

# STATISTICAL UPDATE: PORT VILA CENTRAL MARKET SURVEY

## DECEMBER 2022

Release Date: 21<sup>st</sup> April 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:

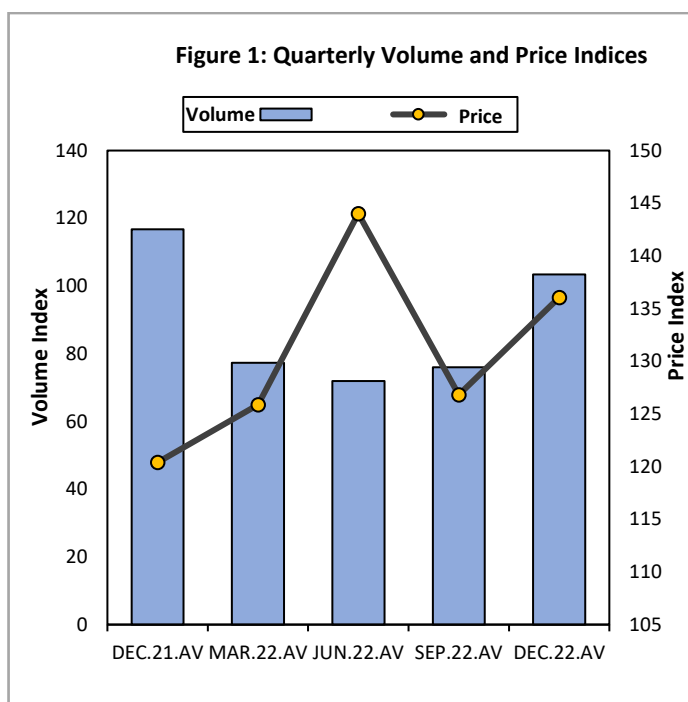
The Port Vila Market Survey of December quarter of 2022 showed an overall Volume increase of 36 percent on the supply of commodities while the overall price increased by 2 percent compared to the previous quarter.

- ◆ Increase in the volume of staple produce, Fruits produce, and Vegetables produce supplied to the market contributed to the increase in overall volume index compared to previous quarter.
- ◆ The value of commodities increased by 19 percent at VT1.1 million.
- ◆ An average of 253 sellers was recorded for the quarter under review.

### OVERVIEW

The Port Vila Market Survey in December quarter of 2022 showed an overall volume increase of 36 percent compared to the previous quarter. Staple produces, Fruits produces and Vegetables produces contributed to the increase in the overall volume. (Refer to table 1 & 4).

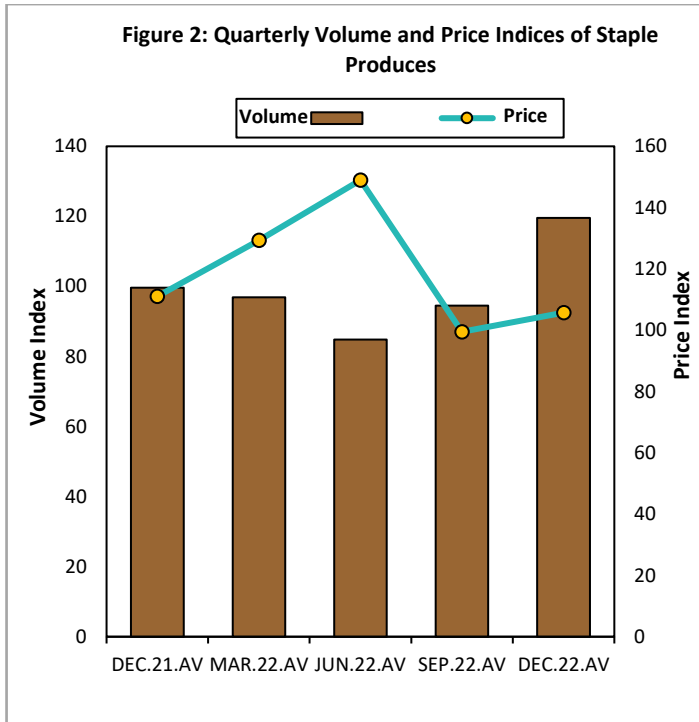
The overall price increased by 2 percent compared to the previous quarter. Staple produces, Fruits produces, and Vegetable produces contributed to the increase in overall price. (Refer to table 2 & 5).



