

OVERVIEW OF SWEET POTATOES



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Overview on Sweet Potatoes

Jamaica's main importers of Sweet Potatoes are Canada, United Kingdom, and the Cayman Islands. Among them, Canada is the largest importer, accounting for 47% of the total exports during the period 2018-2022.

Table 1

Jamaica's Exports of Sweet Potatoes during the period 2018-2022

Year	Sweet Potatoes (fresh or naturally dried)			Sweet Potatoes (artificially dried)			Sweet Potatoes (nesoi, chilled or frozen)		
	Kg	CIF (JMD)	CIF (US)	Kg	CIF (JMD)	CIF (US)	Kg	CIF (JMD)	CIF (US)
2018	1,391,501.83	412,140,712.51	3,211,352.12	-	-	-	19,989.93	4,477,973.59	34,873.85
2019	1,342,410.31	506,617,007.46	3,793,795.47	5,697.80	2,557,489.48	19,006.85	12,859.84	3,910,372.80	29,714.31
2020	1,396,155.83	619,530,227.67	4,335,034.20	3,787.80	862,061.70	5,965.71	4,531.75	1,544,066.25	11,025.47
2021	1,475,514.33	560,398,330.72	3,717,847.06	182.00	56,043.44	363.26	414.00	202,769.35	1,317.25
2022	1,400,646.13	500,538,150.90	3,259,763.71	10,173.00	4,564,485.39	29,973.98	3,779.82	2,803,939.26	18,350.24
Total	7,006,228.43	2,599,224,429.25	18,317,792.55	19,840.60	8,040,080.02	55,309.81	41,575.34	12,939,121.26	95,281.12

Source: STATIN

Sweet Potatoes are exported as fresh or naturally dried, chilled or frozen and artificially dried. Notably, 99% or 7,006,228.43 kgs of Sweet Potatoes exported were fresh or naturally dried.

Table 2

Jamaica's Exports of Sweet Potatoes (Fresh or naturally dried) 2018-2022 (Summated).

Sweet Potatoes (Fresh or naturally dried)				
Partner Country	Quantity (Kg)	CIF (JMD)	CIF (USD)	% of Exports
Canada	3,264,428.89	\$ 1,191,184,568.21	\$ 8,359,858.94	46.59%
United Kingdom	2,800,392.12	\$ 1,080,246,513.91	\$ 7,667,930.01	39.97%
Cayman Islands	844,154.27	\$ 296,982,378.49	\$ 2,069,961.57	12.05%
United States of America	66,167.81	\$ 22,578,510.19	\$ 158,323.09	0.94%
Russian Federation	23,871.94	\$ 5,904,433.34	\$ 45,544.35	0.34%
France	2,186.20	\$ 755,472.31	\$ 5,042.62	0.03%
Guadeloupe	1,679.00	\$ 641,769.07	\$ 4,477.25	0.02%
Congo, Democratic Republic of (formerly Zaire)	1,021.60	\$ 489,407.64	\$ 3,335.80	0.01%
St. Maarten (Dutch part)	994.00	\$ 173,740.00	\$ 1,321.71	0.01%
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	530.40	\$ 113,476.62	\$ 875.39	0.01%
British Virgin Island	528.20	\$ 45,842.50	\$ 337.71	0.01%
Cote D'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)	138.00	\$ 52,942.28	\$ 398.72	0.002%
Cambodia (Democratic Kampuchea)	136.00	\$ 55,374.70	\$ 385.40	0.002%
Grand Total	7,006,228.43	\$ 2,599,224,429.25	\$ 18,317,792.55	

Source: STATIN

During the period 2018-2022, Canada accounted for 46.59% of the Jamaica's total Sweet Potatoes (Fresh or naturally dried) exports, followed by United Kingdom (39.97%) and the Cayman Islands (12.05%). These countries contributed a significant percentage to Jamaica's total Sweet Potatoes (Fresh or naturally dried) exports amounting to 98.61%.

Table 3

Jamaica's Exports of Sweet Potatoes (nesoi, chilled or frozen) during the period 2018-2022.

Sweet Potatoes (nesoi, chilled or frozen)				
Partner Country	Quantity (Kg)	CIF (JMD)	CIF (USD)	% of Exports
Canada	35,884.04	\$ 11,190,932.92	\$ 82,351.09	86.31%
Barbados	2,194.20	\$ 531,974.97	\$ 4,257.25	5.28%
United States of America	1,775.10	\$ 786,162.92	\$ 5,365.83	4.27%
United Kingdom	936.00	\$ 258,452.67	\$ 2,044.80	2.25%
St. Maarten (Dutch part)	604.00	\$ 131,290.00	\$ 990.36	1.45%
Cayman Islands	182.00	\$ 40,307.79	\$ 271.80	0.44%
Grand Total	41,575.34	\$ 12,939,121.26	\$ 95,281.12	

Source: STATIN

Canada is the largest importer of Jamaica's Sweet Potato (nesoi, chilled or frozen) accounting for 86.31% of the exports. Barbados is the second largest accounting for 5.28% of exports. During the period 2021-2022, the total value of Sweet Potato (nesoi, chilled or frozen) exports from Jamaica amounted to approximately US\$95,281.00.

Table 4

Jamaica's Exports of Sweet Potatoes (artificially dried) during the period 2018-2022.

Sweet Potatoes (artificially dried)				
Partner Country	Quantity (Kg)	CIF (JMD)	CIF (USD)	% of Exports
United Kingdom	17,250.46	\$ 7,245,061.91	\$ 49,713.24	86.95%
Canada	2,572.00	\$ 397,631.59	\$ 2,678.64	12.96%
United States of America	18.14	\$ 397,386.51	\$ 2,917.93	0.09%
Grand Total	19,840.60	\$ 8,040,080.02	\$ 55,309.81	

Source: STATIN

The United Kingdom is the largest importer, and accounted for 86.95% of the total exports, followed by Canada at 12.96%. Additionally, the United States of America had a minimal share in the exports. The total value of Sweet Potatoes (artificially dried) exports from Jamaica amounted to approximately US\$55,310.00.