



COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS
FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICS QUARTERLY
REPORT
FIRST QUARTER, 2017

Department of Statistics

Ministry of Finance

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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.

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

September, 2017

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

1st QUARTER 2017 TRADE DATA HIGHLIGHTS

IMPORTS

Data on merchandise trade for 1st quarter 2017 shows that the value of commodities imported into The Bahamas totaled \$811million resulting in an increase of 26% 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 \$197 million accounted for 24% of the imports. This was followed by **'Food And Live Animals'** at \$132 million, **as well as Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly By Materials** at \$128 million which totaled 16% of all imports.

Other categories that contributed also to the total imports were **'Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and Related Materials'**, and **'Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles'**, which were each valued at \$119 million and combined represented 29%.

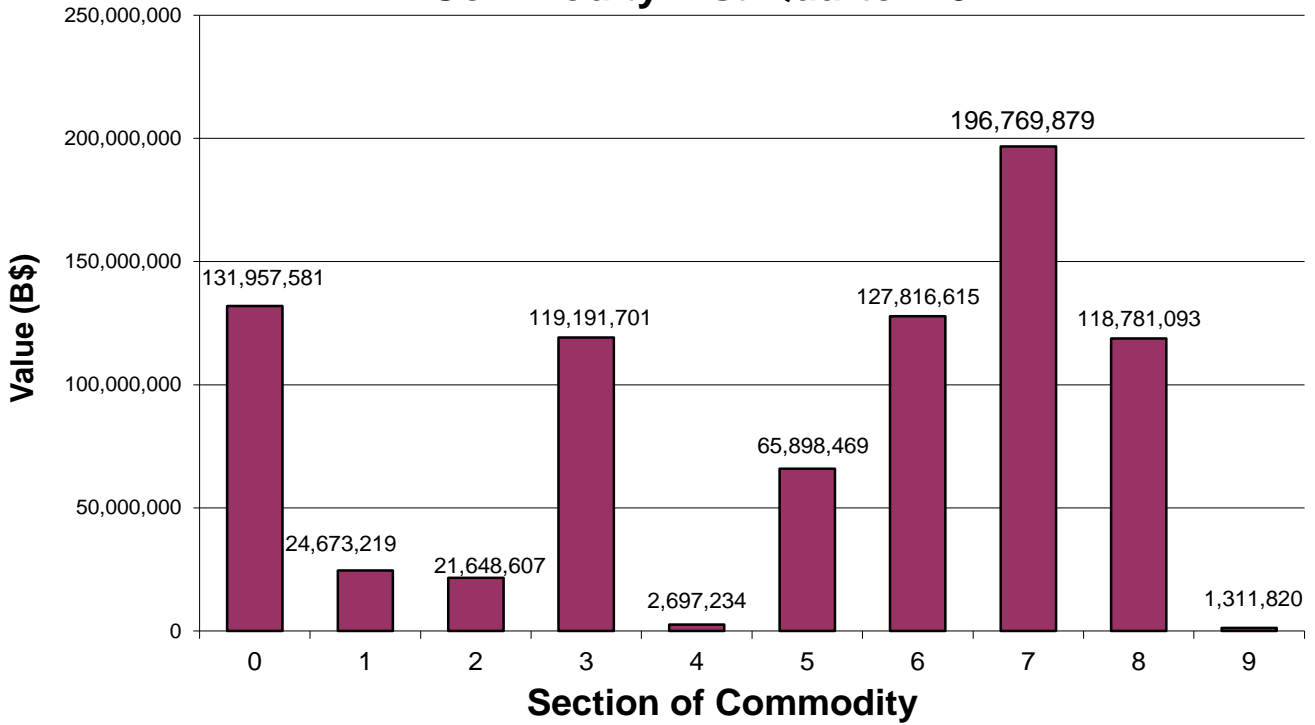
EXPORTS

As it relates to total exports, data for 1st quarter 2017 shows that the value of commodities exported (Domestic and Re-Export) from The Bahamas totaled \$114 million resulting in an increase of 45% when compared with the same period last year.

