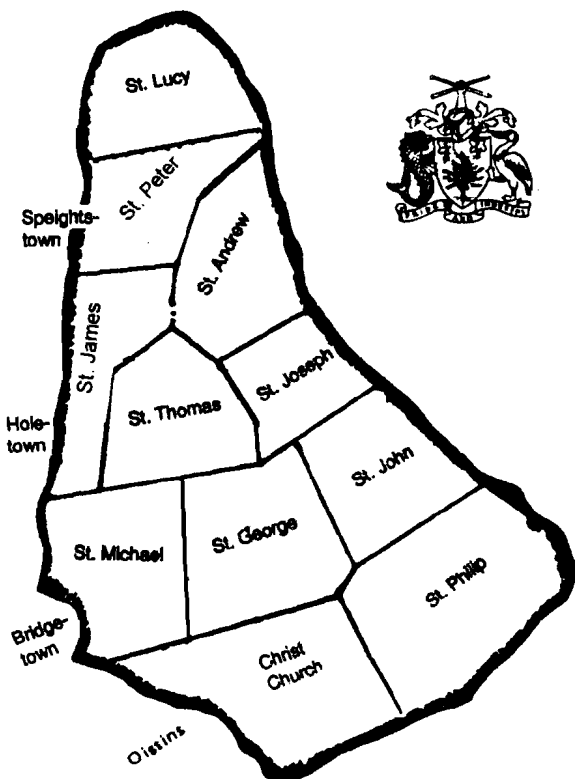


BARBADOS



DIGEST OF STATISTICS 1999 EDITION

MINISTRY OF LABOUR, SPORTS
AND PUBLIC SECTOR REFORM

PROFILE OF BARBADOS



Barbados is the most easterly in the Caribbean Islands chain. It is located in the Atlantic Ocean 59° 37' West and 13° 04' North of the Equator. It lies approximately 463 kilometres north-east of the South American mainland and its nearest neighbour, St. Vincent, is 160.9 kilometres to the west.

It is 34 kilometres long and 23 kilometres wide; its area is approximately 430 square kilometres. The island is mainly of coral formation, generally flat rising to the highest point (336 metres above sea level) at Mt. Hillaby, St. Andrew, one of the island's eleven (11) parishes.

Archaeological evidence indicates that Arawak Indians inhabited Barbados prior to the settlement of the English at Holetown in 1625. Until 1966, when Barbados became an independent nation, it was a British colony. Barbados has a stable and democratic system of Government. The Parliament in Barbados which dates from 1639 is the third oldest in the world.

His Excellency Sir Clifford Husbands is the Governor-General. The Right Honourable Owen S. Arthur is the Prime Minister and the Honourable David J. H. Thompson is the Leader of the Opposition.

Bridgetown, the capital is situated in the south-west in the parish of St. Michael. This city plays host to the Securities Exchange of Barbados (SEB), off-shore companies and a modern deep water harbour. Other major towns are Speightstown and Holetown in the north and Oistins in the south of the island.

The climate is sunny all year round, with the coolest months being January to April, while the hottest are July to September. The atmosphere is cooled by gentle trade winds. Its climatic conditions and geographical make-up help to boost Barbados as a dream vacation.

Tourism plays a vital role in the Barbadian economy, and is the major contributor to foreign exchange earnings. The principal crop like other Caribbean islands is sugar cane.

The island has many places of interest especially the Harrison's Cave, one of the finest cave system in the world.

At the end of 1999, Barbados' resident population was 267,400 persons, 92% of whom are of African descent and the other 8% are white, or mixed.

The language spoken is English and education is compulsory from ages 5 – 16. Barbados boasts of a 97% literacy rate. A highly religious community, 70% of the population are Anglican, Catholic, Methodist and Moravian. The other 30% are affiliated to other denominations.

CLIMATE

	1997	1998	1999
Mean relative humidity (%)	78	82	83
Annual rainfall (mm)	1036	1528	1352.1
Total number of rain days	132	140	145

POPULATION & VITAL STATISTICS

Total Population	266.1	266.9	267.4
Male	127.4	128.3	128.5
Female	138.7	138.6	138.9
Population density (per square km)	61.5	61.8	61.7
Birth Rate per 1000	14.3	13.6	14.5
Death Rate per 1000	8.7	9.3	9.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1000	13.2	7.8	10.0
Live Births ('000)	3.8	3.6	3.8
Rate of Natural Increase per 1000	5.6	4.3	5.5
Population Growth Rate (%)	0.6	0.4	0.2
Total Adult Population ('000 persons)	201.1	201.4	201.8
Male	98.4	94.9	95.1
Female	106.4	106.5	106.7

