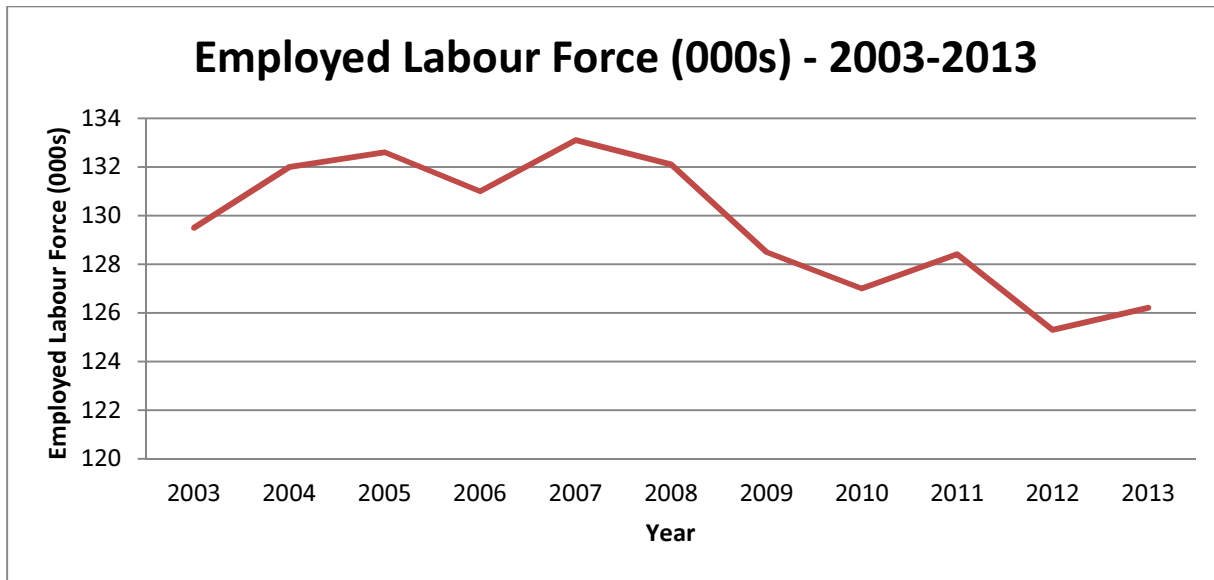


Employed Labour Force (000's) 2003-2013



Source: Barbados Statistical Service

**EMPLOYED LABOUR FORCE
(000's)**

YEAR	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
(000'S)	129.5	132	132.6	131	133.1	132.1	128.5	127	128.4	125.3	126.2

The employed labour force consists of persons above the age of 15 years² who, during the reference period, performed a minimum of **one hour's** work for pay or for profit within a specified reference period³ (one week in the case of Barbados). This section also includes those who are temporarily absent from a job or business for such reasons as illness, vacation, strike, study or training leave.

Over the review period, the employed labour force declined at an annual average rate of some 0.25%, moving from 129,500 persons in 2003 to approximately 126,200 persons in 2013. The maximum recorded for this category of persons was 133,100 in 2007, whilst a minimum of some 125,300 persons was recorded in 2012.

² Under Barbados' Education Act Cap 41, attendance at school is compulsory from ages 5 to 16 years. However, the International Labour Office (ILO) standard for measuring a country's working age population is 15 years and older. For further information, please see ILO Publication "Guide to the New Millenium Development Goals: Employment Indicators".

³ Continuous Labour Force Survey of the Barbados Statistical Service

Whilst the number of employed persons fluctuated during the first half of the reference period, a general downward trend was observed in the latter half. That downward trend could possibly be attributed to the decline in overall economic activity, where nominal gross domestic product (GDP) decreased from BDS \$9 billion in 2008 to BDS \$8.4 billion in 2013⁴

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[http://centralbank.org.bb/WEBCBB.nsf/%28hpPublications%29/75182893344AA22404257CD00061B647/\\$FILE/April%20PR%20Final.pdf](http://centralbank.org.bb/WEBCBB.nsf/%28hpPublications%29/75182893344AA22404257CD00061B647/$FILE/April%20PR%20Final.pdf)