



# Barbados Economic & Social Report 2019

Ministry of Finance, Economic Affairs & Investment



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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b> .....	1
<b>I INTERNATIONAL &amp; REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</b> .....	4
<b>II THE BARBADOS ECONOMY</b> .....	6
A. Gross Domestic Product .....	7
B. Balance of Payments .....	8
C. Fiscal Developments and Public Finances.....	10
D. Employment, Inflation and Labour Market .....	14
E. Money, Banking and Capital Markets.....	16
F. Sectoral Performance and Policy Development.....	20
i. Accommodation and Food Service Industry.....	20
ii. Manufacturing and Related Services Sector.....	24
iii. Agriculture and Fishing.....	26
iv. International Financial and Business Services.....	33
v. Construction.....	35
vi. Energy and Utilities.....	37
G. Small Business Development.....	40
H. Commerce and Consumer Affairs.....	42
<b>III SOCIAL SECTOR DEVELOPMENT</b> .....	45
A. Education and Training.....	45
B. Science and Technology.....	53
C. Culture Sector and Creative Industries.....	53
D. Population.....	54
E. Health.....	55
F. Social Protection.....	62
G. Public Administration, Defense and Social Security.....	82
H. Law and Order .....	84
I. Environment.....	86
<b>IV FOREIGN POLICY, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND AID</b> .....	93
A. Sustainable Development and the 2030 Agenda.....	93
B. International Trade Policy and Foreign Relations.....	94
C. Public Sector Investment Programme.....	97

D.	Official Development Assistance.....	98
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V	<b>ECONOMIC OUTLOOK FOR 2020.....</b>	<b>102</b>
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**LIST OF FIGURES**

<b>Figure 1.1</b>	Global GDP Growth: Actuals and Projections.....	4
<b>Figure 2.1</b>	Visible Trade Balance (2015- 2019) .....	9
<b>Figure 2.2</b>	Direction of Trade Imports for 2019 .....	9
<b>Figure 2.3</b>	Direction of Trade- Domestic Exports for 2019.....	9
<b>Figure 2.4</b>	Labour Force Trends in Barbados 2008-2019.....	15
<b>Figure 2.5</b>	Point To Point Inflation 2018-2019.....	15
<b>Figure 2.6</b>	Moving Average Inflation 2018-2019.....	16
<b>Figure 2.7</b>	Commercial Banks' Average Total Loans and Advances.....	17
<b>Figure 2.8</b>	Movements in The Level of Average Total Broad Money 2013-2019.....	18
<b>Figure 2.9</b>	Securities Exchange of Barbados.....	19
<b>Figure 2.10</b>	Root Crop Production ('000kgs)2018 -2019.....	30
<b>Figure 2.11</b>	Livestock and Dairy Products Imports ('000 kgs) 2018-2019.....	30
<b>Figure 2.12</b>	Extent of Damage Private Dwellings Houses 2015-2019.....	36
<b>Figure 2.13</b>	Extent of Damage Commercial Buildings 2015-2019.....	37
<b>Figure 2.14</b>	Securities Exchange of Barbados.....	42
<b>Figure 2.15</b>	Extent of Damage Private Dwellings Houses 2015-2019.....	38
<b>Figure 3.1</b>	Visits to the 24-Hour Service at Winston Scott Polyclinic July- Dec 2019.....	59
<b>Figure 3.2</b>	Abused Children by Age 2019.....	76
<b>Figure 3.3</b>	Vehicular Accidents Assisted 2015-2019.....	83
<b>Figure 3.4</b>	Total Reported Crimes 2017 to 2019.....	84

**LIST OF TABLES**

<b>Table 1.1-1</b>	Indicators of Economic Performance in Advanced Economies 2018-2019.....	5
<b>Table 2.2-1</b>	Balance of Payments (BOP) 2017-2019.....	8
<b>Table 2.3-1</b>	Fiscal Deficit Financing.....	12
<b>Table 2.5-1</b>	Index and Market Capitalization Year on Year 2018-2019.....	19
<b>Table 2.6-1</b>	Stayover Visitor Arrivals by Market 2018-2019.....	21
<b>Table 2.6-2</b>	Stayover Visitor Arrivals by Market-January-December 2018-2019.....	22
<b>Table 2.6-3</b>	Cruise Passenger Arrivals January-December 2018-2019.....	23
<b>Table 2.6-4</b>	Cruise Passenger Expenditure (US\$'000) January-December 2018-2019.....	24
<b>Table 2.6-5</b>	Total Registered Tourism Accommodation 2017-2019.....	24

<b>Table 2.6-6</b>	No. of Registered Bedrooms 2017-2019.....	24
<b>Table 2.6-7</b>	Special Technical Assistance Programme Disbursements 2018 and 2019.....	26
<b>Table 2.6-8</b>	Reported Investments (2018 and 2019).....	26
<b>Table 2.6-9</b>	Select Non-Traditional Domestic Exports.....	27
<b>Table 2.6-10</b>	Local Agricultural Production ('000 kgs) 2015-2019.....	28
<b>Table 2.6-11</b>	Statistics on the Sugar Cane Industry 2015-2019.....	28
<b>Table 2.6-12</b>	Production of Cotton 2014/15 – 2018/19.....	29
<b>Table 2.6-13</b>	Importation of Select Crops Commodities 2015-2019.....	31
<b>Table 2.6-14</b>	Corporate Tax Regime.....	35
<b>Table 2.6-15</b>	No. of Private Units and Commercial Property Completions 2015-2019 .....	36
<b>Table 2.6-16</b>	Facilitation of Job Creation by Fund Access by Category.....	42
<b>Table 2.6-17</b>	2019 Vehicle Import Licenses Issued.....	43
<b>Table 3.1-1</b>	Approved Education Expenditure 2015/16 to 2019/20.....	46
<b>Table 3.1-2</b>	Indicators Related to Expenditure on Education for 2019-2020.....	47
<b>Table 3.1-3</b>	Barbados Vocational Training Board Enrolment and Output of Skilled Manpower 2019.....	49
<b>Table 3.1-4</b>	CSSLC Examination Results 2019.....	51
<b>Table 3.1-5</b>	CSEC Examination Results June 2019.....	51
<b>Table 3.1-6</b>	CSEC Students June 2019.....	52
<b>Table 3.1-7</b>	CAPE Examination Results June 2019.....	52
<b>Table 3.1-8</b>	CAPE Students June 2019.....	53
<b>Table 3.4-1</b>	Births, Deaths and Infant Mortality 2013-2019.....	54
<b>Table 3.5-1</b>	Health Expenditure by Programme 2018/19 – 2019/20.....	56
<b>Table 3.5-2</b>	Expenditure on the Number of Prescriptions Filled 2008/09 – 2018/19.....	57
<b>Table 3.5-3</b>	Number of Visits by Clients to Child Guidance Clinic 2020.....	59
<b>Table 3.6-1</b>	Applications for Monetary Assistance 2018-2019.....	63
<b>Table 3.6-2</b>	Clyde Gollop Night Shelter Statistics for 2019.....	65
<b>Table 3.6-3</b>	Vulnerable Persons January to December 2019.....	67
<b>Table 3.6-4</b>	Monthly Occupancy at Child care Board's Residential Centres for 2019.....	71
<b>Table 3.6-5</b>	Monthly Discharges for 2019.....	72
<b>Table 3.6-6</b>	Cumulative Waiting List 2019.....	73
<b>Table 3.6-7</b>	Monthly Registration of Private Day Care Centres for 2019.....	74
<b>Table 3.6-8</b>	Abused Children by Sex 2019.....	77
<b>Table 3.6-9</b>	Referrals to Psychologist 2019.....	79
<b>Table 3.6-10</b>	List of Public Secondary Schools and their Corresponding T2S Participation	80
<b>Table 3.6-11</b>	Breakdown of Pit Eradication and Roof Retrofitting Pilot Project.....	80
<b>Table 3.7-1</b>	Classification of Fires from 2015-2019.....	85

<b>Table 3.8-1</b>	Selected Categories of Major Crimes 2017-2019.....	85
<b>Table 3.8-2</b>	Drug Crimes 2017 to 2019.....	85
<b>Table 3.8-3</b>	Financial Related Crimes 2017 to 2019.....	85
<b>Table 3.8-4</b>	Domestic Violence Reports to RBPF 2017-2019.....	85
<b>Table 3.8-5</b>	Categories of Firearm-Enabled Crimes 2017 to 2019.....	86
<b>Table 3.8-6</b>	Crimes against Tourist 2017 to 2019.....	86
<b>Table 3.9-1</b>	Building Development Applications Processed in 2019.....	89
<b>Table 3.9-2</b>	Complaints received by EPD in 2019.....	89

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The fiscal consolidation initiatives undertaken as part of the BERT Plan in the latter half of 2018 has been the driving force behind the positive changes in economic performance during the year 2019. All performance targets inclusive of the floor on the central government primary balance, the ceiling on public debt and the floor on net international reserves have been reached successfully. The primary fiscal balance improved from 3.5 per cent to 6.1 per cent at the end of fiscal year 2019/20, while debt declined to 116.7 per cent of GDP from a high of approximately 157.0 per cent in just over a year. The stock of international reserves increased substantially from a low of \$440 million in 2018 to approximately \$1.5 billion at the end of 2019 representing 18.6 weeks of import cover.

The improved fiscal outturn was largely attributed to four elements, including:

- i) the further expenditure savings through the debt restructuring initiative primarily as it relates to external creditors;
- ii) reduced transfers to state owned enterprises (SOEs) resulting in an improved central government expenditure budget;
- iii) the public sector attrition process, which contributed in part to expenditure savings on wages and salaries and fell by \$29.6 million; and
- iv) the implemented tax reforms which commenced in the latter part of 2018 placing emphasis on redirecting the incidence of the tax burden to non-residents and away from home-based companies and again away from production towards wealth and consumption.

These reforms underpinned the attainment of the 6.0 per cent primary balance target set within the BERT Plan.

Contributing to the reduction of the debt in fiscal year 2019/20 was the successful external debt restructuring initiative in which, on October 18, 2019, an exchange offer agreement was reached with external creditors. This achievement came virtually one year after the exchange offer agreement with domestic creditors on October 14, 2018.

Government's agreement with the external creditors featured: i) a 26.0 per cent haircut on original principal, past due and accrued interest; ii) the issuance of a new long-term debt instrument with a 10-year maturity; iii) a five-year grace period with a 6.5 per cent interest rate; and iv) a US\$40 million re-payment comprising US\$7.5 million in cash and US\$32.5 million in short-term bonds maturing in 2021, bearing a 6.5 per cent interest coupon during the period 2019-2021.

Included in the external debt restructuring was the Credit Suisse facility, which, did not have a 'collective action mechanism' to deal with holdout creditors, but within the negotiation process attained a 100 per cent participation in the debt restructuring by investors of this facility. Overall, the participation rate for the external debt restructuring initiative was on average 93.0 per cent. On December 11, 2019, the transaction with external creditors closed with full creditor participation.

On reaching the external debt restructuring milestone Barbados' country credit rating was upgraded from select default (SD) to stable (B-) by the Standards and Poor's credit rating agency.

Notwithstanding the achievements obtained from the home-grown economic adjustment plan, aggregate spending in the

economy was impacted resulting in a decline in the total output for goods and services. The economy hence registered a marginal decline in aggregate output by 1.3 per cent. The fact that the global economy also slowed during the review period was another factor contributing to the negative growth outturn. For the most part, the government related sub-sectoral national accounts variables, which cumulatively, accounts for a 9.0 per cent share of total real GDP, together accounted for a 14.5 per cent decline in real output. Outside the public sector performance, the financial services and agricultural subsectors registered the largest decline in output of around 5.0 and 4.5 per cent respectively.

This growth outturn, however, was offset by the attainment of the sizable 6.1 per cent primary surplus which created the necessary buffer to pay down on outstanding debt, placing it on a clear downward trajectory. This in-effect reduced the pressure on the central bank to finance government operations through debt monetisation.

Despite the overall downturn in the economy, there were a few subsectors registering increased growth output namely: the mining and quarrying subsector by 17.4 per cent, the accommodation and food services sector by 2.8 per cent and personal services by 2.4 per cent. However, it was the accommodation and food services sector and the real estate sector which contributed more significantly to offsetting the negative growth outturn given the sectors share size of total economic output, which when combined accounts for 25.0 per cent of total real GDP.

During the year 2019, the current account deficit narrowed substantially, and its financing improved supported by the fiscal adjustment. The deficit which had reached \$256.2 million at the end of the year, was the lowest recorded since 2000. Domestic export trade declined, this was significantly offset by a reduction in import demand owing to the fiscal consolidation

efforts and lower international oil and food prices. Increased tourism travel lead to an improved service balance.

The capital and financial account improved significantly, resulting from significant inflows from policy and project-based loans. These funding provisions were catalysed on account of the IMF supported home-grown programme and boosted foreign-reserve holdings.

The inflation rate rose on average to 4.1 per cent despite a relatively benign price environment characterised by stable global energy and food prices and the removal of the National Social Responsibility Levy in July 2018. However, there were progressive increases in the utilities, transport and fuel price indices during the first half of the year. The incremental increases follow the adjustment in import tax on fuel products which were imposed since July 2018 and the introduction of the garbage and sewerage contribution levy which came into effect in August 2019. These measures in addition to the prevailing drought conditions lead to the incremental food prices over the latter half of 2019.

The unemployment rate rose slightly to 10.1 per cent with unemployment among males increasing to 11.6 per cent from the previous year's record of 8.4 per cent while unemployment among females reduced to 8.5 per cent from 11.0 per cent. Male unemployment was progressively higher than female unemployment due to differences in gender contribution to economic activity. Sectors commonly associated with male employment experienced the major business challenges during the year.

During 2019, unemployment increased predominantly within the following sub-sectors: - construction, mining and quarrying by 2.5 per cent; accommodation and food services by 2.1 per cent; and wholesale and retail trade by 1.5 per cent. Within the central government subsector, unemployment rose by 0.4 per cent following the continued retrenchment



process during the first half of the year. The major portion of this exercise was conducted within the last quarter of 2018.

Retrenchment from within the wider public sector during 2019 came about from the need to streamline more efficient operations within state owned enterprises and foster greater output efficiency per worker, however, the target outcomes were not realised.

At the end of the year 2019 the resident population was estimated at 272.2 thousand persons. This represented a decrease of 1,204 persons when compared with 273.5 thousand persons at the end of 2018. This was largely attributed to a slightly lower birth rate compared to the rate deaths. Real GDP per capita declined slightly by 1.02 per cent to register BDS\$29.1 thousand (US \$14.6 thousand) compared with BDS \$29.4 thousand (US\$14.7 thousand) in 2018. The reduced real income reflects in part, the softened demand conditions emanating from the structural measures of the BERT plan which tempered the working population's income generation expectations.

Government in its effort to stabilize and preserve the social fabric of the society announced a number of initiatives to safeguard the most vulnerable in its June 2018 budget. Strategic policy emphasis was placed on fostering an enabling environment for the continued development in the areas of education, health, and the establishment of social safety-net programmes.

In the area of education, Government's plan to restore the payment of tuition fees for nationals in the September 2018 first semester continued to bear positive results. By the end of August 2019, tentative student enrolment at the Cave Hill Campus of the University of the West Indies

recorded a ten (10) per cent increase over 2018 figures to reach a total of 4,839 undergraduate and postgraduate students. Of this amount 440 were pursuing graduate programs. This outturn followed years of decline subsequent to the 2014 policy decision to have nationals pay their own tuition fees.

The national health care system was augmented to bolster access to healthcare services for all nationals. In this regard, two polyclinics – the David Thompson Health and Social Services Complex and the Winston Scott Polyclinic, introduced 24-hour operational services on July 1, 2019. This effectively allowed for greater accesses to the provision of health care services to the public especially the poor and vulnerable.

The government through the Ministry of People Empowerment and Elder Affairs continued to provide critical safety-net provisions for the vulnerable members of the society who were in need of immediate financial assistance for various purposes. The National Pit Eradication and Roof Retrofitting Project was also introduced as a means to empower persons living in poverty conditions, affording them the opportunity to experience a more suitable and equitable standard of living. Additionally, the government through the Strengthening Human and Social Development programme sought to address inter-generational poverty and unemployment by strengthening the social safety net services provided to families under extreme poverty, at the same time, it also expanded the Identification, Stabilisation, Enablement and Empowerment (ISEE) Bridge programme to two hundred and fifty (250) households.

## I. INTERNATIONAL & REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Economic growth globally had been decelerating since 2017; with the incidence of rising geopolitical tensions and the onset of the US-China trade-war in 2018, growth conditions had deteriorated. The effects of the geopolitical tensions and trade-war carried over to the year 2019, leading to a lower than expected growth outturn of 2.8 percent. This was down from the forecasted 3.5 per cent by the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The uncertainty which characterized the global market conditions prompted businesses to curtail long-term expenditure to safeguard short-term business investments.

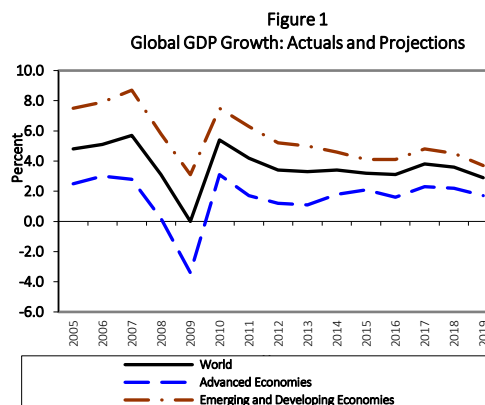
Distinctive strains in essential emerging markets continued to place pressure on global economic activity, predominantly in manufacturing and trade. Notwithstanding these developments, during the latter part of 2019 some signs of stabilisation emerged pointing to enhanced growth prospects in consumer and business activity.

The price of crude oil fluctuated between US\$44 and US\$66 a barrel in 2019. According to the World Bank, this was the result of a weak global growth outlook as well as the US overachieving oil production levels. This represented a fall in oil prices per barrel from mid to late 2018. However, at the beginning of 2019, oil prices rose gradually to US\$66 a barrel before fluctuating for the rest of the year.

### Advanced Economies

The advanced economies suffered from slow growth especially in the U.S. Even though unemployment rates were at record lows and the number of created jobs were on the rise, core consumer price inflation were subdued.

In Europe especially Germany, car production fell due to new emission standards which caused delays in production



Source: Global GDP Growth: Actual and Projections

schedules as manufacturers sought to recalibrate to strike a balance between consumer preferences and new emission requirements. Concerns about BREXIT continued to affect investment spending throughout Europe and retail prices and consumption in France were affected by the constant street protests.

In the Far East, Japan's economic growth was severely weakened by natural disasters most notably a large earthquake in September and several severe typhoons shortly after that damaged airports and the transport infrastructure in Western Japan. Overall, uncertainty among the countries in terms of policy and the rigors of countries in negotiating and reaching agreements hindered growth in advanced economies.

### Emerging and Developing Economies

The US-China trade war continued to take its toll on emerging and developing economies due to the retaliatory adjustments of import tariffs between the two countries. Real GDP growth of emerging economies fell to 3.7 per cent on average over the review period. In addition, rising interest rates contributed significantly to the fiscal ramifications suffered by these economies.

**TABLE 1.1-1**  
**Indicators of Economic Performance in Advanced Economies**  
**2018 – 2019**

Country	Real GDP (% change)		Unemployment Rate (Annual Avg.) (% change)		Consumer Price Index (% change)	
	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019
<b>Advanced Economies</b>						
United States	3.0	2.2	3.9	3.9	2.4	1.8
Japan	0.6	0.3	2.4	2.4	1.0	0.5
Germany	1.3	0.6	3.4	3.2	1.9	1.4
U.K	1.3	1.4	4.0	3.8	2.5	1.8
Canada	2.4	1.9	5.9	6.1	2.3	1.9
<b>Emerging &amp; Developing Economies</b>						
Latin America & the Caribbean	1.2	0.2	N/A	N/A	6.6	7.7
Sub-Saharan Africa	3.2	3.2	N/A	N/A	8.4	8.5
Emerging & Developing Europe	3.4	2.4	N/A	N/A	6.4	6.6

SOURCE: IMF World Economic Outlook 2018 and 2019 ILO World Employment Social Outlook 2019

High debt and slow economic growth along with restrained commodity prices and civil conflict in Latin America, the Middle East and North Africa were the cause of the subdued economic performance overall in the emerging economies.

Growth is expected to strengthen in Europe due to a robust Russian economy as well as enhanced growth prospects in the economies of Central and Eastern Europe. Rising wages coupled with domestic demand were the catalysts for several European countries experiencing growth.

The emerging economies in Latin America were impacted severely from weak investment and social unrest. Investment was weak especially in Mexico where private consumption was fragile. Pension and other structural reforms in Brazil marked an important step toward addressing critical concerns of policy uncertainty, but on its own will not be sufficient to stabilize the government debt burden. Venezuela's economy suffered greatly as a result of severe humanitarian crisis with food and medical supplies shortages.

### Regional Developments

The continuing US-China trade war and tensions in the Middle East, trickled down to the regional economy in 2019. The value of regional trade fell due to growing substitution of imports and higher tariffs. Export and import prices in the region also fell by 2.1 per cent while economic growth on average slowed to 1.0 per cent in 2019 from 1.6 per cent in 2018. There were several fiscal challenges due to high debt to GDP ratios and although it fell in 10 countries specifically Barbados, Grenada, Jamaica and Saint Kitts and Nevis; the debt level still remained above 60 per cent of GDP. Some countries experienced positive externalities as a result of lower commodity prices buoyed by strong demand particularly in Jamaica and The Bahamas.

Economic activity in several countries, especially in The Bahamas after hurricane Dorian, gradually recovered as a result of the hurricane reconstruction. Guyana experienced strong economic growth caused from robust gold prices and revenue from oil extraction. Tourism advanced in almost every country, St. Kitts & Nevis and the Cayman Islands in particular registered double-digit percentage increases.

## II. THE BARBADOS ECONOMY

### Overview

The Barbados Economic Recovery and Transformation (BERT) Plan, being Barbados' principle structural adjustment guide during the latter half of 2018 and over the medium-term planning horizon; has been the strategic framework underpinning the positive changes in economic performance during the year 2019. The BERT Plan, which is supported by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) under an Extended Fund Facility (EFF) programme, aimed to reduce the fiscal deficit and overall debt down to a sustainable level while rebuilding foreign reserves and restoring growth.

Since the commencement of the plan, the Government of Barbados met all performance targets marking progress in the key economic fundamentals of the country. The primary fiscal balance improved from 3.5 per cent to 6.1 per cent at the end of fiscal year 2019/20, while debt declined to 116.7 per cent of GDP from a high of just approximately 157.0 per cent in just over a year. The stock of international reserves increased substantially from a low of \$440 million in 2018 to approximately \$1.5 billion at the end of 2019 representing 18.6 weeks of import cover.

The fiscal outturn in particular was largely attributed to: 1) expenditure savings derived through the debt restructuring initiative; 2) reduced transfers within the central government expenditure budget as a result of state owned enterprises (SOE) reform initiatives; 3) expenditure savings from the public sector attrition process and 4) the implementation of tax reforms which served to redirect the incidence of the tax burden to non-residents and away from companies and again away from production towards wealth and consumption.

During fiscal year 2019/20 the Government of Barbados successfully reached an exchange offer agreement with external creditors on October 18, 2019. This achievement came virtually one year after the exchange offer agreement with domestic creditors on October 14, 2018. Government's agreement with the external creditors featured: i) a 26.0 per cent haircut on original principal, past due and accrued interest; ii) the issuance of a new long-term debt instrument with a 10-year maturity; iii) a five-year grace period with a 6.5 per cent interest rate; and iv) a US\$40 million repayment comprising US\$7.5 million in cash and US\$32.5 million in short-term bonds maturing in 2021, bearing a 6.5 per cent interest coupon during the period 2019-2021.

The successful fiscal developments played a modest role in promoting enhanced macroeconomic management in 2019 resulting in Barbados' country credit rating being upgraded from select default (SD) to stable (B-) based on the Standards and Poor's rating rubric.

Notwithstanding these achievements the economy registered a marginal decline of 1.3 per cent in real GDP output growth largely due to the subdued economic environment emanating from the increased fiscal tightening and the slow-down in global growth conditions. This outturn, however, was offset by achieving debt sustainability on the public debt accounts, which in effect created sufficient room to embark on growth inducing capital works programmes, particularly those geared towards infrastructural development.

The structural adjustment measures of the BERT plan however, tempered growth expectations and contributed to a decline in aggregate output by 1.3 per cent. During the year in review the financial services

subsectors coupled with the combined national accounts public sector elements were the major subsectors contributing to the negative growth outturn. Despite the downturn there were a few subsectors registering increased output when compared to the previous year namely: mining and quarrying; accommodation and food services and personal services.

Inflation on average rose to 4.1 per cent despite a relatively benign price environment characterised by stable global energy prices and food prices. The unemployment rate rose slightly to 10.1 per cent on account of the continued austerity measures, surrounding the restructuring of the SOEs. Real GDP per capita declined slightly by 1.0 per cent to register \$29.1 thousand reflecting in part the underlying demand and income generation conditions which were tempered as a result of the structural adjustment measures of the BERT Plan.

## **A. Gross Domestic Product Performance**

### **REAL SECTOR**

Real economic activity at the end of the year was estimated to have declined by 1.3 per cent, on account of the subdued global economic environment and the fiscal tightening as outlined in the BERT Plan. For the most part the government related subsectoral national accounts variables, which cumulatively, accounts for a 9 per cent share of total real GDP, registered a decline of 14.5 per cent.

Notwithstanding the estimated decline in public sector output the financial services and agricultural subsectors registered the largest decline of around 5.0 and 4.5 per cent respectively. These subsectors together with the business

services and transportation subsectors contributed to the overall negative growth outturn.

The mining and quarrying subsectors grew substantially by 17.4 per cent, while the accommodation and food services and the personal services registered 2.8 per cent and 2.4 per cent growth. However, it was the accommodation and food services sector and the real estate sector which contributed more significantly to offsetting the negative growth outturn given their share size to total economic output, which when combined accounts for 25.0 per cent of total real GDP.

In light of the global environment and the domestic structural adjustment programme the overall output performance compares relatively similar to the last major period of fiscal adjustment which took place in the latter part of 2013. The output performance then was also influenced by the mining and quarrying subsectors, however, the public related subsectors (for the most part) continued to register positive growth along with the real estate sector while the ICT and the accommodation and food services subsector drove the negative outturn.

### **EXPENDITURE ON GDP**

In 2019, the Gross Domestic Product at market prices registered a marginal increase in economic growth by 3.4 per cent to reach an estimated \$10,595.9 million when compared with the \$10,245.8 million recorded a year earlier.

Consumption expenditure over the review period increased by 0.5 per cent to \$8,825.1 million on account of increased personal consumption which expanded by 1.2 per cent. Government expenditure, however, which was on the decline for the past two years declined by 3.6 per cent in 2019.

Gross capital formation following three years of decline, grew by 6.2 per cent in 2019 reaching a total output of \$1,543.5 million. This outturn was attributed to a significant increase in investment spending in machinery and equipment and building infrastructure following a sharp fall-off in 2018 by approximately 6.7 per cent.

Over the years the expenditure gap between exports and imports (both inclusive of goods and services) has narrowed gradually year on year. Prior to 2016, the reduction in the expenditure gap was driven by lower import expenditures while post 2016 the growth was influenced primarily by expanded foreign market demand. During 2019, Barbados recorded its lowest net export balance (*in GDP terms*) in over ten years. However, this overall outturn was more reflective of the suppressed domestic demand conditions which tempered import demand, as exports, though rising just above 2013 figures are yet to rise above the pre-financial-crisis levels.

#### PER CAPITA INCOME

The real income per person (Real GDP per capita) declined slightly by 1.02 per cent to register BDS\$29.1 thousand (US \$14.6 thousand) compared with BDS \$29.4 thousand (US\$14.7 thousand) in 2018. The reduced real income reflects in part, underlying growth trends in consumer prices which resurged in the latter half of the year. In addition, the external economic environment coupled with the fiscal restraint of the BERT plan, while together have softened demand conditions domestically – would have also tempered income generation even if moderately.

### B. Balance Of Payments

During the year 2019, the current account deficit contracted substantially as tourism services improved. Both imports and exports fell, with the former declining at a faster rate, thus resulting in some

improvement on the overall trade balance as well.

The current account deficit which had reached to \$256.2 million at the end of the year was the lowest record registered since 2000.

Notwithstanding a fall-off in overall export trade, this was significantly offset by a reduction in imports which was primarily attributed to lower international oil and food prices combined with lower import demand conditions. The lower imports were brought about by the cumulative impact of the fiscal consolidation measures which were undertaken over the past few years.

Over the review period, travel credit strengthened on account of increased tourist arrivals and the imposition of a 2.5 per cent room rate levy leading to an improved service balance which was up by 13.6 per cent. However, foreign direct investment flows remained subdued as large construction projects in the pipeline have yet to commence operations.

**TABLE 2.2-1**  
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

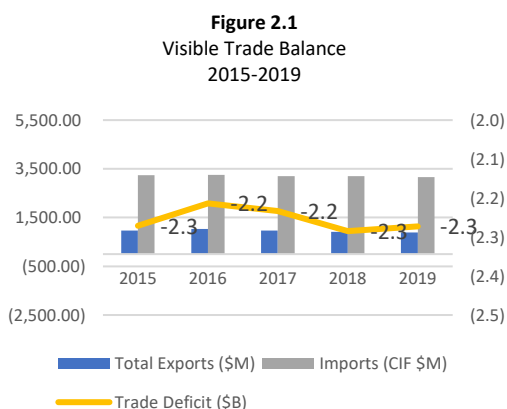
	2017	2018	2019
Current Account	- 380.9	- 402.9	- 256.3
Total Exports (fob)	970.8	895.9	888.2
Imports (CIF)	3,200.3	3,155.5	3,003.7
Services (Net)	1,577.3	1,626.0	1,847.0
of which Tourism	2,055.7	2,112.6	2427.3
Income	- 447.8	- 479.6	533.8
Transfers	- 75.9	- 80.9	- 91.6
Capital and Financial Account	322.8	959.3	787.4
Overall Surplus/Deficit	- 228.5	588.1	481.4

Source: Central Bank of Barbados

The balance of payments support provided by the IMF working in conjunction with policy-based loans from international financial institutions namely, the Caribbean Development Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank, together with the commercial external debt service moratorium, helped sustained a healthy net capital and financial account balance ending the year at \$787.4 million representing 48.9 per cent over the average five-year balance.

**DIRECTION OF TRADE**

The trade deficit for 2019 remained relatively constant at 2.3 per cent which is on par with the average over the last five years and is reflective of a relatively stable trade environment. While there was a marginal

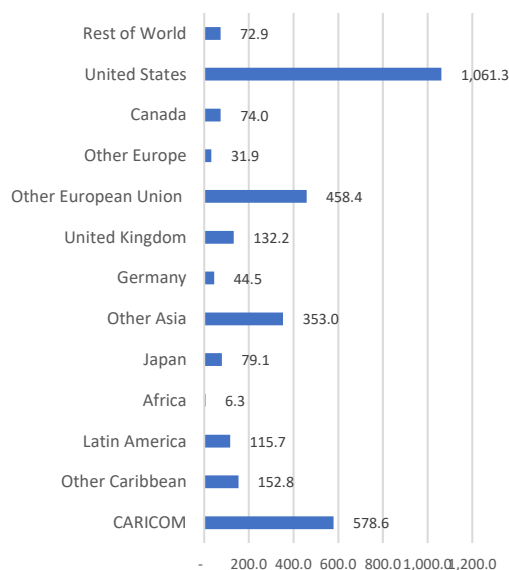


Source: Barbados Statistical Service

increase in domestic export trade by 0.2 per cent, total imports declined by 1.2 per cent.

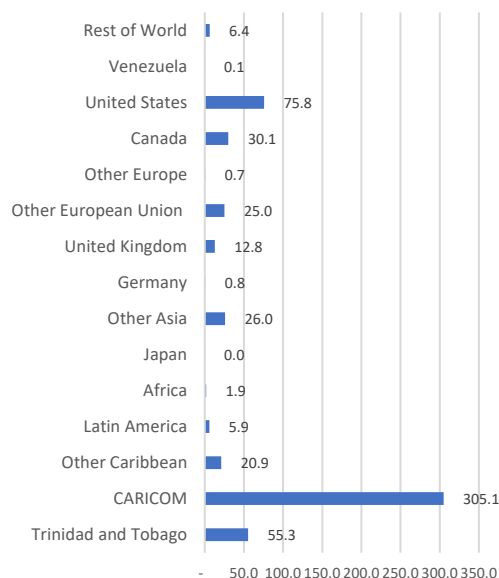
The fall-off in import activity was registered in the majority of source markets with Trinidad and Tobago accounting for the largest decline by an estimated 16.8 per cent, representing a \$96.3 million decrease in purchases. Supplies from CARICOM in general fell by 12.5 per cent (82.5 million). Other major source markets such as the USA also fell by 0.9 per cent, however import supplies from the United Kingdom remained

**Figure 2.2**  
2019  
Direction of Trade  
Imports (\$M)



Source: Barbados Statistical Service

**Figure 2.3**  
2019  
Direction of Trade  
Domestic Exports (\$M)



Source: Barbados Statistical Service

relatively constant while Canada grew by 8.9 per cent.

Barbados' major export market continued to be the CARICOM region climbing to a 59.7 per cent share of total domestic exports from a 57.9 per cent share recorded a year earlier. However, this outturn was primarily as a result of a decline in demand from the majority of the country's external supply markets. Trinidad and Tobago, the country's major export market regionally, registered a 34.8 per cent decline; this in effect softened the CARICOM region's export growth to 3.1 per cent. The USA, being the second largest export market outside of CARICOM, declined by 10.6 per cent while Canada increased by 21.6 per cent. Other external markets registering growth in the European and Asian territories accounted for a mere \$4.79 million in additional foreign currency earnings.

### **International Reserves (NIR)**

During 2019 the stock of foreign reserves increased to approximately \$1.5 billion representing a 48.2 per cent growth (or \$481.4 million increase). This growth was buoyed by the reduced debt service following: the moratorium on commercial external debt; the continued official inflows from the IMF and other international financial institutions; and increased flows from commercial banks to the Central Bank of Barbados. The international reserves now stand at 18.6 weeks, up from the 12.8 weeks registered a year prior.

## **C. Fiscal Developments and Public Finances**

### **FISCAL DEVELOPMENTS**

Following the June 2018 budget reformulation process which set and attained a primary balance target of 3.5 per cent of

GDP by March 2019, the Government of Barbados introduced the Barbados Economic Recovery Transformation (BERT) plan which was launched officially in October 2018. The plan outlined, inter alia, a number of revenue enhancing and expenditure reduction measures aimed at addressing the fiscal vulnerabilities brought about by the high debt and large fiscal deficits over the years. Tax reforms in particular, aimed to redirect the incidence of the tax burden to non-resident companies and away from home-based companies. Also, taxation was redirected away from production and towards wealth and consumption.

Reforms to public expenditures under the BERT plan were geared towards three primary areas i) further expenditure savings through the debt restructuring initiative involving external creditors ii) achieving effective resource mobilization among State Owned Enterprises (SOEs) thereby reducing transfers to these agencies and iii) continued public sector attrition.

These reforms underpinned the attainment of the 6.0 per cent primary balance target set within the BERT Plan.

### **PUBLIC FINANCES**

#### **CURRENT REVENUE**

The tax reforms outlined in the BERT plan continued to bear fruit throughout the 2019/20 fiscal year period though there was a shortfall in overall tax revenues compared to initial budgetary projections. This shortfall for the most part was due to the net effect of the tax refunds on key income categories such as income tax, corporation tax and Value Added Tax (VAT). The debt restructuring undertaken in the last quarter of 2018 had also impacted private sector profits, especially within the financial sector, and hence resulted in lower than expected corporate tax receipts.



Though tax revenues fell short of budgetary expectations by 3.6 per cent, year on year comparisons show an improved 1.1 per cent outturn. The implementation of new tax measures played a critical role in contributing to the pool of resources. The fuel tax levy yielded a further \$13.5 million. Land tax receipts increased by 33.5 per cent (\$49.4 million) owing to slight adjustments to the rates charged on higher-valued property bands. VAT strengthened by 2.8 per cent (\$26.0 million) on account of an expanded tax base brought about by changes to select services and supplies being converted from 'zero-rated' to exempt supplies. This adjustment served to reduce refund claims by corporations and improved net VAT receipts.

By the end of fiscal year 2019/20 the corporate income tax regime registered lower tax receipts. This was attributed to the policy decision to converge corporate tax rates for international business companies (IBCs) and domestic companies. Corporate taxes on domestic companies were reduced from a nominal 30 per cent to 5 per cent (or less) depending on the level of taxable income. IBCs and International Societies with Restricted Liability (ISRLs) not holding intellectual property (IP) and licensed before 17 October 2017 qualified for the '*grandfathering*' or retention of previous rates until 30 June 2021. The applicable tax rate for the grandfathered entities, for taxable income in excess of US\$ 15 million, will now be 1.0 per cent in line with the minimum convergence rate.

Corporate tax revenues during this period increased by \$216 million as a result of, the higher tax rate on international business companies whose revenues were derived solely from foreign exchange earning activities based on higher profits obtained from the previous year. The overall corporate revenue intake however, was offset by lower collections from domestic firms given the corporate tax reform which

came into effect at the beginning of the year 2019.

Non-tax revenues continued to provide a meaningful fillip to treasury funds despite the repeal of the National Social Responsibility Levy (NSRL) in 2018. During fiscal year 2019/20 higher collections were registered on the room rate levy, direct tourism services (which were new taxes introduced under the BERT Plan), and the foreign exchange fee; these helped offset the loss from the NSRL. Notably the foreign exchange fee which increased by 6.6 per cent benefited from the increased availability of foreign exchange now available post the implementation of the BERT plan.

Three new fees which were introduced in 2018, as part of the structural adjustment agenda, provided an important fillip to SOEs as these resources were transferred directly to the agencies delivering the associated services, enabling government to lower transfers significantly. Fees on Airline Travel and Tourism Development collected on airline passengers amounted to \$82.9 million and transferred to the tourism agencies; collections on the Health Service Contribution levy registered \$69.2 million and were transferred to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital; and the Garbage and Sanitation Contribution collected to the tune of \$69.9 million was transferred to the Sanitation Services Authority.

### **Expenditures**

During fiscal year 2019/20 expenditures reduced significantly owing to the enhanced domestic resource mobilization framework surrounding state owned enterprises (SOEs) and the successful conclusion of the external debt restructuring initiative.

