

WORLD ECONOMY

In the June 2025 quarter, the growth in The United States economy was revised upward to 3.3%, supported by stronger investment and consumer spending. Australia also recorded economic growth of 0.6% during the same period, while New Zealand's economy expanded by 0.8% in the March 2025 quarter. In July 2025, the international price of Brent Blend crude oil declined by 0.7%, falling to USD \$71.0 per barrel from USD \$71.5 in June 2025.

DOMESTIC ECONOMY

Samoa's Real GDP grew by 2.2 percent in the March 2025 quarter, reflecting broad-based gains across multiple key sectors. Significant growth was recorded in Agriculture (11.0%), Construction (9.0%), Electricity & Water (7.5%), Business Services (7.4%), Commerce (5.1%), and Financial Services (2.6%). Additionally, an 18.2% increase in tax revenue further supported the overall economic expansion during the period.

INFLATION



- The **Consumer Price Index (CPI)** rose by 1.3% from last month and was 5.2% higher than in July 2024.
- The **annual average headline inflation rate** increased to 2.4% from 1.9% in June 2025.
- Imported inflation went back up to 0.5%, while domestic inflation rose to 4.6%.
- The **underlying inflation rate** expanded further to 2.1% in the current month, up from 1.5% in the previous month, though still below the 4.0% recorded in July 2024.

OFFICIAL FOREIGN RESERVES



- Gross Foreign Reserves** recorded a notable increase of 2.2% (\$34.9 million) to \$1,594.76 million. Compared to July 2024, this represents a year on year growth of 17.2% (or \$234.10 million).
- As a result, **import cover** rose further to reach 15.8 months, from 15.2 months in June 2025 and 13.2 months in the same month last year.

REMITTANCES & TOURISM



- Monthly remittance** inflows recovered by 5.7% (\$4.2 million), amounting to \$78.7 million, yet was 3.4% (\$2.8 million) lower than in July 2024.
- Visitor arrivals** expanded by 6.2% to 18,843 visitors, which was 1.0% below its total in July 2024.
- Tourism earnings**, in turn, registered a marginal gain of 0.1% (\$0.1 million), to a total of \$60.5 million, which was 6.3% higher than \$56.9 million reported in the same month last year.

EXTERNAL TRADE



- Export earnings** rebounded by 42.8% (or \$2.2 million) to \$7.3 million in July 2025, mainly due to:
 - re-exports, up by \$1.6 million
 - domestic exports, up by \$0.6 million
- Total **import payments** fell by 19.0% (or \$19.9 million) to \$84.6 million, reflecting:
 - Absence of Petroleum imports for the month.
 - Government imports down by \$0.3 million.
 - While, Non-petroleum private sector imports increased by \$1.2 million.
- Consequently, the **merchandise trade deficit** narrowed by 22.2 percent, totaling \$77.3 million for the month.

INTEREST RATES & MONEY SUPPLY



- The **weighted average (WA) monthly official interest rate** went up by 2 basis points to 1.10% in July 2025, but was significantly higher than 0.27% in July 2024.
- The commercial banks' **WA deposit rate** fell by 3 basis points to 1.54%, while the **WA lending rate** remained at 8.38%, resulting in a **WA interest rate spread** of 6.85% in July 2025.
- Broad money (M2) declined by 0.3% (\$4.9 million) to \$1,783.5 million, predominantly due to a \$32.6 million decrease in Net Domestic Assets while Net Foreign Assets noted a \$27.7 million increase.

LIQUIDITY & CREDIT



- Total commercial banks' liquidity rose by 4.4% (\$30.7 million) to \$726.6 million, reflecting changes in:
 - Exchange Settlement Accounts (ESA) (+\$48.5 million).
 - Vault cash (+\$3.8 million).
 - CBS securities (-\$21.6 million).
- Meanwhile, total **commercial banks' credit to the private sector and public institutions** rose by \$0.5 million to \$1,217.2 million.
- Total loans by non-bank financial institutions (NBFIs)** to the private sector and public institutions also expanded by \$7.1 million to \$1,021.7 million.

LOCAL MARKET SURVEY

In July 2025, the total supply of agricultural commodities to selected local produce markets across the country rose by 18.3%. This increase was primarily driven by greater availability of key crops such as pumpkin, cucumber, tomatoes, and staple agricultural products including taro and banana. The elevated supply levels contributed to a 1.0% rise in the **overall price index**, reflecting stronger consumer demand.

