2025

ANNUAL REPORT & STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

www.centralbank.org.bz

CENTRAL BANK of BELIZE

1 Gabourel Lane
P.O. Box 852
Belize City, Belize

CENTRAL BANK of BELIZE

Submitted to the Minister of Finance, in accordance with Section 58 of the Central Bank of Belize Act, Chapter 262, Revised Edition 2020.

CENTRAL BANK OF BELIZE

FORTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT
&
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDING
31 DECEMBER 2025

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MISSION

To promote the stability of monetary and financial systems for the wellbeing of Belize.

VISION

A model Central Bank committed in service to the people of Belize.

LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AML/CFT/CPF	Anti-Money Laundering/Combatting the Financing of Terrorism/Countering Proliferation Financing
APSSS	Automated Payment and Securities Settlement System
BEL	Belize Electricity Limited
BIPS	Belize Instant Payment System
BSI/ASR	Belize Sugar Industries Limited/American Sugar Refining
BTB	Belize Tourism Board
CABEI	Central American Bank for Economic Integration
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CAR	Capital adequacy ratio
CDB	Caribbean Development Bank
CFZ	Commercial Free Zone
CPI	Consumer price index
DFC	Development Finance Corporation
FBL	Fortis Belize Limited
FCI	Fortis Cayman Incorporated
FOB	Free on board
FSC	Financial Services Commission
Fortis	Fortis Incorporated of Canada
FY	Fiscal Year
GDP	Gross domestic product
Government	Government of Belize
GST	General Sales Tax
HBL	Hydro Belize Limited
HRMD	Human Resources Management Department
IAUD	Internal Audit Department
IBRD	International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
ICDF	International Cooperation Development Fund
ICTD	Information and Communication Technology Department
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFRS	International Financial Reporting Standards
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IFT	Instant Funds Transfers
M1	Narrow money supply
M2	Broad money supply
MOF	Ministry of Finance
NAMLC	National Anti-Money Laundering Committee
NFIS	National Financial Inclusion Strategy
NPL	Non-performing loan
OFID	OPEC Fund for International Development
ROA	Return on assets
ROE	Return on equity
RTGS	Real Time Gross Settlement
SDR	Special Drawing Rights
SIB	Statistical Institute of Belize
SWIFT	Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunications
T-bills	Treasury bills
T-notes	Treasury notes
UK	United Kingdom
US	United States

Abbreviations:

$	Belize dollar unless otherwise stated
bn	billion
mn	million
ps	pounds of solids
RHS	Right hand side
LHS	Left hand side
n.a.	not available or applicable
n.i.e.	not included elsewhere

Conventions:

1. Since May 1976, the Belize dollar has been fixed to the US dollar at the rate of US$1.00 = BZ$2.00.
2. The 2025 figures in this report are provisional and figures for 2024 may have been revised.
3. Unless otherwise indicated, the Central Bank of Belize is the source of all tables and charts.

