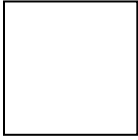


REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA

The Gambia Bureau of Statistics

DIRECTORATE OF ECONOMIC STATISTICS



INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS UNIT

INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS REPORT

FOURTH QUARTER 2024

February, 2025

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IV. Preface

This report presents The Gambia's International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS) for the Fourth Quarter of 2024. It aims to show the trade outlook between The Gambia and its trading partners during the period under review. It could also catalyze to enhance the investment drive of the country. The International Merchandise Trade Statistics Unit, under the Directorate of Economic Statistics of the Gambia Bureau of Statistics (GBoS), receives monthly raw trade data extracted from the Customs and Exercise Department of the Gambia Revenue Authority (GRA) database ASYCUDA (Automated System for Customs Data) World in American Standard Code for Information Interchange (ASCII) format for processing using EUROTRACE¹.

Data cleaning is continuous, as various tables are produced to feed into the report. The EUROTRACE database is therefore updated from time to time to take account of adjustments made from the input source.

The report contains a wide range of trade statistics between The Gambia and its trading partners. This provides data users with information to facilitate planning and decision-making. Data can be provided to users based on the level of breakdown requested from two (2), four (4), six (6) to eight (8) digits according to the Harmonized System (HS).

The quarterly report contains data on the Trade Balance, Imports, and Exports by major trading partners. All Trade Statistics reports can be accessed on the GBoS website (www.gbosdata.org). For users who have specific data needs, the International Merchandise Trade Statistics Unit could offer the necessary assistance.

GBoS wishes to express its profound gratitude to the ASYCUDA World Unit of GRA for making available the necessary data for the compilation of the IMTS. We hope that users will find this report useful.

Nyakassi M.B. Sanyang

Statistician General

¹ Eurotrace is the statistical software used by the external trade unit for data analysis. In July 1993 ECOWAS & UNCTAD developed Trace-nat under DOS OP System.

V. List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

ALADI	‘Asociacion Latinoamericana de Integracion’
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
ASYCUDA	Automated System for Customs Data
CIF	Cost, Insurance and Freight
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EU	European Union
EUROZONE	Eurozone Countries
FOB	Free on Board
GBoS	The Gambia Bureau of Statistics
GMD	Gambian Dalasi
GRA	Gambia Revenue Authority
HS	Harmonized System
IMTS 2010	International Merchandise Trade Statistics 2010
MRU	The Mano River Union
N.E.S	Not elsewhere specified
NAFTA	North American Free Trade Agreement
OIC	Organisation of Islamic Cooperation
QTR	Quarter
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SITC	Standard International Trade Classification
UEMOA	‘Union Economique et Monetaire Ouest Africaine’
UMA	‘Union du Maghreb Arabe’
UNSD	United Nations Statistics Division

VI. Concepts and Definitions

Monthly trade summary: Includes imports, total exports, and trade balance disaggregated quarterly.

Trade flow by continents and regional economic blocs: This is the value of trade between The Gambia and all continents and regional economic blocs.

Direction of trade: Trade flows from and to main trading partners. The ranking is done based on the highest ten by value in Gambian Dalasi (GMD).

Trade flow by top ten products: This indicates trade flows (import, exports, re-exports) by main products sorted based on the highest Cost, Insurance and Freight (CIF) or Free on Board (FOB) value in (GMD'000) at 2-digit Harmonized System (HS) product code which groups related commodities.

Export trade: It refers to all movable goods going out of the economic territory. The exports of merchandise goods are valued at FOB. The share of domestic exports to total trade is the value of all goods exported to the rest of the world divided by total trade multiplied by 100.

Import trade: It refers to all movable goods coming into the economic territory. The imported goods are valued at CIF. The share of imports to total trade is the value of all goods imported from the rest of the world divided by total trade multiplied by 100.

Re-Exports: It refers to the export of goods previously recorded as imports.

Total exports: This is the value of domestic exports plus re-exports.

Trade Balance: It refers to the difference between total exports and imports. It could be a surplus or deficit depending on trade performance.

