



SAINT LUCIA

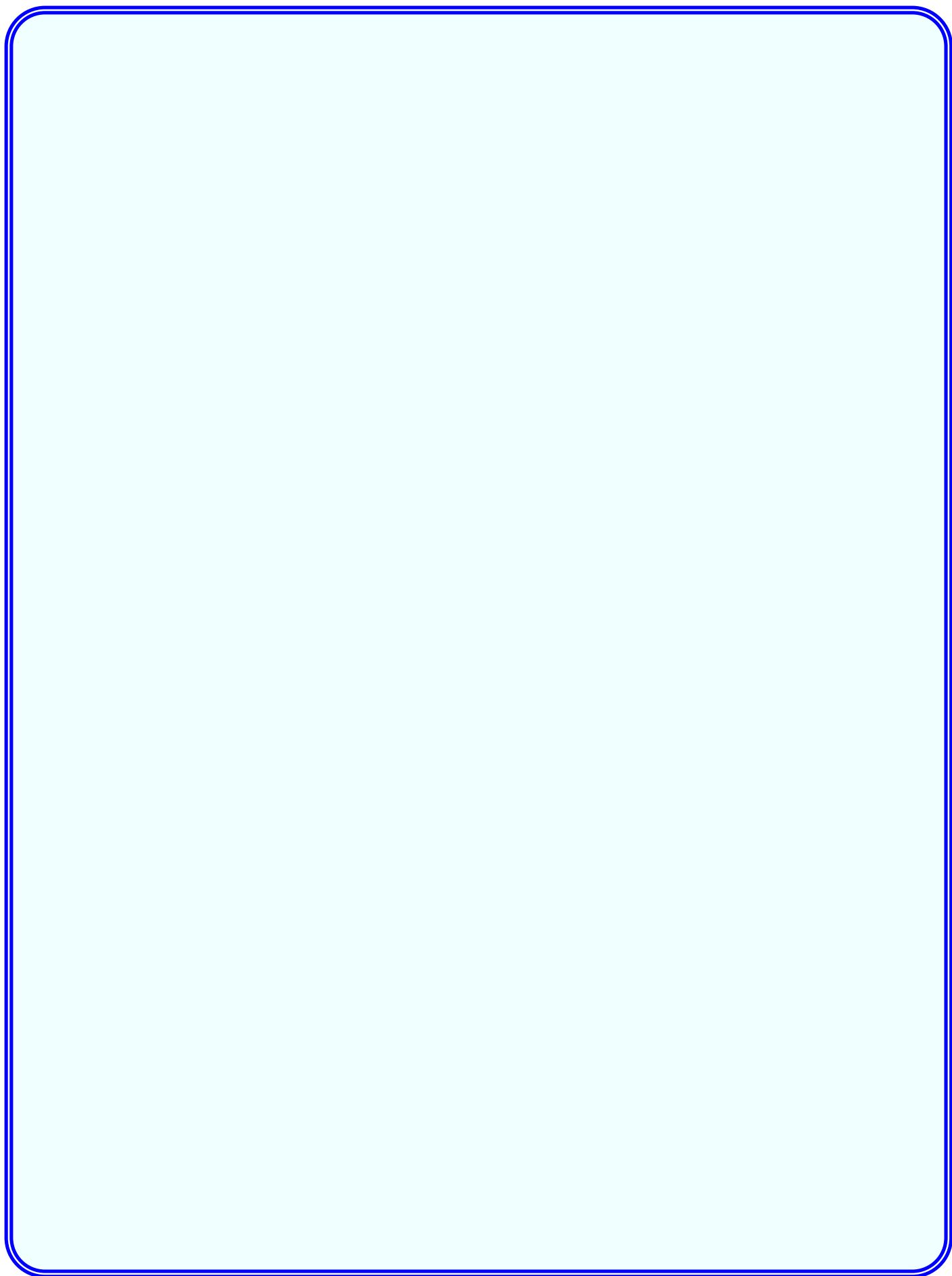
ECONOMIC REVIEW

2004

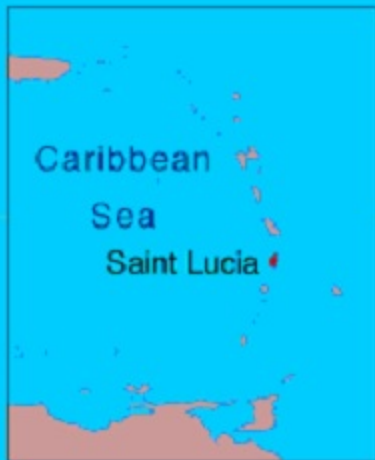
Presented to Parliament by
The Minister of Finance, International Financial Services & Economic Affairs
on
April 19, 2005



Prepared by
The Division of Economic Affairs
Ministry of Finance, International Financial Services & Economic Affairs



Saint Lucia



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NOTE/ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The data contained in this Review have been arranged and classified to facilitate economic analysis, and may therefore not coincide exactly with the accounting systems from which they may have been derived. In addition, the figures for the year under review, and in some cases for previous years, are preliminary.

The Government of Saint Lucia wishes to thank for their kind cooperation, all the individuals and institutions in both the public and private sectors (whether in Saint Lucia or abroad), who have supplied data or other information for this Review.

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SAINT LUCIA - DATA SHEET

Area (Square ml)..... 238.0
(Square km)..... 616.0

Habitable Area (square ml)..... 207.9
(Square km) 539.1

(Preliminary) Change

POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHY

	2003	2004	(03-04)
Population	160,620	162,311	1.05%
Population Density ¹ - Per sq. ml	772.6	780.7	1.05%
- Per sq km	297.9	301.1	1.07%
Birth Rate (per 1000)	14.7	15.3	4.08%
Death Rate (per 1000)	6.5	6.2	-4.6%
Infant Mortality Rate	15.6	14.7	-5.8%

EDUCATION²

	AY02/03	AY03/04	
Primary School Student Enrollment	27,175	25,673	-5.5%
Secondary School Student Enrollment	12,655	12,931	2.2%
Tertiary School Student Enrollment	2,177	3,298	51.5%

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL OPERATIONS³

	FY 03/04	FY04/05	
Total Revenue & Grants	533.03	552.9	3.7%
Current Revenue	491.5	552.0	12.3%
Total Expenditure	610.8	646.0	5.8%
Current Expenditure	474.7	482.7	1.7%
Capital Expenditure	136.1	163.4	20.0%
Current Balance	16.8	69.4	
Overall Balance	-77.8	-93.2	

PRICES

Inflation Rate	1.0%	1.4%
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DEBT (\$M)

Public Debt	1,232.7	1,437.8	16.6%
External Debt	911.7	965.2	5.8%

DEBT RATIOS

CG Debt Service/Current Revenue	25.1%	19.8%
Public Debt/GDP	63.8%	69.6%
External Debt Outstanding to GDP	47.2%	46.7%
External Debt Service/Exports	7.0%	8.0%

¹The population density is equal to the population divided by the habitable area.

²Figures relate to academic years 2002/03 and 2003/04.

³Figures relate to fiscal years 2003/04 and 2004/05.

SAINT LUCIA - DATA SHEET

		(Preliminary)		Change
		2003	2004	(03-04)
GDP at Factor Cost				
of which:	- Constant Prices (\$m)	1,215.2	1,259.4	3.6%
	- Agriculture	53.9	56.7	5.1%
	- Tourism	161.4	170.9	5.9%
Rate of Growth		2.9%	3.6%	
MONEY AND CREDIT (\$m)				
	Total Deposits	2022.4	2,239.4	10.7%
	Money Supply (M1)	343.1	481.3	40.3%
	Money Supply (M2)	1,370.4	1,514.6	10.5%
	Bank Credit to Public Sector	131.0	178.1	35.9%
	Bank Credit to Private Sector	1,498.2	1,650.1	10.1%
Bank Credit by Sector:				
	Agriculture	34.5	33.4	-3.1%
	Manufacturing, mining and quarrying	54.2	106.9	97.1%
	Tourism	117.6	142.2	19.2%
	Distributive Trades	197.8	202.2	2.2%
	Personal	799.9	860.3	7.5%
	Transport	23.0	23.7	3.2%
	Public Utilities	22.3	22.2	-0.7%
	Construction and Land Development	101.4	107.6	6.1%
	Public Administration (Gov't Services)	110.9	101.0	-8.9%
	Professional and other Services	67.5	71.62	6.1
	Total Credit	125.0	202.2	61.8%
		1,656.3	1,807.7	9.1
AGRICULTURE (tonnes)				
	Banana Production	33,791	42,326	24.6%
	Non - Traditional Crops	5,703	4,835	-15.2%
TOURISM				
of which:	Total Visitor Arrivals	704,236	813,681	15.5%
	- Stay over Tourists	276,948	298,431	7.8%
	- Excursionists	12,817	11,441	-10.7%
	- Cruise Ship Arrivals	393,262	481,279	22.4%
	- Yacht Passenger Arrivals	21,209	22,530	-5.9%
MERCHANDISE FOREIGN TRADE (\$m)				
	Imports (C.I.F.)	1,089.4	1,163.1	6.8%
	Imports (F.O.B)	958.7	1,023.5	6.8%
	Exports	167.7	250.2	49.2%
	Balance	-791.0	-773.3	
RATE OF EXCHANGE				
	US\$	EC\$2.70	EC\$2.70	

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CHAPTER ONE

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Global output is estimated to have accelerated to 5.1 percent in 2004, its highest rate in more than three decades. This outturn emanated from widespread growth in all major country groupings but was led by robust growth in the emerging economies of China and India, and was supported by the euro area. Even in Africa and the Middle East positive growth was recorded.

A major impetus for global growth has been the volume of world trade in goods and services, growth of which is estimated to have accelerated from 5 percent in 2003 to almost 9 percent in 2004. The increase in world trade occurred despite a 33 percent increase in the average price of oil as expanding demand combined with tight excess capacity and uncertainty associated with supply disruptions. As a result, global inflation edged up to a just over 2 percent from 1.3 percent the year before.

Robust advances in household spending and increased capital spending by businesses boosted output in the *United States* by 4.3 percent, amidst stimulative fiscal policy and significant gains from labour productivity. In keeping with the oil price shock, monetary policy stimulus was gradually withdrawn over the second half of the year as the Fed raised interest rates five (5) times to 2.25 percent by year end. As a result consumer prices were contained to 2.7 percent. However, the US dollar depreciated against most other international currencies as concerns grew over the financing of the growing US current deficit which reached more than 5.5 percent of GDP.

Despite continued accommodative monetary policy by the European Central Bank, growth in the *euro area* remained subdued at about 1.8 percent. Output in *France* (2.1 percent) exceeded that of *Germany* (1.2 percent) and *Italy* (1.3 percent) on account of higher growth in both industrial production and retail sales volume. As the euro area grappled with the need for structural reforms, inflation averaged 2.1 percent amidst relatively high unemployment that reached 8.9 percent in December 2004. Both *France* (-3.7 percent) and *Germany* (-3.9 percent) continued to breach the

EU Growth and Stability Pact's benchmark for the overall deficit while Italy (-2.9 percent) stood on the threshold.

Japan recorded growth of 3 percent amidst unemployment of 4.4 percent and an end to deflation. Although maintaining sizeable trade and current account surpluses of over \$130 billion, the country's budget balance was negative to the tune of almost 7 percent of GDP.

In developing Asia, *China* and *India* were very buoyant with estimated growth rates of 9 percent and 6.4 percent respectively. In the former, activity was boosted by rapid investment and credit growth while in the latter output was fuelled by the global expansion and supportive monetary conditions.

REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Although having to contend with a major increase in oil prices and a very active hurricane season in 2004, all regional economies except one recorded expansions in output, amidst slightly higher inflation. The impetus for growth emanated from the buoyant global expansion with tourism being the main engine. The region benefited from its perception as a safe destination and the greater purchasing power of European currencies as a result of the depreciation of the US dollar.

In *Trinidad and Tobago*, a 10.5 percent growth in the energy sector pushed overall output up by 6.7 percent as that country benefited from rising oil prices which encouraged increased exploration and production in the refining and petrochemicals sub-sectors.

Jamaica, recorded more modest growth of less than 2 percent as the potential impact of increased demand for bauxite and alumina and tourism were undermined by the passage of Hurricanes Charley and Ivan. However, as slippages in the exchange rate were contained in 2004, the rate of inflation was reduced to single digits from 14 percent in the previous year.

In *Barbados*, real tourism output spearheaded accelerated growth of 3.4 percent despite declines in both sugar and non-sugar agriculture. As a result, the unemployment rate fell to 9.1 percent in September 2004 but inflation was contained to 0.8 percent. Increased aggregate demand was

reflected in a surge in imports which pushed the external current account deficit to its highest level ever.

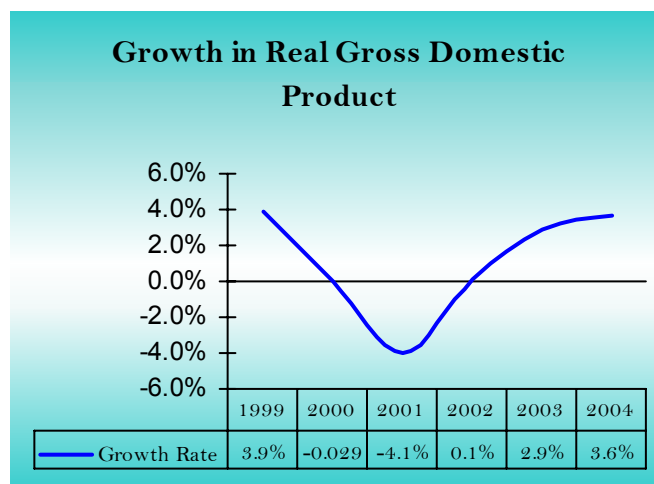
Guyana recorded the lowest growth of regional economies (1.5 percent) as it suffered from declines of 7.7 percent and 15 percent in gold and bauxite production respectively, as a result of excessive rainfall, unreliable power supplies and company problems.

Among the smaller economies, output ranged from 12.7 percent in *Anguilla* to 2 percent in *British Virgin Islands*, as tourism, construction, transportation, agriculture and communications contributed significantly. *Antigua and Barbuda* (5.1 percent) and *St. Kitts and Nevis* (3.9 percent) recorded tourism-led expansions but continued to carry significant levels of indebtedness. In *Dominica*, continued adjustment led to a growth of 2.6 percent as there was increased activity in agriculture, construction and manufacturing.

The devastation by hurricane Ivan in *Grenada* in September 2004, led to a 3.2 percent contraction of output in that country. The hurricane which inflicted damage to the extent of 212 percent of GDP derailed momentum which was on course to register almost 5 percent of growth for the year.

DOMESTIC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

In 2004, the domestic economy registered real GDP growth of 3.6 percent, its second consecutive year of expansion. In the context of the recessionary conditions which saw negative growth in 2000 and 2001, the performance for 2004 represents a full recovery of output to the level achieved in 1999. Accordingly, the economy experienced growth similar to that achieved in the late 1990s.



The impetus for GDP growth in 2004 emanated from expansions in hotels and restaurants (5.9 percent), government services (4 percent), wholesale and retail trade (7.8 percent), communications (4.6 percent), banking and insurance (4.7 percent) and construction (0.4 percent), which together accounted for almost 67 percent of total value added. Reductions in value added were recorded in manufacturing (2.5 percent) and electricity and water (3.9 percent). In keeping with a 17.7 percent expansion in value-added in bananas that nudged up its contribution to GDP to 2.1 percent, the agriculture sector recorded a turn-around of 5 percent growth in output. However, the agricultural sector's 4.5 percent contribution to GDP in 2004 was significantly less than its contribution of 14 percent in 1990.

In summary, increased banana production and revenue spearheaded an improved performance in agriculture and led to a narrowing of the merchandise trade deficit. Increased arrivals boosted the performance of the tourism sector while manufacturing production expanded¹ on the strength of increased output in food and beverages. Construction activity was mixed with a reduction in public sector construction expenditure while private sector construction increased substantially. Higher imported prices of consumer goods on account of increases in international oil prices resulted in a rise in the general price level. While there was an improvement in the revenue performance, the Government's expansionary fiscal policies resulted in a widening of the overall deficit. Despite an increase in domestic credit from the banking system, the current account deficit of the BOP narrowed along with increased capital inflows which led to a surge in net imputed reserves.

Money and Prices

Developments in the financial and monetary sector for 2004 mirrored the level of activity in the real economy. Liquidity, as measured by the loans to deposit ratio, improved by 1.2 percentage points from the year-end 2003 to 80.7 percent at year-end 2004, as the growth in deposits outpaced that of loans and advances.

¹ The value of manufacturing output increased by 6 percent to \$146.3 million in 2004. That the value-added in the sector fell by 2.5 percent reflects the effects of significant increases in the prices of inputs since 1990, the base year of the National Accounts.

The pick-up in economic activity in the review period was fuelled by increased financing from the banking system. As a result, the level of domestic credit rebounded by 11.1 percent to \$1,470.7 million. Credit to the private sector increased by 10.1 percent to \$1,650.1 million². Of this sector, which received the bulk of domestic credit, both household credit (\$839.5 million) and business credit (\$810.5 million) expanded by 10 percent.

The behaviour of credit by economic activity was mixed. Financing to the personal category, which comprised mainly acquisition of property and durable consumer goods, accounted for the largest share of total credit (48 percent) and increased by 7.5 percent to \$860.3 million. This was partly as a result of a slight reduction in mortgage lending rates. Credit to the distributive trades increased by 2.2 percent to \$202.2 million, while that to the agriculture sector contracted for the third consecutive year reflecting attrition that has occurred within the sector and cautiousness by banks because of non-performing loans. The manufacturing sector by contrast, saw a doubling of credit to \$103. 2 million while lending to tourism contracted for the second successive year reflecting the sector's ability to access cheaper foreign borrowing.

On the strength of increases in demand and foreign currency deposits, total deposit liabilities of the banking system increased by 10.7 percent to \$2,239.8 million or 76 percent of total domestic liabilities. Buoyant economic activity generated increased demand for transactions balances which saw deposits by residents increase by 10.3 percent to \$2,070.4 million or 92 percent of all deposits.

The stock of monetary liabilities (M2) in the domestic economy increased by 10.5 percent to \$1,514.5 million as a 7 percent decline in net foreign assets was offset by a 16. 2 percent increase in net domestic assets, the largest component of which was domestic credit. From the other perspective of the monetary aggregate, there were increases in both the narrow measure of the money supply (M1), due mainly to an increase in private sector demand deposits, and quasi-money, on the strength of increases in savings deposits.

² Total net credit to the other domestic sectors (non-bank financial institutions, subsidiaries and affiliates, non-bank financial public enterprises and central government) was *negative* (\$179.4 million)

There were varied movements in the level of commercial banks' interest rates which saw savings deposits and prime lending rates remain unchanged while reductions were recorded for time and demand deposits and add-on loans.

An improvement in the external performance of the economy is suggested by the increase in the country's share of imputed reserves at the Central Bank by 24.4 percent to \$351.5 million.

The rate of inflation, as measured by the percentage change in the 12-month moving average of the Consumer Price Index to December 2004, increased slightly to 1.4 percent. This reflected a 0.8 percent increase in the *food* index, the most heavily weighted category, and higher international oil prices.

Agriculture

Despite heavy infestation of leaf spot disease and damage by Hurricane Ivan in September, the banana industry benefited from significant investments in tissue culture plants and recovered from damage caused by tropical storm Lily which led to a 24.6 percent growth in exports to 42,326 tonnes. Accordingly, St. Lucia's share of the Windward Islands' output of 78,015 tonnes increased from 51 to 54 percent.

Market conditions were characterized by price volatility. However, a 12.3 percent appreciation of the Pound Sterling against the US dollar combined with the higher exports to lead to a 24.7 percent increase in banana revenue to \$54.3 million.

In domestic developments, two firms exited the banana industry and new institutional arrangements were established for the control of leaf spot disease. Internationally, the Windward Islands faced the challenge of continued lobbying within the ACP grouping to ensure a suitable tariff level is arrived at when the tariff-only regime comes into effect in January 2006.

Available data indicate that a reduction in exports was mainly responsible for a reduction in the output of non-traditional crops. The volume of total production, which includes exports and

purchases by supermarkets and hotels, fell by 15.2 percent to 4,834.8 tonnes. This resulted in a decline in the value of production by 11.7 percent to \$9.8 million despite an increase in prices. There were reductions in the level of purchases by both hotels and supermarkets; the former by 2.1 percent to 915.7 tonnes as a result of supply factors and unfavourable payment arrangements, and the latter by 11 percent to 1,664.3 tonnes as the merger of two major supermarkets allowed the new entity to source cheaper produce from overseas. Exports declined by 22 percent to 2,274.7 tonnes in line with restricted supply associated with higher rainfall.

There was a 5 percent increase in fish landings to 1,519.8 tonnes (ex-vessel value, \$16.4 million) with two-thirds of that output recorded from January to June 2004. In the livestock sector, St. Lucia returned to self sufficiency in eggs as production increased by 21.2 percent to 889,000 dozen. Chicken production is estimated to have fallen by 28.7 percent to 644.6 tonnes while the consumption of local pork is estimated to have increased.

Tourism

Buoyed by the strength of the global economy and the appreciation of Pound Sterling and the euro against the US dollar, the tourism industry registered a 15.5 percent increase in total visitor arrivals to 813,681. Despite competition from regional destinations, St. Lucia recorded a 7.7 percent increase in stay-over arrivals to 298,431 as additional visitors came from all of its three main source markets: the United States (9.2 percent more to 107,089), Europe (8.5 percent more to 97,862) and the Caribbean (5.2 percent more to 74,242). In keeping with the pick-up in stay-over arrivals, the average occupancy rate increased by 2.1 percentage points to 64.8 percent. Accordingly, the industry recorded a 17.1 percent increase in earnings to \$879.3 million or 71 percent of the exports of goods and services.

In the cruise sector, in keeping with the continued repositioning of cruise ships, arrivals increased by 22.4 percent to 481,239 as the number of cruise calls increased by 25 percent. The number of excursionists fell by 10.7 percent to 11,441 but an increase in the number of visiting yachts led to a 6.2 percent in such visitors to 22,530.

Manufacturing

For 2004, the value of manufacturing output is estimated to have increased by 6 percent to \$146.3 million. However, the sector continues to be beset by problems which led to the closure of a plant. As it seeks to meet the challenges of international competitiveness, Government continues to support the sector through fiscal incentives, the value of which increased by 6.9 percent to \$24.7 million, and the adoption of global standards.

Approximately 80 percent of the value of output came from three sub-sectors; *food and beverages* (48.2 percent), *electrical products* (17 percent) and *paper and paperboard* (15.9 percent). The combined growth of these sub-sectors was 11.9 percent, and so they were mainly responsible for the growth in manufacturing production. The value of output for *food and beverages* expanded for the fourth consecutive year and grew by 7.5 percent to \$69.1 million as beverages (carbonated drinks) segments continued to benefit from strong domestic demand. The value of *electrical products* targeted mainly to the North American market increased by 32.6 percent to \$24.5 million while the value of *paper and paperboard* rose by 6.5 percent to \$21.4 million, reflecting increased banana production (banana boxes) and wholesale and retail activity (commercial boxes).

Construction

Winding-down activity on the Roads Development Programme, especially on the South-West Coast Highway, led to a reduction in the level of construction activity by the public sector. In the review period, Central Government capital expenditure on construction fell by almost 10 percent to \$62.2 million. Of Central Government construction expenditure, 74 percent represented activity on economic infrastructure, that is, physical structures necessary for economic growth, while the remainder went to social infrastructure.

Spending on economic infrastructure by Central Government fell by 2 percent to \$46.3 million due mainly to expenditure on roads, which accounted for 60 percent of the total. Expenditure by the Central Government on social infrastructure increased to \$14.2 million, of which \$10.2 million was spent mainly on housing developments by the National Housing Corporation (\$5.8 million) and education (\$2.1 million).

Indicators of private sector construction in 2004 were mixed. There were contrasting movements in the number of applications received and approved by the Development Control Authority (DCA). However, there was an increase, for the third successive year, in the level of imports of construction material by 15 percent to \$75.9 million. Credit disbursed by financial institutions to the private construction sector more than doubled to \$180.4 million as increased liquidity and lower interest rates stimulated the housing market. This stemmed from increases in lending for both residential housing (\$108.9 million) and commercial housing (\$71.5 million).

Balance of Payments

St. Lucia's merchandise trade deficit narrowed to \$773.3 million as imports increased by 6.8 percent to \$1,023.5 million while exports doubled to \$250.2 million. The movement in imports can be attributed primarily to the increased aggregate demand that was fuelled by the expanding economy while increased banana revenue resulted in higher export earnings.

In keeping with a healthy surplus of \$564.3 million on the services account, influenced by a 16.6 percent growth in travel receipts, the current account deficit narrowed to \$294.7 million or 14.3 percent of GDP. Notwithstanding a 14.8 percent decline in inflows on the capital and financial account to \$350.7 million as a result primarily of lower capital grants and portfolio and direct investments, the overall surplus on the BOP more than doubled to \$70.4 million or 3.4 percent of GDP.

Fiscal Operations and Debt

Preliminary data indicate that the fiscal position of Central Government deteriorated in the fiscal year 2004/05. The overall deficit increased to \$93.2 million as growth in total expenditure exceeded that of total revenue and grants.

Increases in all three of its components (taxes on income and profits, taxes on goods and service and taxes on international trade and transactions) led to a 12.3 percent increase in current revenue to \$552 million. However, there was a smaller increase in current expenditure by 1.7 percent to \$482.7 million as a 4.4 percent reduction in wages and salaries to \$219.8 million was offset by increases in

interest payments (\$64.3 million) and retirement benefits (\$38.8 million). Accordingly, the current balance improved to a surplus of \$69.4 million or 3.3 percent of GDP.

However, Government's efforts at addressing pressing development needs led to a 20 percent increase in capital expenditure to \$163.4 million. The share of loan financing of capital expenditure fell by almost 5 percentage points to 76.8 percent as grant financing increased to 21.8 percent.

The widened overall deficit (inclusive of lower grant financing) led to a 22.7 percent increase in the disbursed outstanding debt of Central Government to \$1,181.5 million. Although government guaranteed debt and non-guaranteed debt declined by 3.4 percent to \$180 million and 1.7 percent to \$56.2 million, respectively, the total outstanding liabilities of the public sector increased by 16.7 percent to \$1,437.9 million³ or approximately 69.6 percent of GDP at the end of December 2004. External debt (68 percent of the total) increased by 5.9 percent to \$965.2 million while domestic debt surged by 53.4 percent to \$452.6 million, as Government continued to refinance some of its domestic debt on the RGSM in order to reduce servicing costs.

In keeping with the policy of debt restructuring to take advantage of lower interest rates, there was a reduction in Central Government debt service by 9.7 percent to \$106.1 million, notwithstanding a 15 percent increase in interest payments to \$64.3 million. As a result, the central government debt service to current revenue ratio improved by 5.3 percentage points to 19.8 percent, but outside the prudential benchmark of 15 percent.

³The total outstanding liabilities of the public sector include \$20.2 million in payables.

CHAPTER TWO

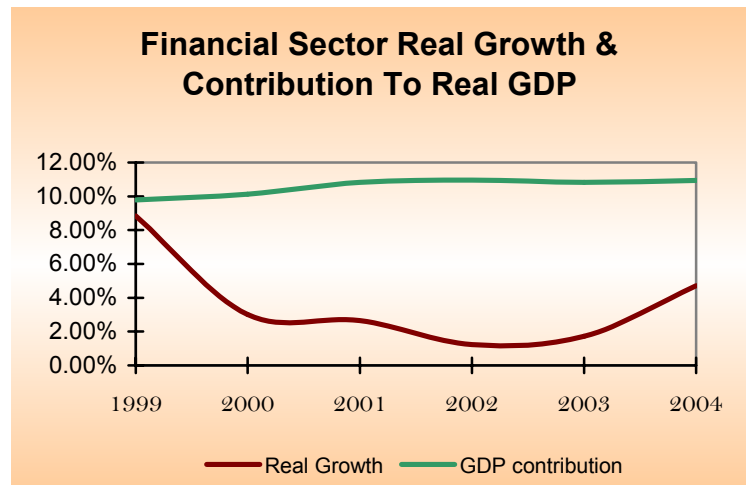
MONETARY & FINANCIAL SECTOR

MONETARY DEVELOPMENTS

Activity in the monetary and financial sector, in the national accounts data showed stronger growth of 4.7 percent in 2004.

Accordingly, the sector's contribution to GDP increased to almost 14 percent. Developments within that sector were characterized by an easing of liquidity,

varied movements in commercial bank interest rates and strong growth in St. Lucia's net international reserves position. Increased demand for credit came from the public and private sectors, while the rate of private sector credit to central government credit remained relatively unchanged at a ratio of 12:1. The provision for loan losses as a proportion of total loans declined from 7.5 to 6.3 percent.



Domestic Credit

The private sector, which consumes the largest share of total credit, recorded an expansion of 11.3 percent to \$1,650.1 million as both household and business credit expanded by 10.1 percent. As a result, domestic credit rebounded strongly in 2004, growing by 11.1 percent to \$1,470.7 million, after a 7.6 percent decline in the previous year. Apart from *subsidiaries and affiliates* all other recipients of domestic credit were net lenders to the banking system.

There was a 33.5 percent rise in credit to the central government to \$187.2 million, financed mainly by a 70 percent increase in debentures to \$137.9 million. However, net lending from the central government increased by 24.7 percent to \$130.2 million as deposits exceeded credit.

Although both non-bank financial institutions and non-financial public enterprises were net lenders to the system, there were contrasting movements in their balances. Net lending from the former fell by 6.6 percent to \$36.6 million as both credit and deposits fell. In the latter, an increase in credit to \$99.8 million was outweighed by sizable deposits of \$287.1 million.

Net credit to subsidiaries and affiliates increased by 10.7 percent to \$174.7 million mainly on the continued strength of investments portfolio¹ which increased by 7.8 percent.

Table 1 Commercial Bank lending by Economic Classification (EC\$ million)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	Growth 2004	Share 2004
Agriculture & Fisheries	30.00	41.10	34.90	34.50	33.40	-3.2%	2%
Manufacturing	45.5	52.6	56.9	50.3	103.2	105%	6%
Construction & Land Dev	84.5	99.9	110.9	101.4	107.6	6.1%	6%
Distributives Trade	200.3	198.9	214.1	197.8	202.2	2.2%	11%
Tourism	140.0	152.8	190.2	176.0	142.2	-19.2%	8%
Government Services	124.2	125.5	112.3	67.5	71.6	6.1%	4%
Personal	801.2	793.1	758.1	799.9	860.3	7.5%	48%
<i>of which Acquisition of Property</i>	<i>378.3</i>	<i>319.5</i>	<i>325.7</i>	<i>343.8</i>	<i>409.6</i>	<i>19.1%</i>	<i>23%</i>
<i>Home Construction & Renovation</i>	<i>239.8</i>	<i>169.7</i>	<i>177.3</i>	<i>179.8</i>	<i>215.4</i>	<i>19.8%</i>	<i>12%</i>
<i>House & Land Purchase</i>	<i>138.5</i>	<i>149.8</i>	<i>148.4</i>	<i>164.0</i>	<i>194.2</i>	<i>18.4%</i>	<i>11%</i>
<i>Durable Consumer Goods</i>	<i>103.8</i>	<i>90.1</i>	<i>63.9</i>	<i>64.8</i>	<i>80.3</i>	<i>24.0%</i>	<i>4%</i>
<i>Other Personal</i>	<i>319.0</i>	<i>383.5</i>	<i>368.6</i>	<i>391.0</i>	<i>370.4</i>	<i>-5.4%</i>	<i>21%</i>
Total	1,649.5	1,709.2	1,721.2	1,656.3	1,807.7	9.1%	100%

An analysis of commercial bank credit by economic classification indicates that personal lending continues to absorb the largest proportion of credit, 48 percent in 2004. Lending to that sector

¹The increase in the investment portfolio in 2001 was due to the transfer of mortgages of the Bank of St. Lucia to the East Caribbean Financial Holdings Company.

increased by 7.5 percent to \$860.3 million. The fastest growing segment of this sector, lending for the purpose of purchasing durable consumer goods, increased by 24 percent, while borrowing for the purpose of home construction and renovation, house and land purchases and acquisition of property, increased by 19.1 percent and accounted for the bulk of the growth in personal lending. This is a significant improvement from 2003, and reflects the increase in domestic economic activity, facilitated by lower and competitive interest rates.

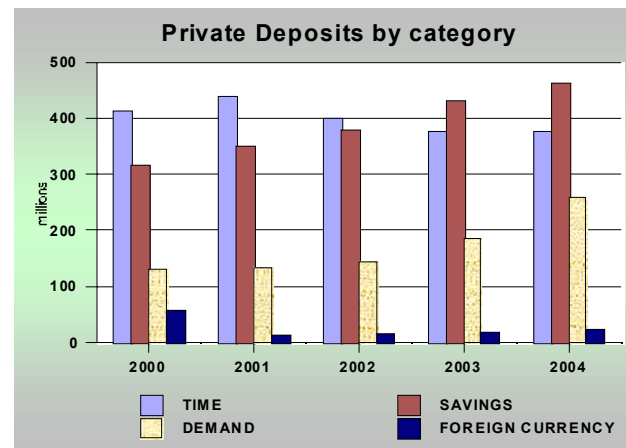
The distributive trades, which accounts for the second largest share of domestic credit, experienced a moderate increase in lending of 2.2 percent to \$202.2 million. Lending to the agriculture sector contracted for the third consecutive year falling by 2.7 percent, reflecting credit risk associated with that sector. The manufacturing sector, by contrast, saw credit doubling to \$103.2 million absorbing 5.7 percent of total credit, its highest share in the past 5 years, while lending to the tourism sector contracted for the second consecutive year, reflecting the ability of that sector to access funds at lower interest rates.

Domestic Liabilities

Gross liabilities across the banking system increased by 12.8 percent to \$2,930.9 million in 2004. Of this amount, deposit liabilities accounted for 76 percent and grew by 10.7 percent to \$2,239.8 million.

Savings deposits continue to be the largest

component of total deposits at 41 percent, followed by time deposits at 34 percent. Both of these categories saw relatively slow growth of 6.9 percent and 0.4 percent respectively in comparison with demand and foreign currency deposits which grew by 38.7 and 27.8 percent respectively. The slower growth in savings and time deposits was due to a combination of lower rates on savings and time



deposits and a recent trend of declining demand for time deposits. Demand for transactions balances has increased in line with economic activity in 2004.

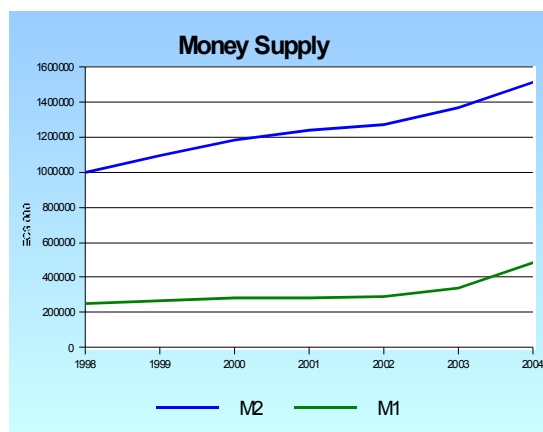
An analysis of deposits by depositor indicates that deposits by residents, which accounted for 92 percent of all deposits, increased by 10.3 percent and non-resident deposits increased by 16.6 percent.

The strongest growth in deposits, 24.8 percent, came from the central and local government, followed by business firms whose deposits grew by 18.3 percent. Deposits by business firms, (12 percent of deposits by residents) amounted to \$253.9 million, increased in all categories, with the exception of time deposits. This is a reflection of increased transactions demand deposits, which is the largest portion of business firms deposits, to facilitate increased economic activity in tandem with increased saving of business earnings. By contrast, government deposits, the largest component of which is time deposits, increased by 37.1 percent.

However, the largest depositor category was private individuals whose deposits increased by 8.7 percent to \$1,122.7 million and accounted for more than half of total deposits. A 2 percent increase in deposits of the NIC to \$234.1 million, led to a 1.5 percent increase in deposits by statutory bodies and government corporations.

Money Supply

The total stock of monetary liabilities (M2) in the domestic economy increased by 10.5 percent to \$1,514.5 million. This indicated that a 7 percent decline in net foreign assets (NFA) was



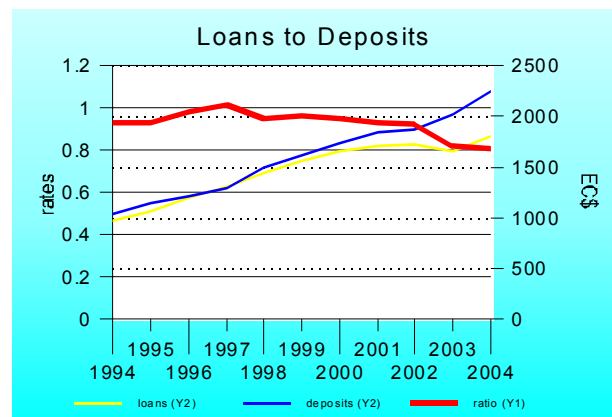
more than offset by the 16.2 percent growth of net domestic assets which resulted from an 11.1 percent expansion of domestic credit within the economy.

An examination of the M2 from the liability side indicates that the narrow measure of money (M1)² expanded by 40.3 percent to \$481.3 million. This was due to 51.7 percent increase in private sector demand deposits to \$382.2 million, while currency held by the public grew by 8.6 percent to \$99.2 million.

On the other hand, quasi-money³ showed marginal growth of 0.6 percent to \$1,033.2 million, as a result of a 23.4 percent decline in time deposits of local residents which was offset by a 7.3 percent growth in savings deposits. Time deposits declined for the third consecutive year in 2004 due to declining interest rates as well as availability of higher yielding medium to long term instruments. There was also an increase of 21.5 percent in foreign currency deposits to \$38.7 million.

Liquidity

During 2004, liquidity, as measured by the loans to deposit ratio, eased marginally from 81.9 to 80.7. The improvement was due to increased economic activity which led to a faster rate of growth in deposits (10.7 percent) than that of credit (9.1 percent).



By contrast, after growing significantly in 2003, the stock of net liquid assets declined by 2.8 percent during 2004 as a result of an increase in

²Currency in circulation plus demand deposits

³Time, savings and foreign currency deposits of local residents.

balances due to other ECCB area banks. Accordingly, the ratio of liquid assets to deposits decreased marginally from 29.9 to 29.7 while net liquid assets to deposits also decreased from 21.8 to 19.2.

Interest Rates

In the review period, there were varied movements in the level of commercial bank interest rates. Although saving deposits and prime lending rates remained unchanged, reductions were recorded in time and demand deposits and add-on loans.

Reflecting increased deposits coupled with an easing of liquidity, maximum interest rates on demand deposits fell by 100 basis points, to 3.5 percent. Savings deposits maintained the same spread in 2003 of 175 basis points, with a minimum rate of 3 percent, while the spread for special rates widened because of a drop in the minimum rate from 3.5 percent to 1.5 percent.

Conversely, the spread on time deposits of all maturities narrowed during 2004. The minimum rates on all maturities fell by 100 basis points to 1 percent. In addition, the maximum rates on all maturities also fell, with the longer maturities, *over 2 years* and *between 1 and 2 years* experiencing the largest fall, moving from 7.0 and 7.5 percent respectively to 4.5 percent. Time deposits with maturities from *6 months to 12 months* fell by 50 basis points, those with maturities of *3 months to 6 months* fell by 25 basis points while deposits for *up to 3 months* fell by 100 basis points.

Prime lending rates maintained a 50 basis point spread, while other lending rates declined by 50 basis points in both the minimum and maximum rates to 5.5 and 18 percent respectively. The maximum rate of add-on loans also remained at 18 percent, while the minimum rate declined by 100 basis points to 6 percent. The minimum level of the effective interest rate increased by 200 basis points to 10.5 percent, but the maximum unchanged at 23.5 percent.

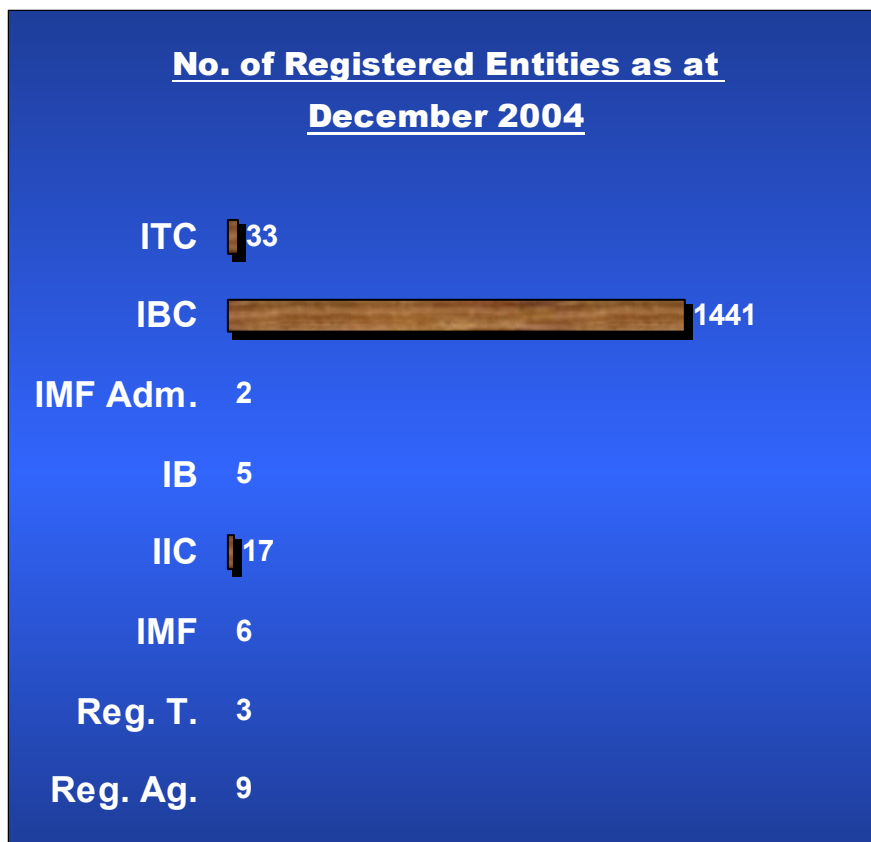
Table 2 Commercial Bank Structure of Interest Rates

Deposit/ Lending Rates of various maturities	2002	2003	2004
Demand Deposits	3.0–5.0	0.0–4.5	0.0–3.5
Savings Deposits	3.0–5.5	3.0–4.75	3.0–4.75
Special rates	4.5–8.75	3.5–8.75	1.5–8.75
Time: up to 3 months	2.0–6.0	2.0–5.5	1.0–4.5
: over 3 to 6 months	2.0–6.0	2.0–5.75	1.0–5.5
: over 6 to 12 months	2.0–6.0	2.0–6.0	1.0–5.5
: over 1 to 2 years	2.0–8.50	2.0–7.5	1.0–4.5
: over 2 years	2.5–8.50	2.0–7.0	1.0–4.5
Lending rates: Prime	9.5–10.5	9.5–10.0	9.5–10.0
: other rates	7.5–18.0	6.0–18.5	5.5–18.0
Add on Loans : Nominal rate	8.50–18.00	7.0–18.00	6.0–18.00
: Effective rate	11.03–23.0	8.50–23.0	10.50–23.50

External Developments.

There was some strengthening of St. Lucia's net international reserve position (NIR) with imputed reserves growing by 24.4 percent in line with the growth in imputed assets. However, the strong NIR position was undermined by the movement of the commercial banks position from a strong asset position of \$52.5 million, to liability position of \$39.8 million. The liability position in 2004 was occasioned by the change in the net position of domestic commercial banks with other ECCB territory commercial banks, suggesting that there was increased borrowing from other commercial banks to finance the credit expansion which occurred. This resulted in a weakened NFA position by 7.1 percent to \$311.7 million.

Other developments



During 2004 the offshore financial sector continued to expand with 296 new entities licensed. This brought the number of companies registered to 1,517. The largest segment continued to be the international business companies (IBC) which increased by 278 new entities licensed to 1,441.

During the review period there was a notable increase in the number of

international banks (IB) registered with 4 new entities registered bringing the total to 5, however the license of 1 was revoked during the first quarter. There was also an increase in international trust companies (ITC) from 20 to 33 while international mutual funds (IMF) increased from 3 to 6. The number of international mutual funds administrators (IMF Adm.) remained at 2 since the revocation of a licensed offset the issuing of a new license during the year.

