STATISTICS WEEK BARBADOS

Please find attached Paper entitled "Statistics Week, Barbados".
Why A Statistics Week

In order to

- Market the BSS
  - Public awareness
- To solicit cooperation and support for survey programmes of the BSS
- To recognise the contribution of staff
- To recognise the contribution of “friends” of the department
- To celebrate statistics
Theme of Statistics Week

“Continuing Our Pursuit of Excellence:

Providing Quality Statistics for All”
Programme of Activities

- Service of Thanksgiving - Sunday, 14 October, 2007
  - Abundent Life Assembly
Programme of Activities cont’d

- Health Awareness Day
  - Monday, 15 October, 2007
  - “BSS promotes Healthy Living”
“Statistics and You”

A Seminar for Secondary Schools (Tuesday, 16 October, 2007)

- 7 schools
  - 42 students
  - 7 teachers
SCHOOL CHILDREN INTRIGUED: Director of the Barbados Statistical Service (BSS), Angela Hunte (third from right), goes through one of the BSS research documents with school children at the Educational Seminar, which was held at the Dining Club yesterday. (See Page 3)
BSS trade division

By Patricia Thangaraj

TRADE statisticians compile and distribute international merchandise trade statistics, which are based on goods that a country imports and exports.

This is according to Katrina Reid, a Statistician at the Barbados Statistical Service (BSS), who explained how the Trade Division of the BSS works to secondary school students at an educational seminar at the Dining Club yesterday.

There are two systems used to measure imports. These are the General System, which is used for all goods that have entered the country from overseas, and the Special System, and this is used only for those goods that are "within the economic territory." Therefore, goods that enter Barbados, but stay at the customs warehouse will not be included in the Special System. Barbados uses the General System.

Exports are also divided into two categories. There are the domestic exports, which refers to goods that are either solely made in Barbados or those that are "modified in a production process after having been previously imported."

The primary organisations/individuals that use trade statistics are the government, private businesses, international agencies, research officers, students and the general public.

Some of the ways that this information is put to use is through the development of trade policies, market evaluation, infrastructure planning, collecting transportation statistics, implementing economic policies, establishing price indices and analysing supply balances to supervise markets.
Students have their say on Statistics Week seminar

By Patricia Thengera

LAST Tuesday, October 16, the Barbados Statistical Service (BSS) held an educational seminar on the intricate work they do. Hosting secondary school students from across Barbados, the BSS brought into sharp focus the importance of the work they undertake daily, particularly with regard to how it affects businesses and governmental decision making.

So how did the students fare? Here are some individual insights from the seminar, along with candid student responses to the possibility of becoming a statistician in the future.

Name: Christopher Bourne
Age: 15
School: Queen's College
I learnt about the Barbados Statistical Service and the various departments that they have and how these departments provide information to businesses, the Government and the region. Also I learnt that students can access information on statistics from this organization.
HELLO: Career Option?
Possibly, I am looking into it. It's seems interesting.

Name: Rohan Ramdin
Age: 15
School: Queen's College
It was pretty informative. I learnt a lot about statistics in the Caribbean and other things I didn't know.
HELLO: Career Option?
Rohan: I'm not really sure about that.

Name: Akesha
Age: 16
School: Coleridge and Parry
It was interesting because when you are doing projects, you have to get statistics to show different rates.
HELLO: Career Option?
Akesha: Not necessarily. I am just interested in the part when you do different topics, you need statistics to show what you are talking about.

Name: Jameil Hicks
Age: 16
School: Coleridge and Parry
I learnt how to show information through statistics. It was educational and interesting.
HELLO: Career Option?
Not really even though it pays well.

Name: Erica Coppin
Age: 14
School: Combermere
This seminar was very fun and entertaining and it gave a lot of Information about statistics which would be useful because I am going to do a statistics course in fifth form.
HELLO: Career Option?
Erica: I don't think so. I am just using it because it can be applied in other fields such as engineering or medicine if I want to go into those careers.

Name: Lamar Thornhill
Age: 14
School: Combermere
I learnt a lot of things about statistics like the total population and the minimum age of employment. The seminar was very educational which is good because I would be taking a course in statistics next year in fifth form.
HELLO: Career Option?
Lamar: Maybe, I am not too sure yet.
Programme of Activities cont’d

- Personal Development Seminars for Staff
  - Wednesday, 17 Oct.,- Friday, 19 Oct, 2007
  - The Role of the Stock Exchange by Mr. Marlon Yarde, CEO of The Barbados Stock Exchange.
  - The National Initiative for Service Excellence (NISE) by Ms. Kim Tudor, CEO of NISE.
  - A Motivational Interactive Presentation by Mr. Errol Griffith, CEO of The Free Mind Institute
Programme of Activities cont’d

- Awards Ceremony, Barbados Yacht Club, Saturday, October 20, 2007

  - Official Remarks by the Hon. Joseph Atherley, Minister of State, The Prime Minister’s Office

  - Feature Address by Mr. Darcy Boyce, CEO, Barbados Tourism Investment Inc., former Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Barbados
BOYCE: WORK TOGETHER

By Sherlock Small

Private sector urged to co-operate more fully with Statistical Service

THIS country's private sector is being urged to co-operate more fully with the statistical department, given the increased importance of timely and accurate data to a services-based economy.

The advice has come from Darcy Boyce, CEO of the Barbados Tourism Investment Inc., who was speaking at the recent Barbados Statistical Service awards ceremony at the close of Statistics Week.

Boyce told employees of the Service, guests and associates at the Yacht Club, Bay Street, that while statistical services in Barbados were known for accuracy and regularity, the society and economy was changing. He said as the country moved more towards a services-based economy, part of the challenge would be responding to those changes, a goal that would require increased private and public sector dialogue.

Noting it was not traditional for the local private sector to be as co-operative in the production of data as would be required, Boyce said this was something that would have to change.

"We are not known in Barbados among our private sector for giving the measure of co-operation in generating data as we ought to give. With the economy changing so quickly, it will need the private sector to give that co-operation quickly and give it fully if we are going to generate the quality of data which we need to have, and if we are going to produce it in time for it to be meaningful and for us to be able to make good decisions with it," Boyce said.

The usefulness of data, the CEO pointed out, has as much to do with

Andrew Henry was awarded for 20 years of service to the department. Presenter is Mrs. Cecily Boyce.

CO-OPERATION on Page 15
Mr. Boyce urged the Private Sector to cooperate fully with the BSS and to respond in a timely manner to surveys

- given the increased importance of timely and accurate data to a service based economy, and stated

- “If we are going to generate the quality of data which we need to have, and if we are going to produce it in time for it to be meaningful and for us to be able to make good decisions with it.”
“It will not make sense for the co-operation to come down the road, where we have accurate data, but it is so late as to be useless to us.

Very often decision making can be done effectively with close to 100% accuracy of data. ….Risks in doing that are often manageable.”
“The BSS is known for reliable and regular statistics”, however,

- The BSS in responding quickly to demand may have to structure itself in such a way as to match resources with output requirements.

- “It may well have to call on a higher level of resources than it would otherwise have to do, in a shorter period of time.”
The End

- Thank You.