INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE: OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2021
QUARTERLY STATISTICS BULLETIN

RELEASED 6 SEPTEMBER 2022

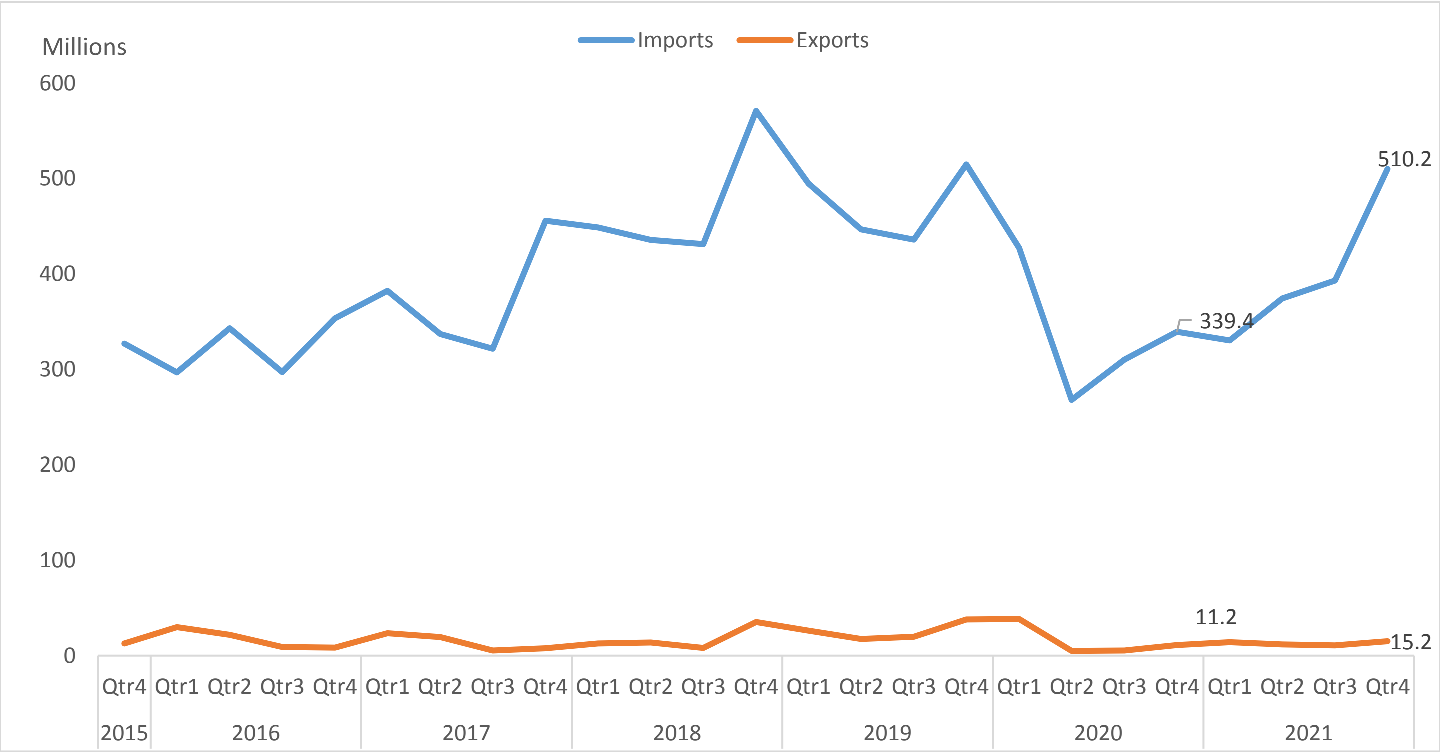
IMPORTS UP 50.3%, EXPORTS UP 35.9% IN THE FOURTH QUARTER 2021

Imports continued the upward trend with the third consecutive quarter of increased imports compared to the previous quarter. Quarter 4 (October to December) 2021 imports were valued at EC$ 510.2 million almost the same as the pre-pandemic levels of Quarter 4 2019 with EC$ 514.9 million and 50.3% increase compared to Quarter 4 2020 with EC$ 339.4 million.

Imports excluding petroleum products[1] from United States, Antigua and Barbuda's main trading partner were valued at EC$ 203.0 million, an increase of 40.8% when compared to EC$ 144.2 million in 2020. This continued the quarterly increase of imports from the United States observed in 2021 with EC$ 145.3 million in Quarter 1 (January to March) 2021 to EC$ 203.0 million in Quarter 4 2021.

Total exports were valued at EC$ 15.2 million in Quarter 4 2021, an increase of 35.9% when compared to the same period in 2020 of EC$ 11.2 million. This was due to increased exports of *Mineral fuels, lubricants and related* materials (EC$ 4.9 million) *and Food and live animals* (EC$ 1.6 million).

Figure 1: Quarterly gross imports and gross exports (EC$ millions): Oct 2015 to Dec 2021



Source: Statistics Division, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Governance

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

IMPORTS

There were increases in nine of the ten commodity groups compared to Quarter 4 2020. These increases were driven by growth in *Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials* (+106.4%), *Machinery and transport equipment* (+40.3%), *Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material* (+59.4%), *Miscellaneous manufactured articles* (+59.2%) and *Food and live animals* (+28.1%).

