



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

Department of Statistics

Ministry of Finance

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Nassau, Bahamas

PREFACE

The Department of Statistics presents the first in a series of Foreign Trade Quarterly Reports to be 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

August, 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

1ST QUARTER 2016 TRADE DATA HIGHLIGHTS

IMPORTS

Data on merchandise trade for 1st quarter 2016 shows that the value of commodities imported into The Bahamas totaled \$641million resulting in a decrease of 14% 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 \$136 million accounted for 21% of the imports. This was followed closely by **'Food & Live Animals'** which totaled 20% of all imports.

The groups that had the largest decreases over the same period last year were **'Chemicals'** and **'Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles'** which declined by 34% and 27%, respectively.

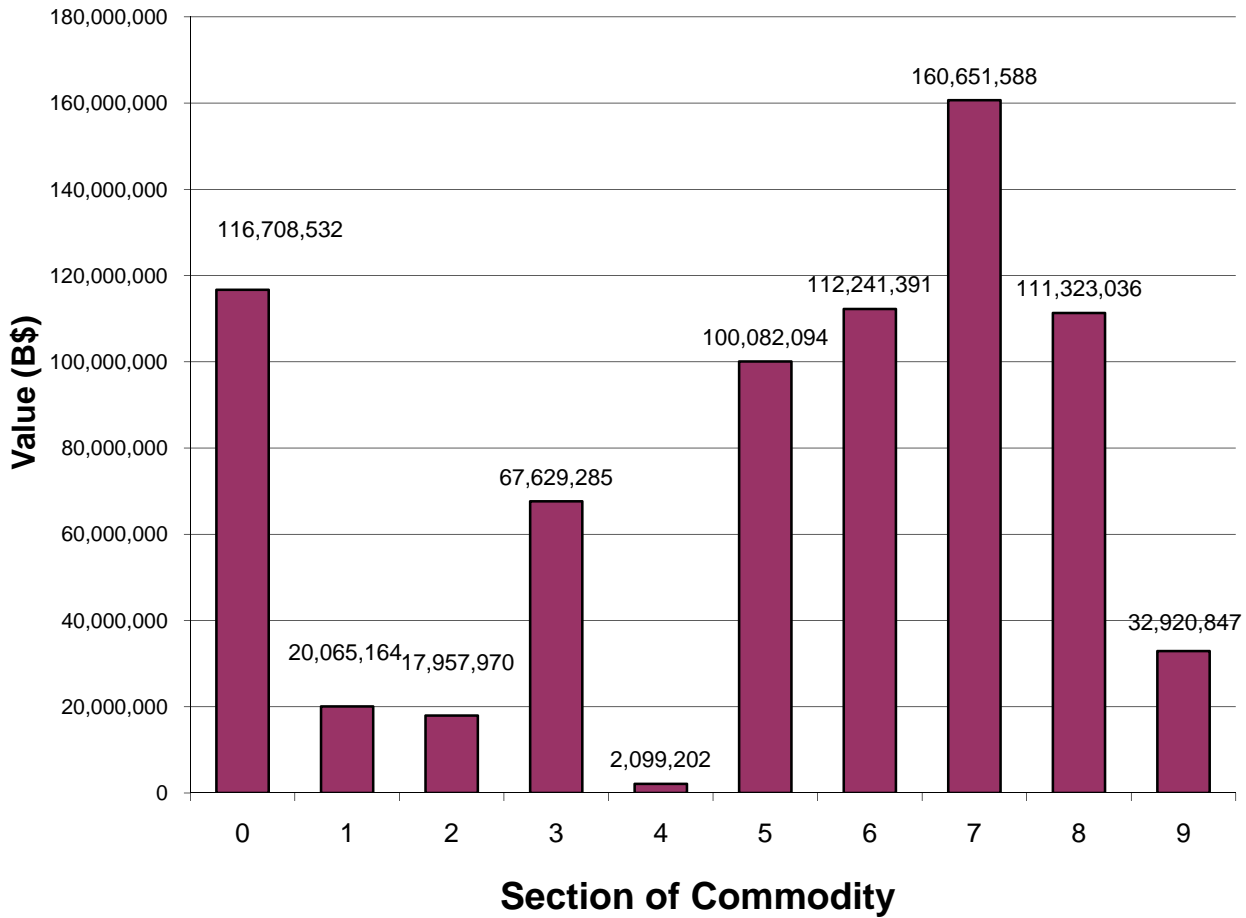
EXPORTS

As it relates to exports, data for 1st quarter 2016 shows that the value of commodities exported (Domestic and Re-Export) from The Bahamas totaled \$78 million resulting in a significant decrease of 27% when compared with the same period last year.