VII. Executive Summary

- The total value of imports recorded in the fourth quarter of 2024 is GMD15.3 billion, compared to the fourth quarter of 2023 shows an increase from GMD 13.0 billion to GMD 15.3 billion, representing an increase of GMD 2.3 billion over the period.
- The fourth quarter of both 2023 and 2024 shows that Mineral fuels have the largest value of imports.
- Oil seeds and Oleaginous fruits, Salt, and Fish and crustaceans were mostly exported in the fourth quarter of 2024.
- Belgium and Senegal, were the main import partners during the fourth quarter of 2024.
- In the fourth quarter of 2024, Rice has the highest imported value among the selected products with GMD 1.2 billion, followed by Cement GMD 1.1 billion, then Sugar GMD 642.3 million.
- Nigeria and Senegal were the top two import partners from the ECOWAS regional bloc with GMD 2.5 billion and GMD 2.0 million respectively in the fourth quarter of 2024.

VIII. Summary of Quarterly Trade Statistics 4th Quarter of 2023-2024

Table 1 shows the quarterly trade statistics. The total value of imports in the fourth quarter of 2024 compared to the third quarter decreased from GMD 20.6 billion to GMD 15.3 billion. This indicates a decrease in imports equivalent to GMD 5.3 billion. Furthermore, in the Fourth quarter of 2023 compared to the Fourth quarter of 2024, imports increased by GMD 2.3 billion, i.e., from GMD 13.0 to GMD 15.3 billion.

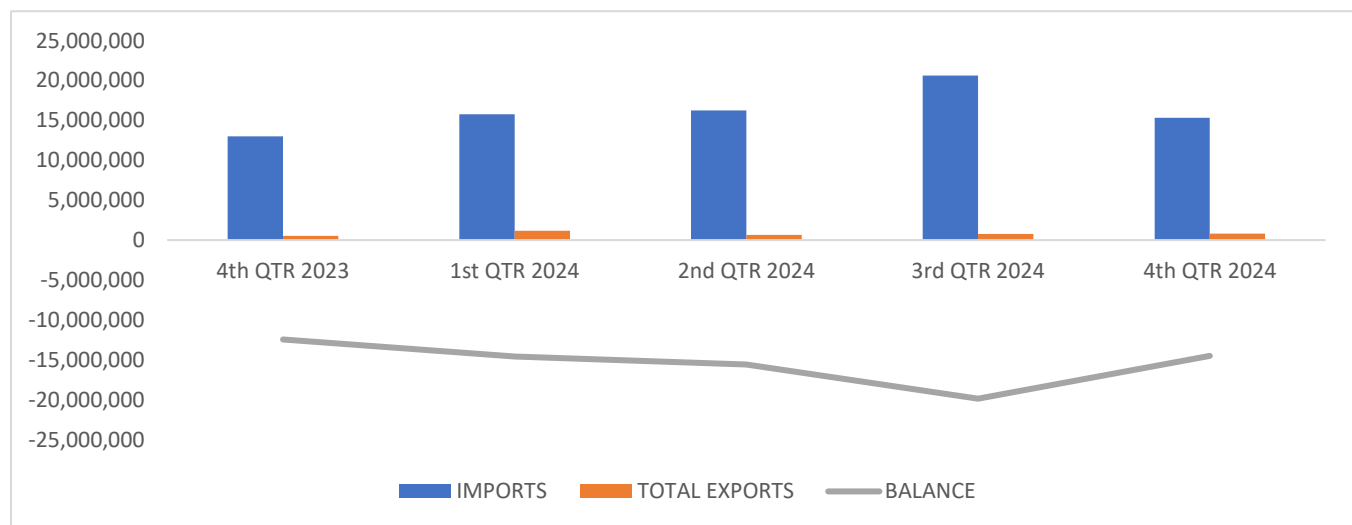
The value of total exports (i.e., domestic exports and re-exports) in the fourth quarter of 2023 compared to the fourth quarter of 2024 increased from GMD 541.2 million to GMD 827.6 million.

