

HIGHLIGHTS

Trade value up by about 22% in the first quarter of 2011 for the world

The value of world merchandise trade was 22% higher in the first quarter of 2011 compared to the same period of 2010, according to WTO figures released on 1 June 2011.

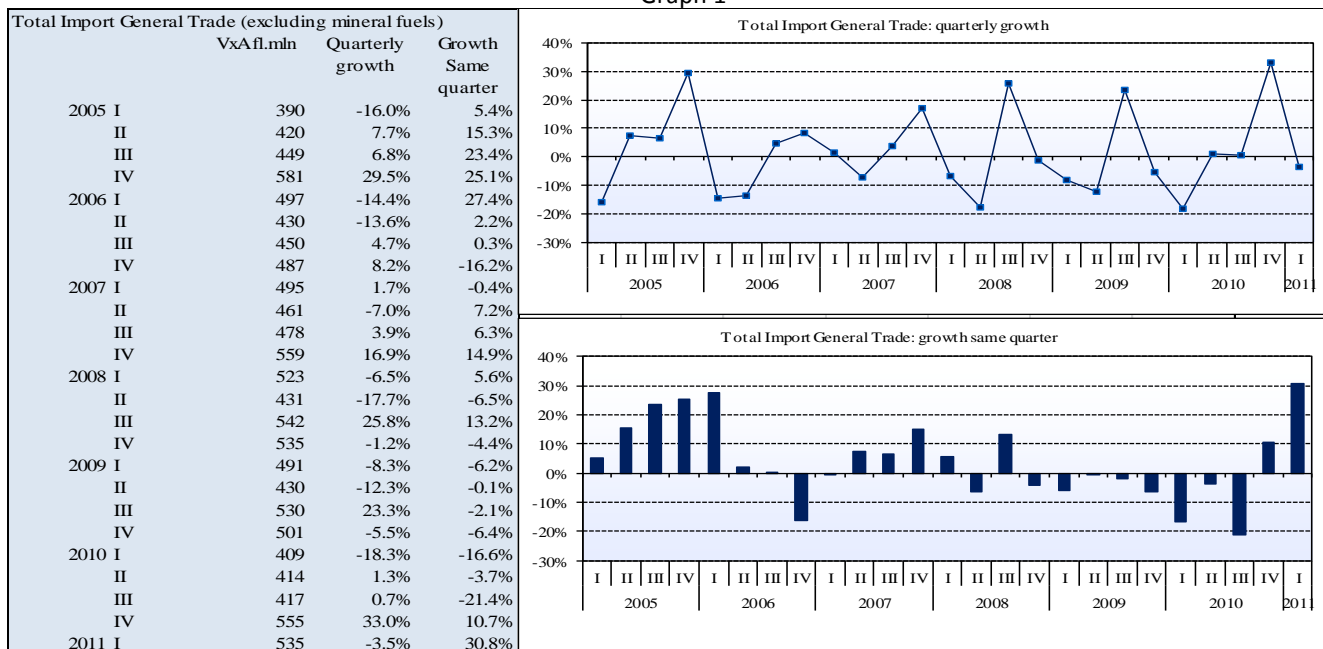
INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FOR ARUBA: FIRST QUARTER 2011

In the first quarter of 2011 the following developments have been registered in the international merchandise flows of Aruba.

Trends in total Import

During the first quarter of 2011 Aruba imported a total value of Afl. 535 million from the rest of the world. This represent an increase of 30.8% compared to the same quarter of the previous year. (Graph 1)

