



STATISTICAL NEWS

FBoS Release No: 97, 2018

7th December 2018

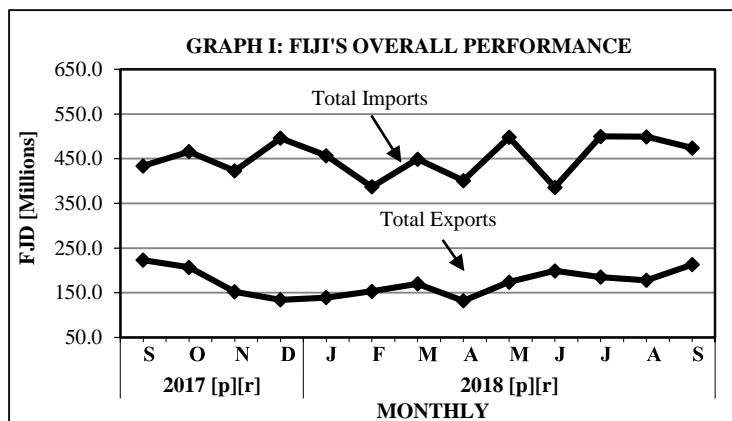
INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS

September 2018

Provisional data put the total value of goods imported in September 2018 at \$474.2 million while the value of total exports was \$213.2 million. (Refer Graph I).

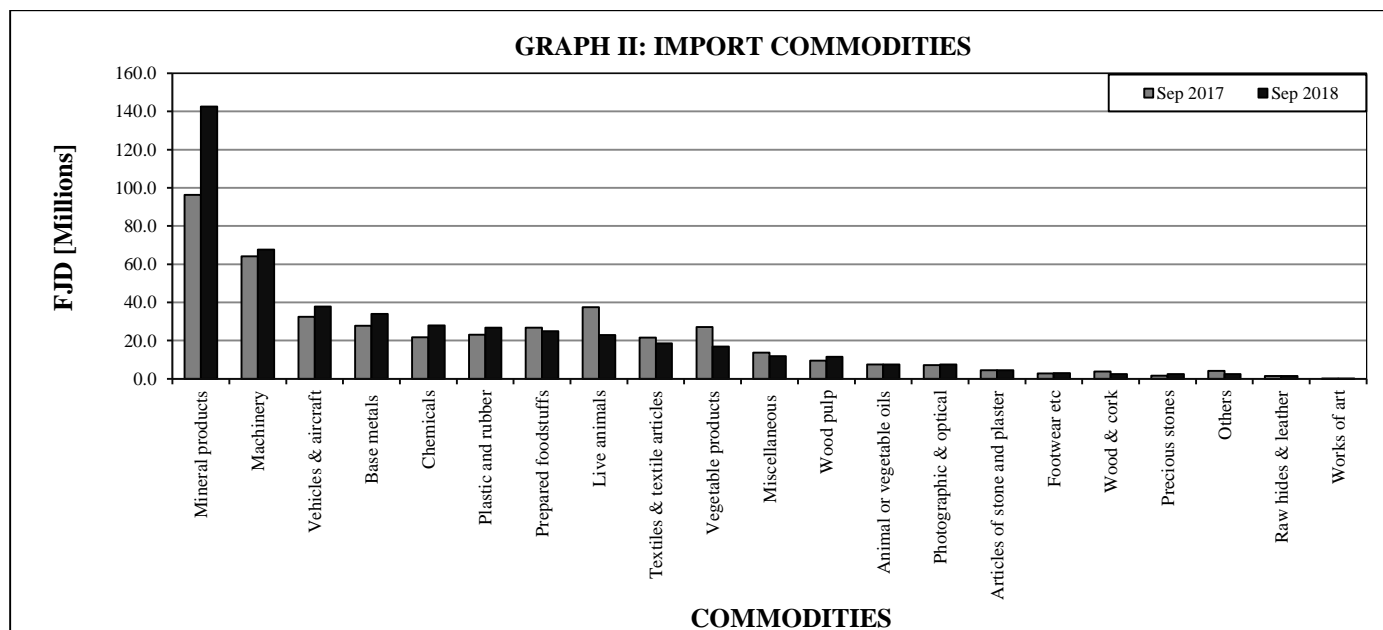
Compared to September 2017, total imports increased by \$40.4 million (9.3%) whereas total exports decreased by \$10.1 million (4.5%).

