



Pharmaceuticals, Chemicals and Related Products

A Top Export Prospect for Jamaica

September 2014

Overview

The demand for drugs and pharmaceuticals in Jamaica is driven by a variety of factors, including government programs, trade conditions, international medical breakthroughs, lifestyle changes, and a variety of social and domestic conditions. Domestic production of pharmaceuticals, chemicals and related products is limited, thus necessitating the import of such products.

Due to a lack of detailed statistical data, the following chart provides an estimate of Jamaica's trade in pharmaceuticals, chemicals and related products:

Pharmaceuticals, Chemicals, Cosmetics and Related SICT Section "5"	2009 US\$ Millions	2010 US\$ Millions	2011 US\$ Millions	2012 US\$ Millions
Market size ¹ as % of Total Retail/ Commercial Sales	9.3%	7.1%	5.9%	6.2%
Total Local Production	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total Exports ²	204	84	47	210 ^P
Total Imports ²	739	693	873	924 ^P
Imports from the U.S. ³	149	186	244	238

¹ Source: Planning Institute of Jamaica, Economic and Social Survey Jamaica, Table 19.4

² Source: Planning Institute of Jamaica, Economic and Social Survey Jamaica, Table 6.2

³ Source: <http://censtats.census.gov/cgi-bin/sitc/sitcCty.pl>

^P Preliminary

Sub-Sector Best Prospects

Best prospects include medications for hypertension, respiratory diseases, sexually transmitted diseases, and diabetes.

Opportunities

Exporters to Jamaica will find opportunities in both the public (government) and private (commercial) sectors. Health Corporation Limited, the government company responsible for

the sourcing and distribution of products primarily to the public health sector, is a major importer of drugs and pharmaceuticals.

Web Resources

Pharmaceutical Society of Jamaica - www.psj.org.jm

Ministry of Health - www.moh.gov.jm

For More Information

Jeremy Slezak
Commercial Officer
U.S. Embassy Kingston
(876) 702-6028
slezakJD@state.gov

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