



## Central Bureau of Statistics

W.G. Buncamper Road 33, Philipsburg.

Tel: 422355

Fax: 423022

Email: [info@cbs.an](mailto:info@cbs.an)

# PRESS RELEASE

Philipsburg, October 4, 2007

## Unemployment rate decreased to 10.9 percent

In the months March/April 2007 the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) conducted a Labor Force Survey (LFS) in Sint Maarten. The LFS is a sample survey among households that the CBS conducts periodically with the aim to measure the latest developments on the labor market. The developments concern the unemployment rate, the participation rate, the number of employed and the number of unemployed. The results are measured over two points in time, namely October 2005 and March 2007 and reflect the developments that have taken place between these two points.

The CBS would like to thank all the households that have participated in the survey, thereby making it a success.

Here are the main results:

1. The *employed population* went up with more than 2,600 persons, a rise of almost 15 percent. The number of employed is now more than **20,700** persons.
2. The number of *unemployed persons* decreased with approximately 350 persons, a decrease of almost 13 percent. This number is now almost **2,500** persons.
3. The *unemployment rate* went down from 13.4 to **10.9** percent.
4. The labor force increased with almost 2,300 persons, an increase of 11 percent. This is due to the rise in the number of employed persons. The labor force presently consists of more than **23,000** persons.
5. Because the increase of the labor force (11%) exceeded the increase of the

total population (9%), the participation rate rose slightly with 1.3 percentage points. It went from 58.1 in 2005 to **59.4** percent in 2007.

6. The youth unemployment rate decreased from 30.4 percent in 2005 to **26.0** percent in 2007.

////////////////////////////////////

The full report is available at the:

**Central Bureau of Statistics**

W.G. Buncamper Road 33, Philipsburg.

Tel: 422355

Fax: 423022

Email: [info@cbs.an](mailto:info@cbs.an)

Available for download at: [www.cbs.an](http://www.cbs.an)