
Pacific Statistical/Economic Briefing

COVID-19 Economic Impacts-Quarter 4, 2020

The prolonged impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic continued to adversely affect almost all activities in the economic and social spheres of the Pacific region in the fourth quarter of 2020. Economic Activity in the Pacific Islands slowed further, and at an unprecedented rate and scale in the final quarter of 2020, exacerbating the already major crisis in the tourism, trade, financial, private and government sectors. Job losses, restrictions on small businesses and declining foreign exchange receipts are all having a major impact on the levels of hardship and poverty being experienced by households and families across the region.

For this latest quarterly update, covering the fourth quarter of 2020, annual 2020 summaries and some updates from the first quarter of 2021, SDD has incorporated the latest available data on the recommended list of leading economic and social indicators compiled from administrative and related data available to governments, see the list here: <https://sdd.spc.int/disasters-data>.

Administrative data collected by Ministries of Finance and Revenue, as well as Customs Authorities, National Provident Funds, Central/Reserve Banks and monetary authorities etc. can provide a good understanding of the pandemic's impact and emerging trends. Information gaps can be reduced if such data is shared with the National Statistics Offices (NSO) by responsible national agencies.

The following summarises the latest available information on these leading indicators from the NSOs, Central Banks, Ministries of Finance and other national websites. If made available other data (e.g., from provident funds) could provide details such as the number of workers laid off and the magnitude of the impacts on families that depend on income from tourism-related activities.

Tourism Arrivals (Table 1)

Quarter 4, 2020 data confirmed that tourism in 13 Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) suffered its worst year on record. A look at visitor arrival numbers in the region's dominant destinations gives a real sense of the decline, that is:

- Guam with 7,013 visitors in the December Quarter of 2020 compared to 436,225 a year earlier.
- Fiji with 2,712 visitors in the December Quarter of 2020 compared to 220,330 a year ago.

There was an overall decline of 82% on average in visitor arrivals to the 13 PICTs in 2020 when compared to the 2019 levels (see Table 1 for details).

Quarter 4, 2020 Visitor Arrivals represented:

- Sharpest declines for French Polynesia (66.3%), Papua New Guinea (90.2%), New Caledonia (92.6%), Guam (98.4%), Fiji (98.8%) and Cook Islands (99.5%) when compared to December quarter 2019.
- A 100% decline each for Kiribati, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu when compared to the same quarter a year ago. This effectively reflected the continued travel restrictions and border closures during the period.
- A slight decline of 0.8% for French Polynesia respectively when compared to Quarter 3, 2020.
- Small but positive increases of 5.4%, 0.7%, 10.5% and 68.2% for Cook Islands, Fiji, Guam and PNG respectively against preceding Quarter 3, 2020.

Annual Visitor Arrivals in 2020 represented:

- Steep declines for all 13 PICTs of Cook Islands (85.3%), Fiji (83.6%), French Polynesia (67.5%), Guam (80.3%), Kiribati (81.1%), New Caledonia (68.6%), Palau (80.7%), PNG (78.7%), Samoa (88%), Solomon Islands (85.9%), Tonga (87.7%), Tuvalu (82%) and Vanuatu (67.8%) when compared to positive performances in 2019. The nearly complete halt in international visitor arrivals reflected the unprecedented impact of the pandemic on tourism as travel restrictions continued almost throughout the whole year.

- The near disappearance of tourism has been the major blow to all these countries, particularly in tourism dependent Fiji, Samoa, Tonga, Cook Islands, French Polynesia, and Vanuatu.

Latest Visitor Arrivals in Quarter 1 2021 represented:

- Signs of some recovery for Fiji and Guam with arrivals up by 56.7% and 67.1% respectively when compared to the previous Quarter 4 in 2020.
- But the numbers were still significantly lower for Fiji and Guam by 97% and 96.2% respectively when compared to Quarter 1, 2020, the start of the pandemic.

Table 1: Visitor Arrivals (Quarter and Annual Percent Change).

Countries	Visitor Arrivals													
	% change over previous quarter					% change over same quarter last year					Annual % change		Absolute Values	
	2020				2021	2020				2021	2019	2020	2019	2020
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1				
Cook Islands	-57.1	-99.5	125.5	5.4	...	-33.4	-99.8	-99.6	-99.5	...	13.0	-85.3	171,606	25,230
Fiji	-36.6	-98.7	49.6	0.7	55.7	-18.7	-99.2	-99.0	-98.8	-97.0	2.8	-83.6	968,926	168,160
French Polynesia	-37.6	-100.0	0.0	-0.8	...	-26.8	-100.0	-70.2	-66.3	...	9.4	-67.5	299,518	89,480
Guam	-29.0	-98.3	20.2	10.5	67.1	-28.2	-98.6	-98.5	-98.4	-96.2	7.4	-80.3	1,666,665	328,173
Kiribati	-27.0	-100.0	0.0	0.0	...	-35.3	-100.0	-100.0	-100.0	...	1.3	-81.1	7,454	1,409
New Caledonia	-40.8	-97.0	323.7	0.0	...	-7.3	-97.3	-91.6	-92.6	...	8.4	-68.6	474,420	148,928
Palau	-22.5	-100.0	0.0	0.0	...	-30.7	-100.0	-100.0	-100.0	...	-12.1	-80.7	94,115	18,178
PNG	-17.1	-97.5	180.4	68.2	...	-30.1	-98.5	-95.0	-90.2	...	17.0	-78.7	210,980	38,707
Samoa	-51.2	-100.0	-100.0	-100.0	...	-36.2	-100.0	-100.0	-100.0	...	7.9	-88.0	198,068	21,673
Solomon Islands	-49.7	-100.0	0.0	0.0	...	-32.5	-100.0	-100.0	-100.0	...	3.8	-85.9	30,821	4,080
Tonga	-66.5	-100.0	0.0	0.0	...	-12.3	-100.0	-99.9	-99.8	...	21.6	-87.7	93,972	11,531
Tuvalu	-38.4	-100.0	0.0	0.0	...	29.2	-100.0	-100.0	-100.0	...	11.4	-82.0	3,611	650
Vanuatu	-44.2	-100.0	0.0	0.0	...	-17.3	-100.0	-100.0	-100.0	...	4.2	-67.8	255,985	82,366

Source: Central/Reserve Banks and NSOs of Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, New Caledonia, Palau, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

Note: Annual Number of visitor arrivals includes air arrivals and excursionists

Latest monthly Visitor Arrivals in 2021 for:

- Guam in March rose by 6.8% as opposed to a 23.2% decline in February. Against March last year at the beginning of the pandemic, visitor arrivals were down by 89.5%.
- Fiji in February increased by 23.7% when compared to the previous month but were still 97.3% lower against the same month in 2020.
- Cook Islands in January were down by 48.4% and 99.4% against the prior month and the corresponding month in 2020, respectively.
- French Polynesia arrivals in January were down by 39.6% and 71.9% when compared to the previous month and the same month in 2020, respectively.

Latest monthly Visitor Arrivals in 2020 for:

- New Caledonia and PNG in December recorded increased arrivals by 14.9% and 5.5% respectively, when compared to preceding month. Against December 2019, visitor arrivals for New Caledonia and PNG dropped by 93% and 89%, respectively.
- All other remaining PICTs showed near zero visitor arrivals in December reflecting the continued travel restrictions through the end of the year.

Table 1.1: Visitor Arrivals Percent Change Over Previous Month.

Countries	% Change over previous month														
	2020												2021		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Cook Islands	-31.4	-10.6	-34.8	-100.0	0.0	0.0	63.3	-89.4	158.8	-40.9	226.9	43.5	-48.4	...	...
Fiji	-11.3	-29.1	-39.6	-97.6	4.6	-41.7	72.2	37.3	3.0	11.9	-22.2	-18.6	42.0	23.7	...
French Polynesia	-26.0	11.1	-51.7	...	...	...	0.0	70.1	-2.0	16.9	-50.0	44.9	-39.6	...	...
Guam	0.0	-25.9	-69.8	-95.6	-3.5	47.9	-37.6	47.9	42.2	-20.0	9.9	-17.3	113.5	-23.2	6.8
Kiribati	18.1	-18.8	-67.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	...	...	...
New Caledonia	-31.0	-15.2	-44.1	-98.8	314.4	61.1	130.3	48.7	-48.3	45.8	-11.4	14.9	...	...	...
Palau	6.0	-42.8	-51.1	-99.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	...	...	...
PNG	31.7	-21.7	-48.9	-99.1	445.3	58.8	10.7	20.5	84.0	24.6	-17.7	5.5	...	...	...

Samoa	-41.7	-32.5	-41.0	-100	-95	8	-13	0	0	0	0	0	...	...
Solomon Islands	-39.2	-20.8	-48.9	-100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	...	...
Tonga	...	-35.5	-58.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	...	...
Tuvalu	-11.2	-23.9	-54.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	...	...
Vanuatu	-4.4	-44.7	-47.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	...	...

