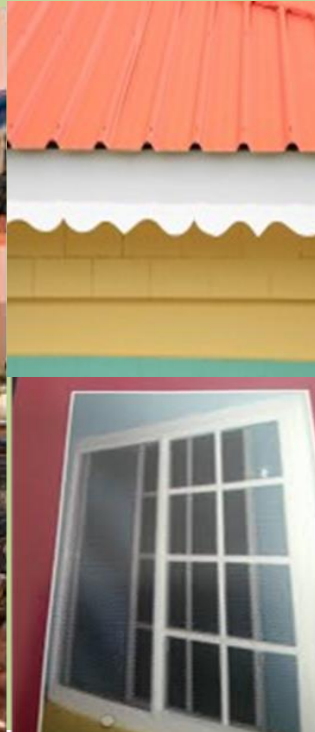




2019 International Merchandise Trade Report



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**STATISTICAL OFFICE
ECONOMIC PLANNING DIVISION
MINISTRY OF FINANCE, ECONOMIC PLANNING AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

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SELECTED ACRONYMS

%	Percent
ASYCUDA	Automated System for Customs Data
BEC	Broad Economic Category
c.i.f.	Cost, Insurance and Freight
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
EUROSTAT	European Communities Statistical Office
EC\$	Eastern Caribbean Dollar
f.o.b.	Free on Board
HS	Harmonised System
Kg.	Kilogram
L	Litres
M ³	Cubic Metres
M ²	Square Metres
Misc.	Miscellaneous
N.E.C.	Not Elsewhere Classified
N.E.S.	Not Elsewhere Specified
No.	Number
P	Provisional
Pr.	Pair
Q	Quantity
SO	Statistical Office
S.I.T.C.	Standard International Trade Classification
UN	United Nations
V	Value

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Statistical Office wishes to thank the Comptroller and Staff of the Customs and Excise Department for providing the data files from which the trade statistics are derived. Thanks to the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat and EUROSTAT for assisting technically with the installation and management of the EUROTRACE software and for training provided to staff members in the use of this software. The Statistical Office also wishes to thank all members of staff who contributed to the production of this report.

Lavorne Williams (Mrs.)

Chief Statistician

Statistical Office

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Kingstown

ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

Foreword

The Statistical Office is pleased to publish this analysis of International Merchandise Trade Statistics Report for the period January to December 2019. This Report is produced by the Trade, Social and Demographic section of the Statistical Office (SO). It contains tables on Imports, Domestic Exports and Re-exports with analysis of quantities and values by country of origin and destination. This publication gives a synopsis of the trading activities of St Vincent and the Grenadines with the rest of the world between January-December, 2019. The data contained in this report are preliminary and subject to revision.

Foreign trade statistics are economic statistics which serve a variety of needs. These statistics are an instrument of primary importance for numerous public sector and private sector decision makers. For example, foreign trade statistics: enable countries to prepare multilateral and bilateral negotiations within the framework of common policies; enable authorities to evaluate the progress of the Single Market; help companies to do market research and define their commercial strategy and constitute an essential source of information for balance of payments statistics, national accounts and economic studies. This list which is not exhaustive, demonstrates the diversity of the users and their needs.

The trade statistics are compiled as secondary statistics and are primarily obtained from the computerized records maintained by the Customs and Excise Department. These records are based on documents on the importation and exportation of goods as completed by importers, exporters or their agents who are required to record the appropriate statistical tariff code. The trade flow of goods is analyzed using various commodity classifications, which have different levels of detail and classification criteria. The tariff codes are based on the Harmonised System (HS) 2007 and the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) Revisions 3 and 4. In addition to the classification by SITC codes, the SO also classifies all imported commodities by Broad Economic Category (BEC) based on international guidelines issued by the United Nations (UN).

EXPLANATORY NOTES AND DEFINITIONS

SOURCE

The statistics published in this report are primarily obtained from customs warrants submitted to the Customs and Excise Department on the importation and exportation of goods. The data are captured on computers by the Customs Department utilizing the Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA World). The declaration files are downloaded from the Customs and Excise Department by the SO via the World Wide Web and uploaded to the EUROTRACE Database Management System (DBMS). This improved trade processing system is used for the compilation, analysis and tabulation of foreign trade statistics at the national level. At the SO, the data are checked, verified and corrections made by the Senior Statistical Assistants and Statistical Assistants. Reports are then prepared and statistics disseminated from the information generated by the EUROTRACE software.

PERIOD COVERED

This report covers all documents relating to trade brought into account during the period January - December 2019 compared with January - December 2018.

CLASSIFICATION

The classification of goods is based on the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) Revisions 3 and 4 issued by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (UNESCO).

SYSTEM OF TRADE

The 'Special Trade' is the system of coverage in this report, i.e.

- (a) Imports represent the total of all imports cleared by the Customs for the local economy, and exclude all imports remaining under the control of the Customs Authorities in Bonded Warehouses.

(b) Exports represent the export of all domestic produce and re-export¹ of imported goods that have previously been cleared from Customs control for the local economy. Imported goods that are re-exported directly from bonded warehouses are excluded.

VALUES

All values are shown in Eastern Caribbean Dollars (EC\$). Imports are valued c.i.f., i.e. the cost, insurance, freight and incidental charges up to the time of delivery at the port. Exports are valued f.o.b. - Free on Board; this value includes all charges up to the time of delivery on board the exporting vessel or aircraft.

COUNTRIES AND AREAS

Imports are ascribed to the country of origin of the goods. The country of origin (referred to as just country in this report) is defined as the country in which the goods were wholly produced or manufactured; or the country in which any final operation altered, to any appreciable extent, the character, composition, or value of partly manufactured goods imported into the country.

Exports are ascribed to the country of final destination, when known or alternatively they are ascribed to the country of last known destination.

¹ Goods brought into the country for temporary use with the intention to be returned or exported back to the country of origin.

EXCLUSIONS

The following are excluded from the Trade Statistics Report: -

- (a) Monetary gold;
- (b) Issued banknotes and securities and coins in circulation;
- (c) Goods in transit;
- (d) Non-financial assets;
- (e) Empty bottles to be refilled;
- (f) Waste and scrap with no positive value;
- (g) Goods under operational lease
- (h) Goods purchase by foreign government through their embassies;
- (i) Imports from St. Vincent to St. Vincent and Exports to St. Vincent from St. Vincent (as they suggest intra-state trade, i.e. between St Vincent and its dependencies).



IMPORTS



2019 International Merchandise Trade Report

Highlights

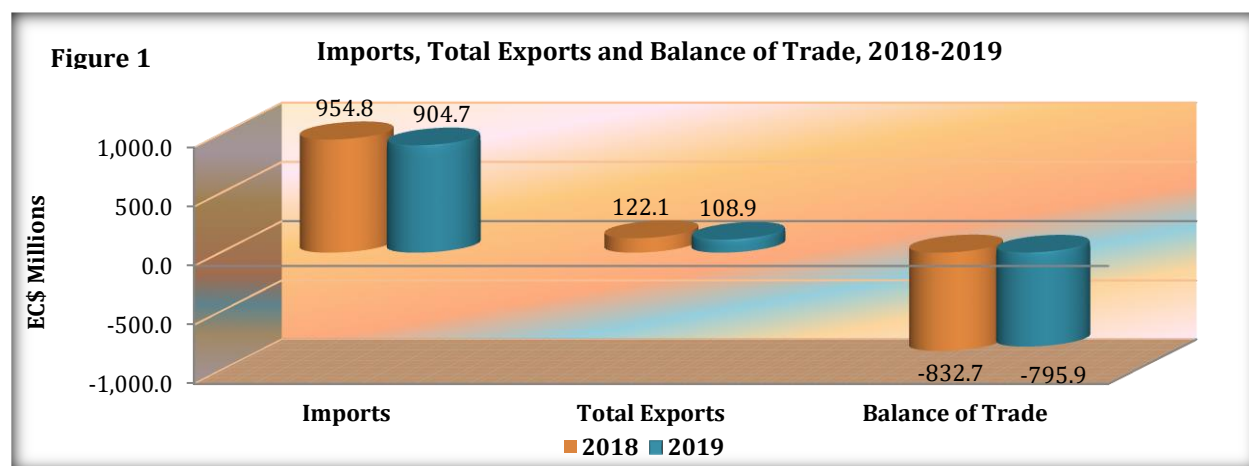
Total expenditure on imports during the period January to December 2019, was recorded at EC\$ 904.7 million compared to EC\$954.8 million for the same period in 2018. (See table 1). This represented a 5.2 percent or EC\$ 50.1 million decline in the value of imports.

Total exports fell by 10.8 percent, moving from EC\$122.1 million in 2018 to EC\$108.9 million in 2019. As a result, the trade deficit narrowed in 2019 by EC\$36.8 million or 4.4 percent to EC\$795.9 million, when compared to EC\$832.7 million in the corresponding 2018 period.

