

707

SECOND SESSION OF THE 12TH PARLIAMENT

FINANCIAL SCRUTINY UNIT

Office of the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

HEAD 28: Ministry of Health

ALLOCATION: \$5,713,891,890.00

A summary of the Ministry's Expenditure, Divisions and Projects. Financial Scrutiny Unit, Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

Publication

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About this Guide

This guide provides a summary of expenditure for the Ministry of Health (MoH) for the period 2016-2022. It provides Members of Parliament and stakeholders with an overview of the Ministry's responsibilities. The primary purpose of this guide is to consolidate the information contained within the various Budget Documents pertaining to the Ministry of Health, and provide readers with an analysis of same. This guide is based primarily on:

- ➤ the Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure for the financial year 2022;
- > the Draft Estimates of Development Programme for the financial year 2022;
- > the Public Sector Investment Programme 2022;
- > the Social Sector Investment Programme 2022; and
- > the Auditor General's Report on the Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the financial year 2020.

Head 28: Ministry of Health

Ministry Overview¹

The Ministry of Health is the national authority charged with oversight of the entire health system in Trinidad and Tobago. It plays a central role in the protection of the population's health and in ensuring that all organisations and institutions that produce health goods and services conform to standards of safety.

Vision

The Ministry of Health is a people-centred, caring, proactive institution that assures standards of excellence are achieved by all stakeholders that promote, protect and improve the health status of the people of Trinidad and Tobago.

Mission

To provide effective leadership for the health sector by focusing on evidence-based policy making, planning, monitoring, evaluation, collaboration and regulation. The Ministry of Health establishes national priorities for health and ensures an enabling environment for the delivery of a broad range of high quality, people-centred services from a mix of public and private providers.

Core Values

The critical values required to ensure accomplishment and fulfilment of the Ministry's Vision and Mission are:

- Professionalism The Ministry will ensure the most efficient and effective delivery of health services by trained and competent health personnel.
- Total Quality Commitment to excellence in our health care systems and all services.
- Client-centeredness Emphasis on the delivery of health services that are responsive to consumer needs and preferences.

¹ Ministry of Health website, About Us, accessed on October 5, 2021. https://health.gov.tt/about-us

- Evidence-based Relying upon research and information-driven decision-making at all levels.
- Visionary Providing proactive leadership to the sector.

The Ministry and the Regional Health Authorities

Responsibility for the provision of health care services in Trinidad and Tobago was devolved from the Ministry of Health to Regional Health Authorities (RHAs) with the passing of the Regional Health Authorities Act No. 5 in 1994. RHAs are autonomous bodies that own and operate health facilities in their respective Regions. There are currently five (5) RHAs which deliver public health care services to the population which include the:

- North West Regional Health Authority² (NWRHA) provides health services to approximately 500,000 persons residing in the catchment area bounded by St. Joseph in the east to Las Cuevas in the north, the Churchill Roosevelt Highway in the south and Carenage in the west. The Authority has oversight of 3 hospitals (Port of Spain General Hospital, St Ann's Hospital and St James Medical Complex) and 17 health centres;
- North Central Regional Health Authority³ (NCRHA) provides health services to the Primary Healthcare Clusters of Arima, Chaguanas and St. Joseph. The Authority has oversight of 2 primary care facilities (Arima Health Facility and Chaguanas Health Facility), 3 secondary care facilities (Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex (EWMSC), Mt. Hope Women's Hospital (MHWH) and the Caura Hospital) and 15 health centres, providing services to approximately 351,137 inhabitants;
- **South West Regional Health Authority**⁴ (SWRHA) provides services to approximately 600,000 inhabitants to a catchment area bounded by Freeport in the north-west, Icacos in the south-west, Moruga in the south-east and Tabaquite in the north-east. The authority has oversight of 2 hospitals, 3 district health facilities, 31 health centres and 2 extended care centres;

² NWRHA website, accessed October 5, 2021: http://www.nwrha.co.tt/

³ NCRHA website, accessed October 5, 2021: https://ncrha.co.tt/

⁴ SWRHA website, accessed October 5, 2021: http://www.swrha.co.tt/

• Eastern Regional Health Authority⁵ (ERHA) provides health care in 1 hospital and 16 health and outreach centres for the catchment population of approximately 120,000 from Matelot in the north to Guayaguayare, Rio Claro and Brothers Road in the south to Valencia in the east; and

• **Tobago Regional Health Authority**⁶ (TRHA) provides health care services through the Scarborough General Hospital and 19 primary care facilities. The TRHA falls under the purview of the Tobago House Assembly.

Improving Health Care Management

The Ministry of Health is firmly dedicated to continuously improving public health by increasing our resources to meet health care needs through:

- Significant improvements in the management and delivery of Emergency Services.
- Adoption of a comprehensive and strategic approach towards the development of human resources for the health sector.
- Ensuring that there is synergy and accountability through the institutional strengthening of the Regional Health Authorities and our Vertical Services.

Meeting the Tertiary Care Needs of Society's Vulnerable

The Ministry of Health stands committed to meet the tertiary care needs of society's most vulnerable. Some of the ways through which we are achieving this objective are:

- 1. The Children's Life Fund: This special fund is designed to provide finance for life-saving surgeries for our nation's precious children and was launched in 2010.
- 2. External Patient Programme: This programme was launched in 2014, funds essential surgeries at private health facilities.

Supporting patients' rights and services through health quality standards, policies and legislation

⁵ ERHA website, accessed October 5, 2021: http://www.erha.co.tt/

⁶ TRHA website, accessed October 5, 2021: https://trha.co.tt/alpha/

The Ministry of Health fully endorses and subscribes to the World Health Organization's (WHO) Charter of Patients' Rights and Obligations. Each Regional Health Authority oversees and runs a Quality/Customer Service Unit that aims as addressing the needs and concerns of the population. Additionally, senior citizens are assured of the respect they deserve and thus, are given preferred treatment at all public health institutions and pharmacies.

Improvement of the physical infrastructure of public health care facilities

The physical infrastructures of all public health facilities are consistently reviewed and upgraded where necessary, to ensure that they are fully capable facilitating first class health care for citizens.

Reducing the prevalence of communicable diseases, including HIV/AIDS

The Ministry of Health has continued to push and promote free, confidential HIV testing throughout Trinidad and Tobago in public spaces and through our public health facilities.

Addressing Chronic Diseases and Mental Health

The promotion of primary health care is the Ministry's main strategy to deal with the scourge of chronic disease in Trinidad and Tobago. We have been placing particular emphasis on wellness and health promotion to promote healthier lifestyles and self-empowerment among citizens.

The Human Resource (HR) Factor

The Health Sector in Trinidad and Tobago has been experiencing shortages and challenges with the supply of medical and allied professionals. The Ministry of Health has adopted a comprehensive and strategic approach towards the development of human resources for the health sector, which involves attracting foreign based nationals who may be considering returning home.

Services Provided

The Ministry of Health provides the following services to the citizens of the Trinidad and Tobago⁷:

- Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention;
- Ambulance and Transport Services;
- Audiology Services;
- Blood Transfusion / Donation;
- Cancer Care & Treatment;
- Chemistry, Food & Drugs Division;
- Children's Life Fund;
- The Chronic Disease
 Assistance Programme;
- County Medical Officers of Health;

- Dental Services;
- Environment Health;
- External Patient Programme;
- Hansen's Disease Treatment;
- Health Audiology Screening in Schools;
- Health Education;
- Immunization;
- Insect Vector Control;
- Interdisciplinary Child Development;
- Mental Health;
- Non-communicable Diseases (NCD);

- Nutrition and Metabolism;
- Occupational Health and Safety;
- Organ Transplanting;
- Pharmacy/ Drug Inspectorate;
- Public Health Inspectors;
- Sexual and Reproductive Health;
- Tobacco Control;
- Trinidad Public Health Laboratory;
- Veterinary Public Health;
- Women's Health.

- Children's LIFE Fund Board of Management;
- Dental Council of Trinidad and Tobago;
- Drug Advisory Committee;

Boards regulating the Practice of Medicine and Related Professions;

⁷ Ministry of Health website, Services, accessed October 5, 2021: https://health.gov.tt/services

- Emergency Medical Personnel Council of Trinidad and Tobago;
- Food Advisory Committee;
- Medical Council of Trinidad and Tobago;
- National Emergency Ambulance Service Authority;
- Nurses and Midwives Council of Trinidad and Tobago;
- Opticians Council of Trinidad and Tobago;
- Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals Board;
- Pharmacy Council of Trinidad and Tobago;
- Princess Elizabeth Home for Handicapped Children;
- Enterprises: Couva Medical and Multi-Training Facility Company Limited (Minority Owned)

Minister: The Honourable Terrence Devalsingh, MP⁸

Permanent Secretary (Accounting Officer): Mr. Asif Ali⁹

Deputy Permanent Secretaries: Ms. Brenda Jeffers and Ms. Melanie Noel

Chief Medical Officer: Dr. Roshan Parasram

⁸ Ibid

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⁹ Ministry of Health website, *The Executive Team*, accessed on October 5, 2021: https://health.gov.tt/executive-management-team

Key Statement from 2020 Standing Finance Committee

During the Standing Finance Committee debate of 2020¹⁰, the following statement was made in relation to the emphasis of the Ministry of Health for fiscal year 2020/2021:

"The issue of COVID has dominated Health for the past nine months or so. [...] I would like to sincerely thank every single health care worker in Trinidad and Tobago, and by extension, every single front line worker. In thanking health care workers, I thank everyone, from doctors, nurses, specialists, patient care, escorts, ENAs, wards maids, drivers, messengers. It was truly a team effort that saw, passing through the parallel health care system, over 4,000 patients in the past eight months or so, no small feat, whilst at the same time, the regular health care system operated.

It is this dedication to duty that has shown the way, not only in Trinidad and Tobago but elsewhere."

