

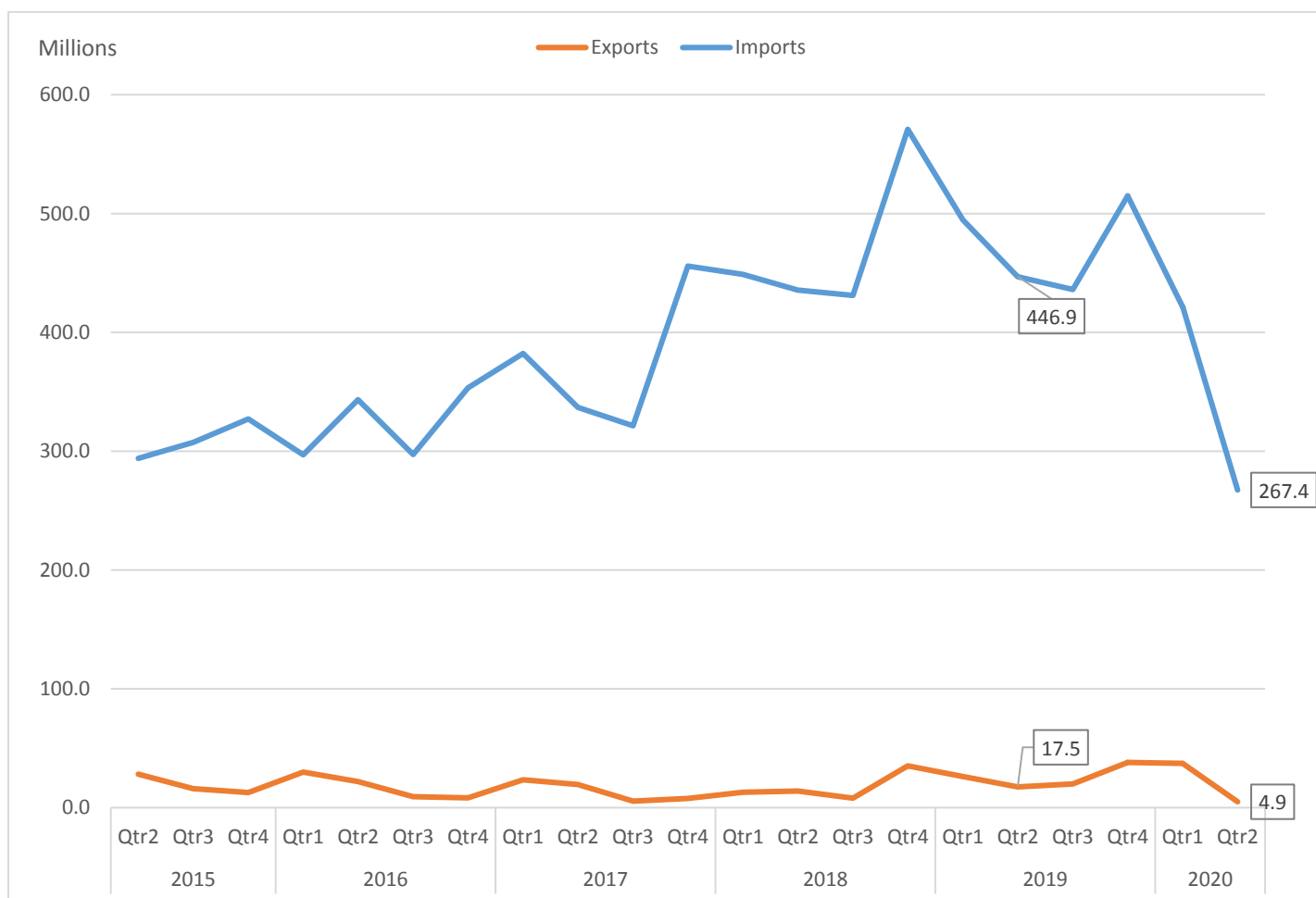
IMPORTS DOWN 40.2%, EXPORTS DOWN 71.8% IN THE SECOND QUARTER 2020

In the second quarter of 2020, Antigua and Barbuda total imports were valued at EC\$ 267.4 million, a decrease of 40.2% when compared to EC\$ 446.9 million for the same period in 2019. This is the lowest level of imports recorded over the six year period followed by EC\$ 294.0 million recorded in the second quarter of 2015.

Total exports decreased by 71.8% to EC\$ 4.9 million during the period April to June 2020 when compared to EC\$ 17.5 million for the same period in 2019 (See Figure 1).

The decline in imports was mainly due to decrease in imports from the United States of America (USA), Antigua and Barbuda main trading partner. Imports excluding some petroleum products¹ from the USA were valued at EC\$ 100.5 million for the current review period a decrease of 43.2% from EC\$ 176.9 million compared to the same period in 2019.

Figure 1: Quarterly gross imports and gross exports (EC\$ millions): Apr 2015 to June 2020



Source: Statistics Division, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Governance

¹ Imports disaggregated by country do not include some petroleum products (gasoline, diesel, kerosene and other fuels)

IMPORTS

Imports of goods were significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic as the country implemented measures to mitigate the spread of the virus. On March 29, there was a national lockdown with border closings and the closure of non-essential businesses during the month of April. There was a relaxation of some of the measures in May, but some ports remained closed and commercial passenger air travel did not resume until June 2020. During the quarter, the port of entry remained open to import cargo and the work of the Customs authorities continued following safety protocols. Given the circumstances, economic activity decreased during the period which is reflected in the large decrease in trade. The commodity groups which contributed the most to the decrease were *Minerals fuels, lubricants and related materials*, *Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material*, *Machinery and transport equipment* and *Miscellaneous manufactured articles*.

