



GOVERNMENT OF SAMOA

SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

Overseas Merchandise Trade September 2022

Highlights of the month

September 2022 compared with August 2022

Merchandise Exports¹

- ❖ In September 2022, the total value of merchandise exports increased 23.3 percent (or \$2.4 million) to \$12.4 million from the preceding month. This was mainly driven by the increases of:
 - ✓ Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products (up \$0.3 million)
 - ✓ Fish, crustaceans and molluscs (up \$0.6 million)
 - ✓ Fats and oils (up \$2.7 million)
 - ✓ Iron and steel and articles (up \$0.1 million)
- ❖ Oceania region was the leading export market in September 2022, accounting for 55.7 percent to \$6.9 million from the preceding month.
- ❖ Exports to USA (up \$2.7 million), American Samoa (up \$0.3 million), Taiwan (up \$0.7 million) and Fiji (up \$0.1 million) had the largest increases in September 2022. This was due to higher exports of coconut oil and fish to mention a few.

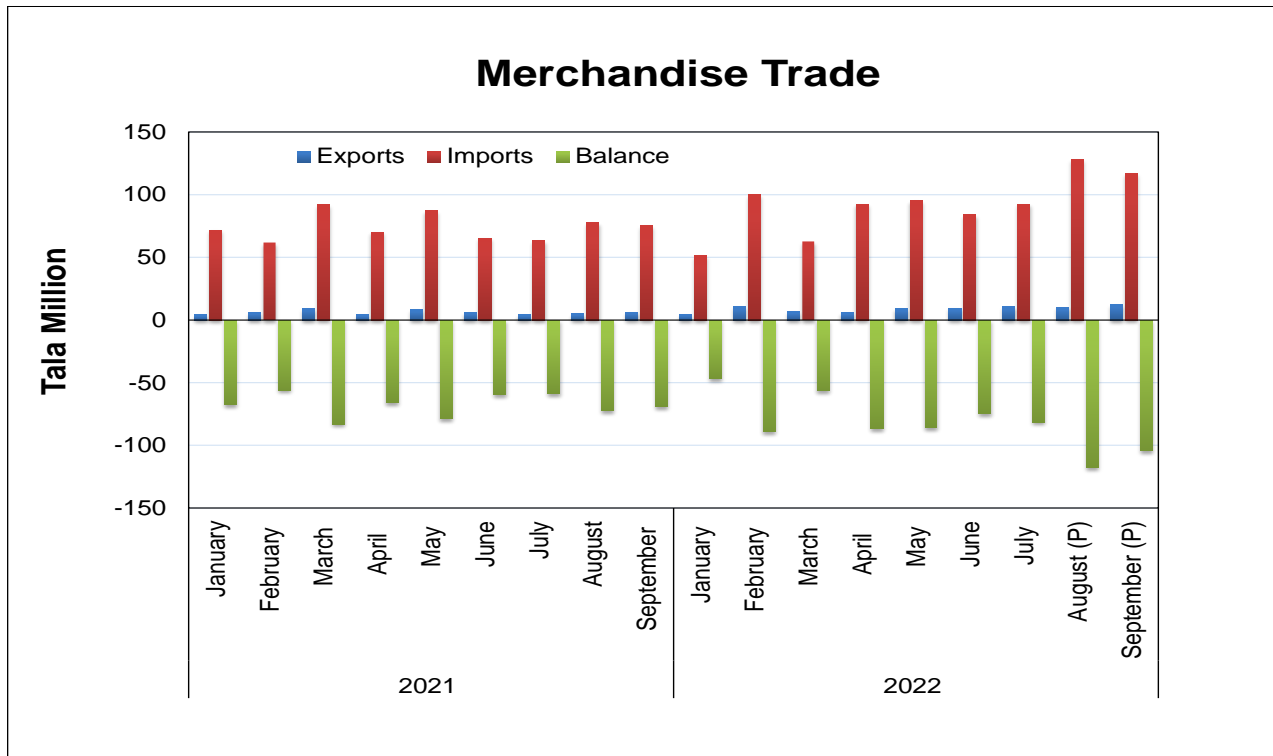
Merchandise Imports

- ❖ The total value of merchandise imports decreased 9.0 percent (or \$11.5 million) to \$116.6 million in September 2022. This reduction was mainly driven by imports of:
 - ✓ Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products (down \$6.4 million)
 - ✓ Cereal preparation (down \$0.5 million)
 - ✓ Iron and steel (down \$0.2 million)
 - ✓ Dairy products (down \$0.8 million)
- ❖ Asian region recorded the largest decrease of \$14.5 million in the reviewed month reflecting the reduction of petroleum imports and food items such as rice, mackerel and noodles to mention a few.
- ❖ Imports from Singapore (down \$5.3 million), Hong Kong (down \$10.7 million), Australia (down \$1.4 million) and China (down \$1.7 million) had the largest decreases in the reviewed month as a result of the decline in imports of petroleum, iron and steels, milk and rice supplies to mention a few.

Trade Balance

- ❖ In September 2022, the total value of merchandise imports amounted to \$116.6 million, exceeding total value of exports of \$12.4 million, resulting in a trade deficit of \$104.2 million. The trade deficit has decreased by 11.7 percent when compared to its balance in the month of August 2022 but increased by 50.7 percent when compared to that of September 2021.

¹ 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 October 2022 Merchandise trade report is expected to be available on December 13th 2022.

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: esd@sbs.gov.ws
 Website: www.sbs.gov.ws

Leota Aliielua Salani
GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN / CEO