Additionally, the trade balance between the third and fourth quarter of 2024 shows an increase from GMD19.9 billion to GMD14.5 billion. On the contrary, the trade balance between the fourth quarter of 2023 and 2024 shows a decreased from GMD12.4 to GMD 14.5 billion.

Table 1: Quarterly Trade Summary for the Fourth Quarter of 2023 to the Fourth Quarter of 2024 (GMD'000')

TRADEFLOW	4 th QTR 2023	1 st QTR 2024	2 nd QTR 2024	3 rd QTR 2024	4 th QTR 2024
IMPORTS	12,995,985	15,765,535	16,247,144	20,635,292	15,328,020
TOTAL EXPORTS	541,170	1,184,998	638,761	762,574	827,554
BALANCE	-12,454,816	-14,580,537	-15,608,383	-19,872,718	-14,500,466

Figure 1: Trade Flows for the Fourth Quarter '000' 2023 to the Fourth Quarter of 2024



IX. Imports by Products

Figure 2 shows the top three products imported in the Fourth quarter of 2023 and 2024 respectively. Although the top three products imported are similar for both quarters, there are still some variations in the volume imported for each quarter. Mineral fuels were the highest imported product, 46.4 percent of this product was imported in 2023 compared to 40.4 per cent for the same period in 2024. This was

followed by the importation of Cereals which accounted for 6.1 percent in the fourth quarter of 2023 to 12.4 per cent in 2024. The third most imported products were vehicles 4.8 percent in 2023 and salt 4.6 per cent.

Figure 2: Imports of Top Three Products for the Fourth Quarter of 2023 and the Fourth Quarter of 2024 (in percentages)

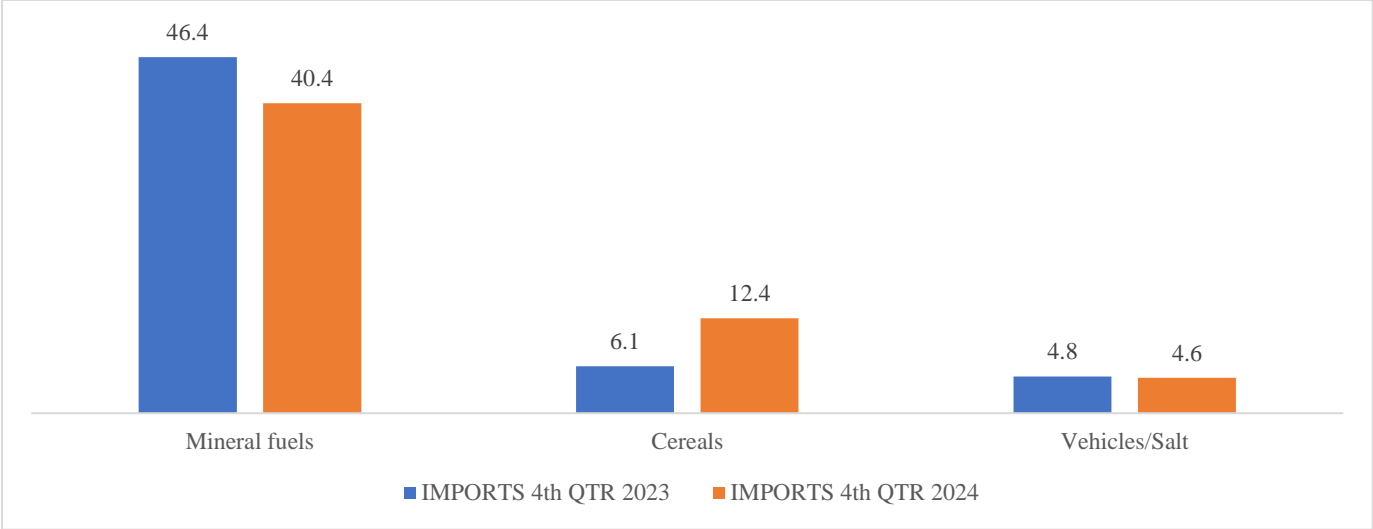


Table 2: Imports of Top Ten Products for the Fourth Quarter of 2023-2024 (GMD'000)

