



GUIDE TO THE

BUDGET 2022

Prepared by
Financial Scrutiny Unit
Office of the Parliament | October, 2021



This Guide provides Members of Parliament and stakeholders with an general overview of the Budget and the main expenditure of Ministries and Departments for the fiscal year 2022.

The primary purpose of this guide is to consolidate the information contained within the various Budget Documents and to provide readers with an analysis of same. It sets out the Government's priorities for the Budget, spending decisions and key points raised in the Budget Speech.





PUBLICATION

An electronic copy of this Guide can be found on the Parliament website:

www.ttparliament.org

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THE BUDGETARY PROCESS





What is the budget?

The National budget is the Government's financial plan for a given period. The budget states how much money the Government intends to spend during a year (expenditure), what it intends to spend it on (appropriation), and where it expects to get the money to pay for that spending (revenue). The budget usually covers one year which is known as the fiscal year.

In Trinidad and Tobago, the fiscal year begins on October 1 and ends September 30.

How Is The Budget Prepared And Adopted?

The budget outlines all the revenue and expenditure for a given period and is the most important economic policy tool used by the Executive for the allocation of resources to the various State institutions. It is prepared by the Ministry of Finance – Budget Division in consultation with other Ministries and Departments, and is based on the Government's priorities and macroeconomic assumptions.

The budget cycle commences with the formulation of policy, and includes planning, implementation and auditing. The Minister of Finance presents the Appropriation Bill, Draft Estimates and other budget documents to the Parliament.

Following Parliamentary approval, the Bill is forwarded to the President for assent. If required, the Executive adopts a Supplementary/ Variation budget during the year following a similar procedure.

Proposals for Variation move funds from one Head of Expenditure to another. Proposals for Supplementation withdraw funds from the *Consolidated Fund and add them to a specific Item under a Head of Expenditure.

*Consolidated Fund - this fund refers to all revenues or other moneys raised or received by Trinidad and Tobago.



STAGES OF THE BUDGET PROCESS/CYCLE





Drafting

Ministry of Finance

Between February and March, the Minister of Finance issues a request in the form of a Call Circular to all Ministries and Departments for the submission of draft estimates of revenue and expenditure. The Draft Estimates take into consideration the Government's Development Strategy. All Draft Estimates are required to be submitted to the Ministry of Finance by April 30, of each year.

Budget Division - Ministry of Finance

The Budget Division of the Ministry of Finance examines, analyses and holds discussions with Ministries and Departments to seek justification for expenditure.

Cabinet Approval

The Minister of Finance seeks Cabinet's Approval of the Draft Estimates of Expenditure and Revenue.





Legislative

Parliament

The Minister of Finance presents the Appropriation Bill, Draft Estimates and other budget-related documents to Parliament. The Minister of Finance reviews the performance of the Economy and indicates the plans of the Government for future national development. He also states the date on which the budget debate will resume.

Standing Finance Committee

This is a Committee of the whole House chaired by the Speaker. It is an important mechanism of ex ante budgetary scrutiny. The Committee examines the Heads of Expenditure over the five (5) days allotted.

*ex-ante - based on forecasts rather than results

Parliament Approval and Presidential Assent

Following Parliamentary approval, the Appropriation Bill is forwarded to the President for assent. It then becomes the Appropriation Act for that fiscal year.





Implementation and Auditing

Government Executive

The Ministry of Finance plays a major role in ensuring that funds are allocated to the Ministries and Departments in line with the approved budget. The implementation of the budget is governed mainly by the Exchequer and Audit Act Chapter 69:01 and the Financial Regulations. Each Accounting Officer receives releases and is responsible for the use of public funds.

Public Administration and Appropriations Committee (PAAC)

The PAAC monitors the Government's execution of the budget and its actual spending during the fiscal year to ensure that funds are used for the approved purpose and to enable the detection of any challenges during implementation.

Audit

In accordance with Section 25 (1) of the Exchequer and Audit Act, the Auditor General is required to audit the accounts of Ministries, Departments and other Government Agencies to ensure that expenditure was carried out in accordance with the Appropriation Act. This independence is necessary for an unbiased opinion on the accounts examination.





SECTION A

BUDGET EXPENDITURE TERMS





BUDGET EXPENDITURE TERMS

The Budgetary System allocates funding based on inputs, i.e. line items such as Personnel Expenditure, Goods and Services, and Minor Equipment Purchases that comprise the Estimates of Expenditure. Although it provides detailed information on how much public money is spent, it does not provide information on what is being achieved and whether the goods/services (outputs) satisfy the purpose intended.

TOTAL EXPENDITURE refers to all recurrent and capital expenditure of the Government. It comprises spending from the Consolidated Fund, Infrastructure Development Fund and other special purpose funds established by Parliament to finance Government expenditure.

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, Current Transfers and Subsidies and Current Transfers to Statutory Boards and Similar Bodies such as:

PERSONNEL EXPENDITURE - expenditure on all forms of remuneration paid to public officers with the exception of salaries paid to contract officers within the public service.

GOODS AND SERVICES -Purchase of goods and services for daily operations of Government' offices.

MINOR EQUIPMENT PURCHASES- Minor Equipment Purchases includes wireless equipment, cell phones, vacuum cleaners, etc.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE - payments made by the Government for the acquisition of land, intangible assets such as stocks and other non-financial assets to facilitate the production of goods and services. It may also include spending financed from capital grants which are non-refundable transfers received by the Government from other Governments or international organisation geared towards a particular project.

SUBSIDIES - A subsidy is a form of financial aid or support extended to an economic sector (or institution, business, or individual) generally with the aim of promoting economic and social policy.

TRANSFERS AND SUBSIDIES - non-repayable payments made by the Government to various individuals and agencies such as non-profit organisations, educational institutions, statutory bodies, state enterprises and foreign agencies for specific purposes.

CURRENT TRANSFERS - Current Transfers include allocations to non-profit institutions, organizations and other institutions

TRANSFERS TO STATE ENTERPRISES - non-repayable payments made by the Government to state enterprises operating in Trinidad and Tobago.

TRANSFERS TO STATUTORY BOARDS AND SIMILAR BODIES - on-repayable payments made by the Government to statutory boards and similar bodies

PUBLIC DEBT - Servicing of debt owed to local and foreign lenders.



Development Programme

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.

These funds are presented in two parts as follows:

Development Programme - Consolidated Fund

The allocation for the implementation of projects and programmes by Ministries, Statutory Boards, Local Government and the Tobago House of Assembly within the Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) was provided under the Consolidated Fund.

Development Programme – Infrastructure Development Fund

- The IDF was established by Legal Notice No. 347 of¹ December 29, 1997, under section 43(2) of the Exchequer and Audit Act, Chap. 69:015 to finance wholly or partially, certain capital projects under the Government's capital programme. It is the approval of additional resources for transfer from the Consolidated Fund to the Infrastructure Development Fund (IDF); and
- Operationally, the IDF is the mechanism used, in the main, to finance projects being implemented by existing and newly established special-purpose state entities to execute projects assigned to them by ministries, the Tobago House of Assembly and other state agencies. Importantly, moneys are only utilized in this Fund by the approval of the Parliament.

A mechanism to facilitate the acceleration and provide flexibility in the implementation of its capital development programme.

¹ The Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago Accessed on October 05, 2020:
https://www.oas.org/juridico/english/mesicic3_tto_constitution.pdf

² The Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago Website, debate on Friday September 8, 2006, accessed on September 19, 2019:
<http://www.ttparliament.org/hansards/hh20060908.pdf>

³ The Exchequer and Audit Act : http://rgd.legalaffairs.gov.tt/laws2/alphabetical_list/lawspdfs/69.01.pdf





SECTION B

BUDGET REVENUE OVERVIEW





BUDGET REVENUES

Budget revenue comprises of the amount of money collected by the Government that is used to fund its activities. Revenue is raised by fiscal measures introduced in the Budget and is given legal effect by the issuance of a Provisional Collection of Taxes Order, the Value Added Tax Act or by Special Legislation. The Ministry of Finance is responsible for developing the Revenue Estimates for the Budget.

The principal revenue estimates are received from the Inland Revenue Division, the Customs and Excise Division and the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries.

TAX REVENUES

Compulsory and unrequited payments made by individuals and companies operating within the energy and non-energy sectors. All tax revenues are paid into the Consolidated Fund.

TAXES ON INCOME AND PROFITS :

- Oil Companies (Chap. 75:04)
- Other Companies (Chap. 75:02)
- Individuals (Chap. 75:01)
- Withholding Tax (Chap. 75:01)
- Insurance Surrender Tax (Chap. 75:01)
- Business Levy (Chap. 75:02)
- Health Surcharge (Chap. 75:05)

TAXES ON PROPERTY

- Lands and Building Taxes (Chap. 76:04)
- Property Tax (Act No.18 of 2009)
- Industrial Tax

TAXES ON GOODS & SERVICES

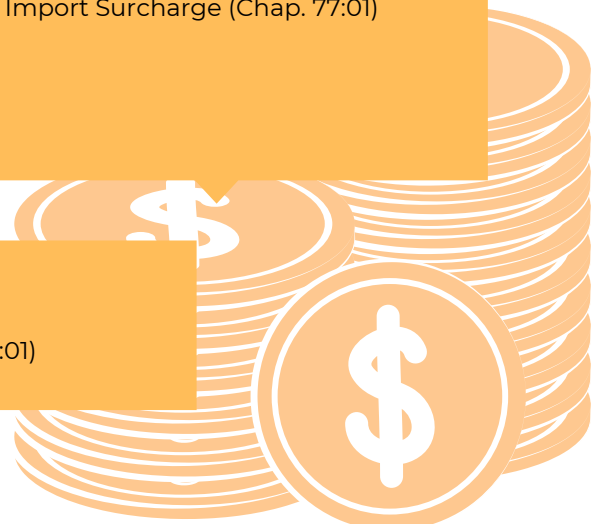
- Purchase Tax
- Excise Duties
- Betting and Entertainment Taxes
- Liquor & Miscellaneous Business Licences & Fees
- Motor Vehicles Taxes and Duties (Chap. 48:50)
- Value Added Tax
- Alcohol and Tobacco Taxes
- Tax on online purchases

TAXES ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE

- Import Duties (Chap. 78:01)
- Stamp Duty on Bills of Entry
- Special Tax – Household Effects (Chap.77:01)
- Import Surcharge (Chap. 77:01)

OTHER TAXES

- Stamp Duties (Chap. 76:01)





NON-TAX REVENUES

Revenue earned by the Government from sources other than taxes within the energy and non-energy sector.

