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THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMY

- United States
- Japan
- Euro Zone and United Kingdom
- Other European Countries
- Emerging Asia
- Latin America

The international economy maintained its growth trend at 4.9 percent in 2007 following on growth rates of 4.4 percent and 5.0 percent in 2005 and 2006 respectively. This growth was achieved in spite of lower than expected growth performances from the industrialized countries, the credit crisis in the U.S. mortgage loan market and the financial turmoil that ensued in August 2007. The sub prime mortgage crisis which forced a contraction in U.S. economic growth had spill-over effects in the Euro Zone and United Kingdom. Emerging markets, however, demonstrated relatively greater resilience with continued strong economic performances led by China, India and Russia. China's economy grew at 11.5 percent, making it the largest contributor to global growth in 2007. India continued its robust growth rate at 8.9 percent. Strong performances were also recorded by the East Asian economies; Singapore grew at 7.1 percent, Korea at 5.2 percent and Hong Kong at 4.7 percent. This

strong growth came on the heels of a combination of increased exports by emerging economies as well as continued strengthening of domestic demand.

Notwithstanding weakening global growth in 2007, global consumer price inflation ticked upwards from less than 4 percent in recent years to an annual rate approaching 5.5 percent. After a long absence, inflation risks re-emerged throughout the global economy driven to a large extent by rising energy and food prices.

Generally, the global economy moved closer to becoming wedged between slowing growth and rising inflation. Much of the inflationary pressure was concentrated in emerging economies where inflation spiked to 7 percent in 2007 whilst inflation remained relatively subdued in industrialized countries.

China's CPI inflation rate rose by point two percentage points to 2.2 percent in December 2007 up from 2.0 percent at the end of 2006. India's inflation rate continued to push upwards, increasing by approximately three percentage points to 8.75 percent in May 2008 from the rate recorded in December

2007. Consumer prices in Russia also increased by 4.2 percentage points to 12 percent at year end 2007.

Generally, emerging markets and developing countries experienced intensified inflationary pressures, emanating from the accumulation of foreign exchange reserves which fuelled domestic money supply growth and

contributed to increasing liquidity particularly in East Asian economies, China, Russia, and the Gulf States.

Monetary policies in the industrialized countries were generally relaxed in 2007 and became increasingly more accommodating into the first quarter of 2008 as the focus shifted away from inflationary concerns to a greater preoccupation with the risks to growth.

The Federal Reserve Funds Rate was reduced by 225 basis points to 2 percent, over the first half of 2008, following a reduction of 100 basis points to 4.25 percent between September and December 2007. The UK Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) also reduced its Bank Rate by 75 basis points to 5 percent between July 2007 and April 2008 while the European Central Bank and the Bank of Japan maintained policy rates at 4 percent and 0.5 percent respectively throughout 2007 and 2008.

UNITED STATES

Real GDP in the U.S. grew at 2.2 percent in 2007 compared with 3.4 percent in the previous year. This contraction was attributed to the sub prime mortgage crisis, strains in the financial market and increased crude oil and food prices resulting in lower consumer demand. The Federal Reserve cut its key Fed Funds interest rate pushing the rate down to 4.25 percent in the midst of a deteriorating economic outlook and with downside risks increasing.

In 2007, the overall Personal Consumption Expenditure rose to 3.5 percent, 1.5 percent more than in 2006 with headline inflation averaging approximately 2

percent. For 2007, the retail price of gasoline increased by 30 percent owing to the rise in the cost of crude oil. Food prices escalated in response to strong world demand. Unfavourable weather in the U.S. Midwest, together with a strong demand for corn as an input into ethanol production, led to a rise of 34.7 percent in corn prices as demand greatly outstripped supply.

The U.S. dollar depreciated substantially against the currencies of Canada, Japan, China and the Euro

Zone, following an appreciation of approximately 3.6 percent in the previous year. The U.S. current account balance improved to \$US706 billion in the first quarter of 2008, \$US25 billion higher than the corresponding period in 2007, primarily on account of a decline in real imports of goods and services and higher exports resulting from the depreciation in the real effective exchange rate of the U.S. dollar.

The United States labour market continued to weaken in the first half of 2008 with job losses concentrated in the construction and manufacturing sectors, reflecting the slowdown in the economy. In July 2008, the unemployment rate increased by 0.2 percentage points to 5.7 percent, up from 5.5 percent a month earlier and a full percentage point higher than the rate for July 2007.

EURO ZONE AND UNITED KINGDOM

The Euro Zone experienced worsening credit conditions during 2007 and into 2008 as credit market losses expanded. Nonetheless, economic activity in the Euro Zone continued to expand throughout 2007 with domestic demand being the main driver of the continued expansion. During 2007 real GDP in the Euro Zone grew by 2.6 percent, slightly lower than the 2.8 percent growth in 2006 while GDP growth in the United Kingdom increased marginally to 3.1 percent, up from 2.9 percent in 2006. Euro Zone exports also continued to increase from strong, albeit moderating, global growth. Export earnings increased marginally to €395.1 billion in the first quarter of 2008 from €381.6 billion in the fourth quarter of 2007. However, a deficit of €0.1 billion in the trade balance was recorded as imports out-weighted exports over the period.

In 2007, inflation as measured by the annual Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices in the European Union measured 2.1 percent as compared to 2.2 percent in the previous year. Headline inflation edged upwards during the first half of 2008 and measured 4.0 percent in June 2008 due mainly to increases in energy and energy

related prices. In the United Kingdom, the Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices measured 2.3 percent, year-on-year to December 2007. Inflation trended upwards to 2.4 percent in the first quarter of 2008, up from 2.1 percent in the last quarter of 2007. In May 2008, the annual Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices inflation rose to 3.3 percent owing largely to increases in international oil and food prices.

Unemployment rates in the Euro Zone fell from 8.2 percent in 2006 to 7.4 percent in 2007, the lowest level in twenty five years. The United Kingdom recorded an unemployment rate of 5.3 percent in the first quarter of 2008, 0.2 percentage points lower than the corresponding period in 2007.

OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

In Emerging Europe, real GDP growth was estimated at 6 percent in 2007 and remained especially buoyant in the Baltic countries at approximately 8 percent, driven largely by strong domestic demand. Inflation remained relatively unchanged averaging around 7.5 percent in 2007 for most emerging European economies.

Emerging Europe remained largely unharmed by the turbulence in the financial system as strong demand for prime loans in recent years limited migration to riskier assets and as a result direct exposure to Asset Backed Commercial Paper was almost non-existent.

Money market conditions initially tightened in several countries, and floating currencies came under pressure, especially in Turkey. However, these tensions eventually eased over the last quarter of 2007 except in Russia and Romania. In countries such as Albania, Croatia and Turkey, funding large current account imbalances through foreign bank borrowing remained most at risk.

JAPAN

In Japan GDP growth moderated to 2.1 percent in 2007 compared to 2.4 percent in 2006 on account

of buoyant exports, notwithstanding a decrease in domestic demand. Private investment slowed despite increased exports, reflecting a reduction in residential investment driven by a contraction in construction activity, and a slowdown in non residential investment resulting from a waning in business confidence.

In 2007, the Bank of Japan continued its policy of a gradual tightening of monetary conditions, in spite of subdued inflationary levels. For 2007, the annual rate of headline inflation decelerated to 0.0 percent from 0.3 percent in 2006. At the end of July 2008, the year-on-year rate of increase in consumer prices (excluding fresh food) was up 1.5 percent against the background of the increases in prices of petroleum products and food.

In the face of moderating economic conditions, bank lending continued to increase in 2007, albeit at a slower pace than in 2006, in the midst of increased uncertainties in the international financial environment resulting in business sentiment adopting a more cautious stance.

Export activity benefited from developments in the effective exchange rate of the Japanese yen and strong external demand, especially from Asia. The current account surplus increased to 25 trillion yen in 2007, up from 19.8 trillion in 2006, marking a new record high for the second consecutive year. The expansion in exports reflected the growth of the surpluses in the trade and income balances.

EMERGING ASIA¹

In emerging Asia economic activity remained relatively robust. Strong domestic demand helped to support growth in spite of a less favourable external environment in the second half of the year. Exports also helped to drive economic activity, and tighter monetary policy assisted in combating inflationary

¹ Emerging Asia countries include China, India, Hong Kong SAR, Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, Indonesia, Malaysia, The Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam

pressures. In 2007, the Chinese and Indian economies continued to record high growth rates of 11.4 percent and 8.7 percent respectively backed by strong investment activities.

Financial systems in Asia withstood the effects of global financial market turbulence and have been less affected than those of the United States and Europe. Inflationary pressures remained contained across most of Asia during 2007. In 2008 headline inflation increased due to increases in food prices, while core inflation remained low. Price increases in items such as wheat, corn and dairy contributed more to inflation than increased oil prices. China's CPI inflation moved from 2.2 percent in January 2007 to 6.5 percent in December 2007, largely driven by higher global food prices; year on year inflation to July 2008 stood at 6.3 percent. In India, the year on year inflation measured 12.4 percent at the end of August, 2008.

Asian Central Banks instituted a range of monetary instruments to contain inflationary pressures. In China, interest rates adjustment and reserve requirements were applied in an effort to curb lending, while in India reserve requirements was the main instrument used by the monetary authorities.

Emerging Asia sustained a large current account surplus with continued reserve growth. The trade surplus widened, reaching US\$ 262 billion - or about 11 percent of GDP - almost 50 percent higher than the surplus recorded in 2006. Foreign currency inflows pushed reserve accumulation past the USD\$4 trillion mark for the region, with China accounting for the majority of the increase owing to a widened trade surplus. China's foreign currency reserves totalled US\$1.5 trillion or close to 50 percent of GDP at the end of 2007.

LATIN AMERICA

Growth in Latin America was estimated at 5 percent for 2007, due to high commodity exports and strong domestic demand. However, in Mexico the pace of economic activity moderated, reflecting a less favourable external environment and the country's close ties with the U.S. economy. Argentina and Brazil continued to post high real GDP growth rates of 8.7 percent and 5.4 percent respectively.

Inflation rates increased in several Latin American countries due to cyclical expansion and the rise in global food prices. Inflation in Argentina continued its upward trend and retail prices as measured by the consumer price index (CPI) increased to 12.0 percent, year-on-year to June 2008, 2.3 percentage points higher than the increase recorded in 2007. In Brazil, year-on-year inflation continued to hover around the Central Bank's targeted rate of 4.5 percent.

Commodity-exporting countries such as Peru and Bolivia achieved favourable growth rates as commodity prices remained buoyant. Peru achieved growth rates of 7.5 percent and 9.0 percent in 2006 and 2007 respectively. In the first quarter of 2008, economic activity in Peru grew 9.3 percent and was driven by a significant dynamism of the domestic demand, especially private consumption and public and private investment. Bolivia maintained a steady growth path with growth rates of 4.6 and 4.2 in 2006 and 2007 respectively.

Inflation in Peru remained above the upper band of the Central Bank's target range of three percent, increasing from 3.9 percent in December 2007 to 5.4 percent in May 2008 largely as a result of rising food prices. Bolivia's inflation rate continued its upward trend reaching 8.7 percent in 2007 from 4.2 percent in 2006, also on account of increased international food prices.

ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE OF CARICOM STATES

INTRODUCTION

CARICOM economies faced several challenges in 2007 resulting in a lower growth rate for the region with GDP growth decelerating from 6.9 percent in 2006 to 3.9 percent in 2007. Declining GDP growth rates were most pronounced in Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago. This slowdown resulted from several factors, including rising oil and commodity prices, increases in intra-regional transport costs, the depreciation of the U.S. dollar and the slowing of growth in major trading economies. This situation was exacerbated by a reduction in agricultural output due to hurricane activity. The decline in tourism activity was directly related to the slowdown in the US economy, the U.S. imposition of a new passport regime for U.S. citizens travelling abroad, and a sharp increase in transport costs within the region.

The impact of hurricane activity was not felt throughout the region. Jamaica recorded losses of US\$14.3 million as its banana crop and approximately 50 percent of its coffee crop were destroyed. St. Lucia, Dominica and Belize were also adversely affected. However, the situation was much different for both Barbados and Guyana as agricultural production increased owing to favourable weather conditions.

In the case of Trinidad and Tobago GDP growth slowed to a more sustainable rate of 5.5 percent in

2007, reflecting the completion of the LNG Train IV project in 2006. Some CARICOM countries, however, like Barbados and to a lesser extent Jamaica, did manage to achieve incremental output.

CARICOM (excluding Trinidad and Tobago) recorded a current account deficit of approximately 15.7 percent of GDP during 2007. This reflected widening current account deficits as increased imports on account of increased economic activity, which outweighed improvements in export earnings in some countries. In Jamaica, the heavy reliance on oil imports led to a sharp current account deficit of approximately 16 percent of GDP in 2007; with the trade deficit reaching 26 percent of GDP despite a surplus on the services account due to tourism related inflows, and a growing net current transfers surplus as a result of sizeable remittance inflows.

A main challenge facing CARICOM members during 2007 was increasing domestic price levels as inflation rates in some countries approached 7 percent. Record high oil prices in 2007 made imported inflation a major contributor to rising regional prices, which translated directly into higher prices for electricity; transport and cooking fuels; and indirectly through inputs into final goods and services. Several measures were introduced in a number of countries to mitigate the effect of higher energy prices, including subsidized fuel prices, price controls, and special concessions on excise, customs duties and other taxes.

BARBADOS

The Barbados economy, spurred by increased tourism activity grew by approximately 4.3 percent in 2007 as compared to 3.9 percent in 2006. The hosting of the Cricket World Cup fuelled expansions in both long-stay and cruise passenger arrivals, especially in the second quarter of 2007. Tourist arrivals grew by 2.6 percent when compared to 2006 and tourist expenditure increased by 18.5 percent, amounting to an estimated US\$1.2 billion. The positive performance of the tourism sector contributed to a 5 percent expansion in non-trade sectors, specifically in construction (5 percent), wholesale and retail (5.9 percent), and transportation, storage and communications (5.6 percent).

The inflation rate whilst initially below the average experienced in the region, accelerated sharply above historical trends, towards the first half of 2008.

As at December 2007, the 12-month moving average rate of inflation was 4.1 percent, down from 7.3 percent in 2006. However, during 2008 inflation increased as a result of escalating international prices for food and other commodity products as well as the removal of subsidies on petroleum products. Year on year inflation to April 2008 measured 7.5 percent.

In 2007, the external current account deficit declined to 6.6 percent of GDP as compared to 8.1 percent in 2006. This reflected inflows associated with the growth in the tourism sector. In addition to the improvement of the external current account balance, the widening capital account resulting in increased international reserves of US\$620.0 million by the end of 2007, representing an increase of US\$20 million over 2006.

JAMAICA

Jamaica experienced a slowing of its growth rate in 2007 when compared to 2006 as GDP grew by a modest 1.6 percent, down from the 2.5 percent GDP growth in 2006.

The slowdown was mainly due to the impact of Hurricane Dean which affected the tourism, mining, quarrying, agriculture, forestry and fishing sectors. Other factors included increased import costs and the depreciation of the Jamaican dollar vis-à-vis the U.S. dollar to J\$70.12 to US\$1.00 in 2007 as compared to J\$67.00 to US\$1.00 in 2006.

The sectoral impact of Hurricane Dean was reflected chiefly in agricultural output which contracted by 1.1 percent in 2007 compared to robust growth of 15.9 percent in 2006. Losses in the banana, sugar and coffee industries totalled US\$40 million, US\$12.3 million and US\$13.2 million respectively.

In line with the overall experience of the CARICOM region, growth in the tourism sector slowed to 0.5 percent in 2007, the lowest since 2002 after a record performance of 12.3 percent in 2006.

In 2007, inflation rose sharply to 16.8 percent up from 5.7 percent the previous year, the highest rate since 1995. This increase was due mainly to rising import costs, surging energy costs, adverse weather conditions resulting in shortages of agricultural food items and the depreciation of the domestic currency.

The current account deficit increased to 15 percent of GDP in 2007 as compared to 10.5 percent of GDP in 2006. The deterioration in the current account was partially offset by increased earnings of US\$253 million from exports of alumina and sugar. However, by the end of April 2008, the current account deficit deteriorated to US\$161.7 million from US\$83.5 million recorded in the corresponding period of 2007. The deterioration resulted primarily from lower exports of goods, services and to a lesser extent a fall in current transfers.

GUYANA

Guyana experienced improved growth of 5.4 percent in 2007, marginally higher than the 5.1 percent recorded in 2006 and above the average for the region as a whole. Guyana benefitted from the increased global demand

for primary products, with investment increasing in its mining and export agriculture industries.

Guyana's inflation rate almost doubled to 12.2 percent for 2007, when compared to 6.6 percent for 2006.

Headline inflation increased to 14 percent in December 2007, up from 4.2 percent in December 2006 reflecting the impact of rising global prices of food and fuel. The introduction of a VAT early in the year as well as unfavorable weather conditions that affected certain types of agricultural products also contributed to higher price levels during 2007.

Despite strong export earnings, the overall balance of payments moved from a surplus of US\$42.8 million in 2006 to a deficit of US\$1.4 million in 2007. The current account deficit narrowed to US\$231.9 million in 2007 from US\$250.4 million in 2006 on account of increased exports of primary and agricultural products. By the end of the first quarter 2008 the balance of payments improved to US\$28.7 million. The current account deficit stood at US\$117.1 million as a result of higher fuel payments and consumer goods and machinery imports linked to agricultural and infrastructural investments, thereby offsetting the 21 percent increase in export earnings over the quarter. However, the capital account registered a higher surplus of US\$72.5 million compared with US\$37 million in the first quarter of 2007.

OECS COUNTRIES

During 2007 the economies of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) faced similar

challenges as their CARICOM counterparts resulting in slowing economic growth. The inflationary impact of rising oil and commodity prices; slower growth in the major trading economies; depreciation of the U.S. dollar, the higher cost for intra-regional transport and the passage of Hurricane Dean all contributed to reduced economic output of these countries. The tourism sector was negatively affected by a fall in visitor arrivals, leading to slower growth in Dominica, where real output growth slowed by 1.6 percent. Dominica also suffered from a decline in its agriculture sector. Antigua and Barbuda's real GDP growth fell to 6.1 percent from a high of 12.2 percent in 2006. Economic growth in St. Kitts and Nevis decelerated to 3 percent in 2007, down from 4.4 percent in 2006 with lower output in the construction, agriculture and manufacturing sectors. Montserrat experienced a third year of falling real output. GDP contracted by 2.7 percent in 2007, following declines in 2006 and 2005 of 2.8 percent and 0.4 percent respectively. GDP growth in St. Vincent and the Grenadines declined marginally to 6.7 percent, from the 6.9 percent growth achieved in 2006, resulting from lower economic activity in the construction, wholesale and retail trade and transportation sectors.

The OECS member countries were also affected by inflation due to rising international prices of food and fuel. The Consumer Price Index for the OECS rose by 6.1 percent, an increase from 1.3 per cent over 2006. The balance of payments declined in 2007 as the overall surplus fell to an estimated \$EC125.3 million from \$EC248.3 million in 2006. This occurred as a result of a deterioration of the current account deficit to \$EC4,264.3 million from \$EC3,365.2 million reflecting increased costs of imports.

SUMMARY OF MACROECONOMIC PERFORMANCE

PERFORMANCE OF KEY MACROECONOMIC INDICATORS

The economy of Trinidad and Tobago is expected to expand at a decelerated rate of 3.5 percent in real terms in 2008, reflecting growth of 4.8 percent in the Non-Petroleum sector, which is expected to outperform growth of 0.4 percent in the Petroleum sector.

Unemployment continued its downward trend falling to a historical low of 4.5 percent in the first quarter of fiscal 2008 and increased marginally upwards to 5.3 percent in the second quarter of fiscal 2008.

Inflation peaked at 11.9 percent at the end of July 2008 with food prices rising year-on-year by 25.3 percent. Core inflation fell to 6.2 percent at the end of July from a peak of 6.4 percent at the end of June.

The narrow money supply grew by 18.5 percent on a year-on-year basis to March 2008, compared with 0.2 percent in March 2007. Likewise, the broad money supply grew by 22.8 percent year-on-year to March 2008 compared with 10.6 percent in March 2007.

