



# Samoa Bureau of Statistics

## EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

### September 2018 Quarter

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### Summary Table

	Jun 2018 Quarter	Sep 2018 Quarter
Employment Number	24,244	24,228
Total Wages (000)	\$138,110	\$136,983
Average Wages Received	\$5,697	\$5,655
Employment Growth <i>(% change over the quarter of last year)</i>	0.4%	0.8%

#### OVERVIEW

Employment numbers increased in September 2018 by 0.8% over the September 2017 quarter. This follows a positive growth of 0.4% in the June 2018 quarter. The period under review is the second quarter of positive growth in employment following negative growths since the June 2017 quarter. This reflects the increase in employment opportunities in industries such as Restaurants, Education, Transport, Other Business services, Personal Services, Food Manufacturing, Finance Services and Public Administration.

Wages and Salaries for the September 2018 quarter recorded a \$137.0 million (or 1.8%) increase over its corresponding period of 2017. This was influenced mainly by the increase in wages and salaries in industries such as Education, Public Administration, Restaurants, Water, Personal Services, Food Manufacturing, Communication and Transport.

#### QUARTERLY REVIEW EMPLOYMENT INDEX

Table 1: Employment & Wage Index (2009=100)

	Sep 17	Dec 17	Mar 18	Jun 18	Sep 18
Employment Index	110	111	111	111	111
% change	-2.7	-2.9	-0.9	0.4	0.8
Wage Index	126	128	129	128	127
% change	3.0	6.3	4.7	4.7	1.0

According to Table 1, wage indices have recorded five consecutive quarters of positive growth as measured by their percentage change over the same period of the previous year, from September 2015 quarter to September 2018 quarter. Formal Employment however have just recovered in the previous quarter which makes the period under review the second quarter of positive growth following the previous three consecutive quarters of negative growth.

Chart 1: Employment Index, Sep 2015 - Sep 2018

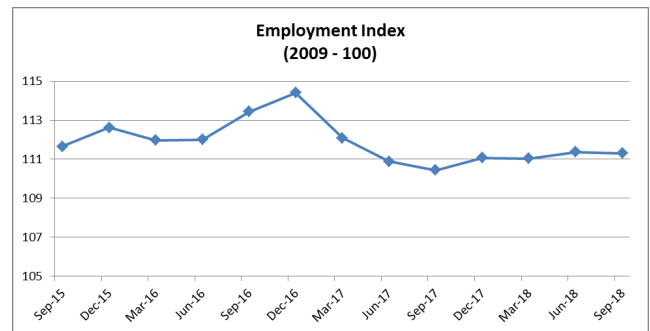
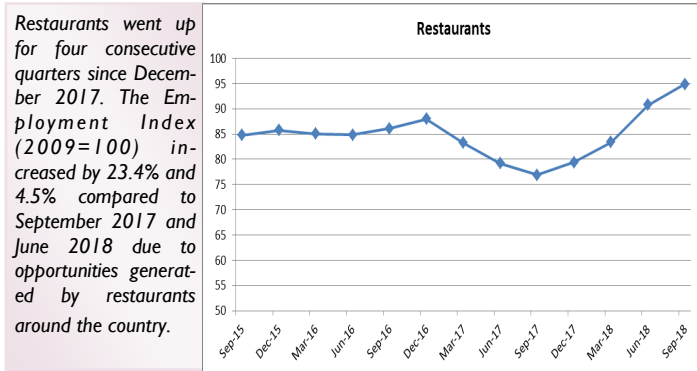


Chart 1 shows the trend in the quarterly employment index with fluctuations in the period of September 2015 to September 2018. In the September 2018 quarter, the employment index recorded an increase of 0.8% over the same period of 2017. However it went down by 0.1% as compared to the previous quarter of 2018.

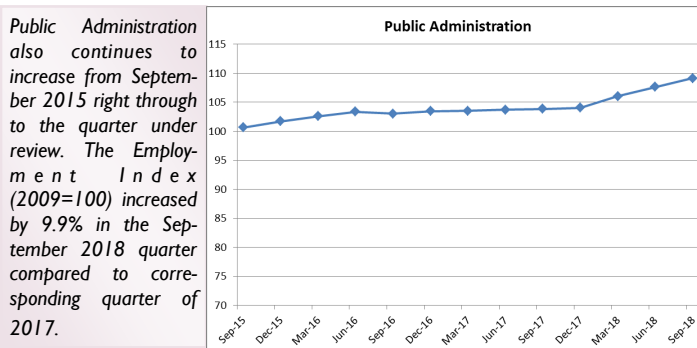
The industries that made the largest contributions to this year-on-year increase in Employment Index were Restaurants, Public Administration, Education, Personal Services, Transport, Construction, Accommodation and Water with increases of 14.7%, 13.4%, 13.4%, 10.9%, 10.8%, 7.2%, 4.6% and 4.0% each over the employment indices in the September 2017 quarter.

