VISION Leading Fiji to Economic Success OUR VISION Leading Fiji to Economic Success OUR

## **CURRENT ECONOMIC CONDITIONS**

Leading Fiji to Economic Success

5 October 2017

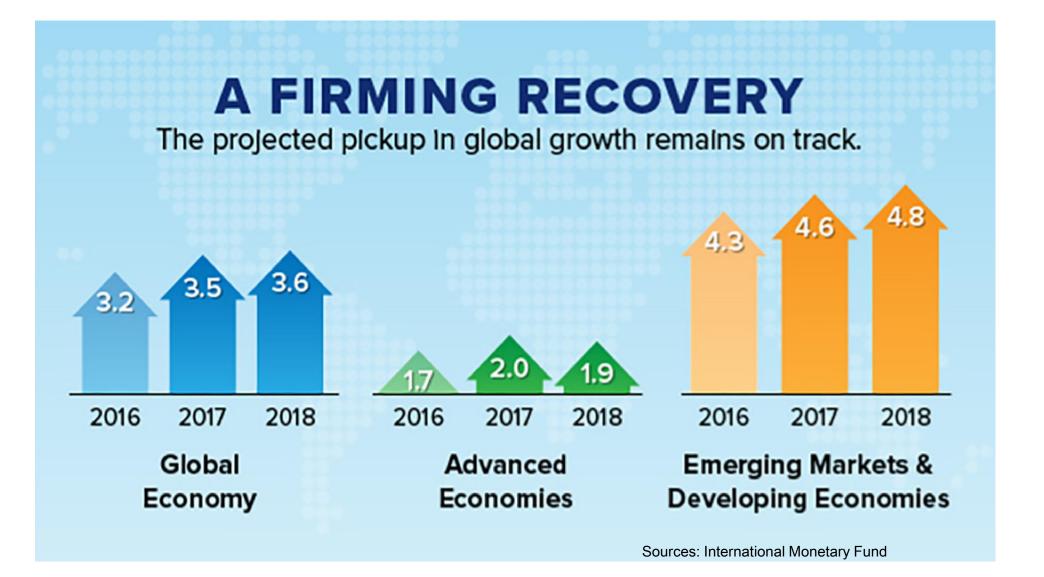


#### Presentation to the FIA

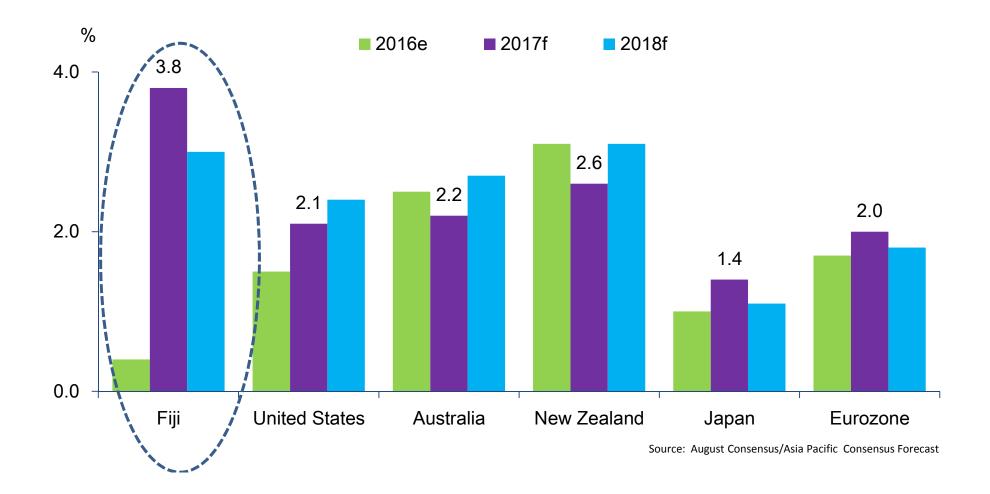


## Global economic outlook

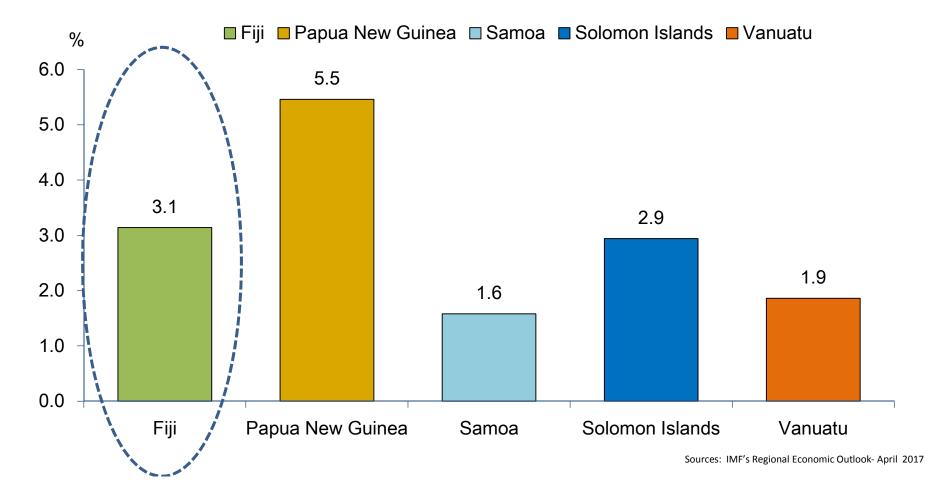
Has improved



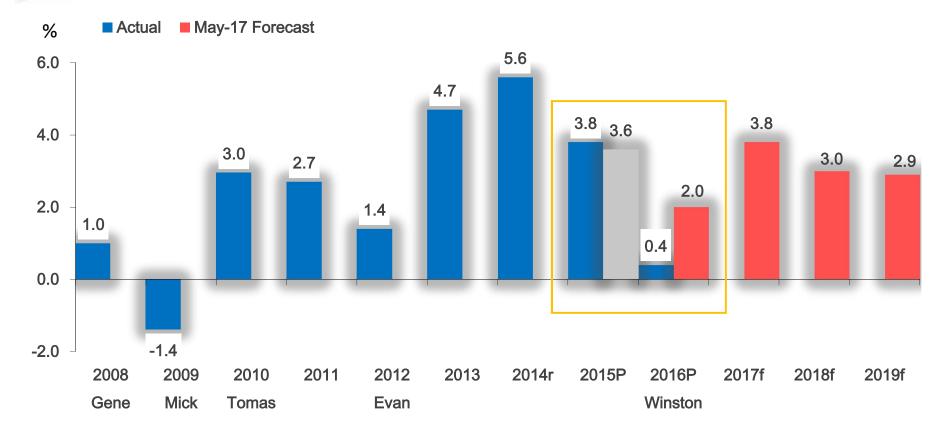
#### TRADING PARTNER GROWTH OUTLOOK



#### PACIFIC ISLANDS AVERAGE GROWTH RATE (2012-16)

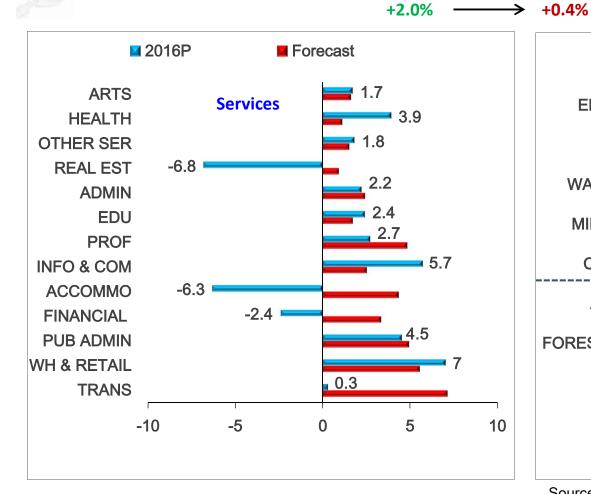


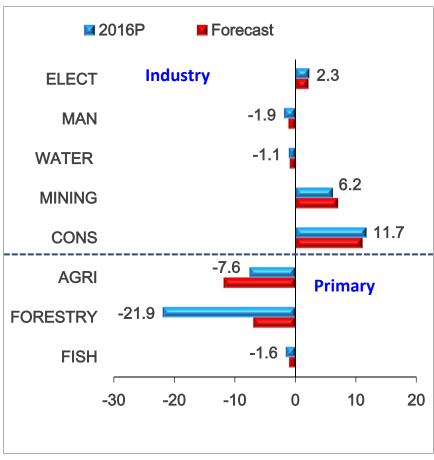
