

## MONTHLY <br> APRIL ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHTS <br> 

# List of Acronyms and Abbreviations 

## Acronyms:

| BGA | Banana Growers' Association |
| :--- | :--- |
| BSI | Belize Sugar Industries Limited |
| BTB | Belize Tourism Board |
| CARICOM | Caribbean Community |
| CBB | Central Bank of Belize |
| CDB | Caribbean Development Bank |
| CGA | Citrus Growers' Association |
| COVID-19 | Coronavirus Disease 2019 |
| CPBL | Citrus Products of Belize Limited |
| CPI | Consumer Price Index |
| GDP | Gross Domestic Product |
| IBRD | International Bank for Reconstruction and Development |
| IDB | Inter-American Development Bank |
| MOF | Ministry of Finance |
| SIB | Statistical Institute of Belize |
| UHS | Universal Health Services |
| US | United States |

## Abbreviations and Conventions:

| $\$$ | the Belize dollar unless otherwise stated |
| :--- | :--- |
| bn | billion |
| bp | basis point |
| mn | million |
| ps | pound solids |
| TC/TS | long tons cane to long ton sugar |
| Y-o-Y | year-on-year |
| YTD | year-to-date |

## Notes:

1. Since May of 1976, the Belize dollar has been fixed to the US dollar at the rate of US\$1.00 = BZ\$2.00.
2. The 2022 figures in this report are provisional and the figures for 2021 have been revised.
3. Unless otherwise indicated, the Central Bank of Belize is the source of all tables and charts.
4. Ratios to GDP for 2022 are based on GDP estimates from the Central Bank of Belize.

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## Summary of Economic Indicators

## Money Supply

Money Supply
April 2022
$+3.50 \%$
YTD change on December 2021

## Net Foreign Assets

April 2022
+6.2\%
YTD change on December 2021

## Net Domestic Credit April 2022 <br> +0.9\%

YTD change on December 2021

## Liquidity and Interest Rates

## Excess Cash

April 2022
\$466.6mn
$+12.3 \%$ change on December 2021

New Deposit Rates
April 2022
1.97\%
+11 bps change on April 2021

New Lending Rates
April 2022
8.73\%
+16 bps change on April 2021

## Real Sector and Reserve Import Coverage

| GDP <br> January - March 2022 | $\begin{gathered} \text { CPI } \\ \text { January - April } 2022 \end{gathered}$ | Stay-Over <br> Visitors <br> January - April 2022 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $+5.3 \%$ | $+5.0 \%$ | $129,997$ |
| Y -o-Y change on the same quarter of the previous year | YTD change on the same period of the previous year | +195.2\% YTD change on the same period of the previous year |
| Domestic Exports | Gross Imports | Reserve Import Coverage |
| January - April 2022 | January - April 2022 | April 2022 |
| $\$ 136.1 \mathrm{mn}$ | $\$ 878.8 \mathrm{mn}$ | $4.1$ |
| $+5.6 \%$ YTD change on the same period of the previous year | $+43.7 \%$ YTD change on the same period of the previous year | months equivalent of merchandise imports |

## Central Government Operations and Public Debt

## Primary Surplus

April 2021 - March 2022

## $\$ 62.1 \mathrm{mn}$

$1.2 \%$ of GDP for the fiscal year
$2021 / 2022$

Domestic Debt
April 2022
-\$0.3mn
$\$ 1,315.5 \mathrm{mn}$ at April-end, $24.5 \%$ of GDP

## External Debt <br> April 2022 <br> - $\$ 10.1 \mathrm{mn}$

$\$ 2,666.9 \mathrm{mn}$ at April-end, $50.0 \%$ of GDP

## Overview

## Money and Credit

- Money supply rose by $3.5 \%$ between January and April, driven by a substantial increase in domestic banks' foreign currency holdings as net domestic credit slowed.
- Net foreign assets of the banking system increased by $6.2 \%(\$ 89.1 \mathrm{mn})$ over the year to date to $\$ 1,533.3 \mathrm{mn}$. This outturn was due to a $15.4 \%$ ( $\$ 91.8 \mathrm{mn}$ ) increase in domestic banks' net holdings to $\$ 688.3 \mathrm{mn}$, with heightened inflows from tourism, commercial-free zone reexports, and business process outsourcing activities. Meanwhile, the Central Bank's net foreign assets dipped by $0.3 \%(\$ 2.7 \mathrm{mn})$ to $\$ 845.0 \mathrm{mn}$, weighed down by the resumption of external debt service payments as loan disbursement receipts subside.
- Net domestic credit of the banking system grew by only $0.9 \%$ ( $\$ 27.1 \mathrm{mn}$ ) over the four months to $\$ 3,074.4 \mathrm{mn}$. The sluggish performance reflected a deceleration in credit to the private sector and Central Government (net), while lending to public corporations dipped.
- Domestic banks' liquidity position further strengthened in April. For the year to date, aggregate excess liquid assets expanded by $\$ 64.0 \mathrm{mn}$ to $\$ 762.3 \mathrm{mn}$, rising to $98.9 \%$ above the secondary reserve requirement. Concurrently, excess cash reserves increased by $\$ 50.9 \mathrm{mn}$ to $\$ 466.6 \mathrm{mn}$, nearly doubling the primary (cash) reserve requirement.
- The 12 -month (rolling) weighted average interest rate on new loans rose by 16 basis points between April 2021 and April 2022 to 8.73\%. The upward momentum was supported by rate hikes on residential construction and personal loans. Meanwhile, the corresponding rate on new deposits increased by 11 basis points to $1.97 \%$, widening the weighted average spread by six basis points to $6.76 \%$.
- Aggregate credit union lending rose by $\$ 12.6 \mathrm{mn}$ from January to April to $\$ 650.1 \mathrm{mn}$. New disbursements were channelled mainly to the real estate ( $\$ 13.0 \mathrm{mn}$ ) and manufacturing $(\$ 2.6 \mathrm{mn})$ sectors, moderated by reduced personal $(\$ 3.1 \mathrm{mn})$ and construction $(\$ 2.8 \mathrm{mn})$ loan balances.


## Gross Domestic Product and Real Sector Developments

- Belize's real GDP is estimated to have increased by $5.3 \%$ year-on-year in the first quarter of 2022 to $\$ 1,213.4 \mathrm{mn}$. The rebound in tourism and, to a much lesser extent, wholesale and retail trade services were the largest contributors to the historic rise in output.
- Domestic exports expanded by $5.6 \%$ ( $\$ 7.3 \mathrm{mn}$ ) for the first four months of 2022 to $\$ 136.1 \mathrm{mn}$, spurred by heightened earnings from animal feed, molasses, cattle, conch, and lobster. Meanwhile, gross imports skyrocketed, up $43.7 \%$ to $\$ 878.8 \mathrm{mn}$, with higher outlays across
all major goods categories. In particular, increased spending on motor fuels, electricity, machinery and transport equipment, and commercial-free zone goods accounted for $75.5 \%$ of the overall increase.
- Stay-over arrivals for the first four months of the year amounted to 129,997 visitors, almost tripling 2021's outturn but falling $31.1 \%$ below 2019's pre-pandemic level for the same period of each year. Similarly, cruise ship disembarkations strengthened steadily to 241,062 visitors from 140 port calls.
- The consumer price index (CPI) grew by $1.0 \%$ month-on-month in April, contributing to a $5.0 \%$ year-on-year average increase for the first four months of 2022. Increased motor fuel, liquified petroleum gas, and food costs explained a large share of the relative upward price movements, owing to a confluence of external factors.


## Public Debt

- Total public sector debt declined by $0.3 \%(\$ 10.4 \mathrm{mn})$ between January and April to $\$ 3,982.5 \mathrm{mn}(74.4 \%$ of GDP). The marginal decline in outstanding debt stock was due to a $0.4 \%(\$ 10.1 \mathrm{mn})$ decrease in the public sector's external debt to $\$ 2,666.9 \mathrm{mn}(50.0 \%$ of GDP) and a $\$ 0.3 \mathrm{mn}$ dip in Central Government's domestic debt to $\$ 1,315.5 \mathrm{mn}$ ( $24.5 \%$ of GDP).


## 1 Money and Credit

## Money Supply

Money supply grew by $3.5 \%$ over the first four months of 2022, decelerating from a $7.0 \%$ expansion over the comparable period of 2021. Money growth was mainly driven by a steady increase in domestic banks' foreign assets as net domestic credit slowed.

