



**Ministry of Finance  
Bureau of Budget & Planning  
Office of Planning & Statistics**

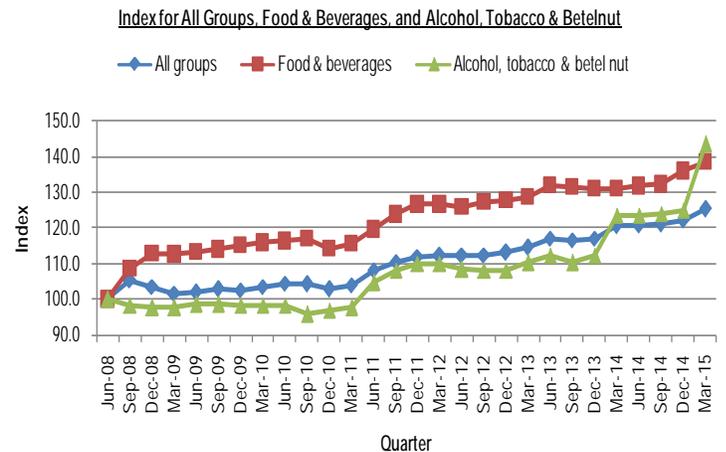
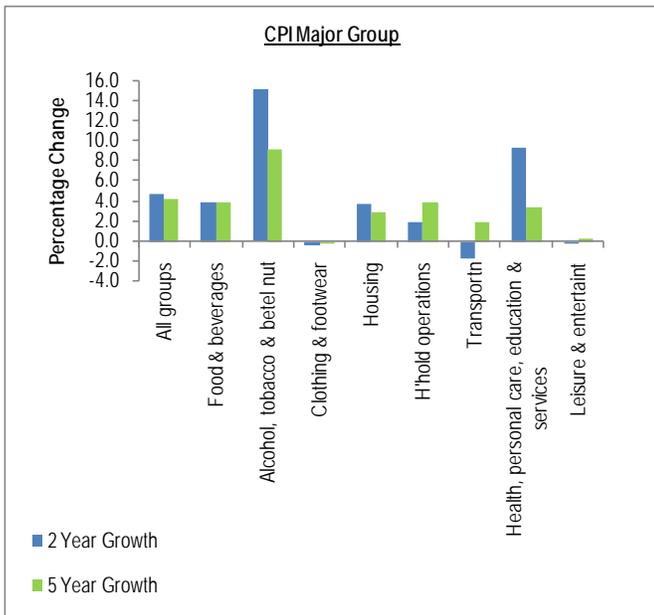
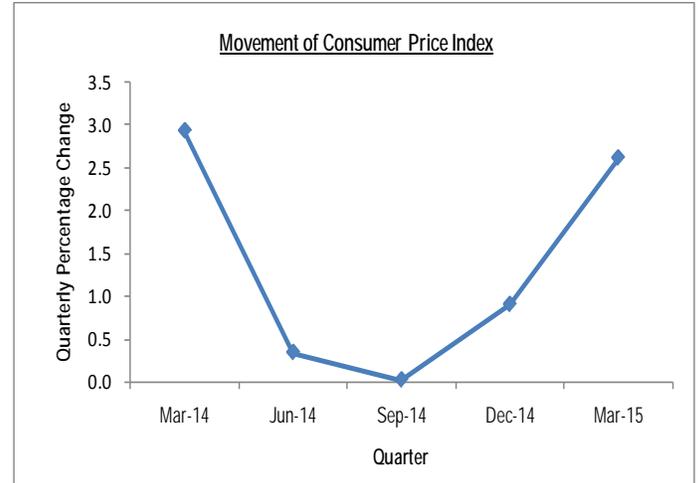
P. O. Box 6011, Melekeok, Republic of Palau 96939  
Tel. (680) 767-1269/1270 Fax. (680) 767-5642

Email: [ops@palaugov.org](mailto:ops@palaugov.org) ; Web address: <http://www.palaugov.org/bureau-of-budget-planning/>

**MARCH 2015 QTR KEY FIGURES**

Major Groups	QTR on QTR % Change	YR on YR % Change
Food & Beverage	1.9	5.8
Alcohol, tobacco & betel nut	14.8	16.2
Clothing & Footwear	0.0	-0.7
Housing	1.4	1.5
Household Operations	0.4	0.7
Transportation	-5.0	-5.6
Health, Personal care, Education & Services	0.1	0.5
Leisure & Entertainments	0.0	0.0
<b>ALL GROUPS</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>3.9</b>

Source: Bureau of Budget & Planning, MOF



**MARCH 2015 QTR KEY POINTS**

- All groups saw an increase of 2.6% over the last quarter. The Alcohol, tobacco & betelnut group saw a significant increase of about 14.8%, due to the recent increase of tax on tobacco products.
- The annual increase of 3.9% for the last 12 months was largely driven by Alcohol, tobacco & betelnut group and Food & Beverages group. Items that contributed the most to these groups' increase include tobacco, fruits & vegetables, frozen chicken, eggs and fresh pork.



