

STATISTICAL NEWS

FBoS Release No: 16, 2019

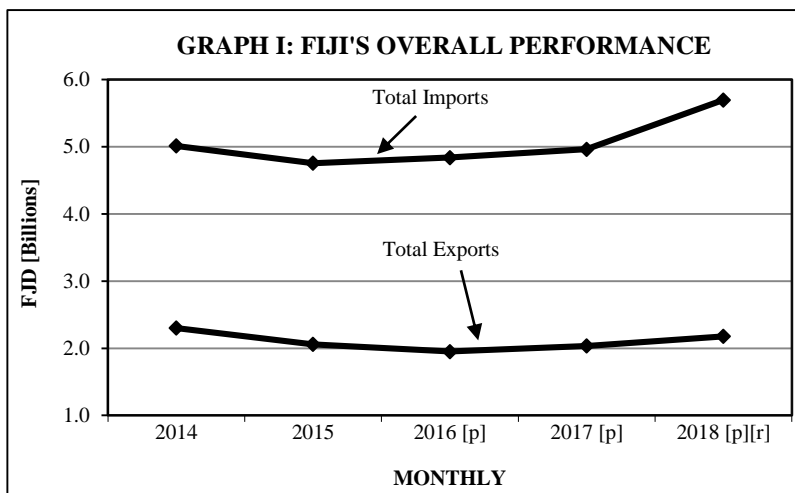
8th March 2019

INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS 2018

Provisional data put the value of goods imported in 2018 at \$5,696.1 million while the value of total exports was \$2,176.9 million. (Refer Graph I).

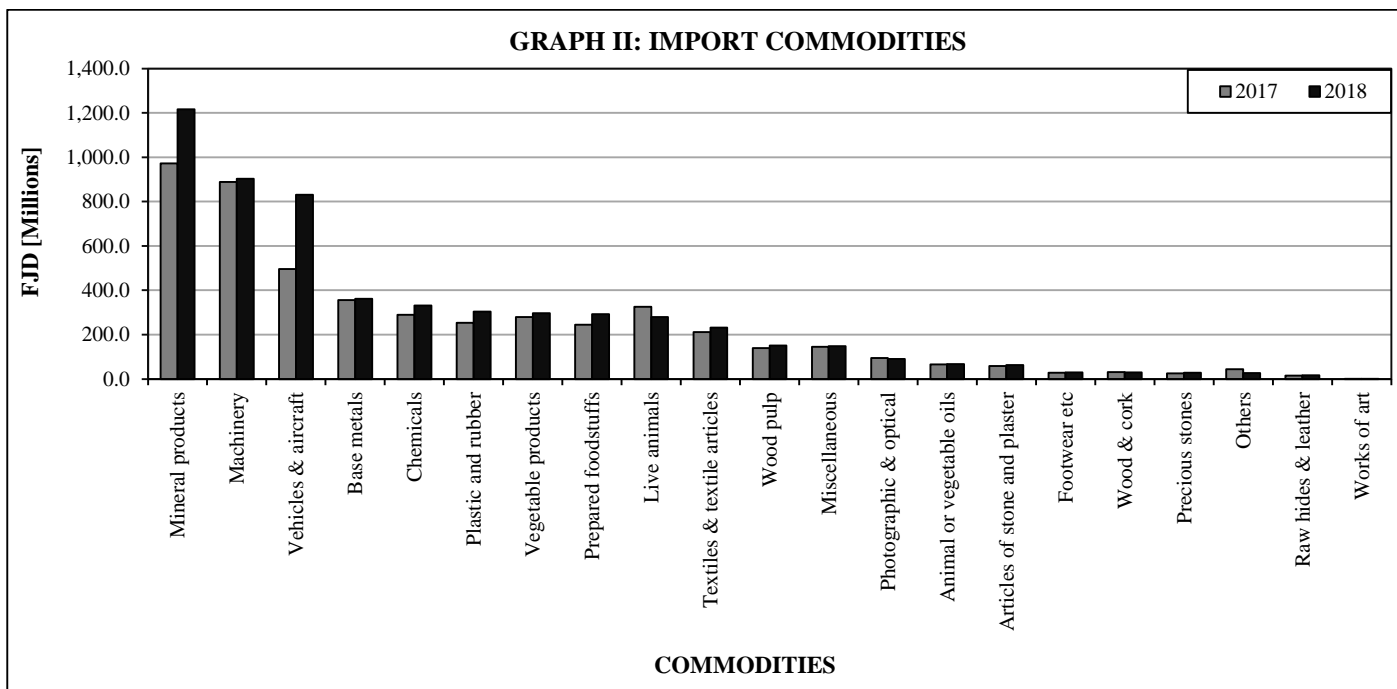
Compared to 2017, total imports and total exports increased by \$732.3 million (14.8%) and \$141.3 million (6.9%) respectively.

The 2018 trade deficit amounted to \$3,519.1 million compared to \$2,928.2 million a year earlier (2017).