## Net Foreign Assets

Between January and April, the net foreign assets of the banking system increased by $6.2 \% ~(\$ 89.1 \mathrm{mn})$ to a historic $\$ 1.5 \mathrm{bn}$. The year-to-date expansion was wholly attributable to a $15.4 \%$ upsurge in domestic banks' balances since the Central Bank's holdings contracted by $0.3 \%$. Domestic banks' net foreign assets grew by $\$ 91.8 \mathrm{mn}$ to a record $\$ 688.3 \mathrm{mn}$ after rising by $\$ 40.5 \mathrm{mn}$ in April-the 17th consecutive month-onmonth increase since December 2020. The solid foreign asset accumulation was driven by the sustained rebound in tourism and commercial free zone activities, alongside the rapid development of business process outsourcing services. However, the growth momentum was tempered by increased profit repatriation, coupled with payments for imported goods and services as the economy reopened, facing headwinds from escalating foreign price pressures.

With outflows narrowly exceeding inflows, the Central Bank's net foreign assets dipped by $\$ 2.7 \mathrm{mn}$ over the year to date to $\$ 845.0 \mathrm{mn}$. Gross foreign currency inflows into the monetary authority inched up by 0.3\% ( $\$ 0.3 \mathrm{mn}$ ) to $\$ 78.0 \mathrm{mn}$. This result reflected increases stemming from international grants ( $\$ 7.4 \mathrm{mn}$ ), miscellaneous agents ( $\$ 7.4 \mathrm{mn}$ ),

Chart 1.1: Change in Net Foreign Assets of the Banking System

and sugar export receipts ( $\$ 2.3 \mathrm{mn}$ ), which barely offset a $\$ 16.8 \mathrm{mn}$ falloff in external loan disbursement proceeds. At $\$ 79.1 \mathrm{mn}$, gross foreign currency outflows contracted by $1.3 \%$ or $\$ 1.0 \mathrm{mn}$. Outflows dipped as a $\$ 17.1 \mathrm{mn}$ increase in payments on behalf of the Central Government was overshadowed by an $\$ 18.1 \mathrm{mn}$ decrease in other overseas expenditures. Notably, payments for Central Government rose to $\$ 64.8 \mathrm{mn}$, accounting for $81.9 \%$ of total outlays. Most of the funds were used to service the country's external debt. Meanwhile, the gross official international reserves dipped by $\$ 3.7 \mathrm{mn}$ since December 2021 to $\$ 844.4 \mathrm{mn}$, the equivalent of 4.1 months of merchandise imports.

## Net Domestic Credit

Net domestic credit of the banking system expanded by $0.9 \%$ or $\$ 27.1 \mathrm{mn}$ for the first four months of 2022 to $\$ 3,074.4 \mathrm{mn}$. The sluggish credit expansion reflected a deceleration in credit to Central Government (net) and the private sector, alongside a decline in borrowings by public corporations. Net credit to Central Government rose by 1.7\%

Chart 1.2: Change in Net Domestic Credit of the Banking System

( $\$ 11.6 \mathrm{mn}$ ) over the year to date to $\$ 698.6 \mathrm{mn}$, down considerably from the $7.6 \%$ growth pace registered during the same period of last year. This marginal credit outturn resulted as a $\$ 110.6 \mathrm{mn}$ increase in Central Bank financing was mostly offset by a $\$ 99.0 \mathrm{mn}$ reduction in domestic banks' net lending. Net borrowings from the Central Bank ballooned after it acquired $\$ 91.0 \mathrm{mn}$ in Treasury securities through roll-over auctions, while the Government withdrew $\$ 19.6 \mathrm{mn}$ from its deposits to help cover expenses. Meanwhile, net credit from domestic banks nosedived as they surrendered $\$ 87.7 \mathrm{mn}$ in Treasury bills (T-bills), and Government ramped up its commercial bank deposits by $\$ 11.3 \mathrm{mn}$. Meanwhile, credit to other public sector entities fell by $\$ 0.6 \mathrm{mn}$ over the year to date, with $\$ 1.0 \mathrm{mn}$ in net repayments by local governments being partially offset by $\$ 0.3 \mathrm{mn}$ in disbursements to other statutory bodies.

Private sector credit increased by $0.7 \%$ or $\$ 16.1$ mn over the four months to $\$ 2,332.5 \mathrm{mn}$, trailing the five-year (2015-2019) prepandemic average by two percentage points. New disbursements of $\$ 6.8 \mathrm{mn}$ and $\$ 5.2 \mathrm{mn}$ were channelled mainly to agriculture and

Chart 1.3: Change in Domestic Banks' Loans


Due to reclassifications, changes in loans for construction, real estate, and personal consumption were omitted from the chart.
transport, respectively. Net repayments of $\$ 2.3 \mathrm{mn}$ in both the marine and "other" loan categories partly offset the growth pace. Concurrently, loan write-offs amounted to $\$ 4.1 \mathrm{mn}$, down markedly from $\$ 11.6 \mathrm{mn}$ in the first four months of 2021, when banks' accumulation of pandemic-induced nonperforming loans was higher. Write-offs were applied mainly against personal ( $\$ 1.9 \mathrm{mn}$ ), tourism (\$1.2mn), and construction (\$0.2mn) loans.

## Bank Liquidity

The rapid foreign asset expansion continued to prop up domestic bank

Chart 1.4: Excess Statutory Liquidity

—Excess Statutory Liquidity --•Excess Cash Reserves
liquidity. From January to April, domestic banks' excess liquid assets increased by $\$ 64.0 \mathrm{mn}$ to $\$ 762.3 \mathrm{mn}, 98.9 \%$ above the secondary reserve requirement. Meanwhile, excess cash reserves grew by $\$ 50.9 \mathrm{mn}$ to $\$ 466.6 \mathrm{mn}, 195.6 \%$ above the primary (cash) reserve requirement.

## Interest Rates

The 12-month (rolling) weighted average interest rate on new loans inched higher during the month by two basis points and by 16 basis points to $8.73 \%$ since April 2021. Over the year, weighted average lending rates increased by 82 and 62 basis points for residential construction and personal consumption loans, respectively. These rate hikes overshadowed the 12- and one-basis point declines in the commercial and other miscellaneous loan categories.

The 12-month (rolling) weighted average interest rate on new deposits declined by seven basis points over the month, slowing the growth momentum over the 12 -month span to 11 basis points at $1.97 \%$. Over the

Chart 1.5: Weighted Average Interest Rates on New
Loans and Deposits

year, weighted average deposit rates rose in three major categories, lifting the costs of bank liabilities. Accordingly, savings/ chequing, time, and savings deposit rates increased by 45,25 , and four basis points, respectively, as demand deposits remained unchanged. Consequently, the 12 -month rolling weighted average interest rate spread widened by six basis points to $6.76 \%$.

## Credit Union Lending

Aggregate credit union lending rose by $\$ 12.6 \mathrm{mn}$ between January and April to $\$ 650.1 \mathrm{mn}$, following the second consecutive monthly increase over the year. Net disbursements were most significant in the real estate ( $\$ 13.0 \mathrm{mn}$ ) and manufacturing ( $\$ 2.6 \mathrm{mn}$ ) sectors, which exceeded the fall off in the personal consumption ( $\$ 3.1 \mathrm{mn}$ ) and construction ( $\$ 2.8 \mathrm{mn}$ ) loans. Notably, loan write-offs amounted to $\$ 3.7 \mathrm{mn}$, about one-fourth of the amount written off during the corresponding period of 2021.

Chart 1.6: Change in Credit Unions' Loans


## 2 Real Sector Developments

## Gross Domestic Product

The Statistical Institute of Belize estimated that Belize's real GDP grew by $5.3 \%$ to $\$ 1,213.4 \mathrm{mn}$ in the first quarter of 2022 when compared to the same period of 2021. This outturn was historic, since it was the largest of any quarter, while exceeding that of the first quarter of 2019 before the pandemic struck by $\$ 25.2 \mathrm{mn}$. Significant contributions from tourism and distribution activities were mainly responsible for the solid performance, underscoring the resilience of the pandemic-related-economic rebound amid strong external headwinds.

