



CONSUMER CONFIDENCE INDEX

CCI RELEASE FOR:

AUGUST 2026

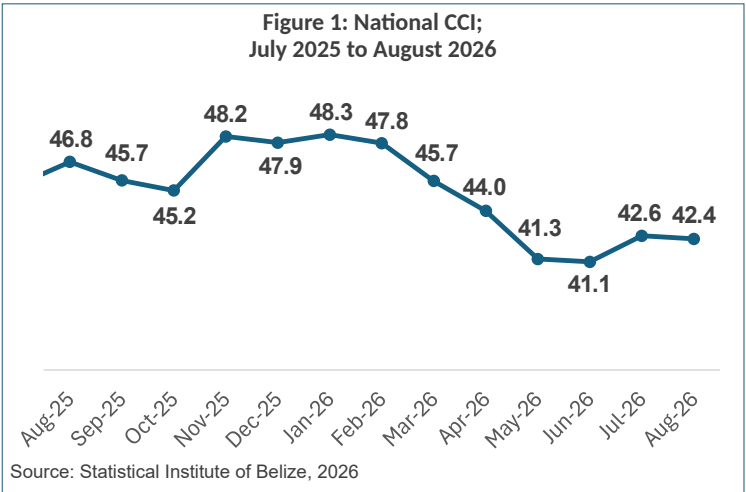
PUBLISHED ON:

SEPTEMBER 30TH, 2026

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE DOWN 0.4% TO 42.4 IN AUGUST 2026: SENTIMENT ON PRESENT AND EXPECTATIONS DOWN, WHILE DURABLE GOODS UP

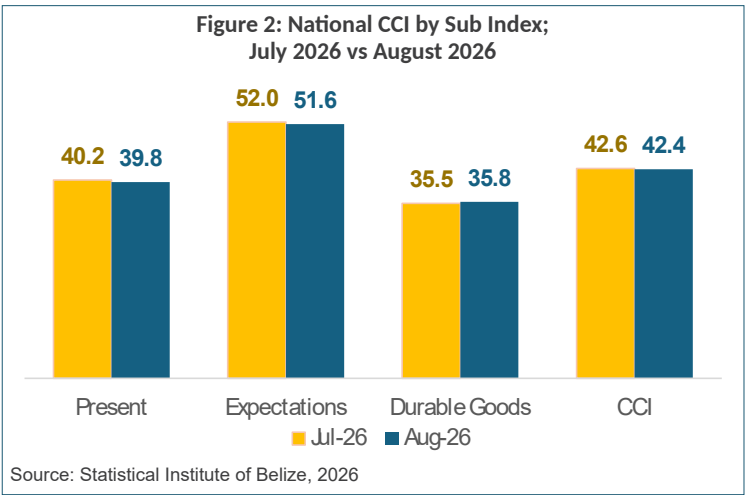
National Consumer Confidence Index: August 2026

For the month of August 2026, the national Consumer Confidence Index (CCI) stood at 42.4, representing a marginal 0.4 percent decrease from 42.6 in July 2026. Following an improvement during the month of July, consumer confidence appeared to resume its generally downward trend in August. The slight reduction was the result of weaker sentiment in the 'Present' and 'Expectations' components, which overshadowed a small improvement in the 'Durable Goods' component.



