

Foreign Trade, Fourth Quarter 2023

The Central Bureau of Statistics presents the most important findings for the Foreign Trade of the 4th quarter 2023.

Total Import

The total import, in terms of **weight**, registered an increase of 21.7 mln. Kg (14.1%) in the fourth quarter of 2023 (176.0 mln. kg) compared to the same period in 2022 (154.3 mln. kg), while, in terms of **value**, the total import decreased by Afl. 61.3 mln (-7.7%), from Afl. 795.9 mln. to Afl. 734.5 mln.

Import to the free circulation area of Aruba* (weight)

Import to the free circulation area of Aruba, in terms of **weight**, registered an increase of 22.5 mln. Kg (14.9%) in the fourth quarter of 2023 (173.3 mln. kg), compared to the same period in 2022 (150.7 mln. kg). During this period, six (6) of the twenty-one (21) sections registered increases in terms of weight in import to the free circulation area of Aruba. The largest increases are observed for the sections "Mineral products" 36.2 mln. Kg (52.7%) and "Works of stone, gypsum, cement, asbestos" 0.3 mln. Kg (4.0%).

The largest decreases are observed for the sections "Food products" -4.6 mln. Kg (-21.1%), "Miscellaneous manufactured articles" -2.2 mln. Kg (-51.2%) and "Base metals and derivated works" -2.2 mln. Kg (-36.6%).

Import to the free circulation area of Aruba* (value)

Import to the free circulation area of Aruba, in terms of **value**, registered a decrease of Afl. 45.9 mln. (-6.2%) in the fourth quarter of 2023 (Afl. 698.6 mln.) compared to the same period in 2022 (Afl. 744.5 mln.). During this period, fifteen (15) of the twenty-one (21) sections registered decreases in terms of value in import to the free circulation area of Aruba.

The largest decreases are observed for the sections "Base metals and derivated works" Afl. -11.3 mln. (-28.0%), "Miscellaneous manufactured articles" Afl. -10.7 mln. (-22.8%), "Live animals and other animal products" Afl. -7.0 mln. (-10.7%) and "Machinery & electrotechnical equipment (new & renewed)" Afl. -7.0 mln. (-6.8%). The largest increases are observed for the sections "Transport equipment" Afl. 7.9 mln. (16.3%) and "Optical instruments, apparatus and equipment" Afl. 2.7 mln. (10.1%).

Import to the free Zone of Aruba

Import to the free Zone of Aruba, in terms of **weight**, registered a decrease of 0.8 mln. kg (-22.3%) in the fourth quarter of 2023 (2.7 mln. kg) compared to the same period in 2022 (3.5 mln. kg) and was mainly due to a decrease of 0.8 mln. kg (-24.0%) in the section "Food products".

In terms of **value**, the import to the free Zone of Aruba decreased by Afl. 15.4 mln (-30.0%) from Afl. 51.4 mln. to Afl. 36.0 mln and was mainly due to a decrease of Afl. 15.8 mln. (-30.9%) in the section "Food products".

The abovementioned Import (to the free circulation area of Aruba) is the result of Import by Sea and Import by Air, which had the following developments:

1. Import to the free circulation area of Aruba* by Sea

Import by Sea to the free circulation area of Aruba, in terms of **weight**, registered an increase of 22.7 mln. kg (15.2%) in the fourth quarter of 2023 (172.3 mln. kg) compared to the same period in 2022 (149.6 mln. kg) and was mainly due to an increase of 36.2 mln. kg (52.7%) in the section "Mineral products".

In terms of **value**, the import by **Sea** decreased by Afl. 48.5 mln. (-7.8%) from Afl. 622.8 mln. to Afl. 574.3 mln and was mainly due to decreases of Afl. 11.1 mln. (-24.7%) and Afl. 10.9 mln. (-28.2%) in the sections "Miscellaneous manufactured articles" and "Base metals and derivated works", respectively.

2. Import to the free circulation area of Aruba* by Air

Import by Air to the free circulation area of Aruba, in terms of **weight**, decreased by 0.2 mln. kg (-17.6%) from 1.1 mln. kg in the fourth quarter of 2023 to 0.9 mln. kg in the fourth quarter of 2022 and was mainly due to a decrease of 0.4 mln. kg (-29.1%) in the section of "Food products".

