



Use of International Classifications In Barbados

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The Barbados Statistical Service (BSS) has adapted international standard classifications over the years to make them more relevant to the peculiar situations of the country. Even though there would have been some adaptations, linkages were maintained for comparison to the international standards. Most international classifications have been updated after wide consultations with all regions and are therefore easier to apply to local and regional conditions. It is therefore the aim of the BSS to implement all international standard classifications in the compilation of its statistical information. The eight classifications used are:

International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC)

The BSS has begun an exercise to update the Business Register using ISIC Rev. 4. A locally developed classification known as the Barbados Standard Industrial Classification (BARSIC) is being used and has been used since the mid 1990s. They were derived out of the ISIC Rev. 3.0 to meet local requirements. A correlation exists between the BARSIC and the ISIC Rev. 3.0 at the four-digit level which allows for the compilation of statistics according to either classification. Sugar and Tourism industries were formed under BARSIC because these were the major industries contributing to the Barbadian economy. It was advised by Caribbean Region Technical Assistance Centre (CARTAC) that these changes were incorrect. Therefore, the BSS will be discontinuing further application of the BARSIC and moving to the ISIC Rev. 4.

Central Product Classification (CPC)

The Central Product Classification is being used in the collection of Procurement Statistics from Government Departments. Its application is limited because of a lack of specification found in accounting of goods and services.

Broad Economic Categories (BEC)

The Classification by Broad Economic Categories was introduced in the 1990s to allow for the classification of imports and exports into consumer, intermediate and capital goods. A correlation between the SITC Rev. 3 and the BEC was obtained from the United Nations

Statistics Division (UNSD) and used to classify trade data from 1992. Currently, data are available according to the BEC from 1992 to 2006 annually and monthly from 1994 to 2007. Tables according to the BEC have been included in the Annual Trade Report. However, this type of analysis is currently not heavily requested. The Central Bank of Barbados publishes data using this classification in its Economic and Financial Statistics publication.

Harmonised Commodity Coding System (HS) & Standard International Trade Classification (SITC)

The SITC and HS are used in the analysis of import and export data to facilitate the international comparison of trade by commodity.

International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO)

The International Standard Classification of Occupations has not yet been introduced into the compilation of statistical series. At present, the BARSOC is used for the preparation of tables on occupation in travel statistics and labour force statistics. This is a classification reflecting the occupations that were more meaningful to Barbados at the time it was developed. It is the intention of the BSS to introduce ISCO 08 and use it along with BARSOC.

International Classification of Status in Employment (ICSE)

An adaption of the ICSE was applied to the Continuous Labour Force Sample Survey (CLFSS) to make it more relevant to local conditions. However, a review of the Survey was undertaken in order to harmonise the regional Labour Force Surveys to make comparison across the different countries easier. The format for ICSE has been used since the beginning of 2009.

- 1-*An Employer*
- 2-*An Employee in the Government Service*
- 3-*An Employee in Private Sector*
- 4-*Self – Employed (Own-account worker)*
- 5-*An Unpaid Family worker*
- 6-*An Apprentice*
- 7-*Other (e.g. member of a Producer Coop)*
- 9- *Not Stated*

International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED)

The ISCED 97 is used by the Ministry of Education in the classification of school programmes and also used in the CLFSS.