PRODUCTS	IMPORTS 4 th QTR 2023	PRODUCTS	IMPORTS 4 th QTR 2024
Mineral fuels	6,023,834	Mineral fuels	5,985,858
Cereals	791,624	Cereals	1,832,180
Vehicles	622,735	Salt	686,046
Salt	450,694	Vehicles	577,634
Electrical machinery and equipment	413,320	Iron and Steel	507,356
Articles of Iron or Steel	389,728	Animal or vegetable fats	501,737
Animal or Vegetable fats	299,691	Electrical machinery and equipment	431,066
Sugar	287,390	Meat and Edible Meat offal	375,366
Meat and Edible Meat offal	264,521	Plastics and Articles thereof	344,980
Ceramic products	238,975	Sugar	334,355
SUB TOTAL	9,782,514	SUB TOTAL	11,576,578
OTHER PRODUCTS	3,213,472	OTHER PRODUCTS	3,251,896
TOTAL	12,995,985	TOTAL	14,828,474

X. Exports by Product

Figure 3 shows the exports of the top three products in the fourth quarters of 2023 and 2024. Oil seeds and oleaginous fruits have the highest proportion of imports 47.5 per cent in 2023 while Salt 33.6 per cent was the highest export in 2024. Salt shows an increase in proportion from 12.6 per cent in th quarter of

2023 to 33.6 per cent in the 4th quarter of 2024. Fish and crustaceans were also among the most exported products in the fourth quarters of 2023 and 2024 with 11.5 and 27.1 per cents, respectively.

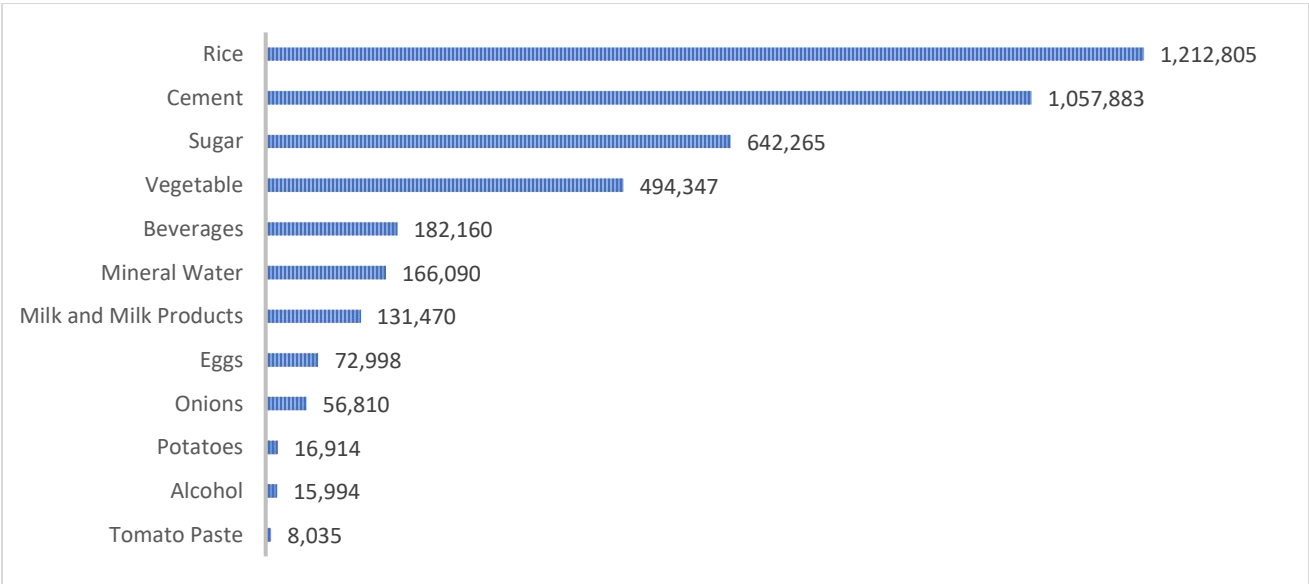
Figure 3: Exports of Top Three Products for the Fourth Quarter 2023 and the Fourth Quarter of 2024 (in percentages)



XI. Imports of Selected Products for the Fourth Quarter of 2024

Figure 4 shows that the highest imported product was Rice GMD 1.2 billion, followed by cement GMD 1.1 billion, and Sugar GMD 642.3 million. The Lowest among the selected products is Tomato paste GMD 8.0 million.

