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GOVERNMENT OF SAMOA

SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

IMPORT PRICE INDEX – December 2017 QUARTER (Base Period: March 2009 quarter = 100.0)

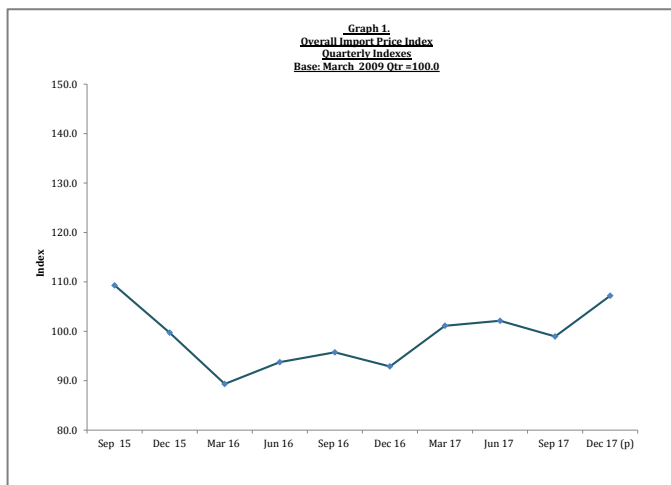
Highlights of the quarter

- Import Price Index rose 8.3 percent from the September 2017 quarter.
- Mineral Products index recorded the largest increase (up 16.4 percent).

Overview

The Import Price Index for the December 2017 quarter showed an overall increase of 8.3 percent from the September 2017 quarter. Mineral products index was the main driver for the current increase (up 16.4 percent from the previous quarter). The other four sections were also increased. In comparison with the December 2016 quarter, the current import price index increased 15.4 percent.

The four quarters ending December 2017 showed a 10.1 percent increase in the overall import price index compared with the four quarters ending December 2016 quarter. See table 1 and graph 1.

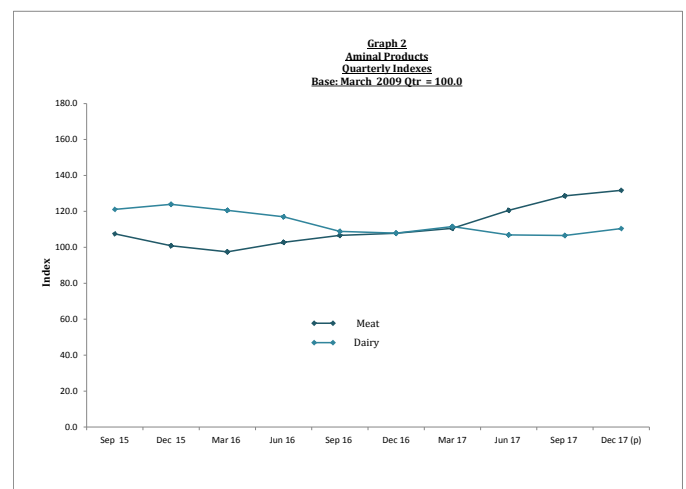


Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

HS Section 1: Live Animals; Animal Products prices rise 2.7%.

Import prices for 'Live Animals and Animal Products' in the December 2017 quarter rose 2.7 percent, following a 4.8 percent rise in the September 2017 quarter. Dairy and meat products increased reflecting higher prices of chicken eggs (up 25.6 percent), liquid milk (up 2.8 percent) poultry meats (up 3.2 percent) and sheep meats (up 1.8 percent). In comparison with the December 2016 quarter, the current live animals and animal products index increased 16.5 percent.

Reviewing the four quarters ending December 2017 over the four quarters ending December 2016, the current overall animals and animal products index increased 11.5 percent. See tables 1 and 2 and graph 2.



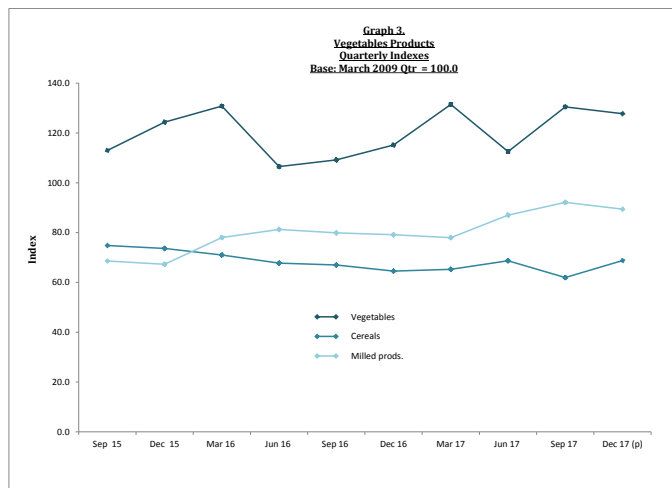
Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

HS Section 2: Vegetable Products prices rise 0.3%.