#### **FIJI GDP GROWTH**



Sources: Fiji Bureau of Statistics & Macroeconomic Committee

#### 2016 GROWTH LOWER THAN EXPECTED





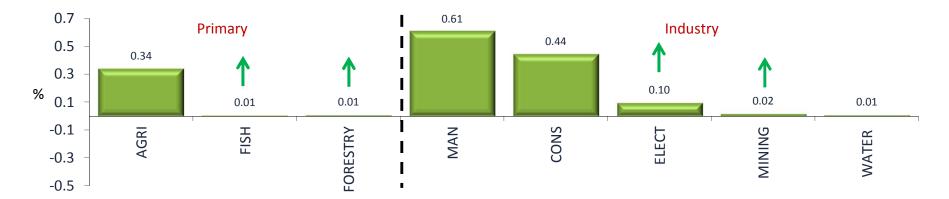
Source: Fiji Bureau of Statistics and Macroeconomic Committee

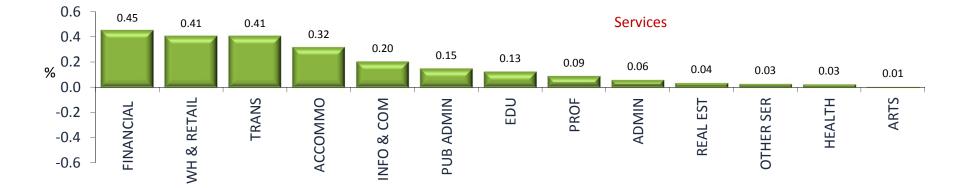


## Sector Performances so far

Generally positive

## 2017 SECTOR CONTRIBUTION TO GROWTH





Source: Macroeconomic Committee



# Aggregate Demand

## Continues to be Buoyant

# Consumption spending is firm



#### Partial Indicators Annual percent change (unless otherwise specified)

Partial Indicators	2016	2017 (latest)
Net Value Added Tax (VAT)	-26.9	Jan-Jul: +14.0
