



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

**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**

**December, 2018**

# THE FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICS QUARTERLY REPORT

	Page No.
<b>PREFACE</b>	<b>i</b>
<b>Table of Contents</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>Data Notes &amp; Explanation</b>	<b>iii-iv</b>
<b>Data Highlights</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>Graphs (1 &amp; 2)</b>	<b>vi-vii</b>
<b>Table No.</b>	
<b>1. Value of Imports, Exports and Balance of Trade By Quarters, 2017 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 2018</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2. Value of Imports Classified By Section of Commodity and Quarters, 2017 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 2018</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3. Value of Domestic Exports Classified By Section of Commodity and Quarters, 2017 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 2018</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4. Value of Re-Exports Classified By Section of Commodity (HS) and Quarters, 2017 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 2018</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5. Value of Imports, Domestic Exports and Re-Exports Classified By Section of Commodity, 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 2018</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6. Value of Imports, Exports and Balance of Trade Classified By Principal Trading Areas and Quarters, 2017 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 2018</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7. Value of Total Imports By Island of Entry and Quarters, 2017 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter, 2018</b>	<b>7</b>

## **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

# 3<sup>rd</sup> QUARTER 2018 TRADE DATA HIGHLIGHTS

## IMPORTS

Data on merchandise trade for 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2018 shows that the value of commodities imported into The Bahamas totaled \$891 million resulting in an increase of 10% when compared with the same period last year.

The major groups of merchandise were **'Mineral Fuels, Lubricants And Related Materials'** which totaled \$234 million, **'Machinery And Transport Equipment'** at \$169 million and **'Food And Live Animal'** which totaled \$131 million. The combined value of these categories represented 60% of total imports.

Other categories that contributed to the total imports were **'Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly By Materials'** which accounted for \$108 million and **'Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles'**, which accounted for \$103 million (each representing 12% of total Imports).

