

## Foreign Trade, 2023

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

### Total Import

The total import, in terms of **weight**, registered an increase of 53.7 mln. kg (8.5%) in 2023 (682.1 mln. kg) compared to 2022 (628.4 mln. kg), while, in terms of **value**, the total import registered an increase of Afl. 113.6 mln. (4.3%) from Afl. 2,637.1 mln. to Afl. 2,750.7 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 54.3 mln. kg (8.8%) in 2023 (671.8 mln. kg), compared to 2022 (617.5 mln. kg). During 2023, thirteen (13) of the twenty-one (21) sections, in terms of **weight**, registered increases in import to the free circulation area of Aruba. The largest increases are observed for the sections "Mineral products" 58.2 mln. Kg (17.2%), "Works of stone, gypsum, cement, asbestos" 3.4 mln. Kg (14.9%) and "Transport equipment" 2.4 mln. Kg (27.4%).

The largest decreases are seen for the sections "Food products" -4.3 mln. Kg (-5.8%) and "Miscellaneous manufactured articles" -3.9 mln. Kg (-33.2%).

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

Import to the free circulation area of Aruba, in terms of **value**, registered an increase of Afl. 127.6 mln. (5.1%) in 2023 (Afl. 2,616.0 mln.) compared to 2022 (Afl. 2,488.4 mln.). During 2023, sixteen (16) of the twenty-one (21) sections, in terms of **value**, registered increases in import to the free circulation area of Aruba. The largest increases are observed for the sections "Transport equipment" Afl. 54.4 mln. (37.8%), "Machinery & electrotechnical equipment (new & renewed)" Afl. 30.6 mln. (9.2%), "Base metals and derivated works" Afl. 20.4 mln. (17.2%) and "Food products" Afl. 17.2 mln. (5.2%).

The largest decreases are seen for the sections "Live animals and other animal products" Afl. -13.8 mln. (-5.8%) and "Miscellaneous manufactured articles" Afl. -12.6 mln. (8.9%).

### Import to the free Zone of Aruba

Import to the free Zone of Aruba, in terms of **weight**, registered a decrease of 0.6 mln. kg (-5.8%) in 2023 10.3 mln. kg compared to 2022 10.9 mln. kg and was mainly due to a decrease of -0.8 mln. kg (-7.0%) in the section "Food products". In terms of **value**, it decreased by Afl. -14.0 mln (-9.4%) from Afl. 148.7 mln. to Afl. 134.7 mln. and was mainly due to a decrease of Afl. -15.1 mln. (-10.3%) 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 effects:

### 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 54.7 mln. kg (8.9%) in 2023 (667.7 mln. kg) compared to 2022 (613.0 mln. kg), and was mainly due to an increase of 58.2 mln. kg (17.2%) in the section "Mineral products". In terms of **value**, the import by Sea registered an increase of 118.4 mln. kg (5.8%), from Afl. 2,058.6 mln. to Afl. 2,177.1 mln. and was mainly due to increases of Afl. 54.2 mln. (39.0%) and Afl. 34.9 mln. (12.9%) in the sections "Transport equipment" and "Machinery & electrotechnical equipment (new & renewed)", 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  
**2023**  
**FOREIGN TRADE**

IMPORT			
		mln. kg	% change
To Aruba by Sea	↑	667.7	8.9
To Aruba by Air	↓	4.1	-9.1
To Aruba	↑	671.8	8.8
To the Free Zone	↓	10.3	-5.8
Total Import	↑	682.1	8.5
By Large companies*	↓	94.3	-1.5

IMPORT			
		mln. Afl.	% change
To Aruba by Sea	↑	2,177.1	5.8
To Aruba by Air	↑	438.9	2.1
To Aruba	↑	2,616.0	5.1
To the Free Zone	↓	134.7	-9.4
Total Import	↑	2,750.7	4.3
By Large companies*	↑	270.9	5.4

EXPORT			
		mln. kg	% change
From Aruba by Sea	↑	21.3	2.4
From Aruba by Air	↓	0.1	-3.2
From Aruba	↑	21.5	2.4
From the Free Zone	↑	9.6	6.0
Total Export	↑	31.0	3.5
By Large companies*	↑	0.1	9.4

EXPORT			
		mln. Afl.	% change
From Aruba by Sea	↑	41.9	2.8
From Aruba by Air	↑	31.7	17.0
From Aruba	↑	73.6	8.4
From the Free Zone	↑	125.0	4.5
Total Export	↑	198.7	5.9
By Large companies*	↑	0.9	294.9

The % change is determined by comparing the current year with the previous year.

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

### **Import to the free circulation area of Aruba by Air**

Import by air to the free circulation area of Aruba, in terms of **weight**, registered a decrease of 0.4 mln. kg (-9.1%) in 2023 (4.1 mln. kg) compared to 2022 (4.5 mln. kg) and was mainly due to a decrease of -0.2 mln. kg (-31.2) in the section "Chemical products". In terms of **value**, the import by Air increased by Afl. 9.2 mln. (2.1%), from Afl. 429.7 mln. to Afl. 438.9 mln. and was mainly due to an increase of Afl. 9.8 mln. (11.1%) in the section "Real pearls (natural) and other precious stones".

