

POPULATION OF BELIZE BY RELIGION: 1970 – 2000

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TRADITION – FAMILY – DENOMINATION	1970 CENSUS	%	1980 CENSUS	%	1991 CENSUS	%	2000 CENSUS	%
ROMAN CATHOLIC	77,421	64.6%	88,587	61.9%	106,596	57.7	115,035	49.6
PROTESTANT	33,385	27.8	50,727	34.9	63,360	34.3	83,096	35.8
Liturgical Tradition	18,283	14.7	16,894	11.8	12,836	6.9	12,386	5.3
Anglican	17,783	14.3	16,894	11.8	12,836	6.9	12,386	5.3
All Presbyterians (two denominations)	500	.4	?		?		?	
Free Church or Separatist Tradition	15,819	9.0	20,059	14.1	24,568	13.3	36,906	15.9
All Methodists	10,700	8.9	8,632	6.0	7,805	4.2	8,024	3.5
Moravian	13	.01	1,650	1.2	?		?	
All Baptists	826	.7	1,228	.9	272	0.1	8,077	3.5
Christian Brethren	240	.2	?		?		?	
Church of the Nazarene			1,598	1.1	4,631	2.5	6,117	2.6
Mennonite (all groups)	3,300	2.8	5,647	3.9	7,430	4.0	9,497	4.1
Other Christian (AMEZ, Nazarene, GMU, Salvation Army, Christian Brethren, Moravian, etc., for some dates)	740	.6	1,304	.9	4,600	2.5	9,749	4.2
Adventist	2,519	2.1	4,201	3.0	7,594	4.1	12,160	5.2
Pentecostal Tradition (all groups)	783	.6	4,342	3.1	11,660	6.3	17,189	7.4
Pentecostal (partial statistics)	389	.3	3,237	2.3				
Church of God (several groups)	414	.3	1,105	.8				
TOTAL OTHER, NOT STATED AND NONE	9,129	7.6	12,207	4.2	17,364	9.4	33,888	14.6
OTHER RELIGIONS (included under NOT STATED below in 1970)			3,342	1.2	6,316	3.4	10,677	4.6
Bahai					268		205	
Chinese religions (Ancestor Worship, Buddhism, Taoism)								
Eastern Orthodox (Middle Easterners)								
Garífuna religion (Garínagu)								
Hinduism (East Indians)			106	.1	?		367	
Islam / Muslim (includes Black Muslim)			110	.1	159	0.1	243	
Jehovah's Witnesses			1,459	1.0	2,608	1.4	3,366	1.5
Judaism	1,100	.9						
Latter-day Saints / Mormons					612	0.3	928	0.4
Mayan religions (Kekchí and Maya) - Animism								
Obeah – Myalism – Voudun (Creoles)								
Rastafarian (Creoles)								
Catholic Popular Religiosity (Mestizos)								
NOT STATED (and NONE in 1970)	9,129	7.6	4,138	2.9				
NONE / NOT REPORTED			1,757	1.2	11,025	6.0	23,162	10.0
TOTALS (enumerated population)	119,645	100%	142,847	100%	184,722	100%	232,111	100%
TOTALS (estimated population)	119,935	100%	145,353	100%	192,877	100%	240,204	100%

Notes:

- (1) The determination of which groups belong in the “Protestant” category was made by PROLADES based on information provided by the respective national census, and the statistics for the category of “Other” were modified accordingly.
- (2) The data missing from the respective columns is due to a lack of information provided by the Census department; we have listed all known religious groups in Belize but without the respective statistical information, which is unknown at this time.
- (3) In the 2000 Census, the TOTAL OTHER, NOT STATED AND NONE is given as 14.6%, but some of the religious groups assigned to this category by the Census department probably belong to our definition of “Protestant” if the details were known.

Sources:

- (1) Table D-11, “Population by Religion: 1960, 1970 and 1980,” page 37 of **1980-1981 Population Census of the Commonwealth Caribbean: Belize**. Volume 3. Port of Spain, Trinidad: CARICOM, 1985.
- (2) 1991 Census data is included in the document Population Census 2000 – Major Findings: http://www.statisticsbelize.org.bz/dms20uc/dm_tree.asp?pid=5
- (3) Belize Housing and Population Census, 2000; Statistical Institute of Belize website: <http://celade.cepal.org/cgibin/RpWebEngine.exe/PortalAction?&MODE=MAIN&BASE=CPVBLZ2000&MAIN=WebServerMain.inl>
- (4) Population Census 2000 – Major Findings: http://www.statisticsbelize.org.bz/dms20uc/dm_tree.asp?pid=5