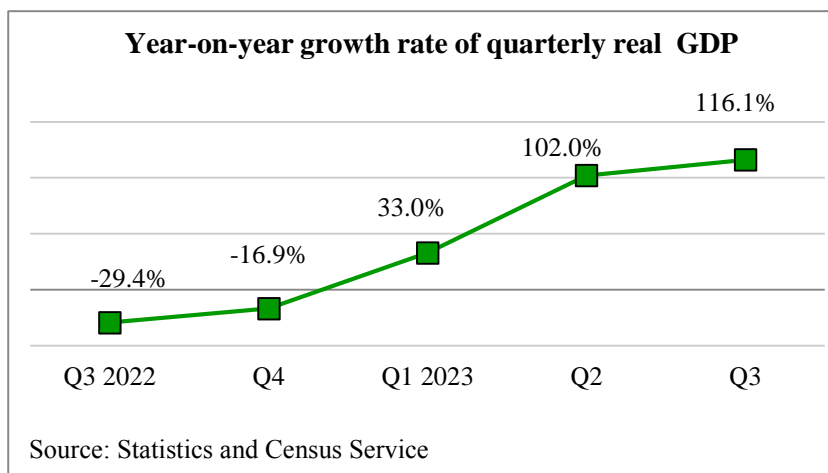


Economic Outlook of Macao

First three quarters of 2023

Overall Economy

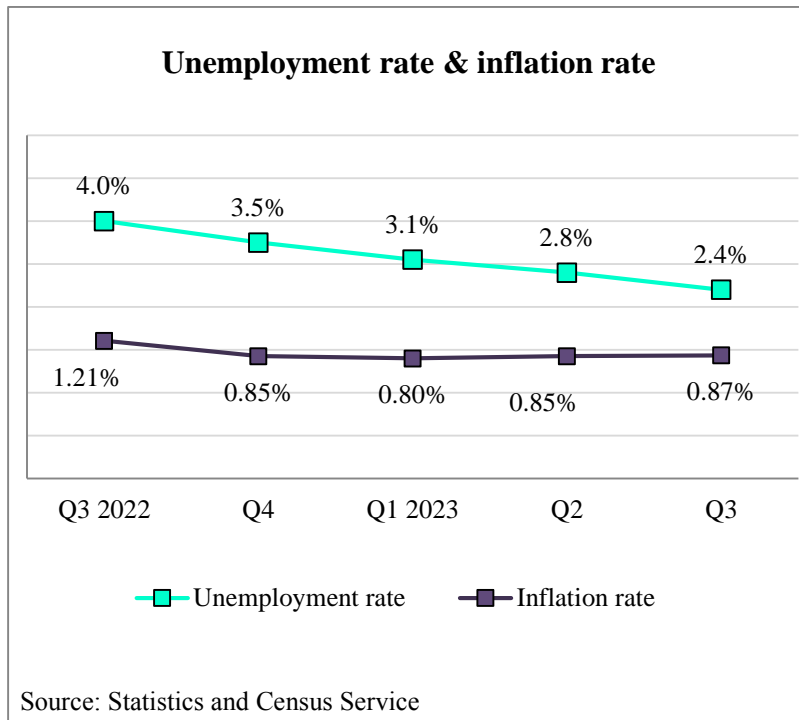
Thanks to positive factors including improved employment and a thriving economic environment, Macao's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the first three quarters of 2023 rose by 77.7%¹ year-on-year in



real terms to MOP257.4 billion. Services exports rebounded significantly by 156.5%, of which gaming services exports surged by 308.8%. Imports of service grew by 40.9%. Gross fixed capital formation was up by 12.9%. Private consumption expenditure went up by 11.6%. Imports of goods increased by 2.3%, while exports of goods have declined by 27.7%. Government final consumption expenditure fell by 0.7%.

Employment and Inflation

The labour force in the third quarter of 2023 was 378,000, with an employed population of 369,000 and a labour force participation rate of 68.2%. The unemployment rate was down by 1.6 percentage points year-on-year to 2.4%, while under-employment rate was down 14.9 percentage points year-on-year to 1.6%. Median monthly employment earnings of the overall employed population increased MOP4,000 year-on-year to MOP18,000.