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

Import by "Large companies", in terms of **weight**, decreased by 1.4 mln. kg (-1.5%), from 95.7 mln. kg in 2022 to 94.3 mln. kg in 2023, and was mainly due to a decrease of -2.0 mln. kg (-2.1%) in the section "Mineral products". In terms of **value**, it increased by Afl. 13.9 mln. (5.4%), from Afl. 257.1 mln. to Afl. 270.9 mln. and was mainly due to an increase of Afl. 18.7 mln. (32.4%) in the section "Machinery & electrotechnical equipment (new & renewed)".

### **Total Export**

Total export from Aruba, in terms of **weight**, registered an increase of 1.0 mln. kg (3.5%) in 2023 (31.0 mln. kg) compared to 2022 (30.0 mln. kg), while, in terms of **value**, the total import registered an increase of Afl. 11.1 mln. (5.9%) from Afl. 187.6 mln. to Afl. 198.7 mln.

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

Export from the free circulation area of Aruba, in terms of **weight**, registered an increase of 0.5 mln. kg (2.4%) in 2023 (21.5 mln. kg) compared to 2022 (21.0 mln. kg). During 2023, seven (7) of the twenty-one (21) sections, in terms of **weight**, registered increases in the export from the free circulation area of Aruba. The largest increase is observed for the section "Food products" 1.6 mln. kg (69.7).

The largest decreases are seen for the sections "Works of stone, gypsum, cement, asbestos" -0.7 mln. kg (-78.1%) and "Base metals and derivated works" -0.4 mln. kg (-4.5%).

### **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 5.7 mln. (8.4%) in 2023 (Afl. 73.6 mln.) compared to 2022 (Afl. 67.9 mln.). During 2023, fifteen (15) of the twenty-one (21) sections, in terms of **value**, registered increases in the export from the free circulation area of Aruba. The largest increases are observed for the sections "Food products" Afl 2.9 mln. (72.7%), "Base metals and derivated works" Afl 2.4 mln. (17.4%) and "Real pearls (natural) and other precious stones" Afl 1.7 mln. (13.0%).

The largest decreases are seen for the sections "Machinery & electrotechnical equipment (new & renewed)" -Afl 3.3 mln. (-37.9%) and "Chemical products" Afl -1.7 mln. (-25.9%).

### **Export from the free Zone of Aruba**

Export from the free Zone of Aruba, in terms of **weight**, registered an increase of 0.5 mln. kg (6.0%) in 2023 (9.6 mln. kg) compared to 2022 (9.0 mln. kg) and was mainly due to an increase of 0.5 mln. kg (6.1%) in the section "Food products". In terms of **value**, it increased by Afl. 5.4 mln. (4.5%) from Afl. 119.7 mln. to Afl. 125.0 mln. and was mainly due to an increase of Afl. 5.5 mln. (4.6%) in the section "Food products".

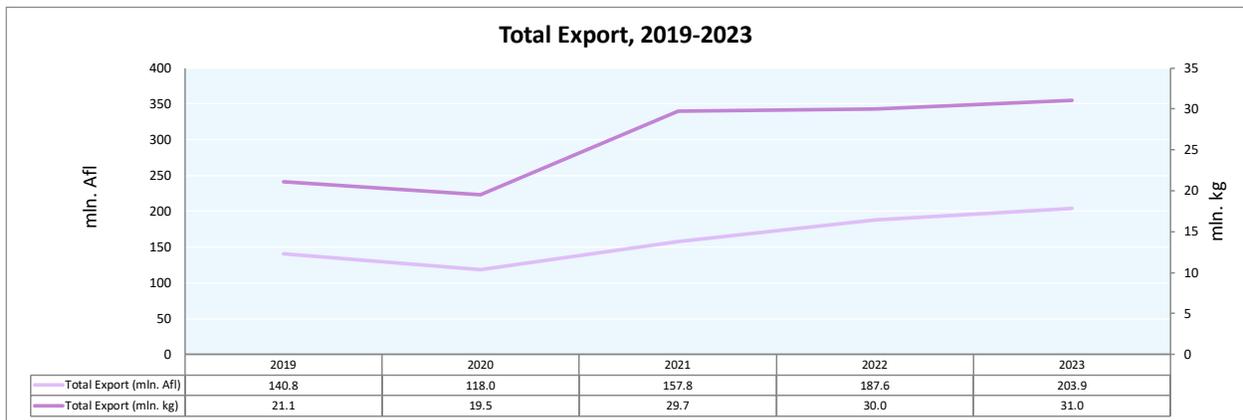
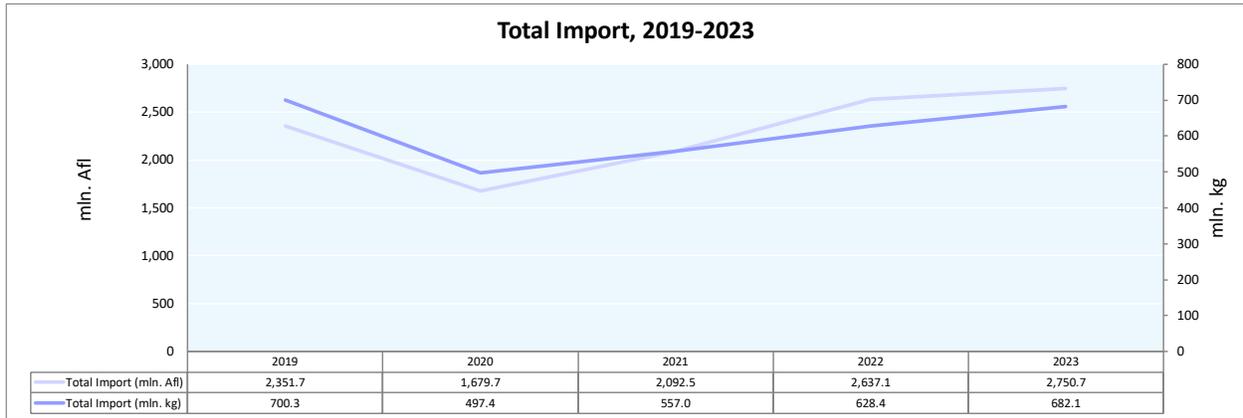