INSURANCE⁴

The insurance industry continued its meaningful contribution to the economy despite immense pressures and challenges during the review period. The sector contributed significantly to the economy in the areas of investment, asset security and financial intermediation.

The improved economic performance in 2003 was mirrored in activities in the sector as the industry recorded growth in premium income, investment, assets and a substantial improvement in underwriting profitability.

The economic significance of the insurance sector, which is measured by the ratio of gross premium income to GDP, increased modestly from 11.5 percent in 2002 to 13 percent in 2003. In addition, average premium per capita (gross premium divided by population) increased substantially by 16.6 percent to \$942.78.

Premium tax collected from the sector grew marginally to \$4.3 million compared to 2002.

Registration & Licensing

The number of insurers that were licensed to carry on the business of insurance in St. Lucia totalled twenty-seven (27), with the registration of two new local insurance companies in 2004. These insurers comprised:

- One (1) Association of Underwriters;
- Six (6) locally incorporated companies;
- Eighteen (18) companies incorporated within the CARICOM region; and
- Two (2) companies incorporated outside the CARICOM region.

⁴ Due to the lag in the filing of insurance returns, the analysis in this section relates to 2003 unless otherwise stated.

Thirteen (13) brokers and seventeen (17) agents were authorized to transact insurance business. This included one new broker and one agent. During the period two (2) brokers ceased operations while the registration of one insurance agent was terminated. One hundred and eighty-four (184) certificates of registration were issued to one hundred and fifty-five (157) salesmen during that year. Fifty-three (53) of these were issued to new registrants, while one hundred and twenty-two (122) were normal and sixty-two (62) were provisional.

There was a 12.2 percent increase in the number of salesmen in the industry compared with the previous period. This augured well for the insurance industry, in particular, the life sector which reported a 57.1 percent growth in business.

Revenue recorded by the Registrar's office in administration of the Insurance Act totalled \$356,900. This comprised \$129,700 and \$40,800 for license and registration fees respectively and \$186,400 in penalty fees for late submission of accounts by insurers.

Reinsurance

Reinsurance continues to play an important role in the insurance industry acting as a buffer in the event of any catastrophe to protect the financial viability of the insurer. Reinsurance often determines the type of risk that a prudent insurer underwrites. Reinsurance remittance totalled \$34 million, with long term amounting to \$3.4 million while remittance by general insurance amounted to \$30.6 million. These remittances remained constant compared to the previous year as reinsurance rates remained stable during the review period. Reinsurance cession represented 22.4 percent of gross premium income. The industry's retention level was 77.6 percent.

Investment

Insurance investment plays a major role in the development of the local economy. Insurers invest large sums with government and other financial institutions to satisfy their statutory deposits and insurance fund obligations. They also invest in other mediums which provide funds for use in other areas of economic activity. In 2003, total investments by insurers amounted to \$324.8 million. Investment in Government securities accounted for the greatest share or 33.8 percent of insurers invested assets. Total assets reported were \$415.7 million.

Table 3 Investments for Insurance Companies – 2003 (EC\$ million)

Types of Investments	2002	2003	% Change
Real Estate	43.6	52.7	20.9
Loans on Mortgage Debentures & Policies	48.3	49.8	3.1
Government Securities	87.8	109.9	25.2
Company Securities incl. Subsidiaries	24.7	43.8	77.3
Deposits with Banks	45.5	47.6	4.3
Cash	15.9	21.0	37.7
Total	265.9	324.8	22.2

Table 4 Asset Breakdown- 2003 (EC\$ millions)

Type of Asset	2002	2003	% Change
Fixed Assets	42	51.2	21.9
Loans	52.7	49.8	-5.5
Government Securities	88.1	109.9	24.7
Company Securities	57.2	43.8	-23.4
Cash & Term Deposits	50.3	67.3	33.8
Current Assets	32.0	64.1	100.3
Other Assets	19.0	29.6	55.8
Total	341.3	415.7	21.8

Premium Income

The industry recorded a 17.5 percent increase in gross premium income to \$151.5 million. This increase was occasioned by a 50 percent increase recorded in long term insurance business, attributable to an increase in the sale of annuity products as more persons are becoming aware of the need to save while taking advantage of the tax incentive under the Income Tax Act.

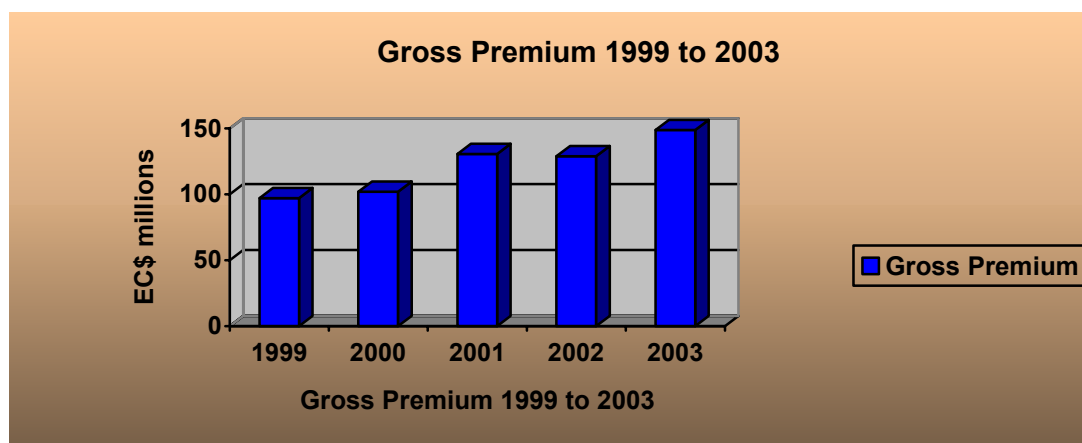


Table 5 Gross Premium- 2003 (EC\$ millions)

Class of Insurance	2002	2003	% Change
Motor Vehicle	28.1	28.1	-
Property	38.7	36.7	- 5.1
Long-term	41.4	65.0	57.1
Other classes	20.6	21.6	4.8
Total Premium	128.8	151.5	17.6

All classes of insurance business reported increases in premium income with the exception of the property sector which fell by 5.1 percent. This is attributable in part to the combination of non-renewal of homeowners' policies once mortgages were settled and the underinsurance of property. The reduction is also consistent with the 47 percent contraction in credit disbursed for the purpose of construction by financial institutions in 2003. The largest increase in premium income was

recorded in long term insurance business which increased by 57.1 percent, followed by an increase of 4.8 percent recorded by the category entitled 'Other classes' of insurance business. The unchanged position in the motor category of insurance is consistent with a 4.2 percent reduction in motor insurance stickers issued this period as well as a marginal increase in the number of registered vehicles.

Performance

The underwriting profitability of the industry mirrors the performance of each industry player. Underwriting profit reflects the effect of operating expenses and net claims on net earned premiums. In 2003, the industry recorded an underwriting profit of 10.1 percent, one of the highest profit ratios ever; a significant improvement compared to 0.2 percent experienced in 2002. This rebound in profitability is a direct result of a 6.8 percent reduction in claims, a 16.8 percent increase in earned premiums and, to a lesser extent, a 2.7 percent drop in operating expenses.

Table 6 Underwriting Results by Class (2002-2003)

Class	Net Premiums Earned (EC\$m)		Net Claims Incurred (EC\$m)		Operating Expenses (EC\$m)		Profit/Loss (%)	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
Property	2.4	5.05	0.94	2.28	1.98	3.05	-22	-5.54
Motor Vehicle	23.2	21.28	14.28	11.63	9.47	8.13	- 2	7.14
Personal Accident	12.5	13.53	6.86	7.71	4.25	4.02	11	13.30
Liability	1.9	2.21	1.87	0.20	0.75	0.84	-38	52.94
Mar. Av. & T/port	0.7	0.94	-0.09	0.48	0.34	0.31	40	15.96
Pecuniary Loss	0.19	0.16	0.12	0.2	-0.04	-0.06	59	12.5
Total	40.89	43.17	23.98	22.50	16.75	16.29	.19	10.10

All classes of general insurance business recorded underwriting profits with the exception of the property category. This class of business however showed significant signs of improvement, moving from a loss of 22 percent in 2002 to a loss of 5.5 percent this period. The loss sustained in this sector was due mainly to increases in burglary, fires and to a lesser extent earthquakes claims.

Motor insurance, which is the dominant class of insurance, reported an underwriting profit of 7.1 percent following a 2 percent underwriting loss previous year. This improvement was a consequence of more prudent underwriting which led to decreases in both operating expenses and motor claims incurred.

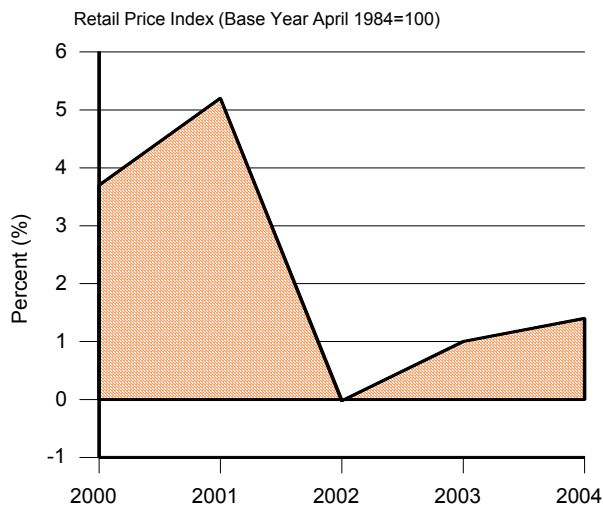
Liability insurance business recovered from the loss of 38 percent in 2002 to record an underwriting profit of 52.9 percent. This was due largely to appreciable growth in earned premium and major reductions in claims during the period.

CHAPTER THREE

PRICES

Higher international oil prices and buoyant aggregate demand can work together to create inflationary pressures. However, continued prudent fiscal policy by Government in the review period has contained inflation to moderate levels.

During 2004, the economy continued to experience a relatively low rate of inflation. The inflation rate, as measured by the percentage change in the twelve-month average of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) ending December, moved to 1.4 percent from 1 percent a year earlier.



The *Food* sub-index, the most heavily weighted expenditure item in the CPI, increased by 0.8 percent compared to 2.1 percent in the same period a year ago, and contributed the most to the level of inflation in 2004. The highest CPI movements were recorded in the latter half of the year and were led, in large part, by the price increases for milk and dairy products, tubers, vegetables and fish. During the last six months in the year, there was a recorded increase in the price of fish due to the rise in imports to accommodate for the shortfall in domestic fish landings in the latter half of the year.

The second highest contributor to the overall inflation rate was *Beverages & Tobacco*, which recorded a marginal increase of 0.1 percent in its sub-index, after an increase of 1.4 percent in 2003. This outcome is explained by the rise in the excise and consumption taxes levied on alcoholic beverages in June 2004. The sub-index for *Clothing and Footwear* also grew by 5 percent in the twelve months to December, compared to the same period in 2003, resulting in the third highest contributor to the level of inflation.

Other notable increases were registered in the sub-indices for *Fuel and Light* (3.5 percent), *Furniture and Household Equipment* (4.2 percent) and *Medical Care* (5.3 percent). The rise in consumer prices for fuel and light is owed primarily to rising international oil prices, which impacted on the cost of electricity.

The fuel surcharge cost adjustment¹ applied to electricity bills in November 2004 was the highest ever at the time and amounted to EC\$0.31 per unit of electricity, up from EC\$0.25 in the previous month. On the other hand, with the comparative increase in the sub-index for medical care in 2004, medical products fluctuated marginally over the year but the cost of medical services remained stable.

The only reduction was recorded in the sub-index for *Transport and Communications*, which dropped by 1.6 percent compared to the 0.7 percent increase in 2003. Fluctuating prices in airfares, which offset the increase in petrol prices at the pump in June, contributed mainly to this outcome.

The sub-index for *Housing* remained flat for the second consecutive year, reflecting stable prices recorded primarily for rent and repairs, and water charges. There were less significant price movements in the other expenditure categories, such as *Recreation* (1 percent) and *Miscellaneous* (2 percent).

¹The cost of fuel at the current price less the cost of fuel at the base price as at January 1st 1973 divided by total number of units sold.

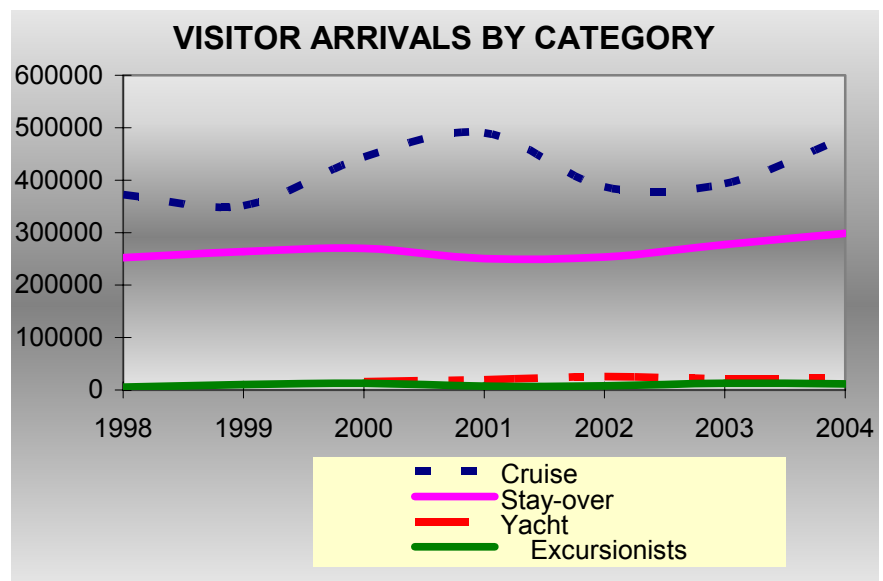
CHAPTER FOUR

THE REAL SECTOR

TOURISM

The tourism sector enjoyed its second consecutive year of robust growth although more modest than the initial years of recovery from the slump that followed the events of 9/11. This performance mirrors the resurgence of travel worldwide amidst concern about the adverse impact of high oil prices on the airline and travel industries as well as mounting competition from nearby destinations. It should be noted that the full fledged recovery in the Caribbean after 9/11 began earlier than most parts of the world. In the review period, real value added expanded by an estimated 5.9 percent, as measured by the hotels and restaurants sub-sectors. As the main engine of economic growth, tourism directly contributed 13.6 percent of GDP.

After recovering by 4.5 percent in 2003, total visitor arrivals grew by 15.5 percent in the review period to 813,681. While this reflects growth in most types of visitations, it was bolstered by the double digit increase in cruise arrivals, the largest category which accounted for almost sixty percent of all arrivals. In keeping with the



repositioning of cruise capacity towards the region, cruise arrivals posted an appreciable increase of 22.4 percent to 481,279. There was also an increase in the number of cruise calls from 262 to 328 as St. Lucia maintained its position as one of the major cruise winter destination in the Caribbean. The stay-over

segment of the industry registered a modest increase to 298,431 from 276,948 in 2003. Yacht arrivals rebounded by 6.2 percent to 22,530 while the number of excursionists fell to 11,441.

Some factors which have benefited the stay-over segment of the tourism sector in recent years have again emerged as influences in the 2004 performance. These include the strengthening of major European currencies against the US dollar which has made St. Lucia and the Eastern Caribbean more competitive relative to alternative destinations primarily for European travellers. Furthermore, the Caribbean has maintained an enviable perception as being a relatively safe haven away from terrorism and other turmoil. The tourism sector also profited from the upswing in the global economy which registered its highest growth since 1976.

Along with the increase in arrivals, the continuation of upward adjustments in prices or hotel rates since 9/11 and favourable exchange rate movements yielded an estimated 17.1 percent rise in tourism earnings¹ to \$879.3 million. These tourism receipts account for 71 percent of total exports of goods and services and highlights the economy's dependence on tourism as our major export.

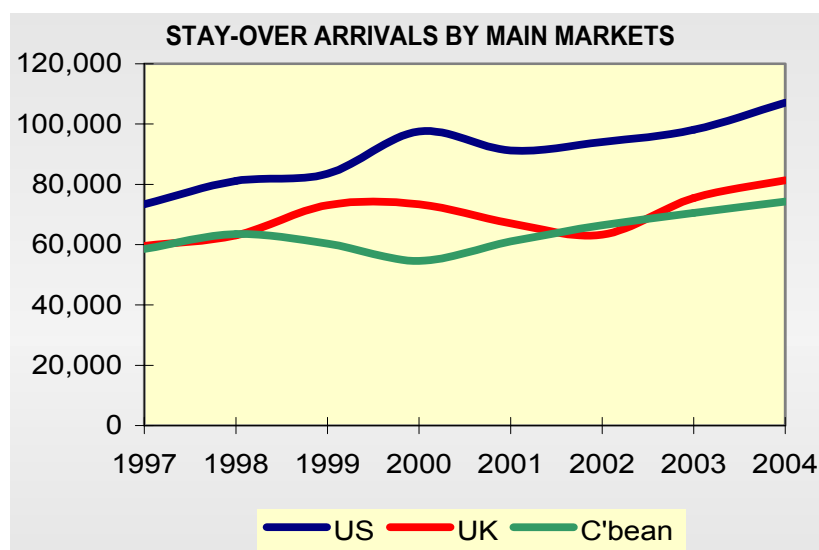
Stay-over Arrivals

Stay-over arrivals increased by 7.8 percent over last year and surpassed the outcome in 2000 by 10.6 percent. The rate of growth in tourist arrivals accelerated as the year proceeded. During the peak winter season², arrivals grew by 4.3 percent and increased to 9.7 percent in the rest of the year. There was broad-based growth in all generating markets with the exception of Germany. This was in large measure attributed to the boost in airlift in all of the main source markets.

¹ This represents the amount of money spent by cruise and stay-over arrivals for their visit (s) to St. Lucia and not the actual inflows into St. Lucia.

² January to April

There was considerable growth of 9.2 percent in arrivals from the United States which commanded 35.9 percent of all stay-overs. The performance of this leading market was stimulated by the expansion in airlift and the promotional campaign, *Great Deals in Paradise*. This was coupled with the improved buoyancy of the US economy and travel confidence in the region. During the review period, St. Lucia benefited from the introduction of a new direct service from Delta Airlines in April and the resumption of American Airlines with direct daily services in November. The US market produced spectacular results in the months May to August (16 percent increase) abetted by marketing efforts. The weddings and honeymoon business also recorded a robust performance in 2004.



Long haul travel maintained its upward trend in 2004 following remarkable growth last year. European arrivals were up by 8.5 percent to 97,862 and were largely driven by the performance of the UK market, St. Lucia's second largest. Despite a dip in the summer months of 7.5 percent, UK arrivals posted modest growth of 7.9 percent by year end on account of strong

increases in the winter months of February and March. This was supported by additional airlift in both scheduled and chartered services alongside the appreciation of the Pound Sterling against the US dollar. The German market continued to slide due to lack of marketing visibility and airlift coupled with a contraction in outbound travel fuelled by stable disposable incomes in Germany. However, French arrivals were higher in the review year by 27.7 percent.

The Canadian market, with a market share of 5 percent on average, has been characterized by seasonality given its peak arrivals in the winter months. This market appears to be on an expansion path and

returning to 1998 levels following mixed performances. Arrivals rose for the third consecutive year at an accelerated pace of 13.5 percent to 15,315. This broadly reflects the 16 percent surge in Canadian visitors to the Caribbean, most of whom were destined to Cuba and the Dominican Republic. Improved economic conditions in Canada, the stronger Canadian dollar and the ease of air travel brought on by the code share alliance between Air Jamaica and Air Canada, were contributing factors.

Intra-regional demand was buoyed by international events such as sports (cricket) and the Jazz Festival, and a vibrant summer market. Regional traffic into St. Lucia expanded by 5.2 percent to 74,242 and was largely determined by the phenomenal increase in the number of visitors from the French West Indies. These visitors mainly from neighbouring Martinique were attracted to St. Lucia by the availability of cheaper shopping largely made possible by the appreciating euro. These traffic flows have also been facilitated by an increase in ferry movements between the two islands.

Occupancy

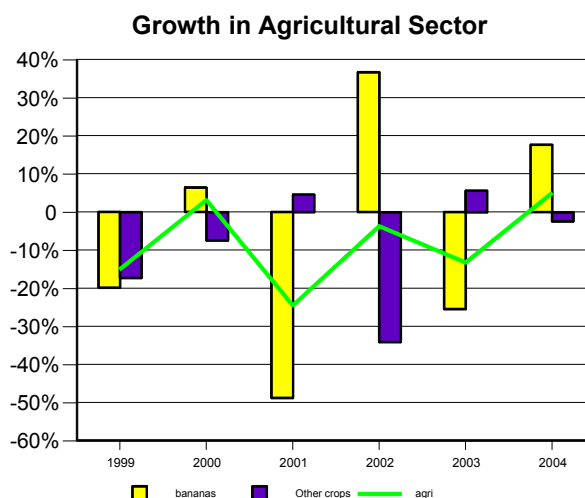
In tandem with the growth in stay-over arrivals and a dip in non-paid bed nights, the overall average occupancy rate improved by 2.1 percentage points to 64.8 percent. Occupancy levels continued to be the highest amongst all-inclusive properties at 73.2³ percent while semi-inclusive hotels reported a gain in occupancy from 61.8 percent to 69.9 percent. Similarly, European plan and small properties registered increases in the rates to 56.5 and 64.8 percent respectively.

³This is based on a new classification of hotels.

AGRICULTURE

Following three consecutive years of negative performance, the agriculture sector experienced a reversal in the year 2004. Preliminary data indicate that value-added by the sector to the St. Lucia economy expanded by 5.1 percent.

This was the result of a 17.7 percent expansion in value-added by the banana sub-sector, which accounted for 47 percent of total value added in the agriculture sector. The cultivation of non-traditional crops, which contributed 25 percent to value added, experienced a decline of 2.4 percent, fisheries grew marginally by 0.3 percent, but the livestock sub-sector contracted by 14.2 percent.



Although contributing 5 percent to GDP, the agricultural sector accounted for 15 percent of employment in the economy. Data indicate that employment in the sector, largely on account of the resurgence in the banana industry, grew by 12 percent to an average of 9,240 persons in 2004¹.

Access to credit by the agricultural sector for investment and working capital continues to be a major issue, with financing to the sector accounting for 2 percent of commercial bank credit. During 2004 the credit crunch continued as there was a 3.1 percent contraction in credit issued by commercial banks to \$33.4 million.

Bananas

Total exports of bananas by the Windward Islands increased by 15.9 percent to 78,015 tonnes in 2004. St. Lucia's share of that production rose 3 percentage points to 54 percent and was recorded at 42,326

¹Taken from the labour force survey 2004 and refers to employment in agriculture, hunting, forestry and fisheries.

tonnes. This represented an increase of 24.6 percent signalling a recovery from a significant fall in the previous year. The absence of a marked dry season and with above average² rainfall as well as recovery from the impact of tropical storm Lily were contributing factors. However, exports by the industry have not recovered to pre-2001 levels when, as a consequence of drought and yellow sigatoka infestation, there was a sharp decline in production.

In 2004 heavy infestations of leaf spot continued, aided by the high rainfall and a poor spraying mechanism. The infestation was particularly acute in the last quarter and led to an early ripening rate of more than 20 percent. Moreover, the industry sustained an overall damage rate of 23.3 percent due to the passage of Hurricane Ivan in September. The rate of damage per farm ranged from 0.3 to 80 percent causing the loss of an estimated 1,400 acres of bananas. Although there was a recovery in the level of exports, these events hampered the ability of the Windward Islands to adequately supply their target market, (UK supermarkets), during the year.

Table 7 Banana Exports (tonnes)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2004
Dominica	27,157	17,575	16,983	10,379	3,189	3,486	2,999	3,047	12,721
St. Vincent	42,339	30,497	33,243	22,558	7,627	6,065	4,892	4,047	22,631
Grenada	722	566	507	393	127	149	62	0	338
St. Lucia	70,282	34,044	48,160	33,971	13,385	9,981	9,869	9,091	42,326
Growth %	8	(52)	41	(29)	44	8	50	2	25
Windwards	140,499	82,843	98,893	67,302	24,328	19,681	17,822	16,185	78,015
Growth (%)		(41)	19	(32)	38	18	25	(12)	16

Nonetheless, there continues to be significant investments in the areas of irrigation, drainage and tissue culture. The Banana Emergency Recovery Unit (BERU), the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and

²Rainfall totalled 3,814.5 mm, 13 percent above the 25 year average.

Forestry (MAFF) and the Banana Industry Trust undertook drainage and irrigation (both on and off farm) works in the Roseau and Cul de Sac Valleys.

The BERU established a further 310 acres of tissue culture plants³ bringing the total acreage to 480. There were 77 farmers who planted fields with tissue culture plantlets during 2003 and it is estimated that during 2004, the plant crop and in some cases the first ratoon, accounted for an estimated 10 percent of total exports.

From an earnings perspective, the industry continued to benefit from an appreciation of the Pound Sterling which moved from an average against the US dollar of \$1.63 in 2003 to \$1.83 in 2004. This contributed to a 16.4 percent increase in revenue earned by the Windward Islands, of which, St. Lucia's revenue was \$54.3 million, an increase of 24.7 percent. These gains were made despite a high level of price volatility in the market. GWT⁴ prices ranged from £0.71 per LCE⁵ in week 8 to £6.68 per LCE in week 26, with an average price of £4.04. While the level of price volatility on aggregate green sales was less, ranging from £5.79 in week 1 to £10.26/LCE in week 49 with an average price of £9.08, it is estimated that had quality and consistency been higher, and all GWT sales sold as greens to the supermarkets, the Windward Islands would have generated an additional £2.8 million in revenue.

Other Developments

WIBDECO established a floor of 250 tonnes per week as the minimum level for which it would trade with a company given the required levels of efficiency. This resulted in consolidation in the industry, and two firms exited.

³Primarily of species valery but including jaffa, gal and williams.

⁴ General Wholesale market trade

⁵Loose Carton Equivalent (18 kg cartons)

There were also some strides made towards establishing a functioning and sustainable leaf spot control mechanism with the formation of Pest Services Management Limited (PSML) with the three remaining banana companies, SLBC, TQFC and CFO as majority owners. This followed the insolvency of the previous company. To prevent this from reoccurring, the banana companies have agreed to purchase the inputs necessary for leaf spot control from WIBDECO on behalf of PSML with the spraying service provided being paid for by a deduction of 3¢ per pound from banana sales.

On the international front, efforts to ensure the longevity of the industry in light of the post regime change environment continued with the staging of an international banana conference in St. Vincent and the Grenadines in June 2004. Emerging from this conference were recommendations to improve the efficiency of the industry's cost, production and marketing structures, as well as intensification of lobbying efforts and alliances with producers who share similar desires for a continuation of the current regime.

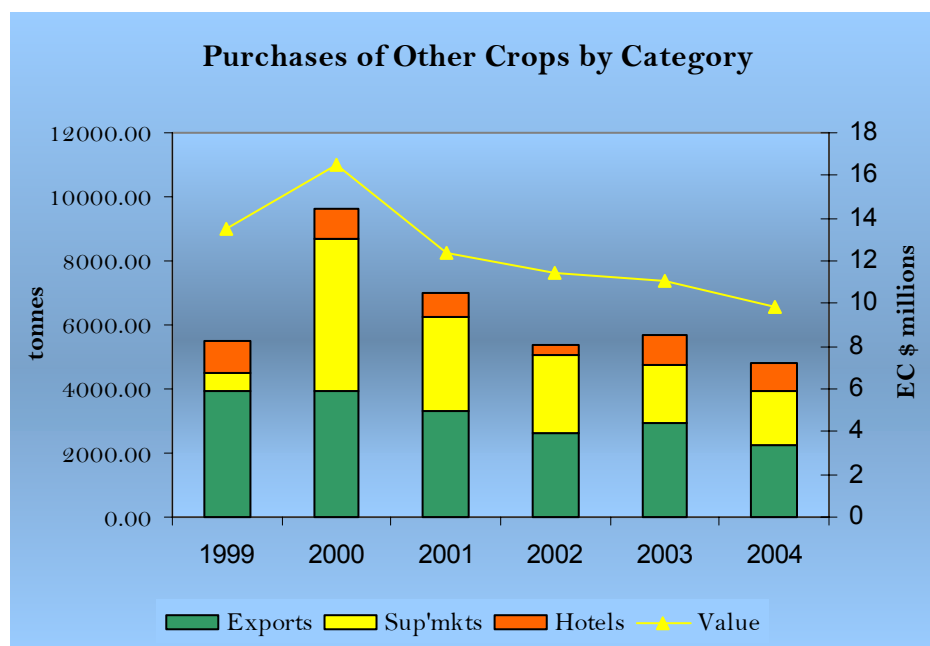
This was of particular importance given the European Union proposal for a tariff regime announced in November. The current system consists of two quotas,⁶ one for ACP countries and a general quota open to all countries. ACP bananas enter duty-free under both quotas but third country imports face a tariff of 75 euros per tonne. The present regime also requires that an EU supplier must fit into one of the quota regimes both in terms of origin and possession of a licence to import. Under the proposed regime, the level of both quotas would remain; however, allocation of shares of the general quota to exporters would be made only to *major* players with other suppliers having access to the remaining share. In the case of the quota reserved for ACP only, the quota would not be distributed among the countries but the tariff preference for non-traditional suppliers would be increased to 200 euros per tonne. Nonetheless, the most important change is the revocation of the import licence categories. This is particularly important since the licences currently constrain what can be imported particularly from large banana producing non-traditional ACP countries. The overall effect of both changes is a proposed tariff level of 230 euros

⁶Quota 1: 0.75 million tonnes open only to ACP countries, quota 2: 2.653 million tonnes

which is likely to decline as negotiations commence and is lower than a regime of 275 euros proposed/desired by the Windward Islands.

Non-Traditional Crops

Preliminary data indicate that production of non-traditional crops, as measured by purchases for domestic consumption and exports fell by 15.2 percent to 4,834.8 tonnes which were valued at \$9.8 million. Of the total production, 47 percent was exported while the local retail sector absorbed 34 percent and the hotel sector 19 percent. The share of production absorbed by the domestic market grew at the expense of what is absorbed by the export sector. This reflects increased domestic demand and higher domestic prices caused by decreased supply as above average rainfall inhibited production. Moreover, there is greater volatility in the production base of non traditional crops. This is a result of the movement of a number of farmers out of the industry as employment opportunities arise in other sectors.



Total exports fell 22.1 percent to 2,274.7 tonnes during 2004, reflecting the above average rainfall which restricted supply, in conjunction with high domestic demand. In addition, there was a decline in the exports of green bananas, which accounted for 57 percent of exports in 2003, from 2,247 tonnes to 378

tonnes. This was caused by high demand for export of this crop to the UK supermarkets. The largest markets for non-traditional exports continued to be the United Kingdom, Barbados and the United States with 46, 36 and 10 percent respectively of exports targeted to these countries.

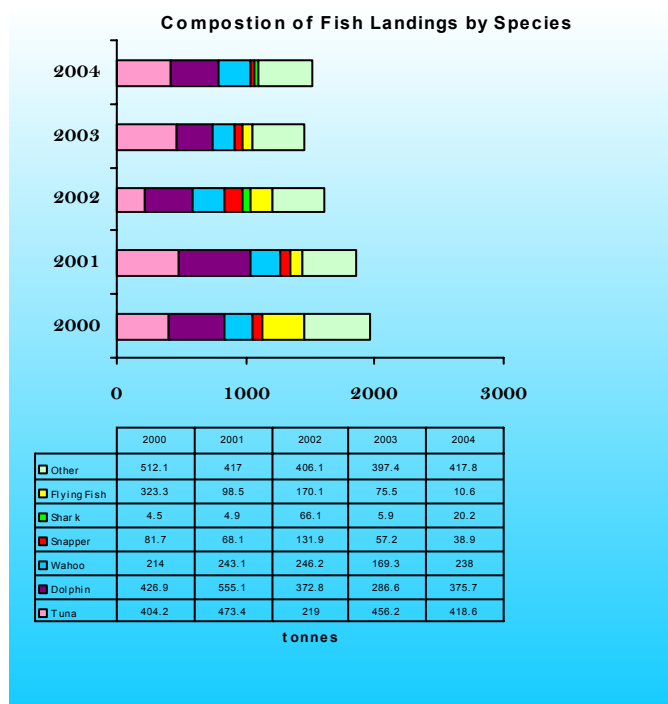
Purchases by supermarkets fell by 11 percent to 1,644.3 tonnes marking the third consecutive year of contraction within this sub-sector. In addition to a decline in supply due to the weather, the industry also continues to be affected by the consolidation of the two major retailers.

The decline in quantity purchased by supermarkets was offset by a 6.3 percent increase in the average price of purchases leading to a drop of 5.5 percent in revenue to \$3.7 million. The price increase was caused primarily by 18.5 percent increase in the average price per pound of vegetables and a 18 percent increase in the price of condiments.

Despite growth in stay-over arrivals, hotel purchases declined by 2.3 percent to 915.7 tonnes valued at \$3.2 million. There continues to be a need to strengthen the linkages between the agricultural and the hotel sectors. However, there are issues of availability, consistency and quality of crops supplied. Moreover, farmers who currently have working capital constraints have had some difficulties adjusting to the payment systems under which hotels operate.

Fisheries

In 2004, after two consecutive years of contraction, fish landings increased by 5 percent to 1,519.8 tonnes, generating revenue of \$16.4 million. However, two thirds of all landings occurred in the first half of the year which resulted in decreased supply of local fish particularly in the third quarter of the year. These were due to changes in water temperature which affected the migratory pattern of certain species of fish and is reflective of the fact that most fishing in St. Lucia's waters is done on surface species. While most sites have updated/modern landing facilities, with the exception of Anse la Raye and Canaries, the lack of mid-water fishing technologies such as the use of long liners, inhibit consistent and sustainable growth in the sector.



An analysis of the landings by species indicates that there was a further decline in the landings of flying fish of more than 80 percent, but there was some recovery in the landings of dolphin (31.1 percent) and wahoo (40.6 percent).

Data indicate that Vieux Fort and Dennery continue to be the leading fish landing sites with 28 percent and 21 percent of total landings respectively. Landings at all sites grew with the exception of Soufriere, Gros-Islet and Choiseul which declined by 9.7, 23.9 and 7.1 percent respectively.

Livestock Sector

The paucity of data on this sector continues to limit analysis of the level of activity. However, the high cost of feed, approximately three quarters of total cost, continues to be a major factor affecting growth in the industry. Moreover, the continued absence of a clearinghouse/abattoir facility inhibits the

development of the sector by preventing the systematic enforcement of standards and therefore hinders the development of linkages with the tourism industry to serve niche markets such as fresh, chilled meat versus frozen meat.

Nonetheless, available data for 2004 indicate that egg production was recorded at 889, 000 dozen, a recovery of 21.2 percent after a decline in 2003. This level of production rendered the island self sufficient in eggs after a brief period of importation in 2003.

Available data on broiler production⁷ indicate that 644.6 tonnes of chicken were produced during 2004, a decline of 28.7 percent. This reduction had the most significant influence on the decline in value added in the sub-sector since poultry production is the largest livestock activity. It reflects in large part, constraints that caused some processors to cease operations in 2004 because they were unable to access lines of credit that businesses in other industries use to finance working capital needs.

While pork production fell by 4.2 percent to 92.4 tonnes, it is contended that pork production is highly underestimated and it is believed that production increased in 2004 but was absorbed outside of the retail sector.

The MAFF, through the Beausejour Livestock station, continued efforts to improve the genetic stock of animals to enhance livestock productivity. This was achieved by breeding pigs and small ruminants for sale, the use of various sire loan or exchange schemes, as well as, the continuation of the artificial insemination program for cattle.

⁷Data from the application to import licences for which 20 percent of demand by importers for chicken and 40 percent for pork must be satisfied from the local market.

MANUFACTURING

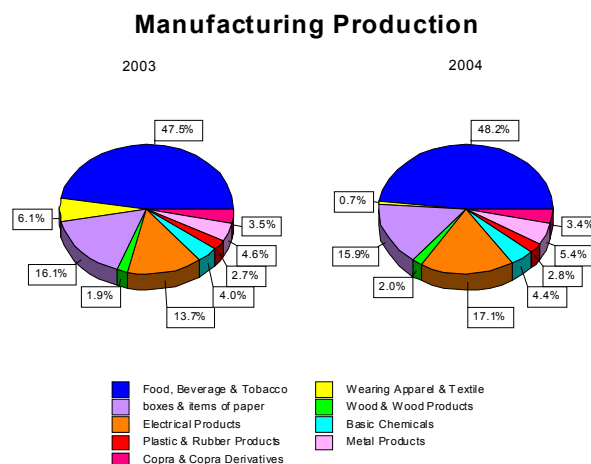
The manufacturing sector experienced its third consecutive year of expansion during 2004, producing goods valued at \$146.3 million, a growth of 6 percent over 2003. This was spurred by increased domestic demand, as growth in the local economy continued apace during 2004.

The sector continued to be assisted by fiscal incentives granted by the Government, which in 2004 were valued at \$24.7 million, an increase of 6.9 percent over 2003. However, growth in the sector continues to be constrained by both internal and external factors such as diseconomies of scale, the cost of energy, which increased in 2004, and the cost of shipping to external markets.

Nonetheless, labour force data¹ indicate that the sector accounted for 7 percent of total employment in 2004, with the number of employees growing by 1.3 percent over 2003. Credit to the sector issued by commercial banks doubled to \$103.2 million during the review period but remains a relatively small share at 6 percent of total lending.

Production²

Manufacturing of food and beverage items continued to be the dominant sub-sector accounting for 48.2 percent of total production. This was followed by the production of electronic items with a share of 17.1 percent and the production of boxes and other items of paper a further 15.9 percent. Together these items accounted for approximately 80 percent of all manufacturing production and grew by 11.9 percent.



¹Data from quarterly labour force survey

²Production refers to the value of items produced

These gains were offset by declines in production from the textile industry as the sole producer in that sector ceased operations in 2004.

Food & Beverage

Production of food and beverages continued to expand for the fourth consecutive year despite a 9.3 percent fall in the production of food products caused by a decline in local milk production. Substantial growth emanated from the non-alcoholic beverage sub-sector, specifically the production of carbonated drinks, with production growing by 20 percent, while the production of alcoholic beverages increased by 8.3 percent. The growth in this sub-sector was as a result of an increase in local demand arising in part from increased activity in the tourism sector.

Containers of Paper and Paperboard

Production of items of paper and paperboard increased by 6.5 percent to \$21.4 million during the review period. There was a 4.7 percent increase in the production of banana boxes reflecting the increase in banana exports. Banana boxes normally accounts for one quarter of production of containers of paper and paperboard. The production of boxes for commercial use increased by 7.4 percent mirroring activity within the retail and wholesale trade sector which experienced real growth of 7.8 percent in 2004.

Table 8: Manufacturing Production (EC\$ million)

<u>Commodity</u>	<u>2003^r</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>Change</u>
Food and Beverages	64.3	69.1	7.5%
<i>of which: Food Products</i>	10.7	9.7	(9.3%)
<i>Non-Alcoholic Beverages</i>	11.5	13.8	20.0%
<i>Alcoholic Beverages</i>	42.1	45.6	8.3%
Electronics	18.5	24.5	32.6%
Containers of Paper & Paperboard	20.0	21.4	6.5%
<i>of which: Banana Boxes</i>	6.4	6.7	6.7%
Sub Total	102.8	115.0	11.9%
<i>Share of Sectoral Production</i>	74%	79%	
Total Production	138.1	146.3	5.95%

Production of Electrical Items

The production of electrical items increased by 32.6 percent to \$24.5 million during 2004. This performance was not uniform throughout the industry as the economic recovery in the US, the major market to which the output is exported, had not translated into increased orders. Nonetheless, there was some increase in demand for some components which resulted in increased production.

Manufacture of other items

There were significant increases in the production of other items including a 30 percent increase in rubber products, (0.5 percent of total production), a 25 percent increase in the production of metal products, (5.3 percent of total production), a 9.3 percent increase in the production of printed materials, (2.1 percent of total production) and a 9.3 percent increase in the production of plastic materials which accounts for 2.3 percent of total production. The manufacture of furniture, which is protected by import restrictions, grew by 8 percent to \$2.7 million indicating a recovery to 2002 production levels.

Table 9: Manufacturing Exports (EC\$ millions)

Manufacturing Exports

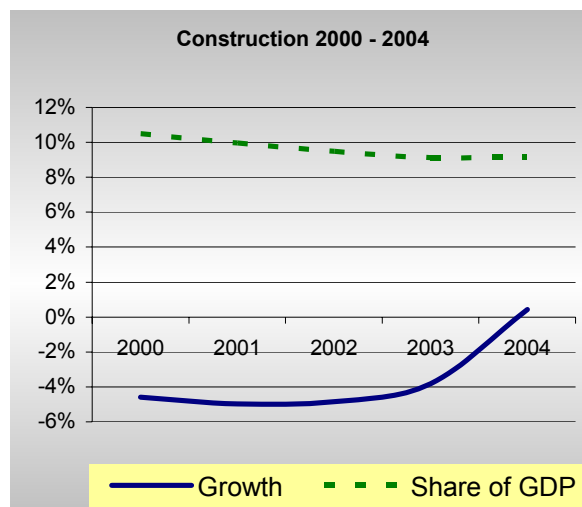
Exports by St. Lucia's manufacturing sector mirrors production and are predominantly beverage exports (50 percent of all manufacturing exports), exports of boxes (16 percent) and export of electrical items (10 percent). Preliminary data indicate that exports by the manufacturing sector are estimated to have increased by 2.6 percent to \$63.3 million during 2004. This growth was led by an 11.4 percent rise in the exports of beer. The notable rise in beer exports offset a 1 percent decline in the exports of non-alcoholic beverages, leading to a 7.1 percent increase in exports of beverages to \$31.3 million.

	2003	2004	Growth
Food	1.6	1.5	-7.7%
Beverages	29.2	31.3	7.1%
Alcohol	26.5	28.6	7.9%
Beer	23.3	26.0	11.4%
Non Alcoholic	2.9	2.8	-1.0%
Boxes	9.1	10.0	9.8%
Electrical Products	6.8	6.5	-4.4%
Sub-Total	46.9	49.4	5.4%
Other items	4.0	3.8	-6.6%
Total Exports	61.7	63.3	2.6%

CONSTRUCTION

After four consecutive years of contraction, the construction sector showed a slight improvement in its performance, growing by 0.4 percent in 2004, following a near 4 percent decline a year earlier.

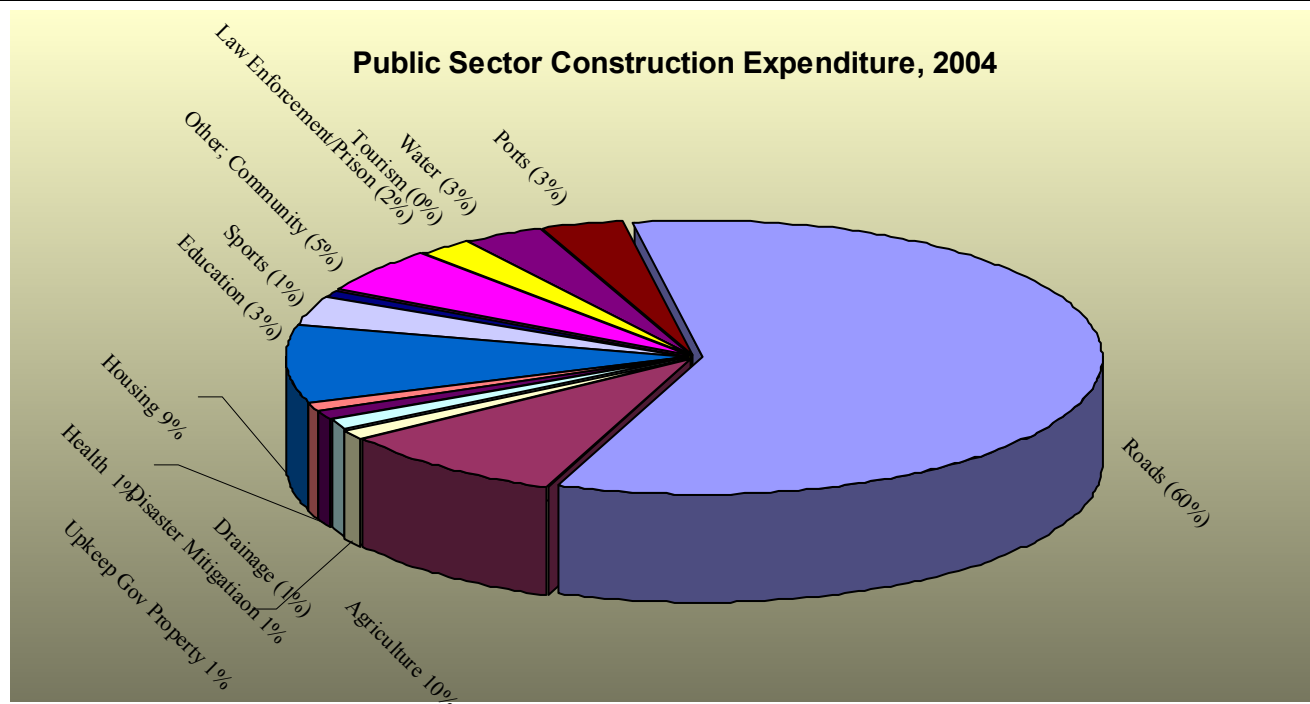
Correspondingly, the sector's share of GDP increased marginally to 9.2 percent, bucking the four-year downward trend. This outturn reflects predominantly the notable increase in private sector expenditure on housing and construction.



