



GOVERNMENT OF SAMOA

SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

LOCAL MARKET SURVEY

DECEMBER 2017

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 December 2017 showed overall volume decrease 15 percent while limited availability of most produce pushed overall price up 4 percent when compared to November 2017.

- The value of supplies decreased 10 percent to \$61,200 from the previous month.
- An average of 362 sellers trading at the Local Market was recorded in the month under review; 14 percent lower than the previous month and also 3 percent lower when compared with the same month last year.

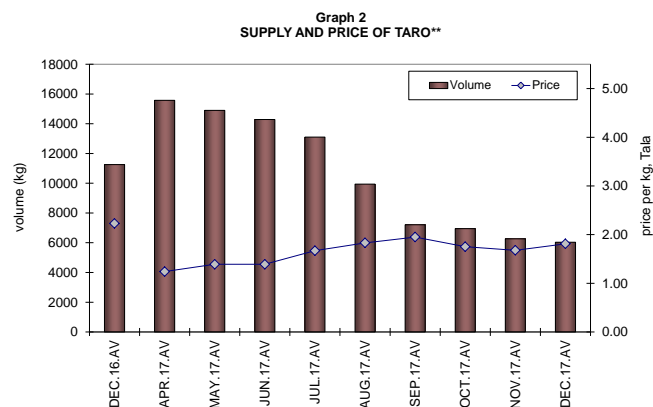
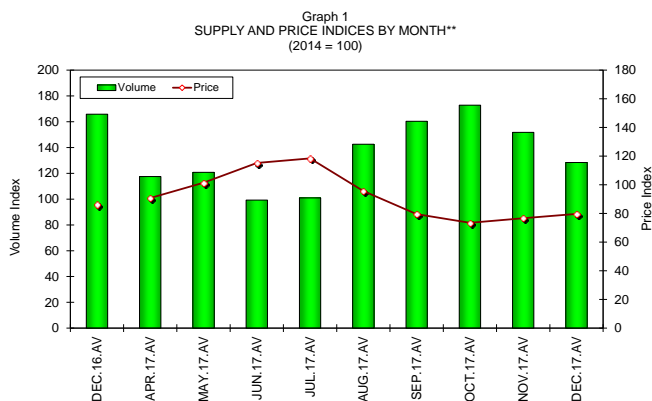
Issue: 1/12/17

OVERVIEW

The monthly survey of Agricultural food supplies at the Local Markets by the Samoa Bureau of Statistics in December 2017 showed overall volume decrease 15 percent from November 2017. This decrease in volume stems from significant reduction of all agricultural produce supplied to the markets with the exception of ta'amu, coconut and breadfruit. When compared with the same month last year, current supply was 23 percent lower. (See Graph 1 and Tables 4 & 5)

TARO

At 6,034 kilograms, the supply of taro to the local markets ended the calendar year at its lowest volume recorded in 2017 decreasing 4 percent from the previous month while limited availability led its average price to climb 8 percent (to \$1.81 per kilogram). When compared with December 2016, current supply of taro was 46 percent lower while its average price was 19 percent lower. (See Graph 2 and Tables 1&2)

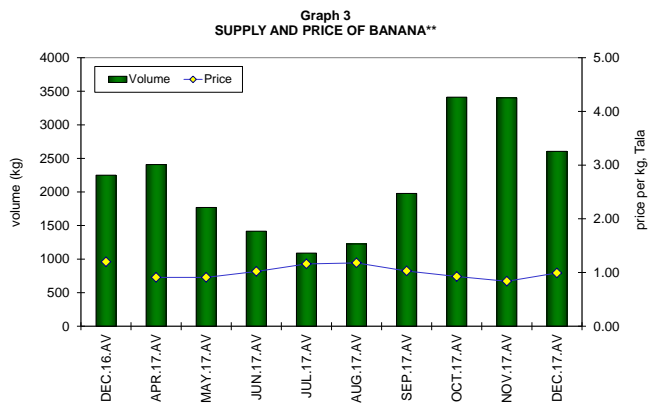


Limited availability of most local produce drove the overall price level up 4 percent from the previous month. The rise in average prices of all local produce with the exception of ta'amu, cucumber and pumpkin contributed to the rise in the price index. The current price level was also 7 percent lower when compared with December 2016.

Despite the decline in taro supplies in December 2017, current volume contributed to a 117 percent rise in volume when comparing the twelve months ending December 2017 over the twelve months ending December 2016. Price fell 40 percent.

