



CENTRAL BANK OF SAMOA

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PLEASE ADDRESS CORRESPONDENCE TO THE GOVERNOR

VISITOR EARNINGS & REMITTANCES REPORT
APRIL 2022

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.10: 2021/22

April 2022

Visitor Arrivals

As the closure of Samoa’s international borders continues except for scheduled repatriation flights for only returning Samoan citizens, both tourist arrivals and their earnings remained at zero for the month under review.

Remittances

Total inflow of remittances jumped by 32.7 percent (or \$14.2 million) to \$57.5 million over the year and was 4.9 percent (or \$2.7 million) higher than the previous month.

Despite the adverse effects of COVID-19 on Samoa’s main source markets for remittances, this substantial hike over the same month last year were due to gains in transfers from all its main markets; Australia (up by \$8.9 million), New Zealand (up by \$4.1 million), American Samoa (up by \$0.7 million), United States (up by \$0.4 million) and ‘Others’ (up by \$0.04 million) respectively. In terms of recipients, increased funds were recorded for ‘family and households’, ‘In kind’ and ‘hand-carried cash’ by \$17.2 million, \$0.2 million and \$0.1 million in that order.

As a result, the total inflow of remittances in the first ten months of FY2021/22 was 17.8 percent (or \$89.1 million to \$590.9 million) higher than the same period last year. Underpinning this increase were

improvements in funds from Australia, New Zealand, United States and American Samoa by \$52.6 million, \$27.6 million, \$12.8 million and \$2.2 million in that order. In terms of recipients, gains were recorded for ‘Family and households transfers’ (by \$101.2 million) and ‘In Kind transfers’ (by \$2.8 million).

The monthly share of total remittances inflows received directly through Money Transfers Operators (MTO’s) fell to 84.1 percent from 92.5 percent in April 2021, whereas funds received directly through commercial banks improved to 15.9 percent from 7.5 percent in the same month last year.

The average monthly cost of sending NZD\$200.00 to Samoa was around 8.13 percent of total funds whereas the average cost of sending AUD\$200.00 to Samoa was around 5.97 percent of total funds.

CENTRAL BANK OF SAMOA
6 June 2022

VISITOR EARNINGS & REMITTANCES REPORT

April 2022

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

	Apr-20	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22
Total arrivals (persons)	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	0.00
Total arrivals incl. cruise ships (1)	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	0.00
Arrivals, by market (persons)														
American Samoa	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	0.00
Australia	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	0.00
Europe	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	0.00
New Zealand	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	0.00
USA	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	0.00
Other Countries	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	0.0
Cruise ships	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	0.0
Arrivals, by purpose (persons)														
Holiday	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	0.0
VFR	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	0.0
Business & Conference	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	0.0
Sport	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	0.0
Other	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	0.0
Cruise ships	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	0.0
Total earnings (tala million)	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	0.0
Earnings, by market (tala million)														
American Samoa	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	0.0
Australia	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	0.0
Europe	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	0.0
New Zealand	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	0.0
USA	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	0.0
Other Countries	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	0.0
Cruise ships	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	0.0
Earnings, by purpose (tala million)														
Holiday	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	0.0
VFR	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	0.0
Business & Conference	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	0.0
Sport	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	0.0
Other	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	0.0
Cruise ships	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	0.0
Average expenditure (tala,per person)	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	0.0
Tourism Price Index	132.6	129.4	130.0	131.0	132.9	134.8	134.8	135.5	135.6	137.8	137.4	137.6	138.7	134.3
First Number of Months up to	10months to Apr 20	10 months to Apr 21	11 months to May 21	12 months to June 21	1st month	2 months to Aug 21	3 months to Sept 21	4 months to Oct 21	5 months to Nov 21	6 months to Dec 21	7 months to Jan 22	8 months to Feb 22	9 months to Mar 22	10 months to Apr 22
Total Visitor Arrivals (persons)	124,399	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
Over the past year (%)	-16.4%	-100.0%	-100.0%	-100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Past 3 year average	5.3%	1.3%	-0.4%	-2.4%	-16.8%	-18.5%	-18.8%	-19.1%	-20.2%	-21.9%	-22.7%	-22.9%	-24.6%	-26.3%
Past 5 year average	7.4%	3.0%	1.5%	0.1%	-9.7%	-11.4%	-12.6%	-13.2%	-13.5%	-14.8%	-15.7%	-16.2%	-17.4%	-19.1%
Arrivals, by market (persons)														
American Samoa	8,978	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	28,339	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	4,134	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	53,590	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	8,901	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	20,457	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	1,283	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
Arrivals, by purpose (persons)														
Holiday	47,585	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	44,031	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	9,167	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	5,741	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	17,875	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	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
Total Visitor Earnings (tala million)	375.28	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
Over the past year (%)	-15.8%	-100.0%	-100.0%	-100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Past 3 year average	11.7%	-15.3%	-15.5%	-19.4%	-12.6%	-19.1%	-17.8%	-19.5%	-24.0%	-26.1%	-27.9%	-26.3%	-42.0%	0.0%
Past 5 year average	12.3%	-7.2%	-11.6%	-8.4%	-4.7%	-10.0%	-11.9%	-11.5%	-11.2%	-15.8%	-19.8%	-19.5%	-26.1%	0.0%
Earnings, by market (tala million)														
American Samoa	16.2	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
Australia	102.0	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
Europe	4.7	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
New Zealand	159.3	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
USA	26.0	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	67.0	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
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
Earnings, by purpose (tala million)														
Holiday	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	0.0
VFR	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	0.0
Business & Conference	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	0.0
Sport	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	0.0
Other	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	0.0
Cruise ships	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	0.0

VISITOR EARNINGS & REMITTANCES REPORT

April 2022

Table 2.

