



GOVERNMENT OF SAMOA

SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

MERCHANDISE TRADE September 2022 quarter

Highlights of the quarter

(September 2022 quarter compared with September 2021 quarter)

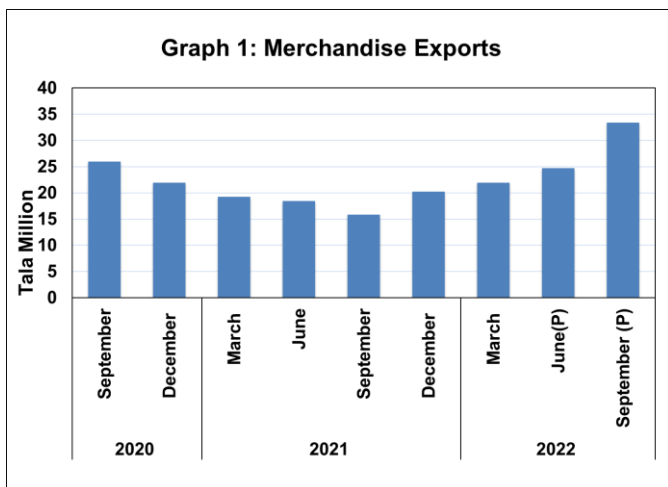
- Total merchandise exports increased \$17.6 million to \$33.4 million.
- Total merchandise imports increased \$120.9 million to \$337.1 million.
- Resulting in a trade deficit of \$303.7 million.

Overview

Value of Merchandise Exports

The total value of exports in the September 2022 quarter increased \$17.6 million to \$33.4 million over the same quarter last year. In comparison with the June 2022 quarter, the value of exports also increased by \$8.7 million. Largely responsible for the increase were higher values of fish, coconut oil exports and re-exports of petroleum to mention a few.

(See Graph 1 and Table 1).



Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

Total exports in the four quarters ending September 2022 rose 32.8 percent when compared to the four quarters ending September 2021.

Exports of Main Commodities

Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products valued at \$9.8 million became the top exported commodity in the September 2022 quarter, accounting for 29.2 percent of total merchandise exports value. This was \$8.4 million and \$5.4 million higher than its exports in the September 2021 quarter and June 2022 quarter respectively.

Fish exports followed with a total value of \$7.8 million (23.4 percent of total merchandise exports value), increasing \$6.9 million and 2.1 million when compared to September 2021 quarter and June 2022 quarter respectively.

Fats and oil exports increased \$2.3 million (to \$5.3 million) over the same quarter last year, accounting for 16.0 percent of total merchandise exports value. When compared to the June 2022 quarter, the value of fats and oil exports rose \$3.2 million.

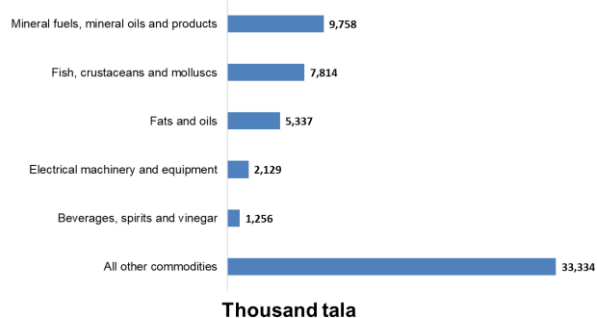
Electrical machinery and equipment exports with a total value of \$2.1 million accounting for 6.4 percent of total merchandise exports value, decreased 22.7 percent and 27.3 percent when compared to September 2021 quarter and June 2022 quarter respectively.

Beverages, spirits and vinegar exports recorded a total value of \$1.3 million accounting for 3.8 percent of total merchandise exports value, decreased 15.2 percent from the same quarter last year but rose 20.9 percent from the June 2022 quarter.

All **'other commodities'** recorded less than 3.0 percent share each of total merchandise exports value having a combined total of \$7.1 million.

(See Graph 2 and table 2.)

**Graph 2. Export by Main Commodities
September 2022 Quarter**



Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

Merchandise Exports by Region

The **Oceania** region recorded the largest share of 65.4 percent of total merchandise exports value, increasing \$11.1 million and \$2.8 million when compared to the September 2021 quarter and June 2022 quarter respectively.

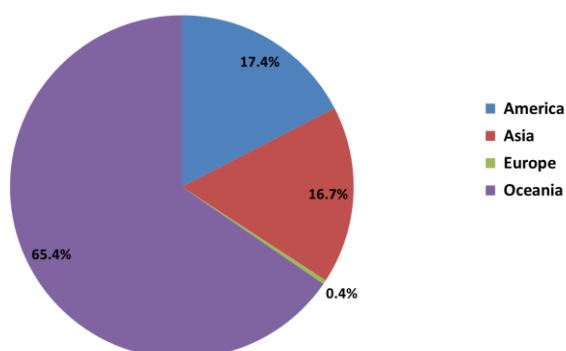
The **America** region had a total share of 17.4 percent, increasing \$2.4 million and \$3.3 million when compared to the September 2021 quarter and June 2022 quarter in that order.

