CENTRAL BANK OF TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

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ANNUAL ECONOMIC SURVEY

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Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

Annual Economic Survey 2024

Review of Economic and Financial Developments

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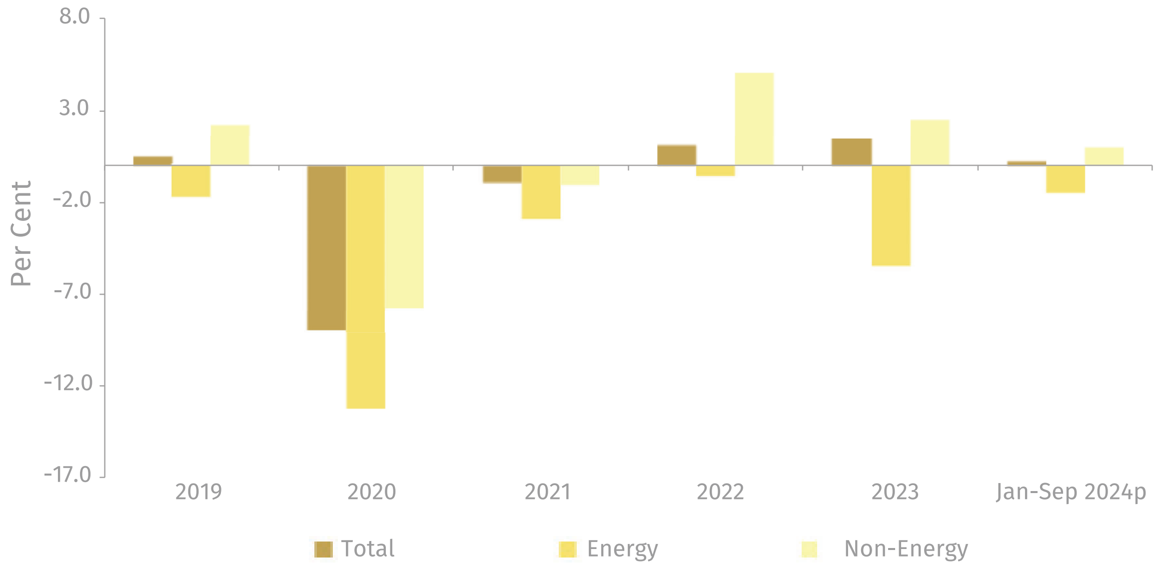

Source: Central Statistical Office; Annual data are compiled at Purchaser Prices, Quarterly data at Basic Prices
p Provisional.

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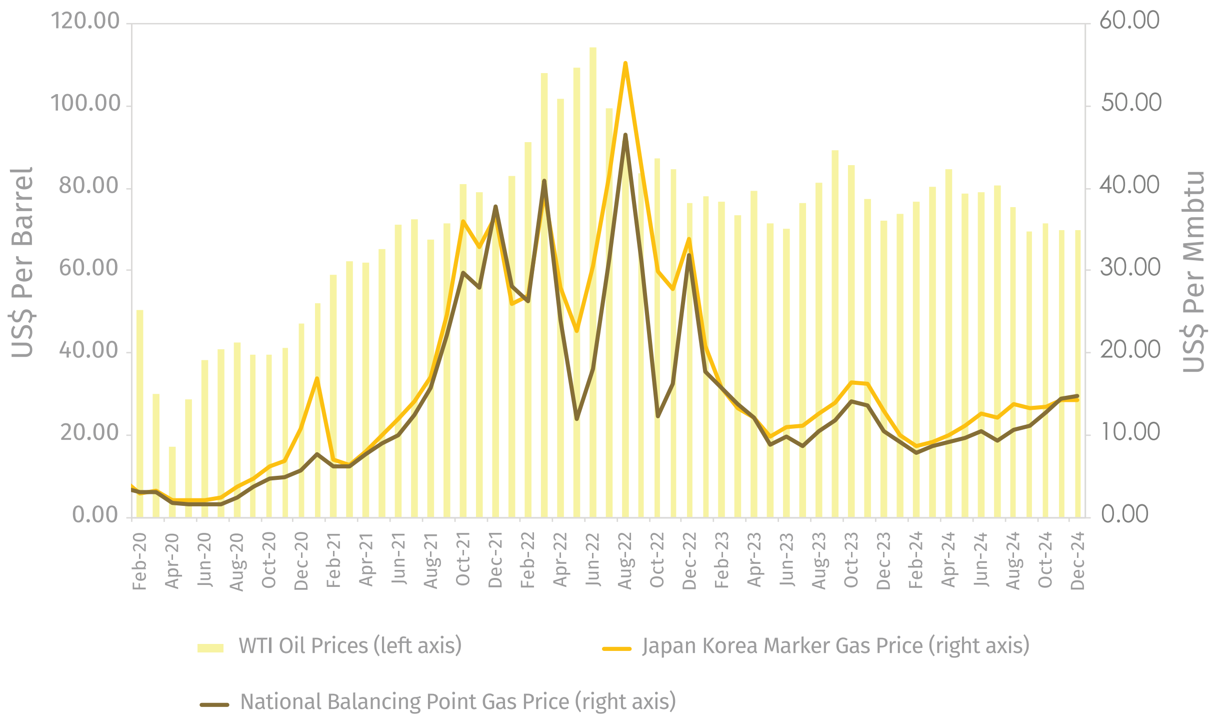

Source: Bloomberg (NBP price converted from Pence Sterling per therm to US$ per mmbtu).

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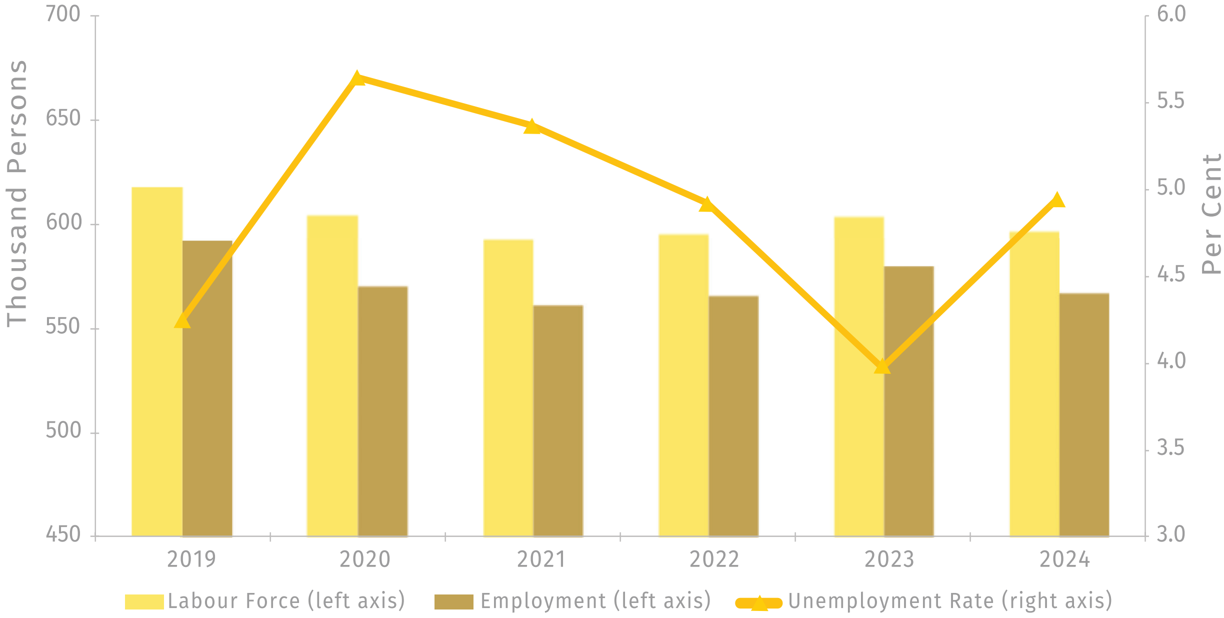

Source: Central Statistical Office

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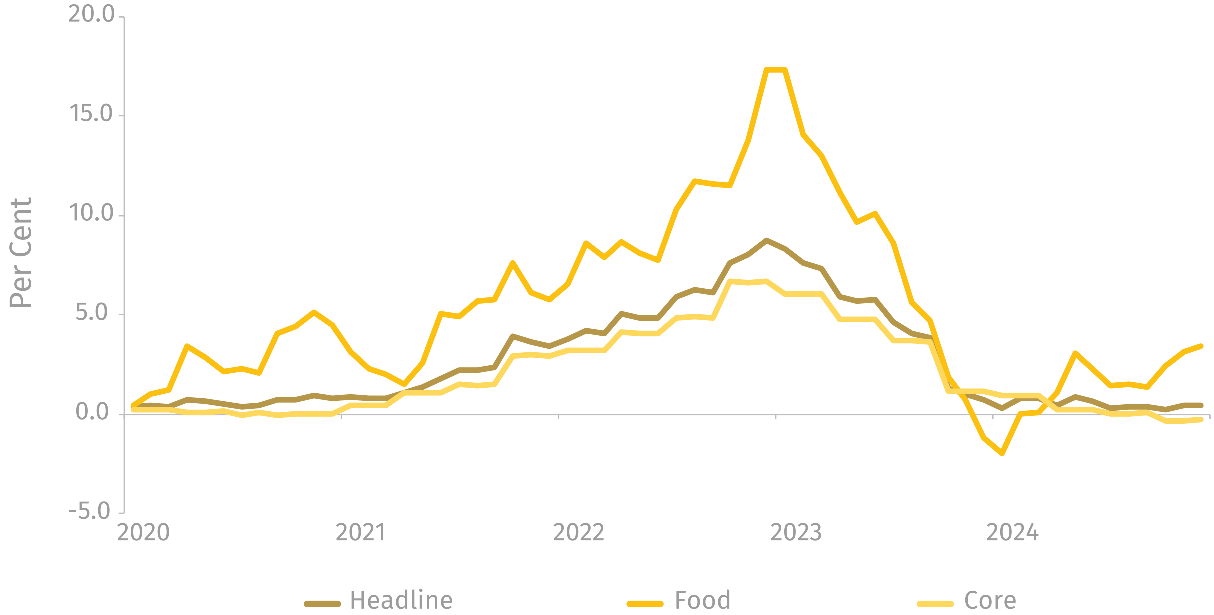

Source: Central Statistical Office

1 Effective January 2024, the Central Statistical Office (CSO) renamed the Index of Retail Prices (RPI) to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in an effort to maintain consistency with international terminology.

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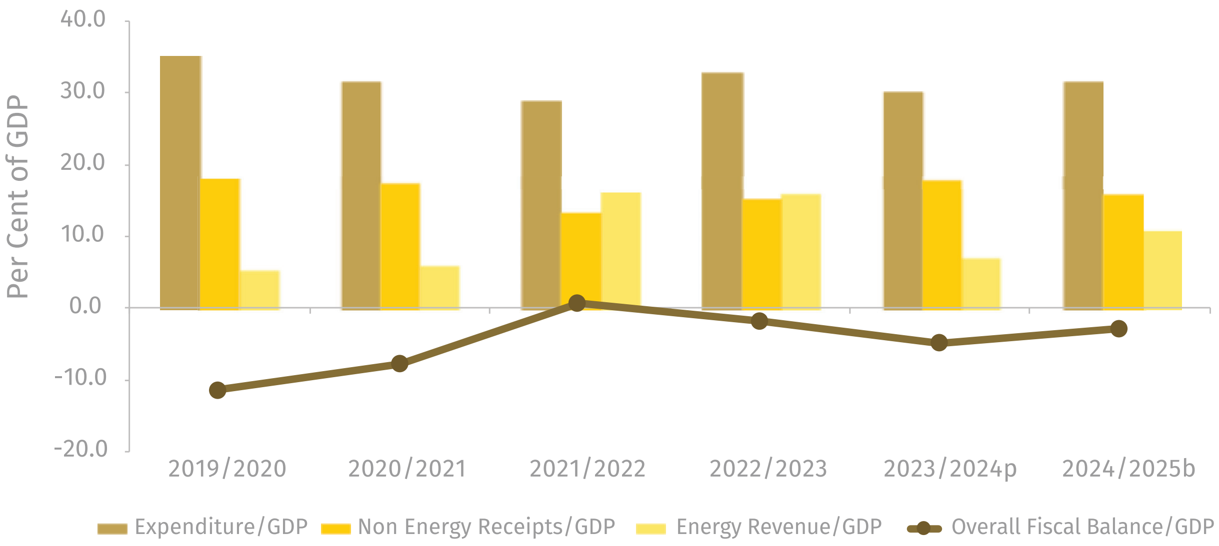

Source: Ministry of Finance
1 GDP data used for ratios to GDP prior to FY2024 are sourced from the CSO; data for FY2024 are Central Bank estimates while data for FY2025 are based on budgeted estimates from the Ministry of Finance.
p Provisional.
b Budgeted.

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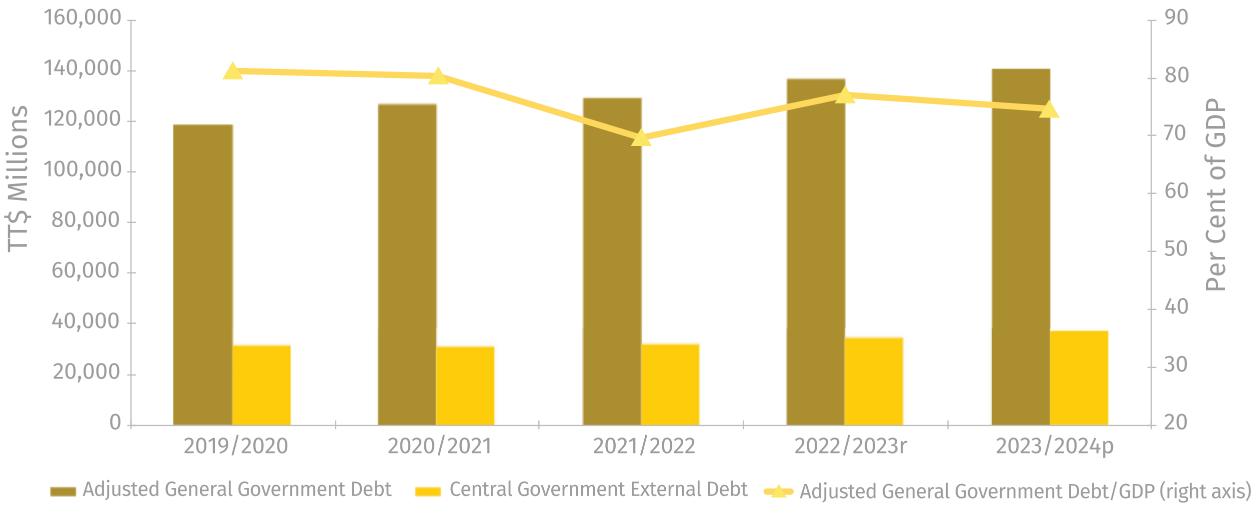

Sources: Ministry of Finance and Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago
NOTE: Adjusted General Government debt excludes all sterilised debt (OMO Bills, Treasury Notes and Treasury Bonds).
r Revised.
p Provisional.

CHARTS ON SELECTED ECONOMIC INDICATORS (CONTINUED)

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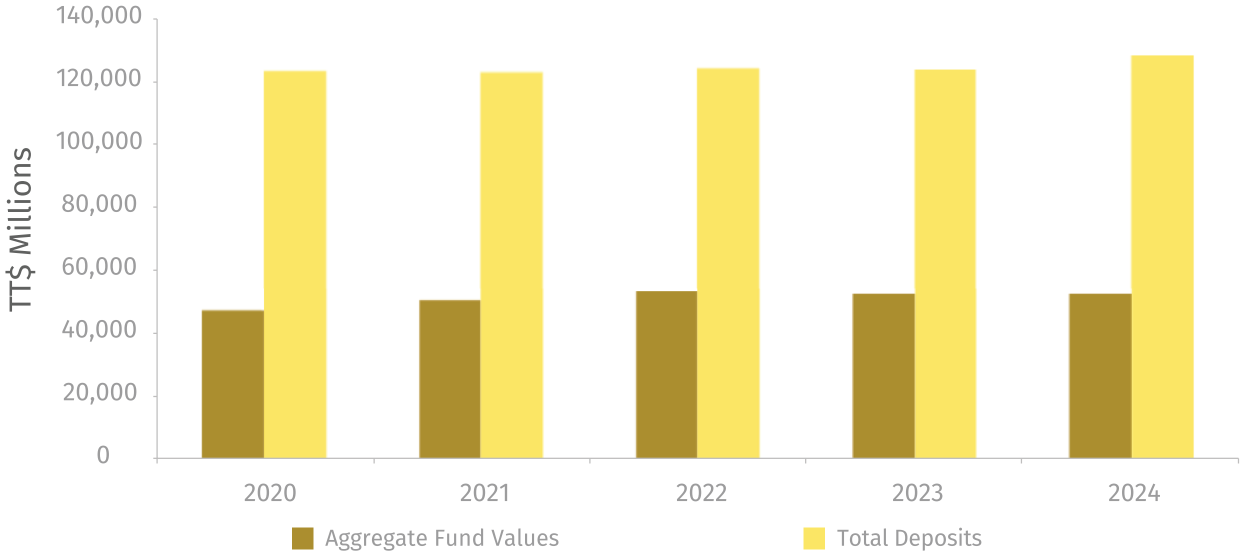

Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

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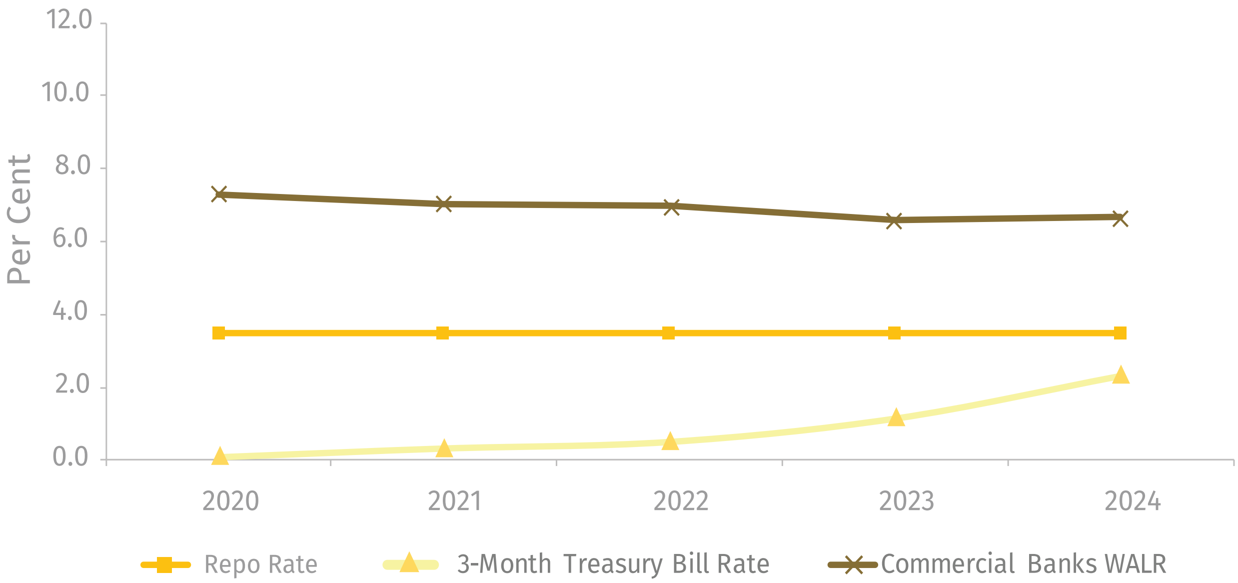

Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

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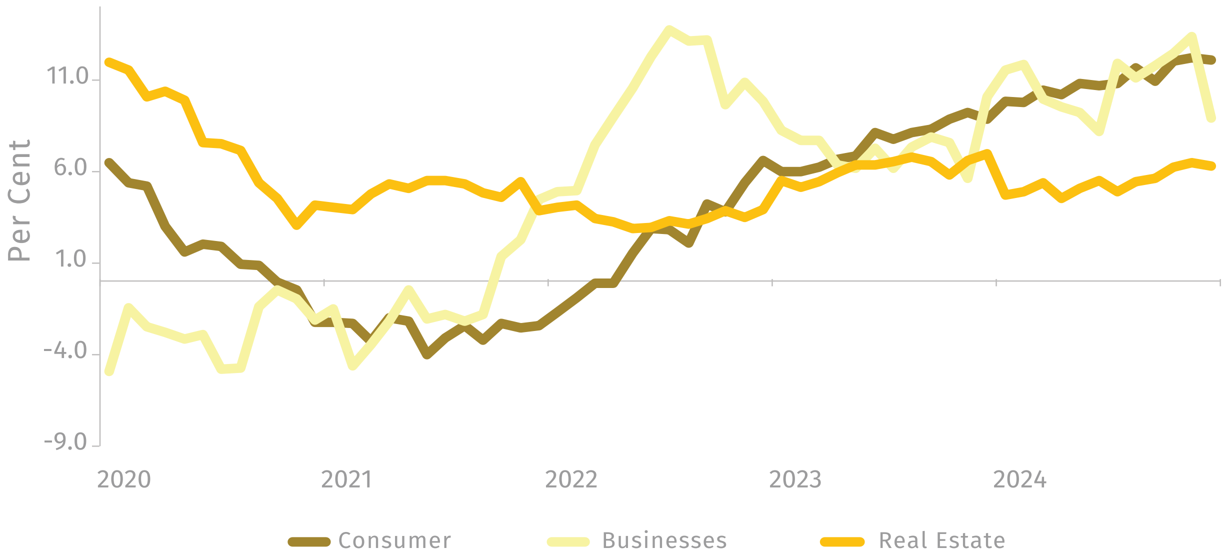

Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

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Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

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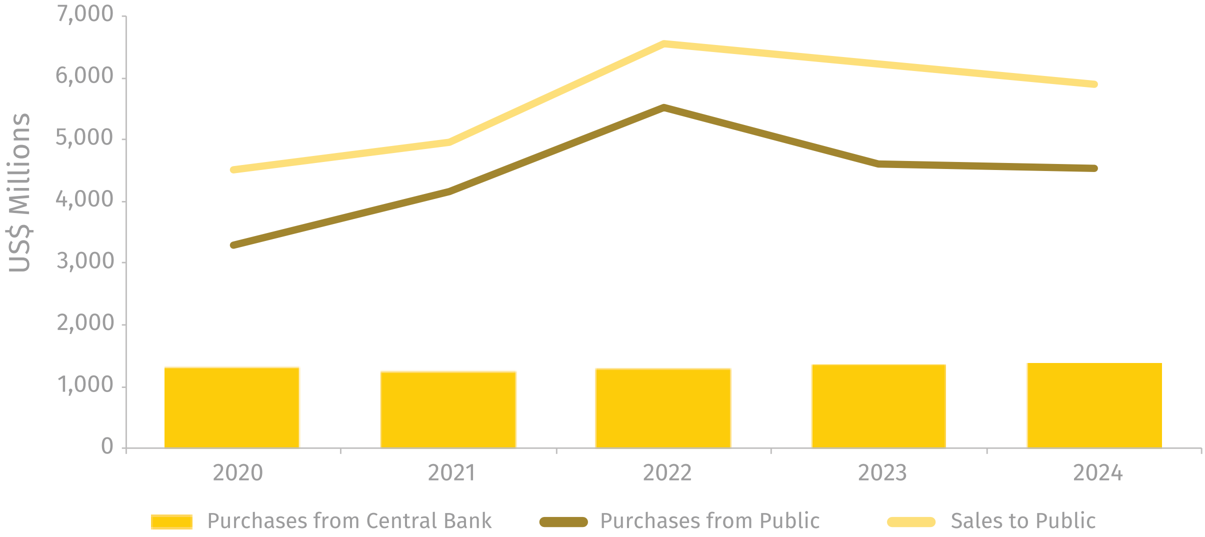

Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

CHART 12

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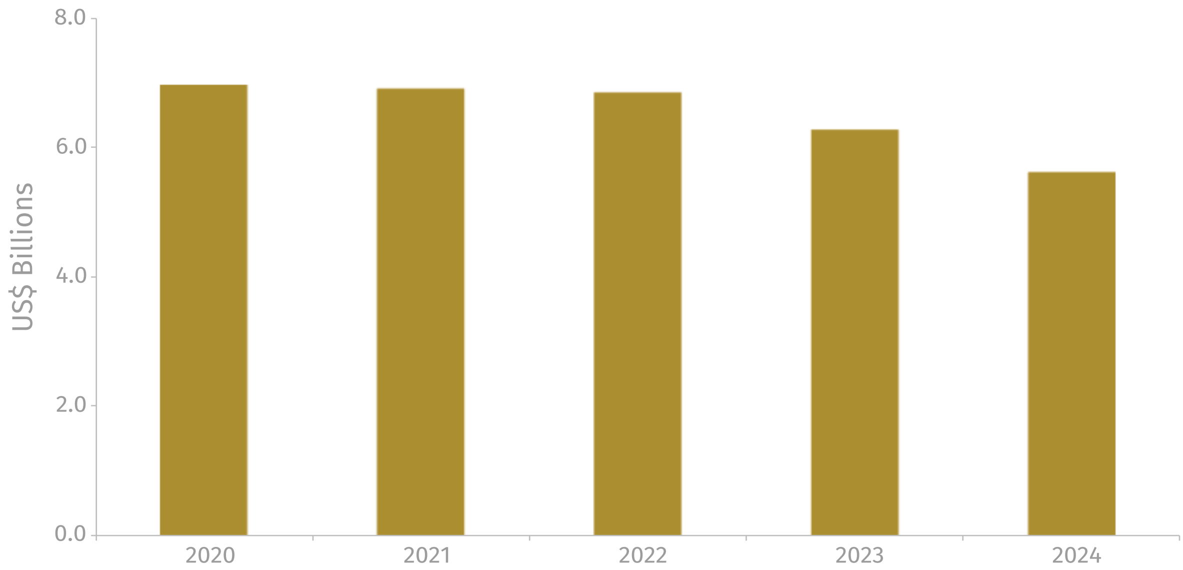

Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

CHARTS ON SELECTED ECONOMIC INDICATORS (CONTINUED)

CHART 13
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MARCH 2020
Repo rate decreased to 3.50 per cent

DECEMBER 2024
Repo rate maintained at 3.50 per cent

Liquidity Management Measures

March 2020
The primary reserve requirement on commercial bank deposits was decreased by 3.00 per cent to 14.00 per cent.

December 2023
The primary reserve requirement on commercial bank deposits maintained at 14.00 per cent.

July 2024
The primary reserve requirement on commercial bank deposits was decreased by 4.00 per cent to 10.00 per cent

Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

CHAPTER 1

Overview of Economic Conditions

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS IN 2024

Global economic activity was mixed in 2024. Factors such as persistent inflationary pressures, geopolitical conflicts and adverse weather events were major concerns for some of the world's larger economies. The International Monetary Fund (IMF), in its April 2025 World Economic Outlook (WEO), estimated that global output expanded by 3.3 per cent in 2024, compared to 3.5 per cent the previous year. This outturn was largely driven by growth in Emerging Market and Developing Economies (EMDEs) of 4.3 per cent compared to Advanced Economies (AEs) which expanded by a modest 1.8 per cent. Despite geopolitical tensions in the Middle East and Central Asia, and inflationary pressures emanating from services, most countries had some success steering inflation rates towards their implicit or explicit targets. Global headline inflation was expected to decelerate to 5.8 per cent in 2024, down from 6.7 per cent one year earlier. It is against this backdrop that most central banks eased their monetary policy stance.

The year 2024 saw moderate growth levels as some economies still grappled with elevated inflation. Real GDP in the United States (US) reached 2.8 per cent in 2024, driven by strong domestic consumption. Meanwhile, economic growth in the Euro area and the United Kingdom (UK) remained sluggish, measuring 0.9 per cent and 1.1 per cent, respectively for 2024. Favourable growth rates in China (5.0 per cent) and India (6.5 per cent) buttressed the economic performance of EMDEs. Regionally, growth in the Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) region remained moderately positive, supported by improvements in private consumption, easing monetary policies and stronger export growth in some of the region's economies.

Domestically, positive economic growth was sustained during the first nine months of 2024, but the expansion was relatively modest. Data from the Central Statistical Office (CSO) showed that real GDP improved by 0.3 per cent (year-on-year) in the first three quarters of 2024 **(Table 1)**. Activity in the energy sector fell by 1.5 per cent (year-on-year) over the nine-month period, given the reduced output of several commodities. These included crude oil, natural gas, liquefied natural gas (LNG) and petrochemicals. Meanwhile, the non-energy sector grew by 1.0 per cent supported by positive performance of several sub-sectors, including Transport and Storage, Manufacturing (excluding Refining and Petrochemical output), Financial and Insurance Activities, and Wholesale and Retail Trade (excluding Energy). Indicators monitored by the Central Bank suggest expansions in both energy and non-energy sector activity over the fourth quarter of 2024.

Labour market conditions softened in 2024 as indicated by an uptick in the unemployment rate. The unemployment rate increased to 5.0 per cent in 2024 compared to 4.0 per cent in the previous year. Job losses occurred in the Construction (including Electricity and Water), Wholesale and Retail Trade, and Restaurants and Hotels, Community, Social and Personal Services and Manufacturing (including Mining and Quarrying) sectors. The number of persons retrenched in 2024 was 211 persons, 256 persons less than in 2023. The placement of job advertisements in the print media increased by 3.4 per cent in 2024, suggesting an ongoing active demand for labour.

Inflationary pressures continued to wane in 2024. During 2024, headline inflation slowed to 0.5 per cent from 4.6 per cent in 2023, owing to declines in both food and core inflation. Food inflation decreased to 1.5 per cent in 2024 compared to 7.7 per cent in 2023, underpinned by lower international food prices and increased local supply of produce. Core inflation receded to 0.2 per cent in 2024 from 3.9 per cent one year earlier.

Softer energy prices coupled with declining domestic energy production contributed to a much higher fiscal deficit than budgeted for the fiscal year (FY) ended September 2024. The provisional outturn from the Ministry of Finance indicates that the Central Government fiscal accounts recorded a deficit of $9.1 billion in FY2023/24, compared to an initially budgeted deficit of $5.2 billion and a deficit of $3.2 billion in FY2022/23. Central Government revenues were severely impacted by a large falloff in energy revenues which outpaced a pickup in non-energy receipts. The deficit was financed through domestic and external borrowings along with withdrawals from the Heritage and Stabilisation Fund (HSF). Adjusted General Government debt outstanding grew to $140.6 billion at the end of September 2024, $4.1 billion more than in September 2023.

On the monetary policy front, tighter financial system liquidity conditions in the first half of 2024 precipitated a reduction in the reserve requirement. The Central Bank maintained the repo rate at 3.50 per cent throughout 2024. Continued Government borrowing, as well as a sustained pickup in credit to the private sector led to tightened liquidity conditions in mid-2024. In response, at a special meeting on July 19, 2024 the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) lowered the reserve requirement from 14.0 per cent of prescribed liabilities to 10.0 per cent. This led to an injection of $4.0 billion into the banking system which immediately boosted excess liquidity levels. Over the period August to December 2024, excess liquidity climbed to a monthly average of $6.3 billion from $3.8 billion in the first seven months of the year. In addition, relatively tighter liquidity conditions in the first half of 2024 primarily influenced an increase in commercial bank rates by December 2024. Meanwhile, conditions in the local market for foreign currency remained relatively tight.

In the first nine months of 2024, Trinidad and Tobago's external current account recorded a smaller surplus of US$1.3 billion when compared to the similar period in 2023. The performance was largely due to a reduction in the net goods trading position, in the context of reduced energy export earnings and a simultaneous increase in imports. The financial account recorded a net outflow, mainly on account of movements in direct investment, while there were inflows of US$750.0 million from the proceeds of an international bond and drawdowns from the HSF of US$369.9 million. At the end of December 2024, gross official reserves amounted to US$5,604.3 million, US$653.6 million lower when compared to the end of December 2023. This represented approximately 8.0 months of import cover.

TABLE 1
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO SELECTED ECONOMIC INDICATORS

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024[p]
Real GDP Growth (%) (2012 = 100)[1]	-8.9	-0.9	1.1	1.4	0.3*
Energy Sector	-13.1	-2.9	-0.6	-5.4	-1.5*
Non-Energy Sector	-7.7	-1.1	5.0	2.5	1.0*
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	30.9	-15.9	-13.2	-5.8	-2.1*
Trade and Repairs	-11.6	-9.3	5.8	10.8	1.2*
Construction	-12.8	8.8	3.7	-6.4	-8.9*
Financial and Insurance Activities	-2.0	5.0	-3.3	-0.2	2.6*
Inflation Rate (%)[2]					
(period average)	0.6	2.1	5.8	4.6	0.5
(end of period)	0.8	3.5	8.7	0.7	0.5
Unemployment Rate (%)[3]	5.7	5.4	4.9	4.0	5.0
(Per Cent of GDP)[4]					
Overall Central Government Operations Surplus(+)/Deficit(-), (end of fiscal year)	-11.4	-7.8	0.7	-1.8	-4.8
Adjusted General Government Debt, (end of fiscal year)[5]	81.2	80.3	69.6	77.1	74.7
Central Government External Debt, (end of fiscal year)	21.6	19.7	17.3	19.5	19.5
Balance of Payments Current Account Balance Surplus(+)/Deficit(-)	-6.5	10.9	18.4	13.3	6.1*
Memorandum Items:					
Central Government External Debt in US$Mn (end of fiscal year)	4,707.3	4,659.5	4,792.7	5,144.9	5,506.0
Debt Service Ratio (fiscal year; %)[6]	9.7	3.3	1.8	5.0	7.2
West Texas Intermediate (US$/barrel, annual average)	39.3	68.0	94.4	77.7	75.8
National Balancing Point (US$/mmbtu, annual average)	3.2	16.0	26.5	12.3	10.7
Japan Korea Marker (US$/mmbtu, annual average)	4.3	18.5	33.7	13.8	11.9
Net Official Reserves (US$ Mn)[7]	6,953.8	6,879.6	6,832.4	6,257.9	5,604.3

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 Consumer Price Index (CPI), January 2015 = 100. Effective January 2024, the Central Statistical Office (CSO) renamed the Index of Retail Prices (RPI) to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in an effort to maintain consistency with international terminology.

3 This represents the average of the four quarters.

4 GDP data used for ratios to GDP prior to FY2024 are sourced from the CSO; data for FY2024 is estimated by CBTT and FY2025 is based on budgeted estimates from the Ministry of Finance.

5 Includes the external and internal debt of the Central Government (net of sterilised debt), as well as non self-serviced guaranteed debt of public entities.

6 This is defined as the ratio of external Central Government debt service to exports of goods and non-factor services.

7 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 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 period January to September 2024.

p Provisional.

OUTLOOK FOR 2025

World output is expected to be significantly impacted by escalating trade tensions and policy uncertainty over the short-to-medium term. According to the IMF, in its April 2025 WEO, global growth is projected to expand by 2.8 per cent in 2025, well below the pre-pandemic average (2000 to 2019) of 3.7 per cent. Growth in the AEs and EMDEs is projected to slow to 1.4 per cent and 3.7 per cent, respectively. This slowdown in growth will be accompanied by considerable downgrades for countries most affected by recent trade measures, particularly China. Global headline inflation is forecasted to decline to 4.3 per cent in 2025, which may lead major central banks to cut rates further. Even so, downside risks to growth deepen. On-going conflicts in the Middle East and Russia-Ukraine could continue to hinder growth and stability in these regions. Planned expansionary fiscal policies by the new US administration, such as tax cuts could have positive spillover effects in the short term but interrupt the disinflationary process in the long term. Additionally, an intensification of protectionist policies has the potential to destabilise global trade volumes, encourage an escalation of retaliatory trade measures and fuel inflation. These factors can interrupt the disinflationary process, causing central banks to adopt a more cautious stance towards unwinding monetary policy.

Trinidad and Tobago's economy is expected to grow steadily against the backdrop of an increasingly uncertain global context. Lower gas supplies could, if the decline is unchecked, constrain the expansion of energy production, with spillovers on the fiscal position and reserve accumulation, while non-energy activity is anticipated to remain buoyant. Domestic demand pressures on headline inflation are expected to remain low, although widening trade tensions globally can result in higher imported inflation.

CHAPTER 2

Domestic Economic Activity

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

Indicators monitored by the Central Bank suggest that domestic economic activity expanded in 2024 as waning energy sector output was offset by the resilience of the non-energy sector. Data from the Central Statistical Office (CSO) showed an increase of 0.3 per cent (year-on-year) in real GDP during the first nine months of 2024 **(Table 2)**. Central Bank estimates suggest stronger activity in both the energy and non-energy sectors during the fourth quarter of 2024, underpinning the assessment of overall positive growth for 2024. This follows the positive performance of 2023, wherein real GDP expanded by 1.4 per cent.

Data from the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries (MEEI) suggests that the trend of decreasing energy sector output persisted in 2024, despite a surge in production in the second half of the year. Over the period, energy sector activity was adversely affected by declining upstream production. Reductions were reported in the production of both crude oil (-5.0 per cent) and natural gas (-1.6 per cent). Effects of lower natural gas production filtered through to the production of liquefied natural gas (LNG) which declined by 4.3 per cent in 2024. Activity in the Refining sub-sector remained relatively steady, supported by a sizable improvement in the production of natural gas liquids (NGLs) (15.0 per cent). Further downstream, an uptick in the output of nitrogenous fertilisers reflected a base effect given plant closures and maintenance efforts in 2023. Resultantly, ammonia and urea production improved by 4.1 per cent and 48.7 per cent, respectively. Activity in the Petrochemicals sub-sector was, however, hampered by a falloff in methanol production (-6.7 per cent) in 2024.

Estimates suggest that economic activity in the non-energy sector remained buoyant in 2024. Data from the CSO indicates that the non-energy sector expanded by 1.0 per cent (year-on-year) over the first nine months of 2024. This reflected positive growth in several sectors. Notable among these were Manufacturing (excluding Refining and Petrochemicals) (12.9 per cent); Financial and Insurance Activities (2.6 per cent); and Wholesale and Retail Trade (excluding Energy) (1.2 per cent). Positive growth in these sectors outweighed a reduction in the Construction sector (-8.9 per cent). Indicators monitored by the Central Bank suggest that the positive non-energy sector performance extended into the fourth quarter of 2024. On a sectoral basis, estimates point to heightened activity in the Construction, Financial and Insurance Activities, Wholesale and Retail Trade (excluding Energy) and Agriculture sectors. Conversely, activity in the Electricity and Water (excluding Gas) and Transportation and Storage sectors declined in the fourth quarter of 2024. In the case of the former, reductions stemmed from a falloff in water supply, which outweighed improved power generation during the period.

Despite improvements in capacity utilisation, manufacturers continued to operate with spare capacity, producing at 70.8 per cent of their capacity in 2024 (Table 3). This compares to 67.8 per cent for the previous year. Improvements were noted in the Textiles, Clothing, Leather, Wood, Paper and Printing, and Food, Beverages and Tobacco Products sub-sectors. Meanwhile, the Chemical Products and Other Manufactured Products sub-sectors recorded declines.

TABLE 2
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT AT CONSTANT 2012 PRICES
/ PER CENT CHANGE /

	2020	2021	2022	2023	Jan to Sep 2024^{p}
GDP	**-8.9**	**-0.9**	**1.1**	**1.4**	**0.3**
Energy	**-13.1**	**-2.9**	**-0.6**	**-5.4**	**-1.5**
Non-Energy	**-7.7**	**-1.1**	**5.0**	**2.5**	**1.0**
Construction	-12.8	8.8	3.7	-6.4	-8.9
Wholesale and Retail Trade (Exc. Energy)	-11.6	-9.3	5.8	10.8	1.2
Manufacturing (Exc. Refining and Petrochemical)	-7.5	9.1	18.3	-0.7	12.9
Financial and Insurance Activities	-2.0	5.0	-3.3	-0.2	2.6

Source: Central Statistical Office

Note: Annual GDP are compiled at Purchaser Prices; Quarterly GDP at Basic Prices.

p Provisional.

TABLE 3
MANUFACTURING SECTOR CAPACITY UTILISATION RATE

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Manufacturing	**63.6**	**62.4**	**61.9**	**67.8**	**70.8**
Food, Beverages and Tobacco Products	69.9	67.4	68.0	77.3	77.9
Textiles, Clothing, Leather, Wood, Paper and Printing	55.4	56.6	53.4	59.0	72.8
Chemical Products	54.6	55.7	54.7	55.9	53.7
Other Manufactured Products	70.0	64.8	66.3	67.1	65.7

Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

CHAPTER 3

Labour Market

UNEMPLOYMENT

Official labour market statistics from the CSO indicate that the unemployment rate increased to 5.0 per cent in 2024 (Table 4), higher than the 4.0 per cent recorded in 2023. The labour force contracted by 7.1 thousand persons **(Chart 3)** as the number of persons with jobs fell by 12.7 thousand persons, while the number of persons unemployed (persons without jobs and actively seeking employment) increased by 5.5 thousand persons. Consequently, the labour force participation rate[1] declined to 55.1 per cent in 2024, from 55.6 per cent recorded in 2023.

