



**COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS**  
**FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICS QUARTERLY**  
**REPORT**  
**THIRD QUARTER, 2016**

**Department of Statistics**

**Ministry of Finance**

**P.O. Box N-3904**

**Nassau, Bahamas**

# PREFACE

The Department of Statistics presents the third 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L. Wilson', with a long, sweeping horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Leona Wilson**

**Acting Director**

**December, 2016**

# 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

# 3RD QUARTER 2016 TRADE DATA HIGHLIGHTS

## IMPORTS

Data on merchandise trade for 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2016 shows that the value of commodities imported into The Bahamas totaled \$751million resulting in a decrease of 8% when compared with the same period last year.

As it relates to major groups of merchandise, the category of **'Machinery and Transport Equipment'** which totaled \$179 million accounted for 24% of the imports. This was followed closely by **'Food & Live Animals'** which totaled 15% of all imports and valued at \$116million.

Other categories that contributed notably to the total imports were **'Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and Related Materials'**, **'Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly by Materials'**, and **'Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles'** which, together combined represented 42%.

The groups that had the largest decreases over the same period last year were **'Mineral fuels, Lubricants and Related Materials'** and **'Food and Live Animals'** which declined by 54% and 10%, respectively.

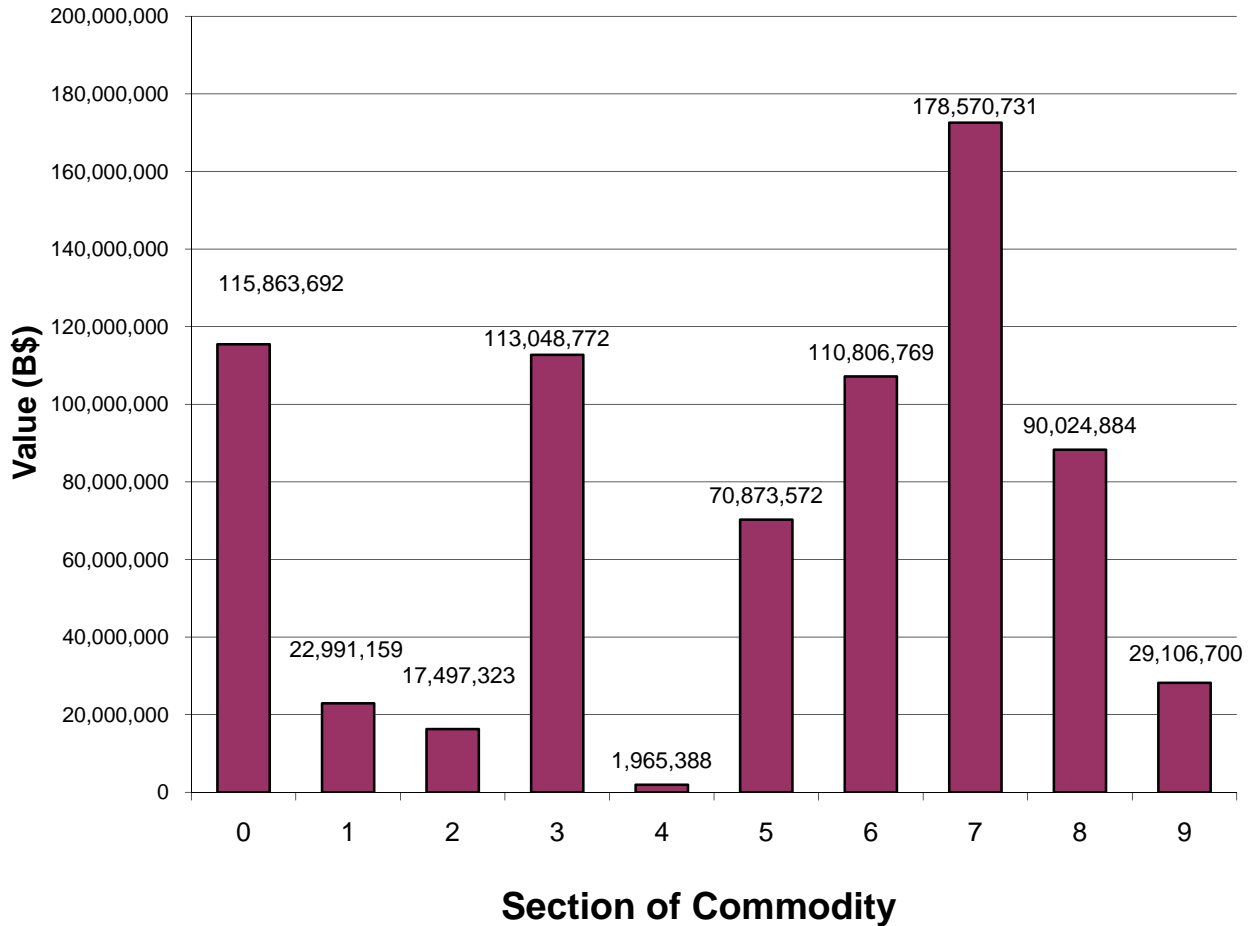
## EXPORTS

As it relates to total exports, data for 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2016 shows that the value of commodities exported (Domestic and Re-Export) from The Bahamas totaled \$74 million resulting in a significant decrease of 23% when compared with the same period last year.

The categories that contributed the largest proportion to the exports were **'Chemicals'** which totaled 41% and **'Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and Related Materials'** which totaled 17%.

The groups that had the largest decreases over the same period last year were **'Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly by Materials'** and **'Crude Minerals, Inedible Except Fuels'** and which decreased by 73% and 63%, respectively.

## Value of Imports by Section of Commodity: 3rd Quarter 2016



### 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**

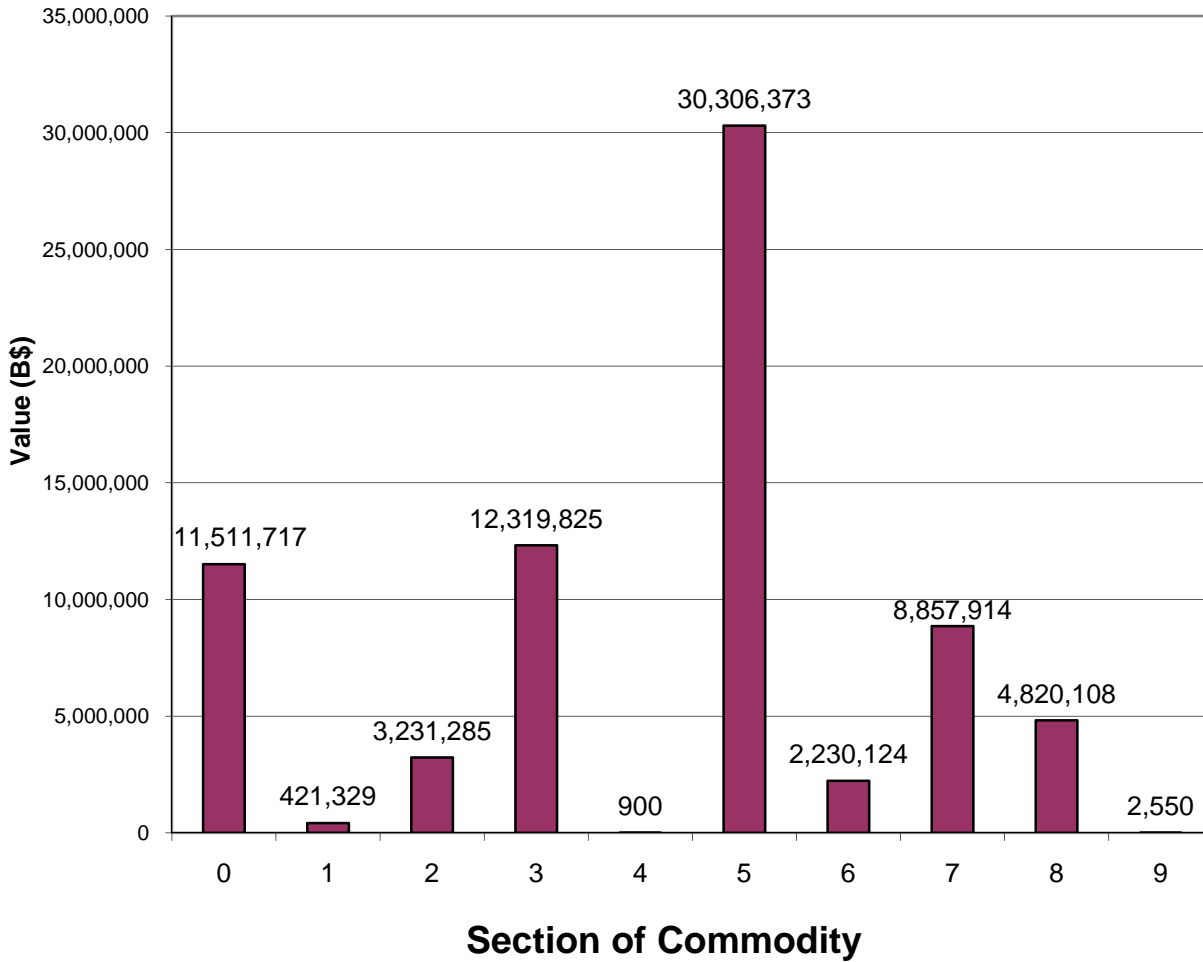
**6 Manufactured Goods Classified  
Chiefly By Materials**