Significant investment was undertaken in new and existing tourism infrastructure, while lower interest rates heightened activity in the housing market. In contrast, there was a fall in the overall level of public sector construction activity, notwithstanding increased activity in agriculture, drainage, housing, and education.

Public Sector

Expenditure on construction activities by the public sector decreased by just under 10 percent to an estimated \$62.2 million in 2004. The central government's share of total construction expenditure fell by 8.5 percent to \$54.5 million, as did expenditure by statutory bodies which decreased from \$9.5 million to \$7.7 million. This outcome is consistent with the near completion of many major projects during the review period.



It is useful for purposes of analysis to divide public sector construction activity into economic and social infrastructure. Economic infrastructure refers to the basic physical facilities that foster or enable growth, while social infrastructure involves physical structures that are necessary to develop and maintain the human resource base of the country in conjunction with various social programmes. Accordingly, expenditure on economic infrastructure in 2004 fell by 2 percent to \$46.3 million in contrast to the 12.7 percent increase a year earlier. Of the total spending on economic infrastructure, representing about 74 percent of total public spending, \$44.3 million was undertaken by the central government.

The major areas of public sector economic expenditure in construction were on roads and agriculture. Spending on the road network, which involves primarily the Road Development Programme (RDP), continues to account for the bulk of public sector expenditure and amounted to over \$36 million in 2004. Although expenditure on road infrastructure fell by nearly 16 percent, it represented about 60 percent of total public capital expenditure. Much of the expenditure on the road network was for the *South-West Coast Highway* which was completed in 2004. Spending on construction for agriculture relates primarily to activities undertaken by the Banana Commercialisation Project. These activities included mainly drainage and irrigation works and the construction of a reservoir and service building in the Cul-de-sac/Roseau area. In total this amounted to an estimated \$5.9 million.

The main areas of investment in economic infrastructure by statutory bodies continued to be in water and port facilities. The Water and Sewerage Company (WASCO), the sole provider of water and sewerage facilities on the island, continued with its aim to boost the sustainable delivery of water and sanitation infrastructure in the country. In 2004 WASCO's expenditure on stabilising the water supply stood at approximately \$1.6 million, down from \$1.8 million a year earlier. In 2004 the Saint Lucia Air and Seaports Authority (SLASPA) continued to manage air and seaport facilities on the island. Construction undertaken by SLASPA fell from \$2.9 million in 2003 to \$2 million. The major construction activities for the review period were the ongoing works on the ferry terminal and the animation centre at Port Castries. In addition, the construction of the VIP/CIP Lounge at the Hewanorra Airport was among some of the other construction expenditure undertaken by SLASPA.

In terms of social infrastructure, which included mainly housing and education, expenditure by the public sector increased to about \$14.2 million, after decreasing to \$12.3 million a year ago. Of this total, \$10.2 million or 71 percent was expended by the central government. Public expenditure on education amounted to nearly \$2.1 million compared to \$1.5 million in 2003. Spending involved primarily the rehabilitation of school plants including the Ciceron and Vieux-Fort Secondary Schools and the Dame Pearlette Louisy Primary School. The upturn in spending on social infrastructure was led largely by housing which amounted to \$5.8 million, up by nearly 25 percent over 2003. Construction works (mainly roads and drains) undertaken by the National Housing Corporation at Beausejour, Black Bay and Choc Estate increased by 17 percent to \$2.8 million, while the central government's Shelter Development Programme, which was instituted for low to middle income housing, invested almost \$3 million in the construction of homes.

In the private sector, construction featured prominently in tourism related activities as approximately \$160 million was invested in hotel construction and refurbishment in 2004. Saint Lucia Electricity Services (LUCELEC) also undertook construction works valued at \$42.6 million which included rural electrification, substation improvements and civil works.

Indicators of Construction Activity

Imports of Construction materials

The value of imports of construction materials, which serves as a proxy for measuring the level of construction activity in the economy, rose by almost 15 percent to \$75.9 million, following a 1.9 percent increase in 2003. The total value of imports of cement, prefabricated buildings and other materials increased by 27 percent to \$58.9 million while the overall import costs of sand and wood decreased by 11 percent to \$17 million. The increase in the value of cement imports can be attributed partly to the rise in the cost of cement, which influenced the hike in the price of cement on the domestic market from \$13.80 to \$14.40 during the review period.

Table 10: Imports of Building Materials (EC\$ millions)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Cement	9.7	10.7	10.3	11.9	13.4
Sand	2.7	3.0	2.6	3.3	2.4
Wood	15.7	11.9	12.2	15.8	14.6
Prefab	2.5	1.8	1.3	2.0	2.2
Other	28.9	24.7	35.4	32.5	43.3
TOTAL	59.5	52.1	61.8	65.5	75.9

Housing and Building Applications

The number of housing and building applications processed by the Development Control Authority (DCA) is another useful indicator of construction activity. However, it should be noted that approvals indicate the intent to engage in construction activity, since there are lags between the receipt and approval of applications and the commencement of projects. In 2004, the number of applications submitted to the DCA inched up to 740, with the number of applications approved declining by 0.8 percent to 641. Approvals for residential applications fell by 0.7 percent to 600 while approvals for commercial applications increased by 9 to 31.

Table 11: Building Applications Received & Approved by the Development Control Authority

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Residential Applications Submitted	511	466	482	666	660
Residential Applications Approved	455	399	433	604	600
Commercial Applications Submitted	51	68	74	34	58
Commercial Applications Approved	48	51	68	22	31
Other Applications Submitted	120	22	29	35	22
Other Applications Approved	76	22	18	20	10
Total Applications Submitted	682	556	585	7235	740
Total Applications Approved	475	560	446	646	641

Financial Resources

The value of loan disbursements from financial institutions to the residential and commercial sectors can be used as an indicator of the level of construction activity in the private sector. In 2004, there was a marked increase in loans disbursed to the private sector for construction activity. The value of financing more than doubled to \$180.4 million with the residential sector accounting for 60.4 percent of the total. Unlike the previous year when there was a sharp contraction in credit, increased liquidity and relatively attractive interest rates have stimulated the housing market.

Over the period 2000-2004, residential construction was at its highest in 2004 and amounted to \$108.9 million. Similarly, loans to the commercial sector leaped from about \$7 million in 2003 to \$71.5 million in 2004.

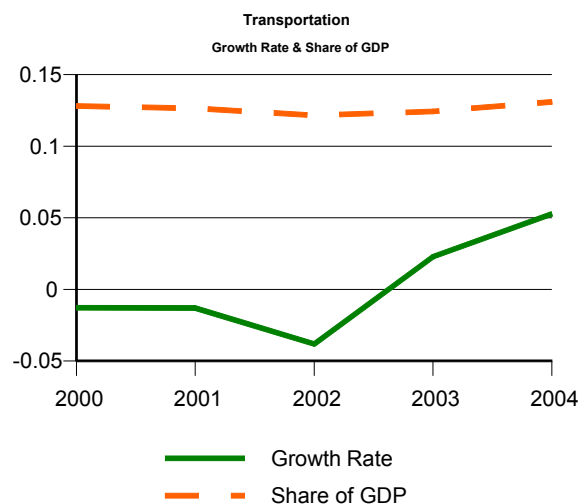
Table 12: Funds Disbursed to the Construction Sector

Funds Disbursed by Financial Sectors (Millions)					
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Residential	\$73.4	\$57.2	\$47.0	\$46.8	\$108.9
Commercial	\$23.3	\$34.5	\$54.4	\$6.9	\$71.5
Total	\$100.7	\$91.7	\$101.4	\$53.7	\$180.4
Funds Disbursed by Commercial Banks (Millions)					
Residential	\$56.1	\$43.9	\$31.2	\$39.2	\$100.0
Commercial	\$23.3	\$33.2	\$53.3	\$6.7	\$70.8
Total	\$79.4	\$77.1	\$94.5	\$45.9	\$170.8
Funds Disbursed by Non-Bank Financial Institutions (Millions)					
Residential	\$21.3	\$13.3	\$15.8	\$7.6	\$8.9
Commercial	--	\$1.3	\$1.1	\$0.2	\$0.65
Total	\$21.3	\$14.6	\$16.9	\$7.8	\$9.6

TRANSPORTATION

In keeping with increased activity in tourism in 2004, the transport sector recorded accelerated GDP growth of 5.3 percent and contributed to 13 of total value-added.

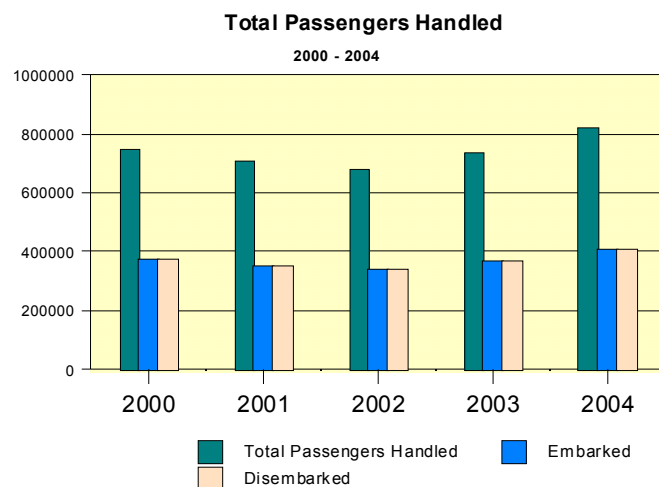
Although road transport recorded growth of 1 percent, it contributed more than two-thirds of the value-added in the transport sector.



Air Transport

Air transport plays a significant role in the movement of stay-over tourists into St. Lucia. Buoyed by the 7.8 percent increase in stay-over arrivals this sector's contribution to GDP increased to 2.2 percent as its value added increased to 24.8 percent, almost three times the value recorded for 2003.

The total number of aircraft movements (arrivals and departures) at St. Lucia's two airports grew by 6.5 percent to 44,527, primarily as a result of increased activity at Hewanorra. However, GFL Charles continued to be the more extensively used of the two airports and accounted for in excess of 77 percent of total movements.



The total number of passengers handled (embarked plus disembarked) increased by 10.9 percent to 818,565, as the number of passenger movements increased by 10.7 percent to 409,824 and 11.1 percent to 408,741 respectively. This was reflective of the number of aircraft movements. GFL Charles handled 56.7 percent of all passengers, while it accommodates aircrafts that carry fewer passengers on average. The faster growth in the total passengers

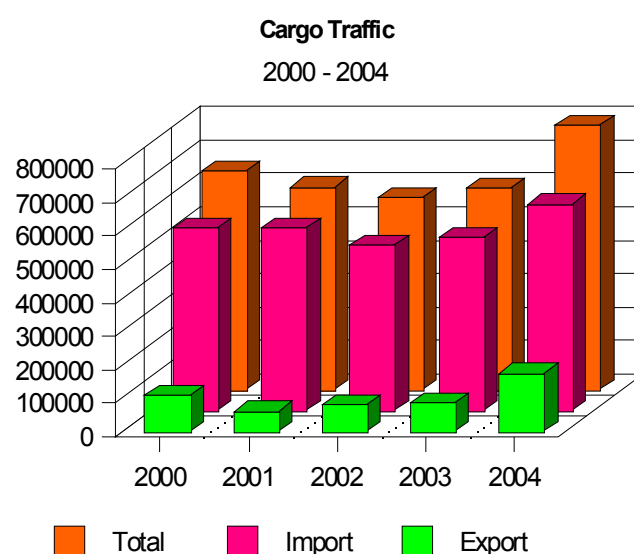
handled than the growth in aircraft movements suggests that there was a 4 percent increase in load factors to 18.4.

Aircraft movements by type of activity for both scheduled and non-scheduled service landings (international and domestic airlines) at the two airports increased by 5.6 percent and 9.1 percent to 24,232 and 18,003 respectively. Other service landings (including general aviation and private aircrafts) recorded a decline of 1.4 percent to 2,320 for 2004.

Sea Transport

In keeping with increased activity in wholesale and retail trade this sub-sector contributed 2.2 percent of GDP and grew by 5.8 percent.

The performance of cargo traffic at ports Castries and Vieux-Fort expanded during the review period, increasing by 31.3 percent to 790,136, continuing its steady growth from 2002. Total volumes exported increased by 104 percent to 172,372. Total volumes imported increased by 19.5 percent to 617,764. Port Castries imported a higher volume than Vieux-Fort, although port Vieux-Fort exported a higher volume than port Castries.



During 2004 cargo traffic by type recorded increases in break bulk and containers for both landed and loaded cargo while dry/liquid bulk recorded contrasting movements in landed and loaded cargo. The total volume of break bulk cargo landed (which includes cement, waste paper, paper rolls, animal feed, aggregate, lumber, bananas, brewery products and other general cargo) increased by 111.9 percent to 295,

326 tons and total volume loaded increased by 127 percent to 160,218 tons. Total volume of dry/liquid bulk increased by 42.7 percent to 181,350 tons and loaded decreased by 98.8 percent to 20 tons. Total containers landed increased by 19.6 percent to 21, 412 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) and loaded increased by 24.4 percent to 8, 312 TEUs.

The number of vessel calls to Port Castries increased by 12.3 percent to 1, 351 while that to Port Vieux Fort increased by 8.6 percent to 428. Port Castries recorded all 715 cruise ship calls, 387 of which were regional and 328 international. Yacht throughput at Rodney Bay Marina increased by 257 to 4,232, in keeping with the expanding Atlantic Rally for Cruisers (ARC) which ends in St. Lucia in December each year.

Road Transport

During the review period, the total number of registered vehicles increased by 4.5 percent to 41,834. Goods Vehicles registered a 4 percent increase to 10, 252 while private vehicles increased by 5.4 percent to 23, 477. Although new vehicle sales have out-performed used vehicles sales in recent years, the stock of registered vehicles has recorded an average annual growth of 5 percent since 2000.

COMMUNICATIONS

Buoyant activity in the cellular phone market continued to spur steady growth in the communications sector. Accordingly, value-added in the sector in 2004 increased by 4.6 percent. This pushed its contribution to GDP to 14.2 percent and made it the fifth largest sector in the national economy.

Telecommunications

In the review period, the telecommunications sector continued its important role of facilitating increased economic activity through the enhancement of productivity and the reduction in the cost of doing business. The sector was characterized by lower prices and increased activity in all segments except the number of fixed line subscribers. The mobile phone segment was the most dynamic and saw aggressive competition among its three service providers.

Although not as strong as in 2003 when two new service providers entered the market, there was increased activity in the mobile phone segment in 2004. Improved technology, which allowed for the provision of a wider range of better quality service at lower prices, combined with higher disposable incomes led to an increase in demand for mobile services. This was reflected in a 7 percent increase to 96,887 in the number of cellular phone subscribers island-wide. However, there was a more intensive use of the mobile phone by the average consumer as the total number of cellular minutes sold by the industry increased by 30 percent to 75.3 million. Of that amount, about 85 percent were made among local consumers. In fact, there was some substitution away from fixed line phones; the number of subscribers to the traditional handset fell by 4 percent to 48,713.

Although the data is not available, indications are that capital investment in the industry in general, and in cellular telephony in particular, remained buoyant. As more areas of the island were brought under coverage, the number of cell sites increased by 10 percent to 88. In addition, as service providers expanded business, the number of industry employees increased by 17 percent to 514.

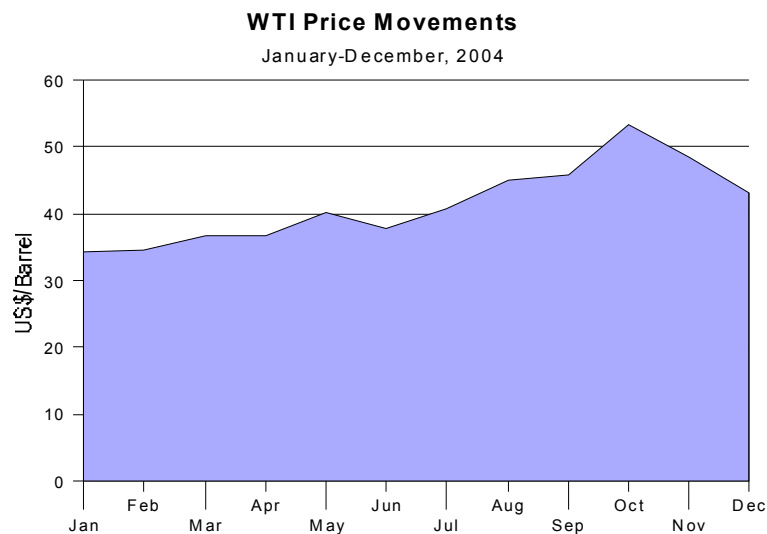
Despite the reduction in the subscriber base for fixed line phones, the sole provider registered a 51 percent increase to 7,199 in the number of internet subscribers, attracted by high speed access. Cable TV subscription increased also, by 5 percent to 20,003.

In July 2004, the industry benefited from a new regulatory pricing mechanism with the signing of a price cap agreement between ECTEL member states and the incumbent provider of fixed line phone services. Under the agreement approved by the National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (NTRC) in each state, consumers would pay 22 percent less for fixed-to-fixed line calls by December 2004 and a further 20 percent less by December 2005. The agreement also features reductions in fixed-to-mobile calls by December 2005 and imposes a “price cap” regime of regulation. Under the latter, the sole provider of fixed line phone services is required to realize efficiency gains each year and to pass on some of these gains to consumers in the form of lower rates.

ENERGY

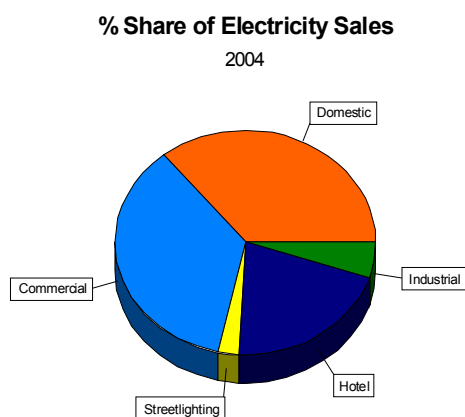
International factors continue to play a significant role in developments in the energy sector, with the world price of oil increasing during 2004. Although starting from US\$34.22 in January, the West Texas Intermediate (WTI), rose steadily to a peak of US\$53.20 in October as a result of a confluence of demand and supply factors. Accordingly, the retail price of both unleaded gasoline and diesel were increased by Government in June 2004. As the St. Lucia Electricity Services Ltd.

(LUCELEC) paid a higher price for fuel, it increased the price of electricity to consumers.

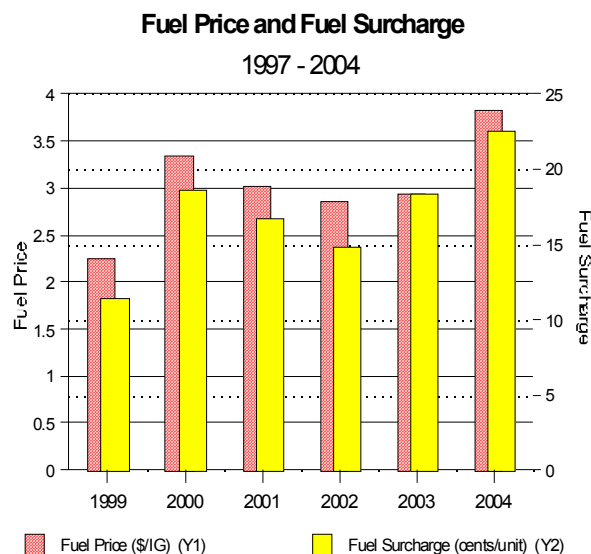


Electricity

There was a 1.2 percent increase to 309,137 Kilowatt hours (KWh) in the electricity generated, by the sole electricity provider, LUCELEC in the review period. All categories of consumers except industrial recorded increases in consumption. Also, this increase was reflected in the electricity sub-sector's contribution to Gross Domestic Product (GDP), which increased by 5.9 percent, but recorded a 4.5 percent reduction in value added continuing a six year fluctuating performance.



Domestic consumption of electricity increased by 2.7 percent to 95,877 KWh amidst a 3 percent increase in domestic



consumers and suggests a less intensive use of electricity by the average household. In contrast, there was a more intensive use of power by commercial consumers as the growth in overall consumption (4.3 percent) outpaced the increase in the number of consumers (2.4 percent).

Although, the number of hotel consumers remained constant at 48, electricity demanded by this sub-category increased by 4.4 percent to 55,446 KWh. The demand for electricity by industrial users decreased slightly by 1.4 percent to 13,221 KWh, as a result of 4.5 percent

reduction in the total number of consumers as a number of manufacturing plants ceased operations and reflects more intensive use by existing consumers.

Electricity consumption for street-lighting increased by 38 percent to 6,513 KWh during the period under review. This is due to the electrification drive along the country's highways. At the end of 2004, illumination had been completed along the entire East Coast Highway, from Castries to Vieux Fort.

LUCELEC's own use of electricity decreased marginally by 1.3 percent to 12,134 KWh while total sales in 2004 increased by 4.1 percent to 266, 564 KWh.

After 3 consecutive years of increase, the line loss rate (line loss/total generated), fell to 9.9 percent reflecting significant improvements in the efficiency of electricity production/distribution.

During the review period, consumers paid more for fuel in comparison with prior years. The average price paid by LUCELEC to the main supplier increased by almost 30 percent to \$3.82 per gallon.

Consequently, the fuel surcharge¹ increased by 23 percent to 22.6 cents per unit, the highest over the past eight years. Fuel price and fuel surcharge continue to change uniformly with world oil prices.

Alternative Sources of Energy

The Government of Saint Lucia is currently working on a National Energy Policy. The policy will create the appropriate enabling environment for the growth and development of the local energy sector. The policy will, *inter alia*, encourage diversification in the energy base by facilitating the development of new and renewable forms of energy. This is beneficial to our sustained development as it promotes stability, reliability and security of our energy supply. Alternative forms of energy help to safeguard against external price fluctuations on the world oil market and develop our indigenous resources and technological base.

Solar Energy

Saint Lucia is currently working with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to develop a solar financing project. This initiative is aimed at promoting the benefits of solar water heating and providing a sustainable funding mechanism for the procurement of solar energy amongst low - income households.

Wind Energy

The Government of Saint Lucia has continued to encourage the development of wind energy on the island. To this end, Saint Lucia received technical assistance for both Government and the electrical utility company in the area of wind energy under the Caribbean Renewable Energy Development Project (CREDP).

¹ The fuel surcharge is levied by LUCELEC and passed onto the consumer. It is the cost of fuel at the current price less the cost at the existing price at January 1, 1973 (the base price), divided by the total number of units sold

Landfill Gas

Saint Lucia has undertaken an assessment of the potential for the capture of landfill gas for energy production at recently closed Ciceron Dump. The feasibility studies have produced promising results and discussions are now being held on the actual development of the facility for energy generation.

Hydroelectricity

A study on the potential for hydroelectricity of the John Compton Dam was undertaken by the Caribbean Renewable Energy Development Programme (CREDP). The study examined the energy available from the overflow at the dam. The results indicate that there is potential for the construction of small hydropower plant with an installed capacity of 200kW.

Importation of Commercial Energy

Importation of commercial energy increased slightly by 8.6 percent to 665,450 Barrels of Oil Equivalent (BOE)². This increase was mainly attributable to increases in spraytex, kerosene and diesel, while gasoline unleaded, and LPG recorded decreases. It should be noted that actual consumption can exceed imported volumes because of inventories from the prior year.

Government maintained a pricing regime for petroleum products which keeps retail prices constant by adjusting consumption taxes to reflect international oil price changes. Amidst the generally higher prices in 2004, Government was forced to adjust retail upwards so as to stem reductions in consumption tax revenue. Accordingly, the retail price for unleaded gasoline and diesel were both increased by 75 cents to \$8.50 and to \$7.75 per gallon respectively. However, the price of kerosene and LPG remained unchanged at \$5.20 per gallon and \$1.50/\$1.41 per pound, respectively, and are effectively subsidized by government whenever the international oil price surpasses \$49 per barrel.

² 1 Barrel (BBL) is equal to 34.927 Imperial Gallons (IG), which is equal to 0.124 Tons of Oil Equivalent (TOE) and 1 TOE equals 7.206 of OIL Equivalent (BOE).

The Mean Caribbean Price Postings (MCP)³ is the import price of fuel into St. Lucia and moves in tandem with world oil prices. In keeping with a 33 percent increase in the average 2004 WTI price on the world oil market, the MCP for unleaded gasoline and diesel increased by 28.5 percent to \$1.26 and 31.8 percent to \$1.16, respectively. MCP prices for unleaded gasoline, diesel and LPG rose significantly to their highest level for six years.

Importation of unleaded gasoline fell slightly to 316,360 BOE, in keeping with the trend from the prior years whereby each year of increase was followed by a year of decline.

During the review period, the importation of kerosene and diesel increased by 41.9 percent to 169,582 BOE and 4.7 percent to 121,309.81, respectively. The former reflects the increased number of aircraft movements and hence refuelling of aircraft and the latter, mainly increased production of electricity.

Imports of LPG decreased by 1.6 percent to 57,331 BOE, in line with a marginal reduction in the demand for this commodity.

Spraytex, critical in the control of leaf spot disease, recorded a 147.4 percent increase to 867.5 BOE, indicating more intensive use by the banana industry.

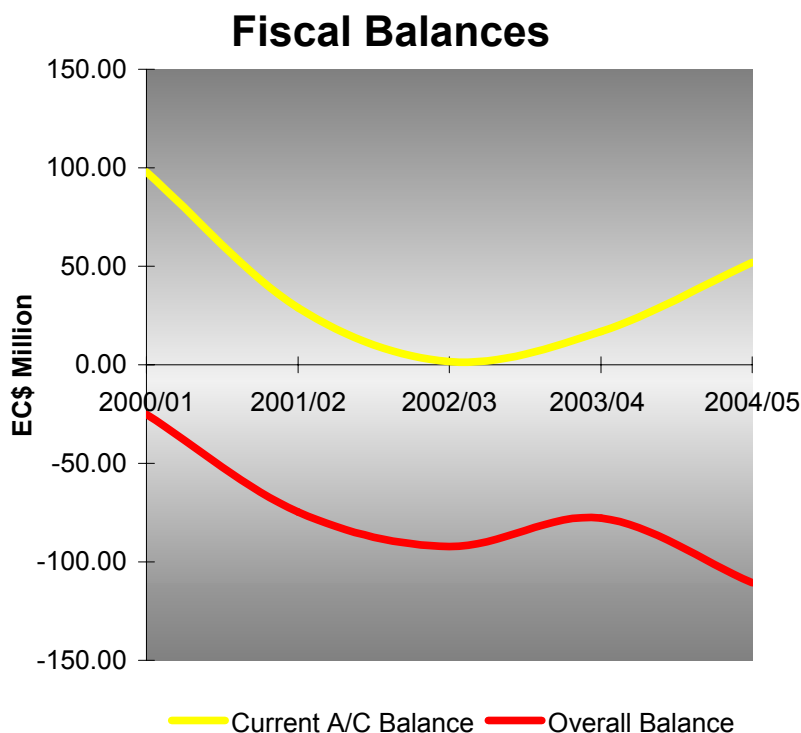
³ MCP is the average import price of fuel from Petrotrin and Shellwest. It is measured in US cents per gallon.

CHAPTER FIVE

GOVERNMENT FISCAL OPERATIONS

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS¹

Owing to a more favourable external environment and the upturn in the domestic economy, there was an appreciable improvement in the current revenue performance of the central government. This resulted in an increase in Government's savings as current expenditures were broadly stabilized. The current account surplus strengthened in the review period from the recent trend of deterioration to \$69.4 million or 3.3 percent of GDP.



However, Government's efforts at addressing the pressing development needs of St. Lucia through its capital investments led to a greater increase in total government spending to \$646 million. This fiscal expansion resulted in a weakening of the central government's overall fiscal position to a deficit of \$93.2 million or 4.5 percent of GDP in 2004/05. This reflected the fall-off in grant receipts coupled with a 20 percent increase in capital expenditure to 7.9 percent of GDP.

¹ The analysis in this chapter refers to the fiscal year 2004/05. The projected outcome is based on actual data up to February with a projection for March 2005. All ratios are based on GDP computed for the fiscal year.

The bulk of financing for the overall deficit came from external sources mainly in the form of loans. The government also relied on domestic financing through bonds issued on the Regional Government Securities Market (RGSM).

Revenue Performance

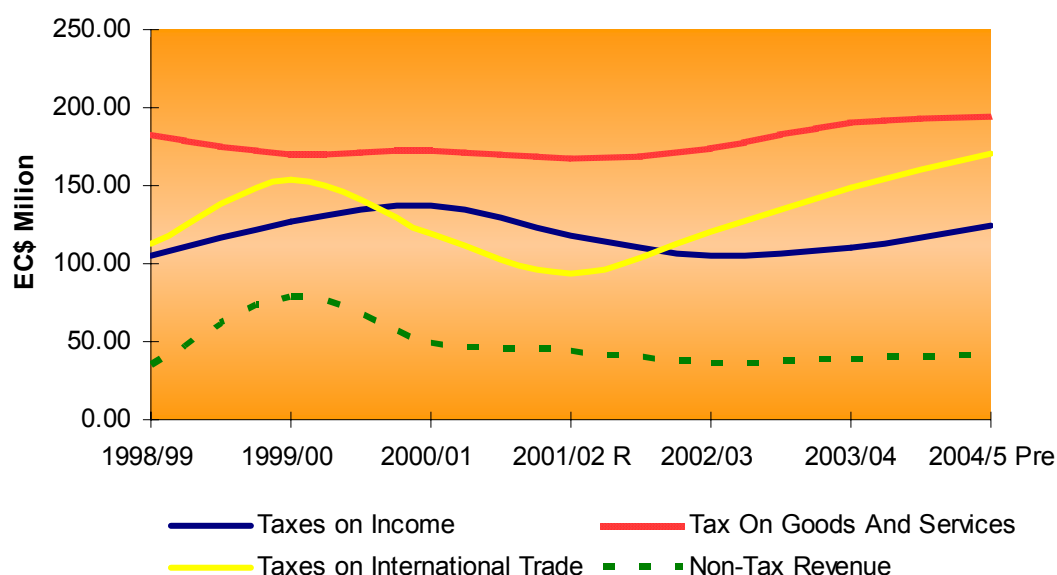
Notwithstanding notable growth of 12.3 percent in current revenue to \$552 million, total revenue and grants increased by 3.7 percent to \$552.89 million but contracted to 26.6 percent of GDP from 27.1 percent. This is attributed to the non-receipt of grant funds and negligible capital revenue in the period 2004/05. Disbursements of grants were affected by the delays in the EU disbursement mechanism caused by the introduction of new regulations.

The swift implementation of the following revenue measures impacted positively on revenue collections:

- Increase in departure tax for CARICOM nationals from \$35 to \$54;
- Increase in marriage fees;
- Increase in bank licence fees;
- Increase in work permit fee from \$5,000 to \$7,500 annually;
- Increase in excise tax and consumption tax on imported alcoholic beverages and cigarettes; and
- Increase in the retail price of gasoline and diesel by 75 cents per gallon.

In keeping with the expansion in economic activity, current revenue rose to 26.5 percent of GDP from 25 percent on the strength of a 12.4 percent expansion in tax revenue.

Major Components of Current Revenue



Taxes on Income and Property

Direct tax receipts rose appreciably by 20.3 percent to \$132.2 million or 6.4 percent of GDP owing to better than expected performances of arrears, corporate and income taxes. Improved legislation regarding compliance measures also contributed to this positive outturn.

There were notable increases in the collection of arrears and corporate taxes of 27.1 percent and 22 percent respectively, owing to the ongoing drive to collect outstanding taxes. The continuation of the tax arrears payment plan yielded growth in payment of arrears as one of the top twenty companies made a sizeable payment of \$11 million. Corporate taxes expanded despite the scheduled reduction in the rate due to better performance in the commercial sector as manifested in higher corporate profits.

Withholding taxes, though less significant, continued to dip with high evasion, waivers granted for contract work and the difficulties associated with compliance with respect to private sector work. Property taxes fell by 4.6 percent to \$3.7 million due to ongoing issues with the administration of this tax. However, the reform of this regime is underway.

Taxes on goods and services

Taxes on goods and services grew by 5.5 percent in nominal terms to \$200.8 million but fell as a percent of GDP to 9.6 percent from 9.7 percent. Receipts from consumption tax on imports, which is the single largest source of revenue, were limited to an increase of 2.4 percent on account of the poor performance of petroleum taxes. Notwithstanding the upward adjustment in the retail prices of unleaded gasoline and diesel in June, there was a marked decline in revenue from petroleum products, occasioned by record high world oil prices. This overshadowed the positive impact of higher imports and increases in the consumption tax rates on other items.

Reflective of increased occupancy rates, hotel accommodation tax collections grew by 18.5 percent to \$26.3 million. This tax however is under-performing as a result of outstanding compliance issues. The intake of stamp duty was boosted by an increase in the number and value of transactions mainly land sales, spurred by lower lending rates. After doubling in 2003/04 due to extraordinarily large receipts of telecommunications licences including arrears, license revenue fell by \$2.1 million to \$14.5 million or 0.7 percent of GDP. In addition, revenue from drivers' licenses increased more than two-fold. Cellular tax grew by 27.1 percent to \$6 million on account of growing usage of mobile phones following the liberalization of the market in 2003.

Taxes on international trade and transactions

All *taxes on international trade and transactions* benefited from the moderate growth in the economy and the concomitant spurt in import demand. These taxes grew by 15.9 percent in 2004/05, trending upward since contracting in 2000/01. Import duty rose by 8.4 percent to \$75.3 million in tandem with the increase in extra-regional imports. Service charge collections performed creditably growing by 17.9 percent to \$46.4 million and reflected the full year's impact of the rate increase to 5 percent in May 2003. Excise tax on imports (\$24.7 million) and environmental levy (\$13.5 million) registered increases of nearly one-third and 14.6 percent respectively, partly owing to the growing number of imported vehicles. The growth in airport taxes was attributed to the recent increase in departure taxes charged to CARICOM nationals coupled with the rise in outbound passenger traffic from the Caribbean. Revenue derived from travel taxes continued on an upward

path since the fall-off in 2001/02, recording growth of 12.1 percent to \$5.5 million. An improvement in the collections of the passenger facility fee² contributed to this outturn.

Non-Tax Revenue

Non-tax revenue was 11.1 percent higher this fiscal year and amounted to \$42.7 million or 2.1 percent of GDP. This was due to the more than doubling of *other non-tax revenue* to \$7.8 million largely from user charges which compensated for declines in other categories. Lower earnings from interest and rents resulted from the reduction in interest rates on bank deposits. In addition, there were delays in receipts of dividends on current share holdings in a private company as well as a reduction in the government's equity investments in another large corporate entity. Fees, fines and sales inched up but below expectations due to lags in the remittance of disembarkation fees to the central government.

Expenditure Performance

Government's pursuit of further developing and rehabilitating the economic infrastructure primarily fuelled the growth in total expenditure of 5.8 percent. Capital expenditure is estimated to have grown by 20 percent reflecting improved implementation of capital projects during the review period.

Current Expenditure

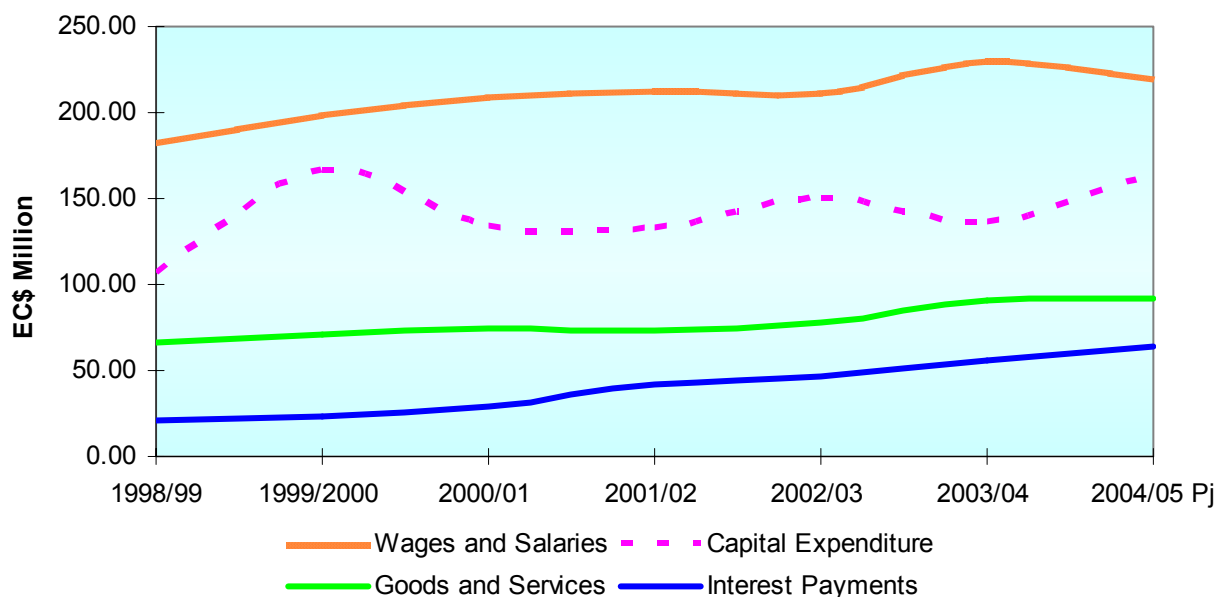
Current expenditure recorded growth of 1.7 percent to \$482.7 million, despite a reduction in the wage bill. Higher interest payments and retirement benefits were principally responsible for the increase in current expenditure. The completion of capital projects in previous periods, such as the BOLT³ projects which are now operational, also continued to drive expansions in the components of current expenditure in 2004/05, especially goods and services.

Wages and salaries, which accounted for 45.5 percent of current expenditure, contracted as a share of GDP from 11.7 percent to 10.6 percent in 2004/05. Wages and salaries fell by 4.4 percent to

² It was increased to \$13 in April 2003

³ Includes construction and rehabilitation of police and fire stations

Main Expenditure Items



\$219.8 million compared to 2003/04 when retroactive payments of \$15 million were paid following the conclusion of the last round of salary negotiations for the triennium 2001/02 – 2003/04. In 2004/05, salaries increased by 3 percent in line with the increase awarded to civil servants in January 2004 as a result of the collective agreement with public sector unions.

Retirement benefits grew substantially by 11.5 percent to \$38.8 million mirroring the increase in the number of pensioners. In keeping with the increasing stock of disbursed outstanding debt, interest payments grew by 15.0 percent to \$64.3 million. Domestic interest payments were 14.1 percent higher due to the policy of increased borrowing on the RGSM at cheaper rates, both as new debt and for debt restructuring. Interest on foreign debt also rose by 15.4 percent.

Spending on goods and services, the second largest component of current expenditure, expanded by 1.9 percent to \$92.1 million. This follows a considerable increase of 16 percent last year emanating from the lease payments for construction of police and fire stations island-wide. This stemmed from higher utility bills and rental expenses associated with the use of these buildings.

Communication expenses were lowered due to expenditure control measure to reduce access to mobile calls which attract high rates.

Current transfers moved up by 5.3 percent to \$63.3 million owing to increases granted to SALCC and St. Jude's Hospital in order to settle their wage disputes, as well as increased contributions to overseas missions.

Capital Expenditure

Capital expenditure is estimated to have increased by 20 percent to \$163.4 million, much closer to budgetary levels than in previous periods, due to a higher implementation rate of 73 percent. In keeping with the shift in the government's priorities, a substantial portion of its capital investment was directed towards physical economic infrastructure. Road development undertaken in the fiscal year amounted to \$67.8 million (45 percent of capital expenditure). Tourism marketing accounted for 12.8 percent of capital outlay while 22 percent was spent on education (rehabilitation of school plant), health and social sectors. Other expenditure was incurred on banana commercialisation and agriculture development projects, rural enterprise credit facility, housing projects, low income housing facility, land acquisition, Black Mallet Landslide response and Fifth Water Supply Project.

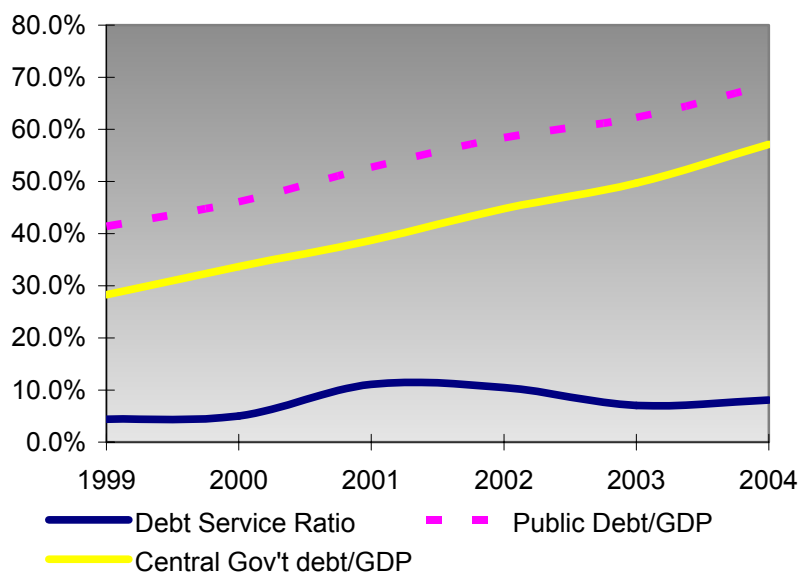
Debt financing as a share of capital expenditure declined from 81.5 percent to 76.8 percent although increasing in nominal terms from \$111 million to \$125.5 million. Grants, which were received in the previous fiscal year, financed 21.8 percent of capital expenditure in the fiscal year 2004/05. The use of government savings fell to \$2.2 million or 1.4 percent of capital expenditure, representing counterpart contributions from local revenue.

PUBLIC DEBT

The widening of the central government's overall fiscal deficit led to accelerated growth of 16.7 percent in the stock of public debt at the end of 2004. Pressure to rehabilitate key economic infrastructure to enable continued growth and development was principally responsible for the rising level of debt. The decline in grant financing available for such investments also contributed to this outcome. At the end of 2004, the stock of public liabilities (\$1,437.9 million), including payables of \$20.2 million, increased to 69.6 percent of GDP from 63.8 percent. Central government debt which accounted for 82.2 percent of the public sector debt stock, increased by 22.6 percent to \$1,181.4 million or 57.2 percent of GDP, approaching ECCB's prudential limit of 60 percent. Government guaranteed and non-guaranteed debt declined by 3.4 percent to \$180.1

million and 1.7 percent to \$56.2 million respectively.

Debt Indicators



During 2004, \$292.9 million of debt was disbursed, of which 69 percent came from domestic sources. This was induced by attractive interest rates on the Regional Government Securities Market (RGSM) which was launched in late 2002. The government continued to pursue a policy of accessing the cheapest available non-concessionary debt.

Debt restructuring in the review period contributed to a fall in debt servicing from \$117.5 million to \$106.1 million.

St. Lucia's ability to service its debt obligations can be measured by a number of indicators. The external debt service to exports of goods and services ratio increased to 8.1 percent while the ratio of central government debt service to current revenue improved from 25.1 percent to 19.8 percent partly on the strength of revenue performance.