Table 1.2: Visitor Arrivals Percent Change same month last year.

Countries	% change same month last year														
	2020												2021		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Cook Islands	-1.4	17.4	-45.4	-100.0	-100.0	-99.4	-99.1	-99.9	-99.8	-99.8	-99.4	-99.2	-99.4	...	...
Fiji	2.5	-4.9	-52.8	-99.1	-99.0	-99.5	-99.3	-98.9	-98.8	-98.5	-98.7	-99.0	-98.5	-97.3	...
French Polynesia	-7.1	-7.5	-59.9	-100.0	-100.0	-100.0	-81.8	-64.2	-62.2	-57.6	-76.6	-65.5	-71.9	...	...
Guam	6.8	-14.9	-75.9	-98.7	-98.8	-98.2	-99.0	-98.7	-97.9	-98.3	-98.2	-98.7	-97.1	-97.0	-89.5
Kiribati	-10.9	-26.5	-73.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	...	...	...
New Caledonia	17.2	13.8	-47.7	-99.4	-96.5	-95.1	-92.4	-88.4	-93.9	-92.3	-92.5	-93.0	...	...	...
Palau	33.4	-42.6	-69.7	-99.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	...	...	...
PNG	28.2	-25.5	-69.1	-99.7	-98.6	-96.0	-96.8	-95.6	-92.7	-90.0	-91.3	-89.0	...	...	...
Samoa	-24.0	-22.0	-62.7	-100.0	-100.0	-100.0	-100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	...	...	...
Solomon Islands	6.1	-22.2	-68.7	-100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	...	...	...
Tonga	6.7	11.0	-59.5	-100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	...	...	...
Tuvalu	106.0	82.2	-52.7	-100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	...	...	...
Vanuatu	25.0	13.0	-51.1	-100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	...	...	...

Source: Central/Reserve Banks and NSOs of Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, Guam, Kiribati, New Caledonia, Palau, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu

Tourism Revenues (Table 1.3)

Quarter 4, 2020 Estimated Tourism Earnings represented:

- Decreases of 2.4% for Tonga when compared to the previous quarter.
- Increases of 9.7% for Fiji, 63.6% for Solomon Islands and more than four-fold increase for PNG although this was relatively small in absolute values when compared to the previous quarter.
- Significant declines of 99.3%, 13.2%, 100%, 92.8% and 84.4% for Fiji, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Tonga, respectively when compared to December quarter, 2019.

Table 1.3: Estimated Tourism Earnings.

Countries	Tourism Earnings													National Currency	
	% change over previous quarter				% change over same quarter last year				Annual % change		Absolute Values (National Currency)				
	2020				2020				2019	2020	2019	2020			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4							
Cook Islands
Fiji	-41.8	-98.6	-26.2	9.7	-42.5	-99.4	-99.5	-99.3	2.8	-84.8	2065	315	FJ\$ million		
PNG	38.9	-37.1	-79.7	390.2	-64.1	-87.1	-68.8	-13.2	-17.9	-72.9	7	2	Kina million		
Samoa	-56.0	-100.0	0.0	0.0	-31.9	-100.0	-100.0	-100.0	3.0	-88.4	544	63	Tala million		
Solomon Islands	-66.4	-90.0	30.7	63.6	-3.7	-93.7	-91.4	-92.8	-2.0	-79.7	33,750	6,852	SBD'000		
Tonga	...	-70.5	-24.2	-2.4	-9.6	-76.9	-86.2	-84.4	14.6	-67.8	135,370	43,578	TOP'000		
Vanuatu	-31.2	

Note: Solomon Islands and PNG, travel receipts used as indicator for tourism earnings (includes both tourists and returning residentials foreign exchange receipts).

... data not available.

Annual Tourism Earnings in 2020 represented:

- Significant declines for Fiji (84.8%), PNG (72.9%), Samoa (88.4%), Solomon Islands (79.7%) and Tonga (67.8%) when compared to 2019.

International Merchandise Trade (Table 2 (Exports); Table 3 (Imports))

Shrinking international demand continued to impact negatively on the region's trade in Quarter 4, 2020.

Exports

Quarter 4, 2020 exports from:

- Cook Islands, Fiji, Samoa and Solomon Islands declined by 39.9%, 15%, 15.5% and 14% respectively when compared to Quarter 3, 2020.
- French Polynesia, Kiribati, New Caledonia, PNG, Tonga and Vanuatu increased by 66.8%, 43.7%, 17%, 10.7%, 26.5% and 29.2% respectively whilst Tuvalu's exports rose by more than two-fold when compared to the previous quarter.
- Fiji, French Polynesia, Kiribati, New Caledonia, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Tuvalu declined by 13.5%, 28.8%, 21.2%, 7.6%, 17.9%, 32.6%, 18.1%, 15.1% and 89.4% respectively when compared to December quarter in 2019.
- Cook Islands and Vanuatu rose by 37% and 6% respectively when compared against December quarter in 2019.

Annual Exports in 2020 represented:

- Declines for Fiji (19.6%), French Polynesia (43.9%), Kiribati (23.4%), New Caledonia (3.4%), PNG (17.1%), Samoa (23.6%), Solomon Islands (17.3%), Tonga (82.8%), Tuvalu (82.8%) and Vanuatu (17.2%) when compared against 2019.
- An increase for Cook Islands by 12.5%, relatively stronger than the 5.6% increase in 2019.

Latest exports in Quarter 1 2021 represented:

- A slight increase of 0.2% for Solomon Islands against Quarter 4, 2020. Against Quarter 1, 2020 at the beginning of the pandemic, exports were lower by 31.8%.
- A drop of 12.5% for Samoa against the previous quarter. Against March quarter 2020, exports fell by 21.5%.

Table 2: Exports (Quarter and Annual Percent changes).

Countries	Exports											
	% change over previous quarter					% change over same quarter last year					Annual % change	
	2020				2021	2020				2021	2019	2020
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1		
Cook Islands	112.0	-49.8	114.3	-39.9		340.4	17.5	-38.1	37.0		5.6	12.5
Fiji	-16.7	-10.8	40.1	-15.0		-19.4	-21.8	-21.7	-13.5		5.1	-19.6
French Polynesia	...	...	...	66.8		0.0	-58.2	-38.3	-28.1		-18.8	-43.9
Kiribati	101.6	-49.0	-46.7	43.7		67.2	-48.2	-64.0	-21.2		60.5	-23.4
New Caledonia	-19.1	-5.0	2.9	17.0		15.9	8.7	-21.1	-7.6			-3.4
Palau	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...		-4.2	
PNG	-12.4	-13.6	-1.9	10.7		-2.1	-23.3	-23.9	-17.9		11.4	-17.1
Samoa	-24.9	9.9	-3.3	-15.5	-12.5	-20.2	-15.9	-25.4	-32.6	-21.5	9.1	-23.6
Solomon Islands	20.1	-13.6	-8.3	-14.0	0.16	-12.5	-14.8	-20.8	-18.1	-31.8	-16.9	-17.3
Tonga	-33.0	-59.8	149.1	26.5		37.3	-67.2	-26.4	-15.1		59.8	-23.7
Tuvalu	-54.4	-74.7	-59.2	125.0		-39.6	-90.5	-96.2	-89.4		62.9	-82.8
Vanuatu	-4.9	-26.1	16.6	29.2		0.7	-15.5	-17.2	6.0		-5.2	-17.2

Source: NSOs, Ministry of Finance, Central/Reserve Banks of Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, Kiribati, New Caledonia, Palau, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

... data not available.

Note: In Q4 2020, countries export data sourced from the Reserve/Central Banks are used as proxies and will be revised in the next reporting quarter when NSOs export data are available.

Latest monthly exports in 2021 from:

- Solomon Islands rose by 41.5% in March against the previous month but were lower by 21.3% when compared to March 2020.
- Cook Islands in February dropped by 82.6% and 17.5% when compared to the previous month and the same month last year, respectively.

- French Polynesia, New Caledonia and Samoa in February rose by 38.4%, 15.6% and 40.7% respectively over the preceding month. Against February 2020, exports from French Polynesia rose by 7.9%, exports from New Caledonia were up 15.6% whilst those from Samoa dropped by 19.4%.
- Fiji in February dropped by 13.6% when compared to February last year but remained almost flat against the previous month.

Latest monthly exports in 2020 from:

- Kiribati in December declined by 41.5% and 4.8% against the previous month and December 2019, respectively.
- Tonga in December fell by 69.6% and 50.7% over the previous month and the corresponding month in 2019.
- Tuvalu in December dropped by 84.3% when compared against the same month in 2019.
- Tonga in October rose by 57.1% against the previous month but fell 84.3% when compared to October 2019.