The structural reform efforts of SOEs were subject to an enhanced domestic resource mobilization framework which included: i) an enhanced monitoring and oversight mechanism which required regular

**Table 2.3-1**  
Fiscal Deficit Financing

	\$M				
Year	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
<b>Total Financing Requirement</b>	<b>1618.9</b>	<b>1415.5</b>	<b>1445.5</b>	<b>373.6</b>	<b>-65.3</b>
<b>Foreign Financing</b>	<b>297.6</b>	<b>141.3</b>	<b>141.3</b>	<b>439.0</b>	<b>233</b>
<b>Project Financing</b>	297.6	141.3	141.3	439.0	233
Inter-American	-	-	-	-	-
Development Bank (IADB)	50.1	38.5	38.5	238.2	56.8
World Bank (IBRD)	-	-	-	-	-
Caribbean Development Bank	10.2	3.9	3.9	171.7	172.6
Corporación Andina de					
Formento					
(CAF)	-	-	-	10.9	3.6
Citibank	87.3	30.9	30.9	-	-
European Investment Bank	-	-	-	-	-
European Development Fund	-	-	-	-	-
Other Projects	-	-	-	-	-
Republic of China	-	-	68.0	18.2	0
<b>Non-Project Financing</b>	-	-	-	-	-
Foreign Commercial	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Domestic Financing</b>	<b>1273.0</b>	<b>1292.5</b>	<b>1306.1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-298.3</b>
Government Savings Bonds	90.0	40.0	40.0	-	-
Debentures	800.0	425.0	350.0	-	-
Tax Reserve Certificates	-	-	-	-	-
Tax Refund Certificates	-	-	-	-	-
Treasury Bills	383.0	377.5	616.1	-	-
Treasury Notes	-	450.0	300.0	-	-
Other Domestic	-	-	-	-	-
Arrears	-	-	-	-	-298.3
<b>Total Financing</b>	<b>1570.6</b>	<b>1433.8</b>	<b>1447.4</b>	<b>439.0</b>	<b>-</b>

SOURCE: Ministry of Finance, Economic Affairs and Investment

job retrenchment, mergers and enfranchisement through divestment (in particular SOE supplier contracts with the Barbados Water Authority and the Sanitation Service Authority were renegotiated); iii) restructuring of SOE debt and iv) improved user-fees and the generation of new fees where applicable. These measures in conjunction with the new user-fees, which came into effect late 2018, helped to significantly reduce public transfers by 20.0 per cent representing \$243.7 million in savings. Grants to public institutions alone registered a record reduction of \$243.0 million.

The completion of the external debt restructuring in November 2019, helped to reduce government expenditures substantially by \$135 million representing a 35.1 per cent decline. To this end, gross financing needs were also reduced significantly.

#### **FINANCING**

Over the course of fiscal year 2019/20 the government of Barbados' fiscal performance has been robust and required no new deficit financing as the overall public balance is in surplus. To this end, financing by the Central Bank of Barbados has been significantly moderated and funding provided by the IMF in support of the BERT plan sought primarily to stabilise and facilitate the long-term recovery of the foreign reserves. Funding from these institutions amounted to \$233.0 million with the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) providing \$172.6 million of the financing provision during the fiscal year.

The strong fiscal outturn was complimented by amendments to the Financial Management and Audit Act as well as the Central Bank Act in late 2018. In particular, the limit of the Government's overdraft facility – the ways and means account at the Central Bank – has been reduced from 10.0 per cent to 7.5 per cent of

net receipts of estimated revenue. Secondly, the right of the Central Bank to hold unlimited secondary securities to 10.0 per cent of government's expenditure.

#### **NATIONAL DEBT**

The strong implementation of the BERT Plan enabled the Government of Barbados to achieve significant progress in reducing the overall stock of debt. At the end of fiscal year 2019/20 total outstanding debt including public sector arrears declined to 116.7 per cent of GDP from a high of approximately 157.0 per cent recorded in just over a year. This debt net of arrears equates to approximately 114.4 per cent of GDP for fiscal year 2019/20 and about 119 per cent of GDP in fiscal year 2018/19.

Contributing to the reduction of the debt in 2019/20 was the successful external debt restructuring initiative in which an agreement was reached with external creditors on a debt exchange offer October 18, 2019. This achievement came just about one year after the agreement with domestic creditors which was reached on October 14, 2018.

On the eve of the restructuring, external debt to private creditors amounted to about 16.0 percent of GDP and consisted of a few Eurobond issuances, along with a Credit Suisse loan facility (i.e. a facility arranged by Credit Suisse, with participation by other investors). The Eurobonds had been issued with collective action clauses (CACs) at 75 percent participation, however, the Credit Suisse facility did not have a mechanism in place to mobilise by obligation the participation of holdout creditors. In the construct of the Credit Suisse facility, the interest payable on the loan was contingent on Barbados' credit rating. These interest payments therefore increased significantly over the years, with the numerous downgrades, reaching 12 percent at end-2017. Barbados' Eurobonds had been issued earlier (the most recent one in 2010), at rates

between 6½ and 8 percent. Several external investors held positions both in the Eurobonds and in the Credit Suisse arrangement.

Government's agreement with the external creditors featured:

- i) a 26.0 per cent haircut on original principal, past due and accrued interest;
- ii) the issuance of a new long-term debt instrument with a 10-year maturity;
- iii) a five-year grace period with a 6.5 per cent interest rate; and
- iv) a US\$40 million re-payment comprising US\$7.5 million in cash and US\$32.5 million in short-term bonds maturing in 2021, bearing a 6.5 per cent interest coupon during the period 2019-2021.

The participation rate for the external debt restructuring was on average 93.0 per cent. Included within the external debt restructuring was the Credit Suisse facility, which, did not have a collection action mechanism to deal with holdout creditors, but registered a 100 per cent participation in the debt restructuring by investors of this facility. On December 11, 2019, the transaction with external creditors closed with full creditor participation. On this same day, as a result of the completion of the external debt exchange, Barbados' foreign currency sovereign credit rating was revised upwards from selective default to B- by Standard and Poor's.

## **D. Employment, Inflation and the Labour Market**

### **UNEMPLOYMENT**

The unemployment rate rose to 10.1 per cent in 2019 from 9.7 per cent in 2018,

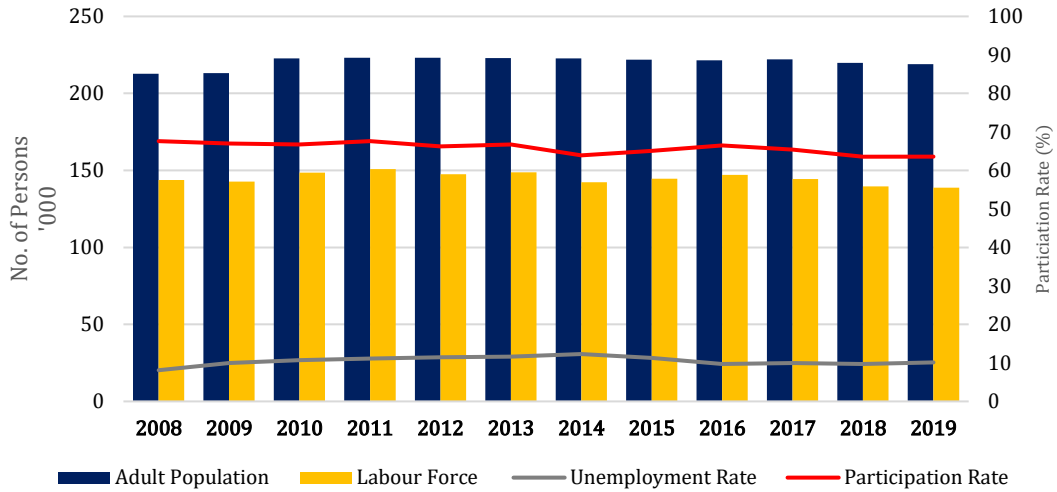
with unemployment among males increased to 11.6 per cent from the previous year's record of 8.4 per cent while unemployment among females reduced to 8.5 per cent from 11.0 per cent. By the end of the year 2019 the total employed labour force was estimated at 124.8 thousand, just 1.1 per cent lower compared to the previous year. The trend in the employed labour force over the past four years has been marked by a progressive downward movement reflecting in part lower labour participation rates. This may signal underlying structural weaknesses within the job market which is evidenced by the deteriorating job market conditions in various sub-sectors other than the public service.

During 2019 unemployment increased predominantly within the following sub-sectors: - Construction, mining and quarrying by 2.5 per cent; Accommodation and Food Services by 2.1 per cent; and wholesale and retail trade by 1.5 per cent. Unemployment rose within central government only rose by 0.4 per cent as the major portion of the retrenchment exercising was conducted within the last quarter of 2018. Further retrenchment from within the wider public sector - i.e. state-owned enterprises - came about in 2019 in an effort to streamline more efficient operations resulting in a reduction in transfers to public enterprises and fostering greater output efficiency per worker by output, however, the target outcomes were not realised.

### **INFLATION**

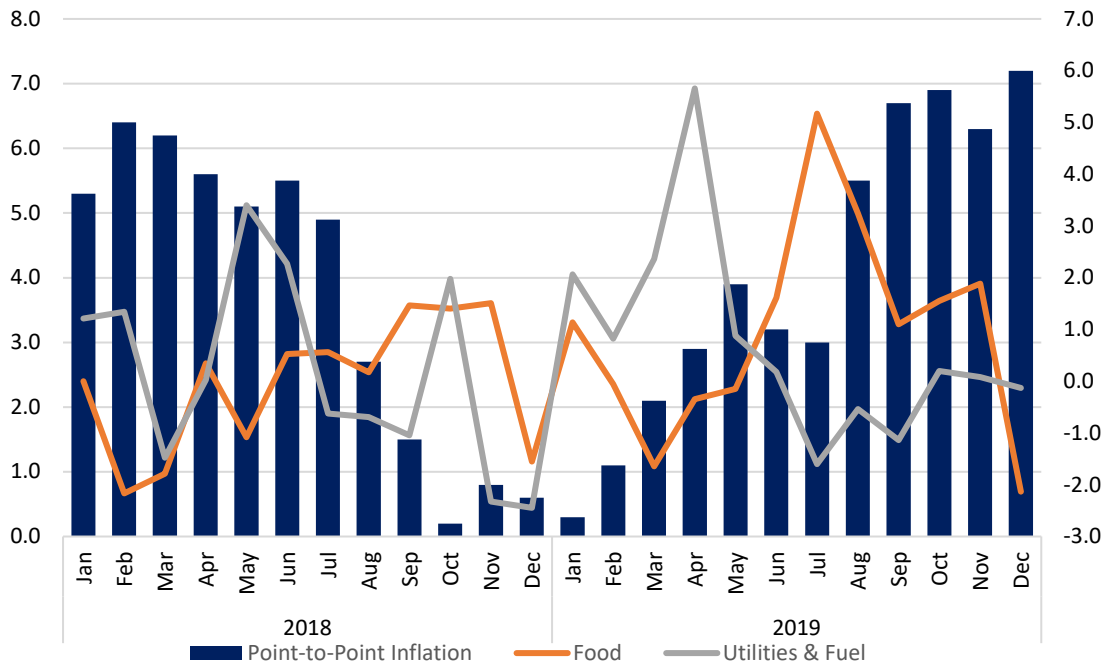
Inflation on a point-to-point basis, was relatively low compared to the rate recorded in 2018. This was primarily attributed to the removal of the National Social Responsibility Levy (NSRL) in July 2018 (which was imposed on goods imported into Barbados and on domestically manufactured goods) and the stabilisation of international fuel prices. However, progressive increases in the utilities, transport and fuel prices during the first half of the year, appear to have resulted in increased food price trends as business

**Figure 2.4**  
Labour Force Trends in Barbados  
2008 - 2019



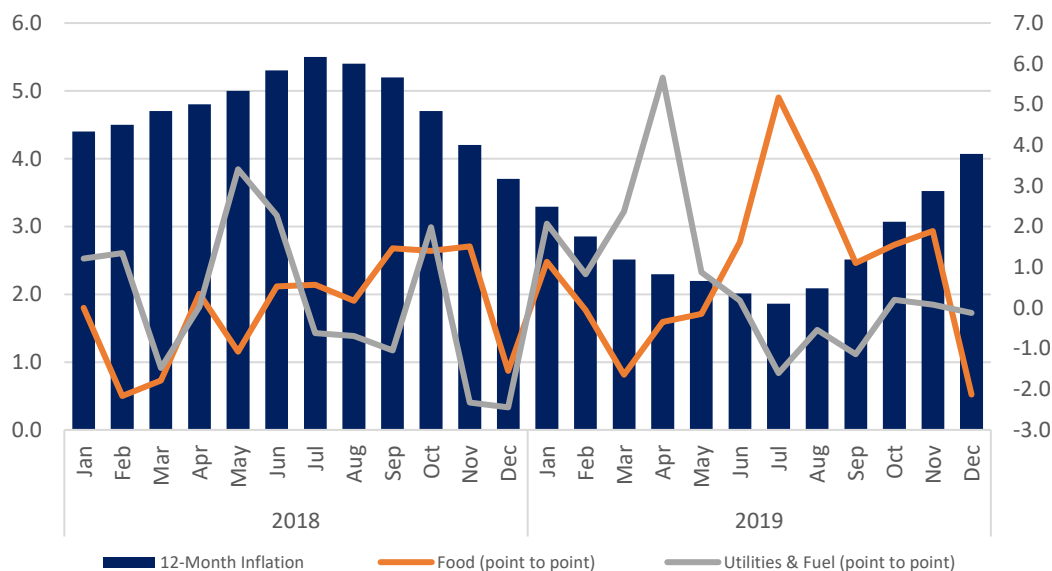
SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

**Figure 2.5**  
Point to Point Inflation 2018 - 2019



SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

**Figure 2.6**  
Moving Average Inflation 2018 - 2019



SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

costs rose. Prices as a result, rose incrementally over the latter part of 2019. Local food prices were also characterised by significant drought conditions which heightened demand conditions reaching its peak by mid-2019. Overall, the average inflation level remained relatively moderate averaging 4.1 per cent compared to the previous year's estimate which was just 0.4 percentage points lower.

## E. Money, Banking And Capital Markets

In 2019 the Government entered into the second year of the Barbados Economic Recovery and Transformation (BERT) Programme in which increased confidence in capital markets was exhibited by way of a second consecutive credit rating upgrade from Standard's & Poor which moved the country's long- and short-term local-currency sovereign issuer ratings from SD/SD to a stable B-/B (. In addition to this, international reserves have continued to rise well above the 3-month international

benchmark to a stable 18.6 weeks of import coverage.

Financial and insurance industries were estimated to contribute to 10.1 per cent of GDP for 2019. This figure, while lower in comparison to the 2009 contribution of 11.7 per cent of GDP, has for the most part not changed significantly for the past two years.

There continues to be high levels of liquidity in the banking system due to moderate growth in domestic currency deposits. Shifts in exchange control policy that now allow residents to increase their foreign currency deposits have contributed to a modest increase in total foreign currency deposits of residents. The banking sector saw an improvement in its profitability during 2019 as a result of a 0.6 per cent increase in the 12-month return-on-assets ratio as compared to the year prior's drop of 0.3 per cent. This development was primarily linked to declining expenses and not to growth in business. Market performance on the Barbados Stock Exchange showed a rise in trading volume and value of 2.9 per cent and 2.8 per cent respectively.

## COMMERCIAL BANKS

### DEPOSITS & SAVINGS

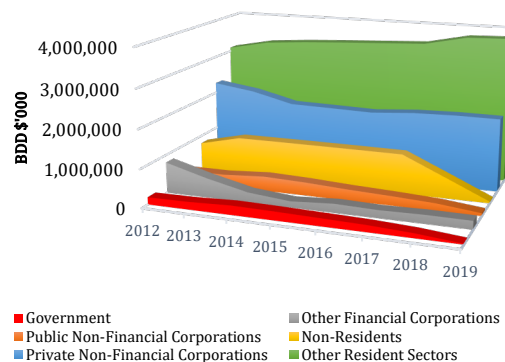
In the commercial banking sector, average total deposits increased to end the year under review 2.6 per cent higher than in 2018. This figure represented a slower rise in comparison to the 4.0 per cent growth observed in average total deposits in 2016. Demand deposits which offer greater liquidity when compared to term deposits, totaled \$56,931.9 million during 2019 which equated a twofold increase over the amount recorded for 2012 during the initial recovery from the Global Financial Crisis. This upturn may be credited to the shift away from time deposits in which rates have fallen sharply over the years and towards demand deposits which allow quick access to funds.

Commercial banks' average total deposit liabilities have remained on a marginal growth trend to end 2019 at \$9,895.3 million. A substantial segment of this is in national currency savings which has regained growth momentum since undergoing a falloff at the end of 2017. Prior to this, national currency savings growth had not been this low since the latter part of 2013. The much smaller foreign currency savings spiked towards the end of 2019 with an average total 30.0 per cent higher than amassed during 2018. This can in part, be attributed to policy changes in foreign currency deposits of residents.

### LOANS AND COMMERCIAL BANK SECTORAL CREDIT

Commercial banks' total loans and advances continued on its downward trend from early 2007 to plateau throughout 2019. Average total loans and advances were 10.3 per cent lower than that of the previous year. This was a marked decrease, considering that in the proceeding years average growth in loans have oscillated between negative and positive 5.0 per cent.

**Figure 2.7**  
Commercial Banks' Average Total Loans and Advances  
to Select Money Neutral and Money Holders



Source: Central Bank of Barbados

The average per annum mortgage rate continued to decline moving from a peak of 7.7 per cent in 2007 to end December 2019 at 5.1 per cent. Mortgages from commercial banks stood at \$2.9 billion in 2019 which was a marginal increase from the previous year. Against the backdrop of easing economic conditions within the near to medium-term and given that mortgage growth is typically correlated to economic activity it is anticipated that there will be an increase in the demand for mortgages as rates are at a record low.

Despite the downward trend commercial banks sustained increases in their loans and advances to 'Other Resident Sectors' which continued to account for the largest portion amongst the sectors. Following this was the Private Non-Financial Corporation sector in which the majority of credit went to Real Estate, Distribution, Hotels and Restaurants, Construction then Manufacturing, all in order of greatest allocation.

### LIQUIDITY & THE MONEY SUPPLY

There continued to be ample liquidity in the banking system throughout 2019 with

the sector reporting an excess cash ratio of 18.4 per cent at year-end. This in addition to the 13.5 per cent capital adequacy ratio both sought to quell any concerns of stability within the sector.

During the year under review, the consolidated balance sheet of banks expanded by 1.3 per cent which was a welcomed improvement over the 5.0 per cent decline in the preceding year. The level of broad money in the economy has remained on an upward trend between 2012 and 2019 albeit at a decreasing rate during 2016 and 2018. This steep rise in 2015 and 2016 can most likely be attributed to the Central Bank's move to increase its printing of money and purchases of government securities as the reserve ratio had remained unchanged.

#### *BANK REGULATION AND SUPERVISION*

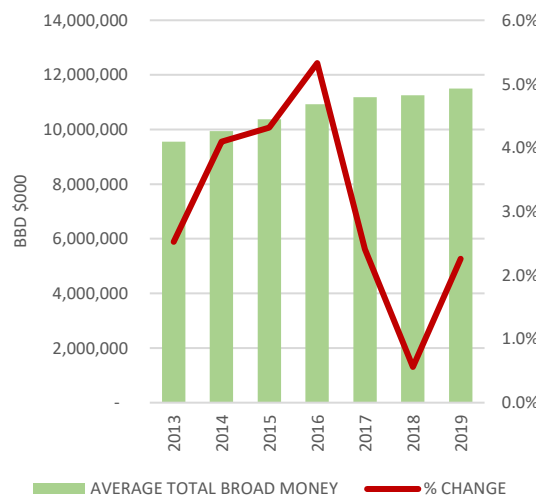
Commercial banks continue to hold a significant portion of their portfolio in Barbadian fixed income securities while their share of US and CARICOM based securities followed second and third respectively. In a persistent effort to increase transparency and lessen the risk of market failures, the Government has continued its work towards finalising the framework for the operation of credit bureaus in the country. These bureaus will eventually support the formation of a credit reporting system.

Improving transparency within the Barbadian financial market led to amendments within the Companies Act, Cap 308 of the Laws of Barbados to enhance transparency according to measures set by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. In particular, the Act was adjusted to make it an obligation for registrars to identify Domestic and Foreign Politically Exposed Persons.

#### **NON-BANK FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS**

##### *THE CREDIT UNION MOVEMENT*

**Figure 2.8**  
Movements in The Level of Average Total Broad Money  
(2013-2019)



Source: Central Bank of Barbados

Total assets held by credit unions maintained steady growth during 2019 reaching 2,602.9 million. Average total assets for the year under review stood at \$2,560.3 million which represented a \$941.8 million increase from the total average assets in 2012. This growth can be attributed to evident increases in their national currency holdings which grew by 69.0 per cent in comparison to their 2018 average total. The only contraction was witnessed in holdings of non-financial assets in which the average total fell by 2.2 per cent. Overall, the expansion in cash holdings was driven by surges in deposits and unequal loan growth.

Loans to members increased nevertheless at a decreasing rate for 2018 and 2019 as highlighted in the portion of loans that make up total assets. Credit union membership increased by 10,000 members; part of this increase could be attributed to the deregulation of deposit rates in the banking sector.

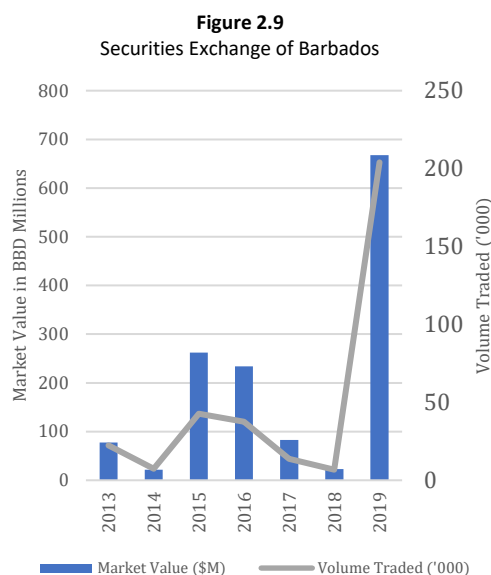
On the total liabilities side, credit unions have witnessed substantial growth in



average total deposits. The average total deposits for 2019 stood at \$2,177.3 million which represented an increase of 68.2 per cent in comparison to the total average deposits in 2012. Assessing the growth in average total assets under the same conditions show that assets rose by a lower amount of 58.2 per cent.

#### BARBADOS STOCK EXCHANGE

Total trading volume and value increased by 2.9 and 2.8 per cent respectively for 2019. There were mixed results on the Regular Market due to increases in traded volume not corresponding to traded value which in itself declined. As at year end, all market indices reported decreases when compared to their performance in 2018. The Local, Cross-Listed and Composite Indices recorded decreases of 8.0 per cent, 17.0 per cent and 9.0 per cent respectively. The year on year market capitalization comparison produced declines of 7.0 per cent, 84.0 per cent and 17.0 per cent respectively. The market measures performance can be attributed to the double-digit decline in price of five of the seven securities that did not



Source: Barbados Stock Exchange

experience share price appreciation during the year ended December 31, 2019.

There were a total of 1,893 trades occurring in 2019 which signified a 7.0 percent decrease when compared to the 2,072 trades in 2018. Moreover, one security JMMB Group Limited was delisted in the month of October 2019.

**Table: 2.5-1**  
Index and Market Capitalization  
Year on Year  
2018 - 2019

Index	31-Dec-18	31-Dec-19	%Change
Local	3,398.45	3,142.97	-7.5%
Cross Listed	1,691.83	1,400.14	-17.2%
Composite	846.66	769.02	-9.2%
<b>Market Capitalization</b>	<b>31-Dec-18</b>	<b>31-Dec-19</b>	<b>%Change</b>
Local	7,380,982,354	6,860,574,548	-7.1%
Cross Listed	1,142,051,008	178,782,344	-84.4%
Composite	8,523,033,362	7,039,356,892	-17.4%

SOURCE: Barbados Stock Exchange

## F. Sectoral Performance and Policy Development

### ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD SERVICES

In 2019, Accommodation and Food Services continued to be the leading sector of the economy, accounting for 15.1 per cent of real GDP. The real value output realised a modest increase of 2.8 per cent from \$1,342.7 million in 2018 to 1,379.8 million in 2019, as growth was recorded in stay-over arrivals (2.1 per cent) and cruise arrivals (27.1 per cent). The gains in the sector over the review period may be attributed to targeted marketing initiatives and expansion in products offering and airlift services to the island.

#### STAYOVER ARRIVALS

According to the Barbados Statistical Service an estimated 629,659 stayover visitor arrivals were recorded in 2019; this was 14,122 more visits than in 2018. This improvement can be attributed to the strategic and integrated marketing initiatives, which were deployed across Barbados's top source markets along with new and expanded air services, attractions and accommodation.

Leading the growth in arrivals was the United States, which recorded 219,770 arrivals, an increase of 15,521 arrivals. This was followed by the United Kingdom, which remained Barbados main source market with 226,992 arrivals (or 32.8 per cent of total arrivals), representing an increase of 6,297 arrivals from 2018. Germany recorded the highest percentage increase in arrivals, with a growth of 15.5 per cent, which was equivalent to 1,650 arrivals.

Arrivals from other main source markets contracted during the year; including the visitors from 'Other European' countries, which fell from 27,883 in 2018 down to 25,270 in 2019 – a decline of 2,613 arrivals. Arrivals from Trinidad and Tobago and 'Other CARICOM' countries also fell to 31,570 (by 3.3 per cent) and 68,682 (or by 2.2 per cent) respectively, however the market share for these territories remained largely unchanged from the previous year. Likewise, arrivals from Canada dropped to 85,774 in 2019, 725 less than in 2018, which resulted in a reduction in the country's market share from 11.8 per cent in 2018 to 12.8 per cent in 2019.

Monthly analysis revealed strong improvements during the course of the year, with November recording the largest level of growth (11.4 per cent) with 6,795 more arrivals. Nevertheless, there was a modest decline in arrivals (1 per cent or 3,806 visitors) recorded during the winter season (December to April), driven by a 21.6 per cent (or 15,559) falloff in tourists for December from the previous year. This decline was offset by an increase of 5.2 per cent (or 17,928) in arrivals over the remainder of the year, when compared to 2018. Notable increases were recorded in June and July, by 8.3 per cent, declines in arrivals recorded in the month of August, which registered 1,238 fewer arrivals compared with 2018.

#### CRUISE PASSENGER ARRIVALS

During 2019, the number of cruise passengers increased to 858,774 from 675,789 in 2018, notwithstanding the falloff of the cruise ship port calls which stood at 43 during the review period, 14 less than in the

previous year. Of the total cruise passenger arrivals, in-transit passengers accounted for 686,813 arrivals, compared to 515,423 in 2018; while the number of landed passengers stood at 160,366, an increase of 7.2 per cent from the previous year.

In general, there were monthly increases recorded in cruise passenger arrivals in every month with the expectation September, where arrivals dropped by 10.4 per cent or 2,312 from 2018. February recorded the largest growth, with arrivals of 113,575, which were 35,142 more than in the previous year. The majority of cruise passenger arrivals were recorded in the winter season, where the months November to April accounted for 84.2 per cent of total cruise passenger compared to 82.2 percent in the previous year, while during the hurricane

season (June to the end of October) arrivals averaged 22,879 in 2019, higher than the average recorded in 2018 (19,752 passengers).

Likewise, the majority of landed passenger arrivals were reported during the winter months of November to April, when homeporting vessels are positioned to sail from the Bridgetown Port. More than 24,000 passenger arrivals were reported as landed each month during this period. Strong growth in landed passenger arrivals was reported for April (8,653 arrivals or 103.0 percent increase), January (4,901 arrivals or 16.7 percent increase) and March (2,711 arrivals or 11.0 percent). Although some of the summer months reported increases, these were from very small bases.

Table: 2.6-1

Stayover Visitor Arrivals by Market  
2018-2019

Market	2018	2019 <sup>R</sup>	Actual Change	Percentage Change
United States	204,249	219,770	15,521	7.6%
Canada	86,499	81,577	-4,922	-5.7%
United Kingdom	220,695	226,992	6,297	2.9%
Germany	10,621	12,271	1,650	15.5%
Other Europe	27,883	25,488	-2,395	-8.6%
Trinidad & Tobago	32,636	31,570	-1,066	-3.3%
Other Caricom Countries	70,201	68,682	-1,519	-2.2%
Other Countries	25,753	26,308	555	2.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>678,537</b>	<b>692,659</b>	<b>14,122</b>	<b>2.1%</b>

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

R=Revised

**Table: 2.6-2**  
Stayover Visitor Arrivals by Market  
January to December 2018-2019

Month	2018	2019 <sup>P</sup>	Actual Change	Percentage Change
January	65,970	69,496	3,526	5.3%
February	66,916	68,609	1,693	2.5%
March	70,445	70,669	224	0.3%
April	57,054	63,364	6,310	11.1%
May	50,255	50,717	462	0.9%
June	46,334	50,160	3,826	8.3%
July	55,623	60,248	4,625	8.3%
August	51,995	50,757	-1,238	-2.4%
September	35,759	36,861	1,102	3.1%
October	46,519	48,875	2,356	5.1%
November	59,483	66,278	6,795	11.4%
December	72,184	56,625	-15,559	-21.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>678,537</b>	<b>692,659</b>	<b>14,122</b>	<b>2.1%</b>

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

R=Revised

#### VISITOR EXPENDITURE

According to the Visitor Exit Surveys, at the airport and the seaport conducted, by the Caribbean Tourism Organisation, expenditure by long-stay visitors and cruise passengers totaled US\$1.34 billion in 2019. This is an increase of US\$103.3 million or 8.3 per cent when compared to the US\$1.24 billion earned during 2018.

##### *STAYOVER VISITOR EXPENDITURE*

Stayover visitor expenditure was estimated at US\$1.3 billion in 2019, an increase of US\$102.1 million over the US\$1.2 billion reported in 2018. All markets with the exception of "Other Europe" and "Other countries" recorded growth in expenditure when compared to the previous year. Of note is the United States market where expenditure increased by US\$63.6 million or 21.2 per cent over 2018 levels. Strong growth in expenditure was seen in the Caribbean (6.3 per cent), United

Kingdom (5.5 per cent) and Canada (5.1 per cent) markets.

Average daily expenditure is estimated to have increased by 4.4 per cent from US\$171.13 in 2018 to US\$178.64 in 2019. Growth in daily expenditure was above the average in the United States (8.6 percent), Canada (9.9 per cent), United Kingdom (5.6 percent) and other (8.0 per cent) markets. The highest average daily expenditure of US\$226.24 was estimated for visitors from the United Kingdom, followed by visitors from the United States who had an average daily expenditure of US\$217.91.

##### *Cruise Passenger Expenditure*

Total cruise passenger expenditure during 2019 increased by 3.2 per cent to an estimated US\$39.8 million, over the US\$38.5 million reported in 2018. Increases were reported in all categories of expenditure excluding "Meals and Drinks" (2.9 per cent) and "Duty Free Purchases" (2.0 per cent),

**Table: 2.6-3**Cruise Passenger Arrivals  
January to December 2018-2019

<b>Month</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019<sup>R</sup></b>	<b>Actual Change</b>	<b>Percentage Change</b>
January	123,114	141,766	18,652	15.2%
February	78,433	113,575	35,142	44.8%
March	91,318	119,576	28,258	30.9%
April	54,633	75,565	20,932	38.3%
May	21,137	21,399	262	1.2%
June	19,000	19,675	675	3.6%
July	18,280	19,707	1,427	7.8%
August	21,026	25,872	4,846	23.0%
September	22,248	19,936	-2,312	-10.4%
October	18,208	29,204	10,996	60.4%
November	87,042	117,328	30,286	34.8%
December	121,350	155,171	33,821	27.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>675,789</b>	<b>858,774</b>	<b>182,985</b>	<b>27.1%</b>

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

R=Revised

with strong growth estimated for “All Other Spending” (16.0 per cent). Reasonable growth was also reported in the categories of “Local Handicraft & Souvenirs” (6.3 per cent), “Tours Purchased on Board” (5.6 per cent) and Transportation (4.6 per cent).

#### *LENGTH OF STAY*

During 2019, there was a slight decline in average length of stay, which contracted from 9.3 days in 2018 to 9.2 days in 2019. The longest staying visitors were those from Canada (11.1 days) and the United Kingdom (10.5 days), while visitors from the Caribbean stayed an estimated 9.1 days on the island. The shortest average length of stay was estimated for visitors from the United States (7.7 days) and the Other

market category, who are estimated to have spent 7.3 days on island.

#### *Accommodation Capacity*

In 2019, there were 153 registered tourism establishments, which remained constant from 2018. Of these 153 establishments in 2019, sixty-four 64 were hotels, sixty-nine 69 were apartments and twenty 20 were guesthouses. Analysis shows there was a slight increase in the number of registered hotels (by 1) and apartments (by 4) from the previous year. In contrast the number of guest houses fell from 23 in 2018 to 20 in 2019.

**Table:2.6-4**Cruise Passenger Expenditure by (US\$'000)  
2018-2019

Country of Residence	2018	2019	Actual Change	Percentage Change
Meals & Drinks	5,783	5,615	-168	-2.9%
Transportation	8,407	8,792	385	4.6%
Tours Purchased on Board	6,830	7,211	381	5.6%
Duty- Free Purchases	6,631	6,496	-135	-2.0%
Local Handicrafts & Souvenirs	4,103	4,361	258	6.3%
Other Shopping	3,550	3,556	6	0.2%
All Other Spending	3,230	3,747	517	16.0%
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>38,533</b>	<b>39,777</b>	<b>1,244</b>	<b>3.2%</b>

SOURCE: Caribbean Tourism Organisation

In 2019, there was a total of 6,573 registered bedrooms within the tourism industry, compared to 6,657 recorded in 2018, with declines reported in categories of establishment. Of these rooms in 2019, hotels accounted for 5,358 rooms, down from 5,406 in 2018; apartments fell to 1,043 from 1,066; while guesthouses accounted for 172 rooms compared to 185 in 2018.

#### MANUFACTURING AND RELATED SERVICES SECTOR

In 2019, Small and mid-size enterprises (SMEs) in the manufacturing and related services sector were plagued with several challenges, including rising production costs and competitively priced imports. To mitigate these challenges, the Barbados Investment & Development Corporation (BIDC) developed policies to strengthen the resilience and competitiveness of local enterprises and provided training opportunities to facilitate capacity building.

**Table: 2.6-5**Total Registered Tourism Accommodation  
2017-2019

Establishment Type	2017	2018	2019
Hotels	63	63	64
Apartments	71	67	69
Guest Houses	20	23	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>153</b>

SOURCE: Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc. (BTMI)

**Table: 2.6-6**No. of Registered  
Bedrooms  
2017-2019

Establishment Type	2017	2018	2019
Hotels	5,232	5,406	5,358
Apartments	1,116	1,066	1,043
Guest Houses	166	185	172
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,514</b>	<b>6,657</b>	<b>6,573</b>

SOURCE: Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc. (BTMI)

During 2019, three areas of the Index of Industrial Production (IIP), namely: mining and quarrying; manufacturing and electricity, gas and water; declined by 14.2 per cent, 1.8 per cent 0.4 per cent, respectively in comparison to the previous year.

At the end of 2019, 9,622 persons were employed within the manufacturing and related services sectors, a decline of 5.7 per cent in comparison to the 10,207 recorded at the end of 2018, primarily as a result of company closures and restructuring.

The contract and construction services sub-sector recorded the largest decline in employment, 41.5 per cent, followed by textiles, apparel and leather at 20.7 per cent as outlined in the table below.

#### SPECIAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

During the period under review, the BIDC disbursed BDS\$1.5 million under its Special Technical Assistance Programme (STAP), an increase of 26.7 per cent when compared to the BDS\$1.18 million disbursed in 2018.

The largest area of assistance provided under the STAP was marketing, which increased by 10.5 per cent to BDS\$0.562 million in comparison to 2018. Additional information on the areas of assistance which received funding under the STAP is outlined in the table below.

#### REPORTED INVESTMENTS

In 2019, total reported new and expanded investments in the industrial and related services sector recorded during the BIDC's quarterly employment and investment survey declined by 76.2 per cent to BDS\$7.3 million in comparison to the BDS\$30.9 million recorded a year earlier as outlined in the table below.

#### EXPORT PROMOTION

The BIDC continued to strengthen its efforts to facilitate exports during 2019 by assisting businesses with the creation of new products/services and also enhanced existing goods and services through its Product Development Programme. Additionally, the BIDC provided companies with an enabling environment to facilitate and support their rapid expansion and competitiveness.

The BIDC also continued its Accelerate 20/20 programme which implemented policies geared towards digital marketing, capacity building and strengthening supply chains. The BIDC's Export Readiness Programme also continued to provide assistance to export savvy entrepreneurs who can compete on the global stage.

To intensify Barbados' export thrust, work is being undertaken to explore new trade opportunities in Ghana, Belize, Guyana and Suriname. Additionally, renewed efforts will be made to boost export growth in CARICOM, the United Kingdom, USA and Canada.

During 2019, total domestic exports increased by 0.1 per cent to BDS\$511 million in comparison to the previous year, with exports of cement and pharmaceuticals accounting for 9.7 per cent and 6.4 per cent of total domestic exports respectively. Exports to the Colombian market experienced the highest decline, 83 per cent, while exports to Puerto Rico experienced the largest increase, 81.4 per cent, in comparison to 2018. Exports to the CARICOM market increased by 3.3 per cent to BDS\$304.4 million over the same period as outlined in the table below. Selected non-traditional domestic exports increased by 0.3 per cent to BDS\$511.4 million in comparison to the previous year as outlined below.

