



2020 INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS

BIANNUAL RELEASE - 2

TUVALU CENTRAL STATISTICS DIVISION
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
GOVERNMENT OF TUVALU

Phone: +688 20107
email: statistics@gov.tv
Website: <https://stats.gov.tv>

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INTRODUCTION

This public release on International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS) would be the second release by the Tuvalu Central Statistics Division (CSD) for the year 2020 of which gives a focal attention on the second biannual quarter.

With this release, which provides brief statistics on imports and exports data in accordance to the Harmonized Coding System of Tuvalu (HS) classification, the CSD aims to provide users with trade data on a biannual basis for planning purposes and like so to negotiate better trade policies.

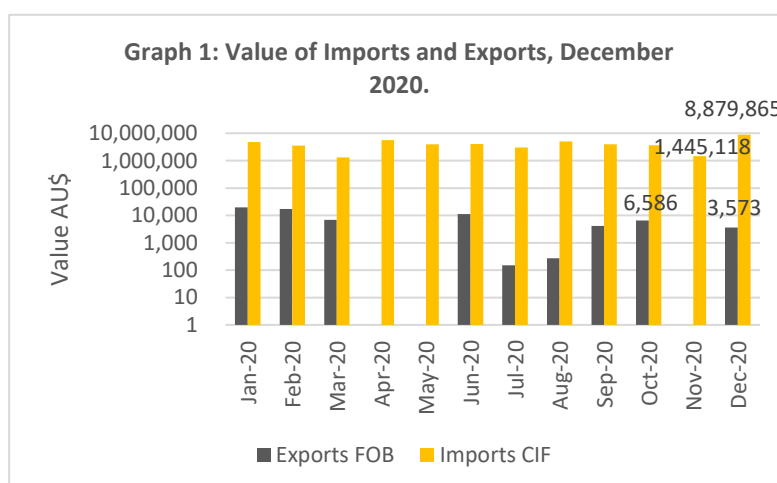
The CSD has used data sourced from Tuvalu Customs and we will endeavour to produce this compilation on a biannual basis.

The following IMTS release covers the period 2018 to 2020, along with a monthly trend from January to December, 2020.

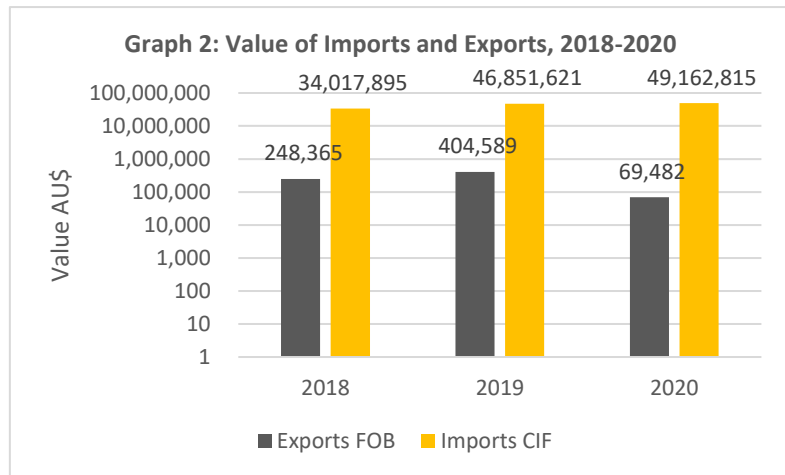
ANALYSES

1. Value of Imports and Exports

December 2020: Total imports in December 2020 were \$8,879,865, a substantial increase of 84% from the total imports of November 2020, which were \$1,445,118. While there were no exports in November 2020, total exports in October 2020 were \$6,586, which was 46% greater than the total imports of December 2020 of \$3,573. Overall, total exports throughout the year demonstrated a fluctuated pattern due to the challenges of COVID 19.



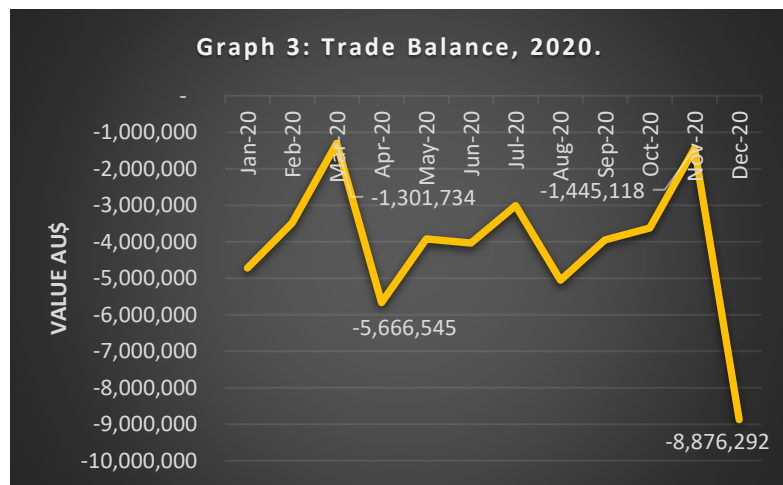
2018-2020: Annual IMTS for 2018 to 2020 are illustrated herewith in the graph alongside. It shows:



- An increasing annual trend of total imports from \$34,017,895 in 2018, which increased by 27% in 2019 to \$46,851,621 and a slight increase by 5% to \$49,162,815 in 2020. The increase in total imports for 2020 is a result of an increase in imports of machinery and mechanical appliances.
- The fluctuating trend of total exports throughout the years with a 49% increase from 2018 to 2019, and a massive drop of total exports from 2019 to 2020 by 83%. The decline in total export values in 2020 resulted to be the impact of COVID 19 boarder's lockdown.

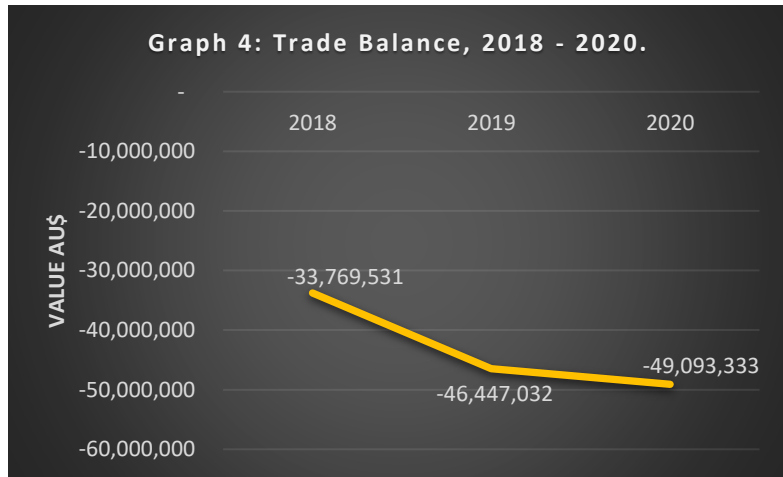
2. Balance of Trade

December 2020: A trade deficit of \$8,876,292 was recorded at the end of the year in December 2020, a significant increase in deficit by 84% from the deficit in November 2020, which were approximately \$1,445,118.



In comparison to the major deficit in April 2020 which were \$55,666,545, the trade deficit in December 2020 is recorded to be 36% greater than that of April 2020. The trade deficit in December 2020 is a result of an increase in imported goods yet a decrease in total exports.

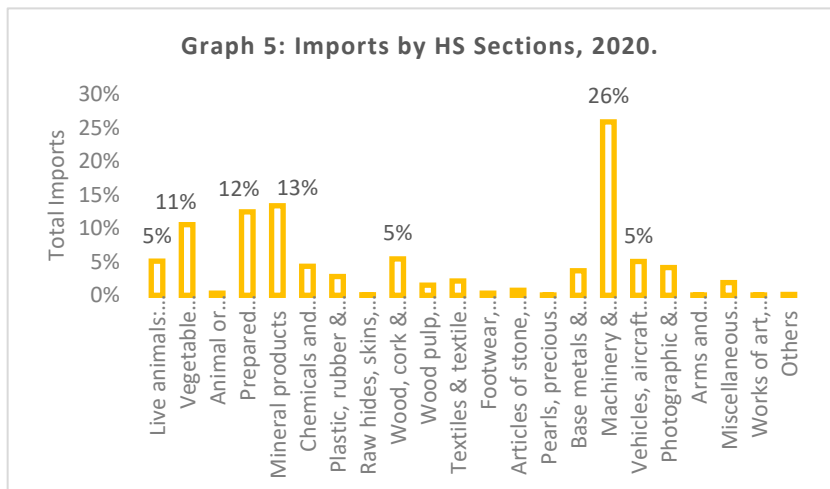
2018-2020: In 2018, a trade deficit was recorded at \$33,769,531 which was increased by \$12,677,501 or 27% to a trade deficit of \$46,447,032 in 2019. A 5% increase in deficit was recorded for the following year of 2020 to an approximate \$49,093,333 of deficit. The further addition of trade deficit for the year 2020 pertains to the higher imports of machinery, vehicles, and prepared food products while overall total exports remained low.



