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REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Third Session of the 12th Parliament

FINANCIAL SCRUTINY UNIT

Office of the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

HEAD 01: OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

BUDGETARY ALLOCATION: \$19,204,700.00

A Summary of the Ministry's Expenditure, Divisions and Projects.

Publication

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About this Guide

This guide provides a summary of expenditure of the Office of the President for the period 2017–2023. It provides Members of Parliament and stakeholders with an overview of the Department’s responsibilities. The primary purpose of this guide is to consolidate information contained in the various Budget Documents pertaining to the Office of the President. This guide is based on:

- the Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure for the financial year 2023; and
- the Draft Estimates of Development Programme for the financial year 2023;

Head 01 – President

Department Overview

The Office of the President is the Department in the Public Service responsible for providing support services to His Excellency the President in executing his functions and duties as enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. This group of public service professionals, headed by the Secretary to Her Excellency the President, the Accounting Officer, is responsible for the management of the public funds at the Office of the President.¹

The Office of President is quasi-ceremonial in nature. Many, but not all, of the roles and functions of the President are enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. Below are some of the main functions of the President:²

- Head of State;
- Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces;
- Appointment of the Prime Minister;
- Appointment of the Leader of the Opposition;
- Assents to Bills passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate before they can become law.

Secretary to Her Excellency: Mrs. Cheryl-Ann Jackman-Waldron

¹ Oral Evidence by the Secretary to His Excellency at a Public Hearing of the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee held on January 12, 2017. Accessed on September 28, 2022: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dG0Nj_ip_AM&feature=youtu.be.

² Office of the President website. Accessed on September 28, 2022: <https://otp.tt/the-president/roles/>.

Key Statement from 2021 Standing Finance Committee Debate³

During the Standing Finance Committee debate of 2021, the following statement was made:

“The President of the Republic – the Office of the President of the Republic provides administrative support to Her Excellency the President. The various Items of expenditure provide allocations for Personnel Expenditure, Goods and Services and other Items of expenditure, all designed to support the projects and programmes and responsibilities of the Office of the President. Her Excellency has the responsibility for the appointment of a number of independent commissions and also for the management, the overall supervision and management, of the Office of the President.”

- *Minister of Finance*

³ Standing Finance Committee Hansard of Trinidad and Tobago October 11, 2021. Accessed on September 28, 2022: <https://www.ttparliament.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/hh20211011sfc.pdf>

The Office's total allocation as a percentage of the National Budget for the period 2017 to 2023

Year ⁴	Total Allocation ⁵	National Budget ⁶	Percentage of National Budget
2017	\$15,284,118.00	\$54,883,153,410.00	0.03%
2018	\$17,186,952.00	\$54,211,726,813.00	0.03%
2019	\$17,184,886.00	\$54,581,467,181.00	0.03%
2020	\$15,410,555.00	\$57,388,076,726.00	0.03%
2021	\$13,694,542.00	\$56,498,472,820.00	0.02%
2022	\$17,658,660.00	\$59,190,331,126.00	0.03%
2023	\$19,204,700.00	\$67,944,048,911.00	0.03%

- Total allocation for the Office of the President as a percentage of the National Budget has been steady at an average 0.03% over the period 2017-2023.

⁴ For the Fiscal Years 2017-2021, actual figures were used to calculate the Ministry's total allocation. However, estimates were used to determine the Ministry's total allocation for the Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023.

⁵ Total Allocation for the Office of the President = Recurrent Expenditure

⁶ The National Budget = Total Recurrent Expenditure + Total Consolidated Fund

Where the Department Spends Its Money

2022-2023 Estimates of Expenditure⁷

The budget allocation for the Office of the President is comprised of:

- The Draft Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure in the sum of **\$19,004,700.00**
- The Development Program - Consolidated Fund in the sum of **\$200,000.00**

The Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure include:

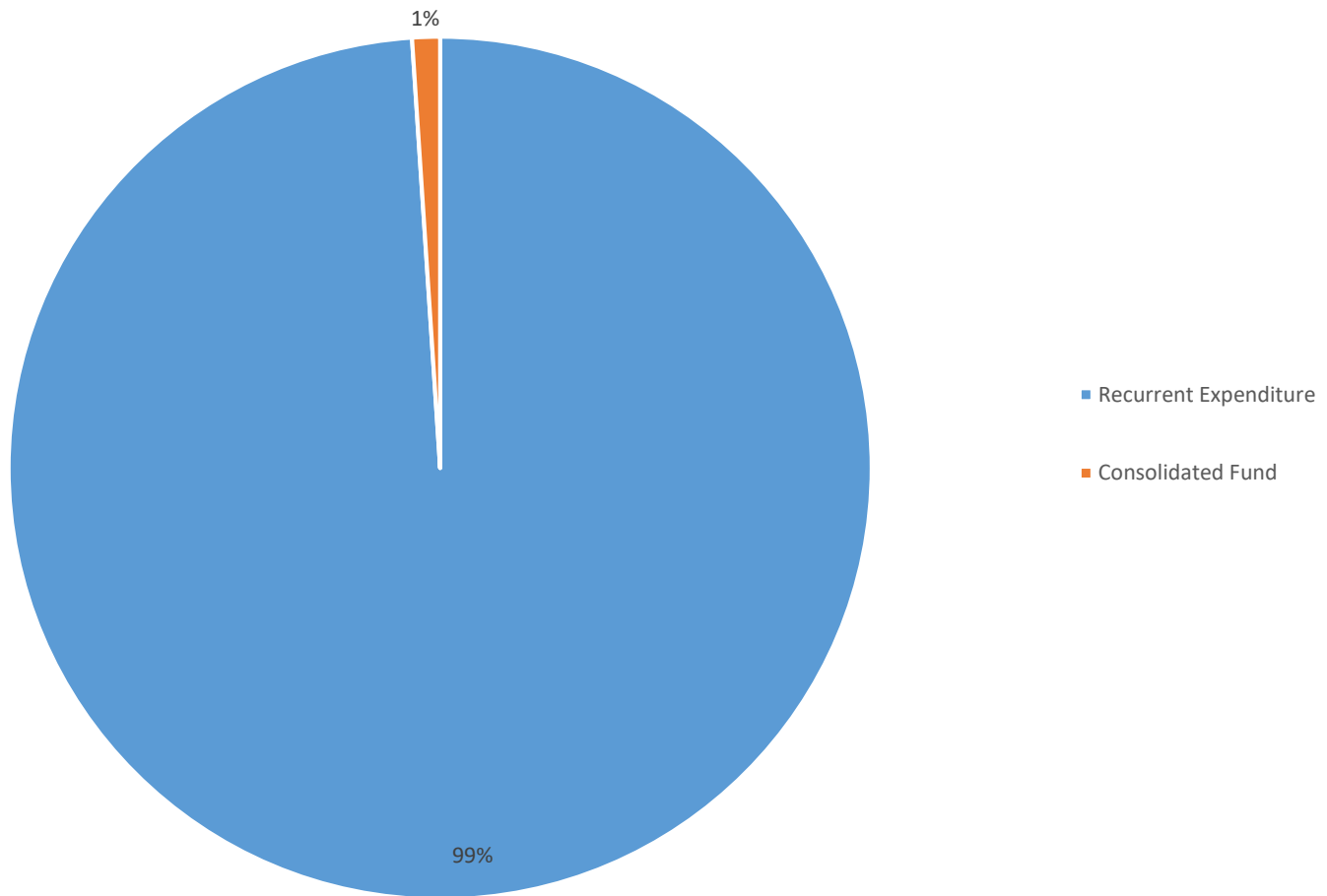
- 01 Personnel Expenditure - **\$2,949,230.00;**
- 02 Goods and Services - **\$14,969,120.00;**
- 03 Minor Equipment Purchases - **\$380,350.00;** and
- 04 Current Transfers and Subsidies - **\$706,000.00.**

Percentage Allocation of the Office of the President is as follows:

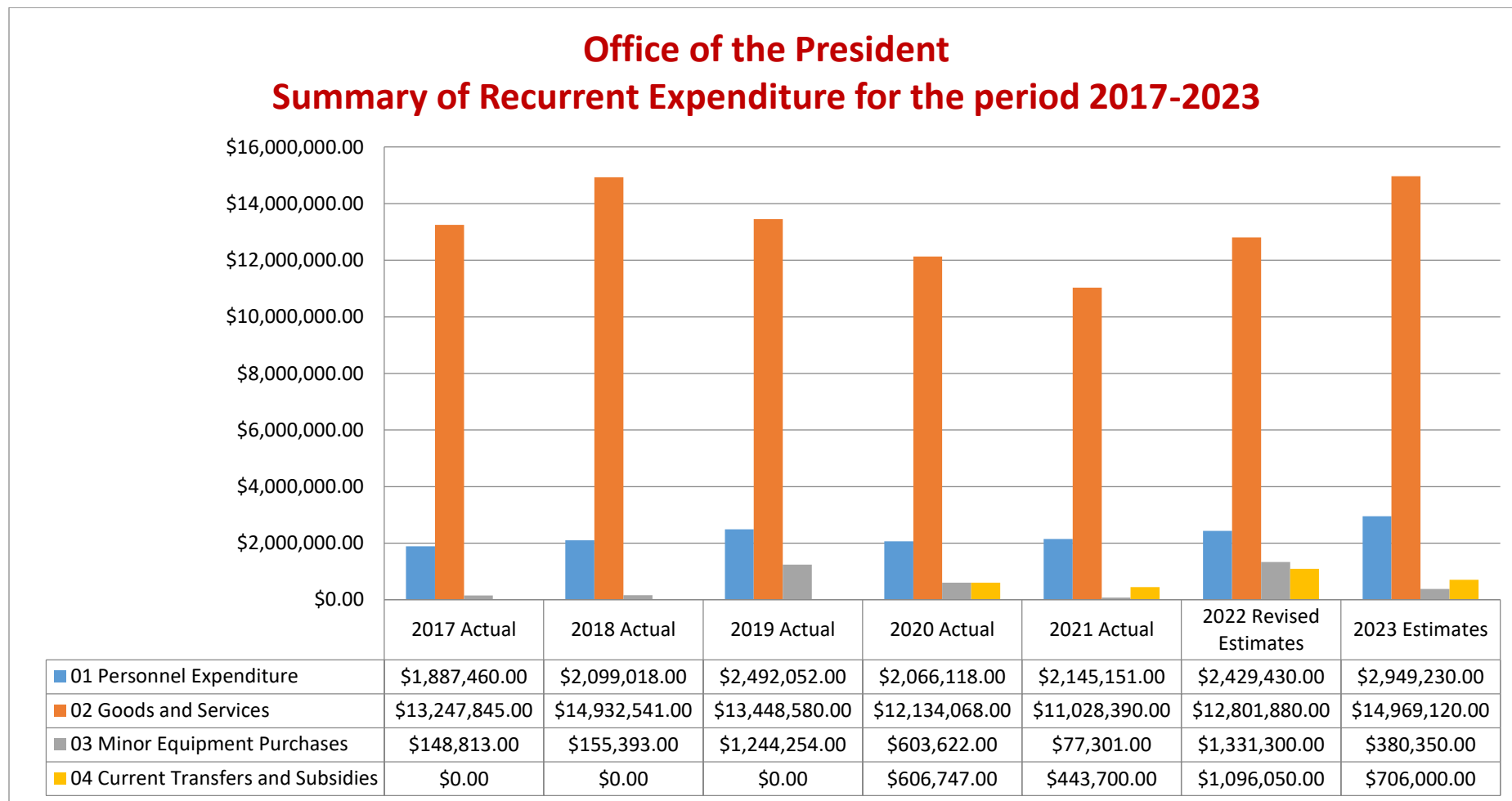
- Total allocation as a percentage of National Budget = **0.03%**
- Recurrent Expenditure as a percentage of the total Recurrent Expenditure budget = **0.03%**
- Consolidated Fund allocation as a percentage of the total Consolidated Fund allocation = **0.006%**

⁷ Draft Estimates for Details of Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure for the Financial Year 2023. Accessed September 28, 2022:
<https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Draft-Estimates-of-Details-of-Estimates-of-Recurrent-Expenditure-for-the-Financial-Year-2023.pdf>

