

STATISTICAL UPDATE: PORT VILA CENTRAL MARKET SURVEY

MARCH 2023

Release Date: 30th May 2023

The Port Vila Central Market Survey summarises selected agricultural produces sold at the main wet market based on the Supply and Price of commodities. Data is collected on a fortnightly basis, analysed and published as quarterly average and by commodity groups.

Summary of Findings:

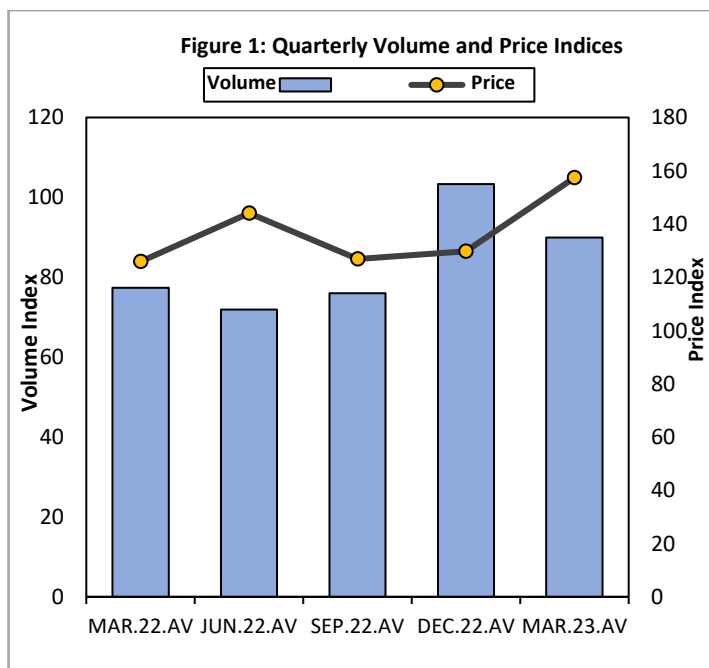
The Port Vila Market Survey of March quarter of 2023 showed an overall Volume decrease of -13 percent on the supply of commodities while the overall price increased by 21 percent compared to the previous quarter.

- ◆ Decrease in the volume of staple produce and Vegetables produce supplied to the market contributed to the decrease in the overall volume index compared to previous quarter.
- ◆ The value of commodities decreased by -12 percent at VT978,000.
- ◆ An average of 153 sellers was recorded for the quarter under review.
- ◆ Market closer in the month of March due to the damage caused by the twin tropical cyclone Judy and Kevin contributed to the overall volume decrease in March quarter of 2023.

OVERVIEW

The Port Vila Market Survey in March quarter of 2023 showed an overall volume decrease of -13 percent compared to the previous quarter. Staple produces and Vegetables produces contributed to the decrease in the overall volume index. (Refer to table 1 & 4).

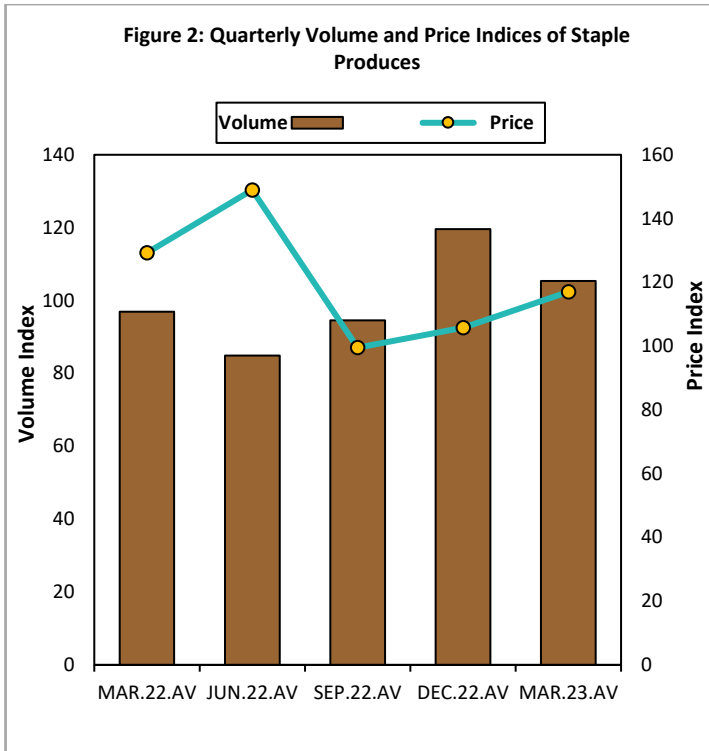
The overall price increased by 21 percent compared to the previous quarter. Staple produces and Vegetable produces contributed to the increase in overall price index. (Refer to table 2 & 5).



