

# Belmopan Municipal Profile

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## *General*

Belmopan is an inland municipality located at the central foothills of the Maya Mountains. Belmopan is the administrative capital of the country, strategically located in the center of the country. It is the seat of the national government, housing all government ministries and the national assembly. Most foreign embassies are also located in Belmopan.

## *Population*

Between 2000 and 2010, Belmopan experienced tremendous population growth of over 17% per annum, far above the 3% average annual urban population growth for the intercensal period. At the 2010 population census count, the population was estimated to be around 13,900 persons. It is now the third most-populated municipality in Belize, having surpassed Corozal Town, Orange Walk Town, Benque Viejo, and Dangriga Town between 2000 and 2010. The average household size actually increased in the intercensal period from 3.8 persons per household in 2000 to 4.0 persons per household in 2010. According to the Belmopan City council, this unprecedented growth is mainly as a result of the extension of the Belmopan City limits to include adjacent rural communities such as Las Flores, Salvapan, and San Martin.

## *Demographics*

Mestizos are now the major ethnic group in Belmopan, comprising 50% of the population in 2010, up from 30% in 2000. In 2000, over 43% of the population were Creoles, but have declined to 20% in 2010. About 12% of the population are now Mayas, the largest Maya community of any municipality in the country. English is the most spoken language, with 68% of the population speaking English. Spanish is also spoken by 54% of the population, followed by nearly 45% of the population speaking Creole.

The male-to-female ratio actually increased from 91 males per 100 females in 2000 to 95 males per 100 females in 2010.

The Age-Dependency ratio also increased from 64 dependents per 100 adults in 2000 to 67 dependents per 100 adult in 2010.

Increases in the latter 2 ratios are reflective of the increase in the average household size as larger rural households with more children were incorporated into Belmopan City between the intercensal period.

Belmopan has the one of the highest proportion of foreign-born population among the 9 municipalities. The foreign-born population increased from over 16% in 2000 to nearly 23% of the population in 2010. The foreign-born population in Belmopan have traditionally been from Central America; however within the intercensal period, there has been increased immigration from China.

## *Access to Public Utilities (Water, Sanitation, Electricity)*

The major source of drinking water for households in Belmopan is now bottled water. In 2000, 47% of households either used piped water or bottled water for drinking. In 2010, 60% of households now used bottled water for drinking.

Flush toilet piped to sewer is the main type of toilet facility for most households in Belmopan; however, the proportion of households with flush toilets connected to the sewer decreased from 70% in 2000 to 38% in 2010. Meanwhile, households with flush toilets piped to septic tanks have increased from 25% in 2000 to over 33% in 2010. Interestingly, households using traditional pit latrines have also increased from over 4% in 2000 to 26% in 2010. These changes in sanitation facilities are mainly as a result of the incorporation of rural households into the Belmopan City limits during the intercensal period. Belmopan is among only 3 municipalities in the country with an established sewer system for waste water disposal and treatment.

The vast majority of households in Belmopan use electricity as the main power source for lighting. However, the proportion of households with electricity has declined from 97% in 2000 to 89% in 2010 due also to the expansion of the city boundaries to include surrounding rural areas.

### *Education*

Currently there are 9 Primary schools, and 3 High schools in Belmopan. The University of Belize main campus is also located in Belmopan. The Net Enrolment rate in primary school decreased significantly from 142% in 2004 to 102% in 2010. This decrease is mainly as a result of the extension of the Belmopan City limits between the intercensal period. The net enrolment rate in 2000 was significantly above 100% as children from surrounding rural communities attended primary schools in Belmopan proper. Later, these same communities were incorporated into Belmopan City, greatly expanding the school age population, resulting in a decrease in the net enrolment rate in 2010. The ratio of boys to girls enrolled in Primary school remained constant at 103 boys per 100 girls between 2000 and 2010, indicating that more boys than girls continued to be enrolled in Primary school.

The Gross Enrolment rate in secondary school remained constant for females at 80% between 2000 and 2010, but decreased for males from 82% in 2000 to 72% in 2010. Consequently, the ratio of boys to girls enrolled in secondary school decreased from 102 boys to every 100 girls in 2000 to 85 boys to every 100 girls by 2010, indicating that more girls than boys are now enrolled in secondary school.

The youth literacy rate remained fairly constant at around 92% between 2000 and 2010. There were similar levels of literacy between male and female youths.

Technical and Vocational training also experienced tremendous growth as the number of trainees increased by over 280% between 2000 and 2010.

### *Employment*

Due to the sample design of the annual Belize Labour Force survey, no employment data is estimated separately for Belmopan. Employment data is released at the Cayo urban level which includes Belmopan, San Ignacio-Santa Elena, and Benque Viejo combined.

