

## **Belice**

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## Introduction and background

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This report is the outcome of a workshop on the analysis of census information on migration in Central America. The workshop was developed within the framework of activities of the Information System on Migration in Central America project (SIEMCA).

The SIEMCA project was developed as a consequence of the need for “adequate and timely information for the formulation of migration policies and actions” in the Central American region. Its aim is to “articulate and ensure compatibility of data produced by the various sources in the region and make it possible to monitor and understand the characteristics and magnitude of international migration movements taking place both within and outside the region.”

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is in charge of coordinating and monitoring the project implementation while, CELADE provides technical assistance to the activities. The Statistics and Migration Departments of the respective countries contribute the necessary inputs to develop the project. Each country has designated a specialist from these departments to serve as National Liaison Officers to the project.

Belize is geographically located on the isthmus of Central America. However, its British colonial past makes it the only English-speaking nation on the isthmus, and more culturally connected to the English Speaking Caribbean countries. Belize gained its political independence on September 21, 1981 and was the last among the Central American countries to have done so. As a member of both the Caribbean Community of Nations (CARICOM) and the Central American Integration System (SICA), Belize is in a unique position to assist in bridging the gap between Central America and the Caribbean.

The population of Belize is relatively small, (249 800 at mid-year 2000) compared to the other countries in Central America. Its area is approximately 8 866 square miles or 22 700 square kilometres. This is twice the size of El Salvador, which has a population that is more than five times higher.

There are six districts or administrative divisions namely, Corozal and Orange Walk to the north, Belize in the east, Cayo in the west and Stann Creek and Toledo in the south. All, except Belize and Stann Creek districts, are situated along Belize's border with Mexico and/or Guatemala. Which facilitates movement from across these borders as well as with Honduras, on the south of the country.

Belize has four major ethnic groups, Creole, Garifuna, Maya and Mestizo that speak their own dialect, while English is the national language. These groups are concentrated in certain parts of the country. However, a proportion of all the ethnic groups could be found in each of the districts. Other ethnic groups that can be found in Belize include the East Indians, Mennonites and East Asians.

Belize's economy was based on primary sector activities. Timber exports, mainly mahogany, dominated foreign exchange earnings from early to mid 20<sup>th</sup> century. Thereafter, the citrus, sugar cane and banana industries have become the principal products. Most of the workers in this industries have been immigrants. During the 1990s there was increased growth in the tourism industry, that has provided many jobs in the service sector.

The combination of these unique features, small population, diverse culture and easy access across its borders makes Belize vulnerable to the impacts of international migration. Any significant change in the number of immigrants or emigrants of a particular ethnic group, to or from a particular part of the country could impact on the spatial distribution or ethnic composition of the population.

It was not until the latter part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century that migration became a major issue in Belize. From the early 1960s until the late 1970s, these issues were related mainly to the outflow of Belizeans. However, they were broadened to include the growing concerns on the influx of mainly Central American refugees to Belize in the 1980s and the increased number of East Asian immigrants who came mainly as economic citizens during the 1990s. Closer attention is now placed on the net impact that immigration and emigration has on the population.

This report attempts to address these issues. Chapter I present information on the number and distribution of the immigrants and emigrants by age, sex and country of birth. The socio-economic profile is presented in Chapter II, while Chapter III addresses some consequences of international migration<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> This research paper benefits from the work done by Seidy Álvarez from the Central SIEMCA Project Group on the Santiago Workshop.

## Chapter I: Demographic Characteristics

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The number and proportion of immigrants in Belize have been increasing for the past three decades. The 1980 Census recorded 12 940 immigrants representing 9% of the population. These figures increased to 26 204 and 13.8%, respectively, in 1991; by 2000, the total immigrant population had reached 34 279 and represented 14.7% of the total population (table 1). However, the high average annual growth rate experienced in the 1980/1991 period (6.2%) decreased to 3% in the 1991/2000 period.

The figures indicate that the sex ratio —males per females— of the immigrant population was as high as 122 males per 100 females in the 1970s and 1980s. However, the ratio was decreased to 105 in the 1990s. One of the main factors that have contributed to this change is the increasing proportion of females that have migrated to Belize. In 1980, females represented 45.6% of the immigrant population and by 2000 they represented 48.9%. The sex ratio of the total population is lower than that of the immigrant population. The corresponding rates for 1980 and 2000 are 101 and 102, respectively.

Data on the age distribution of the immigrant population show that the majority of the immigrants are in the potentially productive age group (20-59 years). This group has increased its share of the immigrant population from 57% in 1980 to 68% in 2000. The under 20 population represented 31.4% of the immigrant population in 1980 as well as in 1991. Their share of the immigrant population decreased to 24.6% in 2000. These figures indicate that the 1980s had the highest proportion of children among the immigrants who

came to Belize over the past three decades and that immigrants who came to Belize during the 1990s were less likely than those in the 1970s and 1980s to have brought children with them. It should be noted that children born to immigrants in Belize are Belizeans and would not be counted as immigrants.

The proportion of the 60 years and older population decreased during the 1980s compared to the previous decade. However, in the

1990s their share of the immigrant population increased but has not reached the level that it was in the 1970s.

The age distribution of the immigrant population is different from that of the total population. The under 20 population represents the majority of the total population. However, their proportion has decreased from 56% in 1980 to 51% in 2000.

Table 2 presents the distribution of the immigrant population by urban/rural and district levels. Data from the 2000 census show that the majority (59.7%) of the immigrants had settled in the rural areas of Belize. This is a decrease compared to 1991 when 65.8% of them lived in rural areas. These figures indicate that during the 1990s, there were movements of immigrants from the rural to the urban areas and/or that the immigrants who went to Belize in the 1990s settled mainly in urban areas.

The immigrants are more attracted to Cayo and Belize districts, which together accounted for the majority of the total immigrant population in 2000, 30.9% and 21.8%, respectively. During the 1980s Cayo also had the biggest shares of immigrant population (32.1%). However, Belize district accounted for only 17.5%. Stann Creek and Orange Walk districts also had a bigger share of the immigrant population during that period, 12.9 and 16.4% respectively.

The majority of immigrants who came to Belize during the 1980s and 1990s were from Central American countries. This was a significant change compared to the 1970s when the majority of immigrants came from countries outside of the Central American sub-region. The 1980 Census figures indicate that 45% of immigrants were from Central American countries whereas, in 1991 and 2000 this group represented the majority of the immigrant population, 73.1% and 76.7%, respectively.

These figures indicate that there are two distinct groups of immigrants in Belize, those from the Central American sub-region and those from other countries. The subsequent analysis on immigrants will therefore focus on these two distinct groups. The Central American group will be further broken down to give detailed information on immigrants from the three main sending countries, Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras. Detailed information is also provided for some of the major sending countries in the "Other Countries" group including, Mexico and the United States of America (USA).

## 1. Central American Immigrants

During the 1980s, there was an influx of Central America immigrants to Belize. The figures in table 1 show that the average annual growth rate during that period was 9.7%, higher compared to that of the total immigrant population (6.2%). One of the main reasons for this influx was the effect of the civil strife in the region. Many flee El Salvador, and Guatemala to come to Belize. According to Palacio (1985), "when the Central Americans started coming in large numbers, the Belize government had an 'open door' policy to immigrants." Belize welcomed these Central American immigrants, who were mainly classified as refugees and displaced persons.

The Government of Belize enacted the Refugee Act of 1991, which made provisions for refugees, in accordance with the Geneva Convention relating to the Status of Refugees. The government also established the Refugee Department, which provided social support services. This

was in addition to the services offered by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR).

Even though the conflict has ended, immigrants from Central America have continued to migrate to Belize. Their number has increased from 19 149 in 1991 to 26 083 in 2000. However, the high growth rate experienced during the 1980s was not sustained. Average annual growth rate during the 1990s decreased to 3.4%.

Data from the 2000 census indicate that the majority (63.9%) of the Central American immigrants has settled in the rural areas of Belize (table 2). This rate is lower compared to 1991 when 71.4% of them had settled in the rural areas. The change in urban/rural distribution of this group is a result of internal migration from rural to urban areas as well as an increase in the proportion that initially settled in the urban areas during the 1990s.

Almost one third of the Central American immigrants have settled in the Cayo district in 2000. This district has been most attractive to Central American immigrants because it is the only district that has established refugee settlements that have access to arable land for agriculture. The distribution of Central American immigrants in the other districts ranges from 6.5% in Corozal to 17.6% in Belize district. The 1991 figures show that Cayo had a bigger share (35.8%) compared to 2000 and distribution in the other districts ranged from 9.1% in Corozal to 15.3% in Stann Creek. These figures indicate that Cayo's share of the Central American immigrants is much higher compared to the other districts even though that share has decreased in the 1990s. Corozal district also experienced a decrease in its share. However all the other districts experienced an increase in their share of the Central American immigrant population.

## 1.1 Country of Birth

Immigrants from the three main sending countries, Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras, together accounted for 98.5% of the immigrants from Central America in 2000 (table 3). This rate is similar to the corresponding rates for 1991 and 1980. One of the factors that have contributed to the high percentage of immigrants from these three countries is the easy access by land and sea. These three countries are the nearest Central American countries to Belize.

In 2000, Guatemalans accounted for the majority (56%) of Central American immigrants. They have maintained this position and increased their share of the immigrant population in Belize for the past three decades. Belize shares the full length of its western and southern borders with Guatemala. Most of the Guatemalan immigrants have settled in the districts that lie along these borders. In 2000, Cayo district accounted for 37% of Guatemalan immigrants while, Toledo and Stann Creek districts accounted for 20.5% and 13.9%, respectively. Guatemalans are more likely than any other group of immigrants to have settled in rural areas. In 2000, 69% of them lived in rural areas. This is a decrease compared to 1991 when 74% of them lived in rural areas.

The intercensal growth rate (12%) of immigrants from El Salvador during the 1980s was the highest compared to any other group of immigrants. They accounted for almost 29.5% of the Central American immigrants' population in 1991. One of the main reasons for this high influx of immigrants from this country was the effect of the civil war. When the conflict ended the flow of immigrants from El Salvador decreased. This resulted in reduced average annual growth rate to 1% during the 1990s. However, they have maintained the second biggest share of the Central American immigrant population accounting for 23.1% in 2000.

Immigrants from El Salvador have to intransit Guatemala and/or Honduras to reach Belize. Most of them (42.4%) have settled in the Cayo district. This group of immigrants is also more rural than urban based. In 2000, the majority of them (64.9%) lived in rural areas, a decrease compared to 1991 (77.3%).

In 1980, immigrants from Honduras accounted for approximately 28% of the Central American immigrant population in Belize. The figures in table 2 indicate that even though the number of them increased by 48% in 1991, their proportion decreased to 12%. By 2000, the number of Hondurans more than doubled compared to 1991 and their share of the Central American immigrant population increased to 19%. This group of immigrants had experienced the highest growth rate during the 1990s.

