



GOVERNMENT OF SAMOA

SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

LOCAL MARKET SURVEY FEBRUARY 2018

This report provides a monthly review of selected agricultural produce available at the Local Markets in Upolu and Savaii based on the price data and volume index survey. Corresponding tables are attached for ease of reference.

Key findings:

The Local Market Survey in February 2018 revealed overall volume increase 5 percent while limited supply for most vegetable produce contributed to average prices rising 2 percent when compared to January 2018.

- There was a significant reduction in the supply of most vegetable produce due to the rainy weather conditions in February 2018.
- The value of supplies increased 4 percent to \$78,300 from the previous month.
- An average of 330 sellers trading at the Local Market was recorded in the month under review; 6 percent lower than the previous month and 13 percent lower when compared with the same month last year.

Issue: 1/02/18

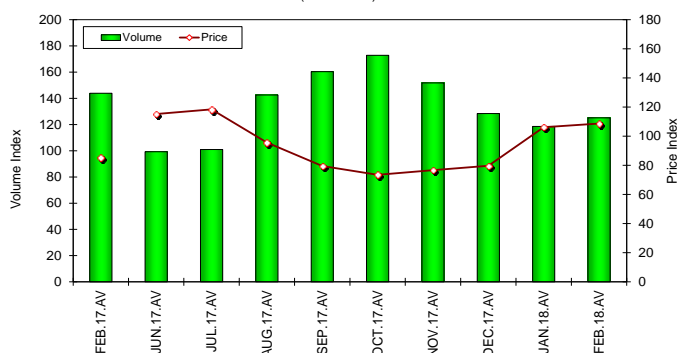
OVERVIEW

The monthly survey of Agricultural food supplies at the Local Markets by the Samoa Bureau of Statistics in January 2018 showed overall volume increase 5 percent from January 2018. Significant decreases were recorded for all agricultural produce with the exception of banana, ta'amu, coconut and pumpkin. When compared with the same month last year, current supply was 13 percent lower. (See Graph 1 and Tables 4 & 5)

TARO

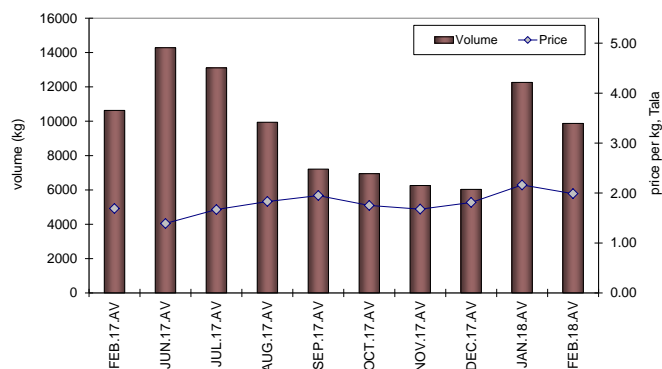
The volume of taro supplies in February 2018 dropped 19 percent (to 9,877 kilograms) from January 2018; a level that was 7 percent lower than the same month last year. The average price of taro decreased 8 percent (to \$1.99 per kilogram) with demand shifting to its close substitutes (banana, yam, ta'amu). When compared with February 2017, current price for taro was 18 percent higher. (See Graph 2 and Tables 1&2)

Graph 1
SUPPLY AND PRICE INDICES BY MONTH**
(2014 = 100)



Limited availability of most local produce led the overall price level to increase 2 percent from the previous month. The rise in average prices of all local produce with the exception of taro, coconut, breadfruit and head cabbage contributed to the rise in the price index. The current price level was 27 percent higher when compared with February 2017.

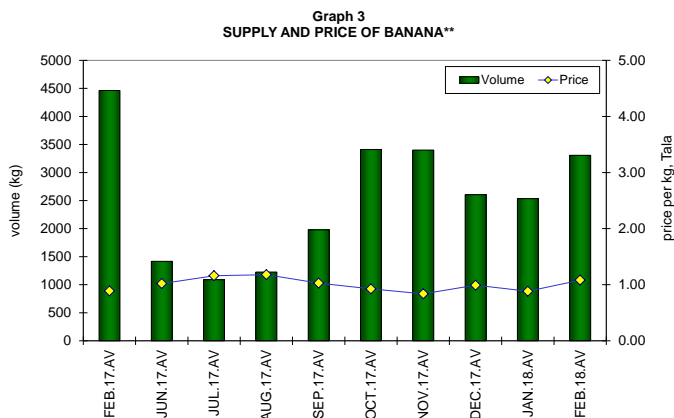
Graph 2
SUPPLY AND PRICE OF TARO**



Despite the decline in volume, current supply of taro in the month under review contributed to a 90 percent rise in volume when comparing the twelve months ending February 2018 over the twelve months ending February 2017. Price fell 37 percent.

