

WORLD ECONOMY

In the June 2025 quarter, The United States economy noted an upward revision to 3.8%, primarily attributed to higher revisions in consumer spending. Australia also recorded growth of 0.6% while the New Zealand's economy contracted by 0.9% during the same period. The international price of Brent Blend crude oil fell by 3.9% in August 2025, to USD \$68.2 per barrel from USD \$71.0 in July 2025.

DOMESTIC ECONOMY

Samoa's Real GDP declined by 3.0 percent in the June 2025 quarter. This was primarily driven by downturns in key sectors including "Commerce" (\$4.7m), "Agriculture" (\$4.3m), "Electricity and water" (\$1.6m), "Other manufacturing" (\$0.9m), "Construction" (\$0.5m), and "Food and Beverages manufacturing" (\$0.4m), alongside a significant reduction in tax revenues by \$19.6m.

INFLATION



- The **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** fell by 0.4% from the previous month but was 4.5% higher than in August 2024.
- The **annual average headline inflation rate** rose further to 2.7% from 2.4% in July 2025.
- Imported inflation increased to 1.1%, while domestic inflation remained at 4.6%.
- The **underlying inflation rate** also climbed to 2.8% in August, up from 2.1% in July, which was lower than 3.4% recorded in August 2024.

OFFICIAL FOREIGN RESERVES



- Gross Foreign Reserves** grew by 1.1% (\$18.0 million) to \$1,612.76 million over July 2025. This level was 16.7% (\$230.6 million) significantly higher than in August 2024.
- This corresponded to an **import cover** of 16.4 months, up from 15.8 months in July 2025 and 13.3 months in August 2024.

REMITTANCES & TOURISM



- Monthly remittance** inflows went back down by 3.5% (\$2.8 million), to \$75.9 million, and was 16.9% (\$15.4 million) lower than in the same month last year
- Likewise, **visitor arrivals** contracted by 7.1% to 17,510 visitors in August 2025, yet was 1.5% higher than its total in August 2024.
- Tourism earnings**, on the other hand noted a 5.5% (\$3.3 million) increase to a total of \$63.8 million, which was 10.0% higher than \$58.0 million in the same month last year. This increase over the month was due to a 13.5% rise in the average expenditure.

EXTERNAL TRADE



- Export earnings** dropped by 24.2% (or \$1.8 million) to \$5.5 million in August 2025, due to:
 - domestic exports, down by \$1.0 million
 - re-exports, down by \$0.8 million
- Total **import payments** rose by 1.0% (or \$0.9 million) to \$85.5 million, mirroring:
 - Resumption of Petroleum imports of \$19.9 million.
 - While, Non-petroleum private sector imports fell by \$16.8 million.
 - Government imports down by \$2.2 million.
- As a result, the **merchandise trade deficit** expanded by 3.7 percent, totaling \$80.1 million in August 2025.

INTEREST RATES & MONEY SUPPLY



- The **weighted average (WA) monthly official interest rate** rose by 29 basis points to 1.39% in August 2025, and was much higher than 0.37% in August 2024.
- The commercial banks' **WA deposit rate** expanded by 7 basis points to 1.61%, while the **WA lending rate** edged up by 1 basis point to 8.39%, resulting in a **WA interest rate spread** of 6.78% in August 2025.
- Broad money (M2)** fell further by 0.6% (\$11.4 million) to \$1,772.1 million, which was largely attributable to a \$30.9 million drop in Net Domestic Assets while Net Foreign Assets increased by \$19.5 million.

LIQUIDITY & CREDIT



- Total commercial banks' liquidity grew by 0.6% (\$4.4 million) to \$731.0 million, reflecting changes in:
 - CBS securities (+\$13.8 million).
 - Vault cash (+\$2.6 million).
 - Exchange Settlement Accounts (ESA) (-\$12.0 million).
- Similarly, total **commercial banks' credit to the private sector and public institutions** rose by \$11.8 million to \$1,129.0 million.
- Total loans by non-bank financial institutions (NBFIs)** to the private sector and public institutions also expanded by \$7.1 million to \$1,021.1 million.

LOCAL MARKET SURVEY

The total supply of agricultural commodities to selected local produce markets in August 2025, expanded by 1.3%. This increase reflected higher supplies of key crops such as breadfruit, banana, yam, ta'amu, coconut and vegetable items such as pumpkin, Chinese cabbage and tomatoes. Due to higher supply levels the **overall price index** fell by 2.4%.