Table 2.1: Exports (percent change over previous month).

Countries	% change over previous month														
	2020												2021		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Cook Islands	-18.3	-39.7	959.8	-97.0	706.6	43.6	-49.7	-11.0	541.0	-77.6	-94.6	4,607.8	-73.6	-82.6	...
Fiji	0.7	-1.9	0.4	-23.7	34.8	-18.7	29.4	1.6	36.5	-13.6	-29.4	0.0	-4.9	0.0	...
French Polynesia	0	7.23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38.4	...
Kiribati	302.1	-34.2	-93.7	179.6	177.4	32.1	-52.0	-61.0	121.2	-87.5	1724.7	-41.5	...	...	...
New Caledonia	-37.5	2.4	10.7	-17.9	2.6	16.4	-12.2	10.6	-4.9	25.6	0.9	-22.0	-35.7	15.6	...
Palau	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
PNG	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Samoa	0.3	-26.3	-0.3	52.3	-28.5	-0.5	45.5	-34.3	-6.9	22.4	-31.8	28.6	-44.4	40.7	...
Solomon Islands	9.4	25.8	2.2	-65.3	164.0	22.6	-44.7	-8.8	76.9	-48.6	-4.7	78.9	-38.5	3.4	41.5
Tonga	8.6	-32.4	7.0	-83.7	285.3	-13.8	137.5	-18.0	-7.2	54.4	36.4	-69.6	...	...	...
Tuvalu	-14.1	-11.5	-60.0	-100.0	0.0	0.0	-98.6	80.7	1,411.1	60.8	0.0	0.0	...	...	...
Vanuatu	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Table 2.2: Export (percent change same month last year).

Countries	% Change over same month last year														
	2020												2021		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Cook Islands	-26.8	21.2	-15.0	-13.6	-45.2	-30.8	-14.3	-20.0	-17.1	-5.3	-37.4	-15.4	30.7	-17.5	...
Fiji	-4.0	-58.6	-24.9	-18.8	34.0	-1.5	-10.9	-3.4	-1.7	-31.5	-40.6	-32.7	-15.7	-13.6	...
French Polynesia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.7	7.9	...
Kiribati	108.7	127.9	-83.2	-76.5	-44.6	-28.2	-33.2	-86.7	-53.0	-89.3	4.6	-4.8	...	...	...
New Caledonia	52.3	78.4	62.4	15.2	79.0	82.8	7.5	22.6	18.3	29.3	43.7	-9.0	-15.2	15.6	...
Palau	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
PNG	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Samoa	-17.6	-1.2	-36.5	45.0	-20.9	-43.5	27.5	-44.3	-43.2	-34.0	-39.9	-23.7	-57.7	-19.4	...
Solomon Islands	-34.2	-0.6	1.5	-44.1	-23.6	14.6	-36.8	-33.3	7.5	-39.2	-33.7	23.1	-30.9	-43.2	-21.3
Tonga	159.5	65.0	-24.1	-88.7	-42.0	-65.0	9.9	-17.8	-52.4	-37.3	63.6	-50.7	...	...	...
Tuvalu	-6.2	32.1	-82.0	-100.0	-100	-57.4	-99.6	-99.5	-86.3	-84.4	-100.0	-84.3	...	...	...
Vanuatu	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Source: NSOs, Ministry of Finance, Central/Reserve Banks of Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia, Kiribati, New Caledonia, Palau, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

... data not available.

Note: In Q4 2020, countries export data sourced from the Reserve/Central Banks are used as proxies and will be revised in the next reporting quarter when NSOs export data are available.

Imports

Quarter4 2020 imports for:

- Cook Islands, Kiribati, PNG, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu dropped by 21.9%, 8.8%, 16.3%, 23.2% and 0.5% respectively when compared to the previous quarter.

- Fiji, French Polynesia, New Caledonia, Samoa, Tonga and Tuvalu increased by 2.9%, 8.8%, 20.7%, 14.7%, 21.8% and 16.1% respectively against quarter 3, 2020.
- Cook Islands, Fiji, French Polynesia New Caledonia, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu declined by 39.6%, 55.2%, 7.9%, 15.9%, 51.8%, 19.7%, 34.9%, 6.1% and 17.8% respectively when compared to Quarter 4, 2019.
- Tuvalu increased by 41.6% against the same quarter a year ago, an upturn from three past consecutive quarters of decline.
- Kiribati rose by 10% when compared against December quarter 2019.

Annual Imports in 2020 represented:

- Declines for Cook Islands (22.1%), Fiji (37.6%), French Polynesia (20.9%), New Caledonia (13.8%), PNG (70.9%), Samoa (19.7%), Solomon Islands (18.2%), Tonga (14%) and Vanuatu (15.5%) when compared to 2019.
- An increase for Kiribati and Tuvalu by 1.9% and 4.9%, respectively, but relatively weaker than the growth rates in 2019.

Latest Quarterly imports, Quarter 1, 2021 for:

- Solomon Islands increased by 16% and 8.4% against the previous quarter and March quarter in 2020 respectively.
- Samoa dropped by 5.5% when compared to the preceding quarter. Against March quarter last year, imports rose by 9.3%.

Table 3: Imports (Quarter and Annual Percent Change).

Countries	Imports											
	% change over previous quarter					% change over same quarter last year					Annual % Change	
	2020				2021	2020				2021	2019	2020
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1		
Cook Islands	-28.0	-26.8	46.8	-21.9		8.0	-31.0	-17.5	-39.6		6.1	-22.1
Fiji	-45.9	-19.4	-0.3	2.9		-19.3	-30.8	-36.1	-55.2		5.5	-37.6
French Polynesia	...	...	...	8.8		0.0	-20.1	-32.5	-7.9		-1.4	-20.9
Kiribati	6.4	3.5	9.5	-8.8		133.7	-41.1	13.5	10.0		16.4	1.9
New Caledonia	-24.4	-0.5	-7.5	20.7		-3.6	-10.0	-23.7	-15.9			-13.8
Palau	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...		9.3	
PNG	1.5	-16.6	-10.0	-16.3		-20.9	-30.9	-18.1	-51.8		171.3	-70.9
Samoa	-30.5	-15.0	18.7	14.7	-5.5	-9.0	-31.4	-17.3	-19.7	9.3	9.8	-19.7
Solomon Islands	-34.9	40.5	-13.4	-23.2	16.0	-34.1	7.6	-5.7	-34.9	8.4	-12.9	-18.2
Tonga	-26.7	-19.1	30.0	21.8		-9.3	-35.3	-4.2	-6.1		20.0	-14.0
Tuvalu	-3.1	42.9	-11.8	16.1		-31.1	45.4	-12.6	41.6		37.7	4.9
Vanuatu	-20.3	-8.7	13.6	-0.5		16.0	-6.0	-1.4	-17.8		-4.8	-15.5

Source: NSOs, Ministry of Finance, Central/Reserve Banks of Fiji, Cook Islands, French Polynesia, Kiribati, Palau, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

... data not available.

Note: In Q4 2020, countries import data sourced from the Reserve/Central Banks are used as proxies and will be revised in the next reporting quarter when NSOs export data are available.

Latest monthly Imports in 2021 for:

- Solomon Islands in March fell by 4.4% over the previous month but outweighed the same month in 2020 by 21.5%
- Fiji in February fell by 6.8% and 19.6% against the previous month and February 2020, respectively.
- Cook Islands in February fell by 17.6% and 51.5% against the previous month and the same month in 2020, respectively.
- Samoa in February dropped by 13.6% and 17.5% when compared to the previous month and February last year, respectively.
- French Polynesia, and New Caledonia in February rose by 7% and 7.9% each against the preceding month but fell by 6.3% and 17.5% when compared to February 2020, respectively.

Latest monthly Imports in 2020 for:

- Tonga in December increased by 12.5% and 13.2% against the previous month and the same month in 2019, respectively.
- Kiribati in December rose by 52.2% and 28.6% over the preceding month and December 2019.

Table 3.1: Imports (percent change over previous month).

