

Crime and Violence in Barbados

IDB Series on Crime and Violence in the
Caribbean

Corin Bailey

Institutions for Development and
Country Department Caribbean
Group

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Abstract

This report is part of the Inter-American Development Bank's Technical Note Series on Crime and Violence in the Caribbean. The overall aim is to establish a baseline of the crime-prevention arena against which progress can be assessed. The report compiles available data from multiple sources to provide a diagnostic of the size, characteristics, and changing nature of the problem in Barbados in recent years. In addition, the report provides a survey of the various crime-prevention and suppression policies, programs, and projects adopted by the government, private companies, and nongovernmental organisations. In performing the aforementioned tasks, the report (a) offers an assessment of the data collection, analysis, and crime response capabilities in Barbados; and (b) makes suggestions about the most effective plans for corrective action.

JEL Codes: I39, Y80, J12, O54

Keywords: Barbados, crime, prevention, violence

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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Overall rate of property crime was higher than violent crime between 2009 and 2013
- Rate of property crime fluctuated between 2009 and 2013, reaching its peak in 2012 (1,758 per 100,000 population) and falling to its low in 2013 (1,599)
 - The property crime of greatest concern is residential burglary. In 2013, this was the property crime most commonly reported to the police (562.4 per 100,000 population), representing 35 per cent of all property crimes reported to the police in that year
- Rate of violent crimes was relatively constant between 2009 and 2013, reaching its peak in 2010 (1,033 per 100,000 population) and falling to a low of 929 in 2013
 - The violent crime of greatest concern is assault. In 2013, this was the violent crime most commonly reported to the police (505.5 per 100,000), representing 54 per cent of all crimes against the person reported.

Homicide

- Barbados, while displaying some fluctuation, has displayed somewhat consistently low rates of homicide.
- Between 2000 and 2013, the rate of homicide reached its high in 2006 (12.7 per 100,000) and a low of 6.8 per 100,000 in 2009.
- The 2013 rate of 8.4 per 100,000 was considerably lower than the average rate of murder for the region.

Victims

- Victims of homicide in Barbados are predominantly male.
 - Over the past five years, males have accounted for a considerably higher proportion of homicide victims.
 - In 2013, 75 per cent of victims were male.
- Since 2009, the 26–35 years age group has accounted for the major percentage of overall victims.

Perpetrators

- Perpetrators of homicide in Barbados are predominantly male.
 - Between 2000 and 2013, 97 per cent of all homicides were perpetrated by men.
- The 18–35-years age groups accounted for the largest proportion of offenders.

Motives

- “Dispute” was the motive with the highest average rate (9.6 per 100,000) between 2009 and 2013. Burglary reported the lowest (0.2).
- Disputes accounted for half of all murders reported to the police in 2013. This was followed by domestic violence (33 per cent).

Location

- Between 2009 and 2013, the Bridgetown and Division South Police Divisions accounted for the largest numbers of homicides.
- While Division South has seen a sharp decline in murders since 2011, Bridgetown is rising steadily after reporting its lowest incidence in 2011. Division North saw a sharp increase in 2013.

Weapon

- Firearms are the most popular weapon of choice for perpetrators of homicides. Firearms accounted for the largest proportion of deaths (40 per cent) between 2009 and 2013.
- The use of knives in homicides however has been rising steadily and in 2012 and 2013, accounted for the highest number of deaths.

Assaults and Injuries

- The rate of assault has fluctuated over the past 14 years, with a low of 473.4 per 100,000 population in 2000 and a high of 603.5 in 2005.
- The average for the past five years (2009–13) was 521.3, which is relatively high for the Caribbean region.
- Since 2010, patients seen at Queen Elizabeth Hospital for assault-related injuries followed a similar pattern as those incidents reported to the police.
 - An average of 1,367 patients were seen at Queen Elizabeth Hospital as a result of assault. During the same period, an average of 1,452 incidents were reported to the Royal Barbados Police Force (RBPF).

Victims

- According to data from the Ministry of Health, victims of assaults between 2010 and 2013 were predominantly male. In 2013, 70 per cent of all assault-related injuries cases seen at Queen Elizabeth Hospital were male.
- Data from the Ministry of Health shows that the 18–25-year-old and 26–35-year-old cohorts dominate statistics for injuries from assaults. These two age cohorts accounted for 51 per cent of all cases of assault seen at Queen Elizabeth Hospital between 2010 and 2013

Violence in the Home

- The Family Conflict Intervention Unit was established in June 2013 to respond to, and record more detailed data on family matters.
- There were 220 cases of domestic abuse reported to the Family Conflict Intervention Unit between June and December 2013 and 423 cases reported in 2014.
- In both years, those in relationships where the victim and offender were categorized as “separated” accounted for the largest proportion of reported cases (40 per cent in 2013; 45 per cent in 2014).
- Between June and December 2013, 83 per cent of all reported cases involved a male aggressor. The same was true of 94 per cent of reported cases in 2014.
- For both 2013 (June to December) and 2014, “assaults” accounted for the majority of cases of domestic abuse reported.

Child Discipline and Abuse

- Data from the Child Care Board shows “neglect” (51.3 per cent) to be the dominant form of child abuse reported between 2009 and 2013. This is followed by physical abuse (20.8 per cent).
- Between 2010 and 2013, the majority of cases reported involved female victims.
- In 2013, 57.6 per cent of the cases reported involved female victims.
- Over the four-year period, the largest discrepancy was reported with regards to sexual abuse with female victims accounting for 89 per cent of all cases.

Sexual Violence

Rape

- Since 2000, the rate of reported rape has exceeded the incidence of all other sex-related offenses.
- Since 2011, reported rapes have seen a decrease. Although 2013 saw a rise in numbers again (21.7 per 100,000), it was eclipsed by indecent assault (23.1).
- Over the past 5 years (2009–13), the average rate of rape reported to the RBPF was 22.4 per 100,000 population.

Incest

- The rate of incest for the five-year period (2009–13) was considerably lower than the other forms of sex-related crimes.
- The average rate of Incest between 2009 and 2013 was 0.86 per 100,000 population, reaching its highest level in 2013

Robbery

- Between 2010 and 2013, there was an average of 310 more incidents of robberies than the next highest-armed robbery.
- After declining to a low for the period of 106.1 per 100,000 in 2004, the rate of reported robberies increased steadily to a high of 196.9 in 2012 before experiencing a sharp decline the following year.

Property Crime

- Residential burglaries reported the highest number of incidents of any property crime between 2000 and 2013.
- Both residential and commercial burglary experienced their peak for the period, in 2000.
- In 2013, the rate of residential burglaries was 562.4 per 100,000 population. This was followed by “other thefts” (327 per 100,000 population), theft from motor vehicles (117.6 per 100,000 population), and theft from shops/stores (63.5 per 100,000 population).

Gangs

- Gang violence is not included among the category of motives collected by the police.
- The RBPF views gangs in the context of organised groups that fit a specific set of criteria.
- According to the police, gangs in Barbados use symbols to advertise their existence and turf.
- According to the RBPF, the criminal activities associated with these groups are carried out in a distinctly informal manner and are distinguished from more structured gang activity in other countries.
- The RBPF is unable to place an estimate on the number of youth involved in gangs.

Institutional Framework for Addressing Violence and Crime in Barbados

- Ministry of Home Affairs
- Office of the Attorney General
 - RBPF
 - Her Majesty’s Prison
 - Government Industrial School
- Ministry of Social Care, Constituency Empowerment, and Community Development
- Ministry of Education, Science, Technology, and Innovation
- Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Youth
- Ministry of Health
- University of the West Indies

Laws, Policies, and Strategies for Reducing Violence and Crime

- Seven legislative changes since 2008 have aimed at improving crime-reduction capabilities.
- Five national policies/plans/strategies have existed.

Programs and Projects for Reducing Crime and Violence in Barbados

- Twenty-six programs and/or projects were identified as having within their mandate, the objective of crime prevention or reduction.
 - 11 primary prevention (3 situational/community, 8 individual)
 - 5 secondary prevention (4 early delinquent and violent behaviour, 1 suppression)
 - 10 tertiary prevention

Conclusions/Recommendations

Institutional Approaches to Crime Prevention

- Analysis of the institutional profiles reveals the use of a variety of methods designed to achieve the individual mandates of reducing crime and violence.
- Few areas overlap in institutional focus and areas of neglect or gaps in support provision.

- Majority of the programs address children and youth.
- Majority of the methods used focus on care and counselling and other skills training.
- Because it relates to the categories of crime prevention, there is an obvious deficit in the provision of secondary prevention, and in particular the subcategory of suppression.
- Much of the focus of primary prevention programs is on individual behaviours with relatively little attention paid to situational or community variables.
- Greater collaboration and diversification of service provision would ensure a more comprehensive approach to crime-prevention mechanisms.

Research, Data, and Evaluation

- Research into crime and violence in Barbados has remained glaringly limited. This needs to enjoy a more prominent position within the research agenda of Barbadian academics.
- Nongovernmental organisations and public institutions need to have a good understanding of both short- and long-term objectives to assist in effective decision making.
- Evidence-based approaches to crime prevention are lacking. There is a prevalence of property crimes in police statistics, yet intervention into crime is overwhelmingly targeted at those of a violent nature. No new laws or amendments have been put in place within recent years to improve the capabilities of the State to prevent, detect, or prosecute the perpetration of residential burglary or other forms of property crime.
- There is a severe lack of monitoring and evaluation taking place among the institutions interviewed. Only 6 (23 per cent) of institutions interviewed had gone through a formal evaluation process.
- Inadequate data collection appears to pervade a range of government and nongovernmental organisations (NGOs), with few exceptions. This hampers the ability to produce rigorous empirical research as well as to enact evidence-based policies and interventions aimed at reducing crime.

II. INTRODUCTION

The level and changing nature of crime in many Caribbean countries have given cause for increasing concern. It has been suggested that the rapid growth of urban areas in the 19th- and early 20th centuries led to an increase in rates of property crime (Trotman 1986). This gained momentum in the 1960s when the transition from plantation economies to tourism and light manufacturing precipitated a massive increase in rates of property crime (McElroy & Albuquerque 1982). Despite this, rates of property crime across the region have remained low when compared with other developing countries around the world.

The main feature of crime in the Caribbean today is the high level of violent crime. Homicide rates have been rising rapidly in most Caribbean countries. Barbados is, however, a notable exception with relatively low levels of violent crime. Despite this, there has been increasing concern for overall levels of crime in Barbados. This is the case particularly considering the country's heavy dependence on tourism for economic growth and stability. As a result, even small increases in criminal activity are greeted with considerable concern.

As previously stated, the Caribbean has been experiencing a change in the nature of crime. Over the years in many countries in the region, property crimes have been surpassed in dominance by those of a violent nature. In Barbados, however, crimes against property have remained high. In 2013, the rate of property crime was 1599 per 100,000, compared with a rate of 929 for crimes against person. The most common property crime is residential burglary representing 35 per cent of all property crimes reported to the police in 2013.

The violent crime most commonly reported to the police in Barbados is assault. In 2013, assaults accounted for 54 per cent of all crimes reported. The number of reported homicides by contrast is considerably low (1 per cent of all crimes reported in 2013). Over the past 13 years, the homicide rate in Barbados has fluctuated greatly, reaching a high of 12.7 per 100,000 population in 2005. Although the 2013 rate of 8.4 per 100,000 is slightly higher than the global average (6.2 per 100,000), this rates compares favourably with most countries in the Caribbean region. In 2013, victims of homicide in Barbados were typically male, between the ages of 26 and 35 years. Knives were the most popular weapon of choice.

Despite the inadequacies of official data, evidence suggests that rape is an issue of considerable concern for the Caribbean as a whole. The RBPF classifies sexual crimes under the category *sex-related crimes*. Since 2000, rape has exceeded the number of all other crimes recorded in this category. Between 2009 and 2013, the average rate of rape was 22.4 per 100,000.

The recording of statistics related to violence in the home in Barbados is severely limited. There has, however, recently been an attempt to improve the inadequacies of data collection on this form of crime. This has come in the form of the establishment of the Family Conflict Intervention Unit, designed to respond to, and record more detailed information on domestic violence. There were 423 cases of domestic violence reported in 2014. Perpetrators were overwhelmingly male. According to police data, 30 per cent of all homicides in 2013 were the result of domestic violence.

Similar inadequacies plague the collection of data on child abuse in Barbados. The Child Care Board is the government agency responsible for the care and protection of children. The lack of a centralised system through which all child abuse cases are handled, however, undermines the ability of the Child Care Board to effectively respond to child abuse in Barbados. Data received from the Child Care Board suggested neglect, to be the most common form of abuse faced by children. Between 2009 and 2013, neglect accounted for 51 per cent of all cases recorded. This was followed by physical abuse (20.8 per cent).

The aim of this report is to utilise multiple sources of data to provide a comprehensive review of data on crime and violence in Barbados over the past 10 years. In addition, the reports aims document and assess the various prevention policies, programs, and projects adopted by the

government, private organisations, and NGOs designed to address the problem of crime and violence. In performing the aforementioned tasks, we can assess the data collection, analysis, and crime-response capabilities of Barbados to make suggestions about the most effective plans for corrective action.

Aside from the RBPF, which is responsible for the detection and prevention of crime as well as the overall maintenance of law and order, there are a range of entities that play a role in the prevention and reduction of crime and violence in Barbados. These include a number of government ministries and departments, one multilateral organization, and five nongovernmental organisations.¹ No private organisations working on violence prevention were identified for this study. A total of 26 crime-prevention initiatives were identified in the study with the majority having been implemented by government agencies. While programs are spread across the three main crime-prevention categories (primary, secondary, tertiary), there is an obvious deficit in the provision of secondary initiatives, and in particular the sub category—suppression, in which only one program could be located. Programs targeting at-risk youth are particularly common.

Recommendations include greater collaboration among the government and NGOs to prevent some of the overlap that occurs in service provision. This would release funds that could contribute toward greater diversity to fill the gaps identified. There also is a need for more evidence-based solutions to crime prevention. This can be achieved through a greater focus by academics on the immediate causes of crime in Barbados, as well as more robust monitoring and evaluation by agencies involved in crime prevention such that best practice can be identified.

Methodology

The study was conducted in two phases. Phase one involved the mapping of crime trends in Barbados over the preceding decade. After receiving the relevant permissions, data request sheets were sent by e-mail to the RBPF, the Family Conflict Intervention Unit, the Barbados Ministry of Health, the Child Care Board, and the Business and Professional Women’s Club. Data were then compiled to produce a comprehensive profile of the prevalence of different types of crimes with effort made to disaggregate the data at various levels including age and sex.

Phase two began with an audit of existing public, private, and nongovernmental agencies that have implemented crime-prevention strategies and programs in Barbados.² After initial contact, uniform questionnaires were sent to all agencies that fit the criteria for inclusion.³ Agencies were requested to complete one form for each program that related to crime prevention. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with the heads of the various agencies (or someone appointed by the head) to supplement any missing information. A total of 26 programs were identified. After data collection for phase two, the information obtained was organised in a manner that would facilitate a comprehensive investigation into the main issues to emerge. This refers mainly to the type of support provided as well as the vulnerable groups targeted by each organisation. From this information, a grid was constructed that matched the target groups with the types of methods used by each organization to reduce/prevent crime and violence. An aggregated grid was then constructed to identify overlaps and gaps in total support provision. The grid was constructed against the background of a range of possible methods that can be used to address crime and violence.⁴

III. A CLOSER LOOK AT CRIME IN BARBADOS

The following section attempts to provide an overview of crime and violence in Barbados in recent years. The exercise is somewhat constrained, however, by data gathering challenges at a number of levels. Firstly, data on crime and violence is, of course, limited to that which is reported to the police. While the problems associated with official data worldwide are well documented, anecdotal

¹ Nongovernmental organisations comprised four nonprofit and one multilateral organisation.

² Nonprofit organizations were identified and included using the strategies and criteria explained in appendix A.

³ A list of the individuals consulted for the completion of this study can be found in appendix B.

⁴ The list was determined through a desktop review of global interventions and methods used.

evidence suggests that local victims are considerably reluctant to report crimes to the RBPF. As a result, the crimes discussed here are likely to be underestimated, particularly those against property. Secondly, there exists a severe deficit in data collection capabilities in Barbados, resulting in a lack of the necessary aggregation of data needed to provide a comprehensive overview. The absence of a central data collection agency specific to crime means that data have to be sourced from different entities, making collation problematic, and in some instances, incomplete. Thirdly, priority categories of violence are influenced by what the police deem to be major and minor crimes. This means that other forms of violence such as that against children in the home, and in schools that are protected by law, are generally left to other institutions for which the collection of statistics may not be of critical importance.

Despite these challenges, however, the following is a review of crime and violence in Barbados over the past 14 years. Box 1 provides a summary of the main data collection sources that informed the exercise.

Box 1. Data Sources on Crime and Violence in Barbados

The Royal Barbados Police Force was the main source of data for section II. The police force captures statistics on crime in the following categories:

- **Crimes against the person:** These are typically violent crimes and are further subdivided into *major crimes against the person*, including crimes such as murder, manslaughter, kidnapping, armed robbery, and robbery. It includes the actual commission of the crimes and those that attempted to commit the crimes of murder and robbery. This category also includes *sex-related crimes* such as rape, sex with a minor, and assault with the intent to rape. The final group in this category is known as *minor crimes against the person*, which includes crimes such as harassment, threats, and assault/woundings.
- **Crimes against property:** These are the reported property crimes and are further subdivided into *major crimes against property*, including crimes such as burglary, arson, and criminal damage; and *thefts and related crimes*, which includes crimes such as theft of and from motor vehicles, theft of bicycles, theft from stores/shops, and theft of agricultural produce.
- **Other crimes:** This includes a range of other offenses such as public order breaches, the production and/or sale of drugs, and firearm offenses.

The Family Conflict Intervention Unit, a part of the Royal Barbados Police Force, provided data on violence in the home. The unit was established in 2013 to respond to and record more detailed data on family matters.

The Barbados Ministry of Health also provided limited data on assaults and assault-related injuries. This was obtained from Accident and Emergency records between 2010 and 2013.

The Child Care Board provided data on child abuse. This government agency is responsible for the care and protection of children in Barbados.

Business and Professional Women's Club data were used to provide additional figures on domestic violence. The Women's Club operates a shelter for battered women.

The changing nature of crime—and an increase in homicide rates in particular—has resulted in regional panic. The experience of Jamaica provides a useful example. During the 1970s, property crime was the dominant form of offending in the island (Harriot 2000). In 1979, for example, the ratio of property-to-violent crime was 2.2:1. Since then, there has been a consistent decline in the contribution of property crime relative to violent crime. In 1990, the ratio of property to violent crime

was 0.78:1, but in the next 10 years (2001) it fell to 0.29:1 (PIOJ 2001). Despite this panic, however, some islands have demonstrated the opposite, with countries such as Barbados revealing low levels of violent crime with high and increasing levels of property offenses.

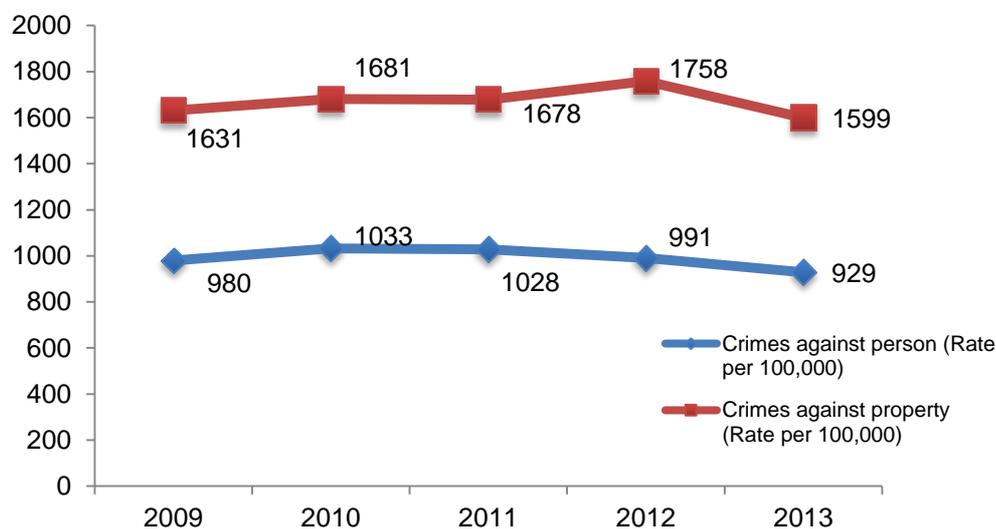
Few studies have looked beyond official police data to obtain a more accurate picture of overall crime. The first such attempt was the Barbados Crime Survey (2002). Its findings, based on a sample of 8,000 respondents, revealed very low levels of crime for Barbados, with an overall prevalence rate of only 15.4 per cent. Although overall levels of crime were low, the survey revealed property crimes to be of greater concern than personal crimes, with burglary/attempted burglary reporting the highest prevalence rate (6.3 per cent) of all crimes. Although vehicle theft was low (0.6 per cent), the prevalence rate for theft from a vehicle was also relatively high (6.0 per cent). Personal crimes, by contrast, reported very low prevalence rates. Of note were robbery (0.8 per cent), assault (.8 per cent), and sexual assault (0.7 per cent).

In general, rates of reporting to the police were very high. This was particularly so for car thefts where 96 per cent of these crimes were reported. Rates of reporting were also high for burglary (78 per cent) and robbery (75 per cent). Low rates of reporting were seen only for thefts of personal property (35 per cent), and sexual assaults (46 per cent).

Other attempts at conducting victimization surveys in Barbados have been the 2010 UNDP Citizen Security Survey (UNDP 2012), and the 2009 Barbados Crime Survey.⁵

Official police data groups crimes in Barbados according to crimes against the person⁶ (violent crimes) and crimes against property (property crime). Figure 1 shows the rates⁷ of violent and property crimes reported to the police between 2009 and 2013. The rate of property crime rose from a low of 1,631 (per 100,000) in 2009, to reach its peak in 2012 (1,758) before falling to a low of 1,599 in 2013. The rate of crimes against the person remained relatively constant over the five-year period, reaching its peak in 2010 (1,033) and falling to a low of 929 in 2013.

Figure 1. Rates of Crime Against the Person and Property Per 100,000, 2009–13



Source: Royal Barbados Police Force.

Figure 2 shows the rates per 100,000 for different categories of crimes against the person reported to the police in 2013.⁸ As a region, the Caribbean reveals the highest rate of assaults reported to

⁵ Results are not yet available.

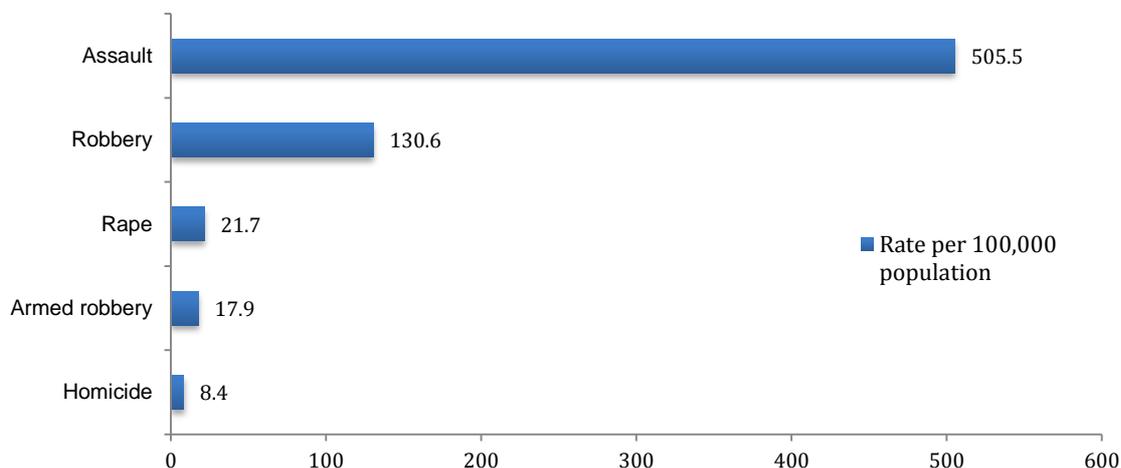
⁶ The range of crimes reported to the police that comprise crimes against the person and crimes against property are shown in annex C.

⁷ Rates were calculated using UN Population estimates, medium fertility (United Nations 2013).

⁸ Rates were calculated using UN Population estimates, medium fertility (United Nations 2013).

the police in the world (UNODC 2007). In 2013, in Barbados, the crime most commonly reported to the police was assault (505.5 per 100,000), representing 54 per cent of all crimes against the person reported. The least reported violent crime was homicide (8.4 per 100,000), representing only 1 per cent of all crimes against the person reported to the police. The large number of assaults is even more significant when one considers the traditionally low level of reporting of these crimes because of a lack of trust in the justice apparatus.

Figure 2. Rate of Violent Crime Per 100,000 Population, 2013



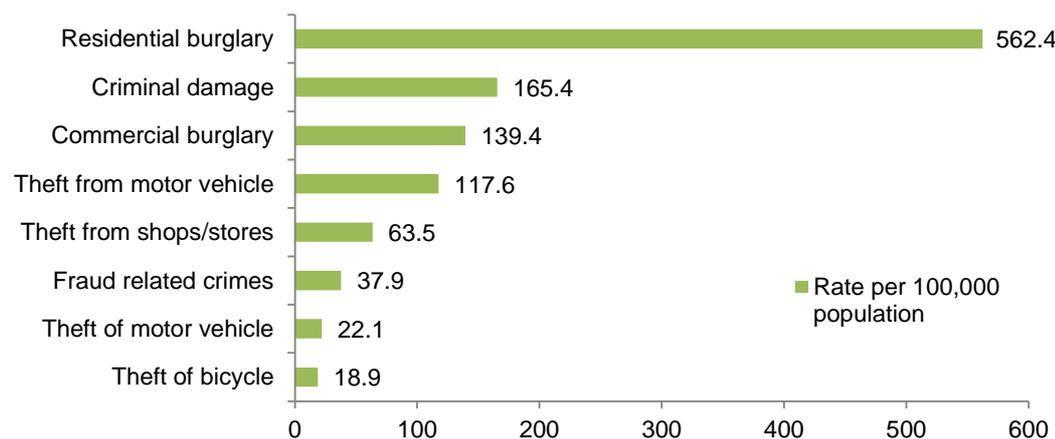
Source:

Royal Barbados Police Force.

Note: The Royal Barbados Police Force classified armed robbery as *aggravated robbery*.

The eight most common crimes against property for Barbados are listed in Figure 3.⁹ Similar to assault, the rate of residential burglary for 2013 far outstripped all other property crimes, revealing a rate of 562.4 per 100,000 population.¹⁰ This represented 35 per cent of all property crimes reported to the police in that year. Also prominent in the reported figures were the crimes of criminal damage (165.4), commercial burglary (139.4), and theft from motor vehicle (117.6).

Figure 3. Rates of Most Common Property Crimes Per 100,000 Population. 2013



Source: Royal Barbados Police Force.

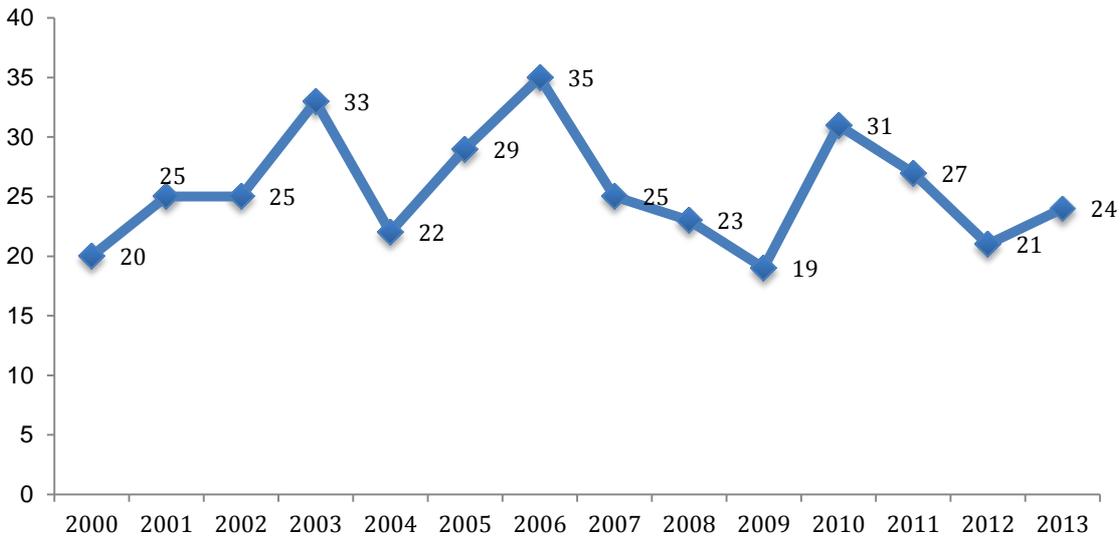
⁹ The crime grouping “other theft” was omitted from the graph as the RBPF could not indicate what this comprised

¹⁰ Rates were calculated using UN Population estimates, medium fertility (United Nations 2013).

Homicide

Although the Caribbean as a region is one of the most violent in the world, rates of homicide between countries vary considerably. Although countries such as Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago have homicide rates per capita that rank them as two of the most violent countries in the world, Barbados—displaying some fluctuation—has had consistently low rates (UNDP 2012). The rate of homicide in Barbados grew from 6.4 in 1980 to 10.1 in 2010 and has tended to compare favourably to most countries in the region. Reasons suggested have included an absence of powerful criminal networks and dangerous linkages between politics and crime. Barbados has also managed to escape the extreme levels of poverty that have plagued some countries in the Caribbean (Ramsey 2013).

Figure 4. Total Number of Murders Reported to the Police, 2000–13

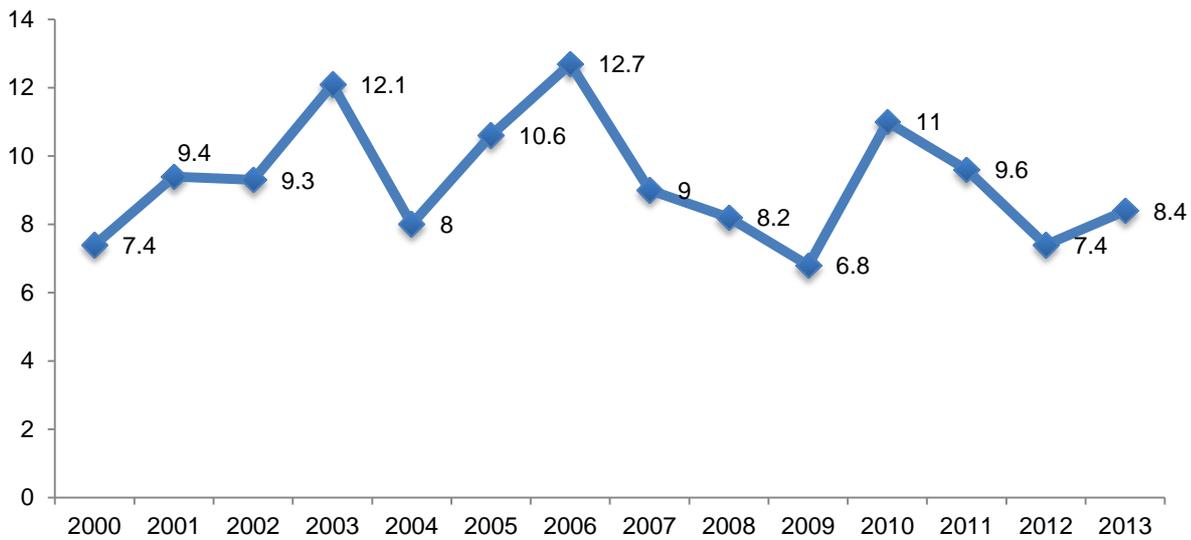


Source: Royal Barbados Police Force.

The RBPF defines *homicide* as the unlawful killing of another person. Homicides in Barbados are recorded by the police as *murders*. Figures 4 and 5 show the total numbers and rates, respectively, of murders reported to the police between 2000 and 2013.¹¹ The overall incidence has fluctuated considerably during the 13-year period. There was a sharp increase between 2000 and 2003. A sudden fall in 2004 was followed by another sharp increase to a high for the period of 35 (total number) or 12.7 per 100,000 population. The low for the period (6.8 per 100,000) was reported in 2009. The 2013 rate of 8.4 per 100,000, although slightly higher than the global average (6.2 per 100,000 population; UNODC 2013), was considerably lower than the average rate of murder for the region (16 per 100,000 population). As shown in Figure 6, Barbados continues to compare favourably with countries such as The Bahamas, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago.

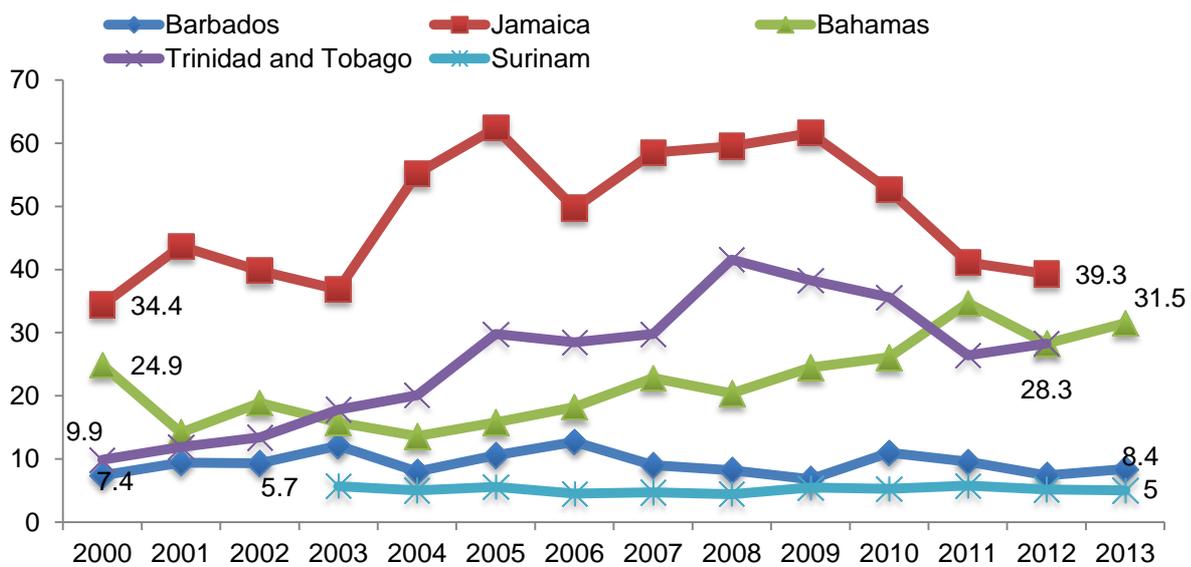
¹¹ Rates were calculated using UN Population estimates, medium fertility (2013).

Figure 5. Rate Murders Per 100,000 Population, 2000–13



Source: Royal Barbados Police Force.

Figure 6. Rates of Homicide (Various Countries), 2000–13



Source: Royal Barbados Police Force; United Nations Crime Trends Survey 2013.

Who, Why, When, and Where?

Understanding the details behind the figures for homicide is essential from a policy perspective, for identifying points of intervention aimed reducing this, and other forms of criminality. Data for the following section derive primarily from the RBPF. The data collection capabilities of the RBPF appear to be severely limited. As such, information relating to the characteristics and circumstances surrounding incidents of murder are in many instances incomplete. This limits the ability to comprehensively analyse the nature of murder in Barbados.