PROPERTY INCOME

- Rental Income
- Interest Income
- Royal ties
- Profits from Non-financial Enterprises
- Profits from Public financial Institutions
- Other Property Income

OTHER NON-TAX REVENUE

- Administrative fees and Charges
- Fines and Forfeitures
- Pension Contributions
- Non-Industrial Sales
- Other (Miscellaneous)

REPAYMENT OF PAST LENDING

- Repayment of Loans by Public Enterprises
- Repayment of Loans by Other Enterprises
- Repayment of Other Loans

CAPITAL RECEIPTS/ REVENUE

CAPITAL REVENUE includes proceeds from transactions under the Government Sale of Assets Programme. It may also include Government receipts of non-repayable transfers for capital purposes from non-government sources. Additionally, it may include capital grants which are non-refundable transfers received by the Government from other Governments or international organisation geared towards a particular project.

FINANCING

- Borrowing
- Extraordinary Receipts





COMPARISON BETWEEN 2019 AND 2020 ACTUAL REVENUE CLASSIFICATION

Revenue Classification	2020 \$	2019 \$	Increase/(Decrease) \$
Tax Revenue	25,672,842,777.22	32,035,748,398.79	(6,362,905,621.50)
Non-Tax Revenue	7,261,863,266.13	12,051,218,741.03	(4,789,355,474.90)
Capital Receipts	526,612,574.72	979,783,020.80	(453,170,446.08)
Financing	23,190,063,060.26	8,356,603,181.17	14,833,459,879.10
Total	56,651,381,678.33	56,651,381,678.33	3,228,028,336.54

The Auditor General Report 2020, Auditor General website (<http://138.128.179.50/sites/default/files/Auditor-General-Report-2020.pdf>) accessed on 27Aug21





SECTION C

FISCAL BALANCE OVERVIEW





FISCAL SURPLUS & DEFICIT

The overall fiscal balance measures the extent to which Government expenditure is financed by the revenues collected and is an indication of the Government's 'fiscal stance'. A 'fiscal stance' is nothing more than a decision by the political administration about whether the annual budget would reflect a surplus, a deficit or be a balanced budget. The 'fiscal stance' adopted by the Government is a key to the process of prioritizing and rationalising the numerous budget requests in respect of both recurrent and capital expenditure.

However, the primary balance measures the Government's ability to honour its obligations without incurring additional debt.

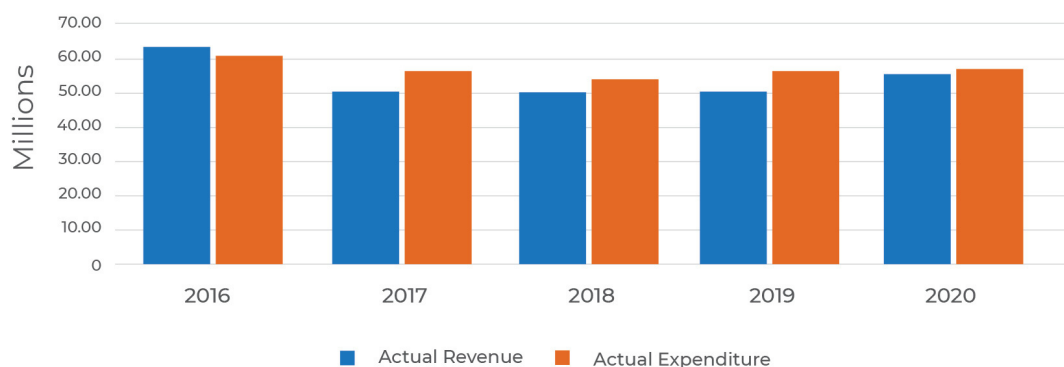
CURRENT FISCAL STATUS:

In Trinidad and Tobago there has been a fiscal deficit for the past four (4) years.

COMPARISON BETWEEN TOTAL REVENUE AND TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR THE FINANCIAL YEARS 2016 TO 2020

	Actual Revenue	Actual Expenditure	Surplus/Deficit-Financed by the Exchequer Account	% of surplus/(Deficit to Revenue
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
2016	60,313,756	56,574,649	3,739,107	6.2%
2017	47,777,198	54,883,151	(7,105,953)	-14.9%
2018	50,477,117	54,211,711	(3,734,594)	-7.4%
2019	53,423,353	54,581,187	(1,157,834)	-2.2%
2020	56,651,382	57,388,008	(736,626)	-1.3%

Comparison Between Total Revenue and Total Expenditure for The Financial Years 2016 To 2020



The Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the Financial Year 2020, Volume 1, Accounts of Treasury and Receiver of Revenues, Auditor General website (<http://138.128.179.50/sites/default/files/VOL-1-Accounts-of-the-Treasury.pdf>) pg.xvi accessed on 27Aug21



Important Terms

WHAT IS A FISCAL SURPLUS?

A fiscal surplus occurs when collected revenue exceeds expenditure.

WHAT IS A FISCAL DEFICIT?

A fiscal deficit occurs when expenditure exceeds collected revenue.

WHAT IS A POSITIVE PRIMARY BALANCE?

It is an indication of the improvement in managing public finances as there is less reliance on borrowing to finance public expenditure.

WHAT IS A NEGATIVE PRIMARY BALANCE?

A deterioration in managing public finances as there is greater reliance on new borrowing to finance public expenditure.





SECTION D

PUBLIC DEBT OVERVIEW





PUBLIC DEBT

What is public debt?

Public debt is the debt owed by the Government. It comprises balances on long-term loans and credit instruments raised on the domestic and foreign markets.

How does the Government deal with deficit?

In order to finance expenditure, the Government may decide to cover the deficit by:

- borrowing money from its domestic and/or external creditors;
- reducing spending, which is often referred to as “tightening the belt”; and
- increasing revenue such as increasing income taxes, taxes on energy activity, value added tax, customs and other import duties.

How does the Government borrow money?

The Government may borrow money domestically using three (3) types of instruments: Treasury Bills, Treasury Notes and Government Loans raised by bonds. Over an agreed period of time, the Government is obliged to repay the money, including interest charges. The Government may also borrow funds internationally through loans secured from foreign financial institutions such as the World Bank and International Monetary Fund.



Statement of Public Debt

The Public Debt recorded at September 30, 2020 was \$90,499,830,136.22.

Years	2019	2020
Head 19: Local Loans	49,603,142,063.76	58,309,860,362.25
Head 19: External Loans	24,109,387,066.96	28,671,312,417.17
Head 18: Ministry of Finance	1,368,403,727.44	3,518,657,356.80
	75,080,932,858.16	90,499,830,136.22

From September 2019 to September 2020, there was an overall increase of \$15,418,897,278.06

The Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the Financial Year 2020, Volume 1, Accounts of Treasury and Receiver of Revenues, Auditor General website (<http://138.128.179.50/sites/default/files/VOL-I-Accounts-of-the-Treasury.pdf>) pg. 21 accessed on 27Aug21





PUBLIC DEBT TO TOTAL REVENUE



The following table provides a comparison of the Public Debt and Government Revenue for the financial years 2016 to 2020.

Years	Public Debt	Total Revenue	% of Public Debt to Total Revenue
2016	58,273,318,867	60,313,756,178	97
2017	65,450,617,657	47,777,197,583	137
2018	68,977,535,489	50,477,117,276	137
2019	75,080,958,413	53,423,353,342	141
2020	90,499,830,136	56,651,381,678	160

Financial Year	Total Expenditure \$'000	Charges on Account of the Public Debt \$'000	%
2016	56,574,649	7,024,666	12.4
2017	54,883,151	9,641,806	17.6
2018	54,211,711	9,220,951	17.0
2019	54,581,187	8,230,355	15.1
2020	57,388,008	10,066,151	17.5

The Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the Financial Year 2020. Volume 1, Accounts of Treasury and Receiver of Revenues. Auditor General website (<http://138.128.179.50/sites/default/files/VOL-I-Accounts-of-the-Treasury.pdf>) pgs.34,36 accessed on 27Aug21



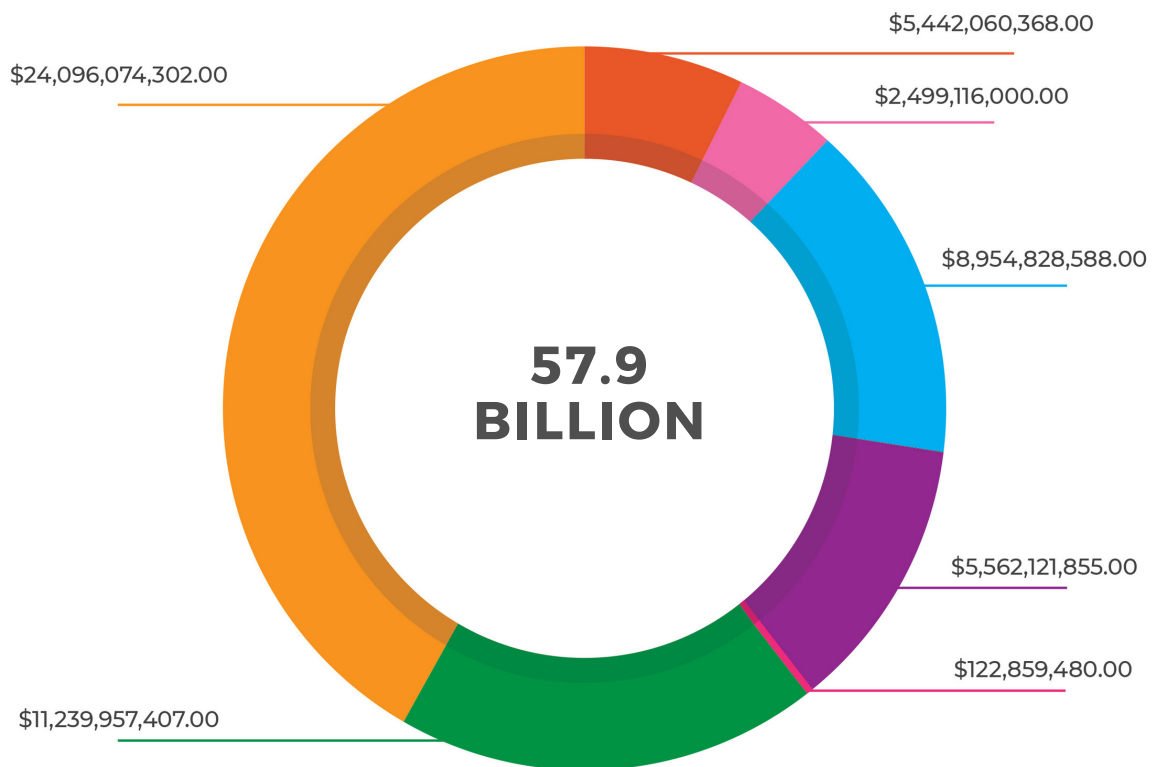
2022 BUDGET ANALYSIS





NATIONAL BUDGET 2022

\$57,917,018,000.00



- Personal Expenditure
- Goods and Services
- Minor Equipment Purchases
- Current Transfers and Subsidies
- Current Transfers to Statutory Boards and Similar Bodies
- Debt Servicing
- Development Programme

