



Barbados Economic & Social Report 2021

Prepared by the Research & Planning Unit,
Ministry of Finance, Economic Affairs & Investment



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABBREVIATIONS.....	i
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1
I. INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS	3
II. THE BARBADOS ECONOMY	6
A. GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT.....	7
B. BALANCE OF PAYMENTS.....	8
C. FISCAL DEVELOPMENTS AND PUBLIC FINANCES	11
D. EMPLOYMENT, INFLATION AND LABOUR MARKET.....	15
E. SECTORAL PERFORMANCE AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT.....	17
I. TOURISM (ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD SERVICE INDUSTRY)	17
II. INDUSTRY AND MANUFACTURING	23
III. AGRICULTURE AND FISHING.....	24
IV. INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES	32
V. ENERGY, PUBLIC UTILITIES AND TRANSPORT.....	33
VI. CONSTRUCTION.....	39
F. MONEY, BANKING AND CAPITAL MARKETS	43
G. COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS.....	47
H. PUBLIC SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME (PSIP)	47
III. THE EMERGING ECONOMY.....	51
A. THE ENVIRONMENTAL SECTOR	51
B. THE RENEWABLE ENERGY SECTOR.....	60
C. CREATIVE ECONOMY AND CULTURE.....	64
D. MICRO, SMALL & MEDIUM ENTERPRISE SECTOR.....	64
IV. SPECIAL FEATURE ON 'MITIGATING THE IMPACT OF COVID-19'	65
V. SOCIAL SECTOR DEVELOPMENTS.....	68
A. EDUCATION AND TRAINING.....	68
B. YOUTH, SPORTS AND COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT.....	74
C. POPULATION.....	77
D. HEALTH	77
E. LAW AND ORDER.....	89
F. SOCIAL SERVICES.....	91
VI. FOREIGN POLICY, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND AID	99
A. RESILIENCE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.....	99

B. INTERNATIONAL TRADE POLICY AND FOREIGN RELATIONS	101
C. OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE- UNDP	106
VII. ECONOMIC OUTLOOK FOR 2022	107
STATISTICAL APPENDICES.....	109

FIGURES

Figure 1: Global GDP Growth: Actuals and Projections.....	3
Figure 2: Direction of Trade (Imports) (C.I.F).....	9
Figure 3: Direction of Trade (Exports) (F.O.B).....	10
Figure 4: Visible Trade Balance.....	11
Figure 5: Public Revenue and Expenditure.....	12
Figure 6: Labour Force Trends in Barbados.....	15
Figure 7: Point-to-Point Inflation.....	16
Figure 8: Month-to Month Percentage Price Changes (Food and Fuel, Housing and Utilities).....	16
Figure 9: Moving Average Annual Inflation.....	17
Figure 10: Stayover Visitor Arrivals by Month.....	19
Figure 11: Stayover Visitor Arrivals by Market.....	20
Figure 12: Total Registered Tourism Accommodation (Number of Establishments).....	21
Figure 13: Total Registered Tourism Accommodation (Number of Bedrooms).....	22
Figure 14: Livestock and Dairy Product Imports ('000 kgs).....	26
Figure 15: Vegetable Production ('000 kgs).....	27
Figure 16: Vegetable Imports ('000 Kgs).....	28
Figure 17: Root Crop Production ('000 kgs).....	29
Figure 18: Root Crop Imports ('000 kgs).....	29
Figure 19: Total Value of Vehicle Accident Claims.....	36
Figure 20: Vehicle Accident Claims by Parish.....	37
Figure 21: Monthly Driving Tests Completed.....	38
Figure 22: Total Road Accidents.....	38
Figure 23: Roads Patched by Month.....	41
Figure 24: Commercial Banks' Loans & Advances.....	43
Figure 25: Commercial Banks' Loans & Advances To Private Non-Financial Corporations By Sector.....	44
Figure 26: Credit Union Assets.....	45
Figure 27: Trading Activity By Market.....	46
Figure 28: NDC Pathway.....	51
Figure 29: Average Bed Utilisation Rates at QEH.....	86

TABLES

Table 1: Indicators of Economic Performance in Advanced Economies	4
Table 2: Real Gross Domestic Product by Industry of Origin	8
Table 3: Balance of Payments.....	9
Table 4: Fiscal Deficit Financing.....	14
Table 5: Cruise Passenger Arrivals	20
Table 6: Length of Stay (Days) by Country of Residence	20
Table 7: STAP Disbursements.....	24
Table 8: Local Agricultural Production (Million Kgs).....	25
Table 9: Livestock and Dairy Production ('000 kgs).....	26
Table 10: Roads Completed	42
Table 11: Index and Market Capitalization	46
Table 12: System for Transparent Allocation of Resources (STAR) Projects.....	52
Table 14: Building Development Applications Processed in 2021	56
Table 15: Complaints Received by EPD in 2021	57
Table 16: CITES Permits Issued by Category for 2021.....	58
Table 17: Loans Disbursed to MSMEs.....	64
Table 18: Approved Education Expenditure	68
Table 19: Participants by Cohort (Barbados Youth Advance Corps).....	75
Table 20: Health Expenditure by Programme*	79
Table 21: Average Bed Utilisation Rates at QEH.....	85
Table 22: Major Categories of Criminal Activity	89
Table 23: Total Reported Crimes.....	90
Table 24: UDC Housing Programme.....	91
Table 25: UDC Pit Eradication and Roof Retrofitting Project.....	92
Table 26: Hurricane Elsa and Tropical Wave Relief Programme	92

ABBREVIATIONS

ASYCUDA	Automated System for Customs Data
BARP	Barbados Association of Retired Persons
BDF	Barbados Defence Force
BDS	Barbados Drug Service
PHL	Best-Dos Santos Public Health Laboratory
BCC	Barbados Community College
BCH	Biosafety Clearing House
BERT	Barbados Economic Recovery and Transformation Plan
BEST	Barbados Employment and Sustainable Transformation Programme
BIDC	Barbados Investment Development Corporation
BIMAP	Barbados Institute of Management and Productivity
BIT	Bilateral Investment Treaty
BL&PC	Barbados Light and Power Company
BMA	Barbados Manufacturing Association
BNEP	Barbados national Energy Policy
BNOCL	Barbados National Oil Co. Ltd.
BNSI	Barbados National Standards Institute
BRA	Barbados Revenue Authority
BSE	Barbados Stock Exchange
BREXIT	British Exit from European Union
BSE	Barbados Stock Exchange
BTFL	Barbados Trust Fund
BVTB	Barbados Vocational Training Board
BWA	Barbados Water Authority
CAF	Corporacion Andina de Fomento (Development Bank of Latin America)
CAIPO	Corporate Affairs and Intellectual Property Office
CARE	Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CARPHA	Caribbean Public Health Agency
CARTAC	Caribbean Regional Technical Assistance Center
CBB	Central Bank of Barbados
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CCCCC	Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre
CCP	Counter-Cyclical Provisions

CDB	Caribbean Development Bank
CDC	Center for Disease Control
CERMES	Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies
CIF	Cost, Insurance and Freight
CITES	Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species
COFECE	Federal Economic Competition Commission
COP	Contracting Parties
COVID	Coronavirus SARS-CoV2 Disease
CPB	Cartagena Protocol for Biosafety
CRAFT	Clearance, Route, Altitude, Frequency, Transponder
CRMP	Coastal Risk Assessment and Management Programme
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
CTSP	Corporate and Trust Service Providers
CWC	Chemical Weapons Convention
CZMU	Coastal Zone Management Unit
DCCA	Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs
DFC	Development Finance Corporation
DPF	Development Policy Financing
EC	Eastern Caribbean
ECGF	Enhanced Credit Guarantee Fund
EFF	Extended Fund Facility
EGFL	Enterprise Growth Fund Limited
EIB	European Investment Bank
EPD	Environmental Protection Department
ESEP	Education Sector Enhancement Program
EU	European Union
EV	Electronic Vehicle
FATF	Financial Action Task Force
FCP	Foreign Currency Permits
FEED	Farmers' Empowerment and Enfranchisement Drive
FISIM	Financial Intermediation Services Indirectly Measured*
FTC	Fair Trading Commission
FY	Fiscal Year
GAIA	Grantley Adams International Airport
GAPS	Global Atmospheric Passive Sampling
GCF	Green Climate Fund

GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GHG	Greenhouse Gases
GOSS	Global Online Scam Summit
GNI	Gross National Income
GOB	Government of Barbados
GT	Gross Tonne
HAI	Human Assets Index
H.E.L.P.	Housing Every Last Person
HFC	Hydrofluorocarbon
HCFC	Hydrochlorofluorocarbons
HFO	Heavy Fuel Oil
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HOPE	Home Ownership Providing Energy Project
HSP	Household Survival Programme
IADB	Inter-American Development Bank
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IAS	Invasive Alien Species
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
ID	Identification
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
IIP	Index of Industrial Production
IFI	Intermediary Financial Institutions
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IMO	International Maritime Organisation
IPP	Independent Power Producer
ISLANDS	Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in Small Island Developing States
ISM	International Securities Market
ISRL	International Societies with Restricted Liabilities
LACCF	Latin America and Caribbean Competition Forum
LDC	Least Developed Countries
LDN	Land Degradation Neutrality
LDN-TSP	Land Degradation Neutrality Target Setting Program
LNG	Liquefied Natural Gas
LPG	Liquid Petroleum Gas

MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreements
MENB	Ministry of Environment and National Beautification
METVT	Ministry of Education, Technological and Vocational Training
MIST	Ministry of Information and Smart Technology
MMABE	Ministry of Maritime Affairs and the Blue Economy
MSME	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
MLF	Multilateral Fund
MLI	Multilateral Instrument
MPEA	Ministry of People Empowerment and Elder Affairs
MSP	Marine Spatial Plan
MTWW	Ministry of Transport, Works and Water Resources
MVI	Multi-Dimensional Vulnerability Index
MW	Megawatts
NAB	National Assistance Board
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NCD	Non-Communicable Diseases
NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions
NHC	National Housing Corporation
NIS	National Insurance Scheme
NPC	National Petroleum Corporation
NTI	National Training Initiative
OAS	Organisation of States
ODS	Ozone Depleting Substances
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation & Development
OECS	Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States
OFP	Operational Focal Point
OSW	Offshore Wind
OTEC	Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion
PAHO	Pan-American Health Organisation
PBL	Policy Based Loan
PMCU	Project Management Coordination Unit
POPS	Persistent Organic Pollutants
PPA	Power Purchase Agreement
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PPF	Project Preparation Facility
PSIP	Public Sector Investment Programme

PSSEP	Public Sector Smart Energy Programme
PTC	Private Trust Company
QEH	Queen Elizabeth Hospital
RAC	Refrigeration and Air Conditioning
RE	Renewable Energy
R2RP	Roofs to Reefs Programme
SAICM	Strategic Approach to Chemicals Management
SBA	Small Business Association
SBDC	Small Business Development Centre
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SIDS	Small Island Development States
SMARTER	Sustainable Management and Resilient Thinking for our Energy Revolution
SME	Small and Medium Enterprises
SPAW	Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife
SPRP	Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan
STAP	Special Technical Assistance Program
STAR	System for Transparent Allocation of Resources
STCW	Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers
STI	Sexual Transmitted Infection
SWAP	Sector Wide Approach Programme
TAPSEC	Technical Assistance Programme for Sustainable Energy
TCDDPO	Town and Country Development Planning Office
TGF	Tourism Guarantee Fund
UDC	Urban Development Commission
UK	United Kingdom
ULAB	Used Lead Acid Batteries
UN	United Nations
UNCCD	Convention to Combat Desertification and Drought
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNICEF	United Nations International Children Emergency Fund
UNWTO	United Nations World Tourism Organization
US	United States
USA	United States of America
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

USD	United States Dollar
UWI	University of the West Indies
VAT	Value Added Tax
WHO	World Health Organization
WSRN	Water Sector Resilience Nexus for Sustainability
YES	Youth Entrepreneurship Scheme

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The global economy recovered in 2021 from the negative growth it suffered due to the advent of the pandemic. The global real GDP growth rate rose to 6.1 per cent in 2021 from -3.3 per cent at the end of 2020. Advanced and emerging economies also recorded increases in real GDP growth from -4.7 and -2.2 per cent in 2020 to 5.2 and 6.8 per cent in 2021 respectively. Global inflation rose to 4.3 per cent at the end of 2021 up from 3.2 per cent in 2020. Several factors such as food prices rising as well as oil prices rising from \$48.97 per barrel at the end of 2020 to 75.70 at December 2021, drove up energy costs. Import prices also rose due to supply disruptions and sluggish port activity. The pandemic severely affected countries in the emerging and developing economies.

Real GDP growth in the tourist-dependent Caribbean rebounded to 2.6 per cent up from of -9.5 per cent in 2020 and above 2019's growth of 0.5 per cent. Commodity exporters, who were not as vulnerable to the effects of the pandemic as much as tourism dependent nations were, saw growth increase from four per cent in 2020 to 5.5 per cent in 2021. Debt-to-GDP ratios in most Caribbean nations have improved from 2020 figures.

The Barbados economy grew by a modest 1.4 percent in 2021 in comparison to a decline of 14.0 per cent in 2020 due to a rebound of the tourism sector in the fourth quarter. International supply chain disruptions due to protracted global COVID-19 related restrictions led to inflationary pressures. Surging food and energy prices, coupled with reduced tourism earnings, led to a widening of the current account deficit to 13.3 per cent of GDP in 2021. The unemployment rate was recorded at 12.4 per cent compared to the previous year as claimants exhausted their unemployment benefits and the tourism sector rebounded. During 2021, inflation rose to 3.2 per cent as steep increases in international commodity prices coupled with global supply chain disruptions and high freight costs helped to push domestic prices higher. Fuels and food bore the brunt of the inflationary pressures. GDP per capita increased by 0.39 per cent to 25.6 thousand dollars in comparison to 2020.

The accommodation and food services sector continued to experience strong headwinds in 2021, recording a decline of 17.35 per cent largely due to the steep fall off in tourism arrivals as the effects of the pandemic continued to linger. There were also notable declines in key sectors led by mining and quarrying (-30.21 per cent). Declines in output were also recorded in the construction (-3.0 per cent); information and communications (-1.05 per cent); and financial and insurance (-2.37 per cent) sectors. The manufacturing sector recorded a 4.0 percent increase in real value in 2021 due to higher exports. Conversely, the agriculture and fishing sector recorded a decline of 4.0 percent over the same period as a result of higher input costs, natural disasters and weak demand from the tourism sector.

The current account deficit widened by 135.01 per cent to \$1,305.7 million in 2021. The widening was in the current account deficit was mainly attributed to declines in tourism receipts coupled with sharp increases in international commodity prices, particularly food, fuel and key inputs for the agriculture, hospitality and manufacturing sectors. In addition, the revival of the tourism sector during the latter quarter as well additional national restrictions help to mitigate further increases in the current account deficit. The capital account declined to \$5.2 million or 15.56 per cent compared to the previous year. Overall, the Balance of Payments stood at \$398.2 million, which represented a decline of 66.25 per cent over the previous year.

In 2021, the stock of gross foreign reserves climbed by 18.20 per cent to an unprecedented 3,058.8 million, or 40.0 weeks of import cover, notwithstanding the flagging performance of the tourism

sector during the first half of 2021. This growth was principally supported by policy-based loans from multi-lateral financial institutions valued at \$968.1 million.

In 2021, the Government continued to implement the IMF-supported BERT (2018) Plan. During financial year 2020/2021, total revenue decreased by 14.10 per cent to \$2,563.3 million as the pandemic and natural disasters roiled economic recovery. Corporate tax revenues increased by 98.4 percent to \$612.9 million primarily as a result of receipts from the international business sector. However, this was insufficient to offset declines in VAT, personal income tax, and excise tax of \$260.6 million, \$146.6 million and \$96.8 million, respectively. In 2021, public expenditures were elevated due to management of the pandemic, ash fall cleanup and post-Elsa rebuilding activities

The stock of gross public debt, which had declined from 148.9 per cent of GDP at the end of 2017 to 123.6 per cent the following year, increased to 136.3 percent in 2021, primarily due to a 14.0 percent contraction in economic output in 2020. The debt-to-GDP ratio resumed its downward trajectory as economic activity improved, declining by a modest 0.3 per cent in 2021.

The financial sector remained stable in 2021 despite recording low profits as banks and other lending institutions navigated the challenges presented by the pandemic. The commercial banks' excess cash ratio rose to 26.7 per cent in 2021 up from 22.8 per cent last year and 18.5 per cent in 2019 before the pandemic. Total loans and advances in commercial banks totalled \$5.8 billion continuing its downward trajectory in 2021 decreasing slightly by 2.1 per cent from 2020's balance of \$5.9 billion. The Credit Unions continued to grow in 2021 with membership rising by 2.6 per cent to 228,000, up from 222,000 at the end of 2020.

In 2021, there were five thousand, three hundred and ninety-two (5,392) crimes reported in Barbados, as compared to seven thousand and seventy-nine (7,079) in the previous year. This represents a 23.8 percent decrease in crime for the period under review.

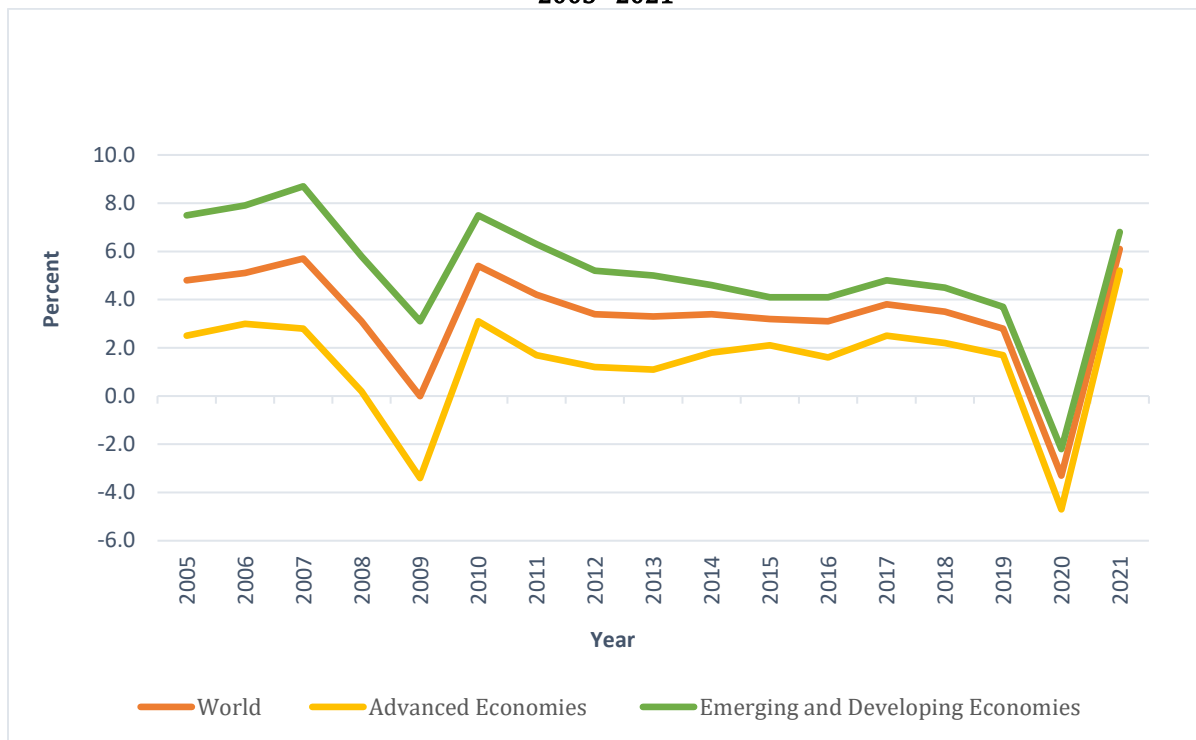
In 2021, Barbados was impacted by the passing of two (2) weather systems, namely a Tropical Wave, which passed during June 2021; and Hurricane Elsa, which passed during July 2021.

I. INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

The global economy recovered in 2021 from the negative growth it suffered due to the advent of the pandemic. The regression of the coronavirus' novelty coupled with the distribution of vaccinations, aided to curb the effects it caused worldwide. However, the emergence of different variants impacted the recovery process with uncertainty of the pandemic's duration influencing employment, inflation and it made it difficult to set policies given the varying needs of the people.

THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMY

Figure 1: Global GDP Growth: Actuals and Projections
2005 - 2021



The global real GDP growth rate rose to 6.1 per cent in 2021 from -3.3 per cent at the end of 2020. Advanced and emerging economies also recorded increases in real GDP growth from -4.7 and -2.2 per cent in 2020 to 5.2 and 6.8 per cent in 2021 respectively. Growth was expected to be higher when earlier projections were made as several vaccines became accessible in early 2021. However, they were adjusted due to the wave of the highly contagious Delta variant which caused governments and other policy makers to grapple with direct or indirect challenges such as unemployment, inflation and even climate change.

Global inflation rose to 4.3 per cent at the end of 2021 up from 3.2 per cent in 2020. Several factors such as food prices rising as well as oil prices rising from \$48.97 per barrel at the end of 2020 to 75.70 at December 2021, drove up energy costs. Import prices also rose due to supply disruptions and sluggish port activity.

**Table 1: Indicators of Economic Performance in Advanced Economies
2020 - 2021**

Country	Real GDP (% change)		Unemployment Rate (Annual Avg.) (% change)		Consumer Price Index (% change)	
	2020	2021e	2020	2021	2020	2021e
United States	-3.4	5.6	8.1	5.4	1.2	4.3
Japan	-4.5	1.6	2.8	2.8	0.0	-0.1
Germany	-4.6	2.7	3.8	3.7	0.4	2.9
France	-8.0	6.7	8.0	8.1	0.5	2.0
Italy	-8.9	6.2	9.3	10.3	-0.1	1.7
U.K	-9.4	7.2	4.5	5.0	0.9	2.2
Canada	-5.2	4.7	9.6	7.7	0.7	3.2

SOURCE: IMF World Economic Outlook 2021

Economic recovery is diverse among advanced economies. In the U.S., employment is weak with jobs scarcity high and employee recruitment difficult especially where employee skills needed at the beginning of the pandemic are no longer required. Industries that were hit hard by the pandemic such as tourism and leisure-based entities suffered while industries that provide consumer goods, particularly in the U.S., have benefitted from strong demand for their goods.

Over in Europe, GDP has not improved as much as it did in the U.S., however, it has risen above the pre-2020 levels. Car production and sales fell due to shortages in production materials and supply disruptions in metals. Car prices rose in several countries with trade and COVID restrictions hampering production as well as the inability to acquire key inputs needed for car production.

Emerging and Developing Economies

The pandemic severely affected countries in the emerging and developing economies. With less than adequate access to vaccines and over 90 per cent of the lower income countries unvaccinated, the risk of unsavory economic conditions and level of uncertainty remained high. Developing countries suffered from loss of revenue from tourism as it fell by between 60 to 80 per cent in the first quarter of 2021.

Inflation rates were pushed up due to high prices of oil and rising import prices and food prices have increased severely affecting lower income households. This was seen especially in Brazil and Mexico.

Recovery has also varied amongst emerging economies. China and the United Arab Emirates, who were able to contain the virus and vaccinate their population saw early recovery. Some countries were also able to offer support to dampen the effects of the pandemic by implementing ample economic

policies. However, countries with high debt and tourism-dependent nations found it challenging having to choose between recovery and correcting imbalances as in the case of Turkey and Argentina.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

Real GDP growth in the tourist-dependent Caribbean rebounded to 2.6 per cent up from of -9.5 per cent in 2020 and above 2019's growth of 0.5 per cent. Commodity exporters, who were not as vulnerable to the effects of the pandemic as much as tourism dependent nations were, saw growth increase from four per cent in 2020 to 5.5 per cent in 2021. Debt-to-GDP ratios in most Caribbean nations have improved from 2020 figures. However, most countries still are grappled with debt as only Anguilla, Guyana and Haiti have debt-to-GDP ratios of 60 per cent or less while Barbados, Suriname, Dominica and Belize all have debt-to-GDP ratios above 100 per cent.

Tourism-dependent nations in the Caribbean were severely hit in 2020 due to the pandemic's effect on worldwide travel. As travel restrictions eased and vaccinations rolled out, the hotel and restaurants and the wholesale and retail sectors recovered in 2021. Tourist arrivals increased by 10 per cent between January and September in 2021 in comparison to the same period in 2020. Belize and St. Lucia saw growth of 10.9 and 6.8 per cent respectively while Grenada, Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas and Barbados saw some growth between 4.8 and 1.4 per cent.

Commodity exporting nations saw mixed results in economic performance during 2021. Guyana, through increases in oil production, grew by 19.9 per cent and was the main driver of the average growth rate of 2.7 per cent among countries. On the other hand, low natural gas output derailed Trinidad and Tobago's economy as it contracted by 2.9 per cent and the health crisis and other fiscal and economic factors cause GDP in Suriname to decrease by 3.5 per cent.

Unemployment in the Caribbean has made a turn for the better at the end of 2021. The unemployment rate in terms of the total labour force in most countries have declined with a 32 per cent decrease in Aruba, 27 per cent in the Dominican Republic and 25 per cent in Barbados. The travel industry reopening and more effective ways applied to treat and curb Covid-19 has led to this resurgence of employment specifically in the tourism and hospitality sectors.

Inflation in the Caribbean increase to 8.3 percent from eight per cent in 2020. Higher oil, energy and food prices in the larger markets trickled down to the region especially due to large increases in shipping costs. Suriname recorded the highest percentage change in inflation with 54 per cent, Haiti with 16 per cent and the Dominican Republic with eight per cent. St. Kitts & Nevis was the only Caribbean country to record a negative inflation rate change of -0.97 per cent at the end of 2021.

Natural disasters also impacted the Caribbean resulting in massive losses. The Mount Soufriere volcano erupted in St. Vincent resulting in the loss of hundreds of lives and substantial damage from ash fall both locally and in neighbouring islands while Haiti suffered a 7.2 magnitude earthquake which claimed the lives of over two thousand people. Hurricane Elsa caused severe damage in Barbados and Guyana and Suriname were impacted by severe flooding.

II. THE BARBADOS ECONOMY

OVERVIEW

It was another challenging year for the domestic economy, as the pandemic and two natural disasters upended economic recovery and exacerbated Barbados' long-term structural vulnerabilities. The pandemic continued to curtail the tourism and related services sector, with related impacts on unemployment and NIS unemployment insurance claims. During the first quarter of 2021, the Government imposed further COVID-related restrictions on movement over a two-week period, furthering slowing the pace of economic recovery.

Economic growth for 2021 was projected at 4.1 percent. However, the emergence of new COVID variants and associated travel restrictions and health protocols continued to weigh heavily on Barbados' economic performance. Nevertheless, the economy grew by a modest 1.4 percent in comparison to a decline of 14.0 per cent the previous year due to a rebound of the tourism sector in the fourth quarter.

The pandemic roiled the previously successful implementation of the Barbados Economic Recovery and Transformation (BERT) (2018) Plan which was formulated to restore macroeconomic stability, place the economy on a path of sustainable and inclusive growth, and lay the foundation for an upward trajectory. Even so, the BERT Plan provided the Government with the fiscal space and flexibility to respond effectively to the pandemic and natural disasters.

International supply chain disruptions due to protracted global COVID-19 related restrictions led to inflationary pressures. Surging food and energy prices, coupled with reduced tourism earnings, led to a widening of the current account deficit to 13.3 per cent of GDP in 2021.

The labour market rebounded slightly during the latter half of 2021, with the unemployment rate recorded as 12.4 per cent in the third quarter compared to the previous year as claimants exhausted their unemployment benefits and the tourism sector rebounded. Despite this, the unemployment rate was still lower than pre-pandemic levels.

Public revenues increased in comparison to the previous year as business activities generally began to return to a state of normalcy and the general economic climate began to improve. Overall, total revenue rose to \$116.0 million. Likewise, public expenditure climbed by \$314.0 million as the Government sought to mitigate the impact of COVID-19, Hurricane Elsa and ashfall. Additional outlays were expended on the re-capitalization of the National Insurance Fund which was depleted due to unprecedented levels of unemployment in 2020.

Loans from multilateral financial institutions pushed the international reserves to \$3,058 million or 40.0 weeks of import cover, an increase of \$398.0 million over the previous year. The debt to GDP ratio declined by 0.3 per cent to 136.0 per cent of GDP as the economy began to stabilize.

The manufacturing sector, which grew by 4.0 per cent over the review period, was one of the few sectors which showed promising signs of recovery. Conversely, output in the agriculture sector declined by the same amount due to the sluggish performance of the tourism sector and surging global prices for key inputs.

By the end of 2021, there were heightened fears of a global recession and stagflation. Global economic growth was also projected to remain sluggish, with the current decade expected to be one of

the slowest growth rate periods on record. Nevertheless, the tourism sector continued to show resilience, with long-stay arrivals reaching 47.0 per cent of pre-COVID levels in December of 2021. However, total tourist arrivals accounted for a measly 20.0 per cent compared to the year immediately prior to the pandemic.

A. GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

THE REAL SECTOR

The performance of key sectors was severely impacted by a massive decline in long-stay visitors, the temporary cessation of international cruise travel, restrictions on business activities and movement, high levels of unemployment, and the cancellation of tourism-related activities, including the Crop Over Festival.

Two natural disasters during 2021 exacerbated the pandemic's devastating blow to the economy. The eruption of ash from the La Soufriere volcano in St. Vincent and the Grenadines in April, 2021 dampened economic growth by 0.5 per cent to 1 per cent. Based on a loss and damage assessment conducted by the Ministry of Finance, Economic Affairs and Investment, the initial cost of the ashfall was approximately \$87.1 million, with the total loss of nominal GDP estimated at \$56.3 million. The construction, wholesale and retail, accommodation and food services, and transportation and storage sectors bore the brunt of fallout from the ashfall, with economic losses estimated at \$8.6 million, \$7.5 million, \$7.4 million and \$6.4 million, respectively.

The accommodation and food services sector continued to experience strong headwinds, recording a decline of 17.35 per cent largely due to the steep fall off in tourism arrivals as the effects of the pandemic continued to linger. There were also notable declines in key sectors led by mining and quarrying (-30.21 per cent). Declines in output were also recorded in the construction (-3.0 per cent); information and communications (-1.05 per cent); and financial and insurance (-2.37 per cent) sectors.

The manufacturing sector recorded a 4.0 percent increase in real value in 2021 due to higher exports. Conversely, the agriculture and fishing sector recorded a decline of 4.0 percent or \$4.4 million over the same period as a result of higher input costs, natural disasters and weak demand from the tourism sector.

The public health sector recorded an increase of 9.04 per cent as the Government continued to grapple with the fallout from the pandemic. Solid performances were also recorded in several sectors, including agriculture and fishing; manufacturing; business services; public education; wholesale and retail trade; transportation and storage in comparison to 2020. The real estate sector's real value increased by \$10.0 million due to higher demand from Welcome Stamp residents over the same period.

PER CAPITA INCOME

Overall, real GDP declined by a modest 0.19 percent to \$7,962.8 million, while GDP per capita increased by 0.39 per cent to 25.6 thousand dollars in comparison to 2021. The 12.92 per cent decline in real GDP in comparison to 2019 reflects the deleterious impact of the pandemic on Barbados' economy.

**Table 2: Real Gross Domestic Product by Industry of Origin
2017-2021*
(Market Prices)**

	\$M				
	2017	2018	2019R	2020R	2021P
Accommodation and Food Services	1,314.9	1,342.7	1,415.9	590.2	487.8
Agriculture and Fishing	105.5	121.0	115.5	108.9	113.2
Business Services	794.9	783.9	764.0	756.5	787.2
Construction	492.9	461.6	452.3	457.2	443.5
Electricity, Gas & Water Supply	214.8	214.1	213.5	203.5	212.1
Financial & Insurance	850.9	813.6	786.2	718.8	701.8
FISIM Adjustment	91.0	87.0	86.5	106.6	99.8
Information & Communications	549.7	541.8	546.1	534.2	528.6
Manufacturing	487.8	476.9	476.1	440.8	456.1
Mining and Quarrying	40.7	42.2	49.4	56.6	39.5
Personal & Other Services Incl. of Private Education & Health	345.5	344.7	354.8	349.9	353.7
Public Administration, Defence & Social Security	481.0	470.3	424.4	440.6	444.0
Public Education	275.4	273.7	273.3	271.9	274.5
Public Health	99.1	97.8	93.3	98.5	107.4
Real Estate	883.4	893.1	902.9	912.9	922.9
Transportation and Storage	497.0	485.9	465.5	369.8	382.5
Wholesale & Retail Trade	761.8	749.4	762.4	720.5	749.3
Total Value Added at Basic Prices	8,104.4	8,025.8	8,009.2	6,924.4	6,904.3
Taxes less Subsidies on Products	1,206.2	1,189.2	1,193.6	1,053.5	1,058.5
Gross Domestic Product at Constant Prices	9,310.6	9,215.0	9,202.9	7,977.9	7,962.8
Real Gross Domestic Product Per Capita	29.5	29.3	29.4	25.5	25.6

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

*2010 Prices

B. BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

The current account deficit widened by 135.01 per cent to \$1,305.7 million in 2021. In 2019, prior to the onset of the pandemic, the current account deficit stood at \$293.7 million, or 344.57 per cent lower than 2021 levels.

The worsening current account deficit was mainly attributed to declines in tourism receipts coupled with sharp increases in international commodity prices, particularly food, fuel and key inputs for the agriculture, hospitality and manufacturing sectors. The revival of the tourism sector during the latter quarter as well additional national restrictions help to mitigate further increases in the current account deficit.

The capital account declined to \$5.2 million or 15.56 per cent compared to the previous year.

Overall, the Balance of Payments stood at \$398.2 million, which represented a decline of 66.25 per cent over the previous year.

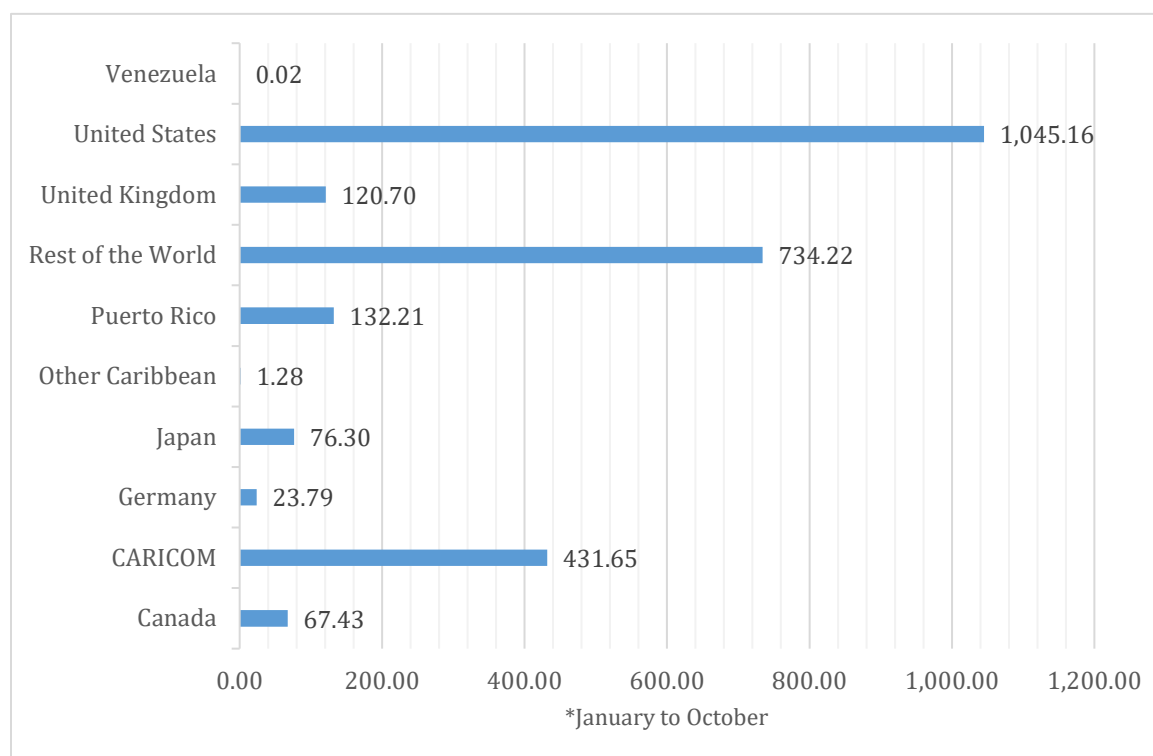
	2019	2020	2021
Current Account	(293.70)	(555.60)	(1,305.70)
Total Exports (f.o.b)	888.20	690.40	682.00
Total Imports (c.i.f)	3,003.70	2,843.90	3,177.40
Capital and Financial Account	787.40	1,647.60	1,533.40
Overall Surplus/Deficit	(481.40)	(1,179.70)	(398.20)

SOURCE: Central Bank of Barbados

DIRECTION OF TRADE

In 2021, the trade deficit was recorded at \$2.65 billion, a 14.4 per cent increase compared to the previous year. Total exports increased modestly to \$700.35 million, or by 1.44 per cent as rum and printed label sub-sectors help to drive higher exports. Total imports increased by 11.45 per cent to \$3,347.24 million. The increase in the trade deficit was mainly due to an increased demand for fuel as normal business activities resumed, and international commodity prices, particularly food and fuel, soared.

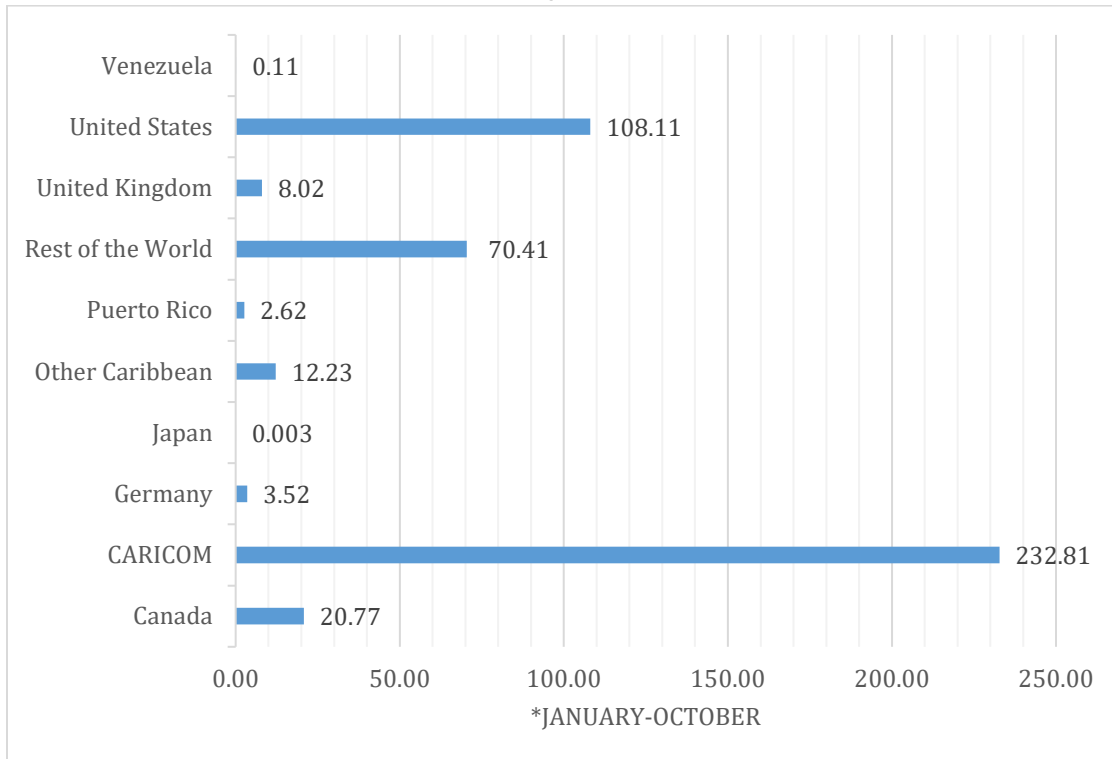
Figure 2: Direction of Trade (Imports) (C.I.F)
\$M
2021*



SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

Imports from other CARICOM countries increased by 1.66 per cent while exports declined by 3.67 per cent over the review period. However, imports from other non-CARICOM Caribbean countries expanded by 156.7 per cent.

Figure 3: Direction of Trade (Exports) (F.O.B)
\$M
2021*

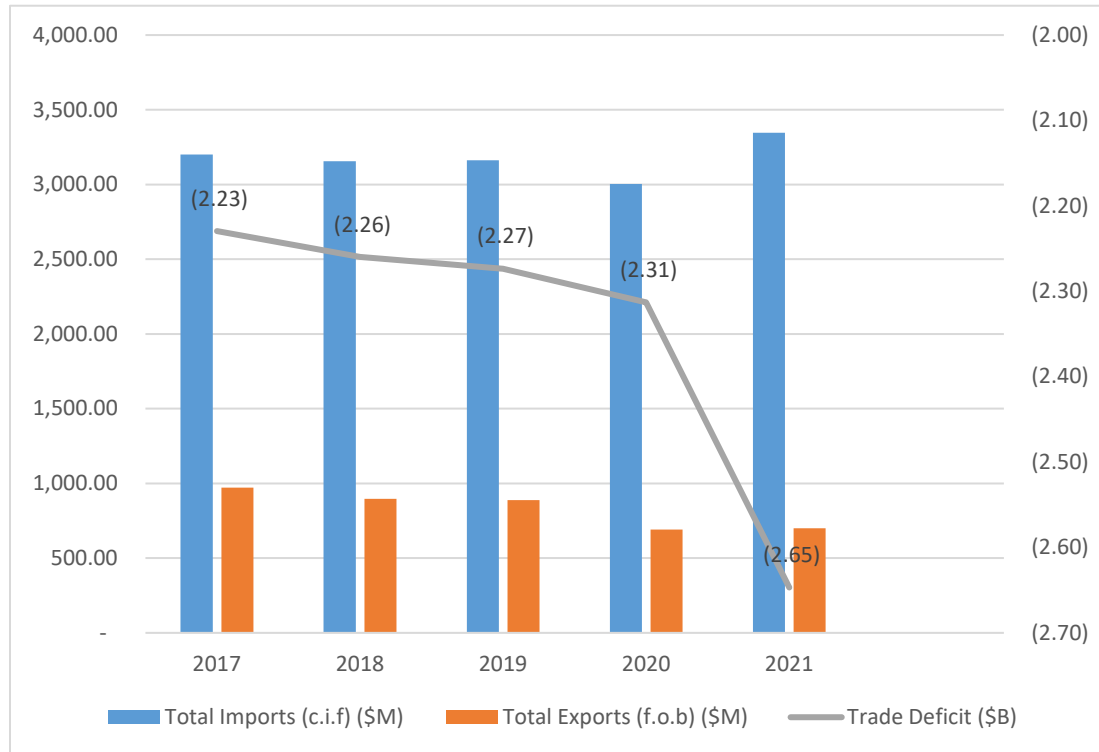


SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

There was a general decline in exports to Barbados' main markets, with the United Kingdom recording the highest falloff (49.47 per cent), followed by Canada (16.82 per cent). Nevertheless, exports to Germany and the United States increased by 159.5 per cent and 47.66 per cent, respectively.