Honduras lies immediately south of Belize. Most of the immigrants from this country have settled in the southern district of Stann Creek and in Belize district. In 2000, these two districts together accounted for 72% of the immigrants from Honduras. Honduran immigrants are the most urbanised compared to the other groups of Central American immigrants. In 2000, 50% of them lived in urban areas, a slight increase compared to 1991 (48%).

Nicaragua also had civil strife in the 1980s resulted in a high number of displaced persons. They went mainly to Costa Rica and Panama, closer to them, and only a small percentage went to Belize.

## 1.2 Sex and Age

The sex ratio of the immigrants from Central America has always been lower than that compared to the total immigrant population. Data from Table 1.2 indicate that when the sex ratio of the total immigrant population were 122 in 1980 and 116.2 in 1991, the corresponding ratio among Central American immigrants were 119.4 and 112.3, respectively. By 2000, the Central American immigrant population had nearly as many females as males, sex ratio was one to one. These figures indicate that there was a higher proportion of females from Central America in the 1990s compared to the two previous decades.

The sex ratio among Guatemalan immigrants has decreased over the past three decades. In 1980 there were 116 males per 100 females. This ratio was decreased to 104.7 in 1991, and reached 96.3 in 2000. Guatemalans are the only Central American immigrants that reported more females than males in 2000. Owing to the proximity to Belize, it is probably easier for females from this country to travel on their own. Furthermore, they have easy access to economic activities in the banana and citrus industries.

The sex ratio among immigrants from El Salvador was as low as 102.6 in 1980. However, the ratio increased to 121 males for 100 females in 1991. This reflects the high influx of mainly males during the conflict in the 1980s. This ratio was reduced to 108 in 2000.

During the 1970s and 1980s sex ratio among Honduran immigrants were high, 162.7 and 122.7, respectively. However, there was a significant decrease during the 1990s when the sex ratio reached 103.8.

The majority of the Central American immigrants are in the potentially productive age group (20–59 years). Their proportion increased by 5.1% in the 1980/1991 period. The under 20 population had only a small increase in its share (2.5%) during that same period and even though the 60 and over population has increased in absolute numbers, their share of the immigrant population decreased from 7.7% in 1980 to 5.7% in 1991.

The proportion of immigrants from Guatemala and Honduras that is in the potentially productive age group increased between 1980 and 1991. However, there was a decrease among immigrants from El Salvador in the same age group. The figures for the under 20 population indicate that Guatemalan and Salvadoran immigrants are more likely than Honduran immigrants to migrate with their children. In 1991, 38% of the Guatemalan and 37% of Salvadoran immigrants were in the under 20 population compared to 26% of Honduran immigrants. These figures, compared to



1980, show little change among Guatemalan immigrants in the same age group but a decrease in the proportion among Honduran and an increase among Salvadoran immigrants.

The proportion of sixty and older immigrants from Central America has decreased from 7.7% in 1980 to 5.7% in 1991. There was also a decrease in the proportion of this age group in the total population, during the same period. However, the proportion is lower in the total population for both periods.

Immigrants in the 60 and older population from both Honduras and El Salvador experienced a slight increase in their proportion during the 1980/1991 period. However, those from Guatemalan decreased from 8.2% to 5.6% during the same period.

## 2. Immigrants from other Countries

The 1980 Census recorded 7,121 immigrants from countries outside of the Central American sub-region. This group of immigrants experienced negative growth (-0.1%) in the 1980s while, there was the influx of Central American immigrants during the same period. Even though there was a 1.7% average annual growth during the 1990s, this was at a lower rate compared to the growth among the Central American immigrants.

One of the main factors that have contributed to the growth of immigrants from countries outside the Central American sub-region is the reintroduction of the Economic Citizenship Program in 1995. This programme, which was first introduced in 1985 allows for the sale of Belizean passports and is the only government policy that sets a quota on the number of immigrants. The policy stipulates: “the number of heads of household to be granted citizenship shall not exceed in any one year one quarter of 1% of the population, so as to assure that those acquiring economic citizenship shall at no time pose any threat to the security, political or cultural balance of our society.”

This group of immigrants is more urbanised than those coming from Central America. In 2000, the majority of them (53.5%) lived in urban areas, an increase compared to 1991 (50.5%). This group of immigrants has always concentrated in Belize district, which accounted for 34.6% of them in 2000 and 30.9% in 1991. They are also attracted to the Cayo district (24.4% in 2000).

### 2.1 Country of Birth

The figures show that in 2000, immigrants from Mexico and the United States of America (USA) together accounted for one half (50%) of the immigrants from outside the Central American sub – region. Mexico’s share decreased from 41.7% in 1980 to 28.7% in 2000 while, the USA’s share increased from 14.8% in 1980 to 21.3% in 2000.

The majority of Mexican immigrants (68%) have settled in the two northern districts, Corozal and Orange Walk, which are closest to Belize’s border with Mexico. They are also more rural than urban based. In 2000, 77% of them lived in rural areas. Those from the USA however, are more urban based, 62% lived in urban areas in 2000 and are more attracted to Belize (40%) and Cayo (24%) districts.

There has been noticeable increase in the proportion of immigrants from China. In 1980 they accounted for 1.6% of the immigrants from outside the Central American region and by 2000 their share has increased to 12.2%. Immigrants from this country are among the main ones to have benefited from the Economic Citizenship Programme.

Immigrants from China are the most urbanised compared with any other group of immigrants. In 2000, the majority of them (85.7%) lived in urban areas and in the Belize district (63.5%).

During the 1970s when Belize was still a British colony, immigrants from the United Kingdom accounted for 5.2% of the immigrants from outside the Central American region. However, with Independence in 1981 and the withdrawal of British Forces in the early 1990s, the proportion of British immigrants gradually declined to 3.3% in 2000. The proportion of immigrants from Canada and Jamaica has also declined over the past three decades.

## **2.2 Age and Sex**

In 1980 there were 124 males per 100 females among the immigrants from countries outside the Central American region. The ratio increased to 128 in 1991 and then decreased to 119 in 2000. These figures are higher compared to the respective sex ratio among Central American immigrants.

There was a decline in sex ratio among immigrants from Mexico, from 136 in 1980 to 115 in 2000. The ratio among immigrants from the USA also declined between 1980 and 1991 but changed very little between 1991 and 2001. Sex ratio has remained stable among immigrants from Canada and they are the only group that has more females than males. Sex ratio for this group was 96 in 1980 and 97 in 1991 and 2000.

The proportion of the 60 and over population in this group has gradually increased from 9% in 1980 to 11.3% in 2000. The corresponding figures for the Central American immigrant are lower which indicates that this group is more likely to retire in Belize than Central American immigrants.

A closer look at the country level indicates that the Canadian immigrants had the highest proportion of the 60 and over population. In 2000, they accounted for 27% of the Canadian immigrants and the rates are almost as high for 1991 and 1980. These figures suggest that Canadian's are more likely to retire in Belize than immigrants from other countries.

## **3. Belizean Emigrants**

Data on Belizeans who live outside of Belize could be obtained from Censuses of Belize and the receiving countries. However, census is not the best source for this type of data. There are, for instance, limitations with respect to the under-enumeration. The subsequent analysis on Belizean emigrants is based on census data from Belize as well as from other countries including Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama and Canada. It is suspected that the total figures are underestimated. Nevertheless, the data give an indication of the basic profile of Belizean emigrants.

### **3.1 Receiving Country**

In 1980, a total of 2 777 Belizeans were counted in the censuses of other countries including Panama, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mexico and Canada. The Central American countries together accounted for 43.7%, Mexico 34.3% and Canada 19.8% (table 4). The 1990 census data from the USA, Mexico and all the Central American countries excepting Costa Rica indicate a total of 31 970. The USA accounted for the majority (93.7%). Census data for 2000 from Panama, Costa Rica and Mexico show a total of 1 223 Belizeans. Mexico accounted for 84.5%.

A comparison of the 1980 and 1990 figures available for Guatemala, Panama and Mexico indicates that the number of Belizeans has decreased in Guatemala and Panama and increased in Mexico during the 1980s. The decrease was higher in Panama (64%) than in Guatemala (37%).

Belize's 1991 and 2000 census questionnaires included a section that gathered information on emigrants' year of departure, age, sex, and education at time of departure. This section was completed by households, that reported that one or more household member had migrated over the past 10 years. The majority of households did not complete this section even though it is suspected most households

in Belize have had at least one person that migrated in the past 10 years. As noted earlier, this source of data has its limitations. In cases where whole households have migrated, these emigrants are not accounted for. Furthermore, household members might have been reluctant to give information on other household members that have migrated illegally.

Belize's 1991 census data reported 3 050 that migrated between 1980 and 1991. The majority (52%) of these emigrants left Belize in the mid to late 1980s and migrated mainly to the USA (86%). Five percent (5%) migrated to Mexico and 3% to Central American countries. Only 2 181 emigrants were reported in the 2000 census, which is lower compared to 1991. Most of the emigration occurred in 1999. This last year in the decade and the millennium might have been a push factor for a change. The USA remained the number one receiving country and has maintained its share of Belizean emigrants (CSO, 2000). It is suspected that the USA will continue to be the main receiving country since Belizean Americans have developed a support system in that country that facilitates the migration of even more Belizeans.

Even though the numbers are small, there was an increase of emigrants to Central America and a decrease to Mexico during the 1990s. One of the factors that might have contributed to the increase of emigrants to Central America is the restored peace in the region during that period. Furthermore, closer bonds with the Central American immigrants and more established contacts in the region might have encouraged migration.

### **3.2 Age and Sex**

Table 4 presents the age and sex distribution of Belizean in Panama, Guatemala, Mexico and Canada based on 1980 censuses. The majority of Belizean in Panama was males (70.3%) and 50 years and older (67.4%). During World War II, a number of Belizean citizens went to work in Panama. Some of them remained there and in 1980 these older men accounted for 55.6% of the Belizeans in Panama. Most of the women were also 50 years and older and there were few children less than 10 years old.

Most of Belizeans in Guatemala was also in the fifty and older age group (31.5%). However the majority was females (52%). Mexico and Canada also had majority females, 68.3% and 59.1% respectively.

The 1990 census data of these countries indicate that there were very little change in the age distribution of Belizeans in Guatemala and Mexico. Available data for Honduras show that in 25% of the Belizean were younger than 10 years old. Close family ties and easy access between southern Belize and northern Honduras might have made it easier for children to migrate.

Data on the age and sex distribution obtained from Belize censuses show that the majority of emigrants was female, 55% in 2000 and 56.2% in 1991. The trend continues where, it is mainly the youths (15 – 24 years) that are migrating, 51% in 2000 and 53.6% in 1991 (Major Findings, 2000).



## **Chapter II: Socio-Economic Characteristics**

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### **1. Immigrants**

This section examines more specifically the years of schooling, labour force participation and the industry of immigrants. Comparisons are made where data are available for 2000, 1990 and 1980 censuses. Comparisons are also made with the immigrant and total population of Belize.

