



BELIZE

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**NDPBA DISTRICTS PROFILE**

# BELIZE BELIZE

## CAPITAL: BELIZE CITY

Area: 3,711 km<sup>2</sup>

The Belize District is located in the Eastern region of Belize. This District is divided into 38 Cities, Towns and Villages: Belize City (The Capital), San Pedro and the main Cities and Towns. The District borders Corozal to the North, Orange Walk and Cayo to the west, Stan Creek to the south and the Atlantic Ocean to the east. The main economic sources for the country of Belize continues to be tourism, sugar, banana, citrus, marine products and crude oil.



## RISK AND VULNERABILITY COMPONENT SCORE



**MULTI-HAZARD RISK (MHR) - Very Low**  
Score: 0.354 • Rank: 6/6



**RESILIENCE (R) - Extremely High**  
Score: 0.591 • Rank: 1/6



**MULTI-HAZARD EXPOSURE (MHE) - Low**  
Score: 0.145 • Rank: 5/6



**VULNERABILITY (V) - Low**  
Score: 0.421 • Rank: 5/6



**COPING CAPACITY (CC) - Extremely High**  
Score: 0.602 • Rank: 1/6



Population (2010 Census)  
**95,291**



Population in lowest wealth quintile  
**4.3%**



Population with no secondary school education  
**52.7%**



Households with unimproved water access  
**7.42% households**



Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)  
**10.3**

\*For more information on data and components please visit: <https://bit.ly/2LqVoUO>



# MULTI-HAZARD EXPOSURE (MHE)

RANK: 5 / 6 DISTRICTS  
SCORE: 0.145



## ESTIMATED POPULATION AND CAPITAL EXPOSED TO EACH HAZARD:



Earthquake

**0.0%**

0

-

Critical Infrastructure Exposed:  
0.0%



Extreme Heat

**4.1%**

4,461

\$31.5 Million

Critical Infrastructure Exposed:  
8.9%



Flood

**22.8%**

24,967

\$488.6 Million

Critical Infrastructure Exposed:  
21.3%



Landslide

**0.4%**

378

\$387,600

Critical Infrastructure Exposed:  
0.6%



Storm Surge

**37.6%**

41,079

\$35.4 Million

Critical Infrastructure Exposed:  
28.4%



Tropical Cyclone Winds

**100.0%**

109,356

\$1.2 Billion

Critical Infrastructure Exposed:  
100.0%



Wildfire

**20.9%**

22,822

\$299 Million

Critical Infrastructure Exposed:  
20.7%





## VULNERABILITY (V)

**RANK: 5 / 6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED**  
**SCORE: 0.421**

Vulnerability in Belize is primarily driven by Vulnerable Health Status and Environmental Stress. The bar charts indicate the socioeconomic themes contributing to the overall Vulnerability score.



### Environmental Stress SCORE: 0.591 RANK: 4/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED



**7.1%**

Tree cover loss

**-7.0%**

Projected changes in annual precipitation

**23.7%**

Decline in land productivity



### Vulnerable Health Status SCORE: 0.793 RANK: 2/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED



**209.11**

TB infections per 10k persons

**322.98**

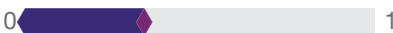
Dengue incidence per 100k persons

**27.95**

Malaria incidence per 100k persons



### Clean Water Vulnerability SCORE: 0.346 RANK: 5/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED



**7.42%**

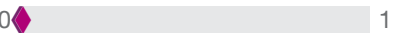
Households with unimproved water access

**2.87%**

Households with unimproved sanitation



### Information Access Vulnerability SCORE: 0.01 RANK: 6/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED



**91.4%**

Adult literacy

**97.9**

Primary to secondary school transition rate

**16.7%**

Working population with no secondary school education

**16.7%**

Households without radio access

**9.7%**

Households without television access

**79.0%**

Households without Internet access



**Economic Constraints** SCORE: 0.263 RANK: 6/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED



<b>9.7%</b> Average unemployment (2019)	<b>16.1%</b> Under-employment (2019)	<b>56.9</b> Economic dependency ratio	<b>4.3%</b> Population in lowest wealth quintile
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**Gender Inequality** SCORE: 0.461 RANK: 3/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED



<b>355.01</b> Domestic violence cases per 10k persons	<b>0,048</b> Female economic opportunity score	<b>6</b> Female economic opportunity rank	<b>1.03</b> Female to male secondary school transition ratio	<b>0.02</b> Female to male income ratio	<b>0.23</b> Female to male labor force participation ratio	<b>0.336</b> Female healthcare access score
<b>4</b> Female healthcare access rank	<b>10.3</b> Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	<b>221.9</b> Maternal mortality rate (per 100k live births)	<b>62.5</b> Adolescent birth rate (per 1,000 women)	<b>22.0%</b> Unmet need for contraception		



**Population Pressures** SCORE: 0.479 RANK: 4/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED



<b>3.36%</b> Average annual population change	<b>2.50%</b> Average annual urban population change	<b>9.20%</b> Prevalence of stunting
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## COPING CAPACITY (CC)

**RANK: 1 / 6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED**  
**SCORE: 0.602**

Belize exhibits weaker Coping Capacity in the areas of Transportation Capacity and Governance. The bar charts indicate the socioeconomic themes contributing to the overall Coping Capacity score.



