

STATISTICAL UPDATE: PORT VILA CENTRAL MARKET SURVEY

DECEMBER 2020

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 and published as a quarterly average.

Summary of Findings:

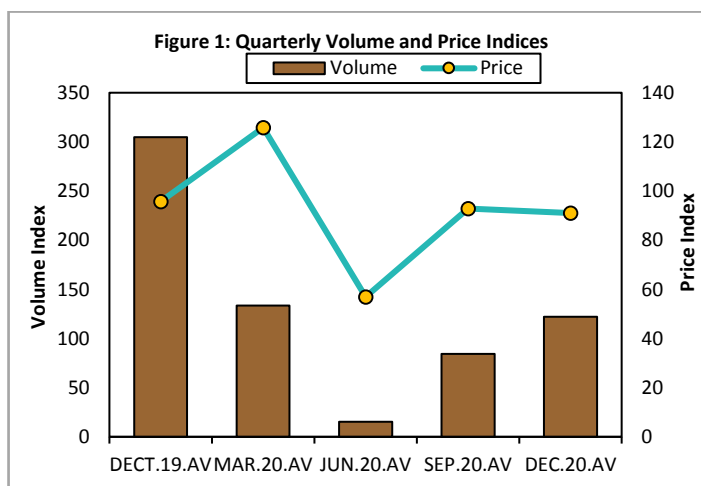
The Port Vila Market Survey of December quarter of 2020 showed an overall Volume increase of 45 percent on the supply of commodities while the average price also decreased by -2 percent compared to the previous quarter.

- ◆ Increase in the volume of the local Vegetables such as Carrots, Island cabbage, Tomatoes, lettuce, pumpkin, cucumber and White bowl cabbage as well as Kumala (Sweet Potato), Dried coconut, Fiji Taro, Green banana, Manioc, Banana ripe, Green coconut and Pawpaw supplied to the market contributed to the increase in overall volume index compared to previous quarter.
- ◆ The value of commodities increased by 49 percent at VT920,000.
- ◆ An average of 276 sellers was recorded for the quarter under review. This is an increase of 42 percent from the previous quarter and a decrease of 40 percent compared to December 2019.

OVERVIEW

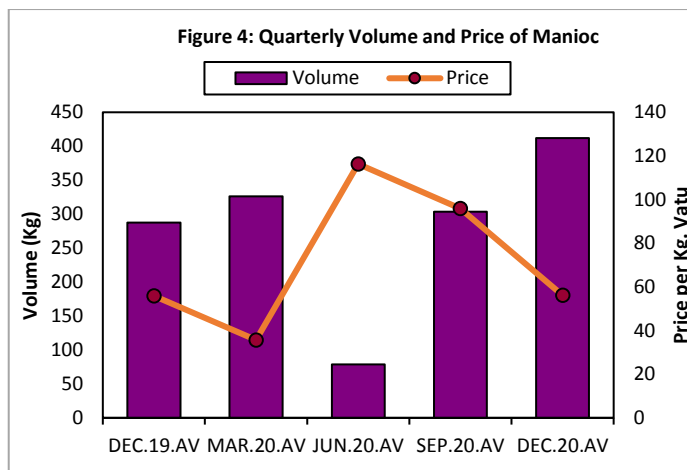
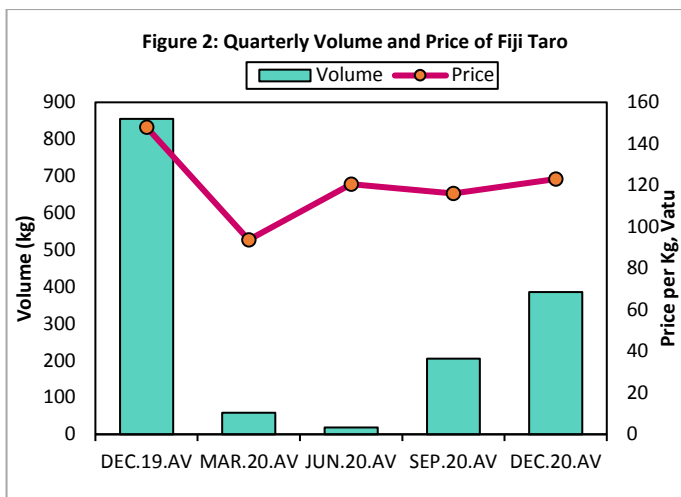
The Port Vila Market Survey in December quarter 2020 showed an overall volume increase of 45 percent from the previous quarter. Most of the agricultural produces recorded an increase except for Water Melon, Yam, Chinese cabbage, Island Taro and Purple bowl cabbage. When compared to the corresponding quarter of previous year, the overall quantity supplied decreased by 60 percent. (Refer to table 4).

The overall price decreased by -2 percent when compared to the previous quarter. Higher prices were recorded for Cucumber, Purple bowl cabbage, Chinese cabbage, Banana ripe, Island taro, Yam, White bowl cabbage, Fiji taro, Lettuce, Kumala (Sweet Potatoe), Dried coconut and Tomatoes contributed to the overall increase in price index. Compared to December quarter of 2019, the overall price index level is lower at -5 percent. (Refer to table 5).



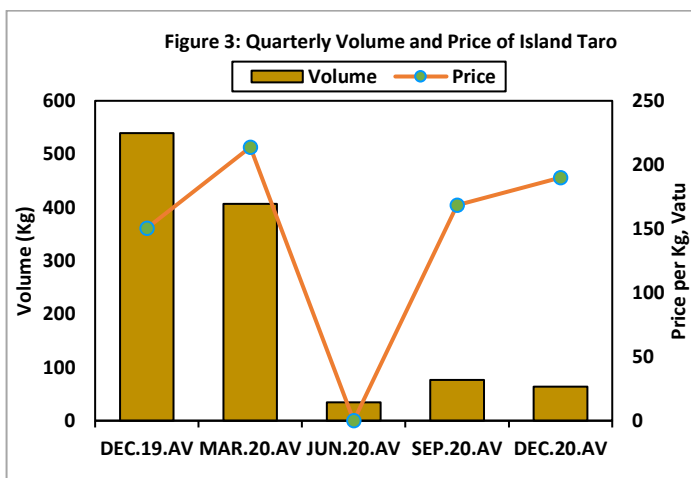
FIJI TARO

At an average of 386 Kilograms, the supply of Fiji Taro increased by 88 percent from the previous quarter. Despite the increase in the supply of Fijian Taro the average price per kilograms increased by 6 percent when compared to the previous quarter. Compared to December 2019, the supply of Fiji Taro decreased by -55 percent while the average price also decreases by -17 percent. (Refer to table 1 & 2).