CARICOM countries accounted for 43.0 per cent of Barbados' export trade, followed by the United States which represented approximately 20.0 per cent. Conversely, 38.53 per cent of Barbados' exports were to the United States.

**Figure 4: Visible Trade Balance
2017-2021**



SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

GROSS INTERNATIONAL RESERVES

In 2021, the stock of gross foreign reserves climbed by 18.20 per cent to an unprecedented 3,058.8 million, or 40.0 weeks of import cover, notwithstanding the flagging performance of the tourism sector during the first half of 2021. This growth was principally supported by policy-based loans from multi-lateral financial institutions valued at \$968.1 million.

The stock of foreign reserves for 2021 contrasts favorably with 2017, when the foreign reserves was 675.20 per cent lower, or a mere \$411.3 million.

C. FISCAL DEVELOPMENTS AND PUBLIC FINANCES

FISCAL DEVELOPMENTS

During the year, the Government continued to implement the IMF-supported BERT (2018) Plan which was set to expire in May, 2022, and signaled its intention to develop a new four-year Plan to achieve inclusive and sustainable growth while maintaining fiscal and debt sustainability.

Under BERT (2018), the Government implemented 35 different structural reforms. Many of the short term objectives under the BERT Plan were met prior to the onset of the pandemic, including an unprecedented primary surplus of 6 percent of GDP. However, the pandemic derailed many of the

restructuring and reform measures which had commenced under the BERT (2018) Plan. Nevertheless, the Government pressed ahead with other key fiscal plans.

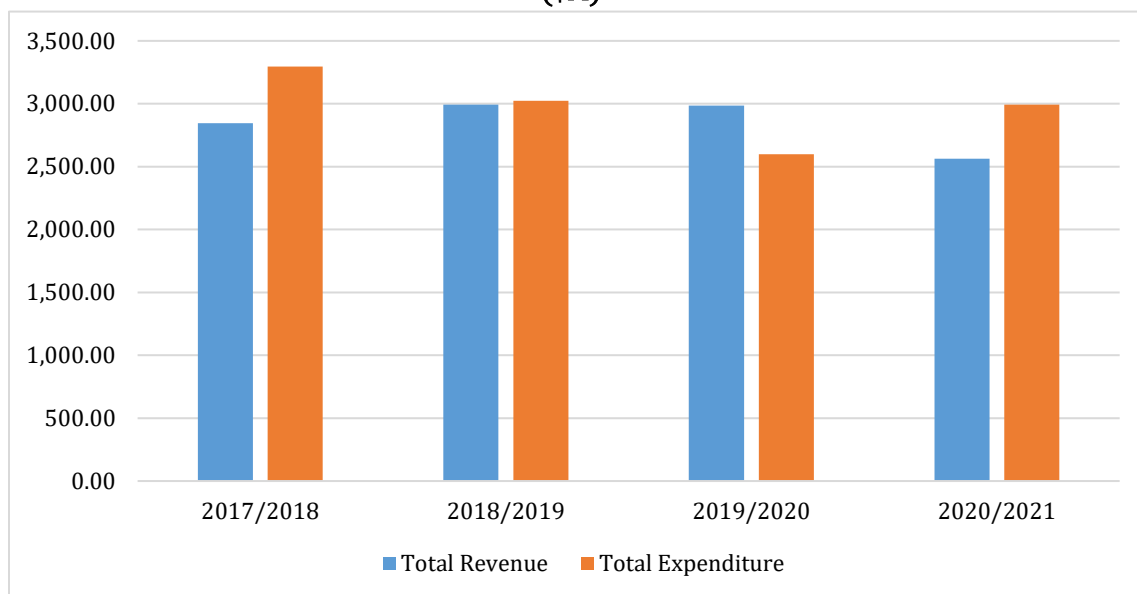
During the year, the Government continued to lay the groundwork for fiscal reform through the formulation of a new three-year Medium Term Fiscal Framework, which includes fiscal projections and policy objectives. Modernisation of the public procurement system was also facilitated through the passage of the Public Procurement Act and Procurement Policy Framework which underscore the Government’s commitment to increase efficiency savings and reduce large fiscal adjustments.

PUBLIC FINANCES

The pandemic, which precipitated restrictions on business activities and the collapse of the tourism and related services sector, coupled with two natural disasters had a particularly deleterious effect on public finances in 2021.

An unprecedented primary surplus of 6.0 per cent of GDP was achieved at the end of FY 2019/2020. Following the pandemic, the primary balance target was revised to 1 per cent of GDP for 2020/21 to accommodate depleted public revenues and support response, recovery and resilience measures. The primary balance target for 2020/21 was subsequently revised to minus 1.0 per cent of GDP to accommodate worse than anticipated revenue declines and continued expenditure on recovery and resilience programmes.

**Figure 5: Public Revenue and Expenditure
2017/2018 - 2020/2021
(\$M)**



SOURCE: Central Bank of Barbados

During the period, the fiscal balance declined by 211.73 per cent, moving from a surplus of \$384.50 million to a deficit of \$429.60 million. The primary balance moved to a deficit of \$87.0 million or 113.72 per cent lower than the previous financial year.

CURRENT REVENUE

During financial year 2020/2021, total revenue decreased by 14.10 per cent to \$2,563.3 million as the pandemic and natural disasters roiled economic recovery. Corporate tax revenues increased by 98.4 percent to \$612.9 million primarily as a result of receipts from the international business sector. However, this was insufficient to offset declines in VAT, personal income tax, and excise tax of \$260.6 million, \$146.6 million and \$96.8 million, respectively.

EXPENDITURE

In 2021, public expenditures were elevated due to management of the pandemic, ash fall cleanup and post-Elsa rebuilding activities.

Overall public expenditure, which had decreased by 14.04 per cent the previous financial year, increased by 15.12 percent or \$393.1 million to \$2,992.90 in 2020/2021 due in large part to pandemic-related stimulus measures, social protection programmes, enhanced public healthcare, and debt service payments. Public spending on goods and services, transfers and subsidies, and capital expenditure increased by \$24.3 million, \$191.0 million, and \$93.2 million, respectively, compared to the previous year.

Transfers to public institutions, which had declined by approximately 40.0 per cent in 2019/2020, increased by 30.0 per cent to BDS\$657 million the following year due to unanticipated financing requirements for SOEs at the forefront of the national pandemic response, including the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Welfare Department and National Assistance Board.

Other initiatives which led to higher outlays include the provision of temporary financial assistance to farmers to mitigate high feed costs; the shoring up of the National Insurance Scheme to the tune of \$50.0 million due to pandemic-related job displacement; and infrastructural and rebuilding projects for people who were displaced by Hurricane Elsa.

FINANCING

During the review period, the following key strategic measures were implemented to build economic recovery, climate resilience, and address structural vulnerabilities:

- Strengthening of public healthcare systems to address pandemic-related hospitalization and treatment, and the national vaccination programme.
- Enhancing social protection programmes such as targeted cash transfers and care packages to vulnerable households.
- Providing business support to assist with pandemic-related disruptions.
- Addressing inadequate access to electronic devices, deficiencies in remote learning and inconsistent schooling.
- Improving regulatory reforms and digital transformation to increase efficiency and competitiveness.
- Implementing climate mitigation and adaptation measures to build climate resilience and disaster preparedness.

- Implementing re-skilling and up-skilling programmes to provide displaced workers with the tools to adjust to rapidly changing labour markets, become globally competitive and take up new opportunities for re-employment and re-deployment.

The Government relied heavily on support from international lending institutions to implement these measures and help offset the financing shortfalls created by lower revenues and higher expenditures. In 2021, \$2,904.70 million was secured from multi-lateral institutions, an increase of 20.64 per cent compared to the previous year, or 100.95 per cent higher than the year prior to the pandemic.

NATIONAL DEBT

The stock of gross public debt, which had declined from 148.9 per cent of GDP at the end of 2017 to 123.6 per cent the following year, increased to 136.3 percent in 2021, primarily due to a 14.0 percent contraction in economic output in 2020. The debt-to-GDP ratio resumed its downward trajectory as economic activity improved, declining by a modest 0.3 per cent in 2021.

Loans from international institutions accounting for 64.77 per cent of total external debt. Gross public debt stood at \$13,358.2 million, with the share of domestic debt accounting for 66.07 per cent.

The Government remains committed to reducing the debt to 60 percent of GDP over the medium term, and will extend the timeline for its achievement by two years to FY 2035/36 under a new BERT Plan.

Table 4: Fiscal Deficit Financing
2017/18 - 2021/22

	\$M				
	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
Total Financing Requirement	1,447.40	439.00	-65.30	1,047.00	869.30
Foreign Financing	141.30	439.00	233.00	1,002.50	720.50
Caribbean Development Bank	3.90	171.70	172.60	21.00	12.50
Citibank	30.90	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Corporación Andina de Formento (CAF)	0.00	10.90	3.60	208.10	25.80
European Investment Bank	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24.00
Inter-American Development Bank	38.50	238.20	56.80	436.70	271.70
(IADB)					
International Monetary Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	321.00	96.60
People's Republic of China	68.00	18.20	0.00	15.70	89.90
World Bank (IBRD)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00
Domestic Financing	1,306.10	0.00	-298.30	44.50	148.80
BOSS Bonds	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	41.80
Treasury Bills	616.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Treasury Notes, Debentures and Bonds	690.00	0.00	0.00	42.00	125.00
Other Domestic	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.50	-18.00
Arrears	0.00	0.00	-298.30	0.00	0.00
Total Financing	1,447.40	439.00	-65.30	1,047.00	869.30

SOURCE: Ministry of Finance, Economic Affairs and Investment

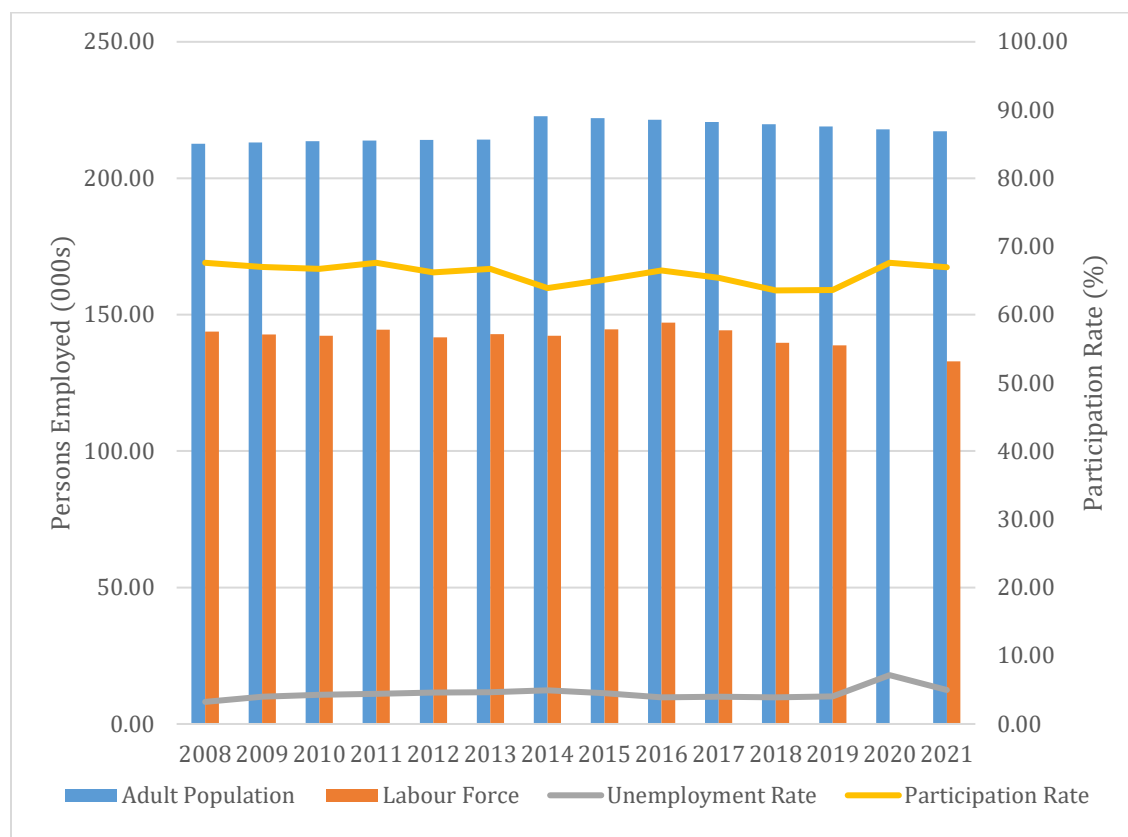
D. EMPLOYMENT, INFLATION AND LABOUR MARKET

UNEMPLOYMENT

In 2020, the unemployment rate was recorded at an unprecedented 17.90 per cent. Between March, 2020 and December, 2020, the National Insurance Scheme (NIS) paid out \$155.0 million in unemployment insurance benefits to 37,000 claimants, exceeding the total combined claims of the previous three years.

In 2021, the unemployment rate improved to 12.40 per cent as the tourism and related services sector rallied and employees who had exhausted their unemployment benefits returned to work. Nevertheless, the unemployment rate was 22.77 per cent higher when compared to 2019.

**Figure 6: Labour Force Trends in Barbados
2008 – 2021**



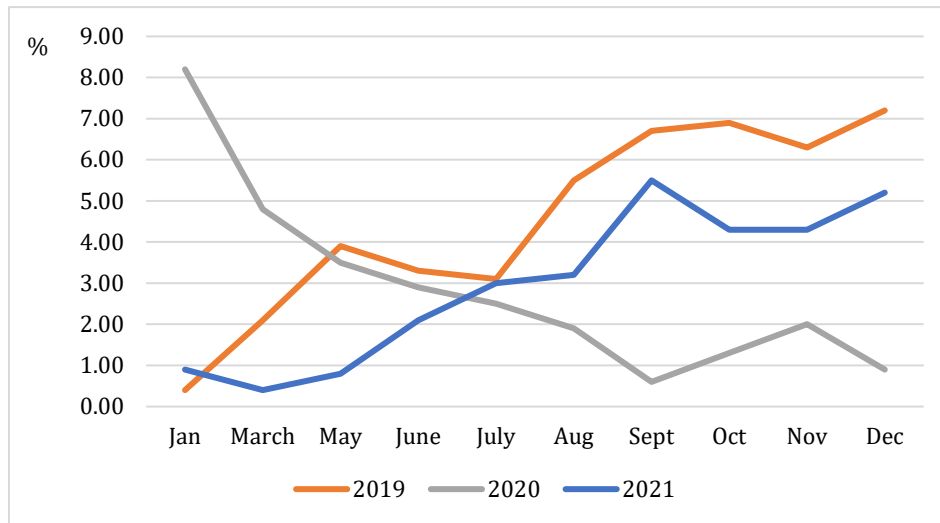
SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

The reduction in employment was recorded in several key sub-sectors, including Construction, Mining and Quarrying (-19.92 per cent); Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing (-14.75 per cent); Wholesale and Retail Trade (-16.24 per cent); Administrative and Support Services (-7.67 per cent) and Finance and Insurance (-6.27 per cent). However, there were notable improvements in Manufacturing (5.26 per cent); and Accommodation and Food Services (6.27 per cent).

INFLATION

During 2021, inflation rose to 3.2 per cent as steep increases in international commodity prices coupled with global supply chain disruptions and high freight costs helped to push domestic prices higher.

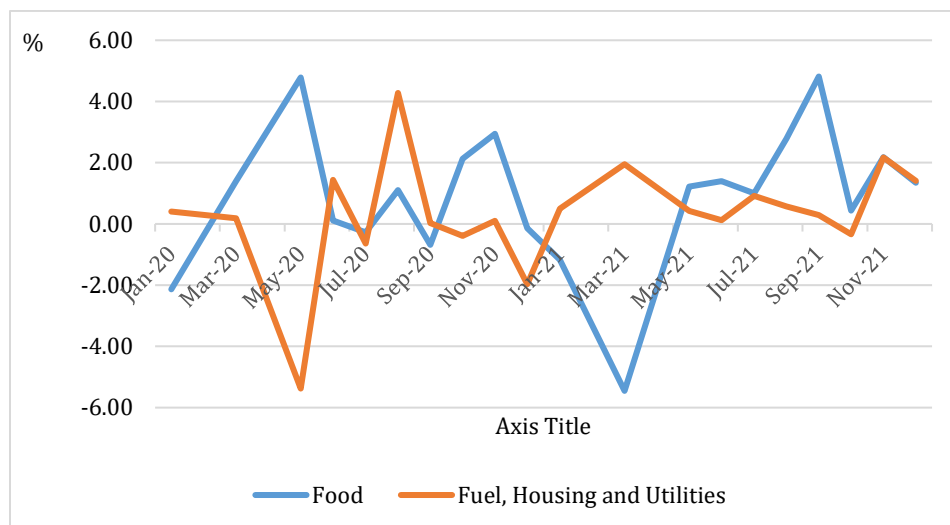
**Figure 7: Point-to-Point Inflation
2019 - 2021**



SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

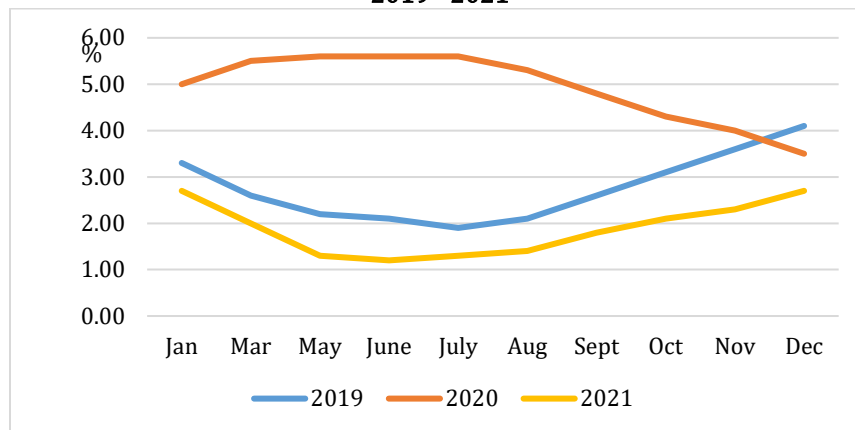
Fuels and food bore the brunt of the inflationary pressures. However, these effects were not felt until the latter half of the year, with prices for November of 2021 recorded at 4.6 per cent higher than the same period the previous year.

Figure 8: Month-to Month Percentage Price Changes (Food and Fuel, Housing and Utilities)



SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

**Figure 9: Moving Average Annual Inflation
2019 - 2021**



SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

The twelve-month moving average rate of inflation was recorded at 3.2 per cent in comparison to 2.9 per cent the previous year. Declines in the prices of clothing and footwear helped to dampen overall inflation.

E. SECTORAL PERFORMANCE AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT

I. TOURISM (ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD SERVICE INDUSTRY)

GLOBAL TOURISM PERFORMANCE

At a global level, the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)¹ indicated that the rising rates of vaccination, combined with easing of travel restrictions due to increased cross-border coordination and protocols, all helped release pent up demand over the period. International tourism rebounded moderately during the second half of 2021, with international arrivals down 62 per cent in both the third and fourth quarters compared to pre-pandemic levels. According to limited data, international arrivals in December were 65 per cent below 2019 levels.

The pace of recovery remained slow and uneven across world regions due to varying degrees of mobility restrictions, vaccination rates and traveller confidence. Europe and the Americas recorded the strongest results in 2021 compared to 2020 (increases of 19 per cent and 17 per cent respectively), but still both fell 63 per cent below pre-pandemic levels. By sub region, the Caribbean saw the best performance (an increase of 63 per cent above 2020, but 37 per cent below 2019), with some destinations coming close to, or exceeding pre-pandemic levels.

¹ UNWTO World Tourism Barometer and Statistical Annex, January 2022

CARIBBEAN TOURISM PERFORMANCE

During the third quarter, regional destinations made significant strides along the road to recovery from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic after struggling for most of the preceding six months. The progress was encouraged by the relaunching of the tourism industry in more destinations, the continued roll-out of vaccines and the apparent convergence of testing and quarantine protocols, especially for fully vaccinated visitors, many of whom were seeking to vacation in destinations with strict COVID-19 protocols, according to several industry analysts². The restoration of some air capacity into the region, from short-haul markets also contributed to recovery efforts.

It is estimated that Caribbean destinations recorded 13.5 million international tourist arrivals in the first three quarters of 2021, some 4.6 million more than the 9.0 million in the same period of 2020. This corresponds to an increase of 50.9 per cent compared to 2020, but a decline of 44.9 per cent relative to the arrivals in 2019. The preliminary figures for the first nine months showed that the performances in the first three months trailed the corresponding months by between 12.6 per cent and 71.6 per cent. However, the initial unleashing of the pent-up travel demand and increasing facilitation of travel over the next six months drove the expansion of arrivals during that period.

DOMESTIC TOURISM PERFORMANCE

The revival of the tourism sector strengthened during the last quarter of the year. Long-stay tourist arrivals in December were at their post-COVID peak, reaching 47 per cent of the corresponding pre-pandemic level of 2019, as the relaxation of global travel restrictions, the phased reduction in health protocols and pent-up demand contributed to a rebound in international travel.

However, the steep fall in arrivals in the first quarter following the 2020 end-of-year spike in domestic COVID-19 infections outweighed the gradually improved performance over the last three (3) quarters. The overall decline for the year was 26 per cent and arrivals were only 20 percent of 2019 levels. The United Kingdom and United States remained the main source markets, accounting for 74 per cent of arrivals. The improved market share reflects the under-performance of the Canadian and Caribbean markets, with regional travel suffering from reduced airlift and the lack of stimulus of traditional cultural and sporting activities.

Increased airlift, including from new non-regional markets, supported the recovering demand for the destination over the last three quarters. The impact of the gradual rise in arrivals on the accommodation sector was uneven. Improved occupancy and room rates, particularly in the higher priced market segments raised revenue. Hoteliers also increased the availability of room stock, including from the introduction of new plant. Education tourism and the remote worker programme helped to boost the ancillary sectors that were so damaged by the fall-off in arrivals. Cruise activity restarted, but fresh COVID outbreaks on cruise ships slowed the pace of the recovery.

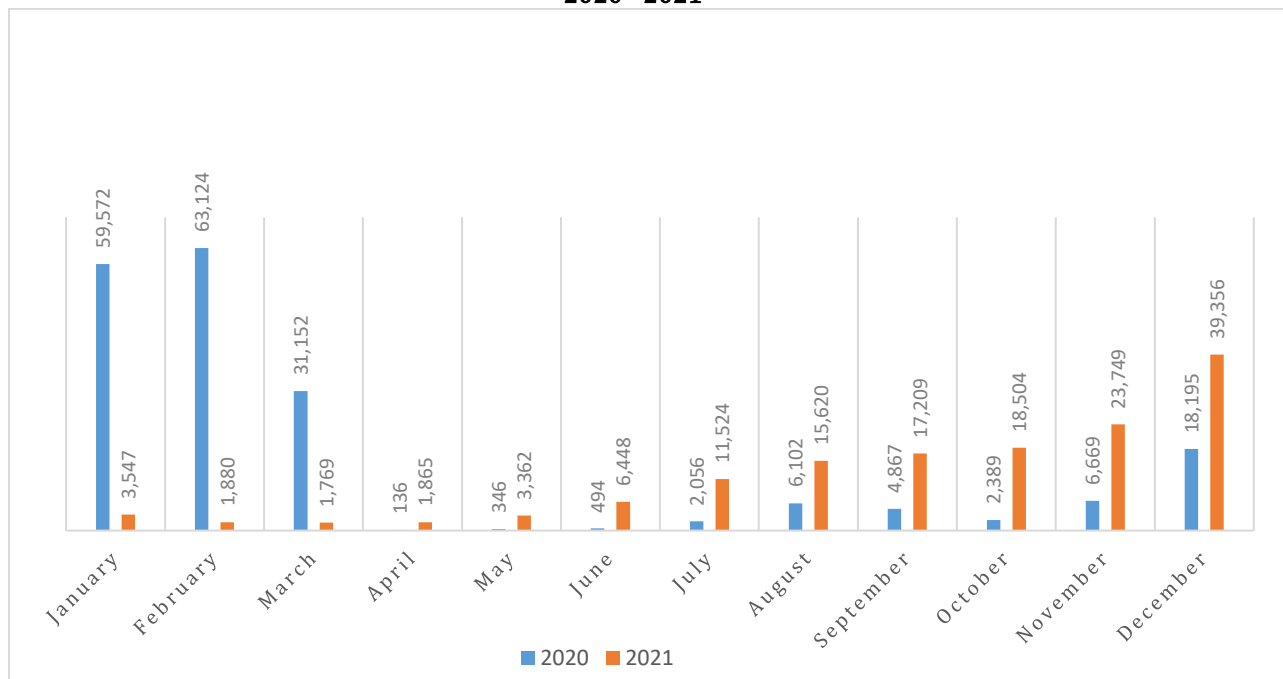
²<https://www.cnn.com/2021/08/31/which-caribbean-islands-are-open-only-to-vaccinated-travelers.html?&qsearchterm=caribbean>

Overall, according to the Barbados Statistical Services it is estimated that the real value output of the Accommodation and Food Service industry declined to \$487.8 Million in 2021, compared to \$590.2 million in 2020. This also represented a 65.6 per cent decline from pre-pandemic level, where the Real GDP of this sector was estimated at \$1,415.9 million in 2019.

Total Stayover Arrivals

Visitor arrival statistics for 2021 reveal that there was a 25.8 per cent decrease in visitor arrivals to Barbados when compared to 2020 as the fallout from the pandemic continued. There were 195,102 stayover visitor arrivals recorded in 2020; 50,269 fewer arrivals than those recorded in 2020.

**Figure 10: Stayover Visitor Arrivals by Month
2020 - 2021**



SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

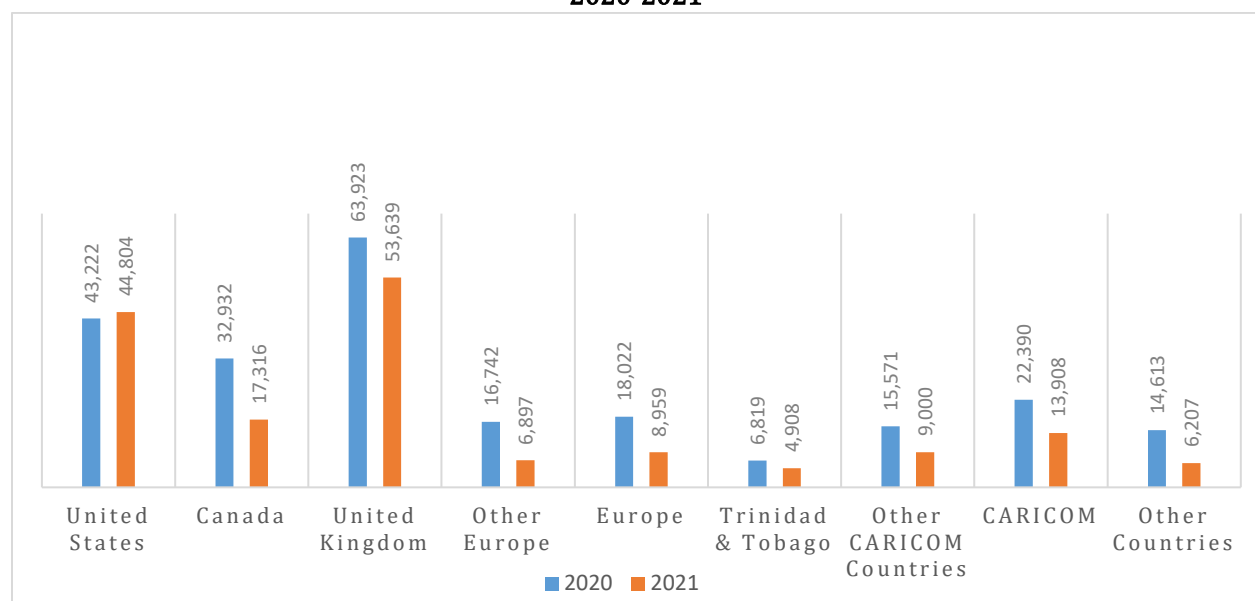
The performances in the first three (3) months in 2021 trailed the corresponding months by 93 per cent to 97.7 per cent in the previous year. Significant increases in visitor arrivals were recorded in the remaining nine (9) months of the year, which ranged from 116.3 per cent in December to 1, 271.3 per cent in April. These increases were mainly due to the very small numbers recorded in 2020 (when the tourism industry worldwide suffered due to the corona virus pandemic); compared to the more favourable numbers recorded in 2021, when the industry started to make a comeback.

Market Performance

Although from a small base, the German market recorded an increase of 61.1 per cent or 782 more arrivals from 1,280 arrivals in 2020, to 2,062 arrivals in 2021. The US market also recorded an increase in tourist arrivals when the two (2) years were compared. In 2021, arrivals for the US totalled 44,804, up from the 43,222 recorded in 2020; this was a 3.7 per cent increase in arrivals. Declines in stayover arrivals

were recorded in the other source markets, ranging from 16.1 per cent in the UK to 58.8 per cent in the 'Other Europe' market.

**Figure 11: Stayover Visitor Arrivals by Market
2020-2021**



SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

Cruise Passenger Arrivals

The preliminary results from the Barbados Port Inc. indicate that during 2021 there were 144 cruise ships, which called at the Bridgetown Port – a decrease of 104 or 41.9 per cent when compared to 2020. Also the Bridgetown Port welcomed an estimated 96,372 cruise passenger arrivals, a decrease of 242,014 cruise arrivals or 71.5 per cent when compared to 2020.

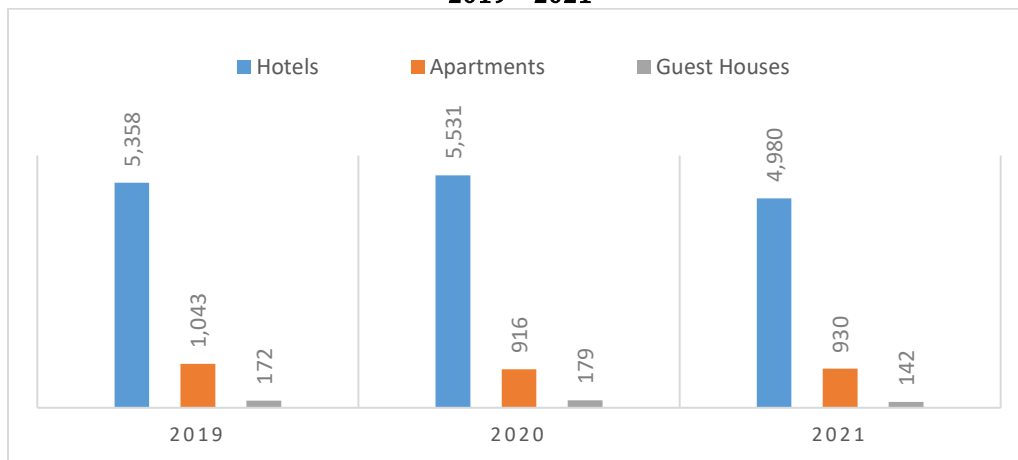
Table 6: Length of Stay (Days) by Country of Residence 2020 - 2021			Table 5: Cruise Passenger Arrivals 2020 - 2021		
Country of Residence	2020	2021^P	Month	2020	2021^P
United States	12.1	14.3	January	147,525	0
Canada	17.0	21.4	February	115,862	0
United Kingdom	12.7	13.5	March	74,871	0
Germany	10.2	14.3	April	1	10
Other Europe	11.4	15.9	May	51	0
Trinidad & Tobago	13.9	14.9	June	0	2,002
Other Caribbean	14.1	15.2	July	0	2,113
Other Central & South America	10.1	10.3	August	0	1,894
Other	14.4	13.6	September	0	403
Total	13.3	14.5	October	0	1,974
SOURCE: Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc. (BTMI)			November	76	22,066
P=Provisional			December	0	65,910
			Total	338,386	96,372
			SOURCE: Barbados Port Inc.		
			P=Provisional		

The majority of the months recorded 100 percent increases in arrivals in 2021, as the cruise sector in 2020 was virtually non-existent, in light of the ongoing pandemic. Improvements in cruise arrivals were recorded during the second half of the year in 2021, with note-worthy arrivals of 65,910 in December and 21,990 in November. Other notable cruise arrivals were recorded in July, June, October and August, with arrivals of 2,113, 2,002, 1,974 and 1,894 respectively.

Length of Stay

During 2021, there was an increase in average length of stay; from approximately 13 days in 2020 to approximately 15 days in 2021. Increases were recorded for each of the major markets, except “Other”. Canadian visitors had the longest duration on the island, recording an average of approximately 21 days; while the visitors from “Other Central and South America” recorded the shortest duration, with an average of 10 days. Visitors from “Other Europe” and “Other Caribbean” stayed for approximately 16 and 15 days respectively. Visitors from Trinidad and Tobago and Germany remained on island for an average of approximately 15 days. Visitors from the US and Germany stayed on the island for an average of 14 days each. It was noted that the UK visitors stayed for approximately 14 days on the island.

**Figure 12: Total Registered Tourism Accommodation (Number of Establishments)
2019 - 2021**



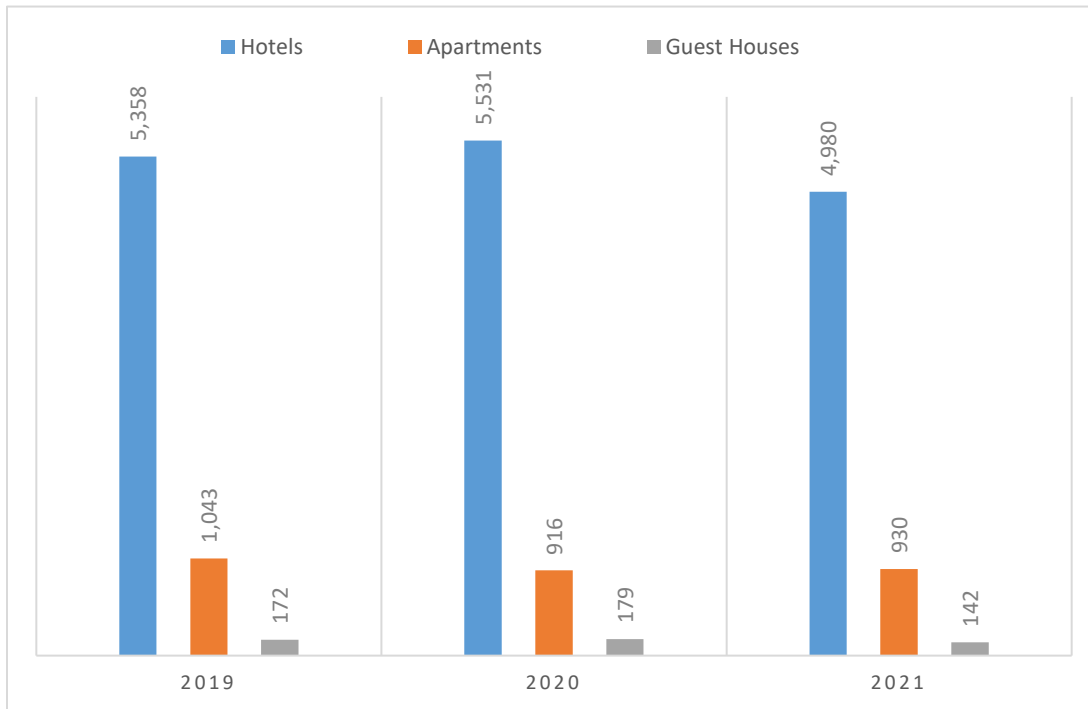
SOURCE: Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc. (BTMI)

REGISTERED TOURISM ACCOMMODATION

In 2021, there were 137 registered tourism establishments, a decrease of 16 establishments. This decrease resulted from the closure of some of these establishments because of the inactivity in the industry caused by the pandemic. Of these 137 establishments in 2021, 60 were hotels, 63 were apartments and 14 were guesthouses.

There were 6,052 registered bedrooms within the tourism industry in 2021; a decline from the 6,626 recorded in 2020. The number of bedrooms recorded for 2019 was 6,573. Of these rooms in 2021, hotels accounted for 4,980 rooms, apartments 930 and guesthouses accounted for 142 rooms.

Figure 13: Total Registered Tourism Accommodation (Number of Bedrooms)



SOURCE: Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc. (BTMI)

KEY POLICIES / PROGRAMME

12-Month Barbados Welcome Stamp Initiative

During the period, June 30, 2020 to January 2022, The Barbados Welcome Stamp (12 month visa) Program has made significant contributions to increasing visitor arrivals among the long stay visitors and loyal visitors; improving the perception of Barbados' key brand attributes; and increasing spend on island.

To date, applications were received from 3,344 individuals, applying for themselves and or their spouses and dependents, for a total of 5,720 persons. Of the 3,344 applications received, 2,215 of these applications, equivalent to 3,902 persons, were approved for the visas. Thirty-eight per cent, or 850 of these applications were from family units while 62 per cent or 1,365 were single applicants.

Barbados Employment and Sustainable Transformation (BEST) Programme:

The BEST programme was established by the Government of Barbados to stimulate the transformation of the tourism and direct tourism related service sectors and to protect employment in the sectors as a result of the devastation caused by the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic globally. Given

that tourism is the country's main source of foreign exchange and generator of employment, the Government of Barbados therefore pledged BDS \$300 million (M) to assist in supporting the tourism sector, by investing in companies through grants and preferential shares, to fund the re-engagement of workers and to enable companies to survive. The programme has two (2) major components:

Employee Re-engagement Component: During the period October 2020 – December 2021, 64 applications were received by the Approvals Committee. These applications consisted of hotels, attractions, travel agencies, car rentals, restaurants, watersports, general, retail, destination management, nightclubs and sports businesses. Fifty-eight of these applications were approved; with 50 of these approvals being disbursed. As a result of this programme, approximately 2,481 employees were re-engaged in the tourism sector.

Transformational Investment Component: During the period October 2020 – December 2021, 36 applications were received. Twenty-five of these applications were approved; with 13 of these approvals being disbursed.

II. INDUSTRY AND MANUFACTURING

During the period under review, the manufacturing sector realized a favourable upturn, as the players sector adjusted to operate in the ongoing pandemic environment. The output for the manufacturing sector in 2021 as measured by the Index of Industrial Production, expanded to 51.1 points from 50.8 points in 2020. This performance was mainly driven by favourable growth in categories such as “food”, which rose from 80.6 points in 2020 to 81.6 points in 2021; and “chemicals” which increased from 131.9 points to 165.7 points. Conversely, there were moderate declines recorded in several areas including in “beverages and tobacco”, which fell from 51.5 points to 47.5 points in 2021 and “asphalt” which contracted to 39.1 points from 44.8 points in the previous year.

Despite a strong rebound of the industrial sector, the lingering persistence of the pandemic, the ongoing disruptions in the global supply chains and environment impact ash fall resulting from the La Soufriere Volcano dampened domestic economic activity in the sector during 2021.

According to the Central Bank of Barbados, domestic exports for the period under review declined by 1.13 per cent to BDS\$444.3 million when compared to the BDS\$ 449.4 million reported in 2020. This was driven by declines in exports of Chemicals (21.5 per cent) and construction materials (6.0 per cent). Similarly, certified export participation plummeted from 238 active exporters in 2020 to 80 active exporters in 2021. Certified exports contributed approximately 4.5 per cent of net foreign reserves in 2021. This marginal contribution was as a consequence of supply chain and logistic issues resulting the global pandemic.

SPECIAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

Barbados Investment and Development Corporation (BIDC) disbursed BDS\$2.8 million under its Special Technical Assistance Programme (STAP) in 2021; an increase of 154.8 per cent over the BDS\$1.1 million disbursed in 2020. A total of 26 businesses directly benefited from the programme in 2020, compared to 20 in 2021.

Equipment, Systems, and Process Upgrades received the largest sum of assistance, with BDS\$2.3 million, disbursed in 2021, under the STAP, an increase of 478.8 per cent in comparison to the BDS\$346

thousand provided in 2020. Additional information on the areas of assistance is outlined in the table below.

In an effort to promote sustainable development of the industry, BIDC undertook several transformational initiatives in 2021, towards the development of an export-oriented industrial policy framework based on sound data analysis and a design-centric culture that promotes innovation and double-digit growth. Inclusive of an Export Tier System geared towards designing and implementing industrial interventions based on needs within the overall export and industrial value chain and the implementation of a Company Assessment and Rating System to guide and support interventions for sustainable development of the industry.