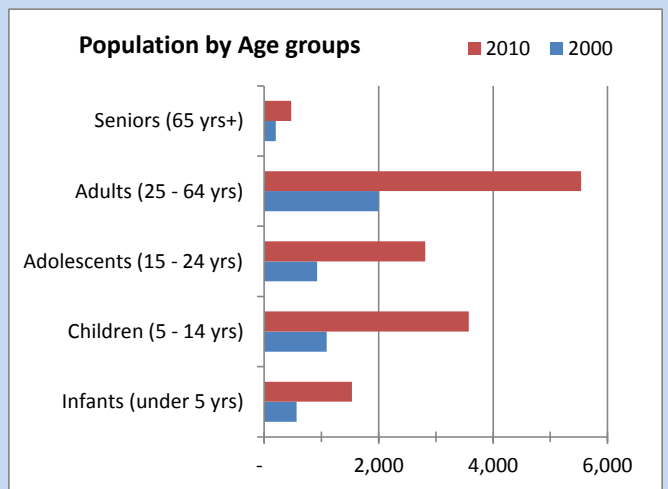
# Municipality Profile, Belmopan City

## I. Tables and Charts

### A. POPULATION

Population by Age groups	2000	2010	Change	%Change
Total (All persons)	5,088	13,939	8,851	174.0%
Infants (under 5 yrs)	567	1,535	968	170.7%
Children (5 - 14 yrs)	1,090	3,576	2,486	228.1%
Adolescents (15 - 24 yrs)	927	2,813	1,886	203.5%
Adults (25 - 64 yrs)	1,996	5,538	3,542	177.5%
Seniors (65 yrs+)	205	469	264	128.8%

Source: Census data, SIB.



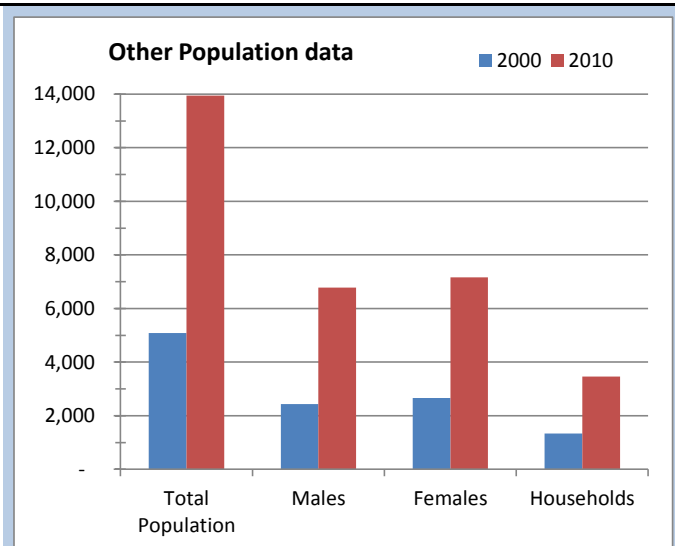
Other Population data	2000	2010	Change	%Change
Total Population	5,088	13,939	8,851	174.0%
Males	2,429	6,779	4,350	179.1%
Females	2,659	7,160	4,501	169.3%
Households	1,335	3,463	2,128	159.4%
avg. Persons per household	3.8	4.0	0.2	5.6%
Age Dependency ratio	0.64	0.67	0.03	4.9%
Male to Female ratio	0.91	0.95	0.03	3.6%
Urban density* (persons/acre)		6.0		

Source: Census data, SIB.

\*Belmopan Municipal Development Plan, draft Nov. 2013

Age dependency ratio is the number of persons less than 15 years plus persons over 64 years divided by the number of persons 15 to 64 years.

Male of Female ratio is the number of males divided by the number of females.