ISLAND TARO

The quantity of Island Taro supplied to Port Vila Central Market in December 2020 decreased by -16 percent compared to previous quarter. The decrease in the amount of Island Taro supplied to the Market pushes average price per Kilograms up by 13 percent when compared to the previous quarter. Compared with December 2019, the quantity of Island Taro was -88 percent lower while its average price per Kilograms also increased at 26 percent. (Refer to table 1 & 2).

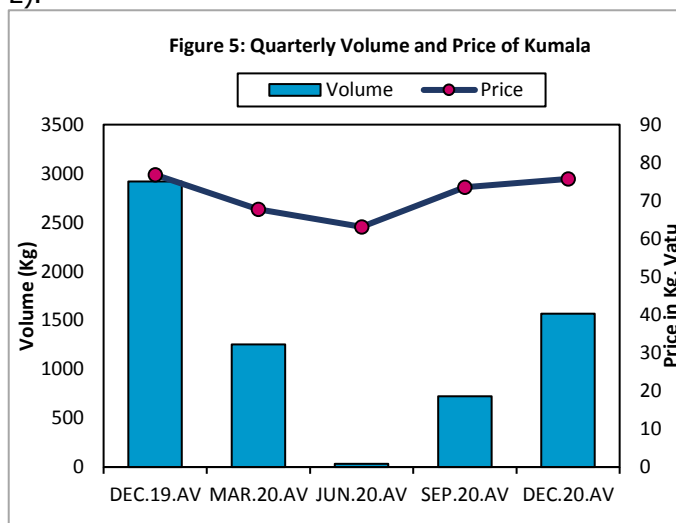


MANIOC

The supply of Manioc in the quarter under review increased by 36 percent which pushes average price per Kilograms down by -41 percent. When compared with December quarter of 2019, the supply of Manioc also increased by 43 percent while average price remained unchanged. (Refer to table 1 & 2).

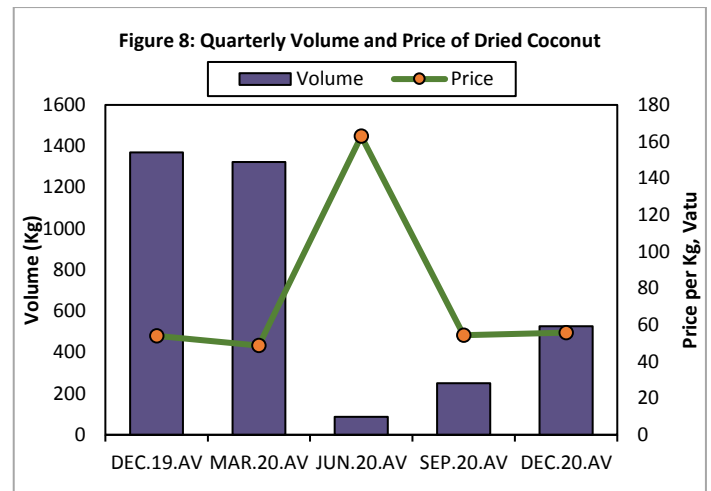
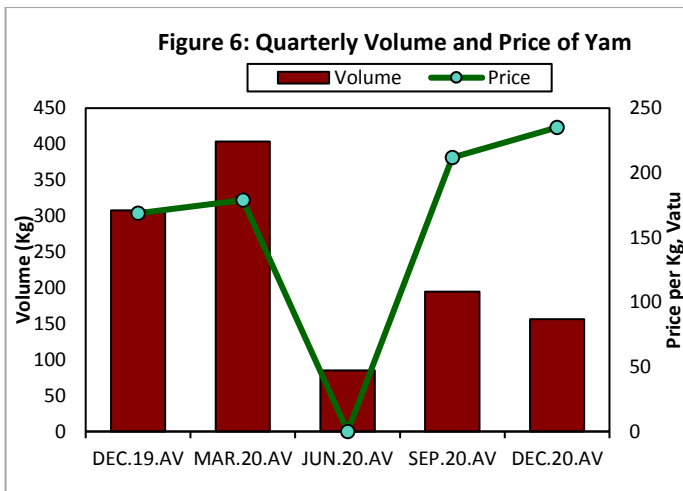
KUMALA (SWEET POTATO)

Kumala or Sweet Potato recorded an increase of 843 Kilograms compared to the previous quarter. Despite the increase in quantity of Kumala (Sweet Potato) the average price per Kilograms also increased by 3 percent when compared to previous quarter. Compared with the same quarter of the previous year, the quantity of Kumala (Sweet Potato) decreased by -46 percent while the average price decreased by -1 percent. (Refer to table 1 & 2).



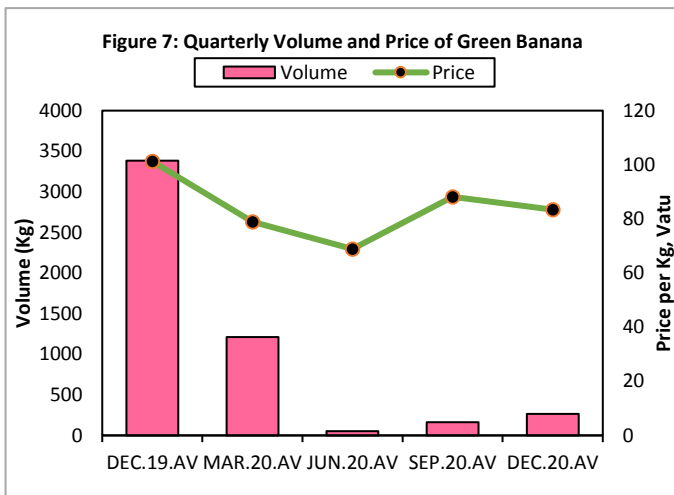
YAM

The supply of Yam in the quarter under review decreased by -20 percent which pushes average price up by 11 percent. Yam supply also decreased by -49 percent in the same quarter of previous year while average price increased by 39 percent despite the fall in yam supply. (Refer to table 1 & 2).



GREEN BANANA

December quarter of 2020 recorded an average supply of 266 Kilograms of Green Banana. This is an increase of 63 percent compared to the previous quarter. The increase in supply of Green Banana pushes average price per Kilograms of Green banana down by – 5 percent in the quarter under review. Compared with December quarter of 2019, the quantity of Green Banana supplied to Port Vila Market decreased by 92 percent while the average price of Green banana dropped by -18 percent despite the decrease in supply of Green banana to the market. (Refer to table 1 & 2).