**Table 7: STAP Disbursements
2020 - 2021**

Assistance	2020	2021^P	% Change
Training Productivity Enhancement	176,806.71	39,326.12	-77.8
Marketing	347,803.86	476,271.36	36.9
Equipment, Systems & Process Upgrades	346,087.50	2,003,011.42	478.8
International Standards Certification	92,091.96		-100.0
Enhancement Programme BMA/CRAFT	558.39	15,215.00	2,624.8
Product Design	3,000.00	54,872.50	1,729.1
Market Research	48,783.49	30,107.57	-38.3
Professional Services	53,313.85	125,795.04	136.0
Craft Supply Project	2,680.75		-100.0
Intellectual Property	25,737.66	50,194.16	95.0
Bank Charges		115.90	
TOTAL	1,096,864.17	2,794,909.07	154.8

P - Provisional

SOURCE: Export Barbados (BIDC)

III. AGRICULTURE AND FISHING

OVERVIEW

In 2021, there was a slight improvement recorded in the performance of the agriculture and fisheries industry, as the real value output expanded to BDS\$113.2 million from BDS\$108.9 million in previous year. This improvement was driven solely by a moderate increase of 2.4 per cent in the livestock and dairy production. In contrast declines were recorded in all other sub-sectors, as the activity and demand in the industry continued to be restricted by the ongoing pandemic as well as occurrence of environment phenomenon such as the ashfall from resulting from the La Soufriere Volcano.

The overall total monetary losses and expenses from the ashfall for the crop sector were approximately \$1.6 million, with a 50 acres of crop lost; while an estimated 1,100 tonnes of cane were damaged at a value of BDS\$165,000 in the sugar industry. A total of 297 livestock deaths were also recorded with the total monetary losses and expenses estimated as BDS\$717,418.40.

**Table 8: Local Agricultural Production (Million Kgs)
2017 – 2021**

Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Change Over 2020
Sugar ('000 tonnes)	10.1	11.7	7.9	7.9	5.3	-33.66%
Root Crop Production	2.4	3.4	3.7	3.6	3.0	-15.55%
Vegetable Production	3.7	5.4	5.3	5.2	2.5	-50.89%
Livestock and Dairy Production	26.9	27.9	28.1	22.7	23.3	2.37%
	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	
Cotton Lint ('000 kgs)	5.8	1.7	2.2	5.5	3.6	-33.47%

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

SUGAR PRODUCTION

The 2021 sugar crop yielded 92,129.07 tonnes of canes from an area of 4,444.25 acres harvested. This was a marginal increase of approximately one (1) per cent or 740.16 tonnes more canes produced compared to the previous 2020 crop.

An estimated 5,251.86 tonnes of sugar was produced during the period under review, which represented a decline of 21 per cent or 1,406.24 tonnes less than the 2020 crop. However, there was a noticeable increase of 27 per cent in the production of molasses, with 1,384.00 tonnes more recorded than in the previous year.

COTTON PRODUCTION

The 2020/2021 cotton crop harvest yielded 12,626.25 kilograms of seed cotton which was delivered to the ginnery, from 84.94 hectares of cotton planted. This represented a decline of 15 per cent and 35 per cent respectively from the previous season. An estimated 3,628.74 kgs of lint and 16 running bales was produced from the 2020/2021 cotton crop harvest; in comparison to 5,454.55 kgs lint and 8 running bales produced from the previous year's harvest.

LIVESTOCK AND DAIRY PRODUCTION

Livestock production recorded an overall increase of 2 per cent during 2021 over 2020 production. A significant increase of 111 per cent in production was recorded for Turkey, which rose from 141.48 kgs in 2020 to 298.08 kgs in 2021. Increases in production were also observed for chicken and milk, which grew by 10 per cent and 9 per cent respectively.

However, several livestock commodities recorded declines during the year under review including veal production, which fell from 43.61 kgs in 2020 to 0.60 kgs in 2021, a decrease of 99 per cent. Declines were also registered for the production of mutton (34 per cent), eggs (25 per cent), beef (12 per cent) and pork (8 per cent).

**Table 9: Livestock and Dairy Production ('000 kgs)
2017 - 2021**

Year	2017	2018	2019	2020(R)	2021(P)	% Change over 2019
Pork	2518.5	2771.7	2840.3	2869.2	2634.0	-8.2%
Beef	156.9	175.0	172.5	182.3	161.2	-11.5%
Veal	6.2	0.6	0.4	43.6	0.6	-98.6%
Mutton	95.8	107.0	92.2	98.7	65.5	-33.7%
Chicken	15805.3	16465.6	16232.0	11964.9	13183.4	10.2%
Turkey	127.0	180.8	397.6	141.5	298.1	110.7%
Eggs	3366.9	3440.1	3749.9	3471.5	2605.7	-24.9%
Milk	4862.2	4799.4	4657.4	3978.0	4340.7	9.1%
Total	26,938.77	27,940.11	28,142.10	22,749.55	23,289.10	2.4%

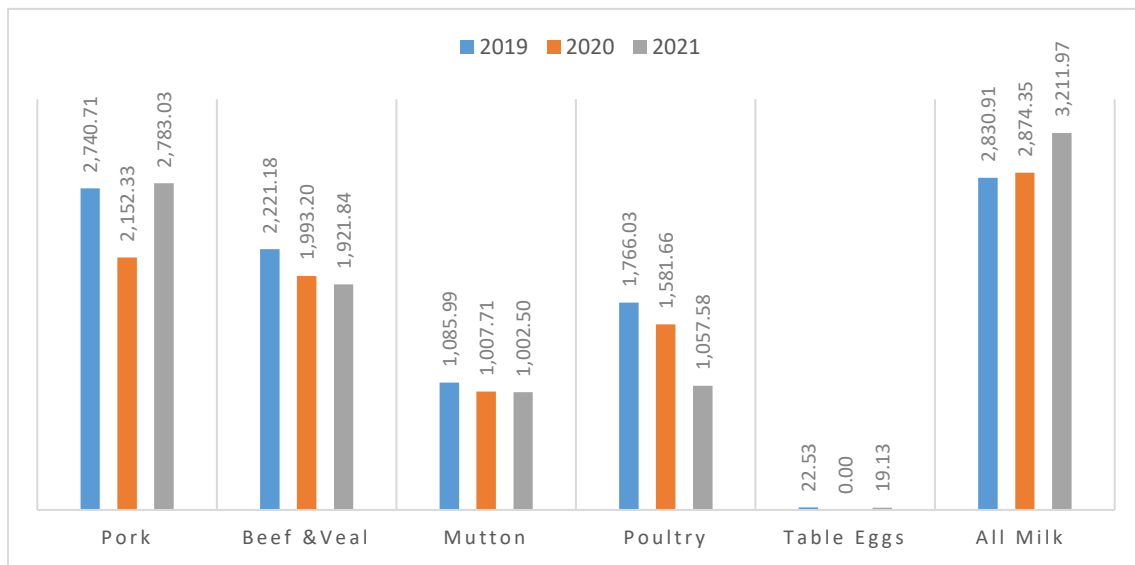
SOURCE: Agricultural Planning Unit, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Security
P- Provisional Estimates

LIVESTOCK AND DAIRY IMPORTS

Imports of select livestock and dairy commodities grew marginally by 4 per cent during the year under review. Pork and milk imports increased significantly by 29 per cent and 12 per cent respectively. There was a small quantity of table eggs imported during 2021 compared to the previous year, where no imports occurred.

A sizable reduction was recorded for the importation of poultry, which declined by 33 percent in comparison to the previous year. While imports beef and mutton also recorded marginal declines of 4 per cent and 1 per cent respectively.

**Figure 14: Livestock and Dairy Product Imports ('000 kgs)
2019- 2021**



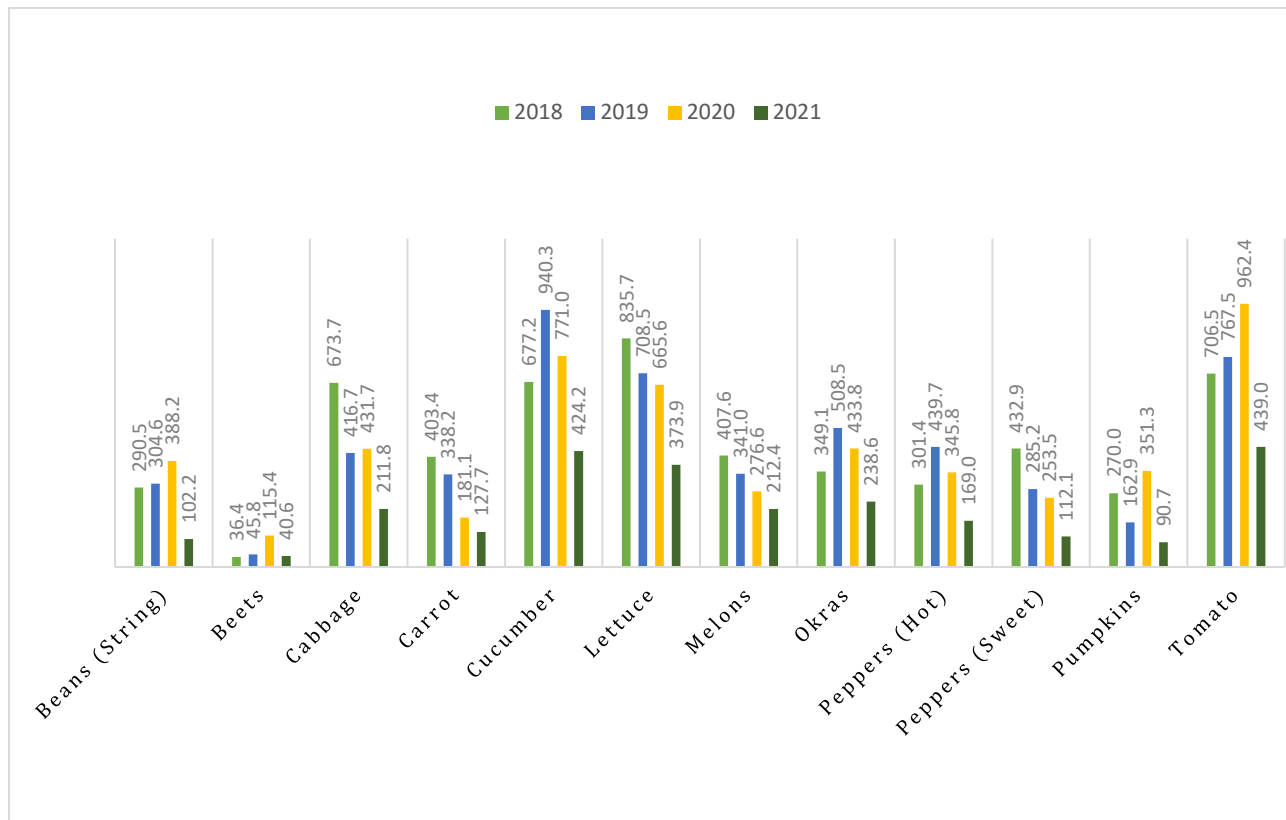
SOURCE: Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Security

VEGETABLE PRODUCTION

It must be highlighted that the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Security data collection program was significantly hampered during 2021. The challenges faced are reflected in the data presented for food crops sectors.

Based on the data collected, there was a notable decline in the production of selected vegetable crops. Production fell by approximately 51 per cent overall during 2021 to stand at 2.5 million kgs, with declines in output recorded for all commodities.

**Figure 15: Vegetable Production ('000 kgs)
2018 - 2021**



SOURCE: Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Security

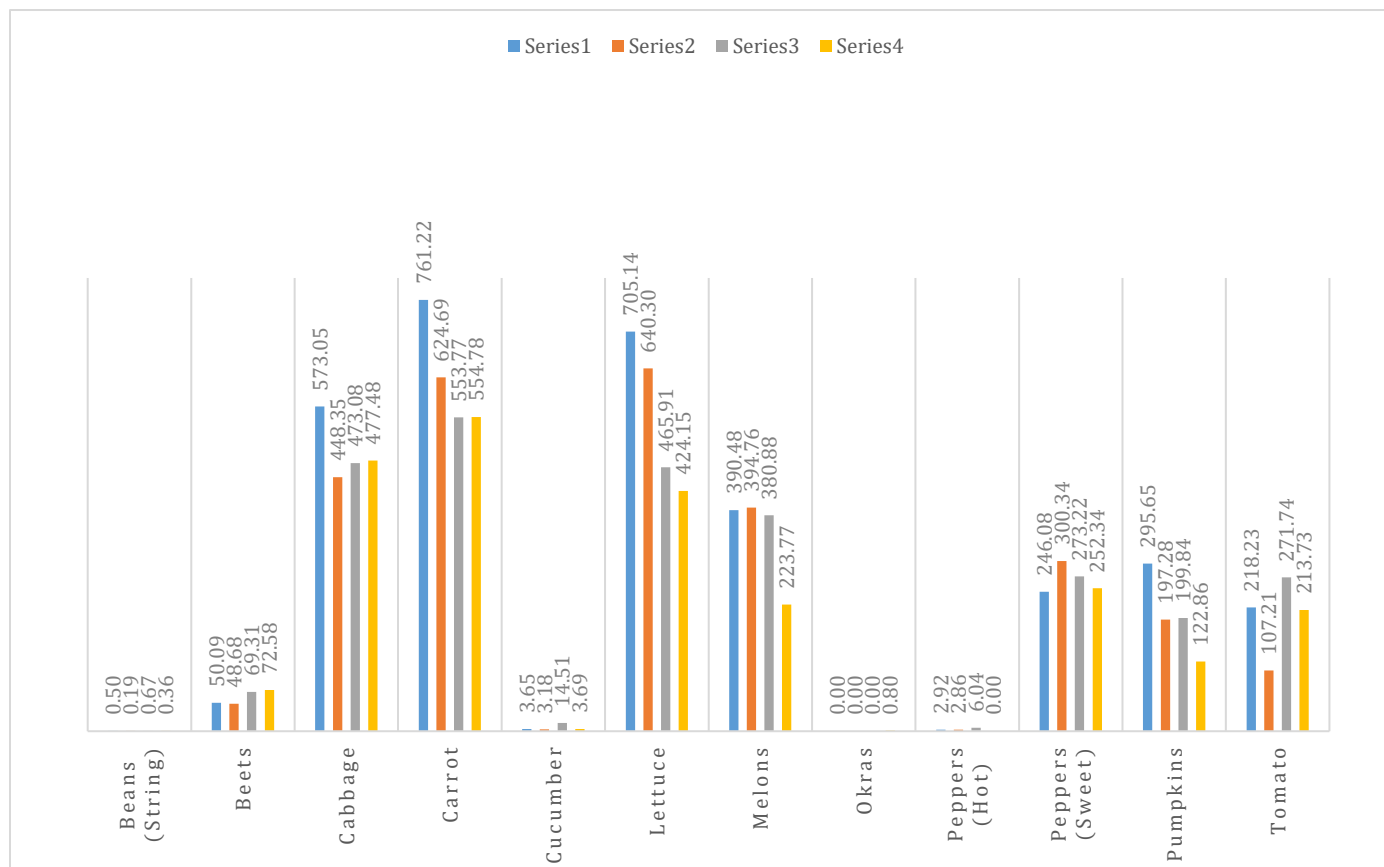
Pumpkin and bean production recorded the most significant declines of 74 per cent each during the period under review. Beets, sweet and hot peppers, tomatoes and cabbage also recorded reductions of approximately 65 per cent, 56 per cent, 54 per cent and 51 per cent respectively.

VEGETABLE IMPORTS

Overall, during 2021 imports of select vegetables declined by 13 per cent from the previous year, continuing the steady decline observed over the past 4 years. Imports of cucumbers recorded the most sizable drop-off of 75 per cent. Other reductions in imports were recorded for beans (46 per cent), watermelons (41 per cent), pumpkins (39 per cent), tomatoes (21 per cent) and sweet peppers (8 per cent) compared to the previous year.

There were some marginal increases in imports recorded for beets(5per cent) and carrots (1 per cent) observed over the period..

**Figure 16: Vegetable Imports ('000 Kgs)
2019- 2021**

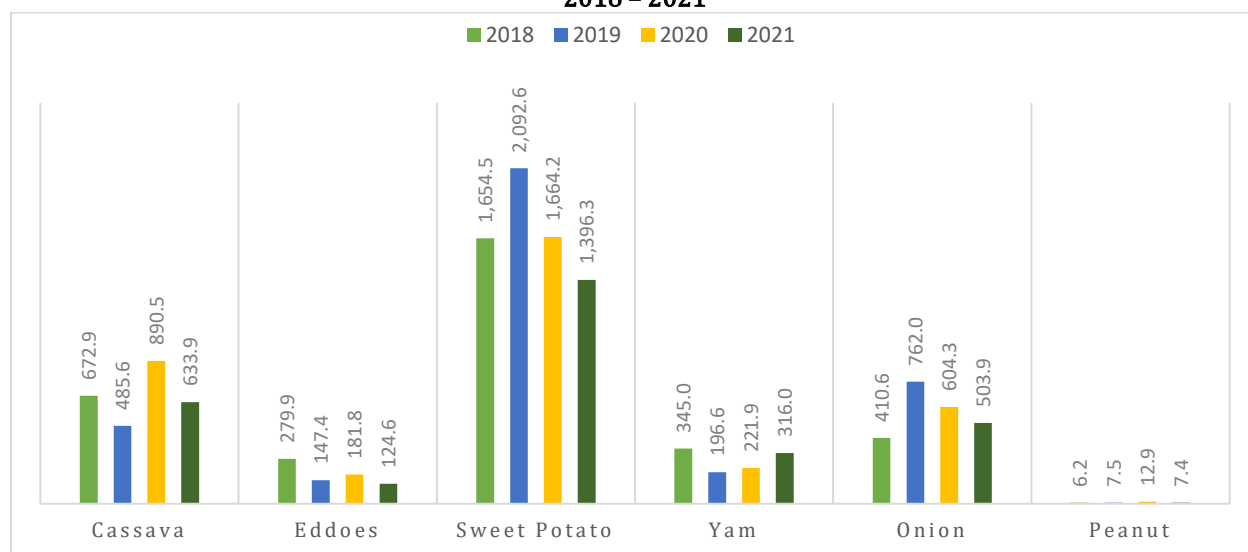


SOURCE: Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Security

ROOT CROP PRODUCTION

In 2021, overall root crop production declined overall by approximately 16 per cent from the previous year, as result of several commodities recording declines in output. The most significant decline was recorded for peanuts, which fell by 42 per cent. Decreases in production were also recorded for eddoes (31 per cent), cassava (29 per cent), onions (17 per cent) and sweet potatoes (14 per cent). In contrast, yam was the only commodity that recorded a sizable increase in production of 42 per cent during 2021.

**Figure 17: Root Crop Production ('000 kgs)
2018 – 2021**

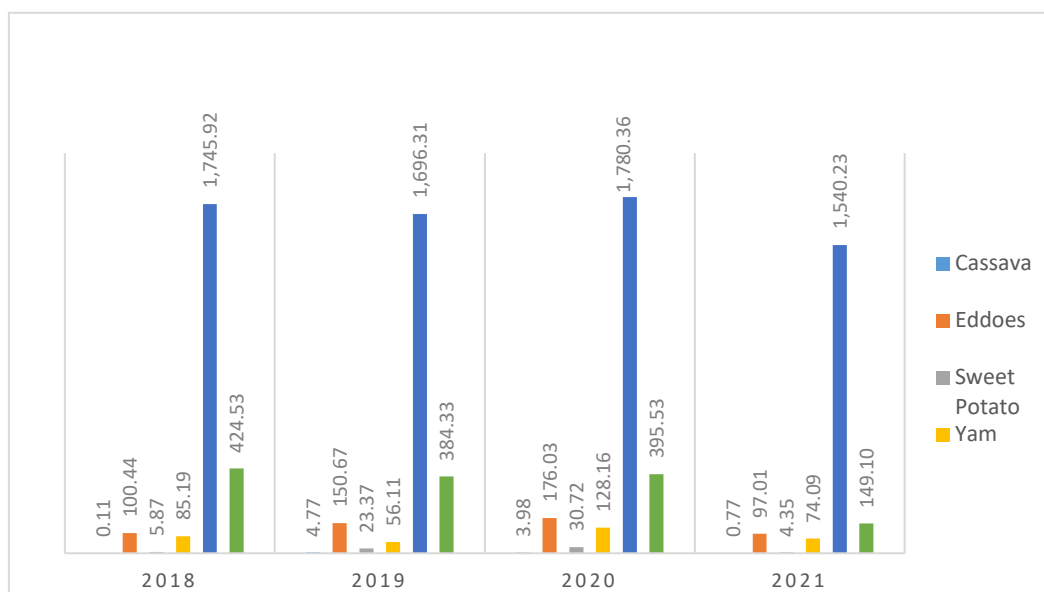


SOURCE: Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Security

ROOT CROP IMPORTS

There was an overall decline in root crop imports of 26 per cent during the year under review, with all commodities recording decreases. Sweet potatoes and cassava imports fell by 86 per cent and 81 per cent respectively, the largest reductions registered for the period. While the importation of peanuts declined by 62 per cent, eddoes by 45 per cent, yam by 42 per cent and onions by 13 per cent during 2021 compared to the previous year.

**Figure 18: Root Crop Imports ('000 kgs)
2019- 2021**



SOURCE: Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Security

FISHERIES

From its inception in 2018, the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and the Blue Economy has sought to create the enabling environment that would foster the sustainable growth and development of an internationally competitive maritime and blue economic sector for Barbados. Focused attention has been placed on the consolidation, enhancement, development and diversification of the maritime and blue economy in an effort to expand Barbados' economic base and reduce its vulnerability to external shocks, climate change and other potential hazards.

KEY POLICIES/ PROGRAMMES

Shipping Policy and Legislation

A National Policy on International Shipping (Matters of Public Concern) Towards Efficiency, Sustainability, Safety and Security in the Shipping Sector of the Blue Economy and a Shipping (Domestic) Vessels Policy were developed and approved by the Cabinet. The National Policy on International Shipping focuses on public matters within the domain of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) regime, namely, maritime safety, marine pollution prevention from ships, maritime security, and efficiency in shipping. It details the existing challenges facing the international aspects of Barbados' shipping sector, proposes strategies addressing these challenges, and outlines the legislative framework essential to a viable, robust and well-functioning shipping industry.

Having a separate and distinct legal and policy framework for *domestic shipping*, enables special attention to be given to that industry, thereby lending for a tailor-made policy and legal regime that is sensitive and responsive to the needs of the domestic / small vessels sector.

In accordance with these policies and in consultations with maritime partners such as the Royal Barbados Police Force; the Barbados Coast Guard; the Barbados Port Inc; the International Maritime Organisation; small commercial vessel operators and watersports operators, several pieces of legislation were proposed and are in various stages of development as follows:

Legislation in advanced stage of drafting by the Chief Parliamentary Counsel

- Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic Bill
- The Shipping (Domestic) Vessels Act and related regulations which apply only to small vessels operating locally of 150 gross tonnes (GT) and below registered under the Domestic Register of Ships

Drafting Instructions completed and to be submitted to the Cabinet

- Merchant Shipping (Seafarers) Act and subsidiary regulations;
- Marine Transport (Emissions Control) Act and subsidiary regulations;
- Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic At-Berth (Cold Ironing) Regulations (part of Marine Transport (Emissions Control) suite of laws).

In consultation with relevant agencies

- Maritime Areas (Jurisdiction, Rights and Sustainable Marine Development) Act - to be officially sent for comment;

- Marine Spatial Planning Act – being formulated simultaneously with the national marine spatial plan and policy;
- Blue Carbon Management Act - to be officially sent for comment;
- Freshwater Generation from Seawater Act and Freshwater (Seawater Desalination) Regulations - to be officially sent for comment;
- Marine Renewable Energy Act and Marine Renewable Energy Regulations - to be officially sent for comment;
- Maritime and Underwater Heritage Act and regulations (completed) – awaiting specific claim of contiguous zone, in view of the function of this zone in maritime heritage protection, as specified in UNCLOS;
- Merchant Shipping Act and sister Acts (completed); regulations being finalized - awaiting IMO accessions; also will be further enhanced by contiguous zone claim as it relates to enhanced enforcement of national shipping law beyond the territorial sea (in shipping terms, the contiguous zone will enable Barbados to intervene to prevent potential offences by ships in its territorial sea, and apprehend vessels that have committed offences inside Barbados’ territorial waters and endeavouring to escape);
- Ports, Harbours and Lighthouses Act and updated Harbour Regulations – in progress;
- Marine Development (Offshore Islands, Installations and Structures) Act – to be officially sent for comment.

Drafted Policies

- Shipping (Human Element) Policy supports Merchant Shipping (Seafarers) suite of laws.
- Maritime & Underwater Heritage Policy Framework
- Marine Renewable Energy draft law is supported by Barbados National Energy Policy (BNEP).
- Freshwater Generation from Seawater Policy Framework
- Blue Carbon Management Policy Framework

Finalization of a Memorandum of Understanding between the MMABE and BNOCL on “A proposal for the Implementation of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiencies Technologies at Fish Markets.”

The initial two project components were targeted; the Berinda Cox Fish market at Oistins and the Bridgetown Fish Market. All project licenses have been received. However, several of the required hardware components necessary to complete the project were affected by shipping delays.

The projects involve the installation of solar photovoltaic cells on the roofs of the markets and is projected to generate a combined revenue stream of approximately BDS\$337,000 per annum from the sale of the generated electricity to the BL&P. The total capital cost is estimated at BDS\$1.7 million and, over a 20-year period, the projected electricity cost to the MMABE to support the operation of the markets will reduce from BDS\$8.9 million to BDS\$3.05 million (i.e.: a savings of over BDS\$5.9 million). The avoided Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions have been estimated at 792.72 tCO₂/yr. (Berinda Cox Fish Market - 208 tCO₂; Bridgetown Fish Market - 584 tCO₂).

Preparation of the “Blue Economy Policy Framework and Strategic Action Plan Strategic Roadmap”

The main output document from the IDB/GOB study, the Policy Framework and Strategic Action Plan, was considered and accepted by the Cabinet at its sitting on October 21, 2021 (Note (21) 1067

MMABE 41). Work is ongoing with the IDB for follow-on support to implement several of the recommended actions, principally in the areas of Blue Economy Communications, Capacity building, and with technical support for Marine Protected Areas development and management.

GoB/TNC Debt for Nature Conversion/ Establishment of the National Conservation Trust Fund

The Memorandum of Understanding between the MMABE and The Nature Conservancy, and the organizational framework for the Establishment of a National Conservation Trust Fund were provided to, and approved by the Cabinet at its sitting on June 03, 2021 (Note (21) 459/MMABE 17). Registration of the Trust fund as a not for profit Company under the Companies Act is underway.

With the Ministry of Finance, Economic Affairs and Investment as the lead, negotiations are ongoing on the debt-for-nature financial arrangements that will provide the revenue stream to support the operation of the Trust Fund and preparation of the Marine Spatial Plan (MSP) for the Exclusive Economic Zone.

IV. INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES

OVERVIEW

During 2021, the Government remained focused on the legal and regulatory reform of the International Financial and Business Services Sector in effort to strengthen Barbados' compliance with international standards, particularly as it relates to measures reviewed by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Forum on Harmful Tax Practices. The amendments adopted to the country's legal framework thus far led to Barbados removal from the European Union's (EU) blacklist of non-cooperative tax jurisdictions.

LEGAL AND REGULATORY REFORM

The key pieces of legislation that continued to be developed, implemented/ augmented over the review period included the following:

- International Business Companies (IBC) Act Cap.77 and International Societies with Restricted Liabilities (ISRL) Act Cap.318B grandfathering regime ended on June 30, 2021.
- The Companies (Economic Substance) (Amendment) Act 2021-10 was developed to amend Section 2 of the Companies (Economic Substance) Act 2019-43 to include, a new sub-section (d), "a partnership formed in Barbados which is carrying on one or more relevant activities".
- The Anti-Money Laundering/Combating the Financing of Terrorism and Proliferation (AML/CFT) Guideline was revised to allow compliance with Financial Action Task Force (FATF) recommendations.

BILATERAL INVESTMENT AGREEMENTS/TREATIES AND RESEARCH

With regards, to investment agreements/ treaties, the Multilateral Instrument (MLI) was ratified in 2021. This measure will allow the government to implement agreed minimum standards to counter treaty abuse and impose dispute resolution mechanisms, while providing flexibility to accommodate specific tax treaty policies.

Additionally, an amended Barbados Model Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) was drafted by the Barbados Treaty Negotiation Team to ensure both investor attraction and arbitration safeguards.

NEW COMPANY FORMATION AND ENTITIES LICENSED

With conclusion of the grandfathering period on June 30, 2021, related to the legal and regulatory reform of the International Business Companies (IBC) Act Cap.77 and the International Societies with Restricted Liabilities (ISRL) Act Cap.318B, all entities are now considered and treated as domestic.

While there were five (5) new Corporate and Trust Service Providers (CTSP) in 2021 compared to twenty-four (24) in 2020, renewals for CTSP showed steady growth of 107 in 2021, compared to 94 in 2020 and 98 in 2019. This growth resulted from changes to the Companies Act Cap.308, which requires companies with annual revenue in excess of BBD\$ 1 million, Limited Partnerships as described in the Limited Partnerships (Amendment) Act Section 4A (1), and external companies not licensees under the Financial Services Commission (FSC) or under the Financial Institutions Act (FIA) legislation, to engage the services of the CTSP.

In 2021, 1795 new Foreign Currency Permits (FCP) were issued in comparison with 264 in 2020. In addition, 584 FCPs were renewed compared to 449 in 2020. Also, eight (8) new Trusts were registered under the Miscellaneous Provisions Act in 2021, representing a decline from six (6) in 2020 and eleven (11) in 2019. One Private Trust Company (PTC) was renewed in 2021, remaining constant with the previous year, while no new PTCs were recorded.

V. ENERGY, PUBLIC UTILITIES AND TRANSPORT

ENERGY

OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION

The domestic production of crude oil continued to decline in 2021, as a consequence of an aging field and the lack of new wells being brought into operation. Approximately 152,272 barrels of crude oil was produced in 2021; representing a decrease of 12.0 per cent when compared to 172,944 barrels (bbls) reported in 2020. Similarly, due to a lower gas-oil ratio in 2021, the natural gas output fell by 5.0 per cent to stand at 372,946 mcf compared to 392,730 mcf produced in 2020.

As at December 31, 2021, the reserves available for 2022 consisted of 1.70 million barrels (bbls) of crude oil and 3,712,874 thousand cubic feet (mcf) of gas.³Representing a decreases of eight (8.0) per cent from the reserves of crude oil for 2021 which stood at 1.85 million barrels and a nine (9.0) per cent reduction in the instance of reserves of natural gas which stood at 4,085,820 mcf in the previous year.

OIL AND GAS SALES AND CONSUMPTION

Oil sales for decreased by four (4.0) per cent, from 171,021 bbls in 2020 to 163,709 bbls in 2021. In contrast, natural gas sales from the Barbados National Oil Co. Ltd. (BNOCL) inclusive of local production and imported, liquefied natural gas (LNG) increased by six (6.0) per cent from 543,499 mcf in 2020 to 576,180 mcf in 2021.

Sales of natural gas by National Petroleum Corporation (NPC) increased by 3 per cent to \$16,874,210 for 2021, compared to \$16,325,635 for 2020. Likewise, the volume of natural gas sold in 2021 stood at 10,909,186 m³; representing an increase of 3 per cent above the amount sold in 2020 of 10,582,165 m³. This slight increase was due solely to the reopening of the country and the lifting of COVID-19 pandemic related restrictions on in-house-dining for hotel and restaurant operations.

The expansion programme of the NPC continued in 2021 with the addition of 4.87 miles to its distribution network and 178 new customers.

FUEL IMPORTS

For 2021, the fuel import bill was estimated at \$685,809,000 which represented an increase of 34 per cent when compared with the figure of \$510,608,000 during the previous period. The estimated increase in the import bill is mainly attributed to increases in petroleum prices and volume consumed for electricity generation, as a consequence of the lifting of COVID-19 pandemic restrictions.

With respect to the major fuels, gasoline imported during 2021 stood at 636,754 barrels, representing a decrease in the imported volume of two (2) per cent when compared with the gasoline imports for 2020 of 646,522 barrels.

The imports of diesel for 2021 stood at 459,344 barrels, registering a decrease of 10 per cent from 512,379 barrels in the previous year. The decrease in diesel imports was largely impacted by the reduction of diesel plants in operation in 2020, as a result of the increase use of low speed diesel plants which were powered by heavy fuel oil (HFO).

Likewise, imports of fuel oil declined by of three (3.0) per cent where 933,830 barrels were imported, as compared to 966,356 barrels for 2020.

While imports of kerosene in 2021 stood at 981,434 barrels which represented a decrease of ten (10%) per cent when compared to 2020, which recorded 1,090,743 barrels. These imports were used in the airline industry and locally, in the generation of electricity as well as in the industrial sector.

CONSUMPTION OF REFINED PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

³ Reserves at December 31st, 2021 as reported by Barbados National Oil Company Limited (BNOCL).

Overall, there was a four (4) per cent decline in the consumption of refined petroleum products in 2021, as a direct result of the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions.

The volume of gasoline consumed during 2021 was 614,865 barrels, representing a decrease of six (6) per cent when compared with 650,731 barrels gasoline consumed in 2020. The consumption of diesel for 2021 was 446,441 barrels in comparison to 499,544 barrels for 2020; a fall of 11 per cent. Conversely an increase of six (6) per cent was recorded in the volumes of the fuel oil consumed, standing at 972,772 barrels for 2021, as compared to 921,318 for 2020. The consumption of kerosene for 2021 was estimated at 566,799 bbls as compared to 616,639 bbls in 2020; representing an eight (8) per cent decrease in kerosene consumption. While, the consumption of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) for 2021 was estimated at 95,739 bbls down from 96,093 bbls in 2020.

LOCAL RETAIL PRICES

The policy of monthly price adjustment for the major fuels, gasoline, diesel, kerosene and LPG continued during 2021, such that the retail prices of the products were more reflective of their imported prices. In the case of gasoline, the average retail price for 2021 was \$3.79 per litre or 16 per cent above the average retail price for 2020, which was \$3.28 per litre. With respect to diesel prices, the average retail price for 2021 was \$3.04 per litre which was 16 per cent above the average retail price for the same period in 2020 of \$2.63 per litre. The average retail price for kerosene during 2021 was \$1.28 per litre or 31 per cent above the average retail price for 2020 of \$0.98 per litre. The adjustments seen in the retail prices were from increasing CIF prices.

The retail prices for LPG were adjusted in a similar fashion. During 2021, the average retail price of the 100lb cylinder was recorded at \$152.4, which was 14 per cent above the average retail price for the year 2020 of \$133.23. With regard to the 25lb cylinder, the average retail price was \$43.21 for 2021, an increase of six (6) per cent from \$40.94 in 2020. The average retail price for the 22lb cylinder for 2021 was \$38.19, representing an increase of six (6) per cent compared to 2020 which stood at \$36.19. The average retail price for the 20lb cylinder during 2021 was \$34.87, representing an increase of six (6) per cent when compared to the average price for 2020 which was recorded at \$32.90.

ELECTRICITY

The sales of electricity for 2021 stood at 905 million kWh, representing a marginal increase of one (1) per cent when compared to 2020 which recorded at 894 million kWh. Of the total sales of electricity for 2021 it was estimated that 85 million kWh or nine (9) per cent were sales from renewable energy sources. The increase in electricity consumption was due in large measure to an increase in activity within the tourism sector which rose by 42 per cent or 29 GWh in 2021 to 99 GWh from 70 GWh in 2020.

The average tariff for electricity stood at 49.52 cents/kWh in 2021, which represented an increase of 17 per cent from 42.28 cents/kWh for 2020. The Fuel Clause Adjustment⁴ of the electricity tariff was recorded at 29.81 cents/kWh for 2021, indicating an increase of 27 per cent when compared to 23.52 cents/kWh in 2020.

⁴ The Fuel Clause Adjustment⁴ which is the fuel cost element of the electricity tariff

The Barbados Light and Power Company (BL&PC) expanded its services by investing approximately \$89 million to upgrade its capital infrastructure in 2021. This figure represents a decrease in investment over that of 2020 by 34 per cent which stood at \$134 million, as the BL&PC reached the tail end of its project to develop the energy bridge.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

As at December 2021, there were 131,000 registered vehicles in Barbados. The bus fare charged was \$3.50 for the average citizen and the Transport Board stood committed to provide transportation for an average of 547,716 passengers monthly over the period.

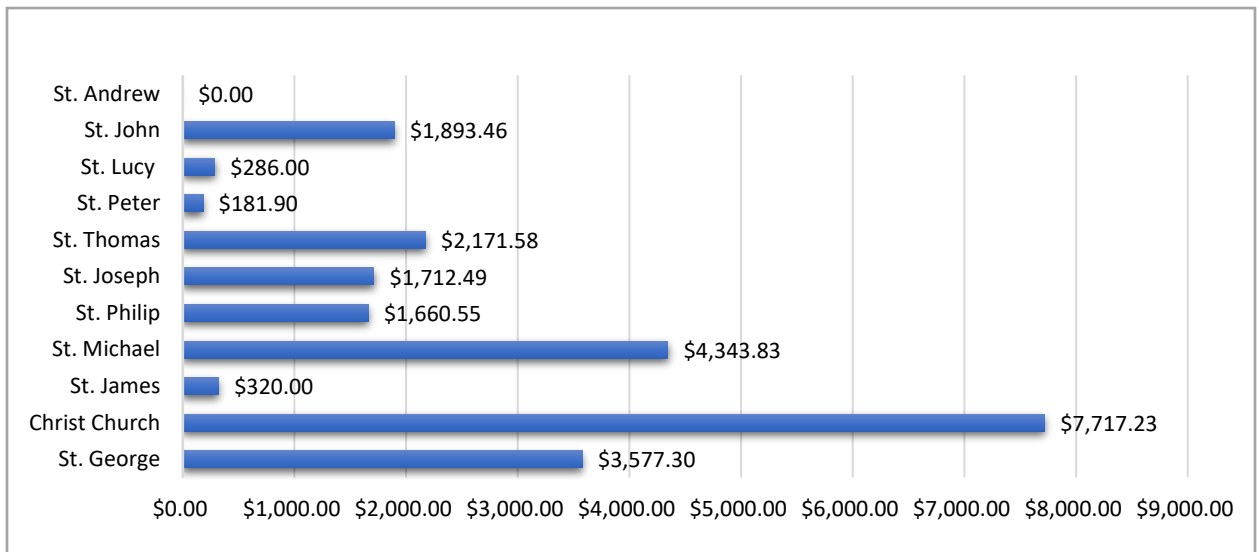
BARBADOS TRANSPORT BOARD (BTB)

During the review period, the BTB purchased and deployed an additional 14 new electric buses equipped with air-conditioning, Wi-Fi and wheelchair accessibility. Thirty-one buses were retrofitted with engines and transmissions which are fuel-efficient and assisted the reduction of bus maintenance costs. From April 1, 2022 to September 30, 2021 alone, the Transport Board recorded a decline in diesel costs from BDS\$2,784,306 to BDS\$1,818,778, a saving of Bds. \$965,528.

Bus availability improved through procurement of the electric buses, the expansion of the Transport Augmentation Programme (TAP) to 148 vehicles and the retrofit bus project. The BTB installed Global Positioning Systems (GPS) on buses and other ICT based solutions to allow for fleet management solutions aimed at improving reliability and accessibility to service. This was completed on the TAP vehicles and the electric buses.

VEHICLE ACCIDENT CLAIMS

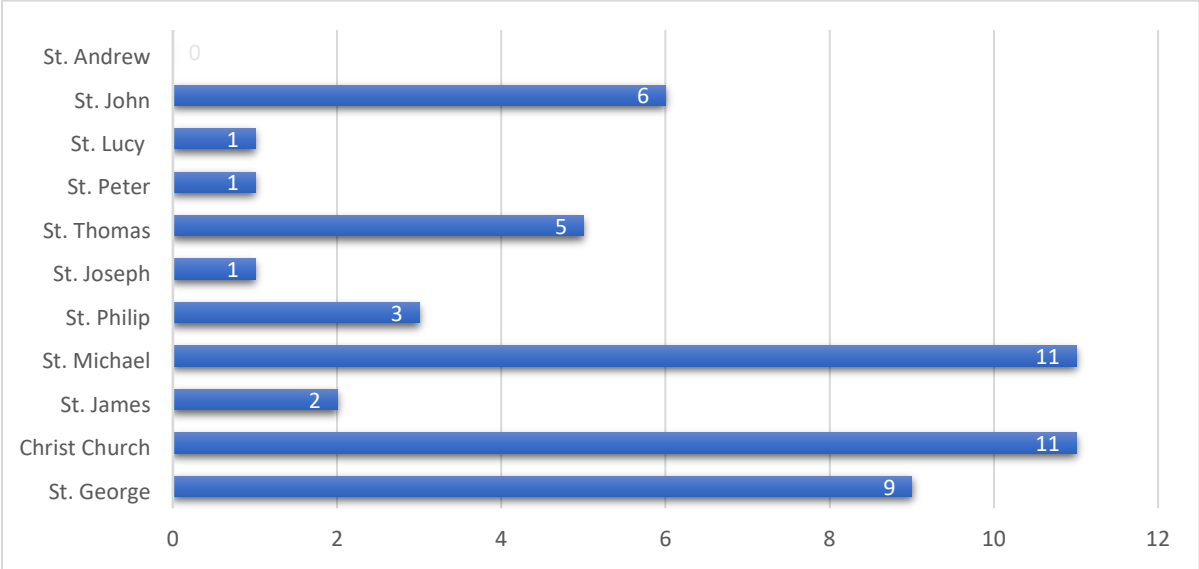
**Figure 19: Total Value of Vehicle Accident Claims
2021**



SOURCE: Ministry of Transport, Works and Water Resources

During 2021, the Ministry of Transport, Works and Water Resources (MTWW) continued to provide compensation to owners whose vehicles were damaged due to negligence caused by the Ministry’s roads. Claims in 2021 totaled \$23,864.34, a rise of \$904 compared to the previous year of \$22,960, with a total of 50 accident claims processed and paid. The parishes of Christ Church and St. Michael accounted for 11 claims each, totaling 22 or 44 per cent of all claims. The claims from the incidents occurring in these 2 parishes totaled \$12,060 or 50 per cent of the claims. St. Andrew recorded no claims for the year under review.

