



Ministry of Labour,
Social Security, and Third Sector



DIGEST OF **STATISTICS** **BARBADOS 2019-2021**

Prepared by the
**Manpower, Research and
Statistical Unit (MRSU)**

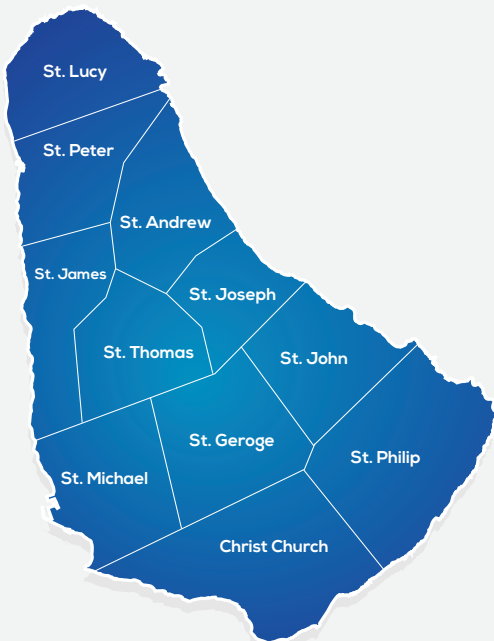


CAPITAL: Bridgetown

AREA: 439 sq km

POPULATION: 217,200

LANGUAGE: English



PROFILE OF BARBADOS

Barbados is an island, located in the Atlantic Ocean 59° 37' West and 13° 04' North of the Equator. It is the most easterly in the chain of Caribbean islands lying approximately 160.9 kilometres to the east of its nearest neighbour, St. Vincent.

Coral stone constitutes the island's base rather than volcanic activity, and the land is relatively flat with many beaches, a few rolling hills, sheer ridges and deep gullies. The island is 34 kilometres long and 23 kilometres wide with an area of approximately 430 square kilometres. The highest point is 335.28 metres (1,100 feet), located at Mt. Hillaby, St. Andrew, one of the island's eleven (11) parishes.

Barbados has long had virtual self-government, a status formally recognised in 1961. From 1627 until 1966, when Barbados became an independent nation, it was a British colony. In 2021, the island transitioned to a parliamentary republic in the Commonwealth of Nations, where the President of Barbados is the Head of State and the Prime Minister is the Head of Government. The Parliament in Barbados, which dates from 1639, is the third oldest in the Commonwealth. Barbados has a long tradition of political and social stability. This factor, coupled with its democratic system of Government, makes it an ideal location for the conduct of business.

Bridgetown is the capital and is situated to the south-west of the island in the parish of St. Michael. Other major towns are Speightstown and Holetown in the north and west respectively, and Oistins in the south of the island.

The climate is sunny all year round, usually ranging between 24°-29°C(75°-85°F). The coolest months are usually January to April, while the hottest are July to September. The atmosphere is cooled by prevailing gentle north-east trade winds. Its climatic conditions and geographical make-up help to boost Barbados' reputation as a dream destination.

Tourism plays a vital role in the Barbadian economy, since it is a major contributor of foreign exchange earnings and employment. There are many places of interest including Harrison's Cave, one of the finest cave systems in the world. The principal crop is sugar cane.

At the end of 2021, Barbados' resident adult population was estimated to be approximately 217,200 persons. Statistics from Census 2010 revealed that approximately 93% of the population was of African descent. The other 7% comprised categories such as European, East Indian or mixed. On average, life expectancy in Barbados for men is 75 years and for women 80 years.

The language spoken is English and education is compulsory from ages 5-16. Barbados boasts of a 98% literacy rate. A highly religious community, 70% of the population are Anglican, Catholic, Methodist and Moravian. Much of the other 30% are affiliated with other denominations and faith traditions.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS

	2019	2020 ¹ 2020 Qt3	2020 Qt4	2021
Total Adult Population ('000 Persons)	219.0	217.8	217.7	217.2
Male	104.6	104.0	104.0	103.8
Female	114.4	113.8	113.7	113.4
Population Density (Persons Per Sq. Km)	506.94	504.17	503.94	505.12
Birth Rate Per 1000 Persons	9.5	8.7		8.2
Death Rate Per 1000 Persons	10.6	10.0		9.2
Infant Mortality Rate Per 1000	7.3	6.4		11.3
Live Births ('000)	2.59	2.36		2.22
Rate Of Natural Increase Per 1000	-1.1	-1.3		-1.1
Population Growth Rate (%)	-0.4	-0.5		-0.4

¹ The Barbados Statistical Service (BSS) generates this information. They have indicated that no data was collected on these metrics during Q1 and Q2 2020 due to lock-downs and work stoppages as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic. The best practice in such an instance is to state the existing quarterly information only.