Consumer Confidence by Components

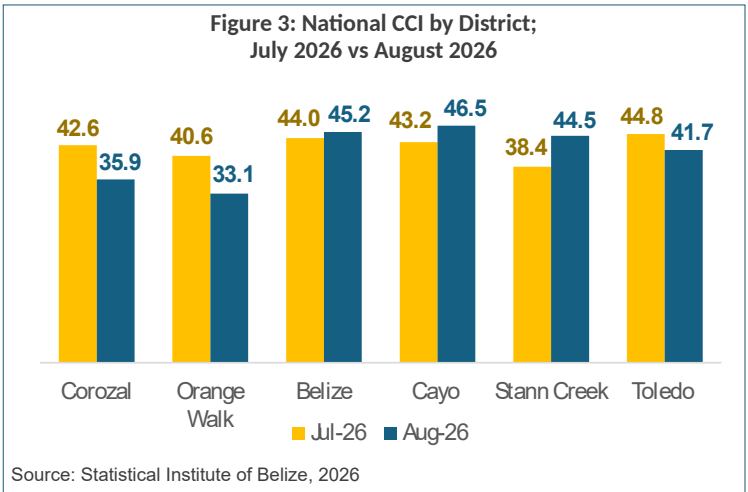
At the national level, sentiment surrounding 'Present' macroeconomic conditions and households' financial situations compared with the previous twelve months decreased by 1.0 percent, from 40.2 in July 2026 to a slightly more pessimistic 39.8 in August 2026. Consumers also reported a drop in 'Expectations' about future macroeconomic conditions and households' financial situations over the coming twelve months, reflected in a 0.8 percent reduction in this component, from 52.0 in July to a less optimistic 51.6 in August. However, when it came to making major household purchases, the 'Durable Goods' component rose by 0.8 percent, from 35.5 to 35.8 over the one-month period (see Figure 2).



Consumer Confidence by District

During the month, residents of the Orange Walk District recorded the largest decline in consumer confidence, which fell by 18.3 percent from 40.6 in July 2026 to a more pessimistic 33.1 in August 2026. Within this district, sentiment was down across all CCI components. Most notable was a 27.8 percent decline in the 'Durable Goods' component, while sentiment related to 'Expectations' for the future was down by 25.4 percent. Additionally, the 'Present' component decreased by 2.9 percent, indicating higher levels of pessimism regarding current macroeconomic conditions and households' financial situations compared with the previous twelve months (see Figure 3).

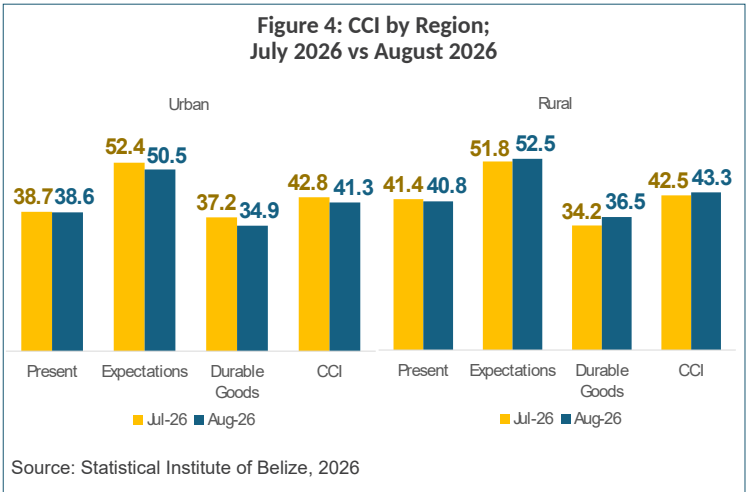
Conversely, the Stann Creek District recorded the largest improvement of 15.8 percent, as consumer confidence rose from 38.4 in July 2026 to a less pessimistic 44.5 in August 2026. This was primarily the result of a sharp increase of 37.7 percent in future 'Expectations', from 38.7 to 53.3. Similarly, consumer confidence towards current macroeconomic conditions and their households' financial situation rose by 21.8 percent, from 33.6 in July to 40.9 in August. On the other hand, consumers in this district became more pessimistic about making purchases of major household items, resulting in an 8.6 percent reduction in the 'Durable Goods' component, from 42.9 to 39.2 during the one-month period (see Figure 3).



Consumer Confidence by Region

Among urban consumers, overall sentiment was down by 3.4 percent, from 42.8 in July 2026 to 41.3 in August 2026. While consumer confidence weakened across all three components for persons living in these areas, the 'Durable Goods' component recorded the largest decrease of 6.2 percent, from 37.2 to 34.9, indicating increased pessimism toward making major household purchases, such as electronic devices, furniture, and motor vehicles. This was followed by a 3.6 percent reduction in consumer sentiment related to their prospects for the coming year, as 'Expectations' fell from 52.4 to 50.5. In addition, the 'Present' component declined by a marginal 0.4 percent, from 38.7 in July to 38.6 in August (see Figure 4).

