



**CARICOM CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAMME (CCDP)**

**2000 ROUND OF POPULATION
AND HOUSING CENSUS DATA ANALYSIS
SUB-PROJECT**

NATIONAL CENSUS REPORT

BELIZE



**CARICOM CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAMME (CCDP)**

In collaboration with the

**CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
AGENCY (CIDA)**

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(CCDP)
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SUB-PROJECT**

NATIONAL CENSUS REPORT, BELIZE

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FOREWORD

The Caribbean Community Council of Ministers, acting on the advice and recommendations of the Standing Committee of Caribbean Statisticians (SCCS), in February 2000, approved the use of a regionally coordinated approach for the 2000 Round of Population and Housing Censuses. The strategy included an activity on the **Analysis and Dissemination of Census Data and Results**, which comprised the preparation of National Census Reports (NCRs) and Regional Special Topic Monographs (RSTMs).

Fourteen Member States and four Associate Members participated in the programme. The participation of these countries in the Regional Census programme was in recognition of the value and economy of regional co-operation and coordination in executing the Censuses and for the production of comparable, high quality socio-economic data, useful in planning, and improving the quality of life and in achieving overall progress of the peoples of the Region.

The NCRs were undertaken by writers from the Region with experience in Demography, with two reviewers from the University of the West Indies (UWI) ensuring the soundness of the quality of the publications. On the basis of the review and comments by the respective National Statistical Offices and consultation with the writers and reviewers, the Reports were finalised by the CARICOM Secretariat.

The first and final drafts of this publication, “**2000 Round of Population and Housing Census of the Caribbean Community: National Census Report, Belize**” were prepared by Dr. Leopold Perriott of Belize and reviewed by Dr. Godfrey St. Bernard of the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute for Social and Economic Studies (SALISES), UWI, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago. The tables for the Report were generated by Mr. Wendell Thomas, Data Processing Consultant of Trinidad and Tobago as well as by the staff of the CARICOM Secretariat, specifically with respect to the RSTMs. The final draft was extensively reviewed by the Secretariat, including technical and language review and general formatting.

The analysis of the Census was funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) through the CARICOM Capacity Development Programme (CCDP). **The CCDP was designed as a strategic response to key trends and emerging priorities in the CARICOM environment with the objective of promoting the economic and social development of CARICOM through the deepening of the regional integration process. The overall aim of the CCDP was the strengthening of the institutional capacity of CARICOM to provide leadership in the regional integration process, and the enhancing of the implementation capacity of the CARICOM Secretariat to achieve clear results in core programme areas.**

Specifically, the outputs of the Census Statistics Sub-Project under the CCDP were to lead to improved development planning in Member Countries and in the Region through the use of the census data and information. The deliverables anticipated are eighteen (18) National Census Reports; five (5) Regional Special Topic Monographs; a volume of Basic Tables; training of personnel in demographic analysis through a seven-week workshop facilitated by UWI; and the establishment of an online facility to enable access to census data by users for analysis, research, policy formulation and decision-making.

The Census Data Analysis project was aimed at filling the gap existing in the Region and specifically within the national statistical systems in the area of demographic and population analysis, thereby enabling its use in policy and decision-making. Statisticians are in short supply in the Region and the area of demography is even more severely affected. The Census Data Analysis project provided a *common framework* for enabling comparability of the demographic transition and population characteristics across Member States based on the elements outlined in the content of the National Census Report. Additionally the reports are able to highlight trends in the demographic transition of the population of Member Countries from youthful to ageing populations; to make significant linkages with respect to education, training and economic activity; or economic activity with gender and fertility. The process of preparing the reports also allowed for quality checks on data, with the support of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin American and the Caribbean (UNECLAC).

A major challenge that persists is that of having clean data sets for analysis. To mitigate these data challenges, a series of four training courses is being undertaken to train personnel in the Region, with the first one funded out of the CCDP and the remaining three from a multi-programme technical assistance project, with funds received from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB). In addition, a short course for senior officials from statistical officers was also undertaken with CDB funding.

It is hoped that these Reports will benefit the countries through providing the analysis with regard to their age, sex, education, occupation, economic activity and other critical characteristics that are important to aid the formulation of policy and decision-making, both public and private, such as government officials, researchers, academics, members of the business community and civil society. Furthermore, the experience gained, together with the efforts to strengthen capacity, will equip the Region to analyse the results of the 2010 Census.

The CARICOM Secretariat takes this opportunity to thank all persons and organisations who have been associated with this Statistics project.

**EDWIN W. CARRINGTON
SECRETARY-GENERAL
CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY**

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Appreciation is also expressed to the Director General and all other Staff of the Statistical Institute of Belize who provided invaluable support in the preparation of this report. The CARICOM Secretariat also wishes to acknowledge the tremendous support provided by a number of persons including government officials from Belize who provided critical assistance in enabling the preparation of the First and Final Drafts of the publication by Dr. Perriott.

The support of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in contributing to the printing of the publication is highly appreciated.

The CARICOM Secretariat acknowledges the hard work and commitment displayed by the Staff of the Regional Statistics, Programme, past and present as well as by other staff of the Secretariat, throughout the preparation of this publication.

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INTRODUCTION

Census Day for the Belize 2000 Population and Housing Census was May 12, 2000. Population composition and dynamics as highlighted in this report reflect the state of the nation on this date. The identification of Census Day is based on a number of variables within the country. These variables are mainly politically, socio-culturally and legally determined.

To facilitate a better understanding of the Population and Housing Census Report, it is necessary to comprehend population concepts used. Two types of populations were addressed in the Belize 2000 Census Report:

- the enumerated population and
- the tabulated population.

The enumerated population is a total headcount of the entire population and includes a count of both the institutional (Prisons, Hospitals, Old-Age Homes etc.) and the non-institutional populations. Included in the enumerated population are persons who could not be contacted; for example, persons not at home, persons who had serious language barriers, persons too old to respond, persons incapacitated by serious illness, the homeless and persons who refused to answer questions.

The tabulated population on the other hand, comprises the population who responded to the census questionnaires. It is expected as such that the enumerated population will be greater than the tabulated population.

While the census is designed to enumerate everyone resident in a population, this is almost next to impossible as there will always be errors related to enumerating a population such as over-counting or under-counting, of which the latter is usually more likely to occur. The mere idea of an enumerated population lends itself to the possibility of undercounting because persons may not be reached for various reasons. Estimates by the Central Statistical Office (CSO) place undercounting at about 3.5 per cent for the 2000 Round of the Population and Housing Census and based on this estimate of error,

counts obtained from the census were adjusted accordingly to correct for errors related to undercounting.

In order to conform with the current practices in Belize, the population was grouped into the following age groups:

1. Less than 5 years (Infants)
2. 5 years to 14 years (Children of compulsory school age)
3. 15 years to 24 years (Young adults)
4. 25 years to 54 years (Adults of prime working age)
5. 55 years to 64 years (Adults of retirement age)
6. 65 Plus years (Retired adults)

These age groups are used by the various organizations which use age statistics in Belize.

Geography Of Belize

Belize spans approximately 8,866 square miles; it borders the Caribbean Sea to the east with 386 km of coastline. It consists of a total of 516 km of land and borders with Mexico 250 km to the north-northwest and with Guatemala 266 km to the south-southwest. At its narrowest (East to West) Belize measures about 60 miles and about 200 miles north to south. Belize is the only [English-speaking](#) country in Central America and the only one without a [Pacific](#) coastline. The capital city of Belmopan is where the Government of Belize is seated. There are numerous islands in Belize some of which are unpopulated, coral reefs and cays.

On the mainland, the vegetation is dense rainforest in the south and south-west and sugar cane and cattle farms in the north. Extensive pine forests can be found in the mountainous mid-south-west while grassland savanna is present in the West of the country. Occupying the east along the entire coastline of the country is Mangrove forests.

There are six administrative districts in Belize each with their own urban administrative centers (town or city). These districts are:

- the Corozal District in the North which borders Mexico and the Caribbean Sea,
- the Orange Walk District in the north and north-west which borders Guatemala and the Belize District,
- the Cayo District in the mid-west which borders Guatemala on the western side and Belize District on the eastern side,
- the Belize and Stann Creek Districts in the mid-east which borders the Caribbean Sea on the eastern side and,
- the Toledo District in the south which borders Guatemala and the Caribbean Sea.

Summary of Chapters

Chapter 1: The Population of Belize

This chapter examines the size and growth of the population at census years over the last four censuses, 1970-2000. Analysis is conducted separately for males and females and for the urban and rural populations. Age profiles are used to examine the characteristics of select subgroups of the population and to demonstrate changes in the age composition of the population over several decades.

Chapter 2: The Ethnic, Religious and Educational Structure of Belize

This chapter analyses population diversity as it relates to ethnicity, religiosity and education. Because of their diversity and impact on the general culture of Belize, ethnicity and religion are key factors to note in any study of Belize. Ethnicity in particular strongly impacts on the sub-culture in terms of language, religion and other social, demographic and economic traits and is therefore important to study. Education is focused on in a gender oriented manner as well as place of residence. The chapter also gleans on economic activities within Belize.

Chapter 3: Population Redistribution and Patterns of Migration

This chapter focuses on population movements within Belize and how this movement influences the population composition and distribution and by extension population change. Internal migration in Belize generally occurs with the movement of people from

areas sparsely populated to the more densely populated areas and so rural-urban migration is highlighted in this chapter. Additionally, foreign born residents are important to the everyday life, economic and social of Belize and their contributions are examined in this chapter. Returned migration is also a key feature of this chapter.

Chapter 4: Education and Training

In this chapter, education levels of the general population are discussed and issues of adequacy, coverage and gender are also addressed as it relates to education. Particular attention is paid to children less than 5 years old and the 5 years or older age group is also examined. In addition, qualifications and training for the 15 years and older age group are examined and discussed.

Chapter 5: Economic Activity

This chapter delves into the economic activities within Belize and primarily addresses working activities of the population in the past week, that is, over the week of the census. Accordingly, this chapter looks at occupation in the past week, type of industry in which people are involved and the type of worker involved in these occupations and industries.

Chapter 6: Housing and Living Arrangements

This chapter addresses the housing situation in Belize. It focuses on the number of housing units available to the population along with the quality of construction by way of building materials in addition to highlighting matters of potential overcrowding by shedding light on the number of persons per household. It gives an overview of not only the types of housing that people occupy but also the types of facilities and amenities that are available within these households.

Chapter 7: Health and Disability

This chapter primarily focuses on matters of health with a strong emphasis on issues of disability. Health is a critical component of any society's development. Akin to health in general, disability is a key health indicator and persons with disabilities comprise a very special group in the population and so they require special services and facilities to

function adequately in society. This chapter illustrates what the health status of the Belizean population is, including its disabled populace and provides profiles for persons at risk of various diseases and disabilities.

Chapter 8: Children

This chapter addresses issues related to children 0-14 years. The issues focused on in this chapter are the economic status, housing arrangements, attendance at schools, special needs and health issues of children.

Chapter 9: Youth

This chapter addresses matters related to the youth population (those between ages 15 and 24). A brief profile of youth as classified into two age groups; 15 to 19 years and 20 to 24 years is given in this chapter with the main issues being school attendance, training and economic activity.

Chapter 10: The Elderly

This chapter presents information on issues related to the elderly population (those 60 years and over). A profile of the elderly is presented in this chapter: where they live, union status, economic activity and disabilities.

Chapter 11: Gender and Development Issues

In this chapter, the issues of work, economic activity, and education and their variation across categories of gender are explored. The chapter gives an overview of the types of jobs that are occupied by the different sexes and looks at the types of training and levels of education as they are achieved by the different sexes. This is in an effort to glean on patterns of gender differentials in these socio-economic areas.

Chapter 12: Households and the Characteristics of Headship

This chapter defines what constitutes a household and examines the social profiles of heads of households including sex, age, marital status and education levels.

CHAPTER 1

THE POPULATION OF BELIZE

1.1. Population Size and Growth

The total enumerated population of Belize more than doubled between the 1970 and 2000 Population and Housing Censuses, increasing from a total enumerated population of 119 645 persons in 1970 to 240 204 persons in 2000 (Table 1.1) Over the 30 year period between 1970 and 2000, the highest percentage increase in the population took place within the 11 year interval between 1980 and 1991 at 30.30 per cent. The lowest percentage increase in the population occurred between 1970 and 1980 at 21.49 per cent while between 1991 and 2000 the population increased by 26.83 per cent.

In the 1970's and 1980's, the majority of the population resided in the urban areas, 54.26 per cent and 51.70 in 1980. However, this changed in 1991 and continued into 2000, with more than 50 per cent of the population residing in the rural areas. In 1991, 99 387 persons representing 52.48 per cent of the population resided in the rural areas compared with 90 005 persons or 47.52 per cent who resided in the urban areas while in 2000, 125 663 persons representing 52.32 per cent of the population resided in the rural areas compared with 114 541 persons or 47.68 per cent who resided in the urban areas.

Table 1.1 further details the population change from urban to rural dominance over the 30 years period between the 1970 and 2000. It illustrates that the urban population had an increase of 76.45 per cent over the 30 years from 64 915 to 114 541 while the rural population more than doubled with a population increase of 129.61 per cent from 54 730 in 1970 to 125 663 in 2000. The annual growth for the entire population over the 30 years period is recorded at 2.32 per cent per annum; for the rural areas over the 30 years the annual growth rate is recorded at 2.77 per cent per annum while that of the urban areas is at 1.89 per cent per annum

Table 1.1: Distribution of Total Enumerated Population by Urban/Rural¹ Characteristics and Census Year and Annual Growth Rate

Division	1970		1980		1991		2000		Annual Growth Rate
	Total	Per Cent	Total	Per Cent	Total	Per Cent	Total	Per Cent	
Total	119645	100.00	145353	100.00	189392	100.00	240204	100.00	2.32
Urban	64915	54.26	75152	51.70	90005	47.52	114541	47.68	1.89
Rural	54730	45.74	70201	48.30	99387	52.48	125663	52.32	2.77

Source: CSO, Belize

Table 1.2 presents the distribution of the population at the district level. In 1970, Belize District, the most urban district in Belize, had the largest number of persons with a total of 49 615 persons followed by Orange Walk (16 638), Cayo (16 023), Corozal (15 403), Stann Creek (13 012) and the least populated Toledo with 8 954 persons. Up until 2000, Belize District continued to be the most populous district with 68 197 persons and Toledo continued to be the least populated with 23 297 persons. However, over the 30 years period between 1970 and 2000, Cayo District saw the highest percentage increase in population, increasing by a factor of 3.28. On the other hand, Belize District had the lowest percentage increase even though it remained the most populous district from 1970 to 2000, increasing by a factor of only 1.37. Other districts posted population increases by factors of 2.60 (Toledo), 2.34 (Orange Walk), 2.12 (Corozal), and 1.89 (Stann Creek). It is noteworthy that Toledo District grew by the second highest factor even though it continued to be the country's least populated district between 1970 and 2000.

¹ Note: The definition of urban and rural classification is not explained.

Table 1.2: Distribution of Total Enumerated Population by District and Census Year

Division	1970		1980		1991		2000	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Total	119 645	100.00	145 353	100.00	189 392	100.00	240 204	100.00
Corozal	15 403	12.87	22 902	15.76	28 464	15.03	32 708	13.62
Orange Walk	16 638	13.91	22 870	15.73	30 681	16.2	38 890	16.19
Belize District	49 615	41.47	50 801	34.95	57 030	30.11	68 197	28.39
Cayo	16 023	13.39	22 837	15.71	37 693	19.90	52 564	21.88
Stann Creek	13 012	10.88	14 181	9.76	18 085	9.55	24 548	10.22
Toledo	8 954	7.48	11 762	8.09	17 439	9.21	23 297	9.70

1.2. Population Urban/Rural Composition

As indicated earlier, the population of Belize remains largely rural with 52.32 per cent of the country's residents in 2000, living in rural areas (Table 1.1). The 2000 census reveal that, based on population size, the only predominantly urban district in Belize is the Belize District with over 60 000 persons (Table 1.3). All other districts are mainly rural, but special note must be made to the Cayo District which is seemingly on the verge of becoming urban with over 50 000 persons. This is probably due to the inclusion of the city of Belmopan as one of the three urban centers of the Cayo District. Given observed population concentrations, it should be noted that all districts, with the exception of the Belize District and Cayo District, have exhibited population concentrations that render them more rural than urban. Even the Belize District which is the only urban district based on the 2000 census, has been slowly exhibiting population concentration that renders it less urban and hence a bit more rural. For Belize District as Table 1.3 indicates, the percentage of its population in rural areas was 19.45 per cent in 1980, and 21.48 per cent in 2000. Strong gains in the rural compositions in the Corozal and Orange Walk Districts have also been recorded over the last 9 years between 1991 and 2000 (Table

1.3). The rural population of Belize increased by a factor of 1.32 while the urban population increased by 1.17.

Table 1.3: Distribution of Total Enumerated Population by Urban/Rural Classification, District and Census Year, 1991 and 2000

District	1991		2000	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Total	189392	100.00	240204	100.00
Urban	90005	47.52	114541	47.68
Rural	99387	52.48	125663	52.32
Corozal	28464	100.00	32708	100.00
Urban	7062	24.81	7888	24.12
Rural	21402	75.19	24820	75.88
Orange Walk	30681	100.00	38890	100.00
Urban	11014	35.90	13483	34.67
Rural	19667	64.10	25407	65.33
Belize District	57030	100.00	68197	100.00
Urban	45936	80.55	53549	78.52
Rural	11094	19.45	14648	21.48
Cayo	37693	100.00	52564	100.00
Urban	16100	42.71	26478	50.37
Rural	21593	57.29	26086	49.63
Stann Creek	18085	100.00	24548	100.00
Urban	6435	35.58	8814	35.91
Rural	11650	64.42	15734	64.09
Toledo	17439	100.00	23297	100.00
Urban	3458	19.83	4329	18.58
Rural	13981	80.17	18968	81.42

1.3. Population Gender Composition

Over the period 1970-2000, the proportion of males in the population continued to be slightly greater than that of females (Table 1.4). The percentage of males in the population varied from a low of 50.23 per cent in the 1970 census to a high of 50.86 per cent in the 1991 census. In 2000, the percentage of males in the population was 50.49. Although the general populace in the four census years of 1970, 1980, 1991 and 2000 consisted of slightly more males than females, when controlling for area of residence, it is seen that the same is not true for the urban population. A look at the four census periods between 1970 and 2000 reveal that males were always outnumbered by females in the total population in all the urban areas while females were always outnumbered by males in the total population in all the rural areas. In 2000, in the urban areas, there were 49.38 per cent males compared with 50.62 per cent females. In the rural areas however, males outnumbered females with 51.50 per cent of the rural population being males compared with 48.50 per cent females.

In 2000, 46.64 per cent of all males resided in the urban areas while 53.36 per cent resided in the rural areas. It is also seen that in 2000, 48.75 per cent of the total female population resided in the urban areas compared with 51.25 per cent who resided in the rural areas.

Table 1.4: Distribution of Total Enumerated Population by Sex, District and Census Year

District	1970		1980		1991		2000	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Total	119 645	100.00	145 353	100.00	189 392	100.00	240 204	100.00
Male	60 092	50.23	73 617	50.65	96 325	50.86	121 278	50.49
Female	59 553	49.77	71 736	49.35	93 067	49.14	118 926	49.51
Urban	64 915	100.00	75 152	100.00	90 005	100.00	114 541	100.00
Male	31 032	47.80	36 543	48.63	44 412	49.34	56 565	49.38
Female	33 883	52.20	38 609	51.37	45 593	50.66	57 976	50.62
Rural	54 730	100.00	70 201	100.00	99 387	100.00	125 663	100.00
Male	29 060	53.10	37 074	52.07	51 913	52.23	64 713	51.50
Female	25 670	46.90	33 127	46.53	47 474	47.77	60 950	48.50
Corozal	15 403	100.00	22 902	100.00	28 464	100.00	32 708	100.00
Male	8 081	52.46	12 000	52.40	14 545	51.10	16 422	50.21
Female	7 322	47.54	10 902	47.60	13 919	48.90	16 286	49.79
Orange Walk	16 638	100.00	22 870	100.00	30 681	100.00	38 890	100.00
Male	8 744	52.55	12 004	52.49	16 027	52.24	19 948	51.29
Female	7 894	47.45	10 866	47.51	14 654	47.76	18 942	48.71
Belize District	49 615	100.00	50 801	100.00	57 030	100.00	68 197	100.00
Male	24 116	48.61	25 005	49.22	28 402	49.80	34 035	49.91
Female	25 499	51.39	25 796	50.78	28 628	50.20	34 162	50.09
Cayo	16 023	100.00	22 837	100.00	37 693	100.00	52 564	100.00
Male	8 422	52.56	11 549	50.57	19 149	50.80	26 417	50.26
Female	7 601	47.44	11 288	49.43	18 544	49.20	26 147	49.74
Stann Creek	13 012	100.00	14 181	100.00	18 085	100.00	24 548	100.00
Male	6 343	48.75	7 140	50.35	9 334	51.61	12 734	51.87
Female	6 669	51.25	7 041	49.65	8 751	48.39	11 814	48.13
Toledo	8 954	100.00	11 762	100.00	17 439	100.00	23 297	100.00
Male	4 386	48.98	5 919	50.32	8 868	50.85	11 722	50.32
Female	4 568	51.02	5 843	49.68	8 571	49.15	11 575	49.68

Source: CSO, Belize

1.4. Population Age Composition

Belize has a fairly young population with 60.88 per cent of the tabulable population in the 2000 census being less than 25 years of age (Table 1.5). Table 1.5 reveals that the 5-14 age group has the highest percentage share of the population, approximately 27 per cent. The 55-64 age group accounts for the smallest proportion of the population with only 3.57 per cent of the population found in this age category.

While the 5-14 years age group recorded the highest proportion of the population in 2000, there has been a steady decrease in the percentage of children belonging to this age group over the last four decades. In 1970, this group represented 31.22 per cent of the total population compared with 29.45 per cent in 1980, 27.85 per cent in 1991 and 26.55 per cent in 2000. Despite declining relative shares of the total population over the last few censuses, total population figures in this age group show an increase of 64.62 per cent between 1970 and 2000 from 37 440 to 61 632. Between 1991 and 2000 this group increased by 19.80 per cent from 51 445 to 61 632 children while between 1980 and 1991 this percentage increase was 20.18 from 42 806 to 51 445. Between 1970 and 1980 there was a percentage increase of 14.33 per cent from 37 440 to 42 806.

A comparison of the less than 25 years population over the period 1970-2000, has indicated that between 1970 and 1980, this group recorded percentage shares of the total population of 66.69 per cent (1970), and 67.10 per cent (1980). By 1991 however, it had decreased to 63.99 per cent and continued to decrease into 2000 when it was 60.88 per cent.

Table 1.5 further indicates that over the period between 1970 and 2000, the population of Belize 25-54 years almost tripled, increasing by 150.97 per cent from 28 997 to 72 775. Between 1991 and 2000 the total number of persons 25-54 years old, increased by 41.55 per cent from 51 414 to 72 775 persons, 46.16 per cent between 1980 and 1991 from 35 176 to 51 414 and, 21.31 per cent between 1970 and 1980 from 28 997 to 35 176 persons. The 25- 54 years age group population increased over the period 1970-2000, from 24.18 per cent of the total population in 1970 to 31.35 per cent of the total population in 2000.

The percentage distribution as a share of the total population steadily increased over the period. In 1970 and 1980, this population accounted for 24.18 and 24.20 per cent of the total population respectively, while in 1991 this increased to 27.83 after which it increased to 31.35 per cent in 2000.

The population 55-64 years has exhibited a decrease in percentage share of the total population over the last four censuses. In 1970 this group accounted for 4.84 per cent of the total population, and this decreased in 1980 accounting for 4.10 per cent of the total population. Further, in 1991, this group accounted for 3.97 per cent and continued to decrease into 2000 when this group accounted for 3.57 per cent of the total population. This group increased by 42.53 per cent between 1970 and 2000 from 5807 persons in 1970 to 8 277 persons in 2000. Between 1991 and 2000, this group increased by 12.98 per cent from 7 326 persons in 1991.

Table 1.5: Distribution of Total Tabulated Population by Age Group and Census Year

Age Group	1970	1980	1991	2000
0-4	21728	18.12	24310	16.72
5-14	37440	31.22	42806	29.45
15-24	20820	17.36	30415	20.92
25-34	11743	9.79	15844	10.90
35-44	10028	8.36	10320	7.11
45-54	7226	6.02	9012	6.20
55-64	5807	4.84	5960	4.10
65 +	5142	4.29	6686	4.60
Total	119934	100.00	145353	100.00

Source: CSO, Belize

The 65+ population represented 4.29 per cent of the total population in 1970 and 4.60 per cent, the highest percentage share recorded for this age group in 1980. Additionally, in 1991 this age group represented 4.21 per cent of the total population and only decreased by 0.01 to 4.20 per cent in 2000.

Table 1.6: Distribution of Total Tabulated Population by Sex, Age Group and Census Year

Age Group/ Sex	1970		1980		1991		2000	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Total	119934	100.00	145353	100.00	184722	100.00	232111	100.00
Male	60091	50.10	73617	50.65	93371	50.55	116669	50.26
Female	59843	49.90	71736	49.35	91351	49.45	115442	49.74
0-4	21728	100.00	24310	100.00	29710	100.00	33470	100.00
Male	10996	50.61	12254	50.41	15017	50.55	16884	50.45
Female	10732	49.39	12056	49.59	14693	49.45	16586	49.55
5-14	37440	100.00	42806	100.00	51445	100.00	61632	100.00
Male	18883	50.44	21646	50.57	26025	50.59	31202	50.63
Female	18557	49.56	21160	49.43	25420	49.41	30430	49.37
15-24	20820	100.00	30415	100.00	37047	100.00	46213	100.00
Male	10367	49.79	15479	50.89	18395	49.65	22833	49.41
Female	10453	50.21	14936	49.11	18652	50.35	23380	50.59
25-34	11743	100.00	15844	100.00	26246	100.00	33819	100.00
Male	5878	50.06	8054	50.83	13221	50.37	16569	48.99
Female	5865	49.94	7790	49.17	13025	49.63	17250	51.01
35-44	10028	100.00	10320	100.00	15776	100.00	24639	100.00
Male	4999	49.85	5320	51.55	8153	51.68	12499	50.73
Female	5029	50.15	5000	48.45	7623	48.32	12140	49.27
45-54	7226	100.00	9012	100.00	9392	100.00	14317	100.00
Male	3648	50.48	4656	51.66	4934	52.53	7420	51.83
Female	3578	49.52	4356	48.34	4458	47.47	6897	48.17
55-64	5807	100.00	5960	100.00	7326	100.00	8277	100.00
Male	2887	49.72	3030	50.84	3844	52.47	4450	53.76
Female	2920	50.28	2930	49.16	3482	47.53	3827	46.24
65+	5142	100.00	6686	100.00	7780	100.00	9744	100.00
Male	2451	47.67	3178	47.53	3782	48.61	4812	49.38
Female	2691	52.33	3508	52.47	3998	51.39	4932	50.62

Source: CSO, Belize

CHAPTER 2

ETHNIC, RELIGIOUS, EDUCATIONAL AND ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

Introduction

Although English is the official language of Belize, a variety of different languages can be heard in the streets, towns and villages. This language diversity is a reflection of the rich mixture of different ethnicities and cultures which are integral facets of life in Belize. There is also a corresponding diverse mixture of religious traditions. This chapter explores the cultural diversities of the population as it is distributed throughout the various districts and the urban and rural settings of Belize.

Education is also a priority throughout the nation and a state-church partnership is ever proactive in providing training and schooling to all sectors and groups across the country. Some attention will be given to the interplay of ethnicity, religion and education in this chapter.

Additionally, issues related to the economic activities will be addressed in the last section of this chapter. Specific emphasis will be on the profile of those within the labour force and to some extent those outside of it.

2.1. Population and Ethnicity

The Belize population comprises a diverse mix of ethnic groups and Table 2.1 shows that in 2000, the majority of the Belize population were local born; approximately 85 per cent. Table 2.2 indicates that in 2000, the Mestizo/Spanish was the largest group accounting for 48.70 per cent of the total population (113 045 persons), followed by Creoles who accounted for 24.93 per cent of the total population (57 859 persons). Mayans accounted for 10.56 per cent of the total population (24 501 persons), Garifunas 6.06 per cent (14 061 persons) and the Mennonites 3.57 per cent (8 276 persons). All other ethnic groups accounted for 6.17 per cent of the total population (14 372 persons).

Table 2.1: Total Tabulated Population by Place of Birth and Sex, 2000

Place of Birth	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Percent
Belize	197 657	85.16	99 081	84.90	98 576	85.42
Abroad	34279	14.77	17 530	15.02	16 749	14.51
Not Stated	175	0.87	95	0.08	80	0.07
Country Total	232 111	100.00	116 706	100.00	115 405	100.00

Source: CARICOM

Table 2.2: Total Tabulated Population by Ethnicity, 2000 and 1991

Ethnicity	2000		1991	
	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
Black/African	582	0.25	-	-
Caucasian/White	1 758	0.76	1 494	0.81
Chinese	1 716	0.74	747	0.40
Creole	57 859	24.93	55 051	29.80
East Indian	6 868	2.96	6 455	3.49
Garifuna	14 061	6.06	12 274	6.64
Maya Ketchi	12 366	5.33	7 954	4.31
Maya Mopan	8 980	3.87	6 770	3.66
Maya Yucatec	3 155	1.36	5 686	3.08
Mennonite	8 276	3.57	5 763	3.12
Mestizo/Spanish	113 045	48.70	80 477	43.57
Syrian/Lebanese	-	-	167	0.09
Other	2 610	1.12	1 867	1.01
Not Stated	835	0.36	17	0.01
Country Total	232 111	100.00	184 722	100.00

Source: CSO, Belize

The Mestizo/Spanish represent the ethnic group with the highest number and percentage of persons in the population in 1991 and 2000 (80 477 and 113 045 respectively).

