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PLEASE ADDRESS CORRESPONDENCE TO THE GOVERNOR

# VISITOR EARNINGS & REMITTANCES REPORT SEPTEMBER 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.3: 2022/23 September 2022

### Visitor Arrivals

Visitor Arrivals for the second month since reopening of Samoa's international borders on the 1<sup>st</sup> of August 2022 to the world, recorded a total of **8,130 visitors** arrived into the country compared to 6,228 visitors last month.

The current performance in visitor arrivals were made up of New Zealand (with 3,925 visitors or 48.6 percent of total), Australia (with 1,827 visitors or 10.3 percent) while 'Other countries' including Asia and the Pacific region, accounted for 858 visitors or 17.5 percent total. Visitors from USA amounted to (714 visitors) and American Samoa (697 visitors).

By purpose of visit, those 'Visiting Friends and Relatives' (VFRs) accounted for 3,617 visitors or 31.8 percent of total, 'Holiday' (at 2,399 visitors or 37.5 percent of total), 'Other' (1,250 visitors or 10.1 percent of total), 'Business and Conference' (900 visitors) and 'Sports' (95 visitors).

As a result, **total visitor receipts were estimated at around** \$27.7 million in September 2022. Underpinning this improvement were higher earnings from New Zealand, Australia, USA and 'Other countries' by \$13.4 million, \$6.4 million, \$3.3 million and \$2.8 million in that order. Proceeds from visitors such as 'VFR', 'Holiday' 'Other', 'Business and Conference' and 'Sport' all rose by \$13.3 million, \$7.8 million, \$3.1 million, \$3.0 million and \$0.4 million respectively.

For the first three months of FY2022/23<sup>1</sup>, the tourism earnings recorded a total of \$48.2 million.

## <sup>1</sup> Including July 2022 which was a month inclusive of the lockdown period.

## Remittances

Total remittances inflow recorded a 27.9 percent (or \$14.9 million) increase to \$68.4 million compared to the same month of last year but decreased by 5.4 percent (or \$3.9 million) over the previous month.

Primarily contributing to the overall increase over the year were higher transfers from all its main markets; New Zealand (up by \$6.2 million), Australia (up by \$3.8 million), USA (up by \$3.7 million), American Samoa (up by \$0.7 million) and 'Others' (up by \$0.5 million). By recipients, increases were recorded for 'Family and Households', 'Hand-carried cash' and 'In kind' by \$10.0 million, \$4.7 million and \$0.3 million in that order.

In the first three months of financial year 2022/2023 total remittances increased by 36.0 percent (or \$59.3 million) to \$223.7 million over the same period of 2021/2022. This expansion was partially aided by an average depreciation of the Samoan Tala against the US dollar (by 5.6 percent).

The monthly share of total remittances received through Money Transfer Operators (MTOs) narrowed to 82.2 percent from 83.4 percent in the same month of last year, whereas funds received through commercial banks edged up to 17.8 percent from 16.6 percent over the year.

The average monthly cost of sending NZD\$200.00 to Samoa went up to 8.66 percent from 7.67 percent in September 2021 while the average cost of sending AUD\$200.00 to Samoa fell to 5.55 percent from 5.96 percent of the same period last year.