In terms of **value**, the import by **Air** increased by Afl. 2.6 mln. (2.1%) from Afl. 121.8 mln. to Afl. 124.3 mln and was mainly due to increases of Afl. 3.5 mln. (18.9%), Afl. 1.4 (4.0%) and Afl. 1.2 mln. (6.5%) in the sections "Optical instruments, apparatus and equipment", "Real pearls (natural) and other precious stones" and "Chemical products" respectively.

* Free circulation area of Aruba: all goods entering or leaving the economic territory of Aruba, excluding the Free Zone

** Large companies refers to the following companies: Valero, Arugas, Web, Elmar and Setar

 central bureau of statistics FOURTH QUARTER 2023 FOREIGN TRADE			
IMPORT			
		<i>mln. kg</i>	<i>% change</i>
To Aruba by Sea	↑	22.7	15.2
To Aruba by Air	↓	-0.2	-17.6
To Aruba	↑	22.5	14.9
To the Free Zone	↓	-0.8	-22.3
Total Import	↑	21.7	14.1
By Large companies*	↓	-0.2	-0.9
IMPORT			
		<i>mln. Afl.</i>	<i>% change</i>
To Aruba by Sea	↓	-48.5	-7.8
To Aruba by Air	↑	2.6	2.1
To Aruba	↓	-45.9	-6.2
To the Free Zone	↓	-15.4	-30.0
Total Import	↓	-61.3	-7.7
By Large companies*	↓	-5.2	-7.2
EXPORT			
		<i>mln. kg</i>	<i>% change</i>
From Aruba by Sea	↓	0.0	-0.8
From Aruba by Air	↓	0.00	-4.8
From Aruba	↓	0.0	-0.9
From the Free Zone	↑	0.38	16.5
Total Export	↑	0.3	4.4
By Large companies*	↑	0.01	68.3
EXPORT			
		<i>mln. Afl.</i>	<i>% change</i>
From Aruba by Sea	↓	-1.2	-11.9
From Aruba by Air	↑	1.7	23.0
From Aruba	↑	0.5	2.9
From the Free Zone	↑	3.9	12.0
Total Export	↑	4.4	8.8
By Large companies*	↓	-0.1	-76.5
The % change is determined by comparing the			
*Large companies refers to the following companies: Valero, Arugas, Web, Elmar and Setar			

Import to the free circulation area of Aruba* by Large companies**

Import by "Large companies", in terms of weight, decreased by 0.2 mln. kg (-0.9%) from 24.8 mln. kg in the fourth quarter of 2022 to 24.6 mln. kg in the fourth quarter of 2023 and was mainly due to a decrease of 0.1 mln. kg (-100%) in the section "Wood, charcoal and woodwork". In terms of value, the import by "Large companies" decreased by Afl. 5.2 mln. (-7.2%) from Afl. 72.1 mln. to Afl. 66.9 mln and was mainly due to a decrease of Afl. 4.6 mln. (-10.1%) in the section "Mineral products".

Total Export

The total export, in terms of **weight**, registered an increase of 0.3 mln. Kg (4.4%) in the fourth quarter of 2023 (8.1 mln. kg) compared to the same period of 2022 (7.7 mln. kg), while, in terms of **value**, the total export increased by Afl. 4.4 mln. (8.8%) from Afl. 50.3 mln. to Afl. 54.7 mln.

Export from the free circulation area of Aruba* (weight)

Export from the free circulation area of Aruba, in terms of **weight**, registered a decrease of 0.05 mln. Kg (-0.9%) in the fourth quarter of 2023 (5.36 mln. kg) compared to the same period in 2022 (5.41 mln. kg). Twelve (12) of the twenty-one (21) sections, registered decreases in terms of weight in the export from the free circulation area of Aruba. The largest decrease is observed for the section "Materials for the manufacture of paper, paperwork" -0.5 mln. Kg. (-31.9%).

The largest increase is observed for the section "Food products" 0.7 mln. kg.(124.6%).

Export from the free circulation area of Aruba* (value)

Export from the free circulation area of Aruba, in terms of **value**, registered an increase of Afl. 0.5 mln. (2.9%) in the fourth quarter of 2023 (Afl. 17.8 mln.) compared to the same period in 2022 (Afl. 17.3 mln.). Fourteen (14) of the twenty-one (21) sections, registered increases in terms of value in the export from the free circulation area of Aruba. The largest increases are observed for the sections "Footwear, headgear and umbrellas" Afl. 1.3 mln. (3,553.3%) and "Real pearls (natural) and other precious stones" Afl. 1.3 mln. (45.8%).

