

STATISTICAL NEWS

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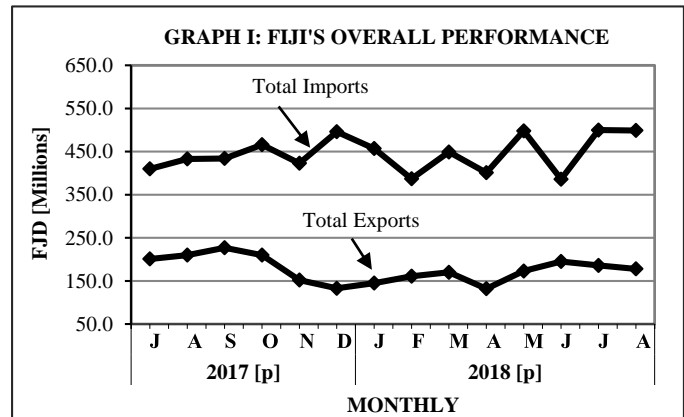
INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS

August 2018

Provisional data put the total value of goods imported in August 2018 at \$498.6 million while the value of total exports was \$178.5 million. (Refer Graph I).

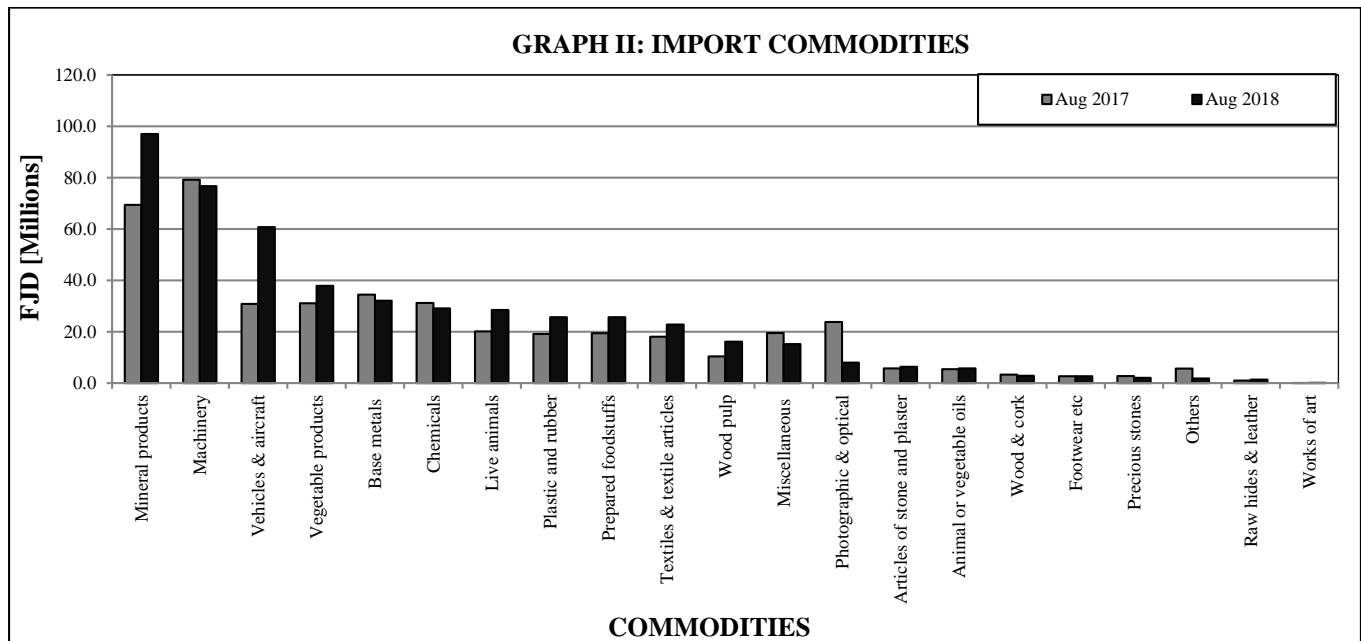
Compared to August 2017, total imports increased by \$65.4 million (15.1%) whereas total exports decreased by \$31.8 million (15.1%).

