

STATISTICAL UPDATE: PORT VILA CENTRAL MARKET SURVEY

DECEMBER 2023

Release Date: 05 April 2024

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.

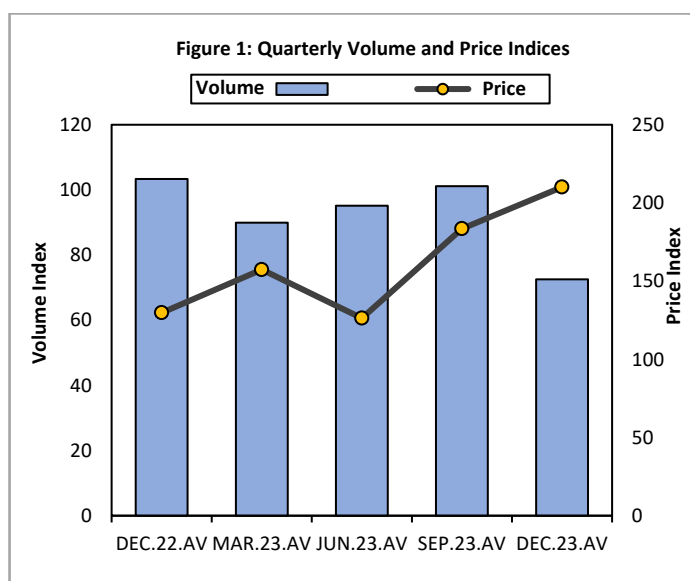
Summary of Findings:

The Port Vila Market Survey of December quarter of 2023 showed an overall Volume decrease of -28 percent on the supply of commodities while the overall price increased by 14 percent compared to the previous quarter.

- ◆ Decrease in the volume of Staple, Fruits and Vegetables produce supplied to the market contributed to the decrease in the overall volume index compared to the previous quarter.
- ◆ The value of commodities decreased by -40 percent at just over VT1 million.
- ◆ An average of 162 sellers was recorded for the quarter under review.

OVERVIEW

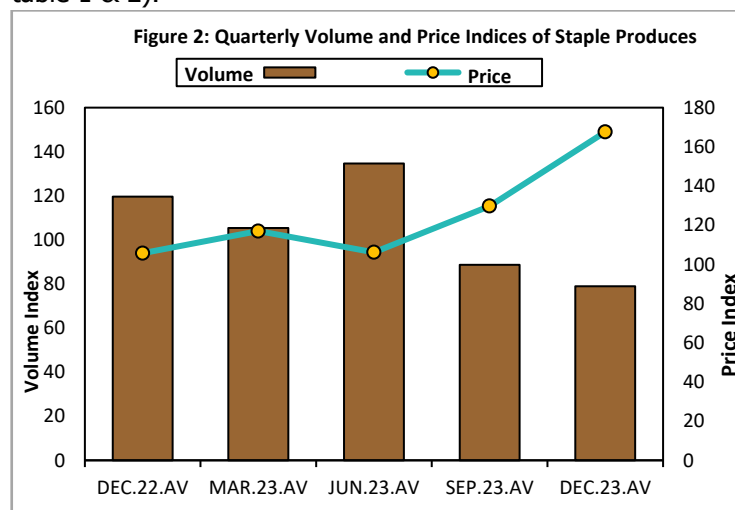
The Port Vila Market Survey in December quarter of 2023 showed an overall volume decrease of -28 percent compared to the previous quarter. Staple, Fruits and Vegetables produce contributed to the decrease in the overall volume. (Refer to table 1 & 4).



The overall price increased by 14 percent compared to the previous quarter. Staple and Fruits produce contributed to the increase in overall price. (Refer to table 2 & 5).

