

Cover design:

Great Blue Heron.

Many Native American tribes see the heron as a symbol of patience and prosperity. It is believed that if fishermen spot a heron, they will have good luck and a successful fishing trip.

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TABLE 1.2A: BUSINESS PERCEPTION RESULTS

Survey questionnaire responses 1) **Business Perception Index**

	Improvement				No change				Worsening						Current	Short-	Business
	2024		2025		2024		2025		2024	200	25					termpe	erception index
	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II					
A. Current economic conditions	51.9	54.1	38.5	50.0	37.5	39.3	49.0	33.1	10.6	6.6	12.5	16.9	2021		106.1	106.7	106.4
The economic conditions in Aruba	53.8	53.1	25.0	47.1	42.3	42.9	60.4	41.2	3.8	4.1	14.6	11.8	2022		106.8	106.7	106.7
2. The activities of your business	50.0	51.0	35.4	52.9	38.5	44.9	50.0	35.3	11.5	4.1	14.6	11.8	2023		106.9	108.2	107.5
3. The investments of your business	40.4	42.9	35.4	47.1	46.2	49.0	52.1	44.1	13.5	8.2	12.5	8.8	2024		107.8	107.0	107.3
The number of employees that work for your company	63.5	69.4	58.3	52.9	23.1	20.4	33.3	11.8	13.5	10.2	8.3	35.3					
5. Terms and conditions for obtaining finance	1.9	2.0	8.3	0.0	92.3	93.9	81.3	97.1	5.8	4.1	10.4	2.9					
													2023	I	106.7	105.1	106.0
B. Expected short-term economic conditions 2)	33.7	32.7	17.2	39.7	57.2	63.3	57.8	50.7	9.1	4.1	25.0	9.6		II	107.0	106.0	106.6
The economic conditions in Aruba	21.2	26.5	10.4	41.2	71.2	71.4	41.7	44.1	7.7	2.0	47.9	14.7		III	105.3	105.2	105.3
2. The activities of your business	38.5	36.7	27.1	47.1	48.1	57.1	45.8	41.2	13.5	6.1	27.1	11.8		IV	106.8	107.1	106.9
3. The investments of your business	38.5	34.7	14.6	41.2	53.8	61.2	70.8	52.9	7.7	4.1	14.6	5.9					
4. The number of employees that work for your company	36.5	32.7	16.7	29.4	55.8	63.3	72.9	64.7	7.7	4.1	10.4	5.9	2024	I	105.2	108.8	106.7
														II	107.3	107.6	107.4
														III	106.6	105.7	106.3
														IV	107.8	107.8	107.8
													2025	,	105.1	98.1	102.0
													2023	п	103.1	106.1	105.4
														11	104.9	100.1	105.4

In percentages of all respondents.
 During the next 6 months.

Perceived developments of employment, profitability, sales, and average wage costs 3)

	Employments				Operational resu	ılts							Sales				Average wage	costs		
					Profits				Losses											
	2024	20	25		2024	20)25		2024	200	25		2024	2	025		2024	2	025	
	III	IV	I	II	IIII	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II
1. no change	40.4	36.7	52.1	47.1	15.4	12.2	33.3	11.8	7.7	8.2	0.0	0.0	7.7	24.5	22.9	14.7	19.2	14.3	20.8	26.5
2. increase of less than 5.1 percent	36.5	28.6	29.2	20.6	32.7	28.6	22.9	23.5	1.9	2.0	0.0	0.0	28.8	24.5	27.1	32.4	44.2	42.9	47.9	38.2
3. increase between 5.1 and 10.1 percent	15.4	16.3	2.1	17.6	15.4	18.4	18.8	14.7	1.9	4.1	0.0	0.0	25.0	26.5	16.7	14.7	30.8	26.5	20.8	26.5
4. increase of more than 10.1 percent	1.9	0.0	4.2	0.0	11.5	16.3	16.7	14.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.5	8.2	10.4	20.6	3.8	8.2	8.3	5.9
5. decrease of less than 5 percent	3.8	14.3	10.4	11.8	1.9	4.1	2.1	14.7	1.9	4.1	4.2	5.9	13.5	4.1	6.3	8.8	1.9	4.1	2.1	2.9
6. decrease between 5.1 and 10.1 percent	1.9	4.1	2.1	2.9	1.9	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.8	6.1	8.3	5.9	0.0	4.1	0.0	0.0
7. decrease of more than 10.1 percent	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.7	0.0	0.0	14.7	0.0	0.0	2.1	0.0	7.7	6.1	8.3	2.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	86.5	81.6	93.8	94.1	13.4	18.4	6.3	5.9	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

³⁾ In percentages of all respondents.

TABLE 1.2B: BUSINESS PERCEPTION SURVEY (INDICES BY SELECTIVE SECTORS)