STAPLE FOOD PRODUCES

The supply of Staple food produces decreased by -12 percent when compared to the previous quarter, while the average price increased by 11 percent in the same quarter under review. Commodities that contributed to the decrease in volume were sweet Potato (Kumala) at 831 kilograms, Fiji Taro at 285 kilograms, Yam at 84 kilograms and Green banana at 49 kilograms.

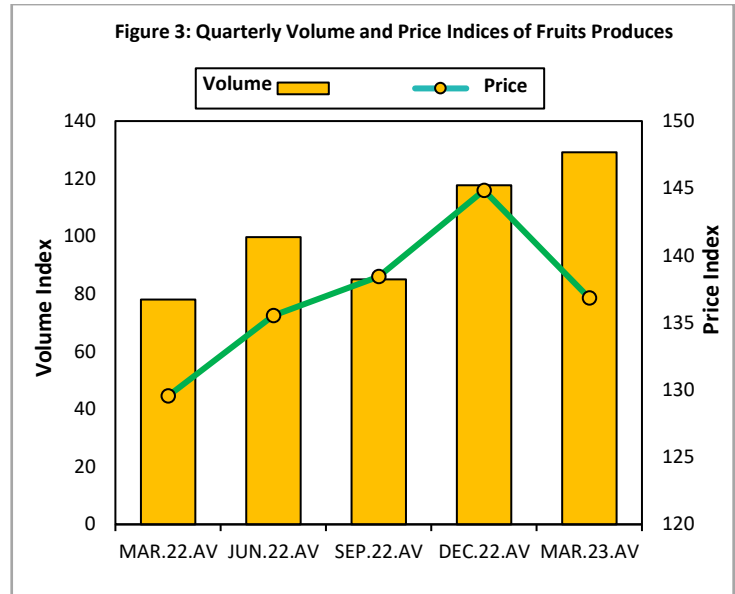
When compared to the same quarter of the previous year, the volume of Staple food increased by 9 percent, while its weighted average price decreased by -10 percent. (Refer to table 1 & 2).



FRUIT PRODUCES

An overview of Fruits supplied to Port Vila Central Market in the quarter under review showed an overall increase of 10 percent compared to the previous quarter. Fruits that contributed to the increase in volume were, Watermelon at 59 percent, Green coconut at 18 percent and Pawpaw at 9 percent. The average price per kilograms of fruits produced decreased by -6 percent in the quarter under review.

