

STATISTICAL NEWS

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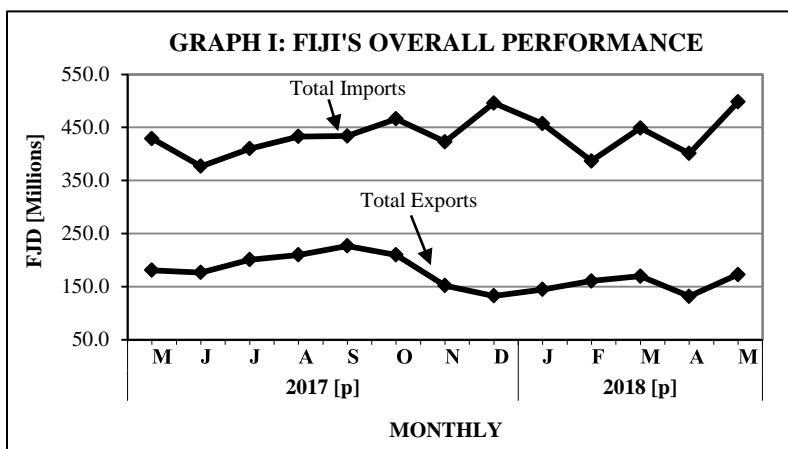
INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS

May 2018

Provisional data put the total value of goods imported in May 2018 at \$498.0 million while the value of total exports was \$172.8 million. (Refer Graph I).

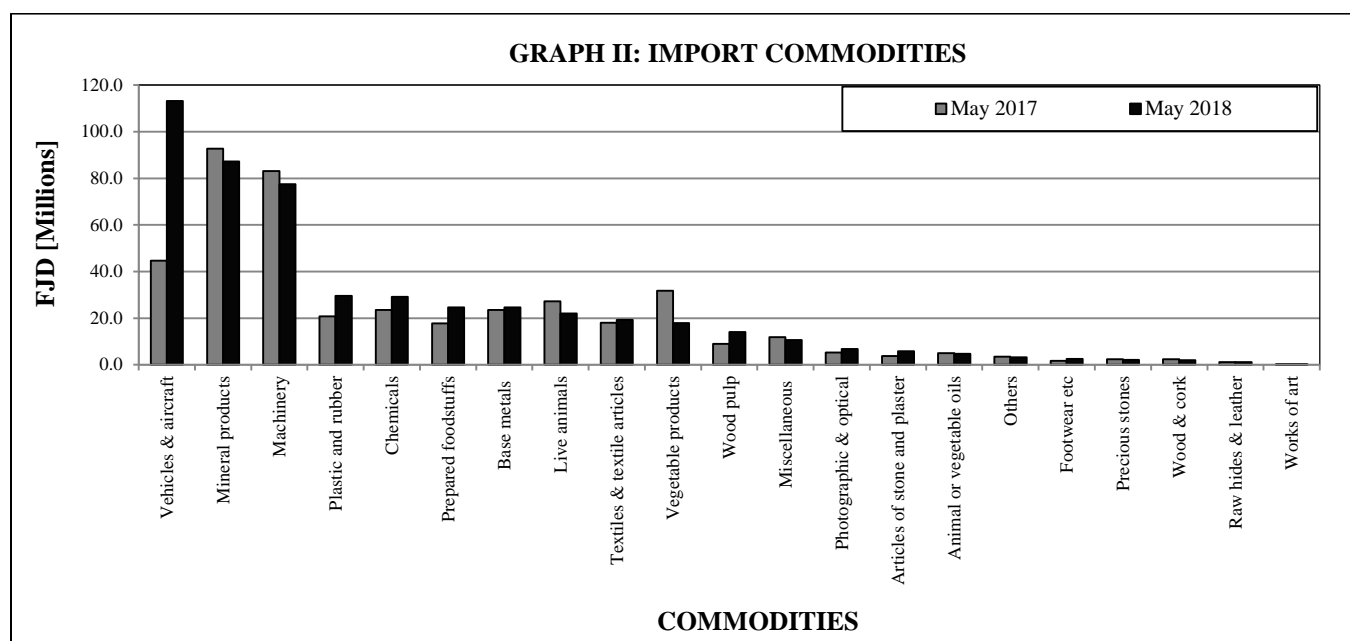
Compared to May 2017, total imports increased by \$69.0 million (16.1%) whereas total exports decreased by \$8.3 million (4.6%).