The August 2018 trade deficit amounted to \$320.1 million compared to \$314.2 million a month earlier (July).



HIGHLIGHTS

IMPORTS



The percentage breakdown of major import commodities as categorized by the Harmonized System (HS) codes are as follows;

Table 1: Major contributors to Imports FJD [Millions]

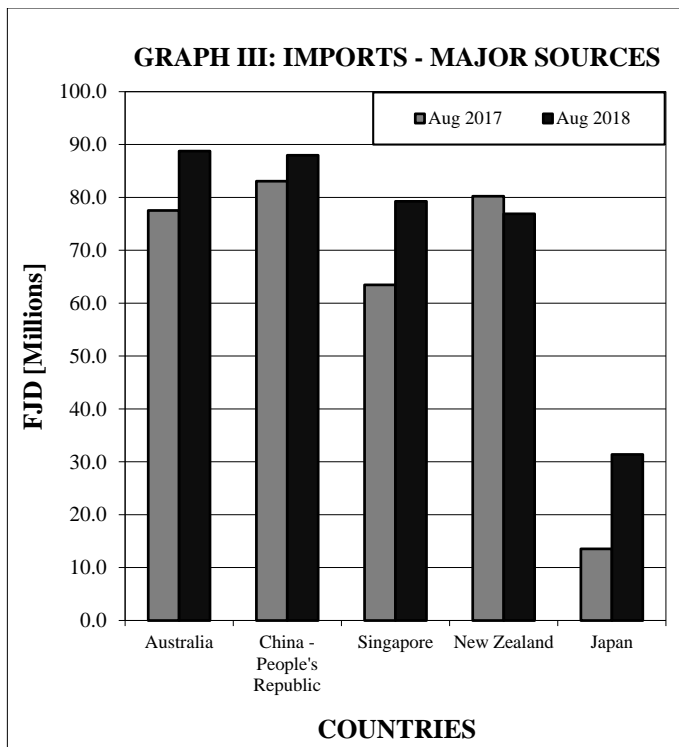
HS Sections	Aug 2017	%	Aug 2018	%
Mineral products	69.4	16.0	97.0	19.5
Machinery & mechanical & electrical appliances & parts thereof	79.2	18.3	76.7	15.4
Vehicles, aircraft & associated transport equipment	30.8	7.1	60.8	12.2
Vegetable products	31.1	7.2	37.9	7.6
Base metals & articles thereof	34.4	7.9	32.1	6.4
Chemicals and allied products	31.2	7.2	29.1	5.8
Live animals: animal products	20.1	4.6	28.5	5.7
Plastic, rubber & articles thereof	19.1	4.4	25.7	5.2
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco	19.4	4.5	25.6	5.1
Total Imports	433.2		498.6	

Compared to August 2017, the import categories recording notable increases were:

- **Vehicles, aircraft & associated transport equipment [HS 86-89]**, up \$29.9 million (97.0%) to \$60.8 million due to increased imports of aircraft and used or reconditioned passenger car & racing cars;
- **Mineral products [HS 25-27]**, up \$27.6 million (39.8%) to \$97.0 million due to increased imports of gas oil (diesel), light oils & preparations (motor spirit) and bitumen & asphalt;
- **Live animals: animal products [HS 01-05]**, up \$8.4 million (41.7%) to \$28.5 million due to increased imports of milk and other frozen meat of sheep;
- **Vegetable products [HS 06-14]**, up \$6.8 million (21.8%) to \$37.9 million due to increased imports of wheat & meslin and kava or yaqona;
- **Plastic, rubber & articles thereof [HS 39-40]**, up \$6.5 million (34.2%) to \$25.7 million due to increased imports of other polymers of styrene, in primary forms and new pneumatic tyres, of rubber;
- **Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco [HS 16-24]**, up \$6.2 million (32.0%) to \$25.6 million due to increased imports of whiskies; and
- **Wood pulp, paper & paperboard, & articles thereof [HS 47-49]**, up \$5.8 million (55.4%) to \$16.2 million due to increased imports of paper or paperboard labels of all kinds.