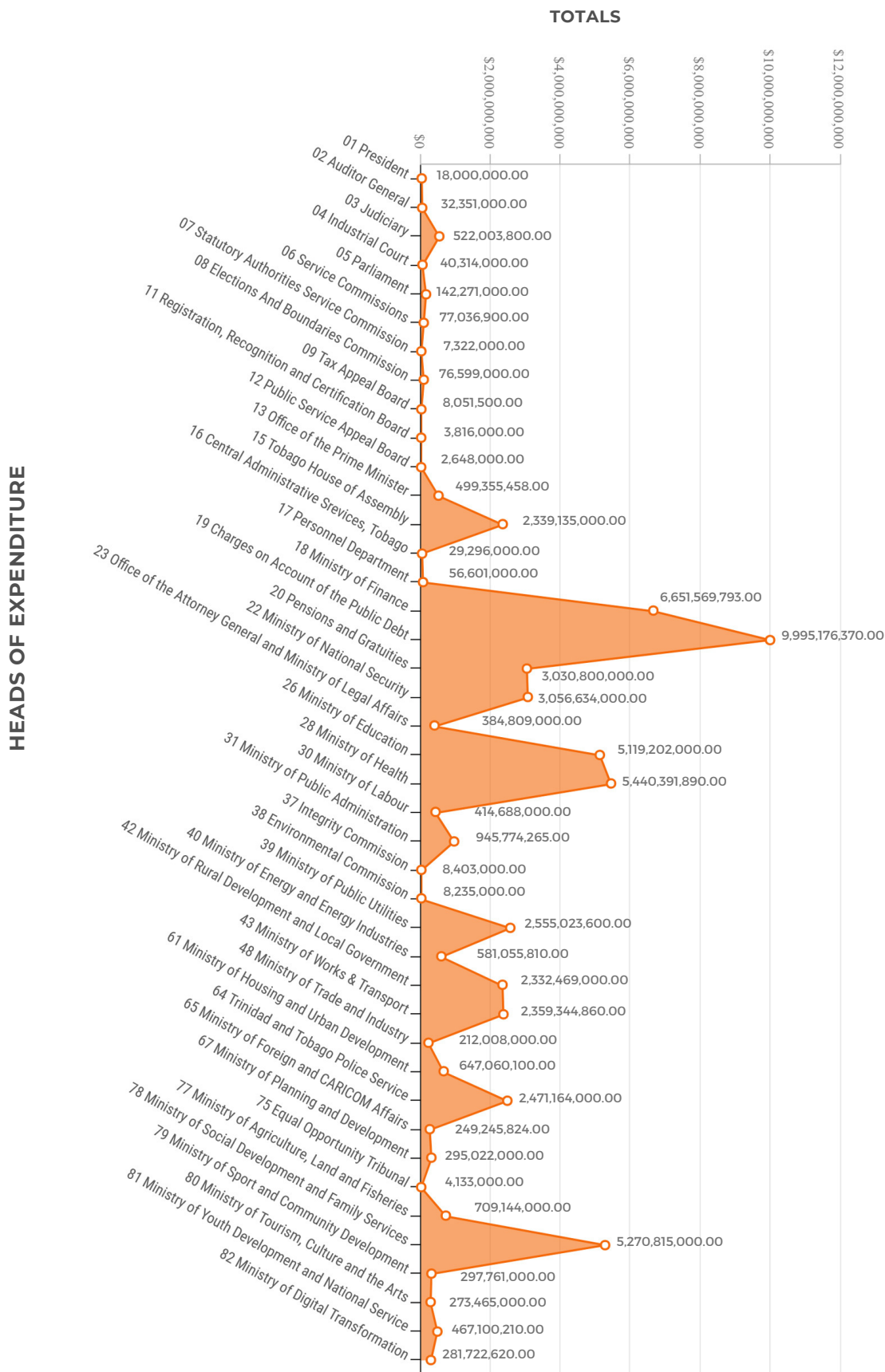
HEAD	AMOUNT	PERCENTAGE %
Personal Expenditure	\$ 8,954,828,588.00	15%
Goods and Services	\$ 5,442,060,368.00	9%
Minor Equipment Purchases	\$ 122,859,480.00	0.21%
Current Transfers and Subsidies	\$ 24,096,074,302.00	42%
Current Transfers to Statutory Boards and Similar Bodies	\$ 5,562,121,855.00	10%
Debt Servicing	\$ 11,239,957,407.00	19%
Development Programme	\$ 2,499,116,000.00	4%
Total	\$ 57,917,018,000.00	100%

Draft Estimates of Expenditure for the Financial Year 2022, accessed on October 05, 2021:

<https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-of-Expenditure-2021-2022.pdf>



DIAGRAM 01: HEADS OF EXPENDITURE - BUDGET 2022



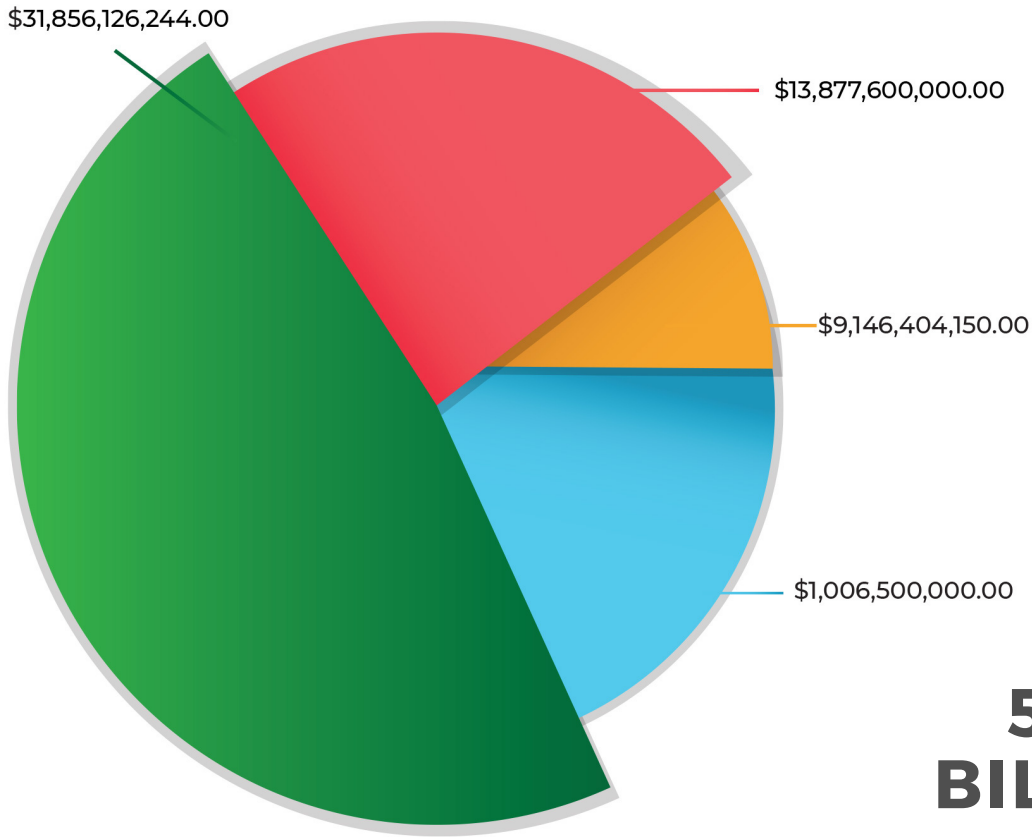
Draft Estimates of Expenditure for the Financial Year 2022, accessed on October 05, 2021:

<https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-of-Expenditure-2021-2022.pdf>