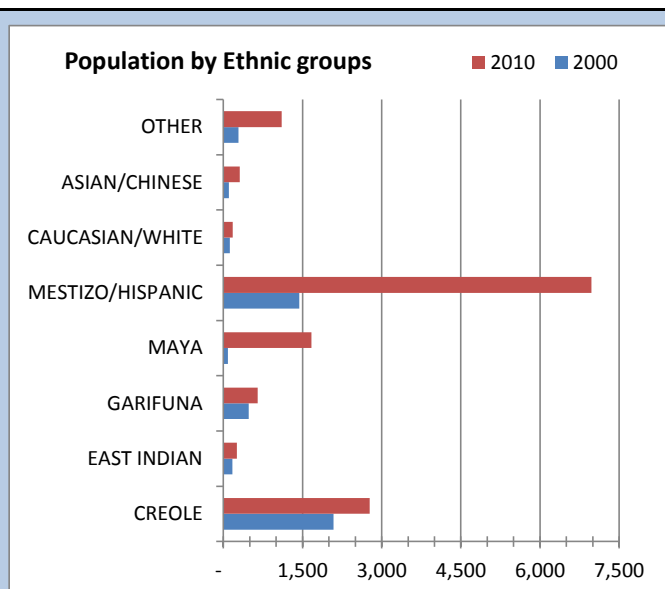
# Municipality Profile, Belmopan City

## I. Tables and Charts

### B. DEMOGRAPHICS

Population by Ethnic groups	2000	2010	Change	%Change
Total (All persons)	4,785	13,932		
CREOLE	2,084	2,774	690	33.1%
EAST INDIAN	172	254	82	47.7%
GARIFUNA	479	649	170	35.5%
MAYA	84	1,666	1,582	1883.3%
MESTIZO/HISPANIC	1,435	6,978	5,543	386.3%
CAUCASIAN/WHITE	119	176	57	47.9%
ASIAN/CHINESE	105	312	207	197.1%
OTHER	283	1,102	819	289.4%
NOT STATED	24	21		

Source: Census data, SIB.



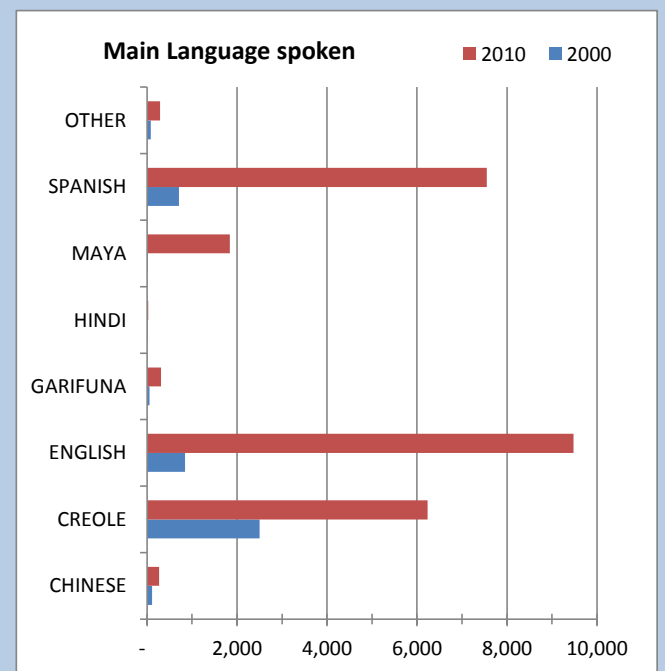
Main Language spoken at home*	2000	2010	Change	%Change
Total (Persons 4 years or older)	4,341	13,931		
CHINESE	114	267	153	134.2%
CREOLE	2,501	6,238	3,737	149.4%
ENGLISH	847	9,482	8,635	1019.5%
GARIFUNA	54	313	259	479.6%
HINDI	12	24	12	100.0%
MAYA	12	1,839	1,827	15225.0%
SPANISH	712	7,550	6,838	960.4%
OTHER	86	291	205	238.4%
NOT STATED	3			

\*-multiple languages reported (Census 2010)

Source: Census data, SIB.

\*In Census 2010, this question was worded as which language(s) do you speak well enough to conduct a conversation; multiple languages reported in Census 2010.

Total for Census 2010 includes all persons (not persons 4 years or older)

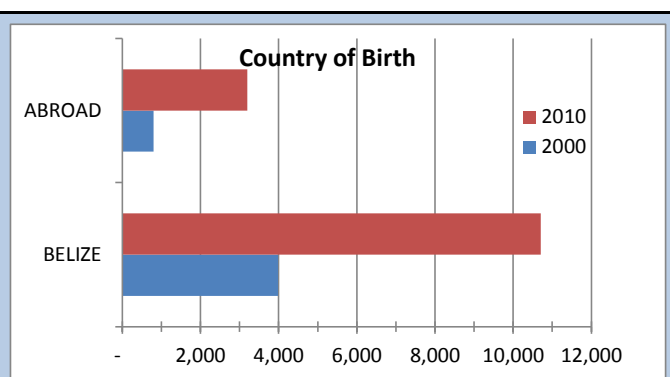


# Municipality Profile, Belmopan City

## I. Tables and Charts

Country of Birth	2000	2010	Change	%Change
Total (All persons)	4,785	13,930		
BELIZE	3,986	10,705	6,719	168.6%
ABROAD	799	3,199	2,400	300.4%
NOT STATED		26		

Source: Census data, SIB.