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2023				2024				2025	
					I	II	III	IV	I	П	III	IV	I	II
Index current economic condition	106.1	106.8	106.9	107.5	106.7	107.0	105.5	106.8	105.2	107.3	106.6	107.8	105.1	104.9
a. Manufacturing (excl. manufacture of refined petroleum products)	104.3	100.0	90.0	110.0	110.0	110.0	0.0	0.0	110.0	110.0	107.1	110.0	90.0	102.0
b. Electricity, gas and water supply, manufacture of refined petroleum products	106.7	102.0	106.0	110.0	110.0	108.6	106.0	110.0	100.0	90.0	110.0	106.0	103.3	105.0
c. Construction	106.4	98.0	104.3	102.0	110.0	90.0	110.0	103.3	103.3	110.0	110.0	110.0	110.0	110.0
d. Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and household goods	106.3	108.5	107.9	107.0	103.0	106.9	104.1	106.7	103.8	104.4	107.4	107.3	103.3	103.3
e. Hotels and restaurants	106.5	106.7	105.0	105.0	109.3	108.5	109.1	108.9	105.0	110.0	106.8	110.0	106.0	106.0
f. Transport, storage and communication	108.8	110.0	109.1	110.0	102.5	110.0	100.0	110.0	110.0	0.0	100.0	106.0	102.5	102.5
g. Financial intermediation	108.2	106.4	105.7	107.1	108.6	107.4	104.7	108.6	104.3	110.0	105.4	107.1	105.0	105.0
h. Real estate and other business activities	108.8	103.3	105.0	110.0	98.6	110.0	100.0	103.3	96.7	106.0	104.5	110.0	110.0	110.0
i. Health, other community and personal service activities	106.2	107.8	108.8	107.4	106.9	102.0	103.3	105.7	108.9	106.2	105.6	106.4	106.8	106.8
2. Index short-term future economic condition	106.7	106.7	108.2	107.0	105.1	106.0	105.2	107.1	108.8	107.6	105.7	107.8	98.1	106.1
a. Manufacturing (excl. manufacture of refined petroleum products)	110.0	90.0	110.0	110.0	100.0	90.0	0.0	0.0	110.0	100.0	110.0	110.0	90.0	90.0
b. Electricity, gas and water supply, manufacture of refined petroleum products	102.7	106.7	110.0	103.3	110.0	108.2	110.0	100.0	110.0	100.0	110.0	110.0	90.0	90.0
c. Construction	105.6	90.0	110.0	110.0	110.0	90.0	110.0	110.0	110.0	90.0	110.0	110.0	96.7	96.7
d. Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and household goods	105.2	109.2	103.8	103.3	106.7	106.9	105.6	106.5	107.6	106.0	103.0	110.0	96.5	96.5
e. Hotels and restaurants	110.0	110.0	90.0	100.0	107.6	107.6	108.5	110.0	107.1	110.0	106.5	110.0	98.4	98.4
f. Transport, storage and communication	110.0	107.1	106.9	106.4	90.0	110.0	110.0	110.0	100.0	0.0	100.0	106.7	98.0	98.0
g. Financial intermediation	107.8	107.9	108.9	109.0	107.5	108.1	106.3	105.7	108.8	110.0	110.0	110.0	105.0	105.0
h. Real estate and other business activities	106.7	110.0	110.0	105.0	106.0	110.0	100.0	103.3	110.0	110.0	95.0	100.0	110.0	110.0
i. Health, other community and personal service activities	106.2	107.8	108.8	107.4	102.5	102.2	100.5	107.8	110.0	105.0	103.3	105.0	98.0	98.0
3. Business Perception Index	106.4	106.7	107.5	107.3	106.0	106.6	105.4	106.9	106.7	107.4	106.3	107.8	102.0	105.4
a. Manufacturing (excl. manufacture of refined petroleum products)	106.4	96.7	100.0	110.0	106.0	102.0	0.0	0.0	110.0	110.0	108.7	110.0	90.0	90.0
b. Electricity, gas and water supply, manufacture of refined petroleum products	104.8	104.5	107.8	105.0	110.0	108.4	106.7	110.0	103.3	90.0	110.0	107.8	96.7	96.7
c. Construction	106.0	93.6	105.6	105.6	110.0	90.0	110.0	106.4	107.1	100.0	110.0	110.0	101.1	101.1
d. Wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles and household goods	105.8	108.8	106.3	105.9	103.8	106.9	104.9	106.6	105.3	104.8	105.6	108.2	100.3	100.3
e. Hotels and restaurants	107.9	108.0	102.0	105.0	108.7	108.2	108.9	109.3	105.8	110.0	106.7	106.7	102.7	102.7
f. Transport, storage and communication	109.4	109.0	108.3	108.6	101.1	110.0	105.0	110.0	110.0	0.0	100.0	109.0	100.8	100.8
g. Financial intermediation	107.1	107.1	107.1	108.3	108.2	107.7	105.1	107.1	106.3	110.0	107.3	108.9	105.0	105.0
h. Real estate and other business activities	107.9	106.7	107.5	107.5	101.7	110.0	100.0	103.3	103.3	107.8	102.0	110.0	110.0	110.0
i. Health, other community and personal service activities	105.8	108.8	109.3	106.7	104.8	102.1	101.8	106.6	109.4	105.7	104.7	105.9	102.3	102.3

TABLE 1.3A: CONSUMER CONFIDENCE RESULTS

Consumer Confidence Index

	2021				2022			:	2023				2024				2025	
	ī n	II	I IV		П	II	I I		I II	II	I IV	7	I II	II	I I		I II	Ī
Consumer Confidence Index	93.6	96.7	94.9	94.1	93.5	93.0	93.8	94.2	93.0	92.6	94.1	95.0	94.3	93.7	94.7	94.2	95.0	95.0
A. Present Situation Index	92.1	96.7	95.0	93.4	93.2	92.7	93.2	94.2	93.4	92.7	93.4	95.5	94.6	93.7	94.5	94.0	94.8	94.3
B. Future Expactation Index 1)	96.0	101.3	97.1	96.1	94.3	93.2	94.0	94.0	93.9	93.0	94.5	95.6	94.8	94.3	95.5	94.9	93.0	94.7
C. Consumption and Borrowing habits Index	93.6	94.4	94.1	93.9	93.9	93.8	94.8	95.1	92.5	92.6	95.2	94.9	94.5	93.8	94.9	94.6	97.6	96.8
1. Automobile																		
Suitable	5.7	10.2	9.3	8.7	8.9	8.4	8.8	9.3	5.3	5.7	12.3	14.0	7.3	6.0	15.5	14.8	21.8	20.0
Unsure	22.2	22.5	24.1	25.2	22.3	22.2	33.8	25.7	22.2	21.5	35.6	30.3	20.2	33.6	29.3	29.0	36.8	32.7
Unsuitable	72.1	67.3	66.7	66.1	68.8	69.4	57.4	65.0	72.5	72.8	52.1	55.6	72.6	60.4	55.2	56.2	41.6	47.3
Major appliances																		
Suitable	21.0	22.8	21.6	21.8	21.9	20.6	22.1	23.6	11.5	11.5	20.5	20.2	18.5	17.2	20.4	18.0	34.4	26.7
Unsure	36.3	33.8	35.2	33.4	29.1	32.2	33.8	35.0	32.8	32.7	43.2	34.3	38.7	33.6	30.8	34.1	34.4	32.7
Unsuitable	42.6	43.4	43.2	44.8	49.0	47.2	44.1	41.4	55.7	55.8	36.3	45.5	42.7	49.3	48.8	47.9	31.2	40.6
3. Going on vacation																		
Suitable	14.7	19.6	21.9	17.1	19.8	18.4	19.9	22.9	12.7	14.0	24.0	24.2	29.8	26.1	26.2	23.0	34.4	37.6
Unsure	23.1	30.8	22.2	31.6	30.4	31.3	40.4	41.4	30.7	29.6	38.4	28.1	30.6	24.6	28.0	33.8	35.2	34.5
Unsuitable	62.2	49.6	55.9	51.4	49.8	50.3	39.7	35.7	56.6	56.4	37.7	47.8	39.5	49.3	45.7	43.2	30.4	27.9
4. Taking out a loan																		
Suitable	10.2	10.7	10.2	9.8	5.7	6.3	13.2	13.6	6.7	7.2	11.0	12.9	11.3	9.0	14.0	12.0	18.4	15.2
Unsure	22.5	27.1	25.3	23.6	27.9	27.2	33.8	26.4	24.9	23.9	36.3	24.2	29.0	23.9	23.2	30.0	33.6	30.9
Unsuitable	67.3	62.2	64.5	66.6	66.4	66.6	52.9	60.0	68.4	68.9	52.7	62.9	59.7	67.2	62.8	58.0	48.0	53.9
5. Taking out a mortgage																		
Suitable	12.9	12.9	11.4	10.9	13.4	12.5	12.5	15.0	8.1	9.0	13.0	16.9	12.1	10.4	14.3	11.0	15.2	15.5
Unsure	25.8	30.6	27.8	29.2	24.3	29.4	33.8	27.1	26.6	23.3	33.6	24.2	25.0	28.4	20.7	24.3	35.2	27.9
Unsuitable	61.3	56.6	60.8	59.9	62.3	58.1	53.7	57.9	65.4	67.8	53.4	59.0	62.9	61.2	64.9	64.7	49.6	56.7
D. Price Expectation Index	90.4	90.2	90.1	90.2	90.0	90.0	90.4	90.4	90.2	90.8	90.0	90.4	90.0	90.2	90.4	90.7	90.6	90.2