The September 2018 trade deficit amounted to \$260.9 million compared to \$320.1 million a month earlier (August).



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]

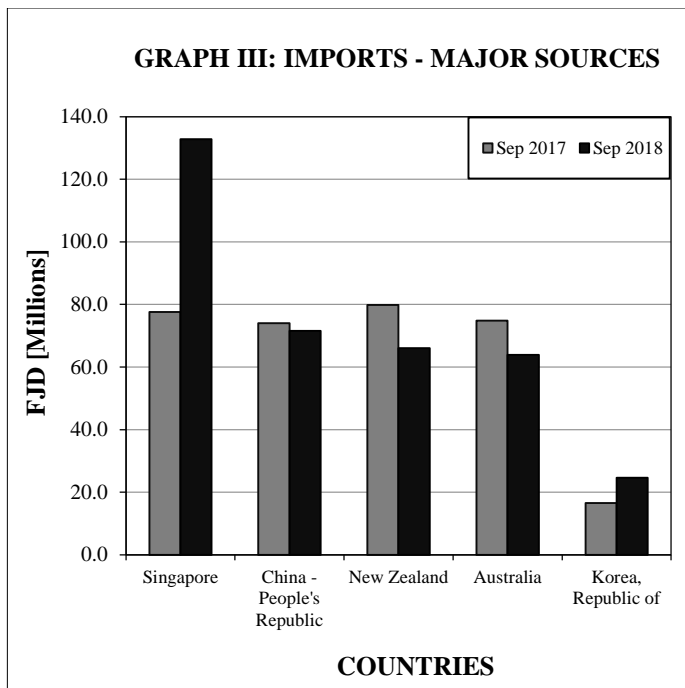
HS Sections	Sep 2017	%	Sep 2018	%
Mineral products	96.3	22.2	142.5	30.1
Machinery & mechanical & electrical appliances & parts thereof	64.1	14.8	67.6	14.3
Vehicles, aircraft & associated transport equipment	32.4	7.5	37.7	8.0
Base metals & articles thereof	27.8	6.4	34.0	7.2
Chemicals and allied products	21.7	5.0	28.0	5.9
Plastic, rubber & articles thereof	23.0	5.3	26.8	5.6
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco	26.8	6.2	24.9	5.3
Total Imports	433.8		474.2	

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

- **Mineral products [HS 25-27]**, up \$46.2 million (48.0%) to \$142.5 million due to increased imports of gas oil (diesel) and aviation turbine fuel;
- **Chemicals and allied products [HS 28-38]**, up \$6.3 million (28.9%) to \$28.0 million due to increased imports of ammonium sulphate;
- **Base metals & articles thereof [HS 72-83]**, up \$6.2 million (22.4%) to \$34.0 million due to increased imports of other semi-finished products of iron or non-ally steel and other cold formed or cold finished from flat rolled products; and
- **Vehicles, aircraft & associated transport equipment [HS 86-89]**, up \$5.3 million (16.5%) to \$37.7 million due to increased imports of other parts of aeroplanes or helicopters and used or reconditioned passenger cars & racing cars.

