



COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS
FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICS QUARTERLY
REPORT
FOURTH 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.

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

November, 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

4TH QUARTER 2019 TRADE DATA HIGHLIGHTS

IMPORTS

Data on merchandise trade for 4th quarter 2019 shows that the value of commodities imported into The Bahamas totaled \$746 million resulting in an decrease of 7% when compared with the same period last year.

The major groups of merchandise, were **'Mineral Fuels, Lubricants And Related Materials'** which totaled \$174 million, **'Machinery And Transport Equipment'** at \$155 million and **'Food And Live Animals'** which totaled \$123 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 \$93 million, **'Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles'** value at \$84 million and **'Chemicals'**, at \$48 million (these groups together represented 30% of total Imports).

'Mineral Fuels, Lubricants And Related Materials' increased by 72% over the same period last year. However, **'Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles'** and **'Chemicals'** showed a decline of 37% and 40%, respectively when compared to the same quarter last year.

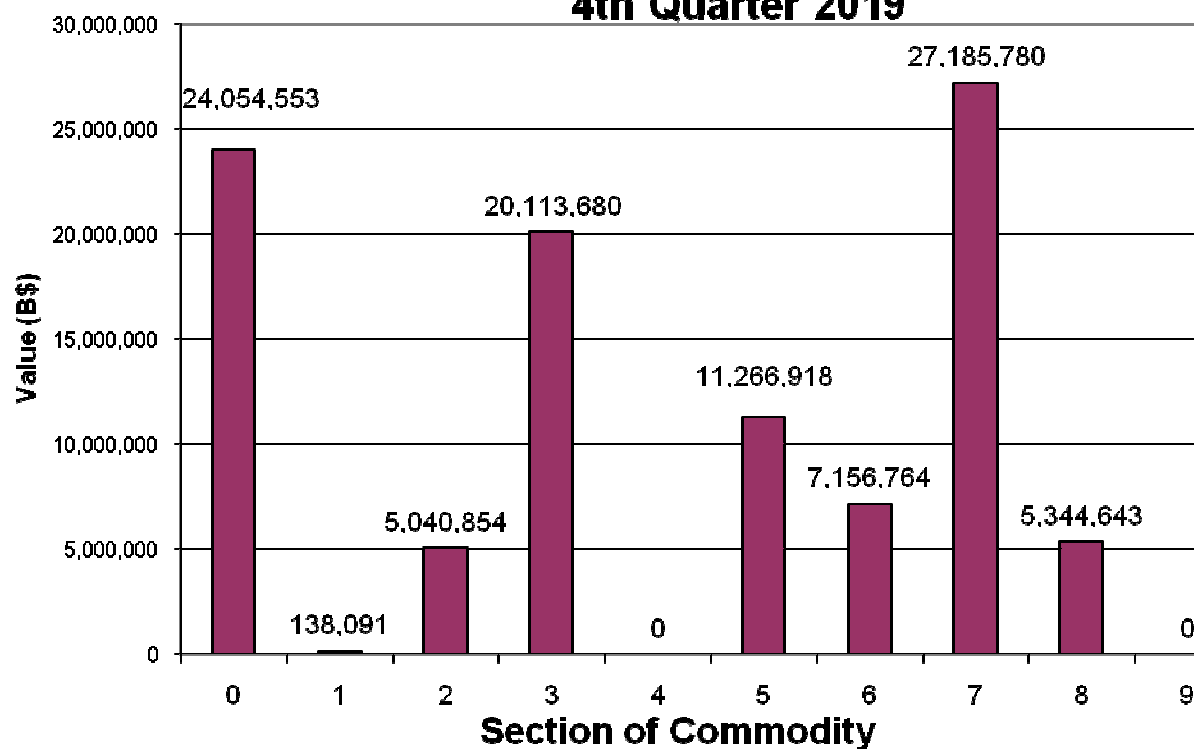
EXPORTS

As it relates to total exports, data for 4th quarter 2019 shows that the value of commodities exported (Domestic and Re-Export) from The Bahamas totaled \$100 million resulting in an decrease of 20% when compared with the same period last year.

The categories that contributed the largest proportion to the exports were **'Machinery And Transport Equipment'** which totaled \$27million, **'Food And Live Animals'** accounted for \$24million and **'Mineral Fuels, Lubricants And Related Materials'** that totaled \$20 million and representing 71% of total exports.

The groups that had the largest decrease in value when compared to the same period last year **'Chemicals'**, **'Mineral Fuels, Lubricants And Related Materials'** and **'Food And Live Animal'** which declined by 72%,29% and 18%, respectively.