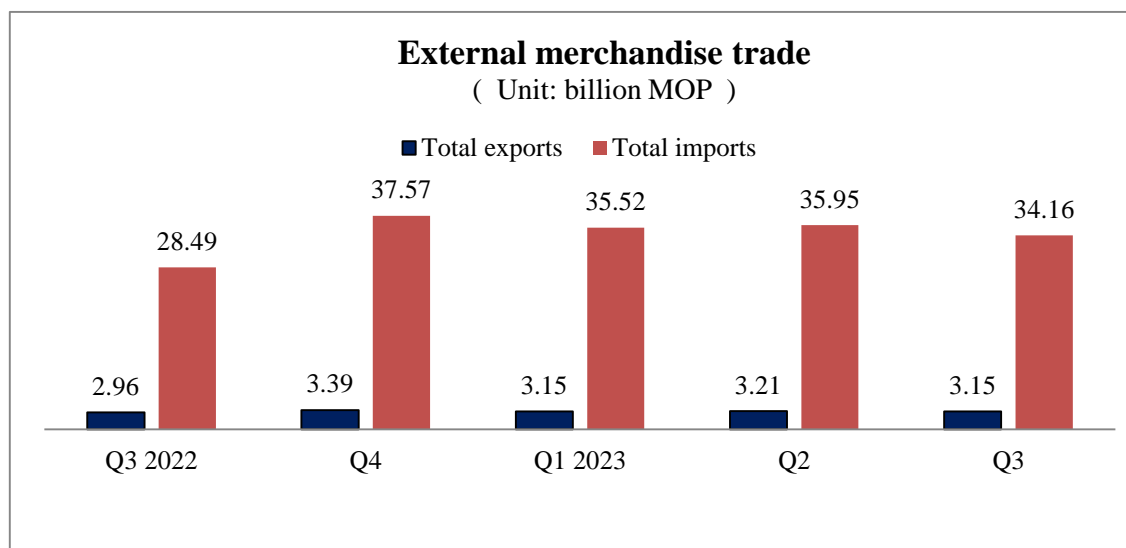


Composite CPI in the first third quarters of 2023 was up 0.84 % year-on-year, attributed to the rise in eating-out charges, tertiary education prices, prices of domestic services and clothing & footwear, but lower expenses for housing & fuels, transportation and telecommunication services have mitigated part of the increase in CPI.

External Merchandise Trade

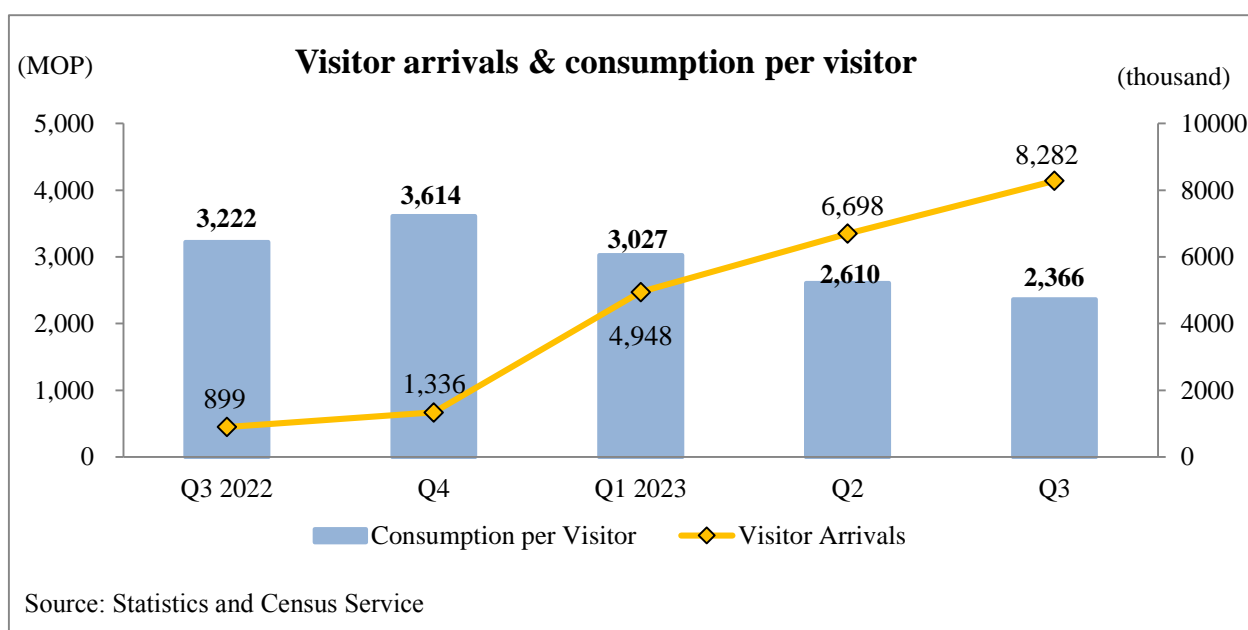
For merchandise export, articles for casinos and machines & mechanical appliances increased, whereas exports of watches, travel goods and diamond jewellery decreased compared to last year. Total merchandise exports in the first three quarters of 2023 dropped 6.1% year-on-year to MOP9.51 billion. Furthermore, total merchandise imports increased by 3.5% year-on-year to MOP105.8 billion. The trade deficit was MOP96.3 billion, up by 4.5% year-on-year. Macao's major trading partners include the European Union, Mainland China, Hong Kong, Switzerland, the United States, etc.