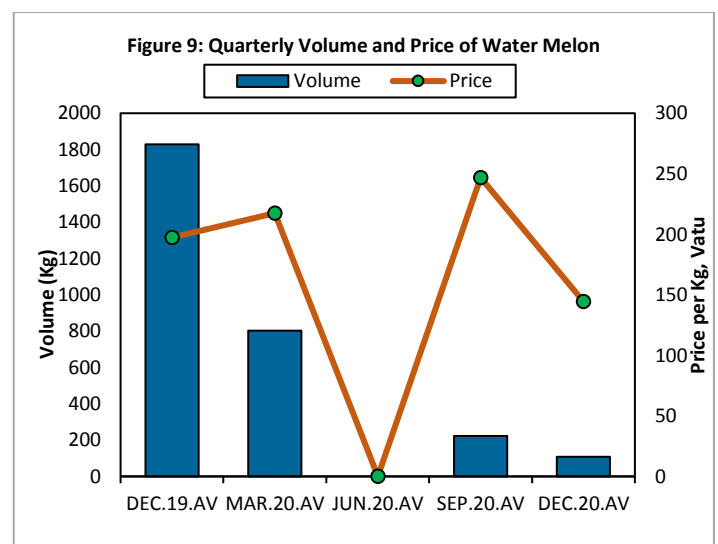


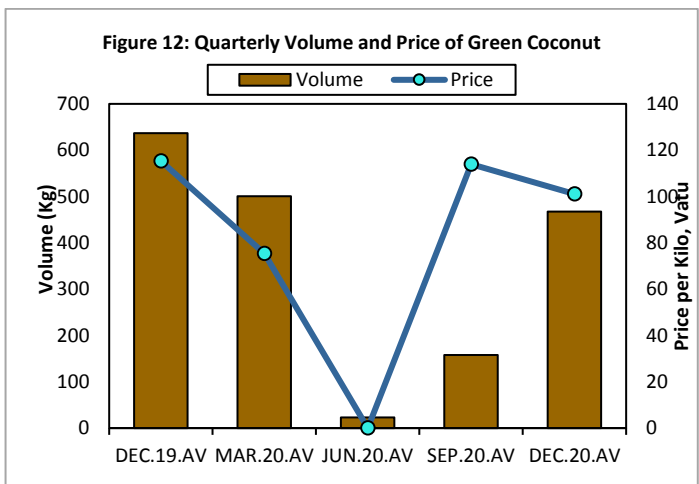
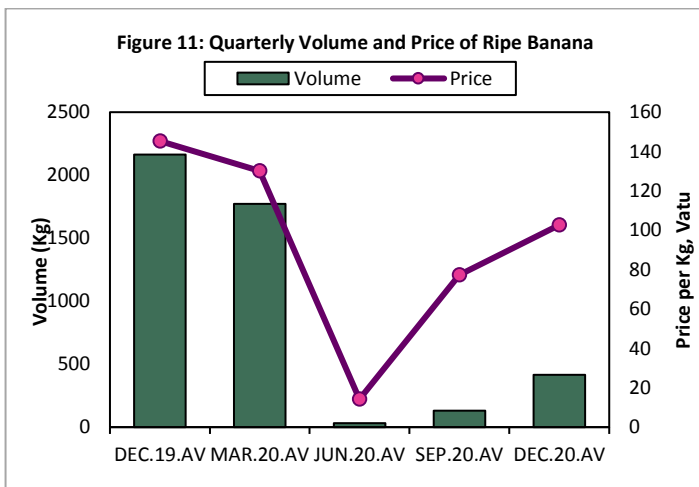
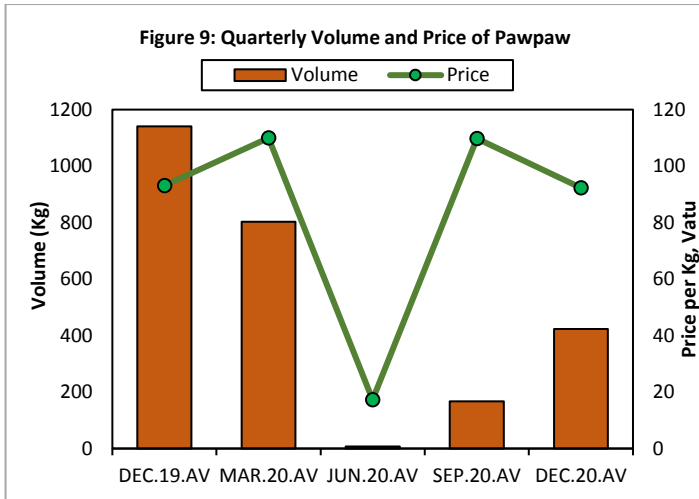
DRIED COCONUTS

Dried Coconut supply increased by 277 Kilograms in the quarter under review. Despite the increase in the supply of Dried Coconut the average price per kilograms also increases by 3 percent when compared to the previous quarter. When compared to the same quarter of the previous year, Dried Coconut decreased by -61 percent and average price also increased by 3 percent. (Refer to table 1 & 2).

FRUITS

An overview of Fruits supplied to Port Vila Central Market in the fourth quarter of 2020 showed an increase of Green Coconuts by 310 Kilograms Ripe banana by 284 Kilograms and Pawpaw by 256 Kilograms while Water Melon decrease by 114 Kilograms in the quarter under review. When compared to the same quarter of the previous year, all the supply of fruits showed a decrease in percentage. Water Melon decreased by -94 percent, Ripe banana by -81 percent, Pawpaw by -63 percent and Green coconut at -27 percent in the same quarter of the previous year. (Refer to table 1 & 2).





All fruits recorded an increase in the average price when compared to the previous quarter except Water Melon which decreased by -80 percent. Ripe banana increased by VT38, Pawpaw increased by VT8 and Green coconuts increased by VT23. When compared with December quarter of 2019, the average price of all fruits available at the market decreased.

