



# STATISTICAL NEWS

FBOS Release No: 08, 2019

31<sup>st</sup> January 2019

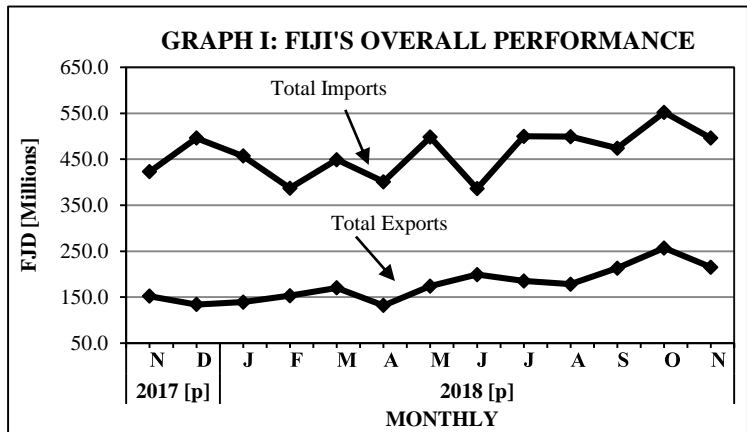
## INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS

### November 2018

**Provisional** data put the total value of goods imported in November 2018 at \$495.9 million while the value of total exports was \$214.7 million. (Refer Graph I).

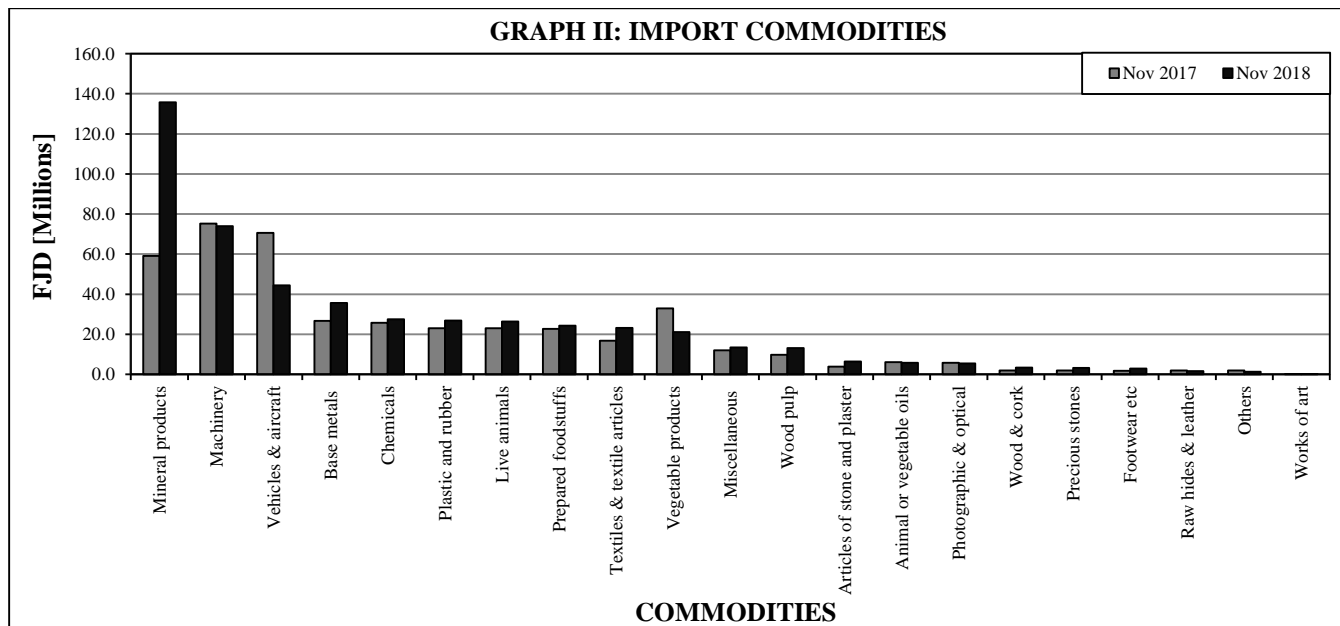
Compared to November 2017, total imports and total exports increased by \$72.6 million (17.1%) and \$62.2 million (40.8%) respectively.

The November 2018 trade deficit amounted to \$281.2 million compared to \$294.5 million a month earlier (October).