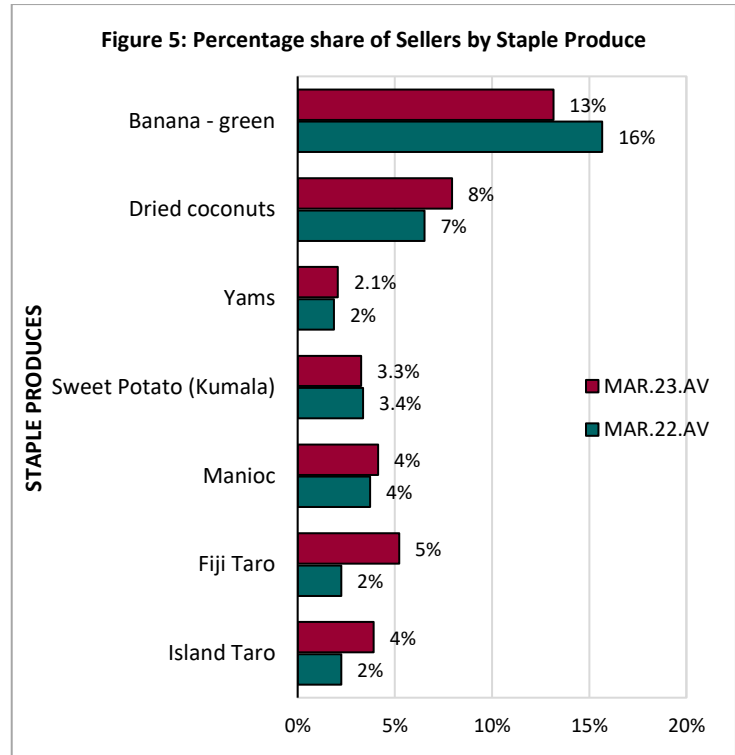
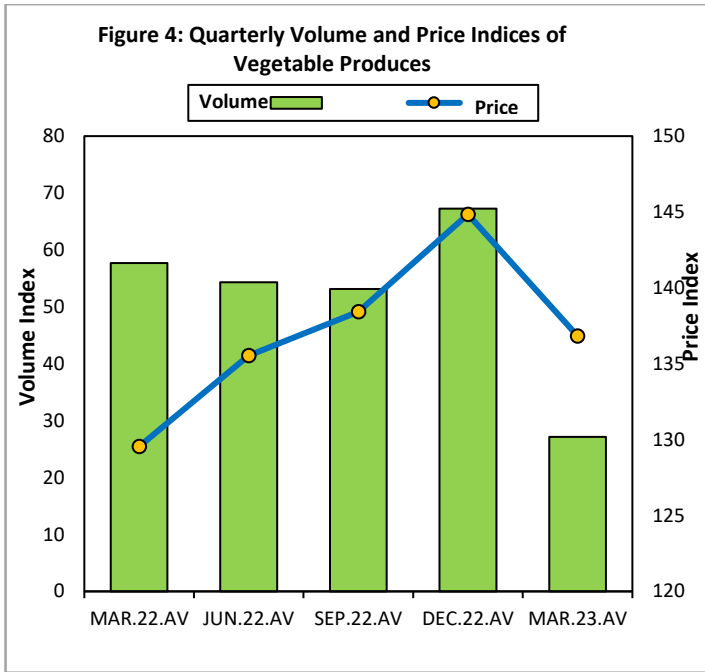
When compared to the same quarter of the previous year, the quantity supplied of fruits to the Central Market increased by 65 percent and the average price per kilograms increased by 6 percent. (Refer to table 1 & 2).



VEGETABLE PRODUCES

The supply of Vegetables to the Port Vila Central Market in March quarter of 2023 recorded an overall decrease of -60 percent and the average price per kilograms increased by 2 percent compared to the previous quarter. Vegetables that contribute to the decrease in vegetables supplies includes, Tomato at -93 percent, Lettuce at -87 percent, Cucumber at -73 percent, Chinese cabbage at -70 percent and Pumpkin at -44 percent. There were no Carrots and Bowl cabbage (White and Purple) sold at the market during the March quarter of 2023.

When compared to the same quarter of the previous year, the supply of vegetables supplied to the market decreased by -53 percent while the average weighted price of vegetables increased by 38 percent. (Refer to table 1 & 2).

