



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

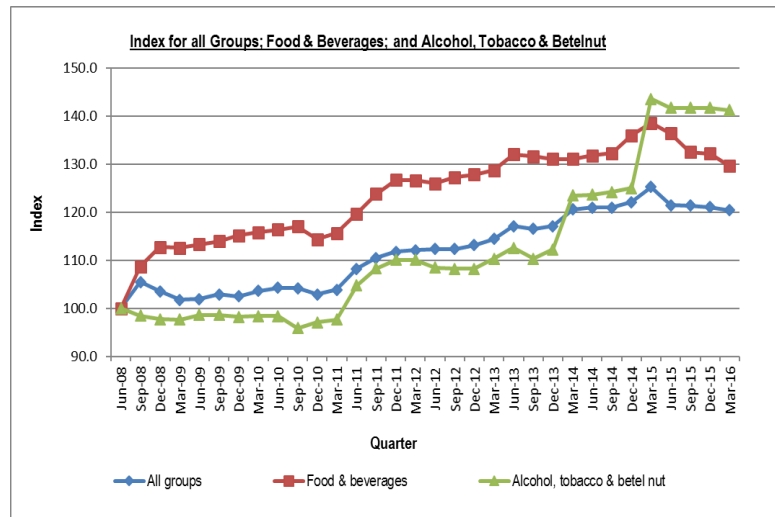
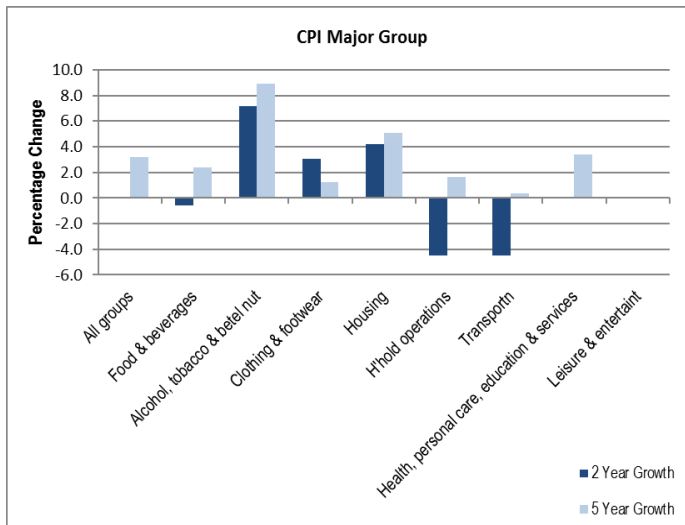
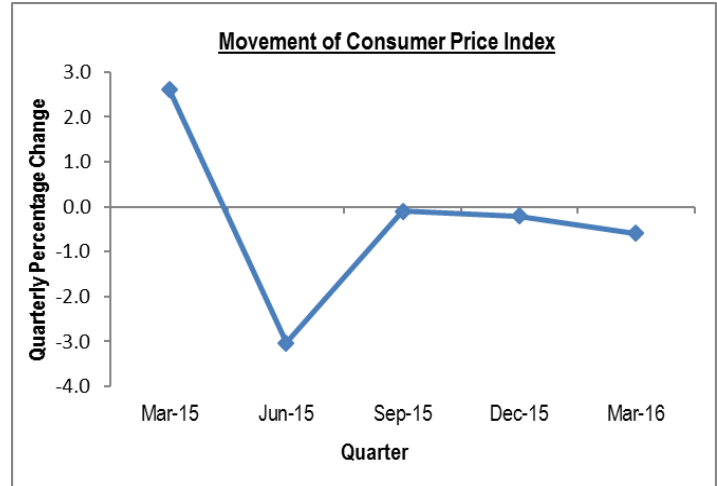
P. O. Box 6011, Melekeok, Republic of Palau 96939  
 Tel. (680) 767-1269/1270 Fax. (680) 767-5642