#### **1.1 Years of Schooling**

Data on the years of schooling for immigrants in the 10 years and older population are presented in table 5. The figures show that in 1991, 39.9% of the immigrants have had seven or more years of schooling. This is equivalent to a Standard Five or higher education. Any person 14 years or older who has completed at least Standard Five or seven years of schooling is considered to be literate. Even though the rate presented above also includes those aged ten years and older it gives an indication of the literacy rate.

The 1991 figures show that the proportion of males (40.6%) with more than seven years of schooling is higher than that for the females (39.1%). These rates reflect a decrease for both sexes compared to 1980. However the decrease among females was lower (14.4%) than among the males (16.9%). This suggests that the female immigrants of the 1980s had higher levels of schooling than the males during that same period.

In 1991, 30.4% Central American immigrants had seven or more years of schooling. This rate is lower than in 1980 (39%) and indicates that the Central American immigrants of the 1980s had lower levels of schooling than those before that period. There was a wide gap in 1980 when the females had a higher rate (43.8%) with seven or more years

of schooling than the males (35%). However, there was very little difference in 1991. The percent decline at this level of schooling was twice as high for the females (29.2%) compared to the males (14.3%). These figures suggest that the female immigrants of the 1980s had lower levels of schooling compared to the males in that same period, as well as, to the females in the previous period.

The majority of immigrants from Honduras (54.1%) had seven or more years of schooling in 1991, while 39.1% of Salvadorans and 29.4% of Guatemalans had the same level of education. The proportion at this level of education decreased between 1980 and 1991 for immigrants from all three countries. The Salvadorans experienced the biggest decline 24.3% at this level.

The immigrants from other countries have always had higher levels of education than those coming from Central America. In 1991, 65.7% of them had seven or more years of schooling. They experienced an increase in the level of schooling during the 1980s, while, in the same period, their Central American counterpart experienced a decrease at the same level.

The females in this group have always had lower levels of schooling than the males. However, the gap narrowed in the 1980s. In 1991, 67.5% of males had seven or more years of schooling compared to 63.3% of females and the corresponding rates in 1980 were 60.2% and 47.4%, respectively. These figures indicate that female immigrants of the 1980s in this group had higher levels of schooling than those in the previous period.

The figures in table 5 show that the majority of immigrants from all the countries listed in this group, except Mexico, had seven or more years of schooling in 1991. This proportion with this level of education has increased for immigrants from the UK and the USA between 1980 and 1991. However, there was a decrease among those from the other countries in this group.

## 1.2 Labour Force

The labour force includes all persons fourteen years or older that are employed and those without work and seeking or available to work. The figures in Table 2.2 show that there was very little change in labour force participation rate among immigrants between 1980 (49%) and 1991 (50.4%). However, the rate increased by 31% between 1991 and 2000.

Male immigrants have a higher labour force participation (LFP) rate than females. In 2000, 88.6% of male immigrants were in the labour force compared to 42.2% of females. These rates reflect an increase for both sexes compared to 1980. However, over the twenty years period male participation increased by 18.3%, while female labour force participation more than doubled.

There was a small change in labour force participation among the under twenty population between 1980 (24.2%) and 1991 (23.4%). However, the rate increased to 51.7% in 2000 for this age group. There was a 9% decrease in labour force participation among the 60 and older population between 1980 and 1991, which probably indicates that the immigrants in this age group are increasingly going to Belize to retire rather than to find work. By 2000 however, their participation rate was 45.7% an increase compared to 1991.

A closer look at the figures show that labour force participation among Central American immigrants was 49.3% in 1980 and increased to 61.8% in 1991 and 66.7% in 2000. Central American female labour force participation rates have gradually increased between 1980 and 2000. The figures show that 15.1% of females were in the labour force in 1980 compared to 41.4% in 2000. These figures are evident of the move from traditional home duties among women to increased labour force participation.

Labour force participation rate was highest among immigrants from Honduras (73.1%) compared to other Central American immigrants, in 2000. This was not the case in 1991 or 1980 when labour force participation was highest among those from El Salvador. However, immigrants from all three countries increased their labour force participation between 1980 and 2000. Labour force participation increased by 58.2% over the 20-year period among Hondurans. This is the highest percent increase compared to other two countries.

Female immigrants from Guatemala have always had lower labour force participation compared to those from El Salvador and Honduras. Nevertheless, they have increased their labour force participation from 15.1% in 1980 to 37% in 2000. The participation rate was highest among Salvadoran males in 2000, as well as, in 1991.

The immigrants from countries outside of Central America had a lower labour force participation rate than their Central American counterpart, in 2000, as well as in 1991. The rates were almost the same in 1980. This group of immigrants has increased their labour force participation from 48.8% in 1980 to 63.5% in 2000. The sex differences are similar to those among the Central American immigrants and the females in this group have also experienced exceptional increase in labour force participation.

The figures show that those from the China and United Kingdom had the highest labour force participation in 2000 as well as in 1991. The gap between male and female labour force participation is widest among the Mexican immigrants even though it has decreased since 1991. In 2000, Mexican females had the lowest participation rate, while their male counterpart had the highest compared to the other immigrants in this group. This is also the true for 1991 and 1980.

### 1.3 Industry

Figures from table 7 show that in 2000, the immigrants were mainly engaged in primary (41.7%) and service (40%) sector activities. These figures indicate a decrease in primary sector activities and an increase in service sector activities compared to 1991 when one half of the immigrant population was engaged in primary sector activities, 33.4% in the service sector. The shift to service sector activities is a result of increased job opportunities in this sector, especially with the growth in tourism.

In 1991, the majority of the male immigrants (57.7%) were involved in the primary sector activities, while the majority of female immigrants (79.7%) were involved in service sector activities. By 2000, the proportion of males in the primary sector decreased to 51.1%, while there was a 23.4% increase in secondary sector activities. There was a boom in the construction industry between 1991 and 2000, which provided increased job opportunities in the secondary sector. However, the females apparently did not benefit from the job opportunities in construction boom, as their participation in this sector decreased by 21.5% during this period. They continued to be primarily engaged in service sector activities in 2000 and their participation in this sector did not change much; at the same time the proportion in primary sector activities increased by 39.6%.

Most of the Central American immigrants were involved in primary sector activities (44.6%) in 2000. This is a decrease compared to 1991 when the majority (57.7%) of them was so engaged. As noted above, this group of immigrants has settled mainly in the rural areas where they have access to agricultural land for subsistence farming. Furthermore, a significant number of Central American immigrants work in banana, citrus and sugar cane industry.

Immigrants from Guatemala were more likely than those from Honduras and El Salvador to be engaged in primary sector activities. This also occurred among the males. However, females from Honduras were more likely than other Central American females to be engaged in primary sector activities. In 2000, 18.4% of Honduran females were engaged in primary sector activities compared to 14.2% and 9.7% of those from Guatemala and El Salvador, respectively.

The majority of immigrants (54.9%) from countries outside the Central American sub-region were more involved in service sector activities. This is expected, since this group of immigrants is more urban based. They were less likely than the Central American immigrants to be involved in primary sector activities. Only 36.8% of the males were so engaged compared to 56.5% of Central American males. The proportion of females in the service sector (83.7%) was higher compared to Central American female in the same sector.

The immigrants from Mexico and Canada were more likely than the others to have been engaged in primary sector activities, while the Chinese were predominantly engaged in service sector activities. As noted above, the Mexican immigrants are more rural based therefore they are more likely to have been involved in primary sector activity. The urban-based Chinese are more involved in the restaurant and in retail sales.

## **2. Belizean Emigrants**

The information in this section is based on census data from other countries. The data are limited and do not allow in most cases for comparisons between countries or for one period with another. Reference is also made to the 2000 Census data for Belize.

### **2.1 Years of Schooling**

The figures in Table 2.4 show that in 2000, the majority (65.5%) of Belizeans in Panama had seven or more years of schooling compared to 40% of Belizeans in Mexico with the same level of schooling. Nevertheless, the rate for Mexico is an increase compared to 1990 (30%). A comparison by sex indicates that in 2000 a higher percentage of Belizean females compared to the males in Panama has this same level of schooling while, the reverse was so for Mexico.

In 1990, 40.4% in Guatemala had seven or more years of schooling. This is an increase compared to 1980 when 28% had this same level of education. An increasing number of Belizeans have gone to Guatemala for tertiary level education since the 1980s. It is suspected that might have contributed to the increase.

Data on the level of education at the time of departure from the 2000 Census of Belize indicate that 47% of the emigrants had a secondary or higher education (CSO, 2000). This rate is even higher among those who left urban areas and Belize and Corozal Districts. The proportion with tertiary level education increased by 64%.

### **2.2 Labour Force Participation**

The 2000 census data available for Panama, Costa Rica and Mexico show that labour force participation rate was lowest in Panama (see Table 2.5). The 2000 rate for Panama also indicates a 17% decline compared to 1980. This is a result of the decline in labour force participation among the males during that period. The females experienced a 35% increase. As noted earlier, the majority of Belizeans in Panama are males fifty years and older. As these males reach retirement age their labour force participation declines which, is reflected in the decline of labour force participation among males and in the overall population Labour force participation rate increased by 46% between 1990 and 2000 among Belizeans in Mexico. In 1990, the majority (58%) of Belizeans in Honduras was in the labour force compared to 36.4% in Guatemala.

Female labour force participation among Belizeans in these countries has increased. The rate in Mexico more than doubled between 1990 and 2000 and increased by 46% in Guatemala between 1980 and 1990.



## 2.3 Industry

Table 10 show that the majority of Belizeans in Mexico was engaged in service sector activities in 2000 (62%) as well as in 1990 (59%). The proportion engaged in secondary sector activities increased by 42% during the 1990s while primary sector activities decreased by 65% during that same period. The 1991 figures show that in Guatemala, 36% of Belizeans were engaged in primary sector activities. This rate is higher compared to Honduras (18.4%) and Mexico (19.3%).

In 1990, one quarter of Belizean males in Mexico was engaged in primary sector activity. However, by 2000 only 10% were so engaged. The females experienced an increase in secondary sector activities and a decrease in service sector activities during the 1990s.



## **Chapter III: Some Consequences of international Migration**

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The data analysed in the first two chapters for the three censuses show the changes that have occurred with respect to immigration and emigration. However, the data do not always allow for the direct measurement of the consequences that these changes have on the population. It is sometimes difficult to isolate the changes that are consequences of international migration, from other changes that have occurred. Nevertheless, this chapter attempts to isolate some of the changes in the population that are consequences of international migration. More specifically, issues relating to spatial distribution of the population, ethnicity, education, health and labour force are examined with respect to the consequences on immigration. The brain drain phenomena, remittances and the westernisation of culture process are examined with respect to the consequences of emigration.