**Table: 2.6-7**  
Special Technical Assistance Programme Disbursements  
2018 and 2019

Areas of Assistance	2018 <sup>R</sup>	BDS \$	
		2019 <sup>P</sup>	% Change
Enhancement Programme (BMA and Craft)	178,925	26,119	-85.4
Equipment, System and Process Upgrades	83,714	526,430	528.8
Intellectual Property	12,255	51,290	318.5
Market Research	28,068	22,892	-18.4
Marketing	508,609	562,098	10.5
Professional Services	126,491	38,725	-69.4
Promotion - Pelican Craft Centre	28,357	21,863	-22.9
Training and Productivity Enhancement	219,985	254,293	15.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,186,404</b>	<b>1,503,710</b>	<b>26.7</b>

SOURCE: Business Support Services Division- BIDC

R - Revised  
P - Provisional

**Table: 2.6-8**  
Reported Investments (2018 and 2019)

Investment	2018 <sup>R</sup>	2019 <sup>P</sup>
<b>Investment (New)</b>		
Manufacturing	404,950	63,000
Services	136,000	9,000
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>540,950</b>	<b>73,000</b>
<b>Investment (Expansion)</b>		
Manufacturing	29,027,654	6,648,028
Services	1,297,000	627,769
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>30,324,654</b>	<b>7,275,797</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>30,865,604</b>	<b>7,347,797</b>

SOURCE: BIDC's Quarterly Employment and Investment Survey  
R - Revised

## AGRICULTURE AND FISHING

The year 2019 recorded a moderate decline (4.5 per cent) in output from the Agriculture and Fishing Industry as the sector was negatively impacted by a lack of rain during the year. Output at basic prices also fell to \$138.5 million in 2019 from \$146.4 million in the previous year, as

declines were registered in the contribution from the sugar cane sub-sector (48.2 per cent) and the non-sugar agriculture sector (3.0), which fell to \$4.0 million and \$134.5 million respectively in 2019. The contraction in the non-sugar agriculture subsector was driven by a significant drop in output from fishing (56.2 per cent), which fell to 13.94 million in 2019 and offset the gains registered in the areas of livestock (2.91 per



**Table: 2.6-9**  
Selected Non-traditional Domestic Exports

Selected Exports	\$ BDS		%
	2018 <sup>R</sup>	2019 <sup>P</sup>	Change
Biscuits	18,382,302	20,039,392	9.0
Cement	40,608,514	49,816,795	22.7
Disinfectants, Insecticides, etc.	15,852,952	15,867,947	0.1
Electronic Components	16,194,994	13,286,788	-18.0
Flour	6,571,846	6,361,639	-3.2
Furniture and Parts thereof	557,962	851,843	52.7
Garments	206,712	221,526	7.2
Margarine/Lard	20,242,936	20,112,641	-0.6
Medicines and Pharmaceuticals	34,137,406	32,602,104	-4.5
Metal Cans (cap. < 50 L)	9,307,003	8,689,593	-6.6
Non-alcoholic Beverages	1,893,945	941,855	-50.3
Other Foods and Beverages	112,984,820	108,754,241	-3.7
Paints and Varnishes	17,848,349	15,517,466	-13.1
Paper Products	5,834,390	6,702,756	14.9
Petroleum	22,197,140	30,201,248	36.1
Printed Material	29,147,690	25,013,536	-14.2
Spices and Condiments	525,246	569,399	8.4
Windows and Doors	9,035,623	7,186,096	-20.5
<b>Non-Sugar, Non-Petroleum Exports</b>	<b>488,050,739</b>	<b>480,680,482</b>	<b>-1.5</b>
<b>Total Domestic Exports</b>	<b>510,688,063</b>	<b>511,439,722</b>	<b>0.1</b>

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

P - Provisional

R - Revised

cent), food crops (2.85 per cent) and other cultivation (26.71 per cent) over the period.

Commercial Credit to agriculture sector stood at \$7,102,740.37 as at December 2019 in compared to \$6,794,364.05 in the corresponding period of the previous year. The majority of commercial credit was directed towards the livestock sector, which accounted for \$3,285,430.36, representing a decline of 5.9 percent from 2018. Commercial credit to sugar industry fell to \$1,097,215.51 in 2019 from \$1,130,827 in 2018, while financing to food crops sector contracted by 2.67 per cent to stand at \$1, 203,072.08. In contrast credit to other forms of agriculture increased significantly by 62.13 per cent to \$1,517,022.42 in 2019.

In 2019, as part of government policy, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security pursued a number of initiatives

aimed at incentivizing growth, improving human resource capacity, and the diversification of the sector's current product base; This effort was inclusive of the introduction of a Medicinal Cannabis Industry policy framework and the Farmers' Empowerment and Enfranchisement Drive (FEED) programme. The FEED programme in particular, provided farmers with training in sustainable agricultural techniques, access to affordable land and marketing support.

#### SUGAR

The drought-like conditions experienced throughout 2019 had a severe impact on the year's sugar harvest and lead to a falloff in cane harvest and sugar production overall. The 2019 sugar crop yielded 84,588.57 tonnes of canes from an area of 7,294.75 acres harvested. This represented a

**Table 2.6-10**  
Local Agricultural Production ('000 kgs)  
2015 - 2019

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	% Change over 2018
Sugar (tonnes)	10,758.90	7,026.06	10,102.41	11,668.94	7,864.92	-32.6%
Root Crop Production	3,214.10	4,456.70	2,420.30	3,369.19	3,691.69	9.6%
Vegetable Production	4,247.10	2,602.20	3,729.20	5,384.36	5,258.87	-2.3%
Livestock and Dairy Production	27,068.02	26,920.19	26,938.77	27,940.11	28,142.11	0.7%
	<b>2014/2015</b>	<b>2015/2016</b>	<b>2016/2017</b>	<b>2017/2018</b>	<b>2018/2019</b>	
Cotton Lint ( kgs)	17,668.72	13,660.98	5,820.84	1,655.62	2,186.45	32.1%

**SOURCE:** Agricultural Planning Unit, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security

**Table 2.6-11**  
Statistics on the Sugar Cane Industry  
2015 – 2019

Year	2015	2016	2017 (R)	2018	2019	% Change over 2018
Canes harvested (tonnes)	116,105.74	83,369.20	131,194.40	146,831.13	84,588.57	-42.4%
Area harvested (acres)	7,670.21	10,582.93	6,809.63	7,128.96	7,294.75	2.3%
Sugar Production (tonnes 96°)	10,758.90	7,026.06	10,102.41	11,668.94	7,864.92	-32.6%

**SOURCE:** Agricultural Planning Unit, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security

P- Provisional Estimates

R- Revised

decline of 42.4 per cent in tonnage harvested (representing 62,242.6 tonnes) compared with the canes harvested during the 2018 crop, despite an increase of 2.3 per cent over the acreage harvested in 2018. This reflected a drop of (44) per cent in per acre yield compared to the 2018 crop.

During the review period, 7,864.9 tonnes sugar was produced from the 2019 crop, a decline of 32.6 per cent or 3,804.0 tonnes less than in 2018. However, the figure indicates an improvement in the conversion

rate from the previous year, where it took 10.9 tonnes of canes to produce a tonne of sugar from the 2019 crop compared to 12.6 tonnes in 2018.

Barbados shipped 74.6 tonnes of sugar to the EU in 2019, 98.5 per cent less than the previous year due to an inability to secure export markets in the EU. Earnings from the 2019 sugar export stood at Bds \$68,995.75, with a unit price of Bds\$925.00 per tonne compared to earnings of BDS\$4,577,178.00 recorded in 2018.

**Table 2.6-12**  
Production of Cotton  
2014/2015 - 2018/2019

Year	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	% Change over 2017/2018
Seed cotton received (kgs)	48,386.41	34,645.39	18,415.22	5,527.07	6,640.55	20.1%
Lint produced (kgs)	17,668.72	13,660.98	5,820.84	1,655.62	2,186.45	32.1%
Running bales	78	57	26	7	10	42.9%
Hectares planted	167.14	171.69	89.64	95.91	34.20	-64.3%

**SOURCE:** Cotton Project, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security

P- Provisional Estimates

## NON- SUGAR AGRICULTURE

### *THE BARBADOS COTTON INDUSTRY*

Approximately 34.20 hectares of cotton was planted during the 2018/2019 cotton season, representing a decline of 64 percent compared to the previous season. Despite the drop in area planted, there was 20.1 per cent increase in the quantity of seed cotton delivered to the ginnery, with 6,640.55 kilograms yielded from the 2018/2019 cotton crop. However, the increase in production was mainly consequence of the fact that a significant portion of the 2017/2018 crop was reploughed due to poor quality of the crop. Consequently, lint produced from the 2018/2019 cotton crop grew to 2,186.45 kilogrammes from 1,655.62 kilogrammes in the previous season.

### *VEGETABLE PRODUCTION AND ROOT CROP PRODUCTION*

#### VEGETABLE PRODUCTION

Overall vegetable production of select crops fell by 2.3 per cent in 2019 to an estimated 5,258.9 thousand kilogrammes as

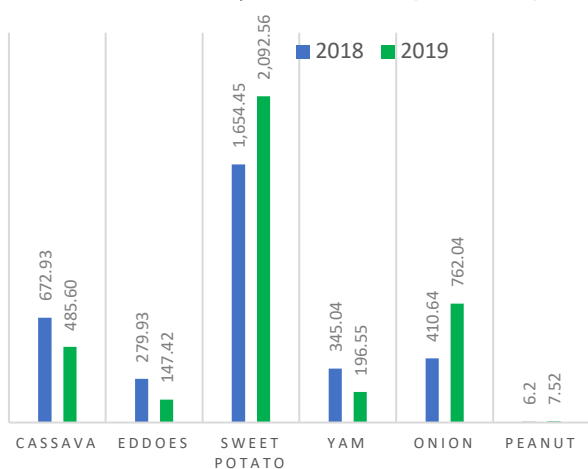
the sector was adversely affected by the drought conditions that prevailed throughout the year. Noticeably a range of crops recorded significant reductions in production, including pumpkins (39.7 per cent), cabbage (38.1 per cent) and sweet peppers (34.1 per cent)

Alternatively, a number of commodities registered sizable increases in production during the year under review. Okra and hot pepper grew by approximately 46 per cent during 2019 with an estimated production of 508.5 thousand kilogrammes and 439.7 thousand kilogrammes recorded respectively. Production of cucumber and beet also increased by approximately 38.9 per cent (940 thousand kilogrammes) and 25.8 per cent (46 thousand kilogrammes) respectively.

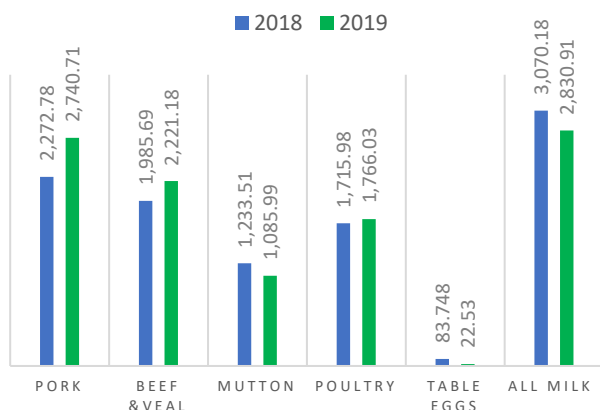
#### *ROOT CROP PRODUCTION*

Root crop production increased to 3,691.69 thousand kilogrammes in 2019 compared to 3,369.19 thousand kilogrammes in 2018. Onion production recorded a significant increase in 2019 with an estimated 762 thousand kilogrammes, an approximately 350 thousand kilogrammes more than in 2018 (or 85.6 per cent). This increase was mainly attributed to

**FIGURE 2.10**  
Root Crop Production ('000 KGS)



**Figure 2.11**  
Livestock And Dairy Product Import ('000 Kgs)



SOURCE: Agricultural Planning Unit, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security

improvements in the management of the crop and use of productive varieties.

Sweet potato production for the first time in over a decade surpassed 2 million kgs with approximately 2.1 million kgs recorded in 2019, an increase of 26.5 per cent over the previous year. Peanut production continued to be low with an estimated 7.5 million kgs produced in 2019, 21 per cent over 2018 levels. Declines in the production were recorded for eddo (47.3 per cent), yam (43.0

per cent) and cassava (27.8 per cent), from the previous year.

*LIVESTOCK AND DAIRY PRODUCTION*

Livestock production realized a marginal increase of 0.72 per cent during 2019. A significant increase in production was recorded for Turkey, which rose from 0.2 million kgs in 2018 to 0.4 million kgs in 2019, an increase of 119.9 per cent. The estimated egg production during the year under review was 3.7 million kgs an increase of 9.0 per cent over the 2018 production, this is the equivalent of 0.3 million kgs more eggs produced during the year under review.

Pork production during 2019 increased marginally to 2,840.32 megagrams compared to 2,771.7 megagrams produced during the previous year, an increase of 2.0 per cent.

A number of livestock commodities recorded declines during the year under review. Beef and chicken production declined marginally by 1.4 per cent during the year under review. Other declines were recorded for milk (3 per cent), mutton (13.9 per cent) and veal (28.3 per cent.)

Milk production has been steadily declining since 2015. The local dairy industry has recently pursued the importation of dairy cattle as a means of boosting the declining local herd. It is anticipated this initiative will lead to an increase in the annual milk production.

*IMPORTS OF SELECT "FRESH OR CHILLED" CROPS*

2019 recorded a decline in the importation of a number of select "Fresh or Chilled" Crops. Noticeably imports of string beans and Tomatoes fell by more than 50.0 per cent. Other significant reductions were recorded for pumpkins (33.3 per cent),

cabbage (21.8 per cent), carrots (17.9 per cent) and cucumber (12.7 per cent).

The volumes of sweet pepper imports increased by (22 per cent), with 300.3 thousand kilogrammes recorded, while imports increased by 1.0 per cent from the previous year.

In relation to root crop, onions, peanuts and eddoes usually make up the bulk of root crop imports; however, during 2019 imports of peanuts and onions declined by (9.5 per cent) and (2.8 per cent respectively, while imports of eddoes increased by 50 percent (or 50 thousand kilogrammes). The

quantity of imports of sweet peppers and cassava remained negligible.

#### *SELECT LIVESTOCK AND DAIRY IMPORT*

Pork and beef recorded significant increases of 20.6 per cent and 11.9 per cent respectively in imports in 2019 from the previous year in order to satisfy local demand. Poultry imports also recorded a marginal increase of 2.9 per cent compared to 2018.

Imports of table eggs fell by 73 per cent from the previous year, which may be attributed to the fact that there has been a recovery from the issues that plagued the industry in recent years. In previous years

**Table 2.6-13**  
Importation of Select Crops Commodities  
2015 - 2019

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	% Change over 2018
Root Crop Imports ('000 kgs)						
Cassava	0.19	0.41	0.027	0.106	4.77	4400.0%
Eddoes	108.16	151.91	135.63	100.438	150.67	50.0%
Sweet Potato	11.09	6.29	34.57	5.873	23.37	297.9%
Yam	84.09	107.74	63.4	85.194	56.11	-34.1%
Onion	1,715.65	1,758.12	1,954.16	1,745.92	1,696.31	-2.8%
Peanut	482.16	421.12	402.049	424.526	384.33	-9.5%
Vegetable Imports ('000 kgs)						
Beans (String)	0.71	0.402	0.323	0.503	0.188	-62.6%
Beets	37.09	48.56	54.45	50.085	48.677	-2.8%
Cabbage	471.71	552.66	566.82	573.048	448.349	-21.8%
Carrot	625.73	729.86	807.6	761.222	624.694	-17.9%
Cucumber	13.19	61.71	8.08	3.648	3.183	-12.7%
Lettuce	670.46	769.6	781.68	705.141	640.295	-9.2%
Melons	481.3	474.84	523.53	390.477	394.758	1.1%
Okras	0.014	0	0.059	0	0	0.0%
Peppers (Hot)	2.04	18.07	1.5	2.915	2.859	-1.9%
Peppers (Sweet)	187.01	222.07	278.83	246.084	300.34	22.0%
Pumpkins	173.281	236.45	301.5	295.647	197.277	-33.3%
Tomato	245.58	295.33	338.69	218.228	107.21	-50.9%

**SOURCE:** Agricultural Planning Unit, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security

Barbados had been generally self-sufficient in the production of table eggs.

#### POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES

##### *FARMERS' EMPOWERMENT AND ENFRANCHISEMENT DRIVE (FEED)*

On May 13, 2019 Farmers' Empowerment and Enfranchisement Drive (FEED) Programme was launched through the the Barbados Agricultural Development and Marketing Corporation (BADMC) with a view of enhancing national food security food production and reducing Barbados' high food import bill through increased food production. Targeting retrenched public servants, young people between the ages of 18 to 35, women, agricultural cooperatives with limited or no access to land and the Rastafarian community, the programme aims to incentivise new entrants into the sector, capitalise the industry, encourage the adoption of innovative approaches to cultivation and production, as well as ensure that agriculture becomes a viable career option for young people. The programme provides training (including in apiculture, traditional and contemporary farming methods and livestock husbandry); the lease of land to successful graduates; the provision of start-up inputs; and of farm internship training, based upon chosen enterprises.

Under this programme 100 participants received training in agricultural practices and technologies, including pest and disease management, spray application technologies, irrigation infrastructure and hydroponics during a three-month training programme. In addition, the BADMC sought to establish long-term strategic alliances and secured supply contracts with the hospitality, tourism and retail sectors (including Price

Smart, Massy Stores, Sandals, and Divi Southwinds). Cruise ships and public institutions, including the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and the School Meals Department have also been targeted.

##### *PROVISION OF LAND FOR THE RASTAFARIAN COMMUNITY*

In 2019, the Cabinet approved the allocation of 60 acres of land to the Rastafarian community at Bath, St. John for the production of fruits, vegetables, tubers, medicinal herbs, ornamental plants, livestock and the establishment of an apiary for the production of honey and other by-products. To date the BADMC has allocated 20 acres of land towards this initiative.

##### *DEVELOPMENT OF A MEDICINAL CANNABIS INDUSTRY*

As part of the effort, to ensure the enabling environment for the development a Medicinal Cannabis Industry, particularly as it relates to the provision of training and certification, research, and quality assurance services to the industry, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security formulated a policy framework for the legislation and regulation of the medicinal cannabis industry. In particular, the policy facilitates, *inter alia*:

- The adoption of measures that allow for careful control and supervision of the importation, manufacture, extraction, preparation, distribution, supply and cultivation of cannabis, in accordance with the United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs 1961 and the subsequent 1972 Protocol

Amending the Single Convention;

- Amendments to existing legislation, as well as the development of new and comprehensive legislation to support the establishment of a stringently controlled and well-regulated medicinal cannabis industry;

By the end of 2019, the Medicinal Cannabis Industry Bill was passed in the House of Assembly. Additionally, the Barbados Cannabis Licensing Authority (BCLA) was established as a Cannabis Unit under the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security on August 7, 2019 to undertake preparatory work leading to the development of the industry, including the development of training programmes and stakeholder outreach. Further a certification and vocational training programme for medicinal cannabis cultivators was developed through a partnership between the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security and the Technical Vocational Education and Training Council (TVET).

#### **INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES**

Barbados faced increasing threats of blacklisting from the European Union in 2019, which was a defining year. Additionally, the Government implemented revolutionary policies to transform the international business sector through adjustments to the national corporate tax framework. In this regard, the Government took a more holistic approach through the implementation of a converged corporate tax system to ensure that the international

business sector remained a viable contributor to foreign exchange earnings.

#### **COUNTERING HARMFUL TAX PRACTICES**

Sixteen pieces of legislation were repealed, amended or formulated to ensure compliance with Action 5 of the OECD's Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) Project on Countering Harmful Tax Practices of Preferential Regimes. The BEPS Project was established as an international framework to combat tax avoidance by multinational enterprises.

The International Business Companies Act Cap. 77, the International Financial Services Act Cap. 325, the Exempt Insurance Act Cap. 308A were all repealed with grandfather provisions. The International Trusts Act Cap. 245 was also repealed through enactment of the Trusts (Miscellaneous) Provisions Act 2018-49.

The Societies with Restricted Liability (Amendment) Act 2018-47, the Financial Institutions (Amendment) Act 2018-51, the Insurance (Amendment) Act 2018-52, the Income Tax (Amendment) Act and the Corporate and Trust Service Providers (Amendment) Act 2018-43 were also enacted, effectively repealing the provisions relative to International Societies with Restricted Liability and international banks, and amending the Corporate and Trust Service Providers Act 2015-12 and the Income Tax Act.

The Foreign Currency Permits Act 2018-44 and the Business Entities (Economic Substance) Act 2018-41 were also enacted.

#### **SECOND ROUND GLOBAL FORUM PEER REVIEW ON TRANSPARENCY AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION**

During 2019, policymakers undertook preparatory work for Barbados'

upcoming Second Round Global Forum Review related to transparency and the exchange of information on request (EOIR) standards. In this regard, a draft report was prepared outlining, *inter alia*, deficiencies in the national legal and regulatory framework relative to the EOIR standard and triggered a national rating of Partially Compliant.

Amendments were subsequently made to the Companies Act Cap 308, the Corporate and Trust Service Providers Act 2015-12, the Limited Partnership Act Cap 312 and the Foundations Act 2013-2 to facilitate complete compliance. As a consequence, Barbados' legal and regulatory frameworks were deemed to comply with EOIR standards. However, it was not enough to trigger a rating change from Partially Compliant to Largely Compliant.

#### ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING AND COMBATTING THE FINANCING OF TERRORISM

The Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF) conducted a fourth round of evaluations to ascertain Barbados' compliance with anti-money laundering/combating financing of terrorism systems. Barbados' overall level of effectiveness and technical compliance was rated as low in 2018.

Anti-money laundering and the prevention of terrorist financing measures continued to be high on the agenda during 2019, culminating in the drafting of the Barbados National Action Plan which outlines necessary actions to be taken to strengthen legal and administrative systems. In this regard, the Government plans to place considerable emphasis on ensuring that there is appropriate supervision, monitoring and regulation of financial institutions, designated non-financial business persons and virtual asset service providers.

#### MONITORING ENTITIES' COMPLIANCE WITH ECONOMIC SUBSTANCE REQUIREMENTS

A service provider was contracted to design an online platform for the filing of economic substance declarations as outlined in the Companies (Economic Substance Act), 2019-43. The economic substance portal will be instrumental in facilitating electronic filing and the monitoring and evaluation of entities' compliance.

Training has been conducted on the use of the platform for corporate and trust service providers as well as staff.

#### NEW COMPANY FORMATION AND ENTITIES LICENSED

The legal and regulatory reform undertaken in 2019 effectively removed the ring-fence that separated international and domestic entities. Consequently, all entities are now considered domestic entities, except those that were allowed to grandfather their preferential status until June 30, 2021.

New entities declined considerably during 2019 in comparison to previous years as a result of the repeal of international business company legislation, the International Societies with Restricted Liability (ISRL) provisions, the International Financial Services Act and the Exempt Insurance Company (EIC) legislation. Only (2) new trusts were registered under the Miscellaneous Provisions Act as outlined in the table below.

During 2019, 660 foreign currency permits were issued to entities which were formerly regulated under the preferential regimes, as well as regular business companies which met the required qualification.

Two thousand, seven hundred and thirteen (2,713) IBCs and 528 ISRLs were grandfathered, respectively, while 2 foreign



**Table 2.6-14**  
Corporate Tax Regime

<b>Taxable Income BDS\$</b>	<b>Rate of Tax %</b>
Less than \$1,000,000	5.5
More than \$1,000,000 but less than \$20,000,000	3.0
More than \$20,000,000 but less than \$30,000,000	2.5
More than \$30,000,000	1.0

**SOURCE:** International Business Unit

sales corporations renewed their licenses during the review period.

Twenty-one (21) of the entities which were formerly licensed under the International Financial Services Act Cap. 325 were grandfathered as foreign currency earning banks in accordance with the Financial Institutions (Amendment) Act 2018-51.

There were 169 licenses recorded under Class 1, of which 120 were grandfathered Exempt Insurance Companies (EICs). Additionally, there were 80 licenses issued under Class 2, of which 51 were grandfathered EICs.

Information on the renewed and active international business entities during the period 2015 to 2019 is outlined in the information below.

All business entities, with the exception of insurance companies, now fall under one corporate tax regime with unrestricted access to the domestic market. The new corporate tax regime follows a regressive path so that higher levels of taxable income are subject to lower rates of tax as set out in the table below:

With respect to the insurance regime, all entities conducting insurance activities now fall under the amended Insurance Act. This amended legislation will now provide for 3 classes of licenses with unrestricted access to the domestic market, and will be subject to the rates set out in the table below.

#### TREATY EXPANSION PROGRAMME

In 2019, the negotiation of Double Taxation Agreements (DTAs) continued to play an integral role in the Government's strategies for promoting Barbados as a treaty-based domicile of choice. Additionally, Bilateral Investment Treaties (BITs) are viewed as an essential economic policy instrument given their importance in protecting and promoting investment.

At the end of 2019, there were 38 DTAs, 5 Tax Information Exchange Agreements (TIEAs) and 9 BITs in force. There are also signed DTAs with Kenya, Ghana, and Rwanda which are awaiting ratification.

Initialed DTAs with Vietnam, Belgium, and Malaysia are awaiting signature while a signed TIEA with Colombia awaits ratification.

Initialed TIEAs with Germany and France and a BIT with Kenya are awaiting signature while BITs with Ghana and the Belgium/Luxembourg Economic Union are awaiting ratification.

Additionally, the Government commenced negotiations for BITs with the Kingdom of Morocco and the Republic of Kenya. It is anticipated that more DTA negotiating opportunities will arise as more countries express an interest in mutual investment and trade opportunities.

#### CONSTRUCTION

Following the 2007/2008 Global Financial Crisis, there was general decline in

activity in the construction industry, indicative of the diminished investor appetite as output averaged \$499.7 million of real GDP over the period 2009 to 2019, well below the output of \$752.1 million recorded in 2008. In 2019 the real value output of the sector fell to \$452.3 million from 461.6 million in 2018, as the execution of a number of private sector projects was delayed. Likewise, there was a substantial decline in commercial credit to the sector which was estimated at \$95.2 million as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 compared to \$143.3 million for the corresponding period in 2018.

According to available data it was estimated that a total of 6,002 private dwelling units were completed in 2019, 77 less than in 2018. In contrast, growth in the number of refurbishment or completions of commercial properties continued in 2019 rising to 917 in 2019 from 838 in 2018.

**PUBLIC HOUSING PROGRAMME**

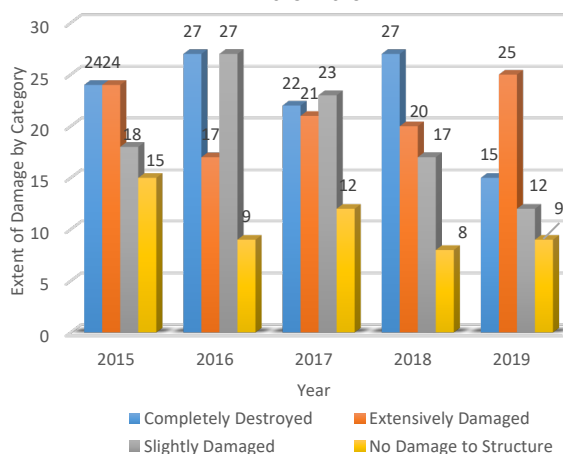
The public sector accounted for a modest increase in the housing stock in 2019, as the Ministry of Housing, Land and Rural Development continued to support the implementation of the West Terrace/ Durants, St. James public- private partnership project, the scope of which included the construction of seventy-two, two and three bedroom houses. At the end of December 2019 under this project, twenty-four house starts were in place and six houses were completed, three of which were constructed during the review period. Additionally, in order to facilitate the relocation of persons affected by the Airport Relocation project the Ministry facilitated the continued construction of one (1) lot in Fairy Valley, Church Christ, while two (2) replacement units were completed as part of the Rock Hall St. Thomas relocation programme, for residents impacted by the erection of the First Free Village in Barbados. Moreover, seventy (72) sales were completed of lots of lands/ houses under the Housing Every Last Person Programme, while 31 lots were sold under the 500 lot programmes at a cost of \$5.00 per square foot.

**Table: 2.6-15**  
No. of Private Dwelling Units Completions and Commercial Property Completions /Refurbishments 2015-2019

Year	No. of Private Dwelling Completions <sup>1</sup>	No. of Commercial Property Completions or Refurbishments <sup>2</sup>
2015	5836	810
2016	5568	819
2017	5431	824
2018	6079	838
2019	6002	917

**SOURCE:** Government Electrical Engineering Department  
NB: 1- Estimates are based on no. of residential inspections conducted by Government Electrical Engineering Department

**Figure 2.12**  
Extent of Damage Private Dwelling Houses 2015 - 2019

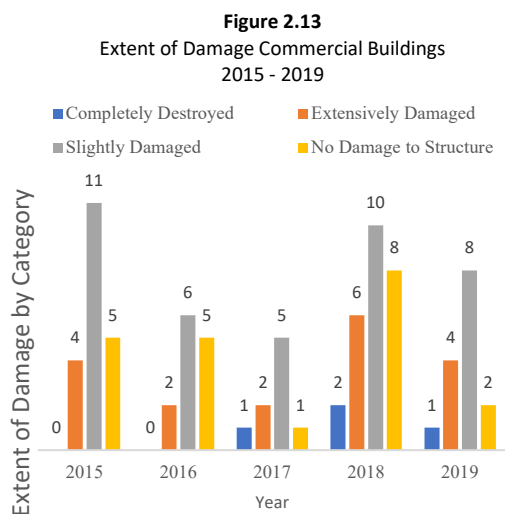


**SOURCE:** Barbados Fire Service

**LOSS OF HOUSING STOCK/COMMERCIAL PROPERTY BY FIRE**

*RESIDENTIAL FIRE*

Over the period 2015 to 2019, reports of residential fires declined steadily, falling from eighty-one (81) in 2015 to sixty



SOURCE: Barbados Fire Service

(61) in 2019, eleven (11) less than in 2018. In 2019, fifteen (15) homes were completely lost due to fire compared to twenty-seven (27) reported in 2018. Additionally, in 2019, twenty-five (25) properties were categorised as extensively damaged, twelve (12) slightly damaged and nine (9) received no damage.

#### COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS

Reports of commercial building fires fluctuated over the period 2015 and 2019. In 2018 there were twenty-six (26) responses to fires at commercial buildings compared to fifteen (15) in 2019. In 2018 there were two buildings completely destroyed, six (6) were extensively damaged, ten (10) slightly damaged and eight (8) recorded no damage due to fire. While in 2019 one (1) commercial property was completely destroyed, four (4) extensively damaged, eight (8) slightly damaged and two (2) received no damage.

#### PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME

##### ROAD WORKS

As part of Government's Policy, the Ministry of Transport, Works and Maintenance continued to implement

various initiatives to expand and rehabilitate the current road work network. As at December 31, 2019, thirteen (13) roads were completed, which included the rehabilitation of three (3) roads totaling a length 1.344 km within the CAF Road Rehabilitation programme; the rehabilitation of 4.3 km of highway under the rehabilitation of Secondary, Tenant and Subsidiary Roads programme; and the rehabilitation of 735 m long road and the milling and paving of three (3) roads at a length 1.575 km as part of the Road Maintenance Programme. Additionally, within the Road Rehabilitation and Improving Connectivity of Road Infrastructure Project, five (5) roads at a total length 16.04 km. were milled and paved

During 2019, a total of 1,177 roads were patched as part of the Ministry's Asphalt Reinforcement/ Patching Programme, down from 1,208 in 2018. The majority of work was undertaken by Prospect depot (172) followed by Prince Road (154) and South Point (143) depots.

#### ENERGY AND UTILITIES

There was a slight decrease in the contribution to Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the Electricity, Gas and Water Supply Industry, from BDS\$214.1 million in 2018, to BDS\$213.50 million in 2019 representing a slight decrease of 0.6 per cent. This decline for the Electricity, Gas & Water Supply was the lowest contribution to Real Gross Domestic Product over a ten-year period, from 2010 to 2019 in the industry.

##### OIL & GAS PRODUCTION AND RESERVES

The production of crude oil for 2019 amounted to 209,350 barrels which represented a decrease of five (5.0) per cent over 2018 with production recording 220,432 barrels (bbls) for that year. The decline in production was as a result of an aging field and no new wells being brought

online. The production of natural gas was 500,867 mcf, a decrease of two (2.0) per cent when compared to 510,323 one thousand cubic feet (mcf) produced in 2018. This overall reduction was as a result of the deduction in associative gas from crude oil production.

The Barbados National Oil Company Limited (BNOCL) reported for 2019, that the total amount of product available for 2020 consists of 1.96 million barrels (bbls) of crude oil and 4,250,000 thousand cubic feet (mcf) of natural gas. This represented a decrease from 2018 reserves of eleven (11.0) per cent in the case of crude oil which stood at 2.21 million barrels, and a fifteen (15.0%) percent decline in the case of natural gas which stood at 4,974,706 mcf.

#### OIL AND GAS SALES AND CONSUMPTION

The sale of Oil for 2019 decreased by four (4.0) per cent, from 218,000 bbls in 2018, to 209,655 bbls in 2019. Similarly, natural gas sales from Barbados National Oil Company Limited (BNOCL) decreased by thirty-six (36.0) per cent from 939,956 mcf in 2018 as compared to 2019 which stood at 601,609 mcf, which was made up of local production of natural gas and imported, liquefied natural gas (LNG).

The National Petrol Corporation (NPC) recorded an increase of four (4.0) per cent to \$22,809,253 for 2019 when compared to \$22,019,125 for 2018. The volume of natural gas sold in 2019 stood at 14,756,920 m<sup>3</sup>, which represented a decrease of three (3.0) per cent below the amount sold in 2018 of 15,177,632 m<sup>3</sup>. The increase in value was due solely to the increase in price for the imported liquefied natural gas sold.

The natural gas expansion programme of the NPC continued in 2019 through its addition of 1.23 miles to its distribution network and an additional two

hundred and twelve (212) new customers for the 2019.

#### ELECTRICITY

For the year 2019, sales of electricity were 944 million kWh, representing a marginal increase of zero-point six (0.6) per cent when compared to 2018 which stood at 938 million kWh. Of the total sales of electricity for 2019, it was estimated that fifty-two (52) million kWh or 6.0 per cent of electricity were sales from renewable energy sources. The largest category of users continues to be the domestic sector. This sector accounted for thirty-five (35.0) per cent of total sales or 330.0 million kWh.

The BL&P continued its expansion of services by investing approximately BDS\$102.0 million to upgrade its capital infrastructure in 2019. This figure represents an increase in investment over that of 2018 by 132.0 per cent which stood at BDS \$44 million. This increase in investment was the result of capital outlay in the last quarter of 2019 for new generation capacity.

#### FUEL IMPORTS

The fuel import bill for 2019 was estimated at BDS\$511,167,033 which represented a decline of zero point four (0.4) per cent when compared with the figure of BDS\$513,000,000 for 2018. The estimated decrease in the import bill can be attributed in large measure to decreases in petroleum prices in general.

Gasoline imported during 2019 stood at 731,641 barrels, representing a decrease in imported volume of one (1.0) per cent when compared with gasoline imports for the 2018 which were 736,172 barrels. Equally, the imports of diesel for 2019 recorded 460,628 barrels registering a decrease of two

(2.0) percent as compared with diesel imports of 469,851 barrels during 2018. The imports of fuel oil showed a decrease of twenty-three (23.0) per cent where 995,828 barrels were imported for 2019, as compared to 1,289,069 barrels for 2018.

For 2019, the imports of kerosene in 2019 stood at 1,608,938 barrels which represented an increase of nine (9) per cent when compared with the imports of kerosene for 2018 which was recorded at 1,473,327 barrels. These imports were used in the airline industry and locally, as domestic kerosene for electricity generation.

#### CONSUMPTION OF REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

During 2019, the volume of gasoline consumed was 770,563 barrels, representing an increase of five (5.0) per cent when compared with gasoline consumed for 2018 of 736,828 barrels. The consumption of 498,895 barrels of diesel as compared to 473,874 barrels for 2018 which represented an increase of five (5.0) per cent.

The increase in the consumption of kerosene and the concomitant decline in fuel oil was as a result of the steam plant at the Barbados Light and Power Company not operating for most of 2019, as well as the low speed diesel turbines being offline for maintenance. Consequently, the gas turbines which used kerosene were the main generating plants in operation during 2019 to maintain capacity.

#### LOCAL RETAIL PRICES

For the major fuels; gasoline, diesel, kerosene and LPG, the policy of monthly price adjustment continued during 2019. In the case of gasoline, the average retail price for 2019 was \$3.72 per litre or two (2.0) per cent above the average retail price for 2018, which was \$3.64 per litre. With respect to diesel prices, the average retail price for 2019 was \$3.03 per litre which was four (4.0) per cent above for the same period in 2018 of \$2.91 per litre. The average retail price for kerosene during 2019 was \$1.38 per litre or five (5%) percent below the average retail price for 2018 of \$1.45 per litre. The adjustments seen in the retail prices were from increased Cost, Insurance, and Freight (CIF) prices.

During 2019, the retail prices for LPG, were adjusted in a similar fashion. The average retail price of the 100lb cylinder was recorded at \$159.40 which was one (1.0) per cent below the average retail price for the year 2018 of \$161.76. Regarding the 25lb cylinder, the average retail price was \$44.95 for 2019, an increase of one (1.0) per cent when compared with 2018, of \$45.54. The average retail price for the 22lb cylinder for 2019 was \$39.72, representing a decline of one (1.0) per cent when compared to that of 2018 which was \$40.24. The average retail price for the 20lb cylinder during 2019 was \$36.11 showing a slight increase of zero point one (0.1%) percent when compared to the average price for 2018 which was recorded at \$36.06.

During 2019, the elements in the price structure of refined petroleum products experienced no changes and remained fixed.

## **G. SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT**

### **MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISE SECTOR**

During 2019, Government' strategies for the development of the Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprise (MSME) sector were guided by the National MSME Policy which placed emphasis on legal, regulatory and business support; access to finance; market access, competitiveness and productivity; and the development of entrepreneurial skills, as well as developing knowledge and competencies through education and training.

The MSME sector continued to be positioned as an engine of economic growth through the development and implementation of strategies aimed at facilitating higher levels of wealth creation, innovation and competitiveness during the review period. In this regard, the Trust Loan Fund disbursed 2,556 loans at a value of \$11,524,686.

Preparatory work commenced on the formulation of a National Vending Policy, the establishment of a Financial Literacy Bureau to assist small businesses with making prudent financial decisions and the development of a National Community Business Cluster programme to facilitate the goal of an entrepreneur in every household.

### **BARBADOS AGENCY FOR MICRO-ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT (FUND ACCESS)**

During 2019, the Barbados Agency for Micro Enterprise Development disbursed nine (9) grants and seventy-four (74) loans at a value of \$30,929 and \$3,602,399, respectively. There were 859 outstanding loans at a value of \$25,824,578 over the period; overall the loan default rate was 17.1 per cent. Over the review period, Fund Access facilitated the creation of 74 jobs as outlined in the table below.

Technical assistance was provided to twelve (12) micro and small businesses at a combined value of \$37,837 while training was provided in the areas of micro enterprise, human resource management, marketing, financial management, sales and service excellence and food safety.

### **COOPERATIVES AND FRIENDLY SOCIETIES**

The Government of Barbados' strategy to enfranchise and empower its citizens through the use of the co-operative business model continues to be successful. In this regard, a group of individual transport operators established the Barbados Association of Coach Owners Co-operative Society Limited (BACOCSL) after the Government mandated that transportation for the students of Ross University School of Medicine, which relocated to Barbados in 2019, be facilitated via a co-operative. The BACOCSL subsequently secured a contract with Ross University in excess of US\$3 million per annum for a 5-year period.

