



Central Bureau of Statistics

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Press release

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Start Import and Export Survey 2007 in St. Maarten

The Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) will be conducting an import and export survey in St.Maarten from August 27 until November 30, 2007.

The main purpose of the import and export survey is to compile and disseminate data regarding the import and export of goods (international merchandise trade statistics) of St.Maarten.

International merchandise trade statistics are economic statistics which serve a variety of needs. These trade statistics combined with other basic statistics provide an input to balance of payments statistics and national accounts.

The national accounts provide a comprehensive accounting framework, which allows the economic data to be compiled and presented in a format that is designed for purposes of economic analysis, decision taking and policy-making. Since the accounts are usually compiled for a couple of years, they can also be used for analyzing economic developments over time.

There are many users of international merchandise trade statistics, including governments, commercial enterprises, national and international organizations, researchers, and the public at large.

Currently St.Maarten has no detailed information on the import and export of merchandise. With the import and export survey the Central Bureau of Statistics will be able to compile the international trade statistics.

The import and export survey will be conducted for businesses with more than 10 employees. Additionally a selected sample of businesses with less than 10 employees will also be surveyed.

The survey is focused on the annual import and export of merchandise in 2005 and 2006. The questions on the survey form refer to the trade data specified by kind of product and value of import and export.

All businesses are required to follow and comply with the questionnaire as this is required by law in the Statistics Ordinance (Publicatieblad 1976 no.145). All information supplied to the Central Bureau of Statistics is held in strictest confidence.

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