Accordingly, the $6.0 \%$ rise in tertiary sector output accounted for nearly $70.0 \%$ of the year-on-year increase in quarterly GDP. Value added contributions in the accommodation and food industry almost tripled the downturn in the previous period
a year ago. This strong outturn was due to a resurgence in stay-over arrivals, following the reopening of the international airport in October 2020 and the commencement of a country-wide vaccination campaign after March 2021. The expansion in domestic demand, in turn, boosted distributive wholesale and retail trade services by $12.8 \%$. Positive contributions also stemmed from the secondary sector, which expanded by $2.6 \%$. The modest outcome was driven by increases in the manufacturing of alcoholic beverages and flour, water supply, and construction activities, which outweighed the adverse effects of reduced hydroelectricity generation, owing to lower rainfall and tighter water management practices at major dams. However, production declines in key agricultural commodities for export, such as citrus, banana, and farmed shrimp, led to a $1.0 \%$ contraction in primary output.

Chart 2.1: Quarterly Real GDP (Constant 2014 Prices), Change from the Same Period in the Previous Year


Source: SIB

## Commodity Production

For the first four months of the year, the production of all major export commodities contracted, except for sugar, which benefited from improvements in operational efficiency and cane quality. On the downside, soaring input costs hampered banana, while legacy diseases suppressed citrus and farmed shrimp production.

## Domestic Exports

Export proceeds rose by $5.6 \%$ or $\$ 7.3 \mathrm{mn}$ to $\$ 136.1 \mathrm{mn}$ for the year to date. This expansion reflected increased earnings from animal feed, molasses, cattle, conch, and lobster. The revenue bump overshadowed declines in sugar and banana receipts.

## Gross Imports

Skyrocketing energy costs, escalating shipping rates, and heightened domestic demand caused gross imports to rise by $43.7 \%$ or $\$ 267.3 \mathrm{mn}$ over the first four months of 2022 to $\$ 878.8 \mathrm{mn}$ compared to the same period of 2021 . On track to

Chart 2.2: Change in Gross Imports


Source: SIB
reaching a new record high, imports rose across all major categories of goods. "Fuels, Lubricants, and Crude Materials" rose by the largest margin of $\$ 79.1 \mathrm{mn}$, propelled by increased volume and prices of motor fuels and electricity. "Machinery and Transport Equipment" followed, up $\$ 67.3 \mathrm{mn}$, owing partly to heightened outlays on aviation equipment and food processing machinery. "Commercial Free Zone" was next, having increased by $\$ 55.3 \mathrm{mn}$ with upticks in footwear, cigarettes, and bags for re-export. These three categories alone accounted for three-fourths of the aggregate growth in gross imports.

## Tourist Arrivals

Stay-over tourist arrivals totalled 129,997 visitors for the year to date, almost tripled that of 2021 , but remained $31.1 \%$ behind 2019's pre-pandemic level. Spurred by high pent-up demand, April's arrivals dipped by only $7.3 \%$ month-to-month to 36,888 visitors after the culmination of the peak winter season in March. This month's falloff

Chart 2.3: Tourist Arrivals


Sources: BTB, CBB, and Immigration and Nationality Department.
was relatively milder than comparable months before the pandemic, which averaged a $21.4 \%$ month-on-month decline from 2017 to 2019.

Cruise ship disembarkations for the first four months summed to 241,062 visitors, surpassing 2021 's total of 189,194 visitors. Of the 140 port calls to date, 88 docked at the Fort Street Tourism Village Port, and 52 anchored at the Harvest Caye Port.

## Consumer Price Index

The CPI grew by $1.0 \%$ month-on-month in April and $5.0 \%$ on average for the first four months of 2022. The latter was several folds larger than the most recent 10-year average (2012-2021) of0.8\% and the highest inflation rate since 2008. Escalating energy and food costs accounted for most of variation in relative price movements in the measured basket of household items. The inflationary trend was triggered by pandemic-induced global supply imbalances and the war in Ukraine. From January to April, rising motor vehicle fuel prices pushed "Transport" up by $16.8 \%$, which accounted for nearly half of the increase across all items. The "Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages" index grew by $4.8 \%$, spurred by price increases across all food sub-categories. Next, "Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas, and Other Fuels" rose by 2.5 per cent due to hikes in liquefied petroleum gas prices. Other indices recorded lesser increases, except for "Information and Communication," "Insurance and Financial Services," and "Education," whose downward movements tempered the rising price trend.

## Sugarcane and Sugar

Sugarcane deliveries for the crop year to date (December 2021 - April 2022) contracted by $1.7 \%$ to $1,083,391$ long tons due to a mixed performance between the two regions. Cane quality and factory efficiency improvements boosted cane sugar production by $8.7 \%$ to 112,243 long tons.

On the one hand, sugarcane deliveries to the northern mill rose by $3.7 \%$ to 706,292 long tons, leading to a $12.6 \%$ increase in sugar production to 79,023 long tons. As a result, the long tons cane to long ton sugar ratio (TC/TS) improved by $7.9 \%$ to 8.9. Molasses output expanded by $14.9 \%$ to 23,535 long tons. On the other hand, sugarcane deliveries to the western mill fell by $10.4 \%$ to 377,099 long tons, underscored by a $25.2 \%$ decline in the average daily grinding rate. However, sugar output rose by $0.5 \%$ to 33,220 long tons, generating an improved TC/TS ratio of 11.4. Molasses production contracted $19.9 \%$ to 12,494 long tons.

Sugar export volume contracted by $44.7 \%$ for the year to date to 31,428 long

Chart 2.4: Sugar Exports


Sources: BSI and Santander Group
tons. Meanwhile, sugar revenue fell by a disproportionate $24.9 \%$ to $\$ 32.4 \mathrm{mn}$ due to heightened prices in world sugar markets. Prices rallied as global sugar production was expected to remain unchanged amid rising global demand and a shift to larger shares of ethanol in production mixes in response to elevated energy prices. Average prices received for raw bulk and bagged sugar increased by US\$0.05 to US\$0.19 per pound and US\$0.02 to US\$0.27 per pound, respectively.

The European Union (EU) remained the primary destination for sugar exports, with $84.9 \%$ or 26,679 tons of total sugar exports shipped to the region. The export mix, comprised of raw bulk and bagged sugar, generated $\$ 26.3 \mathrm{mn}$, which was $33.6 \%$ behind earnings reported during the same period of 2021. Meanwhile, CARICOM purchased $15.0 \%$ or 4,700 long tons of bagged sugar valued at $\$ 6.0 \mathrm{mn}$, reflecting a $72.6 \%$ increase over the first four months of last year.

## Citrus

Debilitated by citrus greening, citrus deliveries for the crop year to date (October 2021 - April 2022) fell by $18.3 \%$ year on year to 966,306 boxes of fruit. The significant falloff in orange deliveries accounted for the decline, down $23.7 \%$ to 823,825 boxes. However, gains from replanting efforts bumped up grapefruit deliveries by $38.3 \%$ to 142,481 boxes.

Citrus juice production slumped $19.2 \%$ to 5.3 mn pounds solid (ps), dragged down by the marked decline in orange for processing

Chart 2.5: Citrus Deliveries


Source: CPBL
and a slight deterioration in fruit quality. Orange juice production shrank $23.5 \%$ to 4.7 mn ps , while grapefruit juice output rose $52.3 \%$ to 0.5 mn , partly cushioning the overall drop. Average juice yields amounted to 5.5 ps , reflecting a $1.1 \%$ drop compared to the previous crop year.

Citrus export receipts rose by $4.0 \%$ to $\$ 10.1 \mathrm{mn}$, despite an $11.2 \%$ downturn in export volume to 3.0 mn ps. Orange concentrate exports totalled 2.8 mn ps, valued at $\$ 9.0 \mathrm{mn}$. The Caribbean was

Chart 2.6: Citrus Juice Exports


Source: CPBL
the leading destination for the product, where 2.2 mn ps were sold for $\$ 7.5 \mathrm{mn}$. Sales to the US slid to 0.6 mn ps valued at $\$ 1.5 \mathrm{mn}$, as prices improved by $24.5 \%$. Notably, there were no orange concentrate sales to the EU. Meanwhile, grapefruit concentrate exports summed to 0.2 mn ps with minuscule sales to major export destinations, earning $\$ 1.0 \mathrm{mn}$.