The Barbados Sustainable Energy Co-operative Society Limited, which was conceptualized in 2019, was established as the first renewable energy co-operative. The BSECSL is intended to facilitate the maximization of local participation in foreign-owned renewable energy, energy storage and energy efficient projects, generate economic activity and minimize the outflow of foreign exchange for the importation of fossil fuels.

In 2019, four (4) co-operatives were registered in agriculture, transport and construction.

### **ENTERPRISE GROWTH FUND LIMITED**

Over the review period, the Enterprise Growth Fund (EGFL) disbursed \$14.3 million while the total amount available for lending was approximately \$28.9 million. The accumulated value of

loans approved by EGFL from 1998 to 2019 totaled \$404.72 million.

#### AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT FUND (ADF)

The Government capitalized the ADF with \$3 million in 2019. During the period under review, the ADF received five (5) loan applications totaling \$2.8 million and approved \$1.3 million. Total disbursements amounted to \$0.82 million. The total amount available for lending at the end of 2019 was \$2.1 million.

#### DISASTER REVOLVING RELIEF FUND (DRRF)

The DRRF was capitalized with \$2.0 million while \$16,756 was disbursed during 2019. One application for funding totaling \$20,000 which was received and approved. The total amount available for lending, at the end of 2019 was \$2.4 million.

#### ENTERPRISE GROWTH FUND (EGF)

At the end of 2019, total funds available for lending totaled \$6.3 million. Seven (7) applications were received while disbursements totaled \$3.76 million.

#### EXPORT PROMOTION AND MARKETING FUND (EPMF)

The EPMF was created to provide grants to corporate entities, including statutory corporations, which are involved in exporting domestic products. No grants were disbursed in 2019. The total amount available for lending as at December 31, 2019 was approximately \$2.2 million.

#### THE INNOVATION FUND (IF)

The Innovation Fund continued to provide technical expertise to entrepreneurs with innovative Ideas. No applications were received during 2019. The amount available for lending stood at \$1.3 million during the period under review.

#### INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT AND EMPLOYMENT FUND (IIEF)

At the end of 2019, the IIEF continued to enhance the local manufacturing sector by providing attractive loan financing. In this regard, disbursements totaled \$0.71 million while the total amount available for lending as at December 31, 2019 was approximately \$0.7 million.

#### SMALL HOTELS INVESTMENT FUND (SHIF)

During the review period, the Small Hotels Investment Fund (SHIF) continued to assist small hotels with marketing, procurement of joint services and refurbishment. The SHIF received a capitalization of \$2.0 million from the Government and disbursed \$1.1 million in 2019. One (1) loan totaling \$0.55 million was approved while approximately \$4.4 million was available for lending the end of 2019.

#### THE ENERGY SMART FUND (ESF)

The Energy Smart Fund was established to provide financial and technical support to renewable energy and energy efficiency projects. The Fund was re-capitalized by the Government with an injection of \$2.0 million during 2019. The Fund continues to garner significant interest,

**Table: 2.6-16**  
Facilitation of Job Creation by Fund Access by Category (2019)

<b>Category</b>	<b>New</b>	<b>Expansion</b>	<b>Total</b>
Retail and Distribution	3	9	12
Retail (Food)	6	5	11
Tourism	2	2	4
Beauty Industry	4	5	9
Manufacturing	3	4	7
Farming	3	5	8
Professional	2	3	5
Services	7	11	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>74</b>

with seven (7) applications totaling \$5.3 million received. Total approvals were in the amount of \$4.5 million while disbursements totaled \$5.4 million over the review period.

#### THE TOURISM LOAN FUND (TLF)

The Tourism Loan Fund continued to provide loan financing for the construction, refurbishment and upgrade of eligible hotels and attractions during 2019. The TLF disbursed \$0.03 million during the review period. The amount available for lending as at December 31, 2019 was approximately \$8.84 million.

## H. COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

### LICENSING

In 2019, the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA) processed 12,507 applications for import licenses under the Miscellaneous Control Act CAP 329. During the same period, the DCCA issued 2,037 and 502 licenses for used/reconditioned and new vehicles, respectively, a decline of 229 in comparison to 2018. Additional information on vehicle imports is outlined in the table below.

### STANDARDS ENFORCEMENT

The DCCA also enforced mandatory labelling standards for imported goods as outlined in the Standards Act 2006-5 and monitored items under the Miscellaneous Controls Act CAP 329. In this regard, 4,107 containers were inspected. Price verification was also conducted at petrol stations.

### CONSUMER CLAIMS TRIBUNAL

During 2019, the Consumer Claims Tribunal, a small claims court, held 23 sittings and adjudicated 46 cases. Eighteen cases were resolved, and a total of \$10,520 was awarded in compensation. In addition, 27 cases were adjourned.

### CONSUMER PROTECTION

In an effort to intensify its educational outreach, the Fair Trading Commission embarked on back-to-school and Christmas campaigns to increase public awareness on consumers' rights and responsibilities in 2019.

The Commission commenced an investigation into Sol (Barbados) Limited after receiving 2 queries related to the purchase of 100-pound liquid petroleum gas cylinders. After completing its investigation, the Commission determined that the relevant



clause constituted an unfair contract term and misleading and deceptive conduct in contravention of the Consumer Protection Act, CAP. 326D. Consequently, Sol (Barbados) Limited was directed to remove the contract term and reimburse 11 customers who had been impacted.

#### UTILITY REGULATION

In 2018, the Barbados Light and Power Company Limited filed an application for a motion to review the Commission's initial decision related to the recovery of costs for its 5 MW energy storage device via the fuel clause adjustment. On April 23, 2019, the Commission stipulated that heat rate targets would only be applied to low speed diesel and steam plants as opposed to all plants as was indicated in its initial decision.

On September 24, 2019, the Commission issued its decision on feed-in-tariffs for renewable energy technologies up to and including 1 MW. The feed-in-tariffs programme, which came into effect on October 1, 2019, allows new renewable energy generators to earn a stable rate of return on their investment over a 20-year period. The tariffs will apply to solar, land-based wind, biogas and biomass renewable energy systems.

#### FAIR COMPETITION

The Commission approved a formal application for a merger between Harmony

**Table: 2.6-17**  
2019 Vehicle Import Licenses Issued

<b>Used/ Reconditioned</b>	
Applications	2,449
Licenses Issued	2,037
Vehicles Imported	1,689
<b>New</b>	
Applications	1,236
Licenses Issued	502
Vehicles Imported	1,259

**SOURCE:** Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

General Insurance Company Limited and Sagicor General Insurance Inc. without condition on June 27, 2019.

In July, 2019, Alignvest Acquisition II Corporation sought approval for the acquisition of Sagicor Financial Corporation Limited and its local subsidiaries. In October 2019, following the completion of its review, the Commission approved the transaction without condition.

In July 2019, the Commission launched an assessment of the auto fuels sub-sector to gain critical insight on its market conditions following an upsurge in activity over the past 15 years.

### III. SOCIAL SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

#### OVERVIEW

The Government of Barbados envisage to trans/form and reform the education system as a strategic component of its national sustainable development focus. As such, the introduction of occupational training within the education system was initiated to develop more well-rounded and competent students with greater capacity for sustained development. Student enrolment for Caribbean Vocational Qualifications (CVQs) increased, and upgrades in the physical and technological infrastructure of schools with the computer software “AUTOCAD” facilitated additional areas of certification for students and teachers.

In association with the reformed education system was the complementary health and nutrition education goals that reduced the incidences of childhood obesity and the prevalence of an increasing proportion of non-communicable diseases in society. The promotion of wellness and healthy lifestyles was expressed in the development of a national information System for Health (IS4H) that included policies, legislation, strategies, plans, programmes, and governance with specific emphasis on good healthcare practices. The introduction of a 24-Hour Polyclinic System on July 1, 2019 was a significant boost to the delivery of healthcare services that promoted wellness, healthcare, and healthy lifestyles.

With regards to the social empowerment and the safeguarding of vulnerable persons in society, the government through the Ministry of People Empowerment and Elder Affairs established linkages between communities to improve the well-being of citizens through varied Social Safety Net Programmes. These Social Safety Net Programmes provided immediate financial assistance to the vulnerable, and educated and empowered persons living in poverty as a mechanism for improving their life

circumstances. The National Pit Eradication and Roof Retrofitting Project as a component of these programmes, afforded persons the opportunity to experience a more sustainable and equitable standard of living that allowed them to actively and more meaningfully, participate in the process of national development. Additionally, the Strengthening Human and Social Development (SHSD) Programme sought to address inter-generational poverty and unemployment by strengthening the Social Safety Net services provided to families under extreme poverty and expanding the Identification, Stabilisation, Enablement and Empowerment (ISEE) Bridge programme to two hundred and fifty (250) households.

#### A. EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The Government of Barbados articulated that the reformation of the education system resides at the core of its development model. The attainment of the targets of the new education product function as a transformative engine towards socio-economic targets and are predicated on five (5) key strategies:

1. the provision of high-quality basic education at the pre-primary, primary and secondary levels to the population so that the nation’s citizenry would be poised to recognize and realize its potential for development;
2. the provision of a wide range of higher education and training opportunities to enable those best able to avail themselves of those facilities to develop the professional, technical, vocational and other skills they can use to further their careers and contribute to the development of the Barbadian economy and society;
3. the provision of special educational facilities for the disadvantaged to

- enable them to lead full, active and interesting lives;
4. the strengthening of all institutions involved in the teaching-learning process with emphasis on enhancing the capability to deliver technical and vocational education and training; and
  5. the promotion and nurture of a culture of critical thinking, research and entrepreneurial outlook, at all educational levels.

The newly reformed education paradigm is anticipated to exhibit multilateral parity through its congruity with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 4 and 8. SDG 4 focuses on ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and the promotion of lifelong learning opportunities for all, while SDG 8 focuses on increasing labour productivity, reducing the unemployment rate, and improving access to financial services and benefits.

In tandem with the key strategies espoused in the preceding text, the government has taken the decision to

subsume occupational training within the education sector. As such, the adoption of the Barbados Vocational Training Board (BVTB), the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Council and the Employment & Training Fund (ETF) has increased the projected total expenditure of the METVT by approximately BD\$18M for the Financial Year 2019-2020. The expenditure level associated with the Occupational Training programme accounts for 3.43 percent of the total projected expenditure (BD\$ 524,152,823) on education.

#### APPROVED EDUCATION EXPENDITURE BY PROGRAMME/SUB-PROGRAMME

A comparative review of expenditure levels for financial years 2015/16 to 2019/20 generally reveals consistency across education programmes and levels. Tertiary Education accounted for the largest percentage (31.45 percent) of Education Expenditure. While the percentage expenditure allocations to Primary and Secondary Education both fluctuated over the years, these fluctuations are typically contained within 2 to 3 percentage points

**TABLE 3.1-1**  
**Approved Education Expenditure**  
**2015/2016 to 2019/2020**

Programme	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020
Central Administration	15,843,304	17,406,382	15,378,884	20,619,512	14,311,625
Teacher Training	6,024,557	6,112,785	6,145,032	6,445,673	4,859,404
Primary Education	169,222,051	153,744,160	156,829,311	149,796,821	144,470,161
Nursery Education	552,286	474,552	279,857	279,857	313,250
Education Sector Enhancement Programme (ESEP)	9,671,928	11,360,948	6,098,192	7,480,019	4,831,291
Secondary Education	126,779,888	131,086,936	132,838,356	134,907,198	139,288,300
Tertiary Education	125,617,405	131,843,550	131,942,638	138,808,454	164,841,644
Special Services	35,072,158	32,584,146	37,011,586	36,305,534	33,280,352
HIV/AIDS Prevention	225,000	0	0	0	0
Poverty Alleviation and Reduction	0	0	10,000	0	0
Occupational Training	0	0	0	16,780,510	17,956,776
<b>Total</b>	<b>489,008,577</b>	<b>484,613,459</b>	<b>486,533,856</b>	<b>511,423,578</b>	<b>524,152,803</b>

**SOURCE:** Ministry of Education, Technological and Vocational Training

**Table 3.1-2**  
**Indicators related to Expenditure on Education for 2019-2020**

	<b>Percentage</b>
Public Expenditure on Education as a percentage of total expenditure	16.0
Public Expenditure on Education as a percentage of GDP	5.0
Public Current Expenditure on Education as a percentage of public expenditure on Education	97.0
Public Capital Expenditure on Education as a percentage of public expenditure on Education	3.0
Public Expenditure on Pre-primary, Primary and Special education as a percentage of total expenditure	5.0
Public Expenditure on Secondary education as a percentage of total expenditure	4.0
Public Expenditure on Tertiary education as a percentage of total expenditure	5.0
Public Expenditure per student as a percentage of GDP per capita	81.0
Salaries as a percentage of public expenditure on education	54.0
Teacher Training as a percentage of public expenditure on education	1.0
Higher Education Awards as a percentage of public expenditure on education	3.0

**SOURCE:** Ministry of Education, Technological and Vocational Training

year-on-year and reflect the Government's budgetary commitment to these mandatory educational levels.

#### **NURSERY AND PRIMARY SECTION**

Regular monitoring by the education officers continued in nursery, primary and special needs schools as they made over five hundred (500) visits to monitor the management and organizational practices, to check on school readiness, conducting 'hand-over exercises' at schools with newly appointed principals, and to investigate complaints. Teachers were assigned to nursery, primary and special education schools to ensure that the delivery of curriculum and the supervision of students were not compromised. In addition, Early Childhood Coordinators were assigned to nursery and primary schools and the re-registration of private nursery, primary, secondary and special needs schools were undertaken.

Procurement and distribution of furniture to schools was facilitated by the Nursery, Primary and Office Management Sections of the METVT. Chairs for infants and juniors, nesting tables, single and double desks, teachers' desks and chairs and filing cabinets were distributed to schools according to their needs. The allocation of Cash Grants figured prominently during the

academic year as Cash Grants totaling BD\$1,024,900 were disbursed through the Republic Bank of Barbados.

In addition, the advocacy of positive behaviour in schools and among the youth was paramount and the METVT took the initiative to conduct training in Positive Behaviour Management practices for student councils. Pursuant to the objectives of this initiative, sensitisation workshops in alternative measures and the consequences of using corporal punishment were held for parents. Training in Emergency Management Techniques is another initiative of high priority on the agenda for the METVT.

#### **SECONDARY EDUCATION**

The number of school offerings increased from 8-20 while the students being assessed in Caribbean Vocational Qualifications (CVQs) rose from 118 to 431, and the number of schools increased from five (5) to fifteen (15) for the period under review. The expansion of CVQs at the secondary level resulted in the refurbishment of the cosmetology lab at Frederick Smith Secondary and it is anticipated that private sector funding will assist in the thrust to build out CVQ facilities. With respect to facility upgrade, eighteen (18) secondary schools are currently

equipped with the computer software AUTOCAD. The Caribbean Examinations Council (CXC) mandated that this software should be in place in order for candidates to sit the Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate (CSEC) in Technical Drawing. Additionally, the coordination of Alternative Exams (City and Guilds & London Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) continued in schools, with an expansion in the number of schools entering students for examinations in Mathematics and English, from two (2) to seven (7).

#### **STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES UNIT**

Student Support Services Unit provided support to school-aged children, parents/guardians, teachers and guidance counsellors. The Unit engaged in a number of joint programmes geared toward the holistic development of students and an enriched experience for those other stakeholders who bear responsibility for the students' well-being.

During the period under review, the officers of the SSSU approved, 206 BSSEE referrals, clinically evaluated 373 students, conducted 248 home visits, conducted 404 school visits, conducted 88 student psychological evaluations, processed 132 student special requests for the BSSEE, processed 46 student exemptions, assigned 74 students to special education units, conducted evaluation on 170 'At Risk' secondary school students identified from seven schools with challenges with school violence and discipline. The Unit also sensitized the staff of New Horizon Academy in Suicide Protocol and 5 officers attended the Aggression Replacement Therapy.

#### **BARBADOS ACCREDITATION COUNCIL**

Thirty-five (35) tertiary educational providers were registered with the Barbados Accreditation Council (BAC) which included three offshore medical schools; the American

University of Integrative Sciences, Queens University College of Medicine and the Ross University School of Medicine. The BAC issued one hundred and thirty-four Certificates of Recognition of CARICOM Skills Qualification to eligible CARICOM Nationals and nine (9) Statements of Recognition of Institutions and or Programmes, verified 28 Certificates of Recognition issued by other CARICOM Member States, evaluated 17 foreign qualifications to local awards, and completed seven (7) Recognition and Verification of qualifications.

#### **SCHOOL MEALS DEPARTMENT**

The School Meals Department (SMD) was developed to provide a mid – morning milk break and lunch time meal to children at public primary schools. Recipients of this service have grown to include students at all public nursery schools, special schools, two (2) private institutions, and at-risk children in eighteen (18) secondary schools. The School Meals Department prepared and distributed a total of approximately 1,244,387 lunches from four (4) centres across the island, utilising the skills and abilities of four hundred and thirty-eight (438) members of staff in its quest to provide for the nation's poor and disadvantaged families. In so doing the programme acted as an instrument to stimulate the development of our children and to complement broader health and nutrition education goals while inculcating healthy eating habits from an early age. It addressed prevalent issues such as childhood obesity and the increased development of non-communicable diseases.

The School Meals Department revamped its programme into one that not only aimed to improve the efficiency with which meals are prepared and delivered, but to recognise its social responsibility to the health and well-being of our children by increasing its focus on the purpose and value of the meals provided. During the period under review, 4,322,790 lunches were prepared and distributed and training for

**TABLE 3.1-3**  
**Barbados Vocational Training Board**  
**Enrolment and Output of Skilled Manpower 2019**

Skills	Enrolment			Output		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Agricultural	0	0	0	0	0	0
Apparel & Sewn Product	11	120	131	8	66	74
Art & Craft	0	42	42	2	23	25
Automotive	181	12	193	140	10	150
Beauty Care & Services	39	267	306	20	220	240
Commercial	8	32	40	3	24	27
Hospitality	121	310	431	90	219	309
Information Technology	37	24	61	20	19	39
Machine and Appliance	17	0	17	9	0	9
Other	458	77	535	211	53	264
<b>Total All Skills Programme</b>	<b>872</b>	<b>884</b>	<b>1,756</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>634</b>	<b>1,137</b>

**SOURCE:** Barbados Vocational Training Board

officers was conducted in the areas of Productivity Awareness, Conflict Resolution, Effective Supervision, and Personal Empowerment & Motivation.

Building maintenance and repairs including plumbing and electrical repairs; painting of exteriors and interiors and power washing were done at all centres.

#### **BARBADOS VOCATIONAL TRAINING BOARD**

The BVTB is a non-profit institution statutory corporation which receives an annual subvention through its parent ministry “to provide for the training of persons for, or in gainful employment in occupations in all branches of economic activity in Barbados.”

There are four (4) modalities of training which are offered by the Board, namely, Apprenticeship, Skills Training, Evening and In-Plant Programmes.

Apprenticeship is a three-year training programme. Through this programme, which provided opportunities

for an apprentice to receive work-based practical training with an employer to whom he is contractually linked. Associated theoretical training is provided in an institutional setting, usually at the Samuel Jackman Prescod Institute of Technology (SJPI) or at the BVTB itself. Skills Training Programmes comprised shorter term modular courses, which were offered over a period of one (1) or two (2) semesters.

In Plant courses are designed for persons who are already employed in the industry, but who may require skill upgrading to facilitate their performance of job tasks. Customised training is conducted for such persons in collaboration with their employers, who cover associated costs.

Enrolment and Output of skilled Manpower at the Barbados Vocational Training Board reported that the categories of Apparel & Sewn Product, Automotive, Beauty Care Services, Hospitality and Other were the most popular subscribed-to categories in relation to Enrolment and Output. Enrolment for the All Skills Programmes totalled 1,756 subscribed persons with an output number of 1,137

persons. It was also interesting to note that females dominated both Enrolment and Output at the Barbados Vocational Training Board.

#### **TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING COUNCIL**

The Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Council programme provided for the expansion and upgrading of training facilities, support of priority training activities and programmes in accordance with agreed national priorities and plans for the training of persons for employment in all areas of economic activity in Barbados.

The Employment and Training Fund (ETF) was established to provide loans and grants to subsidise the cost incurred by employers in training and retraining of employees in line with criteria set by the TVET Council and also to support training programmes that are in accordance with national priorities.

During the period under review TVET Council reviewed and upgraded the administration of the Health, Wellness, Safety and Security at work programme, implemented Institutional Reform and Strengthening as recommendations from KPMG Study. The Council also approved six (6) new organisations as assessment centres and various assessment centres to offer 19 N and 27 N /CVQs. Developed three national occupational standards and validated one Caribbean Vocational Qualifications, for local use.

#### **SAMUEL JACKMAN PRESCOD INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY**

The institution delivered training to one thousand five hundred and fifty-four (1,544) students. The SJPI enrolled nine hundred and five (905) students in full time programmes, of which six hundred and

twenty-two (622) were first years, two hundred and fifty-four (254) were second years and twenty-nine (29) were third years. Included in this data were seventeen (17) international students of which nine (9) were new students and eight (8) were returning students.

Additionally, four hundred and eighty-seven (487) students were enrolled in Continuing Education courses and programmes, of which two hundred and fourteen (214) were males and two hundred and seventy-three (273) were females.

During the period under review, the division of Building Trades was granted qualification approval to offer CVQ in Plumbing Level 2 to students. Currently, SJPI has qualification approval for twenty-seven (27) skilled areas in addition to four (4) Core skills areas which were added more recently. Assessments were completed in Electrical Installation Level 1, Amenity Horticulture Level 2, Food Preparation Level 2, Cosmetology Level 2, Fashion Technology Level 2, Manufacturing Sewn Products Level 2, Fibre Optic Installation Level 2, Nail Technology Level 2, Massage Therapy Level 3, Mechanical Manufacturing Engineering - Computer Numeric Control (CNC) Machining Level 3, Live Sound Engineering level 3.

A comprehensive staff audit and gap analysis in the qualifications of the Academic and Administrative staff were undertaken and it was determined that capacity building for the staff is paramount, particularly in view of the revised Public Service Act. This that saw officers gained certification in educational leadership, technical vocational training in adult education, financial record keeping, and other technical and vocational trades.

The full refurbishment of all bathrooms and the sealing of defective roofs across the campus were completed during the summer maintenance programme. In addition, the main administrative offices

have undergone major renovations and refurbishment. A substantial amount of work has been done to retrofit staff rooms and administrative offices with air conditioning units to date; approximately 95 per cent of the staff rooms on campus are now furnished with air condition units.

The Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) projects focused on modernizing and transforming four (4) flagship programmes/labs; namely Auto-robotics Lab to now include Hybrid and Electric Powered Vehicles Technologies; Computer Numerical Control (CNC) Machining to be upgraded to include 3D printing; Micro Computer Technologies to be upgraded to include Automation aspects such as drone manufacturing operations, coding, programming and technologies

related to Robotics; and Garment Technologies to be upgraded to include 3D Body Scanning Technologies.

#### **CARIBBEAN CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY LEVEL COMPETENCE**

During the year 2019 4,200 students (2,034 males and 2,166 females) from seventeen public and three private schools were examined for CCSLC. Grades of Competence and Mastery accounted for 58 per cent and 28 per cent of the total results of the examinations taken, respectively.

#### **CARIBBEAN SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE (CSEC)**

During the examination period of June 2019, 72 per cent of the CSEC examinations taken

**Table 3.1-4  
CCSLC Examination Results 2019**

Grade	Males (%)	Females (%)	Total (%)
Mastery	24.0	32.0	28.0
Competence	57.0	59.0	58.0
Developing Competence	17.0	9.0	13.0
Other	1.0	1.0	1.0
	100.0	100.0	100.0

**SOURCE:** Ministry of Education, Technological and Vocational Training

**Table 3.1-5  
CSEC Examination Results – June 2019**

Grade	Males	Females	Total
I	1,208	1,690	2,898
II	2,293	2,879	5,172
III	2,652	3,398	6,050
	6,153	7,967	14,120
Total Passes	72.0	72.0	72.0
Total Sitzings	8,093	10,706	18,799

**SOURCE:** Ministry of Education, Technological and Vocational Training



**Table 3.1-6**  
**CSEC Students – June 2019**

Sex	Students			1+ Passes			5+ Passes		
	Public	Private	Total	Public	Private	Total	Public	Private	Total
Male	2,070	149	2,219	92.0	90.0	92.0	53.0	69.0	54.0
Female	2,458	239	2,697	92.0	82.0	91.0	54.0	77.0	56.0
Total	4,528	388	4,916	92.0	85.0	91.0	54.0	74.0	55.0

**SOURCE:** Ministry of Education, Technological and Vocational Training

**Table 3.1-7**  
**CAPE Examination Results – June 2019**

Grade	Unit 1			Unit 2			Grand Total
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
I	242	347	589	181	262	443	1,032
II	310	509	819	174	275	449	1,268
III	345	551	896	162	280	442	1,338
IV	326	514	840	148	169	317	1,157
V	217	306	523	78	96	174	697
	1,440	2,227	3,667	743	1,082	1,825	5,492
Total Passes	92.0	93.0	93.0	94.0	95.0	94.0	93.0
Total Sittings	1,566	2,389	3,955	793	1,141	1,934	5,889

**SOURCE:** Ministry of Education, Technological and Vocational Training

by students of public and private schools resulted in passes at grade I, II or III. Of the 4,916 students (2,219 males and 2,697 females) 91 per cent gained passes in at least one subject, while 55 per cent passed five or more in the year's sittings.

#### **CARIBBEAN ADVANCED PROFICIENCY CERTIFICATE (CAPE)**

The CAPE examinations taken by students of public and private schools resulted in 92 per cent and 94 per cent passes, at grades I through V, for the Unit 1 and Unit 2 proficiency levels, respectively. 99 per cent of the 1,525 public and private school students (628 males and 897 females) received at least one pass at either unit level.

#### **BARBADOS INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT AND PRODUCTIVITY**

During 2019, the Barbados Institute of Management and Productivity (BIMAP) facilitated a number of certificate courses such as the Diploma in Management Studies, Bachelor of Business Administration, Information Technology Profession Certifications, and C/NVQ Levels 2 and 3 courses. A total of 1,772 students were enrolled, fifty-two (52) less than the 1,824 students enrolled in 2018. Over the review period, 30 per cent males and 70 per cent females were enrolled. Increases were recorded in the enrollment numbers of the 45-hour certification course (83); seminars and short courses (20); diplomas in

**Table 3.1-8**  
**CAPE Students – June 2019**

Sex	Students			1+ Passes		
	Public	Private	Total	Public	Private	Total
Male	614	14	628	99.2	78.6	98.7
Female	878	19	897	99.9	89.5	99.7
Total	1,492	33	1,525	99.6	84.8	99.3

**SOURCE:** Ministry of Education, Technological and Vocational Training

Management Studies (65); Information Technology Professional Certification (13); C/NVQ Levels 2 and 3 (80). Only the Bachelor of Business Administration (5) and the Certificate in Management Studies (65) recorded a decrease in the number of students enrolled.

## B. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The National Council for Science and Technology (NCST) is planning to develop a Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Policy/Strategy. The regional office of UNESCO in Jamaica has provided funding for the design of a strategy to strengthen regional STI capabilities and capacities.

Barbados has been involved in the CARICOM member states current state of assessment information gathering, as input to the consultancy process and aims to benefit from the outcomes of the work to develop its strategy. In the area of innovation, the NCST is working with the assistance of an International Development partner towards the crafting of a National Framework for Innovation. The National Council for Science and Technology had various achievements during the review period, such as the success of the science and technology and the creative thinkers innovation summer camps, scratch coding and robotics workshops, digital literacy training, a science and

technology festival, and a digital project where Ambassadors were deployed to assist with the registration and filing of taxes using the Tax Administration Management Information System (TAMIS) online system.

## C. CULTURE SECTOR AND CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

### OVERVIEW

The Division of Culture, Prime Minister's Office continued to positively contribute to Barbados' social and economic development through direct and indirect investment into the culture sector via technical advice/assistance and financial transfers, as well as through the creation of trade opportunities, cultural projects and programmes which serve as a platform for the sustainable growth of the sector and the emergence of employment and business opportunities for cultural practitioners and creative businesses. The sector has also witnessed the growth in cultural businesses as they moved from the informal sector to the formal sector through the steady and consistent efforts of the Business Development Department of the National Cultural Foundation.

### ARCHIVES DEPARTMENT

The key roles of the Department are rooted in its response to the needs of Government and the people of Barbados, and its transformation into a modern and dynamic archival repository is crucial to the

social and economic development of Barbados. It provides vital and relevant sources of knowledge and aims to foster a sense of personal and national identity, by linking communities and connecting families. Over three thousand Barbadians were sensitized to the tools that enable successful family history research through the use of digital documents, presentations, display boards and on-site explanations provided by staff. The department visited communities and made attempts to engage the public and provide knowledge at the grass roots level at all the Baja-ramas held by the National Cultural Foundation.

The Department made itself available to the various educational institutions found on the island to further engage students through the Genealogy Schools Competition launched by the Department and the Barbados Tourism Management Inc. To preserve the documentary heritage of the country the digital process at the Department commenced with the digitization of the Barbadian newspapers which are available online, and various workshops were conducted concerning the transcribing of the slave ads found in the Barbados Mercury.

Citizens now have easier access to records of birth and deeds. Currently the department has no e-commerce platform and no fees are charged for our services. However, 2,712 persons visited the Archive Department to do research, 357 persons requested information online, and 44 persons requested information for other research, out of an overall total of 4,013.

#### D. POPULATION

The resident population was estimated at 272.2 thousand persons at December 31, 2019. This represented a decrease of 1,204 persons when compared with 273.5 thousand persons at the end of 2018. There were 131.5 thousand males, a decline of 506 males when compared to

132.0 thousand males in 2018. Females accounted for 140.1 thousand or 51.7 per cent of the resident population, a decline of 698 females when compared with 141.5 thousand in 2018.

The birth rate for 2019 was 9.5 per thousand, an increase compared with 8.8 per thousand the previous year. There were 2,580 live births in 2019, an increase of 165 births when compared with 2,415 in 2018. There were 1,352 male births in 2019, compared with 1,243 in 2018; while there were 1,238 female births compared with 1,172 in 2018.

The rate of population growth declined to -0.5 percent in 2019 when compared to -0.4 percent in 2018. In 2019, the natural increase in population (the difference between births and deaths) declined by three hundred and seven (307) persons.

In 2019, the death rate increased to 10.6 per thousand of the population when compared with 9.2 per thousand in 2018. There were 2,887 deaths recorded at the end of 2019, an increase of 373 when compared with the 2,514 deaths recorded in 2018. Male deaths accounted for 1,476 or 51.1 per cent of total deaths, while there were 1,411 female deaths. Infant mortality declined in 2019 and was recorded at a rate of 8.5 per thousand

**Table 3.4-1**  
**Births, Deaths and Infant Mortality**  
**2013-2019**

Year	No. of Live Births	No. of Deaths	Natural Increase	Infant Deaths
2013	3,020	2,276	744	22
2014	2,902	2,580	322	29
2015	2,876	2,554	322	23
2016R	2,545	2,580	-35	34
2017	2,574	2,632	-58	23
2018	2,415	2,514	-99	22
2019	2,580	2,887	-307	22

**SOURCE:** Barbados Statistical Service

births when compared with 9.1 per thousand in 2018. There were twenty-two (22) infant deaths, similar to the previous year, consisting of fifteen (15) males and seven (7) females.

## **E. HEALTH**

The Ministry of Health and Wellness has made significant strides in developing appropriate plans and strategies to assist in strengthening Barbados' health system, during the financial period 2019-2020. Due to Barbados' economic and social challenges, greater focus has been placed on the development of mechanisms to support health sector reform. During 2019, the Ministry continued to place emphasis on the development of policies and programmes to promote wellness and ensure the provision of quality health services, to the public of Barbados.

As part of the reform process articulated in the Barbados Economic Recovery and Transformation Plan (BERT), the Ministry continued to explore all opportunities to consolidate its budget, eliminate wastage and strengthen the performance of services and programmes. Additionally, the Ministry continued to establish contractual arrangements with its health partners for the provision of specialist care services as needed.

Appropriate models of financing have been an area of priority for a burgeoning health sector. The Ministry of Health and Wellness has contracted the services of the Health Economics Unit, of the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus, Trinidad and Tobago, to conduct a costing study of its health services. This process will provide information on the costs to deliver services in the public sector, which will allow the Ministry and the Queen Elizabeth Hospital to budget and allocate funds more accurately and efficiently.

In relation to Public Health, the Ministry reviewed its public health systems

in an effort to minimise the possible impact of COVID-19 infection on the population of Barbados. China reported a cluster of more than forty (40) severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) cases to the World Health Organization in December 2019, which resulted from infection with a previously unknown coronavirus.

## **HEALTH BUDGET**

The allocation to the Ministry of Health and Wellness for the fiscal year 2019-2020 was \$311,548,667, which represents approximately 10.0 per cent of Government's total expenditure for the period. Hospital Services, which include emergency, acute and secondary and tertiary care at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH) as well as mental health services at the Psychiatric Hospital, received approximately \$167.9 million or 53.9 per cent of the total allocation to the Ministry of Health and Wellness. This represents a total reduction of approximately 5.0 per cent when compared with the previous financial year. The deficit in this financing will be supported by the health levy, which will go directly to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH). The second largest allocation was assigned to the Primary Health Care Programme, which received approximately \$50.2 million or 16.1 per cent. The third largest allocation of \$36.0 million or 11.6 per cent was allocated to the Care of the Elderly Programme.

Further budgetary allocations were as follows: Direction and Policy Formulation Services received \$17.0 million or 5.5 percent; Care of the Disabled received \$3.1 million or 1.0 per cent; the Pharmaceutical Programme received \$27.6 million or 8.9 per cent; HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Project received \$5.8 million or 1.9 per cent; and Environmental Health Services received \$3.9 million or 1.3 per cent of the budget.

Additional funding and technical support were also secured through the Pan

**TABLE 3.5-1**  
**Health Expenditure by Programme**  
**2018/2019 - 2019/2020**

Programme	2018/2019	2019/2020
Direction and Policy Formulation Services	17,691,185	17,016,5
Primary Health Care	34,349,130	50,180,6
Hospital Services	183,352,033	167,897,8
Care of the Disabled	2,995,833	3,076,8
Pharmaceutical Programme	27,448,808	27,596,8
Care of the Elderly	35,552,088	36,010,1
HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Project	6,745,480	5,802,1
Environmental Health Services	5,031,078	3,967,6
<b>Total</b>	<b>313,165,635</b>	<b>311,548,6</b>

**SOURCE:** Planning and Research Unit, Ministry of Health and Wellness

American Health Organization's (PAHO) Biennial Work Programme, to support the execution of activities in a number of programme areas. The main areas of collaboration include: Disaster Preparedness, Surveillance and Response; Vector Control, Non-Communicable Diseases and risk factor reduction; Determinants of Health and Promoting Health throughout the life course; and Health Systems Development.

#### HEALTH SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT

##### HEALTH INFORMATION SYSTEMS

The Ministry of Health and Wellness and PAHO collaborated in the development of a rapid assessment of National Information Systems for Health (IS4H). The main goal of the initiative is to implement a better decision and policy-making mechanism, through health-related information systems that ensure universal, free and timely access to data and strategic information using the most cost-effective ICT tools.

The rapid assessment focused on key components of national information systems for health, including governance; strategies and plans; legislation and policy; financial

sustainability; human resources; data management and quality processes; data analysis capabilities; business and clinical workflow and processes; project and change management; and information technology platforms and infrastructure.

#### BARBADOS DRUG SERVICE

The drug expenditure in both the public and private sectors averaged \$8.8 million and \$6.5 million respectively in the 2018-19 fiscal year. This represents a continued reduction in expenditure when compared with the pre-restructuring 2010 fiscal year, at which time the public sector averaged \$12.5 million and the private sector \$34.6 million. This decline represents reductions of 29.0 per cent in the public sector and 81.3 per cent in the private sector respectively.

Of primary significance is that over the seven (7) post-restructuring years the BDS was able to maintain its expenditure on an average of \$11.0 million in both the public and private sectors. This can be compared with the last ten-year cycle where public expenditure averaged \$11.0 million and private expenditure at \$15.0 million, a \$3.0 million drop in the private sector.

**Table 3.5-2**  
**Expenditure on the Number of Prescriptions Filled**  
**2008/2009 to 2018/2019**

Year	Public Sector			Private Sector		
	No. Rx's	Expenditure (\$)	\$/Rx	No. Rx's	Expenditure (\$)	\$/Rx
2008/2009	731,639	12,932,110	17.68	n.a.	36,633,590	n.a.
2009/2010	778,267	12,150,516	15.61	n.a.	40,561,950	n.a.
2010/2011	814,400	12,451,937	15.29	n.a.	34,574,833	n.a.
2011/2012	1,083,082	11,765,288	10.86	887,249	10,787,176	12.20
2012/2013	1,206,351	13,481,501	11.18	864,335	10,639,956	12.31
2013/2014	1,244,739	11,998,305	9.64	828,328	10,643,775	12.85
2014/2015	1,198,187	12,444,809	13.64	841,063	10,619,933	12.71
2015/2016	1,120,971	10,357,294	9.24	827,374	9,394,511	11.35
2016/2017	1,221,568	10,408,527	8.52	808,346	9,385,713	11.61
2017/2018	1,170,306	10,080,029	8.61	827,067	9,881,643	11.95
2018/2019	1,116,447	8,830,556	7.91	649,363	6,464,335	9.95

**Source:** Barbados Drug Service, Ministry of Health and Wellness

The Drug Formulary Committee carried out a comprehensive therapeutic review of the six (6) therapeutic benefit categories, as well as anti-psychotic and antibiotic medicines in the Barbados National Drug Formulary. This review process was expected to realize a saving of approximately \$6,440,766.50 in the two-year contract period April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2020 period. During the first year (2018-19 fiscal year) of the two-year contract period, \$3,417,308 was realized in savings over the previous year.

#### **BEST DOS-SANTOS LABORATORY**

The Best Dos-Santos Laboratory continued to develop and implement its Anti-Microbial Resistance (AMR) programme in collaboration with PAHO and the Republic of Argentina. The laboratory also continued to develop and implement its Quality Management System, with the view to having the laboratory inspected for international accreditation by August 2020. To this end, the laboratory embarked on the implementation of several initiatives such as procurement of proficiency testing materials for all test analysed, completion of the Quality Manual and laboratory Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), Safety Manual,

User Manual and a fully implemented Maintenance Programme for equipment and building.