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

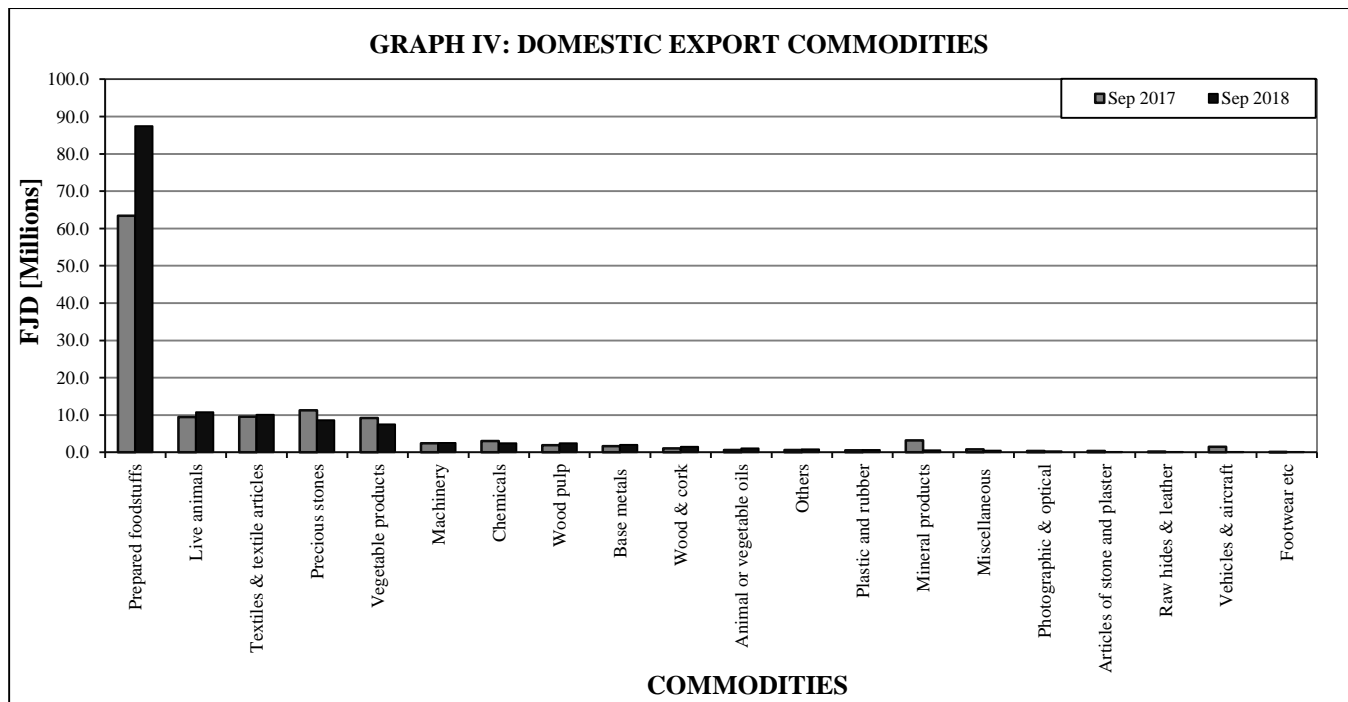
- **Live animals: animal products [HS 01-05]**, down \$14.5 million (38.7%) to \$22.9 million due to decreased imports of milk and albacore or longfinned tuna; and
- **Vegetable products [HS 06-14]**, down \$10.3 million (37.8%) to \$16.9 million due to decreased imports of other wheat & meslin and other potatoes, fresh or chilled.



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

- **Singapore**, up \$55.2 million (71.2%) to \$132.8 million due to increased imports of gas oil (diesel) and aviation or turbine fuel;
- **China – People's Republic**, down \$2.5 million (3.4%) to \$71.5 million due to decreased imports of albacore or longfinned tuna and cement clinkers;
- **New Zealand**, down \$13.8 million (17.3%) to \$66.0 million due to decreased imports of other portland cement and milk;
- **Australia**, down \$10.9 million (14.6%) to \$63.9 million due to decreased imports of other wheat and meslin; and
- **Korea, Republic of**, up \$8.1 million (48.7%) to \$24.7 million due to increased imports of residual fuel oil and other semi-finished products of iron or non-alloy steel.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS



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

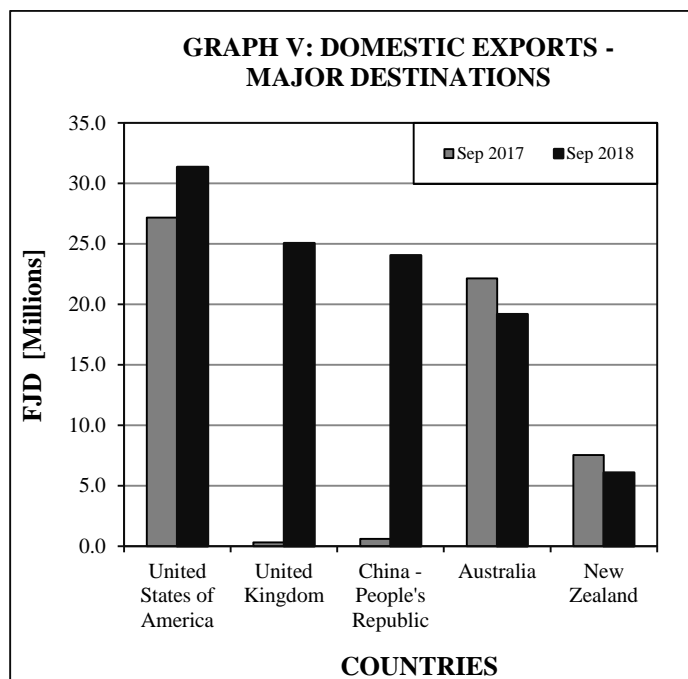
Table 2: Major contributors to Domestic Exports FJD [Millions]

HS Sections	Sep 2017	%	Sep 2018	%
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco	63.4	52.3	87.4	62.7
Live animals: animal products	9.4	7.8	10.7	7.7
Textiles & textile articles	9.6	7.9	10.1	7.2
Pearls, precious, semi-precious stones & metals	11.3	9.3	8.6	6.2
Vegetable products	9.2	7.6	7.5	5.4
Total Domestic Exports	121.2		139.5	

Compared to September 2017, the domestic export category recording a notable increase was:

- **Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco [HS 16-24]**, up \$24.0 million (37.8%) to \$87.4 million due to increased domestic exports of mineral water.

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

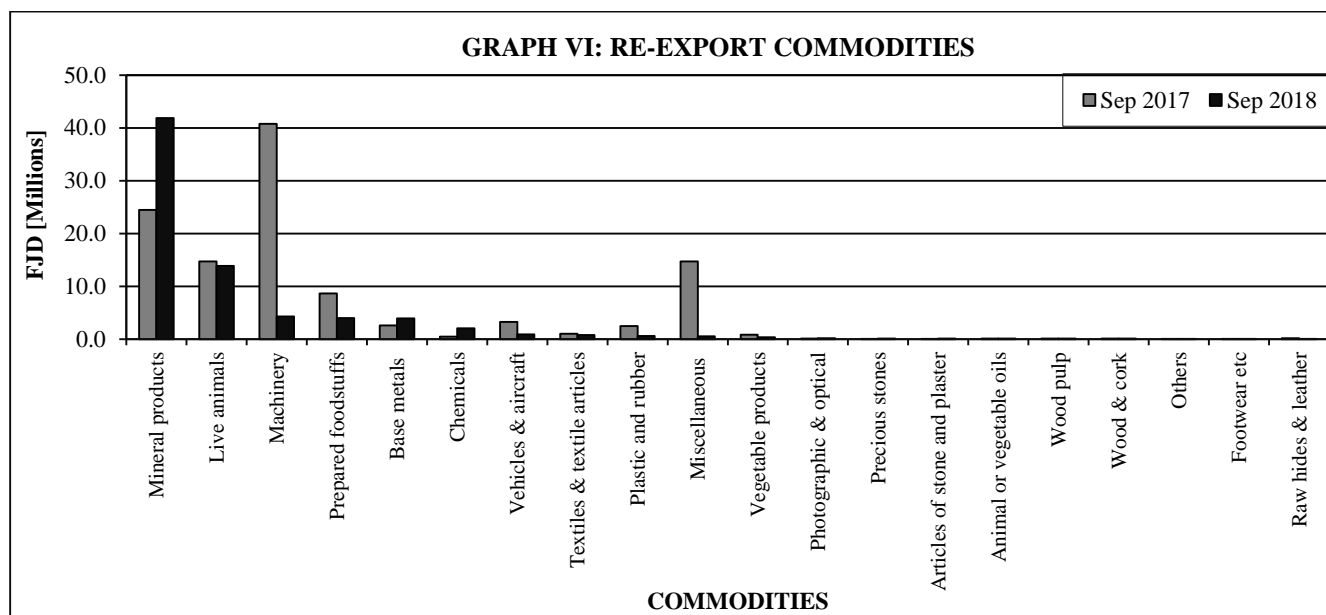


For the month of September 2018, Fiji's major domestic export destinations (Refer Graph V) were:

