



**COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS**  
**FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICS QUARTERLY**  
**REPORT**  
**Third QUARTER, 2019**

**Department of Statistics**

**Ministry of Finance**

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

**Nassau, Bahamas**

# **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**

**October, 2020**

# 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 voidupois
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 2019 TRADE DATA HIGHLIGHTS

## IMPORTS

Data on merchandise trade for 3rd quarter 2019 shows that the value of commodities imported into The Bahamas totaled \$935 million resulting in an increase of 5% when compared with the same period last year.

The major groups of merchandise, were **‘Mineral Fuels, Lubricants And Related Materials’** which totaled \$257 million, **‘Machinery And Transport Equipment’** at \$177 million and **‘Food And Live Animals’** which totaled \$138 million. The combined value of these categories represented 61% of total imports.

Other categories that contributed to the total imports were **‘Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly By Materials’** which accounted for \$109 million, **‘Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles’** valued at \$107 million and **‘Chemicals’**, at \$66 million (these groups together represented 30% of total Imports).

However, **‘Chemicals’** and **‘Beverages And Tobacco’** showed a decline of 5% and 9%, respectively when compared to the same quarter last year.

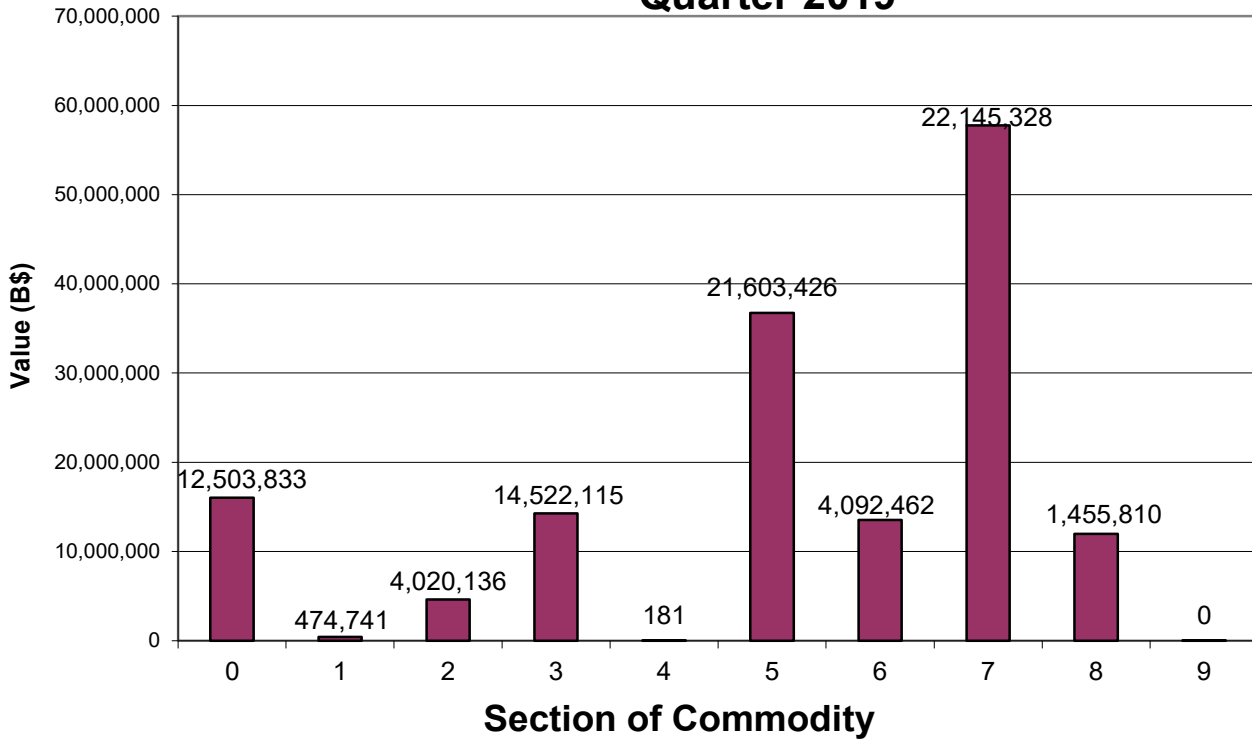
## EXPORTS

As it relates to total exports, data for 3rd quarter 2019 shows that the value of commodities exported (Domestic and Re-Export) from The Bahamas totaled \$81 million resulting in an decrease of 34% when compared with the same period last year.

