

The official Statistics Bulletin

BW-STATISTICS NEWS

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**Statistics Botswana
donates to
Rankoromane School**

**Businesses and
Households required
to provide data
CEE & BDS**

**Inagural
Statistics
User-Producer
Workshop**

**Statistics Botswana
pens deal with Ministry
of Tertiary Education**

**STATISTICIAN GENERAL PARTICIPATES
AT THE 48TH UN STATISTICAL SESSION**



STATISTICS BOTSWANA

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Editor-In-Chief's Note

Welcome to BW-Statistics News. This is the FIRST edition of the Statistics Botswana (SB) News Magazine! BW-Statistics News intends to keep users and producers of statistics informed and updated about all matters statistics. We have adopted an approach that enables you to enjoy the read, while getting to know what we do on a daily, and what statistics as a discipline is really all about. Gone are the days when many thought that statistics was abstract!

BW-Statistics News will be showcasing the important work being done by Statistics Botswana and the National Statistical System. The statistical community should view it as a means for finding and exchanging relevant information, learning more about current activities and future plans, reinforcing cooperation, creating synergies, as well as a platform that presents opportunities to improve effectiveness. The National Statistical System can submit news or articles of local and international interest to: info@statsbots.org.bw at any point in time.

Inside this edition, you will find a combination of news and features on a wide range of statistics related topics. Before all else we give you a rounded presentation on Statistics Botswana, its mandate, and products and services. It is important that all our stakeholders are aware of what we do, and the various statistics that are available for their decision making and planning.

We pay homage to one of the stalwarts of Statistics Botswana, former Deputy Statistician General, and Mr Dabilani Buthali. After serving Central Statistics Office for 23 years, and Statistics Botswana for 5 years, he surely deserves some rest, but his departure is a poignant reminder that indeed parting is such a sweet sorrow. In the no-holds-barred interview with Temba Sibanda, Mr Buthani pours his heart on work

life and politics.

The Statistician General Ms Anna Majelantle's sojourn to the Big Apple highlights the length and breadth that we are prepared to go in pursuit of our vision, "to be a world class provider of quality official statistics and related services." Ms Majelantle attended the 48th UN Statistical Session which incidentally marked the 70th anniversary of the Commission.

We also feature a meeting of minds as Statistics Botswana signs a memorandum of Understanding with Ministry of Tertiary Education Research, Science and Technology (MOTE), a true indication that synergy is not only respected but practiced by Statistics Botswana.

This edition features an inaugural statistics user-producer workshop that is aimed at facilitating dialogue between members of the National Statistical System to find means of harmonization in order to produce the right data, for the right people, at the right time, delivered in the right format. An international training of trainers workshop dubbed, 'The Effective Use of Food Balance Sheets for Agricultural Statistics' is also featured.

SB's benevolence came to the fore when we heeded a noble call to donate mattresses and dishes to the students of Camphill Community Trust-Rankoromane School. While we donated handsomely to the school, it is not the mattresses and dishes we gave that remained behind, but rather our hearts which will be in Otse for some time to come. BW-Statistics News-Enjoy the read!

Lillian Setimela
Ag. Director-Stakeholder Relations

STATISTICS BOTSWANA

Statistics Botswana is a parastatal organization that transformed from the former Central Statistics Office, which was a department under the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, which is now the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development.

GET TO KNOW STATISTICS BOTSWANA

The organization was established under the Statistics Act of 2009, and started official operations in 2012 as a pre-eminent parastatal organization responsible for the development and management of official statistics, and the official source and custodian of official statistics in the country.

Mandate and Functions

Statistics Botswana's business is to:

- Collect, process, compile, analyze, publish, disseminate and archive official statistics across all sectors of the economy;
- Produce and provide Government, the private sector, parastatal organisations, international organisations, the civil society and the general public with statistical information for evidence based decision-making, policy formulation and planning as well as investment purposes;
- Provide advisory and technical services to all users on statistical matters;
- Develop and promote the use of statistical standards and appropriate methodologies;
- Conduct the population and housing census every ten (10) years and other censuses and surveys such as agriculture census;
- Organize and maintain a central repository of statistical reports, publications, documents and data from both within and outside Botswana

- Coordinate, monitor and supervise the activities of the National Statistical System (NSS). The NSS, once fully operational, is envisaged to consist of additional agencies and institutions in Botswana dealing with or directly associated with;
 - The provision of documents and other information for the purpose of and connected with carrying out of statistical business,
 - The use of official statistics and other statistics,
 - Research and development of statistical methods

Governance

Statistics Botswana is governed by a Board of Directors reporting to the Minister of Finance and Economic Development. The Organisation also implements its business operations through a horde of highly trained professionals with tailored-skills and discipline to drive the mandate of the organization.

Service Areas

Statistics Botswana has four service areas, otherwise known as Directorates and they provide the following:

Economic Statistics - this service area compiles, analyses and reports on economic statistics indicators such as GDP, Consumer Price Index, International Merchandise Trade, Tourism,

Production levels, Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Agriculture, and Environment. These statistics are provided through four divisions: National Accounts & Prices; Tourism, Trade and Industry; Agriculture & Environment; and Transport, Infrastructure and ICT.

Socio-Demographic Statistics – the service area compiles, analyses and reports on socio-demographic indicators such as population, employment, poverty, crime, vital and civil registration, education and health. The directorate provides service in three divisions: Census & Demography, Labour & Poverty, and Education & Health. The directorate provides informed relevant indicators, analysis, periodic reports and statistics on various population indicators including employment, poverty, crime, vital and civil registration, education and health.

Stakeholder Relations – This directorate is responsible for the overall coordination and maintenance of effective relations with data providers, users and other producers of statistics within the National Statistics System (NSS). The directorate also manages collaboration with line ministries/departments, private sector, non-governmental organisations and development partners involved in the statistical production process. Other responsibilities include ensuring effective communication, advocacy, dissemination and documentation of statistical products and services. These activities are implemented through the services of the National Statistical System Coordination and External Relations as well as the Communication, Dissemination & Documentation divisions.

Standards, Methods & Information Systems (DSMIS) – This service driven directorate is mandated to collect and process data from various household and business surveys, censuses and administrative records; provides Cartographic and GIS services for census Enumeration Area (EA) maps; provides sampling frames support for household and business surveys and censuses; and maintains and updates the Statistical Business Register. The Directorate also provides technical and statistical services to internal and external stakeholders on surveys and data management; statistical standards; quality assurance; training and certification; and development of statistical systems. The directorate has four divisions, namely: Fieldwork and Regional Services Coordination, Sampling Frames Support, Statistical Standards and Data Management.