STAPLE FOOD PRODUCE

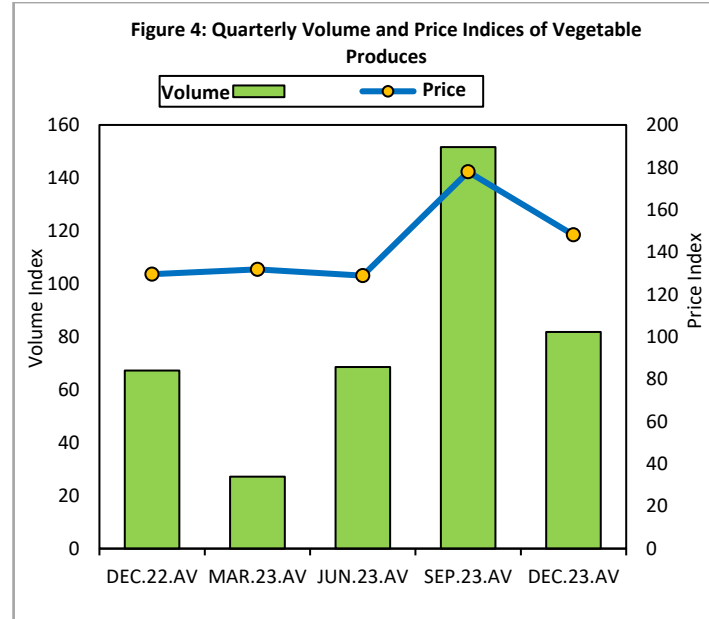
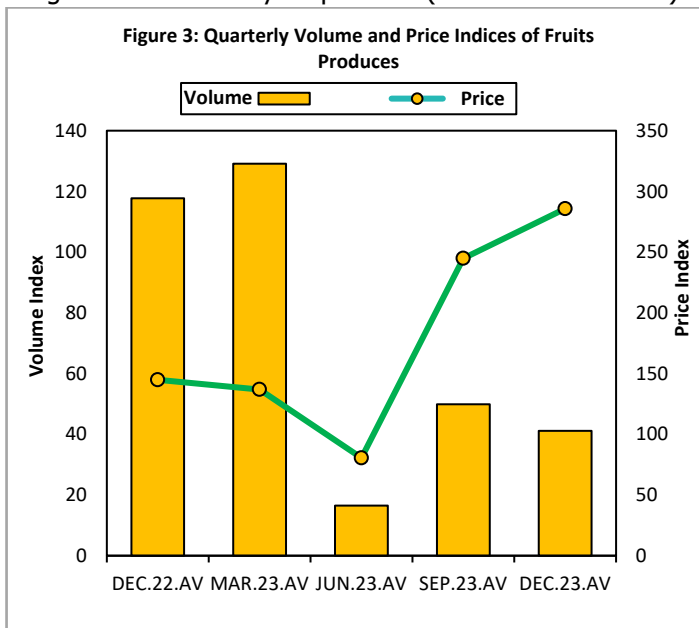
The supply of Staple food produce decreased by -11 percent when compared to the previous quarter, while the average price increased by 29 percent in the same quarter under review. Commodities that contributed to the decrease in volume were Fiji Taro at -49 percent, Island Taro at -45 percent, Manioc and Dried coconut at -30 percent each and Green Banana at -9 percent. When compared to the same quarter of the previous year, the volume of Staple food decreased by -34 percent, while its weighted average price increased by 59 percent. (Refer to table 1 & 2).



FRUIT PRODUCE

An overview of Fruits supplied to Port Vila Central Market in the quarter under review showed an overall decrease of -18 percent compared to the previous quarter. Fruits that contributed to the decrease in volume were, Water Melon at -97 percent and Green coconut at -7 percent. The average price per kilograms of fruits produced increased by 17 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 decreased by -65 percent and the average price per kilograms increased by 97 percent. (Refer to table 1 & 2).



SELLERS PER COMMODITY GROUPS

December quarter of 2023 recorded a total average of 162 sellers¹ at the Port Vila Central Market which is a decrease of 29 vendors when compared to the previous quarter and a decrease of 91 vendors when compared to the same quarter of the previous year.

When compared to the previous quarter, Fruits produce vendors increased by 97 percent while Vegetables produce vendors decreased by 30 percent and Staple produce vendors also decreased by 13 percent in the quarter under review.

When compared to December quarter of 2022, Staple, Vegetables and Fruits produces decreased by -47 percent, -59 percent, and -11 percent respectively. (Refer to table 6).

VEGETABLE PRODUCE

The supply of Vegetables to the Port Vila Central Market in December quarter of 2023 recorded an overall decrease of -46 percent and the average price per kilograms decreased by -17 percent compared to the previous quarter. Vegetables produces that contribute to the decrease in vegetables supplies includes, Chinese cabbage at -94 percent, White bowl cabbage at -61 percent, cucumber at -51 percent, pumpkin at -41 percent, lettuce at -22 percent, carrot at -10 percent and purple bowl cabbage at -8 percent.