The categories that contributed the largest proportion to the exports were **'Chemicals'** which totaled 40% and **'Food and Live Animals'** which totaled 20%.

The groups that had the largest decreases in value over the same period last year were **'Beverages And Tobacco'** and **'Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly By Materials'** and which decreased by 53% and 12%, respectively.

Graph 1: Value of Imports by Section of Commodity: 1st Quarter 2017



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

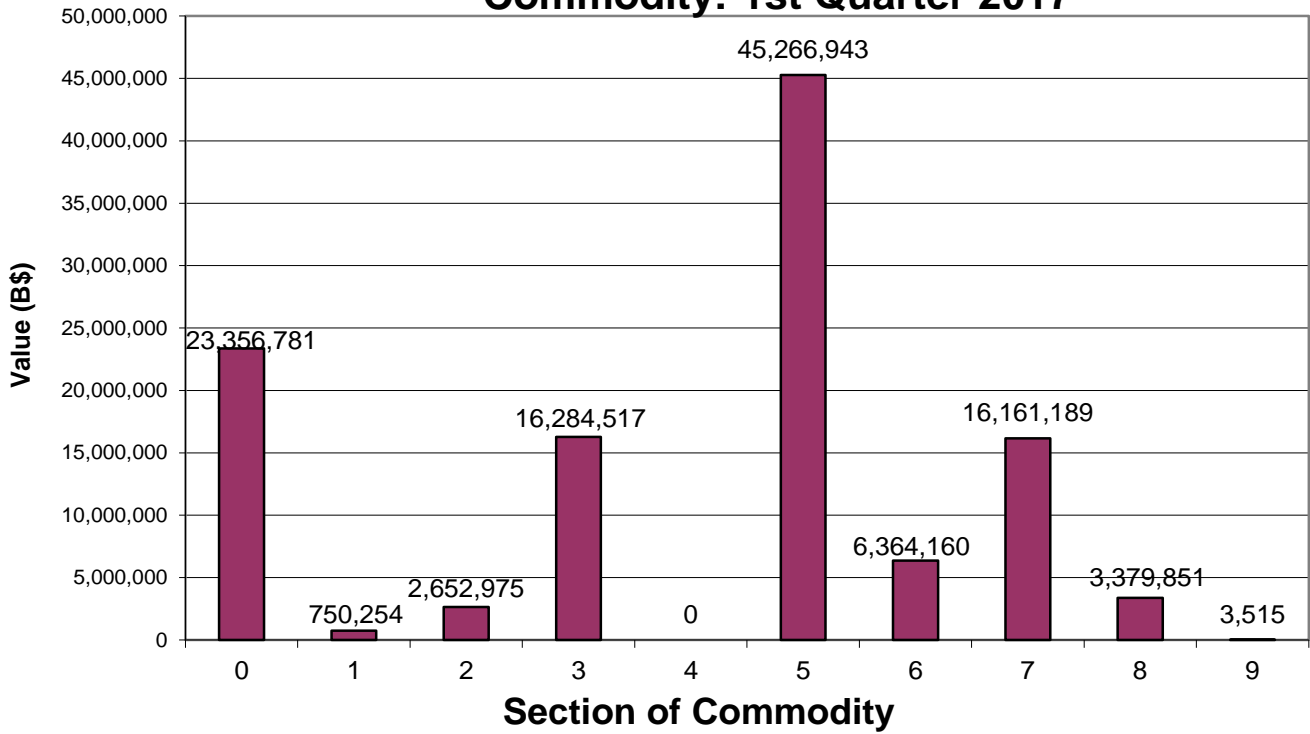
8 Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles

Related Materials

4 Animal and Vegetable Oils And Fats

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

Graph 2 :Value of Exports by Section of Commodity: 1st Quarter 2017



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, 2016 – 1ST QUARTER, 2017

TABLE 1

	2016				B\$
					2017
	1st QTR 2016	2nd QTR 2016	3rd QTR 2016	4th QTR 2016	1ST QTR 2017
IMPORTS	641,947,670	736,305,311	750,753,598	802,645,108	810,746,218
Oil Trade	69,639,199	94,855,658	113,048,772	124,983,481	119,191,701
Other Merchandise	572,308,471	641,449,653	637,704,826	677,661,627	691,554,517
EXPORTS	78,699,984	131,007,684	78,342,885	114,664,869	114,220,185
Oil Trade	9,365,467	11,438,800	12,319,825	12,385,747	16,284,517
Other Merchandise	69,334,517	119,568,884	66,023,060	102,279,122	97,935,668
BALANCE OF TRADE	-563,247,686	-605,297,627	-672,410,713	-687,980,239	-696,526,033

VALUE OF IMPORTS CLASSIFIED BY SECTION OF COMMODITY AND QUARTERS, 2016 – 1ST QUARTER, 2017

TABLE 2

\$B

SECTION OF COMMODITY	IMPORTS	IMPORTS	IMPORTS	IMPORTS	IMPORTS
	1st QTR 2016	2nd QTR 2016	3rd QTR 2016	4th QTR 2016	1 ST QTR 2017
0 FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS	128,056,424	131,528,984	115,863,692	116,387,733	131,957,581
1 BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	20,094,128	25,905,863	22,991,159	21,968,770	24,673,219
2 CRUDE MINERALS, INEDIBLE EXCEPT FUELS	15,169,710	19,783,160	17,497,323	20,181,220	21,648,607
3 MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	69,639,199	94,855,658	113,048,772	124,983,481	119,191,701
4 ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS AND FATS	2,129,269	2,705,898	1,965,388	2,430,316	2,697,234
5 CHEMICALS	66,240,294	69,991,505	70,873,572	65,580,199	65,898,469
6 MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIALS	97,104,847	106,480,888	110,806,769	124,863,548	127,816,615
7 MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	136,384,040	156,474,245	178,570,731	197,611,553	196,769,879
8 MISCELLNEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES	81,201,471	96,895,936	90,024,884	97,258,830	118,781,093
9 COMMODITIES AND TRANSACTIONS NOT CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO KIND	25,928,288	31,683,174	29,111,308	31,379,458	1,311,820
TOTAL	641,947,670	736,305,311	750,753,598	802,645,108	810,746,218

VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS CLASSIFIED BY SECTION OF COMMODITY AND QUARTERS, 2016 – 1ST QUARTER, 2017

TABLE 3

\$B

SECTION OF COMMODITY	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS
	1st QTR 2016	2nd QTR 2016	3rd QTR 2016	4th QTR 2016	1 ST QTR 2017
0 FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS	12,158,944	10,407,533	15,961,968	32,909,562	23,288,009
1 BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	317,005	130,171	225,708	247,018	201,741
2 CRUDE MINERALS, INEDIBLE EXCEPT FUELS	1,656,348	2,696,202	2,148,755	1,791,305	2,257,334
3 MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	-	-	-	-	-
4 ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS AND FATS	-	300	-	-	-
5 CHEMICALS	31,604,623	38,736,339	29,659,473	20,721,307	44,761,494
6 MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIALS	131,500	605,155	5,807	5,461	10,010
7 MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	-	6,530	-	25	-
8 MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES	23,155	13,005	22,934	3,452	700
9 COMMODITIES AND TRANSACTIONS NOT CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO KIND	-	1	-	10	-
TOTAL	45,891,575	52,595,236	48,024,645	55,678,140	70,519,288

VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS CLASSIFIED BY SECTION OF COMMODITY AND QUARTERS, 2016 – 1ST QUARTER, 2017