## Banana

Banana production dropped $8.2 \%$ for the first four months of 2022 to 26,190 metric tons. The slide in output was partly explained by elevated prices of critical inputs such as fertiliser and fuel, straining production costs. In tandem with the drop in volume, export receipts fell by $7.8 \%$ to $\$ 28.3 \mathrm{mn}$.

## Marine Exports

Marine export revenue increased by $22.9 \%$ over the four-month period to $\$ 15.0 \mathrm{mn}$, amid a $12.2 \%$ volume contraction to 586,979 pounds. The revenue growth was due to heightened lobster and conch prices, supported by strengthening international demand in key markets. Concurrently, the export volume of the three major marine commodities contracted due to supply constraints. Lobster receipts increased by $21.1 \%$ to $\$ 8.4 \mathrm{mn}$, faced with a $16.2 \%$ volume decline. Similarly, conch sales strengthened by $29.9 \%$ to $\$ 6.4 \mathrm{mn}$, following a $3.5 \%$ downturn in sale volume. Farmed shrimp exports continued to backslide with earnings down $39.9 \%$ to $\$ 0.2 \mathrm{mn}$, owing to the harmful effects of the early mortality syndrome.

## Other Domestic Exports

Other domestic export earnings skyrocketed, up $50.0 \%$ to $\$ 45.7 \mathrm{mn}$. Substantial gains in animal feed ( $\$ 7.7 \mathrm{mn}$ ), cattle $(\$ 1.8 \mathrm{mn})$, rum $(\$ 1.7 \mathrm{mn})$, and petroleum ( $\$ 1.5 \mathrm{mn}$ ) contributed to the solid outturn and outweighed the impact of downturns in pepper sauce ( $\$ 0.5 \mathrm{mn}$ ), pulp cells ( $\$ 0.3 \mathrm{mn}$ ), and red kidney beans ( $\$ 0.1 \mathrm{mn}$ ).

Chart 2.7: Banana Exports


Source: BGA

Chart 2.8: Marine Export Volume


Source: SIB

## 3 Central Government Finance

## Information on Central Government's Operations after March 2022 estimates is not available.

## Central Government Domestic Debt

During the first four months of 2022, Central Government's domestic debt fell by $\$ 0.3 \mathrm{mn}$ to $\$ 1,315.5 \mathrm{mn}$. The debt level dipped following small amortisation payments to the Social Security Board and Fort Street Tourism Village.

Interest payments totalled $\$ 12.5 \mathrm{mn}$. The Central Bank was paid $\$ 6.9 \mathrm{mn}$; non-bank entities, $\$ 4.1 \mathrm{mn}$; and domestic banks, $\$ 1.5 \mathrm{mn}$, on their respective Treasury securities holdings.

The Central Bank acquired \$91.0mn in T-bills in securities trading, mainly from domestic banks during roll-over auctions. Consequently, the Central Bank's share of Central Government's domestic debt stock rose by 6.9 percentage points to $53.4 \%$.

Chart 3.1: Distribution of Central Government's Domestic Debt


Chart 3.2: Distribution of Interest Payments on Central Government's Domestic Debt


Conversely, domestic banks and nonbank entities' portions fell by 6.7 and 0.3 percentage points to $25.0 \%$ and $21.6 \%$, respectively. Notably, there was hardly any Treasury note (T-note) trades on the secondary market.

## Public Sector External Debt

The public sector's external debt inched down by $0.4 \%$ ( $\$ 10.1 \mathrm{mn}$ ) to $\$ 2,666.9 \mathrm{mn}$. The external debt stock narrowed as principal payments of $\$ 30.6 \mathrm{mn}$ and exchange rate valuation losses of $\$ 4.8 \mathrm{mn}$ outweighed disbursements of $\$ 25.3 \mathrm{mn}$.

Disbursements to Central Government amounted to $\$ 22.6 \mathrm{mn}$. Multilateral financing stemmed from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), OPEC Fund for International Development (OPEC), and Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) to fund several projects and programs, including:

- the Belize Education Sector Reform Programme,

Chart 3.3: External Disbursements to Central Government by Creditor Type


- the Social Investment Fund,
- the Philip Goldson Highway and Remate Bypass Upgrading Project,
- the Coastal Road Upgrading Project, and
- the Caracol Road Upgrading Project.

The non-financial public sector received $\$ 0.6 \mathrm{mn}$ for the Belize Electricity Limited to fund its Electricity System Upgrade and Expansion project. As for the financial public sector, the Development Finance Corporation got $\$ 2.0 \mathrm{mn}$ from CDB for its consolidated line of credit.

Central Government's principal repayments amounted to $\$ 25.5 \mathrm{mn}$, of which multilateral and bilateral creditors received $\$ 24.4 \mathrm{mn}$ and $\$ 1.1 \mathrm{mn}$, respectively. Additionally, the non-financial and financial public sectors made amortisation payments of $\$ 4.2 \mathrm{mn}$ and $\$ 0.9 \mathrm{mn}$, respectively.

Interest and other payments summed to $\$ 22.4 \mathrm{mn}$. Central Government's first interest payment of $\$ 10.1 \mathrm{mn}$ on the "Blue

Chart 3.4: External Debt Service Payments


Loan" was made in April and accounted for $45.1 \%$ of total interest expense. In comparison, interest costs on concessionary multilateral and bilateral loans amounted to $\$ 9.0 \mathrm{mn}$ and $\$ 3.3 \mathrm{mn}$, respectively.

## Statistical Appendix

Table A.1: Factors Responsible for Money Supply Movements ${ }^{(1)}$

|  | \$mn |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Changes During |  |  |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Position } \\ \text { as at } \\ \text { Apr } 2022 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Mar } 2022 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Apr } 2022 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec } 2021 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Apr } 2022 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec } 2020 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Apr } 2021 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| Net Foreign Assets | 1,533.3 | 19.3 | 89.1 | 75.8 |
| Central Bank | 845.0 | -21.2 | -2.7 | -3.0 |
| Domestic Banks | 688.3 | 40.5 | 91.8 | 78.8 |
| Net Domestic Credit | 3,074.4 | -29.3 | 27.1 | 71.9 |
| Central Government (Net) | 698.6 | -29.4 | 11.6 | 55.1 |
| Other Public Sector | 43.3 | 0.2 | -0.6 | -3.4 |
| Private Sector | 2,332.5 | -0.1 | 16.1 | 20.2 |
| Central Bank Foreign Liabilities (Long-term) | 116.9 | -3.3 | -4.8 | -0.1 |
| Other Items (Net) | 384.3 | -25.0 | -17.1 | -99.8 |
| Money Supply | 4,106.5 | 18.3 | 138.0 | 247.7 |

${ }^{(1)}$ Transactions associated with the Universal Health Services (UHS) loan with the Belize Bank Limited are not included in this table.

Table A.2: Net Foreign Assets of the Banking System
\$mn
Changes During

|  | Position as at Apr 2022 | $\begin{gathered} \text { Mar } 2022 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Apr } 2022 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec } 2021 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Apr } 2022 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec } 2020 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Apr } 2021 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Net Foreign Assets of the Banking System | 1,533.3 | 19.3 | 89.1 | 75.8 |
| Net Foreign Assets of the Central Bank | 845.0 | -21.2 | -2.7 | -3.0 |
| Central Bank Foreign Assets | 847.2 | -22.8 | -3.3 | -3.0 |
| Central Bank Foreign Liabilities (Demand) | 2.2 | -1.6 | -0.7 | 0.0 |
| Net Foreign Assets of Domestic Banks | 688.3 | 40.5 | 91.8 | 78.8 |
| Domestic Banks' Foreign Assets | 723.6 | 40.8 | 40.5 | 171.3 |
| Domestic Banks' Foreign Liabilities (Shortterm) | 35.3 | 0.2 | -51.3 | 92.5 |

Table A.3: Central Bank's Foreign Asset Flows

|  |  | \$mn |
| :--- | ---: | :---: |
|  | Jan - Apr <br> 2021 | Jan - Apr <br> 2022 |
| Total Inflows | 77.7 | 78.0 |
| Loan Disbursements | 40.6 | 23.8 |
| Grants | 3.3 | 10.6 |
| Sugar Receipts | 29.0 | 31.3 |
| Other | 4.9 | 12.2 |
| Total Outflows | 80.1 | 79.1 |
| Central Government | 47.7 | 64.8 |
| Banks | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Other | 32.4 | 14.3 |