There were also increases in *Chemicals and related products, n.e.s*. (+33.3 %), *Crude materials, inedible, except fuels* (+42.9%), *Beverages and tobacco* (+18.2%), *Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes* (+48.7 %).

Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials were valued at EC$ 110.5 million in Quarter 4 2021, an increase of 106.4% when compared to EC$ 53.5 million for the same period in 2020. This was driven by increased imports of gasoline, diesel, jet fuel and fuel oil.

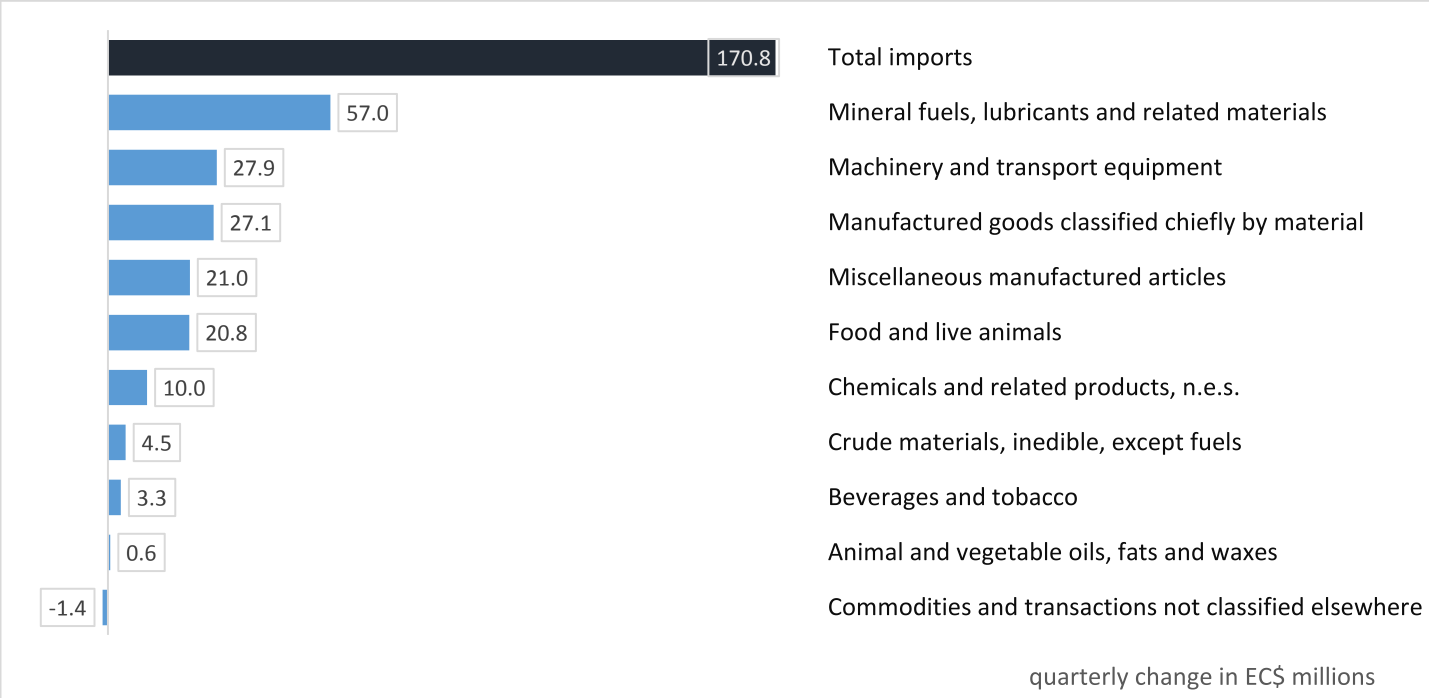
Machinery and transport equipment were valued at EC$ 97.1 million a 40.3% increase with the comparable period in 2020 of EC$ 69.2 million. Increased spending on turbo propellers and road vehicles was responsible for the surge. Road vehicles increased 110.3% from EC$ 9.5 million in Quarter 4 2020 to EC$ 19.9 million in Quarter 4 2021.

Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material grew by 59.4% to $72.6 million in Quarter 4 2021 compared to EC$ 45.6 million for the same period in 2020. Increased imports in categories such as Textile yarn, fabrics and related products (+199.0%), Cork and wood manufactures (excluding furniture) (+66.1%), Non-metallic mineral manufactures, n.e.s. (+43.7%) and Iron and steel (+79.8%).

Miscellaneous manufactured articles rose 59.2% to EC$ 56.4 million in Quarter 4 2021 when compared EC$ 35.4 million in 2020. Miscellaneous manufactured articles, n.e.s., Furniture and parts thereof and prefabricated buildings are the main categories responsible for the increase.