POPULATION & VITAL STATISTICS*- Cont'd*

	1997	1998	1999
Labour Force			
('000 persons)	135.8	136.3	136.6
Male	69.8	70.3	71.0
Female	66.0	66.0	65.6
Employed ('000 persons)	116.1	119.6	122.4
Male	61.9	64.4	65.5
Female	54.3	55.2	56.9
Unemployed ('000 persons)	19.5	16.7	14.2
Male	7.7	5.9	5.5
Female	11.8	10.8	8.7
Unemployment Rate (%)	14.4	12.3	10.4
Participation Rate (%)	67.5	67.7	67.7
Not in the Labour Force			
('000 persons)	66.3	64.9	64.8
Male	25.0	24.6	23.9
Female	40.3	40.3	40.9
Total Trade Union Membership (Approx.)	32.7	34.5	34.8

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY*('000 Persons)*

	1997	1998	1999
Agriculture, Fisheries	6.1	5.2	4.1
Quarry and Construction	10.2	12.5	14.0
Manufacturing	10.7	10.7	10.3
Electricity, Gas and Water	1.4	1.8	2.0
Distributive Trade,			
Restaurants and Hotels	15.9	18.2	17.2
Tourism	12.3	13.8	12.3
Communications and			
Transport	4.6	5.1	4.5
Financial Institutions,			
Insurance, etc.	8.1	7.5	7.0
Services (Government			
& Other)	46.3	44.4	49.7
Not Stated	0.5	0.4	0.2

EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION**('000 Persons)*

	1997	1998	1999
Legislators, Senior Officials			
and Managers	7.9	6.3	6.6
Professional	11.7	10.3	9.9
Technicians and Associate			
Professionals	7.2	7.9	8.3
Clerks	16.0	15.0	14.9
Service Workers and Shop and			
Market Sales Workers	19.3	19.8	20.9
Skilled Agricultural and			
Fishery Workers	2.0	2.7	2.6
Craft and Related Workers	15.0	17.0	19.1
Plant and Machine Operators			
and Assemblers	8.5	9.5	9.1
Elementary Occupations	28.1	30.0	30.2
Not Stated	0.8	1.5	0.9

HEALTH WORKERS¹

Dental Auxiliaries	-	12	12
Dental Hygienists	8	8	7
Dental Technicians	8	11	11
Dentists/Dental Surgeons	51	30	57
Dietitians/Nutritionists	11	11	11
Nurses (Registered)	632	978	1019
Midwives	318	426	407
Psychiatric Nurses	170	288	336
Nursing Assistants	273	384	414
Optometrists	11	11	11
Pharmacists/Chemists	169	138	145
Medical Practitioners	291	364	333
Physiotherapists	19	16	32
Psychologists	6	6	5
Diagnostic Radiographers	14	19	16
Therapeutic Radiographers	2	3	3
Ophthalmic Dispensers	9	-	-
Chiropractors	3	6	5
Medical Laboratory Technologists	32	45	49

¹ Information collected at Registration Department.

HEALTH WORKERS' – Cont'd

	1997	1998	1999
Occupational Therapists	6	6	6
Cardiac Technologist	-	-	2
Opticians	-	12	10

EDUCATION

Enrollments ('000 Persons)

	1997	1998	1999
<i>*Primary</i>			
Total	26.6	31.8 ^R	29.9
Male	13.5	16.2	15.2
Female	13.1	15.6	14.7
<i>Senior Schools</i>			
Total	0.21	0.31	2.54
Male	0.15	0.22	1.83
Female	0.06	0.08	0.71
<i>Government Secondary</i>			
Total	21.5	21.0	20.44
Male	10.7	10.4	10.18
Female	10.8	10.6	10.26
<i>School Leavers ('000 Persons)</i>			
<i>Government Secondary</i>			
Total	3.7	3.6	3.3
Male	1.9	1.6	1.7
Female	1.8	2.0	1.6
<i>Private Secondary</i>			
Total	0.18	0.21	0.19
Male	0.07	0.09	0.06
Female	0.11	0.12	0.13
<i>UWI Graduates (Local) (Approx.)</i>			
Total	0.43	0.49	0.54
Male	0.15	0.17	0.19
Female	0.28	0.32	0.35

* 1999 contains under 5 years and 5-7 years public and private.