Compared to August 2017, the import category recording a notable decrease was:

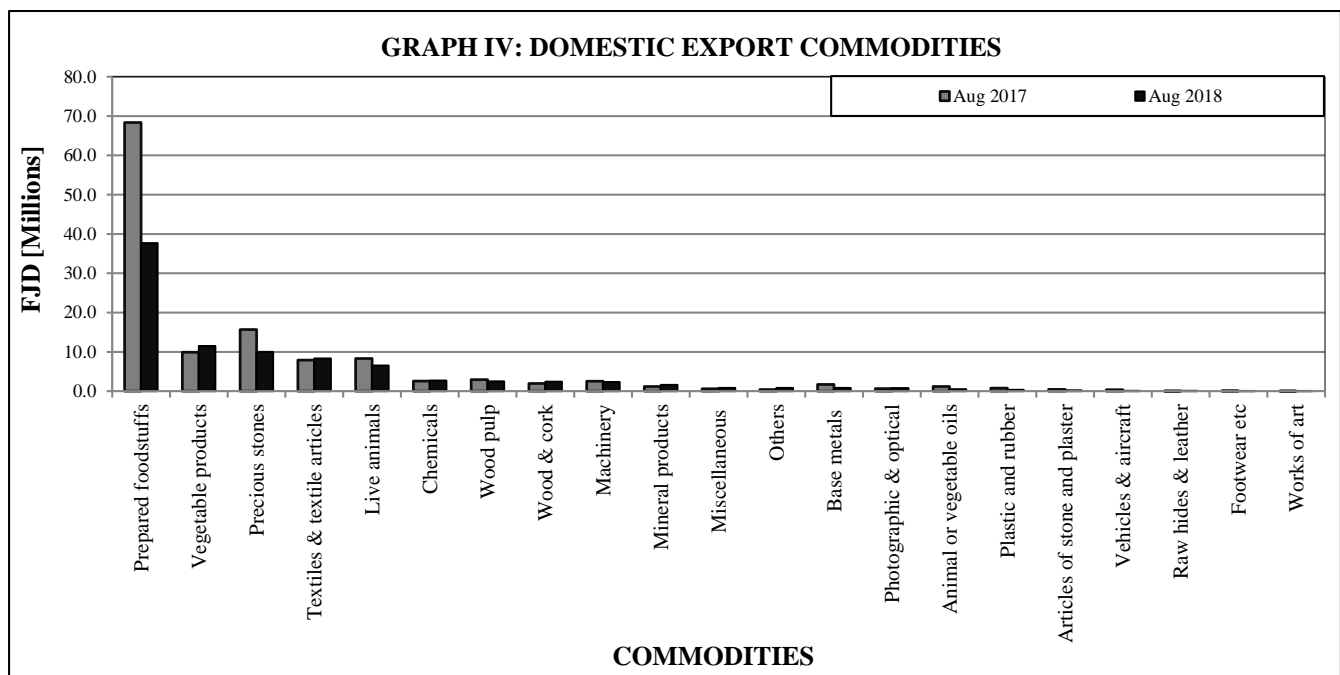
- **Photographic & optical, medical & surgical goods & clocks/watches & musical instruments [HS 90-92]**, down \$15.8 million (66.4%) to \$8.0 million due to decreased imports of parts and accessories for surveying.



