

KEY CONCEPTS AND DEFINITIONS

DEMOGRAPHIC



Census

The process by which information is collected in order to give a complete count of the population and the country's housing stock. It also provides detailed data on the age structure, educational attainment, economic activity, disability, housing and household amenities and other major socio-economic characteristics. The SIB conducts a Population and Housing Census every ten years. The next will be done in 2020.



Household Survey

A method of gathering information from people living in a randomly selected group of households. The information collected is then used to make inferences or estimates on the entire population of the country. Between Censuses, a survey is how SIB collects information to produce national statistics.



Household

One or more persons living together (sleeping at least four nights per week and sharing at least one meal per day) in the same dwelling



Life Expectancy

The number of years a person can expect to live, on average, given their age and sex



Dwelling

A building or part of a building where people can live and which can provide accommodation for one or more households (examples: house, apartment, boarding house)

SOCIO-ECONOMIC



Labour Force

All persons in Belize, aged 14 and older, who either have a job or are available and want to work.



Employed Population

The portion of the Labour Force which has a job (persons aged 14 and older who are working)



Unemployed Population

The portion of the Labour Force which does not have a job which is available and willing to work if a job came up.



Unemployment Rate

The proportion of the Labour Force that is unemployed (see definition for Unemployed Population) at a given point in time.



Underemployed Population

Persons who are working, but who work less than 35 hours per week and are available for additional work.



Adult Literacy Rate

The proportion of a population aged 15 and older which can read and write. The best measure of literacy is from a literacy survey. When a survey cannot be done, literacy can be estimated by the proportion of the population aged 15 and older who have completed at least up to Standard 5.

ECONOMIC



Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

The total monetary value of all final goods and services produced within Belize in a year. It is an estimate of the size of the Belizean economy and growth in the GDP indicates how fast, by how much, and in which sectors the economy is growing.



Consumer Price Index (CPI)

The statistic used to measure inflation. It takes into account prices for 260 goods and services (the "basket") collected in various stores in all of Belize's urban areas. When the CPI increases, it means that on average, prices have gone up. If it decreases, then prices, on average, have gone down.



Inflation Rate

The percent by which prices of goods in the CPI basket go up or down over a period of time. If, on average, prices have gone up, the inflation rate will be a positive number. If prices go down on average, the inflation rate will be negative.



Imports

Goods that are purchased outside of Belize & brought into the country for use or sale.



Domestic Exports

Goods that are produced in Belize then sold abroad to other countries.