### STAPLE FOOD PRODUCES

The supply of Staple food produces increased by 26 percent when compared to the previous quarter, while the average price also increased by 6 percent in the same quarter. Commodities that contributed to the increase in volume were Sweet Kumala at 624 kilograms, Fiji Taro at 190 kilograms, Banana Green at 188 kilograms and Dried coconut at 33 kilograms.

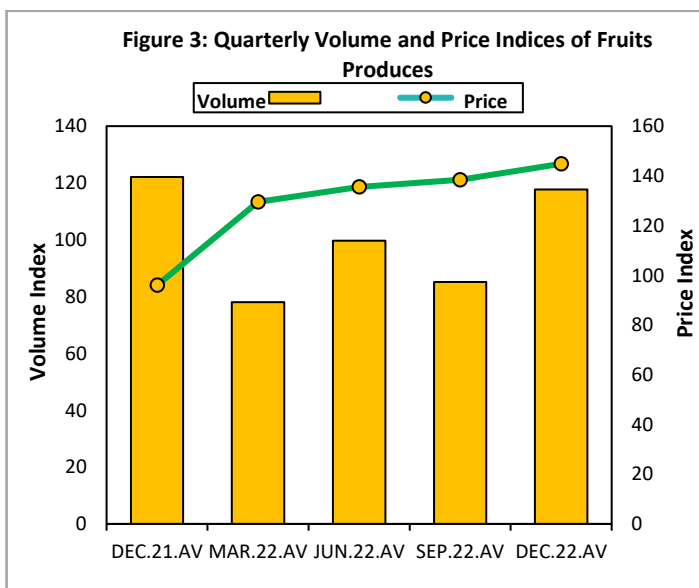
When compared to the same quarter of the previous year, the volume of Staple food increased by 20 percent, while its weighted average price decreased by -5 percent. (Refer to table 1 & 2).



**FRUIT PRODUCES**

An overview of Fruits supplied to Port Vila Central Market in the fourth quarter of 2022 showed an overall increase of 38 percent compared to the previous quarter. Fruits that contributed to the increase in volume were, Watermelon at 561 Kilograms, Banana ripe at 95 Kilograms and Pawpaw at 41 kilograms. The average price per kilograms of fruits produced increased by 5 percent in the quarter under review.

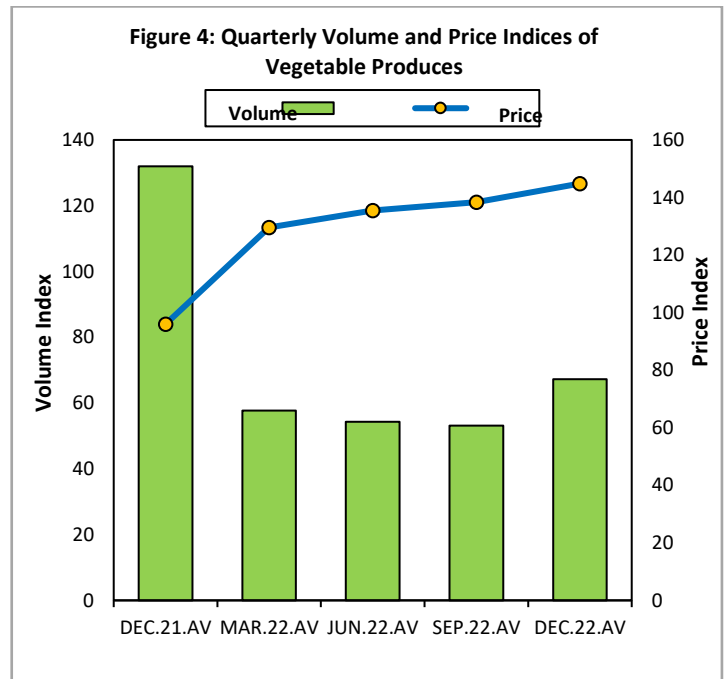
When compared to the same quarter of the previous year, the quantity supplied of fruits to the Central Market decreased by -4 percent and the average price per kilograms increased by 51 percent. (Refer to table 1 & 2).



