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**Report Highlights:**

With a gross domestic product of \$536.83 billion and projected growth of 4.2 percent in 2024, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) ranks as the second largest economy in the Arab world, with substantial consumer spending driven by high per capita income. Notably, it is the second largest export market for U.S. agricultural products in the Middle East and North Africa. In 2023, U.S. exports of agricultural and agricultural related products to the UAE reached \$1.33 billion, a 3.8 percent increase over 2022. More than 75 percent of the increase came in consumer-oriented goods. The UAE's efforts to diversify economically has resulted in a resilient economy, less reliance on oil revenues, and more focus on sectors like tourism, retail, and technology. As a major regional trade hub, bolstered by favorable trade agreements and modern infrastructure, the UAE has positioned itself as a leading re-export hub.

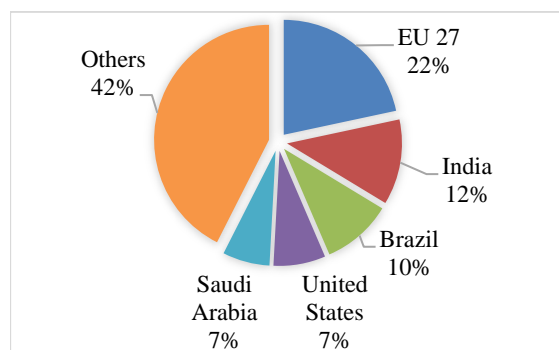
## MARKET FACT SHEET

### Executive Summary

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) is the second largest economy in the Arab world after Saudi Arabia, with a gross domestic product (GDP) of \$536.83 billion and a projected growth rate of 4 percent in 2024. Foreign nationals comprise almost 90 percent. Approximately 80 percent of the UAE's agricultural products are imported. In 2023, the United States exported \$1.28 billion in agricultural and related products to the UAE, making it the second-largest export market for U.S. agricultural products in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

### Consumer-Oriented Agricultural Imports

The UAE imported \$13.6 billion in consumer-oriented products in 2023. Primary suppliers are the European Union, India, Brazil, the United States, and Saudi Arabia. The market is highly competitive but significant potential for U.S. export growth exists, including in dairy products, prepared food, fresh fruit, poultry, tree nuts, and beef products.



### Food Retail Industry

The UAE's food e-commerce retail sales reached \$1.07 billion in 2023. The UAE's food and grocery retail market had a total revenue of \$36.5 billion in 2022, representing a compound annual growth rate of 6.4 percent between 2017 and 2022. The growth forecast for the Emirati food and grocery retail market in 2023 is estimated to be approximately \$38.84 billion.

### Food Processing Industry

Around 568 food and beverage processors operate in the country, producing 5.96 million metric tons (MT) annually with 2.3 MT as staple foods. They rely heavily on imported commodities and ingredients and play a major role in the government's efforts to enhance food security and self-sufficiency in basic commodities.

### Food Service Industry

The UAE experienced a significant boost to tourism through a surge in meetings, incentives, conferences, and exhibitions in 2023. Consumer food service through leisure increased by 17 percent to \$762 million and consumer food service through standalone increased by 10 percent to \$4 billion. Expected growth is 7 percent to \$5.7 billion.

#### Quick Facts in 2023

**Consumer-Oriented Products Imports:** \$13.6 billion

#### Top 10 Consumer-Oriented Products Imports

Dairy	\$1.92 billion
Poultry meat and products	\$1.12 billion
Tree nuts	\$1.12 billion
Fresh fruit	\$912 million
Beef and beef products	\$866 million
Bakery Goods	\$758 million
Soup and Food Preparations	\$708 million
Distilled Spirits	\$569 million
Tobacco	\$416 million
Meat Products (NESOI)	\$437 million

**Top Retailers:** Carrefour, Lulu Hypermarket, Union Co-operative Society, Abu Dhabi Co-operative Society, Sharjah Co-operative Society, Emirates Cooperative Society, Al Madina Hypermarket, Nesto Hypermarket, Baniyas Co-operative Society, Al Maya, Spinneys, Choithrams, and Waitrose