BANANA

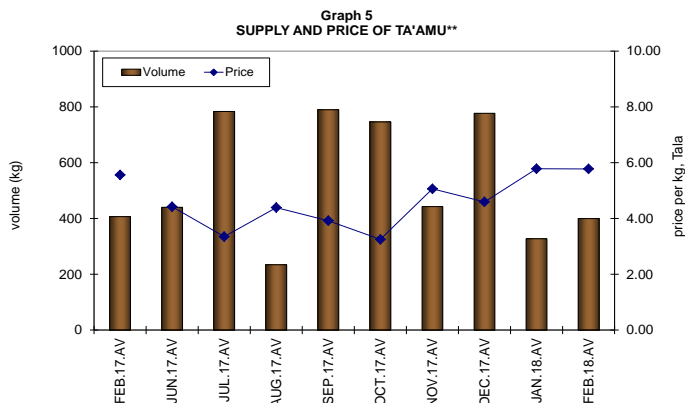
The supply of banana to the Local Markets in February 2018 rose 30 percent (to 3,307 kilograms) from January 2018; a level that was 26 percent lower than the same month a year ago. Strong demand pushed its average price up 23 percent (to \$1.08 per kilogram). When compared with the same month last year current price was 22 percent higher. (See Graph 3 and Tables 1 & 2)



When comparing the twelve months ending February 2018 over the twelve months ending February 2017, banana supplies were 16 percent higher while increased availability pushed its average price down 31 percent.

TA'AMU

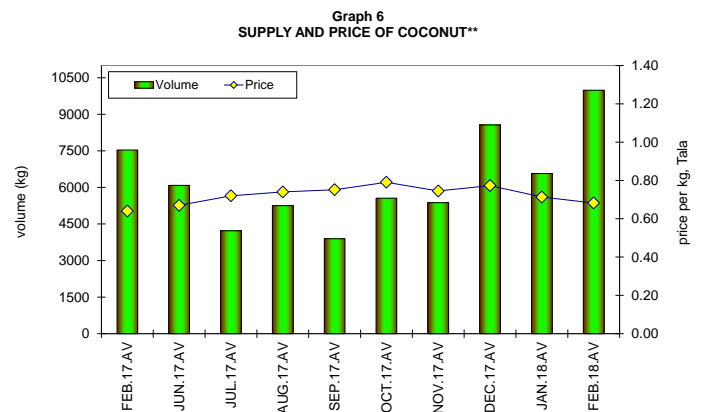
In the month under review ta'amu supplies increased 22 percent (to 400 kilograms) from January 2018. Average price for ta'amu remained at \$5.78 per kilogram from the previous month. Compared to February 2017, current supply of ta'amu was 2 percent lower while its average price was 4 percent higher. (See Graph 5 and Tables 1&2)



Current supply of ta'amu in the month under review contributed to a 63 percent increase in ta'amu volume when comparing the twelve months ending February 2018 over the twelve months ending February 2017 while increased availability pushed its average price down 26 percent.

COCONUT

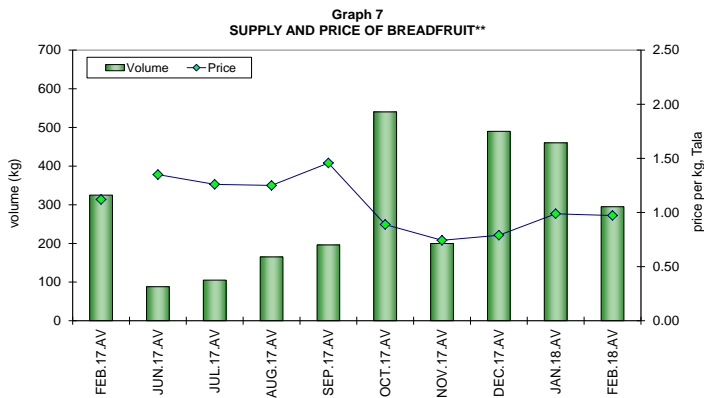
At 9,986 kilograms the supply of coconut in February 2018 increased 52 percent from the previous month while increased availability pushed its average price down 4 percent (to \$0.68 per kilogram). Current availability of coconut was 33 percent higher than average availability in February 2017 while average price rose 7 percent over the year. (See Graph 6 and Tables 1 & 2)



When comparing the twelve months ending February 2018 over the twelve months ending February 2017 supply of coconut was 18 percent higher while its average price also rose 3 percent.

