

PRESS RELEASE
External Trade Bulletin
June 2004

The January to June External Trade Bulletin released by the Statistical Institute of Jamaica reveals that imports were valued at US\$1,746.7 million, while exports earnings amounted to US\$753.6 million. When compared with the corresponding period in 2003, these figures shows decline of 5.7 percent for imports and an increase of 26.5 percent for exports. At the end of the period under review the trade deficit stood at US\$993.1 million, compared to US\$1,256.7 million in 2003.

During this period under review the Major group of imports were "Machinery and Transport Equipment" (US\$405.1 million), " Mineral Fuel" (US\$351.4 million), "Food" (US\$253.5 million), "Manufactured Goods" (US\$247.1 million and "Chemicals" (US\$197.0 million).

Domestic exports accounted for US\$727.6 million and re-exports US\$26.0 million during the period under review. For the corresponding period in 2003 these were valued at US\$ 584.7 million and US\$11.2 million respectively.

Traditional Domestic Exports grew by 21.6 percent to US\$578.2 million, while Non-traditional domestic export grew by 36.6 percent to US\$149.3 million.

The External Trade Bulletin -June 2004 further outline additional information and may be obtained from the Distribution Office of the Statistical Institute of Jamaica located at 7 Cecelio Avenue, Kingston 10.