Table A.4: Major Sources of Foreign Currency Inflows Into Domestic Banks

|  |  | \$mn |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Jan - Apr <br> 2021 | Jan - Apr <br> 2022 | Change |
| Goods | 102.7 | 145.4 | 42.7 |
| Of which: Commercial Free Zone | 41.9 | 76.8 | 34.9 |
| Of which: Major Exports | 48.7 | 58.2 | 9.5 |
| Services | 335.6 | 673.1 | 337.5 |
| Of which: Tourism | 171.8 | 458.4 | 286.6 |
| Of which: Business Process Outsourcing | 35.4 | 57.6 | 22.3 |
| Of which: Remittance Services | 46.0 | 44.1 | -1.9 |
| Current Transfers | 62.2 | 50.6 | -11.6 |
| Financial Inflows | 281.2 | 199.6 | -81.6 |
| $\quad$ Of which: Foreign Direct Investments | 39.9 | 42.0 | 2.0 |
| Total | 781.7 | $1,068.7$ | 287.0 |

Table A.5: Net Domestic Credit
\$mn

|  | Position as at Apr 2022 | Changes During |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Mar } 2022 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Apr } 2022 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec } 2021 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Apr } 2022 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec } 2020 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Apr } 2021 \end{gathered}$ |
| Total Credit to Central Government | 940.3 | -0.4 | 3.3 | 53.9 |
| From Central Bank | 702.2 | 59.9 | 91.0 | 29.9 |
| Loans and Advances | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | -20.4 |
| Government Securities ${ }^{(1)}$ | 702.2 | 59.9 | 91.0 | 50.3 |
| From Domestic Banks | 238.1 | -60.3 | -87.7 | 24.0 |
| Loans and Advances | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Government Securities | 238.1 | -60.3 | -87.7 | 24.0 |
| Of which: Treasury bills ${ }^{(2)}$ | 79.9 | -60.3 | -87.7 | 24.0 |
| Treasury notes | 158.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Other | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Less Central Government Deposits | 241.7 | 29.0 | -8.3 | -1.2 |
| With Central Bank | 153.5 | 23.8 | -19.6 | -13.3 |
| With Domestic Banks | 88.2 | 5.2 | 11.3 | 12.1 |
| Net Credit to Central Government | 698.6 | -29.4 | 11.6 | 55.1 |
| Credit to Other Public Sector | 43.3 | 0.2 | -0.6 | -3.4 |
| From Central Bank | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| From Domestic Banks | 43.3 | 0.2 | -0.6 | -3.4 |
| Of which: Local Government | 7.2 | 0.0 | -1.0 | 1.8 |
| Public Financial Institutions | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Public Utilities | 18.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | -5.1 |
| Other Statutory Bodies | 1.9 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| Securities | 16.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Plus Credit to the Private Sector | 2,332.5 | -0.1 | 16.1 | 20.2 |
| Loans and Advances | 2,308.1 | 0.8 | 18.1 | 20.2 |
| Securities | 24.4 | -0.9 | -2.0 | 0.0 |
| Net Domestic Credit of the Banking System ${ }^{(3)}$ | 3,074.4 | -29.3 | 27.1 | 71.9 |

${ }^{(1)}$ Includes Central Bank's holdings of Government Treasury bills and Treasury notes.
${ }^{(2)}$ Treasury bill holdings reported by domestic banks reflect a mix of par and market values.
${ }^{(3)}$ Values may not equal to total due to rounding.

Table A.6: Sectoral Composition of Domestic Banks' Loans and Advances


Table A.7: Sectoral Composition of Credit Unions' Loans and Advances

|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Position } \\ & \text { as at } \\ & \text { Apr } 2022 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Mar } 2022 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Apr } 2022 \end{gathered}$ | \$mn |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Changes During |  |
|  |  |  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec } 2021 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Apr } 2022 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec } 2020 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Apr } 2021 \end{gathered}$ |
| PRIMARY SECTOR | 63.1 | 0.8 | -0.8 | -3.4 |
| Agriculture | 53.9 | 0.8 | -0.5 | -3.2 |
| Sugar | 5.5 | -0.1 | -0.7 | -0.5 |
| Citrus | 1.4 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Bananas | 0.6 | -0.1 | -0.1 | -0.1 |
| Other | 46.4 | 1.0 | 0.3 | -2.6 |
| Marine Products | 8.8 | 0.0 | -0.3 | -0.1 |
| Forestry | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Mining and Exploration | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| SECONDARY SECTOR | 217.6 | 0.3 | 1.6 | -9.3 |
| Manufacturing | 28.0 | 0.2 | 2.6 | -0.4 |
| Building and Construction | 184.5 | -0.2 | -2.8 | -8.7 |
| Residential | 96.1 | 0.9 | 2.0 | -1.6 |
| Home Improvement | 72.8 | -0.7 | -3.4 | -6.0 |
| Commercial | 13.6 | -0.3 | -0.6 | -1.0 |
| Infrastructure | 2.1 | 0.0 | -0.7 | -0.1 |
| Utilities | 5.1 | 0.3 | 1.8 | -0.2 |
| TERTIARY SECTOR | 122.6 | 3.3 | 14.8 | -14.2 |
| Transport | 1.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | -0.1 |
| Tourism | 0.8 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Distribution | 21.6 | 0.4 | -0.1 | 2.8 |
| Real Estate | 83.4 | 1.8 | 13.0 | -17.0 |
| Residential | 3.9 | 0.2 | 0.4 | -0.2 |
| Commercial | 49.8 | 0.8 | 12.1 | -10.9 |
| Land Acquisition | 29.7 | 0.8 | 0.5 | -5.9 |
| Other ${ }^{(1)}$ | 15.6 | 1.0 | 1.9 | 0.1 |
| PERSONAL LOANS | 246.8 | -1.5 | -3.1 | 2.2 |
| TOTAL | 650.1 | 3.1 | 12.6 | -24.7 |

${ }^{(1)}$ Includes Government Services, Financial Institutions, Professional
Services, and Entertainment.

Table A.8: Domestic Banks' Liquidity Position and Cash Reserves

|  |  | \$mn |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Changes During |  |  |
|  | Position as at Apr 2022 | $\begin{gathered} \text { Mar } 2022 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Apr } 2022 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec } 2021 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Apr } 2022 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec } 2020 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Apr } 2021 \end{gathered}$ |
| Holdings of Approved Liquid Assets | 1,533.0 | 8.2 | 90.9 | 144.3 |
| Notes and Coins | 109.1 | 11.7 | 11.3 | 2.3 |
| Balances with Central Bank | 710.0 | 18.2 | 65.3 | 49.3 |
| Money at Call and Foreign Balances (due 90 days) | 578.3 | 19.4 | 91.3 | 94.8 |
| Central Government Securities maturing within 90 days ${ }^{(1)}$ | 109.0 | -39.7 | -77.3 | -13.3 |
| Other Approved Assets | 26.6 | -1.4 | 0.2 | 11.3 |
| Required Liquid Assets | 770.7 | 14.3 | 26.9 | 28.2 |
| Excess Liquid Assets | 762.3 | -6.1 | 64.0 | 116.0 |
| Daily Average Holdings of Cash Reserves | 705.1 | 12.0 | 59.3 | 43.4 |
| Required Cash Reserves | 238.5 | 4.4 | 8.3 | 8.7 |
| Excess Cash Reserves | 466.6 | 7.6 | 50.9 | 34.7 |
| Actual Securities Balances ${ }^{(2)}$ | 70.0 | -60.3 | -97.8 | 4.2 |
| Excess Securities | 70.0 | -60.3 | -97.8 | 4.2 |

${ }^{(1)}$ Four week average of domestic banks' Treasury bill holdings.
${ }^{(2)}$ Face value of domestic banks' Treasury bill holdings at the end of the month.