The May 2018 trade deficit amounted to \$325.2 million compared to \$269.5 million a month earlier (April).



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]

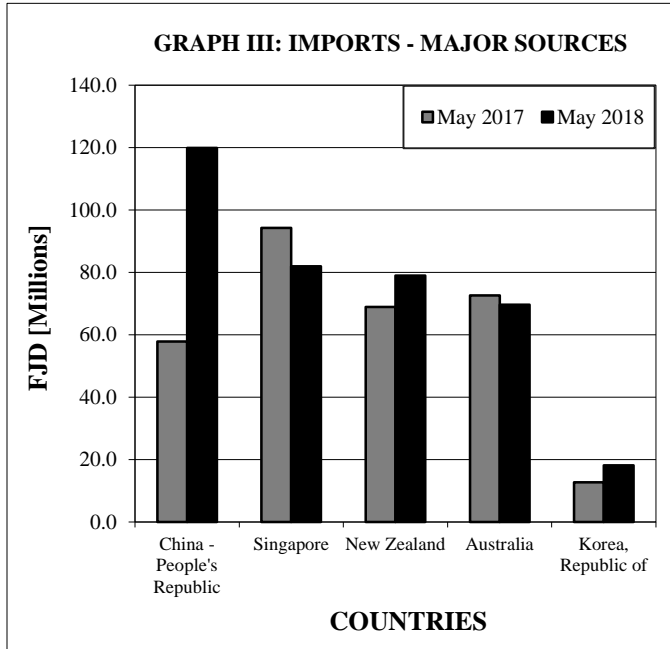
HS Sections	May 2017	%	May 2018	%
Vehicles, aircraft & associated transport equipment	44.6	10.4	113.2	22.7
Mineral products	92.7	21.6	87.3	17.5
Machinery & mechanical & electrical appliances & parts thereof	83.1	19.4	77.5	15.6
Plastic, rubber & articles thereof	20.8	4.8	29.5	5.9
Chemicals and allied products	23.5	5.5	29.2	5.9
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco	17.7	4.1	24.7	5.0
Base metals & articles thereof	23.5	5.5	24.7	5.0
Total Imports	429.0		498.0	

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

- **Vehicles, aircraft & associated transport equipment [HS 86-89]**, up \$68.5 million (153.6%) to \$113.2 million due to increased imports of other light vessels, fire floats, dredgers, floating cranes and other vessels;
- **Plastic, rubber & articles thereof [HS 39-40]**, up \$8.7 million (42.0%) to \$29.5 million due to increased imports of tubes, pipes and hoses thereof;
- **Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco [HS 16-24]**, up \$6.9 million (39.1%) to \$24.7 million due to increased imports of flours, meals and pellets of meat or meat offal;
- **Chemicals and allied products [HS 28-38]**, up \$5.7 million (24.4%) to \$29.2 million due to increased imports of vaccines for human medicine; and
- **Wood pulp, paper and paperboard, & articles thereof [HS 47-49]**, up \$5.0 million (55.6%) to \$14.0 million due to increased imports of other kraftliner.

Compared to May 2017, the import categories recording notable decreases were:

