



**BELIZE**

**TOLEDO**

**NDPBA DISTRICTS PROFILE**

# BELIZE TOLEDO

## CAPITAL: PUNTA GORDA

Area: 4,813 km<sup>2</sup>

The Toledo District is located in the Southern region of Belize. This District is divided into 63 Cities, Towns and Villages: Punta Gorda (The Capital), is the main city. The District borders Stann Creek to the north, Cayo to the northwest, Guatemala to the west and 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) - Extremely High**  
Score: 0.719 • Rank: 1/6



**RESILIENCE (R) - Very Low**  
Score: 0.285 • Rank: 6/6



**MULTI-HAZARD EXPOSURE (MHE) - Very High**  
Score: 0.756 • Rank: 2/6



**VULNERABILITY (V) - Extremely High**  
Score: 0.733 • Rank: 1/6



**COPING CAPACITY (CC) - Very Low**  
Score: 0.304 • Rank: 6/6



Population (2010 Census)  
**30,785**



Population in lowest wealth quintile  
**65.1%**



Population with no secondary school education  
**76.4%**



Households with unimproved water access  
**6.78% households**



Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)  
**29.5**

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



# MULTI-HAZARD EXPOSURE (MHE)

RANK: 2 / 6 DISTRICTS  
SCORE: 0.756



MHE  
0.756

Raw MHE  
0.511

Relative MHE  
1.000

## ESTIMATED POPULATION AND CAPITAL EXPOSED TO EACH HAZARD:



Earthquake

**100.0%**

**31,346**

**\$1.7 Billion**

Critical Infrastructure Exposed:  
99.3%



Extreme Heat

**61.7%**

**19,333**

**\$318.2 Million**

Critical Infrastructure Exposed:  
75.4%



Flood

**32.5%**

**10,178**

**\$971.8 Million**

Critical Infrastructure Exposed:  
38.4%



Landslide

**6.9%**

**2,169**

**\$19.6 Million**

Critical Infrastructure Exposed:  
9.4%



Storm Surge

**5.3%**

**1,664**

**\$47.7 Million**

Critical Infrastructure Exposed:  
4.4%



Tropical Cyclone Winds

**100.0%**

**31,346**

**\$1.7 Billion**

Critical Infrastructure Exposed:  
100.0%



Wildfire

**77.1%**

**24,171**

**\$829.4 Million**

Critical Infrastructure Exposed:  
83.3%



## VULNERABILITY (V)

**RANK: 1 / 6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED**  
**SCORE: 0.733**

Vulnerability in Toledo is primarily driven by Vulnerable Health Status and Information Access Vulnerability. The bar charts indicate the socioeconomic themes contributing to the overall Vulnerability score.



### Environmental Stress SCORE: 0.451 RANK: 5/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED



**13.7%**

Tree cover loss

**-9.2%**

Projected changes in annual precipitation

**15.5%**

Decline in land productivity



### Vulnerable Health Status SCORE: 0.930 RANK: 1/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED



**189.37**

TB infections per 10k persons

**33.22**

Dengue incidence per 100k persons

**3770.76**

Malaria incidence per 100k persons



### Clean Water Vulnerability SCORE: 0.814 RANK: 1/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED



**6.78%**

Households with unimproved water access

**49.09%**

Households with unimproved sanitation



### Information Access Vulnerability SCORE: 0.909 RANK: 1/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED



**69.2%**

Adult literacy

**81.7**

Primary to secondary school transition rate

**26.5%**

Working population with no secondary school education

**26.5%**

Households without radio access

**52.7%**

Households without television access

**96.6%**

Households without Internet access





**Economic Constraints** SCORE: 0.750 RANK: 1/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED



<b>5.7%</b> Average unemployment (2019)	<b>36.7%</b> Under-employment (2019)	<b>88.1</b> Economic dependency ratio	<b>65.1%</b> Population in lowest wealth quintile
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**Gender Inequality** SCORE: 0.585 RANK: 2/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED



<b>99.72</b> Domestic violence cases per 10k persons	<b>0,680</b> Female economic opportunity score	<b>2</b> Female economic opportunity rank	<b>1.05</b> Female to male secondary school transition ratio	<b>0.28</b> Female to male income ratio	<b>0.44</b> Female to male labor force participation ratio	<b>0.964</b> Female healthcare access score
<b>1</b> Female healthcare access rank	<b>29.5</b> Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	<b>304.9</b> Maternal mortality rate (per 100k live births)	<b>98.0</b> Adolescent birth rate (per 1,000 women)	<b>31.0%</b> Unmet need for contraception		



