



File Ref: MTR April 2023

SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

Overseas Merchandise Trade April 2023

Highlights of the month

April 2023 compared with March 2023

Merchandise Exports¹

- ❖ The total value of merchandise exports declined 38.6 percent (or \$4.1 million) to \$6.5 million in April 2023. This was due to the decreases in the exports of:
 - ❖ Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products (down \$1.1 million)
 - ❖ Animal or vegetable and oils products (down \$0.7 million)
 - ❖ Vegetables and certain roots and tubers products (down \$0.4 million)
 - ❖ Fish and crustaceans, molluscs products (down \$1.2 million)
- ❖ Oceania region recorded the largest decrease of 28.5 percent when compared to the previous month. Export to this region accounted for 65.4 percent of the total merchandise exports in April 2023.
- ❖ Exports to American Samoa (down \$1.6 million), USA (down \$1.1 million) and Tokelau (down \$0.5 million) had the largest decreases in April 2023 mostly influenced by the reduction of coconut oil, fish and taro exports to mention a few.

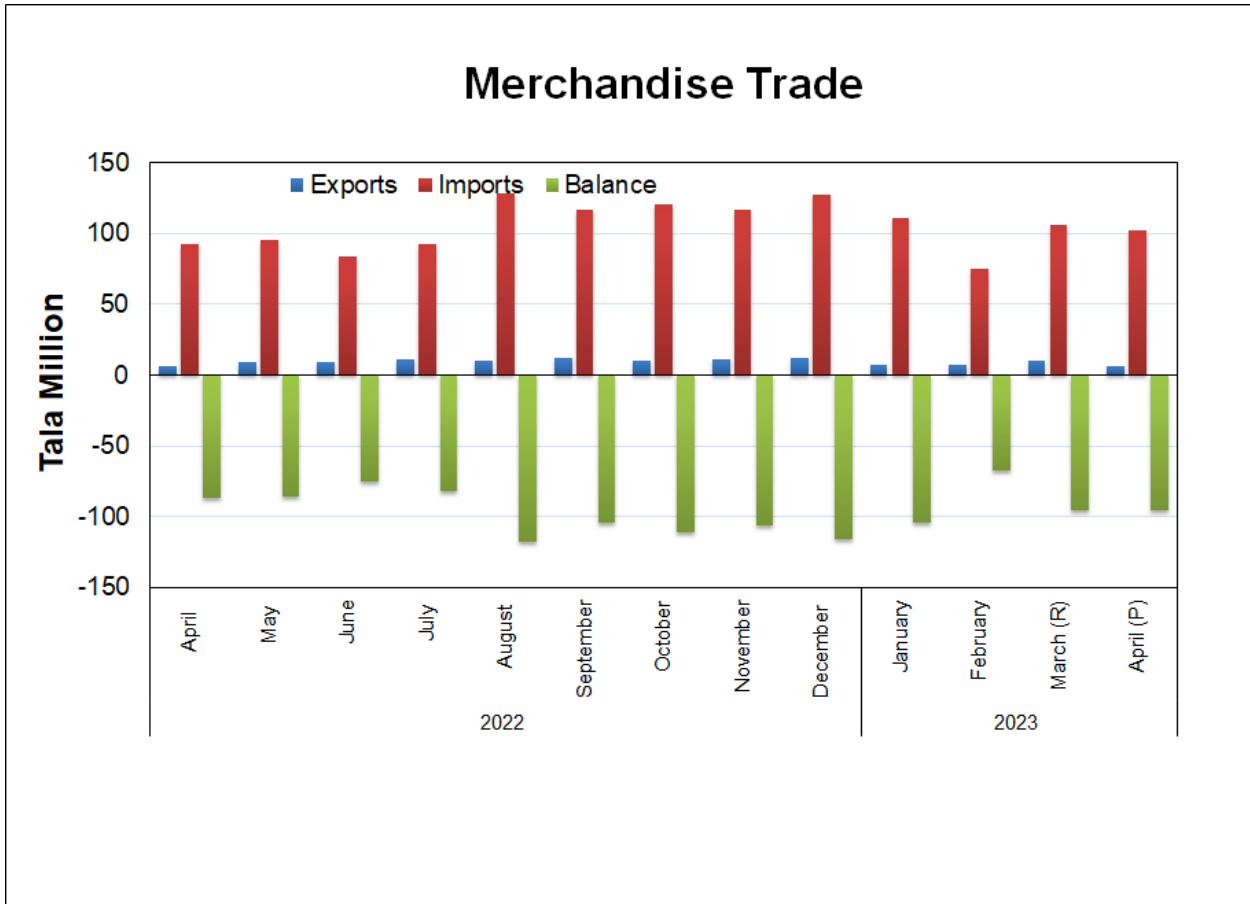
Merchandise Imports

- ❖ The total value of merchandise imports decreased 3.4 percent (or \$3.6 million) to \$102.1 million in April 2023. This reduction was mainly driven by the decline in imports of:
 - ❖ Dairy products (down \$1.8 million)
 - ❖ Electrical machinery and equipment products (down \$1.4 million)
 - ❖ Iron and Steel products (down \$2.0 million)
 - ❖ Tin products (down \$1.0 million)
- ❖ The Oceania region recorded the largest decrease in April 2023 (down \$14.9 million) to \$39.5 million, due to the reduction of dairy products and electrical machine imports to mention a few.
- ❖ Imports from New Zealand (down \$6.5 million), Fiji (down \$1.7 million), Australia (down \$1.6 million) and Hong Kong (down \$1.2 million) recorded the largest decreases in the reviewed month reflecting lower imports of milk and cream, electrical equipment and iron products to name a few.

Trade Balance

- ❖ In April 2023, the total value of merchandise imports amounting to \$102.1 million, exceeded total value of exports of \$6.5 million, resulting in a trade deficit of \$95.6 million. The trade deficit increased 0.5 percent and 10.6 percent when compared to its balance in the preceding month and the corresponding month last year respectively.

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 May 2023 Merchandise trade report is expected to be available on 17 July 2023.

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