The United States of America (USA) remained St Vincent and the Grenadines' main trading partner. Imports from that country were valued at EC\$360.4 million representing 39.8 percent of the total import bill. Export earnings from the United States of America amounted to EC\$15.5 million. This represented 14.2 percent of total earnings from exports.

Table 1 Imports, Total Exports and Balance of Trade EC\$'000

Years	Imports	Exports			Balance of Trade
		Domestic	Re-Exports	Total Exports	
2015	900,913	113,407	13,139	126,546	-774,367
2016	903,875	105,478	10,656	116,135	-787,740
2017	891,193	98,458	15,750	114,209	-776,985
2018	954,835	109,280	12,828	122,108	-832,727
2019	904,744	92,253	16,630	108,883	-795,861



IMPORTS

During the period January to December 2019, imports amounted to EC\$ 904.7 million compared to EC\$954.8 million for the same period in 2018. (See table 2).

The major S.I.T.C. sections to record decreases were “Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials” (22.0%), “Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles” (11.7%), “Chemicals and related products” (5.7%) and “Animal and Vegetable Oils, Fats & Waxes “(5.5%). (See figure 2).

Import of “Mineral Fuels, etcetera” which represents 11.7 percent of the import bill, fell by 22.0 percent or EC\$29.9 million. “Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles” declined by 11.7 percent as a result of lower imports of bedding, mattresses and mattress support.

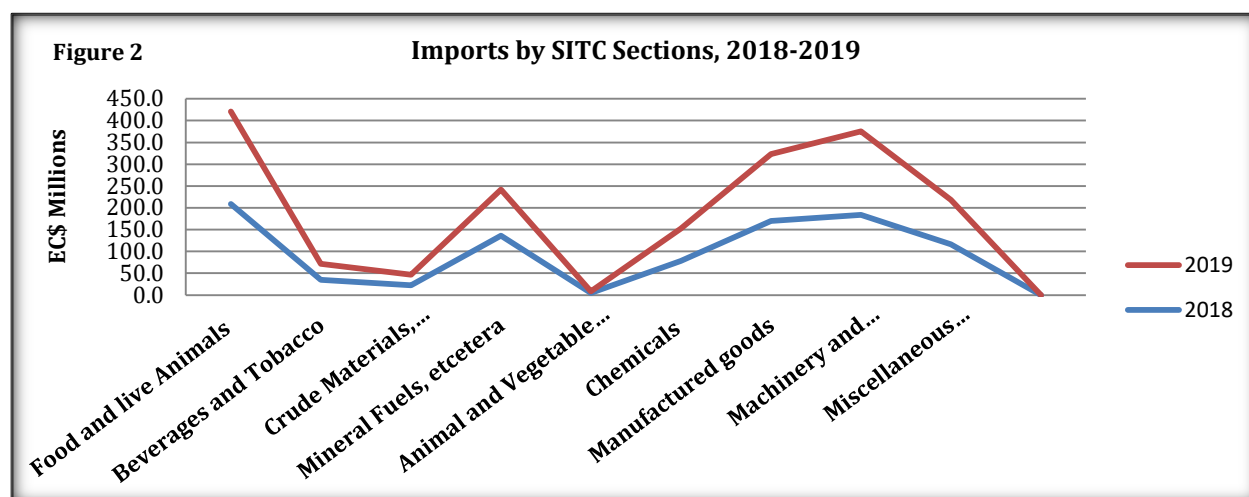
Imports of “Chemicals etcetera” was recorded at EC\$73.8 million, down from EC\$78.3 million. This decline was as a result of lower imports of medicinal and pharmaceuticals products and chemical materials. Similarly, “Animal and Vegetable Oils etcetera” fell by 5.5 percent or EC\$4.2 million, which was as a result of lower imports of vegetable oils.

Table 2 Imports by S.I.T.C. Sections

EC\$'000

S.I.T.C. Sections	2018	% of Total	2019	% of Total	% Change
0 Food and live Animals chiefly for Food	209,041	21.9	212,166	23.5	1.5
1 Beverages and Tobacco	34,973	3.7	36,363	4.0	4.0
2 Crude Materials, Inedible, except Fuels	22,152	2.3	24,844	2.7	12.2
3 Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and Related Materials	135,999	14.2	106,106	11.7	-22.0
4 Animal and Vegetable Oils, Fats & Waxes	4,481	0.5	4,236	0.5	-5.5
5 Chemicals and related Products n.e.s.	78,286	8.2	73,844	8.2	-5.7
6 Manufactured goods, classified chiefly by material	170,011	17.8	153,139	16.9	-9.9
7 Machinery and Transport Equipment	183,775	19.2	191,577	21.2	4.2
8 Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	116,075	12.2	102,468	11.3	-11.7
9 Commodities and Transactions n.e.s. in the SITC	41	0.0	-	-	-
Total Merchandise Trade	954,835		904,744		

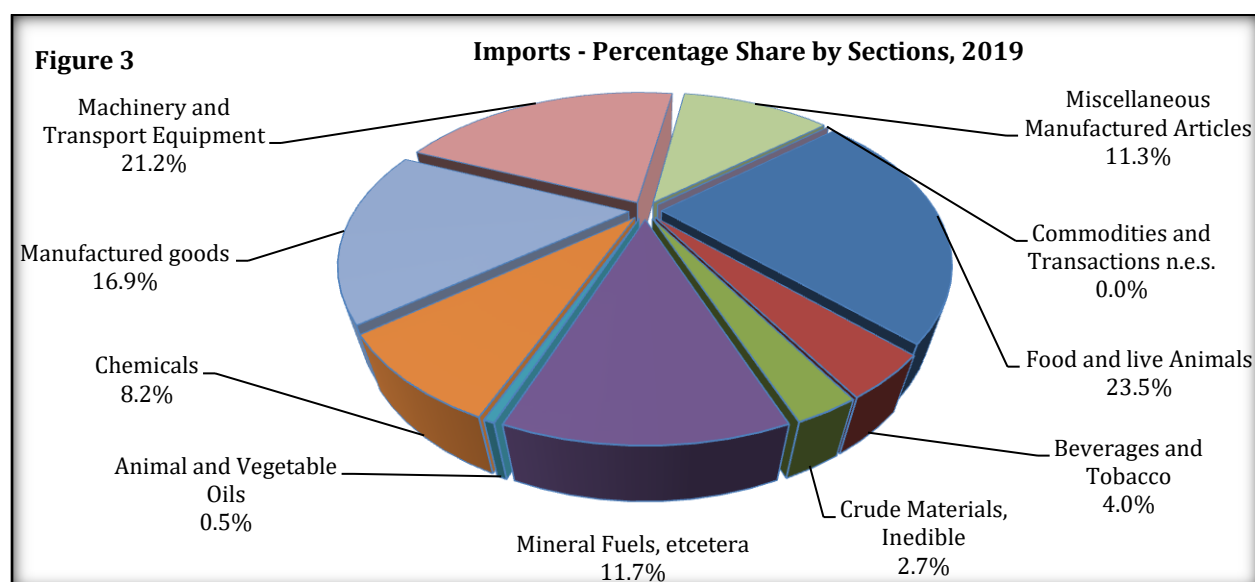
2019 International Merchandise Trade Report



Correspondingly, imports of “Food etcetera” increased by 1.5 percent or from EC\$209.0 million to EC\$212.2 million, on account of higher imports of “feeding stuff for animals not including unmilled cereals”, “vegetables and fruits”, “sugar, sugar preparations and honey” and “cereals and cereal preparations”.

Imports of “Beverages and Tobacco” grew by 4.0 percent, to EC\$36.4 million compared to EC\$34.9 million in 2018.

Similarly, “Crude Materials inedible, except Fuels” also increased and was recorded at EC\$24.8 million compared to EC\$22.2 million in 2018, as a result of higher imports of “oil seeds”, “cork” and wood” and “textile fibres”. Imports of “Machinery and Transport Equipment” grew by 4.2 percent, moving from EC\$183.8 million in 2018 to EC\$191.6 million in 2019.