When compared to the same quarter of the previous year, the supply of vegetables supplied to the market increased by 22 percent and its average weighted price also increased by 14 percent. (Refer to table 1 & 2).

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 5: Percentage share of Sellers by Staple Produce

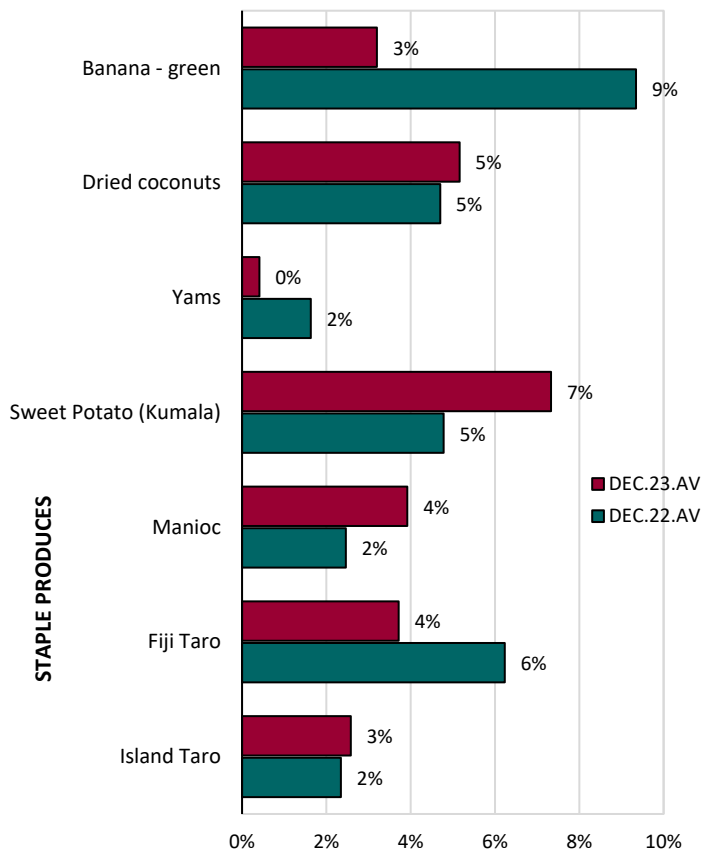


Figure 7: Percentage share of Sellers by Vegetables

