



STATISTICAL INSTITUTE OF JAMAICA

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News Release

International Merchandise Trade

July 2020

Kingston: October 27, 2020: Jamaica's imports for January to July 2020 were valued at US\$2,668.0 million, decrease of 30.4 per cent below the US\$3,833.8 million spent for the similar period in 2019 as released today (October 27, 2020) by the Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN).

The July 2020 IMT Bulletin further outlined that revenue from exports amounted to US\$719.4 million for the current review period, 28.6 per cent lower than the US\$1,006.9 million earned in the similar period in 2019.

Expenditure on imports from the United States of America (USA) - Jamaica's main trading partner were valued at US\$1,018.7 million. This is 42.9 per cent below the US\$1,785.4 million recorded for the period January to July 2019. Earnings from total exports to the USA amounted to US\$335.2 million, a decline of 8.5 per cent when compared to the US\$366.4 million earned during the same period in 2019.

41.6 per cent decrease in Traditional Domestic Exports

Earnings from Traditional Domestic Exports for January to July 2020 were valued at US\$356.6 million, a decrease of 41.6 per cent when compared to the US\$610.8 million exported for January to July 2019. Traditional domestic exports accounted for 51.1 per cent of total domestic exports earnings.

5.5 per cent decline in Non-Traditional Domestic Exports

Non-Traditional Domestic Exports earned US\$341.7 million, a decrease of 5.5 per cent. The categories responsible for this decline were "Other" Non-Traditional Domestic Exports, "Beverages & Tobacco (excl. Rum)" and "Crude Materials". The category "Other" Non-Traditional Domestic Exports were valued at US\$177.8 million, a decline of 11.9 per cent when compared to the US\$201.8 million in 2019. The category "Beverages and Tobacco (excl. Rum)" earned US\$38.5 million, 8.7 per cent above the US\$42.2 million earned in the comparable period. "Crude Materials" fell by 24.5 million to value US\$8.8 million, when compared to the US\$11.7 million recorded during the period January to July 2019. Exports of "Food", however, increased by 10.2 per cent to US\$116.6 million.

CARICOM TRADE

Jamaica's imports from CARICOM were valued at US\$147.4 million, 17.5 per cent below the US\$178.7 million spent in January to July 2019. "Mineral Fuels, etcetera" and "Food" were the main commodity groups responsible for this decrease. Imports of "Mineral Fuels" were valued at US\$13.7 million while "Food" was valued at US\$78.8 million in the comparable period. Imports of "Chemicals" however increased by 1.6 per cent and were valued at US\$13.4 million, a decline

of 21.0 per cent. “Manufactured Goods” fell by 16.6 per cent and were valued at US\$13.4 million.

Total exports to CARICOM were valued at US\$45.6 million, 10.2 per cent below the US\$50.8 million earned in the similar January to July 2019 period. Re-exports were valued at US\$5.4 million, falling by 28.0 per cent.

Domestic exports earned US\$40.2 million, a decline of 7.1 per cent, when compared to the US\$43.2 million earned in the similar period in 2019. Exports of “Beverages & Tobacco” were valued at US\$7.6 million, a fall of 33.9 per cent when compared to the US\$11.4 million earned for January to July 2019. Exports of “Food” were valued at US\$15.8 million, down from the US\$19.8 million earned in 2019.

The **International Merchandise Trade Bulletin** outlines additional information on Jamaica's international trade activities. The **July 2020 International Merchandise Trade Bulletin** is available on the Statistical Institute of Jamaica's website: www.statinja.gov.jm or from the Information Section of the Institute, 7 Cecelio Avenue, Kingston 10. Visit the Institute's Facebook page at facebook.com/STATINJA for the July 2020 IMT infographics.

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