In percentages of all respondents.

¹⁾ During the next 6 months.

TABLE 1.3B: CONSUMER CONFIDENCE RESULTS (PURCHASING HABITS)

E. Purchasing power and savings 1. Purchase as much as 6 months ago Yes No Don't know 2. Income increase so that you can purchase as much as 6 months ago Yes No 3. Save more compared to 6 months ago More Less Same	2021 1 II 15.9 80.5 3.6 6.6 93.4	15 80.4 4.6	8.3 88.9 2.8		2022 I II	П	I IV		1 II	П	I IV		2024 I II	П	I IV		2025 I II	
1. Purchase as much as 6 months ago Yes No Don't know 2. Income increase so that you can purchase as much as 6 months ago Yes No 3. Save more compared to 6 months ago More Less	80.5 3.6 6.6 93.4	80.4 4.6	88.9		6.1													
Yes No Don't know 2. Income increase so that you can purchase as much as 6 months ago Yes No 3. Save more compared to 6 months ago More Less	80.5 3.6 6.6 93.4	80.4 4.6	88.9		6.1													
No Don't know 2. Income increase so that you can purchase as much as 6 months ago Yes No 3. Save more compared to 6 months ago More Less	80.5 3.6 6.6 93.4	80.4 4.6	88.9		6 1													
Don't know 2. Income increase so that you can purchase as much as 6 months ago Yes No 3. Save more compared to 6 months ago More Less	3.6 6.6 93.4	4.6		96.2		3.5	5.9	6.4	4.9	5.6	7.5	8.5	7.3	5.2	7.7	6.3	9.7	8.8
Income increase so that you can purchase as much as 6 months ago Yes No Save more compared to 6 months ago More Less	6.6 93.4		2.8		92.3	94.7	92.6	92.9	93.5	92.5	84.9	89.8	89.4	93.3	89.9	89.5	83.1	87.8
Yes No 3. Save more compared to 6 months ago More Less	93.4	9.7		3.1	1.6	1.9	1.5	0.7	1.6	1.9	7.5	1.7	3.3	1.5	2.5	4.1	7.3	3.4
No 3. Save more compared to 6 months ago More Less	93.4	9.7																
Save more compared to 6 months ago More Less			5.6	9.3	4.9	4.4	10.3	10.0	10.0	8.8	12.3	12.4	15.4	10.4	19.6	12.1	26.6	20.1
More Less		90.3	94.4	90.7	95.1	95.6	89.7	90.0	90.0	91.2	87.7	87.6	84.6	89.6	80.4	87.9	73.4	79.9
Less				- 0														
	9.0	9.1	5.6	6.0	4.9	3.5	5.9	9.3	4.7	2.9	4.8	4.0	4.9	5.2	4.3	2.9	4.0	7.0
Same	40.8	34.0	40.7	37.6	41.3	50.3	47.8	46.4	41.5	44.0	45.2	42.9	50.4	42.5	40.8	43.2	36.3	35.1
*	23.7	26.3	22.2	24.0	17.8	14.2	19.9	20.7	12.6	12.0	22.6	19.8	24.4	20.1	23.3	16.8	35.5	32.3
I don't save	25.2	28.4	29.6	31.2	33.2	30.2	25.0	22.9	39.9	38.6	24.7	32.8	20.3	27.6	30.4	35.6	20.2	23.8
No savings account	1.2	2.1	1.9	1.3	2.8	1.9	1.5	0.7	1.4	2.6	2.7	0.6	0.0	4.5	1.2	1.6	4.0	1.8
F. Purchasing behaviour in the past 6 months																		
Online puchase of product and or service	***	27.2	20.0	20.1	2.0	22.	20.0	25.2	22.7	25.2	20.1	26.2	20	20.0	250	24.		22.0
Never	30.9	37.3	30.9	30.1	36.0	32.1	30.0	25.2	32.5	36.2	30.1	26.2	30.6	22.9	26.8	24.4	16.9	22.9
Sometimes	42.9	38.6	43.5	44.3	43.7	43.6	45.4	45.3	48.0	42.4	49.7	52.9	47.1	51.9	52.0	51.6	54.8	50.8
Monthly	18.6	14.5	17.3	16.9	13.8	18.3	17.7	23.0	14.5	15.5	15.4	15.7	17.4	19.8	16.5	17.9	22.6	22.9
Weekly	6.6	7.8	7.7	6.9	5.3	5.1	5.4	6.5	3.6	4.1	4.2	4.1	5.0	3.8	3.4	4.5	3.2	3.4
