

INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS

St. Kitts and Nevis Covid-19 impact on Trade statistics



“International Merchandise Trade Statistics record all goods which add to, or subtract from, the stock of material resources of a country by entering (as imports) or leaving (as exports) its economic territory”, United Nations (2013). The Covid-19 global pandemic made a significant impact on the trade statistics in the year 2020 for St. Kitts and Nevis. Trading partners across the globe closed their economies to mitigate the spread of the virus and consumer spending pattern for overseas goods fell severely. This cause a significant drop by 19.70 percent in the value of imports from EC\$912.85 million in 2019 to EC\$733.03 million in 2020. This downward movement was largely due to the categories: ‘Food and Live Animals’ by 4.13 percent; ‘Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly by Material’ by 24.55 percent; ‘Machinery and Transport Equipment’ by 17.57 percent and ‘Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles’ by 36.30 percent.

Table 1: Total Imports 2016 - 2020

Year	Total Imports	Change (%)
2016	900,039,219	12.29
2017	834,101,933	-7.33
2018	903,209,197	8.29
2019	912,849,352	1.07
2020	733,032,371	-19.70

Table 2: Total Imports by Main Categories 2019 and 2020

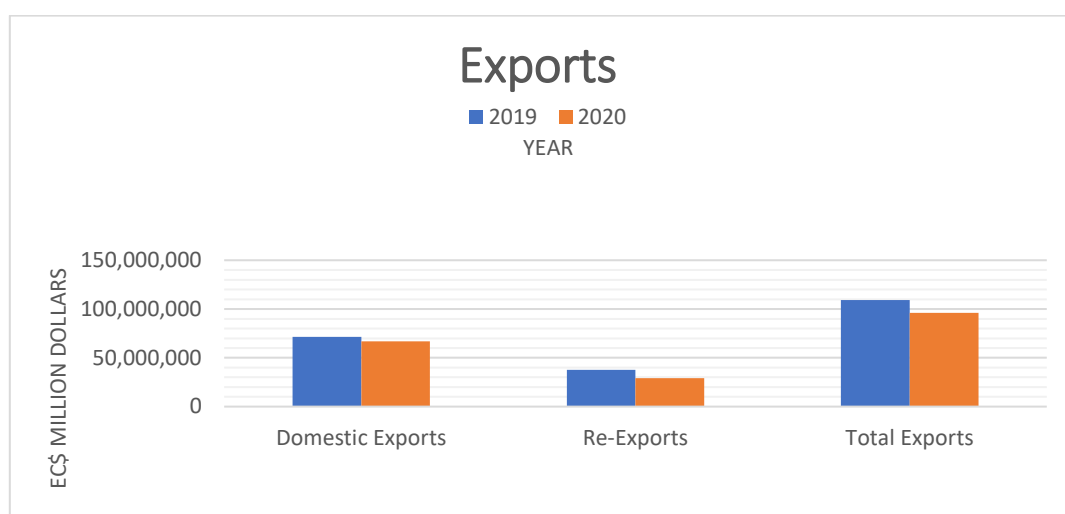
S.I.T.C. SECTIONS		2019		2020		Change
		Value	% of Total	Value	% of Total	
0	FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS	183,260,416	20.08	175,684,777	23.97	-4.13
1	BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	36,306,881	3.98	23,456,564	3.20	-35.39
2	CRUDE MATERIALS, INEDIBLE, EXCEPT FUELS	23,808,444	2.61	20,593,086	2.81	-13.51
3	MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	5,836,577	0.64	5,207,682	0.71	-10.78
4	ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS, FATS AND WAXES	2,802,925	0.31	2,684,966	0.37	-4.21
5	CHEMICALS AND RELATED PRODUCTS, N.E.S	75,241,295	8.24	72,278,167	9.86	-3.94
6	MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIAL	150,604,733	16.50	113,623,790	15.50	-24.55
7	MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	231,216,255	25.33	190,599,030	26.00	-17.57
8	MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES	201,467,095	22.07	128,343,114	17.51	-36.30
9	COMMODITIES AND TRANSACTIONS NOT CLASSIFIED ELSEWHERE IN SITC	2,304,731	0.25	561,197	0.08	-75.65
TOTAL		912,849,352		733,032,371		-19.70

Similarly, in 2020 the Federation exports decreased considerably which was reflected by of 6.18 percent in domestic exports (EC\$66.97 million), 23.19 percent in re-exports (EC\$29.01

million) and 12.07 percent for total exports (EC\$95.98 million) when compared to 2019. The main contributors to the decline in the value of domestic exports were ‘Manufactured goods classified chiefly by Material’ by 92.67 percent to EC\$0.11 million; ‘Machinery and Transport Equipment’ by 10.62 percent to EC\$50.91 million and ‘Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles’ by 55.93 percent to EC\$0.97 million. While re-exports value declined mainly attributed to ‘Manufactured goods classified chiefly by Material’ by 78.64 percent to EC\$1.34 million, ‘Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles’ by 31.02 percent to EC\$11.58 million and ‘Commodities and Transactions not classified elsewhere’ by 60.76 percent to EC\$1.78 million.