Minerals fuels, lubricants and related materials

In the second quarter of 2020, *Minerals fuels, lubricants and related materials* had the largest decrease of EC\$ 38.4 million or 52.4% less than the EC\$ 73.3 million in 2019. Imports of petroleum products and related materials such as fuel oil, jet fuel, lubricating oil and liquid propane gas fell significantly as reduced air travel, closure of businesses and COVID-19 restrictions reduced the demand for energy products.

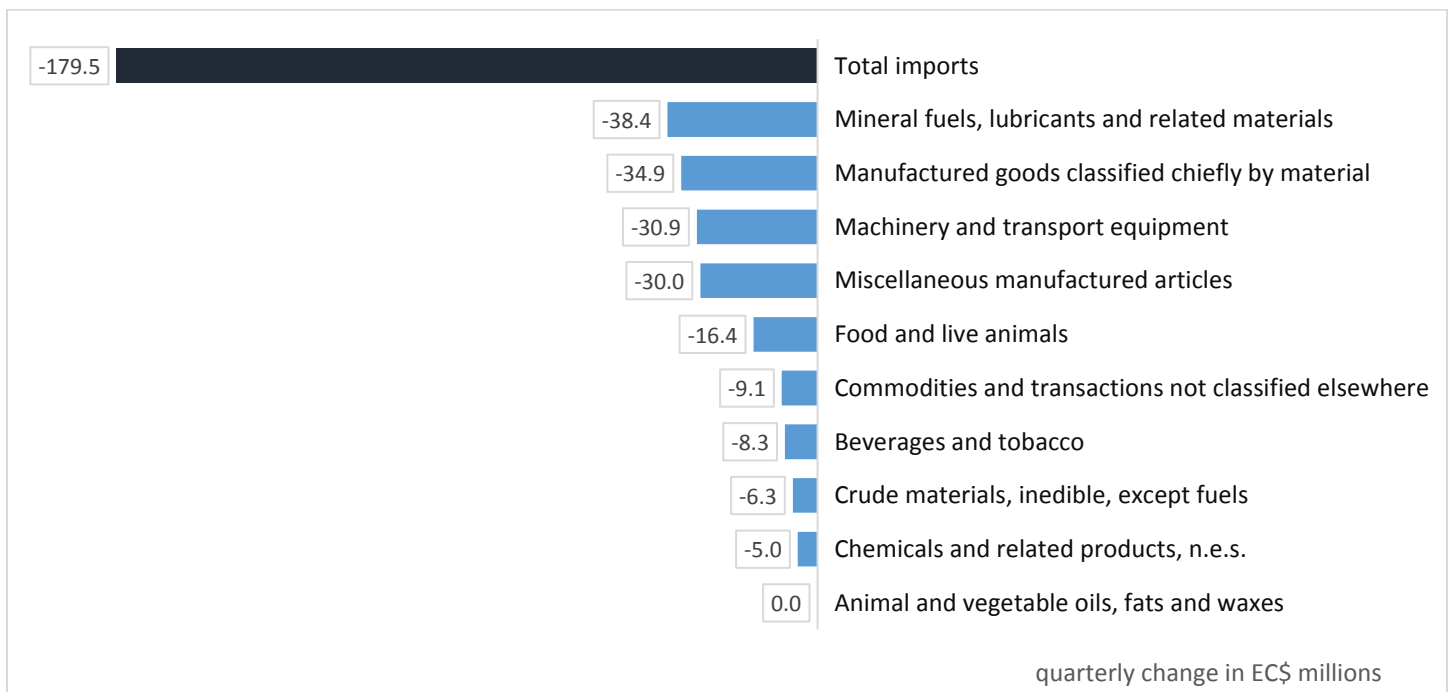
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material

Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material decreased 47.2% or EC\$ 34.9 million less than the value of EC\$ 73.9 million for the same period in 2019. The decrease in imports of other articles of iron or steel, other articles of cement and building cement are the main products which caused the decline.

Machinery and transport equipment

Imports of *Machinery and transport equipment* declined EC\$ 30.9 million or 31.6% in the second quarter of 2020. This was primarily due to the decreased importation of cars and other vehicles and vehicle parts (-EC\$ 15.9 million).

Figure 2: Contribution to the quarterly change in imports, by SITC, Apr to June 2020



Source: Statistics Division, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Governance

Imports for the period declined among all commodity groups, ranging from -1.4% for *Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes* to -96.3% for *Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere*. Four of the ten commodity groups showed a decline of over fifty percent. The groups were *Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere*, *Miscellaneous manufactured articles*, *Crude materials, inedible except fuels* and *Minerals fuels, lubricants and related materials*.

Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere

Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere recorded the largest percentage decrease for the second quarter of 2020 of 96.3% or EC\$ 0.3 million less than the value for 2019 of EC\$ 9.5 million. The significant decrease was due to no spending in the sub-category non- monetary gold which had the highest value for the corresponding period in 2019.