Countries	% change over previous month													2021		
	2020												Jan	Feb	Mar	
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	
Cook Islands	-48.5	36.9	7.3	-27.0	-41.8	78.0	2.3	57.3	-33.1	-38.2	103.6	-35.6	-17.2	-17.6	...	
Fiji	-46.9	-10.2	-10.7	-13.0	-1.4	15.4	-17.2	19.0	-6.0	6.1	-11.4	10.8	1.3	-6.8	...	
French Polynesia	...	1.4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7.7	...
Kiribati	13.2	15.8	-40.7	33.2	27.9	-26.6	58.3	-22.7	-22.9	30.2	-29.3	52.2	...	...	...
New Caledonia	-3.1	-3.8	-21.4	22.1	-5.3	3.5	-9.6	7.3	-8.4	23.0	-3.6	13.0	-30.6	7.0	...	
Palau	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	...	...	...
PNG	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Samoa	-45.4	36.9	2.4	-18.2	-15.0	11.0	16.5	7.2	-11.9	38.8	-29.8	33.6	-15.7	-13.6	...	
Solomon Islands	-26.0	-9.4	-11.6	11.2	116.8	-49.2	18.3	-7.7	-0.7	-18.7	-12.6	20.3	3.7	7.9	-4.4	
Tonga	24.5	-29.7	-17.1	-49.2	152.5	7.9	-12.2	9.8	17.9	31.9	-33.2	12.5	...	...	...
Tuvalu	56.7	-26.1	-62.6	333.0	-30.7	3.0	-25.5	67.7	-21.9	-8.1	-60.2	514.5	...	...	...
Vanuatu	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Table 3.2: Imports (percent change same month last year).

Countries	% change over same month last year													2021		
	2020												Jan	Feb	Mar	
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	
Cook Islands	14.5	11.3	0.6	-1.3	-59.8	-24.0	-23.6	-9.1	-22.4	-50.2	-20.9	-50.0	-19.6	-51.6	...	
Fiji	-32.9	0.5	-16.1	-34.0	-40.0	-15.7	-44.4	-20.8	-40.5	-27.8	-65.9	-59.4	-22.6	-19.6	...	
French Polynesia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-11.9	-6.3	...
Kiribati	128.0	1328.0	-1.5	-31.3	107.6	-72.3	43.0	8.5	-11.8	5.3	-5.1	28.6	...	...	...
New Caledonia	-1.1	15.6	-22.6	-8.3	-11.9	-9.8	-16.6	-40.2	-2.8	-40.9	7.6	4.5	-25.1	-16.7	...	
Palau	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
PNG	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Samoa	-26.8	21.2	-15.0	-13.6	-45.2	-30.8	-14.3	-20.0	-17.1	-5.3	-37.4	-15.4	30.7	-17.5	...	
Solomon Islands	-4.0	-58.6	-24.9	-18.8	34.0	-1.5	-10.9	-3.4	-1.7	-31.5	-40.6	-32.7	-5.6	12.4	21.5	
Tonga	-16.1	6.4	-12.8	-68.6	-27.1	-9.4	-5.7	-11.7	8.4	-29.7	36.2	13.2	...	...	...
Tuvalu	-29.7	0.3	-63.9	39.3	12.5	121.9	-38.4	12.8	-9.8	9.7	-59.0	193.6	...	...	...
Vanuatu	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Source: NSOs, Ministry of Finance, Central/Reserve Banks of Fiji, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

... data not available.

Note: In Q3 2020, countries import data sourced from the Reserve/Central Banks are used as proxies and will be revised in the next reporting quarter when NSOs export data are available.

Financial Sector

Gross Foreign Reserves (Table 4)

Gross Foreign Exchange Reserves (GFER) levels at the end of Quarter 4, 2020 represented:

- Decreases of 5.8% and 0.7% for Fiji and Solomon Islands, respectively when compared to the previous quarter. Against December quarter 2019, gross foreign reserves for Fiji were down by 1.2% whilst Solomon Islands rose by 11.8%
- Increases of 6.5%, 17.2%, and 6.7% for Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu respectively when compared to the previous quarter. Against Quarter 4, 2019, gross foreign reserves for Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu rose by 56.7%, 36.8% and 12.9%, respectively.
- Increases for PNG at 1.1% and 15.9% when compared to the previous quarter and December Quarter, 2019, respectively.

Table 4: Gross Foreign Reserves (quarter and annual percent change).

Countries	Gross Foreign Reserves											
	% change over previous quarter					% change over same quarter last year					Annual % Change	
	2020				2021	2020				2021	2019	2020
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1		
Cook Islands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fiji	-1.0	-1.6	6.9	-5.9	8.2	14.4	14.0	7.8	-1.2	7.9	-0.5	-1.2
PNG	-12.1	-6.3	-10.1	1.1	...	-1.2	-1.3	6.7	15.9	...		15.9
Samoa	7.7	13.4	15.2	6.5	...	12.3	16.4	48.3	56.7	...		56.7
Solomon Islands	-2.6	14.5	0.9	-0.7	-10.1	-7.3	3.3	11.9	11.8	14.3		11.8
Tonga	-6.1	18.9	6.0	17.2	1.5	-1.6	12.3	17.5	38.6	49.9		38.6
Vanuatu	1.5	3.5	0.8	6.7	...	20.5	16.0	15.7	12.9	...		12.9

Source: NSOs, Central/Reserve Banks of Fiji, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu.

... data not available.

Latest Quarterly GFER, Quarter 1, 2021 for:

- Fiji increased by 8.2% and 7.9% over the previous quarter and quarter 1, 2020 respectively.
- Solomon Islands dropped by 10.1% when compared against the previous quarter but were higher by 14.3% against March quarter 2020.
- Tonga increased by 6.7% and 12.9% over the previous quarter and Quarter 1, 2020 respectively.

The latest monthly GFER in 2021 for:

- Fiji in March increased by 8.9% over the previous month but fell by 3.8% against March last year.
- Solomon Islands and Tonga in March fell by 0.9% and 1.0% against the previous month but increased by 14.3% and 49.8% each over March 2020.
- Fiji in February increased by 0.3% against the previous month but fell by 3.6% when compared to February 2020.
- Samoa and Vanuatu dropped by 1.7% and 0.7%, respectively against the preceding month. Against February last year, Samoa and Vanuatu's gross foreign reserves increased by 51% and 7.8%, respectively.

Table 4.1: Gross Foreign Reserves Percent Change over previous month.

Countries	% change over previous month													2021		
	2020												2021			
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	
Cook Islands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fiji	1.5	0.5	-3.0	0.9	1.4	-3.1	-3.3	12.6	-1.8	-3.7	-2.8	0.6	-0.9	0.3	8.9	
PNG	-7.1	-1.3	-4.0	-1.1	0.0	13.5	-7.2	-0.1	-3.0	-2.1	3.4	29.0	...	...	...
Samoa	5.0	-2.5	5.0	11.5	-1.4	8.0	0.9	12.1	1.9	1.3	-0.6	5.8	0.4	-1.7	...	
Solomon Islands	-2.1	10.6	-10.0	1.1	3.0	9.9	9.6	-5.1	-3.0	-0.7	1.4	-1.3	0.2	0.3	-0.9	
Tonga	-0.9	-0.6	-4.6	3.8	3.1	11.1	2.2	0.0	3.7	0.9	1.5	14.5	4.4	-1.8	-1.0	
Vanuatu	3.2	0.4	-2.0	-0.6	1.4	2.6	-0.1	0.9	-0.1	3.3	-0.1	3.4	-0.4	-0.7	...	

Table 4.2: Gross Foreign Reserves Percent Change Same Month last year.

Countries	% change over same month last year													2021		
	2020												2021			
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	
Cook Islands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fiji	11.0	16.5	14.4	14.0	16.3	10.4	0.9	0.9	9.5	7.8	2.7	-0.5	-1.2	-3.6	-3.8	
PNG	-4.6	-3.4	-1.2	-1.3	2.3	12.9	7.6	8.9	6.7	4.7	-5.0	15.9	...	...	...
Samoa	5.9	2.0	12.3	24.4	21.1	16.4	23.4	38.5	48.3	44.5	48.4	56.7	49.9	51.0	0.0	
Solomon Islands	-9.2	-0.1	-7.3	-6.8	-4.4	3.3	12.1	12.5	11.9	11.2	14.8	11.8	14.4	3.7	14.3	
Tonga	0.8	1.3	-1.6	2.3	4.5	12.3	12.8	13.1	17.5	18.7	20.6	38.6	46.1	44.3	49.9	
Vanuatu	22.8	24.6	20.5	18.6	16.1	16.0	17.5	15.4	15.7	15.2	12.7	12.9	9.1	7.8	0.0	

Source: NSOs, Central/Reserve Banks of Fiji, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu.

... data not available.

Broad Money Supply (Table 5)

The Broad Money Supply at the end of Quarter 4, 2020 represented:

- Decreases of 0.2% and 0.75% for Fiji and Solomon Islands, respectively when compared to the previous quarter. Against December quarter in 2019, broad money supply for Fiji and Solomon Islands increased by 1.3% and 3.7% respectively.
- Increases of 17.2% for Tonga and 2.3% for Vanuatu when compared to the previous quarter. Against December quarter in 2019, broad money supply for Tonga increased by 17.5% whilst Vanuatu fell by 0.7%.
- Increases for PNG at 4.3% and 7% against the previous quarter and the same quarter in 2019, respectively.

