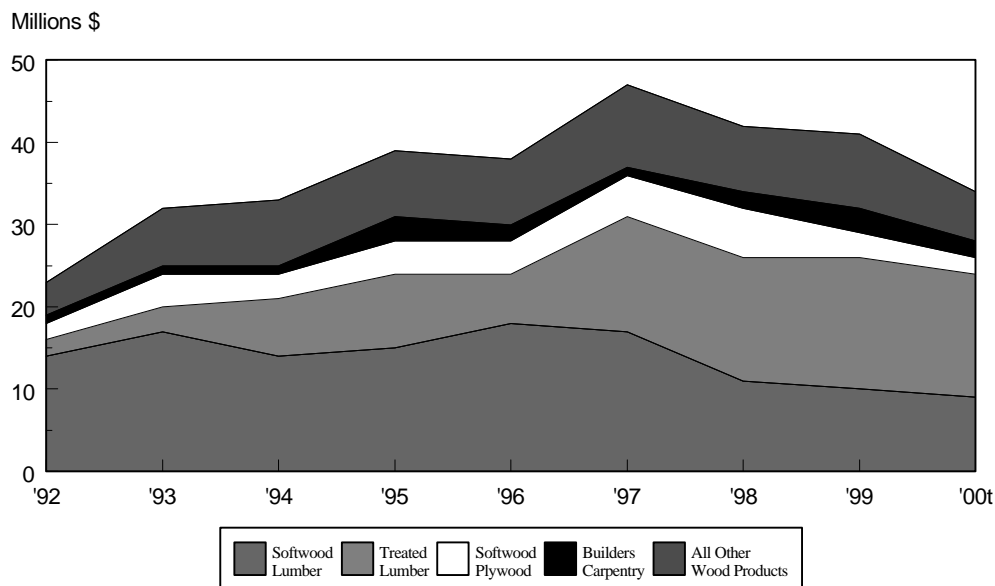


# Jamaica



## Total Exports in 1999: \$40 million

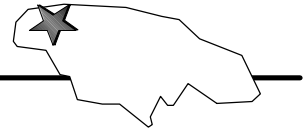


## Tariff Schedule for U.S. products:

Item	HS Code	2000 Applied Rate	Bound Rate
Wood in the Rough	4403		
• Treated	4403.1	0-10%	50%
• other coniferous species	4403.2		
Lumber	4407	0-5%	50%
• Coniferous	4407.1		
Plywood	4412	0-10%	50%
• plywood			
• other veneer panels			
Builder's Joinery & Carpentry	4418		50%
• windows and frames	4418.1	10%	
• doors and frames	4418.2	10%	
• parquet panels	4418.3	15%	
• shuttering for construction	4418.4	15%	
• shingles and shakes	4418.5	15%	

# Jamaica

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## Tariff Rates:

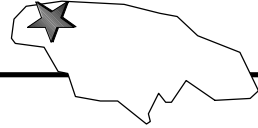
- Jamaica uses tariffs and other price-based measures as trade policy instruments. To protect local industries, Jamaica relies on surcharges or stamp duties charged on top of custom duties as restrictions on imports. This effectively raises the final duties and taxes that wood exporters to Jamaica must pay, leading to higher prices for such wood products in the market.
- In addition to the tariffs, products entering Jamaica are subject to:
  - General Consumption Tax (GCT): All items are subject to a 15 percent GCT, which is based on the CIF (cost, insurance, and freight) plus duty value. It is collected at the point of entry.
  - Stamp Tax: An additional tax of between 65 and 90 percent is applied on the duty-paid value of imports of animal and plant products.
- Common External Tariff (CET): Tariffs for other than CARICOM (Caribbean Common Market) members range from 0 to 40 percent.
- Average tariff rates for wood products in 2000 were about 11 percent. Wood products are considered manufactured products, which are subject to a maximum tariff of 20 percent.

## Non-Tariff Barriers:

- Cumbersome bureaucratic procedures hinder trade:
  - Clearance by custom broker for imports over \$5,000 in value.
  - Products imported for warehousing require formal entry certificate. Duties must be paid upon the goods leaving the warehouse.
  - Entry certificate requirements for Customs: Tax compliance certificate, commercial invoice, combined certificate of value and origin, declaration of value, bill of sight, and import permit, if required.
- Inadequate customs house and warehousing facilities.

# Jamaica

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## **Trends and Recent Developments:**

- In 1991, Jamaica implemented the CARICOM Common External Tariff (CET), and it reduced the CET levels to a maximum of 20 percent for most items as of January 1999.
- Standards, testing, labeling and certification: Products imported into Jamaica must meet the requirements of the Standard Act, the Processed Food Act, and the Weights and Measures Act.
- Imported goods must conform to the metric system.
- While lumber is an unrestricted product and does not require an import permit, it is recommended that exporters to Jamaica take the appropriate measures to assure a pest-free product. A phytosanitary certificate is also highly recommended for lumber exports, although it is not required.