Murder Victims¹²

Similar to that demonstrated across much of the region, victims of homicide in Barbados have been predominantly male. Ramsay found that between 1980 and 2010, there had been 636 homicides. Of the victims, 75 per cent were males, making them three times as likely to be victims than females (Ramsay 2013). Figures 7 and 8 show the percentage of victims by sex in Barbados

between 2009 and 2013, respectively (information such as schooling, relation to perpetrator, profession, income, were requested from the RBPF but was not available). As illustrated by the figures, males have accounted for a considerably higher proportion of homicide victims over the past five years. Since 2012, however, there has been an increase in the proportion of female victims.

Figure 7. Percentage of Murder Victims, by Sex, 2013

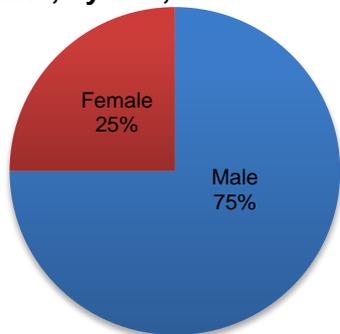
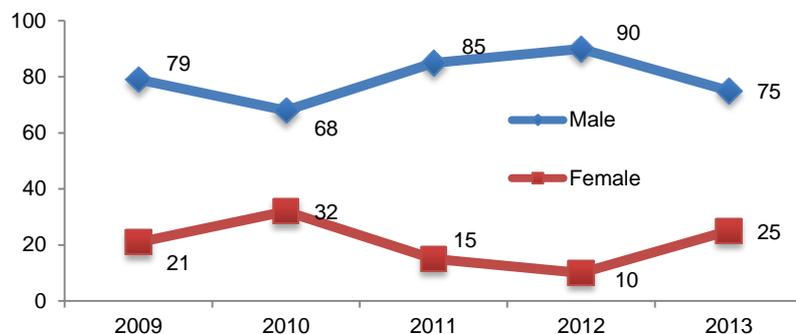


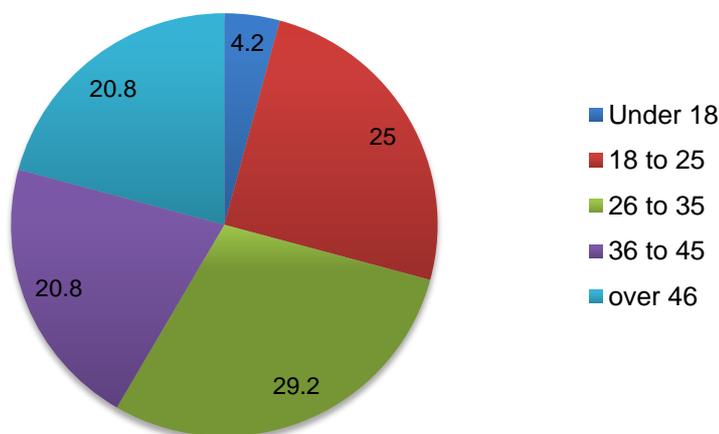
Figure 8. Percentage of Murder Victims, by Sex, 2009–13



Source 7 and 9 : Royal Barbados Police Force.

Important to note also is the dominance in the figures of the 26–35 years age group as victims of murder. Since 2009, this age group has accounted for the major percentage of overall victims. This pattern remained constant into 2013, where together, the 26–35 years and 18–25 years age groups accounted for 54 per cent of all murder victims. This represents a disproportionate number of victims, considering that these age groups comprise only 24 per cent of the total population.¹³

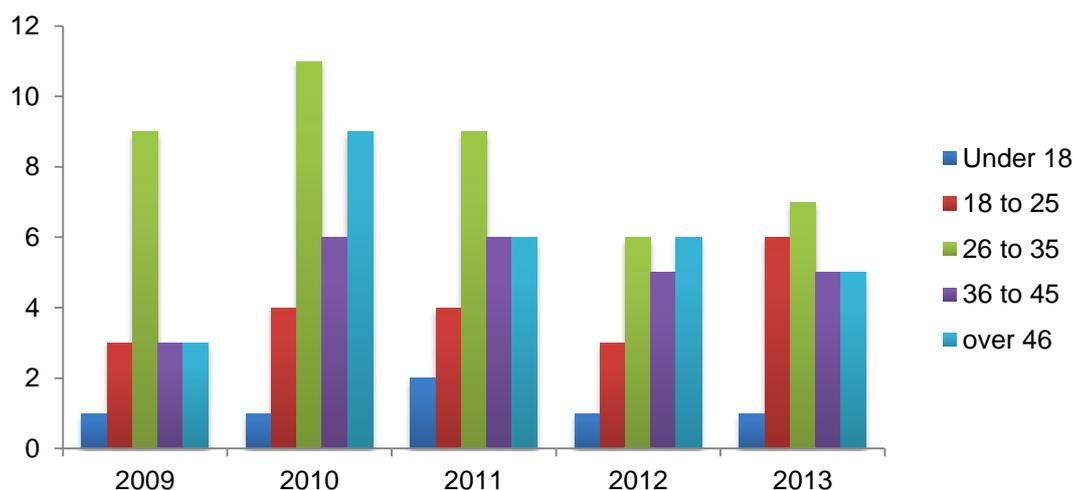
Figure 9. Percentage of Homicide Victims, by Age, 2013



Source: Royal Barbados Police Force.

¹³ Obtained from a special run of the 2010 census.

Figure 10. Number of Murder Victims, by Age, 2009–13



Source: Royal Barbados Police Force.

Perpetrators

Details surrounding the perpetrators of homicide in Barbados are particularly sparse. Ramsay's study reported that perpetrators of homicide were generally male (79 per cent) and that the largest proportion was between the ages of 20 and 39 years. Data from police reports revealed that perpetrators tended to be high school dropouts with no qualifications, with criminal records before the homicide (Ramsay 2013).

Unfortunately, available data from the RBPF relate only to sex and age.¹⁴ Table 1 shows the sex of offenders between 2000 and 2013. As with the victims of homicide, males accounted for an overwhelming majority of offenders during the period with 97 per cent of all cases being perpetrated by men. Similarly, Table 2 illustrates that as with the victims of homicides, the 18–25 years and 26–35 years age groups accounted for the largest proportion of offenders between 2009 and 2013. This was particularly so for the 18–25 years age group, between 2009 and 2011.

Table 1. Perpetrators of Homicide, by Sex, 2000–12

Year	Number of Cases	Gender of Perpetrator	
		Male	Female
2000	20	20	0
2001	25	25	0
2002	25	25	0
2003	33	30	3
2004	22	22	0
2005	29	27	2
2006	35	33	2
2007	25	24	1
2008	23	22	1
2009	19	18	1
2010	31	31	0
2011	27	27	0
2012	21	20	1
2013	24	24	0

Source: Royal Barbados Police Force.

¹⁴ Details relating to the relationship to victim, schooling, income profession were requested from the RBPF but were not available.

Table 2. Perpetrators of Homicide, by Age, 2009–13

Years	Younger Than 18 Years	18–25 Years	26–35 Years	36–45 Years	Older Than 45 Years	Age Unknown
2009	3	12	3	0	1	0
2010	2	14	5	3	2	5
2011	3	16	5	2	1	0
2012	2	8	6	4	0	1
2013	1	8	4	4	3	4

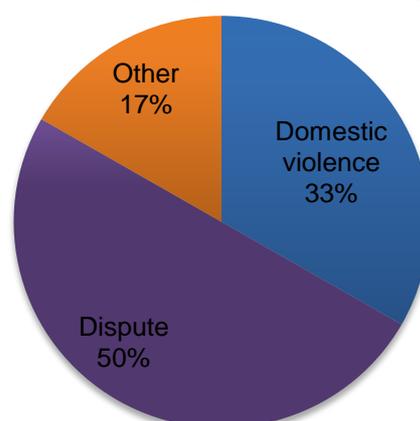
Source: Royal Barbados Police Force.

Motives

An attempt to obtain data on the range of motives involved in the perpetration of homicide in Barbados provides further evidence of the limited data collection capacity of the RBPF. Motives are disaggregated into only six categories—domestic dispute, robbery, burglary, dispute,¹⁵ drive-by shooting, and other.¹⁶ Data on motives before 2009 is also unavailable.

According to the RBPF, disputes accounted for half of all murders reported to the police in 2013. The prominent role of inter-personal violence in homicides is a common theme throughout the Caribbean region. Individuals lack the skills to solve disputes peacefully and so trivial disagreements are often blown out of proportion. Ramsay found that the issue of respect on the street, and the desire to prove one’s self and manhood, was linked to disputes between men from different communities. They started with simple altercations and evolved into more serious conflict with drive-by shootings often the result of such disputes (Ramsay 2013). Such incidents may add depth and intensity to an existing conflict. Harriott (2003), in discussing the situation in Jamaica, explained this type of reasoning in terms of *focalization*, in which small incidents were taken out of context and aggregated. New incidents were interpreted in the light of the prior history of conflicts and therefore generated a greater emotional intensity than if they had been treated on their own merit. The figures suggest that similar conclusions can be drawn for Barbados. Domestic violence (see page 31 for definition) also accounted for a significant proportion of 2013 homicides (Figure 11).

Figure 11. Percentage of Murders, by Motive



Source: Royal Barbados Police Force.

Note: Drive-by shooting and burglary reported no incidents in 2013.

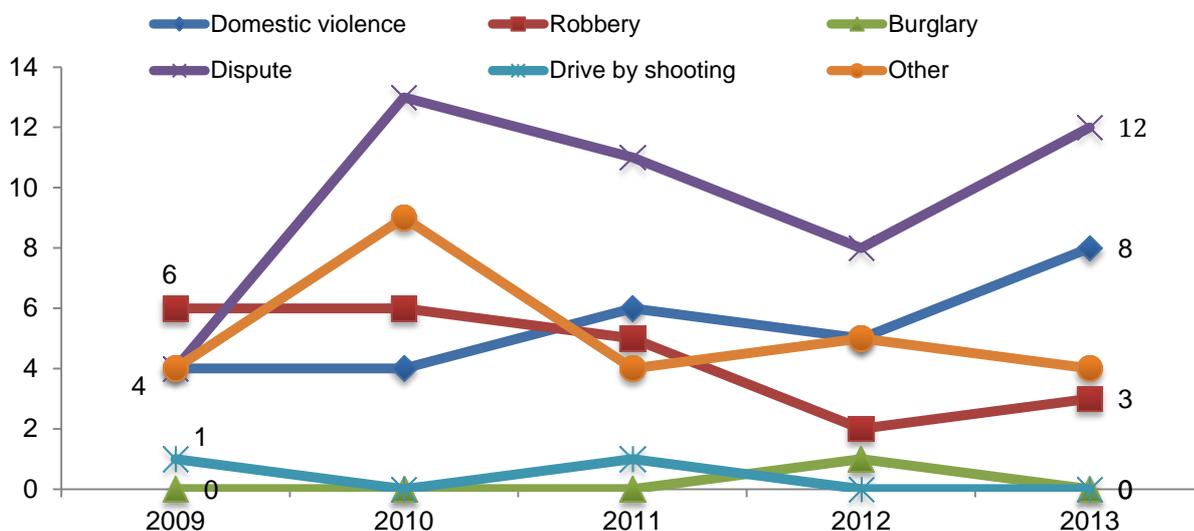
Figure 12 illustrates the rates for various murder motives between 2009 and 2013. Although in 2009, robbery accounted for the highest number of murders, disputes registered a sharp increase in incidents to outstrip all other categories the following year. There was a decrease in dispute-related homicides in 2012 but incidents rose again in 2013. Also increasing steadily has been murders resulting from domestic violence. Whereas in 2009 this category accounted for 21 per cent

¹⁵ Motives are labeled as *disputes* if the victim and perpetrator were known to each other but are not instances of domestic violence. The RBPF was unable to provide motives relating to retaliation or gang-related murders.

¹⁶ As of this writing, the RBPF was unable to indicate which motives fell into the *other* category.

of all homicides, by 2013 this had increased to 30 per cent, second only to disputes. Disputes had the highest average rate over the five-year period with 9.6 incidents. Burglary reported the lowest with 0.2.

Figure 12. Murder Motives Rate Per 100,000 Population, 2009–13

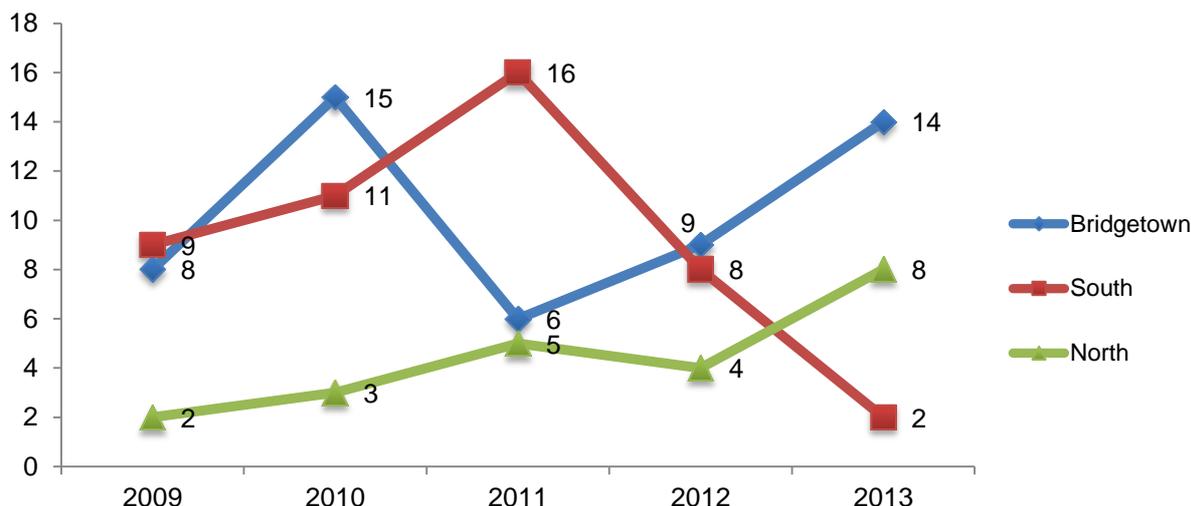


Source: Royal Barbados Police Force.

Where Murders Occur

Barbados is divided into three main police divisions (Figure 13). Division South and Bridgetown both experienced steady increases in the incidence of murder after 2009. Bridgetown reached its peak for the five-year period in 2010, and Division South reported its highest incidence in 2011. While Division South has seen a sharp decline in murders since 2011, Bridgetown is once again rising steadily after reporting its lowest incidence in 2011. Division North, while reporting relatively low numbers of murders between 2009 and 2012, experienced a sharp increase in 2013.

Figure 13. Number of Homicides, by Police Division, 2009–13



Source: Royal Barbados Police Force.

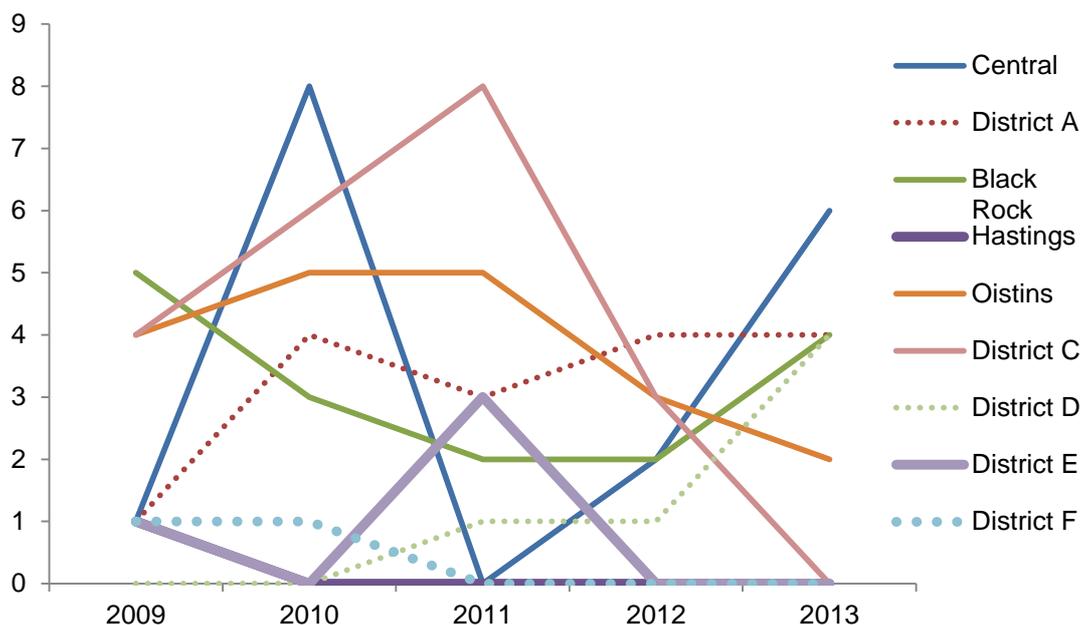
Note: The RBPF was unable to provide population data by division, making calculation of rates per 100,000 population impossible.

The island is further subdivided into 14 police districts or police stations (Figure 14)¹⁷. While District C recorded the overall high for the 5-year period in 2011 it has seen a sharp decline in murders with none recorded for 2013. The districts recording the highest incidence of homicide in 2013 were

¹⁷ For improved reading, the time series for Worthing, District A, Crab Hill, District B, and Bellplaine have been omitted from the graph.

Central ($n = 6$), District A ($n = 4$), Black Rock ($n = 4$), all in the Bridgetown Police Division, and District D ($n = 4$), located in Division North.

Figure 14. Number of Homicides, by Police District, 2009–13



Notes: Central: St Michael; District A: St. Michael/St George; Black Rock: St Michael; Hastings: Christ Church/St Michael; Worthing: Christ Church; Oistins: Christ Church; District B: St. George; District C: St. John/St Phillip; District D: St Thomas/St James; District E: St. Peter; District F: St. Joseph; Hletown: St. James; Bellplaine: St. Andrew; Crab Hill: St. Lucy. The RBPF was unable to disaggregate to the parish level because several districts serve more than one parish.

Region	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Central	1	8	0	2	6
District A	1	4	3	4	4
Black Rock	5	3	2	2	4
Hastings	1	0	0	0	0
Worthing	0	0	1	1	0
Oistins	4	5	5	3	2
District B	1	0	3	2	0
District C	4	6	8	3	0
District D	0	0	1	1	4
District E	1	0	3	0	0
District F	1	1	0	0	0
Holetown	0	1	1	1	2
Bellplaine	0	0	0	0	0
Crab Hill	0	1	0	2	2

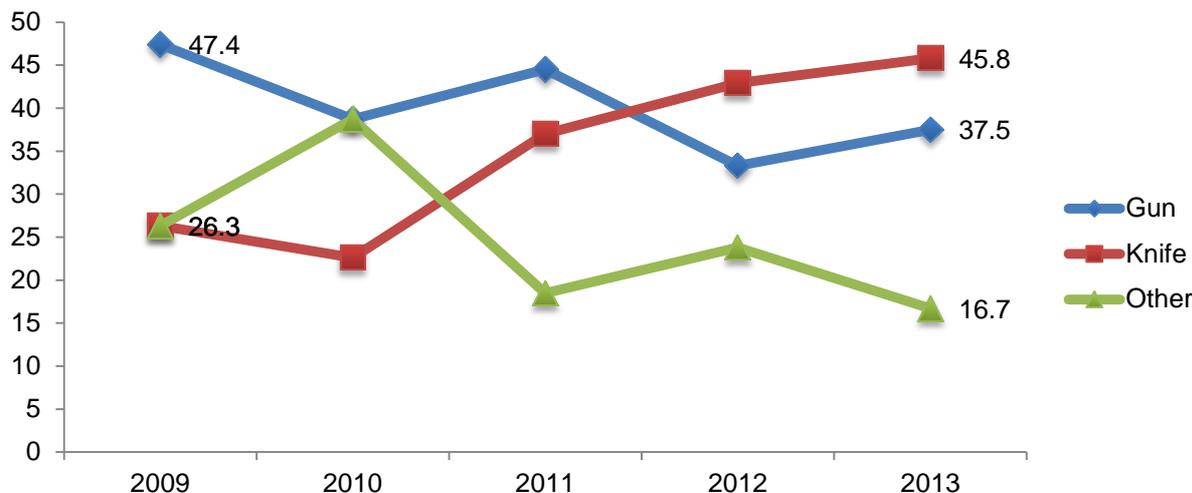
Source: Royal Barbados Police Force.

Weapons

The local instability caused by gun trafficking is well established in the Caribbean. A number of islands in the region are affected by one or more of drug trafficking, economic instability, poverty, criminality, and violence. This provides the perfect setting for the proliferation of small arms and light weapons. The market for illegal weapons in the Caribbean is a major barrier to the achievement of democratic processes, community safety, and economic development. As with many countries in the region, firearms have been the most popular weapon of choice for perpetrators of homicides. The use of firearms in Barbados has increased since the 1990s (Ramsay 2013). RBPF data indicated that firearms accounted for the largest proportion of deaths (40 per cent) between 2009 and 2013. Figure 15 illustrates that although the use of firearms has

remained high relative to most other weapons, since 2009, however, the use of knives in homicides has been rising steadily, and in 2012 and 2013, accounted for the highest number of deaths.

Figure 15. Percentage of Murders, by Weapon

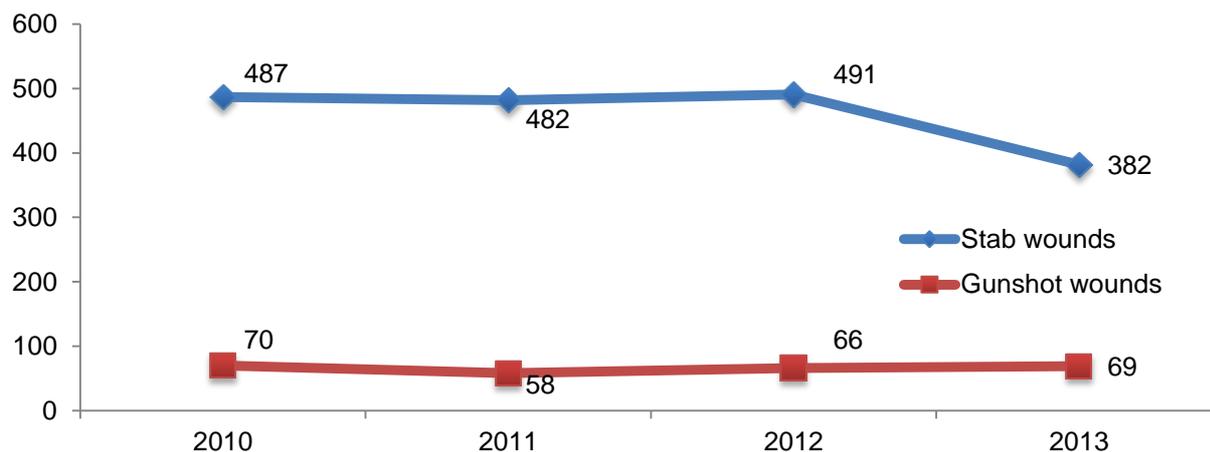


Source: Royal Barbados Police Force.

Note: "Other" includes fire, hands, wood, rock, hammer, bat, and bottle. "Knife" includes knives, cutlass, and scissors.

Figure 16 shows that, based on data collected from the Accident and Emergency Department, stab wounds were considerably more common than were gunshot wounds between 2010 and 2013. This could possibly be because gunshot wounds are more likely to be fatal and so less likely to need medical attention. It is interesting to note that although the number of knife-related murders has been steadily increasing, data from the Ministry of Health show a sharp decline in 2013. While the number of stab wounds reported a decline in 2013, the number of gunshot wounds seen at the hospital remained relatively constant. In 2013, stab wounds accounted for 31 per cent of all persons seen at Queen Elizabeth Hospital for assault injuries, while gunshot wounds accounted for only 6 per cent.¹⁸

Figure 16. Number of Stab and Gunshot Wounds Seen at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, 2010–13



Source: Ministry of Health.

Assaults and Injuries

It is equally as important to examine assaults that end in injury instead of death, given that often the intent was the same. It may be only the availability of a gun, or the quality and proximity of the nearest hospital, that determines whether an assault becomes a murder. Despite assaults typically being the most common form of crime against the person in the Caribbean, rates of reporting for

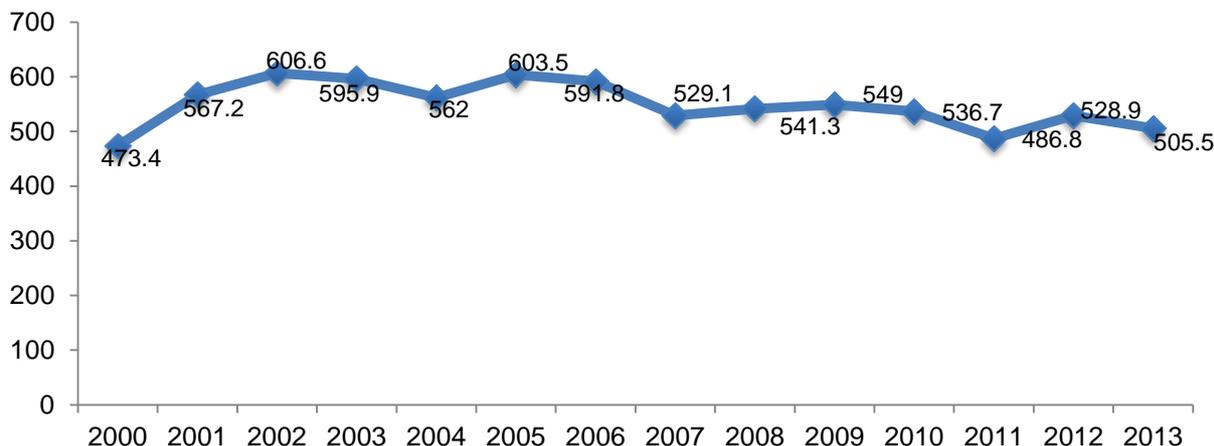
¹⁸ Stab wounds were calculated by combining figures for *lacerations* and *puncture wounds*.

this crime are generally low. As a result, it is assumed that police statistics for this form of crime severely underestimate the true figure. The RBPF defines assault in the following manner:

- Common assault (minor assault): A slap, push, and attack on a person without any injury to the victim. *Beating* a person is considered minor assault or common assault. If the beating is severe, however, the offence could be considered a more serious offence than common assault. This severity of the beating determines how the perpetrator would be charged and tried (before a magistrate or a judge). The punishment for assault depends on where the perpetrator is tried.
- Assault-occasioning harm (major assault): This type of assault occurs where injury is caused to a person. It is an act occasioning actual bodily harm such as wounding. Serious bodily harm is a major assault. It is where harm is caused to a victim as a result of violence, such as a broken arm or leg. The gravity of the injury determines the charge that the perpetrator would receive.

Figure 19 shows the rate of assaults over the past 14 years.¹⁹ The rate has fluctuated over the period with a low of 473.4 in 2000 and a high of 603.5 in 2005. The average for the past five years (2009-2013) was 521.3, which is relatively high for the Caribbean region.

Figure 19. Rate of Assaults Per 100,000 Population, 2000–13



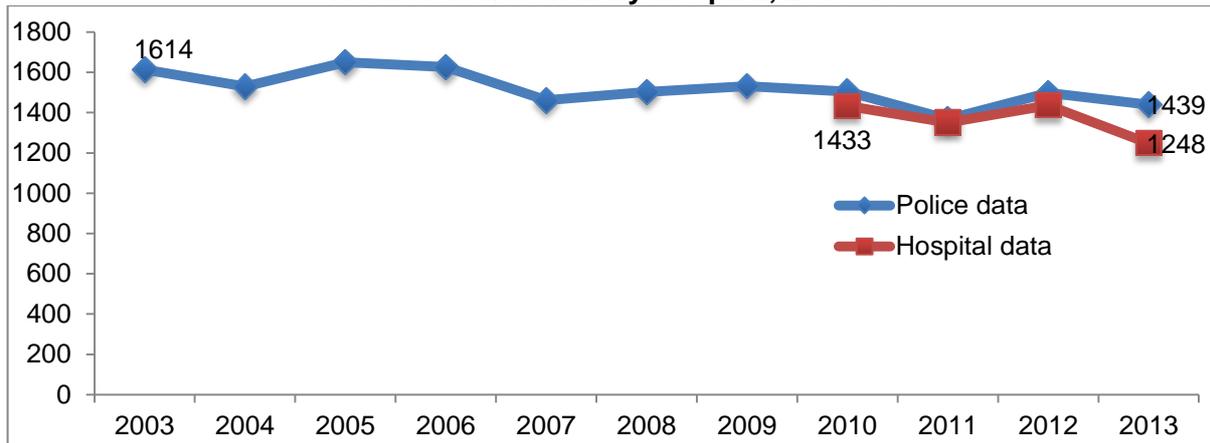
Source: Royal Barbados Police Force.

The general unreliability of police data means that it is useful to supplement these figures with data collected elsewhere. Public health records provide an ideal source in this regard. Figure 20 shows the number of patients treated for assault related injuries at the Accident and Emergency Department of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital between 2010 and 2013.²⁰ This is illustrated against the number of assaults reported to the RBPF. Since 2010, patients seen at Queen Elizabeth Hospital for assault-related injuries followed a similar pattern as did those individuals who reported incidents to the police. During the four-year period, an average of 1,367 patients were seen at Queen Elizabeth Hospital as a result of an assault. Meanwhile, an average of 1,452 incidents were reported to the RBPF. Both data sources reported a dip in incidents in 2011 after which there was an increase the following year.

¹⁹ Rates were calculated using UN Population estimates, medium fertility (United Nations 2013).

²⁰ The Ministry of Health could provide data only from 2010.

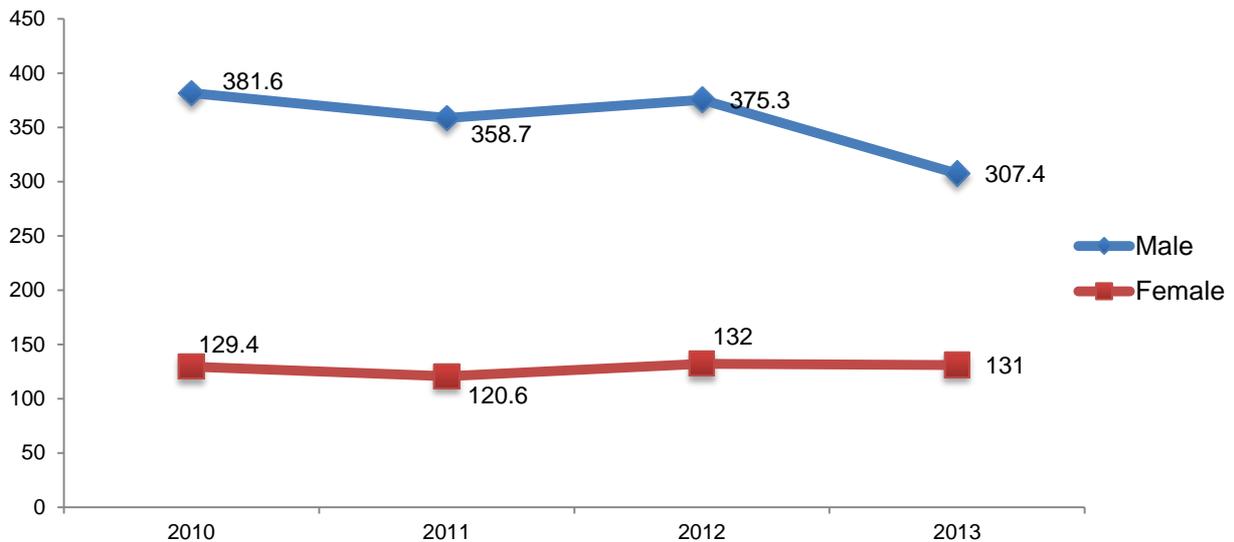
Figure 20. Number of Assaults Reported to the Police, 2003–16, and Number of Assaults Treated at Queen Mary Hospital, 2010–13



Source: Royal Barbados Police Force; Ministry of Health.

According to data from the Ministry of Health, in 2013, 70 per cent of all assault-related injuries cases seen at Queen Elizabeth Hospital were male. Throughout the four-year period, males showed consistently high numbers of injuries than did females.

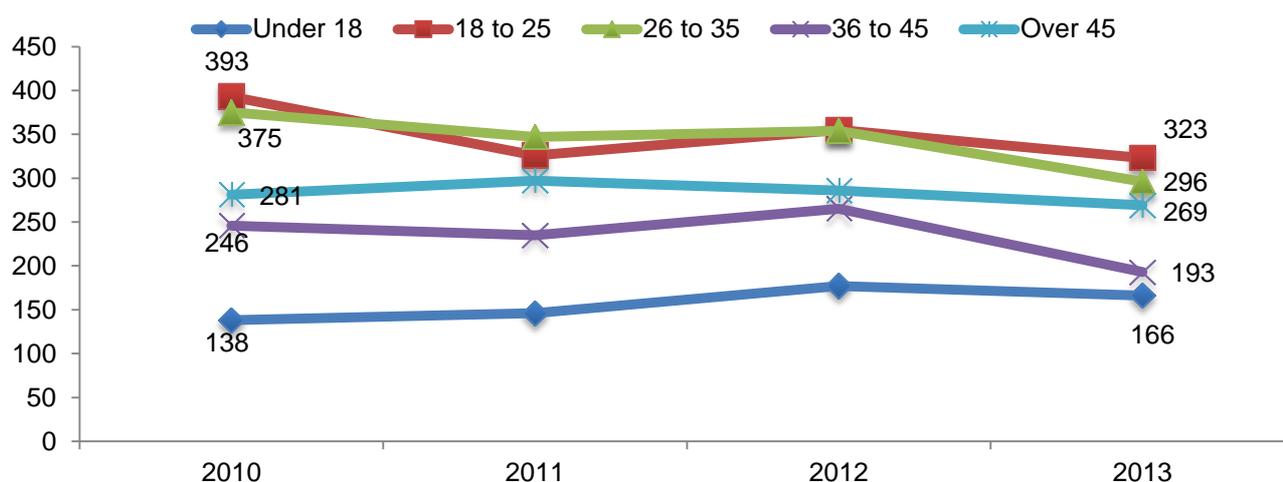
Figure 21. Rate of Assault-Related Injuries Per 100,000 Population Seen at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, by Sex, 2010–13



Source: Ministry of Health.

As discussed earlier, a disproportionate percentage of murder victims come from the 18–25 years and 26–35 years age cohorts. Data from the Ministry of Health also shows these two age cohorts to dominate statistics for injuries from assaults. Between them, the two age cohorts accounted for 51 per cent of all cases of assault seen at Queen Elizabeth Hospital between 2010 and 2013 (18–25 years: 26 per cent; 26–35 years: 25 per cent). As Figure 22 shows, both groups reported a decline in 2013 but still revealed higher numbers than all other cohorts.

Figure 22. Number of Assault-Related Cases Seen at Queen Elizabeth Hospital by Age, 2010–13



Source: Ministry of Health.

Violence in the Home

Behaviour considered to be domestic violence can be found in the Barbados Domestic Violence (Protection Orders) Act. The behaviour includes *harassment*, defined as persistent verbal abuse; physical violence (including threats of violence); and the malicious damage of the property of a person. The Act also considers *domestic violence* as persistently following a person from place to place; hiding of clothes or other property owned by a person or the depriving of a person's use of their clothes; and watching or besetting the house or other place where a person resides, works, carries on business or happens to be, or the approach to the house or other place. Acts of physical violence to a person are prosecuted under the Offences Against the Person Act. The legislation provides that spouses and children of spouses may apply for relief. Partners in visiting unions,²¹ common throughout the Caribbean, are not covered by the legislation. The legislation does not however address psychological and financial abuse.

While the collection of statistics related to crime in Barbados is generally limited, this is particularly the case as it relates to domestic violence. This may be indicative of an overall lack of appreciation of the seriousness of this form of crime. A true indication of the prevalence of violence in the home is compounded by the fact that the RBPF does not specify within their records, regardless of whether acts of assault and/or violence took place in the home. These inadequacies therefore make it difficult to get an accurate picture of the extent of domestic violence in all its manifestations, sexual offenses, assaults, and abuse of children.