Labour market conditions were mixed at the sectoral level. Over the course of the year, job losses occurred in the Wholesale and Retail Trade and Restaurants and Hotels (6.5 thousand jobs), Construction (including Electricity and Water) (5.3 thousand jobs), Manufacturing (including Mining and Quarrying) (2.8 thousand jobs), Community, Social and Personal Services (2.1 thousand jobs), and Transportation and Storage (1.3 thousand jobs) sectors **(Table 5)**. Conversely, increases in the number of persons employed were observed in the Financing, Insurance, Real Estate and Business Services (2.6 thousand jobs) Agriculture (2.1 thousand jobs), and Petroleum and Gas (0.8 thousand jobs) sectors.

In terms of gender, the female unemployment rate averaged 5.4 per cent in 2024, up from 4.6 per cent recorded a year earlier. Similarly, the male unemployment rate also increased, to an average of 4.6 per cent compared to 3.5 percent in 2023. The female labour force participation rate rose to 47.7 per cent (from 47.1 per cent in 2023), while the male labour force participation rate declined to 62.9 percent (from 64.6 per cent in 2023). The youth unemployment[2] rate increased to 14.1 per cent during 2024 (from 9.8 per cent a year earlier) - disproportionately higher than the national average.

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

[2] Persons aged 15-24 years old.

Notwithstanding the increase in unemployment, retrenchments declined in 2024. For the period January to December 2024, retrenchment notices[3] filed at the Ministry of Labour indicated that 211 persons were retrenched, compared to 467 persons during 2023. In 2024 reported job separations occurred in the Manufacturing (92 persons), Distribution (74 persons), Petroleum and Other Mining (18 persons), Finance, Insurance and Real Estate (15 persons), Transport, Communication and Storage (9 persons), and Construction (3 persons) sectors. Conversely, the daily average job advertisements published in the print media[4] increased by 3.4 per cent in 2024, reflecting improved labour demand conditions.

[3] 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 the Minister of Labour". 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 households via 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.

[4] This indicator is constructed by the Central Bank using the number of employment vacancies (in both the main pages and the classifieds) advertised in the Daily Express, Newsday and Guardian newspapers.

TABLE 4
LABOUR STATISTICS, 2019-2024[1]
/ THOUSANDS /

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Non-Institutional Population						
- 15 years and over	1,076.4	1,079.7	1,080.2	1,080.7	1,083.7	1,081.8
Labour Force	617.3	603.8	592.2	594.6	602.8	595.7
Persons with Jobs	591.1	569.8	560.4	565.3	578.8	566.2
Persons without Jobs	26.3	34.1	31.8	29.3	24.0	29.5
Participation Rate (%)	57.4	55.9	54.8	55.0	55.6	55.1
Male	66.1	64.8	63.1	62.7	64.6	62.9
Female	48.4	47.2	46.8	47.6	47.1	47.7
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.3	5.7	5.4	4.9	4.0	5.0
Male	3.7	5.4	4.8	4.4	3.5	4.6
Female	5.0	6.0	6.1	5.6	4.6	5.4

Source: Central Statistical Office

1 Numbers may not sum due to rounding.

TABLE 5
THE SECTORAL DISTRIBUTION OF EMPLOYMENT[1]

	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023		2024	
	(000 s)	%	(000 s)	%	(000 s)	%	(000 s)	%	(000 s)	%	(000 s)	%
Agriculture	20.3	3.4	28.1	4.9	26.8	4.8	21.9	3.9	22.6	3.9	24.6	4.3
Petroleum and Gas	11.3	1.9	12.8	2.2	12.1	2.2	9.8	1.7	10.3	1.8	11.1	2.0
Manufacturing (including Mining and Quarrying)	44.9	7.6	35.9	6.3	40.8	7.3	39.6	7.0	41.6	7.2	38.8	6.9
Construction (including Electricity and Water)	83.2	14.1	69.9	12.3	68.7	12.3	72.7	12.9	75.3	13.0	69.9	12.3
Transport, Storage and Communications	37.5	6.3	35.4	6.2	33.1	5.9	34.8	6.1	33.4	5.8	32.1	5.7
Other Services	393.9	66.6	387.7	68.0	379.0	67.6	386.8	68.4	395.7	68.4	389.7	68.8
Of which:												
Wholesale and Retail	*111.6*	*18.9*	*111.2*	*19.5*	*104.7*	*18.7*	*106.0*	*18.8*	*117.1*	*20.2*	*110.6*	*19.5*
Community, Social and Personal Services	*212.4*	*35.9*	*212.6*	*37.3*	*207.6*	*37.1*	*215.1*	*38.1*	*216.2*	*37.4*	*214.2*	*37.8*
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	*64.8*	*11.0*	*60.1*	*10.6*	*63.4*	*11.3*	*62.0*	*11.0*	*58.1*	*10.0*	*60.7*	*10.7*
Not Classified	*5.3*	*0.9*	*3.8*	*0.7*	*3.3*	*0.6*	*3.6*	*0.6*	*4.3*	*0.7*	*4.3*	*0.8*
Total Employment	**591.1**	**100.0**	**569.8**	**100.0**	**560.4**	**100.0**	**565.3**	**100.0**	**578.8**	**100.0**	**566.2**	**100.0**

Source: Central Statistical Office

1 Numbers may not sum due to rounding.

LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY

During 2024, labour productivity improved (93.4 per cent) reflecting higher levels of domestic production (99.1 per cent) alongside a marginal decline in 'man-hours[5]' worked (-0.7 per cent). Excluding the energy sector, the Index of Productivity increased by 105.0 per cent in 2024. Production in the non-energy sector, as measured by the Index of Domestic Production increased by 102.8 per cent while the Index of Hours Worked fell by 1.2 per cent **(Appendix Table A.8 and A.9)**. Notable production increases were recorded in the Assembly-type and Related Products[6] (121.3 per cent) industry, fuelled by a rise in metal furniture (122.5 per cent). Further increases were noted in the Food Processing industry (96.2 per cent) which was attributed to a pick-up in the processed fruit and vegetables category (101.8 per cent), and in the Drink and Tobacco (17.6 per cent) industry. However, reduced output was noted in the Water (-5.0 per cent) and Textiles, Garments and Footwear (-2.3 per cent) industries. A decline in hours worked was noted in the Drink and Tobacco (-12.5 per cent), Miscellaneous Manufacturing (-9.5 per cent), Chemicals (-6.7 per cent) and Printing, Publishing and Paper Converters (-6.2 per cent) industries.

In the energy sector, lower productivity in the upstream industry (-14.8 per cent) was offset by productivity increases in the midstream (16.4 per cent) and downstream (11.0 per cent) industries. During 2024, the Index of Domestic Production recorded a decline of 6.2 per cent in the Exploration and Production of Oil and Natural Gas industries while 'man-hours' worked increased by 10.1 per cent. Natural Gas Refining output increased by 16.3 per cent with no change in 'man-hours' worked. Within the Petrochemicals industry, production grew by 15.1 per cent, as urea and ammonia output increased by 48.7 per cent and 9.4 per cent, respectively. Meanwhile, methanol production fell by 2.3 per cent **(Appendix Table A.9)**. Hours worked in the Petrochemicals industry increased by 3.7 per cent during 2024.

SECTORAL WAGES

Wage growth was modest in 2024. Data on collective bargaining agreements registered with the Industrial Court showed a median yearly wage increase of 2.5 per cent for 2024, up from 2.3 per cent in 2023, and 2.0 per cent in 2022 and 2021. This moderate upward trend in wage growth witnessed in recent years may have been influenced by public sector wage settlements, which also

[5] Labour productivity is measured using the CSO's Index of Productivity. It is calculated as the ratio of the Index of Domestic Production to the Index of Hours worked, both of which are also published by the CSO. The Index of Domestic Production is a quarterly series of indices showing changes in the volume of production over time in various industries of the economy. Meanwhile, the Index of Hours worked, is based on surveyed companies' employment showing the weighted percentage change in hours worked in various industries. The notion of a "man-hour" comes from the International Labour Organisation's (ILO) minimum criterion for employment, where to be considered employed, one must have worked for at least one hour during the survey's reference period. This makes hours worked a standard unit of measurement in employment. Also ensuring that employment, unemployment and inactivity are mutually exclusive and exhaustive categories.

[6] The assembly-type and related products sub-industry comprises motor vehicle parts; batteries, mufflers and tyres; office machinery and electrical apparatus; ship boat building and repairs; metal building materials; iron, steel and related products; metal furniture; metal containers; and all other metal products. The production of metal furniture saw significant growth over the period 2022-2023, which continued into 2024, particularly for filing cabinets, cupboards, bookcases, lockers, chairs, tables, desks and credenzas.

tend to serve as a benchmark for private sector wage negotiations. In 2024, wage increases ranged from 1.0 per cent to 4.0 per cent, same as the range observed in 2023. Receiving the highest average wage increases in 2024 were the Transportation and Storage and Other services sectors, with increases of 3.8 per cent and 3.0 per cent, respectively. The smallest average increase (2.0 per cent) was registered in the Mining and Quarrying, Construction, and Information and Communication sectors **(Table 6)**.

Nominal wages increased in 2024, as reflected by the Index of Average Weekly Earnings (AWE)[7]. The overall AWE Index (which includes the energy sector) rose by 3.3 per cent during 2024. In the energy sector, earnings in the Petrochemicals sub-industry increased by 12.2 per cent, while earnings in the Exploration and Production of Oil and Gas sub-industry fell by 1.3 per cent over the period. In the non-energy sector, the AWE index increased by 2.7 per cent compared to 3.5 per cent in the same period of one year earlier. Growth in non-energy earnings was attributable to notable wage improvements in the Drink and Tobacco (6.7 per cent), Water (6.5 per cent), Miscellaneous Manufacturing (6.3 per cent), Printing, Publishing and Paper Converters (3.3 per cent), and Assembly-Type and Related Products (3.1 per cent) industries **(Appendix Table A.10)**. Lower earnings were however recorded in the Wood and Related Products (-17.3 per cent), Chemicals (-9.5 per cent), Textiles, Garments and Footwear (-6.8 per cent) industries.

TABLE 6

WAGE AGREEMENTS REGISTERED FOR 2024

Sector	No. of Agreements Analysed	Duration of Agreements	Range of Yearly Increases for 2024	Average Wage Increase for 2024	Median Wage Increase for Agreements Analysed
Financial and Insurance	10	2020-2026	1.00-4.00	2.4	2.5
Manufacturing	10	2019-2025	2.00-4.00	2.5	
Mining and Quarrying	2	2021-2024	2.00	2.0	
Trade and Repairs	8	2021-2027	1.00-3.00	2.5	
Transport and Storage	2	2021-2024	3.50-4.00	3.8	
Construction	2	2021-2026	1.00-2.00	2.0	
Information and Communication	1	2023-2027	2.00	2.0	
Other Services	1	2024-2026	3.00	3.0	

Source: Industrial Court of Trinidad and Tobago

[7] The Index of Average Weekly Earnings, computed by the CSO, is based on surveyed companies' employment and wage bill. The average of weekly earnings is calculated as the earnings (total amount paid to employees) divided by the number of employees.

CHAPTER 4

Prices

CONSUMER PRICE INFLATION

Inflationary pressures continued to retreat in 2024, underpinned by lower international food prices and increased availability of local agricultural produce. During 2024, headline inflation slowed to an average of 0.5 per cent, down from 4.6 per cent recorded in 2023 **(Table 7)**. The deceleration in headline inflation was broad-based, occurring across various administrative areas **(Figure1)**. Food inflation decelerated to an average of 1.5 per cent in 2024 compared to 7.7 per cent in 2023. Meanwhile, core inflation slowed to 0.2 per cent in 2024 from an average of 3.9 per cent one year prior.

The continual decline (though smaller than the previous year) in international food prices[8] coupled with the increased availability of local produce, underpinned the slowdown in domestic food prices. Over the twelve months, disinflation in several categories of food, including; Milk, Cheese and Eggs, Vegetables, Non-Alcoholic Beverages, and Fruits as well as price declines in the Fish, Bread and Cereals and Oils and Fats sub-indices were recorded. There were price decelerations for: Milk, Cheese and Eggs (0.9 per cent in 2024 from 8.3 per cent in 2023); Vegetables (4.5 per cent from 10.4 per cent in 2023); Non-Alcoholic Beverages (4.5 per cent from 12.0 per cent in 2023); and Fruits (0.4 per cent from 7.3 per cent in 2023). The slower movement in these indices were attributed to adequate supplies as well as lower international prices. The Fish sub-index recorded faster price declines (-1.1 per cent in 2024 compared to -0.2 per cent in 2023) possibly due to less seasonal variation in availability and some decline in demand. Notably, the Bread and Cereals and the Oils and Fats sub-indices recorded price declines due to a combination of lower prices and ample supply[9].

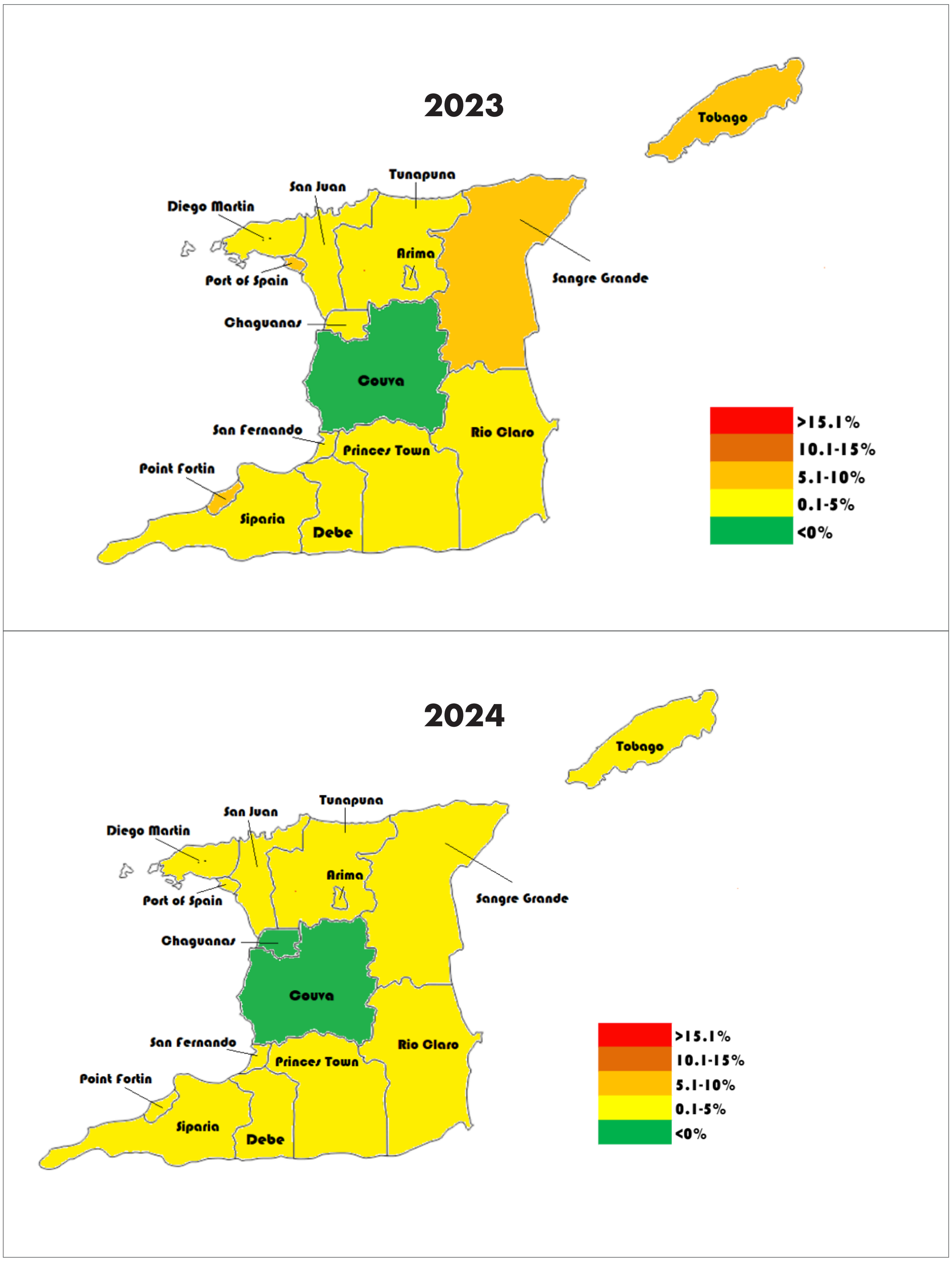
Core inflation, which excludes food items, measured 0.2 per cent in 2024 - down from an average of 3.9 per cent in 2023. The slowdown in core inflation reflected price declines in several sub-indices, particularly: Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels; Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance; Transport and Recreation and Culture. Notably, weaker prices in a few of the housing sub-components (mainly imputed rent on homeownership, general carpentry and repairs and plumbing repairs and replacement) influenced the decline in the Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels sub-index (-1.3 per cent in 2024 compared to 0.5 per cent in 2023). Similarly, the Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance sub-index decreased to -2.7 per cent (compared to 3.7 per cent in 2023), reflecting reduced

[8] International food prices, as measured by the United Nations FPPI, fell by 2.1 per cent in 2024 compared to 13.8 per cent in 2023.

[9] On May 10, 2024, Nutrimix announced that the prices for some of its brands of flour would be reduced, ranging from 5.0 –17.0 per cent.

prices for living room furniture, bedroom furniture, carpets and other coverings, and small electrical appliances. Weaker prices were also recorded in the Transport (-0.4 per cent compared to 8.1 per cent in 2023) and Recreation and Culture (-0.8 per cent from 9.8 per cent in 2023) sub-indices. Softer prices for the purchase of foreign used vehicles accounted for the decline in the Transport category and lower prices for sporting equipment accounted for the decrease in the Recreation and Culture sub-index. A faster price decline was observed for the Clothing and Footwear sub-index (-2.1 per cent in 2024 from -1.4 per cent in 2023) due to cheaper prices for ready-made clothing.

FIGURE 1
THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX ACROSS ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS
/ ANNUAL PER CENT CHANGE /



Green reflects an inflation rate that is less than or equal to 0.0 per cent,
yellow reflects an inflation rate between 0.1 and 5.0 per cent,
light orange reflects an inflation rate between 5.1 per cent and 10.0 per cent,
dark orange reflects an inflation rate between 10.1 per cent and 15.0 per cent,
red reflects an inflation rate greater than 15.1 per cent.

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

TABLE 7

ANNUAL AVERAGE MOVEMENT OF SELECTED CATEGORIES OF THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

/ PER CENT CHANGE /

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Headline Inflation	**0.6**	**2.1**	**5.8**	**4.6**	**0.5**
Food Inflation	**2.8**	**4.4**	**10.4**	**7.7**	**1.5**
Fish	6.0	4.4	7.8	-0.2	-1.1
Food Products NEC	4.2	5.2	11.7	15.4	1.9
Meat	3.5	5.7	12.4	0.4	1.8
Milk, Cheese and Eggs	2.0	3.4	6.9	8.3	0.9
Vegetables	4.3	5.8	11.3	10.4	4.5
Bread and Cereals	1.1	2.9	13.1	8.1	-1.0
Sugar, Jam, Confectionery, etc.	1.2	4.7	5.1	6.8	7.6
Non-Alcoholic Beverages	1.6	1.2	5.6	12.0	4.5
Oils and Fats	2.4	6.7	13.8	13.7	-4.2
Fruits	1.3	6.1	8.6	7.3	0.4
Core Inflation	**0.1**	**1.5**	**4.7**	**3.9**	**0.2**
Communication	-0.1	0.2	2.4	1.7	7.2
Education	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Miscellaneous Goods and Other Services	1.0	-0.1	3.0	6.1	2.0
Hotels, Cafes and Restaurants	1.8	0.9	5.5	8.1	3.0
Health	2.7	2.9	2.2	3.6	6.4
Transport	-1.0	1.8	7.9	8.1	-0.4
Recreation and Culture	-0.5	0.2	0.5	9.8	-0.8
Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	2.4	3.2	2.4	3.6	3.7
Clothing and Footwear	-3.8	-2.8	0.5	-1.4	-2.1
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	0.5	3.2	6.0	0.5	-1.3
Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Maintenance	0.7	0.8	6.2	3.7	-2.7

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

PRODUCERS' PRICES

Producers' prices, though increasing, were significantly lower when compared to 2023. The Index of Producers' Prices rose by 0.2 per cent during the first three quarters of 2024, compared with an increase of 3.4 per cent in the similar period of 2023 **(Appendix Table A.13)**. Lower price increases were observed in most of the categories. The Printing, Publishing and Paper Converters category was flat in the first three quarters of 2024 compared to 17.5 per cent over the same period one year earlier. Weaker price hikes were also observed for the Drink and Tobacco (0.9 per cent compared to 5.3 per cent in 2023) and Chemical and Non-Metallic Products (0.2 per cent compared to 7.1 per cent in 2023) industries. Further, price declines were reported for Wood products (-0.8 per cent compared to a flat position in 2023) and Assembly-type and Related industries (-0.1 per cent from 0.1 per cent in 2023). The Food Processing category registered a smaller price decline (-0.5 per cent from -1.3 per cent in 2023) as a result of upticks in the processing of meat, poultry and fish. The Textiles, Garments and Footwear category remained unchanged over the period.

BUILDING MATERIAL PRICES

During 2024, building material prices increased. The CSO's Index of Retail Prices of Building Materials (BMI) rose by 2.5 per cent in 2024 compared to 0.1 per cent in 2023. Higher prices were recorded in several categories including the Site Preparation, Structure and Concrete Frame (6.8 per cent in 2024 compared to -1.8 per cent in 2023), Walls and Roofs (1.8 per cent compared to -0.9 per cent in 2023) – possibly bolstered by higher cement prices and Electrical (5.1 per cent compared to 4.7 per cent in 2023) sub-indices. Moreover, the Finishing, Joinery Units registered a flat position in 2024 compared to a decline (-1.7 per cent) in 2023. All other sub-indices of the BMI registered price declines, namely Plumbing and Plumbing Fixtures (-5.5 per cent compared to 6.7 per cent in 2023) and Windows, Doors and Balustrading (-0.6 per cent compared to -0.3 per cent in 2023).

CHAPTER 5

Public Finance and Debt

FISCAL OPERATIONS

The Central Government accounts recorded an overall deficit of $9.1 billion in FY2023/24. This compares with an initially budgeted deficit of $5.2 billion and a deficit of $3.2 billion in FY2022/23 **(Table 8)**. Lower energy receipts led to a less favourable fiscal outturn when compared to the previous fiscal year. Meanwhile, consistent with improvements in non-energy revenue, the non-energy fiscal deficit[10] narrowed to $22.5 billion in FY2023/24 from $31.0 billion in FY2022/23 **(Table 9)**. The Central Government financed the fiscal deficit for FY2023/24 from a combination of domestic and external borrowings and withdrawals from the HSF in the amount of $2.5 billion (equivalent to US$369.9 million).

Central Government revenue amounted to $47.4 billion in FY2023/24, $7.3 billion lower than the previous fiscal year due to a falloff in energy revenue. Over the year, energy revenue fell by 51.9 per cent ($14.4 billion) to $13.4 billion because of lower natural gas output and energy commodity prices[11]. Energy tax revenues (which include Supplemental Petroleum Tax and Petroleum Profits Tax), representing 75.5 per cent of total energy sector revenue, were lower by $8.1 billion **(Table 10)**. Similarly, non-tax energy revenue decreased by $6.3 billion as royalties on oil and gas and extraordinary revenue from oil and gas companies fell by $5.0 billion and $1.4 billion, respectively. By contrast, non-energy revenue grew by 23.2 per cent ($6.2 billion) to $32.9 billion. Taxes on goods and services, which comprise in the main Value Added Tax (VAT), supported the growth in non-energy revenue. Net VAT receipts grew to $9.3 billion (compared to $6.5 billion in FY2022/23) primarily due to the lower payout of VAT refunds of $731.0 million (compared to $3.0 billion in FY2022/23). Non-tax revenue also rose by $2.7 billion to $5.7 billion,

[10] The non-energy fiscal balance provides an indication of a government's dependence on energy revenues to support its operations and is mostly used by countries that are heavily reliant on the energy sector. It is computed as the difference between total non-energy revenue and total expenditure. A positive number represents a surplus (non-energy revenue exceeds expenditure) implying that government expenditure can be financed entirely by revenue earned from the non-energy sector and is not wholly dependent on energy revenues. A negative number represents a deficit (non-energy revenue is less than total expenditure) implying that revenue from the non-energy sector is not enough to finance expenditure and there is a certain level of dependence on energy revenues. For energy-based economies like Trinidad and Tobago, the non-energy fiscal balance is a more reliable indicator of the health of the economy and its vulnerability to changes in energy prices.

[11] In FY2023/24 West Texas Intermediate (WTI), crude oil prices averaged US$77.83 per barrel, compared to US$78.76 per barrel in the previous fiscal year. National Balancing Point natural gas prices averaged US$10.70 per million British Thermal Units (mmbtu) in FY2023/24, compared to US$12.30 per mmbtu in FY2022/23 while Japan Korea Marker liquefied natural gas prices averaged US$11.90 per mmbtu compared to US$13.80 per mmbtu over the same period.

as profits from public financial institutions and Central Bank's net income increased to $2.5 billion and $1.6 billion, respectively. Meanwhile, proceeds from the sale of CLICO assets contributed to higher capital revenue of just over $1.0 billion in FY2023/24 from $158.9 million in the previous fiscal year.

Central government expenditure fell by $1.4 billion to $56.5 billion in FY2023/24, reflecting lower recurrent and capital spending. The shortfall in recurrent expenditure was due to lower transfers and subsidies and spending on goods and services which more than offset increases in wages and salaries and interest payments **(Table 11)**. The decline in transfers and subsidies of $2.8 billion was attributed to a falloff in transfers to households by $1.7 billion, owing to lower payments on the fuel subsidy by 69.0 per cent ($500.0 million). Spending on goods and services fell by $70.6 million to $6.0 billion due to lower spending on repairs and maintenance for buildings and motor vehicles and contract employment. Conversely, wages and salaries rose by $1.0 billion to $10.4 billion reflecting salary adjustments on account of the settlement of wage negotiations for several arms of the public service. Interest payments also grew by $564.8 million to $6.3 billion primarily due to the servicing costs associated with a higher stock of debt. This resulted in the ratio of interest payments to current revenue increasing to 13.7 per cent compared to 10.6 per cent in the previous fiscal year. Higher interest payment outlays could constrain funding available for other productive categories of expenditure. Meanwhile, spending on the capital programme fell by $130.8 million to $4.1 billion in FY2023/24. Some capital projects undertaken during the fiscal year included the construction and rehabilitation of roads and bridges, the restoration of public buildings and construction of the terminal for the ANR Robinson Airport and airfield renovation **(Table 12)**.

Budgeted estimates for FY2024/25 suggest a smaller fiscal deficit of $5.5 billion (2.9 per cent of GDP)[12]. Total revenue for FY2024/25 is projected to reach $54.2 billion, with energy revenue amounting to $20.3 billion, non-energy revenue totalling $30.0 billion and capital revenue estimated at $4.0 billion. Total expenditure is budgeted at $59.7 billion, of which $5.7 billion is capital expenditure. The revenue-expenditure gap is expected to be financed through funds sourced from the domestic capital market as well as available facilities from international institutions. Borrowings are expected to be tempered by strategic asset sales such as the divestment of the Magdalena Hotel, coupled with the sale of the Government's 49.0 per cent shareholding in the Colonial Life Insurance Company (CLICO).

[12] The National Budget of Trinidad and Tobago for FY2024/25 was presented in the House of Representatives on September 30, 2024. Themed "Steadfast and Resolute: Forging Pathways to Prosperity," the fiscal package was based on an estimated crude oil price of US$77.80 per barrel and a natural gas price of US$3.59 per mmbtu.

TABLE 8

SUMMARY OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT FINANCES, 2020/2021 - 2024/2025[1]

/ TT$ MILLIONS /

	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024[p]	2024/2025[b]
Current Revenue	36,345.6	53,921.3	54,525.0	46,288.0	50,212.9
Current Expenditure	46,482.3	50,061.6	53,620.3	52,374.5	54,075.3
Current Surplus (+)/ Deficit (-)	**-10,136.7**	**3,859.7**	**904.7**	**-6,086.5**	**-3,862.4**
Capital Receipts	921.0	685.7	158.9	1,077.0	4,011.3
Capital Expenditure and Net Lending	3,135.0	3,212.5	4,236.1	4,105.3	5,666.2
Overall Surplus(+)/ Deficit (-)	**-12,350.7**	**1,333.0**	**-3,172.5**	**-9,114.7**	**-5,517.4**
Financing	12,350.7	-1,333.0	3,172.5	9,114.7	5,517.3
External (Net)	4,890.0	534.3	-138.9	6,945.1	620.2
Domestic (Net)	7,460.7	-1,867.3	3,311.4	2,169.6	4,897.1
(Per Cent of GDP)					
Current Surplus (+)/ Deficit (-)	-6.4	2.1	0.5	-3.2	-2.0
Overall Surplus(+)/ Deficit (-)	-7.8	0.7	-1.8	-4.8	-2.9

Source: Ministry of Finance

1 GDP data used for ratios to GDP prior to FY2024 are sourced from the CSO; data for FY2024 is estimated by CBTT and FY2025 is based on budgeted estimates from the Ministry of Finance.

p Provisional.

b Budgeted.

TABLE 9

SUMMARY OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL OPERATIONS, 2020/2021 - 2024/2025[1]

/ TT$ MILLIONS /

	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024[p]	2024/2025[b]
Revenue	**37,266.6**	**54,607.0**	**54,683.9**	**47,365.0**	**54,224.2**
Current	36,345.6	53,921.3	54,525.0	46,288.0	50,212.9
Energy*	9,341.3	29,347.7	27,794.9	13,360.3	20,299.2
Non-Energy*	27,004.3	24,573.6	26,730.1	32,927.7	29,913.7
Capital	921.0	685.7	158.9	1,077.0	4,011.3
Expenditure	**49,617.3**	**53,274.0**	**57,856.4**	**56,479.8**	**59,741.5**
Current	46,482.3	50,061.6	53,620.3	52,374.5	54,075.3
Wages and Salaries	9,093.6	9,148.5	9,420.1	10,441.3	9,681.5
Goods and Services	5,570.9	5,911.7	6,106.2	6,035.6	6,182.3
Interest Payments	4,938.1	4,927.4	5,779.7	6,344.5	6,685.1
Transfers and Subsidies[2]	26,879.7	30,073.9	32,314.3	29,553.1	31,526.4
Capital Expenditure and Net Lending	3,135.0	3,212.5	4,236.1	4,105.3	5,666.2
Overall Non-Energy Balance	**-21,692.0**	**-28,014.7**	**-30,967.4**	**-22,475.0**	**-25,816.5**
Overall Balance	**-12,350.7**	**1,333.0**	**-3,172.5**	**-9,114.7**	**-5,517.4**
Total Financing (Net)	**12,350.7**	**-1,333.0**	**3,172.5**	**9,114.7**	**5,517.3**
Net Foreign Financing	4,890.0	534.3	-138.9	6,945.1	620.2
Net Domestic Financing	7,460.7	-1,867.3	3,311.4	2,169.6	4,897.1
Of Which: Transfers to Heritage and Stabilisation Fund	*-6,040.6*	*1,111.3*	*1,230.3*	*2,495.6*	*0.0*
(Per Cent of GDP)					
Revenue	**23.6**	**29.5**	**30.9**	**25.2**	**28.6**
Current	23.0	29.1	30.8	24.6	26.5
Energy	5.9	15.8	15.7	7.1	10.7
Non-Energy	17.1	13.3	15.1	17.5	15.8
Capital	0.6	0.4	0.1	0.6	2.1
Expenditure	**31.4**	**28.8**	**32.7**	**30.0**	**31.5**
Current	29.4	27.0	30.3	27.8	28.5
Wages and Salaries	5.8	4.9	5.3	5.5	5.1
Goods and Services	3.5	3.2	3.4	3.2	3.3
Interest Payments	3.1	2.7	3.3	3.4	3.5
Transfers and Subsidies	17.0	16.2	18.2	15.7	16.6
Capital Expenditure and Net Lending	2.0	1.7	2.4	2.2	3.0
Overall Non-Energy Balance[3]	**-13.7**	**-15.1**	**-17.5**	**-11.9**	**-13.6**
Overall Balance	**-7.8**	**0.7**	**-1.8**	**-4.8**	**-2.9**
Total Financing (Net)	**7.8**	**-0.7**	**1.8**	**4.8**	**2.9**
Net Foreign Financing	3.1	0.3	-0.1	3.7	0.3
Net Domestic Financing	4.7	-1.0	1.9	1.2	2.6
Of which: Transfers to Heritage and Stabilisation Fund	*-3.8*	*0.6*	*0.7*	*1.3*	*0.0*
Memo:					
Primary Fiscal Balance (TT$Mn)	-11,627.9	-7,412.6	6,260.4	2,607.2	-68.8
Cyclically Adjusted Balance (TT$Mn)[4]	-13,696.3	-8,904.4	4,134.3	-2,504.6	n.a.
Structural Fiscal Balance (TT$Mn)[5]	1,799.2	2,877.9	6,014.2	4,026.2	n.a.
Non-Energy Primary Balance[6]	-19,529.5	-16,753.9	-23,087.3	-25,187.7	-22,598.2
Cyclically Adjusted Primary Balance (TT$Mn)[7]	-9,270.8	-5,142.8	8,425.2	2,638.6	n.a.
Interest Payments/Current Revenue (Per cent)	13.6	9.1	10.6	13.7	13.3

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

1 GDP data used for ratios to GDP prior to FY2024 are sourced from the CSO; data for FY2024 are Central Bank estimates while data for FY2025 are based on budgeted estimates from the Ministry of Finance.

2 Adjusted for transfers to the Infrastructure Development Fund, Government Assisted Tertiary Education Fund and CARICOM Petroleum Fund.

3 Computed as the sum of non-energy revenue and capital revenue less total expenditure.

4 The cyclically adjusted balance provides an estimate of the fiscal position net of cyclical effects by adjusting revenue and expenditure for business cycle effects.

5 The structural 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.

6 The non-energy primary balance measures a government's ability to pay for public goods and services using only its non-resource generated revenues. It also highlights the cyclicality of fiscal policy by excluding energy revenues which are subject to fluctuations in international commodity prices.

7 The cyclically adjusted primary balance provides an estimate of the fiscal position net of cyclical effects and past financing policies. It measures the Government's capacity to fund its current operations without incurring additional debt.

* Energy and Non-Energy revenues for FY2024/25 have been estimated by the Central Bank.

p Provisional.

b Budgeted.

TABLE 10

ENERGY-BASED GOVERNMENT REVENUES, 2019/2020 - 2023/2024[1]

	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024[p]
	(Per Cent of Government Revenue)				
Energy Sector	**23.0**	**25.1**	**53.7**	**50.8**	**24.4**
Petroleum Profit Tax (PPT)	3.5	6.9	16.4	13.7	8.0
Supplemental Petroleum Tax (SPT)	1.6	1.4	4.6	4.9	2.7
Corporation tax	5.7	6.6	13.9	9.7	5.2
Royalties	8.2	5.4	10.6	13.6	4.4
Unemployment Levy	0.6	0.9	3.6	2.7	1.2
Withholding Tax	1.4	1.5	1.0	2.2	1.3
Exercise Duty	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Oil Impost[2]	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
Signature Bonus	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0
Production Sharing Contracts	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Extraordinary Revenue from Oil and Gas Companies	0.3	0.7	3.2	3.8	1.3
Surplus Income - Sale of Pet. Products	1.3	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.1
(Per Cent of GDP)					
Energy Sector	**5.4**	**5.9**	**15.8**	**15.7**	**7.1**
Petroleum Profit Tax (PPT)	0.8	1.6	4.8	4.2	2.3
Supplemental Petroleum Tax (SPT)	0.4	0.3	1.3	1.5	0.8
Corporation tax	1.3	1.6	4.1	3.0	1.5
Royalties	1.9	1.3	3.1	4.2	1.3
Unemployment Levy	0.1	0.2	1.0	0.8	0.3
Withholding Tax	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.4
Exercise Duty	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Oil Impost[2]	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Signature Bonus	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0
Production Sharing Contracts	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Extraordinary Revenue from Oil and Gas Companies	0.1	0.2	0.9	1.2	0.4
Surplus Income - Sale of Pet. Products	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0

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

1 GDP data used for ratios to GDP prior to FY2024 are sourced from the CSO; data for FY2024 are Central Bank estimates.

2 Oil Impost refers to a tax on petroleum producing companies to cover the administration expenses of the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries.

p Provisional.

TABLE 11

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT RECURRENT EXPENDITURE[1]: A FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION, 2020/2021 - 2024/2025

/ TT$ MILLIONS /

	2020/2021	2021/2022[r]	2022/2023	2023/2024[re]	2024/2025[b]
Economic Services	**3,281.7**	**4,517.7**	**4,824.3**	**3,633.6**	**3,972.0**
Energy	510.4	1,622.3	2,049.9	951.0	677.0
Agriculture, Land and Fisheries	592.7	738.5	598.1	638.9	652.2
Works and Transport	2,178.6	2,157.0	2,176.3	2,043.7	2,642.8
Social Services	**19,829.1**	**20,780.6**	**22,143.4**	**23,283.4**	**22,504.0**
Education	4,649.2	5,074.6	5,255.5	5,918.9	5,278.6
Health	5,041.4	5,445.0	5,936.6	5,962.0	6,348.4
Housing and Urban Development	742.5	566.9	812.6	945.6	661.8
Labour	375.5	359.5	373.5	517.0	405.6
Public Utilities	2,802.5	2,877.1	2,934.9	3,187.8	2,951.4
Social Services[2]	6,218.1	6,457.5	6,830.4	6,752.1	6,858.1
Public Services	**5,411.1**	**5,476.1**	**5,698.4**	**5,997.1**	**5,722.8**
National Security	5,411.1	5,476.1	5,698.4	5,997.1	5,722.8
Other[3]	**19,432.9**	**20,920.9**	**22,880.1**	**22,888.0**	**24,786.8**
Total Recurrent Expenditure[4]	**47,954.9**	**51,695.4**	**55,546.2**	**55,802.1**	**56,985.6**

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 Sport and Community Development, Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts, Ministry of Social Development and Family Services, Ministry of Youth Development and National Services and Ministry of Planning and Development.

3 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.

4 Represents Recurrent Expenditure from the Consolidated Fund only.

re Revised Estimates.

b Budgeted.

TABLE 12

COSTING OF SELECTED CAPITAL PROJECTS FY2023 - FY2025

/ TT$ MILLIONS /

Projects	2023	2024[re]	2025[b]
Total Capital Expenditure	**4,236.1**	**4,455.1**	**5,666.2**
of which:			
Construction and Rehabilitation of Roads and Bridges	787.4	554.0	506.1
Construction of Hospitals and Health Centres	316.9	338.5	326.9
Early Childhood, Primary and Secondary Schools	306.9	300.8	400.0
Construction and Upgrade of Community Centres, Sport Facilities & Youth Training Facilities	433.3	449.7	496.0
Drainage and Irrigation and Upgrading of Water Resources	193.6	253.9	254.0
of which: Multi-Phase Wastewater Rehabilitation Programme	*19.9*	*20.0*	*20.0*
Local Government Services	276.1	161.3	249.7
Accelerated Housing Programme and Housing Settlement Development	197.1	150.8	324.5
Restoration of Public Buildings	308.7	426.9	870.2
Construction, Refurbishment and Equiping of Police Stations	33.6	50.5	135.0
Upgrade of Port Facilities	92.2	71.0	36.6
Upgrade of Fishing Facilities and Agriculture Access Roads and Land Management Services	58.0	76.9	63.6
Construction and Upgrade of Fire Stations & Prison Facilities	38.2	24.4	63.4
Construction of Terminal for ANR Robinson Airport and Airfield renovation	93.0	400.1	218.3
Development of Tourism Facilities	100.1	90.5	87.8
ICT and Digital Transformation	132.0	107.1	164.7
Coastal Protection	19.3	21.6	83.4
Upgrade of Equipment and Facilities for Coast Guard, Regiment and Air Guard	6.8	81.8	124.3
Upgrade of National Security Equipment	26.5	19.9	57.9
Bulk Power Infrastructure Projects	39.5	50.0	30.4
Development of Industrial Sites and Technology Parks	104.8	73.9	194.0

Source: Ministry of Finance, Estimates of the Development Programme 2025

re Revised Estimate.

b Budgeted.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT DEBT

General Government Debt[13] grew by $1.7 billion to $143.3 billion in FY2023/24 (October 2023 to September 2024). As a result of new Central Government borrowing, adjusted General Government debt (which excludes debt issued for sterilisation purposes) rose to $140.6 billion at the end of September 2024 from $136.5 billion at the end of September 2023 **(Table 13)**.

Central Government domestic debt (excluding sterilised debt) stood at $74.0 billion at the end of September 2024 compared with $70.5 billion at the end of September 2023. To facilitate domestic borrowings, the statutory limit of the Development Loans Act (DLA) was increased to $75.0 billion from $65.0 billion in March 2024[14]. During FY2023/24, the Central Government borrowed $9.0 billion compared to $12.8 billion in the previous fiscal year **(Table 14A)**. Of this amount, $6.8 billion was earmarked for budget support while $2.2 billion was used for debt refinancing. A total of $8.1 billion was raised under the Development Loans Act via the private placement of eleven bonds on the domestic capital market. Meanwhile, Debt Management Bills declined by $284.0 million to $6.4 billion during the period. At the end of September 2024, the Development Loans Act reached 84.9 per cent of its $75.0 billion limit with remaining headroom of $11.3 billion **(Table 14B)**. Central Government principal repayments on domestic debt amounted to $4.4 billion in FY2023/24. This compares to repayments of $8.5 billion in FY2022/23.

