

GOVERNMENT OF TONGA

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS



Quarterly Report

December 2020



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SPECIAL NOTES:

- 1. Tonga's Balance of Payments Statistic are compiled according to the IMF's principles in the 6th Edition of the Balance of Payments Manual.
- 2. Data may not sum to stated totals due to rounding.
- 3. All tables' values in this report can be revised after the latest Quarterly Report released.
- 4. This report has revised some figures from earlier publications. The revision may fall into three broad categories:
 - a) Due to new or updated information becoming available
 - b) Due to new or updated benchmarks
 - c) Due to conceptual or methodology changes

DATA SOURCE:

1. Administrative Sources

- Tonga Revenue and Customs
- National Reserve Bank of Tonga
- Ministry of Finance
- Tonga Airport Limited
- Tonga Port Authority
- Ministry of Internal Affairs
- Civil Aviation

2. Tonga Statistic Department

- International Investment Survey
- Foreign Consulate Survey

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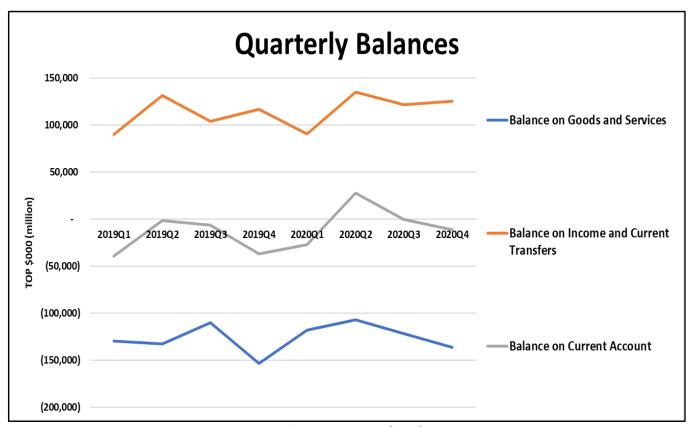


Figure 1: Quarterly Balances

Tongan's Balance of Payments in December Quarter 2020 recorded a Current Account Deficit of \$11.4 million which shows an enormous increase from \$0.3 million deficit when it is compared to September Quarter of 2020. It is important to know the situation of our Current Account as it is specifically recording the net trade in goods and services, it's net earnings on cross-border investment and its net transfer payment of a country over a defined period of time. This enormous increased in Current Account was mostly derived from our Balance of Goods and Services.

The Balance of Goods was recorded a deficit of \$133.5 million in December Quarter of 2020, indicating a significant increased in deficit from \$110 million (21.4%) in September Quarter of 2020 however it is showing a slight decrease in deficit from \$138.6 million by 3.7% when comparing to December Quarter of 2019. By looking at the trend of the export of goods here in Tonga – Tonga earned \$12.4 million in this Quarter while it shows a slight growth of \$2.6 million (26.5%) when compare to September Quarter of 2020 while on the other hands, it's shows a minor drop of \$2.1 million (14.5%) when comparing to December Quarter of 2019. Therefore, an improvement in our exported of goods in this Quarter was followed by the time our country started to loosen our government policy in regards to the impact of Covid-19. By now, most of the growers were extremely satisfied as most of their exported goods have been accepted Internationally after the ban was lifted in October 2020. New Zealand has been allowed a shipment of our Tongan watermelons under special conditions of which was estimated for about 16.6 metric tonnes of Tongan watermelons for our first shipment to Auckland, New Zealand on December 17, 2020.

Furthermore, our major exports are mostly from these items: Vegetable Products (\$6.8m), Live animals: Animal Products (\$4.1m) and Prepared foodstuff, beverages, sprits & tobacco (\$0.4m). However, our major imports were Machinery & mechanical & electrical appliances & parts thereof (\$36.1m), Prepared foodstuff, beverages, spirits & tobacco (\$23.6m) and Mineral Product (\$21.5m).