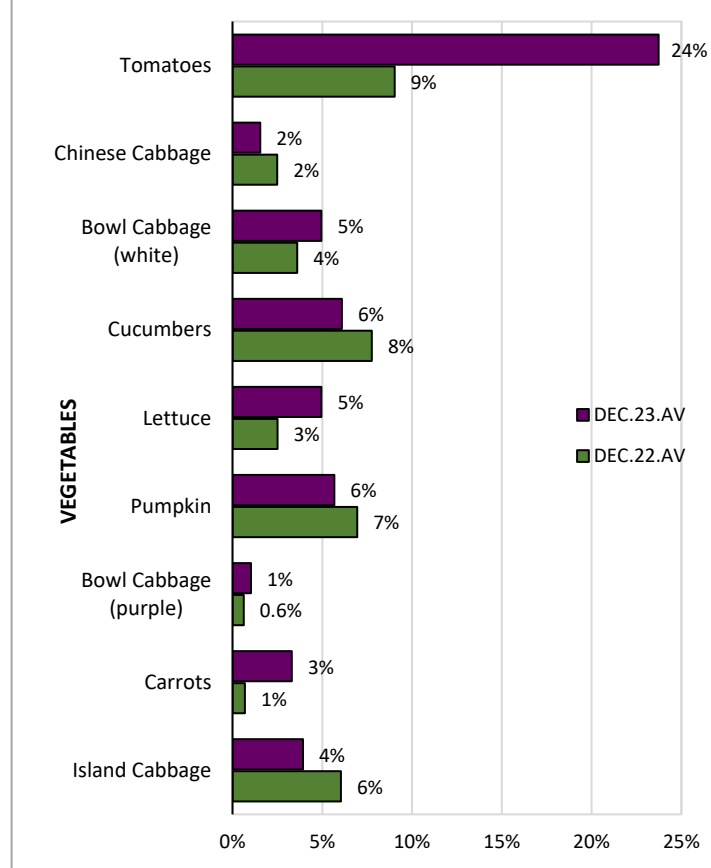
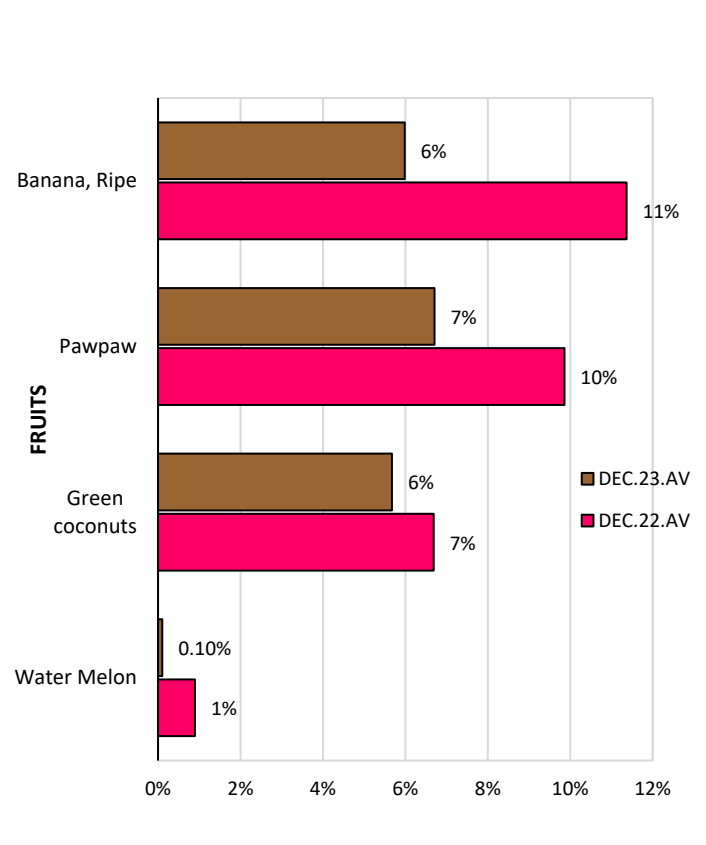


Figure 6: Percentage share of Sellers by Fruits



VALUE OF SUPPLIES

The average value of commodities at the Port Vila Central Market in the quarter under review recorded a value of VT1,043,230. This is an overall decrease of -40 percent compared to the previous quarter and a decrease of -6 percent in the same quarter of the previous year. (Refer to table 3)