**Ministry of Finance  
Bureau of Budget & Planning  
Office of Planning & Statistics**

P. O. Box 6011, Melekeok, Republic of Palau 96939  
Tel. (680) 767-1269/1270 Fax. (680) 767-5642

Email: [ops@palaugov.org](mailto:ops@palaugov.org) ; Web address: <http://www.palaugov.org/bureau-of-budget-planning/>

**MARCH 2015 QTR KEY FIGURES**

Imports	Total FOB Value 1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr 2014	Total FOB Value 1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr 2015	% Change
Live Animals; animal products	1,774,471	2,416,393	36.2
Vegetable products	1,386,132	1,679,927	21.0
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco	4,793,424	5,502,516	14.8
Mineral products	9,135,580	5,938,595	-35.0
Chemicals and allied products	2,623,021	2,225,213	-15.2
Articles of stone, plaster, cement, glass & ceramic products	332,227	337,411	1.6
Base metals & articles thereof	1,660,869	1,519,408	-8.5
Machinery & mechanical & electrical appliances & parts	4,925,899	6,785,162	37.7
Vehicles, aircraft & associated transport equipment	2,252,527	3,696,082	64.1
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	2,169,156	1,051,195	-51.5
Other Imports	6,482,668	6,317,669	-2.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>37,535,974</b>	<b>37,469,571</b>	<b>-0.2</b>

Source: Division of Customs, MOF and Bureau of Budget & Planning, MOF

**Ocean Cargo Carriers' Inbound Containers**

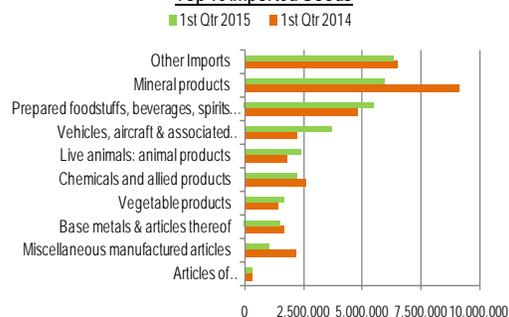
Type	Total Containers 1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr 2014	Total Containers 1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr 2015	% Change
20'D	348	444	27.6
40'D	122	172	41.0
20'R	37	18	-51.4
40'R	30	42	40.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>537</b>	<b>676</b>	<b>25.9</b>

Source: Division of Transportation, MPIIC

**MARCH 2015 QTR KEY POINTS**

- Overall, total imports declined by 0.2% over the same period last year.
- All food related groups namely the prepared food stuffs, beverages, spirit & tobacco, the vegetable products, and the live animal; animal products all saw increases of imports. This shows a correlation with the increase of 40-footer refrigerated inbound containers compared to the same period last year.
- Vehicles, aircraft & associated transport equipment saw a significant increase of 64.1% due to imports of sea transportation and automobiles.
- Mineral products include fuel imports. This group saw a decline of 35.0%.
- Other imports include Animal or vegetable oils & fats, Arms and ammunition, parts & accessories thereof, Footwear, headgear, umbrellas & parts thereof, Pearls, precious & semi-precious stones & metals, Photographic & optical, medical & surgical goods & clocks/watches & musical instruments, Plastic, rubber & articles thereof, Raw hides, skins, leather articles & travel goods, Textiles & textile articles, Wood pulp, paper & paperboard & articles thereof, Wood, cork & articles thereof & plaiting material, and Works of art, collectors pieces & antiques.
- The table on the top right corner shows the number of inbound containers by size and type. The overall number increased by about 26% over the same quarter last year.

**Top 10 Imported Goods**





**Ministry of Finance  
Bureau of Budget & Planning  
Office of Planning & Statistics**

P. O. Box 6011, Melekeok, Republic of Palau 96939  
Tel. (680) 767-1269/1270 Fax. (680) 767-5642

Email: [ops@palaugov.org](mailto:ops@palaugov.org) ; Web address: <http://www.palaugov.org/bureau-of-budget-planning/>

**MARCH 2015 QTR KEY FIGURES**

Purpose of Entry	Arrivals 1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr 2014	Arrivals 1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr 2015	% Change
Tourist	32,826	48,287	47.1
Business	372	384	3.2
Employment	792	813	2.7
Others	429	587	36.8
<b>Total Excluding Residents</b>	<b>33,198</b>	<b>48,671</b>	<b>46.6</b>