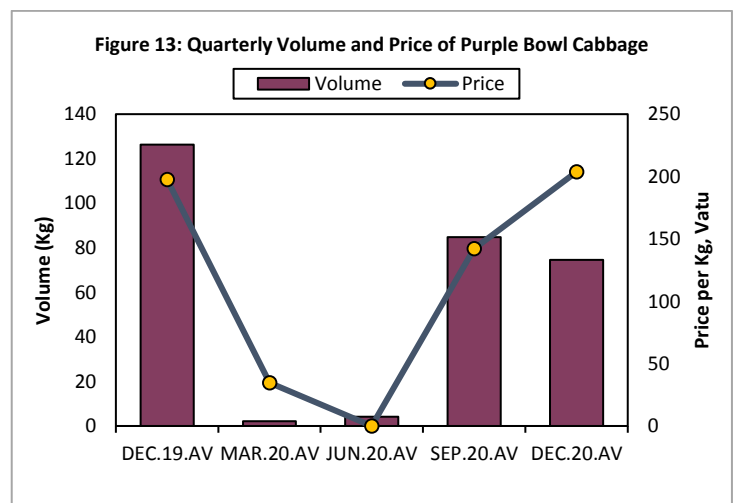
VEGETABLE PRODUCES

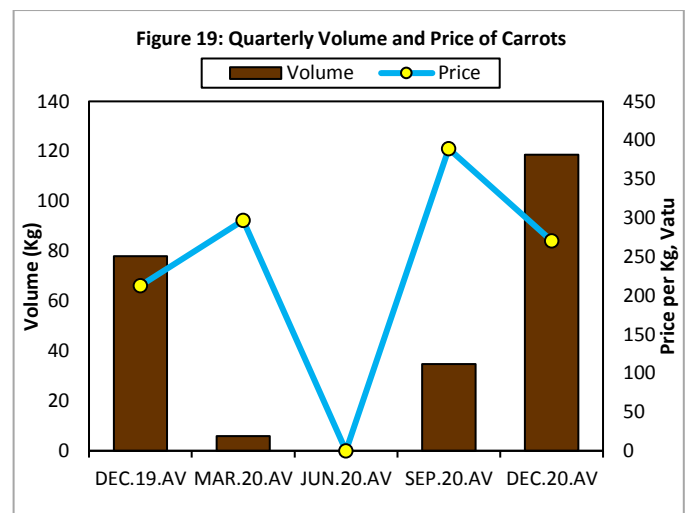
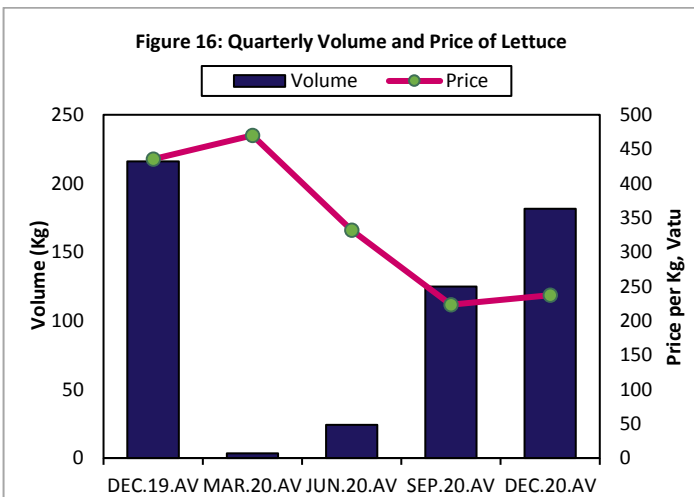
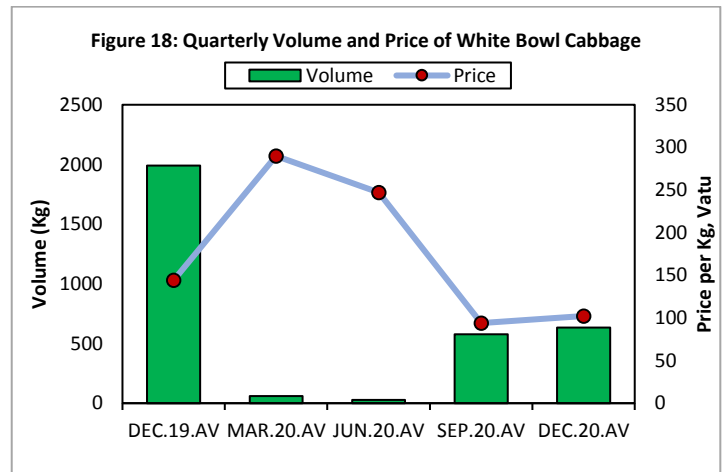
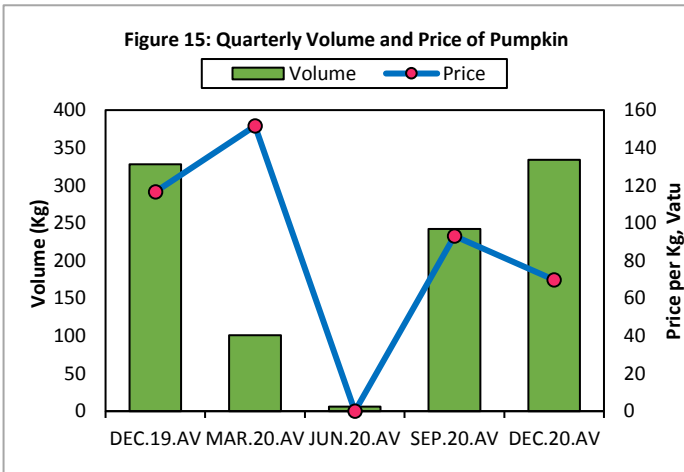
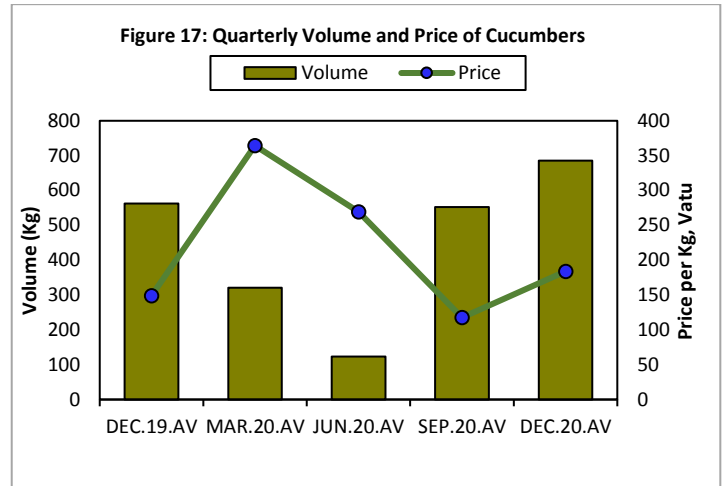
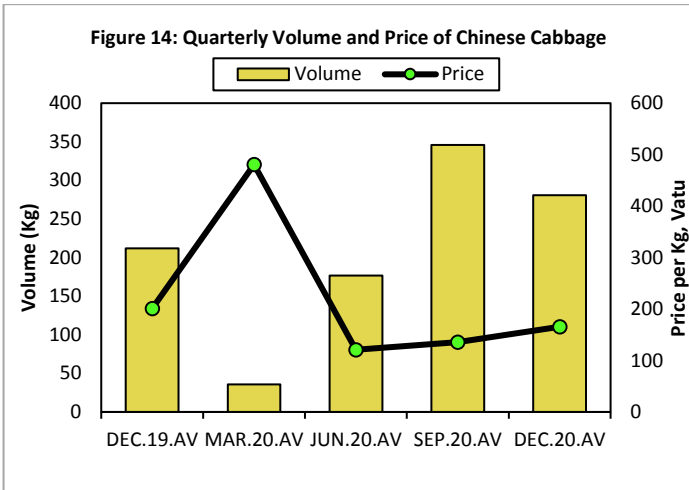
A summary of Vegetable produces in the quarter under review resulted in a significant increase in almost all Vegetable supplies except for Chinese Cabbage and Purple bowl Cabbage which decrease by -19 percent and -12 percent respectively. Compared to September quarter of 2020, Vegetables that increase were Cucumber at 134 Kilograms, Tomatoes at 181 Kilograms, Pumpkin at 92 kilograms, Carrots at 84 Kilograms, Island cabbage at 59 Kilograms, Lettuce and White bowl cabbage at 57 Kilograms each.

