

# BELIZE

Capital: Belmopan

## GEODATA

**Area**  
22,963 km<sup>2</sup>

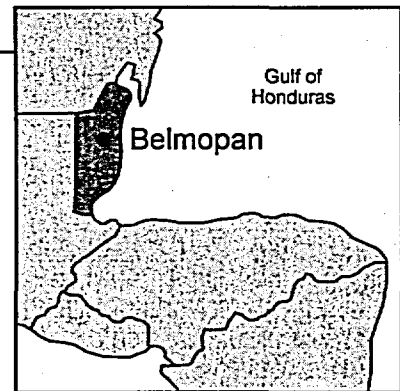
**Population**  
249,183 (July 2000 est.)

**Major language**  
English (official)

**Population growth rate**  
2.3% (1990-1999)

**Major religious groups**  
Roman Catholic (62%),  
Protestant (30%)

**Surrounding countries**  
Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico



## POLITICAL DATA

**Type of government**  
Constitutional monarchy

**Minister of Foreign Affairs**  
Said Musa

**National legislature**  
Upper chamber: Senate  
Lower chamber: House of Representatives;  
multiparty

**Minister of Development, Investment and Trade**  
Ralph Fonseca

**Leaders**  
Governor General Colville Norbert Young  
Prime Minister Said Musa

**UN Human Development Index (2000)**  
Belize ranks 58th among 174 countries

**Canadian official development assistance**  
\$1.6 million (1998-1999)

## ECONOMIC DATA

**Real GDP**  
\$745.5 million US (2000 est.)

**Inflation rate**  
2% (2000 est.)

**GDP growth rate**  
4% (2000 est.)

**Unemployment rate**  
14.4% (1998)

**GDP per capita**  
\$2,412 US (1999)

**Main exports**  
Sugar and molasses, bananas, citrus fruits, clothing, fish products, wood

**Main imports**  
Machinery and transport equipment, manufactured goods, food, fuels, chemicals, pharmaceuticals

**Main exports to Canada**  
\$9.9 million (2000), including sugars; preserved food; fruit and nuts; perfumery and cosmetics; woven apparel; photographic and cinematographic equipment; manufactured goods; fish and seafood; electrical machinery; wood

**Main imports from Canada**  
\$2.6 million (2000), including dairy products; eggs; honey; electrical machinery; pharmaceutical products; machinery; iron and steel products; base metal products; paper and paperboard; optical and medical instruments

**Canadian Representative**  
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