3. Performance of Imports

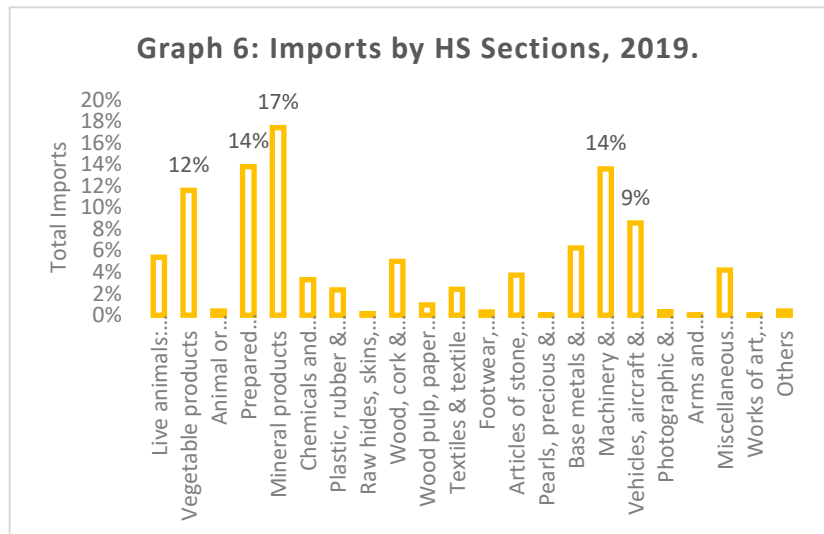
December 2020: The analyses follows emphasized the HS sections that were accounted of 5% or more of total imports;

- Machinery & mechanical & electrical appliances & parts thereof - 26%
- Mineral products – 13%
- Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco – 12%
- Vegetable products – 11%
- Live animals: animal products – 5%
- Vehicles, aircraft & associated transport equipment – 5%
- Wood, cork & articles thereof & plaiting material – 5%



2019: Graph 6 depicts the notable influences on the total imports of 2019 and they are;

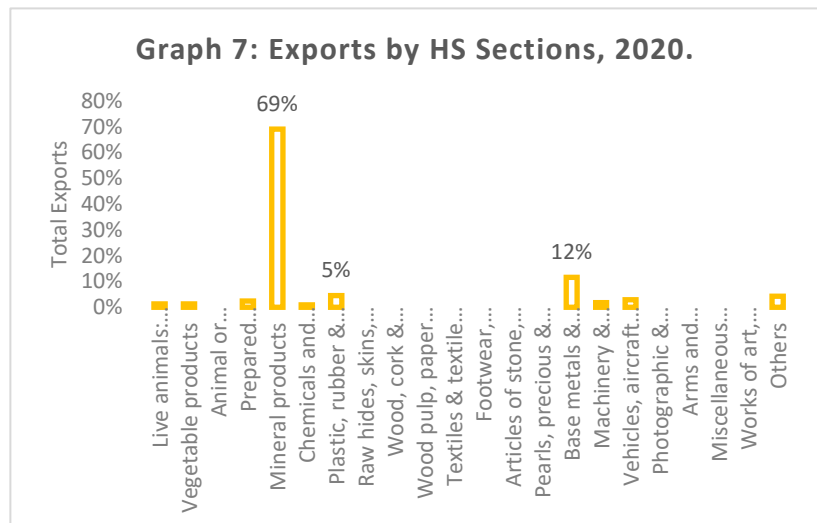
- Mineral products
- Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco
- Machinery & mechanical & electrical appliances & parts thereof
- Vegetable products
- Vehicles, aircraft & associated transport equipment



4. Performance of Exports

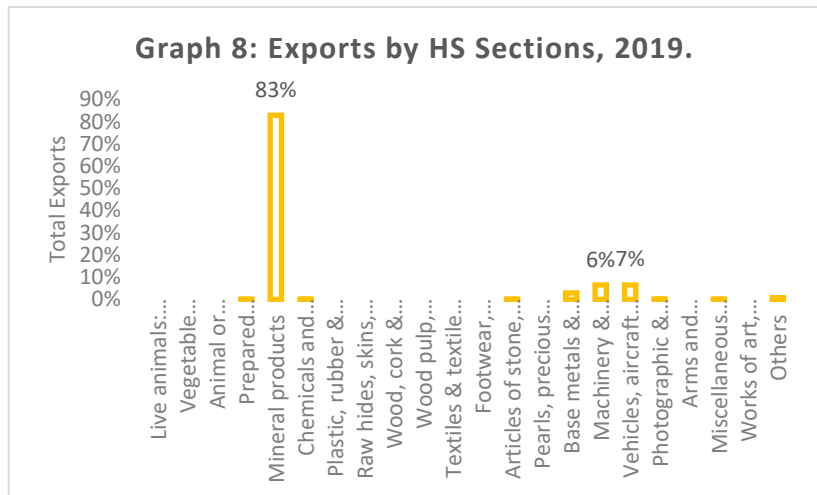
December 2020: HS Sections that had a significant impact on total exports from January to December 2020 are as follows;