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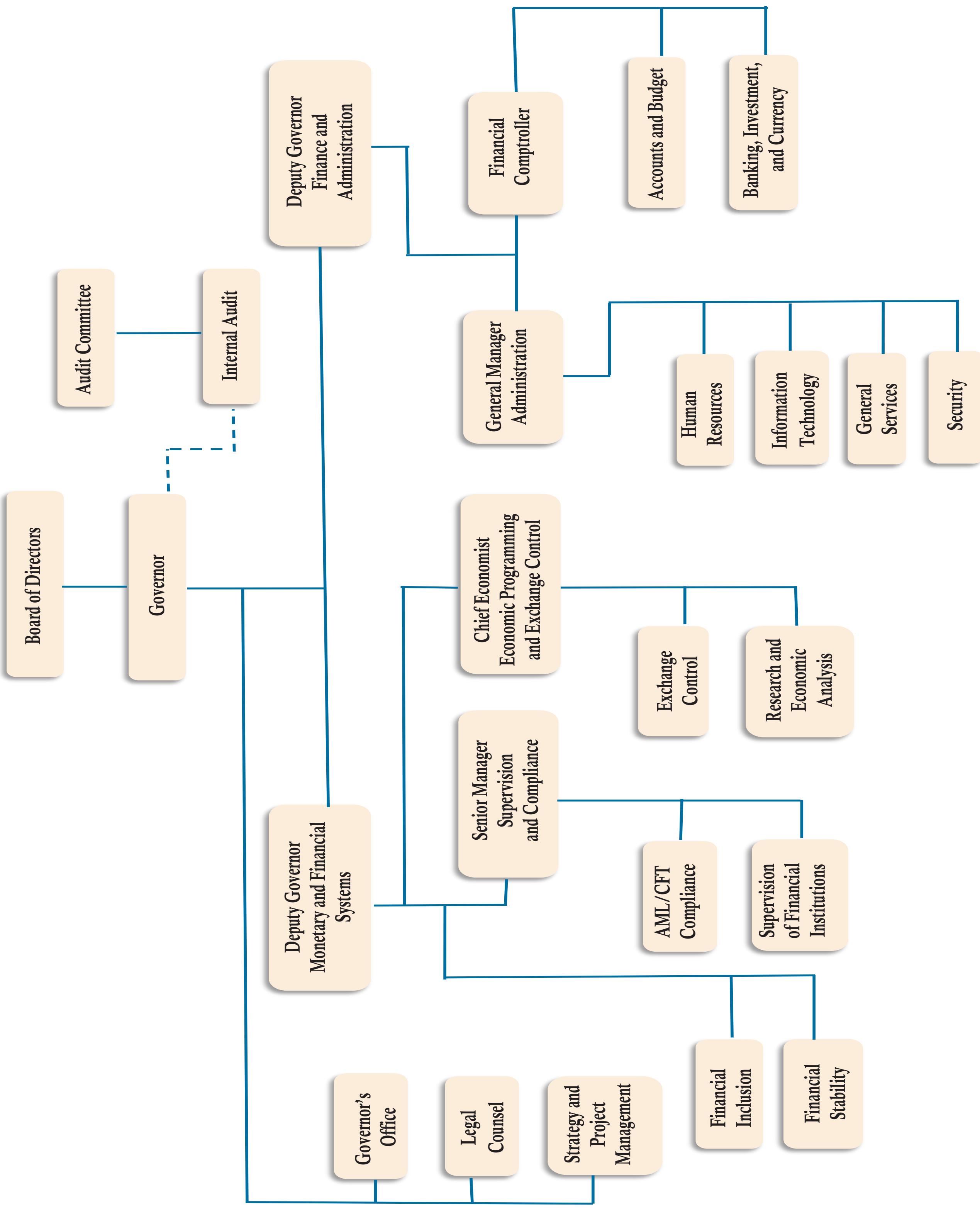


FUNCTIONS OF DEPARTMENTS AND UNITS

At 31 December 2025

Chief Economist ***Mr. Emory Ford***	Provides oversight of the research and exchange control functions of the Central Bank.
Financial Comptroller ***Mr. Benedict Terry***	Provides strategic and technical leadership across the Central Bank's accounting, budgeting, banking, currency, investment, and general services functions.
Internal Audit Department ***Mr. Lincoln Clarke***	Provides independent, risk-based, objective assurance and advisory services that add value and improve the Central Bank's operations.
Legal Counsel ***Ms. Jamila Alleyne***	Provides legal advice and strategic policy support and serves as Board secretary.
Research and Economic Analysis Department ***Dr. Ian M. McMillan***	Acts as the monetary policy and economic intelligence arm of the Central Bank by producing critical macroeconomic statistics and analyses of economic developments in Belize for internal and external stakeholders.
Supervision Department ***Mrs. Diane Gongora***	Implements efficient supervisory and regulatory mechanisms (for banks, credit unions, and other financial institutions, such as moneylenders and payment service providers and operators) to ensure that financial services and products are provided in a safe and sound manner, public confidence in the financial sector is maintained, and the interests of depositors are protected.
Exchange Control Department ***Ms. Giselle Waight***	Provides administrative controls for maintaining the fixed exchange rate regime, while processing and monitoring current foreign exchange transactions in accordance with the Exchange Control Regulations, approving applications for justifiable foreign-denominated investments, providing confirmation of notices for transactions involving securities and property transfers, and participating in the management of the country's foreign exchange resources.
Compliance Department ***Mrs. Carolyn Morris***	Promotes the integrity and security of Belize's financial system by ensuring regulated institutions maintain an effective Anti-Money Laundering, Combating the Financing of Terrorism, and Counter-Proliferation Financing (AML/CFT/CPF) programme through effective risk-based supervision and outreach. The Department also contributes to national coordination efforts to ensure that Belize maintains an effective and internationally compliant AML/CFT/CPF regime and ensures the Board-approved internal compliance programme remains current and aligned with international standards.

