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GOVERNMENT OF SAMOA

File Ref: IPI Rebase March 2018=100.0

SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

This issue of the Import Price Index (MPI) introduces a new base period for measurement with March 2018 = 100.0. It is a fixed weight index with March 2018 quarter = 100.0 and is compiled on a quarterly basis using the International Harmonized System of Trade Classification (HS). The items included in the index were selected on the basis of their importance to the total import.

The scope of the MPI relates to the following sections of the International Harmonized System of Trade Classification (HS): 1. Live Animals: Animal Products, 2. Vegetable Products, 3. Animal or Vegetable fats and oils, 4. Food and Beverages and 5. Mineral Products. The index represents 50 percent of total Imports.

The new weight from March 2018 quarter are displayed below.

	All Groups IPI	% weight 2009	% weight 2018
I	ANIMAL PRODUCTS	18.9	21.7
II	VEGETABLE PRODUCTS	9.7	10.4
III	FATS & OILS	1.9	1.8
IV	FOOD, BEVERAGES	19.8	24.0
V	MINERAL PRODUCTS	49.6	42.1
	Total, All groups	100	100

These changes have been incorporated to better reflect changes in the imported commodities and will be monitored from time to time to ensure data collection and compilation follow statistically sound methodology and best practice.

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IMPORT PRICE INDEX – MARCH 2020 QUARTER (Base Period: March 2018 quarter = 100.0)

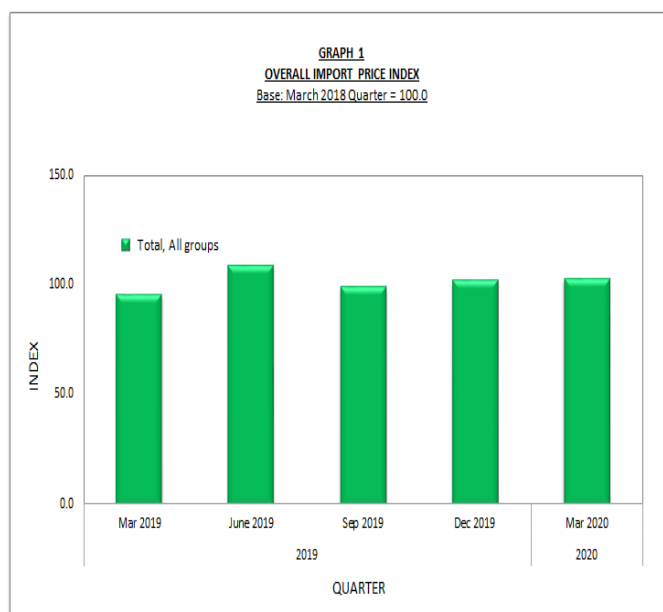
Highlights of the quarter

(March 2020 quarter compared with the December 2019 quarter)

- Import Price Index increased 0.1 percent from the December 2019 quarter.
- Animal Products Index recorded the largest increase (up 7.1 percent).
- Food and beverage Index had the largest decrease (down 3 percent).

Overview

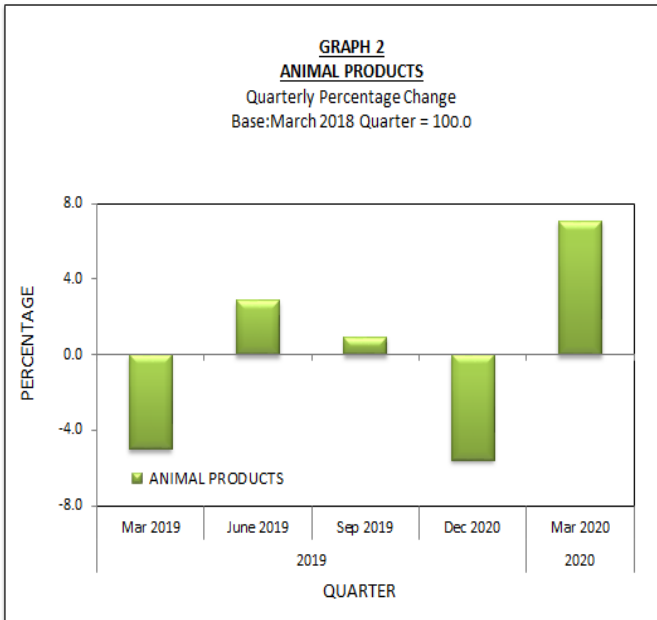
The Import Price Index for the March 2020 quarter showed an overall increase of 0.1 percent from the December 2019 quarter. The increase was mainly driven by a 7.1 percent increase in the Animal products and vegetable products (up 0.8 percent) indices. The fats and oils index increased 2.8 percent while the Food and Beverage Index recorded the largest decrease of 3 percent. In comparison with the March 2019 quarter, the current quarter price index increased 7.2 percent. (See table 1 & 2 and graph 1).



Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

HS Section 1: Live Animals; Animal Product prices rise 7.1%.

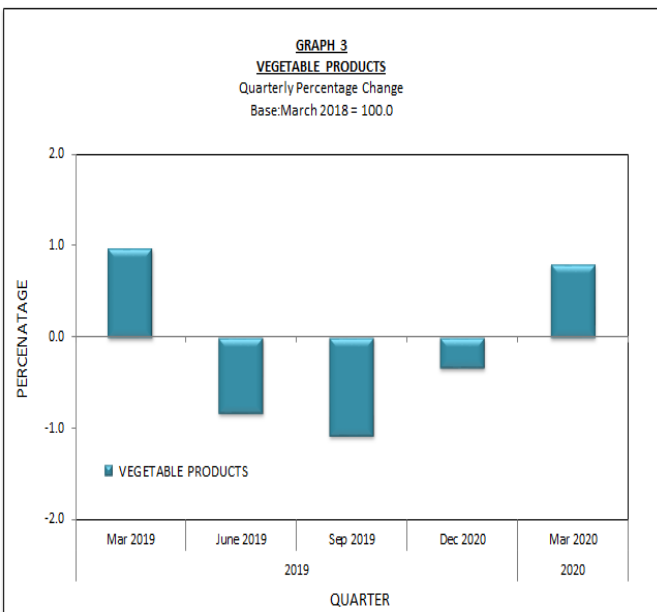
The import price index for Live Animal Products in the March 2020 quarter rose 7.1 percent, following a 5.6 percent fall in the December 2019 quarter. The current increase was led by higher prices of imported meat products (up 12.4 percent), reflecting higher prices of poultry meat (up 16 percent). The imported prices of dairy products decreased 4.1 percent, reflecting lower prices of liquid milk (down 7.4 percent) and butter (down 3 percent). In comparison with the March 2019 quarter, the current live animals and animal products index increased 5 percent. (See tables 1 & 2 and graph 2).



Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

HS Section 2: Vegetable Products prices rise 0.8%.

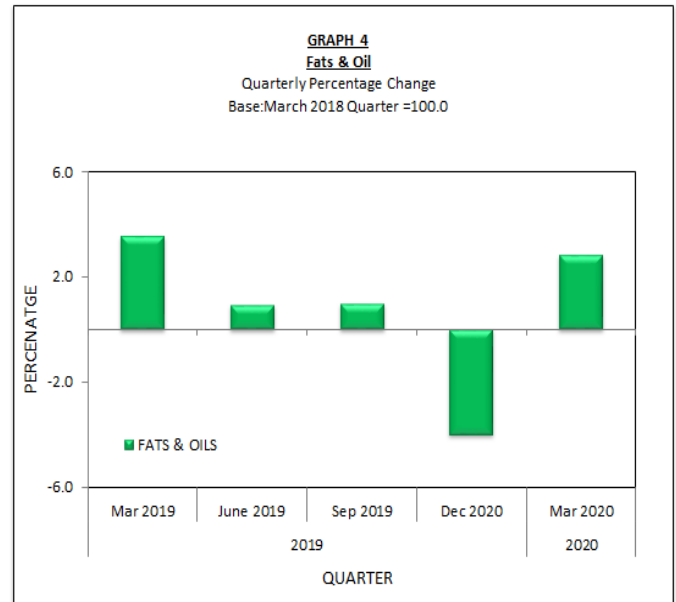
Import Prices for Vegetable Products in the March 2020 quarter increased 0.8 percent from the December 2019 quarter. The current increases were mainly influenced by higher import prices of vegetables (up 1.4 percent), rice (up 3.1 percent), and onions (up 5.2 percent). Milled products recorded a 2.1 percent decline when compared to December 2019 quarter. In comparison with the March 2019 quarter, the current vegetable products index decreased 1.5 percent. (See tables 1 & 2 and graph 3).



Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

HS Section 3: Animal or Vegetable fats & oils prices rise 2.8%.

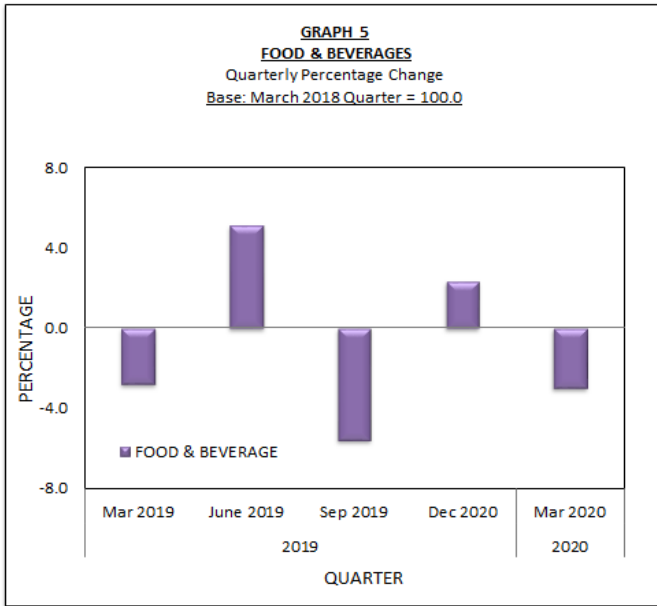
Animals or Vegetable fats and oils import prices rose 2.8 percent in the March 2020 quarter, following a 4 percent fall in the December 2019 quarter. The current increase was influenced by higher prices of sunflower oil (up 6.2 percent) and margarine (up 1.3 percent). The prices of vegetable oil decreased when compared to the December 2019 quarter (down 2.3 percent). When compared with the March 2019 quarter, the current animal or vegetable fats and oil index increased 0.6 percent. (See tables 1 & 2 and graph 4).



Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

HS Section 4: Food and Beverage prices fell 3%.

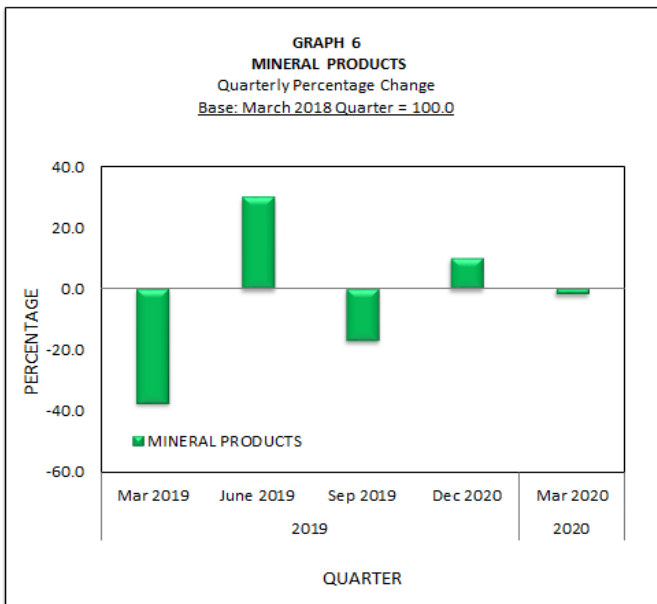
In the March 2020 quarter, the Food and Beverage import prices fell 3 percent from the previous quarter. The current decline was mainly driven by lower prices of cereals (down 6.2 percent), and canned meat (down 1.7 percent), reflecting lower prices of canned beef (down 0.8 percent), canned fish (down 2.7 percent), pasta (down 3.6 percent) and bread (down 8.3 percent). Import prices for sugar recorded a 2 percent increase when compared to the previous quarter. In comparison with the corresponding quarter of 2019, the current food and beverage index fell 1.5 percent. (See tables 1 & 2 and graph 5).



Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

HS Section 5: Mineral Products price fell 1.8%.

Import Price for Mineral Products fell 1.8 percent in the March 2020 quarter, following a 10 percent rise in the December 2019 quarter. This fall was influenced by lower prices of petroleum oils (down 2.9 percent). Petroleum gases were 15.4 percent and 17 percent higher when compared to the December 2019 quarter and March 2019 quarter in that order. (See tables 1 & 2 and graph 6).



Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

Technical Notes

The Import Price Index (MPI) measures changes in the cost, insurance, and freight (CIF) prices of imports of merchandise into Samoa. It is a fixed weight index with March 2018 quarter = 100.0 and is calculated on a quarterly basis using the International Harmonized System of Trade Classification (HS). The items included in the index were selected on the basis of their importance to the total import.

The scope of the MPI relates to the following sections of the International Harmonized System of Trade Classification (HS): 1. Live Animals: Animal Products, 2. Vegetable Products, 3. Animal or Vegetable fats and oils, 4. Food and Beverages and 5. Mineral Products. The index represents 50 percent of total Imports.

The MPI report for June 2020 is expected to be available on 11th August 2020.

Aliimuamua Malaefono Tauā – T. Faasalaina
GOVERNMENT STATICIAN (CEO)

IMPORT PRICE INDEX

Base: March 2018 Quarter = 100.0

Table 1

CODE	DESCRIPTION	Weight 2018	2018	2019				2020	% Change	
			Dec 2018	Mar 2019	June 2019	Sep 2019	Dec 2019	Mar 2020	Mar 2 / Dec 19	Mar 20 /Mar 19
I	ANIMAL PRODUCTS	100.0	106.3	101.0	103.9	104.9	99.0	106.0	7.1	5.0
2	Meat	69.1	110.2	102.2	104.5	107.4	97.0	109.0	12.4	6.6
4	Dairy	30.9	109.4	98.2	102.5	99.3	103.6	99.4	-4.1	1.2
II.	VEGETABLE PRODUCTS	100.0	99.7	100.7	99.8	98.8	98.4	99.2	0.8	-1.5
7	Vegetables	23.1	105.4	101.9	98.4	91.3	97.0	98.4	1.4	-3.4
10	Cereals	41.4	100.2	102.0	98.7	103.2	95.9	98.8	3.1	-3.1
11	Milled products	35.5	91.0	98.4	102.1	98.4	102.3	100.2	-2.1	1.8
III.	FATS & OILS	100.0	95.6	99.0	99.9	100.9	96.9	99.6	2.8	0.6
15	Fats & oils	100.0	90.6	99.0	99.9	100.9	96.9	99.6	2.8	0.6
IV.	FOOD & BEVERAGE	100.0	103.0	100.2	105.3	99.4	101.7	98.7	-3.0	-1.5
16	Canned Meats	35.5	90.5	98.9	101.8	101.9	100.8	99.1	-1.7	0.1
17	Sugars	20.7	112.2	107.3	103.4	98.0	97.4	99.4	2.0	-7.3
19	Cereals	43.8	86.7	97.9	109.0	98.1	104.4	98.0	-6.2	0.1
V.	MINERAL PRODUCTS	100.0	140.6	87.8	114.3	95.1	104.6	102.7	-1.8	17.0
27	Mineral fuels	100.0	140.6	87.8	114.3	95.1	104.6	102.7	-1.8	17.0
	Total, All groups	500.0	123.9	95.2	108.1	98.7	101.9	102.0	0.1	7.2