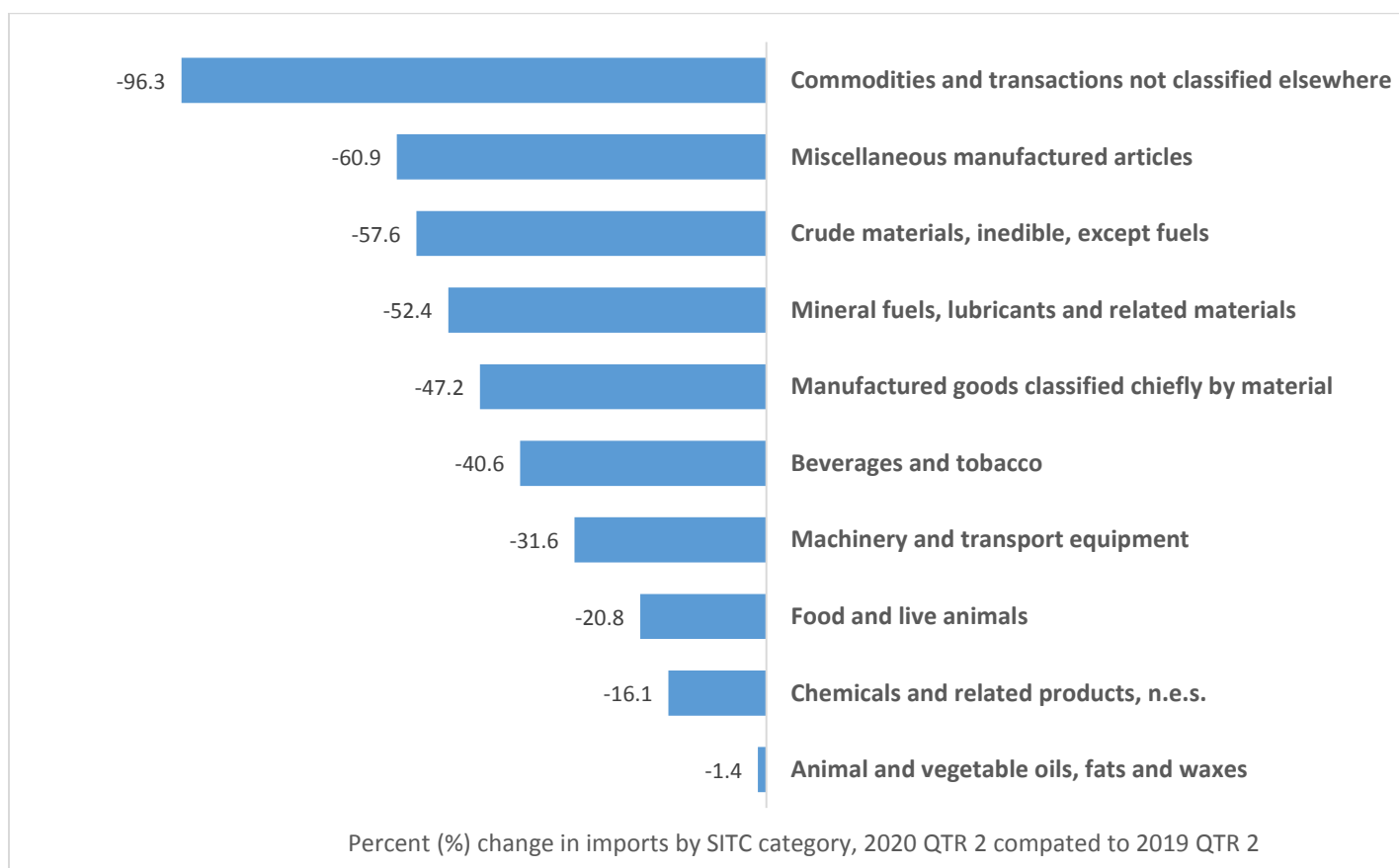
Miscellaneous manufactured articles

Miscellaneous manufactured articles declined by 60.9% from EC\$ 49.3 million in the second quarter of 2019 to EC\$ 19.3 million for the same period in 2020. This was due primarily to less imports of other articles of plastics, other wooden furniture, electric lamps and textile materials.

Crude materials, inedible except fuels

Crude materials, inedible except fuels declined by 57.6% to EC\$ 6.3 million for the second quarter of 2020. Coniferous wood, live plants, vegetable seeds are few of the products primarily responsible for the decrease.

Figure 3: Percent change in imports, by SITC, Apr to June 2020 compared to Apr to June 2019