Services Balance was recorded a deficit of \$2.8 million in this Quarter of which was highly decreased by 75.9% from \$11.6 million deficit in September Quarter of 2020. The export of services was amounted to \$67.2 million in December Quarter 2020 of which there was a massive growth by 81.6% when it is comparing to September Quarter of 2020. This massive increasing was continuously reflected from starting to loosen the restriction of the Covid-19 in which was indicated by an extremely increased in our Travel Receipts by \$27.3 million, followed by Government goods and services n.i.e by \$2.5 million and also the Telecommunication, computer, and information services by \$1.6 million. Import of Services was reported of \$70.0 million in December Quarter of 2020 were there was an enormous rise by 44% when compared to September Quarter of 2020. This enormous rise was mainly contributed from a huge increased in our Travel Payments for Personal issues such as tourism, education-related or health-related only for less than 1 year.

In regards to the graphs indicated below are the major foreign receipts and the major foreign payments that contributed to our Current Account in total for this Quarter.

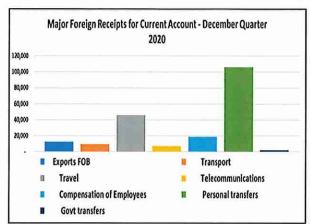


Figure 2: Major Foreign Receipts for Current Account

The above graph shows that Personal Transfer was recorded as the main foreign receipts amounted to \$106.3 million followed by Travel Receipts with \$45.8 million and also Compensation of Employees with \$18.7 million.

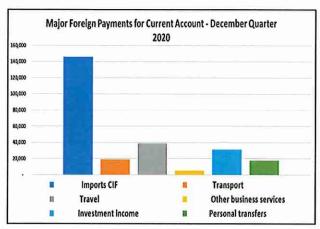


Figure 3: Major Foreign Payments for Current Account

The graph below shows that Imports was reported with the highest value of \$145.8 million whereas followed by Travel Payments with \$38.9 million and Investment Income with \$31.4 million.

Additionally, our capital account recorded a surplus of \$29.3 million, net inflow, a slight decreasing from \$29.5 million in September Quarter of 2020 while on the other hands, it's indicated an increased by 18.2% when comparing to December Quarter of 2019. Yet, again the official reserves have also shown a minor increase of 17.2% from \$576.5 million in September Quarter of 2020 to \$675.6 million in December Quarter of 2020.

Provided are detailed tables of quarterly Balance of Payments statistics for December Quarter of 2020. All values in this release are in Tongan Pa'anga (TOP).



1. Balance of Payments Summary

Table 1: Balance of Payments Summary, TOP ('000)

	Qtr 1 2019r	Qtr 2 2019r	Qtr 3 2019r	Qtr 4 2019r	Qtr 1 2020r	Qtr 2 2020r	Qtr 3 2020r	Qtr 4 2020p
Current Account								
Balance on Goods and Services	(129,646)	(132,894)	(110,389)	(153,524)	(118,045)	(107,123)	(121,590)	(136,274)
Balance on Trade in Goods	(117,469)	(129,411)	(110,937)	(138,592)	(104,086)	(88,298)	(109,985)	(133,476)
Exports f.o.b.	7,091	11,954	13,254	14,534	9,758	3,912	9,759	12,351
Imports f.o.b.	124,560	141,365	124,191	153,126	113,844	92,211	119,744	145,827
Balance on Trade in Services	(12,177)	(3,483)	548	(14,932)	(13,959)	(18,825)	(11,605)	(2,798)
Services credit	47,643	56,904	60,777	57,285	36,638	17,997	37,038	67,208
Services debit	59,821	60,388	60,229	72,217	50,597	36,823	48,643	70,006
Balance on Primary Income	26,535	24,055	24,657	30,933	25,016	15,589	21,299	18,476
Primary income credit	34,622	37,810	35,819	37,647	35,011	23,553	36,707	51,846
Primary income debit	8,087	13,755	11,162	6,714	9,995	7,964	15,409	33,370
Balance on Goods, Services and Income	(103,111)	(108,839)	(85,732)	(122,591)	(93,029)	(91,535)	(100,291)	(117,798)
Balance on Secondary Income	63,317	107,345	78,825	85,747	65,565	119,193	99,948	106,376
Secondary income credit	83,730	128,571	100,409	109,142	89,482	136,735	120,834	129,175
Secondary income debit	20,412	21,225	21,584	23,395	23,917	17,543	20,886	22,798
Balance on Current Account	(39,794)	(1,494)	(6,907)	(36,844)	(27,465)	27,658	(343)	(11,422)
Balance on Income and Current Transfer	89,852	131,400	103,482	116,680	90,580	134,781	121,247	124,853
Capital Account								
Capital account credit	20,980	23,915	20,889	25,362	28,806	86,080	29,964	29,580
Capital account debit	-	594	404	673	-	3	430	286
Balance on Capital Account	20,980	23,321	20,485	24,689	28,806	86,078	29,534	29,294
Net Lending (+)/Borrowing (-) from Current and Capital Accounts	(18,814)	21,828	13,578	(12,155)	1,341	113,735	29,191	17,873