## HIGHLIGHTS

### IMPORTS



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

**Table 1: Major contributors to Imports FJD [Millions]**

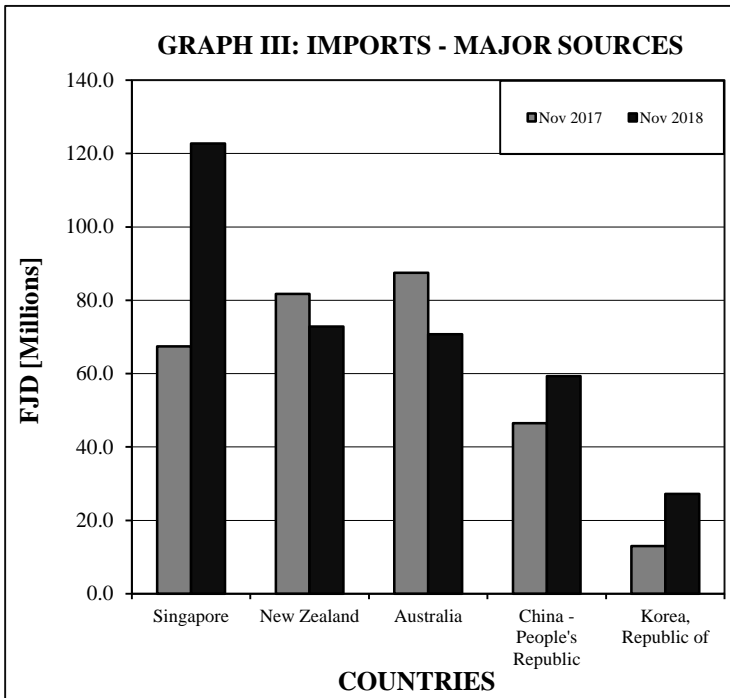
<b>HS Sections</b>	<b>Nov 2017</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Nov 2018</b>	<b>%</b>
Mineral products	59.2	14.0	135.8	27.4
Machinery & mechanical & electrical appliances & parts thereof	75.3	17.8	74.0	14.9
Vehicles, aircraft & associated transport equipment	70.7	16.7	44.4	9.0
Base metals & articles thereof	26.7	6.3	35.6	7.2
Chemicals and allied products	25.8	6.1	27.5	5.6
Plastic, rubber & articles thereof	23.0	5.4	26.9	5.4
Live animals: animal products	23.1	5.5	26.4	5.3
<b>Total Imports</b>	<b>423.3</b>		<b>495.9</b>	

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

- **Mineral products [HS 25-27]**, up \$76.6 million (129.5%) to \$135.8 million due to increased imports of gas-oil (diesel), aviation turbine fuel and residual fuel oil;
- **Base metals & articles thereof [HS 72-83]**, up \$8.9 million (33.3%) to \$35.6 million due to increased imports of bars and rods, hot-rolled, in irregularly wound coils, of iron or non-ally steel; and
- **Textiles & textile articles [HS 50-63]**, up \$6.3 million (37.6%) to \$23.2 million due to increased imports of other printed woven fabrics of cotton.