Daily	0.9	1.9	0.6	1.8	1.2	1.0	1.5	0.0	1.4	1.8	0.7	1.2	0.0	1.5	1.2	1.6	2.4	0.0
2. Payment in U.S. Dollars for personal consumption	60.2	70.0	64.2	62.0	co 2	61.0	52.0	61.2	c0.7	52.0	62.2	57.6	c5 2	64.1	40.0	50.6	50.7	50.0
Never	68.2	70.8	64.2	63.0	69.2	61.2	53.8	61.2	60.7	52.0	62.2	57.6	65.3	64.1	49.8	52.6	59.7	50.8
Sometimes	27.6	25.5 1.3	31.8	30.1 2.7	26.7 2.0	28.8 4.8	33.1	33.1 2.2	32.0 3.6	36.2 4.1	31.5 3.5	33.1 4.1	29.8 2.5	26 4.6	38.0 5.3	42.3 2.6	35.5 3.2	43.3 3.1
Monthly Weekly	1.8 2.1	2.1	1.5 1.9	2.7	0.8	4.8	6.2 3.8	2.2	2.9	5.4	3.5 1.4	2.9	0.8	3.8	5.5 4.7	1.6	0.8	0.9
Daily	0.3	0.3	0.6	2.0	1.2	0.6	3.6	0.7	0.7	2.3	1.4	2.9	1.7	1.5	2.2	1.0	0.8	1.9
3. Use of different bank channels for personal banking	0.3	0.5	0.0	2.0	1.2	0.0	3.1	0.7	0.7	2.3	1.4	2.3	1.7	1.3	2.2	1.0	0.6	1.9
3.1 Branch																		
Never	54.7	46.1	44.4	51.4	45.7	48.1	52.3	43.9	49.2	49.3	53.8	45.3	55.4	55.7	40.2	49.0	59.7	48.0
Sometimes	32.7	40.5	41.4	39.2	44.1	41.3	40.8	46.8	43.4	40.6	38.5	45.3	41.3	38.2	49.8	42.6	33.1	45.2
Monthly	8.7	9.9	9.6	5.6	8.1	8.3	4.6	4.3	4.6	7.2	4.9	5.2	2.5	3.8	7.5	6.1	4.0	4.0
Weekly	3.3	2.7	3.4	1.5	2.0	1.3	2.3	4.3	1.9	1.3	2.1	2.3	0.8	0.8	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.5
Daily	0.6	0.8	1.2	2.4	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.7	1.0	1.5	0.7	1.7	0.0	1.5	0.9	0.6	1.6	1.2
3.2 ATM/Debit card	0.0	0.0	1.2	2.7	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.7	1.0	1.5	0.7	1.7	0.0	1.5	0.7	0.0	1.0	1.2
Never	4.8	4.8	4.6	5.1	4.9	6.1	2.3	2.9	5.8	5.6	8.4	4.1	5.0	3.8	2.8	1.6	2.4	3.1
Sometimes	36.9	30.8	37.0	30.3	32.4	35.6	40.0	32.4	35.9	36.5	37.1	38.4	28.9	38.2	37.7	37.5	37.9	33.7
Monthly	11.7	21.2	18.5	20.0	19.8	17.9	22.3	18.7	19.3	25.0	18.9	20.9	18.2	18.3	18.1	17.6	16.1	19.2
Weekly	37.2	33.0	31.2	30.9	29.1	29.2	27.7	36.7	30.4	23.8	25.9	29.1	27.3	19.1	25.5	25.0	30.6	26.6
Daily	9.3	10.2	8.6	13.8	13.8	11.2	7.7	9.4	8.7	9.0	9.8	7.6	20.7	20.6	15.9	18.3	12.9	17.3
3.3 Internet/Online																		
Never	11.4	14.5	12.7	14.5	16.2	14.1	15.4	14.4	16.4	17.6	16.1	16.3	16.5	20.6	15.9	15.4	18.5	17.0
Sometimes	15.9	19.3	16.7	18.3	20.2	20.2	17.7	19.4	19.3	20.9	18.2	23.3	23.1	19.8	30.5	28.8	19.4	29.7
Monthly	18.3	20.4	24.1	18.7	21.1	18.3	22.3	24.5	15.7	19.1	21.7	19.2	18.2	24.4	15.3	18.6	21.0	17.3
Weekly	27.9	22.0	24.4	21.1	19.4	19.6	20.8	23.0	20.7	15.6	18.9	20.3	20.7	19.8	14.3	13.1	18.5	14.9
Daily	26.4	23.9	22.2	27.4	23.1	27.9	23.8	18.7	28.0	26.8	25.2	20.9	21.5	15.3	24.0	24.0	22.6	21.1
3.4 Mobile app																		
Never	20.1	20.9	20.4	18.2	24.7	16.7	12.3	17.3	11.8	16.0	12.6	14.5	12.4	16.0	7.8	9.3	12.9	9.3
Sometimes	15.0	14.7	13.3	14.2	13.8	13.5	17.7	10.8	14.9	15.6	9.1	13.4	7.4	8.4	15.3	13.8	8.1	11.8
Monthly	9.3	11.0	12.0	9.6	11.3	13.5	11.5	11.5	12.3	10.0	9.8	9.9	11.6	11.5	10.6	9.6	8.9	9.3
Weekly	18.3	15.3	18.5	17.2	15.8	15.7	17.7	20.9	17.3	17.1	24.5	27.3	29.8	24.4	20.6	20.2	29.0	23.2
Daily	37.2	38.1	35.8	40.8	34.4	40.7	40.8	39.6	43.6	41.3	44.1	34.9	38.8	39.7	45.8	47.1	41.1	46.4

In percentages of all respondents.