Domestic Debt

Reflective of the increased borrowing on the RGSM during 2004 for the restructuring of existing debt and the issuance of new debt to finance the budget deficit, the stock of domestic public debt surged by 53.4 percent to \$452.6 million. This stemmed from the movements in the central government debt which accounted for 83.5 percent of total domestic debt. Central government debt increased by 67.5 percent in the review period as the government raised \$157 million on the RGSM through four bond issues with medium to long term maturities. This has allowed government to capitalize on more favourable borrowing terms, particularly lower interest rates which were spurred by the excess liquidity in the banking system. The rise in domestic debt is also attributed, albeit to a lesser extent, to the re-financing of a mature external commercial bank bond with a local commercial bank issue in the amount of \$16.2 million. Government guaranteed debt grew by 14.5 percent while non-guaranteed debt dipped by 5.2 percent.

Medium to long-term financing in the form of bonds constituted 66.5 percent of central government domestic debt while short term financing in the form of treasury bills comprised 25 percent. The balance outstanding on the latter fell to \$95.1 million, including the new issue in January of \$27 million on the RGSM.

External debt

External debt grew by 5.9 percent to \$965.2 million (46.7 percent of GDP), as a result of the moderate growth of 8.9 percent in central government debt. These funds originated principally from multi-lateral sources to finance a number of capital projects largely road development. The stock of government-guaranteed debt continued to trend downwards, contracting by 9.1 percent to \$128.6 million and it accounted for 13.3 percent of external debt held by the public sector. Non-guaranteed debt also fell in the review period by 0.9 percent to \$33 million.

In order to limit the exposure to adverse currency fluctuations, the government has maintained a policy of increasing the share of public debt denominated in currencies with fixed exchange rates such as the US and Barbados dollars. An analysis of external debt by currency indicates that approximately 82 percent of the external debt stock bears no such exchange rate risk as 63.5 percent and 17.2 percent were contracted in US and EC dollars respectively. The balance is denominated in Barbados dollars. The stock of external debt contracted in Special Drawing Rights

(SDRs)⁴ accounted for the third largest share of 9.2 percent, all of which represent concessionary loans from multi-lateral sources.

The Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) remained the single largest creditor with its share of loans increasing to 35 percent of external debt at the end of 2004. In keeping with the re-financing of the \$16.2 million bond with CITIBANK in Trinidad with a new domestic bond, commercial debt held by the central government fell to 39.6 percent of external debt. Of this external debt, Royal Merchant Bank's share remained at 22 percent while the World Bank Group (IBRD and IDA) provided a further 12.1 percent of the outstanding debt stock.

DISTRIBUTION OF DEBT BY ECONOMIC SECTOR			
SECTOR	2002	2003	2004
Multi-Sector		26.2%	24.5%
Communications & Works	11.9%	12.8%	18.1%
Utilities	13.4%	10.5%	10.1%
Finance & Insurance	11.9%	9.2%	8.6%
Education	8.5%	6.5%	6.6%
Other		34.8%	32.1%

The proportion of external debt used to finance Communications & Works, largely road projects, increased to 18.1 percent from 12.8 percent. This highlights the government's priority of developing vital physical economic infrastructure. The new loans assumed in 2004 were taken for the Second Disaster Management Project, Flood Mitigation and HIV prevention.

⁴Special currency used by the IMF and equivalent to EC\$4.1656 at the end of 2004.

CHAPTER SIX

THE EXTERNAL SECTOR

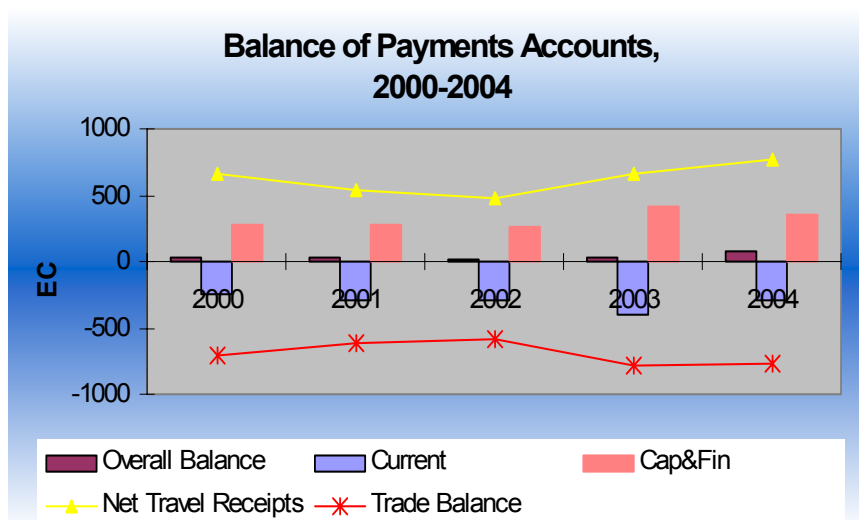
TRADE AND THE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

During 2004 the surplus on the overall balance nearly doubled to \$70.4 million compared with the previous year. As a ratio of GDP, the outturn in 2004 represented 3.4 percent compared to 1.9 percent in 2003. The current account deficit narrowed, and was financed largely by net inflows on the capital and financial account. This outcome led to the largest expansion in the net imputed reserves recorded since 1990.

The Current Account

The current account deficit improved in 2004, contracting by 25 percent to \$294.7 million (14.3 percent of GDP), after deteriorating by 33 percent in 2003 owing largely to the high cost of oil imports. The

decline in the current account deficit in 2004 reflects primarily a 2.2 percent drop in the merchandise trade deficit and a 16.6 percent increase in net travel receipts, notwithstanding the 12 percent increase in outflows of income.



The Capital and Financial Account

Following a marked 58.6 percent increase in 2003, the capital and financial account surplus narrowed by 14.8 percent in 2004 to \$350.7 million (17 percent of GDP). However, the surplus on the capital account which is driven chiefly by capital grants fell sharply to \$9.7 million from \$46.1 million in 2003. Accordingly, capital grants slumped to \$6.0 million in 2004 from \$43 million in the previous year. This outcome is mainly the result of new and revised procedures by which the European Union approves capital financing, causing a delay in the disbursement of funds in 2004.

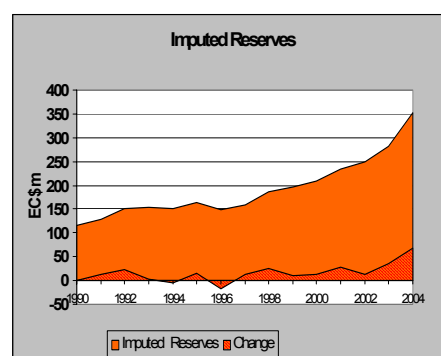
The financial account surplus also fell by 6.7 percent to \$341 million, owing largely to the decrease in inflows of net foreign direct investment which offset the increase in net other investments. In 2004, net inflows of direct investment were estimated to be \$204.3 million (10 percent of GDP), a decrease of 21.8 percent compared to the 94 percent upturn in 2003. As in 2003, inflows of direct investment in 2004 reflect predominantly investment capital associated with hotel development. Increases were also recorded for reinvested earnings which moved up by 3.6 percent to \$45.3 million in 2004, after a 75 percent rise in the previous year, whilst land sales to non-residents, predominantly for tourism related activities, declined by about 36.7 percent to \$18.8 million, after a 58 percent increase in 2003.

Net inflows from portfolio investment was recorded at \$23.9 million¹ (excludes bonds traded on the RGSM) in 2004—equivalent to one-seventh of the amount realised a year ago. As a ratio of GDP, the surplus moved to 1.2 percent from 8.8 percent in 2003. Portfolio investment is primarily led by Government trading of bonds, and in 2004, the net inflows were associated with the receipts of bond proceeds which are used generally for the refinancing of debt.

With regard to other investments, loan disbursements to the public sector increased by 23 percent to \$91.1 million compared to 2003, and in part, resulted in net disbursements rising by 38.4 percent to \$60.9 million in 2004. On the other hand, commercial banks decreased their stock of net foreign assets by \$92.3 million, compared to an increase of \$193.8 million in 2003.

Overall Balance

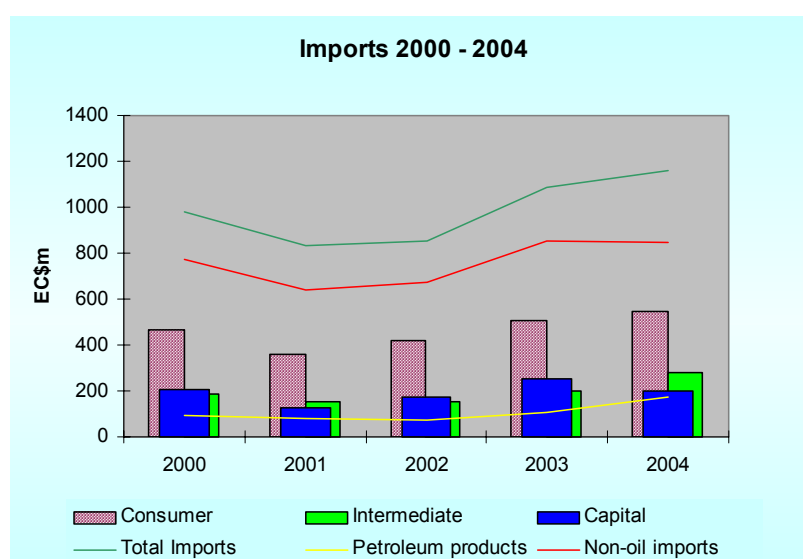
In 2004, an overall surplus of \$70.4 million (3.4 percent of GDP) was realised, the largest in five years. The overall surplus doubled relative to 2003, and this outcome was spurred mainly by the appreciable increases recorded in net travel receipts (16.6 percent) and in the combined net inflows of portfolio and other investments (31.2 percent), as well as the notable but lower inflows in net foreign direct investment. Consequently, the change in the imputed reserves almost doubled to \$68.9 million, leading to the highest recorded since 1990. The imputed reserves amounted to \$351.5 million in 2004, up by 24.4 percent compared to 2003.



¹ It should be noted that bonds issued on the Regional Government Exchange Market (RGSM) are classified as domestic debt and are therefore not included in the BOP.

Imports²

Reflecting continued expansion in economic activity and increased domestic demand, merchandise imports grew by 6.8 percent in 2004 to a record level of \$1.02 billion. Intermediate goods which contributed about 27 percent to the value of overall imports grew by 38.5 percent, influenced primarily by the surge in the value of imports of *Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and Related Materials*, which peaked in 2004. Oil prices have been trending higher since 2001, partly as a result of OPEC's supply management policies, and increased further after the beginning of the war in Iraq in 2003. In 2004, crude prices rose by 33 percent to an average of US\$41.42 per barrel causing the value of domestic imports of petroleum products to jump by 62.5 percent to \$176.6 million—equivalent to 8.5 percent of GDP. Further, import volumes of mineral fuels, measured in Barrels of Oil Equivalent (BOE), increased moderately by about 5 percent in 2004, after shooting up by 25 percent in 2003. With major construction activity both in the private and public sectors, the value of imports of building materials also increased by 15.9 percent in 2004, contributing further to the import bill for intermediate goods.



Consumer goods which recorded an annual average of about 55 percent of the total value of imports from 2000 to 2004 grew by 8.2 percent in 2004 compared to a year earlier. All sub-categories of consumer goods recorded increases in import value ranging from 7.5 to 9.9 percent, with *Food and Live Animals* continuing to

contribute the highest (18.8 percent in 2004) to the value of imports of consumer goods. This is partly attributed to the 7.8 percent growth in stay-over tourist arrivals coupled with the 8.7 percent increase in the import value of *Fish, Crustaceans and Molluscs and Preparations thereof*. More specifically, the value of imports of fresh fish grew by 31.2 percent to \$2.1 million. The climatic effects associated with *El Niño* made it an unusual year for fish landings in 2004 as significantly low volumes were recorded in the latter half of the year, resulting in the increased imports of fish and fish products.

²Values refer to f.o.b prices unless otherwise stated

In contrast, the value of imports of Capital Goods declined by 21.5 percent in 2004 after a consecutive two-year increase. The liberalisation of the telecommunications market in 2002 stimulated heightened activity which was reflected by the sharp growth of imports of goods classified under *Machinery and Transport Equipment*. Imports of telecommunications related equipment and rising imports of motor vehicles drove the value of imports of capital goods, which registered increases of 18.2 percent and 46.2 percent in 2002 and 2003, respectively.

Subsequently, with the establishment of the two new mobile phone companies the value of imports of telecommunications equipment in 2004 slumped by about 66.7 percent to \$32.9 million, after growing by 80 percent in the previous year. As a result, the value of imports of *Machinery and Transport Equipment* fell by 21.4 percent, offsetting the 7.9 percent increase in the import value of road vehicles. The value of imports of *Motor cars/Other vehicles designed for the transport of persons*, in particular, grew by 16.7 percent to \$29.6 million in 2004.

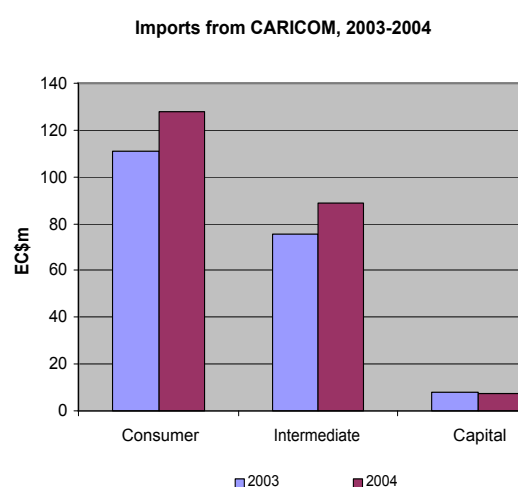
Notwithstanding the reported increases in the import values of Consumer and Intermediate goods, the cost of non-oil imports, however, remained relatively flat and stood at \$846.9 million in 2004.

Caricom

The total value of imports from Caricom increased by 15.4 percent to \$224.2 million in 2004—representing 22 percent of the value of overall imports, up from 20 percent in 2003. The value of imports of Consumer and Intermediate goods from the Region rose by 1.2 percent and 17.7 percent, respectively, whilst the value of imports of Capital goods declined by 3.9 percent compared to 2003.

The low volumes in fish landings, as indicated earlier, boosted the value of imports of fresh fish from \$502,755 in 2003 to \$1.13 million in 2004. Moreover, the import value of *Fish, Crustaceans and Molluscs and Preparations thereof* from Caricom rose by 68 percent in 2004.

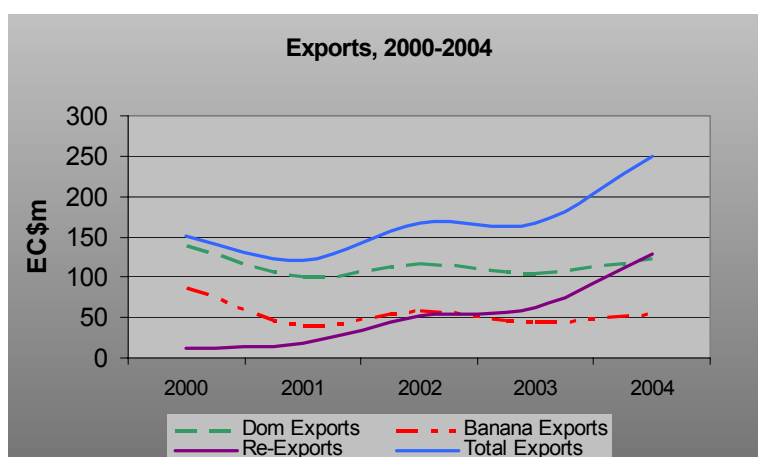
As a result of increased imports from Caricom, primarily that of *Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and Related Materials, Chemicals and Related Products* and all sub-



categories of consumer goods, the value of imports from the major trading partners like Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, Jamaica and Guyana grew in value by an average of about 25 percent.

Exports

After a flat performance in 2003, the value of total visible exports increased by roughly 50 percent to \$250.2 million in 2004, the highest recorded since 2000. Boosted by the notable expansion in both domestic exports and re-exports, total export receipts in 2004 accounted for 12.1 percent of GDP, up from 8.7 percent in 2003.

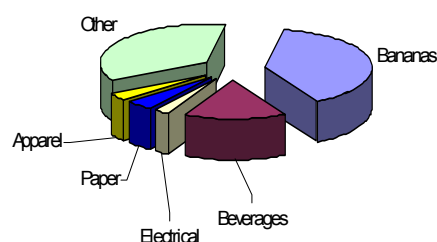


Following a near 10 percent decline in 2003, the value of overall domestic exports expanded by 16.3 percent to \$121.9 million in 2004, driven by increased export earnings from bananas (23.6 percent), *Manufactured Goods* (18 percent) and *Beverages* (10.1 percent).

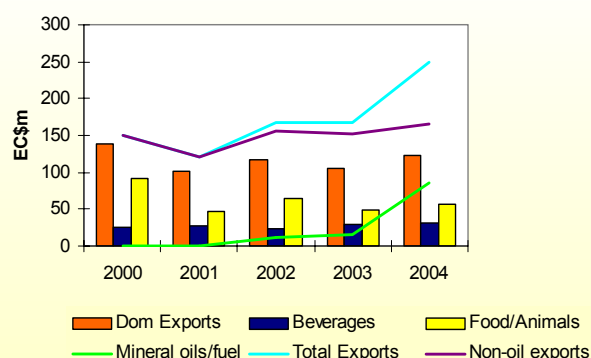
Among the major exports, the banana sub-sector performed relatively well. Despite not having fully recovered from the impact of Hurricane Ivan in September 2004, the industry benefited both from increased production and a strong Pound Sterling.

Although domestic export earnings from beverages increased, there was a 7 percent contraction, however, in the value of exports of *Beverages* to Trinidad and Tobago, one of our main trading partners. Reports from one of the major beverage producers revealed that there was a shrinkage in exports to Trinidad and Tobago because of a loss in market share of alcoholic beverages to another brand. In addition, the company had lost a contract to export alcoholic beverages to a major supermarket in the United Kingdom. This loss, however, was compensated by increased beverage export receipts from other markets like Barbados. All other major exports also recorded an expansion in export earnings, consistent with a rebounding in economic activity in the ECCU, in general.

Major Exports - 2004



Exports by Category, 2000-2004



Revenue generated from re-exports grew markedly by 104 percent relative to 2003, spurred predominantly by the growth in re-exports of *Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and Related Materials*. This resulted in re-export earnings from Intermediate goods jumping from \$16.6 million in 2003 to \$85.1 million in 2004. Beginning in 2002, increased levels of petroleum

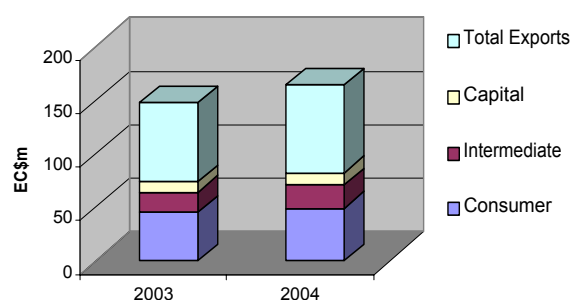
products have been re-exported by Hess Oil St. Lucia Ltd. Much of this activity can be attributed to speculative behaviour, influenced by the high price of oil on the international market. When international prices are low Hess Oil increases its oil stocks in the anticipation that when prices rise it can then gain from re-exports of oil. Revenue from such re-exports amounted to \$70.7 million, leaping from \$0.42 million in 2003. In 2004 non-oil exports, however, increased by 13.5 percent, after a near 3 percent reduction in 2003.

Caricom

In 2004, the value of total merchandise exports to the Region grew by 11.2 percent to \$82.6 million relative to the previous year and represented a third of total export receipts. This outcome was attributed to increases in export earnings from consumer goods (7.8 percent), intermediate goods (11.4 percent) and capital goods (7.7 percent).

Revenue generated from exports of all categories of consumer goods to Caricom rose, except that from *Food and Live Animals* which fell by 30.8 percent to \$2.3 million. Most notable, however, were the increases in the value of domestic exports of all *Manufactured Goods* (18.4 percent) and *Beverages* (14.5 percent) which both accelerated the revenue generated from overall exports.

Caricom Exports, 2003 - 2004



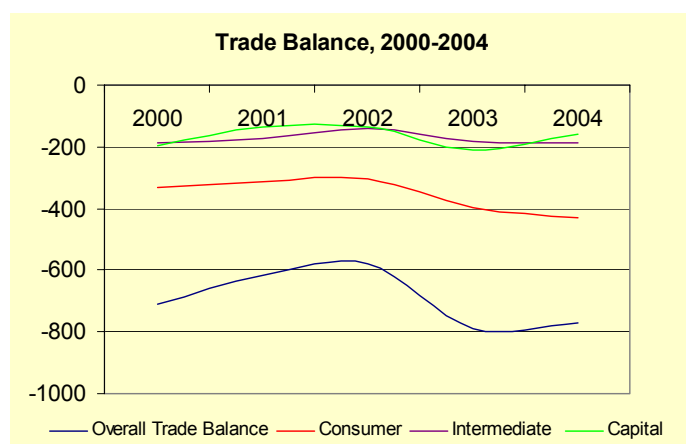
Similarly, there was an increase in the value of exports of *Paper, Paperboard, and Articles of Paper Pulp, of Paper or of Paperboard* by 12 percent to an estimated \$9.4 million in 2004. This commodity is exported primarily to the Windward Island banana producing countries of

Dominica, Grenada and St. Vincent and the Grenadines where it is used mostly for packaging bananas. With a general rise in the volume of banana exports by those countries, export receipts from paper products showed a corresponding increase.

The value of re-exports to Caricom increased by 6.5 percent to \$30.5 million, of which export receipts from mineral fuels, mainly from Trinidad and Tobago, accounted for 47 percent.

Trade Balance

St. Lucia continues to record a deficit in visible trade. However, in 2004, the deficit narrowed to \$773.3 million, after a 36.3 percent increase in 2003. Accordingly, the non-oil trade deficit contracted by 2.4 percent to \$681.9 million.

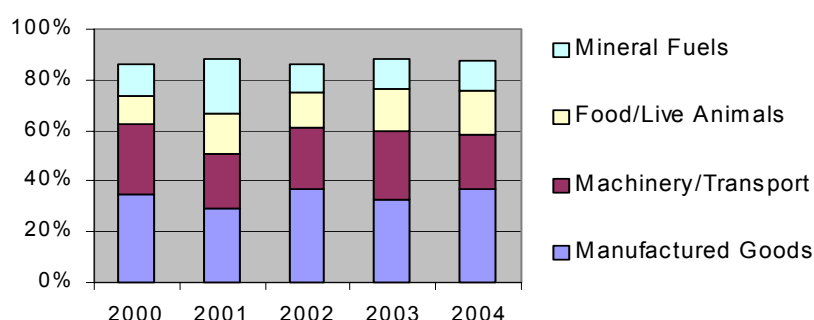


Consumer goods generally contribute the highest to the overall trade imbalance and in 2004 accounted for 55 percent of the deficit, up from 50.4 percent in the previous year. The overall expansion in economic output, accelerated by the upswing in tourism activity, was the main source of demand for all sub-categories of consumer goods in 2004.

The trade balance on intermediate goods deteriorated slightly by 2 percent in 2004, to a deficit of \$184.7 million, driven chiefly by the 10.6 percent increase in the total import costs of *Animal and Vegetable Oils* and *Chemicals and Related Products*. Despite higher imports of *Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and Related Materials* coupled with higher crude prices the trade deficit on oil remained relatively stable in 2004, reflecting the surge in re-exports of oil. On the other hand, the trade deficit on capital goods improved significantly by 24 percent in 2004, occasioned primarily by the fall in imports of *Machinery and Transport Equipment* associated with the opening of the telecommunications market in 2003.

In the main, the major contributors to the deficit over the past five years were *Manufactured Goods, Machinery and Transport Equipment, Food* and *Mineral Fuels*, in that order.

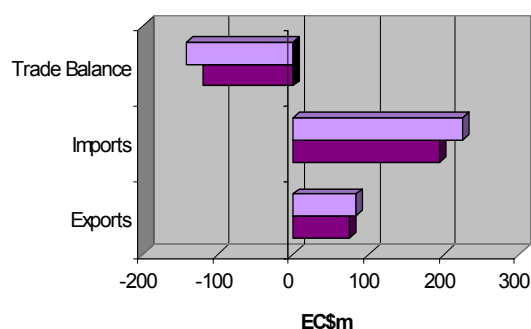
**Major Contributors to Overall Trade Deficit,
2000-2004**



Caricom

In 2004, increased multi-lateral trade with the Region caused the overall deficit to widen to \$141.6 million, equivalent to 6.9 percent of GDP, up from 6.2 percent in 2003. The trade deficit on consumer goods increased by 12.8 percent to \$74 million, driven by all sub-categories of consumer goods except *Beverages and Tobacco*, which registered a trade surplus of \$12.3 million. Nevertheless, the trade surplus on *Beverages and Tobacco* with Caricom declined by 8.7 percent relative to 2003, consistent with the competitive pressures in Trinidad and Tobago.

Trade with Caricom, 2003-2004



The trade deficit on intermediate goods expanded further by 17.8 percent to \$66.9 million. This owes largely to the \$53.2 million trade deficit in *Mineral Fuels and Related Materials*, resulting from the 30 percent increase in the value of retained imports of petroleum and petroleum products mainly from Trinidad and Tobago.

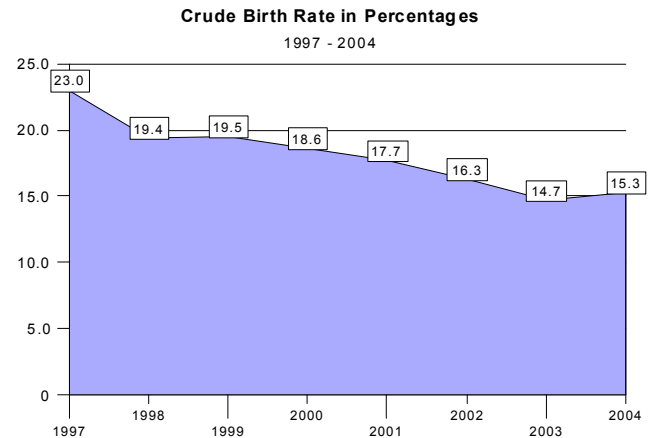
In contrast, capital goods maintained a trade surplus of \$4.1 million in 2004, up from \$2.4 million a year earlier. The 23.7 percent rise in receipts from re-exports of *Machinery and Transport Equipment* to Caricom, especially those categorised as *Machinery Specialised for Particular Industries*, *Telecommunications* and *Sound Recording/Reproducing Equipment* and *Road Vehicles*, contributed to the upturn in the capital goods trade surplus. This outcome can be partly associated with the re-exporting of heavy equipment and machinery after the winding down of some of the major capital works in 2004.

CHAPTER SEVEN

SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC INDICATORS

POPULATION AND DEMOGRAPHY

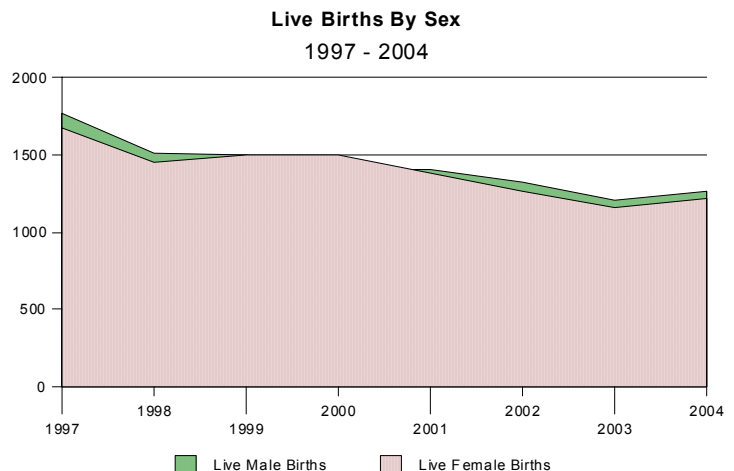
The size of a country's population, as well as its age distribution and education/skill level determine its capacity for economic development. With limited resources, St. Lucia faces the ongoing challenge of containing its population growth while equipping its citizens with the necessary skills to take advantage of opportunities at home and abroad.



St. Lucia's population growth rate increased from 0.9 percent in 2003 to 1 percent in 2004 as the estimated population reached 162, 311. The crude birth rate increased slightly from 14.7 per thousand in 2003 to 15.3 per thousand while the death rate decreased from 6.5 per thousand in 2003 to 6.2 per thousand in 2004. Accordingly, the natural increase of the population in 2004 was 1, 471 or 100 more than in 2003.

As has been the case since 2001, both male births and deaths exceeded that of their female counterparts in 2004. However, in the overall population, females continued to account for a slight majority of 51 percent.

The share of economically active adults (individuals aged 15-64) in St. Lucia's



population increased slightly from 63.2 percent in 2003 to 63.9 percent in 2004, while the share of dependent children (less than 15 years old) and dependent adults (more than 64 years old) fell to 28.9 percent and 7.1 percent, respectively. This resulted in a dependency ratio (the ratio of dependent adults and children to economically active individuals) of 1:1.8, a slight improvement over 2003's ratio of 1:1.7, and indicates that there are marginally more economically active adults to each dependent member of the population. The population density increased from 773 persons per square mile in 2003 to 781 in 2004 as a result of the increase in population over the same land area.

All administrative districts recorded increases in population except Laborie whose population remained unchanged. Castries and Vieux Fort recorded the largest population increases of 712 and 269 persons respectively. Castries continued to be the most densely populated with 319 persons per square mile, followed by Gros Islet with 103 persons per square mile. Canaries was the most sparsely populated with 9 persons per square mile.

EDUCATION¹

The education system plays an integral role in equipping potential workers with the requisite skills to operate within a rapidly changing world. Accordingly, Government continues to devote a sizeable portion of its budget to financing education.

Expenditure on the Ministry of Education, Human Resource Development, Youth and Sports accounted for the largest slice (16.5 percent) of the national budget in 2003/04. Of the \$141.8 million allocated for that ministry, \$109.4 million represented recurrent expenditure with the balance being capital expenditure. There were slight increases in both components of expenditure leading to a 2.6 percent increase in the total from the previous year. As a share of GDP, recurrent expenditure on education in 2003/04 was almost 7 percent, and represented an unchanged proportion for the past decade. However, as a share of government recurrent expenditure, the allocation to education continues to decline. It has fallen from 25.6 percent in 1998/99 to 21.4 percent in 2003/04.

The formal education system comprises four (4) levels: early childhood, primary, secondary and tertiary. There are also special education schools, national enrichment and learning centres and skills training centres. The three biggest programs continued to be the primary, secondary and tertiary levels which accounted for 40.6, 29.4 and 11.6 percent, respectively, of recurrent expenditure on education.

Total recurrent expenditure at the primary level fell slightly by 1.9 percent to \$44.4 million.

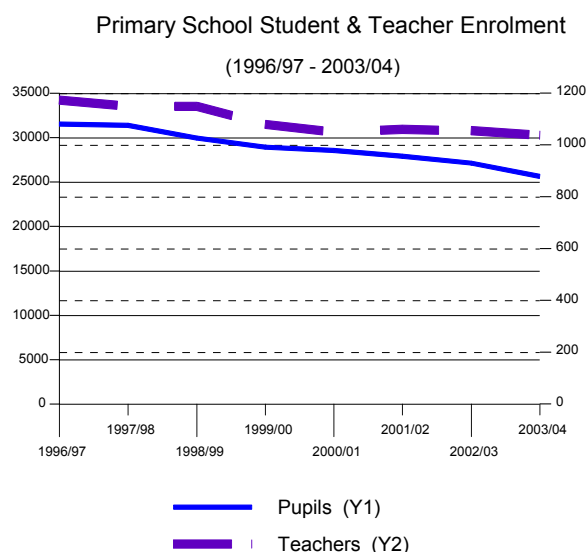
¹The analysis in this section relates to the academic year 2003/04.

Early Childhood Education

This level caters for the first few years of education and comprises day-care centres and pre-schools. There was a total of 151 early childhood centres on the island in 2003/04. Of this total, 111 were pre-schools with an enrolment of 3, 957 students, a slight increase of 0.5 percent and a child to teacher ratio of 1:12. All pre-schools are privately owned.

Primary Education

Despite the opening of the Dame Pearlette Louisy Primary School, the total number of primary schools on the island decreased from 81 to 78 in 2003/04, due to the merging of a number of infant and primary schools. These included the Babonneau Infant and Primary, Choiseul Infant and Primary, Fond St. Jacques Infant and Primary and Laborie Infant.



Accordingly, primary school enrolment fell by 5.5 percent to 25, 673. Teacher enrolment also fell by 1.7 percent to 1,039 as female teachers outnumbered males by almost 6:1. During the 2003/04 academic year the ratio of teachers to pupils was 1:25 compared to 1:26 for the last two academic years.

In 2004, Common Entrance Examinations results were processed for 4,295 candidates, of which 52 percent were male. Ninety seven candidates did not submit birth records, therefore results were not processed for them and 226 students were absent.

The national mean increased by almost 4 percent to 50.7. Of those who sat the examination, 2,116 got above the national mean. Of this, 1,118 were females. Overall, 2,487 candidates were assigned secondary school places; 55 percent were females while 153 candidates were unassigned.

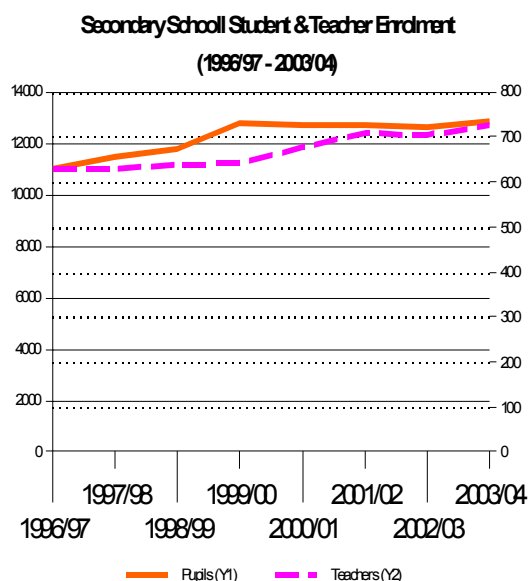
During the exams, all subject areas recorded improved mean performances in comparison with 2003. The highest national mean of 54.9 percent was recorded for General Paper, followed by English Language (51.3 percent). Mathematics recorded the lowest mean performance of 46.2 percent, although this was a 2 percentage point increase over 2003.

Secondary Education

Secondary school enrolment increased by 2.2 percent to 12, 931 in 2003/04 reflective of more capacity, due to the opening of the newly built Ciceron Secondary School, which brought the number of secondary schools on the island to 19.

After 3 consecutive years of decline, the number of pupils enrolled at secondary schools in 2003/04 increased by 276, reflecting efforts already being made towards providing universal access to secondary education by 2009/10.

Teacher enrolment continued its steady increase since 1997/98 as the number of teachers increased by 2.2 percent to 730, of which 59 percent were trained, representing an increase of 1 percent over last year. In the year 2003/04 a total of 399 or 55 percent of secondary school teachers were graduates of the Teacher Education Division of the Sir Arthur Lewis Community College.



Data from the Caribbean Examinations Council (CXC) General and Technical Proficiency results show that pass

rates of above 60 percent were achieved in 26 out of the 30 subjects taken. However, Typewriting, Technical Drawing, Mathematics and Visual Arts recorded less than 60 percent, while a pass rate of 100 percent was recorded for Home Economics.

Tertiary Education

Tertiary Education is largely provided by the Sir Arthur Lewis Community College (SALCC). After, 3 years of decline, student enrolment increased by 51.3 percent to 3, 298 in 2003/04.

Enrolment in the main programs was Continuing Education (1,708), Technical Education and Management Studies (696), Arts and General Studies (467), Teacher Education (178) and others (249).

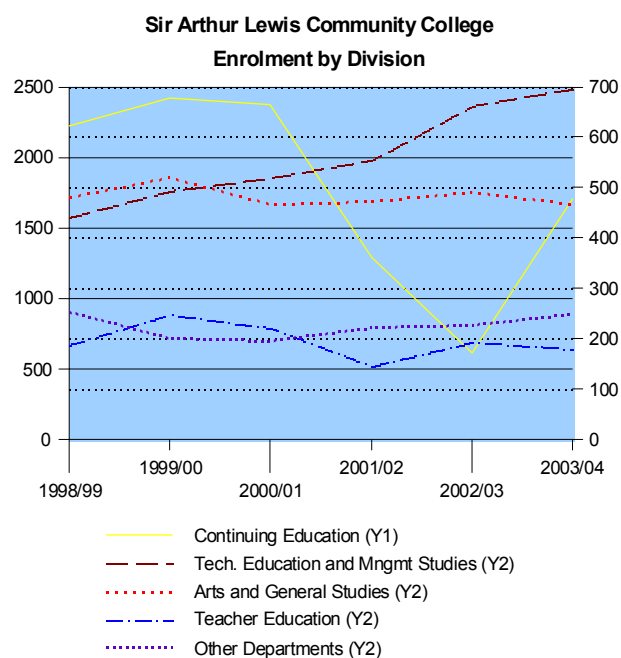
Female students outnumbered males in all divisions except Technical Education and Management Studies. It should be noted that the average female to male ratio was 25:1 in 2004.

There was a slight reduction in the subvention by Government to the SALCC to \$12.5 million. However, as result of a faster growth in enrolment, expenditure per student fell to \$7, 862.

The percentage pass rate at Cambridge Advanced Level Education fell slightly to 79.8 percent, as did that at Vieux Fort to 65.8 percent.

Vieux Fort Technical Institute

The Vieux Fort Technical Institute formally known as the Vieux Fort Primary Technical Extension had a total enrolment of 330 students and 23 teachers resulting in a teacher to student ratio of 1:14.



Special Education

The total number of special education centres remained at 5 with a combined enrolment of 238 students. This grouping caters for a wide range of disabilities including, hearing and vision impairments, physically and mentally challenged and multiple handicaps. The highest enrolment was recorded at Dunnotar (73) and the lowest the School at the Blind (25). A total of 44 teachers were enrolled resulting in a teacher to student ratio of 1:5, because of the much closer supervision required by these students.

National Enrichment and Learning Program (NELP)

The number of NELP centres on the island (11) in 2003/04 remained the same as the previous year and was distributed among eight communities. A total of 1,991 learners participated in the program in 2003/04, representing an increase of 32.2 percent.

Skills Training

In 2003/04, the National Skills Development Centre (NSDC) entered its third year of existence. The skills training centre offers a wide variety of general courses as well as technical/vocational training. Approximately 521 persons were trained with 30 staff members, all of whom attended on a part-time basis.

Private Education

As the number of private primary schools on the island decreased to 6 with the closure of one such school. Total student enrolment decreased by 12.9 percent to 671 in 2003/04. There were 48 teachers bringing the teacher/student ratio to 1:15.

The total student enrolment for the island's two private secondary schools was 318 for the academic year 2003/04. There were 22 teachers and a teacher/student ratio of 1:14. Two such schools were officially closed in 2003/04.

The Centre for Adolescent Rehabilitation and Education (CARE) offers technical/vocational as well as academic courses with 2 year programs. A total of 28 teachers were employed at the 6 centres on the island with a student enrolment of 309 resulting in one teacher to every 11 students.

CHAPTER EIGHT

ECONOMIC PROSPECTS

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

After significant growth of 5.1 percent in 2004, the world economy is projected to expand by 4.3 percent in 2005. This anticipated slowdown reflects slower growth in both advanced economies (from 3.4 percent in 2004 to 2.6 percent) and other emerging market and developing countries (from 7.2 percent in 2004 to 0.3 percent). Growth is expected to decelerate in the United States (3.6 percent), the euro area (1.6 percent), Japan (0.8 percent), China (8.5 percent) and India (6.2 percent).

The global performance is linked to the increasing price of oil on the international market. The combined impact of strong global demand, uncertain supply, limited excess capacity among OPEC producers and increased geopolitical uncertainties is anticipated to continue in 2005. On April 11, oil prices reached a record of US\$58 per barrel. Although the price has receded since, some experts believe that it could reach US\$100. Thus, after increasing by more than 30 percent in 2004, the average price of oil per barrel in 2005 is expected to increase by an additional 40 percent.

Despite the higher oil prices, global inflation is expected to remain subdued. The increase in consumer prices in advanced countries is expected to remain at 2 percent, while it is projected to decelerate in other emerging markets and developing countries to 5.5 percent.

REGIONAL ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

In the context of the rising price of oil, all regional economies, except Trinidad and Tobago, are expected to face the challenge of adopting appropriate policy responses to limit the potential adverse impacts on government revenue and domestic prices. Already, some countries have adjusted the retail prices for petroleum products.

As the Windward Islands intensify lobbying efforts within the ACP grouping to secure an appropriate tariff level for bananas on the European market come the start of the regime by January 2006, they are likely to face heightened opposition from the Latin Americans who are pressing for a much lower tariff. Amidst continued competition among UK supermarkets, the Windward Islands

are expected to experience continued price volatility for bananas, although the strength of the Pound Sterling is expected to cushion negative price movements. In addition, the region's other preferential regimes for sugar and rice are expected to remain under attack from the international trading community even as they face declining export prices.

Further, 2005 is likely to see increased activity as the region prepares for the Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME) and the Cricket World Cup in 2007. For the former, public education and legislative amendments are expected to continue apace to usher in the single economic space that facilitates the free movement of the factors of production in all countries by January 2006. As the World Cup approaches in 2007, economic activity is expected to be boosted beginning in 2005 as multi-million dollar stadia and other infrastructural works commence in the host member territories.

DOMESTIC ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

The growth momentum which has been established in the domestic economy over the past few years is projected to continue in 2005. In the real sector, activity is anticipated to be spearheaded by buoyancy in tourism, construction and the distributive trades. Preparations for World Cup 2007 are expected to intensify with increased activity in construction and renovations of private residences, accommodation establishments and government infrastructure. In the fiscal sector, improved revenue performance is anticipated on account of the growth of the economy, although expenditure is expected to increase as Government invests in the improvement in economic and social infrastructure. However, a major challenge in 2005, in the context of the rising oil prices, will be the balancing of the need to safeguard government revenue while at the same time containing the adverse impact of high oil prices on domestic inflation. In the monetary and external sectors, developments will reflect real sector activity as financing from both the banking system and external sources is expected to remain strong.

In the construction sector, Government is expected to play a major role in boosting domestic activity in 2005/06. The highlight of these activities will be continued investment in road infrastructure that will feature the Tertiary Roads Project (\$8.6 million), the Castries/Gros Islet Highway Upgrade (\$7.3 million) and the East Coast Road (\$18 million).

In preparation for World Cup 2007, Government plans to spend \$34.2 million on the upgrade of the Beausejour Cricket Ground and its environs in fiscal year 2005/06.

The Statutory Corporations are also expected to be involved in capital works in 2005. SLASPA expects to spend \$20 million on rehabilitation of the Northern Wharf and a further \$10 million on resurfacing the GFL Charles Airport. WASCO is also expected to spend some US\$5-7 million on the Northern Water Supply project. This project is expected to be completed in 2006 and increase the supply to that area by about 25 percent.

Tourism activity is expected to remain strong as growth continues in major source markets, and European visitors continue to benefit from the depreciating US dollar. Despite the recent withdrawal of service by Air Jamaica, airlift is expected to remain strong with other airlines picking up some of the slack. As the industry prepares to take advantage of increased opportunities afforded by the World Cup, it is anticipated that, in addition to the extensions to small properties, there will be improved standards and greater product diversification.

Tourism investment is likely to remain buoyant with a number of major properties at various stages of development. These are expected to make a significant immediate contribution to domestic employment in 2005 as well as an increase in the stock of hotel rooms which will facilitate the expected surge in arrivals associated with the World Cup. The following properties are expected to open during 2005:

- Plantation Beach Resort, a US\$27 million resort with 74 villas;
- Discovery at Marigot Bay, a US\$18 million resort featuring 124 rooms and 52 apartments;
- Coconut Bay Resort (the former Club Med), featuring US\$19 million in renovations to the 256-room hotel; and
- Coco Resorts, Rodney Bay, a EC\$44 million facility with 72 rooms and 12 suites.

The following properties will be under construction in 2005:

- Beau Estates, Soufriere, a time share resort complex with 30 homes; and
- Lagoon Park, Rodney Bay, a EC\$20 million 20-condo complex with yacht mooring pool.