HIGHLIGHTS

IMPORTS



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

Table 1: Major contributors to Imports FJD [Millions]

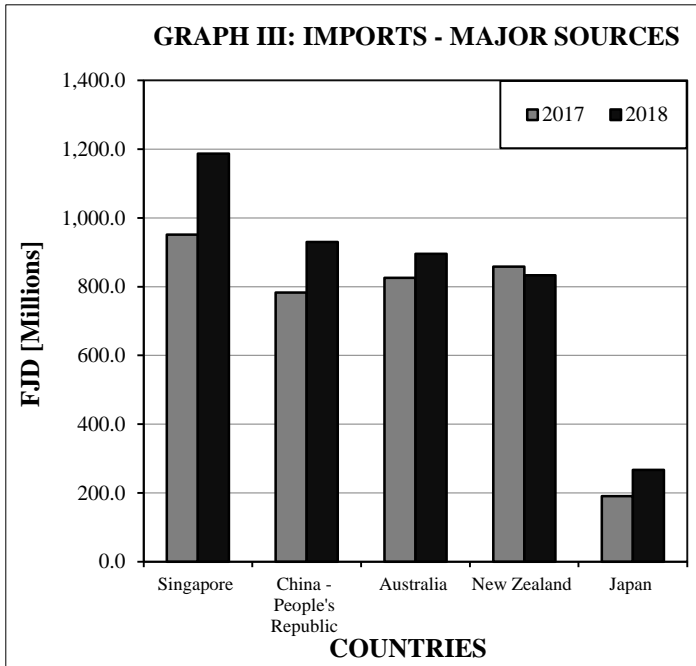
HS Sections	2017	%	2018	%
Mineral products	972.9	19.6	1,215.7	21.3
Machinery & mechanical & electrical appliances & parts thereof	888.2	17.9	902.6	15.8
Vehicles, aircraft & associated transport equipment	495.7	10.0	831.2	14.6
Base metals & articles thereof	356.4	7.2	362.0	6.4
Chemicals and allied products	290.0	5.8	332.1	5.8
Plastic, rubber & articles thereof	253.8	5.1	304.2	5.3
Vegetable products	279.1	5.6	297.1	5.2
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco	244.4	4.9	292.0	5.1
Total Imports	4,963.8		5,696.1	

Compared to 2017, the import categories recording notable increases of \$20.0 million or more were as follows:

- **Vehicles, aircraft & associated transport equipment [HS 86-89]**, up \$335.5 million (67.7%) to \$831.2 million due to increased imports of vehicles, parts & accessories thereof, ships, boats & floating structures and aircraft & parts thereof;
- **Mineral products [HS 25-27]**, up \$242.8 million (25.0%) to \$1,215.7 million due to increased imports of gas-oil (diesel) and aviation turbine fuel;
- **Plastic, rubber & articles thereof [HS 39-40]**, up \$50.4 million (19.9%) to \$304.2 million due to increased imports of other polystyrene and new pneumatic tyres, of rubber;
- **Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco [HS 16-24]**, up \$47.6 million (19.5%) to \$292.0 million due to increased imports of flours, meals and pellets, of meat or meat offal; greaves and other smoking tobacco whether or not containing tobacco substitutes in any proportion; and
- **Chemicals and allied products [HS 28-38]**, up \$42.0 million (14.5%) to \$332.1 million due to increased imports of herbicides anti-sprouting products and plant-growth regulators and other medicaments.

Compared to 2017, the import category recording a notable decrease of \$20.0 million or more was as follows:

- **Live animals: animal products [HS 01-05]**, down \$46.2 million (14.2%) to \$278.7 million due to decreased imports of albacore or long finned tuna and sardines.



