

**PRESS RELEASE  
EXTERNAL TRADE BULLETIN  
JUNE 2003**

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The June 2003 External Trade Bulletin released by the Statistical Institute of Jamaica reveals that imports for the first six months of 2003 were valued at US\$1,821.5 million, while export earnings amounted to US\$591.4 million. When compared to the corresponding period of 2002, both imports and exports showed increases of 10.2 and 4.6 respectively. The trade deficit at the end of the period under review grew by US\$142.7 million to US\$1,230.1 million.

The value of imports by major end - use category shows 'Raw Materials/Intermediate Goods' increasing by 25.2 percent and "Capital Goods" and "Consumer Goods" declining by 10.7 percent and 0.8 percent respectively.

Earnings from Traditional Domestic Export increased by 5.2 percent to earn US\$470.9 million above the comparable period of 2002. Non-traditional exports earned US\$109.3 million, 0.2 percent less than that earned in the 2002 period.

Imports from CARICOM for the period January- June 2003 were valued at US\$258.5 million, a 41.0 percent increase in expenditure, relative to the 2002 period. Food and Mineral Fuels were the major imports. Total exports also increased by 11.1 percent to US\$23.6 million, 'Food' and Chemicals were the main commodities exported.

*The External Trade Bulletin January- June 2002 further outlines additional information and may be obtained at our Distribution Centre; 7 Cecelio Avenue Kingston 10.*