

EXTERNAL TRADE BULLETIN
January - August 2002

The January to August 2002 External Trade Bulletin released by the Statistical Institute of Jamaica reveals that imports were valued at US\$2,280.2 million, while total exports amounted to US\$758.6 million. When compared with the same period of 2001, these figures show an increase of 1.1 per cent for imports and a decline of 10.8 per cent for exports. The trade deficit rose by US\$1,405.2 million to US\$1,521.6 million at the end of the first eight months of 2002.

The value of imports by the end-use categories increased with the exception of "Raw Materials/Intermediate Goods" which declined by 6.4 per cent. "Consumer Goods" increased by 10.0 per cent and "Capital Goods" by 9.6 per cent.

Earnings from Traditional domestic exports declined by 7.4 per cent to US\$603.8 million. Non-traditional exports also fell by 22.4 per cent to US\$140.6 million.

Imports to CARICOM for the period January to August 2002 decreased by 12.9 per cent to US\$252.7 million. Total exports fell by 12.8 per cent to US\$29.2 million. The balance of trade with CARICOM moved from US\$256.7 million in 2001 to US\$223.5 million in the period under review.

The External Trade Bulletin further outlines additional information and may be obtained from our Distribution Office of the Statistical Institute of Jamaica located at 9 Swallowfield Road, Kingston 5.