**Population Pressures** SCORE: 0.692 RANK: 2/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED



<b>2.81%</b> Average annual population change	<b>2.12%</b> Average annual urban population change	<b>33.20%</b> Prevalence of stunting
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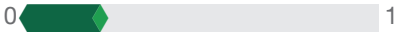
## COPING CAPACITY (CC)

**RANK: 6 / 6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED**  
**SCORE: 0.304**

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



### Economic Capacity SCORE: 0.213 RANK: 6/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED



**77.3%**

Households owning homes

**2.3%**

Change in active tourism business

**\$83.57**

Average revenue per room (BZ\$)

**\$988.84**

Median monthly income (BZ\$)

**60.57**

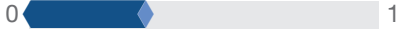
Labor force participation rate

**7.2%**

Population in highest wealth quintile



### Governance SCORE: 0.333 RANK: 5/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED



**77.8%**

Voter participation

**21.6%**

Households with municipal garbage collection

**13.23**

Crime rate per 10k persons



### Environmental Capacity SCORE: 0.966 RANK: 2/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED



**100.0%**

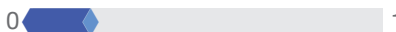
Land area with low interannual water variability

**52.4%**

Percent protected land area



### Infrastructure Capacity SCORE: 0.175 RANK: 6/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED



### Health Care Capacity SCORE: 0.340 RANK: 6/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED

**12.76**

Health care centers per 10,000 persons

**4.55**

Physicians per 10,000 persons

**7.80**

Nurses per 10,000 persons

**78.6%**

Immunization coverage

**21.15**

Average distance to hospital (km)

**11.04**

Hospital beds per 10,000 persons



### Transportation Capacity SCORE: 0.000 RANK: 6/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED

**0.3**

Road density (km)

**12.5**

Average distance to port facility (km)



**Communications Capacity** SCORE: 0.000 RANK: 6/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED

<b>5.37</b> Average distance to cell tower (km)	<b>8.5%</b> Households with fixed phone	<b>55.5%</b> Households with mobile phone
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**Energy Capacity** SCORE: 0.000 RANK: 6/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED

<b>70.8%</b> Households with electricity	<b>58.4%</b> Households using gas for cooking
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**Emergency Services Capacity** SCORE: 0.536 RANK: 4/6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED

<b>1,674</b> Emergency shelter capacity per 10,000 persons	<b>12.9</b> Average distance to warehouse (km)	<b>1.5</b> Average distance to emergency shelter (km)	<b>19.7</b> Average distance to fire station (km)	<b>11.0</b> Average distance to police station (km)
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## RESILIENCE (R)

**RANK: 6 / 6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED**  
**SCORE: 0.285**

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

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



Vulnerable Health Status



Information Access Vulnerability



Communications Capacity



Communications Capacity



## HAZARD-SPECIFIC RISK (HSR)



Earthquake



**RANK: 1 / 6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED**  
**SCORE: 0.715**



Extreme Heat



**RANK: 1 / 6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED**  
**SCORE: 0.503**



Flood



**RANK: 1 / 6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED**  
**SCORE: 0.570**



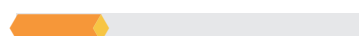
Landslide



**RANK: 1 / 6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED**  
**SCORE: 0.583**



Storm Surge



**RANK: 4 / 6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED**  
**SCORE: 0.242**



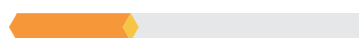
Tropical Cyclone Winds



**RANK: 2 / 6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED**  
**SCORE: 0.432**



Wildfire



**RANK: 3 / 6 DISTRICTS ASSESSED**  
**SCORE: 0.330**





# MULTI-HAZARD RISK (MHR)

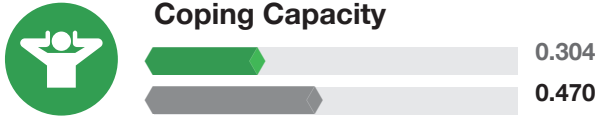
**1 / 6**  
RANK WITHIN DISTRICTS  
SCORE: 0.719



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

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

**TOLEDO SCORE** (represented by colored bars)  
**COUNTRY SCORE** (represented by grey bars)



## TOLEDO RECOMMENDATIONS

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### Vulnerable Health Status

Toledo scores the highest in the country for Vulnerable Health Status. Contributing to the high score is the highest rate of Malaria (from 2010) and the second highest for Tuberculosis rates (2010). While Malaria may be mostly eradicated in the country since 2019, 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 (PAHO/WHO, 2021). 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).