Table A.9: Domestic Banks' Weighted Average Interest Rates

|  |  | Percent |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Changes During |  |  |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Position } \\ \text { as at } \\ \text { Apr } 2022 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Mar } 2022 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Apr } 2022 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Dec } 2021 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Apr } 2022 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Dec } 2020 \\ & \text { to } \\ & \text { Apr } 2021 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |
| Weighted Lending Rates |  |  |  |  |
| Personal Loans | 9.47 | -0.10 | -0.70 | -0.06 |
| Commercial Loans | 8.05 | 0.02 | -0.16 | -0.39 |
| Residential Construction | 6.92 | -0.03 | 0.01 | -0.48 |
| Other | 7.00 | 0.01 | 0.41 | 0.12 |
| Weighted Average | 8.36 | -0.02 | -0.07 | -0.44 |
| Weighted Deposit Rates |  |  |  |  |
| Demand | 0.06 | -0.01 | -0.04 | 0.07 |
| Savings/Chequing | 2.58 | 0.01 | 2.09 | 0.01 |
| Savings | 2.62 | -0.02 | -0.02 | -0.03 |
| Time | 2.20 | 0.00 | -0.05 | -0.14 |
| Weighted Average | 1.16 | 0.00 | -0.10 | -0.16 |
| Weighted Average Spread | 7.20 | -0.02 | 0.03 | -0.28 |

Table A.10: Domestic Banks' (Rolling) Weighted Average Interest Rates on New Loans and Deposits

|  |  |  | Percent |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Twelve Month <br> Rolling Averages at |  | Changes During <br> Mar 2022 <br> to | Apr 2021 <br> to |  |
|  | Apr 2022 Mar 2022 Apr 2021 | Apr 2022 | Apr 2022 |  |  |
| Weighted Lending Rates |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\quad$ Personal Consumption | 10.40 | 10.33 | 9.78 | 0.07 | 0.62 |
| Commercial Loans | 8.18 | 8.20 | 8.30 | -0.02 | -0.12 |
| Residential Construction | 8.57 | 8.56 | 7.75 | 0.00 | 0.82 |
| Other | 6.54 | 6.65 | 6.55 | -0.11 | -0.01 |
| $\quad$ Weighted Average | 8.73 | 8.72 | 8.57 | 0.02 | 0.16 |
| Weighted Deposit Rates |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\quad$ Demand | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Savings/Chequing | 0.95 | 0.78 | 0.50 | 0.17 | 0.45 |
| Savings | 2.46 | 2.46 | 2.41 | 0.00 | 0.04 |
| Time | 2.72 | 2.81 | 2.46 | -0.09 | 0.25 |
| $\quad$ Weighted Average | 1.97 | 2.04 | 1.87 | -0.07 | 0.11 |
| Weighted Average Spread | 6.76 | 6.68 | 6.70 | 0.08 | 0.06 |

Table A.11: Growth Rate of Real GDP by Industry

|  | Year-on-Year | Growth (\%) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan - Mar } 21 \\ \text { Over } \\ \text { Jan - Mar } 20^{(R)} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan - Mar } 22 \\ \text { Over } \\ \text { Jan - Mar } 21^{(R)} \end{gathered}$ |
| Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing | 6.8 | -0.2 |
| Mining | -25.6 | -16.9 |
| Manufacturing | -1.9 | 5.1 |
| Electricity | 65.1 | -16.5 |
| Water Supply | -9.3 | 6.4 |
| Construction | 13.5 | 6.5 |
| Wholesale and Retail Trade | -4.3 | 12.8 |
| Transportation | -8.8 | 5.1 |
| Accommodation and Food Service Activities | -78.1 | 263.8 |
| Information and Communication | 10.5 | -9.8 |
| Financial and Insurance Activities | 1.6 | 4.3 |
| Real Estate Activities | 1.4 | 2.5 |
| Professional Scientific and Technical Activities | 37.7 | -17.2 |
| Administrative and Support Service Activities | 181.6 | -27.7 |
| Public Administration and Defence | -26.4 | 3.8 |
| Education | -0.8 | 0.2 |
| Human Health and Social Work Activities | -19.2 | -14.6 |
| Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation | -1.1 | -7.2 |
| Other Service Activities | 10.6 | -10.1 |
| Activities of Households as Employers | 2.8 | 2.1 |
| Taxes and Subsidies | -4.6 | 14.6 |
| GDP at Constant 2014 Prices ${ }^{1}$ | -1.7 | 5.3 |
| Source: SIB |  |  |
| ${ }^{\mathrm{R}}$ Revised |  |  |
| ${ }^{1}$ The base year was updated from 2000 to 2014. |  |  |

Table A.12: Production of Main Domestic Exports

|  | Jan - Apr | Jan - Apr |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
|  | $\mathbf{2 0 2 1}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 2 2}$ |
| Sugarcane Deliveries (long tons) | $\mathbf{1 , 0 8 5 , 5 6 7}$ | $\mathbf{1 , 0 8 0 , 2 4 0}$ |
| Sugar (long tons) | 102,551 | 112,048 |
| Molasses (long tons) | 36,082 | 36,030 |
| Bananas (metric tons) | 28,538 | 26,190 |
| Citrus Deliveries (boxes) | $1,099,545$ | 594,910 |
| Citrus Juices (‘000 ps) | 6,178 | 4,653 |
| Marine Exports (‘000 lbs) | 667 | 586 |

Sources: BSI, Santander Group, BGA, CPBL, and SIB.

Table A.13: Domestic Exports

|  |  | \$mn |
| :--- | ---: | :---: |
|  | Jan - Apr | Jan - Apr |
|  | $\mathbf{2 0 2 1}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 2 2}$ |
| Sugar | 43.1 | 32.4 |
| Molasses | 2.7 | 4.6 |
| Citrus | 9.7 | 10.1 |
| Bananas | 30.7 | 28.3 |
| Marine Exports | 12.2 | 15.0 |
| Other Domestic Exports | 30.5 | 45.7 |
| Total | 128.9 | 136.1 |
| Sources: BSI, Santander Group, BGA, CPBL and SIB |  |  |

Table A.14: Gross Imports by Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) ${ }^{(1)}$

|  |  | \$mn |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Jan - Apr | Jan - Apr | Jan - Apr |
| Food, Beverages, and Tobacco | 92.9 | $\mathbf{2 0 2 1}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 2 2}$ |
| Fuels, Lubricants, and Crude Materials | 97.5 | 93.9 | 108.0 |
| Of which: Electricity | 16.2 | 12.8 | 22.0 |
| Oils, Fats, and Chemicals | 65.3 | 71.6 | 97.8 |
| Manufactured Goods and Other Manufactures | 123.8 | 142.2 | 175.7 |
| Machinery and Transport Equipment | 122.4 | 109.8 | 177.1 |
| Other Goods | 0.4 | 1.2 | 1.2 |
| Designated Processing Areas | 11.2 | 10.4 | 14.7 |
| Commercial Free Zone | 90.6 | 75.9 | 131.2 |
| Total | 604.1 | 611.5 | 878.8 |

Sources: SIB and BEL
${ }^{(1)}$ Imports are valued at cost, insurance, and freight.

Table A.15: Tourist Arrivals

|  | Jan - Apr <br> 2021 | Jan - Apr <br> 2022 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Air | 39,913 | $\mathbf{1 1 6 , 9 3 3}$ |
| Land | 2,843 | 11,726 |
| Sea | 1,275 | 1,337 |
| Stay-over Visitors | 44,032 | 129,997 |
| Cruise Ship Disembarkations | 0 | 241,062 |

Sources: BTB and CBB

Table A.16: Percentage Change in the Consumer Price Index Components by Major Commodity Group


Table A.17: Sugarcane Deliveries and Production of Sugar and Molasses

|  | Apr | Apr | Dec - Apr | Dec - Apr |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | $\mathbf{2 0 2 1}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 2 2}$ | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 |
| Deliveries of Sugarcane (long tons) | 339,513 | 309,994 | $1,102,013$ | 1,083,391 |
| Sugar Processed (long tons) | 32,702 | 34,214 | 103,238 | 112,243 |
| Molasses Processed (long tons) | 12,644 | 11,368 | 36,082 | 36,030 |
| Performance |  |  |  |  |
| Factory Time Efficiency (\%) | 97.3 | 95.5 | 97.2 | 96.2 |
| Cane Purity (\%) | 83.8 | 84.8 | 84.0 | 85.0 |
| Cane/Sugar | 10.4 | 9.1 | 10.7 | 9.7 |