Although empirical data surrounding domestic violence in Barbados is sparse, there are some studies that have aimed to fill this critical knowledge gap. Most of these have focused on the incidence of violence against women. One of the earliest attempts at addressing the issue came from Jordan (1986), who analysed hospital data on victims of intimate partner violence revealing that of the 78 cases studied, a majority was committed by boyfriends (Jordan 1986). Also prevalent among the perpetrators were fathers and brothers. Heise, Pitanguay, and Adrienne (1994) illustrated the regularity with which women were abused in intimate relationships. From a sample of 264 women, it was found that 30 per cent were beaten as adults (Heise et al. 1994). This study also found that 50 per cent of the sample (men and women) reported that their mothers were battered women. This is telling of the level of physical violence against women that exists within the Barbadian home. Similarly, more recent work has revealed that one fifth of murders committed between 2000 and 2007 in Barbados were acts of domestic violence. In all cases of murders resulting from domestic violence, the victims were women.

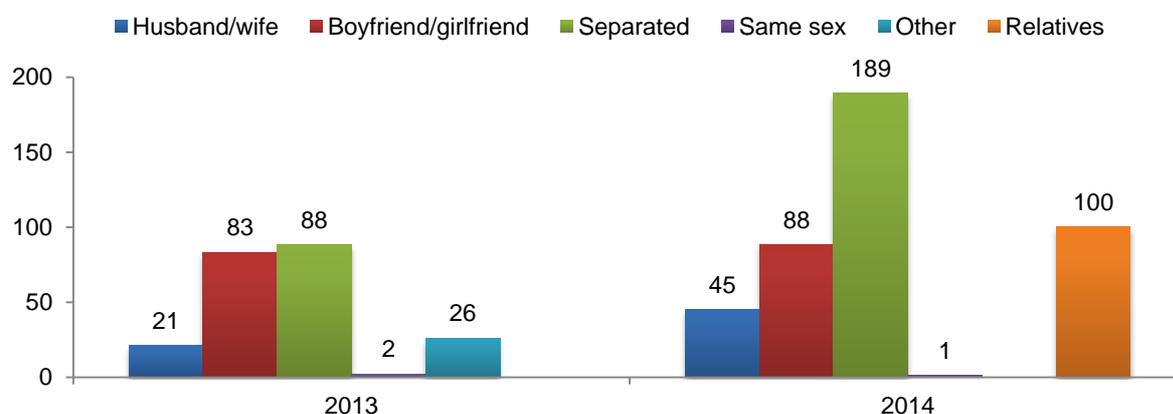
²¹ This is defined as the relationship between two intimate partners in which they share an ongoing sexual relationship but do not live together.

Intimate partner violence in the home has effects that extend beyond the immediate victims. The negative effects of the witnessing of violence by children is well established in the international literature (Durrant et al. 1994; Schwartz 2000). There is evidence to suggest that Barbadian children who witness violence in the home are at considerable risk of future delinquency. In analysing a sample of 274 case files of juveniles who had been brought before the District A Juvenile Court during February 2006 and July 2010, one study found that 79 children who came before the Juvenile Court were documented to have come from violent homes (Marshall-Harris 2011). The majority witnessed a sibling or a parent being physically, emotionally, verbally, and/or sexually abused; by another parent, a parent’s lover or by another sibling. In some cases, the juvenile delinquent was the one administering the abuse. Of the 79 children who came from violent homes, 19 were charged with violent crimes such as assault and wounding. Similarly, Barbadian victims of violence in the home reported that their children experienced frequent crying, fighting at school, hitting back when being spanked, and being withdrawn and aggressive (Caribbean Development Research Services 2009).

Perhaps in recognition of the inadequacies of data collection regarding domestic violence, The Family Conflict Intervention Unit was established in June 2013 to respond to and record more detailed data on family matters. As a result, detailed data on domestic violence is limited only to cases reported from June 2013 onwards.

There were 220 cases of domestic abuse reported to the Family Conflict Intervention Unit between June and December 2013 and 423 cases reported in 2014. In both years, those in relationships where the victim and offender were categorized as *separated* accounted for the largest proportion of reported cases (40 per cent in 2013; 45 per cent in 2014). Police data also show perpetrators of domestic violence to be overwhelmingly male (see Table 3). Between June and December 2013, 83 per cent of all reported cases involved a male aggressor. The same was true of 94 per cent of reported cases in 2014.

Figure 23. Number of Incidents, by Relationship Between Victim and Perpetrator, 2013 and 2014



Source: Royal Barbados Police Force (Family Conflict Intervention Unit).

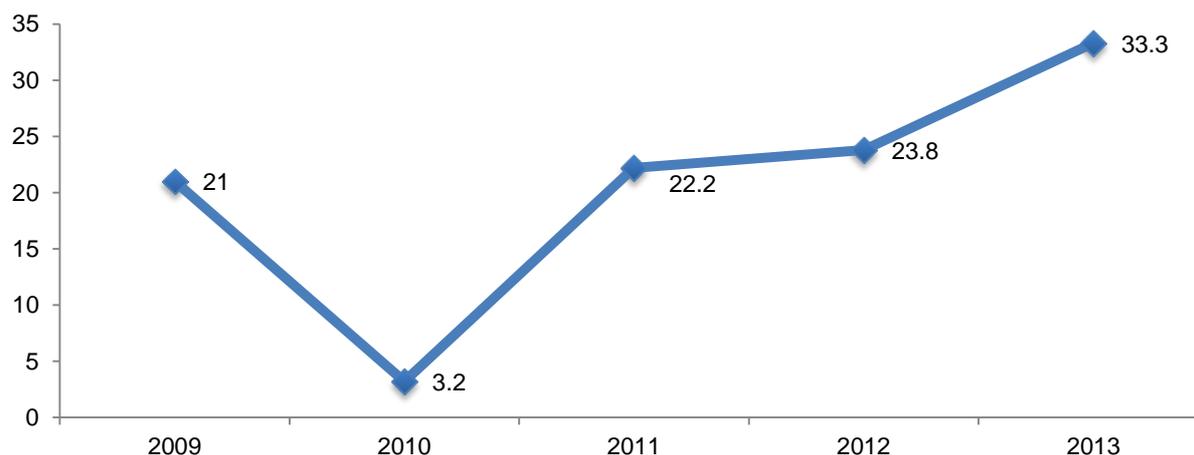
Notes: At the time of writing, the Royal Barbados Police Force could not specify which relationships comprised *other*. The category *boyfriend/girlfriend* includes visiting relationships and common law unions.

Table 3. Sex of Domestic Abuse Perpetrators, 2013 and 2014

Gender of Perpetrator	June 2013–December	
	2013	2014
Male	105	390
Female	22	24

Source: Royal Barbados Police Force.

Figure 24. Homicides as a Result of Domestic Violence (%), 2009–13



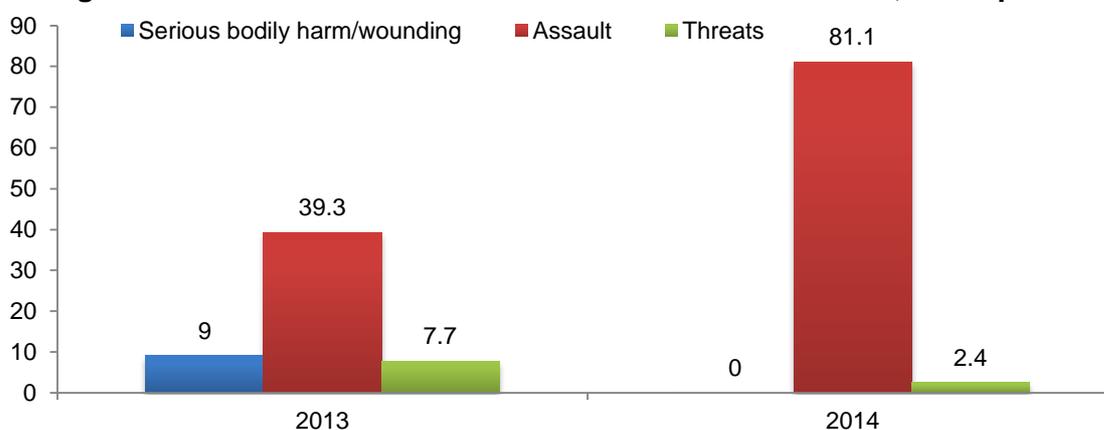
Source: Royal Barbados Police Force.

Data from the RBPf indicated that between 2009 and 2013,²² an average of 20.7 per cent of homicides each year resulted from domestic violence (see Figure 24). Since 2010, when incidence of domestic violence fell to 3.2 per cent, there has been a steady increase, reaching as high as 33.3 per cent in 2013.²³

While murder is the most egregious form of domestic violence, a number of other forms exist, however, and are recorded by the Family Conflict Intervention Unit of the RBPf. The more common forms of abuse are as follows:

- Serious bodily harm/wounding
- Assault
- Threats

Figure 25. Common Forms of Domestic Abuse: Rate Per 100,000 Population



Source: Royal Barbados Police Force; United Nations 2013.

Notes: Rates were calculated using UN Population estimates, medium fertility. The Royal Barbados Police Force did not record “serious bodily harm/wounding” for 2014.

Data from the RBPf indicated that for both 2013 (June to December) and 2014, assaults accounted for the majority of cases of domestic abuse reported. The 232 cases of domestic assaults accounted for 18 per cent of all assaults reported to the police in 2014. Domestic threats accounted for 4 per cent of all threats reported to the police that year.

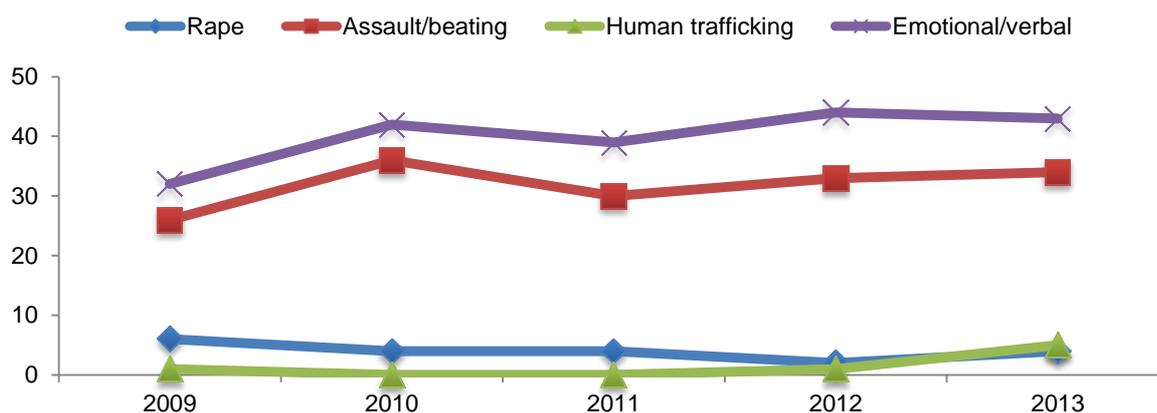
Shelters for victims of domestic abuse traditionally provide a useful supplement to police data on victimization. There is no government-run shelter in Barbados for victims of domestic violence. The

²² Data on homicides due to domestic violence was available only from 2009.

²³ Increase may be the result of better police reporting.

government of Barbados does provide a subvention to the Business and Professional Women's Club that operates a shelter for women seeking refuge from violence in the home. It is the only crisis shelter available to abused women in Barbados. Figure 26 illustrates the number of clients admitted as a result of a variety of types of abuse between 2009 and 2013. As the figure shows, the majority of clients admitted over the period were because of physical and emotional abuse, accounting for 41 per cent and 51.8 per cent of the overall admissions, respectively. After an increase in admissions for both physical and emotional abuse in 2010, the number of admissions remained relatively constant. Although the numbers of women seeking refuge as a result of rape or human trafficking were relatively small, this may be as a result of a reluctance to come forward. The large number of victims of physical abuse is in keeping with police data for 2013 and 2014.²⁴

Figure 26. Shelter Intakes, 2009–13



Source: Business and Professional Women's Club.

Child Discipline and Abuse

The maltreatment of children is deeply intertwined with historical values and perspectives (Crosson-Tower 2010). Early in history, children were seen as the property and chattel of their families with their families exercising power over them. Societies have, however, generally evolved, from viewing children as property to recognizing that children have rights. The Convention on the Rights of the Child changed the manner in which children were viewed and treated by their family, guardians, and wider society; from being seen as passive objects to human beings with rights. Barbados has committed itself through ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child to protecting the rights of children.

One of the risks faced by children is the high level of physical abuse experienced by children and the fact that it enjoys social acceptance (World Bank 2003). One troubling manifestation of this violent culture that affects children is the continued use of corporal punishment as a means of discipline, delivered by those charged with the responsibility of caring for them. Corporal punishment has the capacity to degrade, humiliate, and injure children. Still, at common law, it was presumed that a parent could use reasonable corporal punishment to correct their children's behaviours.^{25,26} It was also taken for granted that a parent delegated his or her right to administer moderate and reasonable corporal punishment to teachers when he or she sent the child to school.²⁷ Children in Barbados are physically disciplined for a variety of offenses including lying, stealing, disobedience, impoliteness and not completing chores. Although data on attitudes towards corporal punishment is sparse, that which has been done has generally illustrated the continued support for its use in the disciplining of children. Payne found that among her sample of 499 Barbadian adults, more than 70 per cent approved of its use (Payne 1989). A more recent

²⁴ The RBPF does not record cases of emotional/verbal abuse.

²⁵ Cleary v. Booth, 1 QB 465 1893.

²⁶ Mayers v. Attorney General of Barbados, BB 1993 HC 31 (CARILAW). No 1231 of 1991. Barbados. High Court July 27, 1993.

²⁷ Ibid.

study found that the majority of Barbadians were opposed to the abandonment of the use of corporal punishment in the home (Caribbean Development Research Services Inc. 2014).

The protection of children from abuse can be found in several forms of legislation in Barbados. The Prevention of Cruelty to Children Act states:

“Any person over the age of 16 years, having the custody, charge or care of any child under the age of 16 years, who wilfully assaults, ill-treats, neglects, abandons or exposes such child or causes or procures such child to be assaulted, ill-treated, neglected, abandoned or exposed in a manner likely to cause such child unnecessary suffering or injury to its health (including injury to, or loss of sight or hearing or limb or organ of the body and any mental derangement), shall be guilty of a misdemeanour and shall be liable on conviction on indictment to a fine of \$120.00....”

“Any person who has the care, custody and control of a child under 12 years of age and leaves the child unattended for an unreasonable period of time without making reasonable provision for the supervision and safety of the child is guilty of an offence and liable to summary conviction of a fine of \$1,000 or 1 year imprisonment.”

The Sexual Offences Act also gives protection to children from sexual abuse.

“Where a person has sexual intercourse with another who is with person not the other’s spouse and who is under the age of 14, that person is guilty of an offence whether the other person consented to the intercourse and whether at the time of the intercourse the person believed the other to be over 14 years of age, and is liable on conviction on indictment to imprisonment for life.”

As it relates to indecent assault²⁸, the Act states:

“A person under the age of 16 years cannot in law give any consent which would prevent an act being an assault for the purposes of this section.”

Serious indecency toward a child is also prohibited by the legislation.²⁹

In Barbados, the Child Care Board is the Government Agency responsible for the care and protection of children³⁰. It has the mandate of, among other responsibilities - providing and maintaining child-care centres for children in need of care and protection. The absence of a centralised system through which all child abuse cases are handled, however, is one of the most significant factors undermining the ability of the Child Care Board to effectively respond to child abuse in Barbados (Sealy-Burke 2007).

Sealy-Burke (2007) reported that figures for the period 2004–05 revealed 815 cases of child abuse affecting 1,124 children. For the period 2005–06, there were 761 cases affecting 1,076 children. Neglect constituted the highest number of cases, followed by physical abuse and sexual abuse. The gender distribution of abused children showed that more than 50 per cent of the cases involved the abuse of girls.

Figure 27 shows that between 2009 and 2013, the Child Care Board received reports of a disproportionate number of cases of neglect, when compared with all other forms of abuse.³¹ Over the five-year period, 51.3 per cent of all cases of abuse recorded were the result of neglect. Since 2011, however, reported cases have shown a decline. Physical abuse reported the next highest average (20.8 per cent) with numbers remaining somewhat constant over the period.

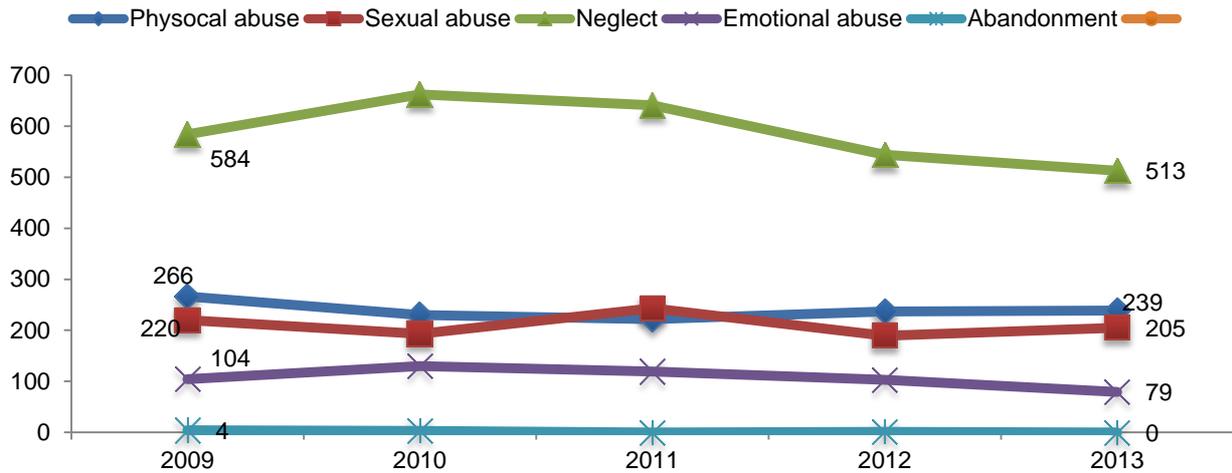
²⁸ The legislation defines indecent assault as an assault accompanied by words or circumstances indicating an indecent intention.

²⁹ *Serious indecency* is defined as an act, whether natural or unnatural, by a person who uses one’s genital organs to arouse or gratify sexual desire.

³⁰ The RBPF does not collect and/or record data on child abuse.

³¹ Data for overall child abuse could be provided only for 2009–13.

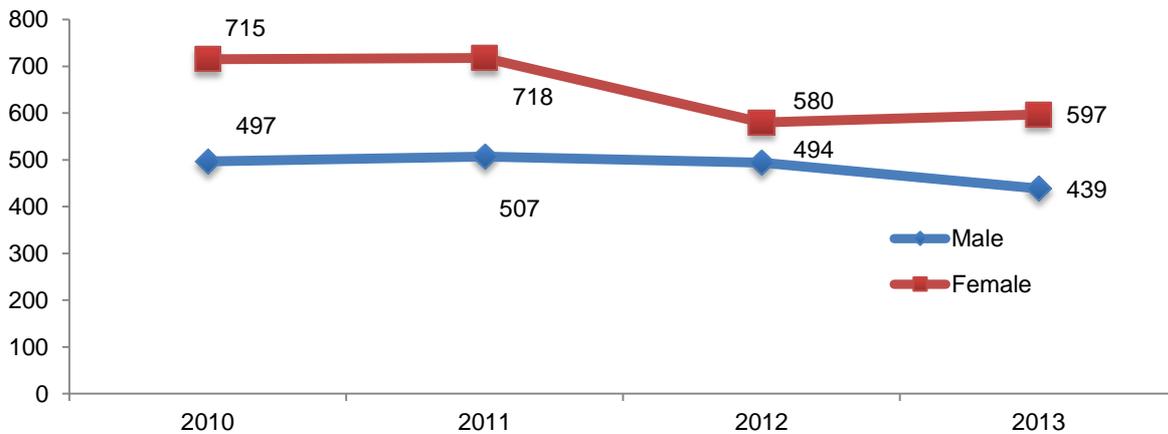
Figure 27. Cases of Child Abuse Reported to the Child Care Board, 2009–13



Source: Child Care Board.

Data from the Child Care Board indicates that between 2010 and 2013, the majority of cases reported involved female victims.³² In 2010, 59 per cent of all victims were female (Figure 28). Although the number of women decreased in 2012, by 2013 women still dominated the figures, with 57.6 per cent of the cases. Over the four-year period, the largest discrepancy was reported with regards to sexual abuse with female victims accounting for 89 per cent of all cases. Both physical abuse and neglect reported a larger number of male victims.

Figure 28. Cases of Child Abuse Reported to the Child Care Board, by Sex, 2010–13



Source: Child Care Board.

Table 4. Cases of Child Abuse Reported to the Child Care Board, by Sex, 2010–13

Year	Physical Abuse		Sexual Abuse		Neglect		Emotional Abuse		Abandonment	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
2010	119	111	25	168	293	363	58	72	2	1
2011	109	113	26	217	311	330	61	58	0	0
2012	125	112	25	164	291	253	53	50	0	1
2013	129	110	15	190	267	246	28	51	0	0

³² Data disaggregated by age could be obtained only for 2010–13.

Sexual Violence

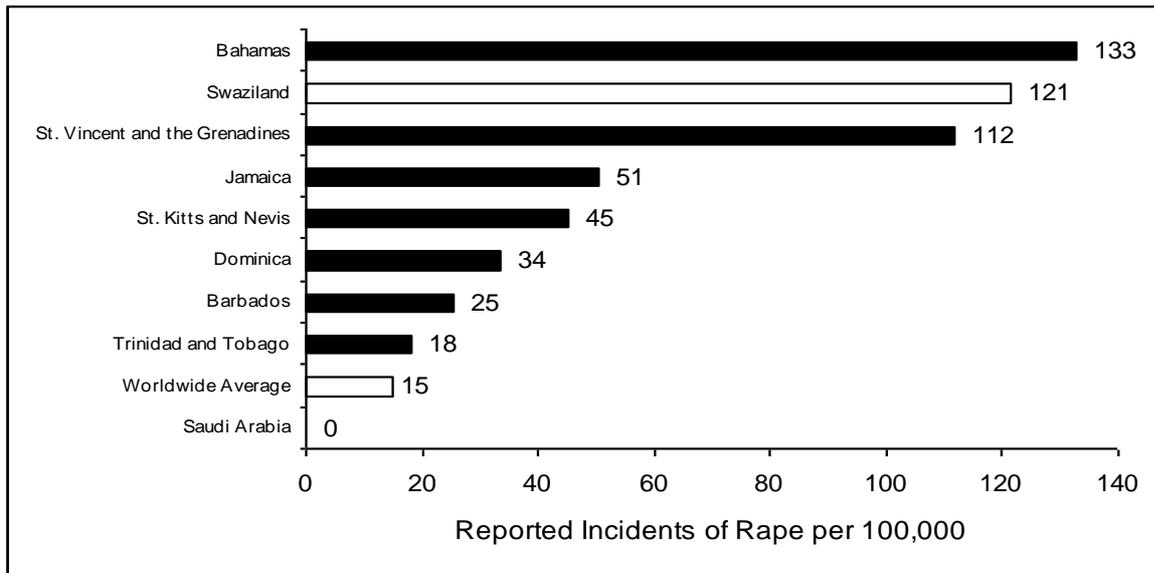
It has been suggested that at least one in every three women globally has been physically or sexually abused at some time in her life (United Nations 2006). Violence against women represents a serious problem in the Caribbean as large numbers of women and girls are affected annually.

Rape

Rape is generally heavily underreported partly because of issues such as shame and a survivor's low level of trust in the judicial system that reports will result in a positive outcome for him or her. As a result, official data for this form of crime are extremely unreliable. Police reports therefore paint a very inaccurate picture of rape and overall violence against women and it is safe to assume that actual rates are considerably higher.

A 1995 regional study revealed the depth of the problem in the Caribbean. Using a sample of students ages 10 to 18 years, the study revealed that of the one-third of youth who had had sexual intercourse, almost half reported that their first time was forced (Halcón et al. 2003). A 2007 UNODC report using Crime Trend Surveys data illustrated that three of the top 10 recorded rape rates occurred in the Caribbean, including the top rated at the time: the Bahamas (Figure 29). All countries in the Caribbean for which comparable data were available experienced a higher rate of rape than the unweighted average of 102 countries responding to the Crime Trend Surveys: 15 rapes per 100,000.

Figure 29. Rape Rates in the Caribbean and Comparison Countries



Source: Crime Trends Surveys, United Nations (various years).

High rates of rape suggest a serious problem given that, as previously mentioned, police-reported rape traditionally severely underreports this form of violence.

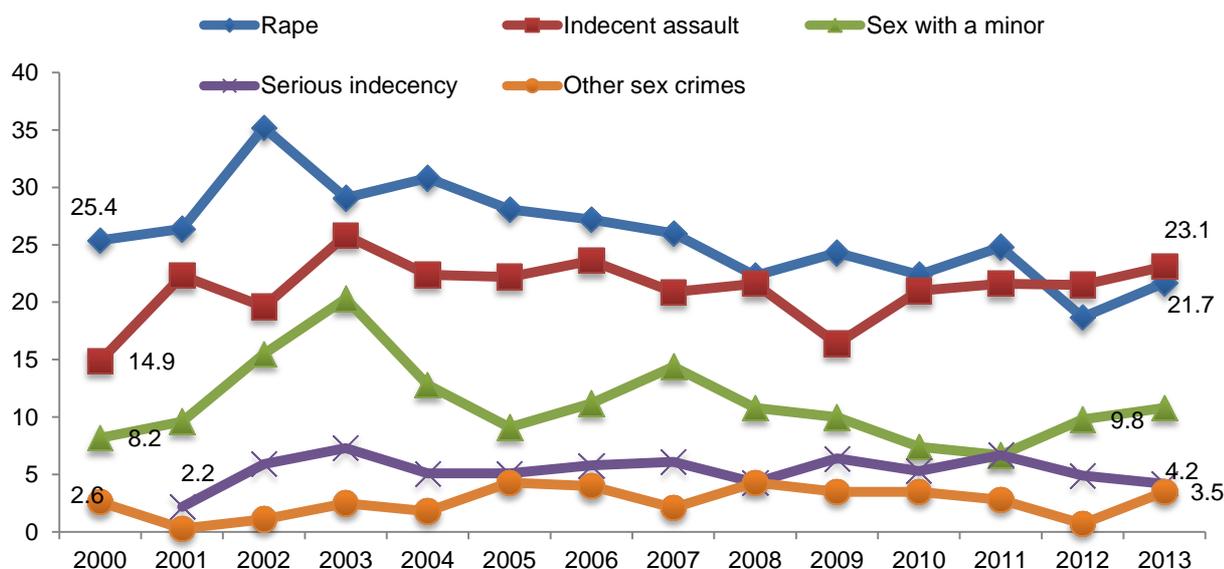
The Barbados Sexual Offences Act states the following:

“Any person who has sexual intercourse with another person without the consent of the other person and who knows that the other person does not consent to the intercourse or is reckless as to whether the other person consents to the intercourse is guilty of the offence of rape and is liable on conviction on indictment to imprisonment for life.”

The Act also covers statutory rape of minors:

“A person who has intercourse with another person who is under the age of 14 and who is not the other's spouse, whether there was consent or whether the person believed the other to be over 14, is liable on conviction on indictment to life imprisonment.”

Figure 30. Sex-Related Crimes in Barbados, 2009–13: Rate Per 100,000 Population

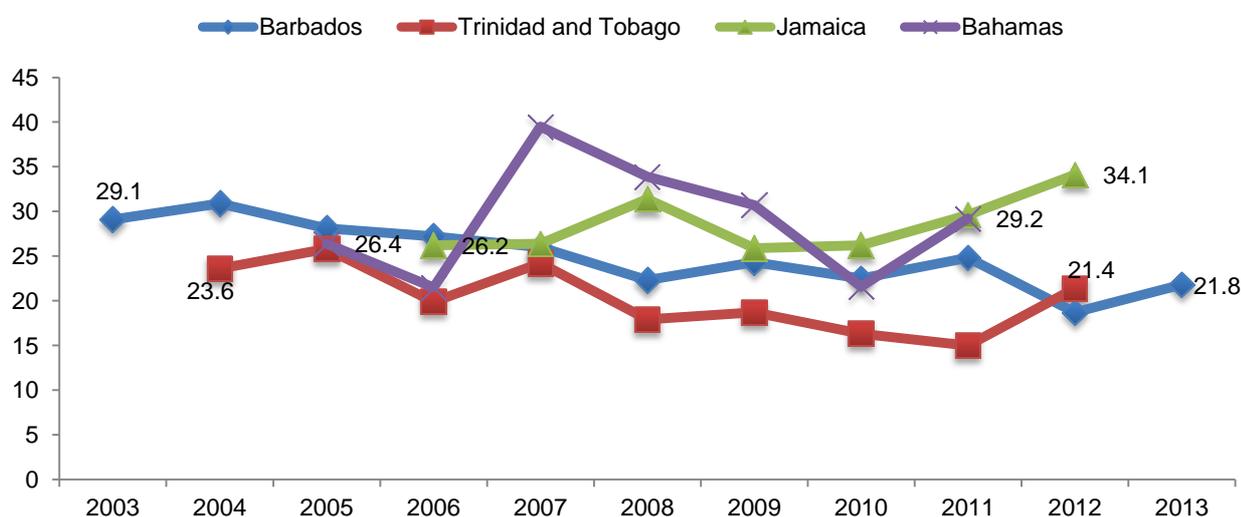


Source: Royal Barbados Police Force.

Note: Rates were calculated using UN Population estimates, medium fertility (United Nations 2013).

The RBPF classifies sexual crimes under the category *sex-related crimes*. This comprises rape, assault with intent to rape,³³ sex with a minor, indecent assault, serious indecency, and other sex crimes.³⁴ Since 2000, the rate of reported rape has exceeded the incidence of all other sex-related offenses (Figure 30). Since 2011, however, reported rapes have seen a decrease and although 2013 saw a rise in numbers again, it has been eclipsed by indecent assault.

Figure 31. Rape Rate Per 100,000 Population in Barbados, The Bahamas, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago



Source: Royal Barbados Police Force; United Nations Crime Trends Survey 2013.

Over the past five years (2009–13), the average rate of rape reported to the RBPF was 22.4 per 100,000 population.³⁵ Although higher than Trinidad and Tobago (average of 17.9 reported rapes in

³³ Omitted from the graph for improved reading.

³⁴ At the time of this writing, the RBPF could not indicate what crimes were included in *other sex crimes*.

³⁵ Rates were calculated using UN Population estimates, medium fertility (United Nations 2013).

2009–12), this compared favourably with that of Jamaica (average of 28.9 reported rapes in 2009–12), and Bahamas (average of 27.1 reported rapes in 2009–12).³⁶

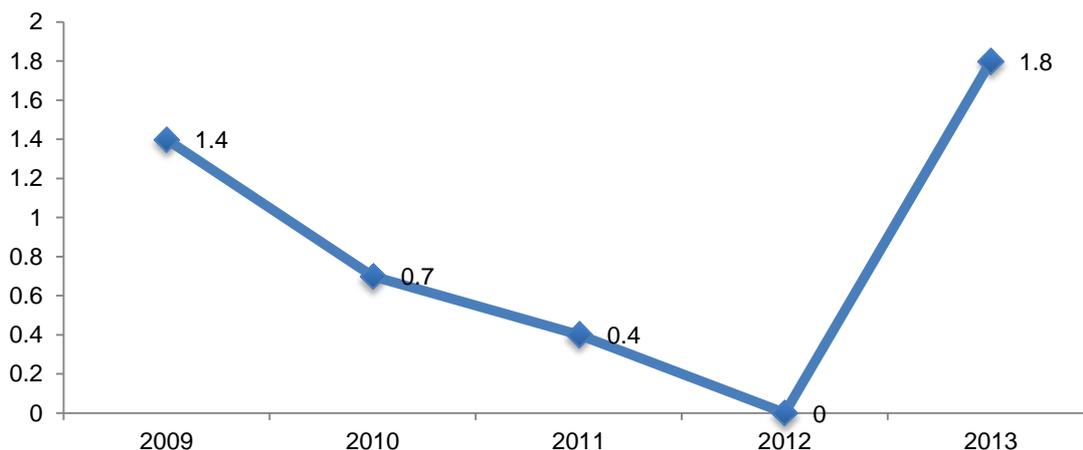
Incest

Data for incest in Barbados are extremely sparse. While anecdotal evidence suggests that incidents of incest are considerably more common than official figures report, empirical data to support this is lacking. One study found that a majority of Eastern Caribbean nationals viewed incest as wrong, whereas a minority (5.5 per cent) did not. Important also is what was deemed to be a “cloak of silence” surrounding the reporting of this crime. Focus group participants argued that incest was prevalent in Barbadian society but was hidden because of the resulting shame after being exposed (UNICEF 2010). The RBPF could provide figures for the cases reported only since 2009.

The Sexual Offences Act states that a person commits the offence of incest when knowing that another person is by blood relationship, his or her parent, child, brother, sister, grandparent, grandchild, uncle, niece, aunt, or nephew, as the case may be, has sexual intercourse with that person. It is immaterial that the intercourse occurred with the consent of the other person. The penalty varies:

- If committed by an adult with a person younger than 14 years of age the penalty may be life:
- If committed by an adult with a person 14 years of age or older, the penalty may be 10 years

Figure 32. Rate of Incest Per 100,000 Population in Barbados, 2009–13



Source: Royal Barbados Police Force.

While recognizing the unreliability of the data, it is nevertheless useful to note that the rate of incest for the five-year period is considerably lower than the other aforementioned forms of sex-related crimes.³⁷ The average rate of incest between 2009 and 2013 was 0.86 per 100,000 population, reaching its highest level in 2013.

Violence in Schools

Data on school violence is not collected by the Barbados Ministry of Education.³⁸ Limited empirical data, however, suggests that various forms of violence in the school environment occur with some regularity with interpersonal violence between students being the most common form. Marshall-Harris (2011) reported that numerous complaints were made to the authorities of bullying and fighting that often resulted in retaliation and/or self-defence with the consequence that even normally nonviolent students have been brought before the Juvenile Court on assault charges. In

³⁶ Rates for The Bahamas, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago were obtained from UNODC, Crime Trends Survey 2013.

³⁷ Rates were calculated using UN Population estimates, medium fertility (United Nations 2013).

³⁸ The Ministry of Education agreed to attempt to collect this data from schools. At the time of writing, no statistics were available.

some instances, the children reported the matter to the authorities to no avail and consequently ended up retaliating.

Another form of violence commonly experienced by children in schools in Barbados is corporal punishment. As stated earlier, the physical disciplining of children enjoys considerable support among the general public. Despite being signatory to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which repudiates the use of violence against children, the Barbados Education Act allows for corporal punishment to be used in schools. The Act allows for the Principal, or someone he or she designated, to administer corporal punishment to students as is seen fit.

In addition to the psychological effects of corporal punishment, one of the most damaging effects may be continuation of the legacy of violence as children grow to believe that this is an acceptable means of discipline, as well as solving disputes. Children who are exposed to corporal punishment as they grow up often view this as representative of effective child-rearing. Payne (1988) found that a large proportion of Barbadian students (43 per cent) approved of flogging, or caning. In a later survey among 290 elementary school students (10–11 years old), Anderson and Payne (1994), examined the students' views on corporal punishment. Again, children reported approval for corporal punishment for a variety of behaviours including cursing, being rude, fighting, stealing, cheating, not doing homework and damaging property.

Robbery

An examination of robbery rates for Barbados for the period 1990–2010 shows an increase in 1991 and a subsequent decrease in 1994. Rates again increased slightly in 1999 and 2002 but remained stable over the rest of the period (UNDP 2012).