BREADFRUIT

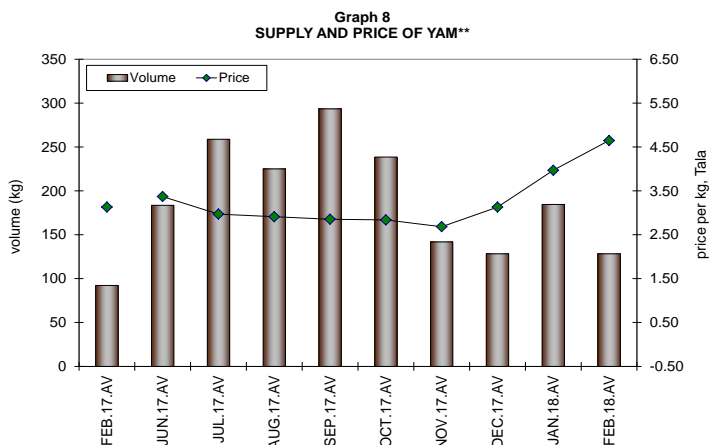
At an average of 295 kilograms, breadfruit supply in February 2018 dropped 36 percent when compared to the previous month while weakened demand pushed its average price down 2 percent (to \$0.97 per kilogram). When compared with the same month last year, current breadfruit supply was 9 percent lower while its average price was also 13 percent lower. (See Graph 3 and Tables 1 & 2)



Current decline in the supply of breadfruit contributed to an 8 percent decrease in volume when comparing the twelve months ending February 2018 over the twelve months ending February 2017 while its average price also decreased 17 percent.

YAM

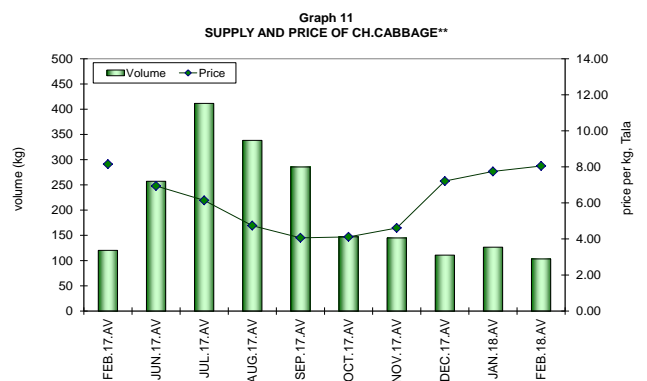
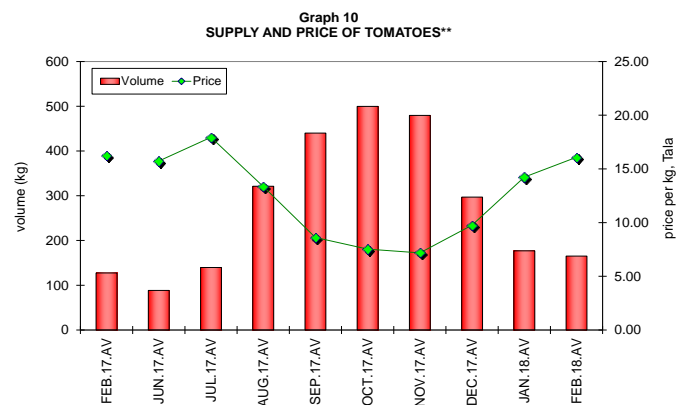
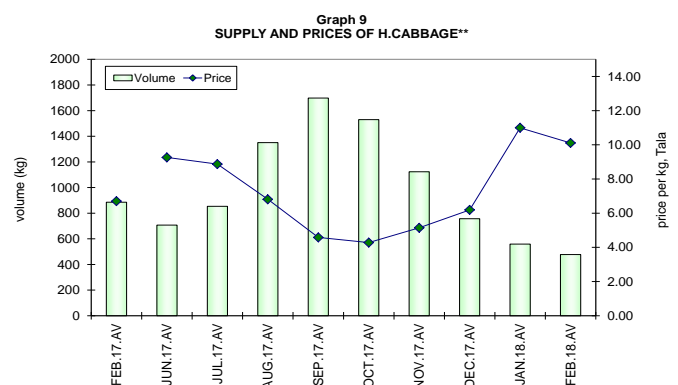
Yam supplies at 128 kilograms decreased 30 percent from January 2018 while limited availability pushed its average price up 17 percent (to \$4.65 per kilogram). When compared with February 2017, current supply of yam was 39 percent higher while strong demand over the year pushed its average price up 48 percent. (See Graph 8 and Tables 1 & 2)