The categories that contributed to the largest proportion of the exports were **‘Machinery And Transport Equipment’** and **‘Chemicals’** with each totaling \$22 million and representing 27% of total exports. These categories were followed by **‘Mineral Fuels, Lubricants And Related Materials’** that totaled \$15 million and representing 18% of total exports.

Categories that showed significant decreases when compared to the same period last year were **‘Miscellaneous’ Manufactured Articles**, **‘Chemicals’** and **‘Mineral Fuels, Lubricants And Related Materials’** which declined by 77%, 46% and 46%, respectively.

## Value of Exports by Section of Commodity: 3rd Quarter 2019



### LEGEND

**0 Food And Live Animals**

**5 Chemicals**

**1 Beverages And Tobacco**

**6 Manufactured Goods Classified**

**Chiefly By Materials**

**2 Crude Minerals, Inedible Except Fuels**

**7 Machinery And Transport Equipment**

**3 Mineral Fuels, Lubricants And**

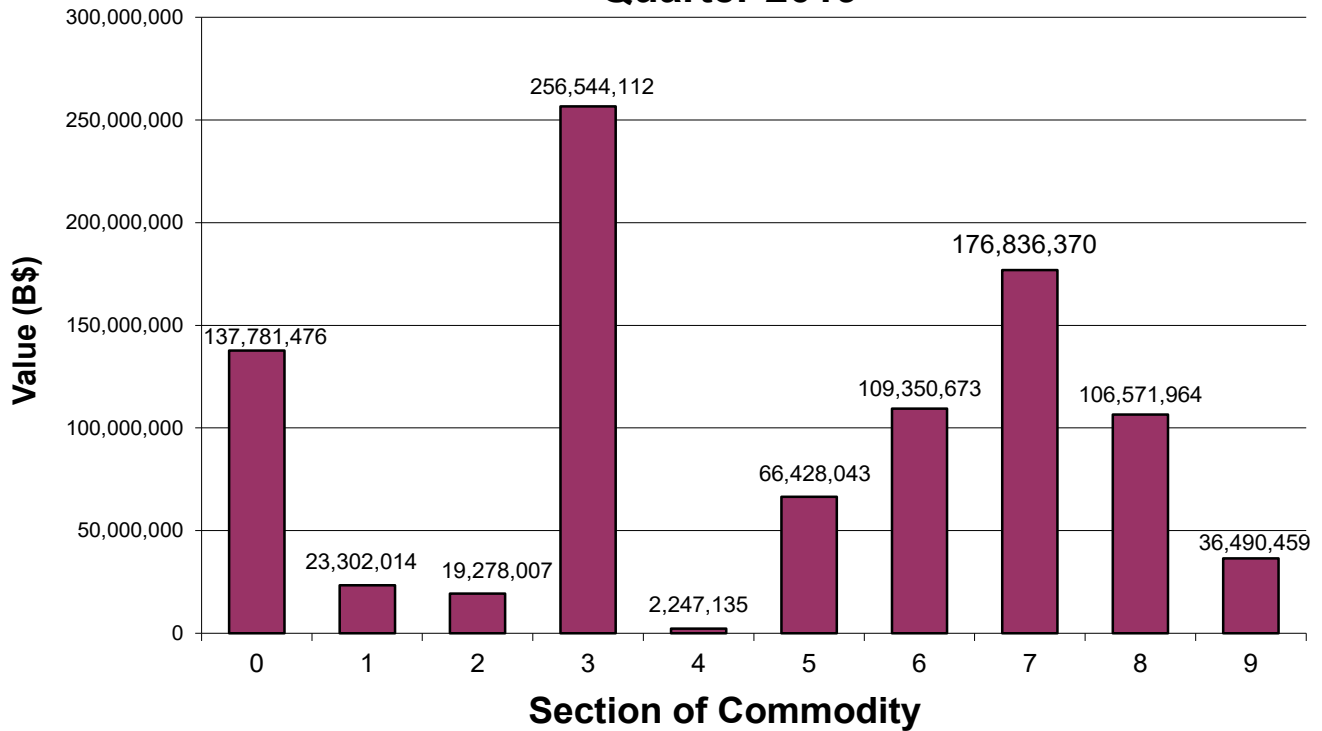
**8 Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles**

**Related Materials**

**4 Animal and Vegetable Oils And Fats**

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

## Value of Imports by Section of Commodity: 3rd Quarter 2019



### 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, 2018 – 3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER, 2019**