The weighted average selling rate for the United States dollar appreciated from \$6.3337 in October 2007 to \$6.3367 in November 2007 before declining to \$6.2896 in May 2008.

During fiscal 2008, Central Government is expected to generate an overall fiscal surplus of \$39.2 million. Revenue is projected to increase by \$12,570.9 million

to \$52,635.3 million, and expenditure is projected to increase by \$12,800.0 million to \$52,596.1 million.

Central Government Debt is expected to increase by 12.8 percent to \$25,075.1 million and Gross Public Sector Debt by 9.4 percent to \$42,560.7 million. Gross Public Sector Debt as a percentage of GDP, is however expected to decrease marginally from 28.3 percent in fiscal 2007 to 28.0 percent in fiscal 2008.

At the end of August 2008, the value of funds in the Heritage and Stabilisation Fund totalled \$15,338.0 million, or 10.1 percent of GDP.

In 2007, an overall Balance of Payments surplus of US\$1,541.1 million was recorded due to the continued strong performance of the merchandise trade account. The capital account, however, continued to weaken during 2007 with the deficit widening by 4.1 percent to US\$3,839.8 million, due to an increase in other private capital flows associated with assets held abroad by the private sector.

For the period April 2007 to March 2008, Trinidad and Tobago's trade surplus with the rest of CARICOM contracted by 37.4 percent to \$8,929.9 million due to a fall in petroleum exports.

Trinidad and Tobago's gross international reserves increased by 17.7 percent, to US\$8,740.5 in 2007, representing 12.3 months of imports of goods and non-factor services.

THE REAL ECONOMY

- Gross Domestic Product
- Energy and Energy Industries
- Petrochemicals
- Manufacturing
- Domestic Agriculture
- Export Agriculture
- Construction
- Tourism
- Prices
- Productivity
- Population
- Labour Force and Employment

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (GDP)

The rate of growth of the Trinidad and Tobago economy is projected to decelerate to 3.5 percent in 2008, from 5.5 percent in 2007. This deceleration reflects developments in both the Petroleum and Non-Petroleum sectors. Real economic activity in the Petroleum sector is expected to remain virtually unchanged in 2008 with growth stalling at 0.4 percent, following a modest 1.7 percent expansion in 2007. Real GDP growth in the Non-Petroleum sector is expected to moderate to 4.8 percent in 2008 following

an increase of 7.7 percent in 2007 (Appendices 1 and 2).

Notwithstanding improved performances in the Refining and Petrochemicals sub-sectors, a decline in Exploration and Production, the largest petroleum sub-sector, is expected to result in a flat performance in the Petroleum sector. Exploration and Production is expected to decline by 2.0 percent reflecting lower oil production as reduced output from the more mature oilfields and the disappointing performance of the Greater Angostura offshore oilfield resulted in a drop in the quantity of crude produced from 27.0 million barrels in the first seven months of fiscal 2007 to 24.7 million barrels in the first seven months of fiscal 2008. In contrast, Refining, the second largest sub-sector, is expected to grow by 4.4 percent from 3.4 percent in 2007. GDP growth in Petrochemicals should plateau at 0.0 percent following a contraction of 2.3 percent in 2007, reflecting capacity limitations at the major petrochemical plants.

GDP growth in the Non-Petroleum sector is projected to decline as a result of a deceleration in the Services sector to 4.9 percent, from 6.6 percent in 2007. The projection for the Non-Petroleum sector is also driven by a deceleration in the Manufacturing sector, which is expected to slow to 4.2 percent after peaking at 14.9 percent in 2007, its best performance since 1998.

Within the Services sector, GDP growth is expected to slow in Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate, etc.

(8.8 percent from 10.9 percent in 2007); Distribution and Restaurants (2.3 percent from 3.3 percent); Construction and Quarrying (3.8 percent from 6.6 percent); and Transport, Storage and Communication (8.2 percent from 11.1 percent). GDP growth is also expected to contract in two sub-sectors, Education and Cultural Services, by 3.1 percent following a contraction of 0.6 percent in 2007; and Personal Services, by 1.4 percent, which represents an improvement on the 5.1 percent contraction experienced during 2007. In contrast to the overall sluggishness of the Services sector, GDP growth the Hotels and Guest Houses sub-sector is expected to more than double its rate of growth to 22.7 percent, from 10.8 percent in 2007 as an additional 428 hotel rooms become available with the commissioning of the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

In the Manufacturing sector, strong growth is expected in Printing, Publishing etc. (14.6 percent); Food, Beverages and Tobacco (12.8 percent); and Textile, Garments and Footwear (8.3 percent). Contractions are, however, projected for Wood and Related Products (-10.5 percent); Assembly Type and Related Industries, (-9.4 percent) Miscellaneous Manufacturing (-6.8 percent); and Chemicals and Non-Metallic Minerals (-6.3 percent).

The Agriculture sector is expected to register its second consecutive year of expansion with the rate of growth increasing from 2.6 percent in 2007 to 8.6 percent in 2008. The sector's strong growth can be attributed to an improved performance in Domestic Agriculture (10.7 percent from 0.0 percent). Despite the cessation of sugar cane farming and cultivation following the 2007 sugar cane crop, the sugar industry is expected to expand during 2008 due to a 17.1 percent increase in sugar refining using supplies of imported raw sugar. Export Agriculture is, however, expected to decline as a result of a fall in coffee production (-69.1 percent), and a modest decline in cocoa production (-4.7 percent), which will outweigh a quadrupling of citrus production (424.4 percent).

ENERGY AND EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES

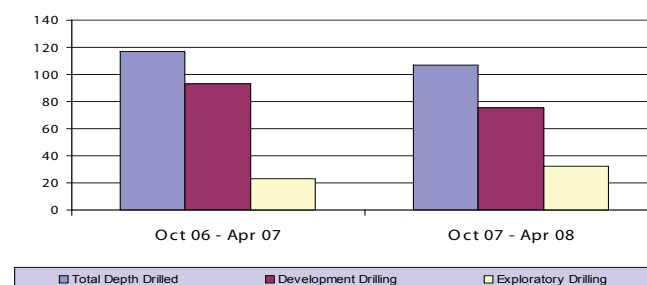
Drilling

During the first seven months of fiscal 2007/2008 energy companies operating in Trinidad and Tobago drilled a total depth of 107.0 thousand metres; 70.4 thousand metres offshore, and 36.6 thousand metres onshore. This represented an 8.2 percent decline when compared to the corresponding period of 2006/2007, during which a total depth of 116.6 thousand metres was drilled (Appendix 5).

Trinidad and Tobago has recorded a number of successes arising out of its recent exploratory drilling activity. In January 2008, Canadian Superior Energy Inc. announced a new natural gas discovery on its "Victory" well offshore Trinidad. Also in January 2008, Petro-Canada announced a natural gas discovery in its Cassra-1 exploration well in deepwater Block 22 offshore Trinidad. In August 2008, Canadian Superior announced its second offshore natural gas discovery on its "Bounty" exploration well located in the company's "Intrepid" Block 5(c), approximately 60 miles off the east coast of Trinidad.

The most recent Audit of Trinidad and Tobago's offshore gas reserves found that as at January 1, 2008 the country's unrisksed gas reserves and resources stood at 30.768 trillion cubic feet, comprising 16.997 trillion cubic feet of proven reserves, 7.883 trillion cubic feet of probable reserves, and 5.888 trillion cubic feet of possible reserves. In addition, the Audit identified a further 31.253 trillion cubic feet of exploration potential.

Figure 1: Development and Exploratory Drilling



Source: Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries

Table 1: Oil and Gas Prices

	2007			2008						
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Crude Oil (Spot Price US\$/Barrel)										
Europe Brent	82.34	92.41	90.93	92.18	94.99	103.64	109.07	122.80	132.32	132.72
West Texas Intermediate	85.80	94.77	91.69	92.97	95.39	105.45	112.58	125.40	133.88	133.37
Natural Gas (US\$/Thousand Cubic Feet)										
Henry Hub	6.94	7.31	7.32	8.25	8.76	9.74	10.49	11.65	13.06	11.45

Source: Energy Information Administration (US)

Crude Oil Production and Refining

Trinidad and Tobago produced a total of 24.7 million barrels of crude and condensate during the first seven months of fiscal 2007/2008, a decline of 8.6 percent from the first seven months of fiscal 2006/2007 in which 27.0 million barrels were produced. (Appendix 5). This decline was mainly due to production challenges at the Greater Angostura oilfield and diminishing recovery rates from Trinidad and Tobago's oil fields which are now quite mature. Marine production accounted for 79.2 percent of the total crude and condensate produced, and onshore production 20.8 percent. A total of 2.6 million fewer barrels were produced offshore in the current period as compared to the same period last year.

During the October 2007 to April 2008 period, throughput at the Petrotrin refinery declined by 1.1 percent to 150,866 barrels per day, from 152,590 barrels per day in the October 2006 to April 2007 period. As a consequence, total refinery output fell by 0.8 percent to 32,154,687 barrels, from 32,407,535 barrels in the previous period. The refinery's capacity utilisation is, however, expected to rise to 88 percent during calendar 2008 from 86 percent in calendar 2007.

Notwithstanding the decline in crude production in the current period, Trinidad and Tobago continued

to benefit from the increase in the price of oil as international prices rose to historic levels. During the first ten months of the current fiscal year, the price of a barrel of West Texas Intermediate oil (WTI) averaged US\$107.13, which was 71.9 percent higher than the US\$62.32 average for the first ten months of 2006/2007. WTI prices crossed the US\$100 per barrel threshold for the first time in intra-day trading on January 2, 2008, peaking at US\$147.27 in intra-day trading on July 11, 2008.

The price of Brent crude similarly peaked at US\$147.02 per barrel on July 11, 2008, averaging US\$105.34 per barrel during the first 10 months of fiscal 2007/2008. This was 65.9 percent above the average price of US\$63.50 per barrel in the corresponding 2006/2007 period.

The increase in the nominal price of oil is expected to outweigh the fall in local crude production during 2008.

Natural Gas

In the first seven months of fiscal 2007/2008, production of natural gas totalled 24,537 million cubic metres, an increase of 3.0 percent from the 23,828 million cubic metres produced in the first seven months of fiscal 2006/2007 (Appendix 6). This increase reflects increased demand for natural gas by Atlantic LNG Train IV, the coming online of two new BPTT

production platforms “Mango” in November 2007 and “Cashima” in December 2007, and an increase in production from BG’s Central Block following a facilities upgrade.

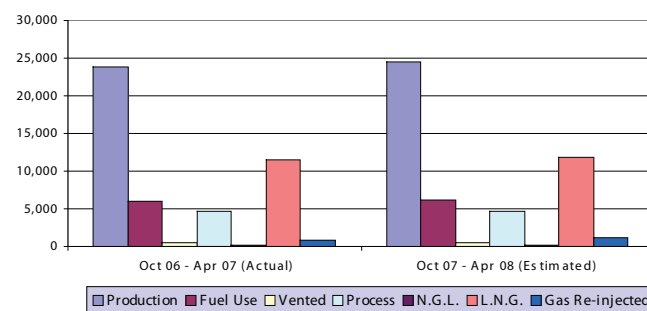
Approximately 48.4 percent of the total natural gas produced during the current period was exported as liquefied natural gas (LNG), whilst 25.1 percent was used as an industrial fuel source, and 18.9 percent as processed gas or feedstock for the country’s Ammonia and Methanol plants. LNG usage totalled 11,875 million cubic metres, up from 11,543 million cubic metres in the previous period. Utilisation of natural gas as fuel and as processed gas totalled 6,169 million cubic metres, and 4,648 million cubic metres respectively.

The Henry Hub price of natural gas averaged US\$9.50 per thousand cubic feet during the first ten months of the fiscal 2007/2008, compared to US\$7.25 per thousand cubic feet in the first ten months of fiscal 2006/2007. In the current period, the average monthly price increased steadily from US\$6.94 per thousand cubic feet in October 2007 to a high of US\$13.06 per thousand cubic feet in June 2008, thereafter subsiding to US\$11.45 per thousand cubic feet in July 2008.

Trinidad and Tobago is the number one exporter of LNG to the United States and was recently ranked seventh in the world in terms of total LNG exports. LNG accounted for 7.8 percent of all natural gas imported into the United States during the October 2007 to May 2008 period, as most natural gas is traditionally imported into the United States via pipeline from Canada. In the same eight month period, Trinidad and Tobago exported 191,924 million cubic feet of LNG to the United States, accounting for 87.3 percent of all LNG imports into that country.

LNG exports from Trinidad and Tobago during the current fiscal year were received by a number of countries including: Spain, Puerto Rico, the United Kingdom, Japan, Mexico, India, and Taiwan.

Figure 2: Natural Gas Production and Utilisation



Source: Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries

PETROCHEMICALS

Nitrogenous Fertilisers (Ammonia and Urea)

Production of Ammonia during the period October 2007 to April 2008 amounted to 2,940.3 thousand tonnes, 5.6 percent less than the 3,114.9 thousand tonnes produced in the corresponding 2006/2007 period (Appendix 7). Consistent with this production trend, exports sales of ammonia declined by 4.2 percent to 2,648.8 thousand tonnes in the October 2007 to April 2008 period. Trinidad and Tobago has ten ammonia plants and is the number one exporter of ammonia in the world.

Urea production totalled 404.2 thousand tonnes during the period October 2007 to April 2008, 1.7 percent below that produced in the similar 2006/2007 period. Urea exports, however, rose by 1.6 percent to 415.7 thousand tonnes during October 2007 to April 2008.

Methanol

Methanol production during the first seven months of fiscal 2007/2008 declined by 0.3 percent to 3,428.7 thousand tonnes compared with the corresponding 2006/2007 period. Methanol exports, however, increased by 10.7 percent to 3,548.6 thousand tonnes over the period (Appendix 7).

Trinidad and Tobago continues to be the leading manufacturer and exporter of Methanol in the world with 7 Methanol plants currently in operation. This country's production and exports of Methanol have tripled during the first seven years of the century, with production climbing from 2,063.5 thousand tonnes in fiscal 2000, to 6,050.3 thousand tonnes in fiscal 2007, and exports growing from 1,986.6 thousand tonnes in fiscal 2000, to 5,907.3 thousand tonnes in fiscal 2007.

Iron and Steel

During the period October 2007 to May 2008, iron and steel products gave mixed performances compared with the similar 2006/2007 period. Production of Direct Reduced Iron (DRI) increased by 7.8 percent to 1,280.6 thousand metric tonnes, while production of Billets and Wire Rods fell by 5.0 percent and 15.5 percent, respectively (Appendix 8). The decline in the production of billets was largely due to a DRI supply shortage during the first quarter of fiscal 2007/2008, manpower problems, delays in the scheduled shutdown of the Plant and other technical problems. Similarly, Wire Rod production suffered from Billet shortages during the first and second quarters of the fiscal year.

Export sales of DRI and billets increased by 21.2 percent to 878.8 thousand metric tonnes, and by 26.9 percent to 63.2 thousand metric tonnes respectively. In contrast, export sales of wire rods during the same period declined by 10.8 percent, due to a production shortfall and inefficiencies experienced at the port.

On the domestic market, local sales of billets rose by 303.4 percent to 61.4 thousand metric tonnes, during the October 2007 to May 2008 period. Local sales of wire rods also rose over the review period by 9.2 percent to 36.0 thousand metric tonnes reflecting strong demand from the local construction industry.

MANUFACTURING

The Manufacturing sector is expected to grow by 4.2 percent in 2008, a sharp decline from 14.9 percent in

2007. However, the contribution of the sector to GDP is expected to remain stable at 8.2 percent.

Growth in the largest manufacturing industry, Food, Beverages and Tobacco, is expected to nearly halve to 12.8 percent, from 22.0 percent in 2007. This is mainly due to lower growth projections for most sub-industries and a contraction in Grain and Feed Mills (-10.0 percent) due to the temporary closure of Nutrimix Flour Mills for several months during 2008 to facilitate an expansion of the mill.

Assembly Type and Related Industries, the second largest manufacturing sub-sector, is expected to experience a contraction of 9.4 percent in 2008, as compared to its expansion of 12.1 percent registered in 2007. This outcome is based on an anticipated decline in the production of steel products, particularly wire rods.

A contraction of 6.3 percent is also expected in the third largest manufacturing industry, Chemicals and Non-Metallic Minerals, compared to a 5.7 percent expansion in 2007. This is due to projected declines in the production of clay bricks (-13.9 percent), concrete blocks (-11.1 percent), plastic products (-10.0 percent) and cement (-4.1 percent). These declines may reflect the inability of local manufacturers to continue to operate at or near full capacity levels for extended periods of time so as to meet the sustained increased demand for their products. Contractions are also forecast for Wood and Related Products (-10.5 percent from -5.5 percent) and Miscellaneous Manufacturing (-6.8 percent from 5.2 percent).

GDP growth in Printing and Publishing is expected to remain positive, albeit at a slower rate of 14.6 percent from 19.3 percent in 2007, whilst GDP growth in Textile, Garments and Footwear is forecast to accelerate to 8.3 percent from 2.7 percent in 2007.

Factors constraining the performance of the local manufacturing sector during 2008 include the high cost and scarcity of workers who are being drawn to higher wages in the construction industry and the impact of foreign competition.

DOMESTIC AGRICULTURE

Domestic Agriculture is projected to grow by 10.7 percent in calendar 2008 after poor performances in the previous two years. During the period October 2007 to March 2008 however, the sub-sector's performance improved only marginally compared with the October 2006 to March 2007 period.

This positive growth trend was most notable in the sub-sectors with shorter gestation periods, namely the vegetable and root crop sub-sectors, and reflects Government's strategic efforts in increasing land under agriculture; improving agricultural infrastructure; targeting ten commodities for increased growth; (i.e. cassava, coconuts, dwarf pommecythere, herbs and spices, hot pepper, pawpaw, pumpkin, rabbit, sweet potatoes and tilapia); and establishment of large farms.

Notwithstanding the challenges of increased costs of production, the livestock sub-sector also demonstrated growth in its dominant broiler and pig sub-sectors during the October 2007 to March 2008 period. The tree crop sub-sector however, with the exception of citrus, generally underperformed during the period.

The outlook for domestic agriculture in the next fiscal year is for continued growth propelled by the increased acreage expected to be brought under cultivation, particularly at Tucker Valley.

Root Crops

Root crop production increased during the first six months of fiscal 2007/2008 as acreage under cultivation increased, particularly through the use of some of the lands distributed to former Caroni (1975) Limited workers. Dasheen production increased by 35 percent to 1,565,400 kilogrammes during the 2007/2008 period, compared to 1,162,000 kilogrammes in the first half of fiscal 2006/2007. Likewise, eddoes production increased by 77 percent to 1,637,400 kilogrammes, from 926,300 kilogrammes in the previous period.

Vegetable Production

The performance of the vegetable sub-sector was mixed, reflecting increases in some items and decreases in others. During the first six months of fiscal 2007/2008, tomato production increased by approximately 72 percent to 1,235,000 kilogrammes, from 720,000 kilogrammes in the corresponding 2006/2007 period. Similarly, cabbage production increased by 34 percent to 1,008,000 kilogrammes and the production of ochroes increased by 32 percent to 15,396,000. In contrast, declines were registered for cucumber (-65.6 percent), pumpkin (-65.1 percent) and patchoi (-40.2 percent).

Paddy Production

Favourable climatic conditions coupled with the cultivation of increased acreage on the former Caroni (1975) Limited lands resulted in a 170.6 percent increase in paddy production, to 2,988.4 metric tonnes during the period October 2007 to March 2008, compared with 1,104.3 metric tonnes during the October 2006 to March 2007 period.

Other Crops

Diversification efforts to expand the agricultural production base were notable in two areas of fruit production, namely pineapple and pawpaw. Pineapple production increased by 44.4 percent to 881.2 kilogrammes during the first half of fiscal 2007/2008 from 610.4 kilogrammes in the comparable 2006/2007 period. Pawpaw production increased by 30 percent to 799.3 kilogrammes during the period, compared to the 614.3 kilogrammes in the previous period. These increases were the result of increased acreage under cultivation.