**VEGETABLE PRODUCES**

The supply of Vegetables to the Port Vila Central Market in December quarter of 2022 recorded an overall increase of 27 percent and the average price per kilograms increased by 10 percent compared to the previous quarter. Vegetables that contribute to the increase in vegetables supplies includes, Bowl cabbage white at 129 Kilograms, Pumpkin at 99 Kilograms, Tomato at 54 Kilograms, Bowl cabbage purple at 26 Kilograms, carrot at 15 Kilograms and Cucumber at 9 Kilograms.

When compared to the same quarter of the previous year, the supply of vegetables supplied to the market decreased by -49 percent while the average weighted price of vegetables increased by 52 percent. (Refer to table 1 & 2).

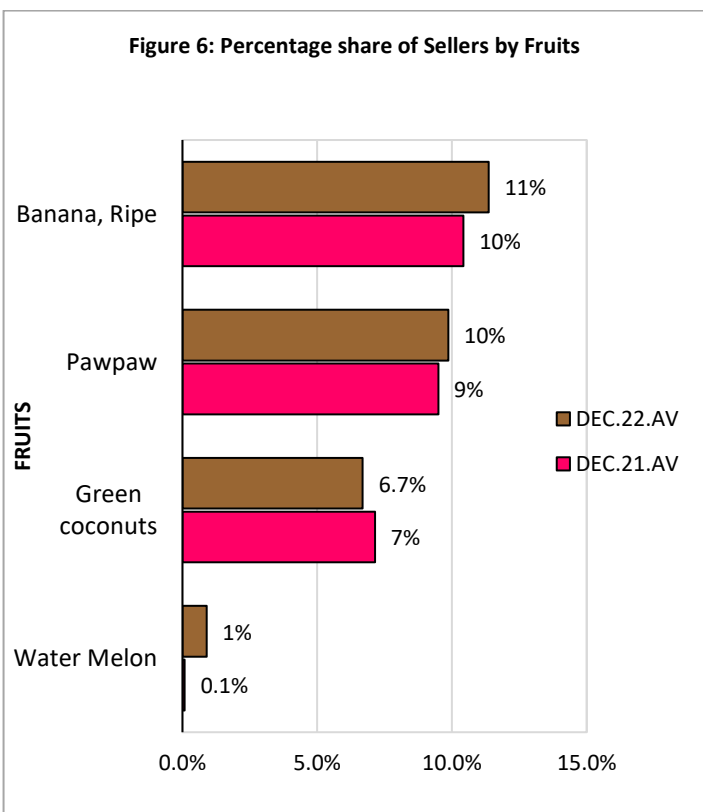
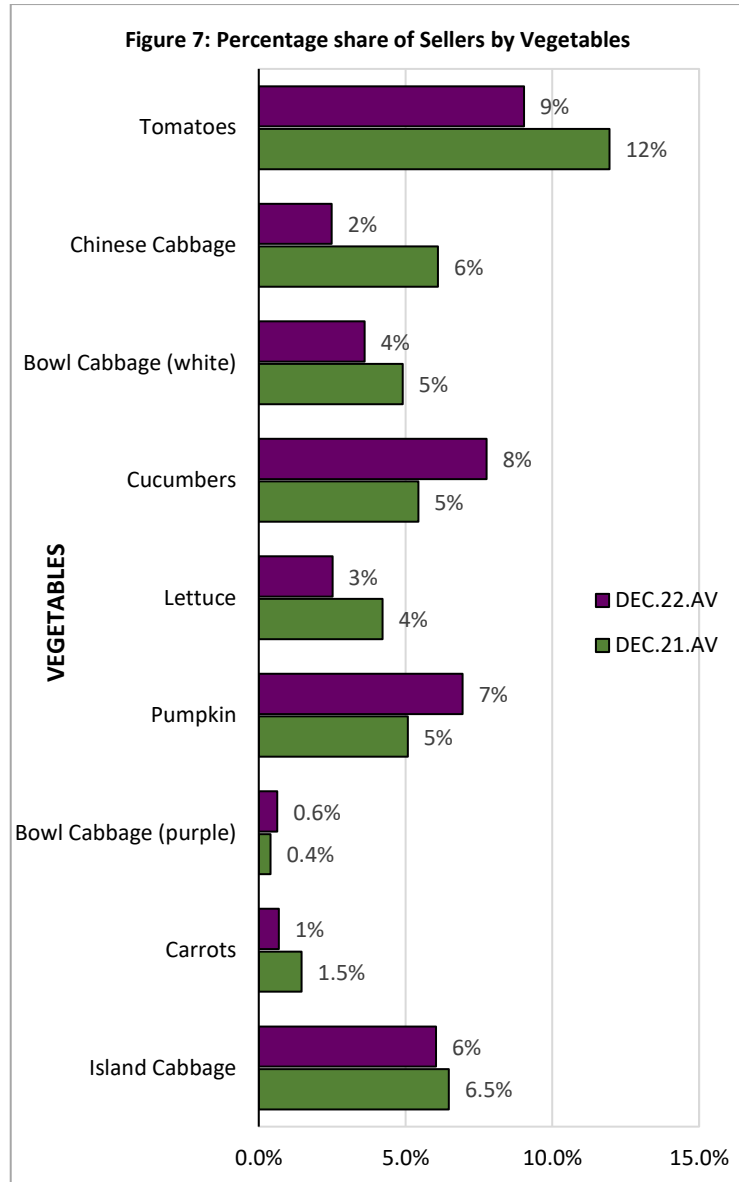
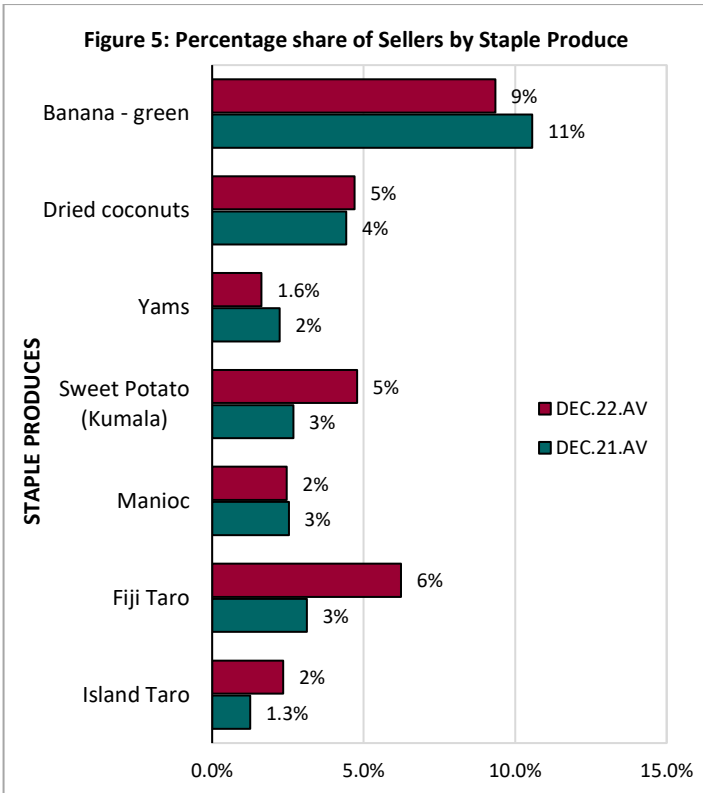


**SELLERS PER COMMODITY GROUPS**

December quarter of 2022 recorded a total of 253 sellers<sup>1</sup> at the Port Vila Central Market which is an increase of 72 vendors compared to the previous quarter and a decrease of 108 vendors when compared to the same quarter of the previous year.

