



CENTRAL BANK OF SAMOA

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PLEASE ADDRESS CORRESPONDENCE TO THE GOVERNOR

VISITOR EARNINGS & REMITTANCES REPORT
NOVEMBER 2021

This report is a monthly release of the latest available indicators on the tourism sector and private remittances, with information sourced from the Central Bank, Samoa Bureau of Statistics and the Ministry of Customs and Revenue.

Report No.5: 2021/22

November 2021

Visitor Arrivals

With the continuous closure of Samoa's international borders for over twenty months, primarily for safeguarding and protecting of its people from the COVID-19 pandemic allowing only scheduled repatriation flights merely for returning residents, has continued to severely affect the tourism sector. In this regard, tourist arrivals and earnings remained at zero for the month.

Remittances

Total inflow of remittances expanded by 42.7 percent (or \$20.3 million) to \$67.9 million when compared to the same month last year but decreased by 1.4 percent (or \$0.9 million) over the previous month.

Largely underpinning this overall increase over the year were higher transfers from all its main markets; 1Australia (up by \$8.9 million), 2New Zealand (up by \$7.9 million), 3United States (up by \$1.8 million), 4'Others' (up by \$1.2 million) and 5American Samoa (up by \$0.5 million). By recipient, funds for 1'Family and Households' went up by \$20.1 million, 2'Hand carried cash' (up by \$0.24 million), 3'In kind' (up by \$0.22 million) and 4'Non-Profit Institutions Serving Households' (NPISH) (up by \$0.15 million).

As a result, total remittances in the first five months of FY2021/2022 recorded an increase of 13.3 percent (or \$35.4 million) to \$301.3 million over the

same period last year. Largely responsible for the overall increase were higher transfers from 1Australia (up by \$17.6 million), 2New Zealand (up by \$11.4 million), 3United States (up by \$9.5 million) and 4American Samoa (up by \$1.7 million). In terms of recipients, total funds received by 'Families and Households', 'Hand carried cash' and 'In Kind' jumped by \$41.7 million, \$6.8 million and \$2.6 million in that order, offsetting reductions in NPISH and 'Others'.

The monthly share of total remittances inflows received directly through Money Transfers operators (MTO's) decreased to 81.8 percent from 91.2 percent in November 2020 whilst funds received through commercial banks rose to 18.2 percent from 8.8 percent last year.

The average monthly cost of sending NZD\$200.00 to Samoa fell to 8.53 percent from 10.88 percent in November 2020 while the average cost of sending AUD\$200.00 to Samoa also decreased to 6.20 percent from 8.77 percent over the year.