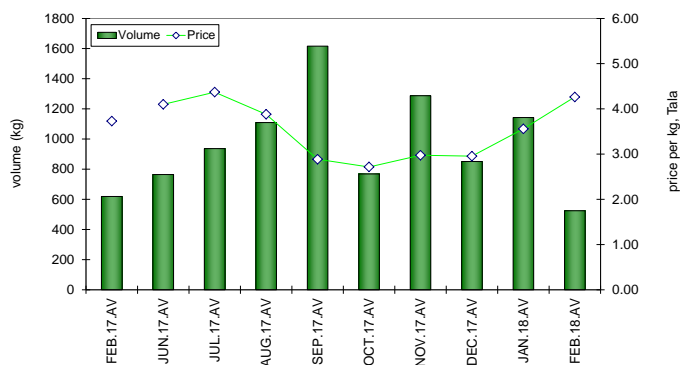
Current supply of yam in the month under review contributed to a 2 percent decline in volume in the twelve months ending February 2018 over the twelve months ending February 2017, while its average price also fell 15 percent.

VEGETABLE PRODUCE

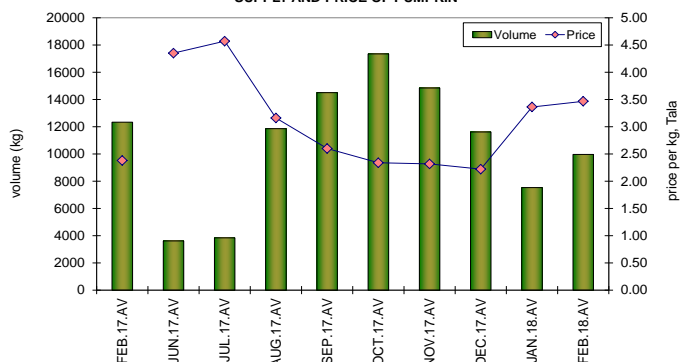
Lingering wet weather conditions in February 2018 affected the supply of vegetable produce to the Local Markets resulting in the reduction of the supply of all vegetable produce with the exception of pumpkin supplies recording a moderate increase of 32 percent (to 9,962 kilograms) from the previous month. Cucumber supplies fell 54 percent (to 524 kilograms) while Chinese cabbage volume fell 18 percent (to 103 kilograms). Supplies of head cabbage declined 15 percent (to 477 kilograms) from January 2018 while supplies of tomato fell 7 percent (to 165 kilograms) when compared to the previous month. (See Graphs 9 to 13 and Tables 1 & 2)