Table 1 Import, 2019-2023

in mln. kg	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2022 - 2023	
						% change	in mln
To Aruba by Sea	690.7	489.9	545.3	613.0	667.7	8.9	54.7
To Aruba by Air	4.3	2.5	3.1	4.5	4.1	-9.1	-0.4
To Aruba	694.9	492.4	548.4	617.5	671.8	8.8	54.3
To the Free Zone	5.3	5.0	8.6	10.9	10.3	-5.8	-0.6
Total Import	700.3	497.4	557.0	628.4	682.1	8.5	53.7
By Large companies	93.5	83.4	90.7	95.7	94.3	-1.5	-1.4
By Other companies	601.5	409.0	457.7	521.8	577.5	10.7	55.7
To Aruba	694.9	492.4	548.4	617.5	671.8	8.8	54.3
<i>in mln. Afl.</i>							
To Aruba by Sea	1,861.9	1,357.8	1,617.8	2,058.6	2,177.1	5.8	118.4
To Aruba by Air	414.9	266.7	364.6	429.7	438.9	2.1	9.2
To Aruba	2,276.8	1,624.5	1,982.5	2,488.4	2,616.0	5.1	127.6
To the Free Zone	74.9	55.3	110.1	148.7	134.7	-9.4	-14.0
Total Import	2,351.7	1,679.7	2,092.5	2,637.1	2,750.7	4.3	113.6
By Large companies	272.9	188.5	169.1	257.1	270.9	5.4	13.9
By Other companies	2,003.9	1,436.0	1,813.4	2,231.3	2,345.1	5.1	113.8
To Aruba	2,276.8	1,624.5	1,982.5	2,488.4	2,616.0	5.1	127.6

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics Aruba

Table 2 Export, 2019-2023

in mln. kg	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2022 - 2023	
						% change	in mln
From Aruba by Sea	16.7	15.2	21.6	20.8	21.3	2.4	0.5
From Aruba by Air	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	-3.2	-0.005
From Aruba	16.9	15.4	21.8	21.0	21.5	2.4	0.5
From the Free Zone	4.1	4.1	7.9	9.0	9.6	6.0	0.5
Total Export	21.1	19.5	29.7	30.0	31.0	3.5	1.0
By Large companies	0.04	0.04	0.1	0.1	0.1	9.4	0.01
By Other companies	16.9	15.4	21.7	20.9	21.4	2.4	0.5
From Aruba	16.9	15.4	21.8	21.0	21.5	2.4	0.5
<i>in mln. Afl.</i>							
From Aruba by Sea	40.8	30.3	30.6	40.8	41.9	2.8	1.1
From Aruba by Air	38.0	31.0	28.2	27.1	31.7	17.0	4.6
From Aruba	78.9	61.4	58.8	67.9	73.6	8.4	5.7
From the Free Zone	61.9	56.6	99.0	119.7	125.0	4.5	5.4
Total Export	140.8	118.0	157.8	187.6	198.7	5.9	11.1
By Large companies	1.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.9	294.9	0.7
By Other companies	77.6	61.2	58.4	67.7	72.7	7.5	5.1
From Aruba	78.9	61.4	58.8	67.9	73.6	8.4	5.7

Source: Central Bureau of Statistics Aruba