**TABLE 1**

	2018		2019		
	3 <sup>rd</sup> QTR 2018	4 <sup>th</sup> QTR 2018	1 <sup>ST</sup> QTR 2019	2 <sup>nd</sup> QTR 2019	3 <sup>rd</sup> QTR 2019
<b>IMPORTS</b>	<b>891,385,210</b>	<b>800,943,793</b>	<b>708,927,272</b>	<b>981,529,744</b>	<b>934,830,253</b>
Oil Trade	233,644,070	101,302,458	127,670,458	170,257,768	256,544,112
Other Merchandise	657,741,140	699,641,335	581,256,814	811,271,976	678,286,141
<b>EXPORTS</b>	<b>121,822,157</b>	<b>124,924,975</b>	<b>120,773,620</b>	<b>235,377,521</b>	<b>80,818,032</b>
Oil Trade	26,898,416	28,317,333	22,287,417	22,480,459	14,522,115
Other Merchandise	94,923,741	96,607,642	98,486,203	212,897,062	66,295,917
<b>BALANCE OF TRADE</b>	<b>-769,563,053</b>	<b>-676,018,818</b>	<b>-588,153,652</b>	<b>-746,152,223</b>	<b>-854,012,221</b>

**VALUE OF IMPORTS CLASSIFIED BY SECTION OF COMMODITY AND QUARTERS, 2018 – 3rd QUARTER, 2019**

**TABLE 2**

**\$B**

SECTION OF COMMODITY	IMPORTS	IMPORTS	IMPORTS	IMPORTS	IMPORTS
	3 <sup>rd</sup> QTR 2018	4 <sup>th</sup> QTR 2018	1 <sup>st</sup> QTR 2019	2 <sup>nd</sup> QTR 2019	3 <sup>rd</sup> QTR 2019
0 FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS	130,999,341	140,363,929	131,731,573	144,069,127	137,781,476
1 BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	25,468,364	19,951,265	19,932,656	26,064,828	23,302,014
2 CRUDE MINERALS, INEDIBLE EXCEPT FUELS	17,265,387	23,792,401	17,497,236	23,613,666	19,278,007
3 MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	233,644,070	101,302,458	127,670,458	170,257,768	256,544,112
4 ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS AND FATS	2,822,247	2,323,491	2,621,467	3,098,978	2,247,135
5 CHEMICALS	69,803,731	80,715,545	57,255,411	63,928,869	66,428,043
6 MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIALS	108,204,269	114,743,237	100,615,206	174,832,289	109,350,673
7 MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	168,655,364	153,012,028	129,389,809	206,628,431	176,836,370
8 MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES	102,604,421	133,579,109	95,290,042	127,317,938	106,571,964
9 COMMODITIES AND TRANSACTIONS NOT CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO KIND	31,918,016	31,160,330	26,923,414	41,717,850	36,490,459
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>891,385,210</b>	<b>800,943,793</b>	<b>708,927,272</b>	<b>981,529,744</b>	<b>934,830,253</b>

VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS CLASSIFIED BY SECTION OF COMMODITY AND QUARTERS, 2018 –3rd QUARTER, 2019

TABLE 3

\$B

SECTION OF COMMODITY	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS
	3 <sup>rd</sup> QTR 2018	4 <sup>th</sup> QTR 2018	1 <sup>st</sup> QTR 2019	2 <sup>nd</sup> QTR 2019	3 <sup>rd</sup> QTR 2019
0 FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS	21,089,458	29,188,680	18,534,059	26,280,277	12,478,113
1 BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	639,104	330,972	565,984	487,342	281,926
2 CRUDE MINERALS, INEDIBLE EXCEPT FUELS	3,466,884	5,426,954	4,786,578	3,955,219	2,669,387
3 MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	-	-	-	-	-
4 ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS AND FATS	-	-	-	-	-
5 CHEMICALS	38,187,595	39,536,314	32,891,494	36,169,768	21,213,409
6 MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIALS	441,091	1,722,310	800,998	488,967	837,595
7 MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	-	-	-	20,000	-
8 MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES	449,757	75,950	910	138,445	77,366
9 COMMODITIES AND TRANSACTIONS NOT CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO KIND	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	64,273,889	76,281,180	57,580,023	67,540,018	37,557,796

**VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS CLASSIFIED BY SECTION OF COMMODITY AND QUARTERS, 2018 – 3rd QUARTER, 2019**

