

COUNTRY REPORT – BERMUDA
34TH MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF CARIBBEAN STATISTICIANS, OCTOBER 2009

AREA OF STATISTICS	DATA PRODUCTION (Tables etc.)	DATA DISSEMINATED	DATA GAPS	BEST PRACTICES/ CHALLENGES	RESOURCES REQUIRED	USE OF TECHNOLOGY
Economics Statistics Division National Accounts	GDP by Industry GDP per capita % change GDP by Industry % proportion of GDP by Industry GDP Implicit Price Index GDP by cost component (All in current & constant \$)	2007 estimates Press release to the media, website, broadcast emails sent to users and in print form CARICOM/UN National Accounts Questionnaire	Producer Price Index needed to compile constant dollar estimates of GDP	SNA 1993 Guidelines Value added estimates based on blow-ups using employment data which only covers a one-week fixed period in August. Further work needed to partner with the Tax Commissioner and utilize Payroll Tax data as a better indicator for the blow-up process. Further research is required to account for stamp duties in the personal sector which tends to be a large portion of personal sector consumption.	Continuous on-the-job training in compilation of GDP CARTAC training in National Accounts enhanced technical compilation skills	MS Access for tabulations; Blow-up data using MS Excel
Economic Activity Survey	Income and expenditure industry data tables at the 5 digit activity level Survey response rate by industry sectors at the 5 digit activity level	Industry data tables produced 10 months after reference year Consolidated industry-specific results presented in an industry profile and mailed out to data providers with the questionnaires	Difficult to obtain reliable data for the Taxi operators in the transport industry; income and expenditure estimates extrapolated based on the previous year's expenditure patterns and quarterly payroll tax data or data on hours worked from the Employment Survey.	Sample design covers all 175 BCEA's in the survey. 1,500 businesses out of 6,000 businesses/organizations sampled using a stratified two-stage design Blow-up challenges when few businesses occur in any Classification. The vetting and blow-up stages of the survey data needs - too long. An on-going audit of International Business Industry is needed for correct classification of businesses Completed survey returns are delayed when businesses receive incorrect questionnaire, consequently the correct questionnaire must be re-sent for completion. High staff turnover	College summer students hired to assist data collection and data entry phases of the Survey. Officers given technical training in the use of MS Access to manage database	Survey respondents randomly chosen via customized computer programme. Survey data tabulated using MS Access database. Some survey respondents receive and respond to the survey via e-mail

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Supply & Use Table	2004 SUT developed in August 2007	Work is still being carried out to balance the 2004 SUT	HM Customs tends to exclude duty free imports of big-ticket capital investment items. The classification of some SUT import items on the supply side is difficult and arbitrary.	The SUT framework aligns with the UN 1993 SNA Guidelines Allocating the time for officers to learn how to compile the data tables amongst the volume of other scheduled deliverables in the work programme. Technical knowledge no longer exists in-house to complete the balancing exercise.	Received technical training from CARTAC in March & May 2008; still need assistance to complete balancing the SUT. Consultancy services to balance the SUT have been secured through CARTAC for January 2010.	All data tables are compiled using linked Excel spreadsheets
Quarterly Outputs - GDP Expenditure - Construction Survey - Hotel Gross Receipts Survey	2002 – Q1/08 current \$ Quarterly values by economic industry Gross Receipts by hotel establishment type	Ministry of Finance Released 12 weeks after reference period to media Released 12 weeks after reference period to media	Lower than industry estimates No tracking of business inventory change Lack of data on building completions Coverage of survey is incomplete No estimates for building by home owners No distinction of sales to locals versus tourists	SNA 1993 guidelines Estimates not seasonally adjusted Delay in receiving trade data Possible double counting if project managed by two firms Survey data does not match EAS building investment data Missing data on room revenue by hotels – not shared by Tax Commissioner		Excel linked spread sheets
Monthly Retail Sales	Sales indices by sector Value & volume % changes	Released 6 weeks after reference period to media	Base year updated simultaneous to CPI	Replacing deaths of retail outlets so that sales are still reflective of total sales across sectors		Excel spreadsheets and Microsoft Word

