

Belize

General

	MALES	FEMALES	YEAR
Total population under 15	62,139	59,611	2017
Total population over 15	117,037	115,071	2017

** ALL DATA FROM CIA, 2017*

Health

Maternal mortality rate per 100,000 live birth	28	2015	CIA, 2017 est.
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	19.3	2016	CIA, 2017 est.
Under-five mortality rate for males per 1,000 live births	18.2	2012	UN Statistics, 2015
Under-five mortality rate for females per 1,000 live births	14.8	2012	UN Statistics, 2015
Births attended by a skilled health professional	94	2014	WHO, 2016
Prevalence of HIV among adults aged 15–49	1.5	2015	WHO, 2017
Life expectancy for men	67.2	2016	CIA, 2017 est.
Life expectancy for women	70.4	2016	CIA, 2017 est.

Education

	MALES	FEMALES	YEAR
Youth literacy rate, ages 15-24	87.24%	89.92%	2015
Adult literacy rate, ages 15+	82.23%	83.31%	2015
Net enrolment rate in primary education	97.19%	95.06%	2015
Gross enrolment ratio in secondary education	79.8%	81.79%	2015
Gross enrolment ratio in tertiary education	17.87%	28.7%	2015

** ALL DATA FROM UNESCO INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS, 2017*

- Female graduates from tertiary education (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 62.5%
- Female students in engineering, construction and manufacturing tertiary education programs: Insufficient data.
- Female teachers in primary education (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 72.1%
- Female teachers in secondary education (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 61.4%
- Female teachers in tertiary education (2012) (UNESCO Institute of Statistics, 2015): 50.2%

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Economic Activity

- Males over 15 who are active in the labour force (2016) (World Bank, 2017): 83.5%
- Females over 15 who are active in the labour force (2016) (World Bank, 2017): 56.1%
- Proportion of adults (15 years and older) with an account at a bank or other financial institution, or with a money mobile service provider (2011) (UN Statistics, 2017): 55.07%

Decision-Making

- Proportion of seats held by women in National Parliament (2016) (World Bank, 2017): 3

Human Rights

- Girls married before 15 (UNICEF, 2016): 3%
- Females married between 15 and 19 (World Economic Forum, 2013): 26%
- Women subjected to physical/sexual violence by an intimate partner during their lifetime (UN Women, 2016): Insufficient data.
- Women subjected to physical/sexual violence by an intimate partner or a non-partner during the last 12 months (UN Women, 2016): Insufficient data.

Gender and Development Trends in Belize

Health

Belize has the highest HIV prevalence in Central America. Pregnant women are a noted HIV risk group. 89 per cent of pregnant women in the country receive HIV testing (UNAIDS, 2015). At the end of 2015, there were a total of 56 HIV positive pregnant women, of these 95% (53) of all HIV positive women were receiving antiretroviral treatments (ARVs) (UNAIDS, 2015).

Education

According to a 2011 UNICEF report, there are no gender differences amongst Belize's total student population. However, substantial differences remain based on level of school and/or district, as well as among the teaching population.

90% of women aged 15 to 24 years in Belize are literate, with no major variations by area of residence or language (UNICEF, 2011, p. 68).

Economy

The official estimate of the unemployment rate in Belize, was as recently as 2015, 11 percent. The rate for men the rate was 7.2 percent and for women was more than twice as high, at 16.4 percent (World Bank, 2017).

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Governance

According to a 2012 report on women in politics in Belize, one woman has been elected to the National Assembly, placing the country near the bottom of the world's nations for political representation (UNDP Belize, 2012). However, there are now three women in the National Assembly showing that women's political representation in Belize is increasing, though below the SDG of 30%.

Human Rights

In 2015, there were 15 cases of gender-based murder against women. The U.S. Department of State report (2016) suggests that wider justice system problems result in low conviction rates for rape offenses and that there are many acquittals or discontinuance cases due to the accusing party dropping charges or refusing to testify at trial. (U.S. Department of State, 2016).

Belize SDG Progress Profile

Belize was not included in the 2016 SDG Index and Dashboards due to insufficient data. According to a 2016 report (Bertelsmann Stiftung, 2016), the data from Belize was missing 26% of the values needed to be ranked, and therefore was not included in any indicator data (Annex 2, p. 39).

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