CENTRAL BANK OF SAMOA 01st November 2022

## VISITOR EARNINGS & REMITTANCES REPORT

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

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Every   Perform   Perfor															
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Control   Cont	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	2,641.0	3,925.0
Contribution   Cont															1
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Mode		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
FFR	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	1.745.0	2.399.0
Sport	1											0.0			
Charles   Char	Business & Conference	0.0									0.0				
Curise ships   0.00	1														1
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Australia   Curverper															
Number   N	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	1.69	1.63
Several part   1900   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   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   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   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   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   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   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   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   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   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   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   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   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   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   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   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   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   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   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   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   0.00   0.00   0.00   0.00   0.00   0.00   0.00   0.00   0.00															1
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Holiday   Color   First Number   Color   Col	- T		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Second configuration				_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_		
Business & Conference   0,00   0   0   0   0   0   0   0   0	- I														
Sport   Course ships															1
Cruise ships															
Average expenditure (tala.per person) Tourism Price Index    134.8   135.5   135.6   137.8   137.4   137.6   139.4   139.4   139.6   139.4   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   139.6   1	1		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.5	1
Tourism Price Index	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
Tourism Price Index	A	#50//61	#DN//01	#DD//01	#D#//01	#D#//01	#DN//01	#DN//01	#DD//01	#D#//01	#DD//01	#DD//01	#DD//01	2 200	2 402
First Number of Months up to   Separate						-					•	•			
Total Visitor Arrivals (persons)	First Number of Months up to		3 months		5 months	6 months	7 months	8 months	9 months	10 months	11 months	12 months	s 1st		3 months
Devertle past year (%)															1
Past 5 year average	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·														
Past Syear average															
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														•	
Australia	-										•	,	,	•	,
Europe															
New Zealand															
USA															1
Other Countries														,	
Arrivals, by purpose (persons)   Holiday	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		
Holiday   O		0	0.0	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 Business & Conference 0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0			0.0											4 745 0	
Business & Conference   0															
Sport															
Cruise ships   O															
Total Visitor Earnings (tala million)															
Over the past year (%) Past 3 year average Past 5 year average Past 5 year average Past 6 year average Past 5 year average Past 5 year average Past 6 year average Past 6 year average Past 7 year average Past 7 year average Past 8 year average Past 9 year average Pas	· ·														
Past 3 year average			<u> </u>											20.55	_
Past 5 year average	1	1							#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	
Earnings, by market (tala million) American Samoa  Australia  0.0  0.0  0.0  0.0  0.0  0.0  0.0  0		1								#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	
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         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0							2.3/0	2.370		, 01	, 01	, 01	, 5 !	, 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	1.7	3.3
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         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0 <td< td=""><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></td<>															1
USA Other Countries O.O O.O O.O O.O O.O O.O O.O O.O O.O O.	- I														
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         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         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.															
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															
Holiday 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.			I								*	*			
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         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0	Holiday														
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         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0         0.0 </td <td></td>															
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## VISITOR EARNINGS & REMITTANCES REPORT

Table 2.