### **1. Immigration**

#### **1.1 Demographic Impact**

Census data from 1931 to 1980 have indicated that urban population had always been higher than rural population (MOHD, 1998a). However, there was a shift in the 1980s when the population became more rural (52.6%) than urban (47.4)% based. The rural shift occurred when all the countries in Central America and most of the

other countries in the world were experiencing urbanization. Data from the 2000 census show that this phenomenon has continued in the 1990s, rural areas accounted for 54.6% —an increase compared to 1991—, and urban areas for 45.4% of the population.

It is suspected that this shift is a consequence of international migration. During the 1980s the majority of immigrants to Belize settled in the rural areas (66.5%), while the majority of emigrants had left from urban areas (75%). Even though the corresponding rates are lower

in the 1990s, the trend continued towards a majority of immigrants settling in rural areas (55.6%) and a majority of emigrants leaving from urban areas (71.3%) (CSO, 2000). The net effect of these movements impacted on the spatial distribution at the urban/rural level, contributing to the rural shift in the 1980s, and to a higher rural population throughout the 1990s. Other factors that might have contributed to this shift include internal migration from urban to rural areas, and higher rates of natural increase at the rural level.

The spatial distribution at the district level has also been impacted by immigration. In 1980, Belize district had the biggest share (34.9%) of the population. The distribution was similar for Corozal (15.8%), Orange Walk and Cayo districts (15.7%) while, Stann Creek and Toledo accounted for 9.8% and 8.1% respectively. The figures for 2000 (CSO, 2000) show that even though Belize district maintains the biggest share of the population, has decreased to 27.2%. Corozal district also decreased its share from 15.8% in 1980 to 13.9% in 2000. However, the other four districts increased their share; on the other hand, Cayo district experienced the highest increase. This district accounted for 22.1% of the population in the last census compared to 15.7% in 1980. Most probably, one of the main factors that has contributed to the high population growth in Cayo district is the influx of immigrants. This district alone accounted for 33.9% of the immigrants to Belize in the 1980s and 26.6% in the 1990s.

Another aspect that might have been a consequence of international migration is the change in the ethnic composition of the population, which became evident as from the 1980s. The Creoles had always been the dominant ethnic group. In 1980 they represented 40% of the population, followed by the Mestizo who represented 33.4%. However, in 1991 the Mestizo accounted for the biggest share (43.6%), while the Creoles accounted for 29.8%. According to the Ministry of Human Development Report on International Migration, (MOHD, 1998b) “the issues concerning this drastic shift became front page and headline topics in the local media.” The Mestizo population has remained the dominant group in 2000 and has increased their share of the population to 48.7%, due to a majority (65.5%) of immigrants, during the 1990s, from a Mestizo/Spanish descent. This rate was even higher during the 1980s (75%). This group of immigrants have added to the overall Mestizo population.

The mainly Spanish-speaking immigrants have also added to the number of Spanish speakers in the country. In 1991, 43.8% of the population reported that they speak Spanish “very well”. By 2000, this figure increased to 52.1%. Only a slightly higher proportion reported that they spoke English “very well” (53.6%). Spanish is taught as a compulsory subject in each year of high school and as an elective subject at the tertiary institutions. It was also introduced at the primary school. Many jobs, especially those in the service sector, require a working knowledge of Spanish; this is often a limiting factor for the mainly English speaking population and gives advantage to those whose first language is Spanish.

## 1.2 Socio-Economic Impact

Belize’s system of education is different from the system in the Central American countries. There are eight years of compulsory primary school education in Belize. A child who begins the first year of primary school, Infant One, at age five years would complete the last year, Standard Six, at age twelve, if no class were repeated. The transition from primary to secondary school is dependent on scores received in a national test and the availability of space at Secondary schools. Secondary education is four years. Forms One through Four. Tertiary level education includes two years of Sixth Form or four years at the University of Belize.

Most of the primary and secondary schools are operated by a church/state partnership, where the various church denominations are responsible for the overall management of their schools including maintenance and personnel matters. Government, through the Ministry of Education develops curricula and administrative standards, sets education objectives, pays teachers' salary and provides teacher training, among other responsibilities. This church/state partnership, which was first formalized in the 1962 Education Ordinance, "has saved the resources in the public sector by leveraging government spending in education and has promoted pluralism and diversity in a sociologically complex society" (MOE, 1999).

The exceptional growth of the immigrant population since the late 1970s has placed some challenges on the education system. Some of these challenges include the provision of additional infrastructure, promoting adult literacy and meeting the educational need of mainly Spanish speaking immigrants in a system where the curriculum is taught in English. The MOHD report that the high population growth in the rural areas during the period of high immigration increased the demands for primary schools "This resulted in the proliferation of rural schools, the majority of them multi-graded and of low standards" (MOHD, 1998b).

Belize has always boasted 95% literacy. However, data from the 1980 and 1991 censuses indicate that adult literacy was 74.3% and 70.3%, respectively. The results of a literacy survey conducted in 1996 show that adult literacy increased to 75%. Literacy among the Belizean born population was higher compared to that among the Central American immigrants and lower compared to immigrants born in Asia, the USA and the Caribbean.

Haylock, in her 1991 report on Literacy in Belize, stated: "literacy initiatives in Belize have been sporadic, inconstant and short-lived," and that most of the government's adult literacy programmes "... have more to do with Spanish literacy and English as a second language for immigrant communities than with the recognition that there is a national crisis that requires national attention."

The health sector has also been impacted by immigration. Most of the Central American immigrants have settled in areas that are breeding grounds for vectors and the incidence of malaria is highest among this group. These immigrants do not always follow the full treatment. The Vector Control Unit of the Ministry of Health reported that in many cases it was difficult to track those infected and give follow up treatment.

Data on HIV/AIDS from the Medical statistics indicate that 15% of HIV cases are immigrants. Those from Honduras reported the highest incidence. This country, along with Belize, had the highest incidence of HIV/AIDS compared to the other Central American countries. As noted earlier, there is easy movement from Honduras to the two southern districts, and one of these districts, Stann Creek, has highest incidence of HIV in Belize.

Government's response to HIV/AIDS has been multi-faceted. The National AIDS Committee and National AIDS Programme were established in 1986. These were replaced by The National AIDS Commission and a National Strategic Plan on HIV/AIDS. A study on the socio-economic impact of HIV/AIDS in Belize was also commissioned. One of the recommendations of this study is for, "Regional integration to combat the disease, especially its transmission through the process of migration." (Usher and Puga, 2000). The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) is also supporting a study on migration and AIDS in Central America. The result of this study is not available as yet.

Central American immigrants have contributed to the work in the agriculture sector, mainly in the banana and citrus industries. In a study on the immigrant workers in the Belize banana industry, Moberg states when large-scale commercial farming was established in 1971 the majority of banana workers were Belizean immigrants. However, in 1982, the farm managers began to lay off the Belizean workers who were unionised. This was in an effort to extricate themselves from contracts with the union. Moberg claims that since then, "the ethnic and national composition of the banana work force

has been radically altered.” Mosberg further asserts that the “industry’s heavy reliance on impoverished and often undocumented Central Americana has allowed owners to bid down wages and eliminate benefits...” Other studies of this industry, including a recent one conducted by the Society for the Promotion of Education and Research (SPEAR) support Moberg’s position and has called on Government and the farm owners to address these issues.

The Chinese immigrants have filled a niche for fast food, mainly fried chicken, in Belize. Ropp in his study on Chinese and Belizeans noted that, “Fry chicken stands are on every street corner and behind every counter is a Chinese person”. Ropp claimed that, these businesses have minimum start-up cost, are easy to learn, exploit available family labour and are highly flexible. Only the few bigger Chinese establishments that are involved in retail sales of dry good and groceries would hire Belizean workers. The Belizeans work mainly as shop assistants, and rarely in supervisory of management positions in the Chinese establishments.

## **2. Emigrants**

The 2000 Major Findings Report (CSO, 2000) states that, “The general profile of the emigrant is a person that is young, in the productive age group and has at least a high school education. Therefore, Belize is exporting one of the most valuable resources, the young, educated and productive people.” The report also notes that the “brain drain” phenomenon continues as the emigration of people with tertiary level education increased between 1991 and 2000.

It is suspected that this phenomenon will continue, as there is increased growth in the population with tertiary level education, but not sufficient growth in job opportunities that require this level of education. Furthermore, the increasing number of Belizeans who have completed tertiary level education at universities in USA has a higher propensity to return to that country to work. Most of them have been exposed to the USA labour market in their work experience as students, and are aware of the potential for better-paid jobs and work benefits compared to what Belize has to offer. The country is left with a limited cadre of skilled personnel owing to exodus of this group of people. According to MOHD Report, the country has to depend on regional and international consultants owing to this shortfall. This type of assistance usually accounts for a high proportion of the overall cost of project.

## Conclusions

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The information presented above indicates that the majority of immigrants to Belize are from Central American countries. They settled mainly in the rural areas and in Cayo district. Most of them have less than seven years of schooling and they are involved mainly in primary and service sector activities. The majority of emigrants is in the productive age group and have more than seven years of schooling. They have migrated mainly to the USA.

The Government of Belize recognizes the need for policy development in addressing the issues related to international migration. However, the existing policies are focused mainly on immigration and its impact on the economic sector without consideration to the demographic aspects. The Economic Citizenship Programme sets a quota on the number of economic immigrants in any given year. However, neither this policy nor any other policy has set criteria for attracting immigrants with specific job skills or criteria for the establishment of new communities where immigrants may settle.

The absence of such policies has resulted in the establishment of ad hoc rural settlements, which lack basic infrastructure, including access to potable water. It has also contributed to the proliferation of primary schools, which are at sub-standard level, and additional strain on the health system to reach some of the remote settlements.

Even though Belizeans continue to migrate, there is no policy to retain the skilled labour. However, incentives are given to Belizeans who wish to return to Belize or are recruited by the government to work. These return migrants are entitled to duty exemption of household effects and other benefits.

Data on international migration are limited in Belize. The main sources are the censuses, surveys, and administrative records from the Immigration Department. Censuses are conducted every ten years. Therefore, the data do not allow monitoring at shorter intervals. The household surveys include only a few questions that could provide information on international migration. Two basic questions are with respect to country of birth and year of migration. Even though the administrative records are collected more frequently, there is limited compilation and analysis of the data. In order to promote policy development on international migration there would have to be a conscious effort to improve on the compilation and analysis of the data, which could inform the policy development.

A population and development policy, which was drafted in 1998, addresses issues relating to international migration. The international migration goal set out in the draft policy is, “To design specific measures that would influence the flow of immigration and emigration to meet the development needs of the country, in order to ensure the availability of skilled human resources.” This policy document is presently on hold.

Belize’s involvement in the SIEMCA project will contribute to the enhancement of data collection and analysis to inform policy development on international migration. However, more efforts at the national level and lobbying at the regional level would be required to get political Support in promoting international migration policies.