Table 5: Broad Money (Quarter and Annual Percent Change).

countries	Broad Money											
	% change over previous quarter					% change over same quarter last year					Annual % Change	
	2020				2021	2020				2021	2019	2020
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1		
Cook Islands	27.5	...	...	...	...	33.8	...	...	...	...	7.3	
Fiji	0.1	-0.3	2.0	-0.2	...	4.4	3.9	2.7	1.3	...	2.5	1.3
PNG	5.2	2.3	1.6	4.3	...	6.0	6.5	7.4	7.0	...	4.4	7.0
Samoa	-1.7	0.3	2.9	3.9	...	-1.9	-0.9	5.4	5.4	...		7.1
Solomon Islands	-1.8	0.3	2.1	-0.7	1.5	-2.8	-1.9	4.6	3.7	7.1		3.7
Tonga	-0.9	1.7	5.5	17.2	1.5	2.3	1.2	7.8	17.5	19.3		17.5
Vanuatu	0.7	-0.1	0.8	2.3	2.3	4.5	3.8	-1.3	-0.7	1.0		0.8

Source: NSOs, Central/Reserve Banks of Fiji, Cook Islands, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu.

... data not available.

Latest quarterly broad money level in Quarter 1, 2021 for:

- Solomon Islands and Tonga increased by 1.5% each and Vanuatu rose by 2.3% when compared to the previous quarter.
- Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu rose by 7.1%, 19.3%, and 1.0%, respectively against December quarter 2019.

The latest monthly Broad Money Supply in 2021 for:

- Solomon Islands in March recorded a decrease of 0.9% when compared against the previous month but was 7.1% higher than in March 2020.
- Vanuatu in March increased by 1.1% and 1% against the previous month and March last year, respectively.
- Fiji in March rose by 3.1% when compared to March last year.
- Tonga in January dropped by 0.1% against the previous month but increased by 19.3% when compared to January last year.

Table 5.1: Broad Money (percent change over previous month).

countries	% change over previous month														
	2020												2021		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Cook Islands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fiji	1.1	-0.6	-0.4	0.1	-0.4	-0.3	-0.2	1.1	1.1	1.5	-2.1	0.5	0.5	0.0	...
PNG	0.0	-0.5	-0.7	0.1	1.7	0.4	1.3	0.8	-0.5	-1.5	1.0	4.8	...	...	...
Samoa	-1.0	-0.8	0.1	-0.1	-0.2	0.6	1.9	-0.4	1.3	0.7	1.7	1.4	...	...	...
Solomon Islands	-2.8	1.2	-0.2	0.5	-0.3	0.1	14.3	-5.1	-3.0	-0.7	1.4	-1.3	0.2	0.3	-0.9
Tonga	-1.6	-0.4	1.2	-2.6	1.8	2.5	1.6	1.3	2.6	2.3	4.0	3.8	-0.1	...	...
Vanuatu	0.3	1.1	-0.7	-0.4	0.4	-0.1	2.4	-0.9	-4.8	1.1	0.5	0.8	1.5	-0.3	1.1

Table 5.2: Broad Money (percent change same month last year).

countries	% change over same month last year														
	2020												2021		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Cook Islands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fiji	3.0	4.4	4.4	4.7	4.5	3.9	0.6	1.5	2.7	4.1	0.9	1.3	0.8	1.5	3.1
PNG	4.4	5.7	1.6	6.6	8.5	6.5	9.2	8.4	7.4	6.4	6.3	7.0	...	...	...
Samoa	2.0	-1.9	-1.9	-3.0	-2.8	-0.9	1.7	1.8	5.4	6.1	7.1	5.4	...	...	...

Solomon Islands	-3.5	-3.7	-2.8	-1.5	-2.4	-1.9	0.2	2.6	4.6	2.5	5.7	3.7	6.8	6.9	7.1
Tonga	-1.0	0.2	2.3	-0.7	1.3	1.2	3.1	3.7	7.8	10.6	12.5	17.5	19.3	...	...
Vanuatu	4.4	5.5	4.5	1.9	-0.5	3.8	4.4	3.4	-1.3	-1.0	-0.2	-0.7	0.5	-0.8	1.0

Source: Central/Reserve Banks of Fiji, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu.

... data not available.

Government Finance

Revenues (Table 6)

Government tax revenues shrank for most PICs in the fourth quarter of 2020 as the negative impacts of COVID19 persisted over the period.

Government tax revenues in Quarter 4, 2020 represented:

- Decreases for Fiji, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu by 5.1%, 11.2% and 15.2% respectively, when compared to Quarter 4 2019.
- Decreases of 11.1%, 14.2%, and 36.1% for Fiji, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu when compared December quarter in 2019.

Table 6: Government Finance – Revenue (quarter and annual percent change).

Countries	Government Revenues												Annual % Change	
	% change over previous quarter					% change over same quarter last year					2019	2020		
	2020				2021	2020				2021				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1				
Cook Islands	-17.8	-31.3	...	...		13.8	0.0	...	...		13.0	
Fiji	-21.5	-32.6	-27.2	-5.1		-10.9	7.6	-26.7	-11.1		4.1	-50.2		
PNG	...	93.1	...	...		10.7	...	...	...			6.8
Samoa	-13.8	-15.4	9.4	...		2.1	-22.2	-11.3	...			-2.8		
Solomon Islands	-8.9	-7.2	14.3	-11.2	7.8	-5.9	-16.3	-3.5	-14.2	1.5		-3.9		
Tonga	-15.4	13.9	...	...		1.1	-9.5	...	...			-1.8
Vanuatu	5.6	-34.2	8.5	-15.2		4.0	-16.9	-29.7	-36.1			-15.2		

Annual Government Tax Revenue in 2020 represented:

- Decreases for Fiji (50.2%), Samoa (2.8%), Solomon Islands (3.9%), Tonga (1.8%) and Vanuatu (15.2%) when compared to 2019.
- Increases of 6.8% for PNG against 2019 levels.

Latest Quarterly Government Tax Revenues in Quarter 1 2021 represented:

- Increases for Solomon Islands by 7.8% and 1.5% when compared to the previous quarter and quarter 1, 2020, respectively.

Latest Monthly Government tax revenues in 2021 for:

- Solomon Islands in March increased by 64% and 5.8% when compared to the previous month and March last year.

Latest Monthly Government tax revenues in 2020 for:

- Vanuatu in December dropped by 17.4% and 41.3% when compared to the previous month and December 2019.
- Tonga in July dropped by 28.8% and 6.3% against the preceding month and July 2019.

Table 6.1: Government Finance – Revenues. (percent change over previous month).

Countries	% change over previous month														
	2020												2021		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Cook Islands	...	-5.74	-1.28	-30.6	-0.8	7.3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fiji
PNG
Samoa
Solomon Islands	-8.7	-26.8	40.5	-31.6	13.8	40.4	-25.3	18.1	13.4	-28.8	3.9	24.6	-10.7	-28.2	64.0

Tonga	5.9	-35.8	50.0	5.8	-13.2	20.5	-28.8	-100.0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Vanuatu	42.7	-31.4	-18.9	-9.1	-4.6	-2.8	-19.6	91.9	-30.1	-4.9	3.5	-17.4	...	...	...

Table 6.2: Government Finance – Revenues (percent change same month last year).

Countries	% Change over same month last year														
	2020												2021		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Cook Islands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fiji	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
PNG	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Samoa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Solomon Islands	-4.2	-20.8	0.0	-10.5	-30.8	1.2	-4.5	3.7	-0.1	-20.0	-5.6	-5.4	-7.5	-9.3	5.8
Tonga	9.1	-13.8	5.1	8.4	-27.2	-5.4	-6.3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Vanuatu	6.1	3.9	-90.8	-22.7	-17.6	-8.7	-59.6	-2.5	-22.7	-39.3	-26.9	-41.3	...	...	...

Source: NSOs, Ministries of Finance and Central/Reserve Banks of Fiji, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu.

... data not available.

Expenditure (Table 7)

Government Expenditure in Quarter 4, 2020 represented:

- Decreases for Solomon Islands by 1.5% and 10.6% when compared to the preceding quarter and quarter 4, 2019 respectively.
- Increases for Fiji by 0.3% when compared to the previous quarter but expenditure recorded a decline of 11.1% against quarter 4, 2019.
- Increases for Vanuatu by 15.7% and 16.7% when compared to quarter 3, 2020 and quarter 4, 2019, respectively.

Table 7: Government Finance – Expenditure (quarter and annual percent change).