**GDP:** \$536.83 billion

**GDP per capita:** \$52,410

**Population:** 10.243 million

### Strengths/Weaknesses/Opportunities/Threats

Strengths	Weaknesses
UAE is a modern transit hub in the MENA region	Specialized labeling and restrictive shelf-life requirements
USA brand recognition is prevalent among consumers	Long shipping time and high freight costs
Opportunities	Threats
Import regulations are transparent and not complex	Proximity to India, Europe, and other MENA agricultural producers with cheaper prices

## Section I: Market Overview

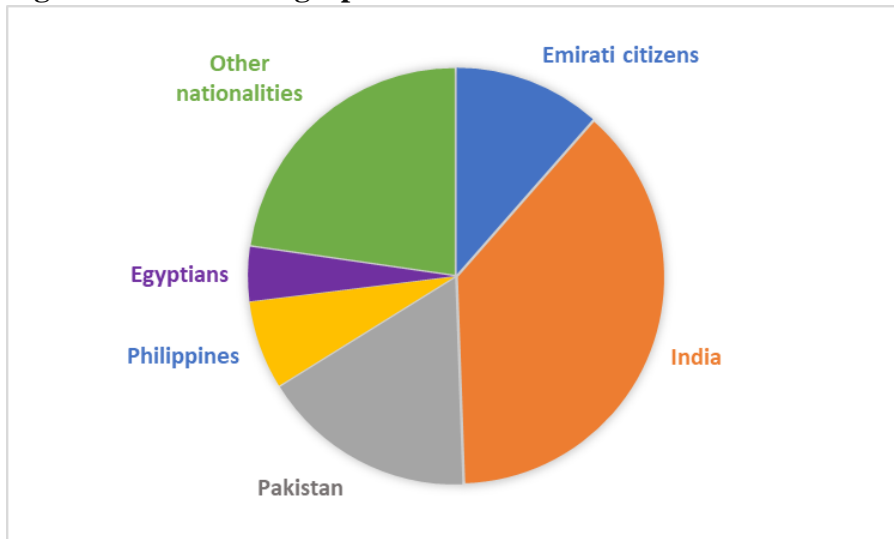
### Overall Business Climate

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) enjoys a vibrant and dynamic business climate, characterized by rapid economic growth, strategic diversification away from oil dependency, and a favorable regulatory environment for businesses. Substantial government investment in infrastructure, a burgeoning tourism sector, and a strong emphasis on innovation and technology are driving this growth. The UAE's strategic location as a trade hub between Asia, Europe, and Africa further enhances its business appeal. The government offers numerous incentives for businesses, including tax exemptions and free zones that allow for full foreign ownership. The UAE also ranks highly on global indices for ease of doing business, attracting significant foreign direct investment.<sup>1</sup> This environment fosters innovation and entrepreneurship, making the UAE a hub for both established companies and startups.

### Population and Key Demographic Trends

With a population of around 10 million, foreign nationals comprise nearly 89 percent of the UAE's population (Figure 1), attracted by its promising employment landscape, socio-political stability, lucrative tax-free wages, and favorable currency exchange rates. Emirati citizens make up the remaining 11 percent. The demographic tapestry of expatriates is diverse with significant representation from South Asian countries, notably India (38 percent), Pakistan (17 percent), and the Philippines (7 percent). Additionally, the population includes a substantial presence of individuals from Arab countries, predominantly Egyptians (4 percent), with many other nationalities including Iranians and Westerners.<sup>2</sup>

**Figure 1: UAE Demographics**



Source: Global Media Insight

<sup>1</sup> "The UAE Ranks 16th in the World," Ministry of Economy, [www.moec.gov.ae/en/economic-indices](http://www.moec.gov.ae/en/economic-indices).

<sup>2</sup> Global Media Insight.

The UAE possesses a vibrant and rapidly growing demographic picture with a sizable expatriate presence. This diversity influences consumption trends, especially within the growing middle class, fueled by burgeoning economic opportunity. Premium, organic, and health-conscious food choices are increasingly favored among middle-class consumers, reflecting a rising emphasis on food safety and nutrition. The largest age bracket representing 7 million people falls between 25 and 54 years.<sup>3</sup> The youthful population with a median age of 35.8 years<sup>4</sup> demonstrates a strong inclination towards convenience and technology-driven food solutions, such as online grocery shopping and meal delivery services.

