Under the Vision 2030 Jamaica - National Development Plan framework, we are reporting on key indicators of national well-being for this quarterly press briefing under two main reporting areas—Education Status and Security Status—which show mixed results.

In Education, 31.9 per cent of students sitting the CSEC examinations in 2013 attained passes in five or more subjects, including English Language and/or Mathematics, unchanged from the 31.9 per cent of students attaining similar passes in 2012.
In reporting on Security Status, we note that, since January 2013, the indicator formerly classified as Major Crimes is now classified as Serious and Violent Crimes. With respect to Serious and Violent Crimes (murder, shooting, rape, aggravated assault, robbery, break-ins and larceny), 261 serious and violent crimes per 100,000 population were committed over the period January to September 2013, a decline of 12.1 per cent from 297 per 100,000 population over the similar period in 2012. The murder rate for January to September 2013 was 32.9 per 100,000 population, up 5.3 per cent from 31.2 per 100,000 population over the similar period in 2012.

The increase in the murder rate over the past three months marks the first reversal of the downward trend in crime rates that began in June of 2010.
This concludes the reporting on key indicators of national well-being for this quarterly press briefing.