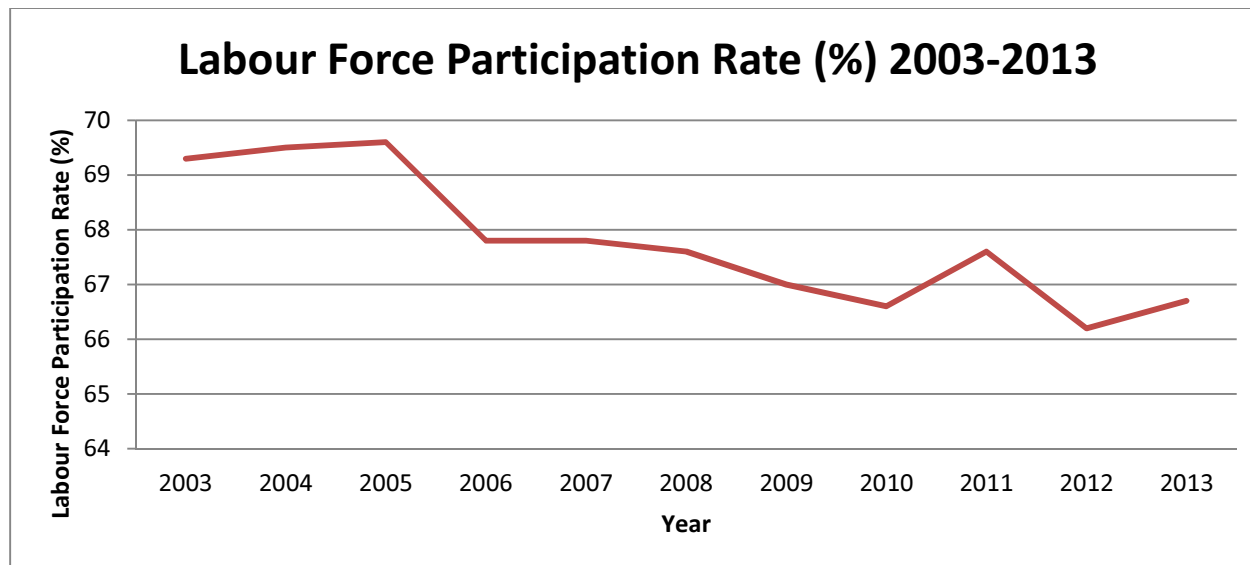


## Labour Force Participation Rate (%) 2003-2013



Source: Barbados Statistical Service

### **LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE (%)**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>
<b>(%)</b>	69.3	69.5	69.6	67.8	67.8	67.6	67	66.6	67.6	66.2	66.7

The labour force participation rate is a vital tool used to assess the “active” portion (those persons of working age who are either (i) employed or (ii) unemployed but actively seeking employment) of a country’s adult population.

This rate decreased by some 2.6 percentage points over the review period, moving from 69.3% in 2003, to 66.7% in 2013. This decrease was also reflected by a general downward trend being observed, particularly between the years 2005 and 2010.

Over the reference period, the rate reached a maximum of 69.6% in 2005, whilst the minimum of 66.2% was attained in 2012. The biggest decrease in this rate was observed between the years 2005 and 2006, when a decline of some 1.8 percentage points was recorded.