REVENUE- BUDGET 2022

\$55,886,630,394



● Tax Revenue
 ● Non-Tax Revenue
 ● Capital Receipts
 ● Financing

TAX REVENUE
UP 11%
 UP BY \$3,166,538,224.00

CAPITAL RECEIPTS
UP 10%
 UP BY \$94,371,058.00

FINANCING
UP 41%
 UP BY \$2,657,892,204.00

NON-TAX REVENUE
DOWN 33%
 DOWN BY \$6,832,550,681.00

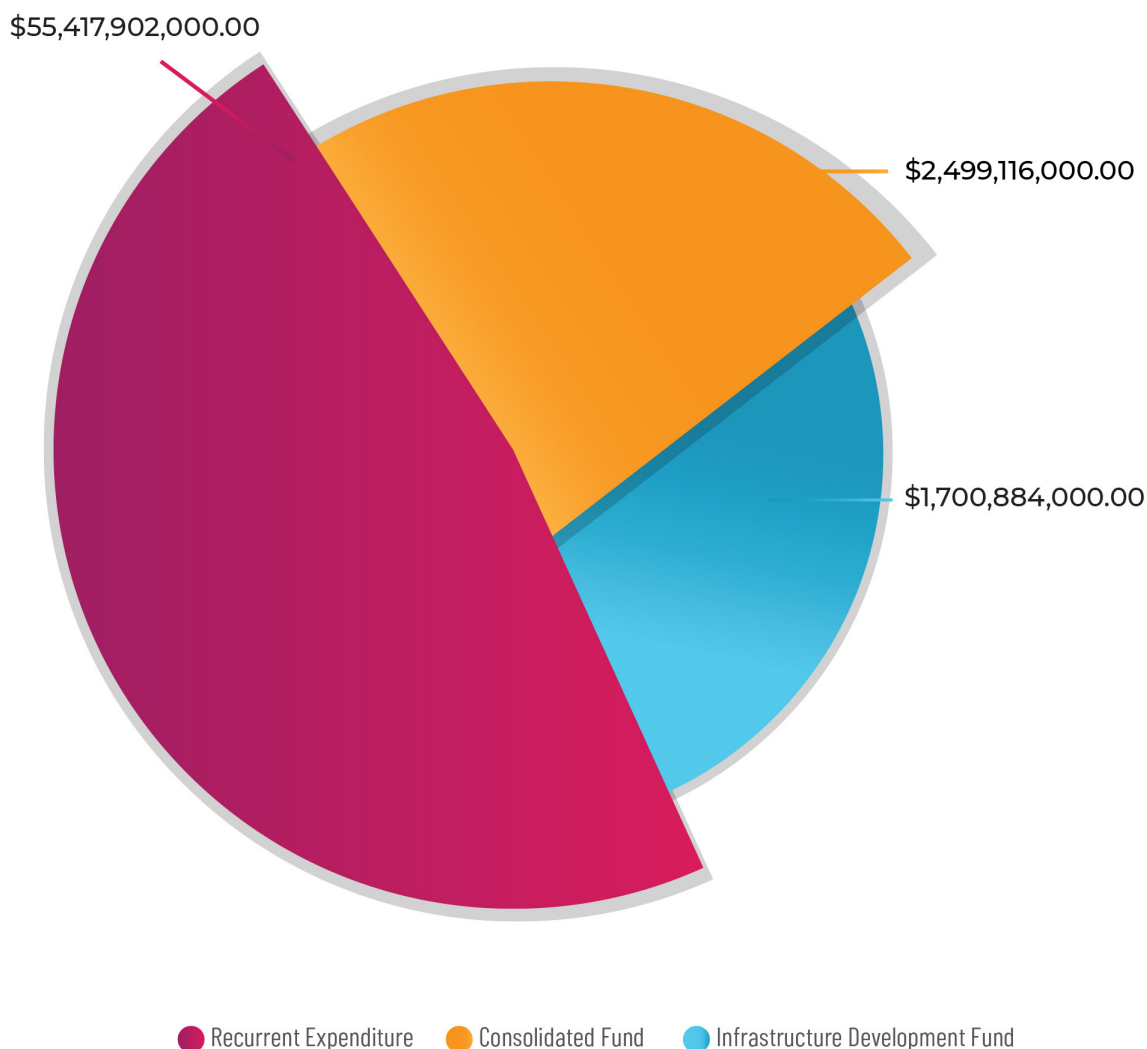
The 2020 Actual and 2021 Revised Estimates when compared, revealed an overall increase in Revenue in the sum of \$ 148,997,911.00




However, 2021 Revised Estimates and 2022 Estimates when compared revealed an overall decrease in revenue of \$913,749,195.00



EXPENDITURE- BUDGET 2022

\$57,917,018,000



	RECURRENT EXPENDITURE	UP 1%	UP BY \$400,914,878.00
	CONSOLIDATED FUND	UP 70%	UP BY \$1,025,763,614.00
	INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT FUND	UP 7%	UP BY \$113,011,754.00

Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure for the Financial Year 2022, accessed on October 05, 2021:
<https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-Details-of-Recurrent-Expenditure-2022.pdf>

Draft Estimates of Development Programme for the Financial Year 2022, accessed on October 05, 2021:
<https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Numbered-Draft-Estimates-of-Development-Programme-2022.pdf>



Sports and Community Development

Sports (Upgrading of Swimming Pools and Other Facilities)
Youth Development (Refurbishment of Youth Training Facilities, Refurbishment of the Youth Development and Apprenticeship Centres)



Healthcare System

Special Education
Hospitals and Other Services
Welfare Services
Public Buildings
Health Facilities
Equipment and Vehicles



Energy and Energy Industries

Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Initiatives
Environmental Policy Grant Project (EU)
Public Buildings



Labour

Business Services
Recreation and Culture
Youth Development
Development Institution



Public Utilities

Electricity
Postal Services
Major Water Sources
Transmission and Distribution Mains
Sanitary Services
Water and Sewerage
Welfare Services



DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES FUNDED FROM THE BUDGET



Agriculture, Land and Fisheries

Environmental Protection and Rehabilitation
Production and Marketing
Fishing
Forestry
Land Management Services
Research and Development
Drainage and Irrigation
Improvement and Expansion Works,
Emperor Valley Zoo
Other Economic Services



National Security Defence

Coast Guard
Regiment
Air Guard
Defence Force Headquarters
Defence Force Reserves
Prison Service
Immigration
Fire Service
Lifeguard Service
Forensic Laboratory and
Pathology Services

Works and Transport

Drainage and Irrigation
Sea Transport
Major River Clearing Programme
Infrastructure Rehab. And Flood Mitigation
Flood Alleviation and Drainage Programme
Coastal Protection
Air Transport
Bus Transport
Roads and Bridges
Road Systems and Operations and Services
Sea Transportation
Development Institution
Public Buildings



Education

Vocational and Technical
Education Services (Scholarships)
Science, Technology and Applied Arts
Public Buildings
Pre-Primary
Primary
Second
Special Education



Tourism, Culture and the Arts

Tourism Sites and Attractions
Upgrade
Cruise Tourism Initiative
Tourism and Industrial Development
Co. of T&T
Maracas Beach Facility
Improvement Project



Social Development and Family Services

Welfare Services
Establishment of a Data Centre and Storage Area
Public Buildings



PUBLIC SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME (PSIP) 2022 ALLOCATION BY SECTOR





PUBLIC SECTOR INVESTMENT PROGRAMME (PSIP) 2022 ALLOCATION BY SECTOR (TT\$MILLION)

SECTOR AND AREA	TOTAL ALLOCATION	CONSOLIDATED FUND	%	IDF	%
BUILDING GLOBALLY COMPETITIVE BUSINESSES	557.8	512.3	20.5	45.5	2.7
Agriculture	97.6	80.6	3.2	17.0	1.0
Economic Reconstructing and Transformation	132.1	132.1	5.3	0.0	0.0
Industrial Development	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Manufacturing	40.2	22.7	0.9	17.5	1.0
Tourism	54.7	46.7	1.9	8.0	0.5
Youth Development and Entrepreneurship	233.0	230.0	9.2	3.0	0.2
IMPROVING PRODUCTIVITY THROUGH QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORT	1306.4	651.0	26.0	655.4	38.6
Drainage	203.7	104.7	4.2	99.0	5.8
Electricity	40.3	40.3	1.6	0.0	0.0
Information Technology and Infrastructure	245.7	245.7	9.8	0.0	0.0
Roads and Bridges	493.5	123.5	4.9	370.0	21.8
Sewerage	81.1	0.0	0.0	81.1	4.8
Transportation	182.7	107.7	4.3	75.0	4.4
Urban and Regional Development	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Water Security	59.4	29.1	1.2	30.3	1.8
PLACING THE ENVIRONMENT AT THE CENTRE OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	20.2	17.7	0.7	2.5	0.1
Energy/ Renewable Energy Alternatives	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Environment	19.9	17.4	0.7	2.5	0.1
DELIVERING GOOD GOVERNANCE AND SERVICE EXCELLENCE	767.0	426.5	17.0	340.5	20.1
Administration	387.2	174.7	7.0	212.5	12.5
Capacity Building/ Institutional Strengthening	90.7	90.7	3.6	0.0	0.0
Communication	8.2	8.2	0.3	0.0	0.0
Law Enforcement	152.8	88.8	3.5	64.0	3.8
Public Safety and Citizen Security	126.6	62.6	2.5	64.0	3.8
Regional Development Planning	1.5	1.5	0.1	0.0	0.0
PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST: NURTURING OUR GREATEST ASSET	1548.6	894.7	35.8	653.9	38.5
Community Development	190.0	42.0	1.7	148.0	8.7
Culture	33.3	14.3	0.6	19.0	1.1
Early Childhood Education	7.8	1.8	0.1	6.0	0.4
Health/HIV AIDS	586.8	322.2	12.9	264.6	15.6
Housing and Shelter	153.0	153.0	6.1	0.0	0.0
Primary Education	39.8	14.1	0.6	25.7	1.5
Science, Research and Development	4.6	4.6	0.2	0.0	0.0
Secondary Education	61.6	16.4	0.7	45.2	2.7
Skills Development	25.4	25.4	1.0	0.0	0.0
Social Development	30.7	18.2	0.7	12.5	0.7
Special Education	12.2	9.7	0.4	2.5	0.1
Sport and Recreation	116.9	31.5	1.3	85.4	5.0
Tertiary Education	286.5	241.5	9.7	45.0	2.7
GRAND TOTAL	4200.0	2502.2	100.0	1697.8	100.0

Public Sector Investment Programme 2022, accessed on October 05, 2021: <https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Public-Sector-Investment-Programme-2022.pdf>



ECONOMIC ANALYSIS 2022





IMPORTANT CONCEPTS IN MACRO-ECONOMICS ANALYSIS

Macroeconomics is the study of the economy as a whole including growth in incomes, changes in the overall level of prices and the unemployment rate. When preparing the budget, it is necessary to assess the value of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), the inflation rate, employment tendencies, etc.

GDP is the goods and services produced in an economy for a given year. GDP is measured at current purchaser/ market prices and at constant base year prices. It is primarily used to assess the health of a country's economy and determine whether an economy is growing or experiencing a recession.

The GDP of a country comprises of personal consumption, private investment, government spending and exports (minus imports).

Macroeconomic projections are particularly important for revenue planning. For example, if private consumption is expected to increase, Value Added Tax and excise revenues are also expected to rise. Also, an expected increase in employment should translate into an increase in tax revenues (VAT, excise taxes, personal income tax) and social security contributions.