**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: 3rd Quarter 2016



### LEGEND

<b>0 Food And Live Animals</b>	<b>5 Chemicals</b>
<b>1 Beverages And Tobacco</b>	<b>6 Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly By Materials</b>
<b>2 Crude Minerals, Inedible Except Fuels</b>	<b>7 Machinery And Transport Equipment</b>
<b>3 Mineral Fuels, Lubricants And Related Materials</b>	<b>8 Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles</b>
<b>4 Animal and Vegetable Oils And Fats</b>	<b>9 Commodities And Transactions Not Classified According To Kind</b>



**VALUE OF IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND BALANCE OF TRADE BY QUARTERS, 2015 – 3rd QUARTER, 2016**

**TABLE 1**

	2015				B\$ 2016
	3rd QTR 2015	4th QTR 2015	1st QTR 2016	2nd QTR 2016	3rd QTR 2016
<b>IMPORTS</b>	<b>819,688,773</b>	<b>799,514,439</b>	<b>641,034,726</b>	<b>780,037,793</b>	<b>750,748,990</b>
Oil Trade	243,845,151	116,961,744	69,559,061	139,288,527	113,048,772
Other Merchandise	575,843,622	682,552,695	571,475,665	640,749,266	637,700,218
<b>EXPORTS</b>	<b>95,959,822</b>	<b>106,077,836</b>	<b>78,686,067</b>	<b>130,745,084</b>	<b>73,702,125</b>
Oil Trade	12,511,079	8,236,316	9,365,467	11,438,800	12,319,825
Other Merchandise	83,448,743	97,841,520	69,320,600	119,306,284	61,382,300
<b>BALANCE OF TRADE</b>	<b>-723,728,951</b>	<b>-693,436,603</b>	<b>-562,348,659</b>	<b>-649,292,709</b>	<b>-677,046,865</b>