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 1 2024

22nd May 2024

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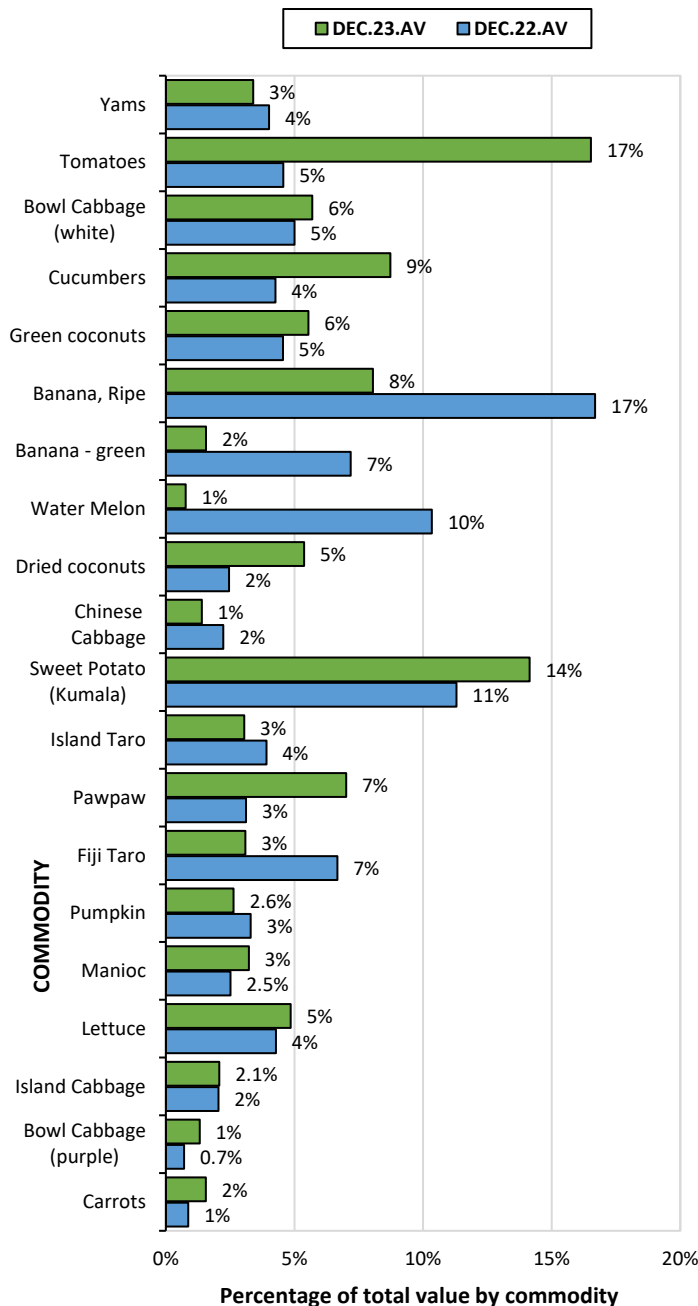
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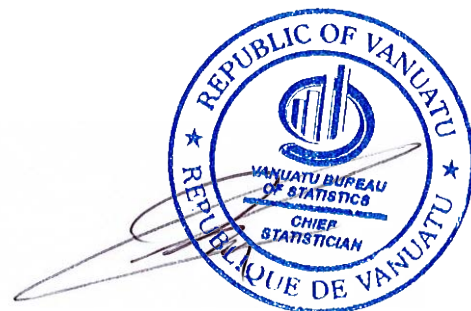
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Figure 8: Share of Value by Produces



Vegetables produce registered the largest share in value at 45 percent. Vegetable produce decreased by VT501,000 over the previous quarter and increased by VT163,000 compared to the same quarter of the previous year. Staple produce registered the second highest share in value at 34 percent. Staple produce decreased by VT49,000 over the previous quarter and decreased by VT71,000 over the same quarter of the previous year. Fruits produce shared the least in value at 21 percent. Fruits produced decreased by VT139,000 in value over the previous quarter and decreased by VT164,000 over the same quarter of the previous year.



Mr. KAP Calo Andy
Chief Statistician

QUARTERLY AVERAGE

Table 1: Quantity Supplied (in kilograms)

PRODUCE	2016.AVE	DEC.22.AV	MAR.23.AV	JUN.23.AV	SEP.23.AV	DEC.23.AV	Dec-23	
							% chng from prev qtr	% chng from Dec 22
STAPLE PRODUCE	467	558	492	629	414	369	-11	-34
Fiji Taro	74	674	389	797	370	188	-49	-72
Island Taro	550	209	710	1541	233	129	-45	-38
Manioc	534	342	507	350	430	302	-30	-12
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	954	1161	330	322	874	1205	38	4
Yam	250	191	107	594	45	70	56	-63
Banana - green	255	731	682	63	105	96	-9	-87
Dried coconut	650	600	718	735	843	592	-30	-1
FRUITS	440	518	568	73	219	181	-18	-65
Banana, Ripe	435	1063	873	12	81	290	258	-73
Pawpaw	568	188	205	4	1	144	16700	-24
Water Melon	448	561	890	0	501	16	-97	-97
Green coconut	309	260	305	274	295	274	-7	6
VEGETABLE PRODUCE	198	133	54	136	301	162	-46	22
Bowl Cabbage (white)	309	225	0	67	575	225	-61	0
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	53	32	0	1	46	43	-8	33
Carrot	78	23	0	1	39	35	-10	48
Chinese Cabbage	543	133	40	462	639	39	-94	-71
Cucumber	343	180	49	452	492	241	-51	34
Pumpkin	45	280	156	109	365	216	-41	-23
Island Cabbage	171	136	222	74	52	52	1	-61
Lettuce	45	71	10	32	142	111	-22	55
Tomato	198	120	9	27	358	499	39	316

