

JAMAICA





Coverage

Definition of IMTS and nature of transactions covered

Presented by
Kayon Doctor
Statistician, Administrative Statistics
Statistical Institute of Jamaica
2nd April, 2009



Outline of Presentation

- Introduction
- Packaged Software
- Downloadable Software and Audiovisual Products
- Asymmetric Inclusions and Exclusions
- Other Inclusions and Exclusions



Introduction

The Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN) is responsible for the collection, compilation and dissemination of Merchandise Trade Statistics.

 The General System of Trade as defined by the United Nations International Merchandise Trade Statistics Manual (Series M, No.52 Rev.2) is used.

Packaged Software

Goods used as carriers of information and software.

Inclusions

- Software for general or commercial use not developed to order.
- Audio and videotapes for general or commercial purposes except those containing original recordings.
 - Importers indicate on the custom documents what the specific software, audio and videotapes will be used for.



Currently In Jamaica data on downloaded software or audiovisual products are not collected.

This data could be collected by means of a survey.

Asymmetric Inclusions and Exclusions

Issued and unissued banknotes, securities and coins

In reference to paragraph 20 in the IMTS manual, Jamaica currently excludes all banknotes and coins whether issued or unissued.

Data on un-issued are available and will be included in IMTS in the future.



Monetary and Non-monetary Gold

Monetary gold is excluded under imports and exports, while only non monetary gold is included under imports.



Asymmetric Inclusions and Exclusions cont'd

Empty bottles

- Empty bottles for commercial purposes are included in the trade
- Empty bottles for refilling are included in imports and excluded from exports.



Asymmetric Inclusions and Exclusions cont'd

Waste and scrap

 Waste and scrap for both import and export is treated based on the recommendations outlined in the IMTS manual.



Goods acquired by all categories of travellers

- The amount that our national law provides is a US\$500 per Jamaican national for personal effects. Our Customs Department collects duties based on items with amounts greater than the above benchmark.
- All statistics on the customs entries relating to travellers are included whether for personal use or not.



Other Inclusions and Exclusions

Food and other humanitarian aid

 Goods that are imported by agencies such as Food for the Poor are included in our trade statistics. These types of aids are also included in our exports statistics.



Other Inclusions and Exclusions cont'd

Goods consigned to and from territorial enclaves

 Goods transferred between a country and territorial enclaves are excluded from both import and export trade statistics.



Other Inclusions and Exclusions cont'd

Repaired goods

- Repaired goods are excluded.
- Customs department has mandated that when an item is being sent out to be repaired that a special form be filled out.
- When the good is being returned, the new customs entry would make reference to the previous form stating that the item was a repaired good.



Recommendations

- Goods used as carriers of information and software be treated as outlined in the BPM6.
- Downloadable software and audiovisual products be regarded as a trade in service and excluded from the IMTS.