When compared to the previous quarter, Fruits produce vendors increased by 90 percent, Vegetables food vendors increased by 27 percent and Staple produce vendors increased by 25 percent in the quarter under review.

When compared to September quarter of 2021, Staple food vendors decreased by -18 percent, Fruit supply vendors decreased by -26 percent and Vegetable vendors decreased by -40 percent. (Refer to table 6).



**VALUE OF SUPPLIES**

The average value of commodities at the Port Vila Central Market in the quarter under review recorded a value of VT1.1 million. This is an overall increase of 19 percent compared to the previous quarter and a decrease of -4 percent in the same quarter of the previous year. (Refer to table 3)

<sup>1</sup> 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.

**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 2023

May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**PROVINCIAL STATISTICS OFFICES**

**Sanma Office**

PO Box 273  
MFEM Building,  
Luganville, SANTO  
Tel/Fax: (678) 36542

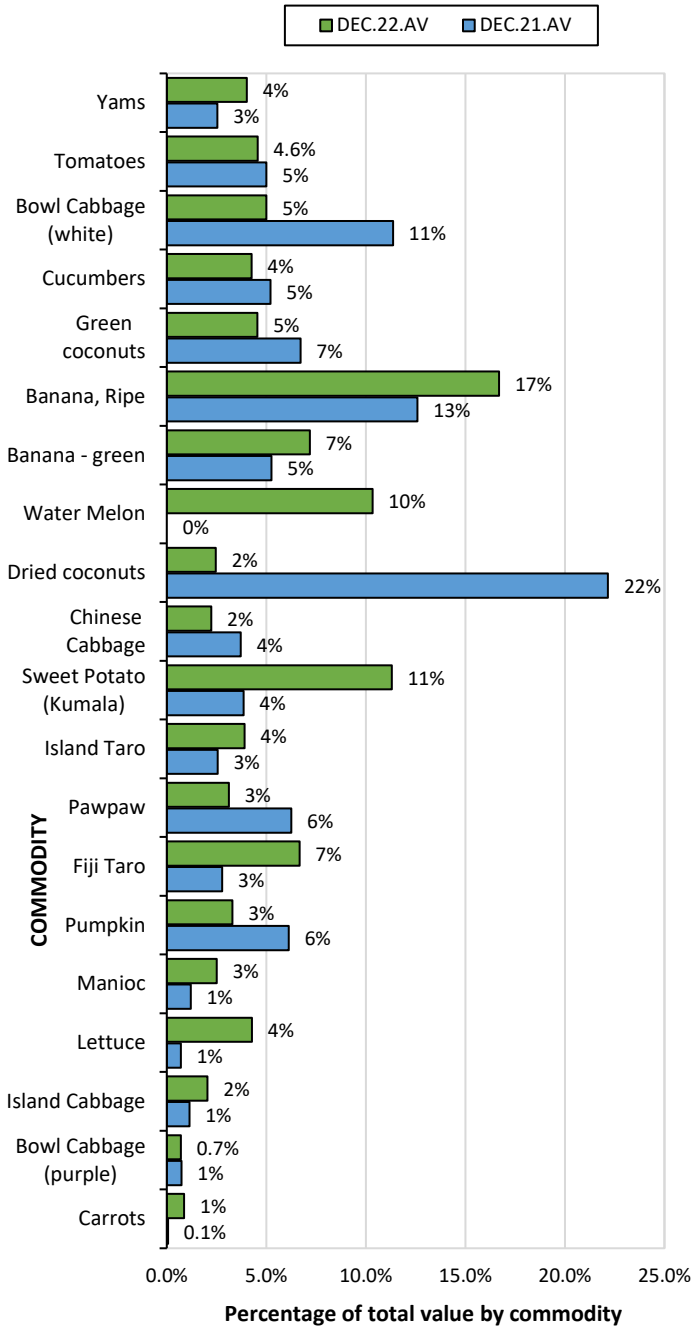
**Tafea Office**

MFEM Building,  
Isangel TANNA  
Tel: (678) 88014  
Ext/VOIP: 8361

**Malampa Office**

MFEM Building,  
Lakatoro, MALEKULA  
Tel: (678) 48400  
Ext/VIOP: 7475

**Figure 8: Share of Value by Produces**



Staple Food registered the largest share in value at 38 percent. Staple produce increased by VT89,000 over the previous quarter and decreased of VT46,000 compared to the same quarter of the previous year. Fruits produce registered the second highest share in value at 35 percent. Fruits increased by VT49,000 over the previous quarter and increased by VT89,000 over the same quarter of the previous year. Vegetables produce shared the least in value at 27 percent. Vegetables produced increased by VT38,000 over the previous quarter but decreased by VT93,000 over the same quarter of the previous year.



Mr. Benuel LENGE  
**Chief Statistician**

## QUARTERLY AVERAGE

Table 1: Quantity Supplied (in kilograms)							Dec-22	
PRODUCE	2016.AVE	DEC.21.AV	MAR.22.AV	JUN.22.AV	SEP.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	% chng from prev qtr	% chng from DEC 21
<b>STAPLE PRODUCE</b>	<b>467</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>20</b>
Fiji Taro	74	292	211	317	484	674	39	131
Island Taro	550	188	167	214	305	209	-31	11
Manioc	534	260	309	252	424	342	-19	31