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REVENUE FROM IMPORTS

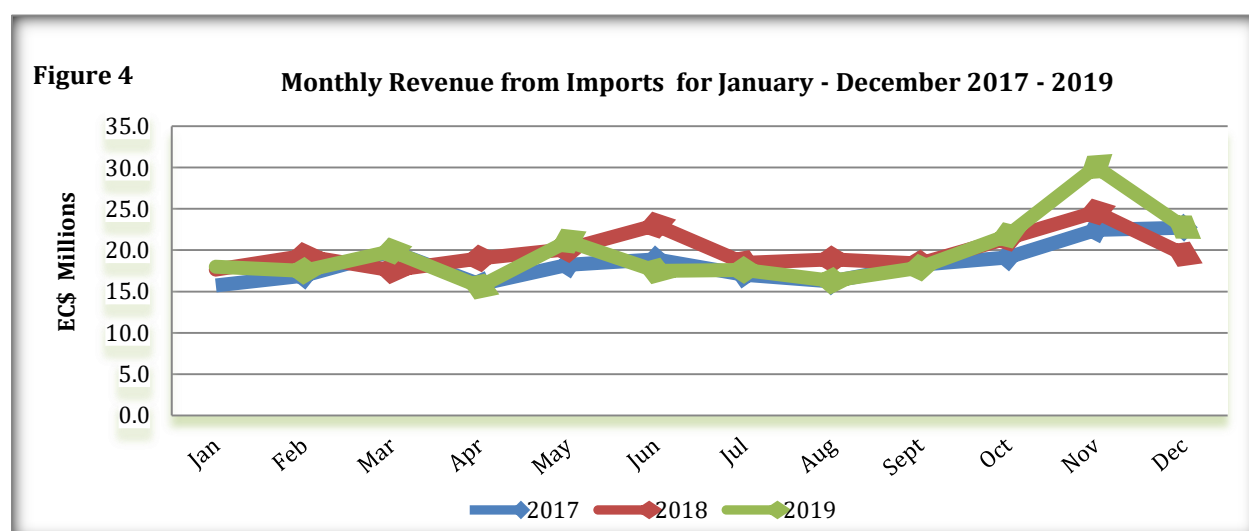
Total revenue collected during 2019 was EC\$236.1 million compared to EC\$238.1 million in 2018. This represented a 0.9 percent decline in revenue collection. The months of January, March, May, October, November and December recorded positive growth and were also the leading months for revenue earnings from imports. Meanwhile, the months of February, April, June, July, August and September recorded negative growth in import revenue during 2019.

Table 3 Monthly Revenue from Imports

EC\$'000

	2017	2018	2019	% Change
January	15,739	17,669	18,045	2.1
February	16,909	19,338	17,467	-9.7
March	19,870	17,561	19,907	13.4
April	15,858	19,027	15,620	-17.9
May	18,236	20,141	21,121	4.9
June	18,883	23,023	17,470	-24.1
July	17,042	18,480	17,569	-4.9
Aug	16,225	18,889	16,290	-13.8
Sept	18,231	18,391	17,894	-2.7
Oct	19,114	21,467	21,751	1.3
Nov	22,448	24,627	30,143	22.4
Dec	22,730	19,529	22,826	16.9
Total Revenue	221,285	238,144	236,104	

Source: Customs and Excise Department



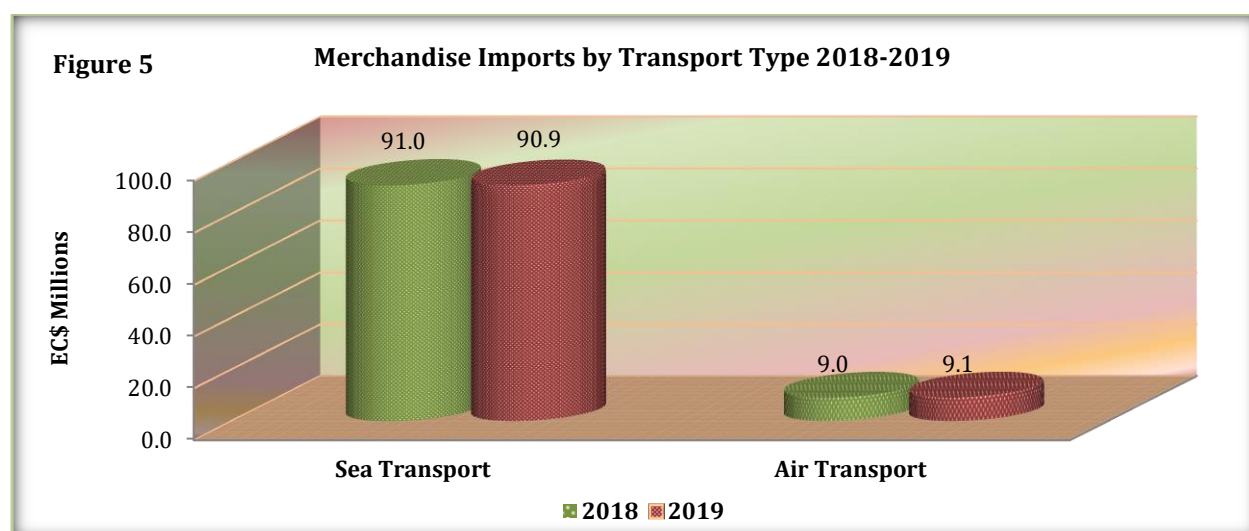


MERCHANDISE IMPORTS BY TRANSPORT TYPE

Imports into St Vincent and the Grenadines during the period January to December 2019, arrived either by sea or air transportation. During the review period, goods that arrived by sea transportation accounted for EC\$822.3 million or 90.9 percent of total imports when compared with EC\$ 868.9 million or 91.0 percent in 2018. Meanwhile, goods that arrived by sea container decreased by 5.0 percent or EC\$ 46.6 million.

On the other hand, goods that arrived by air amounted to EC\$82.5 million compared with EC\$85.9 million in 2018. This represents a decline of 4.1 percent in the value of goods arriving by air freight. (See table 4).

Table 4 Merchandise Imports by Transport Type					EC\$'000
Transport Type	2018	% of Total	2019	% of Total	% Change
Sea Transport	868,881	91.0	822,288	90.9	-5.4
Air Transport	85,954	9.0	82,456	9.1	-4.1
Total Merchandise Trade	954,835		904,744		



IMPORTS BY TRADING PARTNERS

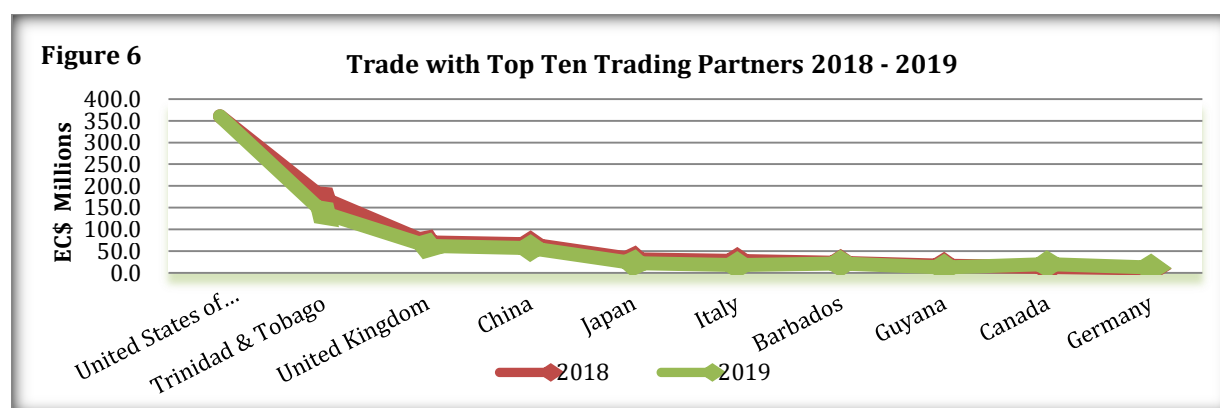
Import figures with the top ten major trading partners are presented in Table 5. It shows the continued dominance of the USA as the major source of goods imported into St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

During the period January to December 2019, the USA accounted for EC\$360.4 million or 39.8 percent of the total import bill. This represents an overall increase of 0.2 percent. Trinidad and Tobago was the second major trading partner. Imports from that country amounted to EC\$137.7 million or 15.2 percent of the total import bill. Imports from the United Kingdom was valued at EC\$61.3 million or 6.8 percent of total imports. During 2018, these same three countries accounted for 37.7 percent, 17.9 percent and 7.3 percent of total imports respectively.

Table 5 Imports from Top Ten Trading Partners

EC\$'000

Trading Partner	2018	2019	% Change
United States of America	359,656	360,450	0.2
Trinidad & Tobago	170,452	137,697	-19.2
United Kingdom	69,664	61,343	-11.9
China	65,050	56,824	-12.6
Japan	30,691	21,617	-29.6
Italy	27,325	17,168	-37.2
Barbados	22,548	21,154	-6.2
Guyana	15,704	11,885	-24.3
Canada	13,298	19,867	49.4
Germany	9,655	12,188	26.2