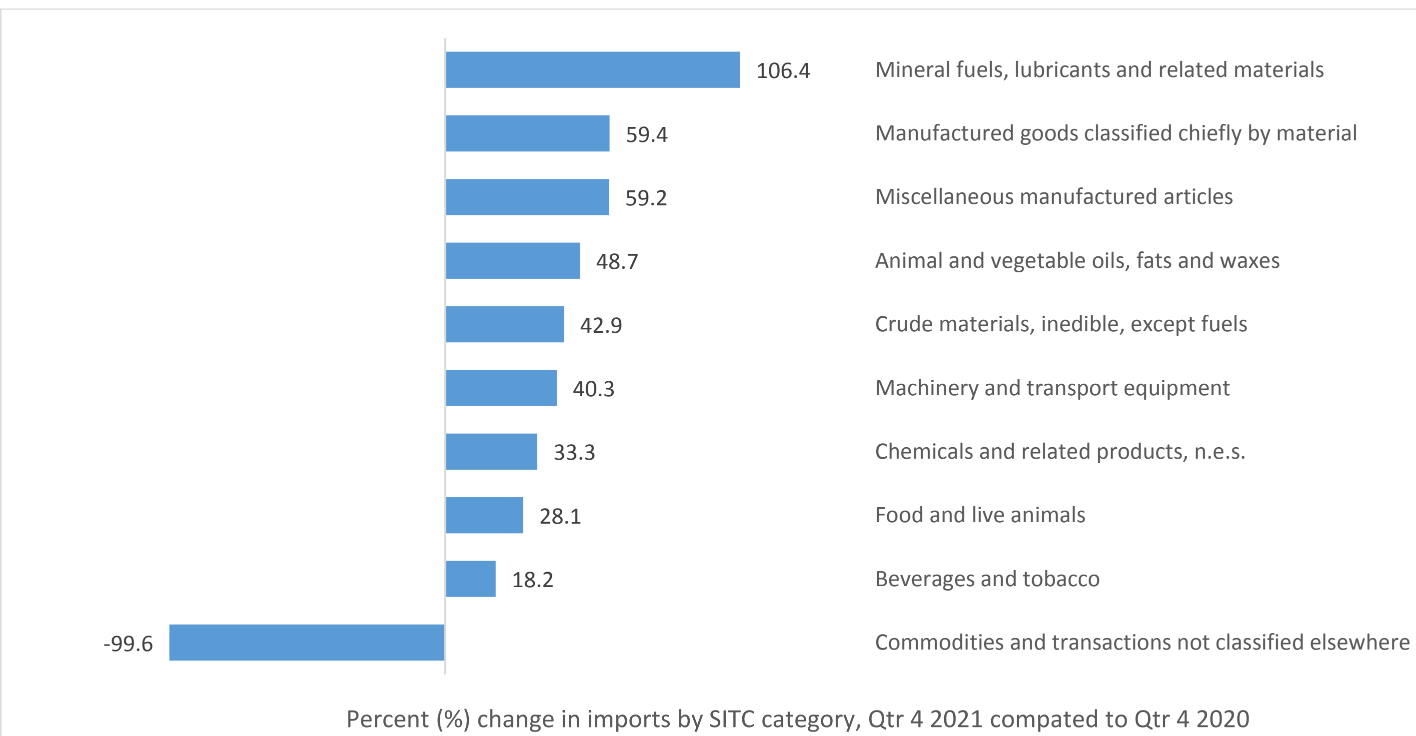
Food and live animals were valued at EC$ 94.9 million in Quarter 4 202, a 28.1% increase when compared to EC$ 74.1 million for the same period in 2020. There were increases in all the food subcategories including Meat and meat preparations (+50.0%), Miscellaneous edible products and preparations (+28.9%), Vegetables and fruit (+15.3%), Fish and fish products, crustaceans, mollusks (+41.2%) and Dairy products and birds' eggs (+22.0%).

Figure 2: Contribution to the quarterly change in imports, by SITC, Oct to Dec 2021



Source: Statistics Division, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Governance

Figure 3: Percent change in imports, by SITC, Oct to Dec 2021 compared to Oct to Dec 2020

