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Office of the National Statistician

Release Statement

Papua New Guinea

International Merchandise Trade Statistics 2017 – 2022

1. HIGHLIGHTS

From 2022 PNG recorded a positive trade balance increase from K17.9 billion in 2021 to K18.2 billion, marking a 1.5% increase.

Palm Oil (K5.7billion) emerged as one of the top 3 export commodities for PNG, surpassing Petroleum Oil (K3.1 billion) by 84% in 2022.

Notable entries into PNG's top 10 commodity exports include Fish (fresh or chilled) and Coffee. Fish exports surged from K297 million in 2017 to K1.8 billion (500%) in 2022, while Coffee increased from K420 million in 2017 to K730 million (74%) in 2022.

Rice (K666 million) became the second-largest import commodity for PNG.

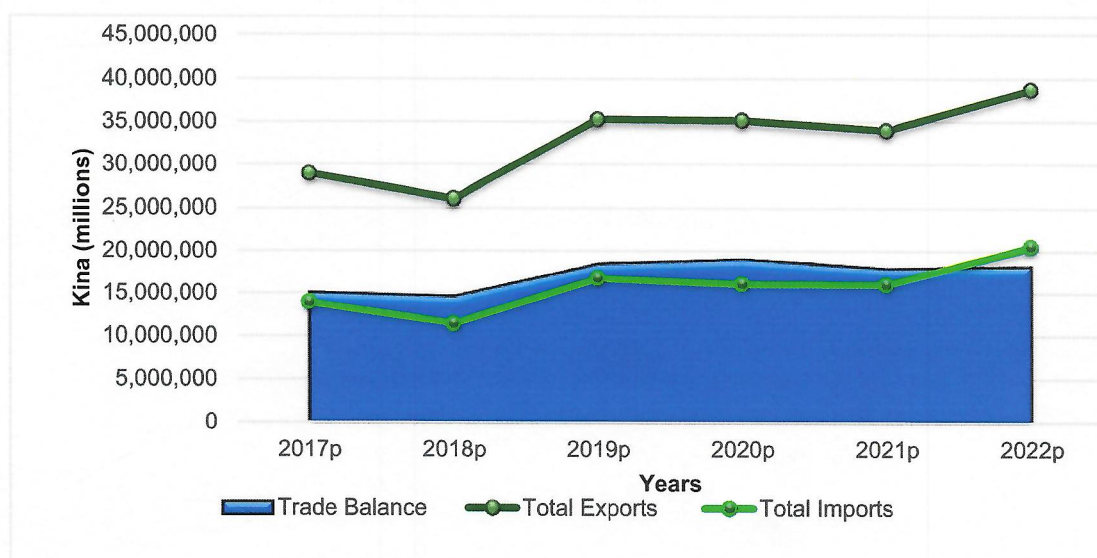
Japan (K9.2 billion) replaced Australia (K6.8 billion) as PNG's top export destination, with China (K6.7 billion) closing in as the third largest.

2. TRADE PERFORMANCE FROM 2017 TO 2022

PNG experienced a +33.4% growth in Merchandise Exports, increasing from K28.9 billion in 2017 to K38.7 billion in 2022, with an annual average growth rate of 6%.

Imports showed upward trend, growing from K13.9 billion in 2017 to K20.5 billion in 2022 (+47.7% increase), with an average annual growth rate of 8.8%.

Graph 1: Performance of International Merchandise Trade from 2017 to 2022



3. TRADE PERFORMANCE IN 2022 COMPARED TO 2021

In 2022, PNG recorded a positive trade balance increase from K17.9 billion in 2021 to K18.2 billion, marking a 1.5% increase.

Merchandise exports increased by 14% from K33.98 billion in 2021 to K38.7 billion, driven by exports in LNG, Palm Oil, Gold, and Petroleum.

Import of Commodities rose by 27.9%, increasing from K16 billion in 2021 to K20.5 billion

3.1. MAJOR EXPORT BY HS

Mineral products by HS codes [25-27] recorded +14.2% increase from K18.8 billion to K21.4 billion in 2022.

Notable increase in HS from 2021 to 2022 are *Live animals: Animals Product [HS 01-05]* by +76.8% from K1.4 billion to K2.5 billion and *Articles of stone, plaster, cement, glass & ceramic products [HS 68-70]* which increased by 619% from K9 million to K67 million.