The Honourable Mr. Terrence Devalsingh, MP

Minister of Health

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¹⁰ Standing Finance Committee Hansard of the Ministry of Health, accessed October 5, 2021: http://www.ttparliament.org/legislations/hh20201016sfc.pdf

Auditor General's Report Findings for the Financial year 2020

Ref: pgs. 15, 33, 65, 99-100, 104, 110, 117, 133, 135 & 168-171¹¹

28 - MINISTRY OF HEALTH

EXTRACTS OF TREASURY STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF THE PUBLIC DEBT OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AS AT SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

LETTERS OF COMFORT ISSUED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AS AT SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

,				
STATE ENTERPRISE/	LENDING AGENCY	LOAN	BALANCE AS	BALANCE AS
STATUTORY BOARD		AMOUNT	AT SEPTEMBER	AT SEPTEMBER
			30, 2019	30, 2020
Regional Health Authorities				
South West Regional Health	Scotiabank Ltd	\$ 500,067,893.75	\$ 500,067,893.75	\$ 500,067,893.75
Authority (SWRHA)				
Eastern Regional Health Authority	Ansa Merchant Bank	\$ 750,000,000.00	\$ 500,000,000.00	\$ 750,000,000.00
(ERHA)	TT \$500Mn upsized to			
	\$750Mn			
TOTALS		\$ 1,250,067,893.75	\$ 1,000,067,893.75	\$ 1,250,067,894.00

¹¹ Report of the Auditor General on the Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the Financial Year ended September 30, 2020, accessed October 5, 2021: http://138.128.179.50/sites/default/files/Auditor-General-Report-2020.pdf

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2020

Head of Expenditure	Original	Supplementary	Total Approved	Actual	Variance - Less
	Estimates FY 2020	Estimates and	Estimates FY	Expenditure FY	Than Estimates
		Transfers	2020	2020	
28 - Ministry of Health	\$ 5,235,201,862.00	\$ 224,582,640.00	\$ 5,459,784,502.00	\$ 4,721,297,036.53	\$ 738,487,465.47

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT FUND

STATEMENT OF PAYMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

Agencies	AU/Sub- Head	Total Warrants Issued	Cheques Issued	Unexpended Balance
28 - Ministry of Health	16/28	\$ 290,851,873.00	\$ 290,851,813.23	\$ 59.77

ACCOUNTS OF ACCOUNTING OFFICERS

NOTES TO THE APPROPRIATION ACCOUNTS

Head 28 - Ministry of Health

Note 21 (ii) - Particulars in respect of Contracts already entered into but not yet completed

3.20 Two (2) contracts totalling \$138,286.00 were disclosed in the Note to the Accounts, however a Register of Contracts was not produced. A contract agreement for one of the contracts to the value of \$50,161.00 was also not produced.

ACCOUNTING FOR EXPENDITURE BY MINISTRIES AND DEPARTMENTS

TOTAL EXPENDITURE INCURRED - \$57,388,008,434.30

3.24 During the financial year 2020 expenditure was incurred under 42 Heads of Expenditure as detailed on the Statement of Expenditure included with the Treasury Statements. Table 3.1 below highlights those areas where expenditure was in excess of one billion dollars and reflects the percentage of total expenditure incurred.

Table 3.1 Actual Expenditure in Excess of \$1Bn

Head of Expenditure	Actual Expenditure Percentage of	
		Total Expenditure
28 - Ministry of Health	\$ 4,721,297,036.53	8.23

GRATUITIES TO CONTRACT OFFICERS

3.49 In July 2019, the Treasury instituted a transitional arrangement to decentralise the payment of contract gratuities to Ministries, Departments and Agencies. This arrangement provided for payments of contract gratuities by Accounting Officers from parliamentary allocations. However, before such payments could be made, Ministries and Departments had to submit contract documents to the Pensions Management Branch (PMB) of the Treasury for certification. This arrangement of submitting contract documents to the PMB ended on 30th September, 2020. For the financial year ended 30th September, 2020 Accounting Officers were responsible for payments of contract gratuities.

Ministry of Health

3.50 It was noted that one hundred and twenty-five (125) officers' contract gratuities (local and foreign officers' previous years' contracts) were estimated to be \$8,142,928.80. At the time of the audit scrutiny on 30th July, 2020, contract gratuities totalling \$24,672,928.80 were owed to eight hundred and fifty (850) officers who had completed their terms of employment. Therefore, as at 30th July, 2020, seven hundred and twenty-five (725) officers' contract gratuities amounting to \$16,530,000.00 were not budgeted for.

3.51 In addition, as at 30th June, 2020, it was also observed that contract gratuity payments to medical interns totalling \$1,336,080.00 was not included in the estimated amount of \$8,142,928.80.

MONITORING

3.80 Evidence of the Strategic Management and Executive Office (SMEO) monitoring the votes in respect of the COVID-19 expenditure to ensure funds were applied for the purposes intended was not seen.

Ministry of Health

3.84 The Ministry's response to the Circular reported expenditure to be \$112,025,268.87. The audited total of \$128,249,971.38 is inclusive of amounts transferred to the regional health authorities of \$109,307,050.44.

3.85 A senior Advisor of the Ministry by letter dated 25th February, 2021 provided a detailed listing of 'Private Sector Support to the Ministry of Health National Response to the Global COVID-19 Pandemic'. This listing indicated that total value of contributions as at 30th September, 2020 was \$11,114,866.02.

GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO COVID-19 RELATED EXPENDITURE AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER, 2020

3.65 For the period ended 30th September, 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic had an impact on the expenditure of Ministries and Departments. Allocations under items of expenditure such as 'Office Stationery and Supplies' and 'Material and Supplies' were utilised for the procurement of personal protective equipment (PPEs) and other COVID-19 related items of expenditure such as hand sanitisers and additional cleaning services. In response to the economic fallout arising out of certain governmental restrictions, during the period March, 2020 to September 2020, Cabinet made a number of decisions to provide economic relief aimed at supporting individuals and businesses. [...]

3.66 By Circular No. 6 dated 25th November, 2020, the Auditor General requested information from Ministries and Departments relating to COVID-19 expenditure for the year ended 30th September, 2020. Thirty-five (35) Ministries and Departments responded

to the Circular, five (5) Ministries and Departments did not respond. Of the responses received, nineteen (19) Ministries and Departments reported expenditure that differed from amounts assessed during audit examinations.

3.67 The reported expenditure totalled \$809,646,587.92 and the audited figures totalled \$1,178,606,973.09 resulting in a difference of \$368,960,385.17. Appendix 1, refers.

APPENDIX 1 - COVID-19 EXPENDITURE 2020

Ministry	Ministry \$	Audited \$	Remarks
28 - Ministry of Health	112,025,268.87	128,249,971.38	Audited figure inclusive or
			RHAs

ACCOUNTS OF RECEIVERS OF REVENUE

STATEMENTS OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

AUDIT OF REVENUE

HE1 - Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Health

4.17 The Statement of Receipts and Disbursements figure of \$1,574,425.00 represented the total revenue collected by the ministry as per Treasury Card. The ministry's revenue register recorded total revenue as \$789,035.00. This balance was not reconciled with the revenue recorded as collected by District Revenue Services and the Tobago House of Assembly on the ministry's behalf. The table below shows the differences between the records of the Ministry and the Comptroller of Accounts:

Revenue Item	Total Receipts recorded as	Total Receipts as per	Difference
	per Revenue Register	Treasury Cards	\$
	\$	\$	
03/06/HE1/002	335,475.00	386,250.00	50,775.00

03/06/HE1/003	4,250.00	35,100.00	30,850.00
03/06/HE1/004	41,850.00	190,340.00	148,490.00
03/06/HE1/005	103,225.00	410,175.00	306,950.00
03/06/HE1/006	0.00	57,140.00	57,140.00
03/06/HE1/007	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00
07/01/HE1/003	291,590.00	482,775.00	191,185.00
07/01/HE1/009	7,645.00	7,645.00	0.00
07/04/HE1/003	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	789,035.00	1,574,425.00	785,390.00

DEPOSITS

Reconciliation Statements

4.26 The Accounting Officer should comply with the Comptroller of Accounts Circular No. 8 dated August 13, 2020 paragraph 4 which states:- "All Accounting Officers/Heads of Departments are hereby advised that, you have a clear duty and responsibility to ensure that the Reconciliation Statement for each Deposit Account under your control for the Accounting year ended September 30, 2020 is delivered to the Auditor General and the Comptroller of Accounts on or before January 29, 2021 in accordance with paragraph 212 (3) of the Financial Instructions 1965 and the Minister of Finance Circular No.7 of 2009."

Ministry of Health

4.27 Reconciliation Statements in respect of three (3) Deposit Accounts totalling \$75,138.38 were not provided for audit examination. These are identified in the table below:

Head / Sub-Head

Balance as per Treasury Trial Balance

\$

111/006 - Almoner, General Hospital, Port of Spain	71,736.87
111/341 - Ministry of Health, 40% of Balance of Wages	3,206.31
111/366 - Ministry of Health, Development 5% Savings Bond	195.20
TOTAL	75,138.38

AUDIT OF COVID-19 EXPENDITURE AT MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS, REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITIES AND STATUTORY BODIES

REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITIES

Legal Framework

6.115 The regional health authorities were established by the Regional Health Authorities Act, Chapter 29:05. One of the main functions of an Authority is to provide efficient systems for the delivery of health care.

Directive

6.116 By Cabinet Minute dated 26th March, 2020, Cabinet accepted the recommendations of the Minister of Health for the provision of additional funding for the Ministry of Health to treat with the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic in the country. The additional funding which allowed the regional health authorities to treat with the pandemic was estimated at \$157,267,700.00.

EASTERN REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

Funding and Expenditure

6.117 Funding/reimbursements to the Authority for COVID-19 expenses amounted to \$9,553,292.47. The sum of \$5,479,298.47 was reimbursed to the Authority as at 30th September, 2020 and the sum of \$4,073,994.00 was reimbursed in the 2020/2021 financial year.

6.118 The COVID-19 expenditure of the Eastern Regional Health Authority as at 30th September, 2020 was verified as \$9,972,481.00.

Non-Monetary Donation

6.119 The value of the donated items as provided by the donor was verified as \$666,870.00.

NORTH-CENTRAL REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

6.120 An audit of COVID-19 expenditure was not carried out at the North-Central Regional Health Authority. The Authority did not respond to correspondence from the Auditor General's Department.

NORTH-WEST REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

Funding and Expenditure

6.121 The government funding to the Authority for COVID-19 was verified as \$10,196,702.19 and the expenditure was \$10,891,162.00. Internal Control.