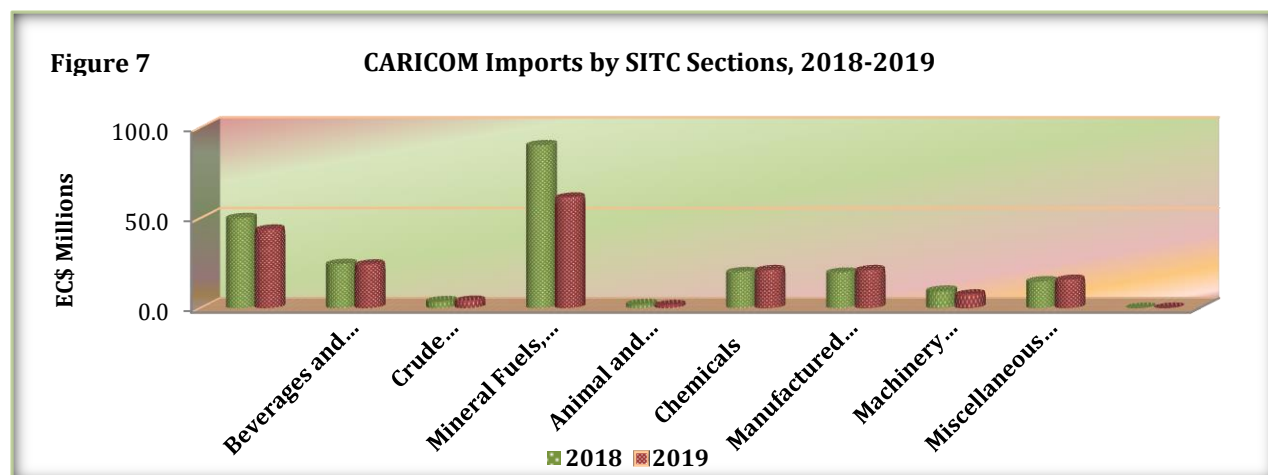
CARICOM TRADE

During 2019, St Vincent and the Grenadines imported EC\$199.5 million worth of goods from CARICOM, a decrease of 14.5 percent or EC\$33.9 million when compared to 2018. A fall of 32.0 percent in the value of imports of “Mineral Fuels, etcetera” was the main contributor to the overall decline in CARICOM imports. Spending on imports of “Food, etcetera” declined to EC\$43.5 million, from EC\$49.8 million recorded in 2018. Other major commodity groups recording decreases were; “Animal and Vegetable Oils, etcetera” and “Machinery and Transport Equipment”. These were valued at EC\$1.6 million and EC\$7.5 million. (See table 6).

Table 6 CARICOM Imports by S.I.T.C. Sections

EC\$'000

S.I.T.C. Sections	2018	% of Total	2019	% of Total	% Change
0 Food and live Animals chiefly for Food	49,793	21.3	43,477	21.8	-12.7
1 Beverages and Tobacco	24,291	10.4	24,076	12.1	-0.9
2 Crude Materials, Inedible, except Fuels	3,691	1.6	4,014	2.0	8.8
3 Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and Related Materials	89,979	38.6	61,196	30.7	-32.0
4 Animal and Vegetable Oils, Fats & Waxes	2,057	0.9	1,592	0.8	-22.6
5 Chemicals and related Products n.e.s.	19,808	8.5	20,963	10.5	5.8
6 Manufactured goods, classified chiefly by material	19,483	8.3	21,008	10.5	7.8
7 Machinery and Transport Equipment	9,547	4.1	7,538	3.8	-21.0
8 Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	14,730	6.3	15,644	7.8	6.2
9 Commodities and Transactions n.e.s. in the SITC	-	-	-	-	-
Total CARICOM	233,379		199,508		



IMPORTS BY END-USE CLASSIFICATION

During 2019, the major categories of imports were, “Consumer Goods (excluding Motor Cars)” and “Raw Materials/Intermediate Goods”. These accounted for 48.1 percent or EC\$434.8 million and 37.4 percent or EC\$338.7 million respectively of the import bill.

Expenditure on “Capital Goods (excluding Motor Cars)” accounted for 11.9 percent of the import bill, moving from EC\$95.8 million in 2018 to EC\$107.8 million in 2019. Import of “Passenger Motor Cars” amounted to EC\$23.4 million or 2.9 percent of imports in 2019. (See table 7).

Table 7 Imports by End-Use Classification			EC\$'000	
End Use Categories	2018	2019	% of Total	% Change
Consumer Goods (excluding Motor Cars)	476,544	434,822	48.1	-8.8
Food (including Beverages)	189,341	193,141		2.0
Fuel and Lubricants, processed (Motor Spirit)	123,170	96,628		-21.5
Transport Equipment, non-industrial	5,372	4,751		-11.6
Durable Goods	42,419	33,436		-21.2
Semi-Durable Goods	48,880	45,687		-6.5
Non-Durable Goods	67,361	61,179		-9.2
Raw Materials / Intermediate Goods	360,328	338,677	37.4	-6.0
Food (including Beverages)	48,057	47,163		-1.9
Industrial Supplies	238,886	227,687		-4.7
Fuels and Lubricants, Primary	9	26		178.7
Other Fuels and Lubricants	13,099	9,682		-26.1
Parts and accessories of Capital Goods and Transport Equipment	57,859	53,947		-6.8
Goods n.e.s.	2,418	172		-92.9
Capital Goods (excluding Motor Cars)	95,832	107,806	11.9	12.5
Capital Goods (excluding transport equipment)	82,985	95,127		14.6
Transport Equipment, Industrial	12,847	12,680		-1.3
Passenger Motor Cars	22,131	23,425	2.6	5.8
Total Merchandise Trade	954,835	904,730		

Expenditure on “Consumer Goods” fell by 8.8 percent, moving from EC\$476.5 million to EC\$434.8 million. This decline was largely due to a decline in four of the six sub-categories. “Fuels and Lubricants” accounted for the largest decline of 21.5 percent, moving from EC\$123.2 million in 2018 to EC\$96.6 million in 2019. “Durable Goods” accounted for the second largest decline of 21.2 percent, moving from EC\$42.4 million in 2018 to EC\$33.4 million in 2019. The categories Semi-durable and Non-durable goods declined by 6.5 percent and 9.2 percent respectively.

Similarly, expenditure on “Intermediate Goods” fell by 6.0 percent. The sub-category “Industrial Supplies” fell by 4.7 percent, moving from EC\$238.9 million in 2018 to EC\$227.7 million in 2019. Meanwhile, expenditure on “Capital Goods (excluding Motor Cars)” grew by 12.5 percent, due to higher imports of machinery and equipment.

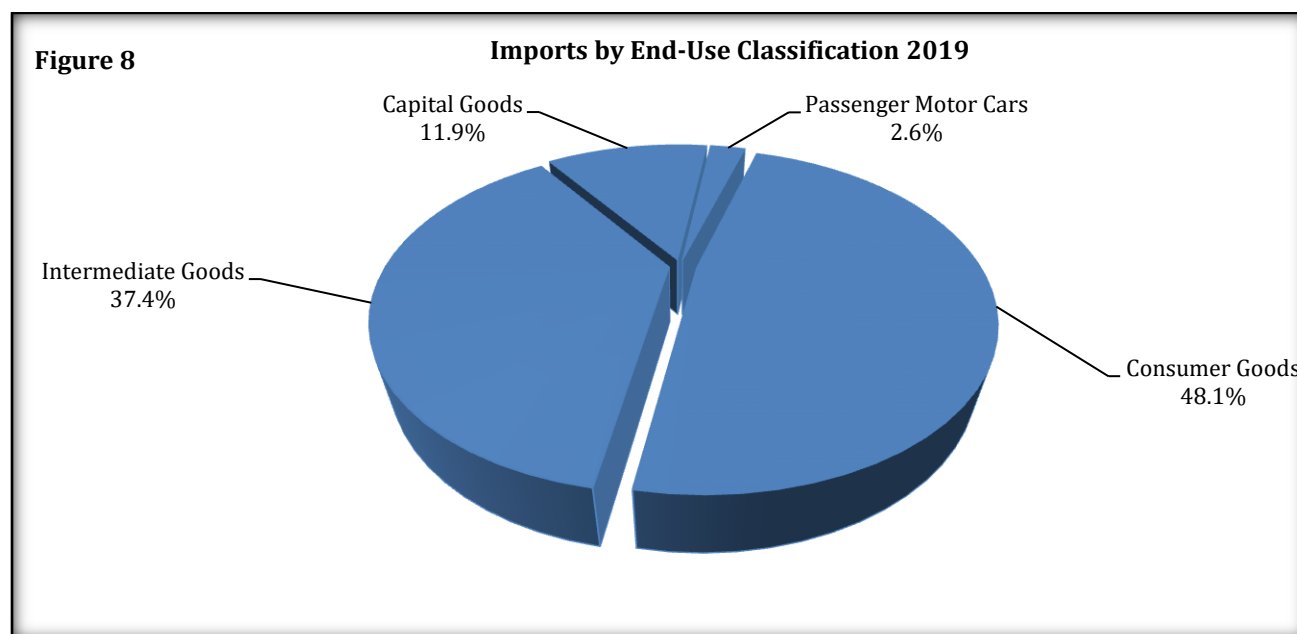


Table 8 Imports by Major Trading Partners

EC\$'000

Trading Partner	2018	2019	% Change
CARICOM	233,379	199,506	-14.5
O.E.C.S	14,643	16,947	15.7
Antigua & Barbuda	544	695	27.8
Anguilla	4	1	-67.9
Dominica	949	927	-2.3
Grenada	5,798	6,879	18.6
Montserrat	841	-	-100.0
St. Kitts/Nevis	1,241	2,715	118.8
St. Lucia	5,267	5,730	8.8
Other CARICOM	218,741	182,560	-16.5
Bahamas	0	-	-100.0
Barbados	22,548	21,154	-6.2
Belize	697	1,181	69.5
Guyana	15,704	11,885	-24.3
Haiti	58	58	-1.0
Jamaica	8,643	9,701	12.2
Suriname	637	885	38.9
Trinidad & Tobago	170,452	137,697	-19.2
Other Caribbean States	18,581	17,454	-6.1
North America	372,954	380,317	2.0
Canada	13,298	19,867	49.4
United States of America	359,656	360,450	0.2
Germany	9,655	12,188	26.2
United Kingdom	69,664	61,343	-11.9
Netherlands	9,473	12,613	33.1
Japan	30,691	21,617	-29.6
China	65,050	56,824	-12.6
Venezuela	583	23	-96.0
Colombia	7,142	4,785	-33.0
Brazil	9,343	9,133	-2.2
Mexico	9,458	9,104	-3.7
Other Countries	118,857	119,833	0.8
Total Merchandise Trade	954,835	904,743	