TREE CROPS

Citrus

Deliveries to the Cooperative Citrus Growers Association (CCGA) during the fiscal 2007/2008 delivery season (i.e. January to May) increased as a

result of favourable weather conditions and several initiatives undertaken by the CCGA, including an additional \$10 incentive to farmers for the delivery of fruits, and the inclusion of deliveries from temporary farmers who are not members of the CCGA. The total number of crates delivered to the CCGA during the period increased by 155 percent to 48,973 from 19,203.7 in the previous comparative period. Grapefruit deliveries totalled 14,000 crates, an increase of 141 percent, and orange deliveries totalled 34,000 crates, an increase of 154 percent.

Copra

Pest and disease problems continued to frustrate the growth of the coconut industry with copra production declining by 54 percent to 238,143 kilogrammes during the October 2007 to March 2008 period, from 522,545 kilogrammes in the October 2006 to March 2007 period.

LIVESTOCK

Pork

Pork production increased by 4.3 percent in the October 2007 to March 2008 period compared to the corresponding previous period. This occurred despite increasing costs of production.

Poultry

Notwithstanding increased costs of poultry production and the resultant higher price to the end consumer, total broiler meat production increased during the October 2007 to May 2008 period to 44,495,077 kilogrammes, or 9.0 percent above that produced in the October 2006 to May 2007 period. Likewise, turkey meat production increased by almost 100 percent to 46,290 kilogrammes, and duck meat production increased by 24 percent to 433,861 kilogrammes.

Dairy and Beef

Milk production continued to decline during the first half of fiscal 2007/2008 despite efforts to

increase production through enhanced technological management of pastures including improved varieties of pasture grass. Milk production totalled 2,709,545 litres in the current period, which was 18 percent below the 3,295,174 litres produced during the first half of fiscal 2006/2007.

Beef production increased by 1.0 percent to 199,028 kilogrammes during the period, from 196,972 kilogrammes produced in the previous period. This marginal increase was attributed to the exit of dairy farmers from the industry and the consequent selling off of their herds as beef.

Small Ruminants

Mutton production during the first half of fiscal 2007/2008 was 11,466 kilogrammes, a 24.8 percent increase from the 9,191 kilogrammes produced in the first half of fiscal 2006/2007.

Sugar

The Sugar Manufacturing Company Limited (SMCL) produced no raw sugar during the period January to June 2008, following on the decision by Government to close the sugarcane industry after the 2007 crop. The SMCL sold 28,263 metric tonnes of refined sugar and 388 tonnes of wash grey sugar on the local market during the period October 2007 to June 2008. This represented a 20 percent decrease over the corresponding period one year earlier. All feedstock for the refinery came from imports of raw sugar amounting to 26,937 tonnes. Consultations are ongoing within the private sector as to the future of the local sugarcane industry.

EXPORT AGRICULTURE (COCOA AND COFFEE)

Cocoa production during October 2007 to April 2008 totalled 197,011 kilogrammes, a decrease of 57.9 percent when compared with the 468,832.5 kilogrammes which were produced in the previous corresponding period. Coffee production totalled 30,778.2 kilogrammes

during October 2007 to April 2008, which was 80.4 percent below the 157,247.5 kilogrammes produced during the same period of 2007/2008.

The declines in cocoa and coffee production were attributed to unfavourable weather conditions and to a decrease in the number of traditional cocoa and coffee farmers and the consequent reduction in acreage under cultivation.

The decline in cocoa production has occurred in the face of an increase in international demand for Trinidad and Tobago's cocoa which is considered one of the best in the world. Despite this decline, the Agricultural Development Bank (ADB), through its Cocoa Revitaliser Programme has been successful in attracting new farmers to the sector. However, given the long gestation period for cocoa, it will take a number of years before the impact of the production from these new farms is realised.

CONSTRUCTION

The construction and quarrying sector is projected to grow in real terms by 3.8 percent in 2008 with economic activity valued at \$7,300.4 million, a deceleration on the 6.6 percent growth recorded during 2007. The contribution of the sector to real GDP is nevertheless expected to remain unchanged at 7.8 percent during 2008.

While the construction sector appears to be levelling off with several mega projects in Port of Spain nearing completion, the sector will continue to grow at a healthy rate as a number of other major Government and private sector projects remain in progress or are at the planning stages.

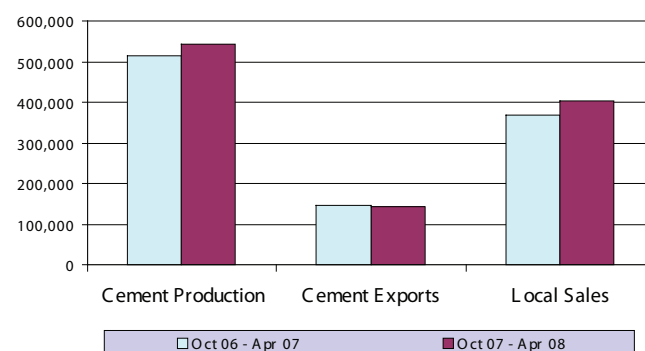
Despite the increased costs of labour and essential raw materials such as steel, aggregate and cement, investors continue to show confidence in the sector as demonstrated by the various private sector projects being undertaken. During 2008, Government has continued to implement programmes geared towards the training of persons to meet the increased need for skilled workers in the sector.

Cement

Cement production during the period October 2007 to April 2008 totalled 542.2 thousand metric tonnes. This represents an increase of 5.1 percent over the corresponding period of the previous fiscal year. Sales of cement on the local market rose to 402.2 thousand metric tonnes, from 369.5 thousand metric tonnes in the previous period or an increase of 8.9 percent.

Export sales of cement however, declined marginally to 143.7 thousand metric tonnes, a decrease of 0.7 percent from the 144.7 thousand metric tonnes produced in the 2006/2007 period.

Figure 3: Cement Production



Source: Trinidad Cement Limited

TOURISM

Visitor Arrivals

During calendar 2007, an estimated 562,729 persons visited Trinidad and Tobago by air and cruise ship, an increase of 3.6 percent from 543,293 persons in 2006.

Airline Arrivals

Preliminary estimates indicate that 485,988 passengers visited Trinidad and Tobago in calendar 2007, an increase of 6.2 percent from 457,434 passengers in 2006. Air arrivals to Trinidad totalled 424,103 persons, an increase of 12.3 percent while air arrivals to Tobago totalled 61,885 persons, a decrease of 22.5 percent.

North Americans accounted for half (50.4 percent) of all air arrivals to Trinidad and Tobago during

calendar 2007, with 39.1 percent of all passengers coming from the United States, and 11.0 percent from Canada. CARICOM was the second largest source of air arrivals to Trinidad and Tobago (20.6 percent), with Guyana (5.8 percent) and Barbados (4.7 percent) providing most of the CARICOM visitors. Europe closely followed as the third most important source of air passengers (19.9 percent), and continued to be dominated by the United Kingdom which provided 14.2 percent of all air arrivals.

Cruise Ship Arrivals

In calendar 2007, a total of 86 cruise ships visited Trinidad and Tobago, a decrease of 13 vessels compared to 2006. Of these, Trinidad received 51 cruise ships, 11 more than in the previous year, while Tobago received 35 cruise ships, which was 19 fewer than in 2006.

Cruise passenger arrivals to Trinidad and Tobago during 2007 totalled 76,741 persons, representing a decrease of 9,118 persons from 2006, during which 85,859 passengers landed. The greatest number of cruise passengers came in January when 21,789 persons arrived on 24 vessels, followed by March with 16,122 passengers arriving on 19 vessels. Trinidad received 82.7 percent of all cruise passengers during 2007 whereas Tobago received 17.3 percent. This translated into 63,467 arrivals for Trinidad, a 46.2 percent increase from the 43,404 arrivals in 2006. For Tobago arrivals totalled 13,274, a 68.7 percent decrease from the 42,455 arrivals in 2006.

PRICES

Notwithstanding its strong economic growth, a major challenge for Trinidad and Tobago continues to be the control of inflationary pressures. Following a general decline in inflation during the twelve months of 2007, there was a sustained increase in inflationary pressure during the first seven months of 2008 with year-on-year headline inflation peaking at 11.9 percent in July.

Headline inflation averaged 7.9 percent in 2007, down from an average of 8.3 percent in 2006. This decrease reflected a decline in food price inflation from 23.2 percent to 17.4 percent (Appendix 9). The decline in food inflation was influenced to a large extent by the introduction of Farmers' Markets by Government and by the use of the mass media to empower consumers with the best information on prices of fresh produce.

An aggressive programme of liquidity absorption by the Central Bank also effected a reduction in overall inflation during 2007 which arose from external influences such as significantly higher global food prices, depreciation of the United States dollar against other major currencies, and a historic rise in world energy prices.

During the first seven months of 2008, inflationary pressures intensified with consumer prices rising by 8.7 percent, compared with 4.6 percent during the first seven months of 2007. Rising food prices, which account for 18 percent of the consumer basket in the Retail Prices Index, were largely responsible for this acceleration. During the period, food prices rose by 15.6 percent, which was double the 7.7 percent increase registered during the comparative period in 2007. Higher food price inflation reflected the sharp increases in the cost of bread and cereals (50.8 percent), fruits (31.2 percent), oils and fats (21.7 percent), vegetables (12.6 percent), sugar jam and confectionery etc. (9.6 percent) and milk cheese and eggs (6.6 percent). The higher domestic prices for bread, cereals, butter and edible oils were attributable to the escalation in international food prices particularly for wheat, corn, rice and edible oils and fats. Also contributing to domestic inflation was a spike in prices related to water, electricity, gas and other fuels (21.1 percent).

During the 12-month period ending July 2008, year-on-year headline inflation rose to 11.9 percent from 11.3 percent during the 12 months ending June 2008. Food prices rose year-on-year by 25.3 percent at the end of July, up from 23.1 percent in the previous

month. Year-on-year core inflation fell to 6.2 percent in July from 6.4 percent in June.

The outlook for prices in Trinidad and Tobago is for inflation to remain at elevated levels during the remainder of 2008. This outlook is based on a number of factors including the inflationary global environment with the resultant higher import costs and upward pressure on local wages. A major concern for the local monetary authorities will be the need to counteract increased liquidity arising from an expansion of bank credit of 22.8 percent in 2007 and a further increase by 5.7 percent in the first four months of 2008, as well as an injection of approximately \$2.6 billion into the system from the sale of RBTT to the Royal Bank of Canada at a price of \$13.8 billion.

PRODUCTIVITY

Productivity for all workers in all industries as measured by the All Items Index of Productivity increased by 1.6 percent during the first quarter of fiscal 2007/2008, as compared to an increase of 3.9 percent in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2006/2007. Productivity gains were secured in a number of industries with the largest gains taking place in Oil and Natural Gas Refining (38.8 percent); Wood and Related Products (19.7 percent); Drink and Tobacco (17.1 percent); and Electricity (13.0 percent). However, productivity declines were recorded in Assembly Type and Related Products (-12.4 percent); Miscellaneous Manufacturing (-9.6 percent); Chemicals (-8.2 percent); Exploration and Production of Oil and Natural Gas (-6.7 percent); and Petrochemicals (-6.4 percent).

In the second quarter of fiscal 2007/2008 productivity for all workers in all industries declined by 1.2 percent (Appendix 9). Although productivity gains were achieved in several industries led by Miscellaneous Manufacturing (11.4 percent); Chemicals (6.0 percent), Textiles, Garments and Footwear (3.9 percent), and Oil and Natural Gas Refining (3.1 percent), these gains were negated by productivity declines in a number of

other industries including Electricity (-18.4 percent), Drink and Tobacco (-12.7 percent), Food Processing (-10.4 percent), and Assembly Type and Related Products (-5.2 percent).

POPULATION

The 2008 mid-year population estimates indicate that Trinidad and Tobago's population is expected to grow to 1,308,587 persons during 2008, a 0.4 percent increase. A moderate rise in the provisional birth rate is expected with 14.12 births per thousand persons in 2008 up from 13.95 births per thousand persons in 2007. Following declines in the last three years, the provisional death rate is expected to increase to 7.70 deaths per thousand persons in 2008 from 7.60 deaths per thousand in 2007 (Appendix 10).

Population data for 2008 according to age group indicate that since 2004 the distribution of Trinidad and Tobago's population has remained unchanged. Persons aged 24 years or younger represent 45.2 percent of the population, persons between 25 and 59 years represent 44.8 percent, and persons aged 60 and over represent 10.0 percent of the population (Appendix 11). The gender distribution of the population is also expected to remain unchanged from 2007, with males accounting for 50.2 percent or approximately 656,257 persons, and females 49.8 percent or approximately 652,330 persons (Appendix 10).

LABOUR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT

Unemployment

Unemployment continued to decline during the first quarter of fiscal 2007/2008, reaching a historical low of 4.5 percent from 5.2 percent in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2006/2007. In the second quarter of fiscal 2007/2008, the most recent period for which data is available, unemployment stood at 5.3 percent. (Appendices 10 and 12).

Job Creation / Labour Force

The number of employed persons increased by 9,800 in the first quarter of fiscal 2007/2008 when compared to the fourth quarter of fiscal 2006/2007, with an accompanying increase in the labour force of 5,500 persons, with Community, Social and Personal Services (9,800); Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Business Services (4,000); Electricity and Water (2,000); and Transport, Storage and Communication (1,300) creating the largest number of new jobs. In contrast, job losses were sustained in several industrial groupings including: Petroleum and Gas (-2,800); Other Agriculture, Forestry, Hunting and Fishing (-2,600); and Other Manufacturing (-600). The expansion in the size of the labour force precipitated a marginal increase in the participation rate from 63.8 percent in the July to September 2007 period to 64.3 percent in the October to December 2007 period.

During the second quarter of fiscal 2007/2008, 14,700 fewer persons were employed as compared to the first quarter of fiscal 2007/2008. This fall in employment occurred in the context of an overall labour force contraction of 10,600 persons with the following sectors registering the greatest number of job losses: Community, Social and Personal Services (-20,800); Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Business Services (-4,600); Petroleum and Gas, Including Production, Refining and Service Contractors (-1,500); and Wholesale and Retail Trade, Restaurants and Hotels (-500). Job gains were however recorded in the majority of sectors, including Other Manufacturing (4,100); Other Agriculture, Forestry, Hunting and Fishing (3,600); Transport, Storage and Communication (2,200) and Construction (1,600). The contraction in the size of the labour force during the second quarter translated into a modest decrease in the participation rate to 63.1 percent.

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

- Overview
- Revenue
- Expenditure
- Financing
- Public Debt and Debt Service
- Trinidad and Tobago Credit Ratings

OVERVIEW

Central Government's fiscal operations are projected to record surpluses on both the Current Account balance and the Overall balance over the 2008 fiscal period.

The budgeted oil price for the period 2007/2008 was US\$50.00 per barrel while the budgeted natural gas price was at US\$3.55 per mmcf. Based on these prices, Revenue and Grants was projected at \$40,359.0 million and Expenditure and Net Lending was estimated at \$40,269.8 million, with a resultant budgeted overall surplus of \$89.2 million.

In the third and fourth quarters of fiscal 2008, oil prices averaged US\$113.91 per barrel and US\$85.00 per barrel respectively. While, natural gas prices averaged US\$4.23 per mmcf over third quarter fiscal 2008 and US\$3.70 per mmcf over the fourth quarter. As a result, Total Revenue indicate a total intake of

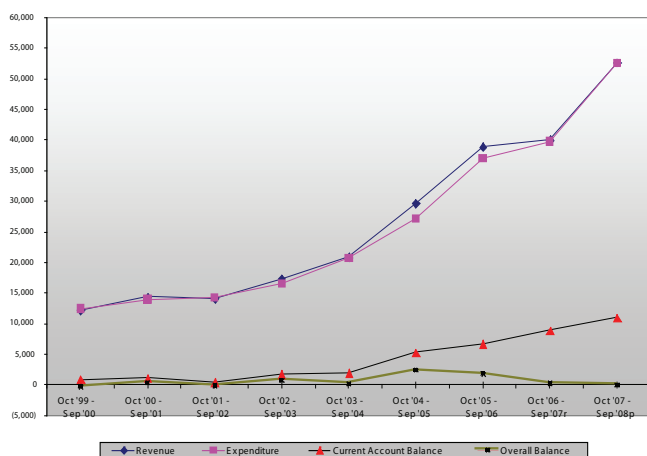
\$52,635.3 million. Total Oil Revenues, projected at \$26,714.8 million represents 50.7 percent of Total Revenues and a 36.1 percent increased Revenue from the corresponding period of fiscal 2006. Non-oil Revenues are projected at \$25,906.1 million, 26.7 percent greater than the \$20,441.8 million recorded for the corresponding period of the previous fiscal year.

Total Expenditure and Net Lending increased by 31.1 percent for fiscal 2008 estimated at \$52,596.0 million and driven largely by Recurrent Expenditure, (\$41,607.1 million). Recurrent Expenditure together with Capital Expenditure, registered increases of 33.6 percent and 26.9 percent over the outlays for the previous fiscal period.

A surplus on the Overall Balance of \$39.2 million is projected for fiscal 2008, with a projected Current Account surplus of \$10,990.2 million or 7.2 percent of GDP (Appendix 19).

Deposits to the Heritage and Stabilisation Fund, is estimated to be \$3,924.5 million, representing 2.5 percent of GDP for the fiscal period 2007/2008 compared to deposits of \$2,030 million for fiscal period 2006/2007. The balance at the end of the fiscal period 2006/2007 amounted to \$11,188.4 million and by the end of August 2008, is projected to reach \$15,338.0 million, representing 10.1 percent of GDP.

Figure 4: Central Government Fiscal Operations



Source: Ministry of Finance

REVENUE

Central Government's Total Revenue inclusive of Grants is expected to increase to \$52,635.3 million in fiscal 2007/2008, 31.4 percent greater or \$12,570.9 million more than total receipts for the corresponding period in the previous year. The projected 32.8 percent or \$11,687.5 million increase in Tax Revenue will be the major contributor (90 percent) to the overall increase in total revenue intake.

Non-Tax Revenue, notwithstanding an increase of approximately 20 percent over the previous year, to \$5,308.7 million will comprise a mere 10 percent of Total Revenues. The enhanced level of Non-Tax receipts will come mainly from improved collections from Administrative Fees and Charges together with greater receipts from Financial and Non-Financial Enterprises (Appendix 20).

Tax Revenue

Tax Revenue is expected to represent 90 percent of Total Revenue during fiscal period 2007/2008 compared to 89 percent during the period 2006/2007.

Taxes on Income and Profits comprising receipts from Oil and Non-oil Companies, Individuals, Withholding taxes, Health Surcharge and Business Levy, will once again constitute the bulk of Total Revenue (69 percent), and its contribution to Total Revenue will

remain essentially unchanged from the previous year's figure of 68 percent.

Taxes on Income and Profits anticipated to increase by \$9347.3 million or 34.5 percent to \$27,113 million in the period 2007/2008.

Tax receipts from Companies are expected to increase by 40.5 percent or \$8,497.3 million to \$29,500.4 million. Receipts from Oil companies is estimated to increase by \$6,541.8 million to \$22,748.0 million, for fiscal 2008, with the receipts from Non-oil companies is projected to increase by \$1,955.8 million to \$6,752.7 million. The increase in tax receipts from Companies, inclusive of Business Levy, Green Fund and Unemployment Levy is as a result of higher than projected oil prices, as well as, extraordinarily high prices of ammonia, urea and methanol.

For the fiscal period 2007/2008, tax receipts from Individuals is expected to increase by \$908.9 million or 28.1 percent to \$4,148.1 million largely as a result of increased salary rates and payment of arrears arising from salary review exercises.

Business Levy receipts which will increase by 61.4 percent or \$84.8 million will be offset by a decrease of 24 percent in receipts from Withholding Taxes. The shortfall of revenue from Withholding Taxes is as a result of the structural reduction of the three sub-rates.