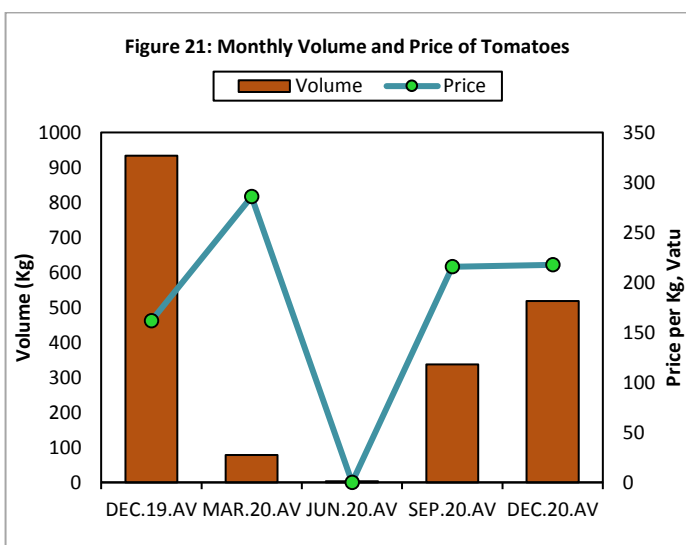
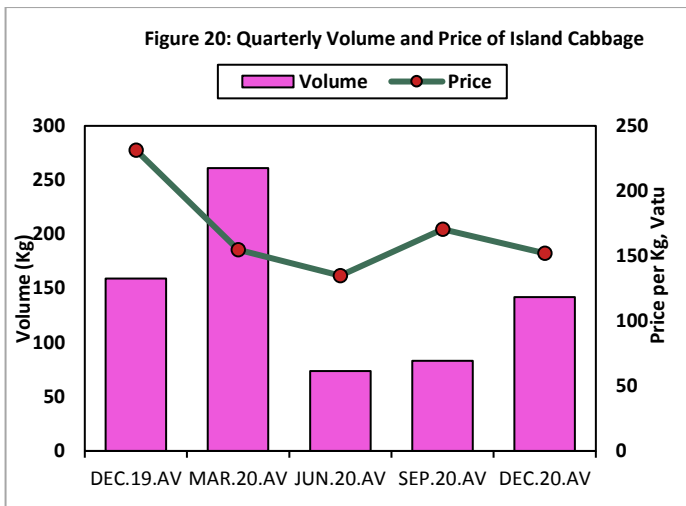
When compared to same quarter of previous year, most vegetables recorded a decrease in the supply which includes White bowl cabbage at -68 percent, Purpule bowl cabbage at -41 percent, Tomatoes at -44 percent, Lettuce at -16 percent and Island cabbage at -11 percent while the rest of the vegetables recorded an increase.

The average price per kilograms in December 2020 decreased for Carrots at -31 percent, Pumpkin at -25 percent and Island cabbage at -11 percent when compared to the previous quarter. However, the average price per kilograms of Cucumber, Purple bowl cabbage, Chinese cabbage, White bowl cabbage, Lettuce and Tomatoes rose by 56 percent, 43 percent, 22 percent, 9 percent, 6 percent and 1 percent per kilograms respectively in the quarter under review.

Compared to the same quarter of 2019, average price per kilograms decreased for Lettuce at -46 percent, Pumpkin at -40 percent, Island cabbage at -34 percent, White bowl cabbage at -29 percent and Chinese cabbage at -18 percent while the rest of the Vegetables increased in price per kilograms during this period.







SELLERS PER PRODUCE

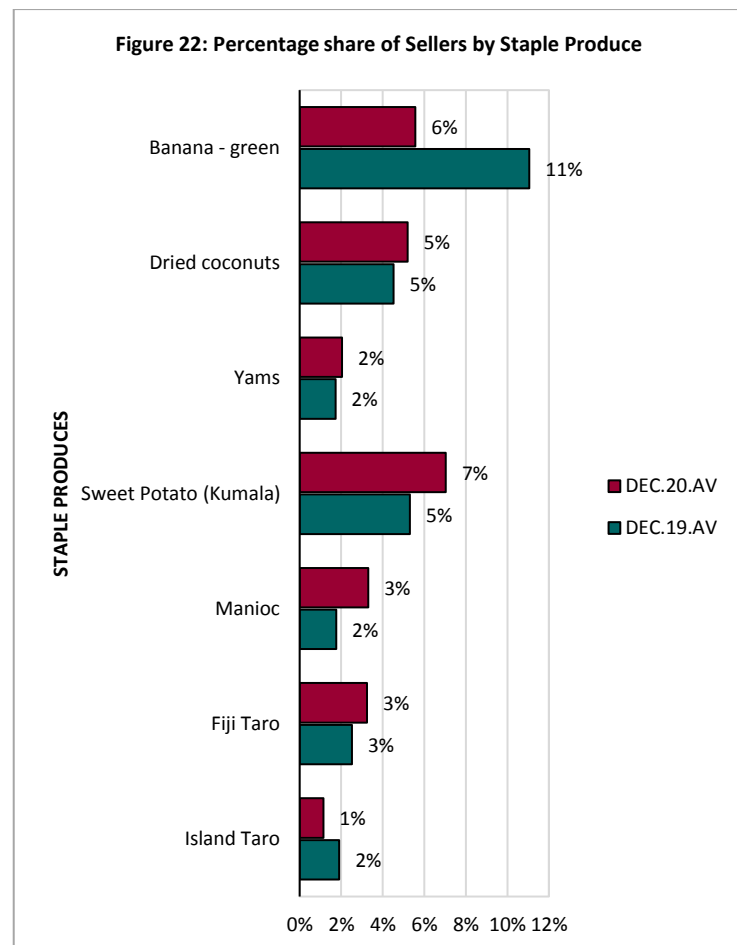
December quarter of 2020 recorded a total of 276 sellers¹ at the Port Vila Central Market. This is an increase of 42 percent from the previous quarter and a decrease of -40 percent in the corresponding quarter of previous year. (Refer to Table 6).