Fiscal Year	Population '000	Percentage change constant GDP	GDP Per Capita (US\$)	Inflation (%)	Unemployment %	Fiscal Balance (% of GDP) ¹	Import Cover Ratio (Months) ²	Public Sector External Debt (US \$Mn) ³
2010	1,317.7	3.3	16,888.3	10.5	5.9	0.1	13.3	2,038.4
2011	1,328.0	-0.3	19,180.2	5.1	4.9	-0.7	13.7	2,227.0
2012	1,335.2	1.3	19,374.8	9.3	5.0	-1.3	10.6	1,980.9
2013	1,340.6	2.2	20,427.0	5.2	3.7	-2.8	12.2	2,533.7
2014	1,345.3	-0.9	20,604.7	5.7	3.3	-2.5	12.9	2,537.5
2015	1,349.7	1.5	18,562.4	4.7	3.4	-1.7	11.2	2,553.0
2016	1,353.9	-5.6	16,598.5	3.1	4.0	-5.3	10.5	3,518.8
2017	1,356.6	-3.0	16,563.2	1.9	4.8	-9.0	9.7	3,896.0
2018	1,359.2	0.1	17,458.4	1.0	3.9	-3.6	8.0	4,096.2
2019	1,364.0	-1.2	17,012.6	1.0	4.3*	-2.6	7.7	4,221.6
2020	1,366.7	n.a.	n.a.	0.6	n.a.	-11.2	8.5	4,803.4

Sources: Central Statistical Office, Ministry of Finance and Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

¹ The Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago website (<https://www.central-bank.org.tt/statistics/handbook-key-economic-and-financial-statistics>) accessed on 27 Aug 21 are readily available to and controlled by monetary authorities for direct financing of payments imbalances, for indirectly regulating the magnitudes of such imbalances through intervention in exchange markets and for other purposes. Typically, they include securities, gold, IMF special drawing rights (SDRs), a country's holding of foreign currency and deposits, reserve position in the IMF, and other claims (Balance of Payments Manual 6th Edition Paragraph 6.64).

² Comprises Central Government External Debt and Guaranteed External Debt of State-Owned Enterprises and Statutory authorities.

* Average for the first, second and fourth quarters of 2019. Labour force data for the third quarter of 2019 are not yet available.

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n.a.. Not available.



Important Terms

Real GDP The total income of everyone in the economy (adjusted for price level).

Real GDP growth rate is the most important indicator of a country's economic growth and is derived by computing the per cent change in GDP at constant prices.

Inflation prices of most goods and services are rising over time.

Inflation Rate is the percentage increase in the average level of prices.

Unemployment the number of people who are available for work and are actively seeking it but cannot find jobs.

Unemployment Rate The fraction of labor force that is out of work.





MONETARY POLICY CONSIDERATIONS



The Central Bank Monetary Policy Report May 2021, Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago website (<https://www.central-bank.org.tt/sites/default/files/reports/monetary-policy-report-may-2021-visual-summary.pdf>) accessed on 27Aug21



DOMESTIC ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL CONDITIONS

Domestic Economic and Financial Conditions

Provisional data for October 2020-March 2021 shows a total face value of **\$7.5bn** in bonds raised by the Central Government on the primary bond market, compared with **\$5.6bn** in the same period a year ago.



During the fourth quarter, the energy sector fell by **20.9%** on a year-on-year basis, while activity in the non-energy sector slipped by **2.2%**. Construction activity increased by **4.6%** in the first quarter of 2021 based on higher cement sales.



Gross official reserves stood at **US\$7.5bn** at the end of May 2021 or **8.1** months of prospective imports.



On a year-on-year basis, consumer and business lending declined by **3.3%** and **3.5%** in March 2021 respectively.



The Central Bank Monetary Policy Report May 2021, . Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago website (<https://www.central-bank.org.tt/sites/default/files/reports/monetary-policy-report-may-2021-visual-summary.pdf>) accessed on 27Aug21



INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS



The Central Bank Monetary Policy Report May 2021, Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago website (<https://www.central-bank.org.tt/sites/default/files/reports/monetary-policy-report-may-2021-visual-summary.pdf>) accessed on 27Aug21



Trinidad and Tobago is rated by two international credit rating agencies; Moody's Investors Service (Moody's) and Standard & Poor's Global Ratings (S&P) and one regional rating agency, Caribbean Information and Credit Rating Services Limited (CariCRIS). Even amidst a pandemic, Trinidad and Tobago is currently assigned ratings of non-investment grade by Moody's (Baa3 and Ba1) and investment grade by S&P (BBB-/A-3) due to differing methodologies employed by the various agencies. Additionally, CariCRIS lowered its sovereign issuer ratings assigned to the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (GORTT) by 1 notch to CariAA (Foreign and Local Currency Ratings) on its regional rating scale. CariCRIS upgraded the outlook for Trinidad and Tobago from negative to stable in 2021 while S&P revised its outlook for Trinidad and Tobago from stable to negative.

Table 7: Trinidad and Tobago Credit Rating History by Moody's Investors Service: 2007-2020

Year	Outlook	Foreign Currency Ceiling				Government Bond Ratings	
		Bonds and Notes		Bank Deposits		Foreign Currency	Local Currency
		Long term	Short term	Long term	Short term	Long term	Short term
July 2020	Negative	Baa3	...	Ba2	...	Ba1	Ba1
June 2019	Stable	Baa3	P-3	Ba2	NP	Ba1	Ba1
May 2018	Stable	Baa3	P-3	Ba2	NP	Ba1	Ba1
Apr 2017	Stable	Baa3	P-3	Ba2	NP	Ba1	Ba1
Apr 2016	Negative	Baa2	P-3	Baa3	P-3	Baa3	Baa3
Apr 2015	Negative	A3	P-2	Baa2	P-3	Baa2	Baa2
Jan 2014	Stable	A1	P-1	Baa1	P-2	Baa1	Baa1
Jan 2013	Stable	A1	...	Baa1	...	Baa1	Baa1
Aug 2012	Stable	A1	...	Baa1	...	Baa1	Baa1
July 2011	Stable	A1	...	Baa1	...	Baa1	Baa1
Jun 2010	Stable	A1	...	Baa1	...	Baa1	Baa1
Jun 2009	Stable	A1	...	Baa1	...	Baa1	Baa1
Dec 2008	Stable	A1	...	Baa1	...	Baa1	Baa1
Oct 2007	Stable	A1	...	Baa1	P-2	Baa1	Baa1

Source: Moody's Investors Service (2020)



Table 8: Trinidad and Tobago Credit Rating History by Standard and Poor's Ratings Service: 2008-2021

Year	Outlook	Foreign Currency Ceiling		Local Currency	
		Long term	Short term	Long term	Short term
July 2021	Negative	BBB-	A-3	BBB-	A-3
March 2020	Stable	BBB-	A-3	BBB-	A-3
July 2019	Stable	BBB	A-2	Ba2	A-2
Apr 2018	Negative	BBB+	A-2	Ba2	A-2
Apr 2017	Stable	BBB+	A-2	Baa3	A-2
Apr 2016	Negative	A-	A-2	A-	A-2
Dec 2015	Negative	A	A-1	A	A-1
Dec 2014	Stable	A	A-1	A	A-1
Jan 2013	Stable	A	A-1	A	A-1
Jan 2012	Stable	A	A-1	A	A-1
Aug 2011	Stable	A	A-1	A	A-1
Jan 2011	Stable	A	A-1	A+	A-1
Dec 2009	Stable	A	A-1	A+	A-1
Apr 2009	Negative	A	A-1	A+	A-1
Aug 2008	Stable	A	A-2	A+	A-1

Source: Standard and Poor Global Ratings Service (2021)



Table 9: Trinidad and Tobago Credit Rating History by Caribbean Information and Credit Rating Services: 2012-2021

Year	Regional Scale		Trinidad and Tobago National Scale
	Foreign Currency	Local Currency	
2021	CariAA	CariAA	ttAAA
2020	CariAA+	CariAA+	ttAAA
2019	CariAA+	CariAA+	ttAAA
2018	CariAA+	CariAA+	ttAAA
2017	CariAA+	CariAA+	ttAAA
2016	CariAA+	CariAA+	ttAAA
2015	CariAAA	CariAAA	ttAAA
2014	CariAAA	CariAAA	ttAAA
2013	CariAAA	CariAAA	ttAAA
2012	CariAAA	CariAAA	ttAAA

Source: Caribbean Information and Credit Rating Services Limited (CariCRIS) (2021)



The Review of the Economy 2021 accessed on October 08, 2021: <https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Review-of-the-Economy-2021.pdf>



COVID-19 PANDEMIC EFFECTS



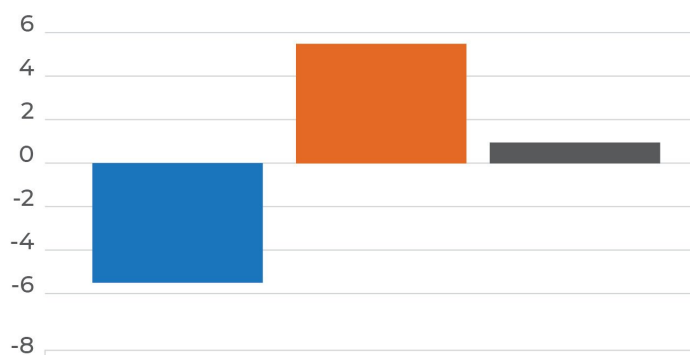


SNAPSHOTS FROM THE CARIBBEAN

The effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Trinidad and Tobago's Economy ¹

The COVID-19 pandemic and the measures taken to manage its effects took a toll on the economy. The following is a snapshot on three important aspects of the economy: national output, public² debt and price levels.

Pandemic Effects on TT Economy



	Percentage Change
■ Gross Domestic Product	-5.74
■ Debt to GDP Ratio	5.07
■ Consumer Price Index	0.82

The Small State Effect

Trinidad and Tobago, as well as most of the countries and territories of the insular Caribbean are classified as Small Island Developing States (SIDS). Belize, Guyana and Suriname are also small states, defined as countries with populations of under 1.5 million. It is also recognised that some countries face similar challenges to small states despite having populations over 1.5 million. In addition to their small population, small states are vulnerable because of:

¹ Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, Data Centre <<https://www.central-bank.org.tt/statistics/data-centre>> accessed August 26, 2021
² The comparison made here is between 2019 and 2020.
³ World Bank, The World Bank in Small States <<https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/smallstates>> accessed August 26, 2021
⁴ The Commonwealth, Small States <<https://thecommonwealth.org/our-work/small-states>> accessed August 26, 2021



- Geographic positioning;
- Strong dependence on trade;
- Limited access to development finance; and
- Climate change.