EDUCATION

Enrollments ('000 Persons) – Cont'd

	1997	1998	1999
<i>Barbados Community College Graduates</i>			
Total	1.35	0.48	0.59
Male	0.36	0.15	0.22
Female	0.99	0.33	0.37
<i>Samuel Jackman Prescod</i>			
<i>Polytechnic Graduates</i>			
Total	1.11	1.17	1.30
Male	0.60	0.67	0.64
Female	0.51	0.05	0.66
<i>Passes at CXC General</i>			
<i>Secondary Schools</i>			
Total	10,404	11,194	11,496
Male	4,201	4,410	4,603
Female	6,203	6,784	6,893
<i>Private Entries</i>			
Total	1,369	2,505	2,316
Male	374	741	617
Female	995	1,764	1,699
<i>Barbados Scholars</i>			
Total	20	11	17
Male	8	4	10
Female	12	7	7
<i>Total No. of Teachers</i>			
(Primary & Secondary)	2.7	3.2	3.2
Literacy Rate (%)	97	97	97

BARBADOS VOCATIONAL TRAINING BOARD

Skills Training Programme (Completed Training)

	1997	1998	1999
Auto Body Repairs	4	-	-
Auto Mechanics	19	30	32
Electrical Installation	21	24	38
Leather-craft	6	11	3
Masonry	4	53	59
Needlecraft	39	30	37
Plumbing	19	27	86
Carpentry	-	-	102
Computer Applications	-	43	65
Bob Cat/Backhoe Operation	-	21	41
Horticulture/Landscaping	-	29	3
Steelbending and Fixing	-	-	28
Tailoring	6	7	8
Tractor Operations and Maintenance	15	9	36
Upholstery	4	36	22
Tiling	-	50	55
Woodwork	25	-	-
Painting/Finishing	-	7	9
Basketry	3	6	19
Screen Painting	-	7	18
Air Conditioning and Refrigeration	5	-	-
Automotive Engineering	14	-	-
Joinery	1	103	11
Mechanical Engineering/ Installation	7	-	-
Welding	3	7	24
Vehicle Body Repair	4	-	-
Cupboard Construction	0	2	19
TOTAL	247	500	715

NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT BUREAU

('000 Persons)

	1997	1998	1999
Job Placements Overseas	0.6	0.6	N/A
Job Placements Locally	0.3	0.3	N/A
Registration (Local Employment)	1.3	2.8	N/A
Vacancies Reported (Local Employment)	0.5	0.7	N/A
Registrations (Self-Employed)	0.3	0.3	N/A

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

	1997 ^R	1998 ^R	1999 ^F
GDP at Factor Cost ('000 \$)	3608.6	3382.4	4137.9
GDP at Current Market Prices ('000 \$)	4407.7	4407.7	4980.1
GDP per capita at Factor Cost ('000 \$)	13.6	14.7	15.4
Real Growth (% Change)	3.0	4.4	2.8

RETAIL PRICE INDEX

(May, 1994 base = 100)*

	1997	1998	1999
All Items December	113.6	112.2	113.9

* A new index based on May, 1994 Indicators replaces the old index which was based on March, 1980 Indicators.

TOURISM

	1997	1998	1999
Hotel Bed Occupancy Rate (%)	63.2	52.5	N/A
Average Length of Stay (nights)	6.6	5.9	N/A
Estimated Tourist Expenditure (BDS. \$M)	1314.4	1405.7	1354.3
Contribution to GDP (BDS. \$M)	450.8	482.2	464.5
Share of GDP (% at Factor Cost)	13.8	12.3	11.2
VISITOR ARRIVALS ('000 Persons)			
United States	109.0	106.3	107.7
Canada	59.2	60.0	58.2
United Kingdom	156.9	186.7	203.0
Germany	19.0	12.1	10.4
Other Europe	44.8	52.9	30.9
Trinidad and Tobago	18.3	19.3	24.9
Other CARICOM	45.3	50.6	60.8
Other	22.1	24.0	22.0
TOTAL	472.3	512.4	517.9

SEAPORT TRAFFIC

No of Calls/Arrivals:-

	1997	1998	1999
Cargo/Cargo Passengers	1076	1365	1327
Cruise Ships	452	444	406
Navals	22	18	18
Tankers	168	173	213
Others ²	651	509	505
TOTAL	2369	2509	2469

² Includes Cement Vessels.

