CENTRAL BANK OF
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

2019 ANNUAL ECONOMIC SURVEY

Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago
P.O. Box 1250
Port of Spain
Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
www.central-bank.org.tt

© Copyright 2019 Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

ISSN 18170-9967

Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

Annual Economic Survey 2019

Review of the National Economy

CENTRAL BANK OF TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER ONE – OVERVIEW OF 2019 AND OUTLOOK FOR 2020
Overview of Economic Developments in 2019 4
Outlook for 2020 7

CHAPTER TWO – DOMESTIC ECONOMIC ACTIVITY
Quarterly Index of Economic Activity 8

CHAPTER THREE – LABOUR MARKET
Unemployment 10
Wages 11
Other Labour Market Developments 12

CHAPTER FOUR – PRICES
Inflation 13
Producers' Prices 13
Building Materials Prices 13

CHAPTER FIVE – FISCAL OPERATIONS
Fiscal Operations 15
Public Sector Debt 19

CHAPTER SIX – MONETARY AND FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENTS
Monetary Policy 24
Foreign Exchange Market 25

CHAPTER SEVEN – CAPITAL MARKETS
Stock Market 26
Primary Debt Market 27
Central Government Secondary Bond Market, Yield Curve and Bond Index 29
Mutual Funds Industry 30

CHAPTER EIGHT – INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND PAYMENTS
Balance of Payments 31
International Investment Position 34
Competitiveness: Effective Exchange Rates 35
Competitiveness: Global Competitiveness Report 35

CHAPTER NINE – INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS
International Economic Developments 37
Regional Economic Developments 38

CHAPTER TEN – INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY MARKETS
Energy Commodity Prices Index 41

TABLE OF CONTENTS CONTINUED

CHARTS AND TABLES ON SELECTED ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Chart 1 Real GDP Growth 1
Chart 2 Crude Oil and Natural Gas Prices 1
Chart 3 Labour Force and Unemployment 1
Chart 4 Per Cent Changes in the Retail Price Index 1
Chart 5 Fiscal Balances in Per cent of GDP 1
Chart 6 Public Sector Debt 1
Chart 7 Aggregate Mutual Fund Values vs. Commercial Banks' Deposits 2
Chart 8 Basic Prime Lending Rate, Repo Rate and 3-Month Treasury Bill Rate 2
Chart 9 Credit to the Private Sector 2
Chart 10 Commercial Banks' Excess Reserves 2
Chart 11 Authorised Dealers Purchases and Sales of Foreign Currency 2
Chart 12 Gross Official Reserves and Import Cover 2
Chart 13 Monetary Policy Actions 3

FIGURES

Figure 1 Trinidad and Tobago Stock Indices 26
Figure 2 Trinidad and Tobago Stock Market Sub-Indices 26
Figure 3 Trinidad and Tobago Individual Stock Indices 27
Figure 4 Annual Primary Debt Security Activity 27
Figure 5 Annual Secondary Government Debt Security Activity 29
Figure 6 Trinidad and Tobago Government Yield Curve 29
Figure 7 Mutual Funds - Aggregate Fund Value 30
Figure 8 Trade Weighted Real and Nominal Effective Exchange Rate Indices 35

TABLES

Table 1 Trinidad and Tobago: Selected Economic Indicators 6
Table 2 Manufacturing Sector Capacity Utilisation Rate 9
Table 3 Labour Statistics 11
Table 4 The Sectoral Distribution of Employment 11
Table 5 Wage Increases 12
Table 6 Annual Average Movement of Selected Categories of the Domestic Retail Price Index 14
Table 7 Summary of Central Government Finances 16
Table 8 Summary of Central Government Fiscal Operations 17
Table 9 Energy-Based Government Revenues 18
Table 10 Central Government Recurrent Expenditure: A Functional Classification 19
Table 11 Total Public Sector Debt Outstanding 21
Table 12A Public Sector Borrowings Undertaken and Impact on Borrowing Limits 22
Table 12B Impact of FY 2018/2019 Borrowing on Borrowing Limits 23
Table 13 Primary Debt Security Activity 28
Table 14A Trinidad and Tobago: Summary Balance of Payments 33
Table 14B Trinidad and Tobago: International Investment Position 34
Table 15A Trinidad and Tobago: Global Competitiveness Index 36
Table 15B Selected Caribbean Countries: Global Competitiveness Index 36
Table 16 Advanced Economies: Real GDP Growth 37
Table 17 Emerging Economies: Real GDP Growth 38
Table 18 Selected LAC: Real GDP Growth 39
Table 19 Selected LAC: External Current Account to GDP 40

APPENDICES

APPENDIX ONE – ECONOMIC STATISTICS

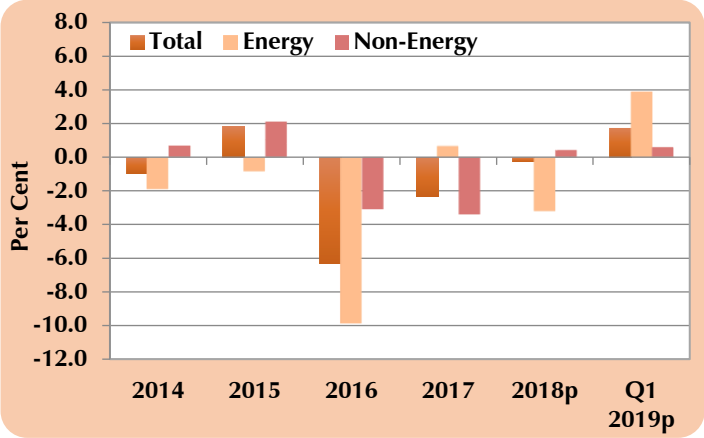
Tables A.1-A.36 44

APPENDIX TWO – CALENDAR OF KEY ECONOMIC EVENTS

January-December 2020 i

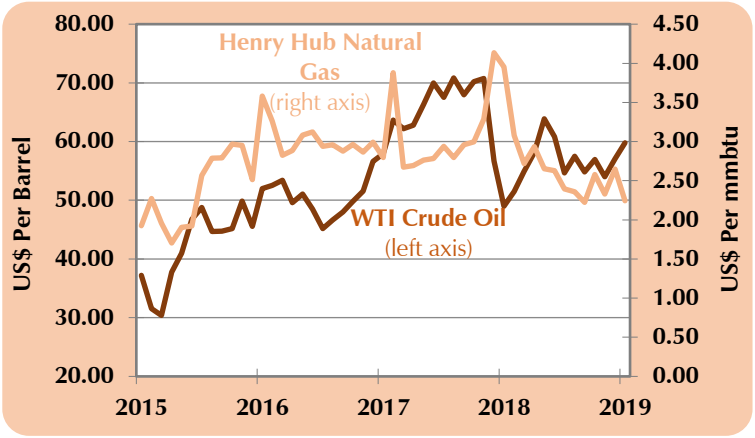
Charts On Select Economic Indicators

Chart 1
Real GDP Growth
2014 – Q1 2019[P]



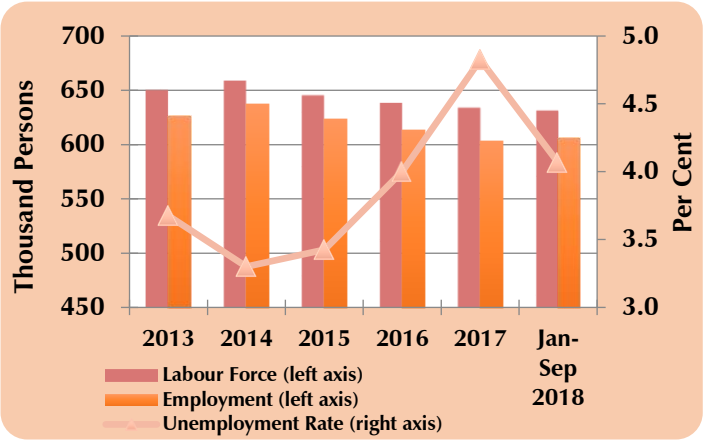
Source: Central Statistical Office
Note: The growth rates for Q1 2019 are quarter-on-quarter growth rates of quarterly GDP measured at constant producer prices.

Chart 2
Crude Oil and Natural Gas Prices
2015-2019



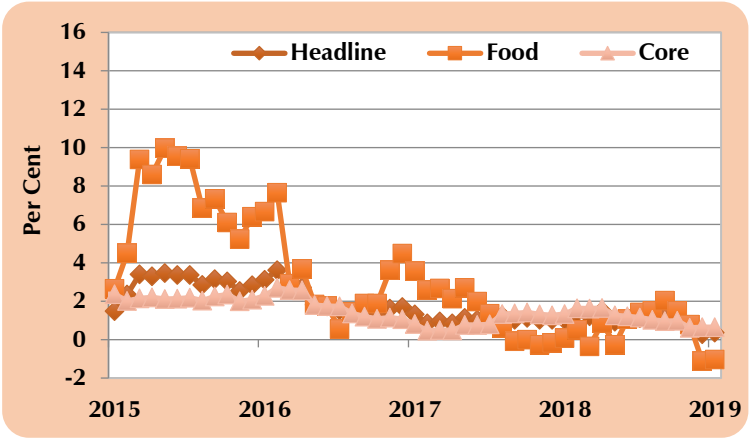
Source: Bloomberg

Chart 3
Labour Force and Unemployment
2013 – September 2018



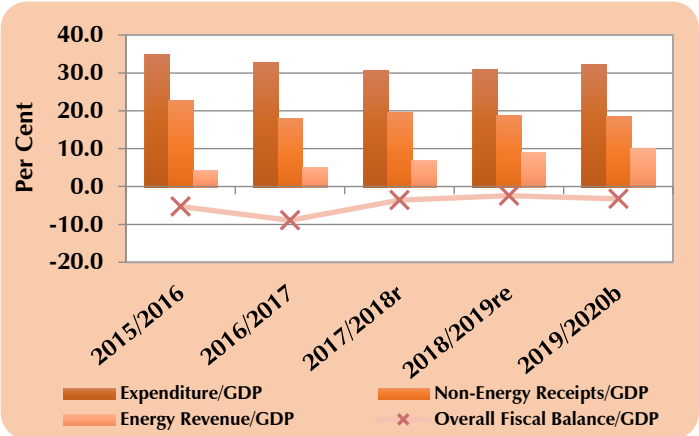
Source: Central Statistical Office

Chart 4
Per Cent Changes In Retail Price Index,
2015-2019



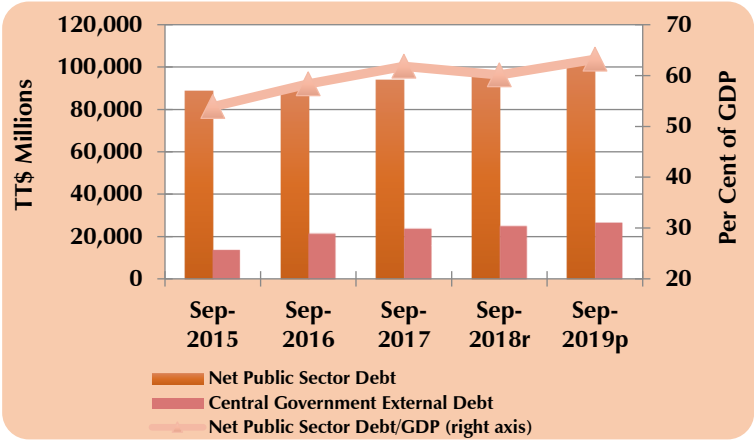
Source: Central Statistical Office

Chart 5
Fiscal Balances In Per Cent of GDP
2015/16-2019/20



Sources: Ministry of Finance

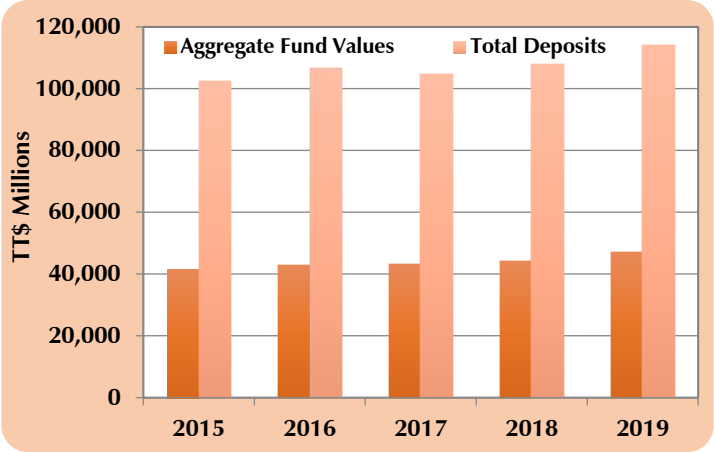
Chart 6
Public Sector Debt
September 2015- September 2019



Sources: Ministry of Finance and Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago
Note: net public sector debt excludes all sterilised debt (omo bills, treasury notes, treasury bonds & liquidity absorption bonds).

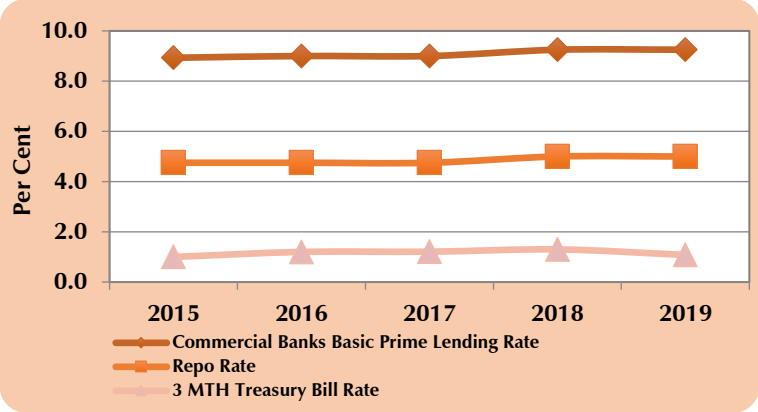
CHARTS ON SELECT ECONOMIC INDICATORS CONTINUED

CHART 7
AGGREGATE MUTUAL FUND VALUES VS. COMMERCIAL BANKS' DEPOSITS
2015-2019



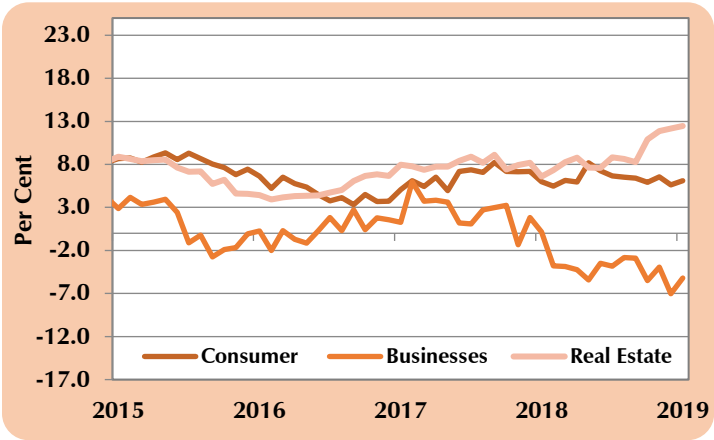
Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

CHART 8
BASIC PRIME LENDING RATE, REPO RATE AND 3 MONTH TREASURY BILL RATE
2015-2019



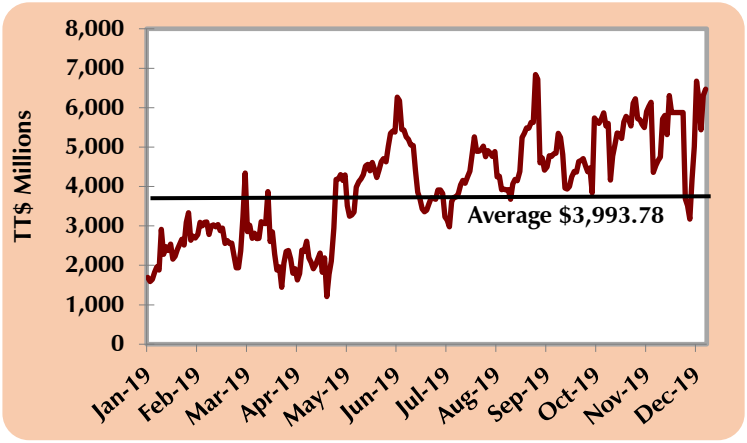
Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

CHART 9
CREDIT TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR
2015-2019



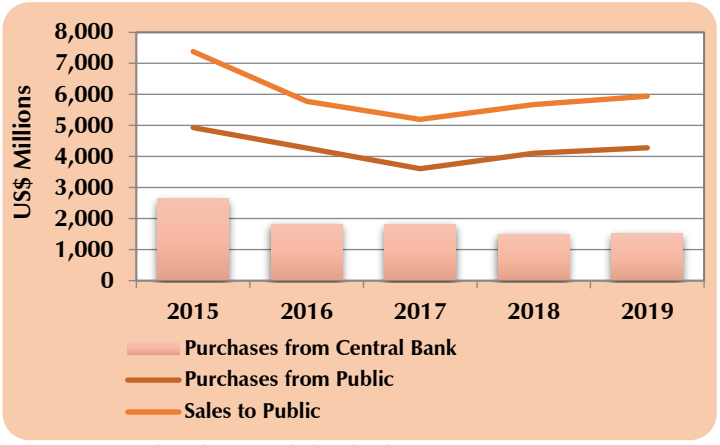
Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

CHART 10
COMMERCIAL BANKS' EXCESS RESERVES
JANUARY – DECEMBER 2019



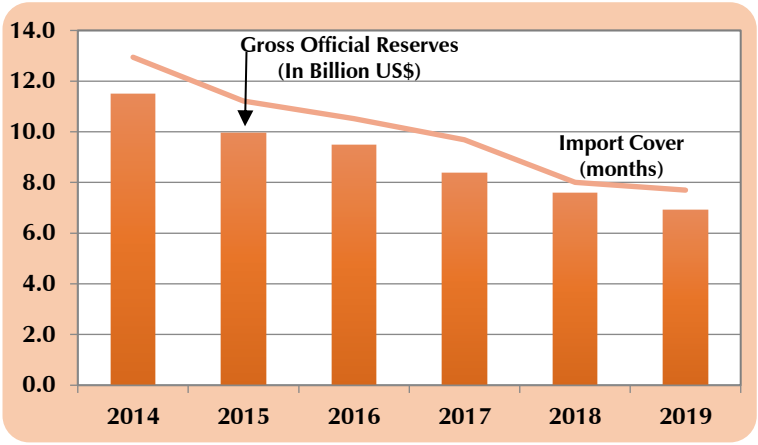
Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

CHART 11
AUTHORISED DEALERS PURCHASES AND SALES OF FOREIGN CURRENCY
2015-2019



Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

CHART 12
GROSS OFFICIAL RESERVES AND IMPORT COVER
2014-2019



Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

CHART 13
MONETARY POLICY ACTIONS
2017-2019

Liquidity Management Measures
March 2017: $1.5 billion 1-year special deposit matured and was not rolled over
August 2018: The secondary reserve requirement was discontinued.

Central Bank Policy Rate Decisions
Jan 2017: Repo rate maintained at 4.75 per cent.
Mar 2017: Repo rate maintained at 4.75 per cent.
May 2017: Repo rate maintained at 4.75 per cent.
Jul 2017: Repo rate maintained at 4.75 per cent.
Sep 2017: Repo rate maintained at 4.75 per cent.
Nov 2017: Repo rate maintained at 4.75 per cent.
Dec 2017: Repo rate maintained at 4.75 per cent.
Jan 2018: Repo rate maintained at 4.75 per cent.
Mar 2018: Repo rate maintained at 4.75 per cent.
Jun 2018: Repo rate increased to 5.00 per cent.
Sep 2018: Repo rate maintained at 5.00 per cent.
Dec 2018: Repo rate maintained at 5.00 per cent.
Mar 2019: Repo rate maintained at 5.00 per cent.
Jun 2019: Repo rate maintained at 5.00 per cent.
Sep 2019: Repo rate maintained at 5.00 per cent.
Dec 2019: Repo rate maintained at 5.00 per cent.

CHAPTER 1 – OVERVIEW OF 2019 AND OUTLOOK FOR 2020

OVERVIEW OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS IN 2019

The global economy lost momentum in 2019 because of weak global trade and investment, heightened trade policy uncertainty emanating mainly from trade frictions between the United States (US) and China and lower commodity prices. World output growth therefore slowed to 2.9 per cent in 2019, from 3.6 per cent in 2018, according to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) January 2020 World Economic Outlook (WEO) Update. In light of weaker growth and muted inflation during 2019, central banks across Advanced Economies (AEs) and Emerging Market and Developing Economies (EMDEs) generally loosened monetary policy.

Among AEs, growth in the US moderated amid slowing investment and exports, while Brexit-related uncertainties stymied real GDP growth in the United Kingdom (UK). The Japanese economy, however, registered stronger growth in 2019, despite the increase in the Consumption Tax on October 1, and the destruction caused by Typhoon Hagibis. In EMDEs, growth receded, reflecting lower trade flows, geopolitical tensions and country-specific factors. In India, private consumption slowed, while in China the trade tensions with the US as well as lower demand held growth to just 3.9 per cent, the lowest since 1990. Meanwhile, the decline in commodity prices, oil production cuts and continued international sanctions lowered real output in Russia. In Latin American social tensions also affected economic growth while, in the Caribbean, the economic prospects of Guyana improved as the oil sector developed.

The Central Bank's Quarterly Index of Real Economic Activity (QIEA)[1] shows that domestic economic activity contracted by 1.1 per cent year-on-year in 2019 with a decline in the energy sector (3.6 per cent) and a slight improvement in the non-energy sector (0.5 per cent). The energy sector outcome partly reflects lower oil yields from the country's mature acreages, and the effects of planned and unplanned shutdowns of some energy installations. In the non-energy sector, the finance, construction and wholesale and retail trade sectors improved moderately in a generally growth-supportive environment of favourable financing conditions and an expansionary fiscal stance. Nevertheless, foreign exchange availability remained a constraint on some business operations.

Inflation in 2019 was generally low, helped by a soft labour market and muted wage growth **(Table 1)**. Headline inflation measured 1.0 per cent in 2019, unchanged from the previous year. Core inflation was also steady, with increases for prescription medication and medical services being offset by slower transportation inflation. On the other hand, food inflation receded further in 2019, to 0.6 per cent from 1.1 per cent one year earlier, on account of price declines for fresh fruits and vegetables. On the whole, domestic food prices appeared little affected by international food prices which, according to the Food and Agriculture Organisation food price index, rose by 1.8 per cent in 2019. Meanwhile, available data on retrenchments from the Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development showed that the pace of retrenchments slowed by 16.9 per cent to 1,397 persons, suggesting a slowdown in overall job losses. However, other indicators such as hours worked (-27.8 per cent) and wage growth (unchanged since 2017) point to soft labour market conditions. Additionally, in 2019 job advertisements in the print media were 10.3 per cent less than in 2018.

Higher energy revenues, which outpaced the increase in government spending for FY2018/19, resulted in a much lower fiscal deficit than budgeted. Revised estimates from the Ministry of Finance show that the Central Government accounts registered an overall deficit of $3.9 billion (2.4 per cent of GDP) in fiscal year (FY) 2018/19. This compares with a fiscal deficit of $5.7 billion (3.6 per cent of GDP) recorded in FY2017/18 and reflects a much lower deficit than anticipated in the initial and mid-year revised budgets for FY2018/19. Meanwhile, total public sector debt outstanding at the end of September 2019 reached $121.3 billion, $2.1 billion more than in September 2018.

1 The Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago compiles a quarterly index of real economic activity (QIEA) on the basis of industries and establishments that have been classified according to the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities, revision 4 (ISIC Rev 4).

The Central Bank kept the Repo rate unchanged at 5.00 per cent in 2019, as it balanced domestic economic considerations with international financial conditions. Domestically, the economy continued on a low-growth adjustment path following shocks in global energy markets in 2015. At the same time, inflation remained low throughout the year, requiring no Central Bank action to control it. Meanwhile, the differential between the US and TT short-term yields – which can influence foreign exchange outflows for investment – remained negative, although by December it had improved by 59.1 per cent to -47 basis points. The judgement of the Bank during the year was that the Repo rate, at 5.00 per cent, was consistent with a neutral monetary policy stance and, considering all factors, was at an appropriate level.

Liquidity in the financial system increased during 2019, as the Central Bank allowed maturing open market bills back into the system given the public sector's heavy domestic financing requirements. Overall, the central government accessed the financial system for $7.3 billion in 2019 for budget operations and refinancing of maturing bonds. Private sector credit growth was less dynamic and slowed to 4.1 per cent from 5.6 per cent in 2018. Consumer credit, supported by low interest rates, was buoyed by borrowing for mortgages, and refinancing and debt consolidation, but business credit slumped by 4.3 per cent. In December, the government announced the demonetisation of the cotton $100 note and its replacement by a new polymer $100 bill.

At the end of 2019, gross official reserves declined to US$6,929.0 million. The continuous fall in reserves since 2016 signals that the country's use of foreign exchange still routinely exceeds its earnings and, more fundamentally, that external balance has not yet been achieved. The Central Bank's support to the foreign exchange market from reserves in 2019 was $1.5 billion, approximately the same as 2018. Nevertheless, reserves remain above the benchmark levels of traditional reserve adequacy measures[2] and at year's end represented import cover of 7.7 months.

2 Traditional reserve adequacy ratios and benchmarks are: import cover (3.0 months), reserves to short term external debt (1.0), reserves to broad money (20.0 per cent).

TABLE 1
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO SELECTED ECONOMIC INDICATORS

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Real GDP Growth (%) (2000 = 100)[1]	1.8	-6.3	-2.3	-0.2	1.7*
Energy Sector	-0.8	-9.8	0.7	-3.2	3.9*
Non-Energy Sector	2.1	-3.1	-3.4	0.4	0.6*
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	35.9	-7.3	7.9	-9.6	19.2*
Trade and Repairs	5.4	-7.0	-10.7	-1.5	1.7*
Construction	-2.7	-4.2	-1.8	-0.1	-8.2*
Financial and Insurance Activities	3.4	2.5	4.6	0.0	1.7*
Inflation Rate (%)[2]					
(period average)	4.7	3.1	1.9	1.0	1.0
(end of period)	1.5	3.1	1.3	1.0	0.4
Unemployment Rate (%)[3]	3.4	4.0	4.8	4.1**	n.a.
(Per Cent of GDP)					
Overall Central Government Operations Surplus(+)/Deficit(-), (end of fiscal year)	-1.7	-5.3	-8.9	-3.6	-2.4[re]
Public Sector Debt, (end of fiscal year)[4]	53.9	58.3	61.8	60.1[r]	63.2[p]
Central Government External Debt, (end of fiscal year)	8.4	14.1	15.5	15.5[r]	16.1
Balance of Payments Current Account Balance Surplus(+)/Deficit(-)	6.9	-4.4	5.4	5.8	6.3***
Memorandum Items:					
Central Government External Debt in US$M (end of fiscal year)	2,236.3	3,214.4	3,535.8	3,695.8	3,939.4
Debt Service Ratio (fiscal year; %)[5]	1.3	1.8	2.1	2.2	3.0
W.T.I. (US$/barrel, annual average)	48.7	43.2	50.9	64.8	57.0
Henry Hub (US$/mmbtu, annual average)	2.6	2.5	3.0	3.2	2.6
Net Official Reserves (US$ Mn)[6]	9,933.0	9,465.8	8,369.8	7,575.0	6,929.0

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

1 Real GDP growth rates are sourced from the Central Statistical Office.
2 Changes in the Index of Retail Prices (RPI), January 2015 = 100.
3 This represents the average of the four quarters.
4 Includes the external and internal debt of the Central Government, as well as contingent liabilities but excludes Treasury Bills, OMO Bills and Notes, Treasury Bonds and Liquidity Bonds.
5 This is defined as the ratio of external Central Government debt service to exports of goods and non-factor services.
6 International reserves have been revised to include Trinidad and Tobago's reserve position in the IMF. International reserves are defined as external assets that 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).

* For the first quarter of 2019. The growth rates are quarter-on-quarter growth rates of quarterly GDP measured at constant producer prices.
** For the period January to September 2018.
*** For the period January to September 2019.
r Revised.
re Revised Estimates.
p Provisional.

OUTLOOK FOR 2020

The emergence and spread of the corona virus (COVID-19) represents a serious threat to global growth in 2020. On March 11, 2020 the World Health Organisation declared the outbreak a pandemic given its presence in multiple regions. Along with the human costs, the virus has affected global trade, supply and demand across many industries, upended some commodity prices and rattled financial markets. As an indirect impact, oil prices slumped in March as a price war began between Saudi Arabia and Russia following disagreement on oil production cuts to support markets. The COVID-19 is layered upon previously acknowledged risks to the global economy, namely, trade protectionism and geopolitical risks. Global growth in 2020 is therefore likely to fall substantially below projections at the start of the year. The IMF's January 2020 WEO Update of 3.3 per cent global growth in 2020 will be downgraded at the next annual World Bank-IMF meeting in April 2020.

The weaker global economy will undermine the revival of the Trinidad and Tobago economy in 2020. Plummeting international commodity prices can impact the profitability of local energy producers who, in turn, may reduce their operations temporarily. Natural gas and petrochemical output are also expected to reflect the fallout of the unsuccessful results of bpTT's infill drilling programme announced in May 2019 and the closure of YARA's ammonia plant.