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	954	476	473	334	537	1161	116	144
Yam	250	166	117	157	230	191	-17	15
Banana - green	255	962	1083	835	543	731	35	-24
Dried coconut	650	912	807	666	567	600	6	-34
<b>FRUITS</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>537</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>518</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>-4</b>
Banana, Ripe	435	1124	555	913	967	1063	10	-5
Pawpaw	568	313	253	364	147	188	28	-40
Water Melon	448	152	294	0	0	561	0	268
Green coconut	309	559	271	478	383	260	-32	-54
<b>VEGETABLE PRODUCE</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>-49</b>
Bowl Cabbage (white)	309	944	328	252	95	225	136	-76
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	53	21	27	18	5	32	482	55
Carrot	78	29	16	10	9	23	175	-20
Chinese Cabbage	543	121	31	133	179	133	-26	10
Cucumber	343	515	378	292	171	180	5	-65
Pumpkin	45	275	84	98	181	280	55	2
Island Cabbage	171	120	44	68	141	136	-4	13
Lettuce	45	47	23	13	101	71	-29	52
Tomato	198	284	99	85	66	120	82	-58

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

PRODUCE	2016.AVE	DEC.21.AV	MAR.22.AV	JUN.22.AV	SEP.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	% chng from prev qtr	% chng from DEC21
<b>STAPLE PRODUCE</b>	<b>121.41</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>-5</b>
Fiji Taro	137.18	111	125	130	99	110	12	0
Island Taro	185.86	159	210	236	172	208	21	31
Manioc	55.14	54	53	80	75	82	9	52
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	73.13	95	92	155	106	109	3	15
Yam	224.09	179	386	378	221	234	6	31
Banana - green	118.47	64	85	117	130	110	-15	72
Dried coconut	56	283	149	171	44	46	4	-84
<b>FRUITS</b>	<b>131.34</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>51</b>
Banana, Ripe	128.86	131	209	297	194	175	-10	34
Pawpaw	78.85	233	159	231	228	185	-19	-21
Water Melon	184.57	0	205	0	0	206	0	0
Green coconut	133.09	140	108	184	306	196	-36	39
<b>VEGETABLE PRODUCE</b>	<b>236.06</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>52</b>
Bowl Cabbage (white)	218.28	140	231	0	382	248	-35	77
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	209.97	420	122	191	0	248	0	-41
Carrot	164.8	23	20	33	235	414	76	1675
Chinese Cabbage	133.48	357	155	195	170	187	10	-48
Cucumber	200.67	118	183	229	340	263	-23	123
Pumpkin	145.18	260	145	183	128	131	2	-49
Island Cabbage	218.16	110	128	191	176	168	-5	52
Lettuce	521.8	174	432	707	594	667	12	284
Tomato	312.23	206	619	656	469	425	-9	107