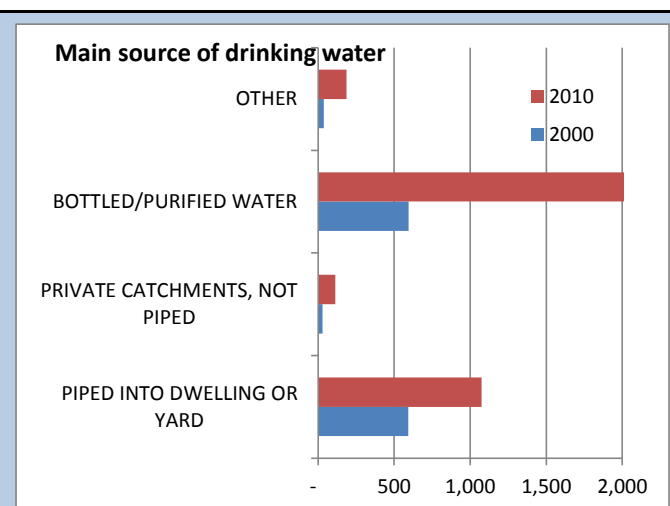
## C. ACCESS TO PUBLIC UTILITIES

Main source of Drinking water	2000	2010	Change	%Change
Total	1,255	3,463		
PIPED INTO DWELLING OR YARD	592	1,075	483	81.6%
PRIVATE CATCHMENTS, NOT PIPED	29	113	84	289.7%
BOTTLED/PURIFIED WATER	594	2,084	1,490	250.8%
OTHER	38	186	148	389.5%
NOT STATED	2	5	3	

Source: Census data, SIB.

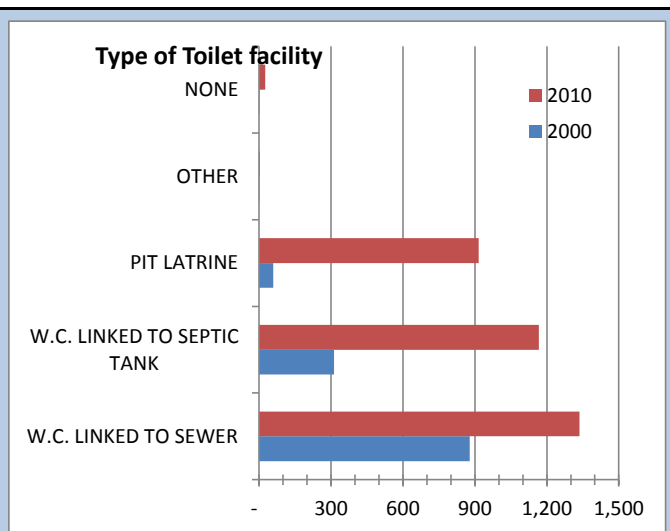
Piped into dwelling or yard includes water piped from public and private sources.

Other includes water from dug well, public standpipe, and rivers/streams/creeks.



Type of Toilet facilities	2000	2010	Change	%Change
Total (Households)	1,255	3,463		
W.C. LINKED TO SEWER	879	1,336	457	52.0%
W.C. LINKED TO SEPTIC TANK	313	1,166	853	272.5%
PIT LATRINE	59	916	857	1452.5%
OTHER	2	4	2	
NONE	2	26	24	1200.0%
NOT STATED		15		

Source: Census data, SIB.