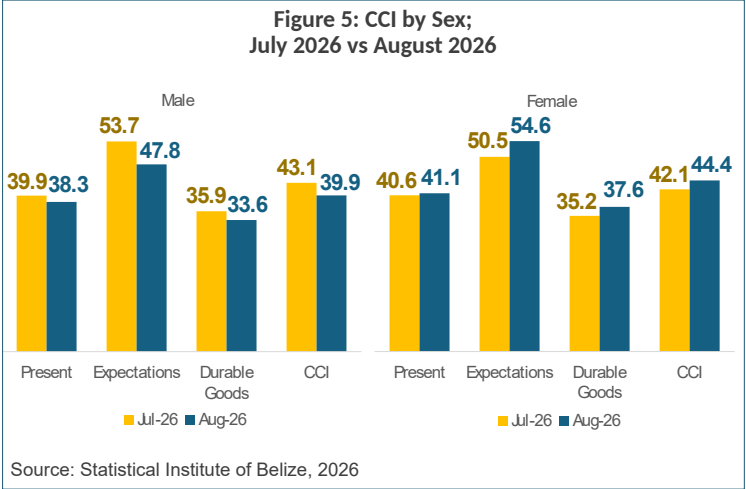
On the other hand, consumer confidence among persons living in rural areas increased by 1.9 percent, from 42.5 in July 2026 to a less pessimistic 43.3 in August 2026. This was mainly due to a 6.8 percent improvement in sentiment related to the purchase of 'Durable Goods', which rose from 34.2 in July to 36.5 in August. These consumers also became more optimistic about macroeconomic conditions and their households' financial situations in the coming months, as reflected in a 1.4 percent increase in future 'Expectations', from 51.8 to 52.5. However, the 'Present' component declined by 1.5 percent, from 41.4 to 40.8, indicating that consumers living in rural areas felt more pessimistic about current macroeconomic conditions and their households' financial situations compared with the previous twelve months (see Figure 4).



Consumer Confidence by Sex

Consumer confidence among males declined by 7.5 percent, from 43.1 in July 2026 to 39.9 in August 2026. ‘Expectations’ recorded the largest reduction of 10.9 percent, from an optimistic 53.7 to a pessimistic 47.8 during the month. Male consumers also reported feeling more pessimistic about making major purchases, resulting in a 6.2 percent decrease in the ‘Durable Goods’ component, from 35.9 in July to 33.6 in August. Similarly, male consumers became more pessimistic about current macroeconomic conditions compared with the past, as ‘Present’ sentiment declined by 4.0 percent, from 39.9 to 38.3 during the month (see Figure 5).

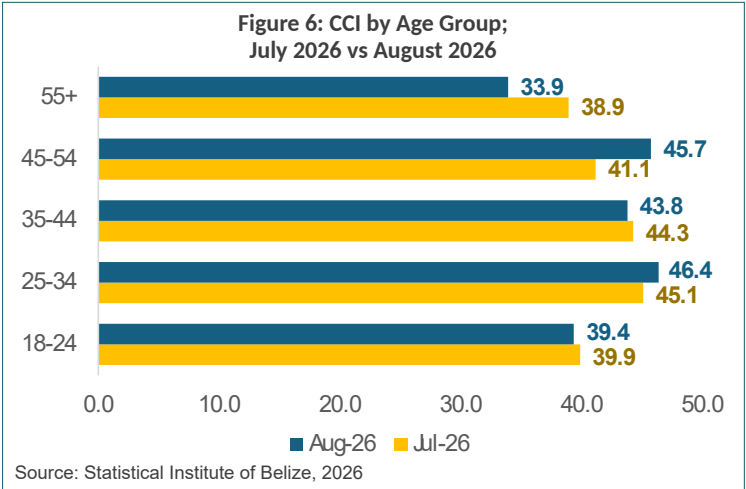
Conversely, consumer confidence among females was up by 5.5 percent, from 42.1 in July 2026 to 44.4 in August 2026. This was driven by an 8.1 percent improvement in ‘Expectations’, from 50.5 to 54.6, reflecting higher levels of optimism towards future economic conditions and households’ financial situations over the next twelve months. Female consumers also became less pessimistic about purchasing ‘Durable Goods’, with this component improving by 6.6 percent, from 35.2 in July to 37.6 in August. Additionally, ‘Present’ sentiment increased by 1.3 percent, from 40.6 to 41.1, as female consumers felt less pessimistic regarding current conditions when compared with the previous twelve months (see Figure 5).