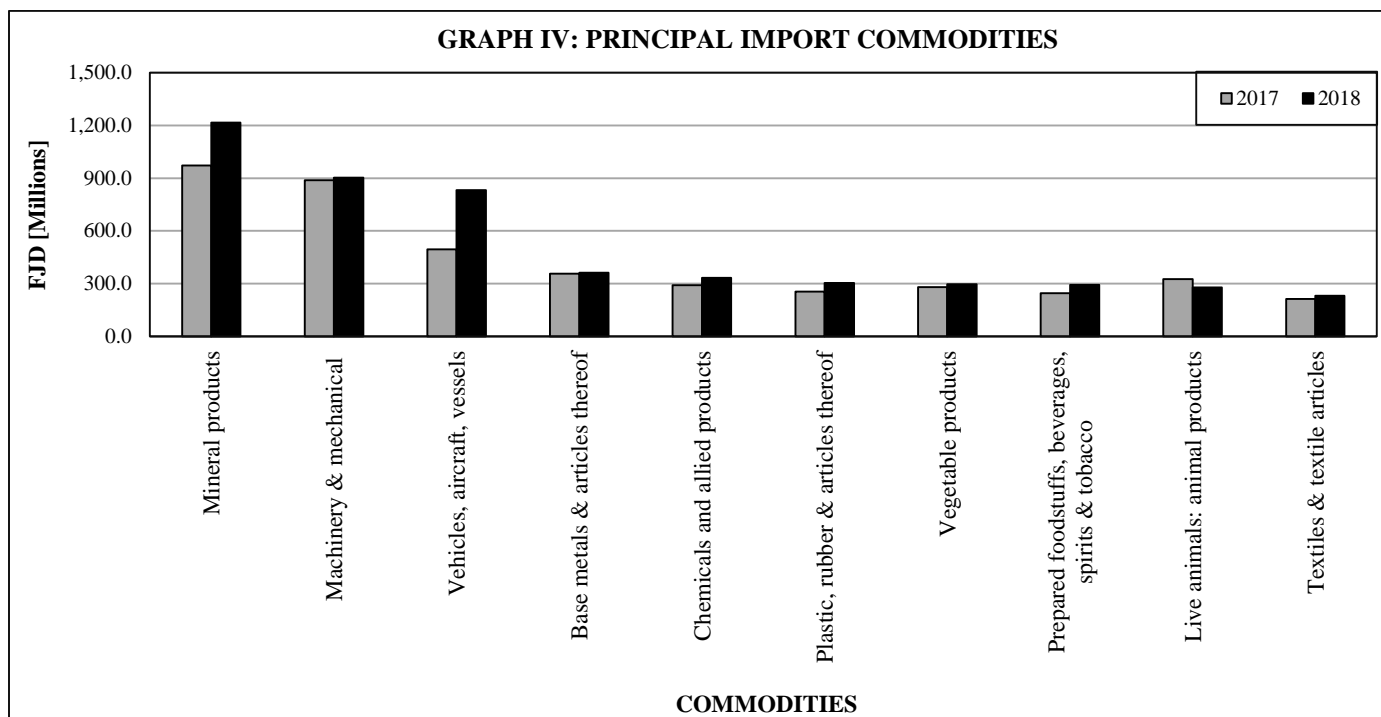
For the year 2018, Fiji's major sources of imports (Refer Graph III) were:

- **Singapore**, up \$235.5 million (24.7%) to \$1,187.4 million due to increased imports of gas-oil (diesel) and aviation turbine fuel;
- **China - People's Republic**, up \$147.1 million (18.8%) to \$929.6 million due to increased imports of dredges and other dredges;
- **Australia**, up \$70.0 million (8.5%) to \$895.6 million due to increased imports of butanes and other frozen meat of sheep;
- **New Zealand**, down \$25.4 million (3.0%) to \$832.8 million due to decreased imports of telephones for cellular networks or for other wireless networks and potatoes fresh or chilled; and
- **Japan**, up \$76.1 million (39.9%) to \$266.6 million due to increased imports of used or reconditioned passenger motor cars & racing cars and new passenger motor cars and racing cars.

Import trade with other countries recording \$20.0 million or more were as follows:

- Korea, Republic of, down \$11.8 million (6.0%) to \$185.6 million due to decreased imports of residual fuel oil and cartridges;
- Thailand, up \$49.5 million (43.9%) to \$162.4 million due to increased imports of new motor vehicles for the transport of goods and semi-milled or wholly milled rice, whether or not polished or glazed;
- Hong Kong, up \$17.4 million (13.0%) to \$151.8 million due to increased imports of other telephones sets, including telephones for cellular networks or for other wireless networks and other parts of aeroplanes or helicopters;
- Malaysia, up \$36.4 million (34.9%) to \$141.0 million due to increased imports of copper wire and other vessels for the transport of goods & other vessels for the transport of both persons & goods;
- India, up \$21.6 million (18.4%) to \$139.0 million due to increased imports of other textile materials;
- United States of America, down \$11.1 million (7.8%) to \$130.9 million due to decreased imports of aeroplanes & other aircraft and new motor vehicles for the transport of goods;
- China-Taiwan, up \$15.3 million (15.9%) to \$111.5 million due to increased imports of other polystyrene and other articles of iron or steel;
- Vietnam, up \$17.7 million (41.1%) to \$60.7 million due to increased imports of telephones for cellular networks or for other wireless networks and cement clinkers;
- Indonesia, up \$2.6 million (5.1%) to \$55.0 million due to increased imports of bars and rod, hot-rolled, in irregularly wound coils, of iron or non-alloy steel;
- United Kingdom, up \$7.9 million (20.1%) to \$47.3 million due to increased imports of motor boats, other than outboard motorboats; and
- France, down \$10.9 million (32.3%) to \$22.9 million due to decreased imports of optical fibre cables.