### **Size of Economy, Purchasing Power, and Consumer Behavior**

The UAE is the second largest economy in the Arab world after Saudi Arabia, with a gross domestic product (GDP) of \$536.83 billion and a projected growth rate of 4.2 percent in 2024.<sup>5</sup> It is the second-largest export market for U.S. agricultural products among the countries of the Middle East and North Africa, and the 23rd largest in the world. In 2023, U.S. exports of agricultural and related products to the UAE reached \$1.33 billion, a 3.8 percent increase from 2022, and over 75 percent coming in the form of consumer-oriented goods. High per capita income, coupled with significant purchasing power, underpins strong consumer spending. The population's disposable income is driving increased consumption of diverse and high-quality food products. Consumers in the UAE are known for their brand consciousness and preference for international food brands, but a trend towards supporting local and sustainable products is growing. Economic diversification has led to a more resilient economy that is less reliant on oil revenues and more focused on sectors such as tourism, retail, and technology.

In 2023, the UAE's total imports of agricultural products reached \$22 billion, a 0.6 percent decrease from 2022.<sup>6</sup> The UAE is *the* major regional trade hub for the Middle East and North Africa due to its favorable geographic location and modern infrastructure. It is also a member of the Pan-Arab Free Trade Agreement, which eliminated nearly all tariffs among its signatories, and a founding member of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). Economically friendly regulation, low duties, and extensive free trade zones throughout the country have enabled the UAE to become one of the world's leading re-export hubs.

### **Recent Trends**

The UAE is becoming increasingly attractive to expatriates seeking a high quality of life and political stability. Favorable economic conditions have drawn many high net-worth individuals, particularly from Europe, Russia, and China to the region. This influx has led to increased home ownership among a diverse expatriate population. For retailers, this diversity presents both challenges and opportunities (see Table 1 below for advantages and challenges facing U.S. exporters). Retailers must use data analytics

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<sup>3</sup> Global Media Insight.

<sup>4</sup> Euromonitor.

<sup>5</sup> International Monetary Fund.

<sup>6</sup> Trade Data Monitor.

and consumer insights to tailor their services and products to meet the needs of these varied demographics. In 2023, the UAE’s food sector continued to grow, though at a slower rate than the previous year (Table 2). This slowdown suggests that the food retail sector is stabilizing after a strong 2022, while also reflecting more cautious consumer spending due to rising living costs.

The UAE is embracing sustainability in response to growing environmental consciousness and shifting consumer preferences. The hosting of the twenty-eighth United Nations Climate Change Conference in 2023 cast an even brighter spotlight on sustainability, shaping marketing strategies and boardroom agendas alike. An increased focus on food security, highlighted by significant investments in agricultural technology and sustainable farming practices, is also shaping forward-looking trends. The adoption of technologies such as vertical farming and hydroponics is expected to boost local production and may reduce dependency on imports of certain perishable products.

Recent trends in the UAE's food sector include a strong shift towards digitalization and e-commerce. The COVID-19 pandemic accelerated the adoption of online grocery shopping and food delivery services, trends that are likely to persist. E-commerce saw impressive double-digit growth as more consumers embraced efficient delivery services and a wider variety of online products.<sup>7</sup> The surge in e-commerce sales was fueled by loyalty programs, convenience, and lifestyle trends. Retailers are continuously finding new ways to use technology to make the shopping experience even better not only on-line but also offline. These trends should continue to drive growth in the food sector, with a particular emphasis on technological integration and sustainability initiatives.

**Table 1: Advantages and Challenges Facing U.S. Exporters**

Advantages	Disadvantages
Wealthy consumer market with high per capita incomes.	Expatriates have access and preference for their national products.
UAE is a modern transit hub for the broader MENA region.	Specialized labeling and restrictive shelf-life requirements.
Import regulations are transparent and non-complex.	Developing rules, subject to change without prior notice.
Excellent infrastructure, facilities, and state-of-the-art ports.	Long shipping time and high freight cost.
Expanding online retail sector for food.	International and local food brands are available at competitive prices. Proximity to Indian, European, Arab, and Iranian agricultural products with cheaper prices.
USA brand recognition is prevalent among consumers.	Competitors dedicate significant resources for product branding and marketing.
Product visibility through market promotion is widely available.	Suppliers often required to bear the cost of market promotions.
The UAE dirham is stable, secure, and pegged to the U.S. dollar.	Saturated market and highly competitive.