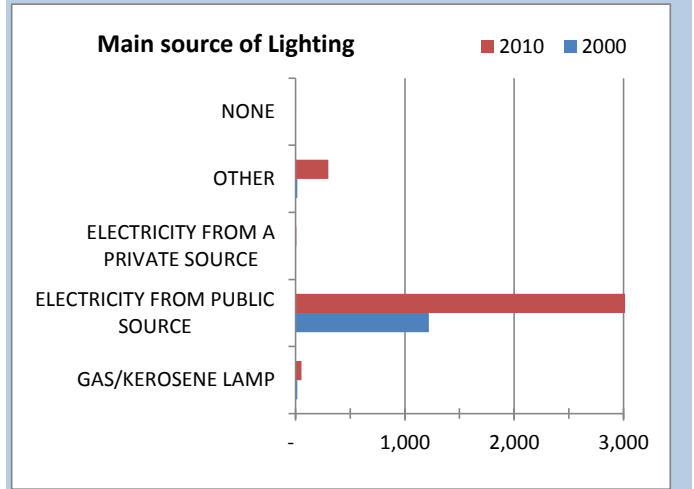


# Municipality Profile, Belmopan City

## I. Tables and Charts

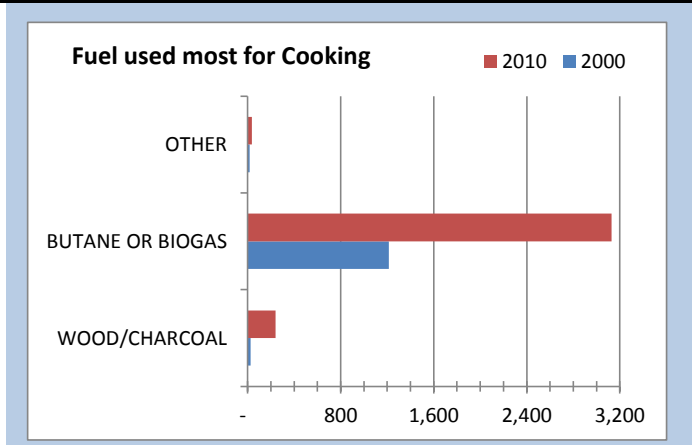
Main Source of Lighting	2000	2010	Change	%Change
Total (Households)	1,255	3,464		
GAS/KEROSENE LAMP	15	54	39	260.0%
ELECTRICITY FROM PUBLIC SOURCE	1,220	3,087	1,867	153.0%
ELECTRICITY FROM A PRIVATE SOURCE	3	6	3	100.0%
OTHER	17	301	284	1670.6%
NONE		3	3	
NOT STATED		13		

Source: Census data, SIB.



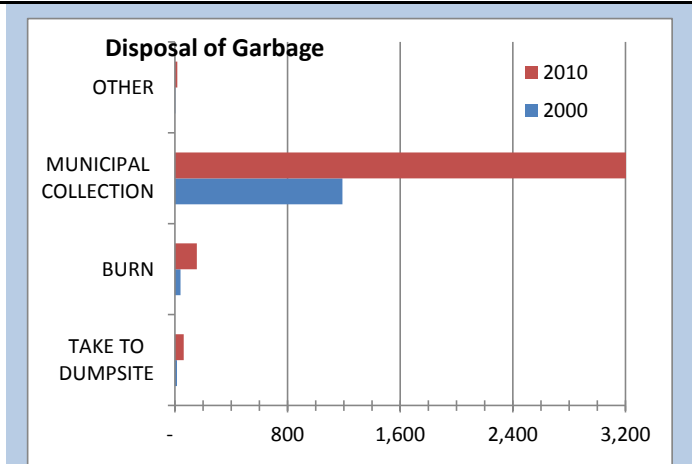
Fuel used most for Cooking	2000	2010	Change	%Change
Total (Households)	1,255	3,408		
WOOD/CHARCOAL	24	239	215	895.8%
BUTANE OR BIOGAS	1,214	3,128	1,914	157.7%
OTHER	16	36	20	125.0%
NOT STATED	1	5		

Source: Census data, SIB.



Disposal of Garbage	2000	2010	Change	%Change
Total (Households)	1,255	3,463		
TAKE TO DUMPSITE	16	63	47	293.8%
BURN	40	156	116	290.0%
MUNICIPAL COLLECTION	1,191	3,205	2,014	169.1%
OTHER	5	17	12	240.0%
NOT STATED	3	22		

Source: Census data, SIB.



# Municipality Profile, Belmopan City

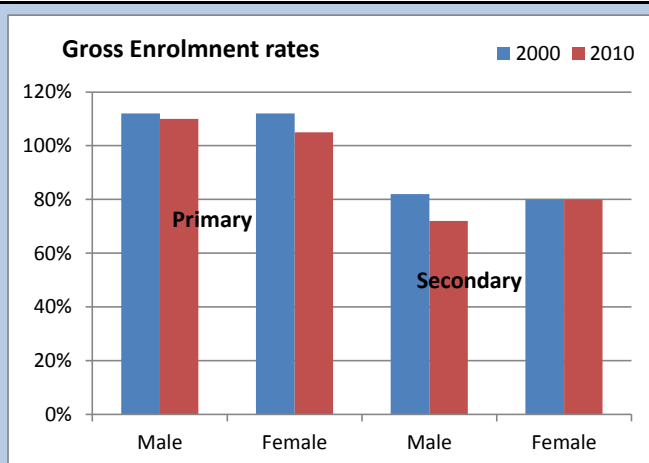
## I. Tables and Charts

### D. EDUCATION

Gross Enrolment Rate, Primary	2000	2010	Change
Male	112%	110%	-2%
Female	112%	105%	-7%
Gross Enrolment Rate, Secondary	2000	2010	Change
Male	82%	72%	-10%
Female	80%	80%	0%

Source: Census data, SIB.

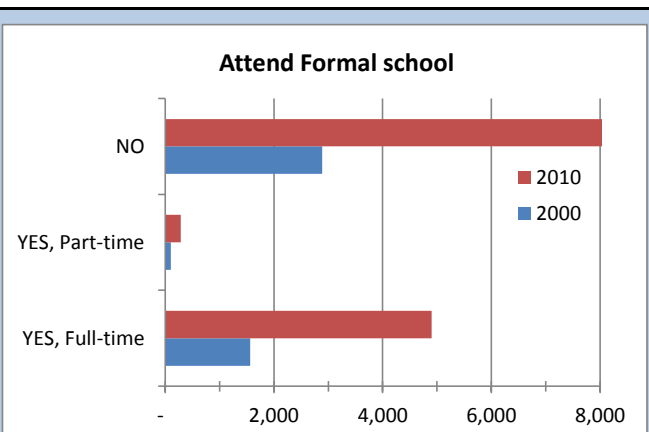
Gross Enrolment Rate (Primary) is the ratio of persons enrolled in primary school to all persons in the official primary school age (5 to 12 years).  
Gross Enrolment Rate (Secondary) is the ratio of persons enrolled in secondary school to all persons in the official secondary school age (13 to 16 years).