SELECTED ECONOMIC INDICATORS												
INDICATORS	2023	2024	2025							Average levels in the previous		
	July	July	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	2-years	3-years	5-years
CENTRAL BANK OF SAMOA: (%)												
Official rate	0.21	0.27	0.92	0.94	1.03	1.07	1.34	1.09	1.10	0.24	0.21	0.19
COMMERCIAL BANKS' INTEREST RATES: (%)												
Average lending rate	8.30	8.41	8.39	8.37	8.39	8.40	8.41	8.38	8.38	8.36	8.33	8.44
Average deposit rate	1.77	1.54	1.56	1.58	1.60	1.55	1.55	1.57	1.54	1.66	1.73	1.99
COMMERCIAL BANK LOANS (Tala million)	1149.2	1189.7	1208.1	1205.8	1208.9	1208.3	1211.0	1216.8	1217.2	1169.49	1172.12	1173.87
GOVERNMENT NET POSITION (Tala million)	-475.8	-614.1	-653.4	-666.1	-655.0	-650.2	-656.2	-695.9	-714.0	-544.93	-473.17	-404.61
MONEY SUPPLY (Tala million)	1529.1	1673.9	1756.5	1726.0	1736.9	1778.7	1776.3	1788.4	1783.5	1601.51	1515.85	1419.10
Currency outside banks	158.3	164.3	188.2	179.4	174.8	169.2	176.8	176.9	185.5	161.32	150.88	136.79
Demand deposits	526.4	626.1	646.4	620.7	640.3	664.5	643.4	664.2	679.6	576.27	520.08	466.60
FCD residents	93.7	110.3	116.9	122.8	112.7	127.0	124.9	111.7	110.5	101.99	89.67	73.69
Save deposits	243.4	268.6	268.3	259.7	255.9	263.3	270.1	273.8	286.5	256.00	244.00	220.52
Time deposits	507.3	504.6	536.7	543.4	553.2	554.7	561.2	561.9	521.4	505.94	511.23	521.49
NOMINAL EXCHANGE RATE (Index)	99.7	99.7	100.4	100.3	100.3	100.3	100.2	100.2	100.2	99.68	99.77	99.78
HEADLINE CPI (2)	134.0	132.8	137.1	136.0	137.0	137.4	138.2	137.9	139.8	133.41	130.72	121.89
Annual average inflation (%)	11.5	2.9	2.1	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.9	2.4	7.22	7.97	4.54
LOCAL MARKET SURVEY: (2)												
Volume Index	82.1	90.9	96.7	91.0	81.8	63.1	96.3	87.3	103.2	86.49	83.07	78.94
Price Index	222.6	193.8	188.2	182.5	193.8	201.3	205.7	208.4	206.4	208.18	178.59	152.60
EXPORTS (Tala million)	8.3	6.3	3.7	4.5	5.5	5.6	5.6	5.1	7.3	7.29	8.50	8.81
IMPORTS (Tala million)	87.7	104.2	105.3	90.8	95.3	106.1	101.3	104.5	84.6	95.98	92.23	79.59
REMITTANCES (Tala million)	74.2	81.5	68.1	61.4	67.8	76.1	77.5	74.4	78.7	77.86	79.59	69.82
TOURISM: (1)&(4)												
Arrivals (number of persons)	17,270.0	19,039.0	14,746.0	8,070.0	11,605.0	13,210.0	13,977.0	17,741.0	18,843.0	18154.50	12103.00	7261.80
Earnings (Tala million)	52.3	56.9	49.1	28.5	43.0	49.9	58.4	60.4	60.5	54.61	36.41	21.84
GROSS INTERNATIONAL RESERVES (3) (5) (Tala Million)	1,145.3	1,356.8	1,456.8	1,477.8	1,480.0	1,491.4	1,541.7	1,559.9	1,594.8	1251.08	1104.58	925.22
BOP Position (+/-) (Surplus/Deficit)	47.2	2.8	12.3	21.0	2.1	11.5	50.3	18.2	34.9	25.01	16.31	6.86
Import Cover (months of current goods only)	11.4	13.2	14.1	14.3	14.2	14.7	15.0	15.2	15.8	12.29	11.71	10.83
Source: Central Bank of Samoa												
1. Revised Total Earnings from Feb-12 to Mar-16												
2. Rebase Base Period Feburary 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