<sup>7</sup> Euromonitor.

UAE importers frequently search for new-to-market products to update portfolio and have well established relationships with U.S. suppliers.	U.S. suppliers are not always willing to consolidate shipments and sell smaller quantities.
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**Table 2: UAE’s Agricultural Imports by Category (In Thousands of Dollars)**

Product Category	From the World			From the United States			
	2023	2024*	Growth	2023	2024*	Growth	Market Share
Agricultural and Related Products Total	22,077,982	26,178,208	18.5	1,327,402	1,370,686	3	6 %
Consumer Oriented Agricultural Total	13,896,504	3,330,859	-76	999,920	1,067,246	7	7%
Bulk Agricultural Total	3,008,293	558,767	-81	31,587	18,944	-40	1%
Intermediate Agricultural Total	3,417,372	1,731,313	-49	257,678	243,365	-6	8%
Agricultural Related Product Total	1,755,781	483,621	-72	38,217	41,781	9	2%

Sources: USDA’s Global Agricultural Trade System and Trade Data Monitor

Note: 2024 is a Post forecast based on historic data.

## Section II: Exporter Business Tips

### Market Research

Before entering the UAE market, U.S. suppliers are advised to conduct preliminary research covering both marketing and regulatory issues to determine if potential exists for their products. Suppliers should understand the overall business climate, market size and dynamics, consumption trends, food import procedures, and regulations. USDA’s Regional Office of Agricultural Affairs in Dubai (OAA Dubai) offers [valuable information](#) at no cost about the food market in the UAE, in addition to Kuwait, Oman, and Qatar to help U.S. suppliers stay current on the latest news, trends, and regulations.

New-to-market U.S. suppliers should apprise themselves of relevant UAE governmental regulations. Interested exporters are strongly encouraged to visit UAE government websites for the latest updates; links may be found in Section VI of this report. It is also advisable to read the UAE's [Country Commercial Guide](#) published by the U.S. Department of Commerce as it provides important information on the UAE market including import tariffs, customs regulations, trade barriers, and more.

### **Local Business Customs and Trends**

To sell food products in the UAE, an exporter must find a reliable importer, agent, or distributor. Contact OAA Dubai for an up-to-date regional importer directory arranged by product category and country. Although the UAE has a rich Arabic culture and Islamic values, it is a cosmopolitan country and follows international business practices. Importers hail from different nationalities and established family trading businesses that have grown over many years. It is therefore imperative to visit the market to build connections with the industry, evaluate partnerships, and identify new opportunities, and an effort to make personal contact demonstrates commitment to the market. For more information about the business culture, consult the U.S.-UAE Business Council's [Doing Business in the United Arab Emirates: Fifth Edition](#) and [additional information](#) from the Embassy of the UAE to the United States.

OAA Dubai supports a wide range of food trade exhibitions in the UAE designed to facilitate market entry for U.S. suppliers. Each February, USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service endorses and organizes a U.S. pavilion at [Gulfood](#), the world's largest annual food and beverage show. For information on how to join the U.S. pavilion at Gulfood, exporters are encouraged to contact the pavilion's [organizer](#) directly.

Other international food trade shows popular among UAE buyers include the [Summer Fancy Food Show](#), the [National Restaurant Association Show](#), the [Natural Products Expo West](#), [SIAL Paris](#), and [ANUGA Germany](#). OAA Dubai regularly recruits regional buyers to attend these shows.

New-to-market U.S. suppliers are advised to connect with [state regional trade groups](#) (SRTGs) as they provide training and education, market analysis, trade shows and buyer missions, as well as product promotion activities funded through the [Market Access Program](#). SRTGs work closely with state departments of agriculture. Additionally, some states and USDA cooperators have representative offices or marketing contractors in the UAE and may offer market entry assistance. You may contact a USDA cooperator directly or reach out to OAA Dubai.