6.122 There were instances of breakdowns in the internal control in the accounting system which are presented below.

6.123 Non-monetary donations at a reported value of \$135,364.53 were not recorded in the accounts of the Authority.

6.124 There were instances where source documents such as quotations, requisitions, delivery notes and invoices were not produced for audit verification of purchases under consumables, equipment and infrastructure.

6.125 Suction pumps at a total value of \$58,712.00 were categorized and posted as consumables instead of equipment. Other assets such as eight (8) infusions valued at \$90,000.00 were posted to the General Leger Account as Consumables instead of an asset account. An item of Minor Equipment valued at \$2,800.00 was posted to Administrative Expenses.

6.126 An overpayment to a supplier in the amount of \$84,375.00 was made under Equipment purchases. The error arose since the same Purchase Order and Quotation was used twice. The Finance Manager of the supplier informed the Authority of the overpayment and stated that the total overpayments made by the Authority was \$254,951.48 which included the \$84,375.00.

6.127 Three items of fixed assets valued \$8,785.00 were not entered in the Fixed Asset Register.

SOUTH-WEST REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

Expenditure

6.128 The total expenditure as verified from the Authority's Request for Reimbursement of Goods and Services – COVID-19 at 30th September 2020 was \$31,133,134.00.

Equipment

6.129 The Authority purchased four (4) items of fixed assets costing \$404,323.50 during the period June to August 2020. These were not capitalized and recorded in the Fixed Asset Module. In addition, the installation of 90 Health Care Cubicles for the sum of \$297,600.30 at a health care facility was also not capitalized. Donations

6.130 A listing of the Private Sector Support to the Ministry of Health's National Response to the Global COVID-19 Pandemic as at 30th September, 2020 was provided for audit. In addition, a listing detailing receipt of all donations for the financial year ended

30th September, 2020 was received from Management. Donations received were distributed to various Departments and facilities being managed by SWRHA.

6.131 On the listing received from Management, there were instances where donations were recorded without values. The Authority is yet to confirm receipt and assign market values in order to bring the transactions to account in the general ledger.

6.132 There were also items on the listing with values over \$1,000.00 which SWRHA has to confirm receipt and assign asset codes before they can be brought to account and included in the Fixed Asset Register.

6.133 The records of the Authority showed that 271 staff were recruited for COVID-19 as at 30th September, 2020. Payment vouchers and cheque remittances for the months of June to September 2020 with respect to the payment of 30 House Officers and 20 Registered Nurses were the only documents presented for the payment of salaries. This payment was made through the Inter-American Development Bank funding relating to COVID-19 expenditure and reflected in the Special Project general ledger account.

6.134 It could not be ascertained how the payment of salaries for the other 221 hired staff were accounted for in the general ledger since documentary evidence such as the cheque remittances were not produced for audit.

6.135 A schedule provided by the Authority showed that the staff cost for COVID-19 as at 30th September, 2020 was \$10,881,588.20

6.136 Bid Evaluation forms were not completed by the Authority indicating the reasons for selecting a supplier for the provision of goods and services. This was evident from seven purchase orders ranging from \$40,365.00 to \$297,600.30 in the months of April to August 2020.

6.137 The following documents were not produced for audit examination to enable a proper evaluation of the tendering process in the height of the COVID-19 pandemic:

- > Tender documents for the provision of goods and services (consumables) by suppliers for surgeon gowns, covers shoe disposal, decontamination and other services.
- ➤ Tender documents/files for the award of contracts for the provision of goods and services (Infrastructure) by suppliers for the supply and installation of tint at Debe UWI Hall of Residence, Paria Suites quarantine facilities, rental of portable shower units, power panels, power cable and overhead lightning at the UWI Debe Academic Building.
- ➤ Contract agreements for the engagement of suppliers for the provision of services to supply and install double sided partitions at Augustus Long Hospital, rental of portable shower units, power panels, power cable, overhead lightning, the supply and installation of tint in four buildings at UWI Debe Campus, supply and install plywood partition at UWI Debe Campus and the installation of health care cubicles at UWI Debe Academic Building.
- ➤ Pre-qualified contractors listing.
- > Schedule of COVID-19 related assets purchased which were transferred from the Special Project Account to the Asset Account.
- ➤ Monthly reports generated by Procurement and Contracts Department showing the number of Emergency Orders and review reports conducted to ensure that the use of Emergency Orders were properly justified. ¬ Schedule or report for the total accruals as at 30th September, 2020.

TOBAGO REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

Expenditure

6.138 As at 30th September, 2020, COVID-19 expenditure under Goods and Services exceeded the amount received via releases by \$2,527,843.23 as follows:

Expenditure \$11,027,843.23

Release for COVID-19 Expenditure-Goods and Services	\$ 8,500,000.00
Excess Expenditure	\$ 2,527,843.23

Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) 2021 Achievements¹²

Ref: pages 58-68, 147-148

The Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP), which represents the capital expenditure component of the National Budget, is the instrument used by Government to effect its vision and policies. It is a budgeting and strategic planning tool made up of projects and programmes, designed to realise the goals set out in the Government's overarching policy.

The PSIP budget document provides a detailed description of the programmes and projects and includes a review of the implementation of projects and programmes in the previous financial year and highlights the major projects and programmes to be implemented in the upcoming financial year.

The Public Sector Investment Programme is intended to:

- the country's social and economic development goals; and
- enhance the quality of life of all citizens.

VISION 2030 - PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST: NURTURING OUR GREATEST ASSET

The protection of the population's health and the provision of access to well-coordinated, patient-centred services within the public health system remained a top priority of Government in fiscal 2021, particularly within the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. To this end, Government continued its efforts towards developing a sustainable and modern healthcare system, empowering citizens to lead healthy lifestyles and strengthening the national COVID-19 response, while simultaneously bolstering the operations of the rest of the healthcare system.

¹² Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Public Sector Investment Programme 2022, accessed October 5, 2021: https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Public-Sector-Investment-Programme-2022.pdf

A provision of \$597.3 million was allocated to the Ministry of Health in fiscal 2021. The Ministry's work on the management of safe and quality health services, administered across the country through the Regional Health Authorities (RHAs), entailed increased investment in human resources and equipment specifically for the operations of the parallel health care system, as well as the procurement of modern, essential equipment for health facilities, investment in improving public health infrastructure, policy interventions and behavioural change initiatives for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, financial assistance for specialised healthcare and leveraging use of information systems to transform the health sector.

➤ **NOTE:** For information about PSIP initiatives in FY 2021 related to COVID-19, please see the 2022 COVID-19 Budget Guide.

Medical Equipment Upgrade Programme

A critical aspect of quality healthcare delivery is the availability of modern and effective medical equipment and devices. These tools are required to enable medical practitioners to perform diagnostic, treatment and care functions effectively. To this end, a total of \$16.5 million was allocated for the provision of a range of specialised equipment for facilities across the RHAs. The table below identifies some of the equipment for which contracts were awarded by RHA's in fiscal 2021.

Regional Health Authority	Medical Equipment
NWRHA	One (1) portable ultrasound machine for the Port of Spain General Hospital (POSGH)
NWRHA	Twenty (20) patient trolleys for the POSGH
NWRHA	One (1) ambulance for the St. James Medical Complex
NWRHA	Twenty (20) vital signs monitors for St. Ann's Hospital
NWRHA	One (1) tissue processor (to improve Laboratory services) for the Histology Department at POSGH
SWRHA	Neurosurgical equipment for SFGH
SWRHA	Medical equipment for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at SFGH

SWRHA	Thirteen (13) multigas monitors and 13 anaesthetic machines for the Main Operating Theatre at SFGH		
SWRHA	Seven (7) ventilators for SFGH		
SWRHA	Seven (7) electrosurgical generators for the Main Operating Theatres at SFGH		
ERHA	Two (2) orthopaedic drill systems for the Sangre Grande Hospital (SGH)		
ERHA	Four (4) incubators for the NICU at the SGH		
ERHA	One (1) laparoscopic tower and accessories for the Operating Theatre at the SGH		
ERHA	One (1) mammogram machine for the Radiology Department at the SGH		
ERHA	One (1) yag laser for the Ophthalmology Department at the SGH		
NCRHA	Four (4) difficult airway kits for the Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex (EWMSC)		
NCRHA	Twenty (20) Patient-Controlled Analgesia (PCA) pumps for the Operating Theatre at EWMSC		
NCRHA	One (1) plasmapheresis machine at the EWMSC (used in a lifesaving procedure where		
	the plasma component of the blood is removed and replaced by another solution)		
NCRHA	Three (3) autopsy tables for the EWMSC		

Improving Public Health Facilities

The number and quality of health facilities in a country is one measure of the nation's prosperity and quality of life. As such, Government has made considerable investment to ensure that the citizenry has access to the necessary infrastructure for the delivery of public health services. This investment entailed increasing the suite of healthcare facilities through the construction of new hospitals and health centres as well as the redevelopment of existing hospital facilities.

Sangre Grande Hospital

An allocation of \$55.0 million was made for the execution of construction works for the new one hundred and six (106) bed hospital in Sangre Grande, project managed by UDeCOTT. In fiscal 2021, foundation works and shear walls were completed and the installation of structural steel columns and beams were 79 percent completed. Overall project completion is 45 percent.

Re-Development of Port of Spain General Hospital

Government through UDeCOTT, has embarked on the construction of a new Central Block at Port of Spain General Hospital to replace the old Block's aged infrastructure. The state-of-the-art, thirteen (13) storey, five hundred and forty (540) bed tower will include accident and emergency services, an operating theatre and recovery room, Intensive Care Unit, High Dependency Unit and ancillary services. In fiscal 2021, the sum of \$2.48 million was expended on the commencement of phase two (2) works. Site works to the foundation and ground floor slab and the erection of tower cranes were completed. Ground floor shear wall rebar fabrication was 45 percent completed and scaffolding erection commenced. Overall works on the project are 23 percent completed.

Diego Martin Health Centre

Funds in the sum of \$2.9 million were expended on the construction of the new Diego Martin Health Centre at Wendy Fitzwilliam Boulevard. Works on the Advanced Health Centre were completed in October 2020 and the project is in the defects liability period. The new Health Centre offers an increased range of medical services for patients in the North West region, including specialty clinic services, dental, imaging and antenatal services.

Health Services Support Programme

Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) and their associated risk factors remain the leading cause of morbidity and premature death in Trinidad and Tobago. To this end, on August 12, 2016 the Government entered into a five (5) year loan operation with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) for the Health Services Support Programme on, aimed at preventing and controlling risk

factors and non-communicable diseases among adults and primary and secondary school students. The loan amount is equivalent to US \$51.9 million.