The **Asia** region recorded a total share of 16.7 percent, recording the increases of \$4.0 million and \$2.6 million over the same quarter of 2021 and the previous quarter respectively.

The **Europe** region had a total share of 0.4 percent, increasing 76.8 percent and 31.3 percent when compared to the September 2021 quarter and June 2022 quarter in that order.

(See graph 3 and table 4).

**Graph 3: Merchandise Exports by Region
September 2022 Quarter**



Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

Merchandise Exports by main Countries

In terms of merchandise exports by country, **American Samoa** had the largest share of 26.8 percent (\$8.9 million) of total merchandise exports value in the September 2022 quarter. This value was \$6.4 million and \$2.3 million higher than that of September 2021 quarter and June 2022 quarter respectively.

Exports to **USA** followed with a share of 17.3 percent (\$5.8 million) of total merchandise exports value. This was \$2.3 million and \$3.3 million higher when compared to the same quarter last year and the previous quarter respectively.

Exports to **New Zealand** recorded a total share of 16.5 percent (\$5.5 million), increasing 22.7 percent when compared to the same quarter last year but was 0.7 percent lower than that of June 2022 quarter.

Exports to **Tokelau** stood at \$4.0 million (12.0 percent share of total merchandise exports value), increasing \$2.4 million and \$0.1 million over the corresponding quarter last year and the previous quarter in that order.

Exports to **Taiwan** accounted for 7.2 percent share of total merchandise exports value (\$2.4 million), increasing \$2.0 million and \$0.7 million when compared to the September 2021 quarter and June 2022 quarter respectively.

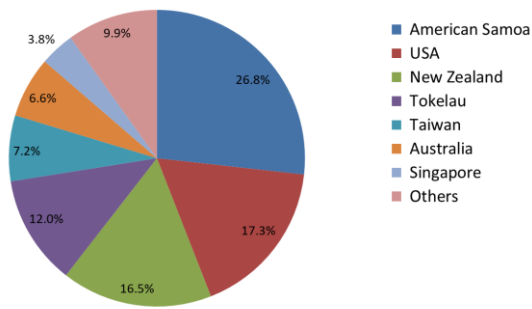
Exports to **Australia** increased 69.6 percent (to \$2.2 million) when compared to the same quarter last year, accounting for 6.6 percent of total merchandise exports value. This value was \$0.1 million higher than the preceding quarter.

Exports to **Singapore** recorded a total share of 3.8 percent (\$1.3 million), increasing \$1.0 million and \$1.1 million when compared to September 2021 quarter and June 2022 quarter respectively.

All '**other countries**' of destination accounted for less than 3.0 percent share each of total merchandise exports value having a combined share of 9.9 percent.

(See Graph 4 and Table 4).

Graph 4: Merchandise Exports by main Countries September 2022 Quarter



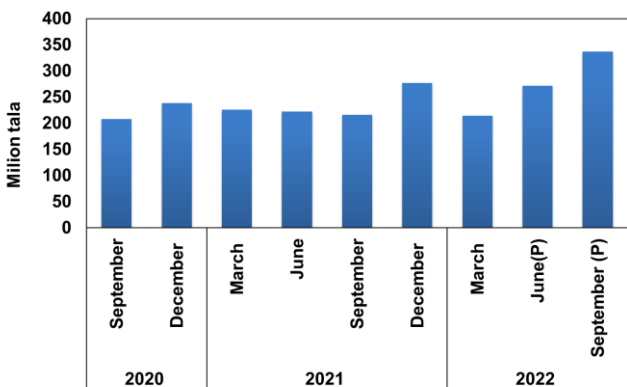
Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

Value of Merchandise Imports

Merchandise imports in the September 2022 quarter were valued at \$337.1 million. This was 55.9 percent and 24.2 percent higher than the imports in the September 2021 quarter and June 2022 quarter respectively.

(See graph 5 and table 5)

Graph 5: Merchandise Imports



Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

The total value of merchandise imports in the four quarters ending September 2022 was 21.8 percent higher when compared with the four quarters ending September 2021.

Import of Main Commodities

Mineral fuels, mineral oils and product remained the top commodity group imported in the September 2022 quarter with a total value of \$104.2 million, accounting for 30.9 percent of total merchandise imports value. This was \$60.2 million and \$53.4

million higher than its value in the September 2021 quarter and June 2022 quarter respectively.

Meat and edible meat offal imports were valued at \$30.9 million (9.2 percent of total merchandise imports value), increasing 80.5 percent and 65.6 percent over the same quarter last year and the preceding quarter in that order.