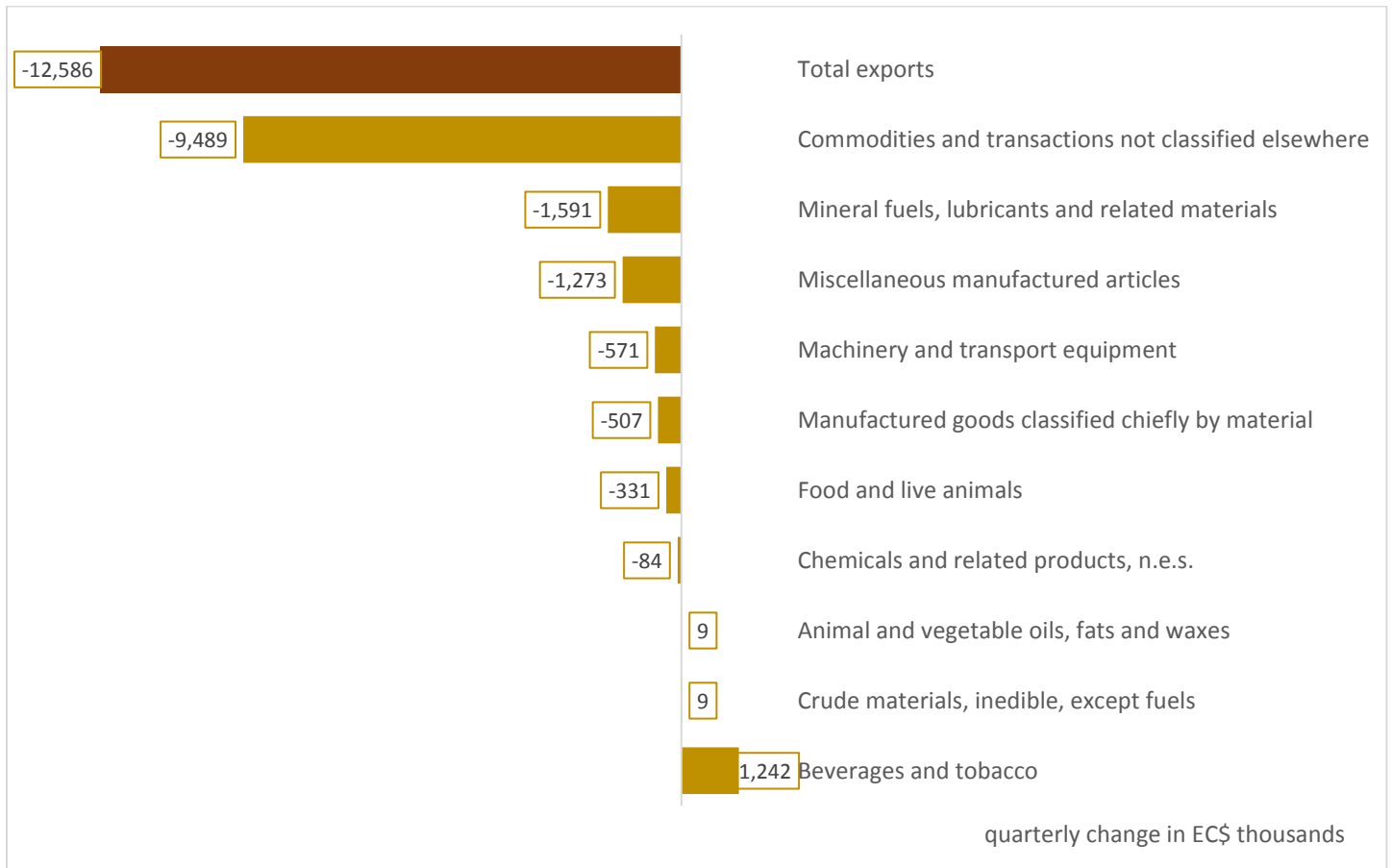


Source: Statistics Division, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Governance

EXPORTS

Total exports fell 71.8% or EC\$ 4.9 million in the second quarter of 2020 compared to same period in 2019. The main contributing factor was the decrease of EC\$ 9.5 million in Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere. There were no exports recorded in the commodity group during the period compared to EC\$ 9.5 million in the second quarter of 2019 and EC\$ 16.8 million in the first quarter of 2020.

Figure 4: Contribution to the quarterly change in exports, by SITC, Apr to June 2020