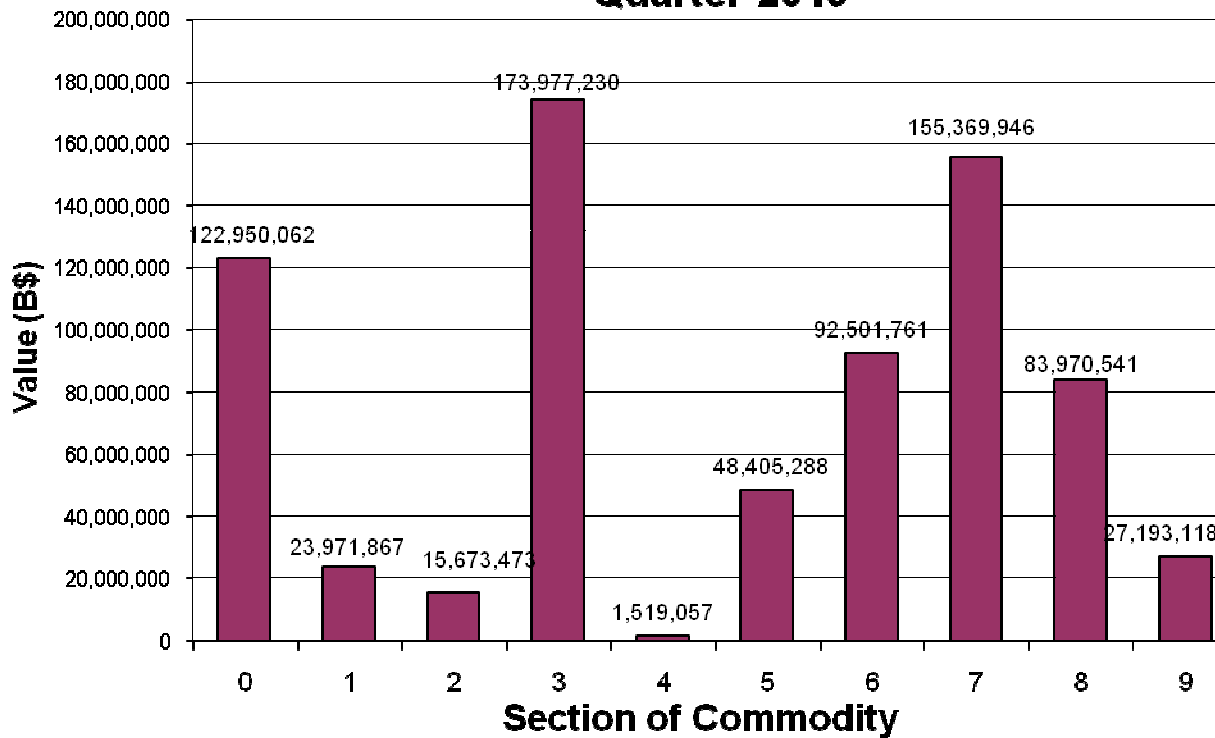
Value of Exports by Section of Commodity: 4th Quarter 2019



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 Related Materials	8 Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles
4 Animal and Vegetable Oils And Fats	9 Commodities And Transactions Not Classified According To Kind

Value of Imports by Section of Commodity: 4th 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
Related Materials | 8 Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles |
| 4 Animal and Vegetable Oils And Fats | 9 Commodities And Transactions Not
Classified According To Kind |

VALUE OF IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND BALANCE OF TRADE BY QUARTERS, 2018 – 4th QUARTER, 2019

TABLE 1

	2018				B\$
					2019
	4th QTR 2018	1ST QTR 2019	2nd QTR 2019	3rd QTR 2019	4th QTR 2019
IMPORTS	800,943,793	708,927,272	981,529,744	934,830,253	745,532,343
Oil Trade	101,302,458	127,670,458	170,257,768	256,544,112	173,977,230
Other Merchandise	699,641,335	581,256,814	811,271,976	678,286,141	571,555,113
EXPORTS	124,924,975	120,773,620	235,377,521	80,818,032	100,301,283
Oil Trade	28,317,333	22,287,417	22,480,459	14,522,115	20,113,680
Other Merchandise	96,607,642	98,486,203	212,897,062	66,295,917	80,187,603
BALANCE OF TRADE	-676,018,818	-588,153,652	-746,152,223	-854,012,221	-645,231,060