TABLE 1.4: TOURISM

		Total visitor	Total visitors	Visitors by	origin						Diversification Index 1)	Average nights	Average hotel	Cruise tourism	
		nights		North America	Of which U.S.A.	Latin America	Of which Venezuela	Europe	Of which Onether-lands	Other	· · · · /	stayed	occupancy rate	Number of passengers	Ship calls
Period		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)
2021		6,017,340	806,555	690,623	677,744	39,870	1,190	53,698	37,533	22,364	0.71	7.5		135,953	97
2022		8,004,242	1,100,997	900,446	859,074	83,589	2,205	88,145		28,817	0.61	7.3		610,474	306
2023		9,071,151	1,260,402	1,017,535	954,281	131,937			38,809	36,733	0.58	7.2		817,670	317
2024		9,811,665	1,421,616	1,134,066	1,063,214	182,348	3,880	69,340	35,713	35,862	0.57	6.9		897,274	347
2023	I	2,419,126	312,359	259,984	236,445	24,400	375	20,255	10,719	7,720	0.58	7.7		357,072	139
	II	2,075,589	307,360	253,989	244,463			15,450	8,761	8,462	0.64	6.8		142,370	51
	III	2,169,743	310,438	242,739	234,267	38,351	1,232	19,588	9,206	9,760	0.57	7.0		76,155	26
	IV	2,406,693	330,245	260,823	239,106	39,727	1,047	18,904	10,123	10,791	0.53	7.3		242,073	101
2024	I	2,815,156	382,723	314,931	287,460	41,485	846	18,132	9,525	8,175	0.57	7.4		369,461	143
	II	2,308,771	354,968	287,086	275,788	44,353	621	14,849	8,404	8,680	0.61	6.5		173,754	50
	III	2,313,605	344,780		256,857					9,589		6.7		108,127	38
	IV	2,374,133	339,145	265,298	243,109	46,476	1,161	17,953	9,477	9,418	0.52	7.0		245,932	116
2025	I	2,809,483	392,421	317,937	289,508	49,905	695	16,606	9,066	7,973	0.55	7.2		335,812	136
	II	2,339,947	369,935	290,681	277,356	53,666	855	15,942	8,659	9,646	0.57	6.3		178,768	61

Source: Aruba Tourism Authority; CBS; Aruba Hotel and Tourism Association; Cruise Tourism Authority.

¹⁾ The Diversification Index measures the concentration within the tourist market, and thus demonstrates the degree of diversification by tourist origin countries. The higher the index, the higher the level of concentration, meaning less diversification. For further reference on the methodology (which is an application of a Herfindahl-Hirschman index) see the Quarterly Bulletin (2011-I) of the CBA.

TABLE 1.5: GROWTH IN STAY-OVER TOURISM

		Total visitor nights	Total visitors	North America	Of which U.S.A.	Latin America	Of which Venezuela	Europe	Of which Nether- lands	Other
Period		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
				Qua	rterly perce	ntage change	es 1)			
2023	I	32.3	33.7	32.4	26.4	72.2	36.4	10.0	-15.6	61.7
	II	3.9	4.3	4.0	3.2	34.3	15.1	-29.7	-24.1	30.5
	III	7.2	7.8	5.8	5.4	62.6	39.7	-26.6	-17.9	16.1
	IV	11.8	16.0	13.1	12.4	66.3	73.3	-10.3	-6.3	17.9
2024	I	16.4	22.5	21.1	21.6	70.0	125.6	-10.5	-11.1	5.9
	II	11.2	15.5	13.0	12.8	50.6	21.5	-3.9	-4.1	2.0
	Ш	6.6	11.1	9.9	9.6	30.5	1.6	-6.0	-9.8	-1.8
	IV	-1.4	2.7	1.7	1.7	17.0	10.9	-5.0	-6.4	-12.7
2025	I	-0.2	2.5	1.0	0.7	20.3	-17.8	-8.4	-4.8	-2.5
	II	1.4	4.2	1.3	0.6	21.0	37.7	7.4	3.0	11.1
				Cumi	ulative perce	entage chang	ges 2)			
2023	I	32.3	33.7	32.4	26.4	72.2	36.4	10.0	-15.6	61.7
	II	17.5	17.3	16.7	13.4	49.2	23.2	-11.6	-19.6	43.8
	III	13.9	13.9	13.0	10.7	54.5	32.3	-17.6	-19.1	31.9
	IV	13.3	14.5	13.0	11.1	57.8	43.5	-15.8	-16.1	27.5
2024	I	16.4		21.1						
	II	14.0								
	III	11.6		14.8						
	IV	8.2	12.8	11.5	11.4	38.2	22.6	-6.5	-8.0	-2.4
2025	I	-0.2		1.0						
	II	0.5	3.3	1.1	0.6	20.7	5.7	-1.3	-1.1	4.:

¹⁾ As compared to a year earlier.

²⁾ From the beginning of the year to the end of the indicated period as compared to the corresponding period of a year earlier.

TABLE 1.6: CONSUMER PRICE INDICES (June 2019 = 100)

		Γotal index	Food & non-alcoholic beverages	Alcoholic beverages & tobacco products	Clothing & footwear	Housing	Household operation	Health	Transport	Communi- cation	Recreation & culture	Education	Restaurants & hotels	Miscellaneous goods & services
Weights	8	10,00	00 1,088	3 78	3 27	7 2,522	929	22	23 1,25	7 850	1,013	3 98	3 442	2 1,223
End of p	eriod	(1	(2)	(3)	(4) (5)	(6)	(:	7) (8,) (9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
2021		100	.6 100.9	9 102.0) 94.	3 98.4	102.7	7 95	.1 105.	2 99.2	2 100.5	5 104.8	3 104.4	4 100.2
2022		106												
2023		108												
2024		109	.1 119.0) 110.5	90.	2 110.8	103.0) 105	.2 112.0	0 111.8	94.8	3 131.2	2 123.0	0 106.3
2023	I	107	.5 113.9	9 109.3	92.	1 110.5	102.6	5 103	.3 122.	4 92.4	1 99.6	5 105.1	1 115.	1 102.4
]	II	106	.2 114.1	110.5	87.	2 108.7	101.9	9 101	.6 119.	7 93.3	94.5	5 105.1	115.	7 103.6
]	III	108	.0 115.5	5 110.7	85.	9 111.4	103.9	9 100	.9 116.	7 105.	92.5	5 131.2	2 118.	1 103.9
]	IV	108	.8 116.0) 110.1	92.	2 111.4	104.2	2 103	.4 108.	9 111.5	5 100.0	131.2	2 119.	1 104.9
2024	I	109	.4 116.9	9 110.4	94.	8 111.6	104.7	7 101	.9 111.	2 111.8	99.1	131.2	2 121.	1 105.1
]	II	108	.7 117.1	1 110.5	87.	0 111.7	99.4	101	.0 113.	8 112.3	94.4			7 105.9
]	III	109	.6 118.4	4 110.7	90.	9 112.2	104.9	103	.3 113.	9 111.9	92.7	7 131.2	2 121	2 107.2
]	IV	109	.1 119.0) 110.5	90.	2 110.8	103.0) 105	.2 112.0	0 111.8	94.8	3 131.2	2 123.0	0 106.3
2025	I	109	.5 117.6	5 111.0	89.	6 112.2	102.8	3 106	.8 113.0	0 113.5	5 93.9) 131.2	2 124.3	8 106.1
	II	109												

Source: CBS.