Support services – three service areas under support services are available: Corporate Services (Finance, Human Resources; Administration & IT) which is mandated to create an enabling environment that allows optimum output from all service areas. Internal Audit which maintains and reports internal audit issues to the Finance and Audit Committees of the Board of Statistics Botswana, and, Legal Services and Board Secretary which provides legal advice, review of legislation and Board Secretarial Services.

Dissemination of official statistics

Statistics Botswana disseminates statistical outputs and products to different stakeholders through electronic mechanisms such as the website and open data portals; dissemination conferences; meetings and workshops; and dissemination of publications through the Information Resource Centre and other national and public libraries across the country. Stakeholders can also present their data requests through email, telephone and walk-ins.

FOR YOUR DATA REQUESTS CONTACT:

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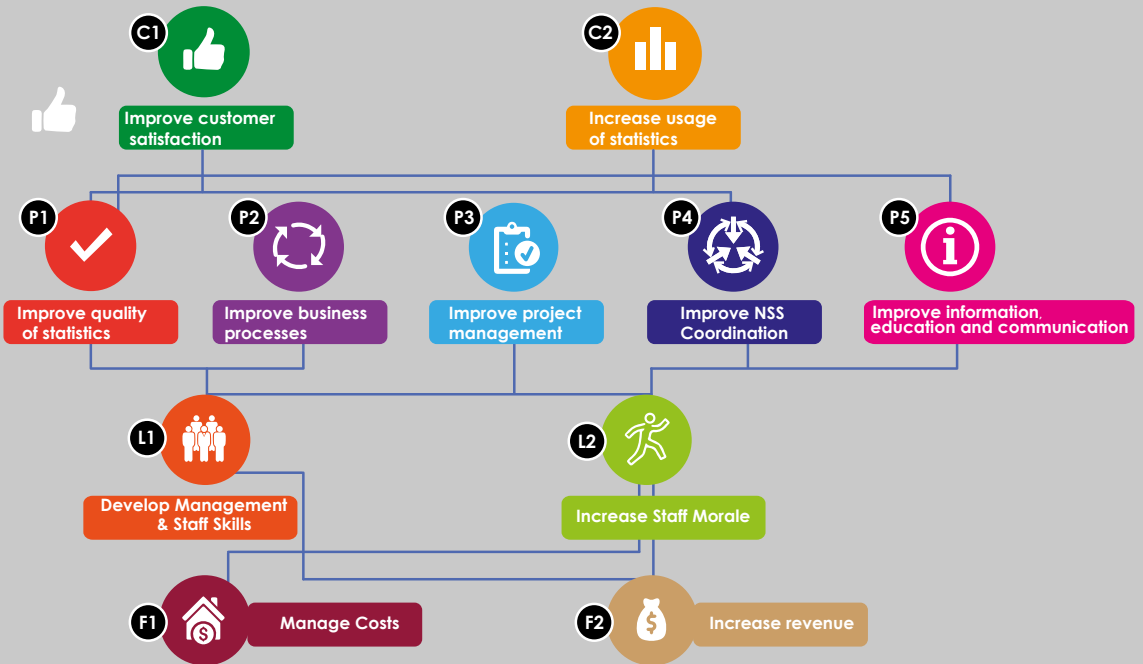
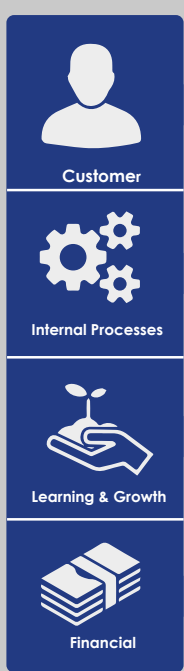
Toll free number: 0800600200

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STRATEGY MAP

STATISTICS BOTSWANA STRATEGIC PLAN 2015-2020



VISION: To be a world-class provider of quality official statistics and related services.
MISSION: To enable stakeholders formulate policies, plan and make decisions.

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STRATEGY OBJECTIVES

STATISTICS BOTSWANA(SB) STRATEGIC PLAN AWARENESS | STATISTICS BOTSWANA STRATEGIC PLAN 2015-2020

<p>OBJECTIVE C1 </p> <p>Improve customer satisfaction</p> <p>To improve satisfaction of customers as measured by the extent to which customers are satisfied with relevant dimensions including communication, product quality and service delivery</p>	<p>OBJECTIVE C2 </p> <p>Increase usage of statistics</p> <p>To see increased utilisation of statistics at all levels of society. Increased usage points to increasing statistical literacy, ease of access to statistics, and general understanding and acceptance of statistics</p>	<p>OBJECTIVE P1 </p> <p>Improve quality of statistics</p> <p>To improve quality of a broad range of macroeconomic and socio-demographic statistics. Quality will be assessed against several dimensions including relevance, accuracy, completeness, level of disaggregation, accessibility, consistency and timeliness. In addition, compliance with fundamental values, principles, standards and classifications of official statistics will be assessed</p>	<p>OBJECTIVE P2 </p> <p>Improve business processes</p> <p>To improve core and support business processes in order to enhance quality of statistics, quality of service delivery and reduction in costs. ICT is recognized as a key enabler of efficiency and effectiveness through its capacity to automate and integrate systems and processes</p>	<p>OBJECTIVE P3 </p> <p>Improve project management</p> <p>To improve timeliness of project delivery, quality of outputs and cost effectiveness.</p>
<p>OBJECTIVE P4 </p> <p>Improve NSS (National Statistical System) Coordination</p> <p>To improve provision of quality statistics across the NSS through enhancement of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of technical coordination by SB • Inter-sector coordination that is coordination among the sectors • Intra-sector coordination that is coordination within sectors who are members of the NSS 	<p>OBJECTIVE P5 </p> <p>Improve information, education and communication</p> <p>To promote the SB (Statistics Botswana) brand, obtain stakeholder support and increase usage of statistics. It is recognized that communication plays a critical role in promotion and advocacy for statistics</p>	<p>OBJECTIVE L1 </p> <p>Improve management and staff skills</p> <p>To improve staff performance and increase employee morale and engagement, and this will lead to improvement in provision of quality official statistics. Leadership and domain/technical skills are the main areas of focus for development.</p>	<p>OBJECTIVE L2 </p> <p>Improve staff morale</p> <p>To improve productivity and staff retention.</p>	<p>OBJECTIVE F1 </p> <p>Manage costs</p> <p>To maintain a healthy balance between staff and operating costs in order to ensure organisational sustainability. Adherence to the budget will be strictly monitored.</p>
<p>OBJECTIVE F2 </p> <p>Increase revenue</p> <p>To generate own revenue to support operations. It is acknowledged that the level of revenue generated will not necessarily replace Government subvention but supplement it.</p>				



STATISTICIAN GENERAL

PARTICIPATES AT THE 48TH UN STATISTICAL SESSION

Statistics Botswana (SB) participated at the 48th Session of the Statistics Commission which was also celebrating 70 years of its existence in supporting the Global Statistical System during the first week of March 2017 in New York, USA. The Commission was attended by Ms Anna Majelantle, who was making her fifth appearance as Statistician General. She was joined by the SB Vice Board Chairperson-Professor Keoagile Thaga, Manager-National Statistical System (NSS) & External Relations – Ms Koontse Mokgwathi and high level delegates from the Botswana Embassy in New York from 01-10 March 2017.