FUNCTIONS OF DEPARTMENTS AND UNITS *(continued)*

At 31 December 2025

Banking, Investment, and Currency Department ***Ms. Curlett Johnson***	Manages the issuance of the Central Bank's banknotes and circulation coins, provides payment services to the Government and financial institutions, supports the management of the Central Bank's foreign reserves, and administers the trading of Government securities.
Accounts and Budget Department ***Ms. Wendy Gillett***	Ensures the integrity of the Central Bank's financial information by preparing and presenting financial statements in compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and national laws. The department also prepares and manages the annual budget, advises the Board on financial health, maintains accurate accounting records, coordinates procurement, and processes payments.
Information and Communication Technology Department ***Mr. Marcos Marin***	Governs the Central Bank's information systems and the strategic use of information, communication, and infrastructure, while ensuring the secure, efficient, and effective use of information technology to enhance the Central Bank's functions and operations.
Office of Strategy Management ***Ms. Jacqueline Dragone***	Supports the development, execution and monitoring of the Central Bank's approved strategic plan and initiatives, employs international best practices and methodologies in project management, and enhances organisational communication.
Security Department ***Mr. Francis Thomas***	Maintains a robust security framework for the Central Bank through strategic planning, collaboration with key security partners, and ongoing professional development for its officers. Core functions include safeguarding staff, premises, and visitors; enabling safe and efficient operations; strengthening inter-agency cooperation; and advancing technical and specialised training for officers.
Financial Stability Unit ***Mr. Barrington Sutherland***	Conducts macroprudential surveillance to monitor and mitigate systemic risks.
Human Resources Management Department ***Ms. Esmie Flowers***	Promotes efficiency, productivity, employee and organisational development, and job satisfaction by fostering a performance culture and a positive work environment that advances the successful attainment of the Central Bank's strategic objectives.
General Services Department ***Mr. Raul Avila***	Facilitates administrative, corporate, records management, and facility maintenance services, ensuring comprehensive, and excellence-driven support that enables departments and units to achieve their goals within a secure, productive, and comfortable environment.

DIRECTORS AND PRINCIPALS
At 31 December 2025

Board of Directors

Mr. Sydney Campbell - Executive Chairman
Mr. Joseph Waight - Vice-Chairman/Financial Secretary (*ex officio*)
Mrs. Sol Espejo-Molina - Member
Mrs. Dawn Sampson Nuñez - Member
Mr. Jorge M. Espat - Member
Mr. Claude Haylock - Director General, Financial Services Commission (*ex officio*)
Mr. Kareem Michael - Governor (*ex officio*)
Mr. Hollis Parham - Deputy Governor (*ex officio*)
Mrs. Laetitia Murillo - Deputy Governor (alternate)
Ms. Jamila Alleyne - Board Secretary

Principal Officers

Mr. Kareem Michael - Governor
Mrs. Laetitia Murillo - Deputy Governor, Monetary and Financial Systems
Mr. Hollis Parham - Deputy Governor, Finance and Administration
Mr. Emory Ford - Chief Economist, Economic Programming and Exchange Control
Mr. Benedict Terry - Financial Comptroller
Ms. Jamila Alleyne - Legal Counsel
Mr. Lincoln Clarke - Chief Internal Auditor
Mrs. Diane Gongora - Manager, Supervision
Dr. Ian M. McMillan - Manager, Research and Economic Analysis
Ms. Giselle Waight - Manager, Exchange Control
Mrs. Carolyn Morris - Manager, Compliance
Ms. Curlett Johnson - Manager, Banking, Investment, and Currency
Ms. Wendy Gillett - Manager, Accounts and Budget
Ms. Jacqueline Dragone - Manager, Office of Strategy Management
Mr. Marcos Marin - Manager, Information Communication and Technology
Mr. Francis Thomas - Manager, Security
Ms. Esmie Flowers - Acting Manager, Human Resources Management
Mr. Raul Avila - Manager, General Services