**TABLE 4**

		<b>B\$</b>				
		RE- EXPORTS	RE- EXPORTS	RE- EXPORTS	RE- EXPORTS	RE- EXPORTS
		3 <sup>rd</sup> QTR 2018	4 <sup>th</sup> QTR 2018	1 <sup>st</sup> QTR 2019	2 <sup>nd</sup> QTR 2019	3 <sup>rd</sup> QTR 2019
<b>SECTION OF COMMODITY</b>						
<b>0</b>	<b>FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS</b>	64,996	31,595	475,013	92,202	25,720
<b>1</b>	<b>BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO</b>	160,389	201,208	210,995	192,346	192,815
<b>2</b>	<b>CRUDE MINERALS, INEDIBLE EXCEPT FUELS</b>	779,467	1,125,746	572,451	767,591	1,350,749
<b>3</b>	<b>MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS</b>	26,898,416	28,317,333	22,287,417	22,480,459	14,522,115
<b>4</b>	<b>ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS AND FATS</b>	217	492	340	-	181
<b>5</b>	<b>CHEMICALS</b>	2,081,260	341,284	765,406	583,447	390,017
<b>6</b>	<b>MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIALS</b>	4,499,354	5,087,116	12,282,540	14,105,251	3,254,867
<b>7</b>	<b>MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT</b>	17,295,908	10,366,324	24,095,131	126,279,982	22,145,328
<b>8</b>	<b>MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES</b>	5,744,261	3,158,697	2,504,304	3,336,225	1,378,444
<b>9</b>	<b>COMMODITIES AND TRANSACTIONS NOT CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO KIND</b>	24,000	14,000	-	-	-
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>57,548,268</b>	<b>48,643,795</b>	<b>63,193,597</b>	<b>167,837,503</b>	<b>43,260,236</b>

**VALUE OF IMPORTS, DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS CLASSIFIED BY SECTION OF COMMODITY**  
**3rd QUARTER, 2019**

**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	45,518,425	12,813,852	2,279
Section 2.	Vegetable Products	37,354,711	50,699	1,475
Section 3.	Animal or Vegetable Fats Oils & Their Cleavage Products Prepared Edible Fats Animal or Vegetable Waxes	3,166,272	-	181
Section 4.	Prepared FoodStuffs Beverages Spirits Vinegar Tobacco & Manufactured Substitutes	81,839,359	281,926	215,710
Section 5.	Mineral Products	265,228,280	2,282,896	14,522,115
Section 6.	Products of The Chemical or Allied Industries	54,622,594	6,605,829	331,138
Section 7.	Plastics & Articles Thereof Rubber & Articles Thereof	35,981,742	14,695,519	1,388,947
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)	4,156,648	-	14,194
Section 9.	Wood and Articles of Wood Charcoal Cork & Articles of Cork Manufactures of Staw Esparto or Other Plaiting Materials Basketware & Wickerwork	19,784,740	-	31,464
Section 10.	Pulp of Wood Other Fibrous Cellulosic Material Recovered (Waste & Scrap) Paper or Paperboard Paper & Paperboard Articles Thereof	15,271,678	-	58,781
Section 11.	Textiles and Textile Articles	21,667,434	-	374,376
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	7,309,988	-	14,649
Section 13.	Articles of Stone Plaster Cement Asbestos Mica or Similar Materials Ceramic Products Glass & Glassware	17,708,411	-	61,046
Section 14.	Natural or Cultured Pearls Precious or Semi-Precious Stones Precious Metal Metals Clad With Precious Metal & Articles Thereof Imitation Jewellery Coin	8,822,169	-	388,614
Section 15.	Base Metal and Articles of Base Metal	50,111,445	827,075	2,840,575
Section 16.	Machinery and Mechanical Appliances Electrical Equipment Parts Thereof Sound Recorders & Reproducers Television Image Sound Recorders & Reproducers Part & Accessories of Such Articles	119,167,994	-	14,214,555
Section 17.	Vehicles Aircraft Vessels & Associated Transport Equipment	57,822,915	-	7,867,516
Section 18.	Optical Photographic Cinematographic Measuring Checking Precision Medical Surgical Instruments Apparatus Clocks Watches Musical Instruments Parts & Accessories Thereof	14,272,938	-	586,055
Section 19.	Arms & Ammunition Parts & Accessories Thereof	59,855	-	-
Section 20.	Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	31,205,506	-	225,138
Section 21.	Work of Art Collectors' Pieces & Antiques	41,449,674	-	121,308
Section 22.	Human Remains	2,307,475	-	120
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>934,830,253</b>	<b>37,557,796</b>	<b>43,260,236</b>

**VALUE OF IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND BALANCE OF TRADE CLASSIFIED BY PRINCIPAL TRADING AREAS AND  
QUARTERS, 2018 – 3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER, 2019**