TABLE 4

		B\$				
		RE- EXPORTS	RE- EXPORTS	RE- EXPORTS	RE- EXPORTS	
		1st QTR 2016	2nd QTR 2016	3 rd QTR2016	4 th QTR 2016	
SECTION OF COMMODITY		1 ST QTR 2017				
0	FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS	286,917	465,245	95,043	101,066	68,772
1	BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	1,269,853	332,391	189,282	175,241	548,513
2	CRUDE MINERALS, INEDIBLE EXCEPT FUELS	597,194	691,006	1,184,325	369,434	395,641
3	MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	9,365,467	11,438,800	12,319,825	12,385,747	16,284,517
4	ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS AND FATS	310	400	900	80	-
5	CHEMICALS	347,795	501,244	646,900	280,291	505,449
6	MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIALS	7,133,975	7,904,520	2,224,317	6,440,349	6,354,150
7	MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	10,222,995	42,188,716	8,857,914	36,237,064	16,161,189
8	MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES	3,573,403	14,880,865	4,797,184	2,991,835	3,379,151
9	COMMODITIES AND TRANSACTIONS NOT CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO KIND	10,500	9,261	2,550	5,622	3,515
	TOTAL	32,808,409	78,412,448	30,318,240	58,986,729	43,700,897

VALUE OF IMPORTS, DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS CLASSIFIED BY SECTION OF COMMODITY
1st QUARTER, 2017

TABLE 5

B\$

SECTIONS	DESCRIPTIONS	IMPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	RE-EXPORTS
Section 1.	Live Animals Animal Products	43,693,941	23,184,801	26,760
Section 2.	Vegetable Products	35,016,056	379,230	17,762
Section 3.	Animal or Vegetable Fats Oils & Their Cleavage Products Prepared Edible Fats Animal or Vegetable Waxes	3,613,060	-	50
Section 4.	Prepared FoodStuffs Beverages Spirits Vinegar Tobacco & Manufactured Substitutes	81,251,694	201,741	572,958
Section 5.	Mineral Products	125,506,138	1,958,308	16,317,652
Section 6.	Products of The Chemical or Allied Industries	61,832,792	15,630,845	322,700
Section 7.	Plastics & Articles Thereof Rubber & Articles Thereof	24,989,550	29,131,349	370,713
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)	3,196,965	-	5,317
Section 9.	Wood and Articles of Wood Charcoal Cork & Articles of Cork Manufactures of Staw Esparto or Other Plaiting Materials Basketware & Wickerwork	28,716,794	-	129,882
Section 10.	Pulp of Wood Other Fibrous Cellulosic Material Recovered (Waste & Scrap) Paper or Paperboard Paper & Paperboard Articles Thereof	15,570,073	23,014	1,039,895
Section 11.	Textiles and Textile Articles	21,988,437	-	300,213
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	7,237,788	-	9,296
Section 13.	Articles of Stone Plaster Cement Asbestos Mica or Similar Materials Ceramic Products Glass & Glassware	24,764,619	-	66,188
Section 14.	Natural or Cultured Pearls Precious or Semi-Precious Stones Precious Metal Metals Clad With Precious Metal & Articles Thereof Imitation Jewellery Coin	12,873,752	-	47,312
Section 15.	Base Metal and Articles of Base Metal	56,433,714	10,000	6,130,814
Section 16.	Machinery and Mechanical Appliances Electrical Equipment Parts Thereof Sound Recorders & Reproducers Television Image Sound Recorders & Reproducers Part & Accessories of Such Articles	142,931,534	-	13,767,972
Section 17.	Vehicles Aircraft Vessels & Associated Transport Equipment	54,018,945	-	2,399,963
Section 18.	Optical Photographic Cinematographic Measuring Checking Precision Medical Surgical Instruments Apparatus Clocks Watches Musical Instruments Parts & Accessories Thereof	13,681,041	-	774,095
Section 19.	Arms & Ammunition Parts & Accessories Thereof	17,871	-	62
Section 20.	Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	48,737,141	-	1,100,977
Section 21.	Work of Art Collectors' Pieces & Antiques	2,643,538	-	296,801
Section 22.	Human Remains	2,030,775	-	3,515
TOTAL		810,746,218	70,519,288	43,700,897

**VALUE OF IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND BALANCE OF TRADE CLASSIFIED BY PRINCIPAL TRADING AREAS AND
QUARTERS, 2016 – 1ST QUARTER, 2017**