- Mineral products
- Base metals & articles thereof
- Plastic, rubber & articles thereof



2019: The graph alongside depicts the following information on the key commodities of total exports in 2019;

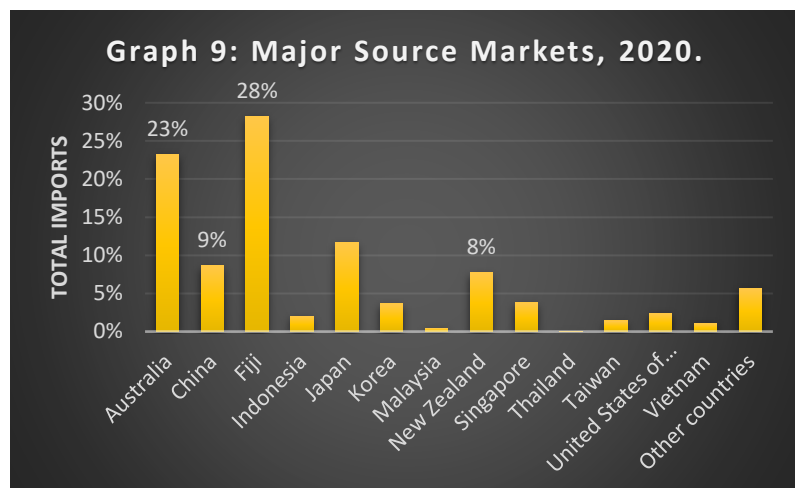
- Mineral products accounts for 83% of total exports
- Vehicles accounts for 7%
- And 6% of the total exports is for Machinery.



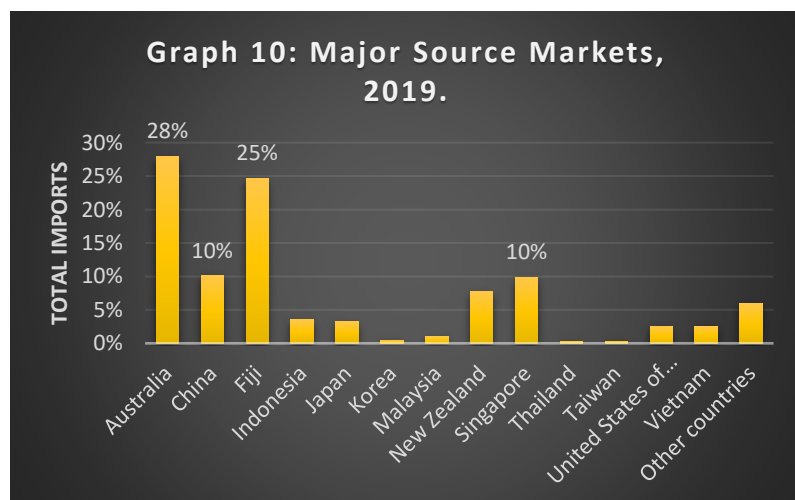
5. Direction of Trade

a. Major Source Markets:

December 2020: Tuvalu's major source markets by the end of 2020, comprises of imports from Fiji worth \$13,873,036 or 28% of total imports; \$11,414,390 (23%) of total imports were from Australia; \$4,237,902 or 9% from China; and \$3,804,189 (8%) from New Zealand.