Definitions of crimes such as robbery often vary widely from one jurisdiction to another. This variation often makes comparisons between countries somewhat problematic. In general, however, within common-law jurisdictions such as those in the English-speaking Caribbean, the definition of *robbery* (UNODC 2007) is “theft of property from a person, overcoming resistance by force or threat of force.” This is differentiated from *theft*: “the removal of property without the property owner’s consent.”

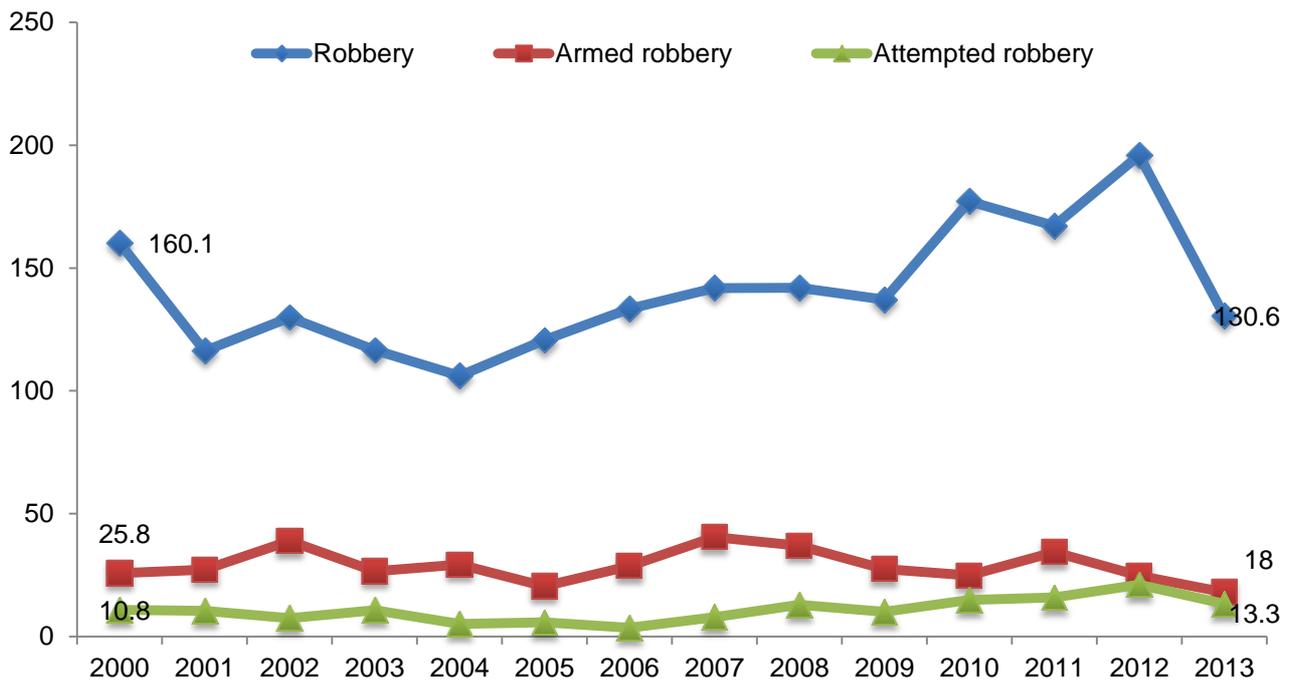
The RBPF defines robbery in three ways:

- *Robbery*: Stealing with force or intent to use force. It involves interaction with the person as opposed to theft when the person may not be present.
- *Armed robbery*: The police use the term *aggravated robbery*, which involves the use of force and a weapon such as a knife or firearm to cause the person to submit into handing over his or her property. It may also involve using a weapon to beat a person into submission and into handing over his or her property.
- *Attempted robbery*: Trying to deprive a person of his or her property while doing so but interrupted for whatever reason.

One important risk factor for high rates of robbery is low economic growth. Within the Caribbean, as with homicide, rates of robbery are higher in countries that display low economic growth, with Jamaica being a notable exception (UNDP 2012).³⁹

³⁹ Jamaica is unique in that it displays low economic growth, alongside low rates of robbery.

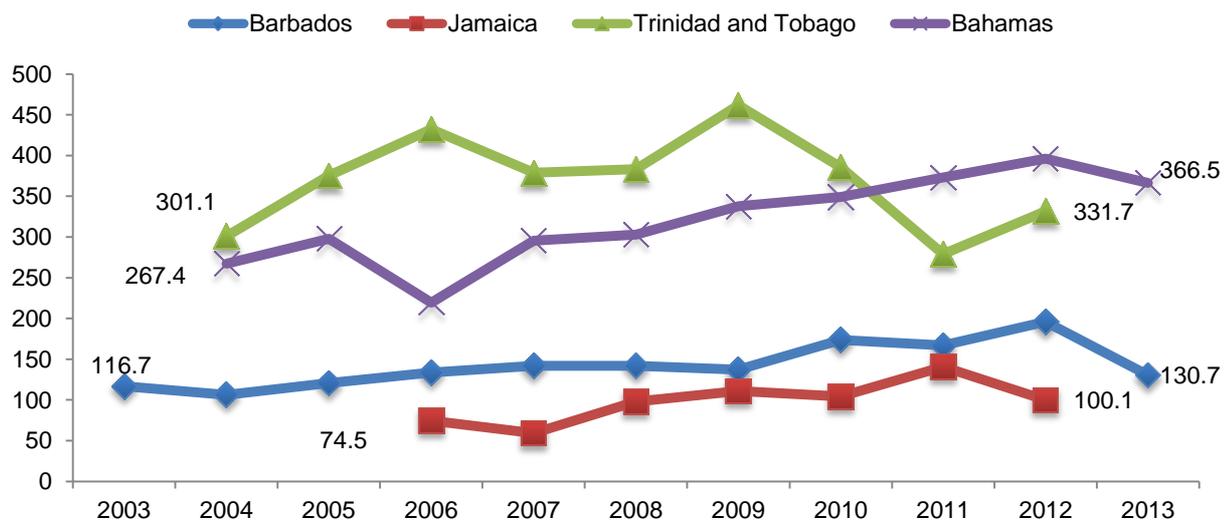
Figure 33. Robbery, Armed Robbery, and Attempted Robbery Rates Per 100,000 Population, 2000–13



Source: Royal Barbados Police Force.

Between 2000 and 2013, the incidence of robbery far outstripped that of armed and attempted robbery. Throughout the 13-year period, there was an average of 310 more incidents of robberies than the next highest—armed robbery. There has been a similar pattern of fluctuation for all three crimes as illustrated in Figure 32, with each experiencing a decrease in 2013. After declining to a low for the period of 106.1 per 100,000 in 2004, the rate of reported robberies increased steadily to a high of 196.9 in 2012 before experiencing a sharp decline the following year.

Figure 34. Robbery Rates Per 100,000 Population, 2004–13



Source: Royal Barbados Police Force; UNODC Crime Trends.

Figure 34 illustrates the rate of robbery for four Caribbean countries.⁴⁰ Barbados compares favourably with an average rate of 142.3 per 100,000 population compared with The Bahamas (320.6 per 100,000 population) and Trinidad and Tobago (369.9 per 100,000 population). The lowest average was reported by Jamaica (98.2 per 100,000 population), an anomaly, as discussed earlier, considering its low rate of economic growth.⁴¹

Property Crime

In contrast with countries such as Jamaica where crimes against the person dominate the statistics, as discussed earlier, property crimes are the more prevalent form of criminal activity in Barbados. The RBPF separates crimes against property into two categories: *major crimes against property* and *thefts and related crimes* (see Table 5).⁴²

Table 5. Classification of Crimes Against Property, Barbados

Major Crimes Against Property	Thefts and Theft-Related Crime
Residential burglary	Theft of livestock
Commercial burglary	Theft of agricultural produce
Other burglary	Theft of postal packet
Sacrilege	Theft of use
Arson	Theft of motor vehicle
Attempted arson	Theft from motor vehicle
Criminal damage	Theft of bicycle
Other crime attempts	Theft from person
	Theft from shops or stores
	Other thefts
	Handling stolen property
	Unlawful possession
	Going equipped
	Fraud-related crimes
	Attempts

Source: Royal Barbados Police Force.

Note: Other thefts include the stealing of money from a bedroom or a bag, stealing a door, mobile phone, building material, or money or items stolen from patrons on the beach. They are bundled together as *other items* because they may not be many reports for each category every year.

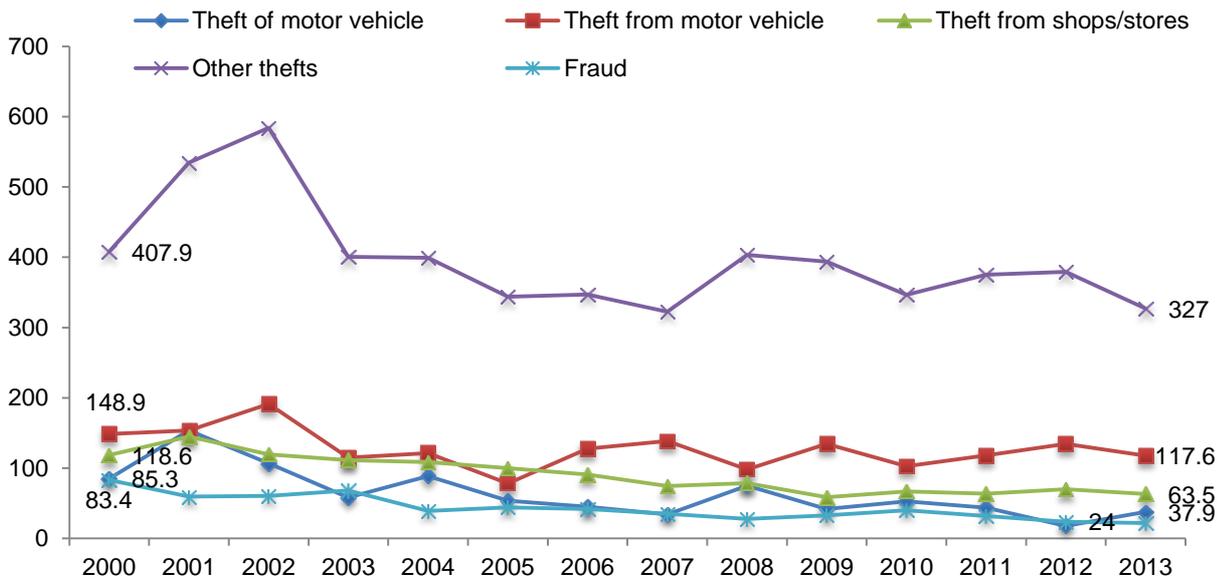
⁴⁰ Rates were calculated using UN Population estimates, medium fertility (United Nations 2013).

⁴¹ No other details of robberies such as information on victims, or locations of incidents could be obtained from the RBPF.

⁴² Larceny is no longer defined as an offence since the repeal of the Larceny Act in 1992. Acts of larceny are now captured under the Theft Act.

Breaking and entering previously was covered under the Larceny Act but is now captured under the heading *burglary* under the Theft Act. Vandalism is now known as criminal damage.

Figure 35. Theft and Fraud-Related Crime Rates Per 100,000 Population, 2000–13



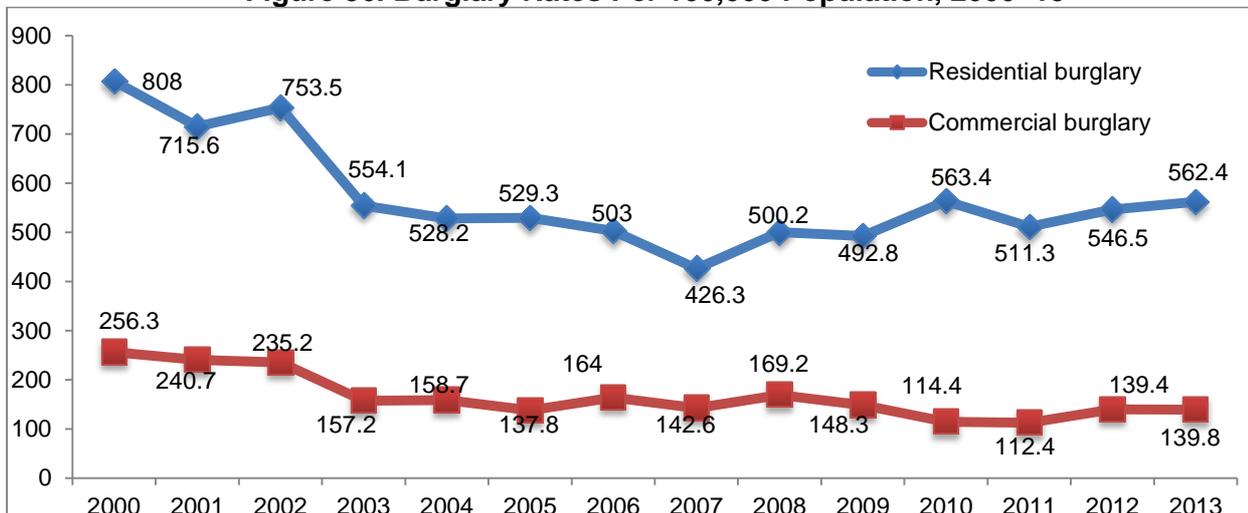
Source: Royal Barbados Police Force.

Note: Rates were calculated using UN Population estimates, medium fertility (United Nations 2013).

Figure 35 shows the rate of theft and fraud-related crimes reported to the RBPF between 2000 and 2013. *Other thefts* reported considerably more incidents than the remaining categories of theft and fraud. Both *other thefts* and *theft from motor vehicles* experienced their peak in incidents for the period in 2002 but declined in subsequent years with sporadic increases.

Residential burglaries reported the highest number of incidents of any property crime between 2000 and 2013. Figure 36 shows the rate of reported burglaries during that period. Both categories of burglary experienced their peak for the period, in 2000. Residential burglary experienced a steady decline between 2000 and 2007 after which reported incident began to rise.

Figure 36. Burglary Rates Per 100,000 Population, 2000–13



Source: Royal Barbados Police Force

Notes: Rates were calculated using UN Population estimates, medium fertility (United Nations 2013).

Gangs⁴³

As with many other forms of crime, data on gang involvement in Barbados is severely limited. It has been reported that one in five Caribbean boys have indicated being in a gang with the same true of

⁴³ Data for this section were obtained from interviews with the Assistant Commissioner of Police and The Research and Information Officer of the RBPF.

half as many girls (Halcón et al. 2003). Moser and Bronkhorst (1999) showed that poverty, unemployment, a poor education system, and high levels of community and family violence can lead to delinquency and the acceptance and use of violence within and outside the family by young men. Participatory appraisal by young men in Jamaica showed the links among unemployment, idleness, frustration, gang violence, domestic violence, and interpersonal conflict. Young men are thus highly visible as perpetrators, as well as victims, of street crime (Moser & Bronkhorst 1999). Although this type of data are not available for Barbados, there are data to suggest that some of the aforementioned issues affect Barbadian men. Overcrowding in homes in Barbados is an issue that affects low-income men. They often feel compelled to spend leisure time outside of the house and, as such, much of their time is spent on the street, becoming seduced by an increasing “block culture” (Marshall-Harris 2011). Of the 274 cases of gang violence examined, 113 of the perpetrators came from single-parent families. In 97 of the cases, they had been raised by single mothers.

While gang violence is not included among the category of motives collected by the police, the RBPF views gangs in the context of organised groups that fit a specific set of criteria. These comprise groups with these conditions:

- a) There is a leader, usually a person financing the activity of the group;
- b) There is a code of behaviour;
- c) There is initiation into the group;
- d) There is loyalty to the person financing activities;
- e) Activities are usually drug related;
- f) There is a penalty for being disloyal; and
- g) Members experience difficulty opting out of the group.

According to the RBPF, gangs use symbols to advertise their existence and turf. Colours and tattoos are used to advertise the gang and identify its members. Graffiti is a form of communication used by the gang. It aims to increase its number of members and expand its turf. The belief among the RBPF is that while in Barbados there is some behaviour that mimics the aforementioned criteria, local activities are very different in terms of organised structure.

The Block

Blocks are located in areas with high-rise apartment buildings and districts with state housing. There have always spaces in neighbourhoods where people met and congregated. Village life in Barbados encouraged congregation under street lights or stand pipes, in the district that provided the water for homes that had no indoor plumbing. Later, people congregated on the block, which was officially part of the address for residents in a government housing unit (for example, Block C). Over time, young men from the associated communities have come to identify with these spaces, and although these groups do not share the same level of organisation as gangs in many other countries both in the region and abroad, many of these areas have spawned groups, many of which the police believe are responsible for acts of violence. Young, unemployed men, cast adrift, mobilize one of their few resources, physical strength, to form groups and create a world that revolves around masculine power and respect. Excluded, they create divisions among themselves and exclude others, often by aggressive means. The RBPF reports that many of these groups have over time renamed areas in districts as a means of challenging the state. It is seen as a subculture emergence that comes with the identity of the group. The manner of dressing by people on the block does not conform to the conventional way of dressing. The police argue that block name came about as part of North American influence on Barbadian culture. People in neighbourhoods with low economic income replicated what they were seeing in other societies and renamed their block. The names of blocks have mimicked names in Jamaica and other societies. Names associated with the block include Red Sea, Gaza, Red Zone, Beirut, Lebanon, Gully Side, and Babylon.

According to the RBPF, the criminal activities associated with these groups are carried out in a distinctly informal manner and are distinguished from more structured gang activity in other

countries, primarily by the lack of a strong leader. For example, a member may be offered food and/or money for stealing. On the block, there may be an agreement to commit a robbery by a few persons, but there is no handing over of proceeds to someone at the top. There is no sharing of proceeds of criminal activities among persons who socialise on the block. Although crime may be committed by a few persons who socialise on the same block, this is not done with the consent of all persons within the group. Similarly, while an individual from a block may settle a dispute with another person by committing a crime, there is no evidence to suggest that this is done with the consent of others.

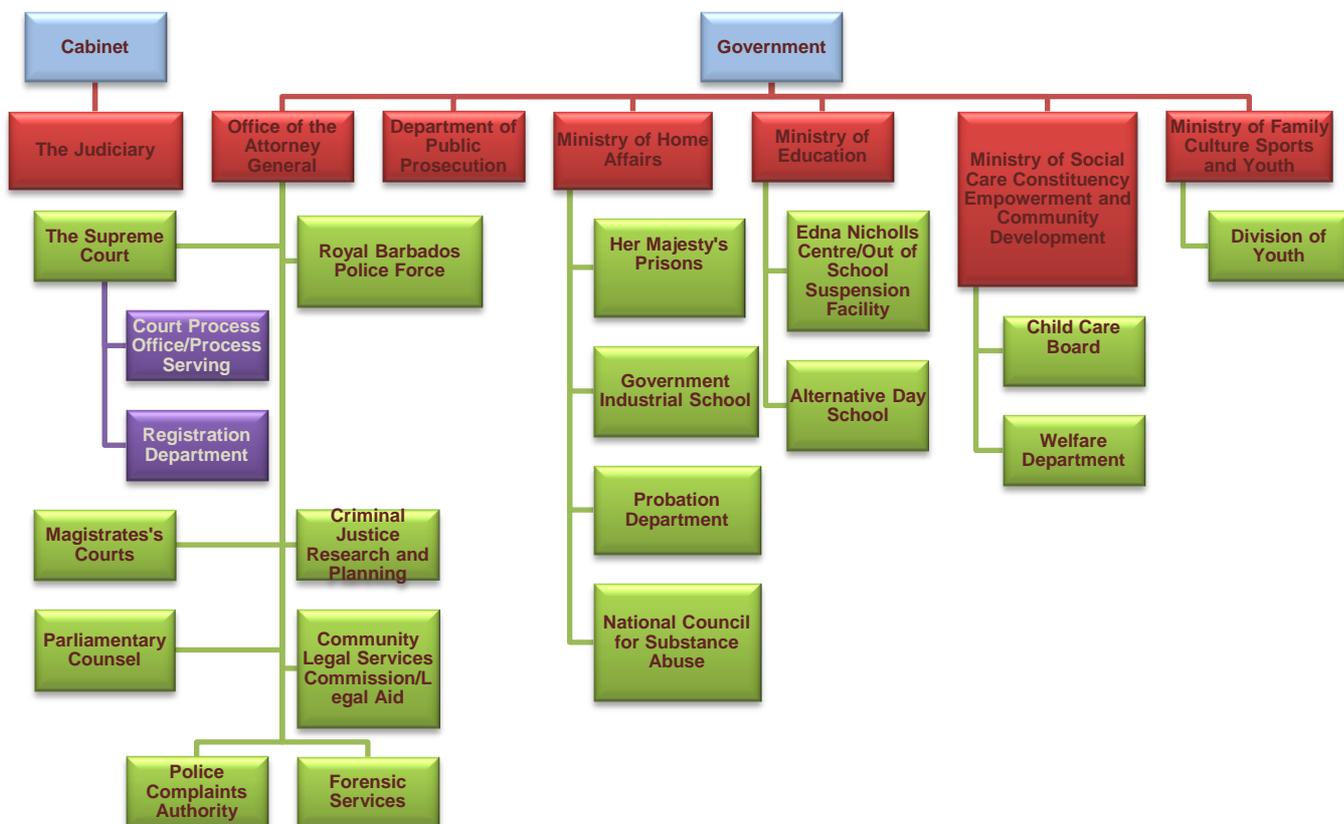
Youth Involvement

The RBPF is unable to place an estimate on the number of youth involved in gangs and, to date, no empirical study has aimed to do so. The police have argued, however, that there has recently been a spate of criminal events that show a “callous disregard for collateral damage to innocent bystanders.” These crimes have generally been committed by youth, between the ages of 15 and 30 years, and have typically originated from low-income districts.

IV. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR ADDRESSING VIOLENCE AND CRIME IN BARBADOS

Figure 37 illustrates the various ministries involved in crime-prevention activities and the relevant departments that fall under their control. Although the Ministry of Health is included in the subsequent overview of public institutions, it was omitted from the organisational chart because of its lack of involvement in crime prevention.

Figure 37. Hierarchy of Government Ministries and Departments Addressing Crime



Public Institutions

The Ministry of Home Affairs

The Ministry of Home Affairs, along with the Office of the Attorney General, is the main entity responsible for the maintenance of law and order in Barbados. It is responsible for the delivery of efficient and effective services, specifically in the areas of prevention of and reduction in the use and abuse of illegal and legal substances, protection and rescue, and corrections and rehabilitation. To this end, the Ministry has oversight over a variety of departments that help in the achieving of these aims. These include the National Council on Substance Abuse, the Prisons Department, the Probation Department, and the Government Industrial School. The Ministry of Home Affairs provides funding for a number of crime-prevention initiatives implemented by Her Majesty's Prison, and the Government Industrial School.

In 2012/13, the total budget allocated to the ministry was Bds \$55,936,247. This rose by 3 per cent in 2013/14 to \$57,663,867. The 2013/14 budget represented 1.5 per cent of total government expenditure.⁴⁴

Her Majesty's Prison

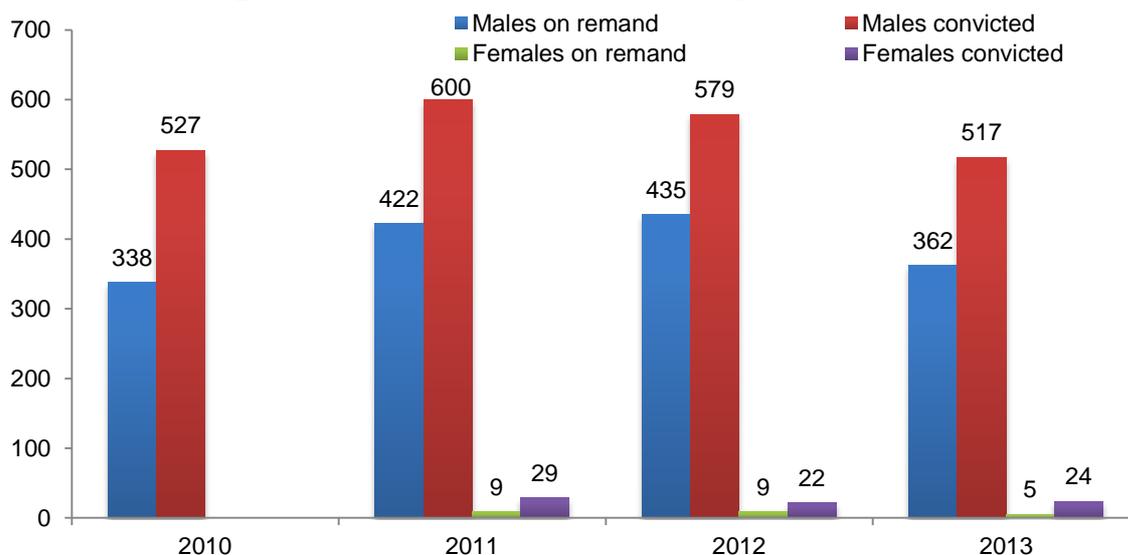
Her Majesty's Prison was built in 1855 and was located at Station Hill, St. Michael, in the south of the island, and commonly called Glendairy. Her Majesty's Prison was, however, relocated to Dodds, St. Philip, after an inmate uprising in 2005 resulted in a fire that destroyed a section of the facility. The new facility at Dodds, St. Philip, was opened in 2007. During the period that the new facility was being built, prisoners were kept at a facility in the north of the island. At present, it is the only facility that is responsible for the incarceration of adult male and female convicted offenders on the island. The prison contributes to public protection by keeping offenders in safe and secure custody.

The prison also provides a number of rehabilitative programs for male and female inmates discussed in detail in Annex E, comprising education, drug rehabilitation, anger management, case management, and psychological counselling. Every inmate has a sentence plan to meet his or her criminogenic needs. Educational programs include remedial classes, O-level, and advanced proficiency classes. There is also a reintegration unit that prepares selected inmates for return to society. In addition, there are workshops where bakery, auto mechanics, cosmetology, furniture making, tailoring, and art and craft are taught. Farm work is also done by the inmates for which they receive compensation that would assist them when they are released.

The staff complement of the prison stands at 401. This comprises 357 uniformed staff and 44 civilians. The prison has identified a shortage of 23 persons, including nurses, instructors, counsellors, a psychiatrist, and an additional social worker. The ratio of offenders to prison officers at last count stood at three offenders to every one prison officer. When sickness, leave, and administrative officers are taken into account, the average daily ratio is 6:1.

⁴⁴ Staff numbers were requested but not provided.

Figure 38. Male and Female Prison Population, 2010–13



Source: Her Majesty's Prison.

Between 2010 and 2013, the average male population of Her Majesty's Prison was 945. Males were serving sentences for a variety of offences. In 2013, for example, the largest proportion of offenders was incarcerated for burglary (20 per cent). This was followed by drug possession (18 per cent) and manslaughter (15 per cent). Only 4 per cent of incarcerated males were serving sentences for murder in 2013. Of the total male prison population, an average of 389 were on remand between 2010 and 2013. This represents an average of 41 per cent of the total male prison population. Over the four-year period, the number of total male inmates reached its peak in 2011 (1,022) after which numbers declined in the following two years.

Between 2011 and 2013, the average female population was 33 inmates.⁴⁵ In 2013, females were serving sentences for any of seven offenses (arson, assault, default of payment, drugs, drug possession, manslaughter, theft, and wounding). The largest proportion of female offenders in 2013 was incarcerated for drug possession (54 per cent). Between 2011 and 2013, an average of 8 females were on remand. This represents an average of 24 per cent of the total female prison population. Similar to the total number of male inmates, female numbers have been decreasing steadily since 2011. The incarceration rate in 2013 stood at 350 per 100,000 population, whereas in 2012 it stood at 359.⁴⁶

The prison's annual report for the year 2013, indicates a cost of approximately BDS\$26,985.60 (USD\$13,492.80) per annum to keep an offender in safe custody, or approximately BDS\$73.93 (USD\$36.97) per day.

In 2011, a reintegration unit was created to reduce recidivism. Before the unit was established, only a few rehabilitative programs operated in a relatively ad hoc manner. Within the reintegration unit, there are programs aimed at drug rehabilitation, behavioural management, and job opportunity. In 2012/13 the total budget allocated for the prison was \$28,982,600. This rose by 2 per cent to \$29,578,138 in 2013/14. The 2013/14 budget allocation represented 0.76 per cent of total government expenditure.

Government Industrial School

At present, the Government Industrial School (GIS) is the detention centre for juveniles in Barbados and is guided by the laws of the Reformatory and Industrial Schools Act Cap 169. The age of criminal responsibility in Barbados is 11 years. Children between the ages of 11 and 16

⁴⁵ Her Majesty's Prison could not provide data on the female prison population before 2011.

⁴⁶ This does not include those on remand.

years may be sentenced by the court to serve a sentence at this facility. The minimum sentencing period is three years.

The Act permits the magistrate, when he deems it expedient, to place the child in the custody of a relative or some other fit person named by the magistrate until the child reaches the age of 16 years. The principal of the school may, after approval by the minister, permit the child to live with a trustworthy and respectable person willing to receive and take charge of the child.

Children may be sentenced to the detention centre for the following:⁴⁷

- Begging or receiving alms or being found in the street or in public for the purpose of begging or receiving alms
- Wandering and not having any home or settled place of abode or proper guardianship or visible means of subsistence
- Being destitute by being an orphan or having a surviving parent who is undergoing imprisonment;
- Frequenting the company of known thieves;
- Lodging, living, or residing with common prostitutes or in a house resided in or frequented by prostitutes for the purpose of prostitution;
- Frequenting the company of common prostitutes;
- Being the daughter of a father who has been convicted of an offence under the Sexual Offences Act in respect of any of his daughters; or
- Being a girl living in circumstances calculated to cause, encourage or favour her seduction or prostitution.

Juveniles may serve sentences at the GIS until the sentence is completed, or until they reach the age of 19 years (whichever comes first). Upon turning 19 years of age, while serving a sentence, residents of the GIS are transferred to Her Majesty’s Prison at Dodds.

Juveniles are either held on remand at the GIS or committed after being charged with an offence.

Table 6. Number of Juveniles Remanded, 2003–13

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Male	87	87	102	115	87	94	88	74	76	96	104
Female	56	54	38	50	49	31	43	26	22	30	—

Source: Government Industrial School.

Note: The Government Industrial School was unable to provide data for women remanded in 2013.

Between 2003 and 2013, 1,010 male juveniles were remanded at the GIS. Between 2003 and 2012, the number of females remanded totalled 399 (see Table 6). Those committed to the GIS after being charged account for any of a variety of offences—the most common of which are committing assault or causing bodily harm; committing theft or burglary (males); causing disturbance or violent disorder; wandering; and committing assault (females). Tables 7 and 8 show the most common offences for which male and female juveniles were committed in 2013.

⁴⁷ The Act is somewhat antiquated. Many of the listed offences (for example, begging, being destitute or orphaned, being the daughter of a sex offender) are no longer considered worthy of being held at the facility. Detention is reserved only for those committing criminal offenses.

Table 7. Most Common Offences for Male Juveniles Committed to Government-Industrial School, 2013

Offence	Number of Juveniles Committed
Assault or bodily harm	20
Possession of a controlled substance	13
Theft or burglary	20
Wandering	11
Offensive weapon	7
Other	35
Total	106

Source: Government Industrial School.

Table 8. Most Common Offences for Female Juveniles Committed to the Government-Industrial School, 2013

Offence	Number of Juveniles Committed
Wandering	21
Causing disturbance or violent disorder	15
Refractory behaviour	4
Theft or shoplifting	3
Threats or abusive language	3
Other	8
Total	54

Source: Government-Industrial School.

In addition to housing juvenile offenders, the GIS is also responsible for the implementation of the Anger Management Program discussed in greater detail in Annex E. The school is managed by a principal and vice principal along with 37 members of staff. The total budget allocated to the GIS in 2012/13 was \$4,715,564. This decreased by 15 per cent to \$3,987,261 in 2013/14. The 2013/14 budget allocation represented 0.1 per cent of total government expenditure.

The Office of the Attorney General

Although the Office is not directly involved in the implementation of crime-prevention programs, it plays an integral role to this end, by drafting laws and prosecuting lawbreakers. The Office of the Attorney General has long been constrained in its ability to quickly and effectively conclude cases leading to what some have referred to as a 20-year court backlog. The importance of judicial celerity as a crime-prevention mechanism has long been established (Cavanagh 1993). It was estimated in 2012 that a backlog of more than 3,000 cases existed; to reduce this backlog, Chief Justice Sir Marston Gibson in 2013 proposed the restarting of the Backlog Reduction Project, with steps taken to have dead cases removed, and live cases put back on track (Cumberbatch 2013). In August 2015, the Attorney General announced plans to continue the Backlog Reduction Project with the possible hiring of additional judges as an option to be considered (Barbados Nation 2015).⁴⁸

The Office of the Attorney General comprises the following entities:

- Department of Public Prosecutions
- Chief Parliamentary Council
- The Solicitor General
- Community Legal Services Commission
- Registration Department

⁴⁸ Another bid to cut backlog.

- Criminal Justice and Research and Planning Unit (formerly the National Task Force on Crime Prevention)
- Royal Barbados Police Force
- Police Complaints Authority
- Magistrates courts
- Forensic Sciences Centre
- The Court Process Office
- The Project Unit
- Financial Intelligence Unit

While there is separation of powers of the judiciary from the legislature and cabinet, the office has some responsibility for the Supreme Court, the Solicitor General, and Department of Public Prosecutions. What follows represents a summary of the functions of those departments that relate specifically to the aim of crime prevention or reduction.

The total budget allocated to the Office of the Attorney General in 2012/13 was \$150,884,243. This decreased by 0.89 per cent to \$149,528,977 in 2013/14. The 2013/14 budget allocation represented 3.8 per cent of total government expenditure.⁴⁹

Department of Public Prosecutions

The main function of the Office of Public Prosecutions is the prosecution of accused criminal offenders. The office performs this function by doing the following:

- Advising the police and other nonpolice agencies on possible prosecutions;
- Reviewing prosecutions started by the police to ensure that the correct defendants are prosecuted for the most appropriate charge;
- Preparing cases for court and presenting them in the magistrates' court, high court, and court of appeal;
- Interfacing with other agencies to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the criminal justice system.

The office is headed by a director of public prosecution and assisted by a principal counsel, a senior crown counsel, crown counsel, and support staff.⁵⁰

Community Legal Services Commission (Legal Aid)

This was established in 1981 to provide legal assistance to members of the public who need a lawyer but cannot afford to pay full legal fees. Legal aid is available for the following:

- Any capital offence,
- Manslaughter,
- Infanticide,
- Concealment of birth,
- Rape,
- Indictable offences where the person charged is a minor,
- Indictable offences which the trial judge certifies to be or is likely to be difficult and requires the assistance of an attorney-at-law on behalf of the person charged,
- Any indictable offence that is likely to involve a point of law of public importance and therefore requires the assistance of an attorney at law on behalf of the person charged,
- Constitutional matters,
- Family matters except divorce, and
- Matters concerning small holdings and tenancies.

The staff consists of 1 director; 8 members of support staff; 155 attorneys-at-law registered to conduct criminal matters; and 259 attorneys-at-law registered to conduct family, civil, and criminal matters.

⁴⁹ Staff numbers were requested but not provided.

⁵⁰ No details on staff and budget could be provided.

Court Process Office

This office has the mandate to serve writs petitions and subpoenas; execute warrants of arrest, levies, writs of possession, and land notices; and perform valuations of real estate and chattels. The office also conducts sales and supervises the administration of capital punishment.⁵¹

Forensic Services Centre

This office provides scientific evidence and expert testimony in a legally acceptable and admissible format to the courts, law enforcement and official agencies.⁵²

The Criminal Justice and Research and Planning Unit

Formerly the National Task Force on Crime Prevention, the Criminal Justice and Research and Planning Unit was established in 1995. The following are the key functions of the unit:

- Analysing through research the incidence of crime in Barbados;
- Reviewing and analysing the existing methods and systems used for collecting statistical data on the incidence of crime in Barbados;
- Advising the minister on policies or strategies which ought to be adopted to address crime; and
- Developing proactive crime-prevention programs that respond to problems identified by research.