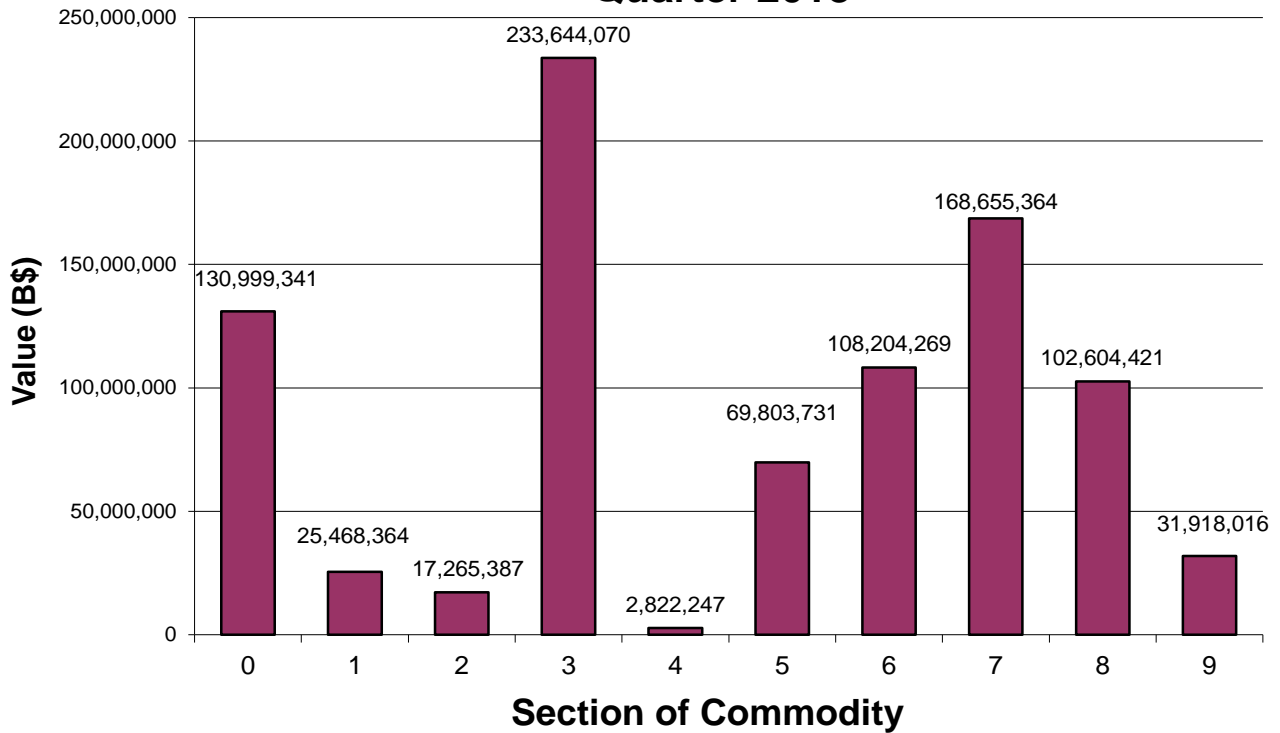
## EXPORTS

As it relates to total exports, data for 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2018 shows that the value of commodities exported (Domestic and Re-Export) from The Bahamas totaled \$114 million resulting in an increase of 39% 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 35% and **'Mineral Fuels, Lubricants And Related Materials'** which totaled \$27 million of the total export or 24%.

Categories that also showed an increase to the total exports were **'Crude Minerals, Inedible Except Fuels'** and **'Beverages And Tobacco'** which increased by 58% and 80% respectively, when compared to the same period last year.

## Value of Imports by Section of Commodity: 3rd 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**

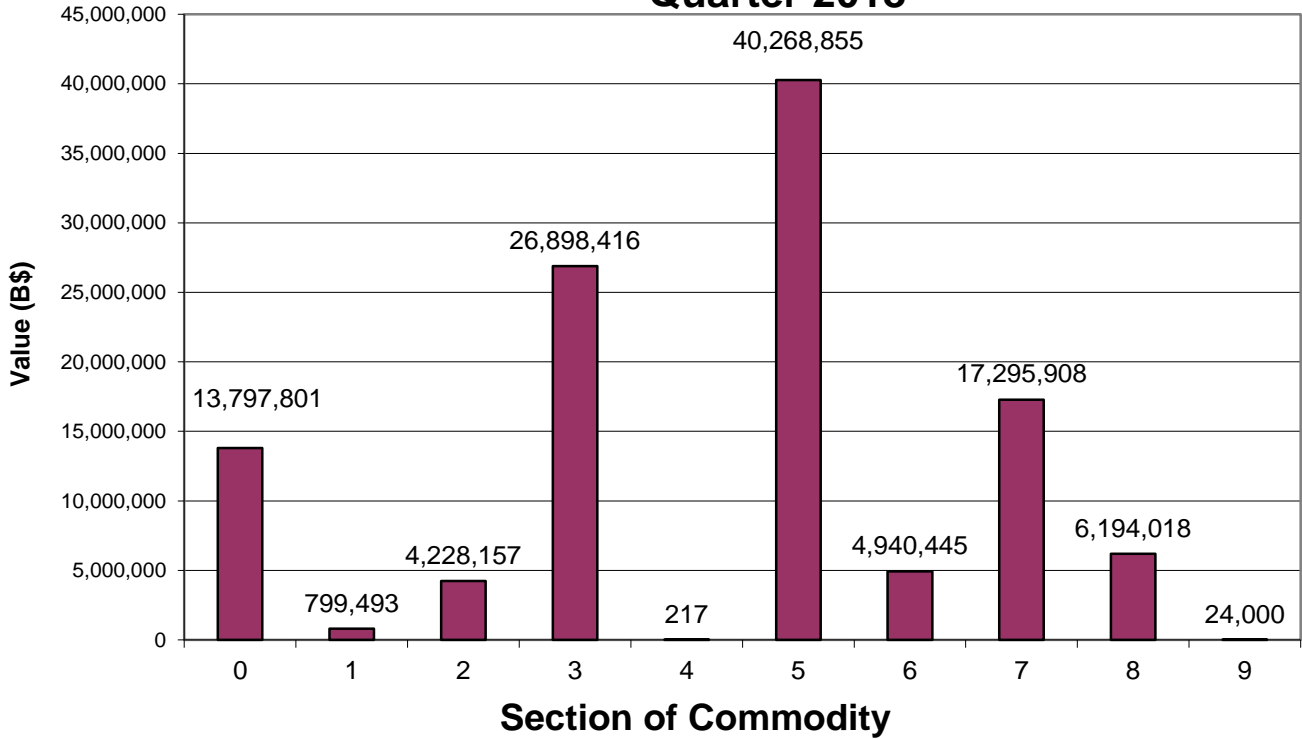
**Chiefly By Materials**

**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: 3rd 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 – 3rd QUARTER, 2018**