Graph 12
SUPPLY AND PRICE OF CUCUMBER**



Graph 13
SUPPLY AND PRICE OF PUMPKIN**

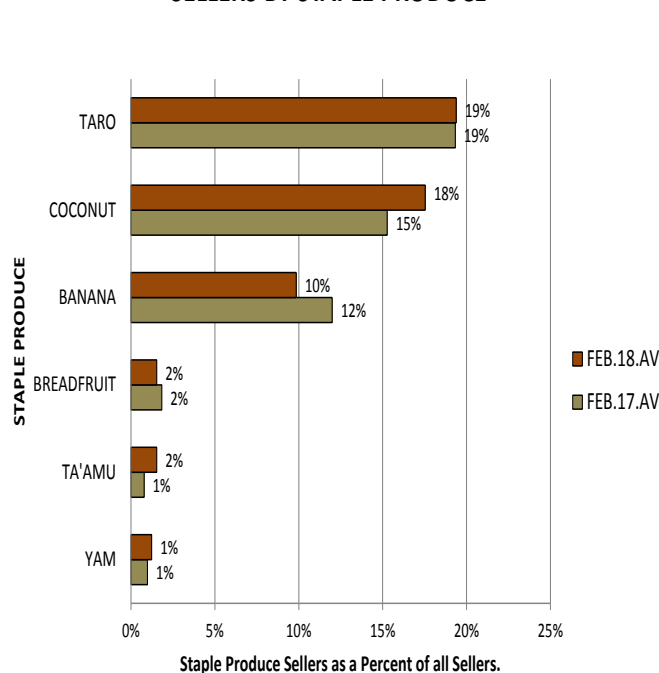


Subsequent to the limited availability of most vegetable produce to the Local Markets in the month under review coupled with increased demand for pumpkin, average prices for all vegetable produce increased with the exception of head cabbage prices recording an 8 percent decline (to \$10.11 per kilogram). Cucumber prices registered the largest price increase of 20 percent (to \$4.26 per kilogram), followed by tomato prices increasing 13 percent (to \$16.09 per kilogram), while Chinese cabbage prices rose 4 percent (to \$8.05 per kilogram). Pumpkin was the vegetable of choice in February 2018 recording a price increase of 3 percent (to \$3.47 per kilogram).

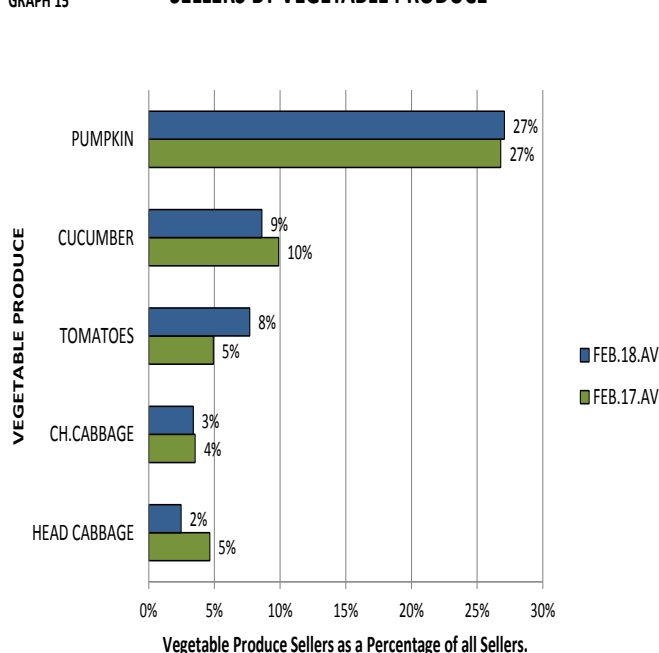
SELLERS

At 330, the number of sellers at the Local Markets on the days surveyed in February 2018 fell 6 percent from the previous month and was also 13 percent lower when compared with the number of sellers in the same month a year ago. (See Graphs 14 and 15 and Table 6).

GRAPH 14
SELLERS BY STAPLE PRODUCE



GRAPH 15
SELLERS BY VEGETABLE PRODUCE

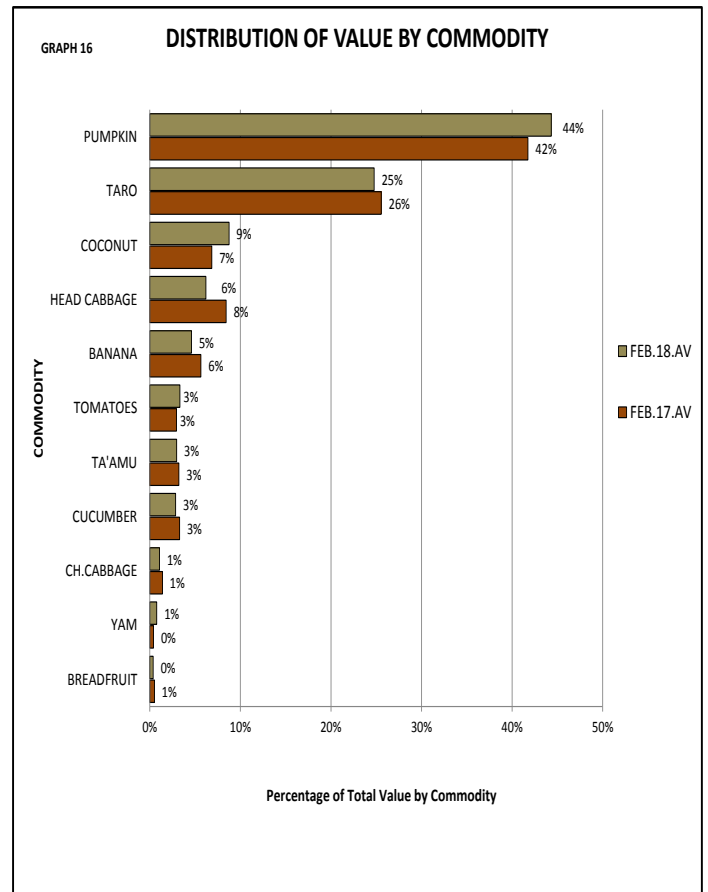


In February 2018, pumpkin sellers at 89 were the largest group at the local markets increasing from 81 in the previous month but were lower than 102 in the same month last year. Taro sellers followed recording an increasing total of 65 from 63 last month but were lower than 74 in the same month a year ago, while coconut sellers increased to 57 from