In 2007/2008 Taxes on Goods and Services is projected to contribute 15 percent of Total Revenue, equivalent to contribution recorded in previous year. For the period, the total revenue intake from Taxes on Goods and Services is expected to increase by approximately 31 percent to \$7,923.1 million from \$6,024.1 million in 2006/2007. The increase of 37.3 percent in Value Added Tax receipts was the main contributor to the overall increase in Taxes on Goods and Services. Other components of Taxes on Goods and Services including Excise Duties increased by 8.9 percent, while Motor Vehicle Taxes and Duties decreased by 5.8 percent. On the whole, improved collections of Taxes on Goods and Services are indicative of buoyant economic conditions.

Taxes on International Trade are anticipated to increase by \$392.9 million or 19.2 percent to \$2,437.6 million, mainly due to an increase in Import Duties of \$381 million, arising from increases imports for the Manufacturing and Construction sectors.

Taxes on Property comprising mainly Land and Building Taxes, increased by 3.6 percent to \$86.7 million. This modest improvement is attributable to the impact of the amnesty on interest of outstanding taxes, which resulted in a one off increase in collections of Land and Building Taxes.

Other Taxes comprising mainly of Stamp Duties is expected to increase by 23.2 percent to \$371.3 million which is related to the surge in the construction of business properties and in particular, residential properties (Appendix 20).

Non Tax Revenue

Non Tax Revenue is projected to increase by 19.7 percent or by \$875 million to \$5,308.7 million for the fiscal period 2007/2008, mainly due to substantial increases in receipts from Administrative Fees and Charges, as well as, Dividends from Financial Enterprises. Increase in receipts from Administrative Fees and Charges are directly related to a rise in the level of receipts in signature Bonuses and Passport and Permits fees.

Royalties is expected to record a minimal increase of 5.9 percent or \$98.5 million for fiscal period 2007/2008. In contrast, Dividends from Non-Financial Enterprises is expected to decrease by 43.4 percent or \$320.4 million (Appendix 20).

EXPENDITURE

During the fiscal period October 2007 to September 2008, Total Expenditure and Net Lending is forecast at \$52,596.1 million, \$12,800.0 million above the previous fiscal period.

Over the period, Recurrent Expenditure is projected to increase by \$10,027.0 million to \$41,207.1 million,

maintaining its dominant share (78 percent) of Total Expenditure. This item includes expenditure on Wages and Salaries (Personnel), Goods and Services, Interest Payments, Subsidies and Current Transfers.

For the 2008 fiscal period, expenditure on Wages and Salaries is expected to increase by 13.9 percent to \$7,084.3 million, an expansion which is directly attributable to the payment of salary increases and arrears arising out of the recent conclusion of collective agreements in the public sector.

Subsidies and Transfers is expected to increase to \$26,701.1 million for the fiscal year, expanding by \$8,769.6 (48.9 percent) over the previous year's figure and comprising 64 percent of total Recurrent Expenditure. The increase in the Senior Citizens Grant; increased pensions to retirees arising out of new collective agreements; the increase in the number of beneficiaries under the Food Price Support Programme; and the payment of increased subsidies on petroleum products were the main contributors to the increase in the Subsidies and Transfers component.

Goods and Services is expected to increase by \$732.1 million to \$5,015.9 million for the period 2007/2008. This item comprises 12.2 percent of total Recurrent outlays and is largely attributable to the payment of the increase allowances arising from new collective agreements; the purchase of new equipment, computers and vehicles; and management expenses on loans.

Capital Expenditure and Net Lending for the fiscal period October 2007 to September 2008, is expected to increase by 26.9 percent to \$10,989 million. Of the components of this expenditure item, expenditure under the Infrastructural Development Fund is projected to expand by 51.2 percent to \$5,570.5 million, while, expenditure under the Government Assisted Tertiary Education (GATE) programme is projected to decrease by 1.7 percent to \$450 million. A modest increase of 8.4 percent is projected for expenditure under the Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP). Net Lending is expected to move from negative \$39.2 million to negative \$23.6 million, a decrease of 15.6

percent when compared to the preceding fiscal period (Appendix 21).

FINANCING

Net External Financing is estimated at \$767.4 million for the 2008 fiscal period, an increase of 13.6 million over the amount for fiscal 2007. The overall external financing requirement is predicated on a reduction in Capital Repayments from \$1,256.4 million in fiscal 2007 to \$369.9 million by the end of the current fiscal year. External Borrowings is projected to register a \$1,137.3 million net inflow and represents a moderation over the \$2,010.2 million net inflow posted under this item in fiscal 2007.

Net Domestic Financing is anticipated to decrease from \$1,022.1 million to \$806.6 million, based on a projected decrease in Domestic Capital Repayments of \$68.4 million and an increase in Sinking Fund Transfers of \$7.4 million.

Overall, these movements will result in an increase in the Total Financing requirement from \$268.3 million 2006/2007 to \$39.2 million in fiscal 2008 (Appendix 22).

PUBLIC DEBT AND DEBT SERVICE

Gross Public Sector Debt is expected to increase by 9.4 percent to \$42,560.69 million by the end of the current fiscal year. This notwithstanding, Gross Public Sector Debt as a percentage of GDP, however, decreased marginally from 28.3 percent to 28 percent.

During fiscal 2008, Central Government Debt is projected to increase by 12.8 percent to \$25,075.06 million and is essentially maintained at 16 percent of GDP.

In 2008, Government obligations in the form of Contingent Liabilities is expected to increase by 4.9 percent to \$17,485.64 million.

Box 1: Open Market Operations (OMOs)

At the end of the period September 2007 to May 2008, OMO bills in issue amounted to \$14,200 million or 10.3 percent of GDP compared to \$9,425 million or 7 percent of GDP during the fiscal period 2006/2007. While, face value of Treasury Notes outstanding amounted to \$2,534.8 million compared to an outstanding amount of \$1,794 million as at the end of the fiscal period 2006/2007, representing an increase of 41 percent. Government Bonds outstanding as at May 2008 was \$13,082.7 billion compared to \$11,288.6 million at the end of fiscal period 2006/2007.

GORTT BONDS AND NOTES

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
OMO Bills	785	1,310	3,662.4	4765	9,245.8	14,200
Treasury Notes	1,557.7	2,087	2,886	3,000	1,794	2,534.8
Gov't Bonds	9523.1	9,670	9,495.9	9,163.3	11,288.6	13,082.7

External Debt is anticipated to increase from 6.4 percent of GDP in fiscal year 2006/2007 to 7.1 percent of GDP in fiscal period 2007/2008.

During the period 2007/2008, Central Government Domestic Debt is expected to increase by \$910.6 million to \$13,730.56 million; largely attributable to increases in bond issuances associated with efforts to strengthen liquidity management in the system.

Central Government External Debt is projected to increase by \$1,984.7 million to \$10,623.45 million as the draw-downs began on loans for acquisition of assets to strengthen national security and improve

Box 2: Trinidad and Tobago Credit Rating History

CariCRIS

	2007	2008
Regional Scale Foreign Currency	CariAAA	CariAAA
Regional Scale Local Currency	CariAAA	CariAAA
Trinidad and Tobago National Scale	ttAAA	ttAAA

Source: Caribbean Information & Credit Rating Services Limited (CariCRIS)

Standard and Poor's

Year	Foreign Currency			Local Currency		
	Outlook	Long-term	Short-term	Outlook	Long-term	Short-term
Aug. 2008	Stable	A	A-2	Stable	A+	A-1
Sep. 2007	Positive	A-	A-2	Positive	A+	A-1
Jul. 2005	Stable	A-	A-2	Stable	A+	A-1
Jun. 2004	Positive	BBB+	A-2	Positive	A	A-1

Source: Standard and Poor's

Moody's Investors Service

Year	Outlook	Foreign Currency Ceiling				Government Bonds	
		Bonds & Notes		Bank Deposits		Foreign Currency	Local Currency
		Long-term	Short-term	Long-term	Short-term		
Oct. 2007	Stable	A1	...	Baa1	P-2	Baa1	...
Jul. 2006	Stable	A1	...	Baa1	P-2	Baa1	...
May 2006	...	A2	P-1
Aug. 2005	Stable	Baa2	P-3	Baa2	P-3	Baa2	...
Apr. 2000	Stable	Baa3	...	Ba1	...	Baa3	Baa1

Source: Moody's Investors Services

delivery of services for cancer treatment, as well as infrastructure to support the performing arts.

Government Contingent Liabilities are expected to increase by \$819.65 million in fiscal 2008. This increase in the current fiscal year is representative of net borrowings by both the Statutory Authorities and State Enterprises for infrastructural upgrade and operational costs.

Central Government Debt Service is projected to increase by 0.8 percent or \$29.6 million to \$3,773.9 million during the fiscal period 2007/2008. Of this amount, Domestic Debt Service is projected to increase by \$900.4 million to \$2,786.51 million; while External Debt Service is expected to decrease by \$870.8 million to \$987.4 million. Interest payments amounting to \$2,392.2 million (related to securities issued for liquidity management purposes) contributed significantly to the increase in Domestic Debt Service. The maturity of a 2006 Eurobond of \$945 million (US\$150 million) accounted for the fall in the External Debt Service obligation over the period (Appendix 23).

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO CREDIT RATINGS

In October 2007, Moody's Investors Service maintained its Baa1 rating on Government of Trinidad and Tobago foreign currency denominated bonds. This rate was first assigned in July 2006 and at that time represented the third upgrade since the year 2000. In October 2007 also, the rating on Foreign Currency Long-term Bonds and Notes was maintained at A1 and Foreign Currency Long Term Bank Deposits at Baa1.

The Caribbean Information and Credit Rating Services Limited (CariCRIS), in April 2008 maintained its existing ratings of CariAAA on debt obligations in foreign currency on its regional rating scale and CariAAA on debt obligations in local currency.

In August 2008, however Standard and Poor's raised its ratings on Trinidad and Tobago's long term foreign currency instruments from A- to A, the fourth such upgrade since 2002. Ratings on the country's short term foreign currency, long term local currency and short-term local currency instruments were maintained at A-2, A+ and A-1 respectively (Box 2).

THE MONETARY SECTOR

- **Monetary Conditions**
- **Central Bank Operations:**
- **Financial Sector Performance**
- **Capital Market Activity**
- **Non-Bank Financial Institutions**

MONETARY CONDITIONS

Monetary policy in 2007/2008 focused on liquidity absorption and the reduction of persistent inflationary pressures within the domestic economy. Robust economic growth; increased government and private spending; rapid credit expansion; capacity constraints; and supply bottlenecks (particularly in the agricultural sector), combined with the recent surge in imported food and energy prices have all contributed to the liquidity overhang. Net fiscal injection increased by 24.4 percent to \$9,238.1 million for the period October 2007 to May 2008, as compared to the previous year.

In addition to maintaining a tight monetary policy stance in response to the current economic conditions, the Central Bank raised its Repurchase (repo) rate from the level at 8 percent, which had prevailed since September 2006, to 8.25 percent in February 2008, and again to 8.50 percent in June 2008. The cash reserve requirement applicable to commercial banks was also temporarily increased from 11 percent to 13 percent in February 2008, and to 15 percent in June 2008, with the aim of further dampening liquidity conditions. The Central Bank has also absorbed some US\$3.2 billion in liquidity during the period October 2007 to April 2008 through foreign exchange sales.

Moreover, the amalgamation of the Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) and RBTT in June 2008 injected some \$13.8 billion of financial resources into the system as shareholders of RBTT began to receive their cash settlements. In an attempt to contain the liquidity impact of this cash injection, Government issued bonds in the sum of \$1.2 billion in July 2008 for auction.

The Central Bank also intensified its level of open market operations. For the period October 2007 to May 2008, the Central Bank removed \$5,695 million from the financial system through the net issue of open market bills. This compares to \$1,023.1 million which was removed in the previous corresponding period.

CENTRAL BANK OPERATIONS

Exchange Rates/Foreign Exchange Market

The weighted average buying rate for the United States (US) dollar increased from \$6.2804 in October 2007 to \$6.2831 in March 2008 before declining to \$6.2053 in May 2008. The weighted average selling rate rose from \$6.3337 in October 2007 to spike in November 2007 to \$6.3367 before declining to \$6.2896 in May 2008.

Foreign exchange sales to the public over the period October 2007 to May 2008, amounted to US\$3,745 million or an average of US\$468.2 million per month; 14.4 percent higher than the US\$3,274 million or monthly average of US\$409 million, recorded in the previous eight-month period October 2006 to May 2007.

Purchases of foreign exchange from the public over the same period also increased by 27.7 percent to US\$3,054.8 million, or US\$381.7million per month.

Money Supply and Commercial Banks' Deposits and Credits

Strong money supply growth during the period October 2007 to March 2008 contributed to the high level of liquidity in the system. Narrow money, M-1A, consisting of currency in active circulation plus demand deposits grew by 18.5 percent on a year-on-year basis to March 2008, compared with 0.2 percent in March 2007. The increase in M-1A was due to strong growth in commercial bank demand deposits which increased by 18.2 percent in the twelve months to March 2008 compared to a contraction of 3.6 percent in March 2007.

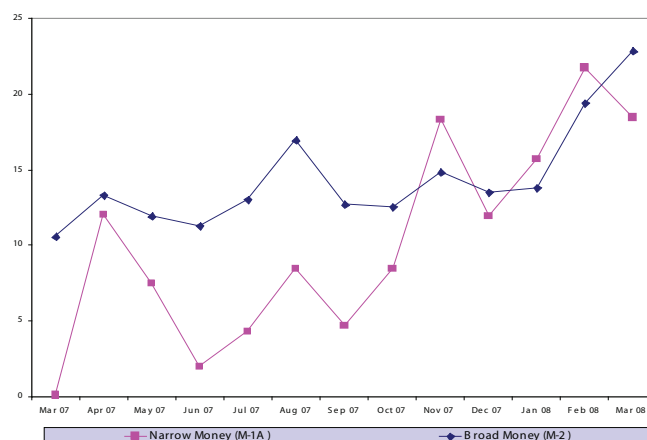
Similarly, Broad money, M-2, consisting of M-1A plus savings and time deposits grew by 22.8 percent year-on-year to March 2008 compared with 10.6 percent in March 2007. Quasi money, which is the sum of savings and time deposits grew by 25.5 percent year-on-year to March 2008, higher than the 18.2 increase observed year-on-year to March 2007. During the same period,

savings and time deposits grew by 17.4 percent and 37.9 percent, respectively.

In contrast however, M-2*, defined as M-2 plus resident foreign currency deposits of the commercial banks, exhibited a slower rate of expansion of 15.9 percent year-on-year to March 2008, down from 18.9 percent in March 2007. Commercial banks' foreign currency deposits also contracted in the twelve months to March 2008, decreasing by 1.1 percent compared with an expansion of 45.9 percent in the same period of the previous year. This decline can be attributed in part to a seasonal pattern as during the Christmas Holiday individuals tend to draw-down on foreign currency deposits (Figure 5).

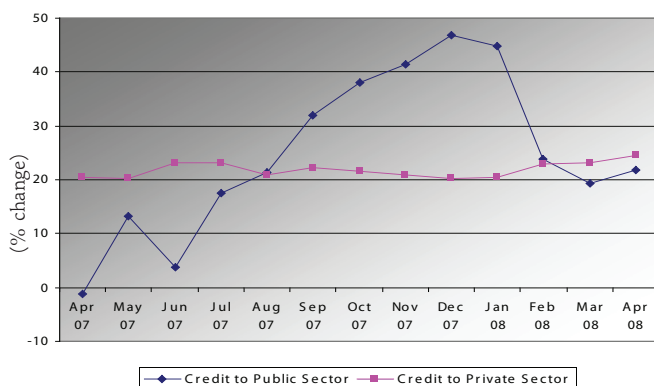
Private sector credit extended by the consolidated financial system to the private sector remained buoyant over the review period ended October 2007 to April 2008. Credit increased by 25 percent for the seven month period ending April 2008, compared with 21 percent, a year earlier. The rate of credit expansion was mainly influenced by strong growth of 31.3 percent in real estate mortgage lending and, consumer loans which increased by 20.2 percent on a year-on-year basis to April 2008. Commercial Banks' credit to the public sector also increased by 30 percent in the twelve months up to April 2008 (Figure 6).

Figure 5: Money Supply Growth, March 2007-March 2008



Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

Figure 6: Credit to Private and Public Sectors



Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

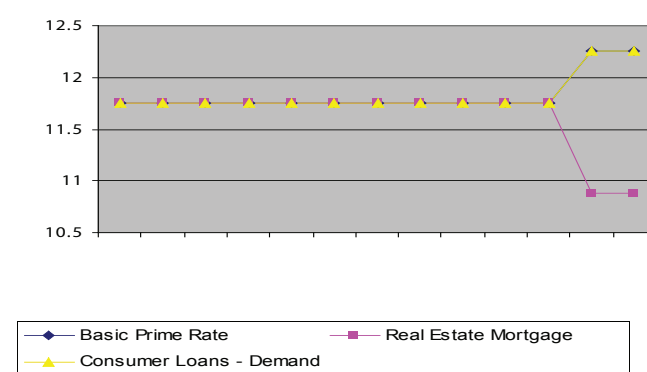
Interest Rates

Over the period October 2007 to February 2008, the basic prime rate remained unchanged at 11.75 percent. However in March 2008, the basic prime rate increased by 50 basis points to 12.25 percent. This rate remained unchanged up to April 2008. Other lending rates for demand, overdraft and real estate mortgage have mirrored the basic prime rate for most of this period. Term rates, although fairly stable have been slightly lower than those for demand, overdraft and real estate mortgage, and increased from 9.5 percent in October 2007 to 12.25 percent in April 2008 (Figure 7).

In May 2008, the rate on ordinary savings increased by 10 basis points to 1.88 percent from 1.78 percent in October 2007. Rates on shorter term deposits fluctuated somewhat over the period January 2007 to April 2008. Rates on three (3) month and three to six (3 to 6) month deposits increased from 2.84 percent to 3.50 percent, and 3.36 percent to 4.73 percent, respectively for the same review period.

With effect from February 2008, the cash reserve requirement on commercial banks was increased from 11 percent to 13 percent, and again in June 2008 to 15 percent. The repo rate was also raised by 25 basis points to 8.25 percent in February 2008 and a further 25 basis points in June 2008 to 8.50 percent and preceded the increase in basic prime rates in March 2008.

Figure 7: Interest Rates



Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

Liquidity

Excess liquidity, defined as the difference between actual deposits of commercial banks held at the Central Bank and the cash reserve requirement, dominated the financial system for the period October 2007 to March 2008. The primary liquidity measure, excess reserves, which is the excess of the minimum reserve requirement that must be in reserve at the Central Bank, averaged \$2,909.6 million during the period under review, compared with \$2,196 million over the corresponding period of 2006/2007.

In an attempt to effectively address the persistent liquidity in the system, the Central Bank has opted to focus its strategy on liquidity absorption rather than on changes in the policy interest rate since the build-up in liquidity limits the transmission mechanism of increases in the repurchase ('repo') rate to short-term interest rates, and regular open market operations (OMOs) were not sufficient to deal with the liquidity overhang.

Liquidity absorption was also effected through auctions of long-term securities, the proceeds of which were sterilized in the Central Bank. Other liquidity absorption measures included compulsory purchases of Government securities by the banks; the imposition of a secondary reserve requirement on the commercial banks; and an intensified programme of open market operations.

These measures resulted in a substantial reduction in banks' excess liquidity and also contributed to a reduction in inflation through most of 2007. However, with inflation again rising in early 2008, additional measures were required to contain bank liquidity. In this case, the Central Bank temporarily returned to the use of reserve requirements as well as increases in the repo rate. Additionally, the TT\$1 billion and TT\$500 million special interest bearing deposits introduced in December 2005 and June 2006 respectively, were rolled over in June and December of 2007, respectively. This also assisted in reducing liquidity levels.

Open Market Operations (OMOs)

During the period October 2007 to May 2008, the balance outstanding on Treasury Bills increased from \$10,065.8 million to \$14,200 million. The redemption of T-Bills for the eight month period totalled approximately \$9,381 million and the total face value of T-Bills issued amounted to \$14,335.2 million.