### Economic Capacity SCORE: 0.833 RANK: 1/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED



**48.5%**

Households owning homes

**25.4%**

Change in active tourism business

**\$611.02**

Average revenue per room (BZ\$)

**\$1,495.96**

Median monthly income (BZ\$)

**72.45**

Labor force participation rate

**29.1%**

Population in highest wealth quintile



### Governance SCORE: 0.484 RANK: 4/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED



**81.7%**

Voter participation

**65.9%**

Households with municipal garbage collection

**53.43**

Crime rate per 10k persons



### Environmental Capacity SCORE: 0.560 RANK: 4/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED



**100.0%**

Land area with low interannual water variability

**19.1%**

Percent protected land area



### Infrastructure Capacity SCORE: 0.731 RANK: 2/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED



### Health Care Capacity SCORE: 0.549 RANK: 1/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED

**1.82**

Health care centers per 10,000 persons

**11.44**

Physicians per 10,000 persons

**25.19**

Nurses per 10,000 persons

**76.2%**

Immunization coverage

**14.31**

Average distance to hospital (km)

**12.59**

Hospital beds per 10,000 persons



### Transportation Capacity SCORE: 0.442 RANK: 4/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED

**0.4**

Road density (km)

**7.1**

Average distance to port facility (km)



**Communications Capacity** SCORE: 1.000 RANK: 1/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED

<b>0.98</b> Average distance to cell tower (km)	<b>30.6%</b> Households with fixed phone	<b>86.8%</b> Households with mobile phone
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**Energy Capacity** SCORE: 0.984 RANK: 1/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED

<b>97.3%</b> Households with electricity	<b>91.5%</b> Households using gas for cooking
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**Emergency Services Capacity** SCORE: 0.681 RANK: 2/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED

<b>741</b> Emergency shelter capacity per 10,000 persons	<b>13.7</b> Average distance to warehouse (km)	<b>2.1</b> Average distance to emergency shelter (km)	<b>8.1</b> Average distance to fire station (km)	<b>3.9</b> Average distance to police station (km)
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## RESILIENCE (R)

RANK: 1 / 6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED  
SCORE: 0.591

Belize's score and ranking are due to Low Vulnerability combined with Extremely High Coping Capacity scores.

Below are the four thematic areas with the weakest relative scores:



Vulnerable Health Status



Environmental Stress



Transportation Capacity



Governance



## HAZARD-SPECIFIC RISK (HSR)



Earthquake

RANK: 3 / 6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED  
SCORE: 0.000



Extreme Heat

RANK: 4 / 6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED  
SCORE: 0.054



Flood

RANK: 3 / 6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED  
SCORE: 0.230



Landslide

RANK: 5 / 6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED  
SCORE: 0.022



Storm Surge

RANK: 1 / 6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED  
SCORE: 0.344



Tropical Cyclone Winds

RANK: 3 / 6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED  
SCORE: 0.326



Wildfire

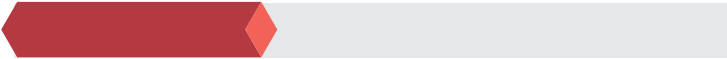
RANK: 6 / 6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED  
SCORE: 0.002





# MULTI-HAZARD RISK (MHR)

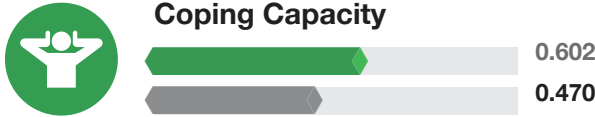
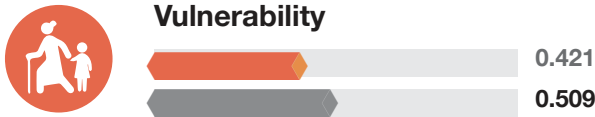
**6 / 6**  
RANK WITHIN DISTRICTS  
SCORE: 0.354



Belize's score and ranking are due to Low Multi-hazard Exposure combined with Low Vulnerability and Extremely High Coping Capacity scores.

