

BELIZE

Capital: Belmopan

GEODATA

Area

22,963 km²

Population

249,183 (July 2000 est.)

Official language

English

Population growth rate

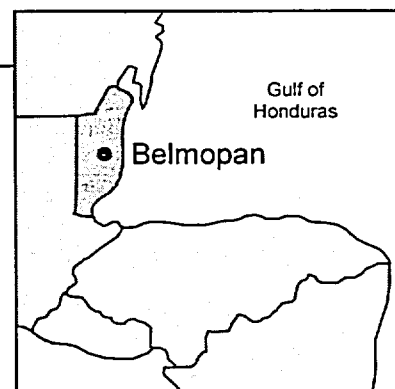
2.75% (2000 est.)

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

GDP

\$577 million US (1999)

Inflation rate

-1.2% (1999)

GDP growth rate

6.4% (1999)

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

\$14.6 million (1999), including raw sugar, soybeans, melons, papayas, antiques, photographic chemicals, aluminum foil

Main imports from Canada

\$3.3 million (1999), including dairy products, telephones and parts, radios, paper in rolls and sheets, cured pork

Canadian Representative

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