BANANA

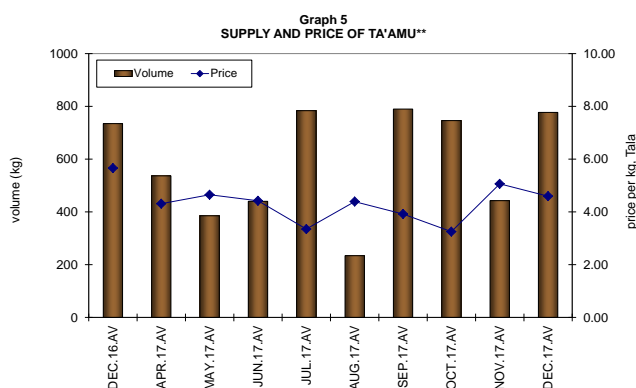
The supply of banana to the Local Markets in December 2017 dropped 23 percent (to 2,604 kilograms) from November 2017; a level that was 16 percent higher than the same month a year ago. A reduction in the supply of banana pushed its average price up 18 percent (to \$0.99 per kilogram). When compared with the same month last year current price was 17 percent lower. (See Graph 3 and Tables 1 & 2)



When comparing the twelve months ending December 2017 over the twelve months ending December 2016, banana supplies were 60 percent higher while increased availability pushed its average price down 34 percent.

TA'AMU

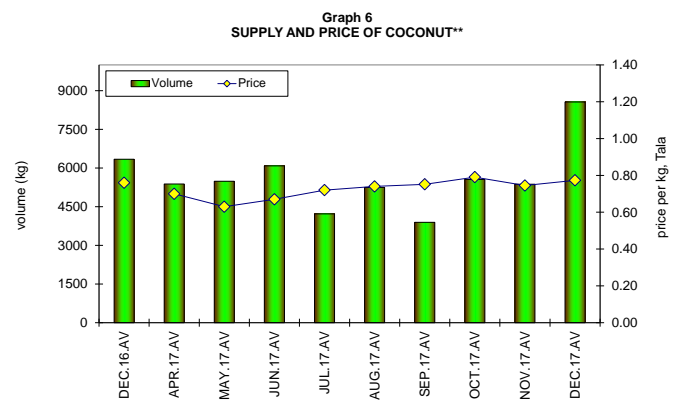
In the month under review ta'amu supplies rose 76 percent (to 777 kilograms) from the previous month while its average price fell 9 percent (to \$4.59 per kilogram). Compared to December 2016, current supply of ta'amu was 6 percent higher while its average price was 19 percent lower. (See Graph 5 and Tables 1&2)



The rise in ta'amu supplies in the month under review contributed to a 109 percent increase in ta'amu volume when comparing the twelve months ending December 2017 over the twelve months ending December 2016 while increased availability pushed its average price down 29 percent.

COCONUT

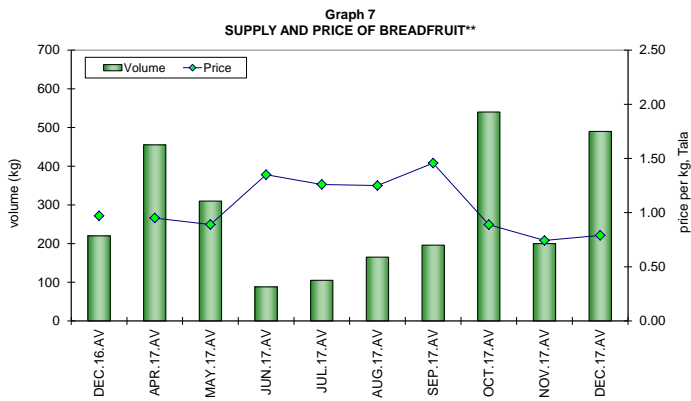
The volume of coconut in December 2017 rose 59 percent (to 8,560 kilograms) from November 2017 while increased demand pushed its average price up 4 percent (to \$0.77 per kilogram). Current availability of coconut was 35 percent higher than average availability in December 2016 while average price rose 2 percent over the year. (See Graph 6 and Tables 1 & 2)



Current supply of coconut in December 2017 contributed to a 15 percent increase in coconut volume when comparing the twelve months ending December 2017 over the twelve months ending December 2016 while its average price also rose 8 percent.