Email: [ops@palaugov.org](mailto:ops@palaugov.org); Web address: <http://www.palaugov.org/budgetandplanning/>

**MARCH 2016 QTR KEY FIGURES**

Major Groups	QTR on QTR % Change	YR on YR % Change
Food & Beverage	-2.0	-6.5
Alcohol, tobacco & betel nut	-0.4	-1.6
Clothing & Footwear	4.9	6.9
Housing	3.9	6.8
Household Operations	0.3	-9.5
Transportation	-2.6	-3.5
Health, Personal care, Education & Services	0.0	-0.3
Leisure & Entertainments	0.0	0.0
<b>ALL GROUPS</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>-3.9</b>

Source: Bureau of Budget & Planning, MOF



**MARCH 2016 QTR KEY POINTS**

- All groups saw a slight decrease of 0.6% over the last quarter. Food and beverage group and Transportation group saw a decrease of 2.0% and 2.6% respectively. On the other hand, Clothing & footwear and Housing group saw an increase of 4.9% and 3.9% respectively. The decline in fuel prices this quarter is one of the factors to these groups' decrease.
- The annual decrease of 3.9% for the last 12 months was largely due to the Food and beverage group and the Household operations which saw a decrease of 6.5% and 9.5% respectively. The decrease in both fuel price and the monthly electricity bill are some of the major cause for these groups' decrease. On the other hand, Clothing & footwear group and the Housing group saw an increase of 6.9% and 6.8% respectively.



**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/budgetandplanning>

**MARCH 2016 QTR KEY FIGURES**

Imports	Total FOB Value 1st Qtr 2015	Total FOB Value 1st Qtr 2016	% Change
Articles of stone, plaster, cement, glass & ceramic products	337,411	250,533	-25.7
Vegetable products	1,679,927	1,505,241	-10.4
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	1,051,195	1,619,511	54.1
Base metals & articles thereof	1,519,408	1,807,486	19.0
Live animals: animal products	2,416,393	2,367,302	-2.0
Chemicals and allied products	2,225,213	2,943,752	32.3
Vehicles, aircraft & associated transport equipment	3,696,082	3,176,672	-14.1
Prepared foodstuffs, beverages, spirits & tobacco	5,502,516	4,742,549	-13.8
Machinery & mechanical & electrical appliances & parts thereof	6,785,162	5,302,274	-21.9
Mineral products	5,938,595	5,677,115	-4.4
Other Imports	6,317,669	6,024,938	-4.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>37,469,571</b>	<b>35,417,373</b>	<b>-5.5</b>

Source: Bureau of Customs & Border Protection, MOF and Bureau of Budget & Planning, MOF

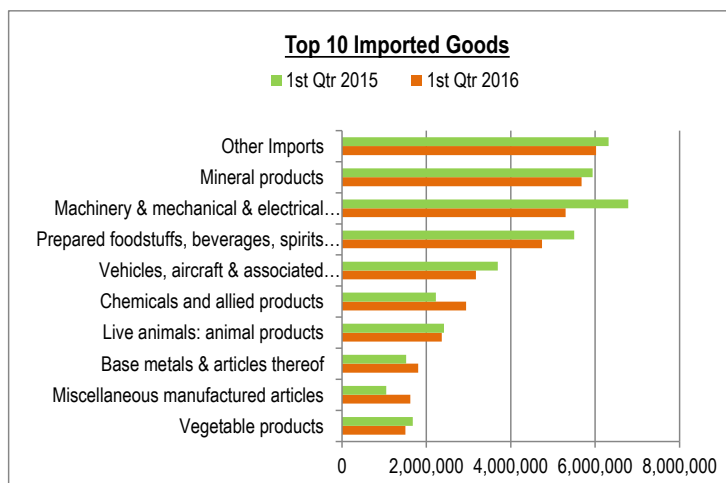
**Ocean Cargo Carriers' Inbound Containers**