INFLOW OF PRIVATE REMITTANCES

AMOUNTS IN TALA MILLION

Amount in Tala Millions	Apr-20	Apr-21	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22
By Recipient (Tala Millions)	36.75	43.37	53.34	51.59	53.42	57.54	53.47	68.92	67.93	79.04	44.09	54.15	54.83	57.54
Banknotes	0.13	0.16	0.29	0.52	0.47	0.25	0.12	0.47	0.53	0.94	0.48	0.16	0.28	0.25
Churches, school, Charities	2.94	2.21	6.31	3.30	2.55	0.67	0.28	4.66	2.50	2.52	2.30	3.93	1.32	1.90
Individual/Family/Households	30.75	37.32	45.43	45.76	46.47	55.19	51.99	61.92	63.45	72.65	37.04	48.87	52.14	54.54
In Kind	0.46	0.51	0.64	0.48	2.86	0.57	0.55	0.56	0.68	0.79	0.38	0.73	0.46	0.68
Others	2.48	3.17	0.67	1.54	1.07	0.85	0.52	1.31	0.76	2.14	3.90	0.45	0.63	0.17
By Country (Tala Millions)	36.75	43.37	53.34	51.59	53.42	57.54	53.47	68.92	67.93	79.04	44.09	54.15	54.83	57.54
USA	7.74	6.63	9.23	8.83	6.82	8.51	6.09	10.55	8.56	10.10	6.58	10.23	8.94	7.04
New Zealand	15.60	20.35	24.23	22.70	23.09	20.85	22.32	25.61	28.10	34.34	17.92	19.47	23.05	24.46
Australia	9.34	10.93	11.08	13.93	16.86	23.49	21.28	27.13	24.52	26.46	15.15	19.50	19.40	19.85
American Samoa	3.00	3.22	8.19	4.15	4.21	3.93	3.30	4.90	3.75	5.86	2.60	2.93	2.79	3.91
Others	1.07	2.23	0.61	1.99	2.44	0.76	0.48	0.73	3.00	2.28	1.84	2.02	0.65	2.27
By Channel (%)														
Banks	17.2%	7.5%	13.6%	19.3%	8.1%	17.4%	16.6%	21.5%	18.2%	14.4%	19.5%	20.5%	15.8%	15.7%
Non Banks (1)	82.8%	92.5%	86.4%	80.7%	91.9%	82.6%	83.4%	78.5%	81.8%	85.6%	80.5%	79.5%	84.2%	84.3%
Total Remittances (Tala Millions)	36.75	43.37	53.34	51.59	53.42	57.54	53.47	68.92	67.93	79.04	44.09	54.15	54.83	57.54
First Number of Months up to	10 months to Apr 20	10 months to April 21	11 months to May 21	12 months to June 21	1st month to Aug 21	2 months to Aug 21	3 months to Sep 21	4 months to Oct 21	5 months to Nov 21	6 months to Dec 21	7 months to Jan 22	8 months to Feb 22	9 months to Mar 22	10 months to Apr 22
Total Remittances (Tala Millions)	457.07	501.79	555.13	606.72	53.42	110.96	164.43	233.35	301.28	380.31	424.41	478.56	533.39	590.93
Percentage Change (over same period last year)	1.7%	9.8%	7.7%	6.9%	-6.1%	-0.5%	1.5%	6.9%	13.3%	17.4%	16.4%	17.7%	16.4%	17.8%
3 year average (%)	11.7%	11.5%	12.3%	12.2%	19.4%	16.7%	15.9%	15.2%	13.4%	11.5%	9.9%	9.2%	8.8%	8.1%
5 year average (%)	6.9%	5.9%	6.4%	6.7%	11.7%	10.8%	10.5%	10.5%	10.4%	9.5%	9.4%	9.2%	9.5%	9.3%
By Recipient (Tala Millions)														
Banknotes	55.16	5.20	5.49	6.01	0.47	0.73	0.85	1.32	1.86	2.79	3.28	3.44	3.71	3.97
Churches, school, Charities	45.48	32.17	38.49	41.78	2.55	3.21	3.50	8.16	10.65	13.17	15.47	19.41	20.73	22.62
Individual/Family/Households	324.31	443.04	488.47	534.23	46.47	101.66	153.65	215.57	279.02	351.66	388.70	437.57	489.71	544.25
In Kind	6.00	5.45	6.09	6.57	2.86	3.43	3.99	4.55	5.23	6.02	6.39	7.13	7.59	8.27
Others	26.13	15.92	16.59	18.13	1.07	1.93	2.45	3.76	4.52	6.67	10.56	11.02	11.65	11.82
By Country (Tala Millions)														
USA	81.84	70.58	79.81	88.64	6.82	15.33	21.42	31.97	40.54	50.64	57.22	67.44	76.38	83.42
New Zealand	192.66	211.65	235.88	258.58	23.09	43.94	66.26	91.88	119.98	154.32	172.24	191.71	214.76	239.21
Australia	131.04	160.99	172.08	186.01	16.86	40.35	61.63	88.76	113.27	139.73	154.88	174.38	193.79	213.64
American Samoa	21.39	36.03	44.22	48.36	4.21	8.14	11.44	16.34	20.09	25.94	28.55	31.48	34.27	38.18
Others	30.15	22.54	23.14	25.13	2.44	3.20	3.68	4.41	7.41	9.69	11.53	13.55	14.20	16.47

(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.