Participation at the commission accords Statistics Botswana to keep abreast with international developments with respect to statistics development. The annual meet, is chaired by different countries on a rotational basis and Botswana had that opportunity in 2010. The forum provides a basis for networking, sharing national practices, and reporting routine activities. The former Government Statistician - Mr Guest Charumbira was the Chair of the 30th and 31st sessions.

This year a lot of issues were tabled among them, the Transformative Agenda for official Statistics; it required the review of the handbook on Statistical



Organisation, a task that Botswana has since participated in. Also tabled was the issue of Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information - Botswana is a member and forms part of the expert group that plays an advisory role. The 48th session (2017) adopted the resolutions on Work of the UN Statistical Commission pertaining to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development subsequent sessions also had their missions.

The Open Data Initiative was also touted as an area that needs attention. It was agreed that it should be included in the agenda for the Commission next year. Botswana has since participated in the Open Data questionnaire which will have its findings presented at the coming Commission meeting.

The Commission further urged Member states to implement the approved 2008 Systems of National Accounts (SNA), and approved the Global Indicator Framework for Sustainable Development Goals which, as a country, Botswana has domesticated and is currently in the process of conducting a state of assessment of readiness in SDG Indicator Reporting.

The United Nations Statistical Commission, established in 1947, is the highest body of the global statistical system. It brings the heads of National Statistics Offices of Member States together from around the world. It is the highest decision making body for international statistical activities especially the setting of statistical standards, the development of concepts and methods and their implementation at the national and international levels. The Commission oversees the work of the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), and is a functional commission of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC or the Council).

The United Nations Statistical Commission disseminates global statistical information, develop standards and norms for statistical activities, and support countries' efforts to strengthen their national statistical systems. Among some of the its achievements the Organ prides itself in producing Statistical Classifications, Big data for official statistics, Gender Statistics, Trade Statistics Geospatial information to mention but just a few.

END



STATISTICS BOTSWANA PENS DEAL WITH MINISTRY OF TERTIARY EDUCATION

The importance of pooling together resources for maximum benefits and to synergise efforts was the driving force behind the decision to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Ministry of Tertiary Education, Research, Science and Technology (MOTE) and Statistics Botswana (SB).

On a chilly September morning at Cresta Lodge, the air of mutual trust and respect was hard to ignore and one could sense that the leadership of both organizations knew that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts.

Through the MoU, both organizations agreed to, amongst others;

- share statistical data and information on all variables and indicators required by both institutions;
- share data collection and data processing expertise, analysis tools and dissemination;
- provide technical support on development of research studies; and
- share project costs for which the parties are collaborating.

Speaking during the signing of MoU, Statistician General (SG) Ms. Anna Majelantle said SB commits to give full support to the Ministry for effective research, science and technology statistics development and will cooperate to share data within statutory limitations and obligations imposed by relevant legislations.

The SG further explained that the signing of the MoU demonstrated commitment by the two organizations towards the provision of quality official sector statistics and noted that both institutions recognized the need for cooperation to provide substantial benefits to users through consistent, timely and relevant sector statistics.

For his part, MOTÉ Permanent Secretary Dr. Theophilus Mooko said that his Ministry approached SB as the custodian of official statistics, in order for the two institutions to firm up their partnership and leverage on each other's expertise through the MoU which aims to promote collaboration in different areas relevant to statistical processes that can benefit both parties.

In addition, Dr. Mooko said MOTÉ has worked with SB before albeit on an ad-hoc basis where SB provided expertise primarily on questionnaire development and sampling. He therefore expressed delight in seeing the partnership cemented through signing of the MoU.

"We are therefore glad to partner with SB in this endeavor and hope that the signing of this MoU today shall validate and give our reports the necessary gravitas and authenticity", he said.

For Statistics Botswana, this was the fourth MoU in its five years of existence, some of the organisations that enjoy a similar privilege are Botswana Unified Revenue Services, The Human Resource Development Council and The Non-Bank Financial Institutions Regulatory Authority.

SB appeals to the various producers and users of statistics to sign these MoUs with SB to facilitate the sharing of timely, accurate, and relevant information between them and SB. This arrangement strengthens cooperation that then provides substantial benefits to the community through the publication of consistent, timely and relevant statistics; users and producers through reduced reporting and administrative data provision overheads; and to Statistics Botswana through reduced costs resulting from facilitation of a more effective compilation of compatible statistics.

END

BUSINESSES AND HOUSEHOLDS REQUIRED TO PROVIDE DATA



Ever wondered how successful business men know where to open a new shop and how to decide on the best store size for their business? Well, that information is just a click away, the hard and tedious task of collecting the data is done By Statistics Botswana, through one of their censuses called The Census of Enterprises and Establishments (CEE).

CEE as it is commonly known is a large scale survey that provides a comprehensive structure and profile of the economy. The survey collects and compiles basic indicators from businesses in the formal sector. This enables both the Government, private sector, other stakeholders, and its citizenry to accurately measure and monitor the performance of development policies and programmes.

The last CEE in Botswana was conducted in 2006/2007. Ten years later Phase 1 of the CEE was carried out from October to November 2016. It started off with the listings of all business enterprises and establishments in Botswana. Phase 2 concentrated on the collection of Economic data. The aggregated information provides comprehensive insight on the growth and profile of businesses in the country.

Deputy Statistician General (Economic & Social Statistics), Dr Burton Mguni officially launched Phase 2 of the CEE (CEE II) back in June 2017. During the launch, Dr. Mguni highlighted that most

of the information required by CEE II is found in the business' financial statements. He emphasized that once collected, the information, would be used for many purposes including profiling the structure of the economy, serving as a benchmark for economic statistics and also as an input for the compilation of national accounts aggregates such as Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GFCF), etc.