PRINCIPAL IMPORT COMMODITIES



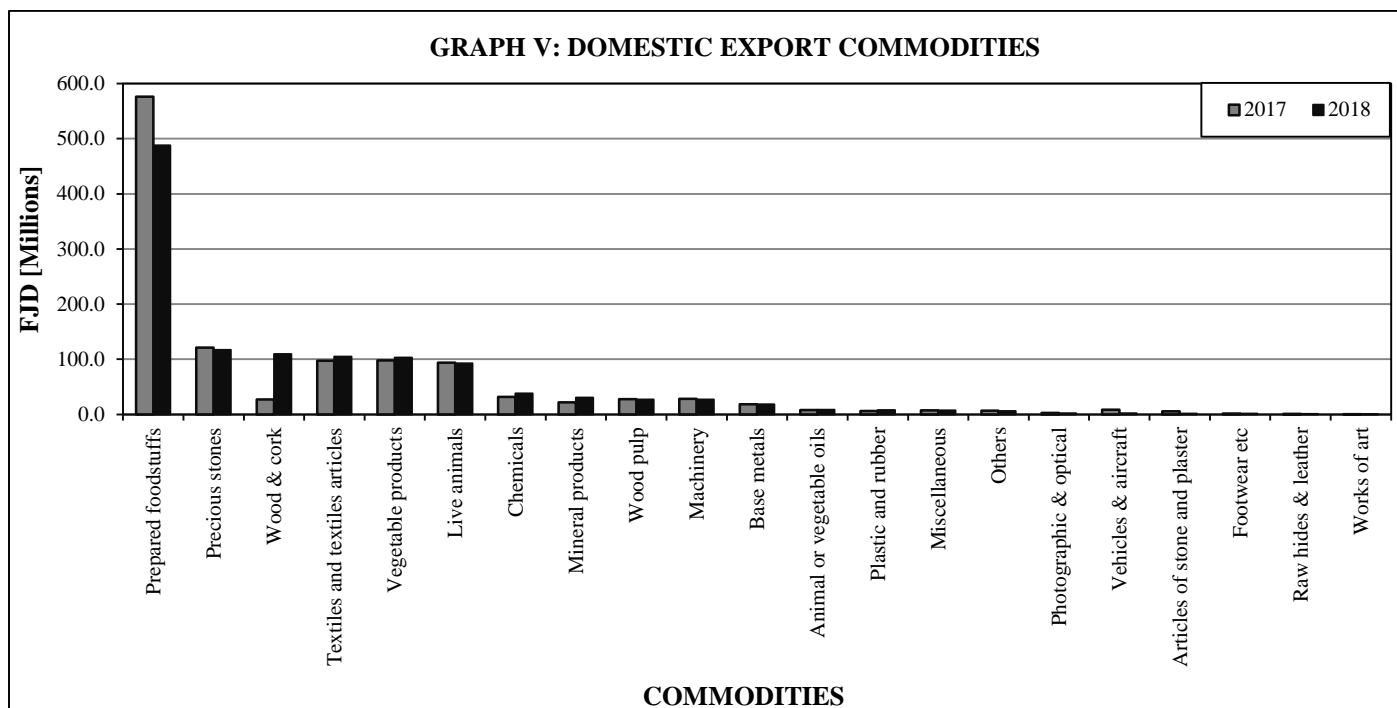
Performance of Fiji's principal import commodities given in Table 10 for the year 2018 shows growth in the imports of (Refer Graph IV):

- Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment by 67.7 percent;
- Mineral products by 25.0 percent;
- Plastic, rubber & articles thereof by 19.9 percent;
- Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco by 19.5 percent;
- Chemicals and allied products by 14.5 percent;
- Textiles and textile articles by 9.3 percent;
- Vegetable products by 6.4 percent;
- Machinery, mechanical & electrical appliances by 1.6 percent; and
- Base metals & articles thereof by 1.6 percent.

Decrease was recorded in the imports of:

- Live animals: animal products by 14.2 percent.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS



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

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

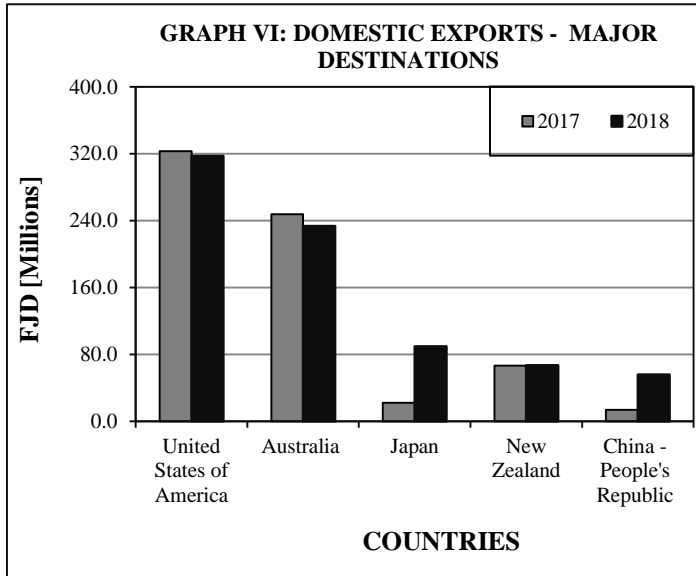
HS Sections	2017	%	2018	%
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco	576.5	48.5	488.3	40.9
Pearls, precious, semi-precious stones & metals	120.9	10.2	116.8	9.8
Wood, cork & articles thereof & plaiting material	26.8	2.3	109.7	9.2
Textiles & textile articles	97.2	8.2	104.9	8.8
Vegetable products	97.9	8.2	102.9	8.6
Live animals: animal products	93.9	7.9	92.4	7.7
Total Domestic Exports	1,188.7		1,193.2	