TABLE 1						B\$
	2017					2018
	3 <sup>rd</sup> QTR 2017	4 <sup>th</sup> QTR 2017	1 <sup>st</sup> QTR 2018	2 <sup>nd</sup> QTR 2018	3 <sup>rd</sup> QTR 2018	
<b>IMPORTS</b>	812,182,158	880,132,169	850,875,801	978,212,291	891,385,210	
Oil Trade	150,483,700	152,203,916	145,497,549	102,957,383	233,644,070	
Other Merchandise	661,698,458	727,928,253	705,378,252	875,254,908	657,741,140	
<b>EXPORTS</b>	82,398,786	119,403,241	109,130,325	163,356,443	114,447,310	
Oil Trade	16,142,705	26,005,733	26,569,090	19,773,604	26,898,416	
Other Merchandise	66,256,081	93,397,508	82,561,235	143,582,839	87,548,894	
<b>BALANCE OF TRADE</b>	-729,783,372	-760,728,928	-741,745,476	-814,855,848	-776,937,900	

**VALUE OF IMPORTS CLASSIFIED BY SECTION OF COMMODITY AND QUARTERS, 2017 – 3<sup>rd</sup> QUARTER, 2018**

**TABLE 2**

**\$B**

SECTION OF COMMODITY	IMPORTS	IMPORTS	IMPORTS	IMPORTS	IMPORTS
	3rd QTR 2017	4TH QTR 2017	1 <sup>st</sup> QTR 2018	2 <sup>nd</sup> QTR 2018	3 <sup>rd</sup> QTR 2018
0 FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS	125,623,275	139,937,646	138,754,852	169,742,067	130,999,341
1 BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	24,009,230	25,819,205	26,186,527	14,545,756	25,468,364
2 CRUDE MINERALS, INEDIBLE EXCEPT FUELS	18,735,244	20,266,576	18,606,520	20,428,592	17,265,387
3 MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	150,483,700	152,203,916	145,497,549	102,957,383	233,644,070
4 ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS AND FATS	2,231,820	2,482,169	2,764,828	2,498,321	2,822,247
5 CHEMICALS	68,441,085	73,187,947	74,624,057	92,431,881	69,803,731
6 MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIALS	117,211,286	123,591,898	127,388,083	178,263,177	108,204,269
7 MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	174,512,021	186,182,995	172,847,115	180,061,099	168,655,364
8 MISCELLNEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES	98,849,838	122,065,053	109,288,031	182,325,763	102,604,421
9 COMMODITIES AND TRANSACTIONS NOT CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO KIND	32,084,659	34,394,764	34,918,239	34,958,252	31,918,016
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>812,182,158</b>	<b>880,132,169</b>	<b>850,875,801</b>	<b>978,212,291</b>	<b>891,385,210</b>

VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS CLASSIFIED BY SECTION OF COMMODITY AND QUARTERS, 2017 –3<sup>rd</sup> QUARTER, 2018

TABLE 3

\$B

SECTION OF COMMODITY	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS
	3rd QTR 2017	4th QTR 2017	1 <sup>st</sup> QTR 2018	2 <sup>nd</sup> QTR 2018	3 <sup>rd</sup> QTR 2018
0 FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS	9,359,604	33,644,926	18,731,378	8,527,446	13,732,805
1 BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	198,941	70,977	477,312	795,602	639,104
2 CRUDE MINERALS, INEDIBLE EXCEPT FUELS	1,894,642	3,309,815	5,905,538	3,414,211	3,448,690
3 MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	-	-	-	-	-
4 ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS AND FATS	-	-	-	-	-
5 CHEMICALS	27,637,744	23,620,103	22,768,525	42,638,424	38,187,595
6 MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIALS	14,740	304,128	10,100	548,452	441,091
7 MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	6,000	-	-	-	386,900
8 MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES	10,777	18,734	4,260	52,526	449,757
9 COMMODITIES AND TRANSACTIONS NOT CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO KIND	269	195	100	2	-
TOTAL	39,122,717	60,968,878	47,897,213	55,976,663	57,285,942

**VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS CLASSIFIED BY SECTION OF COMMODITY AND QUARTERS, 2017 – 3<sup>rd</sup> QUARTER, 2018**