Table 9 Merchandise Imports by Sections and Divisions

EC\$'000

Description	2018	2019
SECTION -0- Food and Live Animals chiefly for Food	209,041	212,166
00 Live animals chiefly for food	262	346
01 Meat and meat preparations	49,539	50,504
02 Dairy products and bird's eggs	21,753	21,157
03 Fish, crustaceans and molluscs, and preparations thereof	6,349	6,295
04 Cereals and cereal preparations	55,307	57,455
05 Vegetables and fruits	21,204	22,185
06 Sugar, sugar preparations and honey	10,022	10,471
07 Coffee, tea, cocoa spices, and manufactures thereof	4,887	4,937
08 Feeding stuff for animals (not including unmilled cereals)	2,059	2,597
09 Miscellaneous edible products and preparations	37,660	36,219
SECTION -1- Beverages and Tobacco	34,973	36,363
11 Beverages	27,573	30,153
12 Tobacco and tobacco manufactures	7,399	6,209
SECTION -2- Crude Materials Inedible, except Fuels	22,152	24,844
21 Hides, skins and furskins raw	2	1
22 Oil seeds and oleaginous fruit	2,475	4,155
23 Crude rubber (including synthetic and reclaimed)	6	12
24 Cork and wood	14,165	15,913
25 Pulp and waste paper	0	-
26 Textile fibres (other than wool tops and other combed wool) and their wastes not manufactured into yarn or fabric	65	93
27 Crude fertilizers and crude minerals (excluding coal, petroleum and precious stones)	3,570	3,298
28 Metalliferous ores and metal scrap	2	1
29 Crude animal and vegetable materials n.e.s.	1,868	1,371
SECTION -3- Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and Related Materials	135,999	106,106
32 Coal, coke and briquettes	9	15
33 Petroleum, petroleum products and related materials	123,222	96,677
34 Gas, natural and manufactured	12,768	9,414

Table 9 (Cont'd) Merchandise Imports by Sections and Divisions

EC\$'000

Description	2018	2019
SECTION -4- Animal and Vegetable Oils, Fats and Waxes	4,481	4,236
41 Animal oils and fats	3	1
42 Fixed vegetable oils and fats, crude, refined or fractionated	4,468	4,216
43 Animal and vegetable oils and fats, processed, and waxes of animal or vegetable origin	10	19
SECTION -5- Chemicals and Related Products, n.e.s.	78,286	73,844
51 Organic chemicals	894	1,136
52 Inorganic chemicals	1,575	1,757
53 Dyeing, tanning and colouring materials	15,085	14,790
54 Medicinal and pharmaceutical products	14,311	13,063
55 Essential oils and resinoids and perfume materials; toilet, polishing and cleansing preparations	21,015	19,322
56 Fertilizers, manufactured	2,686	2,683
57 Plastics in primary form	2,233	2,374
58 Plastics in non-primary form	7,902	7,616
59 Chemical materials and products, n.e.s.	12,586	11,103
SECTION -6- Manufactured Goods classified chiefly by Materials	170,011	153,139
61 Leather, leather manufactures, n.e.s., and dressed furskins	99	117
62 Rubber manufactures, n.e.s.	11,175	10,419
63 Cork and wood manufactures (excluding furniture)	17,347	16,032
64 Paper, paperboard, and articles of paper pulp, of paper or of paperboard	20,317	18,724
65 Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles, n.e.s., and related products	16,687	12,698
66 Non-metallic mineral manufactures, n.e.s.	35,025	33,284
67 Iron and steel	26,097	18,787
68 Non-ferrous metals	1,704	1,924
69 Manufactures of metal, n.e.s.	41,560	41,154

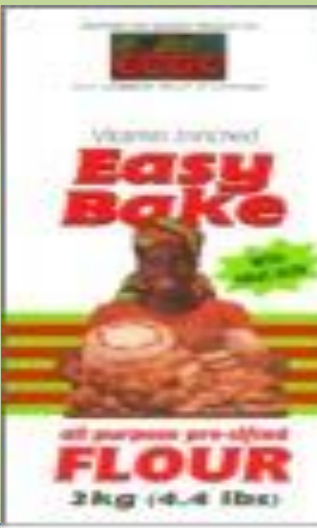
Table 9 (Cont'd) Merchandise Imports by Sections and Divisions

EC\$'000

Description	2018	2019
SECTION -7- Machinery and Transport Equipment	183,775	191,577
71 Power generating machinery and equipment	8,754	9,662
72 Machinery specialized for particular industries	8,858	10,070
73 Metal working machinery	929	17,813
74 General industrial machinery and equipment	31,945	28,857
n.e.s. and machine parts, n.e.s.		
75 Office machines and automatic	10,163	9,435
data processing equipment		
76 Telecommunications and sound recording and	29,967	27,274
reproducing apparatus and equipment		
77 Electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances, n.e.s.,	42,629	40,600
and electrical parts thereof (including non-electrical		
counterparts n.e.s. of electrical household type equipment)		
78 Road vehicles (including air cushion vehicles)	44,876	44,538
79 Other transport equipment	5,654	3,328
SECTION -8- Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	116,075	102,468
81 Prefabricated building, sanitary plumbing,	9,746	8,688
heating and lighting fixtures and fittings, n.e.s.		
82 Furniture and parts thereof; bedding, mattresses,	28,747	19,667
mattress supports, cushions		
83 Travel goods, handbags and similar containers	2,064	2,263
84 Articles of apparel and clothing accessories	17,311	16,869
85 Footwear	5,816	6,050
87 Professional, scientific and controlling instruments and	10,604	7,736
apparatus, n.e.s.		
88 Photographic apparatus, equipment and supplies	4,488	4,454
and optical goods, n.e.s.; watches and clocks		
89 Miscellaneous manufactured articles n.e.s.	37,299	36,741
SECTION -9- Commodities and Transactions n.e.c in SITC	41	0
96 Coin (other than gold coin), not being a legal tender	41	0
97 Gold, non-monetary (excluding gold ores and concentrates)	-	-
Total Merchandise Trade	954,835	904,744