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT

SYDNEY CAMPBELL
Executive Chairman

KAREEM MICHAEL
Governor

LAETITIA MURILLO
Deputy Governor
Monetary and Financial Systems

HOLLIS PARHAM
Deputy Governor
Finance and Administration

MANAGEMENT

EMORY FORD
Chief Economist

BENEDICT TERRY
Financial Comptroller

JAMILA ALLEYNE
Legal Counsel

LINCOLN CLARKE
Chief Internal Auditor

IAN M. MCMILLAN
Manager, Research and Economic Analysis

DIANE GONGORA
Manager, Supervision

GISELLE WAIGHT
Manager, Exchange Control

CAROLYN MORRIS
Manager, Compliance

CURLETT JOHNSON
Manager, Banking, Investment and Currency

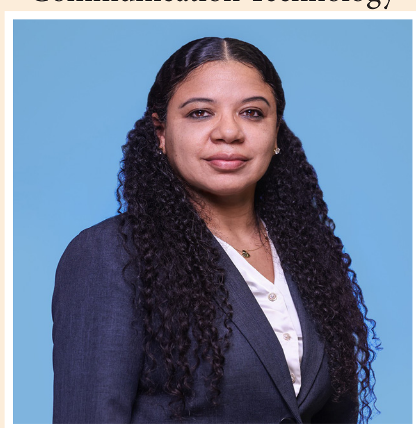
MANAGEMENT *(continued)*

WENDY GILLETT
Manager,
Accounts and Budget

MARCOS MARIN
Manager,
Information and
Communication Technology

JACQUELINE DRAGONE
Manager, Office of
Strategy Management

FRANCIS THOMAS
Manager, Security



ESMIE FLOWERS
Ag. Manager, Human Resources
Management

RAUL AVILA
Manager, General Services

GOVERNOR'S FOREWORD

The year 2025 marked an important turning point in Belize's financial transformation. At the midpoint of our 2023–2027 Strategic Plan, the Central Bank of Belize completed 63.0% of its planned initiatives. This progress reflects the dedication of our staff and our shared commitment to building a modern, inclusive, and resilient financial system that serves the needs of all Belizeans.

Our work during the year continued to be guided by four strategic pillars that define both our responsibilities today and our vision for the future.

Human Resource Excellence remained a central priority. Through leadership development, targeted efficiency initiatives, and improvements to our employee appraisal system, we strengthened the Central Bank's internal capacity and ensured that staff are well equipped to carry out our mandate with professionalism, in line with our core values.

Under Operational Excellence, we advanced major system-level reforms. We upgraded the National Payment System through Automated Payment and Securities Settlement System (APSSS) 2.0 and migrated our financial messaging system to ISO 20022 Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunications (SWIFT) standards. These changes will improve transparency, interoperability, and security across the financial sector. Progress also continued on the new building project, which entered the design phase, laying the groundwork for the infrastructure needed to support our mission well into the future.

Our work in Monetary and Financial Policy Execution also reached several important milestones. The issuance of a new family of currency notes was a moment of national pride, combining advanced security features with designs honouring our two national heroes. We also completed the implementation of our Basel II/III programme, finalised the risk-based supervision framework, advanced important legislative reforms to strengthen the credit union and moneylenders' sectors and streamlined the Exchange Control regime. Together, these reforms strengthen our financial stability posture while supporting innovation and growth.

Strong Strategic Partnerships continued to underpin our progress. Collaboration with government, educators, and private and international partners helped to embed financial education into the primary school curriculum. The launch of Belize's first credit reporting system was another key achievement, laying a foundation for better access to finance for households and small businesses.