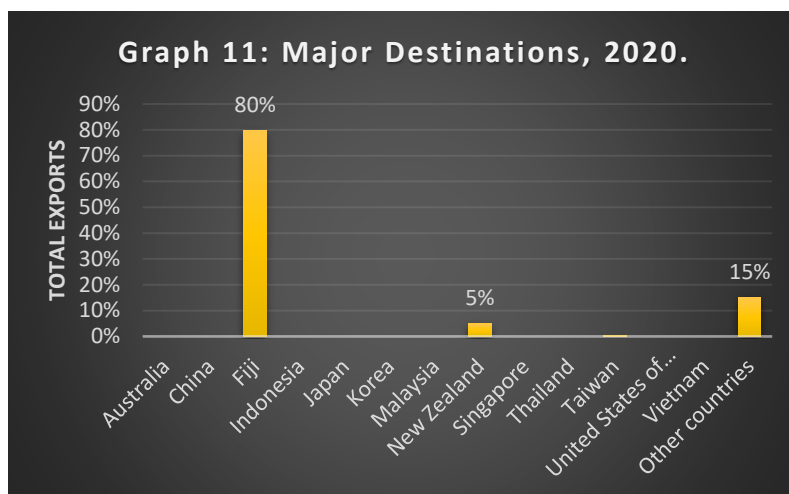


2019: Tuvalu's major source markets in 2019 includes Australia, Fiji, China and Singapore with an accumulative \$33,951,957 or 72% of total imports. Australia alone accounted for \$13,072,507 or 28% of total imports.

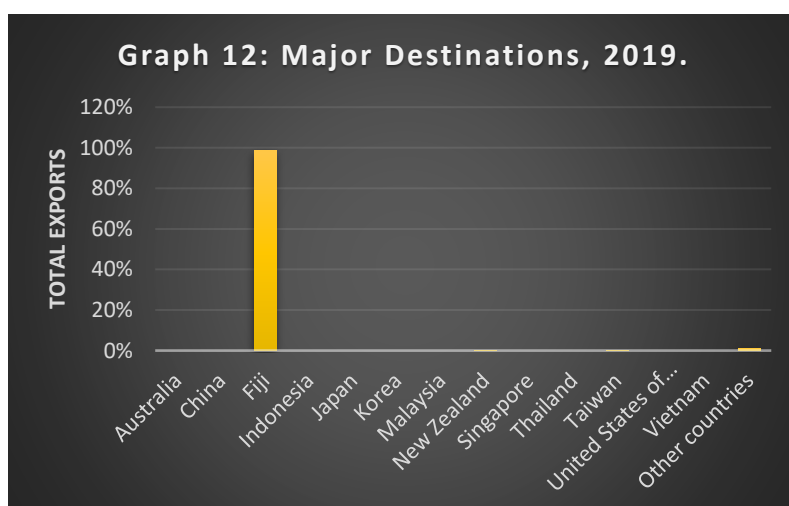


b. Major Destination:

December 2020: Tuvalu's major destination at the end of the year in December 2020 consisted of 80% of total exports to Fiji, 5% were to New Zealand and 15% of exported to other countries that are not mentioned in the HS classification for instance Kiribati and Samoa.

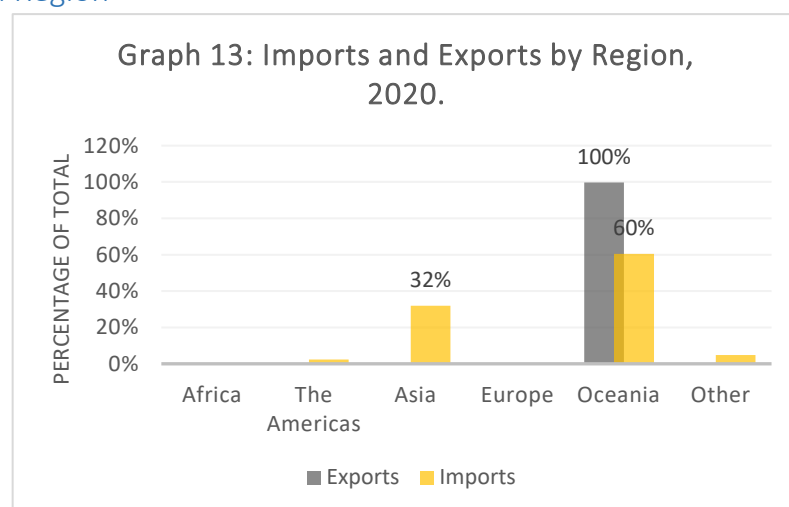


2019: In 2019, Tuvalu's major export destination was Fiji which accounted for \$398,879 or 99% of total exports.

