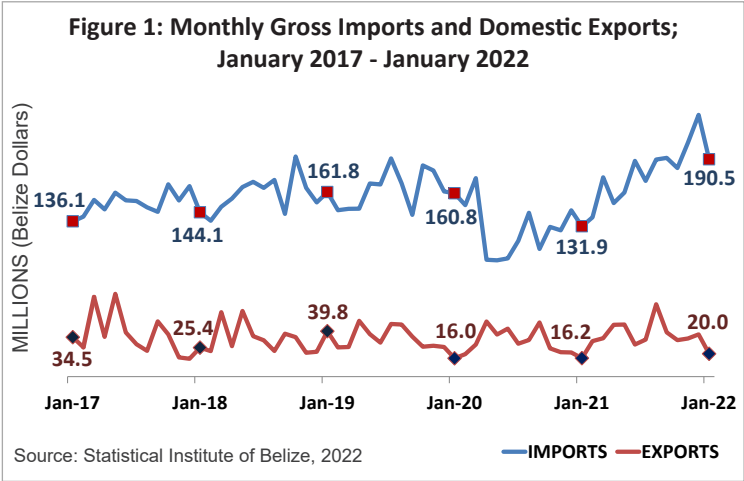


IMPORTS UP 44.5%, DOMESTIC EXPORTS UP 23.8% IN JANUARY 2022

IMPORTS

**JANUARY 2022:** Belize’s total imports for the month of January 2022 were valued at \$190.5 million. This was a significant increase of 44.5 percent or \$58.7 million compared to the \$131.9 million imported in January 2021.



INCREASING CATEGORIES:

Commercial Free Zones

Imports into the ‘Commercial Free Zones’ more than doubled, going up by \$22.2 million from \$20.4 million to \$42.5 million, due largely to increased purchases of sport uniforms, tennis shoes, cigarettes, and bags. The substantially lower imports of goods to the ‘Commercial Free Zones’ recorded in January of last year reflected, for the most part, the fact that the Corozal Free Zone had not yet been reopened as of that time.

Mineral Fuels and Lubricants

With increased quantities of all major fuels being purchased at higher world market prices, the ‘Mineral Fuels and Lubricants’ category, likewise, more than doubled, rising by \$15.2 million from \$11.6 million in January 2021 to \$26.8 million in January 2022.

Chemical Products

Purchases of ‘Chemical Products’ grew by 65 percent or \$8.4 million, from \$13 million in January of 2021 to \$21.4 million in January of this year, mainly on account of bigger imports of fertilizers.

Manufactured Goods

Imports of ‘Manufactured Goods’ rose by 36 percent or \$6.7 million, from \$18.8 million to \$25.5 million, owing to greater purchases of cement clinkers, glass bottles, galvalume steel in coils, and corrugated steel rods.

Machinery and Transport Equipment

As a result of heightened purchases of liquid dielectric transformers, solar panels, and food and beverage processing machinery, the ‘Machinery and Transport Equipment’ category went up by \$6.6 million, from \$28.3 million in January 2021 to \$34.9 million in January 2022.

Food and Live Animals

The ‘Food and Live Animals’ category recorded a \$4.7 million increase in imports, from \$14.6 million in January of last year to \$19.3 million in January of this year.

Animal and Vegetable Oils

The month of January also saw an uptick of \$0.9 million in the ‘Animal and Vegetable Oils’ category, with purchases rising from \$1.5 million to \$2.4 million for the month.

Other Manufactures

Similarly, imports classified as ‘Other Manufactures’ recorded a small increase of \$0.8 million, from \$10.2 million in January of 2021 to \$11 million in January of 2022, as the country purchased more meters, light fixtures, and plastic articles.