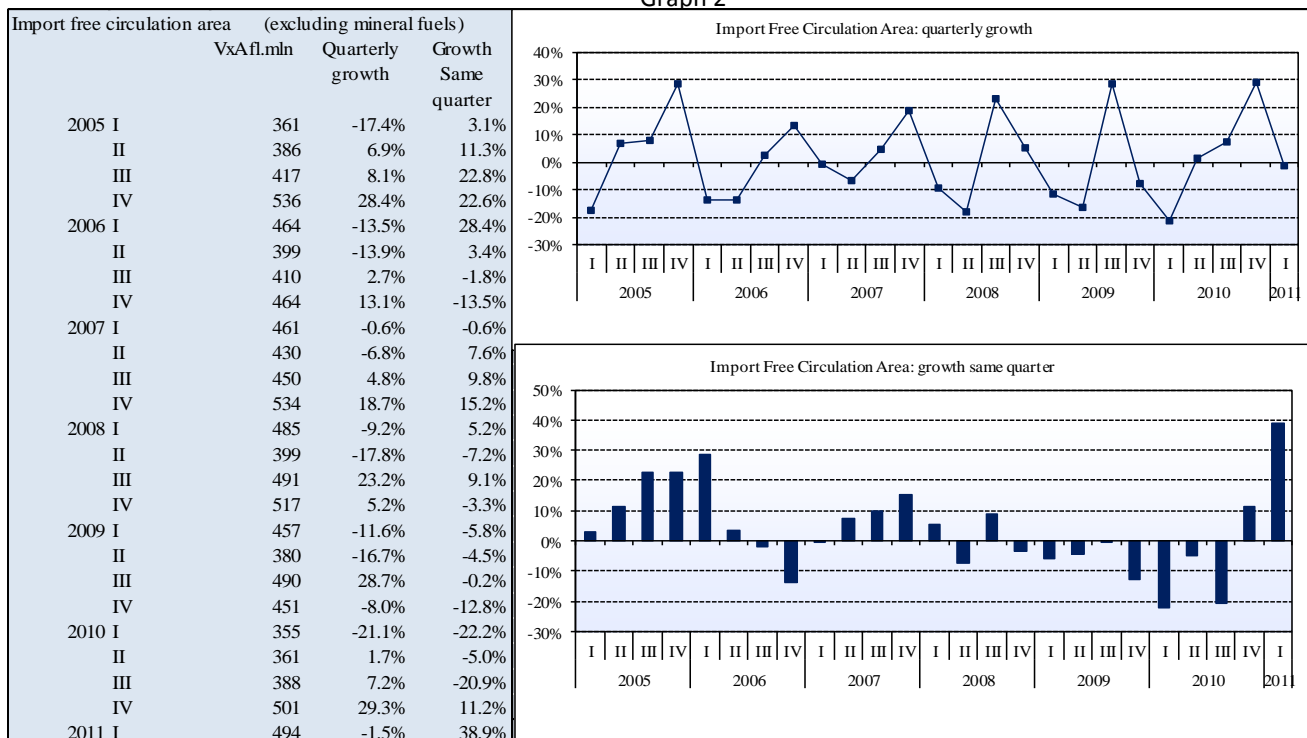
Graph 1



Merchandise trade in the free circulation area of Aruba

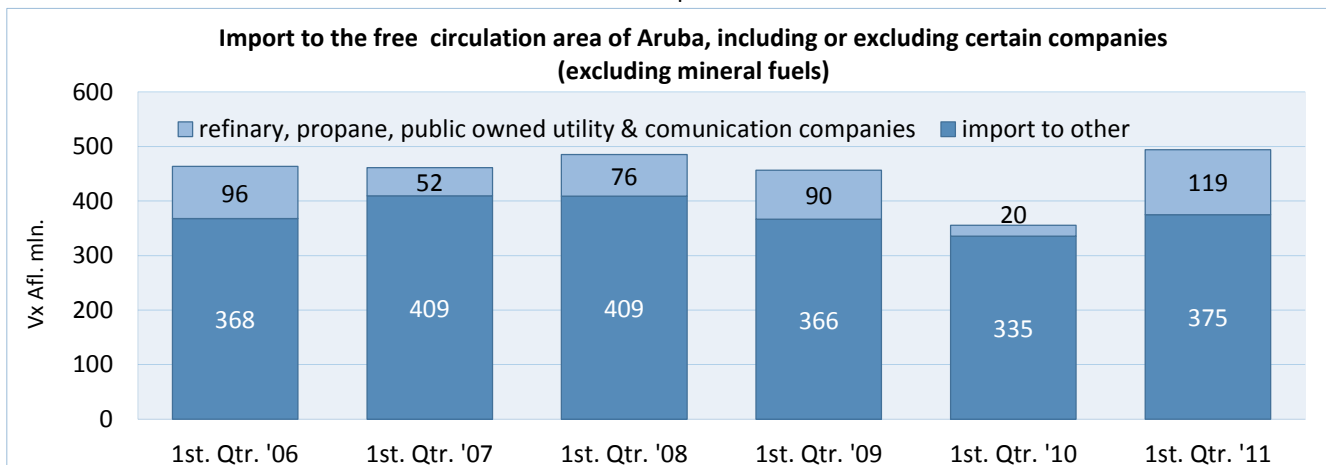
In the first quarter of 2011 import to the free circulation area of Aruba increased with 38.9% compared to the same quarter of the previous year. The value of import to this area was Afl. 494 million in the first quarter of 2011. (Graph2)