Vehicle, parts & accessories imports were valued at \$15.2 million (4.5 percent of total merchandise imports value), increasing 19.2 percent and 15.8 percent when compared to the corresponding quarter of 2021 and the previous quarter respectively.

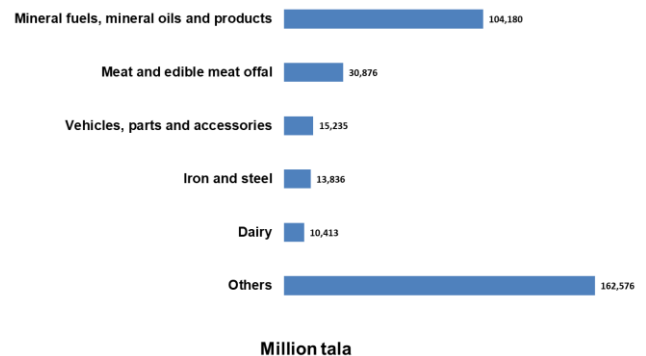
Iron and steel imports increased 55.0 percent from the corresponding quarter of 2021 (4.1 percent of total merchandise imports value). When compared to the previous quarter, vehicle parts and accessories rose 29.0 percent to \$13.8 million.

Dairy exports had a total value of \$10.4 million (3.1 percent of total merchandise imports value), increasing 32.9 percent when compared to the September 2021 quarter and up 16.1 percent when compared to the June 2022 quarter.

All **'other commodities'** accounted for less than 3.0 percent share each of total merchandise imports value, had a combined total of \$162.6 million.

(See graph 6 and table 5)

Graph 6: Imports by Main Commodities September 2022 Quarter



Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

Merchandise Imports by Region

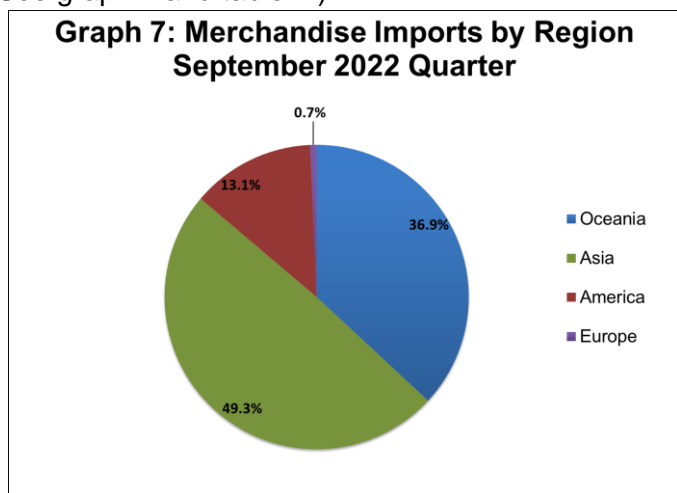
In the September 2022 quarter, imports from the **Asia** region recorded the largest share of 49.3 percent of total merchandise imports value, increasing 77.6 percent and 43.1 percent when compared to the September 2021 quarter and June 2022 quarter in that order.

Oceania recorded a total share of 36.9 percent of total merchandise imports value, increasing 24.7 percent from the September 2021 quarter but was 3.2 percent lower than that of June 2022 quarter.

America had a total share of 13.1 percent of total merchandise imports value, increasing 94.5 percent over the September 2021 quarter and 66.3 percent over the June 2022 quarter.

Europe had a total share of 0.7 percent, increasing \$2.1 million when compared to September 2021 quarter and June 2022 quarter.

(See graph 7 and table 7.)



Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

Merchandise Imports by main Countries

Singapore became the leading source market for merchandise imports in the September 2022 quarter with a total value of \$102.3 million, accounting for 30.3 percent of total merchandise imports value. This was \$60.3 million and \$51.3 million higher when compared to the September 2021 quarter and June 2022 quarter respectively.

Imports from **New Zealand** followed with a total share of 19.4 percent (\$65.5 million) of total merchandise imports value, declining 5.3 percent from the September 2021 quarter and 11.5 percent from the June 2022 quarter.

Imports from **USA** recorded a 13.1 percent (\$44.0 million) share of merchandise imports value, increasing 95.2 percent when compared to the September 2021 quarter and went up by 66.4 percent when compared to the June 2022 quarter.

Imports from **Fiji** stood at \$31.5 million (9.3 percent share of total merchandise imports value), increasing 65.9 percent over the corresponding quarter last year but was 4.7 percent lower than the previous quarter.