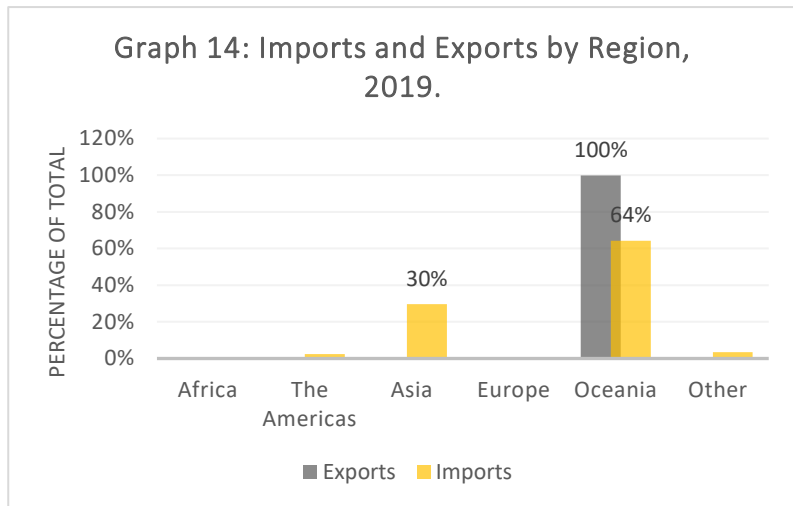


6. Trade by Geographical Region

December 2020: As of December 2020, as illustrated in Graph 13, there is a high trade channel between Tuvalu and its neighbouring countries within the Oceania region with 100% total exports and 60% total imports. Asia also demonstrates to be a major region of imports for Tuvalu and is accounted for 32% of total imports.



2019: Tuvalu's trade by Region demonstrated that Tuvalu's main region of trade is within its neighbouring countries in the Oceania for the year 2019. Tuvalu only exports to countries within the Oceania.



Attached are the following IMTS release tables;

- Table 1: Balance of Trade (AU\$)
- Table 2: Imports by HS (AU\$)
- Table 3: Total Exports by HS (AU\$)
- Table 4: Principle Exports (AU\$)
- Table 5: Principle Imports (AU\$)
- Table 6: Trade by Partner Countries (AU\$)
- Table 7: Trade by Region (AU\$)
- Table 8: Trade by Transport Mode (AU\$)



Ms. Grace Alapati
Government Statistician

APPENDIX TABLES

Table 1. Balance of Trade (AU\$)

Year	Exports FOB			Imports CIF	Trade Balance
	Domestic	Re-exports	Total		
2018	52,598	195,767	248,365	34,017,895	-33,769,531
2019	69,132	335,457	404,589	46,851,621	-46,447,032
2020	21,501	47,981	69,482	49,162,815	-49,093,333

Notes:

Classification used: HS 2017 from 2017

Data source: Tuvalu Customs

Table 2. Imports by HS Sections by Year, 2018-2020YTD (AU\$)

	HS Sections	2018	2019	2020
I	Live animals: animal products	1,880,861	2,516,574	2,512,552
II	Vegetable products	4,134,306	5,427,886	5,193,432
III	Animal or vegetable oils & fats	88,321	182,355	146,503
IV	Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco	5,679,431	6,459,307	6,132,819
V	Mineral products	7,339,132	8,157,603	6,575,379
VI	Chemicals and allied products	1,392,379	1,544,162	2,130,293
VII	Plastic, rubber & articles thereof	552,379	1,097,923	1,380,678
VIII	Raw hides, skins, leather articles & travel goods	82,397	66,622	43,791
IX	Wood, cork & articles thereof & plaiting material	2,006,516	2,335,180	2,671,924
X	Wood pulp, paper & paperboard & articles thereof	457,012	445,197	739,041
XI	Textiles & textile articles	894,855	1,129,489	1,055,181
XII	Footwear, headgear, umbrellas & parts thereof	120,024	146,032	159,262
XIII	Articles of stone, plaster, cement, glass & ceramic products	667,557	1,740,081	371,489
XIV	Pearls, precious & semi-precious stones & metals	27,957	10,169	10,737
XV	Base metals & articles thereof	1,871,727	2,920,213	1,808,267
XVI	Machinery & mechanical & electrical appliances & parts thereof	2,743,937	6,360,807	12,725,598
XVII	Vehicles, aircraft & associated transport equipment	2,220,383	4,005,116	2,474,939
XVIII	Photographic & optical, medical & surgical goods & clocks/watches & musical instruments	342,130	160,785	2,025,620
XIX	Arms and ammunition, parts & accessories thereof	1,535	1,835	1,301
XX	Miscellaneous manufactured articles	1,370,482	1,960,015	932,453
XXI	Works of art, collectors pieces & antiques	16	196	2,173
XXII	Others	144,560	184,072	69,383
	Total	34,017,895	46,851,621	49,162,815

Notes:

Classification used: HS 2017 from 2017

Data source: Tuvalu Customs

Table 3. Total Exports by HS by Year, 2018-2020YTD (AU\$)