Countries	Government Expenditure											Annual % change	
	% Change over previous quarter					2021	% Change over same quarter last year				2021	2019	2020
	2020						2020						
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1			
Cook Islands	-7.1	-30.2	...	...		26.6	...	...	...		2.8	
Fiji	-8.8	5.1	-7.6	0.3		-10.9	7.6	-26.7	-11.1		-3.4	-33.1	
PNG	...	172.0	...	...		-24.1	...	...	...			24.9
Samoa	6.4	8.8	-15.4	...		8.0	5.7	3.1	...			8.1	
Solomon Islands	-31.0	16.4	13.1	-1.5	-36.7	8.6	8.7	17.4	-10.6	-17.9		4.7	
Tonga	-1.6	24.8	...	...		8.7	1.8	...	...			9.9
Vanuatu	-6.3	4.2	...	...		10.2	40.9	...	...			10.6

Source: NSOs, Ministries of Finance and Central/Reserve Banks of Fiji, Cook Islands, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu.

... data not available.

Annual Government Expenditures in 2020 represented:

- Decreases of 33.1% for Fiji when compared to 2019.
- Increases for PNG by 24.9%, Samoa 8.1%, Solomon Islands 4.7%, Tonga 9.9% and Vanuatu 10.6% when compared to 2019. The increase in PNG's government spending was mainly driven by economic, infrastructure and social services sector expenditures while compensation of employees attributed to Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu's increased spending in 2020.

Latest quarterly government expenditure in Quarter 1, 2021 for:

- Solomon Islands declined by 36.7% and 17.9% when compared to the previous quarter and March quarter last year, respectively.

Latest monthly government expenditure in 2021 for:

- Solomon Islands in March dropped by 9.4% when compared to February 2021, but outpaced March 2020 by 5.8%.

Latest monthly government expenditure in 2020 for:

- Vanuatu in December increased by 76.4% and 30.5% when compared to the previous month and the same month in 2019, respectively. This was driven by increases in compensation of employees, use of goods and services and social benefits during the period

Table 7.1: Government Finance – Expenditure (percent change over previous month).

Countries	% change over previous month														
	2020												2021		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Cook Islands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fiji	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
PNG	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Samoa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Solomon Islands	-35.6	4.8	2.8	25.6	-31.6	32.3	0.1	0.1	24.0	-20.8	31.9	-20.0	-41.9	30.4	-9.4
Tonga	-24.7	-0.9	61.4	-40.0	43.2	56.4	-40.3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Vanuatu	-6.1	-28.4	26.8	3.2	-17.9	32.8	4.2	-14.0	-3.9	31.2	-31.8	76.4	...	...	...

Table 7.2: Government Finance – Expenditure (percent change same month last year).

Countries	% Change over same month last year														
	2020												2021		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Cook Islands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fiji	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
PNG	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Samoa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Solomon Islands	-4.2	-20.8	0.0	-10.5	-30.8	1.2	-4.5	3.7	-0.1	-20.0	-5.6	-5.4	-7.5	-9.3	5.8
Tonga	21.3	13.4	-0.3	-9.0	1.3	7.9	65.7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Vanuatu	34.2	-17.2	11.2	61.9	10.6	45.4	38.2	24.1	-9.1	40.6	-18.7	30.5	...	...	...

Source: NSOs, Ministries of Finance and Central/Reserve Banks of Fiji, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu.

... data not available.

Government Debt (Table 8)

Falling revenues often lead to an increase in government debt – a seen in Fiji and Solomon Islands - and can lead to fiscal weakness.

Government Debt in Quarter 4, 2020 represented:

- Increases for Fiji by 2.1% and Solomon Islands 0.4% when compared to the preceding quarter. Against quarter 4, 2019, government debts for Fiji and Solomon Islands rose by 17.6% and 27.5%, respectively.
- Decline of 2.3% for Samoa when compared to the previous quarter.

Table 8: Government Debts (quarter and annual debt).

Countries	Government Debt											Annual % change	
	% change over previous quarter					% change over same quarter last year					2019	2021	
	2020					2021	2020				2021		
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1			
Cook Islands	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...
Fiji	3.0	11.0	0.8	2.1		11.1	17.8	14.3	17.6				17.6
PNG	21.1	10.6	1.5	...		10.2	34.0	33.3	...		31.5		
Samoa	4.4	-6.7	2.2	-2.3		1.4	-4.4	-2.2	...				-4.4
Solomon Islands	-0.2	14.4	11.1	0.4	4.6	3.6	17.8	29.8	27.5	35.8			27.5
Tonga	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...
Vanuatu	0.0	0.0	43.8	...		-11	-7	34	...				

Source: NSOs, Ministries of Finance and Central/Reserve Banks of Fiji, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu.

... data not available.

Annual Government Debt in 2020 represented:

- Increases for Fiji and Solomon Islands by 17.6% and 27.5%, respectively whilst a decline of 4.4% was recorded for Samoa when compared to 2019.

Latest quarterly government Debt in Quarter 1, 2021 for:

- Solomon Islands increased by 4.6% and 35.8% against the preceding quarter and March quarter in 2020.

Latest Monthly Government Debt in 2021 for:

- Solomon Islands in March declined by 0.9% when compared to the preceding month, but higher by 33.6% over March 2020.
- Fiji in February increased by 0.3% and 17.3% when compared to the previous month and the same month last year, respectively.

Table 8.1: Government Debts (percent change over previous month).

Countries	% change over previous month														
	2020												2021		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Cook Islands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fiji	0.7	0.9	1.4	4.1	4.5	2.0	0.7	-0.2	0.3	0.1	1.2	0.7	0.5	0.8	0.0
PNG	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Samoa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Solomon Islands	-0.7	0.4	0.2	1.9	6.1	5.9	7.9	-0.3	3.3	0.6	-0.1	-0.1	5.7	-0.1	-0.9
Tonga	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Vanuatu	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Table 8.2: Government Debt (percent change same month last year).

Countries	% change over same month last year														
	2020												2021		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Cook Islands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fiji	11.6	11.1	11.1	13.9	16.9	17.8	15.7	16.1	14.3	14.8	16.8	17.6	17.4	17.3	...
PNG	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Samoa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Solomon Islands	4.0	3.8	3.6	5.9	11.5	17.8	26.6	25.0	29.8	30.1	25.6	27.5	35.8	35.1	33.6
Tonga	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Vanuatu	...	...	-10.7	...	...	-6.8	...	...	33.9	...	...	...	...	...	...

Source: NSOs, Ministries of Finance and Central/Reserve Banks of Fiji, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu.

... data not available.

Note: Vanuatu quarterly Government Bond Outstanding, Fiji Government Domestic Debts.

Private Sector Credit (Table 9)

Private Sector Credit is a good indicator of business activity in a country. Increases in credit to the private sector could signify a slowing of business activity prompting businesses to access credit lines rather than financing from cash flow.

Private Sector Credit levels in Quarter 4, 2020 represented:

- Decreases for Fiji (1.4%), Vanuatu (2%), and PNG and Solomon Islands each at 0.6% decline when compared to the preceding quarter.
- Decreases for Fiji (3.1%), Solomon Islands (2.5%), Tonga (1.1%), and Vanuatu (0.8%) when compared to Quarter 4, 2019.
- Increases for PNG at 4.3% against quarter 4, 2019.
- Increases for Samoa at 0.9% and 1.6% when compared to the previous quarter December quarter 2019, respectively.

Table 9: Private Sector credit (quarter and annual percentage change).

Countries	Private Sector Credit													
	% change over previous quarter					% change over same quarter last year					Annual % change			
	2020					2021	2020				2021	2019	2020	
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4			Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1				
Cook Islands	1.2	...	...	...			1.1	...	...	...			-0.6	
Fiji	0.4	-0.6	-1.5	-1.4			2.4	1.5	-0.8	-3.1			4.6	-3.1
PNG	3.7	0.3	0.1	-0.6			4.7	7.9	0.1	4.3			4.0	4.3
Samoa	0.3	-1.1	1.4	0.9			6.4	5.8	4.0	1.6			6.9	1.6
Solomon Islands	-0.6	-0.7	-0.6	-0.6	1.9		1.7	-0.7	-1.5	-2.5	0.0			-2.5
Tonga	-0.5	-1.4	-0.8	1.5			5.9	3.3	-1.1	-1.1				-1.1
Vanuatu	0.0	-0.5	-0.6	-2.0	-0.4		-1.5	-3.1	-1.0	-0.8	0.0			-0.8

Source: Central/Reserve Banks of Fiji, Cook Islands, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu.

... data not available.

Annual Private Sector Credit in 2020 represented:

- Decreases for Fiji (3.3%), Solomon Islands (2.5%), Tonga (1.1%) and Vanuatu (0.8%) whilst an increase of 4.3% for PNG and 1.6% for Samoa when compared to 2019.

Latest quarterly private sector credit in Quarter 1, 2021 for:

- Solomon Islands increased by 1.9% whilst a slight decline of 0.4% for Vanuatu when compared to quarter 4, 2020.
- Solomon Islands and Vanuatu remained at the same level as in March quarter last year.