**Figure 20: Vehicle Accident Claims by Parish
2021**

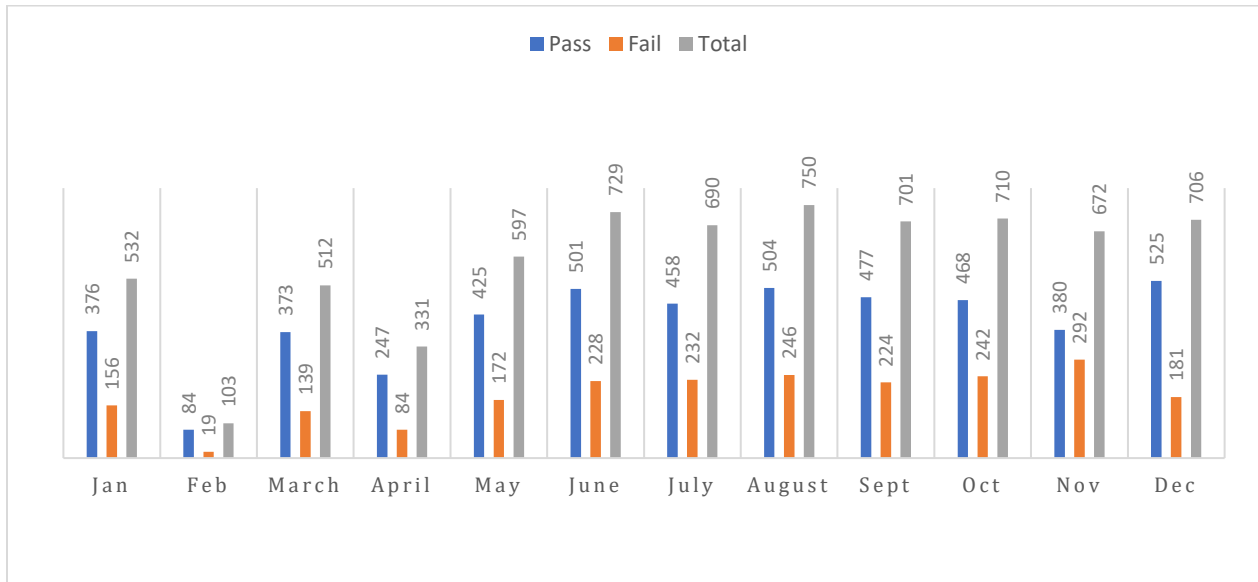


SOURCE: Ministry of Transport, Works and Water Resources

DRIVING TESTS

In 2021, 7,033 driving tests were conducted, with 4,818 persons graduating with new licenses while 2,215 were unsuccessful. The pass rate stood at 68.5 per cent and the failed rate at 31.5 per cent. The month of August recorded 750 tests done, the most tests done for the year, where 504 persons were successful. The month of February recorded a low of 103 tests conducted. On average, 586 tests were conducted each month for the year 2021.

Figure 21: Monthly Driving Tests Completed 2021



SOURCE: Ministry of Transport, Works and Water Resources

ROAD ACCIDENTS

In 2021, 14 fatal accidents were recorded, an increase of 1 from the previous year 2020. Compared to 2020, serious accidents decline by 5, slight by 72 and without injury by 154. The total number of accidents recorded for 2021 was 5,849, a decline of 230 or 3 per cent from the previous year.

Figure 22: Total Road Accidents 2021- 2022

Month	Severity By Months For 2020					Severity By Months For 2021				
	Fatal	Serious	Slight	Without	Total	Fatal	Serious	Slight	Without	Total
January	2	7	162	454	625	0	6	135	344	485
February	1	6	185	451	643	1	2	52	171	226
March	0	5	157	376	538	2	6	116	378	502
April	0	3	47	168	218	0	4	107	305	416
May	1	4	94	256	355	1	2	145	344	492
June	1	9	102	264	376	1	4	147	326	478
July	1	3	146	327	477	2	2	147	371	522
August	1	10	142	358	511	4	9	152	352	517
September	3	6	153	383	545	0	7	119	370	496
October	0	4	154	400	558	0	8	145	367	520
November	3	6	154	397	560	2	7	152	422	583
December	0	9	176	488	673	1	10	183	418	612
Total	13	72	1672	4322	6079	14	67	1600	4168	5849

SOURCE: Barbados Police Service

Without injuries continues to account for the highest category with 4,168 accidents recorded or 71 per cent of all accidents. The month of February recorded the lowest figure of 226, while December recorded a high of 612 for the year under review. In 2021, inattentive or attention diverted behaviour was the main cause of accidents in Barbados, accounting for 1,776 of the 5,849 accidents occurring. However, Barbados continues to record a yearly decline in figures, which may be attributed to the effectiveness of the Road Safety education programme and improved driving practices of licensed drivers.

VI. CONSTRUCTION

PUBLIC HOUSING PROGRAMME

Tenancies Programme

The Tenancies Programme was created in 1980. The programme was instituted to give legal title to lots rented by long standing tenants; to provide essential services in tenancies lacking water, electricity and proper access to lots; and to contribute to the general improvement of houses and their surroundings.

For the reporting period January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021 a total of 354 lots were surveyed for qualified tenants with financial assistance from the Government in the amount of \$389,400. Additionally, an estimated 40 individuals have initiated the process to purchase their lots.

During 2021, the Ministry of Housing, Lands and Maintenance processed approximately \$556,231.78 in subsidies for 21 qualified tenants who have paid their share of the purchase price for the lot.

Housing Relocation

Airport Relocation Project -The Ministry in conjunction with the Ministry of Tourism and International Transport and the National Housing Corporation (NHC) have been coordinating and administering the relocation of residents impacted by the Grantley Adams International Airport (GAIA) Expansion Project.

This project entails the removal of 75 households from the designated clear zone of the Grantley Adams International Airport, through construction of replacement to re-house 70 impacted households and the provision of compensation to five (5) families. During the review period, one household was relocated to Leadvale Christ Church.

White Hill to Farmers Phase II, St. Thomas – Under this programme facilitate the reallocation of residents impacted by the soil erosion in the area of White Hill, St. Andrew located within the Scotland District. In 2020, contracts were awarded via public tender to two contractors for the construction of five (5) houses at Farmers Phase II, the through two packages -Package 1 (Three Houses) and Package 2 (Two Houses).

During the period under review the Ministry terminated the contract of one of the private contractors due to unsatisfactory work performance. As a consequence, the Ministry of Housing, Lands and Maintenance transferred \$396,250.00 to the National Housing Corporation (NHC) to complete the construction of the three houses in Package 1 and to build an additional two houses. At December 31,

2021, the NHC spent \$317,096.13. A balance of \$79,153.87 remains. The National Housing Corporation (NHC) continued work on the three houses in Package 1. Internal works has commenced on two, while the third house is 90 per cent completed. The houses in Package 2 that were assigned to a private contractor were completed and two householders relocated in August 2021.

Joint Venture Programmes

West Terrace/Durants, St. James -The project which commenced in April 2013 targets the construction of 72 two and three bedroom houses; however, the initiative has faced several challenges. As at the end of December 2022, 35 house starts are in place, 14 houses have been completed, Certificates of Compliance have been received and sales are in progress.

The paving of West Plain Avenue the major artery within the development has been completed. This represents approximately 80 per cent of total roadworks. The water mains have been completed and tested.

Housing Every Last Person (H.E.L.P) Programme- The aim of the programme is to: 1) provide affordable homes at prices ranging from \$99,000.00 to \$150,000.00 for a completed house and 2) sell land separately at prices ranging from \$17,500.00 to \$35,000.00

During the review period 72 sales lot/ houses were completed across several developments. Total Receipts from deposits received and sales completed during the period was estimated at BDS\$3,537,757.89.

20 Year Transfer Programme-During the review period, 45 tenants qualified for offers under the programme, however, due to reviews being undertaken no formal offers have been issued.

No Surveying and Engineering assessments were assigned; however, final certified surveying plans were received for 256 lots at Wildey. To date, 441 units have been fully conveyed and several additional conveyances are at varying stages of preparation and completion.

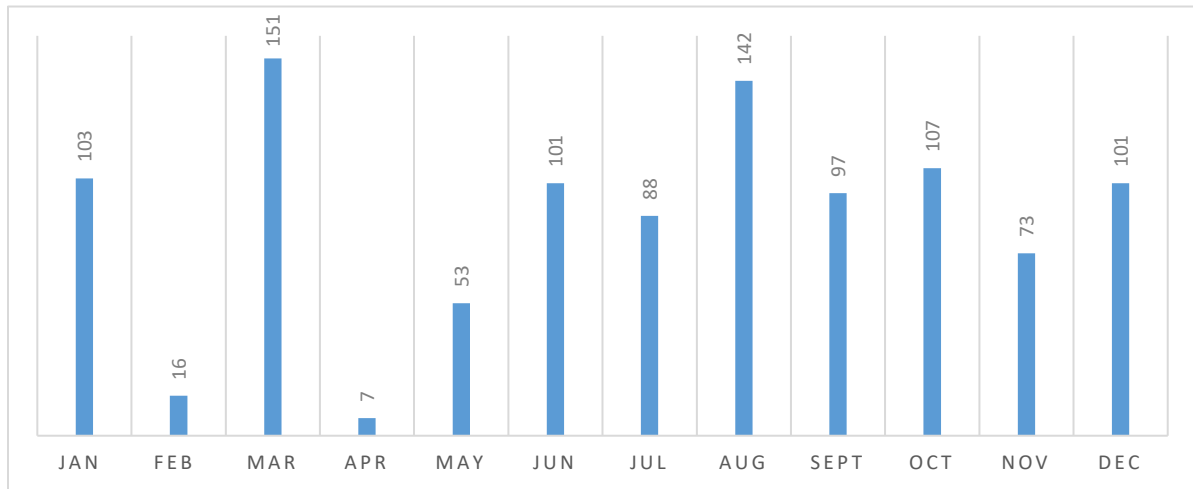
PUBLIC CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME

The Ministry of Transport, Works and Water Resources continued in its efforts to provide efficient road network services and public transportation services; despite the challenges imposed by the COVID – 19 pandemic, Hurricane Elsa and the eruption of Mount Soufriere in St. Vincent,. In 2021, road deterioration, potholes, and transport issues were addressed.

Asphalt Reinforcement/Patching Programme

In 2021, The Ministry of Transport, Works and Water Resources (MTWW) continued the Asphalt patching programme which facilitates the filling of potholes.

**Figure 23: Roads Patched by Month
2021**



SOURCE: Ministry of Transport, Works and Water Resources

At the start of January 2021, the roads patched were 103. In February, patching numbers dropped to 16, rose to 151 the following month and plummeted to 7 in April due to the ashfall from neighboring Mount Soufriere. In August 2021, road patching peaked to 142 during the year but remained on average for the remaining months at about 100. In 2021, 1039 roads were patched compared to 1475 in 2020, a reduction of 436 or 30 per cent.

Rehabilitation Road Initiatives

During 2021, the MTWW continued the accommodation works through a number of rehabilitation road initiatives including the completion of 20 roads under the Residential Road Construction & Maintenance Services programme at a cost of BDS\$ 2.7 million; 10 roads at a cost BDS\$. \$3.5 million of through the Road Rehabilitation CAF programme which aimed to rehabilitate sections of the road network with expected results to lower logistic costs; and three Tenantry roads, within the Tenantry roads programme at a cost of BDS\$ 810 thousand.

**Table 10: Roads Completed
2021**

No.	Road	Description
Residential Construction and Maintenance Services Programme		
1	Coles Close #2, St. Philip	Mill & Pave a 177 m long x 4.8 m wide road
2	Leinster Road, St. Michael	Mill & Pave
3	King George Road, Bank Hall, St. Michael	Mill & Pave a 283 m long x 4.87 m wide road
4	King Edward Road, Bank Hall, St. Michael	Mill & Pave a 283 m long x 4.87 m wide road
5	Queen Victoria Road, Bank Hall, St. Michael	Mill & Pave a 283 m long x 4.87 m wide road
6	Prince of Wales, Black Rock, St. Michael	Mill & Pave a 283 m long x 4.87 m wide road
7	Coles Crescent, St. Philip	Mill & Pave a 157 m long x 4.8 m wide road
8	St. Lukes, Brighton, St. George	Mill & pave a 625 m long x 4.5 m wide road
9	Tichbourne Main Road, St. Michael	Mill & pave a 565 m long x 4.0 m wide road
10	Tichbourne 1-4, St. Michael	Mill & pave a 646 m long x 4.0 m wide road
11	Grazettes, St. Michael	
12	Blades Hill #2, St. Philip	Mill & pave a 290 m long x 4.8 m wide road
13	Deacons to Westbury Rd. St. Michael	Mill & pave a 255 m long x 4.8 m wide road
14	Goodland Road, St. Michael	Mill & pave a 755 m long x 4.8 m wide road
15	Woodstock Road, Spooners Hill, St. Michael	Mill & pave a 156 m long x 4.8 m wide road
16	Quakers Road, St. Michael	Mill & pave a 342 m long x 4.8 m wide road
17	Merricks, St. Philip	Mill & pave a 152 m long x 4.8 m wide road
18	Clevedale, St. Michael	Mill & pave a 330 m long x 4.8 m wide road
19	Windsor Road, St. Michael	Mill & pave a 152 m long x 4.8 m wide road
20	White Hall Main Road, St. Michael	Mill & pave a 1.45 km long x 5.0 m wide road
Road Rehabilitation CAF Programme		
21	Queen Mary Road, Bank Hall, St. Michael	Mill & Pave a 283 m long x 4.8 m wide road
22	Jordans to Workmans, St. George	Mill & Pave a 498 m long x 4.8 m wide road
23	Bridge Cot to Cottage, St. George	Rehabilitate a 735 m long x 4.8 m wide road
24	St. Catherines to T- Junction via Bayfield	Mill & Pave a 905 m long x 5.4 m wide road
25	Military Road, St. Michael	Mill & Pave a 644 m long x 4.8 m wide road
26	Gemswick Dev. 1, 2 St. Philip	Construct 2 roads, 735 m long x 4.8 m wide road
27	Coles Terrace, St. Philip	Mill & Pave a 190 m long x 4.8 m wide road
28	Upper Wavell Ave. St. Michael	Mill & Pave a 405 m long x 4.57 m wide road
29	Lower Wavell Ave. St. Michael	Mill & Pave a 419 m long x 4.57 m wide road
30	Hamden Road, Ebenezer, St. Philip	Mill & Pave a 460 m long x 4.8 m wide road
Tenantry Road Programme		
31	Bartlett Tenantry Road, Christ Church	Mill & Pave a 555 m long x 4.8 m wide road
32	Long Bay Village Road, St. Philip	Mill & Pave a 680 m long x 4.8 m wide road
33	Rock Hall Tenantry Road, St. Lucy	Mill & Pave a 238 m long x 4.0 m wide road

SOURCE: Ministry of Transport, Works and Water Resources

Road Rehabilitation on Highway 1

This initiative resulted in the completion of 6,445m. of Highway 1 from the Frank Walcott Roundabout, St. Michael to Seaview Road, St. James which incorporated 3 phases. Phase 1 entailed the relaying on the western (seaside) of the road a new six (6) -inch BWA water main, relaying on the eastern (landside) of the road, a new ten (10)- inch BWA water main, a new NPC four (4) inch gas main, new

underground FLOW cables and BL&P's TRI- FOILS duct scheme, the installation of 110 manholes of various sizes; and backfilling of the trenches.

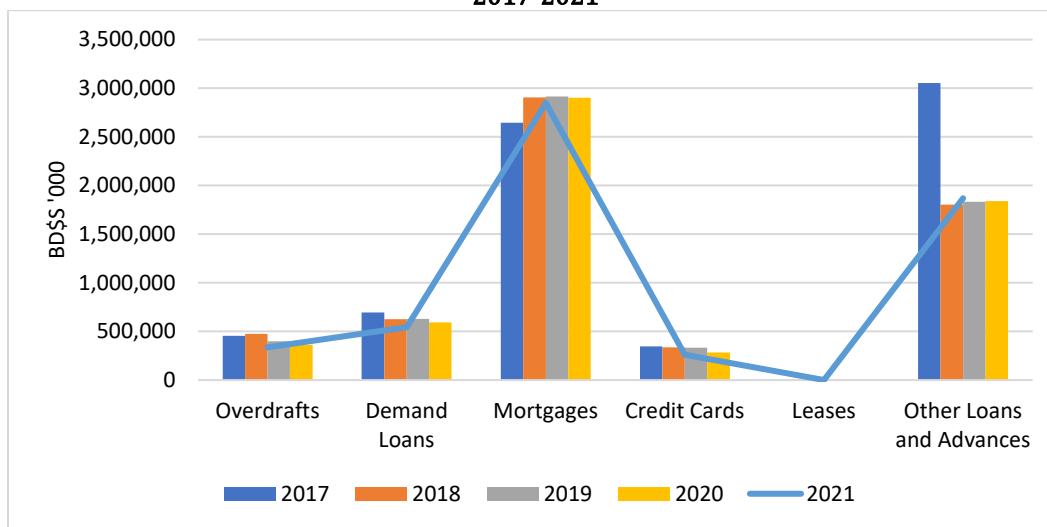
Phase 2 executed the construction of slipper, kerb and sidewalks in various locations on the highway and the replacement of six (6) culverts with larger ones, along with the improvement of the drainage system. While, phase 3 included the completion of the milling and paving of the highway at a cost of BDS. \$22.9 million at the end of December 2021.

F. MONEY, BANKING AND CAPITAL MARKETS

COMMERCIAL BANKS

The financial sector remained stable in 2021 despite recording low profits as banks and other lending institutions navigated the challenges presented by the pandemic. The commercial banks' excess cash ratio rose to 26.7 per cent in 2021 up from 22.8 per cent last year and 18.5 per cent in 2019 before the pandemic. The capital adequacy ratio slightly increased by 0.3 per cent in 2021 maintaining a strong ratio of 16.3 per cent, which is double the minimum requirement, to cover any potential risks. The loan to deposit ratio also continued its decline from 2017 to 53.2 per cent. Non-performing loans rose slightly to 7.5 per cent even though commercial banks had been working with borrowers by extending repayment periods and reclassifying loans. Loan moratoria accounted for around two per cent of all outstanding credit to the non-financial private sector especially in the hospitality sector.

**Figure 24: Commercial Banks' Loans & Advances
2017-2021**



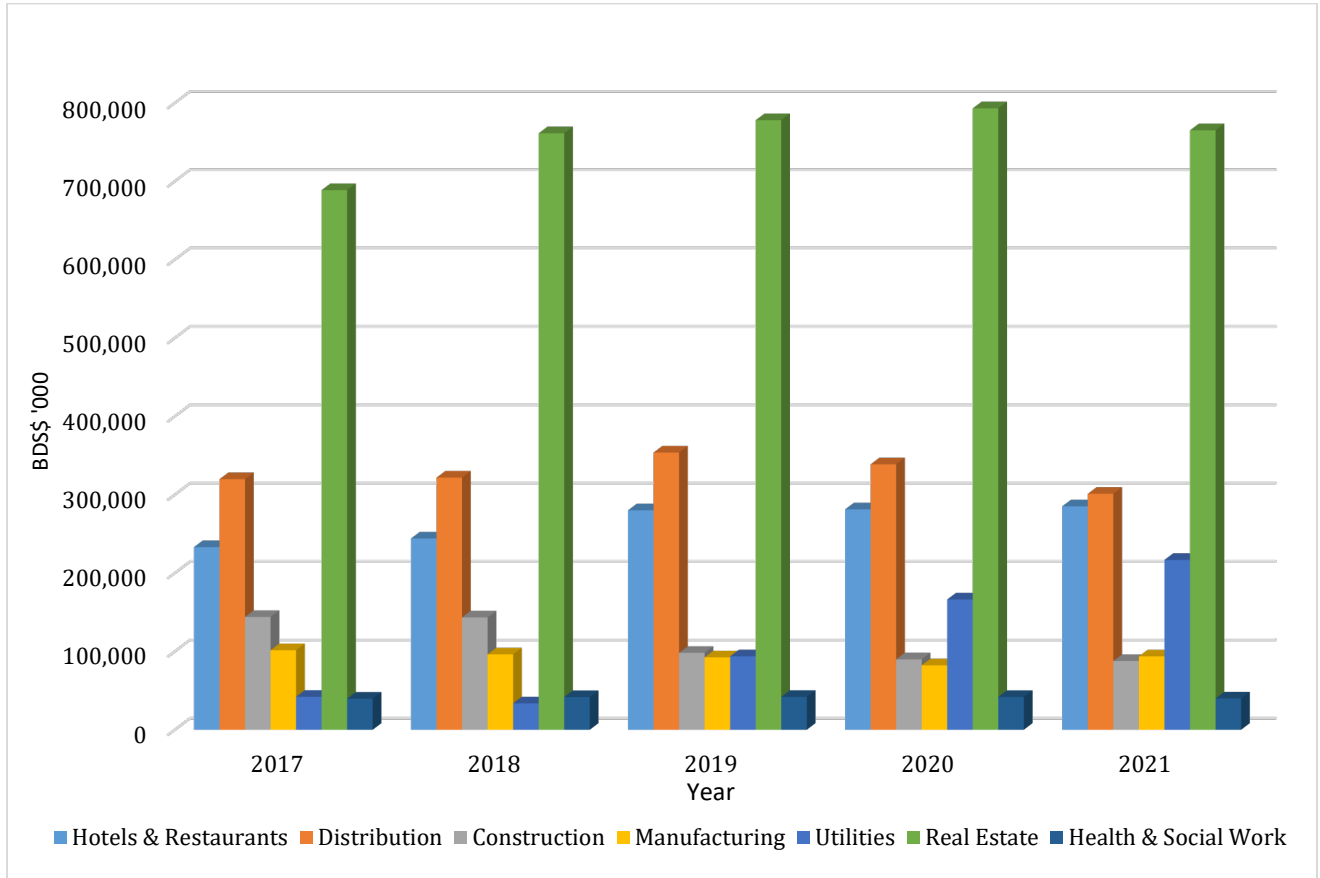
SOURCE: Central Bank of Barbados

Total loans and advances in commercial banks totaled \$5.8 billion continuing its downward trajectory in 2021 decreasing slightly by 2.1 per cent from 2020's balance of \$5.9 billion. Mortgages took up almost 50 per cent of this total at \$2.84 billion while other loans and advances accounted for 32 per cent. The biggest percentage drop came in leases at 44 per cent, falling from \$952,000 to \$534,000. Mortgages fell by \$54.4 million, followed by demand loans at \$49 million, other loans and advances at \$30 million and overdrafts and credit cards at \$27 and \$23 million respectively.

LOANS AND ADVANCES TO PRIVATE NON-FINANCIAL CORPORATIONS

Total loans and advances to private non-financial corporations fell by 1.07 per cent to \$1.9 billion in 2021 which continued marginal yearly decreases since 2019. The decline in mortgages and credit card lending mirrored the overall fall in credit to the personal sector. Outstanding credit card balances fell by 13.9 per cent primarily because customers began repaying debts faster than they were taking out new credit.

Figure 25: Commercial Banks' Loans & Advances To Private Non-Financial Corporations By Sector 2017-2021



SOURCE: Central Bank of Barbados

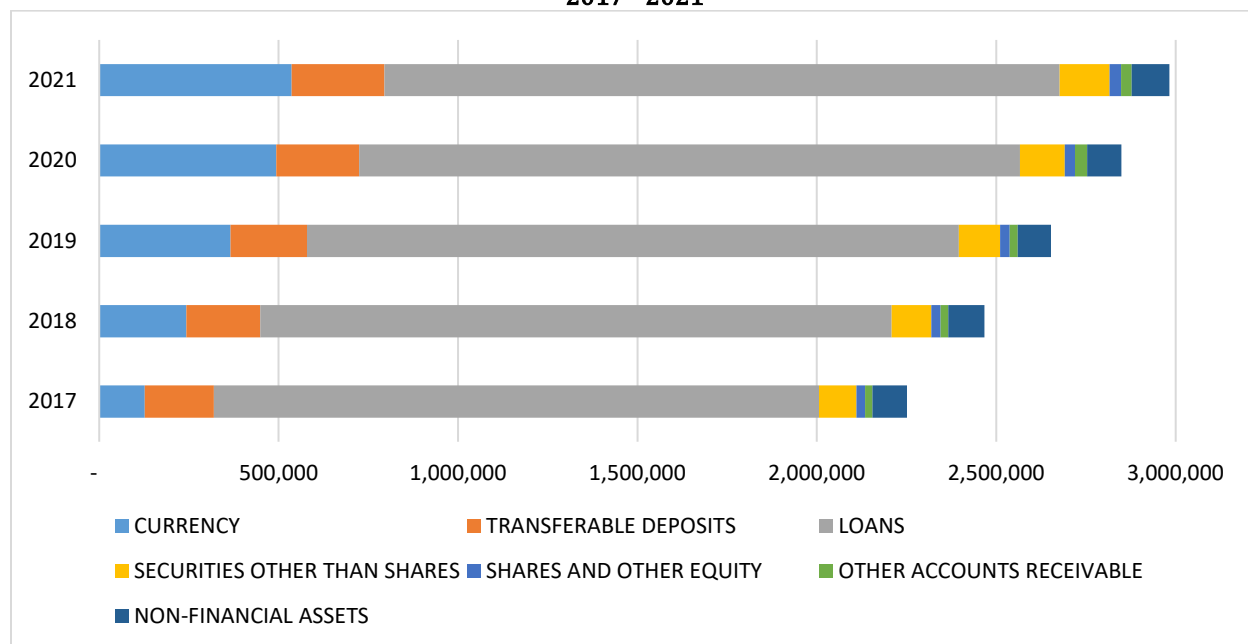
There were several increases in credit most notably in the utilities sector which rose by 23.27 per cent or \$50 million, and the manufacturing sector recorded an increase by 12.22 per cent or \$11 million. The real estate sector, even though it fell by four per cent from 2020's level, once again received the most credit among private non-financial corporations with 44 per cent or \$765 million while the health sector received two per cent or \$40 million.

NON-BANK FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

THE CREDIT UNION MOVEMENT

The Credit Union continued to grow in 2021 with membership rising by 2.6 per cent to 228,000, up from 222,000 at the end of 2020. The ratio of members to total population also rose by 2.6 per cent. There was a 5.3 per cent increase in assets totaling \$2,941.7 million BDS which was primarily due to investments increasing by 14.8 per cent or \$57.7 million. Loans continued to dominate Credit Union assets increasing by \$57.5 million to amass 63 per cent of all assets in 2021.

**Figure 26: Credit Union Assets
2017 - 2021**



SOURCE: Financial Services Commission

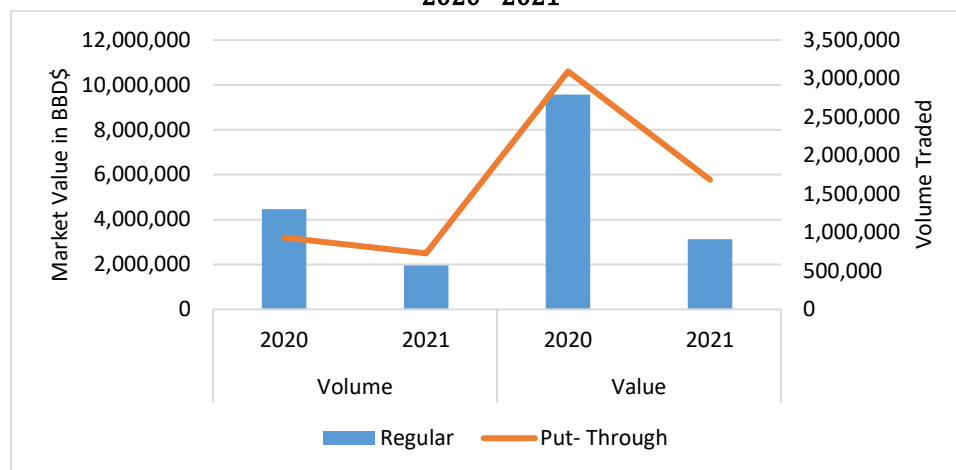
Non-performing loans fell slightly to 12.7 per cent of total loans in 2021. This occurred because total loans grew faster than the growth in stock of non-performing loans. The 12 years and over category which was the largest category of this type of loan, had increased by 25.2 per cent or \$33 million during the year.

Member savings increased to \$2,552 million with regular member's deposits increasing to \$1,767 million. They accounted for 69.2 per cent of total deposits followed by term deposits at 13.9 per cent although they fell by 1.8 per cent from the previous year. Member shares and other deposits accounted for 12.3 and 4.6 per cent.

Total liabilities were \$2.9 billion which consisted of 85 per cent or \$2.5 billion in deposits. Transferable deposits took up 59 per cent while other deposits were 26 per cent. Shares and equity rose by \$16 million to \$324 million or 11 per cent and loans and shares and other equity took up the remaining four per cent of liabilities.

BARBADOS STOCK EXCHANGE

**Figure 27: Trading Activity By Market
2020 - 2021**



SOURCE: Barbados Stock Exchange

Performance in listed and trading securities declined at the end of 2021 from the previous year. Total trading volume and value fell by 50 and 62 per cent respectively. There were no trading suspensions or delisting in 2021. There was a positive relationship between movement in both the Regular and Put-Through Market as both declined in volume and value between 2020 and 2021. The Regular Market declined in 2021 by 56 per cent in volume resulting in 1,957,522 shares traded and by 67 per cent in value ending at \$3,126,224.

The Put-Through market ended in 2021 with 727,438 shares traded down by 22 per cent and the value of shares traded fell by 45 per cent to \$1,687,001. The Local and Composite Indices fell by nine and eight per cent respectively while the Cross Listed Index rose by 22 per cent. The same effect was mirrored with year on year Market Capitalization in which both Local and Composite fell by nine and eight per cent respectively while the Cross Listed also rose by 22 per cent.

**Table 11: Index and Market Capitalization
Year on Year
2020 - 2021**

Index	31-Dec-20	31-Dec-21	%Change
Local	2,598.39	2,359.82	-9%
Cross Listed	933.43	1,140.86	22%
Composite	632.26	578.56	-8%
Market Capitalization	31-Dec-20	31-Dec-21	%Change
Local	5,222,910,714	4,743,415,518	-9%
Cross Listed	119,188,229	145,674,503	22%
Composite	5,342,098,943	4,889,090,021	-8%

Source: Barbados Stock Exchange

G. COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

The Consumer Protection Division continued their efforts to bring fairness to consumers in the country. They organized an educational programme for businesses and consumers to inform them of their rights and responsibilities. Some of these programmes included the *Consumer Shield Project* which encouraged them to know their rights, a business fair and expo with the theme “*Building a Stronger Business Community*” and sessions for the Barbados Association of Retired Persons (BARP) entitled “*Unfair Trade Practices Pt 2* and “*Scams & Schemes: The Pyramid Scheme*”. A guide was also designed for the retail sector as well as consumers due to the shift to online selling platforms.

The Fair Trading Commission (FTC) collaborated with the University of the West Indies (UWI) with a virtual workshop entitled “*The New Era of Consumer Protection*” which sought to educate and provide participants with practical knowledge on how to protect the consumers’ rights. Also the 2nd *Global Online Scam Summit* (GOSS) was held in November 2021 with the aim to help governments, consumer authorities, law enforcement, brand protection agencies and cyber security companies share knowledge on combatting fraud and online scams more effectively and efficiently.

In 2021, two thousand and seventy-eight (2078) queries and complaints were received by the division of which 97 per cent were addressed. The FTC also reviewed 11 contracts in the telecommunication and financial sectors to ensure fairness in compliance to the section of the Act that peruses conduct that may create Unfair Trade Practices.

The Fair Competition Division also collaborated with international agencies in relation to competitiveness. Discussions with the Federal Economic Competition Commission (COFECE) in Mexico were conducted to advance competitiveness in Barbados. Barbados were also invited to join the Latin America and Caribbean Competition Forum (LACCF) and both the FTC and COFECE agreed in principle to cooperate. Agreements were also made in principle with the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) to provide technical and financial support for conducting a peer review of Barbados’ competition regime. The FTC and Barbados Small Business Association also forged an alliance in terms of advocacy and research and a cooperation agreement was agreed in principle.

The FTC responded to the pandemic’s effect on the business community in several ways. Merger forms were converted into a new, secure electronic document making it easier for applicants to apply online. They also launched press releases to sensitise competitors about collaboration amongst themselves. In the grocery retail market, the Commission investigated the relationships between competitors but found no breaches in competition law.

H. PUBLIC SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME (PSIP)

Despite the current economic environment and the global COVID-19 Pandemic the Government’s Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) continued during 2021. Major investments were concentrated in the areas of Infrastructure, Energy, Health, Roads, and Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building. The Government’s COVID-19 response and recovery programme influenced the magnitude and mechanism of financing/investment portfolio it engaged in.

PROJECTS COMPLETED

Enhanced Access to Credit for Productivity Project

The Enhanced Access to Credit for Productivity Project objective was to contribute to the increase in the productivity of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) by facilitating access to medium and long-term credit investment projects. The project assisted SMEs in accessing credit, through the provision of partial credit guarantees to Intermediary Financial Institutions (IFIs), for medium and long-term capital investments that allowed SMEs to modernize and remodel their businesses.

The project included the execution of a single component that provided the financing to support the establishment and funding of a partial credit Guarantee Fund managed by the Central Bank of Barbados (CBB), to facilitate access to medium and long-term financing for SMEs through eligible IFIs. Resources allocated to this component were directed to a segregated account at the CBB for the

Guarantee Fund to guarantee individual loans from IFIs to SMEs for eligible sub-projects. Approximately US\$ 35,000,000 was disbursed by the IDB at the end of the program on June 19, 2021.

New Loan Agreements Signed in 2021

The Government of the Republic of Barbados signed five (5) new Loan Agreements in 2021 with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the European Investment Bank (EIB), the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), and the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF).

- Global Credit Program for Safeguarding the Productive Sectors and Employment,
- COVID-19 Response and Recovery Development,
- Barbados COVID-19 Health Resilience Project,
- Sector Wide Approach Programme (SWAP) to support the Land Transportation Sector in Barbados; and
- Sustainable Development Policy Program II.

Global Credit Program for Safeguarding the Productive Sectors and Employment

The Government of the Republic of Barbados and the Inter-American Development Bank signed a Loan Agreement for US\$30,000,000 on April 20, 2021 to finance the Global Credit Program for Safeguarding the Productive Sectors and Employment. The project will be implemented over a period of two (2) years.

The objective of the Project is to support the sustainability of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector to maintain employment and economic activity in Barbados in response to the crisis caused by COVID-19. The specific objectives are:

- to support the short-term financial sustainability of MSME; and
- to promote the economic recovery of MSME through access to productive financing.

To achieve this objective, the project included the execution of a single component which provided financing to support the Enhanced Credit Guarantee Fund (the "ECGF"), managed by the Central Bank of

Barbados (the “CBB”), in order to facilitate MSME funding by eligible Intermediary Financial Institutions (IFIs). The Loan resources allocated to this component were directed to a segregated account at the CBB for the ECGF to guarantee individual loans from IFIs to MSMEs for eligible sub-projects.

Barbados COVID-19 Health Resilience Project

The Government of the Republic of Barbados and the European Investment Bank (EIB) signed a Loan Agreement for EUR 50,000,000 on June 14, 2021 to finance the Barbados COVID-19 Health Resilience Project which is expected to be implemented over a period of three (3) years.

The objective of this project was to provide support to the health sector to cover operating expenses in relation to COVID-19. The project consisted the financing of different activities and interventions of the Government in the health sector aimed at the COVID-19 pandemic preparedness and emergency response. The loan was used to finance eligible project costs (excluding taxes and duties), and all expenses which occurred from February 1st, 2020. It is expected that financing for projects that are responding to the pandemic and address the gaps in the public health infrastructure will be reimbursable. All of the conditions precedent to the first disbursement were met and the Government of the Republic of Barbados received the first tranche of EUR10 million in December 2021.

COVID-19 Response and Recovery Development Policy Loan

On June 25, 2021, the Government of the Republic of Barbados and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) signed a Policy Based Loan (PBL) for US\$100,000,000 to finance the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Development Policy Loan. This loan provided finance to support the Government’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic and facilitate the conditions necessary for the country’s economic recovery. This financing was acquired in light of the graduated status of Barbados from the IBRD according to its GDP per capita which classified it as a high-middle income country. The financing instrument which facilitated the loan was the Development Policy Financing (DPF). It provided rapid disbursements of finance to assist the Government in actions related to COVID-19 under three pillars:

Pillar 1: Strengthening the response to COVID-19;

Pillar 2: Enhancing Macroeconomic and Fiscal Management; and

Pillar 3: Promoting Trade and Financial Resilience for a Sustainable Recovery.

All of the conditions under this financing mechanism were met, and the Government of the Republic of Barbados received all the funds in June 2021.

Sector Wide Approach Programme (SWAP) to support the Land Transportation Sector in Barbados

The Government of the Republic of Barbados and the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF) signed a loan for US\$50,000,000 on November 24, 2021 to finance the Sector Wide Approach Programme (SWAP) to support the Land Transportation Sector in Barbados. The main objective of the programme was to support the management, planning and public investment for the development of land

transportation. This included changes to the regulatory framework, sector and strategic plans, execution of various initiatives for institutional strengthening, modernization of systems and processes, and quality improvement of infrastructure, mainly the road network.

The funds were utilized for the rehabilitation of key segments of the primary road network, including drainage, construction of sidewalks, bridges, culverts and safety features. Specific components consisted the rehabilitation of existing roads throughout the island, including the provision of improved drainage systems (inclusive of box drains, culverts, wells, and the clearing of watercourses) where appropriate to counter the effects of Climate Change. Provision was also made for the construction of sidewalks where possible. The Government of the Republic of Barbados received US\$12 million as the first of three tranches in December 2021 after all of the conditions were met.

Sustainable Development Policy Program II (PBL)

A Policy Based Loan (PBL) for US\$100,000,000 was signed between the Government of the Republic of Barbados and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) on December 19, 2021 to finance the Sustainable Development Policy Program II. The program sought to improve the country's governance for sustainability through the strengthening and modernization of the regulatory framework. The specific objectives of the program were to advance the ongoing regulatory reform efforts to improve:

- the efficiency and sustainability of spatial planning, development control, and water resource management;
- natural asset management; and
- disaster risk management and resilience.

All of the conditions were met, and the Government of the Republic of Barbados received all the funds in December 2021

Support to Social Protection in Barbados

The 11th European Development Fund Support to Social Protection in Barbados was executed by the Ministry of People Empowerment and Elder Affairs (MPEA). The Financing Agreement for budget support to the tune of Euros 3.650 million (approximately BDS\$8.9 million) was signed in September 2021. These grant funds are to support increased social protection coverage and reduce extreme poverty and unemployment in Barbados. Expected outputs under this programme are as follows:

- Rationalised Social Protection Framework - Development of a comprehensive and coherent regulatory, financial, institutional, and digital infrastructure to support an inclusive and sustainable social protection system and effective delivery of social services in Barbados;
- Improved Responsiveness of Social Protection Services - Support to adequate and predictable delivery of social protection services to groups living in vulnerable situations and persons laid-off due to economic challenges in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Improved Access to Job and Entrepreneurial Opportunities - Support to the Government's employment/entrepreneurial related programmes (National First Jobs Programme and Re-tooling and Empowering, Retraining and Enfranchising Programme) to provide opportunities for individuals to gain alternative employment or to be self-employed.

III. THE EMERGING ECONOMY

A. THE ENVIRONMENTAL SECTOR

The Ministry of Environment and National Beautification (MENB) promoted and facilitated the sustainable use of our resources by encouraging the involvement of all citizens and the integration of environmental and maritime considerations into all aspects of national development.

Policy Research, Planning and Information Unit

National Climate Change Programme

The objective of the National Climate Change Programme is to provide support for the implementation of policies, programmes and projects assisting Barbados in executing climate change mitigation measures and adapting to the projected impacts of climate change.

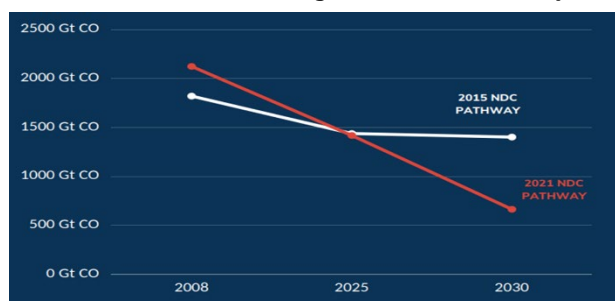
Policy Development, Monitoring and Evaluation

On July 30, 2021 Barbados submitted an update of its first Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). NDCs embody efforts by each Party to the UNFCCC to reduce national greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and adapt to the adverse impacts of global climate change. This updated NDC puts Barbados on a path towards a climate change resilient island economy with deep reductions in emissions aligned with the 1.5° Celsius temperature goal of the Paris Agreement.

To ensure a protected environment, a stable society and a sustainable and resilient economy, the Government of the Republic of Barbados has set the aspirational goal to achieve a fossil fuel-free economy and to reduce GHG emissions across all sectors to as close to zero as possible by 2030. The 2021 NDC update sets an economy-wide mitigation contribution including measures for electricity, transport, industrial, waste, and agriculture sectors. The timeframe for implementation is 2021-2030, with GHG reduction targets for 2025 and 2030 expressed relative to a 2008 base year.

The 2021 NDC increased the level of ambition in terms of absolute emissions reduced by moving from 21% and 23% emission reductions respectively, in the 2015 NDC, to 35% and 70% emission reductions by 2025 and 2030, respectively, in the 2021 NDC. The following graph shows the emissions pathway for the 2015 NDC (white) and the 2021 NDC (red).

