



COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS
FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICS QUARTERLY
REPORT
Fourth QUARTER, 2018

Department of Statistics

Ministry of Finance

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PREFACE

The Department of Statistics presents this report in a series of Foreign Trade Quarterly Reports which is published within the quarter immediately following.

The report contains tables that provide data on the value and volume of Trade between The Bahamas and the rest of the world. The data are collected by The Bahamas Customs Department and are forwarded to the Department of Statistics where they are processed, analyzed and published by the Foreign Trade Section of the Department of Statistics.

The data in this report are provisional and represent data available at the time of publishing; therefore it is subject to changes when tabulated for the Annual Report.



Leona Wilson
Acting Director

April, 2018

THE FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICS QUARTERLY REPORT

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Data Notes and Explanation

1. Data Source

The source documents of the statistics in this report are the Customs import entries, declarations and export documents submitted by importers and exporters, which are subject to verification and approval by The Bahamas Customs Department.

2. Coverage

As recommended by the United Nations International 'Merchandise Trade Statistics Manual', and to the extent possible, the General Trade System is used for the recording and compilation of external trade statistics for The Bahamas. This system covers all types of inward and outward movement of goods through a country or territory, including movements through warehouses and free zones. In essence, it includes all merchandise that either add to or reduce the stock of material resources of a country or territory by entering (imports) or leaving (exports) the country's economic territory.

3. Transaction Values

The value of imports are c.i.f., that is, the value at the port of importation including freight and insurance charges and other charges incidental to the delivery at the port of import.

The values of exports are f.o.b., that is, the value of goods including the cost of transportation and insurance to the border of the exporting country.

The values presented are Bahamian dollars and the exchange rates prevailing at the time of importation are used in converting foreign currencies.

4. Changes/Exclusion to Presentation of Trade Data

Excluded from the compilation of the foreign trade statistics are the goods traded that do not make any changes to the wealth and material resources of the country. Examples of such goods are crude oil, residual fuel oils and certain chemicals temporarily imported for storage purposes only.

5. Commodity Classification

The classifications of goods used in this report are the Harmonized Description and Coding System, better known as the Harmonized System (HS) and the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC). The HS arranges goods according to their degree of manufacture and classifies them into ninety-seven chapters which are grouped into twenty-one sections. Section twenty-two was added to accommodate local trade. The SITC on the other hand, arranges goods according to their stage of production. The SITC contains sixty-seven divisions which are condensed into ten sections.

Definitions and Abbreviations:

Imports – Goods imported from foreign countries for further processing or local consumption.

Domestic Exports – Goods produced or manufactured locally and exported to foreign countries.

Re-exports – goods exported in the same condition as when imported from a foreign country

Balance of Trade – is the total export minus the total import. It is usually calculated totally for a country or for each trading partner.

Port of Entry – a port that serves as a first port of entry from an international port.

Abbreviations:

Lbs.	Pound avoirdupois
Gal.	U.S. Gallons
Cwt.	Hundredweight cwt.=112 voirdupois
Ton	2240 pounds avoirdupois
1000 lin. inches	1000 Linear Inches
Stem	Stem = 28 pounds
Barrels	35 Imperial Gallons or 42 US Gallons
No.	Number

4th QUARTER 2018 TRADE DATA HIGHLIGHTS

IMPORTS

Data on merchandise trade for 4th quarter 2018 shows that the value of commodities imported into The Bahamas totaled \$801 million resulting in an increase of 9% when compared with the same period last year.

The major groups of merchandise, were **'Machinery And Transport Equipment'** which totaled \$153 million, **'Food And Live Animal'** at \$140 million and **'Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles'** which totaled \$134 million. The combined value of these categories represented 53% of total imports.

Other categories that contributed to the total imports were **'Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly By Materials'** which accounted for \$115 million, **'Mineral Fuels, Lubricants And Related Materials'** value at 101 million and **'Chemicals'**, at \$81 million (these groups represent 37% of total Imports).

Mineral Fuels, Lubricants And Related Materials showed a decline by 33%, when compared to the same quarter last year.