Latest monthly Private Sector Credit levels in 2021 for:

- Solomon Islands in March declined by 0.3% when compared to the previous month.
- Fiji in March dropped by 3.7% against the same month in 2020.
- Vanuatu in March increased by 1% when compared to the previous month but remained flat against March 2020.
- Tonga in January rose by 1.4% over the same month last year but remained flat against January 2020.

Table 9.1: Private Sector credit (percent change over previous month).

Countries	% change over previous month														
	2020												2021		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Cook Islands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fiji	0.2	0.4	-0.1	-0.4	-0.2	-0.2	-1.2	-0.3	0.0	0.1	-7.2	6.2	0.3	...	...
PNG	3.3	0.5	0.7	1.2	0.4	-1.3	-0.5	0.5	0.0	0.2	-0.3	-0.5	...	...	...
Samoa	0.9	-1.4	0.9	-0.2	-0.2	-0.8	0.6	-0.7	1.6	0.4	0.7	-0.1	...	...	...
Solomon Islands	-0.1	-0.7	0.2	-1.0	0.7	-0.4	-0.4	0.2	-0.4	-2.0	1.1	0.2	0.9	1.3	-0.3
Tonga	0.3	-0.9	0.1	8.8	-8.6	-0.8	-0.5	-0.6	1.6	1.1	0.9	-0.4	...	...	...
Vanuatu	-0.7	0.5	0.3	-0.4	0.0	0.0	1.4	-1.3	-0.6	-0.1	0.3	0.0	-0.4	0.2	1.0

Table 9.2: Private Sector credit (percent change same month last year).

countries	% change over same month last year														
	2020												2021		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Cook Islands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fiji	4.1	2.9	2.4	1.8	1.2	0.7	0.2	-0.8	-0.8	-0.6	-8.4	-3.1	-3.0	-4.0	-3.7
PNG	4.0	9.7	-2.8	4.1	3.9	7.9	6.1	5.5	5.3	5.5	1.6	4.3	...	...	...
Samoa	8.9	5.4	6.4	6.0	6.2	5.8	6.6	4.3	4.0	2.6	1.8	1.6	...	...	...
Solomon Islands	5.2	3.2	1.7	1.4	1.4	0.3	3.4	-0.5	-1.5	-3.0	-3.0	-2.5	-1.5	0.4	-0.04
Tonga	7.8	6.7	5.9	14.9	3.7	3.3	-0.1	-3.4	-1.1	-1.4	-2.5	-1.1	-1.4	...	...
Vanuatu	-1.6	-1.0	-1.5	-2.4	-3.0	-3.1	-1.3	-2.0	-2.2	-3.1	-1.8	-0.8	-0.4	-0.7	0.0

Source: Central/Reserve Banks of Fiji, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu.

... data not available.

Remittances (Table 10)

Remittance levels in Quarter 4, 2020 represented:

- Increases of 15.1%, 0.4% and 8.6% for Fiji, Samoa and Tonga, respectively when compared to the preceding quarter.
- Increases of 34.6%, 31.6%, and 13% for Fiji, Tonga and Samoa respectively, when compared to December quarter in 2019.
- A decline for Solomon Islands by 38.2% and 51.3% against the previous quarter and December quarter in 2019.
- 100% decline for PNG when compared to the previous quarter and the same quarter in 2019.

Annual Remittances in 2020 represented:

- Decreases of 95.3% for PNG and 45.2% for Solomon Islands relative to 2019.
- Increases of 21.2%, 10.8% and 14.4% for Fiji, Samoa and Tonga respectively when compared to 2019. The increase partially reflected more remittance inflows captured through electronic channels by the financial systems as the travel restrictions may have had impacted on carried cash and gifts in the pre-COVID.

Table10: Remittances (quarter and annual percentage change).

Countries	Remittances											
	% change over previous quarter					% change over same quarter last year					Annual % change	
	2020				2021	2020				2021	2019	2020
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1		
Cook Islands	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...		15.6	
Fiji	1.4	-12.3	31.5	15.1		6.1	-16.1	14.2	34.6		5.0	21.2
PNG	-97.7	-15.1	-31.2	-100.0		-67.9	-72.7	-71.1	-100.0		613.9	-95.3
Samoa	-4.4	8.4	8.7	0.4		0.2	14.6	15.1	13.0		3.1	10.8
Solomon Islands	-49.7	41.2	11.0	-38.2		-32.7	-67.5	29.9	-51.3		153.4	-45.2
Tonga	-14.2	16.0	21.7	8.6		2.0	1.1	20.6	31.6		-0.9	14.4
Vanuatu	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...

Source: NSOs, Ministries of Finance and Central/Reserve Banks of Fiji, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu.

... data not available.

Latest monthly Remittance levels in 2021 for:

- Fiji in February declined by 1.7% against the preceding month but increased by 26.6% over February last year.
- Samoa in February increased by 2.3% over the preceding month but fell by 1.4% against February 2020.
- Tonga in January dropped by 26.3% against the previous month but outpaced January 2020 by 19.2%.

Table 10.1: Remittances (percent change over previous month).

countries	% change over previous month													
	2020												2021	
	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Cook Islands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fiji	10.4	-10.8	-18.3	-29.3	95.5	-23.1	45.0	-15.2	-0.6	29.5	-24.9	44.9	-13.8	-1.7
PNG	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Samoa	-18.1	-10.5	11.7	-21.6	58.8	-10.8	5.3	-0.6	-7.5	11.6	-17.0	22.9	-29.6	2.3
Solomon Islands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tonga	-16.4	-8.5	4.8	-9.6	48.9	-8.9	17.6	-2.7	-1.4	7.5	-4.4	18.4	-26.3	0.0
Vanuatu	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Table 10.2: Remittances (percent change same month last year).

Countries	% change over same month last year													
	2020												2021	
	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Cook Islands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fiji	34.6	11.7	-27.2	-33.8	-3.6	-21.8	33.0	-14.1	21.2	53.1	-5.5	47.1	14.9	26.6
PNG	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Samoa	18.2	4.6	-15.7	-8.7	23.0	27.9	2.6	15.9	31.6	33.3	9.9	0.4	-13.7	-1.4
Solomon Islands	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tonga	9.3	2.1	-0.1	-1.6	0.3	18.1	16.8	11.6	36.4	31.6	27.6	35.2	19.2	0.0
Vanuatu	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Source: NSOs, Ministries of Finance and Central/Reserve Banks of Fiji, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu.

... data not available.

Consumer Price Index (Table 11)

Latest monthly inflation rates up to March 2021 showed rising prices for most PICs as import demand and global commodity prices are increasing during the period.

Headline inflation in 2021 for:

- New Caledonia increased to +0.4% annualised rate in March from -0.8% in December 2020.
- Vanuatu registered +3% in March.
- Palau recorded -2.5% in March from -1.2% in December.
- Fiji rose to 1.1% in February, reversing the negative trends since January 2020.
- Tonga rose to 2.1% in February from 1.3% in December.
- Solomon Islands recorded a second consecutive deflationary month at -3.1% in Jan from -1.8% in December.

Headline inflation in 2020 for:

- Cook Islands fell to -0.3% in December from 0.9% in September.
- PNG rose to 5.1% in December from 4.9% in September.
- Samoa fell to -1.6% in December from +0.4% in September.
- Tokelau recorded 2.8% in December compared to 3.4% in September.
- Tuvalu rose to 0.2% in December from -0.7% in September.

Table 11: Consumer Price Index (Inflation).

Countries	Headline Inflation (% change)														
	2020												2021		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Cook Islands	...	...	0.2	...	...	0.2	...	...	0.9	...	...	-0.3	...	...	...
Fiji	-1.9	-3	-2.8	-1.3	-1.7	-3.5	-1.6	-3.0	-3.2	-2.9	-3.4	-2.8	-1.3	1.1	...
New Caledonia	-0.1	0.3	-0.2	0.2	-0.7	-0.9	-1.1	-0.8	-0.7	-0.8	-0.7	-0.8	-0.7	0.3	0.4
Palau	...	...	2.0	...	...	-0.5	...	...	0.6	...	...	-1.2	...	...	-2.5
PNG*	4.3	5.1	3.1	...	...	6.3	...	...	4.9	...	...	5.1	...	...	...
Samoa	1.5	1.9	2	2	1.7	1.5	1.1	0.9	0.4	-0.2	-0.9	-1.6	...	...	...
Solomon Islands	4.4	6.3	7.8	7.8	7.2	5.7	3.4	1.2	1.8	-0.5	-0.9	-1.8	-3.1	...	...
Tokelau	...	...	0.2	...	...	5.6R	...	...	3.4	...	...	2.8	...	...	...
Tonga	-0.3	0.3	0.2	1.3	0.1	-1.4	-1.1	-1.6	-0.9	-1.6	-0.008	1.3	0.7	2.1	0
Tuvalu	...	...	0.4	...	...	0.1	...	...	-0.7	...	...	0.2	...	...	...
Vanuatu	...	...	3.1	...	...	5.6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.0

Source: NSOs and Central/Reserve Banks of Fiji, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga and Vanuatu.

