



International Merchandise Trade

April 2024

Merchandise Exports¹

Highlights of the month

April 2024 compared with March 2024

- ❖ The total value of exports declined 22.2 percent (or \$1.7 million) to \$5.8 million. This was mainly driven by the notable decreases of exports and re-exports of:
 - ❖ Fish and crustaceans, molluscs products (down \$1.4 million)
 - ❖ Fruit and nuts products (down \$0.2 million)
 - ❖ Vegetables and certain roots and tubers products (down \$0.06 million)
 - ❖ Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products (down \$0.05 million)
- ❖ Export to Oceania of \$3.8 million accounting for 64.8 percent of the total merchandise exports in April 2024, fell 30.4 percent (\$1.6 million) when compared to the previous month.
- ❖ Exports to American Samoa of \$0.2 million (down \$0.7 million), Tokelau of \$0.6 million (down \$0.6 million) and New Zealand of \$1.7 million (down \$0.2 million) had the largest decreases in April 2024 mostly influenced by the reduction of exports of fish, taro, coconuts as well as re-exports of fuel to mention a few.

Merchandise Imports

- ❖ The total value of imports in April 2024 was \$156.6 million, increasing 82.0 percent (or \$70.6 million) from March 2024. This was mainly driven by higher imports of:
 - ❖ Mineral fuels, mineral oils and products (up \$51.2 million)
 - ❖ Meat and edible meat offal products (up \$7.4 million)
 - ❖ Vehicles; other than railway products (up \$1.1 million)
 - ❖ Dairy produce, birds' eggs products (up \$3.3 million)
- ❖ The Asia region became the leading source market for imports accounting for 50.4 percent of the total merchandise import value. It also recorded the biggest increase of \$46.6 million to \$79.0 million from the preceding month.
- ❖ Imports from Singapore of \$52.6 million (up \$50.9 million), New Zealand of \$29.9 million (up \$9.5 million), USA of \$15.2 million (up \$7.1 million) and Australia of \$14.7 million (up \$6.3 million) largely contributed to the increase in imports in the reviewed month, This was a result of higher imports of petroleum, food products such as chicken leg quarter, milk as well as the importation of vehicles to name a few.