TABLE 1.7A: PERCENTAGE PRICE CHANGES

(June 2019 = 100)

			Perc	entage Cha	nge
End of peri	All groups od index	Over previous month	Over 3 months earlier	Over a year earlier	Last 12 months over previous 12 months
2021	100.6	0.7	1.4	3.6	0.7
2022	106.4	-0.1	0.2	5.7	5.5
2023	108.8	0.4	0.7	2.3	3.4
2024	109.1	-0.2	-0.5	0.3	1.7
2023 I	107.5	-0.1	1.0	5.9	6.2
II	106.2	-0.4	-1.2	2.8	5.9
III	108.0	1.0	1.7	1.7	4.5
IV	108.8	0.4	0.7	2.3	3.4
2024 I	109.4	0.7	0.5	1.8	2.1
II	108.7	-0.6	-0.6	2.4	1.7
III	109.6	-0.4	0.8	1.5	2.0
IV	109.1	-0.2	-0.5	0.3	1.7
2025 I	109.5	0.4	0.4	0.1	1.4
II	109.4	-0.2	-0.1	0.6	0.9

TABLE 1.7B: PERCENTAGE PRICE CHANGES

(Percentage change)

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2023				2024				2025	
				_	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II
								(Period av	verage)					
Total index	0.7	5.5	9.1	10.9	10.4	9.2	8.3	8.5	11.9	11.8	10.8	9.2	12.3	12.
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	-0.2	10.1	17.4	20.4	18.5	18.2	17.3	15.5	21.5	21.3	20.4	18.5	22.5	22.
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	0.1	4.2	9.2	10.0	8.5	9.3	10.0	9.1	10.3	10.1	10.2	9.2	10.3	10.
Clothing and footwear	-6.8	5.9	0.1	0.2	3.0	5.5	-4.3	-3.2	1.5	2.2	-1.1	-1.7	-1.1	5
Housing	0.7	5.0	12.0	13.5	13.3	11.0	10.8	12.9	14.2	13.8	13.2	12.6	14.1	14
Household operation	-1.1	3.9	7.8	7.1	10.0	7.3	7.8	6.1	8.7	5.7	8.4	5.8	7.0	10
Health	-3.6	1.2	5.5	7.4	4.2	6.6	3.8	7.4	6.7	6.6	7.2	9.0	9.8	10
Fransport	9.5	16.4	14.7	11.2	24.3	19.7	9.4	6.5	13.6	14.2	10.6	6.8	17.4	9
Communications	-0.1	-2.6	0.5	12.4	-7.6	-6.1	5.9	9.7	11.8	12.7	12.5	12.5	13.0	15
Recreation and culture	-1.9	1.8	0.0	-1.3	3.5	1.6	-2.2	-2.6	2.9	0.1	-2.4	-5.6	-1.9	-2
Education	1.9	2.6	13.1	28.5	4.9	4.9	16.8	25.2	31.0	31.0	27.1	25.2	31.0	3
Restaurants and hotels	0.3	5.7	13.7	18.4	13.4	13.5	13.4	14.4	17.8	20.0	18.1	17.8	21.0	24
Miscellaneous goods and services	-0.1	1.9	4.7	7.4	3.8	5.3	5.0	4.5	6.5	8.1	8.2	6.9	7.7	8
Total index (excl. energy-related components) Total index (excl. energy & food-related	-0.3	3.2	2.7	2.2	4.0	2.0	1.2	2.5	2.0	2.6	2.4	1.0	0.6	0
components)	-0.2	2.2	2.1	1.9	2.9	1.2	0.7	2.3	1.8	2.4	2.2	0.7	0.6	O
								(12-month o	average)					
Aruba	0.7	5.5	3.4	1.7	6.2	5.9	4.5	3.4	2.1	1.7	2.0	1.7	1.4	0
Aruba (excl. energy-related components)	-0.3	3.2	2.7	2.2	3.6	3.4	2.9	2.7	2.3	2.3	2.5	2.2	1.8	1
Aruba (excl. energy & food-related components)	-0.2	2.2	2.1	1.9	2.4	2.3	2.0	2.1	1.9	2.0	2.3	1.9	1.6	1
United States	4.7	8.0	4.1	2.9	7.4	6.3	5.1	4.1	3.5	3.3	3.1	2.9	2.8	2
Curacao	3.8	7.6	3.9	2.6	7.6	6.8	5.1	3.9	3.2	3.0	3.3	2.6	2.6	2
The Netherlands	2.7	10.0	3.8	3.3	9.7	8.9	6.4	3.8	3.0	2.3	2.6	3.3	3.5	
Real exchange rate index (1995=100) 1)	96.9	94.6	94.0	92.8	94.8	94.8	94.3	94.0	93.5	93.4	93.3	92.8	92.3	9

Source: CBA, CBS Aruba, CBS Netherlands, CBS Netherlands Antilles, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

¹⁾ Relative to the U.S.A. Based on CPI 12-month averages.

TABLE 1.8: CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2023				2024				2025	
					I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	II
1. Number of construction permits granted	815	899	854	718	211	212	249	182	125	175	216	202	227	208
a. Houses 1)	419	442	569	476	162	137	158	112	75	113	154	134	150	147
b. Apartments	77	82	106	86	17	24	33	32	18	25	19	24	30	24
c. Office buildings	4	15	9	7	2	2	3	2	1	3	1	2	1	7
d. Stores and shopping malls 2)	10	23	24	15	6	10	3	5	2	5	5	3	6	4
e. Others	305	337	146	134	24	39	52	31	29	29	37	39	40	26
2. Total value of construction permits (x Afl. million)	777.3	592.3	536.4	374.0	72.8	78.6	315.4	69.6	96.6	79.0	99.3	99.2	159.6	143.5
a. Houses 1)	120.9	133.4	160.9	144.2	40.3	38.9	45.5	36.2	20.6	34.5	51.8	37.3	45.5	64.6
b. Apartments	93.4	232.5	113.4	129.8	7.8	24.5	63.7	17.3	54.5	17.9	13.0	44.5	29.6	23.5
c. Office buildings	4.2	27.2	7.4	4.8	0.2	4.0	1.9	1.4	0.7	3.4	0.2	0.5	0.7	23.3
d. Stores and shopping malls 2)	12.1	17.7	26.9	17.0	18.6	1.2	2.0	5.2	1.0	4.9	4.3	6.9	7.3	8.2
e. Others	546.8	181.5	227.8	78.2	5.9	10.0	202.4	9.5	19.9	18.3	29.9	10.1	76.4	23.9
3. Total cement imported (x 1,000 Kg)	45,707	51,919	52,737		12,250	14,237	12,046	14,205	11,209	11,227	14,709			
4. Number of electrical installations approved	2,288	2,374	2,666	3,093	496	555	701	914	639	777	778	899	535	698
a. Houses 1)	400	390	442	343	67	82	128	165	76	83	90	94	28	55
b. Apartments	528	489	497	717	106	100	106	185	111	204	183	219	136	163
c. Enterprises	117	64	88	101	14	10	31	33	35	33	18	15	5	8
d. Others	1,243	1,431	1,566	1,932	309	363	363	531	417	457	487	571	366	472