Office of the President-Total 2023 Allocation
\$19,204,700.00

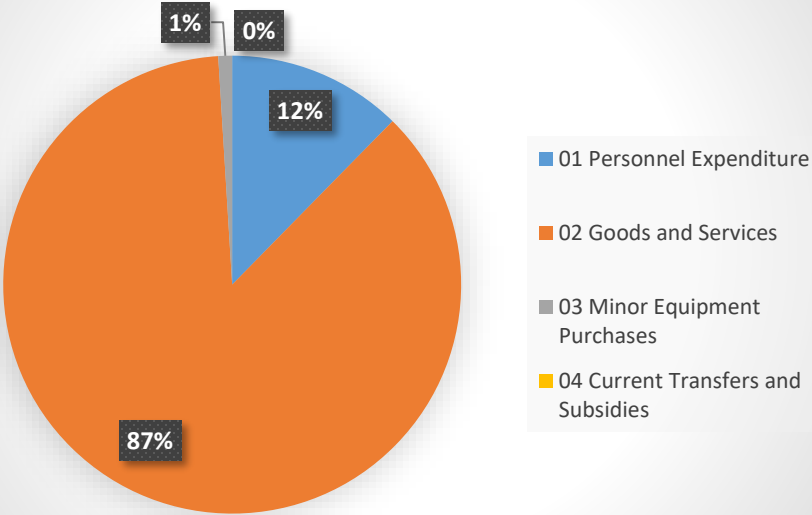


Summary of Recurrent Expenditure for the Period 2017 - 2023⁸

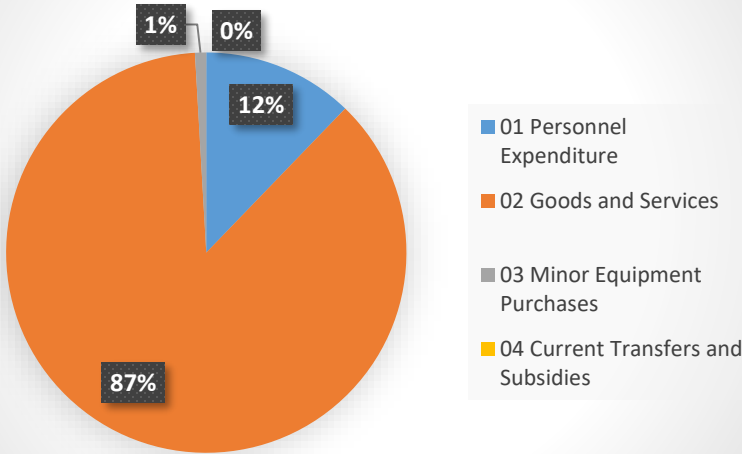


⁸ Draft Estimates for Details of Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure for the Financial Year 2023. Accessed September 28, 2022:
<https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Draft-Estimates-of-Details-of-Estimates-of-Recurrent-Expenditure-for-the-Financial-Year-2023.pdf>

