



# BELIZE



## GOVERNMENT

### Chief of State

Queen ELIZABETH II  
represented by Governor General Sir Colville  
Norbert YOUNG, Sr.

### Head of Government

Prime Minister Dean Oliver BARROW

### Government Type

parliamentary democracy (Parliament) under a  
constitutional monarchy; a Commonwealth realm

### Capital

Belmopan

### Legislature

bicameral National Assembly consists of the  
Senate (12 seats) and the House of  
Representatives (31 seats)

### Judiciary

Supreme Court of Judicature (consists of the Court  
of Appeal with the court president and 3 justices,  
and the Supreme Court with the chief justice and 2  
judges); final appeals in civil and criminal cases are  
sent to the Caribbean Court of Justice

### Ambassador to US

Ambassador Francisco Daniel GUTIEREZ

### US Ambassador

Ambassador (vacant); Charge d'Affaires Adrienne  
GALANEK

## GEOGRAPHY

### Area

Total: 22,966 sq km  
Land: 22,806 sq km  
Water: 160 sq km

### Climate

tropical; very hot and humid; rainy season (May  
to November); dry season (February to May)

### Natural Resources

arable land potential, timber, fish, hydropower

## ECONOMY

### Economic Overview

tourism and exports of primary commodities have given Belize a  
high per capita income relative to other Central American  
countries; average income masks a huge income disparity  
between rich and poor

### GDP (Purchasing Power Parity)

\$3.211 billion (2017 est.)

### GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity)

\$8,300 (2017 est.)

### Exports

\$483.4 million (2017 est.)  
partners: UK 33.9%, US 22%, Jamaica 6.7%, Italy 6.4%,  
Barbados 5.9%, Ireland 5.5%, Netherlands 4.3% (2017)

### Imports

\$944.4 million (2017 est.)  
partners: US 35.6%, China 11.2%, Mexico 11.2%, Guatemala  
6.9% (2017)

## PEOPLE & SOCIETY

### Population

360,300 (July 2017 est.)

### Population Growth

1.8% (2017 est.)

### Ethnicity

mestizo 52.9%, Creole  
25.9%, Maya 11.3%,  
Garifuna 6.1%, East Indian 3.9%, Mennonite 3.6%, white 1.2%,  
Asian 1%, other 1.2%, unknown 0.3% (2010 est.)<sup>1</sup>

### Language

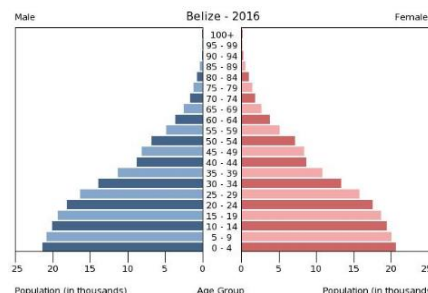
English 62.9% (official), Spanish 56.6%, Creole 44.6%, Maya  
10.5%, German 3.2%, Garifuna 2.9%, other 1.8%, unknown 0.3%,  
none 0.2% (cannot speak) (2010 est.)<sup>1</sup>

### Religion

Roman Catholic 40.1%, Protestant 31.5%, Jehovah's Witness  
1.7%, other 10.5%, unspecified 0.6%, none 15.5% (2010 est.)

### Urbanization

urban population: 45.7% of total population (2018)  
rate of urbanization: 2.32% annual rate of change (2015-20 est.)



<sup>1</sup> note: percentages total more than 100% because respondents were able to provide more than one answer