	Qtr 1 2019r	Qtr 2 2019r	Qtr 3 2019r	Qtr 4 2019r	Qtr 1 2020r	Qtr 2 2020r	Qtr 3 2020r	Qtr 4 2020p
Financial Account								
Financial Assets (net acquisitions)	(15,570)	41,008	(3,177)	15,990	(31,384)	76,091	104,142	288,919
Direct investment	1	3,060	156	580	600	77	11	(282)
Portfolio investment	-	11,200	8	11,200	-	-	24,000	60,012
Financial derivatives (other than reserves) and employee stock options	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,000	15,000
Other investment	(6,172)	4,132	(5,392)	2,171	269	(1,592)	33,782	77,862
Of which:								
Deposits/Deposit-taking corporations (Banks)	(6,609)	4,939	(4,251)	2,097	1,505	(1,471)	5,775	4,615
Deposits/Other non-financial corporations	1,012	(726)	(354)	195	(36)	(831)	(1,841)	(653)
Reserve assets	(9,399)	22,617	2,052	2,039	(32,253)	77,605	40,349	136,327
Financial Liabilities (net disposals)	3,522	(14,736)	7,508	17,825	(19,217)	(6,151)	65,244	165,417
Direct investment	4,255	(6,052)	3,487	7,326	969	(2,009)	385	(18)
Portfolio investment	-	2	-	-	-	-	24,000	60,000
Financial derivatives and employee stock options	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,000	15,000
Other investment	(733)	(8,686)	4,021	10,499	(20,186)	(4,142)	34,859	90,435
Deposits	(2,165)	(982)	2,269	8,708	(2,913)	(854)	(385)	1,217
Loans	1,334	(7,626)	1,744	1,859	(17,310)	(3,305)	5,193	14,136
of which, Loans/General Government	214	(8,318)	733	783	(6,070)	(1,660)	5,347	14,400
Other liabilities	98	(78)	8	(68)	37	17	30,050	75,082
Net Lending (+)/Borrowing (-) from Financial Account	(19,092)	55,744	(10,685)	(1,835)	(12,167)	82,242	38,899	123,502
Net errors and omissions	(278)	33,916	(24,263)	10,319	(13,508)	(31,493)	9,708	105,629
NE&O as percent of goods trade	-0.2%	22.1%	-17.7%	6.2%	-10.9%	-32.8%	7.5%	66.8%
Level of Official Reserves at end year	465,000	484,300	490,800	487,400	337,000	543,800	576,500	675,600

2. Goods and Services Accounts

Table 2: Goods Account, TOP ('000)

	Qtr 1 2019r	Qtr 2 2019r	Qtr 3 2019r	Qtr 4 2019r	Qtr 1 2020r	Qtr 2 2020r	Qtr 3 2020r	Qtr 4 2020p
Balance on Trade in Goods	(117,469)	(129,411)	(110,937)	(138,592)	(104,086)	(88,298)	(109,985)	(133,476)
Exports FOB	7,091	11,954	13,254	14,534	9,758	3,912	9,759	12,351
General merchandise	7,091	11,954	13,254	14,534	9,758	3,912	9,759	12,351
Net exports under merchanting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Goods acquired under merchanting (negative exports)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Goods sold under merchanting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nonmonetary gold	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Imports FOB	124,560	141,365	124,191	153,126	113,844	92,211	119,744	145,827
General merchandise	124,560	141,365	124,191	153,126	113,844	92,211	119,744	145,827
Nonmonetary gold	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Of which:								
Classification adjustment (c.i.f./f.o.b.)	(14,616)	(16,432)	(14,497)	(20,144)	(13,247)	(10,597)	(13,878)	(16,898)
Coverage adjustments	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Valuation adjustments	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Timing adjustments	-	-	-	-	-	-	_	-

Table 3: Services Account, TOP ('000)