Total Adult Population ('000 Persons)	219	217.8	217.7	217.2
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Male	104.6	104.0	104.0	103.8
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Female	114.4	113.8	113.8	113.4
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Labour Force ('000 Persons)	138.8	127.8	136.1	133.0
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Male	70.4	64.8	70.0	67.8
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Female	68.4	63.0	66.1	65.2
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Employed ('000 Persons)	124.8	105.0	117.6	114.3
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Male	62.2	53.0	60.8	58.5
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Female	62.6	52.0	56.8	55.8
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Unemployed ('000 Persons)	14	22.8	18.5	18.7
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Male	8.2	11.8	9.2	9.3
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Female	5.8	11.0	9.3	9.4
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Unemployment Rate (%)	10.1	17.9	13.6	14.1
Youth Unemployment Rate (%) (Both Sexes)²	29.8	36.5	26.5	35.1
Youth Unemployment Rate (Male)	34.1	37.9	26.1	38.5
Youth Unemployment Rate (Female)	4.3	34.7	27.3	35.1
Youth Participation Rate (%)	46.5	45.9	47.5	45.7
Not In The Labour Force ('000 Persons)	79.9	89.6	81.5	84.2
Male	34.0	39.0	33.9	36.0
Female	45.9	50.7	47.6	48.2
National Union Of Public Workers Membership ('000 Persons)	6.837	6.475		6.079



²Youth unemployment is calculated using persons between the 15-19 and 20-24 years' age groups.

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY²

('000 persons)

	2019	2020 ³ 2020 Qt3	2020 Qt4	2021
Agriculture, Fisheries	3.5	2.2	3.3	2.8
Quarrying, Construction & Mining	11.4	9.7	12.5	10.0
Manufacturing	7.4	7.7	6.8	7.2
Electricity, Gas and Water Supply & Air Conditioning	2.3	1.3	2.2	2.1
Distributive Trade/ Wholesale & Retail	19.1	14.1	19.7	16.5
Accommodation & Food Services	15.6	7.8	10.6	11.7
Communication, Transportation & Storage	6.4	5.6	5.4	5.6
Finance and, Insurance, etc.	4.7	5.9	5.5	5.2
Professional, Scientific and Technical	4.7	5.9	5.1	4.9
Administrative and Supportive Services	8.3	7.6	8.8	8.1
Public Admin and Defence	7.4	9.4	10.3	11.6
Education	6.7	6.8	7.0	7.0
Human Health and Social Work	6.3	5.9	5.6	6.1
Other Services	4.8	3.9	2.7	3.9
Activities of Households as Employers	4.7	2.9	4.6	3.9
Other Groups	8.9	6.47	7.3	6.6
Not Stated	2.0	1.8	0.1	1.1
TOTAL	124.8	105.0	117.6	114.3

A re-classification of Industries was undertaken in 2010, leading to the amending of categories that comprise this table. The revised version of this classification is the International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC) Rev. 4

³The Barbados Statistical Service (BSS) generates this information. They have indicated that no data was collected on these metrics during Q1 and Q2 2020 due to lock-downs and work stoppages as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic. The best practice in such an instance is to state the existing quarterly information only.

EMPLOYMENT BY OCCUPATION

(` 000 persons)

		2020		
	2019	2020 Qt3	2020 Qt4	2021
Legislators, Senior Officials and Managers	9.9	8.4	10.0	9.2
Professionals	14.9	14.6	14.4	15.4
Technicians and Associate Professionals	13.4	13.8	13.9	14.6
Clerks	11.6	9.2	10.0	10.3
Service Workers and Shop and Market Sales Workers	28.4	21.3	23.7	23.3
Skilled Agricultural and Fishery Workers	4.3	3.0	3.9	4.1
Craft and Related Workers	14.8	13.6	14.3	13.2
Plant and Machine Operators and Assemblers	5.5	4.7	5.8	5.4
Elementary Occupations	19.0	14.1	20.6	16.9
Not Stated	3.1	2.2	1.0	1.9
TOTAL	124.8	105.0	117.6	114.3

TOP 15 WORK PERMITS ISSUED BY OCCUPATION

	2019	2020	2021
1	Agricultural Worker	Agricultural Worker	Agricultural Worker
2	Carpenter	Carpenter	Carpenter
3	Mason	Registered Nurse	Crewman
4	Technician	Mason	Manager
5	Professor	Engineer	Installer
6	Manager	Fitter	Mason
7	Engineer	Welder	Engineer
8	Welder	Chef	Professor
9	Chef	Technician	Welder
10	Director	Foreman	Eng. Other
11	Consultant	Director	Chef
12	Painter	Manager	Director
13	Musician	Consultant	Mechanic
14	Housekeeper	Painter	Monitor
15	Machine Operator	Supervisor	Security Agent