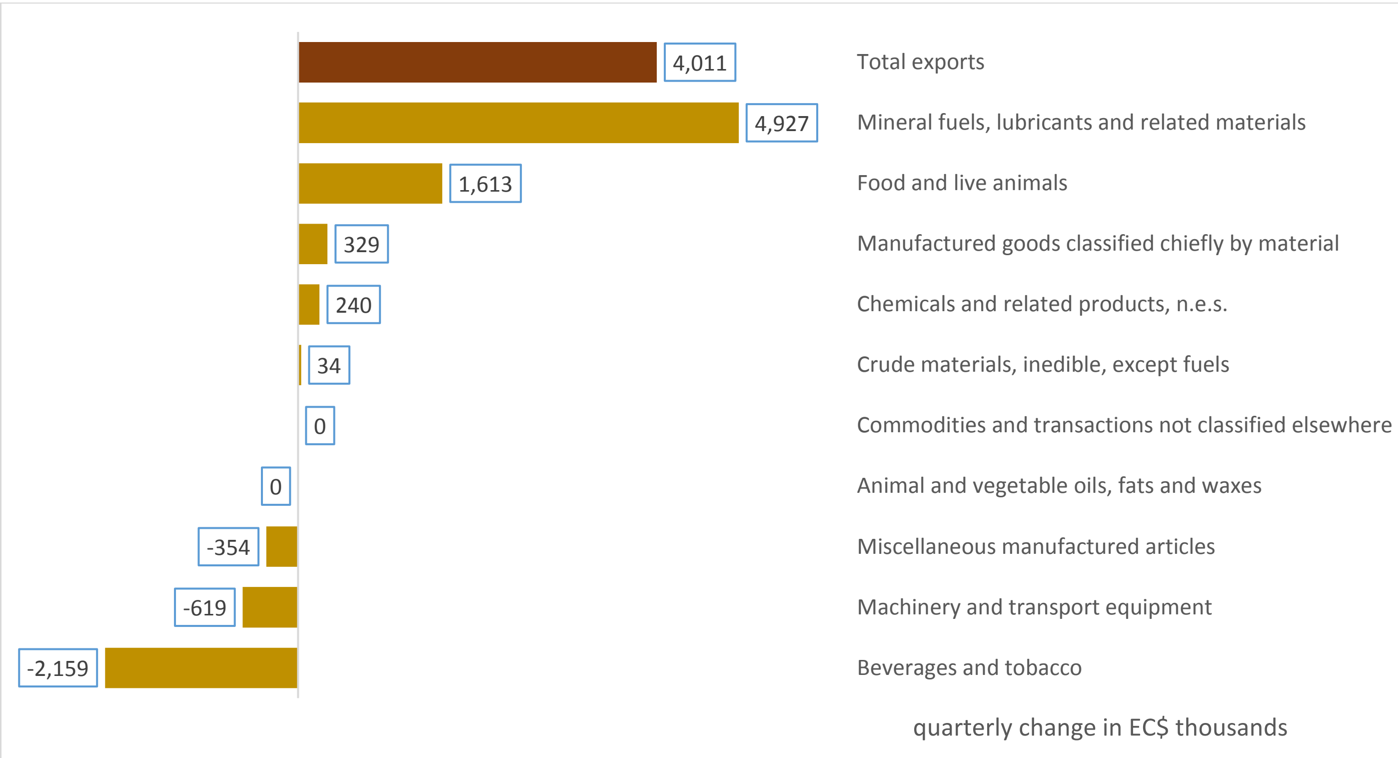


Source: Statistics Division, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Governance

EXPORTS

Total exports rose by EC$ 4.0 million in Quarter 4 2021 driven by a EC$ 4.9 million (207.9%) increase in exports of *Minerals fuels, lubricants and related materials* and EC$ 1.6 million (173.2%) increase of *Food and live animals*. Alternatively, exports of *Beverages and tobacco* fell EC$ 2.2 million (48.6%) and *Machinery and transport equipment* decreased EC$ 0.6 million (48.3%). Compared to Quarter 3 2021, total exports rose EC$ 4.4 million (41.0%), the first time for the year that exports rose compared to the previous quarter in 2021.

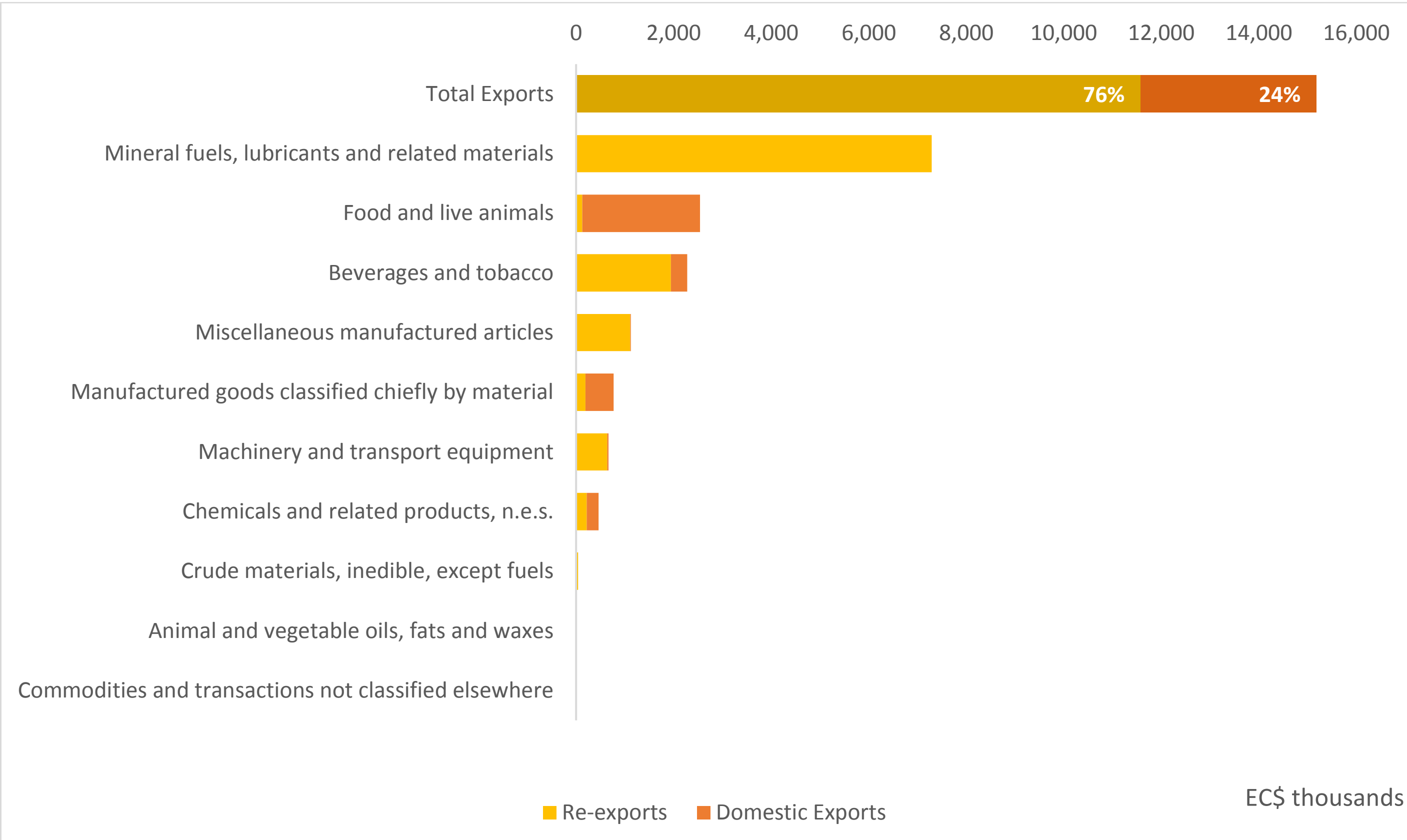
Figure 4: Contribution to the quarterly change in exports, by SITC, Oct to Dec 2021