The Corona outbreak also threatens activity in the non-energy sector. Containment measures implemented locally, and travel restrictions can curtail activity in most sectors, impacting firms' profitability and employment levels. The stimulus of government spending on the non-energy sector will also be blunted if government is forced to reduce its capital expenditure because of revenue shortfalls due to the corona virus. Government's revenue in 2020 will be lower than forecast due mainly to the sharp falls in oil and natural gas prices but can also be impaired by lower tax take from domestic companies if their profitability falls. Government projects – and some private sector production – may also be affected because of difficulty in obtaining imported inputs. The government has estimated that the virus- and price war-induced shocks to energy prices will push the projected budget deficit for fiscal 2019/20 to $8.5[3] billion compared to the budgeted $5.0 billion. Additionally, starting March18 the government revealed a series of fiscal support measures to ameliorate the economic impact of the virus on the local economy. These included expediting income tax and VAT refunds to individuals and businesses, and grants of up to $1500 for temporarily unemployed persons. Also, on March 17 the Central Bank reduced the Repo rate by 150 basis points and the reserve requirement on commercial banks by 3 per cent.

The domestic economic environment in 2020 will conduce to low inflation, but higher imported inflation because of curtailed supplies of some products globally could exert upward impetus. The external accounts will deteriorate reflecting the shocks to the global economy and impacts on Trinidad and Tobago's main trading markets, and disruptions to travel and shipping. Gross official reserves are therefore at risk of a sharp fall, but could be shored up by government's intention to withdraw resources from the Heritage and Stabilisation Fund to aid in its response to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

3 Budgeted oil and gas prices have been revised to US$40.00 per barrel and US$1.80 per million British Thermal Units (mmbtu) respectively, from US$60.00 per barrel and US$3.00 per mmbtu, effective March 10, 2020.

CHAPTER TWO – DOMESTIC ECONOMIC ACTIVITY[4]

QUARTERLY INDEX OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Ahead of the release of official data by the Central Statistical Office (CSO), preliminary Central Bank estimates indicate that domestic economic activity remained subdued in 2019. The Central Bank's Quarterly Index of Real Economic Activity (2012=100)[5] indicates that economic activity declined by 1.1 per cent in 2019 as output in the energy sector fell by 3.6 per cent and activity in the non-energy sector increased marginally, by 0.5 per cent.

The drop in the energy sector[6] output emanated from weakness in the upstream and midstream sub-sectors. Natural gas production was flat during 2019, while crude oil production declined by 7.3 per cent. While the operationalisation of bpTT's Angelin project initially provided a boost to natural gas production, the effects of maintenance activity in other segments of the natural gas sub-sector outweighed these gains. Exploration activity also slowed, as rig days and depth drilled declined by 12.7 per cent and 16.6 per cent, respectively. In the midstream sector, as a result of the closure of the Petroleum Company of Trinidad and Tobago (PETROTRIN) refinery in October 2018, refinery throughput fell off by 27.5 per cent, in spite of a 1.5 per cent increase in Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) production. Meanwhile further downstream, the local petrochemical sector recovered from the downtime experienced in 2018. Total petrochemical output increased by 12.0 per cent, led by output growth of fertilisers (12.4 per cent) and methanol (11.6 per cent).

In a growth-supportive environment characterised by low interest rates and expansionary fiscal policy, the non-energy sector recorded moderate gains during the year. Activity in the Financial and Insurance sector (3.4 per cent) and the Real Estate sector (2.4 per cent) was relatively strong, propelled by continuing growth in the demand for consumer and real estate credit from the commercial banks. Economic activity in the Wholesale and Retail Trade sector[7] is estimated to have increased by 1.3 per cent. The registration of motor vehicles, the main indicator for the motor vehicle and parts subcomponent of the retail sales index, increased by 4.2 per cent in 2019 mainly on account of an increase of 5.3 per cent in private vehicle registrations, while commercial vehicle registrations rose by 1.0 per cent. Local cement sales, an indicator of activity within the Construction sector, increased marginally, by 0.6 per cent. Meanwhile, economic activity in the Manufacturing sector, where capacity utilization **(Table 2)** was about on par with the previous year, showed a downtick of 0.8 per cent. Transportation and Storage and Electricity and Water sectors recorded declines in 2019. A slowdown in activity within the passenger land transport sub-sector led the Transportation and Storage sector to decline by 0.7 per cent. A severe dry season and slowing energy sector activity, in particular the shutdown of the PETROTRIN refinery, brought about a fall in water production and electricity generation of 2.6 per cent.

---

4 Data on Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for whole-year 2019 is not yet available from the Central Statistical Office (CSO). In the absence of CSO estimates, the FY2020 Budget Statement projected domestic real GDP growth of 0.9 per cent year-on-year, in line with World Bank estimates (See https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Budget-Statement-2020-Amended-web.pdf, page 20). Current estimates from the CSO indicate that the domestic economy declined by 0.2 per cent in 2018 following contractions of 6.3 per cent in 2016 and 2.3 per cent in 2017.

5 The Bank compiles a Quarterly Index of Real Economic Activity (QIEA) to gauge short-term economic activity. The industry classification conforms to the International Standard Industrial Classification Revision 4 (ISIC Rev.4). The CSO is the source of GDP data in Trinidad and Tobago. The QIEA differs from the CSO's measure of GDP in terms of methodologies and coverage. The QIEA is based on production indicators, excludes price effects and does not comprehensively cover all sub-industries measured by the CSO. In 2019, the QIEA was rebased from a 2010 to 2012 base year and the classification system was migrated from the Trinidad and Tobago System of National Accounts to the International Standard Industrial Classification, Revision 4. Under this classification, the output of crude oil and natural gas are included in Mining and Quarrying, the production of LNG, NGLs and petrochemicals are included in Manufacturing, and the retail sale of automotive fuels is included in Wholesale and Retail Trade. For comparison purposes, the sectoral breakdown of real economic activity into Energy and Non-energy, presented previously is maintained.

6 Energy sector activity comprises the production of crude oil and natural gas, LNG, NGLs and petrochemicals and the retail sale of automotive fuels.

7 Energy sector activity comprises the production of crude oil and natural gas, LNG, NGLs and petrochemicals and the retail sale of automotive fuels.

TABLE 2
MANUFACTURING SECTOR CAPACITY UTILISATION RATE

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Manufacturing[1]	68.1	68.2	68.2	64.5	64.4
Food, Beverages and Tobacco Products	77.3	74.0	73.5	69.3	69.8
Textiles, Clothing, Leather, Wood, Paper and Printing	63.3	64.9	62.5	59.6	60.1
Chemical Products	65.7	59.6	63.4	58.3	56.1
Other Manufactured Products	43.9	65.0	66.1	64.8	64.5

Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

1 The sectoral breakdown was amended in line with the manufacturing sector's presentation following the migration of the Quarterly Index of Real Economic Activity (2012 =100) to the International Standard Industrial Classification, Revision 4 (ISIC Rev.4).

CHAPTER THREE – LABOUR MARKET

UNEMPLOYMENT

The latest official unemployment statistics from the CSO indicate that the unemployment rate declined during the first nine months of 2018. The unemployment rate fell to 4.1 per cent from 5.0 per cent in the corresponding period of 2017, mainly because of a reduction in the labour force **(Table 3)**. Although the number of persons without jobs fell by 6.0 thousand persons to 25.7 thousand, the number of persons with jobs (605.4 thousand persons) remained the same as in the first nine months of 2017. However, the labour force fell by 6 thousand persons and the participation rate[8] edge downward to 58.9 per cent during the first nine months of 2018.

The number of persons with jobs remained unchanged as employment gains in some sectors were matched by job losses in other sectors. Higher employment levels mainly occurred in the finance, insurance, and real estate services sector (4.6 thousand jobs), the agriculture sector (0.8 thousand jobs), and the wholesale and retail trade sector (0.6 thousand jobs). On the other hand, the largest job losses were in the transport, storage and communication sector (4.9 thousand jobs), the manufacturing (including mining and quarrying) sector (2.2 thousand jobs), and the construction (including electricity and water) sector (0.7 thousand jobs) **(Table 4)**.

Supplemental data for 2019 suggest that labour market slack[9] continued into 2019. Data on retrenchment notices[10] filed at the Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development (MLSED) showed that 1,397 persons were retrenched in 2019, down from 1,681[11] in 2018. In 2019, most retrenchments occurred in the manufacturing (276 persons), construction (262 persons), and energy (227 persons) industries. Another supplemental indicator monitored by the Bank, the number of job advertisements published in the print media[12] declined by 10.3 per cent year-on-year, perhaps indicative of diminished labour demand. The lack of dynamism in the labour market is backed up by fewer man hours worked[13] during the first three quarters of 2019. In the non-energy sector, hours worked decreased by 5.4 per cent year-on-year. However, when both the non-energy and energy sectors are considered, hours worked declined more sharply, by 27.8 per cent year-on-year. Although in the energy sector there were fewer hours worked in almost all the major sub-industries, the decline in hours worked mainly reflected the closure of the PETROTRIN refinery in November 2018.

8 The CSO defines the labour force participation rate as the proportion of the non-institutional population that is economically active, that is, the proportion of the working age population (15 years and older) that is either employed or actively seeking employment.

9 The amount of 'slack' in the economy is a measure of the quantity of unemployed resources. It represents the quantity of labour and capital that could be employed productively, but instead, remains idle.

10 Retrenchment refers to the termination of employment of a worker at the initiative of an employer for the reason of redundancy according to the Retrenchment and Severance Benefits Act (No. 32 of 1985). The Act states that, "where an employer proposes to terminate the services of five or more workers for the reason of redundancy he shall give formal notice of termination in writing to each involved worker, to the recognised majority union and to the Minister of Labour". As such, if fewer than five employees are terminated, employers are not obligated to report to the Ministry. This indicator for job separation is therefore limited insofar as it only includes registered retrenchment notices, and does not capture other forms of job separation, especially the non-renewal of contracts of temporary or short-term workers. Furthermore, reports of job losses at establishments cannot be equated with an equal rise in the unemployment rate. Data on the labour market are not collected from firms and other establishments but from households via the conduct of the Continuous Sample Survey of Population (CSSP). Moreover, persons who have been retrenched or who have lost their jobs otherwise (expired contract, retired, etc.) and have not sought re-employment during the reference period are not classified as unemployed.

11 Not included in the retrenchment notices are the 5,000+ Petrotrin workers who were affected by the closure of the oil refinery at the end of November 2018.

12 This indicator is constructed by the Central Bank using the number of employment vacancies advertised in the Daily Express, Newsday and Guardian newspapers.

13 'Man hours worked' refers to changes in the Index of Hours Worked, which is produced by the Central Statistical Office and is based on data for the manufacturing, energy and electricity and water sectors.

TABLE 3
LABOUR STATISTICS, 2014 - SEPTEMBER 2018
/Thousands/[1]

	2014	2015	2016	2017	Jan to Sep 2017	Jan to Sep 2018
Non-Institutional Population - 15 years and over	1,063.4	1,065.1	1,068.5	1,071.2	1,071.4	1,072.1
Labour Force	658.6	645.3	638.3	633.7	637.0	631.1
Persons with Jobs	636.9	623.3	613.1	603.1	605.4	605.4
Persons without Jobs	21.8	22.0	25.3	30.6	31.7	25.7
Participation Rate (%)	62.3	60.6	59.7	59.2	59.2	58.9
Male	72.2	71.2	69.5	68.9	69.0	68.2
Female	50.2	50.0	50.1	49.5	50.0	49.6
Unemployment Rate (%)	3.3	3.4	4.0	4.8	5.0	4.1
Male	2.8	2.9	3.9	4.3	4.4	3.4
Female	4.0	4.2	4.0	5.7	5.8	5.0

Source: Central Statistical Office

1 Numbers may not sum due to rounding.

TABLE 4
THE SECTORAL DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYMENT[1]

	2015		2016		2017		Jan to Sep 2017		Jan to Sep 2018	
	(000 s)	%	(000 s)	%	(000 s)	%	(000 s)	%	(000 s)	%
Agriculture	21.3	3.4	19.8	3.2	22.3	3.7	22.9	3.8	23.6	3.9
Petroleum and Gas	20.5	3.3	18.4	3.0	14.5	2.4	14.6	2.4	14.6	2.4
Manufacturing (including Mining and Quarrying)	51.2	8.2	48.3	7.9	48.9	8.1	49.9	8.2	47.7	7.9
Construction (including Electricity and Water)	101.8	16.3	100.7	16.4	88.6	14.7	89.5	14.8	88.8	14.7
Transport, Storage and Communications	44.3	7.1	44.5	7.3	42.6	7.1	43.6	7.2	38.7	6.4
Other Services	384.2	61.6	381.5	62.2	386.1	64.0	385.0	63.6	392.0	64.7
Of which:										
Wholesale and Retail	*117.2*	*18.8*	*112.2*	*18.3*	*119.0*	*19.7*	*118.4*	*19.6*	*119.0*	*19.7*
Community, Social and Personal Services	*206.8*	*33.2*	*209.5*	*34.2*	*206.8*	*34.3*	*206.7*	*34.1*	*206.4*	*34.1*
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	*57.9*	*9.3*	*58.2*	*9.5*	*58.3*	*9.7*	*58.3*	*9.6*	*62.9*	*10.4*
Not Classified	*2.3*	*0.4*	*1.6*	*0.3*	*2.0*	*0.3*	*1.5*	*0.2*	*3.6*	*0.6*
Total Employment	**623.2**	**100.0**	**613.2**	**100.0**	**603.1**	**100.0**	**605.4**	**100.0**	**605.4**	**100.0**

Source: Central Statistical Office

1 Numbers may not sum due to rounding.

WAGES

Wage growth remained moderate during 2019. Collective agreements registered with the Industrial Court showed that the median wage increase measured 3.0 per cent in 2019, unchanged since 2017 **(Table 5)**. Wage increases for 2019 ranged between 0.0 and 5.0 per cent compared with a range of 2.0 to 7.0 per cent in 2018. The finance, insurance, real estate and other business services sector received the highest average wage increase (3.88 per cent), while wages within the energy sector held steady. The Index of Average Weekly Earnings (AWE)[14]

14 The Index of Average Weekly Earnings, which is computed by the Central Statistical Office, is based on surveyed companies' employment and wage bill. The average weekly earnings is calculated as the earnings (total amount paid to employees) divided by the number of employees.

showed that nominal wages in the non-energy sector grew marginally, while wages in the energy sector experienced a large decline. In the non-energy sector, the Index of AWE increased by 1.7 per cent year-on-year during the first three quarters of 2019. However, when the energy sector is included, the Index of AWE decreased by 33.6 per cent over the reference period; average energy sector wages were particularly affected by the closure of the PETROTRIN refinery. Wages in the exploration and production of oil and natural gas also decreased by 8.7 per cent **(Appendix Table A.10)**.

TABLE 5
WAGE INCREASES FOR 2019

Sector	No. of Agreements Analysed	Duration of Agreements	Range of Yearly Increases for 2019	Average Wage Increase for 2019	Median Wage Increase for Agreements Analysed
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Business Services	4	2016-2021	3.00-5.00	3.88	3.00
Distribution	2	2016-2021	2.00-4.00	3.00	
Manufacturing	4	2018-2021	2.00-3.00	2.25	
Petroleum and Other Mining Industries	1	2019-2022	0.00	0.00	
Food Processors and Drinks	2	2016-2019	2.00-4.00	3.00	

Source: Industrial Court of Trinidad and Tobago

OTHER LABOUR MARKET DEVELOPMENTS

In 2019, there were two important developments in the labour market. Firstly, between May 31, 2019 to June 14, 2019, the Government of Trinidad and Tobago undertook a registration exercise whereby 16,523 Venezuelan migrants (16 years and over) were registered, allowing them the legal right to work in Trinidad and Tobago for up to one year with a re-assessment every six months. All registered persons have access to free healthcare, but not to educational and social security benefits. Secondly, from December 1, 2019, the minimum wage was increased from $15.00 an hour to $17.50 an hour.

CHAPTER FOUR – PRICES

INFLATION

Inflation remained stable throughout 2019 and averaged 1.0 per cent, unchanged from 2018. While core inflation edged up in 2019, food inflation slowed **(Table 6 and Appendix Table A.12)**.

Core inflation averaged 1.1 per cent throughout 2019, up from 1.0 per cent in 2018. Core inflation moved from 1.6 per cent in January 2019 to 0.6 per cent in December 2019, with most of the upward impetus coming from the health sub-index, which increased to 5.5 per cent due to faster price increases for prescription medication and medical services. The transport sub-index averaged an increase of 1.4 per cent in 2019 compared with 1.9 per cent in 2018. This slowdown was driven mainly by declines in the price of foreign-used motor vehicles and the phasing out of the base effect from the increase in fuel prices in October 2018. Core inflation was further impacted by the slowdown in the housing sub-index, which decelerated from 2.4 per cent in January 2019 to 0.7 per cent in December 2019, through slower increases to home ownership costs.

Food inflation slowed in 2019, averaging 0.6 per cent, compared to 1.1 per cent in the previous year. Food inflation moved from 0.5 per cent in January 2019 to -1.0 per cent at the end of the year, mainly reflecting downward movements in the vegetable sub-index. Vegetable prices reached their highest of 10.1 per cent in August 2019, before declining progressively to -9.3 per cent by December 2019. Food prices were further contained by persistent declines in the fruit sub-index throughout the year, as well as slowed growth in the milk, cheese and eggs sub-index. On the whole, domestic food prices appeared little affected by international food prices which, according to the Food and Agriculture Organisation food price index, rose by 1.8 per cent in 2019

PRODUCERS' PRICES

The Producer Prices Index (PPI) increased 0.6 per cent year-on-year in 2019. The slight uptick in the PPI reflected modest increases in most sub-indices. Notably, there was a 1.6 per cent increase in the drink and tobacco sub-index owing to a 2.3 per cent increase in tobacco prices. The increase in prices was consistent with an increase in international prices, as several countries levied higher taxes on tobacco-based goods in 2019. In contrast, the chemicals and non-metallic products sub-index experienced a marginal decline because of lower cement prices **(Appendix Table A.13)**.

BUILDING MATERIALS PRICES

Building material prices were subdued in 2019, as the Index of Retail Prices of Building Materials (BMI) rose by 1.0 per cent during the year, following an increase of 4.7 per cent in 2018. The small increase was consistent with the measured pace of economic activity in the construction sector. All sub-indices of the BMI were higher when compared to 2018 levels with the exception of the finishing, joinery units and painting and external works sub-index, which declined marginally. Among the other sub-indices, notable increases were recorded in the plumbing and plumbing fixture sub-index (3.2 per cent) and the site preparation, structure and concrete frame sub-index (1.5 per cent).

TABLE 6
ANNUAL AVERAGE MOVEMENT OF SELECTED CATEGORIES OF THE DOMESTIC RETAIL PRICE INDEX
/Per Cent Change/

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Headline Inflation	**4.7**	**3.1**	**1.9**	**1.0**	**1.0**
Food Inflation	**8.6**	**7.5**	**2.9**	**1.1**	**0.6**
Fish	6.2	4.6	3.2	2.6	0.3
Food Products NEC	18.0	14.9	5.4	-2.3	4.4
Meat	16.9	7.4	1.2	-0.8	0.8
Milk, Cheese and Eggs	1.3	-1.2	4.6	5.0	0.0
Vegetables	7.1	10.8	3.2	0.8	1.1
Bread and Cereals	1.9	6.5	1.4	0.7	-0.5
Sugar, Jam, Confectionery, etc.	-0.2	3.0	5.5	1.3	-1.6
Non-Alcoholic Beverages	2.6	12.7	1.6	1.3	1.1
Oils and Fats	0.3	7.7	5.0	3.6	0.2
Fruits	2.5	7.5	6.5	3.5	-1.8
Core Inflation	**1.8**	**2.1**	**1.6**	**1.0**	**1.1**
Communication	-0.8	6.6	2.1	-1.3	0.3
Education	8.0	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Miscellaneous Goods and Other Services	4.6	2.4	1.7	0.6	2.7
Hotels, Cafes and Restaurants	2.3	4.6	3.6	2.6	2.0
Health	1.0	6.5	14.5	1.6	5.5
Transport	1.0	3.1	1.2	1.9	1.4
Recreation and Culture	3.2	2.9	0.7	0.8	0.3
Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	3.3	1.6	5.2	-0.1	1.9
Clothing and Footwear	4.5	3.7	0.1	-4.5	-2.6
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	0.9	-0.3	0.0	2.4	1.0
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance	1.2	1.5	1.8	-0.5	-0.1

Sources: Central Statistical Office and Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

CHAPTER FIVE – FISCAL OPERATIONS

FISCAL OPERATIONS

The Central Government accounts registered an overall deficit of $3.9 billion (2.4 per cent of GDP) in FY2018/19 **(Table 8)**. This compares with a fiscal deficit of $5.7 billion (3.6 per cent of GDP) recorded in FY2017/18 and reflects a much lower deficit than anticipated in the initial and mid-year revised budgets for FY2018/19. The smaller year-on-year deficit was on account of higher revenue, which was supported in part by the tax amnesty[15] implemented in June 2019. Meanwhile, the non-energy fiscal deficit reached $18.7 billion as the overall increase in spending surpassed the growth in non-energy revenue.

Revised estimates show that for FY2018/19 Central Government total revenue amounted to $46.6 billion, roughly $3.4 billion higher than the previous fiscal year. Energy revenue rose by 34.1 per cent to $14.8 billion owing to higher natural gas production[16]. At the same time, higher energy revenue was partially offset by lower non-energy receipts which declined by 1.6 per cent to $30.8 billion from $31.3 billion in FY2017/18. The fall in non-energy receipts was primarily driven by lower non-tax revenue. Collections from taxes on goods and services and international trade also fell over the period. Lower net Value Added Tax (VAT) collection[17] was responsible for the decline in revenue from taxes on goods and services. Meanwhile, capital revenue increased over the period reaching $972.8 million at the end of FY2018/19 owing to the sale of CL Financial assets[18].

Aggregate expenditure reached $50.5 billion, an increase of approximately $1.6 billion from FY2017/18. This was on account of higher spending on wages and salaries, interest payments and transfers and subsidies. Notably, spending on transfers and subsidies increased to $27.2 billion from $25.4 billion year-on-year in FY2017/18, partly due to costs associated with the closure of PETROTRIN. Meanwhile, capital spending amounted to $3.6 billion in FY2018/19 slightly up from $3.5 billion in FY2017/18.

15 The tax amnesty began in mid-June 2019 and continued for a period of three and a half months ending on September 30, 2019. The amnesty resulted in additional tax revenue of TT$2.4 billion.

16 Natural gas production averaged 3,594.4 million cubic feet per day (mmcf/d) in FY2018/19 compared to 3,554.4 mmcf/d in FY2017/18.

17 In FY2018/19 VAT Refunds amounted to $3.3 billion compared to $1.9 billion recorded in the previous fiscal year.

18 Capital revenue was bolstered by proceeds from the sale of other assets which included: (i) dividends received from CLICO Investment Bank; (ii) dividends paid to CLICO by Republic Bank and transferred to the Government to settle outstanding liabilities; (iii) transfer of funds from CLICO Investment Bank to the Government on account of the compulsory liquidation of managed funds under the Islamic Banking Services loan portfolio and (iv) settlement of liabilities to the Government by Colonial Life Insurance Company.

TABLE 7
SUMMARY OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT FINANCES, 2015/2016 - 2019/2020
/TT$ Millions/

	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018[r]	2018/2019[re]	2019/2020[b]
Current Revenue	41,158.9	34,870.1	42,331.9	45,586.3	46,798.4
Current Expenditure	48,546.4	46,263.5	45,374.4	46,910.3	47,800.4
Current Surplus (+)/ Deficit (-)	**-7,387.6**	**-11,393.4**	**-3,042.5**	**-1,324.0**	**-1,002.0**
Capital Receipts	3,813.7	1,310.5	837.8	972.8	950.5
Capital Expenditure and Net Lending	4,398.3	3,448.5	3,492.1	3,593.4	5,236.0
Overall Surplus(+)/ Deficit (-)	**-7,972.1**	**-13,531.4**	**-5,696.8**	**-3,944.6**	**-5,287.5**
Financing	7,972.1	13,531.4	5,696.8	3,944.6	5,287.5
External (Net)	8,954.0	3,266.7	1,239.4	1,519.4	1,476.1
Domestic (Net)	-981.9	10,264.7	4,457.4	2,425.2	3,811.4
(Per Cent of GDP)					
Current Surplus (+)/ Deficit (-)	-4.9	-7.5	-1.9	-0.8	-0.6
Overall Surplus(+)/ Deficit (-)	-5.3	-8.9	-3.6	-2.4	-3.2

Sources: Ministry of Finance and Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

r Revised.
re Revised Estimates.
b Budgeted.

TABLE 8
SUMMARY OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL OPERATIONS, 2015/2016 - 2019/2020
/TT$ Millions/

	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018[r]	2018/2019[re]	2019/2020[b]
Revenue	**44,972.6**	**36,180.6**	**43,169.7**	**46,559.1**	**47,748.9**
Current	41,158.9	34,870.1	42,331.9	45,586.3	46,798.4
Energy*	6,644.4	7,759.5	11,031.3	14,791.2	16,362.7
Non-Energy*	34,514.5	27,110.6	31,300.6	30,795.1	30,435.7
Capital	3,813.7	1,310.5	837.8	972.8	950.5
Expenditure	**52,944.7**	**49,712.0**	**48,866.5**	**50,503.7**	**53,036.4**
Current	48,546.4	46,263.5	45,374.4	46,910.3	47,800.4
Wages and Salaries	9,601.9	9,937.8	9,094.4	9,145.2	9,486.9
Goods and Services	7,326.1	5,827.2	6,102.1	5,570.1	6,951.4
Interest Payments	3,762.4	4,468.4	4,786.8	4,902.3	3,990.1
Transfers and Subsidies[1]	27,856.1	26,030.1	25,391.1	27,292.7	27,372.0
Capital Expenditure and Net Lending	4,398.3	3,448.5	3,492.1	3,593.4	5,236.0
Overall Non-Energy Balance	**-14,616.5**	**-21,290.9**	**-16,728.1**	**-18,735.8**	**-21,650.2**
Overall Balance	**-7,972.1**	**-13,531.4**	**-5,696.8**	**-3,944.6**	**-5,287.5**
Total Financing (Net)	**7,972.1**	**13,531.4**	**5,696.8**	**3,944.6**	**5,287.5**
Net Foreign Financing	8,954.0	3,266.7	1,239.4	1,519.4	1,476.1
Net Domestic Financing	-981.9	10,264.7	4,457.4	2,425.2	3,811.4
Of Which: Transfers to Heritage and Stabilisation Fund	*-2,498.4*	*-1,712.2*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*
(Per Cent of GDP)					
Revenue	**29.7**	**23.9**	**27.2**	**28.4**	**29.1**
Current	27.2	23.0	26.6	27.9	28.5
Energy	4.4	5.1	6.9	9.1	10.0
Non-Energy	22.8	17.9	19.7	18.9	18.5
Capital	2.5	0.9	0.5	0.6	0.6
Expenditure	**35.0**	**32.8**	**30.7**	**30.9**	**32.3**
Current	32.1	30.6	28.5	28.7	29.1
Wages and Salaries	6.3	6.6	5.7	5.6	5.8
Goods and Services	4.8	3.8	3.8	3.4	4.2
Interest Payments	2.5	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.4
Transfers and Subsidies	18.4	17.2	16.0	16.7	16.7
Capital Expenditure and Net Lending	2.9	2.3	2.2	2.2	3.2
Overall Non-Energy Balance[2]	**-9.7**	**-14.1**	**-10.5**	**-11.5**	**-13.2**
Overall Balance	**-5.3**	**-8.9**	**-3.6**	**-2.4**	**-3.2**
Total Financing (Net)	**5.3**	**8.9**	**3.6**	**2.4**	**3.2**
Net Foreign Financing	5.9	2.2	0.8	0.9	0.9
Net Domestic Financing	-0.6	6.8	2.8	1.5	2.3
Of which: Transfers to Heritage and Stabilisation Fund	-1.6	-1.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Memo:					
Primary Fiscal Balance (TT$Mn)	-4,209.7	-9,063.0	-910.0	957.7	-1,297.4
Cyclically Adjusted Balance (TT$Mn)[3]	-6,755.1	-11,298.6	-3,161.3	-1,788.8	n.a.
Structural Fiscal Balance (TT$Mn)[4]	-954.2	-47.0	328.7	-40.0	n.a.

Sources: Ministry of Finance and Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

1 Adjusted for transfers to the Infrastructure Development Fund, Government Assisted Tertiary Education Fund and CARICOM Petroleum Fund.
2 Computed as the sum of non-energy revenue and capital revenue less total expenditure.
3 The cyclically adjusted balance provides an estimate of the fiscal position net of cyclical effects by adjusting revenue and expenditure for business cycle effects.
4 The structurally fiscal balance is an estimate of the fiscal position after excluding the effects of the business cycle and fluctuations in commodity prices, as well as one-off factors that temporarily affect revenue and expenditure.
* Energy and non-energy revenues for FY2018/2019 have been estimated by the Central Bank.
r Revised.
re Revised Estimates.
b Budgeted.