The total value of merchandise exports under CEPA in the first three quarters of 2023 was down 32.1% year-on-year to MOP54.2 million, with MOP0.3 million exempted tariffs, down 12.5% year-on-year.

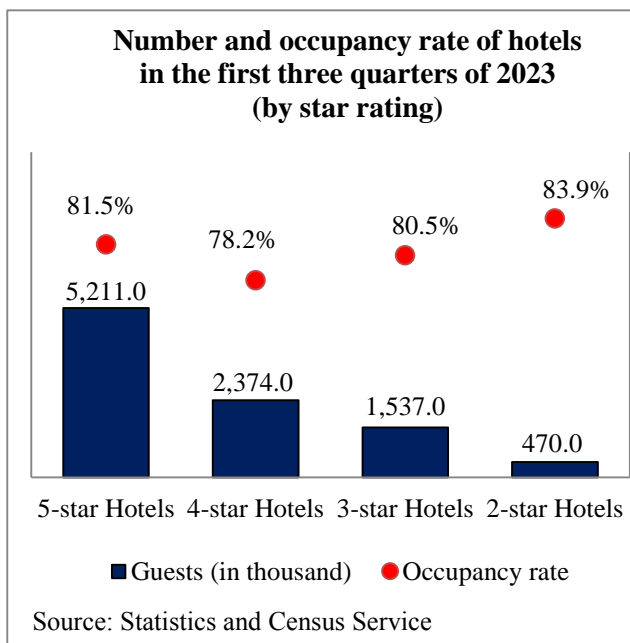


Tourism and Gaming

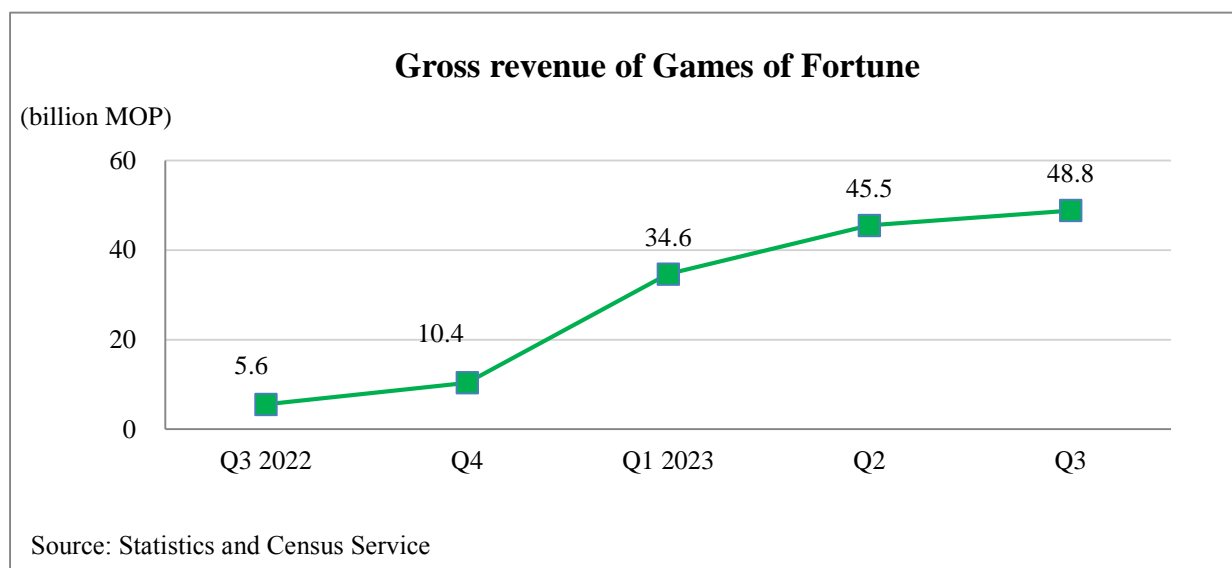
In the first three quarters of 2023, the total number of visitors was up by 356.6% year-on-year to 19.9 million, of which visitors from Mainland China went up by 240.1% to 13.4 million, taking up 67.1% of the total, while visitors from Hong Kong went up by 1,300.9% to 5.4 million taking up 26.9% of the total. Visitors' spending (excluding gaming expenses) in the first three quarters of 2023 increased 290.3% to MOP52.1 billion, whereas per capita spending decreased 14.5% to MOP2,612.



The occupancy rate of hotels for the first three quarters of 2023 was 80.8%, up 43.5 percentage points year-on-year. The number of guests ascended by 161.4% to 9.6 million, with the average length of stay of 1.7 nights, down by 0.2 nights