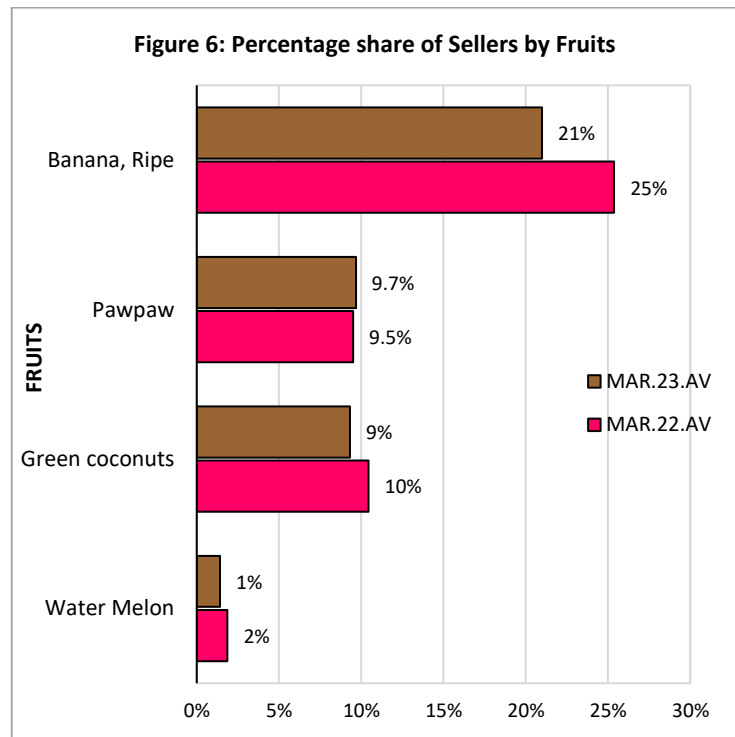


SELLERS PER COMMODITY GROUPS

March quarter of 2023 recorded a total average of 153 sellers¹ at the Port Vila Central Market which is a decrease of 100 vendors compared to the previous quarter and an increase of 64 vendors when compared to the same quarter of the previous year.

When compared to the previous quarter, Vegetables produce vendors decreased by -71 percent, Staple produce vendors decreased by -24 percent and Fruits produce vendors decreased by -13 percent in the quarter under review.

When compared to the same quarter of the previous year, Staple food vendors increased by 91 percent, Fruit supply vendors increased by 50 percent and Vegetable vendors increased by 89 percent. (Refer to table 6).



¹ This is the total number of sellers at the market. However, one seller can sell more than 1 type of produce hence the analysis by sellers per produce.