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## **Annex**

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Table 1  
**BELIZE: IMMIGRANT POPULATION BY REGION AND COUNTRY OF BIRTH.  
 CENSUS OF 1980, 1991 AND 2000**

Region and Country	Year						Intercensal Growth Rate 1991 - 2000	Intercensal Growth Rate 1980 - 1991
	2000		1991		1980			
	Total	%	Total	%	Total	%		
<b>Total</b>	<b>34 279</b>		<b>26 204</b>		<b>12 940</b>		<b>3.0</b>	<b>6.2</b>
Central America								
Total	26 083	100.0	19 149	100.0	5 819	100.0	3.4	9.7
El Salvador	6 044	23.2	5 658	29.5	1 127	19.4	0.7	12.1
Honduras	4 960	19.0	2 337	12.2	1 576	27.1	8.0	3.5
Guatemala	14 691	56.3	10 696	55.9	3 013	51.8	3.5	10.2
Other CA Countries	388	1.5	458	2.4	103	1.8	...	...
Other Countries								
<b>Total</b>	<b>8 196</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>7 055</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>7 121</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
Mexico	2 351	28.7	2 558	36.3	2 968	41.7	-0.9	-1.3
USA	1 746	21.3	1 607	22.8	1 057	14.8	0.9	3.8
China	996	12.2	466	6.6	113	1.6	8.1	11.1
Canada	443	5.4	458	6.5	634	8.9	-0.4	-2.9
Jamaica	367	4.5	376	5.3	446	6.3	-0.3	-1.5
United Kingdom	263	3.2	259	3.7	368	5.2	0.2	-3.2
Other Countries	2 030	24.8	1 331	18.9	1 535	21.6	4.6	-1.3
Age distribution								
<b>Total</b>	<b>34 279</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>26 204</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>12 493</b>	<b>100.0</b>		
0 - 19	8 430	24.6	8 946	34.1	4 063	32.5		
20 - 59	23 328	68.1	15 468	59.0	7 346	58.8		
60 and above	2 521	7.4	1 790	6.8	1 084	8.7		
Sex Ratio <u>a/</u>		104.5		116.3		122.0		

**Source:** Proyecto IMILA de CELADE.

a/: Males per 100 females .

**BELIZE: DISTRIBUTION OF IMMIGRANT POPULATION BY MAJOR DIVISION AND COUNTRY OF BIRTH. CENSUS OF 1991 AND 2000**

Major Division/ Year	Central America					Other Countries					Total Immigrants	
	El Salvador	Honduras	Guatemala	Other Countries CA	Total Central America	Mexico	USA	China	Canada	Jamaica		UK
<b>Total 2000</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Urban	35.1	49.1	31.1	73.1	36.1	23.2	62.0	85.7	51.1	65.0	71.8	40.3
Rural	64.9	50.9	68.9	26.9	63.9	76.8	38.0	14.3	74.9	35.0	28.2	59.7
District	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Corozal	9.9	3.4	6.1	5.0	6.5	26.9	7.9	8.0	5.9	6.0	4.6	8.0
Orange Walk	15.0	6.2	13.0	9.9	12.1	41.1	4.9	11.1	20.8	1.9	2.7	13.5
Belize	22.0	33.3	9.5	55.1	17.6	9.6	39.9	63.5	14.5	64.2	45.4	21.8
Cayo	42.4	10.4	37.0	19.6	32.9	20.1	25.5	11.4	49.8	15.0	34.7	30.9
Stann Creek	7.2	38.5	13.9	7.3	16.9	1.4	14.6	5.9	5.2	11.7	11.1	14.5
Toledo	3.4	8.1	20.5	3.1	13.9	1.0	7.1	0.1	3.8	1.1	1.5	11.3
<b>Total 1991</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Urban	22.7	48.2	25.9	62.0	28.6	24.7	60.7	95.7	19.0	75.4	71.4	34.2
Rural	77.3	51.8	74.1	38.0	71.4	75.3	39.3	4.3	81.0	24.6	28.6	65.8
District	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Corozal	10.7	6.6	8.8	10.0	9.1	31.4	10.2	9.4	15.1	5.6	8.9	11.3
Orange Walk	17.2	7.3	15.0	17.5	14.7	40.6	5.1	12.4	25.1	2.4	1.9	16.4
Belize	13.8	29.4	7.3	44.1	12.8	8.7	36.7	67.6	8.1	71.9	47.5	17.5
Cayo	45.1	9.4	37.2	22.3	35.8	18.3	24.8	6.7	46.1	9.6	34.0	32.1
Stann Creek	8.5	39.7	14.1	3.3	15.3	0.7	15.8	3.2	2.6	9.6	2.7	12.9
Toledo	4.7	7.7	17.5	2.8	12.1	0.3	7.5	0.6	3.1	0.8	5.0	9.8

Source: 1991 and 2000 Belize Population and Housing Censuses.

**Table 3**  
**BELIZE: IMMIGRANT POPULATION BY AGE GROUP, SEX AND COUNTRY OF BIRTH. CENSUS OF 1980, 1991 AND 2000**

Age Group / Year	Central America						Other Countries						Total Immigrants
	El Salvador	Honduras	Guatemala	Others	Total Central America	Mexico	USA	China	Canada	Jamaica	UK	Others Countries	
<b>Total Both Sexes (2000)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
0 - 19	(6 044)	(4 960)	(14 691)	(388)	(26 083)	(2 351)	(1 746)	(996)	(443)	(367)	(263)	(2 030)	(8 196)
20 - 59	74.5	68.3	67.9	68.3	69.5	70.3	44.7	73.8	55.3	67.0	67.7	67.4	63.5
60 and over	5.8	7.0	5.9	5.4	6.1	14.5	9.7	4.9	26.9	23.2	14.4	6.4	11.3
<b>Total Males</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
0 - 19	(3 136)	(2 526)	(7 205)	(198)	(13 065)	(1 258)	(924)	(553)	(218)	(225)	(163)	(1 111)	(4 452)
20 - 59	19.2	24.4	26.1	24.7	24.1	13.8	44.0	22.1	17.9	8.9	12.9	25.7	24.0
60 and over	74.0	68.5	67.1	69.2	69.0	69.6	44.3	72.7	55.0	67.6	71.2	67.3	63.4
<b>Total Females</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
0 - 19	(2 908)	(2 434)	(7 486)	(190)	(13 018)	(1 093)	(822)	(443)	(225)	(142)	(100)	(919)	(3 744)
20 - 59	20.4	25.0	26.3	27.9	24.7	17.0	47.3	20.3	17.8	11.3	26.0	26.8	25.1
60 and over	75.0	68.0	68.6	67.4	69.9	71.1	45.1	75.2	55.6	66.2	62.0	67.6	63.6
Sex Ratio a/	4.7	6.9	5.1	4.7	5.3	11.9	7.5	4.5	26.7	22.5	12.0	5.7	9.8
<b>Total Both Sexes (1991)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
0 - 19	(5 658)	(2 337)	(10 696)	(458)	(19 149)	(2 558)	(1 607)	(466)	(458)	(376)	(259)	(1 331)	(7 055)
20 - 59	37.2	25.8	38.3	38.0	36.4	18.6	46.7	21.2	17.2	22.3	31.7	30.0	27.9
60 and over	58.8	63.6	56.2	56.8	57.9	72.0	46.2	73.6	56.1	55.9	57.5	63.5	62.2
<b>Total Males</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
0 - 19	(3 117)	(1 280)	(5 472)	(261)	(10 130)	(1 433)	(844)	(287)	(226)	(219)	(165)	(783)	(3 957)
20 - 59	33.9	25.6	36.8	37.5	34.5	17.2	43.7	22.0	17.7	18.7	26.1	28.2	25.9
60 and over	61.6	63.4	57.0	57.9	59.2	71.9	47.3	72.5	57.1	57.5	60.0	65.4	63.3
<b>Total Females</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
0 - 19	(2 541)	(1 057)	(5 224)	(197)	(9 019)	(1 125)	(763)	(179)	(232)	(157)	(94)	(548)	(3 098)
20 - 59	41.3	25.9	39.9	38.6	38.6	20.4	49.9	20.1	16.8	27.4	41.5	32.5	30.5
60 and over	55.4	63.9	55.3	55.3	56.3	72.1	45.0	75.4	55.2	53.5	53.2	60.8	60.8
	3.3	10.2	4.8	6.1	5.1	7.6	5.1	4.5	28.0	19.1	5.3	6.8	8.7

(continues)

Table 3 (conclusion)

Age Group / Year	Central America						Other Countries						Total Immigrants	
	El Salvador	Honduras	Guatemala	Others	Total Central America	Mexico	USA	China	Canada	Jamaica	UK	Others Countries		Total Others Countries
Sex Ratio a/ Total Both Sexes (1980)	122.7	121.1	104.7	132.5	112.3	127.4	110.6	160.3	97.4	139.5	175.5	142.9	127.7	116.3
0 - 19	100.0 (1 127)	100.0 (1 576)	100.0 (3 013)	100.0 (103)	100.0 (5 819)	100.0 (2 968)	100.0 (1 057)	100.0 (113)	100.0 (634)	100.0 (446)	100.0 (368)	100.0 (1 535)	100.0 (7 121)	100.0 (12 940)
20 - 59	34.4	29.6	39.0	36.9	35.5	23.2	37.6	17.7	13.2	23.3	19.8	40.9	28.0	31.4
60 and over	61.8	60.7	52.4	46.6	56.4	70.8	47.7	67.3	59.9	54.5	62.5	34.7	57.1	56.8
Ignored	3.1	9.5	8.2	16.5	7.7	5.6	7.0	15.0	25.4	21.1	3.0	7.2	8.9	8.4
<b>Total Males</b>	100.0 (698)	100.0 (798)	100.0 (1 618)	100.0 (53)	100.0 (3 167)	100.0 (1 708)	100.0 (607)	100.0 (61)	100.0 (310)	100.0 (266)	100.0 (238)	100.0 (751)	100.0 (3 943)	100.0 (7 110)
0 - 19	29.2	27.3	36.7	32.1	32.6	22.0	34.4	16.4	12.9	20.5	15.5	39.3	25.9	28.9
20 - 59	66.5	62.3	54.3	50.9	59.0	71.2	48.1	63.9	60.6	56.7	61.3	36.8	58.6	58.7
60 and over	3.6	10.4	8.7	17.0	8.1	6.3	7.6	19.7	24.5	21.6	3.8	8.7	9.5	8.9
Ignored	0.7	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.5	9.9	0.0	1.9	1.1	19.3	15.3	6.0	3.5
<b>Total Females</b>	100.0 (429)	100.0 (778)	100.0 (1 395)	100.0 (50)	100.0 (2 652)	100.0 (1 260)	100.0 (450)	100.0 (52)	100.0 (324)	100.0 (178)	100.0 (130)	100.0 (784)	100.0 (3 178)	100.0 (5 830)
0 - 19	42.9	31.9	41.8	29.2	39.1	24.8	41.8	19.2	13.6	27.5	27.7	42.5	30.6	34.5
20 - 59	54.3	59.0	50.2	67.2	53.3	70.2	47.1	71.2	59.3	51.1	64.6	32.8	55.3	54.4
60 and over	2.3	8.5	7.7	3.6	7.2	4.7	6.2	9.6	26.2	20.2	1.5	5.9	8.2	7.8
Ignored	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.0	0.5	0.3	4.9	0.0	0.9	1.1	6.2	18.9	5.9	3.4
Sex Ratio a/ Total	162.7	102.6	116.0	106.0	119.4	135.6	134.9	117.3	95.7	150.6	183.1	95.8	124.1	122.0

Source: Proyecto IMILA de CELADE.