Graph 2



In the following graph, the import to the free circulation area of Aruba during the first quarters from 2006 till 2011 is illustrated. The import to some big companies³⁾ in Aruba fluctuates a lot. Therefore the import to those companies is combined and separated from the "import to other" to illustrate this fluctuation. (Graph 3)

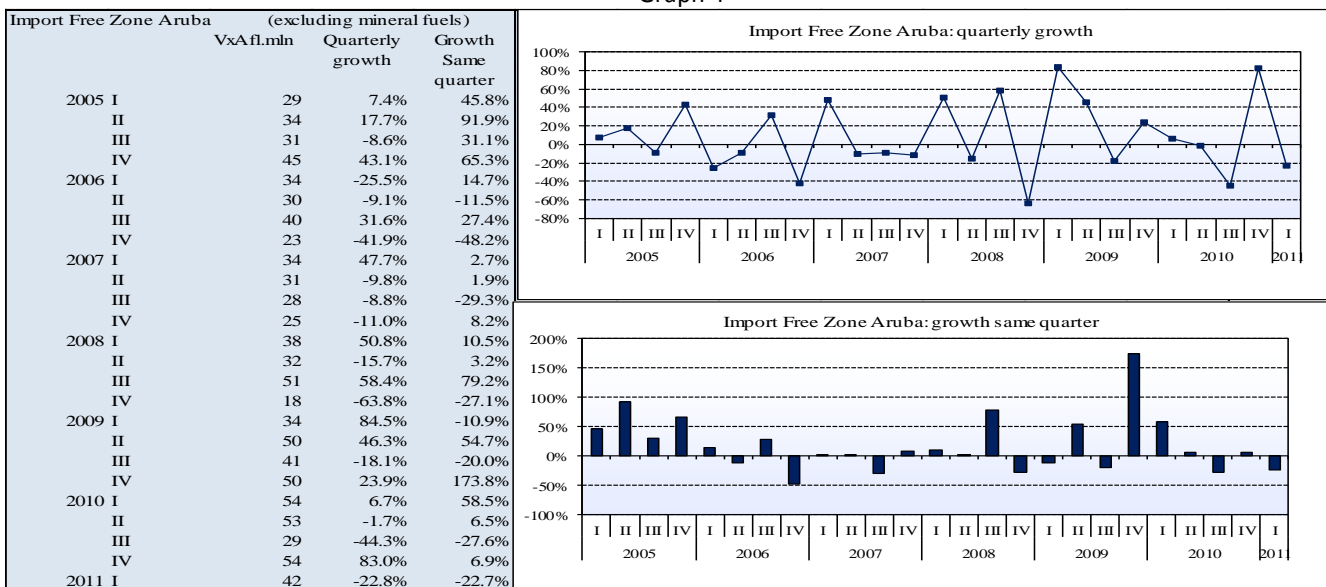
Graph 3



Import to the Free Zone of Aruba

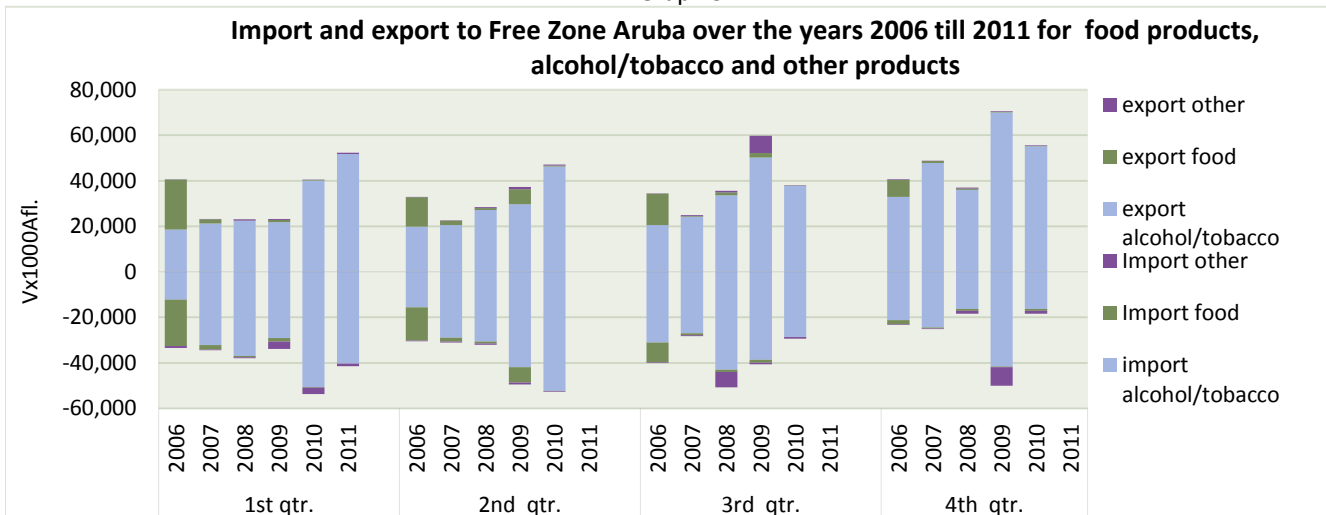
The value of import to the Free Zone of Aruba for the first quarter of 2011 was Afl. 42 million. This represents a decrease of 23% compared to the same quarter of the previous year. (Graph 4)