Compared to 2017, the domestic export categories recording notable increases of \$5.0 million or more were as follows:

- **Wood, cork & articles thereof & plaiting materials [HS 44-46]**, up \$82.9 million (308.9%) to \$109.7 million due to increased exports of wood in chips or particles;
- **Mineral products [HS 25–27]**, up \$8.6 million (39.8%) to \$30.3 million due to increased exports of cements;
- **Textiles & textile articles [HS 50-63]**, up \$7.7 million (7.9%) to \$104.9 million due to increased exports of other textile materials and other undergarments; and
- **Chemicals and allied products [HS 28-38]**, up \$6.2 million (19.5%) to \$37.9 million due to increased exports of other paints and varnishes and other, containing alkaloids or derivatives thereof.

Compared to 2017, the domestic export categories recording notable decreases of \$5.0 million or more were as follows:

- **Prepared foodstuffs, beverages spirits & tobacco [HS 16-24]**, down \$88.2 million (15.3%) to \$488.3 million due to decreased exports of sugar and tuna; and
- **Vehicles, aircraft & associated transport equipment [HS 86-89]**, down \$6.3 million (75.6%) to \$2.0 million due to decreased exports of other rowing boats and canoes.



For the year 2018, Fiji's major domestic export destinations (Refer Graph VI) were:

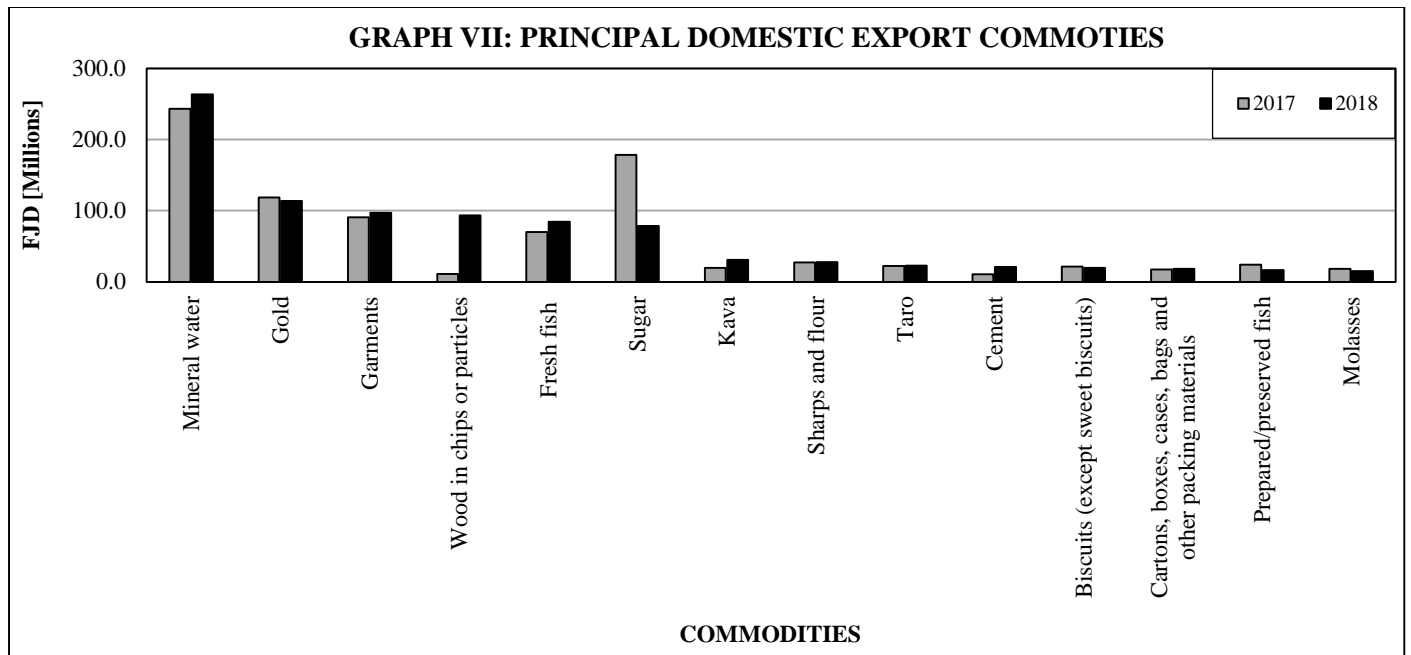
- **United States of America**, down \$5.6 million (1.7%) to \$317.5 million due to decreased exports of sugar and tuna, skipjack & bonito;
- ***Australia**, down \$14.1 million (5.7%) to \$233.4 million due to decreased exports of gold;
- **Japan**, up \$67.5 million (307.0%) to \$89.6 million due to increased exports of wood in chips or particles and other tuna;
- **New Zealand**, up \$0.3 million (0.5%) to \$66.7 million due to increased exports of other textile materials and kava or yaqona; and
- **China – People's Republic**, up \$42.2 million (308.1%) to \$55.9 million due to increased exports of sugar and wood in chips or particles.