Sources: BSI and Santander Group

Table A.18: Sugar and Molasses Exports

|  | Apr 2021 |  | Apr 2022 |  | Jan - Apr 2021 |  | Jan - Apr 2022 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Volume (long tons) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Value } \\ & (\$ ’ 000) \end{aligned}$ | Volume (long tons) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Value } \\ & (\$ ’ 000) \end{aligned}$ | Volume (long tons) | Value $(\$ ’ 000)$ | Volume (long tons) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Value } \\ & (\$ ’ 000) \end{aligned}$ |
| Sugar | 33,919 | 23,649 | 4,862 | 5,930 | 56,865 | 43,098 | 31,428 | 32,359 |
| Europe | 33,013 | 22,672 | 3,189 | 3,787 | 53,711 | 39,587 | 26,679 | 26,291 |
| US | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 49 | 58 |
| CARICOM | 886 | 948 | 1673 | 2,144 | 3,135 | 3,482 | 4,700 | 6,010 |
| Other | 20 | 30 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 30 | 0 | 0 |
| Molasses | 0 | 0 | 14,013 | 4,585 | 10,675 | 2,665 | 14,013 | 4,585 |

Sources: BSI and Santander Group

Table A.19: Citrus Deliveries and Production

|  | Apr |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Apr <br> 2021 | Oct - Apr <br> $\mathbf{2 0 2 0 / 2 0 2 1}$ | Oct - Apr <br> 2021/2022 |  |
| Deliveries (boxes) |  |  |  |  |
| $\quad$ Orange | 231,460 | 229,221 | $1,079,351$ | 823,825 |
| $\quad$ Grapefruit | 5,828 | 0 | 103,032 | 142,481 |
| Total | 237,288 | 229,221 | $1,182,383$ | 966,306 |
| Concentrate Produced (ps) |  |  |  |  |
| $\quad$ Orange | $1,149,122$ | $1,199,358$ | $5,997,091$ | $4,557,544$ |
| $\quad$ Grapefruit | 20,920 | 0 | 335,144 | 548,612 |
| Total | $1,170,042$ | $1,199,358$ | $6,332,235$ | $5,106,156$ |
| Not from concentrate (ps) |  |  |  |  |
| $\quad$ Orange | 151,272 | 147,327 | 151,272 | 147,327 |
| $\quad$ Grapefruit | 0 | 0 | 34,782 | 14,853 |
| Total | 151,272 | 147,327 | 186,054 | 162,180 |
| Pulp (pounds) |  |  |  |  |
| $\quad$ Orange | 237,440 | 61,056 | 814,504 | 471,064 |
| $\quad$ Grapefruit | 8,056 | 0 | 52,152 | 219,632 |
| Total | 245,496 | 61,056 | 866,656 | 690,696 |
| Oil Produced (pounds) |  |  |  |  |
| $\quad$ Orange | 75,800 | 74,543 | 349,300 | 266,045 |
| $\quad$ Grapefruit | 800 | 0 | 13,000 | 23,000 |
| Total | 76,600 | 74,543 | 362,300 | 289,045 |
| Source: CPBL |  |  |  |  |

Table A.20: Citrus Product Exports

|  | Apr 2021 |  | Apr 2022 |  | Jan - Apr 2021 |  | Jan - Mar 2022 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Pound Solids (‘000) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Value } \\ & \text { (\$‘000) } \end{aligned}$ | Pound Solids ('000) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Value } \\ & (\$ ‘ 000) \end{aligned}$ | Pound Solids (‘000) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Value } \\ & (\$ ‘ 000) \end{aligned}$ | Pound Solids (‘000) | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Value } \\ & (\$ \times 000) \end{aligned}$ |
| Citrus Concentrates |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| US |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Orange | 445.3 | 846 | 295.1 | 737 | 1,038.4 | 2,052 | 590.2 | 1,451 |
| Grapefruit | 0.0 | 0 | 31.1 | 205 | 62.5 | 413 | 62.2 | 410 |
| Caribbean |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Orange | 218.9 | 743 | 556.8 | 1,962 | 1,390.9 | 4,827 | 2,185.5 | 7,502 |
| Grapefruit | 0.0 | 0 | 9.7 | 52 | 64.3 | 334 | 48.6 | 257 |
| Europe |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Orange | 178.0 | 474 | 0.0 | 0 | 746.8 | 1,841 | 0.0 | 0 |
| Grapefruit | 0.0 | 0 | 16.6 | 99 | 35.2 | 186 | 31.1 | 172 |
| Other |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Orange | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 1.2 | 5 | 9.5 | 38 |
| Grapefruit | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 30.0 | 164 |
| Sub-Total ${ }^{(1)}$ | 842.2 | 2,063 | 909.1 | 3,055 | 3,339.2 | 9,656 | 2,957.0 | 9,994 |
| Orange | 842.2 | 2,063 | 851.8 | 2,699 | 3,177.2 | 8,724 | 2,785.1 | 8,991 |
| Grapefruit | 0.0 | 0 | 57.3 | 356 | 161.9 | 932 | 171.9 | 1,004 |
| Not-From-Concentrate |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sub-Total | 0.0 | 0 | 6.8 | 36 | 13.2 | 62 | 18.5 | 110 |
| Orange | 0.0 | 0 | 5.3 | 26 | 12.2 | 57 | 10.8 | 54 |
| Grapefruit | 0.0 | 0 | 1.5 | 9 | 1.0 | 5 | 7.7 | 56 |
| Total Citrus Juices | 842.2 | 2,063 | 915.9 | 3,090 | 3,352.4 | 9,719 | 2,975.5 | 10,105 |
| Pulp (pounds '000) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total ${ }^{(1)}$ | 53.0 | 4 | 53.0 | 46 | 976.6 | 113 | 547.9 | 168 |
| Orange | 53.0 | 4 | 0.0 | 0 | 923.6 | 70 | 392.3 | 31 |
| Grapefruit | 0.0 | 0 | 53.0 | 46 | 53.0 | 43 | 155.7 | 137 |

Source: CPBL
${ }^{(1)}$ Values may not be equal to total due to rounding.

Table A.21: Banana Exports

|  | Apr | Apr | Jan - Apr | Jan - Apr |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\mathbf{2 0 2 1}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 2 2}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 2 1}$ | 2022 |
| Volume (metric tons) | 9,708 | 7,776 | 28,538 | 26,190 |
| Value (\$’000) | 10,435 | 8,398 | 30,691 | 28,282 |
| Source: BGA |  |  |  |  |

Table A.22: Marine Exports

|  | Jan - Apr 2021 |  | Jan - Apr 2022 |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Volume <br> ('000 pounds) | Value <br> $(\$ ’ 000)$ | Volume <br> ('000 pounds) | Value <br> $(\$ ’ 000)$ |
| Lobster | 240 | 6,923 | 201 | 8,385 |
| Shrimp | 85 | 403 | 48 | 246 |
| Conch | 343 | 4,907 | 331 | 6,375 |
| Other Fish | 0 | 0 | 7 | 34 |
| Total | 667 | 12,233 | 586 | 15,039 |

[^0]Table A.23: Other Domestic Exports

|  | Jan - Apr <br> $\mathbf{2 0 2 1}$ | Jan - Apr <br> $\mathbf{2 0 2 2}$ |
| :--- | ---: | :---: |
| Other Domestic Exports (\$'000) | 30,459 | 45,695 |
| Of which: |  |  |
| Pepper Sauce | 2,687 | 2,201 |
| Red Kidney Beans | 4,669 | 4,564 |
| Orange Oil | 1,166 | 1,758 |
| Grapefruit Oil | 257 | 497 |
| Animal Feed | 9,315 | 16,990 |