On the other hand, the Chinese had the lowest number and percentage of persons in 1991 and 2000 (747 and 1 716 respectively). Despite this however, it is the Chinese that represent the fastest growing group in the population with their population more than doubling between 1991 and 2000. Between 1991 and 2000, the Chinese population increased by a percentage of 129.72. Though the Mestizo/Spanish was the largest ethnic group between 1991 and 2000, they recorded the fourth highest percentage increase in population of 40.47 behind the Chinese, the Maya Ketchi (55.47 per cent), and the Mennonite 43.61 per cent. The lowest percentage increases in population was with the Creoles and the East Indians with 5.10 per cent and 6.40 per cent respectively. It is important to note however that the Creoles recorded the second highest absolute increase in the population behind the Mestizo/Spanish over the period 1991 and 2000 of 2 808 persons from 55 051 in 1991 to 57 859 persons in 2000 for the respective years. The East Indian population remained relatively small over the period with 6 455 persons in 1991 compared with 6 868 persons in 2000. In 2000, Blacks/Africans² had the smallest numbers of persons in the population (582). In 1991, Syrians/Lebanese³ had the smallest number of persons in the population (167). The Maya Yucatec is the only group to record a percentage decrease in its population size between 1991 and 2000, decreasing from 5 686 to 3 155 representing a 44 per cent decline.

2.2. Urban/Rural and Ethnicity

As mentioned in chapter one, majority of the Belize population resides in the rural areas. However a breakdown of rural versus urban residence by ethnicity as shown in Table 2.3 reveal that among all ethnic groups except East Indians, Mayans, Mennonites and Mestizo/Spanish, there is a higher percentage of persons residing in the urban areas based on the 2000 census. The same patterns hold true for 1991 with the addition of Syrians/Lebanese who were most likely urban dwellers. The most outstanding figures, those representing over 60 per cent of the population in 2000 show that 83.97 per cent of Chinese, 77.84 per cent of Blacks/Africans, 76.62 per cent of Garifunas and 65.72 per cent of Creoles reside in the urban areas. Among the ethnic groups with higher

² Blacks were not represented in the 1991 Census.

³ Syrian/Lebanese was not a category in the 2000 Census and perhaps is contained in the "Other" category

percentages of rural dwellers than urban dwellers, Mennonites was the most outstanding group with 98.71 per cent of them residing in the rural areas. This was followed by Mayans with 90.23 per cent residing in the rural areas, Mestizos/Spanish with 59.96 per cent residing in the rural areas and finally East Indians with 50.83 per cent residing in the rural areas.

In 1991, the most outstanding group among urban dwellers was Syrian/Lebanese with 96.41 per cent residing in the urban areas. This was followed by Chinese with 90.09 per cent residing in the urban areas, Garifunas with 76.82 per cent residing in the urban areas and Creoles with 68.77 per cent residing in the urban areas. Among ethnic groups more likely to be rural dwellers, Mennonites were the most outstanding with 98.55 per cent of them residing in the rural areas. This is followed by Mayans with 90.69 per cent residing in the rural areas and Mestizos with 61.55 per cent residing in the rural areas. Additionally, it is seen that 51.94 per cent of East Indians resided in the rural areas.

2.3. Ethnicity Patterns by Districts

The 1991 and 2000 censuses have revealed patterns indicating that there is a preference for certain ethnic groups to reside in particular districts.

2.3.1. Mestizo/Spanish

Mestizos/Spanish are mainly located in the three northerly districts which borders Mexico and Guatemala. In essence, they are most likely to reside in Cayo, Orange Walk and Corozal Districts. Table 2.4 shows that of the 80 477 Mestizos/Spanish recorded in 1991, they were more likely to reside in Orange Walk District with a total number of 21 859 persons (27.16 per cent) followed by Cayo District with a total of 21 170 (26.31 per cent) and Corozal District with a total of 21 056 (26.16 per cent). The 2000 censuses however reveals a slight contrast, in which of the 113 045 Mestizos/Spanish, they were more likely to reside in Cayo District followed by Orange Walk District and then Corozal District. Nearly one-third of the Mestizo/Spanish reside in Cayo District. In fact, 32 637 Mestizos/Spanish (28.87 per cent) resided in Cayo District showing an increase of 11 467 persons from 1991. There were 29 296 (25.92 per cent) Mestizo/Spanish residing in the

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Orange Walk District in 2000, and 24 487 (21.65 per cent) in the Corazol District. Mestizos/Spanish were least likely to live in Toledo with 2 080 (2.58 per cent) residing in that area in 1991 and 3 384 (2.99 per cent) in 2000.

Table 2.3: Total Tabulated Population by Ethnicity and Urban/Rural Classification, 2000 and 1991

Ethnicity	Total	Urban		Rural	
		Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent
2000					
Black/African	582	453	77.84	129	22.16
Caucasian/White	1758	1021	58.08	737	41.92
Chinese	1716	1441	83.97	275	16.03
Creole	57859	38026	65.72	19833	34.28
East Indian	6868	3377	49.17	3491	50.83
Garifuna	14061	10774	76.62	3287	23.38
Maya Ketchi	12366	1016	8.22	11350	91.78
Maya Mopan	8980	996	11.09	7984	88.91
Maya Yucatec	3155	382	12.11	2773	87.89
Mennonite	8276	107	1.29	8169	98.71
Mestizo/Spanish	113045	45261	40.04	67784	59.96
Other	2610	1967	75.36	643	24.64
Not Stated	835	442	52.93	393	47.07
Country Total	232 111	105 263	45.35	126 848	54.65
1991					
Ethnicity	Total	Urban Number	Per Cent	Rural Number	Per Cent
White	1494	844	56.49	650	43.51
Chinese	747	673	90.09	74	9.91
Creole	55051	37856	68.77	17195	31.23
East Indian	6455	3102	48.06	3353	51.94
Garifuna	12274	9435	76.87	2839	23.13
Maya Ketchi	7954	509	6.40	7445	93.60
Maya Mopan	6770	718	10.61	6052	89.39
Maya Other	5686	673	11.84	5013	88.16
Ger/Dutch/Mennonite	5763	64	1.11	5699	98.55
Mestizo	80477	30947	38.45	49530	61.55
Syrian/Lebanese	167	161	96.41	6	3.59
Other	1867	1070	57.31	797	42.69
Not Stated	17	17	100.00	0	0.00
Country Total	184 722	86 069	46.59	98 653	53.41

Source: CSO, Belize

2.3.2. Creole

People of Creole ethnicity tend to be more likely to reside in the Belize District and this is revealed in both the 1991 and 2000 censuses. Creoles were most likely to be found in the Belize District with about six out of every ten Creoles living in this area in 1991 and 2000, with a total population of 36 875 in 1991 and 37 211 in 2000. They were least likely to reside in Toledo with 2.12 per cent (1 226) residing there in 2000 compared with 1.82 per cent (1 003) residing there in 1991. Noteworthy is the fact that over the 9 years between 1991 and 2000 though Creoles continued to be most dominant in Belize District, there was a decrease in their presence from 66.98 per cent in 1991 to 64.31 per cent in 2000. Their presence in other districts though remaining small, less than 10 per cent in all districts except Cayo with 16.09 per cent, increased by a few percentage points between 1991 and 2000.

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Table 2.4: Total Tabulated Population by Ethnicity and District, 2000 and 1991⁴

Ethnicity and Districts	2000		1991	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per Cent
Mestizo	113045		80477	
Corozal	24478	21.65	21056	26.16
Orange Walk	29296	25.92	21859	27.16
Belize	15865	14.03	10170	12.64
Cayo	32637	28.87	21170	26.31
Stann Creek	7385	6.53	4142	5.15
Toledo	3384	2.99	2080	2.58
Creole	57857		55051	
Corozal	2302	3.98	2151	3.91
Orange Walk	2604	4.5	2243	4.07
Belize	37211	64.31	36875	66.98
Cayo	9308	16.09	8390	15.24
Stann Creek	5206	9	4389	7.97
Toledo	1226	2.12	1003	1.82
Maya	24501		20410	
Corozal	921	3.76	1401	6.86
Orange Walk	1229	5.02	2777	13.61
Belize	708	2.89	671	3.29
Cayo	3616	14.76	3161	15.49
Stann Creek	2898	11.83	1412	6.92
Toledo	15129	61.75	10988	53.84
Garifuna	14061		12274	
Corozal	332	2.36	361	2.94
Orange Walk	372	2.65	368	3.00
Belize	3487	24.8	2852	23.24
Cayo	747	5.31	619	5.04
Stann Creek	7584	53.94	6323	51.52
Toledo	1539	10.95	1751	14.27
Mennonite	8276		5763	
Corozal	2108	25.47	1407	24.41
Orange Walk	3671	44.36	2622	45.5
Belize	30	0.36	37	0.64
Cayo	2309	27.9	1671	29
Stann Creek	33	0.4	11	0.19
Toledo	125	1.51	15	0.26
Other	14371		10745	
Corozal	2068	14.39	2041	18.99
Orange Walk	888	6.18	636	5.92
Belize	5760	40.08	3707	34.5
Cayo	2604	18.12	1512	14.07
Stann Creek	1337	9.3	1200	11.17
Toledo	1714	11.93	1649	15.35

⁴ Note: The total population for 1991 sums to (184 720) which is less by 2 when compared to the (184 722) in Table 2.3.

2.3.3. Maya

Mayans were mainly found in Toledo District with more than half of this ethnic group residing in this area in 1991 and 2000, with a total population of 10 988 in 1991 and 15 129 in 2000. The period 1991 to 2000 as shown in Table 2.4 demonstrates patterns of a southerly movement of Mayans from the Northern Districts (Corozal and Orange Walk Districts) to the Southern Districts of Stann Creek and Toledo. Both absolute numbers and percentages, as presented in Table 2.4, show reductions in Mayans residency between 1991 and 2000 for the Corozal and Orange Walk Districts while both the Stann Creek and Toledo Districts, post significant gains. In 1991, the Corozal District had a total Mayan population of 1 401 and this decreased to 921 in 2000 while the Orange Walk District which had a total population of 2 777 in 1991 decreased to 1 229 in 2000. The population of Stann Creek on the other hand which had a population of 1 412 in 1991, increased to 2 898 in 2000 while Toledo increased from a Mayan population of 10 988 in 1991 to 15 129 in 2000. In the Cayo District, the number of Mayans increased from 3 161 in 1991 to 3 616 in 2000.

2.3.4. Garifuna

Garifunas were mostly present in Stann Creek with over 50 per cent of this population present in this area in both 1991 and 2000, with a population of 6 323 in 1991 and 7 584 in 2000. Belize District also had a significant number of Garifunas between 1991 and 2000 with 24.80 per cent of Garifunas present in Belize District in 2000, a small percentage increase over the 23.24 per cent present in the same district in 1991. Garifunas were least likely to be present in the Cayo and Orange Walk Districts with 5.04 per cent in 1991 and 5.31 per cent in 2000 in Cayo District and 3.00 per cent in 1991 and 2.65 per cent in 2000 in the Orange Walk district.

2.3.5. Mennonite

About two in every five Mennonites resided in Orange Walk District between 1991 and 2000 accounting for the area with the largest number of Mennonites with a total of 2 622 in 1991 and 3 671 in 2000. A significant number of Mennonites were also found in

other districts; in Cayo there were 2 309 Mennonites and in Corozal there were 2 108 based on the 2000 census and in 1991, 1 671 and 1 407 Mennonites found in the respective districts.

2.3.5. Other Ethnic Groups

In 2000, other ethnic groups combined were mostly found in Belize District with 5 760 persons (40.08 per cent). This was followed by Cayo District with a total of 2 604 (18.12 per cent) and Corozal with 2 068 (14.39 per cent). Other ethnicities were least likely to reside in Orange Walk District with 888 persons (6.18 per cent).

2.4. Religious Group

The most dominant religious groups in Belize are the Roman Catholics and Anglicans with Roman Catholics far outnumbering Anglicans based on both the 1991 and 2000 censuses. It is evident that there has been substantial eroding of the traditional religious structure of Belize's population. Between 1991 and 2000 the number of persons who were not religiously affiliated more than doubled, increasing from 11 025 persons (5.97 per cent of the country's population) in 1991 to 23 162 persons or 9.98 per cent of the Belize population in 2000 (Table 2.5).

There was a small decrease in the number of Roman Catholics between 1991 and 2000 from 106 596 to 115 035. The proportion of Roman Catholics in Belize decreased from 57.71 per cent of the total population in 1991 to 49.56 per cent in 2000.

A substantial decrease in the number of persons and also in the percentage of Anglicans in the general population is evident between 1991 and 2000. In 1991 there were 12 836 or 6.95 per cent Anglicans but this decreased by 2000 to 12 386 or 5.34 per cent Anglicans.

Despite the decrease in popularity among the two major religious groups Roman Catholicism and Anglicanism, other non-traditional groups seem to be breaking ground, increasing in number and share of the total population. Between 1991 and 2000 the Pentecostal church has surpassed the Anglicans by expanding their congregational base

to 17 189 persons (7.41 per cent) in 2000, up from 11 660 persons (6.31 per cent) in 1991. The Seventh Day Adventists have also increased in numbers. In 1991 there were 7 594 Seventh Day Adventists representing 4.11 per cent of the population and this number increased by 2000 to 12 160 persons representing 5.24 per cent of the population. The religious groups of Jehovah's Witnesses, Mennonites, Methodists and Nazarenes have all had increases in their numbers and percentages (Table 2.5). Table 2.5 also indicates that there was a significant increase in the number and percentage of Baptists between the last two censuses with this religious group increasing from 272 (0.15 per cent) in 1991 to 8 077 (3.48 per cent) in 2000. Importantly also, is the evidence of a decrease in the number of Hindus from 4 560 persons (2.47 per cent) in 1991 to 367 persons or 0.16 per cent of the general population in 2000.

Table 2.5: Total Tabulated Population by Religion, 2000 and 1991

Religion	2000		1991	
	Total	Per cent	Total	Per cent
Total	232111	100.00	184722	100.00
Anglican	12386	5.34	12836	6.95
Baptist	8077	3.48	272	0.15
Hindu	367	0.16	4560	2.47
Jehovah's Witnesses	3366	1.45	2608	1.41
Mennonite	9497	4.09	7430	4.02
Methodist	8024	3.46	7805	4.23
Nazarene	6117	2.64	4631	2.51
Pentecostal	17189	7.41	11660	6.31
Roman Catholic	115035	49.56	106596	57.71
Seventh Day Adventist	12160	5.24	7594	4.11
Other	16731	7.21	7705	4.17
None/Not Stated	23162	9.98	11025	5.97

Source: CARICOM and CSO, Belize
 The religious groups of Bahai, Mormon, Muslim and Salvation Army are a part of the "other" category in Table 2.5.

2.5. Gender and Religion

In 2000, 10.96 per cent (12 786) of all males indicated no religious preference compared with 7.81 per cent (9 009) of all females who also indicated no religious preference. Several of the smaller religious also had more males than females. These groups include the Hindus (209 males to 158 females), Mormons (447 males to 451 females), Mennonites (4 794 males to 4 703 females) and Muslims (168 males to 75 females). All other religious groups had more females than males (Table 2.6).

Table 2.6: Total Tabulated Population by Religion and Sex, 2000

Religion	Total	Males	Per Cent	Female	Per cent
Total	232111	116706	100.00	115405	100.00
Anglican	12386	6099	5.23	6287	5.45
Bahai	205	100	0.09	105	0.09
Baptist	8077	3894	3.34	4183	3.62
Hindu	367	209	0.18	158	0.14
Jehovah's Witnesses	3366	1526	1.31	1840	1.59
Mennonite	9497	4794	4.11	4703	4.08
Methodist	8024	3906	3.35	4118	3.57
Mormon	928	477	0.41	451	0.39
Muslim	243	168	0.14	75	0.06
Nazarene	6117	2956	2.53	3161	2.74
Pentecostal	17189	8415	7.21	8774	7.60
Roman Catholic	115035	57247	49.05	57788	50.07
Seventh Day Adventist	12160	5813	4.98	6347	5.50
Salvation Army	371	165	0.14	206	0.18
Other	14984	7326	6.28	7658	6.64
None	21795	12786	10.96	9009	7.81
Not Stated	1367	825	0.71	542	0.47

Source: CARICOM

2.6. Education

Belize was once thought to be one of the most literate countries in Central America. Certainly in colonial times, before the armed conflicts in Central America initiated large movements of people fleeing the wars, this was the case. However, over the last few

decades, the natural growth of the population along with the influx of displaced persons and other types of immigrants, great stress has been placed on the education system reducing its effectiveness.

Table 2.7: Total Tabulated Population by Level of Education and Sex, 2000 and 1991

Level of Education	Total	Per Cent	Males	Per Cent	Females	Per cent
Census 2000						
Total	218009	100.00	109535	100.00	108474	100.00
None	64453	29.56	32356	29.54	32097	29.59
Nursary/Kindergarten	2903	1.33	1402	1.28	1501	1.38
Primary	109900	50.41	55984	51.11	53916	49.70
Secondary	26083	11.96	12621	11.52	13462	12.41
Pre Univ/Post Sec.	9691	4.45	4404	4.02	5287	4.87
University	4223	1.94	2335	2.13	1888	1.74
Other	279	0.13	147	0.13	132	0.12
DK/NS	477	0.22	286	0.26	191	0.18
Census 1991						
Total	184722	100.00	93371	100.00	91351	100.00
None	40379	21.86	20617	22.08	19762	21.63
Nursary/Kindergarten	4809	2.60	2382	2.55	2427	2.66
Primary	106775	57.80	54145	57.99	52630	57.61
Secondary	25063	13.57	11988	12.84	13075	14.31
Pre Univ/Post Sec.	4278	2.32	2061	2.21	2217	2.43
University	2366	1.28	1532	1.64	834	0.91
Other	516	0.28	270	0.29	246	0.27
DK/NS	536	0.29	376	0.40	160	0.18

Source: CSO, Belize

Note: Total population for 2000 (218 009) does not match the total population of 232 111.

In 2000, 68.76 per cent of Belize's population had received primary school education or more (Table 2.7). This represents a decline when compared to 1991 where 74.97 per cent of the population was educated with primary level education or above. Additionally, the percentage of persons who had no education rose from 21.86 per cent (40 379 persons) in 1991 to 29.56 per cent (64 453 persons) in 2000.

University graduates however increased in number significantly from 2 366 persons in 1991 to 4 223 persons in 2000, representing 78.49 per cent growth. There was also a significant growth in the number of persons who received Pre University/Post Secondary level education. Over the nine years between 1991 and 2000 the number of persons in this category grew by a factor of 2.27 with 4 278 persons in 1991 and increasing to 9 691 persons in 2000.

2.7. Gender and Level of Education

Traditionally, both males and females had equal access to education in Belize. It is not surprising therefore that in 2000; relatively a similar proportion of males and females had received no education, 29.54 per cent and 29.59 per cent respectively (Table 2.7). Akin to that, the percentage of males and females who received primary education or more was approximately equal, 68.78 per cent and 68.72 per cent respectively.

However, in both 1991 and 2000 there were noticeably more males than females at the university level. In 1991, there was approximately 1.84 times more male university graduates than female university graduates, 1 532 males compared with 834 females (Table 2.7). By 2000 however, this gap had closed significantly with approximately 1.24 times more male university graduates than females. Despite the improvements in closing the gender gap at the university level, there is still evidence of gender inequality in favour of males. It is important to note however, that there has been a higher increase in the number of females receiving university level education than the number of males. The number of university educated females between 1991 and 2000 increased by a factor of 2.26 while the number of university educated males only increased by a factor of 1.52 over the same period.

2.8. Level of Education by Districts

There are significant differences in the educational profiles of the population at the district level. These profiles at the district level also vary significantly in many instances from the profile as exhibited by the population at the national level. Percentages of persons with no education vary from district to district as indicated in Table 2.8.

2.8.1. Corozal District

In Corozal District, a dramatic increase in the number and percentage of persons with no education is observed between 1991 and 2000 from 6 269 persons (22.06 per cent) to 10 415 persons (34.13 per cent) respectively. These percentages are higher than the national percentages as shown in Table 2.7 of 21.86 per cent in 1991 and 29.56 per cent in 2000.

2.8.2. Cayo and Toledo Districts

Both Cayo and Toledo Districts boast population percentages of persons with no education that are above the country's average. This is true for both the 1991 and 2000 period. Significant increases in numbers and percentages of the population with no education are observed over the period 1991 to 2000 for the Cayo District and Toledo District. In 1991, 9 347 persons or 25.59 per cent of the Cayo population had received no education compared with 17 020 persons or 35.52 per cent in 2000. In Toledo District in 1991, 6 078 persons or 34.76 per cent of the population had received no education compared with 9 210 persons or 43.21 per cent in 2000.

2.8.3. Orange Walk, Stann Creek and Belize Districts

With respect to the proportion of their respective populations with no education, Orange Walk and Stann Creek Districts post percentages approximately equal to the national averages for 1991 and 2000 (Table 2.8) with 23.85 per cent and 31.06 per cent for the respective years in Orange Walk District and 21.12 per cent and 30.55 per cent for the respective years in Stann Creek District. Belize District is the only district with the percentage of persons with no education significantly lower than the country's average with 14.21 per cent in 1991 and 16.41 per cent in 2000.

National Census Report 2000, Belize

Table 2.8: Total Tabulated Population by Level of Education and District, 2000 and 1991

District	Education	2000		1991	
		Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Corozal	Total	30517		28419	
	None	10415	34.13	6269	22.06
	Nursary/Kindergarten	230	0.75	492	1.73
	Primary	15617	51.17	18150	63.87
	Secondary	2660	8.72	2800	9.85
	Pre Univ/Post Sec.	1237	4.05	469	1.65
	University	343	1.12	179	0.63
	Other	13	0.04	37	0.13
	DK/NS	2	0.01	23	0.08
Orange Walk	Total	35809	100.00	30505	100.00
	None	11121	31.06	7276	23.85
	Nursary/Kindergarten	245	0.68	491	1.61
	Primary	19683	54.97	18872	61.87
	Secondary	3048	8.51	3043	9.98
	Pre Univ/Post Sec.	1224	3.42	508	1.67
	University	428	1.20	199	0.65
	Other	14	0.04	50	0.16
	DK/NS	46	0.13	66	0.22
Belize	Total	59672	100.00	54312	100.00
	None	9793	16.41	7718	14.21
	Nursary/Kindergarten	1645	2.76	2272	4.18
	Primary	30427	50.99	27839	51.26
	Secondary	11156	18.70	12456	22.93
	Pre Univ/Post Sec.	4196	7.03	2209	4.07
	University	2078	3.48	1250	2.30
	Other	108	0.18	233	0.43
	DK/NS	269	0.45	335	0.62
Cayo	Total	47921	100.00	36523	100.00
	None	17020	35.52	9347	25.59
	Nursary/Kindergarten	340	0.71	813	2.23
	Primary	22102	46.12	20936	57.32
	Secondary	5543	11.57	4043	11.07
	Pre Univ/Post Sec.	1847	3.85	670	1.83
	University	890	1.86	513	1.40
	Other	95	0.20	138	0.38
	DK/NS	84	0.18	63	0.17
Stann Creek	Total	22864	100.00	17477	100.00
	None	6984	30.55	3691	21.12
	Nursary/Kindergarten	415	1.82	496	2.84
	Primary	11962	52.32	11162	63.87
	Secondary	2310	10.10	1637	9.37
	Pre Univ/Post Sec.	816	3.57	275	1.57
	University	328	1.43	151	0.86
	Other	21	0.09	40	0.23
	DK/NS	28	0.12	25	0.14
Toledo	Total	21316	100.00	17486	100.00
	None	9210	43.21	6078	34.76
	Nursary/Kindergarten	28	0.13	245	1.40
	Primary	10109	47.42	9816	56.14
	Secondary	1366	6.41	1084	6.20
	Pre Univ/Post Sec.	371	1.74	147	0.84
	University	156	0.73	74	0.42
	Other	28	0.13	18	0.10
	DK/NS	48	0.23	24	0.14

Note: Total population for 2000 (218 009) does not correspond with the total population of 232 111 in Table 2.6.

2.8.4. Higher Education

Of the 4 223 university graduates in Belize in 2000, 2 078 or 49.21 per cent can be found in the Belize District. The remainder of the university graduates are scattered in the other five districts with the Cayo District having the second highest percentage with 890 persons or 21.08 per cent of the graduates. As observed in Table 2.8, the Toledo District accounts for the least number of university graduates with 156 persons or 3.69 per cent of the total.

2.9. Economic Activity

The work force in Belize is measured in terms of persons 15 years or older who are willing, able and available for work. A person is considered to be in the labour force if he/she was working during the week of the census, had a job but did not work, or if he/she did not have a job but desired to have one and was actively seeking work. In 2000, 50.11 per cent or 71 422 persons in Belize aged 15 years or older were working or had a job. Majority of those who were working or had a job were males, 70 .31 per cent (50 219 males). Table 2.9 indicates that women made advances however in becoming a part of the active workforce over the period 1991 to 2000; with 22.61 per cent of the females in 1991 working or had a job compared with and 29.82 per cent in 2000.

Table 2.9: Total Tabulated Population 15 years and over by Economic Activity and Sex, 2000 and 1991

Economic Activity	Total	Per Cent	Males	Per Cent	Females	Per Cent
Census 2000						
Total	142536	100.00	71431	100.00	71105	100.00
Worked	70538	49.49	49641	69.50	20897	29.39
Had a Job	884	0.62	578	0.81	306	0.43
Wanted Work/Available	18175	12.75	7586	10.62	10589	14.89
Home Duties	23749	16.66	363	0.51	23386	32.89
Attending School	15254	10.70	7644	10.70	7610	10.70
Retired	4809	3.37	2435	3.41	2374	3.34
No Interest in Work	3404	2.39	869	1.22	2535	3.57
Other	4139	2.90	1688	2.36	2451	3.45
DK/NS	1584	1.11	627	0.88	957	1.35
Census 1991						
Total	108788	100.00	54893	100.00	53895	100.00
Worked	52372	48.14	40305	73.42	12067	22.39
Had a Job	641	0.59	522	0.95	119	0.22
Wanted Work/Available	2131	1.96	1865	3.40	266	0.49
Home Duties	36737	33.77	2545	4.64	34192	63.44
Attending School	10938	10.05	5410	9.86	5528	10.26
Retired	2151	1.98	1670	3.04	481	0.89
No Interest in Work	2166	1.99	1302	2.37	864	1.60
Other	990	0.91	745	1.36	245	0.45
DK/NS	662	0.61	529	0.96	133	0.25

Source: CSO, Belize

Note: Total population 15 years and over is different from the corresponding population in Table 1.5 which is 137 009 in 2000 and 103 567 in 1991 based on Table 1.5

2.9.1. Unemployed

Overall the labour force consisted of 89 597 persons in 2000 with 18 175 persons or 20.29 per cent unemployed, that is wanted work and available. The comparative figures for 1991 show 55 144 persons in the labour force with only 3.86 per cent or 2 131 persons unemployed. In 1991, 87.52 per cent of the unemployed were males while in 2000, 58.26 per cent were females. This could be as a result of the changes in the sex structure of the labour force. In that, in 1991 nearly 80 per cent of the labour force was males but this was reduced to 64.52 per cent in 2000. This also meant that there were a

higher percentage of females in the labour force in 2000 than in 1991.

There was a dramatic increase in unemployment rates over the period 1991 to 2000. In 1991, 1.96 per cent of the population wanted and was available for work but did not have a job while the corresponding figure for 2000 stood at 12.75 per cent. It is possible that this increase could be caused by the increased demand for jobs particularly by women who were leaving home duties and seeking work outside the home. Table 2.9 shows that in 1991, 0.49 per cent of women wanted and was available for work, while in 2000, the percentage of women in this same category stood at 14.89 per cent. Additionally, while 63.44 per cent of women in 1991 performed home duties, only 32.89 per cent worked at home full time in 2000.

2.9.2. Urban/Rural

Differences in the economic activity between the urban and rural population were not significant for the most part (Table 2.10). Those who engaged in home duties in 2000 were about twice as likely to be rural dwellers with 15 872 rural persons engaging in home duties versus 7 877 urban persons. In 1991, 21 305 persons from the rural areas were engaged in home duties compared with 15 432 from the urban areas. It is seen that nearly twice as many persons performed home duties in urban Belize in 1991 when compared to 2000 and a similar trend exists in rural Belize where in 1991, 21 305 persons worked at home.

Table 2.10: Total Tabulated Population 15 years and over by Economic Activity and Urban/Rural, 2000 and 1991

Economic Activity	Total	Per Cent	Urban	Per cent	Rural	Per Cent
Census 2000						
Total	142536	100.00	68241	100.00	74295	100.00
Worked	70538	49.49	34748	50.92	35790	48.17
Had a Job	884	0.62	530	0.78	354	0.48
Wanted Work/Avail	18175	12.75	8583	12.58	9592	12.91
Home Duties	23749	16.66	7877	11.54	15872	21.36
Attending School	15254	10.70	8861	12.98	6393	8.60
Retired	4809	3.37	2954	4.33	1855	2.50
No Interest in Work	3404	2.39	1673	2.45	1731	2.33
Other	4139	2.90	2227	3.26	1912	2.57
DK/NS	1584	1.11	788	1.15	796	1.07
Census 1991						
Total	108788	100.00	54542	100.00	54246	100.00
Worked	52372	48.14	26440	48.48	25932	47.80
Had a Job	641	0.59	343	0.63	298	0.55
Wanted Work/Avail	2131	1.96	1299	2.38	832	1.53
Home Duties	36737	33.77	15432	28.29	21305	39.27
Attending School	10938	10.05	7299	13.38	3639	6.71
Retired	2151	1.98	1437	2.63	714	1.32
No Interest in Work	2166	1.99	1149	2.11	1017	1.87
Other	990	0.91	651	1.19	339	0.62
DK/NS	662	0.61	492	0.90	170	0.31

Source: CSO, Belize

Note: Total population 15 years and over is different from the corresponding population in Table 1.5 which is 137 009 in 2000 and 103 567 in 1991 based on Table 1.5

CHAPTER 3

POPULATION REDISTRIBUTION AND PATTERNS OF MIGRATION

Introduction

Migration is not a new phenomenon in Belize. Belize has a very diverse ethnic background and people have been coming to its shores or leaving to live abroad for hundreds of years. Not only have members of the population migrated abroad but there has been substantial mobility within Belize as people have sought out better living conditions within the country itself. In general, net movement of people internally in Belize goes from areas of sparse population to the more densely populated areas.