\*on the days surveyed

Table 3: Value of Supplies (in Vatu thousands)

PRODUCE	Total Value 2016	DEC.21.AV	MAR.22.AV	JUN.22.AV	SEP.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	% chng from prev qtr	% chng from DEC 21
<b>STAPLE PRODUCE</b>	<b>1352.9</b>	<b>471</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>434</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>-10</b>
Fiji Taro	38.6	32	27	41	48	74	56	130
Island Taro	422.4	30	35	50	53	44	-17	46
Manioc	113.8	14	16	20	32	28	-12	99
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	281.1	45	43	52	57	126	122	180
Yam	216	30	45	59	51	45	-12	51
Banana - green	130.3	61	92	97	70	80	14	31
Dried coconut	150.8	258	120	114	25	27	10	-89
<b>FRUITS</b>	<b>946.1</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>443</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>30</b>
Banana, Ripe	256.3	147	116	271	188	186	-1	27
Pawpaw	206	73	40	84	33	35	4	-52
Water Melon	315.7	0	60	0	0	115	0	0
Green coconut	168.2	78	29	88	117	51	-57	-35
<b>VEGETABLE PRODUCE</b>	<b>1421.3</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>-24</b>
Bowl Cabbage (white)	184.1	132	76	0	36	56	53	-58
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	61.4	9	3	3	0	8	0	-9
Carrot	65.8	1	0	0	2	10	384	1310
Chinese Cabbage	309.5	43	5	26	31	25	-18	-42
Cucumber	269.5	61	69	67	58	47	-18	-22
Pumpkin	27.5	71	12	18	23	37	58	-49
Island Cabbage	166.4	13	6	13	25	23	-8	72
Lettuce	95.3	8	10	9	60	48	-21	484
Tomato	241.9	58	61	56	31	51	65	-13
	3720.4	1166	866	1070	939	1115	19	-4

\*on the days surveyed

Table 4: Volume Index (2016 = 100)

PRODUCE	2016 Weights	DEC.21.AV	MAR.22.AV	JUN.22.AV	SEP.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	% chng from prev qtr	% chng from DEC 21
<b>STAPLE PRODUCE</b>	<b>0.36</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>20</b>
Fiji Taro	0.01	394	284	426	652	908	39	131
Island Taro	0.11	34	30	39	55	38	-31	11
Manioc	0.03	49	58	47	79	64	-19	31
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	0.08	50	50	35	56	122	116	144
Yam	0.06	66	47	63	92	76	-17	15
Banana - green	0.04	377	425	328	213	287	35	-24
Dried coconut	0.04	140	124	102	87	92	6	-34
<b>FRUITS</b>	<b>0.25</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>-4</b>
Banana, Ripe	0.07	259	128	140	149	245	64	-5
Pawpaw	0.06	55	45	83	33	33	-1	-40
Water Melon	0.08	34	66	0	0	125	0	268
Green coconut	0.05	180	88	84	67	84	24	-54
<b>VEGETABLE PRODUCE</b>	<b>0.38</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>-49</b>
Bowl Cabbage (white)	0.05	305	106	44	17	73	333	-76
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	0.02	39	51	4	1	60	4804	55
Carrot	0.02	38	21	3	3	30	990	-20
Chinese Cabbage	0.08	22	6	67	90	25	-73	10
Cucumber	0.07	150	110	94	55	53	-5	-65
Pumpkin	0.01	610	186	184	340	621	83	2
Island Cabbage	0.04	70	26	87	181	79	-56	13
Lettuce	0.03	105	52	2	19	160	759	52
Tomato	0.07	143	50	25	19	61	216	-58
	1	117	77	72	76	103	36	-11