VALUE OF IMPORTS CLASSIFIED BY SECTION OF COMMODITY AND QUARTERS, 2018 –4th QUARTER, 2019

TABLE 2

\$B

SECTION OF COMMODITY	IMPORTS	IMPORTS	IMPORTS	IMPORTS	IMPORTS
	4 th QTR 2018	1 st QTR 2019	2 nd QTR 2019	3 rd QTR 2019	4 th QTR 2019
0 FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS	140,363,929	131,731,573	144,069,127	137,781,476	122,950,062
1 BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	19,951,265	19,932,656	26,064,828	23,302,014	23,971,867
2 CRUDE MINERALS, INEDIBLE EXCEPT FUELS	23,792,401	17,497,236	23,613,666	19,278,007	15,673,473
3 MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	101,302,458	127,670,458	170,257,768	256,544,112	173,977,230
4 ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS AND FATS	2,323,491	2,621,467	3,098,978	2,247,135	1,519,057
5 CHEMICALS	80,715,545	57,255,411	63,928,869	66,428,043	48,405,288
6 MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIALS	114,743,237	100,615,206	174,832,289	109,350,673	92,501,761
7 MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	153,012,028	129,389,809	206,628,431	176,836,370	155,369,946
8 MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES	133,579,109	95,290,042	127,317,938	106,571,964	83,970,541
9 COMMODITIES AND TRANSACTIONS NOT CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO KIND	31,160,330	26,923,414	41,717,850	36,490,459	27,193,118
TOTAL	800,943,793	708,927,272	981,529,744	934,830,253	745,532,343

VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS CLASSIFIED BY SECTION OF COMMODITY AND QUARTERS, 2018 –4th QUARTER, 2019

TABLE 3

\$B

SECTION OF COMMODITY	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS
	4 th QTR 2018	1 st QTR 2019	2 nd QTR 2019	3 rd QTR 2019	4 th QTR 2019
0 FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS	29,188,680	18,534,059	26,280,277	12,478,113	24,006,448
1 BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	330,972	565,984	487,342	281,926	99,717
2 CRUDE MINERALS, INEDIBLE EXCEPT FUELS	5,426,954	4,786,578	3,955,219	2,669,387	4,806,019
3 MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	-	-	-	-	-
4 ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE OILS AND FATS	-	-	-	-	-
5 CHEMICALS	39,536,314	32,891,494	36,169,768	21,213,409	10,985,802
6 MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIALS	1,722,310	800,998	488,967	837,595	462
7 MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	-	-	20,000	-	-
8 MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES	75,950	910	138,445	77,366	37,949
9 COMMODITIES AND TRANSACTIONS NOT CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO KIND	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	76,281,180	57,580,023	67,540,018	37,557,796	39,936,397

VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS CLASSIFIED BY SECTION OF COMMODITY AND QUARTERS, 2018 – 4th QUARTER, 2019

TABLE 4

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

VALUE OF IMPORTS, DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS CLASSIFIED BY SECTION OF COMMODITY
4th QUARTER, 2019

TABLE 5

		B\$		
SECTIONS	DESCRIPTIONS	IMPORTS	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	RE-EXPORTS
Section 1.	Live Animals Animal Products	54,064,887	24,568,211	6,008
Section 2.	Vegetable Products	26,788,871	24,750	199
Section 3.	Animal or Vegetable Fats Oils & Their Cleavage Products Prepared Edible Fats Animal or Vegetable Waxes	2,325,561	-	-
Section 4.	Prepared FoodStuffs Beverages Spirits Vinegar Tobacco & Manufactured Substitutes	68,472,557	99,717	80,272
Section 5.	Mineral Products	179,862,512	4,219,506	20,117,194
Section 6.	Products of The Chemical or Allied Industries	45,269,977	75,195	271,871
Section 7.	Plastics & Articles Thereof Rubber & Articles Thereof	20,495,605	10,948,556	110,578
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)	2,644,191	-	6,297
Section 9.	Wood and Articles of Wood Charcoal Cork & Articles of Cork Manufactures of Staw Esparto or Other Plaiting Materials Basketware & Wickerwork	16,412,166	-	30,961
Section 10.	Pulp of Wood Other Fibrous Cellulosic Material Recovered (Waste & Scrap) Paper or Paperboard Paper & Paperboard Articles Thereof	9,319,281	-	45,854
Section 11.	Textiles and Textile Articles	17,455,325	-	1,140,310
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	6,142,131	-	112,201
Section 13.	Articles of Stone Plaster Cement Asbestos Mica or Similar Materials Ceramic Products Glass & Glassware	16,824,674	-	42,211
Section 14.	Natural or Cultured Pearls Precious or Semi-Precious Stones Precious Metal Metals Clad With Precious Metal & Articles Thereof Imitation Jewellery Coin	9,802,377	-	476,115
Section 15.	Base Metal and Articles of Base Metal	44,466,438	462	6,119,099
Section 16.	Machinery and Mechanical Appliances Electrical Equipment Parts Thereof Sound Recorders & Reproducers Television Image Sound Recorders & Reproducers Part & Accessories of Such Articles	109,575,294	-	18,936,697
Section 17.	Vehicles Aircraft Vessels & Associated Transport Equipment	45,783,938	-	8,241,279
Section 18.	Optical Photographic Cinematographic Measuring Checking Precision Medical Surgical Instruments Apparatus Clocks Watches Musical Instruments Parts & Accessories Thereof	12,191,929	-	828,706
Section 19.	Arms & Ammunition Parts & Accessories Thereof	15,920	-	91
Section 20.	Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	28,141,572	-	3,492,854
Section 21.	Work of Art Collectors' Pieces & Antiques	27,379,664	-	305,079
Section 22.	Human Remains	2,097,473	-	1,010
TOTAL		745,532,343	39,936,397	60,364,886