Central Government external debt rose by $2.2 billion to $36.7 billion (equivalent to US$5.5 billion) in FY2023/24 (Table 13). New borrowings comprised, in the main, a Eurobond of US$750.0 million, issued in June 2024 at an average interest rate of 6.40 per cent and tenor of 10 years **(Table 14A)**. In addition, the Central Government accessed a US$75.0 million, 20-year, floating rate loan from the Corporación Andina De Fomento (CAF) for the implementation of a Sector Wide Approach Programme (SWAP) to support the health system. Other disbursements from previously contracted loans were mainly geared towards financing investment projects in the health sector (US$83.3 million) and to a lesser extent, water supply modernisation (US$16.0 million), and industrial development (US$1.1 million). Disbursements of $13.2 million were also received from the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) under the programme to accelerate the Digital Transformation Agenda. Central Government principal repayments on external debt amounted to $3.5 billion over the twelve months to September 2024.

[13] General Government Debt is defined as the sum of all domestic and external direct obligations of the Central Government as well as the Non-Self-Serviced Government Guaranteed debt of State Enterprises and Statutory Authorities. It includes instruments of Open Market Operations (OMOs) such as Treasury Bills, Treasury Notes and Treasury Bonds; proceeds of which are held or sterilised at the Central Bank.

[14] Previously, in July 2021, the statutory limit of the Development Loans Act was increased to $65.0 billion from $55.0 billion.

Non-self-serviced guaranteed debt decreased by $1.6 billion to $29.8 billion in FY2023/24 (Table 13). During the period, $1.3 billion in funds from new and existing loans were disbursed to state enterprises and statutory bodies. Most notably, a new loan for $311.6 million was contracted by the National Insurance Property Development Company Limited (NIPDEC) for the procurement, distribution and storage of goods, while $800.0 million was contracted by the Trinidad and Tobago Housing Development Corporation (HDC) to refinance two existing facilities. Additionally, one Government Guaranteed fixed rate loan for $50.0 million was issued by the National Entrepreneurship Development Company Limited (NEDCO) to implement and administer the Micro and Small Business Grant Scheme. During the twelve-month period, the impact of new borrowing on the stock of debt was tempered on account of principal repayments which amounted to $3.0 billion, relatively the same amount as in FY2022/23.

TABLE 13

GENERAL GOVERNMENT DEBT OUTSTANDING, SEPTEMBER 2020 - SEPTEMBER 2024

/ TT$ MILLIONS /

	Sep-20	Sep-21	Sep-22	Sep-23[r]	Sep-24[p]
General Government Debt	**130,663.2**	**137,377.3**	**137,814.9**	**141,576.6**	**143,312.9**
Of which; Sterilisation[1]	12,070.3	10,570.3	8,827.8	5,036.5	2,730.0
Adjusted General Government Debt [2]	**118,592.9**	**126,807.0**	**128,987.2**	**136,540.1**	**140,582.9**
Central Government Domestic	**68,560.5**	**75,038.6**	**75,029.7**	**75,577.2**	**76,725.3**
General Development Bonds	31,295.2	39,722.8	41,354.1	45,725.9	50,330.4
CLICO and HCU Bonds	15,963.7	15,463.4	14,962.5	14,867.8	14,016.4
VAT Bonds[3]	3,000.0	3,000.0	3,000.0	3,000.0	3,000.0
BOLTS and Leases	78.6	129.3	232.6	296.3	281.8
Debt Management Bills	6,136.0	6,136.0	6,636.0	6,634.0	6,350.0
Open Market Operations	12,070.3	10,570.3	8,827.8	5,036.5	2,730.0
Treasury Bills	8,479.0	8,479.0	6,736.5	3,126.5	650.0
Treasury Notes	2,132.0	1,632.0	1,632.0	1,910.0	2,080.0
Treasury Bonds	1,459.3	459.3	459.3	0.0	0.0
Liquidity Absorption Bonds	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other Debt Liabilities[4]	16.7	16.7	16.7	16.7	16.7
Central Government External	**31,620.4**	**31,167.0**	**31,975.7**	**34,568.3**	**36,737.7**
Non Self-Serviced Guaranteed Debt [5]	**30,482.2**	**31,171.7**	**30,809.6**	**31,431.0**	**29,849.9**
State Owned Enterprises	20,078.3	20,212.3	19,442.6	20,178.4	18,770.4
Statutory Authorities	10,403.9	10,959.4	11,367.0	11,252.6	11,079.6
(Per Cent of GDP)[6]					
General Government Debt	89.4	87.0	74.4	79.9	76.1
Adjusted General Government Debt	81.2	80.3	69.6	77.1	74.7
Central Government Domestic Debt[2]	38.7	40.8	35.7	39.8	39.3
External Debt	21.6	19.7	17.3	19.5	19.5
Non-Self Serviced Guaranteed Debt	20.9	19.7	16.6	17.7	15.9
Memo:					
Self-Serviced Guaranteed Debt	3,082.2	3,160.9	3,178.4	3,024.0	4,019.8
Of which; State Enterprises	3,055.9	3,156.0	3,173.9	3,019.9	4,016.1
Statutory Authorities	26.3	4.9	4.5	4.1	3.7

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

1 Comprise Treasury Bills and Treasury Notes issued for Open Market Operations (OMOs) and Treasury Bonds issued for liquidity management.

2 Excludes debt issued for sterilisation purposes.

3 Refers to bonds issued by the Government under the Value Added Tax Act for the settlement of VAT refunds owed to businesses in Trinidad and Tobago.

4 Comprises outstanding balances of national tax-free saving bonds, public sector arrears and Central Bank fixed-rate bonds.

5 Refers to Government-guaranteed debt of public entities that are directly serviced by the Central Government.

6 Debt ratios prior to FY2024 are based on Nominal GDP data from the Central Statistical Office. Ratios for FY2024 are computed using Nominal GDP estimates from the Central Bank.

r Revised.

p Provisional.

TABLE 14A
GOVERNMENT AND GOVERNMENT-GUARANTEED BORROWINGS FY2023/24*
/ TT$ MILLIONS /

Date	Borrower	Amount ($Mn)	Source of Financing	Purpose of Financing	Borrowing Act Utilised
23-Oct-23	NEDCO	$50.0	Domestic	Micro and Small Business Grant	Guarantee of Loans (Companies) Act
10-Nov-23	Central Government	$2500	Domestic	Budget Support	Development Loans Act
12-Jan-24	Central Government	US$100.0	Domestic	Debt refinancing	Development Loans Act
08-Feb-24	HDC	$500.0	Domestic	Debt refinancing	Guarantee of Loans (Statutory Authorities) Act
26-Feb-24	Central Government	$300.0	Domestic	Budget Support	Development Loans Act
26-Feb-24	Central Government	$200.0	Domestic	Budget Support	Development Loans Act
29-Feb-24	Central Government	$250.0	Domestic	Budget Support	Development Loans Act
29-Feb-24	Central Government	$150.0	Domestic	Budget Support	Development Loans Act
06-Mar-24	Central Government	US$42.0	External	Digital Transformation Programme	IADB Act
22-Apr-24	Central Government	$1,500.0	Domestic	Debt refinancing	Development Loans Act
26-Apr-24	Central Government	$300.0	Domestic	Budget Support	Development Loans Act
21-May-24	Central Government	$1,000.0	Domestic	Budget Support	Development Loans Act
23-May-24	Central Government	$200	Domestic	Budget Support	Development Loans Act
27-May-24	Central Government	$1,000.0	Domestic	Budget Support	Development Loans Act
25-Jun-24	Central Government	US$750.0	External	Budget Support	External Loans Act
23-Sep-24	UDeCOTT	US$150.0	Domestic	Working Capital Purposes	Guarantee of Loans (Companies) Act

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

* Excludes Government-guaranteed borrowings not directly serviced by the Central Government.

TABLE 14B

BORROWING LIMITS AND TRENDS IN OUTSTANDING DEBT

Borrowing Act	Borrowing Limit (TT$ Mn)	Outstanding Debt FY2023 (TT$ Mn)	Outstanding Debt FY2024 (TT$ Mn)	Remaining Headroom as at 30-Sep-24 (TT$ Mn)
Development Loans Act	75,000.0	59,919.7	63,730.2	11,269.8
External Loans Act	30,000.0	21,364.3	23,700.9	6,299.1
Guarantee of Loans (Companies) Act[1]	45,000.0	20,178.4	18,770.4	26,229.6
Guarantee of Loans (Statutory Authorities) Act[1]	No Limit	11,252.6	11,079.6	No Limit
IADB Act	No Limit	4,675.5	4,386.3	No Limit
IBRD Act	No Limit	82.3	133.7	No Limit
CDB Act	No Limit	89.5	61.6	No Limit
CAF Act	No Limit	8,356.7	8,455.2	No Limit
Treasury Bills Act	30,000.0	9,760.5	7,000.0	23,000.0
Of which: OMOs	*23,000.0*	*3,126.5*	*650.0*	*22,350.0*
Debt Management Bills	*7,000.0*	*6,634.0*	*6,350.0*	*650.0*
Treasury Notes Act	15,000.0	1,910.0	2,080.0	12,920.0
Treasury Bonds Act	No Limit	0.0	0.0	No Limit
Purchase of Certain Rights and Validation Act (CLICO)[2]	10,700.0	493.3	435.8	None
Purchase of Certain Rights and Validation Act (HCU)[2]	400.0	180.7	180.7	None
VAT Act	6,000.0	3,000.0	3,000.0	3,000.0

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

1 The outstanding balances and remaining headroom reported under this Act excludes borrowing intended to be serviced directly by public entities.

2 Debt incurred under this Act represents one-off financing made by the Central Government towards CLICO and HCU policyholders.

CHAPTER 6

Monetary and Financial Developments

MONETARY POLICY

Apart from an intervention to address liquidity constraints, monetary policy remained relatively unchanged in 2024. While global inflationary pressure continued to recede, major supply-side risks persisted with the amplification of geopolitical conflicts across the world. Domestically, with waning output in the energy sector, the performance of the non-energy sector remained resilient and led the way. A pickup in Government borrowing, as well as credit to the private sector, led to tightened liquidity conditions in mid-2024. In response, the Central Bank reduced the reserve requirement of commercial banks to 10.0 per cent from 14.0 per cent — the first reduction since a 300 basis point cut in March 2020, following the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. This was the latest step by the Central Bank to progressively shift its reliance from 'direct' to 'indirect' instruments of monetary policy[15]. At the meetings held in March, June, September and December 2024, the MPC maintained the repo rate at 3.50 per cent.

LIQUIDITY

Liquidity levels in the domestic banking system decreased over 2024. Commercial banks' holdings of excess reserves decreased to a monthly average of $4,849.0 million over 2024 from $5,888.1 million in 2023. This followed the Bank utilising its direct instruments to bolster liquidity after considerable tightening of liquidity conditions by mid-2024. Over the period January to July 2024, fiscal operations resulted in net withdrawals of $3,770.0 million, with monthly average excess liquidity reaching $3,842.4 million. As a result of relatively tighter liquidity conditions, the domestic 91-day Treasury rate increased by 122 basis points between December 2023 and July 2024 to reach 2.36 per cent. In assessing the potential implications of prevailing liquidity conditions, the MPC decided to reduce the reserve requirement by 400 basis points, effective July 24, 2024 — the first reduction since a 300 basis point cut in March 2020 following the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, there was an immediate injection of $4,021.8 million into the banking system. Over August to December 2024, excess liquidity climbed to a monthly average of $6,258.3 million. Consequently, the domestic 91-day Treasury bill declined by 5 basis points from the end of July to reach 2.31 per cent by the end of December 2024.

[15] See Public Education Pamphlet #02/024: transition-from-direct-to-indirect-monetary-policy-instruments-in-trinidad-and-tobago-august2024.pdf

For the entirety of 2024 however, net domestic fiscal injections (NDFI) – usually the main driver of liquidity – amounted to a net withdrawal[16] of $1,081.1 million, a reversal of the net injection of $4,445.2 million observed over 2023. Over the year, the Bank allowed net maturities of $2,285.0 million via net open market operations (OMOs), which reached $2,298.5 million in 2023. OMOs, however, remained neutral between May and November 2024. Although not primarily a liquidity absorption tool, the Central Bank sales of foreign exchange to authorised dealers indirectly removed $9,121.2 million from the system in 2024, compared to $8,978.3 million in 2023.

As a result of tightened liquidity conditions, most interbank activity in 2024 occurred prior to the reduction of the reserve requirement in July. Over 2024, daily average interbank borrowing reached $118.0 million compared to $87.8 million in 2023. Commercial banks accessed the Repurchase Facility 32 days for a daily average of $24.2 million over 2024, whereas the Facility was only accessed on one day[17] during the same period of 2023 for a total of $78.9 million.

INTEREST RATES

The short-term TT-US differential improved in 2024. The TT 91-day OMO Treasury Bill rate increased by 117 basis points over 2024, settling at 2.31 per cent, primarily reflecting liquidity conditions in the first half of 2024. Cuts to the policy rate in the United States impacted yields on US short-term instruments. The yield on the US 91-day short-term benchmark decreased by 103 basis points over 2024 to reach 4.37 per cent by the end of December. As a result, the TT-US 91-day differential narrowed to -206 basis points in December 2024 compared with -426 basis points in December 2023.

Commercial banks' interest rates increased in 2024, reflecting underlying liquidity conditions. The commercial banks' weighted average lending rate (WALR) reached 6.65 per cent in December 2024, five basis points higher than in December 2023. The increased WALR likely reflects the persistent effects of tighter liquidity conditions prior to the reduction of the reserve requirement. The weighted average deposit rate increased by eight basis points to reach 0.75 per cent over the reference period. As a result, the rounded banking spread decreased by three basis points over December 2023 to December 2024 to reach 5.91 per cent. Commercial banks' return on assets increased from 2.5 per cent in December 2023 to 2.6 per cent in September 2024, while return on equity decreased from 13.9 per cent to 13.4 per cent over the same period. Additionally, the interest margin-to-gross income of commercial banks increased from 63.3 per cent to 68.2 per cent. During 2024, banks were able to borrow on the interbank market at a rate of 0.54 per cent, 4 basis points higher than in 2023. Commercial banks' median prime lending rate remained at 7.50 per cent, consistent with the steady repo rate.

16 Net domestic fiscal injections refer to the Central Government's excess of domestic expenditure relative to domestic revenue, including net redemptions from bonds. If domestic receipts exceeds domestic payments in a given period, as would be the case if borrowing exceeds spending, a fiscal withdrawal from the domestic financial system occurs.

17 November 29, 2023.

CONSOLIDATED[18] FINANCIAL SYSTEM CREDIT DEVELOPMENTS

The robust growth in credit to the private sector continued in 2024, bolstered by consumer, business and real estate mortgage lending. On a year-on-year basis, consolidated system credit growth was 8.0 per cent in December 2024, compared to an increase of 8.4 per cent in December 2023. Commercial bank lending was responsible for the growth in 2024, as non-bank lending experienced a contraction. Commercial bank lending increased by 9.3 per cent (year-on-year) in December 2024 compared to 8.2 per cent in December 2023, while non-bank lending declined by 4.5 per cent compared with an increase of 10.2 per cent, due in part to a falloff in real estate mortgage lending and a slowdown in consumer loans, over the same period.

The pace of consumer lending sped up in 2024. Supported by attractive financing terms, consumer lending ended 2024 in double-digits (12.1 per cent, year-on-year), up from 8.8 per cent in December 2023. In the fourth quarter of 2024, the value and volume of consumer loans exceeded that of 2023, recording increases of 11.9 per cent and 5.5 per cent, respectively. Notable year-on-year increases were recorded in loans for Motor Vehicles (15.2 per cent), Consolidation of Debt (11.2 per cent), Refinancing (7.5 per cent), Land and Real Estate[19] (20.3 per cent) and Other Purposes (15.4 per cent) which includes credit card debt (11.2 per cent) in December 2024.

Businesses' credit appetite also grew in 2024, albeit at a slower pace. In December 2024, business credit expanded by 8.9 per cent compared to 10.1 per cent recorded in December 2023. According to sectoral business lending data[20], growth in the value and volume of business loans decelerated. The value of loans reached 6.6 per cent and the volume of loans reached 8.4 per cent[21]. Notable increases were observed for loans to the Finance, Insurance and Real Estate sector (5.4 per cent), Construction sector (19.7 per cent) and Distribution sector (10.4 per cent). On the other hand, decelerations were observed in Manufacturing (0.2 per cent), Petroleum (11.7 per cent) and Other Services (5.2 per cent) sectors.

For real estate mortgage lending, growth remained healthy in 2024. Over the twelve months to December 2024, despite a slight deceleration to 6.3 per cent, from 6.9 per cent in December 2023, the growth of real estate mortgage loans kept momentum. Residential real estate mortgage lending outstripped commercial real estate mortgage lending over the year. In December 2024, residential and commercial real estate mortgage lending recorded increases of 6.4 per cent and 5.9 per cent, respectively, compared to 5.4 per

[18] Refers to commercial banks and other deposit-taking institutions (excluding credit unions).

[19] Loans for land and real estate that do not require a deed.

[20] Includes lending to both resident and non-resident businesses.

[21] Largely led by loans to the Services industry, such as the Finance, Insurance and Real Estate, Distribution and Other Services sectors.

cent and 10.1 per cent in December 2023. According to quarterly data, interest rates on 'new' commercial bank real estate mortgages edged down from 5.08 per cent in the last quarter of 2023 to 4.85 per cent in the last quarter of 2024—reflecting a deceleration in both residential (0.2 percentage point fall) and commercial (0.7 percentage point fall) mortgage rates. With the dip in rates, the market performance was mixed. Growth in the volume of loans for renovation suffered, contracting by 13.9 per cent in the fourth quarter of 2024. However, the volume of loans to acquire newly constructed houses, land and existing houses accelerated by 40.4 per cent, 14.5 per cent and 14.2 per cent, respectively in the fourth quarter of 2024.

MONETARY AGGREGATES

Over 2024, the monetary aggregates contracted. Narrow money (M1-A), which consists of currency in active circulation plus demand deposits, remained in negative territory for most of 2024—contracting by 4.6 per cent in December 2024, compared to a decline of 1.7 per cent in December 2023 **(Appendix Table A.23)**. Over 2024, ten months of decline were observed for demand deposits, compared to five months for currency in active circulation—recording reductions of 5.0 per cent and 2.4 per cent, respectively, in December 2024. Broad money (M2), which consists of M1-A plus time and savings deposits, steadily slowed down over the year before contracting in December. In December 2024, a decline of 0.7 per cent was observed, a fall from the increase of 2.4 per cent observed in December 2023. The growth in both time and saving deposits decelerated, following the surge the year before particularly for holdings of longer-term instruments. In December 2024, time deposits and saving deposits expanded by 16.3 per cent and 0.2 per cent, respectively, down from 29.1 per cent and 2.6 per cent in December 2023.

FOREIGN CURRENCY CREDIT AND DEPOSITS

Foreign currency credit expanded in 2024, albeit at a slower pace than in 2023. In December 2024, the increase in foreign currency credit of 11.6 per cent (year-on-year) was significantly down from the 31.1 per cent recorded in December 2023. For businesses, foreign currency credit also lost momentum, reaching 11.8 per cent (compared to 42.9 per cent in December 2023). The slowdown may be related to the criteria attached to foreign currency lending, which require the debtor have sufficient foreign currency flows to service the debt. However, foreign currency deposits rebounded, rising by 7.6 per cent compared to a contraction of 6.4 per cent in December 2023. Driving the improvement were business foreign currency deposits (6.0 per cent) and foreign currency deposits held by entities from the public sector, commercial banks and private financial institutions (20.7 per cent)[22], which overshadowed the contractions in consumer foreign currency deposits (-1.9 per cent).

[22] Accounts for 28 per cent of total foreign currency deposits.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE MARKET

The local market for foreign currency remained tight in 2024. Purchases of foreign exchange from the public by authorised dealers amounted to US$4,544.7 million in 2024, a decrease of 1.5 per cent from 2023. Despite lower purchases from the public, there was a 2.4 per cent increase in conversions by energy companies relative to 2023. Over 2024, purchases from the energy sector accounted for 73.0 per cent of total foreign currency purchases over US$20,000 in value.

Sales of foreign exchange by authorised dealers to the public reached US$5,899.4 million over 2024, a decrease of 5.3 per cent relative to the previous year. Based on reported data for transactions over US$20,000, credit cards (44.4 per cent), retail and distribution (16.5 per cent), energy companies (15.8 per cent) and automobile companies (5.8 per cent) made up the bulk of foreign exchange sales by authorised dealers to the public. The net sales gap reached US$1,354.7 million during the period. To support the market, the Central Bank sold US$1,363.0 million to authorised dealers. The weighted average TTD/USD selling rate appreciated slightly from TT$6.7797/US$1 in December 2023 to TT$6.7762/US$1 in December 2024.

CHAPTER 7

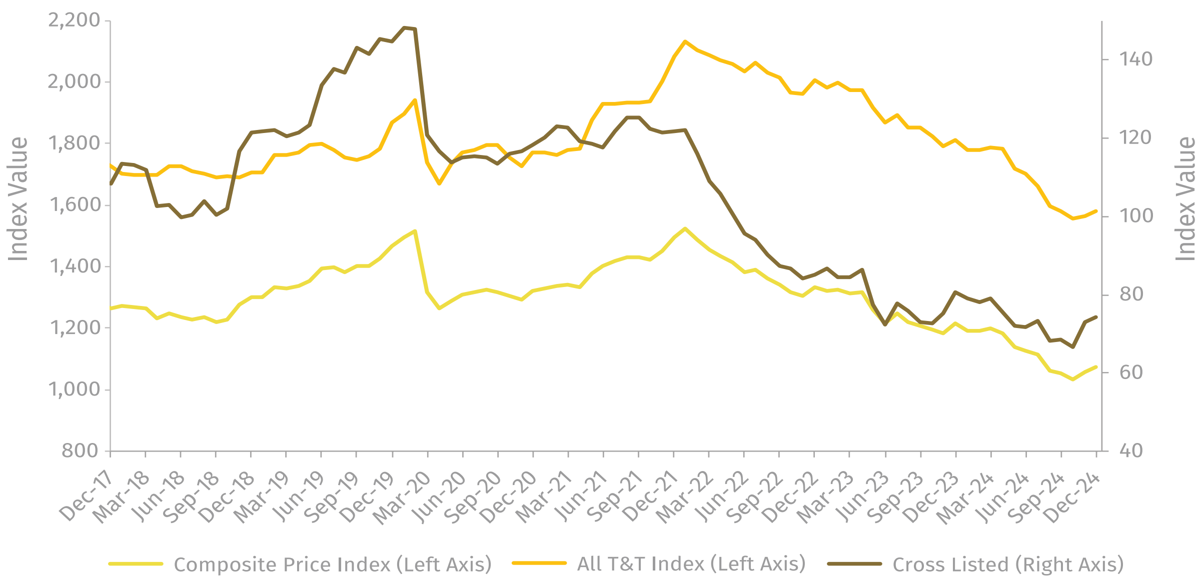
Capital Markets

STOCK MARKETS

During 2024, the domestic stock market experienced its third consecutive year of decline. Over 2024, the contractions in the Composite Price Index (CPI) worsened, declining by 11.6 per cent, driven by a fall of 12.7 per cent in the All T&T Index (ATI) and a decrease of 7.7 per cent in the Cross Listed Index (CLI) **(Figure 2)**. Consequently, total stock market capitalisation fell by 11.6 per cent to $102.3 billion. In comparison, during 2023, the CPI fell by 8.9 per cent as a result of declines in the CLI and ATI of 9.8 per cent and 5.6 per cent, respectively. Investor pessimism concerning the earnings potential of selected domestic equities continued to impact the broader market, likely due in part to the underperformance of the domestic energy sector, possibly leading investors to explore opportunities in other markets. For the small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) listings, efforts to encourage market participation[23] continued to reap rewards, as over 2024, an increase of 30.9 per cent was observed compared to 38.9 per cent in 2023.

In contrast, the performance of regionally-listed stocks improved, as observed by an increase of 3.3 per cent in the Caribbean Exchange Index (CEI)[24]. The Barbados Stock Exchange (BSE) index continued to increase (2.3 per cent), and the Jamaican Stock Index (JSE) rebounded—reflecting looser monetary policy—both contributing to the uptick in the CEI. However, stock market capitalisation in Guyana ended in a more pronounced decline (25.2 per cent).

FIGURE 2
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO STOCK INDEX RETURNS



Source: Trinidad and Tobago Stock Exchange

[23] In September 2024 Eric Solis Marketing become the third SME to be listed on the TTSE.

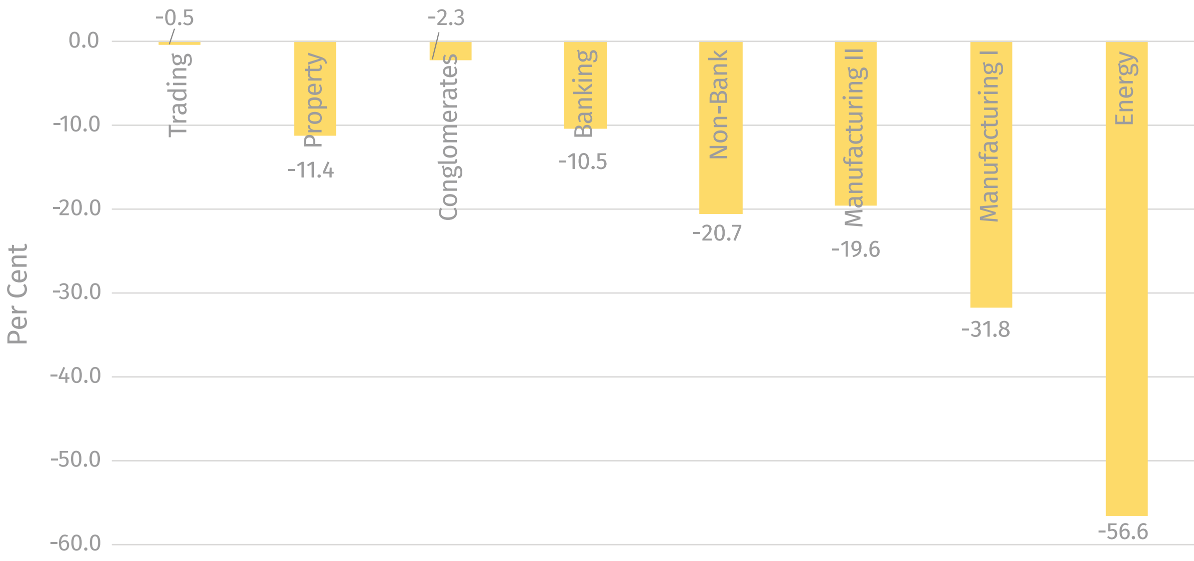
[24] The CEI was launched in October 2022 as a collaborative effort by five regional stock exchanges: Jamaica, Barbados, The Eastern Caribbean, Guyana, and Trinidad and Tobago. The index consolidates the activity of the main market stocks across the different exchanges into a single performance measure and is intended to be an indicator of the performance of the Caribbean region.

All sub-indices recorded losses (Figures 3 and 4). The weakest performer was the Energy sub-index (-56.6 per cent) on account of Trinidad and Tobago NGL Limited (NGL), despite the company's favourable performance (153.2 per cent increase in profit after tax in September 2024). The second weakest performer was the Manufacturing I sub-index (-31.8 per cent) due to declines in the majority of listed companies, except Unilever Caribbean Limited which increased by 1.8 per cent on account of an uptick in sales. Declines were also recorded for the Non-Bank, Manufacturing II and Property sub-indices (-20.7 per cent, -19.6 per cent and -11.4 per cent, respectively), reflecting a broad-based fall across all their listed companies. The Banking sub-index fell by 10.5 per cent despite their favourable financial performances. Other indices to record declines during 2024 were Conglomerates (-2.3 per cent) and Trading (-0.5 per cent).

Trading activity also reflected the weak market conditions. Over 2024, the first tier market observed 88.2 million shares being exchanged at a value of $840.8 million, corresponding to a turnover ratio of 0.79. The Conglomerates index recorded the highest trading volume in 2024, accounting for 50.7 per cent or 44.7 million shares, while the Banking index captured 53.3 per cent of total trading value, amounting to $448.2 million. In comparison, during 2023, the market recorded 106.2 million shares traded at a value of $1,092.81 million, corresponding to a turnover ratio of 0.92.

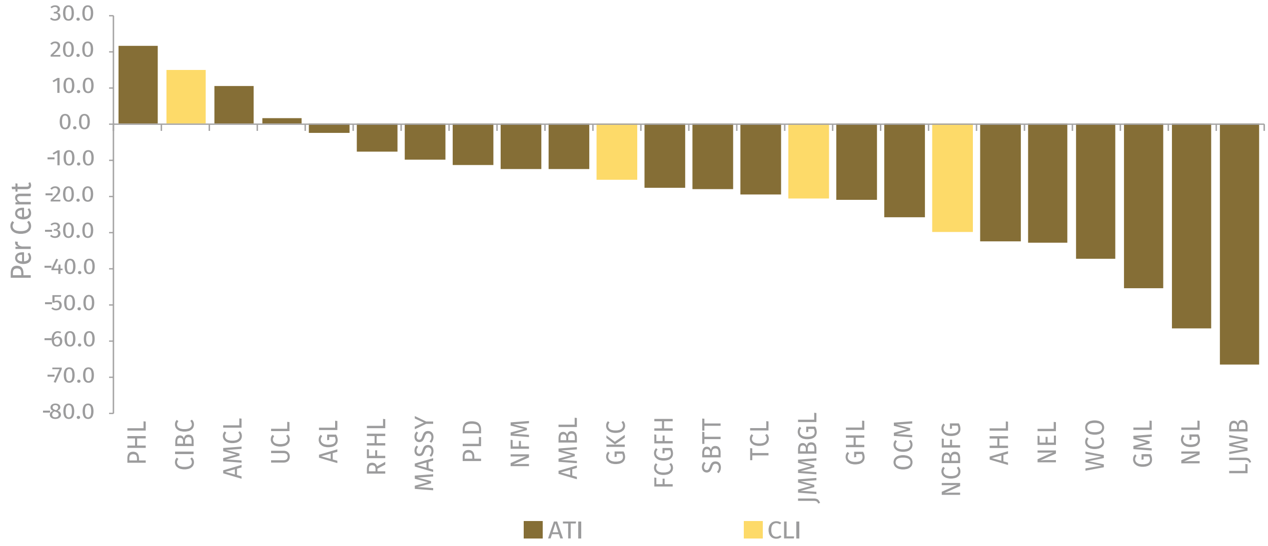
FIGURE 3

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO STOCK MARKET SUB-INDEX RETURNS
(DECEMBER 2023 TO DECEMBER 2024)



Source: Trinidad and Tobago Stock Exchange.

FIGURE 4
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO INDIVIDUAL STOCK RETURNS
(DECEMBER 2023 TO DECEMBER 2024)



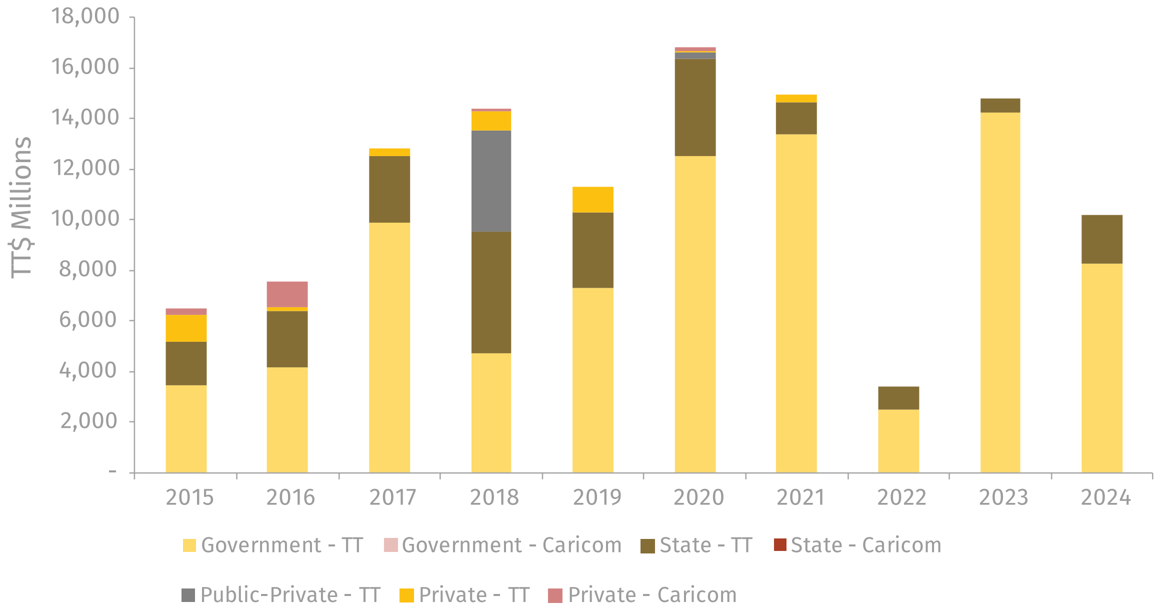
Sources: Trinidad and Tobago Stock Exchange

PRIMARY DEBT MARKET

Provisional information suggests that the value of primary debt market activity slowed over 2024 in spite of higher trade volumes (Figure 5 and Table 15). During the year, the local bond market recorded 16 primary issues at a face value of $10,175.60 million. In comparison, in 2023, the market recorded 13 primary issues at a face value of $14,788.6 million[25]. During 2024, the Government accounted for the majority of activity with 13 private placements raising $8,275.60 million for the purpose of repayment of existing facilities and budget support. Additionally, four state enterprises accessed the market, financing $2,102.2 million through the issuance of four privately placed bonds with an average coupon rate of 5.26 per cent and average tenor of 4 years. The proceeds were used for the purpose of servicing corporate expenses and debt refinancing.

[25] Excluded from the analysis are Government bonds issued on the international financial markets. The Government issued a US$560.0 million bond and a US$750.0 million bond on the international markets in September 2023 and July 2024, respectively.

FIGURE 5
PRIMARY DEBT SECURITY ACTIVITY 2015-2024p



Sources: Ministry of Finance and market participants
p Provisional

TABLE 15
PRIMARY DEBT SECURITY ACTIVITY, JANUARY-DECEMBER 2024p

Period Issued	Borrower	Face Value (TT$ Mn)	Period to Maturity	Coupon Rate Per Annum	Placement Type
Jan-24	Government of Trinidad and Tobago	675.6 (US$100.0 Mn)	3.0 years	Fixed Rate 6.65%	Private
Feb-24	National Investment Fund Holding Company Limited (NIFHCL)	400.0	5.0 years	Fixed Rate 4.50%	Public
	Government of Trinidad and Tobago	200.0	3.0 years	Fixed Rate 4.25%	Private
	Government of Trinidad and Tobago	300.0	5.0 years	Fixed Rate 5.20%	Private
	Government of Trinidad and Tobago				
	(Tranche 1 of 2)	150.0	15.0 years	Fixed Rate 6.25%	Private
	(Tranche 2 of 2)	100.0	15.0 years	Fixed Rate 4.50%	Private
	Government of Trinidad and Tobago	150.0	5.0 years	Fixed Rate 4.50%	Private
	Housing Development Corporation (HDC)	500.0	3.0 years	Fixed Rate 5.90%	Private
Apr-24	Government of Trinidad and Tobago				
	(Tranche 1 of 2)	400.0	5.0 years	Fixed Rate 5.00%	Private
	(Tranche 2 of 2)	1,100.0	20.0 years	Fixed Rate 6.80%	Private
	Government of Trinidad and Tobago	300.0	3.0 years	Fixed Rate 4.30%	Private
	First Citizens Bank	1,000.0	6.0 years	Fixed Rate 4.90%	Private
May-24	Government of Trinidad and Tobago				
	(Tranche 1 of 2)	600.0	5.0 years	Fixed Rate 5.00%	Private
	(Tranche 2 of 2)	400.0	20.0 years	Fixed Rate 6.80%	Private
	Government of Trinidad and Tobago	200.0	20.0 years	Fixed Rate 6.80%	Private
	Government of Trinidad and Tobago				
	(Tranche 1 of 3)	458.6	6.0 years	Fixed Rate 5.30%	Private
	(Tranche 2 of 3)	192.8	15.0 years	Fixed Rate 6.15%	Private
	(Tranche 3 of 3)	348.6	20.0 years	Fixed Rate 6.80%	Private
Oct-24	Government of Trinidad and Tobago				
	(Tranche 1 of 2)	600.0	7.0 years	Fixed Rate 5.50%	Private
	(Tranche 2 of 2)	400.0	20.0 years	Fixed Rate 6.90%	Private
	Government of Trinidad and Tobago	500.0	4.0 years	Fixed Rate 4.55%	Private
Nov-24	Government of Trinidad and Tobago	500.0	5.0 years	Fixed Rate 5.25%	Private
	Government of Trinidad and Tobago	200.0	9.0 years	Fixed Rate 5.85%	Private
	Government of Trinidad and Tobago	500.0	15.0 years	Fixed Rate 6.80%	Private

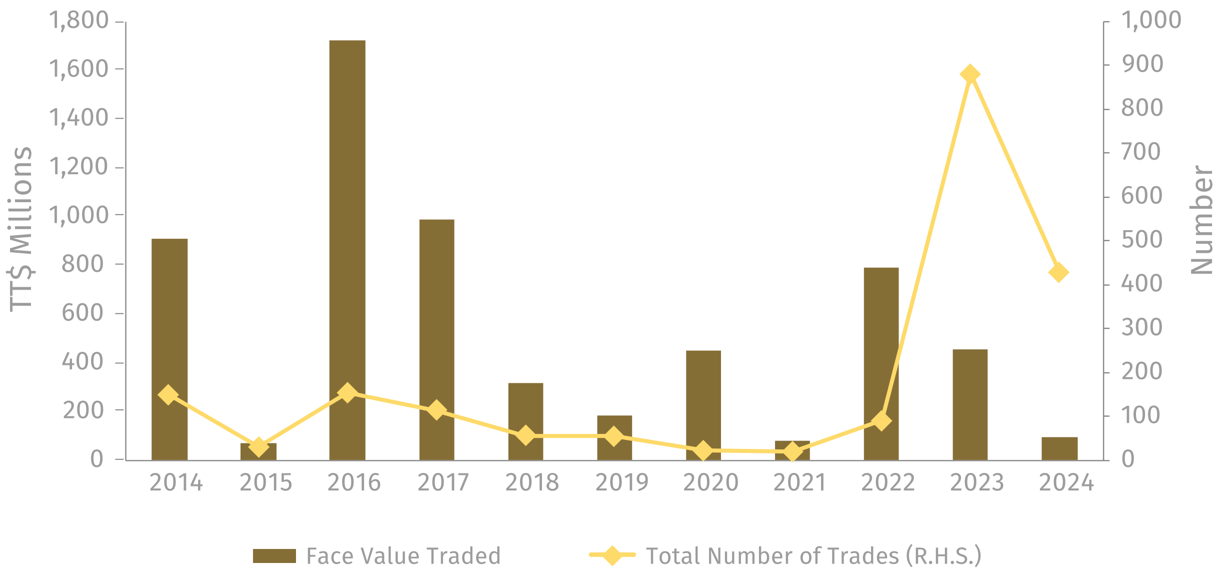
Sources: Ministry of Finance and market participants
p Provisional

SECONDARY DEBT MARKET

Activity on the secondary Government Bond Market slowed in 2024 as the volume and value of trades were lower than the previous year (Figure 6). During 2024, the Trinidad and Tobago Stock Exchange (TTSE) secondary Government Bond Market recorded 428 trades at a face value of $96.9 million compared to 880 trades at a face value of $455.1 million in 2023. Lower trading of the Government series II bond[26] by shareholders was responsible for the drop in trading activity.

Conversely, activity on the secondary Corporate Bond Market[27] continued to increase in 2024, recording 112 trades at a face value of $8.0 million. This compares to 98 trades at a face value of $4.3 million in 2023.

