

QUICK FACTS



The percent of the total labour force that is unemployed is called the **Unemployment Rate**.



Not everyone who isn't working is considered unemployed. Some persons are not available or not able to work and so are not part of the labour force. This includes students, housewives, disabled persons and retired persons.



The unemployment rate is usually 1 to 2 percentage points higher in September than in April, partly due to seasonal agricultural jobs and recent graduates who have not yet found jobs when the September survey is done.



A person is considered employed if they worked at least 1 hour during the week before the survey. This is the standard definition used worldwide.



The unemployment rate for women is more than twice that of men.

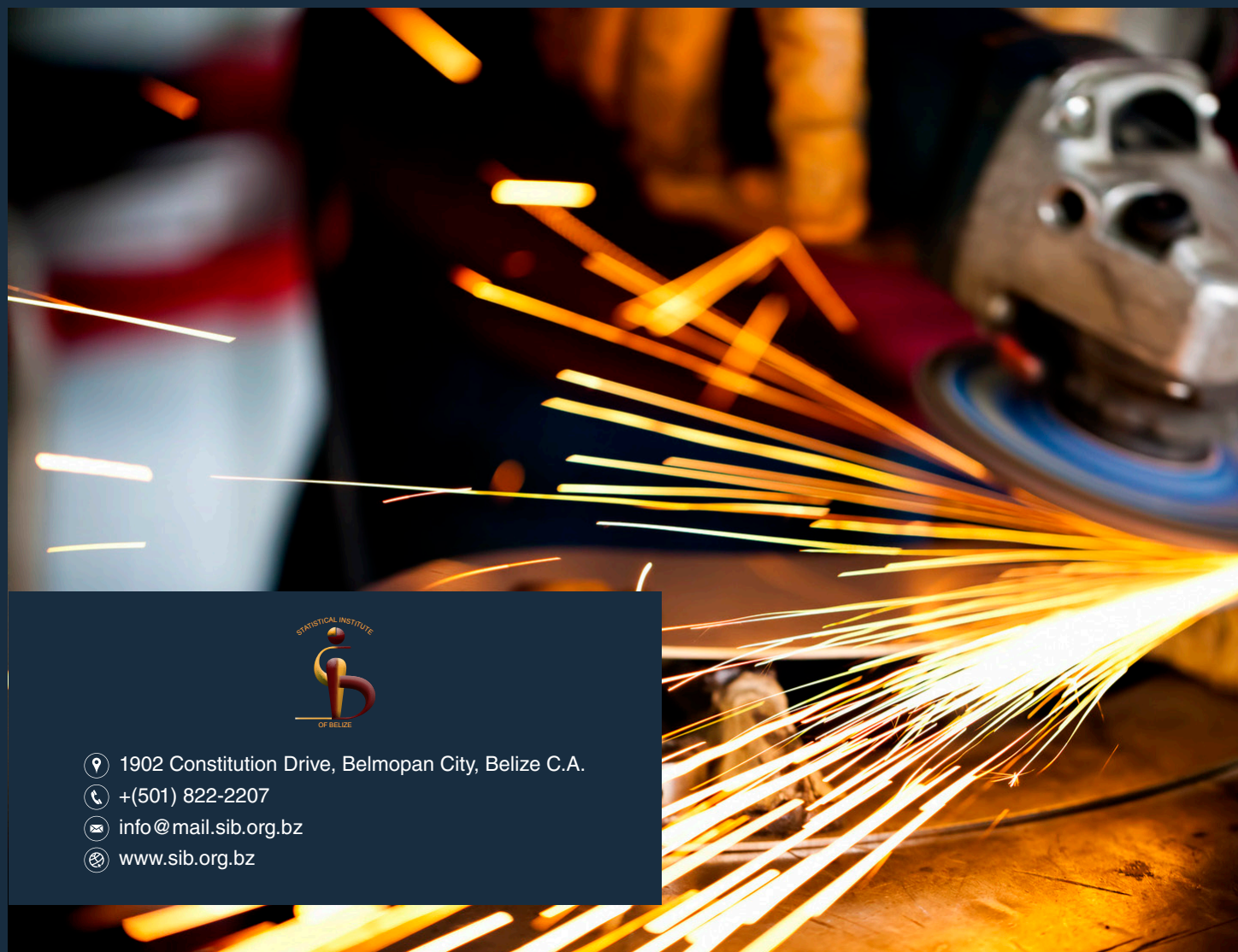


Youth unemployment (ages 14 to 24) is more than double the national unemployment rate

Contact US

Members of the public are welcome to contact us or visit one of our district offices for information or to request statistics from the SIB.