Graph 4



The following graph illustrates clearly the huge fluctuations in import and export for the free zone during the past 6 years. For illustrative purposes import values are noted in negative values. In 2006 food was an important part of free zone. The sectors of food and alcohol/tobacco are in value, the most important to be imported and exported. Now the free zone trade is mainly alcohol/tobacco products. (Graph 5)

Graph 5



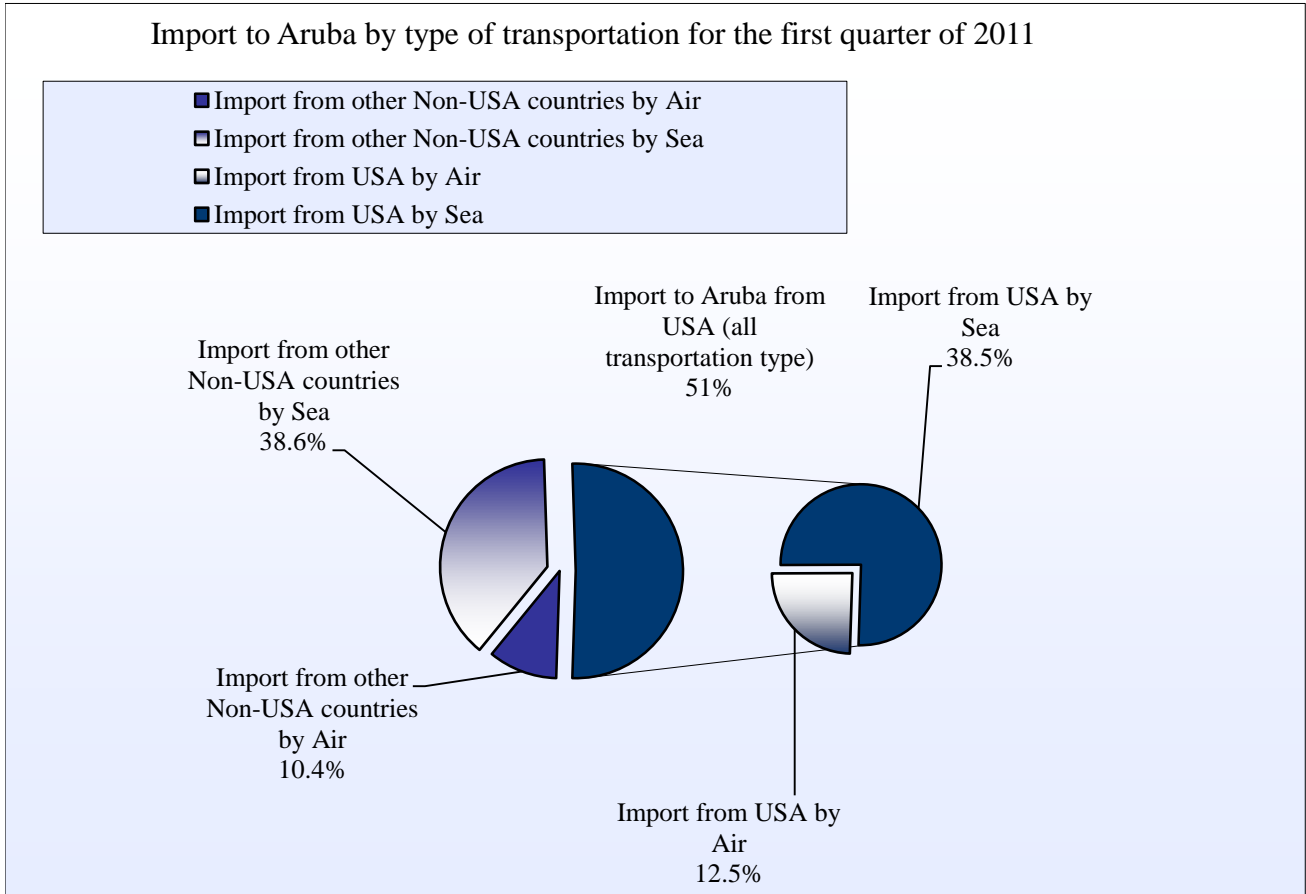
Import to the free circulation area of Aruba from USA and Non-USA countries by type of transportation