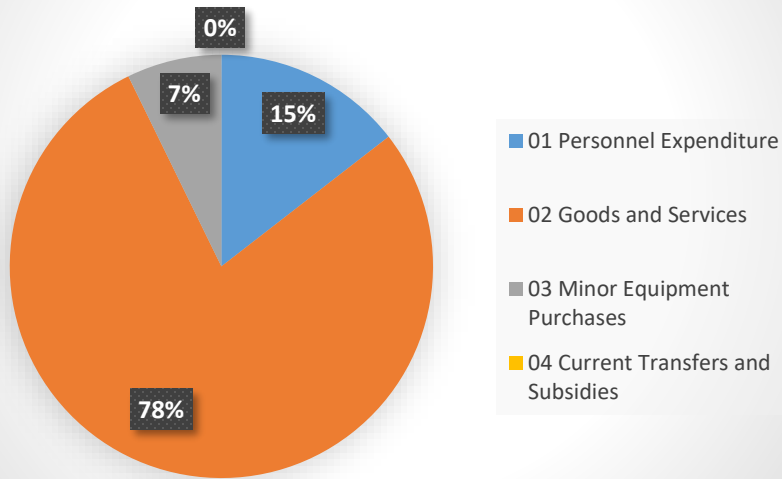
2017 Actual- \$15,284,118



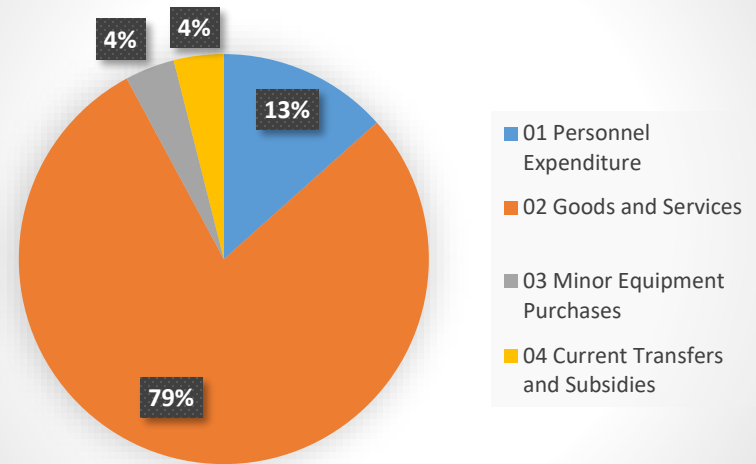
2018 Actual- \$17,186,952



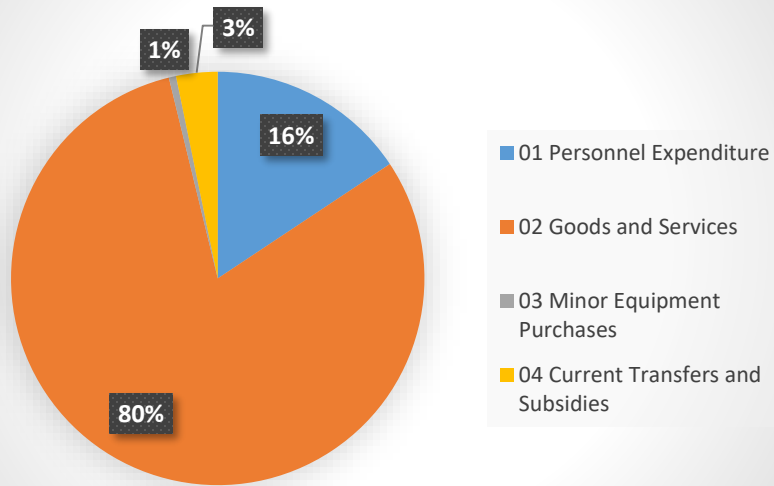
2019 Actual- \$17,184,886



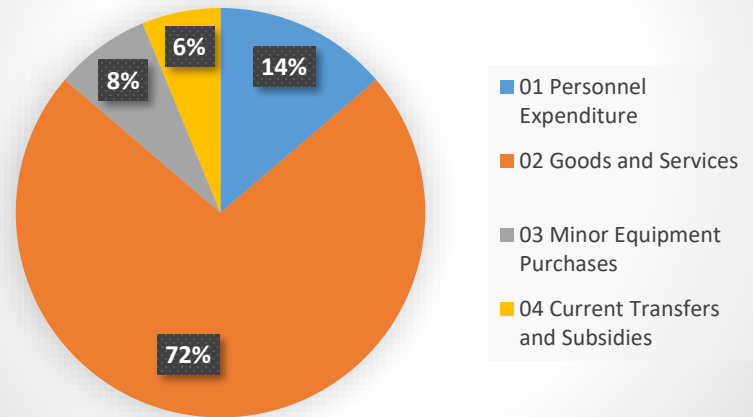
2020 Actual- \$15,410,555



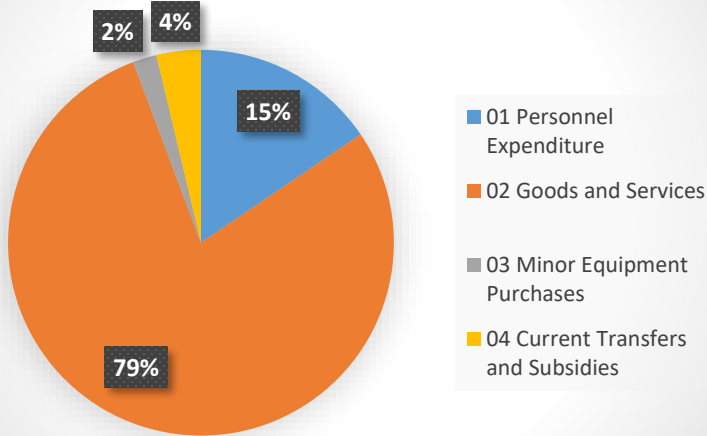
2021 Actual- \$13,694,542



2022 Revised Estimates - \$17,658,660



2023 Estimates- \$19,004,700



Analysis of Recurrent Expenditure

Recurrent Expenditure refers to the payments for expenses which are incurred during the day-to-day operations of the Department for Personnel Expenditure, Goods and Services, Minor Equipment Purchases and Current Transfers and Subsidies. Recurrent Expenditure for Fiscal Year 2022/2023 is **\$19,004,700.00**.

- Recurrent Expenditure (**Revised**) for Fiscal Year 2021/2022 was **\$17,658,660.00**. Comparing this figure with Fiscal Year 2022/2023, there is an increase of **\$1,346,040.00** or **7.6%**.
- The **largest** portion of the allocation has consistently gone to **Sub-Head 02 Goods and Services**. This figure has been fluctuating over the period 2017-2023, but accounted for approximately 78.8% of total Recurrent Expenditure funding for the Department for fiscal year 2022/2023.
- **Minor Equipment Purchases** received the **lowest** portion of the total Recurrent Expenditure allocation for the Department over the period 2017 to 2023.
- **Personnel Expenditure** received the **second largest** portion of the allocation and has been fluctuating over the period 2017-2023. Comparing 2021/2022 to 2022/2023, there was an increase in the allocation by **21.3%**.
- The actual/estimated expenditure has been fluctuating over the seven (7) year period, from a low of **\$13,694,542.00** in 2021 to a high of **\$19,004,700.00** in 2023.