The categories that contributed the largest to the exports are **'Chemicals'** which totaled 41% and **'Food & Live Animals'** which totaled 15%.

The groups that had the largest decreases over the same period last year were **'Crude Minerals, Inedible Except Fuels'** and **'Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and Related Materials'** and which decreased by 77% and 58% respectively.

Value of Imports by Section of Commodity: 1st Quarter 2016



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

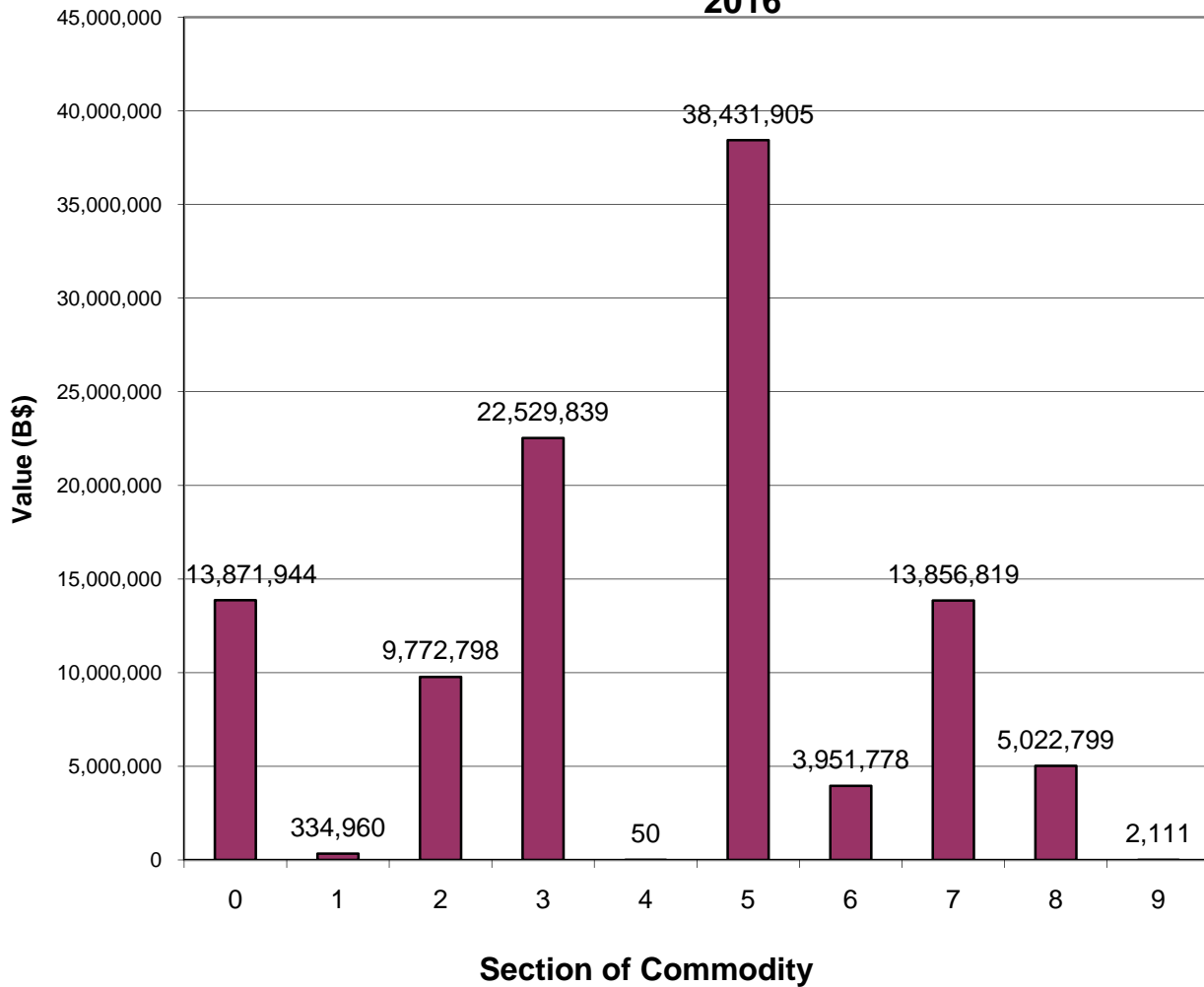
8 Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles

Related Materials

4 Animal and Vegetable Oils And Fats

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

Value of Exports by Section of Commodity: 1st 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 IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND BALANCE OF TRADE BY QUARTERS, 2015 - 1ST QUARTER, 2016

TABLE 1

	2015				B\$ 2016
	1st QTR 2015	2nd QTR 2015	3rd QTR 2015	4th QTR 2015	1st QTR 2016
IMPORTS	741,679,109	801,158,977	819,688,773	799,514,439	641,034,726
Oil Trade	67,629,285	106,870,014	243,845,151	116,961,744	69,559,061
Other Merchandise	674,049,824	694,288,963	575,843,622	682,552,695	571,475,665
EXPORTS	107,775,003	140,085,721	88,842,815	106,077,836	78,325,686
Oil Trade	22,529,839	27,072,702	12,511,079	8,236,316	9,365,467
Other Merchandise	85,245,164	113,013,019	76,331,736	97,841,520	68,960,219
BALANCE OF TRADE	-633,904,106	-661,073,256	-730,845,958	-693,436,603	-562,709,040

VALUE OF IMPORTS CLASSIFIED BY SECTION OF COMMODITY AND QUARTERS, 2015 - 1ST QUARTER, 2016

TABLE 2

SECTION OF COMMODITY	\$B				
	IMPORTS	IMPORTS	IMPORTS	IMPORTS	IMPORTS
	1st QTR 2015	2nd QTR 2015	3rd QTR 2015	4th QTR 2015	1st QTR 2016
0 FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS	116,708,532	130,828,053	128,887,947	132,315,101	127,925,239
1 BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	20,065,164	28,283,689	21,520,595	23,429,533	20,080,179
2 CRUDE MINERALS, INEDIBLE EXCEPT FUELS	17,957,970	15,980,160	18,274,145	16,656,501	14,971,152
3 MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	67,629,285	106,870,014	243,845,151	116,961,744	69,559,061
4 ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS AND FATS	2,099,202	2,448,319	2,102,086	2,148,776	2,127,298
5 CHEMICALS	100,082,094	100,073,990	67,185,217	75,996,533	66,187,182
6 MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIALS	112,241,391	109,821,507	98,742,114	112,081,868	96,897,043
7 MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	160,651,588	163,137,220	126,785,545	163,995,211	136,207,147
8 MISCELLNEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES	111,323,036	111,950,839	81,129,162	124,143,699	81,164,414
9 COMMODITIES AND TRANSACTIONS NOT CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO KIND	32,920,847	31,765,186	31,216,811	31,785,473	25,916,011
TOTAL	741,679,109	801,158,977	819,688,773	799,514,439	641,034,726

VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS CLASSIFIED BY SECTION OF COMMODITY AND QUARTERS, 2015 - 1ST QUARTER, 2016

TABLE 3

\$B

SECTION OF COMMODITY	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS
	1st QTR 2015	2nd QTR 2015	3rd QTR 2015	4th QTR 2015	1st QTR 2016
0 FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS	13,854,971	10,698,933	8,617,470	29,012,650	11,810,930
1 BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	215,467	281,943	441,269	219,688	317,005
2 CRUDE MINERALS, INEDIBLE EXCEPT FUELS	9,134,950	5,510,254	7,719,502	2,483,871	1,630,064
3 MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	-	-	-	-	-
4 ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS AND FATS	-	50	200	-	-
5 CHEMICALS	34,862,833	28,436,584	35,013,684	37,145,449	31,604,623
6 MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIALS	1,684	2,175	11,277	73,196	131,500
7 MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	5,000	3,000	-	-	-
8 MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES	54,340	2,025	10,325	2,823	23,155
9 COMMODITIES AND TRANSACTIONS NOT CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO KIND	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	58,129,245	44,934,964	51,813,727	68,937,677	45,517,277

VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS CLASSIFIED BY SECTION OF COMMODITY AND QUARTERS, 2015 - 1ST QUARTER, 2016