He reminded participants that as per the provisions of the Statistics Act of 2009, it is mandatory for individuals, households and businesses to furnish information required in any survey conducted by Statistics Botswana.

He stated that failure to provide the required information by enterprises and establishments is not only a breach of the law but also adds to erosion of the quality of the economic indicators that will be produced at the end of the project.

He also assured all those who will be respondents to this CEE II project that confidentiality of all information gathered is guaranteed.

Statistics Botswana also recently conducted the Botswana Demographic Survey (BDS) from August to November 2017. All individuals within selected households were urged to provide Statistics Botswana enumerators with the required data to harness and speed up the survey.

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The BDS is conducted every ten years. The last one was which was conducted in 2006 was the fourth in a series of surveys of this nature as the first was conducted in 1983, and the second and third in 1987 and 1998 respectively.

The main objective of the BDS is to update statistics collected during the decennial 2011 Population and Housing Census and to provide data that can be used during the inter-censal period.

Other specific objectives of the survey are among others to:

- assess trends in demographic indicators, in particular fertility, mortality and migration;
- to estimate population size, growth and distribution by gender and age groups;
- monitor and evaluate population , health and nutrition programmes;
- provide data on family planning and fertility

behaviour of the population, therefore enabling policy makers and programmers to evaluate and enhance family planning initiatives;

- examine basic indicators of child welfare (nutritional status); and
- measure the level of infant and adult mortality including maternal mortality at national level

During surveys and censuses, data collectors can be identified by their branded apparel and identification cards. Confidentiality of all information gathered is guaranteed as any person employed to execute any duty under the Statistics Act of 2009 signs an Oath of Secrecy.

Data Collection for the BDS and the CEE II ended in October and November 2017 respectively. The report for the first phase of the CEE is available on the Statistics Botswana website.

(www.statsbots.or.bw) **END**



SERVICE CHARTER 2016- 2020

We strive to be professional
and to treat customers with courtesy
respect, transparency and fairness

#ourcommitmenttocustomers

Service Charter 2016-2020



STATISTICS BOTSWANA DONATES TO RANKOROMANE SCHOOL

As part of its Corporate Social Responsibility initiative, Statistics Botswana (SB) donated 58 mattresses and plates to Rankoromane School in Otse on the 31 May 2017.

In his official handing over remarks, SB Senior Corporate Communication Officer, Mr. Temba Sibanda said the donation marked a new beginning and hopefully Rankoromane School and SB will have a formidable long lasting partnership.

He explained that the donated material will help the students to live dignified lives as they will be able to sleep well and have meals in decent plates.

Today's donation of mattresses and plates here in Rankoromane is a good gesture as it will help the students live dignified lives as they will be able to sleep well and have meals in decent plates.

Mr. Sibanda also said that he was optimistic that the mattresses and plates would play an important role in the students' lives and will also propel the learning environment to be more conducive.

He added that SB was thrilled to be able to get involved with Rankoromane School as all children deserve the feeling of comfort, safety and security

He seized the opportunity to educate those in attendance about SB, informing them that it is a parastatal organization under the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development mandated amongst others, to provide stakeholders with official statistical information across the various sectors of the economy.

"This information is used for policy and program formulation, planning and decision making. In our course of work, we interact with many individuals, households, and businesses, all over the country as we collect this information," he said. He went on to add that SB values these various stakeholders as they provide data which makes it possible for the organization to achieve its mandate, hence the gesture to give back to the community.

"It is important that Statistics Botswana, as a Responsible Citizen, promotes and supports its stakeholders through delivery of sound Corporate Social Responsibility Programs and activities", he said.

Mr. Sibanda encouraged the students to study hard so that they can reach their intended goals to prove that indeed Disability is not Inability.

For her part, Senior Teacher at Rankoromane School, Ms. Margaret Titus thanked SB's generous

▶ **Continue to page 14**

► **Continued from page 13**

gesture and assured the SB delegation that the donation would go a long way in helping the learners live dignified lives and therefore also contribute meaningfully in the country.

Giving background information about the school, Ms Titus said the school opened its doors in 1974 and it enrolls students from all over the country.

She reiterated that the school syllabus is for standard

1 to 7 students and they are taught technical subjects. Outlining their achievements, she said the school has produced graduates who are now contributing to Botswana's economy.

A similar gesture was extended to Tewane Primary School, where a total of ten computers were donated to expose students to Information technology to make them true global citizens.

END

Preliminary Unemployment Statistics Released

Statistics Botswana (SB) released the country's provisional unemployment figures, from the Botswana Multi Topic Household Survey (BMTHS) of 2015/16 which was conducted from November 2015 to November 2016.

The figures showed that the national unemployment rate stands at 17.7 percent among those aged 15 years and above.

The choice of target population (15 years and above) is based on the International Labour Organization's (ILO) convention no. 138, which stipulates that minimum age for employment should not be less than 15 years.

Unemployed persons were those individuals who did not do any work in the past seven (7) days during the survey period, and were in the ages 15 years and above. These are persons who did not work for payment in cash or in-kind, and/or were not in self-employment for profit or family gain, and were demonstrably active in looking for a job in the past 30 days. These exclude individuals who were temporarily absent from work, for instance on leave, and were definitely going to return to their jobs.

International standards and definitions on labour emanate from various agreements and conventions of The International Labour Organization (ILO) which serves as the UN custodian agency on

labour matters. The ILO defines employed persons as someone who, during the past seven days have performed some work for wage or salary, in cash or in kind.