An analysis of the transportation type used to import goods in Aruba indicated that for the first quarter of 2011, 77.1% of imports were by sea and 22.9% by air¹.

The USA had a share of 51% in imports to Aruba. From this share 38.5% was by sea, while 12.5% was by air¹. (Graph 6)

Other customs information for the first quarter of 2011 indicated that the total number of containers² entering the free circulation area increased with 23%, 3455 containers during the first quarter of 2011 compare to 2807 containers in the first quarter of 2010.

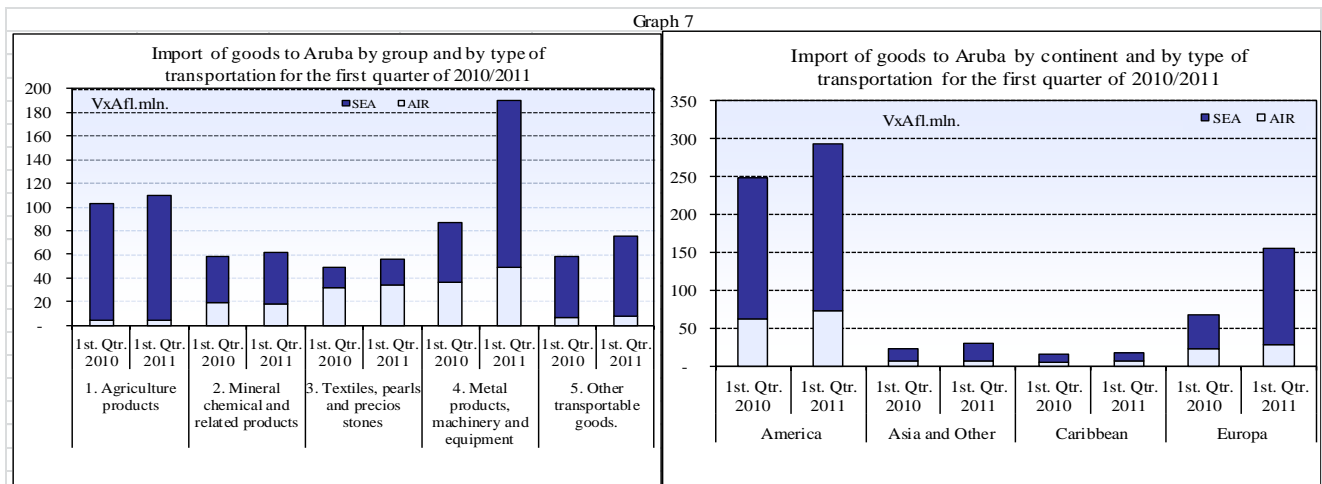
Graph 6



Import to the free circulation area of Aruba by Group, Continent and type of transportation

In the first quarter of 2011 the value of import to the free circulation area of Aruba for air transport¹ was Afl.113 million which represent an increase of 15.8%. For sea transportation the value of import to the free circulation area of Aruba was Afl.381 and represent an increase of 47.6%. The increase in import, both by air and sea, is directly related to import belonging to the category "Metal products, machinery and equipment". The products are imported from Europe and will be used to expand and upgrade utility companies. The continent of America remains the main import trade partner for transport of goods by air¹ as well as by sea. (Graph 7)