In fiscal 2021, funds in the sum of TT \$60.6 million were allocated under the PSIP for implementation of the four (4) components of the project as follows:

- Implementation of NCD prevention and control plan;
- Execution of human resources for health plan;
- Implementation of e-Health Information Management Systems (e-HIMS); and
- Strengthening of health facilities investment management.

Some of the main achievements under the aforementioned components included:

- development of six (6) policies related to NCD prevention including a National Health Promotion Policy, Child Obesity Prevention Policy, Mental Health Policy, Food Labelling Policy, Infant and Young Child Feeding - Breastfeeding Policy and a Health Promoting School Policy;
- o implementation of the Healthy Schools TT initiative (which is aimed at increasing physical activity and reducing overweight and obesity among the youth population) across a total of six hundred and twenty-three (623) schools, with contracts awarded for the provision of physical activity equipment in four hundred and seventy-nine (479) primary schools, letters for contract award issued to provide equipment for one hundred and thirty-four (134) secondary schools and contracts to be awarded for ten (10) special education schools;
- o implementation of the Healthy Youth Wellness TT community-based initiative with physical activity equipment provided to six (6) Youth Centers;
- o contracts were awarded for the supply of equipment to deliver early detection and management services for the Lung Cancer/Thoracic Malignancy Unit of the North Central Regional Health Authority.

In addition to the planned Programme activities, during the financial year, the Ministry of Health received approval from the IDB, through an amendatory contract, to reallocate funds totalling USD \$14.8 million to support the national response to COVID-19. These funds were utilised to address the following priority activities:

- procurement of COVID-19 vaccines through the COVAX facility;
- procurement of medical equipment, including testing kits and supplies for twenty sites across the Ministry, North Central Regional Health Authority (NCRHA) and North West Regional Health Authority (NWRHA);
- recruitment of three hundred and seventy-three (373) healthcare providers to support the COVID-19 response;
- training of healthcare personnel in COVID-19 treatment facilities; and
- development and implementation of COVID-19 behaviour change communication (BCC) campaigns, phases one (1) and two (2). The phase three (3) BCC campaign was also initiated to support the vaccine programme.

Specialised Healthcare Services

In addition to Government's efforts towards the prevention of NCD's, the Ministry of Health provides access to specialised healthcare services at private institutions based on the increasing demand on the public system. A total of \$100 million was allocated under the Special Programme – Renal Dialysis in fiscal 2021, to meet outstanding costs for dialysis services provided by private medical facilities. Of this allocation, funds in the sum of \$93.5 million were expended. An estimated one thousand, one hundred and twenty (1,120) patients were beneficiaries of the programme, with two hundred and seventy- two (272) new patients added to the list.

The sum of \$15.0 million was also expended under the Special Programme for the provision of cardiac services at private institutions. Five hundred and seventeen (517) patients were approved for cardiac procedures which included angiograms, angioplasty and coronary artery bypass grafting procedures.

A further \$2.2 million was expended under the project Waiting List for Surgery which facilitates key services such as cataract surgery, joint replacement surgery, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and computerised tomography (CT) scan services. An estimated three hundred and fiftysix (356) applications were received.

Information Technology in Public Health Service Delivery

The development of enhanced information technology and its use in the public health system is essential for improving the quality of service delivery to the citizenry. To this end, Government has commenced work on the establishment of a health information system for public health facilities. The Ministry of Health engaged the services of iGovTT for the first phase of this initiative, which entails the development of an information system for Arima and Point Fortin hospitals. An allocation of \$20.0 million was provided and the Ministry hired a subject matter expert to develop the requirements for the solution for both hospitals inclusive of electronic medical records, NCD registries, training and change management. Stakeholder consultations were also conducted across all the RHAs in Trinidad and Tobago for meaningful input in the development of the requirements. iGovTT completed the procurement process for the information system and a contract is to be awarded.

HIV and AIDS

The National AIDS Coordinating Committee (NACC) Secretariat under the purview of the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) is responsible for the management and coordination of the national HIV and AIDS response. The Committee was mandated by Government to develop a national HIV and AIDS Policy to provide an overarching framework to guide the HIV and AIDS response The project Finalisation, Launch and Dissemination of the National HIV and AIDS Policy received an allocation of \$0.1 million. The procurement process to engage a consultant was unsuccessful and a decision was taken to postpone the process until fiscal 2022 in response to the COVID-19 measures.

As an integral part of the vision for people-centered development, Government has placed sustained efforts on community development as a key driver of this vision. To this end, the Ministry of Sport and Community Development (MSCD) pursued community building interventions to address the needs and development aspirations of communities.

VISION 2030 - DELIVERING GOOD GOVERNANCE AND SERVICE EXCELLENCE

Public Buildings

The Ministry of Health commenced work on the project Equipping of the Chemistry Food and Drugs Laboratory which aims to provide furnishing and equipping for seven (7) laboratories. The equipment will include an autoclave/steam sterilizer, automated gas chromatograph, gravity meter, microwave digestion unit, mercury analyser, solids and moisture analyser, protein analyser, fat analyser and a lab density meter. Work also started on the design, construction, outfitting and maintenance of the Ministry of Health, Administrative Building utilising a Build-Own-Lease-Transfer (BOLT) arrangement between UDeCOTT and NH International. A multi-storey carpark is also being constructed at the San Fernando General Hospital compound;

Social Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) 2021 Achievements¹³

Ref: pages 40-41

THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SITUATION

A. Healthcare Achievements

Achievements of the MOH for fiscal 2021 included:

- Maintaining a parallel health care system specifically for the treatment and care of COVID-19 patients and ensuring continued and uninterrupted Health Care Services;
- The continued performance of a Multi-Sectoral Committee to guide public health mitigation of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- The development of guidelines for the operations of various public facilities, educational institutions, and businesses such as schools, restaurants, fitness centres, public Homes for Children, as well as the Aged;
- The development of a Vaccination Deployment Plan inclusive of procurement strategies, logistics and supply chain, distribution and sites location and monitoring and evaluation;
- Ensuring no shortages of Pharm and No-Pharm items;
- Expansion of renal dialysis treatment and organ transplant programmes;
- Continued provision of the Adult Cardiac Programme, both at public sector hospitals and private health care providers;
- Continued provision of relief through the External Patient Programme;
- Access to health programmes through the Children's Life Fund;
- Recruitment of foreign health care professionals through bilateral agreements to work in the public health sector; and
- Development of the strategic planning framework and operationalisation of the National Mental Health Policy

¹³ Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Social Sector Investment Programme 2022, accessed October 5, 2021: https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Social-Sector-Investment-Programme-2022.pdf

- Continued implementation of the Insect Vector Control strategies, National Action Plan for Malaria and Standard Operating Procedures, as well as the Expanded Immunisation Programme;
- Introduced a new World Health Organisation (WHO)approved treatment for persons exposed to the Hansen's disease; and
- Opening of the Diego Martin Health Centre

The Ministry's total allocation as a percentage of the National Budget for the period 2016 to 2022

Year ¹⁴	Total Allocation ¹⁵	National Budget ¹⁶	Percentage of National Budget
2016	\$ 5,085,696,460.00	\$ 56,573,913,053.00	9.0%
2017	\$ 4,045,271,997.00	\$ 54,883,153,410.00	7.4%
2018	\$ 4,886,922,382.00	\$ 54,211,726,813.00	9.0%
2019	\$ 4,755,450,506.00	\$ 54,581,467,181.00	8.7%
2020	\$ 4,721,297,037.00	\$ 57,388,076,726.00	8.2%
2021	\$ 5,283,046,387.00	\$ 57,292,169,264.00	9.2%
2022	\$ 5,440,391,890.00	\$ 57,917,018,000.00	9.4%

• Total allocation for the Ministry of Health as a percentage of the National Budget showed an increase of **0.2**% between the period **2020/2021** and **2021/2022**.

¹⁴ For the Fiscal Years 2016-2020, actual figures were used to calculate the Ministry's total allocation. However, estimates were used to calculate the total allocation for the Fiscal Years 2021 and 2022.

¹⁵ Total Allocation for the Ministry of Health = Recurrent Expenditure + Consolidated Fund Expenditure

¹⁶ The National Budget = Total Recurrent Expenditure + Development Programme Expenditure: Consolidated Fund

2020/2021 Budget Supplementations

During fiscal 2020/2021, it was necessary to have a Supplementation of Appropriation of resources to fund urgent and critical Recurrent and Capital Expenditure in areas where insufficient or no allocation was provided. The source of these additional funds was the Consolidated Fund.

The following statement was made by the Minister of Health during the Standing Finance Committee debate on the Consideration of Proposals for the Supplementation of Appropriation for the fiscal year 2021¹⁷:

"The Ministry of Health has been afforded the opportunity to supplement its budget, mainly for recurrent expenditure to the amount of \$267,113,637. [...] Most of this is in fact for COVID-19, a significant sum. As you know no country was spared the ravages of COVID-19. Some of the items we would have spent funds on would have been pharmaceuticals and non-pharmaceuticals, vaccines, both for COVID and non-COVID uses, on CDAP, on ambulance services and for critical infrastructural work, mainly the Central Block in Port of Spain."

The Ministry of Health requested and was granted the following supplementations:

Recurrent Expenditure - \$267,113,637

1. 02/004/39 - Drugs and Other Related Materials and Supplies - \$69,458,101

The funds are required to:

- i) enable the acquisition of Covid-19 vaccines under the COVAX Facility in accordance with the agreement between the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (GORTT) and The Gavi Alliance for the COVAX Facility \$34,000,000;
- ii) facilitate payment to PAHO to enable the acquisition of pharmaceutical supplies such as Influenza vaccines, ABBOT Rapid Testing for Covid-19, Anti-viral Drugs for AIDS Patients and other medical supplies \$22,953,850; and

¹⁷ Report of the Standing Finance Committee on the Consideration of Proposals for the Supplementation and Variation of Appropriation for the fiscal year 2021, accessed October 5, 2021: http://www.ttparliament.org/reports/p12-s1-H-20210609-SFC-r1.pdf

iii) facilitate payment to the National Insurance Property Development Company Limited (NIPDEC) in respect of the CDAP IT System (The National Health Card System) - \$12,504,251.