This vulnerability brings with it the following challenges:

- Debt sustainability;
- Disproportionate impact of natural disasters.
- Difficulty of coping with external economic shocks, such as pandemics; and
- High levels of migration and skills leakages.

Major factors affecting Caribbean countries

The COVID-19 pandemic and the measures taken to manage its effects took a toll on the economy. The following is a snapshot on three important aspects of the economy: national output, public Over the past 12 months, Caribbean countries have had to deal with the following specific issues:

- Natural disasters: hurricanes and tropical storms;
- The decimation of the tourism sector as global travel came to a standstill due to the COVID-19 pandemic;
- The struggle to procure sufficient quantities of COVID-19 vaccines through bilateral, inter-regional and international cooperation;
- Foreign exchange shortages which threatened international business transactions especially given the region's high dependence on trade;
- Managing the fallout of the Venezuelan crisis: continued trafficking of persons and clandestine entry into Caribbean countries; and
- Worsening political and humanitarian crisis in Haiti: the assassination of the country's President in July 2021 and the destruction caused by an earthquake in August 2021.



COVID-19 SPENDING- GLOBAL COMPARISONS

In May 2020, it was announced that Trinidad and Tobago's projected COVID-19 relief spending would be TT \$6 billion (US \$0.9 billion). In August 2021, it was reported that approximately TT \$5 billion (US \$0.75 billion) of the projected funds had been spent up to that time. This represented at 3.5% of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) estimated at US \$2.5 billion in 2020. This was generally comparable to spending in other countries with populations and/or economies similar in size to Trinidad and Tobago, as seen in the following table.

COVID-19 GOVERNMENT SPENDING IN COUNTRIES SIMILAR TO TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO								
COUNTRY	POPULATION (MILLIONS)	CASES	CASES PER 100,00 POPULATION	DEATHS	DEATHS PER 100,000 POPULATION	NUMBER OF VACCINES DOSE ADMINISTERED (MILLIONS)	GDP (\$US BILLION)	SPENDING (%GDP)
Trinidad and Tobago	1.39	42,839	3,063	1,215	87	0.83	21.5	3.5
Bahrain	1.64	271,257	16,540	1,385	85	2.44	38.5	6.0
Botswana	2.35	146,461	6,232	2,081	89	0.41	15.8	1.51
Cyprus	1.19	110,518	9,287	470	40	1.06	23.8	3.6
Equatorial Guinea	1.36	9,010	663	123	9	0.33	10.0	1.0
Gabon	2.17	25,626	1,181	165	8	0.12	15.6	2.0
Eswatini	1.15	38,739	3,369	973	85	0.18	4.0	1.9
Mauritius	1.27	7,070	557	22	2	1.3	10.9	3.5
Fiji	0.89	42,611	4,735	421	47	0.75	4.4	8.7
AVERAGE	1.49	77,098	5,070	761	51	0.82	16.1	3.5

Compared to these countries with very similar population size and varying economic fortunes, Trinidad and Tobago's spending as a percentage of GDP is situated exactly at the average. The figures noted for countries' COVID-19 relief spending were different from the originally estimated spending in 2020. For example, Equatorial Guinea's spending was 1% of GDP compared to an initial estimate of 2%. Similarly, spending in Cyprus amounted to 3.6% compared to the initial forecast of 4.5%. It should, however, be noted that given the uncharacteristic year on year changes in all countries GDP figures, it is quite difficult to accurately draw conclusions based on such trends.

- 5 Ministry of Finance website, COVID-19 Support Measures <https://www.finance.gov.tt/covid-19-support-measures> accessed August 20, 2021
- 6 Trinidad and Tobago Guardian, Imbert reveals over \$5 billion spent on COVID relief so far <https://guardian.co.tt/news/imbert-reveals-over-5-billion-spent-on-covid-relief-so-far-6.2.1372612.05d67d6eb1> accessed August 20, 2021
- 7 Ministry of Finance, Review of the Economy 2021 <https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Review-of-the-Economy-2020.pdf> accessed August 20, 2021
- 8 Includes social, health and economy-related spending.



COVID-19 GOVERNMENT SPENDING - COMPARISON WITH SELECTED CARICOM COUNTRIES								
COUNTRY	POPULATION (MILLIONS)	CASES	CASES PER 100,00 POPULATION	DEATHS	DEATHS PER 100,000 POPULATION	NUMBER OF VACCINES DOSE ADMINISTERED (MILLIONS)	GDP (\$US BILLION)	SPENDING (%GDP)
Trinidad and Tobago	1.39	42,839	3,063	1,215	87	828,768	21.5	3.5
Bahamas	0.39	16,848	4,287	316	81	119,473	11.3	2.5
Belize	0.40	15,182	3,796	347	87	212,380	1.8	1.0
Jamaica	2.96	59,932	2,025	1,342	46	420,627	13.8	4.6
St. Kitts and Nevis	0.05	742	1,400	3	6	44,124	0.9	3.7
St. Lucia	0.18	6,736	3,743	95	53	61,566	1.7	11.5
St. Vincent & the Grenadines	0.11	2,320	2,090	12	11	25,833	0.8	3.6
Suriname	0.59	26,916	4,562	692	117	292,810	3.8	4.4
AVERAGE	0.76	21,440	3,121	503	61	250,698	7.0	4.4

Per capita cases of COVID-19 in Trinidad and Tobago are near the average for other CARICOM countries for which data was available. Trinidad and Tobago's spending to manage the effects of the pandemic is below the known average observed elsewhere in CARICOM. However, if the outliers (St Lucia and Belize) are removed for greater comparability, the Trinidad and Tobago figure is almost equal to the average of 3.7% for the remaining countries.

Sources of Information for Data in Table:

CNN, *Tracking COVID-19 Vaccinations Worldwide*

<https://edition.cnn.com/interactive/2021/health/global-covid-vaccinations/> accessed August 21, 2021

International Monetary Fund, *Policy Responses to COVID-19*

<https://www.imf.org/en/Topics/imf-and-covid19/Policy-Responses-to-COVID-19> accessed August 21, 2021

Ministry of Health, *COVID-19 News and Updates* <https://health.gov.tt/covid-19/covid-19-news-and-updates> accessed August 21, 2021

World Bank, *Population* <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.TOTL> accessed August 21, 2021

World Bank, *GDP (current US\$)* <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.MKTP.CD> accessed August 21, 2021

World Health Organization, *WHO Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Dashboard* <https://covid19.who.int/> accessed August 21, 2021



ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPLORE

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES	WAYS TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO COULD BENEFIT
<p>1) Oil and Gas in Neighbouring Countries:</p> <p>Similar to recent petroleum-related developments⁹ in Guyana, Suriname has been making progress over the past decade as a new actor in the sector¹⁰. In a context of a 45% rebound¹¹ in oil prices after the lows of 2020, contracts for the operation of several offshore blocks are expected to be concluded before the end of 2021¹².</p> <p>These nearby oil discoveries are recognised as an opportunity that Trinidad and Tobago needs to do more to capitalise upon¹³.</p>	<p>i. Other CARICOM countries are keen on providing investor services for these emerging oil industries¹⁴. Trinidad and Tobago can leverage its strong investment promotion and financial services infrastructure to do likewise.</p> <p>ii. Trinidad and Tobago could collaborate with Guyana on the development and maintenance of petroleum industry-related infrastructure, building on previously concluded bilateral agreements¹⁵. There may also be potential to provide refinery and storage services for Guyana and / or Suriname crude oil.</p>

Per capita cases of COVID-19 in Trinidad and Tobago are near the average for other CARICOM countries for which data was available. Trinidad and Tobago's spending to manage the effects of the pandemic is below the known average observed elsewhere in CARICOM. However, if the outliers (St Lucia and Belize) are removed for greater comparability, the Trinidad and Tobago figure is almost equal to the average of 3.7% for the remaining countries.

⁹ Stabroek News, Suriname, Guyana announce near simultaneous oil finds <https://www.stabroeknews.com/2021/08/06/business/suriname-guyana-announce-near-simultaneous-oil-finds/> accessed August 26, 2021

¹⁰ Inter-American Development Bank, Suriname, an undiscovered oil resource in the Caribbean <https://blogs.iadb.org/caribbean-dev-trends/en/suriname-an-undiscovered-oil-resource-in-the-caribbean/> accessed August 26, 2021

¹¹ CNBC, Analysts share their price forecasts after a strong rally in the first half of 2021 <https://www.cnbc.com/2021/07/02/oil-prices-analysts-on-the-outlook-for-crude-after-strong-first-half.html> accessed August 26, 2021

¹² Reuters, Guyana, Suriname eye further drilling from oil majors after discoveries <https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/guyana-suriname-eye-further-drilling-oil-majors-after-discoveries-2021-08-18/> accessed August 26, 2021

¹³ CNC3 Television, Guyana oil find a huge opportunity for T&T <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vCP5GAbFQAQ> accessed August 26, 2021

¹⁴ Barbados Today, Barbados positioned to offer services to Guyana's oil industry <https://barbadostoday.bb/2021/07/30/barbados-positioned-to-offer-services-in-guyanas-oil-industry/> accessed August 26, 2021

¹⁵ Kaieteur News, Guyana, Trinidad sign energy agreement <https://www.kaieteurnewsonline.com/2018/09/20/guyana-trinidad-sign-energy-agreement-grangerthere-is-no-sell-out-here-rowley-we-need-to-stop-talking-and-start-doing-t-maintain-and-help-develop-related-facilities/> accessed August 26, 2021



POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES	WAYS TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO COULD BENEFIT
<p>2) Digitalisation of the Culture Industry</p> <p>The digital economy is a key component of economic growth going forward. Interconnectivity facilitated by Information and Communication Technology (ICT) reduces the gap between buyers and sellers.</p> <p>In the cultural field, the COVID-19 pandemic fundamentally altered the physical dynamics of how festivals such as carnival are operated and experienced.</p>	<p>i. Policies to spur innovation and entrepreneurship to mainstream 'virtual carnival' as a new take on an established cultural product could bring back productive activity to the cultural/events sector. Digitalisation could also create new markets for services and open new revenue streams¹⁶.</p>

