

## Understanding Entrepreneurial Attitudes, Intentions and Activity in Barbados

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*While the entrepreneurial capability of Barbados is growing, the attributes contributing to this growth are under-researched. Compared to other developed and developing nations, the entrepreneurial population of Barbados has a low fear of failure rate which has lead to further investigating the benefits of entrepreneurial attitudes, intentions and activities. The research questions of this article are to explain these attributes. Based on the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) data set, a theoretical framework and expert interviews; an explanation linked to understanding attitudes grouped by age distribution, stage of economic development, gender and education levels is investigated. Overall, the findings established a positive relationship between entrepreneurial attitudes and actual entrepreneurial activity measured by total early-stage activity (TEA). The main points argued in the conclusion of this article are that males and those in the youngest age groups showed the most positive entrepreneurial attitudes and highest TEA rates, and that TEA rates were positively related to educational attainment, with those in the highest educational category (post-secondary level) demonstrating the highest TEA. The implications of the research highlight that more focused entrepreneurship educational training is required for vulnerable groups like women and youth. Also, decision makers need to develop entrepreneurship education programs that inspire and trigger entrepreneurial activity for all age groups.*

**Keywords:** *Entrepreneurship, education, attitude, intention, activity, GEM, Barbados*

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