Foreign-born residents came to Belize for a number of reasons; to escape persecution and armed conflicts, for better economic prospects as well as for retirement or other personal reasons. These residents are important to the everyday life of Belize and their contributions are examined in this chapter.

Migration in Belize is not limited to any particular group as migrants belong to varying social, economic and demographic backgrounds. Age group classifications reflecting one of the main characteristics of migrants are provided. Infants are classified as those less than 5 years, children of compulsory school age as those 5 years to 14 years. Additionally, young adults are classified as those 15 to 24 years while mature working adults fall within the 25 to 64 age group. It should be noted that mandatory retirement for the Government of Belize workers is 55 years while 65 is considered by many countries to be the age of retirement. Hence, the age group 55 to 64 is called the age of retirement and the age group 65+ years is accordingly reserved for retired persons.

3.1. Migration within Belize

3.1.1. District Migration

Table 3.1 indicates that in the year 2000 approximately 12 per cent of people born in the more northerly and more densely populated Orange Walk, Belize and Cayo Districts and approximately 13 per cent born in Corozal District, migrated to other districts. In the southern districts, migration to other districts was even more pronounced. It is seen that 21.3 per cent of the population of the Stann Creek District and 24.4 per cent of Toledo's population migrated to other districts. Evidently, people moved from the more rural districts those sparsely populated to the larger urban districts, those more densely populated. One could conjecture that the hope of finding work in an urban setting can explain this movement.

Proximity in Belize plays an important role in the internal migration process. There is a tendency for people to move from their place of birth to nearby locations within Belize. It can be seen from Table 3.2 that in general, people moved to nearby districts but almost universally the Belize District was the most popular destination for migrants from other districts. Toledo District, the most southerly in Belize, is the only district from which the migration of people to the Belize District is less than the migration to nearby districts with 8.43 per cent of out-migrants from Toledo moving to Stann Creek compared with 7.21 per cent who moved to Belize District. The remoteness of the Toledo District from the Belize District probably accounted for this relatively low migration rate.

3.1.2. Migration by Sex

Differences in the migration patterns between males and females were not very pronounced however females were slightly more likely to be migrants than males. All districts except the Belize District exhibited this pattern (Table 3.1).

Table 3.1: Percentage Distribution of Male and Female Out-Migrants⁵

Districts	Out Migrants					
	Total	Per Cent	Male	Per Cent	Female	Per Cent
Corozal District	4043	13.20	1900	12.47	2143	13.93
Orange walk District	4041	11.85	1937	11.12	2104	12.6
Belize District	5682	10.98	2872	11.12	2810	10.83
Cayo District	4342	11.41	2178	11.28	2164	11.55
Stann Creek District	4161	21.30	2014	20.79	2147	21.8
Toledo District	5754	24.40	2785	23.99	2969	24.8

Source: CARICOM

3.2. Foreign Born Population

3.2.1. Demographic Profile

Over the last two censuses between 1991 and 2000, the proportion of foreign-born persons in Belize increased by almost one percentage point from 13.83 per cent in 1991 to 14.77 per cent in 2000. Table 3.3 indicates that in 2000, 34 279 persons of the population of Belize were foreign born compared with 25 548 persons in 1991. Of the foreign-born population, males existed in slightly larger numbers than females; 17 530 versus 16 749 representing 15.02 per cent of the total male population of Belize and 14.51 per cent of the total female population respectively in 2000. The corresponding figures for 1991 is 13 739 vs. 11 809 representing 14.71 per cent of the total male population and 12.93 per cent of the total female population. Table 3.4 indicates that males aged 55 years and older constituted 58.1 per cent of that age group. In other age groups males and females were evenly distributed at about 50 per cent. This result for the census 2000 is consistent with results from the 1991 census where 60 per cent of persons 55 years or older were males.

Majority (80.31 per cent or 27 258 persons) of the foreign-born population were of working age, that is, between the ages of 15 and 64 years. Only 12.51 per cent of foreign-born persons were of compulsory school age; that is between the ages of 5 and 14

⁵ Out-Migration Rate is calculated $(\text{Total Local Born} - \text{Non-Movers}) / (\text{Total Local-Born}) * 100$

years (Table 3.4). This does not mirror the general total population of Belize where 26.55 per cent of the population was of compulsory school age and 54.83 per cent was of working age.

The foreign-born population, of retirement age (65 years and older) also constituted a larger percentage share when compared to the general population 65 years and older. In that, 4.20 per cent of the general population was 65 years or older compared with 5.09 per cent of the foreign-born population. Evidently, the foreign-born aged 65 years and older are slightly over-represented in the general population and as such impact significantly on the age structure of the population.

Table 3.2: Local Born Population by District of Birth, District of Residence and Sex, 2000

District of Birth													
District of Residence Sex	Corozal District				Orange Walk District				Belize District				
	Total	Tot	Male	Fem	Total	Tot	Male	Fem	Total	Tot	Male	Fem	
Total	30,626	100			34,107	100			51,756	100			
Male	15,239		100		17,412		100		25,821		100		
Female	15,387			100	16,695			100	25,935			100	
Corozal	26,583	86.80			1,261	3.70			792	1.53			
Male	13,339		87.53		594		3.41		410		1.59		
Female	13,244			86.07	667			4.00	382			1.47	
Orange Walk	1,034	3.37			30,066	88.15			857	1.66			
Male	474		3.11		15,475		88.88		428		1.66		
Female	560			3.64	14,591			87.40	429			1.65	
Belize	2,001	6.53			1,418	4.16			46,074	89.02			
Male	968		6.35		655		3.76		22,949		88.88		
Female	1,033			6.71	763			4.57	23,125			89.17	
Cayo	650	2.12			1,042	3.06			2,599	5.02			
Male	285		1.87		519		2.98		1,301		5.04		
Female	365			2.37	523			3.13	1,298			5.00	
Stann Creek	256	0.84			231	0.68			1,032	1.99			
Male	124		0.81		123		0.71		537		2.08		
Female	132			0.86	108			0.65	495			1.91	
Toledo	102	0.33			89	0.26			402	0.78			
Male	49		0.32		46		0.26		196		0.76		
Female	53			0.34	43			0.26	206			0.79	
District of Birth													
District of Residence Sex	Cayo District				Stann Creek District				Toledo District				Total
	Total	Tot	Male	Fem	Total	Tot	Male	Fem	Total	Tot	Male	Fem	
Total	38,050	100			19,536	100			23,582	100			197,657
Male	19,312		100		9,686		100		11,611		100		99,081
Female	18,738			100	9,850			100	11,971			100	98,576
Corozal	431	1.13			169	0.87			209	0.89			29,445
Male	222		1.15		77		0.79		109		0.94		14,751
Female	209			1.12	92			0.93	100			0.84	14,694
Orange Walk	916	2.41			255	1.31			298	1.26			33,426
Male	464		2.40		146		1.51		151		1.30		17,138
Female	452			2.41	109			1.11	147			1.23	16,288
Belize	2,084	5.48			2,185	11.18			1,700	7.21			55,462
Male	994		5.15		1,016		10.49		756		6.51		27,338
Female	1,090			5.82	1,169			11.87	944			7.89	28,124
Cayo	33,708	88.59			1,081	5.53			1,560	6.62			40,640
Male	17,134		88.72		529		5.46		764		6.58		20,532
Female	16,574			88.45	552			5.60	796			6.65	20,108
Stann Creek	592	1.56			15,375	78.70			1,987	8.43			19,473
Male	343		1.78		7,672		79.21		1,005		8.66		9,804
Female	249			1.33	7,703			78.20	982			8.20	9,669
Toledo	319	0.84			471	2.41			17,828	75.60			19,211
Male	155		0.80		246		2.54		8,826		76.01		9,518
Female	164			0.88	225			2.28	9,002			75.20	9,693

Source: CARICOM

Table 3.3: Total Tabulated Population by Place of Birth (Local/Foreign) and Sex, 2000 and 1991

Place of Birth	Total	Per Cent	Males	Per Cent	Females	Per Cent
Census 2000						
Born in Belize	197657	85.16	99081	84.90	98576	85.42
Abroad	34279	14.77	17530	15.02	16749	14.51
Not Stated	175	0.08	95	0.08	80	0.07
Country Total	232111	100.00	116706	100.00	115405	100.00
Census 1991						
Born in Belize	159113	86.14	79601	85.25	79512	87.04
Abroad	25548	13.83	13739	14.71	11809	12.93
Not Stated	61	0.03	31	0.03	30	0.03
Country Total	184722	100.00	93371	100.00	91351	100.00

Source: CSO, Belize and CARICOM

Table 3.4: Foreign Born Population by Age Group and Sex, 2000 and 1991

Age Group	Total	Per Cent	Male	Per Cent	Female	Per Cent
Census 2000						
All Ages	34279	100.00	17530	100.00	16749	100.00
0-4	716	2.09	367	2.09	349	2.08
5-14	4290	12.52	2144	12.23	2146	12.81
15-24	7416	21.63	3591	20.49	3825	22.84
25-54	18105	52.82	9247	52.75	8858	52.89
55-64	2007	5.85	1208	6.89	799	4.77
65 +	1745	5.09	973	5.55	772	4.61
Census 1991						
All Ages	25548	100.00	13739	100.00	11809	100.00
0-4	1159	4.54	564	4.11	595	5.04
5-14	4773	18.68	2399	17.46	2374	20.10
15-25	5663	22.17	2968	21.60	2695	22.82
25-54	11516	45.08	6356	46.26	5160	43.70
55-65	1297	5.08	752	5.47	545	4.62
65 +	1140	4.46	700	5.10	440	3.73

Source: CSO, Belize and CARICOM

3.2.2. District of Residence of the Foreign Born Population

Most foreign-born persons based on the 2000 census resided in the Belize and Cayo Districts (30.86 per cent in Cayo and 21.79 per cent in Belize). Foreign residency in the Belize District rose by 67.18 per cent between 1991 and 2000 while residency in the Cayo District increased by 28.78 per cent over the same period (Table 3.5). However, as a percentage of the total foreign born population, foreign born residency slightly decreased in Cayo between 1991 and 2000 from 32.15 per cent in 1991. A comparison between the 1991 and 2000 censuses reveal a seeming preference of the foreign-born population to reside more in the southern districts. Over the period the Corozal, Orange Walk and Cayo Districts all had diminished foreign born residence rates while the Southern Districts of Belize, Stann Creek and Toledo all posted modest increases (Table 3.5).

Note: it is not clear if the Belize District is in the north or south. Section 3.11 "District Migration" says north and here it says south.

Table 3.5: Foreign Born Population by District of Residence and Sex, 2000 and 1991

District of Residence	Total	Per Cent	Males	Per Cent	Females	Per Cent
Census 2000						
Total	34276	100.00	17516	100.00	16760	100.00
Corozal	2758	8.05	1455	8.31	1303	7.77
Orange Walk	4629	13.51	2341	13.36	2288	13.65
Belize	7468	21.79	3597	20.54	3871	23.10
Cayo	10577	30.86	5134	29.31	5443	32.48
Stann Creek	4959	14.47	2882	16.45	2077	12.39
Toledo	3885	11.33	2107	12.03	1778	10.61
	Total	Per Cent	Males	Per Cent	Females	Per Cent
Census 1991						
Total	25548	100.00	13739	100.00	11809	100.00
Corozal	2898	11.34	1651	12.02	1247	10.56
Orange Walk	4180	16.36	2262	16.46	1918	16.24
Belize	4467	17.49	2308	16.80	2159	18.28
Cayo	8213	32.15	4178	30.41	4035	34.17
Stann Creek	3299	12.91	1934	14.08	1365	11.56
Toledo	2491	9.75	1406	10.23	1085	9.19

Note: The total foreign-born population (34 276) is different from the 34 279 in Table 3.4. Across the categories of sex, the male population (17 516) is different for the 17 530 in table 3.4 while for females the (16 760) is different from the 16 749 in Table 3.4

3.2.3. Place of Birth

The 2000 census reveals that most foreign-born residents were born in Central America, 82.63 per cent (28 229 persons). Table 3.6 demonstrates the diminishing percentage share in total foreign born population of the recognized countries of birth over the 1991-2000 period. The 'Other Countries' category is the only category to have recorded growth in percentage share of the total foreign born population and this is reflected in increases in numbers from 1 368 persons or 5.34 per cent of the foreign-born population in 1991 to 3 189 persons or 9.3 per cent of the foreign-born population in 2000. Canada also recorded a decrease in absolute number of foreign born persons over the period 1991 to 2000 in addition to its diminishing percentage share of the total foreign born population from 576 in 1991 to 442 in 2000. While the foreign born population from Central America, the USA and the Caribbean had increased in absolute numbers between 1991 and 2000, their percentage share of the total foreign born population decreased. It is also important to note that data from the Central Statistical Office (CSO) in Belize indicate that in 2000, 1 649 representing approximately 5 per cent of foreign born residents were born in China or Taiwan, a two fold increase from 1991 where 503 representing approximately 1 per cent of foreign born residents were from China or Taiwan.

Table 3.6: Foreign Born Population by Country of Origin and Sex, 2000 and 1991

Place of Birth	Total	Per Cent	Males	Per cent	Females	Per Cent
Census 2000						
Total	34274	100.00	17514	100.00	16760	100.00
Central America	28320	82.63	14224	81.22	14096	84.11
USA	1738	5.07	921	5.26	817	4.87
Canada	366	1.07	224	1.28	142	0.85
Caribbean	661	1.93	367	2.10	294	1.75
Other Countries	3189	9.30	1778	10.15	1411	8.42
Census 1991						
Total	25548	100.00	13739	100.00	11809	100.00
Central America	21551	84.35	11502	83.72	10049	85.10
USA	1600	6.26	841	6.12	759	6.43
Canada	458	1.79	226	1.64	232	1.96
Caribbean	576	2.25	329	2.39	247	2.09
Other Countries	1363	5.34	841	6.12	522	4.42

Source: CSO, Belize

Note: The total foreign-born population (34 274) is different from the 34 276 in Table 3.5. The male foreign born population (17 516) is different from the corresponding figure (17 516) in Table 3.5.

3.3. Returning Residents

3.3.1. Demographic Profile

Returning residents to Belize who went abroad for various reasons also form a small but important part of the population. In 2000, there was a total of 5 173 persons who had returned from all parts of the world. Returning residents constitute 2.23 per cent of the general population (Table 3.7). About 2 772 or 53.59 per cent of returning residents were males and 2 401 or 46.41 per cent were females. The majority of the returning residents arrived from the USA, 3 021 persons or 58.4 per cent followed by Latin America with 1 505 persons or 29.09 per cent of all returning residents (Table 3.8).

In 2000, most returning residents were in the 25 to 54 years age group (2 824 persons or 54.59 per cent of all returning residents). Retired persons (65+ years) represented 16.35 per cent of returning residents (Table 3.8).

Table 3.7: Returning Residents by Country/Region of Origin and Sex, 2000

	Total	Per Cent	Males	Per Cent	Females	Per Cent
Total	5173	100.00	2772	100.00	2401	100.00
USA	3021	58.40	1600	57.72	1421	59.18
Canada	161	3.11	80	2.89	81	3.37
Caribbean	217	4.20	117	4.22	100	4.17
Latin America	1505	29.09	845	30.48	660	27.49
Other Countries	269	5.20	130	4.69	139	5.79

Source: CSO, Belize

3.3.2. Residence of Returning Residents in Belize

Most of the returning residents 65+ years resided in the Belize District 42.49 per cent. This is followed by the Stann Creek District accounting for 20.31 per cent of returning residents 65+, and Cayo District with 13.97 per cent. In the combined age groups 25 years to 64 years, Belize District accounted for 39.33 per cent of the returning residents. This was followed by the Cayo District with 22.61 per cent and the Stann Creek District with 13.54 per cent.

Table 3.8: Total Returning Residents by Age Group and Country/Region of Origin, 2000

		Country/Region of Origin											
		USA				Canada				Caribbean			
Age Group	Sex	Total	Tot	Male	Fem	Total	Tot	Male	Fem	Total	Tot	Male	Fem
All Ages	Total	3,021	100			161	100			217	100		
	Male	1,600		100		80		100		117		100	
	Female	1,421			100	81			100	100			100
0-4	Total	21	0.70			2	1.24			1	0.46		
	Male	9		0.56		2		2.50		0		0.00	
	Female	12			0.84	0			0.00	1			1.00
5-14	Total	134	4.44			13	8.07			7	3.23		
	Male	69		4.31		6		7.50		4		3.42	
	Female	65			4.57	7			8.64	3			3.00
15-24	Total	321	10.63			33	20.50			20	9.22		
	Male	141		8.81		19		23.75		12		10.26	
	Female	180			12.67	14			17.28	8			8.00
25-54	Total	1,724	57.07			82	50.93			145	66.82		
	Male	968		60.50		37		46.25		74		63.25	
	Female	756			53.20	45			55.56	71			71.00
55-64	Total	305	10.10			17	10.56			21	9.68		
	Male	162		10.13		8		10.00		17		14.53	
	Female	143			10.06	9			11.11	4			4.00
65+	Total	516	17.08			14	8.70			23	10.60		
	Male	251		15.69		8		10.00		10		8.55	
	Female	265			18.65	6			7.41	13			13.00
		Latin America				Rest of World				Group Totals			
Age Group	Sex	Total	Tot	Male	Fem	Total	Tot	Male	Fem	Total	Tot	Male	Fem
All Ages	Total	1,505	100			269	100			5,173	100		
	Male	845		100		130		100		2,772		100	
	Female	660			100	139			100	2,401			100
0-4	Total	21	1.40			4	1.49			49	0.95		
	Male	6		0.71		1		0.77		18		0.65	
	Female	15			2.27	3			2.16	31			1.29
5-14	Total	110	7.31			16	5.95			280	5.41		
	Male	61		7.22		6		4.62		146		5.27	
	Female	49			7.42	10			7.19	134			5.58
15-24	Total	254	16.88			27	10.04			655	12.66		
	Male	125		14.79		11		8.46		308		11.11	
	Female	129			19.55	16			11.51	347			14.45
25-54	Total	715	47.51			158	58.74			2,824	54.59		
	Male	401		47.46		69		53.08		1,549		55.88	
	Female	314			47.58	89			64.03	1,275			53.10
55-64	Total	137	9.10			39	14.50			519	10.03		
	Male	84		9.94		26		20.00		297		10.71	
	Female	53			8.03	13			9.35	222			9.25
65+	Total	268	17.81			25	9.29			846	16.35		
	Male	168		19.88		17		13.08		454		16.38	
	Female	100			15.15	8			5.76	392			16.33

Source: CARICOM

Table 3.9: Total Returning Residents by Age Group, Sex and Administrative Division of Residence, 2000

Age Group	Corozal	Per Cent	Orange Walk	Per Cent	Belize	Per Cent	Cayo	Per Cent	Stann Creek	Per Cent	Toledo	Per Cent	Group Total	Per Cent
Total														
0-4	10	1.69	12	2.65	16	0.80	7	0.61	3	0.41	5	1.77	53	1.02
5-9	28	4.73	44	9.71	84	4.20	82	7.17	24	3.25	20	7.09	282	5.42
15-24	76	12.84	79	17.44	214	10.71	175	15.31	84	11.37	31	10.99	659	12.66
25-54	328	55.41	236	52.10	1,116	55.86	668	58.44	365	49.39	126	44.68	2839	54.52
55-64	57	9.63	35	7.73	206	10.31	92	8.05	90	12.18	42	14.89	522	10.02
65+	93	15.71	47	10.38	362	18.12	119	10.41	173	23.41	58	20.57	852	16.36
Total	592		453	100.00	1998		1143		739		282		5207	
Males														
0-4	4	1.25	4	1.69	6	0.58	3	0.50	0	0.00	3	1.75	20	0.72
5-9	14	4.36	24	10.13	41	3.95	41	6.84	12	2.84	14	8.19	146	5.23
15-24	42	13.08	43	18.14	93	8.96	78	13.02	39	9.22	13	7.60	308	11.04
25-54	169	52.65	120	50.63	597	57.51	361	60.27	225	53.19	85	49.71	1557	55.83
55-64	36	11.21	22	9.28	114	10.98	52	8.68	52	12.29	23	13.45	299	10.72
65+	56	17.45	24	10.13	187	18.02	64	10.68	95	22.46	33	19.30	459	16.46
Total	321	100.00	237	100.00	1038	100.00	599	100.00	423	100.00	171	100.00	2789	100.00
Female														
0-4	6	2.21	8	3.70	10	1.04	4	0.74	3	0.95	2	1.80	33	1.37
5-9	14	5.17	20	9.26	43	4.48	41	7.54	12	3.80	6	5.41	136	5.62
15-24	34	12.55	36	16.67	121	12.60	97	17.83	45	14.24	18	16.22	351	14.52
25-54	159	58.67	116	53.70	519	54.06	307	56.43	140	44.30	41	36.94	1282	53.02
55-64	21	7.75	13	6.02	92	9.58	40	7.35	38	12.03	19	17.12	223	9.22
65+	37	13.65	23	10.65	175	18.23	55	10.11	78	24.68	25	22.52	393	16.25
Total	271	100.00	216	100.00	960		544	100.00	316	100.00	111		2418	100.00

Source: CARICOM

Note: Total returning residents different from those in table 3.7 and 3.8. The total returning residents in these tables is 5 173 compared with 5207 in this table. Across the categories of sex, males in Tables 3.7 and 3.8 sum to 2 772 versus 2 789 in this table. For females the numbers are 2 401 versus 2 418 respectively.

CHAPTER 4

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Introduction

Management of the national education system is the responsibility of the Ministry of Education. This responsibility is shared with various religious organizations at the primary and secondary levels. Under this church-state partnership, the church organizations are responsible for managing and maintaining their schools and dealing with personnel issues. Government establishes educational objectives, provides funds to pay teachers' salaries, contributes half the costs of facilities and maintenance, develops curricula and administrative standards, trains teachers and administers examinations.

By law, the compulsory school age for children is 5 to 14 years. Sometimes, if space is available, some children may start school before the age of 5 years while others may stay in primary school beyond the age of 14 years. Preschools for children younger than 5 years are becoming popular, but access to these facilities are limited and concentrated mainly in the urban areas.

Centres for Employment Training (CET) are being built in various parts of the country and emphasis is being placed on vocational training. This training is intended for children 15 years of age and older and provides an alternative to high school for persons no longer attending primary school. Sixth Forms, Junior Colleges and the University of Belize provide tertiary education up to the Bachelor's level in various disciplines and also training for nurses, teachers and in the field of agriculture.

Schools can be categorized according to the 2000 census as Primary, Secondary, Professional (Teacher Training, Nursing and Agricultural), Pre-University (Sixth Forms and Junior Colleges) and University. In 2000, The University of Belize was launched amalgamating The University College of Belize, The Teachers College, and The School of Nursing and the Agricultural College. As a result, the category consisting of Professional Schools no longer exists. Of great importance at this time is the addition of

several new Vocational and Technical Education Centres. Since most of these centres are new, information about them is not reflected in the 2000 census tables.

4.1. Level of Education In Belize

In Belize between 1991 and 2000, there was an increase in the number of persons who had no formal education. Table 4.2 indicates that in 1991 40 379 persons or 21.86 per cent of the total population had no education. In 2000 the numbers were greater 64 453 persons or 29.56 per cent of the total population. This does not mean that no significant gains were made regarding education. In 1991 there were 143 807 persons who received some form of education while in 2000 the corresponding numbers were 153 079 persons. This represents an increase of 9 272 persons or 6.45 per cent between 1991 and 2000. However, the rate at which educational services are expanding is being outstripped by the rate at which the population is growing.

The increases in the number and percentage of persons receiving some form of education spans all levels. Table 4.2 shows these increases as 2.93 per cent at the primary level, from 106 775 persons in 1991 to 109 9000 persons in 2000, 4.07 per cent at the secondary level, from 25 036 persons to 26 083, 126.53 per cent at the pre-university/post secondary level, from 4 278 to 9 691 and 78.49 per cent at the university level, from 2 366 to 4 223 persons. This clearly indicates an improvement of educational servicing at the pre-university/post secondary and university levels. However, primary and secondary education though improved; require such improvement on a much wider scale.

The proportion of persons with no formal education is relatively equal among males and females. Based on the 2000 census, 50.20 per cent of persons with no formal education were males compared with 49.80 per cent females. With respect to the 1991 census, corresponding proportions for males and females were 51.06 per cent and 48.94 per cent respectively. This unbiased structure is not true at all levels of education however. In the 1991 64.75 per cent of the persons who attained university level education were men. The comparative 2000 census shows that men though decreasingly, continue to outweigh women at the higher education levels with 55.29 per cent of the persons who attained

university level education being men. Despite this however, in 1991 51.82 per cent of the Pre-University/Post Secondary students were women while the corresponding proportion based on the 2000 census was 54.56 per cent.

4.2. Education for less than 5 Year Old Children

There is a growing tendency in Belize for children less than 5 years of age to be attending preschools. In 1991, about 9.44 per cent of children in this age range were attending preschools (Table 4.1). This figure was low when compared to the preschool enrollment figure of 11.8 per cent in 2000 as indicated by the CSO, Belize. However, it should be noted that actual numbers decreased between 1991 and 2000 from 2 789 children to 2 283 children.

Table 4.1: Children Less than 5 Years Old by Type of Schooling, 2000 and 1991

Year	None	Per cent	Preschool	Per cent	Primary	Per Cent	Total
2000 Census	16499	85.30	2283	11.80	560	2.90	19342
1991 Census	26650	90.20	2789	9.44	107	0.36	29546

Source: CSO, Belize

Note: Total children less than 5 for 1991 and 2000 29 546 and 19 342 respectively is different from the corresponding figures in Table 1.6 of 29 710 and 33 470 respectively.

Table 4.1 also demonstrates that a few children less than 5 years old were attending primary schools, 107 in 1991 and 560 in 2000 representing 0.36 per cent and 2.9 per cent respectively of the total population 5 years or less.

**Table 4.2: Total Population by Level of Education Reached and Sex,
2000 and 1991**

Age Group	Total	Per Cent	Male	Per Cent	Female	Per Cent
Census 2000						
Total	218009	100.00	109535	100.00	108474	100.00
None	64453	29.56	32356	29.54	32097	29.59
Preschool	2903	1.33	1402	1.28	1501	1.38
Primary	109900	50.41	55984	51.11	53916	49.70
Secondary	26083	11.96	12621	11.52	13462	12.41
Pre-Uni/Post Sec	9691	4.45	4404	4.02	5287	4.87
University	4223	1.94	2335	2.13	1888	1.74
Other	279	0.13	147	0.13	132	0.12
DK/NS	477	0.22	286	0.26	191	0.18
Census 1991						
Total	184722	100.00	93371	100.00	91351	100.00
None	40379	21.86	20617	22.08	19762	21.63
Preschool	4809	2.60	2382	2.55	2427	2.66
Primary	106775	57.80	54145	57.99	52630	57.61
Secondary	25063	13.57	11988	12.84	13075	14.31
Pre-Uni/Post Sec	4278	2.32	2061	2.21	2217	2.43
University	2366	1.28	1532	1.64	834	0.91
Other	516	0.28	270	0.29	246	0.27
DK/NS	536	0.29	376	0.40	160	0.18

Source: CSO, Belize

Note: Total population for 2000 (218 009) does not match the total population of 232 111.

The majority of children less than 5 years of age who attended some form of school are from the most populous, Belize District. In fact, Table 4.3 shows that more than half of the children 5 years or less attending either preschool or primary school, 51.35 per cent came from the Belize District Only 24.6 per cent of the children less than 5 years old in the general population live in Belize District and so it is clear that a disproportionately large percentage of children in the less than 5 years age group who attend some form of school, live in the Belize District. One can infer that school attendance for this age group is predominantly an urban phenomenon and depends also on economic activities of parents. The Belize District remains the most urban district and the centre of commerce for the nation. Surprisingly however, following Belize District, Stann Creek District accounted for 15 per cent of all children in less than 5 years who attended school. Other

districts posted smaller percentages of children attending school than would be expected based on the size of their respective populations.

Furthermore, Table 4.3 indicates that 29.51 per cent of the less than 5 years age group living in the Belize District attended school. This exceeded similar figures for all other districts. Once again the Stann Creek District was next in line with 18.46 per cent of its less than 5 year-old population attending some form of school. In the less than 5 years age group, there seems to be a small difference in school attendance across the sexes. Males constituted 49.04 per cent of the school attendees in this age category while females constituted 50.96 per cent. Similarly, among males in this age group 13.9 per cent attended some form of school while among females 14.51 per cent attended some form of school.

Table 4.3: Children Less than 5 Years Old by School Attendance, District and Sex, 2000

District	Attending School	Per Cent	Not Attending	Per Cent	Not Stated	Per Cent	Total	Per Cent
Total	2773	100.00	16803	100.00	27	100.00	19603	100.00
Corozal	233	8.40	2289	13.62	1	3.70	2523	12.87
Orange Walk	280	10.10	2743	16.32	14	51.85	3037	15.49
Belize District	1424	51.35	3396	20.21	5	18.52	4825	24.61
Cayo	354	12.77	4210	25.06	2	7.41	4566	23.29
Stann Creek	416	15.00	1833	10.91	5	18.52	2254	11.50
Toledo	66	2.38	2332	13.88	0	0.00	2398	12.23
Males								
Corozal	117	8.60	1155	13.60	0	0.00	1272	12.89
Orange Walk	137	10.07	1410	16.60	9	56.25	1556	15.77
Belize District	706	51.91	1742	20.51	2	12.5	2450	24.83
Cayo	173	12.72	2113	24.88	2	12.5	2288	23.19
Stann Creek	193	14.19	920	10.83	3	18.75	1116	11.31
Toledo	34	2.50	1152	13.57	0	0.00	1186	12.02
Total	1360	100.00	8492	100.00	16	100.00	9868	100.00
Females								
Corozal	116	8.21	1134	13.64	1	9.09	1251	12.85
Orange Walk	143	10.12	1333	16.04	5	45.45	1481	15.21
Belize District	718	50.81	1654	19.90	3	27.27	2375	24.40
Cayo	181	12.81	2097	25.23	0	0.00	2278	23.40
Stann Creek	223	15.78	913	10.99	2	18.18	1138	11.69
Toledo	32	2.26	1180	14.20	0	0.00	1212	12.45
Total	1413	100.00	8311	100.00	11	100.00	9735	100.00

Source: CARICOM

Note: Total children less than 5 19 603 is different from the corresponding figure in Table 4.1 (19 342) as well as the corresponding figures in Table 1.6 of 33 470. Additionally, total children less than 5 years attending school (2 773) is different from the corresponding figure in Table 4.2 (2 843)

4.3. Education for Persons 5 Years or Older

Table 4.4 presents results pertaining to the educational attainment of persons 5 years or older in Belize. Countrywide, 34.59 per cent of all persons 5 years or older were attending some form of school. Of those attending, 50.26 per cent were males.