TABLE 9
ENERGY-BASED GOVERNMENT REVENUES, 2014/2015 - 2018/2019
/Per Cent of Government Revenue/

	2014/ 2015	2015/ 2016	2016/ 2017	2017/ 2018[r]	2018/ 2019[re]
Energy Sector	**32.6**	**14.8**	**21.4**	**25.6**	**31.8**
Petroleum Profit Tax (PPT)	9.4	2.0	1.7	2.5	2.7
Supplemental Petroleum Tax (SPT)	9.0	0.3	1.4	2.3	5.4
Corporation Tax	8.7	6.3	9.6	11.0	9.2
Royalties	1.9	1.2	2.6	5.3	7.3
Unemployment Levy	1.0	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.7
Withholding Tax	1.4	1.7	1.4	1.1	2.0
Exercise Duty	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.0
Oil Impost[1]	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.2
Signature Bonus	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Production Sharing Contracts	0.8	2.2	3.6	2.3	0.0
Extraordinary Revenue from Oil and Gas Companies	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.1
Surplus Income - Sale of Pet. Products	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2
(Per Cent of GDP)					
Energy Sector	**11.4**	**4.4**	**5.1**	**6.9**	**9.1**
Petroleum Profit Tax (PPT)	3.3	0.6	0.4	0.7	0.8
Supplemental Petroleum Tax (SPT)	3.1	0.1	0.3	0.6	1.5
Corporation Tax	3.0	1.9	2.3	3.0	2.6
Royalties	0.7	0.3	0.6	1.4	2.1
Unemployment Levy	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
Withholding Tax	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.6
Exercise Duty	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
Oil Impost[1]	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
Signature Bonus	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Production Sharing Contracts	0.3	0.7	0.9	0.6	0.0
Extraordinary Revenue from Oil and Gas Companies	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.2
Surplus Income - Sale of Pet. Products	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0

Sources: Ministry of Finance and Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

1 Oil Impost refers to a tax on petroleum producing companies to cover the administration expenses of the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries.
r Revised.
re Revised Estimates.

TABLE 10
CENTRAL GOVERNMENT RECURRENT EXPENDITURE[1]: A FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION 2015/2016-2019/2020
/TT$ Millions/

	2015/2016[r]	2016/2017[r]	2017/2018[r]	2018/2019[re]	2019/2020[b]
Economic Services	**3,939.4**	**3,329.1**	**2,961.9**	**3,000.6**	**3,636.2**
Energy	1,006.0	466.6	85.4	316.3	640.9
Agriculture, Land and Marine Resources	794.3	727.5	726.1	667.1	694.7
Works and Transport	2,139.1	2,135.0	2,150.4	2,017.2	2,300.6
Social Services	**21,441.5**	**20,186.5**	**19,961.1**	**19,836.8**	**19,904.6**
Education[2]	5,903.0	5,008.3	5,297.4	5,112.5	5,444.2
Health	4,564.1	5,053.4	4,727.6	4,643.1	5,000.0
Housing	1,011.7	1,307.5	1,410.2	1,346.9	720.2
Small Enterprise Development	502.1	356.3	332.9	372.0	435.9
Public Utilities	3,671.7	2,832.0	2,932.1	2,719.1	2,671.0
Social Services[3]	5,788.9	5,629.0	5,260.9	5,643.2	5,633.3
Public Services	**6,282.5**	**6,182.0**	**5,128.3**	**4,857.8**	**5,864.6**
National Security	6,282.5	6,182.0	5,128.3	4,857.8	5,864.6
Other[4]	**21,983.3**	**23,238.7**	**24,508.3**	**24,932.4**	**26,094.2**
Total Recurrent Expenditure[5]	**53,646.7**	**52,936.3**	**52,559.6**	**52,627.6**	**55,499.6**

Sources: Ministry of Finance and Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

1 Classified according to recurrent expenditure allocated to the respective ministry head.
2 Includes Ministry of Education, Ministry of Tertiary Education and Skills Training, Ministry of Science and Technology.
3 Includes Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts, Ministry of Social Development and Family Services and Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs.
4 Includes Office of the President, Auditor General, Judiciary, Industrial Court, Parliament, Service Commissions, Statutory Authorities, Elections & Boundaries Commission, Tax Appeal Board, Registration, Recognition and Certification Board, Public Service Appeal Board, Office of the Prime Minister, Tobago House of Assembly, Central Administrative Services, Tobago and all other Ministries. Other excludes Charges on Account of the Public Debt.
5 Represents Recurrent Expenditure from the Consolidated Fund only.
r Revised.
re Revised Estimates.
b Budgeted.

PUBLIC SECTOR DEBT

Total public sector debt outstanding at the end of September 2019 amounted to $121.3 billion, compared to the $119.2 billion registered in September 2018 (**Table 11**). Net public sector debt, which excludes debt issued for sterilisation purposes (open market operations), increased by 8.0 per cent to $103.2 billion (63.2 per cent of GDP). During the fiscal year, the Central Government borrowed both domestically and externally for budgetary support and to refinance existing obligations. Meanwhile, the Central Bank allowed net maturities of OMOs back into the financial system.

Central Government increased its domestic borrowing during FY2018/19. Domestic debt, excluding sterilised securities increased to $47.0 billion in September 2019 from $42.3 billion in September 2018 **(Appendix Table A.17 (B))**. Under the Development Loans Act, Central Government borrowed $6.3 billion in FY2018/19, relatively unchanged from FY2017/18. These borrowings included bonds underwritten by First Citizens Bank totalling $4.3 billion, ANSA Merchant Bank amounting to $1.1 billion, and Republic Bank Limited, $940.0 million. These bonds increased the amount outstanding under the Development Loans Act to

$41.3 billion as at September 2019[19] **(Table 12B)**. An additional $1.4 billion in debt management bills were contracted under the Treasury Bills Act. Regarding principal repayments, roughly $2.3 billion was allocated for bonds and loans contracted under the Development Loans Act, while $470.4 million and $18.7 million were allocated for the repayment of CLICO and HCU zero coupon bonds, respectively.

Central Government external debt amounted to US$3,939.4 million at the end of September 2019 **(Appendix Table A.17 (A))**. Disbursements from external creditors amounted to US$365.5 million over the reporting period. Notably, US$220.0 million was disbursed by the Corporación Andina de Fomento (CAF) in support of the medium-term fiscal consolidation strategy and the Roads and Bridges Programme **(Table 12A)**. Additionally, external debt contracted included US$76.8 million from the Unicredit Bank Austria for the construction of the Point Fortin Hospital, as well as US$68.7 million for existing project-related loans from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). External debt service payments amounted to US$292.4 million of which US$125.3 million was geared towards principal repayments.

Contingent liabilities increased by $1.4 billion to $30.0 billion at the end of September 2019. New borrowings for FY2018/19 by Statutory Bodies and State-owned Enterprises included debt contracted by PETROTRIN and the National Infrastructure Development Company (NIDCO) totalling $1.3 billion and $914.9 million, respectively. Over the period, the Urban Development Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago (UDECOTT) also borrowed $1.0 billion for various works, which included the construction of the Arima and Sangre Grande Hospitals as well as the renovation of the Port-of-Spain General Hospital. Meanwhile, PETROTRIN and Caribbean Airlines Limited (CAL) refinanced maturing obligations over the period **(Table 12A)**.

19 The Act currently sets a borrowing limit of $45.0 billion.

TABLE 11
TOTAL PUBLIC DEBT OUTSTANDING, SEPTEMBER 2015 – SEPTEMBER 2019
/TT$ Millions/

	Sep-15	Sep-16	Sep-17	Sep-18[r]	Sep-19[p]
Total Gross Public Debt	**127,031.2**	**119,709.7**	**121,258.4**	**119,161.5**	**121,266.9**
Total Net Public Debt[1]	**88,396.2**	**88,308.7**	**93,646.9**	**95,543.8**	**103,214.1**
Central Government Domestic	**70,384.0**	**67,086.7**	**68,448.9**	**65,945.3**	**65,029.9**
General Development Bonds	12,099.0	16,694.8	21,293.3	23,313.8	27,059.2
CLICO and HCU Bonds	18,595.7	17,987.7	17,463.3	16,961.7	16,456.0
BOLTS and Leases	243.7	186.4	159.3	130.6	105.4
Debt Management Bills	800.0	800.0	1,905.0	1,905.0	3,340.0
Open Market Operations					
Treasury Bills	25,038.2	19,788.9	18,599.2	18,273.4	14,061.5
Treasury Notes	9,197.5	9,052.8	6,453.0	2,785.0	1,432.0
Treasury Bonds	2,559.3	2,559.3	2,559.3	2,559.3	2,559.3
Liquidity Absorption Bonds	1,840.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other Debt Liabilities[2]	10.6	16.8	16.5	16.5	16.5
Central Government External	**13,759.6**	**21,362.3**	**23,522.7**	**24,710.1**	**26,283.8**
Contingent Liabilities	**42,887.6**	**31,260.7**	**29,286.8**	**28,506.1**	**29,953.2**
State Owned Enterprises	31,247.5	19,872.4	18,537.4	18,395.8	20,474.6
Statutory Authorities	11,640.1	11,388.3	10,749.4	10,110.3	9,478.6
(Per Cent of GDP)[3]					
Total Gross Public debt	77.4	79.1	80.1	74.9	74.3
Total Net Public Debt[2]	53.9	58.3	61.8	60.1	63.2
Central Government Domestic Debt[1]	19.3	23.6	27.0	26.6	28.8
Central Government External Debt	8.4	14.1	15.5	15.5	16.1
Contingent Liabilities	26.1	20.6	19.3	17.9	18.3

Sources: Ministry of Finance and Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

1 Excludes debt issued for sterilisation purposes (Open Market Operations).

2 Comprises the outstanding balances of public sector emolument bonds, tax-free saving bonds & Central Bank fixed interest rate bonds.

3 Debt ratios for FY2019 are based on the Central Bank's nominal GDP forecasts for 2019 and hence may differ from ratios published by the Ministry of Finance.

r Revised.

p Provisional.

TABLE 12A
PUBLIC SECTOR BORROWINGS UNDERTAKEN IN FY2018/2019
/TT$ Millions/

Date	Borrower	Amount ($Mn)	Type of Financing	Purpose of Financing	Borrowing Act Utilised
12-Oct-18	PETROTRIN	150.7 (US$22.3)	Domestic	Working Capital and Trade Financing	Guarantee of Loans (Companies) Act
18-Oct-18	UDECOTT	672.5 (US$99.6)	Domestic	Construction & Fit-out of Arima Hospital	Guarantee of Loans (Companies) Act
24-Oct-18	National Maintenance Training and Security Company Limited (NMTS)	400.0	Domestic	Upgrade and Maintenance of School Infrastructure	Guarantee of Loans (Companies) Act
26-Oct-18	PETROTRIN	169.3 (US$25)	Domestic	Working Capital and Trade Financing	Guarantee of Loans (Companies) Act
2-Nov-18	PETROTRIN	674.0 (US$100)	Domestic	Working Capital and Trade Financing	Guarantee of Loans (Companies) Act
7-Nov-18	PETROTRIN	336.7 (US$50)	Domestic	Working Capital and Trade Financing	Guarantee of Loans (Companies) Act
7-Nov-18	Central Government	640.0	Domestic	Debt Refinancing	Development Loans Act
11-Nov-18	Central Government	810.3 (US$120)[1]	External (CAF)	Programme to support medium-term fiscal consolidation strategy	Corporación Andina de Fomento (CAF) Act
15-Nov-18	UDECOTT	180.3	Domestic	Chancery Lane Office Complex	Guarantee of Loans (Companies) Act
26-Nov-18	Central Government	500.0	Domestic	Budget Support	Development Loans Act
30-Nov-18	Central Government	1,200.0	Domestic	Restructuring of PETROTRIN	Development Loans Act
25-Feb-19	Central Government	500.0	Domestic	Budget Support	Development Loans Act
22-Mar-19	Central Government	142.4 (US$21)	Domestic	Budget Support	Development Loans Act
29-Apr-19	Central Government	800.0	Domestic	Budget Support	Development Loans Act
10-May-19	Central Government	1,700.0	Domestic	Budget Support	Development Loans Act
31-May-19	Central Government	300.0	Domestic	Budget Financing	Treasury Bills Act
17-Jun-19	Central Government	515.0	Domestic	Budget Financing	Treasury Bills Act
28-Jun-19	PETROTRIN	674.8 (US$100)	Domestic	Debt Refinancing	Guarantee of Loans (Companies) Act
5-Jul-19	UDECOTT	127.5	Domestic	Construction of Sangre Grande Hospital	Guarantee of Loans (Companies) Act
5-Jul-19	TSTT	178.6 (US$26.4)	External	Working Capital	Guarantee of Loans (Companies) Act
12-Jul-19	NIDCO	414.9 (US$61.5)	Domestic	Purchase of two Catamaran Ferries for Inter-Island Sea Bridge	Guarantee of Loans (Companies) Act
18-Jul-19	Central Government	105.0	Domestic	Budget Financing	Treasury Bills Act
22-Jul-19	Caribbean Airlines	435.1 (US$64.2)	Domestic	Debt Refinancing	Guarantee of Loans (Companies) Act
25-Jul-19	UDECOTT	114.6 (US$16.9)	Domestic	Completion of Arima Hospital	Guarantee of Loans (Companies) Act
28-Jul-19	NIPDEC	500.0	Domestic	Financing for road upgrade (PURE)	Guarantee of Loans (Companies) Act
30-Jul-19	UDECOTT	102.0	Domestic	Renovation of Port of Spain General Hospital	Guarantee of Loans (Companies) Act
6-Aug-19	Central Government	515.0	Domestic	Budget Financing	Treasury Bills Act
13-Aug-19	Central Government	1,354.5 (US$200)[2]	External (CAF)	Roads and Bridges Programme	Corporación Andina de Fomento (CAF) Act
21-Aug-19	Central Government	300.0	Domestic	Debt Refinancing	Development Loans Act
23-Aug-19	Central Government	243.0 (US$36)	Domestic	Purchase of two Cape Class Patrol Vessels for Coast Guard	Development Loans Act
4-Sep-19	NIDCO	500.0	Domestic	Construction of Point Fortin Highway	Guarantee of Loans (Companies) Act
5-Sep-19	South West Regional Health Authority (SWRHA)	500.1	Domestic	To repay existing RHA Loan Facilities	Guarantee of Loans (Statutory Authorities) Act
9-Sep-19	Eastern Regional Health Authority (ERHA)	500.0	Domestic	To finance expenses related to the RHAs	Guarantee of Loans (Statutory Authorities) Act
23-Sep-19	Central Government	300.0	Domestic	Debt Refinancing	Development Loans Act
30-Sep-19	PETROTRIN	370.3 (US$55)	Domestic	Debt Refinancing	Guarantee of Loans (Companies) Act

Sources: Ministry of Finance and Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

1 Loan agreement was signed on August 29, 2018 but disbursed on November 11, 2018.

2 Only US$100 million was disbursed by CAF in FY2018/2019.

TABLE 12B
IMPACT OF FY 2018/2019 BORROWING ON BORROWING LIMITS

Borrowing Act	Borrowing Limit (TT$ Mn)	Outstanding Debt FY2018 (TT$ Mn)	Outstanding Debt FY2019 (TT$ Mn)	Remaining Headroom as at 30-Sep-19 (TT$ Mn)
Development Loans Act	45,000.0	37,507.6	41,253.0	3,747.0
External Loans Act	30,000.0	16,609.1	16,814.1	13,185.9
Guarantee of Loans (Companies) Act	45,000.0	18,395.8	20,655.0	24,345.0
Guarantee of Loans (Statutory Authorities) Act	No Limit	10,110.3	9,461.5	Unlimited
IADB Act	No Limit	4,615.0	4,625.3	Unlimited
IBRD Act	No Limit	0.0	0.0	Unlimited
CDB Act	No Limit	244.9	206.3	Unlimited
CAF Act	No Limit	3,241.1	4,638.1	Unlimited
Treasury Bills Act	30,000.0	20,178.4	17,401.5	12,598.5
Treasury Notes Act	15,000.0	2,785.0	1,432.0	13,568.0
Treasury Bonds Act	No Limit	2,559.3	2,559.3	Unlimited
Purchase of Certain Rights and Validation Act CLICO)[1]	10,700.0	2,494.7	2,007.4	1,321.2
Purchase of Certain Rights and Validation Act (HCU)[2]	400.0	273.2	254.8	52.9

Sources: Ministry of Finance and Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

1 An Act established for the issuance of zero-coupon bonds to Colonial Life Insurance Company (Trinidad) Limited (CLICO) policyholders.
2 An Act established for the issuance of zero-coupon bonds to depositors of the Hindu Credit Union (HCU).

CHAPTER SIX – MONETARY AND FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

MONETARY POLICY

The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Central Bank held its main policy rate, the Repo rate, unchanged at 5.00 per cent in 2019 balancing domestic economic considerations with international financial conditions. The domestic economy continued in a recovery mode, with uneven progress across sectors, while inflation remained historically low. Regarding financial conditions, the MPC considered that a large negative differential between TT and US short-term interest rates could potentially encourage capital outflows for investment. However, during the year short-term rates in the US generally declined so that by the end of 2019 the differential had fallen substantially. The judgment of the Bank during the year was that the Repo rate, at 5.00 per cent, was on balance at an appropriate level.

Liquidity levels in the domestic banking system increased during 2019. Commercial banks' holdings of excess reserves rose to a monthly average of $4,005.6 million from $3,282.1 million in 2018[20]. Net domestic fiscal injections (NDFIs) – usually considered the main driver of liquidity – amounted to a net withdrawal of $1,844.7 million in 2019, a reversal from the $10,592.0 million in injections over 2018. Over late November and December 2019, receipts from a $1,600.0 million bond with a 15-year tenor, as well as end of quarter tax receipts caused fiscal operations to result in net withdrawals from the financial system. In addition, although not a liquidity absorption tool, Central Bank sales of foreign exchange to authorised dealers indirectly removed $10,057.0 million from the system in 2019, roughly equal to the amount removed in 2018. In contrast, through the net maturities of OMOs totaling $10,439.4 million, the Central Bank injected liquidity into the financial system. Overall, the higher average level of excess liquidity over 2019 brought down activity on the interbank market. Interbank activity averaged $108.0 million daily in 2019, compared with a daily average level of $114.5 million in 2018. The repurchase facility was not accessed over 2019.

In December, the government announced the demonetisation of the cotton $100 note and its replacement by a new polymer $100 bill.

The TT-US short term differential remained in negative territory over the course of 2019. The 91-day Treasury bill rate decreased by 22 basis points to 1.08 per cent at the end of 2019, while the 365-day Treasury bill rate decreased by 46 basis points to reach 2.29 per cent. However, mainly neutral monetary policy from the US Federal Reserve (Fed) over 2019 and bouts of safe haven inflows resulted in decreasing short-term rates in the US. Thus, while the TT-US 91-day Treasury rate differential remained in negative territory, there was an improvement from -115 basis points at the end of 2018 to -47 basis points by the end of 2019.

The commercial banking spread declined in 2019 owing to lower lending rates. The commercial banks' weighted average lending rate decreased by 29 basis points between December 2018 and December 2019 to reach 7.72 per cent, influenced by higher excess liquidity in the financial system and the competitive lending environment. Meanwhile, the weighted average deposit rate rose by 2 basis points to 0.67 per cent over the same period. The banking spread thus narrowed 31 basis points over the year to reach 7.05 per cent in December 2019. Similarly, the weighted average interest rate on outstanding mortgage loans decreased to 5.84 per cent by December 2019, reflecting a 21 basis point decline since December 2018. Consistent with the steadiness of the Repo rate over 2019, the median prime lending rate remained at 9.25 per cent.

The growth in private sector credit granted by the consolidated system moderated over 2019 to an average of 4.1 per cent compared to 5.6 per cent one year earlier. While consumer and real estate lending remained robust throughout 2019, weak business lending dragged overall credit growth downwards.

20 Notably, currency in active circulation declined by 39.8 per cent between December 2018 and 2019 owing to redemptions of $100 cotton notes, occurring as part of a demonetisation exercise. Liquidity and currency in active circulation tend to move in opposite directions.

Business lending remained anaemic in 2019 and declined by 4.3 per cent compared to growth of 2.4 per cent in 2018. Disaggregated data show an average decline of 7.9 per cent in lending to the finance, insurance and real estate sector due in part to a falloff in real estate lending[21]. On the other hand, lending to the manufacturing sector rose by an average of 7.9 per cent on account of increased lending to the food, drink and tobacco and chemicals and non-metallic minerals sub-sectors. Similarly, loans to the wholesale and retail trade sectors expanded by 4.3 per cent.

Consumer credit held strong throughout 2019. Lending to consumers expanded by an average of 6.4 per cent over 2019, slightly lower than the 6.7 per cent recorded in 2018. Lending for debt consolidation and refinancing continued to drive consumer credit, expanding at an average rate of 16.8 per cent and 9.9 per cent, respectively. Another major lending category, motor vehicles, also expanded in 2019 (3.2 per cent) albeit at a slower pace than in 2018. Further disaggregation of this category showed lending for used cars was elevated, averaging 11.2 per cent throughout 2019 while loans for new motor vehicles was lethargic, declining by an average of 0.3 per cent. Loans for credit cards remained buoyant, expanding by an average of 5.1 per cent in 2019.

Real estate mortgage lending presented robust growth throughout 2019. On average, real estate mortgage lending grew by 9.4 per cent over 2019 compared to 7.9 per cent one year earlier. Lower interest rates offered on mortgages continued to be the main impetus behind the increase in real estate lending. The interest rate on new residential real estate mortgages edged down to 4.67 per cent in December 2019, reflecting a 6 basis point decline since December 2018. Residential real estate mortgages for existing homes grew by 17.3 per cent, while loans for new houses and land expanded by 7.0 per cent and 5.4 per cent, respectively. After five consecutive quarters of decline, lending for renovation expanded by 3.5 per cent and 5.3 per cent in September and December 2019.

Monetary aggregates remained weak in 2019. Data to December 2019 indicated that the monetary aggregates were impacted by the demonetisation of the TT$100 cotton note in December. As the TT$100 note was replaced with a new polymer $100 note, currency in active circulation declined by 39.8 per cent year-on-year. On the other hand, as previously un-banked individuals opted to join the banking system, there was a small increase in demand deposits (3.3 per cent year-on-year) following declines since August 2019. M1-A declined by 4.3 per cent year-on-year due in part to the large falloff in currency in active circulation. Growth in M2 was marginal in December 2019 and can be attributed to the expansion in time and saving deposits.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE MARKET

Despite increased foreign exchange inflows, the market for foreign exchange remained tight throughout 2019. Increases were recorded in both authorised dealers' purchases from the public (4.5 per cent) and their sales to the public (4.6 per cent). Purchases of foreign exchange from the public by authorised dealers reached US$4,285.6 million. Approximately 67.8 per cent of purchases originated from the energy sector, which remains the main source of supply to the market. Improved energy sector performance over 2019 resulted in a 6.0 per cent increase in inflows relative to 2018.

Sales of foreign exchange to the public by authorised dealers amounted to US$5,939.8 million in 2019. While credit cards absorbed the largest share of all sales (28.5 per cent), retail and distribution (24.4 per cent), energy companies (11.7 per cent), manufacturing (8.2 per cent), and automobile companies (5.8 per cent) made up the bulk of the remainder of foreign exchange sales. The Central Bank's support to the market amounted to US$1,504.0 million in 2019, almost identical to the level of support in 2018. The weighted average TTD/USD selling rate appreciated slightly from TT$6.7861/US$1 in December 2018 to TT$6.7791/US$1 in December 2019.

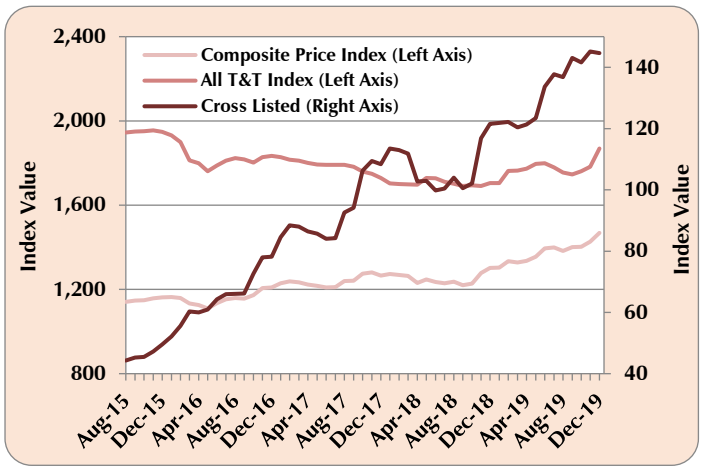
21 This includes real estate agents, real estate developers, real estate valuators and appraisers, and real estate services not elsewhere classified.

CHAPTER SEVEN – CAPITAL MARKETS

STOCK MARKET

The domestic stock market observed a notable improvement over 2019, supported by the strong performances of the Cross Listed Index (CLI) and the All T&T Index (ATI) **(Figure 1)**. The major Composite Price Index (CPI) expanded by 12.7 per cent, while total stock market capitalisation ended 2019 13.3 per cent higher, at $143.5 billion. The CPI was buoyed by a 19.0 per cent jump in the CLI, reflecting robust performances by most of the regionally listed firms. In addition, the ATI registered a 9.6 per cent increase, arising from solid performances by some locally domiciled firms. The domestic market performance in 2019 surpassed the outturn in 2018 when the CPI improved by just 2.7 per cent, boosted by a 12.2 per cent advance in the CLI, while the ATI declined by 1.4 per cent. In comparison, the major regional stock exchanges saw mixed performances over 2019. The Jamaican Stock Exchange (JSE) reported a robust 34.3 per cent expansion, while the Barbados Stock Exchange fell by 9.2 per cent decline over the year.

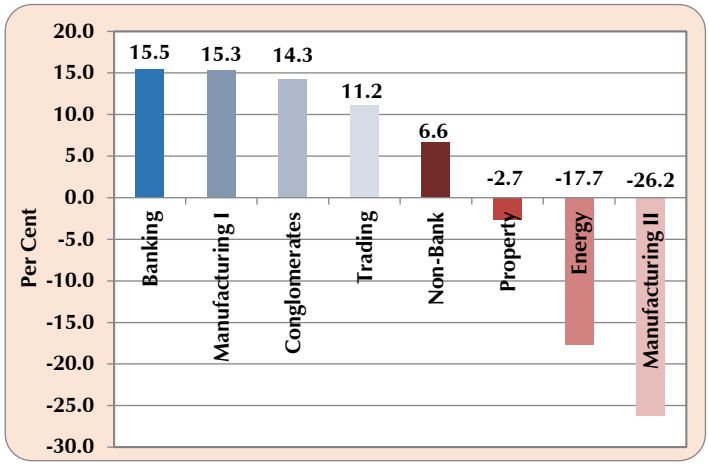
FIGURE 1
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO STOCK INDICES



Source: Trinidad and Tobago Stock Exchange

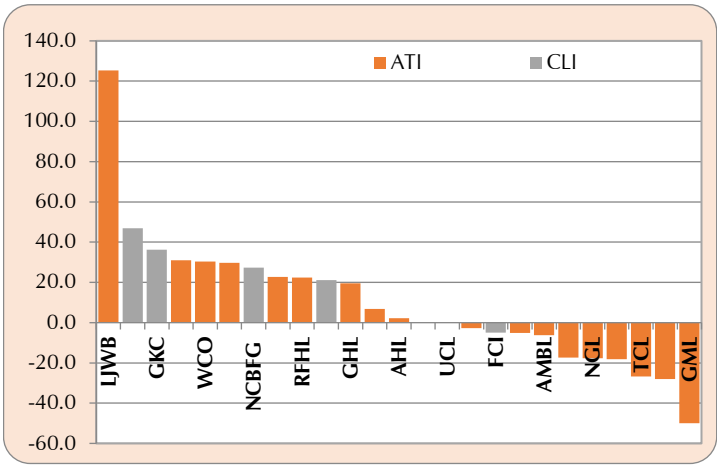
Domestically, most of the sub-indices advanced in 2019 **(Figures 2 and 3)**. The Banking sub-index gained 15.5 per cent, driven by growth in the share price of First Citizens Bank Limited (FIRST), National Commercial Bank Financial Group Limited (NCBFG), and Republic Financial Holdings Limited (RFHL). The Manufacturing I sub-index expanded by 15.3 per cent, largely supported by a 30.3 per cent increase in the share price of the West Indian Tobacco Company Limited following its successful 3:1 stock split in November 2019. On the other hand, the Manufacturing I sub-index was negatively impacted by a 50.0 per cent decline in Guardian Media Limited (GML) as a result of a challenging and evolving advertising environment and a contraction in advertising spending. Other sub-indices to witness positive movements were Conglomerates (14.3 per cent), Trading (11.2 per cent) and Non-Banking Finance (6.6 per cent). The Trading sub-index was supported by an impressive 125.3 per cent increase in the share price of LJ Williams Limited (LJWB), driven by strong performance and resilience in the company's various business segments. The sub-indices posting declines over 2019 were Property (2.7 per cent), Energy (17.7 per cent), and Manufacturing II (26.2 per cent). The decline in the Energy sub-index was driven primarily by Trinidad and Tobago NGL (TTNGL), which was challenged by competition from growing volumes of US shale gas, downtime at Atlantic LNG, reduced natural gas volumes to Point Lisas and higher feedstock costs. Additionally, the fall in the Manufacturing II sub-index was due to a 26.7 per cent decline in the Trinidad Cement Limited (TCL) share price, which continues to be impacted by lower demand locally and in other key markets.