	HS Sections	2018	2019	2020
I	Live animals: animal products	-	-	900
II	Vegetable products	-	-	900
III	Animal or vegetable oils & fats	-	-	-
IV	Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco	1,027	50	1,640
V	Mineral products	177,743	335,620	47,981
VI	Chemicals and allied products	300	600	650
VII	Plastic, rubber & articles thereof	650	-	3,178
VIII	Raw hides, skins, leather articles thereof & travel goods	-	-	-
IX	Wood, cork & articles thereof & plaiting material	-	-	-
X	Wood pulp, paper & paperboard & articles thereof	-	-	-
XI	Textiles & textile articles	-	-	-
XII	Footwear, headgear, umbrellas & parts thereof	-	-	-
XIII	Articles of stone, plaster, cement, glass & ceramic products	-	50	-
XIV	Pearls, precious & semi-precious stones & metals	-	-	-
XV	Base metals & articles thereof	10,610	11,664	8,043
XVI	Machinery & mechanical & electrical appliances & parts thereof	4,255	26,240	1,251
XVII	Vehicles, aircraft & associated transport equipment	26,615	26,445	2,000
XVIII	Photographic & optical, medical & surgical goods & clocks/watches & musical instruments	50	800	-
XIX	Arms and ammunition, parts & accessories thereof	-	-	-
XX	Miscellaneous manufactured articles	150	200	-
XXI	Works of art, collectors pieces & antiques	-	-	-
XXII	Others	7,545	2,920	2,939
	Total	228,945	404,589	69,482

Notes:

Classification used: HS 2017 from 2017

Data source: Tuvalu Customs

Table 4. Principal Exports, 2018-2020YTD (AU\$)

Exports	2018	2019	2020
Ferrous waste and scrap	-	-	-
Containers for compressed or liquefied gas, of iron or steel	3,550	1,092	-
Sculptures and statuary	-	-	57
Other Exports	49,048	68,040	21,444
TOTAL excluding Re-exports	52,598	69,132	21,501
Re-exports			
Mineral fuel	195,767	335,457	47,981
Other re-exports	-	-	-
TOTAL Re-exports	195,767	335,457	47,981
TOTAL EXPORTS plus REEXPORTS	248,365	404,589	69,482

Notes:

Classification used: HS 2017 from 2017

Data source: Tuvalu Customs

Table 5. Principal Imports by Year, 2018-2020YTD (AU\$)

Commodity	2018	2019	2020
Meat and edible offal, incl poultry, fresh, chilled or frozen	1,186,258	1,685,872	1,573,793
Dairy produce, eggs and honey	663,873	777,336	896,111
Edible vegetables	919,272	1,268,856	1,729,076
Coffee and tea	55,510	37,059	31,587
Rice	1,873,043	2,706,548	1,702,095
Wheat flour	872,511	891,564	966,718
Animal or vegetable fats & oils	88,321	182,355	146,503
Edible preparation of meat, fish, crustaceans etc	712,978	576,937	870,461
Cane or beet sugar	576,222	794,904	722,115
Pasta/noodles and couscous	178,543	283,969	356,297
Biscuits	692,395	747,666	967,361
Sauces	107,817	156,581	145,934
Mineral and aerated waters including sweetened or flavoured	1,231,366	1,065,756	516,427
Beer made from malt	502,284	640,833	529,194
Spirit beverage, incl wine	140,817	135,126	67,476
Cigars, cigarettes and tobacco	392,641	562,162	453,790
Earths and stone; plastering materials, lime and cement	1,590,874	2,003,481	1,471,004
Mineral fuels and oils and related products	5,685,099	6,123,700	5,047,908
Pharmaceutical products	117,514	413,442	650,184
Paints and varnishes	230,294	345,630	380,888
Tubes, pipes and hoses, and fittings therefor, of plastics	121,621	287,923	131,319
Wood and articles of wood	1,999,700	2,327,839	2,666,023
Woven fabrics of cotton	397,680	346,251	79,999
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories	295,937	467,054	484,992
Other made-up textile articles and worn clothing	84,812	170,764	148,131
Articles of stone, plaster, cement and similar materials	464,699	1,309,604	238,881
Ceramic products	159,658	318,578	88,581
Glass and glassware	43,199	111,900	44,027
Boilers, Machinery and mechanical appliance and parts thereof	1,817,778	4,730,797	9,708,888
Electical machinery and equipment, television image and sound recorders and parts thereof	926,158	1,630,010	3,016,710
Motor vehicles incl motorcycles, bicycles and tractors	1,797,244	3,747,984	1,997,800
Survey instruments etc	1,041	31,624	158,881
Furniture, bedding, refabricated buildings etc	330,386	644,714	277,624
Other Imports	7,760,350	9,326,804	10,896,037
Total imports	34,017,895	46,851,621	49,162,815