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

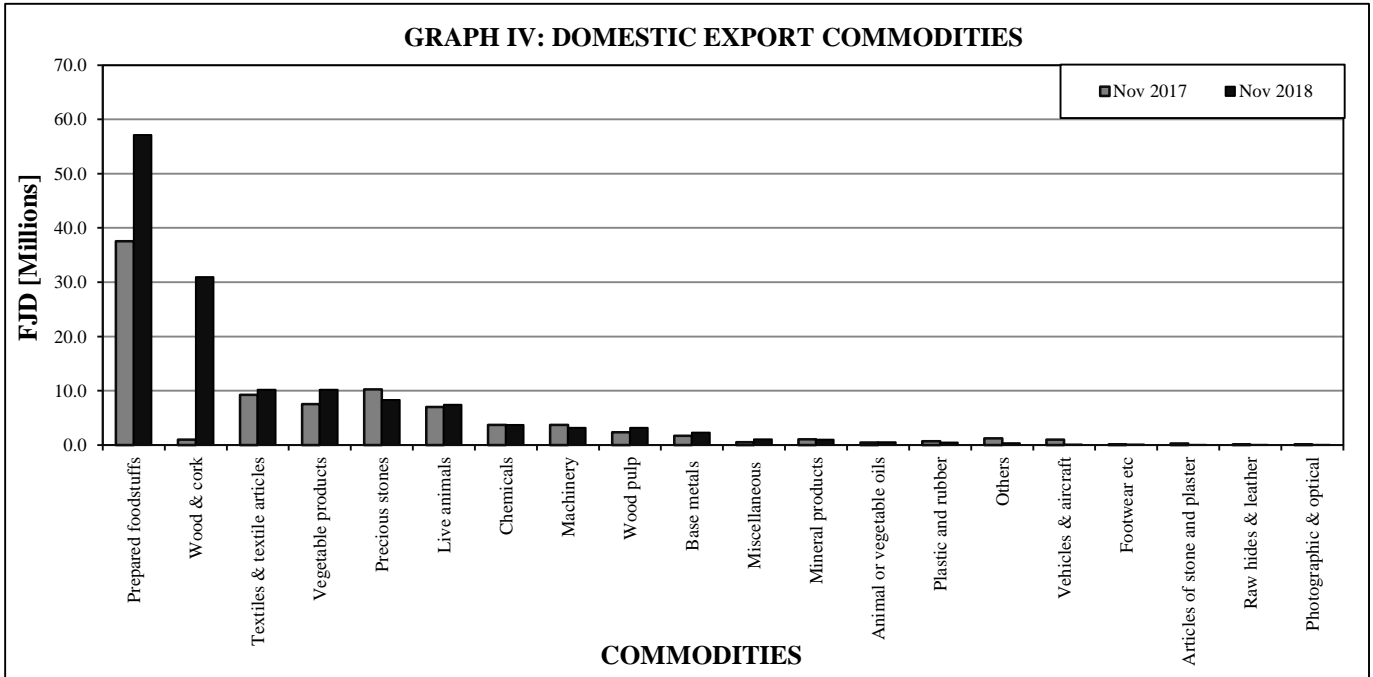
- **Vehicles, aircraft & associated transport equipment [HS 86-89]**, down \$26.3 million (37.2%) to \$44.4 million due to decreased imports of aircrafts; and
- **Vegetable products [HS 06-14]**, down \$11.8 million (36.0%) to \$21.0 million due to decreased imports of other wheat and meslin.



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

- **Singapore**, up \$55.3 million (82.1%) to \$122.8 million due to increased imports of gas-oil (diesel) and aviation turbine fuel;
- **New Zealand**, down \$8.9 million (10.9%) to \$72.8 million due to decreased imports of telephones for cellular networks or for other wireless networks;
- **Australia**, down \$16.8 million (19.2%) to \$70.7 million due to decreased imports of other wheat and meslin;
- **China – People's Republic**, up \$12.8 million (27.5%) to \$59.3 million due to increased imports of other angles, shapes and sections of iron or non-alloy steel; and
- **Korea, Republic of**, up \$14.2 million (109.2%) to \$27.2 million due to increased imports of residual fuel oil and gas-oil (diesel).

**DOMESTIC EXPORTS**



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

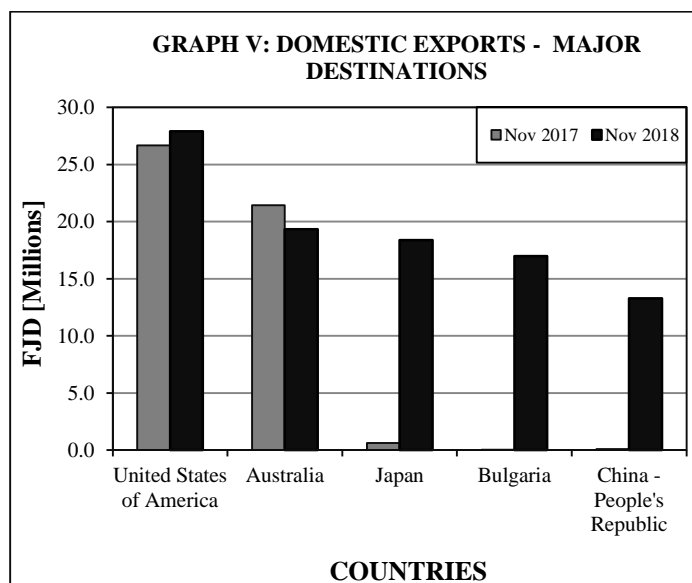
**Table 2: Major contributors to Domestic Exports FJD [Millions]**