Source: Statistics Division, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Governance

Total exports continued to be dominated by re-exports accounting for 76% of all exports, while domestic exports accounted for 24%. Domestic exports were valued at EC$ 3.6 million in Quarter 4 2021, an increase of 194.3% when compared to EC$ 1.2 million for the same period in 2020. Re-exports were valued at EC$ 11.6 million, an increase of 16.4% compared to EC$ 9.9 million in 2020. The increase in domestic exports was mainly due to increased exportation of lobster and decaffeinated roasted coffee.

Figure 5: Total exports by type of export by SITC, Oct to Dec 2021

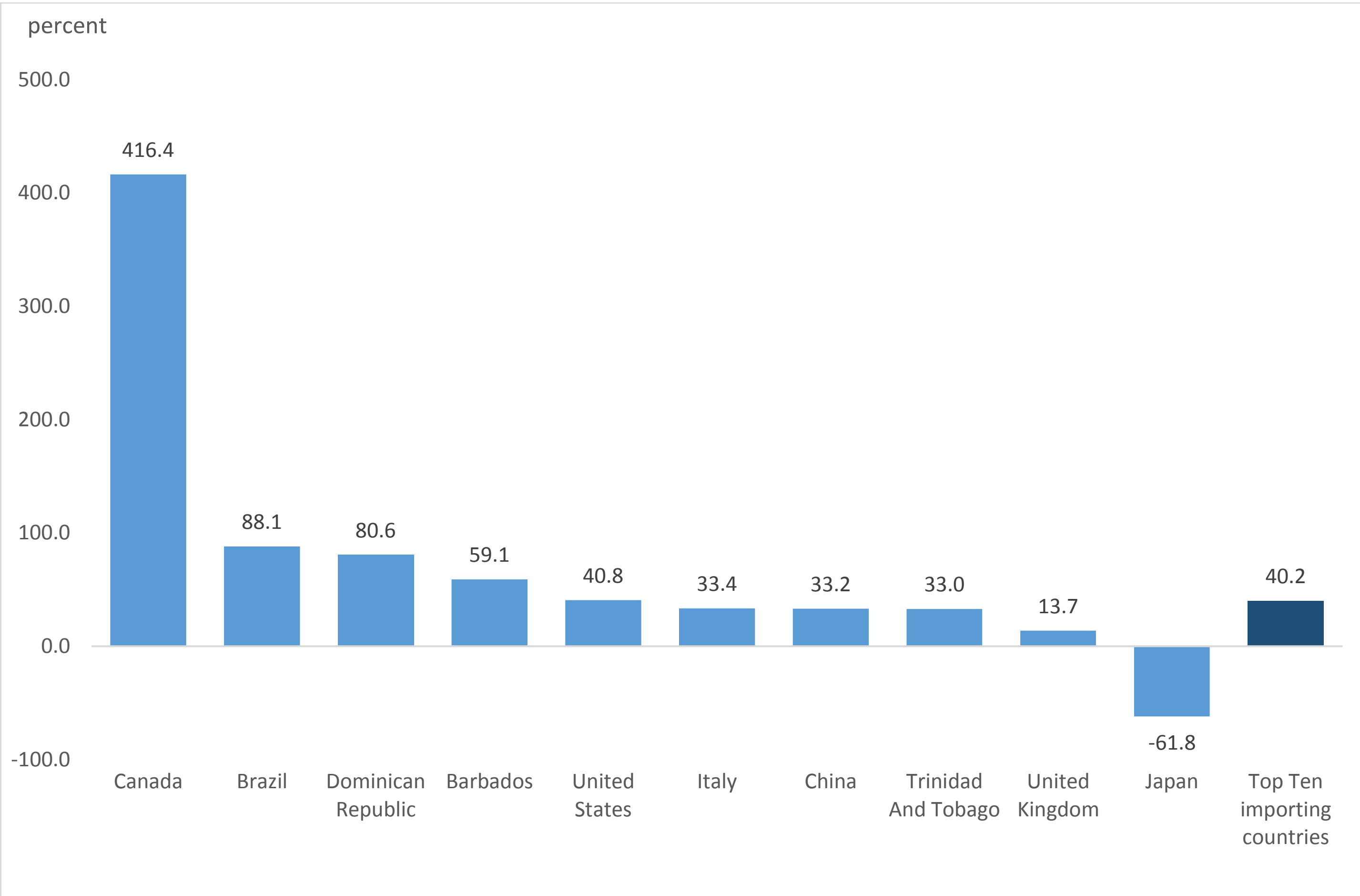