Figure 28: NDC Pathway



SOURCE: Ministry of Environment and National Beautification

The economy-wide 2015 NDC contribution was conditional on the provision of international support in its entirety. With the 2021 update, Barbados makes a conditional contribution for an emissions reduction in the electricity sector of 95% by 2030. Complementary to the conditional contribution, Barbados makes an unconditional contribution for the electricity sector of an emissions reduction of 50% by 2030.

New targets at a glance:

By 2025:

- 20% reduction relative to business –as-usual emissions in 2025 without international support (unconditional)
- 35% reduction relative to business-as-usual emissions in 2025 conditional upon international support.

By 2030:

- 35% reduction relative to business –as-usual emissions in 2030 without international support (unconditional)
- 70% reduction relative to business-as-usual emissions in 2030 conditional upon international support.

National Global Environment Facility Programme

The objective of the national Global Environment Facility Programme is to promote the integration of the GEF as a financing mechanism for projects of national and regional importance which would result in global environmental benefits.

National Governance Processes, Partnerships and Cooperation Arrangements

The Ministry served as the national Operational Focal Point (OFP) for the Global Environment Facility (GEF). It facilitated dialogue between stakeholders to determine the most appropriate use of resources available to Barbados under the GEF-7 (2018-2022) System for Transparent Allocation of Resources (STAR). Endorsement letters were issued for the following projects:

Table 12: System for Transparent Allocation of Resources (STAR) Projects

	Project Title	Amount (US\$M)	Focal Area
1	Sustainable Management and Resilient Thinking for our Energy Revolution (SMARTER)	1.8	Climate Change
2	Promoting National Blue Economy Priorities through Marine Spatial Planning in the Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem Plus (BE-CLME+)” Project	0.5	Biodiversity
3	CSIDS-SOILCARE Phase 1: Caribbean Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) multi-country soil management initiative for integrated Landscape Restoration and climate-resilient food systems	0.7	Land Degradation

	Project Title	Amount (US\$M)	Focal Area
4	Combatting Impacts of Invasive Alien Species (IAS) and Habitat Loss through Enhanced Biodiversity Governance	1	Biodiversity
	TOTAL	4.0	

SOURCE: Ministry of Environment and National Beautification

Endorsement letters were also issued for Barbados' participation in the; Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support initiative; Global Support Programme III: Strengthening Capacities of Country Parties for UNCCD; Monitoring and Reporting; Strategies, technologies and social solutions to manage by catch in tropical Large Marine Ecosystem Fisheries (REBYC-III CLME+) project; and Strategic Platform to Promote Sustainable Energy Technology Innovation, Industrial Development and Entrepreneurship in Barbados project (one-year extension)

The GEF Operational Focal Point also served as an active member of the National Steering Committee for the GEF Small Grants Programme of the UNDP, and provided support to the implementation and evaluation of the following projects:

- Developing Organisational Capacity for Ecosystem Stewardship and Livelihoods in Caribbean Small-Scale Fisheries (StewardFish) project
- Implementing Sustainable Low and Non-Chemical Development in Small Island Developing States (ISLANDS) - Caribbean Child Project (ISLANDS Caribbean project)
- Continuing Regional Support for the POPs Global Monitoring Plan under the Stockholm Convention in the Latin America and the Caribbean Region (GMP LAC) project.

Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) and Hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) Management Programme

The Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) and Hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) Management programme is responsible for the development, coordination and implementation of policies, plans and activities to effect the phase-out of ODS and phase down of HFCs at the national level in fulfilment of the Government of Barbados' obligations under the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.

As a party to the Montreal Protocol, Barbados is required to phase-out the consumption of Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) by 100% by January 1, 2030, phase -down the consumption of HFCs by 80% by 2045, while supporting the transition towards the use of ozone and climate friendly energy efficient alternatives.

Policy Development, Monitoring and Evaluation

Imports of HCFC22 and HCFC142b were kept below the 2021 national quota limits set at 35.95 metric tonnes and 1.14 metric tonnes respectively as a result of the administrative and monitoring measures put in place by the ODS and HFC Management Programme of the Ministry. As part of this monitoring process, the Programme received, reviewed and made recommendations to the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs on sixty-nine (69) applications to import refrigerants and other chemicals.

To ensure efficient monitoring of annual quotas and to facilitate adequate preparation of importers, the 2022 and 2023 HCFC Import Quota allocations were communicated in December 2021 to the four (4) importing companies to which HCFC quotas were assigned.

Education, Communication and Public Demonstration Initiatives

The ODS and HFC Management programme contributed to enhancing the awareness of stakeholders and the general public about ODS and HFC consumption matters in the following ways:

- Published the Annual Minister's Message in celebration of World Refrigeration Day on June 26, 2021 in the local newspaper and via electronic media;
- Circulated notices and flyers to stakeholders (e.g. refrigerant importers, customs brokers, shipping agents, stakeholder associations and private ports of entry) concerning the national requirements specific to the import and export of refrigerants and other substances controlled under the Montreal Protocol on Substances that deplete the Ozone Layer;
- Published the Annual Minister's Message in recognition of International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer (World Ozone Day) on September 16, 2021 in the local newspapers and via electronic media; and
- Hosted a webinar for refrigerant importers with HCFC Quotas for 2021 entitled "*Review of the National HCFC Quota and Related Matters*"

Extra-National Governance Processes, Partnerships and Cooperation Arrangements

The Ministry of Environment and National Beautification secured funding in the amount of US\$30,000.00 to coordinate and implement the Hydrochlorofluorocarbon (HCFC) Phase-out Management Plan (HPMP) Stage II Preparation Project in advancing the national interest, and maintaining compliance obligations under the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

Project Management Coordination Unit

The Project Management Coordination Unit (PMCU) recently sought to upgrade the Solid Waste Management Policy for Barbados, which focuses mainly on waste minimization through the implementation of the 5Rs, Reduce, Reuse, Repair, Recycle and Recover as well as the implementation of a system of licensing and permitting solid waste management facilities. The PMCU prepared a draft Framework for a National Recycling Programme for Barbados, and a paper on the use of HDPE and tyre crumb for consideration.

The PMCU assisted other agencies with:

- Drafting Solid Waste Management Policy (2017), Solid Waste Management Policy (2016) and the Solid Waste Management Act (2013). An associated Cabinet Paper was also drafted.
- Development of a Regulatory Framework and Technical Guidelines for Solid Waste Management Facilities

- Preparation of the draft Policy, Regulatory Framework and Technical Guidelines for Solid Waste Management Facilities in November 2021 and the associated draft Cabinet Paper.
- Development of Concept paper concerning white goods recycling in Barbados for consideration
- Development of a Proposal for the Implementation of the Curb Side Recycling Programme
- Development of the Water Reuse Policy for Barbados

The PMCU has also recently completed the Adaptation Measures to counter the Effects of Climate Change project which resulted in a significant reduction in the impact of flooding in Hometown and Sunset Crest, St. James by improving conveyance of flood waters downstream and detention and infiltration of flood waters upstream.

Environmental Protection Department

The mission of the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) is to promote sustainable practices through control, regulation and enforcement. In so doing, the Department will enable future generations to inherit an environment, which is healthy, productive and enjoyable.

The goal of the EPD is to ensure adequate protection of environmental resources and human health from harmful pollutants discharged to the environment from anthropogenic and other sources of environmental contaminants. This relates to proper building development in the interest of public health; monitor and control of water quality; proper disposal of solid waste; adequate management and control of hazardous chemicals; the management, control and disposal of obsolete chemicals and chemical waste; the protection of marine resources from all sources of pollution; monitor and control of airborne contaminants and the prevalence of derelict buildings and derelict vehicles; educating the public on all environmental matters; and fulfilling obligations under various Multilateral Environmental Agreements to which Barbados is a Signatory.

Resource Protection and Monitoring

In 2021, continuous monitoring of the ambient air quality continued at the Treasury Building in Bridgetown; the D'Arcy Scott Roundabout, Warrens, St. Michael; and the Caribbean Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology, Husbands, St. James. Seventy-nine thousand, three hundred and twenty-two air samples (79,322) were collected at the three sites. Additionally, the Department facilitated the installation of weather monitoring equipment at the Barbados Meteorological Services, Reservoir Road near the D'Arcy Scott Roundabout. The Department also assisted the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) with the implementation of a short term, ambient air quality monitoring project in Barbados to gauge the level of certain pollutants in the air – particulate matter, sulphur dioxide and hydrogen sulphide – due to the volcanic emissions from the La Soufrière, St. Vincent.

The monitoring of sound levels was also conducted at the semi-permanent noise monitoring station at the Treasury Building in Bridgetown. Twenty-five thousand seven hundred and five (25,705) measurements of sound levels were recorded. The Department prepared a report entitled, "Barbados Noise Monitoring 2020" on the sound level data collected in 2020 and the Speightstown Noise Characterization Report was updated during 2021.

Water quality monitoring of groundwater supply wells and springs was conducted on a monthly basis at twenty-one (21) drinking water supply wells; nine (9) agricultural supply wells; and six (6) springs. Two hundred and forty-five (245) ground water samples were collected. The results of the

laboratory analysis for the drinking water supply sources for the parameters chlorides, nitrates, total dissolved solids and faecal coliform were compared to the World Health Organization (WHO) Drinking Water Quality Guidelines (“WHO guidelines”). The following were noted:

- For all public supply wells, the annual average did not exceed the guideline value of 250 mg/L.
- The annual average for four (4) public supply wells: Ashton Hall P.S, Carlton P.S, Haymans P.S and Whim P.S, exceeded the WHO guideline value for total dissolved solids of 600 mg/L.
- The nitrate guideline of 11.3 mg/l was not exceeded when compared to the annual average for the public supply wells.
- The faecal coliform guideline value of 0 CFU/100ml was exceeded at Applewhaites (1), Applewhaites Well Field (1), Waterford (1), Molyneaux (6), College (6), Bowmanston (3), and Whim PS (1). It should be noted that the sampling site for College and Molyneaux is before the point of chlorination.

Monitoring of eighteen (18) west and south coast beaches was conducted on a weekly basis during 2021. Sampling commenced during the period and one thousand six hundred and seventeen samples (1,617) were collected. The results of analysis were compared to the List of Prohibited Concentrations proposed for faecal coliform and enterococci under the Marine Pollution Control Act 392A. There were zero (0) failures of the USEPA geometric mean criteria for enterococci, and zero (0) failures of the USEPA geometric mean criteria for faecal coliform.

Water samples from six (6) potable wells - Belle, Hampton, Applewhaites Well Field, Benn Spring P.S, Molyneaux P.S and The Whim P.S were conducted at a cost of one hundred and eleven thousand nine hundred and seventy-two dollars and thirty-five cents (\$111,972.35 BDS or ~\$55,460.00 USD).

Regulatory Monitoring and Enforcement

The Department received one thousand nine hundred and thirty-one (1,931) building development applications in 2021 and processed one thousand six hundred and sixty-four (1,664) applications, which included those received during and prior to 2021. **Error! Reference source not found.** shows the distribution of processed applications.

Table 13: Building Development Applications Processed in 2021

Type of Application	Decision					Total
	Approved	Refused	Approved With Conditions	Withdrawn	Acknowledged	
Residential	847	110	311	6	164	1438
Commercial	18	37	47	10	68	180
Residential/Commercial	14	6	10	0	6	36
Agriculture	1	0	3	0	2	6
Commercial/Industrial	0	1	0	0	1	2
Industrial	0	1	0	0	1	2
Total	880	155	371	16	242	1,664

SOURCE: Ministry of Environment and National Beautification

A total of thirty-seven (37) complaints were received by the Department during 2021.

Table 14: Complaints Received by EPD in 2021

Section	Number of Complaints
Air	20
Marine	8
Noise	5
Solid Waste and Hazardous Materials	1
Water Quality	5
Total	39

SOURCE: Ministry of Environment and National Beautification

Fifty-three (53) complaints were investigated. The majority (40) of complaints investigated were related to solid waste and hazardous materials; six (6) were related to marine pollution complaints and seven (7) related to water quality. There were no investigations dealing with air or noise pollution undertaken in 2021.

Forty-four (44) applications were processed and approval was granted for the removal of asbestos, along with twenty-two (22) applications for fiberglass containing materials. The asbestos and fiberglass waste were disposed at the government approved disposal facility at Rock Hall, St. Philip. During 2021, no vehicles were removed and ninety-two (92) derelict structures were demolished

Extra-National Governance Processes, Partnerships and Cooperation Arrangements

The Global Atmospheric Passive Sampling (GAPS) Network, which is coordinated by Environment Canada, seeks to monitor persistent organic pollutants (POPs) and priority air pollutants at monitoring locations across the globe. Barbados as part of the GAPS network, facilitated the deployment, retrieval and shipping of samples.

In order for Barbados to fulfil its obligations under the Basel Convention on the Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, its Annual Report for 2020 was submitted to the Technical Secretariat on December 3, 2021; a no objection to their proposal for enhanced import/export control of waste plastics and waste paper in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China was communicated to the competent authority of the People's Republic of China; facilitated a shipment of hazardous waste overseas for environmental sound disposal; and undertook activities associated with the Used Lead Acid Batteries (ULABs) and Waste Oil project.

Biodiversity Conservation and Management Section

The goal of the Biodiversity Conservation and Management Section of the Ministry of Environment and National Beautification is to undertake effective management of the biodiversity and land resources of Barbados, particularly in degraded areas, and to contribute to their conservation, effective management, and increased awareness of the importance of local biodiversity and ecosystems, and their contribution to local development.

The Biodiversity Programme contributed to the conservation of local biodiversity by defining the guiding principles, vision, long-term aims and policies for the management of biodiversity in Barbados; increasing the awareness of the Barbadian public of the importance of local biodiversity, its conservation and management; and the development and implementation of a program of action to facilitate effective management of the biodiversity resources of Barbados.

The programme also contributed to national development through the conservation of Barbados' biodiversity resources and the enhancement of their management of local plant and animal species and the implementation of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) policy document; the execution of public awareness programmes to the general public on the importance of biodiversity; awareness of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) to which Barbados is a Party, including the administration of the International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora Act CAP. 262; the issuance of import, export and re-export permits; and the development, management and execution of externally funded projects.

The Biodiversity Section, as the primary entity responsible for conservation and management of biodiversity in Barbados, provided technical and advisory support on issues related to Biodiversity.

REGULATORY MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT

Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)

The International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora Act, CAP 262 was passed in Parliament on February 7, 2006 and provided for the implementation of the provisions of CITES in Barbados.

The Act provided for the issuance of a total of 45 permits for international trade of endangered species, and of this total, 41 were export permits, 2 were import permits and 2 were re-exporting permits.

The international trade of endangered species as it relates to income generation is an important economic activity for a number of persons and companies in Barbados. However, to ensure that trade does not negatively impact on the global populations trade is regulated. Inspections of breeding and housing facilities were also conducted.

Table 15: CITES Permits Issued by Category for 2021

Imports	Exports	Re-exports
2	41	2

SOURCE: Ministry of Environment and National Beautification

CITES Scientific Authority

Quarterly meetings of the CITES Scientific Authority were convened both virtually and face-to-face to discuss issues important to the convention. The preparation of the CITES Annual Report for 2020 and CITES Implementation Report were completed and the reports were submitted to the CITES Secretariat. The reports focused on imports, exports and re-exports of CITES listed plants and animals.

Multilateral Environmental Agreements

One focus of the Biodiversity Conservation and Management Section is the servicing of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and meeting international commitments through the development and execution of projects aligned with national priorities.

As the national focal point, the Biodiversity Conservation and Management Section is responsible for critical duties including the preparation of national reports, the development of national strategies and action plans, the setting of national targets related to biodiversity and land management, and the implementation of national work programmes to meet these targets. The section also facilitates communication between the Ministry and the various Secretariats; disseminate information; respond to various requests, collaborate with other stakeholder groups; monitor, and promote and/or facilitate national implementation of these MEAs including:

- the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
- the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (CPB)
- the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)
- the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife in the Wider Caribbean Region (SPAW)
- the Convention to Combat Desertification and Drought (UNCCD)

Membership in the MEAs commits Barbados to implement national activities towards their implementation, but also provides an opportunity to source grant funding.

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and Drought (UNCDD)

The Convention is the principle international instrument addressing the global problem of land degradation and drought. Parties to the Convention are currently working on setting Land Degradation Neutrality Targets. Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) has been defined as a state whereby the amount and quality of land resources, necessary to support ecosystem functions and services and enhance food security, remains stable or increases within specified temporal and spatial scales and ecosystems.

In 2021, the Section secured the opportunity to participate in a project to develop Barbados' Land Degradation Neutrality Targets.

The Land Degradation Neutrality Target Setting Program (LDN-TSP) is one of the aforementioned requirements for Barbados under the UNCCD. This exercise will allow Barbados to formalize its commitment to sustainable land management, through integrated spatial planning, and will complement existing documents such as the revised Physical Development Plan (2017) and the Roofs to Reefs programme. The LDN-TSP is being funded through the Global Mechanism.

No monies will be disbursed to Barbados, as the process will be managed entirely by the UNCCD Secretariat. However, US \$30,000 will be available to Barbados to convene workshops and to support communication and public awareness in support of the project.

The project Inception Workshop was convened in 2021 and the Section also participated in the extraordinary session of the COP of United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD).

B. THE RENEWABLE ENERGY SECTOR

RENEWABLE ENERGY

During 2021, the prominence of the Renewable Energy (RE) industry continued to expand, with the addition of 14.9MW in RE capacity to the grid and a steady interest in investing the sector. In March of 2021, the cumulative RE capacity on the grid stood at 43.3MW. At the end of December 2021, total capacity stood at 66.6 MW of which 56.64 MW was connected at the distributive level of the grid.

Additionally, a total of 398 licenses were approved under the Electric Light and Power Act 2013 for the reporting period, which represented a cumulative capacity of 43MW of renewable energy. While, the Planning and Development Department reported that 129 renewable energy applications were received from prospective developers. The majority of those applications were for solar farms and large installations over 1MW on agriculture lands.

The total electricity sold to the grid in 2021 from renewable energy stood at 84.58 GWh, representing 9 per cent of the 905 million kWh in overall electricity sales. This represented 24 per cent increase in electricity sales from renewable energy sources, over the 68.19 GWh sold to the grid in 2020. The average energy generated by distributed systems declined by two (2) per cent in 2021 to 1229 kWh per kW, when compared to system output of 1251 kWh per kW in 2020. This represents a capacity factor of 14 per cent during 2021.

In the context of the National Energy Policy, based on current projections Barbados will meet its 2030 capacity targets for distributed solar installations ahead of schedule. However, forecasts for the uptake of the other renewable energy technologies suggest that a faster uptake is required to reach these targets.

KEY POLICY AND PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

Development of a Standard Power Purchase Agreement (PPA)

The Division of Energy in collaboration with the Fair Trading Commission completed an advance draft standard form Power Purchase Agreements (PPA) for renewable energy systems under 10MW and those over 10MW in 2021. It is intended that the standard PPA will form the contract between the Independent Power Producer⁵ (IPP) and the utility is the buyer of electricity (Barbados Light and Power Company Ltd.) and will define the terms and conditions for the sale of electricity between parties.

Control of Inefficient Lighting Act 2021

Over the period of review, the Control of Inefficient Lighting Act, 2021 was enacted and provides for the phasing out of inefficient lighting in Barbados. The phase out plan is geared to reducing the cost of energy in Barbados while increasing energy security and mitigating the negative effects of energy

⁵ the Independent Power Producer- prefers to the generator/ seller of the renewable energy supply.

consumption on the local and global environments. The phase-out plan will be implemented by restricting the importation, manufacture and sale of energy inefficient lights⁶, commencing on January 01, 2022.

Additionally consultations were held with stakeholders regarding the expansion of renewable energy and energy efficiency within Barbados and the influencing factors of land-use, the transport sector, change management and communication. To this end, the implementation of a policy to encourage the procurement of electric, hybrid and other clean energy vehicles by the Public Sector and State-Owned Entities commenced on April 01, 2021.

Public Sector Smart Energy Program (PSSEP)

The implementation of the Public Sector Smart Energy Programme (PSSEP) continued in 2021 with over Programme is 93 per cent completed. The main purpose of the programme is to support the promotion and implementation of renewable energy generation and energy efficiency technologies in the public sector in an effort to reduce Barbados' fossil fuel dependency; promote sustainable energy and therefore contribute to the country's competitiveness.

The Programme consist of three (3) components, namely:

- **Component I:** Retrofit of Government buildings with renewable energy and energy efficient technologies, and public lights with energy efficient technologies, including: (i) the retrofit of approximately eighty five percent (85%) of Barbados' public lights with energy efficient technologies; (ii) the retrofit of twelve (12) government buildings with energy efficient technologies, and (iii) the installation of solar phot-voltaic (PV) systems on thirteen (13) government buildings with a target of 1.14 megawatts (MW) of renewable energy electricity produced.
- **Component II:** A pilot project and studies for encouraging the use of renewable energy which will finance (i) a fleet of government electric vehicles powered by renewable energy sources; and (ii) studies culminating in the preparation of a business prospectus to facilitate the construction and operation of an ocean power plant.
- **Component III:** Capacity building, institutional strengthening and public awareness to: (i) upgrade professional and technical skills; (ii) upgrade capacity within the GOB in all sectors related to sustainable energy; (iii) implement public awareness campaigns at all levels to promote sustainable energy; and (v) finance the monitoring and evaluation of the Programme.

During 2021, the streetlights retrofit component was completed in July 2021 with the installation of 25,750 fixtures which represent 88 per cent of all streetlights and exceeded the project target of 85 per cent. Of these 24,250 fixtures were installed on minor and major roads by the BL&P and 1,500 on major highways and public carparks of the fixtures by Government Electrical & Engineering Department

⁶ The prohibited goods will be based on the failure of lights to meet requirements set by a Minimum Efficiency Performance Standard (MEPS).

(GEED). As at July 2021, there was an estimated savings of \$1,054,680 as a result of the conversion from the HPS bulbs to LED based on the interim rate the Fair Trading Commission (FTC).

As at December 2021, under phase two of the Renewable Energy Project, which aims to facilitate the addition of 1.3 MW of solar PV on seven (7) public buildings; solar installations were substantially completed at Oistins Post Office and Police Station, Crab Hill Police Station, District 'A' Police Station, Cane Garden Complex, Arch Hall Fire Station and Blackman and Gollop Primary School. The solar PV at the QEH commenced with installations at the cafeteria, laundry and physiotherapy roofs.

With respect to the Energy Efficiency Project, installations commenced in October 2021 on fourteen (14) public buildings. The installation of all LED lighting, motion sensors, ceiling fans have been substantially completed at the following buildings:

- Frank Walcott Building;
- E. Humphrey Walcott Building;
- Lloyd Erskine Sandiford Centre;
- Forensics Sciences Centre;
- National Housing Corporation;
- Barbados Community College;
- Barbados Museum and Historical Society;
- Ministry of Transport, Works and Water Resources;
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade; and
- Samuel Jackman Prescod Institute for Technology;

With respect to the Electric Vehicle (EV) Pilot, a study was commissioned to analyse the efficiency and savings from the use of EV vehicles in the public sector. To solidify the efficacy of the Study, the Division of Energy included not only the ten (10) EVs procured under the PSSEP but also the thirty-three (33) electric buses procured under the Barbados Transport Board Project as well as the six (6) vehicles procured under the Deployment of Cleaner Fuels and Renewable Energies in Barbados Project being executed by the National Petroleum Corporation (NPC). The study which was completed in December 2021 provides a roadmap in regards to electric mobility for the public service.

Detailed Ocean Energy Studies were also completed in March 2021. The overall purpose of this assignment was to undertake a wide range of technical and environmental studies, as well as related capacity building activities, to investigate the feasibility and facilitate the construction of a large-scale Ocean Energy power plant or array in Barbados. Technologies which are to be considered are Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC), fixed Offshore Wind (OSW), and floating Offshore Wind (OSW).

With respect of Component 3 of the sub-component three (3) consultancies were undertaken: (i) Capacity Building and Institutional Strengthening; (ii) Public Education and Professional Strengthening; and (iii) Communications and Engagement Strategy for Public Awareness for Sustainable Energy Uses in Barbados.

The Public Education and Professional Strengthening Consultancy which was substantially completed in December 2021 aimed to improve the framework for Training, Certification and Licensing as it relates to energy services in Barbados. The Consultancy also sought to develop educational and professional strengthening initiatives for the educational institutions, the Ministry and its stakeholders in

technical, energy management and behavioral training to enhance the energy sector as Barbados moves towards a sustainable energy future.

Sustainable Energy Investment Programme (Energy Smart Fund II)

The Sustainable Energy Investment Programme (Smart Fund II) was conceptualized to encompass the activities and lessons learnt from the Energy Smart Fund I Programme which was implemented over the period February 7, 2011 to June 7, 2017. The general objective of the programme is to further reduce Barbados' dependency on imported fossil fuels through the increased use of Renewable Energy (RE) and Energy Efficiency (EE) technologies. Specifically, the Programme will engage a three-pronged approach targeted at the residential, business/private and public sector that encourages the use of alternative sources of renewable energy; promotes energy conservation, reduces the oil import bill and preserves the environment. The BDS \$90,926,284.00 project is financed by a BDS loan from the Inter-American Development Bank \$60,750,000.00 and grant resources from the European Union to the tune of BDS \$30,176,284.00, the programme is expected to be implemented over six years.

The specific objective of the Sustainable Energy Investment Programme II is to: (i) reduce electricity consumption by implementing RE and EE measures; (ii) reduce Green House Gases (GHG) emissions from liquid fossil fuels used for power generation and transport; and (iii) increase institutional capacity for the management of RE and EE programs. The program is structured as follows:

- **Component I:** Technical Assistance and Loan Facility for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in the form of a package of financing instruments aimed at providing funding and capacity building for energy users to design and develop renewable energy and efficiency projects. This will also include a pilot project for SMEs and small hoteliers;
- **Component II:** Promoting Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Investment Programme within the public sector with the retrofit of approximately 100 buildings.
- **Component III:** Capacity Building and Institutional Support aimed at enabling the successful implementation of the programme.

Although the Loan Agreement was signed in February 2020, the Non-Reimbursable Agreement was only signed on February 18, 2021 for the grant funds from the European Union. The overall Programme is 16 per cent completed as it is in the initialising phase.

With respect of the RE and EE Investment within the Public Sector under Component 2, a number of activities intended to lay the foundation for work critical to the execution of the retrofits were undertaken. These activities included the preparation of Scope of Works for pre-feasibility studies; collection of energy data from relevant ministries and departments of over 200 buildings based on pre-defined areas of national priority; as well the ground-work for the execution of special projects including Renewable Energy for E-Mobility and Agricultural pilot programmes.

Work to execute the expansion of electric mobility under Sub-component 2.3 of the programme benefited from expansion of an existing contract to allow for the procurement of an additional ten (10) electric buses. The proposal for the buses was received in November of 2021 and is benefitting from review and evaluation.

As part of the public awareness activities under Component 3, the Barbados Sustainable Energy Conference 2021 “Championing our Future to a Sustainable Energy Sector” was held on November 22, 2021 in conjunction with CARICOM as part of the 7th biennial Caribbean Sustainable Energy Forum (CSEF), for CARICOM Energy Month, November 22 to 25, 2021.

As it relates to continuous support of the BNEP the programme seeks to implement at least three (3) studies on sustainable energy matters. During 2021, a shortlist recommended studies were approved as follows: (i) development of a National Energy Efficiency (EE) Action Plan for Barbados; (ii) Implementation of a plan for deployment of electric mobility and other low emissions transport; (iii) Financial institutions operating in Barbados on innovative financial models schemes for EE/RE projects.

C. CREATIVE ECONOMY AND CULTURE

In 2021 in light of the ongoing covid-19 pandemic, the National Cultural Foundation (NCF), continued to pivot its programming to address the difficulty of delivering face-to-face workshops, through the use of digital media for the production and recording of training and entertainment programming and the wholesale use of the Internet to distribute these products to a wider audience.

Over 3,700 persons benefitted directly from the various training and developmental activities of the Cultural Development Department of the NCF during the year with an immeasurable number benefitting via the online forum. A workshop targeted to youth within the juvenile correction system, focused on the therapeutic use of arts for healthy expression and conflict resolution, while another was geared towards training officers in identifying the characteristics of human trafficking.

D. MICRO, SMALL & MEDIUM ENTERPRISE SECTOR

2021 presented several challenges for MSMEs as the effects of the coronavirus continued. However, the sector is still earmarked to contribute significantly to the recovery of the economy. The rise of entrepreneurship during the pandemic placed a platform to growth, wealth creation, innovation and competitiveness within the sector. The Small Business Development Centre Network also provided training in business continuity management and writing project proposals for MSMEs.

Table 16: Loans Disbursed to MSMEs

Sector	Loans	Value (\$)	Distribution %	Employed Persons	Trained
Agriculture	98	492,243.71	14	118	17
Cultural & Creative Industries	18	87,758.36	3	24	1
Manufacturing	58	284,603.94	8	74	5
Retail & Distribution	215	1,061,655.39	31	278	69
Services	309	1,498,600.97	44	509	136
Tourism	3	17,541.98	0	3	0
Total	701	3,442,404.35	100	1006	687

SOURCE: Ministry of Energy & Business Development

The Barbados Trust Fund (BTFL) assisted 36 business with technical assistance to the sum of \$143,871.21, disbursed 3649 Covid-19 grants amounting to \$4,505,502.45 and dispensed \$31,194.80 in entrepreneurial training.

SMALL BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

The Small Business Association (SBA) also had programmes in place to create better opportunities for small businesses to thrive and improve on their development. This included training and education, marketing and general business development. The Ministry of Energy and Business Development along with the SBA and the Barbados Stock Exchange (BSE), collaborated to develop the Innovation and Growth Market (Junior Stock Exchange) to create a more robust financial ecosystem as well as meet the need for alternate sources of financing for MSMEs in the form of venture capital and other forms of equity financing for investment and working capital.

Operations within the co-operatives department slowed down substantially, especially with transport co-operatives, due to the overall retraction of the economy. However, as a result of this, interest in agriculture ignited with locals turning to farming as a means of feeding their families and farmers in agricultural co-operatives became more committed to producing and delivering crops to consumers around the country.

Through the Barbados National Standards Institution (BNSI), the Cabinet of Barbados approved the development of a National Quality Policy with the objectives of strengthening the national technical regulatory system. It also provided a national strategy to assist with Barbados' competitiveness in the global market by using international standards in technical regulations and avoiding technical barriers to trade. BNSI also assisted with the development of several health, safety and environmental (HSE) clean and green hospitality standards to improve the standards in the hospitality sector.

BNSI looked to align with the Barbados National Energy Policy (BNEP) 2019-2030, BNSI by establishing several frameworks such as the Energy Efficiency Building Standard, Barbados National Metrology Act as well as the Technical Assistance Programme for Sustainable Energy in the Caribbean (TAPSEC) to support the efforts of energy conservation and the effects of climate change.

IV. SPECIAL FEATURE ON 'MITIGATING THE IMPACT OF COVID-19'

Barbados' Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic

The year 2020 was an extremely challenging year for the Republic of Barbados, the Caribbean, and the world in general with the emergence of the COVID-19 Pandemic. It brought critical sectors to an almost complete state of devastation, and opened up deeper structural gaps that became even more prominent.

Individuals not only suffered from the health effects of the virus and the scaling down of their social activities, but from the loss of lives and their income earning capacity/employment as many businesses were closed as the economy was locked down on two occasions. The response of the Government of the Republic of Barbados to the COVID-19 Pandemic was measured and precise in order to protect the lives and livelihoods of its people. It required that the necessary preventative measures were immediately introduced and put into action.

The Government redirected and focused its efforts and expenditure to ensure that the provision of essential healthcare, personal protective equipment and other health accessories, welfare assistance, technological and educational opportunities, and social necessities were available and accessible to its citizens to minimize any possible dislocation. Sustaining a functioning healthcare system, and the re-activation of the Barbados economy were critical to ensure that the people maintained a measure of hope and expectation.

Decades of development progress was put at risk, and the Government was immediately called into action to stabilize the economy. The tourism, entrepreneur, and Micro, Small and Medium-size Enterprise (MSME) sectors were severely affected by the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Over 43,000 persons made individual claims on the National Social Security (NIS) system for unemployment benefits, as revenues declined by approximately 31% and expenditures increased by 21%. In this context, careful planning, monitoring, and evaluation of the necessary responses were equally vital, since the post COVID-19 period would provide a unique opportunity for policy makers to harness significant structural changes at all levels of the society into a vision to build back better.

Tourism Initiative

The Barbados Employment and Sustainable Transformation (BEST) Plan provided US\$300 million for hotels and tourism facilities as a response to COVID-19 to protect jobs, support the balance sheets of companies in the tourism sector and direct tourism services, and to ensure that the physical infrastructure functioned appropriately. The BEST plan allowed firms and businesses in the tourism industry to maintain all of their workers with 80% of their normal salary for up to two years should the need arise.

In addition, workers who entered the scheme did not lose their existing rights to severance pay if they were laid-off within the following twelve months. The Tourism Guarantee Fund (TGF) was also refined to support tourism establishments in accessing cheaper forms of capital to protect and expand the hotel stock. It also helped save enterprises from insolvency and bankruptcy. These initiatives allowed 75% of the work force in tourism establishments to be retained in order to honour their statutory obligations and manage their debt. Furthermore, the tourism sector was transformed into a green sector through water conservation and water harvesting measures, and the installation of renewable energy capacity to reduce reliance on fossil fuels.

National Training Initiative

Under the National Training Initiative (NTI) programmes the knowledge of tourism staff in their specific job areas and softer skills were further developed. The National Training Initiative and the Green and Digital Investment Fund was made available to small businesses, and manufacturing and agriculture enterprises provided they retained a significant portion of their jobs. Firms which re-engaged their workers were eligible for revenues to process payments and systems, to ensure their suitability to undertake their digitization through the establishment of a Green and Digital Investment Fund. This Fund reflected class shares that mirrored preference shares, and limited opportunities for grants.

Entities which benefitted from these initiatives were required to invest in localizing the value chain, and establish a deeper connection with farmers, manufacturers, artist, contractors and providers

of professional services. It was also acknowledged that further investments in joint websites, tours, marine sculpture parks, and water ferries were encouraged.

There was also the introduction of a new Business Interruption Benefit for self-employed persons who were eligible for unemployment benefits, which paid out approximately \$4.4 million to around 1,477 self-employed persons. The Government also introduced a small business wage subsidy to subsidize up to five individual workers of micro and small businesses.

Social Safety Net Initiatives

A social spending floor of \$50 million was established to strengthen the social safety net with the expectation of devoting additional resources. Social protection and access to essential services for the poor and most vulnerable ensured an inclusive recovery with no one being left behind. Social safety net initiatives for vulnerable individuals, families and businesses inter-linked with the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically Goals 1,2,3,4, 8,10,12,13,16, and 17 were also put in place.

The social security safety net was strengthened by the establishment of a Household Survival Programme which was capitalized with an additional \$20 million that allowed for a 40% increase in cash benefits to families and individuals through the Welfare Department. There was also support from Civil Society and the Private Sector for the new Adopt Our Families Programme for persons who did not receive unemployment benefits and had no members of their families employed.

COVID-19 also caused travel restrictions and the closure of borders. This contributed significant to a fall-off in foreign exchange revenues, and an impact on the agriculture food supply chains. This emphasizes the urgent need for immediate investment in food security mechanisms in the Caribbean region that would contribute to restricting the rising level of diagnosed incidences of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs).

Health Initiatives

The explosion of health issues such as obesity, heart disease, strokes and other Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) have made too many of our citizens vulnerable to life-threatening complications. The COVID-19 Pandemic sought to undermine our individual resilience and the sustainability of our national development gains. Access to health services were expanded by introducing 24-hour polyclinics, a new Harrison Point medical facility to deal with the acute COVID-19 cases was erected, and the number of nurses in the health system were increased. Supplies of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) were purchased for frontline workers and other individuals to counteract the increasing number of COVID-19 cases.

Additionally, the Farmers Empowerment and Enfranchisement Drive (FEED) programme supported food and nutrition security by bringing 750 acres and more farmers back into local agriculture. These initiatives reflect Sustainable Development Goal 3 - "Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages."

Education Initiatives

The Education Sector was particularly challenged to fulfil the desire of SDG 4 – “Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all,” due to the lack of appropriate broadband infrastructure in the country. Many children were without devices as well as functional and reliable internet connectivity, creating a level of inequality in accessing online educational services.

Substantial investments were made in the procurement of laptops and tablets for teachers and children who couldn’t afford to purchase, or had access to the required technology platforms and equipment to facilitate the new education paradigm of virtual on-line learning. This new education paradigm was established as a means to safeguard and protect children and teachers from contracting and spreading the COVID-19 virus.

V. SOCIAL SECTOR DEVELOPMENTS

A. EDUCATION AND TRAINING

EDUCATION BUDGET

Approved expenditure for the Ministry of Education, Technological and Vocational Training for the financial year 2021/2022 was \$533.2 million. This represented approximately 16.0 percent of total government expenditure and approximately 5.0 percent of GDP. Additionally, approved expenditure for financial year 2021/2022 was \$2.1 million less or recorded a 0.4 percent decline when compared with the previous year’s approved expenditure of \$535.4 million.

Primary Education received \$143.0 million, while Nursery Education received \$0.061 million. Primary Education showed a slight decline of 0.4 percent, while Nursery Education recorded a significant decline of 53.2 percent when compared with the allocation of \$0.13 million for 2020/2021.

Table 17: Approved Education Expenditure

Programme	2017/2018 to 2021/2022				
	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022
Central Administration	15,378,884	20,619,512	14,311,625	15,727,208	16,217,958
Teacher Training	6,145,032	6,445,673	4,859,404	4,979,458	5,527,864
Primary Education	156,829,311	149,796,821	144,470,161	143,577,328	143,014,320
Nursery Education	279,857	279,857	313,250	131,498	61,498
Education Sector Enhancement Programme	6,098,192	7,480,019	4,831,291	9,375,597	2,707,276
Secondary Education	132,838,356	134,907,198	139,288,300	141,419,999	140,031,516
Tertiary Education	131,942,638	138,808,454	167,155,744	170,199,488	175,586,773
Special Services	37,011,586	36,305,534	33,280,352	31,460,599	27,861,375
Poverty Alleviation and Reduction	10,000	0	0	0	0
Occupational Training	0	16,780,510	17,956,776	18,533,434	18,951,685
Total	486,533,856	511,423,578	526,466,903	535,404,609	533,283,665

SOURCE: Ministry of Education, Technological and Vocational Training

Secondary Education received \$140.0 million, which represented a slight decline of 1.0 percent when compared with the previous financial year’s allocation. Tertiary Education received \$175.6 million, an increase of 3.2 percent over the previous year.

The Education Sector Enhancement Programme (ESEP) received \$2.7 million. This represented a significant decline of 71.1 percent when compared with the \$9.4 million approved for 2020/2021. It is important to note, however, that the allocation for ESEP for 2020/2021 was higher due to increased capital expenditures, including the purchase of electronic devices and software to facilitate online education.

The allotment to Special Services of \$27.9 million reflected a decline of 11.4 percent when compared with last year's allocation. Teacher Training received \$5.5 million in financial year 2021/2022, while Occupational Training received \$18.9 million, an increase of 2.2 percent when compared with the previous year.

EDUCATION TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT UNIT – DOMESTIC SUMMER MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME

During 2021, the Ministry of Education, Technological and Vocational Training spent approximately \$5.47 million on the provision and maintenance of acceptable physical conditions to eighty (80) nursery and primary schools. \$2.8 million was spent on twenty-eight (28) nursery and primary schools, while contracts totalling \$2.67 million were issued for repairs to thirty-six (36) nursery and primary schools under the Domestic Summer Programme.

NURSERY AND PRIMARY SECTION

Education Officers of the Nursery and Primary section continued to robustly monitor public nursery, primary, and special needs schools, thus ensuring the effective functioning of these institutions. With the continued prevalence of the COVID-19 pandemic, various technological means such as virtual meetings and emails were employed to maintain communication with principals and teachers. The curriculum was once again delivered online by teachers assigned to nursery, primary, and special education schools, which ensured that teaching and learning were not compromised.

During the year, the following activities were completed:

- The re-registration of eighteen (18) private nursery, primary, secondary, and special needs schools;
- A Students' Forum- A virtual meeting where the students of primary and secondary schools were given the opportunity to speak to doctors on topics related to COVID-19;
- Empowerment sessions on Cyber Bullying and Social Media Addiction;
- Empowerment sessions on Cyber Security;
- A documentary on Special Needs Students - Born Different; and
- A professional development seminar was conducted for thirty-nine (39) acting principals on the topics of Leadership and Management, Budgeting and Education Reform.

SECONDARY EDUCATION

During the year, officers of the Secondary Section continued their online monitoring of teaching and learning in all secondary schools.

Additionally, the following activities took place during 2021:

- Training and follow-up workshops were conducted in the Evaluation Process for new administrators in three (3) secondary schools, as well as sensitisation and training sessions for newly assigned teachers in three (3) subject areas;
- Ten (10) videos were produced to assist teachers and students with enhanced delivery of Basic Food Preparation;
- A data collection tool which will monitor social and emotional issues of secondary school students was developed, including input from the Ministry of Education, Technological and Vocational Training and from guidance counsellors; and
- The launches of the National Student Council and the Active Kids Initiative took place.

CURRICULUM SECTION

This section has as its main responsibility to ensure the highest quality of instruction, including assessment, throughout the primary and secondary school system.