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Tourism Satellite Account	10 core TSA tables produced for 2006 & 2007	Internal only	Lack of data on stock of second homes owned Lack of detail data on resident overseas travel	Follows UNWTO methodology and recommendations for compiling TSA Indirect/induced effects on tourism based on outdated input/output ratios	In 2008, five officers received training in TSA compilation and methodology.	Linked excel spreadsheets
Balance of Payments Int'l Trade in Services	Quarterly tables of current account balances; receipts and payments; and capital and financial accounts	Quarterly press release 13 weeks after reference period; annual press release	Int'l businesses not surveyed – lack of foreign exchange earnings data Int'l investment position not compiled	IMF Balance of Payments manual, version 5; Version 6 to be adopted in 2010; Designed to measure EBOPS Inability to measure overseas investments by residents; possible double counting of int'l business expenditures and local business receipts earned from int'l businesses	Technical training in BOP needed; 2008 participation by officer in CARTAC seminar outlining changes in methodology	MS Access and Excel data files
Government Finance Statistics	2006 & 2007 revenue and expense tables, and government operations	Development still in progress	Breakdown of domestic versus foreign assets and liabilities is needed for Government Operations Statement. Data not yet produced for statement of sources and uses of cash, and transactions in assets and liabilities; holding gains and losses in assets and liabilities; etc.	Data tables defined by the GFSM 2001; methodology strictly follows GFSM guidelines. Data in previous years must be secured through the Accountant General's department and will involve a lengthy process to create a time series before 2005. Uncertainty as to the proper classification of certain items on the government's expenditure statements due to ambiguous nomenclature or the fact that capital items can show up on the current expenditure statement if under a certain value. Technical training needed for staff	In 2008, three officers received basic training that introduced the GFS methodology. The GFS manual was used to recreate the required statistical tables and statements as recommended in the GFS framework.	Excel spreadsheets

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Business Statistics Division Consumer Price Index	Monthly and annual all items percent changes for 9 price sectors	Monthly release to media 5 weeks after reference month		Methodology stipulated by the ILO using a Laspeyres Price method 2006 base year with 2004 price weights Sectors align with UN COICOP classification system Replacing items no longer on shelf with same specifications	Technical expertise to produce macros for excel spreadsheet	MS Excel for data tables and Publisher to produce press release
Annual Employment Survey	Annual counts of jobs Employment by industry and occupation Employment by age, sex gender, race and hours worked Employment by Income and employee benefits	Annual employment brief released in August of each year Tabular abstract containing detailed tables Report placed on website		Complete census undertaken of 6000 businesses/organizations Since survey is self-administered, respondents sometimes do not read guidance notes for completing questionnaire which leads to non-sampling errors Hiring of seasonal temporary clerks every 6 months to assist with survey infers a lack of continuity and production time lost re-training and monitoring to ensure quality data	Continuity in clerical support staff	AS 400 database used to store data and information provided by establishments AS 400 used to run employment tables and administrative employment reports Microsoft Excel for tables and Microsoft Word for analytical report
Annual e-Employment Survey	A phased approach is being used in offering the e-employment on-line survey facility. The international business and business services sectors currently respond using the on-line facility.	The data submitted is integrated with data collected via manual method. The annual employment brief reflects analysis of all survey data collected.		Uses Business Process Management (BPM) method/ workflow standards to develop on-line facility Fine-tuning in progress to fix error page appearing when businesses try to submit completed survey. Fewer than ten businesses encountered duplicate records from the past year entries.	IT architecture for e-employment facility comprises a server that integrates the on-line submissions with those manually keyed in the AS 400. Dependence on the BPM vendor to make software changes to launch the website	Aqualogic Business Process Management software (ALBPM) Camtasia Studio software was used to produce a video tutorial on how to complete the e-Employment Survey.

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Labour Productivity Indicators	Annual labour productivity indicators for international business sector and hotel and restaurant sector 1996-2007 data Output per hour worked and per filled job Unit labour cost	Labour productivity executive brief released July 2009	Labour productivity indicators not compiled as yet for the remaining industry sectors	Used methodology as set out by the Organization for Economic Cooperation (OECD) Annual estimates are not seasonally adjusted Constant dollar GDP estimates used as inputs for indicators are not developed using producer and import price indexes		Linked Microsoft Excel spreadsheets
Labour Force Survey (LFS)	First ever LFS survey launched in June 2009; The fieldwork period extended to July 2009. Of 6,000 households; targeted 1500 completions. Households selected from a pool of household addresses stratified by census district and median household income.	Data processing currently in progress Key labour indicators include employment, unemployment and under-employment rates, and the level of formal job training, educational attainment and multiple job holding		Used SPSS Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) as data collection method Survey participants could make appointment for interview using newly implemented Appointment Plus software. Participants not willing to participate in the survey; telephone numbers not in service.	Tables modeled after Statistics Canada and the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics.	SPSS MR Interview Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) Appointment Plus software, StormSource.com
Social Statistics Division	Population projections by gender (2000–2030) Vital Statistics by gender (annual) Education statistics by gender (annual) Digest of Statistics – compendium of social and gender statistics	Annual data available on website and in publication form	Need to expand collection and analysis of gender statistics to show the societal, economic, financial and business impact of differences in gender statistics	Sensitizing stakeholders of the importance of collecting data by gender	Formal training needed in the production and analysis of gender statistics	Software Excel and DEVINFO to be customized for dissemination.