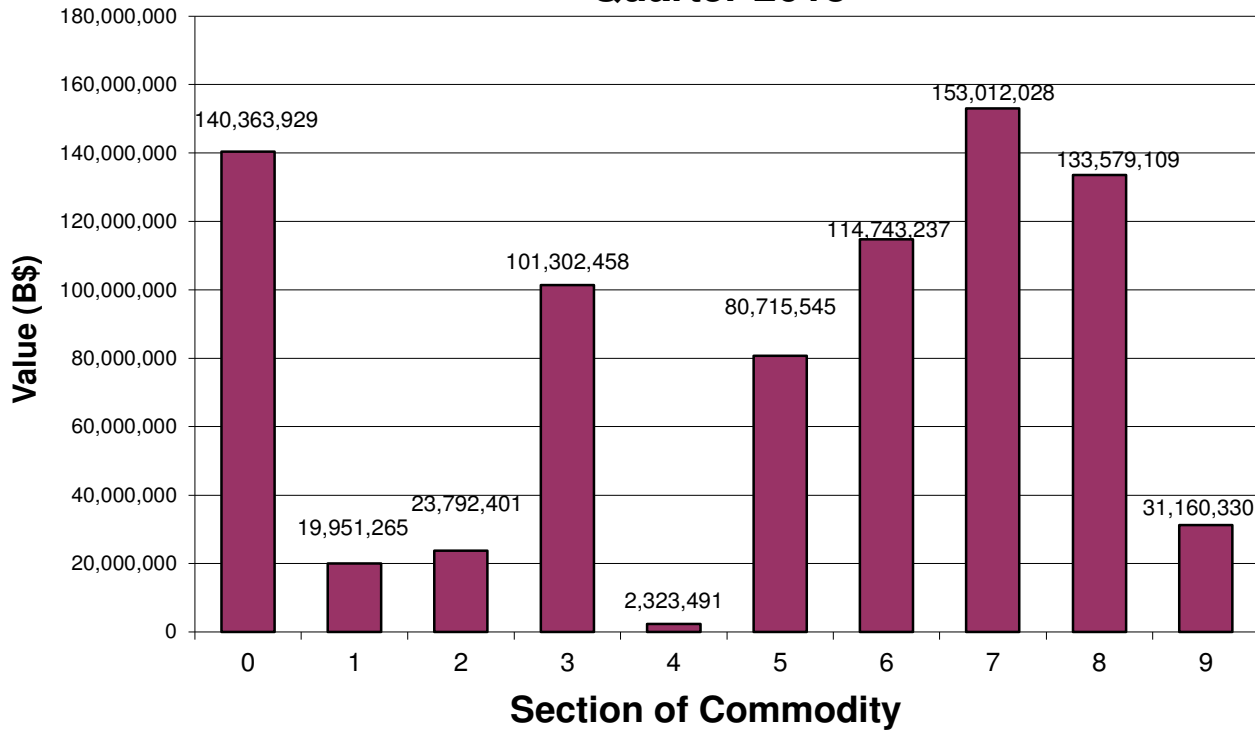
EXPORTS

As it relates to total exports, data for 4th quarter 2018 shows that the value of commodities exported (Domestic and Re-Export) from The Bahamas totaled \$125 million resulting in an increase of 6% when compared with the same period last year.

The categories that contributed the largest proportion to the exports were **'Chemicals'** which totaled \$40 million of the total export, representing 32% and **'Food And Live Animals'** which totaled \$29 million of the total export or represent 23%.

Categories that also showed an increase to the total exports were **Mineral Fuels, Lubricants And Related Materials'** and **'Beverages And Tobacco'** which increased for 9% and 126% respectively, when compared to the same period last year.