GOVERNOR'S FOREWORD *(continued)*

Belize's macroeconomic performance remained solid in 2025, despite heightened global uncertainty, geopolitical tensions, and rising protectionism. The economy expanded by 2.7%, supported by a strong primary sector and a tightening labour market, with unemployment falling to a historic low of 2.0%. Inflation eased to 1.1%, offering some relief to households, while credit growth accelerated to its fastest pace since 2007. The banking sector also continued to perform well, with expanding loan portfolios, stronger capital positions, and further gains in operational resilience.

As we enter 2026, our strategic focus shifts from laying foundations to delivering results. Two national initiatives will be at the forefront: the rollout of the Belize Instant Payment System (BIPS), which will enable fast, secure, and low-cost digital payments nationwide; and the implementation of the credit reporting system, with a focus on greater efficiency and wider participation in the financial system to support economic development.

Alongside these priorities, a number of other initiatives are expected to be finalised—including a modern credit union act and comprehensive revisions to the moneylenders act, Phase II of the Risk-Based Supervision programme, the launch of a new coin series, continued modernisation of exchange controls, ongoing investment in human resources and systems, further progress on the new building project, and expanded financial literacy efforts—will help ensure that our transformational agenda delivers tangible benefits for Belizean families, businesses, and communities.

Looking ahead to 2026, and despite a deeply fragmented world and heightened volatility, Belize's economic resilience is expected to continue. Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is projected to rise by about 2.0%, supported by broad-based activity across all major sectors. Growth in the primary and secondary sectors is expected to remain firm, reflecting continued agricultural output, a recovery in manufacturing and electricity generation, and ongoing momentum in construction. While services are still expected to lead overall growth, expansion in the tertiary sector is projected to be more measured, supported by a modest recovery in stay-over tourism and steady growth in government and financial services.

On the external front, the current account deficit is projected to narrow, supported by stronger net inflows from tourism and other services, as well as lower outflows from the primary income account, as the country begins to realise the gains from last year's nationalisation of the energy sector. However, risks to the outlook remain skewed to the downside and are largely driven by external factors. Further escalation of geopolitical tensions—particularly in the Middle East—could disrupt global energy markets, shipping routes, and commodity prices, with adverse spillovers for domestic inflation, the banking system's external position, and the government's fiscal balance.

As we begin this next phase of our journey, we do so with optimism, humility, and confidence in Belize's potential. Inspired by our vision to be "a model central bank committed to serving the people of Belize," we will continue to strengthen our monetary and financial system so that it better serves our people and supports the country's sustained development.

Photography @belizemytravels
School of Atlantic Spadefish at Silk Cayes, Placencia, Belize

I. CENTRAL BANK OPERATIONS

GOVERNANCE

The Central Bank of Belize Act, CAP. 262 (the Central Bank Act), prescribes the governance structure of the Central Bank. Under the Central Bank Act, the Governor General appoints the Governor on the Prime Minister's advice. The Board of Directors (the Board) comprises four ex officio members—the Governor, a Deputy Governor, the Director General, Financial Services Commission (FSC), and the Financial Secretary—and three or four additional members appointed by the Minister of Finance. These appointed members are drawn from diverse backgrounds and selected for their expertise and qualifications in areas such as finance, accounting, economics, and law.

The Board is the policymaking body of the Central Bank. It is responsible for several key functions, including ensuring regulatory compliance, determining strategic direction and budgetary allocations, making critical decisions on resource allocation and appointments, and conducting thorough reviews of the organisation's performance and financial management.

As the chief executive officer of the Central Bank, the Governor oversees the institution's strategic management and day-to-day operations in line with the policies set by the Board.

Membership

The Board membership saw two changes during the year:

- On 1 April 2025, the Minister of Finance appointed Mr. Jorge M. Espat to the Board, following the departure of Mr. Giacomo Sanchez.
- On 25 July 2025, the Central Bank Act was amended to designate the Director General of the FSC as an ex officio member of the Board. Mr. Claude Haylock currently holds the position of Director General of the FSC.