TABLE 6

B\$

	1st QTR 2016	2nd QTR 2016	3rd QTR 2016	4th QTR 2016	1ST QTR 2017
ALL COUNTRIES					
Imports	641,947,670	736,305,311	750,753,598	802,645,108	810,746,218
Exports	78,699,984	131,007,684	78,342,885	114,664,869	114,220,185
Balance	-563,247,686	-605,297,627	-672,410,713	-687,980,239	-696,526,033
UNITED KINGDOM					
Imports	4,725,241	6,664,854	7,147,985	3,987,876	4,279,015
Exports	3,989,861	4,678,773	2,590,779	2,174,954	2,537,823
Balance	-735,380	-1,986,081	-4,557,206	-1,812,922	-1,741,192
CANADA					
Imports	4,743,697	5,777,349	6,809,531	5,462,545	5,908,464
Exports	523,800	549,082	274,712	743,467	1,196,541
Balance	-4,219,897	-5,228,267	-6,534,819	-4,719,078	-4,711,923
U.S.A.					
Imports	531,247,075	603,766,698	615,820,852	654,893,217	632,545,664
Exports	62,779,260	112,655,421	63,105,171	94,981,189	97,291,310
Balance	-468,467,815	-491,111,277	-552,715,681	-559,912,028	-535,254,354
CARIBBEAN COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES					
Imports	4,580,009	7,872,984	3,687,490	6,318,632	3,679,370
Exports	3,321,042	2,345,177	389,164	1,938,490	885,872
Balance	-1,258,967	-5,527,807	-3,298,326	-4,380,142	-2,793,498
EUROPEAN COMMON-MARKET COUNTRIES					
Imports	18,612,435	18,244,644	17,054,742	16,491,566	37,781,815
Exports	3,598,658	7,581,259	9,380,423	12,351,188	4,771,860
Balance	-15,013,777	-10,663,385	-7,674,319	-4,140,378	-33,009,955
O.P.E.C					
Imports	156,891	151,230	566,302	5,248,272	346,887
Exports	-	-	200	-	-
Balance	-156,891	-151,230	-566,102	-5,248,272	-346,887
OTHER COUNTRIES					
Imports	77,882,322	93,827,552	99,666,696	110,243,000	126,205,003
Exports	4,487,363	3,197,972	2,602,436	2,475,581	7,536,779
Balance	-73,394,959	-90,629,580	-97,064,260	-107,767,419	-118,668,224

TOTAL IMPORTS BY ISLAND OF ENTRY AND QUARTERS, 2016 – 1ST QUARTER, 2017

TABLE 7	2016				\$B
	1st QTR 2016	2 nd QTR 2016	3 rd QTR 2016	4 th QTR 2016	1 ST QTR 2017
NEW PROVIDENCE	437,253,845	517,815,568	528,219,431	543,887,325	575,591,395
GRAND BAHAMA	122,112,837	125,579,064	127,198,684	160,242,671	153,917,510
ABACO	36,502,469	39,692,351	39,333,555	37,936,889	37,854,838
ANDROS	2,305,229	4,402,297	3,354,501	2,737,741	2,846,142
BIMINI	5,674,332	6,944,196	10,234,432	10,523,637	5,504,410
CAT ISLAND	1,858,156	899,922	733,802	622,151	713,653
CHUB CAY	1,390,205	827,651	7,006,214	5,771,423	1,913,067
ELEUTHERA	14,642,180	17,273,949	15,844,276	17,461,008	14,533,856
EXUMA, GEORGE TOWN	9,244,774	10,961,988	10,197,250	10,621,756	11,242,358
INAGUA	1,707,507	3,149,816	1,926,147	1,583,142	1,681,157
MAYAGUANA	-	-	-	-	-
CAT CAY	1,703,012	1,897,705	694,792	3,326,702	592,677
SAN SALVADOR	4,329,176	1,661,002	1,617,317	1,237,872	1,228,893
GREAT HARBOUR CAY	478,964	663,626	2,792,718	3,016,798	1,603,793
LONG ISLAND	2,744,984	4,536,176	1,600,479	3,675,993	1,522,469
TOTAL	641,947,670	736,305,311	750,753,598	802,645,108	810,746,218