Source: Statistics Division, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Governance

IMPORTS BY COUNTRY

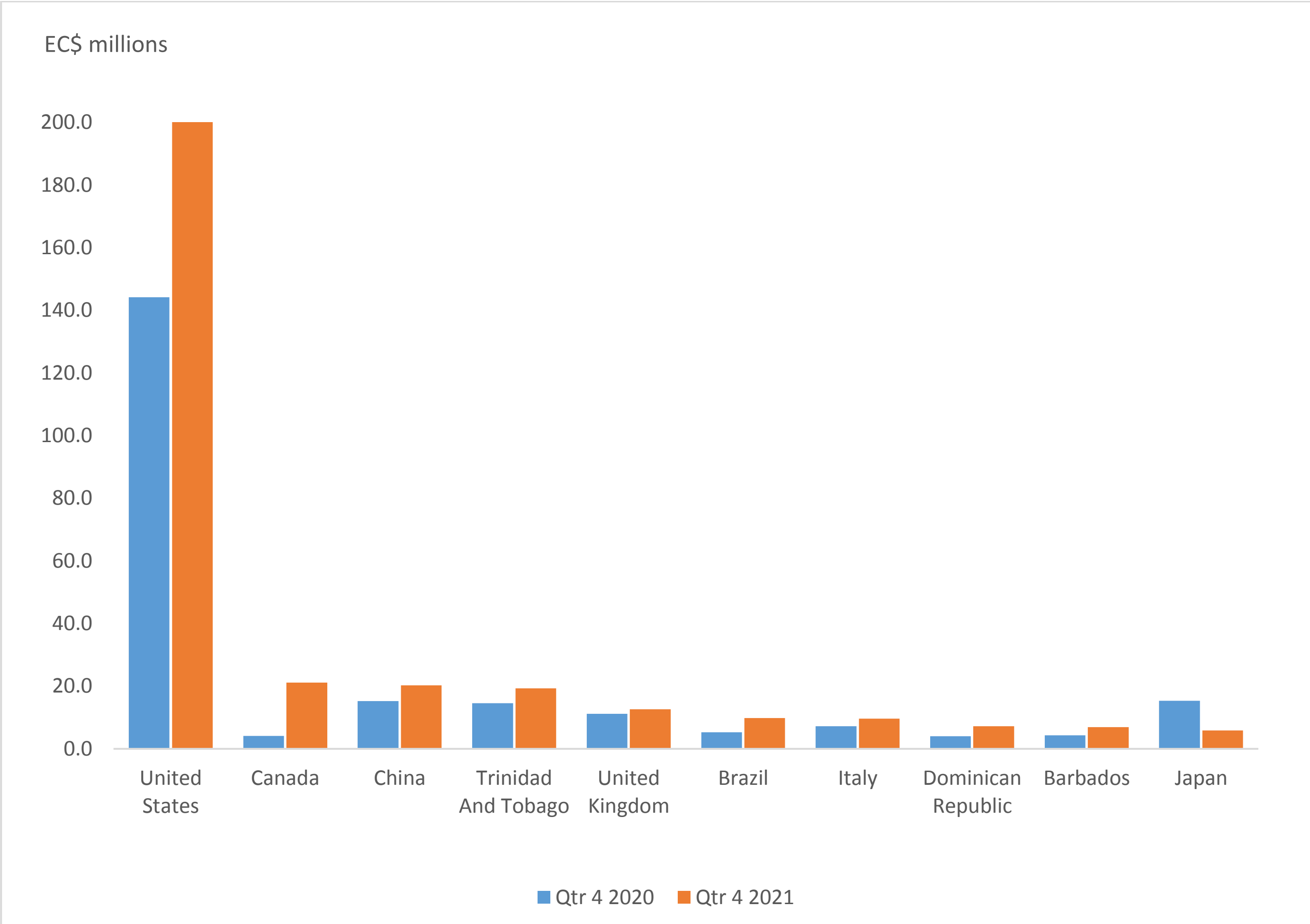
Imports from the top ten importing countries to Antigua and Barbuda were valued at EC$ 316.0 million, a 40.2% increase when compared to EC$ 225.4 million for 2020. The United States, Trinidad and Tobago, China and United Kingdom remain the top five importing countries for all quarters in 2020 and 2021. Imports from Canada had the largest percentage increase of 416.4% (EC$17.1 million) and was the second highest for Quarter 4 2021 after the United States. The United States remained Antigua and Barbuda largest trading partner with imports valued at EC$ 203.0 million.