FIGURE 2
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO STOCK MARKET SUB-INDICES 2019



Source: Trinidad and Tobago Stock Exchange

FIGURE 3
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO INDIVIDUAL STOCK INDICES, 2019



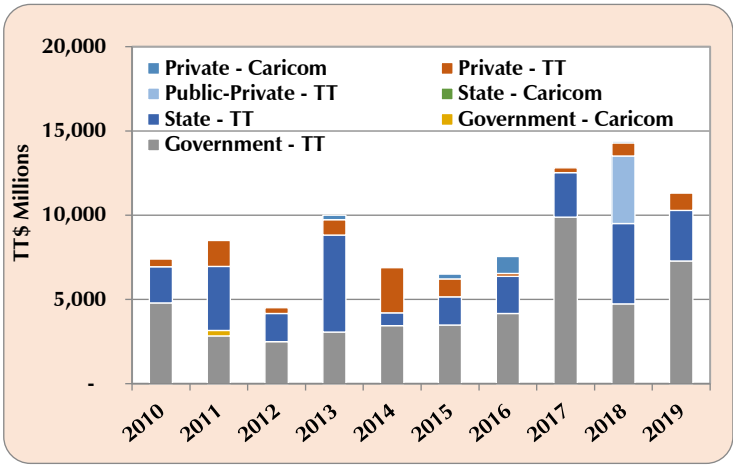
Source: Trinidad and Tobago Stock Exchange

While the value of securities traded on the domestic exchange during 2019 was lower, the volume traded was higher. A total of 76.9 million shares were exchanged at a value of roughly $1,102.3 million during 2019. Conversely, in 2018, 72.3 million shares were exchanged at a value of $1,148.4 million. Volume traded was dominated by the Non-Banking Finance sub-index which accounted for 42.9 per cent, or roughly 32.9 million shares. JMMB Group Limited (JMMB) accounted for 56.3 per cent of the Non-Banking Finance sub-index trade volume. Trade value was led by the Banking sub-index (29.5 per cent or $325.4 million) while the largest value traded for an individual stock occurred for TTNGL (16.3 per cent or $179.1 million).

PRIMARY DEBT MARKET

Provisional data suggest that activity on the primary debt market declined during 2019 **(Figure 4 and Table 13)**. The market observed 17 primary issues at a value of approximately $11.3 billion, compared to 23 primary issues at a value of roughly $14.4 billion in 2018. The Central Government continued to be the principal borrower issuing 10 bond facilities, all by private placement, totalling $7,285.4 million for the purpose of budget support and the repayment and refinancing of existing and maturing Government bonds. Two state enterprises, the Home Mortgage Bank (HMB) and the Telecommunication Services of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (TSTT), accessed the market in 2019, issuing six debt facilities totalling $2,999.6 million. Lastly, only one private sector entity accessed the market, financing US$150.0 million or TT$1,015.7 million for general corporate purposes and strategic initiatives. In comparison, during 2018 the Central Government issued eight bonds at $4,740.0 million, five state enterprises raised roughly $4,764.0 million, four private sector entities raised $891.2 million, and the National Investment Fund Holding Company Limited (NIFHCL) publicly sold three bonds for a total of $4.0 billion.

FIGURE 4
ANNUAL PRIMARY DEBT SECURITY ACTIVITY (2010 - 2019[P,1,2])



Source: Trinidad and Tobago Stock Exchange

TABLE 13
PRIMARY DEBT SECURITY ACTIVITY
JANUARY – DECEMBER 2019[P]

Period Issued	Borrower	Face Value (TT$ M)	Period to Maturity	Coupon Rate Per Annum	Placement Type
Feb-19	Central Government of Trinidad and Tobago	500.0	4.0 years	Fixed rate 3.70%	Private
Mar-18	Home Mortgage Bank	200.0	Multiple	Multiple	Public
	Central Government of Trinidad and Tobago	142.4 (US$21.0Mn)	6.0 years	Fixed rate 5.00%	Private
Apr-19	Central Government of Trinidad and Tobago	800.0	10.0 years	Fixed rate 4.90%	Private
May-19	Central Government of Trinidad and Tobago				
	Tranche A	1000.0	1.0 year	Fixed rate 3.05%	Private
	Tranche B	700.0	1.0 year	Fixed rate 3.05%	Private
	Republic Bank Limited	1,015.7 (US$150.0Mn)	5.0 years	Fixed rate 5.07%	Private
Aug-19	Central Government of Trinidad and Tobago	300.0	13.0 years	Fixed rate 5.05%	Private
	Central Government of Trinidad and Tobago	243.0 (US$36.0Mn)	7.0 years	Fixed rate 4.25%	Private
Sep-19	Telecommunication Services of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (TSTT)	71.7	0.25 years	Fixed rate 7.50%	Private
	Telecommunication Services of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (TSTT)	3.32 (US$0.49Mn)	0.25 years	Fixed rate 7.50%	Private
	Central Government of Trinidad and Tobago	300.0	6.0 years	Fixed rate 3.99%	Private
Oct-19	Telecommunication Services of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (TSTT)	20.0	0.25 years	Fixed rate 7.50%	Private
	Telecommunication Services of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (TSTT)	680.0	10.0 years	Fixed rate 8.30%	Private
	Telecommunication Services of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (TSTT)	2,024.6 (US$300.0Mn)	10.0 years	Fixed rate 8.875%	Private
	Central Government of Trinidad and Tobago	500.0	5.0 years	Fixed rate 3.85%	Private
Nov-19	Central Government of Trinidad and Tobago	1,600.0	15.0 years	Fixed rate 5.50%	Private
Dec-19	Central Government of Trinidad and Tobago	1,200.0	1.0 year	Fixed rate 2.65%	Private

Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

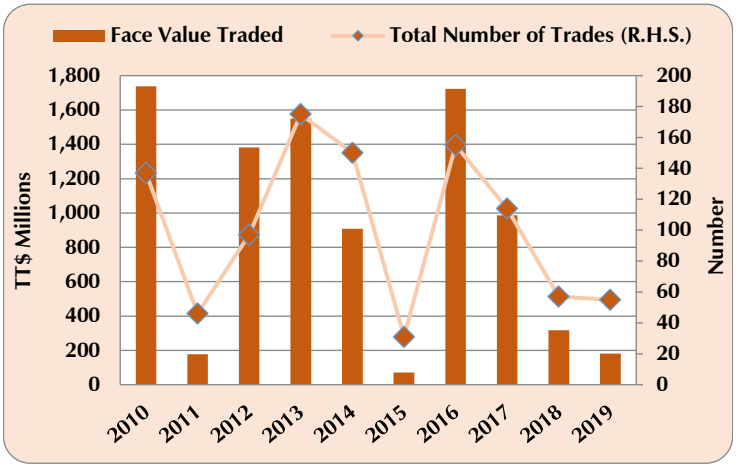
p Provisional.

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT SECONDARY BOND MARKET, YIELD CURVE[22] AND BOND INDEX

Trading activity on the secondary government bond market weakened during 2019 **(Figure 5)**. During the year, 55 trades occurred at a face value of roughly $182.0 million, compared to 57 trades at $318.1 million in 2018. Moreover, since the listing of the three NIFHCL bonds in September 2018, the secondary corporate bond market continued to record activity. Over 2019, the corporate bond market observed 118 trades at a face value of $46.7 million.

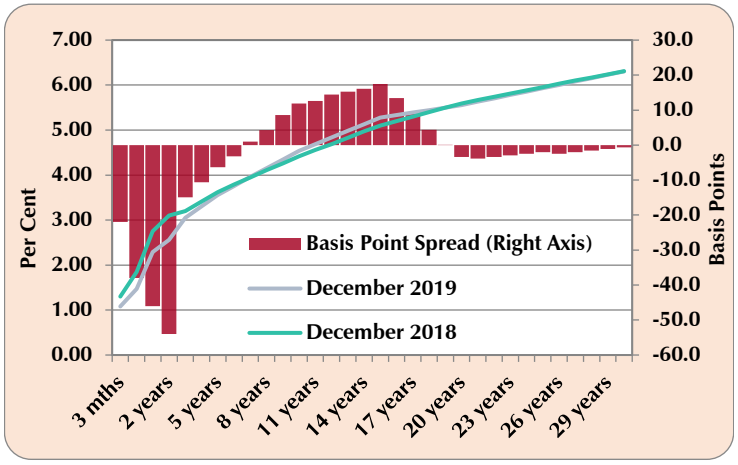
Compared to a general upward shift in the Central Government yield curve over 2018, the yield curve displayed mixed movements in 2019 **(Figure 6)**. Over the year, the elevated excess liquidity levels in the banking system placed downward pressure on the short-term Treasury rates. The 3-month rate dropped by 22 basis points to 1.08 per cent, the 6-month rate fell by 38 basis points to 1.47 per cent, the 1-year rate declined by 46 basis points to 2.29 per cent, and the 2-year rate plunged 54 basis points to 2.56 per cent. On the other hand, some medium to long-term rates observed upward movements, likely due to some Central Government borrowing activity occurring within the tenor space. As such, the 10-year rate increased by 12 basis points to 4.54 per cent and the 15-year rate increased by 17 basis points to 5.27 per cent. Conversely, rates on the very long-term tenors greater than 19-years witnessed some declines and flattening. In terms of the Central Government bond index, the Price Index declined marginally by 0.8 per cent, while the Total Return Index improved by 5.9 per cent.

FIGURE 5
ANNUAL SECONDARY GOVERNMENT DEBT SECURITY ACTIVITY



Source: Trinidad and Tobago Stock Exchange

FIGURE 6
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO GOVERNMENT YIELD CURVE



Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

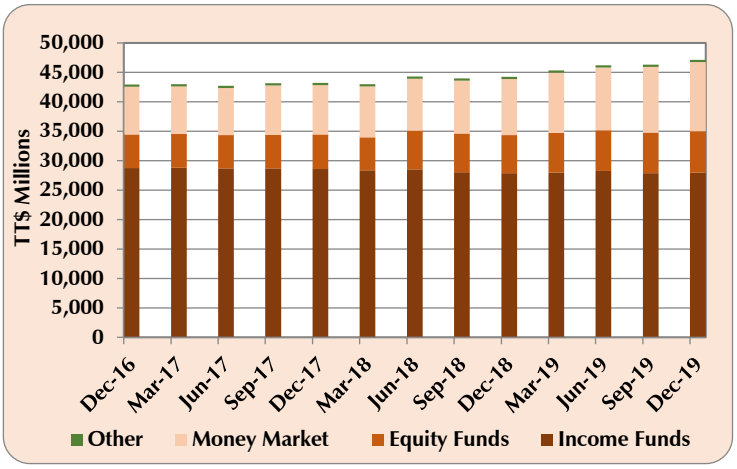
22 The TT Treasury Yield curve was launched in September 2014 by the Central Bank. The curve is based on data from Reserves and Domestic Market Management, contributor market reads, and the Stock Exchange Secondary Government bond market. The curve is intended for use as a benchmark for government securities.

MUTUAL FUNDS INDUSTRY

During 2019, aggregate funds under management increased by 6.6 per cent year-on-year to $47,146.4 million, as a result of growth in all the fund types[23] **(Figure 7)**. The industry was supported by a 23.2 per cent increase in Money Market funds to $11,764.1 million, an 8.5 per cent increase in Equity funds to $7,017.0 million, and a negligible 0.4 per cent increase in Income funds to $27,973.8 million. Additionally, funds classified as 'Other'[24], which represents the smallest fund group, increased by 11.9 per cent to $391.5 million. In terms of currency profile, TT dollar funds expanded by 7.5 per cent to $38,238.5 million, while foreign currency funds improved by 2.7 per cent to a TT dollar equivalent of $8,907.9 million.

The increase in aggregate funds under management was supported by $1,348.4 million in net sales. Overall, the industry witnessed $16,760.1 million in sales and $15,411.8 million in redemptions over the period. The aggregate net sales position was primarily driven by $2,107.4 million in net sales in Money Market funds, while funds classified as 'Other' experienced $13.9 million in net sales. The substantial net sales position in money market funds suggests that during periods of elevated excess liquidity in the banking system, investors are seeking higher returns while guaranteeing their principal investment through the money market funds fixed net asset value (NAV) structure. Conversely, redemptions were observed in Income funds ($734.8 million) and Equity funds ($38.2 million). In terms of currency profile, the increase in aggregate net sales was supported by $1,548.9 million in sales to TT dollar funds, while foreign currency funds experienced $200.5 million in net withdrawals, arising largely from foreign currency Income (-$499.5 million) and Equity (-$28.8 million) funds. However, foreign currency Money Market funds observed $328.5 million in sales.

FIGURE 7
MUTUAL FUNDS – AGGREGATE FUND VALUE



Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

23 Aggregate funds under management refer to mutual fund information collected by the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, including funds managed by the Trinidad and Tobago Unit Trust Corporation, Royal Bank Trinidad and Tobago, Republic Bank Limited and First Citizens Bank Limited.

24 Funds classified as 'Other' represent high yield funds and retirement funds.

CHAPTER EIGHT – INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND PAYMENTS

(Data in this section are in US dollars unless otherwise indicated)

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

Trinidad and Tobago's external accounts recorded an overall deficit of $676.1 million (3.7 per cent of GDP) over the period January to September 2019 **(Table 14A and Appendix Table A.33 (A))**. At the end of September 2019, gross official reserves amounted to $6,898.9 million or 7.7 months of prospective imports of goods and services. The current account surplus widened during the first nine months of 2019 buoyed by improvements in the services and income accounts. Meanwhile, the financial account recorded a net outflow, primarily reflective of transactions in portfolio investment.

Despite the decline in export earnings, the current account surplus grew to $1,151.4 million (6.3 per cent of GDP) over the review period, as a result of reduced deficits on the services and primary income accounts. Preliminary estimates suggest a fall in energy exports of 26.2 per cent year-on-year to $5,134.0 million, indicative of price declines across most energy commodities[25], coupled with a reduction in the volume of energy exports. In particular, following the closure of the state-owned oil refinery in November 2018, refined products exhibited the most significant year-on-year fall-off (78.4 per cent), followed by NGLs (26.1 per cent), petrochemicals (18.2 per cent) and LNG (13.6 per cent). Partially offsetting this outturn was growth in non-energy exports, with manufactured products and capital goods accounting for the most significant earnings. More specifically, iron and steel materials represented the largest portion of manufactured goods exports. Meanwhile, concomitant with lower refining activity, there was a contraction in total imports. In addition, other imports marginally declined by 2.0 per cent (year-on-year) due to reduced imports of manufactured goods.

The deficit on the services account narrowed to $749.9 million (4.1 per cent of GDP) in the nine months to September 2019, underpinned by an improvement in the other business services account. Notably, other business services recorded a smaller deficit of $467.4 million, 48.9 per cent lower year-on-year, as domestic residents reduced their imports of technical, trade-related and other business services. Meanwhile, the travel account surplus widened by $7.9 million primarily on account of a reduction in spending by locals abroad. The surplus was further improved by $2.1 million in spending by visitors to Trinidad and Tobago. With regards to the income accounts, the primary income account registered a smaller deficit largely owing to lower dividend and interest payments by energy companies. Concurrently, the secondary income account recorded a surplus of $20.0 million in the first nine months of 2019, a reversal from a deficit of $102.7 million registered in the same period in 2018. Lower private outbound transfers were largely responsible for this improved outturn.

The financial account recorded a net outflow of $705.2 million in the first nine months of 2019, larger than the net outflow of $599.4 million registered over the same period one year earlier. Portfolio investment primarily contributed towards the overall net outflow on the financial account, however, it was partially offset by a net inflow from other investment[26] More specifically, the uptick in portfolio assets was largely due to increases in both short-term (money-market instruments) and long-term (bonds and notes) foreign securities held by financial institutions and energy companies. Meanwhile, the decline in portfolio liabilities stemmed from a reduction in long-term debt securities owed abroad.

Financial flows in the other investment account recorded a net inflow of $322.7 million over the reference period. Other investment liabilities rose on account of increases in loans incurred by energy sector companies and banks with non-residents as well as higher accounts payable. Simultaneously, the growth in other investment assets was also supported by higher accounts receivable and loans issued to non-residents by

25 Over the period January to September 2019, West Texas Intermediate crude oil fell by 14.7 per cent year-on-year, while Henry Hub natural gas price declined by 10.9 per cent year-on-year.

26 Other investment comprises currency and deposits, loans, trade credit and advances, other accounts receivable/payable and special drawing rights (liabilities).

domestic financial institutions. During the nine-month period, movements in direct investment assets and liabilities resulted in a net outflow of $57.0 million. The increase recorded in direct investment liabilities (direct investment in Trinidad and Tobago by foreign investors) was largely attributable to the purchases of shares in a local financial holding company by a regional investor, coupled with higher reinvestment of earnings. Meanwhile, direct investment assets increased due to greater reinvestment of earnings to foreign direct investors and intercompany lending.

At the end of 2019, gross official reserves amounted to $6,929.0 million equivalent to 7.7 months of prospective imports of goods and services. This was $646.1 million lower than at the end of 2018, which suggests that the external accounts registered an overall deficit over the year. Although international reserves remained above traditional measures of adequacy[27], it continued to deteriorate over the 12-month period as the increase in outflows outstripped the increase in inflows. Over the reference period, inflows to reserves amounted to approximately $2,289.9 million, of which oil and gas receipts and multilateral, bilateral and commercial loans[28] were among the main contributors. Meanwhile, outflows of $2,936.0 million mainly constituted Central Bank net sales of foreign exchange to authorised dealers (interventions), debt servicing of external borrowing and other Government payments.

27 The traditional measures of reserve adequacy and its related benchmarks are: import cover (3.0 months); reserves to broad money (20.0 per cent); reserves to short term external debt (1:1 ratio).

28 This includes a previously contracted loan from the Corporación Andina de Fomento (CAF) of which US$ 100.0 million was disbursed within the calendar year 2019; US$24.0 million from the Unicredit Bank Austria, for the construction of the Point Fortin Hospital.

TABLE 14A
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO: SUMMARY BALANCE OF PAYMENTS
/US$ Millions/

	2015r	2016r	2017r	2018p	Jan-Sep 2018p	Jan-Sep 2019p
Current Account	**1,744.1**	**-979.5**	**1,208.3**	**1,385.9**	**729.3**	**1,151.4**
Goods and Services	**2,094.7**	**-561.3**	**881.3**	**2,151.4**	**1,414.5**	**1,265.0**
Goods, net*	3,884.5	1,215.7	2,994.0	3,852.0	2,769.8	2,014.8
Exports**	11,413.9	8,304.4	9,445.7	10,519.9	8,048.1	6,575.1
Energy	8,767.3	6,449.9	7,668.8	8,855.3	6,955.5	5,134.0
Non-Energy	2,646.7	1,854.5	1,777.0	1,664.6	1,092.6	1,441.1
Imports**	7,529.5	7,088.7	6,451.7	6,667.9	5,278.3	4,560.3
Fuels***	1,456.4	1,542.3	1,617.7	1,755.4	1,556.5	914.4
Other	6,073.1	5,546.4	4,834.0	4,912.6	3,721.8	3,645.9
Services, net	-1,789.7	-1,777.0	-2,112.7	-1,700.6	-1,355.3	-749.9
Primary Income, net	**-239.8**	**-428.2**	**47.0**	**-669.4**	**-582.5**	**-133.6**
Secondary Income, net	**-110.8**	**10.1**	**280.0**	**-96.1**	**-102.7**	**20.0**
Capital Account	**0.0**	**0.2**	**1.2**	**2.4**	**1.9**	**5.8**
Financial Account	**487.5**	**-1,386.8**	**435.6**	**-143.0**	**599.4**	**705.2**
Direct Investment	**-48.5**	**-1.7**	**444.8**	**767.1**	**528.1**	**57.0**
Net Acquisition of Financial Assets	128.3	-25.3	-12.0	65.2	36.5	229.5
Net Incurrence of Liabilities	176.8	-23.6	-456.9	-701.9	-491.6	172.5
Portfolio Investment	**799.3**	**-1,402.8**	**373.1**	**418.1**	**478.0**	**972.2**
Net Acquisition of Financial Assets	671.7	-97.1	224.1	350.4	436.6	872.9
Net Incurrence of Liabilities	-127.6	1,305.7	-148.9	-67.7	-41.4	-99.2
Financial Derivatives	**-1.0**	**0.0**	**4.7**	**5.3**	**5.3**	**-1.3**
Net Acquisition of Financial Assets	-1.9	0.0	4.4	5.2	5.7	-0.4
Net Incurrence of Liabilities	-0.9	0.0	-0.3	-0.2	0.4	0.9
Other Investment**	**-262.3**	**17.8**	**-386.9**	**-1,333.5**	**-412.0**	**-322.7**
Net Acquisition of Financial Assets	-706.8	-93.8	163.1	-310.1	-74.1	957.5
Net Incurrence of Liabilities	-444.5	-111.6	550.1	1,023.3	337.9	1,280.3
Net Errors and Omissions	**-2,820.9**	**-874.7**	**-1,869.9**	**-2,326.0**	**-1,036.1**	**-1,128.1**
Overall Balance	**-1,564.2**	**-467.2**	**-1,096.0**	**-794.7**	**-904.5**	**-676.1**
(Per Cent of GDP)						
Current Account	**6.9**	**-4.4**	**5.4**	**5.8**	**4.1**	**6.3**
Goods, net	15.4	5.4	13.3	16.1	15.5	11.1
Exports	45.4	37.1	41.9	44.1	45.0	36.1
Imports	29.9	31.7	28.6	27.9	29.5	25.0
Services, net	-7.1	-7.9	-9.4	-7.1	-7.6	-4.1
Primary Income, net	-1.0	-1.9	0.2	-2.8	-3.3	-0.7
Overall Balance	**-6.2**	**-2.1**	**-4.9**	**-3.3**	**-5.1**	**-3.7**
Memorandum Items						
Gross Official Reserves ^	9,933.0	9,465.8	8,369.8	7,575.0	7,465.3	6,898.9
Import Cover (months) ^	11.2	10.5	9.7	8.0	8.1	7.7

Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

Note: This table is an analytical presentation of the Balance of Payments and is presented in accordance with the IMF's Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual, Sixth Edition (BPM6). Refer to Box 3 of the Economic Bulletin, March 2017 for a Technical Note on the Transition to BPM6.

The following financial account movements are represented with a negative sign:

- A decrease in assets (inflow)
- A decrease in liabilities (outflow)
- A net inflow in net balances

The following financial account movements are represented with a positive sign:

- An increase in assets (outflow)
- An increase in liabilities (inflow)
- A net outflow in net balances

* Energy goods data for 2011-2019 comprise estimates by the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago.

** Exports and imports are reported on a FOB (Free on Board) basis.

*** Includes petroleum, petroleum products and related materials. Energy exports include exports of petroleum, petroleum products and related materials and the exports of petrochemicals.

**** Other investment comprise currency and deposits, loans, insurance, pension, and standardised guarantee schemes, trade credit and advances, other accounts receivable/payable and special drawing rights (liabilities).

^ End of Period.

r Revised.

p Provisional.

INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT POSITION

(Data in this section are in US dollars unless otherwise indicated)

The net international investment position (NIIP) was estimated at $3,547.6 million at the end of September 2019, an increase of $624.9 million from the end of 2018 **(Table 15)**. The growth was mainly driven by the increase in assets, which exceeded the accumulation of liabilities.

Over the reference period, the uptick in the stock of assets was primarily influenced by increases in other and portfolio investment. The movement in portfolio assets reflected increased holdings of external debt securities by financial institutions. Meanwhile, the growth in other investment was mainly underpinned by increases in accounts receivable and loan assets. However, reserves assets declined during the nine-month period, mainly on account of Central Bank interventions in the domestic foreign exchange market.

The movement in the stock of liabilities over the first nine months of 2019 was primarily due to other investment and to a lesser extent direct investment. The expansion in the stock of other investment liabilities was on account of a rise in loans contracted with non-resident financial institutions by domestic entities and higher accounts payable. Meanwhile, higher direct investment liabilities were reflective of increased equity capital and reinvested earnings in domestic entities.

TABLE 14B
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO: INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT POSITION
(AT END OF PERIOD)
/US$ Millions/

	2015[r]	2016[r]	2017[r]	2018[p]	Sep 2019[p]
Net International Investment Position	**6,014.6**	**4,967.1**	**4,658.7**	**2,922.7**	**3,547.6**
Assets	**24,882.6**	**24,481.6**	**24,171.9**	**22,853.7**	**24,721.2**
Direct Investment	785.0	810.5	829.6	913.2	1,385.0
Portfolio Investment	9,564.7	9,382.6	10,007.1	9,692.0	10,848.6
Financial Derivatives	0.2	0.2	4.4	10.1	10.3
Other Investment*	4,599.7	4,822.5	4,961.0	4,663.3	5,578.4
Reserve Assets	9,933.0	9,465.8	8,369.8	7,575.0	6,898.9
Liabilities	**18,868.0**	**19,514.5**	**19,513.2**	**19,931.0**	**21,173.6**
Direct Investment	10,048.6	9,545.2	9,082.9	8,581.1	8,642.9
Portfolio Investment	3,084.5	4,291.6	4,132.4	4,064.1	3,979.4
Financial Derivatives	0.5	1.5	1.2	0.7	2.0
Other Investment*	5,734.4	5,676.2	6,296.6	7,285.0	8,549.3

Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

* Other investment comprise currency and deposits, loans, insurance, pension, and standardised guarantee schemes, trade credit and advances, other accounts receivable/payable and special drawing rights (liabilities).

r Revised.

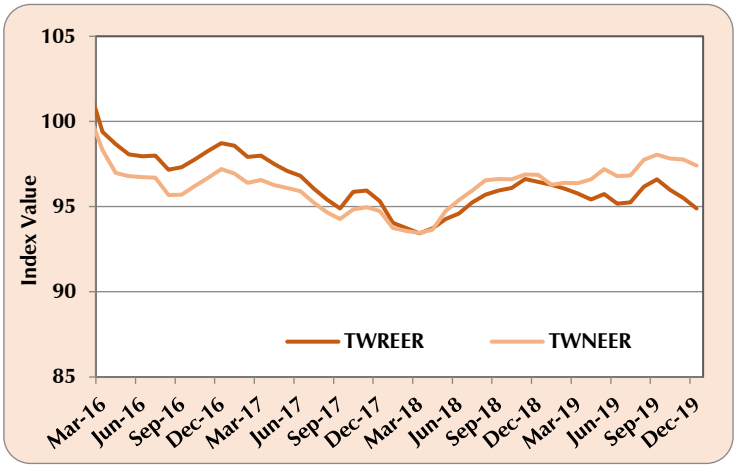
p Provisional.

COMPETITIVENESS

Effective Exchange Rates[29]

Trinidad and Tobago's international price competitiveness – as measured by the trade weighted real effective exchange rate (TWREER)[30] – appreciated by 0.8 per cent year-on-year in 2019 **(Figure 8)**. The appreciation in the TWREER was primarily driven by the exchange rate effect which outweighed the inflation effect when compared with the country's major trading partners. Over the year, the trade weighted nominal effective exchange rate (TWNEER) appreciated by 1.9 per cent while the effective inflation rate (EIR) declined by 1.1 per cent. Movement in the TWNEER indicates that the trading partners' currencies depreciated when compared to the domestic currency while the decline in the EIR suggests that the domestic economy's prices rose at a slower pace relative to the average inflation rate of Trinidad and Tobago's major trading partners. The appreciation in the TWNEER would have contributed to the country's exports being less competitive on the international market.

FIGURE 8
TRADE WEIGHTED REAL AND NOMINAL EFFECTIVE EXCHANGE RATES
(2015 = 100)



Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

Global Competitiveness Report

Along with movements in exchange rates and consumer prices, institutional factors can also be used to measure an economy's level of competitiveness. The World Economic Forum publishes the Global Competitiveness Report, which ranks countries according to a Global Competitiveness Index (GCI) **(Table 15A)**. The Index assess an economy's level of competitiveness through twelve pillars, which are broadly categorised into four main themes: enabling environment, human capital, markets and innovation ecosystem. The Global Competitiveness Report for 2019, which ranks 141 countries based on the GCI, indicates a minor slippage in Trinidad and Tobago's competitiveness relative to other economies. More specifically, Trinidad and Tobago's ranking was recorded at 79th in 2019, from 78th (out of 140 countries) over the last two years. While there was an improvement in the performance of macroeconomic stability indicators in 2019 relative to 2018, the loss of competitiveness emanated primarily from a fall in the indices of institutions, infrastructure, skills, and business dynamism. However, while Trinidad and Tobago's ranking decreased relative to other countries, the overall score improved marginally to 58.0 in 2019 from 57.9 in 2018. When compared to other CARICOM members, Trinidad and Tobago ranked below Barbados (77 with a score of 58.9), but above Jamaica (80 with a score of 58.3) **(Table 15B)**.

29 The Effective Exchange Rate Indices were rebased to 2015 from 2000 to reflect changes in trading patterns and partners between Trinidad and Tobago and the rest of the world. For further details on this exercise please refer to the January 2020 Economic Bulletin.

30 The TWREER reflects the weighted average of a country's currency relative to a basket of other major currencies, also known as the trade weighted-nominal effective exchange rate (TWNEER), and adjusted for the effects of inflation.