Consumer Confidence by Age Groups

Consumer confidence among individuals aged 45 to 54 years saw the largest improvement among all age groups, increasing by 11.1 percent from 41.1 in July 2026 to a less pessimistic 45.7 in August 2026. This was due largely to a 13.4 percent improvement in sentiment related to ‘Durable Goods’, indicating that these consumers became less pessimistic about making major household purchases. Similarly, consumers within this age group reported a more positive outlook towards current macroeconomic conditions and their households’ financial situations, as ‘Present’ sentiment rose by 10.9 percent, from 40.0 to 44.3. Similarly, future ‘Expectations’ were up by 9.8 percent, moving from a pessimistic 49.9 in July to an optimistic 54.7 in August (see Figure 6).

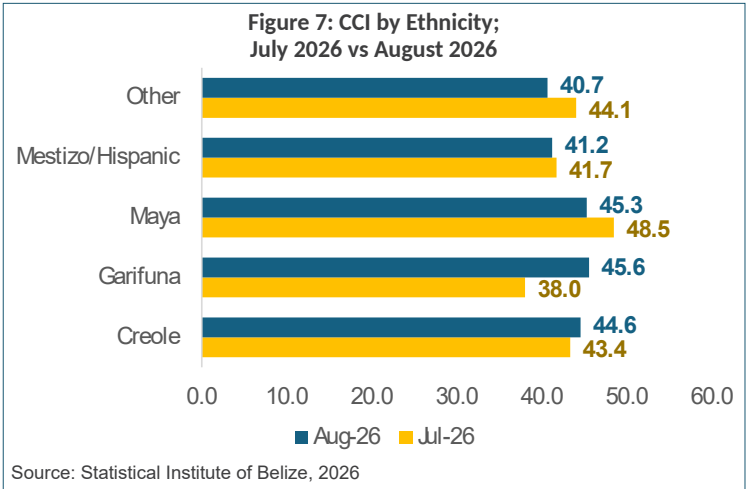
On the other hand, consumers aged 55 years and older, had the largest decline in confidence during the month. Sentiment among this age group decreased by 12.9 percent, from 38.9 in July to 33.9 in August. These consumers reported a considerable drop of 31.9 percent in sentiment toward the purchase of ‘Durable Goods’, from 32.8 in July 2026 to a more pessimistic 22.3 in August 2026. This was followed by a 10.1 percent reduction in ‘Expectations’, from 50.1 to 45.1 between July and August, as this group became pessimistic about future macroeconomic conditions and their households’ financial prospects over the upcoming twelve months. The ‘Present’ component, on the other hand, improved by 1.4 percent, signalling that consumers within this age group became less pessimistic about current economic conditions and their households’ financial situations compared to the past (see Figure 6).



Consumer Confidence by Ethnicity

Persons of Garifuna descent had the largest improvement in consumer confidence, at 19.8 percent, from 38.0 in July 2026 to a less pessimistic 45.6 in August 2026. Persons of this ethnicity reported a 32.4 percent increase in their ‘Expectations’ about future economic conditions and their households’ financial situations in the coming months, from a pessimistic 42.3 in July to an optimistic 56.0 in August. Additionally, sentiment related to the ‘Present’ increased by 22.4 percent, from 34.5 to 42.3. Furthermore, the ‘Durable Goods’ component was up by 3.1 percent among this group, from 37.3 in July to 38.4 in August, reflecting reduced pessimism towards the purchase of major household items, such as electronics and vehicles (see Figure 7).