The total budget allocated to the Criminal Justice and Research and Planning Unit in 2012/13 was \$664,082. This increased by 1.9 per cent to \$676,831 in 2013/14. The 2013/14 budget allocation represented 0.01 per cent of total government expenditure.⁵³

Drug Treatment Court

A drug treatment court was set up in February 2015 with the assistance of the Organisation of American States. The aim was to reduce the number of drug-addicted persons being incarcerated and will therefore focus on treatment rather than incarceration. The focus is on judicially supervised court-ordered treatment, which would include therapeutic approaches and rigid scrutiny in terms of drug testing to ascertain that the addict abstains from further drug use.⁵⁴

The Royal Barbados Police Force (RBPF)

The police force was first established in 1835 as the Barbados Police Force. In 1961, the RBPF was re-established under the Police Act Cap 167 of the laws of Barbados. The RBPF has significant responsibility for the detection and prevention of crime, traffic management and community engagement. The RBPF is under the direct control of the Office of the Attorney General.

In 1997, the RBPF became the first law enforcement entity in the English speaking Caribbean to achieve international certification by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. It maintains full membership with the Association of Caribbean Commissioners of Police and the Regional Security System . The force also has alliances with international agencies such as the Federal Bureau of Investigations, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Scotland Yard, Interpol and the International Association of Chiefs of Police (Royal Barbados Police Force 2015).

The Force is headed by Acting Commissioner assisted by a Deputy Commissioner and four Assistant Commissioners. The rest of the Force is comprised of Superintendents, Inspectors, subordinate police officers and constables. There are sixteen police stations across the 11 parishes of Barbados. The sixteen police stations are divided into three territorial divisions—north, south, and Bridgetown.

⁵¹ No details on staff and budget could be provided.

⁵² No details on staff and budget could be provided.

⁵³ No details on staff could be provided.

⁵⁴ No details on staff and budget could be provided.

Indeed the main contribution of the RBPF to crime prevention or reduction comes in the form of its law enforcement capabilities. The RBPF has a criminal investigation department with responsibility for investigating all reported crimes. This department comprises a crime intelligence unit, criminal records office and major incidents room where investigation of major crimes is conducted. An antigun unit performs general investigations involving firearms and major criminal investigations.

The RBPF also has a fraud unit, cybercrime unit, human trafficking and sex crimes unit which monitors, investigates and prosecutes suspected cases of human trafficking; forensic scenes of crime unit and a document-examiner and ballistics examiner. The operational division has responsibility for tactical response, the canine unit, the mounted response unit, traffic division, explosive ordinances and a bomb squad.

The RBPF is also involved in a range of crime-prevention programs discussed in more detail in Annex E.

In the past five years, two departments have been created within the RBPF:

Community Policing: Chapman's Lane and New Orleans District

The RBPF has a number of community policing outposts in districts in an effort to eliminate crime. The outposts are placed in communities that are deemed to be high risk for crime. In 2012, the police established an outpost to serve the Chapman Lane and New Orleans districts (located in southern Bridgetown) in response to an increase in violence in the two areas. The outpost operates on a 24-hour basis. It is the only outpost to operate on this basis. Police presence and programs developed for the area have seen a reduction in the incidence of violence in the neighbourhoods. Two sergeants and five constables operate the outpost.

Family Conflict Intervention Unit

In June 2013, the RBPF established the Family Conflict Intervention Unit in response to trends occurring in family and domestic violence cases, a need to sensitise officers about responding to reports and to respond to public need.

In addition to recording incidents, the unit also has investigative capabilities. It has a small team, coordinated by a female sergeant and supported by a female constable. It is, however, not a first response unit for persons in an abusive situation. The police force remains the first responder to reports of domestic or family violence.

With a current staff size of 1411 officers, the RBPF represents 496 officers per 100,000 population.⁵⁵ Males account for 83 per cent of the force⁵⁶. The RBPF also employs 219 civilians and 100 island constables. The total budget allocated to the RBPF in 2012/13 was \$104,719,916. This increased by 2 per cent to \$107,154,291 in 2013/14. The 2013/14 budget allocation represented .06 per cent of total government expenditure.

The Ministry of Social Care, Constituency Empowerment, and Community Development

In 1996, the Barbados government with the assistance of the Inter-American Development Bank undertook a study of the extent and nature of poverty in Barbados. The traditional institutional framework that delivered services to the poor was also examined. The findings led to the creation of new agencies in 1996 and 1997 and the creation of the new Ministry of Social Transformation; now called the Ministry of Social Care, Constituency Empowerment and Community Development. The Ministry has responsibility for a variety of entities. As it relates to crime prevention, four departments are particularly relevant: the Welfare Department, the Child Care Board, the Bureau of Gender Affairs, and the Secretariat to the National Task Force for the prevention of Trafficking in Persons.

⁵⁵ Rates were calculated using UN Population estimates, medium fertility (United Nations 2013).

⁵⁶ Number of males: 1,175; Number of females: 236.

Although the primary objective of the Ministry is to alleviate/eradicate poverty, in achieving this aim, through the functions of these departments, the ministry also addresses key issues relating to crime prevention. The total budget allocated to the Ministry in 2012/13 was \$58,989,246. This increased by 48 per cent to \$87,668,632 in 2013/14. The 2013/14 budget allocation represented 2.2 per cent of total government expenditure.⁵⁷

Welfare Department

The Welfare Department serves as a national safety net to support the poor and vulnerable. In fulfilling this mandate, the department provides a variety of services that include monetary assistance, and assistance in kind, both of which may reduce the attractiveness of criminal activities. The Welfare Department also provides family services such as counselling in domestic violence cases to reduce the likelihood of reoffending.

In addition to providing counselling for those involved in domestic violence. Increasingly the Welfare Department has been making referrals to court regarding incidents of abuse. In 2012 and 2013, the Welfare Department made nine and six referrals, respectively.

The total budget allocated to the Welfare Department in 2012/13 was \$26,199,535. This decreased by 1.6 per cent to \$25,787,089 in 2013/14. The 2013/14 budget allocation represented .66 per cent of total government expenditure.⁵⁸

Child Care Board

The Child Care Board has responsibility for the care and welfare of children. It is a statutory organisation established by an act of parliament in 1969, amended in 1981. The Child Care Board's responsibilities are to do the following:

- Provide and maintain child care centres for children in need of care and protection, such as Day Care Centres and Children's Homes,
- Provide counselling and other services for children in need of care and protection and the parents and guardians of those children;
- Place children in foster care and supervise those children and foster parents;
- Register and regulate private day care services;
- Assess applications for adoption, place children for adoption, place children for adoption with approved adoptive parents, and monitor children who are placed for adoption.

The Child Care Board is the primary response agency to reports of child abuse and neglect. Referrals to the Child Care Board are primarily made by anonymous concerned residents, which the board investigates by way of its trained officers. To date, there is no mandatory reporting by agencies on suspected child abuse cases. The total budget allocated to the Child Care Board in 2012/14 was \$22,441,568.⁵⁹ This represented .57 per cent of total government expenditure.

Bureau of Gender Affairs

While the Bureau of Gender Affairs is not engaged in any activities that directly contribute to crime prevention or reduction, it has the responsibility for integrating gender in all national policies and programs. It is the agency for the development of a gender policy that leads to the creation of a society of gender equality and social justice. The Bureau of Gender Affairs was first established in 1976 as the Bureau of Women's Affairs. It was restructured in 2000.

A number of international conventions drive the work of the Bureau of Gender Affairs, primarily the Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, the CIM Balem Do Para, and the Convention for Elimination of Violence Against Women.

The Bureau of Gender Affairs recently completed a national policy on gender that will form the framework for the work of the bureau over the next five years. The policy will serve as the guiding

⁵⁷ Staff numbers were requested but were not provided.

⁵⁸ Staff numbers were requested but not provided.

⁵⁹ The 2012/13 budget allocation could not be provided. Staff numbers were requested but not provided.

framework through which gender perspectives would be brought to the forefront of national planning, legislation, programs and activities to advance development.

The Bureau of Gender Affairs is headed by a Director supported by seven staff members: three professional officers, three clerical officers, and a general staff member. The 2012/13 budget for the Bureau of Gender Affairs was \$ 1,100,736. This decreased by 8.7 per cent to \$1,004,788 in 2013/14. The 2013/14 budget allocation represented .02 per cent of total government expenditure.

Secretariat to the National Task Force for the prevention of Trafficking in Persons

In 2012, the Cabinet established a national task force for the prevention of trafficking in persons. The task force comprises senior personnel in various agencies. The Bureau of Gender Affairs serves as the Secretariat to the task force and supports its work. The task force has responsibility for discouraging the demand for exploitation of persons, particularly women and children; raising public awareness on trafficking in persons and coordinating Barbados' anti-trafficking activities. A bill has been drafted and seeks to implement into domestic law the United Nation's protocol to prevent, suppress, and punish trafficking in persons. One officer supports the Secretariat.⁶⁰

The Ministry of Education, Science, Technology, and Innovation

The Ministry of Education, Science, Technology, and Innovation is uniquely placed to encourage positive behaviour and provide early intervention into problem behaviour among youth. This government agency is responsible for the formulation of educational and human resource development policies and for the administration and regulation of education and human resource development programs.

The education system caters to approximately 59,500 students annually—28,000 at the primary level, 22,000 at the secondary level, and approximately 11,500 at the tertiary level. In the education system, there are 71 public primary schools, 1 infant school, 4 public nursery schools, 23 public secondary schools, 7 assisted private secondary schools, 2 assisted special schools, 1 public senior school, 20 registered private schools, and 3 tertiary-level institutions. There is one teachers' training institution.

Problem behaviour is addressed by the ministry through a student support services section that was established in 1997. It provides support to parents and guardians, teachers, and guidance counsellors. Within the student support services unit is a special education officer and an education psychologist. The unit assists with handling children at the primary and secondary level who (a) have emotional, behavioural, and learning problems; (b) are sexually abused or using drugs; or (c) act out violently.

In 2015, a new alternative day school was opened by the ministry, for children with emotional problems and behavioural disturbances. Children between the age of 11 and 16 years who violate the Ministry's code of discipline, are verbally disruptive, make threats to students and persons in authority, fight, bring weapons to school, or possess drugs are targeted for admission to the school. Children who are not gaining from school in spite of other interventions are also targeted. The school offers an alternative curriculum with self-esteem building, academic and vocational subjects, daily living skills, internships, emotional and behavioural management, and conflict resolution.

The total budget allocated to the ministry in 2012/13 was \$508,955,045. This decreased by 1.8 per cent to \$499,396,266 in 2013/14. The 2013/14 budget allocation represented 12 per cent of total government expenditure.⁶¹

⁶⁰ No details on staff and budget could be provided.

⁶¹ Staff numbers were requested but not provided.

The Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Youth

The ministry coordinates all government activities related to youth development and so like the Ministry of Education, is uniquely placed to provide critical intervention as it relates to youth offending. Despite this, however, the ministry has played a peripheral role in crime prevention on the island. The Division of Youth, once a part of the Ministry of Education Science Technology and Innovation, was established in 1995.

The Division of Youth is headed by a director and supported by youth commissioners. Crime-prevention activities are limited to the funding of a number of programs. These include the Barbados Youth Service and Endless Possibilities. These are discussed in greater detail in Annex E. These programs target youths who exhibit problem behaviour in school.

In addition to the implementation of programs, the Division of Youth is also responsible for the development of a National Youth Policy aimed at among other issues, reducing participation in gangs, violence, and the use of drugs. This is discussed further in the following section.

The Division of Youth formed a committee of its Youth Commissioners in 2014 to make an assessment of the situation in the districts of Chapman Lane and New Orleans, located in the city, where there was an increase in the incidence of violence. A discrete strategy has been formulated for the area and will be implemented in the near future.

The total budget allocated to the Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Youth in 2012/13 was \$82,865,510. This decreased by 37.6 per cent to \$51,688,181 in 2013/14. The 2013/14 budget allocation represented 1.3 per cent of total government expenditure.⁶²

The Ministry of Health

The Ministry of Health is the executing agency for the delivery of health care in the public sector and has responsibility for planning, regulation and evaluation across the public, private, and NGO sectors. The minister has overall responsibility for policy-making and political direction. Decision-making is centralised. The permanent secretary is the administrative head and is responsible to the minister for the proper functioning of all sections of the ministry. The chief medical officer is responsible for all technical and professional aspects of the health service.

The Ministry of Health manages the development of Queen Elizabeth Hospital in the main city, where the accident and emergency department is located. The hospital is a quasi-governmental institution governed by a board of directors. The Ministry of Health has the potential to be a valuable partner in crime prevention or reduction. To date, the ministry has remained isolated from ongoing efforts.

The hospital has put in place a Suspected Child Abuse Network to implement a mandatory protocol on reporting of child abuse cases. The protocol is in the drafting stage. Training in the detection of suspected child abuse is being planned.

The total budget allocated to the Ministry of Health in 2012/13 was \$401,908,342. This decreased by 15 per cent to \$342,381,895 in 2013/14. The 2013/14 budget allocation represented 8.8 per cent of total government expenditure.

The University of the West Indies

The University of the West Indies is well placed to offer expertise in addressing a variety of issues, including crime and violence both from the standpoint of policy driven research as well as that of a more curiosity driven nature that may fit the research interests of members of staff. Much of the Caribbean's contemporary knowledge of regional crime has emanated from various researchers

⁶² Staff numbers were requested but not provided.

located across the three main campuses⁶³. In addition to providing advice and expertise to local governments, Caribbean criminologists have also assisted international agencies such as the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, The Organisation of American States, and the Inter-American Development Bank in understanding the local complexities and patterns of regional crime.

Despite the collective contributions of the University of West Indies addressing the regional crime problem, Cave Hill has remained relatively silent when compared to the Mona and St. Augustine Campuses. The disparity in attention may however, quite likely be a result of the numbers. As illustrated earlier, in 2013 the homicide rate for Barbados was 8.4 per 100,000 population. This is far outstripped by Trinidad and Tobago (28.3 per 100,000) and Jamaica (39.3 per 100,000). Avenues for student pursuit of criminology are also limited. While the Mona campus offers a major and minor in criminology through the Department of Government, and the St Augustine campus offers a major, minor, and a PhD program, Cave Hill is limited only to a minor in criminology, which is offered through the Faculty of Social Sciences. There is only one permanent criminologist on staff.

While the University of the West Indies started in 1948, The Cave Hill Campus was not established until 1963. There are currently approximately 8,500 students enrolled at UWI Cave Hill. Of this figure 70 per cent are female. The 2012/13 operating budget was BDS\$155,591,548 of which \$121,844,946 came from government funding.⁶⁴

Nongovernmental Organisations

As has been noted elsewhere, there are very few nongovernmental organisations specifically addressing crime and violence in Barbados.⁶⁵ Five NGOs were identified in this study.⁶⁶ The services provided by the five organisations were spread across primary, secondary, and tertiary initiatives.⁶⁷ As with many of the government crime-prevention initiatives, the majority of the programs implemented by these NGOs focus on at-risk youth, in an attempt to either prevent criminal behaviour before it begins, or prevent the future escalation of crime. In this sense there is considerable overlap here, with what is offered by public institutions. The exception to this, however, is the Business and Professional Women's Club of Barbados. This NGO provides a unique contribution to crime prevention in the island in that it offers the only institutional shelter for battered women in Barbados. In addition, the Business and Professional Women's Club of Barbados also provides the only operational crisis hotline for victims of gender violence. Very few entities target gender-based violence in Barbados (Partnership for Peace is the only public entity that addresses this issue) so the contribution of the Business and Professional Women's Club is crucial.

UNICEF is also unique in its service provision as the only NGO addressing crime through suppression. In general, support is given to governments in the Eastern Caribbean Area to ensure that equity sensitive policies, programmes and budget allocations are made based on reliable disaggregated data on the actual situation of girls and boys and their families and done in line with the Convention of the Rights of the Child, CEDAW, and the Millennium Development Goals. UNICEF builds capacity in the region to gather, disseminate and use social data for national policy decision-making. Their Barbados-based program—Breaking the Silence on Child Abuse—is unique in that it focuses on strengthening the legal and policy frameworks to address child abuse.

A common complaint among NGOs worldwide is a lack of adequate funding. It was evident that the organisations identified in the present study suffered from similar constraints. A lack of

⁶³ Cave Hill (Barbados), St Augustine (Trinidad & Tobago) and Mona (Jamaica)

⁶⁴ UWI. 2013. The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus Financial Report and Accounts for the Year Ended July 31, 2013. UWI. Cave Hill

⁶⁵ Barbados Country Profile. The Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces. <http://issat.dcaf.ch/Home/Community-of-Practice/Resource-Library/Country-Profiles/Barbados-Country-Profile#endnote1>

⁶⁶ See Annex 1 for inclusion criteria

⁶⁷ Definitions provided in Section IV

resources appeared to be hampering the operation of institutions in a variety of ways. Resources are urgently needed for the following:

- Run programs effectively
- Provide additional programs
- Hire much-needed staff
- Provide training for staff
- Conduct tracer studies and evaluations

Although documentation regarding funding and expenditure was severely limited, information provided suggested that two of the four NGOs (Business and Professional Women’s Club of Barbados and Supreme Counseling for Self-Development) receive project funding from the government of Barbados. In the case of Supreme Counseling for Self-Development, in addition to government funding, money is also received from a variety of private organisations and charitable trusts. While Pinelands Creative Workshop receives its funding from the Inter-American Development Bank, the YMCA is severely underfunded. Their current crime-prevention program receives no funding with the project coordinator paying for minimal operating costs from his own resources. Yearly expenditure ranged from as low as BDS\$2,500 (for the Pinelands Creative Workshop) to as high as BDS\$360,000 (for the Shelter for Battered Women) implemented by the Business and Professional Women’s Club of Barbados.

Laws, Policies, and Strategies for Reducing Violence and Crime

Laws

Box 2. Major Legislative Changes in Barbados Since 2008

Laws	Year implemented	Function
Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act Cap 140A	2008	Amended to make provision for the implementation of the Caribbean Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in serious Criminal Matters.
Criminal Appeal Act Cap 113A	2009	Abolished the right of appeal to Her Majesty in Council.
Penal System Reform Act Cap 139	2010	Permitted the High Court, the Court of Appeal and the Caribbean Court of Justice to award special compensations
Transnational Organised Crime (Prevention and Control) Act 2011	2011	Gave effect to the convention against transnational organised crime
Precious Metals and Second Hand Metals Act	2013	Created measures to control the trade of precious metals and second hand metals.
Prisons Act Cap. 168	2014	Made provision for the abolition of the use of corporal punishment in prisons
Evidence Act, Cap. 121	2015	Made provision for sound recordings to be made of confessions or admissions

In general, it could be argued that the legal framework and provisions for the prevention and prosecution of crimes in Barbados has been slow to respond to the changing nature and severity of crime in the country. Although within the past 5–7 years, there have been legislative changes that allow for increased punishment for specific crimes (Transnational Organised Crime Act; Precious Metals and Second Hand Metals Act), there have been no laws passed or amended that improve the prosecution capabilities or the prevention of increasingly prevalent crimes such as

gender violence, child abuse, and sexual abuse. Despite the greater awareness of domestic violence, amendments to laws are only now before the Cabinet in an attempt to include visiting relationships under the class of persons who could apply for a protection order. Amendments would also strengthen the power of the police to issue emergency protection and the power to make a mandatory arrest of perpetrators.

The following provides a summary of the major legislative changes since 2008:

2008

Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act Cap 140A

The Act was amended to make provision for the implementation of the Caribbean Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in serious Criminal Matters, to which Barbados is a party. The Treaty applies to the Caribbean Community member states including those in the CARICOM Single Market and Economy.

The title of the Act was amended to state:

“An Act to make provision

- a) with respect to the scheme relating to Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters within the Commonwealth and to facilitate its operation in Barbados;
- b) for mutual assistance in criminal matters between Barbados and countries other than commonwealth countries;
- c) for the implementation of the Caribbean Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Serious Criminal Matters.

The amendments gave Treaty the force of law in Barbados.

2009

Criminal Appeal Act Cap 113A

The Bill abolished the right of appeal to Her Majesty in Council. Part 11 conferring the right of appeal to Her Majesty in Council was repealed.

Section 13 was amended to allow the court to order a person found guilty by reason of insanity, unfit to plead or found guilty but is suffering from diminished responsibility to be detained in a mental hospital during the court’s pleasure, with allowance for the sentence to be reviewed after every four years.

Amendment to Section 61 removed the right of appeal to the Privy Council and instead permits the right of appeal to the Caribbean Court of Justice.

Amendment was also made to the Juvenile Offenders Act Cap 138 and the Offences Against the Person Act Cap 141 by substituting Her Majesty’s pleasure and the words “Governor General with the words ‘during the court’s pleasure’ and the word ‘court’ respectively.

2010

Penal System Reform Act Cap 139

The amendment permits the High Court, the Court of Appeal and the Caribbean Court of Justice to award compensation for personal injury, loss, or damage resulting from an offence for which a conviction has been entered. Under the new Sections 16A to 16D the court can do the following:

- Order an offender to pay compensation for personal injury, loss or damage resulting from the offence;
- Make a compensation order against a person of 16 years or older in addition to the sentence fixed by law.

The court shall also consider in determining whether to make a compensation order the means of the offender.

2011

Transnational Organised Crime (Prevention and Control) Act 2011⁶⁸

The Act gives effect to the convention against transnational organised crime, particularly the protocol to prevent, suppress, and punish trafficking in persons especially women and children, which Barbados signed in 2000. Under the Act, a child is a person younger than 18 years of age. Forced labour and exploitation of the prostitution of persons or any form of sexual exploitation is an offence.

The penalty for organised criminal activity is \$2,000,000 or imprisonment for 25 years or both. The penalty for trafficking in persons where the victim is a child is imprisonment for life. Where the victim is not a child, the penalty is 1,500,000 or imprisonment for 15 years or both.

2013

Precious Metals and Second Hand Metals Act 2013

This Act was precipitated by an increase in copper and wire theft as well as the illegal cash-for-gold operations in Barbados. The issue appeared to reach its peak in early 2013 when the police declared a “crisis” as it related to the theft of gold jewellery and issued a national advisory against wearing jewellery in public (Simpson 2013). The Act created measures to control the trade of precious metals and second hand metals. The second hand trade in metals was creating a serious problem for the police.

2014

Prisons Act Cap. 168

The Act was amended to make provision for the abolition of the use of corporal punishment in prisons, establishment of a Prisoners Release Board and conditional release of prisoners.

The board would hear and consider application for orders, grant, revoke, or suspend release orders, assign conditions to release orders, maintain a register of its decisions, keep statistical and other records in relation to its work; and make annual reports to the minister concerning its work. Rules may make provision for a person serving a sentence of imprisonment to be granted remission of part of his sentence as on the ground of his industry and good conduct.

Where an offender was younger than 21 years of age when his or her sentence began, the minister may direct that instead of being granted remission, the person be released on a supervision order.

A prisoner serving a term of imprisonment of 4 years or more, who has completed two-thirds of his or her sentence and has been of good behaviour, shall be eligible for the grant of a release order. A prisoner who is serving a term of imprisonment for life shall be eligible for grant of a release order where he has completed two-thirds of that sentence and has been of good behaviour except where he has been sentenced to life imprisonment without the possibility of a grant of a release order.

At the end of each month, the superintendent shall submit to the release board a list of all prisoners who will be eligible for release. The prisoner eligible for a grant of release may apply to the board, which would take into account the nature and circumstances of the offence for which the applicant was convicted and sentenced; and the remarks made by the judge at the time of sentencing; and information on the prisoner’s conduct contained in his report.

⁶⁸ This act may soon be repealed and replaced with a new trafficking in persons bill, amendment to the Immigration Act and criminal assets recovery fund bill.

2015

Evidence Act, Cap. 121

The amendments make provision for sound recordings to be made of confessions or admissions, questionings, or anything said during the questioning where it was reasonably practicable to make sound recordings of the confession or admission.

If in the course of official questioning for an offence, evidence is given that the accused failed to mention any fact relied on in his defence in those proceedings, then the court or jury may draw inferences from that failure as appear proper.

Where an accused does not want to subject himself to a sound recording, but an oral admission is made, a document prepared by or on behalf of the officer is admissible only if the accused has by signing, initialling or otherwise marking the document, acknowledged that the document is a true record of the question, representation, or response.

Visual identification evidence adduced by the prosecutor is not admissible unless an identification parade was held or a video identification was conducted which included the accused before the identification was made. Or, it would not have been reasonable to have held an identification parade; or conducted a video identification; or the accused refused to take part in an identification parade or a video identification and the identification was made without the person who made it having been intentionally influenced to identify the accused. It is left to the court to determine whether in the circumstances and nature of the offence, the practicality of holding a visual identification. The attorney general has to make regulations to give effect to the Act and for police of statutory power to search a person without first arresting him; to search a vehicle without making an arrest; for the detention, treatment, questioning, and identification of persons by police officers; the search of premises by police officers; and the seizure of property found by police officers on persons or premises.

National Plans, Policies, and Strategies

Box 3. Summary of National Plans, Policies, and Strategies

Policies/plans/strategies	Implementing institution	Areas of priority
National Youth Policy	Ministry of Sports Culture and Youth	Employment, education, family, core values, gangs drugs and violence, housing, lifestyle diseases, political participation and the environment.
Policing plan	Royal Barbados Police Force	Crime management, road policing, community policing, Human resource development
Draft Anti-drug Plan	Office of the Attorney General	Demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures, international cooperation and monitoring and evaluation
Draft mandatory reporting protocol for child abuse cases	Queen Elizabeth Hospital	To ensure that mandatory reporting and follow up on all child sexual abuse is fully realised by 2015
School policies on use of corporal punishment	Ministry of Education	To regulate the use of corporal punishment in schools

National Youth Policy

The Ministry of Sports, Culture, and Youth has designed a National Youth Policy. Areas of priority were identified by youth and key decision makers. Key areas of priority identified in the policy for intervention are: employment, education, family, core values, gangs drugs and violence, housing, lifestyle diseases, political participation, and the environment.

The authors of the policy challenge the negative views of young people:

“The premise behind the policy document is that the majority of Barbadian youth are decent hard-working people striving to live up to the expectations of significant others in their lives. When they were consulted and fully engaged during 2010, the mood shifted from one of hopelessness and despair to optimism and a willingness to take responsibility for their own future.”

The authors acknowledge the threat of gang-like violence to the proposals in the policy:

“The operation of gangs in a society actively recruiting members while the positive peer groups that have traditionally satisfied the need to belong and so follow socially acceptable rules and norms of behaviour are declining, is cause for major concern in Barbados. This has serious implications for the proposed National Youth Policy. However, even when confronted by these accounts of youth and the issues that disempowered them, it is necessary to remember that the vast majority of Barbadian youth are decent hard-working individuals pursuing the unstated but paramount goals of reproducing society and maintaining the status quo.”

Policing Plan

The authors reinforce the image of the police:

“We are responsive, professional and dependable in our dealings with one another and our communities.”

“We recognise that officers will on a daily basis become involved in numerous and varied human encounters and when warranted, may use force in carrying out their duties. However, our appreciation for the value and sanctity of life is such that we are committed to ensuring that such force is used with restraint and in proportion to the legitimate objective to be achieved.”

The policing plan for 2015 identifies five strategic areas.

- *Crime management*: Enhancing crime management capabilities for the maintenance of a safe and secure environment for all. Goals include a reduction in drug-related activity, burglary, robbery, and theft resulting in greater use of public spaces without fear of victimisation and improved standards in public spaces. There are also plans to provide training in intervention in domestic violence and increase awareness of the negative impact of domestic violence.
- *Road policing*: Reducing injuries caused by reckless driving, excessive speed, driving under the influence of alcohol, and making the roads safer for all. Police visibility in targeted areas would be increased. There would also be collaboration with the other ministerial agencies and insurance companies to bring about a legislative framework to address standards set for cycles. The outcome hoped for is an improvement in quality of life in public spaces.
- *Community policing*: Enhancing community reassurance through the maintenance of a community policing problem-oriented model that reflects the characteristics of Barbadian communities. Capacity would be built to support the use of community policing as an intervention strategy that should lead to an increase in trust between the police and citizens.
- *Human resources development*: Building organisational capacity through the systematic development of human resources. Training would be provided for managers and officers,

improved management of existing skills and more efficient allocation of resources matching skills with task, and refinement of the system of performance management creating confidence in performance reviews and appraisals.

Antidrug Plan

There is a draft antidrug five-year plan which is in the final stages of preparation. If enacted, the plan will address key strategic areas of: demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures, international cooperation and monitoring and evaluation of the plan.

Plans for Child Welfare

A national plan for child welfare could not be identified. Hospital personnel indicated that there is a draft mandatory reporting protocol for child abuse cases. Pursuant to a 2012 CARICOM adoption of the Bridgetown Declaration and Agenda for Action to Combat Child Sexual Abuse in the Caribbean, the hospital has aligned itself with government agencies to ensure that mandatory reporting and follow up on all child sexual abuse is fully realised by 2015. To this end, a Suspected Child Abuse Network (SCAN) had been established at the hospital to implement the protocol. Training in the detection of cases is being planned.

The objectives of the mandatory reporting protocol are as follows:

- The prevention, reporting, investigation, and management of child abuse cases
- To give direction to agencies, practitioners, and all professionals who interface with children for the reporting of instances of child abuse that come to their attention
- To provide public education on a continuous basis to stimulate sensitivity to, and awareness of, child abuse and to mandate prompt reporting of all such cases

School Policies on Use of Corporal Punishment

Current policy of the Ministry of Education under regulation 18(j) of the Education Act Cap 41 is that the head teacher in public schools shall administer corporal punishment when necessary and delegate to the deputy head teacher and senior teacher where applicable the authority to administer corporal punishment.

The Ministry of Education's student code of discipline (2011)⁶⁹ outlines a number of disciplinary options for violations. The code of discipline lists several levels of violations. Level-two violations include petty theft, persistently skipping classes, disruptive classroom behaviour, using profane language, nonthreatening harassment of persons, vandalism, fighting, smoking, and/or possession of tobacco. The disciplinary options for this behaviour include corporal punishment. For level three violations of assault on a teacher, pupil or staff member, vandalism of school property, harassment, violence, force, coercion, intimidation, assault, battery, threats, bullying, extortion, arson, possession of stolen property, alteration or use of school documents with intent to defraud, gross disrespect and or defiance of a staff member, possession/use/transfer of dangerous weapons, possession/use of firecrackers, smoke bombs, arson, inappropriate sexual behaviour on the school compound or while wearing school uniform, disciplinary options include corporal punishment.

While these policies remain in force, the Ministry of Education has implemented in some schools UNICEF's school's positive behaviour management program.

V. PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS FOR REDUCING CRIME AND VIOLENCE IN BARBADOS

The following section provides details on 26 programs and/or projects that have been identified as having within their mandate, the objective of crime prevention or reduction. More detailed

⁶⁹ The code of discipline is labelled 'draft'. However, the planning officer indicated that it is in use by the Ministry.

information on each of these initiatives can be found in Annex E. The identification of relevant programs took into consideration both public and not-for-profit programs that may target crime pre, post, or during a criminal event. Data were collected primarily by way of a questionnaire that was completed by heads of relevant organisations, or someone designated by them. Follow-up interviews either in person or by telephone were used to fill in any gaps that were not addressed in the questionnaire (Annex D). The questionnaire solicited information on funding, beneficiaries, type, evaluation strategies and results, outcomes. A lack of documentation for the majority of programs identified, meant that data collection was a difficult process with respondents unable to answer many of the questions posed.

Finding solutions to the problem of crime across the Caribbean is problematic as each island faces its own unique challenges. The reasons for crime vary from country to country and despite their close proximity, each has vastly different political, cultural, and economic landscapes, each of which has important impacts on levels of security. As a CARICOM report observed:

“The differences in the nature of the crime problem across the region make it difficult, indeed imprudent, to try to elaborate recommendations that are applicable at the national levels” (CARICOM 2002)

Solutions to the problem have generally been sought on two fronts—crime control and crime prevention—and the interaction between these is paramount to any effective crime fighting strategy. Rapidly escalating levels of violent crime have led to the use of extreme forms of crime-control measures in some countries. The extreme tactics of Jamaica, for example, have been contrasted with the experiences of islands such as Barbados where positive working relationships have been established between the police and communities.

The UNODC/World Bank argued that there has been an overreliance on crime-control measures in the region, insisting that more attention should be paid to other approaches to reducing crime (UNODC 2007). They suggested a number of alternative strategies:

- Crime prevention through environmental design
- Integrated citizen security approaches
- Public health approach
- Conflict transformation

Indeed, the present study utilizes the public health approach suggested by the UNODC/World Bank, with the addition of a fourth category—*suppression*. The crime-prevention or reduction strategies identified, therefore, are grouped into the following categories:

- **Primary prevention:** Primary prevention programs are those that aim to prevent a crime or violent act from happening in the first place. As such, they include a wide range of initiatives that target the population as a whole, or specific at-risk communities, seeking to reduce the risk factors, increase protective factors and reduce the opportunity for crime and violence to occur. While many social programs that focus on poverty reduction, employment, improved education, and so forth, may contribute to reducing violence in the long-term, if the primary objectives of the program did not explicitly include preventing violent or criminal behaviour, or reducing the opportunity for violence and crime to occur, the program was not included in this study. This category is further divided into initiatives that focus on *situational/community* variables that can help prevent crime and violence, versus those that focus on development of *individual* behaviours, beliefs or skills (e.g., conflict-resolution skills, aggression management).
- **Secondary prevention:** These programs intervene in the early stages of violence to prevent the situation from accelerating. They target children, youth, women, or families specifically identified as at risk of being/becoming victims or perpetrators of violence and crime. These programs intervene before early behaviours turn into serious delinquency or violence, or to prevent a victim of violence from being further victimized/traumatized. The

initiative is further divided into programs that target victims and those that target early delinquent and violent behaviour.

- **Suppression:** These programs focus improving the functions of the criminal justice system or implementing new innovative ways to deter crime by better identifying, targeting, arresting, prosecuting perpetrators of violence and crime. Such programs might include improving policing, targeting retaliatory violence and repeat offenders, and improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the judicial system.
- **Tertiary prevention:** These programs target individuals or families who have already been involved in harmful, violent, or criminal activities to help them to develop strategies and support to avoid perpetuating violence and crime in the future. These programs often include services for offenders who are reentering the community after confinement, providing counselling and social services and monitoring reintegration into the community with focus on reducing recidivism, or providing counselling and support to victims of domestic violence so that they themselves do not become aggressors.

Primary Prevention Programs

Situational/Community Variables

Three initiatives were identified as Primary Prevention Initiatives addressing crime or violent behaviour through situational or community prevention. These were identified as such given their focus on improving community safety (neighbourhood watch, safety awareness raising/target hardening). Table 9 provides a summary.

Table 9. Barbados Primary Prevention: Situational/Community

Implementing agency	Program	Year established	Description	Beneficiaries	Cost	Evaluation
RBPF	Neighbourhood Watch	1983	Through close ties between communities and the RBPF, this initiative is designed to reduce threats to communities by increasing collective vigilance	Residents from any neighbourhood	Information requested but not provided	None conducted
RBPF	Operation Safe Homes	2002	A community self-help initiative aimed at making residents aware of steps they can take to prevent future burglaries	Approximately 10 districts in 2013; 15 districts in 2014	Information requested but not provided	None conducted
RBPF	Community Policing	1983	Greater police presence in communities prone to criminal activity	Four high-risk communities served in 2012 and 2013	Information requested but not provided	None conducted

Note. RBPF = Royal Barbados Police Force.

