplied (in kilograms)

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	AUG.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	JAN.23.AV	FEB.23.AV	MAR.23.AV	APR.23.AV	MAY.23.AV	JUN.23.AV	JUL.23.AV	AUG.23.AV	Aug-23	
												% chng from prev mnth	%chng from AUG 22
TARO	7521	3882	3069	8268	4286	3942	4639	5658	3345	4478	3358	-25	-14
BANANA	2642	1951	1721	2235	2865	1297	1407	1311	813	973	1202	24	-38
TA'AMU	816	4	24	18	13	17	6	44	20	145	268	85	7564
COCONUT	7993	4489	3258	7747	4090	3796	3540	3845	4042	4063	4741	17	6
BREADFRUIT	186	665	85	453	440	92	105	195	48	20	210	950	-68
YAM	129	155	47	129	81	41	88	81	220	344	477	39	207
HEAD CABBAGE	811	1142	661	584	443	487	498	753	1173	835	1528	83	34
TOMATOES	256	339	166	138	121	173	130	174	82	170	351	106	3
CH.CABBAGE	129	181	84	78	149	237	175	296	171	269	304	13	68
CUCUMBER	542	1276	1202	832	1063	830	870	1535	570	1179	987	-16	-23
PUMPKIN	6217	5907	8143	5941	6626	7660	7932	3523	2274	6123	6106	0	3

Table 2: Weighted Average Price Per Kilograms (in Tala)

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	AUG.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	JAN.23.AV	FEB.23.AV	MAR.23.AV	APR.23.AV	MAY.23.AV	JUN.23.AV	JUL.23.AV	AUG.23.AV	% chng from	
												prev mnth	AUG 22
TARO	1.48	4.46	3.73	3.74	4.15	3.97	4.04	4.20	4.75	5.76	6.20	8	39
BANANA	0.76	1.60	1.42	1.50	1.31	1.40	1.61	1.93	2.02	2.50	2.16	-14	35
TA'AMU	2.78	11.90	11.05	22.60	5.04	16.51	20.11	13.44	22.83	13.04	14.39	10	21
COCONUT	0.62	0.92	1.02	0.88	0.90	0.79	0.88	0.85	0.90	1.12	1.05	-6	14
BREADFRUIT	0.94	1.24	4.17	1.27	1.06	1.72	2.07	3.04	3.57	5.98	2.85	-52	130
YAM	3.16	5.26	5.66	6.64	6.65	6.34	5.37	7.35	5.92	7.06	6.31	-11	20
HEAD CABBAGE	5.40	7.36	9.58	13.16	13.36	13.23	17.02	14.83	15.79	15.29	11.10	-27	51
TOMATOES	9.55	14.50	15.31	20.49	22.41	23.21	25.08	27.54	27.88	31.07	19.55	-37	35
CH.CABBAGE	4.38	5.15	8.05	10.98	10.22	9.06	10.69	10.66	11.56	10.55	8.72	-17	69
CUCUMBER	2.99	4.73	5.77	6.38	6.77	6.70	7.09	7.85	8.29	8.72	7.30	-16	54
PUMPKIN	2.61	3.71	3.37	3.91	4.11	4.59	4.47	6.06	7.01	7.95	6.98	-12	88

Table 3: Value of Supplies (in Tala thousands)

PRODUCE	Total value 2014	AUG.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	JAN.23.AV	FEB.23.AV	MAR.23.AV	APR.23.AV	MAY.23.AV	JUN.23.AV	JUL.23.AV	AUG.23.AV	% chng from	
												prev mnth	AUG 22
TARO	126.6	17.3	11.5	31.0	17.8	15.7	18.8	23.8	15.9	25.8	20.8	-19	20
BANANA	25.1	3.1	2.5	3.4	3.7	1.8	2.3	2.5	1.6	2.4	2.6	7	-17
TA'AMU	25.6	0.0	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.6	0.5	1.9	3.9	104	9550
COCONUT	59.3	4.1	3.3	6.9	3.7	3.0	3.1	3.3	3.6	4.6	5.0	9	21
BREADFRUIT	1.8	0.8	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.2	0.1	0.6	400	-27
YAM	4.7	0.8	0.3	0.9	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.6	1.3	2.4	3.0	24	267
HEAD CABBAGE	44.6	8.4	6.3	7.7	5.9	6.4	8.5	11.2	18.5	12.8	17.0	33	102
TOMATOES	21.5	4.9	2.5	2.8	2.7	4.0	3.3	4.8	2.3	5.3	6.9	30	39
CH.CABBAGE	5.9	0.9	0.7	0.9	1.5	2.2	1.9	3.2	2.0	2.8	2.7	-7	185
CUCUMBER	18.4	6.0	6.9	5.3	7.2	5.6	6.2	12.1	4.7	10.3	7.2	-30	20
PUMPKIN	178.3	21.9	27.4	23.2	27.2	35.1	35.5	21.4	15.9	48.7	42.7	-12	95
	511.8	68.4	62.0	82.9	70.8	74.5	80.2	83.9	66.6	117.1	112.2	-4	64