Source: SIB

Table A.24: Central Government's Revenue and Expenditure

| \$'000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Approved } \\ & \text { Budget } \\ & 2021 / 2022 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan } 2021 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Mar } 2021 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Jan } 2022 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Mar } 2022 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Apr } 2020 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Mar } 2021 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Apr } 2021 \\ & \text { to } \\ & \text { Mar } 2022^{\text {P }} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Fiscal YTD } \\ \text { as \% } \\ \text { of Budget } \end{gathered}$ |
| TOTAL REVENUE \& GRANTS $(1+2+3)$ | 998,839 | 221,876 | 302,777 | 917,257 | 1,192,034 | 119.3\% |
| 1). Current Revenue | 965,460 | 217,233 | 289,073 | 874,594 | 1,136,668 | 117.7\% |
| Tax Revenue | 884,421 | 202,363 | 269,329 | 789,144 | 1,048,572 | 118.6\% |
| Income and Profits | 247,498 | 49,518 | 67,740 | 216,813 | 254,628 | 102.9\% |
| Taxes on Property | 6,485 | 2,352 | 2,930 | 6,773 | 8,417 | 129.8\% |
| Taxes on Goods and Services | 492,777 | 115,351 | 152,795 | 439,345 | 611,181 | 124.0\% |
| International Trade and Transactions | 137,661 | 35,141 | 43,587 | 126,213 | 174,346 | 126.6\% |
| Non-Tax Revenue | 81,039 | 14,871 | 20,130 | 85,449 | 88,096 | 108.7\% |
| Property Income | 4,945 | 2,072 | 3,515 | 8,187 | 19,550 | 395.3\% |
| Licences | 13,071 | 4,264 | 4,649 | 13,178 | 14,014 | 107.2\% |
| Other | 63,023 | 8,534 | 11,749 | 64,084 | 54,532 | 86.5\% |
| 2). Capital Revenue | 2,556 | 591 | 1,584 | 16,250 | 5,366 | 210.0\% |
| 3). Grants | 30,823 | 4,052 | 12,500 | 26,414 | 50,000 | 162.2\% |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURE (1+2) | 1,203,151 | 305,179 | 322,963 | 1,280,062 | 1,198,726 | 99.6\% |
| 1). Current Expenditure | 903,177 | 246,366 | 248,811 | 954,643 | 955,726 | 105.8\% |
| Wages and Salaries | 412,498 | 111,670 | 104,824 | 452,662 | 415,106 | 100.6\% |
| Pensions | 90,818 | 22,894 | 22,777 | 88,703 | 96,784 | 106.6\% |
| Goods and Services | 174,145 | 54,987 | 68,106 | 187,638 | 224,000 | 128.6\% |
| Interest Payments on Public Debt | 68,345 | 16,232 | 15,069 | 72,167 | 68,836 | 100.7\% |
| Subsidies and Current Transfers | 157,371 | 40,584 | 38,035 | 153,473 | 151,000 | 96.0\% |
| 2). Capital Expenditure and Net Lending | 299,975 | 58,813 | 74,151 | 325,419 | 243,000 | 81.0\% |
| Capital II (Local Sources) | 108,466 | 35,906 | 41,835 | 195,438 | 140,000 | 129.1\% |
| Capital III (Foreign Sources) | 183,210 | 22,703 | 32,911 | 126,188 | 100,000 | 54.6\% |
| Capital Transfer and Net Lending | 8,299 | 204 | 750 | 3,793 | 3,000 | 36.2\% |
| CURRENT BALANCE | 62,283 | -29,132 | 40,261 | -80,049 | 180,942 | 290.5\% |
| PRIMARY BALANCE | -135,967 | -67,070 | -5,117 | -290,637 | 62,144 | -45.7\% |
| OVERALL BALANCE | -204,312 | -83,302 | -20,186 | -362,805 | -6,692 | 3.3\% |
| Primary Balance Less Grants | -166,790 | -71,123 | -17,617 | -317,051 | 12,144 | -7.3\% |
| Overall Balance Less Grants | -235,135 | -87,355 | -32,686 | -389,218 | -56,692 | 24.1\% |
| FINANCING | 204,312 | 83,302 | 20,186 | 362,805 | 6,692 |  |
| Domestic Financing |  | 47,601 | 37,056 | 171,394 | -86,547 |  |
| Central Bank |  | 68,957 | 74,393 | 65,510 | 31,742 |  |
| Net Borrowing |  | 59,992 | 31,029 | 131,930 | 10,796 |  |
| Change in Deposits |  | 8,965 | 43,364 | -66,420 | 20,946 |  |
| Commercial Banks |  | -18,365 | -33,545 | 75,439 | -99,605 |  |
| Net Borrowing |  | -12,482 | -27,442 | 74,333 | -71,686 |  |
| Change in Deposits |  | -5,883 | -6,103 | 1,106 | -27,919 |  |
| Other Domestic Financing |  | -2,991 | -3,792 | 30,445 | -18,684 |  |
| Financing Abroad |  | 29,813 | 9,552 | 186,646 | 68,984 |  |
| Disbursements |  | 47,659 | 20,929 | 271,285 | 140,606 |  |
| Amortisation |  | -17,847 | -11,377 | -84,640 | -71,677 |  |
| Other |  | 5,888 | -26,422 | 4,765 | 24,254 |  |

Sources: CBB and MOF
${ }^{\mathrm{P}}$ - Provisional

Table A.25: Central Government's Domestic Debt

${ }^{\text {R }}$. Revised
P - Provisional
${ }^{(1)}$ Caribbean Court of Justice award in November 2017 against the Government of Belize in favour of Belize Bank relating to the loan guarantee.
${ }^{(2)}$ Government has outstanding loan with Social Security Board for Hopeville Housing Project.

Table A.26: Public Sector External Debt

|  | Disbursed Outstanding Debt $31 / 12 / 21^{\text {R }}$ |  |  |  |  | \$ 000 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | TRANSACTIONS THROUGH APRIL 2022 |  |  |  | Disbursed |
|  |  | Disbursements | Principal Payments | Interest \& Other Payments | Parity Change | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Outstanding } \\ & \text { Debt } \\ & 31 / 04 / 22^{p} \end{aligned}$ |
| CENTRAL GOVERNMENT | 2,433,035 | 22,611 | 25,505 | 20,055 | -140 | 2,430,001 |
| Government of Venezuela ${ }^{(1)}$ | 429,692 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 429,692 |
| Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development | 31,974 | 0 | 683 | 300 | -396 | 30,895 |
| Mega International Commercial Bank Company Limited | 45,714 | 0 | 0 | 614 | 0 | 45,714 |
| Republic of China/Taiwan | 279,216 | 0 | 428 | 1,047 | 0 | 278,787 |
| Caribbean Development Bank | 307,991 | 17,401 | 12,204 | 4,448 | 0 | 313,188 |
| CARICOM Development Fund | 3,000 | 0 | 0 | 22 | 0 | 3,000 |
| European Economic Community | 4,191 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 316 | 4,507 |
| Inter-American Development Bank | 298,996 | 1,400 | 5,603 | 1,134 | 0 | 294,793 |
| International Fund for Agriculture Development | 8,046 | 0 | 693 | 70 | -59 | 7,294 |
| International Bank for Reconstruction and Development | 75,228 | 0 | 2,309 | 621 | 0 | 72,919 |
| OPEC Fund for International Development | 165,088 | 3,810 | 3,117 | 1,596 | 0 | 165,781 |
| Central American Bank for Economic Integration | 21,299 | 0 | 468 | 132 | 0 | 20,831 |
| Belize Blue Investment Company, LLC | 728,000 | 0 | 0 | 10,070 | 0 | 728,000 |
| US \$30mn Fixed-Rate Notes | 34,600 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 34,600 |
| NON-FINANCIAL PUBLIC SECTOR | 68,881 | 643 | 4,159 | 1,569 | 0 | 65,365 |
| Caribbean Development Bank | 35,826 | 643 | 2,215 | 630 | 0 | 34,254 |
| International Cooperation and Development Fund | 33,056 | 0 | 1,944 | 939 | 0 | 31,111 |
| FINANCIAL PUBLIC SECTOR | 175,106 | 2,000 | 910 | 754 | -4,642 | 171,554 |
| Caribbean Development Bank | 47,174 | 2,000 | 910 | 754 | 0 | 48,264 |
| European Investment Bank | 2,209 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 166 | 2,376 |
| Inter-American Development Bank | 4,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4,000 |
| International Monetary Fund | 121,723 | 0 | 0 | 0 | -4,809 | 116,914 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 2,677,023 | 25,254 | 30,574 | 22,378 | -4,782 | 2,666,921 |

${ }^{R}$ - Revised
${ }^{\mathrm{p}}$ - Provisional
${ }^{(1)}$ Since September 2017, debt service payments for oil imports have been suspended due to U.S. sanctions on Petroleos de Venezuela, S.A. Unpaid debt service payments up to the end of April 2022 amounted to principal of $\$ 80.5 \mathrm{mn}$ and interest of $\$ 17.3 \mathrm{mn}$.


[^0]:    Source: SIB