HS Sections	Nov 2017	%	Nov 2018	%
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco	37.6	41.8	57.2	40.7
Wood, cork & articles thereof & plaiting material	1.0	1.1	31.0	22.0
Textiles & textile articles	9.2	10.3	10.2	7.3
Vegetable products	7.5	8.4	10.2	7.3
Pearls, precious, semi-precious stones & metals	10.2	11.4	8.3	5.9
Live animals: animal products	7.0	7.8	7.4	5.3
<b>Total Domestic Exports</b>	<b>89.8</b>		<b>140.5</b>	

Compared to November 2017, the domestic export categories recording notable increases were:

- **Wood, cork & articles thereof & plaiting materials [HS 44-46]**, up \$30.0 million (3,087.5%) to \$31.0 million due to increased domestic exports of wood in chips or particles; and
- **Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco [HS 16-24]**, up \$19.6 million (52.1%) to \$57.2 million due to increased domestic exports of sugar and mineral water.

Compared to November 2017, there were no notable decreases for domestic export category.

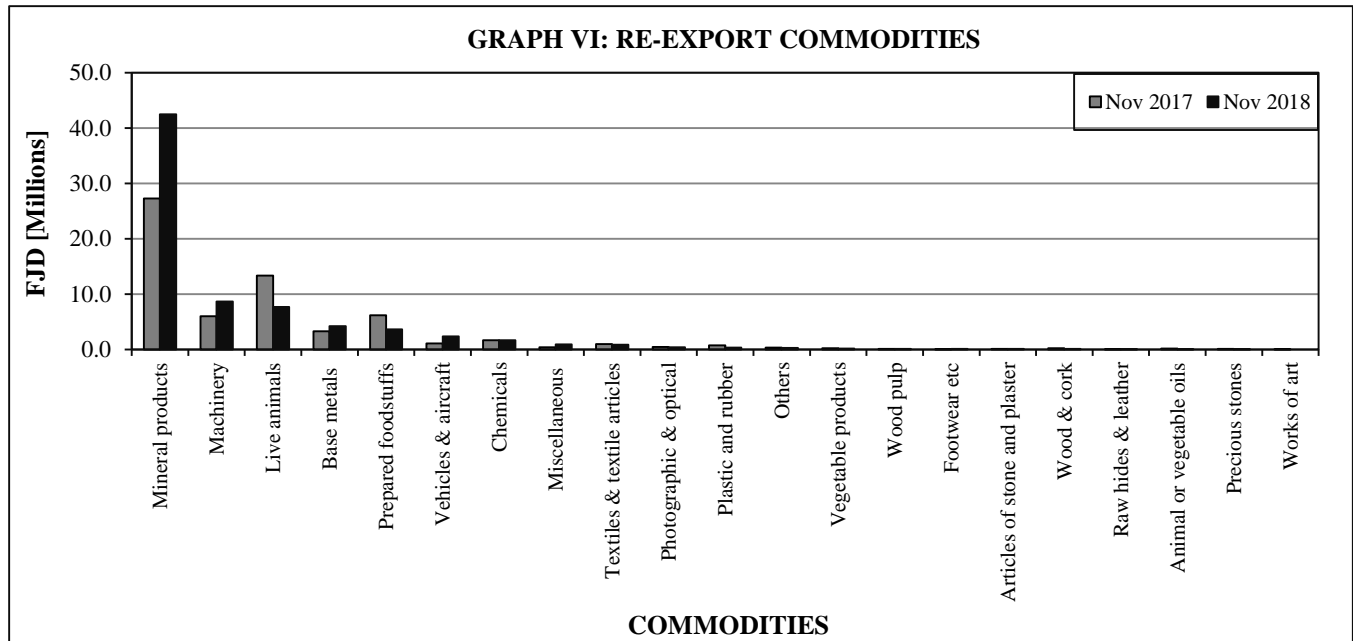


For the month of November 2018, Fiji's major domestic export destinations (Refer Graph V) were:

- **United States of America**, up \$1.2 million (4.6%) to \$27.9 million due to increased exports of mineral water;
- **\*Australia**, down \$2.1 million (9.8%) to \$19.3 million due to decreased exports of gold;
- **Japan**, up \$17.8 million (2,887.8%) to \$18.4 million due to increased exports of wood in chips or particles;
- **Bulgaria**, up \$17.0 million (169,840.0%) to \$17.0 million due to increased exports of sugar; and
- **China – People's Republic**, up \$12.4 million (1,346.3%) to \$13.3 million due to increased exports of wood in chips or particles.