*on the days surveyed
@ new weights and base

Table 4: Volume Index (2014 = 100)

PRODUCE	2014 Weights	AUG.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	JAN.23.AV	FEB.23.AV	MAR.23.AV	APR.23.AV	MAY.23.AV	JUN.23.AV	JUL.23.AV	AUG.23.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from AUG 22
TARO	0.25	52	41	110	57	52	62	75	44	60	45	-25	-14
BANANA	0.05	74	65	85	108	49	53	50	31	37	45	24	-38
TA'AMU	0.05	0	3	2	2	2	1	5	3	18	33	85	7544
COCONUT	0.12	56	41	97	51	48	44	48	51	51	59	17	6
BREADFRUIT	0.004	358	46	244	237	49	56	105	26	11	113	950	-68
YAM	0.01	120	37	100	63	32	68	63	170	267	370	39	207
HEAD CABBAGE	0.09	141	82	72	55	60	61	93	145	103	188	83	34
TOMATOES	0.04	133	65	54	47	67	51	68	32	66	137	106	3
CH.CABBAGE	0.01	140	65	61	116	184	136	230	133	209	235	13	68
CUCUMBER	0.04	235	222	153	196	153	160	283	105	218	182	-16	-23
PUMPKIN	0.35	95	131	96	107	123	128	57	37	99	98	0	3
	1.00	86	83	93	79	80	83	71	52	82	91	11	6

Table 5: Price Index (2014 = 100)

PRODUCE	2014 Weights	AUG.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	JAN.23.AV	FEB.23.AV	MAR.23.AV	APR.23.AV	MAY.23.AV	JUN.23.AV	JUL.23.AV	AUG.23.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from AUG 22
TARO	0.25	301	252	253	280	268	273	284	321	389	419	8	39
BANANA	0.05	211	187	198	172	185	212	254	266	329	285	-14	35
TA'AMU	0.05	428	398	813	181	594	723	484	821	469	518	10	21
COCONUT	0.12	148	164	143	145	128	141	137	145	181	169	-6	14
BREADFRUIT	0.004	132	443	135	112	183	221	324	379	636	303	-52	130
YAM	0.01	166	179	210	210	201	170	233	187	223	200	-11	20
HEAD CABBAGE	0.09	136	177	244	247	245	315	275	292	283	206	-27	51
TOMATOES	0.04	152	160	215	235	243	263	288	292	325	205	-37	35
CH.CABBAGE	0.01	117	184	251	233	207	244	243	264	241	199	-17	69
CUCUMBER	0.04	158	193	213	226	224	237	263	277	292	244	-16	54
PUMPKIN	0.35	142	129	150	157	176	171	232	269	305	268	-12	88
	1.00	126	128	162	134	159	175	185	218	223	193	-13	54

Table 6: Number of Sellers

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	AUG.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	JAN.23.AV	FEB.23.AV	MAR.23.AV	APR.23.AV	MAY.23.AV	JUN.23.AV	JUL.23.AV	AUG.23.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from AUG 22
TARO	46	33	32	45	41	37	34	33	33	31	47	51	45
BANANA	27	26	22	32	37	20	18	21	15	19	23	25	-10
TA'AMU	7	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	3	7	126	2836
COCONUT	57	35	26	42	37	34	30	30	27	32	38	22	10
BREADFRUIT	4	5	1	9	7	2	1	2	1	1	4	488	-7
YAM	5	3	1	3	3	1	2	2	5	7	5	-34	90
HEAD CABBAGE	12	18	13	18	10	8	9	9.8	10.2	15	11	-25	-38
TOMATOES	39	32	22	15	16	17	13	14	10	18	24	39	-24
CH.CABBAGE	13	16	11	8	12	14	12	14	12	18	14	-26	-16
CUCUMBER	42	37	36	22	28	24	25	32	22	41	30	-26	-17
PUMPKIN	83	61	70	66	54	54	56	31	31	53	65	23	8
	337	265	234	262	245	212	198	189	168	238	271	14	3

*on the days surveyed

@ new weights and base