Belize District has the largest number of persons aged 5 years or older attending some form of school, 18 899 persons or 27.49 per cent, This result not surprising since the Belize District is the most populous district. However, it is the Toledo District which has the largest percentage of persons attending schools which is indicative of substantial investment in education in this district over the decade between 1991 and 2000. Table 4.4 justifies this by indicating that 37.09 per cent of Toledo District's population 5 years or older, attended some form of school. This is larger than Cayo District with 35.9 per cent, Stann Creek District with 34.76 per cent and Belize District with 34.43 per cent. It should be noted that the observed pattern of school attendance across the districts for the population 5 years and older remains unchanged irrespective of the sex of individuals.

In 2000, 34.59 per cent (68 757 persons) of the general population 5 years or older was attending some form of school. Of these persons 27.49 per cent came from the Belize District, 22.2 per cent from the Cayo District, 16.11 per cent from the Orange Walk District, 13.56 per cent from the Corozal District, 10.43 per cent from the Stann Creek District and 10.21 per cent from the Toledo District (Table 4.4).

For persons 5 years or older, there were differences in school attendance across the sexes for most levels of education. At the primary level, the sex composition of school attendees was evenly split. At the secondary level, about 48.38 per cent of school attendees were males (Table 4.5(a)). There is a distinct bias in favor of the females attending the professional schools however (Teaching, Nursing and Agriculture). Table 4.5(b) indicates that at the professional level, 69.43 per cent of the students were females. This bias toward the females persisted at the Bachelors, Masters and PhD levels where the males accounted for 41.45 per cent of persons at the Junior Colleges, 40.04 per cent at the Bachelors level, 37.68 per cent at the Masters level and 40 per cent at the PhD level.

Table 4.4: Persons 5 Years and Over by School Attendance, District and Sex, 2000

District	Attending School	Per Cent	Not Attending	Per Cent	Not Stated	Per Cent	Total	Per Cent
Total	68757	100.00	129727	100.00	303	100.00	198787	100.00
Corozal	9322	13.56	18681	14.40	5	1.65	28008	14.09
Orange Walk	11078	16.11	21750	16.77	24	7.92	32852	16.53
Belize District	18899	27.49	35803	27.60	192	63.37	54894	27.61
Cayo	15267	22.20	28177	21.72	33	10.89	43477	21.87
Stann Creek	7169	10.43	13429	10.35	24	7.92	20622	10.37
Toledo	7022	10.21	11887	9.16	25	8.25	18934	9.52
Males								
Corozal	4709	13.63	9393	14.41	1	0.63	14103	14.12
Orange Walk	5700	16.49	11086	17.01	12	7.59	16798	16.81
Belize District	9171	26.54	17598	27.00	101	63.92	26870	26.90
Cayo	7825	22.64	13946	21.39	15	9.49	21786	21.81
Stann Creek	3603	10.43	7174	11.01	15	9.49	10792	10.80
Toledo	3548	10.27	5991	9.19	14	8.86	9553	9.56
Total	34556	100.00	65188	100.00	158	100.00	99902	100.00
Females								
Corozal	4613	13.49	9288	14.39	4	2.76	13905	14.06
Orange Walk	5378	15.72	10664	16.52	12	8.28	16054	16.24
Belize District	9728	28.44	18205	28.21	91	62.76	28024	28.34
Cayo	7442	21.76	14231	22.05	18	12.41	21691	21.94
Stann Creek	3566	10.43	6255	9.69	9	6.21	9830	9.94
Toledo	3474	10.16	5896	9.14	11	7.59	9381	9.49
Total	34201	100.00	64539	100.00	145	100.00	98885	100.00

Source: CARICOM

Note: Total persons 5 years or more (198 787) is different from the corresponding figure in Table 1.5 (198 641).

Table 4.5(a): Persons 5 Years and Over Attending Primary and Secondary Schools by District and Sex, 2000

District	Primary School	Per cent	Secondary School	Per Cent	Total	Per cent
Total	53820	100.00	10438	100.00	64258	100.00
Corozal	7485	13.91	1317	12.62	8802	13.70
Orange Walk	9070	16.85	1418	13.58	10488	16.32
Belize District	13105	24.35	3812	36.52	16917	26.33
Cayo	12209	22.69	2154	20.64	14363	22.35
Stann Creek	5765	10.71	1085	10.39	6850	10.66
Toledo	6186	11.49	652	6.25	6838	10.64
Males						
Corozal	3760	13.64	688	13.62	4448	13.64
Orange Walk	4663	16.92	732	14.50	5395	16.55
Belize District	6666	24.19	1729	34.24	8395	25.75
Cayo	6351	23.05	1063	21.05	7414	22.74
Stann Creek	2978	10.81	503	9.96	3481	10.68
Toledo	3140	11.39	335	6.63	3475	10.66
Total	27558	100.00	5050	100.00	32608	100.00
Females						
Corozal	3725	14.18	629	11.67	4354	13.76
Orange Walk	4407	16.78	686	12.73	5093	16.09
Belize District	6439	24.52	2083	38.66	8522	26.93
Cayo	5858	22.31	1091	20.25	6949	21.96
Stann Creek	2787	10.61	582	10.80	3369	10.64
Toledo	3046	11.60	317	5.88	3363	10.63
Total	26262	100.00	5388	100.00	31650	100.00
Percentage Females	48.80		51.62			49.25
Percentage Males	51.20		48.38			50.75

Source: CARICOM

Note: The sum of the totals of 4.5 a, b and c (67 202) of those 5 years and over attending school does not add to the total population 5 years and over attending school in Table 4.4 (68 757).

Table 4.5(b): Persons 5 Years and Over Attending Technical Schools by Type, District and Sex, 2000

District	Teachers College	Nursing School	Agricultural College	Total	Per cent
Total					
Corozal	25	2	0	27	13.99
Orange Walk	25	1	2	28	14.51
Belize District	37	17	0	54	27.98
Cayo	45	5	3	53	27.46
Stann Creek	9	0	1	10	5.18
Toledo	21	0	0	21	10.88
Total	162	25	6	193	100.00
Males					
Corozal	10	1	0	11	18.64
Orange Walk	8	0	2	10	16.95
Belize District	9	1	0	10	16.95
Cayo	14	0	1	15	25.42
Stann Creek	3	0	1	4	6.78
Toledo	9	0	0	9	15.25
Total	53	2	4	59	100.00
Females					
Corozal	15	1	0	16	11.94
Orange Walk	17	1	0	18	13.43
Belize District	28	16	0	44	32.84
Cayo	31	5	2	38	28.36
Stann Creek	6	0	0	6	4.48
Toledo	12	0	0	12	8.96
Total	109	23	2	134	100.00
Percentage					
Females	67.28	92.00	33.33	69.43	
Males	32.72	8.00	66.67	30.57	

Source: CARICOM

Note: The sum of the totals of 4.5 a, b and c (67 202) of those 5 years and over attending school does not add to the total population 5 years and over attending school in Table 4.4 (68 757).

Table 4.5(c): Persons 5 Years and Over Attending Tertiary Schools by Type, District and Sex, 2000

District	6th Form or Junior College	Bachelors	Masters Degree	PhD	Total	Per Cent
Corozal	287	48	0	0	335	12.18
Orange Walk	277	57	5	0	339	12.32
Belize District	891	331	50	9	1281	46.56
Cayo	450	74	11	0	535	19.45
Stann Creek	164	12	0	0	176	6.4
Toledo	71	10	3	1	85	3.09
Total	2140	532	69	10	2751	100
Males						
Corozal	146	23	0	0	169	14.96
Orange Walk	145	30	2	0	177	15.66
Belize District	318	121	21	4	464	41.06
Cayo	205	30	2	0	237	20.97
Stann Creek	57	6	0	0	63	5.58
Toledo	16	3	1	0	20	1.77
Total	887	213	26	4	1130	100.00
Females						
Corozal	141	25	0	0	166	10.24
Orange Walk	132	27	3	0	162	9.99
Belize District	573	210	29	5	817	50.4
Cayo	245	44	9	0	298	18.38
Stann Creek	107	6	0	0	113	6.97
Toledo	55	7	2	1	65	4.01
Total	1253	319	43	6	1621	100.00
Percentage Males	41.45	40.04	37.68	40	41.08	
Percentage Females	58.55	59.96	62.32	60	58.92	

Source: CARICOM

Note: The sum of the totals of 4.5 a, b and c (67 202) of those 5 years and over attending school does not add to the total population 5 years and over attending school in Table 4.4 (68 757).

4.4. Education for Persons 15 Years or Older

The 15 years or older age group comprise 59.15 per cent of the total population. From this group the following percentages of persons reside in the respective districts: 14.08 per cent the Corozal District, 16.34 per cent the Orange Walk District, 29.22 per cent the Belize District, 21.25 per cent the Cayo District, 10.5 per cent the Stann Creek District and 8.66 per cent lived in the Toledo District (Table 4.6).

Qualifications, measured by examinations passed, are provided in Table 4.6. It is seen that 34.26 per cent of all persons 15 years or older had no formal qualifications and an additional 43.9 per cent had Primary School certificates only. The remaining 21.84 per cent was divided into those with High School diplomas (12.73 per cent), Sixth Form diplomas (4.43 per cent), Professional certificates (1.32 per cent) and University degrees (2.65 per cent).

Table 4.6: Persons Aged 15 Years and Over by Highest Examination Passed and Districts, 2000

Certification	District						Total	Total Per Cent
	Corozal	Orange Walk	Belize	Cayo	Stann Creek	Toledo		
None	7755	8185	6659	12609	5265	6570	47043	34.26
Primary	8648	10964	19582	10353	6686	4037	60270	43.90
High School	1510	1842	7834	3621	1332	728	16867	12.28
GCE/CXC	118	24	256	138	32	49	617	0.45
Sixth Form	677	736	3071	1003	461	140	6088	4.43
Teacher	254	234	397	291	129	101	1406	1.02
Nursing	26	13	140	62	33	17	291	0.21
Agriculture	14	19	5	43	28	16	125	0.09
GCE A Level	21	0	19	13	4	1	58	0.04
Bachelor	219	288	1269	518	213	85	2592	1.89
Masters	58	50	379	195	76	37	795	0.58
PhD	6	18	70	50	16	5	165	0.12
Post Graduate	5	4	23	41	13	3	89	0.06
Other	18	29	183	157	42	72	501	0.36
DN/NS	4	23	235	83	24	26	395	0.29
Total	19333	22429	40122	29177	14354	11887	137302	100.00
Total Per Cent	14.08	16.34	29.22	21.25	10.45	8.66	100.00	

Source: CARICOM

Note: The total population 15 years and older (137 302) does not match with the corresponding figures in table 1.5 (137 009).

Qualifications at the district level were not proportional to the number of persons 15 years or older living in the various districts. Belize District had the most qualified cadre of persons 15 years or older. It is demonstrated that only 16.63 per cent (6 659 persons) of the 15 years and older persons in Belize District had no formal qualifications. Since the Belize District account for 29.23 per cent of the persons 15 years or older, it is clear that a high percentage of Belize District residents are qualified at some level. At the other extreme, in relative terms, Toledo District fared the worst insofar as it accounted for 8.66 per cent of persons 15 years or older, but with 55.36 per cent of this same population having no qualifications. Table 4.6 indicates that in the Cayo District, 43.2 per cent of persons 15 years or older had no formal qualifications. However, this high rate must be kept in context bearing in mind that the Cayo District accounts for 21.23 per cent of the population in the 15 years or older age group.

Exposure to some form of training is also an important issue for persons 15 years or older. By far, the Belize District has the largest cadre of trained persons in this age group 38.39 per cent (Table 4.7). Once again, the Toledo District fairs the worst, accounting for only 8.67 per cent of persons 15 years or older who have been exposed to some form of training.

Table 4.7: Total Unqualified and Trained Persons 15 Years or Older By District, 2000

District	Total	Per Cent	Not Qualified	Per Cent	Trained	Per Cent
Corozal	19306	14.09	7755	40.17	1525	7.90
Orange Walk	22370	16.33	8185	36.59	1720	7.69
Belize	40048	29.23	6659	16.63	5698	14.23
Cayo	29093	21.23	12609	43.34	2647	9.10
Stann Creek	14325	10.46	5265	36.75	1974	13.78
Toledo	11867	8.66	6570	55.36	1287	10.85
Total	137009	100.00	47043	34.34	14842	10.83

Source: CSO, Belize and CARICOM

Table 4.8: Persons 15 Years and Over by Age Group, District, Exposure to Training and Sex, 2000

District	Age Group	Trained					Not Trained					Not Stated
		Total	Male	Per Cent	Female	Per Cent	Total	Male	Per Cent	Female	Per Cent	
Corozal	15-24	352	218		134		5998	2941		3057		10
	25-64	1092	704		388		10487	5188		5299		16
	65+	81	61		20		1293	665		628		4
	Total	1525	983	64.46	542	35.54	17778	8794	49.47	8984	50.53	30
Orange Walk	15-24	407	259		148		7226	3571		3655		23
	25-64	1250	856		394		12140	6036		6104		34
	65+	63	47		16		1280	707		573		6
	Total	1720	1162	67.56	558	32.44	20646	10314	49.96	10332	50.04	63
Belize	15-24	1479	1039		440		11335	5203		6132		86
	25-64	3904	2505		1399		19859	9077		10782		251
	65+	306	201		105		2867	1199		1668		35
	Total	5689	3745	65.83	1944	34.17	34061	15479	45.44	18582	54.56	372
Cayo	15-24	624	380		244		9293	4388		4905		81
	25-64	1909	1266		643		15112	7188		7924		148
	65+	114	84		30		1879	962		917		17
	Total	2647	1730	65.36	917	34.64	26284	12538	47.70	13746	52.30	246
Stann Creek	15-24	388	278		110		4541	2273		2268		16
	25-64	1437	1016		421		6796	3458		3338		64
	65+	149	91		58		954	427		527		9
	Total	1974	1385	70.16	589	29.84	12291	6158	50.10	6133	49.90	89
Toledo	15-24	294	190		104		4058	1968		2090		10
	25-64	907	658		249		5743	2745		2998		41
	65+	86	53		33		743	363		380		5
	Total	1287	901	70.01	386	29.99	10544	5076	48.14	5468	51.86	56
Total	15-24	3544	2364		1180		42451	20344		22107		229
	25-64	10499	7005		3494		70137	33692		36445		551
	65+	799	537		262		9016	4323		4693		76
	Total	14842	9906	66.74	4936	33.26	121604	58359	47.99	63245	52.01	856

Source: CARICOM

Note: the total population 15 years and older (137 302) does not match the corresponding figure in table 4.7 (137 009).

Table 4.8 shows that across all districts, a greater percentage of persons exposed to some form of training were males. In the 15 years or older age group 66.74 per cent of all persons trained are males. Similar figures were posted in each of the districts: 64.46 per cent in the Corozal District, 67.56 per cent in the Orange Walk District, 65.83 per cent in the Belize District, 65.36 per cent in the Cayo District, 70.16 per cent in the Stann Creek District and 70.01 per cent in the Toledo District (Table 4.8).

Contrasts are obtained by categorizing the persons in the 15 years or older age group who received no training. Table 4.8 shows that overall 52.01 per cent of persons not trained are females. There was relatively no difference at the district levels between males and females in persons receiving no training with it being approximately 50 per cent for males and females respectively. This however is with the exception of the Belize and Cayo Districts which showed a slight bias in favour of females in respective proportions of 54.56 per cent and 52.3 per cent of persons 15 years or older with no training, were females.

CHAPTER 5

ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Introduction

Census data on economic activity of the population is important in the planning activities by government and other agencies, policy makers and stakeholders. Information on persons 15 years of age or older is collected and indicators concerning economic activity are compiled based on this portion of the population.

Economic activity data addresses issues akin to arrangements associated with individuals' engagement or non-engagement in work during the past week, that is, over the week of the census. Accordingly, this chapter looks at occupation in the past week, type of industry in which people were involved and the type of worker involved in these occupations and industries.

5.1. Economic Activity in the Past Week

Table 5.1 shows that in 2000, 50.83 per cent of persons 15 years or older were not working during the census week. Of those not working, 41 per cent were in the 15 to 24 years age group and 41.01 per cent in the 25 to 54 years age group.

Working men greatly outnumbered working women. Some 70.67 per cent of the population 15 years or older were working males and there were about 2.4 times as many working men as women.

Table 5.1: Population 15 Years and Over by Economic Activity in the Past Week and Sex, 2000

Worked During Census Week	Age Group								Total	
	15 – 24	Per Cent	25 – 54	Per Cent	55 – 64	Per Cent	65+	Per Cent		
Total	Yes	17496	37.85	43642	59.92	3751	44.91	2276	23.01	67165
	No	28622	61.92	29004	39.82	4579	54.82	7587	76.71	69792
	Not Stated	106	0.23	188	0.26	23	0.28	28	0.28	345
	Total	46224	100.00	72834	100.00	8353	100.00	9891	100.00	137302
Male	Yes	12367	54.17	30210	82.69	2990	66.46	1897	38.75	47464
	No	10404	45.58	6212	17.00	1499	33.32	2984	60.96	21099
	Not Stated	57	0.25	112	0.31	10	0.22	14	0.29	193
	Total	22828	100.00	36534	100.00	4499	100.00	4895	100.00	68756
Female	Yes	5129	21.92	13432	37.00	761	19.75	379	7.59	19701
	No	18218	77.87	22792	62.79	3080	79.92	4603	92.13	48693
	Not Stated	49	0.21	76	0.21	13	0.34	14	0.28	152
	Total	23396	100.00	36300	100.00	3854	100.00	4996	100.00	68546

Source: CARICOM

Note: Population 15 years and over (137 302) differs from the corresponding figure in Table 1.5 (137 009). There is no clarity as to those who were inactive and these persons appear to have been included in the category 'no' (those who were not working).

5.2. Occupational Classification

Table 5.2 shows persons aged 15 years and over by main occupation and sex. Elementary occupations (unskilled labour) proved to be the most common for persons working. Of the persons 15 years or older, 32.85 per cent were engaged in such pursuits. Craft and Skilled/Agricultural occupations had the next highest proportions accounting for respective proportions of 14.6 per cent and 10.27 per cent of the population under review (See also Figure 5.1).

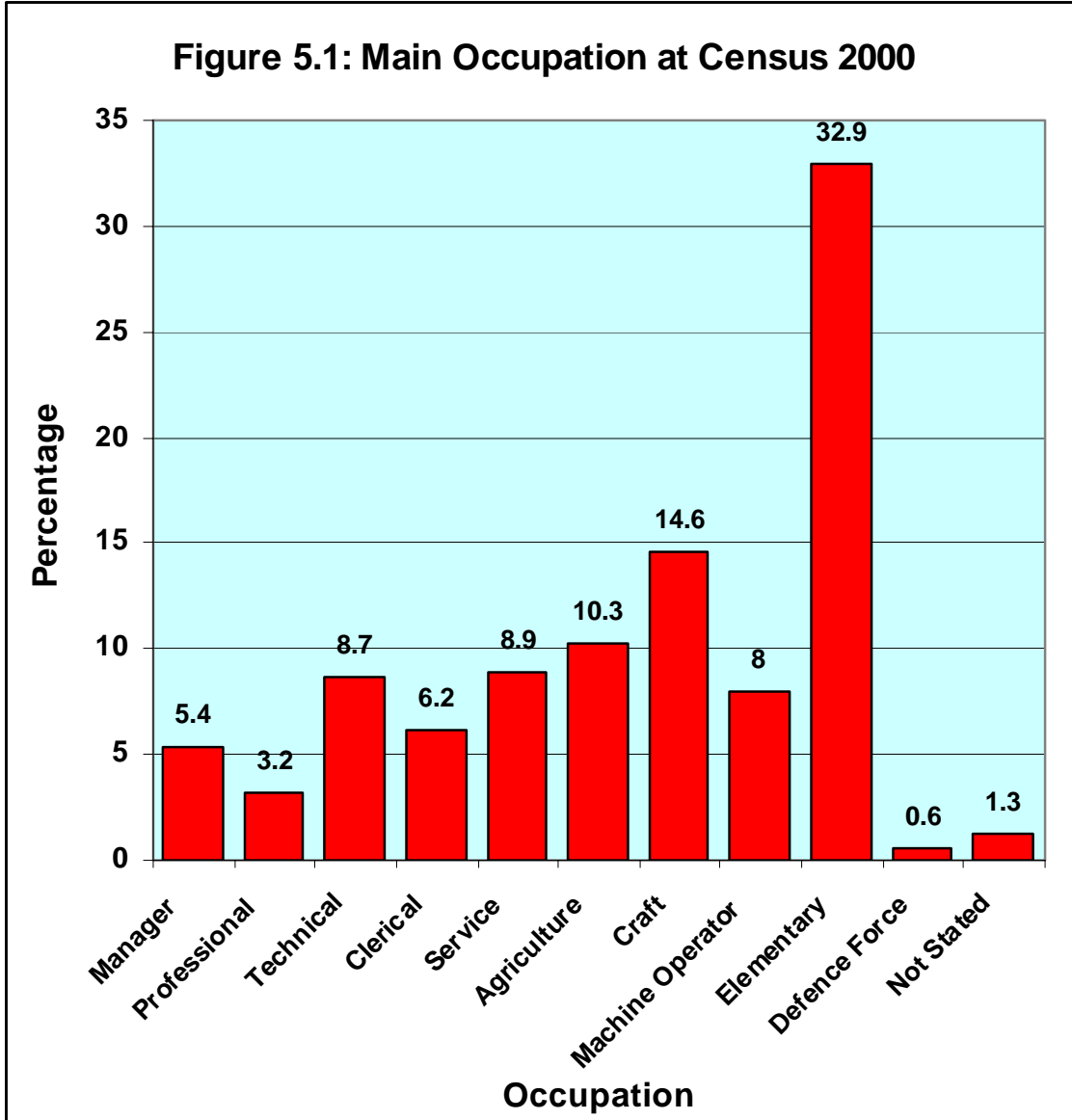
A large percentage (40.89 per cent) of persons in the 15 to 24 year age group who were working was engaged in elementary occupations. This compares with 29.71 per cent of persons in the 25 to 54 year age group who were also working in elementary occupations (Table 5.2)

Table 5.2: Persons 15 Years and Over who Worked in the Past Week by Main Occupation and Sex, 2000

Occupation	15 – 24		25 – 54		55 – 64		65 Plus		Total	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per Cent	Number	Per cent
Country Totals										
Legislator/Manager	220	1.19	2989	6.48	394	9.73	234	9.37	3837	5.39
Professional	265	1.43	1822	3.95	127	3.14	44	1.76	2258	3.17
Technical	1095	5.91	4826	10.45	209	5.16	71	2.84	6201	8.71
Clerical	1561	8.43	2660	5.76	123	3.04	51	2.04	4395	6.17
Services/Sales	1662	8.97	4241	9.19	258	6.37	159	6.37	6320	8.87
Agricultural	1673	9.03	4155	9.00	803	19.82	682	27.30	7313	10.27
Craft	2690	14.52	6953	15.06	502	12.39	255	10.21	10400	14.60
Machine Operator	1158	6.25	4127	8.94	318	7.85	106	4.24	5709	8.01
Elementary	7574	40.89	13713	29.71	1265	31.23	846	33.87	23398	32.85
Defence Force	124	0.67	328	0.71	1	0.02	1	0.04	454	0.64
Not Stated	502	2.71	347	0.75	51	1.26	49	1.96	949	1.33
Total	18524	100.00	46161	100.00	4051	100.00	2498	100.00	71234	100.00
MALES										
Legislator/Manager	123	0.94	1766	5.56	282	8.83	171	8.33	2342	4.68
Professional	126	0.97	1017	3.20	81	2.54	37	1.80	1261	2.52
Technical	520	3.99	2303	7.26	127	3.97	41	2.00	2991	5.98
Clerical	482	3.70	791	2.49	68	2.13	38	1.85	1379	2.76
Services/Sales	784	6.01	2087	6.57	139	4.35	104	5.06	3114	6.22
Agricultural	1587	12.17	3995	12.59	775	24.26	648	31.55	7005	14.00
Craft	2453	18.81	6286	19.80	434	13.58	210	10.22	9383	18.75
Machine Operator	998	7.65	3759	11.84	307	9.61	102	4.97	5166	10.33
Elementary	5588	42.85	9187	28.94	943	29.51	670	32.62	16388	32.76
Defence Force	115	0.88	304	0.96	1	0.03	0	0.00	420	0.84
Not Stated	264	2.02	247	0.78	38	1.19	33	1.61	582	1.16
Total	13040	100.00	31742	100.00	3195	100.00	2054	100.00	50031	100.00
FEMALES										
Legislator/Manager	97	1.77	1223	8.48	112	13.08	63	14.19	1495	7.05
Professional	139	2.53	805	5.58	46	5.37	7	1.58	997	4.70
Technical	575	10.49	2523	17.50	82	9.58	30	6.76	3210	15.14
Clerical	1079	19.68	1869	12.96	55	6.43	13	2.93	3016	14.22
Services/Sales	878	16.01	2154	14.94	119	13.90	55	12.39	3206	15.12
Agricultural	86	1.57	160	1.11	28	3.27	34	7.66	308	1.45
Craft	237	4.32	667	4.63	68	7.94	45	10.14	1017	4.80
Machine Operator	160	2.92	368	2.55	11	1.29	4	0.90	543	2.56
Elementary	1986	36.21	4526	31.39	322	37.62	176	39.64	7010	33.06
Defence Force	9	0.16	24	0.17	0	0.00	1	0.23	34	0.16
Not Stated	238	4.34	100	0.69	13	1.52	16	3.60	367	1.73
Total	5484	100.00	14419	100.00	856	100.00	444	100.00	21203	100.00

Source: CARICOM

Note: The number who worked (71 234) differs from the corresponding number in Table 5.1 (67 165).



There were also differences in the occupations between males and females as evidenced in Table 5.2. Males were more likely to be engaged in Elementary, Machine Operator, Craft and Agricultural occupations. Females, however, were most likely to be found in Elementary, Services, Clerical or Technical occupations. Machine Operator occupations were more popular among the 25 to 54 year old males than among younger and older males. Clerical and technical occupations were popular for the young females 15 to 24 years and their counterparts in the 25 to 54 years age group, while older women of 55

plus years were less likely to be in clerical or technical occupations. Services and sales seemed to be a popular occupation for women of all age groups.

5.3. Industrial Classification

With reference to persons 15 years or older who worked during the census week, Table 5.3(a) sheds light on the following industrial classification that is indicative of the distribution of such persons according to their principal economic pursuits. Table 5.3(b) and Table 5.3(c) present similar results disaggregated according to individuals' sex.

Wholesale/Retail: While 17.04 per cent of young persons between the ages of 15 years and 24 years and about 15.21 per cent of adults 25 to 54 years old participate in this industry. Similarly high percentages were observed among older persons aged 55 to 64 years and 65 years or older, the respective proportions being 16.54 per cent and 20.62 per cent. It is also worth noting that the majority, (62.87 per cent), of wholesalers/retailers were male.

Government Services: The government is the single largest employer in the country hiring 9 438 persons or 13.25 per cent of all persons 15 years or older who worked for profit during the census week. Government employees fall mainly in the 25 to 54 year age group and this age group accounts for 77.8 per cent of government jobs. For persons in age groups 15 to 24 years and 25 to 54 years, there is virtually an even split across the sexes with respect to employment in government services though there is a very slight bias in favour of men. However, the rate of retention in the government services increases for males in older age groups insofar as men constitute respective proportions of 67.29 per cent of the age group 55 to 64 years and 79.67 per cent of the age group 65+ years.

Sugar: The sugar industry is an important revenue earner for the country. Most of the work in this industry is done by males. It is seen that 96.75 per cent of sugar workers are males with 87.69 per cent of these workers under the age of 55 years.

Agriculture NEC: General agriculture and farming, like sugar, is an industry mostly dominated by young males. About 93.38 per cent of agricultural workers are males with 82.5 per cent of them less than 55 years of age.

Community, Social and Personal: This industry is one of the few in which female workers outnumber their male counterparts. Some 64.6 per cent of the workers in this industrial group are females outnumbering males 1.8 to 1. Mostly young females are involved in this industry to the extent that approximately 24 per cent of the female workers are in the 15 to 24 years age group and about 67 per cent in the 25 to 54 year age group.

Construction: Construction is an industry that provides employment principally for young males. While 98.06 per cent of construction workers are male, 94.31 per cent of such workers are under 55 years of age.

Tourism: The tourism industry attracts mainly younger people. In general, there is virtually an even split between the sexes with respect to employment in tourism (3 271 males and 2 982 females). However, there are a greater number of females among the 15 to 24 years age group with 806 females compared with 695 males. In the older age groups however, male workers outnumber their female counterparts. One industry of note is the small Manufacture of Textiles which is dominated by females; there are 3.6 times as many females in this industry as males.