Individual Behaviours

Eight initiatives were identified Primary Prevention Initiatives addressing crime or violent behaviour through individual behaviour. These were identified as such given their focus on providing at-risk youth with the skills and coping mechanisms, as well as work experience, so as to prevent future offending. One program also provided the elderly with the skills to prevent victimisation. Table 10 provides a summary.

Table 10. Barbados Primary Prevention: Individual Behaviours

Implementing agency	Program	Year established	Purpose	Beneficiaries	Cost	Evaluation
Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Youth	Barbados Youth Service	1991	Targets at-risk youth; uses sports, arts, and job experience to cater to developmental needs of youth to prevent problem behaviour	At-risk youth and youth in conflict with the law who are unemployed and between the ages of 16–22 years	2012–13: \$2,451,126 2013–14: \$2,586,562 2014–15: \$2,555,556	Evaluated annually; next evaluation scheduled for September 2015
Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Youth	Endless Possibilities	2011	Job attachment and mentorship program designed to assist at-risk youth in finding employment	At-risk youth: 30 persons in 2011/12; 33 persons in 2012/13	2012/2013: \$120,000.00	Most recent evaluation took place in 2013
Pinelands Creative Workshop	Justice Improvement Program	2010	Designed to address gang activity in Barbados; at-risk youth are exposed to a variety of skills in order to provide them with viable alternatives to crime	A-risk youth	2012/2013: \$134,278	Most recent evaluation took place in 2011
Barbados Young Men's Christian Association	Early Childhood Learning Intervention Program	2013	Designed to address criminal activity among youth in Bridgetown; reading/literacy challenges are targeted to promote childhood learning and success through education	At-risk youth: 9 persons in 2013	2013: \$2,500	None conducted
UNICEF	Schools Positive Behavioural Management Program	2007	Seeks to build skills and foster attitudes of tolerance, respect, inclusiveness, and democratic participation at both teacher and student level	All teachers and students in schools	2012–13: \$190,000 2014: \$130,000	External evaluation conducted in 2012; monitoring and assessment conducted in 2014
Royal Barbados Police Force	Visitation of the Elderly	1992	Self-help initiative designed to educate elderly adults on measures to ensure safety; police officers visit and communicate various strategies to these adults	All elderly adults who live alone: 174 benefitted in 2012; 100 benefitted in 2013	Information requested but not provided	None conducted
Royal	Drug Abuse	1996	Designed to provide intervention	All schools: 17	2013–14: \$20,000	Internal evaluation

Barbados Police Force	Resistance Education Program		within schools as a means of discouraging future drug use among students	schools benefitted in 2014/15	2014–15: \$12,000	conducted in 2011
Royal Barbados Police Force	School Liaison Program	2000	Designed to provide intervention within schools in order to prevent future acts of violence and indiscipline	All schools in Barbados are eligible	Information requested but not provided	None conducted

Table 11 provides an illustration of the manner in which primary prevention programs in Barbados go about achieving their mandate to reduce/prevent crime and violence.

Table 11. Methods Used by Primary Prevention Programs

Target groups	Methods Used									
	Vocational Training	Other Skills Training	Advocacy and Policy formulation	Community Infrastructure	Job Provision and Experience	Community Mobilisation	Finance and Resource Provision (Individuals)	Increased Security Presence	Research	Care and Counseling
Children and youth	3	5	1							1
Families										
Male-specific										
Female-specific										
Communities						2		1		
Elderly adults		1		1						
Victims										
Incarcerated offenders										

Secondary Prevention Programs

Targeting Early Delinquent And Violent Behaviour

Four initiatives were identified as Secondary Prevention Programs addressing crime and/or violent behaviour by targeting early delinquent and violent behaviour. Each program focuses on youth in an attempt to prevent the escalation of early delinquent behaviour. Table 12 provides a summary.

Table 12. Barbados Secondary Prevention: Early Delinquent and Violent Behaviour

Implementing Agency	Program	Year Established	Description	Beneficiaries	Cost	Evaluation
Royal Barbados Police Force	Juvenile Liaison Scheme	1983	Designed to target at-risk youth engaging in delinquent behaviour; referred individuals benefit from a range of activities for 6 months	At-risk youth: 239 youth benefitted in 2012–13; 207 benefitted in 2013–14	2012–13: \$13,000 2014–15: \$17,000	External evaluation conducted in 2010
Royal Barbados Police Force	Visitation of Schools Program	2000	Designed to intervene during the early stages of problem behaviour among children in schools; Royal Barbados Police Force visits schools in need of intervention to work with problem children	Children at all schools are eligible	Information requested but not provided	None conducted
The Edna Nichols Centre	Out-of-School Suspension Program	1995	Developed out of a concern expressed by teachers and principals about their lack of resources in dealing with severely disruptive students; program aims to provide students in secondary schools that have been suspended for violent behaviour, with the skills necessary to prevent a reoccurrence	At-risk youth from secondary schools: 212 students benefitted in 2012/13; 172 students benefitted in 2013/14	2012/2013: \$971,677.96	No evidence of evaluation could be produced
Supreme Counseling for Self-Development	Supreme Self-Development and Awareness Program	2009/12	Designed to provide youth at risk of future violent behaviour, with behavioural alternatives that include a range of skills and coping mechanisms	At-risk youth in schools: 4 schools benefitted in 2012/13; 5 schools benefitted in 2013/14; 6 schools benefitted in 2014/15	Information requested but not provided	Evaluation conducted in 2013

SUPPRESSION

One program was identified as a Secondary Prevention Initiative targeting crime and/or violent behaviour through suppression. This was selected because of its focus on improving mechanisms governing the abuse of children in Barbados. Table 13 provides a summary.

Table 13. Methods Used by Secondary Prevention Programs

Implementing Agency	Program	Year Established	Description	Beneficiaries	Cost	Evaluation
UNICEF	Breaking the Silence on Child Abuse	2013	Designed as a result of a concern for an increase in reported cases of child abuse in Barbados; program focuses on strengthening policy and support services to provide greater protection for children	Policymakers, judiciary, frontline professionals who work directly with children, caregivers, faith-based leaders, and children themselves	2012: \$106,200 2013: \$30,000 2014: \$43,400	None conducted

Table 14 provides an illustration of the manner in which Secondary Prevention programs in Barbados go about achieving their mandate to reduce/prevent crime and violence.

Table 14. Method Used by Secondary Prevention Programs

Target Group	Method Used									
	Vocational Training	Other Skills Training	Advocacy and Policy Formulation	Community Infrastructure	Job Provision/Experience	Community Mobilisation	Finance/Resource Provision (Individuals)	Increased Security Presence	Research	Care and Counseling
Children and youth		3	1							4
Families										
Male-specific										
Female-specific										
Communities										
Elderly adults										
Victims										1

Incarcerated offenders										
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Tertiary Prevention Programs

Ten programs address crime and/or violence through Tertiary Prevention Initiatives. These were selected as a result of their focus on offenders of violence, particularly those preparing to be reintegrated into wider society. One program also focused on the victims of crime and violence. Table 15 provides a summary.

Table 15. Barbados Tertiary Prevention

Implementing agency	Program	Year established	Description	Beneficiaries	Cost	Evaluation
The Ministry of Social Care, Constituency Empowerment, and Community Development	Partnership for Peace	2012	This program was designed to address violence against women, primarily through a response to domestic violence.	Men who have been abusive to women. 50 have benefitted since 2012.	2012-2013: \$165,000	None conducted
Her Majesty's Prison	Offender Psychological Counseling	2008	This program was designed to give offenders the necessary skills to reintegrate into society and reduce the likelihood of reoffending.	Male and female offenders. 100 inmates benefitted in 2012. 115 benefitted in 2013.	Information was requested but not provided.	No formal evaluation conducted.
Her Majesty's Prison	Inmate Drug Rehabilitation Counseling	2001	This program was designed to provide drug counselling to male and female prison inmates to ensure that they can effectively reintegrate into society.	Inmates due for release. 48 inmates benefitted in 2012. 59 inmates benefitted in 2013.	Information was requested but not provided.	None conducted.
RBPF	Victim Support Program	1998	This is the only program identified that works directly with victims. The program provides a link between law enforcement	Victims of violence and their families.	Information was requested but not provided.	None conducted.

			and the wider society.			
Government Industrial School	Anger Management Program	2013	This program was designed to address anger issues among juvenile offenders. Youth are provided with the skills necessary to manage their anger.	Youth in conflict with the law. 30 residents benefitted in 2013/14.	Information was requested but not provided.	None conducted
The Business and Professional Women's Club of Barbados	Shelter for Battered Women	1999	This is the only institutional shelter for battered women in Barbados. It provides safe housing for battered women and their children for up to 3 months.	Women and children victims of domestic violence, female victims of human trafficking and other forms of gender-based violence. 2012: 44 women and 78 children benefitted 2013: 43 women and 59 children benefitted 2014: 24 women and 27 children benefitted	2012/2013: \$360,000 2013/2014: \$230,000 2014/2015: \$316.800	None conducted
The Business and Professional Women's Club of Barbados	Crisis Centre and Crisis Hotline	1986	This program was designed to provide counselling, education and intervention space for both male and female victims of gender-based violence.	Women who are victims of domestic violence, victims of rape, female victims	The cost of running the crisis hotline for 2012/2013 was \$24,000. Full	None conducted.

				of human trafficking and other forms of gender-based violence. 41 women have benefitted between 2012 and 2014.	accounting information was requested but not provided.	
The Reintegration Unit of the Barbados Prison Service	Victim Impact Awareness Program	2013	This program was designed to increase offenders' awareness of the impact of offender actions upon their victims so as to reduce the likelihood of reoffending.	Inmates due for release. 48 inmates benefitted in 2013.	Information was requested but not provided.	None conducted.
The Reintegration Unit of the Barbados Prison Service	Thinking and Living Skills Program	2011	This program was designed to teach inmates the cognitive skills that would reduce their likelihood of recidivism.	Inmates due for release. 48 inmates benefitted in 2013. 48 inmates benefitted in 2012. 48 inmates benefitted in 2013.	Information was requested but not provided.	None conducted.
The Reintegration Unit of the Barbados Prison Service	Inmate Drug Rehabilitation Counseling	2001	This program was designed to reduce the likelihood of reoffending by addressing the drug addiction issues of male and female offenders through counselling.	Inmates due for release. 48 inmates benefitted in 2012. 59 inmates benefitted in 2013.	Information was requested but not provided.	None conducted.

Table 16 provides an illustration of the manner in which Tertiary Prevention programs in Barbados go about achieving their mandate to reduce/prevent crime and violence:

Table 16. Methods Used by Tertiary Prevention Programs

Target Group	Method Used									
	Vocational Training	Other Skills Training	Advocacy and Policy formulation	Community infrastructure	Job provision/experience	Community mobilisation	Finance/Resource Provision (individuals)	Increased Security presence)	Research	Care and Counseling
Children and youth		1								1
Families										
Male- specific		1								
Female-specific										2
Communities										
Elderly adults										
Victims										3
Incarcerated offenders		1								4

VI. DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

The following section provides data on the manner in which information is collected and used by the various stakeholders in the Barbados crime-prevention landscape. As mentioned earlier, problems with data collection on crime in Barbados presents major difficulties for analysis, and represents a considerable stumbling block in seeking effective solutions.

Her Majesty's Prison maintains data on each prisoner and the offence committed. On entering each information is taken on the offender's attributes: schooling, age, drug use habits, whether he was abused as a child (sexually or otherwise), association with gangs to determine a rehabilitation and sentence plan to suit his needs. The prison uses the Level of Service Inventory Revised tool to capture information on prisoners on their admission to prison.

The difficulty for the prison is that it has to rely on information from the prisoner. There is a challenge of gaining information from the police on the prisoner such as previous arrests. It is also a challenge for the prison to determine whether a new admission to prison is due to a first offence or whether the offender had committed previous crimes and received probation. The Probation Department usually shares information with the Prison when it is requested.

All of the information taken on prisoners is not kept in the database management system. The prison has recently upgraded its system and is now faced with the need of putting the data that was not previously entered into the new system. Despite these challenges, the prison was generally able to provide the data requested for the study. Data, however, could be provided only from 2010 in the case of male prisoners, and 2011 in the case of females.

The RBPF collects all data on all crime but its office is very paper-based. All details of crime including the time of day, type of offence, location, victims' sex and age are recorded on paper by a police officer. This is submitted to the headquarters each day. As a result, there are severe limitations on the level of disaggregation of data that is possible. In general, the type of offence, some particulars of the perpetrator and district are quantified and kept electronically and so is facilitative of disaggregation and was available in this format as far back as 2000. Any deeper analysis however is problematic due to the mode of collection. It would take a visit to each police station to obtain details located on paper to get details on victims of crime.

Limited information on perpetrators is kept electronically at the crime intelligence unit. Information is taken on perpetrators using a form with the majority of the information failing to be transferred to a computer database. Schooling and employment status for example, are two pieces of demographic information that remain in paper form. To retrieve this for a number of years would be a manual exercise of reviewing files and this relates to cases only where offenders have been sentenced. Files on cases which are open are kept at the office of the Director of Public Prosecution. These issues suggest limited use of official statistics by the RBPF in formulating policy.

While the Child Care Board maintains statistics of all reports made to the office (Although the format has not been consistent throughout the years), in the case of the Bureau of Gender Affairs there is no collection of primary data. It mainly sources information for international development agencies. A tool was developed by the Bureau of Gender Affairs in 2009 to collect data on domestic violence. It was approved by the Cabinet. It would have captured the characteristics of the perpetrator and victim and type of abuse and type of occupation. However, the instrument was not successful with response agencies.

No data on crime and violence are collected by the Ministry of Education. The Ministry of Education was also unable to submit data on school violence. Reports of school violence and punishment is not kept in a database in a central location. We were informed that it would take a visit to each school to acquire details of recorded infractions and it is not certain whether each

principal keeps a database on each act of violence. Requests for evaluation reports were also unsuccessful as they could not be located. Answers to interview questions were fragmented at times, as some answers required information from a specialist officer. There was the challenge of obtaining answers or documents when an officer was away at workshop or on leave.

The Judiciary and Office of the Attorney General suffer from a variety of inefficiencies that hinder their collection and use of data. The registration department at the courts maintains statistics of matters that have come before the court. However, they are not always disaggregated and presented in a format that researchers have usually asked for. Some offences against the person are amalgamated and presented as one statistic. For example, murder, wounding, and grievous bodily harm. It was acknowledged that this presents a problem for researchers but the format remains. Information within the court system is not shared electronically. The statistician for the court has to visit each court to obtain statistics and perform a manual exercise of gathering data that is paper based. Often the entries from which information is to be extracted is illegible.

The National Task Force on Crime Prevention, now called the Criminal Justice Research and Planning Unit, is charged with the responsibility of collecting data on crime, conducting research and informing the minister on policy-making. Research has been done on recidivism and homicides. Statistics are also collected from the courts but these are primarily transmitted to an international agency in the same format that the statistician presented for this research. The question of how data is used in policy making to inform policy making was referred to junior staff who could provide no answer.

The Chief Justice has used some information to position judges in the past. Although there are fewer criminal cases, they take a longer period of trial. There is the challenge of handling lengthy preliminary inquiries. Magistrates are tasked with the burden of hearing preliminary hearings along with cases regarding theft and wrongful dismissals. A suggestion has been made to abolish preliminary hearings with alternatives such as voluntary indictments put in place but this has not received the level of attention that is believed it requires—the judiciary is “least among the apostles.” This alternative would require amendment of the Magistrate’s Court Act and Criminal Procedure Act. There are also considerable human resource issues as it is a challenging task for the number of judges available to “get rid of 2000 cases.” A system of mediation and case management would improve the current situation but would require judges to receive training.

The Division of Youth does not collect data on crime. It conducts an annual survey among school children to determine their circumstances and whether they would be continuing their education or proceeding to start work. It is used as a way of identifying vulnerable students and diverting them to programs. Programs are not geared toward criminal offenders. They are developmental and preventative.

Perhaps the most inefficient use and collection of data is by the Ministry of Health. Data for the present study was obtained from the Queen Elizabeth Hospital after many attempts to get public health data from the records department of the Ministry of Health. Referrals by the records department and planning and research department were made constantly to the police for data on crime.

While the records department codes some data, the public health data requested for the research was not coded by the department and not readily available. The data therefore had to be sourced from Queen Elizabeth Hospital. While the hospital could provide a few numbers on homicides for each year, the number would only represent those persons who died at the hospital and not on the scene. It is only the records department that could provide the statistics for homicides and they were not available throughout the data collection process.

No programs were submitted by the Ministry. A visit to the hospital revealed the existence of a social services department which provides some counselling and referrals to agencies for financial compensation. Fewer than five victims of violence a year may visit the department.

Medical practitioners may report suspected cases of child abuse to the Child Care Board but are not mandated to do so. There is no mandatory reporting of suspected child abuse cases.

VII. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Summary of main issues related to crime and violence in Barbados

Data collected for the present study suggests that both crimes against property, and crimes against the person have remained relatively constant over the past decade with property crimes dominating in volume over violent crimes. In 2013, for example, the rate of property crime was 1,599 per 100,000, compared with a rate of 929 for crimes against person. Residential burglary accounts for the overwhelming majority of crimes reported to the police with 35 per cent of all reported property crimes falling into this category in 2013.

Although levels of violent crime have remained relatively low, crimes against the person are issues of considerable and increasing concern among the Barbados population and require special attention in order to maintain adequate levels of perceived citizen security. Despite the lack of fluctuation in overall crime, when violent crimes are disaggregated by type, it is revealed that homicide rates have experienced significant fluctuation since 2000. It is important to note, however, that although there was a slight increase in 2013 over the previous year, the rate of homicide has been declining steadily since 2010. Other violent crimes such as rape and robbery have experienced limited fluctuation over the past decade with both crimes revealing 2013 rates that are lower than 10 years prior. For all major violent crimes, Barbados compares favourably to many of its Caribbean neighbours such as the Bahamas, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago.

Between 2009 and 2013, firearms have accounted for the majority of homicides in Barbados. Data from the RBPF reported that 40 per cent of all murders during that period were committed with the use of a gun. Despite the serious problem posed by firearms, however, the use of knives in homicides has been increasing in recent years such that in 2012 and 2013, knives accounted for the highest number of deaths. Particularly vulnerable to homicides in Barbados are those in the 10–25 years and 26–35 years age groups. According to police data, homicide victims in Barbados are likely to be male, between the ages of 18 and 35 years, and killed with a gun or knife over some form of dispute. Although gang violence is on the rise throughout much of the region, the RBPF does not include this form of crime among their category of motives. They are therefore unable to provide estimates of gang involvement.

The issue of domestic violence has assumed increasing significance within recent years. The Family Conflict Intervention Unit of the RBPF was established in 2013, in response to the need for more accurate and reliable data on this form of violence. Perpetrators of domestic violence are overwhelmingly male, with data showing that an average of 20.7 per cent of all homicides in Barbados can be attributed to this form of violence.

Institutional Approaches to Crime Prevention

An analysis of the institutional profiles reveals that a variety of methods are employed in order to achieve the individual mandates of reducing crime and violence. The methods used by each of Primary, Secondary and Tertiary programs can be found in Annex E. Table 17 outlines the number of institutions that adopt the various approaches.

Table 17. Composite Matrix of Institutional Methods

Target groups	Methods used										
	Vocational Training	Other Skills Training	Advocacy and Policy Formulation	Community infrastructure	Job provision/experience	Community mobilisation	Finance/Resource Provision (Individuals)	Increased security presence)	Research	Care and counselling	
Children/youth	3	9	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	20
Families	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Male specific	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Female Specific	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2
Communities	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	3
Elderly	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Victims								0	0	4	4
Incarcerated offenders	0	1	0		0		0		0	4	5
TOTAL	3	12	2	1	0	2	0	1	0	16	37

There are a few areas of overlap in institutional focus as well as areas of neglect or gaps in support provision. These are illustrated in the table. The majority of the programs address children and youth. The majority of the methods used focus on care and counselling and other skills training.

What follows is an assessment of the existing overlaps to determine inefficiencies as well as an identification of gaps to be filled in order to improve the effectiveness of programs designed to reduce crime and violence in Barbados.

Inefficiencies in Overlap

The analysis of institutional profiles revealed a number of areas of major overlap. These related to:

- Children and youth being addressed by other skills training through nine programs
- Children and youth being addressed by care and counselling through six programs
- Incarcerated offenders being addressed by care and counselling through four programs
- Victims are being addressed by care and counselling through four programs

A closer look at these four areas of overlap revealed the following:

In looking at children and youth being addressed by other skills training, the nine programs are as follows:

- School Liaison Program, through its focus on education related to road safety and drug use

- Drug Abuse Resistance Education, through its focus on skills training to prevent drug use and violent behaviour
- Schools Positive Behavioural Management Program, through its focus on behaviour management strategies, conflict resolution and negotiation skills
- YMCA Early Childhood Learning Intervention Program, through its focus on respect for others and self-esteem
- Justice Improvement Program, through its focus on conflict resolution, self-esteem and good business practices
- Supreme Self-Development and Awareness, through its focus on coping skills and self-esteem
- The Out-of-School Suspension Program, through its focus on coping skills, self-esteem and conflict resolution
- Juvenile Liaison Scheme, through its focus on civic responsibility, respect for others and decision making
- Anger Management Program, through its focus on anger management

While a large number of programs are addressing the involvement of children and youth in crime through skills training, they are generally addressing the issue by targeting a variety of skills.

There is some duplication, however, evident among the operations of the nine programs. Self-esteem, for example, is addressed by four programs (The Out-of-School Suspension Program; Supreme Self-Development and Awareness; YMCA Early Childhood Learning Intervention Program; and Justice Improvement Program). Greater collaboration between these agencies may increase efficiency. Some investigation is necessary into the feasibility of fusing the operations of these agencies to improve service to these groups.

Overall, it can be seen that there are some inefficiencies in this area.

In looking at children and youth being addressed by care and counselling, the six programs are as follows:

- Shelter for Battered Women, through its focus on counselling for children affected by domestic abuse
- Supreme Self-Development and Awareness, through its focus on self-acceptance and the mentorship program that provides a space for children to discuss their problems
- Out-of-School Suspension Program, through its counselling services for children with drug issues as well as their referrals to clinical psychologists and paediatric psychiatrists.
- Juvenile Liaison Scheme, through its counselling of juveniles to prevent future problem behaviour
- Visitation of Schools, through its referral to the Juvenile Liaison Scheme for counselling
- The Drug Abuse Resistance Education Program, through its counselling for children with drug issues

As with the previous case, some of the overlap here is merely at the categorisation level as many of the programs use counselling for a range of different outcomes.

The Shelter for Battered provides a unique case as a program that offers emotional support to children that have been affected by domestic violence. It provides a specialist service that no other organisation offers.

There is also some collaboration between the Visitation of Schools Program and the Juvenile Liaison Scheme which reduces possible inefficiency. Duplication exists only between the activities of the Out-of-School Suspension Program and the Drug Abuse Resistance Program. Although there is enough differentiation between the overall activities of the two programs to determine that this duplication does not produce inefficiencies, some collaboration could be explored. Overall, it can be seen that the overlaps are generally not inefficient.

In looking at incarcerated offenders being addressed by care and counselling, the four programs are as follows:

- Inmate Drug Rehabilitation Counseling, through its focus on drug counselling and behavioural therapy for inmates
- Offender Psychological Counseling, through its focus on the psychological skills necessary for inmates to manage their lives after release
- Anger Management Program, through its focus on meditation and emotional intelligence for young offenders.
- Thinking and Living Skills Program, through its focus on helping inmates identify the cognitive styles that lead to offending

Here, too, while several programs are addressing incarcerated offenders through care and counselling, the programs are generally targeting different aspects of care and counselling. However, there is a neglect of the range of other avenues for intervention among incarcerated individuals such as vocational training, advocacy, and financial/resource provision.

There is little inefficiency in the current programs, but some diversification of service provision should be explored.

In looking at victims being addressed through care and counselling, the four programs are as follows:

- The Crisis Centre and Crisis Hotline, through its physical and psychological support of victims of domestic abuse
- The Shelter for Battered Women, through its physical and psychological support of victims of domestic abuse
- The Victim Support Program, through its legal support of victims of domestic abuse
- Breaking the Silence on Child Abuse, through its policy interventions aimed at ending abuse against children

Of all the programs identified, only these four address the needs of victims in Barbados. In addition, although the Crisis Centre and Shelter for Battered Women both provide physical and psychological assistance for victims of domestic abuse, the two remaining programs address victim needs in vastly different ways.

Although there is a need for additional victim support through research and increased security. The existing overlap cannot be deemed to be inefficient.

Gaps in Addressing Crime

A number of gaps were identified in terms of methods and targets involved in addressing crime and violence. The following section highlights those areas:

1. Male-specific: Only one program was designed specifically to address adult males either as victims or offenders
2. Job provision/experience: No programs used job provision/experience as a means of reducing or preventing crime and violence
3. Finance/resource provision for individuals: No program used finance/resource provision as a means of reducing or preventing crime
4. Increased security presence: Only one program used increased security as a means of reducing or preventing crime and violence
5. Research: No program used research as a means of understanding, reducing or preventing crime and violence

Further investigation is necessary to determine the feasibility of increasing efforts in these areas as well as the best manner in which to approach it.

As it relates to the categories of crime prevention, there is an obvious deficit in the provision of secondary prevention. Only five programs indicated that they addressed crime in this manner. Of particular concern is the subcategory of suppression in which no NGO or public program could be located (UNICEF is the only agency addressing crime in this way). By contrast, the primary and tertiary categories each accounted for ten programs. Much of the focus, however, of primary prevention programs is on individual behaviours with relatively little attention paid to situational or community variables. Greater collaboration as well as diversification of service provision would ensure a more comprehensive approach to crime-prevention mechanisms.

Research, Data, and Evaluation

Despite growing public concern over perceived increases in crime, research into crime and violence in Barbados—its causes, incidence and effects—has remained glaringly limited. Policy decisions relating to crime reduction necessitate a continuous supply of empirical work that will give decision makers the evidence needed to make rational choices regarding possible strategies. There is, for example, within the region, a propensity for increases in crime to be met with improvements in law enforcement. Regional data however, has suggested that social approaches to crime prevention, of which many examples are present among crime-prevention programs in Barbados, may well be the way forward. Evidence from the Country Assessment of Living Conditions demonstrated that large numbers of urban and rural residents are socially excluded, shut out from mainstream society (CDB 2012). Unequal opportunities for education and employment limit the avenues for social mobility through legitimate means and as such illegal means become attractive. Until these forces of exclusion are removed, the forces of criminality will fester and grow. The UNODC/World Bank (2007) argued that the improvement of socioeconomic conditions was essential to any crime-prevention/control strategy as young men must be given the opportunities for upward mobility. It is essential that an effective balance be struck between strategies aimed at addressing of these root causes of crime and violence and issues of law enforcement and increased punitive responses. Many of the social programs outlined earlier, implemented by NGOs and government agencies, are unable to effectively address critical structural inequalities given that these root causes necessitate action at the level of policy. Short-term remedies, such as improvements in law enforcement are, however, often more attractive to policy makers who are charged with the immediate reduction of crime. There is a gap, therefore, between the addressing of the root causes of violence—an approach that is favoured by academics—and the desire for immediate responses. This is a gap that can possibly be bridged through a greater focus by academics, on the more immediate causes of crime and violence in Barbados, and thus, effective means of short-term crime prevention. Research into crime and violence needs to enjoy a more prominent position in the research agenda of Barbadian academics.

The lack of focus on evidence-based and data-driven solutions is evident too among the actions of NGOs and public institutions. A number of organisations found it difficult to produce a document that clearly outlines the goals and objectives of each program. To provide beneficiaries with programs and services that best meet their needs however, it is essential that institutions have a good understanding of both short and long terms objectives. A clear articulation of objectives assists in the integration of the multitude of elements that will assist in effective decision making. It also speeds up the design and implementation of programs. It may be worth investigating the feasibility of providing institution heads with training in goal articulation. Without these, beneficiaries will not be afforded the programs and services that best meet their needs.

Further evidence of data failing to inform policy is illuminated when one considers that despite the consistent prevalence of property crimes in police statistics, intervention into crime is overwhelmingly targeted at those of a violent nature. As stated earlier, residential burglary occupies a prominent position in police statistics. This prominence is however not reflected in either public, or nongovernmental responses. Only one crime-prevention initiative (Operation Safe

Homes) specifically aimed to address the incidence of residential burglary. Similarly, no new laws or amendments have been put in place within recent years to improve the capabilities of the State to prevent, detect or prosecute the perpetration of residential burglar or other forms of property crime. Government response needs to be more closely aligned with the evidence presented in official statistics.

Important also was the lack of monitoring and evaluation taking place among the institutions interviewed. Of the 26 programs identified, only 6 (23 per cent) had gone through a formal evaluation process (an additional 2 conducted occasional exit interviews internally). This is a worrying figure considering the length of time many of these programs have been in operation. Many of those that did conduct evaluations did so using nonscientific methods, which therefore bring the validity of any conclusions into question. In general, there is a lack of knowledge as to whether programs related to crime and violence prevention in Barbados are working. Monitoring and evaluation is important for a variety of reasons:

- It offers the only reliable means of demonstrating program success
- It provides the necessary information for the development of new programs that may more adequately meet objectives
- It demonstrates mistakes that have been made and offers suggestions for improvements on existing programs
- It encourages transparency and accountability through the generation of reports
- It develops institutional memory

These, along with other advantages make it essential that institutions with the mandate of reducing/preventing crime and violence are encouraged to continually and robustly monitor and evaluate each program that is offered to its beneficiaries. Without this, it is impossible to determine whether efforts are achieving the desired objectives.

The ability to produce rigorous empirical research as well as to enact evidence-based policies and interventions aimed at reducing crime is severely hampered by a culture of inadequate data collection that appears to pervade the range of government and nongovernmental organisations, with few exceptions. As discussed in Section V, issues range from a failure to collect statistical data in any form to poor methods of collection that make disaggregation and other forms of analysis impossible. There needs to be widespread education on the collection, storage, and use of data so that effective strategies, plans, and policy can be put in place to achieve the desired objectives.

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Annexes

Annex 1. Method for Identifying and Selecting Relevant Nongovernmental Organizations

Identification of Relevant NGOs

- Potential candidates were identified initially through the Internet (search terms used in the internet included: violence prevention, crime prevention, aggression management/reduction, conflict/dispute resolution, peace promotion, mediation, restorative justice, reentry, recidivism prevention, child maltreatment/abuse/neglect)
- If insufficient information was available online, organizations were contacted by phone or email to explain the project and ask them to explain the mission of their organization to see if it should be included.
- Referrals of relevant NGOs were requested from the Inter-American Development Bank Bahamas Country Office and then during interviews from each of the stakeholders (including government, academia and other NGOs)

NGOs Were Included If the Following Occur

- They provide services to beneficiaries based on their identification as victims or perpetrators of crime/violence, or relatives of victims/perpetrators;
- The program mission includes the following terms (or something similar): violence prevention, crime prevention, aggression management/reduction, conflict/dispute resolution, peace promotion, mediation, restorative justice, reentry, recidivism prevention, child maltreatment/abuse/neglect (thus we should include parenting programs);
- They have been providing services for at least one continuous year;
- They serve at least 25 unique beneficiaries per year with said service.⁷⁰

⁷⁰ This criterion was not adhered to in all instances.

Annex 2. Interviewees, Their Positions, Institutions, and Interview Dates

Name	Position	Institution	Dates of Interviews and Data Collection
Mr. Cedrick Moore	Assistant Superintendent	Barbados Prison Service	28 January 2015; 16 April 2015
Mr. Anthony Holder	Orderly Officer	Barbados Prison Service	28 January 2015; 16 April 2015; 20 April 2015
Ms. Lena Weekes-Phillips	Rehabilitation Officer, Sentence Management	Barbados Prison Service	28 January 2015
Ms. Juliette Holder-Boyce	Head of Admissions and Discharge	Barbados Prison Service	28 January 2015
Mr. Shawn Phillips	Psychologist	Barbados Prison Service	21 April 2015
Mr. Peter Lorde	Coordinator, Inmate Drug Rehabilitation Counseling	Barbados Prison Service	20 April 2015; 21 April 2015
Mr. Erwin Boyce	Assistant Commissioner of Police	Royal Barbados Police Force	13 January 2015; 27 January 2015; 3 February 2015; 12 February 2015; 24 March 2015; 2 April 2015; 30 April 2015
Inspector David Wiltshire	Research Officer, Research and Development	Royal Barbados Police Force	27 January 2015; 3 February 2015
Inspector Stephen Griffith	Crime Prevention Officer for the Force	Royal Barbados Police Force	24 March 2015; 10 April 2015
Constable Kim Harris	Counsellor, Juvenile Liaison Scheme	Royal Barbados Police Force	25 March 2015
Sergeant Hallam Jemmott	Officer in charge of Juvenile Liaison Scheme	Royal Barbados Police Force	26 March 2015
Sergeant Jamal Mohan	Community Policing Officer/Head of Chapman Lane and New Orleans Mobile Unit	Royal Barbados Police Force	29 March 2015
Sergeant Roland Cobbler	Community/D.A.R.E. Officer	Royal Barbados Police Force	7 April 2015; 8 April 2015; 10 April 2015
Constable Ryan Coppin	Crime Statistics Office	Royal Barbados Police Force	3 February 2015; 6 February 2015
Sergeant Christine Husbands	Coordinator, Family Conflict Intervention Unit	Royal Barbados Police Force	13 February 2015; 24 March 2015
Constable Veronica Whitney	Family Conflict Intervention Unit	Royal Barbados Police Force	3 February 2015; 13 February 2015; 24 March 2015
Constable Waveney Whittington	Crime Intelligence Unit	Royal Barbados Police Force	10 February 2015
Mr. Charles Piggott	Deputy Permanent Secretary	Office of the Attorney General	21 April 2015
Ms. Gloria Parris		Office of the Attorney General	21 April 2015
Mr. Wayne Marshall	Senior Administrative Officer	Office of the Attorney General	8 May 2015
Mr. Vasco Phillips	IT Manager	Office of the Attorney General	7 May 2015
Ms. Bernadeth John	Director of Legal Services	Community Legal Services	7 May 2015
Hon Sir Marston Gibson	Chief Justice	Judiciary	7 May 2015
Ms. Dionne Johnson	Statistical Assistant	Registration Department, Supreme Court	9 March 2015
Ms. Cheryl Willoughby	Director	National Task Force on Crime Prevention	31 March 2015; 10 April 2015
Ms. Cherisse King	Research Assistant	National Task Force on	14 April 2015

		Crime Prevention	
Ms. Gail Francis	Permanent Secretary	Office of Home Affairs	7 May 2015
Mr. Erwin Leacock	Principal	Government Industrial School	10 January 2015
Mr. Ronald Brathwaite	Vice Principal	Government Industrial School	20 April 2015
Mr. Joseph Lawrence	Welfare Officer	Government Industrial School	30 April 2015
Ms. Betty Headley	Manager	National Council for Substance Abuse	10 March 2015
Ms. Wendy Greenidge	Drug Education Officer	National Council for Substance Abuse	30 April 2015
Ms. Janice Perryman	Administrative Officer	Ministry of Social Care Social Transformation Constituency Empowerment and Community Development	31 December 2014
Ms. Nalita Gajadher	Program officer	Bureau of Gender Affairs	18 March 2015; 19 March 2015
Mr. William Warner	Research Officer	Bureau of Gender Affairs	18 March 2015
Ms. Deborah Norville	Senior Welfare Officer, Family Services	Welfare Department	11 March 2015
Ms. Joan Crawford	Director	Child Care Board	13 March 2015
Mr. Charly Browne	Deputy Permanent Secretary	Ministry of Education	13 February 2015
Ms. Debrah Hewitt	Program Coordinator, Edna Nicholls Centre	Ministry of Education	2 March 2015; 5 March 2015
Dr. Roderick Rudder	Senior Education Officer, Planning Research and International Relations	Ministry of Education	27 March 2015
Ms. Patricia Warner		Ministry of Education	25 March 2015
Ms. Juanita Brathwaite	Senior Psychologist	Ministry of Education	27 March 2015
Ms. Jennifer Broome	Accountant	Ministry of Education	26 March 2015
Mr. Cleviston Hunte	Director of Youth	Ministry of Culture Sports and Youth	16 March 2015; 8 May 2015
Mr. Halley Haynes	Director, Barbados Youth Service	Ministry of Culture Sports and Youth	10 April 2015
Ms. Elizabeth Bowen	Senior Youth Commissioner/Program Coordinator	Ministry of Culture Sports and Youth	2 April 2015
Ms. Reeshemah Cheltenham-Niles	Deputy Chief Health Planner	Ministry of Health	4 February 2015; 12 February 2015; 18 February 2015; 27 February 2015
Mr. Tennyson Springer	Permanent Secretary	Ministry of Health	9 February 2015; 13 February 2015
Mrs. Audrey Lovell Wickham	Records Officer	Ministry of Health	4 February 2015; 12 February 2015
Ms Louise Bobb	Director of Support Services	Queen Elizabeth Hospital	12 March 2015; 31 March 2015;. 30 April 2015
Ms. Michelle Webb-Burke	Acting Senior Medical Social Worker, Social Services	Queen Elizabeth Hospital	31 March 2015
Ms. Nicolai Ifill	Medical Records Department	Queen Elizabeth Hospital	4 May 2015
Ms. Maria Phillips	Medical Records Department	Queen Elizabeth Hospital	4 May 2015
Ms. Janelle Scantlebury Mounsey		Barbados Statistical Service	9 February 2015; 9 March 2015; 9 April 2015; 29 April 2015
Mr. Shawn Clarke	Executive Director	Supreme Counseling	26 March 2015; 28 April 2015

Ms. Marianne Burnham	Former President [president at time of conversations]	BPW Barbados	14 February 2015; 26 April 2015
Ms. Patricia Seale	Psychologist	BPW Barbados	27 April 2015
Mr. David Norgrove	General Secretary	YMCA	23 March 2015
Mr. Rodney Grant	Chief Executive Officer	Pinelands Creative Workshop	20 April 2015
Ms. Heather Stewart	Child Protection Officer	UNICEF	21 January 2015; 8 May 2015

Annex 3. Crimes Classified as Crimes Against Property and Crimes Against Person, by the RBPF

Crimes Against the Person	Crimes Against Property
Murder	Residential burglary
Attempted murder	Commercial burglary
Manslaughter	Other burglary
Serious Bodily harm	Sacrilege
Endangering life	Arson
Kidnapping	Attempted arson
Robbery	Criminal damage
Attempted robbery	Other crime attempts
Aggravated robbery	Thefts and related crimes
Other major crimes against the person	Theft of livestock
Sex-related crimes	Theft of agricultural produce
Rape	Theft of postal packet
Assault with intent to rape	Theft of use
Sex with a minor	Theft of motor vehicle
Indecent assault	Theft from motor vehicle
Serious indecency	Theft of bicycle
Other sex crimes	Theft from person
Minor crimes against the person	Theft from shops/stores
Fear of violence	Other thefts
Threats	Handling stolen property
Harassment	Unlawful possession
Assaults/Woundings (minor)	Going equipped
Other minor crimes against the person	Fraud related crimes
	Attempts

Annex 4. Program Questionnaire

Inter-American Development Bank Baseline Mapping Study of Violence and Crime Prevention Programs: Bahamas Country Data

Program Name: _____

Complete a separate questionnaire for each program

Guidance Note: Thank you for completing the following questionnaire. In providing your answers, please be guided by (but not limited to) the suggested options listed under some of the questions. You can select more than one option and if you need to add another, please use the “Other (Specify)” option to indicate this. Feel free to add information that you think might better aid in understanding the program.