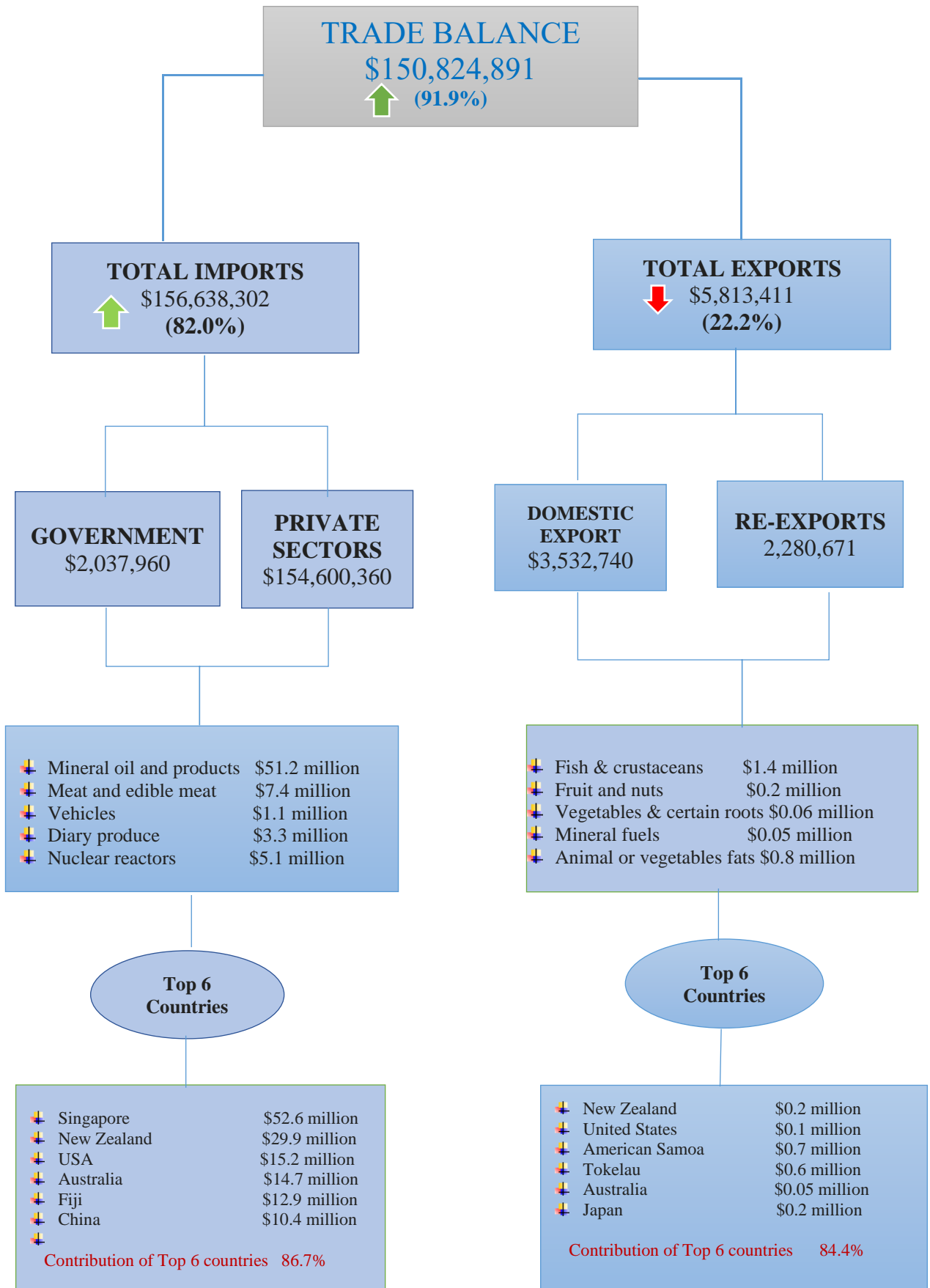
Trade Balance

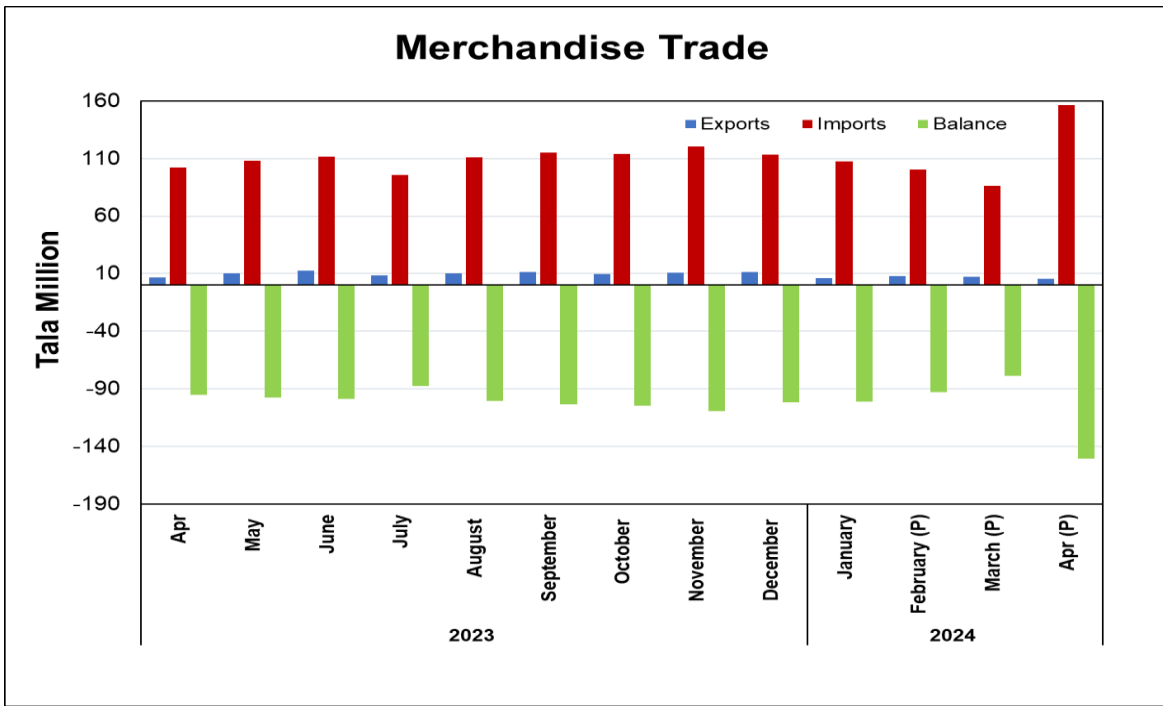
- ❖ The total value of merchandise imports of \$156.6 million exceeded exports of \$5.8 million, resulting in a trade deficit of \$150.8 million in April 2024. The trade deficit increased by 91.9 percent when compared to its balance in the previous month and up by 57.8 percent when compared to the same month in 2023.

¹ Includes re-exports commodities

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Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics

The attached tables provide users with more detailed information.

Technical Notes

The main source of imports and exports data comes from the administrative document; a completed customs form (Single Administrative data-SAD) which is required to be filled in by importers and exporters or customs agents when clearing merchandise inward and outward through the Ministry of Customs and Revenue.

The May 2024 Merchandise trade report is expected to be available on July 15th 2024.

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