Some industries which contributed largely to the increase in employment in September 2018 quarter are as follows:

**Chart 2: Restaurants Employment Index**



**Chart 3: Public Administration Employment Index**



## WAGE INDEX

**Chart 4: Wage Index, Sep 2015 - Sep 2018**



Chart 4 shows the trend in the wage index from September 2015 to September 2018. The index recorded positive growth since September 2010; with the index for the period under review standing at 127. In September 2018, the wage index went up by 1.0% compared to September

2017 quarter. However, it went down by 0.8% compared to the June 2018 quarter.

The main industries that had significant contributions to the rise in wages paid out includes industries such as Education, Public Administration, Water and Communication with increases of 15.0%, 9.0%, 7.5% and 7.0% respectively.

## EMPLOYMENT LEVELS

**Table 2: Employment & Wages, September 2018 Quarter**

Employed Persons, Total Wages & Average Quarterly Wages Sep 2018						
	Total	%	Male	%	Female	%
Total Employed	24,228	100	13,808	57.0	10,419	43.0
Total Wages (\$000)	136,983	100	73,948	54.0	63,035	46.0
Quarterly Average Wages (\$)	5,655		5,356		6,050	

According to Table 2 above, the estimated population employed in the formal sector in the September 2018 quarter was 24,228; of which 57.0% were males and 43.0% were females. Total wages amounted to about \$137.0 million; Males received the biggest share (54.0%) of total wages in the September 2018 quarter with females receiving only 46.0% of total wages. However, in terms of quarterly average wages, males earned less than females. As shown in Table 2, Male quarterly average wages amounted to \$5,356 whereas females quarterly average wages were \$6,050.

**Table 3: Distribution of Employment by Sector, Sep 2018**

Year	(No.) (%)	Total	Sector			
			Primary	Sec-ondary	Ser-vices	Public Admin
Sep-17	(No.)	24,039	229	3,163	15,089	5,558
	(%)	100	1.0	13.2	62.8	23.1
Dec-17	(No.)	24,177	224	3,023	15,362	5,568
	(%)	100	0.9	12.5	63.5	23.0
Mar-17	(No.)	24,171	226	2,875	15,397	5,672
	(%)	100	0.9	11.9	63.7	23.5
Jun-17	(No.)	24,244	244	2,654	15,587	5,758
	(%)	100	1.0	10.9	64.3	23.8
Sep-18	(No.)	24,228	254	2,559	15,575	5,839
	(%)	100	1.0	10.6	64.3	24.1

Table 3 above shows the employed population by sector, Primary, Secondary, Services and the Public Sector from September 2017 to September 2018. In September 2018, the Services sector was the biggest employer accounting for 64.3% of the total formal population. Public Administration was the second biggest employer employing around 24.1%, followed by the Secondary Sector with 10.6% and only 1.0% of the total was employed in the Primary Sector.

In terms of employment growth by sector on a yearly basis, Public Administration, Primary Sector as well as the Tertiary Sector contributed positively on employment growth. Public Administrations' numbers went up by 5.1%, the Primary sector increased its employment numbers by 10.9% and the Tertiary sector employment numbers went by 3.2% in the September 2018 quarter compared to the same quarter of the previous year. The Secondary sector on the other hand contributed negatively (by -19.1%) compared to September 2017.

**Table 4: Distribution of Employment by Industry, Sep 2018**

Industry	Male No.	%	Female No.	%	Total No.	%
Public Admin	2,743	47.0	3,096	53.0	5,839	24.1
Commerce	2,208	62.6	1,317	37.4	3,525	14.5
Other Servic	1,391	51.2	1,328	48.9	2,718	11.2
Transport	1,433	70.7	594	29.3	2,028	8.4
Accommodat	818	55.5	655	44.5	1,473	6.1
Personal Ser	841	58.8	591	41.3	1,431	5.9
Finance Serv	512	44.3	643	55.7	1,155	4.8
Health	430	41.8	599	58.2	1,029	4.2
Construction	876	89.9	97	10.0	974	4.0
Other Busine	520	65.7	271	34.3	791	3.3
Education	184	31.9	392	68.1	576	2.4
Food Manufa	375	70.9	154	29.1	529	2.2
Restaurants	258	54.7	214	45.3	472	1.9
Other Manuf	295	68.1	138	31.9	433	1.8
Communicati	226	59.9	152	40.3	377	1.6
Electricity	267	82.4	57	17.6	324	1.3
Water	225	75.0	75	25.0	300	1.2
Agriculture	118	81.9	26	18.1	144	0.6
Fishing	88	79.3	22	19.8	111	0.5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13808</b>	<b>57.0</b>	<b>10419</b>	<b>43.0</b>	<b>24228</b>	<b>100</b>