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

PRODUCE	2016.AVE	DEC.22.AV	MAR.23.AV	JUN.23.AV	SEP.23.AV	DEC.23.AV	Dec-23	
							% chng from prev qtr	% chng from Dec 22
STAPLE PRODUCE	121	128	142	129	158	203	29	59
Fiji Taro	137	110	122	145	165	172	4	56
Island Taro	186	208	271	156	215	247	15	18
Manioc	55	82	77	76	98	111	14	36
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	73	109	87	155	187	122	-35	13
Yam	224	234	291	243	355	506	43	116
Banana - green	118	110	100	75	0	170	170	55
Dried coconut	56	46	46	52	83	95	14	107
FRUITS	131	190	180	106	322	375	17	97
Banana, Ripe	129	175	128	113	579	290	-50	66
Pawpaw	79	185	179	121	0	509	509	175
Water Melon	185	206	196	0	517	492	-5	139
Green coconut	133	196	216	189	190	211	11	8
VEGETABLE PRODUCE	236	306	311	304	420	350	-17	14
Bowl Cabbage (white)	218	248	0	531	517	265	-49	7
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	210	248	0	0	641	322	-50	30
Carrot	165	414	0	333	563	467	-17	13
Chinese Cabbage	133	187	540	331	137	372	172	99
Cucumber	201	263	484	221	327	378	16	43
Pumpkin	145	131	212	217	147	127	-13	-3
Island Cabbage	218	168	264	354	394	414	5	146
Lettuce	522	667	482	378	370	457	24	-32
Tomato	312	425	818	373	683	345	-49	-19

Table 3: Value of Supplies (in Vatu thousands)

PRODUCE	Total Value 2016	DEC.22.AV	MAR.23.AV	JUN.23.AV	SEP.23.AV	DEC.23.AV	% chng from prev qtr	% chng from Dec 22
STAPLE PRODUCE	1353	424	441	621	403	353	-12	-17
Fiji Taro	39	74	47	116	61	32	-47	-57
Island Taro	422	44	193	241	50	32	-37	-27
Manioc	114	28	39	26	42	34	-20	20
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	281	126	29	50	164	148	-10	17
Yam	216	45	31	145	16	35	122	-21
Banana - green	130	80	68	5	0	16	16	-80
Dried coconut	151	27	33	38	70	56	-20	104
FRUITS	946	387	388	54	362	223	-38	-42
Banana, Ripe	256	186	111	1	47	84	79	-55
Pawpaw	206	35	37	1	0	73	73	111
Water Melon	316	115	174	0	259	8	-97	-93
Green coconut	168	51	66	52	56	58	3	14
VEGETABLE PRODUCE	1421	304	149	361	968	467	-52	54
Bowl Cabbage (white)	184	56	0	36	297	59	-80	6
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	61	8	0	0	30	14	-54	73
Carrot	66	10	0	0	22	16	-26	67
Chinese Cabbage	310	25	22	153	87	15	-83	-42
Cucumber	270	47	24	100	161	91	-43	92
Pumpkin	28	37	33	24	54	27	-49	-25
Island Cabbage	166	23	59	26	20	22	6	-5
Lettuce	95	48	5	12	53	51	-4	6
Tomato	242	51	7	10	244	172	-29	239
	3720	1115	978	1035	1733	1043	-40	-6

*on the days surveyed

Table 4: Volume Index (2016 = 100)