New Consumption lending	+7.9	Jan-Aug: +10.5
o/w Wholesale, Retail, Hotels & Restaurants	+13.2	Jan-Aug: +30.2
o/w Private Individuals	-4.7	Jan-Aug: -33.0
New Vehicle Registrations	+27.5	Jan-Aug +2.7
Secondhand Vehicle Registrations	+7.8	Jan-Aug:-31.9

Consumption activity in the short to MT is expected to be supported by the 2017-18 National Budget - lower VAT, low interest rates, market stability and confidence Source: Industry contacts

## Investment remains strong



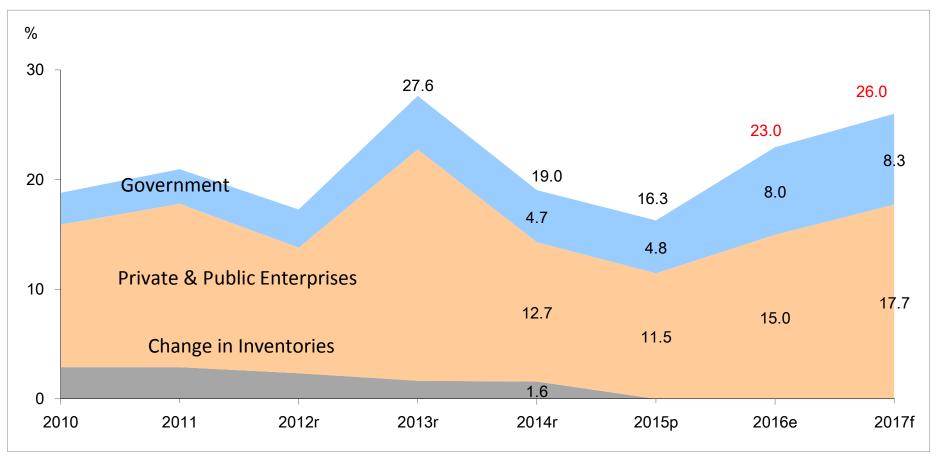
#### Partial Indicators Annual percent change (unless otherwise specified)