As at October 1, 2007, the balance outstanding on Treasury Notes was \$1,408 million and by the end of May 2008, this amount had increased to \$2,534.8 million. Redemption of Notes for the eight month period, October 2007 to May 2008, totalled \$1,061 million and the total face value of T-Notes offered amounted to \$1,801.8 million. For the period under review, the coupon rate at October 2007 was 6.60 percent and 7.32 percent at May 2008.¹

1 Treasury Notes and Treasury Bills

Both the Treasury Bills Act, Chapter 71:40 and Treasury Notes Act, 1995, provide for the issuance of Government Securities to facilitate the conduct of open market operations by the Central Bank; while the Treasury Bills are of short maturities of 91 and 180 days, the Treasury Notes are longer dated instruments of one (1) to five (5) years' maturity. The limits on Treasury Bills and Treasury Notes are currently at TT\$15 billion and TT\$5 billion, respectively. Liquidity management typically involves the use of Treasury Bills and Treasury Notes in open market operations.

CAPITAL MARKET ACTIVITY

The Trinidad and Tobago Stock Exchange (TTSE)

Equities

During the October 2007 to April 2008 period, the equity market recorded significant gains indicating the possibility of a resurgence in stock market activity in terms of market capitalisation and value traded after two (2) consecutive years of decline. The Composite Index (CI) and the All Trinidad and Tobago Index (ATI) rose by 13.8 percent and 16 percent, respectively, to register their highest points of 1,065.5 and 1,368.6 since December 2005. This bullish performance resulted mainly from increased business confidence arising from gainful takeover bids as well as the favourable financial performance of many companies (Figure 8).

Takeover bidding between Neal and Massy and Ansa McAl for the Barbados Shipping and Trading Company (BS&T) led to increased growth in the conglomerate sector. Activity in the Banking sector also showed strong gains as the increase in banks' earnings from higher interest income was reflected in larger profits.

After a steady decline in trading activity during the first four (4) months under review, the stock market picked up markedly in February and April of 2008, with the conglomerate sector leading the surge.

For the period October 2007 to April 2008, a total of 76.2 million shares were traded. This was substantially less than the 156.8 million shares traded over the corresponding period in the previous year. In contrast to the decline in volume of shares traded, total market capitalisation increased steadily to \$107.2 billion over the period. This represents a 14.5 percent growth over the seven months compared to a 7.6 percent growth over the same period in the preceding year. The banking, non-banking finance and conglomerate sectors continue to dominate the stock market representing 53, 18 and 19 percent, respectively, of total market capitalisation.

Growth in the equity market in terms of volume of shares traded over the period October 2007 to April 2008 was led by the non-bank finance sector at 20 percent, followed by the conglomerate sector at 17 percent, and the banking sector at 11.2 percent.

Bonds

During calendar 2007, activity in the domestic bond market was sustained by issues of Government fixed-income securities for liquidity sterilisation purposes, in addition to some private bond issues to finance commercial and residential housing projects.

During the period October 2007 to April 2008, there were fourteen (14) placements on the primary bond market valued at \$2,894.2 million. There were six regional placements, including two tranches issued by a regional sovereign to the value of US\$15.5 million. Issues by local private and quasi Government institutions amounted to \$1,938.6 million and sought to take advantage of the prevailing low interest rate environment. Coupon rates on the US dollar denominated placements ranged between 8 percent and 11 percent with periods to maturity ranging between three (3) and twelve (12) years. On the other hand, the coupon rates on the TT dollar denominated placements ranged between 6.75 percent and 10.5 percent with tenors from two (2) to ten (10) years.

Secondary Bond Market

In January 2008, a secondary market for the trading of Government securities was launched. The trading platform provides the mechanism for Government securities to move from investors in the primary market to a wider range of end-investors such as pension funds, insurance companies and retail investors. This platform is expected to improve pricing efficiency for Government securities while acting as a primer for other fixed-income securities markets such as corporate bonds.

Other TTSE Developments

As of April 2008, the TTSE increased the number of trading days by two additional days. This move is

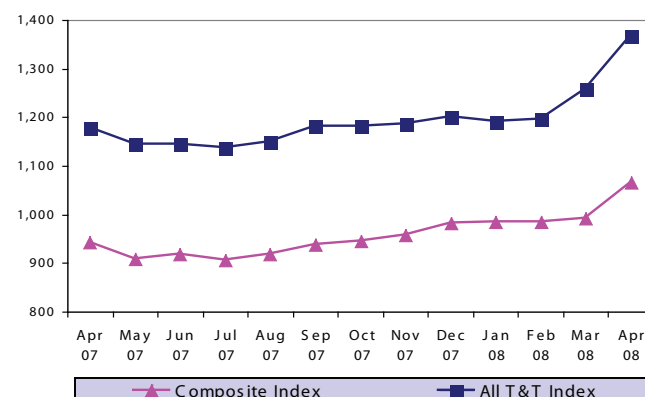
expected to enhance the liquidity of the stock market by providing greater participation by investors on the market.

Registrants

Twelve (12) new brokers have been registered for the 2007/2008. This increase has stemmed from the introduction of secondary bond trading on the Trinidad and Tobago Stock Exchange which required the registration of these brokers to transact bond trades. There are currently a total of thirty (30) brokers registered.

Five (5) new Reporting Issuers and another five (5) Securities Companies were registered along with six (6) traders many of which were associated with the launch of the secondary bond trading market.

Figure 8: Composite Price Index against the All Trinidad & Tobago Index



Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago and the Trinidad and Tobago Stock Exchange

NON BANK FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

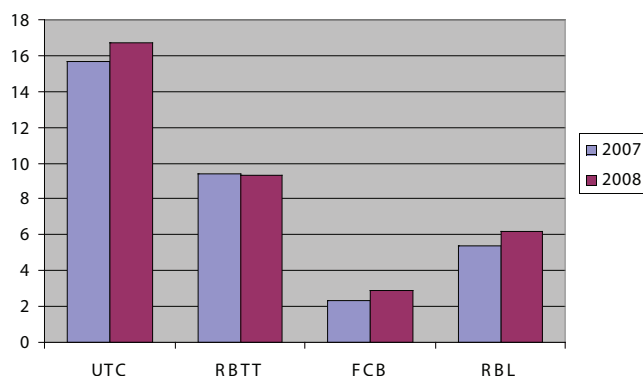
During the seven-month period, October 2007 to April 2008, cumulative Gross Investment in Trust and Mortgage Companies increased by 13.6 percent to \$25,253.6 million when compared to the corresponding period of 2006/2007. Over the period October 2007 to January 2008, Finance Companies' installment loan rates increased to an average of 10.38 percent from an average of 10.24 percent in the comparable period of 2006/2007. Total loans outstanding for Trust and

Mortgage Companies stood at \$2,028.4 million as at April 2008, a decline of 24.7 percent from its April 2007 value of \$2,692.9 million. Total assets of Finance Companies and Merchant Banks also declined by 11.3 percent from \$18,156.2 million at the end of April 2007 to \$16,104.9 million at the end of April 2008.

MUTUAL FUND INDUSTRY

During the period October 2007 to June 2008 total funds under management increased by 6.9 percent, from \$32.8 billion at the end of June 2007 to \$35.1 billion at the end of June 2008. The strongest growth was registered by First Citizens Asset Management Limited (FCB) which grew by 24.0 percent to \$2.9 billion as at June 2008. Republic Bank Limited's (RBL) family of mutual funds grew by 15.3 percent during the period under review to \$6.2 billion as at June 2008, with the Unit Trust Corporation's (UTC) funds growing by 6.4 percent to stand at \$16.7 billion (Figure 9).

Figure 9: Growth in Mutual Funds - June 30, 2007 to June 30, 2008



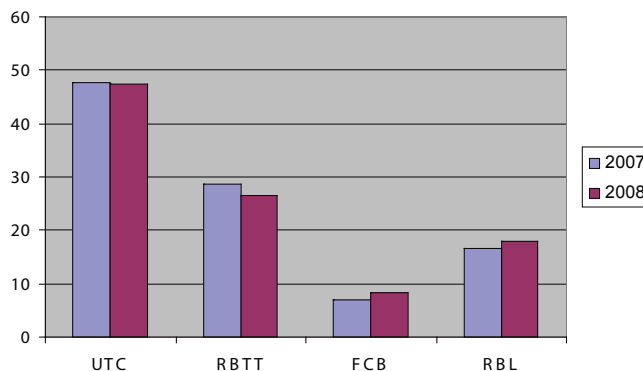
The RBTT Trust Limited's family of funds (RBTT) recorded a decline of 1.2 percent during the period under review, when compared to the comparative period of the previous year. At the close of June 2008, RBTT's total fund size stood at \$9.3 billion. This growth occurred against the backdrop of rising market interest rates stemming from the Central Bank's intensified

efforts to absorb excess liquidity through the issuance of various government securities. As interest rates increased the price of financial instruments including bonds decreased making such investments relatively more attractive and thereby contributing to increased levels of mutual funds investments. Additionally, the upswing in activity in the stock market has also contributed to the growth observed in the mutual funds industry.

Although the UTC registered a slower rate of growth than its competitors FCB and RBL during the period being considered and RBTT registered a decrease in its overall fund size, both companies maintained their positions as the largest and second largest fund size. The UTC's market share stood at 47.53 percent, a slight decline from last year's performance. RBTT's market share, when compared with last year's share also decreased slightly to 26.47 percent.

FCB and RBL both experienced marginal growth in market share over the nine month period ending June 2008. FCB's family of funds market share increased from 7.05 percent to 8.18 percent while RBL's market share increased to 17.82 percent from 16.52 percent. Figure 10 illustrates the relative importance of each provider within the sector which has not changed significantly over the period under consideration.

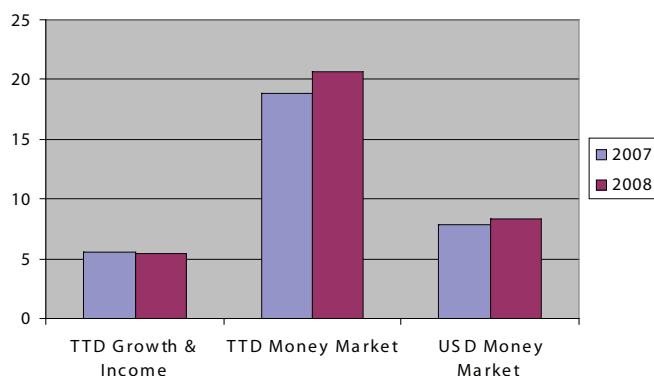
Figure 10: Market Share as at June 30, 2007 and June 30, 2008



Source: RBL, RBTT, FCB and UTC

In terms of fund type under management, Trinidad and Tobago Dollar (TTD) money market funds continue to be the largest contributor to funds under management, amongst the four mutual fund agencies under review. At the end of June 2008, funds under management in the TT money market segment of the industry amounted to \$20.7 billion, increasing from \$18.9 billion as at June 2007. United States Dollar (USD) money market funds represented the second largest fund type under management amounting to a TTD equivalent \$8.3 billion at the end of June 2008 compared to its value \$7.8 billion at the end of June 2007. The TTD Growth and Income funds continue to perform poorly in terms of funds under management with a value of \$5.4 billion as at June 30, 2008, a slight decline from its June 2007 value of \$5.5 billion (Figure 11).

Figure 11: Funds Under Management by Type as at June 30, 2007 and 2008



Source: RBL, RBTT, FCB and UTC

In terms of performance, despite its position of dominance within the mutual fund sector, the UTC registered reduced rates of returns for its funds during the period under analysis when compared to the comparative period of the previous year. Each of RBL's funds performed favourably recording increased rates of return. The money market sector of funds, in addition to being the largest contributor to funds under management, also performed most credibly in terms of returns, as opposed to equity based funds, registering increased returns for the period, when compared to last year's performance.

NEW FUNDS

Following the introduction of the UTC's Energy Fund in June 2007, this mutual fund provider launched a new group of funds in January of 2008; the International Suite of Funds comprising the Global Bond Fund, the Asia-Pacific Fund, the Latin American Fund and the European Fund. These new investment vehicles have widened available fund classifications in the market place from the traditional equity-based and money Market funds to include bond and sector funds.

TRADE AND PAYMENTS

- Balance of Payments
- Balance of Visible Trade
- CARICOM Trade

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

For the year 2007, the overall Balance of Payments posted a surplus of US\$1,541.1 million. The current account continues to show strong growth consequent to the performance of the merchandise account. The capital account however, weakened somewhat; recording a deficit of US\$3,839.8 million during the period. The overall surplus on the balance of payments increased by 37.7 percent from US\$1,118.8 million in 2006 to US\$1,541.1 million in 2007.

Current Account

The current account surplus grew by 11.9 percent in 2007 when compared with the corresponding period of the previous year. The favourable performance of the current account was due primarily to an increase of 8.8 percent in merchandise trade largely on account of a 30.1 percent increase in chemical exports arising from higher ammonia, urea and methanol prices.

Capital Account

The deficit on the capital account during 2007 expanded by 4.1 percent, from US\$3,689.9 million in 2006 to \$3,839.8 in 2007. This was due mainly to an increase in other private capital flows as the private sector continued to hold assets abroad in order to diversify its portfolio and spread its risk.

Foreign Reserves

Trinidad and Tobago's gross international reserves¹ increased by 17.7 percent, from US\$7,427.5 in 2006 to US\$8,740.5 in 2007. The reserves position at the end of 2007 represent 12.3 months of imports of goods and non-factor services.

BALANCE OF VISIBLE TRADE

During the period April 2007 to March 2008, Trinidad and Tobago's visible trade balance contracted to TT\$30,799.9 million compared to TT\$41,933.0 in the corresponding 2006/2007 period. This 26.6 percent reduction in the visible trade balance reflected a decrease of 27.5 percent in the balance of trade in mineral fuels² (15.8 percent decrease in exports and 21.5 percent increase in imports) (Appendix 26).

¹ Excluding the Heritage and Stabilisation Fund.

² Refined petroleum products and natural gas

Table 2: Summary Balance of Payments

	2003r	2004r	2005r	2006r	2007p
Current Account	984.7	1,647.1	3,594.0	4,808.7	5,380.9
Merchandise	1,293.2	1,508.7	3,947.7	5,257.5	5,721.4
Services	313.8	479.5	356.2	450.9	565.4
Income	(680.9)	(397.3)	(760.0)	(935.8)	(963.7)
Transfers	58.6	56.2	50.1	36.1	57.8
Capital Account	(737.2)	(1,115.5)	(2,118.1)	(3,689.9)	(3,839.8)
Official	(89.9)	(389.4)	(438.4)	(591.7)	(374.4)
State Enterprises	(10.2)	(10.7)	(10.7)	(10.7)	(10.5)
Private Sector (including net errors & omissions)	(637.1)	(715.4)	(1,669.0)	(3,087.5)	(3,454.9)
Overall Surplus/Deficit	247.5	531.6	1,475.9	1,118.8	1,541.1
Change in Reserves	(247.5)	(531.6)	(1,475.9)	(1,118.8)	(1,541.1)
Memo items:					
*Gross International Reserves	3,016.5	3,755.3	5,245.0	7,427.5	8,740.5
Import Cover (months)	6.1	6.2	9.3	11.3	12.3

Source: Central Bank
r: Revised e: Estimate
*Net Heritage and Stabilisation Fund

CARICOM TRADE

For the period April 2007 to March 2008, Trinidad and Tobago's balance of trade with CARICOM countries contracted by 37.4 percent, from TT\$14,273.7 million in the 2006/2007 period to TT \$8,929.9 million in the latter period.

The reduction in the balance of trade reflected a 47.7 percent fall in petroleum exports to CARICOM countries. Although the balance of trade (excluding petroleum) recorded a 1 percent increase, this was not sufficient to positively impact the overall balance of trade to CARICOM countries for the period (Appendix 25).

APPENDIX 1: GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AT CONSTANT (2000) PRICES /TT\$ MILLIONS

SECTOR	2004r	2005r	2006r	2007r	2008p
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT	71,355.2	75,193.6	85,193.2	89,876.5	93,024.5
PETROLEUM INDUSTRY	27,383.8	29,651.2	36,102.6	36,723.8	36,883.7
Exploration and Production	15,550.5	17,208.3	20,028.9	20,320.6	19,908.1
Refining (Incl Atlantic LNG)	6,419.1	6,531.2	9,208.7	9,524.1	9,944.9
Petrochemicals	3,044.4	3,637.2	4,192.9	4,094.7	4,095.8
Service Contractors	809.4	646.1	894.4	896.9	937.7
Distribution	1,547.3	1,612.6	1,756.0	1,854.5	1,968.7
Asphalt Production	13.1	15.8	21.7	33.0	28.5
NON-PETROLEUM INDUSTRY	43,698.8	45,345.3	48,519.5	52,236.2	54,750.0
Agriculture	459.1	434.1	390.1	400.1	434.7
Export Agriculture	12.9	27.5	5.6	8.0	6.7
Domestic Agriculture	357.4	378.6	317.0	317.0	351.0
Sugar:	88.8	28.0	67.5	75.1	77.0
Sugar refineries	(109.9)	(115.6)	(114.6)	(120.3)	(99.7)
Cane farming and cultivation	53.0	51.6	47.3	18.7	0.0
Distilleries	145.7	92.0	134.8	176.7	176.7
Manufacturing 1	5,009.5	5,684.6	6,387.7	7,342.6	7,654.1
Food, Beverages and Tobacco	2,129.7	2,496.3	2,706.9	3,301.1	3,724.4
Textile, Garments & Footwear	107.3	123.4	131.5	135.0	146.2
Printing, Publishing etc.	590.6	579.1	695.5	829.9	951.4
Wood & Related Products	136.3	167.5	160.4	151.5	135.6
Chemical & Non-Metallic Minerals	941.5	1,064.4	1,244.8	1,315.3	1,232.6
Assembly Type and Related Industries	949.9	1,048.8	1,243.5	1,394.1	1,262.7
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	154.2	205.1	205.1	215.7	201.1
Services	38,230.2	39,226.6	41,741.7	44,493.5	46,661.2
Electricity and Water	1,091.8	1,159.6	1,155.0	1,230.6	1,248.2
Construction and Quarrying	5,350.3	6,210.4	6,597.6	7,036.0	7,300.4
Distribution and Restaurants ²	8,714.9	9,103.0	10,480.3	10,828.6	11,077.7
Hotels and Guest Houses	257.2	320.9	245.4	272.0	333.8
Transport, Storage & Communication	5,447.5	5,317.3	5,822.6	6,468.6	6,999.3
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate etc.	10,726.0	10,464.6	10,634.1	11,790.0	12,833.1
Government	3,955.0	4,032.1	3,970.9	4,099.3	4,168.0
Education & Cultural Services	1,648.9	1,645.9	1,732.1	1,721.5	1,668.7
Personal Services	1,038.6	972.8	1,103.7	1,046.9	1,032.0
FISIM ³	(2,551.6)	(2,403.7)	(2,926.2)	(2,842.1)	(2,670.6)
Add: VALUE ADDED TAX (VAT)	2,824.2	2,600.9	3,497.3	3,758.6	4,061.4

Source: Central Statistical Office

1/ Excludes oil refining and petrochemical industries.

2/ Excludes distribution of petroleum products.

3/ Financial Intermediation Services Indirectly Measured.