#### **PRIMARY HEALTH CARE PROGRAMME**

##### **IMPLEMENTATION OF A 24-HOUR SERVICE**

The Ministry of Health and Wellness extended the operating hours at the Winston Scott Polyclinic, in consonance with the Government of Barbados' Mission Critical Polices and Action. The Primary Health Care services delivered through the Polyclinic system focus on providing public health related care to clients, rather than simply treating specific diseases or conditions, as is currently the practice of emergency medicine. Primary Health Care services aim to keep the population healthy through preventive measures, and coordinating clients' care with other providers and assisting clients who require more specialised medical attention to navigate the healthcare system.

The 24-hour extended services envisioned for the Winston Scott Polyclinic was implemented to cater to clients who will access this institution for primary care services either through self-referral or

through referral from other polyclinics. The majority of these clients will be managed within the 24-Hour Service, without having to be referred to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH).

The 24-hour service at the Winston Scott Polyclinic commenced on July 1, 2019. For the period July to December 2019, a total of 21,272 visits were recorded. The average number of visits during the period was 3,545. Ongoing analysis has shown that persons from all of the polyclinic catchments areas accessed the service, with the majority coming from the Winston Scott, Branford Taitt, Randall Philips and Edgar Cochrane Polyclinics catchment areas.

#### **PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL**

##### **AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY**

For the period under review, the Psychiatric Hospital recorded a total of 216,559 discharge days, consisting of 147,655 discharge days for 890 discharged male clients and 68,894 discharge days for 339 discharged female clients.

The total average length of stay for clients was 166 days. This figure was significantly skewed due to the discharge of a number of long stay patients during the year.

##### **CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC (BRANFORD TAITT POLYCLINIC)**

This clinic saw a total of 1,098 visits, comprised of 64.0 per cent males and 36.0 per cent females. In the male population, 46.0 per cent of the clients were under the age of eleven (11) years, while within the female population, the under 11 age group, accounted for 19.7 per cent of the clients. The low number of clients attending clinic in the summer relates to the tendency of parents to default from clinic visits when children are away from school; while the low numbers in December relate to a reduced number of appointments. Of these client visits, there

were a total of 207 new clients to the clinic, comprising of 129 males and seventy-eight (78) females.

#### **INPATIENT SERVICES**

During the review period some of the developments to the Psychiatric Hospital's plant included:

- In March 2019, a Medical Unit was opened at the Psychiatric Hospital. This Unit was created as a result of the renovation of the Infirmary and is designed to assist the Hospital with the management of clients who have more complex medical issues.
- As part of the Psychiatric Hospital's drive to create an expanded suite of rehabilitative services, the Quarterway House of the Hospital, a semi-autonomous unit where patients are prepared for reintegration into the community, was expanded and renovated during May and June 2019.

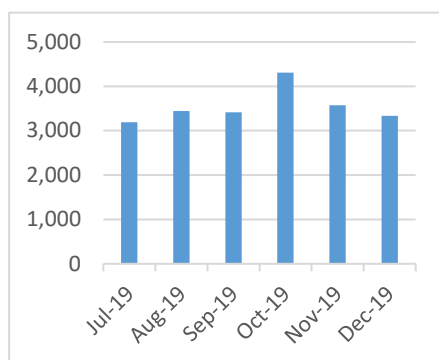
#### **DECENTRALISATION OF PARAMEDICAL SERVICES**

Paramedical services were added to the community service offerings of the Psychiatric Hospital during May 2019. This was provided through offering psychology support to four (4) clinics, as well as through social workers, whose support is provided via a zonal system.

#### **QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL**

The Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH) is the country's primary acute care medical facility (500 bed capacity) providing 94.0 per cent of all hospital beds. The QEH is also an accredited teaching hospital affiliated with the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus; and is accredited at the 'Gold' level by Accreditation Canada International.

**Figure 3.1**  
**Visits to the 24-Hour Service at Winston Scott Polyclinic**  
**July to December 2019**



**Source:** Ministry of Health and Wellness

#### IN-PATIENT SERVICES

The leading in-patient services for admissions were Medicine, Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Surgery and Paediatrics. The average length of stay for the year 2019 (including ICUs) was 6.6 days while the total number of admissions for the same period was 18,088. During this period, there were 98,140 out-patient visits (old and new cases) and out-patient activity continued to be centred on Medicine, Obstetrics and

Gynaecology, Ophthalmology, Surgery, Orthopaedics and ENT services.

#### ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

The Accident and Emergency Department (AED) recorded 37,600 patient visits for the period under review, with 8,501 patients admitted, accounting for 47.0 per cent of total hospital admissions. This represented a reduction of 1,392 patients, when compared with 38,992 patient visits (with 8,584 admitted) seen in 2018. This marginal reduction in patient visits may be attributed to the commencement of the 24-hour service at Winston Scott Polyclinic on July 1, 2019. Patients seen at the AED were triaged and categorized as follows:

- Patients with life-threatening conditions (1.6 per cent);
- Patients with urgent, but not life-threatening conditions (9.9 per cent);
- Patients with non-urgent medical conditions but require treatment at the hospital (56.4 per cent);
- Patients with non-urgent conditions who can be seen elsewhere (25.5 per cent); and
- Patients seen previously and have scheduled reviews (6.6 per cent).

**Table 3.5-3**  
**Number of Visits by clients to Child Guidance Clinic - 2020**

Month	Males			Females			Total
	<11 years	11-17 years	Total	<11 years	11-17 years	Total	
January	25	24	49	9	22	31	80
February	24	39	63	6	39	45	108
March	24	49	73	9	32	41	114
April	27	23	50	5	29	34	84
May	26	41	67	8	29	37	104
June	26	21	47	4	27	31	78
July	25	37	62	6	33	39	101
August	20	18	38	1	21	22	60
September	35	29	64	8	19	27	91
October	44	35	79	10	31	41	120
November	33	45	78	7	17	24	102
December	15	18	33	5	18	23	56
<b>Total</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>703</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>1,098</b>

**Source:** Psychiatric Hospital, Ministry of Health and Wellness



**ACCIDENT & EMERGENCY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT:  
CAPITAL WORKS UPGRADE AND EXPANSION**

The upgrade of the accident and emergency (AED) was identified as a mission critical project during the first quarter of the 2018 reporting period. In 2019, as mandated by government, the QEH Board of Management undertook the planning and implementation of the AED Upgrade Project, whose main components were:

- Phase 1 – immediate changes in processes and systems to increase operational efficiency and reduce waiting times; and
- Phase 2 – capital works to improve the facilities for patients and staff (including geotechnical findings associated with the on-site option of expansion outwards of the current AED envelope, prompting further dialogue on alternative options, with the project approval occurring in the third quarter of the financial year.

**SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMME  
CORONAVIRUS DISEASE**

The Ministry of Health and Wellness started to monitor the spread of the COVID-19 infection globally, while strengthening its preventative and surveillance systems locally. The overall risk to Barbados was thought to be low. However, as the epidemic changes across the world, this risk level may rise and it was prudent to take precautions to ensure that any impact is minimal. For the identified threat level, the following actions were recommended:

- the preparation of materials and agreement on routes of sensitization of the public;
- updating and testing of protocols including reporting, collection and transport of specimens and patients;
- sensitization and training of staff;
- procurement of appropriate supplies and materials; and

- identification and preparation of surge capacity.

To assist with early detection of potentially exposed travellers, the Regional Advance Passenger Information System (RAPIS) was utilized to identify persons of interest. The Immigration Department was also critical to identifying persons who may have been in China within the previous two (2) weeks. In addition, Port Health staff worked with colleagues from the Defence Force to identify persons with potential exposure and screening for symptoms at both major ports of entry.

**OTHER RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS**

Surveillance continued for respiratory viruses and infections as required. Cases of viruses and infections tend to peak in the latter half of the year, which is the traditional ‘flu season’ in Barbados.

During 2019, there was an increase in respiratory viruses and infections. Influenza was the most common respiratory virus isolated in 2019, with approximately fifty-two (52) confirmed cases in three distinct virus types: Influenza B, with nineteen (19) confirmed cases; H3N2, with eighteen (18) confirmed cases and H1N1, with fifteen (15) confirmed cases. This was followed by the common cold virus, with nineteen (19) positive tests.

No tuberculosis cases were confirmed in 2019.

**MOSQUITO BORNE DISEASES**

There have been no cases of Zika virus transmission since March 2017.

Dengue Fever is endemic to Barbados. In 2019, there were one hundred and seventeen (117) suspected and probable cases of dengue, compared to sixty-seven (67) suspected cases in 2018. However, there

were no confirmed cases of dengue fever in 2018 or 2019.

There were two (2) confirmed cases of Chikungunya in 2019, a decline when compared with twenty-seven (27) confirmed cases of this disease in 2018.

#### LEPTOSPIROSIS

Leptospirosis is a vector-borne disease of rodents, which most often occurs in the rainy seasons. There were fifteen (15) confirmed cases in 2019, mostly in the latter half of the year, compared to seventeen (17) confirmed cases, with one (1) death, in 2018 and twenty-two confirmed (22) cases, with one (1) death, in 2017.

### ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMME

#### VECTOR CONTROL

The control and prevention of arbovirus diseases such as Dengue Fever, Zika and Chikungunya continued, with the adaptation of an Integrated Mosquito Vector Management Programme. There were increased inspections of premises, increased community outreach and educational programmes. Emphasis was placed on source reduction by removing containers that had the potential to breed mosquitoes, fogging to destroy adult mosquitoes, and the use of alternative compounds for the treatment of larvae. The Ovitrap programme continued to provide monitoring at the ports of entry to detect the presence of the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito. The objective behind these activities was to reduce the mosquito house index to less than five percent during the wet season. The mosquito house index is calculated as the percentage of the houses inspected in a defined area which are found with aquatic stages of mosquitoes. It is used as a measure for establishing the possibility of disease outbreak. The mosquito house index was measured at 2.8 in 2019, an increase from 0.4 in 2018.

The Vector Control Unit has a structured inspection and rodent-baiting plan at all government buildings, health care institutions, schools and farms, as well as at the sea and airport. During the period, the Ministry intensified rodent baiting activities targeting specifically Bridgetown and its environs, and recreational areas across the island.

An Insectary-In-A-Box for Barbados was provided by United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under the ZIKA AIRS Project, and launched at Graeme Hall, Christ Church in July 2019. The insectary will support routine entomologic monitoring to inform mosquito control interventions. To this end, the insectary will provide Barbados with the capacity to determine the type of mosquitoes and resistance to insecticides used. Ten (10) Environmental Health Officers were also trained in Basic Entomology.

#### NATIONAL RODENT PROGRAMME

A National Rodent Control Programme has been developed. The focus was on the reduction of the rodent population in the urban corridor, from Enterprise, Christ Church to Brandons, St. Michael. In addition, efforts have been focused on ensuring that points of entry and other critical areas (processing plants, QEH) are monitored on a daily basis to ensure that communicable diseases do not enter the island and a wholesome food product is available for consumption.

The Programme was also enhanced with a number of stakeholder consultations. The objective of the workshops was to sensitise the stakeholders on their role in preventing the spread of rodent related diseases. The Barbados Hotel and Tourism Association (BHTA) and the Tourism Development Corporation (TDC) assisted the Ministry of Health and Wellness with the

enhanced programme by providing rodent bait.

## **F. SOCIAL PROTECTION**

The Ministry of People Empowerment and Elder Affairs remained cognizant of its role to empower all Barbadians irrespective of their class, gender and age in order to promote their social development. Its mission continued to contribute to the overall socio-economic development of Barbados and the empowerment of all members of society by enhancing communication, establishing linkages between communities to improve the well-being of citizens with the objective of enhancing the dignity of all and promoting a cohesive community spirit. Its varied Social Safety Net programmes provided immediate financial assistance to the vulnerable and educated and empowered persons living in poverty as a mechanism through which they can improve their life circumstances. It is also intended that through the implementation of social policies and programmes, citizens will be empowered to achieve a more sustainable and equitable standard of living that enhanced their quality of life and allows persons to actively participate in the overall development of the country.

### **WELFARE DEPARTMENT**

The Welfare Department continued to be the main social service agency responsible for providing social safety net services to poor and vulnerable persons in society. It focused on poverty reduction and empowerment that involved a level of social provisioning which included monetary assistance, assistance-in-kind, and counselling and the rehabilitation of persons affected by family dysfunction, limited life chances, crises and natural disasters.

#### **NATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME**

Under the National Assistance programme which has two components: 1)

Monetary Assistance and 2) Assistance-In-Kind, one thousand, one hundred and ten (1,110) new applications for monetary assistance were received by the Welfare Department, a nominal increase of twenty-three (23).

At the end of December 2019, the number of recipients of monetary assistance was four thousand, three hundred and twenty-six (4,326), a decrease of five hundred and seventy-six (576) persons compared to persons who received monetary assistance in the same period in 2018. Total expenditure increased from \$9.9 million in 2018 to \$14.3 million in 2019.

#### **ASSISTANCE-IN-KIND**

Assistance-In-Kind refers to assistance granted with respect to items such as food vouchers, clothing, the purchase of spectacles, hearing aids, and dentures. It also includes the payment of utilities (electricity and water), the payment of rent, education assistance and the cost of burial of destitute persons. Food vouchers continued to be the highest category of assistance-in-kind granted.

During the period under review there were twelve thousand, two hundred and forty-seven (12,247) new applications for food which indicated the extent of the social challenge persons faced in order to survive and to maintain a reasonable standard of living. Hence, the approval of eleven thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine (11,899) applications during this period.

Educational assistance saw expenditure increasing significantly to \$1,059,540.00, more than doubling last year's expenditure of approximately \$450,000.00. This allowed the department to service over 2,000 families inclusive of 3,700 children, compared to the previous year where 1,200 families, including 2,600 children, were serviced.

The Department also assisted persons with payment of house rent, and utilities on a monthly basis. There were nine hundred and thirty-four (934) waivers for the Garbage and Sewerage contributions levy were approved during the period for the elderly and disabled clientele.

Expenditure in 2019 in respect of assistance-in-kind was \$8,731,122.03 compared to \$7,582,841.00 in 2018. This equated to an increase of \$1,148,281.03. The cost of these services was increased to offer assistance to those in need with electricity and water payments.

#### FAMILY SERVICES

The Family Services section continued to offer professional intervention in responding to a range of individual and family problems which included the following; Maintenance of Children; Marital Dysfunction; Domestic Violence; Custody, Access and Conciliation; Legal Aid and Multi-problem families. During the period January to December 2019, seventy-five (75) Supreme Court Cases, eighteen (18) Magistrate Court cases and seventeen (17) Counselling cases were referred to the Family Services Section for investigation and this led to the subsequent provision of psychosocial reports which are critical to the Courts' deliberation. Due to the complexities of some cases, the section forwarded twenty-two (22) referrals to the consultant psychologist for in-depth counselling for clients. The total new cases received by the Section, was one hundred and sixty-four (164) inclusive of family problems, child access and maintenance, with Court reports accounting for the heaviest in case load. Child support by non-custodial fathers by way of cash payments continued to be facilitated through the Accounts Section of the department.

#### SOCIAL SAFETY NET SERVICES

In 2019, the original one hundred and six (106) poor and vulnerable households who were selected entered into the programme's second year. The services offered were delivered through collaboration with various government Ministries and Departments and allowed families to acquire the necessary tools to realise a state of independence. The Project assisted two hundred and fifty (250) households to meet their basic needs and included:

- addressing personal identification needs;
- educational support through the provision of uniforms, books and school supplies;
- health and wellness workshops for adults and children in the programme;
- psycho-social support to households; and
- provision of food vouchers, and other social benefits which are deemed critical for the survival this vulnerable group.

#### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE BOARD

The National Assistance Board operates to provide an array of social care services and social programme to improve and maintain the ability of the elderly and indigent clients who are confronted with a number of socio-economic challenges to meet their basic needs. The total spend on

**Table 3.6-1**  
**Applications for Monetary Assistance**  
**2018-2019**

	Jan-Dec 2018	Jan-Dec 2019
New Applications	1,087	1,110
Applications outstanding at end of period	136	178

Source: Welfare Department

programming for the year 2019 was \$10,349,982 BDS.

Amongst the programmes provided were the following:

- Home Care Programme
- Pilot Community Nursing Project
- Seniors' Recreational Activities Programme
- Residential Care Facilities:
  - o Clyde Gollop Shelter for Homeless Men
  - o Vauxhall Senior Citizens' Village
  - o Lancaster House
- Jorris Dunner Elderly Day Care Centre
- Bereavement Support Services
- Vulnerable Persons Committee
- Helping Hands Volunteer Project
- External Beautification Project

#### HOME CARE PROGRAMME

The Home Care Programme provides services to the elderly and disabled persons with a range of daily living needs such as cooking, washing, cleaning, grooming and shopping so they can remain in their homes and communities and not be institutionalized. During the period January to December 2019, an average of nine hundred and ninety-nine (999) clients benefited from the Board's Home Care Services at a cost of BDS\$5,136,958.00. This number consisted of six hundred and sixty-one (661) females and three hundred and thirty-eight (338) males.

#### PILOT COMMUNITY NURSING PROJECT

During this review period, the Nursing Pilot Project catered to three hundred and nineteen (319) Home Care recipients. Services were also provided to assisted-living residents at the Vauxhall Senior Citizens' Village as well as clients at the Jorris Dunner Elderly Day Care Centre. The Nursing Pilot Project continued to provide the following services in the home of

Home Care recipients with the help of the Nurse: wound dressings(28), monitoring of blood pressure(158), finger and toe nail clippings for persons with diabetes(585), and blood sugar regulation(43). The total expenditure for 2019 was \$24,080.00.

#### THE HELPING HANDS VOLUNTEER PROJECT

The Helping Hands Volunteer Project has enriched the quality of life of Home Care Recipients who live alone by providing social interaction within their homes. The Helping Hands Volunteer Project was in response to the social isolation which some elderly recipients were experiencing. This project has in many ways supplemented the Home Care Programme as there are restraints on the time that the Home Care Worker can spend with the clients.

For the reporting period, BDS\$14,650.00 was spent on the delivery of this programme. There were twenty-eight (28) volunteers either visiting or telephoning two-hundred and sixty-eight (268) recipients. The NAB hosted a round table session which included both visiting and telephone volunteers to discuss and retrain them on the different aspects of volunteerism.

#### SENIORS RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES PROGRAMME

In 2019, the National Assistance Board operated twenty (20) Recreational Centres for the elderly throughout the rural and urban Barbados at a cost of BDS\$198,543.00. These recreational centres were operated in church halls, community centres and sports pavilions. Four hundred and thirty-seven persons (437) persons participated in the activities, of which only five were males.

The centre at North Stars pavilion had to be relocated to the St. Lucy Parish Church Hall due to the crime and violence in the Crab Hill community. Additionally, the

Foursquare Nazarene Church programme was relocated back to its original location at St. Patrick's Church and has been showing and increase in participants.

#### RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITIES

##### CLYDE GOLLOP NIGHT SHELTER FOR HOMELESS MEN

The Clyde Gollop Night Shelter is a twenty-four hour, thirty-four (34) bed facility offering temporary accommodation to homeless men who have been displaced due to social and economic factors such as unemployment, poor family relations, evictions and incarcerations. Many occupants have mental health and substance abuse issues. The Clyde Gollop Shelter remained constant in its commitment to provide adequate and acceptable night accommodation for homeless men in Barbados.

During the reporting period the Shelter maintained maximum occupancy with an average nightly occupancy of thirty (30) men. The NAB spent \$317, 226.00 to maintain operations at this facility. The following are statistics for the reporting period:

##### VAUXHALL SENIOR CITIZENS' VILLAGE

The Vauxhall Senior Citizens' Village offers living accommodation to the older adult who is capable of living independently and has the capacity to pay rent. There however is provision for rent to be paid by the Welfare Department for persons who meet the eligibility criteria but lack the resources to afford and sustain rent payments.

The Village currently provides residence for two categories of persons; independent living and assisted living. Residents ages range from 47 to 91 years. Between January and December, 2019, the

**Table 3.6-2**  
**Clyde Gollop Night Shelter Statistics for 2019**

Admissions	15
Evictions	5
Readmissions	2
Voluntary Relocations	8
Institutionalised	1
Rehabilitation	5

Source: National Assistance Board

village accommodated thirty-seven (37) persons. There were three (3) admissions, one (1) death, one (1) voluntary relocation to alternative housing in the community and one (1) person was incarcerated. It facilitated the transfer of residents from Black Rock Hostel and the Jorris Dunner Senior Citizens' Home; entities which were previously operated by the National Assistance Board. Five of (5) persons (3) males and (2) females) were relocated and are now residents at the Vauxhall Senior Citizens' Village.

The thirty-two (32) residents with independent living status pay a rent which is calculated weekly at 35 per cent of income. Rent payments range from \$20.15 to \$330.00 weekly. The average weekly rent is \$47.65. Water, telephone and electricity rates are paid by the National Assistance Board while independent living residents are obligated to pay for bottled gas and to meet all their other living expenses. In 2019, the maintenance of the Village and provision of services to the residents costed BDS\$ 695, 479.00.

The National Assistance Board continued to meet the needs of assisted living persons, some of whom lacked social support. Some medical needs of this group were met by the doctor and nurse who are contracted by the National Assistance Board. Social work intervention was provided for residents who needed family support and assistance from external agencies.

#### LANCASTER HOUSE

The Lancaster House facility provides temporary accommodation at no cost primarily for elderly individuals and their families who are homeless as a result of fire and natural disasters such as hurricanes and floods. Lancaster House accounted for BDS\$ 107, 463.00 of financial expenditure in 2019. The facility has three complete living quarters which accommodate at least three families based on the number of members. Occupants are responsible for providing their own food and items for personal use.

Between January and December 2019, twenty-five (25) persons were accommodated; ten (10) males and fifteen (15) females; of this total twelve (12) were children. Of this number period nine (9) persons (6 females and 3 males) were newly admitted. Adult occupants at Lancaster House were pensioners, unemployed, or receiving monetary assistance through the Welfare Department.

A major goal of the National Assistance Board is to facilitate long term housing solutions in the community for persons residing at Lancaster House. In 2019, Fifteen (15) persons (9) males and (6) females relocated to housing in the community. Of the fifteen (15) who persons who relocated: two families of three (3 and four (4) respectively relocated to housing paid for by the Welfare Department. Two (2) occupants went to reside with family, while one (1) person returned to his reconstructed house. One family of five (5) returned to their home after it was treated by the Ministry of Health. One persons (male) was admitted to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

#### JORRIS DUNNER ELDERLY CARE CENTRE

Between January and December 2019, the capacity of the Centre fluctuated between twenty-eight (28) to thirty-five (35) persons and the Centre functioned at

maximum capacity. Of this total; twenty-seven (27) were female and eight (8) were males. Clients were required to pay twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per week for the service. The total cost to the NAB was BDS\$447,940.00.

#### BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT SERVICES

During the period January 2019 to December 2019, the Bereavement Support Services offered assistance to ninety-six (96) individuals and families to help them cope with the issues of loss. These services accounted for BDS\$28, 836.00. The categories in which persons were counselled ranged from loss of family members, illness, unemployment, end of relationships and financial difficulty.

Support group meetings were held monthly; persons were counselled primarily within the group but where necessary, home visits were done as well as follow-up via telephone. Some of the cell groups which were established within various faith-based organisations to respond to loss at the community level, reported some level of inactivity and dormancy. The main reason proffered was that group members were primarily older persons and when they were no longer able to function the cell group could not be sustained. There is a need for training to ensure the continuity of the groups at the community level.

#### VULNERABLE PERSONS COMMITTEE

The Vulnerable Persons Committee's is co-chaired by the National Assistance Board. The mandate is to review and update of the Evacuation of Vulnerable Persons Plan. In the context of the Plan, persons deemed to be vulnerable or at risk are "Persons with disabilities and the elderly living alone who have no support mechanisms i.e. family, friends of support groups who can ensure their safety in the event of a disaster or major emergency due to the state of disrepair or location in a vulnerable area e.g. an area that is prone to flooding."

During the reporting period the committee held a series of monthly meetings with stakeholders to re-evaluate the existing plan. A draft of the plan was submitted in December 2019 to the relevant stakeholders, including Department of Emergency Management.

The 2019 Vulnerable Persons List has a record of five hundred and eighty-two (582) persons. Using social workers and District Emergency Organisations (DEOS), home visits which were coordinated by the Ministry of People Empowerment and Elder Affairs were done for verification and these persons will be prioritized for evacuation to emergency shelters based on the above definition of vulnerable persons.

#### EXTERNAL BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT

The National Assistance Board offers de-bushing maintenance to its prospective and current clients. The Project is spearheaded by a Technical Officer who has a staff of one (1) driver and three (3) general workers. This activity is implemented in order to offer relief to the Board's clients and to ensure the safety of the Home Care Workers while performing their daily outdoor assignments. In addition, the

external environment of the National Assistance Board, the Jorris Dunner Elderly Day Care Centre, Lancaster House, the Clyde Gollop Shelter for Homeless Men and the Vauxhall Senior Citizens' Village were maintained. In 2019, services were provided at total costs BDS\$ 131,972.00.

#### THE BUREAU OF GENDER AFFAIRS

The Bureau of Gender Affairs (BGA) is Government's key focal point for the implementation of policies and programmes pertaining to gender and development in Barbados. It has been mandated to integrate a gender perspective in all Government's development plans and policies in order to bring about equity and equality between men and women.

The Bureau functions to ensure the integration of gender and development into all areas of national development, plans and policies so that women and men can benefit equally from existing opportunities.

#### GENDER MAINSTREAMING

Gender mainstreaming has been one of the main strategies implemented towards the mandate of incorporating a gender

**Table 3.6-3**  
**Vulnerable Persons January to December 2019**

Parish	No. of Males	No. of Females	Total Clients
St. Lucy	10	9	19
St. Peter	11	17	28
St. James	15	29	44
St. George	11	14	25
Christ Church	29	47	76
St. Andrew	2	3	5
St. Joseph	9	7	16
St. Philip	28	38	66
St. John	10	8	18
St. Thomas	21	21	42
St. Michael	100	116	216
<b>Total</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>555</b>

**Source:** National Assistance Board



perspective into government policies and programmes. This being the case, the Bureau of Gender Affairs staged a national Consultation on Gender Indicators at the Barbados Beach Club on the 24th and 25th of April 2019. The objective of the Consultation was to establish the institutional arrangements for the Gender Management System for Gender Mainstreaming.

The Bureau hosted a number of events and activities around celebratory days and gender themes during the year. Some of these are listed as follows:

- **Day of the Women of the Americas:** The Bureau of Gender Affairs in conjunction with the Women of Purpose Ministries staged a Leadership Training Workshop for 40 women drawn from Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), faith-based organisations and community groups. The workshop was held with a view to strengthening and empowering the various organisations.
- **International Men's Day:** The Bureau and the Men's Committee held a church service to commemorate International Men's Day on November 13, 2019. The service took place at the Hawthorn Methodist Church at Worthing, Christ Church.
- **Masculinities:** Two public discussions around the topic of paternity leave were held. The first discussion took place on July 18, 2019 and was held at the Donald Henry Auditorium, Bethel Methodist Church, Bay Street. The second discussion was held at the Weston Resource Centre, Weston, on September 18, 2019. The topic for both discussions was "Is Paternity Leave Essential?"
- **16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence:** In December 2019, the Bureau in conjunction with the Institute for Gender and Development Studies, staged a workshop entitled "It's Gender We Talking" for young males and females from five (5) secondary schools. The workshop focussed on the issue of gender-based violence and 32 students got the opportunity to actively participate in the discussion on the topic. The Bureau also relaunched its annual newsletter to coincide with the start of the 16 Days of Activism.

#### OTHER INITIATIVES

##### ISEE BRIDGE 2015-2018 PROJECT EVALUATION

An evaluation of the ISEE Bridge project was undertaken at BDS\$9,000. The ISEE Bridge programme of the MPEA began in 2015 with thirty (30) households – one selected from each constituency of Barbados.

The goal of the IBP is to break the cycle of inter-generational poverty among poor and vulnerable households, through the attainment of sustainable livelihoods. The Household Facilitators assisted each family for a 24-month period filled with intensive interactions to achieve 58 Minimum Conditions under 7 Pillars of intervention.

The program was a valiant effort by the government to implement, although, according to respondents, the time period was too short to attain some of the major changes deemed necessary such a housing and housing conditions.

Survey findings were gathered from 46 participants - 27 out of 30 Heads of Households (HH) and 19 other household members. Their responses to the thirty-one (31) questions instrument represent the opinions of their households, and their

personal views on the outputs, outcomes and impacts of the ISEE Bridge Programme (IBP).

The research found that the project made a (positive outcomes) significant difference in the lives, financially, socially, psychologically, educationally, both at the household level and personal level based on the responses from the household/families interviewed. Persons were exposed to educational opportunities and training, housing and housing repairs, change in family dynamics, employment, social benefits, personal identification and improved communication.

Financially, approximately 4 percent of persons stated they became entrepreneurs based on the training they received, while others gained other employment opportunities (4 percent). Although this percentage may seem miniscule, this new found financial freedom ensured that persons were able to provide financially for their families, subsequently, making them more confident, and boosted their self-esteem.

Socially, the project enabled a change in the family dynamics and improved relationships. Twenty-six percent of families stated they were equipped through counselling, and assistance from the household facilitator with better ways of dealing with situations, parenting skills and communication skills to better assist families.

Psychologically, on a personal level, 15 percent of persons were able to develop a new way of thinking about their personal development and family life. They were encouraged to reach towards their goals despite their circumstances, and through the educational counselling offered; they were able to use motivational techniques to empower them to go forward, not only for themselves but for their families. Many felt the facilitators took them seriously since they did follow ups, which made them feel that they cared and was not simply doing their job

when persons feel enabled, it makes a drastic change in their lives.

It is interesting to note that 15 percent of persons did not see a positive change with the program. This may be due to their specific needs not being met. For example, many families were expecting housing and housing repairs (30 percent) or better conditions (14 percent).

Based on respondents, there were training and courses made available to them through some of the social service agencies. Through these courses, many were able to find gainful employment and others even started their own business. Some head of the households mainly wanted these educational opportunities for their children, while they wanted employment.

#### **CHILD CARE BOARD**

The Child Care Board is a Statutory Corporation established by the Child Care Board Act in 1969 to provide services for children in need of care and protection. In 1981, the aforementioned Act was amended and replaced by the Child Care Board Act 1981 (proclaimed in 1983) to facilitate the provision of a wider scope of services. The Board offers services in the Residential Care, Voluntary and Sponsorship, Day Care (Government), Private Day Care, Foster Care and Adoption, Intake/Child Abuse/Care and Protection, Psychological Assessments and Evaluations, and Public Education-Community Outreach.

The Board's philosophy is based on the premise that children are to be nurtured, loved and given continuous and consistent care. These universal concepts are outlined in the Articles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which has been signed and ratified by Barbados. The Board is committed to ensuring that the spirit and principles of the Convention are operationalized in its programmes.

## RESIDENTIAL CARE

The goal of the Residential Programme is to ensure that children in need of care and protection in an alternative environment, like a residential facility are accommodated as long as it is deemed to be in their best interest and the Board has the capacity to adequately provide that care.

The objective of such a programme is to improve the living conditions of children, who for whatever reason, cannot reside with their families of origin or extended families as well as to improve family relationships. The Board currently operates seven (7) Children's Homes; Marina Brewster Centre at Farris, St. Peter; Stirling, St. Philip; Ixora Cottage (Nightingale Children's Village); Lily Cot (Nightingale Children's Village); Violet Gittens Centre – special needs (Nightingale Children's Village); Carole's Cottage (Nightingale Children's Village); and McManus and Ellen Horejsi Centre (Nightingale Children's Village).

These Homes provided a "home away from home" for children with some type of family dysfunction, and cannot remain with their natural families. Residential Care is considered as a last resort and is seen as a temporary placement. Child Care Officers counsel parents and guardians in an effort to address concerns and to re-integrate the children within their families.

The Marina Brewster Centre at Farris and the Sterling Children's Home provide accommodation for adolescents in Residential care and the Nightingale Children's Village provides accommodation mainly for children eleven (11) years of age and under. The Violet Gittens Centre which is located within the Children's Village caters for individuals with mild to severe disabilities.

## SPECIAL NEEDS

There are eight (8) individuals who are adults chronologically with disabilities and Special Needs, between the age of twenty-two (22) years to thirty-one (31) years, along with ten (10) children, eleven (11) years and under that reside at the Violet Gittens Centre.

## OCCUPANCY

An average of one hundred and nine (109) children was in the Board's Residential Centres during the period under review. Of these, sixty-three (63) were males and forty-six (46) were females. The month of June registered the highest number of children, one hundred and twenty-one (121) while the months of October and December registered the lowest with ninety-nine (99) children.

## ADMISSIONS AND DISCHARGES

Forty-two (42) children were assessed as being in need of Care and Protection and were admitted into Residential Care, while fifty (50) children were discharged during the year under review.

## PLACEMENT FOR ADOPTION AND FOSTER CARE

Ten (10) children were admitted into Residential Care for the purpose of Adoption and Foster Care. During the period under review, six (6) of these children have been cleared by the Court for Adoption and Foster Care and are awaiting placement with families.

## ADMISSION TO THE PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL

Three (3) females under the age of sixteen (16) years were admitted to the Thrive Centre at the Psychiatric Hospital for assessment and monitoring. In addition, a matter that is before the Court involving one male, age fifteen (15) years, who remains a resident at the Psychiatric Hospital due to his

**Table 3.6-4**  
**Monthly Occupancy at Child Care Board's**  
**Residential Centres for 2019**

Month	Male	Female	Total
January	66	38	104
February	61	48	109
March	61	49	110
April	62	47	109
May	63	47	110
June	67	54	121
July	65	50	115
August	65	50	115
September	63	45	108
October	59	40	99
November	61	43	104
December	58	41	99
<b>Average</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>109</b>

**Source:** Child Care Board

uncontrollable behavior, poses a risk to children and staff at the Home.

#### PERSONS LEAVING RESIDENTIAL CARE

Three (3) young adults (two females and one male) reached the age of maturity (18 years) and commenced independent living with their families.

#### CHILDREN COMMITTED TO THE GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

One (1) female, age fifteen (15) years, was committed to the Government Industrial School due to her wandering and prolong absence from school. One (1) female was remanded for a short period due to her unmanageable behaviour and ongoing defiance.

#### CONCERNS

There was major improvement to the physical plant, mainly at the Nightingale Children's Village. However, the Sterling Children's Home, one of the transitional cottages has no fencing to deter persons from

venturing on to the premises, and the overall security system is in need of improvement.

There continues to be a shortage of community placements for children with disabilities and special needs, and as a result, eight (8) persons with special needs over the age of eighteen (18) years continue to reside at the Violet Gittens Centre. The oldest of these individuals is thirty-one (31) years of age. It is therefore highly recommended that alternative care facilities be considered for some of these individuals.

There has been an increase of the number of children admitted into care whose parents are either drug abusers or affected by mental health issues. As a result, the Child Care Board has to partner with other agencies who can address the issues of the parents in order for the children to be reunited with their families.

#### VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS/SPONSORSHIPS

The Board through its Voluntary and Sponsorship Programmes continued to attract Individuals and Organizations willing to assist the Board by giving of their time and resources to bring happiness and joy to the children in the Homes. The Voluntary Programme provides social interaction between the wider community and the children in Residential Care through homework assistance, self-development sessions, taking children on tours, befriending a child, celebration of birthdays and sponsoring children for sporting or cultural activities. Among the Organizations and Individuals that regularly assist the Homes are: church groups, service clubs, schools, business places, sporting bodies and charitable groups.

#### GOVERNMENT DAY CARE

The total capacity in the fifteen (15) Government Day Nurseries was one thousand one hundred and twenty-six (1,126) children. The total average monthly

**Table 3.6-5**  
**Monthly Discharges for 2019**

Month	Male	Female	Total
January	0	2	2
February	0	0	0
March	0	1	1
April	1	2	3
May	0	0	0
June	5	6	11
July	2	1	3
August	4	7	11
September	1	3	4
October	4	5	9
November	3	3	6
December	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>50</b>

**Source:** Child Care Board

enrollment was one thousand and fifty-six (1056) children and the average monthly attendance was seven hundred and ninety-eight (798). The lowest average attendance was registered during the month of December which recorded a total of six hundred and sixty-seven (667) children, while the month of April recorded the highest number of children in attendance with a total of nine hundred and three (903).

#### ADMISSIONS AND DISCHARGES

A total of four hundred and ten (410) children were admitted to the fifteen (15) Day Nurseries during the year January to December, 2019 while three hundred and twenty-six (326) children were discharged respectively.

The highest number of admissions, one hundred and ninety-seven (197) were recorded at the start of the new academic school year and the highest number of discharges, two hundred and forty-three (243) were recorded in the month of September 2019.

#### WAITING LISTS

The cumulative waiting list for the placement of children into the Government

Day Nurseries, one thousand one hundred and twenty-six (1126) exceeded the total capacity of the fifteen (15) Day Nurseries. In 2019, the cumulative waiting list stood at one thousand, nine hundred and fifty-two (1,952) children who were awaiting entry into the Government Day Nurseries. From requests made, it became evident that some nurseries. Day Nurseries such as London Bourne and John Beckles were more in demand than others as more than two hundred (200) requests for placements were recorded due to their central location and ease of access. These numbers also suggested that there is the need for more subsidized Day Nurseries.

It must be noted that the Haynesville Day Nursery had a capacity for one hundred and fourteen (114) in 2019 but only admitted seventy-eight (78) children due to the Nursery being under renovation.

#### VISITS TO THE NURSERIES

The Day Care Team conducted fifty-five (55) visits to the Centres, while the Preschool Educator and Early Childhood Development Aide, completed one hundred and thirty (130) visits. These visits were made as a means of monitoring and assessing the Early Childhood Education Programme, as well as, the overall administration and environment of the nurseries. Visits were also done to conduct staff meetings in order to address various issues that would arise at the Day Nurseries. During some visits children who were identified as exhibiting behavioral problems were observed and referred to the Albert Cecil Graham Development Centre for further assessment and intervention. In addition, casual visits were conducted to join in various celebrations including graduation exercises and Christmas parties.

#### WAIVER OF FEES AND SOCIAL WORK INTERVENTION

Ten (10) requests for waivers were investigated, from which ten (10) children

benefitted; these waivers were for a period of six (6) months after which they were reviewed. The Senior Child Care Officer and Coordinator of this programme conducted twenty-six (26) Social Work intervention meetings with a number of parents pertaining to issues such as: custody and access disputes; greater parental involvement in the rearing of children; parent's lack of respect for the rules of the Nursery; children being collected from Nurseries after the official closing times; and situations where parents did not approve of the staff's interaction with their children.

#### PRIVATE DAY CARE

A total of twenty-five (25) cases (twenty-three (23) complaints and two (2)

requests for information) were recorded on Intake regarding Private Day Care Centres. Information received included notification of persons operating illegal Private Day Care Centres. Other concerns involved the proper supervision of children and some centres not upholding the minimum standards of Day Care. These matters were all addressed in a timely manner, and centres were monitored and recommendations made to improve the standards in the various centres.