The government of the Bahamas has given the Inter-American Development Bank permission to collect this information. The Inter-American Development Bank will schedule an appointment for the study consultant to meet with you during the weeks of February 10–21, 2014. The consultant will collect your questionnaire at that appointment and discuss your program(s) in more detail at the time.

	Question	Answers
1	Name of Program	
2	Year that program started	
3	Objective (describe precisely the purpose/goal of the program)	
4	Implementing agency (indicate which ministry/agency/organization is directly responsible for the program)	
5	Type of program or intervention (indicate a corresponding number below and briefly explain) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Community Mobilization Around Crime and Violence: Involvement of local citizens, including youth, community groups, churches, agencies, former gang-members and coordination of programs and staff functions within and across agencies. 2. Primary Social Prevention: aggression reduction, conflict resolution, peace promotion targeted at entire communities in high-risk neighbourhoods 3. Situational Prevention: reducing opportunities for crime to occur through rehabilitation of public spaces and the use of new technologies (for example, cameras, environmental design) 4. Secondary Social Prevention: targets children, youth, women or families specifically identified as at-risk and intervenes before early behaviours turn into serious delinquency and/or gang involvement. 5. Intervention: targeted at children, youth or families who have been identified as already being involved in harmful, violent or criminal activities and using aggressive outreach combined with appropriate support services. 6. Support services: providing support services to women, children or men who are victims of violence or crime and/or their families. 7. Suppression: identifying, targeting, arresting trying perpetrators of violence and crime 	

	Question	Answers
	<p>8. Reentry: targeted at offenders who are reentering the community after confinement, providing counselling and social services and monitoring reintegration into the community.</p> <p>9. Other (specify)</p>	
	<p>6. Target group/s (who/what is the program aimed at)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At-risk youth 2. Youth in conflict with the law 3. Gang members 4. Former gang members 5. Abused women 6. Abused/neglected children 7. Victims of violence 8. Family of victims 9. Elderly victims of violence 10. Families of perpetrators 11. Criminal offenders 12. Ex-offenders 13. Other (Specify) 	
7.	Targeting mechanism (what is the method of selection of participants for the program?)	
8.	<p>Number served for 2012 and 2013</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Please specify whether this is individuals, households, projects, communities or other b. Please specify whether this is for the fiscal year or the calendar year 	
9.	Activities realized, or benefit(s) and service(s) provided in the past 1–3 years.	
10	<p>Duration (how long has the program been going on?)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Less than 6 months 2. Six months to less than 1 year 3. 1–2 years 4. 3–4 years 5. 5 or more years 6. No time limit 7. Other (specify) 	
11	Current state of program implementation (what has already been done?)	
12	<p>Average length that a client receives services</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Less than 6 months 9. Six months to less than 1 year 10. 1–2 years 11. 3–4 years 12. 5 or more years 13. No time limit 14. Other (specify) 	
Program Expenditure		
13	Sources of funding (where does the financing for the program come from? Do you have the same funding source from year to year?)	
14	Expenditure for 2012/13 (total spending on the program in 2012/13; spending on each activity related to violence prevention) and estimated expenditure for 2014	

	Question	Answers
	Management Information System	
15	Method of information capture (by what method do you collect and store information on the program) 1. Manual or paper-based 2. Computer-based (Word/Excel, etc.) 3. Electronic MIS	
16	Is the MIS linked to any other database? If so, which ones?	
	Monitoring and Evaluation	
17	Date and type of last or planned future evaluation ^a	
18	Evaluation conducted by? 1. Internal unit 2. Auditor general 3. External firm 4. None	
19	Frequency of evaluations 1. None 2. Semi-annually 3. Annually 4. Every 2–5 years 5. Less than every 5 years	
20	Is there a program hotline (toll free telephone call line)? 1. Yes 1. No	
21	Is the program guided by legislation? 1. If so, name and date of ratification/last amendment	
22	2. Any other comments on the program you wish to share	
23	Where possible, please have copies of any or all of the following for collection at the time of your interview ✓ Most recent annual report ✓ Evaluation reports ✓ Process evaluations ✓ Guiding legislation for program ✓ Other	

Name of Person(s) Completing Questionnaire:

Position:

Contact Information:

- **E-mail:**
- **Telephone (mobile):**
- **Telephone (office include extension):**

Date:

Thank you!

Annex 5. Programs, Projects, and Interventions

PRIMARY PREVENTION PROGRAMS: SITUATIONAL AND COMMUNITY

Community Policing

Background

The Community Policing program was established in Barbados in 1983 to reduce crime and violence in communities that are prone to such activities.

Objectives

- To supplement the activities and responsibilities of existing police stations,
- To reduce the level of crime, and
- To create an atmosphere in which residents could provide information that would allow perpetrators to be brought to justice.

Beneficiaries

High-risk communities^{71,72}; four high-risk communities were served in 2012 and 2013.

Implementation

The Royal Barbados Police Force is responsible for implementing the program. High-risk neighbourhoods are targeted based on crime statistics and trends.

Activities of the Program

- In 2012, an additional community outpost was added to the Chapman Lane district in the city. The district is considered poverty-stricken and at the heart of drug activity. Drug lords controlled the outcome of disputes, yet few residents made reports to the police. There were shootings and marijuana usage by young adults. There was lawlessness on the roads, fetes at illegal structures on government property, and lewd music and indiscriminate parking in the neighbourhood.
- A 24-hour outpost was placed in the area. Illegal structures were demolished. Police patrols were implemented all day and night.
- A party for children is held every year.⁷³
- A community father-and-son fun run initiative has been implemented to encourage fathers to be positively involved with their sons.
- A kite-flying competition has been established.

Funding/Budget/Staff

Funding for community policing is obtained from a combination of government and private sources.⁷⁴

⁷¹ No information provided on the number of beneficiaries.

⁷² High-risk communities were defined as those with factors which dispose persons to become involved in criminal activity, such as communities with dysfunctional families.

⁷³ No party was held in 2014 because a shift in personnel hampered plans.

⁷⁴ No further information on staff or budget was available.

Evaluation/Results

No formal evaluation has been conducted and a date for a planned evaluation could not be given.

Neighbourhood Watch Program

Background

The Neighbourhood Watch Program was first introduced to Barbados in 1983. These are private, community-based programs run by specific neighbourhoods with the support of the Royal Barbados Police Force. The program is a method of developing a close liaison between households in neighbourhoods and the police. It is a self-help crime-prevention initiative aimed at reducing threats to householders and their neighbours. It is intended to reduce the attractiveness of communities to criminals before crime has occurred. As such, communities are encouraged not to form watches based on crime in the area because when the level of crime is reduced, the watch tends to become dormant. Neighbourhood watches that have been fostered on community spiritedness have shown a long life and sustainability. The program strongly discourages vigilantism.

Objectives

- To reduce/prevent crime, other acts of lawlessness affecting households in their community;
- To develop a community spirit among people living in the neighbourhood watch area;
- To enhance the relationship between the police and the public by encouraging greater contacts between all concerned;
- To encourage residents to help respond to what is going on in their neighbourhood.

Beneficiaries

Residents from any neighbourhood may form a neighbourhood watch program. The number of watches formed in 2012 and 2013 were not ascertained. At the time of interview, there were 143 registered schemes, some of which may be dormant.

Implementation

The Neighbourhood Watch Program is implemented privately by specific neighbourhoods with the support of the RBPF. Residents typically approach the RBPF about implementing a scheme in their district. In cases where the police have identified a need for more cohesiveness in a neighbourhood, they may make the initial contact with neighbourhoods and suggest that neighbours form a watch.

A community officer may meet with residents and describe the purpose of the Neighbourhood Watch Program. A president of another neighbourhood watch may outline to the residents the program's benefits. After consultation, neighbours devise a written constitution on how their scheme would be governed. At a later meeting with a crime-prevention representative, the watch may be declared as established.

- Residents have benefitted from neighbours looking out for each other and a safer environment.

- Some districts have benefitted from residents conducting patrols of the neighbourhood. Residents have benefitted from carpooling while someone maintains watch of the neighbourhood.
- Vulnerable groups such as elderly adults have benefitted from a safer environment.
- Residents have been sensitised to crime-prevention tips. They have benefitted from property-marking tools that mark their valuables with a code that is unique to the owner.
- Residents have benefitted from police patrols of their districts when they are away on community activities.
- Local presidents have benefitted at local conferences from crime tips given by presidents of neighbourhood watches abroad.

Funding/Budget/Staff

Any costs associated with running a neighbourhood watch are absorbed by communities. However, the funding of police activities related to the program such as the conference is provided by the government.

The program is administered by a sergeant and inspector at the Community Relations Department. Each police station has a community relations officer who reports his or her activities to the Community Relations Department.

Evaluation/Results

No evaluation has been conducted, and a date for a planned evaluation could not be given.

Burglary Initiative Program: Operation Safe Homes

Background

Operation Safe Homes was first established in 2002, and then revived in 2005. It is a self-help crime-prevention initiative aimed at the prevention of burglaries. It is designed to educate community members on the importance of employing specific measures that can reduce victimization. The primary aim is prevention. However communities that have had a recent increase in the incidence of burglary are included.

Objective

To prevent and reduce burglary

Beneficiaries

Neighbourhoods being affected by burglary and neighbourhoods where burglary is 'seemingly' on the increase are targeted for the program.

- Approximately 10 districts benefitted from the program in 2013
- 15 districts benefitted from the initiative in 2014⁷⁵

⁷⁵ During 2014, some officers were required to supplement general duties and were assigned to other duties. Consequently, the number of districts that could be covered in 2014 was affected.

Implementation

The Community Relations department of the RBPF is the entity responsible for the implementation of Operation Safe Homes. Neighbourhoods are chosen, where there has been criminal activity and an increase in burglaries. Community relations officers visit communities and communicate with householders on the importance using effective crime-prevention strategies. Householders benefit from leaflets outlining crime-prevention tips. Crime audits of residences are offered to determine whether homes are equipped with adequate security measures.

- Residents have been sensitised to preventative burglary measures and the importance of practising such measures. Householders have benefitted from audits of their security measures and received recommendations for better security.
- They have been sensitised to property marking, a scheme which makes valuable property identifiable by a code that is inscribed on it by the police.

Funding/Budget/Staff

Operation Safe Homes is funded by money allocated annually to the Community Relations Department by the Government. The money spent specifically on this program is not known. There are 20 community officers.⁷⁶

Evaluation/Results

No evaluation of Operation Safe Homes has been conducted. The possibility of one being conducted in the future is currently being discussed.

PRIMARY PREVENTION PROGRAMS: INDIVIDUAL BEHAVIOURS

Barbados Youth Service

Background

The Barbados Youth Service began in 1991. Its program is multidisciplinary and aims to promote self-reliance, creativity, and a sense of community through a wide range of activities that cater and respond to the developmental needs of young people. As an organisation that works with at-risk youth between 16 and 22 years of age, the Barbados Youth Service offers personal and group counselling, behaviour modification, drug counselling, and psychological evaluation and counselling through in-house and contracted services. In addition, it offers academic, sports, arts, and job experience training that fosters the personal development of the young person. The Barbados Youth Service is considered a best practice program in youth development and is recognized by CARICOM.

Objectives

- To encourage young people to adopt a positive attitude toward life-long learning, work, and their environment;
- To create an environment that enables young people to understand and assume their roles and responsibilities; and
- To prepare young people who are trained, skilled, and disciplined to access and initiate employment opportunities.

⁷⁶ No further information was provided regarding staff, the program budget or funding sources.

Beneficiaries

At-risk youth,⁷⁷ and youth in conflict with the law, who are unemployed between the ages of 16 and 22 years.

- 80 individuals benefited during October 2012 to October 2013.
- 80 individuals benefited during 2013 and 2014.

The program accommodates 80 students annually. Previously the program accommodated 300 students annually.

For 2014/15, the expected and actual completion rate was 75 per cent. While 48 per cent were expected to complete academic examinations, 58 per cent successfully did. Also, 25 per cent of the participants were expected to go on to other educational institutions, yet only 10 per cent successfully did. Finally, 25 per cent of youth were expected to retain their jobs after the job-training attachment, but only 13 per cent did.

Implementation

The Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Youth (in the Division of Youth Affairs) is responsible for the implementation of the Barbados Youth Service. Persons between the ages of 16 and 22 years are eligible for the program and may apply voluntarily by means of an application form. Applicants have to attend an interview and are accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Some clients are persons who were ordered by the Court to take part in the program. Some clients are also referred by the Probation Department and the Government Industrial School (the correctional institute for juveniles).

Activities of the Program

- Participants have benefitted from teaching and preparation for Caribbean Examinations Council CSEC Certification in English Language, Electronic Document Preparation and Management, Information Technology, Principles of Business, Office Administration, Social Studies, and Visual Arts.
- Clients have benefitted from Remedial Education in Language Arts, Mathematics, and Reading.
- Life Skills Certification have been gained in the following:
 - Fire aid
 - Water safety
 - Fire safety
- Job experience in the public and private sectors. Some trainees on completion of these attachments often retain their employment for a longer period thereafter.

Previously, the entire program operated from a base in the northern part of the island and was able to accommodate 300 students. The program was moved from that location in 2003 because the prison burned down, and the program's location was identified as the place that could house prisoners temporarily until a new prison was completed.

The program is currently disjointed with the administration set in one location and the residential component of the set in the southern part of the island at a military residence for cadets. This

⁷⁷ At-risk is defined here as children who's behaviour puts them in danger of negatively affecting their own personal development, as well as that of the wider society.

means that staff has to be relocated each year to the military base to complete the residential component of the program.

There was no residential component in 2014 because the RBPF was using the facility. In 2015, the defence force would be in use of the facility as well.

The residential aspect is considered important to the program because it where students are housed together for three months and taught discipline, values, conflict resolution, self-esteem building, motivation, self-discipline, and team work. Students are taught standards, how to follow guidelines such as making beds and going to bed at set times. Parents have marvelled at the change in their children at the end of the residential component.

Funding/Budget/Staff

The government of Barbados through the Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Youth provides funding for the Barbados Youth Service. However, similar to all other government agencies, it has been allocated a budget. The source of funding is always governmental.

- Expenditure for 2012–13: \$2,451,126
- Expenditure for 2013–14: \$2,586,562
- Expenditure for 2014–15: \$2,555,556⁷⁸

Evaluation/Results

The Barbados Youth Service is evaluated on an annual basis. The next planned evaluation is scheduled to take place in September 2015 in preparation for the October 2015 intake of trainees. Evaluations are conducted internally by the program director and a research officer.⁷⁹

Endless Possibilities

Background

Endless Possibilities began in 2011. It is a job attachment and mentorship program. It is a second-chance program that seeks to assist at-risk youth who are not attached to a learning institution, who are unemployed, and who may have previously been in conflict with the law. The program provides youth with the opportunity to develop and enhance their personal, social, and life skills—and ultimately gain necessary employment. The program is guided by a policy document that was approved by the Cabinet of Barbados. No change has been made to the policy document since the inception of the program. A new strategic plan for the Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Youth has been drafted but needs the Cabinet's approval.

Objective

To create the opportunity for work experience and the possibility of long-term employment for at-risk youth ages 16–24 years.

Beneficiaries

At-risk youth⁸⁰: The program selects young people who are unattached to any institution where they are involved in training, and young people who are not attached to any place of work. To

⁷⁸ No further information was provided regarding staff, the program budget, or the funding sources.

⁷⁹ Examples of past evaluations could not be provided.

⁸⁰ No clear definition of "at-risk" was provided.

date, more than 120 youth have benefitted from the program. At present, 23 young persons are on Job Attachment at various private sector organisations.

- 30 persons benefitted during FY 2011–12
- 33 persons benefitted during FY 2012–13

Implementation

The Youth Development Program of the Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Youth, is responsible for the implementation of the program. Referrals are made by officers of the Youth Development Program and other social service agencies. Potential clients are interviewed by a panel and are assessed for a desire for a second chance to improve themselves and a commitment to moving forward in life. Private sector organisations provide the opportunity for job attachment and space for the student/participant to gain experience and improve on his or her work ethic.

In addition, there are six mandatory sessions with a counsellor. Each student is assigned to a counsellor to help him or her succeed in the program. Students are able to discuss career aspirations and past challenges.

Activities of the Program

In the past 1–3 years, the Endless Possibilities program has provided both long- and short-term employment for young people. In addition, participants have benefitted from life skills, job skills, personal development training, and psychosocial support.

Funding/Budget/Staff

The program is funded in its entirety by the Ministry of Culture, Sports, and Youth. Expenditure covers a stipend for students; professional tutors and facilitators; and psychosocial support that involves a one-on-one session between a student and an assigned counsellor. Expenditure for 2012/13: \$120,000⁸¹ Program staff consists of a coordinator and three youth development officers.

Evaluation/Results

Evaluations take the form of questionnaires administered internally to participants to assess their experiences in the program.⁸² The most recent evaluation took place in 2013.⁸³

Justice Improvement Program (Social Capital Development)

Background

The Justice Improvement Program began in 2010. It was developed in response to the perceived upsurge in gang activity in Barbados. The individuals and communities targeted for this intervention were all vulnerable to gang activity and have all the predisposing factors: low income, high unemployment, underemployment, low educational levels, low self-esteem, high conflict, and so forth. Therefore, this program aimed to target potential gang members and youth who have a high risk of being involved in crime from the selected communities of Haynesville, Pinelands, and Bridgetown.

Objective

⁸¹ No further information was provided regarding the program budget.

⁸² These mainly seek the opinions of participants and so do not effectively assess the achieving of objectives.

⁸³ The results of this evaluation were not available. No formal external evaluation has been conducted.

To positively impact and redirect unproductive behaviours among vulnerable youth in the selected communities by implementing training modules focusing on conflict resolution and mediation, self-empowerment, and development while seeking to reduce and prevent criminal activity.

Beneficiaries

At-risk youth^{84,85}

Implementation

The Pinelands Creative Workshop (with the assistance of the Inter-American Development Bank) is responsible for implementing the Justice Improvement Program. Participants are targeted through government youth workers assigned to the communities and community workers from civil society attached to the areas.

Activities of the Program

- Conflict Resolution, Mediation, and Drug Awareness Training Seminars
 - Introduction to Conflict
 - Children and Family
 - Criminal Justice System
 - Entrepreneurs and the Workplace
 - Community Disputes

- Micro-Enterprise Training
 - Steps to Starting Your Business
 - Where to Access Funding and Technical Support
 - Legal Aspects to Forming a Business
 - Effective Costing and Pricing
 - Basic Book-Keeping
 - Simple Inventory Methods
 - The Basics of an Effective Business Plan
 - Marketing Your business
 - Introduction to MS Word

The format of the training includes theoretical presentations where facilitators draw on personal experiences. Sessions also include group discussions, guest speakers who incorporated mediation or advocacy in their practice, case applications, dramatizations, and role-play exercises. Professionals from the National Council on Substance Abuse and from the RBPF are used to bring clarity to their respective areas of specialization.

Funding/Budget/Staff

The program is funded entirely by the Inter-American Development Bank through the government of Barbados. Expenditure for 2012/13: \$134,278⁸⁶

Evaluation/Results

Evaluations of the program are conducted internally on a semi-annual basis. The most recent evaluation took place in 2011.⁸⁷

⁸⁴ Pinelands was unable to provide data on the number of beneficiaries served.

⁸⁵ No clear definition of *at risk* was provided.

⁸⁶ No further information was provided regarding the staff, the program budget, or the funding sources.

⁸⁷ Pinelands was unable to provide examples of past evaluations. No formal external evaluation has been conducted.

YMCA Early Childhood Learning Intervention Program

Background

The Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) Early Childhood Learning Intervention Program was established in 2013. It was designed to reduce the likelihood that at-risk youth in depressed neighbourhoods in Bridgetown will turn to crime. The focus is on early childhood learning and success through education and exploitation of talents in productive endeavours. It empowers youth to take full advantage of educational opportunities and to avoid the pursuit of criminal activity.

The YMCA argues that youth from low-income neighbourhoods growing up in single-parent homes with absentee fathers are at risk for criminal involvement. There is a need to target the value systems of young people. The YMCA teaches respect for rules and for each other and uses the literacy program to build literacy and self-esteem among the children.

Objectives

To address reading/literacy challenges in primary and early secondary students at risk of criminal involvement.

Beneficiaries

At-risk youth⁸⁸: Youth from neighbourhoods in the city area where the environments are not conducive to social development. The ages of beneficiaries range from 7 to 14 years.

- 9 persons benefitted during 2013.

Implementation

The Barbados YMCA is responsible for the implementation of the Early Childhood Learning Intervention Program. Children from inner-city neighbourhoods are targeted because these are the communities with the characteristics that place youth at risk for criminal activity. Parents are approached to voluntarily enrol their children in the program. Those who are interested are asked to complete an application form. Response from parents in the community has generally been positive. One primary school in Bridgetown was also approached to determine whether the program is useful to any of its students. Sessions are facilitated by trained volunteers.

Activities of the Program

Participants are exposed to a range of activities that teach touch-typing, spelling, and sentence building. This is expected to improve children's performance at school, their comprehensive skills, and respect for one another.

Funding/Budget/Staff

There is no funding for the program. The program coordinator provides snacks for the children. All responsibilities are carried out by volunteers. Expenditure for 2013 was \$2,500⁸⁹

Evaluation/Results

No evaluation of the program has been conducted. There are no evaluations planned.

⁸⁸ *At-risk* here is defined as children from (a) neighbourhoods with low-income households; (b) households with high unemployment; (c) households where the children are subject to abuse; and (d) neighbourhoods where there tends to be drug use, street violence, or adversarial and aggressive behaviour. These children are deemed to be prone to future criminal behaviour.

⁸⁹ This figure relates to calendar year. No further information was provided regarding the staff, the program budget, or the funding sources.

Schools Positive Behavioural Management Program

Background

The Schools Positive Behavioural Management Program (SPBMP) was established in 2007. It is an approach to school management that seeks to build skills and foster certain attitudes of tolerance, respect, inclusiveness, and democratic participation at the teacher, as well as at the student level.

In this way, a whole-school approach is used to address issues related to student-on-student violence including bullying as well as teacher-on-student violence in the form of corporal punishment.

The program is implemented within the parameters of Ministry of Education for operation in schools. It is not intended to be a stand-alone program but to have the approaches fully integrated into the education system in a seamless manner so that it is no longer looked as a special initiative.

Objectives

- To support student success through the creation of more nurturing, protective and student-centered school environments; and
- To address issues related to student-on-student violence and teacher-on-student violence.

Beneficiaries

All teachers and students in schools. During 2012–13, approximately 60 per cent of primary schools and 20 per cent of secondary schools reported having adopted the strategies

Implementation

This is a UNICEF program implemented by the Ministry of Education, Science, Technology, and Innovation. Emphasis has been placed on building the capacity of teachers to use Positive Behaviour Management Strategies; exposing students to life-skills education (through HFLE) building conflict resolution and negotiation skills as well as healthy self-management skills.

Other key areas have included the focus on more student-centered teaching approaches with greater use of differentiated instruction; promotion and support of more student involvement in school processes including management, greater parental involvement, and the development of school policies and procedures that ensure the safety of students.

Funding/Budget/Staff

Funding for the program comes from UNICEF and the Ministry of Education, Science, Technology, and Innovation.

- Expenditure for 2012–13: \$190,000
- Expenditure for 2014: \$130,000⁹⁰

Evaluation/Results

In 2012, an external evaluation of the program was conducted. A monitoring assessment was also conducted in 2014.

⁹⁰ No further information was provided regarding the staff, the program budget, or the funding sources.

The 2012 evaluation noted that UNICEF's designation of the program as Child-Friendly Schools was not embraced by Barbadian teachers and the program was therefore designated as the Positive Behaviour Management Program.

Some success was reported on the pilot project at one primary school. Students were more articulate, and students bodies had been established; particularly a Student Court and a Student Council. Teachers were also trained in alternative methods of discipline and differentiated instruction techniques. Challenges were identified, particularly that the support of the parents was disappointing and some teachers were reluctant to take part: many found the rewards system made excessive financial demands. "Calmer" schools—those with fewer fights and reduced use of corporal punishment—have also been reported.

Some success of expected outcomes were reported but not measured. For example, the ability of teachers to use alternative disciplinary measures, reduction of corporal punishment by teachers and reduction in negative behaviours among. Increased parental involvement was reportedly unsatisfactory. There was also the reported achievement of an increase in community awareness and involvement.

Visitation of the Elderly

Background

The Visitation of the Elderly Program was established around 1992.⁹¹ It is a self-help initiative designed to educate elderly adults on measures to ensure their safety.

Objectives

To ensure that elderly adults living alone are safe

Beneficiaries

The program targets elderly adults who live alone.

- 174 elderly adults benefited in 2012
- ~100 elderly adults benefited in 2013

Implementation

The Community Relations Department of the RBPf is the entity responsible for the implementation of the Visitation of the Elderly Program. Community policing officers visit and communicate with elderly persons living alone. Elderly adults are given tips on how to handle strangers who visit their home. They also benefit from a target hardening exercise where their homes are audited for security and recommendations made for situations that appear vulnerable.

- Elderly adults have benefitted from having a safer environment.
- Some have benefitted from organised social gatherings where they could interact with other elderly adults—luncheons and picnics.

⁹¹ No specific document on the program was identified or any other documentation that showed exactly when the program commenced.

Funding/Budget/Staff

The program requires little funding. However, the associated workshops are funded by the RBPF from money voted for by parliament.⁹²

Evaluation/Results

No evaluation of the program has been conducted. There are currently no plans for an evaluation to be conducted.

Drug Abuse Resistance Education Program

Background

The Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) program was established in Barbados in 1996. It was designed as an early intervention method of discouraging future drug use. Despite this initial aim, the program now goes beyond the teaching of the skills necessary to make positive choices concerning drug use, to those needed for the prevention of bullying. During the 2012/13 and 2013/14 school years, there was no program activity. However, the program was revived in 2014/15.

Objectives

- To develop basic skills in students that are needed for safe and responsible choices, where drug use is concerned; and
- To develop basic skills in students that are needed for safe and responsible choices, where violent behaviour is concerned.

Beneficiaries

While all schools benefit from the program, all schools do not benefit in the same school year. This is due to human resource constraints. The program targets children in all public and private primary and secondary schools. During 2014/15, the program was administered in 17 schools.

Implementation

The RBPF is responsible for implementing the program. During 2012–13 and 2013–14, the program was not taught in schools because it was undergoing a revision to meet what was being done internationally. The curriculum abroad had been revised in 2010. Consequently, officers needed to be trained and recertified. With the assistance of facilitators from abroad, officers were recertified in 2014.

The new D.A.R.E. program is supported by a student workbook and video presentations featuring information on substance abuse, bullying, and skills students need to help them make safe choices regarding drugs, alcohol, and illicit drugs as well as setting preventative goals. On completion of the curriculum, students will graduate from the program. The first graduation will take place in 2015.

Funding/Budget/Staff

D.A.R.E is funded by money allocated annually to the RBPF by the government. The money spent specifically on this program is not known. Some assistance with costs was provided by a private enterprise in 2014.⁹³

⁹² No further information was provided regarding the staff, the program budget, or the funding sources.

⁹³ No further information was provided regarding staff, the program budget or funding sources.

Expenditure for 2012/13: N/A
Expenditure for 2013/14: \$20,000⁹⁴
Expenditure for 2014/15: \$12,000⁹⁵

Evaluation/Results

An internal evaluation of D.A.R.E was conducted in 2011. The results of the evaluation could not be produced.⁹⁶

School Liaison Program

Background

The School Liaison Program was established in 2000 in response to increase issues of indiscipline among students in schools.

Objectives

To provide educational support to children on topics conducive to their positive development.

Beneficiaries

All schools in Barbados are considered for the program. During 2014, 49 lectures were given at schools.⁹⁷ A school may benefit from more than one visit in a year.

Implementation

The Community Relations Department of the RBPF is responsible for implementing the program. Priority is given to schools where there are reported acts of indiscipline or concern expressed by teachers and/or guidance counsellors.

Activities of the Program

- Community police officers give presentations primarily on road safety, criminal acts, and the use of harmful substances.
- Students have been sensitised through talks and demonstrations given by community policing officers, on road safety and proper usage of the road as pedestrians.
- Students have been sensitised to having respect for themselves and others, the consequences of delinquent behaviour; self-esteem and good decision-making, the law relating to theft, using threatening words, wandering, assault on others, drug use, and its consequences and the misuse of computers.

Funding/Budget/Staff

The School Liaison Program is funded by money allocated annually to the Community Relations Department by the government. The money spent specifically on this program is not known.⁹⁸

⁹⁴ Cost of retraining officers to deliver the new curriculum.

⁹⁵ Cost of obtaining workbooks from abroad.

⁹⁶ This is because officers were unable to locate a copy of the report. The unit that conducted or coordinated the evaluation falls under the same parent ministry as the police force. Requests for a viewing of the report were unsuccessful.

⁹⁷ The RBPF was unable to provide the total number of schools

⁹⁸ No further information was provided regarding staff, the program budget or funding sources.

Evaluation/Results

No formal evaluation of the program has been conducted. There is no evaluation scheduled to take place in the near future.

SECONDARY PREVENTION PROGRAMS: TARGETING EARLY DELINQUENT AND VIOLENT BEHAVIOUR

The Juvenile Liaison Scheme

Background

The Juvenile Liaison Scheme began in 1983. It was designed to target at-risk youth who were engaging in delinquent behaviour. The program is designed to intervene among youth before they are brought before the Court. It is a preventive measure seeking to avoid children being charged for criminal activity. The program is overseen by a committee that is chaired by the Commissioner of Police. The committee includes personnel from the Ministry of Education, the Child Care Board, the National Task Force on Crime Prevention, the Probation Department, the Welfare Department, the Attorney General's Chambers, the Clergy, and Juvenile Liaison Scheme staff members.

Objectives

The program started with the goal of diverting juveniles from the criminal justice system and was based on an observed increase in crime committed by juveniles. The court process was also seen as rigorous and traumatic for juveniles and formed part of the basis for establishing the program.

- Reduce delinquency among juveniles
- Divert juvenile offenders from the rigors and traumatic experience of the Criminal Justice System
- Counsel juveniles—and their parents—who are considered at risk of becoming involved in criminal activity
- Provide voluntary supervision and counselling of juveniles who have been admitted into the program

Beneficiaries

At-risk youth⁹⁹: Children between the ages of 7 and 16 years who are known to be engaged in criminal activity and children suspected of exposure to the risk factors of criminal activity. Although children between the age of 7 and 16 years are targeted by the program, children older than 16 years of age who are still at school can be referred to the program. Young adults may also access the counselling services of the program.

- 239 juveniles benefitted during 2012–13
- 207 juveniles benefitted from the scheme¹⁰⁰ during 2013–14

⁹⁹ *At-risk* is defined here as children who exhibit deviant behaviour, behavioural problems such as rudeness to parents, going outside of the house and coming in late, shouting at parents, using drugs, and committing other offences. These children are seen as being prone to future criminal behaviour.

¹⁰⁰ These figures represent the total for the fiscal year.

Implementation

The RBPF is responsible for implementing the Juvenile Liaison Scheme. The program is administered from the RBPF's Crime Prevention Unit, located in Bridgetown. Beneficiaries are selected primarily by way of referrals. Referrals may come from the following:

- A parent or guardian who has a difficult child or suspects that the child is engaging in criminal activity may seek assistance from the Juvenile Liaison Scheme.
- A police officer who suspects that a child is involved in criminal activity may refer the child. In a case where a juvenile has committed an offence, the police officer may caution rather than prosecute the juvenile.
- Principals, officers of social agencies such as the Child Care Board, the Welfare Department, and the Probation Department may refer a problematic child or a child suspected of being involved in criminal or risky activities that could lead to criminal charges.