Note: VAT which was previously excluded from constant prices, is now included in constant prices series.

r: revised p: provisional

APPENDIX 2: GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AT CONSTANT (2000) PRICES/PERCENTAGE CHANGE

SECTOR	2004r	2005r	2006r	2007r	2008p
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT	7.9	5.4	13.3	5.5	3.5
PETROLEUM INDUSTRY	8.2	8.3	21.8	1.7	0.4
Exploration and Production	8.3	10.7	16.4	1.5	(2.0)
Refining (Incl Atlantic LNG)	8.2	1.7	41.0	3.4	4.4
Petrochemicals	11.3	19.5	15.3	(2.3)	0.0
Service Contractors	4.7	(20.2)	38.4	0.3	4.5
Distribution	4.8	4.2	8.9	5.6	6.2
Asphalt Production	(35.5)	20.6	37.3	52.1	(13.6)
NON-PETROLEUM INDUSTRY	7.0	3.8	7.0	7.7	4.8
Agriculture	(34.2)	(5.4)	(10.1)	2.6	8.6
Export Agriculture	1.6	113.2	(79.6)	42.9	(16.3)
Domestic Agriculture	(11.1)	5.9	(16.3)	0.0	10.7
Sugar:	(68.7)	(68.5)	141.1	11.3	2.5
Sugar refineries	(42.4)	(5.2)	0.9	(5.0)	17.1
Cane farming and cultivation	(61.9)	(2.6)	(8.3)	(60.5)	(100.0)
Distilleries	(34.2)	(36.9)	46.5	31.1	0.0
Manufacturing 1	8.4	13.5	12.4	14.9	4.2
Food, Beverages and Tobacco	12.3	17.2	8.4	22.0	12.8
Textile, Garments & Footwear	26.5	15.0	6.6	2.7	8.3
Printing, Publishing etc.	5.2	(1.9)	20.1	19.3	14.6
Wood & Related Products	1.1	22.9	(4.2)	(5.5)	(10.5)
Chemical & Non-Metallic Minerals	5.8	13.1	16.9	5.7	(6.3)
Assembly Type and Related Industries	9.5	10.4	18.6	12.1	(9.4)
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	(17.9)	33.0	0.0	5.2	(6.8)
Services	7.7	2.6	6.4	6.6	4.9
Electricity and Water	3.2	6.2	(0.4)	6.5	1.4
Construction and Quarrying	8.1	16.1	6.2	6.6	3.8
Distribution and Restaurants ²	3.2	4.5	15.1	3.3	2.3
Hotels and Guest Houses	8.0	24.8	(23.5)	10.8	22.7
Transport, Storage & Communication	(0.8)	(2.4)	9.5	11.1	8.2
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate etc.	21.7	(2.4)	1.6	10.9	8.8
Government	0.6	1.9	(1.5)	3.2	1.7
Education & Cultural Services	6.8	(0.2)	5.2	(0.6)	(3.1)
Personal Services	(0.4)	(6.3)	13.5	(5.1)	(1.4)
FISIM ³	16.7	(5.8)	21.7	(2.9)	(6.0)
Add: VALUE ADDED TAX (VAT)	31.1	(7.9)	34.5	7.5	8.1

Source: Central Statistical Office

1/ Excludes oil refining and petrochemical industries.

2/ Excludes distribution of petroleum products.

3/ Financial Intermediation Services Indirectly Measured.

Note: VAT which was previously excluded from constant prices, is now included in constant prices series.

r: revised p: provisional

APPENDIX 3: GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AT MARKET PRICES (CURRENT PRICES)/TT\$ MILLIONS

SECTOR	2004r	2005r	2006r	2007r	2008p
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT	83,652.5	100,385.9	122,108.0	137,426.7	152,115.2
PETROLEUM INDUSTRY	32,344.6	46,188.4	60,047.9	62,895.7	70,454.0
Exploration and Production	18,147.6	24,223.3	32,397.6	32,314.3	38,572.0
Refining (Incl Atlantic LNG)	5,750.8	8,932.9	11,305.6	12,833.1	12,902.1
Petrochemicals	5,165.3	7,009.7	8,442.0	9,961.9	10,180.2
Service Contractors	1,713.3	2,978.6	4,336.9	4,534.1	4,633.2
Distribution	1,553.8	3,009.8	3,498.5	3,159.3	4,056.8
Asphalt Production	13.8	34.1	67.3	93.0	109.7
NON-PETROLEUM INDUSTRY	51,155.5	54,159.1	61,746.4	73,749.0	80,370.7
Agriculture	637.0	487.3	657.3	510.1	466.6
Export Agriculture	15.8	30.0	6.8	9.5	7.5
Domestic Agriculture	442.6	459.7	447.9	473.0	492.9
Sugar:	178.6	(2.4)	202.6	27.6	(33.8)
Sugar refineries	67.6	(50.2)	58.7	(29.4)	(68.2)
Cane farming and cultivation	48.4	37.6	34.8	22.6	0.0
Distilleries	62.6	10.2	109.1	34.4	34.4
Manufacturing 1	6,250.2	5,317.6	6,241.8	8,001.5	7,959.0
Food, Beverages and Tobacco	1,898.6	2,055.0	2,249.1	2,885.0	3,546.8
Textile, Garments & Footwear	105.9	98.8	105.9	108.8	118.0
Printing, Publishing etc.	565.3	447.8	531.6	628.2	715.2
Wood & Related Products	139.7	171.4	176.2	186.0	175.7
Chemical & Non-Metallic Minerals	1,375.9	1,330.3	1,571.2	1,730.9	1,603.6
Assembly Type and Related Industries	2,000.6	997.5	1,384.1	2,230.1	1,578.1
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	164.2	216.8	223.7	232.5	221.6
Services	44,268.3	48,354.2	54,847.3	65,237.4	71,945.1
Electricity and Water	946.8	889.9	981.5	1,534.4	1,392.9
Construction and Quarrying	5,938.8	7,452.5	8,576.9	11,468.7	14,308.7
Distribution and Restaurants ²	10,623.5	11,970.5	15,081.2	16,925.1	17,334.0
Hotels and Guest Houses	290.6	406.3	422.6	476.4	581.1
Transport, Storage & Communication	5,432.8	5,634.5	5,045.9	6,925.0	7,314.3
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate etc.	11,695.2	11,642.6	13,752.9	14,985.5	16,865.8
Government	5,963.8	6,675.3	6,987.5	8,783.5	9,455.0
Education and Cultural Services	2,254.6	2,590.5	2,700.5	2,855.0	3,348.4
Personal Services	1,122.2	1,092.1	1,298.3	1,283.8	1,344.9
FISIM ³	(3,018.5)	(3,040.7)	(4,010.4)	(4,203.0)	(4,342.5)
Add: VALUE ADDED TAX (VAT)	3,170.9	3,079.1	4,324.1	4,985.0	5,633.0

Source: Central Statistical Office

1/ Excludes oil refining and petrochemical industries.

2/ Excludes distribution of petroleum products.

3/ Financial Intermediation Services Indirectly Measured.

r: revised p: provisional

APPENDIX 4: GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AT MARKET PRICES (CURRENT PRICES)/PERCENTAGE CHANGE

SECTOR	2004r	2005r	2006r	2007r	2008p
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT	17.5	20.0	21.6	12.5	10.7
PETROLEUM INDUSTRY	26.3	42.8	30.0	4.7	12.0
Exploration and Production	21.9	33.5	33.7	(0.3)	19.4
Refining (Incl Atlantic LNG)	24.8	55.3	26.6	13.5	0.5
Petrochemicals	59.2	35.7	20.4	18.0	2.2
Service Contractors	15.7	73.9	45.6	4.5	2.2
Distribution	14.2	93.7	16.2	(9.7)	28.4
Asphalt Production	(51.1)	147.1	97.4	38.2	18.0
NON-PETROLEUM INDUSTRY	12.0	5.9	14.0	19.4	9.0
Agriculture	(5.6)	(23.5)	34.9	(22.4)	(8.5)
Export Agriculture	12.1	89.9	(77.3)	39.7	(21.1)
Domestic Agriculture	3.8	3.9	(2.6)	5.6	4.2
Sugar:	(23.6)	(101.3)	(8,541.7)	(86.4)	(222.5)
Sugar refineries	167.6	(174.3)	(216.9)	(150.1)	132.0
Cane farming and cultivation	(62.4)	(22.3)	(7.4)	(35.1)	(100.0)
Distilleries	(69.5)	(83.7)	969.6	(68.5)	0.0
Manufacturing 1	26.4	(14.9)	17.4	28.2	(0.5)
Food, Beverages and Tobacco	4.8	8.2	9.4	28.3	22.9
Textile, Garments & Footwear	26.7	(6.7)	7.2	2.7	8.4
Printing, Publishing etc.	5.1	(20.8)	18.7	18.2	13.8
Wood & Related Products	2.5	22.7	2.8	5.6	(5.5)
Chemical & Non-Metallic Minerals	52.3	(3.3)	18.1	10.2	(7.4)
Assembly Type and Related Industries	56.7	(50.1)	38.8	61.1	(29.2)
Miscellaneous Manufacturing	(16.1)	32.0	3.2	3.9	(4.7)
Services	10.5	9.2	13.4	18.9	10.3
Electricity and Water	5.6	(6.0)	10.3	56.3	(9.2)
Construction and Quarrying	14.3	25.5	15.1	33.7	24.8
Distribution and Restaurants ²	7.3	12.7	26.0	12.2	2.4
Hotels and Guest Houses	9.6	39.8	4.0	12.7	22.0
Transport, Storage & Communication	(4.2)	3.7	(10.4)	37.2	5.6
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate etc.	27.4	(0.4)	18.1	9.0	12.5
Government	7.3	11.9	4.7	25.7	7.6
Education and Cultural Services	(1.4)	14.9	4.2	5.7	17.3
Personal Services	1.3	(2.7)	18.9	(1.1)	4.8
FISIM ³	21.1	0.7	31.9	4.8	3.3
Add: VALUE ADDED TAX (VAT)	34.1	(2.9)	40.4	15.3	13.0

Source: Central Statistical Office

1/ Excludes oil refining and petrochemical industries.

2/ Excludes distribution of petroleum products.

3/ Financial Intermediation Services Indirectly Measured.

r: revised p: provisional

APPENDIX 5: DEVELOPMENT AND EXPLORATORY DRILLING AND DOMESTIC CRUDE PRODUCTION

Development And Exploratory Drilling	Oct '02/ Sep '03	Oct '03/ Sep '04	Oct '04/ Sep '05	Oct '05/ Sep '06	Oct '06/ Sep '07	Oct '06/ Apr '07	Oct '07/ Apr '08p
Total Depth Drilled*	148.6	151.7	114.3	160.1	186.4	116.6	107.0
Land	42.9	43.1	29.8	67.4	86.0	59.4	36.6
Marine	105.7	108.6	84.5	92.8	100.3	57.2	70.4
Development Drilling*	129.7	126.6	81.9	126.8	146.5	93.3	75.1
Exploratory Drilling*	18.9	25.1	32.4	33.3	39.8	23.3	32.0

Wells Drilled	Oct '02/ Sep '03	Oct '03/ Sep '04	Oct '04/ Sep '05	Oct '05/ Sep '06	Oct '06/ Sep '07	Oct '06/ Apr '07	Oct '07/ Apr '08p
No. of Wells Drilled	105	173	73	110	119	68	78
Development	99	161	65	99	105	60	69
Exploratory	6	12	8	11	14	8	9

Domestic Crude and Condensate Production	Oct '02/ Sep '03	Oct '03/ Sep '04	Oct '04/ Sep '05	Oct '05/ Sep '06	Oct '06/ Sep '07	Oct '06/ Apr '07	Oct '07/ Apr '08p
Total Crude and Condensate							
Millions of Barrels	50.03	46.70	49.77	54.10	45.38	26.99	24.68
Millions of Cubic Metres	7.95	7.42	7.91	8.60	7.20	4.29	3.92
Land (%)	18.2	19.6	17.9	15.9	18.5	18.2	20.8
Marine (%)	81.8	80.4	82.1	84.1	81.5	81.8	79.2
Crude Production							
Millions of Barrels	21.79	22.94	32.93	41.24	34.59	20.20	18.93
Millions of Cubic Metres	3.46	3.64	5.23	6.56	5.48	3.19	3.01
Condensate Production							
Millions of Barrels	28.24	23.76	16.84	12.86	10.79	6.79	5.75
Millions of Cubic Metres	4.49	3.78	2.68	2.04	1.72	1.10	0.91

Source: Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries

p: Provisional

*ALL FIGURES IN THOUSANDS OF METRES

APPENDIX 6: NATURAL GAS PRODUCTION AND UTILISATION /MILLIONS OF CUBIC METRES

	Oct '02/ Sep '03	Oct '03/ Sep '04	Oct '04/ Sep '05	Oct '05/ Sep '06	Oct '06/ Sep '07	Oct '06/ Apr '07	Oct '07/ Apr '08p
Production	25,488	29,672	33,053	39,296	41,250	23,828	24,537
Utilisation							
Fuel Use*	8,156	8,763	8,946	9,747	10,699	6,047	6,169
Processed	5,159	5,441	7,097	8,148	8,124	4,692	4,648
Vented	901	761	1,458	1,057	874	550	569
Gas Re-Injected	-	-	505	1,886	1,570	803	1,096
Natural Gas Liquids (NGL)	264	225	234	238	342	193	180
Liquified Natural Gas (LNG)	11,008	14,482	14,813	18,220	19,641	11,543	11,875

Source: Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries

p: Provisional

*Includes oil companies and refinery use, non-oil companies and Atlantic fuel

APPENDIX 7: PETROCHEMICALS PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS /TONNES '000

	Oct '02/ Sep '03	Oct '03/ Sep '04	Oct '04/ Sep '05	Oct '05/ Sep '06	Oct '06/ Sep '07	Oct '06/ Apr '07	Oct '07/ Apr '08p
Nitrogenous Fertilisers (Ammonia and Urea)							
Production	4,967.8	5,251.7	5,260.0	5,930.0	6,106.3	3,525.9**	3,344.5*
Exports	4,664.6	4,616.8	5,193.1	5,427.1	5,556.2	3,174.9**	3,064.5*
Methanol							
Production	2,846.4	3,064.4	4,242.6	5,919.1	6,050.3	3,438.1	3,428.7
Exports	2,811.3	2,762.2	4,188.2	5,931.6	5,907.3	3,206.1	3,548.6

Source: Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries

p: Provisional

* Ammonia production for Oct'07/Apr'08 totalled 2,940.3 thousand tonnes, and exports 2,648.8 thousand tonnes.

** Ammonia production for Oct'06/Apr'07 totalled 3,114.9 thousand tonnes, and exports 2,765.6 thousand tonnes.

APPENDIX 8: STEEL PRODUCTION/TONNES '000

	Oct '02/ Jun '03	Oct '03/ Jun '04	Oct '04/ Jun '05	Oct '05/ Jun '06	Oct '06/ May '07	Oct '07/ May '08p
Direct Reduced Iron						
Production	1,731.9	1,647.7	1,548.0	1,657.5	1,188.3	1,280.6
Exports	956.6	959.5	918.4	985.4	724.9	878.8
Local Sales	-	-	-	-	-	-
Billets						
Production	671.7	616.7	571.2	572.0	391.3	371.6
Exports	57.1	70.5	162.3	92.4	49.8	63.2
Local Sales	71.0	60.8	47.3	58.0	15.2	61.4
Wire Rods						
Production	501.0	492.4	338.7	386.9	317.2	268.0
Exports	514.2	446.7	301.1	377.4	278.9	248.7
Local Sales	23.4	33.0	26.4	28.5	33.0	36.0

Source: AcelorMittal Point Lisas Ltd.

p: Provisional

APPENDIX 9: CHANGE IN PRICES, PRODUCTIVITY AND AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS /PERCENTAGE CHANGE

		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	Jan - July 2007	Jan - July 2008
	Weights							
Index of Retail Prices Jan. 2003 = 100	1,000	3.8	3.7	6.8	8.3	7.9	4.6	8.7
Core	820		1.6	2.6	3.6	4.4	3.3	5.6
Food	180	13.8	12.8	23.0	23.2	17.4	7.7	15.6
Transport	167	0.6	4.4	2.9	1.7	3.9	3.2	1.7
Housing	262	0.1	2.7	2.5	2.9	4.2	2.7	6.5
Index of Productivity		12.1	4.1	9.3	7.6	11.0	4.4*	-1.2*
All workers/all industries 1995=100								
Index of Average Weekly Earnings		13.2	14.5	1.5	8.2	2.8	-4.4*	6.0*
All workers/all industries 1995=100								

Source: Central Statistical Office

* Data refers to January - March period

APPENDIX 10: POPULATION, LABOUR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT (MID-YEAR)

	2002**	2003**	2004**	2005**	2006**	2007**	2008**p
TOTAL POPULATION	1,275,705	1,282,447	1,290,646	1,294,494	1,297,944	1,303,188	1,308,587
% change	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4
TOTAL MALE	639,766	642,037	647,259	649,189	650,919	653,549	656,257
% change	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4
TOTAL FEMALE	635,939	640,410	643,387	645,305	647,025	649,639	652,330
% change	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4
Dependency Ratio (%)	45.8	46.5	48.0	48.0	48.0	48.0	48.0
Non Institutional Pop.15 yrs and over	961,800	968,300	973,600	979,000	978,300	980,900	983,600*
Labour Force***	586,200	596,500	613,400	623,700	625,200	622,400	620,800*
Persons Employed	525,100	534,100	562,200	574,000	586,200	587,800	588,400*
Persons Unemployed	61,100	62,400	51,100	49,700	39,100	34,600	32,600*
Participation Rate (%)	61.0	61.6	63.0	63.7	63.9	63.5	63.1*
Unemployment Rate (%)	10.4	10.5	8.3	8.0	6.2	5.6	5.3*
Births per 1,000 persons	14.13	14.00	14.23	13.80	13.70	13.95	14.12
Deaths per 1,000 persons	7.58	7.65	7.88	7.74	7.69	7.60	7.70
Crude Natural Growth Rate per 1,000	6.55	6.35	6.35	6.06	6.01	6.35	6.42

Source: Central Statistical Office

* Data refers to 1st quarter

** Figures based on 2000 census

*** Figures based on CSSP estimates

p: Provisional

APPENDIX 11: MID-YEAR ESTIMATES OF POPULATION BY AGE

	2002p	2003p	2004p	2005p	2006p	2007p	2008p
Total Population	1,275,705	1,282,447	1,290,646	1,294,494	1,297,944	1,303,188	1,308,587
Non-Institutional Population (All Ages)							
Under 15	320,748	320,612	327,104	328,080	328,954	330,283	331,651
15-19	125,050	125,951	141,579	142,001	142,380	142,955	143,547
20-24	116,170	117,007	114,489	114,830	115,136	115,601	116,080
25-29	107,284	108,057	98,769	99,064	99,328	99,729	100,142
30-34	101,449	102,179	94,258	94,539	94,791	95,174	95,569
35-39	102,215	102,952	104,871	105,184	105,464	105,890	106,329
40-44	93,454	94,127	92,396	92,671	92,918	93,293	93,680
45-49	79,488	80,060	76,498	76,726	76,931	77,242	77,562
50-54	61,594	62,038	63,832	64,022	64,193	64,452	64,719
55-59	48,106	48,453	47,540	47,681	47,808	48,002	48,201
60-64	34,478	34,726	37,940	38,053	38,155	38,309	38,468
Over 65	85,667	86,285	91,370	91,642	91,887	92,258	92,640

Source: Central Statistical Office

Figures based on 2000 census

APPENDIX 12: LABOUR FORCE BY INDUSTRY AND EMPLOYMENT STATUS (CSSP ESTIMATES)/HUNDREDS ('00)

	2006						2007						2008					
	Oct - Dec			Jan - Mar			Apr - Jun			Jul - Sep			Oct - Dec			Jan - Mar		
	Lab Force	Emp	Unemp Rate %	Lab Force	Emp	Unemp Rate %	Lab Force	Emp	Unemp Rate %	Lab Force	Emp	Unemp Rate %	Lab Force	Emp	Unemp Rate %	Lab Force	Emp	Unemp Rate %
Total Labour Force	6,284	5,968	5.0	6,154	5,751	6.5	6,167	5,797	6.0	6,259	5,933	5.2	6,314	6,031	4.5	6,208	5,884	5.3
Agriculture, Forestry, Hunting & Fishing	247	246	0.4	215	201	6.5	264	260	1.5	211	211	-	190	185	2.6	223	221	0.9
Sugar	17	12	35.3	31	24	22.6	13	7	38.5	9	6	33.3	9	3	66.7	14	8	42.9
Petroleum	203	194	3.9	238	220	7.6	232	214	7.8	236	227	3.8	206	199	3.9	197	184	7.6
Construction	1,124	990	11.9	1,116	967	13.4	1,185	1,055	11.1	1,184	1,050	11.3	1,154	1,048	9.2	1,172	1,064	9.3
Wholesale/Retail Trade, Restaurants & Hotels	1,190	1,148	3.5	1,197	1,130	5.6	1,081	1,012	6.4	1,153	1,095	5.1	1,154	1,094	5.2	1,167	1,089	6.6
Transport, Storage & Comm.	414	408	1.2	412	401	2.7	429	417	2.6	424	415	2.1	440	428	2.7	461	450	2.6
Finance, Insurance Real-Estate & Bus Services	540	525	2.6	494	476	3.4	523	500	4.6	494	483	2.2	530	523	1.5	490	477	2.7
Community Social & Personal Services	1,895	1,810	4.5	1,762	1,663	5.6	1,794	1,719	4.1	1,911	1,832	4.1	1,996	1,930	3.4	1,787	1,722	3.6
Electricity & Water	96	95	1.0	67	66	1.5	67	65	3.0	70	67	4.3	87	87	-	91	89	1.1
Other Manuf.	539	523	3.0	601	584	2.8	548	526	4.0	548	530	3.5	535	524	2.1	591	565	4.4
Other Mining & Quarrying	7	7	-	14	14	-	17	17	-	13	13	-	8	8	-	5	5	-
Not stated	10	8	10.0	5	4	20.0	10	2	70.0	5	5	-	4	3	25.0	7	7	-