Figure 7: Percentage share of Sellers by Vegetables

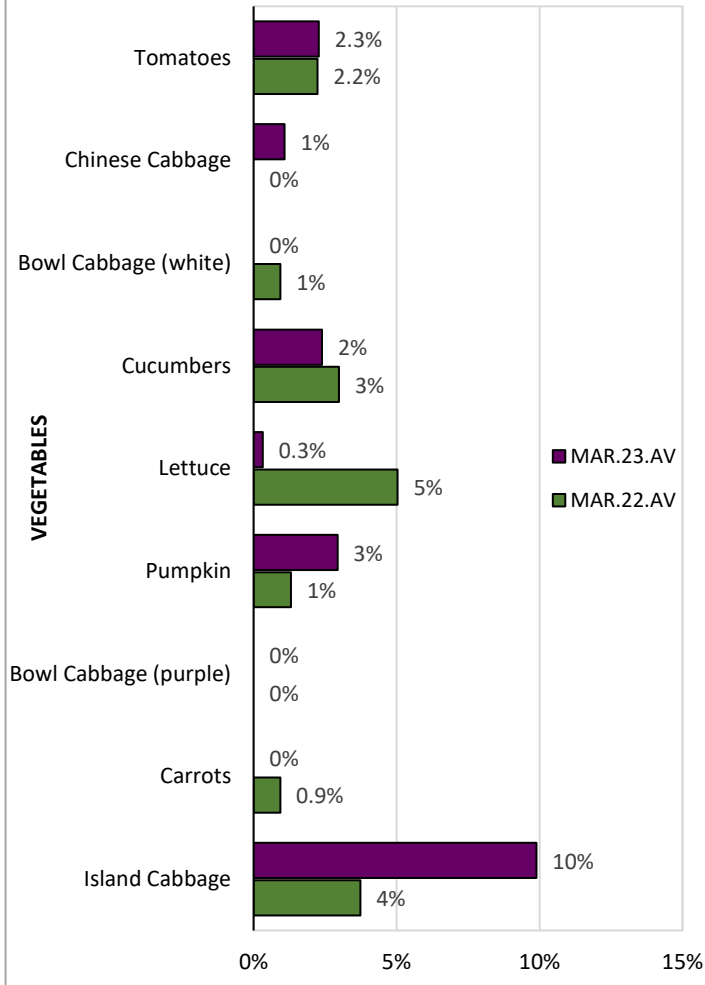
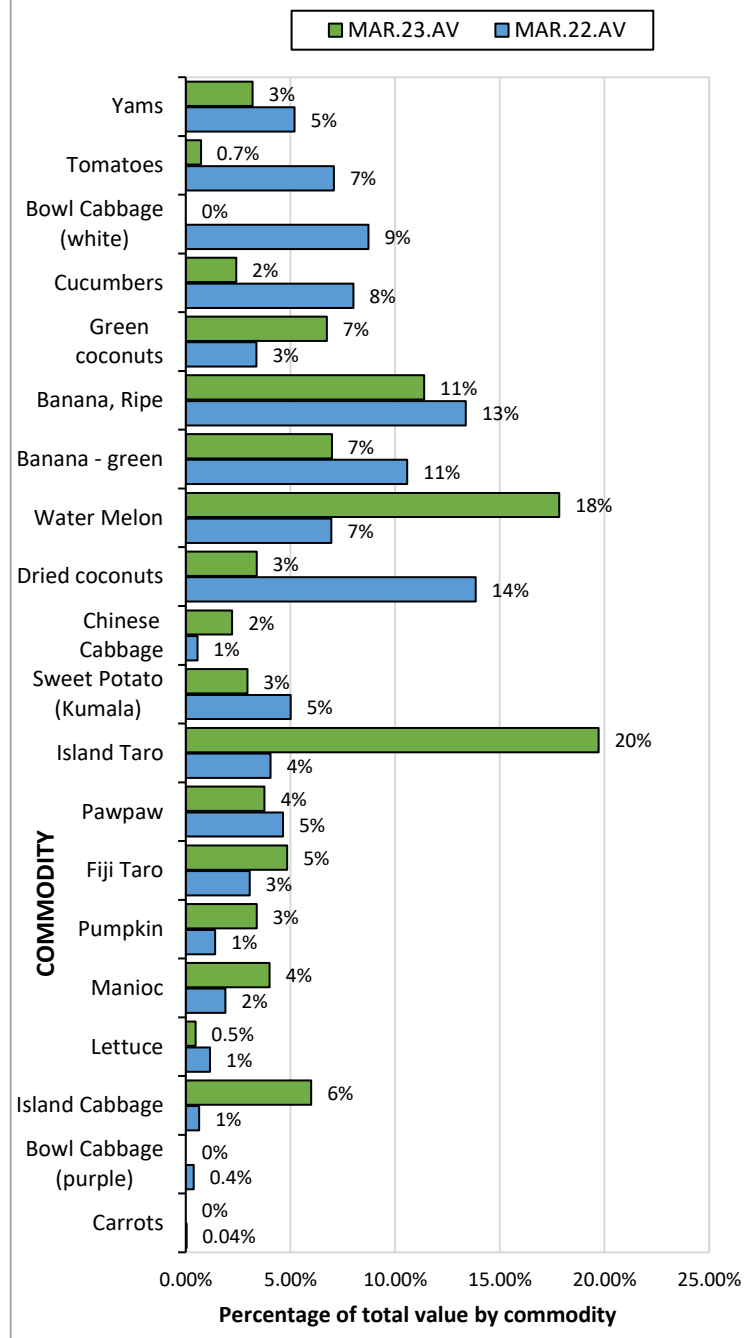


Figure 8: Share of Value by Produces



VALUE OF SUPPLIES

The average value of commodities at the Port Vila Central Market in the quarter under review recorded a value of VT978,000. This is an overall decrease of -12 percent compared to the previous quarter and an increase of 13 percent in the same quarter of the previous year. (Refer to table 3)

Staple Food registered the largest share in value at 45 percent. The value of staple produces increased by VT16,000 over the previous quarter and increased by VT63,000 compared to the same quarter of the previous year. Fruits produce value registered the second highest share in value at 40 percent. Fruits increased by VT1,000 over the previous quarter and increased by VT143,000 over the same quarter of the previous year. The value of vegetables produce shared the least in value at 15 percent. Vegetables produce value decreased by VT155,000 over the previous quarter and decreased by VT94,000 over the same quarter of the previous year.

CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

The Port Vila Market Survey was instigated to measure the price and volume of specific agricultural produces in the main market. The survey is conducted on a fortnightly basis.

The data analysed in this report shows quarterly average supply and prices of the commodities under study. Weights are based on 2016 using HIES 2010 and Agriculture Census 2007 and were used henceforth.

NEXT UPDATE (QUARTERLY)

RELEASE DATE

Quarter 2 2023

August 18th, 2023

PROVINCIAL STATISTICS OFFICES

Sanma Office

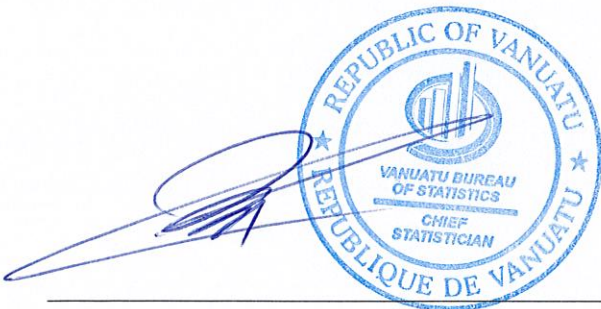
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Chief Statistician

QUARTERLY AVERAGE

Table 1: Quantity Supplied (in kilograms)

PRODUCE	2016.AVE	MAR.22.AV	JUN.22.AV	SEP.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	MAR.23.AV	Mar-23	
							% chng from prev qtr	% chng from Mar 22
STAPLE PRODUCE	467	452	396	441	558	492	-12	9
Fiji Taro	74	211	317	484	674	389	-42	84
Island Taro	550	167	214	305	209	710	239	325
Manioc	534	309	252	424	342	507	48	64
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	954	473	334	537	1161	330	-72	-30
Yam	250	117	157	230	191	107	-44	-8
Banana - green	255	1083	835	543	731	682	-7	-37
Dried coconut	650	807	666	567	600	718	20	-11
FRUITS	440	343	439	374	518	568	10	65
Banana, Ripe	435	555	913	967	1063	873	-18	57
Pawpaw	568	253	364	147	188	205	9	-19
Water Melon	448	294	0	0	561	890	59	203
Green coconut	309	271	478	383	260	305	18	12
VEGETABLE PRODUCE	198	114	108	105	133	54	-60	-53
Bowl Cabbage (white)	309	328	252	95	225	0	-100	-100
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	53	27	18	5	32	0	-100	-100
Carrot	78	16	10	9	23	0	-100	-100
Chinese Cabbage	543	31	133	179	133	40	-70	30
Cucumber	343	378	292	171	180	49	-73	-87
Pumpkin	45	84	98	181	280	156	-44	86
Island Cabbage	171	44	68	141	136	222	64	409
Lettuce	45	23	13	101	71	10	-87	-59
Tomato	198	99	85	66	120	9	-93	-91