54 in the previous month but were lower than 58 a year ago. Banana sellers recorded a total of 32 increasing from 31 in the previous month but were lower than 46 in February 2017. Sellers of cucumber recorded a decreasing total of 29 from 50 in the previous month and 38 in the same month a year ago, while sellers of tomato also recorded a decreasing total of 26 from 31 in January 2018 but were higher than 19 in February 2017. Chinese cabbage sellers followed recording an unchanged total of 11 from the previous month but were lower than 14 when compared with the same month a year ago. Sellers of head cabbage at 8 fell from 11 in the previous month and 18 in the same month a year ago. Breadfruit and ta'amu sellers both recorded a total of 5 with breadfruit sellers decreasing from 10 in the previous month and 7 in February 2017, while total sellers of ta'amu increased from 4 in January 2018 and 3 in the same month last year. Total sellers of yam recorded a decreasing total of 4 from 5 in the previous month but remained unchanged from the same month last year.

VALUE OF SUPPLIES

The average value of selected produce supplied to the Local Markets at \$78,300 in February 2018 increased 4 percent from the previous month and 11 percent when compared with February 2017.



Pumpkin supplies contributed the most to the total value of produce surveyed with a share of 44 percent in February 2018, a level that was higher than 34 percent in January 2018 and 42 percent in February 2017. Taro supplies followed with a 25 percent contribution to total value decreasing from 35 percent in the previous month and 26 percent when compared with a year ago. Supplies of coconut contributed 9 percent to total value increasing from 6 percent in the previous month and 7 percent in February 2017 while shares of head cabbage accounted for 6 percent total value, decreasing from 8 percent in January 2018 and a year ago. Supplies of banana accounted for 5 percent to total value, increasing from 3 percent in January 2018 but were lower than 6 percent when compared with February 2017. Supplies of tomato, ta'amu and cucumber contributed 3 percent each to total value with tomato and ta'amu shares remaining unchanged from last month and the same month a year ago while cucumber supplies fell from 5 percent in the previous month and remained the same from a year ago. Chinese cabbage and yam supplies contributed 1 percent each to total value, while lower contributions were recorded for all

other commodities in the month under review. (See Graph 16 & Table 3)

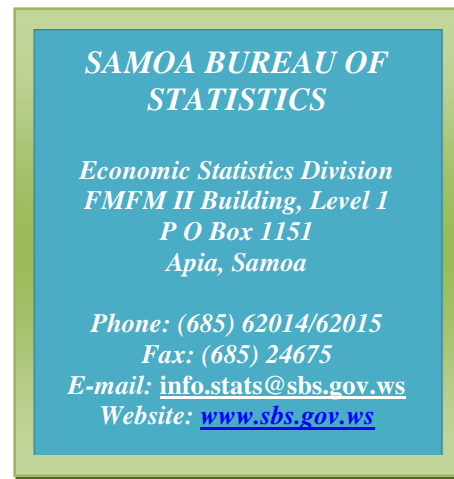
Technical Notes

The Local Market Survey measures the price and volume of selected agricultural produce from the Local Markets at **Fugalei, Taufusi, Vaitele, Afega, Saleimoa, Toleafoa, Savaia, and Salelologa** every month. Prices for selected produce are taken from the Consumer Price Index.

*** Data shown reflects the average availability and prices of selected produce. This survey is conducted on each Thursday for rural markets on Upolu and each Friday for urban markets on Upolu and Savaii in the months under reference.*

Weights for selected produce have been revised using 2014 as the base period and have been incorporated starting from June 2016 report.

The Local Market Survey Report for March 2018 will be available on 23rd April 2018.



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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Faasalaina'.