FIGURE 6
SECONDARY GOVERNMENT DEBT SECURITY ACTIVITY



Source: Trinidad and Tobago Stock Exchange

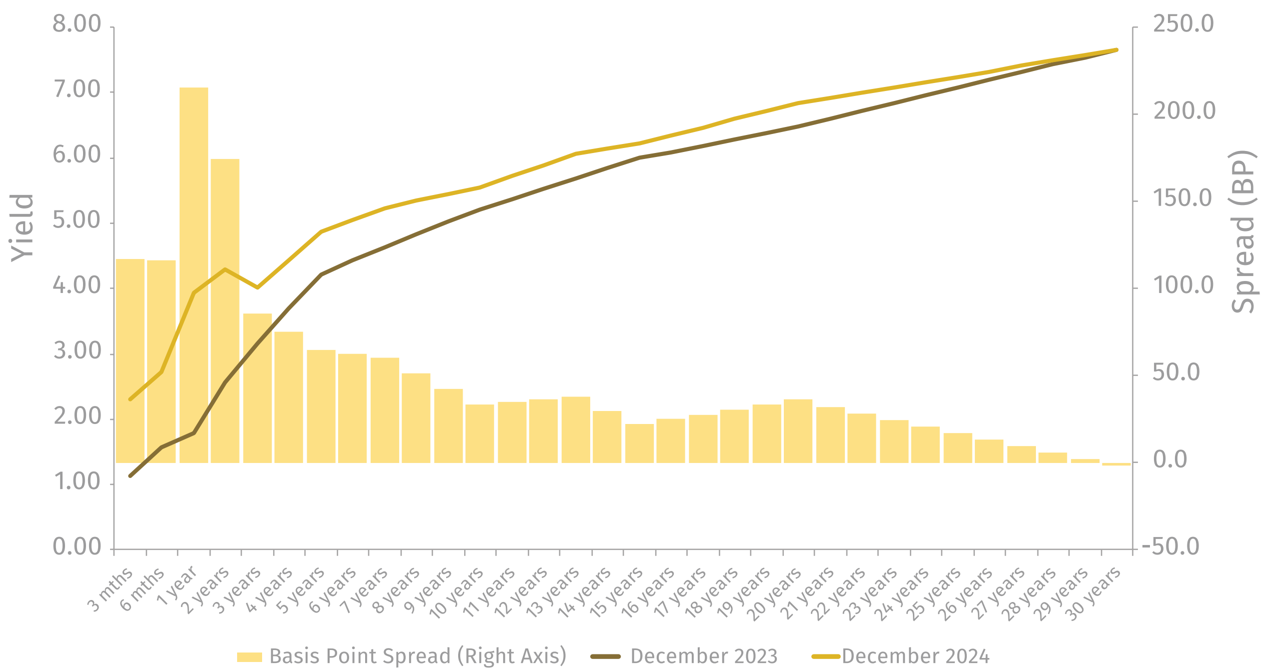
[26] In January 2023, a $702.9 million series II 2037 Government bond was listed on the TTSE secondary Government Bond Market. This bond was previously issued in 2012 and formed part of the CLICO Investment Fund distribution of assets.

[27] The secondary Corporate Bond Market records the trading activity of the three bonds issued by the National Investment Fund Holding Company Limited (NIFHCL), which were listed in September 2018.

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT YIELD CURVE[28]

After undergoing a review of its construction (Box 1), the Trinidad and Tobago Central Government yield curve continued to display an upward trend over 2024 (Figure 7). The upward progression of the Government yield curve was due to a combination of falling excess liquidity levels, increasing Government debt and associated higher risk premiums. Over the year, reduced excess liquidity in the banking system, especially during the second quarter of 2024, placed upward pressure on short-term treasury rates. The 3-month and 1-year rates jumped by 117 basis points to 2.31 per cent, and 215 basis points to 3.94 per cent, respectively. Similarly, excess liquidity conditions influenced the medium to long-term rates. The 3-year and 5-year rates increased by 85 basis points to 4.01 per cent, and 65 basis points to 4.87 per cent, respectively. The benchmark 10-year rate advanced by 34 basis points to 5.55 per cent and the 15-year rate increased by 24 basis points to 6.22 per cent. All of the very long-term rates advanced along the curve with the exception of the 30-year rate which declined by one basis point to 7.64 per cent.

FIGURE 7
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO GOVERNMENT TREASURY YIELD CURVE



Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

[28] The TT Treasury Yield Curve is constructed monthly by the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago and is based on information from Domestic Market Operations (Central Bank), the Trinidad and Tobago Stock Exchange (TTSE) secondary Government Bond Market and market reads from market participants.

MUTUAL FUNDS MARKET

The domestic mutual fund industry grew marginally in 2024 (Figure 8). Aggregate funds under management[29] gained 0.2 per cent to settle at $52,570.3 million[30] at the end-December 2024 compared to 0.4 per cent in December 2023. The growth in the industry was largely driven by Money Market funds which rose by 2.6 per cent in December 2024, to $15,782.3 million. Funds classified as 'Other'[31] recorded an increase of 0.3 per cent to $445.8 million, while Income funds were mostly unchanged at $28,472.0 million. On the other hand, Equity funds recorded a decline of 3.5 per cent to end the year at $7,870.2 million. In 2024, the rise in short-term domestic treasury rates, and heightened volatility in advanced economy capital markets may have contributed to challenging conditions in the domestic equity markets.

Market conditions elicited a movement towards safety. Fixed Net Asset Value (NAV) funds increased by 2.0 per cent to $40,163.5 million, while floating NAV funds slipped by 5.1 per cent to $12,406.9 million over the year. Overall, foreign currency funds expanded by 2.3 per cent to $10,115.3 million, while TT dollar-denominated funds declined by 0.3 per cent to $42,455.0 million.

Despite a minimal improvement in aggregate fund value, the mutual fund industry recorded a net redemption position in 2024. Net redemptions amounted to $177.6 million, comprising $15,857.8 million in sales and $16,035.4 million in redemptions. The net redemption position in 2024 was driven mainly by net withdrawals from Income funds and Equity funds of $341.4 million and $289.0 million, respectively. Conversely, Money Market funds recorded net sales of $456.7 million. The currency composition of the industry revealed that both domestic currency and foreign currency funds registered net redemptions of $170.0 million and $7.6 million, respectively, despite an improvement in fund valuations in the latter.

Collective Investment Scheme (CIS) data published by the Trinidad and Tobago Securities and Exchange Commission (TTSEC)[32] indicated an improvement at the end of 2024. Data suggest that during 2024, the total value of Assets Under Management (AUM) for all registered funds increased by 2.0 per cent to $63,918.3 million, faster than the increase of 1.0 per cent in 2023. The uptick in the industry was attributed to net sales of $627.1 million, encompassing $2,287.3 million in sales and $1,660.2 million in redemptions.

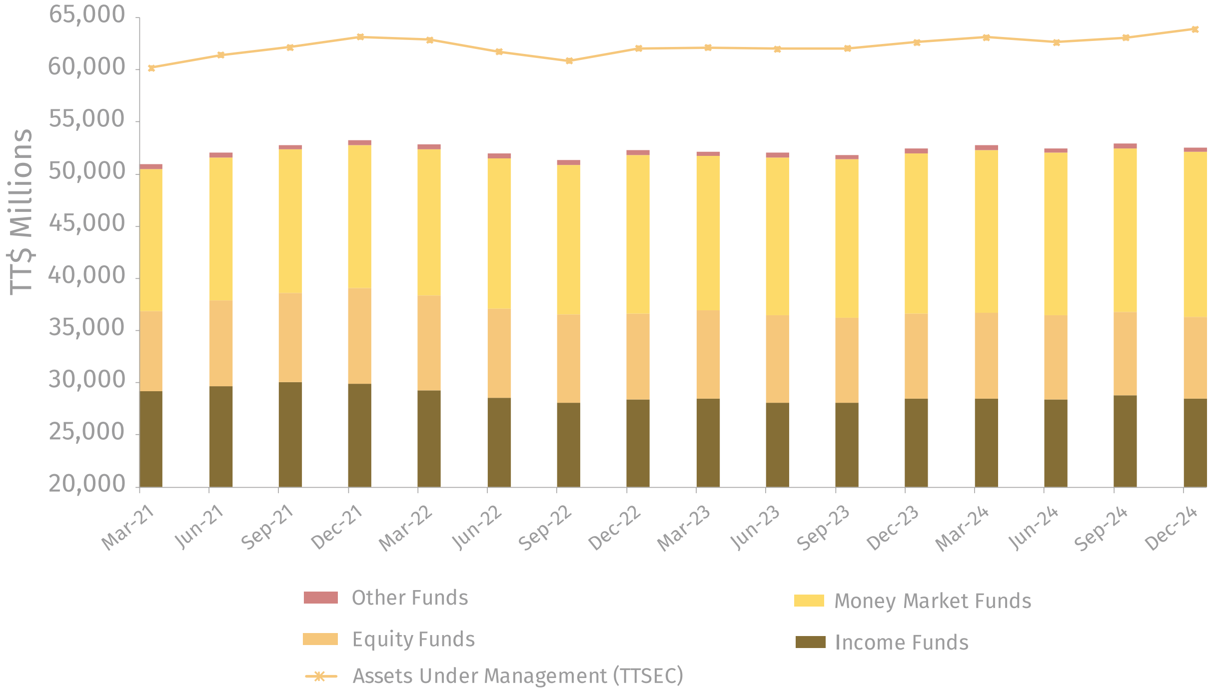
[29] Aggregate funds under management refer to mutual fund information collected by the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, including funds managed by the Trinidad and Tobago Unit Trust Corporation, Royal Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, Republic Bank Limited and First Citizens Bank Limited.

[30] As at the end of December 2024, data collected by the Central Bank accounted for 82.2 per cent of the total industry asset under management as given by the TTSEC CIS data.

[31] Other funds represent high yield funds and special purpose funds.

[32] CIS data from the TTSEC represents 84 registered funds from 16 issuers at the end of 2024.

FIGURE 8
MUTUAL FUNDS: AGGREGATE FUND VALUE



Sources: Trinidad and Tobago Securities and Exchange Commission (TTSEC) and Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

BOX 1:
The Standardised Trinidad and Tobago Yield Curve: A Methodological Review

The Standardised Trinidad and Tobago Yield Curve (TTYC) was developed in 2014 to provide stakeholders with a benchmark for sovereign interest rates[1]. Since its inception, the Central Bank has consistently produced the yield curve on a monthly basis, making it a reliable tool for financial market participants and policymakers. At the introduction of the curve, the intention was to review the methodology underpinning the construction of the curve every five years to ensure it remained fit for purpose. Over the years, various economic and financial developments have shaped the slope of the curve. This box highlights the findings of the review process and outlines a few changes in construction of the yield curve.

The TTYC reflects an amalgamation of yields from market players with different maturity preferences, yield sentiments, and buyer and seller characteristics. It is constructed using data acquired from three main sources. These include: (i) short-term treasury activity from the Central Bank's Domestic Market Operations; (ii) market reads from a panel of contributors; and (iii) secondary market trading information from the Stock Exchange. The first source supplies benchmark rates for the short-term 3-month, 6-month, 1-year, and 2-year tenors, as well as any longer-term treasury security issued by the Central Bank. The second source of yield information is via monthly market reads from a panel of market participants[2]. The third source originates from official trade information from the Trinidad and Tobago Stock Exchange (TTSE) Secondary Government Bond market. Additionally, the selection of yield data for inclusion in the construction of the curve follows specific criteria, particularly a minimum time-to-maturity of 3 years and above[3]. Following the collection of available yield information, the data is compiled for each tenor and to minimize variability, yields are subject to a two-standard deviation criteria. Considering that market reads and trading data do not fill the entire term structure, a linear interpolation methodology is used to fill unknown points along the curve.

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[1] In 2014 the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago (CBTT), in collaboration with key stakeholders, initiated a project to further develop the local capital market. After extensive consultations, the Central Bank agreed to produce and publish a monthly-standardised treasury par yield curve (called the TT Treasury Yield Curve) for use by all players in the local financial market (CBTT, 2014).

[2] These contributors provide reads for 3, 5, 7, 10, 15, 20 and 25-year tenors based on their own methodologies.

[3] Prior to November 2024, Government bonds with an issue size of $2.0 million and below were omitted from the construction of the curve.

BOX 1:
The Standardised Trinidad and Tobago Yield Curve (Continued)

An assessment of the trends in the curve since its inception in 2014 shows that the curve has performed well, displaying theoretically sound underpinnings. The curve has taken different shapes during different periods but is generally upward sloping, meaning the longer the tenor the greater the anticipated yield. In this case, the higher tenors add a liquidity or term premium, which takes into account the greater risk of holding long-term debt over short-term debt. The main factors that influence the shape of the yield curve are economic growth, inflation, monetary policy and government debt levels[4]. However, the differences in impact from these major factors reveal that there is a complex interplay and time-varying characteristic, which can result in divergences in movements of the yield curve. For example, changes to the Repo rate directly affect short-term rates on the yield curve, with a lagged effect. This relationship does not hold for medium to long-term rates. Although changes to the Repo rate are used to signal the direction of interest rates, the divergence along the term structure indicates that other conditions can influence the term structure. Medium to long-term rates are typically influenced by a combination of the current short-term rate, expectations about future short-term rates, economic and inflation expectations, and the term premium[5] **(Figure 1)**.

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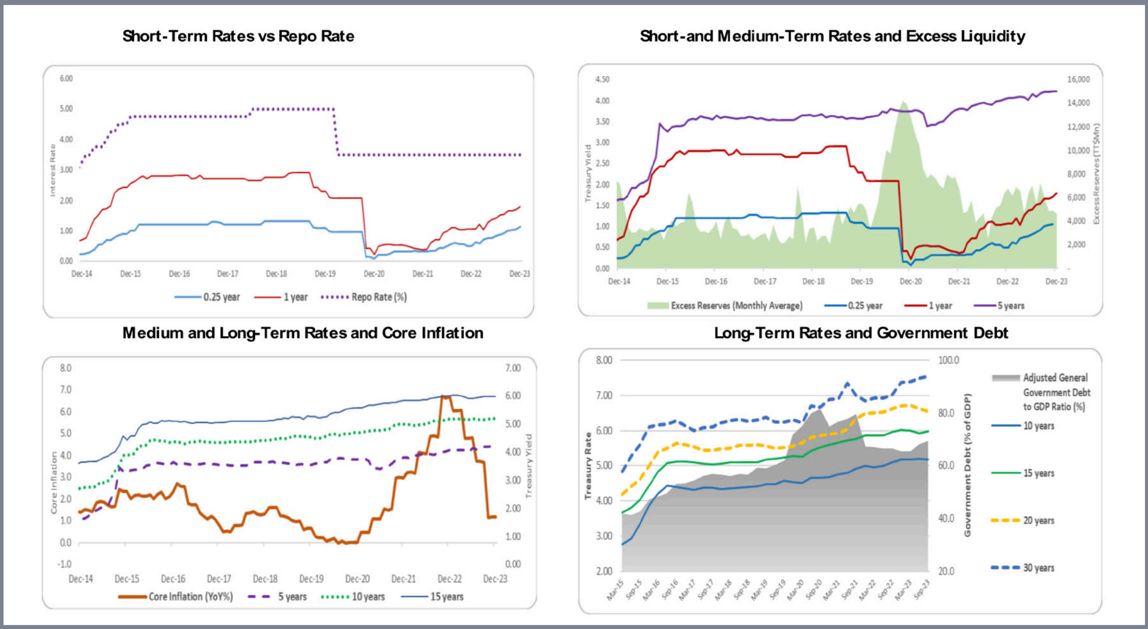
[4] Dhanessar (2017) found that the term spread or slope of the curve was shown to be successful in predicting recessions and inflationary outcomes two to four quarters ahead, confirming the generally accepted theory that the slope of a yield curve can forecast future macroeconomic conditions (Stock and Watson (1989), Estrella and Mishkin (1995), and Berge (2015)).

[5] Correlation coefficient between short to medium-term rates and excess reserves range between -0.51 and 0.12. Correlation coefficient between medium to long-term rates and inflation range between 0.28 and 0.51. Meanwhile, correlation coefficient between medium to long-term rates and Government debt range between -0.55 and 0.79. Government debt is represented by quarterly adjusted general Government debt to GDP ratio (%). Correlation coefficients between: (i) 0 and 0.2 are regarded as **very weak**; (ii) 0.2 and 0.4 are regarded as **weak**; (iii) 0.4 and 0.6 are regarded as **moderate**; (iv) 0.6 and 0.8 are regarded as **strong**; and (v) 0.8 and 1 are regarded as **very strong**. +/- indicates the direction (same/opposite) of the correlation.

BOX 1:
The Standardised Trinidad and Tobago Yield Curve (Continued)

Figure 1
Trends in Market Conditions and Treasury Rates



Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

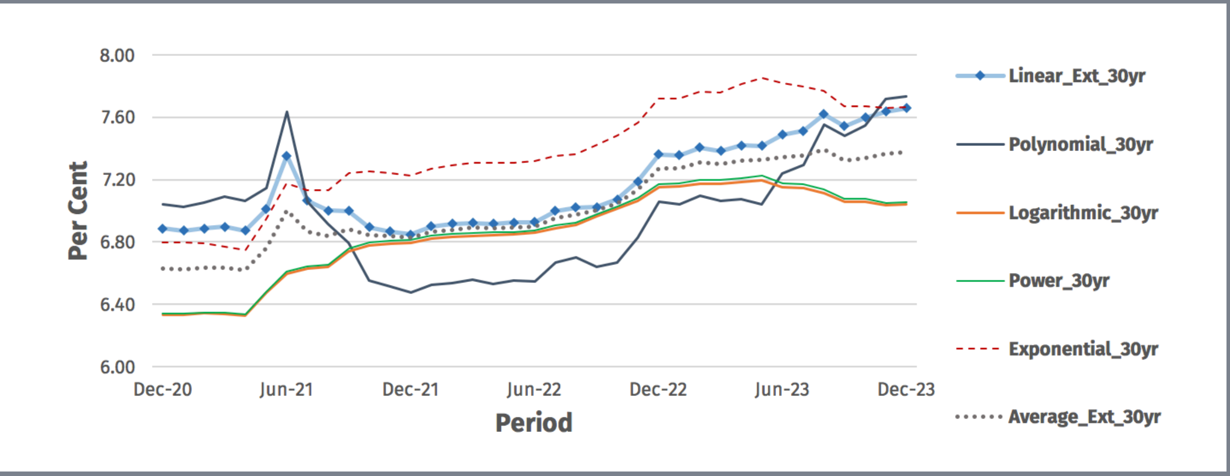
A key finding of the assessment is that the current market structure affects price discovery along the curve. This is largely due to the characteristics of the domestic capital market, which is dominated by private placements of Government bonds in the primary market, and limited secondary market trading activity. These factors limit the effectiveness of price discovery. Bonds that are issued via a public offering or auction are accessible to a wide range of investors (institutions, banks, and the public). The public offering process ensures transparency and contributes towards a fair and open price discovery mechanism, while a public auction also allows for broad market participation, fostering competition and efficient price discovery. Conversely, private placements of Government bonds are accessible to a targeted or select group of investors, which restricts the number of participants in the price-setting process. Although trading data on the TTSE Secondary Government Bond Market is readily available, due to the limited number of GORTT bonds issued via public offerings, the number and volume of trades in this market is small and limited, affecting price discovery along the yield curve.

BOX 1:
The Standardised Trinidad and Tobago Yield Curve (Continued)

The current yield curve methodology also potentially limits price discovery by excluding certain trades. Secondary Government bond market trades with a face value less than $1.0 million were excluded, as market participants' had concerns about the potential for small trades to be inaccurate[6]. Since the curve's introduction in August 2014, 70 secondary market trades were excluded from the yield curve calculations and of the 70 trades excluded, 28 fell outside of the two standard deviation range, ranging from -160 to 136 basis points when compared to the actual yields. For the remaining 42 trades that were inside the two standard deviation range, the calculated difference from the actual yields ranged from -63 to 105 basis points.

As such, to ensure the TTYC remains a reliable benchmark for sovereign interest rates, a minor adjustment was made to the methodology. Effective November 2024, the minimum traded face value criterion was removed and all secondary market trades are included in the yield curve calculation, provided the yield satisfies the two standard deviation criterion. Additionally, as it pertains to the extrapolation methodology for the very-long-term (VLT) tenors, it was observed that the linear extrapolation method could generate very large swings at times. To ensure validity, alternate extrapolation methods (polynomial, logarithmic, power, and exponential) are utilised. However, a comparison across each method showed that the linear method is generally in the middle of the alternative methods; therefore, the linear method continues to be the most suitable at this time **(Figure 2)**.

Figure 2
Examination of the 30-Year Extrapolation



Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

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[6] Concerns initially raised during the formation of the TTTYC indicated that due to the lack of depth and illiquidity of the secondary Government bond market, trades with a face value considered small (less than $1.0 million) could be subject to inaccuracies with price discovery.

BOX 1:
The Standardised Trinidad and Tobago Yield Curve (Continued)

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CHAPTER 8

International Trade and Payments

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

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

Data for the first nine months of 2024 point to a deterioration in the net goods trading position, coupled with a net outflow from the financial account. As a result, the external accounts recorded an overall deficit of $593.4 million in the first nine months of 2024 compared with a deficit of $454.8 million in the corresponding period of 2023 **(Table 16A)**. In 2024 as a whole, gross official reserves fell by $653.6 million to $5,604.3 million, equivalent to 8.0 months of prospective imports of goods and non-factor services. The end of year figure takes into account the inflow of $369.9 million from HSF as well as the proceeds from a Central Government Eurobond amounting to $750.0 million. Trinidad and Tobago's international reserves remained above the traditional measures of adequacy over the course of 2024.

The current account recorded a lower surplus of $1,308.4 million in the first nine months of 2024, a year-on-year decrease of 53.4 per cent. The narrowed current account surplus primarily stemmed from a reduction in the net goods trading position. Over the first nine months of 2024, the net goods trading position declined by 43.0 per cent to $1,764.6 million, largely reflective of a falloff in export earnings and a pickup in imports. Total exports declined by 9.1 per cent, registering $7,301.0 million over January to September 2024, compared to $8,030.8 million in the same period in 2023. The lower outturn in total exports was driven mainly by a reduction in energy exports. More specifically, energy exports fell by 9.7 per cent (year-on-year) to $5,868.3 million in the first nine months of 2024. Declines were noted for most sub-categories of energy exports: gas (-25.9 per cent) and petrochemicals (-6.8 per cent). Lower international commodity prices coupled with lower export volumes for some products during the period were responsible for the weaker performance. Notwithstanding, the export value of petroleum crude and refined products recorded an increase of 4.5 per cent, which was associated with higher export volumes of refined products – including motor gasoline, kerosene, jet fuel, diesel, and gas oils. Meanwhile, non-energy exports fell by 6.7 per cent to $1,432.7 million.

Total imports rose by $600.4 million to $5,536.4 million in the first nine months of 2024. Over the nine months to September 2024, fuel imports increased by 29.4 per cent (year-on-year), or $291.9 million, to reach $1,284.7 million. This elevation in fuel imports was mainly attributed to higher import volumes of refined products for the purpose of exporting to regional markets. Non-fuel imports recorded an uptick, increasing by $308.5 million to $4,251.6 million.

In the first nine months of 2024, the services account recorded a slightly smaller deficit compared to the corresponding period of 2023. The outturn on the services account was largely on account of a rise in receipts from non-resident spending on domestic services ($112.4 million), which more than outweighed the increase in domestic payments for foreign services ($40.6 million). In terms of the main sub-accounts, other business services registered a significantly smaller deficit, improving by $60.2 million to $517.7 million over the first nine months of 2024. This was largely due to lower spending on imports of technical, trade-related and other business services. Similarly, the deficit on the insurance and pension services sub-account narrowed to $158.3 million (compared to $196.6 million over the similar period of 2023). Complementing these movements was a decrease in the transport services deficit which declined by 20.0 per cent to $130.6 million, largely due to a pickup in non-resident spending on domestic air transport services. Also contributing to the improvement in the services account was a surplus on the travel services sub-account. The surplus on travel services widened by 12.7 per cent to $312.9 million over January to September 2024, owing to a simultaneous increase in visitor spending in the domestic economy and a decline in domestic spending abroad. Notably, the main source markets for visitor arrivals to Trinidad and Tobago were the United States, Canada and CARICOM.

A smaller surplus was recorded on the primary income account over January to September 2024. The primary income account surplus narrowed to $185.5 million in the first nine months of 2024, compared to a surplus of $346.4 million registered in the same period one year earlier. The surplus was underpinned by reinvested earnings in the domestic economy by financial holding companies. Meanwhile, a decrease in inbound transfers to the Government resulted in a reduced surplus of $20.0 million on the secondary income account in the first nine months of 2024, compared to the surplus of $99.6 million over a similar period in 2023.

Transactions in the financial account resulted in a net outflow of $565.3 million over the first nine months of 2024. Movements in the direct investment category, particularly direct investment liabilities, were largely responsible for this outturn. The decrease of $599.2 million in direct investment liabilities (direct investment in Trinidad and Tobago by foreign investors) was driven by negative reinvestment of earnings[33] due to losses by domestic energy sector companies and, to a lesser extent, a reduction in equity capital holdings. Compounding this outturn was the simultaneous rise in direct investment assets ($32.3 million), stemming from an uptick in reinvestment of earnings abroad, primarily by financial holding companies.

[33] According to the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) Balance of Payments Manual 6th edition, "Negative reinvested earnings indicate that, for the reference period, the dividends paid out by the direct investment enterprise (DIENT) or investment funds are higher than the net earnings in that period or that the company is operating at a loss."

To a lesser extent, movements in the categories of portfolio investment and financial derivatives also contributed to the net outflow on the financial account over the reference period. Portfolio investment recorded a net outflow of $124.2 million due to a rise in portfolio assets of $556.1 million. This movement largely reflected increased holdings of both short-term debt securities held primarily by domestic banks and equity securities mainly held by the HSF and pension funds during the nine-month period. Tempering this outturn was a simultaneous rise in portfolio investment liabilities of $432.0 million, reflecting increased non-resident holdings of long-term domestic debt securities. Notably, this movement is largely attributable to the Central Government's issuance of a $750.0 million bond on the international capital market in June 2024. Concurrently, the financial derivatives category recorded a net outflow of $51.7 million due to the simultaneous increase in resident holdings of these financial instruments ($47.0 million), coupled with a reduction in liabilities. Transactions involving the HSF were mainly responsible for movements in this category.

Net inflows in the other investment category tempered the overall net outflow recorded in the financial account. The net inflow of $242.1 million recorded in the other investment category[34] was underpinned by a reduction in holdings of other investment assets abroad of $914.6 million. This outturn was attributable to a decrease in other accounts receivable owed by non-residents, and currency and deposits held abroad by residents. Partially offsetting this was a decrease in other investment liabilities ($672.5 million) led by repayments on loan liabilities owed by the Government to non-residents, a reduction in currency and deposits held in domestic financial institutions and, to a lesser extent, other accounts payable and trade credits owed to non-residents over the nine-month period.

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

TABLE 16A

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO: SUMMARY BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

/ US$ MILLIONS /

	2020	2021r	2022r	2023r	Jan-Sep 2024p
Current Account	**-1,356.4**	**2,629.3**	**5,244.1**	**3,396.7**	**1,308.4**
Goods and Services	**1,605.4**	**-344.8**	**2,906.2**	**6,889.5**	**1,102.9**
Goods, net*	984.1	4,711.9	9,180.9	3,762.7	1,764.6
Exports**	6,002.9	11,082.0	16,687.1	10,378.3	7,301.0
Energy	4,357.2	8,962.1	14,305.1	8,460.0	5,868.3
Non-Energy	1,645.7	2,119.9	2,382.0	1,918.4	1,432.7
Imports**	5,018.8	6,370.1	7,506.2	6,615.7	5,536.4
Fuels***	723.3	1,160.8	1,863.0	1,299.7	1,284.7
Other	4,295.5	5,209.3	5,643.1	5,316.0	4,251.6
Services, net	-1,328.9	-1,805.6	-2,291.5	-991.0	-661.7
Primary Income, net	**-1,055.6**	**-391.7**	**-1,722.0**	**505.1**	**185.5**
Secondary Income, net	**44.0**	**114.7**	**76.6**	**120.0**	**20.0**
Capital Account	**0.5**	**6.7**	**0.2**	**0.3**	**0.5**
Financial Account	**-1,513.3**	**2,800.6**	**3,216.2**	**1,605.8**	**565.3**
Direct Investment	**-958.0**	**1,704.2**	**2,267.6**	**2,086.2**	**631.5**
Net Acquisition of Financial Assets	98.0	769.5	1,354.1	530.7	32.3
Net Incurrence of Liabilities	1,056.0	-934.8	-913.5	-1,555.5	-599.2
Portfolio Investment	**-184.6**	**256.3**	**754.2**	**-370.1**	**124.2**
Net Acquisition of Financial Assets	-85.5	257.6	674.4	-37.7	556.1
Net Incurrence of Liabilities	99.2	1.3	-79.8	332.5	432.0
Financial Derivatives	**-8.7**	**137.4**	**-99.9**	**-16.1**	**51.7**
Net Acquisition of Financial Assets	-9.1	176.3	-65.1	-2.0	47.1
Net Incurrence of Liabilities	-0.4	38.9	34.8	14.1	-4.6
Other Investment****	**-362.1**	**702.8**	**294.4**	**-94.1**	**-242.1**
Net Acquisition of Financial Assets	-267.1	1,107.6	881.5	-220.9	-914.6
Net Incurrence of Liabilities	95.0	404.9	587.1	-126.8	-672.5
Net Errors and Omissions	**-132.6**	**90.5**	**-2,075.2**	**-2,365.8**	**-1,337.1**
Overall Balance	**24.8**	**-74.2**	**-47.2**	**-574.5**	**-593.4**
(Per Cent of GDP)					
Current Account	**-6.5**	**10.9**	**18.4**	**13.3**	**6.1**
Goods, net	4.7	19.5	32.2	14.8	8.2
Exports	28.6	45.8	58.5	40.7	33.9
Imports	23.9	26.3	26.3	26.0	25.7
Services, net	-6.3	-7.5	-8.0	-3.9	-3.1
Primary Income, net	-5.0	-1.6	-6.0	2.0	0.9
Overall Balance	**0.1**	**-0.3**	**-0.2**	**-2.3**	**-2.8**
Memorandum Item					
Gross Official Reserves^	6,953.8	6,879.6	6,832.4	6,257.9	5,664.5

Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

Notes:

1 GDP data used for ratios to GDP prior to 2024 are sourced from the CSO; data for 2024 are Central Bank estimates.

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 balance

* Energy goods data comprise estimates by the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago.

** Exports and imports are reported on a FOB (Free on Board) basis. Energy exports include exports of petroleum, petroleum products and related materials and the exports of petrochemicals.

*** Includes petroleum, petroleum products and related materials.

^ End of Period.

r Revised.

p Provisional.

INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT POSITION

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

Trinidad and Tobago's net international investment position (NIIP) was estimated at $10,877.7 million at the end of September 2024, an increase of $137.3 million from the position at the end of 2023 (Table 16B). While both the stock of external assets and liabilities recorded lower positions at the end of September 2024 compared to December 2023, the improvement in the country's net asset position stemmed from the reduction in the stock of external liabilities, outstripping the decrease in the stock of external assets. The decline in the level of external assets was mainly attributable to a reduction in other investment held abroad, while a reduction in direct investment, particularly equity capital and reinvestment of earnings, was responsible for the decline in external liabilities.

Over the reference period, the stock of external assets fell by $594.5 million to roughly $30.4 billion, driven by movements in other investment and reserve assets. Other investment assets decreased by approximately $1.1 billion to $5.6 billion at the end of September 2024 owing to a reduction in currency and deposits mainly held abroad by domestic non-financial institutions and the HSF, lower other accounts receivable owed by non-residents, and repayments on loans owed by non-residents. Concurrently, despite the boost from the Central Government's issuance of the $750.0 million international bond in June 2024, reserve assets declined by $593.4 million (to just under $5.7 billion) as outflows, mainly from central bank payments and external debt service obligations, exceeded inflows during the period. Partially offsetting the reduction in the stock of external assets was the accumulation of portfolio assets abroad by $1.0 billion to $13.3 billion. In particular, domestic financial institutions increased their holdings of foreign equity securities and debt securities held abroad.

The stock of external liabilities decreased by $731.8 million to $19.5 billion at the end of September 2024, primarily reflecting movements in the direct investment and other investment categories. At the end of the nine-month period, direct investment liabilities stood at $7.5 billion, $695.4 million lower than at the end of 2023, due to a reduction in equity capital and reinvestment of earnings, mainly from energy sector companies. The stock of other investment liabilities also recorded a reduction by the end of September 2024, declining by $588.8 million to $7.0 billion. Repayments by the Government on loan liabilities owed to non-residents, reduced currency and deposits held by non-residents, and lower trade credits and advances owed to non-residents were responsible for this outturn. Tempering the overall decline in the stock of external liabilities was an increase of $559.1 million to $4.8 billion in the stock of portfolio investment liabilities, which includes the Government's $750.0 million bond issuance on the international capital market in June 2024.

TABLE 16B

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO: INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT POSITION (END OF PERIOD)

/ US$ MILLIONS /

	2020	2021r	2022r	2023r	Sep 2024p
Net International Investment Position	**2,238.7**	**6,105.0**	**8,494.0**	**10,740.4**	**10,877.7**
Assets	**23,681.9**	**28,721.7**	**30,463.1**	**30,948.7**	**30,354.2**
Direct Investment	1,842.2	4,018.2	5,105.0	5,740.2	5,748.3
Portfolio Investment	10,162.5	11,768.4	11,466.1	12,227.7	13,255.6
Financial Derivatives	0.6	136.5	68.2	74.0	114.1
Other Investment*	4,722.9	5,919.0	6,991.4	6,648.8	5,571.7
Reserve Assets	6,953.8	6,879.6	6,832.4	6,257.9	5,664.5
Liabilities	**20,178.3**	**22,616.6**	**21,969.0**	**20,208.3**	**19,476.5**
Direct Investment	10,495.8	11,105.0	10,146.6	8,215.3	7,519.9
Portfolio Investment	3,960.6	3,935.8	3,969.5	4,277.8	4,836.9
Financial Derivatives	0.0	38.9	72.8	89.6	82.8
Other Investment*	6,986.8	7,536.9	7,780.1	7,625.7	7,036.9

Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

* Other investment comprises 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.

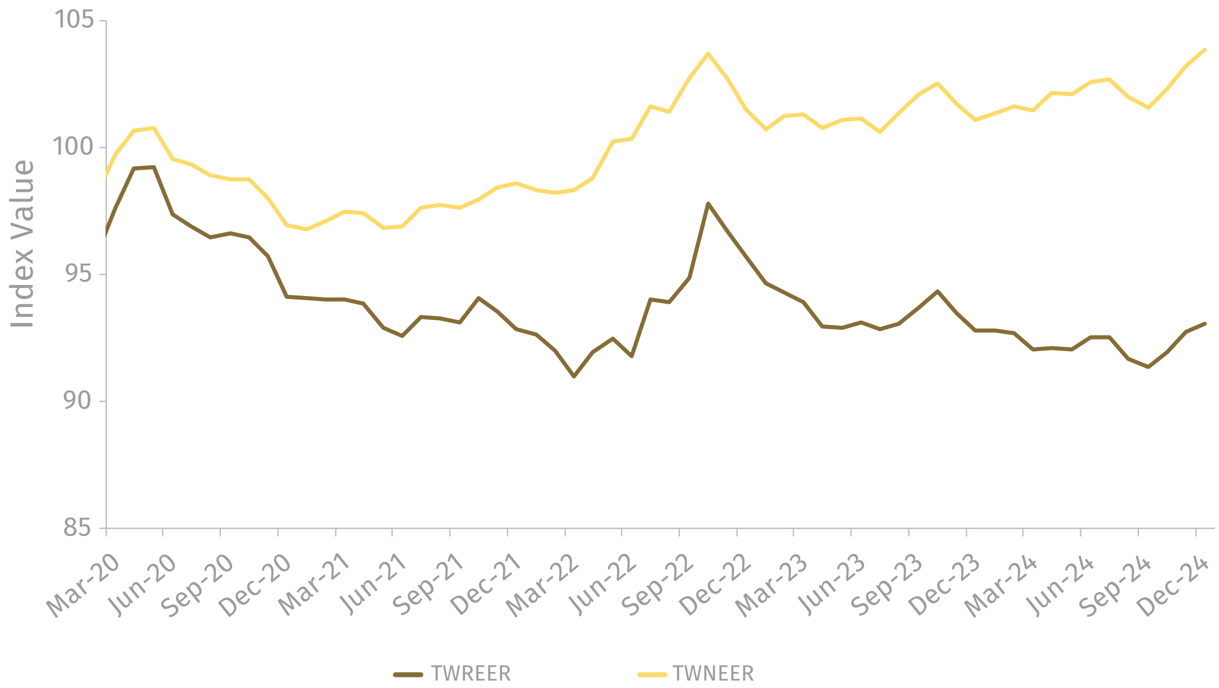
EFFECTIVE EXCHANGE RATES

Trinidad and Tobago's international price competitiveness, as measured by the trade-weighted real effective exchange rate (TWREER), experienced a moderate improvement of 1.3 per cent over the twelve months of 2024 (Figure 9). Movements in the TWREER were largely influenced by the inflation effect, as measured by an index of relative prices, which outweighed the exchange rate effect, as measured by the trade-weighted nominal effective exchange rate (TWNEER). Over the year, the increase in competitiveness was due to smaller changes in domestic prices (0.5 per cent) compared to the country's main trading partners (2.8 per cent). Compounding this was the relative stability of the domestic currency against the US dollar. Overall, the TWREER suggests that Trinidad and Tobago's exports were more price competitive compared to its main trading partners.

FIGURE 9

TRADE WEIGHTED REAL AND NOMINAL EFFECTIVE EXCHANGE RATES

(2015=100)



Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

CHAPTER 9

International and Regional Economic Developments

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Despite numerous challenges, including elevated inflationary pressures, geopolitical conflicts, and adverse weather events, the global economy remained resilient, experiencing moderate growth. According to the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) April 2025 World Economic Outlook (WEO), global growth is estimated at 3.3 per cent in 2024, reflecting a decline from 3.5 per cent the previous year. This estimate was largely driven by Emerging Market and Developing Economies (EMDEs), which grew by 4.3 per cent in 2024, fuelled by domestic demand and better-than-expected net exports in countries such as India and China. Conversely, economic growth in Advanced Economies (AEs) was estimated at 1.8 per cent in 2024, up from 1.7 per cent in 2023. Despite ongoing geopolitical conflicts in the Middle East and Central Asia, as well as inflationary pressures from services, most countries are effectively managing inflation. However, the disinflationary process is still not complete, as inflation rates in some AEs and EMDEs began to increase in the fourth quarter of 2024. As such, though most central banks have eased their monetary policy stances, many of them have exhibited caution, as inflation (particularly for services) has remained sticky.

Though 2024 saw moderate levels of growth, performances varied across countries as some economies still grappled with elevated inflation rates (Table 17). Real GDP in the United States (US) expanded by an estimated 2.8 per cent in 2024, compared to 2.9 per cent the previous year, driven by strong domestic consumption. On the other hand, economic growth in the Euro area and the United Kingdom (UK) remained sluggish. In the Euro area, growth was estimated at 0.9 per cent in 2024, up from 0.4 per cent one year earlier, driven by increased household spending, business investment, and government consumption. In the UK, a cooling of monetary policy and greater government investments led to an estimated growth rate of 1.1 per cent in 2024, a modest uptick from 0.4 per cent in 2023. Conversely, growth in Japan was estimated to have expanded by 0.1 per cent in 2024, following an expansion of 1.5 per cent in 2023. This growth was due to strong exports, increased capital expenditure and buoyant consumption patterns.

Among the EMDEs, economic growth was favourable in 2024, with China and India being the primary drivers (Table 18). However, China recorded one of the lowest rates of economic growth since 2022, reflective of challenges in their property market. China's real GDP is estimated to have expanded by 5.0 per cent in 2024, down from a 5.4 per cent expansion in 2023. This growth was propelled by stronger export demand and falling mortgage rates which partially offset the economic impact of property market instability. Likewise, economic growth in India continued to be resilient estimated at 6.5 per cent in 2024, however, down from 9.2 per cent in the previous year. This outturn was due to strong consumer demand and investments that tempered the impact of decelerated industrial activity.

Despite its downward trajectory during 2024, above target inflation[35] remained a challenge for most economies. Inflation in the US, as measured by the Personal Consumption Expenditure price index, edged down in 2024 to an average of 2.5 per cent from an average of 3.8 per cent in 2023. Notwithstanding some momentum in services inflation, the overall deceleration in inflation was driven by lower prices for food and energy commodities. However, it remained above the US Federal Reserve's (the Fed) 2.0 per cent long-run target. Similarly, lower prices for food and energy commodities, helped slow inflation in the Euro area and the UK. Inflation measured 2.4 per cent and 2.5 per cent in 2024, respectively, down from the 2023 highs of 5.5 per cent and 7.4 per cent, respectively but still above their Central Banks' target of 2.0 per cent. The inflation rate for Japan fell to 2.7 per cent in 2024 from 3.3 per cent in 2023 on account of fuel subsidies implemented by the Government. Regarding the EMDEs, China's inflation rate averaged 0.2 per cent in 2024—remaining unchanged from the previous year and well below the People's Bank of China's (PBoC) target of 3.0 per cent. This low inflation rate was due to low consumer confidence which impacted domestic demand. Average consumer prices in India decelerated to an average of 5.0 per cent in 2024 from 5.7 per cent in 2023, on account of softer global goods. However, it remained above the target level.