Source: Central Statistical Office
p: Provisional

APPENDIX 13: EXCHANGE RATE FOR SELECTED CURRENCIES

Period Ending	US Dollar		Canadian Dollar		U.K. Pound Sterling		EURO	
	Buying	Selling	Buying	Selling	Buying	Selling	Buying	Selling
2001	6.1679	6.2314	3.9397	4.0916	8.7703	9.1134	5.4866	5.6490
2002	6.1746	6.2473	3.8622	4.0202	9.1236	9.4925	5.7352	5.9767
2003	6.2314	6.2952	4.3681	4.5563	9.9840	10.4060	6.8913	7.2095
2004	6.2440	6.2990	4.7107	4.9058	11.1953	11.6742	7.5880	7.9173
2005	6.2319	6.2996	5.0866	5.2849	11.1559	11.6325	7.6116	7.8664
2006	6.2495	6.3122	5.4430	5.6765	11.3205	11.8324	7.7202	8.0584
2007	6.2735	6.3282	5.7744	6.0402	12.2988	12.8852	8.4340	8.7985
2006								
April	6.2751	6.3306	5.4138	5.6413	10.8785	11.3585	7.5526	7.8835
May	6.2543	6.3191	5.5638	5.8004	11.4645	11.9775	7.8635	8.1969
June	6.2645	6.3201	5.5622	5.7931	11.3488	11.8490	7.7399	8.1270
July	6.2548	6.3111	5.4785	5.6930	11.3175	11.8532	7.7791	8.2162
August	6.2130	6.2891	5.4728	5.7352	11.5941	12.1143	7.8099	8.1952
September	6.2364	6.2957	5.5281	5.7589	11.5486	12.0845	7.8039	8.1115
October	6.2401	6.3093	5.4775	5.7119	11.5207	12.0372	7.7220	8.0652
November	6.2620	6.3153	5.4323	5.6700	11.7562	12.2911	7.9290	8.1914
December	6.2672	6.3148	5.3519	5.5843	12.0637	12.6141	8.1139	8.4226
2007								
January	6.2689	6.3254	5.2576	5.4808	12.0495	12.5980	8.0045	8.3551
February	6.2535	6.3192	5.2736	5.4906	12.0199	12.5858	8.0209	8.3556
March	6.2823	6.3288	5.3002	5.5210	11.9970	12.5501	8.1320	8.4826
April	6.2752	6.3221	5.4535	5.6829	12.2214	12.7901	8.3293	8.6703
May	6.2601	6.3152	5.6308	5.8751	12.1918	12.7494	8.3296	8.6557
June	6.2789	6.3230	5.8134	6.0528	12.2123	12.7531	8.2635	8.5759
July	6.2813	6.3350	5.8764	6.1571	12.5387	13.0988	8.4468	8.8334
August	6.2760	6.3311	5.7968	6.1041	12.3269	12.9260	8.3729	8.7673
September	6.2812	6.3315	5.9687	6.2693	12.3714	12.9857	8.5445	8.9264
October	6.2804	6.3337	6.3079	6.6170	12.5003	13.1579	8.7365	9.1245
November	6.2691	6.3367	6.3958	6.7156	12.7082	13.3400	8.9476	9.4075
December	6.2728	6.3347	6.1502	6.4382	12.3952	13.0303	9.0069	9.3456
2008								
January	6.2794	6.3354	6.1314	6.4085	12.0593	12.6984	9.0534	9.4770
February	6.2680	6.3335	6.1727	6.4654	12.0476	12.6170	9.0098	9.4809
March	6.2831	6.3359	6.2103	6.4777	12.2641	12.9057	9.4413	9.8962
April	6.2800	6.3302	6.1063	6.3681	12.1332	12.7365	9.6793	10.1177
May	6.2053	6.2896	6.1327	6.4169	11.9457	12.5671	9.4754	9.9476

Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

APPENDIX 14: MONEY SUPPLY/TT\$ MILLIONS

Period Ending	Currency in Circulation	Demand Deposits (adj)	Savings Deposits (adj)	Time Deposits (adj)	Foreign Currency Deposits* (adj)	Narrow Money (M1)	Broad Money (M2)
2001	1,373.50	5,322.10	6,634.30	3,869.70	4,995.40	6,695.60	17,199.60
2002	1,501.80	5,829.80	6,778.70	3,399.90	5,513.10	7,331.60	17,510.10
2003	1,708.60	5,600.80	8,264.20	3,019.60	4,296.10	7,309.40	18,593.30
2004	1,957.40	6,420.20	8,952.40	3,511.10	6,987.80	8,377.60	20,841.20
2005	2,425.40	9,890.70	9,967.30	5,729.00	7,362.30	12,316.10	28,012.40
2006	2,654.40	10,853.50	11,523.70	7,828.40	10,505.50	13,507.90	32,859.90
2007	3,182.80	11,939.30	13,001.70	9,186.10	11,923.50	15,122.10	37,309.90
2006							
June	2,391.70	9,987.20	10,769.80	6,587.90	8,543.90	12,378.90	29,736.50
July	2,447.20	9,247.10	10,805.10	6,809.20	8,750.50	11,694.30	29,308.60
August	2,400.40	8,786.20	11,020.20	6,949.60	8,509.70	11,186.60	29,156.40
September	2,459.20	9,490.80	10,962.80	7,562.60	8,195.20	11,950.00	30,475.40
October	2,491.20	9,441.00	11,140.10	8,053.90	8,493.10	11,932.20	31,126.20
November	2,522.40	8,957.10	11,645.70	8,188.40	8,776.40	11,479.50	31,313.60
December	2,654.40	10,853.50	11,523.70	7,828.40	10,505.50	13,507.90	32,859.90
2007							
January	2,508.10	9,100.10	11,227.60	8,468.30	10,563.80	11,608.10	31,304.00
February	2,593.50	8,540.50	11,490.80	8,083.00	11,608.70	11,134.00	30,707.80
March	2,706.10	9,310.00	11,775.40	7,666.10	12,921.00	12,016.10	31,457.60
April	2,709.70	8,838.10	11,702.00	7,915.80	12,372.60	11,547.80	31,165.60
May	2,710.00	8,765.30	11,803.40	8,118.70	11,991.00	11,475.30	31,397.40
June	2,788.60	9,840.90	12,083.60	8,387.80	10,936.90	12,629.50	33,100.80
July	2,794.70	9,408.20	12,202.20	8,732.10	11,587.90	12,202.90	33,137.10
August	2,874.20	9,261.50	12,424.10	9,539.00	11,536.90	12,135.70	34,098.80
September	2,929.50	9,583.30	12,591.80	9,245.50	11,428.30	12,512.80	34,350.10
October	2,906.00	10,039.50	12,736.40	9,350.10	12,048.70	12,945.50	35,032.10
November	3,101.70	10,481.20	13,018.60	9,355.60	11,840.00	13,582.90	35,957.20
December	3,182.80	11,939.30	13,001.70	9,186.10	11,923.50	15,122.10	37,309.90
2008							
January	3,099.20	10,333.60	13,033.70	9,172.40	11,880.20	13,432.80	35,638.90
February	3,162.00	10,389.00	13,330.80	9,783.30	12,451.40	13,551.00	36,665.10
March	3,225.90	11,007.40	13,829.30	10,573.20	12,781.00	14,233.30	38,635.80
April p	3,168.50	10,411.90	13,645.20	10,392.10	13,899.30	13,580.40	37,617.70

Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

*Foreign Currency Deposits includes - Foreign Currency Deposits at the Commercial Banks & Non-Banks

p: Provisional

APPENDIX 15: COMMERCIAL BANKS LIQUID ASSETS /TT\$ MILLIONS

Period Ending	Reserve Position		Deposit Liabilities (adj.)	Deposits at the Central Bank			Local Cash in Hand	Treasury Bills
	Required Reserves	Cash Reserves		Cash Reserves	Special Deposits	Total Deposits		
2001	2,694.0	2,682.7	14,966.7	2,682.7	783.1	3,465.8	469.8	532.8
2002	2,763.8	2,790.4	15,354.4	2,790.4	281.3	3,071.6	502.8	208.8
2003	2,327.5	2,333.8	16,625.0	2,233.8	621.5	2,955.3	586.1	124.6
2004	2,055.1	2,121.6	18,682.7	2,121.6	660.9	2,782.5	596.8	60.2
2005	2,601.9	3,672.5	23,653.6	3,672.5	1,000.0	4,672.5	566.0	415.1
2006	3,087.8	3,626.6	28,070.9	3,626.6	2,061.4	5,688.0	906.0	561.5
2007	3,625.4	3,928.0	32,958.2	3,928.0	2,158.6	6,086.6	1,022.5	567.4
2006								
April	2,694.9	2,808.6	24,499.1	2,808.6	1,000.0	3,808.6	520.6	446.3
May	2,769.2	3,154.6	25,174.5	3,154.6	1,000.0	4,154.6	526.3	304.3
June	2,846.3	3,543.9	25,875.5	3,543.9	1,500.0	5,043.9	507.1	359.9
July	2,841.1	3,757.4	25,828.2	3,757.4	1,500.0	5,257.4	462.4	141.1
August	2,890.1	3,192.0	26,273.6	3,192.0	1,500.0	4,692.0	515.5	380.7
September	2,944.6	4,215.4	26,769.1	4,215.4	1,500.0	5,715.4	486.3	345.7
October	3,048.9	3,457.1	27,717.3	3,457.1	2,054.3	5,511.5	554.1	1,339.9
November	3,052.3	3,293.3	27,748.2	3,293.3	2,055.0	5,348.3	594.2	603.1
December	3,087.8	3,626.6	28,070.9	3,626.6	2,061.4	5,688.0	906.0	561.5
2007								
January	3,179.0	3,304.5	28,900.0	3,304.5	2,078.0	5,382.5	565.5	229.7
February	3,188.6	3,424.5	28,987.3	3,424.5	2,079.7	5,504.2	625.7	127.7
March	3,131.6	3,716.3	28,469.1	3,716.3	2,069.4	5,785.7	522.5	265.6
April	3,125.3	3,095.0	28,411.8	3,095.0	2,068.2	5,163.3	462.9	86.4
May	3,159.5	3,251.7	28,722.7	3,251.7	2,074.5	5,326.2	581.4	86.4
June	3,222.4	4,083.8	29,294.5	4,083.8	2,083.9	6,167.7	503.8	86.4
July	3,272.2	3,715.8	29,747.3	3,715.8	2,096.7	5,812.4	557.1	621.9
August	3,404.7	3,797.0	30,951.8	3,797.0	2,119.0	5,916.0	542.7	587.4
September	3,478.1	4,248.9	31,619.1	4,248.9	2,132.4	6,381.3	505.3	588.1
October	3,478.8	4,050.1	31,625.5	4,050.1	2,132.5	6,182.6	608.4	587.2
November	3,577.4	3,724.8	32,521.8	3,724.8	2,150.4	5,875.2	524.7	599.0
December	3,625.4	3,928.0	32,958.2	3,928.0	2,158.6	6,086.6	1,022.5	567.4
2008								
January	3,701.9	3,720.9	33,653.6	3,720.9	2,172.0	5,892.8	775.3	513.7
February	4,308.4	4,688.9	33,141.5	4,688.9	2,161.7	6,850.6	518.9	518.7
March	4,398.3	5,619.1	33,833.1	5,619.1	2,175.4	7,794.6	627.2	630.9
April	4,558.5	4,729.9	35,065.4	4,729.9	2,193.2	6,923.1	657.4	770.9
May p	4,544.9	4,641.5	34,960.8	4,641.5	2,197.3	6,838.8	599.3	682.8

Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago
p: Provisional

APPENDIX 16: COMMERCIAL BANK DOMESTIC CREDIT /TT\$ MILLIONS

Period Ending	Central Government Credit	Public Sector	Private Sector	Total Credit
2001	-3,427.10	2,970.50	15,552.40	15,095.80
2002	-3,796.70	2,841.90	16,890.00	15,935.30
2003	-5,040.80	2,041.30	18,405.80	15,406.30
2004	-10,114.60	2,143.70	22,242.90	14,272.00
2005	-16,939.00	3,884.70	26,956.60	13,902.30
2006	-24,602.90	3,283.30	31,438.70	10,119.10
2007	-20,970.90	4,822.90	37,813.80	21,665.80
2006				
April	-23,091.30	3,595.20	27,158.80	7,662.70
May	-22,827.10	3,616.30	27,455.40	8,244.60
June	-24,058.30	3,421.10	27,839.20	7,202.00
July	-26,012.80	3,433.90	28,235.20	5,656.20
August	-24,908.00	3,319.90	29,057.00	7,468.80
September	-25,372.00	3,407.80	29,250.90	7,286.70
October	-26,328.50	3,224.90	30,049.70	6,946.10
November	-25,544.00	3,189.60	30,663.70	8,309.30
December	-24,602.90	3,283.30	31,438.70	10,119.00
2007				
January	-26,143.40	3,314.20	32,114.30	9,285.10
February	-26,090.40	3,399.30	32,183.20	9,492.00
March	-18,078.50	3,437.50	32,396.70	17,755.60
April	-19,123.60	3,549.40	32,733.80	17,159.60
May	-19,003.70	4,095.60	33,038.60	18,130.50
June	-19,547.00	3,546.50	34,309.60	18,309.10
July	-20,613.30	4,034.80	34,769.80	18,191.30
August	-19,546.50	4,026.90	35,143.80	19,624.10
September	-21,369.80	4,495.20	35,772.00	18,897.40
October	-21,069.00	4,449.70	36,518.10	19,898.80
November	-20,609.20	4,509.30	37,097.20	20,997.30
December	-20,970.90	4,822.90	37,813.80	21,665.80
2008				
January	-21,063.40	4,802.60	38,656.90	22,396.10
February	-22,057.30	4,205.80	39,527.30	21,675.80
March	-23,724.20	4,097.90	39,934.80	20,308.50
Apr p	-26,821.60	4,325.70	40,753.70	18,257.80

Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago
p: Provisional

APPENDIX 17: COMMERCIAL BANKS' INTEREST RATES

Period Ending	Basic Prime Rate	Prime Loan Rates			Real Estate Mortgage	Savings Ordinary	Special	Deposits		
		Term	Demand	Over-draft				3 Month	3 to 6 Month	6 to 12 Month
2001	15.00	16.00	15.00	15.50	16.00	3.00	5.25	6.60	6.75	7.80
2002	11.50	13.38	11.50	13.50	11.25	1.90	3.00	2.88	3.63	4.19
2003	11.50	11.25	11.50	11.50	12.50	2.03	3.00	3.06	3.54	4.19
2004	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	9.50	1.78	2.53	2.65	3.30	3.55
2005	9.00	9.06	9.00	9.06	9.31	1.46	2.38	2.65	3.06	3.51
2006	11.06	10.25	10.56	11.06	11.06	1.46	2.39	2.68	3.11	3.69
2007	11.75	10.63	11.75	11.75	11.75	1.46	2.39	2.90	3.36	3.88
2006										
April	10.50	10.00	10.50	10.50	10.50	1.46	2.39	2.68	3.11	3.69
May	10.50	10.00	10.50	10.50	10.63	1.46	2.39	2.68	3.11	3.50
June	11.00	10.25	11.00	11.00	11.00	1.46	2.40	2.06	3.11	3.69
July	11.13	10.25	11.00	11.13	11.13	1.46	2.39	2.14	3.21	3.88
August	11.38	10.50	11.25	11.38	11.50	1.46	2.39	3.08	3.25	3.88
September	11.50	10.50	10.50	11.50	11.63	1.46	2.39	2.75	3.25	3.88
October	11.75	10.63	10.63	11.75	11.63	1.46	2.40	2.20	2.83	3.25
November	11.75	10.63	11.75	11.75	11.75	1.40	2.08	1.73	2.68	3.38
December	11.75	10.63	11.75	11.75	11.75	1.40	2.39	2.35	2.93	3.38
2007										
January	11.75	10.63	11.75	11.75	11.75	1.46	2.39	2.86	3.36	4.10
February	11.75	10.63	11.75	11.75	11.75	1.46	2.39	2.86	3.36	4.10
March	11.75	10.63	11.75	11.75	11.75	1.46	2.39	2.84	3.36	3.85
April	11.75	10.63	11.75	11.75	11.75	1.46	2.39	3.05	3.36	3.85
May	11.75	10.63	11.75	11.75	11.75	1.46	2.39	3.05	3.36	3.85
June	11.75	10.63	11.75	11.75	11.75	1.46	2.39	2.84	3.36	3.85
July	11.75	10.63	11.75	11.75	11.75	1.46	2.39	2.90	3.36	3.85
August	11.75	10.63	11.75	11.75	11.75	1.78	2.39	2.90	4.73	3.91
September	11.75	10.63	11.75	11.75	11.75	1.78	2.39	2.90	4.33	3.88
October	11.75	10.63	11.75	11.75	11.75	1.78	2.39	2.84	4.33	3.88
November	11.75	9.50	11.75	11.75	11.75	1.78	2.39	3.35	3.75	4.00
December	11.75	10.63	11.75	11.75	11.75	1.78	2.40	3.50	3.65	4.00
2008										
January	11.75	10.63	11.75	11.75	11.75	1.78	2.40	3.35	3.83	4.00
February	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	11.75	1.78	2.39	3.11	3.73	4.00
March	12.25	12.25	12.25	12.25	10.88	1.78	2.39	2.90	4.16	4.00
April	12.25	12.25	12.25	12.25	10.88	1.88	2.39	2.94	3.75	4.00
May p	12.25	12.25	12.25	12.25	10.88	1.88	2.39	2.94	4.16	4.06

Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago
p: Provisional

APPENDIX 18: SECONDARY MARKET ACTIVITIES

Period Ending	Number of Transactions	Volume of Shares Traded (Mn)	Market Value (\$Mn)	Composite Index (Period End)
2001	6,609	124.0	1,058.0	434.0
2002	8,092	96.5	775.1	545.6
2003	16,690	409.6	2,303.2	694.1
2004	36,078	311.2	3,015.8	1,074.6
2005	32,316	193.5	3,918.1	1,067.4
2006	10,567	218.9	2,463.2	969.2
2007	17,733	119.4	2,138.1	982.0
2006				
June	1,464	7.5	174.1	920.3
July	1,378	12.0	140.8	901.9
August	1,292	9.9	69.7	879.7
September	1,291	4.3	49.0	868.8
October	1,487	13.3	147.8	864.0
November	1,793	45.2	246.2	898.1
December	1,862	58.3	392.8	969.2
2007				
January	2,063	16.1	315.4	974.6
February	1,801	10.5	277.0	951.6
March	1,554	8.9	187.0	929.1
April	1,367	4.5	59.9	941.7
May	1,413	6.0	155.3	907.9
June	1,265	4.8	59.8	918.8
July	1,390	5.2	87.9	904.9
August	1,374	12.1	115.9	917.0
September	1,620	19.8	419.0	936.6
October	1,760	14.0	158.0	946.0
November	1,219	10.9	96.8	957.2
December	907	6.6	206.1	982.0
2008				
January	1,214	6.1	64.3	984.4
February	1,416	13.5	151.4	983.7
March	1,467	7.6	137.7	992.9
April	3,196	17.4	279.8	1,065.5
May	3,146	18.0	250.8	1,141.1

Source: Trinidad and Tobago Stock Exchange

APPENDIX 19: CENTRAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL OPERATIONS