TABLE 4

		B\$				
		RE- EXPORTS	RE- EXPORTS	RE- EXPORTS	RE-EXPORTS	RE- EXPORTS
		1st QTR 2015	2nd QTR 2015	3rd QTR 2015	4th QTR 2015	1st QTR 2016
SECTION OF COMMODITY						
0	FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS	16,973	114,706	166,394	198,391	286,917
1	BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	119,493	269,786	194,649	196,740	1,269,853
2	CRUDE MINERALS, INEDIBLE EXCEPT FUELS	637,848	730,976	849,589	1,225,880	597,194
3	MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	22,529,839	27,072,702	12,511,079	8,236,316	9,365,467
4	ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS AND FATS	50	200	180	695	310
5	CHEMICALS	3,569,072	4,033,293	1,835,509	875,419	347,795
6	MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIALS	3,950,094	9,924,262	8,314,610	3,987,833	7,133,975
7	MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	13,851,819	49,350,296	9,881,279	16,324,847	10,222,995
8	MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES	4,968,459	3,651,955	3,272,249	6,087,028	3,573,403
9	COMMODITIES AND TRANSACTIONS NOT CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO KIND	2,111	2,581	3,550	7,010	10,500
	TOTAL	49,645,758	95,150,757	37,029,088	37,140,159	32,808,409

VALUE OF IMPORTS, DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS CLASSIFIED BY SECTION OF COMMODITY
1st QUARTER, 2016

TABLE 5

B\$

SECTIONS	DESCRIPTIONS	IMPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	RE-EXPORTS
Section 1.	Live Animals Animal Products	42,647,762	11,876,610	10,251
Section 2.	Vegetable Products	33,088,650	43,970	276,556
Section 3.	Animal or Vegetable Fats Oils & Their Cleavage Products Prepared Edible Fats Animal or Vegetable Waxes	3,057,540	-	310
Section 4.	Prepared FoodStuffs Beverages Spirits Vinegar Tobacco & Manufactured Substitutes	73,551,139	317,005	1,271,063
Section 5.	Mineral Products	75,386,207	1,520,414	9,411,403
Section 6.	Products of The Chemical or Allied Industries	53,045,693	12,323,009	334,071
Section 7.	Plastics & Articles Thereof Rubber & Articles Thereof	31,019,333	19,282,354	217,888
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)	2,557,727	-	819
Section 9.	Wood and Articles of Wood Charcoal Cork & Articles of Cork Manufactures of Staw Esparto or Other Plaiting Materials Basketware & Wickerwork	22,890,261	-	79,379
Section 10.	Pulp of Wood Other Fibrous Cellulosic Material Recovered (Waste & Scrap) Paper or Paperboard Paper & Paperboard Articles Thereof	14,364,702	-	2,796,084
Section 11.	Textiles and Textile Articles	18,464,340	-	535,908
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	5,998,581	-	8,753
Section 13.	Articles of Stone Plaster Cement Asbestos Mica or Similar Materials Ceramic Products Glass & Glassware	17,619,396	14,942	143,701
Section 14.	Natural or Cultured Pearls Precious or Semi-Precious Stones Precious Metal Metals Clad With Precious Metal & Articles Thereof Imitation Jewellery Coin	10,451,268	-	62,905
Section 15.	Base Metal and Articles of Base Metal	36,665,944	116,558	6,781,250
Section 16.	Machinery and Mechanical Appliances Electrical Equipment Parts Thereof Sound Recorders & Reproducers Television Image Sound Recorders & Reproducers Part & Accessories of Such Articles	97,537,251	-	7,764,642
Section 17.	Vehicles Aircraft Vessels & Associated Transport Equipment	39,939,939	-	2,231,574
Section 18.	Optical Photographic Cinematographic Measuring Checking Precision Medical Surgical Instruments Apparatus Clocks Watches Musical Instruments Parts & Accessories Thereof	11,098,504	-	372,644
Section 19.	Arms & Ammunition Parts & Accessories Thereof	26,515	-	-
Section 20.	Micellaneous Manufactured Articles	25,449,363	-	464,888
Section 21.	Work of Art Collectors' Pieces & Antiques	26,170,996	22,415	36,820
Section 22.	Human Remains	3,615	-	7,500
TOTAL		641,034,726	45,517,277	32,808,409

**VALUE OF IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND BALANCE OF TRADE CLASSIFIED BY PRINCIPAL TRADING AREAS AND
QUARTERS, 2015 - 1ST QUARTER, 2016**