As the build-up to the World Cup continues the following properties have received DCA approval and also qualify for the World Cup incentives created by Government:

- The Landing at Rodney Bay, a US\$120 million complex with 50 villas, 144 condos and marina facilities; and
- Mount Du Cap, Cap Estate, a residential complex of 16 homes and condos.

Additional investment is also anticipated under the following:

- Beaches, Pigeon Island, a US\$80 million 300 room facility; and
- Praslin Bay Resort, a US\$90 million hotel of 225 rooms (phase 1), for which an Environmental Impact Assessment is currently underway.

Consequent upon the above analysis, the growth in Gross Domestic Product for Saint Lucia is forecasted to accelerate in 2005.

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SAINT LUCIA
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY AT FACTOR COST
CURRENT PRICES
EC\$ millions

SECTORS	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999r	2000r	2001r	2002p	2003p	2004pj
Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, Fishing	122.16	114.74	94.83	122.23	113.19	114.28	98.94	94.20	85.02	92.70
- Bananas	69.16	55.87	32.31	60.04	57.56	52.67	31.08	40.47	32.31	41.47
- Other Crops	31.07	33.05	33.49	31.09	25.17	26.47	28.52	18.58	22.44	20.81
- Livestock	7.93	10.27	11.50	12.50	7.16	10.67	11.77	12.34	9.51	9.71
- Fishing	11.02	13.86	15.98	17.16	21.97	23.25	26.36	21.64	19.62	19.70
- Forestry	1.81	1.69	1.55	1.44	1.33	1.22	1.21	1.17	1.14	1.01
Mining and Quarrying	5.85	5.67	6.11	6.22	6.02	7.94	6.08	6.05	6.03	5.90
Manufacturing	88.78	87.67	84.92	82.37	84.88	78.76	73.29	74.32	83.10	92.20
Construction	103.66	99.70	101.12	117.48	137.04	130.88	125.08	118.40	114.03	119.02
Electricity and Water	47.27	46.98	53.65	63.89	75.16	86.95	86.57	82.24	89.20	84.77
- Electricity	37.93	37.59	44.22	54.34	65.54	70.38	71.16	66.68	73.01	68.45
- Water	9.34	9.39	9.43	9.55	9.62	16.57	15.41	15.56	16.19	16.32
Wholesale and Retail Trade	182.53	184.58	188.73	197.88	210.76	202.61	177.83	178.44	195.21	215.26
Hotels and Restaurants	147.03	159.89	176.92	186.23	200.85	213.87	201.26	199.57	235.15	237.25
Transport	141.37	147.54	159.29	165.41	176.85	182.91	189.31	194.19	201.24	211.13
- Road Transport	91.98	95.58	101.25	104.12	110.81	114.58	118.59	122.15	124.05	129.13
- Air Transport	17.54	19.17	21.64	23.13	25.46	26.33	27.25	27.76	30.62	33.63
- Sea Transport	31.85	32.79	36.40	38.16	40.58	42.00	43.47	44.28	46.57	48.37
Communications	92.53	97.00	97.80	102.00	104.79	111.32	122.40	131.96	140.37	147.71
Banking and Insurance	111.89	117.85	121.70	132.66	139.18	144.06	153.34	160.47	169.63	178.87
- Banking	93.08	95.09	99.85	108.86	112.70	116.68	125.01	131.46	140.27	148.48
- Insurance	18.81	22.76	21.85	23.80	26.48	27.38	28.33	29.01	29.36	30.39
Real Estate and Owner Occupied Dwellings	79.46	80.59	81.27	84.37	89.71	92.76	96.01	98.89	100.07	103.57
Producers of Government Services	195.41	195.61	210.16	205.43	227.65	239.18	249.42	247.31	248.11	261.22
Other Services	59.37	63.05	65.37	69.01	73.04	75.52	78.54	80.31	82.10	84.97
Less: Imputed Banking Service Charge	-100.40	-110.64	-116.17	-114.36	-118.33	-122.19	-124.10	-126.78	-135.28	-144.87
TOTAL	1,276.90	1,290.23	1,325.70	1,420.81	1,520.79	1,558.85	1,533.97	1,539.56	1,613.97	1,689.69
Growth Rate	7.41%	1.04%	2.75%	7.17%	7.04%	2.50%	-1.60%	0.36%	4.83%	4.69%

P= Provisional

Pj= Projected

R = Revised

Source: Government Statistics Department (St.Lucia)

SAINT LUCIA
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY AT FACTOR COST
CONSTANT PRICES - 1990
EC\$ millions

SECTORS	1995	1996	1997	1998R	1999R	2000R	2001R	2002R	2003R	2004PJ
Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, Fishing	118.80	119.89	98.36	97.20	82.09	85.37	84.50	82.15	83.94	68.88
- Bananas	80.43	76.72	52.14	51.22	41.05	43.68	22.37	30.57	22.78	26.81
- Other Crops	24.02	25.68	26.71	25.56	21.14	19.57	20.48	13.50	14.27	13.93
- Livestock	5.71	7.49	8.39	9.12	6.67	7.67	7.20	6.86	6.64	5.70
- Fishing	6.86	8.33	9.57	9.84	12.48	13.21	13.22	10.02	9.09	9.12
- Forestry	1.78	1.67	1.57	1.46	1.35	1.24	1.23	1.20	1.16	1.12
Mining and Quarrying	5.17	5.15	5.73	5.83	6.72	7.86	5.71	5.82	5.83	5.70
Manufacturing	75.06	69.97	69.74	66.91	71.77	69.87	66.45	69.80	70.19	68.44
Construction	90.91	87.30	87.84	96.82	109.22	104.21	99.02	94.23	90.63	91.03
Electricity and Water	46.00	43.25	47.94	57.83	64.09	60.99	63.70	62.22	63.36	60.83
- Electricity	37.38	34.95	38.34	49.68	57.32	53.12	55.53	55.03	56.28	53.75
- Water	8.63	8.30	9.60	8.15	6.77	7.87	8.26	7.20	7.10	7.19
Wholesale and Retail Trade	144.97	145.38	150.10	151.65	155.18	146.05	124.84	128.39	136.21	146.86
Hotels and Restaurants	119.32	128.47	142.05	145.40	151.57	155.61	139.20	138.35	161.36	170.86
Transport	113.73	117.19	119.10	122.42	128.79	127.14	125.49	120.70	123.45	129.96
- Road Transport	74.64	76.84	81.40	83.03	85.04	86.90	87.05	84.73	85.18	86.09
- Air Transport	15.23	14.78	15.83	16.14	17.50	18.03	17.06	16.44	17.84	22.26
- Sea Transport	23.86	25.57	21.87	23.25	26.25	22.21	21.38	19.53	20.43	21.61
Communications	89.10	94.09	93.53	96.18	102.13	107.75	120.50	129.56	135.43	141.65
Banking and Insurance	91.88	98.29	105.73	110.99	120.79	124.42	127.72	129.29	131.51	137.72
- Banking	79.20	85.49	91.73	96.19	105.14	107.98	110.22	112.35	113.73	118.93
- Insurance	12.68	12.80	14.00	14.80	15.65	16.44	17.50	16.94	17.78	18.79
Real Estate and Owner Occupied Dwellings	120.99	126.12	129.28	135.13	138.38	141.39	146.16	149.63	154.62	159.68
Producers of Government Services	135.83	135.97	138.53	138.57	144.74	145.89	149.43	148.97	143.93	149.82
Other Services	46.34	50.82	62.42	53.99	55.72	57.55	53.33	54.29	54.27	54.59
Less: Imputed Banking Service Charge	-76.82	-82.82	-88.94	-93.77	-99.45	-104.13	-106.21	-108.24	-108.61	-114.59
TOTAL	1123.29	1138.08	1149.20	1187.14	1233.32	1228.77	1179.94	1181.15	1215.15	1259.30
Growth Rate	1.56%	1.32%	0.96%	3.30%	3.69%	-0.29%	-4.05%	0.10%	2.68%	3.64%

P=Provisional.

P=Projected

R=Revised

Source: Government Statistics Department (St. Lucia)

SAINT LUCIA
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY AT FACTOR COST
GROWTH RATE IN CONSTANT PRICES - 1990

SECTORS	1995	1996	1997	1998R	1999R	2000R	2001R	2002P	2003P	2004PJ
Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, Fishing	5.11%	0.92%	-17.95%	-1.20%	-14.93%	3.24%	-24.45%	-3.65%	-13.20%	5.08%
- Bananas	16.55%	-4.61%	-32.04%	-1.76%	-19.86%	6.41%	-48.79%	36.66%	-25.48%	17.69%
- Other Crops	-20.17%	6.91%	4.01%	-4.31%	-17.29%	-7.43%	4.65%	-34.08%	5.70%	-2.38%
- Livestock	-6.55%	31.17%	12.02%	8.70%	-26.86%	14.99%	-6.13%	-4.72%	-3.21%	-14.16%
- Fishing	15.68%	21.43%	14.89%	2.82%	26.83%	5.85%	0.08%	-24.21%	-9.28%	0.33%
- Forestry	-5.71%	-6.06%	-6.45%	-7.02%	-7.42%	-8.01%	-0.73%	-2.92%	-3.01%	-3.36%
Mining and Quarrying	30.56%	-0.39%	11.26%	1.75%	15.27%	13.99%	-25.46%	1.87%	0.30%	-2.30%
Manufacturing	5.93%	-6.78%	-0.33%	-1.19%	4.15%	-2.65%	-4.89%	5.04%	0.56%	-2.50%
Construction	2.42%	-3.97%	0.39%	10.47%	12.81%	-4.59%	-4.98%	-4.84%	-3.82%	0.44%
Electricity and Water	9.26%	-5.98%	10.83%	20.64%	10.83%	-4.84%	4.59%	-2.47%	1.86%	-3.86%
- Electricity	9.87%	-6.49%	9.69%	29.60%	15.37%	-7.33%	4.55%	-0.92%	2.28%	-4.50%
- Water	6.72%	-3.78%	15.62%	-15.13%	-16.88%	16.26%	4.92%	-12.88%	-1.31%	1.20%
Wholesale and Retail Trade	-5.14%	0.28%	3.25%	1.03%	2.99%	-6.49%	-14.52%	1.24%	7.77%	7.83%
Hotels and Restaurants	1.13%	7.67%	10.57%	2.36%	4.24%	2.67%	-10.55%	-0.61%	16.63%	5.89%
Transport	1.05%	3.04%	1.63%	2.79%	5.20%	-1.28%	-1.30%	-3.82%	2.28%	5.27%
- Road Transport	5.98%	2.95%	5.93%	2.00%	2.42%	2.19%	0.17%	-2.67%	0.53%	1.07%
- Air Transport	7.86%	-2.95%	7.10%	1.96%	8.43%	3.03%	-5.38%	-3.63%	8.52%	24.78%
- Sea Transport	-14.79%	7.17%	-14.47%	6.31%	12.90%	-15.39%	-3.74%	-8.65%	4.61%	5.78%
Communications	-0.11%	5.60%	-0.60%	2.83%	6.19%	5.50%	11.83%	7.52%	4.53%	4.59%
Banking and Insurance	4.08%	6.98%	7.57%	4.97%	8.83%	3.01%	2.65%	1.23%	1.72%	4.72%
- Banking	4.16%	7.94%	7.30%	4.86%	9.31%	2.70%	2.07%	1.93%	1.23%	4.57%
- Insurance	3.59%	0.95%	9.38%	5.71%	5.74%	5.05%	6.45%	-3.18%	4.96%	5.67%
Real Estate and Owner Occupied Dwellings	-0.02%	3.41%	3.31%	4.54%	2.39%	2.19%	3.37%	2.37%	3.33%	3.27%
Producers of Government Services	2.95%	0.10%	0.41%	1.49%	4.45%	0.79%	2.43%	-1.65%	-2.07%	4.09%
Other Services	2.00%	5.13%	3.15%	3.00%	3.20%	3.28%	-7.33%	1.79%	-0.03%	0.59%
Less: Imputed Banking Service Charge	3.53%	7.81%	7.39%	5.43%	6.05%	4.71%	2.00%	1.91%	1.27%	4.54%
TOTAL	1.59%	1.32%	0.98%	3.30%	3.89%	-0.29%	-4.05%	0.10%	2.88%	3.64%

P=Provisional.

PJ=Projected

R=Revised

Source: Government Statistics Department (St. Lucia)

SAINT LUCIA
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY AT FACTOR COST
SHARE OF TOTAL IN CONSTANT PRICES - 1990

SECTORS	1995	1996	1997	1998R	1999R	2000R	2001R	2002P	2003P	2004PJ
Agriculture, Livestock, Forestry, Fishing	10.58%	10.53%	8.56%	8.19%	6.70%	6.94%	5.47%	5.26%	4.44%	4.50%
- Bananas	7.16%	6.74%	4.54%	4.31%	3.33%	3.55%	1.90%	2.59%	1.87%	2.13%
- Other Crops	2.14%	2.26%	2.32%	2.15%	1.71%	1.59%	1.74%	1.14%	1.17%	1.11%
- Livestock	0.51%	0.66%	0.73%	0.77%	0.54%	0.62%	0.61%	0.58%	0.55%	0.45%
- Fishing	0.61%	0.73%	0.83%	0.83%	1.01%	1.07%	1.12%	0.85%	0.75%	0.72%
- Forestry	0.16%	0.15%	0.14%	0.12%	0.11%	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%	0.09%
Mining and Quarrying	0.46%	0.45%	0.50%	0.49%	0.54%	0.62%	0.48%	0.49%	0.48%	0.45%
Manufacturing	6.68%	6.15%	6.07%	5.80%	5.82%	5.68%	5.63%	5.91%	5.78%	5.43%
Construction	8.09%	7.67%	7.63%	8.16%	8.86%	8.47%	8.39%	7.98%	7.46%	7.23%
Electricity and Water	4.10%	3.80%	4.17%	4.87%	5.20%	4.96%	5.41%	5.27%	5.22%	4.84%
- Electricity	3.33%	3.07%	3.34%	4.19%	4.65%	4.32%	4.71%	4.66%	4.63%	4.27%
- Water	0.77%	0.73%	0.84%	0.69%	0.55%	0.64%	0.70%	0.61%	0.58%	0.57%
Wholesale and Retail Trade	12.91%	12.77%	13.06%	12.77%	12.66%	11.88%	10.58%	10.70%	11.21%	11.66%
Hotels and Restaurants	10.62%	11.29%	12.36%	12.25%	12.29%	12.65%	11.80%	11.71%	13.28%	13.57%
Transport	10.12%	10.30%	10.36%	10.31%	10.44%	10.34%	10.64%	10.22%	10.16%	10.32%
- Road Transport	6.64%	6.75%	7.08%	6.99%	6.90%	7.07%	7.38%	7.17%	7.01%	6.84%
- Air Transport	1.36%	1.30%	1.38%	1.36%	1.42%	1.47%	1.45%	1.39%	1.47%	1.77%
- Sea Transport	2.12%	2.25%	1.90%	1.96%	2.13%	1.81%	1.81%	1.65%	1.68%	1.72%
Communications	7.93%	8.27%	8.14%	8.10%	8.28%	8.76%	10.21%	10.97%	11.15%	11.25%
Banking and Insurance	8.18%	8.64%	9.20%	9.35%	9.79%	10.12%	10.82%	10.95%	10.82%	10.94%
- Banking	7.05%	7.51%	7.98%	8.10%	8.52%	8.78%	9.34%	9.51%	9.36%	9.44%
- Insurance	1.13%	1.12%	1.22%	1.25%	1.27%	1.34%	1.48%	1.43%	1.46%	1.49%
Real Estate and Owner Occupied Dwellings	10.77%	10.99%	11.25%	11.38%	11.22%	11.50%	12.39%	12.67%	12.72%	12.68%
Producers of Government Services	12.09%	11.95%	11.88%	11.67%	11.74%	11.86%	12.66%	12.44%	11.84%	11.90%
Other Services	4.30%	4.47%	4.56%	4.55%	4.52%	4.68%	4.52%	4.60%	4.47%	4.33%
Less: Imputed Banking Service Charge	-6.84%	-7.28%	-7.74%	-7.90%	-8.06%	-8.47%	-9.00%	-9.16%	-9.02%	-9.10%
TOTAL	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

P=Provisional.

Pj=Projected

R=Revised

Source: Government Statistics Department (St. Lucia)

SAINT LUCIA
EXPENDITURE ON GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

In Current Prices

EC\$ millions

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999R	2000R	2001P	2002P	2003P	2004PJ
EXPENDITURE ON GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (M. P.)	1492.31	1534.34	1560.15	1714.46	1810.42	1850.44	1793.87	1841.74	1932.33	2064.64
Government Final Consumption Expenditure	259.68	261.23	284.08	390.82	408.68	430.11	489.53	492.14	457.97	481.89
Private Final Consumption Expenditure	875.77	985.84	1020.80	998.95	1071.80	1121.25	1049.16	1151.69	1364.30	1442.28
Gross Capital Formation	367.19	381.54	417.71	433.08	500.45	490.70	459.37	415.89	408.40	434.31
Government	101.80	98.80	67.80	69.80	69.80	69.80	70.80	71.80	72.80	73.80
Private	265.39	282.74	349.91	363.28	430.65	420.90	388.57	344.09	335.60	360.51
Increase in Stocks										
Gross Fixed Capital Formation	367.19	381.54	417.71	433.08	500.45	490.70	459.37	415.89	408.40	434.31
Construction	233.23	223.79	227.52	264.34	325.46	310.84	299.72	282.08	270.71	285.30
Transport Equipment	26.82	29.97	55.96	31.32	37.29	40.86	42.48	35.79	46.59	50.08
Other Machinery & Equip.	107.14	127.78	134.23	137.42	137.70	139.00	117.17	98.02	91.10	98.93
Net Exports	-10.32	-94.27	-162.44	-108.39	-170.51	-191.62	-204.19	-217.98	-298.34	-293.84
Exports of Goods and Services	1038.74	953.33	968.34	1037.30	1031.40	1012.44	883.02	860.17	1049.81	1158.04
Less: Imports of Goods and Services	1049.06	1047.60	1130.78	1145.69	1201.91	1204.06	1087.21	1078.15	1348.15	1451.88
GDP AT MARKET PRICES	1492.31	1534.34	1560.15	1714.46	1810.42	1850.44	1793.87	1841.74	1932.33	2064.64
	-215.41	-244.11	-234.45	-293.65	-289.63	-291.59	-259.90	-302.18	-318.36	-374.95
Less: Indirect Taxes	218.77	247.15	237.74	296.70	292.73	294.67	263.47	305.30	321.46	378.14
Plus: Subsidies	3.36	3.05	3.29	3.05	3.10	3.08	3.57	3.12	3.10	3.19
GDP AT FACTOR COST	1276.90	1290.23	1325.70	1420.81	1520.79	1558.85	1533.97	1539.56	1613.97	1689.69
Growth Rate	7.41%	1.04%	2.75%	7.17%	7.04%	2.50%	-1.60%	0.36%	4.83%	4.69%

P=Provisional

pj=Projected

R=Revised

Source: Government Statistics Department (St.Lucia)

ST. LUCIA BANANA EXPORTS

(Tonnes)

Period	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
JANUARY	10,139	7,174	8,252	7,453	9,089	6397	5809	4417	3945	2,903	4,923
FEBRUARY	7,998	7,393	8,086	6,949	6,448	4651	6019	3973	3963	2,843	4,045
MARCH	11,492	9,533	11,885	7,347	6,691	6541	6143	3994	5015	3,546	4,416
First Quarter	29,629	24,100	28,222	21,749	22,228	17,589	17,971	12,384	12,923	9,292	13,385
APRIL	7,579	8,569	8,773	5,483	4,994	6,055	5,010	2,584	4,365	2,755	3,096
MAY	8,089	8,748	8,131	5,441	4,513	5,488	5,486	2,434	4,355	2,951	3,027
JUNE	8,413	10,595	10,445	6,295	4,732	5,818	6,103	2,432	5,159	3,516	3,858
2nd Quarter	24,081	27,911	27,349	17,219	14,239	17,361	16,599	7,450	13,879	9,222	9,981
1st Half Total	53,710	52,011	55,571	38,968	36,467	34,950	34,570	19,834	26,802	18,514	23,366
JULY	6,049	8,856	6,942	4,169	3,469	4,363	5,506	1,711	3,609	2,252	2,934
AUGUST	5,917	7,398	6,608	3,678	3,562	3,727	5,094	1686	3654	1,951	3,116
SEPTEMBER	6,054	10,051	9,813	5,164	6,194	4,851	6861	2288	4265	2,371	3,818
3rd Quarter	18,020	26,305	23,363	13,011	13,225	12,941	17,461	5,685	11,528	6,574	9,869
OCTOBER	5,083	8,462	6,456	5,021	6,125	5,365	6,082	2267	3126	2,390	3,104
NOVEMBER	5,802	6,800	9,026	5,810	8,343	5,357	5,650	2771	3235	2,654	2,848
DECEMBER	7,639	9,532	10,389	8,585	8,879	6,616	6,519	3487	3469	3,839	3,139
4th Quarter	18,524	24,794	25,871	19,416	23,347	17,338	18,251	8,525	9,830	8,883	9,091
2nd Half Total	36,544	51,099	49,234	32,427	36,572	30,279	35,712	14,210	21,358	15,457	18,960
Annual Total	90,254	103,110	104,805	71,395	73,039	65,229	70,282	34,044	48,160	33,971	42,326
Growth	-15.7%	14.2%	1.6%	-31.9%	2.3%	-10.7%	7.7%	-51.6%	41.5%	-29.5%	24.6%

ST. LUCIA BANANA REVENUE EARNINGS
(\$EC millions)

MONTH	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
January	8.70	7.72	7.04	5.26	10.07	9.53	7.51	4.17	4.38	3.71	5.96
February	9.40	11.82	10.33	7.53	8.74	6.82	8.31	4.15	4.39	3.22	5.56
March	13.50	14.62	19.99	10.53	7.08	9.95	8.57	4.49	5.96	4.65	5.56
1st Quarter	31.60	34.16	37.36	23.32	25.89	26.30	24.39	12.80	14.74	11.57	17.09
April	9.80	16.02	13.04	8.61	7.58	10.00	6.93	3.49	5.22	3.59	4.00
May	9.70	13.62	11.59	7.44	7.42	9.04	7.51	3.38	5.47	3.92	3.95
June	12.30	11.61	15.73	7.38	4.75	6.91	8.65	3.36	6.45	4.63	5.04
2nd Quarter	31.80	41.25	40.36	23.43	19.75	25.95	23.09	10.23	17.15	12.14	12.99
1st Half	63.40	75.41	77.72	46.75	45.64	52.25	47.48	23.02	31.89	23.71	30.07
July	7.70	9.86	6.36	4.63	3.45	4.47	6.1	2.25	4.49	3.01	3.85
August	7.30	6.67	6.67	4.50	3.14	3.43	5.67	2.22	4.49	2.63	4.01
September	9.00	11.51	11.63	6.10	9.09	5.57	7.66	3.16	5.39	3.21	4.78
3rd Quarter	24.00	28.04	24.66	15.23	15.68	13.47	19.43	7.63	14.37	8.85	12.64
October	7.6	8.15	6.59	6.78	8.98	7.19	6.35	2.89	3.97	3.25	3.91
November	7.50	6.31	9.20	7.41	15.02	6.90	5.85	3.44	4.12	3.43	3.66
December	8.20	8.49	7.61	9.77	7.09	7.16	6.86	4.18	4.26	4.33	4.05
4TH QTR	23.3	22.95	23.4	23.96	31.09	21.25	19.06	10.51	12.35	11.01	11.63
2ND HALF	47.30	50.99	48.06	39.19	46.77	34.72	38.49	18.14	26.72	19.86	24.26
TOTAL	110.70	126.40	125.78	85.94	92.41	86.97	85.97	41.16	58.61	43.57	54.34
Growth	-19.2%	14.2%	-0.5%	-31.7%	7.5%	-5.9%	-1.1%	-52.1%	42.4%	-25.7%	24.7%

WINWARD ISLAND BANANA EXPORTS

Tonnes

Country	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
St.Lucia	90,061	103,668	104,805	71,395	73,042	65,231	70,281	34,044	48,160	33,971	42,326
Dominica	42,790	32,324	39,553	34,903	28,135	27,264	27,157	17,575	16,983	10,379	12,720.70
St.Vincent	30,925	49,899	43,986	31,020	39,887	37,379	42,339	30,497	33,243	22,558	22,631.11
Grenada	4,544	4,529	1,850	102	94	583	722	566	507	393	337.73
TOTAL	168,320	190,420	190,194	137,420	141,158	130,457	140,499	82,843	98,893	67,301	78,015
Growth	-30.6%	13.1%	-0.1%	-27.7%	2.7%	-7.6%	7.7%	-41.0%	19.4%	-31.9%	15.9%
Average Monthly Exports	14,027	15,868	15,850	11,452	11,763	10,871	11,708	6,904	8,241	5,608	6,501

SHARE of WINWARD ISLAND BANANA EXPORTS

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
St.Lucia	53.51%	54.44%	55.10%	51.95%	51.74%	50.00%	50.02%	41.09%	48.70%	50.48%	54.25%
Dominica	25.42%	16.98%	20.80%	25.40%	19.93%	20.90%	19.33%	21.21%	17.17%	15.42%	16.31%
St.Vincent	18.37%	26.20%	23.13%	22.57%	28.26%	28.65%	30.13%	36.81%	33.62%	33.52%	29.01%
Grenada	2.70%	2.38%	0.97%	0.07%	0.07%	0.45%	0.51%	0.68%	0.51%	0.58%	0.43%
TOTAL	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Source: WIBDECO

FISH LANDINGS

(Tonnes)

Species	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Shark	4.9	4.5	66.1	5.9	20.2
Dolphin	555.1	426.9	372.8	286.6	375.7
Wahoo/Kingfish	243.1	214	246.2	169.3	238.0
Tuna	473.4	404.2	219.1	456.2	418.6
Flying Fish	98.5	323.3	170.1	75.5	10.6
Others	485.1	593.8	538.2	454.5	456.7
Total	1,860.1	1,966.7	1,612.5	1,448.0	1,519.8
Growth	8.5%	5.7%	-18.0%	-10.2%	5.0%

Source: Ministry of Agriculture

Others include Snapper, Lobster and Conch

GROWTH IN FISH LANDINGS

Species	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Shark	-15.5%	-8.2%	1368.9%	-91.1%	242.4%
Dolphin	-5.6%	-23.1%	-12.7%	-23.1%	31.1%
Wahoo/Kingfish	-21.6%	-12.0%	15.0%	-31.2%	40.6%
Tuna	46.1%	-14.6%	-45.8%	108.2%	-8.2%
Flying Fish	47.5%	228.2%	-47.4%	-55.6%	-86.0%
Others	15.3%	22.4%	-9.4%	-15.6%	0.5%
Total	8.5%	5.7%	-18.0%	-10.2%	5.0%

Source: Ministry of Agriculture

Others include Snapper, Lobster and Conch

MILK PRODUCTION

	Production (litres)													
Period	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
First Quarter	79,535	87,092	71,932	49,146	49,596	17,320	\$241,581.40	\$234,628.00	\$243,124.00	\$172,771.00	\$159,724.00	\$ 152,261.00	\$ 56,290.00	\$ -
Second Quarter	76,779	94,582	77,536	38,974	51,692	17,134	\$236,100.30	\$226,498.00	\$264,036.00	\$176,335.00	\$126,665.00	\$ 158,696.00	\$ 55,684.00	\$ -
Sub Total	156,314	181,674	149,468	88,120	101,288	34,454	\$477,681.70	\$461,126.00	\$507,160.00	\$349,106.00	\$286,389.00	\$ 310,957.00	\$ 111,974.00	\$ -
Third Quarter	66,764	84,454	73,811	38,453	50,437	N/A	\$194,846.60	\$196,464.00	\$235,758.00	\$180,522.00	\$111,162.90	\$ 163,920.00	N/A	\$ -
Fourth Quarter*	65,764	73,350	74,264	34,761	23,277	N/A	\$193,705.85	\$194,464.00	\$211,932.00	\$137,530.00	\$91,462.16	\$ 75,650.00	N/A	\$ -
Sub Total	132,528	157,804	148,075	73,215	73,714	N/A	\$388,552.45	\$390,928.00	\$447,690.00	\$318,052.00	\$202,625.06	\$ 239,570.00	N/A	\$ -
Annual Total	288,842	339,478	297,543	161,335	175,002	34,454	\$866,234.15	\$852,054.00	\$954,850.00	\$667,158.00	\$489,014.06	\$ 550,527.00	\$ 111,974.00	\$ -

Source: Ministry of Agriculture & Beausejour Dairy Farm

EGG PRODUCTION

	2001	2002	2003	2004				
				Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Total
Quantity ('000 dozens)	482	763	745	179	197	218	309	903
Growth	-47.5%	58.3%	-2.4%					21.2%
Value (\$'000)	2,892	4,578	3,725	1074	1182	1308	1854	5,418
Growth	-51.5%	58.3%	-18.6%					45.4%
Avr Lying Stock on Farms (' 000 Hens)	25	37	na	39	54	66	68	57

Source: Ministry of Agriculture

EXPORTS OF SELECTED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE

CROPS	1998		1999		2000		2001		2002		2003		2004	
	Quantity (tonnes)	Value (EC\$)	Quantity (tonnes)	Value (EC\$)	Quantity (tonnes)	Value (EC\$)	Quantity (tonnes)	Value (EC\$)	Quantity (tonnes)	Value (EC\$)	Quantity (tonnes)	Value (EC\$)	Quantity (tonnes)	Value (EC\$)
Plantain	422.00	\$734,330.00	295.30	\$503,700.00	288.94	\$456,210.00	125.86	\$123,030.00	135.30	\$162,760.00	122.89	\$104,320.53	201.75	\$208,903.30
Grapefruit	0.90	\$2,780.00	1.20	\$2,550.00	1.93	\$3,480.00	9.36	\$10,720.00	21.82	\$25,120.00	21.39	\$18,566.00	8.91	\$9,998.00
Pineapple	0.05	\$170.00			0.05	\$150.00	0.50	\$890.00	3.04	\$44,460.00	0.67	\$765.00	0.09	\$150.00
Soursop	48.59	\$59,230.00	46.90	\$41,710.00	25.83	\$30,880.00	34.98	\$45,500.00	12.81	\$14,710.00	11.96	\$14,952.15	4.46	\$6,701.92
Breadfruit	724.52	\$754,230.00	634.80	\$821,860.00	679.05	\$751,180.00	447.94	\$486,610.00	856.83	\$1,003,330.00	584.74	\$709,487.17	801.88	\$943,495.03
Hot Pepper	166.38	\$355,000.00	183.90	\$872,070.00	79.58	\$290,350.00	363.50	\$1,440,970.00	376.51	\$1,524,230.00	208.01	\$912,900.87	175.47	\$782,731.03
Mango	219.91	\$323,100.00	350.10	\$437,640.00	243.45	\$310,020.00	315.81	\$548,710.00	227.55	\$430,660.00	450.93	\$708,297.97	167.46	\$294,074.23
Sweet Potato	0.39	\$1,520.00	0.71	\$1,810.00	7.33	\$19,870.00	0.74	\$1,600.00	5.91	\$10,850.00	0.59	\$1,013.00	0.56	\$815.00
Yam	0.26	\$740.00	1.20	\$2,580.00	3.39	\$9,480.00	4.07	\$10,990.00	4.09	\$11,000.00	2.93	\$8,355.00	1.33	\$2,880.00
Avocado	40.73	\$62,410.00	60.80	\$143,100.00	52.40	\$86,990.00	34.08	\$60,940.00	74.23	\$140,480.00	65.84	\$98,690.01	50.96	\$88,113.81
Orange	3.84	\$1,060.00	0.40	\$930.00	1.81	\$3,610.00	5.96	\$7,430.00	4.15	\$4,400.00	5.20	\$6,514.50	4.18	\$2,118.00
Green Bananas	376.68	\$1,532,370.00	2,247.00	\$2,434,110.00	2,168.10	\$2,139,170.00	1,239.36	\$850,190.00	544.34	\$656,810.00	1,272.65	\$1,108,878.00	731.96	\$370,516.00
Others	198.09	\$122,160.00	117.09	\$285,770.00	402.32	\$560,670.00	709.02	\$1,367,972.06	343.11	\$1,485,283.17	172.13	\$172,226.30	125.70	\$150,911.12
TOTAL	2,202.34	\$3,949,100.00	3,939.40	\$5,547,830.00	3,954.18	\$4,662,060.00	3,291.18	\$4,955,552.06	2,609.69	\$5,514,093.17	2,919.92	\$3,866,186.50	2,274.72	\$2,861,407.44
Growth			78.9%	40.5%	0.4%	-16.0%	-16.8%	6.3%	-20.7%	11.3%	11.9%	-29.9%	-22.1%	-26.0%

Source: Ministry of Agriculture

SUPERMARKET PURCHASES OF OTHER CROPS BY CATEGORY**

Crop Category	2001		2002		2003		2004	
	Quantity (Tonnes)	Value \$EC	Quantity (Tonnes)	Value \$EC	Quantity (Tonnes)	Value \$EC	Quantity (Tonnes)	Value \$EC
Fruit & Tree Crops	1,007.48	\$1,097,042.93	712.67	\$862,549.28	631.76	\$911,343.84	497.23	\$669,598.23
Musa	523.78	\$509,273.42	509.51	\$408,179.43	331.78	\$291,487.17	351.41	\$308,672.76
Traditional Vegetables	434.90	\$1,459,040.84	328.71	\$1,278,237.62	220.47	\$871,980.43	197.34	\$928,486.24
Non Traditional Vegetables	478.08	\$1,054,041.59	404.05	\$916,729.96	352.45	\$903,594.14	285.12	\$843,935.68
Roots & Tubers	442.33	\$1,075,775.37	433.91	\$843,808.45	265.12	\$675,559.18	280.36	\$723,471.75
Condiments	46.57	\$263,610.65	49.41	\$302,117.90	45.01	\$267,744.51	32.88	\$230,728.32
Total	2,933.14	\$5,458,784.80	2,438.26	\$4,611,622.64	1,846.58	\$3,921,709.27	1,644.33	\$3,704,892.98
Growth	-38.7%	-35.2%	-16.9%	-15.5%	-24.3%	-15.0%	-11.0%	-5.5%

HOTEL PURCHASES OF OTHER CROPS BY CATEGORY*

Crop Category	2001		2002		2003		2004	
	Quantity (Tonnes)	Value \$EC	Quantity (Tonnes)	Value \$EC	Quantity (Tonnes)	Value \$EC	Quantity (Tonnes)	Value \$EC
Fruit & Tree Crops	195.2	\$648,747.50	105.5	\$ 333,578.68	501.4	\$ 1,328,381.17	468.8	\$ 1,185,995.00
Musa	324.4	\$329,003.75	101.5	\$ 130,910.14	72.6	\$ 112,358.33	84.5	\$ 140,337.83
Traditional Vegetables	96.8	\$678,193.06	50.8	\$ 349,168.39	131.8	\$ 877,270.97	115.7	\$ 811,269.14
Non Traditional Vegetables	85.1	\$381,473.16	49.1	\$ 214,198.90	122.3	\$ 529,673.95	126.8	\$ 550,645.61
Roots & Tubers	58.4	\$311,487.91	46.2	\$ 158,519.93	96.6	\$ 351,447.65	107.3	\$ 369,768.76
Condiments	9.1	\$108,095.59	5.1	\$ 61,468.32	12.3	\$ 145,220.81	12.7	\$ 145,145.18
Total	769.00	\$2,457,000.97	358.21	\$ 1,247,844.36	936.90	\$ 3,344,352.88	915.73	\$ 3,203,161.52
Growth	-19.1%	-28.7%	-53.4%	-49.2%	161.6%	168.0%	-2.3%	-4.2%

Source: Ministry of Agriculture

* Preliminary Data

**Includes Purchases by the SLMB

DOMESTIC PURCHASES OF OTHER CROPS BY CATEGORY**

Crop Category	2001		2002		2003		2004	
	Quantity (Tonnes)	Value \$EC	Quantity (Tonnes)	Value \$EC	Quantity (Tonnes)	Value \$EC	Quantity (Tonnes)	Value \$EC
Fruit & Tree Crops	1,202.7	\$1,745,790.43	818.2	\$1,196,127.96	1,133.2	\$2,239,725.01	966.0	\$1,855,593.23
Musa	848.2	\$838,277.17	611.0	\$539,089.57	404.4	\$403,845.50	435.9	\$449,010.59
Traditional Vegetables	531.7	\$2,137,233.90	379.5	\$1,627,406.01	352.3	\$1,749,251.40	313.0	\$1,739,755.38
Non Traditional Vegetables	563.2	\$1,435,514.75	453.1	\$1,130,928.86	474.7	\$1,433,268.09	411.9	\$1,394,581.29
Roots & Tubers	500.7	\$1,387,262.28	480.1	\$1,002,328.38	361.7	\$1,027,006.83	387.6	\$1,093,240.51
Condiments	55.7	\$371,706.24	54.5	\$363,586.22	57.3	\$412,965.32	45.6	\$375,873.50
Total	3702.14	\$7,915,784.77	2796.47	\$5,859,467.00	2783.48	\$7,266,062.15	2560.06	\$6,908,054.50
growth			-24.5%	-26.0%	-0.5%	24.0%	-8.0%	-4.9%

Source: Ministry of Agriculture

* Preliminary Data

**Includes Purchases by the SLMB

SELECTED VISITOR STATISTICS

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Total Visitor Arrivals of which:	629,598	625,269	742,323	767,037	673,871	704,236	813,681
Cruise Passengers	372068	351,233	443,551	489,912	387,180	393,262	481,279
Stay-Over Arrivals	252237	263,793	269,850	250,132	253,463	276,948	298,431
Yacht Arrivals	n/a	n/a	16,069	19,817	25,516	21,209	22,530
Excursionists	5293	10,243	12,853	7,176	7,712	12,817	11,441
Paid Bednights (in millions)	1.75	1.83	1.87	1.68	1.67	1.94	2.08
Tourist Expenditure (\$EC Millions) ¹	765.0	740.0	752.3	623.88	558.50	750.77	879.28
Average Hotel Occupancy	75.3	72.5	63.8	57.0	56.1	62.7	64.8
All Inclusives	82.0	79.5	78.0	79.2	72.5	73.8	73.2
Semi-inclusive hotels ²	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	61.8	69.9
European Plan	70.4	65.1	46.2	48.8	45.4	54.7	56.5
Small Properties	59.5	62.6	60.3	50.4	50.4	59.6	64.8
Average Length of Stay	9.2	9.1	9.6	10.6	9.99	10.00	9.3
Cruise Ship Calls	345	356	389	378	245	262	328

1. For 2000 - 2003, the cruise component of total expenditure was revised downwards to reflect an average disembarkation ratio of 80.5% while a ratio of 82.34% was applied for 2004.

2. Based on the new classification; this category comprises hotels which are conventional but offer all-inclusive packages as well.