Figure 6: Quarterly change in imports from top ten importing countries, Oct to Dec 2021 (percent)



Source: Statistics Division, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Governance

Figure 7: Imports from top ten countries, Oct to Dec 2020 and 2021



Source: Statistics Division, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Governance

TRADE WITH CARICOM MEMBER STATES

Imports

Total imports from CARICOM member countries in Quarter 4 2021 were valued at EC$ 46.3 million, an increase of 38.2% when compared to EC$ 33.5 million for the same period in 2020. Imports from Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados and St Lucia are the major contributor to the increase.

Imports from CARICOM countries rose, with increased spending on products such as beer, prepared complete poultry feed, flour and fruit and vegetable drink. Frequently imported products such as sodas, aerated beverages, and other medicaments declined.

Imports from our main trading partner in CARICOM, Trinidad and Tobago increased 33.0% valued at EC$ 19.3 million in Quarter 4 2021 when compared to EC$ 14.5 million in 2020. This increase was primarily due to increased imports of products such as electrical conduits, beer, toilet paper, cigarettes and unsweetened biscuits.

Table 1: Imports from CARICOM countries, Oct to Dec 2020 and 2021

Imports	QTR 4 2020[R]	QTR 4 2021[P]	QTR 4 2020 to QTR 4 2021
	EC$ 000		% change
Total Imports	33,494	46,288	**38.2**
Trinidad and Tobago	14,539	19,337	33.0
Barbados	4,326	6,884	59.1
Jamaica	4,942	5,830	18.0
Saint Lucia	1,324	2,443	84.5
Guyana	1,919	2,288	19.2
SVG[1]	1,732	2,217	28.0
Montserrat	1,272	1,994	56.7
Dominica	1,396	1,774	27.1
Grenada	1,255	1,613	28.5
Belize	150	1,062	609.1
Rest of CARICOM	639	847	32.5

[P] Provisional

[R] Revised

[1] St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Source: Statistics Division, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Governance

Exports

Total exports to CARICOM countries were valued at EC$ 1.8 million in Quarter 4 2021, a decrease of 36.5% when compared to EC$ 2.9 million for the same period in 2020. There were reduced exports to eight CARICOM countries with St Lucia (-81.1%), Jamaica (-99.5%) and St Vincent and the Grenadines (-84.6%) having the largest decreases. However, Barbados, Montserrat and Dominica imports increased of 161.2%, 39.4% and 18.6% respectively.

Domestic exports were valued at EC$ 0.4 million for the period October to December 2021, an increase of 222.0% when compared to EC$ 0.1 million for 2020. This increase was due to higher exports of regularly exported products such as galvanize, decaffeinated coffee and rum and other spirits. Re-exports were valued at EC$ 1.5 million, a decrease of 47.0% with the comparable period for 2020 of EC$ 2.8 million.

Table 2: Exports to CARICOM countries, Oct to Dec 2020 and 2021

Exports	QTR 4 2020[R]	QTR 4 2021[P]	QTR 4 2020 to QTR 4 2021
	EC$ 000		% change
Total Exports	2,863	1,818	-36.5
Barbados	304	794	161.2
Saint Lucia	1,245	236	-81.1
Montserrat	149	207	39.4
Dominica	174	206	18.6
Saint Kitts And Nevis	202	162	-19.8
Guyana	234	162	-30.6
SVG[1]	249	38	-84.6
Trinidad And Tobago	18	7	-60.4
Grenada	64	3	-94.5
Jamaica	225	1	-99.5
Rest of CARICOM	0	0	0.0

[P] Provisional

[R] Revised

[1] St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Source: Statistics Division, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Governance

TRADE WITH OECS MEMBER STATES

Imports

Imports to OECS countries in Quarter 4 2021 were valued at EC$ 10.5 million, an increase of 40.1% from EC$ 7.5 million in 2020. Imported products such as flour, pebbles, gravel, broken or crushed stone, other natural sands, fresh bananas and prepared complete poultry feed reflected the growth in imports.

Table 3: Imports from OECS countries, Oct to Dec 2020 and 2021

Imports	QTR 4 2020[R]	QTR 4 2021[P]	QTR 4 2020 to QTR 4 2021
	EC$ 000		% change
Total Imports	7,481	10,480	40.1
Saint Lucia	1,324	2,443	84.5
SVG[1]	1,732	2,217	28.0
Montserrat	1,272	1,994	56.7
Dominica	1,396	1,774	27.1
Grenada	1,255	1,613	28.5
Saint Kitts And Nevis	501	441	-12.0
Anguilla	1	0	-100.0

[P] Provisional

[R] Revised

[1] St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Source: Statistics Division, Ministry of Finance and Corporate Governance

Exports

Exports to OECS countries declined by 59.6% from EC$ 2.1 million in 2020 to EC$ 0.9 million in 2021 for Quarter 4 2021. Despite the overall decrease, domestic exports grew by 5.2% to EC$ 0.2 million in 2021 compared to EC$ 0.1 million in 2020. Re-exports declined 64.2% from EC$ 2.3 million in 2020 to EC$ 0.7 million in 2021.