For the month of August 2018, Fiji's major sources of imports (Refer Graph III) were:

- **Australia**, up \$11.2 million (14.5%) to \$88.8 million due to increased imports of other wheat and meslin and butanes;
- **China – People's Republic**, up \$4.9 million (5.9%) to \$88.0 million due to increased imports of whiskies and other paper and paperboards for label of all kinds;
- **Singapore**, up \$15.8 million (24.8%) to \$79.2 million due to increased imports of gas oil (diesel) and light oils & preparations (motor spirit);
- **New Zealand**, down \$3.3 million (4.2%) to \$76.9 million due to decreased imports of telephone for cellular networks or for other wireless network; and
- **Japan**, up \$17.9 million (131.9%) to \$31.4 million due to increased imports of used or reconditioned passenger motor cars & racing cars and cement clinkers.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS



The percentage breakdown of major domestic export commodities as categorized by the Harmonized System (HS) codes are as follows;

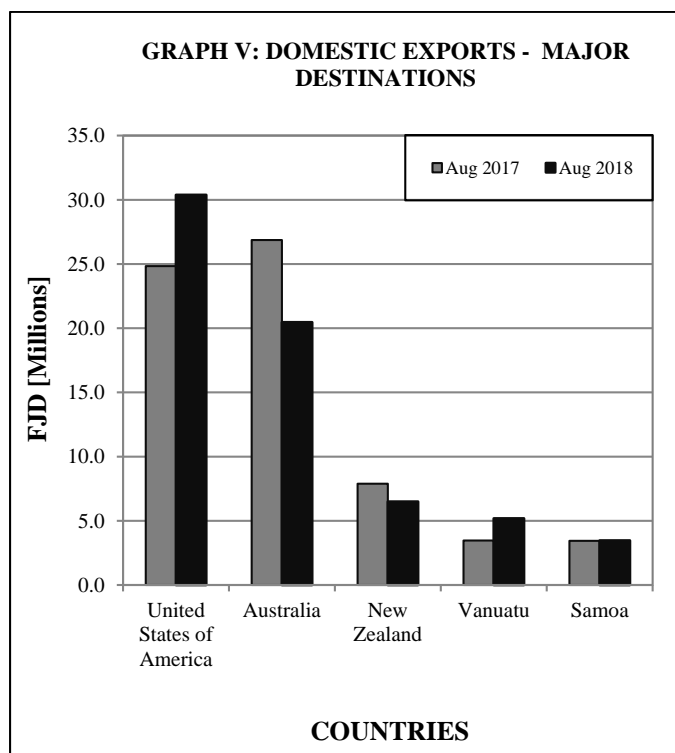
Table 2: Major contributors to Domestic Exports FJD [Millions]

HS Sections	Aug 2017	%	Aug 2018	%
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco	68.3	53.5	37.7	41.8
Vegetable products	9.9	7.7	11.5	12.8
Pearls, precious, semi-precious stones & metals	15.7	12.3	10.0	11.1
Textiles & textile articles	7.9	6.2	8.3	9.2
Live animals: animal products	8.3	6.5	6.5	7.2
Total Domestic Exports	127.7		90.1	

Compared to August 2017, there were no notable increases for domestic export category.

Compared to August 2017, the domestic export categories recording notable decreases were:

- **Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco [HS 16-24]**, down \$30.7 million (44.9%) to \$37.7 million due to decreased domestic exports of cane sugar; and
- **Pearls, precious, semi-precious stones & metals [HS 71]**, down \$5.7 million (36.3%) to \$10.0 million due to decreased domestic exports of gold.