**VALUE OF IMPORTS CLASSIFIED BY SECTION OF COMMODITY AND QUARTERS, 2015 – 3rd QUARTER, 2016**

**TABLE 2**

SECTION OF COMMODITY	\$B				
	IMPORTS	IMPORTS	IMPORTS	IMPORTS	IMPORTS
	3rd QTR 2015	4th QTR 2015	1st QTR 2016	2nd QTR 2016	3 <sup>rd</sup> QTR 2016
0 FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS	128,887,947	132,315,101	127,925,239	131,441,651	115,863,692
1 BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	21,520,595	23,429,533	20,080,179	25,891,120	22,991,159
2 CRUDE MINERALS, INEDIBLE EXCEPT FUELS	18,274,145	16,656,501	14,971,152	19,717,838	17,497,323
3 MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	243,845,151	116,961,744	69,559,061	139,288,527	113,048,772
4 ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS AND FATS	2,102,086	2,148,776	2,127,298	2,704,635	1,965,388
5 CHEMICALS	67,185,217	75,996,533	66,187,182	69,949,217	70,873,572
6 MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIALS	98,742,114	112,081,868	96,897,043	106,309,684	110,806,769
7 MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	126,785,545	163,995,211	136,207,147	156,362,848	178,570,731
8 MISCELLNEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES	81,129,162	124,143,699	81,164,414	96,748,108	90,024,884
9 COMMODITIES AND TRANSACTIONS NOT CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO KIND	31,216,811	31,785,473	25,916,011	31,624,165	29,106,700
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>819,688,773</b>	<b>799,514,439</b>	<b>641,034,726</b>	<b>780,037,793</b>	<b>750,748,990</b>

VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS CLASSIFIED BY SECTION OF COMMODITY AND QUARTERS, 2015 – 3rd QUARTER, 2016

TABLE 3

\$B

SECTION OF COMMODITY	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS
	3rd QTR 2015	4th QTR 2015	1st QTR 2016	2nd QTR 2016	3rd QTR 2016
0 FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS	15,568,117	29,012,650	12,145,027	10,190,967	11,416,674
1 BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	441,269	219,688	317,005	130,171	232,047
2 CRUDE MINERALS, INEDIBLE EXCEPT FUELS	7,885,862	2,483,871	1,656,348	2,656,078	2,046,960
3 MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	-	-	-	-	-
4 ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS AND FATS	200	-	-	300	-
5 CHEMICALS	35,013,684	37,145,449	31,604,623	38,736,339	29,659,473
6 MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIALS	11,277	73,196	131,500	605,155	5,807
7 MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	-	-	-	6,530	-
8 MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES	10,325	2,823	23,155	13,005	22,924
9 COMMODITIES AND TRANSACTIONS NOT CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO KIND	-	-	-	1	-
TOTAL	58,930,734	68,937,677	45,877,658	52,338,546	43,383,885

**VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS CLASSIFIED BY SECTION OF COMMODITY AND QUARTERS, 2015 – 3rd QUARTER, 2016**

**TABLE 4**

		<b>B\$</b>				
		RE- EXPORTS	RE- EXPORTS	RE- EXPORTS	RE- EXPORTS	RE- EXPORTS
		3rd QTR 2015	4th QTR 2015	1st QTR 2016	2nd QTR 2016	3 <sup>rd</sup> QTR2016
<b>SECTION OF COMMODITY</b>						
<b>0</b>	<b>FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS</b>	166,394	198,391	286,917	465,245	95,043
<b>1</b>	<b>BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO</b>	194,649	196,740	1,269,853	332,391	189,282
<b>2</b>	<b>CRUDE MINERALS, INEDIBLE EXCEPT FUELS</b>	849,589	1,225,880	597,194	691,006	1,184,325
<b>3</b>	<b>MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS</b>	12,511,079	8,236,316	9,365,467	11,438,800	12,319,825
<b>4</b>	<b>ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS AND FATS</b>	180	695	310	400	900
<b>5</b>	<b>CHEMICALS</b>	1,835,509	875,419	347,795	501,244	646,900
<b>6</b>	<b>MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIALS</b>	8,314,610	3,987,833	7,133,975	7,904,520	2,224,317
<b>7</b>	<b>MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT</b>	9,881,279	16,324,847	10,222,995	42,183,716	8,857,914
<b>8</b>	<b>MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES</b>	3,272,249	6,087,028	3,573,403	14,879,955	4,797,184
<b>9</b>	<b>COMMODITIES AND TRANSACTIONS NOT CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO KIND</b>	3,550	7,010	10,500	9,261	2,550
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>37,029,088</b>	<b>37,140,159</b>	<b>32,808,409</b>	<b>78,406,538</b>	<b>30,318,240</b>

