



GOVERNMENT OF SAMOA

## SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

### Overseas Merchandise Trade August 2022

#### **Highlights of the month**

*August 2022 compared with July 2022*

#### **Merchandise Exports<sup>1</sup>**

- ❖ In August 2022, the total value of merchandise exports fell 7.4 percent (or \$0.8 million) to 10.9 million from the preceding month. This was due to the decline in:
  - ✓ Fish, crustaceans and molluscs products (down \$0.3 million)
  - ✓ Electrical machinery and equipment (down \$0.2 million)
  - ✓ Preparations of vegetables, fruit and nuts products (down \$0.3 million)
  - ✓ Fruit and nuts products (down \$0.04 million)
- ❖ USA region had the largest share about 83 percent of total merchandise exports, increasing 25.9 percent to \$8.3 million from the preceding month.
- ❖ Exports to USA (down \$3.0 million), American Samoa (down \$0.2 million) and China (down \$0.08 million) had the largest decreases in August 2022. This was due to the decline in exports of fish, coconut oil and beer to mention a few.

#### **Merchandise Imports**

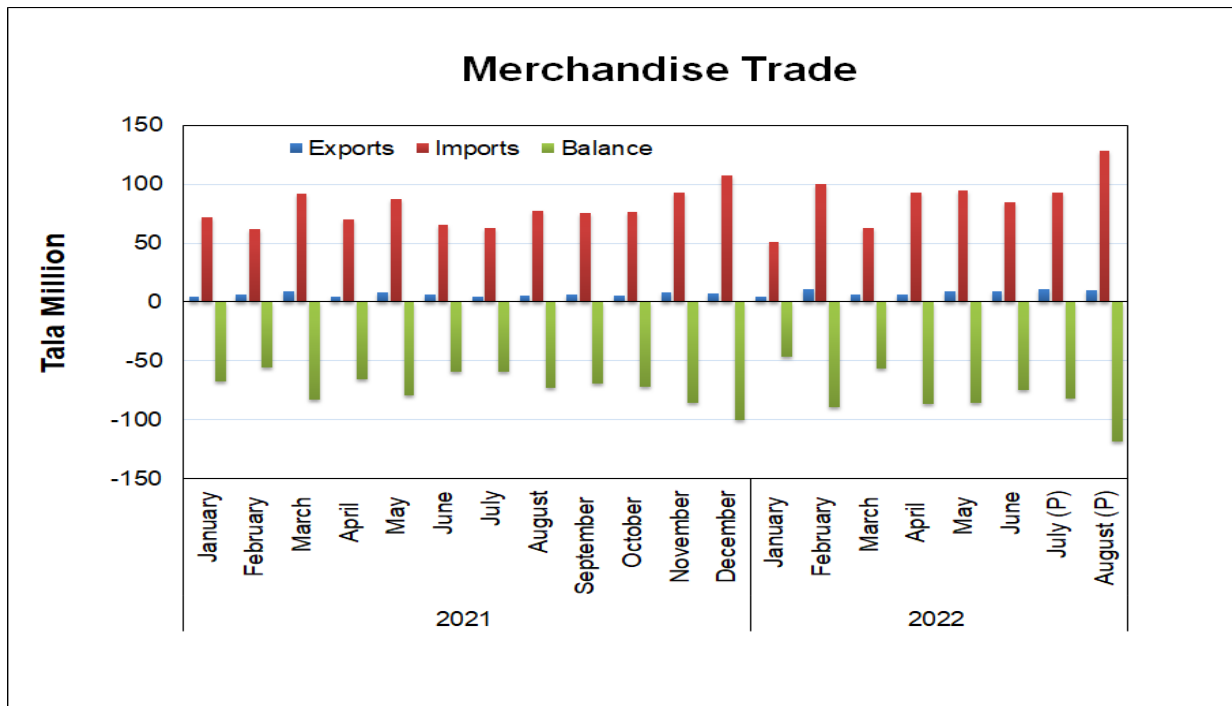
- ❖ The total value of merchandise imports rose 38.6 percent to \$128.1 million in August 2022. This increase was mainly driven by imports of:
  - ✓ Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products (up \$20.7 million)
  - ✓ Ships, boats and floating structures (up \$1.7 million)
  - ✓ Meat and edible meat offal (up \$4.7 million)
  - ✓ Cereal preparation (up \$1.5 million)
  - ✓ Fats and oil products (up \$2.2 million)
- ❖ Asian region became the leading source market for imports in August 2022, accounting for 55.8 percent of total imports value and also recorded the largest increase of \$33.7 million from the previous month.
- ❖ Imports from Singapore (up \$20.5 million), Hong Kong (up \$11.6 million), USA (up \$8.8 million) and Fiji (up \$8.6 million) recorded the largest increases in the reviewed month, reflecting higher imports of petroleum, chicken leg (quarter), vegetables oils as well as the importation of the Tugs and pusher craft boat.

#### **Trade Balance**

- ❖ In August 2022, the total value of merchandise imports amounted to \$128.1 million, exceeding total value of exports of \$10.1 million, resulting in a trade deficit of \$118.0 million. The trade deficit has increased by 63.1 percent when compared to its balance in the month of August 2021.

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<sup>1</sup> Includes re-export commodities



Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

#### 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 September 2022 Merchandise trade report is expected to be available on November 16<sup>th</sup> 2022.

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