

SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

Overseas Merchandise Trade November 2023

Highlights of the month

November 2023 compared with October 2023

Merchandise Exports¹

- ❖ The total value of merchandise exports increased 13.5 percent (or \$1.3 million) to \$10.7 million in November 2023. This was due to the notable increases in the exports and re-exports of:
 - ❖ Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products (up \$1.7 million)
 - ❖ Animal or vegetable fats and oil products (up \$0.6 million)
 - ❖ Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery products (up \$0.5 million)
 - ❖ Miscellaneous edible preparations products (up \$0.2 million)
- ❖ Oceania region had the largest share of 70.5 percent of the total merchandise exports, despite a reduction of 1.0 percent when compared to the preceding month.
- ❖ Exports to New Zealand (up \$0.9 million) and Tokelau (up \$0.6 million) recorded the largest increases in November 2023, reflecting higher exports of coconut oil, coconut cream and re-exports of fuel to mention a few.

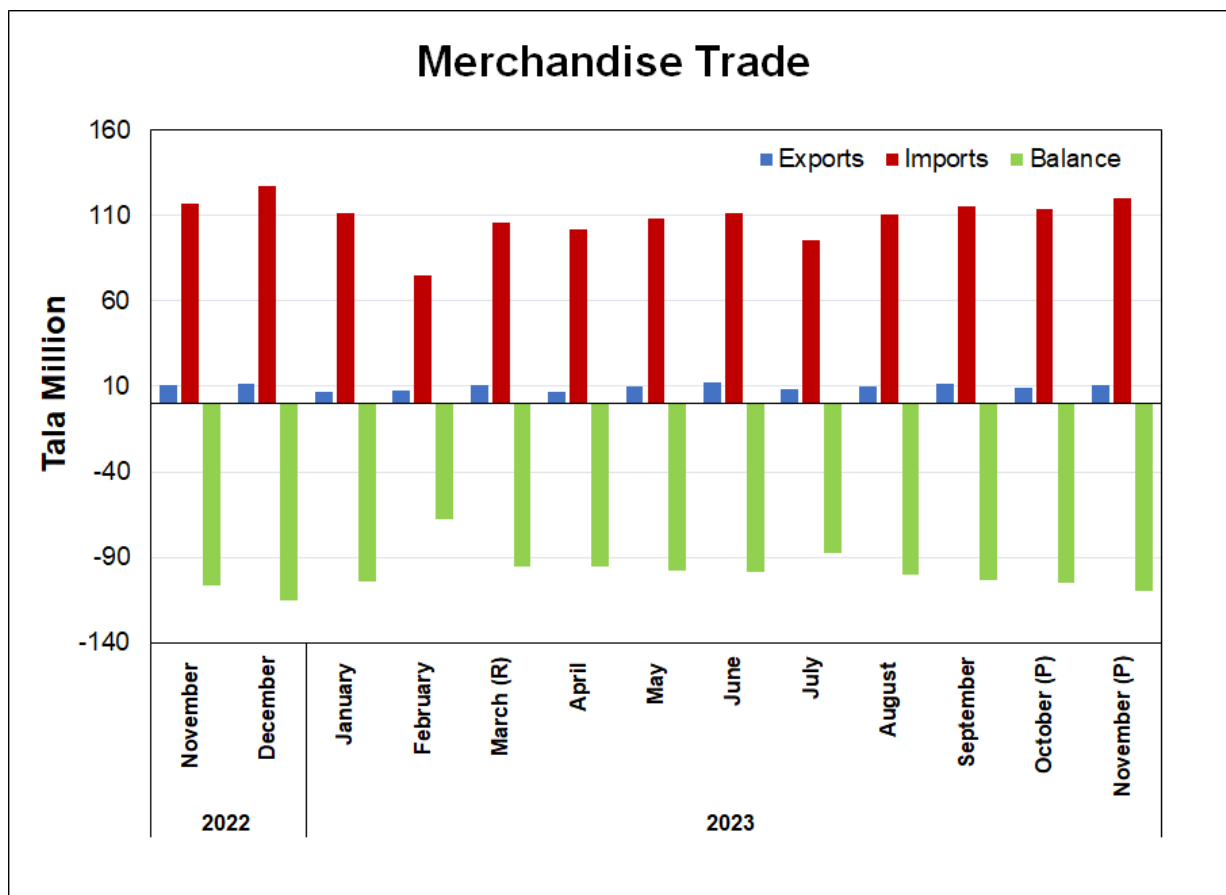
Merchandise Imports

- ❖ The total value of merchandise imports increased 5.5 percent (or \$6.3 million) to \$120.3 million in November 2023. This was mainly driven by the notable increases of:
 - ❖ Meat and edible meat offal products (up \$7.7 million)
 - ❖ Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products (up \$1.6 million)
 - ❖ Electrical machinery and equipment and part of products (up \$4.9 million)
 - ❖ Beverages, spirits and vinegar products (up \$1.5 million)
- ❖ The Asia region became the leading source market for imports accounting for 52.0 percent of total imports value. It increased 7.4 percent when compared to the previous month.
- ❖ Imports from China (up \$6.3 million), Singapore (up \$5.5 million) and New Zealand (up \$3.7 million) had the largest increases in the reviewed month, resulted from higher imports of petroleum and food products such as chicken leg quarter, sugar and soft drinks to name a few.

Trade Balance

- ❖ The total value of merchandise imports of \$120.3 million exceeded exports of \$10.7 million, resulting in a trade deficit of \$109.6 million in November 2023. The trade deficit increased 4.8 percent when compared to its balance in the previous month and up 3.2 percent when compared to the same month in 2022.

¹ Includes re-export commodities



Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

The attached tables provide users with more detailed information.

Technical Notes

The main source of imports and exports data comes from the administrative document; a completed customs form (Single Administrative data-SAD) which is required to be filled in by importers and exporters or customs agents when clearing merchandise inward and outward through the Ministry for Customs and Revenue (Custom Department).

The December 2023 Merchandise trade report is expected to be available on February 19th, 2024.