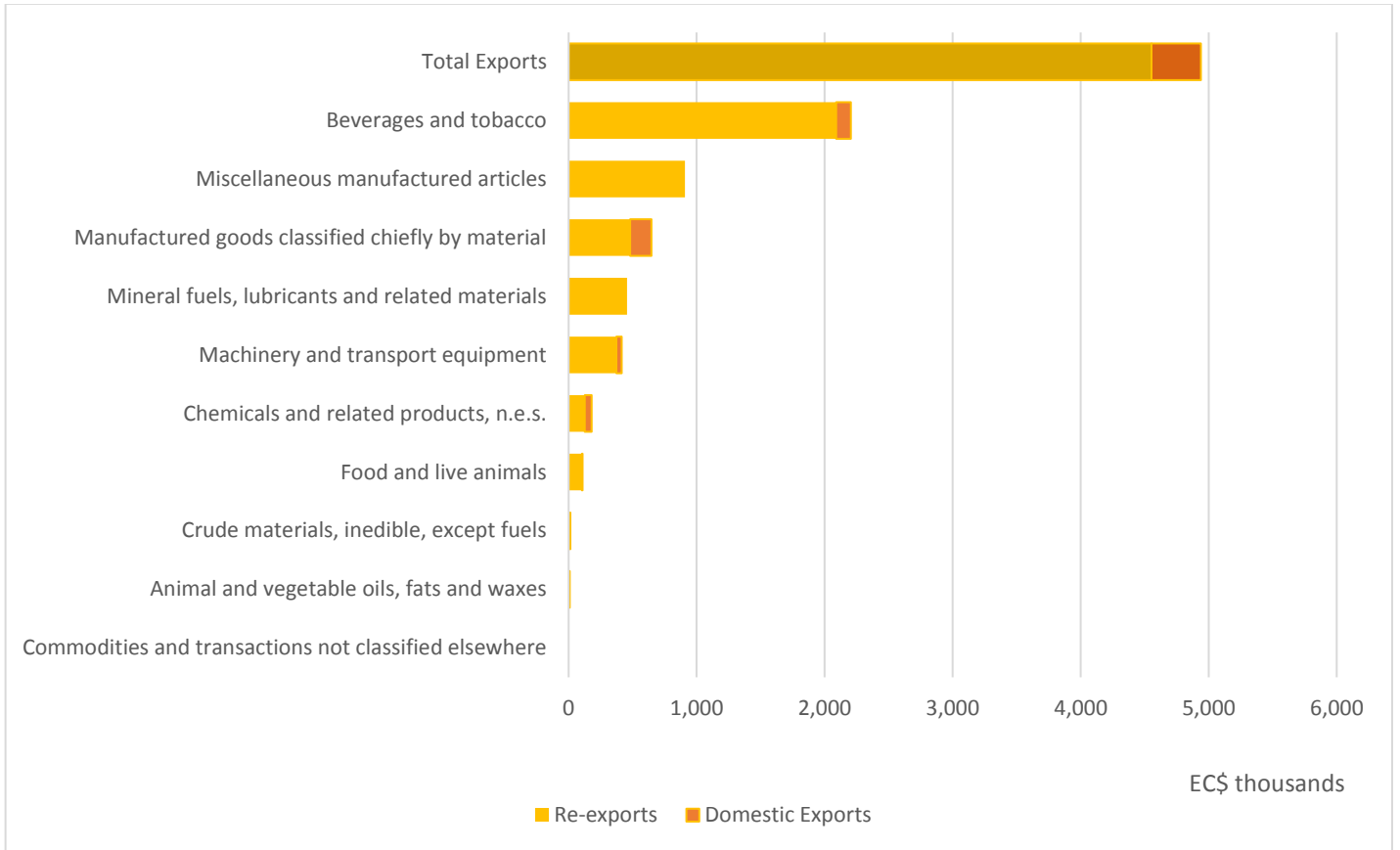


Source: Statistics Division, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Governance

Domestic exports were valued at EC\$ 0.4 million in the second quarter of 2020, a decrease of 59.4% when compared to EC\$ 0.9 million in 2019. Re-exports were valued at EC\$ 4.6 million a decrease of 72.5% less than the value for 2019 of EC\$ 16.6 million.

The decrease in value of domestic exports was primarily due to no exports of seafood and less exports of rum and other spirits and galvanize.

Figure 5: Total exports by type of export by SITC, Apr to June 2020

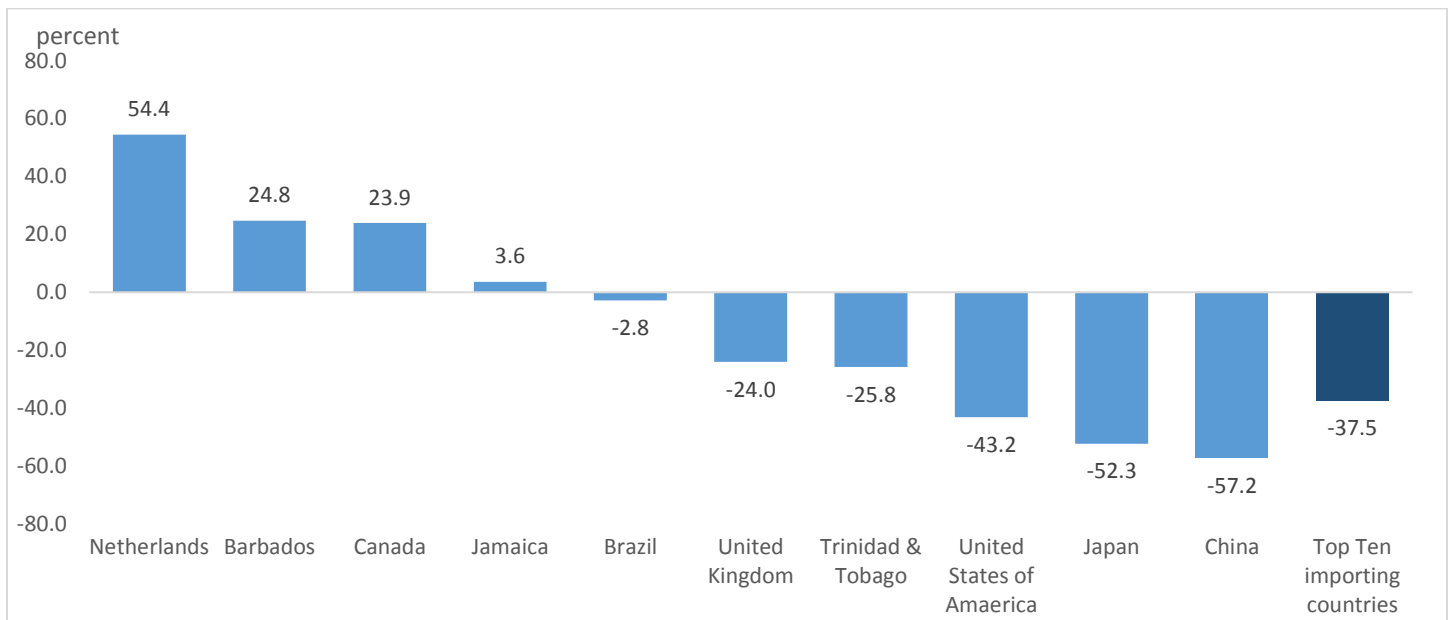


Source: Statistics Division, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Governance