CENTRAL BANK OF SAMOA
21st January 2022

# VISITOR EARNINGS & REMITTANCES REPORT

November 2021

**Table 1. TOURISM EARNINGS, AVERAGE EXPENDITURE AND TOURISM PRICE INDEX**

	Nov-19	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21
<b>Total arrivals (persons)</b>	<b>11,907</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total arrivals incl. cruise ships (1)</b>	<b>13,190</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Arrivals, by market (persons)</b>														
American Samoa	673	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Australia	2,539	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Europe	484	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
New Zealand	4,921	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
USA	1,102	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Countries	2,188	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cruise ships	1,283	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Arrivals, by purpose (persons)</b>														
Holiday	3,774	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
VFR	3,268	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Business & Conference	1,389	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sport	95	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	3,381	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cruise ships	1,283	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total earnings (tala million)</b>	<b>41.07</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Earnings, by market (tala million)</b>														
American Samoa	1.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Australia	12.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Europe	0.71	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
New Zealand	17.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
USA	3.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Countries	6.69	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cruise ships	0.19	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Earnings, by purpose (tala million)</b>														
Holiday	11.83	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
VFR	17.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Business & Conference	6.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sport	0.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	5.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cruise ships	0.19	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Average expenditure (tala,per person)</b>	<b>3,449</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Tourism Price Index</b>	<b>159.0</b>	<b>125.2</b>	<b>125.3</b>	<b>125.7</b>	<b>127.8</b>	<b>129.5</b>	<b>129.3</b>	<b>129.9</b>	<b>131.0</b>	<b>132.9</b>	<b>134.8</b>	<b>134.8</b>	<b>135.5</b>	<b>135.6</b>
<b>First Number of Months up to</b>	<b>5 months to Nov 19</b>	<b>5 months to Nov 20</b>	<b>6 months to Dec 20</b>	<b>7 months to Jan 21</b>	<b>8 months to Feb 21</b>	<b>9 months to Mar 21</b>	<b>10 months to Apr 21</b>	<b>11 months to May 21</b>	<b>12 months to June 21</b>	<b>1st month to Aug 21</b>	<b>2 months to Sept 21</b>	<b>3 months to Oct 21</b>	<b>4 months to Nov 21</b>	<b>5 months to Nov 21</b>
<b>Total Visitor Arrivals (persons)</b>	<b>84,799</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Over the past year (%)	11.0%	-100.0%	-100.0%	-100.0%	-100.0%	-100.0%	-100.0%	-100.0%	-100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Past 3 year average	5.4%	8.5%	6.6%	5.5%	4.9%	3.5%	1.3%	-0.4%	-2.4%	-16.8%	-18.5%	-18.8%	-19.1%	-20.2%
Past 5 year average	7.0%	8.0%	6.8%	6.0%	5.5%	4.5%	3.0%	1.5%	0.1%	-9.7%	-11.4%	-12.6%	-13.2%	-13.5%
<b>Arrivals, by market (persons)</b>														
American Samoa	7,077	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Australia	17,294	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Europe	3,058	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
New Zealand	35,722	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
USA	6,315	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Countries	15,333	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cruise ships	1,283	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Arrivals, by purpose (persons)</b>														
Holiday	32,872	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
VFR	27,367	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Business & Conference	7,217	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sport	5,594	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	11,749	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cruise ships	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Visitor Earnings (tala million)</b>	<b>255.54</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
Over the past year (%)	11.4%	-100.0%	-100.0%	-100.0%	-100.0%	-100.0%	-100.0%	-100.0%	-100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Past 3 year average	9.6%	12.7%	4.6%	1.3%	0.9%	-6.3%	-15.3%	-15.5%	-19.4%	-12.6%	-19.1%	-17.8%	-19.5%	-24.0%
Past 5 year average	10.4%	7.6%	6.2%	3.2%	3.5%	-2.5%	-7.2%	-11.6%	-8.4%	-4.7%	-10.0%	-11.9%	-11.5%	-11.2%
<b>Earnings, by market (tala million)</b>														
American Samoa	12.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Australia	62.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Europe	3.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
New Zealand	109.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
USA	18.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other Countries	49.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cruise ships	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Earnings, by purpose (tala million)</b>														
Holiday	95.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
VFR	95.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Business & Conference	24.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sport	19.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	20.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cruise ships	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

# VISITOR EARNINGS & REMITTANCES REPORT

November 2021

Table 2.