Table 5.3(a): Persons 15 Years and Over Whom Worked in the Past Week by Industry and Age Group, 2000

Industry	15 – 24	Per Cent	25 – 54	Per Cent	55 – 64	Per Cent	65+	Per Cent	Total	Per Cent
Sugar	2016	10.87	4517	9.79	576	14.22	345	13.81	7454	10.46
Citrus	157	0.85	288	0.62	26	0.64	4	0.16	475	0.67
Bananas	745	4.02	1239	2.69	94	2.32	38	1.52	2116	2.97
Agriculture N.E.C.	2061	11.12	3929	8.52	693	17.11	579	23.18	7262	10.19
Forestry Logging & Sawmilling	316	1.70	524	1.14	60	1.48	31	1.24	931	1.31
Fishing and Fish Processing	415	2.24	772	1.67	57	1.41	40	1.60	1284	1.80
Mining and Quarrying	54	0.29	170	0.37	21	0.52	2	0.08	247	0.35
Manufacture of Food Products	450	2.43	928	2.01	82	2.02	47	1.88	1507	2.12
Manufacture of Textile	266	1.43	750	1.63	69	1.70	29	1.16	1114	1.56
Manufacturing N.E.C.	506	2.73	1015	2.20	102	2.52	65	2.60	1688	2.37
Electricity Gas and Water	172	0.93	614	1.33	21	0.52	7	0.28	814	1.14
Construction	1855	10.00	4468	9.68	275	6.79	106	4.24	6704	9.41
Wholesale and Retail	3159	17.04	7020	15.21	670	16.54	515	20.62	11364	15.95
Tourism	1501	8.10	4233	9.17	351	8.66	168	6.73	6253	8.78
Transport N.E.C	629	3.39	1686	3.65	110	2.72	55	2.20	2480	3.48
Financial Intermediation'	272	1.47	794	1.72	28	0.69	15	0.60	1109	1.56
Real Estate	396	2.14	1079	2.34	79	1.95	53	2.12	1607	2.26
General Government Services	1662	8.96	7332	15.89	321	7.92	123	4.92	9438	13.25
Community Social & Personal Services	1645	8.87	4600	9.97	386	9.53	236	9.45	6867	9.64
Not Stated	264	1.42	184	0.40	30	0.74	40	1.60	518	0.73
Total	18541	100.00	46142	100.00	4051	100.00	2498	100.00	71232	100.00

Source: CARICOM

Note: The number who worked (71 232) differs from the corresponding number in Table 5.2 (71 234).

Table 5.3(b): Males 15 Years and Over who Worked in the Past Week by Industry and Age Group, 2000

Industry	15 – 24	Per Cent	25 – 54	Per Cent	55 – 64	Per Cent	65+	Per Cent	Total	Per Cent
MALES										
Sugar	1958	15.02	4366	13.76	558	17.46	330	16.07	7212	14.42
Citrus	117	0.90	229	0.72	26	0.81	4	0.19	376	0.75
Bananas	562	4.31	977	3.08	80	2.50	36	1.75	1655	3.31
Agriculture N.E.C.	1876	14.39	3689	11.62	663	20.75	553	26.92	6781	13.55
Forestry Logging & Sawmilling	304	2.33	504	1.59	57	1.78	31	1.51	896	1.79
Fishing and Fish Processing	350	2.68	666	2.10	52	1.63	39	1.90	1107	2.21
Mining and Quarrying	54	0.41	167	0.53	21	0.66	2	0.10	244	0.49
Manufacture of Food Products	319	2.45	571	1.80	52	1.63	29	1.41	971	1.94
Manufacture of Textile	58	0.44	153	0.48	24	0.75	15	0.73	250	0.50
Manufacturing N.E.C.	467	3.58	922	2.90	99	3.10	64	3.12	1552	3.10
Electricity Gas and Water	139	1.07	495	1.56	21	0.66	7	0.34	662	1.32
Construction	1806	13.85	4394	13.84	270	8.45	104	5.06	6574	13.14
Wholesale and Retail	1982	15.20	4366	13.76	425	13.30	372	18.11	7145	14.28
Tourism	695	5.33	2215	6.98	246	7.70	115	5.60	3271	6.54
Transport N.E.C	498	3.82	1388	4.37	91	2.85	49	2.39	2026	4.05
Financial Intermediation'	114	0.87	328	1.03	24	0.75	7	0.34	473	0.95
Real Estate	236	1.81	726	2.29	69	2.16	52	2.53	1083	2.16
General Government Services	861	6.60	3843	12.11	216	6.76	98	4.77	5018	10.03
Community Social & Personal Services	513	3.93	1616	5.09	179	5.60	123	5.99	2431	4.86
Not Stated	130	1.00	126	0.40	22	0.69	24	1.17	302	0.60
Totals	13039		31741		3195		2054		50029	

Source: CARICOM

Note: The number males added to females who worked (71 232) differs from the corresponding number in Table 5.2 (71 234).

Table 5.3(c): Females 15 Years and Over Who Worked in the Past Week by Industry and Age Group, 2000

Industry	15 – 24	Per Cent	25 – 54	Per Cent	55 – 64	Per Cent	65+	Per Cent	Total	Per Cent
FEMALES										
Sugar	58	1.06	151	1.05	18	2.10	15	3.38	242	1.14
Citrus	40	0.73	59	0.41	0	0.00	0	0.00	99	0.47
Bananas	183	3.34	262	1.82	14	1.64	2	0.45	461	2.17
Agriculture N.E.C.	185	3.37	240	1.66	30	3.50	26	5.86	481	2.27
Forestry Logging & Sawmilling	12	0.22	20	0.14	3	0.35	0	0.00	35	0.17
Fishing and Fish Processing	65	1.19	106	0.74	5	0.58	1	0.23	177	0.83
Mining and Quarrying	0	0.00	3	0.02	0	0.00	0	0.00	3	0.01
Manufacture of Food Products	131	2.39	357	2.48	30	3.50	18	4.05	536	2.53
Manufacture of Textile	208	3.79	597	4.14	45	5.26	14	3.15	864	4.07
Manufacturing N.E.C.	39	0.71	93	0.64	3	0.35	1	0.23	136	0.64
Electricity Gas and Water	33	0.60	119	0.83	0	0.00	0	0.00	152	0.72
Construction	49	0.89	74	0.51	5	0.58	2	0.45	130	0.61
Wholesale and Retail	1177	21.46	2654	18.41	245	28.62	143	32.21	4219	19.90
Tourism	806	14.70	2018	14.00	105	12.27	53	11.94	2982	14.06
Transport N.E.C	131	2.39	298	2.07	19	2.22	6	1.35	454	2.14
Financial Intermediation'	158	2.88	466	3.23	4	0.47	8	1.80	636	3.00
Real Estate	160	2.92	353	2.45	10	1.17	1	0.23	524	2.47
General Government Services	801	14.61	3489	24.20	105	12.27	25	5.63	4420	20.85
Community Social & Personal Services	1114	20.31	3002	20.82	207	24.18	113	25.45	4436	20.92
Not Stated	134	2.44	58	0.40	8	0.93	16	3.60	216	1.02
Totals	5484	100.00	14419	100.00	856	100.00	444	100.00	21203	100.00

Source: CARICOM

Note: The number males added to females who worked (71 232) differs from the corresponding number in Table 5.2 (71 234).

5.4. Type of Worker

Table 5.4 summarizes persons aged 15 years or older who worked during the week preceding the census according to their worker status. The majority are paid employees, either paid by private employers or the government. Government finances the salaries of 14.65 per cent of the workers which include both government service workers and other workers (for example, school teachers) while private businesses pay about 57.18 per cent of all workers.

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Table 5.4: Persons 15 Years and Over who Worked in the Past Week by Type of Worker, Sex and District, 2000 ⁶

Country Count	Corozal	Per Cent	Orange Walk	Per Cent	Belize	Per Cent	Cayo	Per Cent	Stann Creek	Per Cent	Toledo	Per Cent	Total	Per Cent
Paid Employee-Public	958	9.88	991	9.13	4214	19.00	2678	18.92	841	10.26	751	12.19	10433	14.65
Paid Employee -Private	5666	58.45	6669	61.46	13200	59.51	7431	52.50	5598	68.28	2172	35.24	40736	57.18
Unpaid Worker	604	6.23	503	4.64	382	1.72	912	6.44	327	3.99	668	10.84	3396	4.77
Own Business With Paid Help	685	7.07	789	7.27	1207	5.44	624	4.41	375	4.57	285	4.62	3965	5.57
Own Business Without Paid Help	1745	18.00	1822	16.79	2991	13.49	2351	16.61	1014	12.37	2262	36.70	12185	17.10
Don't Know/Not Stated	35	0.36	77	0.71	186	0.84	157	1.11	44	0.54	25	0.41	524	0.74
Total	9693	100.00	10851	100.00	22180	100.00	14153	100.00	8199	100.00	6163	100.00	71239	100.00
Male														
Paid Employee – Public	571	7.57	614	7.05	2235	16.90	1577	15.91	484	8.37	489	10.06	5970	11.93
Paid Employee -Private	4671	61.93	5528	63.46	7753	58.62	5349	53.98	4170	72.10	1720	35.38	29191	58.34
Unpaid Worker	355	4.71	385	4.42	206	1.56	689	6.95	169	2.92	539	11.09	2343	4.68
Own Business With Paid Help	588	7.80	679	7.79	877	6.63	441	4.45	285	4.93	237	4.88	3107	6.21
Own Business Without Paid Help	1338	17.74	1461	16.77	2032	15.36	1766	17.82	649	11.22	1861	38.28	9107	18.20
Don't Know/Not Stated	19	0.25	44	0.51	122	0.92	88	0.89	27	0.47	15	0.31	315	0.63
Total	7542	100.00	8711	100.00	13225	100.00	9910	100.00	5784	100.00	4861	100.00	50033	100.00
Female														
Paid Employee – Public	387	17.99	377	17.62	1979	22.10	1101	25.95	357	14.78	262	20.12	4463	21.05
Paid Employee -Private	995	46.26	1141	53.32	5447	60.83	2082	49.07	1428	59.13	452	34.72	11545	54.44
Unpaid Worker	249	11.58	118	5.51	176	1.97	223	5.26	158	6.54	129	9.91	1053	4.97
Own Business With Paid Help	97	4.51	110	5.14	330	3.69	183	4.31	90	3.73	48	3.69	858	4.05
Own Business Without Paid Help	407	18.92	361	16.87	959	10.71	585	13.79	365	15.11	401	30.80	3078	14.51
Don't Know/Not Stated	16	0.74	33	1.54	64	0.71	69	1.63	17	0.70	10	0.77	209	0.99
Total	2151	100.00	2140	100.00	8955	100.00	4243	100.00	2415	100.00	1302	100.00	21206	100.00

⁶ Note: The number who worked (71 239) differs from the corresponding figure in Table 5.3a (71 232)

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Many persons run their own businesses and most of them have no employees. In all, 17.1 per cent of workers fall into this category and run their own business without paid help. Only 5.57 per cent of the workers operate their own businesses with paid help. Most of the privately paid employees are males, 71.9 per cent.

CHAPTER 6

HOUSING AND LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

Introduction

Proper and adequate housing is a basic human right. In order to assess the adequacy of housing it is necessary to determine the current quantities and quality of housing structures and then to investigate the facilities available in households. Only then is it possible to determine sub-standard areas that require attention.

6.1. Housing Characteristics

6.1.1. Dwelling Units

Dwelling units are classified in the 2000 Census as

- Undivided Private House
- Part of House
- Flat
- Double House
- Business Dwelling
- Barracks
- Other.

Using these classifications, Table 6.1 shows that there were a total of 51 945 dwelling units in Belize in 2000. This is an increase of 37 per cent in the number of dwelling units counted in 1991. Undivided private homes comprised the majority of the dwelling units in 2000, 83.7 per cent.

Table 6.1: Dwelling Unit by Type and District, 2000

Dwelling Units	Corozal District		Orange walk District		Belize District		Cayo District		Stann Creek District		Toledo District		Total	Per Cent
	Per Cent	Per Cent	Per Cent	Per Cent	Per Cent	Per Cent	Per Cent	Per Cent	Per Cent	Per Cent				
Undivided Private House	6135	91.27	7250	92.02	11724	72.65	9536	88.03	4658	79.22	4187	93.17	43490	83.72
Part of House	162	2.41	205	2.60	1466	9.08	556	5.13	291	4.95	55	1.22	2735	5.27
Flat	21	0.31	36	0.46	1118	6.93	156	1.44	55	0.94	26	0.58	1412	2.72
Double House	185	2.75	145	1.84	1287	7.98	192	1.77	213	3.62	19	0.42	2041	3.93
Business/Dwelling	203	3.02	235	2.98	311	1.93	340	3.14	173	2.94	113	2.51	1375	2.65
Barracks	3	0.04	0	0.00	82	0.51	6	0.06	474	8.06	85	1.89	650	1.25
Other	6	0.09	6	0.08	98	0.61	35	0.32	15	0.26	8	0.18	168	0.32
Not Stated	7	0.10	2	0.03	51	0.32	12	0.11	1	0.02	1	0.02	74	0.14
Total	6722	100.00	7879	100.00	16137	100.00	10833	100.00	5880	100.00	4494	100.00	51945	100.00

Source: CARICOM

The Belize District has the largest number of undivided private homes, 26.96 per cent in the entire country while the Toledo District garnered only 9.63 per cent of the total undivided private dwelling units. However, undivided private homes constitute 72.65 per cent of the dwelling units in Belize District while 93.17 per cent of the dwelling units in the Toledo District are undivided private homes (Table 6.1). One can surmise that most of the dwelling units in the Toledo District were privately owned, while a substantial number of dwelling units in the Belize District were rented (Part of Houses, 9.08 per cent; Double Houses, 7.98 per cent and Flats, 6.93 per cent). In Stann Creek, housing is characterized by substantial numbers of low income dwelling units as 8.06 per cent of the dwelling units assumed the form of barracks.

6.1.2. Household Units and Overcrowding

In Belize, 62.6 per cent of the population lives in Undivided Private Houses, 19.4 per cent in Flats and 12.2 per cent live in Barracks (Table 6.2).

Average household sizes in Toledo District is 4.8 persons per household, Corozal District and Orange Walk District is 4.7 persons per household, 4.2 in Cayo District, 4.1 in Stann Creek

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District and 3.8 in Belize District. The average household size in the general population of Belize is 4.3 persons per household. These averages were calculated from the data in Table 6.3.

Also calculated from Table 6.3 was the average number of persons per bedroom. In the country this was 2.3 persons per bedroom. This same average hold true for the northern districts of Corozal, Orange Walk and Belize. The Cayo District recorded the highest likelihood of overcrowding with 2.4 persons per bedroom while the Stann Creek and Toledo districts had averages of 2.1 and 2.0 persons per bedroom respectively.

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Table 6.2: Dwelling Unit by Size of Household, Number of Bedrooms and District, 2000

Country	Size Of Household	Number of Persons per Bedroom								
		One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six	Seven	Eight	Total
Total	One	3006	1806	728	144	33	14	4	10	5745
	Two	2190	2643	1261	257	63	16	7	4	6441
	Three	2025	3222	1666	352	85	23	7	7	7387
	Four	1692	3513	2221	506	120	20	5	13	8090
	Five	1163	2796	2238	587	146	31	13	14	6988
	Six	843	1964	1758	548	125	37	7	10	5292
	Seven	500	1267	1183	454	126	41	14	7	3592
	Eight	572	1329	1403	694	317	107	41	36	4499
	Nine	232	429	462	219	79	26	10	3	1460
	Total	12223	18969	12920	3761	1094	315	108	104	49494
Corozal	One	225	152	52	15	4	0	0	0	448
	Two	238	267	123	47	7	2	0	1	685
	Three	267	428	179	53	17	2	1	1	948
	Four	283	530	239	67	14	4	1	2	1140
	Five	235	435	292	69	18	6	1	0	1056
	Six	147	314	210	83	13	8	2	2	779
	Seven	98	166	177	72	15	8	0	1	537
	Eight	116	186	180	104	60	20	3	6	675
	Nine	37	56	46	38	16	4	2	0	199
	Total	1646	2534	1498	548	164	54	10	13	6467
Orange Walk	One	358	124	48	10	7	0	0	1	548
	Two	339	316	124	29	8	2	3	0	821
	Three	347	480	205	40	14	3	1	1	1091
	Four	302	563	311	62	13	1	0	1	1253
	Five	227	490	379	93	22	3	5	1	1220
	Six	143	336	330	89	21	5	1	1	926
	Seven	87	243	227	88	24	8	3	1	681
	Eight	86	235	238	147	65	18	15	8	812
	Nine	37	73	81	42	19	6	3	1	262
	Total	1926	2860	1943	600	193	46	31	15	7614
Belize	One	1291	787	324	55	10	5	2	4	2478
	Two	747	1134	560	98	22	6	1	1	2569
	Three	569	1197	677	120	31	6	3	2	2605
	Four	402	1133	897	192	47	10	2	4	2687
	Five	191	849	767	205	46	10	3	6	2077
	Six	138	507	562	147	37	10	0	4	1405
	Seven	51	336	337	97	36	12	7	3	879
	Eight	51	298	343	137	59	19	8	8	923
	Nine	16	98	110	44	11	8	2	0	289
	Total	3456	6339	4577	1095	299	86	28	32	15912
Country	Size Of Household	Number of Persons per Bedroom								
		One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six	Seven	Eight	Total
Cayo	One	416	355	135	34	4	5	0	1	950
	Two	356	483	259	48	17	2	3	0	1168
	Three	417	643	374	96	16	8	1	0	1555
	Four	336	770	521	118	35	4	1	5	1790
	Five	241	612	524	147	33	10	1	3	1571
	Six	179	458	410	153	34	9	1	3	1247
	Seven	126	297	258	130	38	9	2	1	861
	Eight	112	321	359	189	83	28	6	6	1104
	Nine	43	104	122	63	21	6	2	0	361
	Total	2226	4043	2962	978	281	81	17	19	10607

Table 6.2: Cont'd Dwelling Unit by Size of Household, Number of Bedrooms and District, 2000

Country	Size Of Household	Number of Persons per Bedroom								Total
		One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six	Seven	Eight	
Stann Creek	One	520	289	125	22	2	4	0	3	965
	Two	323	303	143	24	5	4	0	1	803
	Three	248	330	171	28	4	4	0	2	787
	Four	186	341	188	45	6	0	0	1	767
	Five	119	273	196	47	16	2	1	3	657
	Six	87	212	175	44	11	3	0	0	532
	Seven	42	135	133	40	5	2	2	1	360
	Eight	62	142	170	75	33	12	4	2	500
	Nine	30	49	73	22	10	2	1	1	188
	Total	1617	2074	1374	347	92	33	8	14	5559
Toledo	One	196	99	44	8	6	0	2	1	356
	Two	187	140	52	11	4	0	0	1	395
	Three	177	144	60	15	3	0	1	1	401
	Four	183	176	65	22	5	1	1	0	453
	Five	150	137	80	26	11	0	2	1	407
	Six	149	137	71	32	9	2	3	0	403
	Seven	96	90	51	27	8	2	0	0	274
	Eight	145	147	113	42	17	10	5	6	485
	Nine	69	49	30	10	2	0	0	1	161
	Total	1352	1119	566	193	65	15	14	11	3335

Source: CARICOM

Note: Total dwelling units (49 494) differ from the corresponding figure in table 6.1 (51 945). By Districts, the figures are Corozal (6 467 vs. 6 722), Orange Walk (7 614 vs. 7 879), Belize (15 912 vs. 16 137), Cayo (10 607 vs. 10 833), Toledo (3 335 vs. 4 494).

6.1.3. Structure of Dwelling Units

Table 6.3 shows the number of dwellings constructed on a yearly basis in Belize from 1995 to 2000. The table indicates that the least number of dwellings constructed in all districts in Belize was in the year 2000 and the most constructed was in the year 1995 in all districts except Stann Creek and Toledo. In Stann Creek the most dwellings were constructed in 1996 and this is not really significant as it is only one more than was constructed in 1995, 356 versus 357. In Toledo, most dwellings were constructed in 1999 (534) but there was a significant decrease to 172 in 2000. These findings possibly indicate that there might be considerable under-reporting in the year 2000 of the number of new houses constructed.

Table 6.3: Dwelling Unit by Year Built and District, 2000

Year of Construction	Corozal District	Orange Walk District	Belize District	Cayo District	Stann Creek District	Toledo District	Total
1995	348	447	697	609	356	456	2913
1996	232	282	474	439	357	453	2237
1997	236	311	500	524	275	388	2234
1998	261	325	563	601	322	496	2568
1999	282	298	538	601	308	534	2561
2000	73	100	211	253	100	172	909
Not Stated	799	1766	5710	1875	1342	349	11841

Source: CARICOM

In order to determine one's standard of living it is necessary to have an idea of not only the quantity of dwelling units, but also the quality of these structures. Table 6.4 shows that the most popular type of roofing material used in housing construction is sheet metal with 80.19 per cent of dwelling units having metal sheet roofs. Across the districts, there were varying degrees of preference for this roof type with a high of 92.97 per cent of dwelling units with metal sheet roofs in the Belize District to a low of 46.82 per cent in the Toledo District (Table 6.4). Significant numbers of dwelling units had concrete roofs in the Corozal District, 23.27 per cent, and the Orange Walk District, 12.21 per cent. It is believed that this form of construction was adapted from the Mexican mode of construction, a short distance to the North. In the Toledo District substantial numbers of dwelling units, 46.51 per cent had thatched roofs, the single highest percentage.

Wood and concrete are the main building materials for the walls of dwelling units in Belize. Table 6.6 indicates that 44.17 per cent of all units had wooden walls while 40.32 per cent had walls that were made of Concrete. Wooden walls were most popular in the Toledo District, 70.03 per cent and least popular in the Corozal District, 22.48 per cent. Wooden walls as material for house walls were also prominent in the Stann Creek District with 62.81 per cent, Belize District with 46.31 per cent and Cayo District with 43.04 per cent of the population using the said. Concrete walls, on the other hand, were most popular in the Corozal District with 50.80 per cent and least popular in the Toledo District with 22.85 per cent of all dwelling units being

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constructed of such. In the Cayo District and the Orange Walk District, the majority of dwelling units were constructed with concrete as the main material for outer walls, the respective proportions being 45.52 per cent and 42.15 per cent respectively.

Table 6.4: Dwelling Unit by Type of Roofing Material and District, 2000

Main Roof Material	Corozal District	Per Cent	Orange Walk District	Per Cent	Belize District	Per Cent	Cayo District	Per Cent	Stann Creek District	Per Cent	Toledo	Per Cent	Total	Per Cent
Sheet Metal	4237	63.03	5990	76.02	15002	92.97	9531	87.98	4793	81.51	2104	46.82	41657	80.19
Shingle	22	0.33	7	0.09	119	0.74	19	0.18	29	0.49	8	0.178	204	0.39
Ruber Rye	118	1.76	356	4.52	39	0.24	282	2.60	325	5.53	125	2.781	1245	2.40
Concrete	1564	23.27	962	12.21	756	4.68	487	4.50	332	5.65	149	3.316	4250	8.18
Thatch	623	9.27	503	6.38	46	0.29	412	3.80	317	5.39	2090	46.51	3991	7.68
Asbestos	60	0.89	18	0.23	22	0.14	25	0.23	50	0.85	8	0.178	183	0.35
Other	95	1.41	38	0.48	74	0.46	69	0.64	25	0.43	8	0.178	309	0.59
Not Stated	3	0.04	5	0.06	79	0.49	8	0.07	9	0.15	2	0.045	106	0.20
Total	6722	100.00	7879	100.00	16137	100.00	10833	100.00	5880	100.00	4494	100.00	51945	100.00

Source: CARICOM

Table 6.5: Dwelling Unit by Material of Outer Walls and District, 2000

Main Material of Outer Walls	Corozal District	Per Cent	Orange Walk District	Per Cent	Belize District	Per Cent	Cayo District	Per Cent	Stann Creek District	Per Cent	Toledo District	Per Cent	Total	Per Cent
Wood	1511	22.48	2457	31.18	7473	46.31	4663	43.04	3693	62.81	3147	70.03	22944	44.17
Plywood	54	0.80	85	1.08	1156	7.16	101	0.93	251	4.27	22	0.49	1669	3.21
Concrete & Wood	3415	50.80	3321	42.15	6674	41.36	4920	45.42	1586	26.97	1027	22.85	20943	40.32
Concrete	323	4.81	407	5.17	518	3.21	641	5.92	210	3.57	135	3.00	2234	4.30
Sticks/Palmetto	1092	16.25	1295	16.44	81	0.50	369	3.41	87	1.48	123	2.74	3047	5.87
Brick	3	0.04	4	0.05	12	0.07	9	0.08	1	0.02	0	0.00	29	0.06
Stucco	192	2.86	42	0.53	16	0.10	27	0.25	3	0.05	1	0.02	281	0.54
Makeshift	7	0.10	2	0.03	38	0.24	13	0.12	4	0.07	5	0.11	69	0.13
Other	125	1.86	266	3.38	169	1.05	90	0.83	45	0.77	34	0.76	729	1.40
Total	6722		7879		16137		10833		5880		4494		51945	

Source: CARICOM

6.2. Household Facilities

6.2.1. Toilet Facilities

Table 6.6 reveals that toilet facilities are still very basic in Belize. It is revealed that 45.77 per cent of all septic arrangements in Belize are pit latrines. Non-ventilated pit latrines, the most basic form of pit latrines, accounts for a quarter of all sanitary arrangements in Belize. Water Closets linked to septic tanks accounts for 36.56 per cent of all sanitary arrangements while only 15.96 per cent of Water Closets are linked to a sewer system (Table 6.6).

Sewer systems are available only in the Belize District (Belize City) and the Cayo District (Belmopan City). Non-ventilated pit latrines are used in 42.76 per cent of homes in the Toledo District, 39.36 per cent in Corozal District, 36.69 per cent in the Cayo District, 32.01 per cent in the Orange Walk District, 26.21 per cent in the Stann Creek District and 3.64 per cent of the homes in the Belize District. Clearly, the Belize District, the dominant urban district, is most completely serviced by sewer and septic tank systems. All districts other than the Belize District tend to be rural in composition and this probably accounts for the high levels basic types of toilet facilities. Self contained septic tanks are the most prevalent type of septic disposal facility in the Stann Creek District with 46.45 per cent of households having this, 41.01 per cent in the Belize District, and 23.52 per cent in the Toledo District.

Table 6.6: Household by Type of Toilet Facilities and District, 2000

Toilet Facilities	Corozal	Per Cent	Orange Walk	Per Cent	Belize	Per cent	Cayo	Per cent	Stann Creek	Per cent	Toledo	Per cent	Total	Per Cent
W.C. Linked to Sewer	0	0.00	0	0.00	6972	44.72	879	8.26	0	0.00	0	0.00	7851	15.96
W.C. Linked to Septic Tank	2152	32.75	2355	30.61	6394	41.01	3758	35.30	2600	46.45	729	23.52	17988	36.56
Pit Latrine Elevated	735	11.19	1089	14.15	439	2.82	676	6.35	520	9.29	473	15.26	3932	7.99
Pit Latrine Ventilated and Not Elevated	1014	15.43	1583	20.57	425	2.73	995	9.35	826	14.76	486	15.68	5329	10.83
Pit Latrine Ventilated Compost	78	1.19	196	2.55	167	1.07	405	3.80	58	1.04	42	1.36	946	1.92
Pit Latrine Not Ventilated	2586	39.36	2463	32.01	567	3.64	3906	36.69	1467	26.21	1325	42.76	12314	25.03
Other	5	0.08	8	0.10	626	4.02	26	0.24	127	2.27	44	1.42	836	1.70
Total	6570	100.00	7694	100.00	15590	100.00	10645	100.00	5598	100.00	3099	100.00	49196	100.00

Source: CARICOM

Note: Total households (49 196) differs from the corresponding figure in table 6.8.

6.2.2. Electricity

In Belize, electricity is used mainly for lighting and the operation of household appliances. Most of the needs of the country (78.97 per cent of the electricity used for lighting) is met by the Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) company. However, 13.20 per cent of all lighting is through the use of Kerosene (Table 6.7). At the district level, the usage of BEL supplied electricity for the purpose of lighting is highest among households in the Belize District, 93.40 per cent while the usage of this form of power is lowest in the Toledo District, 41.26 per cent. Kerosene is a more popular source of lighting in Toledo with 49.84 of the lighting used in Toledo supplied from kerosene. Evidently the rural and remote nature of the Toledo District is critical in explaining the limited access to electricity.

Table 6.7: Households by Sources of Lighting and Districts, 2000

Sources of Lighting	Corozal District	Per Cent	Orange Walk District	Per Cent	Belize District	Per Cent	Cayo District	Per Cent	Stann Creek District	Per Cent	Toledo District	Per Cent	Total	Per Cent
Gas Lamp	114	1.70	355	4.51	29	0.18	219	2.02	285	4.85	66	1.47	1068	2.06
Kerosene	618	9.19	804	10.20	569	3.53	1948	17.98	680	11.56	2240	49.84	6859	13.20
Electricity BEL	5751	85.55	6353	80.63	15072	93.40	7780	71.82	4213	71.65	1854	41.26	41023	78.97
Electricity Generator	40	0.60	187	2.37	102	0.63	464	4.28	383	6.51	218	4.85	1394	2.68
Other Not Stated	195	2.90	174	2.21	284	1.76	411	3.79	311	5.29	113	2.51	1488	2.86
Total	6722	100.00	7879	100.00	16137	100.00	10833	100.00	5880	100.00	4494	100.00	51945	100.00

Source: CARICOM

6.2.3. Water

The supply of potable drinking water to homes is much more underdeveloped than the supply of electricity. Table 6.8 shows that 25.99 per cent of homes in the entire country have public water pumped into the dwelling. A further 16.99 per cent have public water pumped into the yard. Overall, access to publicly pumped water into homes is limited to 42.99 per cent of all homes in Belize. A large percentage (31.26 per cent) of all homes maintain their own private vats, drums or wells where water has to be carried from the fixture to the home (Table 6.8).

An urban phenomenon is the use of purified water in homes. In the country, 16.88 per cent of all homes use this type of water. However, 56.37 per cent of all users of purified water reside in the Belize District followed by 18.62 per cent in the Orange Walk District. On the other hand, public stand pipes or hand pumps are rural fixtures and are used by 4.25 per cent of homes in the country. In the Toledo District, 54.06 per cent of households are serviced by stand pipes or hand pumps.

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Public water piped into 45.95 per cent of the dwellings in the country along with public water piped into 20.91 per cent of yards altogether account from 66.86 per cent of homes being serviced with public water for bathing purposes. Overall, only 15.65 per cent of homes in Belize use water from vats, drums or wells for bathing purposes (Table 6.9).