IMPORTS BY COUNTRY

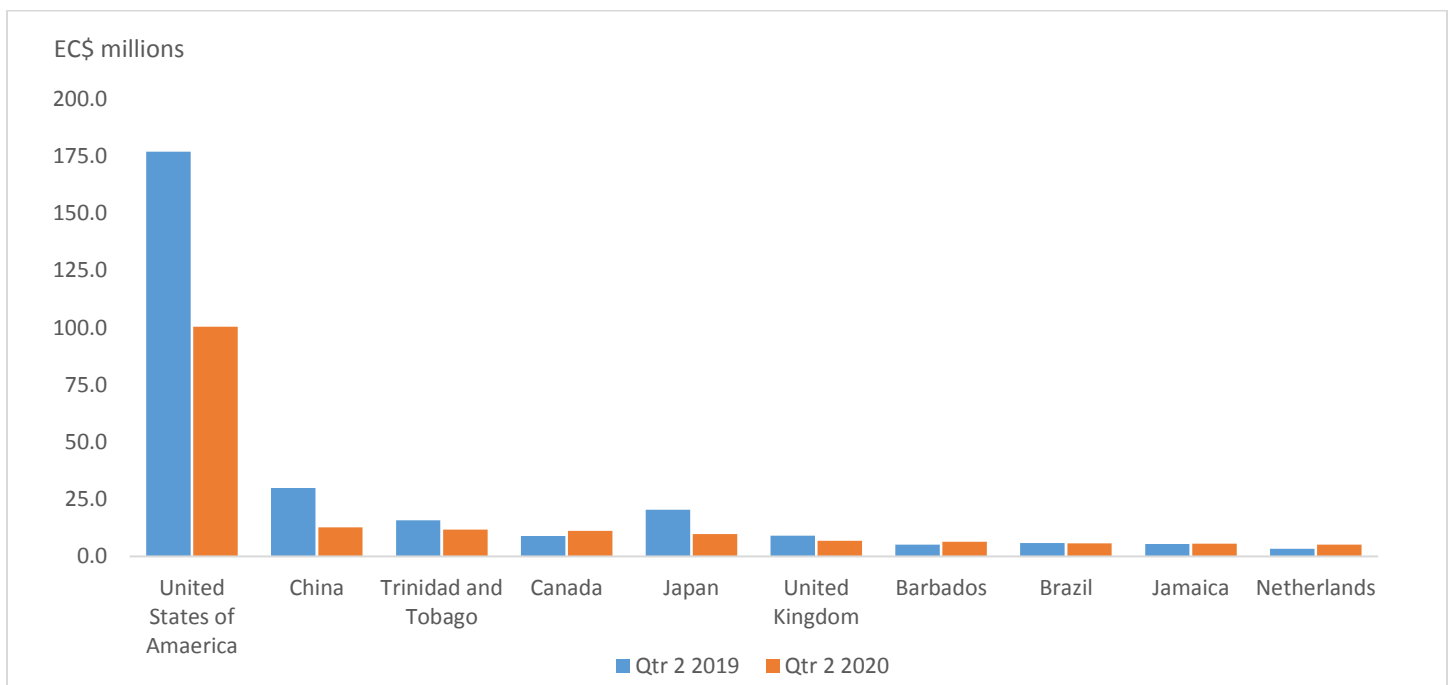
Imports from Antigua and Barbuda top ten trading partner countries for the second quarter of 2020 declined by 37.5% with China, Japan and the United States of America showing the largest percentage decrease. The fall in imports was because of less imports of items such as other articles of iron or steel, vehicles, chicken and other food preparation. However, there was an overall increase of imports from Netherlands (+54.4%), Barbados (+24.8%) and Canada (+23.9%).

Figure 6: Quarterly change in imports from top ten importing countries, Apr to June 2020 (percent)



Source: Statistics Division, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Governance

Figure 7: Imports from top ten countries, Apr to June 2019 and 2020



Source: Statistics Division, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Governance

TRADE WITH CARICOM MEMBER STATES

Imports

Imports from CARICOM countries during the second quarter of 2020 were valued at EC\$ 34.4 million, a decrease of 7.8% when compared to EC\$ 37.3 million for the same period in 2019. Imports of items such as beer, sodas, bananas, unsweetened biscuits and paints declined. However, there were higher purchases of flour, processed cheese, margarine and natural sands.

Imports from Antigua and Barbuda main trading partner in CARICOM, Trinidad and Tobago decreased 25.8% with imports valued at EC\$ 11.8 million when compared to EC\$ 15.9 million in 2019. The decrease was due to less spending on sodas, biscuits, fruit and vegetable drink and beer.

