

NATIONAL RESERVE BANK OF TONGA

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OFFICIAL PRESS RELEASE

23rd January 2024

OFFICIAL FOREIGN RESERVES December 2023

Tonga's official foreign reserves continued to strengthen in December 2023, surging by an additional \$9.7 million to reach \$901.7 million. This level equates to 11.6 months of imports, surpassing the IMF recommended threshold of 7.5 months. The increase in foreign reserve was mainly due to higher Government receipts and remittances, underlining financial resilience. Foreign reserves increased by \$32.8 million compared to the previous year.

| (Millions of Pa'anga) Ratio of offic | | | | |
|---|--------------|---------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| | <u>Level</u> | Changes | | foreign reserves to imports |
| | | Month | 12 Months | — (months) |
| <u>2022</u> | | | | |
| Apr | 884.0 | 22.6 | 204.4 | 14.9 |
| Мау | 880.4 | -3.6 | 190.9 | 14.7 |
| Jun | 871.2 | -9.2 | 155.9 | 14.4 |
| Jul | 884.8 | 13.6 | 180.1 | 14.2 |
| Aug | 871.0 | -13.8 | 19.3 | 13.8 |
| Sep | 895.3 | 24.2 | 138.2 | 13.7 |
| Oct | 877.0 | -18.3 | 120.0 | 13.0 |
| Nov | 866.2 | -10.8 | 82.3 | 12.6 |
| Dec | 868.9 | 2.7 | 51.4 | 12.3 |
| <u>2023</u> | | | | |
| Jan | 911.1 | 42.2 | 55.0 | 12.8 |
| Feb | 911.2 | 0.1 | 43.9 | 12.6 |
| Mar | 883.7 | -27.4 | 22.3 | 12.0 |
| Apr | 860.5 | -23.2 | -23.5 | 11.4 |
| May | 864.8 | 4.3 | -15.6 | 11.5 |
| June | 921.4 | 56.6 | 50.2 | 12.0 |
| July | 945.2 | 23.7 | 60.3 | 12.3 |
| Aug | 920.0 | -25.2 | 48.9 | 11.9 |
| Sep | 886.1 | -33.8 | -9.1 | 11.4 |
| Oct | 891.2 | 5.1 | 14.2 | 11.4 |
| Nov | 892.0 | 0.8 | 25.8 | 11.4 |
| Dec | 901.7 | 9.7 | 32.8 | 11.6 |

OFFICIAL FOREIGN RESERVES (Millions of Pa'anga)

Source: National Reserve Bank of Tonga