Attend Formal School	2000	2010	Change	%Change
Total (Persons 2 years or older)	4,561	13,327		
YES, Full-time	1,565	4,899	3334	213%
YES, Part-time	104	290	186	179%
NO	2,888	8,079	5191	180%
NOT STATED	4	59		

Source: Census data, SIB.

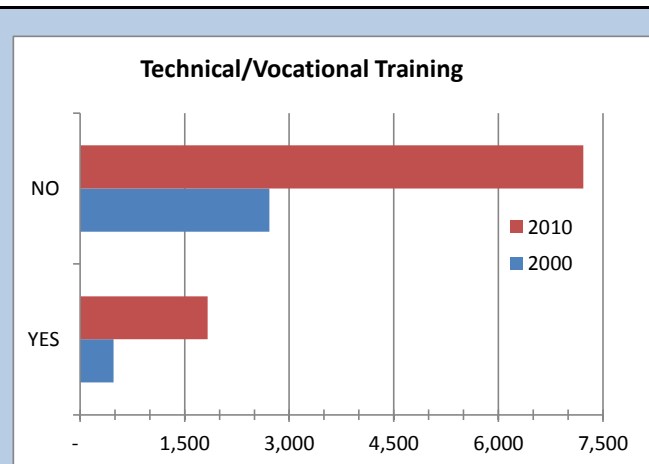
Includes all school levels.



Received any Technical/ Vocational training*	2000	2010	Change	%Change
Total (Persons 14 years or older)	3,225	9,161		
YES	481	1,832	1351	281%
NO	2,715	7,216	4501	166%
NOT STATED	29	113		

\*- includes any formal job training (Census 2010)

Source: Census data, SIB.



# Municipality Profile, Belmopan City

## I. Tables and Charts

### E. EMPLOYMENT

Source: Belize Labour Force survey, SIB [April 2013, April 2014]  
 Employment data is not released separately for Belmopan, due to the sample design of the labour force survey.

### F. APPENDIX OF CENSUS TABLES (2000, 2010)

#### HOUSING & PROPERTY

Occupancy of Dwelling	2000	2010	Change	%Change
Total (Households)	1,255	3,463		
Own	698	2,206	1508	216.0%
Rent/Lease	475	1,003	528	111.2%
Other	81	239	158	195.1%
Not Stated	1	15		

Occupancy of Land	2000	2010	Change	%Change
Total (Households)	685	2,207		
Freehold	469	1,496	1027	219.0%
Leasehold	207	532	325	157.0%
Other	6	152	146	2433.3%
Not Stated	3	27		

Main material of Dwelling	2000	2010	Change	%Change
Total (Households)	1,255	3,462		
Wood	52	998	946	1819.2%
Concrete/Brick	1,170	2,322	1152	98.5%
Wood and Concrete	6	46	40	666.7%
Plywood/Palmetto/Stucco	20	63	43	215.0%
Other	7	19	12	171.4%
Not Stated		14		

Main material of roofing	2000	2010	Change	%Change
Total (Households)	1,255	3,464		
Sheet metal	1,153	3,148	1995	173.0%
Concrete	59	191	132	223.7%
Thatch	1	42	41	4100.0%
Other	41	68	27	65.9%
Not Stated	1	15		

Main material of flooring	2000	2010	Change	%Change
Total (Households)	1,255	3,463		
WOOD	20	198	178	890.0%
CEMENT/CONCRETE	1,220	3,105	1885	154.5%
DIRT	12	124	112	933.3%
OTHER	2	13	11	550.0%
Not Stated	1	23		

# Municipality Profile, Belmopan City

## I. Tables and Charts

<b>DEMOGRAPHICS</b>				
Population by Religious affiliation	2000	2010	Change	%Change
Total (All persons)	4,785	13,930		
ANGLICAN	430	464	34	7.9%
BAPTIST	117	655	538	459.8%
JEHOVAH WITNESS	79	299	220	278.5%
METHODIST	211	269	58	27.5%
NAZARENE	308	657	349	113.3%
PENTECOSTAL	236	1,513	1,277	541.1%
ROMAN CATHOLIC	2,394	4,881	2,487	103.9%
SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST	186	580	394	211.8%
OTHER	386	1,876	1,490	386.0%
NONE	404	2,667	2,263	560.1%
NOT STATED	34	69		