	Qtr 1 2019r	Qtr 2 2019r	Qtr 3 2019r	Qtr 4 2019r	Qtr 1 2020r	Qtr 2 2020r	Qtr 3 2020r	Qtr 4 2020p
Balance on Trade in Services	(12,177)	(3,483)	548	(14,932)	(14,050)	(18,825)	(11,605)	(2,798
Services Credit	47,643	56,904	60,777	57,285	36,536	17,997	37,038	67,208
Manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maintenance and repair services n.i.e.	7	9	22	49	7	12	50	1
Transport	9,490	11,055	10,239	10,152	10,212	6,909	7,993	9,405
Sea transport	5,496	5,840	5,357	4,843	5,325	3,283	3,754	3,437
Air transport	3,540	3,197	4,147	4,021	2,874	436	480	593
Other modes of transport	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Of which:								
Passenger	101	167	270	350	882	2	20	19
Freight	2,554	2,235	2,031	1,516	2,299	855	1,207	949
Other	6,381	6,635	7,203	6,998	5,018	2,862	3,007	3,061
Postal and courier services	454	2,019	735	1,288	2,012	3,190	3,759	5,376
Travel	27,745	32,022	40,602	34,947	15,653	930	18,451	45,81
Business	1,614	3,352	1,641	1,284	1,473	170	6,058	15,24
Personal	26,130	28,671	38,961	33,663	14,180	760	12,393	30,57
Health related	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,000	15,00
Education related	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,000	15,00
Other	26,130	28,671	38,961	33,663	14,180	760	393	570
Telecommunications, computer, and information services	2,391	3,779	2,715	1,974	2,235	4,561	5,723	7,305
Construction	2,921	5,075	2,857	4,034	2,435	2,067	1,620	319
Insurance and pension services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Financial services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charges for the use of intellectual property	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other business services	3,530	3,529	2,357	3,461	3,835	1,837	2,046	1,896
Personal, cultural, and recreational services	79	-	8	50	4	-	-	76
Government goods and services n.i.e	1,481	1,435	1,977	2,619	2,155	1,689	587	3,073

	Qtr 1 2019r	Qtr 2 2019r	Qtr 3 2019r	Qtr 4 2019r	Qtr 1 2020r	Qtr 2 2020r	Qtr 3 2020r	Qtr 4 2020p
Services Debit	59,821	60,388	60,229	72,217	50,586	36,823	48,643	70,006
Manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by residents	3	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Maintenance and repair services n.i.e.	1,022	896	2,079	867	1,136	249	500	186
Transport	17,317	19,394	16,896	21,431	15,765	13,202	15,435	18,920
Sea transport	13,312	15,157	13,441	12,244	12,031	10,298	12,702	15,359
Air transport	3,971	4,195	2,422	8,848	2,545	700	1,305	1,479
Other modes of Transport	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Of which:								
Passenger	2,507	3,025	933	817	1,195	5	154	46
Freight	14,496	16,283	14,365	19,979	13,120	10,507	13,745	16,74
Other	279	44	566	295	262	486	108	47
Postal and courier services	34	42	1,033	339	1,189	2,204	1,427	2,082
Travel	23,065	21,745	22,541	23,348	18,897	8,344	21,309	38,862
Business	9,123	9,962	9,307	9,758	8,978	5,143	5,563	4,295
Personal	13,942	11,783	13,234	13,590	9,919	3,201	15,746	34,56
Health related	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,000	15,00
Education related	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,000	15,00
Other	13,942	11,783	13,234	13,590	9,919	3,201	3,746	4,567
Telecommunications, computer, and nformation services	3,119	3,954	4,353	5,722	1,975	3,941	3,203	2,686
Construction	980	12	73	74	-	48	-	14
Insurance and pension services	808	774	507	1,125	1,035	457	700	1,018
Financial services	-	4	0	-	-	-	-	-
Charges for the use of intellectual property	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	31
Other business services	9,369	8,667	10,306	13,450	7,905	8,058	4,565	5,385
Personal, cultural, and recreational services	24	279	216	655	26	-	-	-
Government goods and services n.i.e	4,115	4,661	3,249	5,542	3,847	1,723	3,376	4,431

3. Primary and Secondary Income Accounts

Table 4: <u>Primary Income Account</u>, TOP ('000)