Table 4  
**BELIZE: EMIGRANT POPULATION BY AGE GROUP, SEX RATIO AND COUNTRY OF BIRTH, 1980, 1991 AND 2000 CENSUS ROUNDS**

Age Group / Year	Panama	Costa Rica	Nicaragua	Guatemala	El Salvador	Honduras	USA	Mexico	Canada	Other Countries	Total Emigrants
<b>Total Both Sexes (2000)</b>	<b>100.0 (87)</b>	<b>100.0 (103)</b>	...	...	...	...	...	<b>100.0 (1 033)</b>	...	...	<b>100.0 (1 223)</b>
0 - 9	4.6	3.9	...	...	...	...	...	13.4	...	...	11.9
10 - 19	6.9	16.5	...	...	...	...	...	4.1	...	...	5.3
20 - 29	19.5	44.7	...	...	...	...	...	20.0	...	...	22.1
30 - 39	16.1	19.4	...	...	...	...	...	18.5	...	...	18.4
40 - 49	10.3	8.7	...	...	...	...	...	13.8	...	...	13.2
50 - 59	6.9	0.0	...	...	...	...	...	5.0	...	...	4.7
60 and over	35.6	6.8	...	...	...	...	...	23.3	...	...	22.8
Ignored	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1.8	...	...	1.6
Sex ratio a/	112.2	157.5	...	...	...	...	...	55.8	...	...	64.4
<b>Total Both Sexes (1990)</b>	<b>(63)</b>	...	<b>(48)</b>	<b>100.0 (528)</b>	<b>(134)</b>	<b>100.0 (200)</b>	<b>(29 957)</b>	<b>100.0 (1 205)</b>	...	<b>100.0 (969)</b>	<b>(33 106)</b>
0 - 9	...	...	...	18.0	...	25.0	...	10.4	...	4.6	...
10 - 19	...	...	...	13.6	...	13.0	...	16.6	...	43.4	...
20 - 29	...	...	...	18.8	...	6.5	...	26.5	...	46.4	...
30 - 39	...	...	...	9.7	...	10.5	...	15.6	...	5.0	...
40 - 49	...	...	...	7.8	...	7.5	...	7.7	...	0.2	...
50 - 59	...	...	...	12.5	...	9.0	...	6.7	...	0.0	...
60 and over	...	...	...	19.7	...	28.5	...	16.3	...	0.4	...
Ignored	350.0	...	...	...	69.2	...	...	0.2	...	86.3	...
Sex ratio a/	...	...	...	93.4	...	100.0	...	...	...	...	...
<b>Total Both Sexes (1980)</b>	<b>100.0 (135)</b>	<b>(246)</b>	...	<b>100.0 (832)</b>	...	...	...	<b>(955)</b>	<b>(550)</b>	<b>100.0 (19)</b>	<b>(2 777)</b>
0 - 9	4.4	...	...	16.0	...	...	...	...	...	42.1	...
10 - 19	6.7	...	...	10.9	...	...	...	...	...	15.8	...
20 - 29	7.4	...	...	16.5	...	...	...	...	...	10.5	...
30 - 39	8.1	...	...	10.8	...	...	...	...	...	10.5	...
40 - 49	5.9	...	...	14.3	...	...	...	...	...	0.0	...
50 - 59	25.9	...	...	12.9	...	...	...	...	...	5.3	...
60 and over	41.5	...	...	18.6	...	...	...	...	...	15.8	...
Sex ratio a/	237.5	...	...	92.1	...	...	...	46.5	69.2	90.0	...

Source: Proyecto IMILA de CELADE.

a/: Males per 100 females.

**Table 5**  
**BELIZE: IMMIGRANT POPULATION BY YEARS OF SCHOOLING, SEX AND COUNTRY OF BIRTH. CENSUS OF 1980 AND 1991**

Years of Schooling	Central America						Other Countries						Total		
	El Salvador	Honduras	Guatemala	Others	Total Central America		Mexico	USA	China	Canada	Jamaica	UK		Other Countries	Total Other Countries
<b>Total Both Sexes (1991)</b>	<b>100.0 (5 033)</b>	<b>100.0 (2 118)</b>	<b>100.0 (9 307)</b>	...	<b>100.0 (16 458)</b>		<b>100.0 (2 322)</b>	<b>100.0 (1 137)</b>	<b>100.0 (433)</b>	<b>100.0 (416)</b>	<b>100.0 (346)</b>	<b>100.0 (205)</b>	<b>100.0 (1 161)</b>	<b>100.0 (6 020)</b>	<b>100.0 (22 478)</b>
Less than 4	42.6	22.8	45.9	...	41.9		17.9	1.3	9.5	2.9	4.6	1.0	6.2	9.5	33.3
4 - 6	26.8	28.0	26.4	...	26.8		39.8	7.9	8.5	31.7	10.1	4.9	8.8	22.1	25.5
7 - 9	23.8	35.1	22.6	...	24.6		32.1	20.2	29.8	40.6	32.7	13.7	23.3	28.0	25.5
10 and over	5.8	12.7	4.3	...	5.8		7.5	68.8	47.3	22.6	48.6	78.5	59.3	37.7	14.4
Ignored	0.9	1.3	0.7	...	0.9		2.8	1.8	4.8	2.2	4.0	2.0	2.5	2.7	1.3
<b>Total Males</b>	<b>100.0 (2 806)</b>	<b>100.0 (1 164)</b>	<b>100.0 (4 790)</b>	...	<b>100.0 (8 760)</b>		<b>100.0 (1 314)</b>	<b>100.0 (634)</b>	<b>100.0 (267)</b>	<b>100.0 (208)</b>	<b>100.0 (202)</b>	<b>100.0 (138)</b>	<b>100.0 (685)</b>	<b>100.0 (3 448)</b>	<b>100.0 (12 208)</b>
Less than 4	44.8	25.9	45.4	...	42.6		22.1	1.3	9.7	1.9	5.0	0.7	5.3	10.9	33.6
4 - 6	25.6	29.0	26.3	...	26.4		32.0	8.0	7.5	25.0	9.4	6.5	8.2	18.2	24.1
7 - 9	22.9	32.0	22.8	...	24.1		35.2	21.0	29.6	43.3	32.2	10.1	23.5	29.1	25.5
10 and over	5.7	11.4	4.7	...	5.9		7.2	67.4	47.9	26.9	47.5	79.7	60.1	38.4	15.1
Ignored	1.1	1.6	0.9	...	1.1		3.5	2.4	5.2	2.9	5.9	2.9	2.9	3.4	1.7
<b>Total Females</b>	<b>100.0 (2 227)</b>	<b>100.0 (954)</b>	<b>100.0 (4 517)</b>	...	<b>100.0 (7 698)</b>		<b>100.0 (1 008)</b>	<b>100.0 (503)</b>	<b>100.0 (166)</b>	<b>100.0 (208)</b>	<b>100.0 (144)</b>	<b>100.0 (67)</b>	<b>100.0 (476)</b>	<b>100.0 (2 572)</b>	<b>100.0 (10 270)</b>
Less than 4	40.0	19.0	46.5	...	41.2		12.3	1.4	9.0	3.8	4.2	1.5	7.6	7.7	32.8
4 - 6	28.4	26.8	26.6	...	27.1		49.8	7.8	10.2	38.5	11.1	1.5	9.7	27.3	27.2
7 - 9	25.1	39.0	22.4	...	25.2		28.2	19.3	30.1	38.0	33.3	20.9	22.9	26.5	25.6
10 and over	5.8	14.3	3.9	...	5.8		7.8	70.6	46.4	18.3	50.0	76.1	58.0	36.9	13.5
Ignored	0.8	0.9	0.5	...	0.6		1.9	1.0	4.2	1.4	1.4	0.0	1.9	1.7	0.9
<b>Total Both Sexes (1980)</b>	<b>100.0 (974)</b>	<b>100.0 (1 418)</b>	<b>100.0 (2 548)</b>	<b>100.0 (86)</b>	<b>100.0 (5 206)</b>		<b>100.0 (2 708)</b>	<b>100.0 (799)</b>	<b>100.0 (107)</b>	<b>100.0 (590)</b>	<b>100.0 (400)</b>	<b>100.0 (327)</b>	<b>100.0 (1 139)</b>	<b>100.0 (6 070)</b>	<b>100.0 (11 096)</b>
Less than 4	38.2	24.1	49.7	...	39.7		21.1	3.6	8.4	3.1	4.8	0.6	8.2	12.2	24.6
4 - 6	19.8	20.2	19.3	...	19.5		34.4	5.1	13.1	35.6	8.3	1.2	9.0	22.0	20.9
7 - 9	26.0	40.1	25.1	...	29.6		38.0	14.8	43.0	43.9	41.8	6.7	21.4	31.1	30.4
10 and over	13.1	14.0	4.3	...	9.4		5.4	59.7	33.6	13.1	41.0	65.4	27.4	23.5	17.1
Ignored	2.9	1.6	1.6	...	1.9		1.1	16.8	1.9	4.4	4.3	26.0	34.0	11.2	7.0
<b>Total Males</b>	<b>100.0 (625)</b>	<b>100.0 (710)</b>	<b>100.0 (1 392)</b>	<b>100.0 (47)</b>	<b>100.0 (2 774)</b>		<b>100.0 (1 566)</b>	<b>100.0 (477)</b>	<b>100.0 (59)</b>	<b>100.0 (289)</b>	<b>100.0 (244)</b>	<b>100.0 (213)</b>	<b>100.0 (571)</b>	<b>100.0 (3 419)</b>	<b>100.0 (6 193)</b>
Less than 4	42.4	29.2	51.7	...	43.3		25.3	2.9	6.8	2.4	5.3	0.9	7.2	14.0	27.1
4 - 6	20.3	20.7	19.5	...	19.8		47.1	4.6	6.8	19.7	6.1	1.4	9.6	14.3	16.8
7 - 9	23.2	38.0	22.9	...	26.9		47.1	15.1	47.5	58.8	43.4	4.2	22.4	36.6	32.2
10 and over	11.4	10.8	4.2	...	8.1		5.0	57.9	37.3	13.5	40.2	60.6	28.7	23.6	16.6
Ignored	2.7	1.3	1.7	...	1.9		1.3	19.5	1.7	5.5	4.9	32.9	32.0	11.6	7.2

(continues)

Table 5 (conclusion)

Years of Schooling	Central America										Other Countries					Total	
	El Salvador	Honduras	Guatemala	Others	Total Central America	Mexico	USA	China	Canada	Jamaica	UK	Other Countries	Total Other Countries	Immigrants			
Total Females	100.0 (349)	100.0 (708)	100.0 (1 156)	100.0 (39)	100.0 (2 252)	100.0 (1 142)	100.0 (322)	100.0 (48)	100.0 (301)	100.0 (156)	100.0 (114)	100.0 (568)	100.0 (2 651)	100.0 (4 903)			
Less than 4	30.7	19.1	47.2	10.3	35.2	15.3	4.7	10.4	3.7	3.8	0.0	9.2	10.0	21.5			
4 - 6	18.9	19.8	19.2	10.3	19.2	52.3	5.9	20.8	50.8	11.5	0.9	8.5	31.9	26.1			
7 - 9	30.9	42.1	27.8	35.9	32.9	25.7	14.3	37.5	29.6	39.1	11.4	20.4	24.0	28.1			
10 and over	16.3	17.1	4.4	43.6	10.9	6.0	62.4	29.2	12.6	42.3	74.6	26.1	23.4	17.7			
Ignored	3.2	2.0	1.4	0.0	1.8	0.8	12.7	2.1	3.3	3.2	13.2	35.9	10.8	6.6			

Source: Proyecto IMILA de CELADE.