BREADFRUIT

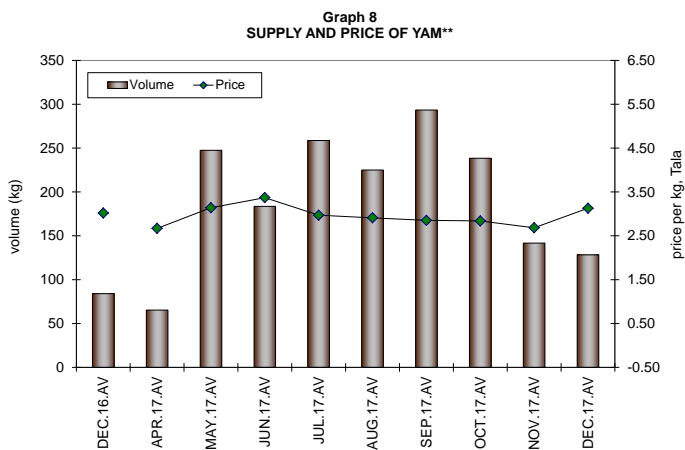
The supply of breadfruit in December 2017 was more than doubled (to 490 kilograms) from the previous month, while increased demand pushed its average price up 6 percent (to \$0.79 per kilogram). When compared with the same month last year, current supply of breadfruit was more than doubled while increased availability over the year pushed its average down 19 percent. (See Graph 3 and Tables 1 & 2)



Despite the increase in breadfruit volume in the month under review, current supply contributed to a 11 percent decline in volume when comparing the twelve months ending December 2017 over the twelve months ending December 2016 while its average price also decreased 10 percent.

YAM

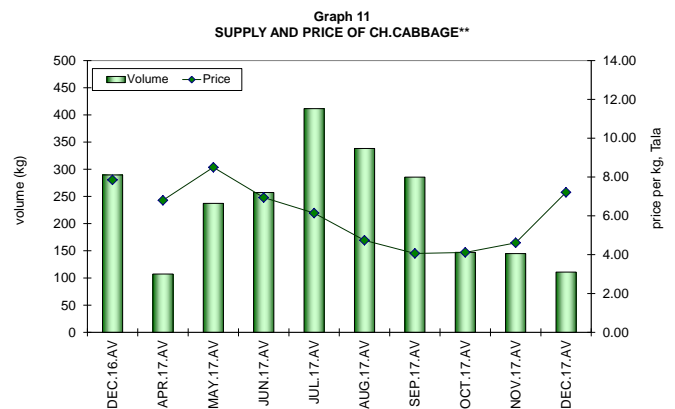
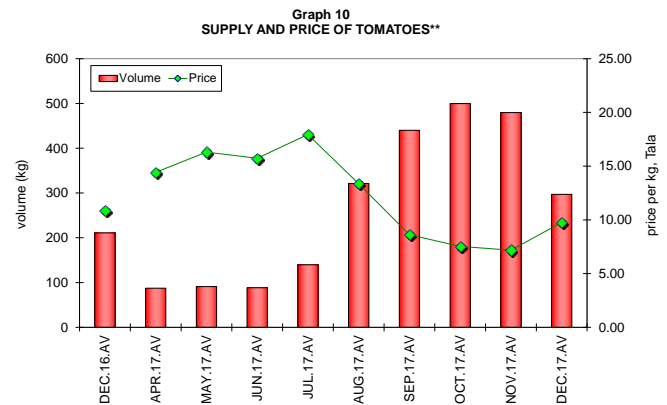
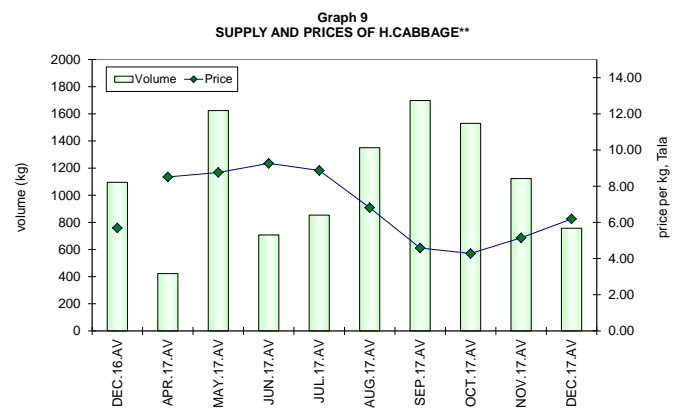
Yam supplies at 128 kilograms decreased 10 percent from November 2017 while strong domestic demand pushed its average price up 17 percent (to \$3.13 per kilogram). When compared with December 2016, current supply of yam was 53 percent higher while its average price was also 4 percent higher. (See Graph 8 and Tables 1 & 2)