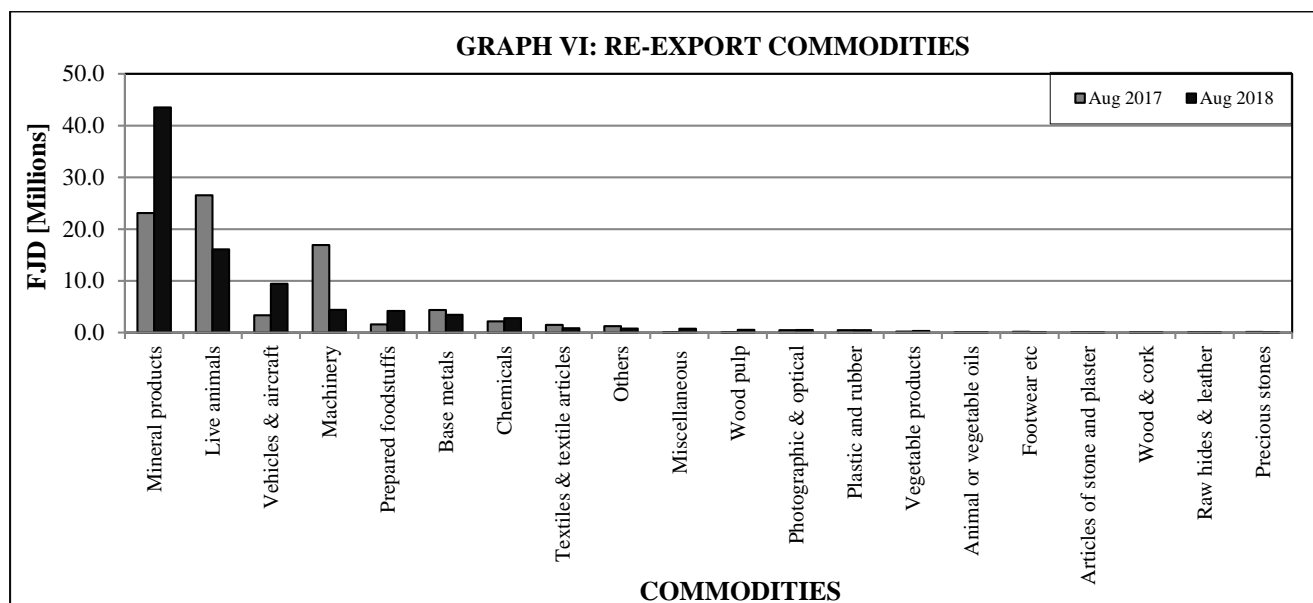


For the month of August 2018, Fiji's major domestic export destinations (Refer Graph V) were:

- **United States of America**, up \$5.5 million (22.3%) to \$30.4 million due to increased exports of mineral water and kava or yaqona;
- ***Australia**, down \$6.4 million (23.8%) to \$20.5 million due to decreased exports of gold;
- **New Zealand**, down \$1.4 million (17.6%) to \$6.5 million due to decreased exports of kava or yaqona and motor vehicles for transport of goods;
- **Vanuatu**, up \$1.7 million (49.7%) to \$5.2 million due to increased exports of mackerel fish and corned meat; and
- **Samoa**, up \$0.03 million (0.8%) to \$3.5 million due to increased exports of other textile materials and other prepared foods obtained by the swelling or roasting of cereals or cereals products.

*Domestic export of gold is under query.

RE-EXPORTS



The percentage breakdown of major re-export commodities as categorized by the Harmonized System (HS) codes are as follows;

Table 3: Major contributors to Re-exports FJD [Millions]