EXPORTS



EXPORTS

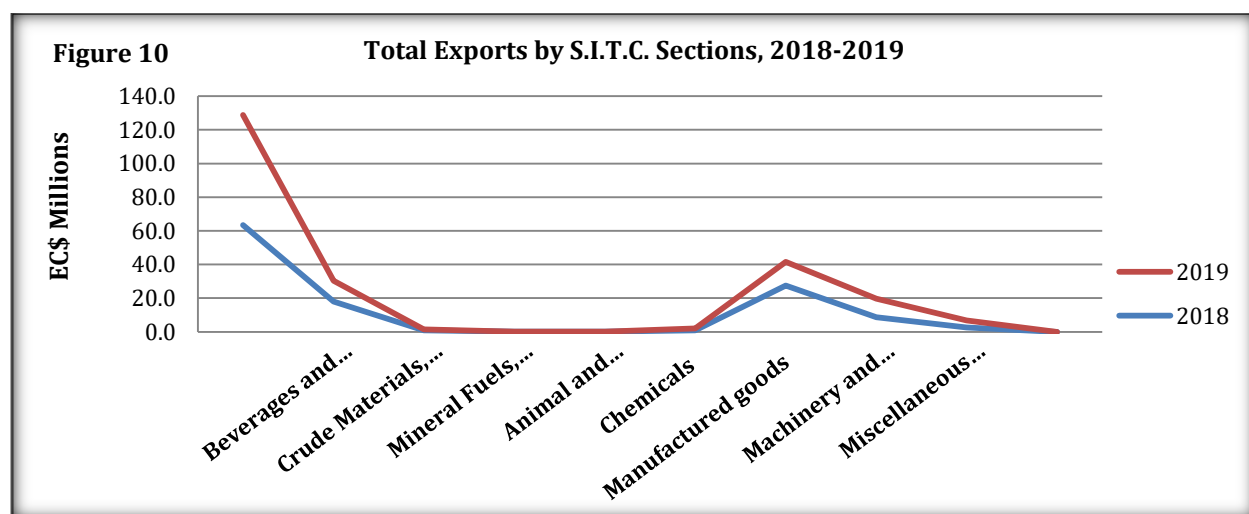
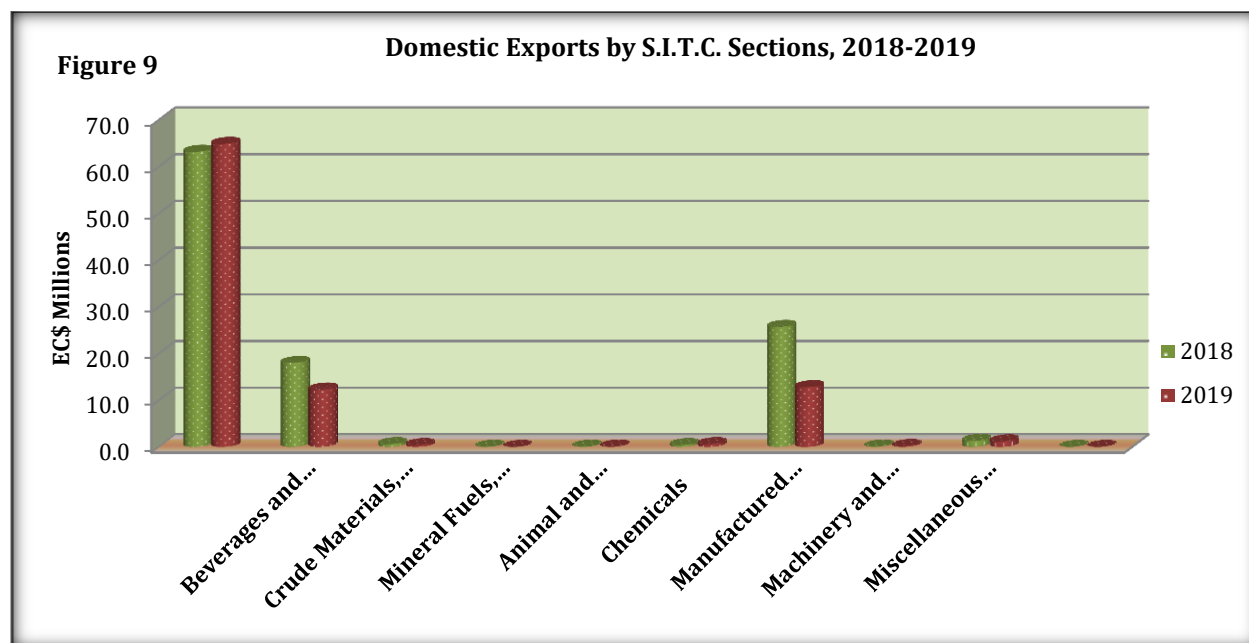
Total exports for 2019 amounted to EC\$108.9 million, a decrease of 10.8 percent or EC\$13.2 million. Receipts from domestic exports were recorded at EC\$92.3 million, a decrease of 15.6 percent or EC\$17.0 million. (See table 10).

The decline in domestic exports was on account of the fall in “Beverages and Tobacco” and “Manufactured Goods”. Export of “Beverages and Tobacco” amounted to EC\$12.3 million, a decrease of 31.7 percent or EC\$5.7 million, when compared to EC\$18.0 million for 2018. This decline was due to lower exports of beers and malt beverages. The other major category “Manufactured Goods” fell by 50.3 percent and was valued at EC\$12.8 million, when compared to EC\$25.7 million in 2018. This decline was on account of lower exports of galvanise sheets and cardboard cartons. (See tables 10 and 11).

Table 10 Domestic Exports and Total Exports by S.I.T.C. Sections

EC\$'000

S.I.T.C. Sections	Domestic Exports			Total Exports		
	2018	2019	% Change	2018	2019	% Change
0 Food and live Animals chiefly for Food	63,152	64,906	2.8	63,461	65,414	3.1
1 Beverages and Tobacco	17,958	12,268	-31.7	17,975	12,279	-31.7
2 Crude Materials, Inedible, except Fuels	563	329	-41.6	923	621	-32.7
3 Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and related materials	0	-	-100.0	33	37	10.2
4 Animal and Vegetable Oils, Fats and Waxes	60	50	-16.6	60	50	-16.5
5 Chemicals and related products n.e.s.	438	616	40.8	968	1,118	15.5
6 Manufactured goods, classified chiefly by material	25,662	12,750	-50.3	27,428	14,181	-48.3
7 Machinery and Transport Equipment	114	168	48.0	8,723	10,938	25.4
8 Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	1,334	1,166	-12.6	2,538	4,247	67.3
9 Commodities and Transactions n.e.c in SITC	-	-	0.0	-	-	0.0
Total Merchandise Trade	109,280	92,253	-15.6	122,108	108,883	-10.8

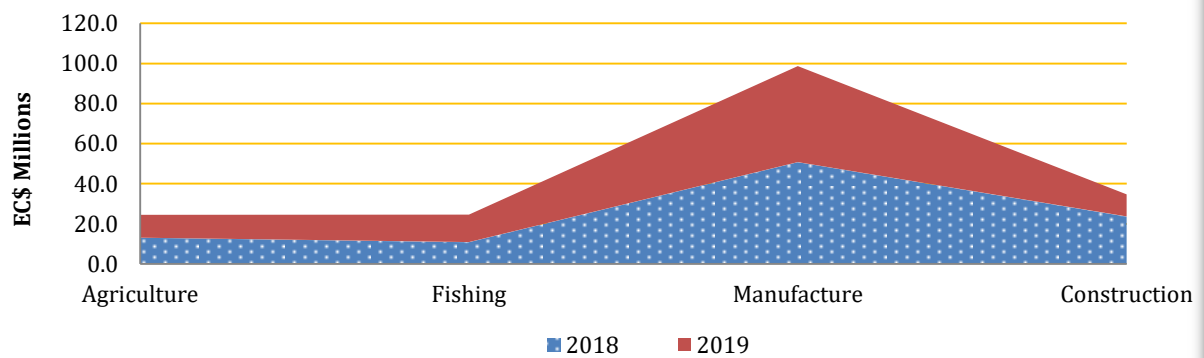
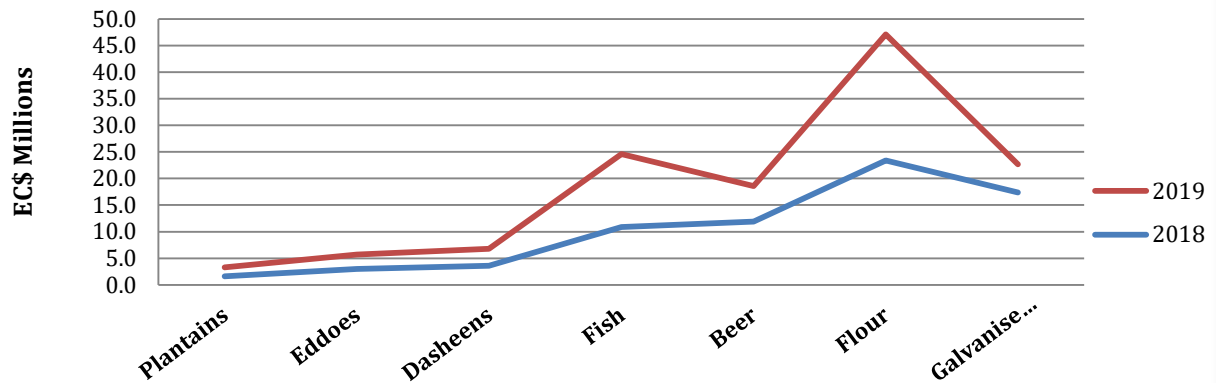


MAJOR TRADITIONAL DOMESTIC EXPORTS

The export of most traditional agricultural produce contracted both in volume and value compared to 2018. Banana exports recorded a 44.2 percent fall in volume with a corresponding 53.5 percent fall in its earnings. The volume moved from 1,743,000 kg in 2018 to 973,000 kg in 2019 as export earnings fell from EC\$2.5 million to EC\$1.2 million during the same period. Other root crops and tubers recorded similar declines. The export of eddoes, dasheens, sweet potatoes, yams, beer and malt beverages contracted by 11.6 percent, 9.1 percent, 44.9 percent, 43.3 and 5.7 percent respectively compared to 2018. The export of tannias and yams grew by 22.4 percent and 11.6 percent respectively. Similarly, the export value of animal feeds, flour and rum moved positively at an average rate of 21.7 percent. (See table 11).