**Table 5: Price Index (2016 = 100)**

PRODUCE	2016 Weights	DEC.21.AV	MAR.22.AV	JUN.22.AV	SEP.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	% chng from prev qtr	% chng from DEC 21
<b>STAPLE PRODUCE</b>	<b>0.36</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>-5</b>
Fiji Taro	0.01	81	91	95	72	80	12	0
Island Taro	0.11	85	113	127	93	112	21	31
Manioc	0.03	98	96	145	136	148	9	52
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	0.08	129	125	211	145	148	3	15
Yam	0.06	80	172	169	99	104	6	31
Banana - green	0.04	54	71	99	109	93	-15	72
Dried coconut	0.04	506	265	306	79	82	4	-84
<b>FRUITS</b>	<b>0.25</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>51</b>
Banana, Ripe	0.07	101	162	231	150	136	-10	34
Pawpaw	0.06	296	201	293	289	234	-19	-21
Water Melon	0.08	0	111	0	0	111	0	0
Green coconut	0.05	105	81	138	230	147	-36	39
<b>VEGETABLE PRODUCE</b>	<b>0.38</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>44</b>
Bowl Cabbage (white)	0.05	64	106	0	175	114	-35	77
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	0.02	200	58	91	0	118	0	-41
Carrot	0.02	14	12	20	143	251	76	1675
Chinese Cabbage	0.08	267	116	146	128	140	10	-48
Cucumber	0.07	59	91	114	170	131	-23	123
Pumpkin	0.01	179	100	126	88	90	2	-49
Island Cabbage	0.04	51	59	88	81	77	-5	52
Lettuce	0.03	33	83	135	114	128	12	284
Tomato	0.07	66	198	210	150	136	-9	107
	1	120	126	144	127	130	2	8

**Table 6: Number of Sellers**

PRODUCE	2016 AVE	DEC.21.AV	MAR.22.AV	JUN.22.AV	SEP.22.AV	DEC.22.AV	% chng from prev qtr	% chng from DEC 21
<b>STAPLE PRODUCE</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>-18</b>
Fiji Taro	3	11	2	6	12	16	35	40
Island Taro	3	5	2	4	6	6	-4	31
Manioc	8	9	3	6	7	6	-15	-32
Sweet Potato (Kumala)	11	10	3	3	5	12	127	25
Yam	4	8	2	4	5	4	-17	-49
Banana - green	9	38	14	12	17	24	39	-38
Dried coconut	10	16	6	9	12	12	4	-26
<b>FRUITS</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>-26</b>
Banana, Ripe	15	38	23	10	16	29	80	-24
Pawpaw	14	34	9	5	7	25	241	-27
Water Melon	1	0	2	0	0	2	0	0
Green coconut	5	26	9	13	15	17	13	-34
<b>VEGETABLE PRODUCE</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>-40</b>
Bowl Cabbage (white)	4	18	1	0	4	9	128	-49
Bowl Cabbage (purple)	2	1	0	0	0	2	694	9
Carrot	1	5	1	0	18	2	-90	-67
Chinese Cabbage	16	22	0	9	8	6	-23	-71
Cucumber	10	20	3	8	12	20	62	0
Pumpkin	2	18	1	3	7	18	145	-4
Island Cabbage	11	23	3	14	12	15	29	-35
Lettuce	4	15	5	0	9	6	-27	-58
Tomato	7	43	2	4	9	23	164	-47
	138	362	89	108	181	253	40	-30