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

PRODUCE	2016.AVE	MAR.22.AV	JUN.22.AV	SEP.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	MAR.23.AV	Mar-23	
							% chng from prev qtr	% chng from Mar22
STAPLE PRODUCE	121.41	157	181	121	128	142	11	-10
Fiji Taro	137.18	125	130	99	110	122	10	-3
Island Taro	185.86	210	236	172	208	271	30	29
Manioc	55.14	53	80	75	82	77	-6	45
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	73.13	92	155	106	109	87	-20	-5
Yam	224.09	386	378	221	234	291	24	-25
Banana - green	118.47	85	117	130	110	100	-9	18
Dried coconut	56	149	171	44	46	46	1	-69
FRUITS	131.34	170	178	182	190	180	-6	6
Banana, Ripe	128.86	209	297	194	175	128	-27	-39
Pawpaw	78.85	159	231	228	185	179	-3	13
Water Melon	184.57	205	0	0	206	196	-5	-4
Green coconut	133.09	108	184	306	196	216	10	100
VEGETABLE PRODUCE	236.06	226	265	277	306	311	2	38
Bowl Cabbage (white)	218.28	231	0	382	248	0	-100	-100
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	209.97	122	191	0	248	0	-100	-100
Carrot	164.8	20	33	235	414	0	-100	-100
Chinese Cabbage	133.48	155	195	170	187	540	189	247
Cucumber	200.67	183	229	340	263	484	84	164
Pumpkin	145.18	145	183	128	131	212	62	46
Island Cabbage	218.16	128	191	176	168	264	57	107
Lettuce	521.8	432	707	594	667	482	-28	12
Tomato	312.23	619	656	469	425	818	93	32

Table 3: Value of Supplies (in Vatu thousands)

PRODUCE	Total Value 2016	MAR.22.AV	JUN.22.AV	SEP.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	MAR.23.AV	% chng from prev qtr	% chng from Mar22
STAPLE PRODUCE	1352.9	378	434	335	424	441	4	17
Fiji Taro	38.6	27	41	48	74	47	-36	79
Island Taro	422.4	35	50	53	44	193	342	450
Manioc	113.8	16	20	32	28	39	40	139
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	281.1	43	52	57	126	29	-77	-34
Yam	216	45	59	51	45	31	-30	-31
Banana - green	130.3	92	97	70	80	68	-15	-26
Dried coconut	150.8	120	114	25	27	33	21	-72
FRUITS	946.1	246	443	338	387	388	0	58
Banana, Ripe	256.3	116	271	188	186	111	-40	-4
Pawpaw	206	40	84	33	35	37	6	-8
Water Melon	315.7	60	0	0	115	174	51	189
Green coconut	168.2	29	88	117	51	66	30	125
VEGETABLE PRODUCE	1421.3	242	193	266	304	149	-51	-39
Bowl Cabbage (white)	184.1	76	0	36	56	0	-100	-100
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	61.4	3	3	0	8	0	-100	-100
Carrot	65.8	0	0	2	10	0	-100	-100
Chinese Cabbage	309.5	5	26	31	25	22	-13	351
Cucumber	269.5	69	67	58	47	24	-50	-66
Pumpkin	27.5	12	18	23	37	33	-10	172
Island Cabbage	166.4	6	13	25	23	59	157	951
Lettuce	95.3	10	9	60	48	5	-90	-54
Tomato	241.9	61	56	31	51	7	-86	-88
	3720.4	866	1070	939	1115	978	-12	13

*on the days surveyed

Table 4: Volume Index (2016 = 100)

PRODUCE	2016 Weights	MAR.22.AV	JUN.22.AV	SEP.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	MAR.23.AV	% chng from prev qtr	% chng from Mar22
STAPLE PRODUCE	0.36	97	85	95	120	105	-12	9
Fiji Taro	0.01	284	426	652	908	524	58	84
Island Taro	0.11	30	39	55	38	129	339	325
Manioc	0.03	58	47	79	64	95	148	64
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	0.08	50	35	56	122	35	28	-30
Yam	0.06	47	63	92	76	43	56	-8
Banana - green	0.04	425	328	213	287	268	93	-37
Dried coconut	0.04	124	102	87	92	110	120	-11
FRUITS	0.25	78	100	85	118	129	10	65
Banana, Ripe	0.07	128	140	149	245	201	-18	57
Pawpaw	0.06	45	83	33	33	36	9	-19
Water Melon	0.08	66	0	0	125	199	59	203
Green coconut	0.05	88	84	67	84	99	18	12
VEGETABLE PRODUCE	0.38	58	54	53	67	27	-60	-53
Bowl Cabbage (white)	0.05	106	44	17	73	0	-100	-100
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	0.02	51	4	1	60	0	-100	-100
Carrot	0.02	21	3	3	30	0	-100	-100
Chinese Cabbage	0.08	6	67	90	25	7	-70	30
Cucumber	0.07	110	94	55	53	14	-73	-87
Pumpkin	0.01	186	184	340	621	346	-44	86
Island Cabbage	0.04	26	87	181	79	130	64	409
Lettuce	0.03	52	2	19	160	21	-87	-59
Tomato	0.07	50	25	19	61	4	-93	-91
	1	77	72	76	103	90	-13	16