## INFLOW OF PRIVATE REMITTANCES

### AMOUNTS IN TALA MILLION

Amount in Tala Millions	Nov-19	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21
<b>By Recipient (Tala Millions)</b>	<b>47.06</b>	<b>47.61</b>	<b>58.16</b>	<b>40.46</b>	<b>42.02</b>	<b>51.90</b>	<b>43.37</b>	<b>53.34</b>	<b>51.59</b>	<b>53.42</b>	<b>57.54</b>	<b>53.47</b>	<b>68.92</b>	<b>67.93</b>
Banknotes	2.74	0.30	0.50	0.09	0.20	0.38	0.16	0.29	0.52	0.47	0.25	0.12	0.47	0.53
Churches, school, Charities	5.02	2.34	4.28	2.99	3.17	3.17	2.21	6.31	3.30	2.55	0.67	0.28	4.66	2.50
Individual/Family/Households	32.83	43.38	51.75	36.28	37.39	42.94	37.32	45.43	45.76	46.47	55.19	51.99	61.92	63.45
In Kind	0.74	0.47	0.62	0.52	0.45	0.68	0.51	0.64	0.48	2.86	0.57	0.55	0.56	0.68
Others	5.73	1.12	1.01	0.58	0.81	4.74	3.17	0.67	1.54	1.07	0.85	0.52	1.31	0.76
<b>By Country (Tala Millions)</b>	<b>47.06</b>	<b>47.61</b>	<b>58.16</b>	<b>40.46</b>	<b>42.02</b>	<b>51.90</b>	<b>43.37</b>	<b>53.34</b>	<b>51.59</b>	<b>53.42</b>	<b>57.54</b>	<b>53.47</b>	<b>68.92</b>	<b>67.93</b>
USA	5.65	6.73	8.16	7.47	5.63	11.65	6.63	9.23	8.83	6.82	8.51	6.09	10.55	8.56
New Zealand	19.63	20.17	25.49	17.51	17.11	22.61	20.35	24.23	22.70	23.09	20.85	22.32	25.61	28.10
Australia	12.84	15.65	17.64	11.94	11.80	13.05	10.93	11.08	13.93	16.86	23.49	21.28	27.13	24.52
American Samoa	2.26	3.24	3.80	2.34	4.37	3.95	3.22	8.19	4.15	4.21	3.93	3.30	4.90	3.75
Others	6.67	1.83	3.08	1.19	3.11	0.65	2.23	0.61	1.99	2.44	0.76	0.48	0.73	3.00
<b>By Channel (%)</b>														
Banks	24.7%	8.8%	9.5%	10.0%	10.9%	9.4%	7.5%	13.6%	19.3%	8.1%	17.4%	16.6%	21.5%	18.2%
Non Banks (1)	75.3%	91.2%	90.5%	90.0%	89.1%	90.6%	92.5%	86.4%	80.7%	91.9%	82.6%	83.4%	78.5%	81.8%
<b>Total Remittances (Tala Millions)</b>	<b>47.06</b>	<b>47.61</b>	<b>58.16</b>	<b>40.46</b>	<b>42.02</b>	<b>51.90</b>	<b>43.37</b>	<b>53.34</b>	<b>51.59</b>	<b>53.42</b>	<b>57.54</b>	<b>53.47</b>	<b>68.92</b>	<b>67.93</b>
<b>First Number of Months up to</b>	<b>5 months</b>	<b>5 months</b>	<b>6 months</b>	<b>7 months</b>	<b>8 months</b>	<b>9 months</b>	<b>10 months</b>	<b>11 months</b>	<b>12 months</b>	<b>1st</b>	<b>2 months</b>	<b>3 months</b>	<b>4 months</b>	<b>5 months</b>
	<b>to Nov 19</b>	<b>to Nov 20</b>	<b>to Dec 20</b>	<b>to Jan 21</b>	<b>to Feb 21</b>	<b>to Mar 21</b>	<b>to April 21</b>	<b>to May 21</b>	<b>to June 21</b>	<b>month</b>	<b>to Aug 21</b>	<b>to Sep 21</b>	<b>to Oct 21</b>	<b>to Nov 21</b>
<b>Total Remittances (Tala Millions)</b>	<b>227.35</b>	<b>265.87</b>	<b>324.04</b>	<b>364.49</b>	<b>406.51</b>	<b>458.42</b>	<b>501.79</b>	<b>555.13</b>	<b>606.72</b>	<b>53.42</b>	<b>110.96</b>	<b>164.43</b>	<b>233.35</b>	<b>301.28</b>
Percentage Change (over same period last year)	8.9%	16.9%	13.9%	10.0%	8.9%	9.1%	9.8%	7.7%	6.9%	-6.1%	-0.5%	1.5%	6.9%	13.3%
3 year average (%)	8.7%	10.4%	10.3%	10.9%	11.5%	11.8%	11.5%	12.3%	12.2%	19.4%	16.7%	15.9%	15.2%	13.4%
5 year average (%)	4.0%	6.7%	5.8%	6.1%	6.1%	6.4%	5.9%	6.4%	6.7%	11.7%	10.8%	10.5%	10.5%	10.4%
<b>By Recipient (Tala Millions)</b>														
Banknotes	24.15	3.88	4.38	4.47	4.66	5.04	5.20	5.49	6.01	2.55	3.21	3.50	8.16	10.65
Churches, school, Charities	24.89	16.36	20.63	23.62	26.80	29.96	32.17	38.49	41.78	0.47	0.73	0.85	1.32	1.86
Individual/Family/Households	162.37	237.36	289.11	325.39	362.79	405.73	443.04	488.47	534.23	46.47	101.66	153.65	215.57	279.02
In Kind	3.29	2.66	3.28	3.80	4.26	4.93	5.45	6.09	6.57	2.86	3.43	3.99	4.55	5.23
Others	12.65	5.62	6.63	7.21	8.01	12.75	15.92	16.59	18.13	1.07	1.93	2.45	3.76	4.52
<b>By Country (Tala Millions)</b>														
USA	39.97	31.04	39.20	46.67	52.30	63.95	70.58	79.81	88.64	6.82	15.33	21.42	31.97	40.54
New Zealand	92.80	108.57	134.06	151.57	168.68	191.30	211.65	235.88	258.58	23.09	43.94	66.26	91.88	119.98
Australia	69.92	95.63	113.27	125.21	137.02	150.07	160.99	172.08	186.01	16.86	40.35	61.63	88.76	113.27
American Samoa	9.69	18.35	22.15	24.49	28.86	32.81	36.03	44.22	48.36	4.21	8.14	11.44	16.34	20.09
Others	14.97	12.28	15.36	16.55	19.65	20.30	22.54	23.14	25.13	2.44	3.20	3.68	4.41	7.41

(1) Includes Money Transfer Operators (MTOs) and Foreign Exchange Dealers (FEDs)

(rev) - Remittances data starting from May 2017 up to December 2018 have been revised to reflect updates and amendments to the international transactions reported by commercial banks and money transfer operators.