2. 04/007/01 - Medical Treatment of Nationals in Institutions - \$6,300,000

The sum is required to facilitate payment of bills on hand for patients who were referred to private medical institutions for treatments such as renal dialysis, eye surgery, and the administration of chemotherapy and radiation therapy

3. 04/009/01 - Regional Health Authority - \$86,529,506

The funds are required to:

- i) enable the continued engagement of the Global Medical Response of Trinidad and Tobago (GMRTT) for the operations of the National Emergency Ambulance Service in Trinidad. It should be noted that Cabinet agreed to engage GMRTT on a month to month basis \$43,900,000;
- ii) facilitate an interim payment to the Global Medical Response of Trinidad and Tobago (GMRTT) to offset amounts owed for the transport of additional patients to public health facilities over the period September 01, 2015 May 31, 2019 \$37,000,000; and
- iii) facilitate the operationalization of six (6) mass vaccination sites for a period of approximately six (6) months to enable the roll-out of Phase III of the Covid-19 vaccination programme. The budget includes the expenditure associated with the hiring of medical and clerical staff and the purchase of laptops \$5,629,506.

4. 04/009/02 - North West Regional Health Authority - \$16,767,927

04/009/03 - Eastern Regional Health Authority - \$14,000,000

04/009/04 - North Central Regional Health Authority - - \$34,602,235

04/009/05 - South West Regional Health Authority - \$13,129,838

The respective amounts are required to facilitate the payment of salaries and related allowances to enable the four (4) Regional Health Authorities to augment the personnel assigned to various Health Facilities within the parallel health care system.

5. 04/011/05 - NIPDEC - RBC Merchant Bank (T&T) Ltd. TT\$671.3Mn. 7 year Fixed Rate Loan Notes - \$17,762,219

The funds are required to meet the principal payment on a loan facility, NIPDEC - RBC Merchant Bank (T&T) Ltd. TT \$671.3Mn. 7 Year Fixed Rate Loan Notes payable in September 2021. The facility was accessed to meet the cost of procurement, storage and distribution of pharmaceutical and non-pharmaceutical items, the terms and conditions of which were finalized after the presentation of the 2021 Budget.

6. 04/011/10 - UDeCOTT - TT\$46.9Mn Port of Spain General Hospital Central Block 04/011/11 - UDeCOTT - US\$8.3Mn Port of Spain General Hospital Central Block

The funds are required to meet the payments of principal and interest on loan facilities, UDeCOTT – TT\$46.9Mn Port of Spain General Hospital Central Block - \$3,909,768 and UDeCOTT – US\$8.3Mn Port of Spain General Hospital Central Block - \$4,654,043, both of which fall due in June 2021. The terms and conditions of the loans were only finalized after the presentation of the 2021 Budget.

Where the Ministry spends its money

2022 Estimates of Expenditure

The budget allocation of \$5,713,891,890.00 for the Ministry of Health is comprised of:

- The Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure¹⁸ in the sum of \$5,161,287,890.00; and
- The Draft Estimates of Development Programme¹⁹ in the sum of \$552,604,000.00:
 - o Consolidated Fund in the sum of \$279,104,000.00; and
 - o Infrastructure Development Fund²⁰ of the sum \$273,500,000.00.

The Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure include:

- 01 Personnel Expenditure \$196,434,257.00;
- 02 Goods and Services \$459,393,634.00;
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases \$2,713,046.00; and
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies \$4,490,452,535.00
- 05 Current Transfers to Statutory Boards and Similar Bodies \$12,294,418.00

Percentage Allocation of the Ministry of Health is as follows:

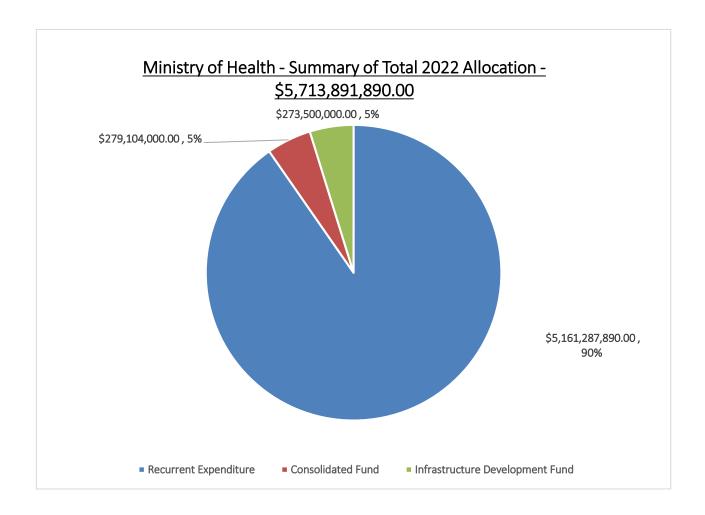
• Total allocation as a percentage of National Budget = 9.87%;

¹⁸ Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure for the Financial Year 2022, accessed October 5, 2021: https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-Details-of-Recurrent-Expenditure-2022.pdf

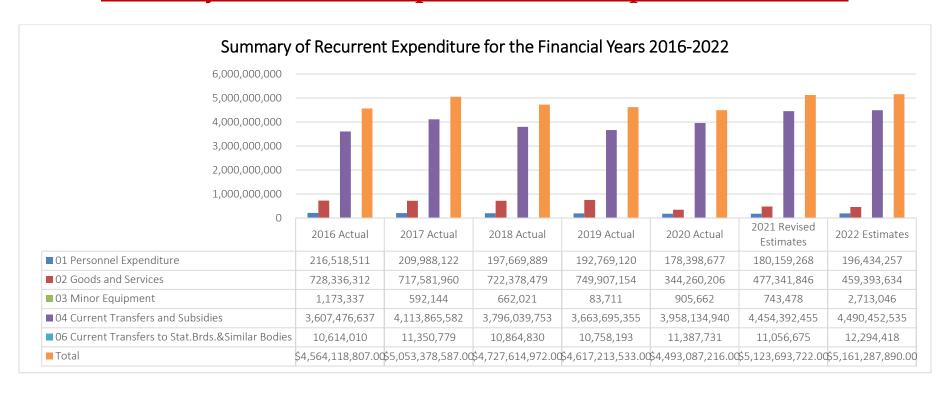
¹⁹ Draft Estimates of Development Programme for the Financial Year 2022, accessed October 5, 2021: https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-of-Development-Programme-2022.pdf

²⁰ Head 28 –Ministry of Health, Sub-Item 11- Infrastructure Development Fund (IDF) (Infrastructure Development Fund allocation is part of the Ministry of Finance allocation for the financial year. *Therefore, the total recurrent expenditure for the Ministry of Health does not include IDF funding.*

- Recurrent Expenditure as a percentage of the total Recurrent Expenditure budget is = 9.3%
- Consolidated Fund allocation as a percentage of the total Consolidated Fund allocation is = 11.2%
- Infrastructure Development Fund allocation as a percentage of the total Infrastructure Development Fund is = 16.1%



Summary of Recurrent Expenditure for the period 2016-2022²¹



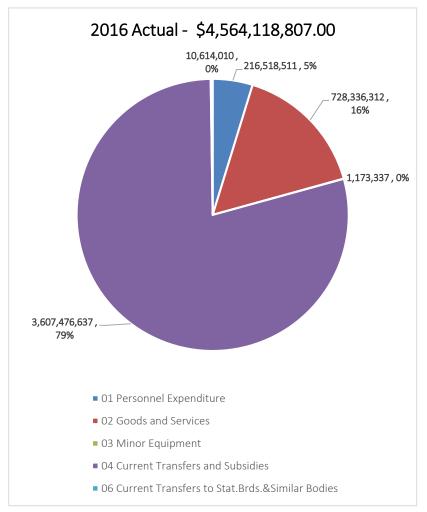
²¹ Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure for the Financial Year 2022, accessed October 5, 2021: https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-Details-of-Recurrent-Expenditure-2022.pdf

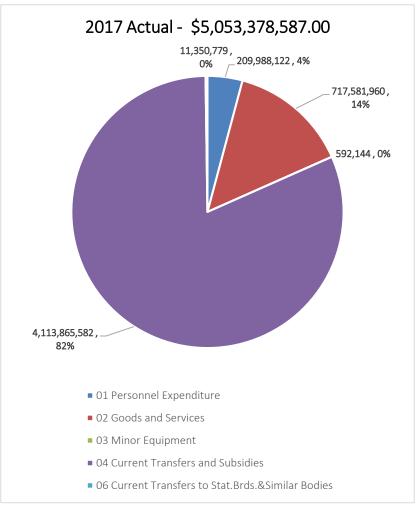
Analysis of Recurrent Expenditure²²

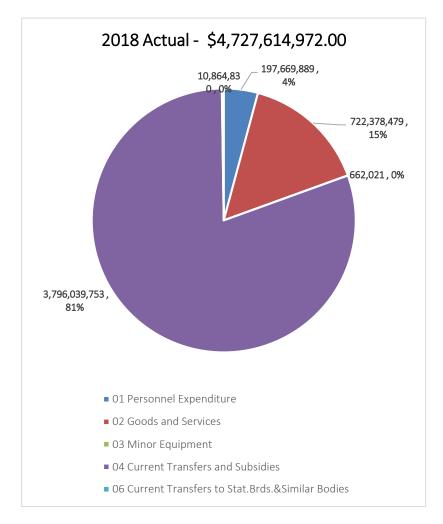
Recurrent Expenditure refers to the payments for expenses which are incurred during the day-to-day operations of the Ministry for Personnel Expenditure, Goods and Services, Minor Equipment Purchases and Current Transfers and Subsidies.