Type	Total Containers 1st Qtr 2015	Total Containers 1st Qtr 2016	% Change
20'D	444	400	-9.9
40'D	172	254	47.7
20'R	18	32	77.8
40'R	42	45	7.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>676</b>	<b>731</b>	<b>8.1</b>

Source: Division of Marine Transportation, BCD, MPIIC

**MARCH 2016 QTR KEY POINTS**

- Overall, total imports declined by about 6% over the same period last year.
- Miscellaneous manufactured articles group saw a significant increase of 54% due to accommodation establishments' high imports of furniture, bedding, etc.
- Chemicals and allied products group trail with a 32% increase due to large imports of pharmaceutical products for the Belau National Hospital.
- Articles of stone, plaster, cement, glass & ceramic products saw a decline of about 26%. Last year's high number was mainly driven by the imports of building materials for the various construction projects.
- 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 8% over the same quarter last year.





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

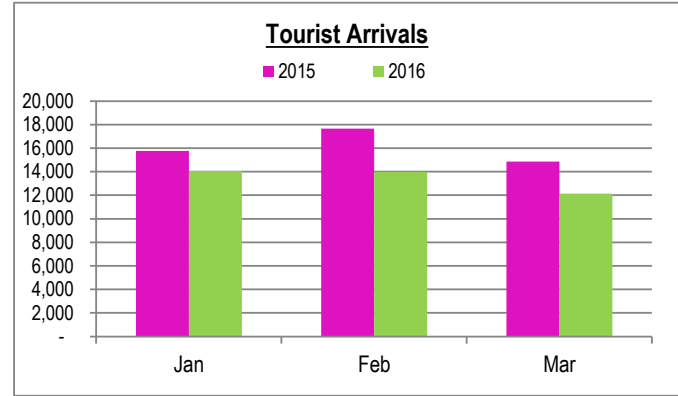
P. O. Box 6011, Melekeok, Republic of Palau 96939  
Tel. (680) 767-1269/1270 Fax. (680) 767-5642

Email: [ops@palaugov.org](mailto:ops@palaugov.org) ; Web address: <http://www.palaugov.org/budgetandplanning>

**MARCH 2016 QTR KEY FIGURES**

Purpose of Entry	Arrivals 1st Qtr 2015	Arrivals 1st Qtr 2016	% Change
Tourist	48,287	40,195	-16.8
Business	384	374	-2.6
Employment	813	866	6.5
Others	587	851	45.0
<b>Total Excluding Residents</b>	<b>50,071</b>	<b>42,286</b>	<b>-15.5</b>

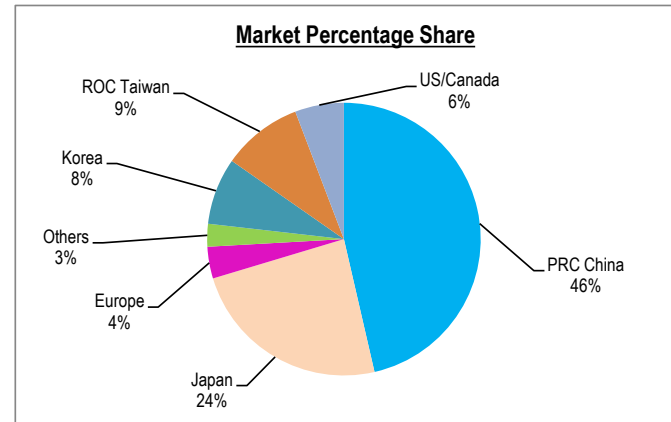
Source: Bureau of Immigration and Labor, MOJ, Republic of Palau



