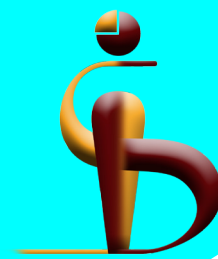


Belize



Statistical Institute of Belize
1902 Constitution Drive
Belmopan City, Belize C.A.
Phone: 501.822.2207 / 2352
Fax: 501.822.3206
Email: info@mail.sib.org.bz
Web: www.sib.org.bz

Labour Force Survey

SEPTEMBER 2014

NOVEMBER 26, 2014

UNEMPLOYMENT DOWN TO 12.1% IN SEPTEMBER 2014

The Statistical Institute of Belize today released the preliminary results of the September 2014 Labour Force Survey, which show that the national unemployment rate for that month declined by over two percentage points to 12.1 percent from 14.2 percent in September 2013. The total number of employed persons rose by more than 6,200 to 134,521.

All districts saw a decrease in the rate of joblessness, except for Stann Creek and Belize, as shown in Figure 1. In the Stann Creek District, unemployment rose by more than three percentage points to 18.3 percent from 15.1 percent last September, with a net loss of over 1,000 jobs being recorded. In the case of the Belize District the increase was marginal, from 13 percent to 13.1 percent, although there was a net gain of over 1,000 jobs. This is indicative of persons entering the labour force at a slightly faster rate than the rate at which new jobs were created. More than one-third of all new jobs were created in the Cayo District.

The total number of unemployed persons fell by over 2,700 to 18,479 when compared to last September. The number of men who were without jobs and were looking for work fell from about 8,700 to 6,100 while the number of women remained virtually unchanged at over 12,000. This vast discrepancy could be further seen in a female unemployment rate of 20.4 percent, more than three times the 6.7 recorded for males.

Among the various ethnic groups, the Garifuna continued to experience joblessness at a disproportionately higher 21.7 percent, while unemployment was lowest among the Mayas at 8.6 percent. Unemployment among persons aged 14 to 25 stood at 25.4 percent, changing very little in comparison to September 2013.

About 58 percent of the Belizean labour force has completed no more than a primary level of education, with women in general having slightly higher levels of educational attainment than men. The median monthly income for all employed persons rose by \$245 from \$900 in September 2013 to \$1,145 in September 2014.

Table 1: Number of Employed Persons by District; September 2013 and September 2014

District	Sep 2013	Sep 2014	Change
Corozal	16,270	17,366	1,096
Orange Walk	16,197	18,068	1,871
Belize	44,533	45,575	1,042
Cayo	28,582	30,905	2,322
Stann Creek	13,410	12,357	-1,053
Toledo	9,285	10,251	966
Country	128,277	134,521	6,244

Table 2: Number of Unemployed Persons by District; September 2013 and September 2014

District	Sep 2013	Sep 2014	Change
Corozal	2,913	2,206	-707
Orange Walk	2,190	2,083	-108
Belize	6,647	6,880	233
Cayo	5,707	3,828	-1,879
Stann Creek	2,382	2,771	388
Toledo	1,346	712	-634
Country	21,186	18,479	-2,707

Figure 1: Unemployment Rates by District; September 2013 and September 2014

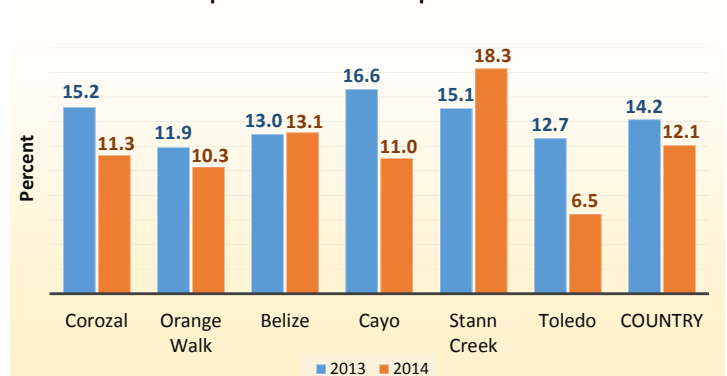


Figure 2: Employed and Underemployed Persons by Sex; September 2014