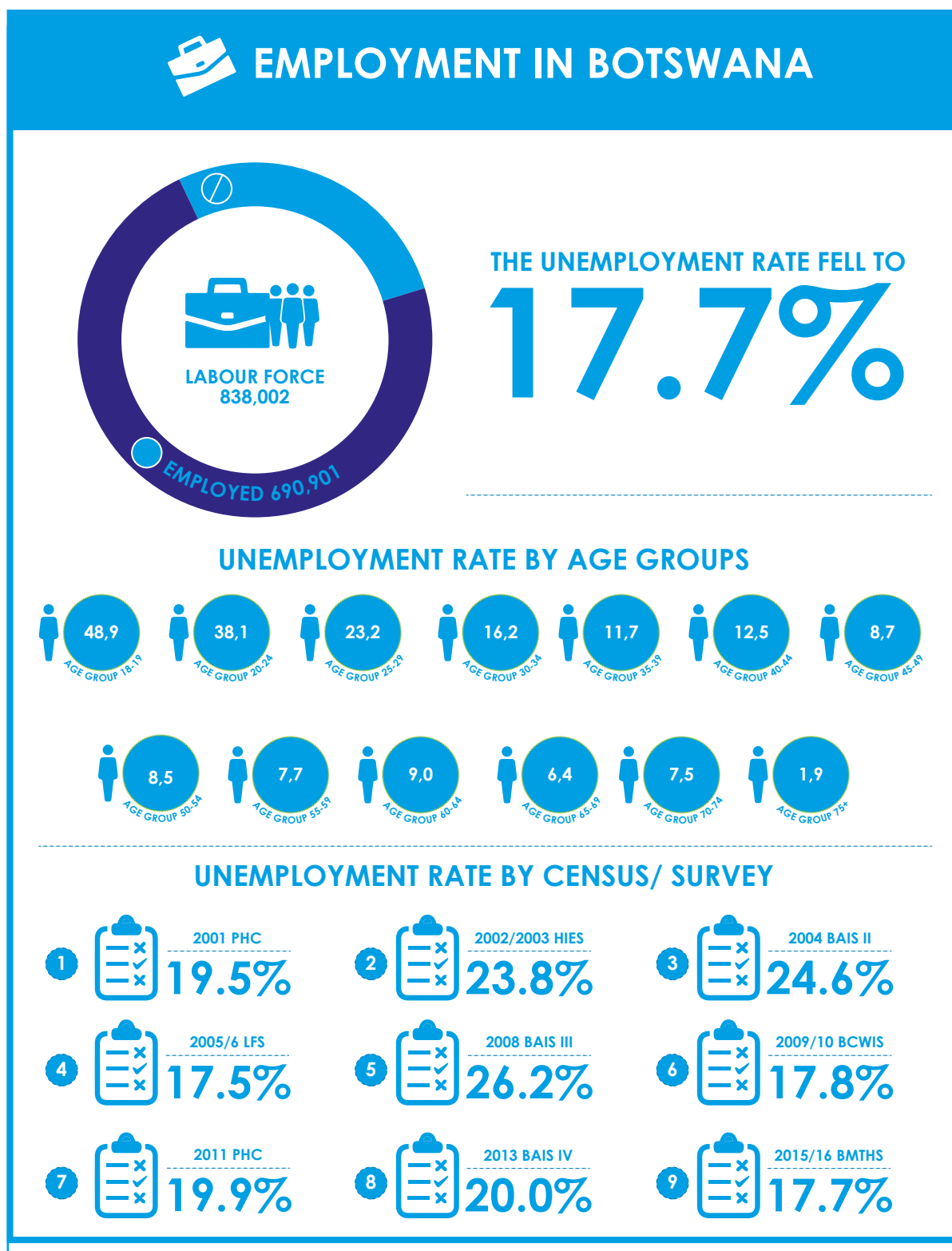
The BMTHS is the second multi modular survey following the Botswana Core Welfare Indicators Survey (BCWIS), which was conducted in 2009/10. Broadly, the BMTHS combined the Labour Force and Core Welfare Indicators surveys. The BCWIS yielded an unemployment rate of 17.9%. The results of the BCWIS can be compared to those of the BMTHS as the two surveys were conducted over a 12 month period, thereby taking into account seasonality. Comparability is the extent to which differences between statistics from different geographical areas, non-geographical domains, or over time, can be attributed to differences between the true values of the statistics that are being compared.

The BMTHS and BCWIS findings can be confidently compared as the two use the same concepts/definitions, measuring tools, compilation and presentation practices.

The broad objective of the BMTHS is to provide a comprehensive set of indicators to monitor and evaluate progress on the National Strategies for Poverty Eradication, including the impact of programmes aimed at eradicating poverty and provide labour force information to aid government's efforts in employment creation.

Due to the enormous volume of data and variables that need to be analyzed, Statistics Botswana has adopted a modular release of indicators, in particular, on the key modules addressing the Labour Force and Poverty, which are two key areas of study for the survey.

This survey was conducted by Statistics Botswana in close collaboration with the office of the President and the Human Resource Development Council (HRDC). For in-depth information regarding the survey, log on into our website. (www.statsbots.org.bw) **END**





BON VOYAGE BUTHALI.....

All good things come to an end. Even the glittering career of Mr. Buthali had to. After a career spanning 36 years, the vivacious veteran statistician had to put down the curtain on an illustrious career. Our Senior Corporate Communication Officer, Mr. Temba Sibanda picks his brain.

I understand you will be leaving Statistics Botswana very soon. How long have you been with the organization?

I have been with Statistics Botswana for five years, having joined the organization in October 2012.

Besides Statistics Botswana, which other organizations have you worked for?

I worked for the former Central Statistics Office (CSO) for 23 years, Botswana National Productivity Centre for about 6 years and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) for 3 years.

What has been the highlight of your career at Statistics Botswana? Obviously there have also been some down lows. Can you please state them and elaborate how you managed to overcome them?

My highlight was the successful conduct of the 2001 Population and Housing Census, of significance being the fact that it was the first time Botswana conducted a Population and Housing Census on its own, but with external financial and technical support.

Although transformation of SB brought about many opportunities and indeed a lot of excitement, team dynamics impacted negatively on professional fulfilment. I would feel this might mark my low point in my statistical journey. Compromise and allowing the team position to prevail somehow helped in such situations.

You were there when SB became a parastatal in 2012. What has the organization achieved so far, and what have been the major obstacles?

The organization developed the Botswana Strategy for the Development of Statistics (BSDS), which serves as a roadmap and a rallying point for the entire National Statistics System (NSS). In addition, a number of policies, frameworks and systems were developed to enable effective delivery of the national statistics mandate.

A major obstacle has been the slow uptake and buy-in of statistics mainstreaming through the BSDS by the leadership within the NSS.

Many people are still skeptical about statistics produced by Statistics Botswana. There is still a concern that our statistics is not up-to-date and that some of our statistics do not portray the reality on the ground. Can you allay these fears?

I certainly would not doubt the integrity of the statistics results because these are compiled following the fundamental principles of official statistics as well as sound methodology. However, if the situation portrayed on the ground is measured in terms of timeliness of results, then I would say that needs to be improved.

As far as I can remember you have been doing statistical work for a long time thus you probably have experience in all Statistics Botswana operations and directorates. Which directorate did you enjoy working with the most, and why?