The largest decreases are observed for the sections "Base metals and derivated works" Afl. -2.7 mln. (-61.1%) and "Machinery & electrotechnical equipment (new & renewed)" Afl. -1.0 mln. (-52.7%).

Export from the free Zone of Aruba

Export from the free Zone of Aruba, in terms of **weight**, registered an increase of 0.4 mln. kg (16.5%) in the fourth quarter of 2023 (2.7 mln. kg) compared to the same period in 2022 (2.3 mln. kg) and was mainly due to an increase of 0.4 mln. kg (16.6%) in the section "Food products".

In terms of **value**, the export from the free Zone of Aruba increased by Afl. 3.9 mln. (12.0%) from Afl. 33.0 mln. to Afl. 37.0 mln. and was mainly due to an increase of Afl. 4.0 mln. (12.1%) in the section "Food products".

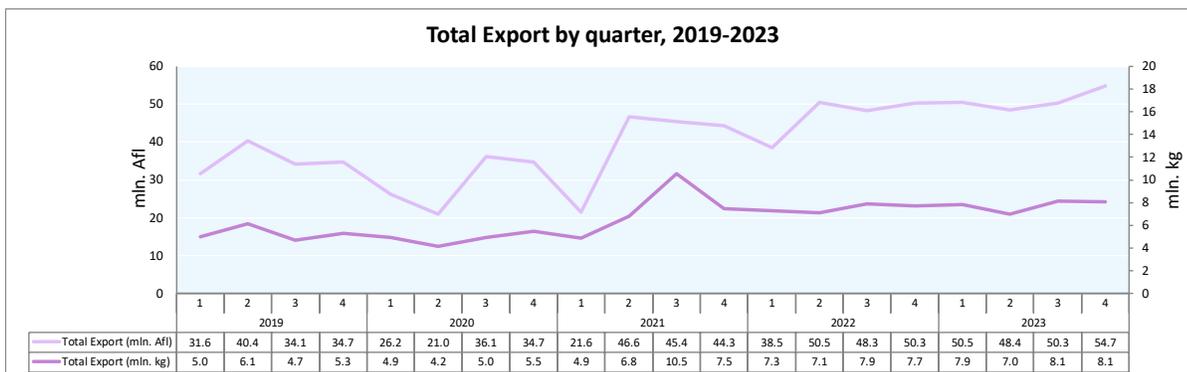
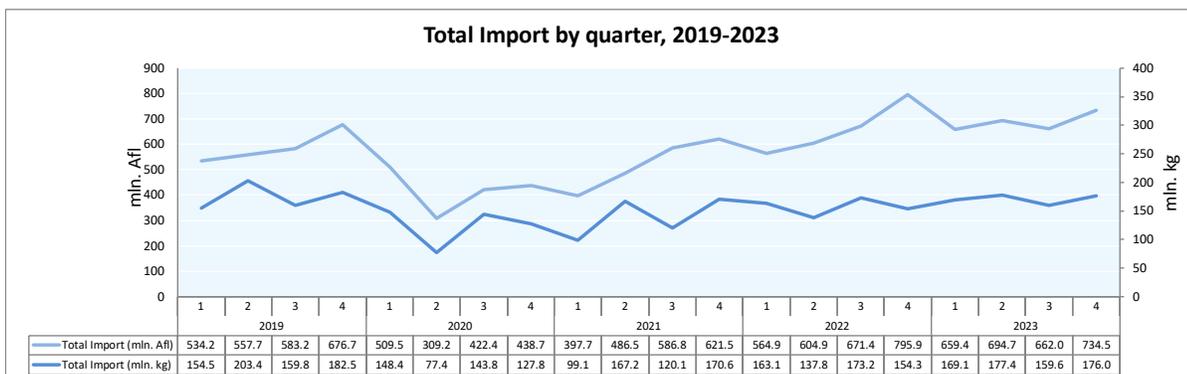