Toledo also has the highest numbers of homes with unimproved sanitation (49%), the highest numbers for unmet need of contraception in women, and the highest numbers of infant and maternal mortality. It also has the highest percentage of its critical infrastructure exposed to hazards. Investing in public health campaigns for women and families, inclusive of immunization campaigns, can trickle to better long term health and nutrition. Increase clean sanitation access to lessen the spread of infectious disease in the community and increase access to critical care infrastructure like clinics and hospitals. Building protected health care infrastructure that caters to these needs in disaster prone areas is critical to providing short and long term emergency services.

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# TOLEDO RECOMMENDATIONS

## 2

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### Information Access Vulnerability

Toledo scores the highest in Belize for Information Access Vulnerability. 96% of homes in Toledo do not have internet leaving many to rely on broadband radio and television to receive their information. However, in Toledo, only 47% of households have television and 75% have radio. Lack of access to information hinders the ability of government agencies to share critical information during disasters. Lack of access to information can also contribute to limited access to education, healthcare, and other needs. In a district with highly vulnerable health status, the access to information is critical, especially to educate to reduce disease vectors of communicable diseases and ensure vaccination rates.

Increase network infrastructure to increase coverage, accessibility, and reliability of communications for day-to-day use and especially during disasters. Encourage telecommunication infrastructure development at a sustainable pace. Encourage education and the use public resources for access to the internet and television.

Furthermore, access to education and the ability to digest complex information can significantly improve a population's ability to find shelter, economic stability and fulfil nutritional needs during and after a disaster. 76% of Toledo's working population has had no secondary school and only 69% of the district's adults are literate (the lowest ranking in the nation). Advancing formal and informal education and job training programs and providing opportunities for secondary education for adults can improve these rankings and provide stability for the economy, as well as improving access to important health information.

## TOLEDO RECOMMENDATIONS

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# 3

### Communications Capacity

Building upon the deficiencies in information access, Toledo also ranks the lowest of all 6 districts in Communications Capacity. Contributing to the low score is the lowest number of households with a mobile or landline telephone. Couple this with the lowest numbers of homes having access to internet, radio, or television and there is a significant barrier to getting information to the local population. Lack of capability to quickly communicate messages from government to citizens can greatly exacerbate the effects of a natural disaster. It also increases response times for first responders because many lack access to place a call.

Develop a sustainable plan to have every household have at least one kind of phone access. This ensures that messages can be passed during emergencies. Offer low or reduced cost mobile phone or offer incentives to increase the number of households with a mobile telephone line. This will need to be coupled with building out cell tower infrastructure, as Toledo also has the third furthest distance to cell towers from populated places. Identify secondary and tertiary communication plans in the event of emergencies that do not require the use of telephone lines. Work with nonprofits like the Red Cross or PAHO to help distribute emergency radios and encourage investment for telecommunications like Broadband.

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## TOLEDO RECOMMENDATIONS

# 4

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### Communications Capacity

Energy and Transportation Capacity are often linked. In Toledo, only 71% of households had access to electricity and only 58% had access to Gas for cooking. These two indicators were the lowest rates of any of the districts for energy capacity. Improve access to electricity from the Hydroelectric facility in the district and offer subsidies for more off-grid electricity options in areas where direct connections are not economically feasible.

Electrical access often follows maintained roadways. The Toledo district has the lowest road density of all the districts. It is a large district but there are populated areas without direct road access. This also usually correlates with these areas not having access to energy. Toledo also has the longest distance to ports and airports of all the districts. Building transportation capacity in the district will allow for additional energy and economic development to occur and can speed up the delivery of emergency and recovery supplies and materials after a disaster. Clear and direct access to ports and airports are critical to the flow of emergency relief.

**Better solutions.  
Fewer disasters.**

# Safer world.

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