**VALUE OF IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND BALANCE OF TRADE CLASSIFIED BY PRINCIPAL TRADING AREAS AND
QUARTERS, 2018 – 4th QUARTER, 2019**

TABLE 6

B\$

	4th QTR 2018	1ST QTR 2019	2ND QTR 2019	3th QTR 2019	4th QTR 2019
ALL COUNTRIES					
Imports	800,943,793	708,927,272	981,529,744	934,830,253	745,532,343
Exports	124,924,975	120,773,620	235,377,521	80,818,032	100,301,283
Balance	-676,018,818	-588,153,652	-746,152,223	-854,012,221	-645,231,060
UNITED KINGDOM					
Imports	17,696,318	3,637,401	29,711,843	4,625,880	3,449,407
Exports	2,832,521	1,154,964	2,491,802	541,056	539,416
Balance	-14,863,797	-2,482,437	-27,220,041	-4,084,824	-2,909,991
CANADA					
Imports	6,169,410	4,878,122	6,656,018	6,464,600	5,568,839
Exports	513,190	97,728	3,333,730	721,930	239,209
Balance	-5,656,220	-4,780,394	-3,322,288	-5,742,670	-5,329,630
U.S.A.					
Imports	683,113,456	609,132,161	753,997,510	768,510,310	569,397,921
Exports	89,633,879	107,250,724	210,062,530	68,470,869	88,496,015
Balance	-593,479,577	-501,881,437	-543,934,980	-700,039,441	-480,901,906
CARIBBEAN COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES					
Imports	3,810,324	15,870,866	66,393,560	59,741,041	31,478,292
Exports	7,999,864	263,631	295,121	309,462	130,936
Balance	4,189,540	-15,607,235	-66,098,439	-59,431,579	-31,347,356
EUROPEAN COMMON-MARKET COUNTRIES					
Imports	16,969,779	13,955,238	58,143,805	15,150,358	13,317,538
Exports	16,041,868	10,305,536	10,018,098	4,213,187	9,399,840
Balance	-927,911	-3,649,702	-48,125,707	-10,937,171	-3,917,698
O.P.E.C					
Imports	775,016	424,831	592,786	456,504	604,226
Exports	-	-	-	500	-
Balance	-775,016	-424,831	-592,786	-456,004	-604,226
OTHER COUNTRIES					
Imports	72,409,490	61,028,653	66,034,222	79,881,560	121,716,120
Exports	7,903,653	1,701,037	9,176,240	6,561,028	1,495,867
Balance	-64,505,837	-59,327,616	-56,857,982	-73,320,532	-120,220,253

[6]

TOTAL IMPORTS BY ISLAND OF ENTRY AND QUARTERS, 2018 – 4th QUARTER, 2019

TABLE 7						\$B
	2018		2019			
PORT OF ENTRY	4 th QTR 2018	1 ST QTR 2019	2 ND QTR 2019	3 RD QTR 2019	4 th QTR 2019	
NEW PROVIDENCE	572,592,572	465,489,249	562,443,581	659,864,274	532,127,074	
GRAND BAHAMA	131,003,888	149,893,901	239,561,086	180,328,764	170,156,111	
ABACO	42,789,692	35,419,389	47,349,797	26,063,137	2,525,751	
ANDROS	3,783,448	2,470,646	41,158,044	4,816,251	2,924,787	
BIMINI	15,593,623	11,155,973	29,121,924	33,259,980	15,206,984	
CAT ISLAND	649,015	577,802	1,820,980	425,404	288,609	
CHUB CAY	1,137,585	2,229,680	4,143,906	1,348,061	2,619,100	
ELEUTHERA	14,822,632	13,247,189	3,967,762	6,542,574	4,786,468	
EXUMA, GEORGE TOWN	12,492,567	9,265,899	10,355,139	5,932,975	3,507,102	
INAGUA	2,642,502	2,021,016	2,053,006	3,327,177	3,185,528	
MAYAGUANA	-	-	-	-	13,749	
CAT CAY	1,080,945	813,531	1,371,811	862,500	766,196	
SAN SALVADOR	987,357	521,629	786,306	984,653	688,981	
GREAT HARBOUR CAY	-	13,861,797	32,386,146	10,441,652	5,925,352	
LONG ISLAND	1,367,967	1,959,571	5,010,256	632,851	810,551	
TOTAL	800,943,793	708,927,272	981,529,744	934,830,253	745,532,343	