Source: Department of Public Works; Department of Technical Inspection; CBS.

Excluding additions to and remodelling of existing houses.
 Excluding additions to and remodelling of existing stores and shopping malls.

TABLE 1.9: UTILITIES

	2021	2022	2023	2024p	2023	2024								2025		
					I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV p	Ιp	IIp		
1. Water																
a. Quantity (x 1,000 m3) 1)	11,742	11,979	12,260	12,787	2,934	3,176	3,134	3,015	3,140	3,266	3,270	3,111	3,197	3,232		
b. Value (in Afl. mln.)	101.7	112.6	133.8	139.9	31.8	34.9	34.4	32.8	34.4	36.0	36.0	33.6	34.6	35.0		
c. Connected premises	49,357	50,496	51,669	52,616	50,793	51,116	51,414	51,669	51,887	52,196	52,449	52,616	52,951	53,330		
2. Electricity																
a. Quantity (x 1,000 KWH)	782,534	793,379	852,669	928,870	179,485	210,962	235,302	226,921	208,256	233,151	250,517	236,945	207,853	226,524		
b. Value (in Afl. mln)	349.3	389.8	446.2	472.7	100.2	109.6	119.9	116.5	107.2	120.5	127.9	117.1	103.2	111.8		
c. Connections	52,264	52,949	54,142	54,457	53,440	53,942	54,163	54,142	53,958	54,541	54,458	54,457	55,375	55,189		
d. Number of users	48,795	49,597	50,519	51,190	49,431	49,945	50,245	50,519	50,298	50,773	50,812	51,190	51,772	51,899		
3. Gas																
a. Quantity (x 1,000 pounds)	20,661	20,932	21,167	22,046	5,226	5,208	5,200	5,532	5,581	5,421	5,397	5,648	5,971	4,884		
b. Value (in Afl. mln)	21.2	25.2	23.9	24.2	6.2	5.8	5.6	6.2	6.1	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.7	5.9		
c. Households	7,355	6,976	6,040	6,323	1,597	1,568	1,400	1,475	1,670	1,567	1,478	1,608	1,757	1,423		
d. Commercial users	13,306	13,956	15,127	15,723	3,630	3,640	3,800	4,058	3,911	3,854	3,919	4,039	4,214	3,461		
4. Utilities index 2)	144.1	146.3	155.3	167.7	134.9	154.8	168.8	163.3	153.3	168.7	179.1	169.9	154.0	163.8		

¹⁾ Sale of water, excluding to Coastal Aruba N.V., Valero Aruba Refining Co. N.V. and vessels. 2) For annual data, base: 1996=100

For quarterly data, base: average 1996 =100

p: provisional data

Source: WEB Aruba N.V.; N.V. ELMAR; Arugas N.V.

TABLE 1.10: MERCHANDISE FOREIGN TRADE BY COUNTRY

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2023				2024	2025				
					Ι	П	III	IV	I	П	III	IV	I	Ι
1. Export of goods (f.o.b.)	58.8	67.9	74.0		15.5	21.4	19.4	17.8	16.4	19.6	21.8			
a. United States	29.5	26.9	25.1		6.0	6.4	5.3	7.4	4.8	7.5	11.0			
b. Colombia	1.0	0.2	0.2		0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2			
c. The Netherlands	8.5	13.5	10.4		1.9	3.4	3.4	1.7	3.1	4.3	3.0			
d. The Netherlands Antilles	8.7	13.6	16.6		2.7	4.0	5.7	4.2	5.3	4.1	4.5			
e. Venezuela	0.1	0.1	0.2		0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2			
f. Other countries	10.9	13.6	21.5		4.9	7.5	4.8	4.2	3.1	3.5	3.1			
2. Import of goods (c.i.f.)	1,982.5	2,488.4	2,615.4		622.7	663.0	631.2	698.5	653.8	704.1	734.6			
a. United States	1,032.4	1,321.9	1,370.1		344.2	337.6	320.1	368.1	352.3	357.5	352.6			
b. The Netherlands	318.8	366.3	384.2		85.0	107.4	94.9	97.0	88.3	100.1	101.3			
c. The Netherlands Antilles	29.5	35.7	37.1		9.4	8.0	9.2	10.5	7.7	9.5	10.2			
d. Venezuela	1.1	1.5	3.8		0.3	0.8	1.8	0.9	0.9	1.1	1.6			
e. Panama	61.0	69.0	70.6		15.4	18.0	18.3	18.9	16.8	17.4	20.1			
f. Brazil	54.6	75.6	80.3		16.7	25.7	19.3	18.6	16.2	17.8	0.0			
g. Colombia	58.0	71.1	79.0		18.7	19.4	21.8	19.0	16.2	20.0	19.2			
h. Japan	7.9	10.4	15.5		3.2	2.9	5.5	3.9	3.9	6.0	0.0			
i. Other countries	419.2	536.8	574.7		129.8	143.2	140.1	161.5	151.5	174.6	229.5			
3. Trade balance	-1,923.7	-2,420.5	-2,541.4		-607.3	-641.6	-611.8	-680.7	-637.4	-684.5	-712.8			

Source: CBS.