Partial Indicators	2016	2017 (Latest)
New Investment Lending Real Estate	-10.3	Jan-Aug +31.8
	-17.9	Jan-Aug: +60.4
Building and Construction	-1.0	Jan-Aug: +5.4
Domestic Cement Sales	+11.1	Jan-Aug: +16.0
Domestic Cement Production	+10.9	Jan-Jul: -3.8
Estimated Value of	+10.1	+5.6 (Q1 2017)
Work put-in-place		

The strong growth in investments continues to be driven by some large local projects in the hotel and wholesale & retail sectors

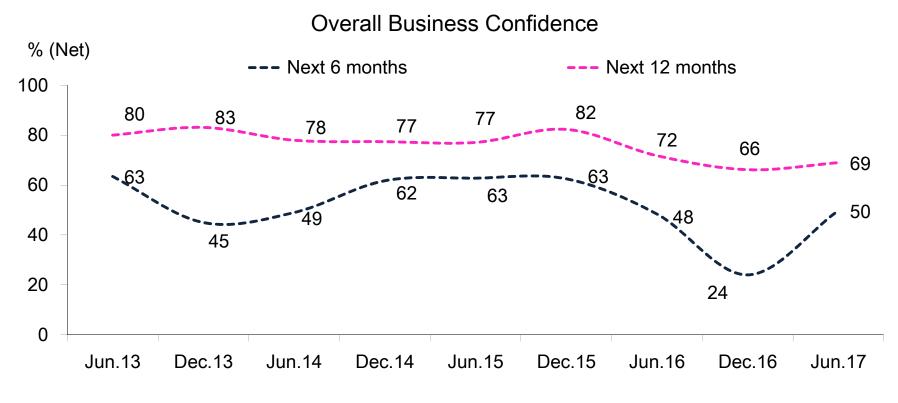
Source: Industry contacts

#### INVESTMENT Share of Nominal GDP



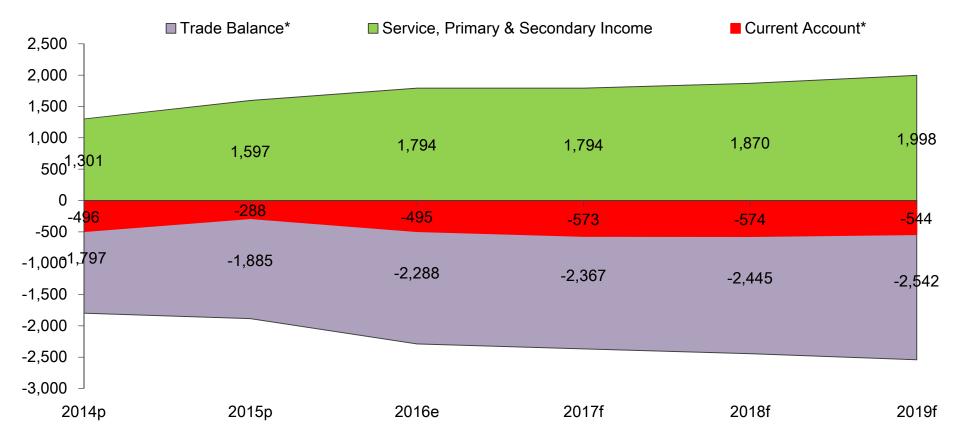