Table 1: Imports from CARICOM countries, Apr to June 2019 and 2019

Imports	QTR 2	QTR 2	QTR 2 2019
	2019	2020 ^P	to QTR 2 2020
	EC\$ 000		% change
Total Imports	37,332	34,407	-7.8
Trinidad and Tobago	15,858	11,768	-25.8
Barbados	5,136	6,408	24.8
Jamaica	5,426	5,619	3.6
VC ¹	2,699	2,961	9.7
Guyana	2,369	2,386	0.7
Dominica	844	1,471	74.4
Saint Lucia	1,695	1,190	-29.8
Montserrat	993	1,150	15.7
Grenada	1,354	764	-43.6
Suriname	318	334	5.2
Rest of CARICOM	640	357	-44.1

^P Provisional

¹ St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Source: Statistics Division, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Governance

Exports

In the second quarter of 2020, total exports to CARICOM member states were valued at EC\$ 1.6 million a decrease of 48.1% when compared to EC\$ 3.1 million for the same period in 2019.

Domestic exports were valued at EC\$ 0.2 million, a decrease of 22.0% when compared to EC\$ 0.3 million for 2019. The decrease of exports of galvanize, rum and other spirits were the main reason for the decline of Antigua and Barbuda primary exports.

Re-exports were valued at EC\$ 1.4 million, a decrease of 51.1% with the comparable period for 2019 of EC\$ 2.8 million.

Table 2: Exports to CARICOM countries, Apr to June 2019 and 2020

Exports	QTR 2	QTR 2	QTR 2 2019
	2019	2020 ^P	to QTR 2 2020
	EC\$ 000		% change
Total Exports	3,078	1,597	-48.1
Saint Lucia	790	839	6.2
St. Kitts and Nevis	608	227	-62.7
Montserrat	243	153	-36.9
VC ¹	384	146	-62.0
Grenada	0	77	≠
Barbados	91	45	-50.6
Dominica	471	41	-91.3
Guyana	0	35	≠
Bahamas	0	31	≠
Jamaica	0	2	≠
Rest of CARICOM	491	0	-100.0

^P Provisional

≠ Division by zero

¹ St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Source: Statistics Division, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Governance

TRADE WITH OECS MEMBER STATES

Imports

Total imports from OECS member countries were valued at EC\$ 7.7 million, a decrease of 5.7% when compared to EC\$ 8.2 million in 2019. This was due to less spending on flour, prepared complete poultry feed from Grenada, aerated beverages and beer from St Lucia and St Kitts and Nevis.

Interestingly, during the period imports increased from Dominica (+74.4%) Montserrat (+15.7%) and St. Vincent and the Grenadines (+9.7%).

Table 3: Imports from OECS countries, Apr to June 2019 and 2020

Imports	QTR 2	QTR 2	QTR 2 2019
	2019	2020 ^P	to QTR 2 2020
	EC\$ 000		% change
Total Imports	8,165	7,702	-5.7
VC ¹	2,699	2,961	9.7
Dominica	844	1,471	74.4
St. Lucia	1,695	1,190	-29.8
Montserrat	993	1,150	15.7
Grenada	1,354	764	-43.6
St. Kitts and Nevis	568	166	-70.7
Anguilla	12	0	-100.0

^P Provisional

¹ St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Source: Statistics Division, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Governance

Exports

Total exports were valued at EC\$ 1.5 million, a decrease of 39.0% when compared to EC\$ 2.5 million in 2019. There were decreases of exports to all countries in the region except Anguilla (+190.7%) and St. Lucia (+6.2%)

Domestic exports decreased by 15.5% in the second quarter of 2020 a difference of EC\$ 0.1 million when compared to EC\$ 0.3 million in 2019.

Re-exports were valued at EC\$ 1.3 million, a decrease of 42.5% when compared to EC\$ 2.2 million in 2019.

Table 4: Exports to OECS countries, Apr to June 2019 and 2020

Exports	QTR 2	QTR 2	QTR 2 2019
	2019	2020 ^P	to QTR 2 2020
	EC\$ 000		% change
Total Exports	2,513	1,534	-39.0
St. Lucia	790	839	6.2
St. Kitts and Nevis	608	227	-62.7
Montserrat	243	153	-36.9
VC ¹	384	146	-62.0
Grenada	0	77	≠
Anguilla	17	50	190.7
Dominica	471	41	-91.3

^P Provisional

≠ Division by zero

¹ St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Source: Statistics Division, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Governance

SUPPLEMENTARY TABLES

Table 5: Merchandise trade: Standard International Trade Classifications (SITC), Apr to June 2019 and 2020