**TABLE 6**

**B\$**

	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> QTR 2018</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> QTR 2018</b>	<b>1<sup>ST</sup> QTR 2019</b>	<b>2<sup>ND</sup> QTR 2019</b>	<b>3<sup>RD</sup> QTR 2019</b>
<b>ALL COUNTRIES</b>					
Imports	891,385,210	800,943,793	708,927,272	981,529,744	934,830,253
Exports	121,822,157	124,924,975	120,773,620	235,377,521	80,818,032
Balance	-769,563,053	-676,018,818	-588,153,652	-746,152,223	-854,012,221
<b>UNITED KINGDOM</b>					
Imports	19,704,593	17,696,318	3,637,401	29,711,843	4,625,880
Exports	1,677,058	2,832,521	1,154,964	2,491,802	541,056
Balance	-18,027,535	-14,863,797	-2,482,437	-27,220,041	-4,084,824
<b>CANADA</b>					
Imports	6,701,346	6,169,410	4,878,122	6,656,018	6,464,600
Exports	148,488	513,190	97,728	3,333,730	721,930
Balance	-6,552,858	-5,656,220	-4,780,394	-3,322,288	-5,742,670
<b>U.S.A.</b>					
Imports	705,180,615	683,113,456	609,132,161	753,997,510	768,510,310
Exports	94,552,054	89,633,879	107,250,724	210,062,530	68,470,869
Balance	-610,628,561	-593,479,577	-501,881,437	-543,934,980	-700,039,441
<b>CARIBBEAN COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES</b>					
Imports	5,289,424	3,810,324	15,870,866	66,393,560	59,741,041
Exports	5,468,887	7,999,864	263,631	295,121	309,462
Balance	179,463	4,189,540	-15,607,235	-66,098,439	-59,431,579
<b>EUROPEAN COMMON-MARKET COUNTRIES</b>					
Imports	19,070,553	16,969,779	13,955,238	58,143,805	15,150,358
Exports	17,835,153	16,041,868	10,305,536	10,018,098	4,213,187
Balance	-1,235,400	-927,911	-3,649,702	-48,125,707	-10,937,171
<b>O.P.E.C</b>					
Imports	701,213	775,016	424,831	592,786	456,504
Exports	2,000	-	-	-	500
Balance	-699,213	-775,016	-424,831	-592,786	-456,004
<b>OTHER COUNTRIES</b>					
Imports	134,737,466	72,409,490	61,028,653	66,034,222	79,881,560
Exports	2,138,517	7,903,653	1,701,037	9,176,240	6,561,028
Balance	-132,598,949	-64,505,837	-59,327,616	-56,857,982	-73,320,532

**TOTAL IMPORTS BY ISLAND OF ENTRY AND QUARTERS, 2018 – 3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER, 2019**

TABLE 7						\$B
	2018		2019			
PORT OF ENTRY	3 <sup>rd</sup> QTR 2018	4 <sup>th</sup> QTR 2018	1 <sup>ST</sup> QTR 2019	2 <sup>ND</sup> QTR 2019	3 <sup>RD</sup> QTR 2019	
NEW PROVIDENCE	595,500,674	572,592,572	465,489,249	562,443,581	659,864,274	
GRAND BAHAMA	199,606,327	131,003,888	149,893,901	239,561,086	180,328,764	
ABACO	39,025,168	42,789,692	35,419,389	47,349,797	26,063,137	
ANDROS	5,933,408	3,783,448	2,470,646	41,158,044	4,816,251	
BIMINI	22,058,531	15,593,623	11,155,973	29,121,924	33,259,980	
CAT ISLAND	563,290	649,015	577,802	1,820,980	425,404	
CHUB CAY	903,491	1,137,585	2,229,680	4,143,906	1,348,061	
ELEUTHERA	11,426,725	14,822,632	13,247,189	3,967,762	6,542,574	
EXUMA, GEORGE TOWN	10,849,814	12,492,567	9,265,899	10,355,139	5,932,975	
INAGUA	1,825,429	2,642,502	2,021,016	2,053,006	3,327,177	
MAYAGUANA	-	-	-	-	-	
CAT CAY	1,998,339	1,080,945	813,531	1,371,811	862,500	
SAN SALVADOR	446,336	987,357	521,629	786,306	984,653	
GREAT HARBOUR CAY	-	-	13,861,797	32,386,146	10,441,652	
LONG ISLAND	1,247,678	1,367,967	1,959,571	5,010,256	632,851	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>891,385,210</b>	<b>800,943,793</b>	<b>708,927,272</b>	<b>981,529,744</b>	<b>934,830,253</b>	