Staff and Pay⁹

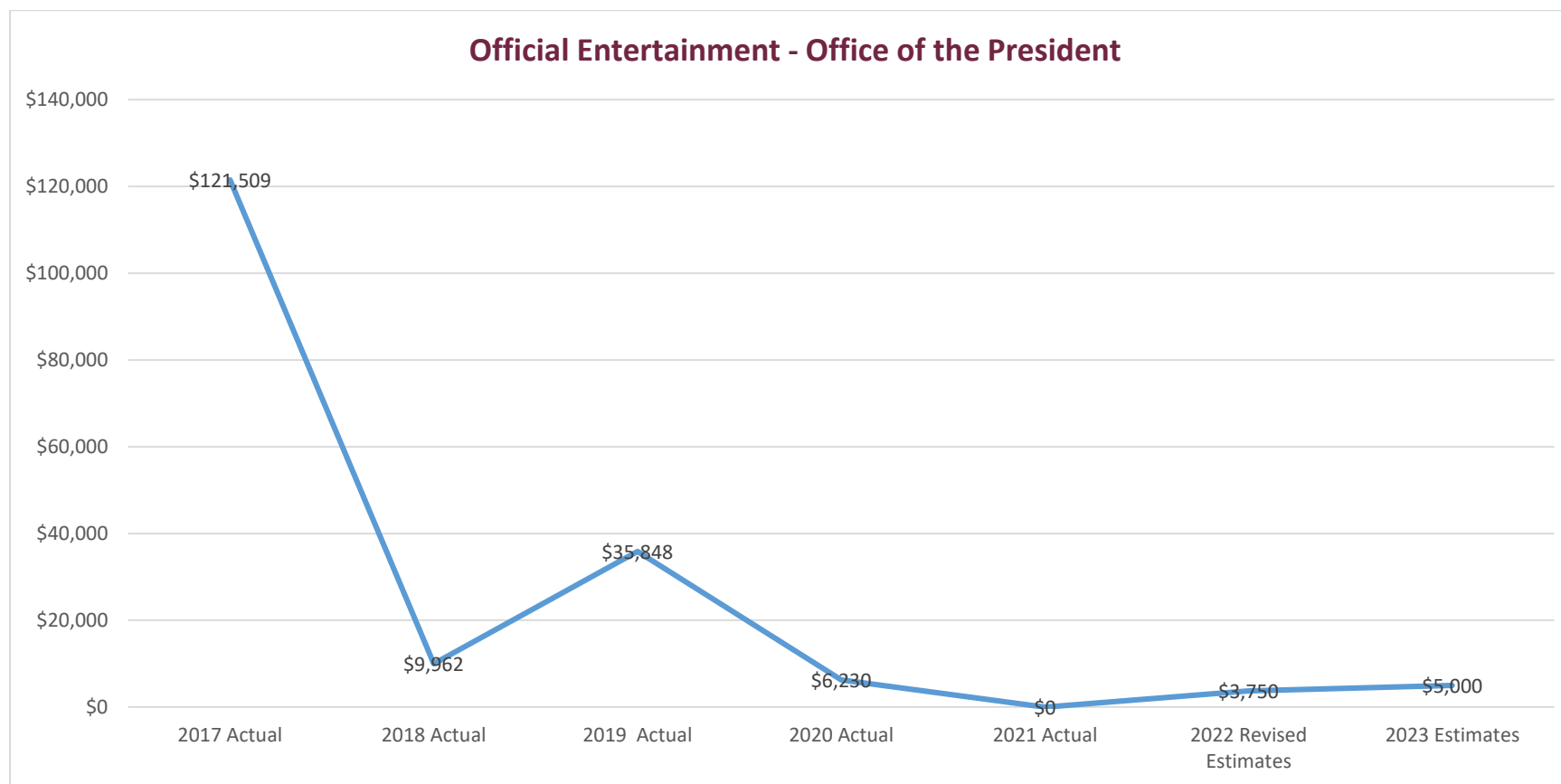
The allocation of staff expenditure for the year 2023 is \$6,068,830.00 which represents an increase of approximately 8.8% from the last fiscal year 2022 (revised). The diagram below provides a breakdown of all staff related expenditure from 2021-2023.



⁹ Draft Estimates for Details of Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure for the Financial Year 2023. Accessed September 28, 2022: <https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Draft-Estimates-of-Details-of-Estimates-of-Recurrent-Expenditure-for-the-Financial-Year-2023.pdf>

Analysis of Expenditure Unique to the Office of the President

Unique Expenditure refers to expenditure items incurred by the Office of the President that may not feature in other ministries or departments.¹⁰



¹⁰ Draft Estimates for Details of Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure for the Financial Year 2023. Accessed September 28, 2022: <https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Draft-Estimates-of-Details-of-Estimates-of-Recurrent-Expenditure-for-the-Financial-Year-2023.pdf>

Development Programme¹¹ Expenditure for the period 2023

The Development Programme is a capital expenditure aimed at improving and enhancing development in different areas of Trinidad and Tobago which includes; human resources, economic and social development.

The allocation to the Office of the President for development programmes and projects for fiscal year 2022/2023 = \$200,000.00. These funds are disbursed directly from the Consolidated Fund.

The Office of the President does not usually receive funding from the Development Programme, however in this year's budget the Office of the President has received funding for a new project as follows:

New Projects for the Financial Year 2023

The following is identified as a "New Project" receiving funding in the 2022/2023 financial year

Sub-head /Item /Sub-item /Group /Project Desc.	Project -Item	2023 Estimate
CF 004-06A-001	Establishment of a Public Education Programme	\$200,000

¹¹ Estimates of Development Programme 2023. Accessed September 28, 2022: <https://www.finance.gov.tt/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Draft-Estimates-of-Development-Programme-for-the-Financial-Year-2023.pdf>

General Useful Information

- The President of India, INDIA: <http://presidentofindia.nic.in/>
- The Governor General of Canada, CAN: <https://www.gg.ca/index.aspx>
- Governor- General of the Commonwealth of Australia, AUS : <https://www.gg.gov.au/>
- Office of the Deputy President, Kenya: <https://deputypresident.go.ke/>