Tomato sellers registered the largest share of local vendors per produce at 11 percent in the quarter under review. This is an increase of 7 vendors compared to the previous quarter and a decrease of 14 vendors compared to December quarter of 2019. Pawpaw followed with 9 percent share of vendors, this is an increase of 10 vendors in the previous quarter and a decrease in 33 vendors in the same quarter of the previous year.

Green Coconut contributed 8 percent share of vendors. This is an increase of 10 vendors in the previous quarter and a decrease in 15 vendors over the same quarter of the previous year. Kumala (Sweet Potato), Ripe banana, Island Cabbage and Cucumber all contributed 7 percent share of vendors. This is a decrease of 10 vendors, 9 vendors and 7 vendors respectively while cucumber remains constant over the previous quarter. When compared with the corresponding quarter of 2019, Ripe banana vendors decreased by 50 vendors, Kumala (Sweet Potato) decreased by 5 vendors, Cucumber decreased by 4 vendors and Island Cabbage decreased by 1 vendor.

Green banana and White bowl cabbage both contributed 6 percent share of vendors. This is an increase of 6 vendors and 2 vendors respectively over the previous quarter. When compared to the corresponding quarter of the previous year Green banana vendors decreased by 36 vendors White Bowl Cabbage decreased by 6 vendors.

The rest of the commodities contributed 5 percent share and less of market vendors in the quarter under review.



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 23: Percentage share of Sellers by Fruits

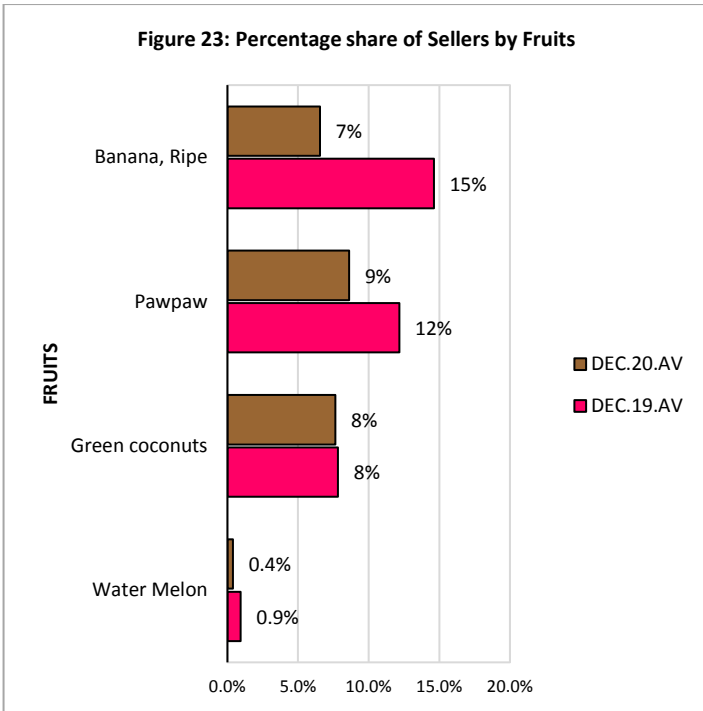
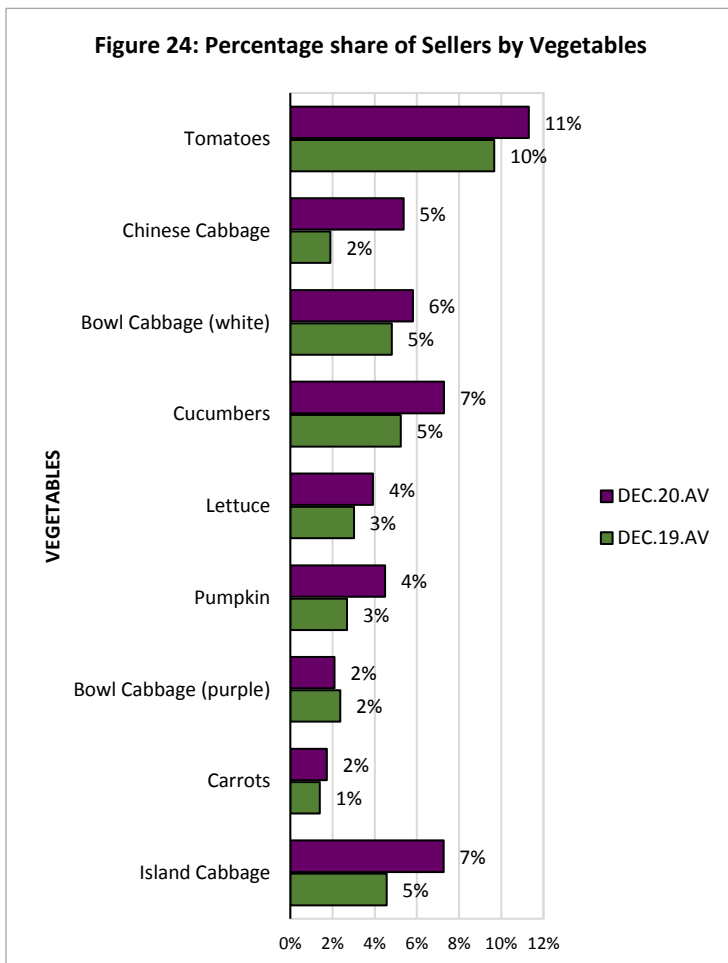