Perhaps we should be talking of areas within the statistics value chain since dissection of the organization into directorates is something recent. Before transformation, CSO was just a department under the former Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, which is now the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development.

I worked in various sector statistics units such as, of labour, income and expenditure, poverty, household surveys, prices, censuses, productivity research and measurement, etc. I enjoyed work in prices statistics, income and expenditure, and labour since I did a lot of pioneering work in those areas. Making 'a first' is always something exciting and memorable for me.

As the Head of the Statistical & Technical Operations Branch, in your address in meetings, you always emphasized the need for teamwork and mentoring. For instance, you seemed fascinated by the story of the janitor who worked at NASA who when asked what he does by President Kennedy famously replied by saying, "I'm helping put a man on the moon!" .

The story of the NASA cleaner fascinates me because it motivates all team members in the strategy team to value their role in strategy delivery by seeing the bigger picture. Team members need to see themselves adding value towards attainment of the vision hence display commitment and energy in their work.

So, Mr Buthali in your entire work life have you ever mentored someone whom you can proudly say has made it in life?

I have mentored many colleagues, however the one that I can single out as successful is Mr Lesego Busang, who is now Director of Monitoring, Research and Evaluation at the ACHAP.

By the way, do you have a mentor?

I have had mentors during my formative stages and there are two individuals who were my inspiration Mr Guest Charumbira (former Government Statistician) and Mr Emmanuel Bulayani (former college at CSO).

As Government Statistician, Mr Charumbira provided the needed encouragement and platforms for the pioneering works that I carried out (single-handedly!) successfully. Mr Bulayani was my mentor

when I first had a taste of statistics principles when I enrolled with the Royal Statistics Society, having just joined CSO as a statistical assistant. Thanks to his mentoring, I obtained my first certificate in Statistics through correspondence with the UK institute.

Looking back at your life at Statistics Botswana what would you say was the most memorable moment? Do you have any regrets?

Confining my response to Statistics Botswana, seeing the Botswana Strategy for the Development of Statistics coming into fruition was quite memorable.



As an individual, I consider the past as a springboard that has provided an important platform for learning, hence I do not have any regrets. Furthermore, being always full of positive energy, I do not entertain negative thoughts.

Let us get a bit personal. Were you always fascinated by numbers when growing up? If you had not taken the route of statistics, what would have been the alternative?

Yes, numbers always fascinated me, so if I had not chosen the statistics profession I would have possibly pursued a career with a mathematics inclination. I cannot say what career I would have followed though.

You know that this interview will not be complete if I

do not ask this question. Where is Mr Buthali heading to?

I am not heading anywhere, really. Notwithstanding that, I still have the energy, zeal and zest to contribute meaningfully, somehow, to the statistics arena hence that possibility shall be given some thought.

Is there a chance that very soon Mr Buthali will be joining the rough terrain of politics as most retirees always like to head in that direction?

Politics is the last area I would venture into.

Finally what will you miss about SB the most?

I will certainly miss the STO branch team. It is a committed, exciting and excellent team to work with. **END**

For more information type

<http://www.statsbots.org.bw>



INAUGURAL STATISTICS USER-PRODUCER WORKSHOP

Statistics Botswana organized the inaugural data user producer workshop on the 30 May 2017 at Cresta Lodge to map and share knowledge and experiences on ways that data can be harmonized so that it becomes the right data, to the right people, at the right time, delivered in the right format.

When opening the workshop, the Statistician General (SG), Ms. Anna Majelantle encouraged users and producers of statistics to continue being advocates for statistics development in their various sectors.

She noted that the workshop provided a critical platform for an interactive dialogue, thus helping to:

- understand the importance of alignment of data needs to national development plans, data requirements for related sector policies, national priorities and international frameworks such as

Vision 2036, the Sustainable Development Goals, and Africa's Agenda 2063;

- provide feedback on quality, communication and dissemination of official statistics;
- provide areas of partnership and collaboration in data provision and encourage participants to invest in statistics.

Furthermore, Ms Majelantle called on the stakeholders to plan and make arrangements for resources towards the generation of sector statistics in the National Statistical System (NSS) as the cost of providing data and information has been increasing over the years.

On another point, Ms. Majelantle said the implementation of both national and international frameworks, and sector policies will undoubtedly usher in significant additional data demands on Statistics Botswana to provide quality data for

facilitating monitoring and evaluation processes. "Such demands call for concerted efforts not only from Statistics Botswana, but from other players throughout the National Statistical System including sector Ministries, the private sector, development partners, civil society and the public at large", she highlighted.

Another speaker who gave a presentation at the workshop was Ms. Kealeboga Dambuza -Gender National Programme Officer from The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). Her presentation topic was centralized on the "Statistics User-Perspective with Respect to the Quality Attributes (Relevance, Timeliness and Accessibility)".

She said that due to the increasing demand for real-time data-driven decisions, timeliness is the most important dimension of data quality and emphasized that regular update of data is key. She reiterated that data should be collected and reported in a time frame sufficient to assure its usefulness and highlighted that in the age of big data, data content changes quickly, hence timeliness is very important.

On accessibility of data, she said access to data improves understanding of the external environment organizations and businesses operate within, and hence they can better position themselves to develop the right strategies and products.

"Accessibility of data helps build a data-informed culture within organizations for better decisions and actions", she said.

On his part, Mr. Geoff Ncube - Principal Economist from Bank of Botswana gave a presentation focused on "Statistics Producers Perspective". He said as a bank they compile statistics to inform all relevant stakeholders, hence it is their fundamental goal to produce quality and accurate statistics to maintain integrity.

He further noted that collaboration with other official statistics producers like Statistics Botswana is important for consistency in reporting. He added that Information sharing through various modes is key to access to statistics by all. Moreover he stressed that participation by all economic agents is crucial in the production of quality statistics by agencies mandated to compile and produce official statistics.

Ms. Modiegi Ngakane Acting Manger(National Performance)- from the National Strategy Office – who looked at the "Overview of the National

Monitoring and Evaluation System (NMES- NDP11 Framework and the Vision 2036- Data requirements to support the national agenda". The workshop was graced by Former Deputy Statistician General (Standards & Technical Operations), Mr. Dabilani Buthali, Deputy Statistician General (Economic & Social Statistics), Dr. Burton Mguni and Statistics Botswana Director of Stakeholder Relations Mrs. Malebogo Kerekang. _____ **END**



FOOD BALANCE SHEET



A food balance sheet is a comprehensive compilation of a selected country's food supply during a specific time period. The food balance sheet shows the food items for human consumption, along with how the food is produced, used, imported or exported, and how it benefits the society (per capita supply).