- **United States of America**, up \$4.3 million (15.8%) to \$31.4 million due to increased exports of mineral water;
- **United Kingdom**, up \$24.7 million (8,304.4%) to \$25.0 million due to increased exports of sugar;
- **China - People's Republic**, up \$23.4 million (4,014.9%) to \$24.0 million due to increased exports of sugar;
- ***Australia**, down \$2.9 million (13.3%) to \$19.2 million due to decreased exports of gold; and
- **New Zealand**, down \$1.4 million (19.2%) to \$6.1 million due to decreased exports of dalo (taro), canoes and life jackets & life-belts.

*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]

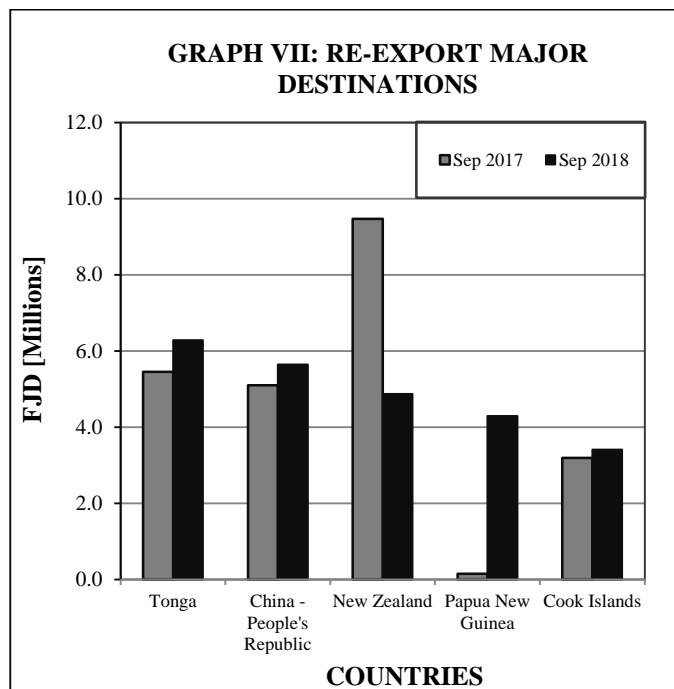
HS Section	Sep 2017	%	Sep 2018	%
Mineral products	24.5	24.0	41.9	56.8
Live animals: animal products	14.7	14.4	13.8	18.8
Machinery & mechanical & electrical appliances & parts thereof	40.8	39.9	4.3	5.8
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco	8.6	8.5	4.0	5.4
Base metals & articles thereof	2.6	2.5	3.9	5.4
Total Re-exports	102.1		73.7	

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

- **Mineral products [HS 25-27]**, up \$17.4 million (71.1%) to \$41.9 million due to increased re-exports of aviation turbine fuel and gas oil (diesel).

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

- **Machinery & mechanical & electrical appliances & parts thereof [HS 84-85]**, down \$36.5 million (89.6%) to \$4.3 million due to decreased re-exports of television cameras, digital cameras, and video camera recorders.