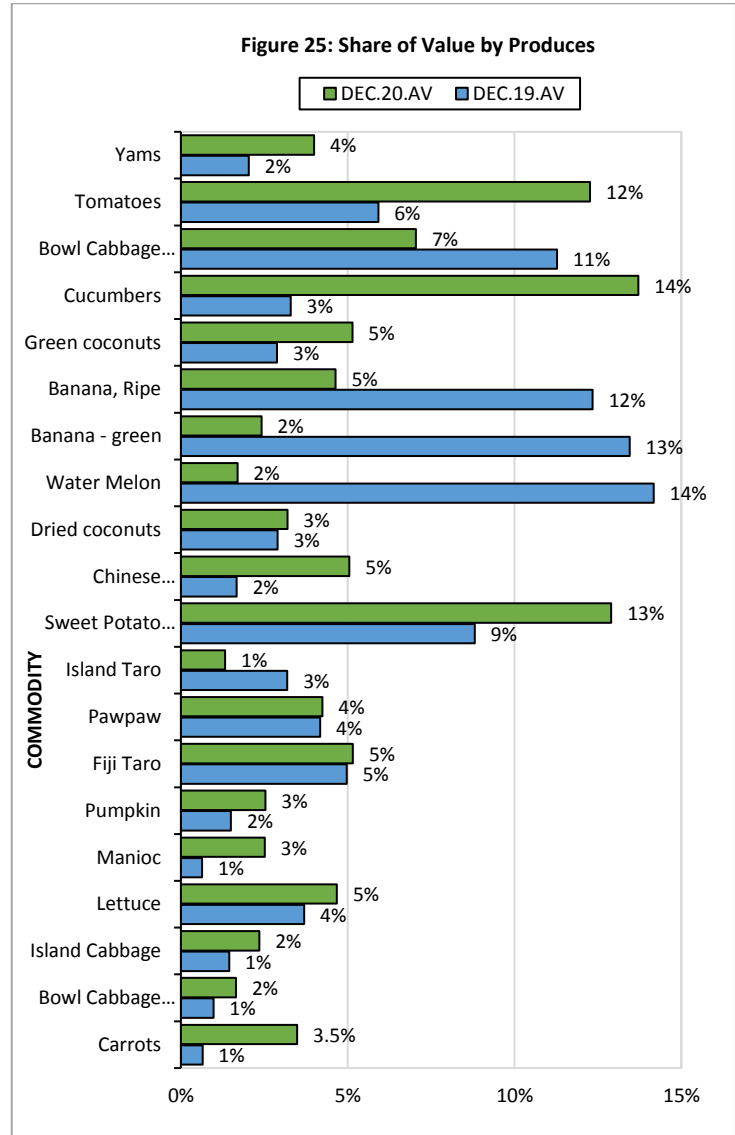
Figure 24: Percentage share of Sellers by Vegetables



VALUE OF SUPPLIES

The average value of commodities at the Port Vila Market in the referenced quarter is VT920,000 an increase of 49 Percent over September quarter of 2020 and a decrease of -64 percent compared to same quarter of year 2019. (Refer to table 3).

Figure 25: Share of Value by Produces



Cucumber recorded the largest share of value at 14 percent. This is an increase of VT61,000 over the previous quarter and an increase of VT42,000 when compared to the same quarter of 2019. Kumala (Sweet Potato) registered the second highest share in value of commodity at 13 percent in December quarter of 2020. This is an increase in VT65,000 over the previous quarter and a decrease in VT106,000 in the same quarter of 2019. Tomato contributed 12 percent share in the overall value of commodity in the quarter under review. This is an increase of VT40,000 over the previous quarter and a decrease of VT38,000 in the same quarter of 2019.

bowl Cabbage contributed 7 percent share in the overall value of commodity in the quarter under review. This is an increase of VT11,000 over the previous quarter and a decrease of VT222,000 over the same quarter of the previous year.

The rest of the commodities contributed 5 percent share or less in market produce in value in the quarter under review.

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 2021

May 21st 2021

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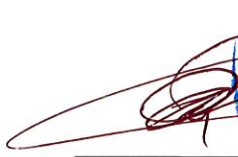
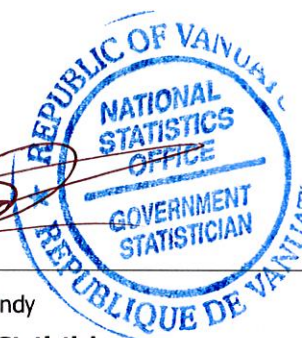


Mr. KAP Calo Andy
Government Statistician

Table 1: Quantity Supplied (in kilograms)

PRODUCE	DEC.16.AV	DEC.19.AV	MAR.20.AV	JUN.20.AV	SEP.20.AV	DEC.20.AV	Dec-20	
							% chng from prev qtr	% chng from DEC19
Fiji Taro	5	855	58	19	205	386	88	-55
Island Taro	408	539	407	34	77	64	-16	-88
Manioc	149	287	326	79	304	412	36	43
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	545	2920	1254	34	724	1567	116	-46
Yam	14	308	404	85	195	156	-20	-49
Banana - green	148	3385	1209	51	164	266	63	-92
Banana, Ripe	199	2163	1772	32	131	415	217	-81
Pawpaw	63	1141	803	7	167	423	154	-63
Water Melon	407	1828	803	0	222	108	-51	-94
Bowl Cabbage (white)	69	1991	60	27	578	634	10	-68
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	7	126	2	4	85	75	-12	-41
Carrot	10	78	6	0	35	119	241	52
Chinese Cabbage	5	212	36	177	346	281	-19	32
Cucumber	28	562	321	123	552	686	24	22
Pumpkin	2	328	101	6	242	334	38	2
Island Cabbage	90	159	261	74	83	142	71	-11
Lettuce	3	216	3	24	125	182	45	-16
Tomato	42	933	79	4	338	519	54	-44
Dried coconut	221	1369	1323	87	250	527	111	-61
Green coconut	207	637	500	23	158	468	197	-27

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

PRODUCE	DEC.16.AV	DEC.19.AV	MAR.20.AV	JUN.20.AV	SEP.20.AV	DEC.20.AV	% chng from	
							prev qtr	DEC19
Fiji Taro	130	148	94	121	116	123	6	-17
Island Taro	206	151	214	0	169	190	13	26
Manioc	58	56	36	116	96	56	-41	0
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	53	77	68	63	74	76	3	-1
Yam	241	169	179	0	212	235	11	39
Banana - green	93	101	79	69	88	83	-5	-18
Banana, Ripe	54	145	130	14	77	103	33	-29
Pawpaw	41	93	110	17	110	92	-16	-1
Water Melon	156	197	218	0	247	144	-41	-27
Bowl Cabbage (white)	218	144	290	247	94	102	9	-29
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	234	198	35	0	142	204	43	3
Carrot	188	213	297	0	389	270	-31	27
Chinese Cabbage	140	201	481	121	136	166	22	-18
Cucumber	192	149	364	269	118	184	56	23
Pumpkin	124	117	152	0	93	70	-25	-40
Island Cabbage	55	231	155	135	171	152	-11	-34
Lettuce	505	435	470	332	223	237	6	-46
Tomato	199	162	286	0	216	218	1	35
Dried coconut	37	54	49	163	54	56	3	3
Green coconut	99	115	75	0	114	101	-11	-12