Aliimuamua Malaefono Tauā – T. Faasalaina
GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN

Table 1: Quantity Supplied (in kilograms)

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	FEB.17.AV	JUN.17.AV	JUL.17.AV	AUG.17.AV	SEP.17.AV	OCT.17.AV	NOV.17.AV	DEC.17.AV	JAN.18.AV	FEB.18.AV	Feb-18	
												% chng from prev mnth	%chng from FEB17
TARO	7521	10633	14283	13105	9941	7211	6948	6261	6034	12262	9877	-19	-7
BANANA	2642	4463	1416	1089	1226	1979	3412	3401	2604	2535	3307	30	-26
TA'AMU	816	407	440	784	234	790	746	443	777	327	400	22	-2
COCONUT	7993	7534	6086	4221	5250	3894	5556	5372	8560	6570	9986	52	33
BREADFRUIT	186	325	88	105	165	196	540	200	490	460	295	-36	-9
YAM	129	92	184	259	225	293	239	142	128	185	128	-30	39
HEAD CABBAGE	811	885	707	853	1351	1698	1529	1123	756	559	477	-15	-46
TOMATOES	256	127	88	140	321	440	500	480	297	177	165	-7	30
CH.CABBAGE	129	120	257	412	338	285	147	145	111	127	103	-18	-14
CUCUMBER	542	619	765	936	1109	1616	768	1287	851	1143	524	-54	-15
PUMPKIN	6217	12336	3609	3841	11855	14501	17345	14844	11611	7529	9962	32	-19

Table 2: Weighted Average Price Per Kilograms (in Tala)

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	FEB.17.AV	JUN.17.AV	JUL.17.AV	AUG.17.AV	SEP.17.AV	OCT.17.AV	NOV.17.AV	DEC.17.AV	JAN.18.AV	FEB.18.AV	% chng from	
												prev mnth	FEB17
TARO	1.48	1.69	1.39	1.67	1.83	1.95	1.75	1.68	1.81	2.16	1.99	-8	18
BANANA	0.76	0.89	1.02	1.16	1.18	1.03	0.93	0.84	0.99	0.88	1.08	23	22
TA'AMU	2.78	5.56	4.42	3.35	4.39	3.92	3.25	5.06	4.59	5.78	5.78	0	4
COCONUT	0.62	0.64	0.67	0.72	0.74	0.75	0.79	0.74	0.77	0.71	0.68	-4	7
BREADFRUIT	0.94	1.12	1.35	1.26	1.25	1.46	0.89	0.74	0.79	0.99	0.97	-2	-13
YAM	3.16	3.13	3.37	2.97	2.91	2.85	2.84	2.68	3.13	3.97	4.65	17	48
HEAD CABBAGE	5.40	6.70	9.26	8.87	6.81	4.58	4.28	5.15	6.19	10.99	10.11	-8	51
TOMATOES	9.55	16.26	15.73	17.94	13.36	8.61	7.53	7.19	9.76	14.24	16.09	13	-1
CH.CABBAGE	4.38	8.15	6.94	6.14	4.74	4.06	4.12	4.61	7.21	7.75	8.05	4	-1
CUCUMBER	2.99	3.73	4.10	4.37	3.88	2.89	2.72	2.97	2.95	3.56	4.26	20	14
PUMPKIN	2.61	2.38	4.35	4.57	3.16	2.60	2.34	2.32	2.22	3.36	3.47	3	46

Table 3: Value of Supplies (in Tala thousands)

PRODUCE	Total value 2014	FEB.17.AV	JUN.17.AV	JUL.17.AV	AUG.17.AV	SEP.17.AV	OCT.17.AV	NOV.17.AV	DEC.17.AV	JAN.18.AV	FEB.18.AV	% chng from	
												prev mnth	FEB17
TARO	126.6	18.0	19.9	21.9	18.2	14.1	12.2	10.5	10.9	26.5	19.6	-26	9
BANANA	25.1	4.0	1.4	1.3	1.5	2.0	3.2	2.9	2.6	2.2	3.6	60	-10
TA'AMU	25.6	2.3	2.0	2.6	1.0	3.1	2.4	2.2	3.6	1.9	2.3	22	2
COCONUT	59.3	4.8	4.1	3.0	3.9	2.9	4.4	4.0	6.6	4.7	6.8	45	41
BREADFRUIT	1.8	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.3	-36	-19
YAM	4.7	0.3	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.6	-18	107
HEAD CABBAGE	44.6	5.9	6.6	7.6	9.2	7.8	6.5	5.8	4.7	6.1	4.8	-21	-19
TOMATOES	21.5	2.1	1.4	2.5	4.3	3.8	3.8	3.5	2.9	2.5	2.7	6	29
CH.CABBAGE	5.9	1.0	1.8	2.5	1.6	1.2	0.6	0.7	0.8	1.0	0.8	-15	-15
CUCUMBER	18.4	2.3	3.1	4.1	4.3	4.7	2.1	3.8	2.5	4.1	2.2	-45	-3
PUMPKIN	178.3	29.4	15.7	17.6	37.5	37.7	40.5	34.4	25.8	25.3	34.5	36	18
	511.8	70.3	56.6	64.0	82.3	78.4	76.8	68.2	61.2	75.5	78.3	4	11