#### REGISTERED PRIVATE DAY CARE CENTRES

One hundred and fourteen (114) Private Day Care Centres were issued

**Table 3.6-6  
Cumulative Waiting List 2019**

Name of Centre	No. of Children		Capacity	Waiting List
	Toddlers/Preschoolers	Babies		
Bagatelle	24	24	48	50
Colleton	36	30	66	54
Delores "Ma" Worrell	32	30	62	103
Eden Lodge	72	30	102	105
Farm	48	18	66	90
Geoffrey Morris	24	18	42	90
Grazettes	36	24	60	151
Haynesville	84	30	114	30
Joan Arundell	44	18	62	128
John Beckles	84	30	114	368
London Bourne	36	18	54	390
Madame Ifill	48	18	66	49
Marion Hall	72	30	102	58
Nightengale	48	36	84	148
Sayes Court	48	36	84	138
<b>Total</b>	<b>736</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>1,126</b>	<b>1,952</b>

**Source:** Child Care Board

Certificates of Registration to operate during the year 2019. The parish of St. Michael continued to be in the forefront for the location of these centres, while St. Andrew, St John and St Joseph are parishes with only one (1) Private Day Care Centre. Two (2) of these parishes, (St Andrew and St. Joseph) also have no government operated Day Nurseries.

#### CAPACITY OF DAY CARE CENTRES

The total average number of children attending the Registered Private Day Care Centres for period under review was two

thousand, three hundred and fifteen (2,315) children and the staff complement was four hundred and sixty-five (465). These centres had a total capacity to accommodate four thousand, nine hundred and ten (4,910) children. Seven (7) new applications for registration of Centres were received during the period under review. Of these, five (5) were approved, one (1) rescinded and one (1) not approved. One hundred and eighty-nine (189) visits were conducted during the period with the month of January 2019 recording the highest number of visits. Visits were made to Private Day Care Centres for the purpose of ensuring that all standards were being met and maintained as well as to investigate complaints and facilitate

**Table 3.6-7**  
**Monthly Registration of Private Day Care Centres for 2019**

Month	Approved	Denied	Total
January	0	0	0
February	7	0	7
March	12	0	12
April	11	0	11
May	0	0	0
June	41	0	41
July	0	0	0
August	25	0	25
September	6	0	6
October	7	1 rescinded	7
November	5	0	5
December	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>1 rescinded</b>	<b>114</b>

**Source:** Child Care Board

#### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING MATTERS

Twenty (20) Centres were known to have outstanding Town & Country Planning issues and hence were not eligible for registration, since approval from this Department is a requirement for registration. In addition, six (6) files were received from the Town and Country Planning Department via their e-planning platform for comments and recommendations. These files were actioned through site visits and returned to the originating Department within fourteen (14) working days.

Nine (9) Centres were closed during the period. Some Operators had sent correspondence to the Child Care Board to inform of their closure as business had decreased tremendously and others did not receive approval from the Town and Country Planning Department. Three (3) quarterly meetings were held with Operators of Private Day Care Centres during the months of March, June and September, 2019, and addressed the following topics: Immunizations, the Legislation and Illegal Private Day Care Centres and Strategies of Behavioural Management.

#### CONCERNS

A number of Private Day Care Operators were not issued Certificates of Registration as they were awaiting Fire or Health Certificates (which had previously expired) for their businesses. These Operators constantly visited or communicated via telephone with the stated Departments as they either awaited their Certificates or a visit from the Regulatory Agencies. In addition, some Operators had difficulty receiving permission in a timely manner from the Town & Country Planning Department after submitting their plans to that Department. Although a computerized system is in place, Operators continued to have long waits in receiving their approval or denial. It was also identified that some Operators of Family Day Care centres who applied for planning permission to operate

regular centres were faced with fines when they received official visits from the Town & Country Planning Department.

The Operators were informed that the fines were as a result of their continued operations as family Day Care Centres at their residence. Personnel from the Town & Country Planning Department were of the view that the Department should be inspecting a building without the presence of any children.

#### FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION

The Board received a total of one hundred and three (103) enquiries relating to Adoption and Foster Care. Of this total, fifty-five (55) were Adoption enquiries and forty-eight (48) were for Foster Care. Nine (9) children comprising five (5) males and four (4) females were placed with prospective adoptive parents for adoption. Seven (7) children (6 females and 1 male) were placed in foster homes. At the end of the year there were fourteen (14) children in the Foster Care Programme and Child Care Officers were monitoring twenty-four (24) Adoption placements. Officers assigned to the Adoption and Foster Care team carried out three hundred and forty-two (342) supervisory visits with the children as stipulated by the legislation. One (1) Adoption Order was completed during the period and sixteen (16) Post Placement Supervisory reports were submitted to the Registrar. Ten (10) assessments were approved by the Board, eight (8) of these pertained to Adoption and two (2) were related to Foster Care.

The Board received a total of one thousand, two hundred and ninety-three (1,293) referrals which affected one thousand, two hundred and ninety (1,290) children. All of these individuals received some form of counselling at the intake level by the Duty Officer, after which they were transferred to the various Teams and programme areas for more in-depth, and focused intervention by an assigned Caseworker. Referrals to the Child Care Board which are recorded in the Intake system are classified as Child Abuse Cases and Non-Child Abuse Cases.



The month of May recorded the highest number of referrals, one hundred and sixty-eight (168) with the highest number of children affected one hundred and fifty-one (155). These numbers can be attributed to the fact that May is celebrated as Child Month and during this period there is more exposure from the media on the role of the Child Care Board and its services. As a result, during May there were increases in the number of referrals pertaining to Foster Care & Adoption and Day Care which are included in the referrals as non-child abuse cases. In addition, the month of December recorded the lowest referrals with sixty-nine (69) affecting sixty-nine (69) children.

**CHILD ABUSE**

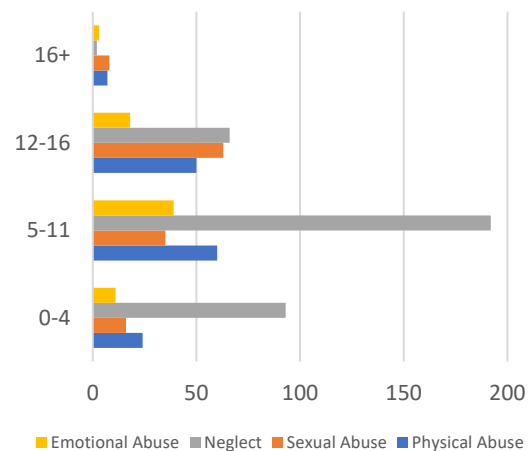
The Board received a total of five hundred and twenty-nine (529) Child Abuse cases which affected six hundred and eighty-seven (687) children. Of this number, three hundred and thirty-eight (338) were new Child Abuse cases and one hundred and ninety-one (191) were repeat cases, since they were previously known to the Board.

The 2019 figures represented a decrease of one hundred and forty-seven (147) cases/referrals and one hundred and eighty-one (181) children when compared to 2018 which recorded six hundred and seventy-six (676) child abuses cases and eight hundred and sixty-eight (868) children.

Neglect continues to record the highest number of referrals and children impacted and this is followed by Physical Abuse, Sexual Abuse and Emotional Abuse.

The category of Neglect recorded two hundred and thirty-eight (238) referrals affecting three hundred and fifty-three (353) children; Physical Abuse recorded one hundred and twenty-one (121) cases affecting one hundred and forty-one (141) children; while the category of Sexual Abuse, recorded one hundred and fourteen (114) referrals impacting one hundred and twenty-

**Figure 3.2  
Abused Children by Age – 2019**



Source: Child Care Board

two (122) children. The remaining category Emotional Abuse recorded fifty-six (56) cases and seventy-one (71) children. However, it must be noted that all forms of abuse carry an emotional component. There were no referrals for the category of Abandonment.

The Age group most impacted across the categories is the 5-11 age group, except in the category of Sexual abuse. In the latter category the 12-16 age range is the leading age cohort.

**NON-CHILD ABUSE MATTERS**

**CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAMMES**

During the year under review, the Board continued its Child Abuse Prevention Programme within the Primary schools. Two (2) schools participated and approximately fifty-six (56) children benefitted from this programme. Also, there were sensitization programmes on Child Abuse and Sexuality for adolescents attending the Alleyne Secondary and Grantley Adams Memorial Secondary schools. Approximately one hundred and twenty (120) children benefitted from these sessions. The Child Abuse Team continued to collaborate with other agencies through case

conferences as a form of the intervention process for clients. This multi-agency approach helped with developing Plans of Action for the way forward. The Child Care Officers from the Intake Programme participated in ten (10) case conferences between January and December 2019 at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. In most cases the minors were at risk and the Hospital was seeking the input from Child Care Board before the children were discharged. In addition, the Psychologist participated in ten (10) Case Conferences.

#### COURT REQUEST AND COURT APPEARANCES

For the period under review, the Court requested forty-six (46) reports from Child Care Officers pertaining to Care and control, access, and investigating the living circumstances of parents and their children. Child Care Officers accumulated ninety-six (96) hours, in Court appearances. Most of the cases were adjourned and a new date given. Thirty-three cases (33) were held in High Court, twelve (12) cases were in Magistrate's Court, and one was in Juvenile Court. A total

of eighty-seven (87) children (forty-six (46) males and forty-one (41) females) were referred to the Board. In these matters children were presenting problems at school and parents complained of their rudeness and uncontrollable behaviors. A total of forty (40) Custody and Access matters were referred to the Board. Intervention is often sought by parents through the court because of the lack of communication and finances between parents. As a result, when most relationships have broken down then the children are withheld from one parent. Three hundred and thirty-seven cases (337) were closed on Intake with the highest numbers, forty-nine (49) cases being recorded during the month of July. Most of the cases that were closed pertained to Access, Custody and Miscellaneous matters.

Seven (7) Court Reports and fourteen (14) Foster Care Assessments were prepared as requested by the Court and the Foster Care and Adoption Team. The Psychologist conducted eighteen (18) Consultations and Visits and attended bi-monthly Residential Meetings. With regard to

**Table 3.6-8**  
**Abused Children by Sex – 2019**

Month	Physical Abuse		Sexual Abuse		Neglect		Emotional Abuse		Total	
	No. of males	No. of females	No. of males	No. of females	No. of males	No. of females	No. of males	No. of females	No. of males	No. of females
January	7	11	1	7	21	23	4	3	33	44
February	10	7	2	17	17	16	2	2	31	42
March	9	9	0	15	28	22	2	4	39	50
April	8	2	1	6	17	4	4	4	30	16
May	5	8	2	17	11	23	2	8	20	56
June	3	3	0	4	11	13	5	6	19	26
July	8	2	2	7	16	17	1	0	27	26
August	2	4	0	6	9	3	3	0	14	13
September	4	3	2	14	10	9	4	1	20	27
October	7	8	1	7	21	11	2	3	31	29
November	9	4	2	4	21	14	4	4	36	26
December	5	3	0	5	11	5	2	1	18	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>318</b>	<b>369</b>

Source: Child Care Board

Public Education, various organizations benefitted during the year. However, the month of May, (Child Month) was most intensive with requests for presentations on: *The Role and functions of the Board, Programmes of the Board* and on *Child Abuse Prevention*. The Senior Child Care Officer and Coordinator of Child Abuse facilitated several workshops, public education and training with students of the University of the West Indies Psychology class; at church forums; trainers' workshops for the Family Support Intervention Organization; for members of the Methodist Church, as well as Child Trafficking and Child Abuse workshop for staff at the Sun Group Hotels. The Psychologist also engaged in Public Education at the Barbados Defense Force, CBC Radio and TV, as well as, with potential foster parents.

#### PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

The Psychologist provided a total of four hundred and fifteen (415) therapy sessions that impacted eight hundred and sixty-eight (868) persons. There were one hundred and ten (110) cancellations. In addition, the Psychologist conducted eleven (11) group sessions with residents of the Child Care Board.

#### REFERRALS

The Psychologist also received forty-nine (49) referrals for the months January – December 2019, with fourteen (14) of these referrals representing residents of the Board and thirty-five (35) representing external clients. These referrals comprised thirty-five (35) children (thirteen (13) males and twenty-two (22) females) and twenty (20) adult clients. Thirty-nine (39) of the referrals were from Child Care Officers while eight (8) referrals were from the Court, one (1) from the Ministry of Education and one (1) from an agency in Canada.

#### NATIONAL HIV/AIDS COMMISSION

The National HIV/AIDS Commission (NHAC) encountered some unique challenges due to the drastic reduction of the Department's staff complement from twelve (12) to eight (8) persons in late 2018 which was mostly felt during 2019. Hence, it was necessary for the Department to revisit its strategic direction and re-allocate the available financial and human resources to ensure the continued focus on core business activities by eliminating non-essential activities; and mobilising employees and strategic partners for the continuity of essential programmes.

All programmes executed and coordinated by the National HIV/AIDS Commission (NHAC) were aligned to coordinate the National AIDS Programme (NAP) and its commitment to working with relevant national, regional and international sectors in a strategic, fiscally viable, and evidence-informed manner.

During 2019, the NHAC hired four (4) consultants to develop the *Barbados National Strategic Plan 2020-2024: On the Fast-Track to End AIDS*. The national strategic plan was designed to guide the operationalisation of HIV-related programming efforts by specifically ensuring a strategic fit between the National AIDS Programme (NAP) and the strategic partners charged with responsibility for its implementation. The expected strategic framework for the national response to HIV included identifying the strategic direction, providing an operational plan itemising the management, coordination and institutional arrangements required for the implementation of the plan, identifying the resources required to implement the strategic plan within the context of the current economic climate, developing metrics with which to gauge progress towards implementing the Plan, achieving

stated goals and objectives, and identifying the measures required to ensure the sustainability of the National AIDS Programme.

#### PREVENTION

The prevention-based programmes covers interventions developed and implemented based on evidence collected from research and/or monitoring and evaluation conducted by the NHAC and its partners. Interventions in the public, private and civil society sectors, focused specifically on key priority categories such as men, men who have sex with men (MSM), and sex workers (SW) as stated in the NSP.

#### MAN AWARE

The implementation of the Man Aware intervention at the Barbados Defence Force's Health Fair on August 10, 2019 was built around the concept of a man cave to provide men with HIV and other health-related knowledge to engage in positive health-seeking behaviours such as training in condom negotiation skills and correct use of condoms, and getting routine health checks and care.

#### TRANSITION TO SECONDARY SCHOOL

The National HIV/AIDS Commission (NHAC) during the review period launched the Transition to Secondary School Programme (T2S). This programme was initially funded by the European Union as a component of the Barbados Human Resource Development Strategy 2011-2016, but is now exclusively funded by the Commission. The goal of T2S is *"To equip First Form students across Barbados with skills to make a successful transition from the primary to secondary school environment before the start of the new school term"*. The programme adopts a preventative approach

**Table 3.6-9**  
**Referrals to Psychologist – 2019**

Cause of Referrals	No. of Persons
Sexual Abuse	5
Physical Abuse	3
Neglect	1
Behavioural Problems	6
Emotional Problems	11
Court Assessment	6
Court Counselling	2
Foster Care Assessment	14
Internal Assessment	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>

Source: Child Care Board

to ensure the nation's youths are equipped with the knowledge required to make informed choices, and that the five primary areas of concern of knowledge and skills gaps in adolescents such as drug awareness, gender awareness, human sexuality, bullying and HIV/STI prevention are addressed on entering the secondary school environment. The T2S is designed to assess the knowledge of the target group at two levels, and it administers a pre-test and a post-test instrument to first formers on completion of a series of daily T2S workshops.

The quasi-experimental methodology chosen and used for this programme was ideal as it allowed the National HIV/AIDS Commission (NHAC) to truly monitor the successes of the intervention. Inter-ministry coordination and collaboration led to the participation of twenty-one (21) targeted public schools with 2,826 first form students completing pre-test and post-test forms. Inter-agency partnerships resulted in the formation of a team of qualified facilitators who delivered the T2S across the public secondary school system, and students who participated experienced knowledge transfer as revealed by the statistical analysis of the completed pre-test and post-test forms.

Table 3.7-23 shows the schools in which T2S was conducted using pre-test and post-test responses to measure participation.

#### PROVISION OF SUPPLEMENTAL SOCIAL SUPPORT

Despite not carrying the designation of a welfare agency, the Commission sought to supplement the external support provided by the Ministry of Health and Wellness, and the Welfare Department. It provided temporary assistance to people living with HIV (PLHIV) who fell outside the ambit of the aforementioned agencies or the capacity of these agencies to render assistance. A total of five (5) females, three (3) males and ten (10) children benefited from additional assistance in the form of school supplies, assistance with housing solutions, and nutrition support.

#### URBAN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

##### PIT ERADICATION AND ROOF RETROFITTING PILOT PROJECT

During the review period, the Commission undertook 141 housing projects with a total cost of \$1,664,781.04. These projects were executed within the normal housing programme as well as under the Pit Eradication and Roof Retrofitting Programme.

In addition to the main housing projects, the National Pit Eradication & Roof Retrofitting project was officially launched in March 2019. The Pit Eradication Programme identified and removed pit latrines from Barbados' landscape and replaced them with indoor waterborne facilities while, the Roof Retrofitting programme strengthened the roofs of the indigent and made them more resilient to Category 3 Hurricane winds.

The Commission, under the Pit Eradication and Roof Retrofitting Pilot Project assisted thirty (30) households and developed sixty-one (61) projects at a cost of \$1,348,676.19.

**Table 3.6-10**  
List of Public Secondary Schools and their Corresponding T2S Participation

School	No. of students
Queen's College	153
The St. Michael School	143
Frederick Smith Secondary School	150
Combermere School	183
Deighton Griffith Secondary School	162
Graydon Sealy Secondary School	161
The Lester Vaughan School	84
Christ Church Foundation School	183
St. George Secondary School	67
Princess Margaret Secondary School	130
Alexandra School	159
Coleridge and Parry School	174
Harrison College	146
Parkinson Memorial Secondary School	122
St. Leonard's Boys Secondary School	126
Springer Memorial Secondary School	150
Daryll Jordan Secondary School	34
Ellerslie School	168
Alleyne School	91
The Lodge School	171
Grantley Adams Memorial Secondary School	69

Source: National HIV/AIDS Commission

**Table 3.6-11**  
Breakdown of Pit Eradication and Roof Retrofitting Pilot Project

No. of Households	Works Conducted	Project Costs
10	Replacement Houses	\$830,789.57
10	Roof Retrofit	\$324,916.47
7	Waterborne Facilities	\$172,000.17
2	Suckwell Only	\$8,999.98
1	Suckwell and Completion of Existing Bathroom	\$11,970.00
<b>30</b>		<b>\$1,348,676.19</b>

Source: Urban Development Commission

## SPECIAL REDEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

### TEMPLE YARD REDEVELOPMENT

The Ministry of Transport & Works (MTW) and the Commission jointly repaired and renovated the bathroom facility at Temple Yard, Cheapside, Bridgetown at a cost of \$20,984.00, and officially handed it over to the President and Vice President of the Forwards Organization on October 2020.

### NATIONAL BOTANICAL GARDENS AT CODRINGTON, ST MICHAEL

The National Botanical Gardens was developed to be a safe habitat for biodiversity, beatification, art, culture, and recreation to facilitate entertainment activities which would have minimal impact on the garden and its immediate environs. The Commission contributed to the beatification by undertaking remedial work on five (5) water wells at a total cost of \$17,587.00.

### URBAN REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT - REVITALIZATION OF BRIDGETOWN

#### FAIRCHILD STREET MARKET VILLAGE

The Fairchild Street Market Village was converted into a multi-dimensional commercial hub for small entrepreneurs in a modern vending complex. This Urban Redevelopment project accommodated vendors who were displaced from the original old Fairchild Street and Probyn Street Markets. The project was a collaborative effort with the Market Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security and the Barbados Vendors Association (BARVEN) at a cost of \$616,074.00.

### DIVESTMENT OF HOUSES

The housing divestment initiative which commenced on August 1, 2019, was designed to have the ownership of UDC

houses transferred to persons who met the required criteria. This programme occurred in a phased approach and empowered families by releasing UDC's interest in those houses for which the original head of households occupied for 10 years or more.

The divestment focused on seventy-five (75) original beneficiaries who occupied forty (40) houses and owned the lands on which they lived.

### TRANSFER OF TITLE PROGRAMME

The Transfer of Title Programme facilitated by the Tenancies Freehold Purchase Act, Cap 239B assisted qualified tenants to obtain security of tenure through land ownership. The Tenancies Freehold Purchase Act, Cap 239B (TFPA) provided the legal framework for the transfer of title of lots to qualified tenants residing on tenancies and 'areas of land' across Barbados. This assistance was in the form of government subsidies in the purchase of lots to improve the standard of living for many tenants.

During the period under review, the Board approved and paid one subsidy of \$34,926.39, and the outstanding commitments to the Transfer of Title Programme remained the same as the total in 2018, which was \$1,843,147.54.

### RURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

During 2019, the Rural Development Commission executed works for the three hundred and fifteen contracts issued at a cost of \$3,666,158.88 to cover a variety of works in the areas of electrical and water installation, house repairs and house construction, power-washing, well works, and site cleaning, painting, pest control, tree cutting and auxiliary works.

### RURAL ENTERPRISE LOANS PROGRAMME

For the period under review, thirty-nine (39) loans under the categories of the

Rural Enterprise Fund and the Livestock Development Fund were approved for a total of \$533,923.97 which generated sixty-six (66) jobs. The Rural Enterprise Fund serviced loans for retailing, accounting services, bar and restaurant services, baking, aquaponics, fishing, cosmetology, forensic consultancy and well digging, while the Livestock Development Fund serviced loans for vegetable, poultry, rabbit and pig production.

#### **G. PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION, DEFENCE AND SOCIAL SECURITY**

The Government of Barbados recognized that law reform is most effective and drafted a proposal to establish legislation to facilitate proceedings and court orders that will institute restorative justice through the Amendment to the Penal System Reform Act, Cap 139; Proclamation of the Prison Act, Cap 168 (amendment) Act 2014; Amendments to the Bail Act, Cap122A and the Domestic Violence (Protection Order) Act, Cap 130A to accommodate the introduction of GPS Electronic Monitoring; Amendment to the Citizenship Act, Cap 186; Amendment to the Immigration Act, Cap 190; and Amendments to Marriage Act, Cap 218 – Marriage (Forms and Fees) (Amendment) 2019.

These law reform efforts were combined with a number of other essential factors, inclusive of fostering a robust social service infrastructure, strong programming, capacity building and a well-designed policy-framework of protocols and strategies to enforce the law.

#### **NATIONAL COUNCIL ON SUBSTANCE ABUSE (NCSA)**

##### **ENACTMENT AND JUDICIAL INTERPRETATION OF LAWS**

There were no enactments or judicial interpretations but the 2016 Barbados National Anti- Drug Plan (BNADP) was revisited to take into consideration new

drugs and issues impacting on the drug problem in Barbados. The revised Plan focused on the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) Seventh Evaluation Round 2019 and is based on Control Measurements; Institutional Strengthening; Demand Reduction; Supply Reduction; and International Cooperation.

#### **BARBADOS PRISON SERVICE**

The Barbados Prison Service is responsible for the provision of custodial and rehabilitation services of those committed to its care. The prison was built to house 1,150 males and 100 females. At December 21, 2019 the population stood at 741, which included 323 convicted, 392 unconvicted male offenders as well as twelve (12) convicted and fourteen (14) unconvicted females. Included in the population were seventy-seven (77) non-nationals; sixty-seven males and ten (10) females with Guyana, St. Vincent and Jamaica recording the highest numbers. The staff complement stood at 380 officers, of which 318 are appointed and sixty-two (62) officers are not. This number comprises of 345 officers and thirty-five (35) civilians.

##### **TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION**

During the period the inmates would have received medical attention from various medical doctors at various Polyclinics as well as the QEH, in addition to visits from medical doctors, psychiatrists and faith-based organisations. There were also regular exercise programmes, drug, psychological and general counselling, and educational, vocational and work programmes.

The work programmes result in cost savings to the Prison Service.

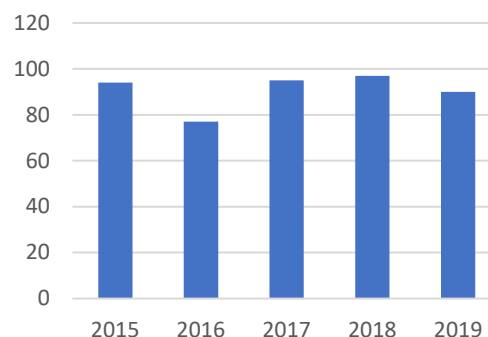
- Changing anti-social behaviours
- Money management
- Anger management
- 'Inspire' Sports Programmes

**BARBADOS FIRE SERVICE (BFS)**

The BFS responded to 2,141 fires, of which sixty-one (61) were attributed to residential fires and fifteen (15) to commercial fires. There was a steady increase in grass (45 per cent), rubbish (20 per cent), and false alarm good intent fires (12 per cent) respectively.

For 2019, the Barbados Fire Service assisted with ninety (90) vehicular accidents, a decline from 2018 which recorded assistance of ninety-seven (97) vehicular

**Figure 3.3**  
Vehicular Accidents Assisted  
2015-2019



Source: Barbados Fire Service

**Table 3.7-1**  
Classification of Fires from 2015-2019

Types of Fires	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Aircraft	0	0	0	0	2
Bagasse	1	1	0	0	2
Boat	0	0	0	3	1
Commercial	20	13	9	26	15
Derelict House	7	13	2	13	15
Derelict Vehicle	2	2	0	2	2
Electrical	43	67	75	57	51
False Alarm – Good intent	253	239	244	233	234
False Alarm - Malicious	92	94	103	79	72
Grass	857	752	755	1,074	991
Motor Vehicle	45	49	41	64	61
Other Fire	8	9	8	12	31
Other Structural	26	33	36	38	31
Petroleum Products	0	0	1	0	2
Private Dwelling House	81	80	78	72	61
Ratoon	4	5	6	4	5
Rubbish	363	326	355	440	451
Sugar Cane	59	41	37	59	55
Trash	13	10	4	10	14
Tree	8	23	13	14	17
Utility Pole	26	10	32	37	28
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,908</b>	<b>1,788</b>	<b>1,799</b>	<b>2,223</b>	<b>2,141</b>

Source: Barbados Fire Service



**DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (DEM)**

The DEM manages the Barbados Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM) Country Work Plan (CWP) 2019 – 2023 to increase resilience by strengthening national systems and processes for emergency and disaster risk management. The Plan focusses on institutional strengthening for the CDM; preparedness response and mitigation capacity; strengthening community resilience; research and knowledge management; and recovery.

During 2019, phase 1 of the National Exercise 2019 – 2020 was implemented to test and practice the National Emergency Management System (NEMS) response to a multi-hazard impact that precipitates a national crisis. The aim of “EXERCISE COMPLEX TRIDENT” identified the gaps within the NEMS through the use of a Table-Top Exercise which met eighty (80) percent of its objectives.

**PROVISION OF SUPPLIES FOR DOMESTIC EMERGENCY USE IN CASE OF PEACETIME DISASTERS**

The DEM maintains one (1) sub-regional warehouse and one (1) national warehouse and eleven (11) community bins which contains emergency stock as per the CDEMA Article of Agreement. There is one bin per parish which contained supplies such as emergency lighting, generators, tarpaulin, personal protective equipment and chainsaws amongst others, for domestic emergency use in the case of peacetime emergencies and crisis.

**H. LAW AND ORDER**

**OVERVIEW**

Overall crimes reported at the end of 2019 was 7,921, an increase over crimes reported for the previous year. In 2018, 7,660 reported crimes were recorded compared to

8,358 in 2017. Robbery, serious bodily harm, theft from persons and commercial theft were recorded as the largest categories of recorded cases over the three years. The use of firearms was exceptionally prevalent over the three-year period as seventy-one (71) of the ninety-six (96) murder cases were committed with the use of illicit firearms.

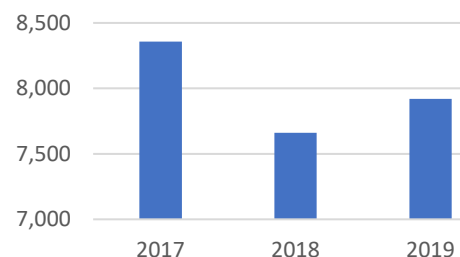
**SELECTED CATEGORIES OF MAJOR CRIMES**

Major crimes reported over that period were gradually reduced, with the exception of murder and commercial burglary which showed increases in 2019. Murder was at its highest in 2019, recording an increase of 71.4 per cent when compared with the figure in 2018. Of the ninety-six (96) murders committed over the three-year period, seventy-one (71) were committed with the use of illicit firearms.

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**Figure 3.4**  
Total Reported Crimes  
2017 to 2019



Source: Royal Barbados Police Force

**DRUG CRIMES**

The intelligence suggests that drug crimes were linked to firearm crimes, and Marijuana was the drug most used over the period.

**FIREARM RELATED CRIMES**

This category of crime involved possession of firearms, possession of ammunition and the use of firearms other than those offences which were firearm enabled.

**FINANCIAL RELATED CRIMES**

Although cheque fraud remained prevalent in Barbados, over the three-year period the Force saw emerging trends in financial crimes such as skimming of credit cards and attacks on Automated Teller Machines (ATM) by non-nationals. The pervasive type of financial crime in 2019 was theft followed by criminal deception and uttering forged instruments. Recorded domestic violent crimes ranged from simple assaults to wounding.

**TOURISM CRIMES**

The last two years of the three-year period were consistent in the number of recorded crimes against tourists. A breakdown of the statistics revealed that the pervasive crime against tourists over the three-year period was burglary, followed by theft and robbery.

**SELECTED ASPECTS OF CRIME REDUCTION STRATEGIES**

The Royal Barbados Police Force developed a number of crime reduction strategies to deal with the crime situation in Barbados, including The Anti-Burglary Plan "Operation Safe Home"; The Anti-Drug Strategy; and The Anti-Gun Anti-Gang Plan.

**Table 3.8-1**  
Selected Categories of Major Crimes  
2017-2019

Offences	2017	2018	2019
Murder	30	28	48
Manslaughter	3	1	0
Robbery	239	256	202
Serious Bodily Harm	187	169	165
Rape	73	70	58
Aggravated Burglary	71	72	66
Theft from the Person	140	109	105
Commercial Burglary	241	257	280
Residential Burglaries	1,030	925	916

Source: Royal Barbados Police Force

**Table 3.8-2**  
Drug Crimes  
2017 to 2019

	2017	2018	2019
Drug Crimes	1,616	1,398	1,525

Source: Royal Barbados Police Force

**Table 3.8-3**  
Financial Related Crimes  
2017 to 2019

	2017	2018	2019
Financial Related Crimes	246	304	289

Source: Royal Barbados Police Force

**Table 3.8-4**  
Domestic Violence Reports to RBPF  
2017-2019

	2017	2018	2019
Domestic Violence Reports	539	518	474

Source: Royal Barbados Police Force

**Table 3.8-5**  
**Categories of Firearm-Enabled Crimes**  
**2017 to 2019**

Offences	2017	2018	2019
Murder	23	18	30
Aggravated Burglary	35	41	43
Endangering Life	83	56	51
Robbery	104	94	88
Serious Bodily Harm	51	32	38
Assault	14	16	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>272</b>

**Source:** Royal Barbados Police Force

**Table 3.8-6**  
**Crimes against Tourists**  
**2017 to 2019**

	2017	2018	2019
Crimes against Tourists	257	215	215

**Source:** Royal Barbados Police Force

#### THE ANTI-BURGLARY PLAN "OPERATION SAFE HOME"

This operation was one of the Force's critical crime management strategies to deal with residential burglaries and involved increased police visibility in targeted areas; community policing; the interaction of officers with home owners; the provision of crime prevention tips; security audits of premises; property marking; the targeting of known repeat burglary offenders; and the targeting of identified hotspots.

#### THE ANTI-DRUG STRATEGY

This strategy involved minimizing the social cost arising from production through drug eradication exercises and enforcement; enforcement against the traffickers and users; the use of drug and

firearm detection dogs; the utilization of drone technology and underwater technology to detect illicit drug activity; working with other law enforcement agencies regionally and internationally e.g. the US Drug Enforcement Agency and the Regional Security System (RSS); and engagement through certain outreach educational programmes geared towards the youth, for example, the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) programme and Prince's Trust Team programme.

#### THE ANTI-GUN ANTI-GANG PLAN

This plan is aimed to reduce incidences of lawlessness and disorder in communities. Specific strategies focused on unlicensed firearms and ammunition crimes, the disruption of organized gang activities in Barbados and the identification and seizure of ill-gotten gains.

## I. ENVIRONMENT

### CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE OZONE DEPLETING SUBSTANCES (ODS) PROGRAMME

#### NATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE COORDINATION

During 2019, the Ministry of Environment and National Beautification received Cabinet approval to engage the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) to explore the possibility of obtaining grant support to undertake the update of Barbados' Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) through the IDB's NDC Invest Programme. The Ministry also received Cabinet approval to develop a project proposal to access grant resources from the Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) Trust Fund of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to allow for the enhancement and rollout of the national Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) Framework to support Barbados' NDC.

## GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL FACILITY (GEF)

### GEF PROJECTS PORTFOLIO

The Ministry of Environment and National Beautification issued an endorsement letter for the “Sustainable Management and Resilient Thinking for our Energy Revolution (SMARTER)” project concept and allocate US\$1,000,000.00 from Barbados’ GEF-7 STAR Climate Change focal area. Additionally, the Ministry allocated US\$100,000.00 from Barbados’ GEF-7 STAR Biodiversity focal area for the “Enhancing Blue Economy through Sustainable Fisheries Development in the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystems” project concept.

### POLICY RESEARCH, PLANNING AND INFORMATION UNIT (PRPIU)

#### PARTNERSHIP FOR ACTION ON GREEN ECONOMY (PAGE)

In the area of Blue Economy, PRPIU and PAGE assisted the Fisheries Division of the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and the Blue Economy in the project development and programming process of the regional fisheries project “CAF/FAO BE-CLME+: Promoting National Blue Economy Priorities through Marine Spatial Planning in the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Plus”.

The PRPIU and PAGE worked with the UNDP-supported programme BLUE LAB Advisory Team for Barbados through providing input in discussions relating to Green and Blue Jobs as well as fisheries-related activities.

In addition, the PRPIU assisted the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and the Blue Economy in the development of a financing model for marine resources and protected areas management.

## BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION SECTION

In 2019, efforts towards the effective conservation, management and sustainable utilization of Barbados’ biodiversity resources, continued through the implementation of programmes, projects and public awareness activities.

### LOCAL BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT

The Green Monkey Sub-Committee of the Working Group on Biodiversity was reconvened to address the concerns regarding the Green Monkey by farmers and householders. In the short term, work commenced on the development of a manual of deterrents for farmer as well as a cell phone app to allow the general population to provide information on monkey location and the size of troops.

### PUBLIC AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

Unlike previous years, the focus of the section’s public education programme was further development of its website “Biodiversity Barbados” – [biodiversity.gov.bb](http://biodiversity.gov.bb). The website reflected a shift towards digital awareness raising, including increased production of articles and resources, and a redesign of the layout and the introduction of photographic and informational resources. The shift in public awareness medium saw an increase in the number of persons engaged through the Public Awareness and Education programme by seven-fold.

### MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS

Barbados is Party to a significant number of Biodiversity related Multilateral Environmental Agreements, including the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

and its Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety; Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES); Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefits Sharing, Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and Drought (UNCCD).

A total of ninety-eight (98) permits for international trade of endangered species were issued; and of this total, ninety (90) were export permits, four (4) were import permits and four (4) were re-exporting permits.

Through a partnership with the international environmental group Fauna and Flora International (FFI), the section convened a national training workshop on combatting illegal trade entitled “National Training Workshop on the Enforcement of the International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora Act”. St. Lucia and St. Vincent on Wildlife Trade Enforcement. The meeting, funded by FFI, discussed and tackled issues of cross-boundary illegal trade in endangered species, with a special focus on endemic reptile species.

#### PREVENTING COSTS OF INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES PROJECT

In 2019 the Biodiversity Section commenced implementation of the “Preventing COSTS of Invasive Alien Species Project of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)”, assisted by finances from the GEF. The goal of the Invasive Alien Species Project is the Prevention, early detection, control and management of frameworks for invasive alien species (IAS) that emphasize a risk management approach by focusing on the highest risk invasion pathways of Barbados and OECS countries. The project grants Barbados access to US\$1.25 million under its STAR allocation from the GEF.

Through this project, Barbados embarked on activities for the recovery of the critically-endangered, endemic Barbados leaf-toed gecko. Under this component, a team of specialists in bio-secure enclosures from Xcluder visited the island and produced a feasibility study and proposal for the construction of a bio-secure area for the preservation and recovery of the gecko at Paragon. Other activities under this project focused on the protection of critically endangered migratory marine turtles and control of the invasive lionfish.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

##### POLICY DEVELOPMENT, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The Technical Guidelines for the Environmentally Sound Construction, Operation and Decommissioning of Petroleum Storage Tanks was approved by the Cabinet as policy during May 2019. The document was updated to reflect the final policy changes outlined by the Cabinet in October 2019.

To address some of the challenges with the disposal of hazardous waste, the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) recommended that a Bilateral Agreement between the Government of Barbados and the Government of the United States of America be developed in accordance with the provisions of the Basel Convention on the Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Waste and their Disposal. This recommendation was approved by the Cabinet during May 2019.

Finally, the National Water Reuse Policy was prepared by a group of agencies led by the Environmental Protection Department and was approved by the Cabinet as policy during April 2019.

**Table 3.9-1  
Building Development Applications Processed in 2019**

Type of Application	Decision					Total
	Approved	Refused	Approved with conditions	Withdrawn	Acknowledged	
Residential	1,160	43	282	6	10	<b>1,501</b>
Commercial	40	3	62	5	19	<b>129</b>
Residential/Commercial	4	1	2	0	1	<b>8</b>
Agricultural	0	1	1	0	0	<b>2</b>
Commercial/Industrial	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Industrial	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,204</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1,640</b>

**Source:** Environmental Protection Department

#### RESOURCE PROTECTION AND MONITORING

##### AMBIENT AIR QUALITY PROGRAMME

In 2019, the Ambient Air Quality Passive Monitoring Compilation Report on the air monitoring studies conducted from 2012 to 2017 in Bridgetown, Holetown, Speightstown and Oistins was prepared.

Additionally, the Department commenced a project involving the continuous monitoring of ambient air quality. The expenditure on the project was \$45,661.48 and involved the installation of the AQT 420 at the Caribbean Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology, Husbands, St. James. The AQT 420 measures the concentration of sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, carbon dioxide, ozone and particulate matter in the air.