TABLE 1.11: MERCHANDISE FOREIGN TRADE BY PRODUCT CATEGORY

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2023				2024				2025	
					I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV	I	П
1. Export of goods (f.o.b.)	58.8	67.9	74.0		15.5	21.4	19.4	17.8	16.4	19.6	21.8			
a. Live animals and other animal products	0.3	0.5	0.9		0.4	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0			
b. Transport equipment	2.9	3.3	1.5		0.1	0.8	0.4	0.2	2.4	0.2	0.4			
c. Art objects and collectors' items	7.2	6.4	8.4		1.0	3.0	2.8	1.6	1.4	3.7	2.0			
d. Machinery and electro technical equipment	5.3	8.6	5.3		1.3	1.3	1.8	0.9	2.0	1.0	1.8			
e. Other goods	43.1	49.2	57.9		12.6	16.2	14.3	14.9	10.5	14.5	17.5			
2. Import of goods (c.i.f.)	1,982.5	2,488.4	2,615.4		622.7	663.0	631.2	698.5	653.8	704.1	734.6			
a. Live animals and other animal products	188.0	236.2	222.2		53.2	58.5	51.8	58.7	60.1	57.5	66.7			
b. Food products	285.4	326.9	344.2		81.9	87.9	82.5	91.8	84.1	92.1	87.4			
c. Chemical products	221.3	220.2	228.1		53.4	57.0	56.9	60.7	56.4	61.6	60.1			
d. Base metals and derivative works	87.9	118.7	139.6		34.9	40.8	34.9	29.1	28.6	34.3	36.6			
e. Machinery and electro technical equipment	251.0	331.4	360.9		83.9	95.5	85.2	96.4	87.4	105.3	111.7			
f. Transport equipment	95.2	143.8	198.0		44.3	39.0	58.8	56.0	54.7	50.5	64.3			
g. Other goods	853.7	1,111.1	1,122.3		271.1	284.2	261.1	305.8	282.4	302.9	307.7			
3. Trade balance	-1,923.7	-2,420.5	-2,541.4		-607.3	-641.6	-611.8	-680.7	-637.4	-684.5	-712.8			

Source: CBS.



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General note to the tables

Figures in the tables are quoted in millions of Aruban florin (Afl.), unless otherwise stated. The sum of separate items may differ in the final digit from the total shown, due to rounding.

Data are subject to revision if additional information becomes available.

The following symbols and conventions are used throughout the tables:

blank: not available

0.0: nil

(d): discontinuity in the series; this sign will be accompanied by an explanatory note in the back section of the report.

p: provisional data

Explanatory notes to the tables

Table 1.1 Gross domestic product and its components

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and its components are calculated on the basis of the United Nations publication "A System of National Accounts, 1993". The Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) has published GDP figures for 1995 up to and including 2022.

Exports and imports of goods and services exclude crude oil and refined oil products. An estimation of the net value added of the oil sector is included in the data on exports.

The various GDP components are deflated individually and a weighted average of these individual deflators is used to derive an overall deflator, which in turn is used to calculate the real GDP.

Population data refer to the average of this variable at the beginning and at the end of each respective year.

Table 1.2A Business Perception Results

The Business Perception Survey (BPS) assesses the economic perception and sentiments of local businesses. The BPS index comprises the current and short-term economic conditions. The BPS index can vary between 90 and 110. Between 90 and 100 indicates a situation of pessimism. An index of 100 indicates that businesses are neither pessimistic nor optimistic but are neutral with regard to their thoughts about economic developments in Aruba. Between 100 and 110 indicates a situation of optimism in business sentiments.

Table 1.3A Consumer Confidence Results

Consumer Confidence Survey (CCS) index consists of the present situation index, future expectation index, consumption and borrowing

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habits index, and price expectation index. The CCS index can vary between 90 and 110. Between 90 and 100 indicates a situation of pessimism. An index of 100 indicates that consumers are neutral with regard to their thoughts about economic developments in Aruba. Between 100 and 110 indicates a situation of optimism in consumer sentiments.

Table 1.6 Consumer price indices

As of January 2017, the consumer price index (CPI), produced by the CBS, is based on the household expenditure survey conducted by the CBS during the months of May to June of 2016.

The expenditures are classified by categories according to the International Classification of Individual Consumption according to Purpose (COICOP) system for consumer expenditures and prices, which provides a suitable classification for CPI purposes.

In order to calculate consistent annual rates of change with the new classification, the CPI has to be calculated retrospectively for 2 years. Therefore, June of 2019 has been chosen as the new base period for the CPI. Subsequently, the CPI figures for 2017, 2018 and 2019 have been revised accordingly.

To convert the indexes prior to June 2019 to the new base period, these indexes should be multiplied by the ratio of the new and old index. For instance, the indexes in column 1 "Total index" prior to June 2019 should be multiplied by the ratio 0.7911 i.e.,

$$\frac{June\ 2019\ (Mew\ index)}{June\ 2019\ (Old\ index)} = \frac{100.0}{126.4} = 0.7907$$

Table 1.9 Utilities

The table Utilities reflect the consumption of water, electricity and gas. The consumption of water is excluding sales to Aruba's Oil Refining Company and vessels. Each category is presented on the basis of its standard unit of measure. The utilities index is calculated as a weighted average of the indexed consumption of water, electricity and gas.

The weights used here are dynamic and fluctuate according to the relative significance (during a period) of the value of each consumption category in the aggregated value. Annual data are based on the year 1996 (=100), while quarterly data are based on an average of that year, since the quarterly data reflect only the consumption during a quarter, while the annual data is cumulative.

Table 1.10 and Table 1.11 Merchandise foreign trade, respectively by country and by product category

The data for these tables (by country and by product category) are collected through customs administration using the automated Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System. In this system, about 8,500 documents related to export and import are registered on a monthly basis. The CBS processes this data using the International General Trade System. Certain types of goods are excluded from the data, e.g., monetary gold, securities, bank notes, coins in circulation, and postal items. Furthermore, goods consigned by a government to its armed forces and diplomatic representatives abroad (including embassies, consulates, the Cabinet of the Netherlands-Antillean and Aruban Affairs (VNO), the Cabinet of the Governor of Aruba representing the King of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, and the Marine Corps) are also excluded from the trade statistics. These exclusions are in accordance with the recommendations of the United Nations. Mineral fuels are also excluded.

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The country from which goods are imported is the country of consginment or provenance from which goods are dispatched to Aruba without any commercial transactions in intermediate countries. The country of export is the country of destination known at the time of dispatchment as the final country to which goods are delivered.

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