The January to May 2001 External Trade Bulletin released by the Statistical Institute of Jamaica reveals that imports were valued at US\$1,363.6 million, while exports amounted to US\$523.0 million.

When compared to the similar period in 2000 these figures represent an increase of 4.0 percent and a decline of 9.4 percent for imports and exports respectively.

The value of imports within the end-use category "Consumer Goods" increased by 6.3 percent "Raw materials / Intermediate Goods" increased by 1.7 percent and "Capital Goods" grew by 7.4 percent.

Traditional domestic exports amounted to US\$402.2 million a decline of 4.8 percent. Non-traditional domestic exports also declined by 20.7 percent to earn US\$108.3 million.

Imports from CARICOM for January to May 2001 increased by 7.8 percent to US\$176.2 million, while exports earned US\$20.3 million an increase of 8.3 percent.

The External Trade Bulletin further outlines additional information and may be obtained at the Distribution Office; 9 Swallow field Road Kingston 5.