* Domestic export of gold is under query.

Other major domestic export destinations recording \$20.0 million or more were as follows:

- Vanuatu, down \$5.5 million (9.9%) to \$50.0 million due to decreased exports of other portland cement and bricks, block, tiles and other ceramic goods of siliceous fossil meals;
- Samoa, up \$1.9 million (5.5%) to \$35.5 million due to increased exports of other portland cement;
- Tonga, up \$1.3 million (5.0%) to \$26.7 million due to increased exports of other paints and varnishes and waters, including mineral waters and aerated waters, containing added sugar or other sweetening matter or flavored;
- Tuvalu, up \$14.4 million (115.3%) to \$26.8 million due to increased exports of cement;
- Kiribati, up \$2.1 million (9.3%) to \$24.7 million due to increased exports of flour and sugar; and
- Solomon Islands, up \$0.4 million (2.0%) to \$21.7 million due to increased exports of sausages and similar products, of meat, meat offal or blood; food preparations based on these products.

PRINCIPAL DOMESTIC EXPORT COMMODITIES



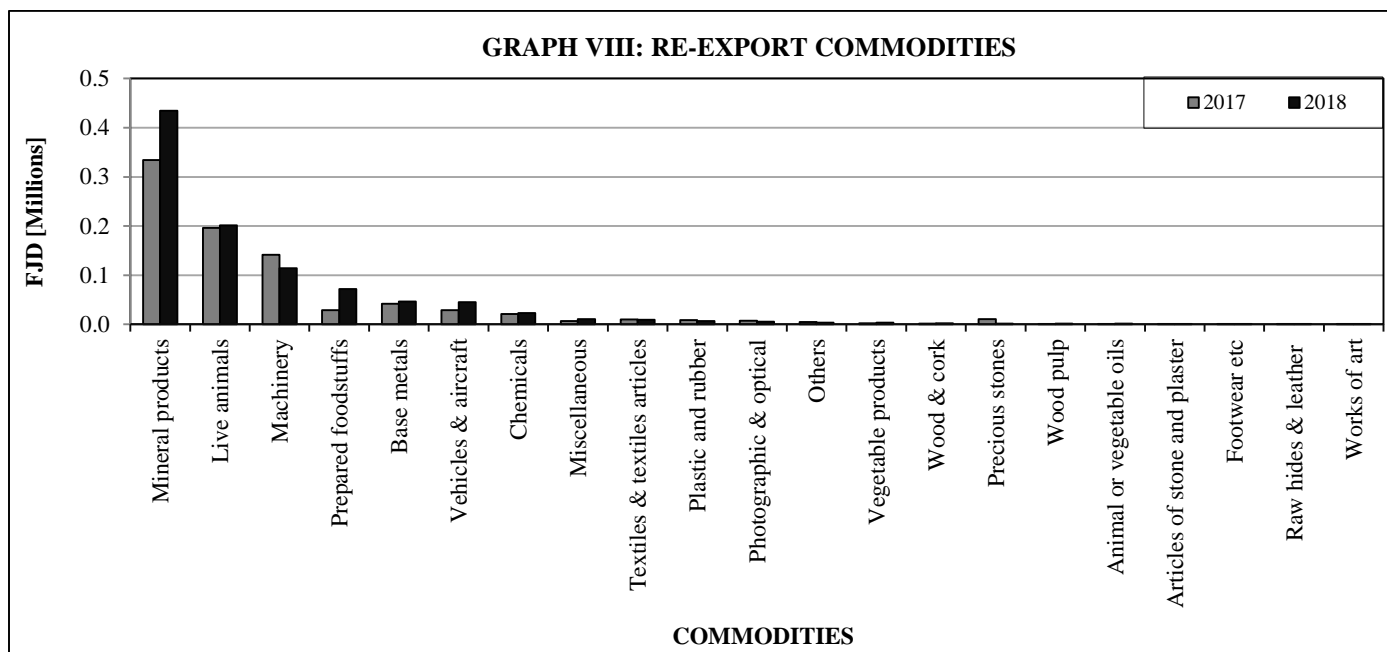
Performance of Fiji's principal domestic export commodities with \$15.0 million or more given in Table 9 for the year 2018 shows a growth in the exports of (Refer Graph VII):

- Wood in chips or particles by 742.3 percent;
- Cement by 97.2 percent;
- Kava by 56.3 percent;
- Fresh fish by 19.9 percent;
- Mineral water by 8.3 percent;
- Garments by 6.9 percent;
- Cartons, boxes, cases, bags and other packing materials by 5.2 percent;
- Taro by 2.3 percent; and
- Sharps and flour by 1.5 percent.