**Table 6**  
**BELIZE: IMMIGRANT LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE BY COUNTRY OF BIRTH, AGE AND SEX. CENSUS OF 1980, 1991 AND 2000**

Age Group	Central America					Other Countries							Total Immigrants
	El Salvador	Honduras	Guatemala	Total Central America	Mexico	USA	China	Canada	Jamaica	UK	Other Countries	Total Other Countries	
<b>Total Both Sexes (2000)</b>	<b>68.4</b>	<b>73.1</b>	<b>63.9</b>	<b>66.7</b>	<b>63.5</b>	<b>55.5</b>	<b>77.1</b>	<b>57.0</b>	<b>68.9</b>	<b>71.4</b>	<b>61.9</b>	<b>63.5</b>	<b>66.0</b>
10 - 19	56.9	58.7	57.5	57.3	56.0	18.7	23.5	29.6	20.0	13.3	18.5	26.4	51.7
20 - 59	71.4	78.6	66.8	70.3	65.9	66.4	84.2	68.6	82.1	82.0	73.2	71.8	70.6
60 and over	51.3	42.8	44.8	45.8	55.0	38.8	48.7	39.5	42.4	44.7	38.1	45.7	45.7
<b>Total Males</b>	<b>93.0</b>	<b>90.9</b>	<b>91.9</b>	<b>91.8</b>	<b>89.6</b>	<b>61.6</b>	<b>85.7</b>	<b>78.5</b>	<b>76.3</b>	<b>82.2</b>	<b>73.7</b>	<b>78.8</b>	<b>88.6</b>
10 - 19	74.6	68.5	76.7	74.3	63.8	23.2	20.9	31.3	10.0	0.0	20.5	29.0	65.8
20 - 59	97.5	97.7	97.4	97.4	95.4	71.6	94.6	92.5	88.8	91.4	87.4	89.0	95.4
60 and over	74.2	60.9	67.3	67.5	73.8	48.1	63.6	62.7	52.8	53.8	47.6	60.5	64.8
<b>Total Females</b>	<b>41.5</b>	<b>54.5</b>	<b>37.0</b>	<b>41.4</b>	<b>32.6</b>	<b>48.6</b>	<b>66.1</b>	<b>35.7</b>	<b>57.4</b>	<b>52.9</b>	<b>47.6</b>	<b>44.9</b>	<b>42.2</b>
10 - 19	38.2	48.6	39.2	40.5	47.7	15.1	28.0	27.3	30.0	18.2	16.2	23.5	37.6
20 - 59	43.6	58.6	38.1	43.4	32.7	60.6	71.3	45.6	71.3	64.5	56.1	51.4	45.1
60 and over	39.2	23.7	15.7	17.7	24.6	22.6	29.4	16.7	25.0	25.0	23.6	23.1	19.6
<b>Total Both Sexes (1991)</b>	<b>65.9</b>	<b>63.8</b>	<b>58.9</b>	<b>61.8</b>	<b>52.9</b>	<b>50.7</b>	<b>61.9</b>	<b>38.9</b>	<b>56.4</b>	<b>68.8</b>	<b>57.2</b>	<b>53.7</b>	<b>50.4</b>
10 - 19	28.4	24.5	23.7	25.3	26.4	6.1	13.6	21.6	11.1	7.1	12.7	14.4	23.4
20 - 59	64.1	62.9	57.4	60.2	57.9	70.1	72.9	49.0	74.8	82.6	71.8	64.9	61.6
60 and over	48.0	35.9	38.0	39.6	40.7	34.8	37.5	23.0	39.0	57.1	32.2	35.9	38.2
<b>Total Males</b>	<b>81.8</b>	<b>79.0</b>	<b>77.6</b>	<b>79.2</b>	<b>86.1</b>	<b>59.3</b>	<b>70.0</b>	<b>66.8</b>	<b>71.8</b>	<b>78.3</b>	<b>75.3</b>	<b>75.5</b>	<b>78.1</b>
10 - 19	45.7	36.3	38.3	40.5	44.1	8.8	11.6	31.8	16.7	0.0	14.6	20.2	36.8
20 - 59	96.4	93.8	96.0	95.8	95.4	83.0	84.6	82.9	88.1	92.9	92.4	90.8	94.3
60 and over	75.2	57.9	63.2	64.7	59.0	40.8	37.5	43.9	57.7	69.6	50.0	52.3	59.6
<b>Total Females</b>	<b>29.1</b>	<b>38.9</b>	<b>23.2</b>	<b>26.9</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>48.8</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>34.7</b>	<b>49.3</b>	<b>31.1</b>	<b>24.6</b>	<b>17.4</b>
10 - 19	10.9	9.9	9.5	10.0	6.3	2.5	17.4	6.7	6.7	16.7	10.4	7.2	9.6
20 - 59	20.1	25.6	15.7	18.3	10.2	55.1	54.8	14.8	54.8	62.0	40.2	30.6	21.7
60 and over	2.4	7.4	4.0	4.5	7.1	23.1	37.5	4.6	6.7	0.0	8.1	9.7	6.5
<b>Total Both Sexes (1980)</b>	<b>56.4</b>	<b>46.2</b>	<b>48.5</b>	<b>49.3</b>	<b>55.4</b>	<b>43.1</b>	<b>60.7</b>	<b>45.3</b>	<b>56.0</b>	<b>46.2</b>	<b>36.1</b>	<b>48.8</b>	<b>49.0</b>
10 - 19	33.2	19.8	27.6	26.5	32.2	7.9	14.3	17.5	10.3	9.4	13.8	21.1	24.2
20 - 59	64.1	56.9	59.2	59.6	60.7	49.5	72.4	52.2	70.6	49.3	42.0	55.2	57.1
60 and over	57.1	31.5	39.9	38.5	47.3	58.1	47.1	35.4	45.7	72.7	40.5	44.6	42.1
<b>Total Males</b>	<b>76.8</b>	<b>73.8</b>	<b>79.2</b>	<b>77.1</b>	<b>88.0</b>	<b>53.0</b>	<b>76.3</b>	<b>79.2</b>	<b>73.8</b>	<b>59.6</b>	<b>51.0</b>	<b>73.2</b>	<b>74.9</b>
10 - 19	46.6	32.3	43.1	41.2	51.3	11.4	12.5	31.6	12.9	8.3	19.1	32.7	37.5
20 - 59	85.3	88.3	95.7	91.0	96.6	60.5	97.4	88.7	89.0	61.5	60.1	82.3	86.0
60 and over	76.0	51.8	69.5	64.7	70.4	67.4	50.0	67.1	65.5	88.9	52.3	65.2	65.0

(continues)

Table 6 (conclusion)

Age Group	Central America				Other Countries							Total Other Countries	Total Immigrants
	El Salvador	Honduras	Guatemala	Total Central America	Mexico	USA	China	Canada	Jamaica	UK	Other Countries		
<b>Total Females</b>	<b>19.8</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>10.6</b>	<b>28.3</b>	<b>41.7</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>28.2</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>21.1</b>	<b>17.3</b>	<b>16.3</b>
10 - 19	16.3	10.7	11.0	11.8	9.2	3.3	16.7	4.8	7.4	10.0	8.5	8.1	10.3
20 - 59	21.7	23.3	13.3	18.2	11.3	32.9	45.9	15.9	39.8	23.9	24.4	19.7	19.1
60 and over	10.0	6.1	0.9	3.1	5.1	42.9	40.0	7.1	13.9	0.0	23.9	14.9	10.0

Source: Proyecto IMILA de CELADE.