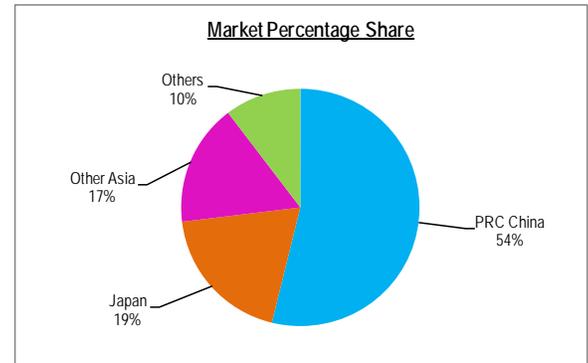
Source: Palau Visitors Authority



**MARCH 2015 QTR KEY FIGURES**

Country of Nationality	Tourist & Business Arrivals 1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr 2014	Tourist & Business Arrivals 1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr 2015	%Change
Australia/New Zealand	271	262	-3.3
Europe	1,351	1,332	-1.4
FSM	70	106	51.4
Germany	370	362	-2.2
Japan	12,422	9,364	-24.6
Korea	4,030	3,401	-15.6
Philippines	250	242	-3.2
PRC China	4,473	26,205	485.8
ROC Taiwan	7,213	4,424	-38.7
US/Canada	2,298	2,611	13.6
Others	450	362	-19.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,198</b>	<b>48,671</b>	<b>46.6</b>

Source: Palau Visitors Authority



**MARCH 2015 QTR KEY POINTS**

- The total number of visitors this quarter was 48,671 an increase of 47% compared to the same period last year.
- Tourist and Other arrivals saw an increase of 47% and 37%, respectively.
- Both Business and Employment arrivals saw an increase of about 3%.
- Showing an increase of 486%, PRC continues to be the leading market amongst other countries with the direct charter services between Koror and Hong Kong/Macau on Dynamic Airways, Asian Air, Palau Pacific Air, and Mega Maldives.
- Key markets including Japan, Korea, ROC Taiwan declined by 25%, 16% and 39%, respectively. Based on reports from the Palau Visitors Authority, prospective visitors were unable to book due to the lack of accommodation capacity.

For more information contact Office of Planning & Statistics at 767-1269/1270 or Email to [ops@palaugov.org](mailto:ops@palaugov.org)



**Ministry of Finance  
Bureau of Budget & Planning  
Office of Planning & Statistics**

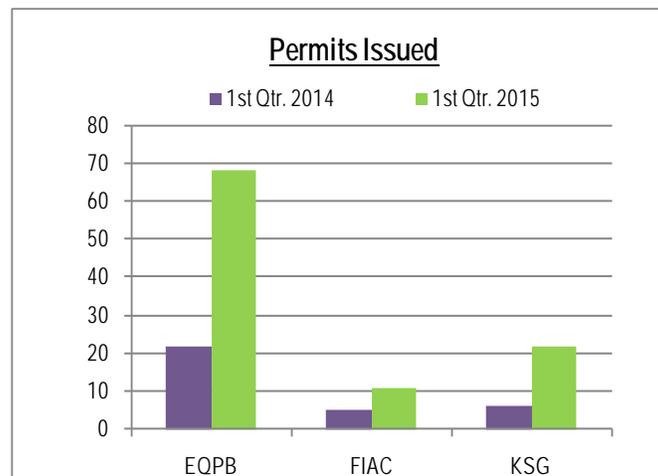
P. O. Box 6011, Melekeok, Republic of Palau 96939  
Tel. (680) 767-1269/1270 Fax. (680) 767-5642

Email: [ops@palaugov.org](mailto:ops@palaugov.org) ; Web address: <http://www.palaugov.org/bureau-of-budget-planning/>

**MARCH 2015 QTR KEY FIGURES-FIAC**

Industry	FIAC Issued 1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr 2014	FIAC Issued 1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr 2015
Agriculture and forestry	1	-
Construction	1	-
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles	-	1
Transportation and storage	-	1
Accommodation and food service activities	3	4
Information and communication	-	1
Financial and insurance activities	-	1
Professional, scientific and technical activities	-	1
Administrative and support service activities	-	1
Arts, entertainment and recreation	-	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>

Source: Foreign Investment Board, ROP



**MARCH 2015 QTR KEY FIGURES-KSG**

Type	Building Permits 1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr 2014	Building Permits 1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr 2015
Commercial	1	5
Government	3	10
Residential	2	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>22</b>

Source: Building & Zoning, Koror State Government

**MARCH 2015 QTR KEY FIGURES-EQPB**

Type	Earthmoving Permits Issued 1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr 2014	Earthmoving Permits Issued 1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr 2015
Commercial	4	21
Government	11	24
Residential	7	23
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>68</b>

Source: Environmental Quality Protection Board, ROP

**MARCH 2015 QTR KEY POINTS**

- Overall, FIAC licenses issued this quarter increased by 6 compared to the same quarter last year. A total of 11 new licenses were issued this quarter with Accommodation and Food Service Activities contributing the highest. Licenses issued for this industry were mostly for hotel development.
- Building Permits issued this quarter by KSG-Building & Zoning increased by 16 over the same period last year. A total of 22 building permits were issued this quarter with Government building permits contributing the highest.
- Earthmoving permits issued for this quarter increased by 46 over the same period last year. Permits issued were significantly high compared to the same period last year. All of the earthmoving activities in the Republic of Palau with the exception of agricultural/funeral practices require an earthmoving permit from EQPB, whereas, building permits issued by KSG-Building & Zoning are only applicable to projects in Koror State.