PRODUCE	2016 Weights	DEC.22.AV	MAR.23.AV	JUN.23.AV	SEP.23.AV	DEC.23.AV	% chng from prev qtr	% chng from Dec 22
STAPLE PRODUCE	0.36	120	105	135	89	79	-11	-34
Fiji Taro	0.01	908	524	1073	498	252	-49	-72
Island Taro	0.11	38	129	280	42	23	-45	-38
Manioc	0.03	64	95	66	80	57	-30	-12
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	0.08	122	35	34	92	126	38	4
Yam	0.06	76	43	237	18	28	56	-63
Banana - green	0.04	287	268	25	41	38	-9	-87
Dried coconut	0.04	92	110	113	130	91	-30	-1
FRUITS	0.25	118	129	16	50	41	-18	-65
Banana, Ripe	0.07	245	201	3	19	67	258	-73
Pawpaw	0.06	33	36	1	0	25	16700	-24
Water Melon	0.08	125	199	0	112	4	-97	-97
Green coconut	0.05	84	99	89	95	89	-7	6
VEGETABLE PRODUCE	0.38	67	27	69	152	82	-46	22
Bowl Cabbage (white)	0.05	73	0	22	186	73	-61	0
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	0.02	60	0	2	87	80	-8	33
Carrot	0.02	30	0	1	50	44	-10	48
Chinese Cabbage	0.08	25	7	85	118	7	-94	-71
Cucumber	0.07	53	14	132	143	70	-51	34
Pumpkin	0.01	621	346	241	810	480	-41	-23
Island Cabbage	0.04	79	130	43	30	31	1	-61
Lettuce	0.03	160	21	72	319	248	-22	55
Tomato	0.07	61	4	13	181	252	39	316
	1	103	90	95	101	73	-28	-30

Table 5: Price Index (2016 = 100)

PRODUCE	2016 Weights	DEC.22.AV	MAR.23.AV	JUN.23.AV	SEP.23.AV	DEC.23.AV	% chng from prev qtr	% chng from Dec 22
STAPLE PRODUCE	0	106	117	106	130	168	29	59
Fiji Taro	0	80	89	106	120	125	4	56
Island Taro	0	112	146	84	116	133	15	18
Manioc	0	148	140	137	177	202	14	36
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	0	148	119	212	256	167	-35	13
Yam	0	104	130	109	158	226	43	116
Banana - green	0	93	84	63	0	144	144	55
Dried coconut	0	82	82	93	148	169	14	107
FRUITS	0	145	137	81	245	286	17	97
Banana, Ripe	0	136	99	87	449	225	-50	66
Pawpaw	0	234	228	154	0	645	645	175
Water Melon	0	111	106	0	280	266	-5	139
Green coconut	0	147	162	142	143	158	11	8
VEGETABLE PRODUCE	0	130	132	129	178	148	-17	14
Bowl Cabbage (white)	0	114	0	243	237	121	-49	7
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	0	118	0	0	305	153	-50	30
Carrot	0	251	0	202	342	283	-17	13
Chinese Cabbage	0	140	404	248	102	278	172	99
Cucumber	0	131	241	110	163	188	16	43
Pumpkin	0	90	146	150	101	88	-13	-3
Island Cabbage	0	77	121	162	181	190	5	146
Lettuce	0	128	92	72	71	88	24	-32
Tomato	0	136	262	120	219	111	-49	-19
	1	130	157	126	184	210	14	62

Table 6: Number of Sellers

PRODUCE	2016 AVE	DEC.22.AV	MAR.23.AV	JUN.23.AV	SEP.23.AV	DEC.23.AV	% chng from prev qtr	% chng from Dec 22
STAPLE PRODUCE	46	80	61	72	49	43	-13	-47
Fiji Taro	3	16	8	14	9	6	-33	-62
Island Taro	3	6	6	20	7	4	-39	-30
Manioc	8	6	6	7	7	6	-12	2
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	11	12	5	5	9	12	31	-2
Yam	4	4	3	7	2	1	-71	-84
Banana - green	9	24	20	4	3	5	94	-78
Dried coconut	10	12	12	16	12	8	-31	-30
FRUITS	35	73	63	15	15	30	97	-59
Banana, Ripe	15	29	32	1	1	10	625	-66
Pawpaw	14	25	15	1	0	11	3150	-57
Water Melon	1	2	2	0	2	0	-93	-93
Green coconut	5	17	14	14	11	9	-18	-46
VEGETABLE PRODUCE	57	101	29	71	127	89	-30	-11
Bowl Cabbage (white)	4	9	0	1	12	8	-33	-12
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	2	2	0	0	5	2	-63	5
Carrot	1	2	0	0	4	5	28	206
Chinese Cabbage	16	6	2	18	24	3	-89	-60
Cucumber	10	20	4	20	17	10	-43	-50
Pumpkin	2	18	5	5	10	9	-10	-48
Island Cabbage	11	15	15	12	9	6	-28	-59
Lettuce	4	6	1	8	24	8	-67	26
Tomato	7	23	4	7	22	38	74	68
	138	253	153	158	191	162	-15	-36