Value of Imports by Section of Commodity: 4th Quarter 2018



LEGEND

0 Food And Live Animals

1 Beverages And Tobacco

2 Crude Minerals, Inedible Except Fuels

3 Mineral Fuels, Lubricants And

Related Materials

4 Animal and Vegetable Oils And Fats

5 Chemicals

6 Manufactured Goods Classified

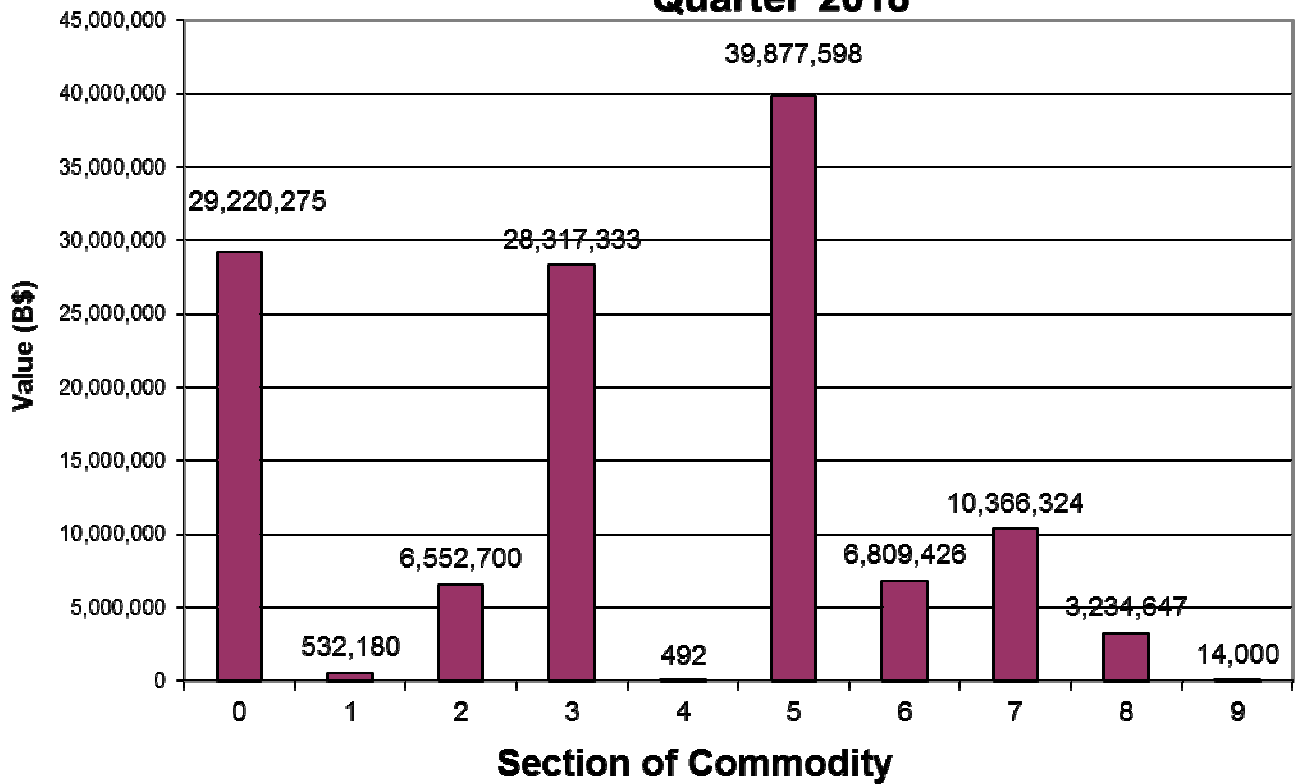
Chiefly By Materials

7 Machinery And Transport Equipment

8 Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles

**9 Commodities And Transactions Not
Classified According To Kind**

Value of Exports by Section of Commodity: 4th Quarter 2018



LEGEND

0 Food And Live Animals

1 Beverages And Tobacco

2 Crude Minerals, Inedible Except Fuels

3 Mineral Fuels, Lubricants And

Related Materials

4 Animal and Vegetable Oils And Fats

5 Chemicals

6 Manufactured Goods Classified

Chiefly By Materials

7 Machinery And Transport Equipment

8 Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles

9 Commodities And Transactions Not
Classified According To Kind

VALUE OF IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND BALANCE OF TRADE BY QUARTERS, 2017 – 4th QUARTER, 2018