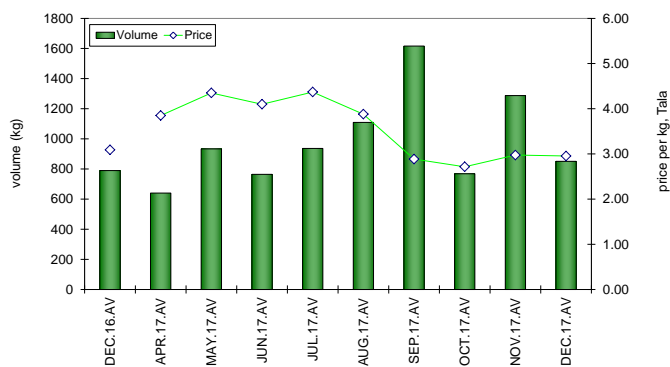
The decrease of yam supplied in the month under review contributed to a 1 percent decline in volume in the twelve months ending December 2017 over the twelve months ending December 2016, while its average price also fell 16 percent.

VEGETABLE PRODUCE

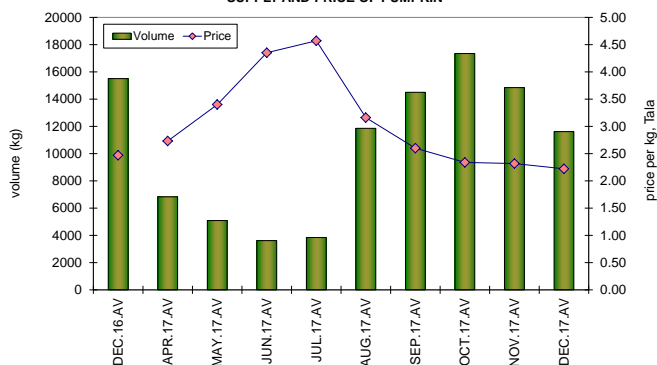
The continued wet weather conditions in December 2017 negatively affected the supply of vegetable produce to the Local Markets recording significant losses to the supply of all vegetable produce. Tomato supplies fell 38 percent (to 297 kilograms) while cucumber supplies also decreased 34 percent (to 851 kilograms). Head cabbage supplies fell 33 percent (to 756 kilograms) followed by Chinese cabbage with a 24 percent reduction in supply (to 111 kilograms). Supplies of pumpkin fell 22 percent (to 11,611 kilograms) from November 2017. (See Graphs 9 to 13 and Tables 1 & 2)