Source: Fiji Bureau of Statistics

## BUSINESS EXPECTATIONS SURVEY - June 2017



Source: Reserve Bank of Fiji

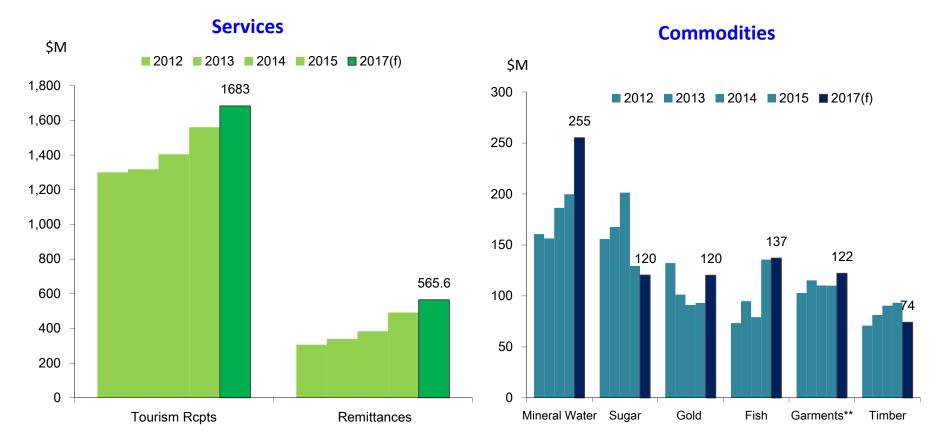
### External balances expected to remain stable



Sources: Reserve Bank of Fiji and Fiji Bureau of Statistics; \*: excluding aircraft



## MAJOR FOREIGN EXCHANGE EARNERS



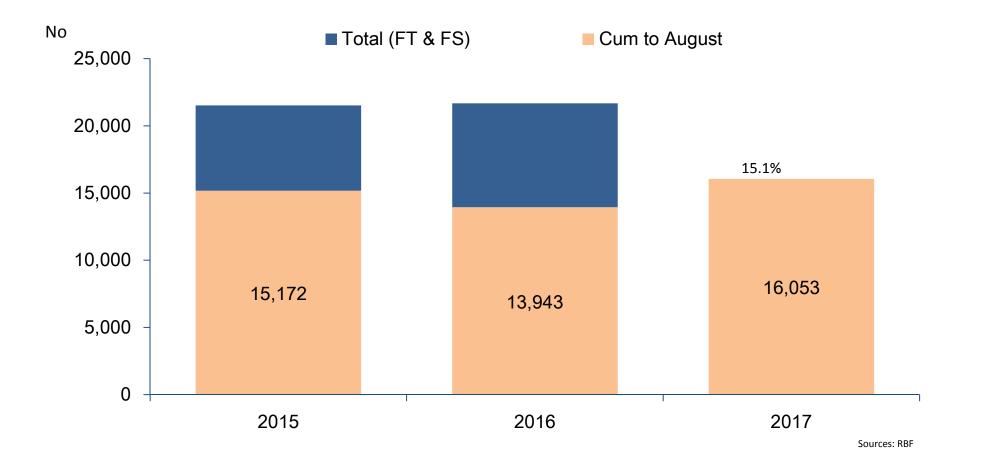
Sources: RBF & FIBOS



## Labour market & financial conditions

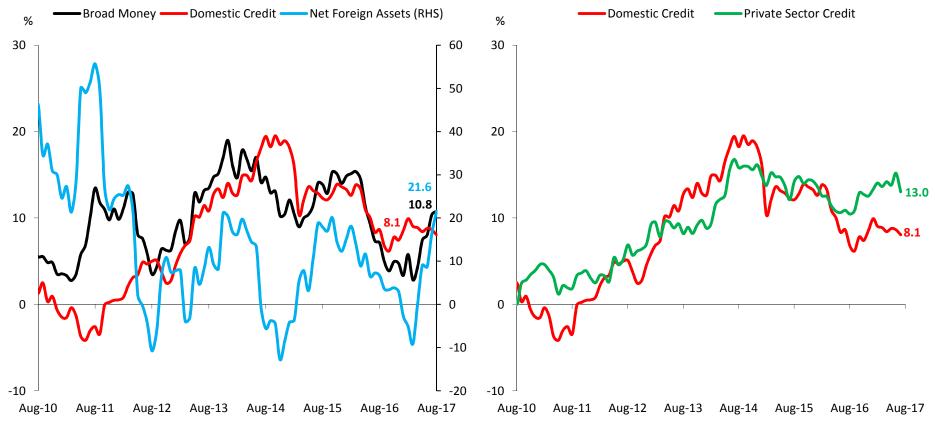
## Remain optimistic and supportive of growth