Monetary policy remained mixed as different economies faced varied stages of the disinflationary process. During the first eight months of 2024, the Fed maintained the federal funds rate at a range of 5.25 to 5.50 per cent in an effort to converge prices towards the inflation target. During this period, the Fed indicated that inflation began to decelerate towards its 2.0 per cent goal with minimal negative effects on growth and unemployment. To further stimulate economic activity, in September 2024, the Fed made its first rate cut since its tightening cycle began in March 2022, reducing the rate by 50 basis points to a range of 4.75 to 5.0 per cent. As inflation continued to ease, two subsequent 25 basis points cuts were made in November and December, bringing the rate to a range of 4.25 to 4.50 per cent at the end of the year. The Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) reiterated its commitment to monitoring inflation, economic activity, and the labour market in executing its decisions regarding monetary policy. Similarly, following a series of consecutive interest rate hikes to historically high levels, both the Bank of England (BoE) and the European Central Bank (ECB) kept their interest rates steady at 5.25 per cent and 4.5 per cent, respectively, for the first five months of 2024. In June, the ECB made its first rate cut since 2016, reducing its benchmark rate by 25 basis points to 4.25 per cent. Subsequently, the ECB engaged in three rate reductions, bringing the interest rate to 3.15 per cent in December 2024. On the other hand, the BoE exercised caution with its interest rate adjustments, making two 25 basis points reductions, one in August (bringing the rate to 5.0 per cent) and another in November (bringing the rate to 4.75 per cent). In contrast to other major AE central banks, the Bank of Japan (BoJ) increased its key short-term interest rate in March 2024 to 0.1 per cent, marking

[35] Central Bank inflation target rates for selected economies: US - 2.0 per cent; UK - 2.0 per cent; Euro area - 2.0 per cent; Japan - 2.0 per cent; China - 3.0 per cent; India - 4.0 +/- 2.0 per cent; and Russia - 4.0 per cent.

the end of an eight-year period of negative interest rates (-0.1 per cent). As Japan's inflation stabilised, the BoJ engaged in a further 15 basis points hike, bringing its key rate to 0.25 per cent in July, its highest rate in 15 years. Notably, the BoJ indicated further rate increases in the future are possible based on their forecasts.

Among the EMDEs, the PBoC lowered its one-year and five-year loan prime rates (LPR) on two occasions in 2024 to support economic activity amid contained inflation. The first cuts occurred in July, bringing the one-year LPR to 3.35 per cent and the five-year LPR to 3.85 per cent. The second cuts were in October, reducing the LPRs to 3.10 per cent and 3.60 per cent, respectively. Meanwhile, as the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) grappled with inflationary pressures, its main policy rate was maintained at 6.5 per cent throughout 2024.

TABLE 17

ADVANCED ECONOMIES: REAL GDP GROWTH

/ PER CENT /

	2019r	2020r	2021r	2022r	2023r	2024e	2025f	2026f
United States	2.6	-2.2	6.1	2.5	2.9	2.8	1.8	1.7
United Kingdom	1.6	-10.3	8.6	4.8	0.4	1.1	1.1	1.4
Euro Area	1.6	-6.0	6.3	3.5	0.4	0.9	0.8	1.2
Japan	-0.4	-4.2	2.7	0.9	1.5	0.1	0.6	0.6

Source: International Monetary Fund, World Economic Outlook Database (April 2025)

r Revised.
e Estimate.
f Forecast.

TABLE 18

EMERGING ECONOMIES: REAL GDP GROWTH

/ PER CENT /

	2019r	2020r	2021r	2022r	2023r	2024e	2025f	2026f
China	6.1	2.3	8.6	3.1	5.4	5.0	4.0	4.0
India*	3.9	-5.8	9.7	7.6	9.2	6.5	6.2	6.3
Brazil	1.2	-3.3	4.8	3.0	3.2	3.4	2.0	2.0

Source: International Monetary Fund, World Economic Outlook Database (April 2025)

* Data are presented on a fiscal year basis.

r Revised.

e Estimate.

f Forecast.

REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Since the high of 7.4 per cent in 2021, economic growth in the Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) region has steadily trended downward (Table 19). Following growth outturns of 4.2 per cent and 2.4 per cent in 2022 and 2023, respectively, real GDP was estimated to have remained unchanged at 2.4 per cent in 2024 (IMF's WEO January 2025 Update). This reflected ongoing weak external demand and tight monetary policies geared towards curbing inflationary pressures in some of the region's larger economies. Notwithstanding, as the prolonged period of high inflation began to recede owing to the effectiveness of strong monetary policy actions, central banks began to gradually lower interest rates.

THE CARIBBEAN

Although economic growth in the Caribbean picked up in 2024 inflation rates remained contained. In the IMF's Regional Economic Outlook (REO) April 2025, real GDP in the Caribbean was estimated to have expanded by 12.1 per cent in 2024 compared to 8.0 per cent in 2023. This improved performance was driven mainly by non-tourism dependent economies, which grew by 17.1 per cent in 2024 (from 10.8 per cent in 2023), of which the economic expansion in commodity-exporters (23.2 per cent in 2024 from 15.4 per cent in 2023) drove the outturn. More specifically, the robust performance among commodity-exporting countries was reflective of oil developments in Guyana. Tourism-dependent economies experienced a moderate decline in economic activity in 2024 to 2.1 per cent compared to 2.9 per cent in 2023. However, inflation in the Caribbean decelerated to 6.1 per cent in 2024, down from 8.8 per cent in 2023.

Guyana's real GDP continued to dominate the commodity-exporters' contribution to Caribbean economic growth in 2024. Following real GDP growth of 33.8 per cent in 2023, Guyana's economic activity continued to be propelled by its energy sector[36] while its non-oil sector was led by increased output in the agriculture, manufacturing, construction, and services sectors. Oil production rose to an average of over 600,000 barrels per day (bpd) in 2024[37] from 319,000 bpd one year prior. As a result of accelerated oil production during the year, the IMF estimated Guyana's real GDP expanded by 43.6 per cent in 2024 **(Table 19)**. Although Guyana's headline inflation rate was mainly driven by higher food prices during the year, inflation was contained at an estimated 2.9 per cent at the end of 2024, compared to 2.0 per cent one year earlier.

Against the backdrop of slower economic growth and within target inflation, the Bank of Jamaica (BOJ) reduced its policy interest rates in 2024. Economic activity in Jamaica contracted by an estimated 0.8 per cent in 2024, from an expansion of 2.6 per cent in 2023. The passage of Hurricane Beryl in June 2024, which adversely affected the agriculture, forestry and fishing, and mining and quarrying industries, contributed to this weakened economic performance. Additionally, infrastructure damages to the Jamaica Public Service Company led to power outages which negatively impacted the Electricity, Water Supply, and Other Services sectors.

Despite upward price pressures from public passenger vehicles (PPV) fares, shipping costs, increased wages throughout the economy, and the temporary impact of Hurricane Beryl on agricultural supplies, inflation kept within the BOJ's target range of 4.0 per cent to 6.0 per cent in 2024, with few breaches of the upper bound during the year. Overall, Jamaica's inflation rate eased to 5.0 per cent in 2024, down from 6.9 per cent in 2023 due to some containment measures in domestic demand, a stable exchange rate and a decline in imported inflation. As monthly inflation became more anchored within the Bank's target range, the BOJ initiated its monetary policy easing cycle during the third quarter of 2024, lowering its policy interest rate by 25 basis points to 6.75 per cent, from 7.0 per cent in August 2024[38]. Further cuts of the same magnitude occurred in October, November and December 2024 to end the year at 6.0 per cent. In other developments, the IMF released Jamaica's Article IV consultation report in March 2024 and completed its Third Review under the Precautionary and Liquidity Line (PLL) and the Arrangement under the Resilience and Sustainability Facility (RSF)[39] in August 2024.

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[36] Guyana is Latin America's fifth-largest crude oil producer after Brazil, Mexico, Venezuela, and Colombia (Reuters 2025).

[37] ExxonMobil announced plans to expand its operations in Guyana, projecting a production capacity to reach 1.7 million barrels of oil per day (bpd) by 2030.

[38] Prior to August 2024, the Bank of Jamaica held its benchmark interest rate at 7.0 per cent since November 2022.

[39] The PLL and the RSF were approved in March 2023, with access of SDR 727.51 million and SDR 574.35 million, respectively. The completion of third review makes available the remaining SDR 191.45 million (about US$ 258 million) under the RSF and SDR 727.51 million (about US$ 980 million) under the PLL.

Barbados' economic performance remained relatively stable while inflation decelerated in 2024. Resilient business services, tourism, construction and retail trade sectors resulted in economic growth of 4.0 per cent in 2024, slightly below an expansion of 4.1 per cent in 2023. The negative macroeconomic impact from the passage of Hurricane Beryl in June 2024, which caused significant damage to the fishing sector and some coastal infrastructure, was estimated to be moderate due in part to the timing of its occurrence (outside peak tourist season). Lower international commodity prices coupled with slower price increases of domestic goods and services aided in the deceleration of Barbados' inflation rate to 0.5 per cent 2024, following 3.2 per cent in 2023. Barbados' economic reforms supported by the IMF Extended Fund Facility (EFF) and RSF remained strong. The IMF, in its Fourth Review of the EFF and RSF, allowed for an immediate disbursement of SDR 14.175 million (equivalent to about US$19 million) under the EFF and SDR 28.35 million (about US$37 million) under the RSF. This brought total disbursements under the EFF to SDR 70.875 million (about US$93 million) and SDR 113.4 million (about US$149 million) under the RSF[40].

Economic growth in the Eastern Caribbean Currency Union (ECCU) was boosted by tourism and domestic-related construction activity in 2024. Economic activity in the ECCU expanded by an estimated 3.9 per cent in 2024, up from 3.7 per cent in 2023. Meanwhile, ECCU's inflation, which mostly reflects imported inflation, decelerated to 1.4 per cent in 2024 from 2.4 per cent on year earlier. In an effort to support economic activity, the Monetary Council of the ECCU maintained its minimum savings rate at 2.0 per cent and kept its discount rate for short-term and long-term credit at 3.0 per cent and 4.5 per cent, respectively, in 2024. This follows an increase in the discount rate by 100 basis points from 2.0 per cent to 3.0 per cent for short-term credit and from 3.5 per cent to 4.5 per cent for long-term credit in November 2023.

[40] IMF Reaches Staff-Level Agreement with Barbados on the Fourth Reviews Under the Extended Fund Facility and the Resilience Sustainability Facility. Press Release No. 24/406. November 6, 2024. https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2024/11/06/pr-24406-barbados-imf-reaches-agreement-on-4th-reviews-under-the-eff-and-rsf

TABLE 19

SELECTED LAC: REAL GDP GROWTH

/ PER CENT /

Country	2019[r]	2020[r]	2021[r]	2022[r]	2023[r]	2024[e]	2025[f]	2026[f]
Argentina	-2.0	-9.9	10.4	5.3	-1.6	-1.7	5.5	4.5
The Bahamas	-1.4	-21.4	15.4	10.8	2.6	2.0	1.8	1.7
Barbados	0.7	-15.1	-0.3	17.8	4.1	4.0	3.0	2.3
Belize	4.3	-13.9	17.7	9.7	1.1	8.2	3.2	2.5
Chile	0.6	-6.1	11.3	2.2	0.5	2.6	2.0	2.2
Colombia	3.2	-7.2	10.8	7.3	0.7	1.7	2.4	2.6
Eastern Caribbean Currency Union	3.8	-16.6	5.5	11.7	3.6	3.7	3.2	3.4
Guyana	5.4	43.5	20.1	63.3	33.8	43.6	10.3	23.0
Haiti	-1.7	-3.3	-1.8	-1.7	-1.9	-4.2	-1.0	1.0
Jamaica	1.0	-9.9	4.6	5.2	2.6	-0.8	2.1	1.6
Mexico	-0.4	-8.4	6.0	3.7	3.3	1.5	-0.3	1.4
Suriname	1.2	-16.0	-2.4	2.4	2.5	3.0	3.2	3.7

Source: International Monetary Fund, World Economic Outlook Database (April 2025)
r Revised.
e Estimate.
f Forecast.
n.a. Not Available.

CHAPTER 10

International Commodity Markets

ENERGY COMMODITY PRICE INDEX

The rebased and revised Energy Commodity Prices Index (ECPI)[41] decreased by 5.1 per cent in 2024. The index fell to an average of 96.45 with all but one of the commodities included in the index moving downward.

Crude oil prices slipped below US$80.00 per barrel in the second half of 2024 as ample supply and weak demand weighed down market fundamentals. The average of West Texas Intermediate (WTI) and Brent crude oil prices fell to US$78.18 per barrel in 2024, representing a 2.9 per cent decline compared to oil prices in 2023. WTI prices even dipped below the US$70.00 per barrel mark in September, November and December. The market continued to be characterized by strong supply alongside falling demand, placing further downward pressure on prices. Despite escalating attacks between Israel and Iran, oil prices remained subdued as weak global demand overshadowed the risk premium associated with a widening conflict among Middle Eastern countries. Slow economic growth in China was at the forefront of the global slowdown in energy demand. The reduction in crude oil prices passed through to derivative commodities in the index, resulting in price declines for jet fuel (-13.5 per cent), gas oil (-13.5 per cent) and motor gasoline (-9.9 per cent).

The basket of LNG prices[42] also experienced declines over 2024. The natural gas basket price averaged US$12.14 per million British Thermal Units (mmbtu) in 2024, representing a decrease of 9.6 per cent from 2023. Prices in the European market, the UK National Balancing Point (NBP) price, fell by 13.1 per cent to average US$10.69 per mmbtu. Meanwhile, the Japan/Korea Marker (JKM) price, which covers the Northeast Asian LNG market, declined by 14.0 per cent (year-on-year) to average US$11.89 per mmbtu. The fall in prices represented a base effect, as prices peaked in October and November 2023 due to geopolitical tensions and high power demand in these markets. Despite the comparatively lower gas price environment, in the second half of 2024 gas prices were steadily rising from the lows experienced earlier in the year. The rebound was due to unseasonably cold temperatures that led to strong winter demand for heating, alongside supply delays in both markets. The pending expiration of a

[41] The Energy Commodity Price Index (ECPI) is a summary measure of the price movements of Trinidad and Tobago's top ten energy-based commodity exports. To maintain the reliability of the ECPI as a gauge of the international pricing environment faced by the domestic industry, periodic updates are necessary. In 2024, the Central Bank updated the ECPI's base year to Q3 2023 and revised the weighting structure of the export commodities included in the index. See Technical Note, Appendix I for more details.

[42] The LNG price basket consists of Brent crude oil prices, the National Balancing Point (NBP) gas price and the Japan Korea Marker (JKM) gas price. Both NBP and JKM prices cover key destination markets for domestic LNG exports. Crude oil prices are included in the calculation since it is generally used as a gauge of the international energy environment.

five-year pipeline agreement between Russia and Ukraine also placed upward pressure on prices in the latter half of the year. With the exception of methanol, which benefited from a 22.5 per cent increase in 2024 prices, most of the gas-based commodities included in the index experienced price declines. These included: UAN[43] (-12.1 per cent), urea (-8.8 per cent), ammonia (-3.7 per cent) and natural gasoline (-1.6 per cent).

[43] Urea-Ammonium Nitrate (UAN) is a liquid fertilizer export product used for tree crops such as almonds, cereal grains and potatoes. Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries | UAN & Melamine. Following the 2024 revision of the ECPI, UAN replaced propane in the overall index and overtook five other commodities to become the fifth largest exported energy commodity for Trinidad and Tobago.

APPENDIX ONE

TECHNICAL NOTE

Rebasing the Energy Commodity Price Index (ECPI)

TECHNICAL NOTE

Rebasing the Energy Commodity Price Index (ECPI)

I. INTRODUCTION

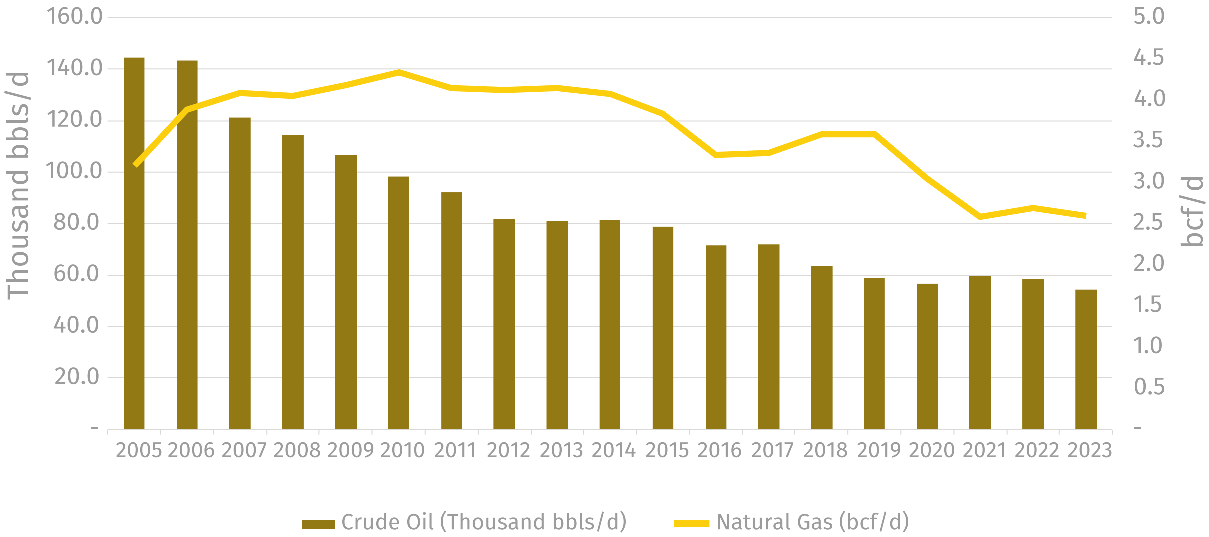
The Energy Commodity Price Index (ECPI) is a summary measure of the price movements of Trinidad and Tobago's top ten energy-based commodity exports, and has been based on 2007 export values[1] since its introduction in 2009. However, there have been significant changes in the country's energy export landscape since then. To maintain the reliability of this index as a gauge of the international pricing environment faced by the domestic industry, periodic updates are necessary. Since the advent of the ECPI, the country's crude oil refining business was closed, gas supply constraints led to contractions in liquefied natural gas (LNG) production and the shale gas revolution forced adjustments to export destinations, with related implications for pricing. As such, in 2024 the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago (the Bank) re-evaluated the representativeness of the ECPI and made revisions to its composition.

II. STRUCTURAL SHIFTS (DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL)

Since the ECPI's establishment in 2009, Trinidad and Tobago's energy sector has experienced significant structural changes. From as early as 2011, Trinidad and Tobago experienced a continued decline in natural gas production, resulting in a persistent and deepening gas supply shortage. Contractions in gas production have led to challenges in securing adequate supply for many downstream operators. Natural gas production peaked at 4.3 billion cubic feet per day (bcf/d) in 2010 **(Chart 1)** and declined to an average of 2.5 bcf/d during January to October 2024. The fall in natural gas production resulted in the idling of several midstream and downstream plants, including the Atlantic LNG Train 1 facility, which was closed in 2020. This facility represented 20 per cent of Trinidad and Tobago's installed LNG capacity.

[1] The export values used for the calculation of the 2007 weighting structure were sourced from the Central Statistical Office (CSO). However, the export values used to compute the Q3 2023 weighting structure were sourced from energy companies. For Balance of Payments compilation purposes, the Bank sources energy exports directly from energy companies on recommendation of the CARTAC Technical Assistance Mission on External Sector Statistics held in 2018.

CHART 1
NATURAL GAS AND CRUDE OIL PRODUCTION 2005 – 2023



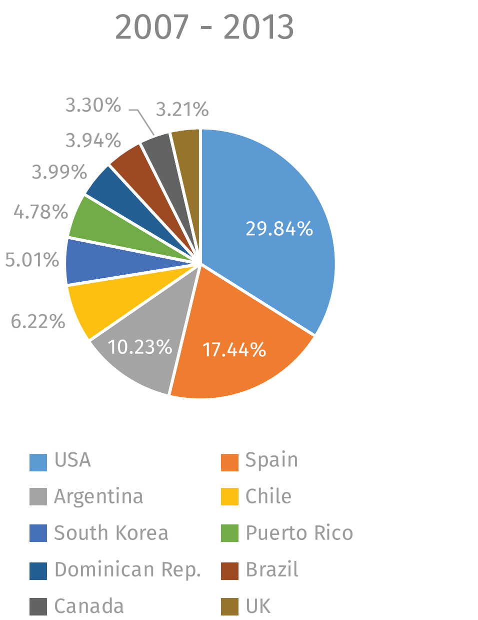
Source: Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries

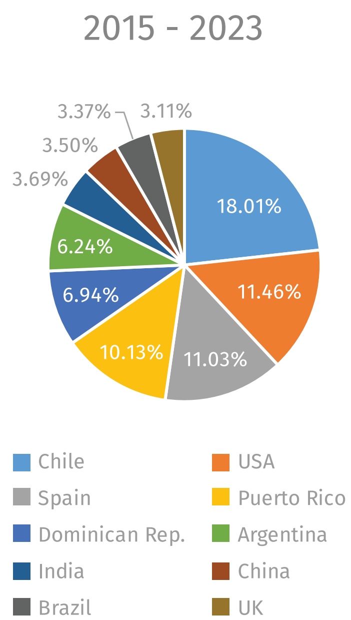
From 2014, a ramp up in shale gas supply altered the global gas market and depressed natural gas prices, particularly in the United States (US). Given that a significant share of Trinidad and Tobago's gas exports were destined for the US at the time, this shift in global gas markets filtered through to the domestic economy. This exacerbated challenges faced by an already mature energy province and negatively affected the economics of domestic natural gas-based operations.

The ramp up of shale gas production in the US also brought with it changes in the destination markets for Trinidad and Tobago's natural gas exports. The transition of the US from an importer of natural gas to an exporter, meant that Trinidad and Tobago's natural gas exports were diverted to alternative markets with varying pricing structures. Chart 2 depicts the changes in the top ten destination markets for domestic natural gas exports over time. While most of the top destinations remained unchanged, the share of exports among them has shifted, with a significant decline in the share going to the US. Domestic LNG has also been able to penetrate new markets in Europe and has been introduced to many markets in Asia.

The abundance of shale gas supplies in the US led to a structural decline in US natural gas prices. However, prices in other markets such as South America, Europe and Asia, the new markets for Trinidad and Tobago's natural gas, remained significantly higher than in the US. This suggests that the US natural gas benchmark price may no longer be a suitable gauge for the export value of domestic natural gas. Instead, non-US benchmark prices would better reflect the international natural gas environment that Trinidad and Tobago now faces.

CHART 2
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO'S TOP TEN LNG EXPORT DESTINATIONS
PRE- AND POST-2014





Source: Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries

The domestic crude oil market has also witnessed significant structural changes since the advent of the ECPI. Trinidad and Tobago, being a mature oil-producing province, has witnessed a significant decline in crude oil production over time, from 121.3 thousand barrels per day (b/d) in 2007 to 50.3 thousand b/d over the period January to September 2024. In addition, after over a century of involvement in the crude oil refining business, the country's sole crude oil refinery was closed in 2018.

Another significant change in the domestic energy landscape was the introduction of urea-ammonium-nitrate (UAN) as an export product. The AUM Complex in Trinidad and Tobago, which was commissioned in 2010, is a seven-plant complex located in Point Lisas. The commissioning of this facility brought additional ammonia and urea plants, two melamine plants and a UAN plant into production. Since then, UAN has grown to become the country's fifth largest energy export commodity in 2023.

III. DATA AND METHODOLOGY

Methodology

The original methodology of the ECPI[2], which utilised the Laspeyres method, was maintained for consistency. A Laspeyres price index is computed by taking the ratio of the total cost of purchasing a specified group of commodities at current prices, to the cost of that same group at base-period prices and multiplying by 100. The base-period index number is thus 100, and periods with higher (lower) price levels have index numbers greater (less) than 100.

[2] For further details on the original construction and computation of the ECPI, see Appendix IIb of the July 2010 Economic Bulletin - EB July 2010.indd (pages 84 – 94)

The distinctive feature of the Laspeyres index is that, a commodity's relative price (the ratio of the current price to the base-period price) is weighted by the commodity's relative importance to all purchases during the base period. The formula is as follows:

$$P_t = \frac{p_n q_o}{p_o q_o}$$

Where p_o and q_o are the price and quantities in the base period, respectively, and p_n is the price in the current period. The result, P_t is a fraction that is normally multiplied by 100.

Data

The original ECPI was built using monthly data on export values from the CSO to calculate weights. However, coming out of an IMF CARTAC Technical Assistance Mission in 2018, data on energy export values are now collected quarterly by the Bank, sourced directly from energy sector companies. As such, this quarterly data was used to reassess the top ten energy commodities and assign the appropriate weights.

Given extensive changes in the structure of local energy exports since the ECPI's development, a new base period was selected for the revised index. The selected base period represents a timeframe where production, prices and economic performance can be characterised as 'normal'. Given the closure of the Petrotrin refinery in 2018 and the subsequent idling of Atlantic LNG Train 1 in December 2020, periods before these events were not ideal.

Further, weaker international energy prices in 2021 in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, together with the geopolitically-driven high-priced environment for much of 2022, represented less-than-ideal base periods for the index. Prices began to moderate in the first half of 2023, but generally remained above their five-year averages. In the third quarter of 2023, prices were generally in line with five-year averages and there were no major shifts within the local energy sector. Hence, the third quarter of 2023 was chosen as the new base period for the index.

For the selected base period Q3 2023, export values were assessed to derive Trinidad and Tobago's top ten energy commodities **(Table 1)**. Nine out of ten of the original commodities remained in the top ten category, while propane fell out of the listing and was replaced by UAN.

The associated benchmark prices[3] were obtained from a range of established sources **(Table 2).**

TABLE 1

TOP TEN ENERGY COMMODITIES IN EXPORT VALUES AS AT Q3 2023

1. Liquefied natural gas	6. Gas oil (Diesel)
2. Crude oil	7. Motor gasoline
3. Methanol	8. Jet fuel/Kerosene
4. Ammonia	9. Natural Gasoline
5. UAN	10. Urea

Source: Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries

TABLE 2
SOURCES OF ASSOCIATED BENCHMARK PRICES

Commodity	Benchmark Price	Source	Details
Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG)	Basket of Prices: 1. Brent Crude Oil Price 2. National Balancing Point (NBP) and 3. Japan Korea Marker (JKM)	1. US Energy Information Administration (EIA) 2. Bloomberg 3. Platts	The arithmetic mean of these prices is used as the benchmark price for LNG. The formula is constructed to simulate the valuation mechanism used to price domestic LNG exports. Crude oil prices are included in the calculation since it is generally used as a gauge of the international energy environment. Note that the Brent Crude Oil Price is converted to an mmbtu equivalent price.
Crude Oil	Basket of Prices: 1. Brent Crude Oil Price 2. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) Crude Oil Price	1. US EIA 2. Bloomberg	The arithmetic mean of these prices is used as the benchmark price for crude oil. This is a change from the original ECPI, where WTI was the sole benchmark for crude oil.
Ammonia	FOB Caribbean	Green Markets	Reflects the cost of Trinidad and Tobago's products loaded at Port Point Lisas.
Urea	FOB US Gulf Nola		
Methanol	West Europe Price	Tecnon Orbichem Platform	
Gas Oil (diesel) Motor Gasoline Jet Fuel/Kerosene	US Gulf Coast	US EIA	
UAN	US Gulf NOLA UAN Spot Price	Bloomberg	
Natural Gasoline	NYMEX Mont Belvieu	Bloomberg	

Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

[3] Similar to the previous version of the ECPI, most of the international prices utilised in this exercise are not the actual prices received, but represent the best available proxy. The movements in the international prices utilised give a very good indication of the movements in the actual prices received by Trinidad and Tobago's exporters. See Appendix II for a time series of all benchmark prices.

IV. CONSTRUCTION OF THE INDEX

Calculation of Weights

Using the top ten energy commodity exports in the third quarter of 2023, the share of energy exports of each commodity was used as weights. **(Table 3)** depicts the weights of each commodity in the revised index, compared to the weights used in the original calculation. Natural gas and crude oil retained the largest share (56.2 per cent) of exports, albeit with a shift in the concentration between the commodities. With the exception of ammonia and methanol (which combined accounted for 29.2 percent of energy exports in Q3 2023 compared with 21.1 per cent in 2007), all other downstream commodities accounted for smaller shares of Trinidad and Tobago's energy exports. UAN replaced propane in the overall index and overtook five other commodities to become the fifth largest exported energy commodity.

V. THE REVISED ECPI

The revised ECPI, with a base period of the third quarter of 2023, is illustrated in **(Chart 3)**. As before, an increase (decrease) in the index value signifies a rise (fall) in the weighted average price of the energy commodities exported by Trinidad and Tobago. The precipitous declines in prices during the COVID-19 pandemic, due to border closures and low demand as global growth slowed, are clearly depicted in 2020. Subsequently, prices of all commodities captured in the index increased significantly in 2021 and 2022. On a year-on-year basis, the ECPI increased 107.8 per cent in 2021 due to tight supply and heightened demand, amid the reopening of several economies globally. Prices continued to ascend in 2022. Oil prices crossed the US$100.00/bbl mark in the first half of 2022, while the composite natural gas price[4] saw highs above US$30.00/mmbtu. Similarly, the ammonia price crossed US$1,000 per metric tonne (MT) in 2022. The impact on the index was a further increase of 53.8 per cent in 2022 when compared to 2021.

A comparative analysis of the old and new ECPI revealed that both indices display very similar trends in terms of direction and turning points **(Chart 4)**. This is expected since nine of the ten products in both indices are the same. Notwithstanding, some of the variation in trend (though minimal) can be explained by the addition of a new commodity (UAN) as well as alterations made to the benchmark prices of major commodities in the index (natural gas and crude oil).

[4] For the purposes of the ECPI, the natural gas price is an average of Brent crude oil prices, NBP natural gas prices and JKM natural gas prices.

TABLE 3
COMPARISON OF WEIGHTS ECPI (2007 = 100) VS ECPI (Q3 2023 = 100)

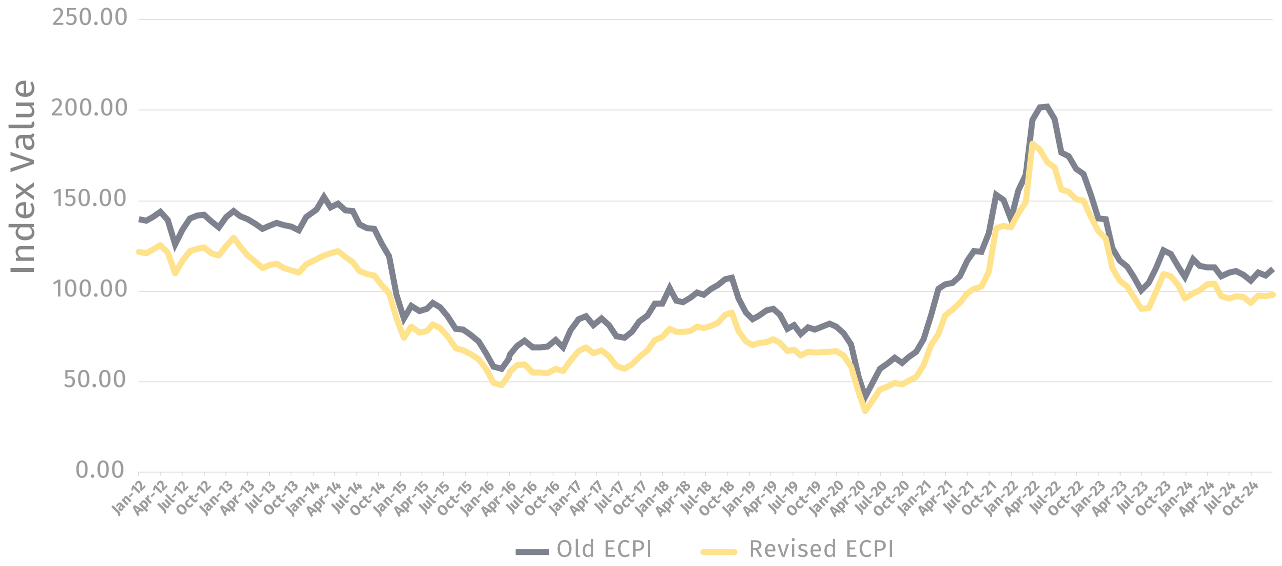
Original ECPI		Revised ECPI	
Commodity	Weight	Commodity	Weight
Liquefied Natural Gas	0.4004	Liquefied Natural Gas	0.3017
Crude Oil	0.1659	Crude Oil	0.2607
Ammonia	0.1176	Methanol	0.1684
Methanol	0.0940	Ammonia	0.1233
Gas Oil	0.0705	UAN	0.0289
Motor Gasoline	0.0427	Gas Oil	0.0272
Natural Gasoline	0.0351	Motor Gasoline	0.0259
Jet Fuel	0.0270	Jet Fuel	0.0235
Propane	0.0244	Natural Gasoline	0.0225
Urea	0.0226	Urea	0.0179

Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

CHART 3
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO ENERGY COMMODITY PRICE INDEX (Q3 2023 = 100)

Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

CHART 4
ECPI (2007 = 100) VS ECPI (Q3 2023 = 100)



Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

VI. CONCLUSION

The ECPI was originally developed as a summary indicator of developments in the international energy price environment, particularly as it affects the local economy. An ECPI that adequately represents the structure of domestic energy exports will provide a more effective gauge of the international energy price environment faced by the local economy.

In doing so, policymakers will have access to the statistical underpinnings of the evolution of energy-influenced economic variables such as economic growth, fiscal accounts and the balance of payments. As the country's energy product mix changes, the Central Bank will review the ECPI at periodic intervals to ensure it remains a relevant and reliable measure of international energy prices faced by Trinidad and Tobago.

APPENDIX TWO

ECONOMIC STATISTICS

TABLES A.1 - A.36

TABLES A.1 - A.36

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p - Provisional **r - Revised** **n/a - Not Applicable**

n.a - Not Available **c - Confidential**

TABLES A.1 - A.36 (continued)

TABLE A.1

REAL GDP GROWTH
BY SECTOR OF ORIGIN, 2020-2024
/ PER CENT /

SECTOR	2020	2021	2022	2023	Jan to Sep 2024p
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	30.9	-15.9	-13.2	-5.8	-2.1
Mining and Quarrying	-12.3	-5.2	0.5	-5.6	-3.7
Manufacturing	-11.8	-0.1	4.8	-4.7	6.0
Electricity, Gas, Steam and Air Conditioning Supply	-10.8	7.0	-1.1	1.0	0.9
Water Supply; Sewerage, Waste Management and Remediation Activities	2.8	3.0	-0.8	-1.9	2.4
Construction	-12.8	8.8	3.7	-6.4	-8.9
Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles	-12.1	-5.8	5.2	9.1	1.3
Transportation and Storage	-27.8	1.2	26.9	5.7	7.4
Accommodation and Food Service Activities	-18.8	-7.3	20.7	8.1	-1.8
Information and Communication	-1.6	-0.3	0.2	-0.3	-6.2
Financial and Insurance Activities	-2.0	5.0	-3.3	-0.2	2.6
Real Estate Activities	-0.7	-0.4	-0.4	-0.5	-0.3
Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities	-10.7	-14.6	26.2	-1.8	-7.9
Administrative and Support Service Activities	-1.9	-0.2	1.1	0.4	0.2
Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security	0.7	0.6	-0.5	-1.8	-2.1
Education	-0.6	-0.4	-0.2	-0.6	-0.5
Human Health and Social Work Activities	-0.3	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	-0.4	0.0	0.2	0.0	-0.1
Other Service Activities	-4.1	14.0	-1.6	-8.8	-0.5
Activities of Households as Employers; Undifferentiated Goods- and Services-Producing Activities of Households for Own Use	1.1	1.0	0.8	1.1	1.0
GDP At Producer Prices	-9.5	-1.6	3.2	0.1	0.3
Taxes Less Subsidies on Products	7.8	16.5	-42.7	49.7	n.a.
GDP At Purchasers Prices/Market Prices	**-8.9**	**-0.9**	**1.1**	**1.4**	**n.a.**

SOURCE: Central Statistical Office

TABLE A.2

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT AT CURRENT MARKET PRICES
BY SECTOR OF ORIGIN, 2020-2024

/ TT$ Million /

SECTOR	2020	2021	2022	2023	Jan to Sep 2024[p]
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	1,498.1	1,487.4	1,461.8	1,417.4	1,140.1
Mining and Quarrying	12,245.8	22,329.3	40,105.3	22,456.5	15,375.0
Manufacturing	21,792.6	28,671.1	34,350.4	24,523.1	19,069.4
Electricity, Gas, Steam and Air Conditioning Supply	1,019.7	2,209.7	2,890.7	2,357.7	1,520.2
Water Supply; Sewerage, Waste Management and Remediation Activities	2,097.8	2,171.5	2,187.5	2,213.0	1,674.1
Construction	7,275.3	8,313.1	9,141.3	8,666.7	6,087.1
Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles	36,657.6	36,745.8	41,050.3	43,557.6	31,402.5
Transportation and Storage	4,503.0	4,697.9	6,567.7	7,607.5	5,600.0
Accommodation and Food Service Activities	2,019.4	1,941.3	2,392.9	2,684.1	2,050.0
Information and Communication	3,891.3	3,878.6	3,967.9	4,018.9	2,992.9
Financial and Insurance Activities	10,126.1	11,198.4	11,373.1	12,832.8	10,020.1
Real Estate Activities	3,405.1	3,407.2	3,428.2	3,462.8	2,617.3
Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities	3,363.4	2,921.4	3,794.7	3,866.3	2,749.3
Administrative and Support Service Activities	5,218.4	5,282.2	5,479.0	5,691.8	4,409.2
Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security	13,689.1	13,795.1	13,727.0	13,479.7	9,968.6
Education	3,579.3	3,553.1	3,545.0	3,517.7	2,624.5
Human Health and Social Work Activities	754.4	775.7	778.3	805.1	636.6
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	413.5	417.7	425.5	460.1	340.5
Other Service Activities	721.3	829.9	879.3	824.7	590.1
Activities of Households as Employers; Undifferentiated Goods- and Services-Producing Activities of Households for Own Use	297.5	300.4	302.9	306.0	231.5
GDP At Producer Prices	134,568.7	154,926.9	187,848.8	164,749.4	121,098.9
Taxes Less Subsidies on Products	7,145.0	8,476.1	4,713.7	7,310.6	n.a.
GDP At Purchasers Prices/Market Prices	**141,713.6**	**163,403.0**	**192,562.4**	**172,059.9**	**n.a.**

SOURCE: Central Statistical Office

TABLE A.3

SECTORAL COMPOSITION OF G.D.P.[1]
AT CURRENT MARKET PRICES, 2020-2024
/ PER CENT /

SECTOR	2020	2021	2022	2023	Jan to Sep 2024p
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	1.1	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.9
Mining and Quarrying	8.6	13.7	20.8	13.1	12.7
Manufacturing	15.4	17.5	17.8	14.3	15.7
Electricity, Gas, Steam and Air Conditioning Supply	0.7	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.3
Water Supply; Sewerage, Waste Management and Remediation Activities	1.5	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.4
Construction	5.1	5.1	4.7	5.0	5.0
Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles	25.9	22.5	21.3	25.3	25.9
Transportation and Storage	3.2	2.9	3.4	4.4	4.6
Accommodation and Food Service Activities	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.6	1.7
Information and Communication	2.7	2.4	2.1	2.3	2.5
Financial and Insurance Activities	7.1	6.9	5.9	7.5	8.3
Real Estate Activities	2.4	2.1	1.8	2.0	2.2
Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities	2.4	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.3
Administrative and Support Service Activities	3.7	3.2	2.8	3.3	3.6
Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security	9.7	8.4	7.1	7.8	8.2
Education	2.5	2.2	1.8	2.0	2.2
Human Health and Social Work Activities	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3
Other Service Activities	0.5	0.5	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 Annual GDP are compiled at Purchaser Prices; Quarterly GDP at Producer Prices.

TABLE A.4

MAJOR AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES, 2020-2024

PRODUCT	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
VEGETABLES (000 kgs)					
Tomato	2,624	2,190	3,343	1,372	179*
Cabbage	741	1,367	1,717	987	249*
Cucumber	1,227	1,223	1,897	421	200*
Dasheen	2,085	2,547	2,717	2,905	1,451*
Rice	n.a	351	126	326	189*
Pigeon Peas	623	1,611	598	1,338	1,008*
Pumpkin	1,792	741	712	1,252	858*
Melongene	2,325	1,333	886	1,051	64*
MEAT PRODUCTION (000 kgs)					
Beef and Veal	167	168	155	195	89**
Pork	1,729	1,972	1,891	1,890	n.a.
Mutton	117	93	82	108	n.a.
Broilers (000 birds)	32,686	30,345	33,003	32,761	n.a.
Table Eggs (000 doz)	7,891	6,793	7,493	7,676	n.a.
Milk (000 litres)	2,184	1,708	1,394	1,441	938***

SOURCE: Central Statistical Office

* For the period January to April 2024.
** For the period January to September 2024.
*** For the period January to June 2024.