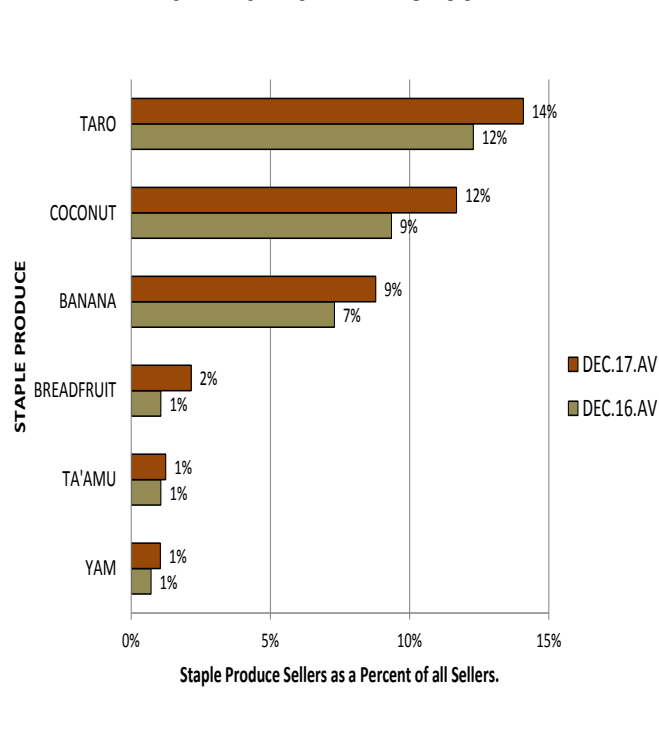
Graph 12
SUPPLY AND PRICE OF CUCUMBER**



Graph 13
SUPPLY AND PRICE OF PUMPKIN**



GRAPH 14
SELLERS BY STAPLE PRODUCE

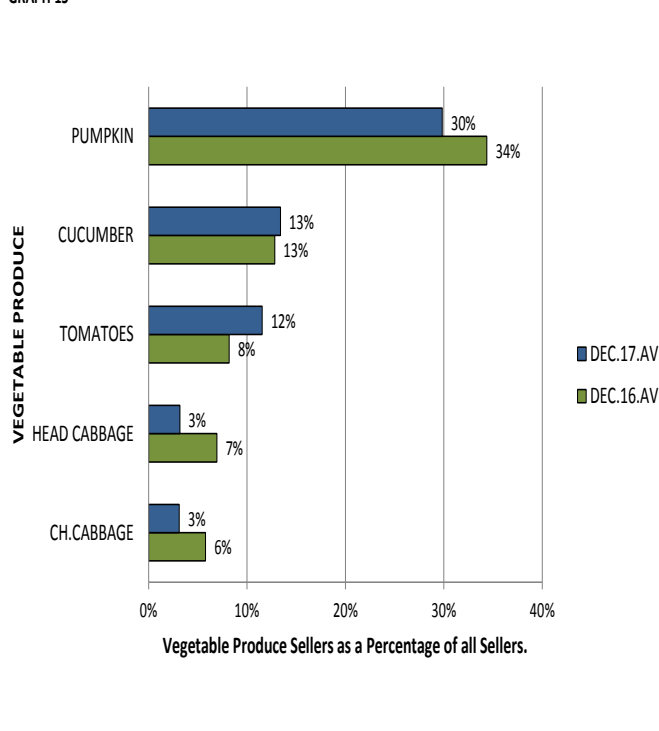


Subsequent to decreased availability of all vegetable produce to the Local Markets in the month under review, average prices for all vegetables increased with the exception of pumpkin and cucumber recording a 4 percent (to \$2.22 per kilogram) and 1 percent (to \$2.95 per kilogram) decline respectively from the previous month. Chinese cabbage prices experienced the largest price increase of 56 percent (to \$7.21 per kilogram) while tomato prices rose 36 percent (to \$9.76 per kilogram). Average price for head cabbage grew 20 percent (to \$6.19 per kilogram).

SELLERS

At 362, the number of sellers at the Local Markets on the days surveyed in December 2017 fell 14 percent from the previous month and was also 3 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 15
SELLERS BY VEGETABLE PRODUCE

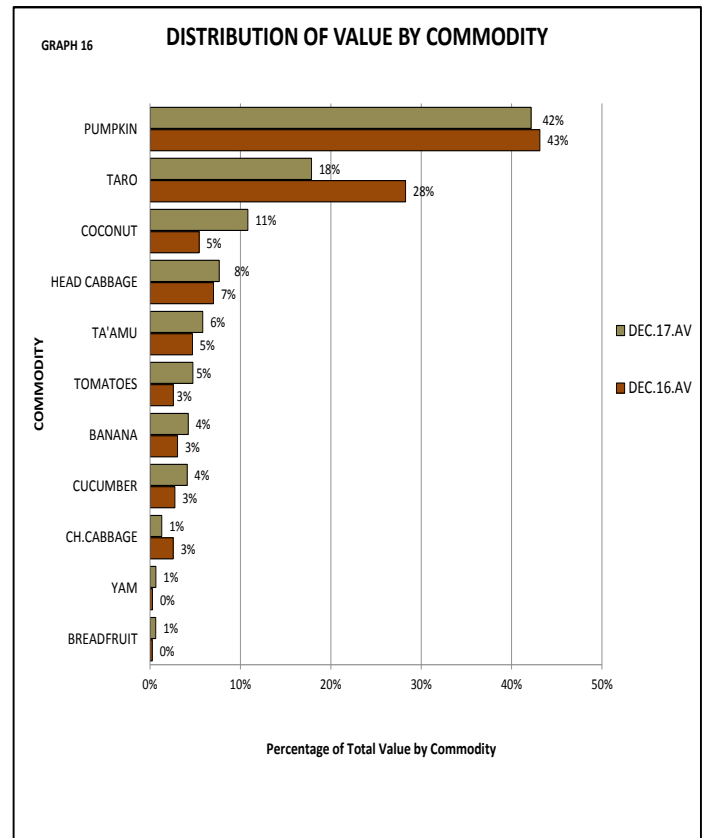


In December 2017, pumpkin sellers at 108 were the largest group at the local markets decreasing from 133 in the previous month and 129 in the same month last year. Taro sellers followed recording an increasing total of 51 from 48 last month and 46 in the same month a year ago, while cucumber sellers