\*Domestic export of gold is under query.

## RE-EXPORTS



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

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

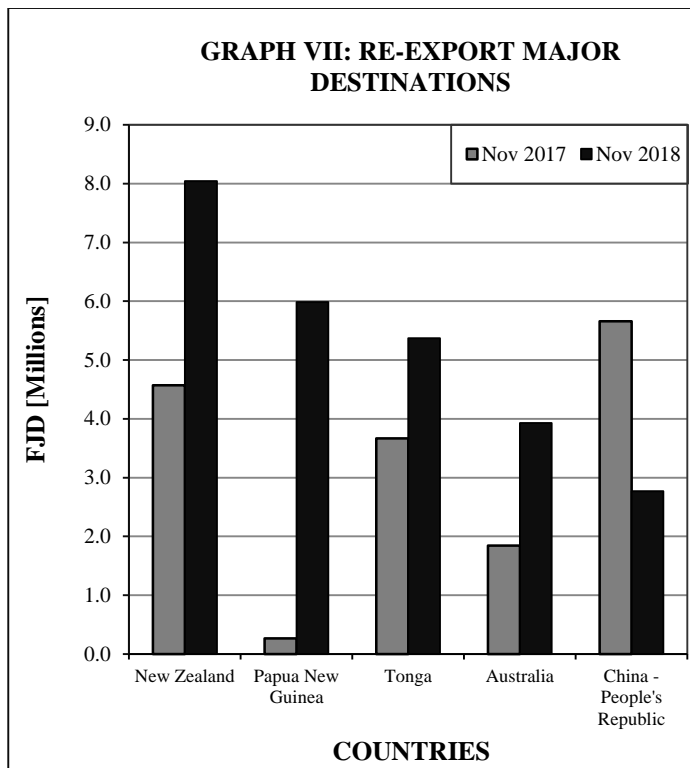
HS Section	Nov 2017	%	Nov 2018	%
Mineral products	27.3	43.5	42.5	57.3
Machinery & mechanical & electrical appliances & parts thereof	6.0	9.6	8.7	11.7
Live animals: animal products	13.3	21.3	7.7	10.3
Base metals & articles thereof	3.3	5.3	4.2	5.6
<b>Total Re-exports</b>	<b>62.6</b>		<b>74.2</b>	

Compared to November 2017, the re-export category recording a notable increase was:

- **Mineral products [HS 25-27]**, up \$15.2 million (55.9%) to \$42.5 million due to increased re-exports of gas-oil (diesel) and aviation turbine fuel.

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

- **Live animals: animal products [HS 01-05]**, down \$5.7 million (42.5%) to \$7.7 million due to decreased re-exports of albacore or longfinned tuna and yellowfin tuna.

