



CENTRAL BANK OF SAMOA

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PLEASE ADDRESS CORRESPONDENCE TO THE GOVERNOR

VISITOR EARNINGS & REMITTANCES REPORT
MAY 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.11: 2021/22

May 2022

Visitor Arrivals

The ongoing closure of Samoa's international borders for the purpose of safeguarding and protecting of its people from the deadly Covid-19 pandemic permitting only scheduled repatriation flights for returning citizens has continued to adversely affect the tourism industry. On that account, both monthly tourist arrivals and earnings continue to remain at zero.

Remittances

Total inflow of remittances recorded an increase of 24.5 percent (or \$13.1 million) to \$66.4 million over the same month last year and was 15.4 percent (or \$8.9 million) higher than the previous month due to the seasonal hike for Mother's Day celebrations and national lockdowns to curb the community spread of COVID-19.

The increase in the remittances over the same month last year was accounted for by higher funds received from Australia (up by \$10.9 million), New Zealand (up by \$3.7 million) and 'Others' (up by \$3.5 million). By recipient, increases were recorded for 'family and households', 'hand-carried cash', 'In-kind' and 'Others' by \$13.5 million, \$1.9 million, \$0.1 million and \$0.02 million in that order.

Similarly, total inflow of remittances in the first eleven months of FY2021/22 jumped by 18.4

percent (or \$102.2 million) to \$657.3 million over the same period of 2020/21. Largely responsible for the overall expansion in the first eleven months were higher transfers from Australia (up by \$63.6 million) and New Zealand (up by \$31.3 million). By recipient, total funds for 'family and households', 'In Kind' and 'hand-carried cash' all rose by \$114.7 million, \$2.9 million and \$0.7 million respectively.

The monthly share of total remittances inflows received directly through Money Transfers Operators (MTO's) in May 2022, contracted to 83.3 percent from 86.4 percent in May 2021, whilst funds received directly through commercial banks rose to 16.7 percent from 13.6 percent for the same month last year.

The average monthly cost of sending NZD\$200.00 to Samoa was around 9.74 percent of total funds while the average cost of sending AUD\$200.00 to Samoa was around 6.89 percent of total funds.

CENTRAL BANK OF SAMOA
4th July 2022

VISITOR EARNINGS & REMITTANCES REPORT

May 2022

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

	May-20	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22
Total arrivals (persons)	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 arrivals incl. cruise ships (1)	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 market (persons)														
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
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)	0.00	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
Earnings, by market (tala million)														
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	0.00	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
Cruise ships	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
Earnings, by purpose (tala million)														
Holiday	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
VFR	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
Business & Conference	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
Sport	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	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
Cruise ships	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
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	128.3	130.0	131.0	132.9	134.8	134.8	135.5	135.6	137.8	137.4	137.6	138.7	134.3	139.6
First Number of Months up to	11 months to May 20	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	11 months to May 22
Total Visitor Arrivals (persons)	124,399	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Over the past year (%)	-23.4%	-100.0%	-100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Past 3 year average	5.2%	-0.4%	-2.4%	-16.8%	-18.5%	-18.8%	-19.1%	-20.2%	-21.9%	-22.7%	-22.9%	-24.6%	-26.3%	-28.2%
Past 5 year average	7.2%	1.5%	0.1%	-9.7%	-11.4%	-12.6%	-13.2%	-13.5%	-14.8%	-15.7%	-16.2%	-17.4%	-19.1%	-20.5%
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	0.0
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 (%)	-23.9%	-100.0%	-100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Past 3 year average	9.5%	-15.5%	-19.4%	-12.6%	-19.1%	-17.8%	-19.5%	-24.0%	-26.1%	-27.9%	-26.3%	-42.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Past 5 year average	9.4%	-11.6%	-8.4%	-4.7%	-10.0%	-11.9%	-11.5%	-11.2%	-15.8%	-19.8%	-19.5%	-26.1%	0.0%	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	0.2	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