increased to 49 from 40 in the previous month and 48 a year ago. Coconut and tomato sellers both recorded a total of 42 with coconut sellers decreasing from 45 in the previous month but were higher than 35 in December 2016, while total sellers of tomato fell from 55 in November 2017 but were higher than 31 in December 2016. Sellers of banana recorded a total of 32 decreasing from 46 in the previous month but were higher than 27 in the same month a year ago while head cabbage sellers decreased to 12 from 18 in the previous month and 26 when compared with December 2016. Chinese cabbage sellers followed with a decreasing total of 11 from 16 in November 2017 and 22 in December a year ago. The total number of breadfruit sellers recorded an unchanged total of 8 from the previous month and were higher than 4 when compared with the same month last year while total sellers of ta'amu maintained a total of 5 from November 2017 but were higher than 4 in December 2016. Yam sellers recorded a decreasing total of 4 from 7 in the previous month but were higher than 3 when compared with the same month last year.

VALUE OF SUPPLIES

The average value of selected produce supplied to the Local Markets at \$61,200 in December 2017 decreased 10 percent from the previous month and 31 percent lower when compared with December 2016.



Pumpkin supplies contributed the most to the total value of produce surveyed with a share of 42 percent in December 2017, a level that was lower than 50 percent in November 2017 and 43 percent in December 2016. Taro supplies followed with an 18 percent contribution to total value increasing from 15 percent in the previous month but were lower than 28 percent when compared with a year ago. Supplies of coconut contributed 11 percent to total value increasing from 6 percent in the previous month and 5 percent in December 2016. Shares of head cabbage accounted for 8 percent of total value remaining unchanged from the previous month but were higher than 7 percent a year ago; while supplies of ta'amu contributed 6 percent to total value, increasing from 3 percent in November 2017 and 5 percent in December 2016. The value of tomato contribution remained at 5 percent of total value from the previous month but was higher than 3 in the same month a year ago. Banana and cucumber supplies both accounted for 4 percent each of total value, with banana supplies remaining unchanged from the previous month but were higher than 3 percent in December 2016 while cucumber supplies decreased from 6 percent in November 2017 but were higher than 3 percent in the same month a year ago. Chinese cabbage, yam

and breadfruit supplies contributed 1 percent each to total value. (See Graph 16 & Table 3)

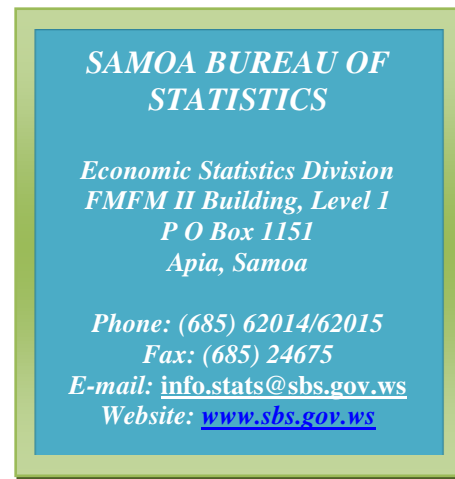
Technical Notes

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 January 2018 will be available on 23rd February 2018.



Aliimuamua Malaefono Tauā – T. Faasalaina
GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN

SUMMARY OF MARKET SURVEY

Table 1: Quantity Supplied (in kilograms)