During the period under review, Curriculum Officers engaged in activities, including:

- The establishment of Google Classrooms as a repository for primary school Science teachers to access digital resources;
- The development of digital content or resources to assist teachers with planning for and implementing lessons in an online or hybrid environment;
- The establishment of a working group of Modern Languages teachers to create resources for use by the general school body;
- Consultation with the National Cultural Foundation (NCF) and the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) regarding the provision and facilitation of educational resources for both television and online learning.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES UNIT

The Student Support Services Unit has been mandated to provide essential support to school-aged children, parents/guardians, teachers, and Guidance Counsellors. The Unit performs an investigative, evaluative, and regulatory role in conjunction with Social Services Agencies and other private professionals.

To assist in supporting students, an additional seven (7) school social workers were assigned to the Unit in July 2021.

During 2021, the officers of the Unit received 118 student referrals; placed sixty-seven (67) students with various special needs into appropriate schools; evaluated fifty-two (52) students for exemption from the 2021 Barbados Secondary School Entrance Examination; processed 'special requests' for 166 students in relation to the 2021 Barbados Secondary School Entrance Examination; and participated in the delivery of twenty-four (24) lectures on Special Education and Exceptional Learners in the Classroom at Erdiston Teachers' Training College.

SCHOOL MEALS DEPARTMENT

The School Meals Department was initially established to provide a daily mid-morning snack and lunch to children at public primary schools. Recipients of this service have since increased to include children at two (2) private schools, at risk children at sixteen (16) secondary schools and the students of three (3) special schools.

The department prepares and distributes daily a total of approximately 24,000 lunches from four (4) centres across the island. However, as the suspension of the school feeding programme continued, the services of the department were employed in different areas, particularly for the purposes of transportation. Van Drivers assisted the Queen Elizabeth Hospital with the delivery of daily meals to two (2) of the quarantine facilities, as well as the delivery of meals from the Psychiatric Hospital to the Geriatric Hospital. Drivers and General Workers also assisted the Barbados Defence Force personnel with the national distribution of care packages. Additionally, the department facilitated the catering division of the Ministry of Health and Wellness with access to the centre at St. Christopher for the preparation of meals for one of the quarantine facilities.

During the year under review, the School Meals Department prepared and distributed a total of 755,350 meals.

SAMUEL JACKMAN PRESCOD INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

For the period under review, the Samuel Jackman Prescod Institute of Technology (SJPI) delivered training to one thousand six hundred and thirty-four (1,634) students. The SJPI enrolled nine hundred and six (906) students in full time programmes, of which five hundred and sixteen (516) were first years, three hundred and seventy-two (372) were second years and eighteen (18) were third years. Included in this data were sixteen (16) international students, of which eleven (11) were new students and five (5) were returning students. The Institution also delivered training to thirty-three (33) Day Release and seventy-nine (79) trainees for the Next Steps Initiative programme for the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Community Empowerment. Additionally, seven hundred and twenty-eight (728) students were enrolled in Continuing Education courses and programmes, of which three hundred and fifty-nine (359) were males and three hundred and sixty-nine (369) were females.

CARIBBEAN EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL (CXC) EXAMS

During the examination period of June 2021, 1,054 of the 21,311 original subject entries were deferred and 979 were not administered due to absence. The Ministry of Education, Technological and Vocational Training implemented a Learning Development and Examination Success Preparation Scheme for the students who deferred in June 2021. This scheme exposed students to training in study skills and also included surveys that were undertaken to determine their additional needs.

CARIBBEAN SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE (CSEC) EXAMINATIONS

Sixty-eight (68.0) percent of the CSEC examinations taken by students of public and private schools in June 2021 resulted in passes at grade I, II or III; down from 73.0 percent in 2020. Of the 4,963 students (2,219 males and 2,744 females), 88.0 percent gained passes in at least one subject, while 52.0 percent passed five or more in the year's sittings. These proportions marked a decrease compared to 94.0 percent and 56.0 percent in 2020, respectively.

CARIBBEAN ADVANCED PROFICIENCY EXAMINATIONS (CAPE)

The CAPE examinations taken by students of public and private schools in June 2021 resulted in 93.0 percent passes, at grades I through V, for each of the Unit 1 and Unit 2 proficiency levels. 99.1 percent of the 1,439 public and private school students (629 males and 810 females) who took exams received at least one pass at either unit level.

BARBADOS ACCREDITATION COUNCIL

During 2021, four (4) tertiary educational providers were registered with the Barbados Accreditation Council (BAC). The BAC issued fifty-eight (58) Certificates of Recognition of CARICOM Skills Qualification to eligible CARICOM Nationals and twenty-one (21) Statements of Recognition of Institutions and/or Programmes; verified nine (9) Certificates of Recognition issued by other CARICOM Member States; evaluated seven (7) foreign qualifications to local awards; and completed two (2) Recognition and Verification of qualifications requests.

BARBADOS INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT AND PRODUCTIVITY (BIMAP)

The Barbados Institute of Management and Productivity (BIMAP) continued to offer a number of certificate courses, diplomas, seminars and short courses during 2021. A total of 1,630 students were enrolled in 2021. This was 204 persons more than the previous year's total enrolment of 1,426 persons. The overall student enrolment for 2021 consisted of 32.0 per cent males and 68.0 per cent females.

For 2021, BIMAP increased the number of seminars and short courses offered from fifteen (15) to twenty-three (23) and increased the number of 45-hour certificate courses from eighty-six (86) to one hundred and forty (140). In addition, there was an increase in new students enrolling in the Diploma in Management Studies; Certificate in Management Studies and the Information Technology Professional Certification; where there was a slight decline in the number of new students enrolling in the Bachelor of Business Administration programme.

Additionally, BIMAP commenced four (4) new programmes during 2021: Youth Empowerment Programme, which enrolled thirty-eight (38) persons; Professional Development Programme, which enrolled thirty-four (34) persons; Advanced Certificate Programme, which enrolled forty-two (42) persons; and a partnership with the Barbados Youth Advanced Corps, which enrolled thirty-nine (39) persons.

NATIONAL TRANSFORMATION INITIATIVE

The National Transformation Initiative (NTI) was established as part of Government's home-grown Barbados Economic Recovery and Transformation Programme (BERT) to advance a broad mandate in the RERE Programme to Retool, Empower, Retrain and Enfranchise every Barbadian worker in the public, private, third and informal sectors. The NTI's aim is to build Barbadian citizens who are cutting-edge, technologically savvy, and skilled to function in a digital world, while maintaining a strong sense of national identity.

The NTI implemented various initiatives to achieve this objective as follows:

- Designed and launched an indigenous Learning Management System (LMS) on which it delivers a suite of world-class online courses;
- Negotiated, on behalf of the Government of Barbados, investment in a landmark partnership for three years with the world's largest Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) provider, Coursera, providing access to thousands of internationally accredited training courses in a myriad of subject areas available for free to every Barbadian;
- The Barbados Employment & Sustainable Transformation (BEST) (Tourism Training) programme – targeted at upskilling employees within the Tourism sector;
- Developed a library of content and media (print, audio, video, images/graphics) distributed across various channels -both mass and social media, which capture the NTI's key areas of focus central to national transformation including:
 - Active Citizenship and modelling Barbadian Identity and Excellence;
 - Highlighting the need for upskilling and embracing opportunities for continuous personal and professional development;
 - Highlighting the critical need for inclusion for equality on behalf of and in support of the community of Persons with Disabilities (PWD);
 - Showcasing the central role of creatives in shaping national identity;
 - Highlighting the value and future forward trajectory of online learning;
 - Coursera's internationally accredited courses;
 - BEST training initiatives for the Tourism Sector; and
 - NTI Roadshows to all 30 constituencies across Barbados.

To date, a total of 14,676 students have enrolled in eight (8) indigenous online courses under the NTI's Learning Management System. The most popular of these courses was Citizenship, with 13,496 students (30.6 percent of the total); followed by Online Safety, with 7,054 students (16.0 percent of the total); Core Skills, with 5,209 students (11.8 percent of the total); Occupational Health and Safety, with 5,166 students (11.7 percent of the total); Entrepreneurship, with 4,858 students (11.0 percent of the

total); Beginners Sign Language, with 4,132 students (9.4 percent of the total); Introduction to Coding with JAVA, with 3,884 students (8.8 percent of the total); and Personal Financial Management, with 252 students (0.6 percent of the total).

The NTI delivered thirty (30) courses and trained over 2,000 persons under the Barbados Employment and Sustainable Transformation (BEST) Tourism Training Programme, including persons from fifty-seven (57) tourism properties.

To date, Phase One of the partnership between the NTI and Coursera includes a total of 1,851 courses under six training tracks:

- Skills for Global Success;
- Change or Advance your Career and Grow Your Business;
- Tourism Academy designed to support the Barbados Employment and Sustainable Transformation (BEST) Programme and non-BEST learners;
- Creative Academy,
- Coursera Social Impact Scholarships provided by Google and
- Blue and Green Economy Foundations.

A total of 23,180 persons have enrolled in courses under this partnership. The main areas of skills development were in the areas of business, data science and computer science.

During the period under review, the NTI also partnered with several other agencies to offer customised (bespoke) training, including the Barbados Youth Advance Corps (Ministry of Youth, Sports and Community Development); Barbados Community College; Barbados Workers' Union; and Rosset International Butler School.

B. YOUTH, SPORTS AND COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

BARBADOS YOUTH ADVANCE CORPS PROGRAMME

The Barbados Youth Advance Corps (BYAC) Programme is a two (2) year programme. It commences with a twelve (12) week residential phase designed to expose participants to discipline, citizenship and civic education, self-esteem building, etiquette and a range other personal development courses. Participants are counselled during that period in order to address any psycho-social deficiencies and issues which may prevent them from taking full advantage of the course offerings.

The residential component is followed by approximately nine (9) months of specific technical and vocational training in areas that are aligned to the needs of the emerging labour market.

The second year of the programme focuses on work experience activities, and will include job attachments, apprenticeships and internships, as well as participation in community service and national projects.

During 2021, the Barbados Youth Advance Corps (BYAC) programme catered to four (4) active Cohorts, as outlined in table 5.2-1.

The status of cohort engagement at the end of 2021 was as follows:

- Cohorts 1 and 2 continued engagements in training and employment opportunities and are scheduled to conclude their training programmes in March 2022.
- Cohort 3 is currently participating in its Technical and Vocational Training Programme as well as its Caribbean Secondary Educational Programme and City and Guilds Educational Training Programme, which commenced in October 2021.
- Cohort 4 commenced its Virtual Training Programme in October 2021, in lieu of the scheduled Residential Programme, which was postponed due to the heightened COVID-19 cases nationally.

Table 18: Participants by Cohort (Barbados Youth Advance Corps)

2019-2021				
	Date Commenced	Males	Females	Total
Cohort 1	September 2019	118	74	192
Cohort 2	November 2019	108	56	164
Cohort 3	September 2020	90	36	126
Cohort 4	October 2021	70	37	107
		386	203	589

SOURCE: Barbados Youth Advance Corps, Ministry of Youth, Sports and Community Empowerment

ACHIEVEMENTS OF BYAC COHORTS – TRAINING

One hundred and five (105) trainees, consisting of seventy-seven (77) males and twenty-eight (28) females, were registered in the Technical and Vocational Training Programme for the Academic Year 2021-2022.

Additionally, during 2021, the BYAC Cohorts undertook training as follows:

- Twelve (12) trainees from Cohorts 1 and 2, or 31.0 percent of the trainees enrolled at the Barbados Institute of Management and Productivity (BIMAP) passed all their courses, whilst twenty-six (26) trainees from Cohorts 1 and 2, or 67.0 percent of the trainees enrolled, gained at least three (3) certificates out of six (6) units completed. These trainees pursued studies in Animation, Food Preparation and Cooking and Entrepreneurship Management.
- Four (4) male trainees from Cohort 1 enrolled in the Barbados Vocational Training Board Computer Applications Certificate Course. Three (3) trainees, or 75.0 percent of the trainees enrolled, successfully passed the aforementioned course.
- One hundred and four (104) trainees, consisting of sixty-five (65) males and thirty-nine (39) females from Cohorts 1 to 3, entered the Samuel Jackman Prescod Institute of Technology (SJPI). These trainees pursued studies in Carpentry and Joinery, Childcare and Nursery Management, Electrical Wiring, Home Economics and Graphic Design. Six (6) trainees from Cohorts 1 and 2, or 18.0 percent of the trainees enrolled in the aforementioned courses, passed all of the courses,

whilst twenty-four (24) trainees from Cohorts 1 and 2, or 73.0 percent of the trainees enrolled in the courses, gained a Grade Point Average (GPA) over 2.0.

- Sixty-nine (69) trainees, fifty-nine (59) males and ten (10) females from Cohorts 1 and 2, participated in the Youth Farming and Leadership and Agri-preneurship Programmes facilitated by Sojourner Foundation and All Greens (The Greening Company). Thirty-five (35) trainees from Cohorts 1 and 2, or 95.0 percent of the trainees enrolled, successfully completed the Youth Farming and Leadership and Agri-preneurship Programmes.
- Twenty-nine (29) trainees from Cohorts 2 and 3, consisting of sixteen (16) males and thirteen (13) females, entered the Barbados Community College. These trainees are pursuing studies in Pre-Engineering, Interior Decorating and Photovoltaic Design and Installation.
- Sixty-three (63) trainees from Cohorts 1 and 2, consisting of thirty-eight (38) males and twenty-five (25) females, sat the City and Guilds English examination in June 2021. Forty-three (43) trainees, twenty-five (25) males and eighteen (18) females, or 68.0 percent, passed the examination.
- Sixty-five (65) trainees from Cohorts 1 and 2, consisting of thirty-nine (39) males and twenty-six (26) females, sat the City and Guilds Mathematics examination in June 2021. Forty (40) trainees, consisting of twenty-three (23) males and seventeen (17) females, or 62.0 percent, passed the examination. Seven (7) distinctions and twenty-six (26) merits were obtained.
- There were eighty-one (81) subject entries from Cohorts 1 and 2, consisting of thirty-seven (37) males and forty-four (44) females, for the 2021 June/July Caribbean Examinations Council Sitting. Twelve (12) males and seventeen (17) females passed these exams, resulting in a total of twenty-nine (29) passes.

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

During the reporting period, one hundred and sixty-six (166) trainees from Cohorts 1, 2 and 3, comprising of one hundred and twelve (112) males and fifty-four (54) females, were actively employed in various employment exercises in both the public and private sector. The areas of the attachments covered the construction, hospitality, security, administration, and retail sectors.

In addition:

- Seventeen (17) trainees, consisting of five (5) males and twelve (12) females from Cohorts 1 and 2, were selected to participate in a 10-week hospitality training programme facilitated by Sandals Resorts during October to December 2021. Fourteen (14) of the trainees – four (4) males and ten (10) females - received three-month contracts on completion of the training.
- Two (2) male BYAC Cohort 2 trainees represented Barbados at the Pan American Junior Continental Championships in Mexico during June 2021.

- Barbados was given a wild card to compete at the Inaugural Junior Pan American Games in Cali, Colombia from November to December 2021. One (1) BYAC trainee represented Barbados in wrestling at that event.
- Fourteen (14) trainees, consisting of ten (10) males and four (4) females, enrolled in the Barbados Defence Force Programme, which commenced with recruitment on October 9th, 2021.

C. POPULATION

At the end of December 2021, the resident population was estimated at 269.8 thousand persons. This represented a decline of 1,189 persons from the comparable period in the previous year when the resident population stood at 270.9 thousand persons. An estimated 130.3 thousand males were recorded in 2021, which accounted for 48.1 per cent of population. This also represented a decrease of 508 males from the 130.8 thousand males reported in 2020. Similarly, the female resident population was estimated to have declined by 681 females in 2021 to stand at 139.4 thousand females or 51.6 per cent of the population, in comparison to 140.1 thousand females recorded in 2020.

The birth rate in 2021 fell to 8.2 per thousand from 8.7 per thousand in 2020. During the review period, the total live births was estimated at 2,210, inclusive of 1,070 registered females and 1,140 registered males. In comparison in 2020, 2,356 live births were registered, which included 1,189 females and 1,167 males.

During the review period, the death rate fell to 9.2 per thousand from 10 per thousand from 2020. A total of 2,895 deaths were recorded in 2021; representing an increase of 182 deaths over the 2,713 in 2020. A total of 1,478 male deaths recorded for 2021, while female deaths stood at 1,417. Infant mortality increased in 2021 to a rate of 11.3 per thousand births, compared to the rate of 6.4 per thousand births in the previous year.

The rate of population growth marginally increased to -0.4 per cent in 2021 from a rate of -0.5 per cent in 2020. The natural increase in population (difference between births and deaths) declined by 685 persons in 2021.

D. HEALTH

OVERVIEW

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 2021-2022. The Ministry sought to place emphasis on the development of policies and programmes aimed at promoting wellness, while at the same time ensuring the provision of quality health services to the public of Barbados. This was in conjunction with managing a global pandemic where additional resources had to be diverted to manage the crisis, while ensuring that the wider healthcare system was still robust, efficient and effective.

The MHW remained committed to achieving Universal Health Coverage as articulated by the World Health Organization (WHO) and achieving Sustainable Development Goal three (SDG 3) “Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages”. Within the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ministry fulfilled its health steering role in the ongoing battle and sought to mitigate the impact of this disease. The emergence of new variants within the population has necessitated an adaptation of processes based on virulence and severity.

Consequently, Barbados sought to implement a comprehensive set of public health measures that were adapted to the local context and epidemiology of the disease. Therefore, the Ministry expanded its capacity to quarantine, isolate and increase testing capacity with the establishment of community-based sites. Home isolation and home quarantine services were provided to augment the large numbers of persons needing care during the Omicron surge and have worked in tandem to relieve the pressure on the health care facilities. A 24-hour Logistics and Operations Centre was established to coordinate the inputs for the provision of services.

Significant emphasis was also placed on procuring the appropriate amounts of Personal Protective Equipment, sanitising materials, testing supplies and other medical equipment (including ventilator support) necessary for the execution of duties in a safe and effective manner, while providing optimal care. The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) continues to support the Ministry of Health and Wellness through the donation of much needed supplies and equipment.

Health professionals have worked tirelessly to combat the COVID-19 pandemic using tried-and-tested public health methods for infectious disease surveillance and control. Digital technologies were harnessed to aid with public health surveillance and contact tracing and to this end, the Ministry implemented a comprehensive COVID-19 tracking and monitoring system.

The response to the fight against Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) continued. The impact of COVID-19 and NCD prevention and control flagged a need to tailor messaging aimed at risk reduction in this context. A draft National Strategic Plan for NCDs was updated and will serve as a guide for NCD policy and programmes over a five-year period. This Strategic Plan calls on governmental agencies, civil society and the private sector to be the drivers of national prevention and control efforts with respect to NCDs.

A National Cancer Control Plan (NCCP) has also been developed targeted at improving the health and wellbeing of all Barbadians, through the prevention and provision of effective cancer control systems by addressing the epidemiological trends and management outcomes related to cancers in Barbados. This will be achieved through a collective response from the Government, private sector and civil society.

The preservation of our healthcare system as robust, effective and efficient still remains of paramount significance to the Ministry of Health and Wellness. Emphasis was placed on the development of policies and programmes aimed at promoting wellness, while at the same time ensuring the provision of quality health services, to the public of Barbados.

HEALTH BUDGET

The Ministry of Health and Wellness was allocated the sum of \$359.8 million for the financial year 2021/2022 to meet the cost of operations in the provision of healthcare to Barbadians and permanent residents. This represents a decline of \$41.7 million when compared with the previous financial year’s total allocation of \$401.5 million.

Hospital Services (the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and the Psychiatric Hospital) received the largest share of the Ministry's allocation, with \$202.3 million or 56.1 percent of the total allocation, followed by Primary Health Care Services with \$57.4 million or 16.0 percent. Care of the Elderly was allocated \$39.1 million or 10.9 percent of the total for financial year 2021/2022, while the Pharmaceutical Programme received \$27.1 million or 7.5 percent of the total. Direction and Policy Formulation Services received \$19.4 million or 5.4 percent of the total allocation, while the HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Project was allocated \$6.9 million or 1.9 percent. Environmental Health Services received \$4.6 million, while Care of the Disabled was allocated \$3.3 million for the financial year 2021/2022.

HEALTHCARE FINANCING

The Ministry of Health and Wellness is committed to the development of a new sustainable health financing framework. This framework will be underpinned by a health system approach that considers alternative models of accumulating funds, paying hospitals and health care providers, and establishing a system of accountability that enhances the performance of the health care system.

In this regard, the Ministry, in collaboration with the University of the West Indies Health Economics Unit (HEU), St. Augustine Campus, assessed the current health financing system in Barbados, which included conducting a costing study of the health services. The end product will be the provision of a list of services offered by the Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH) and their associated costs. It is anticipated that this information will be critical to the establishment of rates and fees for that institution based on real time data.

Table 19: Health Expenditure by Programme*

2021/2022	
Programme	2021/2022
Direction and Policy Formulation Services	19,373,118
Primary Health Care Services	57,442,903
Hospital Services	202,032,351
Care of the Disabled	3,298,027
Pharmaceutical Programme	27,130,619
Care of the Elderly	39,067,279
HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Project	6,929,915
Environmental Health Services	4,622,034
Total	359,896,246

SOURCE: Ministry of Health and Wellness

*Based on approved estimates of expenditure

This collaboration with the HEU also included undertaking a Health Financing Progress Matrix (HFPM) Assessment for the Ministry. The purpose of this assessment was to provide policymakers and health managers in Barbados with a report containing a baseline assessment of data and to advance progress towards their policy goal of Universal Health Care (UHC).

HEALTH INFORMATION SYSTEMS

In order to support tracking and monitoring with respect to COVID-19, as well as to assist Barbados in reopening its borders safely and efficiently, Barbados has developed secure online resources, mobile apps, wristbands and public health information management systems, including the mobile apps BimSafe and BimSafe Tracer (COVID Shield); BimSafe Band (wristband) and the SHAPE App Public Health Emergency Information Management System.

The Ministry of Health and Wellness is currently conducting an analysis of the current Health Information System through a Health Informatics Project. The main objective of this project is to provide a roadmap for a new Health Information System which can service the entire healthcare sector of Barbados and will have the ability to incorporate private medical practitioners.

REFURBISHMENT OF HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE

ALBERT CECIL GRAHAM DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

This facility underwent major renovations over the past year. This work included: replacing the roof over the assessment area; painting of the interior and exterior of the building; retiling of rooms; rewiring of the building; upgrading of the telephone and internet services; refurbishment of the Snoezelan (sensory/stimulation) Room; painting and replacement of cupboards and shelves; and the placing of new air conditioning units in some departments.

The Centre received a donation of \$20,000.00 from the Maria Holder Memorial Trust towards refurbishing the pool and included replacing the heating system, painting and levelling the floor depth, reconfiguring the steps into the pool, remedial plumbing and reconstruction of the poolroom.

CIBC First Caribbean International Bank provided \$9,965.00 towards the refurbishment of the Education and Workshop Units. Both the interior and exterior of these departments were painted and a small garden planted.

In January 2021, the Maria Holder Memorial Trust facilitated a donation of \$20,000.00 from a parent of a former client of the Centre. This donation was primarily for the Physiotherapy department for the purchase of therapy equipment.

COVID-19 prevented many of the Centre's planned outreach programmes, and the Workshop and Education Unit were challenged with transitioning to online provision. The Education Unit was aided by the Ministry of Education, Technological and Vocational Training in providing tablets to the children. However, the Workshop Unit was closed during the periods that face-to-face classes were restricted.

DISTRICT HOSPITALS

In the current financial year, Ward A1 at the St. Phillip District Hospital was completed. This ward has the capacity to accommodate sixteen (16) persons. These additional beds will serve to enhance the provision of elderly care services in the public sector and also assist with those elder for care clients in the Queen Elizabeth Hospital who require geriatric care.

St. Lucy District Hospital was converted into a quarantine facility during the COVID-19 pandemic.

OUTPATIENT CLINICS

St. Joseph and St. Andrew Outpatients' Clinics offer general practice, psychiatry, pharmacy, domiciliary care, antenatal, family planning, and child health services to persons within those catchments at least three (3) days per week. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, these clinics were closed from March 18, 2020.

Both outpatient clinics were in dire need of refurbishment before the COVID-19 outbreak. The Ministry thought it prudent to effect refurbishment and retrofitting of the clinical areas and expand the facilities to ensure compliance with the COVID-19 protocols and manage infectious disease cases while still permitting routine management of non-infectious patients. These outpatient clinics were reopened in May 2021.

ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT: CAPITAL WORKS UPGRADE AND EXPANSION

Phases 1 and 2 of the renovation and expansion of the Accident and Emergency Department of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH) were completed during the second quarter of 2021. A 9,000 square feet single storey reinforced concrete building and screening centre constituting these two phases was opened to the Barbadian public in June 2021.

BEST DOS-SANTOS PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

During 2021, the IT department of the Ministry of Health and Wellness provided support to improve the reporting of COVID-19 results. To enhance its capacity for COVID-19 testing, the Best Dos-Santos Public Health Laboratory operated 24-hours to meet local demand and hired additional technical, administrative and support staff, including staff to support the validation of test results for incoming passengers.

The Laboratory assisted the Ministry's Vaccine Programme in relation to vaccine storage. Additionally, during the year, the Laboratory supported three (3) private laboratories in the setup, development and implementation of COVID-19 testing.

The Centres for Disease Control (CDC) Caribbean Regional Office donated some COVID-19 testing supplies to the Laboratory. Additionally, the Pan-American Health Organisation (PAHO) provided support through obtaining reagents and supplies for COVID-19 testing and assisting with the hiring and training of staff to support COVID-19 testing. Also, equipment was donated for COVID-19 testing, which has increased the Laboratory's capacity and can also be used for other tests in the future.

ELDERLY CARE

The Geriatric Hospital was initially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic during January to February 2021, when a total of ten (10) persons – one (1) client and nine (9) staff members – tested positive for the virus. This resulted in the quarantine of nursing staff and patients from three (3) wards, in addition to dietary staff, housekeeping staff and porters.

The Geriatric Hospital provided isolation services for the male ward of the Gordon Cummins District Hospital during the year.

The number of admissions to the Geriatric Hospital were reduced in 2020 and 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The admission rates were also affected by the need to first quarantine new admissions before integrating them into the general patient population. There were one hundred and forty-four (144) admissions to the Geriatric Hospital in 2019; ninety-three (93) admissions in 2020; and seventy-seven (77) in 2021. This represented a decline of 35.4 percent for 2020 when compared with 2019 and a further decline of 17.2 percent for 2021 when compared with 2020.

The capacity at the Geriatric Hospital was reduced by two (2) wards or approximately thirty-two (32) beds to provide a dedicated isolation unit for the care of clients who were COVID-19 positive.

PRIMARY HEALTH CARE PROGRAMME

Through inter-sectoral collaboration, the Ministry of Health and Wellness made preparations to create sufficient capacity to accommodate a surge of cases associated with each variant of COVID-19. This resulted in widespread deferment of scheduled appointments and non-urgent care (walk-ins).

Services at polyclinics continued to be disrupted during 2021 due to the need to reconfigure the polyclinics to manage COVID-19. The pandemic noticeably affected the management of chronic non-communicable diseases and prevented the execution of many specialities and auxiliary services, including dental and nutrition services; podiatry; child guidance clinic; the extended hours service at the Winston Scott Polyclinic; and outpatient clinic services. Outreach programmes and community home visits (dressings and clinical assessments) were suspended. In some cases, patients were redirected to other polyclinics to ensure the continuation of care.

Child health attendance precipitously decreased, with a consequent increase in defaulters in the under-5 age group. This resulted in a decline in the immunisation coverage of vaccine-preventable diseases.

On the other hand, the duties and responsibilities of the nursing staff in the polyclinics increased since the pandemic to include the administration of local and international vaccines and the storage and distribution of the vaccines to both the public and private sector.

Overall, there were substantial declines in a wide range of healthcare activities across the family health programme due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The implications of these changes and the indirect impact of COVID-19 will require intense efforts to improve service delivery and modification of health-seeking behaviours.

HEALTH PROMOTION

During the period under review, the Health Promotion Unit continued in its supportive role in spearheading the communications efforts of the Ministry, particularly as it related to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The Health Promotion Unit continued to coordinate the daily preparation and dissemination of the country's COVID-19 statistics and worked in partnership with the media to create and share

messages on demand. The Unit played a major role in the planning and implementation of the COVID-19 Testing Campaign for vulnerable communities across the island.

The promotion of immunisation against COVID-19 was also one of the major efforts of the Unit with the production of FAQ infographics, vaccine videos and a jingle for social media as well as printed posters on side-effects. With the financial support of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Ministry was able to collaborate with a number of artists and media experts to promote COVID-19 vaccine uptake.

A highlight of the period was the Risk Communication and Community Engagement Project, which was a pillar of the Ministry's Mission Critical: Saving Lives Operation in response to the surge in cases in November 2021. The Health Promotion Unit, with the technical support of the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (US CDC), and donations from other private entities, facilitated a community outreach project with the assistance of the Community Health Liaison Officers and students from the University of the West Indies (UWI). They provided vulnerable communities with much needed masks, hand sanitizers, disinfectants, educational material and opportunities to ask questions and voice concerns with respect to their COVID experience.

In July of 2021, the Health Promotion Unit coordinated a five-week face-to-face Health Promotion workshop for 250 persons of vulnerable households under the Human and Social Development Programme of the Ministry of People Empowerment and Elder Affairs, and the Ministry of Health and Wellness. The Unit coordinated education sessions for the participants in the areas of healthy nutrition, physical activity, stress management and decision making with respect to health.

During the period under review the Health Promotion Unit, having representation on the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) Vaccine Communication Expert Committee, the CARPHA Regional Health Communicators Network and the PAHO Caribbean Health Communicators Network, facilitated Barbados' participation in a number of social media COVID-19 Communication Campaigns. Videos and other materials produced by the Ministry were shared widely through these campaigns to affect behavioural change in the areas of vaccine uptake and mental health.

NUTRITION PROGRAMME

In 2021, the National Nutrition Centre (NNC) continued to provide nutrition services to a wide variety of institutions. Technical expertise was also provided in the following areas:

- Nutrition counselling at the nine polyclinics;
- Supervised the dietary services of the government run long-term care facilities (District Hospitals);
- Inspection of the food service departments/areas of private nursing homes;
- Development of a draft National School Nutrition Policy (NSNP); and
- The provision of technical assistance to the Government Industrial School.

Despite staffing challenges, assignments were made so that each polyclinic could have a nutrition service provided to meet the demand of each facility. Within the polyclinic setting, Community Nutrition Officers (CNOs) along with the Assistant Nutrition Officer (ANO), provided nutrition counselling, mainly

directed at the prevention and management of non-communicable diseases and supporting healthy maternal and child health outcomes.

Services to government long-term care facilities were also provided by the Assistant Nutrition Officer, who supervised the dietary departments of the St. Lucy, Gordon Cummins and St. Philip District Hospitals, and provided technical nutrition assistance, to ensure that dietary provisions met the nutrition needs of the diverse patient population.

Technical nutrition assistance was also provided within the private long-term care setting. This was in response to a previous request from the Advisory and Inspection Committee, for assistance with nutrition representation on the inspection team. CNOs provided guidance and monitored operations of assigned private long-term care facilities, to ensure that established nutrition standards were maintained.

The NNC, working with the Ministry of Education Technology and Vocational Training (METVT), continued efforts to implement the National School Nutrition Policy (NSNP). This comprehensive document was developed out of a need to modify the school food and physical activity environment. With technical assistance from PAHO and contributions from key stakeholders, a draft National School Nutrition Policy for Barbados was prepared. Several initiatives with key stakeholders followed, to create awareness and achieve support.

The provision of services from the NNC extended to other departments and government ministries and Non-Governmental Organisations. These included the School Meals Department; Elsa Relief Project, Ministry of People Empowerment and Elders Affairs; and the Government Industrial Schools, Ministry of Home Affairs. These Ministries benefited from varying Food Service interventions specifically targeted at their unique needs. The NNC also cooperated extensively with the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Barbados, with the NSNP and other public health interventions and campaigns.

NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

The Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) programme continued to implement activities to reduce the burden of NCDs. During the period, Barbados shifted its focus from routine healthcare issues to COVID-19. As a result, some of the expected progress did not occur during 2021.

The NCD programme worked with the NCD Commission and the Wellness Task Force in creating messaging on NCD risk reduction through physical activity and nutrition. The programme also supported the National Nutrition Centre (NNC) on planning for the implementation of the School Nutrition Policy. The programme continued to help shape the regional standard for pre-packaged food and for nutritional labelling to raise public awareness and to support healthier choices.

**Table 20: Average Bed Utilisation Rates at QEH
2015-2021**

Year	Admissions	Patient Days	Average Length of Stay (Days)	Bed Occupancy Rate (%)
2015	18,245	111,056	6.2	54.5
2016	18,546	122,451	6.5	61.7
2017	17,155	110,966	6.0	58.2
2018	18,091	124,975	6.7	68.8
2019	18,088	123,448	6.6	70.5
2020	15,771	117,747	7.4	61.5
2021P	13,778	98,753	7.7	58.0

SOURCE: Medical Records Department, Queen Elizabeth Hospital

P - Provisional

QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL

The Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH) is the country's primary acute care medical facility, providing 94.0 percent of all hospital beds in the island. The QEH is also an accredited teaching hospital affiliated with the University of the West Indies (UWI), Yohlanda Cave Hill Campus; as well as nursing and allied health care programmes offered by the Barbados Community College (BCC) and the Samuel Jackman Prescod Institute of Technology (SJPI).

IN-PATIENT SERVICES

The leading in-patient services for admissions were Medicine, Obstetrics, Gynaecology, Surgery and Paediatrics. The average length of stay for 2021, including stays in Intensive Care Units (ICUs), was 7.7 days, while the approximate total number of admissions for the same period was 13,778.

OUT-PATIENT SERVICES

During 2021, there were approximately 71,185 out-patient visits (old and new cases). Out-patient activity continued to be concentrated on Medicine, Obstetrics, Ophthalmology and Surgery, with Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) surpassing Orthopaedic services to be listed among the leading services for out-patient visits. The reduction in orthopaedic out-patient visits was a result of actions taken with the hospital to mitigate the risks to patients and staff associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Additionally, other initiatives, including the establishment of the QEH Help Desk, the Community Health Workers Project, Medication Delivery Programme and the introduction of Telemedicine services launched in 2020, continued to contribute to a reduction in on-site service utilisation, while ensuring continuity of patient-centred care.

ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT VISITS

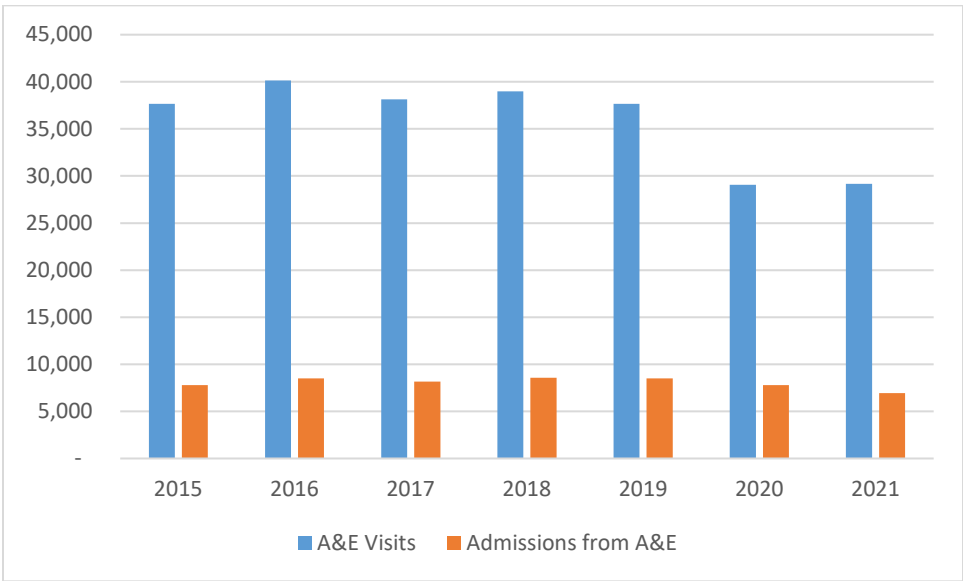
The Accident and Emergency Department (AED) recorded 29,165 patient visits during 2021, with 6,947 patients admitted, accounting for 50.4 percent of total hospital admissions. This represented a marginal increase of ninety-eight (98) visits or 0.34 percent when compared with 2020, when 29,067 patient visits were recorded. Patient admissions, however, showed a decline of 849 or 10.9 percent when compared with 2020, when 7,796 admissions were recorded. The stabilisation in patient visits may be attributed to several factors instituted and continued during 2021 to mitigate against the spread of COVID-19 within the AED. These included:

- increased public education on accessing care within the COVID-19 environment;
- implementation and adherence to precautionary measures restricting entrance to the AED to individuals exhibiting cold and/or flu-like symptoms; and
- the recommended use of the QEH Help Desk for general queries.

Patients seen at the AED were triaged and categorised as follows:

- Patients with life-threatening conditions (1.5 percent);
- Patients with urgent, but not life-threatening conditions (7.4 percent);
- Patients with non-urgent medical conditions but require treatment at the hospital (64.9 percent);
- Patients with non-urgent conditions who can be seen elsewhere (21.3 percent); and
- Patients seen previously and have scheduled reviews (4.8 percent).

**Figure 29: Average Bed Utilisation Rates at QEH
2015 - 2021**



SOURCE: Medical Records Department, Queen Elizabeth Hospital

MANAGEMENT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The operationalization and management of the Harrison's Point Isolation Facility by the QEH continued to be a major component in the national response to the COVID-19 pandemic in the reporting period. The facility underwent structural upgrades to increase capacity, which included expansion of the secondary isolation area and installation of additional oxygen bank and medical gas facilities to support the management of critical care COVID-19 patients.

Eight (8) satellite isolation centres (five (5) repurposed schools and three (3) hotels) were also opened and managed during the first, third and fourth quarters of the year to cater to less critical patients as a result of the significant rise in COVID-19 cases. External facilities (temporary outdoor treatment tents) adjacent to the AED and within the department's ambulance bay were retrofitted, equipped, and staffed to manage increasing numbers of patients arriving for care during the observed surge. These external facilities allowed for the screening of patients prior to AED entry, as well as the treatment and accommodation of patients awaiting transfer to an isolation facility.

A swabbing centre was also opened for the convenience and safety of QEH staff at the Enmore Complex.

HIV/STI PROGRAMME

HIV treatment and care services continued to be delivered at the specialty Ladymeade Reference Unit (LRU) clinic. The LRU site is the main site for the provision of these services including the dispensing of antiretroviral drugs and drugs for the prevention and treatment of opportunistic infections and for the management of acute and chronic diseases in persons living with HIV (PLHIV). A process of Shared Care is employed to facilitate additional access points for clients at other sites across Barbados, including the Barbados Family Planning Association (BFPA), Equals Barbados and at some general practitioner locations.

By the end of September 2021, 2,567 persons (1,059 Females; 1508 Males) had registered for care at the LRU since its inception in 2002. In 2021, thirty-one (31) persons (10 Females; 21 Males) were newly registered for care at LRU by the end of September 2021. Additionally, there were 1,451 persons (623 Females; 828 Males) noted to be on antiretroviral therapy as of September 2021. This total includes persons registered for care at LRU, in the private sector and at the Paediatric Clinic, QEH.

There has been ongoing implementation of health promotion and education pursuits to help reduce the spread of HIV, STIs and Viral Hepatitis in Barbados. Activities in 2021 have been based on those identified through an HIV/STI communication strategy and health education campaign, which was developed in 2020. The messages stemming from this effort are still relevant and continue to be utilised.

SARS-Cov-2 (COVID-19)

In March 2020, the first two (2) cases of COVID-19 were diagnosed in Barbados and weekly numbers showed a first peak four weeks later with twenty-three (23) cases. Barbados' commercial airspace was closed to routine traffic in epi week 21 on May 18th, 2020, when total cases numbered ninety-two (92), with seven (7) deaths. The first five (5) cases of the new wave after re-opening of the airspace

were detected among repatriated residents from locations with high burden of disease. A total of 356 positive cases had been recorded by end of the week ending December 26th, 2020.

From December 30th, 2020, Barbados experienced a second higher wave of positive cases, consistent with community spread of the Alpha variant of the disease, which saw 3,393 positive cases recorded up to March 8th, 2021. In this outbreak period, deaths increased to thirty-seven (37) fatalities since the first case was recorded. A third wave began slowly around June 2021, coinciding with the introduction of the Delta variant and peaked in November 2021. This third wave severely tested capacities in many areas of the health system response including laboratory testing and contact tracing. As well, it necessitated the wholesale adoption of home isolation and home quarantine, with facility isolation reserved for those more severely affected by the disease. A fourth wave, associated with the advent of the Omicron variant, was noted in December 2021, in the tail end of the Delta variant outbreak. As of January 4th, 2022, 29,911 Laboratory confirmed SARS-Cov-2 Infections and 294 deaths attributed to COVID-19 had been reported in Barbados.

MOSQUITO-BORNE DISEASES

DENGUE SURVEILLANCE

The department continued to monitor for a sustained spike of dengue fever following reports of regional outbreaks and knowledge of periodicity- outbreaks have been noted to recur every 2-5 years. The disease is endemic in Barbados, which means that cases can occur throughout the year once conditions are favourable.

For 2021, there were 400 suspected cases and 133 confirmed cases of dengue. During the months of February and March 2021, cases crossed the outbreak threshold.

CHIKUNGUNYA SURVEILLANCE

This disease was introduced to Barbados in 2014. During 2021, there were four (4) suspected cases and four (4) confirmed cases of chikungunya in Barbados.

ZIKA SURVEILLANCE

There were no recorded suspected or confirmed cases of this disease for 2021. Also, there were no reported suspected or confirmed cases of Zika congenital syndrome during the year.