Table 6.8: Household by Main Source of Drinking Water and District, 2000

Sources of Drinking Water	Corozal District		Orange Walk District		Belize District		Cayo District		Stann Creek District		Toledo District		Total	
		Per Cent		Per Cent		Per Cent		Per Cent		Per Cent		Per Cent		Per Cent
Private, Piped Into Dwelling	85	1.26	188	2.39	453	2.81	1038	9.58	199	3.38	87	1.94	2050	3.95
Private, Vat/Drum/Well, Not Piped	4340	64.56	3568	45.28	3621	22.44	1208	11.15	752	12.79	701	15.60	14190	27.32
Public, Piped Into Dwelling	588	8.75	876	11.12	5448	33.76	3653	33.72	2277	38.72	656	14.60	13498	25.99
Public, Piped Into Yard	743	11.05	1398	17.74	1132	7.01	2770	25.57	1802	30.65	983	21.87	8828	16.99
Public Standpipe or Hand Pump	382	5.68	81	1.03	203	1.26	204	1.88	144	2.45	1193	26.55	2207	4.25
Public Well	22	0.33	32	0.41	23	0.14	46	0.42	25	0.43	308	6.85	456	0.88
River/Stream/Creek/Pond/Stream	0	0.00	16	0.20	66	0.41	448	4.14	250	4.25	386	8.59	1166	2.24
Purified Water	512	7.62	1632	20.71	4942	30.63	1293	11.94	273	4.64	115	2.56	8767	16.88
Other	49	0.73	80	1.02	185	1.15	148	1.37	154	2.62	63	1.40	679	1.31
Not Stated	1	0.01	8	0.10	64	0.40	25	0.23	4	0.07	2	0.04	104	0.20
Total	6722	100.00	7879	100.00	16137	100.00	10833	100.00	5880	100.00	4494	100.00	51945	100.00

Source: CARICOM

Table 6.9: Household by Main Source of Bathing Water and District, 2000

Sources of Bathing Water	Corozal District		Orange Walk District		Belize District		Cayo District		Stann Creek District		Toledo District		Total	Per Cent
	Count	Per Cent	Count	Per Cent	Count	Per Cent	Count	Per Cent	Count	Per Cent	Count	Per Cent		
Private, Piped Into Dwelling	313	4.66	298	3.78	1193	7.39	1166	10.76	201	3.42	96	2.14	3297	6.35
Private, Vat/Drum/Well, Not Piped	2695	40.09	2385	30.27	1420	8.80	601	5.55	706	12.01	321	7.14	8225	15.83
Public, Piped Into Dwelling	2017	30.01	2768	35.13	11159	69.15	4650	42.92	2285	38.86	772	17.18	23867	45.95
Public, Piped Into Yard	1237	18.40	2107	26.74	1586	9.83	3135	28.94	1880	31.97	917	20.40	10978	21.13
Public Standpipe or Hand Pump	389	5.79	110	1.40	289	1.79	172	1.59	37	0.63	342	7.61	1350	2.60
Public Well	40	0.60	63	0.80	31	0.19	99	0.91	21	0.36	123	2.74	379.9	0.73
River/Stream/Creek/Pond/Spring	5	0.07	95	1.21	141	0.87	883	8.15	655	11.14	1887	41.99	3687	7.10
Other	12	0.18	41	0.52	194	1.20	91	0.84	80	1.36	19	0.42	441.1	0.85
Don't Know/Not Stated	14	0.21	12	0.15	124	0.77	36	0.33	15	0.26	17	0.38	219.7	0.42
Total	6722	100.00	7879	100.00	16137	100.00	10833	100.00	5880	100.00	4494	100.00	51945	100.00

Source: CARICOM

6.2.4. Fuel for Cooking

Table 6.10 indicates that most households in Belize use gas (Butane) for cooking (79.47 per cent). This is a most convenient source of fuel but there is a significant number of households (15.78 per cent of the households) that use wood as main source of fuel for cooking. All districts with the exception of the Belize District have substantial numbers of households that use wood as fuel. Table 6.11 indicates that 54.83 per cent of the households in the Toledo District use wood. The second highest users of wood are those from the Corozal District with 22.30 per cent of the households using wood as fuel. This is followed by the Orange Walk District with 17.04 per cent, Cayo District with 16.28 per cent and Stann Creek with 13.84 per cent. In the Belize District, the percentage of households using wood as a fuel source is 1.53 per cent while the percentage of households using gas in the Belize District is 90.70 per cent. Few households use Kerosene for cooking and the Stann Creek District accounts for the highest percentage of users with 4.12 per cent of households using this type of fuel.

Table 6.10: Household by Type of Fuel Used Mostly for Cooking and District, 2000

Most Used Cooking Fuel	Corozal District		Orange Walk District		Belize District		Cayo District		Stann Creek District		Toledo District		Total	Per Cent
		Per Cent		Per Cent		Per Cent		Per Cent		Per Cent		Per Cent		
Wood	1566	23.30	1343	17.05	247	1.53	1764	16.28	814	13.84	2464	54.83	8270	15.92
Gas	5014	74.59	6352	80.62	14637	90.70	8853	81.72	4526	76.97	1899	42.26	41686	80.25
Kerosene	43	0.64	49	0.62	341	2.11	69	0.64	242	4.12	37	0.82	789.1	1.52
Electricity	30	0.45	13	0.16	193	1.20	33	0.30	22	0.37	5	0.11	298.5	0.57
Other Not Stated	50	0.74	100	1.27	501	3.10	91	0.84	147	2.50	59	1.31	956.5	1.84
	19	0.28	22	0.28	218	1.35	23	0.21	129	2.19	30	0.67	445.3	0.86
Total	6722	100.00	7879	100.00	16137	100.00	10833	100.00	5880	100.00	4494	100.00	51945	100.00

Source: CARICOM

CHAPTER 7

DISABILITY

Introduction

Persons with disabilities comprise a very special group in the population. They require special services and accommodations and so it is important to have a true representation of the number of persons who are disabled and to be able to discern their special needs. Disabilities range from those which are associated to the physical body of the person, for example disabilities of sight, hearing, speech and mobility, to those which are linked to the mind, for example, learning and behavioral disabilities.

7.1. Disability in Belize

In 2000, 12 386 persons were recorded as having some form of disability. This amounted to 5.34 per cent of the total population. Table 7.2 shows that of these disabled persons, 50.8 per cent were females compared with 49.24 per cent males. Infants and children of compulsory school age (ages 0 to 14 years) constituted a third (33.51 per cent) of all disabled persons. In the general population 0-14 years, 4.36 per cent of children 14 years or younger had some form of disability, this being obtained by combining data from Table 7.1 and Table 7.2.

There is also evidence of a surprising number of young adults, classified as persons between the ages of 15 years and 24 years having some form of disability. This age group constitutes 19.79 per cent of the population of disabled persons or 5.3 per cent of the entire population of the 15 to 24 year age group. Table 7.3 confirms what one would expect from progressively older age groups insofar as there is a tendency for the prevalence of disabilities to increase with age so persons in older age groups were more likely disabled, this being the case irrespective of sex. Accordingly, in the general population 25-44 years, 5.76 per cent of persons were disabled , while among those 45-64 years, 6.51 per cent were disabled and among those 65+ years, 9.73 per cent were disabled (Table 7.3).

Table 7.1: Total Population by Sex and Age Group, 2000

Age Groups	Total	Per Cent	Male	Per Cent	Female	Per Cent
0-14	95102	40.97	48086	41.22	47016	40.73
15-24	46213	19.91	22833	19.57	23380	20.25
25-44	58458	25.19	29068	24.91	29390	25.46
45-64	22594	9.73	11870	10.17	10724	9.29
65+	9744	4.20	4812	4.12	4932	4.27
Total	232111	100.00	116669	100.00	115442	100.00

Source: CSO Belize

Table 7.2: Number of Persons Reporting Disability by Sex and Selected Age Groups, 2000

Age Groups	Total	Per Cent	Male	Per Cent	Female	Per Cent
0-14	4151	33.51	2083	34.15	2068	32.89
15-24	2451	19.79	1210	19.84	1241	19.74
25-44	3366	27.18	1623	26.61	1743	27.72
45-64	1470	11.87	759	12.44	711	11.31
65+	948	7.65	424	6.95	524	8.33
Total	12386	100.00	6099	100.00	6287	100.00

Source: CARICOM

Table 7.3: Percentage of General Population Reporting Disability by Sex and Age Group, 2000

Age Group	Total Population	Total Disabled	Total Per Cent Disabled	Total Male Population	Male Disabled	Per Cent Male Disabled	Total Female Population	Female Disabled	Per Cent Female Disabled
0-14	95102	4151	4.36	48086	2083	4.33	47016	2068	4.40
15-24	46213	2451	5.30	22833	1210	5.30	23380	1241	5.31
25-44	58458	3366	5.76	29068	1623	5.58	29390	1743	5.93
45-64	22594	1470	6.51	11870	759	6.39	10724	711	6.63
65+	9744	948	9.73	4812	424	8.81	4932	524	10.62
Total	232111	12386	5.34	116669	6099	5.23	115442	6287	5.45

Source: CSO Belize and CARICOM

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In the age groups 0 to 14 years and 45 to 64 years, males are slightly more prone to disabilities than women, the respective proportion cases being male amounting to 51.2 per cent and 51.63 per cent (Table 7.2). Regarding females, the corresponding percentages were 49.82 among those 0-14 years and 48.37 among those 45-64 years. Females 65+ years were especially prone to disabilities with 55.27 per cent of the cases being female. This over representation is real since 51.62 per cent of those in 65+ in the general population are females (See Table 7.1).

CHAPTER 8

CHILDREN

Introduction

Children constitute a vital segment of any population. In the following discussion persons 14 years or younger are classified as children. In Belize, infants range between the ages of 0 years to 4 years and children 5 to 14 years of age are required by law to be in school. Clearly, it is important to investigate the economic status, housing arrangements, attendance at schools, special needs and infirmaries of children so that resources can be allotted in a rational manner to meet and satisfy their needs. This Chapter provides a profile of the children and takes these issues into consideration.

8.1. Children and Characteristics of Household Head

8.1.1. Sex of Household Head

There were 94 808 children 14 years or younger living in Belize in 2000. Table 8.1 shows that 78.24 per cent of these children came from male-headed households. As children get older however, there was a decrease in the number that came from male-headed households. While 35.92 per cent of the children in the 0 to 4 years age group belong to households with male heads, the corresponding proportions among children aged 5 to 9 years and 10 to 14 years are 33.5 per cent and 30.57 per cent respectively (Table 8.1). In contrast, there is an increase in the number of children who are from female-headed households as children get older.

Table 8.1: Number of Children by Selected Age Groups and Sex of Head of Household, 2000

Age Group	Male Heads	Per Cent	Female Heads	Per Cent	Total	Per Cent
0-4	26649	35.92	6675	32.36	33324	35.15
0-5	24855	33.50	6942	33.66	31797	33.54
10-14	22679	30.57	7009	33.98	29688	31.31
Total	74183	100.00	20626	100.00	94809	100.00

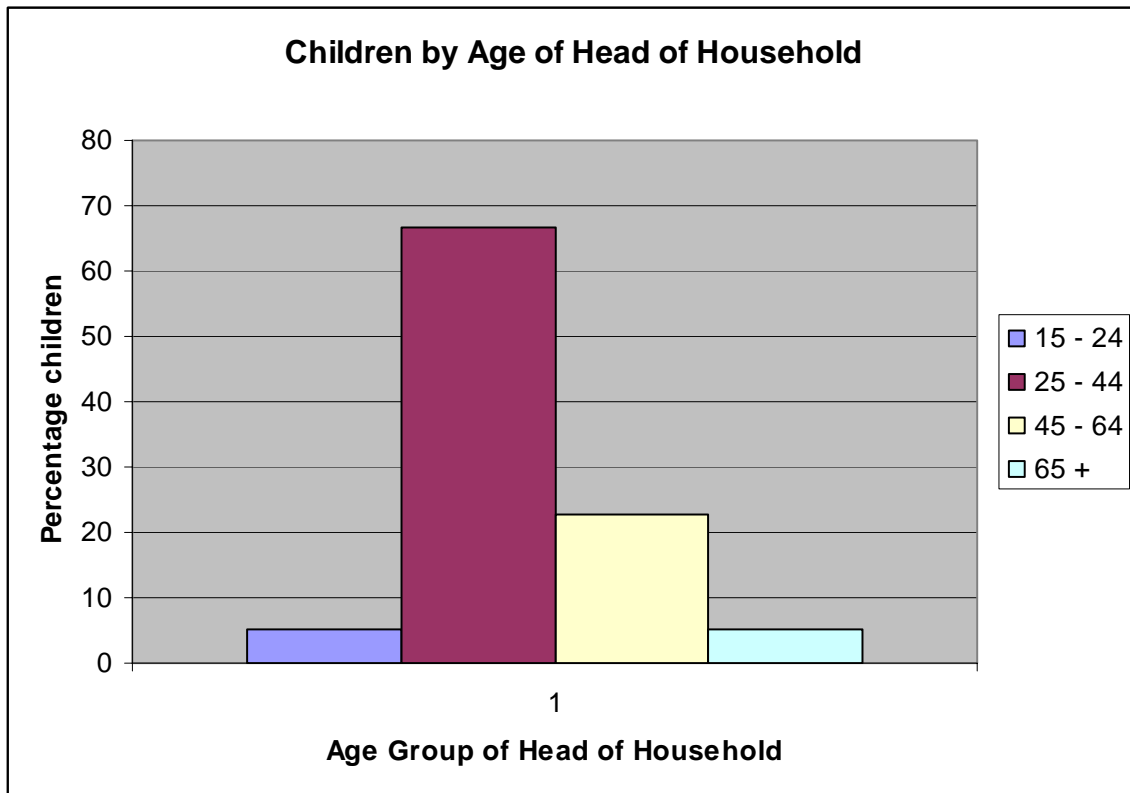
Source: CARICOM

Note: Number of children (94 809) differs from the corresponding figure in Table 1.5 (95 102)

8.1.2. Age of Household Head

Table 8.2(a) shows that most children (66.82 per cent) are from households in which the head is 25 to 44 years old. A substantial percentage (22.74 per cent) of children is from households in which the head is 45-64 years. While 5.34 per cent of the children live in households with young heads (15 to 24 years), only 5.11 per cent of the children are from households with heads in the 65+ age group.

Figure 8.1: Percentage Children by Age of Head of Household, 2000



Heads 15 to 24 years old: A total of 3 800 children or 11.4 per cent of children 0 to 4 years old are from households with heads in the 15 to 24 year age group. Furthermore, there are 364 children (1.23 per cent) in the 10 to 14 years age group living in households with heads 15 years to 24 years. This implies that at the worst, a person could be responsible for a child a few years their junior. It is the case however, that 15 to 24 year old heads of household’s take care mainly of 0 to 4 year old children (Table 8.2).

With respect to head of household, the 15 to 24 years age group, the number of children in male-headed households is greater than the number in female-headed households by a factor that is greater than two. In fact, 68.65 per cent of children are from male-headed households in the 15 to 24 year age group.

Heads 25 to 44 years old: Most of the children live in households with heads in the age group 25 to 44 years. Such persons head households containing 66.82 per cent of all children under 15 years. Of these, male headed households contain 79.58 per cent of all children under 15 years of age while their female counterparts head households containing 20.42 per cent of these children.

Heads aged 25-44 years cared for approximately 35 per cent of 0 to 4 year olds and 5 to 9 year olds. In successively older age groups, it is also the case that there are fewer children in male-headed households. In contrast, the opposite holds true in female-headed households in which there are larger numbers of children in successively older age groups. Nevertheless, male heads took care of three times as many children in the 10 to 14 years age group when compared to their female counterparts.

Heads 45 to 64 years old: Heads in this age group tend to be more likely to take care of older children. Table 8.2(b) indicates that 41.877 per cent of children cared for by these heads were in the 10 to 14 years age group, 31.69 per cent in the 5 to 9 years age group and 26.54 per cent in the 0 to 4 years age group.

Table 8.2(a): Number of Children by Selected Age Groups, Sex and Age Group of Head of Household, 2000

Age Group of Children	Age Group of Head of Households								Total
	15-24	Per Cent	25-44	Per Cent	45-64	Per Cent	65 +	Per Cent	
All Heads									
0-4	3800	11.40	22314	66.96	5720	17.16	1490	4.47	33324
0-9	895	2.81	22485	70.71	6831	21.48	1586	4.99	31797
10-14	364	1.23	18551	62.49	9005	30.33	1768	5.96	29688
Total	5059	5.34	63350	66.82	21556	22.74	4844	5.11	94809
Male Heads									
0-4	2728	10.24	18602	69.80	4365	16.38	954	3.58	26649
0-9	502	2.02	17914	72.07	5395	21.71	1044	4.20	24855
10-14	243	1.07	13900	61.29	7376	32.52	1160	5.11	22679
Total	3473	4.68	50416	67.96	17136	23.10	3158	4.26	74183
Female Heads									
0-4	1072	16.06	3712	55.61	1355	20.30	536	8.03	6675
0-9	393	5.66	4571	65.85	1436	20.69	542	7.81	6942
10-14	121	1.73	4651	66.36	1629	23.24	608	8.67	7009
Total	1586	7.69	12934	62.71	4420	21.43	1686	8.17	20626

Source: CARICOM

Note: Number of children (94 809) differs from the corresponding figure in Table 1.5 (95 102)

Table 8.2(b): Number of Children by Selected Age Groups, Sex and Age Group of Head of Household, 2000

Age Group of Children	Age Groups of Head of Household								Total	Per Cent
	15-24	Per Cent	25-44	Per Cent	45-64	Per Cent	65 +	Per Cent		
All Heads										
0-4	3800	75.11	22314	35.22	5720	26.54	1490	30.76	33324	35.15
0-9	895	17.69	22485	35.49	6831	31.69	1586	32.74	31797	33.54
10-14	364	7.20	18551	29.28	9005	41.77	1768	36.50	29688	31.31
Total	5059	100.00	63350	100.00	21556	100.00	4844	100.00	94809	100.00
Male Heads										
0-4	2728	78.55	18602	36.90	4365	25.47	954	30.21	26649	35.92
0-9	502	14.45	17914	35.53	5395	31.48	1044	33.06	24855	33.50
10-14	243	7.00	13900	27.57	7376	43.04	1160	36.73	22679	30.57
Total	3473	100.00	50416	100.00	17136	100.00	3158	100.00	74183	100.00
Female Heads										
0-4	1072	67.59	3712	28.70	1355	30.66	536	31.79	6675	32.36
0-9	393	24.78	4571	35.34	1436	32.49	542	32.15	6942	33.66
10-14	121	7.63	4651	35.96	1629	36.86	608	36.06	7009	33.98
Total	1586	100.00	12934	100.00	4420	100.00	1686	100.00	20626	100.00

Source: CARICOM

Note: Number of children (94 809) differs from the corresponding figure in Table 1.5 (95 102)

Heads 65 + years old: Heads in this age group care for as many children as heads in the 15 to 24 years age group (5.2 per cent). However, the 65+ age group show traits similar to those of the 45 to 64 years age group as they tend to take care of a greater number of the older children. Evidently, however, female heads are beginning to catch up with their males counterparts with respect to the number of children cared for. Males in this age group take care of 1.9 times as many children than females.

8.2. Children In Overcrowded Households

Tables 8.3(a) and 8.3(b) indicate that, 63.52 per cent of children less than 15 years old live in overcrowded households. Evidently, 64.47 per cent of children in the 0 to 4 years age group live in overcrowded households while for the 5 to 14 years age group the percentage living in overcrowded households is 63.01 per cent. Overcrowding is almost equally distributed between

the sexes. It is seen that 63.64 per cent of males under 15 years and 63.40 per cent of females in this same age group live in overcrowded households. In the less than 5 years age group 65.10 per cent of males and 63.83 per cent of females live in overcrowded households.

Overcrowding for children less than 15 years is most pronounced in the Corozal District with 68.20 per cent of children in this district living in overcrowded homes. This is followed by the Stann Creek District (67.71 per cent) and the Orange Walk and Cayo Districts (66.81 and 65.85 per cent respectively). In the Belize District 58.06 per cent of children less than 15 years old lived in overcrowded conditions while Toledo District is where the least overcrowded households lived in by children less than 15 years resided with 56.39 per cent of children living in overcrowded households.

Table 8.3(a): Number of Children in Overcrowded Households by Selected Age Groups, Sex and District, 2000

District and Sex of Children	Age Group of Children						Total	Per Cent
	0-4	Per Cent	5-9	Per Cent	10-14	Per Cent		
Country Totals								
Corozal	2886	13.37	3107	15.16	2807	15.31	8800	14.57
Orange Walk	3502	16.23	3614	17.64	3372	18.39	10488	17.36
Belize District	4986	23.11	4476	21.84	3900	21.26	13362	22.12
Cayo	5207	24.13	5024	24.52	4340	23.66	14571	24.12
Stann Creek	2674	12.39	2190	10.69	1981	10.80	6845	11.33
Toledo	2323	10.77	2081	10.16	1940	10.58	6344	10.50
Total	21578		20492		18340		60410	
Males								
Corozal	1451	13.20	1549	15.01	1393	14.99	4393	14.35
Orange Walk	1803	16.40	1805	17.49	1726	18.58	5334	17.43
Belize District	2596	23.62	2247	21.77	1942	20.90	6785	22.17
Cayo	2635	23.97	2565	24.85	2292	24.67	7492	24.48
Stann Creek	1316	11.97	1107	10.72	976	10.50	3399	11.11
Toledo	1190	10.83	1049	10.16	962	10.35	3201	10.46
Total	10991		10322		9291		30604	
Females								
Corozal	1435	13.55	1558	15.32	1414	15.63	4407	14.79
Orange Walk	1699	16.05	1809	17.79	1646	18.19	5154	17.29
Belize District	2390	22.57	2229	21.92	1958	21.64	6577	22.07
Cayo	2572	24.29	2459	24.18	2048	22.63	7079	23.75
Stann Creek	1358	12.83	1083	10.65	1005	11.11	3446	11.56
Toledo	1133	10.70	1032	10.15	978	10.81	3143	10.54
Total	10587		10170		9049		29806	

Source: CARICOM

Table 8.3(b): Number of Children by Selected Age Groups, Sex and District, 2000

District and Sex Children	Age Groups of Children					
	0-4	Per Cent	5-14	Per Cent	Total	Per Cent
Corozal	4219	12.61	8684	14.09	12903	13.57
Orange Walk	5244	15.67	10455	16.96	15699	16.51
Belize District	8210	24.53	14803	24.02	23013	24.20
Cayo	7780	23.24	14348	23.28	22128	23.27
Stann Creek	3824	11.43	6285	10.20	10109	10.63
Toledo	4193	12.53	7057	11.45	11250	11.83
Total	33470		61632		95102	
Males						
Corozal	2113	12.51	4317	13.84	6430	13.37
Orange Walk	2710	16.05	5295	16.97	8005	16.65
Belize District	4175	24.73	7441	23.85	11616	24.16
Cayo	3901	23.10	7402	23.72	11303	23.51
Stann Creek	1900	11.25	3201	10.26	5101	10.61
Toledo	2085	12.35	3546	11.36	5631	11.71
Total	16884		31202		48086	
Females						
Corozal	2106	12.70	4367	14.35	6473	13.77
Orange Walk	2534	15.28	5160	16.96	7694	16.36
Belize District	4035	24.33	7362	24.19	11397	24.24
Cayo	3879	23.39	6946	22.83	10825	23.02
Stann Creek	1924	11.60	3084	10.13	5008	10.65
Toledo	2108	12.71	3511	11.54	5619	11.95
Total	16586		30430		47016	

Source: Population Census 2000, CSO, Belize

Note: Number of children differs from corresponding in Table 8.2 but corresponds to figures in Table 1.5

8.3. Children's School Attendance

Table 8.4 shows that about 72.47 per cent of children between the ages of 0 years and 14 years attended school and this attendance rate is also true for males and females. Majority of the children attending school are from male-headed households (76.23 per cent).

The occupation of the head of household seems to have a significant effect on school attendance of children. It is seen that 81.08 per cent of children from households with heads in the Defense

Force attends school (Table 8.5). The percentage of children from households with a Legislator, Senior Official or Manager attending school is 80.31 per cent while the percentage of children from households headed by Skilled Agriculture and Fishery Workers who attended school was 65.42 per cent. A notably high proportion of children (74.45 per cent) from households in which the head was not working attended school.

The occupation of heads of households seems to affect the school attendance of male and female children differently. For male children, school attendance was high among those who came from households where the head was from the Defense Force with approximately 85 per cent or worked as a Legislator, Senior Official or Manager with approximately 81 per cent. The lowest school attendance was evident among male children with household heads employed as Skilled Agriculture and Fishery Workers.

In the case of female children, school attendance was highest for those who came from households with Professional heads followed by those who came from households with technical and associate heads (approximately 81 per cent and 80 per cent respectively). In the case of female children from households where the head was from the Defense Force, a lower proportion (approximately 78 per cent) attended school. Similar to the males, females from households where heads were employed as Skilled Agriculture and Fishery Workers had the lowest school attendance.

The educational levels of the heads of households also seem to have a bearing on the school attendance rates of children. In general, as the level of education of household heads increased, the percentage of children attending school also increased (Table 8.6). Accordingly, approximately 82 per cent of children from households whose heads had Technical College and University background attended school. For households where the heads had no education, the percentage of children attending school was approximately 69. A notably high proportion of approximately 86 per cent was recorded for the 'Other' category (Table 8.6) but this was most likely an artifact of the small number of children in this category.

Table 8.4: Number of Children Attending and Not Attending School by Sex of Head of Household and Sex of Children, 2000

Head of Households						
School Attendance And Sex of Child	Male	Per Cent	Female	Per Cent	Total	Per cent
Country Totals						
Attending	44795	70.97	13967	77.73	58762	72.47
Not Attending	18252	28.92	3991	22.21	22243	27.43
Not Stated	72	0.11	11	0.06	83	0.10
Total	63119	100.00	17969	100.00	81088	100.00
Males						
Attending	22819	71.37	6975	77.13	29794	72.64
Not Attending	9112	28.50	2063	22.81	11175	27.25
Not Stated	40	0.13	5	0.06	45	0.11
Total	31971	100.00	9043	100.00	41014	100.00
Females						
Attending	21976	70.55	6992	78.33	28968	72.29
Not Attending	9140	29.34	1928	21.60	11068	27.62
Not Stated	32	0.10	6	0.07	38	0.09
Total	31148	100.00	8926	100.00	40074	100.00

Source: CARICOM

Note: number of children attending or not attending school (81 088) differs from the total number of children in Table 8.1 (94 809)

8.4. Children With Disabilities

In the general population, 2.45 per cent of all children between the ages of 0 and 14 years reported some form of disability. There was a little variation at the national level when the different age groups were considered. As such, 2.67 per cent of all 10 to 14 year olds, 2.15 per cent of all 5 to 9 year olds and 2.54 per cent of all 0 to 4 year olds reported some form of disability (Table 8.7). When the sex of children was taken into account, 2.6 per cent of the males and 2.3 per cent of the females were so afflicted.

Table 8.7 demonstrates that the Cayo District posted the highest percentage of disability rates across all age groups of children with 28.76 per cent in the 0 to 4 years age group, 28.28 per cent in the 5 to 9 years age group and 28.03 per cent in the 10 to 14 years age group.