SELECTED ECONOMIC INDICATORS																
INDICATORS	2023	2024	2025								Average Two Months			Average levels in the previous		
	Aug	Aug	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Jul23 - Aug23	Jul24 - Aug24	Jul25 - Aug25	2-years	3-years	5-years
CENTRAL BANK OF SAMOA: (%)																
Official rate	0.20	0.37	0.92	0.94	1.03	1.07	1.34	1.09	1.10	1.39	0.21	0.32	1.25	0.28	0.24	0.20
COMMERCIAL BANKS' INTEREST RATES: (%)																
Average lending rate	8.30	8.44	8.39	8.37	8.39	8.40	8.41	8.38	8.38	8.39	8.30	8.42	8.38	8.37	8.34	8.43
Average deposit rate	1.80	1.52	1.56	1.58	1.60	1.55	1.55	1.57	1.54	1.61	1.78	1.53	1.57	1.66	1.71	1.95
COMMERCIAL BANK LOANS (Tala million)	1146.0	1195.0	1208.1	1205.8	1208.9	1208.3	1211.0	1216.8	1217.2	1229.0	1147.63	1192.37	1223.12	1170.51	1173.27	1174.60
GOVERNMENT NET POSITION (Tala million)	-454.3	-615.3	-653.4	-666.1	-655.0	-650.2	-656.2	-695.9	-714.0	-749.3	-465.06	-614.70	-731.62	-534.83	-462.49	-413.00
MONEY SUPPLY (Tala million)	1573.6	1719.1	1756.5	1726.0	1736.9	1778.7	1776.3	1788.4	1783.5	1772.1	1551.33	1696.50	1777.83	1646.32	1554.99	1443.26
Currency outside banks	158.8	171.8	188.2	179.4	174.8	169.2	176.8	176.9	185.5	191.7	158.59	168.06	188.60	165.33	154.05	137.85
Demand deposits	549.3	663.3	646.4	620.7	640.3	664.5	643.4	664.2	679.6	651.9	537.88	644.71	665.76	606.31	545.51	483.22
FCD residents	97.1	105.0	116.9	122.8	112.7	127.0	124.9	111.7	110.5	105.8	95.36	107.67	108.13	101.04	93.38	76.04
Save deposits	247.0	269.5	268.3	259.7	255.9	263.3	270.1	273.8	286.5	285.8	245.19	269.08	286.15	258.27	246.54	221.91
Time deposits	521.4	509.4	536.7	543.4	553.2	554.7	561.2	561.9	521.4	536.9	514.32	506.98	529.17	515.37	515.52	524.24
NOMINAL EXCHANGE RATE (Index)	99.7	99.7	100.4	100.3	100.3	100.3	100.2	100.2	100.2	100.2	99.70	99.70	100.20	99.72	99.79	99.80
HEADLINE CPI (2)	132.8	133.1	137.1	136.0	137.0	137.4	138.2	137.9	139.8	139.2	133.40	132.99	139.47	132.98	131.94	123.10
Annual average inflation (%)	10.3	2.8	2.1	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.9	2.4	2.7	10.90	2.85	2.57	6.54	7.79	4.51
LOCAL MARKET SURVEY: (2)																
Volume Index	91.3	123.4	96.7	91.0	81.8	63.1	96.3	87.3	103.2	104.6	86.68	107.12	103.88	107.31	100.31	97.54
Price Index	193.1	181.2	188.2	182.5	193.8	201.3	205.7	208.4	206.4	201.3	207.86	187.48	203.84	187.16	166.67	142.81
EXPORTS (Tala million)	10.7	11.0	3.7	4.5	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.1	7.3	5.5	9.51	8.62	6.42	10.85	10.65	8.92
IMPORTS (Tala million)	101.6	118.2	105.3	90.8	95.3	106.1	101.3	104.5	84.6	85.5	94.65	111.22	85.05	109.89	112.42	95.23
REMITTANCES (Tala million)	80.2	91.3	68.1	61.4	67.8	76.1	77.5	74.4	78.7	75.2	77.23	86.37	76.93	85.75	81.26	71.17
TOURISM: (1)&(4)																
Arrivals (number of persons)	16,471.0	17,248.0	14,746.0	8,070.0	11,605.0	13,210.0	13,977.0	17,741.0	18,843.0	17,510.0	16870.50	18143.50	18176.50	16859.50	13345.67	8007.40
Earnings (Tala million)	55.5	58.0	49.1	28.5	43.0	49.9	58.4	60.4	60.5	63.8	53.91	57.46	62.14	56.76	44.70	26.82
GROSS INTERNATIONAL RESERVES (3) (5) (Tala Million)	1,164.3	1,378.3	1,456.8	1,477.8	1,480.0	1,491.4	1,541.7	1,559.9	1,594.8	1,612.8	1154.79	1367.58	1603.76	1271.29	1114.28	960.10
BOP Position (+/-) (Surplus/Deficit)	18.9	21.5	12.3	21.0	2.1	11.5	50.3	18.2	34.9	18.0	33.08	14.05	26.44	20.20	9.70	34.91
Import Cover (months of current goods only)	11.7	13.3	14.1	14.3	14.2	14.7	15.0	15.2	15.8	16.4	11.54	13.27	16.06	12.49	11.63	11.23
Source: Central Bank of Samoa																
1. Revised Total Earnings from Feb-12 to Mar-16																
2. Rebase Base Period February 2016=100																
3. Significant increases in official reserves since March 2020, reflected the inflows of funds for COVID-19 assistance and the usual government inflows for budget support from Samoa's international partners. In April 2020, Samoa received a loan of USD\$20.03 million from International Monetary Fund to address the COVID-19 pandemic.																
4. Starting from April 2020, tourists arrivals and earnings recorded zero value due to the closure of international borders for the safeguarding of our people during the pandemic.																
n/a: not available																
5. Samoa received the IMF-Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) allocation of SDR15.5 million, an equivalent of around \$55.5 million Tala in August 2021																

SELECTED ECONOMIC INDICATORS CHART PACK