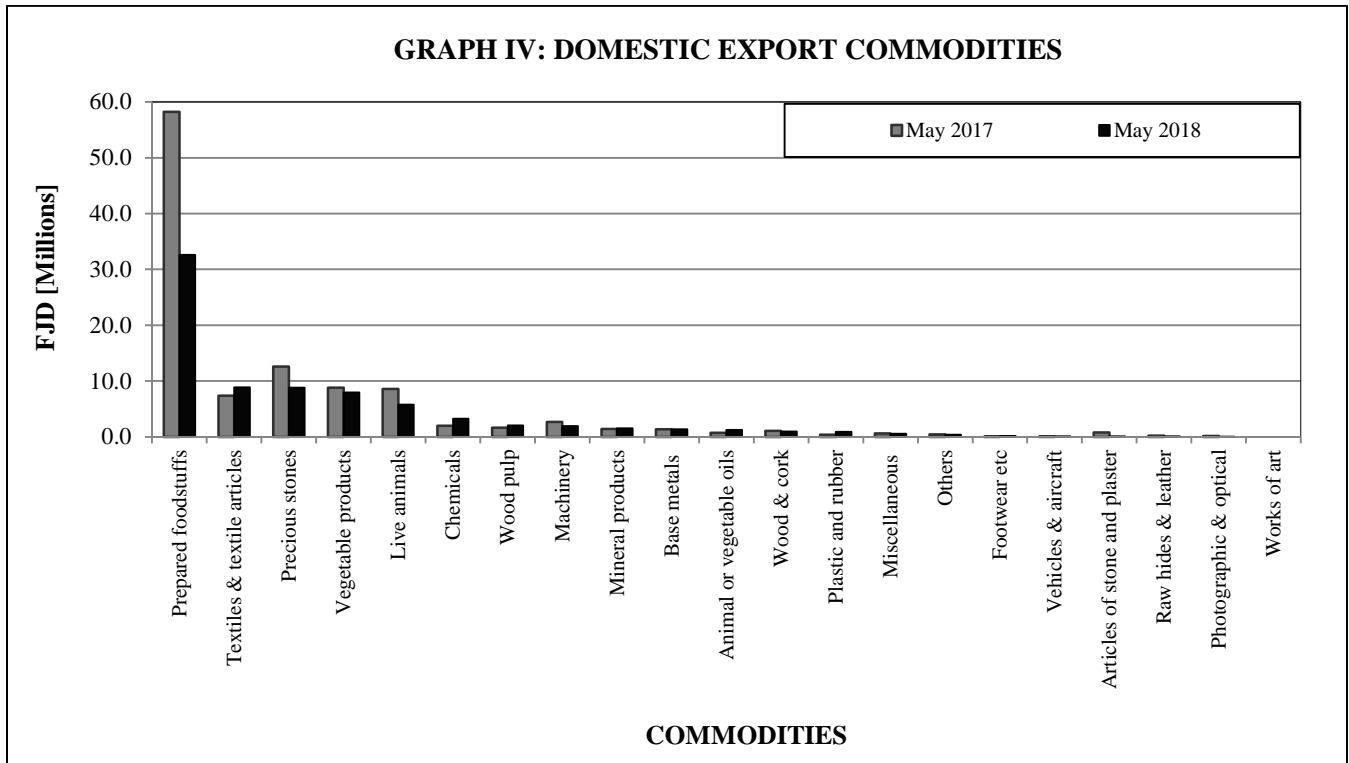
- **Vegetable products [HS 06-14]**, down \$13.9 million (43.7%) to \$17.8 million due to decreased imports of wheat and meslin;
- **Machinery & mechanical & electrical appliances & parts thereof [HS 84-85]**, down \$5.5 million (6.7%) to \$77.5 million due to decreased imports of blow moulding machines;
- **Mineral products [HS 25-27]**, down \$5.4 million (5.8%) to \$87.3 million due to decreased imports of gas oil (diesel) and light oils & preparations (motor spirit); and
- **Live animals: animal products [HS 01-05]**, down \$5.1 million (18.9%) to \$22.0 million due to decreased imports of frozen tunas.



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

- **China – People's Republic**, up \$62.0 million (107.2%) to \$119.9 million due to increased imports of other light vessels, fire floats, dredges, floating cranes and other vessels;
- **Singapore**, down \$12.3 million (13.1%) to \$81.9 million due to decreased imports of gas oil (diesel) and light oils & preparations (motor spirit);
- **New Zealand**, up \$10.0 million (14.6%) to \$78.9 million due to increased imports of cement clinkers;
- **Australia**, down \$2.9 million (4.0%) to \$69.7 million due to decreased imports of wheat & meslin; and
- **Korea, Republic of**, up \$5.4 million (42.3%) to \$18.1 million due to increased imports of new passenger motor cars and racing cars.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS



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

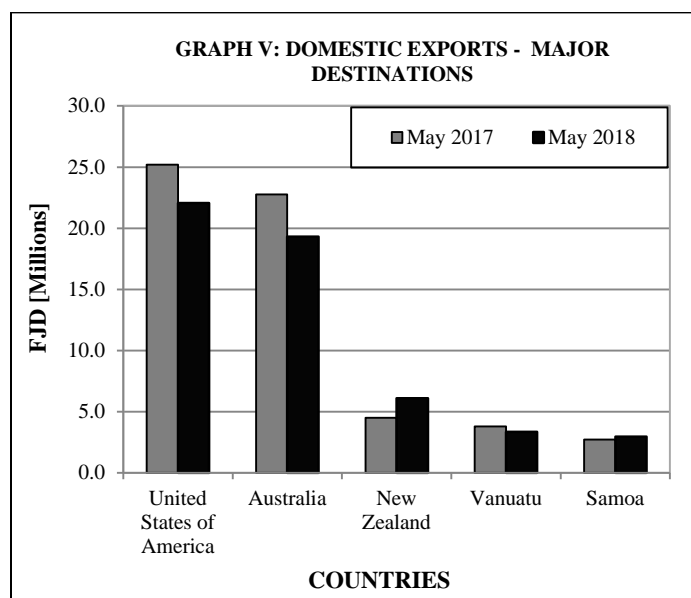
Table 2: Major contributors to Domestic Exports FJD [Millions]

HS Sections	May 2017	%	May 2018	%
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco	58.2	53.2	32.6	41.3
Pearls, precious, semi-precious stones & metals	12.6	11.5	8.9	11.2
Textiles & textile articles	7.4	6.8	8.9	11.3
Vegetable products	8.8	8.1	8.0	10.1
Live animals: animal products	8.6	7.8	5.8	7.3
Total Domestic Exports	109.5		78.9	

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

Compared to May 2017, the domestic export category recording a notable decrease was:

- **Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco [HS 16-24]**, down \$25.6 million (44.0%) to \$32.6 million due to decreased domestic exports of sugar.

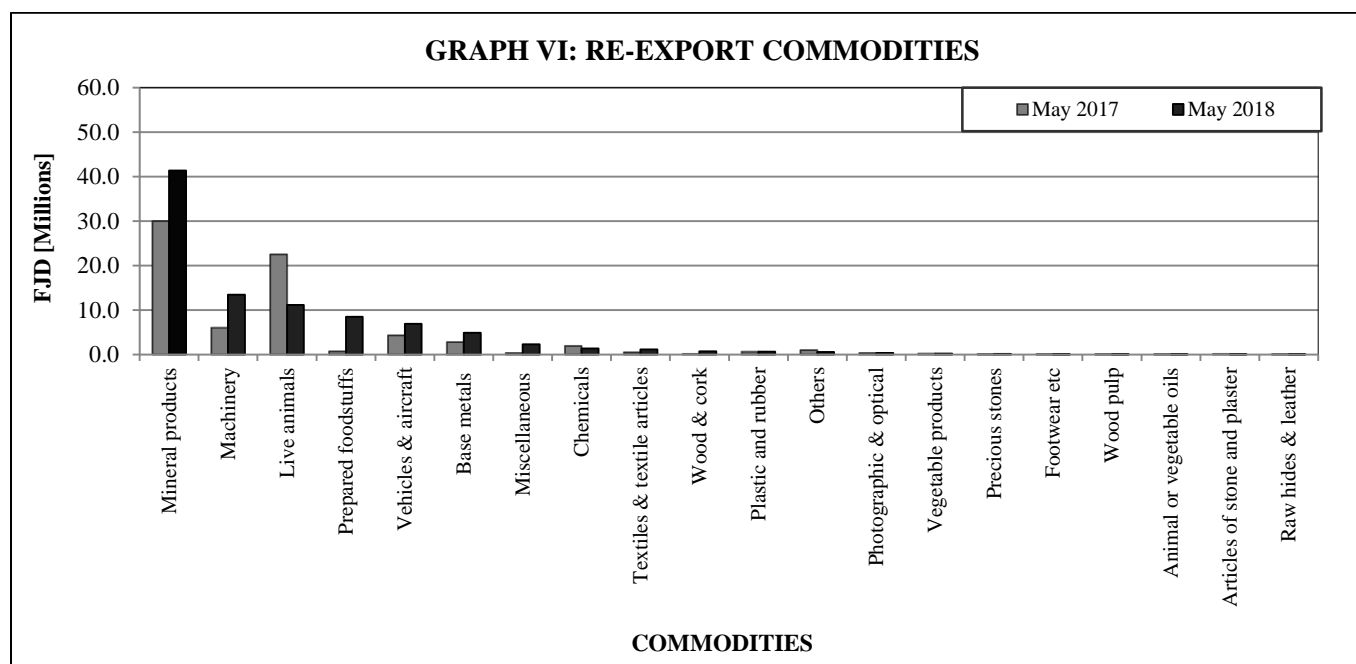


For the month of May 2018, Fiji's major domestic export destinations (Refer Graph V) were:

- **United States of America**, down \$3.1 million (12.5%) to \$22.1 million due to decreased exports of mineral water;
- ***Australia**, down \$3.5 million (15.2%) to \$19.3 million due to decreased exports of gold;
- **New Zealand**, up \$1.6 million (35.2%) to \$6.1 million due to increased exports of other textile materials and dalo (taro);
- **Vanuatu**, down \$0.4 million (11.8%) to \$3.4 million due to decreased exports of portland cement; and
- **Samoa**, up \$0.2 million (8.1%) to \$3.0 million due to increased exports of other textile materials.

*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]

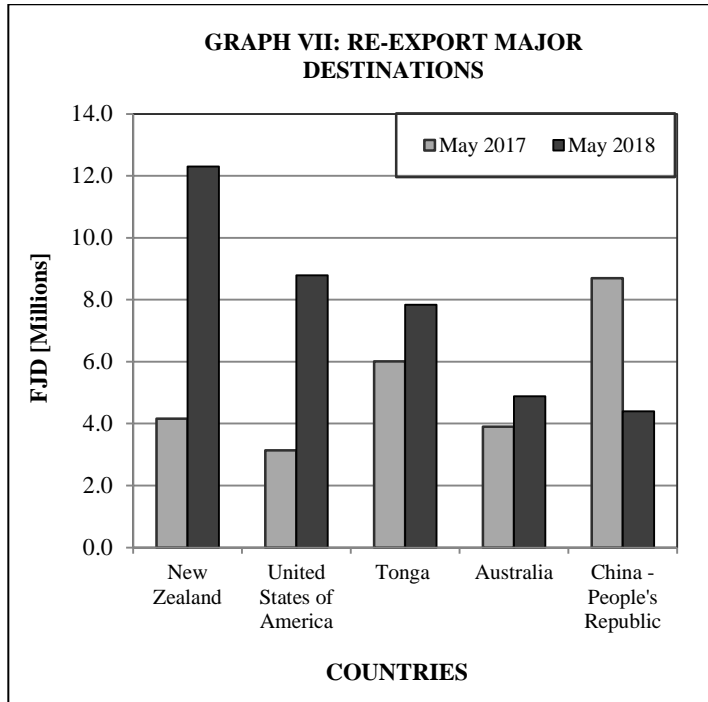
HS Section	May 2017	%	May 2018	%
Mineral products	30.0	41.9	41.3	44.0
Machinery & mechanical & electrical appliances & parts thereof	6.1	8.5	13.4	14.3
Live animals: animal products	22.5	31.4	11.1	11.9
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco	0.7	1.0	8.5	9.0
Vehicles, aircraft & associated transport equipment	4.3	6.0	6.9	7.3
Base metals & articles thereof	2.8	3.9	4.9	5.2
Total Re-exports	71.7		93.9	

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

- **Mineral products [HS 25-27]**, up \$11.3 million (37.8%) to \$41.3 million due to increased re-exports of gas-oil (diesel) and aviation turbine fuel;
- **Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco [HS 16-24]**, up \$7.8 million (1,087.8%) to \$8.5 million due to increased re-exports of other smoking, whether or not containing tobacco substitutes in any proportion; and
- **Machinery & mechanical & electrical appliances & parts thereof [HS 84-85]**, up \$7.4 million (121.4%) to \$13.4 million due to increased re-exports of television cameras, digital cameras and video camera recorders.

Compared to May 2017, the re-export category recording a notable decrease was:

- **Live animals: animal products [HS 01-05]**, down \$11.4 million (50.6%) to \$11.1 million due to decreased re-exports of frozen tunas.