##### NOISE POLLUTION CONTROL

In relation to the management of noise pollution in Barbados, the EPD prepared the Speightstown Noise Characterization report, which was based on monitoring of sound levels in Speightstown.

Surveillance of noise related activities in Holetown was conducted as part of the Holetown Noise Characterization Study with the report of the study also being completed in 2019. The report on the Oistins Noise Characterization Study was completed and approved by Cabinet on during August 2019. In 2019, the expenditure under this programme was \$8,740.74.

#### REGULATORY MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT

The EPD received 1,536 building development applications in 2019 and processed 1,640 applications, which included those received during and prior to 2019. Table 3.10-1 shows the distribution of processed applications by the decision made.

**Table 3.9-2  
Complaints received by EPD in 2019**

Section	No. of Complaints
Air	58
Marine	8
Noise	0
Solid and Hazardous Waste	3
Water Quality	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>

**Source:** Environmental Protection Department

A total of seventy (70) complaints were received by EPD during 2019. The classification of these complaints is shown in table 3.10-2. During the year, twenty-eight (28) complaints were investigated as a result of reduced resources and prioritization of work tasks. Twelve (12) of these complaints were related to air pollution. Twenty-five (25) requests for assistance with the disposal of hazardous waste were addressed in 2019.

Seventy-three (73) derelict structures were demolished during the year 2019. Four hundred and thirty-five (435) vehicles were also removed during the same period. Expenditure for the Derelict Buildings and Vehicles Programme during the period was \$127,419.88.

#### EDUCATION, COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC DEMONSTRATION INITIATIVES

The Environmental Protection Department undertook a number of environmental awareness raising initiatives during the year. Staff of the EPD made a presentation and to approximately fifty-five (55) secondary school students on environmental chemistry. Another presentation entitled, "Pollution on the Environment" was presented at the Fisherfolk Week Fisheries Forum during June 2019 and a third one, on the topic "Marine Pollution and the Environment" was delivered at the St. Michael School.

During Environment Month, the EPD coordinated an educational tour to the Caribbean Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH) for students of the Graydon Sealy Secondary School and published an article in Barbados Today on air pollution for World Environment Day 2019. The expenditure for public education initiatives was \$23,465.

#### SUPPORTING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GLOBAL MONITORING PLAN OF PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN STATES

The objectives of the GEF funded project entitled "Supporting the Implementation of the Global Monitoring Plan of Persistent Organic Pollutants in Latin America and the Caribbean States" include strengthening national monitoring capacity and building regional analytical capacity for POPs. The activities conducted under the project in 2019 included collecting and shipping filters from the 4th campaign for 2018, which was also the final campaign for entire project, to Spain and Sweden. Filters were deployed and retrieved on a quarterly basis and were located at the Caribbean Institute for Hydrology and Meteorology. The filters were shipped to Sweden and Spain for analysis. The EPD's expenditure in relation to projects for 2019 is shown in table 3.10-3

#### NATURAL HERITAGE DEPARTMENT

##### CLEAN-UP AND BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAMME IN BARBADOS NATIONAL PARK AND OTHER PROTECTED AREAS

During the period, activities undertaken by the Natural Heritage Department (NHD) in this area included the following:

- The donation of twenty-five (25) garbage bins to residential areas, churches and schools to assist in reducing the amount of rubbish in communities;
- Assisting in the creation of a green renewable energy vegetable garden at the St. Bernard's Primary School;
- Assisted in the removal of thirty (30) derelict vehicles from communities in the Harrison's Cave Zone of Special Environmental Control;
- Executed three (3) clean-up campaigns to assist communities in Welchman Hall, St. Thomas in the

removal of garbage and appliances;  
and

- In celebration of Environment Month and Arbor Day 2019, the National Heritage Department (NHD), in collaboration with the Soil Conservation Unit and the Walkers Institute for Regenerative Research, Education and Design (WIRRED), donated thirty-six (36) fruit trees to the following Primary Schools: A. DaCosta Edwards; St. Margaret's; Welches; St. Joseph and Holy Innocents.

#### EDUCATION AND AWARENESS PROGRAMME

The NHD revamped and implemented an environmental, heritage and protected area educational programme. Initiatives undertaken under this programme during the period included:

- Facilitation of educational tours and field trips by some of the primary schools located in the National Park area to the PEG Biodynamic Farm and Nature Reserve; National Conservation Commission; Turner's Hall Woods; and the Soil Conservation Unit;
- Lectures were presented on topics of Heritage and Environment to primary schools located in Protected Areas;
- Books and teaching aids on the Environment and Heritage were presented to schools; and
- The NHD sponsored two Vacation Bible Camps in the Welchman Hall community.

#### TOWN PLANNING LAND DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS

During the period, a total of 109 land development applications received from the Town and Country Development Planning Office were assessed and recommendations were made.

#### GRAEME HALL SWAMP AND ECOSYSTEM

As a result of sewage overflows onto the South Coast Main Road, there was damage to the South Coast sewer network. Therefore, it was realised that a solution to the sewage overflows would be beneficial to the ecological health of the swamp. A series of mitigating actions resulted in the construction of six (6) deep injection wells for disposal of effluent for repairs to the damaged force effluent pipe from the South Coast Sewage Treatment Plant. Recognising the need for an urgent solution a temporary marine outfall was also constructed. The Cabinet Sub-Committee for the South Coast Sewerage Project implemented a regime for a comprehensive environmental management of the swamp. A determination was made that construction of a permanent marine outfall for Worthing Beach was critical for the health of the ecosystem. Consequently, the NHD reviewed the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Report, which is required for Natural Heritage Conservation Areas.

#### NATIONAL BOTANICAL GARDENS

Activities that took place relating to the National Botanical Gardens (NBG) included the following:

- During 2019, the NBG grounds were prepared for the hosting of the Calypso Soca Monarch, and that preparation included the planting of several shrub gardens across the landscape and the construction of a temporary road network.
- In August 2019, a tree planting ceremony was held on the NBG grounds, where the Barbadian Prime



Minister and President Kenyatta of the Republic of Kenya planted one tree each. Following this ceremony, a Kenyan scientific team visited Barbados for the purpose of providing technical assistance with the development of the NBG, and the National Tree Planting Project during September 2019. Additionally, in December 2019, the Prime Minister of Barbados visited Kenya and brought back seeds from nine (9) different tree species that were presented to her by President Kenyatta.

- The NCC was able to increase propagation and production of cuttings from 4,517 in September 2019 to 8,938 in July 2020. During that same period, the average propagation and production of cuttings increased from 4,300 to 6,498.
- The NCC commenced work on increasing its capacity in relation to the collection, propagation and maintenance of trees for the One Million Tree Initiative (National Tree Planting Project).

#### **NATIONAL CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Some of the activities undertaken by the National Conservation Commission (NCC) during the period included:

- The NCC continued to work with stakeholders in relation to the removal of Sargassum seaweed from Barbados' beaches. The NCC has been working in collaboration with the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and the Blue Economy to develop new ways and approaches of removing the seaweed without deleterious effects to beach stability. It must be noted that the removal of the seaweed is very intensive, particularly in those areas where the country's tourism product can be negatively affected.

#### **SANITATION SERVICE AUTHORITY**

In relation to refuse collection, the Sanitation Service Authority (SSA) was able during the period to acquire nineteen (19) refuse collection compactor vehicles, consisting of fourteen (14) large and five (5) medium sized vehicles. These additions, along with the engagement of casual workers or "Job Hands" as Drivers and Lorry Loaders, helped the SSA to improve its services so that all households on its 290 collection routes have a scheduled refuse collection at least once a week.

Additionally, the acquisition of two (2) Mitsubishi ten-wheelers open-back dump trucks and two (2) rubber wheel Caterpillar skid steers, in association with the existing open-back dump trucks, enabled the SSA to increase and improve its collection of bulk waste and clean the persistent communal dumps across the island.

## IV. FOREIGN POLICY, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND AID

### A. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND THE 2030 AGENDA

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development presents an opportunity for Caribbean countries, particularly Barbados, as a Small Island Developing State (SIDS) to optimize the potential benefits of implementing the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Barbados has evidence of targeted policy formation and a monitoring mechanism on progress that identifies the achievement of its national development goals and their ability to ensure that actual development leaves no one behind, and that different groups of people; inclusive of women, youth, persons with disabilities, older persons and rural dwellers, are all engaged in and benefit from national development efforts.

In light of this, the agendas of the SDGs and the aspirations of SIDS must be synergized through institutional strengthening to enhance the capacity of national frameworks to guide coherent policy design and integrated cross-sectoral implementation of development objectives. They must assist with strengthening both the national and sub-regional capacity for collection, analysis and dissemination of disaggregated data to facilitate evidence-based decision-making and ensure effective monitoring and measurement of the attained national development goals so that the well-being and livelihoods of persons are sustained and enriched.

The Barbados Economic Recovery and Transformation (BERT) Plan is a medium-term strategy aimed at restoring macroeconomic stability and transforming the economy to a path of sustainable and inclusive growth. It seeks to achieve growth through the promotion of “a new, high-skilled, knowledge-based, technology-driven and empowered diversified economy, that encompasses renewable energy, recycling, climate resilience and the marine

environment.” It also reflects the Government’s intention to reduce vulnerabilities to climate change across sectors as it focuses on mitigating the adverse impact of natural disasters on the economy. This will be achieved through risk-based coastal planning, long-term shoreline planning and beach enhancement, including the promotion of hazard-resilient coastal infrastructure.

The facilitation and implementation of the SDGs provides responses at the individual, community and country levels, and presents an integrated public investment programme founded on principles of sustainable development and climate change resilience. To counter the challenge of climate change Barbados has embarked on a developmental model for the next decade known as the “Roofs to Reefs” Programme (R2RP) to create the desired sustainable resilience across critical sectors. The “Roofs to Reefs” Programme model will focus on improving the social and environmental circumstances of Barbadians as they seek to adapt and mitigate against the effects of climate change. It will improve the living conditions of vulnerable persons by making them more resilient to the impacts of the worsening climate crisis and related natural disasters, while increasing their ability to recover quickly after a disaster.

Additionally, the R2RP will address the inter-connectedness of land and coastal preservation, and of the natural, built and social environments in strengthening climate resilience. It will improve the housing stock, access to water and sanitation, eradicate pit toilets, promote the use of solar and other green energy options to reduce dependence on fossil fuels and direct line electricity transmissions, improve water quality, and reduce the volumes and impacts of waste (both solid and liquid). This is a development path that will lead to improvements in living conditions and in the terrestrial and marine environments, inclusive of gullies and coral

reefs, as well as to create the necessary growth that can be sustained in the future.

## **B. INTERNATIONAL TRADE POLICY AND FOREIGN RELATIONS**

### **FOREIGN TRADE**

In 2019, the Foreign Trade Division continued to pursue initiatives aimed at advancing the economic and social wellbeing of Barbados and its people by promoting trade and maintaining and elevating Barbados' image in the international arena. The Division continued to monitor the implementation of trade agreements and ensured that Barbados' interests were protected and advocated.

One major issue which Barbados highlighted in all negotiating fora during 2019 was the relationship between trade and climate change. Climate change and climate related disasters impact negatively on industry, the agriculture sector, social development, housing, and the economy. The physical processes associated with climate change have a bearing on the pattern and volume of international trade flows and at the same time, trade impacts on climate change by way, inter alia, of increases in greenhouse gas emissions. Barbados has elevated this issue in order to have the necessary discussions on identifying options to create policy space to allow countries, especially small countries, to plan for unforeseen climate related events.

### **WORLD TRADE ORGANISATION**

At the international level, Barbados continued active engagement in the negotiations at the World Trade Organisation (WTO), especially the Small Economies Work Programme. Negotiations on agriculture, non-agriculture market access and services continued, albeit at a very slow pace, and Members began engagement on new areas such as e-commerce and investment facilitation. Barbados assumed chairmanship

of the Committee on Trade and Development during 2019 and also chairs the Working Party on Domestic Regulation. In the CARICOM Geneva caucus of Ambassadors, Barbados assumed the responsibility of focal point on WTO reform. Barbados continued to be heavily involved in the discussions on comprehensive and effective disciplines that prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing and eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.

### **UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE FOR TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT**

Within the United Nations Conference for Trade and Development (UNCTAD) system, Barbados chairs the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) grouping and advocates for the inclusion of the peculiar concerns of that grouping to be adequately addressed.

In 2019, Barbados was successful in its bid to host the Fifteenth Quadrennial Meeting of UNCTAD (UNCTAD 15). UNCTAD 15, which has as its theme "From Inequality and Vulnerability, To Prosperity for All", is now scheduled to take place in April 2021, after being postponed due to the coronavirus pandemic.

A Global Commission on Trade and Development Options 2020 was established, with the late Professor the Rt. Hon. Owen Arthur serving as inaugural Chairman. This Commission is to develop a set of strategies and policies that will not only help to guide the discussions at UNCTAD 15, but also help to guide and influence the policies of other multilateral agencies to ensure that the needs of Barbados and other developing countries are met.

### **COMMONWEALTH**

Barbados has been actively participating in the process to advance the Commonwealth Connectivity Agenda, which

aims to increase intra-Commonwealth Trade and investment to two trillion dollars by 2030. Barbados leads the cluster on Regulatory Connectivity, where discussions focus on the development of good regulatory practices and practical ways to take stock of regulations and reduce regulatory burdens. The aim is to improve regulatory regimes for trade and investment across the Commonwealth. The Cluster examines Good Regulatory Practices, Regulation of Micro, Small and Medium-sized enterprises, the Commonwealth Standards Network, the Regulatory Environment and Ease of Doing Business Reform.

Barbados also joined the cluster on Digital Connectivity, where members are examining approaches to digital skills development; ways to harmonise electronic payment systems to support cross-border trade and e-commerce; methods to ensure cross-agency coordination and collaboration that supports digital transformation; educational initiatives to support young people and entrepreneurs to adopt digital technologies; and policies to support consumer protection in e-commerce platforms and cross-border transactions. This Cluster is working to enhance digital connectivity across the Commonwealth, provide an enabling environment for digital trade and support capacity-constrained members to take advantage of the opportunities presented by digital trade. It is also exploring how digital trade can promote inclusive growth in the Commonwealth.

Barbados participated in the meeting of Commonwealth Trade Ministers in 2019. The meeting discussed support for the multilateral trading system, deepening intra-Commonwealth trade and investment and inclusive and sustainable trade. The meeting reaffirmed the strong commitment of countries to the rules-based multilateral trading system and urged members to use the Commonwealth WTO caucus meetings as a platform to develop and articulate their positions and priorities. Ministers reflected on how the Commonwealth could work to

ensure that the benefits of trade were shared by all communities. Commonwealth Ministers will collaborate to make inclusive and sustainable trade a reality and to mainstream trade issues into the Commonwealth work programme.

#### ORGANISATION OF THE AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN AND PACIFIC GROUP

Barbados' participation in the meetings of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (OACP) and in meetings with the European Union (EU) at the level of the Joint Parliamentary Assembly and the Joint Ministerial Trade Committee and Joint meetings of the Institutions of the Economic Partnership Agreement continued in 2019. These were opportunities to further advocate and defend Barbados' interest and in particular to draw attention to the continued negative impact of the EU's list of Uncooperative Tax Jurisdictions.

The Cotonou Partnership Agreement will expire in 2020. In this regard, discussions on the future of the relationship between the OACP and the EU post-2020 began in 2019. It has been determined that there will be one comprehensive agreement between the OACP and the EU, which will include an all-OACP level Foundation Agreement and three Regional Protocols - one for each of the Regions. The underlying structure of the Foundation Agreement was agreed to in December 2018 and further development began in 2019. The aim is to have a modern agreement which establishes a strengthened political partnership between the Parties to generate mutually beneficial outcomes on common and intersected interests and in accordance with their shared values of human rights, democratic principles, the rule of law and good governance.

The negotiations for the CARIFORUM-EU Regional Protocol, which is to be appended to the Foundation Agreement, were formally launched in May

2019. Barbados participates in that process and leads the team of negotiators dealing with Inclusive Sustainable Economic Growth. In addition, Barbados is the alternate lead for Human Development and Social Cohesion.

#### THE ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN CARIFORUM AND THE EUROPEAN UNION

Since the signature of the CARIFORUM-European Union Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) in October 2008, Barbados and the rest of the Region have pursued the implementation of the agreement in order to secure the numerous opportunities for trade which can be garnered from it. 2019 saw Barbados' participation in a number of meetings of the EPA institutions. EPA coordinators met in March 2019 to identify the goals for the remainder of the year and set the work programme. The Trade and Development Committee as well as the Working Group on Geographical Indicators and Agriculture met during the year. Considerable progress was made on the development of a monitoring and evaluation mechanism for the EPA. The process to conduct the second five-year review also commenced in earnest. Other EPA related issues which Barbados and the Region addressed during 2019 included trade in services under the EPA, Geographical Indications, Customs Cooperation, Trade Facilitation and the transposition of the EPA.

#### BREXIT

On June 23, 2016, the citizens of the United Kingdom (UK) voted to leave the EU, a process now commonly referred to as BREXIT. The UK triggered the exit procedures of Article 50 of the Lisbon Treaty on March 29, 2017, giving themselves two years in which to leave the EU. This exit from the EU presented the opportunity for renewed engagement with the UK outside of the EU construct. CARIFORUM States and the UK thus concluded an agreement for the roll-over of the CARIFORUM-EU EPA into a

CARIFORUM-UK EPA. Barbados signed the CARIFORUM-UK Agreement in March 2019 and completed all the necessary domestic arrangements to bring the Agreement into force by proclamation on the date that the CARIFORUM-EU EPA ceases to apply to the UK.

#### CARICOM

Regionally Barbados continued to promote regional integration, being a vocal participant in the deliberations of the Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED). Barbados chaired the COTED from November 2018 to October 2019. The COTED deliberated on a number of issues, such as the advancement of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME), the advancement and further coordination of the Region's external trade policy; trade in goods; the World Trade Organization (WTO) Trade Facilitation Agreement; tourism; agriculture; Customs Committee; and the deepening of market access under the existing bilateral trading arrangements.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade continued to play a leading role in efforts to expand market access under the existing trading arrangements between CARICOM and Latin American countries. Barbados, as a member of the Caribbean Community, has signed a number of trade agreements with Spanish speaking countries within this hemisphere. These agreements were signed with the intention of boosting exports of goods and services both from Barbados and the region. Barbados is party to Bilateral Trade Agreements with Venezuela, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Cuba and Costa Rica. During 2019, engagement under the various bilaterals took place as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade attempted to encourage greater utilization of these Agreements.

Barbados sought to boost exports regionally and expand the market access reach of the local private sector. Following a succession of exploratory visits to Guyana

and Suriname a series of seminars were hosted to promote the potential trade and investment opportunities in these countries.

The inaugural Sustainable Caribbean Grassroots Business Alliance Trade Mission to the Cooperative Republic of Guyana was held over the period 30 November 2019 to 7 December 2019. The purpose of this mission was to create synergies between micro-sized businesspersons in Barbados and Guyana and to explore the opportunities which exist in the latter country in order to develop further trade and investment between the two countries.

### **C. PUBLIC SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME**

During 2019, Government's Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) continued in earnest in the areas of Infrastructure, Energy, Environment, Roads, and Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building despite the current economic environment.

#### **SKILLS FOR THE FUTURE (SFTF) PROGRAM**

The Skills for the Future (SFTF) Program supported the Government's Human Resource Development Strategy (HRDS), by improving the quality and relevance of secondary and post-secondary education and the effectiveness of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET).

The program ensured that graduates from secondary and post-secondary institutions attained the academic and life skills needed to enter the labour market or to continue further education. In addition, the programme facilitated school-to-work transition and reduced the proportion of unattached youths. The program consisted of four (4) components. Component I: Support for an Employer-driven Training System under the Competency Based Training Fund (CBTF); Component II: Improving the quality

and relevance of secondary and post-secondary education; Component III: Institutional Strengthening: Support for the METVT, the Ministry of Labour Social Security and Human Resource Development (MLSD), the Erdiston Teachers' Training College (ETTC) and Post-Secondary and TVET institutions in Business Plan Development and Implementation; Leadership and Capacity Development; and improved data and information systems in relevant Ministries; Component IV: Communication Campaign to disseminate information on the objectives of the loan, promote the development and implementation of National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs) and Caribbean Vocational Qualifications (CVQs), and to raise the overall profile of TVET in Barbados through the development and implementation of a communications strategy. At the end of the program on November 2, 2019, approximately US\$20 million was disbursed by the IDB.

#### **NEW AGREEMENTS SIGNED IN 2019**

The Government of Barbados signed two (2) new Loan Agreements totalling US\$85,000,000 in 2019 with the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF) and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB). These Agreements were (i) The Water Infrastructure Rehabilitation Project and (ii) the Second Programmatic Fiscal Sustainability, Growth and Social Protection, Policy Based Loan (PBL) from the CDB.

#### **THE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE REHABILITATION PROJECT**

The Government of Barbados and the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF) signed a Loan Agreement for US\$10,000,000 on December 24, 2019 to finance the Water Infrastructure Rehabilitation Project which will be implemented over a period of four (4) years.

The Programme's overall objective is to support sector planning and improve the

quality, reliability and efficiency of Barbados' potable water systems, and to formulate a strategy for the Potable Water and Sanitation sector, through a Master Plan. This will be achieved through the completion of pre-investment studies, the rehabilitation and optimization of existing infrastructure, the reduction and control of non-revenue water, and the strengthening of the Barbados Water Authority (BWA). It is estimated that approximately 82,000 people will benefit from this project.

Component (1) Pre-Investment consists of the formulation of the Master Plan for Potable Water and Sanitation (MPPWS). The scope will take into consideration, among other aspects; strategies and an investment plan for the Potable Water and Sanitation services of Barbados for the next five years; the design of wastewater treatment plants; and the possibility of reuse of the treated water to recharge the aquifer and the evaluation of its environmental impact.

Component (II) Investment includes the rehabilitation of the tanks and reservoirs of potable water and the infrastructure of the pumping stations, the installation of power generators for the latter, the upgrade of existing potable water networks and mains, the cleaning of the Bowmanston well, the installation of cranes at three of the pumping stations, and the rehabilitation of wastewater treatment plants.

Component (III) Institutional strengthening and project management: This component comprises the supervision and administration of the Project and the financial audit of the Project.

SECOND PROGRAMMATIC FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY, GROWTH AND SOCIAL PROTECTION POLICY BASED LOAN (PBL)

The Government of Barbados and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) signed a Policy Based Loan (PBL) for US\$75,000,000 on December 23, 2019. The Programme has

three (3) pillars namely Fiscal Sustainability, Institutional Reforms for Growth, and Social Protection.

**Pillar 1: Fiscal Sustainability** - seeks to improve the fiscal outturn and lower debt levels over the medium term. There were four sub-components under this pillar: (i) Enhance revenue collection management whose immediate effect is to strengthen revenue collection through widening the tax base, adjustment to tax rates, fees and improved compliance. (ii) Improved SOE Governance and Efficiency whose immediate effect is to lower Central Government Expenditure on Transfers and Subsidies to SOEs. (iii) Reduce Central Government borrowing from Central Bank which has an immediate effect of Strengthening Credit and Exchange Conditions. (iv) Restructured debt which has an immediate effect of reducing Central Government Debt to more sustainable levels.

**Pillar 2: Institutional Reforms for Growth** - resulted in an improved business environment and increase economic growth over the medium term. The two sub-components under this pillar: (i) Enhanced Competitiveness and Growth, had an immediate outcome to improve the Investment Climate, and (ii) Improved Institutions and Governance, had an immediate outcome to improve Institutions and Governance.

**Pillar 3: Social Protection** - sought to reduce the vulnerability of Disadvantaged Groups. In December 2019, all of these conditions were met through defined fiscal, economic and social protection measures which allowed the Government of Barbados to be able to receive all of the funds.

#### D. OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

##### ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES

The Organization of American States (OAS) continued its development activities by providing scholarships, fellowships,

workshops, meetings and conferences, which aided in the development of human resources in Barbados during 2019. The OAS sponsored twenty-four (24) persons from Barbados who attended meetings, conferences and/or workshops overseas. The estimated total cost incurred by the OAS was US\$34,758.85. In addition, seven (7) workshops/meetings were held in Barbados, which amounted to an estimated cost of US\$112,254.94. Additionally, the OAS disbursed US\$225,725.00 in project funding to Barbados for three (3) programmes during 2019.

## **UN ORGANIZATIONS**

The United Nations (UN) and its related agencies continued to undertake work in Barbados, based on the UN Multi-Country Sustainable Development Framework (UN MSDF) 2017-2021. The UN MSDF consists of four (4) priority areas:

- Priority Area 1: An Inclusive, Equitable and Prosperous Caribbean
- Priority Area 2: A Healthy Caribbean
- Priority Area 3: A Cohesive, Safe and Just Caribbean
- Priority Area 4: A Sustainable and Resilient Caribbean

### **PRIORITY AREA 1: AN INCLUSIVE, EQUITABLE AND PROSPEROUS CARIBBEAN**

During 2019, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF); International Labour Organization (ILO); Food and Agricultural Organization of the UN (FAO); United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and UN Agency for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (UN Women) continued to provide technical and financial assistance to Barbados and other Caribbean countries in the region through various regional projects in the areas of Education, Social Protection, Business Competitiveness, Food Security, Planning and Monitoring and Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). The following two (2) regional projects are

examples of work undertaken in this priority area during 2019.

In 2019, FAO, in collaboration with UN Women, UNDP, ILO and public sector, private sector and civil society organizations, commenced a regional project entitled "Increased access to markets and means of production for youth and women in the agricultural sector." The participating countries in this project are Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, St. Lucia and Barbados. This project aims to generate decent rural and coastal employment opportunities in the agrifood sector and will assist mainly in the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 8 – Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

UN Women, in partnership with the CARICOM Regional Advisory Group on the Measurement of Unpaid Care Work, developed a basic guide and provided training to National Statistical Offices in CARICOM countries to assist in the measurement of SDG indicator 5.4.1 – Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location, during 2019. None of the CARICOM countries have an official system in place to collect data that can be used to measure SDG 5.4.1. Therefore, the basic guide and related training would provide CARICOM countries with a foundation to commence work in this area.

### **PRIORITY AREA 2: A HEALTHY CARIBBEAN**

During 2019, UNICEF, in partnership with the Windward Islands Research and Education Foundation (WINDREF), continued support in the area of Early Childhood Development under the regional project "Support line Ministries to increase capacity to budget, implement, monitor and evaluate high-quality, equitable early childhood programmes and services for girls and boys (ages 0-8) and their families in development and humanitarian contexts."



Barbados is one of the participating countries in this project, along with Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago. The aims of this project include to develop and utilise a Regional Developmental Monitoring Framework to track progress in learning and development; and to streamline strategies, systems and tools to enable caregivers and other stakeholders to provide nurturing care, protection and quality early learning experiences, monitor children's developmental progress and identify and care for children with special needs and neurodevelopmental disabilities. This project would assist mainly in the achievement of SDG 4 - Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

#### PRIORITY AREA 3: A COHESIVE, SAFE AND JUST CARIBBEAN

UN Women, in collaboration with stakeholders, provided technical and financial support to complete the preparation of a Regional Report on the Status of Women and Men in Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago during 2019. This report provided a gender analysis of labour force survey data and focused on Economic Empowerment and Social Protection. The report would also contribute to progress in SDG 4 - Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

Additionally, in 2019, UN Women, in the area of gender-based violence prevention, provided technical support for training in the CARICOM model for national prevalence surveys on gender-based violence. This training, provided to Caribbean countries, contributes to progress in SDG 16 - Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build

effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

During 2019, UNICEF continued to provide technical and financial support to three (3) regional projects in the area of Child Protection. These regional projects have the following objectives: "Increase the knowledge and skills of frontline workers in the education, health, child protection sectors, caregivers and children to implement practices to protect boys and girls from sexual and physical violence"; "Undertake capacity building of countries to develop policies and programmes, generate evidence and implement services to prevent, respond to and manage violence against girls and boys (including in emergencies) and children in conflict with the law"; and "Strengthen political commitment and accountability to legislate and budget for strengthening interventions that prevent and respond to violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect". These three (3) regional projects will benefit Barbados, along with Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago. The projects will also assist in the achievement of SDG 5 - Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

#### PRIORITY AREA 4: A SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT CARIBBEAN

The UNDP, FAO and World Food Programme (WFP) continued to provide technical and financial assistance to national and regional projects in the areas of Agriculture; Climate change adaptation and mitigation; Disaster Risk Management; Innovation; Natural Resources Management; and Sustainable Energy during 2019. Examples of some of the assistance provided by these UN agencies are outlined in the following paragraphs.

During 2019, in the area of Agriculture, FAO commenced the provision of technical and financial assistance to

CARICOM and the OECS under the regional project “Support the ministry of agriculture, fisheries and statistical division with stock taking, data collection and data analysis related to the agricultural sector.” The countries participating in this programme are Barbados, Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. This project mainly contributes to progress in SDG 17 - Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.

UNDP commenced the provision of technical and financial assistance to Barbados during 2019 in the area of Natural Resources Management under the programme “Supporting Blue Economy and Sustainable Management of Oceans in Barbados and the OECS (The Blue Economy Lab).” This programme is designed to assist Barbados and other Caribbean countries in the sustainable development of its ocean-based economic sectors and would contribute to progress in SDG 14 - Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.

Two (2) national projects that received support from the UNDP - “Technology Transfer for the Hydrochloroflourocarbons Phase-out Management Plan (HPMP) implementation in Barbados” and “Promoting Solar Photovoltaic Systems in Public Buildings for Clean Energy Access, Increased Climate Resilience and Disaster Risk Management (Disaster Risk and Energy Access Management or DREAM Project)” - were completed during 2019. These projects would have contributed to progress in SDG

12 - Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns and SDG 7 - Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all respectively.

In the area of Disaster Risk Management, the WFP continued to provide technical support to the Caribbean region through the project “Strengthening end-to-end supply chain management and emergency telecommunications to improve efficiency and reduce delays in an emergency response.” This project is currently being implemented by the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) and also in Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Antigua and Barbuda and Barbados. It will contribute to progress in SDG 17 - Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development - in the region.

#### **CARIBBEAN REGIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTRE**

The Caribbean Regional Technical Assistance Centre (CARTAC) continued to provide assistance to Barbados which would help in strengthening its human and institutional capacity at the national level to design and implement sound macroeconomic policies that promote growth and reduce poverty. During 2019, CARTAC provided technical assistance to Barbados valued at US\$397,411 in seven (7) areas: Public Financial Management (US\$132,572); Customs (US\$37,649); Tax Administration (US\$32,521); Banking Supervision and Regulation (US\$32,447); Financial Sector Stability (US\$62,801); Real Sector Statistics (US\$58,984) and Macroeconomics/Institute for Capacity Development (US\$40,437).

## V. ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

The Barbados economy having made critical strides in its economic fundamentals is expected to grow on average by 1.5 per cent in 2020. This prospect is founded on the positive developments emanating from the introduction of the structural adjustment measures Barbados Economic Recovery and Transformation (BERT) plan, including the comprehensive debt restructuring initiative which has set debt on a clear downward trajectory. These achievements contributed towards reducing economic uncertainty and stimulated investor confidence, leading to an uptick in the country's sovereign credit rating. However, downside risks to the economic growth prospects are imminent from both the external and domestic environment.

The source of the domestic risks stems primarily from the need to sustain an unprecedented 6 per cent primary surplus target over the duration of the IMF EFF programme. While fiscal revenues have improved, its performance was moderated by a series of post BERT implementation developments namely:

1. the convergence of domestic corporation tax rates to a historical low 5 per cent synonymous to agencies benefitting from concessions under various International tax treaties in a bid to foster greater compliance with OECD tax principles and standards; and
2. the revenue loss from corporate tax receipts which were impacted by the domestic debt restructuring initiative as some businesses, especially within

the financial sector, suffered losses. These unanticipated developments will place increased pressure on maintaining the primary balance target especially given the need to bolster capital investment initiatives which is critical to provide support to the growth initiatives established within the BERT plan. Notwithstanding the risks to the fiscal outturn, it is highly anticipated that Government will meet its target given the positive outturn of the new tax intake.

Notwithstanding the risks to growth, tourism services is projected to remain buoyant with the onset of special events such as the "We Gatherin' Barbados initiative. Also the 15<sup>th</sup> UNCTAD quadrennial conference to be hosted in Barbados in 2020, has the propensity to boost tourism related activity. This in effect will have a corresponding spatial spillover effect to the auxiliary sectors of the economy. Investment in general, through capital expenditures and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is also expected to pick up with the easing of economic conditions and the fading impact of the fiscal consolidation effort.

With the projected increase in economic activity the country's foreign reserves are also expected to improve given the enhanced prospect for FDI inflows and the continued support from the international financial institutions.

## **LIST OF APPENDICES**

APPENDIX 1	Estimates Of Real and Nominal Gross Domestic Product 2015 – 2019.	A-1
APPENDIX 2	Gross Domestic Product By Selected Sub-Industry 2015 – 2019 (Basic Prices)	A-2
APPENDIX 3	Direction of Trade - Total Exports 1986 - 2019	A-3
APPENDIX 4	Direction of Trade - Imports 2000 - 2019	A-4
APPENDIX 5	Visible Trade Balance – Imports and Exports 2000 – 2019	A-5
APPENDIX 6	Selected Domestic Exports 2000 – 2019	A-6
APPENDIX 7	Retained Imports by Broad Economic Categories 2000 – 2019	A-7
APPENDIX 8	Central Government Operations 2014/15 – 2019/20	A-8
APPENDIX 9	Current Revenue and Expenditure by Economic Classification 2014/15 - 2019/20	A-9
APPENDIX 10	National Debt – Central Government 2013 – 2019	A-10
APPENDIX 11	Mortgages To Non-Financial Corporations 2012- 2019	A-11
APPENDIX 12	Selected Interest Rates 1990 – 2019 (Percentages Per Annum)	A-12
APPENDIX 13	Employment By Industry 2012- 2019	A-13
APPENDIX 14	Production of Selected Agricultural Commodities 2014-2019	A-14

APPENDIX 15	Selected Indicators in the Tourism Industry 2007-2019	A-15
APPENDIX 16	Tourist Arrivals by Country of Residence 2003 – 2019	A-16
APPENDIX 17	Direction of Trade with CARICOM Countries- Domestic Exports 2012 - 2019	A-17
APPENDIX 18	Fiscal Deficit and Financing 2013/2014 - 2019/2020	A-18
APPENDIX 19	Population, Rates of Birth, Death and Infant Mortality 1983 – 2019	A-19

**APPENDIX 1**  
**ESTIMATES OF REAL AND NOMINAL GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT 2015 – 2019**

	<b>\$'000</b>				
<b>REAL GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT BY INDUSTRY</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
Agriculture and Fishing	110.2	109.0	105.5	121.0	115.5
Mining and Quarrying	37.4	32.4	40.7	42.2	49.6
Manufacturing	491.3	485.2	487.8	476.9	468.4
Electricity, Gas & Water Supply	217.4	219.0	214.8	214.1	213.5
Construction	495.7	482.8	492.9	461.6	452.3
Wholesale & Retail Trade	794.6	788.9	759.2	747.7	736.8
Transportation and Storage	434.9	494.3	497.0	485.9	466.6
Accommodation and Food Services	1144.8	1256.7	1314.9	1342.7	1379.8
Information & Communications	537.8	570.9	549.7	541.8	540.9
Financial & Insurance	799.1	820.5	850.7	850.3	808.0
Real Estate	864.3	873.8	883.4	893.1	902.9
Business Services	805.6	813.4	794.9	783.9	764.0
Public Administration, Defence & Social Security	488.0	483.3	481.0	470.3	424.4
Public Education	276.9	273.1	275.4	273.7	273.3
Public Health	99.8	98.3	99.1	97.8	93.3
Personal & Other Services Incl. of Private Edu. & Health	355.9	347.1	345.5	343.9	352.0
Less: FISIM Adjustment	106.4	93.7	91.0	87.0	86.5
<i>Total Value Added at Basic Prices</i>	7847.1	8055.1	8101.6	8060.0	7954.8
Taxes less Subsidies on Products	1190.8	1210.9	1205.0	1191.5	1177.3
Gross Domestic Product at Constant Prices	9038.0	9266.0	9306.6	9251.6	9132.1
Real Gross Domestic Product per Capita (\$'000)	28.4	29.2	29.5	29.4	29.1
<b>NOMINAL GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT BY INDUSTRY</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
Agriculture and Fishing	123.3	125.0	129.5	146.4	138.5
Mining and Quarrying	17.9	16.1	21.1	26.2	26.8
Manufacturing	514.2	512.4	510.1	498.3	498.2
Electricity, Gas & Water Supply	224.3	219.4	229.8	231.3	233.3
Construction	531.9	507.8	511.2	501.7	515.5
Wholesale & Retail Trade	903.6	908.8	903.5	898.7	896.3
Transportation and Storage	520.5	619.5	650.8	697.1	768.7
Accommodation and Food Services	1,059.7	1,131.9	1,231.6	1,354.3	1,478.7
Information & Communications	508.8	493.0	463.6	439.9	429.8
Financial & Insurance	833.4	822.5	862.1	894.1	906.4
Real Estate	1,041.6	983.3	972.8	936.5	1,086.7
Business Services	682.9	711.9	746.1	790.9	802.9
Public Administration, Defence & Social Security	488.0	483.3	481.0	487.8	445.7
Public Education	276.9	273.1	275.4	284.0	287.0
Public Health	99.8	98.3	99.1	101.4	97.9
Personal & Other Services Incl. of Private Edu. & Health	522.8	554.0	559.3	545.3	546.6
FISIM Adjustment	147.7	165.2	171.0	170.3	184.2
<i>Total Value Added at Basic Prices</i>	8,202.0	8,295.0	8,475.7	8,663.5	8,974.6
Taxes less Subsidies on Products	1,228.0	1,363.7	1,496.2	1,582.3	1,621.4
Gross Domestic Product at Market Prices	9,430.0	9,658.6	9,971.9	10,245.8	10,595.9
Gross Domestic Product per Capita	29.6	30.1	30.8	31.6	32.9

**SOURCE:** Barbados Statistical Service

**APPENDIX 2**  
**EXPENDITURE OF GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT AND**  
**GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (BASIC PRICES) BY SELECT SUB-INDUSTRY 2015 – 2019**