Activities of the Program

- *Parenting education:* Parents benefit from a workshop each month. Its purpose is to provide education for parents about adolescents, domestic violence, developmental stages of adolescence, conflict resolution, and anger management.
- *Community outreach:* Juveniles are engaged in various activities that teach them about their civic responsibility to the community. This involves visiting residential homes for senior citizens and removing debris surrounding retirement homes, and care of the elderly in district hospitals. This bridges the generational gap between youth and elderly adults. It also exposes students to professions in nursing, care of elderly adults, and landscaping.
- *Summer camp:* Juveniles are enrolled in an annual summer camp program where they coexist in a friendly and rehabilitative environment. Students are taught respect for others and themselves, assisted with goal-setting, and exposed to the value of teamwork and good decision-making. Students also benefit from tours to the prison and sites of interest.
- *Parent volunteer:* This involves qualified social workers, trained psychologists, and sociologists providing moral support to parents and juveniles admitted to the scheme. A volunteer may spend a few hours, a weekend, or an entire day taking part in an activity with his or her assigned family. This program acts as a monitoring mechanism for the scheme.

Clients receive service for approximately six months. Children who had committed offences are assessed for improvement in their behaviour. Findings are presented to the Board where decisions are made on whether to issue a warning or a charge. Where there is improvement in behaviour, the child may be issued a warning. Warnings may be given for stealing, being rude, and fighting. Warnings are not given for offences involving large amounts of drugs, murder, or serious bodily harm. These may be referred to the Probation Department.

Funding/Budget/Staff

All funding comes from the government. Moneys are voted for by parliament.

- Expenditure for 2012–13: \$13,000
- Expenditure for 2014–15: \$17,000

Money was spent on providing lunch and materials for the vacation camp and stipends for tutors.¹⁰¹

Evaluation/Results

An evaluation was conducted during 2010 by an outside agency.¹⁰² The objectives were (a) to evaluate the extent to which the program had achieved its objectives, (b) the extent to which the services provided by the Juvenile Liaison Scheme addressed the actual needs of juveniles (c) the sustainability of positive behavioural changes in juveniles (d) whether a need existed to revise any aspects of the Juvenile Liaison Scheme intervention strategies (e) whether the existing human resource capacity of the Juvenile Liaison Scheme was adequate enough to fulfil the objectives of the department. A sample of 88 participants was chosen from clients that received services between 1988 and 2010. Nearly half (41 or 46.95 per cent) of the clients were between the ages of 14 and 18. Thirty-seven clients (42.5 per cent) were between the age of 19 and 23. Seven clients (7.95 per cent) were younger than 13 years of age.

Findings

Findings were generally positive. The majority of clients received service for one to six months. Forty-four per cent for one to three months and 27 per cent for four to six months.

- *Satisfaction:* Satisfaction with the service was generally good. Clients were satisfied with the courtesy of staff, support given, understanding shown and help given in identifying personal goals.
- *Behavioural change:* The majority of those who presented with drug addictions agreed that they had decreased their use of drugs, they make better decisions, they have some friend, family member or person in the community who they can turn to for support, they take better care of themselves, they are better at solving problems, they are better at controlling their anger, they attended school more regularly and they became employed and they learnt skills that helped them.

Relative to the risk factors before the Juvenile Liaison Scheme, 90 per cent were on probation, 27 percent were raised by both parents, 68 per cent were raised by a single female parent, 40 percent were raised by someone other than their parent, 4 per cent were raised by a single male parent, and 60 percent had witnessed violence. Thirty per cent reported occasional use of marijuana, alcohol, or other drugs.

Relative to risk factors after the Juvenile Liaison Scheme, 51 per cent obtained full-time employment, 9 per cent had committed a crime, 10 per cent had been arrested, 4 per cent had been convicted, and 2 per cent had been imprisoned. In addition, 22 per cent had been suspended from school, and 10 per cent were expelled from school. One fifth (21.59 per cent) reported occasional use of marijuana, alcohol, or other drugs. Reduction of use of these substances among men was greatest (from 26.1 per cent to 14.77 per cent). There was no reduction in usage among women (from 4.5 per cent to 6.8 per cent).

¹⁰¹ No further information was provided regarding staff, the program budget or funding sources.

¹⁰² The evaluation used a nonscientific method and depended heavily on self-reported information. This is of little use in determining effectiveness.

Visitation of Schools Program

Background

The Visitation of Schools program was established in 2000. It was designed to intervene during the early stages of problem behaviour among children in schools. The program provides the police with a means of monitoring the parameters of schools with the aim of identifying drug sellers and ensuring that the schools' environs are safe. Through dialogue, issues of delinquency are identified and the necessary intervention made.

Objectives

To monitor and address levels of indiscipline by children in schools through dialogue with principals and teachers.

Beneficiaries

School children: Children at all schools are targeted for the program.¹⁰³

Implementation

The Community Relations Department of the RBPF is responsible for implementing the program. Community policing officers visit schools and communicate with school principals with the aim of identifying problems being experienced. Police officers are also invited by school principals to talk to problematic children.

Activities of the Program

- Visits to schools have assisted with the early intervention of delinquent behaviour by students.
- Students who have reportedly been problematic have been referred to the Juvenile Liaison Scheme program where they could receive the help from the program that has been designed to meet the needs of problematic children.

Funding/Budget/Staff

The School Liaison Program is funded by money allocated annually to the Community Relations Department by the government. The money spent specifically on this program is not known.¹⁰⁴

Evaluation/Results

No formal evaluation of the program has been conducted. There is no evaluation scheduled to take place in the near future.

Out-of-School Suspension Program

Background

In 1995, the Barbados Government stated in its White Paper on Education Reform that it was committed to putting together a program that would cater more effectively to the learning and emotional needs of children whose education would be in danger as a result of deviant behaviour and suspensions or expulsion from school. The Edna Nicholls Centre was therefore formed. The Out-of-School Suspension Program followed in 1998 as a result of concern expressed by teachers and principals about their lack of resources in dealing with severely

¹⁰³ No information on the number of beneficiaries was provided.

¹⁰⁴ No further information was provided regarding staff, the program budget or funding sources.

disruptive students. It was acknowledged by the Ministry of Education in 1996, that there was a need for an out-of-school facility to cater to severely disruptive students. It was agreed after consultation with various bodies involved in the education of children and the protection of children, that a rehabilitative facility would best meet the needs of the students. The program facilitates the successful reintegration of students into school.

Objectives

The main aim of the program is to help students in the secondary school system who have been suspended, referred, or in some instances expelled from school for extreme problem behaviour. Additional objects are as follows:

- To reduce the number of repeat offenders and lessen the likelihood of expulsion from school;
- To develop in students effective coping, problem-solving and conflict-resolution skills;
- To improve self-esteem and interpersonal skills among students;
- To reduce and eliminate negative behaviours in students attending the Centre; and
- To improve each student's behaviour and enhance his or her personal and social development and attitude toward school such that it has a positive impact on the student's academic performance.

Beneficiaries

At-risk youth¹⁰⁵: The program targets students of secondary schools who have been suspended from school for problem behaviour.

- 212 students were served in 2012/13
- 172 students benefitted during 2013/14¹⁰⁶

Implementation

The Edna Nichols Centre, under the purview of the Ministry of Education, Science, Technology, and Innovation, is the entity responsible for the implementation of the Out-of-School Suspension Program. Students that have been suspended from school for problem behaviour are referred to the program by their school principals. Students attend the program for a period of two weeks.¹⁰⁷

Activities of the Program

The following are the program's modular activities:

- Inspection and prayers each morning
- Social worker home visits
- Conflict-resolution module
- Effective communication module
- Self-esteem module
- AIDS awareness module
- Reaching potential and setting goals module

¹⁰⁵ No clear definition of *at-risk* was provided.

¹⁰⁶ The reduced number was a consequence of two employees being on leave. The Centre did not receive replacements for these two employees and consequently fewer students could be accommodated.

¹⁰⁷ Students attend the program for a period of two weeks. This is because of government regulations for the suspensions of students. Students may be suspended for a maximum of two weeks.

- Respect and responsibility module
- Handling peer counselling module
- Relationships and feelings module
- Managing anger modules
- Ethics module
- A day with the military

Students are also tested for the use of drugs. If results are positive, students may be referred to other agencies for counselling. The program makes referrals to a clinical psychologist and paediatric psychiatrist.

Funding/Budget/Staff

The program is funded by the Ministry of Education, Science, Technology, and Innovation.

Expenditure for 2012/13: \$971,677.96; associated costs included the following:

- \$11,173: Drug testing
- \$13,685: Drug counselling
- \$26,715: Psychological consultations

Expenditure for 2013/14: \$797,033.08; associated costs included the following:

- \$10,238: Drug testing
- \$12,960: Drug counselling
- \$42,735: Psychological consultations

Evaluation/Results

There was an evaluation conducted but the date could not be determined and there is difficulty locating a copy of the report at the Ministry of Education. There is no evaluation database.

Supreme Self-Development and Awareness

Background

The Supreme Self-Development and Awareness Program was established in 2009 as a life skills program. Against the background of a need to address issues of problem behaviour among students in schools, however, the program was redeveloped and relaunched in 2012. The program was designed to provide youth t risk of future violent behaviour, with behavioural alternatives.

Objectives

- To assist participants with the development of coping, social and life skills;
- To make participants aware of self and to inculcate a high level of self-esteem in all who participates in this project;
- To offer counselling services that can enhance and uplift the moral fibre of our youth through behavioural modification techniques;
- To inculcate and maintain an optimal level of integrity and self-worth in the students and young people of Barbados;
- To assist the schools in maintaining a safe and friendly environment where teaching and learning remains a safe and secure activity;

- To offer early intervention in the lives of wayward or delinquent students in our school system; and
- To make participants aware of various ways of dealing with different situations in a calm way.

Beneficiaries

At-risk youth in schools¹⁰⁸

- 2012–13: Four schools targeted (~150 students)
- 2013–14: Five schools targeted (~300 students)
- 2014–15: Six schools targeted (~479 students)

Implementation

Supreme Counseling for Self-Development is the entity responsible for the implementation of the program. Schools that are involved in the program are targeted based on known information about issues they were having with children.

Children and parents are informed about the program at their school's orientation after which children that have exhibited problem behaviour are encouraged to apply on a voluntary basis. A committee then selects the children who appear most in need of intervention. Children are selected on the condition that their parents agree to be part of the program as well. The probation department has also recommended children in the past.

Once children with problem behaviour are identified, the first phase of the program begins with children from first form, and goes to the end of third form. During this time the students are involved in sessions concentrating on topics such as Self-Esteem and Self-Image; Self-Awareness and Self-Concept; Self-Acceptance and Self-Efficacy, Anger Management, and Problem Solving and Conflict Resolution. Upon reaching fourth form the students go into the "Unlocking Your Future" phase of the program and cover the following topics: Appreciating Diversity and Relationship Skills; Leadership and Decision Making; Social Awareness and Networking; and Career Showcase, Business Etiquette, and Career Mentoring. All sessions are held at school.

The Supreme Mentoring Program commences work with the children when they are entering second form. A mentor assigned to a child is responsible for working with his or her mentee for the entire second year and is responsible for assisting the child with home work, developing positive study habits, helping with research for school assignments, and developing social skills and other etiquettes. They are also to be there for children exhibiting problem behaviour to discuss their problems or concerns and to act as support outside of the immediate family.

Funding/Budget/Staff¹⁰⁹

Supreme Counseling for Personal Development has received financial assistance from The Maria Holder Memorial Trust yearly for programming. Fund raising must be done for payment of staff. Other sources are Sandy Lane Charitable Trust, the Ministry of Social Care; Sagicor Life Insurance; City of Bridgetown Credit union Ltd; Seawell Industries; Rose La Flamme; Great Pacific; Caribbean Consultants; St. Nicholas Abbey; Courts; Nation Publishing; Cot Holding; Automotive Art; Magnequench; Rentokil Initial; Armstrong Industries; Carlisle Laboratories; TMR; Bank of Montreal; Blueprint Creative Inc; Ultimate Insurance; Ansa Mcal; Nassco; Bartel Credit Union; Goddard Enterprises; United Insurance; Mount Gay; SDRR; Francine Downey,

¹⁰⁸ No definition was provided for *at-risk*.

¹⁰⁹ No information was provided regarding the staff, the program budget, or the funding sources.

Beefeater; the Barbados Public Workers Coop Credit Union Ltd; Da Costa Mannings, Blue Corporate Managers (B'dos) Inc and Rotary Club of Barbados; Bridgetown.

Evaluation/Results

An evaluation was conducted in 2013 at the request of one of the funders of the program. The evaluation looked at the effectiveness of the program.¹¹⁰ It found that the ability of Project Rescue to completely correct behavioural deficits may be limited by some factors. It implied that the Project Rescue program works as a mechanism for controlling the behaviour of some participants and may bring about meaningful change in behaviour of others.

The majority of participants surveyed indicated that the Life-skills aspect of the program has helped them to feel better about who they are (85 per cent) and helped them to control their anger (74 per cent). Fewer (62 per cent) indicated that it has helped them stop their classmates or friends from arguing or fighting. The mentoring scheme was considered beneficial to children in most cases. However, there were a few students who indicated they strongly disagreed that their mentor points them in the right direction even though they may not like what they say. It was suggested that procedures for recruiting and selecting mentors may have to become more stringent as the program grows and periodic assessment of the mentoring relationships be carefully done by the organisation so as not to detract good mentors.

There was an issue of poor attendance during the third term and complaints about missed classes. To mitigate this it was recommended that the organisation schedule classes less often, perhaps every two weeks or offer academic help during the third term only. One school, an older secondary school, had moved delivery of the program from the weekly school curriculum to Saturday mornings. Attendance is not as good as at the other schools. It was suggested that children of the program at this school should graduate after three years and have a longer mentorship period to compensate.

The parent education initiative appeared to have been stalled and it was recommended that it be restarted using a cost effective mechanism (internet closed group or email) to answer and share questions asked by parents.

SECONDARY PREVENTION PROGRAMS: SUPPRESSION

Breaking the Silence on Child Abuse

Background

The Breaking the Silence on Child Abuse program was established in 2013. It was developed in response to the seriousness and escalation in cases of child sexual abuse in particular. The program is informed by the proposed reforms to the laws governing child abuse in Barbados. It was not intended to be a stand-alone program, but to have the approaches fully integrated into the child protection system in a seamless manner across all disciplines—education, health, law enforcement, court system, and families.

¹¹⁰ The evaluation appeared to be based on self reported perception and opinions among participants. There was no evidence of any scientific design aimed at assessing behaviour change. Conclusions reached, therefore, are questionable. The evaluation did not appear to comprehensively address the achieving of the stated objectives.

Objectives

UNICEF has rolled out the Breaking the Silence on Child Abuse program to focus on the following:

- Strengthening the legal and policy frameworks to better protect children against sexual abuse, as well as all other forms of abuse;
- Building on and revitalizing services and supportive initiatives; and
- Implementing a communication and social mobilization campaign using the Teddy Bear symbol to eliminate the conspiracy of silence around child abuse.

Beneficiaries

The program targets policymakers, judiciary, frontline professionals who work directly with children, caregivers, faith-based leaders, and children themselves.

- Approximately 30 per cent children attending schools implementing the Child-Friendly School framework in Barbados were reached directly through sensitization workshops on child sexual abuse at schools and through traditional media.
- Of those reached through school-based sessions, approximately 180 were adolescent boys, ages 13-15 years during boys-only sensitization workshops. All efforts were made to ensure that boys from all strata of society were reached, including those considered at risk because of their low literacy levels and those from impoverished communities.
- Approximately 30 per cent of the professionals from the health and education sectors were sensitized indirectly, reaching approximately 50,000 children.
- Child Protection Agency, Ministry of Education, other relevant state and nonstate agencies to provide tailored, outpatient clinic follow-up for victims of child sexual abuse.

Implementation

The Breaking the Silence on Child Abuse Program is a UNICEF initiative that is implemented by the Child Care Board. Participants are selected based on their ability to influence reform of Legislation, Services, Access, Response and Societal Action.

They are also selected because they interact directly with children and sometimes are the first persons to whom children would report child sexual abuse or other forms of violence.

Activities of the Program

- UNICEF provided financial and technical assistance for sensitization and capacity building on child sexual abuse for persons who interact with children at community level, namely faith-based leaders, teachers, health professionals, and football and cricket coaches.
- UNICEF provided technical and financial assistance for the development of guidelines for churches for preventing, responding, and managing cases of child sexual abuse.
- UNICEF provided technical and financial assistance for the development of media campaign on child abuse and neglect.

- UNICEF provided technical and financial support for sensitization for children to help them to recognize child sexual abuse and how to respond in the event of child sexual abuse.
- UNICEF provided technical and financial assistance for survey among children to understand areas of violence for them in school-based settings.
- UNICEF provided technical assistance to the government to review and make recommendations for overhaul of laws relating to children in order to offer a more protective legislative environment for girls and boys from violence, abuse, neglect, and discrimination.
- UNICEF supported the Child Care Board in examining recommendations for the modernization of Child Protection Services in Barbados.
- UNICEF supported the development of a draft mandatory reporting protocol for child abuse, particularly sexual abuse.

Funding/Budget/Staff

Funding for the program comes from the Child Care Board as well as from UNICEF. Support from UNICEF is dependent varies annually.

- Expenditure for 2012: BDS\$106,200
- Expenditure for 2013: BDS\$30,000
- Expenditure for 2014: BDS\$43,400¹¹¹

Evaluation/Results

No evaluation of the program has been conducted. There are no plans to conduct an evaluation in the near future.

TERTIARY PREVENTION PROGRAMS

Partnership for Peace

Background

Partnership for Peace began in 2012. It was designed to respond primarily to violence between intimate partners but includes other situations where there has been violence towards women.

Objectives

- To encourage men to take accountability for their violence towards women; and
- To promote victim safety.

Beneficiaries

The program targets men who have been abusive to women. Approximately 50 persons (males) have participated since the program began in 2012.

¹¹¹ No further information was provided regarding staff, the program budget or funding sources.

Implementation

The Ministry of Social Care, Constituency Empowerment, and Community Development is the entity that is responsible for the implementation of Partnership for Peace. Participants are primarily selected from cases seen at the Magistrates' Courts, however social service agencies refer their clients as well. Self-referrals are also accepted. The program is guided by the Domestic Violence (Protection Orders) Act 1992-4. However, other persons charged for criminal offences such as assault are also referred to the program. There is no hotline associated with the program. However, facilitators do provide on-call services to the clients in the event of a crisis.

Activities of the Program

Men are exposed to ways of handling conflict and developing skills so as to be able to choose nonviolent ways of dealing with anger.

Funding/Budget/Staff

Funding was provided by UNIFEM¹¹² for the first Cycle, after which the Ministry of Social Care, Constituency Empowerment, and Community Development funded the program. Expenditure for 2012–13: \$165,000¹¹³

Evaluation/Results

The Ministry of Social Care, Constituency Empowerment, and Community Development has been approached by Adelphi University in New York, USA, to conduct an evaluation of the program intended to obtain an understanding of effective interventions for batterers. To date, no evaluation has been conducted.

Offender Psychological Counseling

Background

The Offender Psychological Counseling Program was first implemented in 2008. It was designed in order to provide inmates with the necessary resiliency and coping skills that would allow them to be able to effectively reintegrate into society once released. Because the program's focus is on offenders who are reentering the community after confinement, in addition to counselling, there is also a social service and monitoring component that takes place during reintegration.

Objective

To treat effectively the inmates' psychological needs and to help them develop their psychological skills to effectively manage their lives after release.

Beneficiaries

The program targets male and female offenders who will eventually be released into society. Inmates with behavioural and/or psychological problems are also targeted.

- 100 total inmates benefited in 2012
- 115 total inmates benefited in 2013¹¹⁴

¹¹² Now called UNWOMEN.

¹¹³ No further information was provided regarding the staff, the program budget, or the funding sources.

¹¹⁴ These numbers relate to the calendar year.

Implementation

Her Majesty's Prison, under the purview of the Ministry of Home Affairs is the entity responsible for the implementation of the Offender Psychological Counseling Program. Inmates are assessed and referred to the Offender Psychological Counseling program by the Offenders Management Board after which the criminogenic needs of their Sentence Plan are outlined. Participation is on a voluntary basis.

Funding/Budget/Staff

Funding for the program is provided as part of the overall Prison Service Budget obtained from the government.¹¹⁵

Evaluation/Results

Evaluations of the program take the form of 'exit interviews' given to inmates upon their release. These interviews are conducted internally.¹¹⁶ Prison officials were unable to indicate that date of the last exit interview. No formal external evaluation has taken place.

Victim Support Program

Background

The RBPF Victim Support Program was established in 1998. It was developed in response to the perceived lack of attention received by persons directly or indirectly affected by crime. The program provides a link between law enforcement and the wider community and aims to demonstrate that the police do in fact care about societal well-being. Officers were initially trained to offer support. However, to prevent a conflict of interest with the police gaining trust and confidence of victims and their duty to report confessions to any part of criminal activity, officers no longer serve as councillors.

Objectives

The program was established to offer emotional and practical support to nationals, nonnationals and their families and friends, who have suffered traumatic experiences as a result of crimes such as robbery, sexual offences, burglary and domestic violence.

Beneficiaries

The program provides services for the following¹¹⁷

- Victims of violence
- Family of victims of violence

Implementation

The RBPF is responsible for implementing the Victim Support Program. Police officers are made aware of the program and its purpose during their training. Victim support officers are assigned to police divisions and all police stations are informed of those support officers that correspond with their station location. At the scene of a crime, victims—and victims' families who appear in need of psychological services—are informed of the service by officers at the scene. Victims, and families may also be informed of the program by a hospital liaison officer who may advise either them or the police about the service offered. The coordinator of the

¹¹⁵ Prison officials indicated that they were unable to provide further data on staffing, budget, and expenditure given that allotments were not specific to the program.

¹¹⁶ These evaluations do not address whether objectives have been achieved. They are typically anecdotal in nature.

¹¹⁷ The RBPF was unable to provide data on the number of beneficiaries.

program also receives a daily crime report to check for traumatic cases that may require support for victims or victims' families.

Activities of the Program

- Counselling to victims and victims' families;
- Explaining the court process to victims and victims' families;
- Court preparation and companionship at court - this is geared at helping victims boost their confidence and increase their familiarity with the court system. It includes court visits, information about giving evidence in court, companionship at court while the victim gives evidence;
- Support and companionship at doctor for examination; and
- Referrals to other social service agencies for additional assistance.

Funding/Budget/Staff

The program is administered by a coordinator and 12 volunteers who are trained in social work and psychology. Any volunteers with a desire to assist are also welcomed. The program is funded by the Barbados Government.¹¹⁸

Evaluation/Results

There have been no evaluations conducted since the establishment of the program.

Anger Management Program

Background

The Anger Management Program was established in 2013. It was designed in response to a recognition that poor coping skills were responsible for much of the violence perpetuated by adolescents in Barbadian Society. As such, the program aimed to help adolescents realize that anger is an emotional response to something that pains or annoys them. Understanding this it was thought, would play a critical role in helping them control this response.

Objectives

To have each adolescent articulate their coping skills when angry and develop new ways of coping with their anger.

Beneficiaries

Youth in conflict with the law. Thirty residents participated in the program during the school academic year September 2013/14.

Implementation

The Government Industrial School is the entity responsible for the implementation of the program. The school identifies those in need of intervention on the basis of the offense that led to their present situation.

The program involves twelve anger management sessions lasting one hour per week over a period of 12 weeks.

Residents are sensitised to the following:

- What is anger

¹¹⁸ No further information was provided regarding the staff, the program budget, or the funding sources.

- Causes of anger
- How to respond to anger
- Ways to avoid being angry
- Alternatives to being angry
- Meditation
- Emotional intelligence—emotion and its relationship to anger
- Ways to reduce anger

Funding/Budget/Staff¹¹⁹

Funding for the program is received from the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Evaluation/Results

There have been no evaluations conducted since the establishment of the program. No evaluations are planned for the near future.

Shelter for Battered Women

Background

In 1999, the Shelter for Battered Women was opened with the assistance of the government of Barbados. It is the only institutional shelter for battered women in Barbados. It provides safe housing for battered women and their children for up to 3 months in most cases, but shelter may be given for a longer period.

Shelter has been given to female victims of intimate partner violence with undocumented status. Women who have been continuously residing in the country from the time they were youths and have created a family with male citizens of the country, are given shelter for them and their children when they become victims of physical violence and threats from their partner.

The shelter was designed to have a hotline but this has not been functioning as such.

Objectives

- To provide female domestic violence victims with 24-hour services to deal with physical, verbal, and emotional abuse through crisis management, education, shelter, counselling, and non-judgmental emotional support;
- To develop action plans to decrease the frequency, magnitude, and recurrence of domestic violence;
- To increase community awareness of the problem of domestic violence; and
- To discuss with every victim of domestic violence the various options available to her in terms of safety and services through the hotline service.

Beneficiaries

Services are offered to women and children victims of domestic violence, female victims of human trafficking, and other forms of gender-based violence.

¹¹⁹ The GIS was unable to provide further information regarding staff, the program budget and funding sources.

The shelter also assists in the housing of victims of human trafficking and prepares them for repatriation. Repatriation may involve training, education or other capacity building measures to reduce overall vulnerability or the likelihood of recurrence of human trafficking.

- 44 women and 78 children benefited in 2012
- 43 women and 59 children benefited in 2013
- 24 women and 27 children benefited in 2014

Implementation

The Business and Professional Women's Club of Barbados in association with the Ministry of Social Care, Constituency Empowerment and Community Development is the entity responsible for the implementation of the program. Access to the shelter is provided only by shelter staff. This usually follows a call for assistance by a victim or someone on behalf of a victim. Referrals also occasionally come from the police, hospital, polyclinics or faith-based organisations.

There are criteria to be met to gain access to the shelter, and after screening/ assessment, the appropriate determination is made. Staff of the shelter try to ensure that potential clients are indeed victims of violence rather than simply being homeless.

Activities of the Program

2011: Children's counselling and intervention program was implemented at the shelter. By this effort, individual and group therapy is provided for children accompanying their mothers in the shelter.

Clients at the shelter benefit from the following:

- Safe housing for the family
- Personal development advice
- Reduction or elimination of dependence, poverty, and abuse
- Improved self-image
- Job preparation
- Skills training
- Relocation of family
- Repatriation to home country
- Protection
- Legal support
- Mental and emotional support

2013: Formed an alliance with the Family Conflict Intervention Unit of the RBPF to tackle issues of domestic and intimate partner violence in Barbados. Business and Professional Women's Club of Barbados works closely with the Family Conflict Intervention Unit to manage most domestic violence cases. Police intervention is key in volatile situations and situations where the risk of injury is high.

2013: Provided multistakeholder training on gender-based violence for health professionals, police, social workers, counsellors, teachers, and faith-based organisations.

Funding/Budget/Staff

The government of Barbados is the main source of funding for the shelter. The Shelter for Battered Women is supported also by the fundraising efforts of the Business and Professional

Women's Club of Barbados, private companies, and individual donors. In 2013, a U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief grant was received. A human resource development grant was received in 2013 from the EU-NSA to conduct capacity building in gender based violence and other areas¹²⁰.

- Expenditure for 2012/13: \$360,000
- Expenditure for 2013/14: \$230,000
- Expenditure for 2014/15: \$316,800

Evaluation/Results

No formal evaluation of the shelter has been conducted. No evaluation is planned for the near future.

Crisis Centre and Crisis Hotline

Background

In 1986 a Crisis Centre Hotline was conceptualized in response to a series of rapes but was changed in name to respond to a need for counselling, education, and interventional services in gender-based violence. In 1997, the Crisis Centre began to provide face-to-face counselling and group counselling to survivors of domestic violence, rape, and sexual assault.

The walk-in Crisis Centre was closed in October 2014 because of a reduction in funds. The project will be reopened at a new lower-cost location in the near future. The goal of the project is to have a counselling, education and intervention space for both male and female survivors of gender-based violence. The space would also be utilised by the police, who often need a more patient-centred environment to interview victims and their families.

Objectives

- To provide domestic violence survivors with 24-hour services to deal with physical, verbal, and emotional abuse through crisis management, education, shelter, counselling, and nonjudgmental emotional support; and
- To provide face-to-face counselling to survivors of domestic violence, rape, and sexual assault.

Beneficiaries

Services are offered to women who are survivors of domestic violence, survivors of rape, and female survivors of human trafficking and other forms of gender-based violence. Between 2012 and 2014, 41 women benefitted from the Crisis Centre Clinic. During the same period, 669 women have called the hotline for help.¹²¹

Implementation

The Business and Professional Women's Club of Barbados—in association with the Ministry of Social Care, Constituency Empowerment, and Community Development—is the entity responsible for the implementation of the program. Business and Professional Women's Club of Barbados Crisis Centre and Hotline provides counselling and support services to women who are survivors of domestic violence, rape, and sexual assault. It also provides counselling to

¹²⁰ The Business and Professional Women's Club of Barbados indicated that with each entity that provides funding, the amount may vary each year. Some funding is given for specific purposes and not operational costs. Specific figures could not be provided.

¹²¹ The number of calls represent those answered by advocates during the hours of 6:00 am and 7:00/8:00 pm.

women with suicidal intent. The Crisis Centre and 24-hour hotline also serve as a conduit to the shelter for battered women. Women who are seen at the Crisis Centre and are in need of reprieve are referred to the shelter for admission. The Crisis Centre also serves as a place where potential clients of the shelter are assessed and interviewed for admission.

Funding/Budget/Staff

Face-to-face counselling at the Crisis Centre is handled by an official of the Business and Professional Women's Club of Barbados as well as social work interns. The hotline is handled by trained volunteers, Crisis Centre volunteers, and trained permanent staff. The Crisis Centre does not have its own budget. It is funded out of the Business and Professional Women's Club of Barbados Club funds. The cost of running the crisis hotline for 2012/13 was \$24,000¹²².

Evaluation/Results

No formal evaluation of the program has ever been conducted. There are no plans to conduct an evaluation in the near future.

Victim Impact Awareness Program

Background

The Victim Impact Program was established in 2013. It was designed to reduce the recidivism potential offenders who are serving their final 6–8 months at Her Majesty's Prison. It is delivered in a group setting to help offenders get to the point where they can empathize with their victims.

Objectives

To increase offenders' awareness of the impact of offender actions upon their victims to reduce the likelihood of reoffending.

Beneficiaries

Criminal offenders who are about to reenter society. A total of 48 inmates were served in 2013.

Implementation

The Reintegration Unit of the Barbados Prison Service is responsible for implementing the program. It is a voluntary program open to all offenders housed in the Reintegration Unit. Offenders who are deemed to be committed to changing their behaviour are selected for the program. Selection involves looking at the offender's record of behaviour and programs completed since incarceration.

Activities of the Program

- Offenders participate in workshops for eight weeks. Workshops are conducted once each week with each session lasting one and a half hours.
- Offenders are sensitised to the effects of various criminal acts on primary and secondary victims. Offenders are exposed to the effects of robbery, assault, burglary, gang violence, and domestic violence on the victims as well as the perpetrator's family.

¹²²No further information was provided regarding the staff, the program budget, or the funding sources.

Funding/Budget/Staff

Funding for the program is received from the budget allocated to Her Majesty's Prison by the Ministry of Home Affairs.¹²³

Evaluation/Results

No formal evaluation of the program has ever been conducted. There are no plans to conduct an evaluation in the near future.

Inmate Drug Rehabilitation Counseling

Background

The Inmate Drug Rehabilitation Program was established in 2001. It offers clinical therapy to male and female inmates and is aimed at reducing drug dependency and therefore reducing the likelihood of reoffending once released. The program is designed to be the first stage of rehabilitation of inmates before their release from Her Majesty's Prison.

Objectives

- To offer drug counselling through two groups (treatment and psycho education groups),
- To offer cognitive behavioural therapy education to both male and female inmates at Her Majesty's Prison, and
- To provide individual counselling to inmates with maladaptive and emotional needs.

Beneficiaries

Inmates due for release as well as persons ordered by the court to undergo drug rehabilitation are eligible for the program.

- 48 inmates benefitted in 2012
- 59 inmates benefitted in 2013

Implementation

The Reintegration Unit of the Barbados Prison Service is the entity responsible for the implementation of the program. Male offenders who have been sentenced by the court and ordered to undergo drug rehabilitation are given priority for the drug treatment component of the program. Inmates who want to have their habit treated may also voluntarily attend the program but are given less priority.

The prison's inmate review board also reviews inmates' records and inmates who appear in need of drug treatment and due for release are considered eligible for the psychoeducational component of the program. Female inmates whose sentence relates to drug use or drug trafficking are also selected to attend the psychoeducation component.

Activities of the Program

- Themes in the court ordered treatment component are administered according to the stage of drug use the inmate may be at. Not all inmates have been at the same stage and some have been unwilling to start the program. Treatment has been administered to groups of 12–13 inmates where they were sensitised to withdrawal feeling and symptoms, anger and recovery, helplessness and problematic thinking.

¹²³ No further information was provided regarding the staff, the program budget, or the funding sources.

- A cognitive behavioural model is used for psycho education. Inmates have been put through a process of exercises, quizzes, and group work. They have been shown videos on stress management, conflict resolution, anger management, self-esteem awareness and building, irrational beliefs, drug use and domestic violence, asserting communication, and goal-setting.
- Females have been sensitised to the effects of drug use on pregnancy, different types of relationships, tolerance, and responding to differences in relationships. It was pointed that many females are drug users and some have swallowed drugs while pregnant.

Funding/Budget/Staff

Funding for the program is received from the budget allocated to Her Majesty's Prison by the Ministry of Home Affairs.¹²⁴

Evaluation/Results

No formal evaluation of the program has ever been conducted. There are no plans to conduct an evaluation in the near future.

Thinking and Living Skills Program

Background

The Thinking and Living Skills Program was established in 2011. This program posits that there are six general areas of developmental difficulty which places offenders at particular disadvantage in achieving cognitive and social competence and may contribute to recidivism. Psycho-educational and cognitive behavioural modules are incorporated throughout the program to teach skills that could impinge on the following principle targets: (a) self-control and self-management, (b) interpersonal problem-solving skills, (c) assertiveness and social skills, (d) social perspective-taking, (e) critical reasoning, and (f) cognitive style.

The program helps inmates identify cognitive styles that lead to offending behaviour. It helps them develop more useful thought habits and patterns so that they do not repeat criminal behaviour in the future.

Objectives

- To address thinking by offenders that leads them to commit offences,
- To reduce offending, and
- To reduce rates in recidivism.

Beneficiaries

Criminal offenders who are about to reenter society.

- 48 individuals were served in 2012
- 48 individuals were served in 2013

¹²⁴ No further information was provided regarding the staff, the program budget, or the funding sources.

Implementation

The Reintegration Unit of the Barbados Prison Service is responsible for implementing the program. Inmates who are eligible for release and who are residents of the Reintegration Unit are targeted for the program. A list of inmates who are close to being released is generated by a selection panel. Inmates' attitude to change, their criminal record, prison programs undertaken, degree of need, and openness to the program are also considered as well as whether inmates have matters pending before the court. Inmates who do have matters pending are not considered. (Serial offenders are given less consideration.)

Activities of the Program

- Sessions are delivered to treatment groups of 8–12 inmates.
- Inmates in the groups are taught self-management and self-control; how to control their emotions, how to stop and think; interpersonal problem solving; assertiveness and social skills; social perspective taking, of the behaviour of others and how it impacts on them and how their behaviour impacts on others; critical reasoning, cognitive style, and value reasoning.
- The program is been delivered in an interactive classroom setting. Inmates are able to speak about their personal issues. Inmates are given reading material and worksheets to complete during sessions as a way of reinforcing what they were taught.
- Inmates in the program rehearse scenarios where they develop the new thinking habits and styles.

Funding/Budget/Staff

Funding for the program is received from the budget allocated to Her Majesty's Prison by the Ministry of Home Affairs.¹²⁵

Evaluation/Results

No formal evaluation of the program has ever been conducted. There are no plans to conduct an evaluation in the near

¹²⁵ No further information was provided regarding staff, the program budget or funding sources.