ECONOMIC THREATS TO MITIGATE AGAINST

THREATS	MITIGATING STRATEGIES
<p>1) Inequitable access to COVID-19 vaccines</p> <p>The continued effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have made vaccine availability a top priority in all countries in order to protect health while reopening and beginning to rebuild damaged economies.</p> <p>Small developing States have struggled to source vaccines as richer countries engage in what has been called 'vaccine nationalism'¹⁷. This means that, in pursuing their national interest, some powerful countries use their influence to ensure that they receive all the vaccines they want, regardless of the amounts that other countries need.</p> <p>Insufficient supplies of vaccines will weaken Trinidad and Tobago's capacity to successfully revive the economy in order to achieve the rebound in economic activity forecasted from 2021 onwards by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund due to "declining infection rates" due to "progress on the development of vaccines"¹⁸.</p>	<p>International Cooperation</p> <p>i. The GORTT will have to continue its international cooperation initiatives including those underway via CARICOM¹⁹ with the African Medical Supplies Platform (AMSP) of the African Union.</p>

¹⁶ World Trade Organisation, World Trade Report 2020 – Government policies to promote innovation in the digital age <https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/booksp_e/wtr20_e/wtr20_e.pdf> accessed August 26, 2021

¹⁷ World Economic Forum, Vaccine Nationalism and How it Could Affect Us All <<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2021/01/what-is-vaccine-nationalism-coronavirus-its-affects-covid-19-pandemic>> accessed August 26, 2021

¹¹ Ministry of Finance, Review of the Economy 2021 <<https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Review-of-the-Economy-2020.pdf>> accessed August 26, 2021

¹⁸ Ministry of Finance, Review of the Economy 2021 <<https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Review-of-the-Economy-2020.pdf>> accessed August 26, 2021

¹⁹ CARICOM website, Statement by the Caribbean Community on Access to COVID-19 Vaccines <<https://caricom.org/statement-by-the-caribbean-community-on-access-to-covid-19-vaccines/>> accessed August 26, 2021



THREATS	MITIGATING STRATEGIES
<p>2) Climate Change</p> <p>UN Sustainable Development Goal #2 is to “End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture”²⁰.</p> <p>Climate change has consequences for Small Island Developing States’ (SIDS) agriculture and food security. It increases the likelihood of extreme weather events such as floods²¹, which have been known to affect Trinidad and Tobago.</p> <p>Food security is especially important given the need to reduce Trinidad and Tobago’s high food import bill.</p>	<p>Follow Vision 2030²²</p> <p>i. Pursue policies to improve farming productivity and to develop local food business and entrepreneurship. Implement sustainable agriculture policies to that the country can produce much more of what it consumes.</p>
<p>3) Shrinking Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)</p> <p>FDI decreased in most Caribbean countries in 2020, by an average of 25.5%²³. For Trinidad and Tobago, the situation was even more acute. The FDI decrease was so large that investment outflows exceeded the value of investments coming into the country by US\$ 175 million. This was mostly due to continuing energy sector divestments – defined as removal of investment capital²⁴ – and lagging oil prices. In 2019, there was enough investment in the non-energy sector to offset energy sector divestments. However, in 2020 the global economic slowdown brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic stifled investment across all sectors.</p>	<p>Investment Promotion</p> <p>i. The reopening of the global economy is expected to result in a post-pandemic economic boom²⁵. Trinidad and Tobago needs strong initiatives by the Investment Promotion Agency InvesTT such as the collaboration between the Agency and TT Overseas Missions to showcase investment opportunities²⁶.</p> <p>ii. Despite the guarded optimism about oil prices globally, fossil fuel divestment is a reminder of the longstanding need to continue diversifying the economy to reduce reliance on oil and gas revenues.</p>

²⁰ United Nations Development Programme. Goal 2 Zero Hunger <<https://www.undp.org/sustainable-development-goals#zero-hunger>> accessed August 26, 2021

²¹ United Nations. *Climate Change – Small Island Developing States* <https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/cc_sids.pdf> accessed August 26, 2021

²² Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. Vision 2030 p. 34 <<https://www.planning.gov.tt/sites/default/files/Vision%202030-%20The%20National%20Development%20Strategy%20of%20Trinidad%20and%20Tobago%202016-2030.pdf>> accessed August 25, 2021

²³ Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, *Foreign Direct Investment in Latin America and the Caribbean 2021* <https://repositorio.cepal.org/bitstream/handle/11362/47148.2/4/S2100318_en.pdf> accessed August 26, 2021

²⁴ The Guardian. *A Beginner’s guide to fossil fuel divestment* <<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/jun/23/a-beginners-guide-to-fossil-fuel-divestment>> accessed August 26, 2021

²⁵ U.S. News. *One year after the pandemic struck, global economy expected to boom* <<https://www.usnews.com/news/best-countries/articles/2021-04-13/global-economy-set-for-a-post-pandemic-boom>> accessed August 26, 2021

²⁶ InvesTT. *InvesTT works with Overseas Missions to promote investment opportunities* <<http://www.investt.co.tt/news-and-events/investt-works-with-overse/index.xml>> accessed August 26, 2021



THREATS	MITIGATING STRATEGIES
<p>4) Foreign Exchange Shortage</p> <p>The inability to access foreign currency continues to make international transactions more difficult and costly for importers of finished goods as well as inputs for local manufacturing. This leads to product shortages and higher prices for customers.</p> <p>According to the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, “the stock of foreign reserves declined in the first five months of 2021, notwithstanding drawdowns from the Heritage and Stabilisation Fund (HSF) and external borrowing to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the economy”²⁷.</p>	<p>Monetary policy initiatives</p> <p>i. The Central Bank reported that it sold US currency to authorised dealers in order to support the foreign exchange market²⁸. This will remain necessary going forward. In August 2021, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) approved a Special Drawing Rights (SDR) allocation of US \$650 billion to help countries to cope with foreign exchange shortages caused by the pandemic.</p> <p>Approximately 40% of the allocation will go to developing countries like Trinidad and Tobago which will receive US \$644 million pushing the country’s Net Foreign Reserves to over US \$7 billion³⁰. This will enable the GORTT to inject US \$ into the banking and manufacturing sectors and make US currency available to importers.</p> <p>Other</p> <p>ii. Initiatives aimed at reducing imports while growing exports.</p>

²⁷ Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, *Monetary Policy Report – May 2021* <<https://www.central-bank.org.tt/sites/default/files/page-file-uploads/monetary-policy-report-may-2021.pdf>> accessed August 26, 2021

²⁸ Ibid

²⁹ International Monetary Fund, *IMF Governors Approve a Historic US \$650 Billion SDR Allocation of Special Drawing Rights* <<https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2021/07/30/pr21235-imf-governors-approve-a-historic-us-650-billion-sdr-allocation-of-special-drawing-rights>> accessed August 26, 2021

³⁰ Loop TT, *US\$644 M boost for T&T as IMF distributes Special Drawing Rights* <<https://tt.loopnews.com/content/us644m-boost-tt-imf-distributes-special-drawing-rights>> accessed August 26, 2021



GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Appropriation Act

Any enactment authorizing the issue of moneys from the Consolidated Fund to meet expenditure of the Government, and includes a provision of any enactment or of the Constitution which charges expenditure on that Fund.

Appropriation Bill.

An Appropriation Bill gives power to the government to disburse funds from the Consolidated and Infrastructure Development Fund for meeting the expenditure during the financial year. The government can only withdraw money from the Consolidated Fund after receiving approval from the Parliament. The Appropriation Bill specifies the quantum and purpose for withdrawing money and which Head of Expenditure the monies will be appropriated to.

Accounting Officer

Any person appointed by the Treasury and charged with the duty of accounting for any service in respect of which moneys have been appropriated by the Constitution or by Parliament, or any person to whom issues are made from the Exchequer Account.

Audit

A systematic and independent examination of books, accounts, statutory records, documents and vouchers of an organization to ascertain how far the financial statements as well as the non-financial disclosures presents a true and fair view of the concern.

Auditor General

An auditor general is the head of a supreme audit institution and independent from the Executive and responsible for assisting Parliament in its scrutiny of public expenditure.

Balanced Budget

A budget where total revenues equal total expenditure for a given fiscal year. When the budget is not balance, it is either in deficit or surplus.

Budget

An itemized summary of estimated or intended expenditures for a given period along with proposals for financing them. The budget is the main economic policy tool of the government and indicates how it plans to use public resources to meet policy goals.

Budget Process

The sequence by which a budget is drafted, approved by the legislature, executed and audited.

Budget Speech

A presentation made in the House by the Minister of Finance introducing the Government's plans concerning fiscal, economic and social policy (the budget).

Budget Statement

A listing of planned revenue and expenditure for a given period of time.

Cabinet

The executive of the Government, consisting of those MPs and Senators appointed by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister. It is responsible for the administration of the Government and the establishment of its policy.

Cabinet minister

A member of the executive, appointed by the President on the advice of the Prime Minister. Chosen from among existing MPs and Senators, Ministers are responsible to Parliament for their official actions and those of their Departments. Cabinet Ministers are given the title "Honourable".



GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Call Circular

The call circular sets out the requirements that must be followed in the preparation of the draft estimates for the financial year. The preparation of the estimates should take into consideration the policy strategies which outlines Government's perspective and intent on the socio-economic transformation for the period.

Capital Revenue

Capital Revenue include proceeds from transactions under the Government's Sale of Assets Programme, related mainly to the repayment of debt owed to the Government of Trinidad and Tobago by Colonial Life Insurance Company (Trinidad) Limited (CLICO).

Committee

A body of MPs, or Senators or both, selected to consider such matters, including bills, as the House/s may refer to it or empower it to examine. There are several types of committees: sessional, special and joint committees as well as Committees of the Whole.

Committee Clerk

The procedural Clerk acting as administrative officer and adviser on parliamentary procedure to a committee. The Committee Clerk takes the minutes of proceedings at all committee meetings and may draft rulings on procedural questions as well as the reports for the committee chairman.

Committee hearing

The receiving of oral evidence by a committee either publicly or in camera.

Committee of the Whole

All of the Members of the House sitting in the Chamber as a committee. Such committees usually sit to scrutinize a bill, clause by clause.

Committee stage

(of a bill). Detailed study of the clauses of a bill by a committee (could be a committee of the Whole or a select committee). This stage, which may include the taking of evidence or the receiving of documents, is the first at which amendments may be proposed to specific provisions of the bill.