*on the days surveyed
@ new weights and base

Table 4: Volume Index (2014 = 100)

PRODUCE	2014 Weights	FEB.17.AV	JUN.17.AV	JUL.17.AV	AUG.17.AV	SEP.17.AV	OCT.17.AV	NOV.17.AV	DEC.17.AV	JAN.18.AV	FEB.18.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from FEB17
TARO	0.25	141	190	174	132	96	92	83	80	163	131	-19	-7
BANANA	0.05	169	54	41	46	75	129	129	99	96	125	30	-26
TA'AMU	0.05	50	54	96	29	97	91	54	95	40	49	22	-2
COCONUT	0.12	94	76	53	66	49	70	67	107	82	125	52	33
BREADFRUIT	0.004	175	47	56	89	105	290	108	263	247	159	-36	-9
YAM	0.01	72	142	201	174	227	185	110	99	143	99	-30	39
HEAD CABBAGE	0.09	109	87	105	167	209	189	138	93	69	59	-15	-46
TOMATOES	0.04	50	35	55	125	172	195	187	116	69	65	-7	30
CH.CABBAGE	0.01	93	199	319	262	221	114	112	86	98	80	-18	-14
CUCUMBER	0.04	114	141	173	205	298	142	238	157	211	97	-54	-15
PUMPKIN	0.35	198	58	62	191	233	279	239	187	121	160	32	-19
	1.00	144	99	101	143	160	173	152	128	119	125	5	-13

Table 5: Price Index (2014 = 100)

PRODUCE	2014 Weights	FEB.17.AV	JUN.17.AV	JUL.17.AV	AUG.17.AV	SEP.17.AV	OCT.17.AV	NOV.17.AV	DEC.17.AV	JAN.18.AV	FEB.18.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from FEB17
TARO	0.25	114	94	113	124	132	118	113	122	146	134	-8	18
BANANA	0.05	117	134	153	155	135	122	110	131	116	142	23	22
TA'AMU	0.05	200	159	121	158	141	117	182	165	208	208	0	4
COCONUT	0.12	103	108	116	119	121	128	120	125	115	110	-4	7
BREADFRUIT	0.004	119	144	134	133	155	95	79	84	105	103	-2	-13
YAM	0.01	99	107	94	92	90	90	85	99	126	147	17	48
HEAD CABBAGE	0.09	124	171	164	126	85	79	95	115	204	187	-8	51
TOMATOES	0.04	170	165	188	140	90	79	75	102	149	168	13	-1
CH.CABBAGE	0.01	186	158	140	108	93	94	105	165	177	184	4	-1
CUCUMBER	0.04	125	137	146	130	97	91	99	99	119	143	20	14
PUMPKIN	0.35	91	167	175	121	100	90	89	85	129	133	3	46
	1.00	85	115	118	96	80	74	77	80	106	109	2	27

Table 6: Number of Sellers

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	FEB.17.AV	JUN.17.AV	JUL.17.AV	AUG.17.AV	SEP.17.AV	OCT.17.AV	NOV.17.AV	DEC.17.AV	JAN.18.AV	FEB.18.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from FEB17
TARO	46	74	67	60	60	55	51	48	51	63	65	3	-12
BANANA	27	46	23	18	22	29	44	46	32	31	32	3	-30
TA'AMU	7	3	4	5	3	8	5	5	5	4	5	25	67
COCONUT	57	58	50	37	42	44	47	45	42	54	57	6	-2
BREADFRUIT	4	7	2	2	3	3	10	8	8	10	5	-50	-29
YAM	5	4	4	8	7	8	7	7	4	5	4	-20	7
HEAD CABBAGE	12	18	12	17	23	25	19	18	12	11	8	-27	-55
TOMATOES	39	19	15	26	45	53	54	55	42	31	26	-16	39
CH.CABBAGE	13	14	24	39	35	27	18	16	11	11	11	0	-19
CUCUMBER	42	38	45	49	61	71	40	40	49	50	29	-42	-23
PUMPKIN	83	102	49	53	188	123	134	133	108	81	89	10	-13
	337	382	295	314	489	445	427	420	362	350	330	-6	-13

*on the days surveyed

@ new weights and base