Import prices for 'Vegetable Products' rose 0.3 percent in the December 2017 quarter, following a 4.2 percent rise in the September 2017

quarter. Mainly responsible for the current increase was higher prices of cereals products, reflecting higher prices of rice (up 11 percent). In comparison with the corresponding quarter of 2016, the current vegetables products index increased 10.9 percent.

Reviewing the four quarters ending December 2017 over the four quarters ending December 2016, the current overall vegetable products index increased 6.0 percent. See tables 1 & 2 and graph 3.

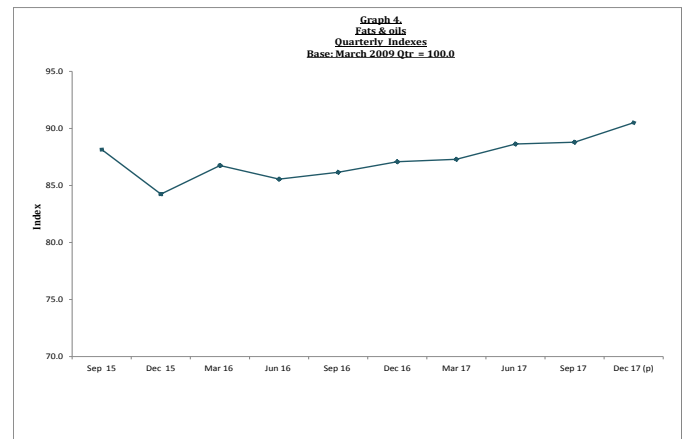


Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

HS Section 3: Animal or Vegetable fats & oils prices rise 1.9%.

Import prices for 'Animal or Vegetable Fats and Oils' rose 1.9 percent in the December 2017 quarter, following a 0.2 percent rise in the September 2017 quarter. The current increase was mainly influenced by higher prices of hydrogenated oils (up 9.2 percent). When compared with the December 2016 quarter, the current animal or vegetable fats and oils index increased 3.9 percent.

The four quarters ending December 2017 was 2.8 percent higher in the overall index for animal or vegetable fats and oils over the four quarters ending December 2016. See tables 1 & 2 and graph 4.

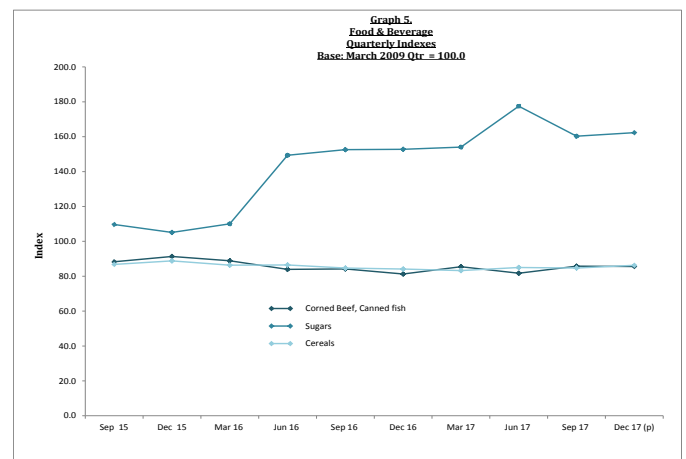


Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

HS Section 4: Food and Beverages prices rose 0.9 %.

'Food and Beverages' import price index increased 0.9 percent in the December 2017 quarter, following a 2.3 percent decrease in the September 2017 quarter. The current increase was mainly driven by cereals and sugar, reflecting higher prices of pasta (up 3.8 percent) and sugar (up 1.3 percent). In comparison with the December 2016 quarter, the current food and beverages index increased 4.9 percent.

In comparing the four quarters ending December 2017 over the four quarters ending December 2016, the overall food and beverages index increased 5.3 percent. See tables 1 & 2 and graph 5.