TABLE A.5

PRODUCTION AND UTILISATION OF CRUDE OIL AND
RELATED PRODUCTS AND PETROCHEMICALS, 2020-2024

COMMODITY GROUP	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
CRUDE OIL					
Exploration (meters)					
Depth Drilled	21,845	60,400	76,187	78,716	66,258
Production (000 barrels)					
Crude Oil and Condensates	20,669	21,845	21,329	19,610	13,798
Of which: Condensates	*3,086*	*2,810*	*2,334*	*2,322*	*2,607*
Daily Average (b/d)	56,481	59,838	58,441	53,743	50,884
Imports (000 barrels)					
Crude Oil Imports	0	0	0	0	0
Of which: u.p.a.	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*	*0*
Refining (000 barrels)[1]					
Refinery Throughput	0	0	0	0	0
Refinery Output	0	0	0	0	0
Capacity Utilisation (%)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Exports (000 barrels)					
Crude Oil Exports	20,316	21,681	19,661	20,044	18,735
Petroleum Products	6,414	7,018	5,331	3,949	8,614
Natural Gas (Mn cubic feet/day)					
Production	3,044	2,579	2,683	2,587	2,537
Utilisation[2]	2,925	2,460	2,585	2,488	2,422
Of which: Petrochemicals	*965*	*1,071*	*1,020*	*977*	*974*
Electricity Generation	*237*	*248*	*262*	*262*	*268*
LNG	*1,645*	*1,051*	*1,219*	*1,167*	*1,087*
Natural Gas Liquids (000 barrels)					
Production	7,165	6,112	5,585	5,097	5,861
Exports	6,453	5,226	4,955	4,206	4,749
Local Sales	866	865	859	882	877
Stock Change	-154	22	-228	9	234
Fertilisers (000 tonnes)					
Production	5,799	5,648	4,926	4,227	4,541
Exports	4,640	4,607	3,958	3,737	3,702
Local Sales	2	2	2	3	2
Stock Change	1,157	1,040	965	487	837
Methanol (000 tonnes)					
Production	4,259	5,510	5,494	5,778	5,389
Exports	4,358	5,451	5,272	5,864	5,554
Local Sales	10	9	9	7	8
Stock Change	-109	50	214	-92	-173

SOURCES: Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries and 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.

TABLE A.6

PRODUCTION AND SALES OF CEMENT, 2020-2024

PRODUCT	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
CEMENT (000 TONNES)					
Production	631.9	723.4	707.1	719.4	673.2
Local Sales	472.7	410.4	427.0	453.8	463.0
Exports	313.4	303.0	288.0	277.3	234.6

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

TABLE A.7

PRICES OF SELECTED EXPORT COMMODITIES, 2020-2024

COMMODITY	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Crude Oil (WTI[1]; US$/bbl[2])	39.4	67.9	94.2	77.6	75.8
Crude Oil (Brent; US$/bbl[2])	41.8	70.7	100.8	82.5	80.5
NBP[3] (US$/mmbtu[4])	3.2	16.0	26.5	12.3	10.7
JKM[5] (US$/mmbtu)	4.3	18.5	33.7	13.8	11.9
Ammonia (FOB Caribbean; US$/tonne)	187.6	546.7	1,113.2	458.8	441.6
Urea (FOB Caribbean; US$/tonne)	219.3	483.1	644.5	351.7	320.8
Methanol (FOB Rotterdam; US$/tonne)	294.8	502.6	556.4	463.2	567.5
Billets (FOB Latin America; US$/tonne)	390.5	616.9	692.5	559.2	516.3
Wire Rods (FOB Latin America; US$/tonne)	498.1	755.2	841.8	642.1	593.5

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 National Balancing Point (price converted from Pence Steling per therm to US$ per mmbtu).
4 Million British thermal units.
5 Japan Korea Marker.

TABLE A.8

INDEX OF DOMESTIC PRODUCTION, 2020-2024

/ 1995=100 /

INDUSTRY	*WEIGHT*	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Food Processing	*58*	2,394.3	2,977.4	5,151.4	5,693.1	11,170.6
Drink and Tobacco	*63*	1,019.8	1,729.4	2,891.7	2,970.5	3,494.3
Textiles, Garments and Footwear	*6*	1,378.5	1,349.4	1,300.8	1,270.9	1,241.7
Printing, Publishing and Paper Converters	*27*	183.1	162.5	146.1	130.7	128.5
Wood and Related Products	*7*	670.9	674.4	683.0	693.2	702.5
Chemicals and Non-Metallic Minerals	*43*	362.5	379.4	393.0	392.7	436.7
Assembly-Type and Related Industries	*61*	320.7	709.6	6,956.8	19,333.1	42,789.7
Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries	*10*	171.2	177.0	176.6	172.8	169.5
Electricity	*40*	67.6	70.9	75.2	71.1	73.9
Water	*6*	113.1	119.5	119.6	119.9	114.0
All Industry Index						
(Excluding Petrochem, Oil and Natural Gas, Explor., Product. and Refining)	*320*	817.2	1,137.8	2,953.9	5,427.3	11,006.3
Explor., and Product. of Oil, Natural Gas, etc.	*445*	98.9	95.5	96.2	90.5	84.9
Petrochemicals	*182*	204.0	214.2	169.2	133.5	153.7
Oil and Natural Gas Refining[1]	*53*	173.0	147.5	133.5	123.9	144.0
All Industry Index						
(Including Petrochem, Oil and Natural Gas, Explor., Product. and Refining)	*1,000*	346.0	448.5	1,021.4	1,803.5	3,590.2

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), 2022-2024
/ PER CENT /

INDUSTRY	DOMESTIC PRODUCTION (1995=100)			INDEX OF HOURS WORKED (1995=100)		
	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
Food Processing	73.0	10.5	96.2	3.1	2.8	3.7
Drink and Tobacco	67.2	2.7	17.6	-3.7	-4.4	-12.5
Textiles, Garments and Footwear	-3.6	-2.3	-2.3	1.4	2.6	5.1
Printing, Publishing and Paper Converters	-10.1	-10.5	-1.7	0.8	2.2	-6.2
Wood and Related Products	1.3	1.5	1.3	-1.5	2.8	3.2
Chemicals and Non-Metallic Minerals	3.6	-0.1	11.2	4.5	3.8	-6.7
Assembly-Type and Related Industries	880.4	177.9	121.3	-5.0	-9.1	4.3
Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries	-0.2	-2.2	-1.9	-3.1	-4.2	-9.5
Electricity	6.1	-5.4	3.9	-5.9	-0.3	-0.6
Water	0.1	0.3	-5.0	4.3	-2.6	-2.7
All Industry Index						
(Excluding Petrochem, Oil and Natural Gas, Explor., Product. and Refining)	159.6	83.7	102.8	1.1	0.2	-1.2
Explor., and Product. of Oil, Natural Gas, etc.	0.7	-5.9	-6.2	-4.2	3.4	10.1
Petrochemicals	-21.0	-21.1	15.1	5.0	0.4	3.7
Oil and Natural Gas Refining[1]	-9.5	-7.2	16.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
All Industry Index						
(Including Petrochem, Oil and Natural Gas, Explor., Product. and Refining)	127.8	76.6	99.1	1.1	0.3	-0.7

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.10

ANNUAL CHANGES IN THE INDICES OF AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS AND EMPLOYMENT (ALL EMPLOYEES), 2022-2024

/ PER CENT /

INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS (1995=100)			EMPLOYMENT (1995=100)		
	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
Food Processing	4.3	5.0	-0.6	0.6	1.2	2.3
Drink and Tobacco	2.4	6.2	6.7	1.6	-2.4	-8.6
Textiles, Garments and Footwear	-3.7	-7.4	-6.8	-1.0	2.4	6.8
Printing, Publishing and Paper Converters	8.5	4.0	3.3	-0.3	-1.0	-5.2
Wood and Related Products	-8.1	-11.6	-17.3	2.1	4.9	8.9
Chemicals and Non-Metallic Minerals	-1.8	-1.9	-9.5	-0.5	8.8	9.6
Assembly-Type and Related Industries	2.4	5.1	3.1	-5.3	-10.9	-2.1
Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries	-0.3	-1.7	6.3	-1.1	-0.4	-3.1
Electricity	-4.2	-3.8	2.0	-2.6	2.8	-2.3
Water	2.4	7.8	6.5	-2.5	-3.2	-2.4
All Industry Index						
(Excluding Petrochem, Oil and Natural Gas, Explor., Product. and Refining, etc)	0.7	3.1	2.7	-0.8	-0.2	0.5
Explor., and Product. of Oil, Natural Gas, etc.	-10.2	-7.0	-1.3	0.7	-3.6	-6.5
Petrochemicals	16.5	-3.6	12.2	0.2	-1.0	3.8
Oil and Natural Gas Refining[2]	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
All Industry Index						
(Including Petrochem, Oil and Natural Gas, Explor., Product. and Refining)	1.4	2.2	3.3	-0.6	-0.5	0.0

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.11

ANNUAL CHANGES IN THE INDICES OF REAL EARNINGS AND OUTPUT PER MAN HOUR WORKED (ALL EMPLOYEES), 2022-2024[1]

/ PER CENT /

INDUSTRY	REAL EARNINGS (1995=100)			INDEX OF OUTPUT PER MAN HOUR WORKED (1995=100)		
	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
Food Processing	-1.4	0.4	-1.1	67.3	7.8	89.3
Drink and Tobacco	-3.2	1.5	6.1	75.8	8.5	33.7
Textiles, Garments and Footwear	-8.9	-11.6	-7.3	-3.6	-5.9	-7.0
Printing, Publishing and Paper Converters	2.7	-0.6	2.8	-10.8	-12.4	4.9
Wood and Related Products	-13.2	-15.5	-17.7	2.8	-1.2	-1.8
Chemical and Non-Metallic Minerals	-7.1	-6.3	-9.9	-0.8	-3.8	19.2
Assembly-Type and Related Industries	-3.1	0.3	2.6	949.0	198.5	113.1
Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries	-5.7	-6.1	5.8	2.7	2.1	8.4
Electricity	-9.4	-8.1	1.4	12.1	-5.3	4.6
Water	-3.2	3.0	6.0	-4.1	3.0	-2.3
All Industry Index						
(Excluding Petrochem, Oil and Natural Gas, Explor., Product. and Refining)	-4.7	-1.5	2.1	156.7	83.6	105.0
Explor., and Product. of Oil, Natural Gas, etc.	-15.1	-11.2	-1.8	5.3	-9.4	-14.8
Petrochemicals	10.0	-7.7	11.6	-24.8	-21.3	11.0
Oil and Natural Gas Refining[2]	-5.5	-4.4	-0.5	-9.4	-7.4	16.4
All Industry Index						
(Including Petrochem, Oil and Natural Gas, Explor., Product. and Refining)	-4.1	-2.3	2.7	125.3	76.2	93.4

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.12

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR MAJOR EXPENDITURE CATEGORIES, 2020-2024
/ JANUARY 2015=100 /

ITEM	*WEIGHTS*	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Inflation Rate (%)[1]						
All Sections	*1,000*	0.6	2.1	5.8	4.6	0.5
Food	*173*	2.8	4.4	10.4	7.7	1.5
Core[2]	*827*	0.1	1.5	4.7	3.9	0.2
Retail Price Index						
All Sections	*1,000*	109.2	111.4	117.9	123.4	124.0
Food	*173*	118.2	123.4	136.3	146.8	149.0
Core	*827*	107.3	108.9	114.0	118.5	118.8
Per cent Contribution To Change In Index						
Food	*173*	86.0	40.1	34.3	33.1	61.2
Core	*827*	14.0	59.9	65.7	66.9	38.8

SOURCE: Central Statistical Office

1 Annual figures represent the percentage change over the average for 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, 2020-2024[1]

/ OCT. 1978=100 /

ITEM	WEIGHTS	2020	2021	2022	2023	Jan to Sep 2024p
Food Processing	*191*	727.5	728.4	764.7	779.9	773.4
		0.1	*0.1*	*5.0*	*2.0*	*-0.8*
Drink and Tobacco	*121*	1,695.0	1,734.3	1,734.2	1,797.6	1,807.7
		5.9	*2.3*	*0.0*	*3.7*	*0.6*
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*	399.3	401.9	405.4	458.7	476.4
		-0.6	*0.6*	*0.9*	*13.1*	*3.9*
Wood and Related Products	*89*	348.3	348.6	349.0	349.0	347.1
		0.0	*0.1*	*0.1*	*0.0*	*-0.5*
Chemicals and Non-Metallic Minerals	*148*	577.1	561.4	562.5	590.3	603.2
		-0.9	*-2.7*	*0.2*	*4.9*	*2.2*
Assembly-Type and Related Industries	*257*	349.0	350.1	353.5	354.4	354.1
		0.2	*0.3*	*1.0*	*0.3*	*-0.1*
All Industry	*1,000*	617.9	621.1	629.4	649.3	652.6
		1.8	*0.5*	*1.3*	*3.2*	*0.5*

SOURCE: Central Statistical Office

1 Annual figures in italics represent percentage changes (year-on-year).

TABLE A.14

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL OPERATIONS, 2020-2024[1]
/ TT$ Million /

INDICATOR	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024p
Current Revenue	33,842.4	36,345.6	53,921.3	54,525.0	46,288.0
Current Expenditure[2]	47,081.2	46,482.3	50,061.6	53,620.3	52,374.5
Current Account Surplus(+)/Deficit(-)	-13,238.8	-10,136.7	3,859.7	904.7	-6,086.5
Capital Revenue	526.6	921.0	685.7	158.9	1,077.0
Capital Expenditure and Net lending	3,977.7	3,135.0	3,212.5	4,236.1	4,105.3
Overall Surplus(+)/Deficit(-)	**-16,689.9**	**-12,350.7**	**1,333.0**	**-3,172.5**	**-9,114.7**
Total Financing (Net)	**16,689.9**	**12,350.7**	**-1,333.0**	**3,172.5**	**9,114.7**
External Financing (Net)	**13,261.9**	**4,890.0**	**534.3**	**-138.9**	**6,945.1**
Net External Borrowing	6,626.5	-1,150.6	534.3	-138.9	4,449.5
Disbursements	7,654.9	11.9	1,685.0	2,601.6	7,902.1
Repayments	1,028.4	1,162.5	1,150.7	2,740.5	3,452.6
Divestment Proceeds	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Transfers from HSF (Withdrawals)	6,635.4	6,040.6	0.0	0.0	2,495.6
Domestic Financing (Net)	**3,428.0**	**7,460.7**	**-1,867.3**	**3,311.4**	**2,169.6**
Debt Management Treasury Bills (Net)	2,796.0	0.0	500.0	-1.9	-284.1
Bonds(Net)	898.0	7,620.6	1,255.6	1,037.9	4,888.6
Disbursements	8,899.7	13,354.1	5,653.1	9,793.1	8,056.5
Repayments	8,001.7	5,733.5	4,397.5	8,755.2	3,167.9
Divestment Proceeds	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Uncashed Balances (Net)[3]	-266.0	-159.9	-3,622.9	2,275.4	-2,434.9
Memo Items:					
Primary Balance[4]	-11,627.9	-7,412.6	6,260.4	2,607.2	-2,770.3
Surplus(+)/Deficit(-) as a Per Cent of GDP (current market prices)[5]					
Current Account Surplus(+)/Deficit(-)	-9.1	-6.4	2.1	0.5	-3.2
Overall Surplus(+)/Deficit(-)	-11.4	-7.8	0.7	-1.8	-4.8
Primary Surplus(+)/Deficit(-)	-8.0	-4.7	3.4	1.5	-1.5

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 are 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 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.
4 The primary balance, also known as the non-interest balance, is equal to the overall balance exclusive of interest payments.
5 GDP data used for ratios to GDP indicators prior to 2024 are sourced from the CSO; ratios for 2024 are computed using Central Bank estimates.

TABLE A.15

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE, 2020-2024[1]

/ TT$ Million /

REVENUE	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024p
A. Oil Sector	**5,951.8**	**6,878.0**	**21,748.3**	**22,509.5**	**10,509.2**
Corporation[2]	2,314.4	3,865.0	13,340.4	12,275.6	6,613.6
Withholding Tax	487.8	561.1	547.9	1,218.0	732.8
Royalties	2,834.8	2,004.1	5,802.4	7,424.9	2,410.4
Oil Impost	97.9	108.6	112.6	117.2	112.4
Unemployment Levy	211.0	339.0	1,944.6	1,473.5	639.8
Excise Duties	6.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
B. Non Oil Sector	**27,279.0**	**29,467.5**	**32,172.9**	**32,015.5**	**35,778.8**
Taxes on Income	**13,527.9**	**13,983.7**	**19,960.9**	**17,884.3**	**16,133.0**
Companies	5,641.4	6,291.6	11,768.1	9,587.5	7,556.9
Individuals	5,947.8	5,555.5	5,512.3	5,780.1	6,234.6
Unemployment Levy	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Health Surcharge	170.1	165.7	180.1	170.1	177.0
Business Levy	571.3	650.0	642.2	763.2	764.7
Green Fund	688.6	811.1	1,288.2	1,116.8	929.4
Other[3]	508.7	509.8	569.9	466.6	470.4
Taxes on Property	**1.8**	**2.0**	**2.4**	**1.4**	**100.4**
Lands and Buildings Taxes	1.8	2.0	2.4	1.4	1.4
Other Property Taxes	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	99.0
Taxes on Goods and Services	**7,662.9**	**9,958.4**	**6,904.1**	**8,408.0**	**11,193.2**
Excise Duties	652.3	648.7	676.8	613.2	622.2
Motor Vehicles	221.1	251.5	260.5	289.9	219.5
Value Added Tax	6,682.3	8,296.1	5,097.0	6,613.2	9,252.2
Other	718.6	762.1	869.8	891.7	1,099.4
Taxes on International Trade	**2,301.2**	**2,287.2**	**2,608.4**	**2,740.5**	**2,702.6**
Import Duties	2,300.7	2,287.0	2,608.3	2,740.4	2,702.5
Other	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1
Non-Tax Revenue	**3,785.2**	**3,236.3**	**2,697.2**	**2,981.4**	**5,649.6**
National Lottery	205.2	192.6	226.7	426.0	375.4
Interest	15.3	17.4	5.2	8.5	11.9
Central Bank	1,884.0	1,428.2	756.5	599.0	2,468.3
State Enterprises	403.6	348.6	899.0	1,002.6	981.3
Fees and Charges	444.5	370.7	383.5	405.1	389.5
Other	832.6	878.8	426.3	540.2	1,423.1
TOTAL CURRENT REVENUE	**33,842.3**	**36,345.5**	**53,921.2**	**54,525.0**	**46,288.0**
Capital Revenue	526.6	921.0	685.7	158.9	1,077.0
TOTAL REVENUE	**34,368.9**	**37,266.5**	**54,606.8**	**54,683.9**	**47,365.0**

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

1 Refers to accounts of Consolidated Fund, Unemployment Fund, Road Improvement Fund and the Infrastructure Development Fund. Data are 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 and income tax surcharge.

TABLE A.16

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE, 2020-2024[1]

/ TT$Millions /

EXPENDITURE	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024p
Current Expenditure	**47,081.2**	**46,482.3**	**50,061.6**	**53,620.3**	**52,374.5**
Wages and Salaries	9,248.0	9,093.6	9,148.5	9,420.1	10,441.3
Goods and Services	5,861.6	5,570.9	5,911.7	6,106.2	6,035.6
Interest	5,062.0	4,938.1	4,927.4	5,779.7	6,344.5
External	1,101.7	955.7	973.3	1,514.1	1,865.5
Domestic	3,960.3	3,982.4	3,954.2	4,265.6	4,479.0
Transfers and Subsidies	26,909.5	26,879.7	30,073.9	32,314.3	29,553.1
Of which:					
Statutory Boards and State Enterprises	*8,363.4*	*8,703.6*	*9,205.4*	*9,715.5*	*9,996.1*
Households	*10,087.1*	*9,696.0*	*10,699.6*	*11,479.2*	*9,796.6*
Capital Expenditure and Net-Lending	**3,977.7**	**3,135.0**	**3,212.5**	**4,236.1**	**4,105.3**
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	**51,058.9**	**49,617.3**	**53,274.0**	**57,856.4**	**56,479.8**
(in % of GDP at current market prices)	**34.9**	**31.4**	**28.8**	**32.7**	**30.0**
Memo Items (% of Expenditure):					
Current Expenditure	92.2	93.7	94.0	92.7	92.7
Capital Expenditure and Net-Lending	7.8	6.3	6.0	7.3	7.3

SOURCES: Ministry of Finance and 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).

TABLE A.17 (A)

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT EXTERNAL DEBT, 2020-2024[1]
/ US$ Million /

SECTOR	2020	2021	2022	2023^r	2024^p
CENTRAL GOVERNMENT					
Receipts	1,269.1	123.0	297.3	759.1	872.0
Amortisation	505.6	171.5	169.9	405.3	510.8
Interest	167.8	142.7	143.9	223.2	275.6
Balance Outstanding (end of period)	4,707.3	4,659.5	4,792.7	5,144.9	5,506.0
Balance Outstanding/GDP (%)	21.6	19.7	17.3	19.5	19.5
External Debt Service/Exports (%)	9.7	3.3	1.8	5.0	7.2

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, 2020-2024[1]
/ TT$ Million /

SECTOR	2020	2021	2022	2023^r	2024^p
BONDS & NOTES					
Issue	11,805.5	13,325.5	5,652.1	12,768.5	8,135.7
Redemption	4,103.2	5,420.4	4,074.3	8,468.7	4,301.1
Outstanding	48,489.0	56,916.6	58,547.9	62,919.7	66,730.2
CLICO AND HCU ZERO-COUPON BONDS					
Issue	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Redemption[2]	491.4	500.3	501.0	505.2	75.9
Outstanding	1,769.9	1,269.7	787.2	674.1	616.6
BOLTS AND LEASES					
Issue	0.0	79.0	122.6	76.3	0.0
Redemption	26.8	28.3	21.0	12.5	14.5
Outstanding	78.6	129.3	232.6	296.3	281.8
OTHER[3]					
Issue	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Redemption	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Outstanding	16.7	16.7	16.7	16.7	16.7
DEBT MANAGEMENT BILLS					
Issue	6,762.0	6,109.0	6,816.0	7,077.2	9,623.0
Redemption	3,966.0	6,109.0	6,421.0	7,079.1	9,907.1
Outstanding	6,136.0	6,136.0	6,636.0	6,634.1	6,350.0
Total Internal Debt Outstanding	56,490.2	64,468.3	66,220.4	70,540.9	73,995.3
Internal Debt Outstanding/GDP (%)	38.7	40.8	35.7	39.8	39.3
Internal Debt Service/Revenues (%)	20.8	20.9	13.1	18.8	16.2

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

1 Data are 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, 2020-2024

/ TT$ Million /

ITEM	END OF PERIOD				
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
A. OUTSTANDING					
1. Aggregate Deposits (adj.)	**116,724.9**	**117,627.1**	**119,840.0**	**120,714.7**	**122,290.2**
Demand Deposits (adj.)[1]	44,786.6	44,324.8	46,604.1	45,517.0	43,248.3
Time Deposits (adj.)[2]	10,341.6	8,946.4	8,065.9	10,412.8	12,111.3
Savings Deposits (adj.)[3]	36,783.6	38,351.3	38,999.2	40,022.6	40,099.7
Foreign Currency Deposits (adj.)[4]	24,813.1	26,004.7	26,170.7	24,762.3	26,830.9
2. Gross Bank Credit[5]	**69,973.2**	**70,398.4**	**74,926.5**	**81,384.2**	**88,661.2**
Of which:					
Business Purposes	*25,244.2*	*26,500.5*	*28,439.3*	*31,176.1*	*33,862.8*
Corporate	*23,560.8*	*24,673.4*	*26,598.1*	*29,343.2*	*31,924.6*
Non-Corporate	*1,683.4*	*1,827.1*	*1,841.3*	*1,832.8*	*1,938.2*
3. Investments	**36,365.4**	**40,890.2**	**34,732.4**	**34,308.5[r]**	**34,047.0**
Government Securities	19,364.3	21,874.5	16,032.4	17,237.2	15,063.8
Other Investments[6]	17,001.1	19,015.7	18,700.0	17,071.3[r]	18,983.2
Of which:					
Interest-bearing Special Deposit Facility	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*
B. ANNUAL CHANGE					
1. Aggregate Deposits (adj.)	**7,808.4**	**902.2**	**2,212.9**	**874.7**	**1,575.5**
Demand Deposits (adj.)	6,532.2	-461.8	2,279.3	-1,087.1	-2,268.7
Time Deposits (adj.)	-1,129.3	-1,395.2	-880.4	2,346.9	1,698.5
Savings Deposits (adj.)	1,815.9	1,567.7	648.0	1,023.3	77.1
Foreign Currency Deposits (adj.)	589.5	1,191.5	166.0	-1,408.4	2,068.7
2. Gross Bank Credit	**-569.6**	**425.2**	**4,528.1**	**6,457.7**	**7,277.0**
Of which:					
Business Purposes	*113.6*	*1,256.4*	*1,938.8*	*2,736.7*	*2,686.7*
Corporate	*176.6*	*1,112.7*	*1,924.6*	*2,745.2*	*2,581.4*
Non-Corporate	*-62.9*	*143.7*	*14.2*	*-8.4*	*105.3*
3. Investments	**5,252.7**	**4,524.8**	**-6,157.7**	**-424.0**	**-261.4**
Government Securities	4,873.3	2,510.2	-5,842.1	1,204.8	-2,173.4
Other Investments	379.4	2,014.5	-315.6	-1,628.8	1,912.0
Of which:					
Interest-Bearing Special Deposit Facility	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*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.

TABLE A.18 (B)

SUMMARY ACCOUNTS OF THE MONETARY SYSTEM, 2020-2024
/ TT$ Million /

ITEM	END OF PERIOD				
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Net Foreign Assets	**66,372**	**65,941**	**67,129**	**60,308**	**55,666**
Monetary Authorities	43,689	39,027	39,042	34,991	30,925
Commercial Banks	22,683	26,914	28,087	25,317	24,741
Net Domestic Assets	**53,106**	**57,037**	**57,016r**	**68,168**	**74,078**
Net Claims on Public Sector	14,702	14,885	8,343r	15,458	14,328
Central Government (net)	16,572	17,424	12,875r	17,896	14,957
Treasury Bills	11,502	12,444	9,536	6,693	5,393
Other Government Securities	7,977	9,529	6,770	10,644	9,763
Other Credit (net)	-1,510	-3,253	-2,252r	2,270	3,233
Local Government (net)	-445	-474	-1,177	-587	-304
Statutory Bodies (net)	-4,293	-5,074	-4,036	-3,534	-3,036
Public Enterprises (net)	2,868	3,009	680r	1,683	2,712
Official Capital and Surplus	-7,550	-136	-6,728	-7,344	-7,207
Credit to Other Financial Institutions (net)	-13,757	-11,998	-11,677	-9,252	-12,538
Credit to Private Sector	60,599	62,249	66,410r	71,842	78,513
Interbank Float	3,759	2,424	2,104	-300	1,642
Other Assets (net)	-5,139	-10,386	-1,436r	-2,237	-662
Liabilities to Private Sector (M3)	**119,478**	**122,977**	**124,144r**	**128,475**	**129,744**
Money and Quasi-Money	98,471	100,712	101,427r	104,578	106,006
Money	42,989	44,126	44,597r	45,343	46,392
Currency in Circulation	6,740	7,504	7,551	7,697	7,513
Demand Deposits	36,249	36,622	37,045r	37,645	38,879
Quasi-Money	55,482	56,586	56,830	59,235	59,614
Time Deposits	7,903	7,218	6,740	8,758	9,143
Savings Deposits	47,579	49,368	50,090	50,478	50,471
Securitised Instruments	538	212	83	77	106
Private Capital and Surplus	20,468	22,053	22,635	23,821	23,631
	Changes as a per cent of beginning-of-period M3				
Net Foreign Assets	**4.2**	**-0.4**	**1.0**	**-5.5**	**-3.6**
Net Domestic Assets	4.3	3.3	0.1	9.0	4.6
Net Claims on Public Sector	5.9	0.2	-5.3	7.0	-0.9
Of which: Central Government	*7.1*	*0.7*	*-3.7*	*11.3*	*-2.3*
Credit to Private Sector	-0.3	1.4	3.5	4.4	5.2
Other Assets (net)	0.6	-4.4	1.7	-0.6	1.2
Liabilities to private sector (M3)	**8.4**	**2.9**	**1.1**	**3.5**	**1.0**
Memorandum items:					
Net Domestic Assets	53,106	57,037	57,016	68,168	74,078
Net Claims on Public Sector	14,702	14,885	8,343	15,458	14,328
Central Government	16,572	17,424	12,875	17,896	14,957
Credit to the Private Sector	60,599	62,249	66,410	71,842	78,513
(12-month increase in per cent) M3 Velocity	1.3	1.2	1.2	n.a.	1.2

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

TABLE A.19

LIQUIDITY POSITION OF COMMERCIAL BANKS, 2023-2024
/ TT$ Million /

ITEM	2023				2024			
	I	II	III	IV	I	II	III	IV
Legal Reserves Position								
Required Reserves[1]	13,379.7	13,426.6	13,497.0	13,486.8	13,676.0	13,644.2	9,736.2	9,810.8
Cash Reserves	18,338.3	18,415.6	18,353.8	16,459.7	17,939.4	16,503.1	15,546.7	14,756.8
Excess (+) or Shortage (-)[2]	4,958.6	4,989.0	4,856.8	2,972.9	4,263.4	2,858.9	5,810.5	4,946.0
Average Excess(+) or Shortage(-)[3]	6,536.7	6,003.4	6,225.6	4,786.7	3,777.6	4,033.9	5,299.4	6,296.9
Liquid Assets								
Total Deposits at Central Bank	18,338.3	18,415.6	18,353.8	16,459.7	17,939.4	16,503.1	15,546.7	14,756.8
Local Cash in Hand	1,442.7r	1,514.3r	1,521.7r	1,802.6r	1,458.0	1,296.5	1,370.0	1,812.1
Treasury Bills	4,450.2	4,919.2	5,187.7	4,535.9	4,130.9	4,544.4	5,640.4	4,661.1
Total Liquid Assets	**24,231.2**	**24,849.1**	**25,063.2**	**22,798.1**	**23,528.3**	**22,344.0**	**22,557.1**	**21,230.0**
Total Deposit Liabilities (adj.)	**95,569.1**	**95,903.9**	**96,407.1**	**96,334.2**	**97,685.6**	**97,458.3**	**97,361.7**	**98,107.9**
	As at Percentage of Total Deposit Liabilities (Adj.)							
Legal Reserves Position								
Required Reserves	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	10.0	10.0
Actual Reserves	19.2	19.2	19.0	17.1	18.4	16.9	16.0	15.0
Cash Reserves	19.2	19.2	19.0	17.1	18.4	16.9	16.0	15.0
Excess (+) or Shortage (-)	5.2	5.2	5.0	3.1	4.4	2.9	6.0	5.0
Average Excess(+) or Shortage(-)	6.8	6.3	6.5	5.0	3.9	4.1	5.4	6.4
Liquid Assets								
Total Deposits at Central Bank	19.2	19.2	19.0	17.1	18.4	16.9	16.0	15.0
Local Cash in Hand	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.9	1.5	1.3	1.4	1.8
Treasury Bills	4.7	5.1	5.4	4.7	4.2	4.7	5.8	4.8
TOTAL LIQUID ASSETS	**25.4**	**25.9**	**26.0**	**23.7**	**24.1**	**22.9**	**23.2**	**21.6**

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

1 Required reserves comprise the statutory cash reserves requirement which was reduced from 14.0 per cent to 10.0 per cent effective July 24, 2024. This represented the first reduction since March 2020. A secondary reserve requirement of 2 per cent, which was introduced on a temporary basis, on October 04, 2006 was suspended effective August 02, 2018.

2 Represents the excess/shortage as at the end of the quarter.

3 Represents the excess/shortage as an average for the quarter.

TABLE A.20

COMMERCIAL BANKS:
DISTRIBUTION OF LOANS AND ADVANCES BY SECTOR, 2020-2024
/ TT$ Million /

SECTOR	END OF PERIOD				
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Central and Local Government	610.0	443.4	334.5	332.9	217.9
Agriculture	160.6	158.1	167.0	188.0	168.3
Petroleum	3,116.3	3,287.6	3,327.8	4,123.1	4,277.6
Manufacturing	3,875.7	3,766.8	4,037.4	4,603.3	4,693.9
Construction	2,610.9	2,655.1	3,337.2	4,131.4[r]	6,166.8
Distributive Trades	3,817.5	3,802.3	4,272.0	4,589.5	5,078.8
Hotels and Guest Houses	1,668.5	1,738.1	2,085.5	2,237.9	2,278.6
Transport, Storage and Communication	1,301.6	1,301.1	1,633.2	1,603.5	1,845.3
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	11,757.8	11,758.7	13,131.3	13,812.5[r]	13,036.2
Education, Cultural and Community Services	312.5	279.4	171.2	171.1[r]	132.3
Personal Services	1,227.8	1,207.4	1,243.4	1,249.5[r]	1,305.1
Electricity and Water	1,249.5	1,128.8	1,052.2	1,435.1	1,435.5
Consumers	18,802.6	18,391.4	19,712.6	21,432.0	24,213.3
TOTAL (Excluding Real Estate Mortgage Loans)	**50,511.2**	**49,918.2**	**54,505.4**	**59,909.8[r]**	**64,849.7**
Real Estate Mortgage Loans and Lease Financing	24,816.4	25,744.1	26,830.1	28,686.7	30,484.6
TOTAL LOANS	**75,327.6**	**75,662.3**	**81,335.5**	**88,596.6[r]**	**95,334.3**

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

TABLE A.21

COMMERCIAL BANKS:
PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF LOANS AND ADVANCES BY SECTOR, 2020-2024[1]
/ PER CENT /

SECTOR	END OF PERIOD				
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Central Government	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.2
Agriculture	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Petroleum	4.1	4.3	4.1	4.7	4.5
Manufacturing	5.1	5.0	5.0	5.2	4.9
Construction	3.5	3.5	4.1	4.7[r]	6.5
Distributive Trades	5.1	5.0	5.3	5.2	5.3
Hotels and Guest Houses	2.2	2.3	2.6	2.5	2.4
Transport, Storage and Communication	1.7	1.7	2.0	1.8	1.9
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	15.6	15.5	16.1	15.6[r]	13.7
Education, Cultural and Community Services	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.2[r]	0.1
Personal Services	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.4[r]	1.4
Electricity and Water	1.7	1.5	1.3	1.6	1.5
Consumers	25.0	24.3	24.2	24.2	25.4
TOTAL (Excluding Real Estate Mortgage Loans)	**67.1**	**66.0**	**67.0**	**67.6**	**68.0**
Real Estate Mortgage Loans and Lease Financing	32.9	34.0	33.0	32.4	32.0
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, 2022-2024[1]
/ PER CENT /

INTEREST RATES		2022	2023	2024	2024 I	2024 II	2024 III	2024 IV
A. LOAN RATES (MARKET)								
(i) Installment	Range	0.00-20.75	0.00-17.45r	0.00-24.00	0.00-19.75	0.00-19.75	0.00-24.00	0.00-23.66
	Median	4.00r	4.00r	3.99	3.99	3.99	4.00	4.00
(ii) Demand	Range	0.00-16.00	0.00-17.00	0.00-15.00	2.93-15.00	2.93-14.00	0.00-13.50	0.00-13.50
	Median	5.13	5.11	5.35	5.35	5.35	5.35	5.35
(iii) Overdraft	Range	0.00-29.00	0.00-29.00	0.00-29.00	0.00-29.00	0.00-29.00	0.00-29.00	0.00-29.00
	Median	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.38	7.50
(iv) Basic Prime Rate	Range	7.25-7.80	7.25-7.80	7.25-7.80	7.25-7.80	7.25-7.80	7.25-7.80	7.25-7.80
	Median	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50	7.50
(v) Real Estate Mortgage	Range	1.00-12.00r	3.00-11.50	3.00-11.50	3.00-11.50	3.00-11.50	3.00-11.50	3.00-11.50
	Median	5.73r	5.75r	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75
B. DEPOSIT RATES (Announced)								
(i) Ordinary Savings	Range	0.00-0.20	0.00-0.20	0.00-0.20	0.00-0.20	0.00-0.20	0.00-0.20	0.00-0.20
	Median	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
(ii) Special Savings	Range	0.00-2.00	0.00-2.00	0.00-1.75	0.00-1.75	0.00-1.75	0.00-1.75	0.00-1.75
	Median	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08
(iii) 3-Months Time	Range	0.00-0.50	0.00-0.50	0.00-0.50	0.00-0.50	0.00-0.50	0.00-0.50	0.00-0.50
	Median	0.04r	0.04r	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15
(iv) 3-6 Months Time	Range	0.00-0.50	0.00-0.50	0.00-0.50	0.00-0.50	0.00-0.50	0.00-0.50	0.00-0.50
	Median	0.05r	0.05r	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23
(iv) 6-Months Time	Range	0.00-0.05r	0.00-0.35r	0.04-0.35	0.04-0.35	0.04-0.35	0.04-0.35	0.04-0.35
	Median	0.02r	0.02r	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.16
(v) 1-Year Time	Range	0.00-1.85	0.00-1.85	0.00-1.85	0.00-1.85	0.00-1.85	0.00-1.85	0.00-1.85
	Median	0.50r	0.50	0.43	0.43	0.43	0.43	0.43

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

Note: The Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago (the Central Bank) undertook an exercise to review both TT dollar and foreign currency interest rate data submitted by the licensed reporting institutions over a two-year period. The Central Bank identified inconsistencies and required institutions to re-evaluate all data submitted for the period January 2020 to present. Resubmitted amendments resulted in a structural break in data trends which is reflected in selected series.