Decreases were recorded in the principal domestic exports of:

- Sugar by 56.0 percent;
- Prepared/preserved fish by 31.1 percent;
- Molasses by 16.6 percent;
- Biscuits (except sweet biscuits) by 9.3 percent; and
- Gold by 4.2 percent.

RE-EXPORTS



The percentage breakdowns of major re-export types as categories by the Harmonized System (HS) codes are as follows;

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

HS Sections	2017	%	2018	%
Mineral products	334.1	39.4	434.8	44.2
Live animals: animal products	196.4	23.2	201.5	20.5
Machinery & mechanical & electrical appliances & parts thereof	141.3	16.7	114.0	11.6
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco	29.1	3.4	71.8	7.3
Total Re-exports	846.9		983.7	

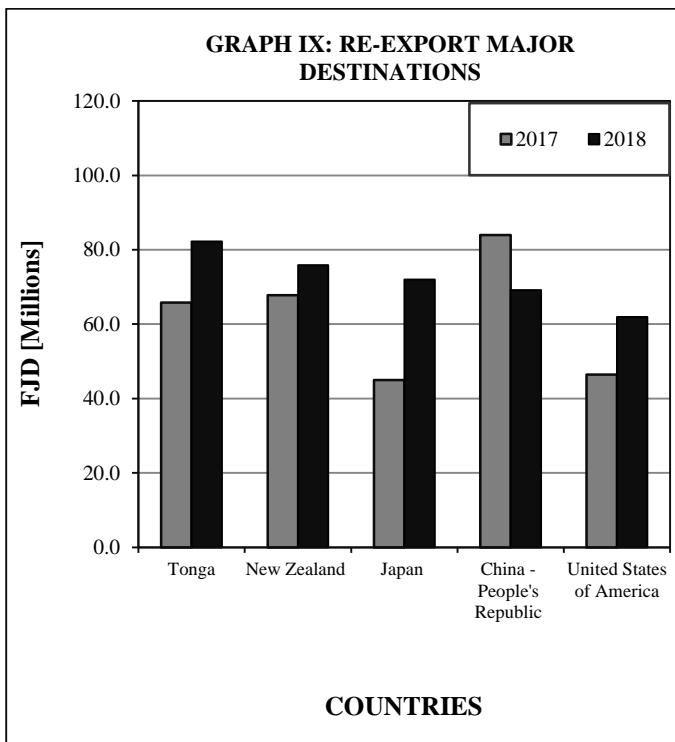
Compared to 2017, the re-export categories recording notable increases of \$5.0 million or more were as follows:

- **Mineral products [HS 25-27]**, up \$100.7 million (30.1%) to \$434.8 million due to increased re-exports of aviation turbine fuel and gas-oil (diesel);
- **Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco [HS 16-24]**, up \$42.7 million (146.4%) to \$71.8 million due to increased re-exports of tuna, skipjack & bonito and other smoking tobacco, whether or not containing tobacco substitutes in any proportion;
- **Vehicles, aircraft & associated transport equipment [HS 86-89]**, up \$16.7 million (58.4%) to \$45.3 million due to increased re-exports of aeroplanes & other aircraft and motor boats, other than outboard motorboats; and
- **Live animals: animal products [HS 01-05]**, up \$5.1 million (2.6%) to \$201.5 million due to increased re-exports of sardines and other tuna.

Compared to 2017, the re-export categories recording notable decreases of \$5.0 million or more were as follows:

- **Machinery & mechanical & electrical appliances & parts thereof [HS 84-85]**, down \$27.3 million (19.3%) to \$114.0 million due to decreased re-exports of television cameras, digital cameras and video camera recorders; and

- **Pearls, precious, semi-precious stones & metals [HS 71]**, down \$8.9 million (86.2%) to \$1.4 million due to decreased re-exports of articles of jewellery and parts thereof, of precious metal or of metal clad with precious metal.



For the year 2018, Fiji's major re-export destinations (Refer Graph IX) were:

- **Tonga**, up \$16.5 million (25.1%) to \$82.2 million due to increased re-exports of gas-oil (diesel) and light oils and preparations;
- **New Zealand**, up \$8.1 million (12.0%) to \$75.9 million due to increased re-exports of motor boats, other than outboard motorboats and television cameras, digital cameras and video camera recorders;
- **Japan**, up \$27.1 million (60.2%) to \$72.0 million due to increased re-exports of other tuna;
- **China - People's Republic**, down \$14.7 million (17.6%) to \$69.2 million due to decreased re-exports of yellowfin tuna and albacore or longfinned tuna; and
- **United States of America**, up \$15.5 million (33.3%) to \$61.9 million due to increased re-exports of aeroplanes & other aircraft and aerals and aerial reflectors of all kinds; parts suitable for use therewith.