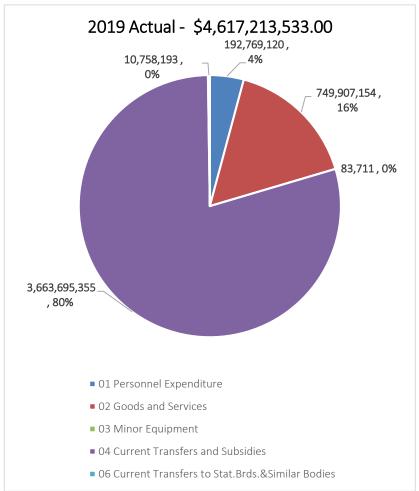
- Estimated Recurrent Expenditure for Fiscal Year **2022** is **\$5,161,287,890**.
- Recurrent Expenditure for Fiscal Year 2021 was \$5,123,693,722 (revised). Comparing this figure with Fiscal Year 2022, there is an increase of \$37,594,168 or 0.73%.
- The largest portion of the allocation has consistently gone to Sub-Head Current Transfers and Subsidies. This allocation of \$4,490,452,535 accounts for 87% total funding for the Ministry for Fiscal Year 2022.
- Goods and Services received the second largest portion (\$459,393,634) of the allocation for 2022. Comparing 2021 to 2022 (revised), there has been a \$17,948,212 (3.76%) decrease.
- In FY 2022, Personnel Expenditure's estimate of \$196,434,257 is 3.81% of the Ministry's total recurrent allocation.
- Minor Equipment Purchases has consistently received the lowest portion of the total allocation for the Ministry over the period **2016 to 2022**. In **2022**, the allocation of **\$2,713,046** accounted for **0.05**% of the total funding for the Ministry.

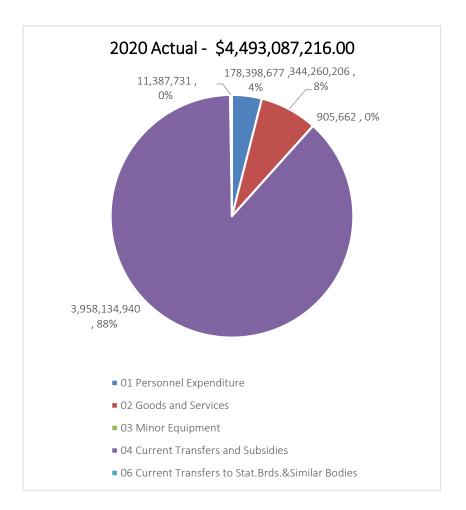
²² Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure for the Financial Year 2022, accessed October 5, 2021: https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-Details-of-Recurrent-Expenditure-2022.pdf

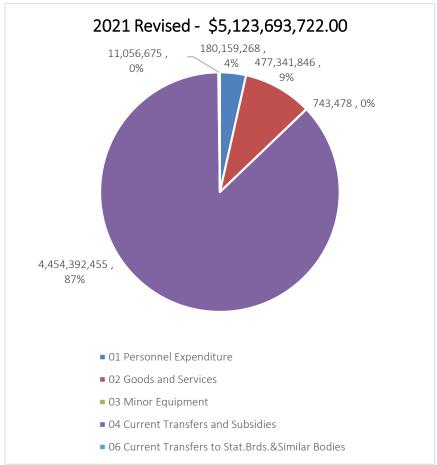


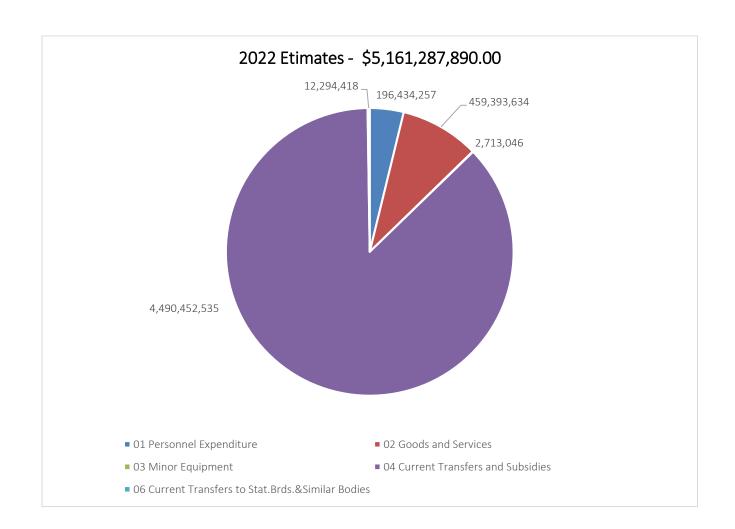






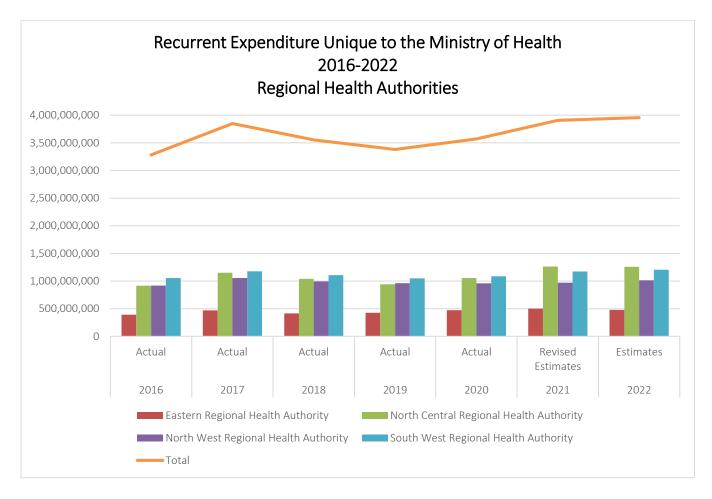




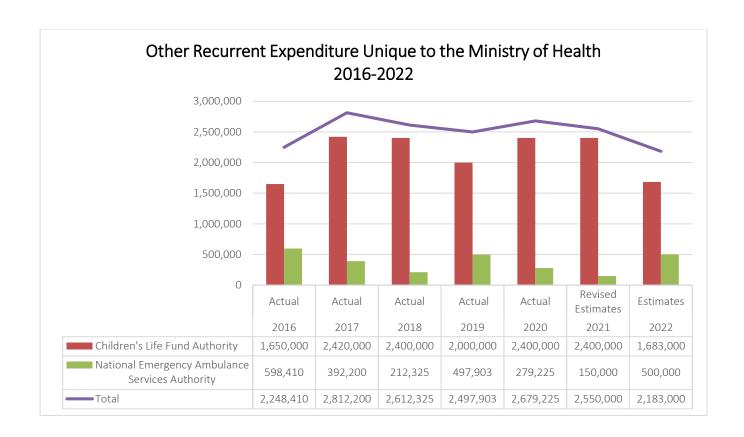


Recurrent Expenditure Unique to the Ministry of Health²³

Unique Expenditure refers to expenditure items incurred by the Ministry of Health that may not feature in other Ministries or Departments.

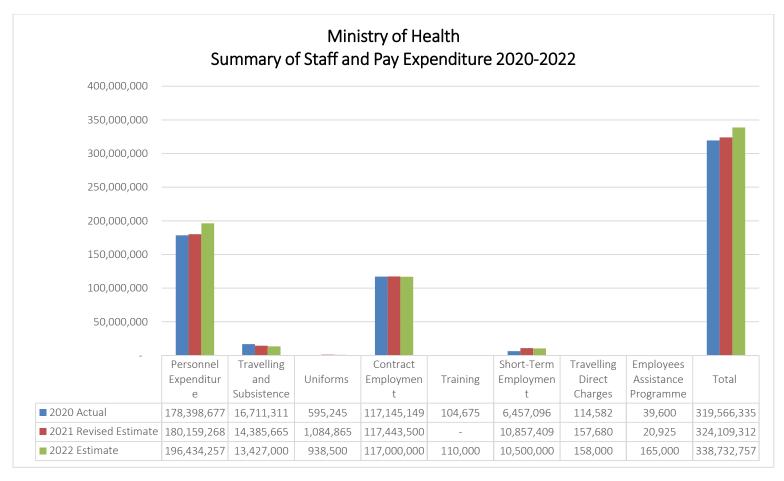


²³ Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure for the Financial Year 2022, accessed October 5, 2021: https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-Details-of-Recurrent-Expenditure-2022.pdf



Staff and Pay²⁴

The allocation of staff expenditure for the fiscal year 2021/2022 is \$338,523,357.00, which represents an increase of approximately 4.5% from the last fiscal year 2020/2021. The following chart provides a breakdown of all expenditure related to staff from 2020-2022.



²⁴ Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure for the Financial Year 2022, accessed October 5, 2021: https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-Details-of-Recurrent-Expenditure-2022.pdf

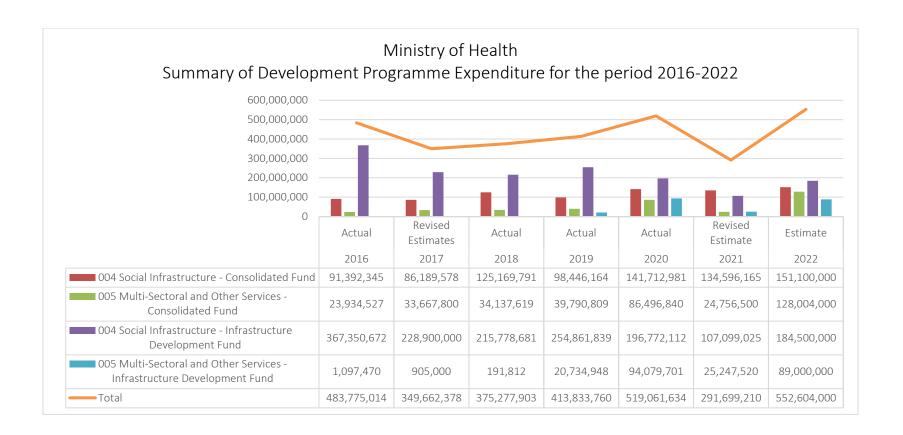
Summary of Development Programme Expenditure for the period 2016-2022²⁵

Development Programme is capital expenditure aimed at improving and enhancing development in different areas of Trinidad and Tobago which includes; human resources, economic and social development.

The allocation to the Ministry of Health for development programmes and projects for fiscal year **2022** is **\$552,604,000.00**. These funds are presented in two parts as follows:

- Funds disbursed directly from the Consolidated Fund = \$279,104,000.00 and represent 50.5% of the total allocation to the Ministry; and
- Funds disbursed from the Infrastructure Development Fund = \$273,500,000.00 and represent 49.5% of the total allocation to the Ministry.