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, 2020-2024

/ TT$ Million /

ITEM	END OF PERIOD 2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
A. Narrow Money Supply (M-1A)	**52,104.7**	**51,828.4**	**54,155.4[r]**	**53,214.2[r]**	**50,761.2**
Currency in Active Circulation	7,318.1	7,503.6	7,551.3[r]	7,697.2[r]	7,512.9
Demand Deposits (adj.)	44,786.6	44,324.8	46,604.1	45,517.0	43,248.3
B. Factors Affecting Changes in Money Supply					
1. Net Bank Credit to Central Government	**-22,243.8**	**-13,878.3**	**-20,572.7[r]**	**-7,903.5[r]**	**-15,964.6**
(a) Central Bank	-41,119.6	-35,223.5	-36,064.8[r]	-24,375.0[r]	-29,328.1
(b) Commercial Banks	18,875.8	21,345.2	15,492.1	16,471.5	13,363.5
2. Bank Credit	**73,132.3**	**73,872.7**	**77,878.5**	**83,896.3**	**90,943.1**
(a) Public Sector[1]	11,507.3	10,569.9	10,216.7	10,856.7	11,328.5
(b) Private Sector[2]	61,625.0	63,302.8	67,661.8	73,039.6	79,614.6
3. External Assets (net)	**50,196.1**	**62,787.1**	**63,199.9[r]**	**54,877.6[r]**	**24,738.3**
4. Quasi-Money[3]	**-47,125.2**	**-47,297.6**	**-47,065.2**	**-50,435.4**	**-52,211.0**
5. Foreign Currency Deposits (Adj.)	**-24,813.1**	**-26,004.7**	**-26,170.7**	**-24,762.3**	**-26,830.9**
6. NFIs Foreign Currency Deposit (Adj.)	**-676.8**	**-1,766.5**	**-1,069.9[r]**	**-746.7**	**-615.9**
7. Other Items (Net)	**22,958.4**	**2,349.2**	**6,885.5[r]**	**-2,458.5[r]**	**-8,566.8**
C. Broad Money Supply (M-2)	**99,229.8**	**99,126.0**	**101,220.5[r]**	**103,649.6[r]**	**102,972.1**
D. Broad Money Supply (M-2*)[4]	**124,043.0**	**125,130.7**	**127,391.2[r]**	**128,411.8[r]**	**129,803.1**
Memorandum Items:[5]					
Money Supply M-3	101,133.2	102,228.7	104,515.2[r]	107,977.4[r]	106,848.0
Money Supply M-3*	126,622.9	129,999.5	131,680.3[r]	133,340.2[r]	134,224.8

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, 2020-2024

/ TT$ Thousand /

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)
2020	141,350	181,123	1,140,032	2,604,531	3,565,264	6,169,795
2021	180,822	261,993	1,685,811	3,506,489	3,702,140	7,208,629
2022	507,096	293,132	1,057,207	4,188,357	3,843,578[r]	8,031,935[r]
2023	65,581	367,185	707,265	4,838,346[r]	4,631,558[r]	9,469,904[r]
2024	15,998	353,525	1,097,150	4,996,975	3,960,060	8,957,035
2023						
I	-22,538	319,244	888,636	4,204,860[r]	4,142,666[r]	8,347,526
II	8,404[r]	340,550	789,612[r]	4,507,860[r]	4,093,385[r]	8,601,245[r]
III	30,086[r]	349,843	604,289[r]	4,705,340[r]	4,404,162[r]	9,109,502[r]
IV	65,581	367,185	707,265	4,838,346[r]	4,631,558[r]	9,469,904[r]
2024						
I	27,662	376,361	871,627	4,819,214	4,480,481	9,299,695
II	9,866	361,199	709,588	4,931,752	4,266,840	9,198,592
III	-29,825	349,270	832,226	4,775,760	4,092,021	8,867,781
IV	15,998	353,525	1,097,150	4,996,975	3,960,060	8,957,035

END OF PERIOD	TOTAL ASSETS/ LIABILITIES	DEPOSITS	BORROWINGS[1]	PROVISIONS	CAPITAL AND RESERVES	OTHER ITEMS (NET)
	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
2020	7,450,320	2,520,957	1,022,874	181,985	3,922,229	-5,973
2021	9,135,041	4,021,040	883,435	202,214	3,962,641	284,950
2022	9,710,188	4,249,066[r]	571,969	179,183	4,347,321[r]	618,380[r]
2023	10,455,750	4,860,197[r]	744,434	154,169	4,384,673[r]	543,265[r]
2024	10,268,720	4,389,020	916,492	145,046	4,241,776	848,359
2023						
I	9,349,273[r]	4,357,824[r]	595,311	183,595[r]	4,164,468	341,641[r]
II	9,572,345	4,435,418	591,007	167,466[r]	4,170,352	485,545[r]
III	9,922,979[r]	4,569,990[r]	680,062	170,742	4,143,187[r]	576,443[r]
IV	10,455,750	4,860,197[r]	744,434	154,169	4,384,673[r]	543,265[r]
2024						
I	10,423,170	4,778,610	730,745	152,172	4,408,129	608,055
II	10,124,200	4,553,886	723,175	150,404	4,043,437	963,662
III	9,865,410	4,338,938	760,914	140,242	4,056,159	869,172
IV	10,268,720	4,389,020	916,492	145,046	4,241,776	848,359

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, 2020-2024
/ TT$ Million /

SECTOR	END OF PERIOD				
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Public Sector	**198.8**	**460.1**	**471.9**	**979.7**	**272.8**
Private Sector	**3,076.7**	**2,969.4**	**3,123.1**	**3,391.0**	**3,607.3**
Agriculture	37.0	32.3	28.1	33.1	33.9
Petroleum	9.9	10.3	8.6	8.5	10.7
Manufacturing	62.0	56.9	143.2	213.5	132.1
Construction	188.7	220.6	207.2	201.9	248.4
Distributive Trades	131.5	129.5	99.3	121.7	135.8
Hotels and Guest Houses	44.7	48.8	46.9	44.6	12.4
Transport, Storage and Communication	126.4	114.3	128.2	120.5	117.6
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Services	464.5	479.2	689.1	777.2	895.8
Education, Cultural and Community Services	0.1	0.0	0.2	1.3	1.7
Personal Services	147.7	135.4	104.9	83.8	57.3
Consumers	1,864.1	1,741.9	1,667.4	1,784.8	1,961.5
TOTAL (Excluding Real Estate Mortgage Loans and Leases)	**3,275.5**	**3,429.5**	**3,595.0**	**4,370.7**	**3,880.2**
Real Estate Mortgage Loans	75.5	91.7	87.1	86.6	89.2
Leases	195.3	169.3	156.2	174.0	178.4
TOTAL LOANS	**3,546.3**	**3,690.4**	**3,838.4**	**4,631.3**	**4,147.8**

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

TABLE A.26

FINANCE COMPANIES AND MERCHANT BANKS:
PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF LOANS AND ADVANCES BY SECTOR, 2020-2024
/ PER CENT /

SECTOR	END OF PERIOD				
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Public Sector	**5.6**	**12.5**	**12.3**	**21.2**	**6.6**
Private Sector	**86.8**	**80.5**	**81.4**	**73.2**	**87.0**
Agriculture	1.0	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.8
Petroleum	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3
Manufacturing	1.7	1.5	3.7	4.6	3.2
Construction	5.3	6.0	5.4	4.4	6.0
Distributive Trades	3.7	3.5	2.6	2.6	3.3
Hotels and Guest Houses	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.0	0.3
Transport, Storage and Communication	3.6	3.1	3.3	2.6	2.8
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Business Services	13.1	13.0	18.0	16.8	21.6
Education, Cultural and Community Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Personal Services	4.2	3.7	2.7	1.8	1.4
Consumers	52.6	47.2	43.4	38.5	47.3
TOTAL (Excluding Real EstateMortgage Loans and Leases)	**92.4**	**92.9**	**93.7**	**94.4**	**93.5**
Real Estate Mortgage Loans	2.1	2.5	2.3	1.9	2.2
Leases	5.5	4.6	4.1	3.8	4.3
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, 2020-2024
/ TT$ Thousand /

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)
2020	85,987	746,908	517,952	498,365	1,739,812	1,825,799
2021	93,120	625,029	1,227,548	629,700	2,451,841	2,544,961
2022	67,223	476,465	2,916,074	718,020	4,085,846	4,153,070[r]
2023	48,815	474,520	2,688,372	1,002,288	4,136,015	4,184,830
2024	56,707	416,365	587,332	1,091,060	2,062,721	2,119,428
2023						
I	56,407	496,242	4,197,370	830,831	5,499,771[r]	5,556,178[r]
II	51,061	480,228	4,368,162	923,185	5,744,050[r]	5,795,110
III	57,469	423,227	3,927,517	950,392	5,273,532[r]	5,331,000
IV	48,815	474,520	2,688,372	1,002,288	4,136,015	4,184,830
2024						
I	71,540	554,796	789,204	1,125,343	2,438,664	2,510,204
II	56,742	436,883	571,512	994,550	1,972,540	2,029,282
III	53,138	509,105	575,361	995,901	2,049,340	2,102,478
IV	56,707	416,365	587,332	1,091,060	2,062,721	2,119,428

END OF PERIOD	DEPOSITS	BORROWINGS	PROVISIONS	CAPITAL AND RESERVES	OTHER ITEMS (NET)
	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
2020	390,866	39,932	24,392	1,437,309	-3,088
2021	1,251,756	-68	31,466	1,423,628	-131,385
2022	2,940,936[r]	0	25,742	1,279,176[r]	-68,072
2023	2,779,029	0	30,201	1,418,656	-13,891
2024	601,249	50,000	32,113	1,480,789	37,313
2023					
I	4,284,580	0	25,683	1,295,815	-25,230[r]
II	4,490,105	0	28,552	1,326,331	-22,353[r]
III	3,929,505	80,000	28,622	1,378,577	21,901
IV	2,779,029	0	30,201	1,418,656	-13,891
2024					
I	882,044	30,000	30,747	1,447,608	180,484
II	547,852	25,000	30,480	1,457,302	24,053
III	564,378	20,000	31,104	1,479,335	58,688
IV	601,249	50,000	32,113	1,480,789	37,313

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

TABLE A.28

DEVELOPMENT BANKS: SUMMARY OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 2020-2024
/ TT$ Thousand /

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)
2020	0	-138,581	0	4,483,608	4,345,027	4,345,027	1,774,604	2,570,423
2021	0	-6,721	0	4,600,455	4,593,734	4,593,734	1,897,745	2,695,989
2022	0	7,767	0	4,892,273	4,900,040	4,900,040	1,956,090	2,943,950
2023	0	11,065	0	5,096,510	5,107,575	5,107,575	2,084,168	3,023,407
2024	0	-12,312	0	6,412,934	6,400,622	6,400,622	3,191,992	3,208,630
2020								
I	0	-146,645	-10,000	4,263,857	4,107,212	4,107,212	1,780,532	2,326,680
II	0	-143,643	-10,000	4,216,267	4,062,624	4,062,624	1,774,830	2,287,794
III	0	-142,110	0	4,291,584	4,149,473	4,149,473	1,745,061	2,404,411
IV	0	-138,581	0	4,483,608	4,345,027	4,345,027	1,774,604	2,570,423
2021								
I	0	-141,518	0	4,512,550	4,371,032	4,371,032	1,806,569	2,564,463
II	0	-116,255	0	4,510,271	4,394,016	4,394,016	1,860,529	2,533,486
III	0	-143,725	0	4,616,717	4,472,992	4,472,992	1,882,337	2,590,656
IV	0	-6,721	0	4,600,455	4,593,734	4,593,734	1,897,745	2,695,989
2022								
I	0	5,794	0	4,666,775	4,672,569	4,672,569	1,923,300	2,749,269
II	0	8,926	0	4,670,875	4,679,801	4,679,801	1,949,119	2,730,683
III	0	9,598	0	4,794,920	4,804,518	4,804,518	1,925,920	2,878,598
IV	0	7,767	0	4,892,273	4,900,040	4,900,040	1,956,090	2,943,950
2023								
I	0	9,106	0	4,978,832	4,987,938	4,987,938	1,988,846	2,999,092
II	0	9,498	0	4,957,347	4,966,845	4,966,845	2,002,623	2,964,222
III	0	9,475	0	5,003,807	5,013,282	5,013,282	2,041,781	2,971,501
IV	0	11,065	0	5,096,510	5,107,575	5,107,575	2,084,168	3,023,407
2024								
I	0	8,047	0	6,265,650	6,273,697	6,273,697	3,214,737	3,058,960
II	0	7,749	0	6,319,963	6,327,711	6,327,711	3,221,361	3,106,350
III	0	-15,073	0	6,416,567	6,401,494	6,401,494	3,193,389	3,208,105
IV	0	-12,312	0	6,412,934	6,400,622	6,400,622	3,191,992	3,208,630

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

TABLE A.29

THRIFT INSTITUTIONS: SUMMARY OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 2020-2024

/ TT$ Thousand /

END OF PERIOD	EXTERNAL ASSETS (NET)	NET DOMESTIC ASSETS					DEPOSITS			SHARES	OTHER ITEMS (NET)
		NET DEPOSITS IN LOCAL BANKS	PUBLIC SECTOR CREDIT	PRIVATE SECTOR CREDIT	TOTAL	TOTAL ASSETS/ LIABILITIES	TIME	SAVINGS	TOTAL		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
2020	0	2,733	6,820	114,065	123,618	123,618	29,920	8,339	38,259	22,011	63,349
2021	0	8,557	11,527	106,338	126,422	126,422	26,181	8,590	34,771	23,506	68,143
2022	0	12,673	9,204	102,241	124,118	124,118	23,787	8,836	32,623	21,337	70,157
2023	0	10,366	8,832	103,895	123,093	123,093	24,181	9,530	33,711	18,179	71,203
2024	0	11,862	7,091	103,927	122,880	122,880	24,095	9,397	33,492	18,051	71,337
2020											
I	0	300	5,992	120,919	127,211	127,211	30,406	8,096	38,502	23,977	64,732
II	0	3,737	5,992	117,233	126,962	126,962	29,798	8,030	37,828	24,513	64,622
III	0	3,858	7,992	116,271	128,121	128,121	29,777	7,761	37,538	24,743	65,839
IV	0	2,733	6,820	114,065	123,618	123,618	29,920	8,339	38,259	22,011	63,349
2021											
I	0	6,359	7,778	111,704	125,841	125,841	29,862	7,882	37,744	22,104	65,994
II	0	8,845	8,443	109,382	126,670	126,670	30,079	7,975	38,054	22,308	66,306
III	0	8,962	11,563	107,822	128,347	128,347	30,117	8,042	38,159	22,909	67,279
IV	0	8,557	11,527	106,338	126,422	126,422	26,181	8,590	34,771	23,506	68,143
2022											
I	0	8,249	10,375	105,689	124,313	124,313	25,044	7,906	32,950	21,585	69,778
II	0	9,309	9,133	104,962	123,404	123,404	24,919	7,796	32,715	22,024	68,665
III	0	12,984	9,045	102,148	124,177	124,177	24,701	7,786	32,487	20,480	71,211
IV	0	12,673	9,204	102,241	124,118	124,118	23,787	8,836	32,623	21,337	70,157
2023											
I	0	11,257	9,618	102,919	123,794	123,794	23,463	8,844	32,307	19,902	71,586
II	0	15,286	5,841	102,469	123,596	123,596	23,597	8,999	32,596	19,393	71,608
III	0	11,203	8,412	104,161	123,776	123,776	24,065	8,683	32,748	18,040	72,968
IV	0	10,366	8,832	103,895	123,093	123,093	24,181	9,530	33,711	18,179	71,203
2024											
I	0	9,080	6,866	104,779	120,725	120,725	22,703	9,429	32,132	17,451	71,143
II	0	11,073	6,882	104,000	121,955	121,955	23,532	9,601	33,133	17,615	71,206
III	0	11,176	6,903	103,756	121,835	121,835	23,763	9,604	33,367	17,404	71,065
IV	0	11,862	7,091	103,927	122,880	122,880	24,095	9,397	33,492	18,051	71,337

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

TABLE A.30

NON-BANK FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS INTEREST RATES, 2022-2024[1]
/ PER CENT /

INTEREST RATES	2022	2023	2024	2024			
				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) I - 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	6.50-9.00	6.50-9.00	6.50-9.00	6.50-9.00	6.50-9.00	6.50-9.00
Median	8.00	7.75	7.75	7.75	7.75	7.75	7.75
2. Trust and Mortgage Finance Companies							
(a) Time Deposits							
(i) 1 - 3 years							
Range	0.00-4.00	0.00-3.55	0.00-3.55	0.00-3.55	0.00-3.55	0.00-3.55	0.00-3.55
Median	0.55	0.53[r]	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
(ii) Over 3 years							
Range	0.00-3.00	0.00-3.00	0.00-0.05	0.00-0.05	0.00-0.05	0.00-0.05	0.00-0.05
Median	1.00	0.04[r]	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
(b) Mortgage Loans							
(i) Residential							
Range	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Median	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3. Finance Companies and Merchant Banks							
(a) Time Deposits							
(i) 1 - 3 years							
Range	0.25-4.50[r]	0.00-7.00[r]	0.00-4.85	0.00-4.35	0.00-4.85	0.00-4.10	0.00-4.50
Median	2.78[r]	2.85	2.75	2.75	2.75	2.75	3.00
(b) Installment Loans							
Range	0.00-59.75	2.36-60.18	0.00-60.99	2.36-59.94	2.36-59.82	0.00-59.27	0.00-60.99
Median	9.45[r]	9.75[r]	8.66	9.75	8.75	8.51	9.14

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

Note: The Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago (the Central Bank) undertook an exercise to review both TT dollar and foreign currency interest rate data submitted by the licensed reporting institutions over a 2-year period. The Central Bank identified inconsistencies and required institutions to re-evaluate all data submitted for the period January 2020 to present. Resubmitted amendments resulted in a structural break in data trends which is reflected in selected series.

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, 2020-2024[1]

END OF PERIOD	NEW ISSUES ($MN)			SECONDARY MARKET TURNOVER[2]						
	GOVERNMENT SECURITIES	TREASURY BILLS	OTHER[4]	GOVERNMENT SECURITIES[3]		TREASURY BILLS		PUBLIC COMPANY SHARES		
				FACE VALUE ($MN)	NO. OF TRANS-ACTIONS	FACE VALUE ($MN)	NO. OF TRANS-ACTIONS	MARKET VALUE ($MN)	NO. OF TRANS-ACTIONS	VOLUME OF SHARES TRADED ($MN)
2020	**12,504.1**	**1,661.0**	**6,700.3**	**448.7**	**22**	**218.4**	**21**	**1,042.9**	**11,668**	**61.3**
I	2,250.0	1,561.0	1,615.2	2.0	1	126.3	15	422.9	3,804	23.7
II	4,261.1	100.0	2,471.5	0.9	2	91.9	5	238.6	2,736	15.5
III	2,000.0	0.0	1,000.0	416.7	10	0.0	0	187.3	2,457	10.7
IV	3,993.0	0.0	1,613.6	29.1	9	0.2	1	194.1	2,671	11.3
2021	**13,370.3**	**500.0**	**5,034.1**	**79.4**	**20**	**35.2**	**4**	**1,314.7**	**14,936**	**94.8**
I	3,545.3	0.0	439.2	74.0	12	0.0	0	325.7	3,312	13.5
II	3,725.0	0.0	799.1	0.2	2	0.0	0	417.8	3,841	27.4
III	3,000.0	0.0	2,651.3	3.4	3	0.1	1	302.6	3,694	26.1
IV	3,100.0	500.0	1,144.5	1.9	3	35.2	3	268.5	4,089	27.8
2022	**2,500.0**	**0.0**	**6,003.6**	**792.2**	**91**	**359.6**	**56**	**1,706.9**	**20,944**	**184.3**
I	0.0	0.0	824.5	0.0	0	0.3	3	472.9	5,716	46.5
II	0.0	0.0	373.8	0.0	0	141.5	17	445.7	5,372	50.9
III	1,500.0	0.0	3,079.5	293.1	39	147.5	30	372.2	5,071	42.2
IV	1,000.0	0.0	1,725.8	499.2	52	70.3	6	416.1	4,785	44.8
2023	**14,236.0**	**0.0**	**4,074.0**	**455.1**	**880**	**741.6**	**34**	**1,092.8**	**21,264**	**106.2**
I	2,044.0	0.0	1,386.2	26.2	342	129.9	12	338.4	5,501	35.5
II	6,692.0	0.0	951.9	293.3	244	255.3	7	262.3	5,603	23.6
III	3,000.0	0.0	1,686.0	102.8	165	200.8	7	269.9	5,150	28.4
IV	2,500.0	0.0	350.0[r]	32.8	129	155.6	8	222.3	5,010	18.7
2024	**8,275.6**	**860.0**	**500.0**	**96.9**	**428**	**968.5**	**62**	**840.8**	**19,332**	**88.1**
I	1,575.6	0.0	500.0	4.1	117	133.4	14	194.4	4,608	22.7
II	4,000.0	300.0	0.0	5.6	137	284.5	16	161.1	5,403	16.1
III	0.0	560.0	0.0	37.9	97	384.4	14	156.3	4,633	19.2
IV	2,700.0	0.0	0.0	49.4	77	166.3	18	328.9	4,688	30.1

SOURCES: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago and 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 domestic bonds issued by public entities which have been guaranteed by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago.

TABLE A.32

SELECTED INTEREST RATES, 2022-2024[1]
/ PER CENT PER ANNUM /

INTEREST RATES	2022	2023	2024	2024			
				I	II	III	IV
A. Central Bank							
(i) Bank Rate	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50	5.50
(ii) Special Deposits Rate	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
(iii) Repo Rate[2]	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50
(iv) Reverse Repo Rate[2]	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
(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	0.50	1.14	2.31	1.37	1.99	2.22	2.31
C. Commercial Banks - Local Currency							
(i) Weighted Average Rate on Loans	6.94	6.65	6.62	6.61	6.59	6.63	6.65
(ii) Weighted Average Rate on Deposits	0.61	0.65	0.73	0.68	0.71	0.76	0.75
(iii) Interest Spread (i - ii)	6.33	6.01	5.90	5.93	5.88	5.87	5.91
D. Non-Bank Financial Institutions[4] - Local Currency							
(i) Weighted Average Rate on Loans	10.33	7.49	10.40	9.83	10.15	10.80	10.80
(ii) Weighted Average Rate on Deposits	2.33	2.76	3.10	2.92	3.09	3.17	3.23
(iii) Interest Spread (i - ii)	8.00	4.73	7.30	6.92	7.06	7.63	7.57

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. Following representation by the Bankers Association of Trinidad and Tobago (BATT), the Central Bank agreed to suspend the calculation of the MMRR for a two-year period commencing October 01, 2021. Over this period, the MMRR will remain at 3.00 per cent. Refer to the Circular Letter for more details at https://www.central-bank.org.tt/sites/default/files/circular_letters/circular-letter-covid-19-relief-measures-restructuring-and-mortgage-market-rates-sep2021.pdf

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 2020-2024[1,2]

/ US$ Million /

ITEM	2019	2020	2021	2022	Jan-Sep 2023	Jan-Sep 2024p
Current Account	**-1,356.4**	**2,629.3**	**5,244.1**	**3,396.7**	**2,807.4**	**1,308.4**
Goods and Services	-344.8	2,906.3	6,889.5	2,771.7	2,361.4	1,102.9
Goods, net*	984.1	4,711.9	9,180.9	3,762.7	3,094.8	1,764.6
Exports**	6,002.9	11,082.0	16,687.1	10,378.3	8,030.8	7,301.0
Petroleum Crude and Refined	1,287.6	2,238.6	2,991.2	2,333.0	1,824.3	1,906.9
Gas	1,242.7	2,321.8	4,784.5	2,752.9	2,058.0	1,525.1
Petrochemicals	1,827.0	4,401.7	6,529.4	3,374.0	2,613.5	2,436.3
Other	1,645.7	2,119.9	2,382.0	1,918.4	1,535.0	1,432.7
Imports**	5,018.8	6,370.1	7,506.2	6,615.7	4,936.0	5,536.4
Fuel***	723.3	1,160.8	1,863.0	1,299.7	992.9	1,284.7
Capital	1,191.8	1,584.3	1,423.5	1,388.1	1,057.1	1,239.8
Other	3,103.7	3,625.0	4,219.6	3,927.8	2,886.0	3,011.8
Services, net	-1,328.9	-1,805.6	-2,291.5	-991.0	-733.5	-661.7
Transport	-363.4	-406.5	-393.3	-205.1	-50.0	-130.6
Travel	105.6	15.1	264.8	349.1	156.5	312.9
Telecommunications, Computer, and Information Services	-47.1	-4.3	-13.3	-4.4	-6.7	-25.8
Insurance and Pension Services	-209.0	-215.0	-211.2	-241.1	-90.3	-158.3
Other Services^	-650.4	-1,195.0	-1,938.4	-889.6	-743.0	-659.8
Primary Income, net	-1,055.6	-391.7	-1,722.0	505.1	346.4	185.5
Secondary Income, net	44.0	114.7	76.6	120.0	99.6	20.0
Capital Account	**0.5**	**6.7**	**0.2**	**0.3**	**0.3**	**0.5**
Financial Account	**-1,513.3**	**2,800.6**	**3,216.2**	**1,605.8**	**1,474.5**	**565.3**
Direct Investment	-958.0	1,704.2	2,267.6	2,086.2	1,783.1	631.5
Net Acquisition of Financial Assets	98.0	769.5	1,354.1	530.7	893.7	32.3
Net Incurrence of Liabilities	1,056.0	-934.8	-913.5	-1,555.5	-889.4	-599.2
Portfolio Investment	-184.6	256.3	754.2	-370.1	-357.8	124.2
Net Acquisition of Financial Assets	-85.5	257.6	674.4	-37.7	-25.5	556.1
Net Incurrence of Liabilities	99.2	1.3	-79.8	332.5	332.3	432.0
Financial Derivatives	-8.7	137.4	-99.9	-16.1	1.5	51.7
Net Acquisition of Financial Assets	-9.1	176.3	-65.1	-2.0	29.9	47.1
Net Incurrence of Liabilities	-0.4	38.9	34.8	14.1	28.3	-4.6
Other Investment^^	-362.1	702.8	294.4	-94.1	47.7	-242.1
Net Acquisition of Financial Assets	-267.1	1,107.6	881.5	-220.9	90.9	-914.6
Net Incurrence of Liabilities	95.0	404.9	587.1	-126.8	43.2	-672.5
Net Errors and Omissions	-132.6	90.5	-2,075.2	-2,365.8	-1,787.9	-1,337.1
Overall Balance	**24.8**	**-74.2**	**-47.2**	**-574.5**	**-454.8**	**-593.4**
Memorandum Items:						
Current Account/GDP (per cent)	-6.5	10.9	18.4	13.3	13.7	6.1
Gross Official Reserves (US$Mn) ^^^	6,953.8	6,879.6	6,832.4	6,257.9	6,377.6	5,664.5
Debt Service Ratio	10.4	2.7	1.8	5.7	6.3	8.3
Net International Investment Position (US$Mn)^^^	2,238.7	6,105.0	8,494.0	10,740.4	10,024.2	10,877.7

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

NOTES:

1 GDP data prior to 2024 are sourced from th CSO and that for 2024 are Central Bank estimates.

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 comprise estimates by the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago.

** Exports and imports are reported on a FOB (Free on Board) basis. Energy exports include exports of petroleum, petroleum products and related materials and the exports of petrochemicals.

*** Includes petroleum, petroleum products and related materials.

^ 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.1)

DIRECT INVESTMENT: NET INCURRENCE OF LIABILITIES (BY SECTOR)

/ US$ Million /

ITEM	2016	2017r	2018p	2019p
Petroleum Industries	-431.9	-566.7	-716.4	-231.1
Petroleum Industries	75.2	-544.9	-366.9	18.8
Mining, Exploration and Production and Refineries	-534.0	-30.4	-384.1	-261.4
Petrochemicals	26.9	8.7	34.5	11.5
Food, Drink and Tobacco	47.6	23.6	-7.4	4.7
Chemicals and Non-Metallic Minerals	4.0	26.1	-7.8	-2.7
Assembly Type and Related Industries	65.2	32.5	28.9	-4.8
Distribution	88.2	-4.8	23.7	12.4
All Other Sectors[1]	203.3	18.3	-21.1	405.5
TOTAL	**-23.6**	**-470.9**	**-700.2**	**184.0**
Memorandum Items:				
Energy Sector	-431.9	-566.7	-716.4	-231.1
Non-Energy Sector	408.3	95.8	16.2	415.1

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

NOTE: This table shows net changes (increases less decreases) in direct investment liabilities (direct investment in Trinidad and Tobago). 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 (B.2)

DIRECT INVESTMENT: NET INCURRENCE OF LIABILITIES (BY SECTOR)

/ US$ Million /

ITEM	2022	2023	Jan-Sep 2023	Jan-Sep 2024p
Mining and Quarrying	-1,102.1	-1,312.4	-743.7	-251.1
Manufacturing	131.8	-412.9	-168.7	-166.2
Wholesale and Retail Trade	-28.3	-14.7	-95.2	-20.0
Financial and Insurance Activities	119.7	180.8	119.5	-171.3
Other Sectors	-34.7	3.8	-1.2	9.4
TOTAL	**-913.5**	**-1,555.5**	**-889.4**	**-599.2**
Memorandum Items:				
Energy Sector	-1,091.6	-1,607.6	-825.5	-429.7
Non-Energy Sector	178.0	52.1	-63.9	-169.5

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

NOTES:

1 This table shows net changes (increases less decreases) in direct investment liabilities (direct investment in Trinidad and Tobago). A decrease in liabilities (outflow) is represented with a negative sign. An increase in liabilities (inflow) is represented with a positive sign.

2 Effective 2020 data, the industry breakdown now conforms to the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities, Revision 4 (ISIC. Rev 4).

3 "Other Sectors" include Agriculture, forestry and fishing, Electric power generation, transmission and distribution, Construction, Transportation and storage, Manufacture of gas; distribution of gaseous fuels through mains, Steam and air conditioning supply, Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities, Accommodation and food service activities, Information and communication, Real estate activities, Professional, scientific and technical activities, Administrative and support service activities, Public administration and defence; compulsory social security, Education, Human health and social work activities, Arts, entertainment and recreation and Other service activities.

TABLE A.33 (C)

DIRECT INVESTMENT: NET INCURRENCE OF LIABILITIES (BY COUNTRY)

/ US$ Million /

ITEM	2020	2021	2022	2023	Jan-Sep 2023	Jan-Sep 2024p
U.S.A.	1,007.8	-402.5	893.2	-1,751.5	-1,375.4	284.9
U.K.	257.0	373.0	-1,854.3	182.1	354.2	-492.6
Canada	-8.8	-53.7	-32.3	39.3	41.6	-14.7
Barbados	-201.0	76.3	211.4	-101.2	-17.5	-287.9
Netherlands	1.9	-32.9	-28.5	30.4	-3.1	-16.7
St. Lucia	4.8	-133.2	-169.7	-67.0	-37.4	7.1
Other	-5.8	-761.8	66.8	112.4	148.2	-79.3
TOTAL	**1,056.0**	**-934.8**	**-913.5**	**-1,555.5**	**-889.4**	**-599.2**

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

NOTE: This table shows net changes (increases less decreases) in direct investment liabilities (direct investment in Trinidad and Tobago). A decrease in liabilities (outflow) is represented with a negative sign. An increase in liabilities (inflow) is represented with a positive sign. Data are presented in accordance with the International Monetary Fund's Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual, Sixth Edition (BPM6) which prescribes that geographical distribution of direct investment is based on the immediate investing country.

TABLE A.34

WEIGHTED AVERAGE TT DOLLAR EXCHANGE RATES
FOR SELECTED CURRENCIES 2020-2024[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)
2020	6.7204	6.7803	5.0261	5.3627	8.6183	9.2182	0.0630	0.0666	7.7617	8.2307
2021	6.7333	6.7811	5.3779	5.7525	9.2204	9.8850	0.0613	0.0649	8.1154	8.5767
2022	6.7298	6.7777	5.2092	5.5522	8.2883	8.8909	0.0515	0.0547	7.2622	7.6332
2023	6.7206	6.7789	5.0186	5.3706	8.3490	8.9470	0.0479	0.0507	7.4157	7.8668
2024	6.7196	6.7786	4.9723	5.3308	8.5930	9.2398	0.0444	0.0473	7.5882	8.0463
2024										
January	6.7087	6.7788	5.0601	5.4240	8.5259	9.1299	0.0459	0.0486	7.5621	8.0223
February	6.7220	6.7791	5.0787	5.4293	8.4905	9.0710	0.0448	0.0475	7.5186	7.9725
March	6.7318	6.7797	5.0014	5.3558	8.5047	9.1685	0.0450	0.0481	7.6720	8.0113
I	**6.7204**	**6.7792**	**5.0466**	**5.4033**	**8.5079**	**9.1242**	**0.0453**	**0.0481**	**7.5846**	**8.0032**
April	6.7206	6.7776	5.0232	5.3045	8.3901	9.0680	0.0434	0.0465	7.5028	7.9898
May	6.7142	6.7778	4.9435	5.2934	8.4672	9.1170	0.0430	0.0457	7.6237	8.0030
June	6.7188	6.7773	4.9381	5.3301	8.5154	9.1581	0.0425	0.0455	7.5419	7.9284
II	**6.7178**	**6.7776**	**4.9684**	**5.3087**	**8.4568**	**9.1137**	**0.0430**	**0.0459**	**7.5575**	**7.9750**
July	6.7130	6.7743	4.9397	5.3157	8.6222	9.2962	0.0425	0.0454	7.5841	8.1051
August	6.7201	6.7817	4.9411	5.3255	8.6841	9.3254	0.0460	0.0485	7.6793	8.1341
September	6.7284	6.7797	5.0608	5.3592	8.8577	9.5023	0.0468	0.0499	7.8205	8.1553
III	**6.7201**	**6.7784**	**4.9780**	**5.3325**	**8.7161**	**9.3702**	**0.0450**	**0.0478**	**7.6892**	**8.1303**
October	6.7187	6.7777	4.9472	5.3621	8.8755	9.5259	0.0449	0.0487	7.6166	8.1823
November	6.7192	6.7836	4.9372	5.2784	8.6162	9.2650	0.0438	0.0459	7.5094	8.1100
December	6.7226	6.7762	4.8039	5.1915	8.5327	9.2122	0.0437	0.0468	7.4200	7.9066
IV	**6.7201**	**6.7792**	**4.8984**	**5.2801**	**8.6802**	**9.3393**	**0.0441**	**0.0472**	**7.5185**	**8.0707**

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

1 Monthly and quarterly rates are an average of daily exchange rates.

TABLE A.35

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO - INTERNATIONAL RESERVES, 2020-2024[1]

/ US$ Million /

END OF PERIOD	CENTRAL BANK						
	FOREIGN ASSETS	*Of which* *IMF RESERVE TRANCHE POSITION*	*Of which* *SDR HOLDINGS*	FOREIGN LIABILITIES	NET INTERNATIONAL RESERVES (1+4)	CENTRAL GOVERNMENT	NET OFFICIAL RESERVES (5+6)
	(1)	*(2)*	*(3)*	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
2020	6,949.1	*161.6*	*348.6*	0.0	6,949.1	4.7	6,953.8
2021	6,874.6	*173.9*	*1,079.7*	0.0	6,874.6	5.0	6,879.6
2022	6,827.4	*178.0*	*1,027.8*	0.0	6,827.4	5.0	6,832.4
2023	6,252.9	*178.2*	*1,041.9*	0.0	6,252.9	5.0	6,257.9
2024	5,599.1	*157.7*	*1,018.9*	0.0	5,599.1	5.2	5,604.3
2023							
I	6,779.7	*179.9*	*1,040.0*	0.0	6,779.7	5.0	6,784.6
II	6,590.8	*176.7*	*1,029.7*	0.0	6,590.8	5.0	6,595.8
III	6,372.7	*174.7*	*1,019.5*	0.0	6,372.7	5.0	6,377.6
IV	6,252.9	*178.2*	*1,041.9*	0.0	6,252.9	5.0	6,257.9
2024							
I	5,516.7	*169.8*	*1,029.4*	0.0	5,516.7	5.1	5,521.8
II	5,978.0	*168.7*	*1,024.7*	0.0	5,978.0	5.2	5,983.2
III	5,659.3	*167.0*	*1,057.2*	0.0	5,659.3	5.2	5,664.5
IV	5,599.1	*157.7*	*1,018.9*	0.0	5,599.1	5.2	5,604.3

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)
2020	4,060.4	706.0	3,354.4	11,014.1	706.0	10,308.1
2021	4,643.3	663.6	3,979.7	11,522.9	663.6	10,859.3
2022	4,806.6	640.8	4,165.7	11,639.0	640.8	10,998.1
2023	4,456.0	688.0	3,768.1	10,713.9	688.0	10,025.9
2024	4,553.3	887.0	3,666.3	10,157.6	887.0	9,270.6
2023						
I	4,487.9	687.8	3,800.1	11,272.6	687.8	10,584.8
II	4,600.3	744.6	3,855.6	11,196.0	744.6	10,451.4
III	4,267.0	672.4	3,594.6	10,644.6	672.4	9,972.2
IV	4,456.0	688.0	3,768.1	10,713.9	688.0	10,025.9
2024						
I	4,545.0	723.6	3,821.5	10,066.8	723.6	9,343.3
II	4,644.7	839.1	3,805.6	10,627.9	839.1	9,788.8
III	4,686.6	976.0	3,710.6	10,351.1	976.0	9,375.1
IV	4,553.3	887.0	3,666.3	10,157.6	887.0	9,270.6

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, 2020-2024

/ TT$ Million /

ITEM	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Net Foreign Assets	**43,689.0**	**39,026.6**	**39,041.8**	**34,991.2**	**30,925.0**
Net International Reserves	46,984.1	46,489.6	46,026.4	41,993.8	37,779.8
Assets	46,984.1	46,489.6	46,026.4	41,993.8	37,779.8
Liabilities	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other Foreign Assets	-3,295.2	-7,463.0	-6,984.6	-7,002.6	-6,854.8
Other External Assets	2.2	1.1	59.5	55.3	32.1
Medium and Long-Term Foreign Liabilities	-158.0	-169.7	-174.3	-97.9	-55.8
SDR Allocation	-3,139.3	-7,294.4	-6,869.7	-6,960.0	-6,831.1
Net Domestic Assets	**-11,571.5**	**-11,749.5**	**-9,340.9**	**-8,614.9**	**-6,431.1**
Net Credit to the Public Sector	-2,348.4	-3,989.0	-2,659.4	1,322.3	1,521.1
Central Government (net)	-2,303.9	-3,921.6	-2,579.2	1,424.8	1,593.3
Treasury Bills	0.0	0.2	194.5	8.3	0.0
Other Government Securities	114.2	98.1	78.8	91.1	92.7
Loans to Government	45,100.9	46,320.1	56,651.2	66,045.5	49,953.8
Use of Reserves (-addition)	-47,519.0	-50,340.0	-59,503.6	-64,720.0	-48,453.2
Rest of Public Sector	-44.5	-67.4	-80.2	-102.5	-72.2
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)	-9,223.1	-7,760.5	-6,681.6	-9,937.1	-7,952.2
Reserve Money	**32,117.5**	**27,277.0**	**29,700.9**	**26,376.4**	**24,493.9**
Currency in Circulation	8,412.0	9,253.1	9,301.1	9,499.8	9,325.0
Deposits of Commercial Banks	23,448.4	17,659.1	20,039.1	16,459.7	14,756.8
Deposits of Non-Bank Financial Institutions	257.0	364.9	360.7	416.9	412.1
	Changes as a Per Cent of Beginning-of-Period Reserve Money				
Net Foreign Assets	**0.4**	**-14.5**	**0.1**	**-13.6**	**-15.4**
Net Domestic Assets	**6.9**	**-0.6**	**8.8**	**2.4**	**8.3**
Of which: Central Government	*9.7*	*-5.0*	*4.9*	*13.5*	*0.6*
Reserve Money	**7.3**	**-15.1**	**8.9**	**-11.2**	**-7.1**
Memorandum Item:					
Government Blocked Account	11,459.6	10,265.7	7,465.3	4,698.1	2,439.9

SOURCE: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

APPENDIX THREE

FEATURE ARTICLE

The Economic Impact of Nearshoring:
Potential Opportunities for Trinidad and Tobago

FEATURE ARTICLE

The Economic Impact of Nearshoring: Potential Opportunities for Trinidad and Tobago

by Kester Thompson, Ashley Bobb and Lauren Sonnylal

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The emergence of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic in 2019/20 resulted in a sudden stop to economic activity, with global supply chains experiencing significant disruptions and delays. This led to a rethinking of existing international trade structures, with companies reconsidering the resilience of their production activities through supply diversification, shorter and more integrated supply chains, geographically closer export markets and increased production at home (Jovanovic, et al. 2021). Consequently, terms such as 'reshoring', 'backshoring', 'onshoring' and 'nearshoring' have gained popularity since they may potentially offer a competitive trading advantage to companies.

In particular, nearshoring emerged as a compelling alternative to traditional production strategies as it offers resilience, agility and cost-efficiency during the production process. By definition, nearshoring is described as "sourcing work to a foreign, lower-wage country that is relatively close in distance and/or in time zone. The customer expects to benefit from one or more of the following constructs of proximity: geographic, temporal, cultural, linguistic, economic, political and historical linkages" (Autesserre 2012). By transferring part of their production to countries close to their export markets, companies can benefit from shorter times to market, cost savings, improved product quality, increased control, and avoiding hidden supply chain management costs (Van Hassel et al. 2022). Importantly, as a by-product of this practice, reduced transport distances via shorter shipping routes contribute to lower carbon emissions, thereby working towards the global climate change agenda.

Various international organisations have signalled that the Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) region is ideally positioned to capture the benefits of nearshoring (IDB 2022 and World Bank 2023). In particular, the region's proximity to the United States (US), among other related dimensions such as time zone and language, presents an opportunity to capture links in value chains centred around these economies. Domestically, Trinidad and Tobago can leverage its physical (such as geographic location and climate) and economic assets (for example, cargo ports and special economic zones) to attract nearshoring prospects. Stemming from this, the local economy can benefit from increased foreign direct investment (FDI), growth and diversification of export earnings, and enhanced technical expertise, among other factors.

2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW

Following decades of rapid globalisation, international production began to slow, reflecting rising labour costs in once cheap locations, rising uncertainty and protectionism (UNCTAD 2020). An amalgamation of factors, including COVID-19 restrictions, recurring supply chain bottlenecks, and an unstable geopolitical background, have increased the risks associated with excessive dependence on foreign suppliers. This has intensified discussions on whether firms should be improving the resilience of their supply networks by embracing reshoring, nearshoring and friend-shoring strategies. Against this backdrop, the once common offshoring practices were challenged, with some companies starting to reconsider their international location decisions to eventually "reshore" (or "backshore") – bring production back into the country, or in its proximity – or at least some slices of the value chain.

Pietrobelli and Seri (2023) elaborated on the economic concepts of reshoring, backshoring and nearshoring. Reshoring refers to a generic reallocation of production activities in the opposite direction from offshoring. Therefore, backshoring and nearshoring describe different types of reshoring, either all the way back to the home country or to its proximity. The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) indicated that the most frequently cited drivers of reshoring are: (i) changes in relative labour costs; (ii) the digitalisation and automation of manufacturing; (iii) calls for value chain resilience; and (iv) the growing importance of speed to market. The potential benefits of nearshoring can be assessed using the CAGE (cultural, administrative, geographical and economic factors) model as proposed by Ghemawat (2007) **(Table 1)**.

TABLE 1
CAGE MODEL FOR NEARSHORING DECISIONS

Factor	Cultural	Administrative	Geographical	Economic
Attributes of distance between outsourcers and outsourcees	- Languages - Religions - Social Norms	- Colonial links - Economic Unions - Political situation - Institutional Weakness	- Physical distance/time zones - Common borders - Sea access - Infrastructure links	- Differences in consumer purchasing power - Differences in cost/ quality of: o Natural resources o Financial resources o Human resources o Infrastructure
Main drivers for the decision	Hidden costs related to language barriers, diverging cultural values, etc.	Corruption, custom tariffs and other trade barriers.	Logistical costs comprising transport, inventories, etc.	Production cost advantages (closer to traditional trade specialisation theories by Ricardo and Heckscher-Ohlin).

Source: Ghemawat (2007)

Factors expressed in the CAGE model are evidenced in the increasing international spread of corporates' supply chains, since their coordination has become more difficult, reducing their flexibility, and increasing waiting times in the production process, whereas demands for closer contacts with customers for their timely assistance contribute to reconsidering nearer locations for previously offshored operations (Tate et al. 2014). Mears (2005) observes that companies can best tackle operating problems in their supply chains by sending staff to nearer locations to tighten their control, especially for those activities that are riskier or more sensitive.

These authors also assessed the Latin American economic outlook for nearshore manufacturing and concluded that the LAC region can exploit capabilities to attract nearshoring manufacturing opportunities for the provision of intermediate goods for US corporates through exports by independent local outsourcees or through captive offshoring by US corporates. The suitability of each country for these strategies relies on policies to protect FDI and to encourage local exports.

Several authors have utilised various approaches to ascertain and unearth nearshoring trends and their impact on economies. For instance, Bontadini et al. (2022) assessed recent trends in the geographical distribution of value added across Global Value Chains (GVCs) and its relationship with employment in Europe from 1994 to 2019. Results indicated that European value chains increased the share of value added that is imported from within Europe – which amounts to nearshoring. Furthermore, based on econometric analysis, nearshoring has a positive effect on employment in the country of final product completion.