## Labour market remains upbeat





## Strong reserves & credit boost money growth

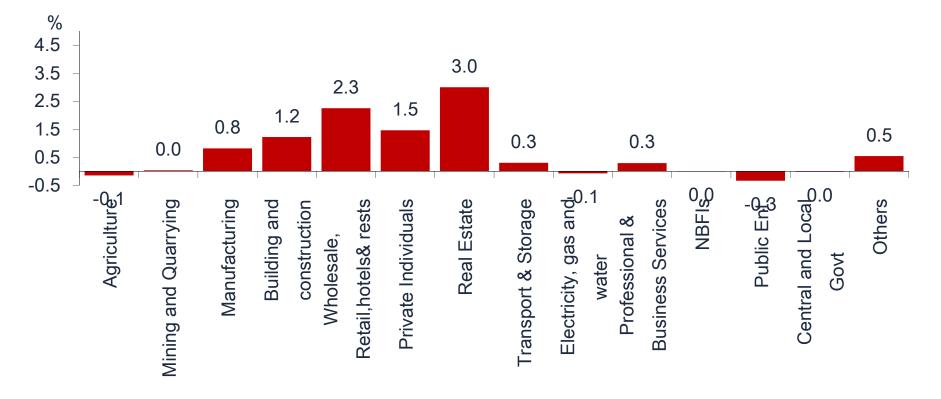


Source: Reserve Bank of Fiji



## Contribution to Bank Lending - August 2017

The 9.4 percent annual growth is largely due to corporate investment lending



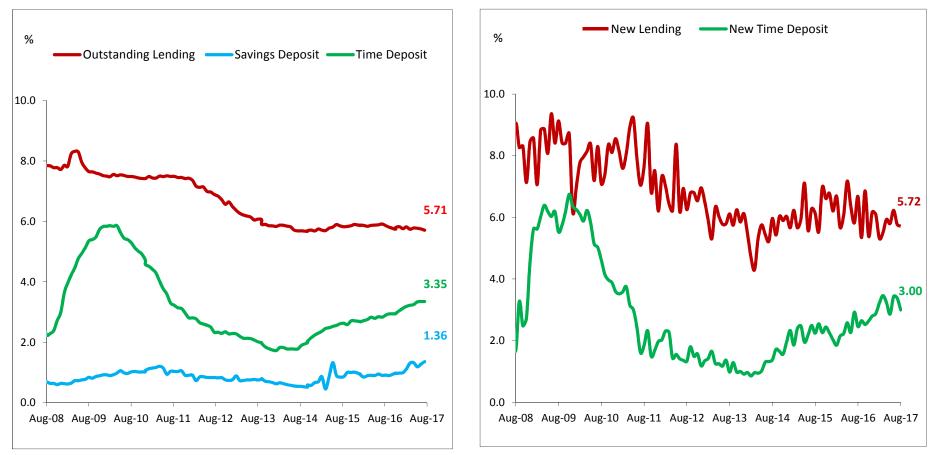
Source: Reserve Bank of Fiji

## Bank liquidity levels remain adequate





#### New bank interest rates remain low



Source: Reserve Bank of Fiji

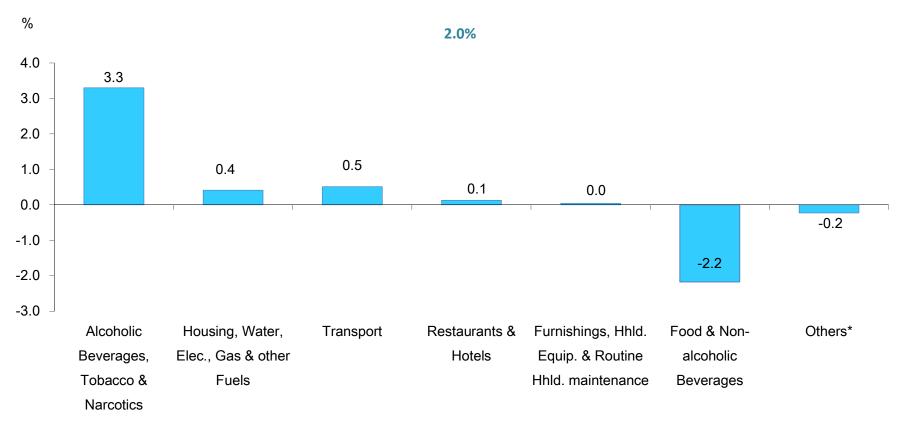