LEPTOSPIROSIS SURVEILLANCE

One (1) leptospirosis case was confirmed by laboratory testing in 2021.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMME

VECTOR CONTROL

An Expanded Mosquito Control Programme commenced in December 2020 with the goal to reduce morbidity and mortality of dengue fever disease through the use of an Integrated Mosquito Management (IMM) programme. The programme's specific objective is to decrease mosquito activity to

prevent the transmission of mosquito-borne diseases to humans. One of the activities highlighted in the programme was fogging to cover a larger number of communities daily. The Ministry of Health and Wellness chose the communities to be fogged based on complaints received, mosquito breeding sites identified and location of confirmed and suspected cases of dengue fever. Forty (40) Mosquito Control Aides were employed to assist with this programme.

The inspection of premises and increased community outreach and education were curtailed due to the COVID-19 epidemic. However, emphasis continued to be placed on source reduction by encouraging the public to keep their surroundings clean and ensure the removal of containers and other items that could breed mosquitoes. The Ministry continues to collaborate with other government agencies, the private sector, civil society and communities to effectively manage the environment to break the transmission of Dengue fever, chikungunya and Zika viruses. The Graeme Hall Fish Rearing Facility continued to provide fish as a biological control measure.

ANIMAL CONTROL UNIT

During the year, the Unit registered 1,161 new dogs; processed 735 dog licence renewals; investigated 227 complaints and processed 550 requests for the collection of dogs.

EPIDEMIOLOGY

During the year, thirty-two (32) hotels registered for the Tourism and Health Programme and its related Health Monitoring and Reporting System.

E. LAW AND ORDER

TOTAL CRIMES

In 2021, there were five thousand, three hundred and ninety-two (5,392) crimes reported in Barbados, as compared to seven thousand and seventy-nine (7,079) in the previous year. This represents a 23.8 percent decrease in crime for the period under review.

Table 21: Major Categories of Criminal Activity

2019 - 2021			
	2019	2020	2021
Murder	48	41	32
Manslaughter	0	0	1
Endangering Life	52	62	41
Robbery	202	193	102
Kidnapping	8	8	4
Aggravated Burglary	66	77	77
Assault With Intent to Rob	14	7	7
Rape	58	39	51
Serious Bodily Harm	165	167	133
Commercial Burglary	280	246	182
Residential Burglary	916	570	428
TOTAL	1,809	1,410	1,058

SOURCE: Barbados Police Service

MAJOR CRIMES

Over the period 2019 to 2021, the highest number of major crimes were recorded in the categories of residential burglary, commercial burglary and robbery, followed by serious bodily harm.

For 2021, there were declines in the number of reported cases of murders (32), endangering life (41), robbery (102), commercial burglary (182), residential burglary (428), kidnapping (4) and serious bodily harm (133) when compared with 2020. However, increases were recorded in the number of reported cases of manslaughter (1) and rape (51) for 2021 when compared with the previous year. There was no change in 2021 in the number of reported cases of aggravated burglary or assault with intent to rob when compared with the previous year.

FIREARM ENABLED CRIMES

The trafficking, illegal possession and use of firearms continues to pose a challenge to the Barbados Police Service. The major categories of firearm enabled crimes during 2019 to 2021 were (excluding the category of other crimes committed with use of firearms) robbery, endangering life, aggravated burglary and murder.

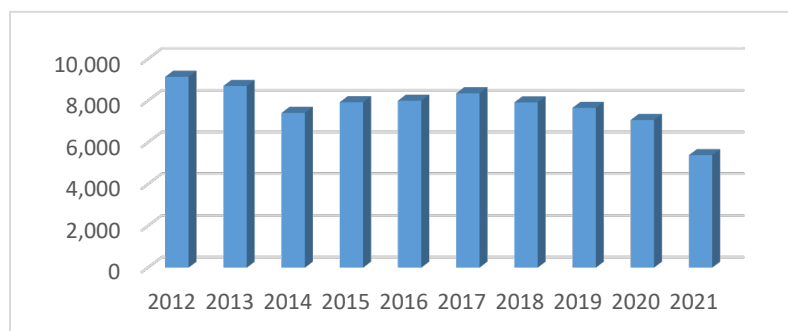
During 2021, two hundred and forty-nine (249) reports of firearm enabled crime. This number represents a decline of 34.6 percent when compared with the previous year, when three hundred and eighty-one (381) reports were recorded.

DRUGS

Due to its geographic location, Barbados serves as a trading hub for illegal drugs, as it is situated within established air and maritime routes. The major illegal drug consumed, cultivated, imported and trafficked within Barbados was cannabis, followed by cocaine.

A total of nine hundred and sixty-two (962) drug offences were recorded during 2021. This represented a decline of four hundred and seventy-eight (478) offences or 33.2 percent when compared with 2020, when one thousand, four hundred and forty (1,440) offences were recorded.

**Table 22: Total Reported Crimes
2012 - 2021**



SOURCE: Barbados Police Service

There were eight hundred and forty-eight (848) cannabis related offences recorded for 2021. This represented a decline of 34.2 percent when compared with 2020, when one thousand, two hundred and eighty-nine (1,289) cannabis related offences were recorded. Meanwhile, one hundred and four (104) cocaine related offences were reported in 2021, representing a decrease of 28.3 percent when compared with the one hundred and forty-five cocaine related offences reported in 2020.

F. SOCIAL SERVICES

THE URBAN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

The Urban Development Commission (UDC) remained steadfast in its mandate to provide the services that would assist in the alleviation of poverty, and to enhance sustainable quality of life and high standards of living within the urban population. This was achieved in part through partnerships with various Government entities.

HOUSING PROGRAMME

During 2021, the UDC undertook 104 housing projects, with a total cost of \$386,759.06. This represented a decline housing projects when compared with the previous year, when 182 housing projects were carried out. Table 5.6-1 shows comparative figures for 2020 and 2021.

**Table 23: UDC Housing Programme
2020 - 2021**

	Projects 2020	Projects 2021	Funds Disbursed 2020	Funds Disbursed 2021
Suck Wells	41	22	\$143,500.00	\$86,600.00
Septic Tanks	6	3	\$27,000.00	\$16,100.00
Ancillary Works	100	61	\$136,215.65	\$108,185.81
Repairs and Renovations	35	18	\$226,444.27	\$175,873.25
	182	104	\$533,159.92	\$386,759.06

Source: The Urban Development Commission

PIT ERADICATION AND ROOF RETROFITTING PROJECT

The UDC, under the Pit Eradication and Roof Retrofitting Project, executed fifty-nine (59) projects during the year, at a cost of \$3,930,612.77. Table 5.6-2 shows the works conducted and the associated costs.

**Table 24: UDC Pit Eradication and Roof Retrofitting Project
2020 and 2021**

Works Conducted	Households 2020	Households 2021	Project Costs 2020	Project Costs 2021
Replacement Houses	37	16	\$2,797,203.60	\$1,538,296.00
Roof Retrofit	15	10	\$655,017.47	\$396,535.90
Waterborne Facilities	8	29	\$237,545.80	\$1,889,205.05
Completion of House	0	4	\$0.00	\$106,575.82
	60	59	\$3,689,766.87	\$3,930,612.77

SOURCE: The Urban Development Commission

HURRICANE ELSA AND TROPICAL WAVE RELIEF PROGRAMME

In 2021, Barbados was impacted by the passing of two (2) weather systems, namely a Tropical Wave, which passed during June 2021; and Hurricane Elsa, which passed during July 2021. The UDC was part of a national response to provide structural intervention to those citizens impacted by these systems. The total amount paid to date is \$2,317,412.76. Table 5.6-3 provides a breakdown of the works conducted as at December 31, 2021.

TRANSFER OF TITLE PROGRAMME

The Transfer of Title Programme, facilitated by the Tenancies Freehold Purchase Act, Cap 239B aims at assisting qualified tenants to obtain security of tenure through land ownership. The Tenancies Freehold Purchase Act, Cap 239B provides the legal framework for the transfer of title of lots to qualified tenants residing on tenancies and ‘areas of land’ across Barbados. This assistance is in the form of government subsidies in the purchase of their lots. In many instances, land ownership improves the standard of living for many tenants.

During the period under review, the UDC’s Board approved and paid four (4) subsidies, totalling \$102,554.55. An additional subsidy for the sum of \$30,000.00 was also approved but was not paid. The outstanding commitments in the Transfer of Title Programme at the start of the period stood at \$2,325,642.61. However, by the end of the period, demands for subsidies were an additional \$437,669.27. This makes a total outstanding commitment of \$2,763,311.88.

**Table 25: Hurricane Elsa and Tropical Wave Relief Programme
Works Conducted by UDC as at December 31, 2021**

Weather Systems	Total Projects	Contract Sums	Amount Paid to Date
Hurricane Elsa	175	\$11,243,632.92	\$1,718,898.02
Tropical Wave	8	\$598,514.74	\$598,514.74
	183	\$11,842,147.66	\$2,317,412.76

SOURCE: The Urban Development Commission

MINISTRY OF PEOPLE EMPOWERMENT AND ELDER AFFAIRS

In spite of the myriad of challenges confronting the country, the Ministry of People Empowerment and Elder Affairs (MPEA) continued to work assiduously towards the meeting of its role, in addressing the needs of the most vulnerable members of society. The commitment of the officers of the Ministry prevailed, even in the wake of obstacles such as the La Soufriere volcano ash fall, Hurricane Elsa and in particular, against the backdrop of significant spikes in COVID 19 cases.

Overall, the total ceiling allocated to the MPEA by the Ministry of Finance was \$91,818,985, which points to an average monthly expenditure by the Ministry, of \$7,651,582.08.

CENTRAL MINISTRY

COLLABORATION WITH OTHER ENTITIES

MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND WELLNESS – COVID-19 HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

A major aspect of the MPEA's work during the period under review was the collaboration with other Ministries, Departments and Agencies. The MPEA, on request by the Ministry of Health and Wellness, assigned approximately seventy-five (75) social work volunteers to conduct social assessments for about 2,000 persons quarantining and isolating at home. An important component of this collaboration was the design and implementation of an online electronic form to capture social assessment details. This form was made available to the Health and Wellness Operation Centre in ready-to-use mode, to facilitate the provision of care packages and intangible assistance.

COVID-19 – 2021 LOCKDOWN

During the second lockdown, the MPEA collaborated with entities in both the public and private sectors, to procure goods for the preparation of over 60,000 care packages for distribution to the general population, especially covering vulnerable groups such as: the elderly, persons living with disabilities (PWD) and otherwise indigent and vulnerable households. This initiative brought relief to at least 60,000 households that might have otherwise been unable to acquire basic food items during the period of national pause, which was one of Government's responses to slowing the spread of COVID-19 cases in the country.

HURRICANE ELSA – TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION

Hurricane Elsa hit the island on July 2, 2021, causing significant damage. This disaster resulted in widespread social displacement across the island, as the homes of several persons suffered extensive damage, with some being made uninhabitable. In direct response to this disaster and in fulfilling its mandate to provide disaster social relief, the MPEA mobilised the entities falling under its purview, to provide critical social service assistance to those households and individuals and families impacted by the storm. More specifically, the Ministry undertook to secure the provision of alternate accommodation for displaced persons in communal centres, hotels, guest houses and private tenancies. In addition to providing accommodation, the MPEA's social workers conducted between 2,000 and 2,500 social assessments of those families, provided catering services, transportation services and supplied food vouchers to 500 displaced persons, comprising just over eighty-five (85) families.

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS (NGOs)

The MPEA continued to fund charitable organisations that deliver services to vulnerable groups in Barbados, in support of the Ministry's efforts. The MPEA raised the level of disbursements to charitable organisations, to assist them in more effectively servicing the needs of the people of Barbados. Total allocations to NGOs was \$822,508.00.

SOCIAL PROTECTION

BARBADOS SOCIAL PROTECTION POLICY, STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR A RATIONALISED NATIONAL SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEM 2021-2024

The Government of Barbados, through the MPEA, developed and adopted the Barbados Social Protection Policy, Strategy and Implementation Plan (BARSPIP) for a Rationalized National Social Protection System 2021 - 2024.

The BARSPIP adopts a rights-based approach, which seeks to ensure that the most vulnerable citizens receive the necessary services to break cycles of poverty across generations and ultimately transform their lives. In a complementary manner, the Policy also adopts a life-cycle approach to the provision of social protection services and offers assistance to vulnerable groups from pregnancy and early childhood, to old-age.

WELFARE DEPARTMENT

MONETARY ASSISTANCE

During January to December 2021, 4,855 new applications for monetary assistance were received by the Welfare Department. This represents an increase of 3,384 applications. The number of applications processed were 3,375 which includes applications brought forward from the previous year.

Table xxx
Monetary Assistance Provided
2019 – 2021

	2019	2020	2021
No. of Recipients	4,383	5,800	6,349
Expenditure (\$M)	14.3	22.5	22.2
Average Beneficiary Spend (\$)	3,262.60	3,879.31	3,496.61

Source: Welfare Department, Ministry of People Empowerment and Elder Affairs

At December 2021, the number of recipients of monetary assistance was 6,349, an increase of 549 persons or approximately nine (9) percent, when compared to the same period in 2020. The total expenditure spent in respect of monetary assistance was \$22.2 million, representing a slight decline of approximately one (1) percent when compared with the same period in 2020.

Information on monetary assistance provided for the period 2019 to 2021 is shown in Table xxx.

ASSISTANCE-IN-KIND

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

Food continued to be the highest category of assistance-in-kind granted. During the period under review there were 19,061 new applications for food, which included repeated requests from the same households. Of this total, 10,261 applications were approved during this period, while 5,429 applications were rejected.

Expenditure in relation to Educational Assistance was \$650,280.00 at December 31st, 2021. School clothing requests continued to be processed, as the COVID-19 pandemic delayed the completion of this programme. Last year's expenditure was approximately \$772,000.00. The department serviced 2,713 families and 3,443 children, compared to the previous year when 2,026 families and 3,691 children were assisted.

Total Assistance-in-kind Expenditure in 2021 was \$15,213,976.50 compared to \$11,369,164.34 in 2020. This equated to an increase of some \$3.8 million. These services were maintained to offer assistance to those in need, with the ceiling being removed from electricity and water payments.

FAMILY SERVICES

The Family Services section continued to offer professional interventions, in responding to a range of individual and family problems.

During the period January to December 2021, fifty-seven (57) Supreme Court Cases, four (4) Magistrate Court cases and seven (7) Counselling cases were referred for investigation by the Family Services Section and the subsequent provision of psychosocial reports, which are critical to the Courts' deliberation.

Due to the complexities of some cases, the section forwarded twelve (12) referrals to the consultant Psychologist, for in-depth counselling for clients.

Ninety-three (93) cases were received by the section, 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.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE BOARD

CARE MANAGEMENT AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

HOME CARE (HOME HELP) PROGRAMME

For the reporting period, the number of beneficiaries ranged from 974 to 1,041 monthly. The average number of beneficiaries per month was 1,014. The staff complement of home care workers was 144 persons, with the average ratio of home care worker to recipients being 1:8.

SENIORS' RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES PROGRAMME

This programme aims to:

- Ensure the continued participation and engagement of elderly persons in social, economic, cultural and civil affairs;
- Help the elderly maintain their maximum functional capacity physically and psychologically; and
- Serve as a model for non-governmental and community-based organizations, thus enabling communities to develop, coordinate and own programmes for the elderly.

For the calendar year January to December 2021, this programme was negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and operated only during August and October 2021. The staff of two (2) full-time wardens were reassigned, due to closure of the centres, while the services of the three (3) part-time instructors were put on hold.

THE HELPING HANDS VOLUNTEER PROJECT

The Aims of the Helping Hands Volunteer Project are to:

- Improve the quality of life and provide mental stimulation for elderly who live alone;
- Provide opportunities for individuals to give back to their community;
- Provide added resources to enhance the services of the Home Care Programme; and
- Provide companionship through visiting or telephoning the Home Care recipients who live alone.

For the reporting period the number of volunteers ranged from twenty-one (21) to fifteen (15) due to family issues and COVID-19 aversion.

TRANSITIONAL FACILITIES

CLYDE GOLLOP SHELTER FOR HOMELESS MEN

The Clyde Gollop Shelter for Homeless Men maintained maximum occupancy of thirty-four (34) persons. Average occupancy per night was thirty-two (32) men. Occupants' ages ranged from thirty (30) to eighty-seven (87) years.

LANCASTER HOUSE

The facility provides temporary accommodation at no cost, primarily for elderly individuals and their families, who are homeless or have been displaced due to a natural or man-made disaster.

Between January and December 2021, a cumulative total of eleven (11) persons were accommodated, consisting of five (5) males and six (6) females. Of these, three (3) were children and eight (8) were adults, whose ages ranged from five (5) to seventy-eight (78) years.

RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES

VAUXHALL SENIOR CITIZENS' VILLAGE

The Vauxhall Senior Citizens' Village provides accommodation for the older adult, who is capable of living independently and has the capacity to pay rent. Between January and December 2021, the total number of residents accommodated were thirty-five (35) persons.

COMMUNITY ELDERCARE PROGRAMME

The objectives of this programme include to:

- Complement to the Home Help Programme of the National Assistance Board;
- Provide a programme of companionship for the vulnerable elderly in their community; and
- Enable innovation in the programme, service design and care delivery.

The number of clients receiving the service during 2021 expanded to 812 persons, with services being provided by 396 Companions.

NATIONAL HIV/AIDS COMMISSION

LOVE SAFELY 2021 HIV SOCIAL MEDIA LITERARY COMPETITION

Through its Love Safely 2021 HIV Social Media Literary Competition, the Commission ramped up its social media activities utilising a selective outreach strategy. The competition started on January 4, 2021 and culminated on March 10, 2021. It reached some 4,531,432 social media users.

Provision of Grants

The Commission continued the Civil Society Grant Scheme designed to financially facilitate the projects by civil society organisations (CSOs) and private sector agencies lacking the necessary funds to implement HIV programmes and projects. Total grant disbursement was \$42,000.00.

PROVISION OF SUPPLEMENTAL SOCIAL SUPPORT

In 2021, the Commission provided temporary assistance to people living with HIV (PLHIV) who fall outside the ambit of national assistance agencies, or the capacity of these agencies to render assistance. This additional assistance took the form of housing solutions through a multi-sectoral housing committee, and nutrition and clothing support. There were a total of forty-eight (48) beneficiaries during the year, consisting of five (5) males and forty-three (43) females.

STRATEGIC INFORMATION

The Commission, through its Research and Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Programmes, seeks to provide accurate information to partners that help to develop HIV interventions and programmes. Total research expenditure for the year under review was \$81,082.50.

CHILD CARE BOARD

RESIDENTIAL CARE

The mission of the Board is to protect and care for every child through advocacy, counselling and empowering the family, and where necessary providing alternative families and support in an environment of trust with loyalty and competency.

There was an average of ninety-five (95) residents in the Board's Homes during the period under review. Of these, fifty (55) were males and forty (40) were females. The month of October registered the highest number of children, with ninety-nine (99), and the month of March registered the lowest number, with eighty-nine (89) children.

SPECIAL NEEDS

The Violet Gittens Centre caters to those children with mild to severe disabilities. The Centre has seen a gradual increase in children from toddler to thirteen (13) years, totalling ten (10) children.

GOVERNMENT DAY CARE

During 2021, there was a decrease in attendance of children in Government Day nurseries. An average of 408 children attended the fifteen (15) day nurseries, which showed a decline by 239 children over the corresponding period in 2020.

ADMISSIONS AND DISCHARGES

During the year January to December 2021, the fifteen (15) Day Nurseries admitted 356 children. 440 children were discharged from the government nurseries during the period under review.

WAIVERS OF FEES

Eight (8) requests were investigated, from which eight (8) children benefitted. Waivers are generally granted for a six (6) month period after which they are reviewed. In addition, four (4) of these waivers represents children who are currently being granted financial assistance, through the "Strengthening Human and Social Development in Barbados" Programme.

WAITING LISTS

At December 2021, there were 1,467 children awaiting entry into the government day nurseries. This represents a marginal decrease of thirty (30) requests over the corresponding period.

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAMME

During this period, the MyChild Helpline App was launched in Phase One. This is an initiative of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). This is a mobile application that provides direct access to mental health and psychosocial support to children, between the ages of five (5) to eighteen (18) years.

NATIONAL DISABILITIES UNIT

The National Disabilities Unit (NDU) seeks to integrate Persons with Disabilities (PWD) in all aspects of social and economic life, while ensuring that their rights are not violated and that they function as equal members of the society.

There was the construction of ramps and infrastructural adjustments to the homes of PWDs. Fifty (50) individuals benefitted from these services, at a cost of \$365,190.54. Other forms of assistance rendered included access to wheelchairs and prosthetic limbs, at a cost of \$230,560.00 for the assistance rendered to sixty-five (65) individuals. These beneficiaries were able to resume a level of normalcy and independence in their daily functions, after experiencing amputations or developing mobility challenges.

The Call-A-Ride programme facilitated the commuting of 1,624 students with disabilities to school and PWDs to medical appointments, along with other transportation needs. For the period, there was a total expenditure of \$8,321.50.

IDB: STRENGTHENING HUMAN AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN BARBADOS PROJECT

During the period under review, the Strengthening Human and Social Development (SHSD) project continued its efforts to contribute to the reduction of extreme poverty and unemployment in Barbados.

SOCIAL SAFETY NET SERVICES

In 2021, the project embarked on a two (2) year holistic intervention utilising the Identification, Stabilisation, Enablement and Empowerment (ISEE) Bridge model for 250 of the most vulnerable households in Barbados. The project also sought to continue its engagement with key stakeholders.

CAREER COUNSELLING AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

During 2021, the project refocused its effort in the provision of technical training, particularly in priority areas that can generate employment, as well as entrepreneurial activities. The relevant career counselling will continue to be undertaken by the Barbados Employment and Career Counselling Service (BECCS).

VI. FOREIGN POLICY, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND AID

A. RESILIENCE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Sustainable resilience to climate change and disaster risk management has been one of the tremendous challenges stemming from financial inadequacies, the requirement to engage in counteractive measures to address frequent and persistent elements of climate change related events, continuous lingering debt obligations, and more recently the impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic to major sectors of our economy and to nations across the world.

A sustainable development path without a struggle is not an option. In order to be resilient Small Island Developing States (SIDS) like the Republic of Barbados require substantial amounts of resources (financial, human and technological). SIDS are more vulnerable to the ravishes of the changing climate

phenomena that has caused more intense and frequent hurricanes, sea level rise, and the destruction of the coral reefs due to increasing levels of acidification.

In the context of sustainable development and resilience to climate change and disaster risks management, strategic efforts and actions were categorized within three (3) broad dimensions, sustainable economic resilience, sustainable social safety net, and sustainable environmental resilience.

Sustainable Economic Development

Hence, the Government of the Republic of Barbados embarked on a strategy to restore macro-economic stability through the implementation of the Barbados Economic Recovery and Transformation (BERT) Plan. This is an agreement signed with the IMF in October 2018 through the Extended Fund Facility (EFF). Policies and initiatives aligned anti-poverty and sectoral strategies with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to support greater equality, stronger social protection, broader access to economic advancement and enfranchisement, and more investments in climate resilient, carbon-neutral and inclusive growth.

Sustainable Social Safety Net

A sustainable Social Safety Net aimed on primarily ending poverty in all forms everywhere; achieving food security, improving nutrition and promoting sustainable agriculture; ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all ages; and ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education, and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all-(SDGs 1,2,3 and 4). Additionally, the Government of the Republic of Barbados strengthened the Social Safety Net by establishing a Household Survival Programme (HSP) at the Welfare Department which was capitalized with \$20 million that allowed for a 40% increase in cash benefits to vulnerable disadvantaged families and individuals.

Sustainable Environmental Resilience

The Government of the Republic of Barbados recognized the extent of the scarcity of water in the country and targeted investment in solar powered pumps to improve the resilience, mend the distribution network to prevent the substantial loss of water, and lowered the energy cost used to pump water through the distribution network to increase water-use efficiency and reduce water scarcity.

Creating green jobs and facilitating the transition to a carbon neutral future will be key to a resilient and sustainable future. The ability of countries and communities to embark on a sustainable path depends in no small measure on robust and effective environmental governance, and an efficient and effective approach to implementation as a major catalyst. There is also the need for greater resilience in our economy through more diversification and energy security by substantially increasing the share of renewable energy in the energy mix. Strengthening resilience and the adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and other natural disasters are fundamental to sustainable environmental resilience.

Investment in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

For there to be a growing degree of resilience to climate change and disaster risk management there must be a level of investment and effort in ensuring that the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

are efficiently implemented. Innovative new mechanisms are urgently needed to help SIDS address the debilitating debt crisis that threatens vital investment that seek to address poverty, inequality, and climate change, disaster risk management, and potentially propel the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) 2030 Agenda.

The Sustainable Development 2030 Agenda promises to leave no one behind, solidify the environmental gains, and build a social safety network that protects the most vulnerable in society. The facilitation and implementation of the SDGs provide responses at the individual, community and country levels, and presents an integrated public investment programme founded on the principles of sustainable development and climate change resilience.

In light of this, the Government of Barbados has focussed its efforts on narrowing or removing the developmental obstacles by engaging in some transformational initiatives that are reflected in the structure of its policies, programmes and projects. The most prominent and notable programme to be undertaken is the *“Roofs to Reefs” programme (R2RP)* which seek to transform the economic, social and environmental dimensions of the country for the benefit of all Barbadians.

The R2RP is an integrated national initiative for the climate resilient development of Barbados. It focuses on improving the living conditions of its citizens to make them more resilient to the impacts of climate change and related natural disasters, while increasing their ability to recover quickly post-disaster. Associated projects which are critical to the transformation process are the Water Sector Resilience Nexus for Sustainability in Barbados (WSRN S-Barbados) and the 3R’s (Reduce, Re-use, Recycle) Climate Resilience Wastewater Systems (3R CReWS) project. These projects are specifically correlated to the implementation and success of the 2030 Agenda for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with direct relation to SDG 6, which deals with increasing water-use-efficiency, reducing water scarcity, and improving sanitation for all.

Furthermore, the preparation and implementation of the revised Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) should be compatible with a 1.5 degrees pathway in order to play a significant role in the entire process of transformation which is envisioned over the next decade of the Government’s development ethos.

B. INTERNATIONAL TRADE POLICY AND FOREIGN RELATIONS

As a small open economy, Barbados is aware that its growth and development is dependent on remaining open in the global community. Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, Barbados maintained this openness and did not erect any barriers to trade.

During 2021, the Foreign Trade Division continued to engage in activities geared towards supporting efforts to returning the economy to a position of growth through the use of international trade policy and involvement in discussions at different levels.

This included providing support to stakeholders in the public and private sector in pursuit of the development and implementation of measures which are intended to bring about a turnaround in the economy and advising on the extent to which the same are consistent with national obligations under trading arrangements.

Much of Barbados' trade is destined to the partners within the region. CARICOM therefore remains an important market for its goods and services. Although trade with preferential trading partners - Venezuela, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Cuba, Costa Rica, United States of America, Canada, United Kingdom and the European Union – is less than envisioned, these countries are still significant trading partners.

Barbados, through efforts at the national and regional level, has been seeking to build the capacity and opportunities to trade, and improve the trading environment. The following details the major initiatives undertaken.

MULTILATERALISM

UNCTAD 15

The Fifteenth Quadrennial of the United Nations Conference for Trade and Development (UNCTAD 15) was held virtually from 3 - 7 October 2021. The Conference, which was originally scheduled to be held from 18 – 23 October 2020 in Bridgetown, Barbados, was postponed due to the COVID 19 pandemic. The two main outcomes of the Conference are the Bridgetown Covenant and the Spirit of Speightstown.

The Conference was held under the theme of *From Vulnerability and Inequality to Prosperity for All*. The Outcome Document – The Bridgetown Covenant, highlights the key issues confronting developing countries on the international economic agenda and sets the mandate for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) for the next quadrennial. The Outcome Document addresses major global challenges including climate change and economic degradation, and transformations. There are four major transformations included. These are as follows:

- Transforming economies through diversification
- Transforming to a more sustainable and more resilient economy
- Transforming how development is financed
- Transforming multilateralism

The Document also addresses the role and work of UNCTAD in a world of transformation. Of import to Barbados are also the Ministerial Declarations of the Small Island Developing States and the Group of Seventy-Seven and China to UNCTAD 15.

The Political Declaration - The Spirit of Speightstown – was adopted by Ministers during the closing plenary of UNCTAD 15. The following topics are covered in the Political Declaration:

- i). The Covid-19 Pandemic
- ii). Climate Change
- iii). Crisis of the Global Common Good
- iv). A revitalized covenant for development -
 - Revitalised multilateralism

- Inequality within and between countries
- Vulnerabilities of developing countries including Small Island Developing States (SIDS)
- Financing sustainable development
- Decision-making and participation in international institutions
- Equality in decision-making
- Tax Cooperation
- The digital divide

v). Realizing prosperity for all

The Spirit of Speightstown conveys critical messages on trade and development challenges impacting the host country, its region, like-minded states and the global community.

The political declaration also provides the inspiration for UNCTAD to continue to play a catalytic role in empowering the transformations set out in the Bridgetown Covenant, and in fostering the required intergovernmental action that will generate required momentum.

POST-COTONOU RELATIONS

Participation in Post-Cotonou Negotiations

The Cotonou Agreement governed trade arrangements between CARIFORUM countries, inclusive of Barbados, from 2000 until 2008 when the CARIFORUM-European Union Economic Partnership Agreement was signed in 2008. However, the political dimension and developmental cooperation offered by the Cotonou Agreement still persisted until recently.

Barbados participated in a series of meetings that led to the initialing of the Post-Cotonou Agreement on 15 April, 2021. The Cotonou Agreement expired in February 2020. The successor agreement will be called the Samoa Agreement. The official signing is likely to take place in Samoa once conditions, relating to curbing the spread of the COVID-19 virus, permit.

Development Cooperation

Barbados was also instrumental in enabling consensus on the Region's position on the EU's Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI). This instrument forms the EU's legal basis for programming EU cooperation with the Caribbean during the period 2021-2027. The package for the Caribbean is 800 million euros.

Barbados also participated in meetings with the delegation of the European Union to Barbados on possible areas for development cooperation and increased trade. The matter of the non-implementation of Barbados' tariff cuts under the CARIFORUM-European Union Economic Partnership Agreement has also been of some concern to the EU. This matter is being discussed among officials of the Government – the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Finance, Economic Affairs and Investment.

The European Union has highlighted a number of areas where funding is available. It is of the view that many of these areas are not being capitalized on by Barbados. The EU has also committed to engaging with stakeholders in Barbados and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade on a more frequent basis as it relates to development cooperation and the implementation of the Post-Cotonou Agreement once there is more clarity on the processes.

Under the NDICI programme 2021-2027, the EU has made 208 million euros available to the Caribbean through the Caribbean window. There are three priority areas within this window for which the EU will be granting funding. These areas are green deals, economic resilience and trade and governance security and human development.

For Barbados to benefit under these programmes it would be necessary to develop multi-country approaches with countries in the Caribbean or the Americas. The opportunity is therefore there for Barbados to identify areas of development with countries which have similar development interest thereby allowing them to benefit from this funding.

The Ministry, through the Team Barbados for External Engagement coordination mechanism, has been highlighting the developments in this area and seeking information which will place Barbados in an advantageous position once there is greater clarity on the process to access the resources. This would allow government revenue to be used in other areas of need in the economy.

COMMONWEALTH

Barbados continued to lead the Commonwealth Cluster on Regulatory Connectivity. The onset of the pandemic resulted in the meetings transitioning to a virtual platform. This resulted in increased participation from Commonwealth Members who otherwise would not have been able to participate in physical meetings in London, United Kingdom. On average one hundred and ten persons participated in the online sessions.

Emphasis was placed on arriving at a set of Commonwealth Good Regulatory Practices Principles, which are voluntary and non-binding. Member countries would agree to adhere to the Principles and implement them in so far that it is possible given their capacities and in accordance with their own national policy objectives and regulatory systems.

The six Commonwealth GRP Principles outlined below:

Principle 1: High-level political commitment to good regulatory practices across government to support a high quality regulatory environment where the benefits of regulations exceed their costs, and the regulatory process takes into account potential economic, environmental and societal effects.

Principle 2: Transparency, clarity and predictability of regulations, and of the actions of regulatory institutions, to build trust in the regulatory environment.

Principle 3: Consistent and effective use of appropriate regulatory management tools, such as stakeholder engagement and regulatory reviews, to ensure the continued relevance, efficiency and effectiveness of regulations.

Principle 4: Effective oversight mechanisms to ensure compliance with regulatory processes and procedures and support the implementation of regulatory policy.

Principle 5: Regulatory coherence and consistency between all levels of government.

Principle 6: International cooperation between Commonwealth members and between Commonwealth and non-Commonwealth countries to develop regulatory measures and promote compatibility with relevant international standards and frameworks to facilitate trade and investment.

The Digital Connectivity Cluster, which Barbados is also a member of, has arrived at six Principles for Sustainable Investment in Digital Infrastructure. These are as follows:

Principle 1: Investment in Digital Infrastructure to achieve sustainable growth and development for Commonwealth countries.

Principle 2: Investment in Digital Infrastructure should enhance economic and social inclusion.

Principle 3: Fostering Intra-Commonwealth Collaboration for Digital Infrastructure Development.

Principle 4: Capacity Building Investment in Digital Infrastructure.

Principle 5: Investment in Digital Infrastructure to promote Intra-Commonwealth trade facilitation and economic efficiency.

Principle 6: Investment in Digital Infrastructure should encourage Smart Societies and Network.

ASSOCIATION OF CARIBBEAN STATES

Barbados chaired the Association of Caribbean States Special Committee on Trade, Development and External Economic Relations over the period 2020-2022. The Special Committee fosters cooperation and integration by uniting the efforts of ACS Member States and Associate Members to build and consolidate an enhanced economic space for trade and investment in the Greater Caribbean.

Through the Work Programme, the Committee is mandated to address the following issues:

- i). The reduction and gradual elimination of obstacles to trade and investment in the Greater Caribbean.
- ii). The promotion and facilitation of the discussion on Special and Differential Treatment for Small Economies in the Greater Caribbean.
- iii). The promotion and facilitation of trade relations in the Greater Caribbean.
- iv). The promotion and facilitation of international trade negotiations and the provision of training in trade-related matters.

The Special Committee, meeting in different configurations, continues to engage trade partners and experts from key regional and international trade agencies. This includes the sharing of insights and knowledge of trade experts who present various approaches on how to put the region's trade performance on an upward trajectory or improved position from its declining growth path exacerbated by the pandemic.

Experts from the following organizations participate in these discussions: United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNECLAC), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the International Trade Centre (ITC).

The Committee also focused on approaches and strategies that should be prioritized in order to realize the full potential of intra-regional trade, improve regional trade competitiveness and advance the economic recovery of the Greater Caribbean in a post-pandemic context. The Committee also received for

consideration the proposed strategic approach for regional trade development and competitiveness for the ACS Plan of Action.

This proposal encompassed strategic priorities that emphasized building a resilient and sustainable regional trade and investment system by modernizing trade facilitation measures; promoting innovative, digital trade systems, strengthening regional trade capacities with a focus on MSMEs and business support organizations and investment facilitation. In this light, the meeting endorsed the strategic direction proposed for inclusion in the 2022-2028 Plan of Action. The Special Committee meeting also approved the Trade Work Programme for 2022 and in this regard, approved the three (3) Project Concept Documents (PCDs) presented for the development of an ACS Observatory, a Trade Capacity Building Programme and Trade Facilitation.

The 14th Business Forum was convened in collaboration with PRONicaragua, the Nicaraguan Investment Promotion Agency representing the Republic of Nicaragua as host country. The Business Forum was held virtually for the second time, to adapt to changing reality caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, from the 24th-25th November, 2021.

Under the overarching theme of “Building Resilience in a Post-COVID-19 Business Environment”, the Business Forum took the form of a series of thematic webinars and a meeting of Trade and Investment Promotion Organizations (TIPOs) over a two-day period. The webinars were held on the three (3) thematic focus areas of the Directorate of Trade and Sustainable Development, namely Trade, Transport and Sustainable Tourism.

Bringing together experts in these key areas highlighted the nexus and interlinks that must be taken into account in order to avail the economic competitiveness of the Greater Caribbean. Each webinar featured leading professionals in their field and attracted participation from public officials and business stakeholders from across the Greater Caribbean.

Through participation in this process, Barbados has been able to directly influence the direction of the work of this Directorate and elevate the profile of the country in the organization. This includes the shaping of research to be undertaken and projects to be implemented.

C. OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE- UNDP

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) extended official development assistance to the Republic of Barbados through:

- The strengthening and coordinating of data systems support for improving data demand and information use for effective program implementation.
- Strengthening integrated policy to support climate change and disaster risk reduction with enhanced links to climate financing options;
- Improving access to alternative and sustainable financing strategies for development;
- Support toward the development of a regional ICT network with critical linkages to electronic government services and management information systems for disaster risk planning;
- Supporting a comprehensive COVID-19 response to ensure no one is left behind and to deepen economic resilience.

UNICEF supported through the strengthening of human and institutional capacities to develop and implement child and gender-sensitive, shock-responsive social policies and integrated service delivery. Support was also given to the Ministry of Education and Technological Vocation and other key stakeholders to build capacity to design and deliver equitable, rights-based learning opportunities in safe and protective environments that supported the prevention of violence to foster an educational transition for all children and adolescents, particularly boys. There was also collaboration with UN Women, UNDP, ILO, Human Security Unit, Civil Society Organizations (women farmers, fisher folk, producer associations, etc.), the Private Sector and the Ministries of Agriculture and Food Security, Youth Groups and the Ministry of Finance to generate decent rural and coastal employment opportunities in the agri-food business sector.

The UNDP gave additional assistance by enabling the provision of increase market access readiness and resilience for small farmers and agriculture related small businesses. Access to technical extension services that emphasize climate-smart practices were also extended given the social and environmental risks facing small-scale farmers, fisher folk, and entrepreneurs in the agri-business sector across the value chain. Furthermore, the UNDP supported the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, Fisheries Division, and the Barbados Statistical Service with stock taking, data collection and data analysis related to the agriculture sector.

The UNDP also engaged in technical and financial support for the development and implementation of strategies to promote positive parenting and child development practices. There was also the development of integrated strategies to scale-up the application of the Care for Child Development Methodology in diverse settings. In order to support information sharing, create public awareness, and promote best practices for high quality inclusive child development, data management; availability and access for reporting on SDGs; communication; and advocacy platforms were strengthened.

UNDP also continued to support the COVID-19 response through the Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan (SPRP) 2021 which comprised a social protection system assessment, inclusive of linkages to disaster risk management and supported by a Social Protection Public Expenditure Review.

Furthermore, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) project, CariSECURE (US\$525,676) is being implemented through the assistance of UNDP. The Future Tourism (US\$200,000) project which is being financed by grant funds reflects an estimated total amount of US\$725,676 in assistance to Barbados.

VII. ECONOMIC OUTLOOK FOR 2022

The Barbados economy is on a path to recovery, and economic growth of approximately 10 percent is expected for 2022. However, the forecast is for slower global economic activity amid the tightening of financial conditions in advanced economies, the slowdown in production in China, and the potential return of COVID-19 cases during the winter period. The IMF's global growth forecast is now 3.2 percent for 2022 and 2.7 percent for 2023, the weakest growth profile since the global financial crisis. This outlook poses a significant downside risk that has been accentuated by the uncertainty in the United

Kingdom market. However, the recovery is expected to continue into 2023, predicated on a further upturn in the global tourism sector, coupled with the implementation of large private and public construction projects. Based on scenarios encompassing a weaker performance of the UK tourism market, growth is forecast to reach between 3.5 and 5 percent for 2023.

Future prices for energy and food have started to fall as global economic activity slows and global supply chains begin to normalise. These global declines will feature domestically with a lag. The local initiatives to reduce price pressures have started to bear fruit and will provide some ease until the price declines are realised. However, significant uncertainty remains as geopolitical tensions continue to mount, with developments within major global economies rippling across our major trading partners. The current forecast for prices is 8.8 percent for 2022 and 3.3 percent in 2023.

As the recovery continues, government will be continuing its reforms, particularly of state-owned enterprises (SOEs). These reforms are intended to improve the quality of service while reducing the burden on the public finances and freeing up resources for needed infrastructural developments and improved resilience to climatic events. Better service quality in the public sector should also contribute to the overall enhancements in productivity and competitiveness in the private sector.

Government will continue to place the debt ratio on a downward trajectory towards 60 percent remains central to government's strategy over the medium term. The target date is FY 2035/36 compared to FY 2033/34 established in 2018. The relaxation of primary balances during COVID led to increased borrowing which, together with the contraction in the size of the economy, had a negative impact on the ratio. However, with the recovery, the debt ratio has begun to revert to the downward trend initiated after the 2018 debt restructuring. The debt path anticipates that Government's planned strengthening of fiscal policy will result in primary surpluses ranging between 3.0 and 5.0 percent of GDP. The ongoing reduction in the debt ratio is designed to instill confidence, engineer further enhancements in Barbados' credit ratings, similar to the recent B rating provided by FitchRatings, and again lead to access to both domestic and external capital markets, but at lower rates than before the debt restructuring.

Continued private capital flows, particularly for investment in tourism and alternative energy, are expected to complement public sector borrowing and strengthen reserve buffers which remain adequate to meet demands.