Committee Report

A Committee's Report contains all the opinions and observations of the Committee, and is accompanied by the Minutes of each meeting and all evidence taken before the Committee. Once approved by all members, such report is presented to the House or Senate by the Chairman or any other Member deputed by the Committee along with any minority reports where applicable.

Consolidated Fund

This fund refers to all revenues (taxes, custom duties and interest) or other moneys raised or received by Trinidad and Tobago. Funds appropriated by Parliament and authorized for meeting expenditure for the service of Trinidad and Tobago are taken from the Consolidated Fund.

Contingency Fund

A reserve of money set aside to cover possible unforeseen future expenses.

Contingent Liability

Obligations that are not recognized in the balance sheet because they depend upon some future event happening.

Corporation Tax

Tax payable by companies, based on the taxable profits of the period.

Exchequer and Audit Act (Chap 69:01)

An Act to provide for the control and management of the public finances of Trinidad and Tobago; for the duties and powers of the Auditor General; for the collection, issue and payment of public moneys; for the audit of public accounts and the protection and recovery of public property; for the control of the powers of statutory bodies; and for matters connected therewith.

Excise Taxes

Taxes on the manufacture or sale of certain domestic or imported products that are often charged on products such as alcoholic beverages, tobacco and petroleum.

Expenditure

Spending to fulfill a government obligation, generally by issuing a cheque or disbursing cash. Expenditure is sometimes distinguished between capital and current. Capital expenditures are investments in physical assets, such as roads and buildings that can be used for a number of years. Current expenditures reflect spending on wages, benefit payments, and other goods or services that are consumed immediately.



GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Departments

Departments refer to governmental organizations not headed by a Minister that deal with a particular area of interest that generally cover matters where direct political oversight is inappropriate or unnecessary.

Development Programme

Development Programme refers to capital expenditure aimed at improving and enhancing development in different areas of Trinidad and Tobago which includes; human resources, economic and social development. The monies used to fund Development Programme expenditure are derived from two sources namely the Consolidated Fund and the Infrastructure Development Fund.

Direct Tax

A tax paid directly to the government, for example a tax imposed on the income of individuals or companies.

Draft Estimates of Revenue

This document shows a detailed listing of the inflows to the Consolidated Fund (CF) according to Receivers of Revenue and a summary showing the various Revenue classifications - Tax Revenue, Non-Tax Revenue, Capital Revenue and Financing for a three year period.

Draft Estimates of Expenditure

This document provides a Summary of all Expenditure (Recurrent and Development Programme (DP) including the Infrastructure Development Fund (IDF)) by Heads and Sub-Heads for each Ministry/Department for a three year period and details of the Establishment for each Ministry/Department for a two year period.

Draft Estimates – Details of Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure

This document provides details at sub-item level for a three year period of the Recurrent Expenditure Budget for each Head of Expenditure and a Summary of Recurrent Expenditure totals by Head. It also includes a Chart of Accounts and classification of Expenditure Sub-items under the Personnel Expenditure, Goods & Services and Minor Equipment Purchases Sub-Heads.

Draft Estimates of the Revenue and Expenditure of the Statutory Boards and Similar Bodies and of the Tobago House of Assembly

This document provides details of the Budget (Revenue/Income and Expenditure) at sub-item level for all Statutory Boards and other Similar Agencies and the Tobago House of Assembly (THA). It also includes a Chart of Accounts and classification of Expenditure Sub-items under the Personnel Expenditure, Goods and Services and Minor Equipment Purchases Sub-Heads.

Draft Estimates of Development Programme

This document provides a summary and details of all projects for the Consolidated Fund for a three year period according to Heads of Expenditure of Ministries/Departments and the THA. It also includes a summary and details of projects falling under Head 701 - IDF for the same three year period.

Executive

The person or persons in whom the supreme executive power of a government is vested. Executive power lies with the Prime Minister and his Cabinet which is appointed from Members of Parliament.

Fiscal Discipline

The control of key measures of fiscal performance, including total spending, total revenue, the fiscal balance and the public debt.

Fiscal Policy

Policy on tax, spending and borrowing by the government, which is used to influence macroeconomic conditions. Example of fiscal policy to stimulate short term economic growth is to increase government spending or increase taxes intended to restrain inflation

Fiscal year (FY)

The twelve-month period, from October 1 to September 30, used by the Government for budgetary and accounting purposes.

Fixed Interest Rate

When the interest rate of a loan remains the same for the term of the loan or an agreed timeframe.

Grants

Funds that the national government disburses directly to lower levels of government, corporations, nonprofit organizations and individuals. Some grants are given for specific purposes, requiring the recipients to meet certain conditions or requirements.



GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Government Funding

Money given by government agencies to non-governmental organizations and individuals. Funding may come in the form of grants, loans or government assistance.

Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

A measure of total national output, income and expenditure in the economy. GDP per head is the simplest overall measure of welfare, although it does not take account of the distribution of income, nor of goods and services that are produced outside the market economy, such as work within the household.

Government Subvention

A grant of money in aid or support. This term is commonly used in the Budget.

Head of Expenditure

This refers to all Ministries / Departments or State Agencies that make up the Schedule to the Appropriation Bill.

Incremental Budgeting

A budget formulation process that focuses only on one year and how the budget for each program differs from the levels adopted in the previous year.

Indirect tax

A tax paid to a second party, for example a shop owner, who then passes it on to the government.

Inflation

The rate of general price increase.

Infrastructure Development Fund (IDF)

This fund refers to the mechanism used, in the main, to finance projects being implemented by existing and newly established special-purpose state entities to execute projects assigned to them by ministries, the Tobago House of Assembly and other state agencies. Importantly, monies utilized from this Fund must be approved by the Parliament.

Loan

A finance agreement where a business borrows money from a lender and pays it back in instalments (plus interest) within a specified period of time.

Macroeconomics

A branch of economics dealing with the performance, structure, behaviour, and decision-making of an economy as a whole, rather than individual markets. This includes national, regional, and global economies.

Medium term expenditure framework (MTEF)

A multi-year framework of rolling budgets where forward estimates produced with the annual budget, usually covering another two to four years, serve as the starting point for preparing the following annual budgets.

Microeconomic

A branch of economics that studies the behavior of individuals and firms in making decisions regarding the allocation of limited resources. Typically, it applies to markets where goods or services are bought and sold.

Ministry

A ministry is a high governmental organization headed by a Minister, that is meant to manage a specific sector of public administration

Money Bill

A Bill which contains provisions dealing with matters such as the imposition or regulation of taxation, the imposition or variation of charges on the Consolidated Fund or any public fund, grant of money to the Government, appropriation and investment of public money, and the raising or guarantee of any loan. Every money bill that is sent to the Senate must be endorsed with the certificate of the Speaker signed by him that it is a money bill.

Progressive Tax

A tax that increases as a percentage of income as one's income increases. For example wealth or property tax, sales tax on luxury goods.



GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) 2020

The Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) is a strategic investment management tool used by the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago to transform its vision and policies into tangible programmes and projects. These projects and programmes are designed to realise the goals set out in Government's overarching National Development Strategy (NDS) 2016 – 2030 (Vision 2030).

The PSIP plays a fundamental role in the sustainable development of Trinidad and Tobago's economy by creating infrastructural and socio-economic frameworks that seek to transform Trinidad and Tobago into a developed country. Public investment budgeting which is aligned to national priorities and plans provides a transparent platform for the efficient allocation of resources while maintaining the principles of accountability, transparency, good governance and environmental sustainability.

Vision 2030 comprises five (5) Development Themes that focus on development efforts up to the year 2030. They are

- Putting People First: Nurturing Our Greatest Asset
- Delivering Good Governance and Service Excellence
- Improving Productivity Through Quality Infrastructure & Transportation
- Building Globally Competitive Businesses
- Placing The Environment At The Centre Of Social & Economic Development

Recurrent Expenditure

Recurrent expenditure refers to all payments other than for capital assets. Recurrent Expenditure for Trinidad and Tobago is broken down into the following subheads:

- Personnel Expenditure includes salaries of employees in the Public Service;
- Goods and Services includes office supplies, contract employment, maintenance of vehicles etc.
- Minor Equipment Purchases includes wireless equipment, cell phones, vacuum cleaners, etc.
- Current Transfers and Subsidies includes allocations to non-profit institutions, regional organizations, state enterprises, etc.
- Current Transfers to Statutory Boards and Similar Bodies includes allocations to the Tobago House of Assembly, statutory boards and all local government bodies.

Referral (to a committee)

The sending of a bill (before or after second reading), paper, instrument or a question to a committee for study and report. Depending on the objectives of the referral, it may be made to a sessional, special or joint committee.

Regressive Tax

A tax that decreases as a percentage of income as one's income increases. For example, a tax on the basic necessities (which form a larger percentage of the expenditure of the lower income population).

Revenue

The amount earned before expenses, tax and other deductions are taken out.

Revenue Account

Fees earned from providing services and the amounts of merchandise sold.

Reversionary Budget

The default budget that is implemented should the Legislature not approve a budget for the fiscal year.

Standing Orders (SOs)

The collection of the permanent written rules adopted by the House to govern its proceedings.

Statutory Authority

"Statutory Authority" means a local authority and any commission, board, committee, council or body (whether corporate or unincorporated) established by or under an Act other than the Companies Act declared by the President under section 3 to be subject to the provisions of this Act;

State Enterprises' Investment Programme (SEIP)

The State Enterprises' Investment Programme (SEIP) focuses on capital infrastructure projects undertaken by State Enterprises in the following areas: energy, electricity, transport, tourism, communication, education and training, community, housing, health, public order and safety and public administration.

The SEIP is financed by funds generated by the State Enterprises and loans raised and serviced by either the Enterprises or Government.

Subsidies

A form of financial aid or support extended to an economic sector (or institution, business, or individual) generally with the aim of promoting economic and social policy.



GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Supplementary Estimates

An expenditure plan introduced to provide funds to the Government to meet new or increased costs. The Government may introduce as many sets of Supplementary Estimates in a given fiscal year as it deems necessary.

Surplus

The amount by which revenues exceed outlays or expenditures.

Tax

Money extracted from the public by the government on the basis of its sovereign powers.

Tax Invoice

An invoice required for the supply of goods or services over a certain price.