Table 8.5: Number of Children Attending and Not Attending School by Occupational Status of Head of Household and Sex of Children, 2000

Occupation of Head of Household and Sex of Children	Attending School						Total	Per Cent
	Yes	Per Cent	No	Per Cent	Not Stated	Per Cent		
Country Counts								
Legislators, Senior Officials and Managers	2717	4.62	663	2.98	3	3.61	3383	4.17
Professionals	1105	1.88	273	1.23	-	-	1378	1.70
Technicians & Associate Professionals	3144	5.35	803	3.61	5	6.02	3952	4.87
Clerks	1393	2.37	372	1.67	-	-	1765	2.18
Service Workers & Shop & Market Sales Workers	3628	6.17	1156	5.20	3	3.61	4787	5.90
Skilled Agriculture and Fishery Workers	7858	13.37	4140	18.61	13	15.66	12011	14.81
Craft & Related Trades Workers	7645	13.01	2863	12.87	5	6.02	10513	12.96
Plant & Machine Operators & Assemblers	5221	8.88	1772	7.97	11	13.25	7004	8.64
Elementary Occupations	13169	22.41	5795	26.05	11	13.25	18975	23.40
Defense Force	60	0.10	14	0.06	-	-	74	0.09
Not Working	12543	21.35	4273	19.21	31	37.35	16847	20.78
Not Stated	279	0.47	119	0.53	1	1.20	399	0.49
Total	58762	100.00	22243	100.00	83	100.00	81088	100.00
Males								
Legislators, Senior Officials and Managers	1358	4.56	321	2.87	2	4.44	1681	4.10
Professionals	553	1.86	147	1.32	-	-	700	1.71
Technicians & Associate Professionals	1581	5.31	417	3.73	3	6.67	2001	4.88
Clerks	735	2.47	180	1.61	-	-	915	2.23
Service Workers & Shop & Market Sales Workers	1812	6.08	583	5.22	1	2.22	2396	5.84
Skilled Agriculture and Fishery Workers	4052	13.60	2034	18.20	7	15.56	6093	14.86
Craft & Related Trades Workers	3895	13.07	1411	12.63	2	4.44	5308	12.94
Plant & Machine Operators & Assemblers	2681	9.00	866	7.75	3	6.67	3550	8.66
Elementary Occupations	6617	22.21	2926	26.18	11	24.44	9554	23.29
Defense Force	28	0.09	5	0.04	-	-	33	0.08
Not Working	6343	21.29	2229	19.95	15	33.33	8587	20.94
Not Stated	139	0.47	56	0.50	1	2.22	196	0.48
Total	29794	100.00	11175	100.00	45	100.00	41014	100.00
Females								
Legislators, Senior Officials and Managers	1359	4.69	342	3.09	1	2.63	1702	4.25
Professionals	552	1.91	126	1.14	-	-	678	1.69
Technicians & Associate Professionals	1563	5.40	386	3.49	2	5.26	1951	4.87
Clerks	658	2.27	192	1.73	-	-	850	2.12
Service Workers & Shop & Market Sales Workers	1816	6.27	573	5.18	2	5.26	2391	5.97
Skilled Agriculture and Fishery Workers	3806	13.14	2106	19.03	6	15.79	5918	14.77
Craft & Related Trades Workers	3750	12.95	1452	13.12	3	7.89	5205	12.99
Plant & Machine Operators & Assemblers	2540	8.77	906	8.19	8	21.05	3454	8.62
Elementary Occupations	6552	22.62	2869	25.92	-	-	9421	23.51
Defense Force	32	0.11	9	0.08	-	-	41	0.10
Not Working	6200	21.40	2044	18.47	16	42.11	8260	20.61
Not Stated	140	0.48	63	0.57	-	-	203	0.51
Total	28968	100.00	11068	100.00	38	100.00	40074	100.00

Source: CARICOM

Note: Number of children attending or not attending school (81 088) differs from the total number of children in Table 8.1 (94 809)

Table 8.6: Number of Children Attending and Not Attending School by Educational Level of Head of Household and Sex of Children, 2000

Education of Head and Sex of Children	Attending School						Total	Per Cent
	Yes	Per Cent	No	Per Cent	Not Stated	Per Cent		
Country Counts								
None	22635	38.81	10401	46.96	19	22.89	33055	41.03
Primary School	25286	43.35	9031	40.77	32	38.55	34349	42.64
High School	5568	9.55	1571	7.09	2	2.41	7141	8.86
Sixth Form	1896	3.25	490	2.21	4	4.82	2390	2.97
Technical College	1035	1.77	221	1.00	0	0.00	1256	1.56
University	1328	2.28	295	1.33	3	3.61	1626	2.02
Other	130	0.22	21	0.09	0	0.00	151	0.19
Don't Know/Not Stated	450	0.77	119	0.54	23	27.71	592	0.73
Total	58328	100.00	22149	100.00	83	100.00	80560	100.00
Males								
None	11648	39.40	5192	46.64	13	28.89	16853	41.37
Primary School	12716	43.02	4582	41.16	17	37.78	17315	42.50
High School	2796	9.46	799	7.18	2	4.44	3597	8.83
Sixth Form	946	3.20	235	2.11	0	0.00	1181	2.90
Technical College	514	1.74	110	0.99	0	0.00	624	1.53
University	652	2.21	152	1.37	2	4.44	806	1.98
Other	71	0.24	6	0.05	0	0.00	77	0.19
Don't Know/Not Stated	218	0.74	56	0.50	11	24.44	285	0.70
Total	29561	100.00	11132	100.00	45	100.00	40738	100.00
Females								
None	10987	38.19	5209	47.28	6	15.79	16202	40.69
Primary School	12570	43.70	4449	40.38	15	39.47	17034	42.78
High School	2772	9.64	772	7.01	0	0.00	3544	8.90
Sixth Form	950	3.30	255	2.31	4	10.53	1209	3.04
Technical College	521	1.81	111	1.01	0	0.00	632	1.59
University	676	2.35	143	1.30	1	2.63	820	2.06
Other	59	0.21	15	0.14	0	0.00	74	0.19
Don't Know/Not Stated	232	0.81	63	0.57	12	31.58	307	0.77
Total	28767	100.00	11017	100.00	38	100.00	39822	100.00

Source: CARICOM

Note: Number of children attending or not attending school (80 560) differs from the total number of children in Table 8.5 (81 088)

Table 8.7: Number of Children Reporting Disability by Sex, Age Group and District, 2000

Sex of Children and District	0-4	Per Cent	5-9	Per cent	10-14	Per cent	Total	Per Cent
Country Totals								
Corozal	88	10.41	100	14.58	127	16.04	315	13.56
Orange Walk	106	12.54	81	11.81	146	18.43	333	14.33
Belize District	164	19.41	119	17.35	120	15.15	403	17.35
Cayo	243	28.76	194	28.28	222	28.03	659	28.37
Stann Creek	48	5.68	71	10.35	63	7.95	182	7.83
Toledo	196	23.20	121	17.64	114	14.39	431	18.55
Total	845	100.00	686	100.00	792	100.00	2323	100.00
Males								
Corozal	49	11.29	52	13.44	75	18.03	176	14.23
Orange Walk	57	13.13	51	13.18	83	19.95	191	15.44
Belize District	87	20.05	79	20.41	64	15.38	230	18.59
Cayo	118	27.19	101	26.10	109	26.20	328	26.52
Stann Creek	23	5.30	37	9.56	29	6.97	89	7.19
Toledo	100	23.04	67	17.31	56	13.46	223	18.03
Total	434	100.00	387	100.00	416	100.00	1237	100.00
Females								
Corozal	39	9.49	48	16.05	52	13.83	139	12.80
Orange Walk	49	11.92	30	10.03	63	16.76	142	13.08
Belize District	77	18.73	40	13.38	56	14.89	173	15.93
Cayo	125	30.41	93	31.10	113	30.05	331	30.48
Stann Creek	25	6.08	34	11.37	34	9.04	93	8.56
Toledo	96	23.36	54	18.06	58	15.43	208	19.15
Total	411	100.00	299	100.00	376	100.00	1086	100.00

Source: CARICOM

Note: The total number of children with disability (2 323) differs from the corresponding figure in Table 7.2 (4 151)

High rates in the Cayo District were also evident when sex was accounted for. In particular, in the 0 to 4 year age group, the percentage male children with disability are 27.19 per cent while for females it is 30.41 per cent. In the 5 to 9 age group, the percentages are 26.10 and 3.10 for males and females respectively while in the 10-14 age group the percentages are 26.20 and 30.05.

CHAPTER 9

YOUTH

Introduction

Youth are classified as persons between the ages of 15 years and 24 years. They are no longer required to attend secondary school, since compulsory secondary school age ends at 14 years but may decide to continue their education. This is the time for many youth when employment begins or when they go on their own to start their own families. This Chapter provides a brief profile of youth as classified into two age groups; 15 to 19 years and 20 to 24 years.

9.1. Households

In 2000, there were 46 224 youth living in Belize with about half (50.61 per cent) being females. Youth's in Belize account for 19.91 per cent of the general population.

Most youth live in households headed by males (75.86 per cent) but when divided into age groups 15 to 19 years and 20 to 24 years, a difference is observed. Table 9.2 indicates that a greater number of older youth live in households with heads in the 15 to 24 year age range than in households with older heads.

It is seen that 74.3 per cent of youth living in households with heads in the 15 to 24 year age group are between 20 and 24 years old. This percentage is almost reversed for households with heads older than 24 years. In households with heads in the 25 to 44 year age group the percentage of youth 15 to 19 years is 64.55 per cent while the percentage of youth 20 to 24 years is 35.45 per cent.

Table 9.1: Number of Youth by Selected Age Groups and Sex of Head of Household, 2000

Age Group	Sex of Heads				Total
	Male	Per Cent	Female	Per Cent	
15-19	19137	74.75	6463	25.25	25600
20-24	15933	77.25	4691	22.75	20624
Total	35070	75.86	11154	24.13	46224

Source: CARICOM

Note: The total number of youths (46 224) differs from the corresponding figures of 46 213 based on tables 1.5 and 1.6.

Table 9.2: Number of Youth by Selected Age Groups, Sex and Age Group of Head of Household, 2000

Age of Youth/Sex Head	of of	Age of Head								Total	Per Cent
		15-24	Per Cent	25-44	Per Cent	45-64	Per Cent	65 +	Per Cent		
All Heads											
15-19		2056	25.70	11535	64.55	10251	59.72	1758	55.09	25600	55.38
20-24		5943	74.30	6335	35.45	6913	40.28	1433	44.91	20624	44.62
Total		7999	100.00	17870	100.00	17164	100.00	3191	100.00	46224	100.00
Male Heads											
15-19		1598	25.18	8180	62.13	8211	61.23	1148	53.52	19137	54.57
20-24		4749	74.82	4987	37.87	5200	38.77	997	46.48	15933	45.43
Total		6347	100.00	13167	100.00	13411	100.00	2145	100.00	35070	100.00
Female Heads											
15-19		458	27.72	3355	71.34	2040	54.36	610	58.32	6463	57.94
20-24		1194	72.28	1348	28.66	1713	45.64	436	41.68	4691	42.06
Total		1652	100.00	4703	100.00	3753	100.00	1046	100.00	11154	100.00

Source: CARICOM

Note: The total number of youths (46 224) differs from the corresponding figures of 46 213 based on tables 1.5 and 1.6.

9.2. School Attendance

Based on Table 9.3, about a quarter (25.58 per cent) of all youth was attending school during the week of the census. Virtually similar numbers of male and female youth attended with 51 per cent females versus 49 per cent males. There were more youth from male headed households attending school (69.93 per cent) than youth from female-headed households.

The highest rate of school attendance was among those who lived in households where heads engaged in Professional occupations. About 50.25 per cent of the youth from households with Professional heads attended school. The next highest rate of school attendance among youth was among those living in households where heads engaged in Technical and Associate Professional occupations or was Legislators, Senior Officials and Managers. Approximately 43 per cent of the youth from these households attended school. The lowest rate of school attendance was among Skilled Agriculture and Fishery Workers with only 12.91 per cent of the youth from these households attending school. These patterns persisted irrespective of the sex of the youth (See Table 9.4a and Table 9.4b).

Youth from households with higher human capital were more likely to attend school. Table 9.5 show higher rates of school attendance among youth from households where heads had higher levels of education, particularly in the case of those heads with education at a technical level.

Table 9.3: Number of Youth Attending and Not Attending School by Sex of Head of Household and Sex of Youth, 2000

Attending School/ of Youth	Sex of Heads		Sex of Youth		Total	Per Cent
	Males	Per Cent	Females	Per Cent		
All Youth						
Yes	8269	23.58	3556	31.88	11825	25.58
No	26761	76.31	7576	67.92	34337	74.28
Not Stated	40	0.11	22	0.20	62	0.13
Total	35070	100.00	11154	100.00	46224	100.00
Males						
Yes	4206	23.77	1590	30.99	5796	25.39
No	13470	76.11	3531	68.83	17001	74.47
Not Stated	22	0.12	9	0.18	31	0.14
Total	17698	100.00	5130	100.00	22828	100.00
Females						
Yes	4063	23.39	1966	32.64	6029	25.77
No	13291	76.51	4045	67.15	17336	74.10
Not Stated	18	0.10	13	0.22	31	0.13
Total	17372	100.00	6024	100.00	23396	100.00

Source: CARICOM

Note: The total number of youths (46 224) differs from the corresponding figures of 46 213 based on tables 1.5 and 1.6.

Table 9.4(a): Number of Youth Attending and Not Attending School by Occupational Status of Head of Household and Sex of Youth, 2000

Sex of Youth and Head Occupation	Attending School						Total
	Yes	Per Cent	No	Per Cent	Not Stated	Per Cent	
Male Youth							
Legislators, Senior Officials and Managers	441	44.46	551	55.54	0	0.00	992
Professionals	204	53.83	174	45.91	1	0.26	379
Technicians & Associate Professionals	485	46.10	567	53.90	0	0.00	1052
Clerks	200	37.59	331	62.22	1	0.19	532
Service Workers & Shop & Market Sales Workers	388	28.24	984	71.62	2	0.15	1374
Skilled Agriculture and Fishery Workers	407	13.50	2608	86.50	0	0.00	3015
Craft & Related Trades Workers	691	25.20	2049	74.73	2	0.07	2742
Plant & Machine Operators & Assemblers	521	29.30	1257	70.70	0	0.00	1778
Elementary Occupations	1028	18.68	4470	81.23	5	0.09	5503
Defence Force	3	21.43	11	78.57	0	0.00	14
Not Working	1395	26.25	3900	73.38	20	0.38	5315
Not Stated	33	25.00	99	75.00	0	0.00	132
Total	5796	25.39	17001	74.47	31	0.14	22828
Female Youth							
Legislators, Senior Officials and Managers	425	40.79	617	59.21	0	0.00	1042
Professionals	203	47.10	226	52.44	2	0.46	431
Technicians & Associate Professionals	516	40.86	745	58.99	2	0.16	1263
Clerks	213	33.81	417	66.19	0	0.00	630
Service Workers & Shop & Market Sales Workers	486	29.72	1148	70.21	1	0.06	1635
Skilled Agriculture and Fishery Workers	358	12.31	2550	87.66	1	0.03	2909
Craft & Related Trades Workers	786	26.46	2184	73.51	1	0.03	2971
Plant & Machine Operators & Assemblers	501	26.12	1415	73.77	2	0.10	1918
Elementary Occupations	1074	20.65	4127	79.33	1	0.02	5202
Defence Force	3	23.08	10	76.92	0	0.00	13
Not Working	1441	27.42	3793	72.18	21	0.40	5255
Not Stated	23	18.11	104	81.89	0	0.00	127
Total	6029	25.77	17336	74.10	31	0.13	23396

Source: CARICOM

Note: The total number of youths (46 224) differs from the corresponding figures of 46 213 based on tables 1.5 and 1.6.

Table 9.4(b): Number of Youth Attending and Not Attending School by Occupational Status of Head of Household and Sex of Youth, 2000

Sex of Youth and Occupation of Head	Attending School			Per Cent	Not Stated	Per Cent	Total
	Yes	Per Cent	No				
Both Sexes							
Legislators, Senior Officials and Managers	866	42.58	1168	57.42	0	0.00	2034
Professionals	407	50.25	400	49.38	3	0.37	810
Technicians & Associate Professionals	1001	43.24	1312	56.67	2	0.09	2315
Clerks	413	35.54	748	64.37	1	0.09	1162
Service Workers & Shop & Market Sales Workers	874	29.05	2132	70.85	3	0.10	3009
Skilled Agriculture and Fishery Workers	765	12.91	5158	87.07	1	0.02	5924
Craft & Related Trades Workers	1477	25.85	4233	74.09	3	0.05	5713
Plant & Machine Operators & Assemblers	1022	27.65	2672	72.29	2	0.05	3696
Elementary Occupations	2102	19.64	8597	80.31	6	0.06	10705
Defence Force	6	22.22	21	77.78	0	0.00	27
Not Working	2836	26.83	7693	72.78	41	0.39	10570
Not Stated	56	21.62	203	78.38	0	0.00	259
Total	11825	25.58	34337	74.28	62	0.13	46224

Source: CARICOM

Note: The total number of youths (46 224) differs from the corresponding figures of 46 213 based on tables 1.5 and 1.6.

Table 9.5: Number of Youth Attending and Not Attending School by Educational Level Attained by Head of Household and Sex of Youth, 2000

Head's Education/ Sex of Youth	Attending School						Total	Per Cent
	Yes	Per Cent	No	Per Cent	Not Stated	Per Cent		
All Youth								
None	2962	25.58	14375	42.01	16	25.81	17353	37.84
Primary School	5396	46.61	14993	43.81	17	27.42	20406	44.50
Secondary School	1568	13.54	2914	8.52	2	3.23	4484	9.78
Technical School	404	3.49	353	1.03	2	3.23	759	1.66
Tertiary Schools	1051	9.08	1326	3.88	5	8.06	2382	5.19
Other	41	0.35	30	0.09	0	0.00	71	0.15
Not Stated	156	1.35	228	0.67	20	32.26	404	0.88
Total	11578	100.00	34219	100.00	62	100.00	45859	100.00
Male Youth								
None	1547	27.24	7405	43.67	6	19.35	8958	39.52
Primary School	2569	45.24	7404	43.66	11	35.48	9984	44.05
Secondary School	754	13.28	1288	7.60	1	3.23	2043	9.01
Technical School	179	3.15	168	0.99	0	0.00	347	1.53
Tertiary Schools	529	9.32	571	3.37	3	9.68	1103	4.87
Other	24	0.42	16	0.09	0	0.00	40	0.18
Not Stated	77	1.36	105	0.62	10	32.26	192	0.85
Total	5679	100.00	16957	100.00	31	100.00	22667	100.00
Female Youth								
None	1415	23.99	6970	40.38	10	32.26	8395	36.20
Primary School	2827	47.92	7589	43.96	6	19.35	10422	44.94
Secondary School	814	13.80	1626	9.42	1	3.23	2441	10.53
Technical School	225	3.81	185	1.07	2	6.45	412	1.78
Tertiary Schools	522	8.85	755	4.37	2	6.45	1279	5.51
Other	17	0.29	14	0.08	0	0.00	31	0.13
Not Stated	79	1.34	123	0.71	10	32.26	212	0.91
Total	5899	100.00	17262	100.00	31	100.00	23192	100.00

Source: CARICOM

Note: Total youth (45 859) differs from the corresponding figure in Tables 9.1 to 9.4 9 (46 224)

9.3. Working Youth

Educational levels of youth 15 to 24 years range from no education to university education. In general, youth who attain higher levels of education seem more likely to be working when compared to their counterparts who attain lower levels of education. Youth with primary or less education were less likely to be working than to be in a job. For those youth who were working, 73.89 per cent had a primary school education or less while for those youth who were not working about 83.25 per cent had primary school level or less education (Table 9.6 (a)).

This trend is especially relevant for youth in the 20 to 24 years age group where the percentage of youth with primary school education or less who worked or did not work was 64.58 per cent and 78.39 per cent respectively. Those youth with secondary or technical school education were more likely to be working than not with 16.04 per cent of youth with this level of education working compared with 12.57 per cent who were not working.

Table 9.7 indicates that equal proportions of males and females with primary education or less were not working across all age groups. The same is not true however for those youth who were working. In fact, approximately 81 per cent of all male youth were working while only approximately 46 per cent of all female youth were working. Further, approximately 92 per cent of male youth in the age group 15 years to 19 years worked and this compares to approximately 80 per cent of females in the same age group. Finally approximately 73 per cent of male youth 20 years to 24 years worked as opposed to an approximate 46 per cent of female youth.

Of importance are the youth with some form of technical training as they seem to be working at higher rates than all their counterparts who attained other levels of education. Interestingly, these patterns persist irrespective of the sex of the youth.

Table 9.6(a): Number of Youth by Economic Activity, Educational Attainment, Age Group and Sex, 2000

School Level	Economic Activity		Did Work	Not Per Cent	Total	Per Cent
	Worked	Per Cent				
All Youth						
None	4573	27.35	5879	33.25	10452	30.38
Primary School	7781	46.54	8840	50.00	16621	48.32
Secondary School	2623	15.69	2204	12.47	4827	14.03
Technical School	59	0.35	17	0.10	76	0.22
Tertiary Schools	1550	9.27	639	3.61	2189	6.36
Other	24	0.14	8	0.05	32	0.09
Not Stated	109	0.65	93	0.53	202	0.59
Total	16719	100.00	17680	100.00	34399	100.00
Youth 15-19						
None	2218	35.51	3209	35.79	5427	35.68
Primary School	3373	54.00	4679	52.19	8052	52.93
Secondary School	511	8.18	890	9.93	1401	9.21
Technical School	3	0.05	3	0.03	6	0.04
Tertiary Schools	108	1.73	140	1.56	248	1.63
Other	6	0.10	4	0.04	10	0.07
Not Stated	27	0.43	41	0.46	68	0.45
Total	6246	100.00	8966	100.00	15212	100.00
Youth 20-24						
None	2355	22.49	2670	30.64	5025	26.19
Primary School	4408	42.09	4161	47.75	8569	44.66
Secondary School	2112	20.17	1314	15.08	3426	17.86
Technical School	56	0.53	14	0.16	70	0.36
Tertiary Schools	1442	13.77	499	5.73	1941	10.12
Other	18	0.17	4	0.05	22	0.11
Not Stated	82	0.78	52	0.60	134	0.70
Total	10473	100.00	8714	100.00	19187	100.00

Source: CARICOM

Note: Total youth (34 399) differs from the corresponding figure in Tables 9.1 to 9.4 9 (46 224)

Table 9.6(b): Number of Male Youths by Economic Activity, Educational Attainment and Age Group, 2000

School Level	Economic Activity		Did Work	Not	Total	Per Cent
	Worked	Per Cent				
All Youth						
None	3723	31.03	1451	28.84	5174	30.38
Primary School	5966	49.72	2656	52.78	8622	50.62
Secondary School	1483	12.36	645	12.82	2128	12.49
Technical School	20	0.17	5	0.10	25	0.15
Tertiary Schools	723	6.03	230	4.57	953	5.60
Other	14	0.12	2	0.04	16	0.09
Not Stated	71	0.59	43	0.85	114	0.67
Total	12000	100.00	5032	100.00	17032	100.00
Youth 15-19						
None	1793	37.66	936	31.91	2729	35.47
Primary School	2611	54.84	1621	55.27	4232	55.00
Secondary School	285	5.99	306	10.43	591	7.68
Technical School	1	0.02	1	0.03	2	0.03
Tertiary Schools	47	0.99	43	1.47	90	1.17
Other	6	0.13	2	0.07	8	0.10
Not Stated	18	0.38	24	0.82	42	0.55
Total	4761	100.00	2933	100.00	7694	100.00
Youth 20-24						
None	1930	26.66	515	24.54	2445	26.18
Primary School	3355	46.35	1035	49.31	4390	47.01
Secondary School	1198	16.55	339	16.15	1537	16.46
Technical School	19	0.26	4	0.19	23	0.25
Tertiary Schools	676	9.34	187	8.91	863	9.24
Other	8	0.11	0	0.00	8	0.09
Not Stated	53	0.73	19	0.91	72	0.77
Total	7239	100.00	2099	100.00	9338	100.00

Source: CARICOM

Note: Total male youth added to total female youth (34 399) differs from the corresponding figure in Tables 9.1 to 9.4 9 (46 224) although this total matches the total in Table 9.6a.

Table 9.6(c): Number of Female Youths by Economic Activity, Educational Attainment and Age Group, 2000

School Level	Economic Activity				Total	Per Cent
	Worked	Per Cent	Did Not Work	Per Cent		
All Youth						
None	850	18.01	4428	35.01	5278	30.39
Primary School	1815	38.46	6184	48.89	7999	46.06
Secondary School	1140	24.16	1559	12.33	2699	15.54
Technical School	39	0.83	12	0.09	51	0.29
Tertiary Schools	827	17.52	409	3.23	1236	7.12
Other	10	0.21	6	0.05	16	0.09
Not Stated	38	0.81	50	0.40	88	0.51
Total	4719		12648		17367	
Youth 15-19						
None	425	28.62	2273	37.68	2698	35.89
Primary School	762	51.31	3058	50.69	3820	50.81
Secondary School	226	15.22	584	9.68	810	10.77
Technical School	2	0.13	2	0.03	4	0.05
Tertiary Schools	61	4.11	97	1.61	158	2.10
Other	0	0.00	2	0.03	2	0.03
Not Stated	9	0.61	17	0.28	26	0.35
Total	1485		6033		7518	
Youth 20-24						
None	425	13.14	2155	32.58	2580	26.20
Primary School	1053	32.56	3126	47.26	4179	42.43
Secondary School	914	28.26	975	14.74	1889	19.18
Technical School	37	1.14	10	0.15	47	0.48
Tertiary Schools	766	23.69	312	4.72	1078	10.95
Other	10	0.31	4	0.06	14	0.14
Not Stated	29	0.90	33	0.50	62	0.63
Total	3234		6615		9849	

Source: CARICOM

Note: Total male youth added to total female youth (34 399) differs from the corresponding figure in Tables 9.1 to 9.4 9 (46 224) although this total matches the total in Table 9.6a.

Table 9.7. Percentage of Youth With Primary School Education or Less Who Worked or Did not Work by Sex and Age Group, 2000

Age Group	Working Males	Non Working Males	Working Females	Non Working Females
All Youth	80.7	81.6	56.5	83.9
15 – 19	92.3	87.2	79.9	88.4
20 – 24	73.0	73.8	5.7	79.9

Source: Tables 9.6(a), (b), (c); CARICOM

CHAPTER 10

THE ELDERLY

Introduction

Elderly persons have become increasingly important more so as their numbers increase at a very rapid rate. They will require more services and attention and this will have to be factored into planning at the national level. Over the next few decades, an increase in the percentage share of persons 60 years or more is foreseen. Major issues of health will come to the forefront and more will have to be expended on social services targeting this group to provide the elderly with a comfortable and acceptable quality of life. This chapter looks at the profile of the elderly: where they live, personal relationships, their work and disabilities.

10.1. Demographic Profile of The Elderly

In 2000, there were 13 763 elderly persons 60+ years old with 9 891 of these elderly persons being 65+ years old. In 1991, the corresponding numbers for elderly persons who were 65+ years was 7 780. This increase of 27 per cent is indicative of the proportionate increases in quality and quantity of services necessary to keep pace with the growth of the elderly population.

Males and females are equally represented in the elderly age groups. In 2000, 51.05 per cent of those 60+ year and 49.49 per cent of the 65+ were males (Table 10.1).

Table 10.1: Elderly (Aged 60+ and 65+) by Household Size and Sex, 2000

Size of Household and Age of Elderly	Sex of Elderly				Total	Per Cent
	Male	Per Cent	Female	Per Cent		
Aged 60+						
One	1105	15.73	825	12.25	1930	14.02
Two	1497	21.31	1661	24.65	3158	22.95
Three	989	14.08	1115	16.55	2104	15.29
Four	779	11.09	781	11.59	1560	11.33
Five	759	10.80	651	9.66	1410	10.24
Six	577	8.21	523	7.76	1100	7.99
Seven	442	6.29	404	6.00	846	6.15
Eight+	878	12.50	777	11.53	1655	12.02
Total	7026	100.00	6737	100.00	13763	100.00
Aged 65+						
One	830	16.96	713	14.27	1543	15.60
Two	1138	23.25	1272	25.46	2410	24.37
Three	693	14.16	805	16.11	1498	15.15
Four	504	10.30	555	11.11	1059	10.71
Five	501	10.23	461	9.23	962	9.73
Six	370	7.56	347	6.95	717	7.25
Seven	296	6.05	279	5.58	575	5.81
Eight+	563	11.50	564	11.29	1127	11.39
Total	4895	100.00	4996	100.00	9891	100.00

Source: CARICOM

Note: The total population 60+ (13 763) cannot be validated. The total population 65+ (9 891) differs from the corresponding figure in Table 1.5 (9 744).

10.2. Living Accommodation of The Elderly

Table 10.1 demonstrates that the majority of elderly persons live in two-person households, this being the case irrespective of sex and age. Altogether, 22.95 per cent of the 60+ population and 24.37 per cent of the 65+ live in two-person households with slightly larger proportions among the women than among the men. Concerning the 60+ and the 65+ population, respective proportions of 14.02 per cent and 15.6 per cent live alone with larger proportions being observed among males than among females. Irrespective of age group, more than half of the elderly live in households containing no more than three persons.

Table 10.2 shows that most of the elderly own their own homes (82.2 per cent of the 60+ population and 83.04 per cent of the 65+). A few rent private houses (6.87 per cent of the 60+ population and 6.2 per cent of the 65+). In addition, a few live in private homes but do not pay rent (6.68 per cent of the 60+ population and 6.51 per cent of the 65+). These patterns hold true irrespective of sex. However, males reside in rent free housing in relatively larger numbers than females and also are more likely to lease housing than females. Among those 60+ who live in rent free houses, 57.93 per cent are males and among those who lease, 57.63 per cent are males. Among the 65+ elderly, 52.8 per cent of free rent lodgers are males.

Table 10.2: Elderly (Aged 60+ and 65+) by Tenancy and Sex, 2000

Tenancy of Dwelling and Age of Elderly	Sex of Elderly				Total	Per Cent
	Male	Per Cent	Female	Per Cent		
Aged 60+						
Own	5702	81.16	5611	83.29	11313	82.20
Squat	31	0.44	11	0.16	42	0.31
Rent Private	478	6.80	467	6.93	945	6.87
Rent Gov't	74	1.05	93	1.38	167	1.21
Lease	170	2.42	125	1.86	295	2.14
Rent Free	533	7.59	387	5.74	920	6.68
Other	27	0.38	32	0.47	59	0.43
Not Stated	11	0.16	11	0.16	22	0.16
Total	7026	100.00	6737	100.00	13763	100.00
Aged 65+						
Own	4039	82.51	4174	83.55	8213	83.04
Squat	21	0.43	8	0.16	29	0.29
Rent Private	294	6.01	319	6.39	613	6.20
Rent Gov't	53	1.08	75	1.50	128	1.29
Lease	117	2.39	84	1.68	201	2.03
Rent Free	340	6.95	304	6.08	644	6.51
Other	20	0.41	26	0.52	46	0.47
Not Stated	11	0.22	6	0.12	17	0.17
Total	4895	100.00	4996	100.00	9891	100.00

Source: CARICOM

Note: The total population 60+ (13 763) cannot be validated. The total population 65+ (9 891) differs from the corresponding figure in Table 1.5 (9 744).

10.3. Union Status of The Elderly

Quality of life is important in any age group and especially so for the elderly. Companionship becomes very important for persons nearing the end of life. Table 10.3 sheds some light on these issues. Almost a half of the elderly are legally married (48.91 per cent of the 60+ population and 45.5 per cent of the 65+). As individuals become older, the risk of losing a companion increases. In fact 19.52 per cent of the 60+ population and 23.92 per cent of the 65+ were widowed and not in a union. Elderly persons not married nor widowed also reported not being in any form of union (14.02 per cent of the 60+ population and 14.89 per cent of 65+). Some elderly however reported being in common-law relationships (11.17 per cent of the 60+ population and 9.77 per cent of the 65+ population).