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	DEC.16.AV	APR.17.AV	MAY.17.AV	JUN.17.AV	JUL.17.AV	AUG.17.AV	SEP.17.AV	OCT.17.AV	NOV.17.AV	DEC.17.AV	Dec-17	
												% chng from prev mnth	%chng from DEC16
TARO	7521	11255	15573	14899	14283	13105	9941	7211	6948	6261	6034	-4	-46
BANANA	2642	2251	2409	1769	1416	1089	1226	1979	3412	3401	2604	-23	16
TA'AMU	816	734	537	385	440	784	234	790	746	443	777	76	6
COCONUT	7993	6340	5382	5488	6086	4221	5250	3894	5556	5372	8560	59	35
BREADFRUIT	186	220	455	310	88	105	165	196	540	200	490	145	123
YAM	129	84	65	248	184	259	225	293	239	142	128	-10	53
HEAD CABBAGE	811	1095	423	1624	707	853	1351	1698	1529	1123	756	-33	-31
TOMATOES	256	211	87	91	88	140	321	440	500	480	297	-38	41
CH.CABBAGE	129	289	107	237	257	412	338	285	147	145	111	-24	-62
CUCUMBER	542	789	640	933	765	936	1109	1616	768	1287	851	-34	8
PUMPKIN	6217	15501	6821	5089	3609	3841	11855	14501	17345	14844	11611	-22	-25

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

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	DEC.16.AV	APR.17.AV	MAY.17.AV	JUN.17.AV	JUL.17.AV	AUG.17.AV	SEP.17.AV	OCT.17.AV	NOV.17.AV	DEC.17.AV	Dec-17	
												% chng from prev mnth	%chng from DEC16
TARO	1.48	2.23	1.24	1.39	1.39	1.67	1.83	1.95	1.75	1.68	1.81	8	-19
BANANA	0.76	1.20	0.91	0.91	1.02	1.16	1.18	1.03	0.93	0.84	0.99	18	-17
TA'AMU	2.78	5.66	4.31	4.65	4.42	3.35	4.39	3.92	3.25	5.06	4.59	-9	-19
COCONUT	0.62	0.76	0.70	0.63	0.67	0.72	0.74	0.75	0.79	0.74	0.77	4	2
BREADFRUIT	0.94	0.97	0.95	0.89	1.35	1.26	1.25	1.46	0.89	0.74	0.79	6	-19
YAM	3.16	3.02	2.67	3.14	3.37	2.97	2.91	2.85	2.84	2.68	3.13	17	4
HEAD CABBAGE	5.40	5.69	8.51	8.76	9.26	8.87	6.81	4.58	4.28	5.15	6.19	20	9
TOMATOES	9.55	10.86	14.43	16.31	15.73	17.94	13.36	8.61	7.53	7.19	9.76	36	-10
CH.CABBAGE	4.38	7.85	6.80	8.50	6.94	6.14	4.74	4.06	4.12	4.61	7.21	56	-8
CUCUMBER	2.99	3.09	3.85	4.35	4.10	4.37	3.88	2.89	2.72	2.97	2.95	-1	-4
PUMPKIN	2.61	2.47	2.73	3.40	4.35	4.57	3.16	2.60	2.34	2.32	2.22	-4	-10

Table 3: Value of Supplies (in Tala thousands)

PRODUCE	Total value 2014	DEC.16.AV	APR.17.AV	MAY.17.AV	JUN.17.AV	JUL.17.AV	AUG.17.AV	SEP.17.AV	OCT.17.AV	NOV.17.AV	DEC.17.AV	Dec-17	
												% chng from prev mnth	%chng from DEC16
TARO	126.6	25.1	19.3	20.7	19.9	21.9	18.2	14.1	12.2	10.5	10.9	4	-56
BANANA	25.1	2.7	2.2	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.5	2.0	3.2	2.9	2.6	-9	-4
TA'AMU	25.6	4.2	2.3	1.8	2.0	2.6	1.0	3.1	2.4	2.2	3.6	59	-14
COCONUT	59.3	4.8	3.8	3.5	4.1	3.0	3.9	2.9	4.4	4.0	6.6	66	37
BREADFRUIT	1.8	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.4	160	86
YAM	4.7	0.3	0.2	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.4	0.4	5	60
HEAD CABBAGE	44.6	6.2	3.6	14.2	6.6	7.6	9.2	7.8	6.5	5.8	4.7	-19	-25
TOMATOES	21.5	2.3	1.3	1.5	1.4	2.5	4.3	3.8	3.8	3.5	2.9	-16	27
CH.CABBAGE	5.9	2.3	0.7	2.0	1.8	2.5	1.6	1.2	0.6	0.7	0.8	19	-65
CUCUMBER	18.4	2.4	2.5	4.1	3.1	4.1	4.3	4.7	2.1	3.8	2.5	-34	3
PUMPKIN	178.3	38.3	18.6	17.3	15.7	17.6	37.5	37.7	40.5	34.4	25.8	-25	-33
	511.8	88.8	54.9	67.7	56.6	64.0	82.3	78.4	76.8	68.2	61.2	-10	-31