Food balance sheets (FBSs) trace their origin to World War II when their critical role in strategizing on the food needs of soldiers became apparent. Thereafter, the Food and Agriculture Organization provided guidelines on preparation of Food Balance Sheets as critical food security instruments.

A Food Balance Sheet depicts trends in national food supply and demand which expose food deficits that may necessitate imports or medical intervention. It discloses the types of foodstuffs taken by the various segments of a national population thus bringing out the socio-cultural dimensions of

food security. It establishes the food situation in a country through estimations and projections and promotes agricultural development through policy and import-export trade analysis.

The Statistician General Ms. Anna Majelantle officially opened a week long Training of Trainers Workshop from 7 – 11 August 2017 at Masa Square Hotel. The well attended workshop attracted participants from various African countries such as Morocco, Ethiopia and Uganda. Locally some of the stakeholders who graced the workshop included Ministry of Agriculture: Food Security Unit, Department of Agriculture Statistics, Research and Policy Department, Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resource and Botswana Institute for Development Policy Analysis.

The main objectives of this Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop was to give the participants the skills and competencies necessary for producing and

using as a team, a Food Balance sheet based on agricultural censuses and surveys that allows easy integration of the data from various areas of statistics, including demographic statistics and other economic statistics.

Aptly dubbed, 'The Effective Use of Food Balance Sheets for Agricultural Statistics', the workshop was a meeting of minds, graced by academics and captains of industries. These trainings have been hosted by different national statistical offices including Statistics Botswana, and the National Statistical Institutes of Morocco and Tunisia. The three workshops have served almost 80 participants from a total of 21 African Countries a commendable feat that would go a long way in guaranteeing food security.

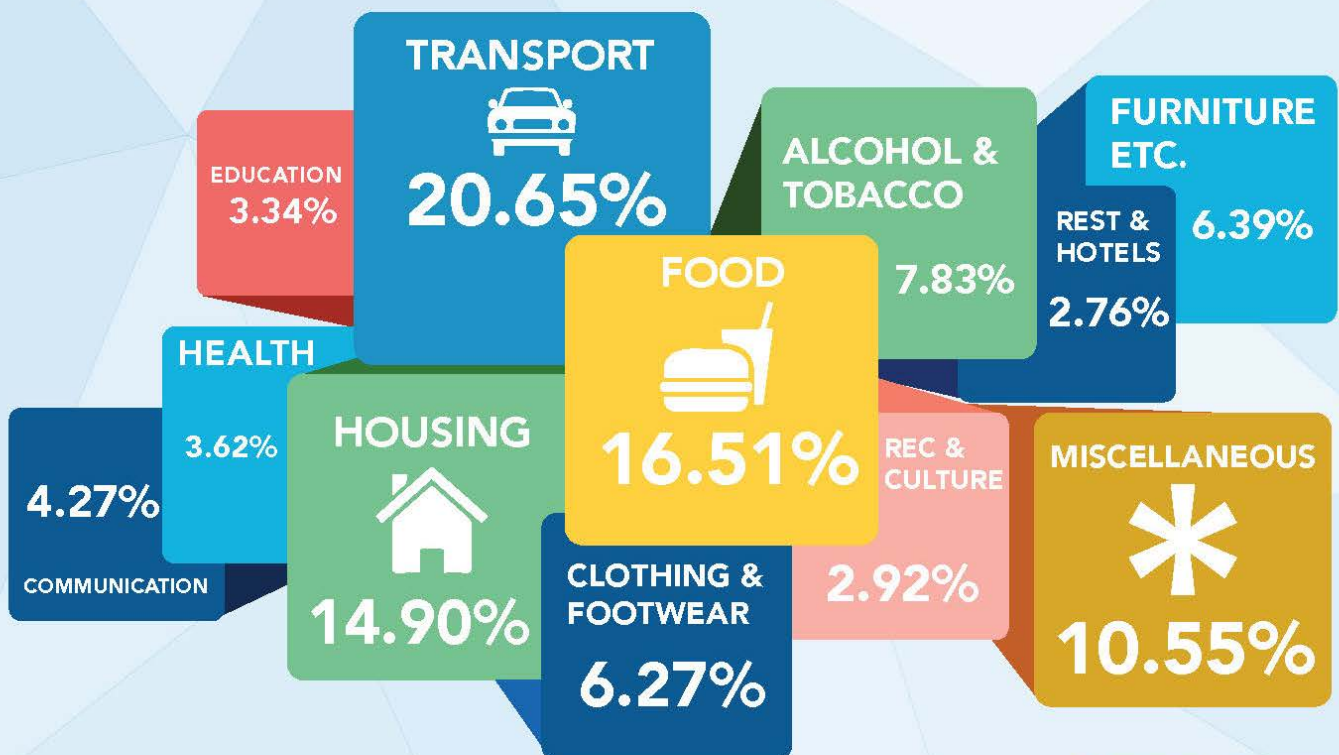
Ms. Majelantle was quick to remind the participants

of the overarching expectations of the African Development Bank, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa and United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation with regards to the development of the continent.

The workshop is part of the implementation of the Global Strategy for Improving Agricultural and Rural Statistics which was designed to address the declining capacity of many statistical systems in developing countries. The main purpose of the workshop was to provide participants with an opportunity to improve skills and competencies necessary for producing and using, as a team, a Food Balance Sheet based on agricultural censuses and surveys that allow easy integration of the data from various areas of statistics, including demographic statistics and other economic statistics. **END**

CPI Basket Weighting

As we spend more on some items than others, the components of the index are "weighted" to ensure that it reflects the importance of the various items in the average CPI basket



 **STATISTICS BOTSWANA**

STATS IN PICTURES



Statistics Botswana, Statistician General and Ministry of Tertiary Education Permanent Secretary during the MoU signing.



Statistics Botswana stall at the Botswana Consumer trade Fair 2017.



A team from the African Development Bank (AfDB) and GeoSpace International courtesy visit.



Courtesy visit by World Bank during April 2017.



Botswana Multi-Topic Household Survey press conference.

STATS IN PICTURES



World Bank (WB) and Food Agricultural Organization (FAO) consultants on a mission to provide technical assistance for Livestock statistics and Cost of Production statistics in Botswana.