### **General Consumer Tastes and Trends**

A wide range of needs for varied international ingredients exists due to significant differences in income between the highest and lowest earners in the UAE, as well as the large diversity of ethnic groups that call the country home. The Arabian Gulf has a significant preference for Western foods, especially when dining out or snacking at home. In 2023, exports of consumer-oriented products from the United States to the UAE declined from \$1,037,698 to \$999,920, approximately 3.64 percent.<sup>8</sup> This drop can be

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<sup>8</sup> USDA Global Agricultural Trade System.

attributed to various factors, including shifts in UAE consumer preferences, economic fluctuations affecting spending habits, increased competition from other suppliers, and challenges like inflation impacting purchasing power. Supply chain disruptions also likely contributed to the decline in exports to the UAE.

The UAE continues to see significant shifts in food trends and consumer behavior, with the growing millennial population playing a pivotal role. Millennials are driving demand for healthy ingredients and convenient food options, increasingly turning to online platforms for grocery shopping and food delivery. This generation's openness to new cuisines has led to a surge in diverse dining experiences. Moreover, cost-consciousness is evident, reflected in increased visits to discount stores and fewer purchases overall. Throughout 2024, consumers in the United Arab Emirates are expected to maintain a cautious approach to spending, emphasizing value while maintaining their expectations. The idea of “value hacking” will become more prominent as consumers search for optimal bargains, considering factors beyond price to ensure quality and satisfaction within their financial means. Despite economic challenges and a projected stagnation in salary levels, UAE consumers will uphold their lifestyle standards, leading to a growing interest in discounters. In 2023, sales at discount stores amounted to \$130 million, reflecting a significant increase from \$82 million in 2022. This represents growth of approximately 59.8 percent and is projected to reach \$151.2 million in 2024.<sup>9</sup>

According to a 2023 survey conducted by Euromonitor on consumer values and behaviors in the UAE, 75 percent of consumers are concerned that the costs of everyday items they buy are going up, 62 percent look for healthy ingredients in the food they eat, and 22 percent feel that more of their everyday activities will shift to an online platform. Around 61 percent say they will only purchase from brands they fully trust while 42 percent say they enjoy spending their money rather than saving it.<sup>10</sup> Although lack of time is one of the biggest barriers to preparing and cooking food at home, consumers prefer home-cooked food. Nonetheless, foodservice demand is strong and a search for food and drink with health benefits appears to be important to all generations.

### **Section III: Import Food Standards, Regulations, and Procedures**

Agricultural products entering the UAE are subject to the country’s federal food regulations and standards governing the importation and sale of such goods. OAA Dubai’s [Food and Agricultural Import Regulations and Standards Country Report](#) (FAIRS) provides an overview of relevant standards and regulations, while the [FAIRS Export Certificate Report](#) identifies certificate requirements for U.S. food and agricultural products destined for the UAE.

### **Section IV: Market Sector Structure and Trends**

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<sup>9</sup> Euromonitor.

<sup>10</sup> Euromonitor 2023 Survey on Consumer Values and Behaviors in the United Arab Emirates.



As the UAE is dependent on agricultural imports it has an advanced supply chain that involves multiple layers. U.S. suppliers and manufacturers export products directly or through consolidators. Products are then received by UAE importers, agents, or distributors for sale to retailers, food processor, hotels, or restaurants where they finally reach end consumers. In recent years, major distributors have started selling directly to end consumers through online applications.

Most consumer ready products enter through Jebel Ali Port in Dubai, the world's tenth busiest seaport, and the biggest and busiest port in the Middle East. A container takes roughly 30 days from the eastern United States and 50 days from the Western United States to arrive in the UAE. Transportation from the UAE to other GCC countries takes roughly one week by air or sea. High-value products and perishables that come in small volumes are usually brought in via air cargo through Dubai International Airport, located in the heart of Dubai.

Dubai and Abu Dhabi account for more than 70 percent of the total retail sales and 52 percent of the UAE's population. Although the retail sector in the other Emirates is not yet as advanced, they are only an hour and half drive away.