STATISTICAL APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1	REAL AND NOMINAL GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT BY INDUSTRY 2017 – 2021	A-1
APPENDIX 2	EXPENDITURE OF GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT AND GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (BASIC PRICES) BY SELECT SUB-INDUSTRY 2017 – 2021	A-2
APPENDIX 3	DIRECTION OF TRADE – TOTAL EXPORTS 1986 – 2021	A-3
APPENDIX 4	DIRECTION OF TRADE – IMPORTS 2000 – 2021	A-4
APPENDIX 5	SELECTED DOMESTIC EXPORTS 2000 – 2021	A-5
APPENDIX 6	VISIBLE TRADE BALANCE – IMPORTS AND EXPORTS 2000 – 2021	A-6
APPENDIX 7	RETAINED IMPORTS BY BROAD ECONOMIC CATEGORIES 2000 – 2021	A-7
APPENDIX 8	EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY 2014-2021	A-8
APPENDIX 9	DIRECTION OF TRADE WITH CARICOM COUNTRIES DOMESTIC EXPORTS 2014-2021	A-9
APPENDIX 10	SUMMARY OF GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND FINANCING 2016/17 - 2020/21	A-10
APPENDIX 11	ACTUAL CURRENT REVENUE AND TOTAL EXPENDITURE BY FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION 2016/17 – 2020/21	A-11
APPENDIX 12	SELECTED INTEREST RATES 1990 – 2021	A-12
APPENDIX 13	IMPORTATION OF SELECT COMMODITIES 2017-2021	A-13
APPENDIX 14	PRODUCTION OF SELECTED AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES 2014 - 2021	A-14

APPENDIX 15	FOOD IMPORT BILL (BDS\$) 2016-2021	A-15
APPENDIX 16	SELECTED INDICATORS IN THE TOURISM INDUSTRY 2007-2021	A-16
APPENDIX 17	TOURISM ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE 2004- 2021	A-17
APPENDIX 18	INDEX OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION 1997-2021	A-18
APPENDIX 19	POPULATION, RATES OF BIRTH, DEATH & INFANT MORTALITY 1984-2021	A-19
APPENDIX 20	SPECIAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME DISBURSEMENTS & BENEFICIARIES BY CALENDAR YEAR 2016-2021	A-20
APPENDIX 21	OIL, GAS & PRODUCTION & CONSUMPTION 2016-2021	A-21
APPENDIX 21	OIL, GAS & PRODUCTION & CONSUMPTION 2016-2021 CONT'D	A-22

APPENDIX 1
REAL AND NOMINAL GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT BY INDUSTRY
2017 – 2021
(Millions \$'000)

REAL GDP BY INDUSTRY	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Accommodation and Food Services	1,314.86	1,342.74	1,415.94	590.24	487.77
Agriculture and Fishing	105.47	121.03	115.55	108.94	113.25
Business Services	794.93	783.91	764.02	756.46	787.17
Construction	492.90	461.57	452.32	457.25	443.54
Electricity, Gas & Water Supply	214.85	214.10	213.50	203.53	212.06
Financial & Insurance	850.94	813.57	786.16	718.80	701.81
Information & Communications	549.69	541.80	546.07	534.22	528.56
Manufacturing	487.81	476.93	476.13	440.76	456.14
Mining and Quarrying	40.75	42.22	49.45	56.61	39.48
Personal & Other Services Incl. of Private Edu. & Health	345.53	344.73	354.83	349.88	353.69
Public Administration, Defense & Social Security	481.03	470.34	424.43	440.64	443.99
Public Education	275.39	273.70	273.32	271.94	274.53
Public Health	99.14	97.78	93.28	98.48	107.44
Real Estate	883.40	893.12	902.94	912.87	922.91
Transportation and Storage	496.98	485.86	465.47	369.84	382.52
Wholesale & Retail Trade	761.77	749.40	762.38	720.47	749.30
Less: FISM Adjustment	91.00	87.03	86.54	106.57	99.80
Total Value Added at Basic Prices	8,104.44	8,025.77	8,009.24	6,924.37	6,904.34
Taxes less Subsidies on Products	1,206.18	1,189.21	1,193.61	1,053.51	1,058.47
Gross Domestic Product at Constant	9,310.62	9,214.98	9,202.85	7,977.88	7,962.81
Real Gross Domestic Product per Capita (\$'000)	29.49	29.31	29.42	25.51	25.58
NOMINAL GDP BY INDUSTRY	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Accommodation and Food Services	1,231.56	1,354.25	1,518.87	770.11	597.83
Agriculture and Fishing	129.49	146.38	138.47	139.08	143.63
Business Services	746.08	790.87	802.87	773.01	877.11
Construction	511.17	501.70	515.49	510.17	563.83
Electricity, Gas & Water Supply	229.75	231.33	233.27	201.01	220.87
Financial & Insurance	862.10	856.38	883.39	854.45	805.02
Information & Communications	463.60	439.89	435.65	396.76	344.71
Manufacturing	510.08	498.31	498.21	456.70	489.91
Mining and Quarrying	21.05	26.17	26.53	29.47	24.29
Personal & Other Services Incl. of Private Edu. & Health	559.26	559.25	551.89	561.02	576.32
Public Administration, Defense & Social Security	481.03	487.83	445.65	462.67	466.19
Public Education	275.39	283.96	286.98	285.54	288.25
Public Health	99.14	101.43	97.94	103.41	112.81
Real Estate	972.75	936.55	1,086.68	1,126.79	1,182.74
Transportation and Storage	650.97	678.55	802.12	691.47	720.49
Wholesale & Retail Trade	894.50	889.77	887.39	831.33	916.57
Less: FISM Adjustment	170.99	170.35	184.22	189.58	176.31
Total Value Added at Basic Prices	8,466.94	8,612.27	9,027.18	8,003.40	8,154.24
Taxes less Subsidies on Products	1,496.24	1,582.30	1,621.35	1,340.16	1,533.39
Gross Domestic Product at Constant	9,963.18	10,194.57	10,648.53	9,343.56	9,687.63
Real Gross Domestic Product per Capita (\$'000)	30.81	31.45	33.16	29.49	30.22

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

APPENDIX 2
EXPENDITURE OF GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT AND
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (BASIC PRICES) BY SELECT SUB-INDUSTRY
2017 – 2021
(000 \$)

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Expenditure of GDP Consumption					
Expenditure					
Personal	7,655.03	7,644.03	7,782.86	7,572.72	7,776.68
Government	1,210.21	1,202.12	1,161.35	1,148.34	1,252.02
<i>Total</i>	8,865.24	8,846.15	8,944.22	8,721.07	9,028.70
Gross Capital Formation					
Buildings	865.56	849.53	872.88	863.87	954.72
Machinery/Equipment	671.75	585.45	651.55	815.6	795.44
Total Buildings, Machinery/Equipment	1,537.32	1,434.98	1,524.43	1,679.47	1,750.17
Change in Stocks	19.03	19.03	19.03	19.03	19.03
<i>Total</i>	1,556.35	1,454.02	1,543.46	1,698.51	1,769.20
Exports					
Goods	970.84	895.96	888.19	1,233.53	1,294.11
Services	2,591.30	2,725.60	2,996.60	1,545.34	1,648.51
<i>Total</i>	3,562.14	3,621.56	3,884.79	2,778.87	2,942.62
Imports					
Goods	3,040.32	2,997.70	2,894.40	2,884.74	3,177.43
Services	1,014.03	1,073.90	1,148.90	553.35	743.28
<i>Total</i>	4,054.35	4,071.60	4,043.30	3,438.09	3,920.71
Statistical Discrepancy	33.8	344.44	319.36	-416.78	-132.17
Gross Domestic Product at Market Prices	9,963.18	10,194.60	10,648.53	9,343.56	9,687.63
GDP By Select Sub-Category					
Agriculture					
<i>Total</i>	<i>129.5</i>	<i>146.4</i>	<i>138.5</i>	<i>139.1</i>	<i>143.6</i>
Sugar Cane	6.85	7.67	3.98	10.09	6.76
<i>Total Non-Sugar Agriculture</i>	<i>122.64</i>	<i>138.71</i>	<i>134.49</i>	<i>128.99</i>	<i>136.87</i>
Food Crops	24.03	36.50	37.54	38.05	36.78
Livestock	83.78	88.26	90.83	83.00	92.78
Other Cultivation	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.02	-
Fishing	14.82	13.94	6.11	7.92	7.31
Manufacturing					
<i>Total</i>	<i>510.1</i>	<i>498.3</i>	<i>498.2</i>	<i>456.7</i>	<i>489.9</i>
Sugar	9.14	14.01	11.77	12.11	13.02
Food, Beverages & Tobacco	272.53	263.37	263.15	243.76	270.54
Wood/Wood Products	14.72	13.14	12.96	12.20	14.53
Paper Products, Printing & Publishing	63.95	59.56	57.13	51.14	50.40
Chemicals, Oil & Non-Metallic Minerals	68.26	68.40	73.62	68.49	75.16
Metal Products & Assembled Goods	49.17	47.68	45.94	43.75	43.43
Other Manufacturing	32.31	32.15	33.63	25.26	22.82
Total Selected Sub-Industries	639.57	644.69	636.68	595.78	633.53
Gross Domestic Product at Basic Prices	9963.18	10194.57	10,648.53	9,343.56	9,687.63

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

APPENDIX 3
DIRECTION OF TRADE – EXPORTS
1986 – 2021
(\$ 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
2020	30.1	292.2	0.0	1.5	17.3	87.1	0.2	262.1	690.4
2021	24.5	285.9	0.0	3.7	9.6	127.3	0.1	249.4	700.3

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

APPENDIX 4
DIRECTION OF TRADE – IMPORTS
2000 – 2021
(\$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
2020	73.4	517.0	92.9	29.0	145.5	1,173.1	0.0	972.6	3,003.5
2021	87.5	603.3	73.6	28.4	147.9	1,313.3	0.0	1,093.3	3,347.2

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

APPENDIX 5
SELECTED DOMESTIC EXPORTS
2000 – 2021
(\$M)

Year	Sugar	Molasses	Rum	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
2020	0.9	0.0	75.9	21.1	64.7	16.1	0.0	84.7	186.0	449.5
2021*	1.8	0.0	84.5	23.4	76.7	16.1	0.1	68.6	175.9	447.0

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

APPENDIX 6
VISIBLE TRADE BALANCE – IMPORTS AND EXPORTS
2000 – 2021
(\$M)

Year	Imports (CIF)	Domestic Exports	Re-Exports	Total Exports	Balance on Visible Trade
2000	2,312.1	380.3	165.4	545.7	-1,766.4
2001	2,137.3	352.7	166.0	518.7	-1,618.6
2002	2,141.5	333.9	149.9	483.0	-1,658.5
2003	2,390.6	329.4	170.1	499.5	-1,891.1
2004	2,825.9	346.9	209.6	551.3	-2,274.6
2005	3,022.9	427.0	285.7	712.7	-2,310.2
2006	3,258.1	491.7	390.8	882.4	-2,375.7
2007	3,365.1	513.5	436.4	949.8	-2,415.3
2008	3,493.0	526.3	382.3	908.6	-2,584.4
2009	2,846.1	439.6	372.6	812.1	-2,034.0
2010	3,177.6	508.2	353.2	861.4	-2,316.2
2011	3,552.8	534.1	482.8	1016.9	-2,535.9
2012	3,522.4	592.9	557.4	1150.3	-2,372.1
2013	3,538.6	534.6	400.7	935.2	-2,603.4
2014	3,478.4	554.6	394.2	948.8	-2,529.6
2015	3,236.2	506.0	459.8	965.8	-2,270.3
2016	3,247.3	524.1	509.6	1033.7	-2,213.6
2017	3,204.0	509.8	460.9	970.8	-2,233.3
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
2020	3,003.4	449.5	241.0	690.4	-2,313.0
2021	3,347.2	447.0	253.3	700.3	-2,646.9

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

APPENDIX 7
RETAINED IMPORTS BY BROAD ECONOMIC CATEGORIES
2000 – 2021
(\$M)

Year	Total Consumer Goods	Non-Durables	Durables	Other Manufactured Goods	Total Non-Consumer Goods	Inter-mediate Goods	Capital Goods	Unclassified Goods	Total Retained Imports
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
2020	998.2	803.8	175.5	127.2	1,646.2	1,008.9	626.4	11.0	2,559.9
2021	1,163.87	842.7	175.2	1,465.10	1,927.50	1,309.80	600.3	17.4	3,091.40

SOURCE: Central Bank of Barbados

APPENDIX 8
EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY
2014-2021
(\$000)

Industry	2014	2015	2016R	2017	2018	2019	2020*	2021
Accommodation & Food Services	15.4	15.8	15.2	15.0	16.6	15.6	9.2	11.7
Activities of Households as Employers	5.0	5.1	5.8	4.8	4.4	4.7	3.8	3.9
Administrative & Support Service	7.2	7.1	8.7	7.4	8.3	8.3	8.2	8.1
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	3.4	3.7	3.6	4.0	4.0	3.5	2.8	2.8
Construction, Mining & Quarrying	12.0	12.1	14.6	13.3	12.3	11.4	11.1	10
Education	7.2	7.3	5.7	7.6	6.0	6.7	6.9	7
Elec. Gas, Steam, Water & Air Conditioning Supply	2.4	2.9	2.0	2.9	3.1	2.3	1.7	2.1
Finance & Insurance	5.7	5.5	5.3	5.5	5.8	5.3	5.7	5.2
Human Health & Social Work	6.6	6.8	7.2	6.6	6.0	6.3	5.8	6.1
Manufacturing	9.5	9.8	8.6	8.9	8.0	7.4	7.3	7.2
Other Services	3.5	3.8	4.3	4.6	4.0	4.8	3.3	3.9
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	4.2	4.5	4.8	4.2	4.6	4.7	5.5	4.9
Public Administration & Defense	8.7	9.6	11.4	9.6	8.7	7.4	9.9	11.6
Transportation & Storage	5.7	6.3	5.9	6.9	7.1	6.4	5.5	5.6
Wholesale & Retail Trade	21.2	20.2	23.9	20.3	19.3	19.1	16.9	16.5
Not Stated	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.2	1.6	2	0.9	1.1
Other Groups ⁷	7.0	7.6	7.0	8.1	8.6	8.9	6.8	6.6
TOTAL	124.8	128.2	132.9	129.9	126.2	124.8	111.3	133.0

*Average for the third and fourth quarter of 2020. Information was not collected for the first and second quarters due to national restrictions on movement.

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

⁷ Other Groups includes the following industries: Information and Communications, Activities of Extraterritorial organizations & Bodies, Real Estate & Arts, Entertainment and Recreation.

APPENDIX 9
DIRECTION OF TRADE WITH CARICOM COUNTRIES
DOMESTIC EXPORTS
2014 - 2021
(\$000)

Country	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Antigua	17,699	16,305	16,608	16,143	29,076	18,594	14,822	13,181
Belize	2,505	3,146	3,116	3,389	2,033	2,407	2,689	2,678
Dominica	6,394	6,791	6,793	6,902	15,016	15,465	9,201	7,926
Grenada	18,477	14,975	16,885	16,507	18,180	18,392	13,092	12,415
Guyana	48,441	50,399	45,881	45,055	52,613	59,222	49,453	51,043
Haiti	1,575	588	473	867	1,044	638	1,311	1,303
Jamaica	29,223	35,839	34,214	36,517	39,223	59,650	54,780	51,106
St. Kitts & Nevis	10,509	11,656	12,365	13,452	15,575	15,897	8,932	8,810
St. Lucia	29,652	28,320	29,803	29,055	32,263	26,957	23,149	24,887
Montserrat	363	424	747	779	678	824	942	584
Suriname	4,844	5,805	7,527	8,532	9,677	11,221	5,755	4,300
Trinidad & Tobago	96,590	66,536	60,952	67,072	61,511	55,297	44,429	50,235
St. Vincent	19,459	19,294	21,730	18,852	18,912	20,510	18,018	13,156
Total	285,731	260,078	257,096	263,120	295,800	305,076	246,572	241,624

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

APPENDIX 10
SUMMARY OF GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND FINANCING 2016/17 - 2020/21

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Revenues					
Tax Revenue	2,756,451,271	2,779,522,694	2,760,135,214	2,756,171,373	2,802,398,705
Non-Tax Revenue	136,446,995	220,312,940	159,700,456	196,663,945	241,527,484
Total Revenue	2,892,898,266	2,999,835,634	2,919,835,670	2,952,835,318	3,043,926,189
Expenditure					
Current	2,319,133,599	2,363,112,216	2,391,161,505	2,150,766,783	2,224,241,337
Personal Emoluments	726,557,718	723,615,300	765,214,466	740,610,675	736,604,491
Employers Contributions	57,959,794	57,455,895	46,718,058	72,029,008	72,492,674
Goods and Services	393,104,964	391,905,128	356,316,444	372,714,200	433,450,213
Transfers to Institutions and Individuals	842,345,048	864,935,315	896,296,900	605,612,690	614,009,187
Retiring Benefits and Allowances	299,166,075	325,200,578	322,709,800	359,800,210	367,134,772
Lending	0	0	3,905,837	0	550,000
Debt Service	742,514,249	783,728,342	384,982,043	253,200,986	365,986,239
Interest Expense	736,152,386	777,205,723	379,585,251	248,632,228	360,183,335
Expenses of Loans	6,361,863	6,522,619	5,396,792	4,568,758	5,802,904
Capital Expenditure	1,010,938,498	1,332,996,099	527,918,265	483,542,081	719,318,718
Amortization	805,513,037	971,273,239	342,861,286	325,462,900	544,769,855
Fixed Assets	105,861,547	282,701,645	82,255,993	94,102,870	139,912,219
Land Acquisition	2,175,680	4,000,000	1,968,915	3,700,000	6,047,000
Capital Transfers	97,388,234	75,021,215	100,832,071	60,276,311	28,589,644
Total Expenditure	4,072,586,346	4,479,836,657	3,304,061,813	2,887,509,850	3,309,546,294
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenue Over Expenditure	-1,179,688,080	-1,480,001,023	-384,226,143	65,325,468	-265,620,105
Financed by:					
Foreign Financing	141,328,238	107,244,067	384,226,143	0	265,620,105
Project	141,328,238	107,244,067	384,226,143	0	265,620,105
Inter-American Development Bank	38,516,410	24,032,455	230,200,000	0	157,600,000
Caribbean Development Bank	3,880,494	43,110,354	154,026,143	0	108,020,105
European Investment Bank	0	0	0	0	0
Peoples Republic of China	68,000,000	15,800,000	0	0	0
Citibank	30,931,334	12,900,000	0	0	0
Latin America Development Bank	0	11,401,258	0	0	0
Other Project	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Project	0	0	0	0	0
Inter-American Development Bank	0	0	0	0	0
World Bank	0	0	0	0	0
Commercial	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0
International Monetary Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Domestic Financing	1,038,359,842	1,372,756,956	0	0	0
Debentures	325,000,000	400,000,000	0	0	0
Government Savings Bonds	40,000,000	10,000,000	0	0	0
Tax Refund Certificates	0	0	0	0	0
Tax Reserve Certificates	0	0	0	0	0
Treasury Notes	300,000,000	400,000,000	0	0	0
Treasury Bills	373,359,842	562,756,956	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0	0

SOURCE: Ministry of Finance, Economic Affairs and Investment

APPENDIX 11
ACTUAL CURRENT REVENUE AND TOTAL EXPENDITURE BY FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION
2016/17 – 2020/21
(\$)

Total Current Revenue					
	2016/17	2017/18	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020/21
Tax Revenue	2,606,034,369	2,722,183,547	2,779,602,657	2,931,568,646	2,353,619,969
Goods & Services	1,342,412,926	1,462,200,085	1,407,475,781	1,510,600,812	1,021,404,080
Taxes on Income and Profits	821,366,889	818,994,651	962,098,709	915,306,015	951,003,082
Taxes on Property	187,673,633	189,869,536	186,494,113	256,823,275	181,629,441
Taxes International Trade	245,189,430	241,719,275	212,518,213	237,181,994	191,947,177
Other Taxes	9,391,492	9,400,000	11,015,841	11,656,550	7,636,189
Non-Tax Revenue	286,863,897	412,652,087	556,624,167	627,475,003	203,695,595
Special Receipts	150,416,902	192,339,147	390,329,575	503,523,654	37,196,673
Other Revenue - Non Tax	127,659,616	217,212,940	162,338,418	112,199,801	166,498,922
Grant Income	8,787,379	3,100,000	3,956,174	11,751,548	-
Total Current Revenue	2,892,898,266	3,134,835,634	3,336,226,824	3,559,043,649	2,557,315,564
Total Expenditure By Functional Classification					
Expenditure	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020-2021
General Public Services	129,741,007	2,102,636,156	977,376,506	679,491,209	1,135,842,806
Defense	78,210,414	76,030,077	79,514,849	74,514,923	80,897,926
Public Order And Safety	208,139,209	240,535,703	233,327,560	193,327,560	250,176,039
Economic Affairs	478,149,278	483,471,526	405,547,582	295,547,582	365,611,330
Environmental Protection	110,260,140	120,518,387	119,971,293	57,971,293	74,347,332
Housing and Community Amenities	176,981,858	151,581,852	171,370,968	107,370,968	205,776,111
Health	315,934,521	318,277,224	320,261,521	301,261,521	356,614,491
Recreation, Culture and Religion	46,762,467	64,188,160	52,031,906	38,031,906	60,356,202
Education	497,631,940	520,562,158	540,497,309	520,497,309	550,910,904
Social Protection	365,845,612	410,735,106	404,162,319	398,162,319	420,950,857
Total Expenditure	2,407,656,446	4,488,536,349	3,304,061,813	2,666,176,590	3,501,483,998

SOURCE: Ministry of Finance, Economic Affairs and Investment

APPENDIX 12
SELECTED INTEREST RATES
1990 - 2021
(PERCENTAGES PER ANNUM)

Period Ended	Treasury Bills	Deposits - Minimum Rates				Prime Lending Rate(1)	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
2020	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.65	4.0	2.00	0.50
2021	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.05	4.0	2.00	0.50

SOURCE: Central Bank of Barbados

APPENDIX 13
IMPORTATION OF SELECT COMMODITIES
2017 - 2021

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	% Change over 2020
Root Crop Imports ('000 kgs)						
Cassava	0.03	0.11	4.77	3.98	0.77	-80.65%
Eddoes	135.63	100.44	150.67	176.03	97.01	-44.89%
Sweet Potato	34.57	5.87	23.37	30.72	4.35	-85.84%
Yam	63.4	85.19	56.11	128.16	74.09	-42.19%
Onion	1,954.16	1,745.92	1,696.31	1,780.36	1,540.23	-13.49%
Peanut	402.05	424.53	384.33	395.53	149.10	-62.30%
Vegetable Imports ('000 kgs)						
Beans (String)	0.32	0.5	0.19	0.67	0.36	-46.27%
Beets	54.45	50.09	48.68	69.31	72.58	4.72%
Cabbage	566.82	573.05	448.35	473.08	477.48	0.93%
Carrot	807.6	761.22	624.69	553.77	554.78	0.18%
Cucumber	8.08	3.65	3.18	14.51	3.69	-74.57%
Lettuce	781.68	705.14	640.3	465.91	424.15	-8.96%
Melons	523.53	390.48	394.76	380.88	223.77	-41.25%
Okras	0.06	0	0	0	0.80	0.00%
Peppers (Hot)	1.5	2.92	2.86	6.04	0.00	-100.00%
Peppers (Sweet)	278.83	246.08	300.34	273.22	252.34	-7.64%
Pumpkins	301.5	295.65	197.28	199.84	122.86	-38.52%
Tomato	338.69	218.23	107.21	271.74	213.73	-21.35%
Livestock and Dairy Product Imports ('000 kgs)						
Pork	2,676.57	2,272.78	2,740.71	2,152.33	2,783.03	29.30%
Beef & Veal	2,226.01	1,985.69	2,221.18	1,993.20	1,921.84	-3.58%
Mutton	1,335.96	1,233.51	1,085.99	1,007.71	1,002.50	-0.52%
Poultry	1,378.92	1,715.98	1,766.03	1,581.66	1,057.58	-33.13%
Table Eggs	50.48	83.75	22.53	0	19.13	0.00%
All Milk	2,127.67	3,070.18	2,830.91	2,874.35	3,211.97	11.75%

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

APPENDIX 14
PRODUCTION OF SELECTED AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES
2014 - 2021

Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020(R)	2021	% Change Over 2020
Sugar Production									
Cane Harvested (tonnes)	159,606.90	116,105.70	83,369.20	131,194.40	146,831.10	84,588.60	90,177.61	92,129.07	2.16%
Area Harvested(acres)	9,443.30	7,670.20	10,582.90	6,809.60	7,129.00	7,294.80	n.a.	4,444.25	n.a
Sugar ('000 tonnes)	15.7	10.8	7	10.1	11.7	7.9	7.9	5.3	-32.91%
Cotton Production									
	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	
Cotton Received	63,779.00	48,386.40	34,645.40	18,415.20	5,527.10	6,640.60	14,866.09	12,626.28	-15.07%
Lint ('000 kgs)	21	17.7	13.7	5.8	1.7	2.2	5.5	3.6	-34.55%
Running bales	89	78	57	26	7	10	24	16	-33.33%
Hectares planted	115.5	167.1	171.7	89.6	95.9	34.2	124.6	80.94	-35.04%
Root Crop Production ('000 kgs)									
Cassava	552.9	379.1	490.5	478.8	672.9	485.6	890.5	633.9	-28.81%
Eddoes	74.6	156.6	250.3	161	279.9	147.4	181.8	124.6	-31.44%
Sweet Potato	1,231.90	1,334.60	2,897.50	1,167.30	1,654.50	2,092.60	1,664.20	1,396.3	-16.10%
Yam	567.1	578.1	378.4	181.4	345	196.6	221.9	316.0	42.38%
Onion	315.3	757.8	428.7	410.7	410.6	762	604.3	503.9	-16.62%
Peanut	4.6	7.9	11.2	21.1	6.2	7.5	12.9	7.4	-42.48%
Vegetable Production ('000 kgs)									
Beans (String)	109.2	149.9	137	264.6	290.5	304.6	388.2	102.2	-73.68%
Beets	23.7	43.4	83.6	13.2	36.4	45.8	115.4	40.6	-64.79%
Cabbage	322.7	360.6	337.5	470.8	673.7	416.7	431.7	211.8	-50.94%
Carrot	310.2	271	134.6	158.2	403.4	338.2	181.1	127.7	-29.52%
Cucumber	994.3	810.9	250.3	714.5	677.2	940.3	771.0	424.2	-44.98%
Lettuce	312.7	459.9	439.7	586.5	835.7	708.5	665.6	373.9	-43.82%
Melons	318.9	401.2	197.6	226.2	407.6	341	276.6	212.4	-23.23%
Okras	263.6	290	261	340.8	349.1	508.5	433.8	238.6	-45.00%
Peppers (Hot)	92.8	88.5	37.5	148.3	301.4	439.7	345.8	169.0	-51.12%
Peppers (Sweet)	396.3	329.9	137.2	304.5	432.9	285.2	253.5	112.1	-55.79%
Pumpkins	508.2	308.2	249.3	169.2	270	162.9	351.3	90.7	-74.17%
Tomato	781	733.6	336.9	332.4	706.5	767.5	962.4	439.0	-54.38%
Livestock and Dairy Production ('000 kgs)									
Pork	2,705.00	2,846.70	2,663.80	2,518.50	2,771.70	2,840.30	2869.2	2634.0	-8.20%
Beef	153.1	170.6	176.2	156.9	175	172.5	182.3	161.2	-11.53%
Veal	2.8	2	1.2	6.2	0.6	0.4	43.6	0.6	-98.62%
Mutton	100.3	101.8	110.5	95.8	107	92.2	98.7	65.5	-33.65%
Chicken	14,391.90	16,134.10	14,896.80	15,805.30	16,465.60	16,232.00	11964.9	13183.4	10.18%
Turkey	183.3	190.3	261.8	127	180.8	397.6	141.5	298.1	110.69%
Eggs	2,915.40	2,395.20	4,260.60	3,366.90	3,440.10	3,749.90	3471.5	2605.7	-24.94%
Milk	4,966.00	5,227.40	4,549.40	4,862.20	4,799.40	4,657.40	3978.0	4340.7	9.12%

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

APPENDIX 15
FOOD IMPORT BILL (BDS\$)
2016- 2021

Year	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Beef	\$22,030,780	\$21,927,301	\$22,041,143	\$25,205,865	\$22,157,976	\$23,355,910
Pork	\$13,551,868	\$14,579,032	\$12,107,969	\$15,540,153	\$12,702,504	\$19,755,574
Lamb	\$9,602,649	\$13,581,110	\$14,377,770	\$13,608,139	\$12,390,033	\$13,921,916
Poultry	\$5,756,090	\$6,670,534	\$7,407,475	\$7,999,657	\$7,667,737	\$6,669,879
Fish	\$30,905,359	\$32,253,400	\$35,686,688	\$37,775,769	\$27,011,496	\$30,824,645
Dairy, Eggs and Honey	\$56,743,008	\$60,247,586	\$60,806,381	\$64,180,167	\$60,203,452	\$64,594,756
Vegetables Fresh and Chilled	\$26,435,176	\$28,261,166	\$26,931,181	\$30,721,768	\$26,264,046	\$28,035,560
Vegetables Frozen and Dried	\$3,868,058	\$4,457,366	\$3,890,276	\$3,753,048	\$3,805,567	\$3,803,801
Root Crops	\$357,167	\$208,416	\$252,530	\$325,554	\$380,999	\$240,890
Nuts	\$1,723,781	\$2,207,194	\$2,001,546	\$1,977,592	\$1,646,451	\$1,745,600
Fruits	\$33,344,812	\$32,331,388	\$33,494,069	\$36,332,806	\$35,682,334	\$41,020,056
Coffee, Tea and Spices	\$7,405,709	\$8,290,440	\$9,352,295	\$7,726,429	\$7,865,022	\$9,285,691
Grain and Cereals	\$74,631,352	\$66,938,503	\$70,032,802	\$74,879,901	\$71,669,297	\$82,416,645
Oils and Fats	\$19,061,406	\$19,502,860	\$23,824,949	\$19,721,058	\$23,778,481	\$20,818,905
Processed Goods	\$168,182,238	\$182,443,666	\$175,677,436	\$173,562,327	\$179,958,404	\$184,841,063
Juices and Concentrates	\$11,514,869	\$11,295,939	\$11,512,393	\$13,091,676	\$10,273,439	\$9,846,405
Other Food Preparations	\$74,067,239	\$85,609,476	\$78,375,587	\$81,196,132	\$81,241,463	\$88,589,258
Non- Alcoholic Beverages	\$42,193,397	\$38,598,391	\$37,054,006	\$38,795,483	\$33,600,984	\$31,525,005
Alcoholic Beverages	\$54,683,875	\$54,948,020	\$58,917,375	\$53,712,519	\$46,414,766	\$47,828,609
TOTAL	\$656,058,833	\$684,351,788	\$683,743,871	\$700,106,043	\$664,714,451	\$709,120,168

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

APPENDIX 16
SELECTED INDICATORS IN THE TOURISM INDUSTRY
2007-2021

Accommodation & Food Services						
Arrivals						
Year	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	1,761.40	562,541	n.a	539,092
2008	15.1	n.a.	1,711.60	567,667	n.a.	597,523
2009	14.4	n.a.	1,516.50	518,564	n.a.	635,212
2010	14.2	12.7	1,474.40	532,180	15.04	664,747
2011	12.8	13.2	1,314.10	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	1,406.20	508,520	11.82	570,263
2014	13.1	15.4	1,358.70	519,635	11.97	563,030
2015	12.9	15.8	1,344.30	591,872	11.19	586,615
2016	13.6	16.4	1,442.50	631,513	11.01	594,096
2017	14.1	15	1,580.50	661,160	10.63	681,211
2018	14.6	17.6	1,764.60	678,537	10.51	675,789
2019	15.1	15.6	2,035.30	520,880	n.a.	443,233
2020	7.4	9.2	n.a.	195,102	13.3	250,542
2021	6.1	11.7	n.a.	144,833	14.5	71,593

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service, Caribbean Tourism Organization, Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc.

APPENDIX 17
TOURISM ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE
2004 - 2021

Year	U.S.A.	Canada	United Kingdom	Germany	Other Europe	Trinidad & Tobago	Other CARICOM	Other Countries	TOTAL
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	679,478
2019	219,770	81,577	226,992	12,271	25,488	31,570	68,682	26,308	692,658
2020	43,222	32,932	63,923	1,280	16,742	6,819	15,571	14,613	195,102
2021	44,804	17,316	53,639	2,062	6,897	4,908	9,000	6,207	144,833

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service, Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc.

APPENDIX 18
INDEX OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION
1997- 2021

	Total All Industries	Mining and Quarrying	Electricity, Water and Gas	Total Manufacturing	Food	Beverages & Tobacco	Wearing Apparel	Wooden Furniture	Chemicals	Petroleum Products	Non- Metallic Mineral Products	Electronic Components	Other Manufacturing
Weights	1000	26	177	797	148	113	21	16	35	214	35	44	170
1997	117	121.5	114.5	117.4	114.4	82.8	125.1	134	148.3	120.2	181	111.4	119.1
1998	100.3	160.1	117.8	94.5	120.1	101.8	95.5	101.1	135.7	13.2	251.8	93.2	128.2
1999	97.8	188.2	120.6	89.8	117.8	110.5	88.3	41.5	134.9	0	257.6	87	126
2000	96.1	179.8	122.2	87.6	109.5	102.8	84.2	35.7	110	0	265.1	81.7	133.9
2001	89.6	160.7	127.6	78.8	113	92.4	43	34.1	96.1	0	248.3	55.9	115.2
2002	91.4	171.4	132.1	79.7	120.3	79.6	28.8	134.3	96.7	0	270.8	54.4	109.3
2003	90.3	144.2	136.1	78.3	117.6	84.9	25.1	136	103	0	285.5	46	100.1
2004	92.6	158	138.6	80.2	115	87.1	25.7	192.9	115.7	0	294.1	53.5	97.7
2005	94.1	170.8	137.8	81.9	116.6	84.8	25.2	193.9	121.9	0	305.7	41.7	105.1
2006	95.3	165.5	149.2	81.1	116.4	73.9	22.2	169.1	118.4	0	320.6	45	108.6
2007	95	155.7	152.9	80.1	117.8	76.9	22.1	158.4	118.2	0	313	33.6	106.1
2008	93.2	143.5	152.2	78.5	115.3	84.3	12	166.7	118.8	0	290.4	32.2	101.2
2009	84.1	90	153.3	68.6	103.8	74.8	14.3	133.4	90.4	0	236.6	21.8	93.5
2010	82.8	99.4	156.5	65.9	99.1	84.9	8	119.6	90.2	0	204.5	27	85.7
2011	79.7	85.9	154.2	63	95.1	78.1	11	111	812	0	207.3	24.8	82.5
2012	75.8	79.1	154.9	58.1	94.9	73.9	12.2	107.7	78.9	0	164.7	15.6	74.6
2013	76.9	77.3	158.5	58.8	94.8	70.3	6.7	124.6	73.5	0	181.8	17.6	76.2
2014	77.6	70.1	158.3	59.9	117.3	66.2	7.8	112.4	126.3	0	147.1	9.5	64
2015	77.9	61.3	155.5	61.2	120.8	54.3	4.7	126.7	148.2	0	177.5	5.5	64.2
2016	77.5	83.4	160.6	58.9	116.1	61.7	5	120.6	135	0	151.7	10.5	59.8
2017	75	90.4	153.2	56.5	92.7	56.4	5	121.3	149.7	0	171.4	14.1	64.7
2018	75.1	97.8	155.4	56.5	8.5	69	5	131	130.1	0	180.1	13.6	61.3
2019	73	83.6	154	54.7	84.2	66.3	5	122.4	128.4	0	188.2	16.4	57
2020	68.8	99.1	154.5	48.8	84.4	57.2	5	127.1	129.3	0	106.5	11.8	53
2021	68.6	69.8	147.2	51.2	81.6	47.5	5	121.8	165.7	0	178.5	8.5	51.4

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

APPENDIX 19
POPULATION, RATES OF BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANT MORTALITY
1984 – 2021

Year	Resident Population at December 31	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Rate of Natural Increase	Infant Mortality	Rate of Population Growth
	(’000 Persons)	(Per 1000 Pop.)	(Per 1000 Pop.)	(Per 1000 Pop.)	(Per 1000 Births)	(%)
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	5.5	10	0.2
2000	269.1	14	9.1	5	17	0.6
2001	270.4	15	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	12.4	8.5	3.9	11.1	0.2
2007	274.7	12.9	8.1	4.8	13	0.3
2008	275.3	12.9	9	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	4.2	10.1	0.2
2011	276.8	11.8	8.8	3	13.7	0.2
2012	277	11.5	8.7	2.8	11	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	-0.2
2015	276.3	10.4	9.2	1.2	8	-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
2020R	270.9	8.7	10	-1.3	6.4	-0.5
2021	269.8	8.2	9.2	-1.1	11.3	-0.4

SOURCE: Barbados Statistical Service

APPENDIX 20
SPECIAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME
DISBURSEMENTS AND BENEFICIARIES BY CALENDAR YEAR
2016-2021

Type of Assistance	2016R	2017R	2018R	2019R	2020R	2021P
Initial Diagnostic Process	0	0	0	0	0	0
Training Productivity Enhancement	15,865	132,092	219,985	254,293	176,807	39,326
Marketing	372,168	468,946	508,609	562,098	347,804	476,271
Equipment, Systems & Process Upgrades	0	222,084	83,714	526,430	346,088	2,003,011
International Standards Certification	38,815	51,723	0	0	92,092	0
Enhancement Programme						
BMA/CRAFT	49,874	211,141	178,925	26,119	558	15,215
Product Design	49,578	4,720	0	0	3,000	54,873
Market Research	0	0	28,068	22,892	48,783	30,108
Professional Services	182,350	233,974	126,491	38,725	53,314	125,795
Promotion - Pelican Craft Centre	31,103	34,075	28,357	21,863	0	0
Craft Supply Project	0	2,608	0	0	2,681	0
Intellectual Property	0	0	12,255	51,290	25,738	50,194
TOTAL (\$)	739,754	1,361,363	1,186,404	1,503,710	1,096,864	1,096,864

SOURCE: Barbados Investment and Development Corporation

R – Revised P – Provisional

APPENDIX 21
OIL, GAS & UTILITY PRODUCTION & CONSUMPTION
2016-2021

Oil Gas & Utility Production & Consumption (Values)	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Production						
Domestic Crude Oil (Bbls)	232,741	233,489	220,432	209,350	172,944	152,272
Domestic Natural Gas (Mcf)	606,473	526,861	510,323	500,867	392,730	372,946
Domestic LPG (Bbls)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Imported LNG (Mcf)	-	547,621	580,843	226,831	226,597	301,159
No. of wells drilled	-	-	-	-	-	-
						Sales
Oil sales	241,202	232,896	218,000	209,655	171,021	163,709
Gas Sales (Mcf)	467,868	293,567	359,113	374,778	261,812	254,430
Gas Sales (Mcf) (Imported)	n.a	547,621	580,843	226,831	281,687	321,750
Natural Gas Sales						
	Value \$	Value \$	Value \$	Value \$	Value \$	Value \$
Residential	4,113,636	4,304,859	4,416,268	4,553,602	4,702,847	4,704,089
Commercial	12,760,416	15,329,085	17,064,775	17,814,689	11,154,121	11,704,727
Industrial	438,148	558,140	538,082	440,962	468,667	465,394
Special Industrial	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	17,312,200	20,192,084	22,019,125	22,809,253	16,325,635	16,874,210
New Gas Connections						
Residential	326	365	287	199	187	168
Commercial	4	8	10	13	14	10
Total Natural Gas Connections	330	373	297	212	201	178
Mileage of Gas Mains Network	1.19	0.77	0.22	1.23	1.95	4.87
Total To Date	339.36	340.13	340.35	341.58	344	348.37
Electricity (Kwh)						
Gross Generation	1,029,840,480	1,026,886,255	1,014,908,553	1,013,128,822	930,902,870	923,645,149
Net Generation	1,009,826,256	1,011,415,223	996,154,600	1,013,745,508	922,806,170	927,756,277
Total Sales	943,706,921	944,109,176	938,251,065	946,786,471	893,869,709	904,959,735

SOURCE: Energy Division

APPENDIX 21 (Cont'd)
OIL, GAS & UTILITY PRODUCTION & CONSUMPTION
2016-2021

Oil Gas & Utility Production & Consumption (Values)	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Sales (Kwh)						
Hotel	138,884,034	137,563,728	139,316,650	142,930,415	106,240,509	113,958,227
Commercial	196,571,348	193,286,276	192,092,647	189,651,782	174,933,378	172,950,962
Public	147,756,024	150,582,945	149,567,165	146,795,251	140,771,583	138,838,849
Domestic	321,020,994	324,130,113	319,818,704	329,543,299	346,472,249	355,551,284
Industrial	80,714,698	81,143,921	80,784,060	78,903,268	73,915,536	71,972,577
Other	58,759,823	57,402,193	56,671,839	55,962,383	51,536,454	51,688,870
Total	943,706,921	944,109,176	938,251,065	943,786,398	893,869,709	904,960,769
Capital Expenditure (million)	\$77	\$62	\$44	\$102	\$135	\$88
Average Cost of Electricity (cents/kwh)	39.95	44.9	52.23	50.68	0.42	0.5
No. of Customers	126,266	129,112	129,985	130,493	131,962	132,165
Consumption/Sales Of Refined Products (Bbls)						
Gasoline (Unleaded)	767,206	772,265	736,828	770,563	650,731	614,865
Kerosene	572,219	546,068	445,970	640,397	616,639	566,799
Diesel	484,165	503,635	473,874	498,895	499,544	446,441
Fuel Oil	1,196,470	1,194,795	1,302,620	996,653	921,318	972,772
Natural Gas Sales	VOL. (CM)	VOL. (CM)	VOL. (CM)	VOL. (CM)	VOL. (CM)	VOL. (CM)
Residential	2,781,488	2,723,262	2,711,570	2,684,246	2,769,930	2,771,048
Commercial	10,760,715	11,350,186	11,738,797	11,442,726	7,142,712	7,473,291
Industrial	725,226	752,758	727,265	629,948	669,523	664,847
Special Industrial	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	14,267,429	14,826,206	15,177,632	14,756,920	10,582,165	10,909,186
Re (Capacity) Mw	13.972	11.643	16.795	20	n.a.	n.a.
Re (Production)Kwh	26,549,040	37,744,551	44,047,840	52,500,489	n.a.	n.a.

SOURCE: Energy Division



ECONOMIC AFFAIRS & INVESTMENT DIVISION

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