Source: Samoa Bureau Statistics

(P) Provisional figures

Base: March 2018 Quarter = 100.0

IMPORT PRICE INDEX
Base: March 2018 Quarter = 100.0

Table 2

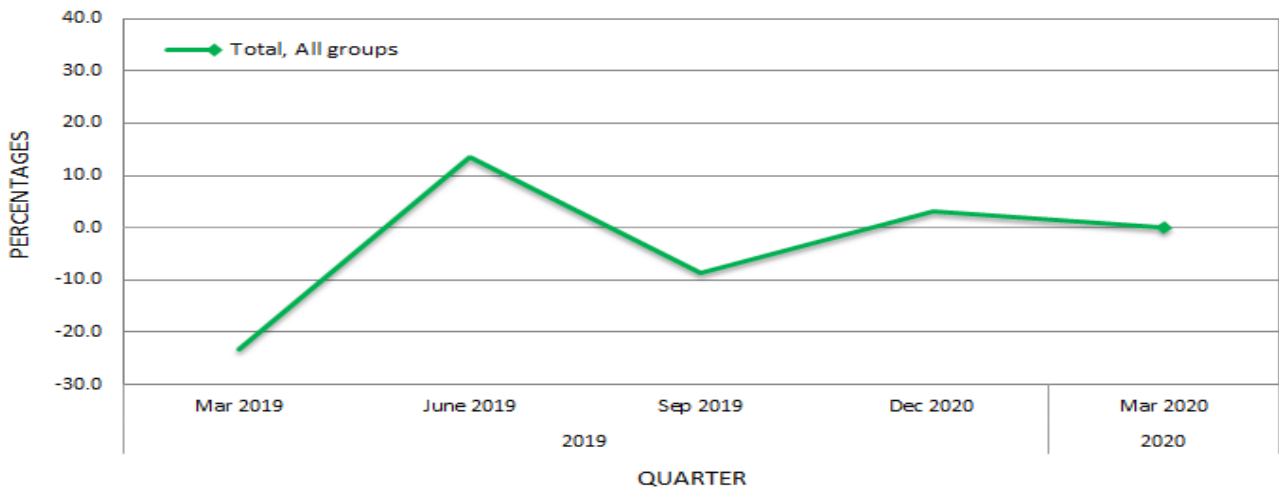
	Weight 2018	2019			2020	%Change
		June 2019	Sep 2019	Dec 2019	Mar 2020	Mar 20 / Dec 2019
I. ANIMAL PRODUCTS						
02 Meat	100.0	104.5	107.4	97.0	109.0	12.4
0204 Sheep	16.0	90.4	99.9	105.6	100.6	-4.8
0207 Poultry	84.0	107.2	108.8	95.3	110.6	16.0
04 Dairy	100.0	102.5	99.3	103.6	99.4	-4.1
0401 Liquid Milk	50.2	100.1	97.7	105.0	97.3	-7.4
0402 Powder Milk	17.0	100.8	98.3	100.0	101.8	1.8
0405 Butter	22.2	111.9	103.7	105.0	101.8	-3.0
0406 Cheese	10.6	96.5	99.0	99.7	100.3	0.6
II. VEGETABLE PRODUCTS						
07 Vegetables	100.0	98.4	91.3	97.0	98.4	1.4
0701 Potatoes	49.9	96.3	91.6	99.2	96.9	-2.3
0703 Onions	50.1	100.6	90.9	94.9	99.8	5.2
10 Cereals	100.0	98.7	103.2	95.9	98.8	3.1
1006 Rice	100.0	98.7	103.2	95.9	98.8	3.1
11 Milled prods.	100.0	102.1	98.4	102.3	100.2	-2.1
1101 Wheat	100.0	102.1	98.4	102.3	100.2	-2.1
III. FATS & OILS						
15 Fats & oils	100.0	99.9	100.9	96.9	99.6	2.8
1512 Sunflower Oil	47.8	94.4	102.7	94.4	100.3	6.2
1515 vegetable oils	20.1	99.9	102.0	98.0	95.8	-2.3
1517 Margarine	32.1	108.2	97.5	99.8	101.1	1.3
IV. FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO						
16 Meat, fish	100.0	101.8	101.9	100.8	99.1	-1.7
1601 Sausages	18.3	102.4	102.7	98.1	99.8	1.7
1602 Corned Beef	9.6	89.6	97.6	101.2	100.4	-0.8
1604 Canned fish	72.1	103.2	102.2	101.4	98.6	-2.7
17 Sugars	100.0	109.0	98.1	104.4	98.0	-6.2
1701 Cane, beet	100.0	103.4	98.0	97.4	99.4	2.0
19 Cereals	100.0	109.0	98.1	104.4	98.0	-6.2
1902 Pasta	46.9	118.7	102.2	100.9	97.2	-3.6
1905 Bread	53.1	100.4	94.4	107.6	98.6	-8.3
V. MINERAL PRODUCTS						
27 Mineral fuels	100.0	114.3	95.1	104.6	102.7	-1.8
2710 Petroleum oils	93.8	115.1	94.6	105.0	101.9	-2.9
2711 Petroleum gases	6.2	101.4	101.9	98.9	114.1	15.4