3.2. MAJOR IMPORT BY HS

Machinery, Mechanical and Electrical appliances, along with their parts, [HS 84-85] increase from K4.1 billion in 2021 to K4.7 billion (+15.5%) in 2022.

Notable increase in Imports by HS from 2021 to 2022 include *mineral products [HS 25-27]* by 53% from K2.3 billion to K3.4 billion and *Pearls, precious & semi-precious stones & metals* by 690% from K2 million to K16 million in 2022.

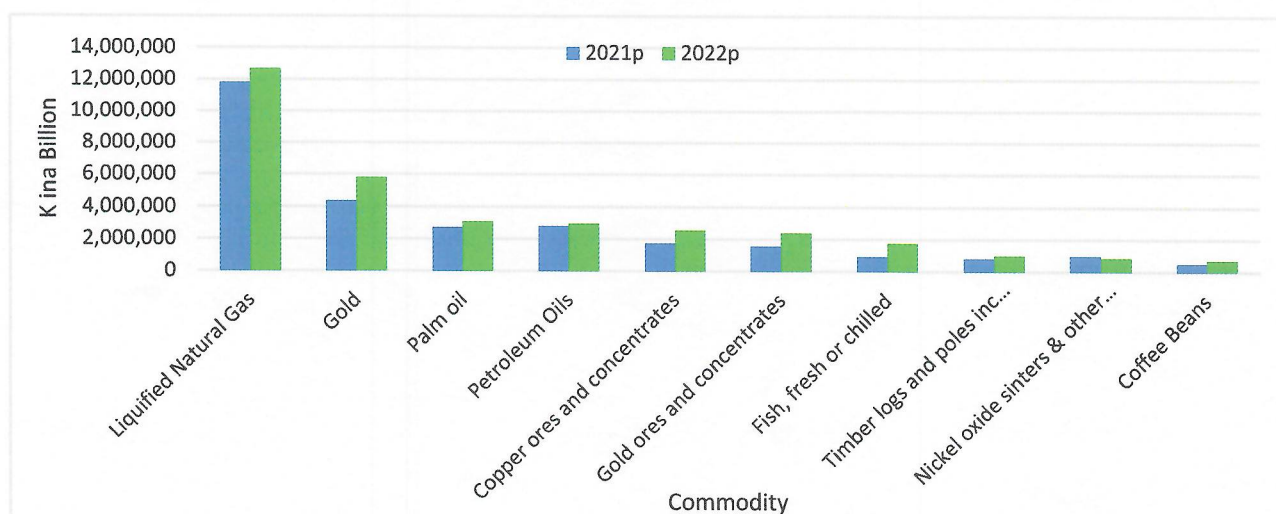
3.3. MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR TO EXPORT COMMODITIES

LNG remained PNG's top export commodity, growing from K9 billion in 2017 to K13 billion in 2022 (38% increase) at an average growth rate of 6%.

Gold, while the second-largest export, saw a significant decline by 14% from 2017 to 2022.

Palm Oil emerged as the third-largest export commodity, surging from K1.6 billion in 2017 to K3.1 billion in 2022 (100% increase) with an average growth rate of 48%.

Graph 3: Top 10 Export Commodities by PNG 2021-2022



3.4. MAJOR IMPORTS COMMODITIES

Petroleum Oils and Oils obtained from bituminous minerals, apart from crude, increased by 62.5% from K1.6 billion in 2021 to K2.6 billion in 2022.


Rice is the second-largest import commodity in PNG, and increased by 12% from K628 million to K666 million in 2022 surpassing Machinery Parts .

Transmission Apparatus for radio and broadcasting saw a remarkable 997% increase, rising from K47 million to K447 million. This is attributed to the entry of major Mobile and

ICT companies into the PNG market, including Vodafone and Telstra's acquisition of Digicel in the Pacific

The IMTS Table 2017 -2022 is published online with detailed data available on the NSO Website www.nso.gov.pg

I invite you to delve into the pages of this report, to absorb the data, analyse the trends, and envision the possibilities. Let us use this knowledge to chart a course toward a brighter and more prosperous future for Papua New Guinea's international trade.



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