Table 4: Exports to OECS countries, Oct to Dec 2020 and 2021

Exports	QTR 4 2020[R]	QTR 4 2021[P]	QTR 4 2020 to QTR 4 2021
	EC$ 000		% change
Total Exports	2,115	855	-59.6
Saint Lucia	1,245	236	-81.1
Montserrat	149	207	39.4
Dominica	174	206	18.6
Saint Kitts and Nevis	202	162	-19.8
SVG[1]	249	38	-84.6
Grenada	64	3	-94.5
Anguilla	34	2	-93.7

[P] Provisional

[R] Revised

[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)

SITC Sections	QTR 4 2020[R]	QTR 3 2021[P]	QTR 4 2021[P]	QTR 3 2021 to QTR 4 2021	QTR 4 2020 to QTR 4 2021
	EC$ millions			% Change	
Total imports	**339.4**	**393.1**	**510.2**	**29.8**	**50.3**
Food and live animals	74.1	81.4	94.9	16.5	28.1
Beverages and tobacco	18.2	18.8	21.6	14.8	18.2
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	10.6	12.3	15.1	23.2	42.9
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	53.5	82.9	110.5	33.3	106.4
Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	1.3	1.3	1.9	44.0	48.7
Chemicals and related products, n.e.s.	30.1	32.0	40.1	25.4	33.3
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	45.6	56.8	72.6	27.8	59.4
Machinery and transport equipment	69.2	68.8	97.1	41.0	40.3
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	35.4	38.5	56.4	46.5	59.2
Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	1.4	0.2	0.0	-97.8	-99.6
Total exports	**11.2**	**10.8**	**15.2**	**41.0**	**35.9**
Food and live animals	0.9	1.9	2.5	32.3	173.2
Beverages and tobacco	4.4	4.4	2.3	-47.9	-48.6
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	0.0	0.0	0.0	356.7	370.1
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	2.4	0.5	7.3	1265.5	207.9
Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-100.0
Chemicals and related products, n.e.s.	0.2	0.3	0.5	77.5	107.4
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	0.4	1.0	0.8	-19.3	74.4
Machinery and transport equipment	1.3	1.4	0.7	-53.9	-48.3
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	1.5	1.3	1.1	-11.9	-23.9
Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	0.0	0.0	0.0	≠	≠
Trade Balance	**-276.5**	**-382.3**	**-388.0**	**1.5**	**40.3**
Food and live animals	-73.1	-79.5	-92.3	16.1	26.3
Beverages and tobacco	-13.8	-14.4	-19.3	33.8	39.7
Crude materials, inedible, except fuels	-10.6	-12.3	-15.1	22.9	42.6
Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	0.6	-82.3	3.9	-104.7	533.1
Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes	-1.3	-1.3	-1.9	44.0	48.7
Chemicals and related products, n.e.s.	-29.9	-31.7	-39.7	25.0	32.7
Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	-45.1	-55.9	-71.9	28.6	59.2
Machinery and transport equipment	-68.0	-67.4	-96.4	43.1	41.9
Miscellaneous manufactured articles	-33.9	-37.2	-55.2	48.5	62.8
Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere	-1.4	-0.2	0.0	-97.8	-99.6

[R] Revised ≠ Division by Zero

[P] Provisional

SUPPLEMENTARY TABLES

Table 6: Imports from top ten countries Oct to Dec 2020 and 2021

Imports[1]	QTR 4 2020[R]	QTR 4 2021[P]	QTR 4 2020 to QTR 4 2021
	EC$ millions		% change
Total Imports	**287.6**	**403.1**	**40.2**
United States	144.2	203.0	40.8
Canada	4.1	21.1	416.4
China	15.3	20.3	33.2
Trinidad And Tobago	14.5	19.3	33.0
United Kingdom	11.1	12.7	13.7
Brazil	5.2	9.9	88.1
Italy	7.2	9.6	33.4
Dominican Republic	4.0	7.2	80.6
Barbados	4.3	6.9	59.1
Japan	15.4	5.9	-61.8
Rest of the World	62.2	87.2	40.1

[R] Revised

[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 Oct to Dec 2020 and 2021

Exports	QTR 4 2020[R]	QTR 4 2021[P]	QTR 4 2020 to QTR 4 2021
	EC$ millions		% change
Total Exports	11.2	15.2	**35.9**
Netherlands	3.6	3.0	-15.5
Dutch St Maarten	1.2	2.9	132.5
Spain	0.0	2.5	33,680.3
China	0.0	1.7	≠
United States	1.5	0.9	-44.0
Barbados	0.3	0.8	161.2
Hong Kong	0.3	0.3	-2.6
Thailand	0.0	0.3	575.0
Costa Rica	0.0	0.2	≠
Saint Lucia	1.2	0.2	-81.1
Other Countries	2.9	2.4	-18.8

[R] Revised

[P] Provisional

≠ Division by zero

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

QTR: Quarter

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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