TABLE 1

	2017				B\$
	2018				
	4th QTR 2017	1st QTR 2018	2nd QTR 2018	3rd QTR 2018	4th QTR 2018
IMPORTS	880,132,169	850,875,801	978,212,291	891,385,210	800,943,793
Oil Trade	152,203,916	145,497,549	102,957,383	233,644,070	101,302,458
Other Merchandise	727,928,253	705,378,252	875,254,908	657,741,140	699,641,335
EXPORTS	119,403,241	109,130,325	163,356,443	114,447,310	124,924,975
Oil Trade	26,005,733	26,569,090	19,773,604	26,898,416	28,317,333
Other Merchandise	93,397,508	82,561,235	143,582,839	87,548,894	96,607,642
BALANCE OF TRADE	-760,728,928	-741,745,476	-814,855,848	-776,937,900	-676,018,818

VALUE OF IMPORTS CLASSIFIED BY SECTION OF COMMODITY AND QUARTERS, 2017 – 4th QUARTER, 2018

TABLE 2

\$B

SECTION OF COMMODITY	IMPORTS	IMPORTS	IMPORTS	IMPORTS	IMPORTS
	4TH QTR 2017	1 st QTR 2018	2 nd QTR 2018	3 rd QTR 2018	4 th QTR 2018
0 FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS	139,937,646	138,754,852	169,742,067	130,999,341	140,363,929
1 BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	25,819,205	26,186,527	14,545,756	25,468,364	19,951,265
2 CRUDE MINERALS, INEDIBLE EXCEPT FUELS	20,266,576	18,606,520	20,428,592	17,265,387	23,792,401
3 MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	152,203,916	145,497,549	102,957,383	233,644,070	101,302,458
4 ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS AND FATS	2,482,169	2,764,828	2,498,321	2,822,247	2,323,491
5 CHEMICALS	73,187,947	74,624,057	92,431,881	69,803,731	80,715,545
6 MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIALS	123,591,898	127,388,083	178,263,177	108,204,269	114,743,237
7 MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	186,182,995	172,847,115	180,061,099	168,655,364	153,012,028
8 MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES	122,065,053	109,288,031	182,325,763	102,604,421	133,579,109
9 COMMODITIES AND TRANSACTIONS NOT CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO KIND	34,394,764	34,918,239	34,958,252	31,918,016	31,160,330
TOTAL	880,132,169	850,875,801	978,212,291	891,385,210	800,943,793

VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS CLASSIFIED BY SECTION OF COMMODITY AND QUARTERS, 2017 –4th QUARTER, 2018

TABLE 3

\$B

SECTION OF COMMODITY	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS
	4 th QTR 2017	1 st QTR 2018	2 nd QTR 2018	3 rd QTR 2018	4 th QTR 2018
0 FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS	33,644,926	18,731,378	8,527,446	13,732,805	29,188,680
1 BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	70,977	477,312	795,602	639,104	330,972
2 CRUDE MINERALS, INEDIBLE EXCEPT FUELS	3,309,815	5,905,538	3,414,211	3,448,690	5,426,954
3 MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	-	-	-	-	-
4 ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS AND FATS	-	-	-	-	-
5 CHEMICALS	23,620,103	22,768,525	42,638,424	38,187,595	39,536,314
6 MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIALS	304,128	10,100	548,452	441,091	1,722,310
7 MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	-	-	-	386,900	-
8 MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES	18,734	4,260	52,526	449,757	75,950
9 COMMODITIES AND TRANSACTIONS NOT CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO KIND	195	100	2	-	-
TOTAL	60,968,878	47,897,213	55,976,663	57,285,942	76,281,180

VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS CLASSIFIED BY SECTION OF COMMODITY AND QUARTERS, 2017 – 4th QUARTER, 2018

TABLE 4

		B\$			
		RE- EXPORTS	RE- EXPORTS	RE- EXPORTS	RE- EXPORTS
		4th QTR 2017	1st QTR 2018	2nd QTR 2018	3rd QTR 2018
SECTION OF COMMODITY		4th QTR 2018			
0	FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS	29,043	81,007	441,529	64,996
1	BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	164,916	75,007	168,455	160,389
2	CRUDE MINERALS, INEDIBLE EXCEPT FUELS	917,434	638,242	765,202	779,467
3	MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	26,005,733	26,569,090	19,773,604	26,898,416
4	ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS AND FATS	275	-	100	217
5	CHEMICALS	634,732	1,467,332	716,359	2,081,260
6	MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIALS	5,689,613	8,347,681	9,289,487	4,499,354
7	MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	23,186,846	18,415,186	70,679,611	16,909,008
8	MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES	1,800,571	5,619,472	5,529,523	5,744,261
9	COMMODITIES AND TRANSACTIONS NOT CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO KIND	5,200	20,095	15,910	24,000
	TOTAL	43,276,069	58,434,363	61,233,112	57,161,368