STAY-OVER TOURIST ARRIVALS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

Country of Origin	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
USA	84,728	75,622	73,446	81,161	83,475	97,532	91,248	94,044	98,078	107,089
CANADA	11,073	11,734	16,043	15,439	13,153	14,968	12,213	12,927	13,494	15,315
EUROPE	81,988	84,376	96,398	88,642	102,690	98,869	82,601	76,698	90,193	97,862
United Kingdom	50,965	50,393	59,592	63,160	73,101	73,433	67,046	63,277	75,426	81,370
Germany	12,518	12,757	11,085	8,345	8,665	7,292	4,818	3,929	3,582	3,289
France	5,577	10,223	15,281	9,598	13,586	10,992	5,091	3,405	6,017	7,682
Rest of Europe	12,928	11,003	10,440	7,539	7,338	7,152	5,646	6,087	5,168	5,521
CARIBBEAN	50,565	59,748	58,583	63,524	60,342	54,595	61,047	66,409	70,543	74,242
Caricom	30,241	28,928	29,836	31,092	31,246	33,650	34,331	49,500	52,316	48,478
French West Indies	16,827	26,722	24,425	26,917	23,318	14,495	21,849	12,053	13,449	22,313
OTHER	3,951	4,179	3,933	3,471	4,133	3,886	3,023	3,385	4,640	3,923
TOTAL	232,305	235,659	248,403	252,237	263,793	269,850	250,132	253,463	276,948	298,431

Source: St.Lucia Tourist Board

MONTHLY ARRIVALS BY CATEGORY

MONTH	2002					2003					2004				
	Stay-over	Excursionist	Yacht	Cruise	Total	Stay-over	Excursionist	Yacht	Cruise	Total	Stay-over	Excursionist	Yacht	Cruise	Total
January	25,448	684	2,269	66,742	95,143	24,930	1,573	2,927	53,410	82,840	21,532	1,128	2,540	65,462	90,662
February	23,627	731	2,277	56,352	82,987	21,875	1,286	2,243	48,736	74,140	25,766	1,154	2,427	59,660	89,007
March	23,123	526	3,045	58,120	84,814	23,387	1,013	2,436	52,224	79,060	24,977	1,294	1,573	67,887	95,731
Quarter 1	72,198	1,941	7,591	181,214	262,944	70,192	3,872	7,606	154,370	236,040	72,275	3,576	6,540	193,009	275,400
April	27,661	667	1,920	41,787	72,035	27,993	758	1,645	44,738	75,134	30,131	1,590	2,260	55,354	89,335
May	23,001	318	2,800	17,238	43,357	25,372	803	2,283	13,073	41,531	26,196	561	2,615	18,456	47,828
June	16,662	612	1,724	11,072	30,070	22,504	881	1,392	6,786	31,563	21,991	610	2,184	17,667	42,452
Quarter 2	67,324	1,597	6,444	70,097	145,462	75,869	2,442	5,320	64,597	148,228	78,318	2,761	7,059	91,477	179,615
First Half	139,522	3,538	14,035	251,311	408,406	146,061	6,314	12,926	218,967	384,268	150,593	6,337	13,599	284,486	455,015
July	21,920	835	2,025	9,509	34,289	26,228	1,427	1,353	6,756	35,764	29,926	2,530	1,151	15,099	48,706
August	19,968	896	2,156	11,706	34,726	24,632	1,323	1,285	6,790	34,030	28,079	620	1,558	14,574	44,831
September	14,185	668	576	8,202	23,631	17,392	858	399	8,184	26,833	17,841	959	645	20,777	40,222
Quarter 3	56,073	2,399	4,757	29,417	92,646	68,252	3,608	3,037	21,730	96,627	75,846	4,109	3,354	50,450	133,759
Oct	18,859	770	1,373	18,587	39,589	19,448	885	648	25,984	46,965	21,972	262	1,185	18,376	41,795
Nov	19,612	661	1,734	29,860	51,867	20,665	942	527	54,666	76,800	23,214	327	1,321	54,618	79,480
Dec	19,397	344	3,617	58,005	81,363	22,522	1,068	4,071	71,915	99,576	26,806	406	3,071	73,349	103,632
Quarter 4	57,868	1,775	6,724	106,452	172,819	62,635	2,895	5,246	152,565	223,341	71,992	995	5,577	146,343	224,907
Second Half	113,941	4,174	11,481	135,869	265,465	130,887	6,503	8,283	174,295	319,968	147,838	5,104	8,931	196,793	358,666
TOTAL	253,463	7,712	25,516	387,180	673,871	276,948	12,817	21,209	393,262	704,236	298,431	11,441	22,530	481,279	813,681

Source: St. Lucia Tourist Board
SLASPA

MONTHLY STAY-OVER ARRIVALS BY MARKET
2004

Country of Origin	Jan	Feb	Mar	Quarter 1 2004	Apr	May	Jun	Quarter 2 2004	Jul	Aug	Sept	Quarter 3 2004	Oct	Nov	Dec	Quarter 4 2004	TOTAL 2004
USA	7,805	9,150	9166	26,121	9,878	10,151	10,152	30,181	10,072	9,018	6,736	25,826	8,071	8,615	8,275	24,961	107,089
CANADA	2,470	2,522	2028	7,020	1,085	801	523	2,409	763	766	638	2,167	678	1,317	1,724	3,719	15,315
EUROPE	7,652	9,308	9,741	26,701	9,856	8,866	6,097	24,819	7,354	8,229	6,295	21,878	7,752	7,704	9,008	24,464	97,862
United Kingdom	6,106	7,618	8,088	21,812	8,214	7,264	5,389	20,867	6,605	6,461	5,187	18,253	6,784	6,282	7,372	20,438	81,370
Germany	376	330	428	1,134	240	160	129	529	164	137	93	394	229	520	483	1,232	3,289
France	515	781	731	2,027	1,003	994	245	2,242	251	1,303	391	1,945	323	572	573	1,468	7,682
Rest of Europe	655	579	494	1,728	399	448	334	1,181	334	328	624	1,286	416	330	580	1,326	5,521
CARIBBEAN	3,388	4,508	3,822	11,718	9,011	6,125	4,907	20,043	11,355	9,414	3,757	24,526	5,359	5,330	7,266	17,955	74,242
Caricom	2,463	2,825	2,990	8,278	6,499	4,111	3,500	14,110	6,269	5,386	2,926	14,581	3,415	3,705	4,389	11,509	48,478
French West Indies	702	1,456	624	2,782	2,118	1,675	1,133	4,926	4,618	3,723	643	8,984	1,672	1,416	2,533	5,621	22,313
OTHER/NOT STATED	217	282	216	715	301	253	312	866	382	652	415	1,449	112	248	533	893	3,923
TOTAL	21,532	25,770	24,973	72,275	30,131	26,196	21,991	78,318	29,926	28,079	17,841	75,846	21,972	23,214	26,806	71,992	298,431

DETAILED MONETARY SURVEY
(EC\$ 000s)

	Dec-98	Dec-99	Dec-00	Dec-01	Dec-02	Dec-03	Dec-04	% Change 03-04
1. NET FOREIGN ASSETS	92,607	81,380	116,608	117,324	106,819	335,158	311,730	-6.99%
(i) Central Bank (Imputed Reserves)	185,047	195,624	207,797	235,168	248,083	282,629	351,522	24.38%
Imputed Assets	203,522	213,897	224,441	246,151	258,883	291,908	360,756	23.59%
Imputed Liabilities	18,475.57	18,272	16,644	10,983	10,801	9,279	9,234	-0.49%
(ii) Commercial Banks (net)	-92,440	-114,244	-91,189	-117,844	-141,264	52,529	-39,792	-175.75%
External (net)	-78,819	-113,085	-86,859	-165,246	-191,182	-143,606	-67,943	-52.69%
Assets	82,875	87,395	80,685	99,977	108,326	199,703	297,203	48.82%
Liabilities	161,694	200,480	167,544	265,246	299,508	343,309	365,146	6.36%
Other ECCB Territories (net)	-13,621	-1,159	-4,330	47,402	49,918	196,135	28,151	-85.65%
Assets	60,365	59,126	55,308	76,003	124,311	229,108	144,327	-37.00%
Liabilities	73,986	60,285	59,638	28,601	74,393	32,973	116,176	252.34%
2. NET DOMESTIC ASSETS	989,943	1,011,887	1,062,779	1,117,001	1,166,497	1,035,248	1,202,816	16.19%
2(a) Domestic Credit	989,943	1,114,578	1,196,740	1,381,820	1,427,960	1,323,409	1,470,659	11.13%
(i) Private Sector	1,258,193	1,394,185	1,481,687	1,541,773	1,553,471	1,498,204	1,650,059	10.14%
Households Credit	611,223	678,182	736,164	758,492	730,671	761,999	839,533	10.18%
Business Credit	646,970	716,003	745,523	783,281	822,800	736,205	810,526	10.10%
Loans	646,720	715,653	725,312	768,867	809,970	723,314	791,018	9.36%
Investments	250	350	20,211	14,414	12,830	12,891	19,508	51.33%
(ii) Non-Bank Financial Institutions (NBFI) (Net)	-49,948	-38,589	-24,912	-43,421	-32,736	-39,300	-36,681	-6.66%
Credit	14,105	30,469	30,663	25,913	28,266	31,660	30,831	-2.62%
Loans	9,206	14,182	13,899	11,150	13,338	16,269	12,351	-24.08%
Investments	4,899	16,287	16,764	14,763	14,928	15,391	18,480	20.07%
Deposits	64,053	69,058	55,575	69,334	61,002	70,960	67,512	-4.86%
(iii) Subsidiaries and Affiliates (Net)	-8,115	-1,881	-1,603	165,099	162,419	157,836	174,683	10.67%
Credit	100	68	20	166,281	170,129	167,951	180,512	7.48%
Loans	37	5	20	883	7,466	7,825	7,950	1.60%
Investments	63	63	--	165,398	162,663	160,126	172,562	7.77%
Deposits	8,215	1,949	1,623	1,182	7,710	10,115	5,829	-42.37%
(iv) Non-Financial Public Enterprises (Net)	-171,298	-175,373	-172,658	-168,563	-158,852	-186,404	-187,189	0.42%
Credit	46,721	47,089	65,508	65,110	65,322	96,035	99,878	4.00%
Loans	46,721	42,250	65,508	64,584	65,322	96,035	99,878	4.00%
Investments	0	4,839	-	526	0	0	0	
Deposits	218,019	222,462	238,166	233,673	224,174	282,439	287,067	1.64%
(v) Central Government (Net)	-38,889	(63,763)	-85,774	-113,068	-96,343	-104,399	-130,213	24.73%
Credit to Central Government	130,221	139,900	147,288	140,257	153,394	140,261	187,297	33.53%
Central Bank Credit	18,381	18,195	16,625	10,920	10,751	9,240	9,188	-0.56%
Central bank Loans & Advances	8,153	6,627	6,238	5,104	5,501	3990	3,938	-1.30%
Central bank Advances	1,664	(1,220)	1,912	1,860	3,338	2,909	3,938	35.39%
Advances to Government	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Gov'ts Operating Accounts	1,664	1,219	1,912	1,860	3,338	2,909	3,938	35.39%
Central Bank Loans	6,489	5,407	4,326	3,244	2,163	1,081	-	
Central Bank Treasury Bills Holdings	5,218	6,568	5,387	816	250	250	250	0.00%
Central Bank Debentures	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	0.00%
Central Bank Interest due on Securities	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Commercial Bank Credit	111,840	121,705	130,663	129,337	142,643	131,021	178,109	35.94%
Commercial Bank Loans & Advances	85,180	87,045	85,924	87,678	70,140	31,825	34,761	9.23%
Commercial Bank Treasury Bills Holdings	11,160	11,160	10,160	18,320	20,320	18,323	5,450	-70.26%
Commercial Bank Debentures	15,500	23,500	34,579	23,339	52,183	80,873	137,898	70.51%
Deposits of Central Government(-)	169,110	203,664	233,062	253,326	249,737	244,660	317,510	29.78%
Commercial Banks Deposits	162,956	193,373	219,915	253,288	242,085	234,826	294,575	25.44%
Central Bank Deposits	6,154	10,291	13,147	38	7,652	9,834	22,935	133.22%
Gov't Deposits, Call Acc & Fixed Deposits	5,367	10,237	13,146	35	7,649	9,828	22,933	133.34%
Sinking Fund Call Account	787	54	1	1	1	5	1	-78.57%
Gov't Operating Accounts	-	0	0	1	1	1	1	-17.26%
Govt Securities Proceeds	-	-	-	-	-	27,000	-	
2(b). Others Items (Net)	-86,107	-102,692	-133,961	-264,818	-261,462	-288,161	-267,843	-7.05%
3. MONETARY LIABILITIES (M2)	996,443	1,093,267	1,179,387	1,234,325	1,273,316	1,370,406	1,514,546	10.52%
3(a) MONEY SUPPLY (M1)	247,897	267,616	286,053	283,828	287,615	343,130	481,310	40.27%
(i) Currency held by the Public	77,515	84,057	84,598	82,089	83,588	91,297	99,160	8.61%
Currency in Circulation	121,301	124,413	121,884	119,091	124,392	132,321	140,470	6.16%
Cash at Commercial Banks	-43,786	-40,356	-37,286	-37,002	40,804	-41,024	-41,310	0.70%
(ii) Private Sector Demand Deposits	170,382	183,559	201,455	201,739	204,027	251,833	382,150	51.75%
3(b). QUASI-MONEY	748,546	825,651	893,334	950,497	985,701	1,027,276	1,033,236	0.58%
(iii) Private Sector Savings Deposits	467,902	512,514	551,119	573,302	652,331	755,214	810,424	7.31%
(iv) Private Sector Time Deposits	273,673	292,190	334,661	364,399	309,589	240,191	184,085	-23.36%
(v) Private Sector Foreign Currency Deposits	7,071	20,947	7,554	12,796	23,781	31,871	38,727	21.51%

COMMERCIAL BANKS
TOTAL DEPOSITS BY DEPOSITORS

[In EC\$ millions]

As at Dec.31.st

DEPOSITS	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
RESIDENTS	1,372.16	1,495.99	1,610.00	1,709.71	1,724.70	1,877.45	2,070.37
Central and Local Government	161.40	192.20	218.20	252.27	238.21	233.96	292.08
Statutory Bodies and Gov't Corps	216.30	222.20	237.20	233.55	224.15	282.39	286.61
of which NIS	156.40	163.02	184.11	183.80	174.37	229.54	234.13
Business Firms	139.90	139.70	165.50	205.79	182.59	214.75	253.94
Private Individuals	771.90	848.50	921.70	933.65	983.36	1032.49	1122.72
Non-Bank Financial Institutions	64.04	69.05	55.58	55.84	60.542	70.044	65.65
Subsidiaries & Affiliaites	8.22	1.95	1.62	1.182	7.71	10.12	5.83
Foreign Currency	10.40	22.40	10.20	27.44	28.14	33.70	43.54
NON-RESIDENTS	121.00	122.50	118.70	131.268	147.21	145.31	169.42
TOTAL DEPOSITS	1,493.16	1,618.49	1,728.70	1,840.98	1,871.91	2,022.76	2,239.79
<i>Growth</i>	<i>15.08%</i>	<i>8.39%</i>	<i>6.81%</i>	<i>10.60%</i>	<i>1.68%</i>	<i>8.06%</i>	<i>10.73%</i>

COMMERCIAL BANKS
TOTAL DEPOSITS BY CATEGORY

EC\$ 000S

As at Dec. 31st

CATEGORY	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
DEMAND	233,010	262,063	260,594	264,351	285,099	372,297	516,406
TIME	684,166	733,668	824,473	878,599	798,918	750,639	753,497
SAVINGS	564,542	599,205	632,413	669,696	756,135	863,347	923,272
FOREIGN CURRENCY	11,450	23,580	11,330	28,335	31,758	36,477	46,618
TOTAL DEPOSITS	1,493,168	1,618,516	1,728,810	1,840,981	1,871,910	2,022,760	2,239,793
<i>Growth</i>	<i>15.08%</i>	<i>8.39%</i>	<i>6.81%</i>	<i>6.49%</i>	<i>1.68%</i>	<i>8.06%</i>	<i>10.73%</i>

COMMERCIAL BANKS
ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
(EC\$ millions)

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Gross Liabilities	1,576.7	1,771.3	1,971.0	2,057.8	2,325.1	2,401.4	2,597.9	2,930.9
balances due to ECCB area banks	90.9	44.4	40.4	43.2	20.8	49.4	18.0	106.7
balance due to ECCB	2.1	0.0	0.5	0.9	2.1	1.0	4.0	-
Deposit Liabilities	1,297.5	1,493.2	1,618.5	1,728.8	1,841.0	1,871.9	2,022.7	2,239.8
Demand	225.6	243.5	262.1	260.6	264.4	285.1	372.3	516.4
Time	583.3	685.2	733.7	824.5	878.6	798.9	750.6	753.5
Savings	488.6	564.5	599.2	632.4	669.7	756.1	863.3	923.3
Gross Assets	1,576.7	1,771.3	1,971.0	2,057.8	2,325.1	2,401.4	2,597.9	2,930.9
claims on ECCB area banks	13.1	48.7	37.5	24.4	56.2	78.9	184.7	95.4
Cash	38.3	53.6	40.4	37.3	37.0	40.8	41.0	41.3
Loans/Advances	1,307.2	1,422.2	1,560.50	1,649.5	1,709.2	1,721.2	1,656.3	1807.7
public sector	107.5	135.7	129.3	151.4	152.3	135.5	127.9	134.6

Source: Eastern Caribbean Central Bank

COMMERCIAL BANK LIQUIDITY

As at December 31st

(in EC\$ 000s)

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
(1) CASH	39,280	38,323	53,583	43,648	44,565	44,937	51,341	51,553	50,209
(2) DEPOSITS AT ECCB	69,769	74,308	64,736	72,735	83,740	115,414	133,065	153,107	201,445
TOTAL	109,049	112,631	118,319	116,383	128,305	160,351	184,406	204,660	251,654
(3) Less STAT.REQ'D RESRVS.	73,101	77,851	89,590	97,111	103,729	129,884	149,369	165,775	203,840
(4) EXCESS RESERVES (LIQUIDITY)	35,948	34,780	28,729	19,272	24,576	30,467	35,037	38,885	47,814
Less Borrowings from Deposits									
HELD FOR ECCB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ADJUSTED LIQUIDTIY	35,948	34,780	28,729	19,272	24,576	30,467	35,037	38,885	47,814
LOANS AND ADVANCES	1,195,609	1,307,186	1,422,160	1,560,498	1,649,516	1,709,230	1,721,214	1,656,308	1,807,708
DEPOSIT LIABILITIES	1,218,353	1,297,510	1,493,168	1,618,516	1,728,810	1,840,981	1,871,910	2,022,760	2,239,793
of which:									
(i) Demand	210,488	220,608	233,010	262,063	260,594	264,351	285,099	372,297	516,406
(ii) Savings	476,761	488,573	564,542	599,205	632,413	878,599	756,135	863,347	923,272
(iii) Time	531,104	583,288	685,172	733,669	824,473	669,696	798,918	750,639	753,497
(iv) Foreign Currency	-	5,809	11,450	23,580	11,330	28,335	31,305	36,477	46,618
RATIO (%)	98.1	100.7	95.2	96.4	95.4	92.8	91.9	81.9	80.7
EXCESS RESERVES/DEPOSIT LIAB.	2.95	2.68	1.92	1.19	1.42	1.65	1.87	1.92	2.13

COMMERCIAL BANKS STRUCTURE OF INTEREST RATES
(In percent per annum)

Deposit/Lending Rates for various maturities	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Demand Deposits	3.0-6.0	3.0-6.0	3.0-6.0	3.0-5.0	0.0-4.5	0.0-3.5
Savings Deposits	4.0-6.0	4.0-6.0	4.0-6.0	3.0-5.5	3.0-4.75	3.0-4.75
Special Rates (if any)	4.5-9.0	4.5-9.0	4.5-8.75	4.5-8.75	3.5-8.75	1.5-8.75
Time Deposits						
- Up to 3 months	2.0-9.25	2.0-6.0	2.0-6.0	2.0-6.0	2.0-5.5	1.0-4.5
- Over 3 months to 6 months	2.0-9.25	2.0-6.25	2.0-6.25	2.0-6.0	2.0-5.75	1.0-5.5
- Over 6 months to 12 months	2.0-9.25	2.0-9.25	2.0-6.5	2.0-6.0	2.0-6.0	1.0-5.5
- Over 1 year to 2 years			2.0-8.50	2.0-8.50	2.0-7.5	1.0-4.5
- Over 2 years	-	-	2.5-8.50	2.5-8.50	2.0-7.0	1.0-4.5
Lending Rates						
- Prime Rate	9.5-10.5	9.5-10.5	9.5-10.5	9.5-10.5	9.5-10.0	9.5-10.0
- Other Rates, Range	7.5-18.0	9.5-23.0	6.0-18.0	7.5-18.0	6.0-18.5	5.5-18.0
Add-on Loans, Range						
- Nominal Interest Rate	8.50-18.00	8.50-18.00	8.0-18.0	8.50-18.00	7.0-18.00	6.0-18.00
- Effective Interest Rates	11.03-23.0	11.03-23.0	11.03-23.0	11.03-23.0	8.50-23.0	10.50-23.50
Length of Loan Period, Range	1 mth-25years	1 mth-25years	1 mth-25years	1 mth-25years	1 yr-35years	1yr-35years

COMMERCIAL BANKS' CREDIT BY SECTOR

[In EC\$ Million]

As as Dec.31st.

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	Growth 04	Share 04
Agriculture	20.50	21.00	26.18	35.29	30.18	29.35	28.56	-2.7%	1.6%
Fisheries	1.26	2.72	3.86	5.84	4.73	5.16	4.87	-5.5%	0.3%
Mining and Quarry	2.01	1.71	0.96	1.25	-	3.92	3.67	-6.4%	0.2%
Manufacturing	51.37	51.29	45.52	52.57	56.87	50.32	103.24	105.2%	5.7%
Public Utilites	18.57	15.90	20.23	31.35	37.52	22.34	22.19	-0.7%	1.2%
Construction & Land Dev.	59.29	66.47	84.54	99.93	110.90	101.42	107.62	6.1%	6.0%
Distributive Trades	178.58	195.40	200.35	198.92	214.05	197.79	202.20	2.2%	11.2%
Tourism	118.67	146.50	139.95	152.85	190.20	176.03	142.19	-19.2%	7.9%
Entertainment & Catering	15.11	16.60	15.27	19.76	21.99	22.74	18.20	-19.9%	1.0%
Transport	39.51	48.20	55.80	48.96	33.21	22.97	23.70	3.2%	1.3%
Financial Institutions	11.95	12.07	12.45	9.50	15.23	26.90	17.17	-36.2%	1.0%
Professional & Other Services	93.75	125.80	119.02	134.45	135.89	124.98	202.18	61.8%	11.2%
Gov't Services/Public Adm	108.46	115.20	124.23	125.48	112.33	67.48	71.62	6.1%	4.0%
Personal	703.11	741.63	801.18	793.09	758.12	799.92	860.30	7.5%	47.6%
Acquisition of Property	303.30	337.70	378.29	319.51	325.70	343.83	409.63	19.1%	22.7%
Home Const. & Renovation	165.12	183.63	239.77	169.69	177.31	179.84	215.40	19.8%	11.9%
House & Land Purchase	138.20	154.10	138.52	149.82	148.38	163.99	194.22	18.4%	10.7%
Durable Consumer Goods	127.70	99.40	103.76	90.07	63.86	64.76	80.28	24.0%	4.4%
Other Personal	272.10	304.50	319.10	383.52	368.56	391.34	370.40	-5.4%	20.5%
TOTAL	1422.14	1560.49	1649.52	1709.23	1721.21	1656.31	1807.71	9.1%	100.0%
Growth	8.8%	9.7%	5.7%	3.62%	0.70%	-3.77%	9.1%		

Source: Eastern Caribbean Central Bank

ECCB OPERATIONS WITH ST LUCIA

(In EC\$ millions)

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Net Imputed international reserves	195.60	207.80	235.20	248.08	282.63	351.52
Net claims on commercial banks	-117.46	-125.43	-164.00	-167.59	-190.74	-238.62
Claims	0.077	0.019	0.06	0.050	0.039	0.05
Liabilities	-117.54	-125.45	-164.02	-167.64	-190.77	-238.66
Currency	-40.36	-37.29	-37.00	-40.80	-41.02	-41.31
Current deposits	-73.43	-84.41	-123.30	-126.84	-149.75	-197.35
of which Fixed Deposits	-3.80	-3.80	-3.80	-0.68	-0.68	-0.68
Net claims on Statutory Bodies	-2.00	-1.25	-0.003	-0.003	-0.003	0.00
Net Domestic Assets	-111.60	-123.20	-153.10	-164.49	-191.33	-252.36
Net Credit to Central Government	7.90	3.50	10.90	3.10	0.59	-13.75
Treasury bills	6.56	5.38	0.82	0.25	0.25	0.25
Debentures	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
Temporary advances	1.21	1.91	1.86	3.34	2.90	3.938
Other Claims	5.41	4.32	3.24	2.16	1.08	-
Central Government Deposits	-6.20	-10.29	-13.15	-7.62	-9.83	-22.935
Liabilities to the Private Sector	84.10	84.60	82.10	83.59	91.28	99.16
Total currency issued	124.40	121.90	119.10	124.39	132.32	140.47
Currency held by banks	-40.40	-37.30	-37.00	-40.80	-41.02	-41.31

ST LUCIA EXTERNAL RESERVES

(In EC\$ millions)

	Dec-99	Dec-00	Dec-01	Dec-02	Dec-03	Dec-04
CENTRAL BANK:						
Net (Imputed) Share of Reserves	195.6	207.8	235.17	248.63	282.63	351.52
Percentage Change (%)	5.7%	6.2%	13.2%	5.7%	13.7%	24.4%
Comm. Banks Net Foreign Assets (liabilities)	-114.2	-91.2	-117.9	-191.18	52.59	-39.79
Percentage Change (%)	-23.6	20.14	-29.3	62.15	-127.51	-175.66
TOTAL NET FOREIGN ASSETS(LIABILITIES)	81.4	116.6	117.3	105.2	335.2	311.73
Percentage Change (%)	-12.2	43.2	0.6	-10.32	218.63	-7.00

Source: Eastern Caribbean Central Bank

COMMERCIAL BANKS LOANS/DEPOSITS RATIO

As at Dec.31st

(in EC\$ millions)

Period	Loans and Advances	Deposits	Loan to Deposit ratio(%)
1983	230.20	244.80	94.0%
1984	263.90	270.10	97.7%
1988	445.10	586.10	75.9%
1989	567.80	674.90	84.1%
1990	643.30	780.80	82.4%
1991	684.30	842.60	81.2%
1992	772.30	923.10	83.7%
1993	908.90	988.80	91.9%
1994	970.30	1,042.20	93.1%
1995	1,065.10	1,146.40	92.9%
1996	1,195.60	1,218.40	98.1%
1997	1,307.20	1,297.50	100.7%
1998	1,422.20	1,493.20	95.2%
1999	1,560.50	1,618.52	96.4%
2000	1,649.52	1,728.81	95.4%
2001	1,709.19	1,840.98	92.8%
2002	1,721.21	1,871.96	91.9%
2003	1,656.31	2,022.76	81.9%
2004	1,807.78	2,239.79	80.7%

PREMIUM INCOME
LONG TERM INSURANCE
(in thousands of EC\$)

Type of Companies	1997	% of Total	1998	% of Total	1999	% of Total	2000	% of Total	2001	% of Total	2002	% of Total	2003	% of Total
Local Companies	2,628	9	2,739	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Caribbean Companies	23,609	85	24,890	84	29,906	94	29,887	91	40,777	94	39,322	91	62,973	97
Other Companies	1,602	6	2,101	7	1,966	6	2,783	9	2,475	6	2,171	9	2,069	3
Total	27,839	100	29,730	100	31,872	100	32,670	100	43,252	100	41,493	100	65,042	100

PREMIUM INCOME
MOTOR INSURANCE
(in thousands of EC\$)

Type of Companies	1997	% of Total	1998	% of Total	1999	% of total	2000	% of Total	2001	% of Total	2002	% of Total	2003	% of Total
Local Companies	7,157	26	9,510	34	10,148	34	10,352	32	9,118	31	8,376	30	9,764	35
Caribbean Companies	14,378	53	12,423	45	13,069	44	14,682	46	14,722	49	14,630	52	16,189	57
Other Companies	5,689	21	5,824	21	6,541	22	7,036	22	5,907	20	5,097	18	2,191	8
Total	27,224	100	27,757	100	29,758	100	32,070	100	29,746	100	28,103	100	28,144	100

SOURCE: MINISTRY OF FINANCE

PREMIUM INCOME
OTHER THAN LONG TERM OR MOTOR INSURANCE
(in thousands of EC\$)

Type of Companies	1997	% of Total	1998	% of Total	1999	% of Total	2000	% of Total	2001	% of Total	2002	% of Total	2003	% of Total
Local Companies	1,381	4	1,147	3	1	0	837	2	1,037	2	1,123	2	970	2
Caribbean Companies	29,179	79	21,028	58	22,694	57	29,700	59	35,429	61	39,474	67	45,758	78
Other Companies	6,341	17	14,348	39	16,974	43	19,411	39	21,056	37	18,714	32	11,582	20
Total	36,901	100	36,523	100	39,669	100	49,948	100	57,522	100	59,311	100	58,310	100

PREMIUM INCOME
All INSURANCE
(in thousands of EC\$)

Type of Companies	1997	% of Total	1998	% of Total	1999	% of Total	2000	% of Total	2001	% of Total	2002	% of Total	2003	% of Total
Local Companies	11,167	12	13,396	14	10,149	11	11,189	10	10,154	8	11,930	9	10,733	7
Caribbean Companies	56,972	62	58,341	62	65,669	66	74,269	65	90,928	70	91,000	71	124,657	82
Other Companies	23,826	26	22,273	24	25,481	22	29,230	25	29,437	23	25,982	20	16,106	11
Total	91,965	100	94,010	100	101,299	100	114,688	100	130,520	100	128,912	100	151,496	100

SOURCE: MINISTRY OF FINANCE

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
Annual Inflation Rates
(Base Year April 1984 =100)

MONTH\YEAR	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
January	148.50	153.10	150.40	154.40	155.20	165.40	173.30	173.10	176.80	176.90
February	150.00	152.80	150.00	153.80	155.80	165.70	173.50	173.60	177.70	176.40
March	148.20	152.30	149.60	154.80	156.60	167.40	174.10	175.60	178.10	177.20
April	149.00	153.40	150.00	155.40	156.70	167.60	176.20	176.80	177.50	177.70
May	149.20	152.90	150.20	154.00	159.60	168.10	175.80	176.60	178.70	180.40
June	149.00	153.70	152.50	156.10	162.70	166.30	177.80	176.50	178.30	181.00
July	150.60	151.20	154.20	155.60	161.70	168.30	177.70	176.30	177.90	182.60
August	149.60	151.70	152.90	158.70	161.50	167.60	176.60	175.80	177.00	182.30
September	151.20	149.10	151.80	155.50	163.10	164.60	176.90	175.70	176.40	180.50
October	148.00	148.00	151.40	155.90	166.70	167.00	175.70	176.10	177.20	179.70
November	148.40	149.20	152.40	157.10	167.00	168.60	178.10	175.40	176.70	182.60
December	153.20	150.20	152.60	158.10	167.90	168.30	177.50	176.30	177.20	183.40
Annual Ave.	149.58	151.47	151.50	155.78	161.21	167.08	176.10	175.65	177.46	180.06
Inflation Rates as at December:										
(Moving Average)	5.89%	1.26%	0.02%	2.83%	3.48%	3.64%	5.40%	-0.26%	1.03%	1.47%
(Point to Point)	4.72%	-1.96%	1.60%	3.60%	6.20%	0.24%	5.47%	-0.68%	0.51%	3.50%

Source: Statistics Department

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
(Base Year April 1984=100)

CATEGORY	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
ALL ITEMS	141.8	150.1	151.5	151.5	155.8	161.2	167.1	176.1	175.7	177.5	180.1
FOOD	150.1	161.5	160.9	156.7	163.3	168.0	170.4	175.5	173.4	177.0	178.5
BEVERAGE & TOBACCO	135.9	139.5	141.6	141.9	141.8	143.1	147.0	153.0	157.0	159.2	159.4
CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR	178.2	188.8	193.1	203.0	208.2	219.6	236.4	236.9	237.0	237.0	248.9
HOUSING	104.8	111.8	112.4	112.4	112.6	112.6	110.4	137.3	137.2	137.2	137.2
FUEL & LIGHT	117.8	119.3	124.6	126.9	123.3	124.1	133.0	133.8	131.7	135.6	140.4
FURNISHING & HH EQUIP.	143.3	146.4	148.6	154.5	159.3	168.9	178.2	133.8	131.7	135.6	140.4
MEDICAL CARE & HEALTH	170.1	177.8	183.5	193.2	198.6	215.0	222.1	229.2	239.8	236.1	248.7
TRANSPORT & COMM.	146.7	153.6	159.3	161.6	164.0	164.4	172.4	177.7	184.2	185.5	182.5
ENT., ED.& CULTURE	150.3	154.8	160.7	168.5	172.9	196.0	246.3	299.8	299.4	298.5	301.6
MISCELLANOEUS	125.6	128.2	131.0	134.1	138.2	145.8	152.3	153.4	154.4	153.9	157.0

Source :Statistics Department

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

(Base Year April 1984 = 100)

Percentage Changes

CATEGORY	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
ALL ITEMS	2.7%	5.9%	0.9%	0.0%	2.8%	3.5%	3.6%	5.4%	-0.3%	1.0%	1.5%
FOOD	4.9%	7.6%	-0.4%	-2.6%	4.2%	2.9%	1.4%	3.0%	-1.2%	2.1%	0.8%
BEVERAGE & TOBACCO	1.0%	2.6%	1.5%	0.2%	-0.1%	0.9%	2.7%	4.1%	2.6%	1.4%	0.1%
CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR	-2.0%	5.9%	2.3%	5.1%	2.6%	5.5%	7.7%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	5.0%
HOUSING	-0.2%	6.7%	0.5%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	-2.0%	24.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
FUEL & LIGHT	-0.9%	1.3%	4.4%	1.8%	-2.8%	0.6%	7.2%	0.6%	-1.6%	3.0%	3.5%
FURNISHING & HH EQUIP.	0.6%	2.2%	1.5%	4.0%	3.1%	6.0%	5.5%	-24.9%	-1.6%	3.0%	3.5%
MEDICAL CARE & HEALTH	12.0%	4.5%	3.2%	5.3%	2.8%	8.3%	3.3%	3.2%	4.6%	-1.5%	5.3%
TRANSPORT & COMM.	1.7%	4.7%	3.7%	1.4%	1.5%	0.2%	4.9%	3.0%	3.7%	0.7%	-1.7%
ENT., ED.& CULTURE	0.7%	3.0%	3.8%	4.9%	2.6%	13.4%	25.6%	21.7%	-0.1%	-0.3%	1.0%
MISCELLANEOUS	0.2%	2.1%	2.2%	2.4%	3.1%	5.5%	4.4%	0.7%	0.7%	-0.3%	2.0%

Source: Statistics Department

MANUFACTURING PRODUCTION

Commodities Manufactured	Unit	2000		2001		2002		2003r		2004	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Food, Beverage & Tobacco			\$49,254,356.00	NA	\$50,984,987.00	NA	\$60,052,889.00		\$64,261,194.00		\$69,099,007.00
Wearing Apparel	doz.	40,362	\$3,831,264.00	21,474	\$1,932,743.00	17,337	\$1,464,552.00	11,977	\$1,011,098.00	15,871	\$1,035,824.00
Textile	No.	177,413,290	\$2,475,149.00	144,487,874	\$1,772,711.00	103,930,114	\$4,846,851.00	99,988,771	\$7,234,658.00		\$0.00
Corrugated Paper & Paper Board & Containers of Paper & Paper Board	No.	18645205	\$22,365,773.00	7,977,561	\$16,547,851.00	14,069,000	\$21,206,563.00	10,260,000	\$20,039,754.00	10,997,600	\$21,350,754.00
Other Paper & Paperboard	cases		\$3,225,318.00	143,698	\$3,596,546.00	101,479	\$2,227,537.00	82,468	\$1,790,480.00	68,910	\$1,494,120.00
Wood & Wood Products			\$2,185,240.00		\$1,928,853.00		\$1,926,789.00		\$2,578,895.00		\$2,821,070.00
Electrical Products	No.	27,802,447	\$31,412,343.00	19,057,975	\$17,637,450.00	20,821,769	\$25,368,595.00	13,941,696	\$18,477,267.00	14,579,258	\$24,509,763.00
Basic Industrial Chemicals	cu. ft.	1,721,746	\$384,284.00	15,023,950	\$388,623.00	1,636,137	\$426,024.00	1,572,303	\$403,126.00		
Other Chemicals			\$5,459,746.00		\$3,399,346.00		\$4,740,829.00		\$5,044,213.00		\$5,475,488.00
Plastic Products	No.		\$4,363,027.00	1,726,841	\$3,064,058.00	1,708,018	\$3,157,175.00	1,659,461	\$3,014,081.00	1,774,021	\$3,295,694.00
Rubber Products	No.	3,115	\$383,273.00	4,454	\$786,852.00	3,541	\$683,514.00	3,052	\$571,573.00	3,556	\$743,398.00
Printed Material			\$2,238,168.00		\$2,589,731.00		\$2,762,909.00		\$2,778,971.00		\$3,046,382.00
Metal Products	Tonnes		\$4,778,268.00		\$4,800,322.00	2,886	\$4,282,809.00	4,089	\$6,190,271.00	3,991	\$7,761,618.00
Sub - Total			\$132,356,209.00		\$109,430,073.00		\$133,147,036.00		\$133,395,581.00		\$140,633,118.00
Copra & Copra Derivatives											
Copra	L.Tonnes	1,884	\$1,905,966.72	2,189	\$2,124,209.00	1,270	\$1,138,311.00	1,535	\$1,364,707.00	1,094	\$1,102,750.00
Raw Coconut Oil	Galls	283,627	\$2,552,643.00	345,092	\$3,623,463.27	69,867	\$733,607.00	54,035	\$576,368.00	136,610	\$1,434,402.00
Refined Coconut Oil	Galls	225,240	\$3,378,600.00	191,901	\$2,590,663.50	151,092	\$2,039,742.00	193,063	\$2,552,895.00	160,766	\$2,170,345.00
Coconut Meal	kgs	556,649	\$245,220.00	1,172,250	\$234,448.00	329,967	\$145,360.00	428,667	\$188,740.00	649,200	\$129,740.00
Total Copra & Copra Derivatives			\$8,082,429.72		\$8,572,783.77		\$4,057,020.00		\$4,682,710.00		\$4,837,237.00
Total			\$140,438,638.72		\$118,002,856.77		\$137,204,056.00		\$138,078,291.00		\$145,470,355.00
Growth			0.13%		-15.82%		16.27%		0.64%		5.35%

Source: Statistics Department

ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION AND OUTPUT

Kilowatt hours (KWh)

Category	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	Percentage Change (03/04)	Share of Total Sales (2004)
Domestic Use	79,491	85,075	88,443	89,083	93,329	95,877	2.73%	35.97%
Ave. No. of Consumers	39,004	40,042	41,982	43,460	44,980	46,347	3.04%	
Commercial Use	79,339	85,192	88,577	86,679	91,779	95,697	4.27%	35.90%
Ave. No. of Consumers	4,942	5,444	5,210	5,134	5,134	5,259	2.43%	
Hotel Use	41,290	46,670	48,440	47,317	53,109	55,446	4.40%	20.80%
Ave. No of Hotels	36	37	33	33	48	48	0.00%	
Industrial Use	12,271	13,249	12,955	12,710	13,221	13,031	-1.44%	4.89%
Ave. No. of Ind Consumers	117	114	117	112	112	96	-14.29%	
Streetlighting	3,271	3,893	5,003	3,619	4,720	6,513	37.99%	2.44%
Total Sales	215,661	234,080	243,417	239,409	256,158	266,564	4.06%	100.00%
Internal use	10,489	11,759	12,211	11,939	11,973	12,134	1.34%	
Loss in transmission	28,248	29,108	29,114	33,212	37,362	30,439	-18.53%	
Total Generated	254,398	274,946	284,742	284,560	305,493	309,137	1.19%	
Line Loss %	11.10%	10.59%	10.22%	11.67%	12.23%	9.85%	-19.49%	

Source: LUCELEC

FUEL SURCHARGE (CENTS/UNIT)

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
January	19.5	14.4	8.8	17.8	18.8	12.6	18.8	19.36
February	16.7	12.8	8.2	13.8	20.2	12.4	18.83	20.23
March	15.4	12.6	7.9	16.4	16.2	12	22.4	18.6
April	15.7	13.7	11.2	18.5	17.6	15.6	21.53	19.78
May	14.1	12.1	10	16.7	16.5	15	16.5	19.66
June	14.9	12.5	11.5	18.2	17.9	15.6	17.76	21.89
July	12.8	9.9	10.3	17.2	16.6	14.3	16.52	20.6
August	14.7	10.4	12.8	18.1	15.7	16.3	17.7	23.49
September	14.1	9.8	12.9	20.6	16.4	15.7	18.11	26.34
October	15.8	10.1	14.4	21.3	15.4	15.9	16.32	24.28
November	16.7	10.3	14	22.2	15.6	17.2	18.28	30.61
December	15.5	9.9	15.4	22.8	13.4	15.4	17.84	26.34
Average	14.32	11.54	11.45	18.63	16.69	14.83	18.38	22.60

Source: LUCELEC

FUEL PRICE (\$/IMP. GALS.)

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
January	2.97	2.34	1.75	2.70	3.49	2.33	3.19	3.19
February	2.81	2.26	1.67	3.17	3.43	2.59	2.59	3.6
March	2.58	2.16	1.89	3.13	3.19	2.72	3.58	3
April	2.52	2.17	2.04	3.02	2.94	2.75	3.42	3.92
May	2.54	2.11	2.04	3.11	3.02	2.7	2.52	3.2
June	2.47	2.00	2.08	3.20	3.11	2.81	2.96	3.63
July	2.5	1.94	2.27	3.25	3.07	2.89	2.63	3.42
August	2.54	1.87	2.44	3.50	2.93	3.07	2.83	3.76
September	2.54	1.99	2.60	3.83	2.97	3.09	3.00	4.17
October	2.66	1.99	2.58	3.78	2.97	2.99	2.64	4.21
November	2.63	1.87	2.74	3.86	2.71	3.19	3.03	5.14
December	2.44	1.73	2.83	3.49	2.45	3.19	2.94	4.59
Average	2.60	2.04	2.24	3.34	3.02	2.86	2.94	3.82

Source : LUCELEC

This represents the fuel price paid by LUCELEC to Hess, the main sup

IMPORTATION OF COMMERCIAL ENERGY
(in Barrels of Oil Equivalent (BOE))

PRODUCT	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	% change (03/04)
GAS UnLeaded	283,904.72	321,443.60	300,778.15	310,242.51	256,607.39	318,867.01	316,359.99	-0.79%
KERO/AVJET	24,460.68	242,022.74	190,376.57	176,240.40	72,245.58	119,492.36	169,581.97	41.92%
L.P.G.	25,717.12	42,411.31	50,380.85	46,740.12	53,596.24	58,244.72	57,331.00	-1.57%
DIESEL	457,973.58	493,080.36	540,414.45	531,771.30	107,053.59	115,820.94	121,309.81	4.74%
FUEL OIL	1,473.35	1,473.35	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
BITUMEN	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SPRAYTEX	16,372.01	6,226.92	9,781.56	12,075.69	1,476.52	350.60	867.48	147.43%
LUBRICANTS	8,599.32	4,630.17	7,096.10	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
TOTALS	794,040.10	1,111,288.45	1,098,827.68	1,077,070.02	490,979.32	612,775.63	665,450.25	8.60%

Source: Gov't Energy Planning Unit

Texaco W.I. Ltd & Shell Antilles & Guinas Ltd

LOADED AND LANDED CARGO

	LANDED	YEAR	QUANTITY	LOADED	YEAR	QUANTITY
(1) Break Bulk (in Tons)	Domestic Imports	1995	163,966	Domestic Exports	1995	138,112
		1996	161,326		1996	137,500
		1997	170,644		1997	135,606
		1998	177,534		1998	93,731
		1999	187,205		1999	84,770
		2000	158,883		2000	87,382
		2001	150,795		2001	46,409
		2002	137,213		2002	64,004
		2003	139,363		2003	70,554
		2004	156,523		2004	160,179
	Transshipment (In)	1995	657	Transshipment (Out)	1995	857
		1996	701		1996	880
		1997	577		1997	642
		1998	768		1998	1,034
		1999	991		1999	849
		2000	481		2000	493
		2001	286		2001	274
		2002	500		2002	546
	Sub-Total	2003	20		2003	24
		2004	59		2004	39
		1995	164,623		1995	138,969
		1996	162,027		1996	138,380
		1997	171,221		1997	136,248
		1998	178,302		1998	94,765
		1999	188,196		1999	85,263
		2000	159,364		2000	87,875
		2001	151,081		2001	46,683
		2002	137,713		2002	64,550
		2003	139,383		2003	70,578
		2004	156,582		2004	160,218
(2) Dry/Liquid Bulk (in Tons)	Domestic Imports	1995	128,122	Domestic Exports	1995	Nil
		1996	159,710		1996	Nil
		1997	95,216		1997	Nil
		1998	129,957		1998	Nil
		1999	227,464		1999	Nil
		2000	136,040		2000	Nil
		2001	160,671		2001	Nil
		2002	119,615		2002	Nil
		2003	127,090		2003	1,654
		2004	181,350		2004	20
	Transshipment (In)	1995	Nil	Transshipment (Out)	1995	Nil
		1996	Nil		1996	Nil
		1997	Nil		1997	Nil
		1998	Nil		1998	Nil
		1999	Nil		1999	Nil
		2000	Nil		2000	Nil
		2001	Nil		2001	Nil
		2002	Nil		2002	Nil
	Sub-Total	2003	Nil		2003	Nil
		2004	Nil		2004	Nil
		1995	128,122		1995	Nil
		1996	159,710		1996	Nil
		1997	95,216		1997	Nil
		1998	129,957		1998	Nil
		1999	227,464		1999	Nil
		2000	136,040		2000	Nil
		2001	160,671		2001	Nil
		2002	119,615		2002	Nil
		2003	127,090		2003	1,654
		2004	181,350		2004	20
(3) Containers (in TEUs)	Domestic Imports	1995	10,895	Domestic Exports	1995	1,182
		1996	10,244		1996	1,510
		1997	9,980		1997	1,369
		1998	12,061		1998	2,382
		1999	12,839		1999	1,849
		2000	12,561		2000	2,244
		2001	11,698		2001	967
		2002	13,666		2002	3,025
		2003	14,255		2003	3,143
		2004	16,370		2004	3,566
	Transshipment (In)	1995	7,107	Transshipment (Out)	1995	7,334
		1996	7,503		1996	7,158
		1997	8,173		1997	8,047
		1998	8,943		1998	8,445
		1999	2,661		1999	2,492
		2000	1,108		2000	999
		2001	4,331		2001	3,970
		2002	3,680		2002	3,528
	Sub-Total	2003	3,654		2003	3,538
		2004	5,042		2004	4,746
		1995	18,002		1995	8,516
		1996	17,747		1996	8,668
		1997	18,153		1997	9,416
		1998	21,004		1998	10,827
		1999	15,500		1999	4,341
		2000	13,669		2000	3,243
		2001	16,029		2001	4,937
		2002	17,346		2002	6,553
		2003	17,909		2003	6,681
		2004	21,412		2004	8,312

Source : St.Lucia Air and Sea Ports Authority

AIRPORT TRAFFIC STATISTICS

AIRCRAFT LANDINGS				PASSENGERS		
G.F.L. Charles						
Year	Arrivals	Departures	Movements	Disembarked	Embarked	Total Handled*
1996	15,166	15,279	30,445	142,207	151,175	293,382
1997	15443	15,067	30,510	148,966	158,868	307,834
1998	14927	14,832	29,759	155,582	158,318	313,900
1999	15,527	15,504	31,031	177,385	180,751	358,136
2000	16,093	16,099	32,192	193,222	201,086	394,308
2001	16,432	16,352	32,784	198,682	204,979	403,661
2002	16,231	16,259	32,490	199,287	205,190	404,477
2003	16,374	16,404	32,778	210,561	216,919	427,480
2004	17,290	17,290	34,580	227,866	236,584	464,450
Hewanorra						
	Arrivals	Departures	Movements	Disembarked	Embarked	Total Handled*
1996	5,631	5,626	11,257	162,835	155,271	318,106
1997	5,312	5,312	10,624	178,564	168,310	346,874
1998	5,336	5,344	10,680	179,990	174,306	354,296
1999	5,748	5,764	11,512	179,905	181,933	361,838
2000	5,012	4,966	9,978	178,112	173,566	351,678
2001	4,318	4,653	8,971	153,973	148,242	302,215
2002	4,098	4,100	8,198	138,586	137,072	275,658
2003	4,518	4,518	9,036	157,186	153,421	310,607
2004	4,978	4,969	9,947	180,875	173,240	354,115

Source : St.Lucia Air & Sea Ports Authority

* Excludes intransit passengers

AIRCRAFT MOVEMENT BY ACTIVITIES

TOTAL						
AIRCRAFT MOVEMENTS	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Scheduled Service Landings*	24,888	24,347	24,077	24,499	22,952	24,232
Non-scheduled Service Landings*	13,100	13,062	13,938	13,457	16,508	18,003
Other Service Landings*	4,390	5,633	4,874	2,896	2,354	2,320
G. F. L. CHARLES AIRPORT						
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Scheduled Service Landings*	20,124	20,220	21,122	21,780	20,270	21,284
Non-scheduled Service Landings*	7,326	7,904	8,532	8,400	10,767	11,698
Other Service Landings*	3,518	4,814	3,762	2,310	1,741	1,562
HEWANORRA AIRPORT						
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Scheduled Service Landings*	4,764	4,127	2,955	2,719	2,682	2,948
Non-scheduled Service Landings*	5,774	5,158	5,406	5,057	5,741	6,305
Other Service Landings*	872	819	1,112	586	613	758

Source: St. Lucia Air & Sea Ports Authority

* Landings, as used in this table, mean Arrivals & Departures.