Table 1 Import by quarter, 2022-2023

in mln. kg	Qtr. 2022					Qtr. 2023					4th Quarter	
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	2022	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	2023	% change	in mln
To Aruba by Sea	160.0	133.9	169.4	149.6	613.0	165.5	173.4	156.5	172.3	667.7	15.2	22.7
To Aruba by Air	0.9	0.9	1.5	1.1	4.5	1.2	1.2	0.8	0.9	4.1	-17.6	-0.19
To Aruba	161.0	134.8	171.0	150.7	617.5	166.6	174.6	157.3	173.3	671.8	14.9	22.5
To the Free Zone	2.2	3.0	2.2	3.5	10.9	2.5	2.8	2.3	2.7	10.3	-22.3	-0.79
Total Import	163.1	137.8	173.2	154.3	628.4	169.1	177.4	159.6	176.0	682.1	14.1	21.7
By Large companies	22.6	24.8	23.5	24.8	95.7	25.3	25.8	18.6	24.6	94.3	-0.9	-0.22
By Other companies	138.4	110.0	147.5	126.0	521.8	141.3	148.8	138.7	148.7	577.5	18.1	22.7
To Aruba	161.0	134.8	171.0	150.7	617.5	166.6	174.6	157.3	173.3	671.8	14.9	22.5
<i>in mln. Afl.</i>												
To Aruba by Sea	436.5	462.8	536.6	622.8	2,058.6	512.1	551.9	538.8	574.3	2,177.1	-7.8	-48.5
To Aruba by Air	99.2	107.0	101.8	121.8	429.7	110.8	110.7	93.1	124.3	438.9	2.1	2.6
To Aruba	535.6	569.8	638.5	744.5	2,488.4	623.0	662.5	631.9	698.6	2,616.0	-6.2	-45.9
To the Free Zone	29.3	35.1	33.0	51.4	148.7	36.5	32.2	30.1	36.0	134.7	-30.0	-15.4
Total Import	564.9	604.9	671.4	795.9	2,637.1	659.4	694.7	662.0	734.5	2,750.7	-7.7	-61.3
By Large companies	59.0	55.2	70.7	72.1	257.1	69.8	76.2	57.9	66.9	270.9	-7.2	-5.2
By Other companies	476.6	514.5	567.8	672.4	2,231.3	553.1	586.3	574.0	631.6	2,345.1	-6.1	-40.8
To Aruba	535.6	569.8	638.5	744.5	2,488.4	623.0	662.5	631.9	698.6	2,616.0	-6.2	-45.9

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics Aruba

Table 2 Export by quarter, 2022-2023

in mln. kg	Qtr. 2022					Qtr. 2023					4th Quarter	
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	2022	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	2023	% change	in mln
From Aruba by Sea	5.2	4.6	5.6	5.4	20.8	5.4	4.7	5.9	5.3	21.3	-0.8	0.0
From Aruba by Air	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.2	0.05	0.03	0.04	0.0	0.1	-4.8	0.00
From Aruba	5.2	4.7	5.7	5.4	21.0	5.5	4.7	5.9	5.4	21.5	-0.9	0.0
From the Free Zone	2.1	2.4	2.2	2.3	9.0	2.4	2.2	2.2	2.7	9.6	16.5	0.38
Total Export	7.3	7.1	7.9	7.7	30.0	7.9	7.0	8.1	8.1	31.0	4.4	0.3
By Large companies	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.1	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.0	0.1	68.3	0.01
By Other companies	5.2	4.7	5.7	5.4	20.9	5.5	4.7	5.9	5.3	21.4	-1.0	-0.1
From Aruba	5.2	4.7	5.7	5.4	21.0	5.5	4.7	5.9	5.4	21.5	-0.9	0.0
<i>in mln. Afl.</i>												
From Aruba by Sea	8.1	10.4	12.3	10.0	40.8	8.7	13.5	11.0	8.8	41.9	-11.9	-1.2
From Aruba by Air	5.2	8.3	6.3	7.3	27.1	6.8	7.5	8.4	9.0	31.7	23.0	1.7
From Aruba	13.4	18.7	18.6	17.3	67.9	15.5	21.0	19.4	17.8	73.6	2.9	0.5
From the Free Zone	25.2	31.8	29.7	33.0	119.7	31.6	27.4	29.1	37.0	125.0	12.0	3.9
Total Export	38.5	50.5	48.3	50.3	187.6	47.0	48.4	48.5	54.7	198.7	8.8	4.4
By Large companies	0.01	0.03	0.04	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.6	0.0	0.9	-76.5	-0.1
By Other companies	13.4	18.7	18.5	17.1	67.7	15.4	20.8	18.8	17.7	72.7	3.6	0.6
From Aruba	13.4	18.7	18.6	17.3	67.9	15.5	21.0	19.4	17.8	73.6	2.9	0.5

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics Aruba