²⁵ Draft Estimates of Development Programme for the Financial Year 2022, accessed October 5, 2021: https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-of-Development-Programme-2022.pdf



Public Sector Investment Programme 2022 - Projections²⁶

Ref: pgs. 203-207, 273, 275, 301-302

VISION 2030 - PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST: NURTURING OUR GREATEST ASSET

Government remains steadfast in its efforts towards delivering higher standards of healthcare in Trinidad and Tobago and

improving the lives of citizens. The current COVID-19 pandemic has tested the capabilities of the existing healthcare system,

placing an added burden on healthcare workers, health facilities and accessing critical services in the health sector. In response to

this pandemic, the Roadmap to Recovery Committee recommended, as part of Pillar 3: Leaving No One Behind: making equity

and empathy central continued protection of the lives of citizens against COVID-19 and the provision of readily available primary

care via a universal health care system.

This post-pandemic agenda aligns with Vision 2030 such that initiatives will focus on improving the efficiency, sustainability and

accessibility of health care services, including through the use of ICT and enhanced facilities, while tackling mental health, NCDs,

COVID-19 and food safety issues. Embarking on these activities is intended to improve public health care services and build a

resilient health sector to future pandemics in Trinidad and Tobago. Accordingly, in fiscal 2022, a total allocation of \$552.6 million

will be provided for the implementation of the Ministry of Health's capital projects, which will focus on improving the quality

and efficiency of public health services towards an effective and integrated system.

Improving Public Health Facilities

Re-Development of Port of Spain General Hospital

UDeCOTT will advance phase two works on the construction of the new Central Block Building at the Port of Spain General

Hospital. The building was designed and will be constructed in accordance with accepted international best practices and

²⁶ Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Public Sector Investment Programme 2022, accessed October 5, 2021:

https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Public-Sector-Investment-Programme-2022.pdf

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standards with regard to space requirement, functionality and maintenance of ambient conditions. The new Central Block will be integrated within the existing Hospital campus to provide comprehensive health care services administered by the NWRHA on behalf of the Ministry of Health. An allocation of \$80.0 million will be provided to meet the cost of UDeCOTT's project management fees, consultancy fees and VAT payments for building services. The projected construction completion date for the building with a five hundred and forty (540)-bed capacity is December 2022.

Sangre Grande Hospital

In fiscal 2022, funds in the sum of \$65.0 million will be provided to complete the construction of the new Sangre Grande Hospital which will provide enhanced healthcare services for the catchment population in east Trinidad. The campus-style hospital will deliver patient-centric care through surgical, internal medicine, accident and emergency as well as outpatient services.

Hospital Refurbishment Programme

Government's commitment to the delivery of quality healthcare services is not only limited to investment in new hospitals and health centres but also through continuous improvement works to existing assets. To this end, an allocation of \$35.0 million will be provided under the Hospital Refurbishment Programme to facilitate wide-ranging upgrading and improvement works to health facilities across the RHAs. Many of the proposed works are required to address aging infrastructure, provide necessary upgrades to make the facilities more functional, enhance clinical services, or to make the environment more contemporary and comfortable for patients, visitors, and staff. Some of the improvement works will include:

- NCRHA- relocation of the Clinical and Administrative Services of the Chaguanas District Health Facility;
- NCRHA- upgrade of the electrical system at Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex;
- SWRHA replacement of two boilers to service the Central Sterile Services Department and the kitchen and laundry of the main building at San Fernando General Hospital;
- SWRHA- replacement of three (3) 125-ton air cooled chillers with three (3) new 180 ton capacity at the SFGH Extension;
- ERHA- expansion of the Accident and Emergency Department and repairs to urgent underground leaks;

- ERHA- conversion of the mental health courtyard to an isolation room at Sangre Grande Enhanced Health Centre;
- NWRHA refurbishment of ward twenty-seven (27) at the St. Ann's Hospital (phase three (3) works);
- refurbishment works for the provision of additional fluid storage in support of the new Central Block Building at POSGH; and
- supply of kitchen equipment for the POSGH.

Medical Equipment Upgrade Programme

Government will continue its investment in the acquisition of medical equipment for the public sector healthcare system, managed through the Regional Health Authorities. A total of \$50.0 million will be allocated for the procurement of equipment to facilitate quality patient care. Some of the priority items to be purchased in fiscal 2021 are as follows:

Regional Health Authority	Medical Equipment
NWRHA	 six (6) birthing beds for POSGH; two (2) dental chairs and equipment inclusive of a dental suite for St. George Central (San Juan and Morvant Health Centres) and St. George West Health Centres; and six (6) dialysis machines for POSGH
SWRHA	 one (1) Central Sterile Services Department automatic washer and three (3) sterilisers for San Fernando General Hospital; labour ward equipment for the high risk patient suite; and two (2) autopsy tables and two (2) dissection benches for the mortuary
ERHA	 X-ray machine for Mayaro District Health Facility; medical equipment for facilities within the County of St. Andrew/St. David; and medical equipment for facilities within the County of Nariva/Mayaro
NCRHA	equipment for the Radiology Unit;eight (8) infant warmers; and

 two (2) orthopaedic drills and modules with accessories for the Operating Theatres.

Specialised Healthcare Services

In fiscal 2022, financial resources will be provided to support the continued implementation of the Ministry of Health's External Patient Programme, which enables patients with specific chronic diseases to access services at private health institutions subsidised by the State. The sum of \$70.0 million will be allocated under the Special Programme – Renal Dialysis to facilitate the payment of outstanding invoices and to meet costs for dialysis services for an estimated one thousand, three hundred and fifty-nine (1,359) patients. An allocation of \$20.0 million will be allocated for the programme for adult cardiac services which will be utilised to provide services for an estimated one thousand, two hundred and thirty-six (1,236) patients in fiscal 2022. A further sum of \$10.0 million will be appropriated under the project Waiting List for Surgery which will allow public patients to receive diagnostic and surgical procedures at private health facilities.

Health Management Information System

In keeping with Government's thrust towards digital transformation of the public sector, the Ministry of Health in collaboration with the National Information and Communication Technology Company Limited (iGovTT) will pursue the development of a health management information system in fiscal 2022. The management information system, which will initially be implemented at the new Arima and Point Fortin Hospitals, is a key strategy for modernising the entire public health system of Trinidad and Tobago. The system is intended to not only improve the efficiency of public health services, but will also facilitate a more holistic approach to diagnosis and treatment. Funding in the sum of \$10.0 million will be provided for the system which will include the functionalities of registration, scheduling, ward and bed management, pharmacy information, laboratory information system and integration with the existing picture archiving and communication systems.

HIV AIDS

In fiscal 2022, Government, through the National AIDS Coordinating Committee (NACC), will advance the development of the National HIV and AIDS Policy which will provide a framework to guide the country's HIV and AIDS response. Funds in the sum of \$0.1 million will be allocated under the project Finalisation, Launch and Dissemination of the National HIV and AIDS Policy to facilitate public consultations and printing costs.

VISION 2030 - DELIVERING GOOD GOVERNANCE AND SERVICE EXCELLENCE

Public Buildings

In fiscal 2022, Government will continue to embark on its programme of construction, refurbishment and equipping of public buildings and offices to provide enhanced office accommodation and improved service delivery infrastructure. The planned works will also facilitate compliance with OSHA standards and efficient working environments.

• continued construction, outfitting and maintenance of the Ministry of Health's Administrative Building utilising a BOLT arrangement. The Ministry will also continue the construction of a multi-store carpark at the San Fernando General Hospital compound.

THREE- YEAR PSIP

SELECTED DEVELOPMENT INTERVENTION FOR THE MEDIUM-TERM [2022-2024]

Programme / Project	Objective	Projected Expenditure		ıditure
		TT \$ Mn	TT \$ Mn	TT \$ Mn
		2022	2023	2024
VISION 2030 DEVELOPMENT	THEME I - PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST:	NURTURI	NG OUR G	REATEST
	ASSET			

Health Information To procure and implement a health information 10 30				
System for Point Fortin	system that will encompass all aspects of			
and Arima Hospitals	healthcare management (across two Regional			
	Health Authorities in the first instance), which			
	will serve as a prerequisite for the national health			
	insurance system.			
Construction of Sangre	To construct a new hospital at Ojoe Road, Sangre	65.00	20.90	00.00
Grande Hospital	Grande, which will have a capacity of 106 in-			
	patient beds and is geared towards enhancing			
	the delivery of public health services to			
	guarantee good health care for all.			
Re-Development of	To construct the new Central Block at the Port-	80	33.5	0
Port of Spain General	of-Spain General Hospital in accordance with			
Hospital	international best practices and standards, which			
	will have a bed capacity of 540 in-patient beds,			
	and is geared towards enhancing the delivery of			
	public health services to guarantee good health			
	care for all.			
Medical Equipment	To procure and install essential medical	50	12	5
Upgrade Programme	equipment, which is critical to ensuring that			
	healthcare institutions operate at optimum			
	standards			

Social Sector Investment Programme 2022 - Projections²⁷

Ref: pgs. 176-178

SOCIAL SECTOR PLANS FOR 2022

A. Operationalization of the Couva Medical and Multi-Training Facility and the San Fernando General Hospital:

The construction of the Bi-plane Cardiac Catheterization Lab at the San Fernando General Hospital (SFGH) will see improved care for patients and increased capacity for the conduct of cardiac procedures in the South West Regional Health Authority. (SWRHA).

B. Medical Equipment Upgrade Programme

This ongoing programme involves the procurement and upgrade of medical equipment at the various Public Health Institutions and the expansion of critical services. The following are some of the upgrades to be undertaken within each Health Authority:

- North Central Regional Health Authority: Upgrade of the Radiology Unit, procurement of 60 patient beds, purchase of two
 (2) Echo machines, purchase of eight (8) infant warmers, purchase of two (2) ventilators and expansion of radiology and laboratory services.
- South West Regional Health Authority: Purchase of angiogram machine, purchase of 100 adult beds, replacement of six (6) X-ray units and replacement of five (5) hemodialysis machines.
- North West Regional Health Authority: Purchase of six (6) High Dependency Unit beds, purchase of 10 Diathermy machines, procurement of three (3) digital X-ray machines and purchase of 42 hospital beds.
- Eastern Regional Health Authority: Replacement of X-ray machine at the Mayaro Health Facility and replacement of other end-of life devices.

²⁷ Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Social Sector Investment Programme 2022, accessed October 5, 2021: https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Social-Sector-Investment-Programme-2022.pdf

C. Health Information System for the Arima and Point Fortin Hospitals:

The Ministry will implement a Health Information System with the functionalities of registration, scheduling, ward and bed management, pharmacy, lab information system and integration with existing PACS. It is expected that the new System will improve data management and facilitate better health care services.