TABLE 15A
GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS INDEX, 2019

Index Component	Score*	Rank**
1. Institutions	47.9	102
2. Infrastructure	58.0	95
3. ICT Adoption	60.4	61
4. Macroeconomic Stability	88.9	58
5. Health	78.1	78
6. Skills	61.4	75
7. Product Market	46.4	122
8. Labour Market	59.0	75
9. Financial System	67.9	45
10. Market Size	40.5	106
11. Business Dynamism	56.7	87
12. Innovation Capability	34.4	87
Overall Rank and Score: 2019 (out of 141)	58.0	79
Overall Rank and Score: 2018 (out of 140)	57.9	78
Overall Rank and Score: 2017-2018 (out of 135)***	57.8	76
Overall Rank and Score: 2016-2017 (out of 138)	3.9	94
Overall Rank and Score: 2015-2016 (out of 140)	3.9	89
Overall Rank and Score: 2014-2015 (out of 144)	4.0	89

Source: World Economic Forum, Global Competitiveness Report, 2019

Note: In 2019, a new Global Competitiveness Index (GCI) 4.0 methodology was introduced. The new methodology organises the factors that define a country's productivity into twelve pillars. While maintaining the objective of the previous methodology, the new index reevaluated the determinants of productivity and its measurement, introducing 64 new indicators and retaining 34 of the 98 indicators from the prior model.

* Scores are on a 0 to 100 scale, where 100 represents the optimal situation or 'frontier'.

** Trinidad and Tobago compared to all 141 countries in the Report.

*** Rank and score for 2017 were recalculated by the World Economic Forum using the GCI 4.0 methodology.

TABLE 15B
GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS INDEX, 2019: SELECTED CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES

Index Component	Score*	Rank**	Difference from 2018	
			Rank ***	Score
Barbados	58.9	77	n.a.	n.a.
Haiti	36.3	138	–	-0.1
Jamaica	58.3	80	–1	+0.4
Trinidad and Tobago	58.3	79	–1	+0.4

Source: World Economic Forum, Global Competitiveness Report, 2019

• Scores are on a 0 to 100 scale, where 100 represents the optimal situation or 'frontier'.

** Compared to all 141 countries in the Report.

*** Compared to 140 countries in the Report.

n.a. Indicates the countries were not covered by the index the previous year.

– Indicates score or rank unchanged from the previous year.

CHAPTER NINE – INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Global growth decelerated in 2019 as a result of weakness in global trade and investment, heightened trade policy uncertainty emanating from the US and China and lower commodity prices. World output slowed to 2.9 per cent in 2019 from 3.6 per cent in 2018, according to the IMF January 2020 WEO Update. Economic activity was stymied by tensions between the US and China, which weighed on international trade and investment. Meanwhile, oil prices declined markedly in 2019 as falling demand offset lower production from the Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). Financial markets were volatile in 2019 in the face of protectionist policies implemented particularly by the US and worsening global prospects. In addition, capital inflows to EMDEs were subdued, particularly in the second half of 2019, reflecting increased risk aversion by investors. In light of weaker growth and muted inflationary pressures, central banks across AEs and EMDEs loosened monetary policy.

In 2019, the US economy lost some momentum as the boost from the tax cuts in 2018 faded, coupled with a slowdown in business investment and exports. However, consumer spending remained resilient, supported by strong labour market conditions – with the unemployment rate at a five-decade low – and solid wage growth. Despite higher import tariffs, inflation as measured by the core personal consumption expenditure price index (PCEPI), remained below the US Federal Reserve (Fed) target rate of 2.0 per cent.

Meanwhile, real GDP growth was stymied in the UK owing to Brexit-related uncertainties and weaker global growth. In particular, elevated uncertainties about the UK's departure from the European Union constrained business investment, while softening global demand weighed on the UK's manufacturing sector. Inflationary pressures eased during the second half of 2019 – falling below the Bank of England (BoE) 2.0 per cent inflation target – due to lower regulated energy prices. In other developments, Mr. Boris Johnson was elected as Prime Minster of the UK in December 2019, which generated some measure of certainty that Brexit issues would be resolved in the short run. The UK eventually withdrew from the European Union on January 31, 2020.

Economic activity in the Euro Area deteriorated amidst ongoing weakness in international trade, which particularly affected the manufacturing sector and dampened investment growth. Domestic demand remained resilient, however, supported by employment gains and wage increases. In 2019, inflation was subdued, although higher energy prices in November and December 2019 pushed up prices in the final quarter.

The Japanese economy registered stronger growth in 2019. Despite the increase in the Consumption Tax on October 1, 2019 and the destruction caused by Typhoon Hagibis[31] less than two weeks later, the growth in real GDP was underpinned by private consumption and public spending. Notwithstanding the pick-up in growth, inflationary pressures remained muted throughout 2019.

TABLE 16
ADVANCED ECONOMIES: REAL GDP GROWTH
/Per Cent/

	2015[r]	2016[r]	2017[r]	2018[r]	2019[e]	2020[f]	2021[f]
United States	2.9	1.6	2.4	2.9	2.3	2.0	1.7
United Kingdom	2.3	1.8	1.8	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.5
Euro Area	2.1	1.9	2.5	1.9	1.2	1.3	1.4
Japan	1.2	0.6	1.9	0.3	1.0	0.7	0.5

Source: International Monetary Fund, World Economic Outlook Database (October 2019) and Update (January 2020)
r Revised.
e Estimate.
f Forecast.

31 See Box 2: Geopolitical Tensions and Natural Disasters in the Global Environment.

Growth in EMDEs slowed, reflecting lower trade flows, geopolitical tensions and country-specific factors. Based on the IMF estimates, economic growth for the EMDEs moderated to 3.7 per cent in 2019 from 4.5 per cent in 2018. Economic activity in India was held back by a slowdown in private consumption while lower domestic demand and heightened trade tensions with the US, restrained China's economic activity to its lowest rate since 1990 (3.9 per cent) **(Table 17)**.

Meanwhile, the decline in commodity prices, oil production cuts and continued international sanctions were responsible for the deceleration of Russia's growth. Similarly, real GDP growth in Brazil was hampered by lower mining activity together with slower exports to China. In 2019, consumer prices remained within their targets for Russia and Brazil[32]. However, higher food prices pushed inflation above the PBoC and RBI target rates by December 2019.

TABLE 17
EMERGING ECONOMIES: REAL GDP GROWTH
/Per Cent/

	2015[r]	2016[r]	2017[r]	2018[r]	2019[e]	2020[f]	2021[f]
China	6.9	6.7	6.8	6.6	6.1	6.0	5.8
India*	8.0	8.2	7.2	6.8	4.8	5.8	6.5
Russia	-2.3	0.3	1.6	2.3	1.1	1.9	2.0
Brazil	-3.6	-3.3	1.1	1.3	1.2	2.2	2.3

Source: International Monetary Fund, World Economic Outlook Database (October 2019) and Update (January 2020)

* Data are presented on a fiscal year basis.
r Revised.
f Forecast.
e Estimate.

The downturn in global growth prompted a more accommodative monetary policy position amongst the AEs and the EMDEs. The US Fed concluded its balance sheet reduction in August 2019 and lowered the target range for the federal funds rate in July, September and October, totalling 0.75 basis points. At the end of 2019, the Fed's benchmark funds rate stood in a range of 1.50 to 1.75 per cent. Moreover, the European Central Bank (ECB) introduced quarterly targeted longer-term refinancing operations (TLTRO III) and reduced the interest rate on the deposit facility in September 2019, and restarted its asset purchase programme (APP) in November 2019. The majority of EMDEs cut interest rates with the aim of stimulating domestic economic activity. In particular, the People's Bank of China (PBoC) introduced the Loan Prime Rate (LPR) at 4.25 per cent in August 2019, 10 basis points lower than the previous benchmark lending rate, while the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) cut its key interest rate on five occasions during 2019.

REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Growth in the Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) region was weighed down by external and domestic factors. The slowdown in global activity along with lower international commodity prices constrained real GDP growth within the region. In Latin America, domestic factors affected economic activity, such as mining disruptions in Chile and lower oil production in Mexico. Growth in the LAC region decelerated to 0.1 per cent in 2019 from 1.1 per cent in 2018, according to the IMF January 2020 WEO Update. Against this backdrop, several central banks lowered their monetary policy rates during 2019, namely, Chile, Peru and Mexico. Inflation accelerated in Chile and Colombia partly reflecting the exchange rate pass-through to consumer prices. However, consumer prices decelerated in Mexico and Peru mainly on account of a slowdown in food prices.

32 Central Bank inflation target rates and ranges for selected Emerging Market and Developing Economies: China (3.0 per cent), Russia (4.0 per cent), Brazil (4.25 +/-1.5 per cent), India (4.0+/-2.0 per cent).

In the Caribbean, economic performance was mixed during 2019 **(Table 18)**. In Jamaica, real GDP growth moderated in 2019 mainly on account of slowdowns in mining and quarrying, construction and agriculture, forestry and fishing. Notwithstanding weaker activity, unemployment was recorded at an all-time low of 7.2 per cent in October 2019 public debt decelerated and the stock of international reserves continued to increase. Jamaica's inflation remained below the upper bound of the Bank of Jamaica's (BOJ) medium term target of 4.0 to 6.0 per cent for the first eleven months of 2019, but it rose sharply to 6.2 per cent in December 2019, driven by higher food and energy prices. Moreover, Jamaica completed its three-year Stand-By Agreement with the IMF in November 2019[33]. In other developments, the Guyanese economy was supported by the construction and service sectors, while tourism and construction activity underpinned growth in the Eastern Caribbean Currency Union (ECCU). The Barbados economy continued to improve under the Barbados Economic and Recovery Programme (BERT), due to strong tourism activity. However, the gains in the tourism sector were partially offset by weak private sector investment and consumer demand. Meanwhile, international reserves improved markedly, reflecting borrowing from international financial institutions as well as the on-going suspensions of commercial debt payments. In December 2019, the IMF approved another drawdown of US$48.0 million for Barbados, bringing the total disbursement from the IMF to US$145.0 million. Overall, Caribbean countries continued to be challenged with unemployment, high levels of sovereign debt, persistent fiscal deficits and negative external current account balances **(Table 19)**.

Monetary policy was loosened in Jamaica but remained unchanged in the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB) and Barbados. The BOJ reduced its benchmark interest rate on four occasions to a historic low of 0.50 per cent by December 2019 from 1.75 per cent in January 2019, with the aim of stimulating private sector credit and ensuring inflation reaches its medium term target. Meanwhile, the ECCB and the Central Bank of Barbados maintained their monetary policy stance in 2019; the former kept the minimum savings rate and deposit rate steady at 2.0 per cent and 6.5 per cent, respectively and the latter kept its securities reserves ratio for commercial banks at 17.5 per cent in 2019.

TABLE 18
SELECTED LAC: REAL GDP GROWTH
/Per Cent/

Country	2015[r]	2016[r]	2017[r]	2018[r]	2019[e]	2020[f]	2021[f]
Argentina	2.7	-2.1	2.7	-2.5	-3.1	-1.3	1.4
The Bahamas	0.6	0.4	0.1	1.6	0.9	-0.6	2.1
Barbados	2.4	2.5	0.5	-0.6	-0.1	0.6	1.5
Belize	3.4	-0.6	1.4	3.0	2.7	2.1	1.8
Chile	2.3	1.7	1.3	4.0	2.5	3.0	3.2
Colombia	3.0	2.1	1.4	2.6	3.4	3.6	3.7
Eastern Caribbean Currency Union	2.8	3.0	1.1	4.0	3.6	3.4	n.a.
Guyana	3.1	3.4	2.1	4.1	4.4	85.6	4.8
Haiti	1.2	1.5	1.2	1.5	0.1	1.2	1.5
Jamaica	0.9	1.5	0.7	1.6	1.1	1.0	1.7
Mexico	3.3	2.9	2.1	2.0	0.4	1.3	1.9
Suriname	-3.4	-5.6	1.7	2.0	2.2	2.5	2.4

Source: International Monetary Fund, World Economic Outlook Database (October 2019) and Regional Economic Outlook, Western Hemisphere (October 2019)

r Revised.
e Estimate.
f Forecast.

33 The IMF Board approved a three year Stand-By Agreement for US$ 1.64 billion (SDR1,195.3 million) on November 11, 2016. The program followed the successful Extended Fund Facility Agreement.

TABLE 19
SELECTED LAC: EXTERNAL CURRENT ACCOUNT TO GDP
/Per Cent/

Country	2015[r]	2016[r]	2017[r]	2018[e]	2019[f]	2020[f]	2021[f]
Argentina	-2.7	-2.7	-4.9	-5.3	-1.2	0.3	0.0
The Bahamas	-12.0	-6.0	-12.4	-12.1	-7.4	-12.8	-9.6
Barbados	-6.1	-4.3	-3.8	-3.7	3.9	-3.5	-3.2
Belize	-9.8	-9.0	-7.0	-8.1	-7.0	-6.4	-5.8
Guyana	-5.1	0.4	-6.8	-17.5	-22.7	-18.4	-15.9
Haiti	-3.0	-0.9	-1.0	-3.7	-3.3	-3.2	-2.9
Jamaica	-3.1	-1.4	-2.6	-2.4	-2.5	-2.2	-2.3
St. Kitts and Nevis	-9.4	-13.8	-11.7	-7.4	-6.3	-15.8	-15.4
St. Lucia	2.3	-4.6	1.5	3.0	2.5	1.7	0.8
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	-15.3	-13.0	-12.0	-12.2	-11.6	-10.7	-9.8
Suriname	-16.4	-5.4	-0.1	-5.5	-5.7	-5.8	-4.3

Source: International Monetary Fund, World Economic Outlook Database (October 2019)

r Revised.

e Estimate.

f Forecast.

CHAPTER TEN – INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY MARKETS

ENERGY COMMODITY PRICES INDEX

The Energy Commodity Prices Index (ECPI)[34] declined to an average of 83.1 in 2019, compared to 99.0 in 2018. Most commodities monitored by the index incurred significant price declines over the course of 2019.

Crude oil prices declined 12.0 per cent in 2019 amid global trade uncertainty, an oversupplied market and geopolitical tensions. Crude oil markets were heavily oversupplied in 2019, as production levels increased in the US. In addition, ongoing trade tensions between the US and China resulted in reduced demand globally. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) prices averaged US$57.01 per barrel in 2019, compared to US$64.82 per barrel in 2018. The decline in crude oil prices passed through to other commodities measured in the ECPI, inclusive of motor gasoline (9.4 per cent), gas oil (7.6 per cent) and jet fuel (7.0 per cent).

Global natural gas markets were also weaker in 2019. The Henry Hub natural gas price declined 18.6 per cent year-on-year to US$2.57 per mmbtu, on account of ample supplies of natural gas on the global market and dampened demand caused by milder weather conditions. The fall in natural gas prices led to declines in other downstream commodities, inclusive of methanol (23.5 per cent), propane (38.0 per cent) and ammonia (23.2 per cent).

34 The ECPI is a summary measure of the price movements of Trinidad and Tobago's top ten energy-based commodity exports. Developed in a collaborative effort between the Energy Chamber and the Central Bank, the series is based on export values in 2007 and complements other available price indicators, including individual commodities and sectoral export price indices prepared by the Central Statistical Office. For further details on the computation of the Energy Commodity Prices Index (ECPI), see Finch, K. and Cox, D. 2010. The Energy Commodity Price Index. Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, Economic Bulletin, Volume XII No. 2. pp.84.

APPENDIX ONE

ECONOMIC STATISTICS

TABLES A.1 - A.36

TABLES A.1 - A.36

A.1	Real GDP Growth by Sector of Origin
A.2	Gross Domestic Product at Current Market Prices by Sector of Origin
A.3	Sectoral Composition of G.D.P. at Current Market Prices
A.4	Major Agricultural Commodities
A.5	Production and Utilisation of Crude Oil and Related Products and Petrochemicals
A.6	Production of Iron and Steel Products and Cement
A.7	Prices of Selected Export Commodities
A.8	Index of Domestic Production (1995=100)
A.9	Annual Changes in the Indices of Production and Hours Worked (All Employees)
A.10	Annual Changes in the Indices of Average Weekly Earnings and Employment (All Employees)
A.11	Annual Changes in the Indices of Real Earnings and Output per Man Hour Worked (All Employees)
A.12	Index of Retail Prices for Major Expenditure Categories
A.13	Index of Producers' Prices
A.14	Central Goverment Fiscal Operations
A.15	Central Government Revenue
A.16	Central Government Expenditure
A.17 (A)	Central Government External Debt
A.17 (B)	Central Government Internal Debt
A.18 (A)	Commercial Banks: Selected Data
A.18 (B)	Summary Accounts of the Monetary System
A.19	Liquidity Position of Commercial Banks
A.20	Commercial Banks: Distribution of Loans and Advances by Sector
A.21	Commercial Banks: Percentage Distribution of Loans and Advances by Sector
A.22	Commercial Banks: Interest Rates
A.23	Money Supply
A.24	Finance Companies and Merchant Banks: Summary of Assets and Liabilities
A.25	Finance Companies and Merchant Banks: Distribution of Loans and Advances by Sector
A.26	Finance Companies and Merchant Banks: Percentage Distribution of Loans and Advances by Sector
A.27	Trust and Mortgage Finance Companies: Summary of Assets and Liabilities
A.28	Development Banks: Summary of Assets and Liabilities

p - Provisional	**r - Revised**	**re - Revised Estimates**
n.a - Not Available	**c - Confidential**	**n/a - Not Applicable**

TABLES A.1 - A.41 (CONTINUED)

A.29 Thrift Institutions: Summary of Assets and Liabilities

A.30 Non-Bank Financial Institutions Interest Rates

A.31 Money and Capital Market Activity

A.32 Selected Interest Rates

A.33 (A) Balance of Payments, Standard Presentation

A.33 (B) Direct Investment: Net Incurrence of Liabilities (By Sector)

A.33 (C) Direct Investment: Net Incurrence of Liabilities (By Country)

A.34 Weighted Average TT Dollar Exchange Rates for Selected Currencies

A.35 Trinidad and Tobago - International Reserves

A.36 Summary Accounts of the Central Bank

TABLE A.1

REAL GDP GROWTH[1] BY SECTOR OF ORIGIN, 2015-2019

/ PER CENT /

SECTOR	2015	2016	2017	2018[p]	Jan to Mar 2019[p,2]
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	35.9	-7.3	7.9	-9.6	19.2
Mining and Quarrying	-3.2	-13.2	0.2	-4.4	1.9
Manufacturing	2.2	-2.4	-2.4	0.3	4.9
Electricity, Gas, Steam and Air Conditioning Supply	1.8	-8.1	8.6	2.4	3.2
Water Supply; Sewerage, Waste Management and Remediation Activities	1.5	1.7	-1.5	1.9	1.8
Construction	-2.7	-4.2	-1.8	-0.1	-8.2
Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles	5.4	-7.0	-10.7	-1.5	1.7
Transportation and Storage	-4.5	-17.6	2.0	3.5	5.6
Accommodation and Food Service Activities	-1.5	-2.0	-1.3	-2.2	4.2
Information and Communication	2.4	-2.1	-1.6	-0.2	-2.4
Financial and Insurance Activities	3.4	2.5	4.6	0.0	1.7
Real Estate Activities	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.1
Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities	-14.3	-2.4	3.6	11.1	-0.4
Administrative and Support Service Activities	4.0	1.8	0.0	0.0	-0.1
Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security	1.4	2.1	0.6	-1.2	1.5
Education	2.1	-1.1	0.3	-0.2	0.5
Human Health and Social Work Activities	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.1
Other Service Activities	0.0	0.8	0.2	0.3	0.5
Activities of Households as Employers; Undifferentiated Goods- and Services-Producing Activities of Households for Own Use	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1	0.3
FISIM[3]	3.2	1.3	-1.5	2.1	6.3
GDP At Basic Prices	0.9	-5.8	-1.9	-1.0	1.7
Taxes Less Subsidies on Products	29.2	-19.4	-12.5	22.5	n.a
GDP At Purchasers Prices/Market Prices	**1.8**	**-6.3**	**-2.3**	**-0.2**	**n.a**

SOURCE: Central Statistical Office

1 In 2017, the CSO changed the base year to 2012 and the industry breakdown now conforms to the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities, Revision 4 (ISIC. Rev 4).
2 Quarterly GDP are measured at producer prices. The growth rates for Q1 2019 are quarter-on-quarter growth rates.
3 Financial Intermediation Services Indirectly Measured.

TABLE A.2

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT AT CURRENT MARKET PRICES[1] BY SECTOR OF ORIGIN, 2015-2019

/ TT$ MILLIONS /

SECTOR	2015	2016	2017	2018[p]	Jan to Mar 2019[p,2]
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	1,678	1,679	1,881	1,666	497
Mining and Quarrying	21,984	14,568	18,760	22,444	6,494
Manufacturing	24,523	27,983	27,655	30,424	7,655
Electricity, Gas, Steam and Air Conditioning Supply	3,740	1,501	2,632	3,446	814
Water Supply; Sewerage, Waste Management and Remediation Activities	2,297	2,405	2,066	2,011	493
Construction	9,748	9,282	9,120	9,381	2,102
Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles	37,374	34,887	33,387	32,987	8,216
Transportation and Storage	5,259	5,388	5,574	5,874	1,459
Accommodation and Food Service Activities	2,507	2,485	2,536	2,537	646
Information and Communication	4,053	3,921	3,721	3,614	876
Financial and Insurance Activities	10,048	10,047	11,815	11,854	3,020
Real Estate Activities	3,084	3,130	3,185	3,233	813
Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities	3,070	3,021	3,161	3,541	853
Administrative and Support Service Activities	4,345	4,551	4,595	4,636	1,165
Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security	14,228	14,326	14,273	14,095	3,596
Education	4,999	4,100	3,943	4,125	1,046
Human Health and Social Work Activities	777	741	780	777	226
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	497	435	421	425	107
Other Service Activities	815	828	836	846	214
Activities of Households as Employers; Undifferentiated Goods- and Services-Producing Activities of Households for Own Use	273	284	287	291	73
FISIM[3]	-3,344	-3,430	-3,998	-4,106	-1,074
GDP At Basic Prices	151,956	142,131	146,631	154,100	39,291
Taxes Less Subsidies on Products	7,880	6,486	5,737	7,100	n.a
GDP At Purchasers Prices/Market Prices	**159,836**	**148,617**	**152,368**	**161,200**	**n.a**

SOURCE: Central Statistical Office

1 In 2017, the CSO changed the base year to 2012 and the industry breakdown now conforms to the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities, Revision 4 (ISIC. Rev 4).
2 Quarterly GDP are measured at producer prices.
3 Financial Intermediation Services Indirectly Measured.

TABLE A.3

SECTORAL COMPOSITION OF G.D.P.[1] AT CURRENT MARKET PRICES, 2014-2018

/ PER CENT /

SECTOR	2015	2016	2017	2018[p]	Jan to Mar 2019[p,2]
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.0	1.3
Mining and Quarrying	13.8	9.8	12.3	13.9	16.5
Manufacturing	15.3	18.8	18.2	18.9	19.5
Electricity, Gas, Steam and Air Conditioning Supply	2.3	1.0	1.7	2.1	2.1
Water Supply; Sewerage, Waste Management and Remediation Activities	1.4	1.6	1.4	1.2	1.3
Construction	6.1	6.2	6.0	5.8	5.4
Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles	23.4	23.5	21.9	20.5	20.9
Transportation and Storage	3.3	3.6	3.7	3.6	3.7
Accommodation and Food Service Activities	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.6
Information and Communication	2.5	2.6	2.4	2.2	2.2
Financial and Insurance Activities	6.3	6.8	7.8	7.4	7.7
Real Estate Activities	1.9	2.1	2.1	2.0	2.1
Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.2
Administrative and Support Service Activities	2.7	3.1	3.0	2.9	3.0
Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security	8.9	9.6	9.4	8.7	9.2
Education	3.1	2.8	2.6	2.6	2.7
Human Health and Social Work Activities	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Other Service Activities	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5
Activities of Households as Employers; Undifferentiated Goods- and Services-Producing Activities of Households for Own Use	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2

SOURCE: Central Statistical Office

1 In 2017, the CSO changed the base year to 2012 and the industry breakdown now conforms to the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities, Revision 4 (ISIC. Rev 4).

2 Quarterly GDP are measured at producer prices.

TABLE A.4

MAJOR AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES, 2015-2019

PRODUCTS	2015	2016	2017	2018	Jan to Oct 2019
VEGETABLES (000 kgs)					
Tomato	2,698	2,223	2,645	1,678	1,386
Cabbage	594	434	435	755	249
Cucumber	1,173	1,102	804	741	726
Dasheen	1,917	2,396	3,224	2,511	2,013
Rice	2,721	1,823	1,619	585	146
Pigeon Peas	1,687	858	2,043	2,601	1,196
Pumpkin	3,279	3,032	1,884	4,533	2,191
Melongene	906	1,713	913	488	1,150
MEAT SUPPLY (000 kgs)					
Beef and Veal					
Production	287	285	226	97	n.a
Imports	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
Pork					
Production	1,778	1,910	2,178	2,379	1,206**
Imports	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
Mutton					
Production	77	60	70	49	17***
Imports	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
Broilers (000 birds): Production	32,161	31,708	33,267	31,889	16,173***
Table Eggs (000 doz): Production	4,800	5,384	6,910	7,495	3,767***
Milk (000 litres): Production	3,731	2,324	2,428	3,456	2,285**
COCOA (000 kgs)					
Production	169*	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
Exports	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
Local Sales	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
COFFEE (000 kgs)					
Production	0	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
Exports	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
Local Sales	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
CITRUS (000 kgs)					
Production	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a
Exports	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a	n.a

SOURCE: Central Statistical Office

* Data for the period January to March 2015.
** Data for the period January to September 2019.
*** Data for the period January to June 2019.

TABLE A.5

PRODUCTION AND UTILISATION OF CRUDE OIL AND RELATED PRODUCTS AND PETROCHEMICALS, 2015-2019

COMMODITY GROUP	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
CRUDE OIL					
Exploration (meters)					
Depth Drilled	147,076	108,886	121,396	110,182	91,883
Production (000 barrels)					
Crude Oil and Condensates	28,710	26,164	26,216	23,176	21,481
Of which: Condensates	*5,051*	*4,171*	*4,604*	*3,338*	*3,279*
Daily Average (b/d)	78,697	71,504	71,853	63,533	58,863
Imports (000 barrels)					
Crude Oil Imports	28,622	37,014	32,240	22,886	0
Of which: u.p.a.	*125*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*
Refining (000 barrels)[1]					
Refinery Throughput	45,766	54,257	47,720	36,000	0
Refinery Output	44,213	52,717	46,763	35,631	0
Capacity Utilisation (%)	75	88	78	59	n/a
Exports (000 barrels)					
Crude Oil Exports	11,319	10,292	9,972	8,047	21,972
Petroleum Products	34,204	44,207	36,958	29,039	6,727
Natural Gas (Mn cubic feet/day)					
Production	3,833	3,327	3,366	3,585	3,588
Utilisation[2]	3,578	3,104	3,172	3,378	3,458
Of which: Petrochemicals	*1,114*	*1,022*	*1,048*	*1,061*	*1,131**
Electricity Generation	*295*	*271*	*252*	*242*	*255**
LNG	*1,967*	*1,650*	*1,722*	*1,921*	*1,983**
Natural Gas Liquids (000 barrels)					
Production	10,993	9,214	9,806	8,695	8,530
Exports	10,182	7,996	8,541	7,668	8,119
Local Sales	937	1,085	1,152	1,308	876
Stock Change	-126	133	113	-280	-465
Fertilisers (000 tonnes)					
Production	5,453	5,522	5,595	5,431	6,104
Exports	4,946	5,228	5,141	4,924	5,206
Local Sales	5	6	5	5	4
Stock Change	501	289	449	501	894
Methanol (000 tonnes)					
Production	5,516	4,655	4,975	5,081	5,672
Exports	5,479	4,637	4,962	5,010	5,722
Local Sales	6	7	7	7	6**
Stock Change	31	11	7	64	68**

SOURCES: Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries and the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

1 Petrotrin's Refinery was closed in November 2018. Therefore, refinery capacity (estimated at 168,000 barrels per day prior to its closure) and capacity utilisation are not applicable from 2019.
2 Utilisation refers to gas sales and does not include natural gas used in own consumption.
* For the period January to November 2019.
** For the period January to October 2019.

TABLE A.6

PRODUCTION OF IRON AND STEEL PRODUCTS AND CEMENT, 2015-2019

PRODUCTS	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
STEEL PRODUCTS (000 TONNES)					
(i) Direct Reduced Iron					
Production	901.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Exports	656.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Local Sales	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Own Consumption	260.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
(ii) Billets					
Production	266.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Exports	120.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Local Sales	22.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Own Consumption	124.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
(iii) Wire Rods					
Production	129.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Exports	130.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Local Sales	11.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Own Consumption	4.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
CEMENT (000 TONNES)					
Production	840.1	721.2	670.0	662.6	678.3
Local Sales	656.0	526.2	497.3	483.8	486.7
Exports	185.9	192.7	219.2	270.9	309.5

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

TABLE A.7

PRICES OF SELECTED EXPORT COMMODITIES, 2015-2019

SECTOR	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Crude Oil (WTI[1]; US$/bbl[2])	48.7	43.2	50.9	64.8	57.0
Crude Oil (Brent; US$/bbl[2])	52.9	44.6	54.9	71.6	64.2
Natural Gas (Henry Hub; US$/mmbtu[3])	2.6	2.5	3.0	3.2	2.6
Ammonia (FOB Caribbean; US$/tonne)	413.1	235.1	236.6	268.3	206.1
Urea (FOB Caribbean; US$/tonne)	282.2	206.8	214.9	245.4	249.1
Methanol (FOB Rotterdam; US$/tonne)	381.9	272.1	399.1	474.2	363.0
Billets (FOB Latin America; US$/tonne)	351.5	323.7	430.9	501.6	n.a
Wire Rods (FOB Latin America; US$/tonne)	416.0	373.0	485.9	580.7	n.a

SOURCE: Bloomberg; Green Markets; Fertiliser Week; European Chemical News; Monthly Methanol Newsletter (TECNON); Metal Bulletin; Platts

All prices are monthly averages of published quotations and not necessarily realised prices.