VEHICLE REGISTRATION

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
GOODS VEHICLES	7,011	8,285	7,458	8,958	9,186	9,542	9,862	10,252
TAXIS/HIRED VEHICLES	1,369	1,603	1,738	1,836	1,881	1,924	2,026	2,211
MOTORCYCLES	682	706	735	765	768	797	816	819
PRIVATE VEHICLES	13,651	15,426	17,094	18,539	20,156	21,330	22,283	23,477
Less than 2800 Lbs.	13,217	14,980	16,648	18,090	19,702	20,878	21,828	23,020
Greater than 2800 Lbs.	434	446	446	449	454	452	455	457
PASSENGER VANS	2,808	2,938	3,061	3,206	3,335	3,438	3,482	3,491
0 - 9 Seats	459	467	460	467	472	473	475	475
10-14 Seats	2,180	2,295	2,425	2,559	2,684	2,785	2,828	2,838
15-25	84	90	90	94	93	94	94	94
Over 25 seats	85	86	86	86	86	86	85	84
TRACTOR TRAILERS	47	32	16	16	16	16	17	17
EARTH MOVING EQUIPMENT/TRACTORS	236	245	265	263	270	309	308	306
OTHER/NOT STATED	35	1,027	2,201	1,101	663	1,181	1,232	1,261
TOTAL	25,839	30,262	32,568	34,684	36,275	38,566	40,050	41,830

Source: Ministry of Communications, Works, Transport & Public Utilities

ST. LUCIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
CXC GENERAL AND TECHNICAL
PROFICIENCY ENTRIES AND RESULTS
BY SUBJECTS: 2004

SUBJECT	General and Technical		
	No.Sat	No. Pass	Pass Rate %
Agricultural Science (Double Award)	256	193	75.39
Agricultural Science (Crops & Soils)	116	94	81.03
Agricultural Science (Animal Science)	0	0	0.00
Visual Arts	126	45	35.71
Biology	316	207	65.51
Building Technology	120	76	63.33
Caribbean History	239	156	65.27
Chemistry	175	107	61.14
Clothing And Textile	121	99	81.82
Electrical Technology	54	49	90.94
English (A)	2009	1254	62.42
English (B)	252	170	67.46
Food and Nutrition	499	470	94.19
French	428	329	76.87
Geography	382	249	65.18
Home Economics Management	35	35	100.00
Information Technology	396	286	72.22
Intergrated Science (Single Award)	1105	946	85.61
Mathematics	1736	721	41.53
Mech. Eng. Technology	12	11	91.67
Office Procedure	509	393	77.21
Physics	158	121	76.58
Principle of Accounts	580	429	73.97
Principle of Business	1313	1180	89.87
Social Studies	1401	1283	91.58
Spanish	343	258	75.22
Technical Drawing	275	133	48.36
Typewriting	125	68	54.40
Music	13	10	76.92
Woods	49	41	83.67
Total	13143	9413	71.62

Source: Ministry of Education

PRIMARY SCHOOLS
ANALYSIS OF SCHOOLS, PUPILS AND TEACHERS

YEAR	No.of Schools	Number of pupils			Number of Teachers		
		Male	Female	TOTAL	Male	Female	TOTAL
1990/91	83	16,661	15,741	32,402	166	931	1,127.00
1991/92	84	16,639	15,582	32,221	214	967	1,181.00
1992/93	85	16,456	15,472	31,928	203	971	1,174.00
1993/94	82	16,179	15,439	30,486	169	969	1,138.00
1994/95	84	15,986	15,208	31,194	195	985	1,180.00
1995/96	86	16,243	15,129	31,372	195	944	1,139.00
1996/97	84	16,387	15,161	31,584	213	962	1,175.00
1997/98	84	16,545.00	14,892	31,437	220	948	1,168.00
1998/99	82	14,393.00	14,232	29,984.00	192	959	1,151.00
1999/00	82	14,991.00	13,984	28,975.00	171	910	1,081.00
2000/01	82	14,991.00	13,627	28,618.00	180	872	1,052.00
2001/02	82	14,588.00	13,367	27,955.00	170	892	1,062.00
2002/03	81	14,323.00	12,852	27,175.00	159	898	1,057.00
2003/04	78	13,522.00	12,151	25,673.00	153	886	1,039.00

Source: Ministry of Education

SECONDARY SCHOOLS
ANALYSIS OF SCHOOLS,PUPILS AND TEACHERS

		No. of pupils			No. of Teachers		
Academic Year	Number of. schools	Male	Female	TOTAL	Male	Female	TOTAL
1990/91	13	2,185	4,054	6,239	159	237	396
1991/92	14	2,493	4,662	7,155	191	275	466
1992/93	14	3,973	5,196	9,169	199	308	507
1993/94	14	4,193	5,528	9,721	249	323	572
1994/95	14	4,435	5,755	10,190	279	340	619
1995/96	15	4,431	5,883	10,314	247	373	620
1996/97	15	4,870	6,212	11,082	247	385	632
1997/98	15	5,050	6,490	11,540	255	375	630
1998/99	16	5,406	6,441	11,847	264	376	640
1999/00	18	5,645	7,172	12,817	253	392	645
2000/01	18	5,544	7,194	12,738	256	422	678
2001/02	18	5,488	7,255	12,743	256	454	710
2002/03	18	5,469	7,272	12,655	261	445	706
2003/04	19	5,659	7,272	12,931	256	474	730

Source: Ministry of Education

CAMBRIDGE ADVANCED LEVEL EDUCATION PASS RATE

Institution	% Pass Rate (Grades A-E)					
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Sir Arthur Lewis Community College (SALCC)	78.05	76.31	72.07	75.30	81.3	79.76
Vieux Fort Comprehensive Sec. Sch. (VFCSS)	78.17	72.19	59.38	76.90	70.76	65.8

Source: Ministry of Education

GOVERNMENT RECURRENT EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION (EC \$ Millions)

Head Title	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04
Early Childhood Educ.	0.17	0.14	0.25	0.38	0.24	0.39	0.36	0.27	0.36	0.45
Special Education	0.91	0.91	0.91	1.13	1.26	1.31	1.45	1.35	1.49	1.52
Primary Education	35.10	37.80	37.33	38.23	37.77	42.13	43.32	45.96	45.28	44.4
Secondary Education	19.62	20.59	24.47	25.96	25.21	28.53	28.41	30.44	32.29	32.13
Tertiary Education	10.58	10.59	11.53	13.54	14.31	13.81	13.15	13.75	12.86	12.65
Adult Education	0.60	0.55	0.57	0.88	0.30	0.65	0.63	0.58	0.86	0.85
Total	66.97	70.58	75.06	80.12	79.09	86.82	87.32	92.35	93.14	92.00

Source: Ministry of Finance

ESTIMATED MID-YEAR POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS

POPULATION ESTIMATES	1997	1998	1999r	2000	2001r	2002r	2003e	2004e
ESTIMATES	149,666	151,952	153,703	155,996	157,898	159,133	160,620	162,311
LIVE BIRTHS								
Male	1,768	1,506	1,497	1,406	1,405	1,320	1,205	1,263
Female	1,676	1,444	1,500	1,498	1,383	1,268	1,162	1,215
Total	3,444	2,950	2,997	2,904	2,788	2,588	2,367	2,478
<i>of unmarried parents</i>	2,994	2,532	2,543	2,493	2,369	2,369	2,002	2,116
Birth rate (per 1000 of pop.)	23.0	19.4	19.5	18.6	17.7	16.3	14.7	15.3
STILL BIRTHS								
Male	26	21	27	23	13	27	15	14
Female	27	18	19	18	19	24	21	23
Total	53	39	46	41	32	51	36	37
DEATHS								
Male	455	536	515	508	531	512	584	550
Female	521	440	466	433	467	448	462	457
Total	976	976	981	941	998	960	1,046	1,007
<i>of which infants under one year</i>								
Male	26	26	25	21	16	17	16	17
Female	34	22	17	17	21	19	21	20
Total	60	48	42	38	37	36	37	37
Death Rate	6.5	6.4	6.4	6.0	6.3	6.0	6.5	6.2
Infant Mortality Rate	17.4	16.3	14.0	13.1	13.3	13.9	15.6	14.7
MARRIAGES	540	627	732	655	513	500	489	498
DIVORCES	39	59	63	49	76	45	53	65

Source: Government Statistics Department

e=Estimated

r=Revised

ESTIMATED MID - YEAR POPULATION BY SEX and AGE GROUP

GROUP	2001			2002			2003p			2004p		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
0-4	7,199	7,374	14,573	6,839	7,064	13,903	6,667	6,835	13,502	6,702	6,728	13,430
5-9	8,730	8,540	17,270	8,563	8,389	16,952	8,289	8,177	16,466	7,947	7,927	15,874
10-14	8,683	8,750	17,433	8,742	8,739	17,481	8,800	8,729	17,529	8,863	8,731	17,594
15-19	8,154	8,540	16,694	8,335	8,704	17,039	8,451	8,771	17,222	8,516	8,755	17,271
20-24	6,720	6,890	13,610	6,949	7,135	14,084	7,244	7,489	14,733	7,529	7,857	15,386
25-29	6,223	6,747	12,970	6,301	6,783	13,084	6,358	6,754	13,112	6,412	6,714	13,126
30-34	5,705	6,054	11,759	5,767	6,136	11,903	5,864	6,292	12,156	5,982	6,482	12,464
35-39	5,562	5,961	11,523	5,629	6,031	11,660	5,645	6,035	11,680	5,640	5,983	11,623
40-44	4,591	4,748	9,339	4,807	5,027	9,834	5,017	5,306	10,323	5,206	5,563	10,769
45-49	3,516	3,397	6,913	3,698	3,604	7,302	3,899	3,850	7,749	4,097	4,111	8,208
50-54	2,695	2,792	5,487	2,829	2,864	5,693	2,963	2,945	5,908	3,098	3,033	6,131
55-59	2,058	2,342	4,400	2,121	2,405	4,526	2,215	2,474	4,689	2,323	2,550	4,873
60-64	1,904	2,060	3,964	1,880	2,073	3,953	1,865	2,101	3,966	1,870	2,140	4,010
65-69	1,753	1,897	3,650	1,746	1,905	3,651	1,733	1,900	3,633	1,725	1,892	3,617
70-74	1,332	1,393	2,725	1,351	1,441	2,792	1,391	1,517	2,908	1,424	1,583	3,007
75-79	1,061	1,207	2,268	987	1,075	2,062	939	999	1,938	928	988	1,916
80+	1,357	1,963	3,320	1,324	1,890	3,214	1,289	1,817	3,106	1,258	1,754	3,012
TOTAL	77,243	80,655	157,898	77,868	81,265	159,133	78,629	81,991	160,620	79,520	82,791	162,311

Source: Government Statistics Department

p-preliminary

ESTIMATED MID-YEAR POPULATION BY DISTRICT

Administrative Areas	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Castries	59,788	60,934	61,823	62,967	63,716	64,957	65,565	66,277
Vieux Fort	14,271	14,448	14,624	14,833	15,088	14,904	15,130	15,399
Soufriere	8,809	8,910	8,953	9,075	9,173	7,706	7,759	7,831
Micoud	16,895	17,194	17,423	17,708	17,932	16,143	16,267	16,408
Dennerly	12,405	12,603	12,778	12,966	13,111	12,876	12,997	13,137
Anse-la-Raye	5,963	6,090	6,203	6,356	6,480	6,136	6,215	6,302
Canaries	1,873	1,919	1,923	1,935	1,939	1,789	1,812	1,836
Laborie	8,488	8,630	8,727	8,861	8,951	7,414	7,458	7,458
Gros-Islet	14,082	14,055	13,994	13,972	13,999	21,034	21,207	21,414
Choiseul	7,092	7,169	7,255	7,323	7,385	6,174	6,210	6,249
Total	149,666	151,952	153,703	155,996	157,774	159,133	160,620	162,311

Source: Government Statistics Department

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT
SUMMARY OF FISCAL OPERATIONS [Fiscal Year]*
ECONOMIC CLASSIFICATION
(EC\$ Million)

	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04 R	2004/05 Pre.	% Change
Total Revenue & Grants	492.02	458.18	497.66	533.03	552.89	3.73%
<i>of which:</i>						
Grants	10.75	26.30	36.29	32.89	0.00	-100.00%
Capital revenue	0.14	2.68	19.85	8.64	0.87	-89.93%
Current Revenue	481.12	429.21	441.52	491.50	552.02	12.31%
Tax Revenue	432.04	385.27	405.36	453.05	509.30	12.42%
<i>of which:</i>						
Taxes on Income	137.37	118.37	105.35	109.91	132.24	20.32%
Taxes on Goods & Services	173.68	168.47	174.82	190.43	200.83	5.46%
Taxes on International Trade	119.13	93.76	120.82	148.89	172.58	15.91%
Others	1.87	4.67	4.37	3.82	3.37	-11.96%
Non Tax Revenue	49.08	43.94	36.16	38.45	42.72	11.09%
Total Expenditure	517.26	532.84	589.82	610.81	646.04	5.77%
of which, Capital & Net Lending	134.06	132.59	150.00	136.14	163.40	20.02%
Capital Expenditure	134.06	132.59	150.00	136.14	163.40	20.02%
Net Lending	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Current Expenditure	383.20	400.24	439.82	474.67	482.65	1.68%
<i>of which:</i>						
Wages & Salaries	209.49	212.75	211.62	229.94	219.83	-4.40%
Interest Payments	29.50	41.73	46.60	55.87	64.25	14.99%
Goods & Services	74.01	72.80	78.00	90.44	92.12	1.86%
Current Transfers	34.63	38.70	68.37	60.20	63.37	5.26%
Current Balance	97.92	28.96	1.70	16.83	69.37	312.15%
Overall Balance	-25.24	-74.65	-92.16	-77.77	-93.15	19.77%
Financing	25.24	74.65	92.16	77.77	93.15	19.77%
External (Net)	57.46	73.87	80.64	51.25	48.89	-4.61%
Disbursements	104.89	92.96	129.00	68.04	81.00	19.05%
Amortization	-47.44	-19.09	-48.36	-16.79	-32.11	91.26%
Domestic	-32.21	0.78	11.52	26.52	44.26	66.88%
Banks (net)	-0.94	-2.00	-22.04	18.49	25.80	39.57%
Change in Loans & Advances (including overdrafts)	7.69	-2.22				
Change in Deposits	-8.63	-0.22				
Non Banks	-31.27	2.79	33.56	8.04	18.46	129.68%

R=Revised

Pre-Preliminary

* April to March

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT
SUMMARY OF FISCAL OPERATIONS AS RATIO OF GDP
ECONOMIC CLASSIFICATION

	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04 R	2004/05 Pre.
Total Revenue & Grants	26.79%	25.37%	26.69%	27.12%	26.56%
<i>of which:</i>	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Grants	0.59%	1.46%	1.95%	1.67%	0.00%
Capital revenue	0.01%	0.15%	1.06%	0.44%	0.04%
Current Revenue	26.20%	23.77%	23.68%	25.01%	26.52%
Tax Revenue	23.53%	21.33%	21.74%	23.05%	24.46%
<i>of which:</i>					
Taxes on Income	7.48%	6.55%	5.65%	5.59%	6.35%
Taxes on Goods & Services	9.46%	9.33%	9.38%	9.69%	9.65%
Taxes on International Trade	6.49%	5.19%	6.48%	7.58%	8.29%
Others	0.10%	0.26%	0.23%	0.19%	0.16%
Non Tax Revenue	2.67%	2.43%	1.94%	1.96%	2.05%
Total Expenditure	28.17%	29.51%	31.64%	31.08%	31.03%
of which, Capital & Net Lending	7.30%	7.34%	8.05%	6.93%	7.85%
Capital Expenditure	7.30%	7.34%	8.05%	6.93%	7.85%
Net Lending	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Current Expenditure	20.87%	22.16%	23.59%	24.15%	23.18%
<i>of which:</i>	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Wages & Salaries	11.41%	11.78%	11.35%	11.70%	10.56%
Interest Payments	1.61%	2.31%	2.50%	2.84%	3.09%
Goods & Services	4.03%	4.03%	4.18%	4.60%	4.42%
Current Transfers	1.89%	2.14%	3.67%	3.06%	3.04%
Current Balance	5.33%	1.60%	0.09%	0.86%	3.33%
Overall Balance	-1.37%	-4.13%	-4.94%	-3.96%	-4.47%
Financing	1.37%	4.13%	4.94%	3.96%	4.47%
External (Net)	3.13%	4.09%	4.33%	2.61%	2.35%
Disbursements	5.71%	5.15%	6.92%	3.46%	3.89%
Amortization	-2.58%	-1.06%	-2.59%	-0.85%	1.54%
Domestic	-1.75%	0.04%	0.62%	1.35%	2.13%
Banks (net)	-0.05%	-0.11%	-1.18%	0.94%	1.24%
Change in Loans & Advances (including overdrafts)	0.42%	-0.12%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Change in Deposits	-0.47%	-0.01%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Non Banks	-1.70%	0.15%	1.80%	0.41%	0.89%

Memorandum Items:

Nominal GDP at Market Prices 1836.30 1805.84 1864.39 1965.41 2081.91

R=Revised

Pre=Preliminary

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE

APRIL TO MARCH

ECONOMIC CLASSIFICATION

(EC\$ millions)

	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02 R	2002/03	2003/04	2004/5 Pre	% Change
Total Revenues and Grants	385.37	390.71	398.76	498.40	595.20	492.02	458.18	497.66	533.03	552.89	3.7%
Capital Grants	21.43	16.43	21.87	56.21	62.08	10.75	26.30	36.29	32.89	0.00	-100.0%
Capital Revenue	0.14	2.70	1.85	5.10	2.49	0.14	2.68	19.85	8.64	0.87	-89.9%
CURRENT REVENUE	363.80	371.58	375.05	437.08	530.63	481.12	429.21	441.52	491.50	552.02	12.3%
Tax Revenue	330.72	328.91	347.23	402.76	452.70	432.04	385.27	405.36	453.05	509.30	12.4%
Taxes on Income	93.33	94.45	101.39	105.43	126.98	137.37	118.37	105.35	109.91	132.24	20.3%
Individuals	37.54	41.33	42.78	43.23	44.55	48.88	47.92	47.40	43.75	49.69	13.6%
Withholdings	8.81	7.65	8.44	8.19	8.73	6.57	6.43	4.89	3.86	3.73	-3.5%
Corporations	42.27	37.79	43.13	38.00	61.39	62.91	54.51	42.17	44.80	54.65	22.0%
Arrears	9.10	11.84	12.60	20.48	18.26	25.20	17.56	18.79	24.89	31.62	27.1%
Less Tax Refunds	4.39	4.16	5.57	4.48	5.94	6.19	8.05	-7.89	-7.40	-7.45	0.6%
Tax on Property	0.99	1.26	1.99	1.01	0.95	1.87	4.67	4.37	3.82	3.65	-4.6%
Property Tax	0.99	1.26	1.99	1.01	0.95	1.87	4.67	4.37	3.82	3.65	-4.6%
Tax On Goods And Services	141.35	133.71	139.81	183.77	170.64	173.68	168.47	174.82	190.43	200.83	5.5%
Consumption Tax	104.59	101.14	104.97	140.73	122.80	100.83	105.36	112.68	121.00	123.46	2.0%
Consumption tax (imports)	96.37	91.89	93.86	128.24	112.22	90.31	100.08	107.76	114.43	117.16	2.4%
Consumption tax (domestic)	8.22	9.26	11.11	12.49	10.58	10.52	5.28	4.93	6.57	6.31	-4.0%
Excise tax (domestic)	1.21	1.12	1.29	1.13	6.26	27.52	21.07	6.31	7.17	7.57	5.5%
Hotel Occupancy tax	16.40	14.04	13.86	17.22	18.04	22.67	18.53	19.49	22.17	26.26	18.5%
Insurance Premium Tax	3.22	3.50	3.13	3.27	3.38	3.78	3.99	4.21	4.11	4.52	9.9%
Licences	9.69	6.90	7.92	8.36	8.27	7.07	7.97	8.72	16.63	14.54	-12.6%
Fuel Surcharge			2.63	2.52	2.46	2.95	2.97	2.72	3.11	3.21	3.4%
Stamp Duties (Inland Revenue)	6.25	6.99	6.00	10.53	9.44	8.85	8.59	19.56	11.48	15.21	32.5%
Cellular Tax								1.13	4.75	6.04	27.1%
Taxes on International Trade and Transactions	95.04	99.49	104.05	112.55	154.13	119.13	93.76	120.82	148.89	172.58	15.9%
Import Duty	62.57	65.79	63.10	68.10	71.39	64.18	51.67	57.41	69.45	75.25	8.4%
Thruput Charges	3.35	2.58	2.51	3.14	1.85	1.12	0.89	0.96	0.40	0.53	31.3%
Travel Tax	1.04	1.57	0.96	2.03	3.00	2.55	1.68	2.52	4.91	5.50	12.1%
Service Charge (imports)	28.08	29.54	31.82	32.76	34.67	33.35	27.88	30.17	39.31	46.35	17.9%
Environmental Levy					34.67	9.04	7.09	9.63	11.74	13.46	14.6%
Surcharge on Int'l Calls			5.67	4.90	5.74	3.95		-	-	-	
Airport Tax				1.63	2.81	4.94	4.54	4.07	4.39	5.98	36.3%
Security Charge									0.15	0.82	431.2%
Excise tax (imports)								16.06	18.53	24.69	33.2%
Non-Tax Revenue	33.09	42.67	27.81	34.32	77.93	49.08	43.94	36.16	38.45	42.72	11.1%
Earnings From Govt. Depts.	5.38	4.26	3.90	1.90	6.13	8.94	7.09	3.60	5.43	6.69	23.3%
E.C.C.B. Profits	1.46	4.88	4.53	4.36	4.48	2.35	3.26	2.28	1.79	1.72	-4.1%
Interest and rents	5.69	9.41	7.32	5.92	11.16	12.55	14.06	10.66	7.39	4.80	-35.1%
Fees, Fines and Sales	20.55	24.13	12.06	17.74	13.55	14.30	13.36	15.47	20.31	21.73	7.0%
Other Non Tax Revenues				4.41	42.61	10.95	6.17	4.15	3.54	7.78	120.1%

R=Revised

Pre=Preliminary

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT REVENUE TO GDP

APRIL TO MARCH
ECONOMIC CLASSIFICATION
(% GDP)

	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02 R	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05 Pre.
Total Revenues and Grants	25.64%	25.36%	24.94%	28.67%	32.70%	26.79%	25.37%	26.69%	27.12%	26.56%
Capital Grants	1.43%	1.07%	1.37%	3.23%	3.41%	0.59%	1.46%	1.95%	1.67%	0.00%
Capital Revenue	0.01%	0.18%	0.12%	0.29%	0.14%	0.01%	0.15%	1.06%	0.44%	0.04%
CURRENT REVENUE	24.21%	24.12%	23.46%	25.14%	29.15%	26.20%	23.77%	23.68%	25.01%	26.52%
Tax Revenue	22.01%	21.35%	21.72%	23.17%	24.87%	23.53%	21.33%	21.74%	23.05%	24.46%
Taxes on Income	6.21%	6.13%	6.34%	6.06%	6.98%	7.48%	6.55%	5.65%	5.59%	6.35%
Individuals	2.50%	2.68%	2.68%	2.49%	2.45%	2.66%	2.65%	2.54%	2.23%	2.39%
Withholdings	0.59%	0.50%	0.53%	0.47%	0.48%	0.36%	0.36%	0.26%	0.20%	0.18%
Corporations	2.81%	2.45%	2.70%	2.19%	3.37%	3.43%	3.02%	2.26%	2.28%	2.63%
Arrears	0.61%	0.77%	0.79%	1.18%	1.00%	1.37%	0.97%	1.01%	1.27%	1.52%
Less Tax Refunds	0.29%	0.27%	0.35%	0.26%	0.33%	0.34%	0.45%	-0.42%	-0.38%	-0.36%
Tax on Property	0.07%	0.08%	0.12%	0.06%	0.05%	0.10%	0.26%	0.23%	0.19%	0.18%
Property Tax	0.07%	0.08%	0.12%	0.06%	0.05%	0.10%	0.26%	0.23%	0.19%	0.18%
Tax On Goods And Services	9.41%	8.68%	8.74%	10.57%	9.37%	9.46%	9.33%	9.38%	9.69%	9.65%
Consumption Tax	6.96%	6.56%	6.57%	8.10%	6.75%	5.49%	5.83%	6.04%	6.16%	5.93%
Consumption tax (imports)	6.41%	5.96%	5.87%	7.38%	6.16%	4.92%	5.54%	5.78%	5.82%	5.63%
Consumption tax (domestic)	0.55%	0.60%	0.69%	0.72%	0.58%	0.57%	0.29%	0.26%	0.33%	0.30%
Excise tax (domestic)	0.08%	0.07%	0.08%	0.07%	0.34%	1.50%	1.17%	0.34%	0.37%	0.36%
Hotel Occupancy tax	1.09%	0.91%	0.87%	0.99%	0.99%	1.23%	1.03%	1.05%	1.13%	1.26%
Insurance Premium Tax	0.21%	0.23%	0.20%	0.19%	0.19%	0.21%	0.22%	0.23%	0.21%	0.22%
Licences	0.65%	0.45%	0.50%	0.48%	0.45%	0.39%	0.44%	0.47%	0.85%	0.70%
Fuel Surcharge	0.00%	0.00%	0.16%	0.15%	0.14%	0.16%	0.16%	0.15%	0.16%	0.15%
Stamp Duties (Inland Revenue)	0.42%	0.45%	0.38%	0.61%	0.52%	0.48%	0.48%	1.05%	0.58%	0.73%
Cellular Tax	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.06%	0.24%	0.29%
Taxes on International Trade and Transactions	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Import Duty	4.16%	4.27%	3.95%	3.92%	3.92%	3.49%	2.86%	3.08%	3.53%	3.61%
Travel Tax	0.07%	0.10%	0.06%	0.12%	0.17%	0.14%	0.09%	0.14%	0.25%	0.26%
Service Charge (imports)	1.87%	1.92%	1.99%	1.88%	1.90%	1.82%	1.54%	1.62%	2.00%	2.23%
Environmental Levy	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	1.90%	0.49%	0.39%	0.52%	0.60%	0.65%
Surcharge on Int'l Calls	0.00%	0.00%	0.35%	0.28%	0.32%	0.21%	-	-	-	-
Airport Tax	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.09%	0.15%	0.27%	0.25%	0.22%	0.22%	0.29%
Security Charge	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.01%	0.04%
Excise tax (imports)	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.86%	0.94%	1.19%
Non-Tax Revenue	2.20%	2.77%	1.74%	1.97%	4.28%	2.67%	2.43%	1.94%	1.96%	2.05%
Earnings From Govt. Depts.	0.36%	0.28%	0.24%	0.11%	0.34%	0.49%	0.39%	0.19%	0.28%	0.32%
E.C.C.B. Profits	0.10%	0.32%	0.28%	0.25%	0.25%	0.13%	0.18%	0.12%	0.09%	0.08%
Interest and rents	0.38%	0.61%	0.46%	0.34%	0.61%	0.68%	0.78%	0.57%	0.38%	0.23%
Fees, Fines and Sales	1.37%	1.57%	0.75%	1.02%	0.74%	0.78%	0.74%	0.83%	1.03%	1.04%
Other Non Tax Revenues	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.25%	2.34%	0.60%	0.34%	0.22%	0.18%	0.37%

Memorandum Items:

Nominal GDP at Market Prices 1502.82 1540.79 1598.73 1738.45 1820.43 1836.30 1805.84 1864.39 1965.41 2081.91

R=Revised

Pre=Preliminary

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE
APRIL TO MARCH
ECONOMIC CLASSIFICATION
(EC\$ millions)

	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98 R	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04 R	2004/05 Pj	%change
Wages and Salaries	154.32	166.34	173.76	182.02	198.26	209.49	212.75	211.62	229.94	219.83	-4.40%
wages	19.74	22.07	26.27	20.79	26.22	27.81	28.31	27.72	27.88	27.07	-2.90%
salaries	134.58	144.27	147.49	161.23	163.29	177.39	182.80	183.90	187.06	192.76	3.05%
retro-active	16.73	0.34	0.00	0.00	8.76	4.29	1.63	0.00	15.00	0.00	-100.00%
N.I.S	1.90	2.21	2.27	2.59	2.71	2.77	2.72	3.02	3.38	4.23	24.96%
Retiring Benefits	15.18	19.06	21.53	20.32	24.72	32.80	31.55	32.21	34.83	38.84	11.52%
Interest Payments	12.19	14.18	16.06	21.45	23.62	29.50	41.73	46.60	55.87	64.25	14.99%
domestic	7.87	7.66	8.54	14.27	15.75	21.28	22.47	21.88	19.49	22.25	14.14%
foreign	4.32	6.52	7.52	7.18	7.86	8.22	8.96	24.71	36.38	42.00	15.44%
Goods and Services	53.35	56.06	66.93	66.62	71.05	74.01	72.80	78.00	90.44	92.12	1.86%
Current Transfers	39.34	45.95	46.92	45.26	34.11	34.63	38.70	68.37	60.20	63.37	5.26%
public sector	22.12	22.60	32.13	35.14	30.38	30.50	34.21	49.11	56.15	59.41	5.81%
private sector	17.23	23.34	14.79	10.12	3.73	4.13	4.50	19.27	4.06	3.96	-2.38%
subsidies	3.31	3.29	1.96	2.06	0.96	1.68	1.49	1.20	1.19	1.29	8.43%
other							3.00	18.07	2.87	2.67	-6.86%
Current Expenditure	276.28	303.79	327.46	338.27	354.47	383.20	400.24	439.82	474.67	482.65	1.68%
Capital Expenditure	101.77	98.84	95.78	106.94	166.52	134.06	132.59	150.00	136.14	163.40	20.02%
Local Revenue	69.41	66.13	52.47	51.99	91.28	82.07	24.66	8.39	7.25	2.23	-69.20%
Grants	21.11	17.82	23.07	25.57	28.90	17.47	7.56	22.50	17.87	35.67	99.67%
Loans	11.26	14.89	20.24	29.38	46.34	34.52	100.38	119.11	111.02	125.49	13.03%
Total Expenditure	378.05	402.63	423.24	445.21	520.98	517.26	532.84	589.82	610.81	646.04	5.77%

R=Revised

Pj=projected

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE TO GDP RATIOS
APRIL TO MARCH
ECONOMIC CLASSIFICATION
(% GDP)

	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/2000	2000/01	2001/02 R	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05 Pj
Wages and Salaries	10.27%	10.80%	10.87%	10.47%	10.89%	11.41%	11.78%	11.35%	11.70%	10.56%
wages	1.31%	1.43%	1.64%	1.20%	1.44%	1.51%	1.57%	1.49%	1.42%	1.30%
salaries	8.96%	9.36%	9.23%	9.27%	8.97%	9.66%	10.12%	9.86%	9.52%	9.26%
retro-active	1.11%	0.02%	0.00%	0.00%	0.48%	0.23%	0.09%	0.00%	0.76%	0.00%
N.I.S	0.13%	0.14%	0.14%	0.15%	0.15%	0.15%	0.15%	0.16%	0.17%	0.20%
Retiring Benefits	1.01%	1.24%	1.35%	1.17%	1.36%	1.79%	1.75%	1.73%	1.77%	1.87%
Interest Payments	0.81%	0.92%	1.00%	1.23%	1.30%	1.61%	2.31%	2.50%	2.84%	3.09%
domestic	0.52%	0.50%	0.53%	0.82%	0.87%	1.16%	1.24%	1.17%	0.99%	1.07%
foreign	0.29%	0.42%	0.47%	0.41%	0.43%	0.45%	0.50%	1.33%	1.85%	2.02%
Goods and Services	3.55%	3.64%	4.19%	3.83%	3.90%	4.03%	4.03%	4.18%	4.60%	4.42%
Current Transfers	2.62%	2.98%	2.94%	2.60%	1.87%	1.89%	2.14%	3.67%	3.06%	3.04%
public sector	1.47%	1.47%	2.01%	2.02%	1.67%	1.66%	1.89%	2.63%	2.86%	2.85%
private sector	1.15%	1.51%	0.93%	0.58%	0.20%	0.22%	0.25%	1.03%	0.21%	0.19%
subsidies	0.22%	0.21%	0.12%	0.12%	0.05%	0.09%	0.08%	0.06%	0.06%	0.06%
other	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.17%	0.97%	0.15%	0.13%
Current Expenditure	18.38%	19.72%	20.48%	19.46%	19.47%	20.87%	22.16%	23.59%	24.15%	23.18%
	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Capital Expenditure	6.77%	6.42%	5.99%	6.15%	9.15%	7.30%	7.34%	8.05%	6.93%	7.85%
Local Revenue	4.62%	4.29%	3.28%	2.99%	5.01%	4.47%	1.37%	0.45%	0.37%	0.11%
Grants	1.40%	1.16%	1.44%	1.47%	1.59%	0.95%	0.42%	1.21%	0.91%	1.71%
Loans	0.75%	0.97%	1.27%	1.69%	2.55%	1.88%	5.56%	6.39%	5.65%	6.03%
	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Total Expenditure	25.16%	26.13%	26.47%	25.61%	28.62%	28.17%	29.51%	31.64%	31.08%	31.03%

<i>Nominal GDP at Market Prices</i>	1502.82	1540.79	1598.73	1738.45	1820.43	1836.30	1805.84	1864.39	1965.41	2081.91
R=Revised										
Pj=Projected										

TOTAL OUTSTANDING LIABILITIES

As at December 31

(in EC\$000's)

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003 R	2004	% Change
TOTAL OUTSTANDING LIABILITIES	789,638.40	868,543.00	974,330.00	1,092,455.90	1,232,699.55	1,437,816.60	16.64%
1. OFFICIAL DEBT	749,373.20	852,199.20	947,776.30	1,076,637.20	1,206,760.89	1,417,624.09	17.47%
A. Central Gov't.							
Outstanding Debt*	512,538.90	623,426.60	695,938.30	826,110.20	963,258.01	1,181,360.21	22.64%
- Domestic	283,860.50	292,398.90	310,579.30	318,480.00	225,556.06	377,846.32	67.52%
- External	228,678.50	331,027.60	385,359.00	507,630.20	737,701.96	803,513.89	8.92%
B. Government Guaranteed							
Outstanding Debt	236,834.30	228,772.60	212,499.10	197,147.80	186,347.97	180,091.90	-3.36%
- Domestic	41,393.00	59,499.00	42,808.40	45,616.10	45,010.62	51,541.64	14.51%
- External	195,442.00	169,274.00	169,690.70	151,531.70	141,337.35	128,550.27	-9.05%
C. Public Non-Guaranteed							
Outstanding Debt			39,338.90	53,379.20	57,154.90	56,171.97	-1.72%
- Domestic			16,907.30	22,970.50	24,466.30	23,185.60	-5.23%
- External			22,431.60	30,408.70	32,688.60	32,986.37	0.91%
Outstanding payables	40,265.20	16,343.80	26,553.70	15,818.70	25,938.66	20,192.51	-22.15%

R=Revised

DISTRIBUTION OF OUTSTANDING LIABILITIES OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT
BY CLASS OF HOLDER & TERM OF INSTRUMENT
as at December 31, 2004

	LONGTERM [>10 years]				MEDIUM TERM [>5 - 10YRS]				SHORT TERM [1 - 5 Years]					TOTAL
	Bonds	Loans & Advances	Other	Sub-total	Bonds	Loans & Advances	Other	Sub-total	Bonds	Treasury Bills	Loans & Advances	Other	Sub-Total	
1. DOMESTIC														
A. Monetary Authorities														
1. ECCB		0.0		0.0	10,000.0			10,000.0	0.0	14,825.5			14,825.5	24,825.5
B. Financial Institutions														
1. Commercial Banks		8,974.3		8,974.3	123,008.0			123,008.0	16,200.0	39,874.8	18,087.3		74,162.1	206,144.3
2. Insurance Companies				0.0	22,425.5	7,500.0		29,925.5	0.0	15,797.2			15,797.2	45,722.7
3. Other				0.0	3,373.0			3,373.0	0.0	2,859.5			2,859.5	6,232.5
C. Non-Financial Private Sector					601.0			601.0		1,546.4			1,546.4	2,147.4
D. Non-Financial Public Sector				0.0	70,664.0			70,664.0	0.0	19,287.5			19,287.5	89,951.5
E. Other (Private Individuals & Agencies included)				0.0	5,013.3			5,013.3	0.0	924.8			924.8	5,938.1
F. Short term credits								0.0					0.0	0.0
Sub-Total	0.0	8,974.3	0.0	8,974.3	235,084.8	7,500.0	0.0	242,584.8	16,200.0	95,115.6	18,087.3	0.0	129,402.9	380,962.0
11. EXTERNAL														
A. Monetary Authorities														
1. ECCB				0.0				0.0						0.0
B. Int'l Development Institutions														
1. C.D.B.		243,543.8		243,543.8		167.3		167.3			554.7		554.7	244,265.8
2. E.I.B.		2,198.6		2,198.6				0.0					0.0	2,198.6
3. I.F.A.D.		3,667.7		3,667.7				0.0					0.0	3,667.7
4. OPEC		4,219.2		4,219.2				0.0					0.0	4,219.2
5. IDA		70,173.2		70,173.2				0.0					0.0	70,173.2
6. IBRD		27,152.9		27,152.9				0.0					0.0	27,152.9
C. Foreign Governments				0.0										
1. France		45,769.1		45,769.1				0.0					0.0	45,769.1
2. Kuwait		14,091.4		14,091.4				0.0					0.0	14,091.4
C. Other Foreign Institutions														
1. Regional				0.0				0.0					0.0	0.0
2. Extra Regional				0.0	35,359.0			35,359.0					0.0	35,359.0
E. OTHER														
1. Royal Merchant Bank	174,200.0			174,200.0		38,294.7		38,294.7					0.0	212,494.7
2. Citibank	140,666.7			140,666.7				0.0			0.0		0.0	140,666.7
3. Other				0.0		3,455.7		3,455.7					0.0	3,455.7
Su-Total	314,866.7	410,815.9	0.0	725,682.5	35,359.0	41,917.7	0.0	77,276.7	0.0	0.0	554.7	0.0	554.7	803,513.9
PAYABLES													20,192.5	20,192.5
GRAND TOTAL	314,866.7	419,790.1	0.0	734,656.8	270,443.8	49,417.7	0.0	319,861.5	16,200.0	95,115.6	18,642.1	20,192.5	150,150.2	1,204,668.4

Note (1) The long term "other" figure of \$63098.4 representing securities (promissory notes) to Multilateral Development Institutions viz : IMF/IBRD has been omitted.

(2) The short term loans and advances figure of 18642.1 includes \$3115.829 representing the overdraft facility with Commercial Banks.