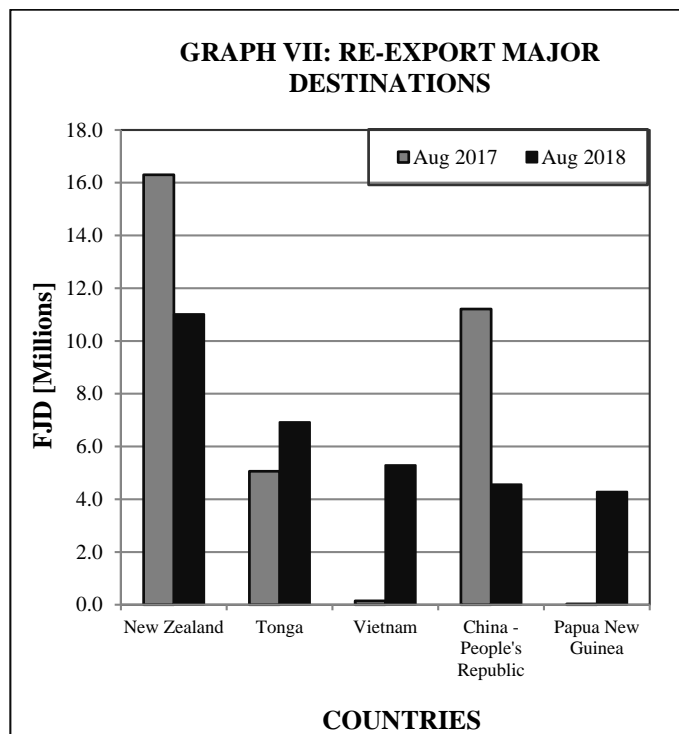
HS Section	Aug 2017	%	Aug 2018	%
Mineral products	23.1	28.0	43.5	49.2
Live animals: animal products	26.5	32.1	16.1	18.2
Vehicles, aircraft & associated transport equipment	3.4	4.1	9.4	10.7
Machinery & mechanical & electrical appliances & parts thereof	16.9	20.5	4.4	5.0
Total Re-exports	82.6		88.4	

Compared to August 2017, the re-export categories recording notable increases were:

- **Mineral products [HS 25-27]**, up \$20.4 million (88.3%) to \$43.5 million due to increased re-exports of aviation turbine fuel and gas oil (diesel); and
- **Vehicles, aircrafts & associated transport equipment [HS 86-89]**, up \$6.1 million (181.6%) to \$9.4 million due to increased re-exports of motor boats, other than outdoor motor boat.

Compared to August 2017, the re-export categories recording notable decreases were:

- **Machinery & mechanical & electrical appliances & parts thereof [HS 84-85]**, down \$12.5 million (74.0%) to \$4.4 million due to decreased re-exports of television cameras, digital cameras, and video camera recorders; and
- **Live animals: animal products [HS 01-05]**, down \$10.4 million (39.4%) to \$16.1 million due to decreased re-exports of frozen albacore or longfinned tuna and yellowfin tuna.

