



GOVERNMENT OF SAMOA

## SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

### Overseas Merchandise Trade November 2022

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

*November 2022 compared with October 2022*

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

- ❖ In November 2022, the total value of merchandise exports increased 10.1 percent (or \$1.0 million) to \$10.7 million in November 2022. This was mainly driven by the increases of:
  - ✓ Animal or vegetable fats and oil products (up \$0.9 million)
  - ✓ Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products (up \$0.4 million)
  - ✓ Iron and steel and articles (up \$0.2 million)
  - ✓ Wood and articles of wood products (up \$0.1 million)
- ❖ America region recorded the largest increase of \$0.7 million when compared to the previous month, accounting for 9.0 percent of the total merchandise exports value in November 2022.
- ❖ Exports to Tokelau (up \$1.9 million) and USA (up \$1.0 million) had the largest increases in November 2022. This was due to higher exports of coconut oil, footwear and re-exports of jet fuel and aviation kerosene to name a few.

#### **Merchandise Imports**

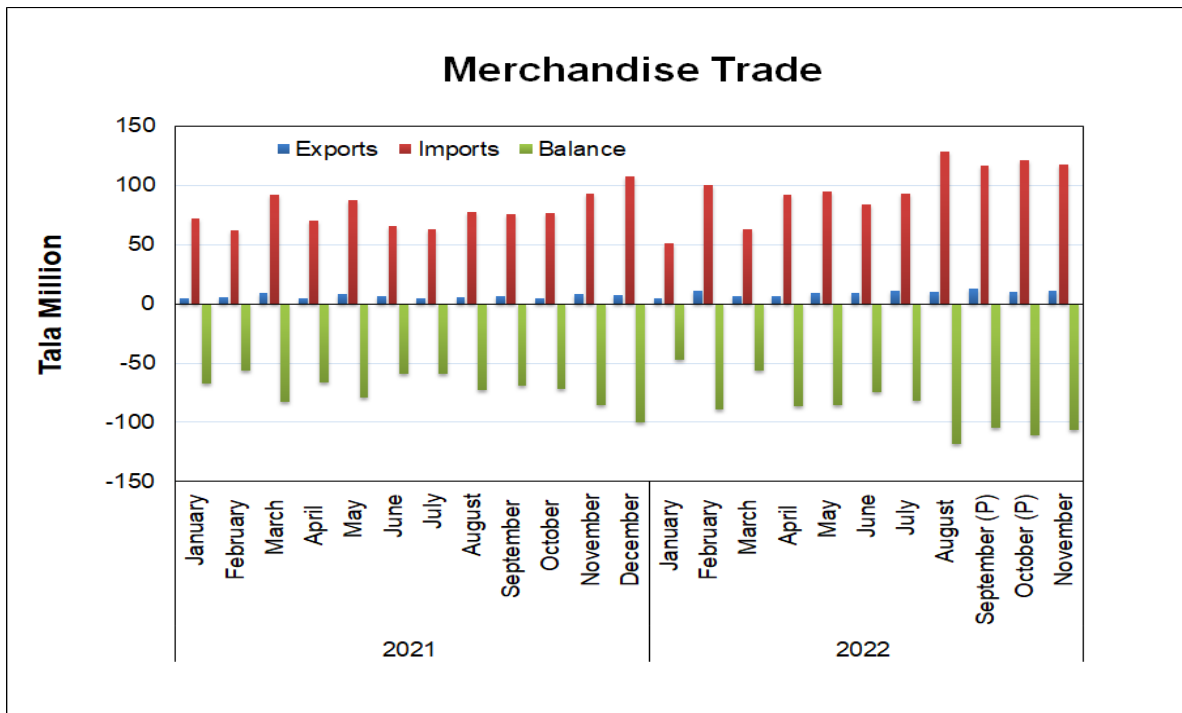
- ❖ The total value of merchandise imports decreased 3.2 percent to \$117.0 million in November 2022. This decrease was mainly driven by imports of:
  - ✓ Meat and edible meat offal (down \$1.1 million)
  - ✓ Dairy products (down \$2.6 million)
  - ✓ Animal or vegetable fats and oil products (down \$1.8 million)
  - ✓ Cereal (down \$0.5 million)
- ❖ Imports from Japan (down \$34.1 million), Fiji (down \$2.1 million), New Zealand (down \$5.3 million) and Australia (down \$0.7 million) recorded the largest decreases in the reviewed month, reflecting lower imports of chicken leg quarter, milk and cereal products to mention a few.
- ❖ Asia region became the leading source market for imports in November 2022 accounting for 48.9 percent of total merchandise imports value in November 2022.

#### **Trade Balance**

- ❖ In November 2022, the total value of merchandise imports amounted to \$117.0 million, exceeding total value of exports of \$10.7 million, resulting in a trade deficit of \$106.2 million. The trade deficit has increased by 24.7 percent when compared to its balance in the month of November 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 of Customs and Revenue (Custom Department).

The December 2022 Merchandise trade report is expected to be available on February 21<sup>st</sup> 2023.

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