May 2022

Table 2. INFLOW OF PRIVATE REMITTANCES

AMOUNTS IN TALA MILLION														
Amount in Tala Millions	May-20	May-21	Jun-21	Jul-21	Aug-21	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22
By Recipient (Tala Millions)	58.37	53.34	51.59	53.42	57.54	53.47	68.92	67.93	79.04	44.09	54.15	54.83	57.54	66.41
Banknotes	0.09	0.29	0.52	0.47	0.25	0.12	0.47	0.53	0.94	0.48	0.16	0.28	0.25	2.24
Churches, school, Charities	2.46	6.31	3.30	2.55	0.67	0.28	4.66	2.50	2.52	2.30	3.93	1.32	1.90	3.83
Individual/Family/Households	54.28	45.43	45.76	46.47	55.19	51.99	61.92	63.45	72.65	37.04	48.87	52.14	54.54	58.94
In Kind	0.39	0.64	0.48	2.86	0.57	0.55	0.56	0.68	0.79	0.38	0.73	0.46	0.68	0.70
Others	1.15	0.67	1.54	1.07	0.85	0.52	1.31	0.76	2.14	3.90	0.45	0.63	0.17	0.69
By Country (Tala Millions)	58.37	53.34	51.59	53.42	57.54	53.47	68.92	67.93	79.04	44.09	54.15	54.83	57.54	66.41
USA	8.38	9.23	8.83	6.82	8.51	6.09	10.55	8.56	10.10	6.58	10.23	8.94	7.04	7.89
New Zealand	23.30	24.23	22.70	23.09	20.85	22.32	25.61	28.10	34.34	17.92	19.47	23.05	24.46	27.96
Australia	20.19	11.08	13.93	16.86	23.49	21.28	27.13	24.52	26.46	15.15	19.50	19.40	19.85	22.03
American Samoa	5.50	8.19	4.15	4.21	3.93	3.30	4.90	3.75	5.86	2.60	2.93	2.79	3.91	4.40
Others	0.99	0.61	1.99	2.44	0.76	0.48	0.73	3.00	2.28	1.84	2.02	0.65	2.27	4.13
By Channel (%)														
Banks	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%	16.7%
Non Banks (1)	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%	83.3%
Total Remittances (Tala Millions)	58.37	53.34	51.59	53.42	57.54	53.47	68.92	67.93	79.04	44.09	54.15	54.83	57.54	66.41
First Number of Months up to	11 months to May 20	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	11 months to May 22
Total Remittances (Tala Millions)	515.44	555.13	606.72	53.42	110.96	164.43	233.35	301.28	380.31	424.41	478.56	533.39	590.93	657.34
Percentage Change (over same period last year)	3.8%	7.7%	6.9%	-6.1%	-0.5%	1.5%	6.9%	13.3%	17.4%	16.4%	17.7%	16.4%	17.8%	18.4%
3 year average (%)	11.6%	12.3%	12.2%	19.4%	16.7%	15.9%	15.2%	13.4%	11.5%	9.9%	9.2%	8.8%	8.1%	7.4%
5 year average (%)	7.0%	6.4%	6.7%	11.7%	10.8%	10.5%	10.5%	10.4%	9.5%	9.4%	9.2%	9.5%	9.3%	9.3%
By Recipient (Tala Millions)														
Banknotes	55.26	5.49	6.01	0.47	0.73	0.85	1.32	1.86	2.79	3.28	3.44	3.71	3.97	6.21
Churches, school, Charities	47.93	38.49	41.78	2.55	3.21	3.50	8.16	10.65	13.17	15.47	19.41	20.73	22.62	26.46
Individual/Family/Households	378.58	488.47	534.23	46.47	101.66	153.65	215.57	279.02	351.66	388.70	437.57	489.71	544.25	603.20
In Kind	6.39	6.09	6.57	2.86	3.43	3.99	4.55	5.23	6.02	6.39	7.13	7.59	8.27	8.96
Others	27.28	16.59	18.13	1.07	1.93	2.45	3.76	4.52	6.67	10.56	11.02	11.65	11.82	12.51
By Country (Tala Millions)														
USA	90.22	79.81	88.64	6.82	15.33	21.42	31.97	40.54	50.64	57.22	67.44	76.38	83.42	91.31
New Zealand	215.96	235.88	258.58	23.09	43.94	66.26	91.88	119.98	154.32	172.24	191.71	214.76	239.21	267.18
Australia	151.23	172.08	186.01	16.86	40.35	61.63	88.76	113.27	139.73	154.88	174.38	193.79	213.64	235.67
American Samoa	26.90	44.22	48.36	4.21	8.14	11.44	16.34	20.09	25.94	28.55	31.48	34.27	38.18	42.58
Others	31.14	23.14	25.13	2.44	3.20	3.68	4.41	7.41	9.69	11.53	13.55	14.20	16.47	20.60

(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.