SB Staff at the launch of Botswana Demographic Survey 2017



Statistician General, Anna Majelantle hosted the Honourable Minister of Finance and Economic Development at the Presidential Cycling Challenge



Statisticians at a cycling challenge



Courtesy Visit by SACU Secretariat



UN Resident Coordinator's visit to Statistics Botswana

RELEASED PUBLICATIONS

#KnowYourStatsBW



Consumer Price Index November 2017

The annual inflation rate in November 2017 was 2.9%. The Transport group index registered an increase of 0.9 percent, from 101.7 in October to 102.7 in November.



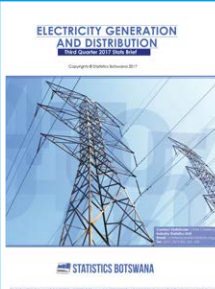
Gross Domestic Product: Third Quarter 2017

The estimated GDP at current prices for the third quarter of 2017 was P43, 067.9 million compared to P43, 146.6 million registered in the second quarter of 2017.



Indices of the Physical Volume of Mining Production: Stats Brief Third Quarter 2017

The Index of Mining Production stood at 90.7 in the third quarter of 2017 showing a year-on-year increase of 23.0 percent from 73.7 during the third quarter of 2016.



Electricity Generation and Distribution: Stats Brief Q3 2017

During the third quarter of 2017, the index of Electricity Generation stood at 212.6



Work Permits Holders Q3 September 2017

The total number of work permit holders that were valid as of end of September 2017 was 5,242. Of these 4,417 (84.3%) were employees while 825 (15.7%) were self-employed.

RELEASED PUBLICATIONS CONT'D

#KnowYourStatsBW



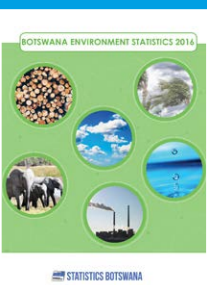
Formal Sector Employment Survey June 2017

This Stats Brief presents formal employment figures during the month of June 2017. The brief shows that overall, formal employment decreased by 0.3 % between June 2017 and March 2017.



Health Statistics Report 2010

A total of 4,458,833 disease cases were recorded for out-patient attendances in 2010. This is an increase of 1.4 percent from 4,399,276 cases in 2009. The major contributing condition in outpatient morbidity was 'Other diseases/conditions', which accounted for 29.9 percent of all diseases. This was followed by 'diseases of the respiratory system (cough and cold) at 20.0%, followed by diseases of the musculoskeletal system (9.6%), and hypertension system (8.9%).



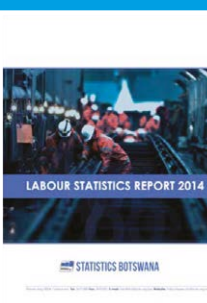
Botswana Environment Statistics 2016

According to the Report; The wettest months during 2015/16 were January, February and March; with the highest monthly total rainfall of 214mm recorded in Kasane in March. Temperature in Botswana vary by region, with extremes in the north eastern and the south western regions. In 2015/16 the lowest mean monthly minimum temperature was recorded at Tsabong in July 2016, whilst the highest mean monthly maximum temperature was at Shakawe in October 2015.



Transport & Infrastructure Statistics Report 2016

Toyota continues to maintain its position as the most bought vehicle in Botswana. It contributed 44.4 % to the first registrations, where 77.3% of those vehicles were passenger cars. Honda (10.4%), Mazda (7.5 %) and Volkswagen (6.1 %) were the next preferred make of vehicle after Toyota.



Labour Statistics Report 2014

This annual report aims to publish the 2014 labour statistics in Botswana aggregating information from quarterly formal employment surveys. This edition covers only the third quarter (September) of the year 2014. The March, June and December 2014 quarters were not conducted due to backlogs caused by very low response rates. Data on work-permit holders for 2014 fourth quarter is included in the report

THE POWER OF FORGIVENESS

***M**any of us are prisoners of our past. We harbour pains of long gone incidents and are in a constant state of seeking revenge.*

We have wounds that will not heal. We have scores to settle, but in the meanwhile life goes on and precious little time is left for us to live a wholesome worthy life.

Psychologists the world over have poured scorn over the idea of revenge.

"Forgiveness refers to the actor not the act. Not to the offense but the woundedness of the offender", argues one scholar.

It is imperative therefore for one to seek forgiveness rather than to get even when they are hurt. We all have that "one" incident that humiliated us. Granted the degree of hurt varies, but the compelling and consuming edge to "fix" the perpetrator is as common to all of us as the grains of sands. The question is, "at what cost does revenge come?"

Hours are spent resenting and plotting vengeance, these hours may turn into days and days into weeks and before we know it, years.

You would have dedicated years to someone you "hate", someone who has "hurt" you. When you are hurt, treat the hurt as a prisoner, and free it. If you hold on to it because you are seeking revenge, you are not liberating the prisoner you are merely locking the doors, posits one scholar.

The biggest gift you can give to yourself is to "pick" happiness and not be grumpy. Happiness like love is forgiving, humble and understanding.

No one can make you feel inferior without your consent so says Eleanor Roosevelt. Similarly no one can hurt you emotionally without your consent.

Let go of the hurt and choose to forgive. The famous writer Mark Twain put it succinctly when he said "forgiveness is the fragrance that the violent sheds on the heel that has just crushed it".

Rise above the hurt, forgive and liberate yourself. The power lies with you. You can choose to heal or to stay hurt.

AT THE HELM OF STATISTICS BOTSWANA

Meet Our Executive.....



Ms. Anna N. Majelantle
STATISTICIAN GENERAL



Dr. Burton Mguni
DEPUTY STATISTICIAN GENERAL
Socio-Economic Statistics



DEPUTY STATISTICIAN GENERAL
Statistical & Technical Operations



Ms. Banabo Tshupeng
CHIEF INTERNAL AUDITOR



Ms. Boitumelo Matlhaga
DIRECTOR - ECONOMIC STATISTICS



Ms. Malebogo Kerekang
DIRECTOR
STAKEHOLDER RELATIONS



Mr. Tapologo Baakile
DIRECTOR - SOCIO
DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS



Mr. Ben Bella Rwelengera
DIRECTOR LEGAL SERVICES &
BOARD SECRETARY



Ms. Phetogo Zambezi
DIRECTOR - STANDARDS, METHODS &
INFORMATION SYSTEMS



DIRECTOR - CORPORATE SERVICES

STATISTICS BOTSWANA

VISION

To be a world-class provider of quality official statistics and related services

MISSION

To enable stakeholders formulate policies, plan and make decisions

VALUES

Focus on customers

Focus on quality

Professionalism

Integrity

Accountability

Teamwork

Confidentiality

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