Figure 4: Imports of Selected Products for the Fourth Quarter of 2024 (GMD'000')



XII. Trade by Partners

The Gambia's main import trade partners

Table 3 below shows imports from partners for the Fourth quarters of 2023 and 2024. The top three countries where most of the goods were imported from during the Fourth quarter of 2023 are Belgium, GMD 3.3 billion, Senegal, GMD 1.4 billion, and India, GMD 1.1 billion. In 2024, the highest import partner was Nigeria with GMD 2.5 billion, Senegal with GMD 2.0, and China with GMD 1.4 billion. The least import partner in the top ten was the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in the Fourth quarters of 2023 and 2024 with GMD 275.5 million and GMD 414.0 million, respectively.

Table 3: Imports from Top Ten Partners for the Fourth Quarter 2023-2024 (GMD'000')

PARTNER	4TH QTR 2023	PARTNER	4TH QTR 2024
Belgium	3,270,130	Nigeria	2,541,581
Senegal	1,390,777	Senegal	1,968,309
India	1,079,921	China	1,386,086
China	895,937	Spain	1,374,067
Cote d'Ivoire	877,379	India	902,129
Russia	698,600	Brazil	821,212
Brazil	559,245	Belgium	815,723
Netherlands	529,414	Egypt	491,648
Turkey	371,942	Turkey	418,472
United Arab Emirates	275,465	United Arab Emirates	414,035
SUB TOTAL	9,948,810	SUB TOTAL	11,133,261
REST OF THE WORLD	3,047,175	REST OF THE WORLD	4,194,759
TOTAL	12,995,985	TOTAL	15,328,020

XIII. The Gambia's main export trade partners

Table 4 shows that China had the largest share of exports from The Gambia; her share of exports decreased from 61.1 percent to 38.3 percent in the fourth quarters of 2023 and 2024, respectively. This is followed by India with 12.4 and 15.8 percent for the fourth quarters of 2023 and 2024 respectively.

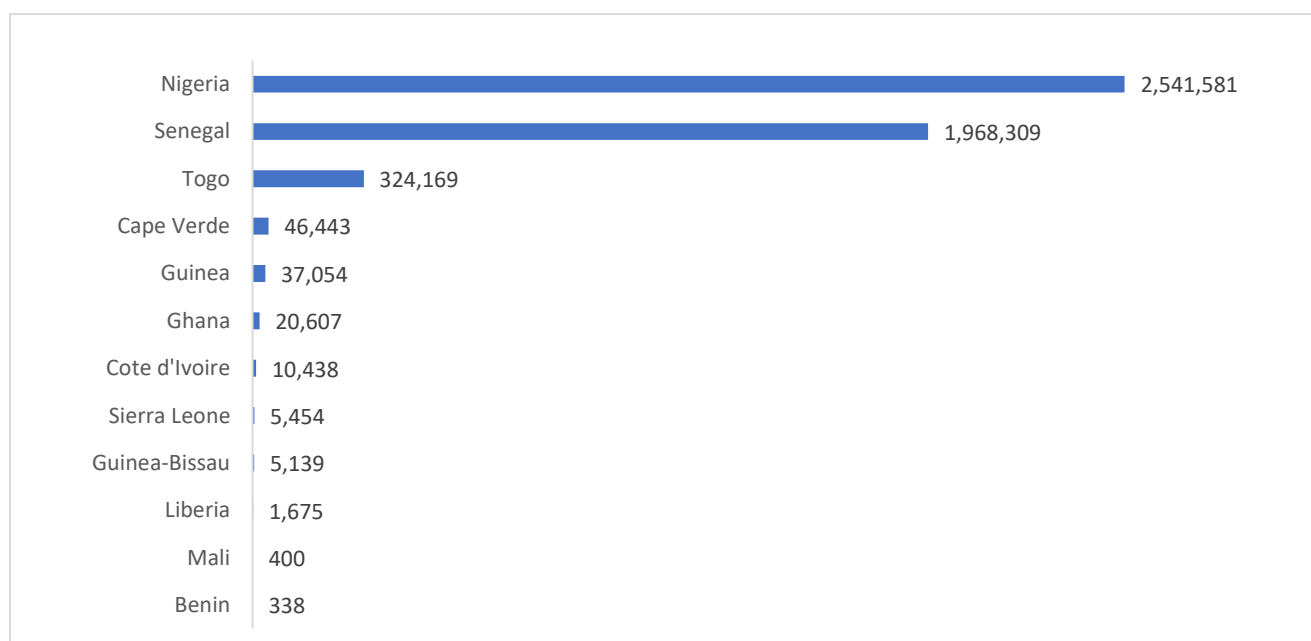
Table 4: Exports to Top Ten Partners for the Fourth Quarter 2023-2024 (in percentages)