	(\$M)				
EXPENDITURE OF GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Consumption Expenditure					
Personal	7,259.8	7,531.0	7,612.2	7,575.4	7,666.0
Government	1,285.9	1,297.2	1,210.2	1,202.1	1,159.1
Total	8,545.7	8,828.1	8,822.4	8,777.5	8,825.1
Gross Capital Formation	900.7	859.9	865.6	849.5	872.9
Buildings	676.1	704.8	671.8	585.5	651.5
Machinery/Equipment	1,576.8	1,564.7	1,537.3	1,435.0	1,524.4
Total Buildings, Machinery/Equipment	19.0	19.0	19.0	19.0	19.0
Change in Stocks	1,595.9	1,583.7	1,556.4	1,454.0	1,543.5
Total	900.7	859.9	865.6	849.5	872.9
Exports					
Goods	951.7	1,033.9	970.8	896.0	888.2
Services	2,832.9	2,497.5	2,591.3	2,725.6	2,996.6
Total	3,784.6	3,531.4	3,562.1	3,621.6	3,884.8
Imports					
Goods	3,061.1	3,080.9	3,040.3	2,997.7	2,894.4
Services	1,407.6	989.3	1,014.0	1,073.9	1,148.9
Total	4,468.7	4,070.2	4,054.4	4,071.6	4,043.3
Statistical Discrepancy	(27.4)	(214.4)	85.3	464.3	385.9
Gross Domestic Product at Market prices	9,430.0	9,658.6	9,971.9	10,245.8	10,595.9
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT BY SELECT SUB-INDUSTRY	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Agriculture					
Total	123.3	125.0	129.5	146.4	138.5
Sugar Cane	3.7	4.3	6.9	7.7	4.0
Total Non-Sugar Agriculture	119.6	120.6	122.6	138.7	134.5
Food Crops	27.8	27.9	24.0	36.5	37.5
Livestock	81.5	80.7	83.8	88.3	90.8
Other Cultivation	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Fishing	10.3	12.0	14.8	13.9	6.1
Manufacturing					
Total	514.2	512.4	510.1	498.3	498.2
Sugar	19.4	14.8	9.1	14.0	11.8
Food, Beverages & Tobacco	261.2	271.8	272.5	263.4	263.1
Wood/Wood Products	16.1	14.7	14.7	13.1	13.0
Paper Products, Printing &	61.3	64.7	63.9	59.6	57.1
Publishing					
Chemicals, Oil & Non-Metallic	72.0	67.7	68.3	68.4	73.6
Minerals					
Metal Products & Assembled Goods	52.9	48.2	49.2	47.7	45.9
Other Manufacturing	31.2	30.5	32.3	32.2	33.6
Total Selected Sub-Industries	637.6	637.4	639.6	644.7	636.7
Gross Domestic Product at Basic Prices	9,430.01	9,658.64	9,971.93	10,245.83	10,595.92

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

**APPENDIX 3**  
**DIRECTION OF TRADE – TOTAL EXPORTS**  
**1986 – 2019**

(\$ M)

Year	Canada	CARICOM	Japan	Germany	United Kingdom	United States Of America	Venezuela	All Other Countries	Total Exports
1986	22.6	96.1	6.8	3.0	46.0	135.1	0.0	247.8	557.4
1987	12.7	75.0	2.7	1.0	65.1	67.6	0.0	98.4	322.5
1988	12.2	94.7	2.7	1.6	66.2	75.6	0.0	101.1	354.2
1989	11.0	123.9	3.2	1.1	48.9	72.8	0.2	113.3	374.4
1990	12.5	131.9	1.1	1.8	78.7	51.9	1.1	151.2	430.1
1991	13.0	135.5	1.4	1.9	43.5	53.4	0.3	165.7	414.7
1992	10.3	130.6	3.2	2.6	75.6	62.3	0.1	95.6	380.3
1993	11.9	140.8	2.2	1.1	59.2	65.0	0.1	94.7	375.0
1994	15.7	122.4	2.2	1.8	73.3	70.5	0.2	80.3	366.4
1995	25.3	178.0	2.9	3.6	71.8	68.7	6.2	107.4	463.9
1996	24.5	201.2	0.9	3.1	93.3	74.2	48.6	115.4	561.2
1997	20.0	200.7	1.9	3.6	96.9	80.7	32.5	129.6	565.9
1998	14.1	219.4	0.8	3.6	71.9	74.6	5.4	116.4	506.2
1999	13.6	235.2	0.6	3.5	69.2	84.4	4.1	117.1	527.6
2000	11.1	236.9	0.6	1.2	71.9	83.3	1.9	138.8	545.7
2001	14.3	216.2	0.4	1.2	60.6	73.5	2.4	150.1	518.7
2002	9.0	210.2	0.3	2.3	52.2	63.3	1.7	144.7	483.7
2003	7.8	201.5	0.2	2.3	55.0	67.3	0.0	165.4	499.5
2004	10.5	211.7	0.1	2.0	60.4	81.3	0.1	190.4	556.5
2005	13.0	268.3	0.1	2.9	60.5	91.9	0.4	275.6	712.7
2006	15.6	304.1	0.5	8.3	66.0	171.2	0.1	316.6	882.4
2007	17.9	326.9	0.1	6.5	94.4	170.2	0.4	333.4	949.8
2008	20.7	315.1	0.1	4.5	82.3	187.4	1.1	297.4	908.6
2009	20.1	282.5	0.2	4.7	65.6	169.7	0.9	268.4	812.1
2010	16.2	291.9	0.3	4.1	105.3	148.5	0.9	294.2	861.4
2011	15.1	389.9	0.0	4.8	110.1	137.0	0.7	359.3	1016.9
2012	20.3	327.4	0.1	2.4	62.5	293.4	0.6	443.6	1150.3
2013	23.8	330.8	0.3	4.5	17.3	165.5	0.5	392.5	935.2
2014	23.3	336.0	0.1	5.8	33.5	157.0	0.4	392.7	948.8
2015	17.4	311.1	0.6	2.2	28.1	310.3	0.1	296.0	965.8
2016	18.3	349.8	0.1	4.2	32.5	349.4	0.3	331.8	1086.4
2017	17.3	323.5	0.1	2.9	28.2	246.1	0.4	348.6	970.8
2018	25.3	338.9	0.0	1.4	16.9	202.8	0.3	329.9	915.5
2019	30.6	339.8	0.0	0.8	17.9	180.3	0.1	318.6	888.2

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service



**APPENDIX 4**  
**DIRECTION OF TRADE – IMPORTS**  
**2000 – 2019**

									( \$M )
Year	Canada	CARICOM	Japan	Germany	United Kingdom	United States of America	Venezuela	Other Countries	Total Imports
2000	96.5	459.1	120.1	36.6	186.7	943.9	13.8	455.4	2,312.1
2001	80.3	436.4	89.1	36.5	171.9	877.0	8.8	437.3	2,137.3
2002	74.8	463.2	90.1	35.6	157.4	850.7	9.0	460.7	2,141.5
2003	84.8	570.5	106.9	39.5	148.9	891.2	6.1	542.7	2,390.6
2004	107.8	698.7	128.1	41.8	166.5	1,027.7	8.2	647.1	2,825.9
2005	114.4	627.9	165.5	52.2	176.9	1,172.0	11.1	702.9	3,022.9
2006	120.2	857.9	119.7	44.7	189.9	1,205.0	8.4	712.3	3,258.1
2007	118.6	845.6	118.8	61.6	213.9	1,205.9	2.6	798.1	3,365.1
2008	121.4	885.5	126.4	56.3	185.0	1,274.4	2.3	841.7	3,493.0
2009	103.0	752.6	82.8	34.3	134.4	1,054.5	0.9	683.6	2,846.1
2010	106.4	1,046.9	85.8	45.3	128.4	1,036.8	0.3	727.7	3,177.6
2011	112.5	1,200.7	82.6	72.3	143.3	1,115.8	0.6	825.0	3,552.8
2012	96.7	1,306.2	71.7	37.7	132.8	1,083.6	0.3	793.4	3,522.4
2013	99.9	1,185.0	69.3	45.7	143.2	1,153.3	0.2	841.9	3,538.6
2014	81.8	988.9	65.1	48.4	139.1	1,124.2	0.1	1,030.8	3,478.4
2015	76.5	682.2	69.1	53.9	136.5	1,148.5	1.1	1,070.4	3,237.2
2016	73.5	585.3	86.7	66.8	157.8	1,181.8	0.0	1,095.5	3,247.3
2017	76.2	642.5	90.8	43.7	129.6	1,148.9	0.1	1,072.4	3,204.0
2018	67.9	661.0	82.1	38.5	132.2	1,071.3	0.1	1,147.26	3,200.2
2019	74.0	578.6	79.1	44.5	132.2	1,061.3	0.1	1,191.0	3,160.7

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

**APPENDIX 5**  
**VISIBLE TRADE BALANCE – IMPORTS AND EXPORTS**  
**2000 – 2019**

(\$ M)					
Year	Imports (CIF)	Domestic Exports	Re-Exports	Total Exports	Balance on Visible Trade
2000	2312.1	380.3	165.4	545.7	-1766.4
2001	2137.3	352.7	166.0	518.7	-1618.6
2002	2141.5	333.9	149.9	483.0	-1658.5
2003	2390.6	329.4	170.1	499.5	-1891.1
2004	2825.9	346.9	209.6	551.3	-2274.6
2005	3022.9	427.0	285.7	712.7	-2310.2
2006	3258.1	491.7	390.8	882.4	-2375.7
2007	3365.1	513.5	436.4	949.8	-2415.3
2008	3493.0	526.3	382.3	908.6	-2584.4
2009	2846.1	439.6	372.6	812.1	-2034.0
2010	3177.6	508.2	353.2	861.4	-2316.2
2011	3552.8	534.1	482.8	1016.9	-2535.9
2012	3522.4	592.9	557.4	1150.3	-2372.1
2013	3538.6	534.6	400.7	935.2	-2603.4
2014	3478.4	554.6	394.2	948.8	-2529.6
2015	3236.2	506.0	459.8	965.8	-2270.3
2016	3247.3	524.1	509.6	1033.7	-2213.6
2017	3204.0	509.8	460.9	970.8	-2233.3
2018	3,200.2	510.7	404.8	915.5	-2,284.8
2019	3,160.7	511.4	376.7	888.2	-2,272.5

**SOURCE:** Barbados Statistical Service

**APPENDIX 6**  
**SELECTED DOMESTIC EXPORTS**  
**2000 – 2019**

Year	Sugar	Molasses	Rum						(\$M)	
				Lard & Margarine	Other Food & Beverages	Electrical Components	Clothing	Chemicals	Other Domestic Exports	Total Domestic Exports
2000	53.3	0.0	24.5	9.0	51.2	42.9	5.8	47.6	146.0	380.3
2001	44.0	0.0	36.0	9.4	55.6	37.8	3.4	43.4	123.1	352.7
2002	37.7	0.0	35.5	9.3	52.7	28.7	1.4	42.1	126.5	333.9
2003	41.0	0.0	33.6	8.9	36.8	29.4	1.8	41.9	136.0	329.4
2004	44.9	0.0	44.6	10.0	39.0	29.6	1.2	42.4	135.2	346.9
2005	44.4	0.0	50.7	10.9	47.7	56.3	2.6	56.1	158.3	427.0
2006	39.2	0.2	44.3	14.4	42.2	47.3	2.3	60.2	241.6	491.7
2007	37.3	0.0	67.5	15.4	52.8	31.0	1.6	74.6	318.6	598.8
2008	45.0	0.0	66.0	19.8	59.1	27.4	0.9	66.8	241.3	526.3
2009	36.2	0.0	57.2	18.7	48.2	18.1	0.6	58.2	202.4	439.6
2010	19.3	0.0	66.8	18.8	44.5	22.2	0.5	124.0	212.1	508.2
2011	21.2	0.0	70.9	19.1	49.4	22.7	0.6	140.7	209.5	534.1
2012	22.3	0.2	82.4	20.2	53.6	20.4	0.5	128.3	265.0	592.9
2013	15.9	0.2	86.1	20.2	58.1	15.2	0.6	82.9	255.4	534.6
2014	18.1	0.0	78.7	20.0	64.5	18.9	0.4	88.9	265.1	554.6
2015	7.2	0.0	76.3	18.6	58.6	17.0	0.4	93.6	234.3	506.0
2016	7.1	0.0	77.6	18.5	71.0	24.7	0.3	91.7	233.3	524.1
2017	13.5	0.0	83.9	19.7	67.6	19.9	0.0	72.7	232.4	509.8
2018	0.4	0.0	79.8	20.2	69.5	20.3	0.0	80.3	240.2	510.7
2019	0.6	0.0	76.8	20.1	67.0	18.6	0.0	77.8	250.5	511.4

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

**APPENDIX 7**  
**RETAINED IMPORTS BY BROAD ECONOMIC CATEGORIES**  
**2000 – 2019**

(\$M)

Year	Total		Other			Total			Total Retained Imports
	Consumer Goods	Non-Durables	Manu- factured Goods	Total Non- Consumer Goods	Inter- mediate Goods	Capital Goods	Unclassified Goods		
2000	881.3	493.5	201.3	186.6	1,265.4	812.1	447.2	6.1	2,146.7
2001	842.7	510.3	162.0	170.5	1,128.5	710.2	411.5	6.8	1,971.2
2002	847.1	533.5	153.5	160.1	1,144.6	732.6	404.5	7.5	1,991.7
2003	915.4	559.3	175.4	180.7	1,305.1	835.3	462.1	7.7	2,220.5
2004	1,044.8	615.8	206.9	222.1	1,571.5	977.0	585.2	9.3	2,616.3
2005	1,216.3	699.2	237.7	279.4	1,694.7	1,094.2	588.6	12.0	2,911.0
2006	1,063.3	665.5	208.9	188.9	1,803.6	1,122.2	666.1	15.3	2,866.9
2007	1,146.9	721.3	222.4	203.3	1,811.3	1,185.7	612.6	13.0	2,958.2
2008	1,213.6	802.1	239.7	171.8	2,182.4	1,557.9	607.1	17.4	3,396.0
2009	1,012.8	704.9	163.0	144.9	1,587.6	1,119.1	456.6	11.8	2,600.4
2010	1,099.6	757.0	186.3	156.3	1,703.9	1,241.4	450.4	12.1	2,803.5
2011	1,222.5	827.1	191.1	204.3	2,046.7	1,495.0	535.3	16.4	3,269.2
2012	1,063.7	772.0	176.5	115.3	1,958.4	1,505.4	439.4	13.7	3,022.1
2013	1,231.8	858.7	188.8	184.3	1,895.1	1,359.8	518.8	16.4	3,126.9
2014	1,226.5	874.2	183.3	184.2	1,857.6	1,310.8	518.1	13.4	3,084.1
2015	1,089.0	807.9	196.6	111.6	1,687.4	1,100.2	575.1	14.0	2,776.4
2016	1,135.9	803.3	206.1	126.4	1,578.1	1,011.4	554.2	12.5	2,714.0
2017	1,143.2	766.8	225.6	150.8	1,596.1	1,062.6	522.9	10.6	2,739.2
2018	1,165.6	827.1	196.2	142.3	1,604.4	1,127.2	467.1	10.0	2,767.0
2019	1,116.9	842.7	183.3	90.9	1,668.2	1,141.1	515.3	11.8	2,785.0

SOURCE: Central Bank of Barbados

**APPENDIX 8**  
**CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**  
**(2014/15 -2019/20)**

	(\$M)					
Year	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Current Expenditure	3,717.3	3,968.8	3,867.0	4,091.9	3,115.0	2,785.7
Amortization	-798.3	-883.3	-805.5	-961.3	343	377.9
Other	2,919.0	3,085.5	3,061.5	3,130.6	2,772	2,407.9
Current Revenue	2,388.1	2,566.5	2,657.0	2,802.0	2,919.8	2,984.2
Tax	2,222.9	2,437.4	2,543.9	2,623.6	2,760	2,756.2
Non-Tax*	165.2	129.1	113.1	178.4	160	196.7
Loans and Advances	57.5	18.1	-	-	-	-
Grant Income	-	-	8.8	3.1	0	11.0
Current Surplus/Deficit	(1,329)	(1,402)	(1,210)	(1,290)	(195.2)	198
Capital Expenditure						
and Net Lending/						
Capital Expenditure						
Gross Lending	173.1	216.6	205.4	149.2	170.8	185.1
Gross Financing Requirements	-1,502.3	-1,618.9	-1,415.5	-1,445.5	-380.2	384.5
Overall Fiscal Deficit/	-8.1	-8.3	-6.6	-4.7	-0.4	3.6
Net Financing Requirements	94.4	147.8	195.5	477.0	305.7	-

**SOURCE:** Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs

**APPENDIX 9**  
**CURRENT REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE BY ECONOMIC CLASSIFICATION**  
**(2014/15 – 2019/20)**

(\$M)

Year	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
<b>CURRENT REVENUE BY ECONOMIC CLASSIFICATION</b>						
Taxes on Income & Profits	666.1	723.5	821.3	797.0	883	799.5
Taxes on Property	164.3	187.5	135.1	137.5	161	214.7
Taxes on Goods and Services	1074.3	1248.8	1292.4	1299.9	1,407	1,435.1
Taxes on International Trade	223.7	231.6	242.9	218.6	214	231.6
Stamp Duties	11.0	10.1	9.4	10.4	11	11.4
Special Receipts	83.5	35.7	42.8	160.1	84	96.8
Non-Tax Revenue (1)	107.7	111.0	104.3	167.5	160	183.3
Loans and Advances	57.5	18.1	0.0	0.0	0	-
Grant Income	0.0	0.0	8.8	10.9	0	11.8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,388.10</b>	<b>2,566.30</b>	<b>2,657.00</b>	<b>2,801.90</b>	<b>2,920.00</b>	<b>2,984.20</b>
<b>MEMORANDUM ITEMS</b>						
<b>Total Levies:</b>	<b>61.9</b>	<b>51.0</b>	<b>42.8</b>	<b>192.3</b>	<b>84.0</b>	<b>96.9</b>
Employment Levy	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Training Levy	15.3	15.3	10.2	20.5	22.6	23.0
Transport Levy	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Municipal Tax	32.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Social Responsibility Levy	0.0	0.0	28.4	143.4	0.0	0.1
Other	38.9	35.7	4.2	28.4	1.9	18.0
Direct Tourism Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.9	6.2
Airline Travel and Development					49.4	27.6
Room Rate Levy					7.2	22.0
<b>EXPENDITURE BY ECONOMIC CLASSIFICATION</b>						
EMPLOYMENT EXPENSES	803.7	787.1	784.4	781.1	811.9	807.4
Wages and Salaries	743.9	729.0	726.5	723.6	765.2	735.6
National Insurance Contributions	59.8	58.1	58.0	60.7	46.7	71.8
Goods and Services	341.6	441.3	393.1	364.3	356.3	375.5
Amortization	798.3	883.3	805.5	961.3	342.9	377.9
Interest	653.8	672.5	742.5	758.4	384.9	249.7
Subsidies and Transfers	1,119.9	1,184.5	1,141.5	1,223.7	1219.0	975.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,717.30</b>	<b>3,968.70</b>	<b>3,867.00</b>	<b>4,088.80</b>	<b>3,115.00</b>	<b>2,785.80</b>

SOURCE: Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs

**APPENDIX 10**  
**NATIONAL DEBT – CENTRAL GOVERNMENT**  
**2013 – 2019**

	(\$M)						
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
<b>CENTRAL GOVERNMENT</b>							
<b>TOTAL DEBT (*)</b>	10,812.5	11,383.9	12,137.1	13,286.7	13,582.5	12,340.4	12,215.1
Domestic	8,144.0	8,539.0	9,308.6	10,453.4	10,763.6	9,247.3	9,169.6
Short-Term	2,542.1	2,710.8	3,276.2	3,788.6	4,223.5	576.9	687.5
Long-Term	5,602.0	5,825.7	6,032.4	6,664.9	6,540.1	8,670.4	8,482.1
Foreign Debt	2,668.5	2,845.0	2,828.4	2,833.3	2,819.0	3,093.1	3,045.5
Bilateral	0.7	-	-	-	193.4	211.5	222.6
International Institutions	784.5	828.0	928.3	969.8	982.0	1,298.5	1,445.1
Bonds	1,273.4	1,222.4	1,125.7	1,190.7	1,180.7	1,161.4	1,140.4
Euro-Market Loans	1.5	1.0	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.4
Other	608.5	793.5	773.7	672.1	462.2	421.2	237.0
	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
<b>CENTRAL GOVERNMENT</b>							
<b>DEBT SERVICE</b>	1154.5	1263.3	1478.2	1,593.6	1,561.5	989.9	530.8
Domestic	872.8	973.1	1027.0	1,212.0	1,169.2	753.4	348.6
Interest	462.7	495.8	509.2	555.5	584.2	399.0	191.36
Amortisation	410.1	477.3	517.8	656.5	585.0	354.4	157.3
Foreign	281.8	290.2	451.2	381.6	392.3	236.5	182.2
Interest	140.1	166.5	166.9	168.7	167.1	75.2	61.3
Amortisation	141.7	123.7	284.3	212.9	225.2	161.3	120.9
Foreign Debt Service as % of Exports of Goods and Services	7.4	7.7	11.9	10.8	11.0	6.5	4.7
Central Government							
Foreign Debt as % of GDP	28.5	30.3	30.0	29.3	28.3	30.2	28.7
Central Government Debt Service as % Government Revenue							
Revenue	50.7	52.9	57.6	60.0	55.7	33.9	17.79

**SOURCE:** Central Bank of Barbados

**APPENDIX 11**  
**MORTGAGES TO NON-FINANCIAL CORPORATIONS**  
**2012 – 2019**

Year	Agriculture	Hotel & Restaurants	Distribution	Construction	Manufacturing	Electricity, Light & Water	Transport, Storage & Communication	Real Estate, Renting & Other Business	Health & Social Work	Recreational, Personal & Community Work	Other
2012	0.30	9.41	19.05	45.06	23.78	0.05	2.13	0.12	0.73	1.85	0.00
2013	0.33	12.13	14.92	20.58	22.34	0.02	1.81	0.11	0.69	1.76	0.00
2014	0.27	7.51	13.8	12.08	22.96	0.00	1.58	0.12	0.58	1.68	0.00
2015	0.00	27.59	14.20	9.51	27.76	0.00	1.30	0.10	0.42	1.54	0.00
2016	0.00	28.52	21.30	7.83	35.48	0.00	0.44	0.10	1.06	1.42	0.29
2017	0.00	33.86	36.78	6.04	19.91	0.00	0.35	0.11	8.37	1.95	0.27
2018	0.43	4.22	30.87	26.48	19.71	0.00	0.17	0.12	8.77	1.63	0.24
2019	0.58	41.32	52.50	20.75	18.25	0.00	2.12	0.12	8.65	1.46	0.21



**APPENDIX 12**  
**SELECTED INTEREST RATES**  
**1990 – 2019**  
**(PERCENTAGES PER ANNUM)**

Period Ended	Treasury Bills	Deposits - Minimum Rates				Prime Lending Rate	Barbados Bank Rate	U.S.A. Bank Rate
		Three Months	Six Months	Twelve Months	Savings			
1990	8.06	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	10.25	13.50	6.50
1991	11.30	7.00	7.25	7.50	7.00	14.50	18.00	3.50
1992	6.60	4.00	4.25	4.50	4.00	10.75	12.00	3.00
1993	7.23	1.25	1.25	1.25	5.00	8.75	8.00	3.00
1994	7.77	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	9.75	9.50	4.75
1995	8.27	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	9.75	12.50	5.25
1996	5.61	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	8.75	12.50	5.00
1997	4.91	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	8.75	9.00	5.00
1998	5.70	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	8.75	9.00	4.50
1999	6.05	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	10.00	10.00	5.00
2000	3.85	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	9.50	10.00	6.00
2001	1.97	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	7.25	7.50	1.25
2002	1.51	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	6.75	7.50	0.75
2003	0.64	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	6.75	7.50	2.00
2004	2.76	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.25	6.50	7.50	3.15
2005	6.26	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.75	9.15	10.00	5.15
2006	6.56	5.25	5.25	5.25	5.25	10.15	12.00	6.25
2007	4.90	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.75	9.65	12.00	4.83
2008	4.81	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	9.00	10.00	0.86
2009	3.44	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	7.65	7.00	0.50
2010	3.35	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	7.65	7.00	0.50
2011	3.43	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	7.65	7.00	0.50
2012	3.61	2.50	2.50	2.50	2.50	7.65	7.00	0.50
2013	3.24	1.25	1.50	1.60	2.50	7.65	7.00	0.50
2014	2.55	0.00	0.00	0.75	0.00	7.65	7.00	0.50
2015	1.76	0.00	0.50	0.50	0.50	7.65	7.00	0.50
2016	3.10	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.20	7.65	7.00	0.50
2017	3.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	4.0	7.00	0.50
2018	3.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.15	4.0	7.00	0.50
2019	0.50	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.65	4.0	7.00	0.50

**SOURCE:** Central Bank of Barbados

**APPENDIX 13**  
**EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY**  
**2012-2019**

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

('000)

Industry	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016R	2017	2018P	2019
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	3.5	3.4	3.4	3.7	3.6	4.0	4.0	3.5
Construction, Mining & Quarrying	13.0	12.1	12.0	12.1	14.6	13.3	12.3	11.4
Manufacturing	8.4	9.0	9.5	9.8	8.6	8.9	8.0	7.4
Elec. Gas, Steam, Water & Air Conditioning Supply	2.9	2.8	2.4	2.9	2.0	2.9	3.1	2.3
Wholesale & Retail Trade	20.2	20.5	21.2	20.2	23.9	20.3	19.3	19.1
Transportation & Storage	7.5	6.6	5.7	6.3	5.9	6.9	7.1	6.4
Accommodation & Food Services	12.7	13.3	15.4	15.8	15.2	15.0	16.6	15.6
Finance & Insurance	6.0	5.8	5.7	5.5	5.3	5.5	5.8	5.3
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.5	4.8	4.2	4.6	4.7
Administrative & Support Service	7.0	6.3	7.2	7.1	8.7	7.4	8.3	8.3
Public Administration & Defense	9.6	11.6	8.7	9.6	11.4	9.6	8.7	7.4
Education	6.9	7.5	7.2	7.3	5.7	7.6	6.0	6.7
Human Health & Social Work	6.6	6.3	6.6	6.8	7.2	6.6	6.0	6.3
Other Services	5.2	4.9	3.5	3.8	4.3	4.6	4.0	4.8
Activities of Households as Employers	5.0	5.2	5.0	5.1	5.8	4.8	4.4	4.7
Other Groups <sup>1</sup>	6.6	6.7	7.0	7.6	7.0	8.1	8.6	8.9
Not Stated	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2	1.6	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>125.3</b>	<b>126.2</b>	<b>124.8</b>	<b>128.2</b>	<b>133.8</b>	<b>129.9</b>	<b>128.1</b>	<b>124.8</b>

<sup>1</sup> Other Groups includes the following industries: Information and Communications, Activities of Extraterritorial organizations & Bodies, Real Estate & Arts, Entertainment and Recreation.

**APPENDIX 14**  
**Production of Selected Agricultural Commodities**  
**2014 - 2019**

<b>Year</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>% Change over 2019</b>
<b>Export crops</b>							
Sugar ('000 tonnes)	15.7	10.8	7.0	10.1	11.7	7.9	(32.3)
Cotton lint ('000 kgs)	<b>2013/2014</b> 21.0	<b>2014/2015</b> 17.7	<b>2015/2016</b> 13.7	<b>2016/2017</b> 5.8	<b>2017/2018</b> 1.7	<b>2018/</b> 2.2	32.9
<b>Root Crop Production ('000 kgs)</b>							
Cassava	552.9	379.1	490.5	478.8	672.9	485.6	(27.8)
Eddoes	74.6	156.6	250.3	161.0	279.9	147.4	(47.3)
Sweet Potato	1231.9	1334.6	2897.5	1167.3	1654.5	2092.6	26.5
Yam	567.1	578.1	378.4	181.4	345.0	196.6	(43.0)
Onion	315.3	757.8	428.7	410.7	410.6	762.0	85.6
Peanut	4.6	7.9	11.2	21.1	6.2	7.5	21.3
<b>Vegetable Production ('000 kgs)</b>							
Beans (String)	109.2	149.9	137.0	264.6	290.5	304.6	4.8
Beets	23.7	43.4	83.6	13.2	36.4	45.8	25.8
Cabbage	322.7	360.6	337.5	470.8	673.7	416.7	(38.1)
Carrot	310.2	271.0	134.6	158.2	403.4	338.2	(16.2)
Cucumber	994.3	810.9	250.3	714.5	677.2	940.3	38.9
Lettuce	312.7	459.9	439.7	586.5	835.7	708.5	(15.2)
Melons	318.9	401.2	197.6	226.2	407.6	341.0	(16.3)
Okras	263.6	290.0	261.0	340.8	349.1	508.5	45.7
Peppers (Hot)	92.8	88.5	37.5	148.3	301.4	439.7	45.9
Peppers (Sweet)	396.3	329.9	137.2	304.5	432.9	285.2	(34.1)
Pumpkins	508.2	308.2	249.3	169.2	270.0	162.9	(39.7)
Tomato	781.0	733.6	336.9	332.4	706.5	767.5	8.6
<b>Livestock and Dairy Production ('000 kgs)</b>							
Pork	2705.0	2846.7	2663.8	2518.5	2771.7	2840.3	2.5
Beef	153.1	170.6	176.2	156.9	175.0	172.5	(1.4)
Veal	2.8	2.0	1.2	6.2	0.6	0.4	(28.3)
Mutton	100.3	101.8	110.5	95.8	107.0	92.2	(13.9)
Chicken	14391.9	16134.1	14896.8	15805.3	16465.6	16232.0	(1.4)
Turkey	183.3	190.3	261.8	127.0	180.8	397.6	119.9
Eggs	2915.4	2395.2	4260.6	3366.9	3440.1	3749.9	9.0
Milk	4966.0	5227.4	4549.4	4862.2	4799.4	4657.4	(3.0)

**SOURCE:** Agricultural Planning Unit, Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security

**APPENDIX 15**

**SELECTED INDICATORS IN THE TOURISM INDUSTRY  
2007-2019**

Year	Accommodation & Food Services					Arrivals
	Share in GDP (%)	Employment ('000 persons)	Stay-Over Expenditure (\$M)	Stay-Over Visitors	Average Intended Length of Stay (days)	Cruise Passengers
2007	21.9	n.a	1,761.4	562,541	n.a	539,092
2008	15.1	n.a.	1,711.6	567,667	n.a.	597,523
2009	14.4	n.a.	1,516.5	518,564	n.a.	635,212
2010	14.2	12.7	1,474.4	532,180	15.04	664,747
2011	12.8	13.2	1,314.1	567,724	12.18	609,844
2012	12.4	12.7	1,235.2	536,303	12.51	517,436
2013	13.4	13.3	1,406.2	508,520	11.82	570,263
2014	13.1	15.4	1,358.7	519,635	11.97	563,030
2015	12.9	15.8	1,344.3	591,872	11.19	586,615
2016	13.6	16.4	1,442.5	631,513	11.01	594,096
2017	14.5	15.0	1,580.5	661,160	10.63	681,211
2018P	15.6	17.6	1,764.6	678,537	10.51	775,359
2019	16.5	15.6	2,035.3	692,659	-	686,813

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service, Caribbean Tourism Organization

**APPENDIX 16**  
**TOURISM ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE 2003 – 2019**

Year	U.S.A.	Canada	United Kingdom	Germany	Other Europe	Trinidad & Tobago	Other CARICOM	Other Countries	Total
2003	129,326	49,641	202,564	7,612	21,914	27,530	69,279	23,345	531,211
2004	129,664	50,032	213,947	6,970	23,060	26,492	77,845	23,492	551,502
2005	131,005	47,690	202,765	6,995	19,857	30,889	83,886	24,447	547,534
2006	130,757	49,197	211,520	7,478	21,922	34,480	82,496	24,691	562,541
2007	133,519	52,981	223,575	5,549	21,509	30,404	68,979	36,421	572,937
2008	131,795	57,335	219,953	6,098	25,727	28,385	72,254	26,120	567,667
2009	122,306	63,751	190,632	7,020	23,052	26,289	62,482	23,032	518,564
2010	134,969	72,351	181,054	7,260	23,962	27,259	58,923	26,402	532,180
2011	142,414	71,953	189,150	8,401	27,458	36,825	64,149	27,374	567,724
2012	130,762	72,020	173,519	9,182	27,937	38,005	58,482	26,396	536,303
2013	120,584	67,295	168,733	10,300	30,765	31,614	55,681	23,548	508,520
2014	118,510	65,813	186,858	11,992	32,744	27,915	50,815	24,988	519,635
2015	148,067	74,494	214,175	12,338	28,514	29,659	58,321	26,304	591,872
2016	168,945	78,903	218,638	11,492	28,278	34,000	65,679	25,578	631,513
2017	188,460	85,047	217,441	11,243	28,959	35,822	67,208	26,980	661,160
2018	204,249	86,499	220,695	10,621	27,883	32,636	70,201	25,753	678,537
2019	219,770	81,577	226,992	12,271	25,488	31,570	68,682	26,308	692,659

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

**APPENDIX 17**  
**DIRECTION OF TRADE WITH CARICOM COUNTRIES**  
**DOMESTIC EXPORTS**

**2012 - 2019**

<b>Country</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
Antigua	14,748	14,183	17,699	16,305	16,608	16,143	29,076	18,594
Belize	2,794	3,112	2,505	3,146	3,116	3,389	2,033	2,407
Dominica	5,932	5,764	6,394	6,791	6,793	6,902	15,016	15,465
Grenada	14,037	16,082	18,477	14,975	16,885	16,507	18,180	18,392
Guyana	29,829	42,099	48,441	50,399	45,881	45,055	52,613	59,222
Haiti	795	1,006	1,575	588	473	867	1,044	638
Jamaica	30,381	31,962	29,223	35,839	34,214	36,517	39,223	59,650
St. Kitts & Nevis	6,406	9,019	10,509	11,656	12,365	13,452	15,575	15,897
St. Lucia	32,982	31,133	29,652	28,320	29,803	29,055	32,263	26,957
Montserrat	310	394	363	424	747	779	678	824
Suriname	7,114	11,428	4,844	5,805	7,527	8,532	9,677	11,221
Trinidad & Tobago	114,623	90,767	96,590	66,536	60,952	67,072	61,511	55,297
St. Vincent	18,556	18,946	19,459	19,294	21,730	18,852	18,912	20,510
<b>Total</b>	<b>278,507</b>	<b>275,895</b>	<b>285,731</b>	<b>260,078</b>	<b>257,096</b>	<b>263,120</b>	<b>295,800</b>	<b>305,076</b>

(BDS  
\$000)

**SOURCE:** Barbados Statistical Service

**APPENDIX 18**  
**FISCAL DEFICIT AND FINANCING**  
**2013/2014 – 2019/2020**

	(\$M)						
Year	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
<b>Total Financing Requirement</b>	1,662.4	1,502.3	1,618.9	1,415.5	1,445.5	373.6	-65.3
<b>Foreign Financing</b>	542.9	62.7	297.6	141.3	141.3	439.0	233.0
<b>Project Financing</b>	92.9	62.7	297.6	141.3	141.3	439.0	233.0
Inter-American Development Bank (IADB)	45.5	48.0	50.1	38.5	38.5	238.2	56.8
World Bank (IBRD)	28.9	11.5	-	-	-	-	-
Caribbean Development Bank	18.5	3.2	10.2	3.9	3.9	171.7	172.6
Corporación Andina de Formento (CAF)	-	-	150.0	-	-	10.9	3.6
Citibank	-	-	87.3	30.9	30.9	-	-
European Investment Bank	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
European Development Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Projects	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Republic of China	-	-	-	-	68.0	18.2	-
<b>Non-Project Financing</b>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Foreign Commercial	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Domestic Financing</b>	1,057.8	1,377.2	1,273.0	1,292.5	1,306.1	-	-298.3
Government Savings Bonds	11.1	30.0	90.0	40.0	40.0	-	-
Debentures	373.9	335.0	800.0	425.0	350.0	-	-
Tax Reserve Certificates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tax Refund Certificates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Treasury Bills	558.5	527.2	383.0	377.5	616.1	-	-
Treasury Notes	114.3	400.0	-	450.0	300.0	-	-
Other Domestic	-	35.0	-	-	-	-	-
Arrears Repayment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-298.3
<b>Total Financing</b>	1,600.7	1,439.9	1,570.6	1,433.8	1,480.0	439.0	-

SOURCE: Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs

**APPENDIX 19**  
**POPULATION, RATES OF BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANT MORTALITY 1983 – 2019**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>Resident Population at December 31</b>	<b>Birth Rate</b>	<b>Death Rate</b>	<b>Rate of Natural Increase</b>	<b>Infant Mortality</b>	<b>Rate of Population Growth</b>
	( <sup>'000</sup> persons)	(Per 1000 pop.)	(Per 1000 pop.)	(Per 1000 pop.)	(Per 1000 births)	(%)
1983	251.8	17.9	8.2	9.7	24.5	0.4
1984	255.8	16.7	7.8	8.9	18.4	0.3
1985	257.0	16.7	8.3	8.4	17.8	0.4
1986	258.0	15.7	8.4	7.3	19.0	0.4
1987	258.8	14.8	8.5	6.3	22.3	0.3
1988	259.4	14.5	8.6	5.9	19.5	0.2
1989	260.3	15.5	8.8	6.7	18.2	0.2
1995	264.4	13.1	9.4	3.7	13.2	0.4
1996	264.6	13.3	9.1	4.2	14.2	0.1
1997	266.1	14.3	8.7	5.6	13.2	0.6
1998	266.8	13.6	9.3	4.3	7.8	0.4
1999	267.4	14.5	9.0	5.5	10.0	0.2
2000	269.1	14.0	9.1	5.0	17.0	0.6
2001	270.4	15.0	8.9	6.1	15.8	0.6
2002	271.3	14.1	8.5	5.6	14.4	0.3
2003	272.2	13.8	8.4	5.4	9.9	0.3
2004	272.7	12.7	8.9	3.8	18.4	0.2
2005	273.4	12.6	7.9	4.9	8.3	0.3
2006	274.0	12.4	8.5	3.9	11.1	0.2
2007	274.7	12.9	8.1	4.8	13.0	0.3
2008	275.3	12.9	9.0	3.9	18.3	0.2
2009	275.7	12.9	8.8	4.1	8.7	0.1
2010	276.3	12.2	8.0	4.2	10.1	0.2
2011	276.8	11.8	8.8	3.0	13.7	0.2
2012	277.0	11.5	8.7	2.8	11.0	0.1
2013	277.5	10.9	8.2	2.7	7.3	0.2
2014	276.9	10.5	9.3	1.2	10.0	-0.2
2015	276.3	10.4	9.2	1.2	8.0	-0.2
2016	275.4	9.1	9.3	-0.2	13.5	-0.4
2017	274.4	9.4	9.6	-0.2	8.9	-0.4
2018	273.5	8.8	9.3	-0.5	9.1	-0.4
2019	272.3	9.5	10.6	-1.1	7.4	-0.4

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service





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Ministry of Finance,  
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