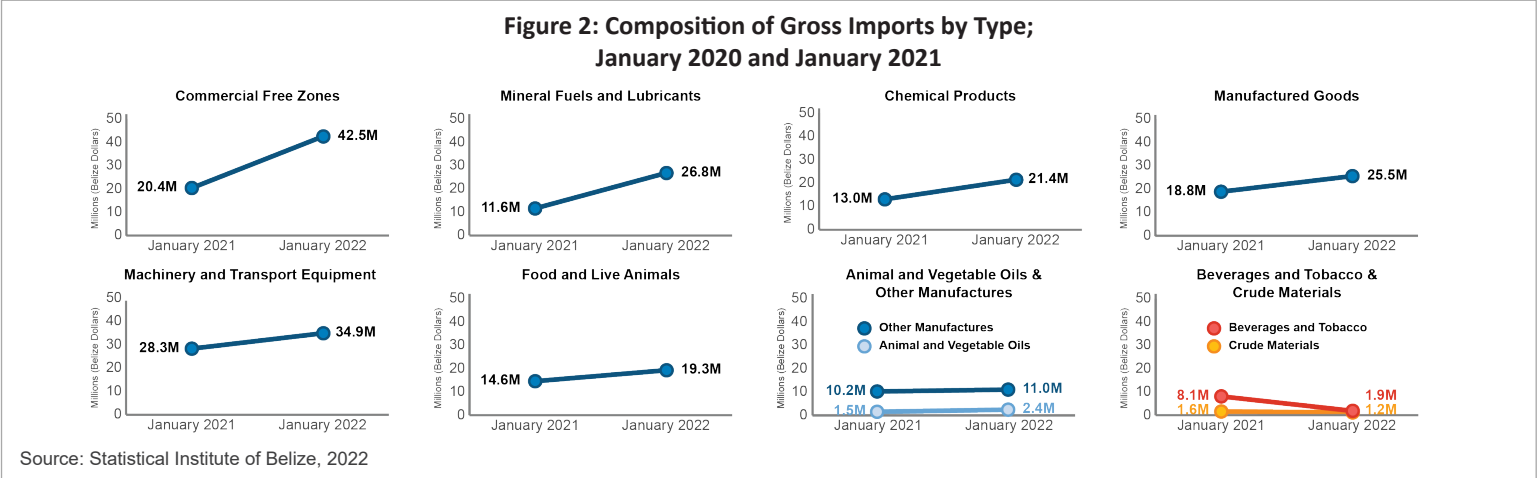
DECREASING CATEGORIES:

Beverages and Tobacco

The ‘Beverages and Tobacco’ category recorded a notable decrease during the month, falling by more than three-fourths or \$6.2 million, from \$8.1 million to \$1.9 million, as smaller quantities of beer meant for re-exportation were imported into the country.

Crude Materials

‘Crude Materials’ fell by \$0.4 million, from \$1.6 million in January 2021 to \$1.2 million in January 2022, owing to a reduction in purchases of treated pine lumber.



# DOMESTIC EXPORTS

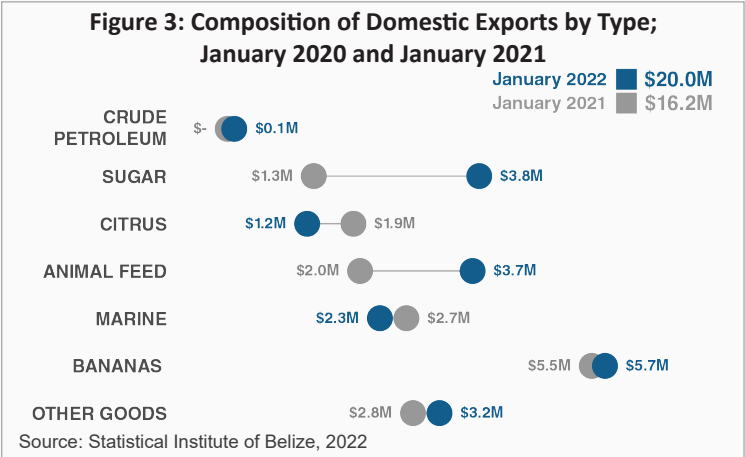
**JANUARY 2022:** Total domestic exports for January 2022 amounted to \$20 million, representing a 23.8 percent or \$3.9 million increase from the \$16.2 million recorded for January of 2021.

## INCREASING CATEGORIES:

Earnings from sugar grew by a notable \$2.5 million, from just \$1.3 million in January 2021 to \$3.8 million in January 2022. Animal feed exports saw an increase of \$1.7 million for the month, from \$2 million to \$3.7 million, due to greater quantities of this product being exported at improved prices. Revenues from bananas went up slightly by \$0.2 million, from \$5.5 million in January of last year to \$5.7 million in January of this year, while revenues from crude petroleum totaled a marginal \$0.1 million for the month, compared to January of last year when there were no shipments of this commodity recorded.

## DECREASING CATEGORIES:

Among the major exports, citrus and marine products were the only two commodities that fell during the month. Earnings from citrus products decreased by \$0.7 million from \$1.9 million in January 2021 to \$1.2 million in January 2022, as the country exported less orange concentrate. Revenues from marine exports went down by \$0.3 million, from \$2.7 million to \$2.3 million, owing to reduced sales of whole lobsters and lobster meat.



## MAJOR DESTINATIONS:

Exports of animal feed and scrap metal to Central America were up for the month, resulting in a \$2.2 million increase in earnings from this region, from \$2.3 million to \$4.5 million. Revenues from the United Kingdom rose by \$1.5 million, from \$3.5 million in January 2021 to \$5 million in January 2022, largely due to an increase in exports of banana and sugar to this country. On the other hand, with decreased exports of lobster meat, orange concentrate and bananas to the European Union, earnings from this region declined by \$0.2 million, from \$3.8 million in January of last year to \$3.6 million in January of this year.