(3) The figure \$20192.508 representing outstanding payables is not broken down into the external and domestic components

DISTRIBUTION OF TOTAL OUTSTANDING LIABILITIES
BY CLASS OF HOLDER & TYPE OF LIABILITY
as at December 31, 2004

	OFFICIAL DEBT																	
	(a) CENTRAL GOV'T.					(b) GOVERNMENT GUARANTEED				(c) NON-GUARANTEED				GRAND TOTAL				
	(d) ARREARS			(e) CURR.	(f) TOTAL	(g) ARREARS		(h) CURR.	(i) TOTAL	(j) ARREARS		(k) CURR.	(l) TOTAL					
	PRIN.	INT.	SUB TOTAL		d + e	PRIN.	INT.		g + h	PRIN.	INT.		j + k					
1. DOMESTIC																		
A. Monetary Authorities	0.0	0.0	0.0			12,099.9		39,441.6	0.0		0.0	23,185.6	23,185.6	24,825.5				
1. ECCB				24,825.5	24,825.5												0.0	0.0
B. Financial Institutions																		
1. Commercial Banks				203,028.5	203,028.5													
2. Insurance Companies				45,722.7	45,722.7													
3. Other	6,232.5	6,232.5																
C. Non-Financial Private Sector				2,147.5	2,147.5				0.0					0.0	2,147.5			
D. Non-Financial Public Sector			0.0	89,951.6	89,951.6				0.0					0.0	89,951.6			
E. Other (Private Individuals & Agencies included)				5,938.1	5,938.1				0.0					0.0	5,938.1			
F. Short term credits			0.0	0.0	0.0				0.0					0.0	0.0			
Sub-Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	377,846.3	377,846.3	12,099.9	0.0	39,441.6	51,541.5	0.0	0.0	23,185.6	23,185.6	452,573.4				
11. EXTERNAL																		
A. Monetary Authorities																		
1. ECCB				0.0	0.0			0.0	0.0					0.0	0.0			
B. Int'l Development Institutions																		
1. C.D.B.				244,265.8	244,265.8			93,270.7	93,270.7					0.0	337,536.5			
2. E.I.B.				2,198.6	2,198.6			20,407.6	20,407.6			3,624.7	3,624.7	26,230.9				
3. I.F.A.D.				3,667.7	3,667.7				0.0					0.0	3,667.7			
4. OPEC				4,219.2	4,219.2				0.0					0.0	4,219.2			
5. IDA				70,173.2	70,173.2				0.0					0.0	70,173.2			
6. IBRD				27,152.9	27,152.9				0.0					0.0	27,152.9			
C. Foreign Governments																		
1. France				45,769.1	45,769.1			14,872.0	14,872.0					0.0	60,641.1			
2. Kuwait				14,091.4	14,091.4			0.0	0.0					0.0	14,091.4			
C. Other Foreign Institutions																		
1. Regional				0.0	0.0				0.0					0.0	0.0			
2. Other Regional				0.0	0.0				0.0					0.0	0.0			
3. Extra Regional				0.0	0.0				0.0					0.0	0.0			
E. OTHER																		
1. Royal Merchant Bank				212,494.7	212,494.7				0.0					0.0	212,494.7			
2. Citibank				140,666.7	140,666.7				0.0					0.0	140,666.7			
3. FINCOR				0.0	0.0				0.0		0.0	0.0	29,361.7	29,361.7	29,361.7			
4. Other				38,814.6	38,814.6				0.0					0.0	38,814.6			
Su-Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	803,513.8	803,513.8	0.0	0.0	128,550.3	128,550.3	0.0	0.0	32,986.4	32,986.4	965,050.4				
Payables	0.0	0.0	0.0	20,192.5	20,192.5				0.0					0.0	20,192.5			
GRAND TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	1,201,552.6	1,201,552.6	12,099.9	0.0	167,991.9	180,091.8	0.0	0.0	56,172.0	56,172.0	1,437,816.3				

LISTING OF OFFICIAL DEBT
as at December 31, 2004

as at December 31, 2004					CURRENT BALANCE	
LOAN	REFERENCE	CURRENCY	INTEREST RATE	EXCHANGE RATE	FOREIGN CURRENCY	EC\$ EQUIVALENT
DOMESTIC						
1. Central Government						
(a). Monetary Authorities						
- ECCB Special Deposits		EC	0.00%	1.0000		0.00
(b). COMMERCIAL BANKS						
Purchase of Collingham Gardens		EC	10.00%	1.0000		2,906,227.95
Bank of China Loan		EC	7.50%	1.0000		900,109.00
Refinancing of Citibank Bond		EC	5.75%	1.0000		0.00
Assistance to SLBGA:						
1. C.I.B.C.		EC	10.00%	1.0000		0.00
2. Royal Bank of Canada		EC	10.50%	1.0000		0.00
3. St. Lucia Cooperative Bank		EC	10.00%	1.0000		68,283.55
Redraining of Cul-de-Sac River		EC	8.00%	1.0000		7,500,000.00
Construction of New Prison		EC	8.00%	1.0000		12,000,000.00
Short Term Employment Programme		EC	8.00%	1.0000		8,071,143.14
Bonds						
1996/2006			6.00%	1.0000		12,763,800.00
1997/2007			7.50%	1.0000		17,905,000.00
2002/2012			7.00%	1.0000		47,416,000.00
2004/2009			5.79%	1.0000		50,000,000.00
2004/2014			7.00%	1.0000		50,000,000.00
2004/2014 LCG101114			7.00%	1.0000		30,000,000.00
2004/2010 LCG061110			6.00%	1.0000		27,000,000.00
Refinancing of Citibank Bond		EC	5.75%	1.0000		16,200,000.00
Treasury Bills						95,115,761.11
SUB - TOTAL (Central Gov't)						377,846,324.75
2. Government Guaranteed						
(a) Dennery Farmco		EC		1.0000		2,426,811.00
(b) Freezone Management Authority		EC		1.0000		269,895.00
(c) NDC		EC		1.0000		199,242.00
(d) Radio St. Lucia Ltd.		EC		1.0000		1,761,943.00
(e) Soufriere Regional Development Foundation		EC		1.0000		2,261,935.00
(f) St. Lucia Air & Sea Ports Authority		EC		1.0000		16,852,228.00
(g) St Lucia Fish Marketing Corporation		EC		1.0000		1,588,284.00
(h) St Lucia Livestock Development		EC		1.0000		465,083.00
(i) St Lucia Marketing Board		EC		1.0000		191,102.00
(j) St. Lucia National Housing Corp.		EC		1.0000		10,530,796.00
(k) St Lucia Tourist Board		EC		1.0000		3,877,857.00
(l) Water and Sewerage Authority		EC		1.0000		11,109,078.00
(M) Castries City Council		EC		1.0000		7,381.00
SUB - TOTAL (Gov't Guaranteed)						51,541,635.00
3. Public Non-Guaranteed						
St. Lucia Air & Sea Ports Authority		EC\$		1.0000		22,958,802.32
Bank of Nova Scotia		USD		2.7000	84000	226,800.00
SUB - TOTAL (Non-Guaranteed)						23,185,602.32
TOTAL (Domestic)						452,573,562.07
B. EXTERNAL						
1. Central Government						
Bonds						
-Royal Merchant Bank		EC\$	8.95%	1.0000	63,500,000.00	63,500,000.00
		USD	7.75%	2.7000	41,000,000.00	110,700,000.00
-CITIBANK		USD	7.75%	2.7000	40,000,000.00	108,000,000.00
		USD	7.25%	1.3500	10,000,000.00	13,500,000.00
		EC\$	9.90%	1.0000	20,000,000.00	19,166,666.00
-Other						
1996/2006		EC\$	6.00%	1.0000	500,000.00	500,000.00
1997/2007			7.50%	1.0000	22,275,000.00	22,275,000.00
2002/2012			7.00%	1.0000	12,584,000.00	12,584,000.00

LISTING OF OFFICIAL DEBT
as at December 31, 2004

as at December 31, 2004						
LOAN	REFERENCE	CURRENCY	INTEREST RATE	EXCHANGE RATE	CURRENT BALANCE	
					FOREIGN CURRENCY	EC\$ EQUIVALENT
LOANS						
Bilateral:						
Agence Francaise de Developpement						
(i) Rodney Bay Sewerage	C LC 0006 01 C	EUR	5.00%	3.6247	2,536,982.00	9,195,798.66
(ii) Castries Cul-De Sac Highway	C LC 1005 01 C	USD	3.50%	2.7000	4,909,091.00	13,254,545.70
(iii) Northern Water Supply	C LC 1009 01C	EUR	5.00%	3.6247	4,200,000.00	15,223,740.00
(iv) Rehabilitation of Tertiary Roads	CLC 3000 01 Z	EUR	3.50%	3.6247	2,233,302.00	8,095,049.76
Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development						
(i) Castries Cul-De Sac Highway	470	KWD	4.00%	9.1607	1,333,338.00	12,214,309.42
(ii) Castries/Choc Bay Junction Hwy.Improvement	646	KWD	4.00%	9.1607	204,902.63	1,877,051.52
Multilateral:						
Caribbean Development Bank:						
Vigie Terminal	3/SFR-OR	ECD	8.00%	1.00000	8200.00	8,200.00
West Indies Shipping Corporation	6/SFR-R-ST.L	ECU	2.00%	3.6247	58,052.00	210,421.08
Rural Electrification	21/SFR-STL	USD	4.00%	2.7000	67,759.77	182,951.38
Purchase of Equity - SLDB	27/SFR-ST.L	USD	0.75%	2.7000	304,497.00	822,141.90
Small Farmers Agri.Dev.Project	31/SFR-STL	SWKR	4.00%	0.4043	361.87	146.30
		USD	4.00%	2.7000	48,657.73	131,375.87
		EUR	4.00%	3.6247	6,697.73	24,277.26
Water Supply	37/SFR	CAD	4.00%	2.2081	152,443.50	336,610.49
		STG	4.00%	5.2171	48,848.17	254,845.79
		USD	4.00%	2.7000	279,008.72	753,323.54
		SWKR	4.00%	0.4043	275,090.35	111,219.03
		SDR	4.00%	4.1656	952,448.51	3,967,519.51
Feeder Roads	38/SFR-STL	USD	4.00%	2.7000	415,904.64	1,122,942.53
Technical Vocational Education	39/SFR-ST.L	SDR	0.75%	4.1656	1,574,358.45	6,558,147.56
		USD	2.00%	2.7000	740,379.34	1,999,024.22
Water Supply	8/SFR-OR-STL	USD	2.00%	2.7000	3,882,170.47	10,481,860.27
		USD	5.50%	2.7000	1,042,335.47	2,814,305.77
		CAD	5.50%	2.2081	288,437.62	636,899.11
		STG.	5.50%	5.2171	50,972.35	265,927.85
Road Improvement and Maintenance	13/SFR-OR-ST.L	IU	5.50%	2.7000	875,821.00	2,364,716.70
		USD	2.00%	2.7000	373,238.00	1,007,742.60
Road Improvement & Maintenance	43/SFR-ST.L	SDR	0.75%	4.1656	1,142,176.00	4,757,848.35
Road Improvement & Maintenance	15/SFR-OR-ST.L	USD	2.00%	2.7000	1,585,625.00	4,281,187.50
		USD	5.50%	2.7000	2,210,609.04	5,968,644.41
		TTD	5.50%	0.4319	864,577.13	373,410.86
		ECD	5.50%	1.0000	94,653.00	94,653.00
		EUR	5.50%	3.6247	39,124.78	141,815.59
		STG	5.50%	5.2171	102,132.55	532,835.73
		USD	5.50%	2.7000	2200000	5,940,000.00
Economic Reconstruction Programme	28/SFR-OR-St.L	USD	2.5,5.5%	2.7000	84,191.82	227,317.91
Banana Recovery Project	27/SFR-OR	USD	2.50%	2.7000	534,034.05	1,441,891.94
Rehabilitation of Storm Damages	45/SFR-STL	USD	2.00%	2.7000	3,940,886.95	10,640,394.77
OECS Waste Management Project	18/SFR-OR-ST.L	USD	5.50%	2.7000	1,710,000.00	4,617,000.00
			2.00%	2.7000	1,110,000.00	2,997,000.00
		18/SFR-OR-ST.L (ADD)	2.00%	2.7000	1,882,601.32	5,083,023.56
Basic Education Reform Project	16/SFR-OR-ST.L	USD	2.00%	2.7000	2,794,019.11	7,543,851.60
			5.50%	2.7000	1,073,333.38	2,898,000.13

LISTING OF OFFICIAL DEBT
as at December 31, 2004

as at December 31, 2004						
LOAN	REFERENCE	CURRENCY	INTEREST RATE	EXCHANGE RATE	CURRENT BALANCE	
					FOREIGN CURRENCY	EC\$ EQUIVALENT
LIAT'S Indebtness	46/SFR-STL	USD	4.00%	2.7000	35,743.65	96,507.86
		STG.	5.00%	5.2171	6,027.03	31,443.62
		ECU	1.50%	3.6247	10,842.09	39,299.32
Rural Enterprise Project	47/SFR-ST.L	USD	2.50%	2.7000	792,169.95	2,138,858.87
Disaster Mitigation	20/SFR-OR-ST.L	USD	5.50%	2.7000	944,587.70	2,550,386.79
		USD	2.50%	2.7000	2,343,464.68	6,327,354.64
Roads Development Project	12/OR-ST.L	USD	5.50%	2.7000	25,663,867.36	69,292,441.87
		STG.	5.50%	5.2171	1,022,008.37	5,331,919.87
	12/OR-ST.L (ADD)	ECD	5.50%	1.0000	946,045.47	946,045.47
		USD	5.50%	2.7000	2,494,244.40	6,734,459.88
		STG.	5.50%	5.2171	186,463.27	972,797.53
		ECD	5.50%	1.0000	95,034.68	95,034.68
Basic Education Reform Project	22/SFR-OR-ST.L	USD	3.50%	2.7000	4,250,000.00	11,475,000.00
		USD	5.50%	2.7000	2,040,423.00	5,509,142.10
		ECD	5.50%	1.0000	268,857.90	268,857.90
Landslide Immediate Response	48 SFR-ST.L	USD	2.50%	2.7000	499,999.99	1,349,999.97
Hurricane Lenny Immediate Response	49 SFR-ST.L	USD	2.50%	2.7000	158,847.30	428,887.71
Shelter Development Project	23/SFR-OR-STL	USD	3.50%	2.7000	1,176,805.35	3,177,374.45
			5.50%	2.7000	674,834.64	1,822,053.53
Natural Disaster Management -Rehabilitation-Landslide	24/SFR-OR-ST.L	USD	2.50%	2.7000	1,782,506.81	4,812,768.39
		USD	5.50%	2.7000	865,562.27	2,337,018.13
	24/SFR-OR-ST.L (ADD)	USD	5.50%	2.7000	60,691.67	163,867.51
		USD	2.50%	2.7000	29,193.76	78,823.15
Student Loan Scheme # 6	26/SFR-OR-ST.L	USD	2.50%	2.7000	1,400,571.49	3,781,543.02
		USD	5.50%	2.7000	2,843,584.53	7,677,678.23
Fifth Water Supply Project	25/SFR-OR-ST.L	USD	2.50%	2.7000	637,775.74	1,721,994.50
		USD	5.50%	2.7000	652,751.67	1,762,429.51
	25/SFR-OR-ST.L (ADD)	USD	5.50%	2.7000	486,624.65	1,313,886.56
Regional Tourism Emergency	50 SFR-ST.L	USD	2.50%	2.7000	340,138.90	918,375.03
Improvement of Drainage Systems	51 SFR-ST.L	USD	2.50%	2.7000	196,466.07	530,458.39
Natural Disaster Mgmt - Immediate Response -Hurricane Lili	52 SFR-ST.L	USD	2.50%	2.7000	454,387.50	1,226,846.25
Economic Reconstruction Programme - Tourism Dev.	14/OR-ST.L	USD	5.50%	2.7000	2,231,533.61	6,025,140.75
		STG	5.50%	5.2171	131,153.26	684,239.67
		CAD	5.50%	2.2081	213,347.14	471,091.82
		XCD	5.50%	1.0000	524,525.75	524,525.75
		TTD	5.50%	0.4318	124,490.00	53,754.78
European Investment Bank (EIB)						
SLDB Equity		ECU	2.00%	3.6247	106,560.00	386,248.03
Conditional Capital Resources	70984	ECU	0.00%	3.6247	500,000.00	1,812,350.00
International Fund for Agricultural Dev. (IFAD)						
Rural Enterprise Project	I 414 LC	SDR	2.68%	4.1656	880,468.00	3,667,677.50
OPEC						
(i) Castries Cul-De Sac Highway	625P	USD	5.00%	2.7000	1,166,700.00	3,150,090.00
(ii) Roseau Dam Project	508P	USD	5.50%	2.7000	395,960.00	1,069,092.00
<u>The World Bank</u>						
Watershed & Environmental Project	27680 39250	SDR	0.75%	4.1656	1,700,000.00	7,081,520.00
		USD	5.32%	2.7000	1,570,000.00	4,239,000.00
Water Supply Project (Roseau Dam)	21200 31840	SDR	0.75%	4.1656	3,550,000.00	14,787,880.00
		USD	5.32%	2.7000	504,912.00	1,363,262.40
Basic Education Reform Project	26760 38370	SDR	0.75%	4.1656	2,300,000.00	9,580,880.00
		USD	4.62%	2.7000	1,517,287.00	4,096,674.90

LISTING OF OFFICIAL DEBT
as at December 31, 2004

LOAN	REFERENCE	CURRENCY	INTEREST RATE	EXCHANGE RATE	CURRENT BALANCE	
					FOREIGN CURRENCY	EC\$ EQUIVALENT
OECS Telecommunications Project						
- IDA	30880	SDR	0.75%	4.1656	398,003.00	1,657,921.30
-IBRD	43370	USD	5.01%	2.7000	544,998.00	1,471,494.60
Disaster Management Project						
-IDA	31510	SDR	0.75%	4.1656	2,200,000.00	9,164,320.00
-IBRD	44190	USD	5.01%	2.7000	3,029,867.00	8,180,640.90
Poverty Reduction Fund						
- IDA	32770	SDR	0.75%	4.1656	1,200,000.00	4,998,720.00
- IBRD	45080	USD	2.29% & 7.93%	2.7000	1,370,118.00	3,699,318.60
OECS Waste Management Project						
- IDA	27160	SDR	0.75%	4.1656	1,595,378.59	6,645,709.05
- IBRD	38810	USD	4.85%	2.7000	776,784.42	2,097,317.93
Water Sector Reform Project IBRD						
-IDA	35920	SDR	0.75%	4.1656	711,029.00	2,961,862.40
-IBRD	70960	USD	2.61%	2.7000	13,000.00	35,100.00
Emergency Recovery						
-IDA	36120	SDR	0.75%	4.1656	2,465,884.00	10,271,886.39
-IBRD	71020	USD	5.29%	2.7000	651,150.90	1,758,107.43
OECS Education Development						
-IDA	36610	SDR	0.75%	4.1656	272,584.00	1,135,475.91
-IBRD		USD	4.82%	2.7000	60,000.00	162,000.00
Disaster Mitigation Project II						
-IBRD	72380	USD	2.54%	2.7000	18,500.00	49,950.00
-IDA	39360	SDR	0.75%	4.1656	453,004.00	1,887,033.46
Other						
(i) Bordelais Correctional Facility						
RMB		ECD	8.00%	1.0000	30,000,000.00	30,000,000.00
		USD	8.00%	2.7000	3,072,118.96	8,294,721.19
(ii) Purchase of Ambassador's Residence						
RIGGS Bank		USD	7.34%	2.7000	26,680.00	72,036.00
(iii) Angloco - Purchase of First Response Water Tenders		USD	5.24%	2.7000	214,110.02	578,097.05
(iv) Eyre Spottiswoode - Publishing Laws of St. Lucia		STG	0.00%	5.2171	537,762.00	2,805,558.13
SUB - TOTAL (Central Gov't)						803,513,887.82
2. GOVERNMENT GUARANTEED						
(a) National Development Corporation (N.D.C.)						
CDB Loans:						
Industrial Estate VI	34/SFR-STL (ADD)	USD	4.00%	2.7000	0.00	0.00
	34/SFR-STL	SWKR	4.00%	0.4043	0.00	0.00
	34/SFR-STL	USD	4.00%	2.7000	0.00	0.00
Pointe Seraphine Tourist Centre	33/SFR-STL	USD	4.00%	2.7000	24,222.11	65,399.70
		SWKR	4.00%	0.4043	128,635.00	52,007.13
		EUR	4.00%	3.6247	25,483.50	92,370.04
Industrial Estate VII	7/SFR-STL	USD	5.50%	2.7000	761,107.28	2,054,989.66
			2.20%	2.7000	500,130.76	1,350,353.05
Industrial Estate VIII	11/SFR-OR	USD	2.20%	2.7000	665,057.52	1,795,655.30
		USD	2.00%	2.7000	624,247.00	1,685,466.90
		TTD	5.50%	0.4319	180,389.97	77,910.43
(b) LUCELEC						
Expansion Project II						
European Investment Bank (EIB)	LOAN #1.3768	STG	5.15%	5.2171	57,110.00	297,948.58
		YEN	5.15%	25.9692	34,600.00	898,534.32
		USD	5.15%	2.7000	336,035.00	907,294.50
		USD	3.78%	2.7000	1,469,664.33	3,968,093.69
		USD	3.19%	2.7000	4,106,971.52	11,088,823.10
(c) BANK OF ST. LUCIA (SLDB).						
CDB Loans:						
Student Loans	9/SFR-OR	USD	5.50%	2.7000	350,445.00	946,201.50
		BZD	5.50%	1.3500	18,299.33	24,704.10
Consolidated Line of Credit II	40/SFR-STL	USD	3.00%	2.7000	906,410.70	2,447,308.89
		EUR	4.00%	3.6247	268,925.35	974,773.72
Consolidated Line of Credit III	12/SFR-OR	USD	2.00%	2.7000	902,997.34	2,438,092.82
			5.50%	2.7000	918,097.73	2,478,863.87
Consolidated Line of Credit IV	14/SFR-OR-St.L	USD	2.00%	2.7000	1,159,204.55	3,129,852.29
			5.50%	2.7000	3,325,276.58	8,978,246.77
Consolidated Line of Credit V	17/SFR-OR-STL	USD	2.00%	2.7000	1,033,854.37	2,791,406.80
			5.50%	2.7000	2,856,542.35	7,712,664.35
Consolidated Line of Credit VI	19/SFR-OR-STL	USD	2.00%	2.7000	1,055,384.86	2,849,539.12
			5.50%	2.7000	4,429,318.00	11,959,158.60
Consolidated Line of Credit VII	21/SFR-OR-STL	USD	2.00%	2.7000	1,693,046.00	4,571,224.20
			5.50%	2.7000	4,301,737.12	11,614,690.22

LISTING OF OFFICIAL DEBT
as at December 31, 2004

LOAN	REFERENCE	CURRENCY	INTEREST RATE	EXCHANGE RATE	CURRENT BALANCE	
					FOREIGN CURRENCY	EC\$ EQUIVALENT
European Investment Bank:						
St. Lucia Development Bank II B AFF.01	17714	USD	4.20%	2.7000	580,897.00	1,568,421.90
		STG	4.20%	5.2171	242,544.00	1,265,376.30
St. Lucia Development Bank II B	17714	YEN	3.00%	25.9692	7,581.00	196,872.51
		CHF	3.00%	2.3561	91,769.00	216,216.94
Agence Francaise De Developpement:						
Refinancing Industry & Tourism	CLC 0001 01 Y	USD	4.00%	2.7000	509,630.84	1,290,003.00
(d) Air & Sea Ports Authority						
CDB:						
Fourth Airport Project	10/SFR-OR-ST.L	USD	2.00%	2.7000	2,119,113.85	5,721,607.40
	10/SFR-OR-ST.L	USD	5.50%	2.7000	1,552,375.25	4,191,413.18
Air Cargo Facility	35/SFR-ST.L	USD	4.00%	2.7000	55,305.93	149,326.01
Upgrading Cruiseship Facilities	11/OR-STL	ECD	5.50%	1.0000	458,333.35	458,333.35
		USD	5.50%	2.7000	4,688,580.25	12,659,166.68
Agence Francaise De Developpement						
Hewanorra Airport Extension Project	C LC 0002 01 Y	EUR	5.00%	3.6247	4,579,744.00	13,581,957.00
SUB - TOTAL (Gov't Guaranteed)						128,550,267.89
3. Non-Guaranteed						
Bank of St. Lucia (SLDB)						
SLDB Conditional Loan on Risk Capital Resources II-C	70985	EUR	0.00%	3.6247	1,000,000.00	3,624,700.00
St. Lucia National Lotteries Authority						
FINCOR		USD	10.25%	2.7000	5,039,249.00	13,605,972.30
Beausejour Cricket Ground		ECD	10.25%	1.0000	15,755,698.00	15,755,698.00
SUB - TOTAL (Non-Guaranteed)						32,986,370.30
TOTAL (External)						965,050,526.01
TOTAL (Gov't Guaranteed)						180,091,902.89
TOTAL (Non-guaranteed)						56,171,972.62
TOTAL (Central Gov't)						1,181,360,212.57
GRAND TOTAL						1,417,624,088.08

DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLIC SECTOR EXTERNAL LOANS BY CREDITOR

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT		
December 2004		
CDB:	244,265,781.57	30.40%
E.I.B.:	2,198,598.03	0.27%
I.F.A.D.:	3,667,677.50	0.46%
IDA	70,173,208.52	8.73%
IBRD	27,152,866.76	3.38%
OPEC	4,219,182.00	0.53%
AGENCE FRANCAISSE	45,769,134.11	5.70%
KUWAIT FUND	14,091,360.94	1.75%
CITIBANK	140,666,666.00	17.51%
ROYAL MERCHANT BANK	212,494,721.19	26.45%
RIGGS BANK	72,036.00	0.01%
ANGLOCO	578,097.05	0.07%
EYRE-SPOTTISWOODE	2,805,558.13	0.35%
OTHER NSDB	35,359,000.00	4.40%
SUB TOTAL	803,513,887.82	100%
GOVERNMENT GUARANTEED		
CDB	93,270,726.05	72.56%
EIB	20,407,581.84	15.88%
AGENCE FRANCAISSE	14,871,960.00	11.57%
SUB TOTAL	128,550,267.89	100%
NON-GUARANTEED		
EIB	3,624,700.00	10.99%
FINCOR	29,361,670.30	89.01%
SUB TOTAL	32,986,370.30	100%
GRAND TOTAL	965,050,526.01	

IMPORTS BY STANDARD INTERNATIONAL TRADE CLASSIFICATION
(EC\$ MILLION)

COMMODITY GROUPS	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001r	2002	2003r	2004pj
CONSUMER GOODS	478.17	498.48	479.54	495.86	528.05	552.72	529.11	467.43	477.10	574.96	621.88
0. Food & Live Animals	173.27	188.71	186.44	196.19	202.70	191.29	193.34	186.38	168.95	204.01	219.05
1. Beverage & Tobacco	27.91	29.52	28.91	28.31	31.21	32.62	32.77	31.75	32.30	41.29	44.57
6. Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly by Material	169.24	175.51	154.38	152.76	176.13	194.72	171.23	150.16	143.52	165.77	178.14
8. Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	107.74	104.73	109.81	118.60	118.01	134.09	131.78	99.14	132.32	163.89	180.12
INTERMEDIATE GOODS	158.76	168.68	181.51	185.80	177.70	182.75	212.61	201.99	177.60	228.82	316.88
2. Crude Materials, Inedible Except Fuels	26.62	25.65	22.77	28.78	26.42	28.64	28.68	23.10	21.66	24.01	26.29
3. Mineral Fuel, Lubricants and Related Materials	53.27	62.91	69.99	76.33	71.41	65.08	102.88	106.98	83.75	123.48	200.65
4. Animal and Vegetable Oils & Fats	2.20	2.16	2.47	4.37	1.70	1.71	1.50	1.65	0.95	2.03	2.42
5. Chemicals and Related Products	76.67	77.96	86.29	76.31	78.17	87.32	79.54	70.26	71.24	79.30	87.52
CAPITAL GOODS	179.76	159.35	184.84	215.33	199.37	221.82	237.26	165.33	195.34	285.62	224.29
7. Machinery and Transport Equipment	179.22	158.86	184.15	214.70	198.82	221.15	237.19	165.21	195.21	285.36	224.21
9. Miscellaneous	0.54	0.49	0.69	0.63	0.55	0.68	0.07	0.12	0.14	0.26	0.08
TOTAL	816.69	826.50	845.89	896.99	905.12	957.29	978.98	834.75	850.04	1,089.40	1,163.05

Source: Statistics Department
r=revised; pj= projected

IMPORTS BY STANDARD INTERNATIONAL TRADE CLASSIFICATION
(At F.O.B Prices)
(EC\$Millions)

COMMODITY GROUPS	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001r	2002	2003r	2004pj
CONSUMER GOODS	420.79	438.66	422.00	436.36	464.68	486.39	465.62	411.34	419.84	505.97	547.25
0. Food & Live Animals	152.48	166.07	164.07	172.65	178.37	168.34	170.14	164.01	148.68	179.5269626	192.7646371
1. Beverage & Tobacco	24.56	25.98	25.44	24.92	27.47	28.70	28.83	27.94	28.42	36.3363836	39.2249132
6. Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly by Material	148.93	154.45	135.85	134.43	155.00	171.35	150.68	132.14	126.30	145.8794418	156.7598974
8. Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	94.81	92.16	96.64	104.37	103.85	118.00	115.96	87.25	116.45	144.2231305	158.5032082
INTERMEDIATE GOODS	139.71	148.44	159.73	163.50	156.38	160.82	187.09	177.75	156.29	201.36	278.85
2. Crude Materials, Inedible Except Fuels	23.43	22.57	20.04	25.32	23.25	25.20	25.24	20.33	19.06	21.12908688	23.13815856
3. Mineral Fuel, Lubricants and Related Materials	46.87	55.36	61.59	67.17	62.84	57.27	90.54	94.14	73.70	108.6639242	176.5676484
4. Animal and Vegetable Oils & Fats	1.94	1.90	2.17	3.85	1.50	1.51	1.32	1.45	0.83	1.7887012	2.12804944
5. Chemicals and Related Products	67.47	68.60	75.93	67.15	68.79	76.84	69.99	61.83	62.69	69.78143832	77.02071696
CAPITAL GOODS	158.19	140.23	162.66	189.49	175.44	195.21	208.79	145.49	171.90	251.35	197.37
7. Machinery and Transport Equipment	157.71	139.79	162.06	188.94	174.96	194.61	208.73	145.39	171.78	251.116279	197.3026519
9. Miscellaneous	0.47	0.43	0.61	0.55	0.49	0.60	0.06	0.10	0.12	0.23099384	0.07188368
TOTAL	718.69	727.32	744.39	789.35	796.50	842.42	861.50	734.58	748.04	958.68	1023.48

Source: Statistics Department
pj= Projected
r=revised

IMPORTS BY STANDARD INTERNATIONAL TRADE CLASSIFICATION AT F.O.B PRICES
Percentage of Total

COMMODITY GROUPS	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003r	2004pj
CONSUMER GOODS	58.55%	60.31%	56.69%	55.28%	58.34%	57.74%	54.05%	56.00%	56.13%	52.78%	53.47%
0. Food & Live Animals	21.22%	22.83%	22.04%	21.87%	22.39%	19.98%	19.75%	22.33%	19.88%	18.73%	18.83%
1. Beverage & Tobacco	3.42%	3.57%	3.42%	3.16%	3.45%	3.41%	3.35%	3.80%	3.80%	3.79%	3.83%
6. Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly by Material	20.72%	21.24%	18.25%	17.03%	19.46%	20.34%	17.49%	17.99%	16.88%	15.22%	15.32%
8. Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	13.19%	12.67%	12.98%	13.22%	13.04%	14.01%	13.46%	11.88%	15.57%	15.04%	15.49%
INTERMEDIATE GOODS	19.44%	20.41%	21.46%	20.71%	19.63%	19.09%	21.72%	24.20%	20.89%	21.00%	27.25%
2. Crude Materials, Inedible Except Fuels	3.26%	3.10%	2.69%	3.21%	2.92%	2.99%	2.93%	2.77%	2.55%	2.20%	2.26%
3. Mineral Fuel, Lubricants and Related Materials	6.52%	7.61%	8.27%	8.51%	7.89%	6.80%	10.51%	12.82%	9.85%	11.33%	17.25%
4. Animal and Vegetable Oils & Fats	0.27%	0.26%	0.29%	0.49%	0.19%	0.18%	0.15%	0.20%	0.11%	0.19%	0.21%
5. Chemicals and Related Products	9.39%	9.43%	10.20%	8.51%	8.64%	9.12%	8.12%	8.42%	8.38%	7.28%	7.53%
CAPITAL GOODS	22.01%	19.28%	21.85%	24.01%	22.03%	23.17%	24.24%	19.81%	22.98%	26.22%	20.59%
7. Machinery and Transport Equipment	21.94%	19.22%	21.77%	23.94%	21.97%	23.10%	24.23%	19.79%	22.96%	26.19%	19.28%
9. Miscellaneous	0.07%	0.06%	0.08%	0.07%	0.06%	0.07%	0.01%	0.01%	0.02%	0.02%	0.01%
TOTAL	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Source: Statistics Department
pj= Projected

IMPORTS BY STANDARD INTERNATIONAL TRADE CLASSIFICATION AT F.O.B PRICES
Percentage Change

COMMODITY GROUPS	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003r	2004pj
CONSUMER GOODS	4.25%	-3.80%	3.40%	6.49%	4.67%	-4.27%	-11.66%	2.07%	20.51%	8.16%
0. Food & Live Animals	8.91%	-1.20%	5.23%	3.32%	-5.63%	1.07%	-3.60%	-9.35%	20.75%	7.37%
1. Beverage & Tobacco	5.76%	-2.07%	-2.08%	10.24%	4.51%	0.45%	-3.11%	1.74%	27.85%	7.95%
6. Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly by Material	3.71%	-12.04%	-1.05%	15.30%	10.55%	-12.06%	-12.30%	-4.42%	15.50%	7.46%
8. Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	-2.80%	4.86%	8.00%	-0.50%	13.63%	-1.73%	-24.76%	33.47%	23.85%	9.90%
INTERMEDIATE GOODS	6.25%	7.60%	2.36%	-4.36%	2.84%	16.34%	-4.99%	-12.07%	28.84%	38.48%
2. Crude Materials, Inedible Except Fuels	-3.64%	-11.24%	26.38%	-8.20%	8.40%	0.16%	-19.47%	-6.22%	10.85%	9.51%
3. Mineral Fuel, Lubricants and Related Materials	18.10%	11.25%	9.07%	-6.45%	-8.86%	58.09%	3.98%	-21.71%	47.44%	62.49%
4. Animal and Vegetable Oils & Fats	-1.82%	14.05%	77.31%	-61.10%	0.68%	-12.42%	9.96%	-42.62%	114.75%	18.97%
5. Chemicals and Related Products	1.68%	10.68%	-11.56%	2.44%	11.70%	-8.91%	-11.66%	1.39%	11.31%	10.37%
CAPITAL GOODS	-11.36%	16.00%	16.49%	-7.41%	11.26%	6.96%	-30.32%	18.15%	46.21%	-21.47%
7. Machinery and Transport Equipment	-11.36%	15.92%	16.59%	-7.40%	11.23%	7.25%	-30.35%	18.16%	46.18%	-21.43%
9. Miscellaneous	-9.12%	40.35%	-8.32%	-12.59%	22.70%	-89.38%	65.04%	15.02%	92.54%	-68.88%
TOTAL	1.20%	2.35%	6.04%	0.91%	5.76%	2.27%	-14.73%	1.83%	28.16%	6.76%

Source: Statistics Department
pj= Projected

TOTAL EXPORTS BY STANDARD INTERNATIONAL TRADE CLASSIFICATION
(EC\$ Millions)

COMMODITY GROUPS	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003r	2004pj
CONSUMER GOODS	225.20	256.09	199.57	147.17	153.41	133.92	134.00	98.32	116.60	107.55	119.32
0. Food & Live Animals	132.01	156.29	145.82	97.15	107.72	91.15	90.84	46.15	64.07	48.57	57.83
1. Beverage & Tobacco	13.48	15.19	10.01	11.81	14.92	22.11	24.92	28.31	23.65	29.09	31.91
6. Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly by Material	19.05	26.72	19.49	20.68	17.24	8.77	4.41	7.11	15.74	14.42	16.11
8. Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	60.67	57.90	24.24	17.52	13.54	11.89	13.83	16.75	13.14	15.47	13.46
INTERMEDIATE GOODS	6.59	5.04	2.35	3.01	3.99	2.86	2.16	3.95	15.73	20.36	94.15
2. Crude Materials, Inedible Except Fuels	1.43	1.32	0.29	0.48	0.75	0.56	0.49	0.67	0.78	1.25	3.48
3. Mineral Fuel, Lubricants and Related Materials	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.13	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	12.45	16.56	85.10
4. Animal and Vegetable Oils & Fats	3.10	1.20	0.00	0.17	1.04	0.76	0.05	0.01	0.13	0.01	0.23
5. Chemicals and Related Products	2.03	2.50	2.04	2.23	2.20	1.54	1.62	3.28	2.37	2.54	5.35
CAPITAL GOODS	22.97	33.09	12.76	15.21	10.52	13.55	14.09	17.60	35.22	39.76	36.68
7. Machinery and Transport Equipment	22.92	32.85	12.75	10.07	10.49	13.50	14.08	17.55	32.88	37.55	34.34
9. Miscellaneous	0.05	0.23	0.01	5.14	0.02	0.05	0.01	0.05	2.34	2.21	2.34
TOTAL	254.76	294.22	214.68	165.39	167.92	150.33	150.25	119.88	167.55	167.67	250.15

Source: Statistics Department

pj=Projected

r=revised

TOTAL EXPORTS BY STANDARD INTERNATIONAL TRADE CLASSIFICATION
Percentage Change

COMMODITY GROUPS	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003r	2004pj
CONSUMER GOODS	13.72%	-22.07%	-26.26%	4.24%	-12.71%	0.06%	-26.62%	18.59%	-7.76%	10.94%
0. Food & Live Animals	18.39%	-6.70%	-33.38%	10.87%	-15.38%	-0.35%	-49.19%	38.83%	-24.20%	19.09%
1. Beverage & Tobacco	12.71%	-34.07%	17.92%	26.34%	48.19%	12.71%	13.64%	-16.49%	23.03%	9.71%
6. Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly by Material	40.28%	-27.04%	6.11%	-16.66%	-49.12%	-49.67%	61.14%	121.32%	-8.39%	11.72%
8. Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	-4.56%	-58.13%	-27.71%	-22.73%	-12.20%	16.34%	21.06%	-21.54%	17.76%	-13.04%
INTERMEDIATE GOODS	-23.53%	-53.31%	28.05%	32.36%	-28.16%	-24.64%	83.02%	298.19%	29.41%	362.43%
2. Crude Materials, Inedible Except Fuels	-7.62%	-78.14%	67.47%	55.03%	-26.03%	-12.40%	37.24%	16.99%	60.63%	177.42%
3. Mineral Fuel, Lubricants and Related Materials	-30.00%	33.33%	350.00%	-98.10%	241.89%	-30.36%	-89.05%	1991940.64%	32.98%	413.96%
4. Animal and Vegetable Oils & Fats	-61.18%	-100.00%		502.36%	-26.37%	-93.75%	-86.00%	1902.16%	-89.60%	1557.13%
5. Chemicals and Related Products	22.66%	-18.40%	9.58%	-1.43%	-30.03%	5.24%	102.35%	-27.70%	7.01%	110.86%
CAPITAL GOODS	44.07%	-61.44%	19.18%	-30.83%	28.84%	4.00%	24.91%	100.09%	12.88%	-7.73%
7. Machinery and Transport Equipment	43.36%	-61.20%	-20.99%	4.20%	28.62%	4.31%	24.63%	87.38%	14.21%	-8.56%
9. Miscellaneous	368.00%	-94.44%	39400.00%	-99.54%	125.33%	-75.84%	325.48%	4165.11%	-5.78%	6.27%
TOTAL	15.49%	-27.03%	-22.96%	1.53%	-10.47%	-0.06%	-20.21%	39.77%	0.07%	49.19%

Source: Statistics Department

pj=Projected

r=revised

TOTAL EXPORTS - PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL

COMMODITY GROUPS	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003r	2004pj
CONSUMER GOODS	87.04%	92.96%	88.98%	91.36%	89.08%	89.18%	82.02%	69.59%	64.14%	47.70%
0. Food & Live Animals	53.12%	67.93%	58.74%	64.15%	60.63%	60.46%	38.50%	38.24%	28.96%	23.12%
1. Beverage & Tobacco	5.16%	4.66%	7.14%	8.88%	14.70%	16.58%	23.62%	14.11%	17.35%	12.76%
6. Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly by Material	9.08%	9.08%	12.51%	10.26%	5.83%	2.94%	5.93%	9.40%	8.60%	6.44%
8. Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	19.68%	11.29%	10.60%	8.06%	7.91%	9.21%	13.97%	7.84%	9.23%	5.38%
INTERMEDIATE GOODS	1.71%	1.10%	1.82%	2.37%	1.91%	1.44%	3.30%	9.39%	12.14%	37.64%
2. Crude Materials, Inedible Except Fuels	0.45%	0.13%	0.29%	0.45%	0.37%	0.32%	0.56%	0.47%	0.75%	1.39%
3. Mineral Fuel, Lubricants and Related Materials	0.01%	0.01%	0.08%	0.00%	0.01%	0.00%	0.00%	7.43%	9.87%	34.02%
4. Animal and Vegetable Oils & Fats	0.41%	0.00%	0.10%	0.62%	0.51%	0.03%	0.01%	0.08%	0.01%	0.09%
5. Chemicals and Related Products	0.85%	0.95%	1.35%	1.31%	1.02%	1.08%	2.73%	1.41%	1.51%	2.14%
CAPITAL GOODS	11.25%	5.94%	9.19%	6.26%	9.01%	9.38%	14.68%	21.02%	23.71%	14.66%
7. Machinery and Transport Equipment	11.17%	5.94%	6.09%	6.25%	8.98%	9.37%	14.64%	19.62%	22.40%	13.73%
9. Miscellaneous	0.08%	0.01%	3.10%	0.01%	0.04%	0.01%	0.05%	1.40%	1.32%	0.94%
TOTAL	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Source: Statistics Department

pj=Projected

r=revised

DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY STANDARD INTERNATIONAL TRADE CLASSIFICATION
(EC\$MILLIONS)

COMMODITY GROUPS	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003r	2004pj
CONSUMER GOODS	290.99	262.18	207.34	239.69	198.13	144.04	152.18	132.21	130.35	92.61	106.20	94.64	107.22
0. Food & Live Animals	199.52	162.01	131.84	155.95	145.70	96.91	107.65	91.02	90.84	45.89	63.68	48.08	57.28
1. Beverage & Tobacco	14.44	13.98	13.34	14.98	9.72	11.59	14.73	21.68	24.65	28.17	23.29	28.73	31.62
6. Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly by Material	12.06	10.23	16.50	23.00	18.97	20.04	16.64	8.19	3.92	5.75	10.83	9.70	11.44
8. Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	64.97	75.95	45.66	45.76	23.73	15.50	13.15	11.31	10.95	12.80	8.41	8.13	6.88
INTERMEDIATE GOODS	6.14	8.34	5.33	3.68	1.63	1.90	3.24	2.67	1.87	3.13	1.70	2.19	6.75
2. Crude Materials, Inedible Except Fuels	1.00	1.37	0.94	1.08	0.29	0.27	0.70	0.49	0.43	0.62	0.58	1.11	2.73
3. Mineral Fuel, Lubricants and Related Materials	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4. Animal and Vegetable Oils & Fats	3.46	4.36	3.10	1.20	0.00	0.17	1.04	0.76	0.05	0.01	0.13	0.01	0.21
5. Chemicals and Related Products	1.68	2.60	1.29	1.40	1.34	1.46	1.51	1.41	1.39	2.50	0.99	1.06	3.82
CAPITAL GOODS	12.47	15.28	11.07	9.78	8.61	6.99	7.60	5.44	6.87	5.36	8.03	8.01	7.91
7. Machinery and Transport Equipment	12.47	15.28	11.07	9.78	8.61	6.99	7.60	5.44	6.87	5.34	8.01	8.01	7.89
9. Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.02
TOTAL	309.59	285.79	223.74	253.15	208.37	152.93	163.02	140.32	139.09	101.10	115.93	104.84	121.88

Source: Statistics Department

TRADE BALANCE BY STANDARD INTERNATIONAL TRADE CLASSIFICATION
(EC\$ Million)

COMMODITY GROUPS	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003r	2004pj
CONSUMER GOODS	-195.59	-182.57	-222.43	-289.19	-311.27	-352.48	-331.62	-313.01	-303.25	-398.42	-427.94
0. Food & Live Animals	-20.46	-9.78	-18.25	-75.49	-70.66	-77.18	-79.31	-117.86	-84.60	-130.96	-134.93
1. Beverage & Tobacco	-11.09	-10.79	-15.43	-13.11	-12.55	-6.60	-3.92	0.38	-4.78	-7.25	-7.31
6. Manufactured Goods Classified Chiefly by Material	-129.89	-127.74	-116.36	-113.74	-137.76	-162.58	-146.27	-125.03	-110.56	-131.46	-140.65
8. Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles	-34.15	-34.26	-72.39	-86.84	-90.30	-106.11	-102.13	-70.50	-103.31	-128.75	-145.05
INTERMEDIATE GOODS	-133.12	-143.40	-157.37	-160.49	-152.39	-157.95	-184.93	-173.80	-140.56	-181.00	-184.70
2. Crude Materials, Inedible Except Fuels	-22.00	-21.25	-19.75	-24.84	-22.50	-24.65	-24.76	-19.66	-18.28	-19.88	-19.66
3. Mineral Fuel, Lubricants and Related Materials	-46.84	-55.34	-61.56	-67.05	-62.84	-57.26	-90.53	-94.14	-61.25	-92.11	-91.47
4. Animal and Vegetable Oils & Fats	1.16	-0.70	-2.17	-3.68	-0.46	-0.74	-1.27	-1.44	-0.70	-1.77	-1.90
5. Chemicals and Related Products	-65.44	-66.11	-73.90	-64.92	-66.59	-75.30	-68.38	-58.55	-60.32	-67.25	-71.67
CAPITAL GOODS	-135.22	-107.14	-149.90	-174.28	-164.93	-181.65	-194.70	-127.89	-136.68	-211.59	-160.69
7. Machinery and Transport Equipment	-134.80	-106.94	-149.31	-178.86	-164.47	-181.11	-194.65	-127.84	-138.90	-213.56	-162.96
9. Miscellaneous	-0.42	-0.20	-0.59	4.58	-0.46	-0.54	-0.05	-0.05	2.22	1.97	2.27
TOTAL	-463.93	-433.11	-529.71	-623.96	-628.59	-692.08	-711.25	-614.70	-580.48	-791.01	-773.33

Source: Statistics Department and Department of Economic Affairs

pj=projected

r=revised

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS
(EC\$Million)

	2000r	2001r	2002r	2003r	2004pj
CURRENT ACCOUNT	(248.78)	(296.02)	(296.49)	(394.04)	(295.13)
Goods	(685.27)	(596.73)	(560.81)	(764.75)	(744.99)
Merchandise	(711.22)	(623.66)	(580.48)	(791.00)	(773.33)
Repair on goods	0.03	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.02
Goods procured in ports by carriers	25.92	26.91	19.67	26.23	28.31
Services	506.86	383.87	327.02	469.02	564.30
Transportation	(109.76)	(113.77)	(107.07)	(139.37)	(149.25)
Travel	662.41	543.40	476.05	665.41	775.73
Insurance Services	(15.98)	(11.64)	(13.38)	(17.75)	(18.91)
Other Business Services	(13.69)	(22.07)	(18.52)	(30.68)	(34.06)
Government Services	(16.12)	(12.06)	(10.05)	(8.59)	(9.21)
Income	(121.33)	(121.77)	(95.35)	(130.82)	(146.93)
Compensation of Employees	0.11	0.17	0.15	0.25	0.25
Investment Income	(121.44)	(121.94)	(95.50)	(131.07)	(147.18)
Current Transfers	50.95	38.61	32.64	32.50	32.50
General Government	9.18	(0.87)	(2.64)	(2.20)	(2.67)
Other Sectors	41.77	39.48	35.28	34.70	35.17
CAPITAL AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNT	274.34	282.49	259.48	411.61	350.68
CAPITAL ACCOUNT	38.33	68.75	53.32	46.13	9.65
Capital Transfers	42.63	68.75	53.32	46.13	9.65
Acquisition & Disposition of Non-Produced, Non-Financial Assets	(4.30)	-	-	-	-
FINANCIAL ACCOUNT	236.01	213.74	206.16	365.48	341.03
Direct Investment	145.12	158.78	134.74	261.31	204.34
Portfolio Investment	76.64	31.69	13.14	170.81	23.90
Other Investments	14.24	23.26	58.28	(66.63)	112.79
Public Sector Loans	19.50	0.22	3.47	43.97	60.86
Commercial Banks	(23.06)	26.56	23.42	(193.79)	92.32
Other	17.81	(3.52)	31.39	83.19	(40.39)
ERRORS AND OMISSIONS	10.68	40.90	50.90	18.42	14.84
OVERALL BALANCE	36.23	27.37	13.89	35.99	70.40
FINANCING	-36.23	-32.46	-13.89	-35.99	-70.40
Change in SDR Holdings	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Change in Reserve Position with IMF	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Change in Government Foreign Assets	(24.06)	(5.09)	(0.98)	(1.45)	(1.51)
Change in Imputed Reserves	(12.17)	(27.37)	(12.91)	(34.55)	(68.89)

Source :ECCB

Department of Economic Affairs, MOF

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