



CENTRALE BANK VAN ARUBA

**Summary of the monthly bulletin of the Centrale Bank van Aruba  
for October 2005\***

December 9, 2005

In October 2005, money supply grew by Afl. 4.3 million or 0.2 percent to Afl. 2,443.5 million. This growth was the result of an Afl. 4.1 million increase in net domestic assets. Net foreign assets remained virtually unchanged at Afl. 658.7 million, which is Afl. 26.9 million or 3.9 percent lower than the corresponding period a year earlier.

The increase of net domestic assets was caused primarily by an Afl. 14.1 million rise in banking sector claims on the private sector, compared to the previous month. This rise was largely offset by an Afl. 10.6 million decline in non-credit-related balance sheet items. Loans to enterprises, housing mortgages and consumer credit went up, i.e., by Afl. 9.9 million (1.0 percent), Afl. 3.5 million (0.5 percent) and Afl. 1.1 million (0.2 percent), respectively. In addition, net claims of the banking sector on the government increased slightly by Afl. 0.6 million.

Changes in the money supply in October 2005:

	<u>In Afl. million</u>
1. Net foreign assets	+ 0.2
2. Net domestic assets	+ 4.1
<i>a. Net claims on the public sector</i>	+ 0.6
<i>b. Loans to enterprises</i>	+ 9.9
<i>c. Consumer credit</i>	+ 1.1
<i>d. Housing mortgages</i>	+ 3.5
<i>e. Other claims by the banking sector</i>	- 0.4
<i>f. Non-credit-related balance sheet items</i>	- 10.6
3. Net change in money supply	+ 4.3

(“+”=increase / “-”=decrease)

The Aruba Tourism Authority has not yet published information on stay-over visitors and their nights spent on the island for July, August, September and October 2005. Data on the average occupancy rate of the hotels for October 2005 show a decrease of 4.9 percentage points to 77.8 percent, compared to the corresponding period a year earlier. In October 2005, the number of cruise passenger arrivals and ship calls both fell sharply by 38.9 percent.

The consumer price index for October 2005 was 4.8 percent higher than the corresponding month a year earlier. The annual average inflation rate accelerated further to 3.3 percent in October 2005, up from 2.4 percent a year earlier. This rate is 0.1 percentage point lower than the annual average inflation rate of 3.4 percent for the United States.

\* The publications of the Centrale Bank van Aruba are also available on its website [www.cbaruba.org](http://www.cbaruba.org).