Table 5: Price Index (2016 = 100)

PRODUCE	2016 Weights	MAR.22.AV	JUN.22.AV	SEP.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	MAR.23.AV	% chng from prev qtr	% chng from Mar22
STAPLE PRODUCE	0.36	129	149	99	106	117	11	-10
Fiji Taro	0.01	91	95	72	80	89	12	-3
Island Taro	0.11	113	127	93	112	146	21	29
Manioc	0.03	96	145	136	148	140	9	45
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	0.08	125	211	145	148	119	3	-5
Yam	0.06	172	169	99	104	130	6	-25
Banana - green	0.04	71	99	109	93	84	-15	18
Dried coconut	0.04	265	306	79	82	82	4	-69
FRUITS	0.25	130	136	138	145	137	-6	6
Banana, Ripe	0.07	162	231	150	136	99	-27	-39
Pawpaw	0.06	201	293	289	234	228	-3	13
Water Melon	0.08	111	0	0	111	106	-5	-4
Green coconut	0.05	81	138	230	147	162	10	100
VEGETABLE PRODUCE	0.38	96	112	117	130	132	2	38
Bowl Cabbage (white)	0.05	106	0	175	114	0	-100	-100
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	0.02	58	91	0	118	0	-100	-100
Carrot	0.02	12	20	143	251	0	-100	-100
Chinese Cabbage	0.08	116	146	128	140	404	189	247
Cucumber	0.07	91	114	170	131	241	84	164
Pumpkin	0.01	100	126	88	90	146	62	46
Island Cabbage	0.04	59	88	81	77	121	57	107
Lettuce	0.03	83	135	114	128	92	-28	12
Tomato	0.07	198	210	150	136	262	93	32
	1	126	144	127	130	157	21	25

Table 6: Number of Sellers

PRODUCE	2016 AVE	MAR.22.AV	JUN.22.AV	SEP.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	MAR.23.AV	% chng from prev qtr	% chng from Mar22
STAPLE PRODUCE	46	32	43	64	80	61	-24	91
Fiji Taro	3	2	6	12	16	8	-49	300
Island Taro	3	2	4	6	6	6	1	200
Manioc	8	3	6	7	6	6	2	90
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	11	3	3	5	12	5	-59	67
Yam	4	2	4	5	4	3	-23	90
Banana - green	9	14	12	17	24	20	-15	44
Dried coconut	10	6	9	12	12	12	2	109
FRUITS	35	42	28	38	73	63	-13	50
Banana, Ripe	15	23	10	16	29	32	12	42
Pawpaw	14	9	5	7	25	15	-41	75
Water Melon	1	2	0	0	2	2	-4	30
Green coconut	5	9	13	15	17	14	-16	53
VEGETABLE PRODUCE	57	15	37	79	101	29	-71	89
Bowl Cabbage (white)	4	1	0	4	9	0	-100	-100
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	2	0	0	0	2	0	-100	0
Carrot	1	1	0	18	2	0	-100	-100
Chinese Cabbage	16	0	9	8	6	2	-74	0
Cucumber	10	3	8	12	20	4	-81	38
Pumpkin	2	1	3	7	18	5	-74	286
Island Cabbage	11	3	14	12	15	15	-1	355
Lettuce	4	5	0	9	6	1	-92	-89
Tomato	7	2	4	9	23	4	-85	75
	138	89	108	181	253	153	-39	72