SUGAR

	1997 ^P	1998 ^R	1999 ^P
Area of Canes Cultivated ('000 hectares)	8.9	8.4	8.5
Canes Milled ('000 tonnes)	570.9	448.7	521.9
Canes per Hectare Reaped ('000 tonnes)	63.8	53.4	61.2
Sugar Produced ('000 tonnes)	64.6	48.0	53.2
Sugar Value (as percentage of GDP)	76.6	61.0	57.5
Export of Sugar ('000 tonnes)	57.8	48.0	53.2
Average Export Price Per Tonne (BDS. \$M)	1248.9	1211.0	1132.0
Total Export Earnings (BDS. \$M)	73.0	56.6	57.2
Production Cost Per Tonne (BDS. \$)	1397.2	1545.3	1526.4

LOCAL FOOD PRODUCTION

('000 Kgs)	1997 ^P	1998 ^R	1999
Beans	823.9	282.4	847.5
Beets	88.1	49.3	246.9
Cabbages	637.6	442.0	1015.2
Carrots	781.7	553.4	174.6
Cucumbers	478.1	565.8	991.3
Okra	805.2	320.5	341.0
Onions	480.0	421.3	687.1
Pumpkins	605.9	318.7	383.9
Tomatoes	720.1	418.8	901.5
Sweet Potatoes	2553.2	740.6	2709.8
Yams	1319.4	653.4	2205.0
TOTAL	9293.0	4766.2	12063.8

LIVESTOCK AND DAIRY PRODUCTION

('000 Kgs)	1997 ^P	1998 ^R	1999
Beef	661.1	562.5	N/A
Poultry (Chicken and Turkey)	11710.2	11527.2	12296.9
Mutton	48.6	51.1	N/A
Pork	2795.4	2735.3	N/A
Milk	8531.4	9100.0	N/A
Eggs	792.1	N/A	1309.9
Veal	22.7	13.8	N/A
Fish Landings	2330.7	3593.9	3205.6

IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND VISIBLE TRADE BALANCE (Bds. \$000)

	1997 ^R	1998 ^P	1999 ^P
Imports	1991.0	2043.8	2135.7
Domestic Exports	421.0	379.0	393.1
Re-Exports	144.9	126.6	108.4
Total Exports	565.9	506.2	501.5
Balance	-1429.2	-1523.2	-1634.3

Value of Exports to Selected Countries

United Kingdom	96.9	71.9	69.2
Canada	20.0	14.1	13.6
United States	80.7	74.6	84.4
Caricom	200.7	219.4	233.2

Selected Domestic Exports (Bds. \$'000)

Sugar	71.7	57.2	55.4
Electrical Components	51.9	36.2	32.9
Clothing	6.9	5.9	6.0
Other Food and Beverages	75.9	54.3	52.1
Chemicals	56.6	51.4	52.2
Rum	27.8	27.5	26.9

FINANCE

	1997/98 ^E	1998/99 ^R	1999/00 ^P
<i>Government Finances (Bds. \$M)</i>			
Current Revenue	1458.3	1556.0	1604.5
Current Expenditure	1447.0	1516.3	1668.3
Capital Expenditure	245.7	257.6	256.8
<i>Major Sources of Revenue (Bds. \$M)</i>			
Taxes on Income and Profit	419.3	459.8	513.4
Taxes on Property	72.5	77.9	98.5
Taxes on Goods and Services	723.0	735.4	728.0
Taxes on International Trade	127.8	136.9	134.6
Special Receipts	31.5	47.9	53.3
Non-Tax Revenue	71.7	59.2	63.3
Stamp Duties	12.5	25.6	13.4

ENERGY SUPPLY

	1997	1998	1999
Domestic Crude Oil ('000 barrels)	327.8	585.5	710.7
Gas Production ('000 Million Cubic Metres)	28.3	37.5	47.0

ENERGY CONSUMPTION

	1997	1998	1999
Electricity (Million Kwh)	692.4	747.3	764.3
Water (Million Cubic Metres)	59.0	57.0	53.0

TELEPHONE SUBSCRIBERS

	106,691	112,646	114,390
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TRANSPORT ('000)

	1997	1998	1999
<i>Registration of All Classes of Vehicles:</i>			
Private Cars	44.0	53.8	57.5
Motor Cycles, Bicycles etc.	1.3	1.4	1.4
Buses, Minibuses, Taxis and Coaches	2.0	2.3	2.0
Lorries, Vans and Pickups	7.0	7.7	8.3
Other	2.8	2.9	1.3
TOTAL	63.0	68.1	70.5