



Machinery and Transportation Equipment

A Top Export Prospect for Jamaica

September 2014

Overview

Machinery built in the United States is visible at construction sites, large farms, and industrial facilities across Jamaica. Although Jamaicans drive on the left hand side of the road, the United States remains an important source of vehicles, and auto parts and accessories. Prior to the mid 1990's, there were severe restrictions on importing motor vehicles. After the restrictions were lifted, there was a surge in the variety and number of motor vehicles imported.

Due to a lack of detailed statistical data, the following chart estimates the trade in machinery and transportation equipment with Jamaica:

| Machinery and Transportation Equipment SICT Section "7" | 2009 US\$ Millions | 2010 US\$ Millions | 2011 US\$ Millions | 2012 US\$ Millions |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Total Local Production | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Total Exports ¹ | 41 | 16 | 50 | 22 ^P |
| Total Imports ¹ | 820 | 786 | 932 | 919 ^P |
| Imports from the U.S. ² | 304 | 309 | 331 | 322 |

¹ Source: Planning Institute of Jamaica, Economic and Social Survey Jamaica, Table 6.2

² Source: <http://censtats.census.gov/cgi-bin/sitc/sitcCty.pl>

^P Preliminary

Sub-Sector Best Prospects

Best prospects include wheel rims, shock absorbers, clutch parts, brake parts, tires, and fancy accessories.

Opportunities

Jamaican authorities monitor the quality of the imports, and devote additional attention towards imports from certain countries and imported used car parts. This scrutiny increases opportunities for new higher quality, but low cost, U.S. aftermarket auto parts.

Web Resources

Ministry of Industry, Investment and Commerce - www.mct.gov.jm

For More Information

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