*on the days surveyed
@ new weights and base

Table 4: Volume Index (2014 = 100)

PRODUCE	2014 Weights	DEC.16.AV	APR.17.AV	MAY.17.AV	JUN.17.AV	JUL.17.AV	AUG.17.AV	SEP.17.AV	OCT.17.AV	NOV.17.AV	DEC.17.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from DEC16
TARO	0.25	150	207	198	190	174	132	96	92	83	80	-4	-46
BANANA	0.05	85	91	67	54	41	46	75	129	129	99	-23	16
TA'AMU	0.05	90	66	47	54	96	29	97	91	54	95	76	6
COCONUT	0.12	79	67	69	76	53	66	49	70	67	107	59	35
BREADFRUIT	0.004	118	245	167	47	56	89	105	290	108	263	145	123
YAM	0.01	65	51	192	142	201	174	227	185	110	99	-10	53
HEAD CABBAGE	0.09	135	52	200	87	105	167	209	189	138	93	-33	-31
TOMATOES	0.04	82	34	36	35	55	125	172	195	187	116	-38	41
CH.CABBAGE	0.01	224	83	184	199	319	262	221	114	112	86	-24	-62
CUCUMBER	0.04	146	118	172	141	173	205	298	142	238	157	-34	8
PUMPKIN	0.35	249	110	82	58	62	191	233	279	239	187	-22	-25
	1.00	166	118	121	99	101	143	160	173	152	128	-15	-23

Table 5: Price Index (2014 = 100)

PRODUCE	2014 Weights	DEC.16.AV	APR.17.AV	MAY.17.AV	JUN.17.AV	JUL.17.AV	AUG.17.AV	SEP.17.AV	OCT.17.AV	NOV.17.AV	DEC.17.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from DEC16
TARO	0.25	151	84	94	94	113	124	132	118	113	122	8	-19
BANANA	0.05	158	120	120	134	153	155	135	122	110	131	18	-17
TA'AMU	0.05	204	155	167	159	121	158	141	117	182	165	-9	-19
COCONUT	0.12	123	113	102	108	116	119	121	128	120	125	4	2
BREADFRUIT	0.004	103	101	95	144	134	133	155	95	79	84	6	-19
YAM	0.01	96	84	99	107	94	92	90	90	85	99	17	4
HEAD CABBAGE	0.09	105	158	162	171	164	126	85	79	95	115	20	9
TOMATOES	0.04	114	151	171	165	188	140	90	79	75	102	36	-10
CH.CABBAGE	0.01	179	155	194	158	140	108	93	94	105	165	56	-8
CUCUMBER	0.04	103	129	145	137	146	130	97	91	99	99	-1	-4
PUMPKIN	0.35	95	105	130	167	175	121	100	90	89	85	-4	-10
	1.00	86	91	101	115	118	96	80	74	77	80	4	-7

Table 6: Number of Sellers

PRODUCE	2014 AVE	DEC.16.AV	APR.17.AV	MAY.17.AV	JUN.17.AV	JUL.17.AV	AUG.17.AV	SEP.17.AV	OCT.17.AV	NOV.17.AV	DEC.17.AV	% chng from prev mnth	%chng from DEC16
TARO	46	46	81	76	67	60	60	55	51	48	51	6	11
BANANA	27	27	36	27	23	18	22	29	44	46	32	-31	16
TA'AMU	7	4	6	4	4	5	3	8	5	5	5	-10	13
COCONUT	57	35	41	52	50	37	42	44	47	45	42	-6	21
BREADFRUIT	4	4	8	4	2	2	3	3	10	8	8	-3	95
YAM	5	3	2	6	4	8	7	8	7	7	4	-46	43
HEAD CABBAGE	12	26	10	16	12	17	23	25	19	18	12	-36	-56
TOMATOES	39	31	14	17	15	26	45	53	54	55	42	-24	36
CH.CABBAGE	13	22	14	22	24	39	35	27	18	16	11	-29	-48
CUCUMBER	42	48	30	39	45	49	61	71	40	40	49	21	1
PUMPKIN	83	129	79	63	49	53	188	123	134	133	108	-19	-16
	337	374	320	325	295	314	489	445	427	420	362	-14	-3

*on the days surveyed

@ new weights and base