Table 3: Value of Supplies (in Vatu thousands)

PRODUCE	DEC.16.AV	DEC.19.AV	MAR.20.AV	JUN.20.AV	SEP.20.AV	DEC.20.AV	% chng from prev qtr	% chng from DEC19
Fiji Taro	1	127	5	2	24	47	99	-62
Island Taro	84	81	87	0	13	12	-6	-85
Manioc	9	16	12	9	29	23	-21	44
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	29	224	85	2	53	119	123	-47
Yam	3	52	72	0	41	37	-11	-29
Banana - green	14	343	95	4	14	22	54	-94
Banana, Ripe	11	314	231	0	10	43	967	-86
Pawpaw	3	106	88	0	18	39	113	-86
Water Melon	64	361	175	0	55	16	-71	-96
Bowl Cabbage (white)	15	287	17	7	54	65	19	-77
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	2	25	0	0	12	15	26	-39
Carrot	2	17	2	0	14	32	137	93
Chinese Cabbage	1	43	17	21	47	46	-1	9
Cucumber	5	84	117	33	65	126	94	50
Pumpkin	0	38	15	0	23	23	4	-39
Island Cabbage	5	37	40	10	14	22	53	-41
Lettuce	1	94	2	8	28	43	54	-54
Tomato	8	151	22	0	73	113	55	-25
Dried coconut	8	74	64	14	14	29	116	-25
Green coconut	21	73	38	0	18	47	164	-36
	285	2547	1185	111	619	920	49	-64

**on the days surveyed*

Table 4: Volume Index (2016 = 100)

PRODUCE	DEC.16.AV	DEC.19.AV	MAR.20.AV	JUN.20.AV	SEP.20.AV	DEC.20.AV	% chng from prev qtr	% chng from DEC19
Fiji Taro	7	1151	79	25	277	519	88	-55
Island Taro	74	98	74	6	14	12	-16	-88
Manioc	28	54	61	15	57	77	36	43
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	57	306	131	4	76	164	116	-46
Yam	6	123	161	34	78	63	-20	-49
Banana - green	58	1328	474	20	64	104	63	-92
Banana, Ripe	46	498	408	7	30	96	217	-81
Pawpaw	11	201	141	1	29	75	154	-63
Water Melon	91	408	179	0	50	24	-51	-94
Bowl Cabbage (white)	22	644	19	9	187	205	10	-68
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	14	238	4	8	159	140	-12	-41
Carrot	12	100	8	0	44	152	241	52
Chinese Cabbage	1	39	7	32	64	52	-19	32
Cucumber	8	164	94	36	161	200	24	22
Pumpkin	5	729	225	13	538	742	38	2
Island Cabbage	53	93	153	43	49	83	71	-11
Lettuce	6	484	8	54	280	406	45	-16
Tomato	21	471	40	2	170	262	54	-44
Dried coconut	34	211	203	13	38	81	111	-61
Green coconut	67	206	162	8	51	151	197	-27
	38	305	133	15	84	122	45	-60

Table 5: Price Index (2016 = 100)

PRODUCE	DEC.16.AV	DECT.19.AV	MAR.20.AV	JUN.20.AV	SEP.20.AV	DEC.20.AV	% chng from prev qtr	% chng from DEC19
Fiji Taro	95	108	68	88	85	90	6	-17
Island Taro	111	81	115	0	91	102	13	26
Manioc	104	101	65	211	174	102	-41	0
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	73	105	93	86	101	104	3	-1
Yam	107	75	80	0	94	105	11	39
Banana - green	78	85	67	58	74	70	-5	-18
Banana, Ripe	42	113	101	11	60	80	33	-29
Pawpaw	51	118	139	22	139	117	-16	-1
Water Melon	85	107	118	0	134	78	-41	-27
Bowl Cabbage (white)	100	66	133	113	43	47	9	-29
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	112	94	17	0	68	97	43	3
Carrot	114	129	180	0	236	164	-31	27
Chinese Cabbage	105	151	360	91	102	124	22	-18
Cucumber	96	74	182	134	59	92	56	23
Pumpkin	86	80	104	0	64	48	-25	-40
Island Cabbage	25	106	71	62	78	70	-11	-34
Lettuce	97	83	90	64	43	45	6	-46
Tomato	64	52	92	0	69	70	1	35
Dried coconut	66	96	87	291	97	100	3	3
Green coconut	74	87	57	0	86	76	-11	-12
	83	96	126	57	93	91	-2	-5

Table 6: Number of Sellers

PRODUCE	DEC.16.AV	DEC.19.AV	MAR.20.AV	JUN.20.AV	SEP.20.AV	DEC.20.AV	% chng from prev qtr	% chng from DEC19
Fiji Taro	0	12	3	1	4	9	107	-23
Island Taro	1	9	3	1	3	3	12	-64
Manioc	3	8	8	2	5	9	77	12
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	3	25	17	1	9	19	116	-21
Yam	1	8	8	2	6	6	-8	-29
Banana - green	6	51	46	3	9	15	65	-70
Banana, Ripe	6	68	65	2	9	18	105	-73
Pawpaw	3	57	43	2	14	24	74	-58
Water Melon	1	4	6	0	0	1	216	-76
Bowl Cabbage (white)	1	22	2	1	14	16	15	-28
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	0	11	1	0	6	6	6	-47
Carrot	1	7	1	0	3	5	69	-26
Chinese Cabbage	0	9	3	6	17	15	-14	68
Cucumber	1	24	13	4	20	20	1	-17
Pumpkin	1	13	3	1	9	12	38	-1
Island Cabbage	5	21	30	5	13	20	58	-5
Lettuce	1	14	0	2	12	11	-11	-23
Tomato	3	45	13	1	24	31	31	-30
Dried coconut	3	21	19	2	7	14	100	-32
Green coconut	4	36	21	7	11	21	92	-42
	43	464	304	41	195	276	42	-40