**VALUE OF IMPORTS, DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS CLASSIFIED BY SECTION OF COMMODITY
4th QUARTER, 2018**

TABLE 5

B\$

SECTIONS	DESCRIPTIONS	IMPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	RE-EXPORTS
Section 1.	Live Animals Animal Products	47,009,350	29,486,387	3,933
Section 2.	Vegetable Products	38,644,124	137,685	2,028
Section 3.	Animal or Vegetable Fats Oils & Their Cleavage Products Prepared Edible Fats Animal or Vegetable Waxes	3,316,638	-	492
Section 4.	Prepared FoodStuffs Beverages Spirits Vinegar Tobacco & Manufactured Substitutes	78,058,222	362,905	227,892
Section 5.	Mineral Products	112,379,709	4,928,762	28,841,109
Section 6.	Products of The Chemical or Allied Industries	58,102,646	17,949,554	334,644
Section 7.	Plastics & Articles Thereof Rubber & Articles Thereof	47,727,641	21,662,650	254,320
Section 8.	Raw Hides & skin Leather Furskins & Articles Thereof Saddlery Harness Travel Goods Handbags & Similar Containers Articles of Animal Gut (Other Than Silk-Worm Gut)	3,267,484	-	82,841
Section 9.	Wood and Articles of Wood Charcoal Cork & Articles of Cork Manufactures of Staw Esparto or Other Plaiting Materials Basketware & Wickerwork	25,634,488	10	152,012
Section 10.	Pulp of Wood Other Fibrous Cellulosic Material Recovered (Waste & Scrap) Paper or Paperboard Paper & Paperboard Articles Thereof	17,083,626	20,867	53,834
Section 11.	Textiles and Textile Articles	26,006,853	-	1,202,841
Section 12.	Footwear Headgear Umbrellas Sun Umbrellas Walking-Stick Seat-Sicks Whips Riding-Crops & Parts Thereof Prepared Feather & Articles Artificial Flowers Articles of Human Hair	8,627,588	-	4,075
Section 13.	Articles of Stone Plaster Cement Asbestos Mica or Similar Materials Ceramic Products Glass & Glassware	18,980,336	64	212,514
Section 14.	Natural or Cultured Pearls Precious or Semi-Precious Stones Precious Metal Metals Clad With Precious Metal & Articles Thereof Imitation Jewellery Coin	11,558,439	33,000	576,454
Section 15.	Base Metal and Articles of Base Metal	49,896,559	1,699,236	4,029,395
Section 16.	Machinery and Mechanical Appliances Electrical Equipment Parts Thereof Sound Recorders & Reproducers Television Image Sound Recorders & Reproducers Part & Accessories of Such Articles	108,931,057	-	9,200,671
Section 17.	Vehicles Aircraft Vessels & Associated Transport Equipment	43,737,553	-	1,153,523
Section 18.	Optical Photographic Cinematographic Measuring Checking Precision Medical Surgical Instruments Apparatus Clocks Watches Musical Instruments Parts & Accessories Thereof	13,054,457	-	996,688
Section 19.	Arms & Ammunition Parts & Accessories Thereof	34,140	-	-
Section 20.	Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	41,046,614	-	525,797
Section 21.	Work of Art Collectors' Pieces & Antiques	46,126,660	60	788,642
Section 22.	Human Remains	1,719,609	-	90
TOTAL		800,943,793	76,281,180	48,643,795

**VALUE OF IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND BALANCE OF TRADE CLASSIFIED BY PRINCIPAL TRADING AREAS AND
QUARTERS, 2017 – 4th QUARTER, 2018**

