

Prime Minister's Message on World Statistics Day

On October 20th the world will celebrate its first **World Statistics Day** to recognize and increase awareness of the many contributions and achievements of official statistics. These achievements are built on the foundation of service, professionalism and integrity.

Good quality statistics play a vital role in policy formulation and are preconditions to effective macroeconomic management. Any economy needs to have at its disposal the capacity to promptly identify trends in the economy and to take appropriate action. Jamaica is fortunate to be equipped with such a system.

Continued improvement in statistics and development of a strong institutional base for generating statistics is an important objective of the government. As such, we are pleased to be a part of the strengthening of the National Statistics System another important goal set by the Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN). STATIN is also preparing for the implementation of the 2011 Population and Housing Census for which data collection will be start in April 2011.

I am confident that World Statistics Day will encourage all producers and users to further improve our statistical data base and contribute to nation building. I must also use this opportunity to encourage all residents on our island to be a part of the Census 2011 as, **"Everyone Counts - You, Me All a Wil!"**. The findings of Census 2011 and all the other elements of official statistics contributes to Government adhering to its policy making decisions based on evidence. The Government of Jamaica is pleased to be 'Celebrating with the rest of the world the many achievements and contributions of official statistics'.



Bruce Golding
Prime Minister

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