Table 11 Major Traditional Domestic Exports by Industry EC\$'000

Industry / Commodity	Unit	2018		2019		% Change	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
<u>Agriculture</u>							
Bananas	000 Kg	1,743	2,482	973	1,155	-44.2	-53.5
Plantains	000 Kg	1,495	1,647	1,540	1,692	3.0	2.7
Eddoes	000 Kg	1,762	3,007	1,560	2,659	-11.5	-11.6
Dasheens	000 Kg	2,173	3,559	1,996	3,236	-8.1	-9.1
Tannias	000 Kg	97	231	119	283	22.8	22.4
Yams	000 Kg	394	726	439	810	11.5	11.6
Coconuts	000 Kg	984	690	1,145	749	16.3	8.6
Sweet Potatoes	000 Kg	465	573	257	316	-44.7	-44.9
Cocoa Beans	000 Kg	11	192	30	523	169.2	173.0
<u>Fishing</u>							
Fish: fresh, chilled or frozen	000 Kg	431	10,850	511	13,691	18.7	26.2
<u>Manufacture</u>							
Beer	000 Litres	3,435	11,902	2,661	6,749	-22.5	-43.3
Malt Beverages	000 Litres	1,063	4,786	1,022	4,513	-3.9	-5.7
Rum	000 Litres	13	261	18	348	38.5	33.3
Flour	000 Kg	10,773	23,422	11,083	23,697	2.9	1.2
Animal Feeds	000 Kg	8,864	8,524	10,795	11,139	21.8	30.7
Cardboard Cartons	000 Kg	314	1,618	238	1,276	-24.0	-21.1
Articles of Apparel	000 Kg	4	275	2	218	-51.3	-20.6
<u>Construction</u>							
Galvanize Sheets	000 Kg	3,152	17,422	1,066	5,332	-66.2	-69.4
Windows and Doors	000 Singles	308	5,835	314	5,381	1.8	-7.8
Nails	000 Singles	78	438	66	319	-15.6	-27.4

Figure 11
Major Traditional Domestic Exports by Industry, 2018-2019

Figure 12
Selected Traditional Domestic Exports, 2018-2019


DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY TRADING PARTNERS

Barbados was the most significant contributor to receipts from domestic exports. During the period January to December 2019, the value of goods exported to Barbados totaled EC\$17.9 million, an increase of 7.1 percent compared to EC\$16.8 for the similar period in 2018.

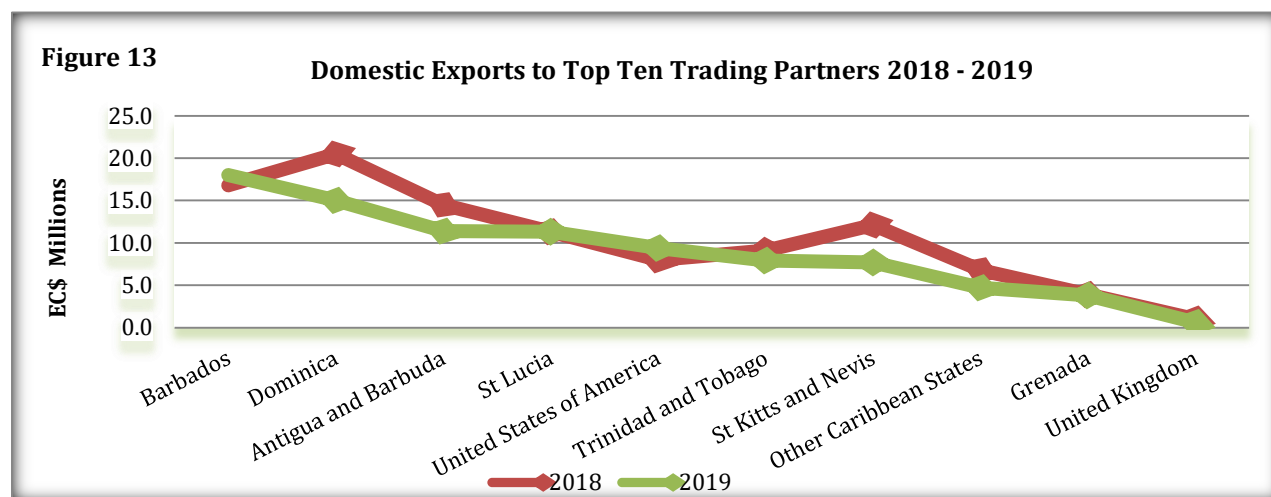
Dominica and Antigua and Barbuda were also significant domestic exports markets. However, the value of domestic exports to these markets contracted by 26.8 percent and 21.3 percent respectively. Together, they accounted for imports totaling EC\$ 15.0 million and EC\$ 11.4 million respectively.

Domestic exports to the United States of America was recorded at EC\$9.4 million compared to EC\$8.0 million in 2018. Similarly, domestic exports to all of the other major trading areas contracted. (See table 12).

Table 12 Domestic Exports to Top Ten Trading Partners

EC\$'000

Trading Partner	2018	2019	% Change
Barbados	16,769	17,965	7.1
Dominica	20,521	15,019	-26.8
Antigua and Barbuda	14,469	11,380	-21.3
St Lucia	11,260	11,326	0.6
United States of America	7,986	9,448	18.3
Trinidad and Tobago	9,082	7,911	-12.9
St Kitts and Nevis	12,118	7,668	-36.7
Other Caribbean States	6,829	4,726	-30.8
Grenada	3,876	3,787	-2.3
United Kingdom	1,021	640	-37.4



CARICOM TRADE

During 2019, St Vincent and the Grenadines exported EC\$76.3 million worth of goods to CARICOM, a decrease of 17.7 percent or EC\$16.4 million when compared to 2018. A decline of 49.1 percent and 32.9 percent in the value of exports of “Manufactured Goods” and “Beverages and Tobacco” respectively was the main contributor to the overall decline in CARICOM exports. Spending on exports of “Food, etcetera” declined, and amounted to EC\$52.7 million, down from EC\$53.6 million recorded in 2018. Other major commodity groups recording decreases were; “Animal and Vegetable Oils, etcetera” and “Machinery and Transport Equipment”.

Table 13 CARICOM Domestic Exports by S.I.T.C. Sections

S.I.T.C. Sections	2018	% of Total	2019	EC\$'000	
				% of Total	% Change
0 Food and live Animals chiefly for Food	53,567	57.8	52,653	69.0	-1.7
1 Beverages and Tobacco	17,448	18.8	11,715	15.4	-32.9
2 Crude Materials, Inedible, except Fuels	21	0.0	63	0.1	200.0
3 Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and Related Materials	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0
4 Animal and Vegetable Oils, Fats & Waxes	46	0.0	38	0.0	-17.4
5 Chemicals and related Products n.e.s.	374	0.4	505	0.7	35.0
6 Manufactured goods, classified chiefly by material	20,199	21.8	10,282	13.5	-49.1
7 Machinery and Transport Equipment	5	0.0	3	0.0	-40.0
8 Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	1,014	1.1	1,040	1.4	2.6
9 Commodities and Transactions n.e.s. in the SITC	-	-	-	-	-
Total CARICOM	92,674		76,299		

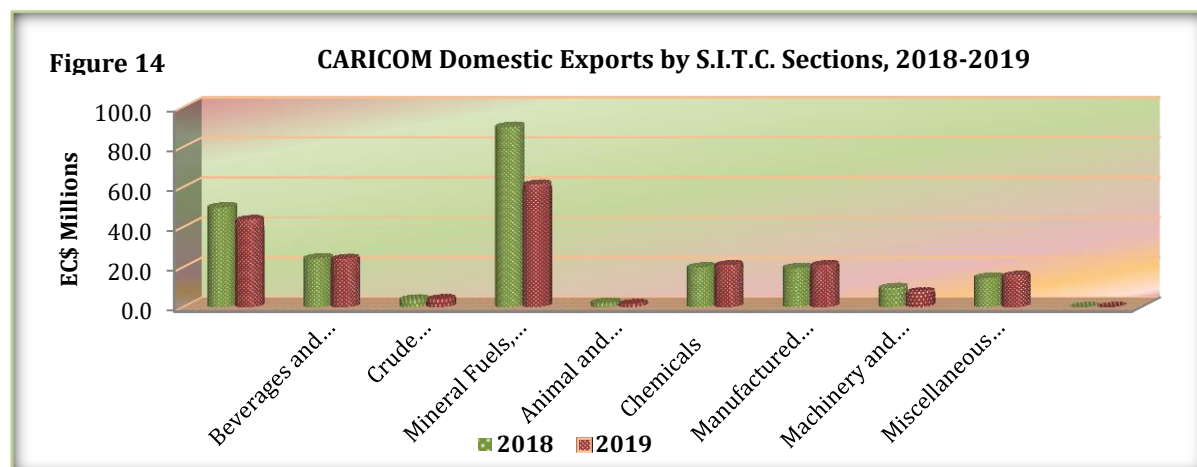


Table 14 Domestic and Total Exports by Major Trading Partners

EC\$'000

Trading Partner	Domestic Exports		Total Exports	
	2018	2019	2018	2019
TOTAL CARICOM	92,675	76,299	102,115	82,124
O.E.C.S	63,129	49,999	69,379	52,932
Anguilla	61	290	63	290
St. Lucia	11,260	11,326	13,836	12,593
Dominica	20,521	15,019	21,439	15,123
Antigua & Barbuda	14,469	11,380	14,737	11,740
Grenada	3,876	3,787	6,021	4,619
St. Kitts/Nevis	12,118	7,668	12,451	8,026
Montserrat	825	529	831	541
Other CARICOM	29,607	26,591	32,800	29,482
Trinidad & Tobago	9,082	7,911	10,770	10,063
Barbados	16,769	17,965	18,097	18,677
Jamaica	922	271	923	282
Guyana	294	239	295	245
Belize	2,328	99	2,338	99
Bahamas	0	20	1	32
Suriname	211	85	375	85
Haiti	0	0	0	0
Other Caribbean States	6,829	4,726	7,387	5,002
North America	7,987	9,472	10,297	17,351
Canada	0	23	75	1,848
United States of America	7,986	9,448	10,222	15,503
United Kingdom	1,021	640	1,116	938
Other Countries	707	827	1,130	3178
Total Merchandise Trade	109,280	92,253	122,109	108,883