/TT\$ MILLIONS

	Oct '02/ Sep'03	Oct '03/ Sep'04	Oct '04/ Sep'05	Oct '05/ Sep '06	Oct '06/ Sep '07r	Oct '07/ Sep '08p
Total Revenue and Grants	17,366.6	20,885.4	29,647.8	38,910.9	40,064.4	52,635.3
Recurrent Revenue	17,346.2	20,878.2	29,638.7	38,906.9	40,034.8	52,597.3
Tax Revenue	15,167.6	18,429.3	26,568.4	35,084.0	35,601.1	47,288.6
Non-Tax Revenue	2,178.6	2,448.9	3,070.3	3,822.9	4,433.7	5,308.7
Capital Receipts	17.9	6.0	4.6	2.6	6.6	7.4
Grants	2.5	1.2	2.7	1.2	4.8	14.9
Total Expenditure and Net Lending	16,591.6	20,673.9	27,234.0	37,084.8	39,796.1	52,596.1
Recurrent Expenditure	15,623.0	18,933.6	24,328.4	32,219.5	31,134.7	41,607.1
Capital Expenditure and Net Lending	968.6	1,740.3	2,905.6	4,865.3	8,661.4	10,989.0
Current Account Balance	1,723.2	1,944.6	5,310.3	6,687.4	8,900.1	10,990.2
Overall Surplus/(Deficit)	775.0	211.5	2,413.8	1,826.1	268.3	39.2
Financing Requirements	-775.0	-211.5	-2,413.8	-1,826.1	-268.3	-39.2
External Financing (net)	11.9	-327.4	-1,273.3	-410.8	753.8	767.4
Domestic Financing (net)	-786.9	115.9	-1,140.5	-1,415.3	-1,022.1	-806.6

Source: Ministry of Finance

r : revised

p : provisional

APPENDIX 20: CENTRAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE

/TT\$ MILLIONS

	Oct '02/ Sep'03	Oct '03/ Sep'04	Oct '04/ Sep'05	Oct '05/ Sep '06	Oct '06/ Sep '07r	Oct '07/ Sep '08p
Total Revenue and Grants	17,366.6	20,885.4	29,647.8	38,910.9	40,064.4	52,635.3
Recurrent Revenue	17,346.2	20,878.2	29,638.7	38,906.9	40,034.8	52,597.3
Tax Revenue	15,167.6	18,429.3	26,568.4	35,084.0	35,601.1	47,288.6
Taxes on Income & Profits	10,308.6	12,332.3	20,181.9	27,444.7	27,113.0	36,460.3
of which:-						
Companies	6,524.6	7,940.5	13,971.8	21,580.4	21,003.1	29,500.7
Individuals	2,824.6	3,174.1	4,250.1	3,153.3	3,239.2	4,148.1
Withholding Taxes	310.0	371.6	535.6	813.2	1,175.0	891.8
Health Surcharge	143.9	176.3	187.1	168.4	170.2	189.0
Business Levy	73.5	112.7	146.0	150.4	138.2	223.0
Unemployment Fund	294.0	418.6	905.0	1,311.3	1,111.1	1,202.2
Green Fund	138.0	138.5	186.3	267.7	276.2	305.4
Taxes on Property	86.9	100.7	77.3	82.5	99.9	104.2
of which:-						
Land & Buildings	77.5	85.5	62.7	64.4	83.7	86.7
Taxes on Goods and Services	3,545.6	4,540.3	4,537.4	5,272.2	6,042.1	7,915.2
of which:-						
Excise Duties	967.7	990.0	1,071.2	575.4	613.6	668.0
VAT	2,120.5	3,092.4	2,962.6	4,184.1	4,829.0	6,628.0
Motor Vehicle Taxes & Duties	212.0	203.0	216.9	248.8	338.5	319.0
Taxes on International Trade	1,069.7	1,285.7	1,527.0	1,888.9	2,044.7	2,437.6
Of which:-						
Import Duties	1,019.0	1,239.9	1,463.4	1,831.4	2,004.2	2,385.1
Departure Tax	47.4	45.7	53.4	52.6	38.2	22.7
Other						
Stamp Duties	156.8	170.3	244.8	395.7	301.4	371.3
Non-Tax Revenue	2,178.6	2,448.9	3,070.3	3,822.9	4,433.7	5,308.7
Of which: -						
Royalty on Oil	1,008.0	1,096.3	1,231.2	1,680.3	1,682.7	1,781.2
Profits:Non-Financial Enterprises	383.4	476.4	935.9	857.3	738.8	418.4
Profits: Financial Enterprises	151.7	223.6	167.0	180.0	752.0	1,666.9
Interest Income	112.2	86.3	127.2	276.7	82.2	85.9
Administrative Fees and Charges	227.9	241.2	338.6	397.4	353.4	615.6
Capital Receipts	17.9	6.0	4.6	2.6	6.6	7.4
Grants	2.5	1.2	2.7	1.2	4.8	14.9

Source: Ministry of Finance
r: revised
p: provisional

APPENDIX 21: CENTRAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE AND NET LENDING /TT\$ MILLIONS

	Oct '02/ Sep'03	Oct '03/ Sep'04	Oct '04/ Sep'05	Oct '05/ Sep '06	Oct '06/ Sep '07r	Oct '07/ Sep '08p
Total Expenditure and Net Lending	16,591.6	20,673.9	27,234.0	37,084.8	39,796.1	52,596.1
Recurrent Expenditure	15,623.0	18,933.6	24,328.4	32,219.5	31,134.7	41,607.1
Wages and Salaries	4,547.7	4,814.8	5,309.2	5,455.6	6,221.3	7,084.3
Goods & Services	2,038.3	2,519.8	3,170.1	3,843.1	4,283.8	5,015.9
Interest Payments	2,591.9	2,396.3	2,541.5	2,453.3	2,698.1	2,805.8
of which:-						
Domestic	1,834.3	1,657.0	1,875.5	1,852.5	2,094.0	2,171.3
Foreign	757.6	739.3	666.0	600.8	604.1	634.5
Subsidies & Transfers	6,445.1	9,202.7	13,307.6	20,467.5	17,931.5	26,701.1
Capital Expenditure and Net Lending	968.6	1,740.3	2,905.6	4,865.3	8,661.4	10,989.0
of which:-						
Development Programme (PSIP)	1,121.8	1,892.6	3,031.9	1,844.4	4,117.9	4,465.0
Infrastructure Development Fund	0.0	0.0	0.0	3,023.0	3,683.4	5,570.5
Road Improvement Programme	39.9	46.8	44.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
GATE	0.0	0.0	102.2	250.0	458.0	450.0
Dollar for Dollar	35.7	51.0	2.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Net Lending	-228.8	-269.8	-277.5	-271.1	-39.2	-23.6

Source: Ministry of Finance
r: revised
p: provisional

APPENDIX 22: CENTRAL GOVERNMENT FINANCING TRANSACTION /TT\$ MILLIONS

	Oct '02/ Sep'03	Oct '03/ Sep'04	Oct '04/ Sep'05	Oct '05/ Sep'06	Oct '06/ Sep'07r	Oct '07/ Sep'08p
TOTAL FINANCING	-775.0	-211.5	-2,413.8	-1,826.1	-268.3	-39.2
NET EXTERNAL	11.9	-327.4	-1,273.3	-410.8	753.8	767.4
External Borrowings	471.8	233.0	285.4	195.2	2,010.2	1,137.3
Capital Repayments	-466.2	-560.4	-1,558.7	-606.0	-1,256.4	-369.9
NET DOMESTIC	-786.9	115.9	-1,140.5	-1,415.3	-1,022.1	-806.6
Domestic Borrowings	2,096.3	611.2	808.0	10.3	0.0	0.0
Capital Repayments	-2,505.5	-1,243.4	-1,763.9	-1,075.9	-996.3	-927.9
Sinking Fund Transfers	-630.6	-664.0	-624.9	-635.0	-654.9	-662.3

Source: Ministry of Finance
r: revised
p: provisional

APPENDIX 23: TOTAL PUBLIC DEBT AND DEBT SERVICE /TT\$ MILLIONS

	Oct '02/ Sep '03	Oct '03/ Sep'04	Oct '04/ Sep'05	Oct '05/ Sep'06	Oct '06/ Sep'07r	Oct '07/ Sep'08p
Gross Public Sector Debt	35,491.0	36,910.8	35,857.8	36,781.5	38,903.7	42,560.7
Gross Domestic Public Sector Debt	25,203.0	26,925.5	27,207.8	28,590.2	30,064.4	31,773.4
Gross External Public Sector Debt	10,288.0	9,985.3	8,650.1	8,191.3	8,839.3	10,787.2
CENTRAL GOVERNMENT	21,461.0	22,043.1	20,286.5	19,510.4	22,237.8	25,075.1
Domestic /1	10,457.0	11,383.0	11,045.6	10,717.7	12,820.0	13,730.6
External	9,988.0	9,660.2	8,373.1	7,953.7	8,639.3	10,623.4
BOLTs and Leases	1,066.0	999.9	867.8	839.0	778.5	721.1
CONTINGENT LIABILITIES	14,030.0	14,867.7	15,571.3	17,271.0	16,666.0	17,485.6
Guaranteed	10,706.0	11,421.5	11,171.6	11,387.6	11,163.8	11,636.4
Statutory Authorities	5,290.0	6,112.0	6,238.4	6,835.8	6,973.1	7,828.4
State Enterprises	5,416.0	5,309.5	4,933.2	4,551.9	4,190.7	3,808.0
Letters of Comfort	3,324.0	3,446.2	4,399.7	5,883.4	5,502.1	5,849.2
Statutory Authorities	255.0	505.5	1,431.1	1,587.3	2,117.9	2,281.9
State Enterprises	3,069.0	2,940.7	2,968.6	4,296.1	3,384.2	3,567.3
CENTRAL GOVERNMENT DEBT SERVICE	1,742.0	3,115.4	4,449.4	2,913.6	3,744.4	3,773.9
Domestic	985.0	1,819.4	2,227.6	1,709.2	1,886.1	2,786.5
External	757.0	1,296.0	2,221.8	1,204.4	1,858.2	987.4
	(% of GDP)					
Gross Public Sector Debt	49.9	44.1	35.7	30.1	28.3	28.0
Gross External Public Sector Debt	14.5	11.9	8.6	6.7	6.4	7.1
Central Government Debt	30.2	26.4	20.2	16.0	16.2	16.5
Contingent Liabilities	19.7	17.8	15.5	14.1	12.1	11.5

Source: Ministry of Finance

1. Treasury Bills and Notes issued for Open Market Operations (OMOs) are not included.

r : revised

p: provisional

APPENDIX 24: TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO - NET FOREIGN RESERVES /US\$ MILLIONS

	Central Bank			Gov't Balances	Commercial Banks			Gross Foreign Assets	Total Foreign Liabilities	Net Foreign Position
	Foreign Assets	Foreign Liabilities	Net Internat. Reserves		Foreign Assets	Foreign Liabilities	Net Foreign Position			
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
								(1)+(4)+(5)	(2)+(6)	(8)-(9)
2001	1,875.9	17.5	1,858.4	0.1	579.2	604.6	(25.4)	2,455.2	622.1	1,833.1
2002	1,923.5	16.2	1,907.3	0.1	670.4	616.5	53.9	2,594.0	632.6	1,961.4
2003	2,257.9	16.2	2,241.8	0.1	1,002.2	1,042.2	(39.9)	3,260.3	1,058.3	2,202.0
2004	2,992.9	16.2	2,976.7	0.1	1,262.0	740.5	521.6	4,255.0	756.6	3,498.4
2005	4,787.4	16.1	4,771.3	0.1	1,407.2	956.6	450.6	6,194.7	972.7	5,222.0
2006	6,776.6	16.1	6,760.5	0.1	1,945.8	753.1	1,192.7	8,722.6	769.2	7,953.3
2007	7,053.3	14.8	7,038.5	0.1	1,959.7	855.2	1,104.4	9,013.1	870.1	8,143.0
2006										
April	5,549.5	16.1	5,533.4	0.1	1,624.0	847.8	776.3	7,173.6	863.8	6,309.7
May	5,720.6	16.2	5,704.5	0.1	1,861.2	874.8	986.4	7,582.0	890.9	6,691.0
June	6,140.4	16.0	6,124.4	0.1	1,750.4	809.6	940.8	7,891.0	825.6	7,065.4
July	6,394.6	16.1	6,378.5	0.1	1,729.2	730.8	998.4	8,123.9	746.9	7,377.0
August	6,400.3	16.2	6,384.1	0.1	1,493.4	731.3	762.1	7,893.8	747.5	7,146.3
September	6,485.3	16.2	6,469.2	0.1	1,579.7	747.9	831.8	8,065.2	764.1	7,301.1
October	6,789.5	16.2	6,773.3	0.1	1,697.7	759.1	938.6	8,487.3	775.3	7,712.0
November	6,635.4	16.1	6,619.3	0.1	1,697.7	773.5	924.1	8,333.2	789.6	7,543.5
December	6,776.6	16.1	6,760.5	0.1	1,945.8	753.1	1,192.7	8,722.6	769.2	7,953.3
2007										
January	6,657.8	16.1	6,641.7	0.1	1,982.4	778.7	1,203.7	8,640.3	794.8	7,845.5
February	6,936.1	16.1	6,920.0	0.1	2,026.1	796.3	1,229.8	8,962.3	812.4	8,149.9
March	5,818.8	16.0	5,802.8	0.1	2,206.3	719.1	1,487.2	8,025.2	735.1	7,290.1
April	5,846.7	16.1	5,830.6	0.1	2,205.8	708.5	1,497.3	8,052.6	724.6	7,328.0
May	5,906.4	16.2	5,890.3	0.1	2,046.7	697.8	1,348.9	7,953.3	714.0	7,239.2
June	6,295.7	16.1	6,279.7	0.1	1,955.3	796.2	1,159.1	8,251.2	812.2	7,438.9
July	6,376.2	16.1	6,360.2	0.1	1,889.6	774.8	1,114.8	8,265.9	790.8	7,475.1
August	6,422.2	16.2	6,406.1	0.1	1,840.6	782.9	1,057.7	8,263.0	799.1	7,463.9
September	6,565.7	16.2	6,549.5	0.1	1,884.5	784.6	1,099.9	8,450.3	800.8	7,649.5
October	6,625.6	16.2	6,609.4	0.1	1,936.1	871.4	1,064.7	8,561.8	887.6	7,674.3
November	6,721.7	16.2	6,705.5	0.1	1,873.8	854.9	1,018.9	8,595.7	871.2	7,724.5
December	7,053.3	14.8	7,038.5	0.1	1,959.7	855.2	1,104.4	9,013.1	870.1	8,143.0
2008										
January	7,265.1	14.8	7,250.3	0.1	1,972.4	987.6	984.8	9,237.7	1,002.5	8,235.2
February	7,432.3	14.8	7,417.4	0.1	1,888.9	963.3	925.6	9,321.3	978.1	8,343.2
March	7,439.1	14.8	7,424.3	0.1	1,976.2	941.4	1,034.8	9,415.4	956.2	8,459.2
Apr	7,532.8	14.8	7,518.0	0.1	2,030.9	845.3	1,185.6	9,563.8	860.1	8,703.7
May p	7,550.3	14.8	7,535.5	0.1	1,972.7	882.1	1,090.6	9,523.1	896.9	8,626.2

Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago
P: Provisional

APPENDIX 25: TRADE WITH CARICOM COUNTRIES

/TT\$ MILLIONS

	Imports	Exports	Balance of Trade	Exports of Petroleum	Imports of Petroleum	Imports Excluding Petroleum	Exports Excluding Petroleum	Balance of Trade Excluding Petroleum
1997	602.2	4,065.5	3,463.3	1,832.2	226.2	376.0	2,233.3	1,857.3
1998	668.8	4,309.9	3,641.1	1,827.6	248.7	420.1	2,482.3	2,062.2
1999	827.9	4,708.1	3,880.2	2,323.3	454.6	373.3	2,384.8	2,011.5
2000	791.2	6,284.4	5,493.2	3,880.3	399.9	391.3	2,404.1	2,012.8
2001	750.8	6,415.2	5,664.4	3,808.7	218.2	532.6	2,606.5	2,073.9
2002	574.4	5,152.0	4,577.6	2,531.9	167.6	406.8	2,620.1	2,213.3
2003	588.9	6,585.5	5,996.6	4,146.8	69.0	519.9	2,438.7	1,918.8
2004	634.6	5,620.7	4,986.1	2,954.4	87.5	547.1	2,666.3	2,119.2
2005	700.2	13,153.1	12,452.9	9,931.0	126.6	573.6	3,222.1	2,648.5
2006r	611.1	15,528.3	14,917.2	12,027.2	158.7	452.4	3,501.1	3,048.7
2007p	762.0	11,445.1	10,683.1	7,556.0	177.9	584.1	3,889.1	3,305.0
Apr '06/Mar '07	616.2	14,889.9	14,273.7	11,188.9	139.9	476.3	3,701.0	3,224.7
Apr '07/Mar '08	732.4	9,662.3	8,929.9	5,849.4	162.7	569.7	3,812.9	3,243.2

Source: Central Statistical Office

p: provisional

r: revised

APPENDIX 26: BALANCE OF VISIBLE TRADE

/TT\$ MILLIONS

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006r	2007p	Apr '06/ Mar '07	Apr '07/ Mar '08p
Total Visible Trade									
Exports	25,748.7	24,062.3	32,600.3	41,049.2	62,629.9	88,469.8	84,383.8	85,122.9	81,608.7
Imports	22,210.8	21,885.4	24,501.4	30,673.2	35,887.9	40,892.2	48,329.5	43,189.9	50,808.8
Balance	3,537.9	2,176.9	8,098.9	10,376.0	26,742.0	47,577.6	36,054.3	41,933.0	30,799.9
Trade Excluding Mineral Fuels									
Exports	10,318.4	9,605.0	10,864.9	16,335.0	19,133.8	20,830.0	28,626.8	22,595.6	28,945.0
Imports	16,473.6	16,548.0	17,835.9	23,263.5	23,404.5	26,562.5	32,141.9	28,186.1	32,579.0
Balance	(6,155.2)	(6,943.0)	(6,971.0)	(6,928.5)	(4,270.7)	(5,732.5)	(3,515.1)	(5,590.5)	(3,634.0)
Trade Excluding Mineral Fuels U.P.A.									
Exports	23,491.3	24,048.0	32,505.6	41,049.2	62,079.4	88,469.8	84,383.8	85,122.9	81,608.7
Imports	22,147.8	21,835.2	24,432.4	30,609.1	35,781.1	40,768.7	48,151.6	43,050.0	50,646.1
Balance	1,343.5	2,212.8	8,073.2	10,440.1	26,298.3	47,701.1	36,232.2	42,072.9	30,962.6
Trade in Mineral Fuels non - U.P.A.									
Exports	13,172.9	14,443.0	21,640.7	24,714.2	42,945.6	67,639.8	55,757.0	62,527.3	52,663.7
Imports	5,674.2	5,287.2	6,596.5	7,345.6	12,376.6	14,206.2	16,009.7	14,863.9	18,067.1
Balance	7,498.7	9,155.8	15,044.2	17,368.6	30,569.0	53,433.6	39,747.3	47,663.4	34,596.6
Trade in Mineral Fuels UPA									
Exports	2,257.4	14.3	94.7	-	550.5	-	-	-	-
Imports	63.0	50.2	69.0	64.1	106.8	123.5	177.9	139.9	162.7
Balance	2,194.4	(35.9)	25.7	(64.1)	443.7	(123.5)	(177.9)	(139.9)	(162.7)
Trade in Mineral Fuels									
Exports	15,430.3	14,457.3	21,735.4	24,714.2	43,496.1	67,639.8	55,757.0	62,527.3	52,663.7
Imports	5,737.2	5,337.4	6,665.5	7,409.7	12,483.4	14,329.7	16,187.6	15,003.8	18,229.8
Balance	9,693.1	9,119.9	15,069.9	17,304.5	31,012.7	53,310.1	39,569.4	47,523.5	34,433.9

Source: Central Statistical Office
p: provisional
r: revised

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