TABLE 6

B\$

	4th QTR 2017	1st QTR 2018	2nd QTR 2018	3rd QTR 2018	4th QTR 2018
ALL COUNTRIES					
Imports	880,132,169	850,875,801	978,212,291	891,385,210	800,943,793
Exports	119,403,241	109,130,325	163,356,443	114,447,310	124,924,975
Balance	-760,728,928	-741,745,476	-814,855,848	-776,937,900	-676,018,818
UNITED KINGDOM					
Imports	6,174,376	6,453,561	6,773,577	19,704,593	17,696,318
Exports	2,125,461	2,286,381	1,977,978	1,669,065	2,832,521
Balance	-4,048,915	-4,167,180	-4,795,599	-18,035,528	-14,863,797
CANADA					
Imports	9,180,346	5,634,512	7,492,206	6,701,346	6,169,410
Exports	511,970	227,248	203,287	148,488	513,190
Balance	-8,668,376	-5,407,264	-7,288,919	-6,552,858	-5,656,220
U.S.A.					
Imports	726,767,619	733,941,092	825,024,719	705,180,615	683,113,456
Exports	84,402,811	88,270,334	115,614,884	87,178,756	89,633,879
Balance	-642,364,808	-645,670,758	-709,409,835	-618,001,859	-593,479,577
CARIBBEAN COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES					
Imports	5,252,241	8,706,339	7,860,397	5,289,424	3,810,324
Exports	12,908,798	7,165,769	308,802	5,468,887	7,999,864
Balance	7,656,557	-1,540,570	-7551,595	179,463	4,189,540
EUROPEAN COMMON-MARKET COUNTRIES					
Imports	33,183,039	19,745,682	17,673,890	19,070,553	16,969,779
Exports	12,957,233	3,482,023	12,119,058	17,790,678	16,041,868
Balance	-20,225,806	-16,263,659	-5,554,832	-1,279,875	-927,911
O.P.E.C					
Imports	1,284,158	488,608	905,705	701,213	775,016
Exports	400	24,959	-	2,000	-
Balance	-1,283,758	-463,649	-905,705	-699,213	-775,016
OTHER COUNTRIES					
Imports	98,290,390	75,906,007	112,481,797	134,737,466	72,409,490
Exports	6,496,568	7,673,611	33,132,434	2,189,436	7,903,653
Balance	-91,793,822	-68,232,396	-79,349,363	-132,548,030	-64,505,837

TOTAL IMPORTS BY ISLAND OF ENTRY AND QUARTERS, 2017 – 4th QUARTER, 2018

TABLE 7	\$B				
	2017		2018		
PORT OF ENTRY	4th QTR 2017	1 st QTR 2018	2 nd QTR 2018	3 rd QTR 2018	4 th QTR 2018
NEW PROVIDENCE	625,916,842	595,325,073	688,991,341	595,500,674	572,592,572
GRAND BAHAMA	152,174,241	154,948,987	179,842,620	199,606,327	131,003,888
ABACO	41,392,784	41,753,710	47,969,781	39,025,168	42,789,692
ANDROS	2,915,802	4,492,372	1,060,954	5,933,408	3,783,448
BIMINI	15,714,246	12,205,956	12,791,298	22,058,531	15,593,623
CAT ISLAND	623,066	709,738	985,885	563,290	649,015
CHUB CAY	4,765,945	1,215,367	2,641,813	903,491	1,137,585
ELEUTHERA	13,411,244	14,149,504	17,230,441	11,426,725	14,822,632
EXUMA, GEORGE TOWN	10,208,482	10,783,468	12,494,821	10,849,814	12,492,567
INAGUA	3,037,349	2,215,610	5,004,108	1,825,429	2,642,502
MAYAGUANA	-	-	-	-	-
CAT CAY	1,299,866	1,684,178	1,517,099	1,998,339	1,080,945
SAN SALVADOR	1,146,492	504,393	829,596	446,336	987,357
GREAT HARBOUR CAY	5,453,229	2,325,439	4,689,555	-	-
LONG ISLAND	2,072,581	8,562,006	2,162,979	1,247,678	1,367,967
TOTAL	880,132,169	850,875,801	978,212,291	891,385,210	800,943,793