SITC Sections	QTR 2	QTR 1	QTR 2	QTR 1	QTR 2
	2019	2020 ^P	2020 ^P	2020 to QTR 2 2020	2019 to QTR 2 2020
	EC\$ millions			% Change	
Total imports	446.9	421.5	267.4	-36.6	-40.2
Food and live animals	78.9	83.8	62.5	-25.4	-20.8
Beverages and tobacco	20.6	19.7	12.2	-38.1	-40.6
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	11.0	8.5	4.7	-45.4	-57.6
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	73.3	79.3	34.9	-56.0	-52.4
Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	1.3	1.3	1.3	-1.5	-1.4
Chemicals and related products, n.e.s.	31.3	30.4	26.3	-13.7	-16.1
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	73.9	52.4	39.1	-25.4	-47.2
Machinery and transport equipment	97.8	93.2	66.9	-28.3	-31.6
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	49.3	48.7	19.3	-60.4	-60.9
Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	9.5	4.1	0.3	-91.5	-96.3
Total exports	17.5	37.2	4.9	-86.7	-71.8
Food and live animals	0.4	3.2	0.1	-96.6	-75.2
Beverages and tobacco	1.0	3.1	2.2	-28.6	128.9
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	0.0	0.0	0.0	1129.9	273.3
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	2.0	6.9	0.5	-93.4	-77.7
Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chemicals and related products, n.e.s.	0.3	0.1	0.2	25.5	-31.8
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	1.2	1.3	0.6	-50.6	-44.0
Machinery and transport equipment	1.0	2.9	0.4	-85.6	-58.0
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	2.2	3.0	0.9	-69.3	-58.4
Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	9.5	16.8	0.0	-100.0	-100.0
Trade Balance	-429.3	-384.2	-262.4	-31.7	-38.9
Food and live animals	-78.5	-80.5	-62.4	-22.5	-20.5
Beverages and tobacco	-19.6	-16.6	-10.0	-39.8	-48.9
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	-11.0	-8.5	-4.6	-45.6	-57.7
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	-71.2	-72.5	-34.4	-52.5	-51.7
Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	-1.3	-1.3	-1.3	-2.2	-2.1
Chemicals and related products, n.e.s.	-31.0	-30.3	-26.1	-13.8	-16.0
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	-72.8	-51.0	-38.4	-24.8	-47.2
Machinery and transport equipment	-96.8	-90.4	-66.5	-26.4	-31.3
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	-47.2	-45.8	-18.4	-59.8	-61.0
Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	0.0	12.7	-0.3	-102.7	9,776.0

^P Provisional

Source: Statistics Division, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Governance

SUPPLEMENTARY TABLES

Table 6: Imports from top ten countries Apr to June 2019 and 2020

Imports ¹	QTR 2 2019	QTR 2 2020 ^P	QTR 2 2019 to QTR 2 2020
	EC\$ millions		% change
Total Imports	376.1	234.3	-37.7
United States of America	176.9	100.5	-43.2
China	29.9	12.8	-57.2
Trinidad and Tobago	15.9	11.8	-25.8
Canada	9.0	11.1	23.9
Japan	20.4	9.7	-52.3
United Kingdom	9.1	6.9	-24.0
Barbados	5.1	6.4	24.8
Brazil	5.9	5.7	-2.8
Jamaica	5.4	5.6	3.6
Netherlands	3.3	5.1	54.4
Rest of the World	95.2	58.7	-38.4

^P Provisional

¹ Imports do not include some petroleum products (gasoline, diesel, kerosene and other fuels)

Source: Statistics Division, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Governance

Table 7: Exports to top ten countries Apr to June 2019 and 2020

Exports	QTR 2 2019	QTR 2 2020 ^P	QTR 2 2019 to QTR 2 2020
	EC\$ millions		% change
Total Exports	24.2	4.9	-79.6
Netherlands	0.1	1.4	1,724.3
United States of America	3.1	1.0	-66.9
St. Lucia	0.8	0.8	6.2
Sint Maarten	1.3	0.3	-77.7
St. Kitts and Nevis	0.6	0.2	-62.7
Montserrat	0.2	0.2	-36.9
VC ¹	0.4	0.1	-62.0
Grenada	0.0	0.1	≠
Portugal	0.2	0.1	-60.6
Saint Martin	0.1	0.1	-30.4
Rest of the World	17.4	0.6	-96.4

^P Provisional

≠ Division by zero

¹ St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Source: Statistics Division, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Governance

Methodology and Explanation

International Merchandise Trade Statistics is compiled by the Economic and Business Section within the Statistics Division, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Governance.

Trade System

The General Trade System is used to compile this bulletin. Under this system all goods are recorded as imports when they enter Antigua and Barbuda while all goods leaving the country are recorded as exports.

Coverage

This bulletin does not include Trade in Services.

Included in this report are goods acquired by all categories of travelers, non-monetary gold and goods dispatched or received through postal or courier services.

Goods excluded are goods in transit or transshipment, goods temporarily admitted or dispatched and monetary gold.

Note

Tables showing imports disaggregated by country do not include some petroleum products such as gasoline, diesel, jet fuel and fuel oil.

Data Source

Customs records are the main data source. These records are based on documents for the importation and exportation of goods which are recorded by importers or brokers into the computerized system using the appropriate tariff codes.

Classification

The tariff codes are based on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (HS) 2007. The harmonized system is used to collect, compile and disseminate merchandise trade statistics, which is converted into classification system to be used for analysis. The Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) Rev4 is one such classification is used to display the information in this bulletin.

Valuation

All values are in Eastern Caribbean dollars (EC\$). Imports are valued at cost, insurance and freight (c.i.f.) which is the value calculated after it is received at the port. It does not include duties or levies. The exports are valued free on board (FOB).

Definitions

Domestic exports: goods produced or manufactured in the domestic market.

Re-exports: export of foreign goods that were previously recorded as imports.

Acronyms and Abbreviations

CARICOM: Caribbean Community

OECS: Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States

SITC: Standard International Trade Classification

n.e.s.: not elsewhere specified

Data Revision

The data compiled in the bulletin is preliminary data subject to revision based upon updated data that is provided by the Custom and Excise Division. The Division finalizes the figures when compiling the annual international merchandise trade statistics.

Further Information:

Additional information on International Merchandise Trade Statistics are available at the Statistics Division website at www.statistics.gov.ag

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