year-on-year. The occupancy rate for the 5-star hotels was up 48.6 percentage points year-on-year to 81.5%, with the number of guests up by 198.2% to 5.2 million and the average length of stay down 0.2 nights to 1.8 nights year-on-year.

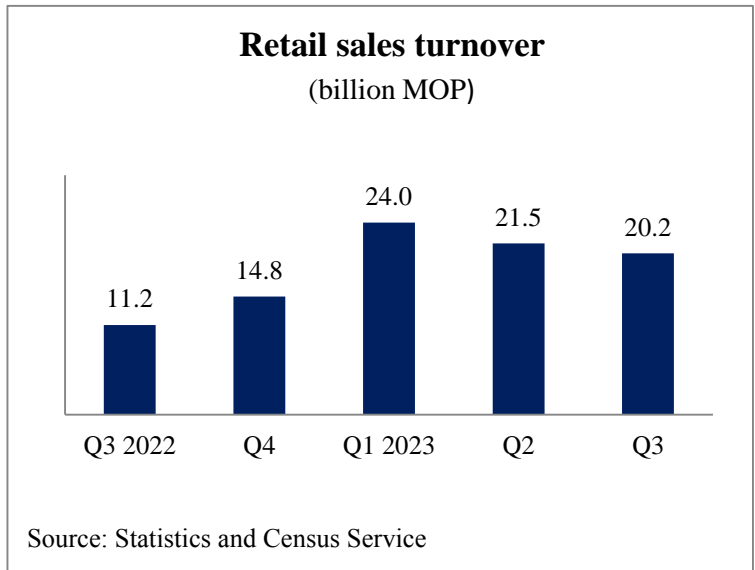


The gross revenue from games of fortune for the first three quarters of 2023 increased by 305.3% year-on-year to MOP129.0 billion.



Retailing

Retail sales in the first three quarters of 2023 saw a substantial increase of 53.1% to reach MOP65.7 billion, of which retail sales of Chinese food products surged by 346.6% to MOP1.3 billion, while retail sales of leather goods increased by 78.9% to MOP13.7 billion. However, telecommunications equipment decreased by 21.2% to MOP1.8 billion.



¹ Unless otherwise specified, the rates of change mentioned in this article refer to those from the first three quarters of 2022 to the first three quarters of 2023.

Data Source: Statistics and Census Service and Economic and Technological Development Bureau.