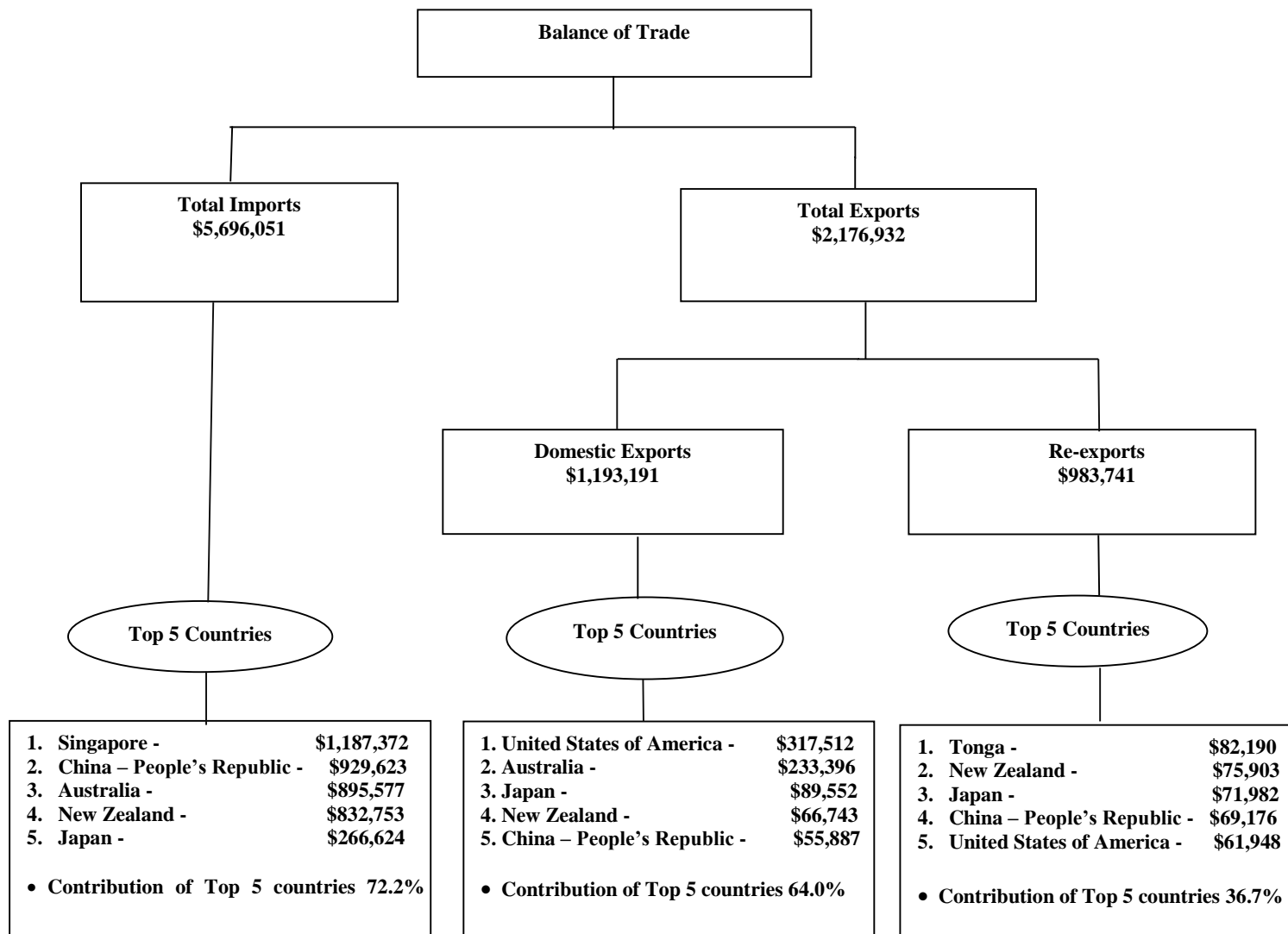
Other major re-export destinations recording \$20.0 million or more were as follows:

- Australia, down \$6.8 million (12.6%) to \$47.6 million due to decreased re-exports of other articles of jewellery and parts thereof, of precious metal or of metal clad with precious metal;
- Papua New Guinea, up \$26.5 million (634.4%) to \$30.7 million due to increased re-exports of gas-oil (diesel);
- Cook Islands, up \$4.2 million (18.2%) to \$27.5 million due to increased re-exports of aviation turbine fuel and gas-oil (diesel); and
- New Caledonia, up \$14.0 million (107.3%) to \$27.0 million due to increased re-exports of other smoking tobacco, whether or not containing tobacco substitutes in any proportion.

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

Figure 1: Flow of Trade – Annual 2018

FJD [000]



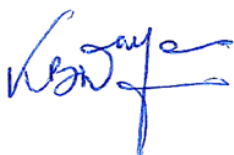
For more information on International Merchandise Trade Statistics refer to the following attached tables:

- **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(a):** Balance of Trade by major partner countries for 2018;
- **Table 11(b):** Balance of Trade by major partner countries for December 2018;
- **Table 12:** Exports by SITC;
- **Table 13:** Imports by SITC;
- **Table 14:** Retained Imports classified by Broad Economic Categories (BEC); and
- **Table 15:** Mode of Transport.

For Technical Notes refer to page 30.

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The International Merchandise Trade Statistics for January 2019 will be released in March 2019.



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