**VALUE OF IMPORTS, DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS CLASSIFIED BY SECTION OF COMMODITY**  
**3rd QUARTER, 2016**

**TABLE 5**

		<b>B\$</b>		
<b>SECTIONS</b>	<b>DESCRIPTIONS</b>	<b>IMPORTS</b>	<b>DOMESTIC EXPORTS</b>	<b>RE-EXPORTS</b>
Section 1.	Live Animals Animal Products	35,083,304	11,559,787	6,850
Section 2.	Vegetable Products	29,300,093	205,408	70,829
Section 3.	Animal or Vegetable Fats Oils & Their Cleavage Products Prepared Edible Fats Animal or Vegetable Waxes	2,831,238	-	900
Section 4.	Prepared FoodStuffs Beverages Spirits Vinegar Tobacco & Manufactured Substitutes	75,987,689	232,047	212,346
Section 5.	Mineral Products	120,743,358	1,692,378	12,712,455
Section 6.	Products of The Chemical or Allied Industries	66,782,245	7,673,244	562,363
Section 7.	Plastics & Articles Thereof Rubber & Articles Thereof	24,034,879	21,988,309	353,828
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)	2,898,031	-	1,956
Section 9.	Wood and Articles of Wood Charcoal Cork & Articles of Cork Manufactures of Staw Esparto or Other Plaiting Materials Basketware & Wickerwork	25,233,572	-	67,476
Section 10.	Pulp of Wood Other Fibrous Cellulosic Material Recovered (Waste & Scrap) Paper or Paperboard Paper & Paperboard Articles Thereof	18,043,903	58	3,143,734
Section 11.	Textiles and Textile Articles	18,606,808	-	731,301
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	6,520,682	-	22,411
Section 13.	Articles of Stone Plaster Cement Asbestos Mica or Similar Materials Ceramic Products Glass & Glassware	20,890,807	5,775	16,940
Section 14.	Natural or Cultured Pearls Precious or Semi-Precious Stones Precious Metal Metals Clad With Precious Metal & Articles Thereof Imitation Jewellery Coin	8,908,822	2	187,673
Section 15.	Base Metal and Articles of Base Metal	44,267,578	6,092	1,929,116
Section 16.	Machinery and Mechanical Appliances Electrical Equipment Parts Thereof Sound Recorders & Reproducers Television Image Sound Recorders & Reproducers Part & Accessories of Such Articles	117,812,662	-	6,297,682
Section 17.	Vehicles Aircraft Vessels & Associated Transport Equipment	60,928,907	-	2,542,922
Section 18.	Optical Photographic Cinematographic Measuring Checking Precision Medical Surgical Instruments Apparatus Clocks Watches Musical Instruments Parts & Accessories Thereof	12,363,192	-	811,335
Section 19.	Arms & Ammunition Parts & Accessories Thereof	15,514	-	-
Section 20.	Micellaneous Manufactured Articles	27,882,789	100	533,043
Section 21.	Work of Art Collectors' Pieces & Antiques	29,576,502	20,685	110,530
Section 22.	Human Remains	2,036,415	-	2,550
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>750,748,990</b>	<b>43,383,885</b>	<b>30,318,240</b>

**VALUE OF IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND BALANCE OF TRADE CLASSIFIED BY PRINCIPAL TRADING AREAS AND  
QUARTERS, 2015 – 3rd QUARTER, 2016**