Table 10.3: Elderly (Aged 60+ and 65+) by Marital/Union Status and Sex, 2000

Union Status and Age of Elderly	Sex of Elderly				Total	Per Cent
	Male	Per Cent	Female	Per Cent		
Aged 60+						
Legally Married	4042	57.53	2690	39.93	6732	48.91
Common Law Union	1000	14.23	538	7.99	1538	11.17
Visiting Partner	29	0.41	18	0.27	47	0.34
Married But Not in Union	227	3.23	235	3.49	462	3.36
Legally Separated and Not in Union	54	0.77	64	0.95	118	0.86
Widowed and Not in Union	691	9.83	2003	29.73	2694	19.57
Divorced and Not in Union	93	1.32	110	1.63	203	1.47
Not in Union	872	12.41	1058	15.70	1930	14.02
Don't Know/Not Stated	18	0.26	21	0.31	39	0.28
Total	7026	100.00	6737	100.00	13763	100.00
Aged 65+						
Legally Married	2731	55.79	1769	35.41	4500	45.50
Common Law Union	627	12.81	339	6.79	966	9.77
Visiting Partner	18	0.37	12	0.24	30	0.30
Married But Not in Union	163	3.33	154	3.08	317	3.20
Legally Separated and Not in Union	33	0.67	40	0.80	73	0.74
Widowed and Not in Union	614	12.54	1752	35.07	2366	23.92
Divorced and Not in Union	59	1.21	81	1.62	140	1.42
Not in Union	637	13.01	836	16.73	1473	14.89
Don't Know/Not Stated	13	0.27	13	0.26	26	0.26
Total	4895	100.00	4996	100.00	9891	100.00

Source: CARICOM

Profiles for males and females differ substantially. For the males 60+ years, the following percentages were recorded based on the 2000 census: 57.53 per cent married, 14.23 per cent in common-law unions, 12.41 per cent not in a union and 9.83 per cent widowed and not in a union. For the female population 60+, the profile is different: 39.93 per cent married, 7.99 per cent in common-law union, 15.7 per cent not in a union and 29.73 per cent widowed and not in a union. A similar pattern is evident among the 65+ year old to their younger counterparts.

However, as expected, lower proportions are legally married as well as in common-law unions and higher proportions are widowed and not in a union.

Evidently, elderly males remarry much more frequently than their female counterparts. Females who became widowed invariably remained single and tended to refrain from any form of union. As men as well as women became older, they were less likely to be in any form of union. Hence the percentages of the elderly (65+ years), who were widowed but who were not in any stable union increased when compared to the younger group (60+ years).

10.4. Economic Activity of The Elderly

Elderly persons though reaching and in some case surpassing the age of retirement still work though in smaller proportions to the rest of the population 15-49 years. Based on the 2000 census, Table 10.4 shows that 28.29 per cent of elderly persons 60+ years and 23.01 per cent of those 65+ years, worked during the week of the census. Additionally, greater proportions of elderly males worked when compared to their female counterparts. Specifically, 45.8 per cent of the elderly males 60 + compared with 10.03 per cent of their female counterparts worked during the week of the census. As expected, the proportion of the elderly who worked decreased among the 65+ population with the respective proportions for males and females being 38.75 per cent and 7.59 per cent.

Table 10.4: Elderly (Aged 60+ and 65+) by Economic Activity and Sex, 2000

Economic Activity and Age of Elderly	Sex of Elderly				Total	Per Cent
	Male	Per Cent	Female	Per Cent		
Aged 60+						
Worked	3218	45.80	676	10.03	3894	28.29
Did Not Work	3808	54.20	6061	89.97	9869	71.71
Total	7026	100.00	6737	100.00	13763	100.00
Aged 65+						
Worked	1897	38.75	379	7.59	2276	23.01
Did Not Work	2998	61.25	4617	92.41	7615	76.99
Total	4895	100.00	4996	100.00	9891	100.00

Source: CARICOM

10.5. Disability among Elderly Persons

Medical care for the elderly is important both for the elderly and for the society which has to provide care either directly or indirectly. Most elderly persons will suffer with some form of disability at some time or another. Table 10.5 indicates that during the census week 75.02 per cent of the 60+ population olds and 88.96 per cent of the 65+ year olds had some form of disability. These are large proportions and it is clear that the onset of disabilities increases with age. Table 10.5 also shows that a greater number of elderly women are disabled when compared to their male counterparts. Among disabled persons 60+ years and 65+ years, males constitute respective proportions of 45.32 per cent and 44.15 per cent. The most common disabilities were sight, mobility, body movements and hearing. Mobility and body movements are a major disability for females (Table 10.6).

National Census Report 2000, Belize

Table 10.5: Percentage of Elderly (Aged 60+ and 65+) by Type of Disability and Sex, 2000

Disability and Age of Elderly	Sex of Elderly				Total	Per Cent
	Male	Per Cent	Female	Per Cent		
Aged 60+						
Sight	1281	27.37	1424	25.22	2705	26.20
Hearing	711	15.19	593	10.50	1304	12.63
Speaking	150	3.21	117	2.07	267	2.59
Mobility	961	20.53	1316	23.31	2277	22.05
Body Movements	783	16.73	1107	19.61	1890	18.30
Gripping	335	7.16	451	7.99	786	7.61
Learning	108	2.31	136	2.41	244	2.36
Behavioral	65	1.39	106	1.88	171	1.66
Personal	178	3.80	245	4.34	423	4.10
Other	108	2.31	151	2.67	259	2.51
Total	4680	100.00	5646	100.00	10326	100.00
Aged 65+						
Sight	1019	26.23	1196	24.34	2215	25.17
Hearing	615	15.83	540	10.99	1155	13.13
Speaking	124	3.19	104	2.12	228	2.59
Mobility	802	20.64	1147	23.34	1949	22.15
Body Movements	665	17.12	963	19.60	1628	18.50
Gripping	275	7.08	388	7.90	663	7.53
Learning	92	2.37	128	2.60	220	2.50
Behavioral	53	1.36	93	1.89	146	1.66
Personal Care	159	4.09	229	4.66	388	4.41
Other	81	2.08	126	2.56	207	2.35
Total	3885	100.00	4914	100.00	8799	100.00

Source: CARICOM

Note: The total number of disabled elderly (10 326) added to the total number of disabled children in Table 8.7 (2 323) sums to 12 649 which is greater than the total number of reported elderly in Table 7.3 (12 386)

CHAPTER 11

GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

Introduction

Gender is at the very foundation of the way in which work is performed. There are jobs that are considered females' work and jobs considered males' work. Importantly, work done in the home is usually by females and is usually not classified as an economic activity.

Education is recognized as a key tool for better jobs and hence a better economic life for both males and females, but moreso for females. There is gender parity of education at the primary level but some discrepancies exist at higher levels. It is the case however, that females are closing the education gap and in some cases have surpassed men in educational accomplishments.

11.1. The Working Population

Labour Force statistics reflect those persons who were willing and able to work who were working, had a job or were looking for work at the time of the census. Working statistics are different from Labour Force statistics and do not reflect the work done by women as home makers in the home.

Table 11.1 shows that in 2000 70.67 per cent of persons (47 464) 15 years or older who were working were males. This does not reflect the work done by females inside the home.

Table 11.1: Persons 15 Years and Over Engaged in Specific Activities by Age Group and Sex, 2000

Economically Active						
Age Group	Male	Per Cent	Female	Per Cent	Total	Per cent
15-24 Years	12367	26.06	5129	26.03	17496	26.05
25-44 Years	24312	51.22	11102	56.35	35414	52.73
45-64 Years	8888	18.73	3091	15.69	11979	17.84
65 Years and Over	1897	4.00	379	1.92	2276	3.39
Total	47464	100.00	19701	100.00	67165	100.00

Source: CARICOM

11.2. Economic Activity

Economic activity provides an indication of the labour force participation within the country. Traditionally, these activities were heavily male dominated. There were 52 910 persons between the ages of 15 and 44 years engaged in some form of economic activity in 2000. Of these 69.32 per cent were males.

Of the persons 15-44 economically active, 30.91 per cent (11 158 males) and 17.77 per cent (2 738 females) had no educational attainment while 44.84 per cent (16 187) males and 36.84 per cent (5 677) females attained primary school certificate. Thus, fully 69.42 per cent of the economically active population of Belize in 2001 was only qualified up to primary school level or less (Table 11.2).

It is seen that 13.41 per cent of males and 22.83 per cent females 15-44 who were economically active had high school diplomas. Females were also more likely than males to be economically active at the tertiary level with 8.9 per cent males and 16.76 per cent females.

Economically active persons with technical diplomas were dominated by females at a rate of almost two to one (353 males compared with 736 women). Female teachers and nurses made up the majority of persons with Teacher's and Nurse's Diploma while males were more likely to hold a Diploma in Agriculture. At the tertiary level (Associate, Bachelor, Master's and Ph.D.) level, males were in the majority with 54.15 per cent of the tertiary degree holders in the labour force being males.

Table 11.2: Persons 15-44 Years Engaged in Economic Activity by Educational Attainment and Sex - Controlling for Age Group, 2000

Age and Educational Level	Economic Activity				Total	Per Cent
	Male	Per Cent	Female	Per Cent		
15-24 Years						
None	3723	31.03	850	18.01	4573	27.35
Primary School Certificate	5966	49.72	1815	38.46	7781	46.54
High School Diploma	1483	12.36	1140	24.16	2623	15.69
Technical Diploma	20	0.17	39	0.83	59	0.35
Tertiary Degree	723	6.03	827	17.52	1550	9.27
Other	14	0.12	10	0.21	24	0.14
Don't Know/Not Stated	71	0.59	38	0.81	109	0.65
Total	12000	100.00	4719	100.00	16719	100.00
24-44 Years						
None	7435	30.85	1888	17.66	9323	26.79
Primary School Certificate	10221	42.41	3862	36.12	14083	40.48
High School Diploma	3360	13.94	2378	22.24	5738	16.49
Technical Diploma	306	1.27	590	5.52	896	2.58
Tertiary Degree	2490	10.33	1755	16.42	4245	12.20
Other	55	0.23	60	0.56	115	0.33
Don't Know/Not Stated	236	0.98	158	1.48	394	1.13
Total	24103	100.00	10691	100.00	34794	100.00
15-44 Years						
None	11158	30.91	2738	17.77	13896	26.98
Primary School Certificate	16187	44.84	5677	36.84	21864	42.44
High School Diploma	4843	13.41	3518	22.83	8361	16.23
Technical Diploma	326	0.90	629	4.08	955	1.85
Tertiary Degree	3213	8.90	2582	16.76	5795	11.25
Other	69	0.19	70	0.45	139	0.27
Don't Know/Not Stated	307	0.85	196	1.27	503	0.98
Total	36103	100.00	15410	100.00	51513	100.00

Source: CARICOM

Note: The total population 15-44 (51 513) is different from the corresponding figure in Table 11.1 (59 210)

11.3. Industry

In all industries with the exception of one, male participation was greater than female participation. In the Hotel and Restaurant industry, 59.3 per cent of persons participating were females. Although not the majority, women were well represented in the financial industry with 47.75 per cent (Table 11.3). There remained a heavy bias in favour of men in the Agriculture and Fishing, Mining and Quarrying and the Construction industries.

There was a more even distribution between males and females in the non-agriculture industries as women were closing the gender gap in these industries with 57.23 per cent males compared with 42.77 per cent females (Table 11.5). However, it is noticeable that the gap increased with age. In general there was a tendency for the percentage of men in industry to increase as the population became older. That is, the percentage of males versus females remaining in industry grew larger as the age group increased (Table 11.4).

Table 11.3: Employed Adults Aged 15 Years and Over by Industry and Sex, 2000

Industry	Male	Per Cent	Female	Per cent	Total	Per Cent
Agriculture and Fishing	16937	41.08	1419	7.25	18356	30.19
Mining and Quarrying	227	0.55	3	0.02	230	0.38
Manufacturing	3076	7.46	1452	7.42	4528	7.45
Elec. Gas and Water	248	0.60	61	0.31	309	0.51
Construction	30	0.07	1	0.01	31	0.05
Wholesale/Retail	6838	16.58	3895	19.90	10733	17.65
Hotel and Restaurant	1705	4.14	2485	12.69	4190	6.89
Transport and Communication.	1031	2.50	141	0.72	1172	1.93
Financial	10850	26.31	9915	50.65	20765	34.15
Not Stated	290	0.70	205	1.05	495	0.81
Total	41232	100.00	19577	100.00	60809	100.00

Source: CARICOM

Note: The total population 15 years and over employed (68 809) is different from the corresponding figure in Table 5.1 (67 165)

Table 11.4: Employed Persons 15 Years and Over by Industry, Sex and Age Group, 2000

Age/Industry	Male	Per Cent	Female	Per Cent	Total	Per Cent
15-24 Years						
Agriculture and Fishing	4859	45.57	514	10.11	5373	34.13
Mining and Quarrying	47	0.44	0	0.00	47	0.30
Manufacturing	882	8.27	371	7.30	1253	7.96
Elec. Gas and Water	70	0.66	14	0.28	84	0.53
Construction	8	0.08	1	0.02	9	0.06
Wholesale/Retail	1908	17.90	1116	21.96	3024	19.21
Hotel and Restaurant	446	4.18	648	12.75	1094	6.95
Transport and Comm.	137	1.28	43	0.85	180	1.14
Financial	2181	20.46	2247	44.21	4428	28.12
Not Stated	124	1.16	129	2.54	253	1.61
Total	10662	100.00	5083	100.00	15745	100.00
25-44 Years						
Agriculture and Fishing	7637	36.74	655	5.93	8292	26.05
Mining and Quarrying	120	0.58	1	0.01	121	0.38
Manufacturing	1595	7.67	796	7.21	2391	7.51
Elec. Gas and Water	138	0.66	40	0.36	178	0.56
Construction	13	0.06	0	0.00	13	0.04
Wholesale/Retail	3387	16.29	2012	18.22	5399	16.96
Hotel and Restaurant	857	4.12	1412	12.79	2269	7.13
Transport and Comm.	603	2.90	84	0.76	687	2.16
Financial	6339	30.50	5998	54.32	12337	38.76
Not Stated	98	0.47	44	0.40	142	0.45
Total	20787	100.00	11042	100.00	31829	100.00
45-64 Years						
Agriculture and Fishing	3536	44.28	209	6.80	3745	33.86
Mining and Quarrying	58	0.73	2	0.07	60	0.54
Manufacturing	494	6.19	262	8.52	756	6.84
Elec. Gas and Water	36	0.45	7	0.23	43	0.39
Construction	7	0.09	0	0.00	7	0.06
Wholesale/Retail	1194	14.95	643	20.91	1837	16.61
Hotel and Restaurant	345	4.32	383	12.46	728	6.58
Transport and Comm.	247	3.09	13	0.42	260	2.35
Financial	2024	25.35	1540	50.08	3564	32.22
Not Stated	44	0.55	16	0.52	60	0.54
Total	7985	100.00	3075	100.00	11060	100.00
65+ Years						
Agriculture and Fishing	905	50.33	41	10.88	946	43.49
Mining and Quarrying	2	0.11	0	0.00	2	0.09
Manufacturing	105	5.84	23	6.10	128	5.89
Elec. Gas and Water	4	0.22	0	0.00	4	0.18
Construction	2	0.11	0	0.00	2	0.09
Wholesale/Retail	349	19.41	124	32.89	473	21.75
Hotel and Restaurant	57	3.17	42	11.14	99	4.55
Transport and Comm.	44	2.45	1	0.27	45	2.07
Financial	306	17.02	130	34.48	436	20.05
Not Stated	24	1.33	16	4.24	40	1.84
Total	1798	100.00	377	100.00	2175	100.00

Note: The total population 15 years and over employed (68 809) is different from the corresponding figure in Table 5.1 (67 165)

CHAPTER 12

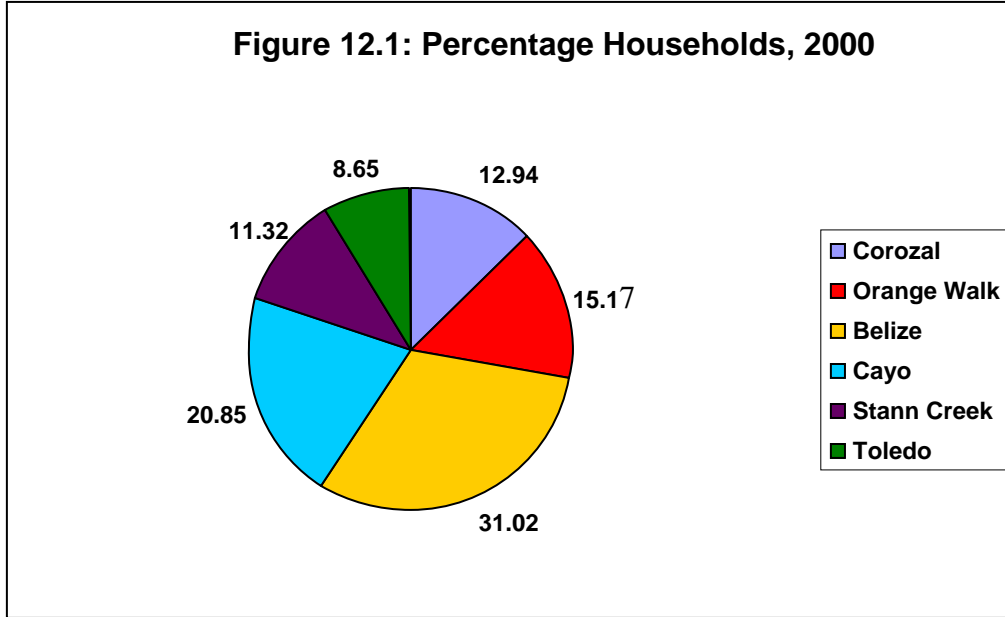
HOUSEHOLDS AND THE CHARACTERISTICS OF HEADSHIP

Introduction

A household is defined as one or more persons living together under the same roof for most of the week and sharing at least one daily meal (Belize CSO 2000 Census report). Each household has a head and the strength of the family unit is directly related to the sex, education, ethnicity, religious affiliation and economic participation of the head of household. Clearly, the strength of the nation is directly related to the strength of the family and hence to the household units which comprise the population.

12.1. Households And Their Spatial Distribution

Sometimes several households occupy the same dwelling unit as is commonly the case in extended family situations. Figure 12.1 provides a graphical representation of the relative sizes of households according to their location in the country. Clearly, the number of households is integral to determining the size of the population in each district. Most households were located in the Belize and Cayo Districts (31.02 per cent and 20.85 per cent respectively), while the Toledo District accounted for only 8.65 per cent of all households.



12.2. The Characteristics Of Household Heads

12.2.1. Sex Composition of Heads of Households

Table 12.1, shows there were 51,945 households and about 76.04 per cent were male-headed. Households were approximately equally divided between the urban (49.88 per cent) and the rural (50.12 per cent) locations. Not only did male heads greatly outnumber female heads but 84.68 per cent of the heads who live in rural areas were males while of those heads living in the urban areas, only 67.37 were males.

Heads of households were also not uniformly apportioned across the districts. Table 12.1 also shows that the Belize District has the largest number of households 16 137, but the smallest percentage of heads who were male (64.06). Corresponding percentages in the other districts range from 75.75 per cent in the Stann Creek District to 85.61 per cent in the Orange Walk District.

Table 12.1: Households by Sex of Head and Selected Characteristics – District and Region, 2000

Division	Sex		Females	Per Cent	Totals	Per Cent
	Males	Per Cent				
Country	39500	76.04	12445	23.96	51945	100.00
Urban	17454	67.37	8455	32.63	25909	49.88
Rural	22046	84.68	3990	15.32	26036	50.12
Corozal	5731	85.26	991	14.74	6722	12.94
Orange Walk	6745	85.61	1134	14.39	7879	15.17
Belize	10338	64.06	5799	35.94	16137	31.07
Cayo	8458	78.08	2375	21.92	10833	20.85
Stann Creek	4454	75.75	1426	24.25	5880	11.32
Toledo	3774	83.98	720	16.02	4494	8.65

Source: CSO Census 2000 Report

12.2.2. Family Relations of Heads of Households

According to Table 12.2, reveals that almost one half (48.89 per cent) of the persons living in households are the children of household heads. The vast majority (78.90 per cent) of such children lived in male-headed households. Grandchildren of household heads accounted for 5.69 per cent of the persons living in households. Though such grandchildren were mostly found in male-headed households (56.18 per cent), it should be noted that female-headed households appeared more than twice as likely to include the head's grandchildren as male-headed households. Among all those living in female headed household, 11.43 per cent were grandchildren while among those living in male headed households 4.09 per cent were grandchildren.

Table 12.2: Total Population by Relationship to Head of Household and Sex of Head of Household, 2000

Relationship to Head	Sex				Total	Per Cent
	Male Head	Per cent	Female Head	Per cent		
Head	39543	21.79	12402	24.49	51945	22.38
Spouse/Partner	32487	17.90	2396	4.73	34883	15.03
Child	89532	49.34	23948	47.29	113480	48.89
Son/daughter-in-Law	1620	0.89	615	1.21	2235	0.96
Grandchild	7419	4.09	5787	11.43	13206	5.69
Parent/Parent-in Law	1247	0.69	483	0.95	1730	0.75
Other Relative	6851	3.78	4110	8.12	10961	4.72
Non-Relative	2767	1.52	904	1.78	3671	1.58
Total	181466	100.00	50645	100.00	232111	100.00

Source: CARICOM

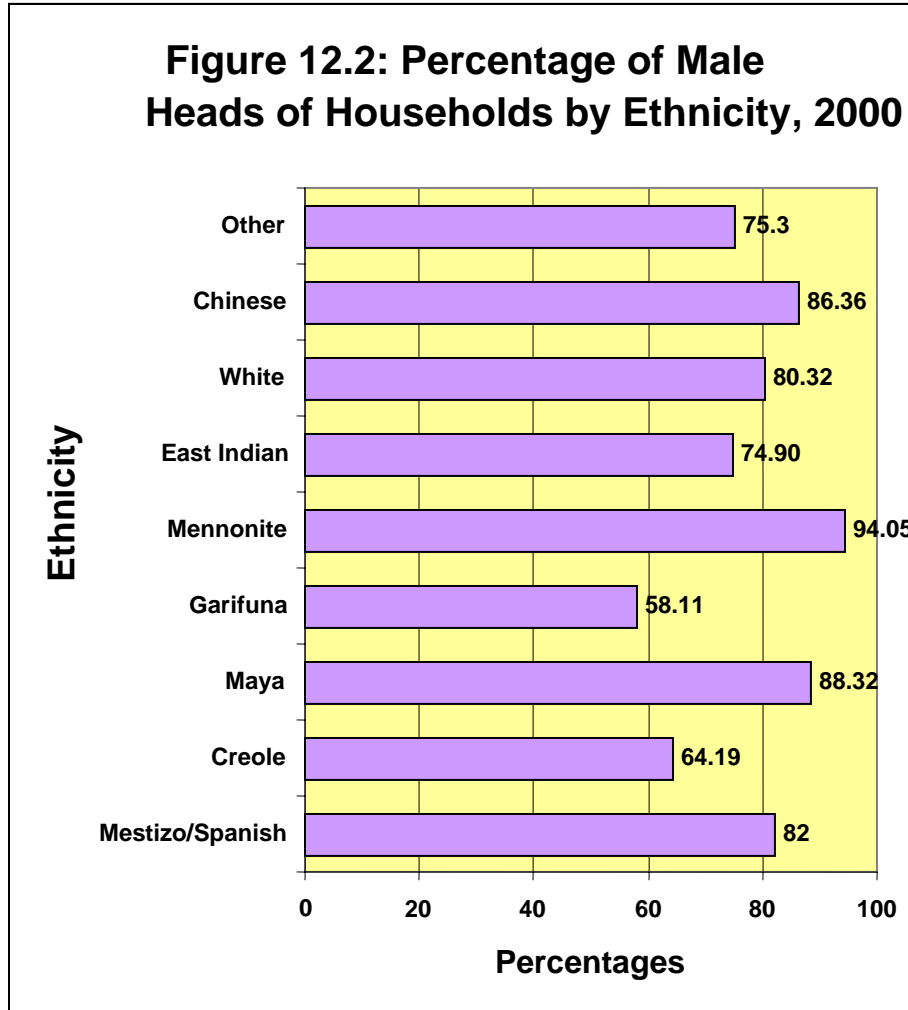
12.2.3. Ethnicity of Heads of Households

Table 12.4 shows that the majority (46.16 per cent) of all heads of households was of Mestizo or Spanish ethnicity. Heads of Creole ethnicity were the next most numerous constituting 26.42 per cent of the heads. Households headed by Mennonites had 94.05 per cent of heads being male. Households headed by Mayans, Chinese, Mestizos/Spanish and East Indians follow, with 88.32 per cent, 86.36 per cent, 81.95 per cent and 74.90 per cent respectively having male heads. Male headship was least commonplace in households headed by Garifuna and Creoles, respective proportions being male-headed 58.11 per cent and 64.19 per cent (Figure 12.2 depicts this scenario). The less dominance of male headship is evident in these two ethnic groups and this is justified in Table 12.4 where the odds of being a male head were calculated for each ethnicity. As a point of comparison, the odds of a male Garifuna head is 1.39 male to a female while the statistics for the Mennonites were 15.82 male heads to a female head.

Table 12.3: Head of Households Aged 15 Years and Over by Ethnicity and Sex, 2000 Census

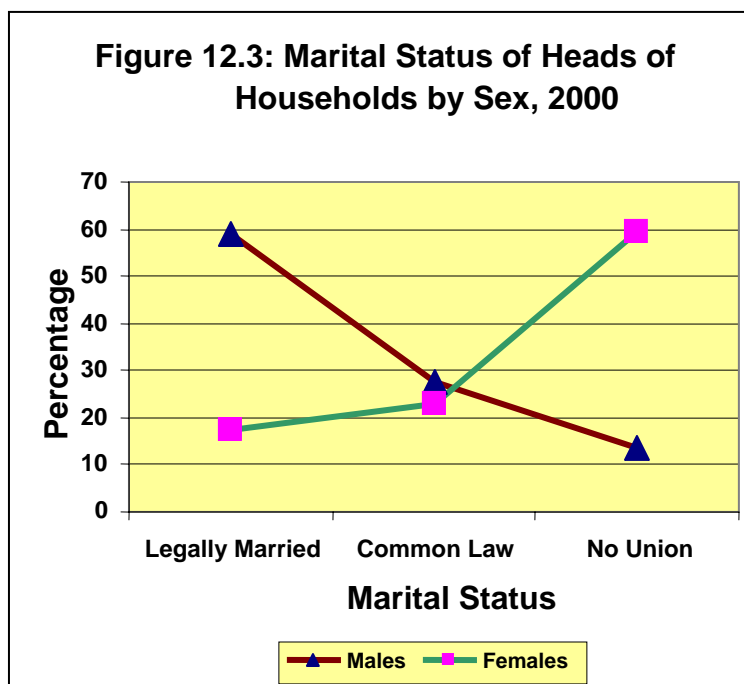
Race	Male	Per Cent	Female	Per Cent	Total	Per Cent	Odds
Mestizo/Spanish	19649	49.69	4327	34.89	23976	46.16	4.54
Creole	8808	22.27	4914	39.62	13722	26.42	1.79
Maya	4229	10.69	559	4.51	4788	9.22	7.57
Garifuna	2117	5.35	1526	12.3	3643	7.01	1.39
Mennonite	1392	3.52	88	0.71	1480	2.85	15.82
East Indian	1355	3.43	454	3.66	1809	3.48	2.98
White	642	1.62	158	1.27	800	1.54	4.06
Chinese	399	1.01	63	0.51	462	0.89	6.33
Other	952	2.41	313	2.52	1265	2.44	3.04
Total	39543	100.00	12402	100.00	51945	100.00	

Source: CARICOM



12.2.4. Marital Status of Heads of Households

Profiles for heads of households differ dramatically dependent on the sex of the household head. Among the male heads 59.01 per cent were legally married, 27.38 per cent were in a common-law union and 13.58 per cent were not in any union. For the female heads the profile was just the opposite: 17.48 per cent of female heads were legally married, 23.13 per cent in a common-law union and 59.39 were not in a union.



Relative sizes of the various categories of marital status according to the sex of the heads were also of interest and it is easy to see from Table 12.5 that married males were in the majority as heads of households. It is seen that 49.10 per cent of heads of households were legally married males. Married females only made up 4.17 per cent of the heads of households. The pattern for males and females remained the same as indicated above in Figure 12.3. Here, males in common-law relationships comprised 20.84 per cent of the population of heads and males in no union made up 10.34 per cent of the heads. Female heads in common-law unions constituted 5.52 per cent of the population of heads while the corresponding proportion was 14.18 per cent for female heads in no union (Table 12.5).

Table 12.4: Head of Households by Marital Status and Sex, 2000

Marital Status	Males	Per Cent	Females	Per Cent	Total	Per Cent
Legally Married	23336	59.01	2168	17.48	25504	49.10
Common Law	10825	27.38	2868	23.13	13693	26.36
Not in Union	5371	13.58	7366	59.39	12737	24.52
Not stated	11	0.03	-	-	11	0.02
Total	39543	100.00	12402	100.00	51945	100.00

Source: CARICOM

12.2.5. Education of Heads of Households

Table 12.5 shows that about 76.89 per cent of all heads of households had no more than primary school education. The percentages of heads attaining a maximum of secondary and tertiary level education were 11.39 per cent and 9.44 per cent respectively. Male heads and female heads exhibited the same pattern with the large majority of either sex having attained primary education or less.

Table 12.5: Educational Attainment of Heads of Households by Sex, 2000

Education Level	Males	Per cent	Females	Per Cent	Total	Per Cent
Primary or Less	30736	77.73	9205	74.22	39941	76.89
Secondary	4362	11.03	1553	12.52	5915	11.39
Tertiary	3668	9.28	1234	9.95	4902	9.44
NA/DK	777	1.96	410	3.31	1187	2.29
Totals	39543	100.00	12402	100.00	51945	100.00

Source: CARICOM

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GLOSSARY

Adults of Retirement Age: Persons 55-64 years of age

Adults of Prime Working Age: Persons 55-64 years

Children: Persons 0-14 years of age

Children of Compulsory School Age: Persons 5 to 14 years of age

Elderly: Population 65 or more years of age also called retired adults

Marital Status: this characterizes unions that are related to legal or religious marital behaviours

Out Migrants: Persons who have moved out of the district they were born in to reside in another district.

Sex Ratio: The number of males per 100 females

Union Status: Union status covers all consensual unions including cohabitation, common-law marriages etc. It essentially refers to the de facto unions in which couples are involved.

Working Age Population: The population aged 15 to 64.

Young Adults: Persons 15-24 years of age

Youth: Population 15-24 years of age



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