Source: Samoa Bureau Statistics (Economics Division)

(P) Provisional figures

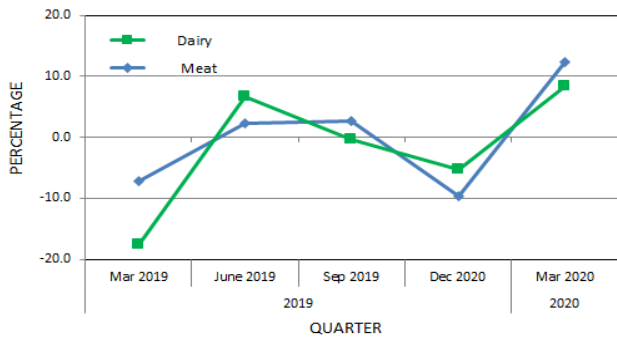
New commodities

GRAPH 7
Overall Quarterly Changes
 Base: March 2018 Quarter = 100.0

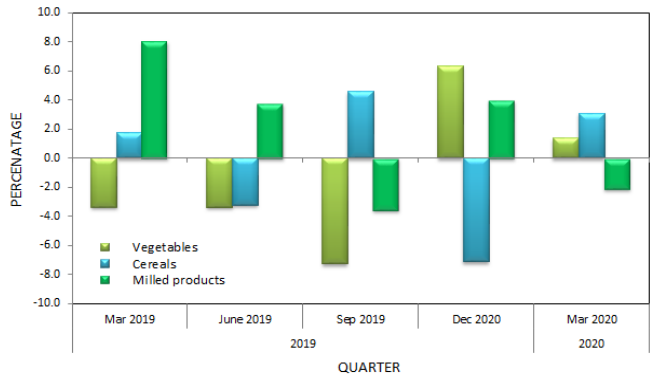


Sub-Group Indexes

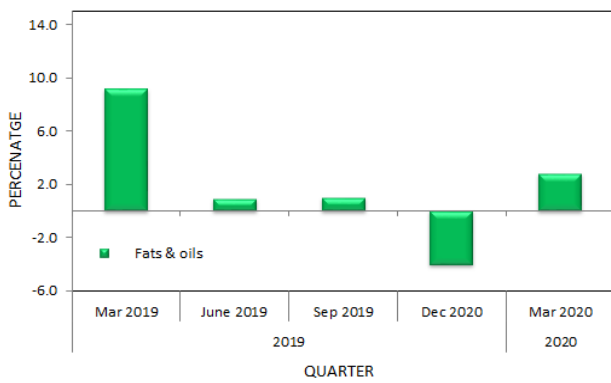
GRAPH 8
ANIMAL PRODUCTS
 Quarterly Percentage Change
 Base: March 2018 Quarter = 100.0



GRAPH 9
VEGETABLE PRODUCTS
 Quarterly Percentage Change
 Base: March 2018 Quarter = 100.0



GRAPH 10
Fats & Oil
 Quarterly Percentage Change
 Base: March 2018 Quarter = 100.0



GRAPH 11
FOOD & BEVERAGES
 Quarterly Percentage Change
 Base: March 2018 Quarter = 100.0

