

# THE USVI'S UNITED STATES & FOREIGN REGIONS SELECTED FOOD IMPORTS REVIEW

All data in the report are produced by the Census Bureau and are compiled by the Bureau of Economic Research

# 2022

JANUARY TO DECEMBER

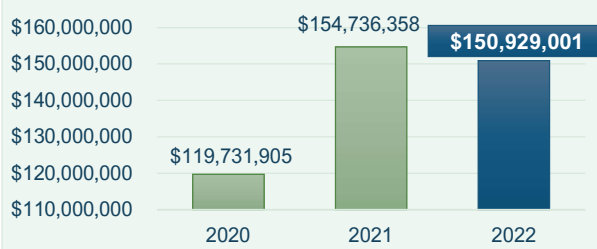


The Selected Food Import Annual Review is a data report on often imported food items from the United States and Foreign countries to the U.S. Virgin Islands. The table and graphs in this report display the increases and decreases of commonly imported food products into the U.S. Virgin Islands.

## IMPORTED FOOD PRODUCTS TO THE USVI: JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2022

In 2022, the US Virgin Islands (USVI) spent more than \$150.9 million on imported food products, down 2.5% from the previous year. Topping the list of imports were Alcoholic Beverages, registering a value of \$41 million; Poultry at \$19.3 million; Beef and Veal at \$16.9 million; Fish and Vegetables each respectively at \$9.8 million; Water at \$6.3 million, and Cane Molasses at \$5.3 million (see Table 1).

Figure 1: Total Food Imports 2020-2022



The overall value of food imports decreased by \$3.8 million in 2022 from \$154.7 million in 2021. The items responsible for this fall include Cane Molasses, which declined by 64.5%; Alcoholic Beverages reduced by 16.9%; Sugars and Sweeteners by 9.3%; Lamb, Sheep, Goat by 5.8%; and Water down by 5.2%.

Other food categories showed significant increases such as Confectionery imports, which grew by 429.7%, while imports of Eggs and Butter surged by 159.8% and 77.7%, respectively.

The United States is the primary source of the USVI's food imports, with 87% of the market share and total value imports of \$130.8 million. About 13%, or \$20.1 million of food imports were from foreign regions (Figure 2).

Table 1: 2021-2022 Selected Food Imports by Food Group and Preservation Requirements

Food Category	Fresh/Chilled/ Frozen	Prepared & preserved	Total 2022	Total 2021	%Chg.
<b>Meats</b>					
Beef & Veal	\$16,213,000	\$724,000	<b>\$16,937,000</b>	17,315,000	-2.2
Poultry	\$15,539,000	\$3,753,000	<b>\$19,292,000</b>	16,609,000	16.2
Fish	\$7,706,000	\$2,125,824	<b>\$9,831,824</b>	8,506,486	15.6
Seafood	\$3,664,150	\$848,000	<b>\$4,512,150</b>	3,718,800	21.3
Pork	\$3,675,000	\$395,000	<b>\$4,070,000</b>	4,162,000	-2.2
Lamb, Sheep, Goat	\$871,000	\$0	<b>\$871,000</b>	925,000	-5.8
<b>Fruits &amp; Vegetables</b>					
Fruits	\$3,950,000	\$1,556,714	<b>\$5,506,714</b>	5,283,186	4.2
Vegetables	\$4,579,524	\$5,229,319	<b>\$9,808,843</b>	6,452,839	52.0
<b>Dairy</b>					
Butter	\$773,000	\$0	<b>\$773,000</b>	435,000	77.7
Cheese	\$5,880,000	\$0	<b>\$5,880,000</b>	4,766,000	23.4
Eggs	\$3,801,000	\$0	<b>\$3,801,000</b>	1,463,000	159.8
Milk	\$3,792,566	\$0	<b>\$3,792,566</b>	3,679,892	3.1
<b>Starch</b>					
Pasta	\$0	\$1,512,000	<b>\$1,512,000</b>	1,423,000	6.3
Rice	\$0	\$1,351,000	<b>\$1,351,000</b>	1,210,000	11.7
<b>Beverages</b>					
Juices	\$0	\$4,275,600	<b>\$4,275,600</b>	4,276,327	-0.02
Alcoholic Beverages	\$0	\$41,011,207	<b>\$41,011,207</b>	49,346,960	-16.9
Water	\$0	\$6,331,460	<b>\$6,331,460</b>	6,681,882	-5.2
Coffee & Teas	\$0	\$874,412	<b>\$874,412</b>	550,829	58.7
<b>Sweeteners</b>					
Sugars & Sweeteners	\$0	\$945,566	<b>\$945,566</b>	1,042,216	-9.3
Cane Molasses	\$0	\$5,322,681	<b>\$5,322,681</b>	14,989,370	-64.5
Confectionary	\$0	\$2,526,591	<b>\$2,526,591</b>	477,029	429.7
Cocoa	\$0	\$1,702,387	<b>\$1,702,387</b>	1,422,542	19.7
<b>Total Food Imports 2021</b>			<b>\$150,929,001</b>	<b>154,736,358</b>	<b>-2.5</b>

**Please note:** The Food Imports Report classifies imported food products into two main categories based on their preservation requirements: "Fresh/Chilled/Frozen" (FCF) and "Prepared & Preserved" (P&P). FCF products include fresh food items that need to be kept chilled or frozen during and after importation. P&P products, on the other hand, are foods that are well-preserved without the need for cold or chilled temperatures, such as those that are packed in cans or airtight bags.

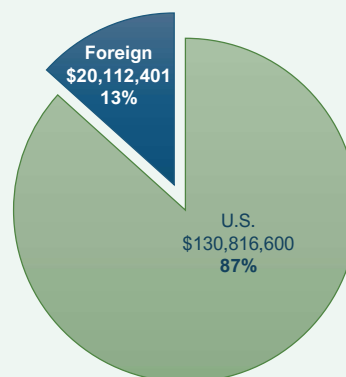
## USVI FOOD IMPORTS BY CATEGORY FROM THE U.S. AND FOREIGN REGIONS 2022

Table 2: Food Imports by Food Group from U.S. & Foreign Regions 2022

Food Category	2022 U.S.	2022 For.	Category Total
Meats	\$55,302,000	<b>\$211,974</b>	\$55,513,974
Fruits & Vegetables	\$14,923,000	<b>\$392,557</b>	\$15,315,557
Dairy	\$14,235,000	<b>\$11,566</b>	\$14,246,566
Starch	\$2,863,000	<b>\$0</b>	\$2,863,000
Beverages	\$38,367,600	<b>\$14,125,079</b>	\$52,492,679
Sweeteners	\$5,126,000	<b>\$5,371,225</b>	\$10,497,225
<b>Total Food Imports</b>	<b>\$130,816,600</b>	<b>\$20,112,401</b>	<b>\$150,929,001</b>

In 2022, the highest value of imported food in the US Virgin Islands was for beverages, especially alcoholic beverages. They accounted for \$14.1 million, which is equivalent to 9% of all food imports. Europe and South-Central America contributed 5% and 4%, respectively, to the beverage imports. The second highest value of imported food was for sweeteners, with 7% being imported from South/Central America. Sweeteners accounted for 3% of all food imports from foreign regions.

Figure 2: Total U.S. & Foreign Food Imports 2022



## 2019-2022

### TOTAL IMPORTS TO THE USVI:

The total import value of all items, including food and items that are not listed in this report to the US Virgin Islands in **2022 totaled \$4.8 billion**, a 32.4% increase from 2021 shown in Figure 3.

Figure 3: Total Imports 2020-2022