**MARCH 2016 QTR KEY FIGURES**

Country of Nationality	Tourist & Business Arrivals 1st Qtr 2015	Tourist & Business Arrivals 1st Qtr 2016	%Change
Australia/New Zealand	262	291	11.1
Europe	1,332	1,168	-12.3
FSM	106	110	3.8
Germany	362	359	-0.8
Japan	9,364	9,712	3.7
Korea	3,401	3,212	-5.6
Philippines	242	266	9.9
PRC China	26,205	18,825	-28.2
ROC Taiwan	4,424	3,853	-12.9
US/Canada	2,611	2,346	-10.1
Others	362	427	18.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>48,671</b>	<b>40,569</b>	<b>-16.6</b>

Source: Bureau of Immigration and Labor, MOJ, Republic of Palau



**MARCH 2016 QTR KEY POINTS**

- The total number of visitors this quarter was 42,286, a decrease of about 16% compared to the same period last year.
- Employment and Other arrivals saw an increase of about 7% and 45%, respectively.
- Business arrivals saw slight decline of about 3%, compared to the same period last year.
- PRC China, which was the leading market amongst other countries for the past year, saw a decline of 28% over the same quarter last year. Key markets including Korea and ROC Taiwan declined by about 6% and 13%, respectively, while Japan saw a slight increase of 4%. Based on reports from the Palau Visitors Authority, reduced chartered and scheduled flights by some airlines contributed to the decline of visitors.

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/budgetandplanning>

### MARCH 2016 QTR KEY FIGURES-FIAC

Industry	FIAC Issued 1 <sup>ST</sup> Qtr 2015	FIAC Issued 1 <sup>ST</sup> Qtr 2016
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles	1	-
Transportation and storage	1	-
Accommodation and food service activities	4	4
Information and communication	1	-
Financial and insurance activities	1	-
Professional, scientific and technical activities	1	1
Administrative and support service activities	1	-
Arts, entertainment and recreation	1	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>

Source: Foreign Investment Board, ROP

### MARCH 2016 QTR KEY FIGURES-KSG

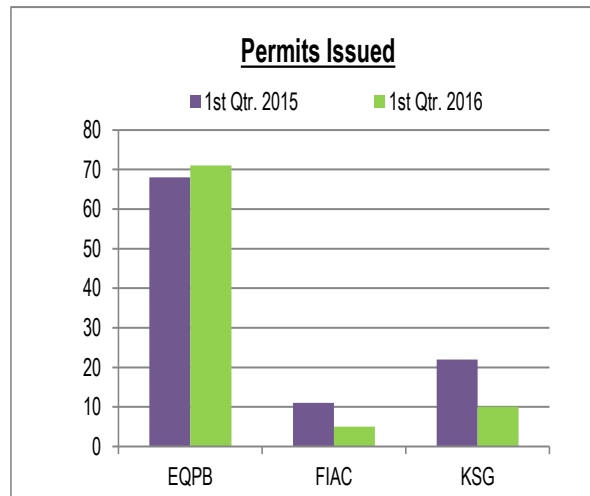
Type	Building Permits 1 <sup>ST</sup> Qtr 2015	Building Permits 1 <sup>ST</sup> Qtr 2016
Commercial	5	6
Government	10	-
Residential	7	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>10</b>

Source: Building & Zoning, Koror State Government

### MARCH 2016 QTR KEY FIGURES-EQPB

Type	Earthmoving Permits Issued 1 <sup>ST</sup> Qtr 2015	Earthmoving Permits Issued 1 <sup>ST</sup> Qtr 2016
Commercial	21	14
Government	24	23
Residential	23	34
<b>Total</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>71</b>

Source: Environmental Quality Protection Board, ROP



### MARCH 2016 QTR KEY POINTS

- Overall, FIAC licenses issued this quarter decreased by 6 compared to the same quarter last year. A total of 5 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 decreased by 12 over the same period last year. A total of 10 building permits were issued this quarter with Commercial building permits contributing the highest.
- Earthmoving permits issued for this quarter increased by 3 over the same period last year. A total of 71 earthmoving permits were issued this quarter with residential permits contributing the highest. 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.