1 West Texas Intermediate.
2 US dollars per barrel.
3 US dollars per million British thermal units.

TABLE A.8

INDEX OF DOMESTIC PRODUCTION, 2015-2019

/ 1995=100 /

PRODUCTS	*WEIGHT*	2015	2016	2017	2018[r]	Jan to Sep 2019[p]
Food Processing	*58*	833.5	1,072.6	1,230.1	1,445.2	1,986.5
Drink and Tobacco	*63*	1,091.2	1,031.0	929.6	1,121.4	1,313.4
Textiles, Garments and Footwear	*6*	1,473.9	1,294.3	1,320.7	1,333.8	1,380.8
Printing, Publishing and Paper Converters	*27*	305.8	302.1	276.2	229.7	205.9
Wood and Related Products	*7*	907.6	839.0	735.0	685.0	671.8
Chemicals and Non-Metallic Minerals	*43*	305.6	291.8	307.6	320.3	321.5
Assembly-Type and Related Industries	*61*	840.3	259.8	244.8	231.9	258.6
Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries	*10*	193.5	186.9	178.8	175.3	172.5
Electricity	*40*	115.7	90.3	80.2	71.4	69.8
Water	*6*	167.1	151.6	118.8	112.7	108.5
All Industry Index						
(Excluding Petrochem, Oil and Natural Gas, Explor., Product. and Refining)	*320*	664.5	574.5	576.3	646.3	785.9
Explor., and Product. of Oil, Natural Gas, etc.	*445*	130.4	116.7	117.2	112.6	108.2
Petrochemicals	*182*	225.0	219.8	223.6	219.7	243.1
Oil and Natural Gas Refining[1]	*53*	812.5	939.2	883.3	731.9	211.6
All Industry Index						
(Including Petrochem, Oil and Natural Gas, Explor., Product. and Refining)	*1,000*	354.8	325.7	324.2	335.8	348.0

SOURCE: Central Statistical Office

1 From 2019, the index for natural gas refining is reported as oil refining fell to zero following the closure of Petrotrin's Refinery in November 2018.

TABLE A.9

ANNUAL CHANGES IN THE INDICES OF PRODUCTION AND HOURS WORKED (ALL EMPLOYEES), 2017-2019[1]

/ PER CENT /

INDUSTRY	DOMESTIC PRODUCTION (1995=100)			INDEX OF HOURS WORKED (1995=100)		
	2017	2018[r]	Jan to Sep 2019[p]	2017	2018[r]	Jan to Sep 2019[p]
Food Processing	14.7	17.5	37.9	-3.8	0.4	1.0
Drink and Tobacco	-9.8	20.6	19.4	-2.8	-2.3	-16.4
Textiles, Garments and Footwear	2.0	1.0	2.0	-1.2	-0.5	0.4
Printing, Publishing and Paper Converters	-8.6	-16.8	-10.6	-0.7	1.4	0.9
Wood and Related Products	-12.4	-6.8	-2.8	0.0	4.4	5.3
Chemicals and Non-Metallic Minerals	5.4	4.2	1.7	0.6	-4.0	-20.8
Assembly-Type and Related Industries	-5.8	-5.2	11.5	-1.9	-2.0	-0.8
Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries	-4.3	-2.0	-1.4	-7.7	-8.8	-5.9
Electricity	-11.2	-10.9	-7.1	-2.9	-9.0	-6.2
Water	-21.6	-5.2	-3.1	0.0	-0.5	-1.7
All Industry Index						
(Excluding Petrochem, Oil and Natural Gas, Explor., Product. and Refining)	0.3	12.2	22.5	-2.0	-1.2	-4.8
Explor., and Product. of Oil, Natural Gas, etc.	0.4	-3.9	-5.9	-10.8	-5.3	-5.0
Petrochemicals	1.7	-1.7	6.2	-6.2	-2.8	-4.6
Oil and Natural Gas Refining[2]	-6.0	-17.1	-1.6	0.1	-16.7	0.0
All Industry Index						
(Including Petrochem, Oil and Natural Gas, Explor., Product. and Refining)	-0.5	3.6	0.7	-1.8	-5.3	-27.1

SOURCE: Central Statistical Office

1 Percentage changes over the corresponding period.

2 From 2019, the index for natural gas refining is reported as oil refining fell to zero following the closure of Petrotrin's Refinery in November 2018.

TABLE A.10

ANNUAL CHANGES IN THE INDICES OF AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS AND EMPLOYMENT (ALL EMPLOYEES), 2017-2019[1]

/ PER CENT /

INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS (1995=100)			EMPLOYMENT (1995=100)		
	2017	2018[r]	Jan to Sep 2019[p]	2017	2018[r]	Jan to Sep 2019[p]
Food Processing	2.6	-1.3	-2.0	0.0	0.2	2.7
Drink and Tobacco	-7.5	3.7	13.5	1.8	-0.2	-6.0
Textiles, Garments and Footwear	-4.0	-4.1	-1.2	-1.8	-1.4	-0.7
Printing, Publishing and Paper Converters	3.5	5.3	7.0	-2.4	-2.2	-1.8
Wood and Related Products	-1.4	3.2	-16.5	1.6	5.6	7.5
Chemicals and Non-Metallic Minerals	-2.1	0.7	2.8	-0.2	0.0	-0.3
Assembly-Type and Related Industries	9.3	13.0	5.9	-3.2	0.1	-1.0
Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries	2.0	4.7	-2.7	-3.8	-7.2	-6.5
Electricity	9.2	-5.7	-1.3	-9.3	-1.5	-7.4
Water	-3.5	0.7	2.2	24.8	1.9	-1.7
All Industry Index						
(Including Petrochem, Oil and Natural Gas, Explor., Product. and Refining, etc)	1.4	0.7	1.7	2.8	-0.1	-0.7
Explor., and Product. of Oil, Natural Gas, etc.	1.2	-8.5	-8.7	-26.2	2.8	3.1
Petrochemicals	9.9	7.0	3.3	-3.6	-0.8	-2.2
Oil and Natural Gas Refining[2]	-0.7	28.6	0.0	-0.2	-4.3	0.0
All Industry Index						
(Including Petrochem, Oil and Natural Gas, Explor., Product. and Refining)	1.0	9.4	-33.6	0.0	-0.7	-17.9

SOURCE: Central Statistical Office

1 Percentage changes over the corresponding period.

2 From 2019, the index for natural gas refining is reported as oil refining fell to zero following the closure of Petrotrin's Refinery in November 2018.

TABLE A.11

ANNUAL CHANGES IN THE INDICES OF REAL EARNINGS AND OUTPUT PER MAN HOUR WORKED (ALL EMPLOYEES), 2017-2019[1]

/ PER CENT /

INDUSTRY	REAL EARNINGS (1995=100)			INDEX OF OUTPUT PER MAN HOUR WORKED (1995=100)		
	2017	2018[r]	Jan to Sep 2019[p]	2017	2018[r]	Jan to Sep 2019[p]
Food Processing	0.7	-2.3	-3.2	19.3	16.6	36.6
Drink and Tobacco	-9.2	2.6	12.2	-7.3	23.5	42.8
Textiles, Garments and Footwear	-5.7	-5.0	-6.3	3.2	1.5	1.5
Printing, Publishing and Paper Converters	1.6	4.2	5.7	-7.9	-17.9	-11.3
Wood and Related Products	-3.3	2.2	-17.5	-12.2	-10.7	-7.6
Chemical and Non-Metallic Minerals	-3.9	-0.3	1.6	4.9	8.8	28.4
Assembly-Type and Related Industries	7.3	11.9	4.6	-4.2	-3.4	12.5
Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries	0.1	3.7	-3.9	3.7	7.5	4.7
Electricity	7.1	-6.6	-2.4	-6.7	-3.2	-1.0
Water	-5.4	-0.3	1.0	-21.7	-4.6	-1.5
All Industry Index						
(Excluding Petrochem, Oil and Natural Gas, Explor., Product. and Refining)	-0.5	-0.3	0.5	2.4	13.4	28.6
Explor., and Product. of Oil, Natural Gas, etc.	-0.7	-9.5	-9.8	13.0	1.2	-0.7
Petrochemicals	7.7	5.9	2.1	8.4	1.1	11.4
Oil and Natural Gas Refining[2]	-2.6	27.2	n.a	-6.4	-5.1	-1.6
All Industry Index						
(Including Petrochem, Oil and Natural Gas, Explor., Product. and Refining)	-0.8	8.3	-34.3	1.4	9.4	7.0

SOURCE: Central Statistical Office

1 Percentage changes over the corresponding period.

2 From 2019, the index for natural gas refining is reported as oil refining fell to zero following the closure of Petrotrin's Refinery in November 2018.

TABLE A.12

INDEX OF RETAIL PRICES FOR MAJOR EXPENDITURE CATEGORIES, 2015-2019

/ JANUARY 2015=100 /

SECTIONS	*WEIGHTS*	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2019			
							I	II	III	IV
Inflation Rate (%)[1]										
All Sections	*1,000*	4.7	3.1	1.9	1.0	1.0	1.4	1.1	1.1	0.4
Food	*173*	8.6	7.5	2.9	1.1	0.6	0.3	0.7	1.7	-0.5
Core[2]	*827*	1.8	2.1	1.6	1.0	1.1	1.6	1.2	1.0	0.6
Retail Price Index										
All Sections	*1,000*	101.3	104.4	106.4	107.4	108.5	108.5	108.3	108.7	108.6
Food	*173*	102.3	109.9	113.1	114.4	115.0	115.8	114.1	115.1	115.0
Core	*827*	101.1	103.2	104.9	106.0	107.2	107.0	107.1	107.3	107.3
Per cent Contribution To Change In Index										
Food	*173*	47.3	42.4	28.3	20.4	10.3	4.6	11.9	27.4	-19.8
Core	*827*	52.7	57.6	71.7	79.6	89.7	95.4	88.1	72.6	119.8

SOURCE: Central Statistical Office

1 Annual figures represent the percentage change over the average for the previous year; quarterly figures represent the percentage change from the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

2 The component of measured inflation that has no medium to long term-run impact on real output in Trinidad and Tobago. This measure excludes food prices.

TABLE A.13

INDEX OF PRODUCERS' PRICES, 2015-2019

/ OCT. 1978=100 /

SECTIONS	*WEIGHTS*	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Food Processing	*191*	713.0	716.5	721.2	725.1	726.9
		0.4	***0.5***	***0.7***	***0.5***	***0.2***
Drink and Tobacco	*121*	1,422.2	1,467.6	1,567.3	1,575.3	1,599.8
		7.5	***3.2***	***6.8***	***0.5***	***1.6***
Textiles, Garments and Footwear	*101*	303.5	303.5	303.5	303.5	303.5
		0.0	***0.0***	***0.0***	***0.0***	***0.0***
Printing, Publishing and Paper Converters	*93*	391.5	390.3	390.8	400.0	401.7
		-0.2	***-0.3***	***0.1***	***2.3***	***0.4***
Wood and Related Products	*89*	348.1	348.1	348.3	348.3	348.3
		0.0	***0.0***	***0.0***	***0.0***	***0.0***
Chemicals and Non-Metallic Minerals	*148*	624.4	630.1	617.4	583.3	582.2
		1.6	***0.9***	***-2.0***	***-5.5***	***-0.2***
Assembly-Type and Related Industries	*257*	345.1	345.0	346.1	348.2	348.5
		-0.1	***0.0***	***0.3***	***0.6***	***0.1***
All Industry	*1,000*	587.5	594.3	605.7	603.8	607.2
		2.4	***1.2***	***1.9***	***-0.3***	***0.6***

SOURCE: Central Statistical Office

TABLE A.14

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL OPERATIONS, 2015-2019[1]

/ TT$ MILLIONS /

EXPENDITURE	2015	2016	2017	2018[r]	2019[re]
Current Revenue	52,244.5	41,158.9	34,870.1	42,331.9	45,586.3
Current Expenditure[2]	52,322.9	48,546.4	46,263.5	45,374.4	46,910.3
Current Account Surplus(+)/Deficit(-)	-78.4	-7,387.6	-11,393.4	-3,042.5	-1,324.0
Capital Revenue	4,989.2	3,813.7	1,310.5	837.8	972.8
Capital Expenditure and Net lending[3]	7,620.8	4,398.3	3,448.5	3,492.1	3,593.4
Overall Surplus(+)/Deficit(-)	**-2,709.9**	**-7,972.1**	**-13,531.4**	**-5,696.8**	**-3,944.6**
Total Financing (net)	**2,709.9**	**7,972.1**	**13,531.4**	**5,696.8**	**3,944.6**
External Financing (Net)	**-199.2**	**8,954.0**	**3,266.7**	**1,239.4**	**1,519.4**
Net External Borrowing	-199.2	6,455.6	1,554.5	1,239.4	1,519.4
Disbursements	344.4	6,982.7	2,099.8	1,935.3	2,384.2
Repayments	543.6	527.1	545.3	695.9	864.8
Divestment Proceeds	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Transfers from HSF (Withdrawals)	0.0	2,498.4	1,712.2	0.0	0.0
Domestic Financing (Net)	**2,909.1**	**-981.9**	**10,264.7**	**4,457.4**	**2,425.2**
Debt Management Treasury Bills (Net)	0.0	0.0	1,105.0	0.0	1,435.0
Bonds(Net)	1,145.1	4,016.0	3,165.6	1,165.9	2,291.5
Disbursements	3,831.8	6,623.2	8,191.8	6,349.1	5,460.4
Repayments	2,686.7	2,607.2	5,026.2	5,183.2	3,168.9
Divestment Proceeds	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Uncashed Balances (Net)[4]	1,764.0	-4,997.9	5,994.1	3,291.5	-1,301.3
Memo Items:					
Primary Balance[5]	728.5	-4,209.7	-9,063.0	-910.0	957.7
Surplus(+)/Deficit(-) as a Percentage of GDP (current market prices)					
Current Account Surplus(+)/Deficit(-)	0.0	-4.9	-7.5	-1.9	-0.8
Overall Surplus(+)/Deficit(-)	-1.7	-5.3	-8.9	-3.6	-2.4
Primary Surplus(+)/Deficit(-)	0.4	-2.8	-6.0	-0.6	0.6

SOURCES: Ministry of Finance and the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

1 Refers to accounts of Consolidated Fund, Unemployment Fund, Road Improvement Fund and the Infrastructure Development Fund. Data is in fiscal years (October 1st - September 30th).
2 Includes an adjustment for transfers to the Heritage and Stabilisation Fund and funds expended from the Infrastructure Development Fund.
3 Includes an adjustment for Repayment of Past Lending in the years prior to 2016.
4 Includes errors and ommissions, advances from the Central Bank and drawdowns from the treasury deposit accounts. Negative numbers represent an increase in deposits at the Central Bank.
5 The primary balance, also known as the non-interest balance, is equal to the overall balance exclusive of interest payments.

TABLE A.15

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE, 2015-2019[1]

/ TT$ MILLIONS /

EXPENDITURE	2015	2016	2017	2018[r]	2019[re]
A. Oil Sector	**13,696.4**	**3,805.5**	**4,268.6**	**6,276.0**	**10,494.2**
Corporation[2]	10,974.2	2,144.2	2,477.2	3,126.2	5,738.8
Withholding Tax	800.1	742.5	512.7	495.7	927.3
Royalties	1,100.7	520.2	938.9	2,288.2	3,391.9
Oil Impost	132.5	136.2	139.5	114.3	70.7
Unemployment Levy	600.9	130.5	98.6	153.3	342.3
Excise Duties	87.9	131.9	101.7	98.2	23.2
B. Non Oil Sector	**38,548.1**	**37,353.4**	**30,601.5**	**36,055.9**	**35,092.1**
Taxes on Income	**18,060.6**	**15,759.0**	**15,209.3**	**17,482.0**	**18,462.3**
Companies	9,481.2	7,003.1	6,919.2	8,858.4	9,200.0
Individuals	7,445.3	7,186.5	6,303.3	6,598.7	7,000.0
Unemployment Levy	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Health Surcharge	264.0	225.8	218.0	183.6	190.0
Other[3]	870.0	1,343.6	1,768.8	1,841.4	2,072.3
Taxes on Property	**3.3**	**3.2**	**3.0**	**3.9**	**46.9**
Lands and Buildings Taxes	3.3	3.2	3.0	3.9	46.9
Taxes on Goods and Services	**9,218.4**	**8,913.0**	**6,830.2**	**9,084.9**	**8,342.8**
Purchase Tax	0.1	0.1	1.0	0.0	0.7
Excise Duties	606.8	579.5	613.8	660.9	648.0
Motor Vehicles	575.5	569.0	415.1	333.7	299.0
Value Added Tax	7,223.3	7,004.7	5,050.4	7,244.8	6,505.3
Other	812.8	759.7	749.9	845.5	889.8
Taxes on International Trade	**3,014.2**	**3,016.3**	**2,684.8**	**2,732.5**	**2,623.1**
Import Duties	3,013.7	3,016.0	2,683.8	2,732.1	2,622.8
Other	0.5	0.4	1.0	0.4	0.3
Non-Tax Revenue	**8,251.6**	**9,661.8**	**5,874.2**	**6,752.5**	**5,617.0**
National Lottery	169.7	177.8	335.9	213.6	177.2
Interest	40.0	41.4	34.0	28.5	16.0
Central Bank	190.5	809.0	714.0	1,046.6	1,471.9
Other	7,851.4	8,633.6	4,790.3	5,463.8	3,951.9
TOTAL CURRENT REVENUE	**52,244.5**	**41,158.9**	**34,870.1**	**42,331.8**	**45,586.3**
Capital Revenue	4,989.2	3,813.7	1,310.5	837.8	972.8
TOTAL REVENUE	**57,233.7**	**44,972.6**	**36,180.6**	**43,169.6**	**46,559.1**

SOURCES: Ministry of Finance and the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

1 Refers to accounts of Consolidated Fund, Unemployment Fund, Road Improvement Fund and the Infrastructure Development Fund. Data is in fiscal years (October 1st - September 30th).

2 Includes receipts from Supplemental Petroleum Tax (SPT), Petroleum Profit Tax (PPT), signature bonuses, surplus sale of petroleum products, extraordinary revenue from oil and gas companies and for the award of Production Sharing Contracts (PSC).

3 Includes witholding tax from the non-oil sector, insurance surrender tax, business levy, income tax surcharge and Green Fund rceipts.

TABLE A.16

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE, 2015-2019[1]

/ TT$ MILLIONS /

EXPENDITURE	2015	2016	2017	2018[r]	2019[re]
Current Expenditure	**52,322.9**	**48,546.4**	**46,263.5**	**45,374.4**	**46,910.3**
Wages and Salaries	10,077.1	9,601.9	9,937.8	9,094.4	9,145.2
Goods and Services	8,105.4	7,326.1	5,827.2	6,102.1	5,570.1
Interest	3,438.4	3,762.4	4,468.4	4,786.8	4,902.3
External	522.9	562.6	894.4	991.2	1,151.5
Domestic	2,915.6	3,199.8	3,574.0	3,795.6	3,750.8
Transfers and Subsidies	30,701.9	27,856.1	26,030.2	25,391.1	27,292.7
Of which:					
Statutory Boards and State Enterprises	*9,903.6*	*9,356.5*	*8,769.0*	*8,699.1*	*9,835.2*
Households	*12,668.9*	*10,169.8*	*9,026.3*	*8,741.0*	*9,511.9*
Capital Expenditure and Net-Lending[2]	**7,620.8**	**4,398.3**	**3,448.5**	**3,492.1**	**3,593.4**
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	**59,943.6**	**52,944.7**	**49,712.0**	**48,866.5**	**50,503.7**
(in % of GDP at current market prices)	**36.5**	**35.0**	**32.8**	**30.7**	**30.9**
Memo Items (% of Expenditure):					
Current Expenditure	87.3	91.7	93.1	92.9	92.9
Capital Expenditure and Net-Lending	12.7	8.3	6.9	7.1	7.1

SOURCES: Ministry of Finance and the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

1 Refers to accounts of Consolidated Fund, Unemployment Fund, Road Improvement Fund and the Infrastructure Development Fund. Data is in fiscal years (October 1st - September 30th).

2 See footnote 3 on Table A.14.

TABLE A.17 (A)

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT EXTERNAL DEBT, 2015-2019[1]

/ US$ MILLIONS /

SECTOR	2015	2016	2017	2018[r]	2019[p]
CENTRAL GOVERNMENT					
Receipts	194.5	1,056.4	401.7	263.2	365.4
Amortisation	85.5	78.5	80.5	103.1	125.3
Interest	83.4	100.1	134.5	147.4	167.1
Balance Outstanding (end of period)	2,236.3	3,214.4	3,535.8	3,695.8	3,939.4
Balance Outstanding/GDP (%)	8.4	14.1	15.5	15.5	16.1
External Debt Service/Exports (%)	1.2	1.8	2.1	2.2	3.0

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

1 Data are in Fiscal Years (October 1st -September 30th).

TABLE A.17 (B)

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT INTERNAL DEBT, 2015-2019[1]

/ TT$ MILLIONS /

SECTOR	2015	2016	2017	2018[r]	2019[p]
BONDS & NOTES					
Issue	3,776.7	4,732.0	8,251.1	6,275.0	6,325.4
Redemption	2,230.2	1,940.4	3,674.3	4,424.4	2,331.3
Outstanding	28,132.8	30,888.6	35,487.1	37,507.6	41,253.0
CLICO AND HCU ZERO-COUPON BONDS					
Issue	336.6	11.8	3.9	1.7	0.3
Redemption[2]	533.0	619.8	528.2	503.2	506.0
Outstanding	4,401.9	3,793.9	3,269.5	2,767.9	2,262.2
BOLTS AND LEASES					
Issue	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Redemption	75.3	57.3	27.0	28.7	25.2
Outstanding	243.8	186.3	159.3	130.6	105.4
OTHER[3]					
Issue	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Redemption	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0
Outstanding	10.7	16.9	16.5	16.5	16.5
DEBT MANAGEMENT BILLS					
Issue	2,550.0	2,550.0	4,110.0	3,875.0	4,140.0
Redemption	2,550.0	2,550.0	3,005.0	3,875.0	2,705.0
Outstanding	800.0	800.0	1,905.0	1,905.0	3,340.0
Total Internal Debt Outstanding	31,749.0	35,685.7	40,837.4	42,327.6	46,977.1
Internal Debt Outstanding/GDP (%)	19.3	23.6	27.0	26.6	28.8
Internal Debt Service/Revenues (%)	12.0	14.5	20.2	15.4	9.9

SOURCES: Ministry of Finance and the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

1 Data is in Fiscal Years (October 1st -September 30th) and excludes all securities issued for sterilisation purposes (OMO Bills, Treasury notes, Treasury Bonds and other liquidity absorption bonds).
2 Includes the exchange of bonds for shares in the CLICO Investment Fund (CIF).
3 Comprises tax-free saving bonds, central bank fixed interest rate bonds and public sector emolument bonds.

TABLE A.18 (A)

COMMERCIAL BANKS: SELECTED DATA, 2015-2019

/ TT$ MILLIONS /

	END OF PERIOD				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
A. OUTSTANDING					
1. Aggregate Deposits (adj.)	**100,470.5**	**104,655.9**	**102,636.6**	**105,901.1**	**108,916.5**
Demand Deposits (adj.)[1]	36,604.2	37,537.2	35,908.7	37,035.6	38,254.4
Time Deposits (adj.)[2]	9,729.6	10,622.2	10,163.5	10,231.1	11,470.9
Savings Deposits (adj.)[3]	31,886.9	32,630.2	32,578.3	34,218.0	34,967.6
Foreign Currency Deposits (adj.)[4]	22,249.7	23,866.3	23,986.1	24,416.5	24,223.6
2. Gross Bank Credit[5]	**61,089.6**	**62,489.3**	**64,974.0**	**67,159.9**	**71,151.3**
Of which:					
Business Purposes	*23,498.4*	*24,168.2*	*25,151.0*	*26,220.1[r]*	*25,739.1*
Corporate	*22,012.9*	*22,547.1*	*23,497.3*	*24,390.7[r]*	*23,992.7*
Non-Corporate	*1,485.6*	*1,621.0*	*1,653.7*	*1,829.4*	*1,746.3*
3. Investments	**32,792.9**	**36,020.2**	**33,337.5**	**34,450.7**	**31,112.7**
Government Securities	14,830.9	19,819.2	17,706.9	18,446.6	14,491.0
Other Investments[6]	17,962.0	16,201.0	15,630.6	16,004.1	16,621.7
Of which:					
Interest-bearing Special Deposit Facility[7]	*2,500.0*	*1,500.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*
B. ANNUAL CHANGE					
1. Aggregate Deposits (adj.)	**-724.5**	**4,185.4**	**-2,019.3**	**3,264.5**	**3,015.4**
Demand Deposits (adj.)	-4,219.9	933.0	-1,628.5	1,126.9	1,218.8
Time Deposits (adj.)	220.0	892.6	-458.7	67.5	1,239.8
Savings Deposits (adj.)	1,987.4	743.3	-51.9	1,639.7	749.7
Foreign Currency Deposits (adj.)	1,287.9	1,616.6	119.8	430.4	-193.0
2. Gross Bank Credit	**5,165.0**	**1,399.7**	**2,484.7**	**2,186.0**	**3,991.4**
Of which:					
Business Purposes	*1,099.2*	*669.8*	*982.8*	*1,069.1[r]*	*-81.1*
Corporate	*904.3*	*534.3*	*950.2*	*893.4[r]*	*2.0*
Non-Corporate	*194.8*	*135.5*	*32.6*	*175.7*	*-83.0*
3. Investments	**-3,905.6**	**3,227.3**	**-2,682.7**	**1,113.2**	**-3,338.0**
Government Securities	-2,532.9	4,988.3	-2,112.4	739.7	-3,955.6
Other Investments	-1,372.7	-1,761.0	-570.3	373.5	617.7
Of which:					
Interest-Bearing Special Deposit Facility	*-3,500.0*	*-1,000.0*	*-1,500.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

1 Total demand deposits minus non-residents' and Central Government's demand deposits, cash items in process of collection on other banks, and branch clearings, plus cashiers and branch clearings.
2 Total time deposits minus Central Government's deposits and deposits of non-residents.
3 Total savings deposits minus Central Government's deposits and deposits of non-residents.
4 Total demand, savings and time deposits in foreign currency minus those of non-residents.
5 Total loans excluding loans to non-residents and central government.
6 Interest-bearing deposits at the Central Bank, other local and foreign securities, and equity in subsidiaries and affiliates.
7 Deposits were placed by the commercial banks between 2005 and 2012 including TT $1 billion in December 2005, TT $500 million placed in June 2006, TT $2.0 billion placed in November 2009, TT $1.0 billion placed in November 2010 and TT $1.5 billion placed in March 2012. Two special deposit facilities for TT $2.0 billion and TT $1.5 billion and one for TT $1.0 billion were allowed to mature in 2015 and 2016, respectively.