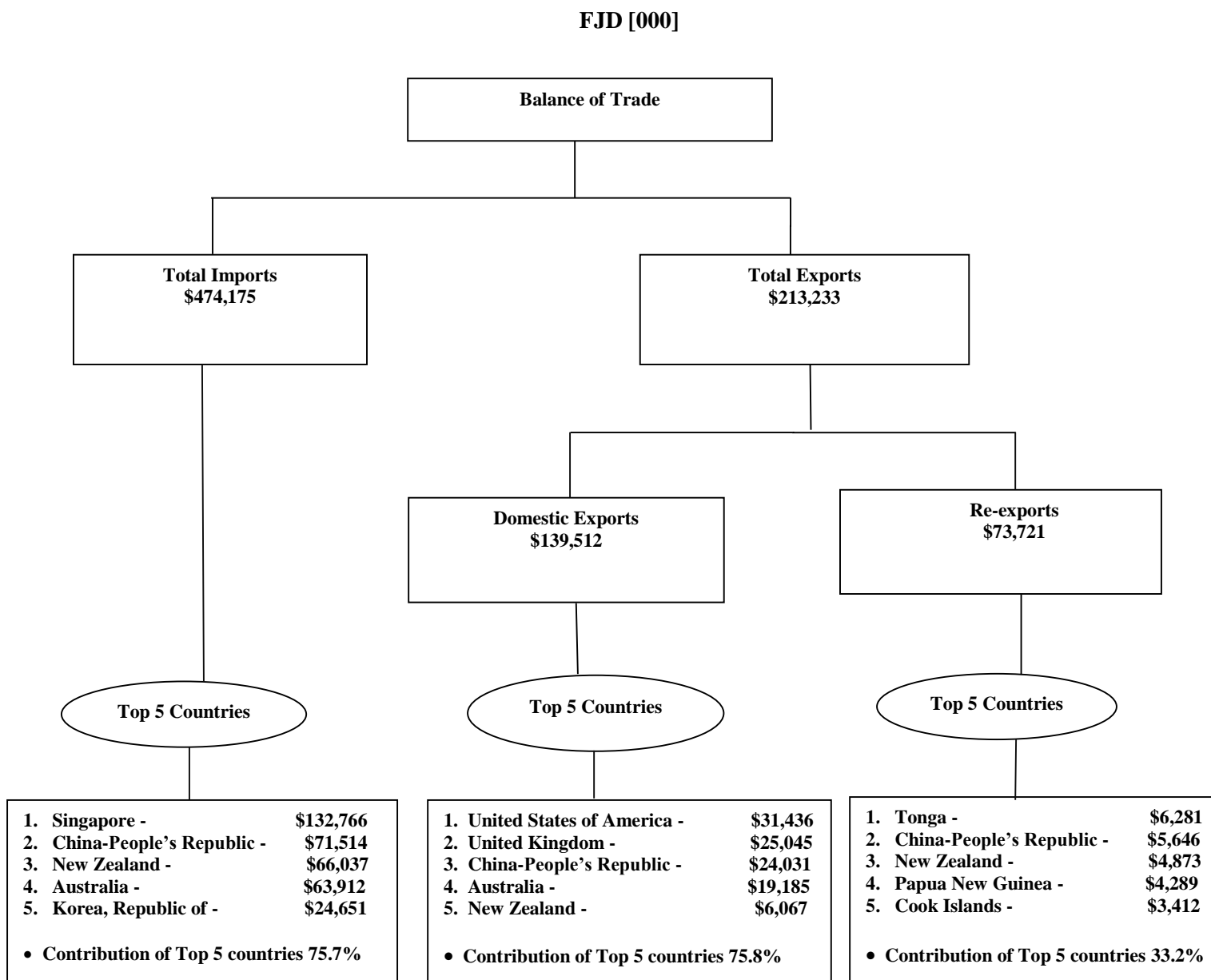


For the month September 2018, Fiji's major re-export destinations (Refer Graph VII) were:

- **Tonga**, up \$0.8 million (15.1%) to \$6.3 million due to increased re-exports of light oils & preparations (motor spirit);
- **China - People's Republic**, up \$0.6 million (10.8%) to \$5.6 million due to increased re-exports of yellow fin tuna and sardines;
- **New Zealand**, down \$4.6 million (48.5%) to \$4.9 million due to decreased re-exports of other portable automatic data processing machines and other water-skis, surf-boards, sail boards and other water-sport equipment;
- **Papua New Guinea**, up \$4.1 million (2,837.7%) to \$4.3 million due to increased re-exports of gas oil (diesel); and
- **Cook Islands**, up \$0.2 million (6.8%) to \$3.4 million due to increased re-exports of aviation turbine fuel.

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

Figure 1: Flow of Trade – September 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 September 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 or Mrs. Veenita Miller on email vdevi@statsfiji.gov.fj or telephone 331 5822 (ext. 386 235) or direct line 323 0835.

The International Merchandise Trade Statistics for October 2018 will be released in December 2018.



Kemueli Naiqama [Mr]
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.