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Disability Statistics	1991 and 2000 Census data tables on population disabilities; 2007 Seniors Test and Ageing Trends (STATS) Survey data tables	2009 country report submitted for UN Washington Group meeting; highlighted progress on compilation and production of disability statistics.	Central register of disabled persons does not exist Data restricted to 1991 & 2000 census data and 2007 STATS which targeted persons 60 years plus; no national disability survey conducted	The World Health Organization, International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) used	Conducted a National Survey of People who are Blind or Visually Impaired (NSPBV) which included a module on the six Washington Group short set disability questions	CSPRO and SPSS used to process NSPBV data tables.
SIMDG social/gender statistics	Selected SIMDG data tables on crime, employment, the economy, education, decision making, population and family, health, work have been updated to 2007.	Data tables sent to CARICOM	No information has been provided at all on health – HIV/AIDS, education performance, population and households, poverty and information and communications.	Difficulty arranging meetings with stakeholders due to conflicting priorities. Stakeholders have insufficient staff to complete the tables in a timely manner. The data is not available e.g. drop-out rate and repetition rate.	Higher level meetings are needed to educate stakeholders on the importance and benefits of establishing a framework for the collection of the SIMDG data.	MS Excel data tables
Research Statistics Division Merchandise Trade Statistics	Quarterly estimates of Imports by Country of Origin; and by Broad Commodity Groupings (HS & SITC Rev3) Annual trade data by Country of Origin; and by Broad Commodity Groupings (HS& SITC Rev3)	Trade data tables released to the public 12 weeks after the reference quarter Recent data refers to 2 nd Quarter 2009 Detailed 2008 trade data provided to United Nations	Merchandise import data from the Airport and Port Office not included in the trade database. Recently commenced receiving data on imports from the Post Office that will be incorporated in aggregate figures. Customs Department does not capture export data in its entirety	Data is compiled in accordance with the UN recommendations contained in the Merchandise Trade Statistics: Concepts and Definitions. Trade data is based on the Harmonized System 2007 which was adopted by Bermuda Customs in April 2007.	In Apr/09, Customs started processing data using its new system; Customs Automated Processing Systems (CAPS). Two Eurotrace domains currently used to upload customs data subsequently tables must be combined from two runs of the Comext software to produce statistics.	Window-based Comext/Eurotrace Software

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Environmental Statistics	Updated environment statistics compendium and indicators with 2008 data. A one-page summary is included with nine (9) core sections.	The report disseminated via the department's website and a limited number of copies printed.		The indicators related to the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) were incorporated in the relevant section of the compendium		MS Excel
Geographic Information System	GIS unit successfully set up for 2009 Census pre-test. Officer received training in ArcView Basic & Intermediate levels; responsible for development of a geodatabase, and production of census maps.	A sample of maps for the 2009 Census pre-test Plans to update the geo-database in preparation for the dissemination of census information	Latest maps available from 2001 aerial photography. Updated photography planned for 2009, however, no definitive decision has been made	Officer member of the Bermuda Geospatial Committee. Department's work coordinated through and in harmony with committee Presentation will be made on census mapping as part of the observation of National GIS Day, November 19 th 2009	Technical assistance from CARICOM to review GIS infrastructure for census 2010 readiness	ArcView GIS 9.3

Other Work Programme Initiatives

1. In June 2009, a National Survey of People who are Blind/Visually Impaired was conducted on behalf of the Government's National Office for Seniors and the Physically Challenged. This survey was administered to all visually impaired persons residing in private households or institutions who registered to participate in the study. The survey included a module on the six UN Washington Group short set disability questions
2. A proposal was outlined to collect historical and current basic emigration statistics to fill the gap in migration statistics for the delivery of higher quality population projections. The proposal is being considered for the Census 2010 data collection.
3. During the months of August and September 2009, an in-house training course was held on Basic Statistics. This training was the second training of its kind facilitated by officers in the Research Statistics Division. A total of 15 participants included junior entry level staff in the Department; representatives from the Department of Human Resources and the Small Business Development Corporation, a Government Quango.
4. Consultative meetings were held with the Boundaries Commission in an effort to provide population data on total eligible voters for the electoral boundaries. Extrapolation techniques were applied to the 2000 Census data to estimate the total number of eligible voters in 2009 by constituencies. The consultancy is on-going with the Commissioners.
5. Collaborative work with the Department of Community & Culture commenced for the understanding, collection and compilation of cultural statistics.