# Monetary Policy

## To maintain price stability & reserves adequacy

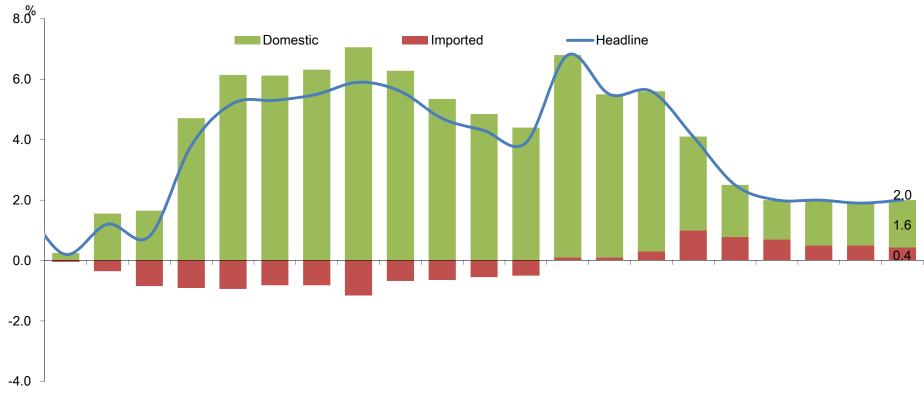
## INFLATION

Contribution to Inflation – September



\*Others include Health, Communication. Furnishings, Hhld., Equip. Routine Hhld. maintenance, Recreation & Culture, Clothing & Footwear and Misc. Sources: Reserve Bank of Fiji and Fiji Bureau of Statistics

## **IMPORTED & DOMESTIC INFLATION**



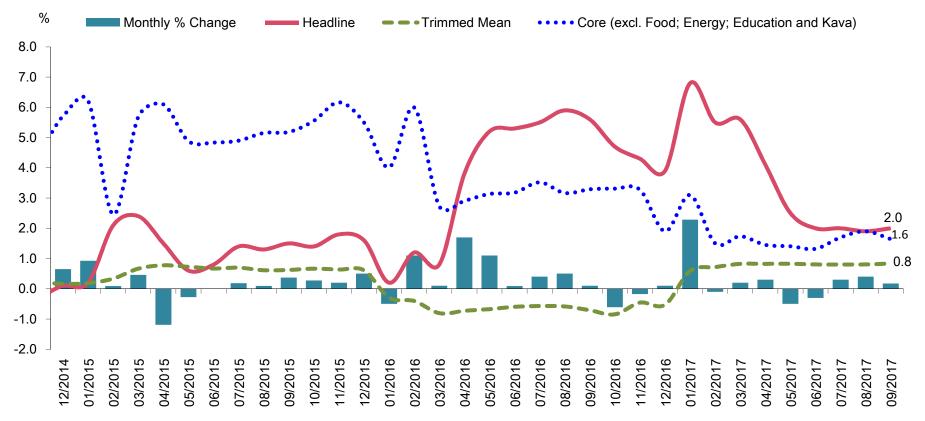
Jan-16 Feb-16 Mar-16 Apr-16 May-16 Jun-16 Jul-16 Aug-16 Sep-16 Oct-16 Nov-16 Dec-16 Jan-17 Feb-17 Mar-17 Apr-17 May-17 Jun-17 Jul-17 Aug-17 Sep-17