**TABLE 4**

		<b>B\$</b>				
		<b>RE- EXPORTS</b>	<b>RE- EXPORTS</b>	<b>RE- EXPORTS</b>	<b>RE- EXPORTS</b>	<b>RE- EXPORTS</b>
		<b>3<sup>rd</sup> QTR 2017</b>	<b>4th QTR 2017</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> QTR 2018</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> QTR 2018</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> QTR 2018</b>
<b>SECTION OF COMMODITY</b>						
<b>0</b>	<b>FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS</b>	150,912	29,043	81,007	441,529	64,996
<b>1</b>	<b>BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO</b>	245,811	164,916	75,007	168,455	160,389
<b>2</b>	<b>CRUDE MINERALS, INEDIBLE EXCEPT FUELS</b>	773,481	917,434	638,242	765,202	779,467
<b>3</b>	<b>MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS</b>	16,142,705	26,005,733	26,569,090	19,773,604	26,898,416
<b>4</b>	<b>ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS AND FATS</b>	60	275	-	100	217
<b>5</b>	<b>CHEMICALS</b>	363,609	634,732	1,467,332	716,359	2,081,260
<b>6</b>	<b>MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIALS</b>	2,995,794	5,689,613	8,347,681	9,289,487	4,499,354
<b>7</b>	<b>MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT</b>	18,453,455	23,186,846	18,415,186	70,679,611	16,909,008
<b>8</b>	<b>MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES</b>	4,148,077	1,800,571	5,619,472	5,529,523	5,744,261
<b>9</b>	<b>COMMODITIES AND TRANSACTIONS NOT CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO KIND</b>	2,165	5,200	20,095	15,910	24,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>43,276,069</b>	<b>58,434,363</b>	<b>61,233,112</b>	<b>107,379,780</b>	<b>57,161,368</b>

**VALUE OF IMPORTS, DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS CLASSIFIED BY SECTION OF COMMODITY**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> QUARTER, 2018**

**TABLE 5**

**B\$**

<b>SECTIONS</b>	<b>DESCRIPTIONS</b>	<b>IMPORTS</b>	<b>DOMESTIC EXPORTS</b>	<b>RE-EXPORTS</b>
Section 1.	Live Animals Animal Products	42,666,580	14,078,277	1340
Section 2.	Vegetable Products	34,093,742	58,856	70
Section 3.	Animal or Vegetable Fats Oils & Their Cleavage Products Prepared Edible Fats Animal or Vegetable Waxes	3,905,860	-	217
Section 4.	Prepared FoodStuffs Beverages Spirits Vinegar Tobacco & Manufactured Substitutes	81,876,446	639,104	223,975
Section 5.	Mineral Products	238,984,537	3,025,887	26,900,719
Section 6.	Products of The Chemical or Allied Industries	57,082,260	15,057,560	2,068,011
Section 7.	Plastics & Articles Thereof Rubber & Articles Thereof	38,735,065	23,187,566	2,644,298
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)	3,540,426	-	8,361
Section 9.	Wood and Articles of Wood Charcoal Cork & Articles of Cork Manufactures of Staw Esparto or Other Plaiting Materials Basketware & Wickerwork	22,969,853	4,100	57,352
Section 10.	Pulp of Wood Other Fibrous Cellulosic Material Recovered (Waste & Scrap) Paper or Paperboard Paper & Paperboard Articles Thereof	15,634,853	18,640	279,979
Section 11.	Textiles and Textile Articles	22,436,265	2,725	597,551
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	7,976,445	130	3,717
Section 13.	Articles of Stone Plaster Cement Asbestos Mica or Similar Materials Ceramic Products Glass & Glassware	20,416,931	75	60,057
Section 14.	Natural or Cultured Pearls Precious or Semi-Precious Stones Precious Metal Metals Clad With Precious Metal & Articles Thereof Imitation Jewellery Coin	5,210,116	-	103,507
Section 15.	Base Metal and Articles of Base Metal	45,350,443	382,712	4,526,749
Section 16.	Machinery and Mechanical Appliances Electrical Equipment Parts Thereof Sound Recorders & Reproducers Television Image Sound Recorders & Reproducers Part & Accessories of Such Articles	109,404,622	-	14,241,304
Section 17.	Vehicles Aircraft Vessels & Associated Transport Equipment	57,883,639	386,900	2,801,563
Section 18.	Optical Photographic Cinematographic Measuring Checking Precision Medical Surgical Instruments Apparatus Clocks Watches Musical Instruments Parts & Accessories Thereof	16,316,117	437,928	2,011,378
Section 19.	Arms & Ammunition Parts & Accessories Thereof	57,391	-	-
Section 20.	Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	32,348,538	120	284,486
Section 21.	Work of Art Collectors' Pieces & Antiques	32,394,302	5,362	346,734
Section 22.	Human Remains	2,100,779	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>891,385,210</b>	<b>57,285,942</b>	<b>57,161,368</b>

**VALUE OF IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND BALANCE OF TRADE CLASSIFIED BY PRINCIPAL TRADING AREAS AND  
QUARTERS, 2017 – 3<sup>rd</sup> QUARTER, 2018**