BALANCE OF TRADE

BALANCE OF TRADE

St Vincent and the Grenadines' data on merchandise trade for 2019, indicate that the visible trade balance recorded a deficit of EC\$795.9 million compared to EC\$ 832.7 million for the same period in 2018. Total exports declined from EC\$122.1 million to EC\$ 108.9 million (10.8 percent) relative to the same period in 2018. Similarly, total imports decreased from EC\$ 954.8 million to EC\$ 904.7 million or 5.3 percent. (See table 15)

Table 15 Imports, Total Exports and Balance of Trade

EC\$'000

Years	Imports	Exports			Balance of Trade
		Domestic	Re-Exports	Total Exports	
2015	900,913	113,407	13,139	126,546	-774,367
2016	903,875	105,478	10,656	116,135	-787,740
2017	891,193	98,458	15,750	114,209	-776,985
2018	954,835	109,280	12,828	122,108	-832,727
2019	904,744	92,253	16,630	108,883	-795,861

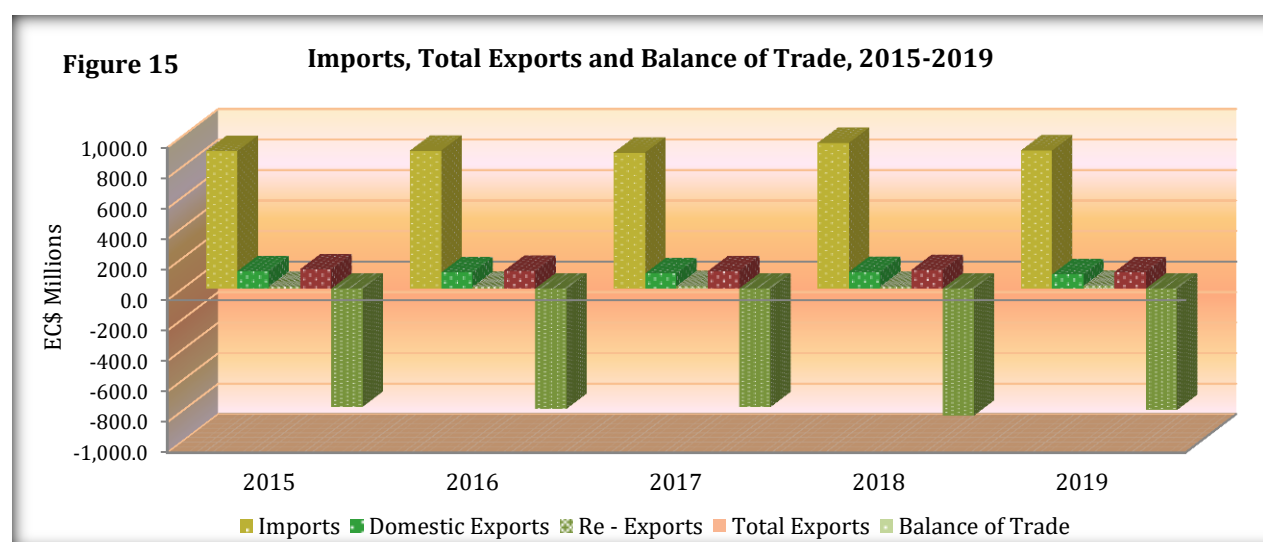


Table 16 Monthly Merchandise Imports January 2018 to December 2019

EC\$'000

Years	Month	Imports	Exports			Balance of Trade
			Domestic	Re-Exports	Total Exports	
2018	Jan	78,495	8,633	448	9,081	-69,413
	Feb	70,064	7,727	2,061	9,788	-60,276
	Mar	72,771	10,178	397	10,575	-62,196
	Apr	73,517	7,856	1,265	9,120	-64,397
	May	76,298	10,087	914	11,000	-65,297
	Jun	90,754	9,206	638	9,844	-80,910
	Jul	75,198	9,772	1,751	11,523	-63,675
	Aug	82,983	9,845	434	10,278	-72,704
	Sept	72,534	7,938	754	8,692	-63,842
	Oct	81,830	10,332	1,851	12,183	-69,647
	Nov	103,973	9,313	1,441	10,754	-93,219
	Dec	76,419	8,394	875	9,268	-67,151
2019	Jan	71,381	7,774	445	8,219	-63,162
	Feb	72,816	7,765	3,512	11,277	-61,539
	Mar	72,991	7,292	3,321	10,612	-62,379
	Apr	76,338	7,092	266	7,358	-68,980
	May	80,915	8,353	1,134	9,487	-71,428
	Jun	59,180	6,907	2,282	9,189	-49,991
	Jul	59,708	8,220	1,002	9,222	-50,486
	Aug	57,470	6,442	580	7,023	-50,447
	Sept	69,326	7,824	1,388	9,212	-60,114
	Oct	83,226	8,217	933	9,149	-74,077
	Nov	116,561	8,601	1,003	9,604	-106,958
	Dec	84,831	7,766	764	8,531	-76,300

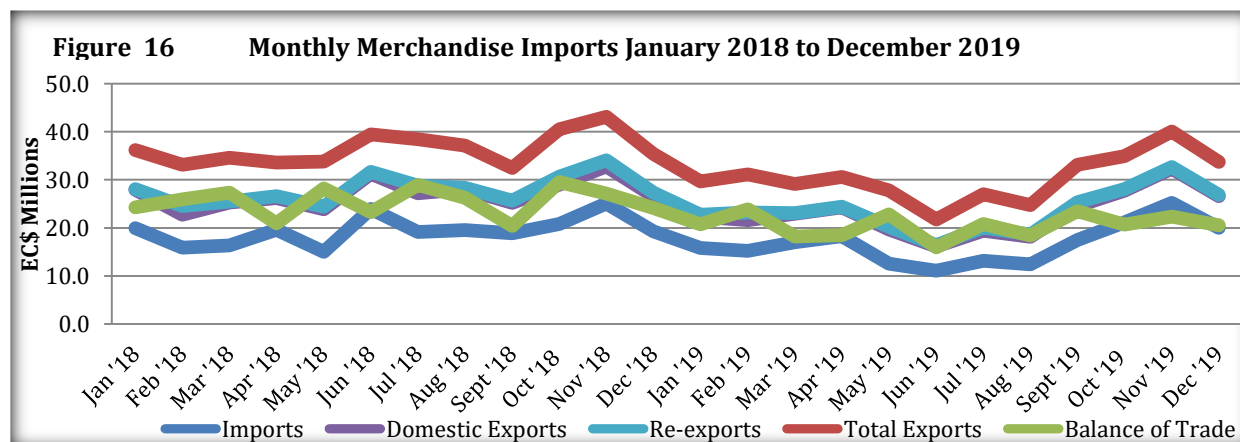


Table 17 Monthly CARICOM Trade, January 2018 to December 2019

EC\$'000

Years	Month	Imports	Exports			Balance of Trade
			Domestic	Re-Exports	Total Exports	
2018	Jan	19,970	7,935	161	8,095	-11,874
	Feb	15,860	6,858	1,790	8,648	-7,212
	Mar	16,359	8,911	196	9,106	-7,252
	Apr	19,587	6,639	347	6,986	-12,601
	May	14,993	8,904	486	9,391	-5,602
	Jun	23,922	7,345	412	7,757	-16,165
	Jul	19,132	8,083	1,562	9,645	-9,486
	Aug	19,562	8,473	294	8,767	-10,795
	Sept	18,863	6,337	457	6,794	-12,070
	Oct	20,798	8,185	1,659	9,844	-10,953
	Nov	25,050	7,717	1,317	9,034	-16,016
	Dec	19,285	7,288	760	8,048	-11,238
2019	Jan	15,847	6,528	382	6,909	-8,938
	Feb	15,230	6,390	1,574	7,964	-7,267
	Mar	16,986	5,929	148	6,077	-10,909
	Apr	18,287	6,010	140	6,150	-12,137
	May	12,568	7,109	503	7,611	-4,957
	Jun	11,119	5,022	290	5,312	-5,806
	Jul	13,160	6,278	649	6,927	-6,233
	Aug	12,458	5,715	422	6,137	-6,321
	Sept	17,486	7,036	797	7,833	-9,653
	Oct	21,136	6,593	310	6,903	-14,234
	Nov	25,188	7,115	329	7,444	-17,744
	Dec	20,040	6,575	281	6,856	-13,184