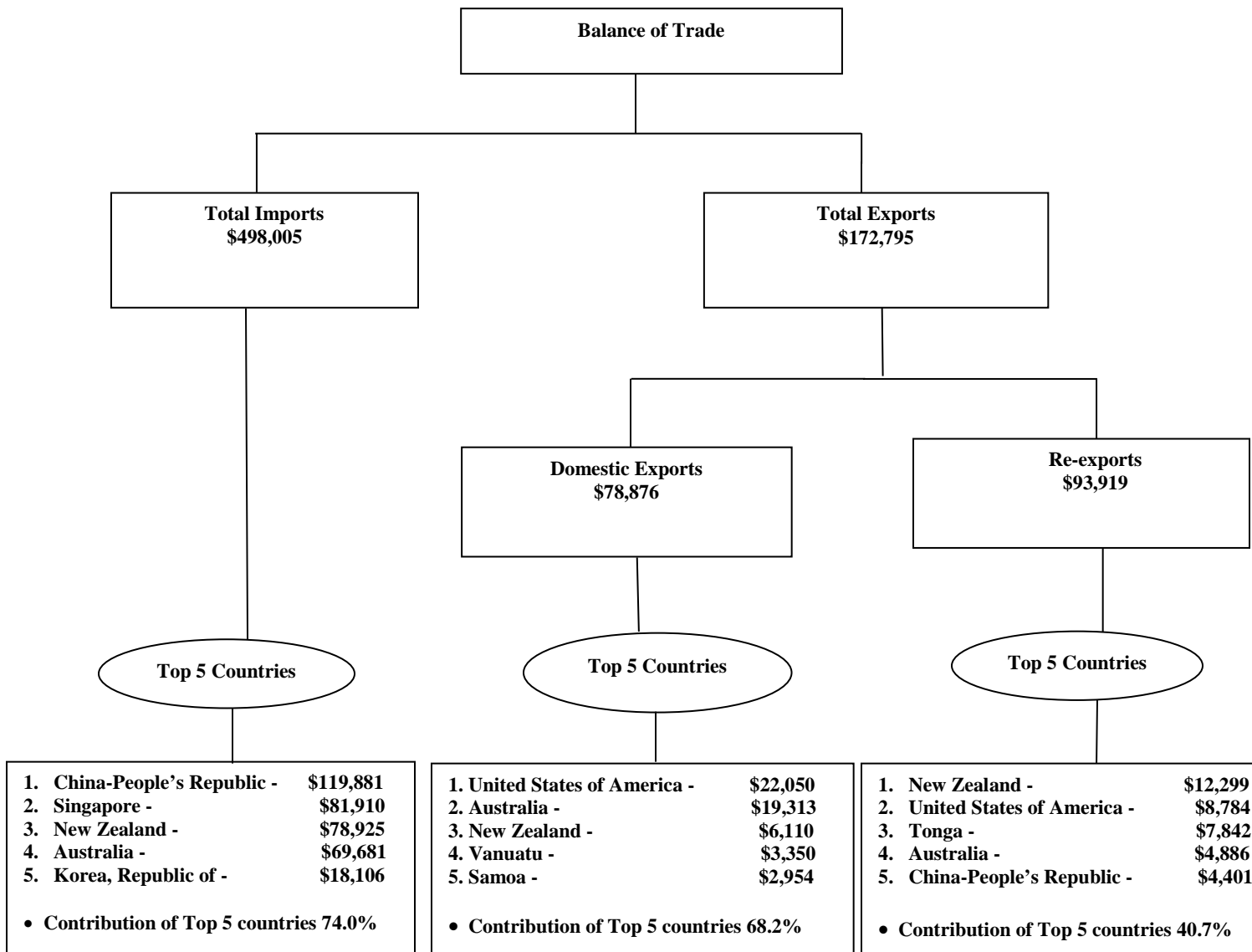
For the month May 2018, Fiji's major re-export destinations (Refer Graph VII) were:

- **New Zealand**, up \$8.1 million (196.1%) to \$12.3 million due to increased re-exports of television cameras, digital cameras and video camera recorders;
- **United States of America**, up \$5.6 million (180.2%) to \$8.8 million due to increased re-exports of aircraft;
- **Tonga**, up \$1.8 million (30.6%) to \$7.8 million due to increased re-exports of gas oil (diesel) and light oils & preparations (motor spirit);
- **Australia**, up \$1.0 million (25.2%) to \$4.9 million due to increased re-exports of other aerials and aerial reflectors of all kinds; parts suitable for use therewith; and
- **China – People's Republic**, down \$4.3 million (49.4%) to \$4.4 million due to

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

Figure 1: Flow of Trade – May 2018

FJD [000]



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 May 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 June 2018 will be released in August 2018.



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Government Statistician

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