	Qtr 1 2019r	Qtr 2 2019r	Qtr 3 2019r	Qtr 4 2019r	Qtr 1 2020r	Qtr 2 2020r	Qtr 3 2020r	Qtr 4 2020p
Balance on Primary Income	26,535	24,055	24,657	30,933	25,016	15,589	21,299	18,476
Primary Income Credits	34,622	37,810	35,819	37,647	35,011	23,553	36,707	51,846
Compensation of Employees	31,606	34,723	32,883	34,540	31,976	20,488	21,300	18,691
Investment income	2,918	2,954	2,925	2,974	2,966	2,962	14,975	33,055
Direct investment	18	53	24	75	67	62	6,075	15,126
Portfolio investment	0	0	0	-	-	-	6,000	15,000
Other investment	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	30
Reserve assets	2,900	2,900	2,900	2,900	2,900	2,900	2,900	2,900
Other primary income	98	133	11	132	69	103	432	100
Primary Income Debits	8,087	13,755	11,162	6,714	9,995	7,964	15,409	33,370
Compensation of Employees	1,438	2,071	1,874	2,171	1,938	1,794	1,659	1,984
Investment income	6,649	11,684	9,288	4,542	8,057	6,170	13,750	31,386
Direct investment	3,863	11,340	6,314	4,224	5,115	5,897	7,117	15,975
Portfolio investment	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,001	15,000
Other investment	2,786	344	2,973	318	2,942	273	632	411
Other primary income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 5: <u>Secondary Income Account</u>, TOP ('000)

	04.1	04.2	04.2	04.4	04.1	04.2	04.2	04.4
	Qtr 1 2019r	Qtr 2 2019r	Qtr 3 2019r	Qtr 4 2019r	Qtr 1 2020r	Qtr 2 2020r	Qtr 3 2020r	Qtr 4 2020p
Balance on Secondary Income	63,317	107,345	78,825	85,747	65,565	119,193	99,948	106,376
Secondary Income Credits	83,730	128,571	100,409	109,142	89,482	136,735	120,834	129,175
General government	2,066	32,394	2,066	6,201	2,066	35,498	7,802	2,066
Deposit-taking corporations and other sectors	81,663	96,177	98,343	102,941	87,415	101,237	113,032	127,10
Personal transfers	70,851	81,283	87,680	88,099	71,717	80,149	98,780	106,27
Other current transfers	10,813	14,893	10,663	14,842	15,699	21,088	14,252	20,836
Secondary Income Debits	20,412	21,225	21,584	23,395	23,917	17,543	20,886	22,798
General government	390	1,773	(34)	905	1,986	1,053	607	662
Deposit-taking corporations and other sectors	20,023	19,452	21,617	22,489	21,931	16,490	20,280	22,137
Personal transfers	14,756	13,678	15,991	16,623	14,476	12,343	15,592	17,862
Other current transfers	5,267	5,774	5,626	5,867	7,455	4,147	4,688	4,275

4. Capital Account

Table 6: Capital Account, TOP ('000)

	Qtr 1 2019r	Qtr 2 2019r	Qtr 3 2019r	Qtr 4 2019r	Qtr 1 2020r	Qtr 2 2020r	Qtr 3 2020r	Qtr 4 2020p
Balance on Capital Account	20,980	23,321	20,485	24,689	28,806	86,078	29,534	29,294
Capital Account Credits	20,980	23,915	20,889	25,362	28,806	86,080	29,964	29,580
Gross disposals of non-produced nonfinancial assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital transfers	20,980	23,915	20,889	25,362	28,806	86,080	29,964	29,580
General government	10,922	18,364	18,998	21,750	25,279	83,473	26,818	24,457
Debt forgiveness	8,738	8,738	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other capital transfers	2,185	9,626	18,998	21,750	25,279	83,473	26,818	24,457
Deposit-taking corporations and other sectors	10,057	5,551	1,891	3,612	3,526	2,607	3,146	5,123
Debt forgiveness	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other capital transfers	10,057	5,551	1,891	3,612	3,526	2,607	3,146	5,123
Capital Account Debits	-	594	404	673	-	3	430	286
Gross acquisitions of non-produced nonfinancial assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital transfers	-	594	404	673	-	3	430	286
General government	-	35	45	332	-	-	-	96
Debt forgiveness	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other capital transfers	-	35	45	332	-	-	-	96
Deposit-taking corporations and other sectors	-	558	358	341	-	3	430	190
Debt forgiveness	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other capital transfers	-	558	358	341	-	3	430	190



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