**Figure 2: UAE Supply Chain**



Source: Post

## Retail Food Sector

The UAE's retail industry has faced significant challenges in the last several years due to global inflationary pressures, rising fuel prices, and supply constraints. The cost of gas, electricity, and other fuels in the UAE increased 2.9 percent with a surge in inflation from 0.2 to 4.8 percent in 2021 and 2022, respectively. Increases in housing, transportation, and global food prices drove these spikes. This resulted in an 8.3 percent hike in food prices for home consumption.<sup>11</sup> This inflation prompted consumers to prioritize price over quality. In response, the Ministry of Economy introduced an initiative to regulate the pricing of essential household and food items in 70 outlets across the country, covering cooking oils, eggs, dairy, rice, sugar, poultry, legumes, bread, wheat, among others. Although major hypermarkets and several sizable supermarkets willingly adhered to the price regulations for these vital commodities, smaller supermarkets were not included. The perception of relatively high shipping and freight costs for U.S. goods existed prior to these challenges, leading to reduced interest for some U.S. suppliers in serving the market. Nonetheless, the UAE government's commitment to bolstering food stocks and food security continued to drive demand for retail goods in the region.

Throughout 2023, retail sales in the United Arab Emirates displayed continued growth, albeit at a slightly reduced pace compared to the preceding year. This deceleration indicated a stabilization in the retail sector following the dynamic trends of 2022, while also hinting at a degree of prudent consumer expenditure amidst rising living expenses in the country. Grocery retail industry sales reached over \$20 billion in 2023, up 3.6 percent over the previous year.<sup>12</sup>

The future of grocery retailing will increasingly be online, exemplified by the growing investments in logistics far beyond Dubai and Abu Dhabi. For example, Amazon, the world's largest e-commerce platform, is collaborating with the Abu Dhabi Investment Office to construct the Middle East's most technologically advanced fulfillment center in Abu Dhabi. Spanning 175,000 square meters, the facility is scheduled for completion in 2024 and is poised to offer local entrepreneurs and retailers access to new markets. Simultaneously, Amazon has expanded its presence in the UAE with a newly opened center in Dubai, increasing its total capacity in the region by 70 percent and contributing to the growth of the logistics sector in the country. This facility boasts a storage capacity of nearly 60,000 cubic meters. Amazon UAE's [online food store](#) stands out as a key player in the retail market, offering a diverse range of grocery items including fresh produce and pantry essentials. This platform caters to the varied needs of customers across the UAE, providing a seamless shopping experience through its user-friendly interface and efficient delivery options.

The food retail market in the UAE is highly competitive and has a diverse landscape. Several key players dominate, with a mix of international and local retailers. These powerful players have forced change in sourcing, transportation, and storage solutions to minimize costs and defend market share. As a result, U.S. suppliers have faced more trade term restrictions and delivery methods.

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<sup>11</sup> Euromonitor.

<sup>12</sup> Euromonitor.

**Table 3: Retail Value Excluding Sales Tax in Millions (USD)**

Segment	2020	2021	2022	2023
Hypermarkets	10,761	10,320	11,008	11,361
Supermarkets	4,510	4,605	4,774	5,055
Retail E-Commerce	4,577	5,112	5,640	6,217
Food E-Commerce	421	641	940	1,072
Small Local Grocers	910	932	979	1,019
Convenience Stores	353	380	402	425
Discounters	38	64	82	91

Source: Euromonitor International

### **Hotel, Restaurant, and Institutional**

The UAE food service market is divided by structure into independent restaurants and chained restaurants and by type to full-service restaurants, limited-service restaurants, quick service restaurants, cafés and bars, and street stalls and kiosks. According to Euromonitor, full-service restaurants have the largest share of the total sector sales with a sales value of \$6.78 billion followed by cafes and bars with a sales value of \$2.75 billion. In the absence of official federal data on the number of food service establishments, OAA Dubai has based food service establishment numbers on information gathered from trade sources, contacts, and the Dubai government. In 2022, the number of food service establishments in the UAE based on industry estimates reached 30,000 outlets with more than 60 percent located in Dubai.

According to one study, the hospitality sector in the UAE maintained its momentum, benefiting from a well-coordinated events calendar.<sup>13</sup> Businesses in the sector adapted their revenue management strategies to attract a diverse clientele amidst shifting trends, highlighting the UAE's capacity to nurture a vibrant and thriving hospitality industry. The country's commitment to delivering exceptional hospitality experiences has cemented its status as a premier global destination, drawing tourists from across the globe.