Labour Force Survey



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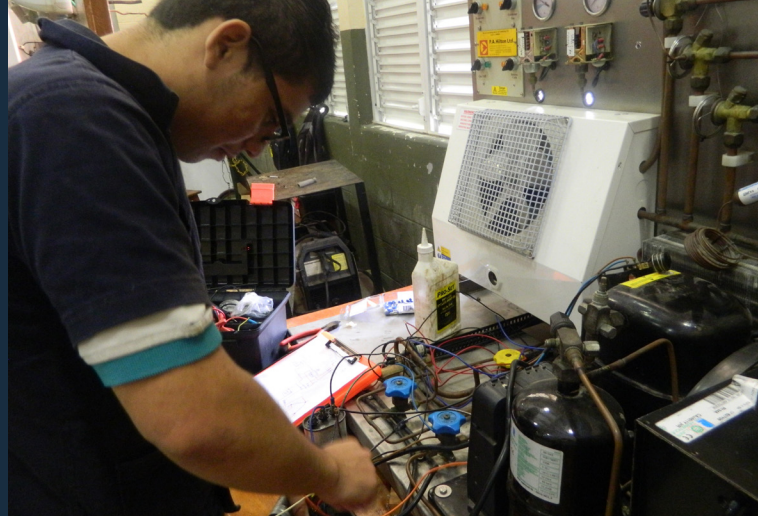
About US

The **Statistical Institute of Belize** or SIB is the country's national statistical agency. We are the official source of information on Belize's population, economy, and social conditions. The information collected by the SIB is used to produce regular updated statistics on the conditions within our country, which are used for decision-making, planning, and research.

Most of the statistics we produce are obtained by carrying out various surveys throughout the country. The largest survey which we do on a regular basis is the **Labour Force Survey (LFS)**.

What is the LFS?

The Labour Force Survey is a large-scale household survey which the SIB conducts in April and September of every year. We visit about 2,800 randomly selected households across the country and obtain a variety of information on each household. The information we collect is then used to produce figures on **employment, unemployment, and other statistics related to Belize's labour force.**



How is the information COLLECTED?

The SIB has trained interviewers who visit the households we survey and conduct face-to-face interviews to collect the necessary information. These persons will always have an **official ID card** to show that they are working on behalf of the SIB.

Is a person's information safe with THE SIB?

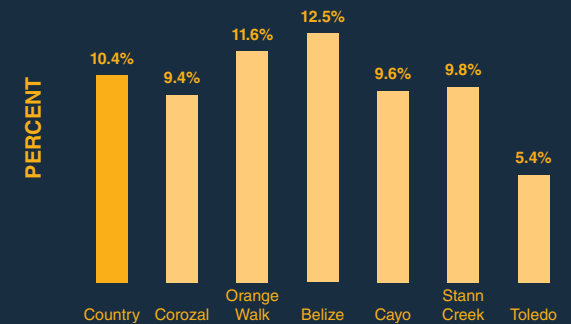
All data we collect from households are held in the strictest of confidence. The law that governs the SIB prohibits us from sharing any confidential information with anyone outside of our institution. Every employee of the SIB, even temporary survey staff, must sign an Oath of Secrecy, which is binding for life.

The Labour Force:

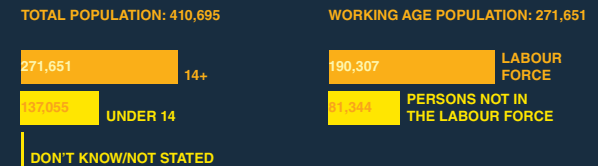
What is meant by **Labour Force**?

- This refers to all persons in the country age 14 years or older who either:
- Had a job OR
 - Did not have a job but were available for work.

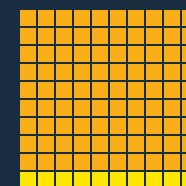
Unemployment Rates by District, September 2019



POPULATION AND LABOUR FORCE ESTIMATES: September 2019



LABOUR FORCE: 190,307



EMPLOYED
170,458

UNEMPLOYED
19,849