Alfaro and Chor (2023) provided an analysis on the evolution of GVCs with a particular focus on the post-2017 period, a time of unparalleled upheaval struck by both the US-China tariffs and the COVID-19 pandemic. Results illustrated the evolving pattern of US participation in GVCs across different partner countries, products, and modes, and recent shifts toward friend-shoring, nearshoring, and reshoring. Nicita (2023) examined the status and evolution of international supply networks in four manufacturing sectors: communication equipment, electrical machineries, motor vehicles, and textiles and apparel. The results indicated that international supply networks have evolved along many dimensions since 2005. However, only limited evidence was found of nearshoring and friend-shoring trends in the most recent trade statistics.

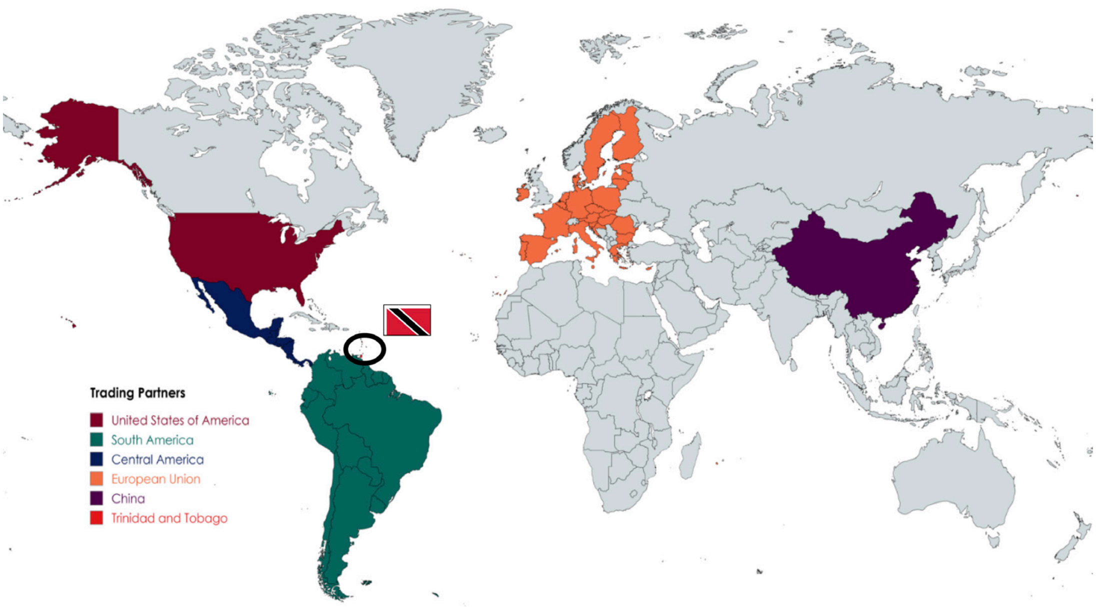
Pietrobelli and Seri (2023) explored whether there was any evidence of reshoring practices consistently occurring in the LAC region which would be reflected in an increase in the relative share of US imports. While the LAC region was the second highest import market to the US (after China), its contribution declined in terms of gross final and intermediate imports, suggesting that nearshoring has been limited. The IDB (2022) indicated that nearshoring could add an annual US$78.0 billion in additional exports of goods and services in the LAC region in the near and medium term with opportunities for quick wins in the auto industry, textiles, pharmaceuticals, and renewable energy, among others. According to the IDB, Mexico and Brazil could record the largest gains, though all countries in the region would benefit from nearshoring.

3.0 STYLISED FACTS

Trinidad and Tobago's main trading partners include the US, the European Union (EU), Caribbean Community (CARICOM), Central and South America, and China **(Figure 1)**. On average, over the period 2017 to 2023[1], the US was the country's largest export and import market, followed by the EU. Regionally, CARICOM and Central and South America have fluctuated in ranking over the period but remained in Trinidad and Tobago's top four largest export destinations and top six largest import markets, respectively. To facilitate trade, the country has two major international cargo ports, Port of Port of Spain and Port of Point Lisas, with over 63 shipping lines, that are among the most highly developed in the Caribbean (MTI 2016, Kowlessar-Alonzo 2022). Additionally, the Piarco International Airport is a primary cargo hub for Trinidad and Tobago as it is well connected to international airports allowing for efficient airfreight transportation.

The World Bank's 2019 Global Competitiveness Report ranked Trinidad and Tobago 79th out of 141 in the, outperforming regional counterparts– Jamaica (80th), Guatemala (98th), Honduras (101st) and Nicaragua (109th) Trinidad and Tobago has comparatively lower electricity costs, availability of skilled labour as well as comparatively cheaper labour than other countries in the region. In terms of productivity, the domestic economy's GDP per hour worked in 2023 was US$28.0 per hour, making this one of the highest rates per hour in the LAC region **(Figure 2)**.

FIGURE 1
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO'S MAIN TRADING PARTNERS



Source: Author's Illustrations (mapchart.net)

[1] Based on the Central Statistical Office's data up to July 2024.

FIGURE 2
COMPARISON OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO'S AND
REGIONAL COUNTRY'S POSITIONS ON SELECTED VARIABLES

Sources: World Bank Global Competitiveness Report 2019, InvesTT (obtained from globalpetrolprices.com 2023), InvesTT, International Labour Organization (2023)

The Government helps to provide a supportive environment for investment in the local economy. Several major investment incentives available to companies are embedded in legislation such as the Fiscal Incentives Act, The Customs Act and the Income Tax (In Aid of Industry) Act, among others (Ministry of Finance 2017). Further, in July 2024, the Special Economic Zones (SEZ) Act was proclaimed, replacing the Free Zones Act. SEZs, one of several variations of economic zones, are used by governments to develop and diversify exports, generate foreign exchange, create jobs, pilot new policies and approaches, and allow more efficient government supervision of infrastructural development, environmental controls and labour standards (MTI 2019). The Government has also designated Industrial Parks to develop and grow non-energy industries. For example, Phoenix Park Industrial Estate (PPIE)[2], uniquely located near the country's second largest port (Port of Point Lisas), gives exporters the advantage of easy maritime access to regional and global consumer markets, and is ideally suited for businesses operating in Manufacturing and Assembly, Logistics and Distribution and ICT industries (eTeck 2023).

Notably, Trinidad and Tobago possesses a relatively moderate level of capacity utilisation[3] in the manufacturing sector which highlights the

[2] List of other Industrial Parks in Trinidad and Tobago: Park Directory - e TecK

potential for increased output. Over the pre-pandemic period (2017 to 2019), capacity utilisation averaged 66.1 per cent, before dipping to an average of 62.8 per cent in the post-pandemic period (2021 to 2023) **(Table 2)**. Based on the more recent outturn, just under two thirds of the manufacturing sector is operating at capacity, while one third of the industry continues to operate with a considerable degree of spare capacity.

As a result of both private and public initiatives, non-energy goods exports averaged US$2,140.1 million over the post-pandemic period (2021 to 2023), an increase of 22.7 per cent compared to the pre-pandemic period (2017 to 2019) of US$1,744.4 million. Meanwhile, non-energy services, which excludes technical, trade-related and other business services, recorded deficits over the reference period, accounting for more than one-third (42.4 per cent) of total services deficits. This suggests that resident spending on non-energy services abroad (imports) exceeded receipts from domestic non-energy services provided to non-residents (exports) **(Table 3)**.

TABLE 2
MANUFACTURING SECTOR CAPACITY UTILISATION RATE

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Manufacturing	**68.2**	**65.0**	**65.1**	**63.6**	**62.4**	**61.9**	**64.1**
Food, Beverages and Tobacco Products	73.5	70.2	71.7	69.9	67.4	68.0	69.4
Textiles, Clothing, Leather, Wood, Paper and Printing	62.5	59.8	59.5	55.4	56.6	53.4	59.0
Chemical Products	63.2	58.8	57.3	54.6	55.7	54.7	55.9
Other Manufactured Products	66.1	64.8	62.1	70.0	64.8	66.3	67.1

Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

TABLE 3
CROSS-BORDER SERVICES, NET
/ US$ MILLIONS /

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021r	2022r	2023r
Services, net	**-2,112.2**	**-1,712.1**	**-1,126.4**	**-1,328.9**	**-1,805.6**	**-2,291.5**	**-991.0**
Transport	-275.1	-431.3	-449.6	-363.4	-406.5	-393.3	-205.1
Travel	356.7	331.5	349.9	105.6	15.1	264.8	349.1
Telecommunications, Computer, and Information Services	-33.1	-35.8	-31.8	-47.1	-4.3	-13.3	-4.4
Insurance and Pension Services	-187.6	-180.9	-154.1	-209.0	-215.0	-211.2	-241.1
Other Services^	-1,973.1	-1,395.5	-840.9	-814.9	-1,195.0	-1,938.4	-889.6
Non-Energy Services, net*	-480.5	-616.5	-442.9	-797.3	-926.5	-1,411.5	-254.1

Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

^ 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., technical, trade-related and other business services, and government goods and services n.i.e.

* Non-Energy services is assumed to be total services excluding energy-related services in other business services, particularly technical, trade-related and other business services.

r Revised

[3] For Trinidad and Tobago, the capacity utilisation rate is computed at the firm, sub-industry and industry levels. The capacity utilisation rate for a firm is calculated as the firm's current output to capacity output. These are then weighted to derive the utilisation rates for the sub-industries and then the overall manufacturing industry.

Trinidad and Tobago grew in popularity as a nearshoring location for manufacturing and business processing outsourcing (BPOs). For instance, Summit (TT) Luggage Company Limited- a China-based company, established a manufacturing assembly line at the PPIE in 2023 to produce luggage for export mainly to North America and Europe and BPOs such as iQor and Teleperformance, nearshored to Trinidad in 2015 and 2022, respectively. iQor and Teleperformance have expressed that Trinidad and Tobago is a reliable hub for businesses seeking customer service operations given that its technologically-capable workforce, linguistic capabilities and culture compatibility with US clients and the similar time zone aid in the delivery of top-tier customer experience driving customer satisfaction (AEGIS 2020, Lafferty 2023). Trinidad and Tobago has also benefitted from these companies' initial investments of an estimated US$4.0 million from iQor and approximately TT$28.0 million (or US$4.1 million) from Teleperformance (MTI 2022, Borges 2023).

Historically, Trinidad and Tobago's natural energy resources and economic and political stability have attracted foreign investment. In particular, transactions from inward FDI (Trinidad and Tobago's direct investment liabilities) have been concentrated in the energy sector **(Table 4)**. However, direct investment liabilities in the energy sector have been mostly negative, primarily reflecting lower reinvestment of earnings. On the other hand, the incurrence of direct investment liabilities in the non-energy sector have been mostly positive over the reference period, indicating increased investment flows into the domestic economy.

Trinidad and Tobago is a signatory to a network of trade agreements that provide a gateway to global markets. The various trade agreements can be grouped according to: 1) agreements where Trinidad and Tobago holds membership (World Trade Organisation (WTO) and CARICOM), 2) agreements which offer unilateral preferences (Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI) and Caribbean-Canada Trade Agreement (CARIBCAN)), 3) agreements where Trinidad and Tobago participates as a member of CARICOM or Caribbean Forum (CARIFORUM), and 4) agreements where Trinidad and Tobago engages directly with other countries in bilateral arrangements (TTBizLink 2023). Further, Trinidad and Tobago has actively pursued bilateral partial scope trade agreements (PTSA) with several economies, typically centred around Latin American countries, including El Salvador, Guatemala, Panama, Chile and Curacao. Given its membership in CARICOM, businesses operating out of Trinidad and Tobago can benefit from access to 7.4 million consumers via bilateral trade agreements and an international export market of 940 million consumers (InvesTT n.d.).

TABLE 4
DIRECT INVESTMENT[1]: NET INCURRENCE OF LIABILITIES (BY SECTOR[2])
/ US$ MILLIONS /

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Energy	-566.7	-716.4	-231.1	1,067.5	-1,126.1	-1,091.6	-1,607.6
Non-Energy	95.8	16.2	415.1	-11.5	191.4	178.0	52.1

Source: Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago
Notes:
1. This table shows net changes (increases less decreases) in direct investment liabilities (direct investment in Trinidad and Tobago). A decrease in liabilities (outflow) is represented with a negative sign. An increase in liabilities (inflow) is represented with a positive sign.
2. Effective 2020 data, the industry breakdown now conforms to the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities, Revision 4 (ISIC. Rev 4).

4.0 DATA AND METHODOLOGY

This paper applies the IDB methodology for nearshoring[4] to the domestic economy. Potential opportunities for Trinidad and Tobago's goods export earnings in the medium term were estimated by assuming the country is able to capture a percentage of the value of the US' top import markets for the same non-energy products Trinidad and Tobago already exports to the US. Here, the US import market excludes LAC economies. It is assumed that businesses operating outside the LAC region that supply the US with these products, given their location, would gravitate to Trinidad and Tobago for its nearshoring potential and export those products from its operations in Trinidad and Tobago.

In the IDB's methodology, to account for capacity constraints, potential gains are limited to 100.0 per cent of current exports for each product in the short term and 200.0 per cent in the long term. However, in this adaptation, the practicality of potential opportunities for Trinidad and Tobago will be informed by the economy's capacity to accommodate production of these non-energy goods based on the current level of capacity utilisation. While it is difficult to make strong inferences on the intricacies of capacity utilisation in the manufacturing sector, from an economic position, the existing level of spare capacity suggests that there remains a significant degree of scope for expanding manufacturing output.

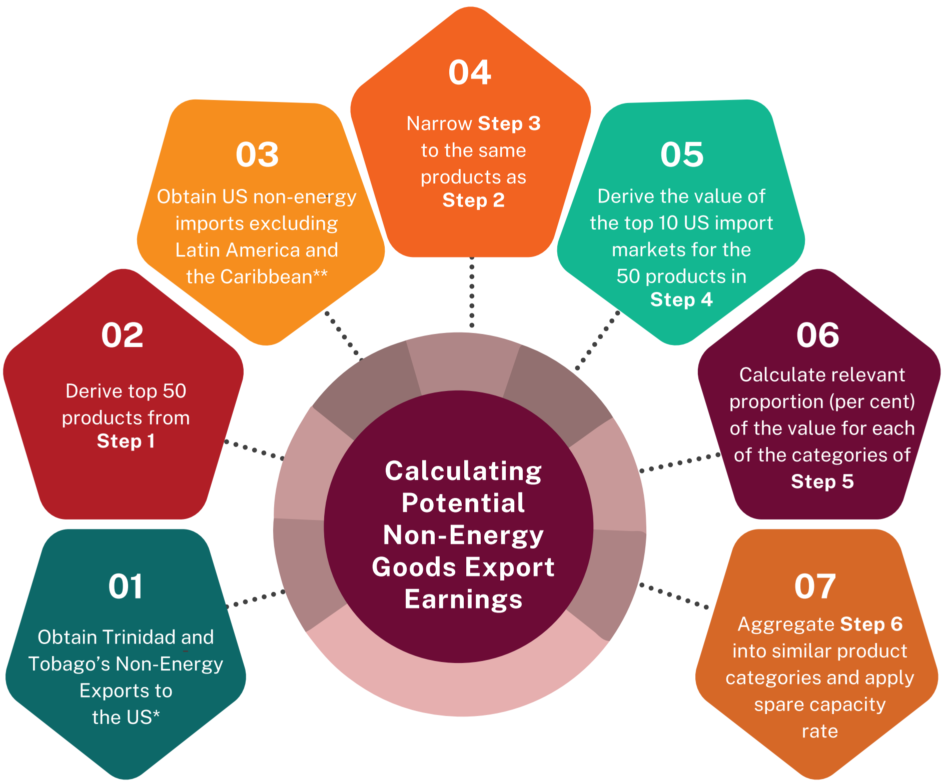
Trade data for Trinidad and Tobago and its main trading partner–the US were obtained from Trinidad and Tobago's Central Statistical Office (CSO) and United Nations (UN) COMTRADE databases, respectively. More specifically, non-energy trade data employs the Harmonised System (HS) product 8-digit product codes, which provides a highly detailed product breakdown. Whilst the latest available data from CSO is 2023, the latest available data for UN COMTRADE is

[4] See IDB news release for methodology.

2022. As such, for consistency purposes, the methodology was applied to annual trade data and the industry capacity utilisation rate for 2022 to estimate the potential increase of Trinidad and Tobago's non-energy export earnings from nearshoring **(Diagram 1)**.

Trinidad and Tobago's top 50 non-energy product exports were selected, with the same product disaggregation extracted for US imports, broken down by import markets for the identified products. The nearshoring potential is estimated as 1.0 per cent of the value of the US' top 10 import markets for the same 50 products already exported to the US. Given that Trinidad and Tobago's manufacturing capacity utilisation rate was 61.9 per cent in 2022, it suggests a spare capacity of 38.1 per cent. The spare capacity rate is then applied to the previously calculated 1.0 per cent value.

DIAGRAM 1
STEPS TO CALCULATE POTENTIAL
NON-ENERGY GOODS EXPORT EARNINGS FROM NEARSHORING



Source: Author's Illustration
* Data sourced from the Central Statistical Office
** Data sourced from UN COMTRADE

5.0 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the calculations, the total import value of the top 50 non-energy products from the top 10 US import markets is US$49,119.9 million. If Trinidad and Tobago is able to capture 1.0 per cent of the value from the US top 10 import markets for the same non-energy products it already exports to the US, the country can earn an estimated maximum of US$491.2 million. Applying the spare capacity rate of 38.1 per cent, Trinidad and Tobago has the potential to earn US$187.1 million in the short term. Interestingly, exports of goods in the HS 2-digit category 84- 'Nuclear reactors, boilers machinery and mechanical appliances, parts thereof' represent approximately one-third of the potential scope of earnings (32.1 per cent) **(Table 5)**. More specifically, this category consists of eight sub-categories of products which have the most potential to generate additional earnings. A more detailed identification of the specific products is presented in **(Appendix Table 1)**. The boost to non-energy export earnings can lead to an overall increase in total receipts from exports and, by extension, improve Trinidad and Tobago's net goods trading position. All things constant, it is likely to contribute to a widening of the external current account surplus.

Trinidad and Tobago is poised to gain substantially from FDI through nearshoring. At the onset, nearshoring provides an initial injection of foreign investment as companies establish or expand their business operations in the host country. In the Western Hemisphere, given its proximity to the US, Mexico, Brazil and Chile have capitalised on increased foreign investment flows relating to this trade phenomenon. Trinidad and Tobago needs to market the advantage its location to the US presents to companies that produce the top products already exported by Trinidad and Tobago (Appendix Table 1). This influx of investment and industrial activity can have a broader positive effect on the local economy by stimulating economic growth through export generation, employment opportunities, increased productivity and improved infrastructure.

Manufacturing is poised as the most suitable sector to profit from the thrust towards nearshoring. The set-up of nearshoring industries in Trinidad and Tobago can boost job creation in the domestic economy, as producers require local labour to facilitate their operations. Local communities can benefit through employment opportunities and other spin off activities.

Given the earning potential of nearshoring, improving the quality of domestic infrastructure becomes vital. Trinidad and Tobago can be the recipient of investments in varying dimensions of this process, including the enhancement of customs clearance processes, and upgraded quality of trade-and transport-related infrastructure. As a by-product of improving supply chains and infrastructure, the country can reduce its carbon footprint if these processes are conducted within a green agenda (Pietrobelli and Seri 2023). This can also aid in supporting the domestic climate agenda which aims to reduce overall emissions from the power generation, transportation, and industrial sectors by 15.0 per cent by 2030 from business as usual (Young 2021).

Nearshoring has also emerged as a possible driver of knowledge and technology transfer. Foreign companies that establish operations in Trinidad and Tobago can transfer knowledge and technology contributing to the long-term technological development of the domestic economy, which can enhance external competitiveness.

Cumulatively, these factors present an ideal opportunity to spur non-energy exports in Trinidad and Tobago. Given the nature of nearshoring, the categories previously identified are positioned to reap the most benefits. Notably, Trinidad and Tobago's manufacturing exports account for approximately 43.0 per cent of total non-energy exports. In addition to manufacturing, the local economy's advancement in digital and telecommunications infrastructure positions Trinidad and Tobago as an ideal nearshoring location for businesses involved in BPOs, ICT, and logistics services, which would contribute to an increase in the exports of these services and aid in narrowing the non-energy services deficit. Domestic exports of telecommunications, computer and information, and transport services account for approximately 36.0 per cent of total service exports. Overall, these factors are expected to positively impact Trinidad and Tobago's non-energy exports of goods and services and, by extension, the country's external position. The Ministry of Trade and Industry, through its Trade and Investment Promotion Agency, can be tasked with promoting nearshoring opportunities and monitoring their economic contribution.

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TABLE 5

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO'S POTENTIAL NON-ENERGY EXPORT EARNINGS

/ US$ MILLIONS /

Product Chapter	HS Category	Value of US' Top 10 Import Markets	1 Per Cent	Potential Scope of Earnings (38.1 per cent spare capacity)
03	Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates	295.3	3.0	1.1
07	Edible vegetables and certain roots and tubers	525.5	5.3	2.0
08	Edible fruit and nuts; peels of citrus fruit or melons	37.0	0.4	0.1
09	Coffee, tea, mate and spices	92.1	0.9	0.4
15	Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats; animal or vegetable waxes	24.5	0.2	0.1
17	Sugars and sugar confectionery	1,467.0	14.7	5.6
18	Cocoa and cocoa preparations	445.1	4.5	1.7
19	Preparations of cereals, flour, starch or milk, bakers' wares	5,688.3	56.9	21.7
20	Preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts or other parts of plants	930.7	9.3	3.5
21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	7,894.4	78.9	30.1
22	Beverages, spirits and vinegar	3,559.7	35.6	13.6
25	Salt; sulphur; earths and stone; plastering materials, lime a cement	1,837.3	18.4	7.0
38	Miscellaneous chemical products	1,273.3	12.7	4.9
39	Plastics and articles thereof	3,364.0	33.6	12.8
71	Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals, precious metal clad with precious metal, and articles thereof; imitation jewelry; coin	1,127.8	11.3	4.3
72	Iron and steel	222.3	2.2	0.8
73	Articles of iron or steel	86.7	0.9	0.3
74	Copper and articles thereof	402.0	4.0	1.5
84	Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances, parts thereof	15,784.6	157.8	60.1
85	Electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof; sound recorders and reproducers, television image and sound recorders and reproducers, and parts and accessories of such articles	2,357.7	23.6	9.0
86	Railway or tramway locomotives, rolling-stock and parts thereof; railway or tramway track fixtures and fittings and parts thereof; mechanical (including electro-mechanical) traffic signaling equipment of all kinds	1,704.5	17.0	6.5
Total HS		49,119.9	491.2	187.1

Source: UN COMTRADE and author's calculations

6.0 CONCLUSION

Given the global trends towards nearshoring, this study sought to assess the potential benefits for the domestic economy. Based on an adaptation of the IDB's methodology for nearshoring, Trinidad and Tobago can potentially increase its non-export earnings by US$491.2 million if it is able to capture 1.0 per cent of US imports of the top 50 non-energy products already exported to the US. Given Trinidad and Tobago's level of spare capacity in the manufacturing sector, if utilised, the country can potentially earn US$187.1 million in the short term.

As an ideal location for businesses involved in BPOs, ICT, and logistics services, nearshoring could contribute to an increase in the exports of these services and aid in narrowing the non-energy services deficit. This pickup in non-energy goods and services exports would also improve overall export earnings and the external current account balance. Additionally, the effective implementation of nearshoring strategies could boost FDI, support economic activity, and build the domestic economy's resilience. However, to realise the potential benefits of nearshoring, the domestic economy will need to overcome several challenges, including the ease of doing business.

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APPENDIX TABLE 1
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO'S TOP 50 NON-ENERGY EXPORTS TO THE US (2022)

Rank	HS codes	Product Description
1	72031000	FERROUS PRODS FROM IRON ORE REDUCTION
2	21039050	AROMATIC BITTERS
3	38151200	PRECIOUS METAL SUPPORTED CATALYSTS
4	03023290	YELLOWFIN TUNA FR/CH NOT FOR PROCESSING
5	18063100	CHOCOLATE & OTH COCOA PREP (BLOCKS); FILLED
6	73069000	OTH CLOSED TUBES/PIPES/PROFILES OF IRON/STEEL
7	71129900	WASTE/SCRAP OF OTH. PRECIOUS METALS
8	21039090	OTH. SAUCES AND CONDIMENTS N.E.S
9	84254290	OTHER HYDRAULIC JACKS & HOISTS FOR RAISING VEHICLES
10	22021010	AERATED WATERS SWEETENED/FLAVOURED
11	17049090	OTHER SUGAR CONFECTIONERY; NO COCOA
12	22029090	OTH. NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES EXCL. FRUIT OR VEG.
13	21039010	PEPPER SAUCE
14	22084010	RUM AND OTH. SPIRITS OF SUGAR CANE, STRENGTH =/<46% VOL.
15	03023210	YELLOWFIN TUNA FR/CH FOR PROCESSING
16	25232910	BUILDING CEMENT (GREY)
17	09109930	CURRY
18	19059010	UNSWEETENED BISCUITS
19	20089990	PRES/PREP FRUIT, NUTS, EDIBLE PLANT PARTS NES
20	84289000	OTHER MACHINERY FOR LIFTING/HANDLING/LOADING
21	19049000	PRE-COOKED/PREPARED FOODS FROM CEREALS NES
22	86090000	TRANSPORT CONTAINERS
23	03028920	SNAPPER ETC, FRESH/CHILLED
24	84818000	TAPS/COCKS & LIKE APPL. FOR PIPES ETC
25	21042090	OTH. HOMOGENISED COMPOSITE FOOD PREP
26	19053100	SWEET BISCUITS
27	84213900	FILTERING/PURIFYING MACH. & APPARATUS FOR OTHER GASES
28	03028990	OTHER FRESH/CHILLED FISH, NES
29	22021090	OTH. WATERS INCL. MINERAL, SWEETENED/ FLAVOURED
30	21069090	OTHER FOOD PREPARATIONS N.E.S.
31	74040000	COPPER WASTE AND SCRAP
32	07096090	OTHER FRUIT OF CAPSICUM OR PIMENTA EXCL SWEET PEPPERS
33	85049000	PARTS FOR ELEC. TRANSFORM./STATIC CONVERT./INDUCTORS
34	84314300	PARTS FOR BORING OR SINKING MACHINERY
35	22087000	LIQUEURS AND CORDIALS
36	15171000	MARGARINE EXCL LIQUID MARGARINE
37	25232990	OTH. PORTLAND CEMENT
38	84149000	PARTS FOR PUMPS/COMPRESSORS/FANS/HOODS
39	21039040	ANCHAR, KUCHELA AND SIMILAR PREP.
40	84304900	OTH BORING OR SINKING MACHINERY
41	21069010	MAUBY SYRUP
42	73049000	OTH SEEMLESS TUBES/PIPES/HOLL.PROFILES OF IRON/STEEL
43	84248900	OTHER MECHANICAL APPLIANCES
44	08109090	OTHER FRUIT, FRESH, NOT SPECIFIED
45	09093200	CUMIN SEEDS CRUSHED/GROUND
46	85015200	OTHER MULTI-PHASE AC MOTORS; OUTPUT 750W-75KW
47	39249020	FLOWER POTS OF PLASTICS
48	03038990	OTHER FROZEN FISH N.E.S
49	72042900	WASTE & SCRAP OF OTHER ALLOY STEEL
50	07049090	OTHER EDIBLE BRASSICAS FRESH OR CHILLED

Source: Central Statistical Office

APPENDIX FOUR

CALENDAR OF KEY ECONOMIC EVENTS

JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2024

CENTRAL BANKING

28 Mar
The Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago maintained the repo rate at 3.50 per cent.

28 Jun
The Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago maintained the repo rate at 3.50 per cent.

27 Sep
The Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago maintained the repo rate at 3.50 per cent.

27 Dec
The Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago maintained the repo rate at 3.50 per cent.

ENERGY SECTOR

05 Mar
Atlantic LNG has collaborated with Massy Wood Group for an exclusive three-year Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (EPC) agreement. The partnership enables end-to-end engineering, resulting in significant efficiencies, including resourcing and cost competitiveness.

19 Mar
Massy Holdings announced that Trinidadian services player Massy Wood has secured a five-year agreement from Shell Trinidad and Tobago Limited (Shell) to deliver engineering projects and asset support in the country. Under the framework agreement, Massy Wood will support Shell's onshore and offshore assets, providing services that include turnaround support for mature brownfield developments and support for new greenfield projects.

01 May
Canadian Touchstone Exploration Incorporation announced their US$30.0 million purchase of local oil producer Trinity Exploration and Production. Trinity is a crude oil exploration, development and production company with onshore and offshore assets in Trinidad. Existing shareholders will get 1.5 Touchstone shares for each Trinity share, hiking the value of Trinity shares overnight by 72.0 per cent. Existing Trinity shareholders will end up owning 20.0 per cent of the Touchstone/Trinity combined group. Touchstone said the combined entity is expected to produce 11,700-12,400 barrels of oil equivalent (boe) per day and a joint estimated proved plus probable reserves of about 80.3 million (boe) as of December 31, 2023.

08 May
Heritage Petroleum Company Limited and the University of the West Indies (UWI), St Augustine have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for collaborative research and development, commencing a pioneering initiative within the energy sector. The objectives include; driving innovation and sustainability in the oil and gas industry, fostering joint research projects and knowledge-exchange initiatives, addressing challenges and shaping the future of the energy sector and exploring opportunities in sustainable energy solutions.

28 May

Energy Minister Stuart Young announced that the United States Department of Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) has granted a licence to Trinidad and Tobago to negotiate and develop the Manakin-Cocuina gas field with Venezuela. The licence expires on May 31, 2026, and allows for the pursuit, exploration, production and exportation of gas from this field to Trinidad and Tobago. The Manakin-Cocuina field is split between Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela and is estimated to hold about one trillion cubic feet (tcf) of gas.

09 July

Shell announced that it had taken a Final Investment Decision (FID) on the Manatee project, an undeveloped gas field in the East Coast Marine Area (ECMA) in Trinidad and Tobago. Manatee will allow Shell to grow its integrated gas business competitively by building on development efforts in the ECMA, one of the country's most prolific gas-producing areas. The ECMA is home to Shell's largest gas-producing fields in the country. Manatee is slated to start production in 2027. Once commenced, Manatee is expected to reach peak production of approximately 104,000 barrels of oil equivalent per day (boe/d) (604 MMscf/d). Shell is the operator of Manatee, which has a 100.0 per cent working interest under the sub-Block 6D Production Sharing Contract.

24 July

Venezuela has signed a 20-year natural gas production and exploration deal with bpTT and the National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago (NGCTT). Venezuela's Energy Minister Pedro Tellechea said the deal provides for production from the Manakin-Cocuina gas field. Trinidad and Tobago's petrochemical sector is expected to receive 25.0 per cent of production while the rest will feed Trinidad and Tobago's LNG industry. The Manakin-Cocuina field is estimated to have one trillion cubic feet (tcf) of natural gas.

08 Sep

Heritage Petroleum Company Limited has reported a profit of $1.48 billion for the year ended September 30, 2023, reflecting a 33.0 per cent increase compared to the same period in 2022. This increase in profit was achieved despite a $1.06 billion drop in revenue from contracts with customers. According to its audited financial statements, Heritage reported a decline in crude oil sales by $702.0 million, bringing the total to $8.6 billion. The company also noted a 59.0 per cent decrease in natural gas sales, which fell to $179.6 million. Additionally, sales of natural gas liquids dropped by 52.0 per cent, totalling $11.0 million. Royalty income decreased, falling from $391.0 million to $305.0 million. However, Heritage's tax expense decreased by 68.0 per cent, from $2.15 billion to $695.0 million. Heritage recorded Trintomar debt forgiveness of $177.0 million, a decrease in the valuation allowance of $248.0 million, and transactions subject to different tax rates totalling $134.0 million.

19 Nov

The Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries (MEEI) announced that the government and BP Exploration Operating Company signed a negotiated production sharing contract (PSC) for Block NCMA 2 at the Ministry's International Waterfront Complex head office in Port-of-Spain. Block NCMA 2 is situated in the North Coast Marine Area (NCMA) at approximately 200 meters in water depth. The award of this PSC stemmed from the Ministry's shallow-water competitive bid round 2023/2024, which was opened on October 2, 2023, and closed on May 27, 2024.

12 Dec

NGCTT has reported an after-tax loss of $1.3 billion for the year ended December 31, 2023, marking a sharp reversal from the $2.38 billion profit recorded in the previous year. NGCTT's vice-president of Finance, Technology and Risk, Narinejit Pariag, attributed the $1.3 billion loss primarily to a goodwill impairment of $1.5 billion related to NGCTT's stake in Phoenix Park Gas Processors Limited (PPGPL).

FINANCIAL LEGISLATION

22 Feb

Several Acts, including an Act to amend the Trustees Ordinance, Chap. 4 of 1939, Exchequer and Audit Act, Chap. 69:01, the Minister of Finance (Incorporation) Act, Chap. 69:03, Proceeds of Crime Act, Chap. 11:27, Income Tax Act, Chap. 75:01, the Companies Act, Chap. 81:01, the Partnerships Act, Chap. 81:02, the Securities Act, Chap. 83:02, the Tax Information Exchange Agreements Act, No. 5 of 2020, the Non-Profit Organisations Act, No. 7 of 2019 and the Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters Act, No. 7 of 2020, were assented on this date.

27 Mar

An Act to amend the Property Tax Act, Chap. 76:04, assented on this date. This Act may be cited as the Property Tax (Amendment) Act, 2024. Act No. 3 of 2024.

18 Jun

An Act to supplement the appropriation of the sum, the issue of which was authorised by the Appropriation (Financial Year 2024) Act, 2023, assented on this date. This Act may be cited as the Finance (Supplementary Appropriation) (Financial Year 2024) Act, 2024. Act No. 8 of 2024.

24 Oct

An Act to provide for the service of Trinidad and Tobago for the financial year ending on the 30th day of September 2025, assented on this date. This Act may be cited as The Appropriation Bill (Financial Year 2025) Act, 2024. Act No. 16 of 2024.

06 Dec

An Act to make provisions of a financial nature and other related matters, assented on this date. This Act may be cited as the Finance Act, 2024. Act No. 18 of 2024.

GOVERNMENT TRANSACTIONS

13 Apr

Following three consecutive years of decline, Trinidad and Tobago's Heritage and Stabilisation Fund (HSF) has turned the tide, registering its first increase in Net Asset Value (NAV) since Fiscal Year (FY) 2019, reaching US$5.39 billion in 2023. According to the

HSF's 2023 annual report, at the end of September 2023, the Fund's NAV stood at US$5,390.2 million, up from US$4,712.4 million at the end of the previous financial year. In FY 2023, the HSF rebounded significantly, recording a total comprehensive income of $494.6 million.

16 Jun

Moody's, Credit Rating Agency, has changed the outlook on Trinidad and Tobago's ratings from positive to stable and affirmed its Ba2 ratings. In its report, Moody's indicated that the change in outlook to stable is driven by increasing external vulnerability risks, as highlighted by the hastened pace of liquid foreign exchange reserves drawdowns observed over the first four months of 2024.

17 Jun

Minister of Finance Colm Imbert said Trinidad and Tobago successfully raised US$750 million on the international capital market. The Government of Trinidad and Tobago (GORTT) bond with a prospective offer size of US$750.0 million was launched on the Bloomberg Electronic Platform with an initial rate in the high six per cent range.

18 Jun

US Export-Import Bank (EXIM) President and Chair Reta Jo Lewis recently met with Trinidad and Tobago's Prime Minister Keith Rowley and Minister of Finance Colm Imbert to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) valued at US$500Mn. The agreement aims to develop opportunities and support financing across several key sectors including maritime domain awareness, cybersecurity, renewable energy, and water sanitation. In addition to the MOU, EXIM has extended a $150 million Letter of Interest (LI) to Trinidad and Tobago's Ministry of Finance. A LI is an indication of EXIM Bank's willingness to consider financing for a given export transaction. This funding is designated for acquiring maritime vessels and aircraft to enhance the nation's maritime domain awareness, search and rescue capabilities, and border security.

08 Jul

The Caribbean Information and Credit Rating Services Ltd (CariCRIS) reaffirmed its high creditworthiness ratings of the $4.0 billion bond (series B, C, and D) of the National Investment Fund Holding Company Ltd (NIF). CariCRIS has reaffirmed the ratings currently assigned to the TT $4 billion bond (Series B, , C and D) of NIF of CariAA (Local Currency Rating) on the regional rating scale and ttAA (Local Currency Rating) on the Trinidad and Tobago national scale. CariCRIS stated that the ratings are supported by the high credit quality of NIF's underlying assets, which consistently provide a steady flow of dividends and adequate cash flows to cover interest payments.

19 Jul

The Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago recently held a special meeting of its monetary policy committee (MPC). Following the special meeting, the MPC announced cutting its reserve requirement from 14.0 per cent of prescribed liabilities to 10.0 per cent effective the reserve week beginning July 24.

06 Sep

Standard and Poor's (S&P) has affirmed Trinidad and Tobago's credit rating at BBB—an investment-grade rating reflective of the country's credit strength. S&P has also maintained its stable outlook for Trinidad and Tobago. The rating agency said it expects the country's economic growth to remain weak for the next two to three years due to declining production in its important hydrocarbon sector.

27 Sep

NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL) announced a strategic partnership with the Ministry of Digital Transformation (MDT) of Trinidad and Tobago to develop a real-time payments platform similar to India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI). The platform will enable real-time payments for both person-to-person (P2P) and person-to-merchant (P2M) transactions. The partnership aims to expand digital payments in the country and foster financial inclusion by leveraging the technology and experiences from India's UPI system. The agreement offers the government complete ownership of the platform, the feasibility of its operations for control and improvement, capacity development in evolving technology, and innovative digital payment expertise through sustained skills transfer.

05 Dec

The Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean (CAF) has approved US$250.0 million in financing to support two critical resilience and sustainability initiatives in Trinidad and Tobago—resilient road infrastructure and resilient educational infrastructure. Both programmes are focused on sustainable development and building resilience to the effects of climate change.

FINANCIAL SECTOR

12 Mar

A.S. Bryden and Sons Holdings Limited (ASBH) announced its acquisition of 55.0 per cent stake (controlling interest) in Stansfeld Scott (Barbados) Limited (SSB). SSB is a prominent distributor and retailer of wines, spirits, and consumer health products in Barbados, operating six Wine World-branded retail stores nationwide.

20 Mar

Trinidad and Tobago Mortgage Finance Limited (TTMF) officially changed its name to the Trinidad and Tobago Mortgage Bank Limited (TTMB), marking the culmination of the long-awaited multi-billion-dollar merger between TTMF and the Home Mortgage Bank (HMB). The total assets of the merged entity are $8.5 billion.

18 Jun

Publicly listed conglomerate, Agostini's Limited, announced it has signed a sale and purchase agreement with the shareholder of Aventa NV Curaçao, Aventa Aruba NV and Pharmaceutical Warehousing Incorporated (Curaçao), three pharmaceutical and personal care distribution companies, to acquire 100.0 per cent of the issued and outstanding shares of those companies. The acquisitions in the Dutch Caribbean are the sixth to be made by Agostini's in a little over three years.

08 Jul

First Caribbean International Bank Limited (FCIB) announced that it changed its legal name to CIBC Caribbean Bank Limited effective July 11, 2024. The new legal name aligns with the recent adoption of the CIBC brand. CIBC Caribbean has branches and offices in 11 Caribbean islands, comprising Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Jamaica, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Maarten, Trinidad & Tobago and Turks & Caicos Islands.

09 Jul

ASBH announced that it has acquired a 44.8 per cent strategic stake in Caribbean Producers (Jamaica) Limited (CPJ). CPJ is a leading food and premium beverage distributor for major global brands focusing on serving hotels and resorts. CPJ operates in Jamaica and St. Lucia. ASBH's acquisition represents more than 20.0 per cent of the issued share capital of CPJ under the Jamaica Stock Exchange's General Principles relating to Takeovers and Mergers and the applicable securities regulations in Jamaica.

26 Jul

Trinidad and Tobago Iron and Steel Company Limited has acquired the iron and steel plant in the Point Lisas Industrial Estate, Couva, Trinidad, after signing a purchase agreement with Christopher Kelshall, the liquidator of ArcelorMittal Point Lisas Limited. In a recent release, the company said it will immediately begin planning the refurbishment of the plant, aiming to commence operations within the next 12 months.

16 Aug

Jamaica's Musson Group reportedly paid the shareholders of Trinidad Systems Limited, one of the country's most significant information, communication, and technology (ICT) companies, US$6.07 million to acquire 45.0 per cent of the local firm. The disclosure came in the second quarter financials of Productive Business Solutions (PBS), a Facey Group subsidiary owned by Musson (Jamaica) Limited. In its quarterly report, PBS said it acquired a 45.0 per cent "beneficial interest" in TSL, described as "a prominent provider of electronic payment solutions and the exclusive distributor of Xerox in Trinidad and Tobago.

06 Nov

Local conglomerate ANSA McAL announced the acquisition of the US-based chlor-alkali producer Bleachtech Limited Liability Company via its US subsidiary ANSA Chemicals US Limited Liability Company for a purchase price of US$327.0 million. In a news release, the group described the acquisition as the most significant in its 143-year history. Bleachtech, is based in Cleveland, Ohio, and it operates two chlor-alkali plants in Seville, Ohio, and Peters and Petersburg, Virginia.

Central Bank of
Trinidad & Tobago