#### INFLOW OF PRIVATE REMITTANCES

#### AMOUNTS IN TALA MILLION

ANUON 13 IN TALA WILLION														
Amount in Tala Millions	Sep-20	Sep-21	Oct-21	Nov-21	Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22
By Recipient (Tala Miilions)	50.46	53.47	68.92	67.93	79.04	44.09	54.64	55.20	58.35	67.63	72.20	83.06	72.26	68.38
Banknotes	0.18	0.12	0.47	0.53	0.94	0.48	0.16	0.28	0.25	2.24	3.54	3.26	3.86	4.80
Churches, school, Charities	3.58	0.28	4.66	2.50	2.52	2.30	3.93	1.32	1.90	3.83	5.61	1.85	2.82	0.28
Individual/Family/Households	45.39	51.99	61.92	63.45	72.65	37.04	49.36	52.51	55.35	60.16	61.38	76.50	62.94	61.99
In Kind	0.48	0.55	0.56	0.68	0.79	0.38	0.73	0.46	0.68	0.70	0.62	0.68	0.94	0.86
Others	0.84	0.52	1.31	0.76	2.14	3.90	0.45	0.63	0.17	0.69	1.05	0.76	1.70	0.45
By Country (Tala Millions)	50.46	53.47	68.92	67.93	79.04	44.09	54.64	55.20	58.35	67.63	72.20	83.06	72.26	68.38
USA	5.51	6.09	10.55	8.56	10.10	6.58	10.22	8.94	7.04	7.89	8.79	10.79	8.18	9.80
New Zealand	20.58	22.32	25.61	28.10	34.34	17.92	19.96	23.42	25.27	29.19	32.40	33.03	28.17	28.52
Australia	18.00	21.28	27.13	24.52	26.46	15.15	19.50	19.40	19.85	22.02	23.14	30.19	28.88	25.05
American Samoa	3.46	3.30	4.90	3.75	5.86	2.60	2.93	2.79	3.91	4.40	3.81	6.67	4.23	4.04
Others	2.92	0.48	0.73	3.00	2.28	1.84	2.02	0.65	2.27	4.13	4.06	2.38	2.81	0.98
By Channel (%)														
Banks	10.1%	16.6%	21.5%	18.2%	14.4%	19.5%	20.3%	15.7%	15.5%	16.4%	20.7%	12.6%	20.1%	17.8%
Non Banks (1)	89.9%	83.4%	78.5%	81.8%	85.6%	80.5%	79.7%	84.3%	84.5%	83.6%	79.3%	87.4%	79.9%	82.2%
Total Remittances (Tala Millions)	50.46	53.47	68.92	67.93	79.04	44.09	54.64	55.20	58.35	67.63	72.20	83.06	72.26	68.38
First Number of Months up to	3 months	3 months	4 months	5 months	6 months	7 months	8 months	9 months	10 months	11 months	12 months	1st	2 months	3 months
	to Sep 20	to Sep 21	to Oct 21	to Nov 21	to Dec 21	to Jan 22	to Feb 22	to Mar 22	to Apr 22	to May 22	to June 22	month	to Aug 22	to Aug 23
Total Remittances (Tala Millions)	161.94	164.43	233.35	301.28	380.31	424.41	479.05	534.25	592.60	660.23	732.43	83.06	155.32	223.71
Percentage Change (over same period last year)	16.6%	1.5%	6.9%	13.3%	17.4%	16.4%	17.8%	16.5%	18.1%	18.9%	20.7%	55.5%	40.0%	36.0%
3 year average (%)	10.7%	15.9%	15.2%	13.4%	11.5%	9.9%	9.2%	8.8%	8.1%	7.4%	7.5%	10.7%	7.9%	9.4%
5 year average (%)	7.4%	10.5%	10.5%	10.4%	9.5%	9.4%	9.2%	9.5%	9.3%	9.3%	9.3%	10.4%	10.0%	10.0%
By Recipient (Tala Miilions)														
Banknotes	2.79	0.85	1.32	1.86	2.79	3.28	3.44	3.71	3.97	6.21	9.75	3.26	7.13	11.92
Churches, school, Charities	9.96	3.50	8.16	10.65	13.17	15.47	19.41	20.73	22.62	26.46	32.06	1.85	4.67	4.96
Individual/Family/Households	144.38	153.65	215.57	279.02	351.66	388.70	438.06	490.57	545.92	606.08	667.46	76.50	139.44	201.43
In Kind	1.53	3.99	4.55	5.23	6.02	6.39	7.13	7.59	8.27	8.96	9.58	0.68	1.62	2.47
Others	3.28	2.45	3.76	4.52	6.67	10.56	11.02	11.65	11.82	12.51	13.57	0.76	2.47	2.92
By Country (Tala Millions)														
							C7 44	76.38	83.42	91.31	100.10	10.79	18.97	28.77
USA	17.84	21.42	31.97	40.54	50.64	57.22	67.44	70.30	00112	31.31	100.10	10.79	10.97	
USA New Zeal and	17.84 64.09	21.42 66.26	31.97 91.88	40.54 119.98	50.64 154.32	57.22 172.24	192.20	215.62	240.89	270.08	302.48	33.03	61.20	89.72
New Zeal and	64.09	66.26	91.88	119.98	154.32	172.24	192.20	215.62	240.89	270.08	302.48	33.03	61.20	89.72

<sup>(1)</sup> 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.