PARTNER	4TH QTR 2023	PARTNER	4TH QTR 2024
China	61.1	China	38.3
India	12.4	India	15.8
Korea, Republic of	4.8	Portugal	13.7
Turkey	4.8	Turkey	13.2
Viet Nam	3.2	Netherlands	4.1
Italy	2.4	Korea, Democratic	3.1
Belgium	2.2	Korea, Republic of	2.8
Spain	1.1	Spain	2.7
Malaysia	1.0	Belgium	1.9
Nigeria	0.8	United Kingdom	0.8
SUB TOTAL	93.7	SUB TOTAL	96.4
REST OF THE WORLD	6.3	REST OF THE WORLD	3.6
TOTAL	100.0	TOTAL	100.0

XIV. Intra-Regional Trade Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)

Figure 6 shows the imports from the ECOWAS partners in the fourth quarter of 2024. Nigeria had the highest import value, GMD 2.5 billion, followed by Senegal, GMD 2.0 billion and Togo, GMD 324.2 million. Benin with the lowest import partner from the ECOWAS bloc with GMD 338 thousand.

Imports from ECOWAS Partners for Fourth Quarter 2024 (GMD '000')



XV. Annexes

Annex 1: Overall statistics on trade in goods excluding oil in for Fourth quarter 2023-2024 (GMD'000')

VALUES	4 th QTR 2023	1 st QTR 2024	2 nd QTR 2024	3 rd QTR 2024	4 th QTR 2024
	6,972,151	9,426,651	12,766,604	14,671,825	9,342,162
NET WEIGHT	638,138	437,782	545,004	797,943	551,726

Annex 2A: Imports by SITC SECTION for Fourth Quarter 2023-2024 (GMD'000')

SITC	4 th QTR 2023	1 st QTR 2024	2 nd QTR 2024	3 rd QTR 2024	4 th QTR 2024
Food and Live Animals	2,171,631	2,224,308	3,220,570	4,161,831	3,283,227
Beverages and Tobacco	126,628	103,412	60,098	101,806	215,259
Crude Materials, Inedible, Except Fuels	243,169	334,014	211,400	187,948	227,654
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and Related Materials	6,016,096	6,164,650	3,470,314	5,952,134	5,985,858
Animal And Vegetable Oils, Fats and Waxes	277,556	291,565	343,142	452,398	494,347
Chemicals and Related Products, N.E.S.	339,604	1,413,437	1,941,020	1,109,986	608,340
Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly by Material	1,593,595	2,175,263	2,258,490	3,086,322	2,093,867
Machinery and Transport Equipment	1,445,124	2,031,620	3,858,880	4,641,057	1,485,017
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	778,699	1,024,230	878,936	939,743	925,315

Annex 2B: Imports by SITC SECTION for Fourth Quarter 2023-2024 (Net-weight in tons)