Sources: Reserve Bank of Fiji and Fiji Bureau of Statistics



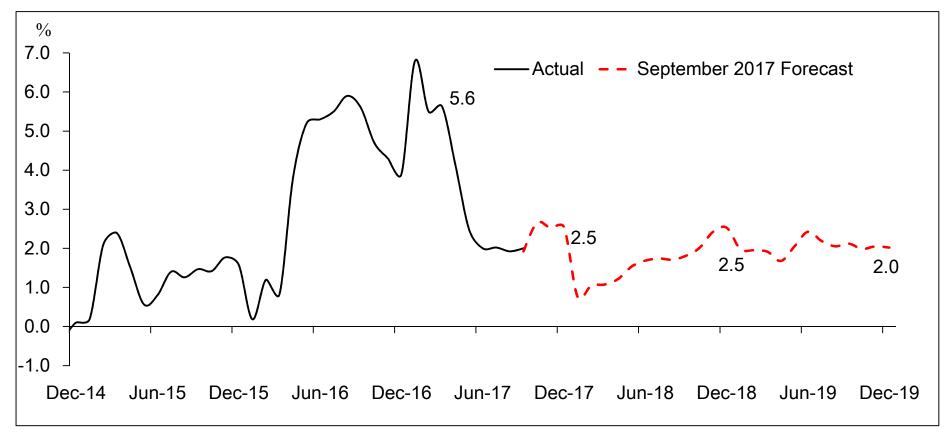
## INFLATION

Headline & Core – September



Sources: Reserve Bank of Fiji and Fiji Bureau of Statistics

## **INFLATION FORECAST 2017-2019**

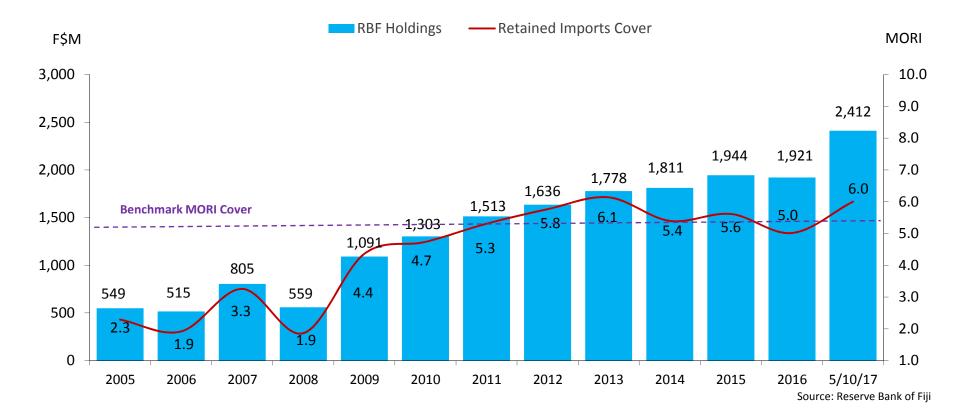


Source: Fiji Bureau of Statistics and Reserve Bank of Fiji Estimates



#### **FOREIGN RESERVES**

Reached new highs (\$2.45 billion); outlook remains favourable



# Ø

## SUMMARY

- Global economy consolidating healthy growth trajectory;
- Domestic growth; upward bias for this year;
- Sectoral performances positive overall;
- Demand supported by positive consumer & business sentiments; adequate monetary conditions & favourable employment outlook
- Monetary policy objectives intact
  - Inflation was 2.0% in September; year end forecast at 2.5%;
  - Reserves at record high \$2.4b in September; similar levels by year end;
- Monetary & fiscal policies continue to support growth/financial stability.



## Thank You