TABLE A.18 (B)

SUMMARY ACCOUNTS OF THE MONETARY SYSTEM, 2015-2019

/ TT$ MILLIONS /

	END OF PERIOD				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Net Foreign Assets	**77,927**	**78,948**	**71,792**	**66,647**	**61,639**
Monetary Authorities	60,603	60,467	53,004	47,816	43,422
Commercial Banks	17,324	18,480	18,787	18,832	18,217
Net Domestic Assets	**28,657**	**31,290**	**38,267[r]**	**43,971**	**48,535**
Net Claims on Public Sector	-6,784	-1,381	2,098	4,888	8,336
Central Government (net)	-8,087	-2,000	937	2,786	8,930
Treasury Bills	8,089	11,617	9,294	11,298	7,373
Other Government Securities	8,892	11,512	8,611	7,347	7,281
Other Credit (net)	-24,596	-24,495	-16,566	-14,516	-4,497
Local Government (net)	-1,060	-1,084	-1,308	-617	-550
Statutory Bodies (net)	-1,456	-1,951	-1,401	-2,363	-3,166
Public Enterprises (net)	3,820	3,654	3,870	5,083	3,123
Official Capital and Surplus	-7,170	-11,471	-9,184	-7,823	-7,456
Credit to Other Financial Institutions (net)	-9,843	-10,154	-10,219	-10,880	-11,480
Credit to Private Sector	51,246	53,331	56,047	58,326	60,938
Interbank Float	547	568	923[r]	597	3,523
Other Assets (net)	661	397	-1,398[r]	-1,137	-5,325
Liabilities to Private Sector (M3)	**106,584**	**110,238**	**110,059[r]**	**110,618**	**110,174**
Money and Quasi-Money	86,722	90,654	90,074	92,094	90,477
Money	35,336	36,727	37,280	37,870	36,714
Currency in Circulation	7,650	7,847	8,104	7,941	4,783
Demand Deposits	27,687	28,881	29,176	29,929	31,931
Quasi-Money	51,385	53,927	52,795	54,223	53,763
Time Deposits	8,550	9,079	8,817	7,743	8,211
Savings Deposits	42,835	44,847	43,977	46,480	45,552
Securitised Instruments	15	813	788	312	177
Private Capital and Surplus	19,847	18,771	19,197[r]	18,212	19,520
	Changes as a per cent of beginning-of-period M3				
Net Foreign Assets	**-6.1**	**1.0**	**-6.5**	**-4.7**	**-4.5**
Net Domestic Assets	9.6	2.5	6.3	5.2	4.1
Net Claims on Public Sector	4.7	5.1	3.2	2.5	3.1
Of which: Central Government	*0.7*	*5.7*	*2.7*	*1.7*	*5.6*
Credit to Private Sector	2.8	2.0	2.5	2.1	2.4
Other Assets (net)	2.0	-0.2	-1.6	0.2	-3.8
Liabilities to private sector (M3)	**3.4**	**3.4**	**-0.2**	**0.5**	**-0.4**
Memorandum items:					
Net Domestic Assets	28,657	31,290	38,267[r]	43,971	48,535
Net Claims on Public Sector	-6,784	-1,381	2,098[r]	4,888	8,336
Central Government	-8,087	-2,000	937[r]	2,786	8,930
Credit to the Private Sector	51,246	53,331	56,047	58,326	60,938
(12-month increase in per cent) M3 Velocity	1.5[r]	1.3	1.4[r]	1.4	1.4

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

TABLE A.19

LIQUIDITY POSITION OF COMMERCIAL BANKS, 2018-2019

/ TT$ MILLIONS /

	2018				2019			
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV
Legal Reserves Position								
Required Reserves[1]	15,044.4	14,991.2	14,977.1	15,369.8	15,310.3	15,378.5	15,367.0	16,084.6
Cash Reserves	18,583.0[r]	18,351.3[r]	18,114.3[r]	18,430.4[r]	18,149.2	17,978.0	18,708.2	19,338.8
Excess (+) or Shortage (-)	3,538.6[r]	3,360.1[r]	3,137.2[r]	3,060.6[r]	2,838.8	2,599.6	3,341.3	3,254.3
Average Excess(+) or Shortage(-)[2]	2,889.8	2,365.4	4,832.0	3,041.2	2,619.5	3,717.3	4,458.9	5,226.4
Liquid Assets								
Total Deposits at Central Bank	18,583.0[r]	18,351.3[r]	18,114.3[r]	18,430.4[r]	18,149.2	17,978.0	18,708.2	19,338.8
Local Cash in Hand	1,053.3	993.3	1,025.5	1,440.2	1,171.6	1,073.8	1,100.3	1,105.7
Treasury Bills	806.4	509.0	490.0	302.9	366.4	1,338.2	1,858.1	2,486.4
Total Liquid Assets	**20,442.7[r]**	**19,853.6[r]**	**19,629.8[r]**	**20,173.5[r]**	**19,687.2**	**20,390.0**	**21,666.7**	**22,930.9**
Total Deposit Liabilities (adj.)	**79,180.9**	**78,901.2**	**78,827.0**	**80,893.4**	**80,580.7**	**80,939.2**	**80,878.8**	**84,655.6**
	As at Percentage of Total Deposit Liabilities (Adj.)							
Legal Reserves Position								
Required Reserves	19.0	19.0	19.0	19.0	19.0	19.0	19.0	19.0
Actual Reserves	23.5[r]	23.3[r]	23.0[r]	22.8[r]	22.5	22.2	23.1	22.8
Cash Reserves	23.5[r]	23.3[r]	23.0[r]	22.8[r]	22.5	22.2	23.1	22.8
Excess (+) or Shortage (-)	4.5[r]	4.3[r]	4.0[r]	3.8[r]	3.5	3.2	4.1	3.8
Average Excess(+) or Shortage(-)	3.6	3.0	6.1	3.8	3.3	4.6	5.5	6.2
Liquid Assets								
Total Deposits at Central Bank	23.5[r]	23.3[r]	23.0[r]	22.8[r]	22.5	22.2	23.1	22.8
Local Cash in Hand	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.8	1.5	1.3	1.4	1.3
Treasury Bills	1.0	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.5	1.7	2.3	2.9
TOTAL LIQUID ASSETS	**25.8[r]**	**25.2[r]**	**24.9[r]**	**24.9[r]**	**24.4**	**25.2**	**26.8**	**27.1**

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

1 Required reserves comprise the statutory cash reserves requirement which was reduced from 14 per cent in 2003 to 11 per cent effective September 15, 2004. In February 2008, the rate was increased to 13 per cent, with further increases in July 2008, to 15 per cent and then in October 2008, to 17 per cent. Additionally, a secondary reserve requirement of 2 per cent was introduced on a temporary basis, effective October 04, 2006. The secondary reserve requirement on commercial banks' prescribed liabilities was discontinued with effect from August 02, 2018.

2 Represents the excess/shortage as an average through the quarter.

TABLE A.20

COMMERCIAL BANKS: DISTRIBUTION OF LOANS AND ADVANCES BY SECTOR, 2015-2019

/ TT$ MILLIONS /

SECTORS	END OF PERIOD				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Central and Local Government	375.0	215.8	376.6	632.2	556.5
Agriculture	73.3	83.1	151.1	201.2	200.5
Petroleum	1,694.8	2,362.5	2,132.6	3,578.9	3,726.5
Manufacturing	3,873.2	4,255.9	3,911.2	3,495.2	3,857.7
Construction	5,472.4	3,884.6	2,868.9	2,669.1[r]	1,782.0
Distributive Trades	3,754.6	3,684.9	3,843.5	3,876.6	4,068.3
Hotels and Guest Houses	731.1	815.2	1,033.0	904.6	1,649.5
Transport, Storage and Communication	1,914.4	1,693.8	1,821.0	2,135.0	1,578.8
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	8,079.2	9,066.0	10,457.6	11,038.0[r]	12,192.0
Education, Cultural and Community Services	199.7	118.0	126.9	227.9	317.6
Personal Services	536.8	569.2	652.1	912.7	1,351.1
Electricity and Water	3,487.9	2,971.0	3,111.0	1,439.3	1,491.6
Consumers	15,544.9	16,488.2	17,318.6	18,349.0	19,388.1
TOTAL (Excluding Real Estate Mortgage Loans)	**45,737.4**	**46,208.3**	**47,804.1**	**49,459.8**	**52,160.2**
Real Estate Mortgage Loans and Lease Financing	17,378.7	18,215.4	19,681.7	21,019.0	23,683.0
TOTAL LOANS	**63,116.1**	**64,423.7**	**67,485.8**	**70,478.8**	**75,843.2**

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

TABLE A.21

COMMERCIAL BANKS: PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF LOANS AND ADVANCES BY SECTOR, 2015-2019[1]

/ PER CENT /

SECTORS	END OF PERIOD				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Central Government	0.6	0.3	0.6	0.9	0.7
Agriculture	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3
Petroleum	2.7	3.7	3.2	5.1	4.9
Manufacturing	6.1	6.6	5.8	5.0	5.1
Construction	8.7	6.0	4.3	3.8[r]	2.3
Distributive Trades	5.9	5.7	5.7	5.5	5.4
Hotels and Guest Houses	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.3	2.2
Transport, Storage and Communication	3.0	2.6	2.7	3.0	2.1
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	12.8	14.1	15.5	15.7[r]	16.1
Education, Cultural and Community Services	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4
Personal Services	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.3	1.8
Electricity and Water	5.5	4.6	4.6	2.0	2.0
Consumers	24.6	25.6	25.7	26.0	25.6
TOTAL (Excluding Real Estate Mortgage Loans)	**72.5**	**71.7**	**70.8**	**70.2**	**68.8**
Real Estate Mortgage Loans and Lease Financing	27.5	28.3	29.2	29.8	31.2
TOTAL LOANS	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**

SOURCE: Table A.20

1 Figures may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

TABLE A.22

COMMERCIAL BANKS: INTEREST RATES, 2017-2019[1]

/ PER CENT /

SECTIONS		2017	2018	2019	2019			
					I	II	III	IV
A. LOAN RATES (MARKET)								
(i) Installment	Range	0.73-19.50	0.73-19.50	0.73-19.50	0.73-19.50	0.73-19.50	0.73-19.50	0.73-19.50
	Median	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50
(ii) Demand	Range	0.20-15.50	0.20-15.50	0.20-15.50	0.20-15.50	0.20-15.50	0.20-15.50	0.20-15.50
	Median	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50
(iii) Overdraft	Range	4.00-27.75	4.00-27.75	4.00-27.75	4.00-27.75	4.00-27.75	4.00-27.75	4.00-27.75
	Median	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50
(iv) Basic Prime Rate	Range	8.75-9.50	8.75-9.75	8.85-9.75	8.85-9.75	8.85-9.75	8.85-9.75	8.85-9.75
	Median	9.00	9.25	9.25	9.25	9.25	9.25	9.25
(v) Real Estate Mortgage	Range	3.00-16.43	3.00-16.43	3.00-16.43	3.00-16.43	3.00-16.43	3.00-16.43	3.00-16.43
	Median	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50
B. DEPOSIT RATES (Announced)								
(i) Ordinary Savings	Range	0.03-1.00	0.03-1.00	0.03-1.00	0.03-1.00	0.03-1.00	0.03-1.00	0.03-1.00
	Median	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20
(ii) Special Savings	Range	0.03-2.00	0.03-2.00	0.03-2.00	0.03-2.00	0.03-2.00	0.03-2.00	0.03-2.00
	Median	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20
(iii) 3-Months Time	Range	0.05-3.95	0.05-3.95	0.05-3.95	0.05-3.95	0.05-3.95	0.05-3.95	0.05-3.95
	Median	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38
(iv) 3-6 Months Time	Range	0.05-3.00	0.05-3.00	0.05-3.00	0.05-3.00	0.05-3.00	0.05-3.00	0.05-3.00
	Median	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45
(iv) 6-Months Time	Range	0.05-0.75	0.05-0.75	0.05-0.75	0.05-0.75	0.05-0.75	0.05-0.75	0.05-0.75
	Median	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
(v) 1-Year Time	Range	0.05-3.00	0.05-3.00	0.05-3.00	0.05-3.00	0.05-3.00	0.05-3.00	0.05-3.00
	Median	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.78	0.78

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

1 Annual data represent the rates for the twelve (12) months of the year and quarterly data represent the rates for the three (3) months of the quarter.

TABLE A.23

MONEY SUPPLY, 2015-2019
/ TT$ MILLIONS /

SECTORS	END OF PERIOD				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
A. Narrow Money Supply (M-1A)	**44,254.0**	**45,383.8**	**44,012.7**	**44,976.8**	**43,036.7**
Currency in Active Circulation	7,649.8	7,846.6	8,104.1	7,941.2	4,782.3
Demand Deposits (adj.)	36,604.2	37,537.2	35,908.7	37,035.6	38,254.4
B. Factors Affecting Changes in Money Supply					
1. Net Bank Credit to Central Government	**-41,801.6**	**-31,113.8**	**-27,879.9**	**-26,287.5**	**-20,149.8**
(a) Central Bank	-56,726.4	-50,680.5	-45,444.5	-44,276.0	-34,138.5
(b) Commercial Banks	14,924.7	19,566.7	17,564.5	17,988.5	13,988.7
2. Bank Credit	**64,112.0**	**65,950.0**	**68,158.9**	**71,180.2**	**75,037.5**
(a) Public Sector[1]	11,633.8	11,760.6	11,213.7	11,292.6[r]	12,586.5
(b) Private Sector[2]	52,478.2	54,189.4	56,945.1	59,887.6[r]	62,451.0
3. External Assets (net)	**85,203.3**	**87,670.2**	**83,921.9[r]**	**82,920.6**	**48,573.9**
4. Quasi-Money[3]	**-41,616.6**	**-43,252.4**	**-42,741.8**	**-44,449.0**	**-46,438.5**
5. Foreign Currency Deposits (Adj.)	**-22,249.7**	**-23,866.3**	**-23,986.1**	**-24,416.5**	**-24,223.6**
6. NFIs Foreign Currency Deposit (Adj.)	**-593.6**	**-988.2**	**-398.5**	**-906.0**	**-656.0**
7. Other Items (Net)	**606.6**	**-10,004.0**	**-13,460.1[r]**	**-13,970.8**	**10,237.1**
C. Broad Money Supply (M-2)	**85,870.5**	**88,636.2**	**86,754.6**	**89,425.8**	**89,475.2**
D. Broad Money Supply (M-2*)[4]	**108,120.3**	**112,502.5**	**110,740.7**	**113,842.4**	**113,698.8**
Memorandum Items:[5]					
Money Supply M-3	87,533.9	90,531.8	88,337.0	90,886.5	91,251.8
Money Supply M-3*	110,367.2	115,386.3	112,721.5	116,209.0	116,131.0

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

1 Includes Central Bank's and commercial banks' loans and holdings of public sector securities.
2 Includes commercial banks' loans and holdings of private sector securities.
3 Excludes foreign currency deposits of residents which are shown separately below.
4 Includes foreign currency deposits of residents.
5 In addition to M-2, M-3 includes the time deposits of non-bank financial institutions (NFIs), while in addition to M-2*, M-3* includes foreign currency deposits of residents at NFIs.

TABLE A.24

FINANCE COMPANIES AND MERCHANT BANKS: SUMMARY OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 2015-2019

/ TT$ THOUSANDS /

END OF PERIOD	EXTERNAL ASSETS (NET)	CASH AND DEPOSITS AT CENTRAL BANK	BALANCES DUE FROM BANKS (NET)	DOMESTIC CREDIT		
				INVESTMENTS	LOANS (GROSS)	TOTAL
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
2015	76,683	188,729	184,067	1,713,337	3,730,753	5,444,090
2016	80,678	276,354	390,714	1,814,241	3,766,180	5,580,421
2017	83,722	225,706	506,360	2,087,386	3,404,797	5,492,183
2018	119,506	219,656	728,218	2,337,738	3,688,482	6,026,220
2019	71,691	228,411	758,891	3,052,717	3,522,071	6,574,788
2018						
I	70,365	223,144	547,724	2,222,632	3,412,840	5,635,472
II	65,235	235,781	425,881	2,310,859	3,486,544	5,797,403
III	95,018	258,965	636,782	2,400,521	3,600,524	6,001,045
IV	119,506	219,656	728,218	2,337,738	3,688,482	6,026,220
2019						
I	63,756	187,021	622,607	2,460,079	3,621,226	6,081,305
II	87,123	198,195	741,854	2,626,520	3,648,102	6,274,622
III	94,476	207,586	517,470	3,010,930	3,907,363	6,918,293
IV	71,691	228,411	758,891	3,052,717	3,522,071	6,574,788

END OF PERIOD	TOTAL ASSETS/ LIABILITIES	DEPOSITS	BORROWINGS[1]	PROVISIONS	CAPITAL AND RESERVES	OTHER ITEMS (NET)
	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
2015	5,811,335	1,954,822	1,172,798	82,236	2,510,545	173,308
2016	6,236,147	2,066,349	1,263,158	92,021	2,734,604	172,178
2017	6,207,311	2,062,452	1,182,483	100,659	2,987,187	-22,194
2018	6,943,833	2,731,783	1,036,372	149,767	3,328,274	-134,374
2019	7,478,021	2,843,156	1,028,815	155,762	3,633,872	-13,352
2018						
I	6,319,088	2,175,526	1,183,749	157,614	2,947,878	14,555
II	6,356,838	2,282,676	1,176,767	167,463	2,970,834	-70,821
III	6,819,734	2,656,469	1,027,358	172,075	3,048,539	99,005
IV	6,943,833	2,731,783	1,036,372	149,767	3,328,274	-134,374
2019						
I	6,808,809	2,528,556	1,033,593	145,884	3,332,359	-74,369
II	7,143,752	2,846,148	1,014,458	158,040	3,316,484	-20,287
III	7,551,390	3,223,364	1,015,967	186,434	3,330,316	-9,357
IV	7,478,021	2,843,156	1,028,815	155,762	3,633,872	-13,352

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

1 Borrowings from all sources other than commercial banks. Borrowings from commercial banks are reflected in Column 3.

TABLE A.25

FINANCE COMPANIES AND MERCHANT BANKS: DISTRIBUTION OF LOANS AND ADVANCES BY SECTOR, 2015-2019

/ TT$ MILLIONS /

SECTORS	END OF PERIOD				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Public Sector	**583.6**	**25.3**	**101.1**	**200.3**	**70.1**
Private Sector	**2,710.5**	**2,812.6**	**2,933.1**	**3,046.9**	**3,132.3**
Agriculture	38.5	29.5	28.3	33.9	31.6
Petroleum	33.2	9.9	6.9	6.6	7.5
Manufacturing	236.5	83.6	92.9	77.0	57.3
Construction	213.4	165.7	231.9	135.7	142.7
Distributive Trades	65.8	96.6	95.5	105.5	112.8
Hotels and Guest Houses	58.2	50.7	34.9	56.0	44.4
Transport, Storage and Communication	156.6	169.0	121.7	118.4	115.8
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Services	386.4	513.6	532.4	626.3	472.4
Education, Cultural and Community Services	1.0	0.6	0.8	0.4	0.3
Personal Services	104.0	116.4	142.1	157.5	333.6
Consumers	1,416.8	1,577.1	1,645.9	1,729.5	1,813.9
TOTAL (Excluding Real Estate Mortgage Loans and Leases)	**3,294.1**	**2,837.9**	**3,034.2**	**3,247.3**	**3,202.4**
Real Estate Mortgage Loans	54.3	68.0	59.3	56.0	59.0
Leases	272.0	277.4	258.1	222.9	222.6
TOTAL LOANS	**3,620.4**	**3,183.3**	**3,351.5**	**3,526.2**	**3,484.1**

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

TABLE A.26

FINANCE COMPANIES AND MERCHANT BANKS: PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF LOANS AND ADVANCES BY SECTOR, 2015-2019

/ PER CENT /

SECTORS	END OF PERIOD				
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Public Sector	**16.1**	**0.8**	**3.0**	**5.7**	**2.0**
Private Sector	**74.9**	**88.4**	**87.5**	**86.4**	**89.9**
Agriculture	1.1	0.9	0.8	1.0	0.9
Petroleum	0.9	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
Manufacturing	6.5	2.6	2.8	2.2	1.6
Construction	5.9	5.2	6.9	3.8	4.1
Distributive Trades	1.8	3.0	2.8	3.0	3.2
Hotels and Guest Houses	1.6	1.6	1.0	1.6	1.3
Transport, Storage and Communication	4.3	5.3	3.6	3.4	3.3
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Business Services	10.7	16.1	15.9	17.8	13.6
Education, Cultural and Community Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Personal Services	2.9	3.7	4.2	4.5	9.6
Consumers	39.1	49.5	49.1	49.0	52.1
TOTAL (Excluding Real EstateMortgage Loans and Leases)	**91.0**	**89.1**	**90.5**	**92.1**	**91.9**
Real Estate Mortgage Loans	1.5	2.1	1.8	1.6	1.7
Leases	7.5	8.7	7.7	6.3	6.4
TOTAL LOANS	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**	**100.0**

SOURCE: Table A.25

TABLE A.27

TRUST AND MORTGAGE FINANCE COMPANIES: SUMMARY OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 2015-2019

/ TT$ Thousands /

END OF PERIOD	CASH AND DEPOSITS AT CENTRAL BANK	BALANCES DUE FROM BANKS (NET)	DOMESTIC CREDIT			TOTAL ASSETS/ LIABILITIES
			INVESTMENTS	LOANS (GROSS)	TOTAL	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
2015	47,189	551,123	806,536	703,288	1,979,636	2,026,825
2016	255,733	657,197	1,139,612	422,433	2,204,502	2,460,235
2017	161,894	558,807	636,423	239,338	1,422,836	1,584,730
2018	14,485	588,444	459,127	201,710	1,237,244	1,251,729
2019	45,067	576,103	461,475	393,295	1,413,320	1,458,387
2018						
I	163,690	648,449	647,123	227,105	1,509,741	1,673,431
II	187,780	520,802	454,240	214,629	1,176,136	1,363,916
III	14,770	822,085	448,743	195,515	1,453,477	1,468,247
IV	14,485	588,444	459,127	201,710	1,237,244	1,251,729
2019						
I	15,393	408,497	584,930	199,983	1,180,565	1,195,958
II	13,079	773,200	366,095	205,663	1,329,776	1,342,855
III	75,504	649,213	541,125	231,959	1,406,166	1,481,670
IV	45,067	576,103	461,475	393,295	1,413,320	1,458,387

END OF PERIOD	DEPOSITS	BORROWINGS	PROVISIONS	CAPITAL AND RESERVES	OTHER ITEMS (NET)
	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
2015	752,036	3,800	93,589	1,576,856	-318,143
2016	1,191,457	-68	14,740	1,325,305	-56,460
2017	314,533	-68	11,732	1,470,817	-200,553
2018	110,976	-68	12,037	1,288,915	-148,093
2019	207,477	-68	17,553	1,421,192	-156,581
2018					
I	355,628	-68	12,936	1,457,671	-139,798
II	276,555	-68	13,535	1,280,294	-192,865
III	107,789	-68	12,866	1,276,073	84,453
IV	110,976	-68	12,037	1,288,915	-148,093
2019					
I	136,437	-68	12,845	1,257,656	-188,232
II	151,042	-68	15,182	1,372,923	-175,079
III	174,085	-68	16,131	1,397,737	-82,186
IV	207,477	-68	17,553	1,421,192	-156,581

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

TABLE A.28

DEVELOPMENT BANKS: SUMMARY OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 2014-2019

/ TT$ THOUSANDS /

END OF PERIOD	EXTERNAL ASSETS (NET)	NET DOMESTIC ASSETS				TOTAL ASSETS/ LIABILITIES	CAPITAL AND RESERVES	OTHER ITEMS (NET)
		DEPOSITS IN LOCAL BANKS	PUBLIC SECTOR CREDIT	PRIVATE SECTOR CREDIT	TOTAL			
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
2014	0	-624,889	-893,298	3,788,102	2,269,915	2,269,915	1,351,880	918,035
2015	0	-530,729	-1,127,282	3,902,469	2,244,458	2,244,458	1,479,274	765,184
2016	0	-452,576	-1,452,997	4,175,081	2,269,508	2,269,508	1,576,492	693,016
2017	0	-37,464	-617,652	4,338,312	3,683,196	3,683,196	1,608,305	2,074,891
2018	0	-699,915	-399,200	4,024,546	2,925,432	2,925,432	1,692,917	1,232,515
2016								
I	0	-524,136	-1,156,428	3,946,920	2,266,356	2,266,356	1,499,156	767,200
II	0	-503,352	-1,309,419	4,019,873	2,207,102	2,207,102	1,488,221	718,881
III	0	-429,756	-1,415,278	4,154,029	2,308,995	2,308,995	1,536,123	772,872
IV	0	-452,576	-1,452,997	4,175,081	2,269,508	2,269,508	1,576,492	693,016
2017								
I	0	-441,355	-1,421,197	4,234,443	2,371,891	2,371,891	1,607,292	764,599
II	0	-473,343	-1,398,570	4,248,230	2,376,317	2,376,317	1,570,003	806,314
III	0	-470,766	-627,913	4,327,907	3,229,228	3,229,228	1,586,759	1,642,470
IV	0	-37,464	-617,652	4,338,312	3,683,196	3,683,196	1,608,305	2,074,891
2018								
I	0	-348,620	-582,853	4,246,103	3,314,629	3,314,629	1,637,866	1,676,763
II	0	-352,549	-572,314	4,364,971	3,440,108	3,440,108	1,626,728	1,813,380
III	0	-306,363	-537,514	3,895,389	3,051,512	3,051,512	1,645,197	1,406,315
IV	0	-699,915	-399,200	4,024,546	2,925,432	2,925,432	1,692,917	1,232,515
2019								
I	0	-816,230	-376,200	4,124,249	2,931,819	2,931,819	1,721,236	1,210,583
II	0	-145,909	-20,000	4,256,996	4,091,087	4,091,087	1,697,435	2,393,652
III	0	-146,051	-10,000	4,120,033	3,963,982	3,963,982	1,728,300	2,235,682

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

TABLE A.29

THRIFT INSTITUTIONS: SUMMARY OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 2015-2019

/ TT$ THOUSANDS /

END OF PERIOD	EXTERNAL ASSETS (NET)	NET DOMESTIC ASSETS				TOTAL ASSETS/ LIABILITIES	DEPOSITS			SHARES	OTHER ITEMS (NET)
		NET DEPOSITS IN LOCAL BANKS	PUBLIC SECTOR CREDIT	PRIVATE SECTOR CREDIT	TOTAL		TIME	SAVINGS	TOTAL		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
2015	0	14,858	7,367	76,040	98,265	98,265	18,995	7,594	26,589	15,987	55,689
2016	0	7,554	9,934	85,684	103,172	103,172	19,894	8,005	27,899	18,422	56,851
2017	0	4,602	9,575	94,369	108,546	108,546	21,207	8,307	29,514	20,712	58,320
2018	0	1,610	9,745	106,897	118,252	118,252	25,840	9,398	35,238	21,946	61,068
2019	0	401	5,880	120,107	126,388	126,388	32,679	8,548	41,227	23,768	61,393
2016											
I	0	11,265	8,346	80,147	99,758	99,758	19,065	7,745	26,810	16,491	56,457
II	0	10,062	10,089	81,977	102,128	102,128	20,187	7,741	27,928	17,230	56,970
III	0	10,648	10,146	83,193	103,987	103,987	19,871	7,923	27,794	17,594	58,599
IV	0	7,554	9,934	85,684	103,172	103,172	19,894	8,005	27,899	18,422	56,851
2017											
I	0	6,775	9,941	87,490	104,206	104,206	19,834	8,681	28,515	18,499	57,192
II	0	6,892	9,788	90,622	107,302	107,302	20,904	8,792	29,696	19,419	58,187
III	0	4,268	9,826	94,769	108,863	108,863	21,198	8,663	29,861	19,824	59,178
IV	0	4,602	9,575	94,369	108,546	108,546	21,207	8,307	29,514	20,712	58,320
2018											
I	0	9,172	9,562	93,443	112,177	112,177	23,506	9,128	32,634	21,309	58,234
II	0	9,993	9,850	97,538	117,381	117,381	24,600	10,919	35,519	21,064	60,798
III	0	4,330	9,944	102,363	116,637	116,637	25,440	9,299	34,739	21,247	60,651
IV	0	1,610	9,745	106,897	118,252	118,252	25,840	9,398	35,238	21,946	61,068
2019											
I	0	243	7,309	111,364	118,916	118,916	26,696	8,911	35,607	22,161	61,148
II	0	-3,065	9,130	113,233	119,298	119,298	26,318	8,999	35,317	22,980	61,001
III	0	-2,270	6,553	114,641	118,924	118,924	26,206	8,521	34,727	23,015	61,182
IV	0	401	5,880	120,107	126,388	126,388	32,679	8,548	41,227	23,768	61,393

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

TABLE A.30

NON-BANK FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS INTEREST RATES, 2017-2019[1]

/ PER CENT /

INTEREST RATES	2017	2018	2019	2019			
				I	II	III	IV
1. Thrift Institutions							
(a) Savings Deposits							
Range	0.50-0.50	0.50-0.50	0.50-0.50	0.50-0.50	0.50-0.50	0.50-0.50	0.50-0.50
Median	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
(b) Time Deposits							
(i) 1 - 3 years							
Range	0.50-3.75	0.50-3.75	0.50-3.75	0.50-3.75	0.50-3.75	0.50-3.75	0.50-3.75
Median	2.13	2.13	2.13	2.13	2.13	2.13	2.13
(c) Mortgage Loans (Residential)							
Range	7.00-9.00	7.00-9.00	7.00-9.00	7.00-9.00	7.00-9.00	7.00-9.00	7.00-9.00
Median	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00
2. Trust and Mortgage Finance Companies							
(a) Time Deposits							
(i) 1 - 3 years							
Range	3.00-6.00	3.00-6.00	3.00-6.00	3.00-6.00	3.00-6.00	3.00-6.00	3.00-6.00
Median	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25
(ii) Over 3 years							
Range	3.00-4.00	3.00-4.00	3.00-4.00	3.00-4.00	3.00-4.00	3.00-4.00	3.00-4.00
Median	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50
(b) Mortgage Loans							
(i) Residential							
Range	12.00-16.00	12.00-16.00	12.00-16.00	12.00-16.00	12.00-16.00	12.00-16.00	12.00-16.00
Median	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00
3. Finance Companies and Merchant Banks							
(a) Time Deposits							
(i) 1 - 3 years							
Range	3.25-8.50	3.25-8.50	3.25-8.50	3.25-8.50	3.25-8.50	3.25-8.50	3.25-8.50
Median	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25
(b) Installment Loans							
Range	6.00-25.41	6.00-25.41	6.00-25.41	6.00-25.41	6.00-25.41	6.00-25.41	6.00-25.41
Median	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

1 Annual and quarterly data represent the rates for the twelve (12) months of the year and the three (3) months of the quarter, respectively.