Table 4 shows the distribution of employment by industry. At the industry level, the majority of the formal sector employment was in the Public Administration which made up about 24.1% of the total; of which 47.0% were males and 53.0% were females. Commerce the biggest contributor to

GDP was the second biggest employer comprising 14.5% of the number of people employed. Other Services was the third biggest employer comprising 11.2% of the total. Transport, Accommodation and Personal services were the next biggest employers with shares of 8.4%, 6.1% and 5.9% respectively of the total. However, industries in the Primary sector, Agriculture and Fishing only employed about 0.6 percent and 0.5 percent respectively of the total.

In terms of employment composition by sex, the industries that recorded high percentages of males to females were Construction, Electricity, Agriculture, Fishing, Water, Food Manufacturing, Transport, Other Manufacturing and Other Business services. Females seems to dominate Education, Health, Finance Services and Public Administration.

**Table 5: Male wages and average wages, Sep 2018**

Industries	% of Employed Males to total	Male Wages (\$)	Male Average Quarterly Wage (\$)
Communication	1.6	2,943,991	13,115
Health	3.1	3,774,476	8,775
Finance Services	3.7	4,065,570	7,937
Public Administratio	19.9	20,829,546	7,596
Water	1.6	1,557,263	6,941
Electricity	1.9	1,731,640	6,482
Personal Services	6.1	4,700,412	5,628
Other Services	10.1	7,306,683	5,264
Transport	10.4	6,597,317	4,602
Fishing	0.6	381,240	4,257
Construction	6.3	3,670,298	4,243
Education	1.3	749,899	4,096
Food Manufacturing	2.7	1,517,239	4,053
Other Manufacturin	2.1	1,143,726	3,873
Commerce	16.0	8,319,000	3,775
Other Business Servi	3.8	1,669,605	3,217
Accommodation	5.9	2,148,726	2,637
Restaurants	1.9	630,480	2,449
Agriculture	0.9	210,999	1,793
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>73,948,108</b>	<b>5,356</b>

Despite the highest number of males being employed in the Public Administration sector (19.9% of total male employed) and also having the highest total wages paid (\$20.8 million), this sector came fourth in terms of average wages, with Communications on top with an average quarterly earning of \$13,115. The industry which accounted for just about 1.6% of the total male employment rec-

orded total wages of \$2,943,991. Health and Finance Services had the second and third highest average quarterly wages of \$8,775 and \$7,937 respectively and comprised 3.1% and 3.7% each of the total male employment.

Commerce, the second biggest employer for Males recorded an average quarterly wages of \$3,775 making it the fifth lowest average wages for Males. The lowest average quarterly wages for males were reported in Restaurants and Agriculture industries with average wages of \$2,449 and \$1,793 respectively.

**Table 6: Female wages and average wages, Sep 2018**

Industries	% of Employed Female to total	Female Wages	Female Average Quarterly Wage
Health	5.7	5,388,960	9,001
Finance Services	6.2	5,414,641	8,427
Communication	1.5	1,262,182	8,328
Public Administrati	29.7	25,228,822	8,149
Electricity	0.5	459,504	8,077
Water	0.7	520,960	6,941
Food Manufacturin	1.5	884,539	5,760
Personal Services	5.7	3,199,933	5,419
Other Services	12.7	6,912,287	5,206
Fishing	0.2	111,815	4,982
Construction	0.9	457,651	4,707
Other Business Serv	2.6	1,267,433	4,677
Transport	5.7	2,507,968	4,219
Commerce	12.6	5,165,352	3,922
Education	3.8	1,384,166	3,530
Other Manufacturin	1.3	471,387	3,416
Agriculture	0.2	77,218	2,983
Accommodation	6.3	1,789,983	2,734
Restaurants	2.1	530,101	2,475
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>63,034,905</b>	<b>6,050</b>

Similar to males, Public Administration was the biggest employer for females and also had the highest total wages paid, however it was not the highest in terms of average quarterly wages. The Health industry recorded the highest average quarterly wages in the September 2018 quarter of \$9,001, followed by Finance Services and Communication with average quarterly wages of \$8,427 and \$8,328 respectively. Commerce which had the third highest percentage of females employed and also the third highest value of wages paid out to females was ranked the sixth lowest industry in terms of female average quarterly wages. The lowest average quarterly wages for females were reported

in the Agriculture, Accommodation and Restaurant industries with average quarterly wages of \$2,983, \$2,734 and \$2,475.