TABLE 6

B\$

	1st QTR 2015	2nd QTR 2015	3rd QTR 2015	4th QTR 2015	1st QTR 2016
ALL COUNTRIES					
Imports	741,679,109	801,158,977	819,688,773	799,514,439	641,034,726
Exports	107,775,003	140,085,721	88,842,815	106,077,836	78,325,686
Balance	-633,904,106	-661,073,256	-730,845,958	-693,436,603	-562,709,040
UNITED KINGDOM					
Imports	4,881,683	5,673,403	5,833,737	4,426,373	4,725,241
Exports	1,118,036	1,308,812	1,194,621	1,199,115	4,008,445
Balance	-3,763,647	-4,364,591	-4,639,116	-3,227,258	-716,796
CANADA					
Imports	6,496,432	6,374,950	4,443,493	8,476,110	4,743,697
Exports	1,095,485	1,856,547	247,066	2,259,871	1,045,800
Balance	-5,400,947	-4,518,403	-4,196,427	-6,216,239	-3,697,897
U.S.A.					
Imports	616,245,951	681,117,791	677,439,663	608,246,384	530,334,131
Exports	93,201,126	103,464,275	78,109,060	89,952,848	61,894,962
Balance	-523,044,825	-577,653,516	-599,330,603	-518,293,536	-468,439,169
CARIBBEAN COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES					
Imports	11,413,765	8,418,218	8,458,173	48,375,119	4,580,009
Exports	1,692,299	2,208,321	123,703	902,404	3,321,042
Balance	-9,721,466	-6,209,897	-8,334,470	-47,472,715	-1,258,967
EUROPEAN COMMON-MARKET COUNTRIES					
Imports	21,925,017	22,550,158	34,903,461	13,824,723	18,612,435
Exports	2,418,359	4,996,117	3,490,984	8,822,266	3,568,075
Balance	-19,506,658	-17,554,041	-31,412,477	-5,002,457	-15,044,360
O.P.E.C					
Imports	999,470	209,940	6,995,862	87,183	156,891
Exports	44,600	2,251	-	-	-
Balance	-954,870	-207,689	-6,995,862	-87,183	-156,891
OTHER COUNTRIES					
Imports	79,716,791	76,814,517	81,614,384	116,078,547	77,882,322
Exports	8,205,098	26,249,398	5,677,381	2,941,332	4,487,362
Balance	-71,511,693	-50,565,119	-75,937,003	-113,137,215	-73,394,960

TOTAL IMPORTS BY ISLAND OF ENTRY AND QUARTERS, 2015 - 1st QUARTER, 2016

\$B

TABLE 7 PORT OF ENTRY	2015				2016
	1st QTR 2015	2nd QTR 2015	3rd QTR 2015	4th QTR 2015	1st QTR 2016
NEW PROVIDENCE	522,142,488	565,506,605	471,682,106	566,830,731	437,253,845
GRAND BAHAMA	157,550,805	158,720,485	235,096,212	142,675,923	122,112,837
ABACO	26,784,117	34,880,217	47,062,598	40,893,418	36,502,469
ANDROS	2,511,815	2,926,724	2,714,631	3,251,060	2,305,229
BIMINI	3,578,378	6,004,259	12,650,410	10,704,119	5,674,332
CAT ISLAND	750,501	1,067,578	521,962	599,275	1,858,156
CHUB CAY	472,525	947,248	249,687	2,082,042	1,390,205
ELEUTHERA	12,212,797	12,513,111	28,996,910	14,629,134	14,642,180
EXUMA, GEORGE TOWN	6,879,650	9,116,551	11,179,967	9,705,246	9,244,774
INAGUA	2,274,383	2,007,828	3,542,015	1,446,664	1,707,507
MAYAGUANA	-	-	-	-	-
CAT CAY	2,242,479	1,361,646	1,475,759	1,349,653	790,068
SAN SALVADOR	536,637	2,629,095	2,127,605	2,873,750	4,329,176
GREAT HARBOUR CAY	3,038,283	1,815,994	993,235	539,534	478,964
LONG ISLAND	704,251	1,661,636	1,395,676	1,933,890	2,744,984
TOTAL	741,679,109	801,158,977	819,688,773	799,514,439	641,034,726