In 2023, Dubai saw an increase of 5,000 new hotel rooms, totaling 153,000, while Abu Dhabi expanded by 200 rooms, reaching over 32,500 in total. For 2024, Dubai plans to introduce an additional 7,000 hotel rooms and Abu Dhabi 700 more. Furthermore, between January and October 2023, Dubai experienced a significant rise in visitor numbers, welcoming 13.9 million guests, marking a 22 percent increase. The hospitality market saw robust activity with well-attended events driving traffic throughout all seasons. In November 2023, Dubai's hotels maintained a 77 percent occupancy rate, a slight 2 percent decrease in average daily rate (ADR) to \$179 yet retaining a healthy revenue per available room (REVPAR) of \$138. Abu Dhabi sustained a 72 percent occupancy rate with a notable 20 percent increase in ADR to \$143, resulting in a 25 percent REVPAR improvement to \$103.

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<sup>13</sup> *FMCG HORECA Business Magazine*, Gulf Time Media, February 13, 2023.

Ongoing developments along with the introduction of new entertainment concepts, are anticipated to fuel long-term growth in Abu Dhabi's hospitality sector. For additional details, review OAA Dubai's Food Service-Hotel Restaurant Institutional [GAIN report](#).

## Food Processing Sector

The UAE's food processing sector is thriving, driven by robust economic growth and domestic consumption. With 568 predominantly small- and medium-sized food and beverage processors, the UAE hosts more than 2,000 food and beverage manufacturing companies that generate \$7.63 billion in annual revenue.<sup>14</sup> Most of the roughly 315 food and beverage factories are based in Dubai with the remainder distributed among the other six emirates. While primarily catering to local demand, these firms also aim to meet regional and global needs. Limited local production means that they rely heavily on imported ingredients, presenting a significant opportunity for U.S. companies to tap into this expanding sector.

The food processing sector plays a major role in the UAE government's efforts to enhance food security and is expected to grow gradually in the upcoming years in line with the country's [National Food Security Strategy 2051](#). The strategy seeks to reach the top rank on the Global Food Security Index by 2051; the government is investing heavily to develop and support local processors. For additional details, review OAA Dubai's Food Processing Ingredients [GAIN report](#).

## Section V: Agricultural and Food Imports

**Table 4: Top 10 UAE Imports of Consumer Oriented Products and Market Share (USD)**

Product Category	Gross Imports	First Supplier	Second Supplier	U.S. Ranking
Dairy Products	1,939,854,102	EU 27 External Trade (Brexit) (33.8%)	New Zealand (20%)	6 (3%)
Tree Nuts	1,134,318,773	United States Consumption (37.6%)	Ghana (23.4%)	1 (37.6)
Poultry Meat and Products (ex. eggs)	1,124,177,379	Brazil (79.4%)	United States Consumption (5.5%)	2 (5.5%)
Fresh Fruits	1,053,327,017	South Africa (29%)	India (13%)	8 (3%)
Beef and Beef Products	877,446,105	Brazil (38.5%)	India (27.5%)	5 (7%)
Bakery Goods, Cereals, and Pasta	793,112,957	EU 27 External Trade (Brexit) (31.5%)	Saudi Arabia (21.4%)	5 (4.5%)
Soup and Other	712,126,563	EU 27 External	United States	2 (12%)

<sup>14</sup> Annual UAE Food Industry Report 2023, UAE Food and Beverage Business Group, 2023.

Food Preparations		Trade (Brexit) (33%)	Consumption (12%)	
Chocolate and Cocoa Products	535,263,238	EU 27 External Trade (Brexit) (47%)	Turkey (9%)	5 (5%)
Spices	476,195,097	India (39.5%)	China (24%)	19 (0.2%)
Fresh Vegetables	450,351,513	India (32%)	China (28%)	10 (1%)

Source: Trade Data Monitor

**Table 5: U.S. Exports of Agricultural and Related Products to the UAE (thousands USD)**

Product	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Jan - Mar 2023	Jan - Mar 2024	Period /Period % Change (Value)
Agricultural and Related Products	1,296,379	963,295	1,130,917	1,279,130	1,327,402	370,156	382,237	3
Consumer Oriented Total	954,327	734,474	895,842	1,037,698	999,920	287,477	306,662	7
Intermediate Total	272,904	162,415	139,546	173,411	257,678	60,397	57,008	-6
Agricultural Related Products	44,545	27,049	33,256	42,747	38,217	10,523	11,502	9
Bulk Total	24,603	39,356	62,273	25,274	31,587	11,759	7,065	-40
Grand Total	1,296,379	963,295	1,130,917	1,279,130	1,327,402	370,156	382,237	3