**TWELVE MONTHS REVIEW:**  
**(October 2017 - September 2018 )**

**Table 7: Employment & Wage Index**

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Employment Index	106	108	110	110	109
% change	-0.8	1.8	2.0	-0.5	-0.7
Wage Index	113	117	120	122	127
% change	2.7	3.2	2.8	1.8	4.2

Table 7 above indicates that the number of employed persons decreased by 0.7% in the year ended September 2018 over the year ended September 2017. Wage Index however went up by 4.2%. According to Table 7, wage index has consistently increased in the past five financial years despite encountering a decrease in employment index in FY2013/14 and again in FY2016/17 and FY2017/18.

The decrease in employment in the year ended September 2018 by 0.7% was mainly influenced by the closure of the Yazaki Plant which caused a significant decline in the number of employees within the Other Manufacturing industry by 47.2%. Other industries that experienced decrease in employment in the period under review include Agriculture (down by 14.0%), Other Services (down by 4.8%), Communication (down by 3.4%), Construction (down by 2.1%) as well as Electricity (down by 1.9%).

**Table 8: Employment and Wage, Year 2018**

Employed Persons, Total Wages & Average Annual Wages						
Year ended September 2018						
	Total	%	Male	%	Female	%
Total						
Employed	24,205	100.0	13,812	57.1	10,392	42.9
Total						
Wages (\$000)	550,305	100.0	298,485	54.2	251,820	45.8
Average Annual Wages (\$)	22,735		21,610		24,231	

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In the year ended September 2018, average total employed in the formal sector amounted to 24,205, decreasing by an average of 165 people compared to the year ended September 2017. Of the total employed in the year ended September 2018, 57.1% were males and 42.9% were females.

In terms of wage growth, industries such as Education, Water, Public Administration, Restaurants, Transport, Personal Services, Commerce and Food Manufacturing contributed positively with increases in wages paid out of 17.6%, 14.3%, 13.3%, 9.2%, 7.3%, 5.3%, 4.5% and 3.5% respectively in year ending September 2018 compared to Financial Year ending September 2017.

Total wages paid amounted to \$550.3 million. Males received the biggest share of total wages with 54.2% of the total and 45.8% being female wages.

Total average yearly wages received in the year ended September 2018 was \$22,735. Females recorded the highest average yearly wage of \$24,231 which was 12.1% higher than the average annual wage of males.

# Background Information and New Developments

## Scope and Coverage

Employment covers all formally registered employees to the Samoa National Provident Fund. This includes all industries in the Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Sectors and the Public Administration (Private and Public Sectors).

## Classification

The International Standard Industry Classification (ISIC), Revision 3.1 is used to classify the economic activity of businesses in the SNPF Register. Classification of economic activity is important in the determination of the extent and nature of the information collected and the quality of the data compiled. The employees through employers are then classified into various industries using the ISIC Rev 3.1.

## Employment and Formal Employment

### Employment

- ◆ Employment is the total number of persons who are engaged in paid work.
- ◆ It includes all persons who are either part timers or full time workers and are employed either in the public or private sectors (working for wages)

### Formal Employment

- ◆ Employment that is government regulated, such that workers are ensured a wage and certain employment rights.
- ◆ It **includes** all employees and employers in the formal sectors who have registered under the SNPF.
- ◆ It does **not include** the informal sectors and individual contributors such as proprietors, self-employed workers, unpaid family or volunteer workers, farm workers, and domestic workers.

### Employment Index

- ◆ Is a measure of change on the employment numbers, with 2009 as the base year

### Wage Index

- ◆ Is a measure of change on the wages and salaries, it was compiled using the base year of 2009

## Revisions

Employment Data is supplied by the SNPF on a quarterly basis. This data is input manually by the Finance Statistics Division (FSD) in to the system and is used for compiling and monitoring employment trend by industry. In some cases where there may be a delay in receiving this data, estimates are then used until the actual numbers are available. Revisions are made later on

when actual data are made available to the Bureau.

Revisions for previous Quarterly Employment Report data are made herewith to account for the lag in business submission of information to data provider.



Aliimuamua Malaefono Taua - T Faasalaina

## GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN / CEO



Samoa Bureau of Statistics

### SBS Vision:

**“To be the leader in providing relevant, quality statistics for the benefit of Samoa.”**

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