**Multi-hazard risk component scores compared to overall average country scores:**

■ ■ BELIZE SCORE  
■ COUNTRY SCORE



## BELIZE RECOMMENDATIONS

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### Vulnerable Health Status

Belize ranks the second highest in the country for Vulnerable Health Status. Contributing to the high score is high Dengue Fever rates and high Tuberculosis rates. Public health campaigns can help address vaccinating against Dengue. In addition to vaccination campaigns for citizens, practice and develop mosquito mitigation plans. Mosquitos that carry Dengue can also carry chikungunya and zika. Standing water, inadequate sanitation, as well as inadequate and irregular garbage collection can all contribute to higher levels of mosquitos.

Belize is one of the countries reporting zero malaria cases since 2019 (PAHO/WHO, 2021). Lessons learned from this success could prove integral in the control of Dengue. Strengthen continuous capacity building for prompt and accurate testing, create programs for surveillance, case investigations and management, as well as conducting risk assessments to identify areas with a higher risk of transmission. In addition to mosquito mitigation, educate on the proper use of mosquito netting and prevention of mosquito bites through garments and repellants. Identify areas following hurricanes and storms that may collect water and develop a plan to remove the standing water at first opportunity.

In the case of Tuberculosis, immunization campaigns can be helpful, but so can improving environmental health conditions like indoor air quality during cooking, reducing overcrowded living circumstances and improving nutrition among the impoverished. Early diagnosis of tuberculosis, systematic screening and treatment, collaborative tuberculosis/HIV activities, and preventive treatment of persons at high risk are among the pillars of the World Health Organization's Global Tuberculosis Strategy to end Tuberculosis worldwide (WHO, 2014).

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# BELIZE RECOMMENDATIONS

## 2

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### Environmental Stress

Environmental stressors such as the depletion, degradation, or contamination of natural resources can exacerbate natural hazards and negatively impact the health, safety, and economic security of Belize's population. Although Belize district only ranks fourth in the country in environmental stress, high poverty rates, income inequality, clean water access vulnerability, and hazard exposures can be further exacerbated by environmental stressors. Unsustainable development contributes to increased risk of economic upheaval, force migration, and depletion of already limited resources. Promoting environmental health and mitigating sources of environmental stress will also help to safeguard against negative impacts to the tourism industry in Belize.

Environmental protection is vital to ensuring sustainable development within Belize. Continue to monitor and address sustainable development goals across all sectors (health, education, housing) to mitigate negative impacts associated with development. Identify areas where sustainable development and improvement may help mitigate mosquitos. Areas such as building window improvements, creation of proper outdoor drainage systems, and identifying areas that can hold standing water can all address both environmental stress and reducing vulnerable health status and the spread of disease.

## BELIZE RECOMMENDATIONS

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# 3

### Transportation Capacity

Belize ranks 4th of 6 Districts in Transportation Capacity. Limited transportation capacity can hamper emergency response activities and decrease public access to vital resources such as adequate healthcare and food. Additionally, it can create further strain on citizens and the economy due to the need to travel greater distances for job opportunities, health care, and education. Reduce the distances to airports and ports from populated areas and identify new or improve emergency routes for densely populated areas. 100% of Belize district's population is exposed to hurricane winds, with 38% exposed to storm surge and 22% to other inland flooding, so it is important to maintain evacuation routes and supply chain pathways.

Identify areas with limited transportation opportunities to identify the best project areas where increasing transportation capacity has the highest impact. Ensure new transportation routes are developed within sustainable development guidelines with proper materials. Evaluate land, sea, and air transportation routes to ensure sufficient access during normal operations and times of disaster.

In the case of Tuberculosis, immunization campaigns can be helpful, but so can improving environmental health conditions like indoor air quality during cooking, reducing overcrowded living circumstances and improving nutrition among the impoverished. Early diagnosis of tuberculosis, systematic screening and treatment, collaborative tuberculosis/HIV activities, and preventive treatment of persons at high risk are among the pillars of the World Health Organization's Global Tuberculosis Strategy to end Tuberculosis worldwide (WHO, 2014).

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# BELIZE RECOMMENDATIONS

## 4

### Governance

Belize ranks 4th of 6 districts in Governance. Contributing to the low score is the highest major crime rate per 10,000 persons. High crime rates break down neighborhoods, degrade social and community ties, and destabilize civil society. Belize also ranks 3rd of 6 for voter participation. Low voter participation can mean disillusionment, indifference with the government, or lack of faith in government functions. This can directly impact a person's choices to participate in criminal activities.

Address high crime rates through addressing the drivers of criminal activity in society. Create social programs to assist lower income populations in adequate shelters and needs. Additionally, increase community presence to reduce criminal activity through programs such as COMPSTAT. Work to build faith in the citizens through community outreach and education programs to increase civic participation.

**Better solutions.  
Fewer disasters.**

# Safer world.

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