EMPLOYMENT BY HIGHEST LEVEL OF QUALIFICATION

(Percentage of employed labour force is displaced in Brackets)

(' 000 persons)

	2019	2020	2021
None	43.9 (35.8%)	31.2 (29.8%)	34.5 (30.2%)
Barbados Secondary School-Leavers Certificate (BSSC)	1.2 (0.9%)	2.2 (1.8%)	2.1 (1.9%)
Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate (CSEC O'Level Basic)	0.1 (0.9%)	2.2 (1.8%)	0.3 (0.3%)
Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate (CSEC O'Level General)	24.4 (19.4%)	26.6 (22.6%)	22.4 (19.6%)
Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examination (CAPE A'Level)	1.1 (0.9%)	1.5 (1.3%)	0.9 (.8%)
Certificate	21.8 (17.3%)	17.2 (14.7%)	19.7 (17.3%)
Diploma	3.4 (2.7%)	3.2 (2.8%)	3.9 (3.5%)
Degree	22.2 (17.6%)	21.1 (17.9%)	21.2 (18.5%)
Professional (e.g. ACCA)	2.7 (2.1%)	3.1 (2.7%)	2.6 (2.3%)
Other	3.7 (2.9%)	3.0 (2.5%)	3.6 (3.1%)
Not Stated	0.4 (0.4%)	1.2 (1.0%)	3.0 (2.6%)
Total	124.8	117.6	114.3

REGISTRATION OF PROFESSIONALS

	2019	2020	2021
Dental Auxiliaries	5	N/A	4
Dental Hygienists	19	17	17
Dental Technicians	9	9	8
Dental Practitioners	77	83	77
Dieticians	9	8	9
Nutritionists	7	4	7
General Nurses (Registered)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Midwives	N/A	N/A	N/A
Psychiatric Nurses	N/A	N/A	N/A
Nursing Assistants	N/A	N/A	N/A
Nursing Auxiliaries	N/A	N/A	N/A
Optometrists	19	20	20
Pharmacists/Chemists	330	332	358
Medical Practitioners	652	621	714
Physiotherapists	54	54	54
Psychologist	4	4	5
Educational Psychologists	3	4	5
Counselling Psychologists	12	19	18
Clinical Psychologist	23	19	22
Diagnostic Radiographers	32	34	33
Therapeutic Radiographers	5	6	7

Ophthalmic Dispensers	15	18	16
Chiropractors	6	6	6
Nuclear Medical Technologist	1	1	1
Orthotist	2	1	1
Osteopath	5	7	7
Paramedics	26	25	25
Medical Laboratory Technologists	115	106	120
Occupational Therapists	17	12	15
Cardiac Technologists	5	5	4
Speech Therapists	7	7	9
Podiatrist	8	7	8
Acupuncturists	6	6	7
Reflexologists	10	8	11
Prosthetist	3	2	1

OTHER SELECTED REGISTERED PROFESSIONALS

	2019	2020	2021
Attorneys-at-Law	847	928	914
Engineers	173	176	171
Quantity Surveyors	10	10	11
Land Surveyors	61	68	63
Accountants	77	81	71
Architects	61	63	63
Draughtsmen	224	236	226

POST-SECONDARY GRADUATES

('000 persons)

SAMUEL JACKMAN PRESCOD INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY GRADUATES

	2019	2020	2021
Total	0.694	0.887	0.180
Male	0.370	0.445	0.156
Female	0.324	0.442	0.336

BARBADOS VOCATIONAL TRAINING BOARD SKILLS TRAINING PROGRAMME

(Completed Training)

	2019	2020	2021
Air-Conditioning & Refrigeration	8	8	8
Auto Body Repairs	-	-	-
Auto Refinishing	-	-	-
Auto Mechanics	10	10	21
Auto Tronics	-	-	-
Electrical Installation	18	18	12
Masonry	4	4	3
Needlecraft	-	-	-
Plumbing	12	12	12
Carpentry	3	3	6
Cosmetology	-	-	-
Computer Applications	41	41	38

Bob Cat/Backhoe Operation	0	0	0
Steel bending and Fixing	0	0	Active
Tractor Operations and Maintenance	12	12	17
Tiling	15	15	15
Joinery	8	8	5
Basketry and Rug Making	-	-	-
Care of Elderly	9	9	Active
Bar and Restaurant Service	2	2	-
Screen Printing	-	13	-
Welding	4	4	13
Metalwork Machining	7	7	8
Machinist Fitter	-	-	-
Cooking	-	-	-
Garment Making	12	-	12
International Cuisine	14	-	12
Cupboard Construction	0	0	11
Office Procedures	22	22	22
Housekeeping	8	8	6
Horticulture	-	-	-
Heavy Duty Driving	0	0	0
Skid Steer Loader	0	0	0
Landscaping	-	-	-
TOTAL	209	209	233

BARBADOS COMMUNITY COLLEGE GRADUATES

	2019	2020	2021
Total	1.144	1.098	0.928
Male	0.366	0.365	0.266
Female	0.778	0.733	0.662

UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES (U.W.I) CAVE HILL CAMPUS GRADUATES

('000 persons) First and Graduate Degrees

(Barbadian Students Only) (Approx.)