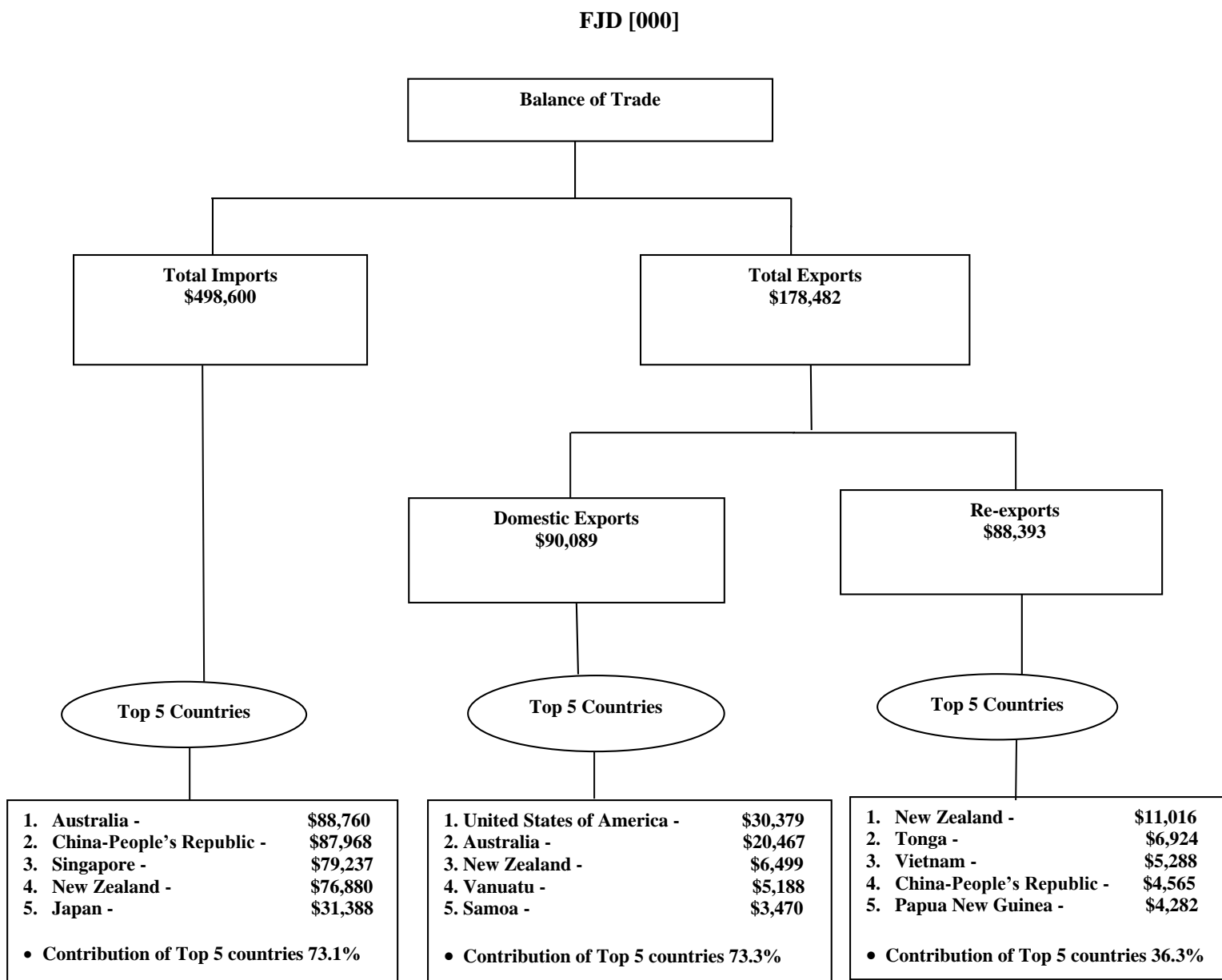


For the month August 2018, Fiji's major re-export destinations (Refer Graph VII) were:

- **New Zealand**, down \$5.3 million (32.4%) to \$11.0 million due to decreased re-exports of television cameras, digital cameras and video camera recorders;
- **Tonga**, up \$1.9 million (36.9%) to \$6.9 million due to increased re-exports of gas oil (diesel) and light oils & preparations (motor spirit);
- **Vietnam**, up \$5.1 million (3,449.0%) to \$5.3 million due to increased re-exports of whiskies and frozen albacore or longfinned tuna;
- **China - People's Republic**, down \$6.6 million (59.3%) to \$4.6 million due to decreased re-exports of yellowfin tuna and albacore or longfinned tuna; and
- **Papua New Guinea**, up \$4.2 million (12,494.1%) to \$4.3 million due to increased re-exports of gas oil (diesel).

Below presents the main features of Fiji's International Merchandise Trade Statistics for the Month of August 2018.

Figure 1: Flow of Trade – August 2018



For more information on International Merchandise Trade Statistics refer to the following attached tables:

- **Table 4:** Balance of Trade;
- **Table 5:** Total Imports by HS;
- **Table 6:** Domestic Exports by HS;
- **Table 7:** Re-exports by HS;
- **Table 8:** Total Exports by HS;
- **Table 9:** Principal Domestic Exports by HS;
- **Table 10:** Principal Imports by HS;
- **Table 11:** Balance of Trade by major partner countries for August 2018;
- **Table 12:** Exports by SITC;
- **Table 13:** Imports by SITC; and
- **Table 14:** Mode of Transport.

For Technical Notes refer to page 25.

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The International Merchandise Trade Statistics for September 2018 will be released in November 2018.



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Government Statistician

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