D. Other Programmes for Implementation:

Eastern Regional Health Authority:

- Implementation of mental health services via the ERHA's Employee Assistance Programme service offered. The implementation of a one-year mentorship pilot project at the Accident & Emergency and Internal Medicine Units will also begin in the new fiscal.
- The new fiscal will see the enhancement of High Dependency Unit (HDU) type services for patients utilising acquired equipment as well as the expansion of an HDU Nursing programme for the clinical management of patients outside of an HDU.

The policy and research agenda for the Ministry of Health outlined hereunder will enhance critical areas of health care, including care for the aged and men's health.

Box 3.4: Policy and Research Initiatives of the Ministry of Health for Fiscal 2022

Policy:

- Health Policy on Ageing
- Health Management Information System Policy
- Medicine Policy
- National Emergency Ambulance Service Policy

- National Public Health Laboratory Policy
- Risk Management Audit Policy
- Medical Records Policy
- Adverse Events Policy

Research: (Research into Policies)

- Health Policy on Ageing
- Health Management Information System
- Risk Management Audit Policy
- Men's Health Policy
- COVID-19 Research & Analysis

Noteworthy Development Programme Estimates 2020-2022

The table below lists the projects that have experienced irregular variances in estimates for funding received under the Ministry of Health²⁸:

Sub-head /Item /Sub-item /Group /Project Desc.	Project - Item	2020 Actual	2021 Revised Estimate	2022 Estimate
CF 004-07A-001	Medical Equipment Upgrade Programme	\$53,391,219	\$16,500,000	\$50,000,000
CF 004-07A-003	Commissioning and Decommissioning of Arima and Point Fortin Hospitals	\$2,231,960	\$6,210,695	-
CF 004-07D-007	Waiting List for Surgery	\$12,164,630	\$2,234,600	\$10,000,000
CF 004-07D-022	President's Emergency Programme for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)	\$3,786,791	-	\$500,000
CF 005-06A-002	Disaster Preparedness Coordinating Unit	\$815,249	\$2,625	\$1,000,000
CF 005-06A-003	Health Information System for Arima and Point Fortin Hospitals	-	\$745,875	\$10,000,000

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²⁸ Draft Estimates of Development Programme for the Financial Year 2022, accessed October 5, 2021: https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-of-Development-Programme-2022.pdf

CF 005-06C-250	Health Services Support Programme	\$61,098,366	-	\$74,004,000
CF 005-06F-001	Refurbishment and Improvement of Accommodation for the Vertical Division of the Ministry of Health	\$2,228,333	\$508,000	\$500,000
IDF-004-07F-004	Construction of the Arima Hospital	\$76,861,376	\$19,541,920	\$14,500,000
IDF-004-07F-008	Construction of Diego Martin Health Centre	\$17,472,612	\$2,932,630	-
IDF 005-06F-003	Re-Development of Port of Spain Hospital	\$94,079,701	\$24,773,010	\$80,000,000

Status of New Projects from the Financial Year 2016-2017

The following are projects identified as "New Projects" that received funding in the 2016/2017 financial year ²⁹:

Sub-head /Item/Sub- item/Group /Project Desc.	Project -Item	2017 Actual	2018 Actual	2019 Actual	2020 Actual	2021 Revised Estimate	2022 Estimate
CF 005-06C-	Health Services Support	\$102,076	\$3,752,469	\$11,353,634	\$61,098,366	-	\$74,004,000
250	Programme						
CF 005-06F-	Refurbishment and	\$1,377,743	\$5,685,837	_	\$2,228,333	\$508,000	\$500,000
001	Improvement of						
	Accommodation for the						
	Vertical Division of the						
	Ministry of Health						
IDF-004-	Construction of Sangre	-	-	-	\$22,363,523	\$21,512,020	\$65,000,000
07F-007	Grande Hospital						
IDF-004-	Construction of Diego Martin	\$777,853	\$777,853	\$20,871,940	\$17,472,612	\$2,932,630	-
07F-008	Health Centre						

²⁹ Draft Estimates of Development Programme for the Financial Year 2022, accessed October 5, 2021: https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-of-Development-Programme-2022.pdf

Status of New Projects from the Financial Year 2017-2018

The following are identified as "New Projects" that received funding in the 2017/2018 financial year³⁰:

Sub-head/Item/Sub-item/Group/Project Desc./Project Item	2018 Actual	2019 Actual	2020 Actual	2021 Revised Estimate	2022 Estimate
IDF 005-06F-003 Re-Development of Port of Spain Hospital	-	\$20,313,761	\$94,079,701	\$24,773,010	\$80,000,000

³⁰ Draft Estimates of Development Programme for the Financial Year 2022, accessed October 5, 2021: https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-of-Development-Programme-2022.pdf

Status of New Projects from the Financial Year 2018-2019

The following are identified as "New Projects" that received funding in the 2018/2019 financial year ³¹:

Sub-head/Item/Sub-item/Group/Project Desc./ Project -Item	2019 Actual	2020 Actual	2021 Revised Estimate	2022 Estimate
CF 004-07A-003 Commissioning and Decommissioning of	\$11,196	\$2,231,960	\$6,210,695	-
Arima and Point Fortin Hospitals	4,	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	4 0/== 0/00 0	
IDF 005-06F-002 Construction of the Ministry of Health	-	-	-	-
Administrative Building				

³¹ Draft Estimates of Development Programme for the Financial Year 2022, accessed October 5, 2021: https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-of-Development-Programme-2022.pdf

Status of New Projects from the Financial Year 2019-2020

The following are identified as "New Projects" that received funding in the 2019/2020 financial year ³²:

Sub-head /Item /Sub-item /Group /Project Desc.	Project-Item	2020 Actual	2021 Revised Estimate	2022 Estimate
CF 005- 06A-002	Disaster Preparedness Coordinating Unit	\$815,249	\$2,625	\$1,000,000
CF 005- 06A-003	Health Information System for Arima and Point Fortin Hospitals	-	\$745,875	\$10,000,000
IDF 004- 07F-009	Construction of CARPHA, NPHL and NBTS Laboratories in Valsayn	-	-	-

³² Draft Estimates of Development Programme for the Financial Year 2022, accessed October 5, 2021: https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-of-Development-Programme-2022.pdf

Status of New Projects from the Financial Year 2020-2021

The following are identified as "New Projects" that received funding in the 2020/2021 financial year ³³:

Sub-head	Project -Item	2021 Revised Estimate	2022 Estimate
/Item			
/Sub-item			
/Group			
/Project			
Desc.			
CF 005-	Equipping of the Chemistry Food and Drugs	\$1,200,000	\$1,500,000
06G-002	Laboratory and Preparatory Work for the National		
	Public Health Laboratory		

³³ Draft Estimates of Development Programme for the Financial Year 2022, accessed October 5, 2021: https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-of-Development-Programme-2022.pdf

Major Programmes and Development for the Period 2019 to 2022

The following table shows a list of the significant expenditure items, based on the proportion of the budgetary allocation assigned³⁴.

Development Programme 2022	Projects	2019 Actual	2020 Actual	2021 Revised Estimate	2022 Estimate
CF 004-07A-001	Medical Equipment Upgrade Programme	\$18,641,544	\$53,391,219	\$16,500,000	\$50,000,000
CF 004-07D-002	Special Programme - Treatment of Adult Cardiac Disease	\$19,572,616	\$29,860,274	\$15,000,000	\$20,000,000
CF 004-07D-003	Special Programme - Renal Dialysis	\$43,366,410	\$39,862,380	\$93,486,000	\$70,000,000
CF 005-06C-234	Hospital Refurbishment Programme	\$26,324,044	\$17,859,097	\$20,700,000	\$35,000,000
CF 005-06C-250	Health Services Support Programme	\$11,353,634	\$61,098,366	-	\$74,004,000
IDF 004-07F-001	Physical Investments (Hospitals, District Health Facilities, Health Centres)	\$66,928,687	\$15,007,448	\$27,586,060	\$50,000,000
IDF 004-07-F004	Construction of the Arima Hospital	\$86,237,121	\$76,861,376	\$19,541,920	\$14,500,000
IDF 004-07-F005	Construction of the Point Fortin Hospital	\$51,614,033	\$46,916,544	\$35,526,395	\$15,000,000
IDF-004-07F-007	Construction of the Sangre Grande Hospital	-	\$22,363,523	\$21,512,020	\$65,000,000
IDF 004-07F-010	Operationalisation of the Couva Medical and Multi-Training Facility and the San Fernando General Hospital	-	-	-	\$40,000,000

³⁴ Draft Estimates of Development Programme for the Financial Year 2022, accessed October 5, 2021: https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-of-Development-Programme-2022.pdf

IDF 005-06F-003	Re-Development of Port of Spain	\$20,313,800	\$94,079,701	\$24,773,010	\$80,000,000	
	General Hospital					

New Projects for the Financial Year 2021-2022

The following is identified as a "New Project" receiving funding in the 2021/2022 financial year ³⁵:

Sub-head /Item /Sub-item /Group /Project Desc.	Project -Item	2022 Estimate
CF 005-06F-003	Refurbishment, Equipping and Institutional	\$1,000,000
	Strengthening of the Insect Vector Control Division	

³⁵ Draft Estimates of Development Programme for the Financial Year 2022, accessed October 5, 2021: https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-of-Development-Programme-2022.pdf

Recent Legislative Developments

Act No.	Short Title	Details	Status
12 of 2021	The Quarantine (Amendment) Act, 2021	Progression	Date of Assent: 17- Jul-2021
26 of 2020	The Miscellaneous Provisions [2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV)] (No. 2) Act, 2020	<u>Progression</u>	Date of Assent: 18- Dec-2020
23 of 2020	The Public Health (Amendment) Act, 2020	<u>Progression</u>	Date of Assent: 29- Aug-2020

General Useful Information

- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, India: https://mohfw.gov.in/
- National Department of Health, South Africa: http://www.health.gov.za/
- Department of Health and Social Care, United Kingdom: https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-health-and-social-care
- Ministry of Health, New Zealand: https://www.health.govt.nz/
- Health Canada: https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada.html
- Ministry of Health and Wellness, Barbados: https://www.gov.bb/ministries/health