Table 3: St. Kitts and Nevis Total Exports 2016 - 2020

Year	Total Export	Change (%)
2016	101,855,773	12.44
2017	91,115,533	-10.54
2018	91,191,914	0.08
2019	109,145,917	19.69
2020	95,975,403	-12.07



S.I.T.C. SECTIONS		Domestic Exports			Re-Exports			Total Exports		
		2019 Value	2020 Value	% Change	2019 Value	2020 Value	% Change	2019 Value	2020 Value	% Change
0	FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS	2,391,685	2,966,173	24.02	283,753	594,772	109.61	2,675,438	3,560,945	33.10
1	BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	8,239,688	11,893,980	44.35	412,286	1,059,073	156.88	8,651,974	12,953,053	49.71
2	CRUDE MATERIALS, INEDIBLE, EXCEPT FUELS	10,139	91,323	800.75	8,894	126,691	1,324.39	19,033	218,015	1,045.45
3	MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	0	14	-	88,568	21,404	(75.83)	88,568	21,418	(75.82)
4	ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS, FATS AND WAXES	0	0	-	0	3,363	-	0	3,363	-
5	CHEMICALS AND RELATED PRODUCTS,N.E.S	28,736	24,309	(15.41)	267,926	72,716	(72.86)	296,662	97,025	(67.29)
6	MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIAL	1,559,949	114,352	(92.67)	6,258,996	1,337,204	(78.64)	7,818,945	1,451,556	(81.44)
7	MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	56,957,210	50,906,500	(10.62)	9,118,147	12,429,000	36.31	66,075,356	63,335,499	(4.15)
8	MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES	2,194,905	967,318	(55.93)	16,795,521	11,584,748	(31.02)	18,990,426	12,552,066	(33.90)
9	COMMODITIES AND TRANSACTIONS NOT CLASSIFIED ELSEWHERE IN SITC	0	4,964	-	4,529,514	1,777,501	(60.76)	4,529,514	1,782,465	(60.65)
TOTAL		71,382,311	66,968,931	(6.18)	37,763,605	29,006,472	(23.19)	109,145,917	95,975,403	(12.07)

Additionally, the United States of American remained the country's top trading partner with 61.97 percent or EC\$446.96 million of all imports, and 76.10 percent or EC\$73.04 million of total exports. During the pandemic, these values declined considerably when compared to the values in 2019.

Table 4: St. Kitts and Nevis Trading Partners by Imports

Partners	Total Imports	% Change
United States	446,961,519	61.97
Trinidad And Tobago	41,732,145	5.69
United Kingdom	26,119,752	3.56
China	22,543,570	3.08
All Other Countries	195,675,385	26.69
Total	733,032,371	100.00

Table 5: St. Kitts and Nevis Trading Partners by Exports

Partners	Domestic Export	Re-Exports	Total Exports	% Change of Total Exports
United States	57,057,828	15,979,604	73,037,432	76.10
St. Lucia	374,177	2,470,264	2,844,441	2.96
St. Vincent & The Grenadines	1,538,765	1,016,625	2,555,390	2.66
Antigua And Barbuda	529,043	1,716,105	2,245,148	2.34
All Other Countries	7,469,118	7,823,874	15,292,992	15.93
Total	66,968,931	29,006,472	95,975,403	100.00

Moreover, St. Kitts-Nevis trade balance (exports-imports) significantly improved in 2020 compared to the previous year. This was due to the fall in imports and exports by 19.70 and 12.07 percent respectively resulting in a negative decrease in the trade balance by 20.73 percent to EC\$637.06 million.

Table 4: St. Kitts and Nevis Balance of International Merchandise Trade

Year	Imports	Exports			Balance of Trade
		Domestic	Re-Exports	Total	
2016	900,039,219	69,688,332	32,167,441	101,855,773	- 798,183,446
2017	834,101,933	61,784,149	29,331,384	91,115,533	- 742,986,400
2018	903,209,197	61,183,960	30,007,954	91,191,914	- 812,017,283
2019	912,849,352	71,382,311	37,763,605	109,145,917	- 803,703,436
2020	733,032,371	66,968,931	29,006,472	95,975,403	- 637,056,968