Conversely, persons categorized as ‘Other’ reported the largest decline in sentiment at 7.7 percent, from 44.1 in July 2026 to 40.7 in August 2026. This was mainly due to a 24.2 percent decrease in the ‘Present’ component, from 48.4 to 36.7, reflecting increased pessimism towards current macroeconomic conditions and their households’ financial situations compared with the past twelve months. Consumers within this group also became more pessimistic towards the purchase of ‘Durable Goods’, as this component declined by 5.9 percent, from 37.8 to 35.6. Meanwhile, ‘Expectations’ about future economic conditions and households’ financial situations improved by 8.3 percent, from 46.0 in July to a less pessimistic 49.8 in August (see Figure 7).



Consumer Confidence Index (CCI) Overview:

The Consumer Confidence Index (CCI) is an indicator that measures consumers’ sentiments with respect to general economic conditions within the country, their household’s own economic situation, and making major household purchases. It provides an early indication of future household spending, investing, and saving. With household spending being a major contributor to the overall economy, this in turn is an early indicator of future economic growth.

The CCI is an index number, ranging from 0 (completely pessimistic) to 100 (completely optimistic). Generally, a value greater than 50 indicates that consumers are more optimistic overall about the economy and their own economic prospects. The CCI is comprised of three components: (1) perceptions about how **present** macroeconomic conditions and the household’s financial situation compare to twelve months prior; (2) **expectations** about economic conditions and the household’s financial situation over the coming twelve months; and (3) perceptions about whether the present is a good time for making major purchases of **durable goods** such as homes, cars, furniture, and appliances. An index is also produced for each of these three components, to provide more detailed information on what is driving consumer sentiment.

The CCI is intended to provide information on consumer sentiment and how it moves in the short term; therefore, it is analyzed on a month-over-month basis.

Annex A: Coefficient of Variation Quality Indicator

The **coefficient of variation (CV)** is a statistical measure that expresses the extent of variability in relation to the mean, presented as a percentage. It is commonly used to evaluate the reliability of estimates by indicating the degree of sampling variability. Lower CV values reflect more consistent and reliable estimates, while higher values point to greater relative variability.

Table 1 below displays the coefficient of variation for the main CCI indicators. Table 2 provides a description of the quality of the estimate assessed by the letters A, B and C, along with their corresponding acceptance range and guidelines.

Table 1: Consumer Confidence Index Main Indicators and Coefficient of Variation, August 2026

Main Indicator	Estimated CCI	Coefficient of variation (%)
National	42.4	6.12
Regional		
Urban	42.8	10.11
Rural	42.5	7.35
District		
Corozal	35.9	9.79
Orange Walk	33.1	25.69
Belize	45.2	8.18
Cayo	46.5	8.24
Stann Creek	44.5	19.02
Toledo	41.7	30.3
Sex		
Male	39.9	10.26
Female	44.4	7.02
Ethnicity		
Creole	44.6	9.07
Garifuna	45.6	19.33
Maya	45.3	26.89
Mestizo/Hispanic	41.2	8.21
Other	40.7	23.75
Age Group		
18-24	39.4	11.41
25-34	46.4	10.91
35-44	43.8	10.45
45-54	45.7	11.51
55+	33.9	19.73

Table 2: Guidelines for quality level of estimates

Coefficient of Variation Quality Indicator	Quality of Estimate	Range	Guideline
A	Acceptable	<16.5%	Estimates with a coefficient of variation less than 16.5% are deemed reliable for general use. Data is of sufficient accuracy.
B	Marginal	> 16.5% and ≤ 33.3%	Estimates with a coefficient of variation between 16.5% and 33.3% are potentially useful but have a high level of errors. Caution to data users when using these estimates.
C	Unacceptable	> 33.3%	Estimates with a coefficient of variation higher than 33.3% are considered to be unreliable. These estimates do not meet recommended standards for general use, but may be used with caution if it falls between 33.3% to 50%.