Notes:

Classification used: HS 2017 from 2017

Data source: Tuvalu Custom

Table 6. Trade by Country by Year, 2018-2020YTD (AU\$)

COUNTRY	Trade Type	2018	2019	2020
Australia	Exports	200	-	-
	Imports	8,490,210	13,072,507	11,414,390
	Balance	-8,490,010	-13,072,507	-11,414,390
China	Exports	-	-	-
	Imports	3,491,847	4,720,760	4,237,902
	Balance	-3,491,847	-4,720,760	-4,237,902
Fiji	Exports	246,038	398,879	55,384
	Imports	9,265,004	11,522,390	13,873,036
	Balance	-9,018,967	-11,123,510	-13,817,653
Indonesia	Exports	-	-	-
	Imports	287,932	1,651,406	1,002,717
	Balance	-287,932	-1,651,406	-1,002,717
Japan	Exports	-	-	-
	Imports	1,339,919	1,523,234	5,720,385
	Balance	-1,339,919	-1,523,234	-5,720,385
Korea	Exports	-	-	-
	Imports	4,212,057	198,524	1,780,030
	Balance	-4,212,057	-198,524	-515,688
Malaysia	Exports	-	-	-
	Imports	408,962	446,719	225,560
	Balance	-408,962	-446,719	-225,560
New Zealand	Exports	2,127	600	3,440
	Imports	2,307,499	3,621,025	3,804,189
	Balance	-2,305,372	-3,620,425	-3,800,749
Singapore	Exports	-	-	-
	Imports	1,505,169	4,636,301	1,855,385
	Balance	-1,505,169	-4,636,301	-1,855,385
Thailand	Exports	-	-	-
	Imports	152,641	151,034	31,142
	Balance	-152,641	-151,034	-31,142
Taiwan	Exports	-	450	150
	Imports	355,442	127,708	694,211
	Balance	-355,442	-127,258	-694,061
United States of America	Exports	-	-	-
	Imports	851,461	1,156,305	1,187,629
	Balance	-851,461	-1,156,255	-793,894
Vietnam	Exports	-	-	-
	Imports	446,685	1,203,082	539,331
	Balance	-446,685	-1,203,082	-20,573
Other countries	Exports	-	4,660	10,508
	Imports	903,069	2,820,628	2,762,265
	Balance	-903,069	-2,815,968	-2,751,757
TOTAL	Exports	248,365	404,589	69,482
	Imports	34,017,895	46,851,621	49,162,815
	Balance	-33,769,531	-46,447,032	-49,093,333

Notes:

Classification used: HS 2017 from 2017

Data source: Tuvalu Customs

Table 7. Trade by Region by Year, 2018-2020YTD (AU\$)

Region	Trade Type	2018	2019	2020
Africa	Exports	-	-	-
	Imports	2,296	27,244	33,891
	Balance	-2,296	-27,244	-33,891
The Americas	Exports	-	50	-
	Imports	851,461	1,157,342	1,187,629
	Balance	-851,461	-1,157,292	-1,187,629
Asia	Exports	-	450	150
	Imports	8,126,414	13,864,700	15,720,635
	Balance	-8,126,414	-13,864,250	-15,720,485
Europe	Exports	-	-	-
	Imports	351	71,574	63,170
	Balance	-351	-71,574	-63,170
Oceania	Exports	248,365	404,089	69,332
	Imports	20,114,355	30,134,703	29,738,587
	Balance	-19,865,990	-29,730,614	-29,669,255
Other	Exports	-	-	-
	Imports	4,923,019	1,596,058	2,418,903
	Balance	-4,923,019	-1,596,058	-2,418,903
TOTAL	Exports	248,365	404,589	69,482
	Imports	34,017,895	46,851,621	49,162,815
	Balance	-33,769,531	-46,447,032	-49,093,333

Notes:

Classification used: HS 2017 from 2017

Data source: Tuvalu Customs

Table 8. Trade by Transport Mode by Year, 2018-2020YTD (AU\$)

Year	Trade Type	Air	Sea	Road	Postal consignments, mail or courier shipments	Others	Total
2018	Exports	-	52,598	-	-	195,767	248,365
	Imports	850,601	33,167,294	-	-	-	34,017,895
2019	Exports	-	69,132	-	-	335,457	404,589
	Imports	794,882	46,056,739	-	-	-	46,851,621
2020	Exports	150	21,351	-	-	47,981	69,482
	Imports	6,030,510	43,132,305	-	-	-	49,162,815

Notes:

Classification used: HS 2017 from 2017

Data source: Tuvalu Custom