Table 7

Activity	Belize: Immigrant Population by Industry, Sex and Country of Birth, Census of 1991 and 2000										Total Immigrants		
	Central America					Other Countries							
	El Salvador	Honduras	Guatemala	Total Central America	Mexico	USA	China	Canada	Jamaica	UK		Other Countries	Total Other Countries
<b>Total Both Sexes (2000)</b>	100.0 (3 177)	100.0 (2 697)	100.0 (6 729)	100.0 (12 603)	100.0 (1 150)	100.0 (501)	100.0 (585)	100.0 (203)	100.0 (206)	100.0 (150)	100.0 (13 138)	100.0 (16 532)	100.0 (29 147)
Primary	39.0	39.2	49.4	44.6	54.0	13.0	1.0	34.5	8.7	6.7	43.2	39.5	41.7
Secondary	21.6	22.4	17.0	19.3	14.2	8.6	2.7	18.2	23.8	15.3	19.1	17.6	18.3
Services	39.4	38.4	33.7	36.1	31.8	78.4	96.2	47.2	67.5	78.0	37.7	42.9	40.0
<b>Total Male</b>	100.0 (2 429)	100.0 (1 858)	100.0 (5 233)	100.0 (9 520)	100.0 (981)	100.0 (307)	100.0 (370)	100.0 (144)	100.0 (145)	100.0 (114)	100.0 (9 849)	100.0 (12 343)	100.0 (21 863)
Primary	48.0	48.6	59.4	54.4	58.5	16.9	1.6	41.0	9.7	7.0	53.1	48.6	51.1
Secondary	25.4	28.4	19.3	22.6	14.8	11.7	2.7	21.5	31.7	18.4	22.6	20.7	21.6
Services	26.6	23.0	21.3	23.0	26.7	71.3	95.7	37.5	58.6	74.6	24.3	30.7	27.3
<b>Total Female</b>	100.0 (754)	100.0 (844)	100.0 (1 507)	3105.0 (3 105)	100.0 (170)	100.0 (199)	100.0 (216)	100.0 (59)	100.0 (62)	100.0 (37)	100.0 (3 289)	100.0 (4 179)	100.0 (7 284)
Primary	9.7	18.4	14.2	14.2	27.6	6.5	0.0	18.6	6.5	5.4	13.6	12.7	13.4
Secondary	9.3	8.9	8.8	8.9	10.6	3.5	2.8	10.2	4.8	5.4	8.6	8.0	8.4
Services	81.0	72.7	77.0	76.8	61.8	89.9	97.2	71.2	88.7	89.2	77.8	79.3	78.2
<b>Total Both Sexes (1991)</b>	100.0 (2 661)	100.0 (1 118)	100.0 (4 313)	100.0 (8 092)	100.0 (1 228)	100.0 (577)	100.0 (268)	100.0 (162)	100.0 (194)	100.0 (141)	100.0 (664)	100.0 (3 235)	100.0 (12 946)
Primary	58.7	48.9	59.4	57.7	59.4	13.0	1.5	47.5	10.8	9.9	12.7	31.0	43.8
Secondary	21.9	16.5	14.8	17.4	15.7	10.2	8.2	21.6	25.6	9.9	12.3	14.1	15.9
Services	19.4	34.5	25.8	24.9	24.9	76.8	90.3	30.9	63.6	80.1	75.0	54.9	40.3
<b>Total Male</b>	100.0 (2 296)	100.0 (920)	100.0 (3 718)	100.0 (6 934)	100.0 (1 132)	100.0 (376)	100.0 (187)	100.0 (139)	100.0 (145)	100.0 (108)	100.0 (516)	100.0 (2 603)	100.0 (11 156)
Primary	66.9	55.7	67.2	65.6	63.0	16.5	2.1	52.5	13.1	11.1	14.7	36.8	49.3
Secondary	23.0	17.8	15.7	18.4	15.6	12.2	7.5	23.0	31.0	13.0	13.4	15.3	16.7
Services	10.2	26.5	17.1	16.1	21.4	71.3	90.4	24.5	55.9	75.9	71.9	47.9	34.0
<b>Total Female</b>	100.0 (365)	100.0 (198)	100.0 (595)	100.0 (1 158)	100.0 (96)	100.0 (201)	100.0 (81)	100.0 (23)	100.0 (49)	100.0 (33)	100.0 (148)	100.0 (632)	100.0 (1 790)
Primary	7.7	17.7	10.6	10.9	16.7	6.5	0.0	17.4	2.0	6.1	5.4	7.1	9.6
Secondary	15.3	10.6	9.6	11.6	16.7	6.5	9.9	13.0	10.2	0.0	8.8	9.2	10.7
Services	77.0	71.7	79.8	77.5	66.7	87.1	90.1	69.6	87.8	93.9	85.8	83.7	79.7

Source: Proyecto IMILA de CELADE.

Table 8

**BELIZE: EMIGRANT POPULATION BY YEARS OF SCHOOLING, SEX AND COUNTRY OF BIRTH.  
1980, 1991 AND 2000 CENSUS ROUNDS**

Years of schooling	Panama	Honduras	Guatemala	Mexico	Canada	Other	Total
<b>Total Both Sexes (2000)</b>	<b>100.0 (83)</b>	...	...	<b>100.0 (895)</b>	...	...	<b>100.0 (978)</b>
Less than 4	8.4			16.5			15.8
4 - 6	15.7			32.5			31.1
7 - 9	13.3			21.6			20.9
10 and over	51.8			18.5			21.4
Ignored	10.8			10.8			10.8
<b>Total Male</b>	<b>100.0 (43)</b>			<b>100.0 (298)</b>			<b>100.0 (341)</b>
Less than 4	9.3			10.4			10.3
4 - 6	20.9			10.7			12.0
7 - 9	7.0			29.2			26.4
10 and over	48.8			29.5			32.0
Ignored	14.0			20.1			19.4
<b>Total Female</b>	<b>100.0 (40)</b>			<b>100.0 (597)</b>			<b>100.0 (637)</b>
Less than 4	7.5			19.6			18.8
4 - 6	10.0			43.4			41.3
7 - 9	20.0			17.8			17.9
10 and over	55.0			13.1			15.7
Ignored	7.5			6.2			6.3
<b>Total Both Sexes (1991)</b>	...	<b>100.0 (150)</b>	<b>100.0 (433)</b>	<b>100.0 (1 080)</b>	...	<b>100.0 (769)</b>	<b>100.0 (2 432)</b>
Less than 4		26.0	35.3	12.0		16.1	18.3
4 - 6		38.0	24.2	44.5		39.7	39.0
7 - 9		8.0	8.1	15.8		4.0	10.2
10 and over		28.0	32.3	14.2		4.2	15.1
Ignored		0.0		13.4		36.0	17.4
<b>Total Male</b>		<b>100.0 (79)</b>	<b>100.0 (203)</b>	<b>100.0 (402)</b>		<b>100.0 (415)</b>	<b>100.0 (10 990)</b>
Less than 4		19.0	33.0	11.4		16.6	17.9
4 - 6		41.8	22.2	38.8		38.6	35.9
7 - 9		8.9	7.9	15.9		3.9	9.4
10 and over		30.4	36.9	21.6		3.9	18.4
Ignored		0.0	...	12.2		37.1	18.5
<b>Total Female</b>		<b>100.0 (71)</b>	<b>100.0 (230)</b>	<b>100.0 (678)</b>		<b>100.0 (354)</b>	<b>100.0 (1 333)</b>
Less than 4		33.8	37.4	12.4		15.5	18.7
4 - 6		33.8	26.1	47.9		41.0	41.6
7 - 9		7.0	8.3	15.8		4.2	11.0
10 and over		25.4	28.3	9.7		4.5	12.4
Ignored		0.0	...	14.2		34.7	16.4
<b>Total Both Sexes (1980)</b>	<b>100.0 (129)</b>	...	<b>100.0 (699)</b>	...	<b>100.0 (430)</b>	<b>100.0 (11)</b>	<b>100.0 (1 269)</b>
Less than 4	9.3		34.6		0.0	18.2	20.2
4 - 6	37.2		32.8		8.1	18.2	24.7
7 - 9	21.7		10.4		9.3	18.2	11.3
10 and over	31.0		17.6		82.6	45.5	41.2
Ignored	0.8		4.6		0.0	0.0	2.6
<b>Total Male</b>	<b>100.0 (17)</b>		<b>100.0 (332)</b>		<b>100.0 (155)</b>	<b>100.0 (6)</b>	<b>100.0 (510)</b>
Less than 4	11.8		30.4		0.0	16.7	20.4
4 - 6	35.3		29.5		22.6	16.7	27.5
7 - 9	23.5		11.4		3.2	33.3	9.6
10 and over	29.4		22.6		74.2	33.3	38.6
Ignored	0.0		6.0		0.0	0.0	3.9
<b>Total Female</b>	<b>100.0 (112)</b>		<b>100.0 (367)</b>		<b>100.0 (275)</b>	<b>100.0 (5)</b>	<b>100.0 (759)</b>
Less than 4	8.9		38.4		...	20.0	20.0
4 - 6	37.5		35.7		...	20.0	22.9
7 - 9	21.4		9.5		12.7	0.0	12.4
10 and over	31.3		13.1		87.3	60.0	43.0
Ignored	0.9		3.3		0.0	0.0	1.7

Source: Proyecto IMILA de CELADE.

Table 9

**BELIZE: EMIGRANT LABOUR FORCE PARTICIPATION RATE, BY SEX AND COUNTRY OF BIRTH.  
1980, 1991 AND 2000 CENSUS ROUNDS**

Year / Sex	Panama	Costa Rica	Mexico	Honduras	Guatemala
Both Sexes (2000)	34.9	46.5	48.4	...	...
Male	39.5	63.3	82.2	...	...
Female	30.0	20.5	31.5	...	...
Both Sexes (1991)	...	...	33.1	58.0	36.5
Male	...	...	65.7	78.5	61.6
Female	...	...	13.9	35.2	14.3
Both Sexes (1980)	41.9	...	...	...	39.8
Male	49.5	...	...	...	72.9
Female	22.2	...	...	...	9.8

Source: Proyecto IMILA de CELADE.

Table 10

**BELIZE: EMIGRANT POPULATION BY INDUSTRY, SEX AND COUNTRY OF BIRTH.  
1980, 1991 AND 2000 CENSUS ROUNDS**

Activity	Panama	Guatemala	Honduras	Mexico	Canada	Others	Total
<b>Total Both Sexes (2000)</b>	<b>100.0</b>			<b>100.0</b>			<b>100.0</b>
	(29)	...	...	(433)	...	...	(462)
Primary	3.4			6.7			6.5
Secondary	13.8			31.4			30.3
Services	82.8			61.9			63.2
<b>Total Male</b>	<b>100.0</b>			<b>100.0</b>			<b>100.0</b>
	(17)			(245)			(262)
Primary	5.9			10.2			9.9
Secondary	17.6			36.3			35.1
Services	76.5			53.5			55.0
<b>Total Female</b>	<b>100.0</b>			<b>100.0</b>			<b>100.0</b>
	(12)			(188)			(200)
Primary	0.0			2.1			2.0
Secondary	8.3			25.0			24.0
Services	91.7			72.9			74.0
<b>Total Both Sexes (1991)</b>		<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>		<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
	...	(158)	(87)	(358)	...	(444)	(10 247)
Primary		36.1	18.4	19.3		94.4	53.6
Secondary		17.7	21.8	22.1		0.7	12.3
Services		46.2	59.8	58.7		5.0	34.1
<b>Total Male</b>		<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>		<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
		(125)	(62)	(264)		(381)	(832)
Primary		43.2	24.2	25.4		95.0	59.9
Secondary		20.0	24.2	26.1		0.5	13.3
Services		36.8	51.6	48.5		4.5	26.8
<b>Total Female</b>		<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>		<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
		(33)	(25)	(94)		(63)	(215)
Primary		9.1	4.0	2.1		90.5	29.3
Secondary		9.1	16.0	10.6		1.6	8.4
Services		81.8	80.0	87.2		7.9	62.3
<b>Total Both Sexes (1980)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>			<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
	(54)	(278)	...	...	(345)	(3)	(680)
Primary	14.8	24.8			2.9	33.3	12.9
Secondary	14.8	15.5			21.7	0.0	18.5
Services	70.4	59.7			75.4	66.7	68.5
<b>Total Male</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>			<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
	(46)	(242)			(145)	(3)	(436)
Primary	13.0	28.5			3.4	33.3	18.6
Secondary	17.4	17.4			27.6	0.0	20.6
Services	69.6	54.1			69.0	66.7	60.8
<b>Total Female</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>			<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
	(8)	(36)			(200)	(0)	(244)
Primary	25.0	0.0			2.5	0.0	2.9
Secondary	0.0	2.8			17.5	0.0	14.8
Services	75.0	97.2			80.0	0.0	82.4

Source: Proyecto IMILA de CELADE.