SITC	4 th QTR 2023	1 st QTR 2024	2 nd QTR 2024	3 rd QTR 2024	4 th QTR 2024
Food and Live Animals	124,769	113,978	180,728	160,160	212,842
Beverages and Tobacco	3,909	2,407	1,262	2,229	4,844
Crude Materials, Inedible, Except Fuels	332,877	77,503	70,067	61,030	87,094
Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and Related Materials	52,550	54,801	54,893	67,690	57,676
Animal And Vegetable Oils, Fats and Waxes	9,226	9,097	11,224	14,098	13,076
Chemicals and Related Products, N.E.S.	9,940	11,071	13,342	17,354	12,959
Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly by Material	125,657	166,647	233,609	509,952	191,116
Machinery and Transport Equipment	18,203	43,709	19,680	19,835	15,878
Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	13,574	16,436	15,093	13,291	13,656

Annex 3: Imports by SITC3 Value (GMD'000')

	4th QTR 2023	1st QTR 2024	2nd QTR 2024	3rd QTR 2024	4th QTR 2024
VALUES	12,995,985	15,765,535	16,247,144	20,635,292	15,328,020
NET WEIGHT	690,838	495,690	599,937	865,668	609,402

Annex 4A: Imports by Continent (GMD'000')

PARTNER	4th QTR 2023	1st QTR 2024	2nd QTR 2024	3rd QTR 2024	4th QTR 2024
AFRICA	2,902,599	7,737,542	4,302,569	10,036,925	5,750,513
AMERICA	944,462	1,134,007	2,396,888	1,124,348	1,436,901
ASIA	2,884,359	3,340,198	3,935,807	3,305,902	3,733,959
EUROPE	6,187,673	3,474,805	4,959,957	6,101,063	4,397,302
OCEANIA	999	2,367	597,101	14,297	4,318

Annex 4B: Imports by Continent (Net-weight in tons)

PARTNER	4th QTR 2023	1st QTR 2024	2nd QTR 2024	3rd QTR 2024	4th QTR 2024
AFRICA	459,932	264,933	299,437	621,926	292,397
AMERICA	63,996	64,032	90,639	73,756	102,266
ASIA	84,659	91,702	86,831	90,148	119,155
EUROPE	80,710	73,545	112,753	78,098	95,413
OCEANIA	72	65	9,089	351	87

Annex 5A: Imports by Regional Economic Communities (GMD'000')

PARTNER	4th QTR 2023	1st QTR 2024	2nd QTR 2024	3rd QTR 2024	4th QTR 2024
ALADI	616,722	632,374	790,558	670,909	942,704
ASEN	371,822	425,477	508,276	485,582	517,662
COMESA	45,266	82,326	525,306	1,656,889	500,480
ECOWAS	2,757,716	7,170,705	3,471,027	8,094,190	5,211,007
EU	4,852,250	2,585,535	3,703,582	2,026,622	3,181,506
EURO	4,790,939	2,537,929	3,634,746	1,991,299	3,154,749
MRU	1,097,794	4,508,399	1,774,801	461,050	304,022
NAFTA	298,024	497,206	1,251,671	361,090	397,313
OIC	3,792,154	5,916,098	5,774,926	11,228,227	7,196,805
SADC	27,093	78,660	67,467	43,662	43,873
UEMOA	2,290,600	4,220,191	3,423,078	7,600,178	2,308,793
UMA	79,833	414,646	264,200	243,456	250,558

Annex 5B: Imports by Regional Economic Communities (Net-weight in tons)

PARTNER	4th QTR 2023	1st QTR 2024	2nd QTR 2024	3rd QTR 2024	4th QTR 2024
ALADI	51,681	51,772	50,179	52,806	76,884
ASEN	13,785	14,647	19,287	14,743	14,187
COMESA	1,964	2,027	130,650	472,097	137,861
ECOWAS	454,086	187,099	154,492	135,836	153,925
EU	58,692	51,872	64,733	83,389	72,754
EURO	57,285	50,981	63,477	82,133	72,014
MRU	18,864	30,172	28,275	7,268	4,977
NAFTA	10,459	12,026	10,524	12,416	16,397
OIC	488,206	291,530	341,936	662,633	324,642
SADC	479	596	586	751	645
UEMOA	444,777	180,570	134,716	137,282	129,946
UMA	3,608	75,393	32,335	3,810	3,914