**TABLE 6**

**B\$**

	3rd QTR 2015	4th QTR 2015	1st QTR 2016	2nd QTR 2016	3rd QTR 2016
<b>ALL COUNTRIES</b>					
Imports	819,688,773	799,514,439	641,034,726	780,037,793	750,748,990
Exports	95,959,822	106,077,836	78,686,067	130,745,084	73,702,125
Balance	-723,728,951	-693,436,603	-562,348,659	-649,292,709	-677,046,865
<b>UNITED KINGDOM</b>					
Imports	5,833,737	4,426,373	4,725,241	6,664,854	7,147,985
Exports	1,194,621	1,199,115	3,989,861	4,678,773	2,590,779
Balance	-4,639,116	-3,227,258	-735,380	-1,986,081	-4,557,206
<b>CANADA</b>					
Imports	4,443,493	8,476,110	4,743,697	5,777,349	6,809,531
Exports	768,486	2,259,871	523,800	549,082	179,592
Balance	-3,675,007	-6,216,239	-4,219,897	-5,228,267	-6,629,939
<b>U.S.A.</b>					
Imports	677,439,663	608,246,384	530,334,131	603,059,569	615,816,244
Exports	80,615,919	89,952,848	62,765,343	112,415,237	59,968,259
Balance	-596,823,744	-518,293,536	-467,568,788	-490,644,332	-555,847,985
<b>CARIBBEAN COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES</b>					
Imports	8,458,173	48,375,119	4,580,009	7,872,984	3,687,490
Exports	123,703	902,404	3,321,042	2,342,919	389,164
Balance	-8,334,470	-47,472,715	-1,258,967	-5,530,065	-3,298,326
<b>EUROPEAN COMMON-MARKET COUNTRIES</b>					
Imports	34,903,461	13,824,723	18,612,435	18,244,644	17,054,742
Exports	7,314,571	8,822,266	3,598,658	7,558,843	7,978,471
Balance	-27,588,890	-5,002,457	-15,013,777	-10,685,801	-9,076,271
<b>O.P.E.C</b>					
Imports	6,995,862	87,183	156,891	151,230	566,302
Exports	-	-	-	-	200
Balance	-6,995,862	-87,183	-156,891	-151,230	-566,102
<b>OTHER COUNTRIES</b>					
Imports	81,614,384	116,078,547	77,882,322	138,267,163	99,666,696
Exports	5,942,522	2,941,332	4,487,363	3,200,230	2,595,660
Balance	-75,671,862	-113,137,215	-73,394,959	-135,066,933	-97,071,036

**TOTAL IMPORTS BY ISLAND OF ENTRY AND QUARTERS, 2015 – 3<sup>rd</sup> QUARTER, 2016**

TABLE 7	2015				2016
	3rd QTR 2015	4th QTR 2015	1st QTR 2016	2 <sup>nd</sup> QTR 2016	3 <sup>rd</sup> QTR 2016
PORT OF ENTRY					
NEW PROVIDENCE	471,682,106	566,830,731	437,253,845	517,815,568	528,219,431
GRAND BAHAMA	235,096,212	142,675,923	122,112,837	170,018,675	127,198,684
ABACO	47,062,598	40,893,418	36,502,469	39,692,351	39,328,947
ANDROS	2,714,631	3,251,060	2,305,229	4,402,297	3,354,501
BIMINI	12,650,410	10,704,119	5,674,332	6,944,196	10,234,432
CAT ISLAND	521,962	599,275	1,858,156	899,922	733,802
CHUB CAY	249,687	2,082,042	1,390,205	827,651	7,006,214
ELEUTHERA	28,996,910	14,629,134	14,642,180	17,273,949	15,844,276
EXUMA, GEORGE TOWN	11,179,967	9,705,246	9,244,774	10,961,988	10,197,250
INAGUA	3,542,015	1,446,664	1,707,507	3,149,816	1,926,147
MAYAGUANA	-	-	-	-	-
CAT CAY	1,475,759	1,349,653	790,068	1,190,576	694,792
SAN SALVADOR	2,127,605	2,873,750	4,329,176	1,661,002	1,617,317
GREAT HARBOUR CAY	993,235	539,534	478,964	663,626	2,792,718
LONG ISLAND	1,395,676	1,933,890	2,744,984	4,536,176	1,600,479
TOTAL	819,688,773	799,514,439	641,034,726	780,037,793	750,748,990