... data not available.

Notes: Cook Islands (APC (Annual Percent Change)), Fiji (YoY (Year on Year) % change), PNG (YoY % change), Samoa (12 Months Average), Solomon Islands (YoY % change), Tonga (APC), Tokelau (Q-on-Q last year % change), Vanuatu (Annual Quarterly % change). APC= Annual Percent Change, YoY=Year-on-Year.

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) (Table 12)

Impacts of Covid-19 weigh negatively on domestic economic activities in the region as reflected in available data on GDP performance.

Quarterly GDP in 2020:

- Samoa's year-on-year quarterly GDP performance in Quarter 4, 2020 continued to be weak recording an 8% decline in gross output when compared to December quarter 2019.
- However, Samoa's GDP in quarter 4, 2020 was 2.4% higher than against Quarter 3, 2020, an upturn from three consecutive quarters of quarter-on-quarter declines since the first quarter of 2020.
- Cook Islands GDP fell by 10.1% in Quarter 4, 2020 when compared to the previous quarter.

Annual GDP in 2020 for:

- Domestic economies of Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu contracted in 2020 by 9.2%, 2.7%, 4.3% and 4.1% respectively against positive growth rates in 2019. The downturn reflected the cumulative impact of the decline in economic activity and GDP because of the COVID19 pandemic during the year.

Table 12: Quarterly and Annual GDP.

Countries	Quarterly GDP Growth (% change from previous quarter)								Quarterly GDP Growth (% change from same quarter of previous year)								Annual GDP Growth (%)	
	2019				2020				2019				2020				2019	2020
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
Cook Islands	-14.7	23.2	1.2	-4.1	-9.8	-23.6	1.7	-10.1	0.0	12.8	4.3	1.9	3.8	...	...	...	4.8	
Fiji	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-0.4	
Palau	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.8	
PNG	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Samoa	-2.2	1.0	4.1	-5.9	-1.6	-7.0	-1.8	2.4	2.0	5.8	5.2	-3.7	-2.6	-10.3	-15.4	-8.0	2.4	-9.2
Solomon Islands*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.2	-4.3
Tonga	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.7	-2.7
Vanuatu	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3.9	-4.1

Source: National Statistics Offices and Central/Reserve Banks of Cook Islands, Fiji, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Vanuatu.

*Real GDP annual % movement. ** only PICs producing quarterly GDP.

Employment (Table 13)

For this reporting quarter, job advertisement surveys and the number of National Provident Fund (NPF) contributors are used as partial indicators for labour market conditions during the period. The pandemic poses tremendous downside risks to PICTs labour markets, with significant losses during the quarter driven by the COVID-19 pandemic that affected operations and the financial position of businesses.

Employment in Quarter 4, 2020 for:

- PNG's Reserve Bank employment index fell by 0.2% and 28.8% against the previous quarter and December Quarter, 2019, respectively.
- Samoa's registered employees declined by 0.7% when compared to the same quarter in 2019. This follows from three consecutive quarters of decline since quarter 2020 as job losses hit hard on Samoa's prime sectors such as the tourism industry.
- By gender, the numbers of Samoa's male and female registered employees fell by 0.8% and 0.5% respectively when compared to quarter 4, 2019.
- Solomon Islands (SI) number of SI NPF contributors dropped by 1.9% and 6.0% when compared to the previous quarter and the same quarter in 2019, respectively. This follows from two straight quarters of decline since quarter 2, 2020.
- Solomon Islands from the Central Bank of Solomon Islands job vacancy survey showed a decline of 40.6% as opposed to the surge in quarter 3, 2020. Against the same quarter last year, CBSI job vacancies rose by 40%.

Table 13: Employment (Quarter percent change).

Countries/Employment indicator proxies	Quarterly 2020			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
(1) New Caledonia (Salaried Employment)				
Private Sector (% change over same quarter last year)	-1.8	-1.6	-0.9	
Public Sector (% change same quarter last year)	-4.5	-1.7		
(2) PNG				
PNG Reserve Bank Employment Index (% change from previous quarter)	1.7	-3.1	-27.7	-0.2
PNG Reserve Bank Employment Index (% change same quarter last year)	4.6	-2.2	-28.9	-28.8
(3) Samoa (Registered Employees)				
% Change over the same period last year	-0.4	-0.3	-0.3	-0.7
Male % change over the same period last year	-0.8	-0.9	-0.5	-0.8
Female % change over the same period last year	0.2	0.5	-0.1	-0.5
(4) Solomon Islands				
SI NPF contributors (% Change from previous quarter)	0.7	-2.4	-2.5	-1.9
SI NPF contributors (% Change same quarter last year)	2.9	-0.2	-4.6	-6.0
CBSI Job vacancy survey (% change from previous quarter)	22.2	-15.5	128.0	-40.6
CBSI Job vacancy survey (% change same quarter last year)	-41.5	-23.8	47.2	40.0

Source: National Statistics Office and Central/Reserve Bank of PNG, New Caledonia, Samoa, and Solomon Islands.

Notes: (1) New Caledonia employment proxy sourced from ISEE. (2) PNG employment proxy sourced from PNG Reserve Bank Response Rate (%) from its Employment Survey. (3) Samoa Bureau of Statistics Employment Statistics. (4) Solomon Islands employment proxy sourced from Number of Solomon Islands NPF contributors and Central Bank of Solomon Islands (CBSI) job vacancy survey.

Monthly Employment level in 2021 for:

- Fiji as indicated from the Reserve Bank of Fiji job advertisement survey showed labour market conditions worsened with the indicator falling by 78.9% in February when compared to February 2020.
- Tonga as indicated from the Reserve Bank of Tonga job advertisement showed labour market conditions dropping by 54.9% in February relative to the same month in 2020. Tonga has also reflected in the public administration job vacancy listings in February falling by 45.5% against the same month last year.

Table 13.1: Employment (monthly and year-on-year percent change).

Countries/Employment indicator proxies	Monthly												2021	
	2020													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
(1) Fiji														
RBF Job Advertisement Survey (Y-o-Y % change)	-14.7	-27.4	-35.8	-42.5	-48.8	-56	-61	-62	-64	-65	-65.7	-66.7	-82.6	-78.9
(2) Tonga														
RBT Job vacancies (Y-o-Y % change)										33.3	-42.1	...	-54.9	
Public Admin Job vacancies (M-o-M % change)										33.3	43.8	...	-45.5	
(3) Vanuatu														
Number of Informal Sector Employment joined NPF														2,033

Source: Central/Reserve Bank of Fiji, Tonga and Vanuatu.

Notes: (1) Fiji employment proxy sourced from Reserve Bank of Fiji (RBF) Job Advertisement Survey (Year-on-year % change). (2) Tonga employment proxy sourced from Reserve Bank of Tonga Job vacancies. (3) Vanuatu employment proxy sourced from Reserve Bank of Vanuatu informal sector employment.

Table 13.2: NZ Recognised Seasonal Employer Scheme and the Australian Seasonal Workers Programme

Countries	Absolute Numbers			Annual % change		
	2017–18	2018–19	2019–20	2017–18	2018–19	2019–20
Fiji	606	880	714	3.5	4.0	-18.9
Kiribati	595	640	435	3.5	2.9	-32.0
Nauru	14	19	5	0.1	0.1	-73.7
PNG	216	300	250	1.3	1.4	-16.7
Samoa	2,405	2,992	2,952	14.0	13.7	-1.3
Solomon Islands	818	1,010	984	4.8	4.6	-2.6
Tonga	4,689	5,775	4,024	27.2	26.5	-30.3
Tuvalu	80	92	115	0.5	0.4	25.0
Vanuatu	7,793	10,095	9,058	45.3	46.3	-10.3
Total	17,216	21,803	18,537	16.9	26.6	-15.0

Source: Data from Department of Home Affairs, DFAT and ABS and from ANU Dev Policy Centre.

- For the period 2019–2020, the number of Pacific seasonal workers recruited in the NZ Recognised Seasonal Employer Scheme and the Australian Seasonal Workers Programme for nine Pacific Island countries dropped by 15% to 18537 from the 2018-2019 period.
- Except Tuvalu, all eight countries of Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu recorded declines in the number of seasonal workers over the period.

Enquiries to Epeli Waqavonovono <epeliwa@spc.int>, Director SDD or David Abbott davidab@spc.int, Manager Data Analysis and Dissemination, or check our webpage at <https://sdd.spc.int/> and join our LiveChat.

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