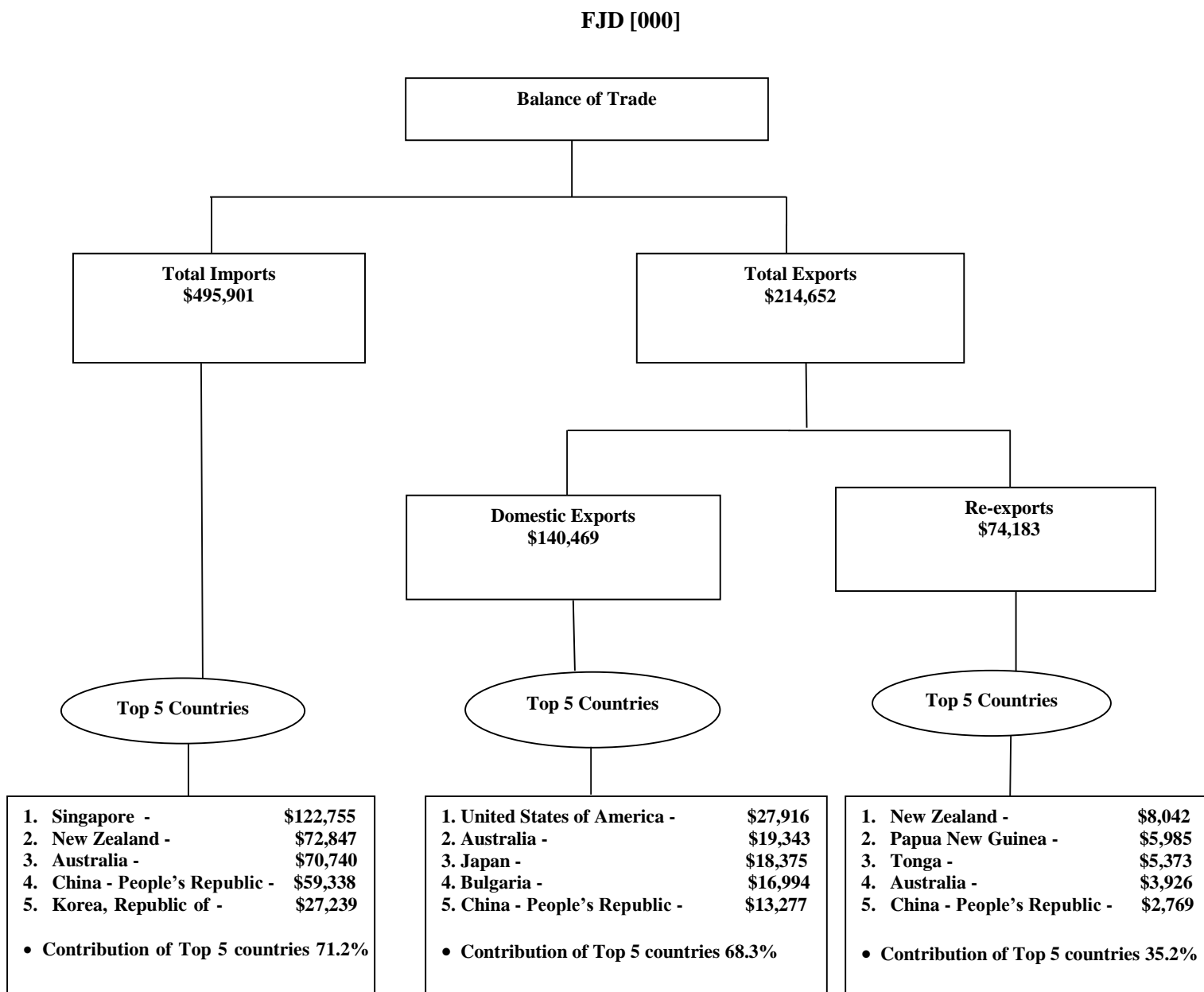


For the month November 2018, Fiji's major re-export destinations (Refer Graph VII) were:

- **New Zealand**, up \$3.5 million (75.9%) to \$8.0 million due to increased re-exports of television cameras, digital cameras & video camera recorders and containers for compressed or liquefied gas, of iron or steel;
- **Papua New Guinea**, up \$5.7 million (2,141.6%) to \$6.0 million due to increased re-exports of gas-oil (diesel);
- **Tonga**, up \$1.7 million (46.6%) to \$5.4 million due to increased re-exports of light oils and preparations and gas-oil (diesel);
- **Australia**, up \$2.1 million (113.1%) to \$3.9 million due to increased re-exports of television cameras, digital cameras and video camera recorders; and
- **China - People's Republic**, down \$2.9 million (51.1%) to \$2.8 million due to decreased re-exports of sardines and albacore or longfinned tuna.

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

**Figure 1: Flow of Trade – November 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 November 2018;
- **Table 12:** Exports by SITC;
- **Table 13:** Imports by SITC; and
- **Table 14:** Mode of Transport.

For Technical Notes refer to page 25.

For further enquiries please contact Mr. Emitai Nasau on email [enasau@statsfiji.gov.fj](mailto:enasau@statsfiji.gov.fj) or Mrs. Veenita Miller on email [vdevi@statsfiji.gov.fj](mailto:vdevi@statsfiji.gov.fj) or telephone 331 5822 (ext. 386 235) or direct line 323 0835.

The International Merchandise Trade Statistics for December and Annual 2018 will be released in February 2019.



**Deputy Government Statistician**

---

### **Reproduction of Material**

Any table or material published in this release may be reproduced and published without the Fiji Bureau of Statistics' prior approval. However, the source of information should always be identified and acknowledged in all modes of presentation.