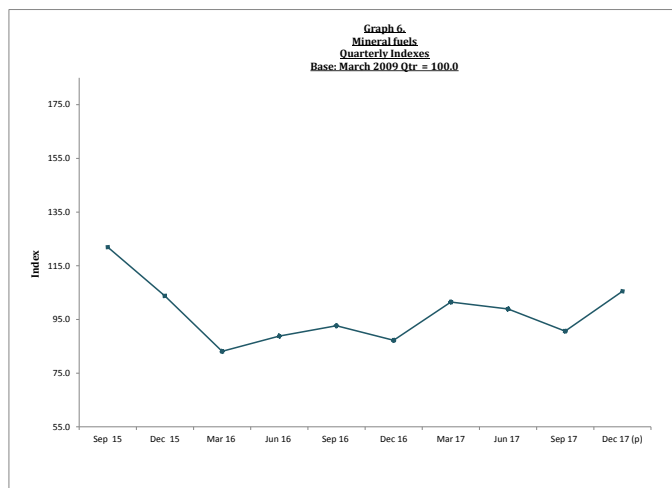
Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

HS Section 5: Mineral Products price rise 16.4%.

'Mineral products' import prices recorded 16.4 percent in the December 2017 quarter, following a 8.4 decrease in the September 2017 quarter with petroleum oils the main driver for the current increase. When compared with the

December 2016 quarter, the current mineral products index increased 21.0 percent.

The overall mineral products index in the four quarters ending December 2017 was 12.7 percent higher than the four quarters ending December 2016. 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 2009 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 March 2018 quarter MPI report is expected to be available on May 10th 2018.

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GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN

IMPORT PRICE INDEX

Base: March 2009 Quarter = 100.0

Table 1

CODE	DESCRIPTION	Weight	2015		2016				2017				% Change	
			Sep 15	Dec 15	Mar 16	Jun 16	Sep 16	Dec 16	Mar 17	Jun 17	Sep 17	Dec 17 (p)	Dec 17 / Sep - 17	Dec 17 / Dec 16
I	ANIMAL PRODUCTS	18.9	111.4	107.5	104.2	106.9	107.3	107.9	110.9	116.7	122.3	125.6	2.7	16.5
2	Meat	71.2	107.5	100.9	97.5	102.8	106.7	107.8	110.6	120.6	128.6	131.7	2.4	22.2
4	Dairy	28.8	121.2	124.0	120.6	117.0	108.9	107.9	111.6	106.9	106.6	110.5	3.6	2.4
II.	VEGETABLE PRODUCTS	9.7	78.1	79.0	84.7	81.2	80.8	80.6	83.0	85.5	89.1	89.4	0.3	10.9
7	Vegetables	17.0	113.0	124.4	130.8	106.5	109.2	115.2	131.5	112.5	130.5	127.7	-2.1	10.9
10	Cereals	31.7	74.8	73.6	71.0	67.7	67.0	64.5	65.2	68.7	62.0	68.8	11.0	6.6
11	Milled prods.	51.3	68.6	67.3	78.0	81.2	79.9	79.1	77.9	87.0	92.1	89.4	-3.0	13.0
III.	FATS & OILS	1.9	88.1	84.3	86.7	85.6	86.2	87.1	87.3	88.6	88.8	90.5	1.9	3.9
15	Fats & oils	100.0	88.1	84.3	86.7	85.6	86.2	87.1	87.3	88.6	88.8	90.5	1.9	3.9
IV.	FOOD & BEVERAGE	19.8	92.9	93.8	93.1	100.5	100.8	99.4	101.2	105.8	103.3	104.2	0.9	4.9
16	Corned Beef, Canned fish	43.6	88.3	91.3	88.9	83.9	84.2	81.3	85.4	81.7	85.7	85.6	-0.2	5.3
17	Sugars	24.0	109.7	105.1	110.0	149.4	152.6	152.8	154.0	177.5	160.3	162.4	1.3	6.3
19	Cereals	32.4	86.8	88.9	86.3	86.5	84.7	84.1	83.3	85.0	84.7	86.3	1.9	2.6
V.	MINERAL PRODUCTS	49.6	121.9	103.7	83.2	88.8	92.6	87.2	101.4	98.9	90.6	105.5	16.4	21.0
27	Mineral fuels	100	121.9	103.7	83.2	88.8	92.6	87.2	101.4	98.9	90.6	105.5	16.4	21.0
	Total, All groups	100	109.3	99.7	89.3	93.7	95.7	92.9	101.1	102.1	99.0	107.2	8.3	15.4

Sources: Samoa Bureau Statistics (Economics Division)