**TABLE 6**

**B\$**

	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> QTR 2017</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> QTR 2017</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> QTR 2018</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> QTR 2018</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> QTR 2018</b>
<b>ALL COUNTRIES</b>					
Imports	812,182,158	880,132,169	850,875,801	978,212,291	891,385,210
Exports	82,398,786	119,403,241	109,130,325	163,356,443	114,447,310
Balance	-729,783,372	-760,728,928	-741,745,476	-814,855,848	-776,937,900
<b>UNITED KINGDOM</b>					
Imports	5,364,270	6,174,376	6,453,561	6,773,577	19,704,593
Exports	1,462,285	2,125,461	2,286,381	1,977,978	1,669,065
Balance	-3,901,985	-4,048,915	-4,167,180	-4,795,599	-18,035,528
<b>CANADA</b>					
Imports	5,392,119	9,180,346	5,634,512	7,492,206	6,701,346
Exports	419,837	511,970	227,248	203,287	148,488
Balance	-4,972,282	-8,668,376	-5,407,264	-7,288,919	-6,552,858
<b>U.S.A.</b>					
Imports	671,052,077	726,767,619	733,941,092	825,024,719	705,180,615
Exports	73,422,463	84,402,811	88,270,334	115,614,884	87,178,756
Balance	-597,629,614	-642,364,808	-645,670,758	-709,409,835	-618,001,859
<b>CARIBBEAN COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES</b>					
Imports	3,338,696	5,252,241	8,706,339	7,860,397	5,289,424
Exports	611,385	12,908,798	7,165,769	308,802	5,468,887
Balance	-2,727,311	7,656,557	-1,540,570	-7551,595	179,463
<b>EUROPEAN COMMON-MARKET COUNTRIES</b>					
Imports	21,406,556	33,183,039	19,745,682	17,673,890	19,070,553
Exports	3,023,669	12,957,233	3,482,023	12,119,058	17,790,678
Balance	-18,382,887	-20,225,806	-16,263,659	-5,554,832	-1,279,875
<b>O.P.E.C</b>					
Imports	380,028	1,284,158	488,608	905,705	701,213
Exports	-	400	24,959	-	2,000
Balance	-380,028	-1,283,758	-463,649	-905,705	-699,213
<b>OTHER COUNTRIES</b>					
Imports	105,248,412	98,290,390	75,906,007	112,481,797	134,737,466
Exports	3,459,147	6,496,568	7,673,611	33,132,434	2,189,436
Balance	-101,789,265	-91,793,822	-68,232,396	-79,349,363	-132,548,030

**TOTAL IMPORTS BY ISLAND OF ENTRY AND QUARTERS, 2017 – 3rd QUARTER, 2018**

TABLE 7	\$B				
	2017		2018		
	3 <sup>rd</sup> QTR 2017	4 <sup>th</sup> QTR 2017	1 <sup>st</sup> QTR 2018	2 <sup>nd</sup> QTR 2018	3 <sup>rd</sup> QTR 2018
PORT OF ENTRY					
NEW PROVIDENCE	595,171,301	625,916,842	595,325,073	688,991,341	595,500,674
GRAND BAHAMA	127,110,312	152,174,241	154,948,987	179,842,620	199,606,327
ABACO	38,914,414	41,392,784	41,753,710	47,969,781	39,025,168
ANDROS	4,573,008	2,915,802	4,492,372	1,060,954	5,933,408
BIMINI	4,797,094	15,714,246	12,205,956	12,791,298	22,058,531
CAT ISLAND	1,089,766	623,066	709,738	985,885	563,290
CHUB CAY	1,430,838	4,765,945	1,215,367	2,641,813	903,491
ELEUTHERA	15,325,036	13,411,244	14,149,504	17,230,441	11,426,725
EXUMA, GEORGE TOWN	10,111,517	10,208,482	10,783,468	12,494,821	10,849,814
INAGUA	1,711,739	3,037,349	2,215,610	5,004,108	1,825,429
MAYAGUANA	-	-	-	-	-
CAT CAY	2,378,948	1,299,866	1,684,178	1,517,099	1,998,339
SAN SALVADOR	1,055,824	1,146,492	504,393	829,596	446,336
GREAT HARBOUR CAY	6,607,966	5,453,229	2,325,439	4,689,555	-
LONG ISLAND	1,904,395	2,072,581	8,562,006	2,162,979	1,247,678
TOTAL	812,182,158	880,132,169	850,875,801	978,212,291	891,385,210