Source: USDA Global Agricultural Trade System

**Table 6: Global Agricultural and Related Products Exports to the UAE (USD)**

Country	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total	16,013,943,415	15,127,234,604	18,286,509,474	22,225,331,974	22,077,982,159
EU 27 External Trade (Brexit)	2,969,841,770	2,682,500,354	3,076,717,458	3,750,982,138	4,050,963,892
India	1,874,861,048	1,908,485,160	2,611,307,534	3,187,045,062	3,151,772,038
Brazil	1,237,667,293	1,146,992,542	1,450,158,779	1,991,603,352	2,144,585,811
United States Consumption	1,296,379,211	963,294,915	1,130,917,298	1,279,129,846	1,327,402,079
Australia	495,210,770	455,455,943	790,544,434	1,448,677,478	1,259,196,856
China	807,897,301	716,124,920	922,965,259	1,187,426,125	1,191,065,884

Saudi Arabia	898,179,426	790,861,698	925,159,704	1,105,512,614	1,099,762,988
Malaysia	373,551,494	314,011,096	462,721,083	825,190,514	612,769,898
Türkiye	342,823,707	352,959,459	435,793,630	629,776,452	606,592,807
United Kingdom HMRC	446,562,449	354,816,583	447,996,091	564,834,306	549,774,393

Source: Trade Data Monitor

## Section VI: Key Contacts and Further Information

<p>Agricultural Affairs Office Dubai</p> <p>Address: U.S. Consulate General 8 Al Seef St - Umm Hurair 1 Dubai, United Arab Emirates <a href="http://www.fas.usda.gov">http://www.fas.usda.gov</a></p>	<p>Phone: +971 4 309 4000 Fax: +971 4 354 7279 Email: <a href="mailto:agdubai@usda.gov">agdubai@usda.gov</a></p>
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### Host Country Government

[Ministry of Climate Change and Environment](#): For information on federal laws, ministerial decrees, regulations as well as available business services.

[Dubai Municipality](#): For issues related to food safety, central laboratory, and accreditation in the Emirate of Dubai.

Municipalities in the other six emirates: [UAE | Government of Ras al Khaimah Links to UAE Municipalities](#)

[Ministry of Industry and Advanced Technology/Standards Store](#): For UAE national standards and regulations.

### AmCham in UAE and Local Chambers of Commerce and Industry in the Seven Emirates

- [Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce and Industry](#)
- [Dubai Chamber of Commerce and Industry](#)
- [Fujairah Chamber of Commerce and Industry](#)
- [Ras Al Khaimah Chamber of Commerce and Industry](#)
- [U.S.-UAE Business Council](#)
- [Sharjah Chamber of Commerce and Industry](#)
- [Um Al Quwain Chamber of Commerce and Industry](#)

[Ajman Chamber of Commerce](#)  
[American Business Council of Dubai and the Northern Emirates](#)

## Appendix I: U.S. Exports of Agricultural and Related Products to the UAE

**Table 1: U.S. Exports of Agricultural and Related Products to the UAE (In Thousands of Dollars)**

Product	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Jan - Mar 2023	Jan - Mar 2024	Period/Period % Change (Value)
Agricultural and Related Products	1,296,379	963,295	1,130,917	1,279,130	1,327,402	370,156	382,237	3
Consumer Oriented Total	954,327	734,474	895,842	1,037,698	999,920	287,477	306,662	7
Intermediate Total	272,904	162,415	139,546	173,411	257,678	60,397	57,008	-6
Agricultural Related Products	44,545	27,049	33,256	42,747	38,217	10,523	11,502	9
Bulk Total	24,603	39,356	62,273	25,274	31,587	11,759	7,065	-40
Total	1,296,379	963,295	1,130,917	1,279,130	1,327,402	370,156	382,237	3

Source: USDA Global Agricultural Trade System

### Attachments:

No Attachments