(P) Provisional figures

IMPORT PRICE INDEX
Base: March 2009 Quarter = 100.0

Table 2

	Weight	2015		2016				2017				%Change Dec 17/Sep 17
		Sep 2015	Dec 2015	Mar 2016	Jun 2016	Sep 2016	Dec 2016	Mar 2017	Jun 2017	Sep 2017	Dec 2017	
I. ANIMAL PRODUCTS												
02 Meat	100.0	107.5	100.9	97.5	102.8	106.7	107.8	110.6	120.6	128.6	131.7	2.4
0204 Sheep	33.7	165.8	162.4	155.7	156.7	164.8	174.4	182.5	198.7	209.0	212.9	1.8
0207 Poultry	66.3	77.8	69.6	67.9	75.4	77.1	74.0	74.0	80.9	87.7	90.5	3.2
04 Dairy	100.0	121.2	124.0	120.6	117.0	108.9	107.9	111.6	106.9	106.6	110.5	3.6
0401 Milk	42.0	109.7	109.8	107.2	98.6	93.9	91.1	93.6	92.9	92.6	95.2	2.8
0402 Milk, conc.	17.9	129.4	132.9	129.0	120.7	120.8	122.3	127.1	122.8	131.2	124.9	-4.8
0405 Butter	24.1	79.7	85.5	83.0	85.3	90.2	90.1	96.4	96.5	100.9	96.0	-4.8
0407 Eggs	16.0	204.6	209.3	203.1	208.7	162.9	162.9	164.2	141.6	124.4	156.2	25.6
II. VEGETABLE PRODUCTS												
07 Vegetables	100.0	113.0	124.4	130.8	106.5	109.2	115.2	131.5	112.5	130.5	127.7	-2.1
0701 Potatoes	56.5	121.4	127.2	149.7	110.5	88.9	89.5	125.7	123.1	153.8	151.8	-1.3
0703 Onions	43.5	102.1	120.8	106.3	101.4	135.5	148.5	139.0	98.7	100.3	96.5	-3.8
10 Cereals	100.0	74.8	73.6	71.0	67.7	67.0	64.5	65.2	68.7	62.0	68.8	11.0
1006 Rice	100.0	74.8	73.6	71.0	67.7	67.0	64.5	65.2	68.7	62.0	68.8	11.0
11 Milled prods.	100.0	68.6	67.3	78.0	81.2	79.9	79.1	77.9	87.0	92.1	89.4	-3.0
1101 Wheat	100.0	68.6	67.3	78.0	81.2	79.9	79.1	77.9	87.0	92.1	89.4	-3.0
III. FATS & OILS												
15 Fats & oils	100.0	88.1	84.3	86.7	85.6	86.2	87.1	87.3	88.6	88.8	90.5	1.9
1507 Soya-bean	27.7	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	0.0
1516 Hydrogenated	36.7	74.8	69.6	79.0	73.5	73.6	76.0	75.9	80.7	78.5	85.8	9.2
1517 Margarine	35.7	92.7	87.0	84.4	86.7	88.3	88.5	89.1	87.9	90.6	88.0	-2.9
IV. FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO												
16 Meat, fish	100.0	88.3	91.3	88.9	83.9	84.2	81.3	85.4	81.7	85.7	85.6	-0.2
1602 Corned Beef	31.0	103.3	101.4	108.3	116.5	118.1	118.1	119.7	113.6	117.2	113.0	-3.6
1604 Canned fish	69.0	81.5	86.8	80.1	69.3	68.9	64.8	70.1	67.4	71.6	73.3	2.3
17 Sugars	100.0	109.7	105.1	110.0	149.4	152.6	152.8	154.0	177.5	160.3	162.4	1.3
1701 Cane, beet	100.0	109.7	105.1	110.0	149.4	152.6	152.8	154.0	177.5	160.3	162.4	1.3
19 Cereals	100.0	86.8	88.9	86.3	86.5	84.7	84.1	83.3	85.0	84.7	86.3	1.9
1902 Pasta	56.0	86.4	90.5	86.8	86.1	83.2	82.0	82.0	82.6	79.0	82.0	3.8
1905 Bread	44.0	87.3	86.7	85.8	86.9	86.7	86.9	84.9	88.0	91.9	91.8	-0.1
V. MINERAL PRODUCTS												
27 Mineral fuels	100.0	121.9	103.7	83.2	88.8	92.6	87.2	101.4	98.9	90.6	105.5	16.4
2710 Petroleum oils	100.0	121.9	103.7	83.2	88.8	92.6	87.2	101.4	98.9	90.6	105.5	16.4

Source: Samoa Bureau Statistics (Economics Division)

(P) Provisional figures