Current Union Status	2000	2010	Change	%Change
Total (Persons 14 years and older)	3,225	8,821		
MARRIED	1,334	2,964	1630	122.2%
COMMON-LAW-UNION	469	1,952	1483	316.2%
VISITING PARTNER	37	479	442	1194.6%
SEPARATED (NOT IN A UNION)	78	521	443	567.9%
WIDOWED (NOT IN A UNION)	73	247	174	238.4%
DIVORCED (NOT IN UNION)	39	180	141	361.5%
OTHER (NOT IN UNION)	1,183	2,337	1154	97.5%
NOT STATED	12	141		

<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>				
Have Fixed Telephone Service	2000	2010	Change	%Change
Total (Households)	1,255	3,462		
YES	1,003	1,021	18	1.8%
NO	248	2,441	2193	884.3%
NOT STATED	4			

Ownership of Private Motor vehicle	2000	2010	Change	%Change
Total (Households)	1,255	3,451		
YES	521	1,595	1074	206.1%
NO	729	1,856	1127	154.6%
NOT STATED	5			

## Municipality Profile, Belmopan City

### II. Scorecard of selected MDG Indicators

MDG Indicator	Description	Actual 2000	Actual 2010	Target 2015	CHARTS	NOTES																
1.5	Employment to Working Age Population ratio	0.56	0.53		<p><b>MDG 1.5</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr><th>Year</th><th>Value</th></tr> <tr><td>2000</td><td>0.56</td></tr> <tr><td>2010</td><td>0.53</td></tr> </table>	Year	Value	2000	0.56	2010	0.53	<p>Source: Census data, SIB.</p> <p>Employment includes all persons 14 years or older who worked for at least 1 hour for pay, profit or family gain, or who were temporarily absent from his/her job, during the Census reference week. Working Age Population includes all persons 14 years or older regardless of their economic activity status.</p>										
Year	Value																					
2000	0.56																					
2010	0.53																					
1.7	Proportion of own-account and contributing Family workers to Total Employment	12%	19%		<p><b>MDG 1.7</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr><th>Year</th><th>Value</th></tr> <tr><td>2000</td><td>12%</td></tr> <tr><td>2010</td><td>19%</td></tr> </table>	Year	Value	2000	12%	2010	19%	<p>Source: Census data, SIB.</p> <p>Own-account workers are self-employed (without paid help) persons 14 years or older. Contributing Family workers are unpaid family workers 14 years or older. Total Employment includes all persons 14 years or older who worked for at least 1 hour for pay, profit or family gain, or who were temporarily absent from his/her job, during the Census reference week.</p>										
Year	Value																					
2000	12%																					
2010	19%																					
2.1	Net Enrolment Rate in Primary education	141.5%	102.5%		<p><b>MDG 2.1</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr><th>Year</th><th>Value</th></tr> <tr><td>2004</td><td>141.5%</td></tr> <tr><td>2010</td><td>102.5%</td></tr> </table>	Year	Value	2004	141.5%	2010	102.5%	<p>Sources: Policy and Planning Unit, MOE; Census data, SIB.</p> <p>Net Primary Enrolment rate is the proportion of all children 5 to 12 years enrolled in Primary School. This rate can be above 100% as the enrolment data may include children from adjacent rural communities enrolled in urban primary schools.</p>										
Year	Value																					
2004	141.5%																					
2010	102.5%																					
2.3	Youth Literacy rate (15-24 years)	Males 91%, Females 93%	92%, 92%	100%, 100%	<p><b>MDG 2.3</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr><th>Year</th><th>Males</th><th>Females</th><th>Target</th></tr> <tr><td>2000</td><td>91%</td><td>93%</td><td>100%</td></tr> <tr><td>2010</td><td>92%</td><td>92%</td><td>100%</td></tr> </table>	Year	Males	Females	Target	2000	91%	93%	100%	2010	92%	92%	100%	<p>Source: Census data, SIB.</p> <p>Literacy is the ability of a person to read and write. In absence of a functional literacy test, literacy is estimated by a proxy measure such as the number of completed years of formal schooling. Youth Literacy rate is the proportion of all persons 15 to 24 years who can read and write. For MDG 2.3, the proportion of all persons 15 to 24 years who completed at least standard 5 of Primary school is used to estimate youth literacy.</p>				
Year	Males	Females	Target																			
2000	91%	93%	100%																			
2010	92%	92%	100%																			
3.1	Ratio of boys to girls enrolled in Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary education	2004	2010	2015	<p><b>MDG 3.1</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr><th>Year</th><th>Primary</th><th>Secondary</th><th>Tertiary*</th></tr> <tr><td>2004</td><td>1.03</td><td>1.02</td><td>0.51</td></tr> <tr><td>2010</td><td>1.03</td><td>0.85</td><td>0.53</td></tr> <tr><td>2015</td><td>1.00</td><td>1.00</td><td>1.00</td></tr> </table>	Year	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary*	2004	1.03	1.02	0.51	2010	1.03	0.85	0.53	2015	1.00	1.00	1.00	<p>Sources: Policy and Planning Unit, MOE; Registrar, University of Belize; Registrar, Galen University; SIB.</p> <p>Tertiary enrolment includes data from all Sixth Forms, Galen, and UB. A ratio equal to 1 indicates an equal number of boys and girls are enrolled at that school level. A ratio less than 1 indicates more girls than boys are enrolled at that school level. A ratio greater than 1 indicates more boys than girls are enrolled at that school level.</p>
Year	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary*																			
2004	1.03	1.02	0.51																			
2010	1.03	0.85	0.53																			
2015	1.00	1.00	1.00																			
		* Tertiary gender ratios are reported for years 2000 and 2010.																				
3.2	Proportion of women in wage employment in the non-Agricultural sectors	40%	33%		<p><b>MDG 3.2</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr><th>Year</th><th>Value</th></tr> <tr><td>2000</td><td>40%</td></tr> <tr><td>2010</td><td>33%</td></tr> </table>	Year	Value	2000	40%	2010	33%	<p>Source: Census data, SIB.</p> <p>MDG 3.2 represents the number of women 14 years or older, employed as paid workers in all industry, except agriculture, as a proportion of all persons 14 years or older, employed in the non-Agricultural sectors.</p>										
Year	Value																					
2000	40%																					
2010	33%																					