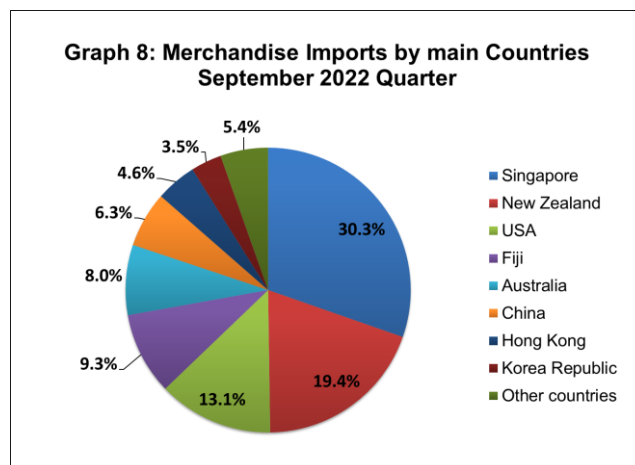
Imports from **Australia** accounted for 8.0 percent (\$26.9 million) share of total merchandise imports value. This was \$15.8 million and \$5.8 million higher when compared to the same quarter last year and the previous quarter respectively.

Imports from **China** recorded a share of 6.3 percent (\$21.3 million) of total merchandise imports value, increasing 30.0 percent when compared to September 2021 quarter but was 21.0 percent lower when compared to June 2022 quarter.

Imports from **Hong Kong** represented 4.6 percent (\$15.7 million) share of total merchandise imports value, increasing \$10.0 million and \$11.7 million when compared to the September 2021 quarter and the previous quarter respectively.

Imports from **Korea** recorded a total share of 3.5 percent (\$11.7 million of total merchandise imports value), declining 25.9 percent from the September 2021 quarter and 40.6 percent from the June 2022 quarter.

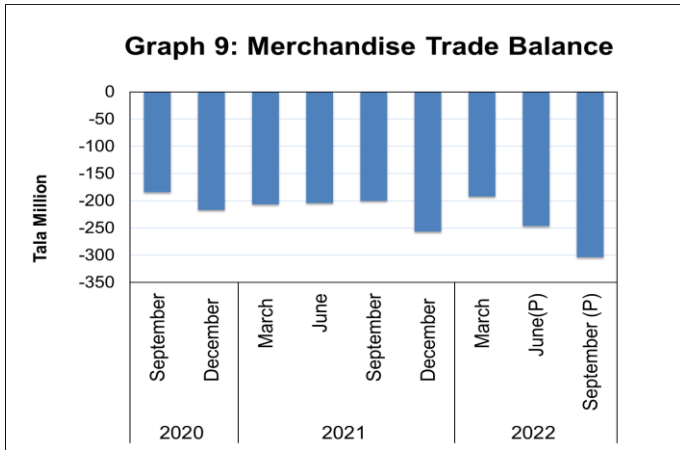
All '**other countries**' contributed less than 3.0 percent share each of total merchandise imports value having a combined share of 5.4 percent. (See graph 8 and table 8)



Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

Merchandise Trade Balance

In the September 2022 quarter, the total value of merchandise imports of \$337.1 million was higher than the value of merchandise exports of \$33.4 million, resulting in a trade deficit of \$303.7 million. (See graph 9 and table 1).



Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

The attached tables provide the user with more detailed information.

The Merchandise trade report for the December 2022 quarter is expected to be available on the 25th March 2023.

Taiaopo Faumuina
Acting Chief Executive Officer/CEO

Technical Notes

The main source of imports and exports data comes from the administrative document, a completed customs form (Single Administrative data) 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)

Definitions

September 2022 quarter: (July, August, September 2022)

Capital goods: are produced assets that are used repeatedly or continuously, for longer than one year, in industrial production processes. Examples are machinery, trucks, and aircraft.

cif: is the cost of goods, including insurance and freight to Samoa.

Consumption goods: are goods used (without further transformation in industrial production processes) by households, government, or non-profit institutions serving households.

Exports (domestic): are goods of domestic origin exported from Samoa to another country. Exports in this release are valued fob and are shown in Samoan tala.

fob: is free on board (the value of goods at Samoa ports before export).

Imports: are goods imported into Samoa. Imports in this release are valued at cif and are shown in Samoan tala.

Intermediate goods: are goods used up, or transformed in, industrial production processes.

Merchandise trade: covers exports or imports of goods that alter the nation's stock of material resources.

Provisional: statistics for the latest three months are provisional, to allow late data and amendments to be included.

Re-exports: are exports of foreign goods which were previously recorded as Samoa's imports.

Trade balance: is calculated by deducting imports (cif) from exports (fob). These two valuations are not entirely comparable, because the cif valuation includes insurance

and freight to Samoa, while the fob valuation excludes insurance and freight from Samoa.

Trade deficit: occurs when the value of imports is more than the value of exports.

Trade surplus: occurs when the value of exports is more than the value of imports.