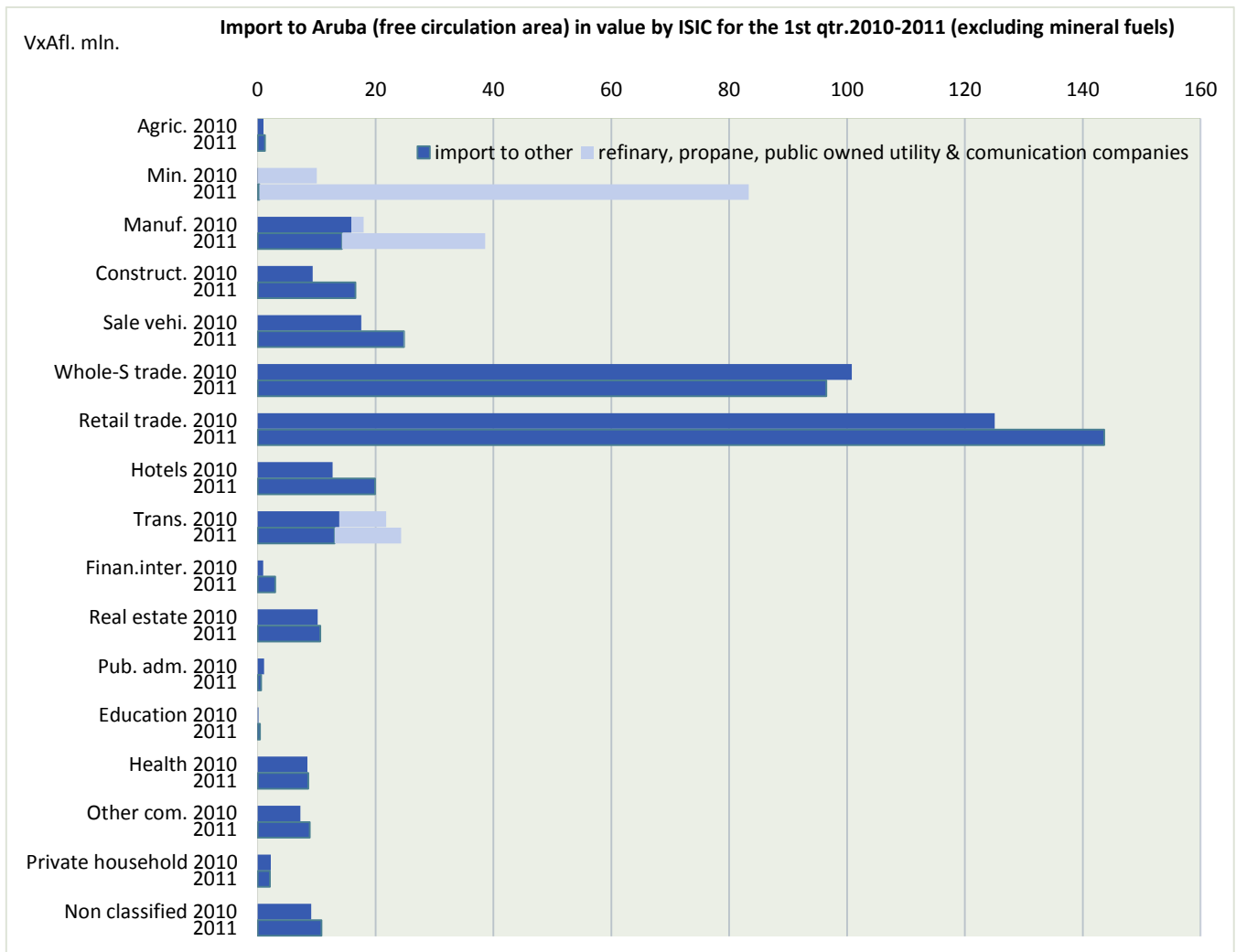
Graph 7



Import to the free circulation area of Aruba by type of import according to the International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC)

The following graph represent import to the free circulation area of Aruba by Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (ISIC). The industrial branch of which the import increased the most for the first quarter of 2011 was "Mining, quarrying and electricity, gas and water supply". Import to the Free circulation Area of Aruba, excluding the "refinery, propane, public owned utility & communication companies"³⁾ (excluding mineral fuels), increased by 11.8% during the first quarter of 2011, compared to the same quarter a year previously. The sector "Retail trade and repair of products", the single most important branch in imports, increased with 14.8 percent. This was mainly caused by an increase in import of jewelry and food products. Also import for the sectors "Construction", Hotels and restaurants" and "Sale, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles" increased. (Graph 8).

Graph 8



¹⁾All transactions taking place at the custom office at the airport are considered as air-transport.

²⁾Total containers reflect all container sizes including empty containers.

³⁾"refinery (VALERO), propane (ARUGAS), public owned utility (WEB & ELMAR) & communication companies (SETAR)" refers to the companies established on Aruba