## Municipality Profile, Belmopan City

### II. Scorecard of selected MDG Indicators

MDG Indicator	Description	Actual 2000	Actual 2010	Target 2015	CHARTS	NOTES						
<b>7.8</b>	Proportion of population using an improved drinking water source	52%	38%	100%	<p><b>MDG 7.8</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr><th>Year</th><th>Value</th></tr> <tr><td>2000</td><td>52%</td></tr> <tr><td>2010</td><td>38%</td></tr> </table>	Year	Value	2000	52%	2010	38%	<p><i>Source: Census data, SIB.</i></p> <p>MDG 7.8 represents the household population with access to improved drinking water as a proportion of the total population. Improved drinking water sources include water piped into dwelling or yard, public tap or standpipe, protected dug well/tubewell/borehole, protected spring, and rainwater collection. It excludes water from carts or tanker trucks, bottled water, and unprotected surface water.</p>
Year	Value											
2000	52%											
2010	38%											
	The definition of an improved drinking water source is based on the classification developed by the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water and Sanitation. The data indicates a significant decline in the level of this indicator between 2000 and 2010. This is mainly as a result of the huge increase in bottled water as a main source of drinking water for most urban households.											
<b>7.9</b>	Proportion of population using an improved sanitation facility	95%	75%	100%	<p><b>MDG 7.9</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr><th>Year</th><th>Value</th></tr> <tr><td>2000</td><td>95%</td></tr> <tr><td>2010</td><td>75%</td></tr> </table>	Year	Value	2000	95%	2010	75%	<p><i>Source: Census data, SIB.</i></p> <p>MDG 7.9 represents the household population with access to an improved toilet facility as a proportion of the total population. An improved toilet facility includes Flush and Pour-flush toilets piped into sewer, septic tanks, or pit latrines, Ventilated and Improved Pit (VIP) latrines, Pit latrines with Slab, and Composting toilets, <u>not shared</u> with another household.</p>
Year	Value											
2000	95%											
2010	75%											
	The definition of an improved sanitation facility is based on the classification developed by the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water and Sanitation.											
<b>8.14</b>	Fixed-telephone subscriptions per 100 inhabitants	21.0	7.3		<p><b>MDG 8.14</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr><th>Year</th><th>Value</th></tr> <tr><td>2000</td><td>21.0</td></tr> <tr><td>2010</td><td>7.3</td></tr> </table>	Year	Value	2000	21.0	2010	7.3	<p><i>Source: Census data, SIB.</i></p> <p>MDG 8.14 represents the total number of fixed telephone lines per 100 persons. Data from the telecom providers is required for this indicator. Household information on fixed telephone service (residential) was used from the census to approximate this measure. The census data represents the proportion of households with fixed telephone service to the total population. It assumes 1 fixed telephone line per household.</p>
Year	Value											
2000	21.0											
2010	7.3											
<b>8.16</b>	Internet users per 100 inhabitants	-	38.6			<p><i>Source: Census data, SIB.</i></p> <p>Internet users are persons 5 years or older who reported using the internet within the past 3 months of the Census reference date. This information is not available from the 2000 Census.</p>						