	2019	2020	2021
Total	1.386	1.303	1.410
Male	0.406	0.361	0.412
Female	0.980	0.942	0.998

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY**BARBADOS EMPLOYMENT AND CAREER COUNSELLING SERVICES (BECCS)**

	2019	2020	2021
Job Placements Overseas	182	164	334
Job Placements Locally	41	32	13
Registration (Local Employment)	729	2217	99
Vacancies Reported (Local Employment)	67	77	42
Registrations (self-employed)	N/P	N/P	N/P

SELECTED LABOUR STATISTICS

	2019	2020	2021
Work Stoppages	9	7	6
Occupational Accidents Reported	463	355	292
Occupational Fatalities	2	2	NIL

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

	2019	2020	2021
GDP Basic Prices (BBD.\$M)	10194.57	9343.56	9687.63
GDP at Market Prices (BBD.\$M)	10648.5	9343.6	9687.6
GDP per capita at Basic Prices(000's)	33.2	29.5	30.2
Real GDP Growth (% Change)	0.3	-13.2	0.3

RETAIL PRICE INDEX

(July, 2001 base =100)*

	2019	2020	2021
All Items	192.1	198.4	203.7
Inflation Rate (%)	4.3	3.3	2.7



IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND VISIBLE TRADE BALANCE (BBD.\$M)

	2019	2020	2021
Imports	3160.07	3003.4	3347.2
Domestic Exports	511.4	449.5	447.0
Re-Exports	376.7	241.0	253.3
Total Exports	888.2	690.2	700.3
Balance on Visible Trade	(2272.5)	(2313.0)	(2646.9)

VALUE OF EXPORTS TO SELECTED COUNTRIES (BBD.\$M)

	2019	2020	2021
United Kingdom	17.9	17.3	9.6
Canada	30.6	30.1	24.5
United States of America	180.3	87.1	127.3
CARICOM	339.8	292.2	285.9

SELECTED DOMESTIC EXPORTS (BBD.\$M)**2019****2020****2021****Sugar**

0.6

0.9

1.8

**Electrical
Components**

18.6

16.1

16.1

Clothing

0.0

0.0

0.1

**Other Food and
Beverages**

67.0

64.7

76.1

Chemicals

77.8

84.7

68.6

Rum

76.8

75.9

84.5

FINANCE GOVERNMENT FINANCES (BBD.\$M)**2019****2020****2021****Current Revenue**

3233.0

3,148.4

3142.5

**Current
Expenditure**

4526.1

3201.8

3375.4

**Capital
Expenditure**

1293.1

53398.2

232824.7

MAJOR SOURCES OF REVENUE (BBD.\$M)

	2019	2020	2021
Taxes on Income and Profit	837.556	1,000.410	794.856
Taxes on Property	191.000	186.743	233.562
Taxes on Goods and Services	1,505.423	1,475.066	1,562.267
Taxes on International Trade	250.000	216.500	227.316
Special Receipts	176.567	67.675	71.471
Non-Tax Revenue	240.638	180.029	230.027

Stamp Duties



NOTES AND SYMBOLS

R= Revised

\$M= Millions of dollars

P= Provisional

'000 = Thousand

N/A = Not Available

E = Estimated

This Digest is compiled by the Manpower Research and Statistical Unit in the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Third Sector.

The data presented in this publication have been drawn from published reports of Government Departments and other Public Authorities. The assistance of these agencies is gratefully acknowledged.

Researchers and other users of this information are referred to more detailed publications, some of which are listed below:

- **Monthly Digest of Statistics, Barbados Statistical Service**
- **Ministry of Finance, Economic Affairs and Investment**
- **Annual Report - Labour Department**
- **Annual Report - Barbados Vocational Training Board**
- **Website of the Barbados Central Bank**
- **The Official Gazette**



Ministry of Labour, Social Security and
Third Sector

Manpower Research and Statistical Unit

3rd Floor, West Wing,

“Warrens Office Complex”

Warrens

St. Michael

BARBADOS

TEL. NO.: (246) 535-1400

Visit our website at: <http://www.labour.gov.bb>

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