TABLE A.31

MONEY AND CAPITAL MARKET ACTIVITY, 2015-2019[1]

END OF PERIOD	NEW ISSUES ($MN)			SECONDARY MARKET TURNOVER[2]						
				GOVERNMENT SECURITIES[3]		TREASURY BILLS		PUBLIC COMPANY SHARES		
	GOVERNMENT SECURITIES	TREASURY BILLS	OTHER[4]	FACE VALUE ($MN)	NO. OF TRANS-ACTIONS	FACE VALUE ($MN)	NO. OF TRANS-ACTIONS	MARKET VALUE ($MN)	NO. OF TRANS-ACTIONS	VOLUME OF SHARES TRADED ($MN)
2015	**3,674.1**	**0.0**	**116.1**	**71.6**	**31**	**575.8**	**39**	**1,152.9**	**11,009**	**78**
I	500.0	0.0	0.0	23.9	8	79.7	5	214.7	2,925	17
II	475.3	0.0	0.0	20.0	3	65.2	11	244.1	2,420	20
III	1,198.8	0.0	0.0	5.9	12	192.5	11	199.7	2,101	14
IV	1,500.0	0.0	116.1	21.8	8	238.4	12	494.5	3,563	27
2016	**4,162.9**	**0.0**	**2,383.8[r]**	**1,722.3**	**155**	**650.8**	**61**	**951.8**	**10,519**	**92**
I	0.0	0.0	97.7[r]	275.9	23	212.2	19	234.4	2,873	28
II	3,162.9	0.0	1,630.8[r]	740.5	74	127.8	11	292.1	2,838	30
III	0.0	0.0	536.2[r]	502.9	40	237.9	16	197.5	2,531	14
IV	1,000.0	0.0	119.0[r]	203.1	18	72.9	15	227.8	2,277	20
2017	**9,8750.0[r]**	**1,105.0**	**2,936.1[r]**	**986.1**	**114**	**778.5**	**79**	**1,024.7**	**11,221**	**85**
I	2,500.0	0.0	1,614.7[r]	358.5	46	226.1	29	184.2	2,855	20
II	2,200.0	1,105.0	571.3[r]	97.7	17	126.6	15	273.4	2,684	23
III	2,500.0	0.0	450.0[r]	43.6	11	21.0	8	283.1	2,758	19
IV	2,675.0[r]	0.0	300.0[r]	486.3	40	404.7	27	284.0	2,924	24
2018	**4,740.0**	**0.0**	**5,554.0[r]**	**318.1**	**57**	**148.9**	**17**	**1,148.4**	**11,721**	**72**
I	1,200.0	0.0	812.2[r]	123.3	12	22.9	3	230.0	2,979	16
II	750.0	0.0	3,138.3[r]	0.7	3	25.2	1	271.2	2,740	17
III	450.0	0.0	996.0[r]	182.8	30	68.9	6	302.9	2,769	18
IV	2,340.0	0.0	607.5[r]	11.2	12	31.9	7	344.3	3,233	21
2019	**7,285.4**	**2,570.0**	**4,715.7**	**182.0**	**55**	**461.4**	**57**	**1,102.3**	**12,054**	**77**
I	642.4	0.0	200.0	57.8	20	193.8	23	287.4	2,848	18
II	2,500.0	815.0	1,015.7	31.6	12	205.6	31	250.8	3,114	16
III	843.0	620.0	375.0	79.0	7	37.5	2	264.0	3,161	24
IV	3,300.0	1,135.0	3,125.0	13.6	16	24.6	1	300.2	2,931	19

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

1 Totals may not add due to rounding.
2 Data refer to the double transactions of buying and selling.
3 Trading in Government securities and treasury bills was conducted under the aegis of the Investment Division, Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago. From 1993 trading in Government securities has been conducted by the Stock Exchange of Trinidad and Tobago.
4 Data include new issues by state corporations and other private organisations.

TABLE A.32

SELECTED INTEREST RATES, 2017-2019[1]
/ PER CENT PER ANNUM /

	2017	2018	2019	2019			
				I	II	III	IV
A. Central Bank							
(i) Bank Rate	6.75	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00
(ii) Special Deposits Rate	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
(iii) Repo Rate[2]	4.75	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
(iv) Reverse Repo Rate[2]	4.25	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50	4.50
(v) Mortgage Market Reference Rate (MMRR)[3]	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
B. Government							
(i) Treasury Bills	1.21	1.30	1.08	1.32	1.32	1.11	1.08
C. Commercial Banks - Local Currency							
(i) Weighted Average Rate on Loans	8.23	8.10	7.81	7.83	7.90	7.79	7.72
(ii) Weighted Average Rate on Deposits	0.61	0.64	0.66	0.66	0.65	0.65	0.67
(iii) Interest Spread (i - ii)	7.63	7.46	7.15	7.17	7.25	7.14	7.05
D. Non-Bank Financial Institutions[4] - Local Currency							
(i) Weighted Average Rate on Loans	9.66	9.76	10.53	10.32	10.50	10.25	11.05
(ii) Weighted Average Rate on Deposits	2.52	2.66	2.85	2.86	2.86	2.83	2.83
(iii) Interest Spread (i - ii)	7.15[r]	7.10	7.69	7.46	7.64	7.42	8.22

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

1 Annual data refer to the average of the quarterly averages for the respective years, except for the Bank Rate, Repo Rate, the Reverse Repo Rate and the Treasury Bill Rate which reflect the end of quarter/year position.

2 In May 2002, the Central Bank introduced a system of announced overnight repurchase or 'repo' rates for short-term government paper. The repo rate is the Bank's key policy interest rate and applies to collaterised overnight financing provided to commercial banks. The reverse repo rate is paid on occasions that the Central Bank offers to take overnight funds from commercial banks and is set as the repo rate less 50 basis points.

3 The Mortgage Market Reference Rate (MMRR) was introduced by the Central Bank on December 01, 2011 and represents a reference mortgage rate against which residential mortgages can be priced and re-priced.

4 Includes Finance Houses and Trust and Mortgage Finance Companies and represents rates for licensed institutions only.

TABLE A.33 (A)

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS, STANDARD PRESENTATION 2015-2019[1,2]

/ US$ MILLIONS /

	2015[r]	2016[r]	2017[r]	2018[p]	Jan-Sep 2018[p]	Jan-Sep 2019[p]
Current Account	**1,744.1**	**-979.5**	**1,208.3**	**1,385.9**	**729.3**	**1,151.4**
Goods and Services	2,094.7	-561.3	881.3	2,151.4	1,414.5	1,265.0
Goods, net*	3,884.5	1,215.7	2,994.0	3,852.0	2,769.8	2,014.8
Exports**	11,413.9	8,304.4	9,445.7	10,519.9	8,048.1	6,575.1
Petroleum Crude and Refined	2,538.1	2,560.4	2,693.4	2,933.9	2,574.3	1,492.1
Gas	2,692.4	1,728.4	2,249.3	2,899.4	2,124.9	1,795.6
Petrochemicals	3,536.9	2,161.1	2,726.1	3,021.9	2,256.3	1,846.4
Other	2,646.6	1,854.5	1,777.0	1,664.6	1,092.6	1,441.1
Imports**	7,529.5	7,088.7	6,451.7	6,667.9	5,278.3	4,560.3
Fuel***	1,456.4	1,542.3	1,617.7	1,755.4	1,556.5	914.4
Capital	2,637.9	2,518.3	1,841.1	1,793.5	1,416.8	1,250.7
Other	3,435.1	3,028.1	2,992.9	3,119.1	2,305.0	2,395.2
Services, net	-1,789.7	-1,777.0	-2,112.7	-1,700.6	-1,355.3	-749.9
Transport	-343.9	-295.8	-275.1	-436.2	-327.9	-334.6
Travel	324.1	276.1	356.7	331.5	267.7	275.6
Telecommunications, Computer, and Information Services	-51.3	-32.8	-33.1	-35.6	-28.7	-22.7
Insurance and Pension Services	-245.3	-179.2	-188.1	-177.2	-149.8	-119.7
Other Services****	-1,473.3	-1,545.3	-1,973.1	-1,383.0	-1,116.5	-548.5
Primary Income, net	-239.8	-428.2	47.0	-669.4	-582.5	-133.6
Secondary Income, net	-110.8	10.1	280.0	-96.1	-102.7	20.0
Capital Account	**0.0**	**0.2**	**1.2**	**2.4**	**1.9**	**5.8**
Financial Account	**487.5**	**-1,386.8**	**435.6**	**-143.0**	**599.4**	**705.2**
Direct Investment	-48.5	-1.7	444.8	767.1	528.1	57.0
Net Acquisition of Financial Assets	128.3	-25.3	-12.0	65.2	36.5	229.5
Net Incurrence of Liabilities	176.8	-23.6	-456.9	-701.9	-491.6	172.5
Portfolio Investment	799.3	-1,402.8	373.1	418.1	478.0	972.2
Net Acquisition of Financial Assets	671.7	-97.1	224.1	350.4	436.6	872.9
Net Incurrence of Liabilities	-127.6	1,305.7	-148.9	-67.7	-41.4	-99.2
Financial Derivatives	-1.0	0.0	4.7	5.3	5.3	-1.3
Net Acquisition of Financial Assets	-1.9	0.0	4.4	5.2	5.7	-0.4
Net Incurrence of Liabilities	-0.9	0.0	-0.3	-0.2	0.4	0.9
Other Investment ^	-262.3	17.8	-386.9	-1,333.5	-412.0	-322.7
Net Acquisition of Financial Assets	-706.8	-93.8	163.1	-310.1	-74.1	957.5
Net Incurrence of Liabilities	-444.5	-111.6	550.1	1,023.3	337.9	1,280.3
Net Errors and Omissions	-2,820.9	-874.7	-1,869.9	-2,326.0	-1,036.1	-1,128.1
Overall Balance	**-1,564.2**	**-467.2**	**-1,096.0**	**-794.7**	**-904.5**	**-676.1**
Memorandum Items						
Current Account/GDP (per cent)	6.9	-4.4	5.4	5.8	4.1	6.3
Gross Official Reserves (US$Mn) ^^	9,933.0	9,465.8	8,369.8	7,575.0	7,465.3	6,898.9
Import Cover (months) ^^	11.2	10.5	9.7	8.0	8.1	7.7
Debt Service Ratio	1.3	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.2	3.4
Net International Investment Position (US$Mn) ^^	6,014.6	4,967.1	4,658.7	2,922.7	4,141.5	3,547.6

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

1 Totals may not sum due to rounding.

2 This table is an analytical presentation of the Balance of Payments and is presented in accordance with the IMF's Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual, Sixth Edition (BPM6). Refer to Box 3 of the Economic Bulletin, March 2017 for a Technical Note on the Transition to BPM6.

The following financial account movements are represented with a negative sign:

- A decrease in assets (inflow)
- A decrease in liabilities (outflow)
- A net inflow in net balances

The following financial account movements are represented with a positive sign:

- An increase in assets (outflow)
- An increase in liabilities (inflow)
- A net outflow in net balances

* Energy goods data for 2011-2019 comprise estimates by the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago.

** Exports and imports are reported on a FOB (Free on Board) basis.

*** Includes petroleum, petroleum products and related materials. Energy exports include exports of petroleum, petroleum products and related materials and the exports of petrochemicals.

**** Other Services consists of manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others, maintenance and repair services n.i.e., construction, financial services, charges for the use of intellectual property n.i.e., other business services and government goods and services n.i.e.

^ Other investment comprise currency and deposits, loans, insurance, pension, and standardised guarantee schemes, trade credit and advances, other accounts receivable/payable and special drawing rights (liabilities).

^^ End of Period.

TABLE A.33 (B)

DIRECT INVESTMENT: NET INCURRENCE OF LIABILITIES (BY SECTOR)
/ US$ MILLIONS /

	2015[r]	2016[r]	2017[r]	2018[p]	Jan-Sep 2018[p]	Jan-Sep 2019[p]
Petroleum Industries	67.5	-431.9	-566.7	-720.3	-519.2	-165.8
Mining	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Exploration and Production	164.6	-63.5	-498.4	-312.9	-561.3	-197.7
Refineries	-73.4	138.7	-46.5	-57.9	12.1	-8.5
Petrochemicals	-62.2	-534.0	-30.4	-384.1	0.5	34.4
Service Contractors	32.4	23.3	12.5	37.3	32.2	5.9
Marketing and Distribution	6.1	3.6	-3.8	-2.7	-2.7	0.0
Food, Drink and Tobacco	13.0	47.6	23.6	-7.4	-7.4	3.0
Chemicals and Non-Metallic Minerals	25.8	4.0	40.2	-5.6	-1.8	-5.0
Assembly Type and Related Industries	1.3	65.2	32.5	28.9	36.2	12.9
Distribution	34.6	88.2	-4.8	23.7	15.0	3.1
All Other Sectors[1]	34.7	203.3	18.3	-21.1	-14.5	324.2
TOTAL	**176.8**	**-23.6**	**-456.9**	**-701.9**	**-491.6**	**172.5**

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

Note: A decrease in liabilities (outflow) is represented with a negative sign. An increase in liabilities (inflow) is represented with a positive sign.

1 "All Other Sectors" include Textiles, Garments, Footwear, Headwear, Printing, Publishing and Paper Converters, Wood and Related Products, Miscellaneous Manufacturing, Electricity and Water, Construction, Hotels and Guest Houses, Transportation, Communication and Storage, Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Business Services, Educational and Cultural Community Services, Personal Services and Other sectors.

TABLE A.33 (C)

DIRECT INVESTMENT: NET INCURRENCE OF LIABILITIES (BY COUNTRY)
/ US$ MILLIONS /

	2015[r]	2016[r]	2017[r]	2018[p]	Jan-Sep 2018[p]	Jan-Sep 2019[p]
U.S.A.	378.7	408.4	-57.6	-116.7	-264.9	-408.0
U.K.	-75.2	-35.5	-414.6	-281.8	-316.8	161.4
Canada	43.2	-387.1	-102.2	0.6	-22.8	44.1
Barbados	0.0	-162.3	-46.4	-263.0	191.3	147.9
Netherlands	0.0	6.7	1.0	-3.2	-3.2	-1.1
St. Lucia	0.0	40.1	9.3	17.2	26.0	38.5
Other*	-169.8	106.2	153.6	-55.0	-101.2	189.6
TOTAL	**176.8**	**-23.6**	**-456.9**	**-701.9**	**-491.6**	**172.5**

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

* Data for the period 2013-2015 include Barbados, Netherlands and St. Lucia.

TABLE A.34

WEIGHTED AVERAGE TT DOLLAR EXCHANGE RATES FOR SELECTED CURRENCIES 2015-2019[1]

PERIOD	UNITED STATES DOLLAR		CANADIAN DOLLAR		UK POUND STERLING		JAPANESE YEN		EURO	
	BUYING	SELLING	BUYING	SELLING	BUYING	SELLING	BUYING	SELLING	BUYING	SELLING
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
2015	6.3298	6.3776	4.8932	5.1793	9.5120	10.0569	0.0522	0.0546	6.9171	7.3032
2016	6.6152	6.6715	4.9425	5.2478	8.8462	9.4051	0.0632	0.0642	7.2682	7.6602
2017	6.7283	6.7795	5.1182	5.4517	8.6071	9.1537	0.0599	0.0628	7.5373	8.0093
2018	6.7321	6.7813	5.1438	5.4918	8.9231	9.5572	0.0609	0.0642	7.9261	8.4500
2019	6.7306	6.7800	5.0538	5.3813	8.5342	9.1294	0.0617	0.0653	7.5445	8.0224
2019										
January	6.7355	6.7835	5.0150	5.3356	8.6002	9.1954	0.0617	0.0651	7.6227	8.1900
February	6.7236	6.7765	5.0726	5.4056	8.6802	9.2599	0.0608	0.0643	7.6314	8.1366
March	6.7387	6.7783	5.0060	5.3637	8.7840	9.4232	0.0606	0.0642	7.5897	8.0831
I	**6.7326**	**6.7796**	**5.0311**	**5.3673**	**8.6837**	**9.2875**	**0.0610**	**0.0645**	**7.6153**	**8.1392**
April	6.7335	6.7808	5.0317	5.3541	8.7106	9.3269	0.0603	0.0640	7.6118	8.0696
May	6.7296	6.7819	5.0020	5.3083	8.5906	9.2114	0.0612	0.0648	7.6167	8.0190
June	6.7369	6.7781	5.0544	5.3737	8.5067	9.0861	0.0623	0.0656	7.6877	8.0846
II	**6.7330**	**6.7805**	**5.0272**	**5.3427**	**8.6071**	**9.2144**	**0.0612**	**0.0648**	**7.6355**	**8.0550**
July	6.7326	6.7826	5.1182	5.4624	8.3688	8.9541	0.0622	0.0656	7.5768	8.0495
August	6.7244	6.7792	5.0463	5.3819	8.1318	8.7374	0.0633	0.0676	7.5013	7.9635
September	6.7286	6.7757	5.0753	5.3844	8.2651	8.8343	0.0622	0.0660	7.3910	7.8769
III	**6.7287**	**6.7793**	**5.0812**	**5.4116**	**8.2586**	**8.8456**	**0.0625**	**0.0664**	**7.4940**	**7.9674**
October	6.7253	6.7819	5.0704	5.4039	8.4181	9.0044	0.0622	0.0659	7.4643	7.8875
November	6.7294	6.7803	5.0691	5.3959	8.6437	9.2114	0.0616	0.0655	7.4294	7.9657
December	6.7304	6.7791	5.0796	5.4010	8.7582	9.3562	0.0615	0.0648	7.4312	7.9538
IV	**6.7283**	**6.7805**	**5.0729**	**5.4003**	**8.6013**	**9.1851**	**0.0618**	**0.0654**	**7.4422**	**7.9346**

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

1 Monthly rates are an average of daily rates.

TABLE A.35

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO - INTERNATIONAL RESERVES, 2015-2019

/ US$ MILLIONS /

END OF PERIOD	CENTRAL BANK					CENTRAL GOVERNMENT	NET OFFICIAL RESERVES (5+6)
	FOREIGN ASSETS[1]	Of which		FOREIGN LIABILITIES	NET INTERNATIONAL RESERVES (1+4)		
		IMF RESERVE TRANCHE POSITION	SDR HOLDINGS				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
2015	9,932.4	145.0	387.7	0.0	9,932.4	0.6	9,933.0
2016	9,462.9	131.6	325.6	0.0	9,462.9	2.9	9,465.8
2017	8,366.2	97.1	344.9	0.0	8,366.2	3.6	8,369.8
2018	7,571.4	117.1	336.5	0.0	7,571.4	3.6	7,575.0
2019	6,924.7	131.7	334.4	0.0	6,924.7	4.3	6,929.0
2018							
I	7,984.3	99.2	352.0	0.0	7,984.3	3.6	7,987.9
II	7,812.7	96.0	340.5	0.0	7,812.7	3.6	7,816.3
III	7,461.7	95.2	337.7	0.0	7,461.7	3.6	7,465.3
IV	7,571.4	117.1	336.5	0.0	7,571.4	3.6	7,575.0
2019							
I	7,346.9	116.9	335.8	0.0	7,346.9	3.6	7,350.5
II	6,990.0	117.1	336.3	0.0	6,990.0	3.6	6,993.6
III	6,894.7	129.8	329.7	0.0	6,894.7	4.2	6,898.9
IV	6,924.7	131.7	334.4	0.0	6,924.7	4.3	6,929.0

END OF PERIOD	COMMERCIAL BANKS			GROSS FOREIGN ASSETS (1+6+8)	TOTAL FOREIGN LIABILITIES (4+9)	NET FOREIGN RESERVES (11-12)
	FOREIGN ASSETS	FOREIGN LIABILITIES	NET FOREIGN POSITION (8-9)			
	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
2015	3,508.9	811.5	2,697.4	13,441.8	811.5	12,630.4
2016	3,343.8	605.5	2,738.2	12,809.6	605.5	12,204.0
2017	3,332.5	559.2	2,773.3	11,702.3	559.2	11,143.1
2018	3,420.4	647.2	2,773.2	10,995.4	647.2	10,348.3
2019	3,608.8	918.6	2,690.2	10,537.8	918.6	9,619.2
2018						
I	3,424.2	613.2	2,810.9	11,412.0	613.2	10,798.8
II	3,513.5	595.2	2,918.3	11,329.8	595.2	10,734.6
III	3,306.1	572.6	2,733.5	10,771.4	572.6	10,198.8
IV	3,420.4	647.2	2,773.2	10,995.4	647.2	10,348.3
2019						
I	3,308.4	695.3	2,613.1	10,658.9	695.3	9,963.6
II	3,521.0	754.3	2,766.7	10,514.5	754.3	9,760.3
III	3,803.8	863.0	2,940.8	10,702.8	863.0	9,839.7
IV	3,608.8	918.6	2,690.2	10,537.8	918.6	9,619.2

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

1 International reserves have been revised to include Trinidad and Tobago's reserve position in the IMF. International reserves are defined as external assets that 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).

TABLE A.36

SUMMARY ACCOUNTS OF THE CENTRAL BANK, 2015-2019

/ TT$ MILLIONS /

ITEM	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Net Foreign Assets	**60,602.5**	**60,467.2**	**53,004.5**	**47,815.6**	**43,422.1**
Net International Reserves	63,761.9	63,836.6	56,578.6	51,338.2	46,670.6
Assets	63,761.9	63,836.6	56,578.6	51,338.2	46,670.6
Liabilities	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other Foreign Assets	-3,159.3	-3,369.4	-3,574.2	-3,522.7	-3,248.6
Other External Assets	10.3	24.8	39.1	56.7	31.6
Medium and Long-Term Foreign Liabilities	-303.4	-425.4	-554.0	-575.3	-287.2
SDR Allocation	-2,866.2	-2,968.7	-3,059.3	-3,004.0	-2,993.0
Net Domestic Assets	**-29,103.9**	**-31,704.9**	**-26,170.6**	**-22,279.7**	**-13,491.0**
Net Credit to the Public Sector	-23,053.2	-21,604.3	-16,664.5[r]	-15,247.5	-5,111.5
Central Government (net)	-23,011.6	-21,566.4	-16,627.2[r]	-15,202.9	-5,059.2
Treasury Bills	43.1	167.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other Government Securities	2,107.9	3,142.7	198.1	198.1	163.1
Loans to Government	46,677.6	36,458.6	46,976.7	51,970.3	42,300.7
Use of Reserves (-addition)	-71,840.1	-61,334.8	-63,802.0[r]	-67,371.2	-47,523.0
Rest of Public Sector	-41.6	-37.9	-37.4	-44.7	-52.3
of which: Public Enterprises	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*
Net Claims on Financial Institutions	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other Items (net)	-6,050.7	-10,100.6	-9,506.0[r]	-7,032.1	-8,379.5
Reserve Money	**31,498.6**	**28,762.3**	**26,833.9**	**25,535.9**	**29,931.1**
Currency in Circulation	9,092.4	9,365.5	9,420.9	9,386.9	8,799.1
Deposits of Commercial Banks	22,023.1	18,772.7	17,092.3	15,965.7	20,862.0
Deposits of Non-Bank Financial Institutions	383.1	624.0	320.6	183.3	269.9
	Changes as a Per Cent of Beginning-of-Period Reserve Money				
Net Foreign Assets	**-25.8**	**-0.4**	**-25.9**	**-19.3**	**-17.2**
Net Domestic Assets	**14.4**	**-8.3**	**19.2**	**14.5**	**34.4**
Of which: Central Government	*8.3*	*4.6*	*17.2*	*5.3*	*39.7*
Reserve Money	**-11.4**	**-8.7**	**-6.7**	**-4.8**	**17.2**
Memorandum Item:					
Government Blocked Account	32,217.5	31,343.6	24,303.7	24,958.6	14,756.8

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

Calendar of Key Economic Events

CALENDAR OF KEY ECONOMIC EVENTS
JANUARY – DECEMBER 2019

JANUARY

14. German-backed, Barbados-based renewable energy company, MPC Caribbean Clean Energy Company Limited was listed on the Trinidad and Tobago Stock Exchange. It is the first renewable energy company to list on a Caribbean stock exchange and has also been cross-listed on the Jamaican Stock Exchange.

FEBRUARY

21. Seven directors were appointed to the Board of the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago for three years. They included Prof. Surendra Arjoon, Richard Duncan, Lancelot Jack, Terrence Walker, Kirk Henry, Lorraine Ferguson and Kern Gardiner.

27. BP Trinidad and Tobago (bpTT) announced its first gas production from the Angelin project. The new platform, bpTT's 15th installation offshore Trinidad and Tobago, has a production capacity of 600.0 million standard cubic feet a day (mmscfd).

MARCH

1. The Mortgage Market Reference Rate (MMRR) remained at 3.00 per cent.

13. Republic Financial Holdings Limited (RFHL) announced the acquisition of Cayman National Corporation Limited (CNC) through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Republic Bank Trinidad and Tobago (Barbados) Limited. Republic purchased approximately 74.99 per cent of CNC-issued shares for US$6.25 per share at a total cost of just under US$198.5 million.

29. The Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago maintained the Repo rate at 5.00 per cent.

MAY

13. National Commercial Bank Financial Group Limited (NCBFG) and its wholly owned subsidiary National Commercial Bank Global Holdings Limited (NCBGH) completed the acquisition of 74,230,750 ordinary shares in Guardian Holdings Limited (GHL), following the granting of all necessary regulatory approvals in both Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago, and the closing of NCBGH's take-over bid on May 3, 2019. The shares were taken-up and paid for by NCBGH on May 13, 2019. NCBGH now owns 61.97 per cent of the outstanding shares in GHL.

29. The Government of Trinidad and Tobago signed a new energy agreement with Shell that offers an enhanced revenue package to the Government of Trinidad and Tobago estimated at approximately US$944.7 million, over the period 2018 to 2027 for the sale of liquefied natural gas.

JUNE

1. The Mortgage Market Reference Rate (MMRR) remained at 3.00 per cent.

21. An Act to amend the Financial Institutions Act, Chap. 79:09, the Securities Act, Chap. 83:02 and the Insurance Act, No. 4 of 2018 was assented to. This Act may be cited as the Miscellaneous Provisions (Financial Institutions, Securities and Insurance) Act, 2019. (Act No. 12 of 2019).

26. Moody's, the International credit rating agency, upheld Trinidad and Tobago's Ba1 long-term issuer and senior unsecured debt ratings, and held the Government Trinidad and Tobago credit ratings stable.

28. The Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago maintained the Repo rate at 5.00 per cent.

AUGUST

19. The Government of Trinidad and Tobago and Shell T&T Limited signed several agreements pertaining to gas-related issues. These agreements among the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, Shell, National Gas Company Limited (NGC) and Heritage Petroleum Company Limited are expected to create improved economic and financial benefits for Trinidad and Tobago.

24. The Government of Trinidad and Tobago and the Government of Barbados signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on energy cooperation; a first step in jointly developing any oil or gas that may span the islands shared borders. The MOU also facilitates deep-water exploration near the maritime boundaries of both countries. The MOU is a nonbinding document and represents a commitment to cooperate in energy exploration in their offshore territories.

30. The Mortgage Market Reference Rate for September 1, 2019 remained unchanged at 3.00 per cent.

SEPTEMBER

9. Touchstone Exploration announced that its first exploration well in the Ortoire block discovered natural gas. They encountered four zones with prospective natural gas accumulations. The company has an 80.0 per cent working interest in the license but is responsible for 100.0 per cent of the drilling, completion and testing costs associated with the initial four exploration wells. Heritage Petroleum Company Limited holds the remaining 20.0 per cent working interest.

27. The Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago maintained the Repo rate at 5.00 per cent.

30. The Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago announced the acquisition of the traditional insurance portfolios of Colonial Life Insurance Company (Trinidad) Limited ("CLICO") and British American Insurance Company (Trinidad) Limited ("BAT") by Sagicor Life Incorporated ("SAGICOR"), following a transparent, competitive and rigorous bidding process conducted by CLICO/BAT with Central Bank oversight.

OCTOBER

22. The 2019-2020 budget was passed in the House of Representatives.

31. Republic Financial Holdings Limited (RFHL) closed its acquisition of seven Scotiabank operations. Following a receipt of approval from the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank, the Central Bank of Curacao, St. Maarten, and the execution of the Banking Business Vesting Orders in five of the Eastern Caribbean territories, RFHL formally acquired Scotia's operations in Anguilla, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Maarten, and St. Vincent & the Grenadines.

NOVEMBER

11. The Australian energy company, Broken Hill Propriety Company Limited (BHP), announced a 3.5 trillion cubic feet gas discovery in the northern deep-water area of Trinidad and Tobago.

13. The Chinese Government and the Government of Trinidad and Tobago signed a framework agreement for a concessional loan to develop the Phoenix Park Industrial Estate. At least 1,000 people will be employed in the construction stage, and when the entire park is filled, some 5,000 people are expected to get jobs. The value of the loan is US$104.0 million.

15. bpTT announced a gas discovery with their Ginger exploration well. This exploration well was drilled into two untested fault blocks east of the Cashima Field in water less than 300.0 feet, approximately 50.0 miles off the South-East coast of Trinidad. The well was expected to be completed by the end of November 2019 and will continue to be evaluated following the completion of drilling operations.

DECEMBER

1. The Mortgage Market Reference Rate as at December 1, 2019 remained unchanged at 3.00 per cent.

7. An Act to amend the Proceeds of Crime Act, Chap. 11:27 and the Central Bank Act, Chap. 79:02 was assented on this date. This Act may be cited as the Miscellaneous Provisions (Proceeds of Crime and Central Bank) Act, 2019. (Act No. 22 of 2019).

   The Finance Minister disclosed that over 80.0 million existing $100 cotton bills will be phased out of the banking system. He made the announcement while debating the Miscellaneous Provisions (Proceeds of Crime and Central Bank) Bill 2019.

16. Canadian energy company Touchstone Exploration announced a significant crude oil discovery in its onshore Cascadura field in Ortoire. Cascadura is a joint project of Touchstone, which has an 80.0 per cent working interest and Heritage Petroleum, which has 20.0 per cent. Touchstone said the results far exceeded any pre-drill expectations.

17. The ANSA McaAL group announced the acquisition of the Barbados-based Trident Insurance Company Limited. ANSA McAL (Barbados) Limited announced it has acquired shares of Trident which was established in 1979 and writes all classes of general insurance including motor, marine, property and liability.

28. The Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago maintained the Repo rate at 5.00 per cent.

31. The $100 cotton bill ceased to be legal tender after this date.

2019 Annual Economic Survey