Figure 1.1: Board of Directors

Back Row - Left to Right | Jamila Alleyne, Jorge M. Espat, Laetitia Murillo, Hollis Parham, Sol Espejo-Molina, Claude Haylock, and Dawn Sampson Nuñez
Front Row - Left to Right | Kareem Michael, Sydney Campbell, and Joseph Waight

Table 1.1: Period of Appointment in 2025

Member	Position	Appointment Period
Mr. Sydney Campbell	Executive Chairman	January to December
Mr. Joseph Waight	Vice-Chairman/Financial Secretary (*ex officio*)	January to December
Mrs. Sol Espejo-Molina	Member	January to December
Mrs. Dawn Sampson Nuñez	Member	January to December
Mr. Giacomo Sanchez	Former Member	January to March
Mr. Jorge M. Espat	Member	April to December
Mr. Claude Haylock	Director General (*ex officio*)	July to December
Mr. Kareem Michael	Governor (*ex officio*)	January to December
Mr. Hollis Parham	Deputy Governor (*ex officio*)	January to December
Mrs. Laetitia Murillo	Deputy Governor (alternate)	January to December

Meetings

The Board must meet at least 10 times each year on dates designated by the Chairperson. A quorum of three members, one of whom must be the Governor or a Deputy Governor, is required for each Board meeting. Decisions of the Board are made by a majority of votes cast, with the Chairperson having a second or casting vote if the votes are equal.

In 2025, the Board met 10 times. At these meetings, 33 board-decision papers and 41 information papers were considered. All meetings were held at the Central Bank building in Belize City.

Conduct of Board Members

- In accordance with section 18(1) of the Central Bank Act, Board members are prohibited from disclosing any information obtained in the performance of their duties, except where such disclosure is made for the purpose of the performance of their duties, the exercise of their functions or is lawfully required by a court or under the provisions of any law. Furthermore, each Board member must adhere to a Code of Conduct, which requires:
- Performing their duties with utmost care and diligence;
- Acting in good faith and in the best interests of the Central Bank;
- Refraining from exploiting their position for personal gain or to the detriment of the Central Bank or any individual;
- Abstaining from using any privileged information obtained through their position for personal benefit or to the disadvantage of the Central Bank or any individual; and
- Promptly disclosing any substantial personal interests that conflict with the interests of the Central Bank.

Table 1.2: Standing Committee Meetings in 2025

	Chair	Mandate	Meetings
Audit	Mrs. Dawn Sampson Nuñez Director of the Board	To assist the Board by providing independent oversight of the Central Bank's financial reporting practices, internal control system, risk management framework, and compliance obligations.	7
Monetary Policy	Mr. Kareem Michael Governor	To develop and implement monetary policy aimed at maintaining exchange rate stability and promoting favourable credit and exchange conditions that support Belize's growth, by using a market-based approach to liquidity management in the banking system along with other monetary policy tools.	6
Investment and Reserves Management	Mr. Kareem Michael Governor	To manage the Central Bank's foreign reserves in line with the return goals, liquidity needs, investment time horizon, and income requirements of the portfolio, as stipulated in the Foreign Reserve Investment Policy and the Central Bank Act.	10
Pension Scheme	Mr. Hollis Parham Deputy Governor	To oversee the daily financial and administrative operations of the pension plan, implementing measures to protect members' benefits and ensure the growth and preservation of the pension fund assets.	4
Disposal	Mr. Hollis Parham Deputy Governor	To make recommendations on the disposal of the Central Bank's assets and property.	2

Standing Committees

Standing committees are formally constituted to support the Central Bank's core functions, such as internal governance, monetary policy, and reserves management. They play a role in developing, evaluating, and applying policies to ensure decisions conform to the Central Bank's mandate and legal standards. Standing Committees responsibilities typically include analysing data, assessing risks, and preparing recommendations for senior decision-makers.

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee, a subcomittee of the Board, provides focused oversight on key governance and assurance functions. In 2025, the Audit Committee comprised two non-executive Board members:

- Former Chairman, Mr. Giacomo Sanchez (January to March),
- Chairlady, Mrs. Dawn Sampson Nuñez (June to December), and
- Member, Mrs. Sol Espejo-Molina (January to December);

and one executive Board member:

- Deputy Governor, Monetary and Financial Systems, Mrs. Laetitia Murillo, (January to December).

The Audit Committee assisted the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities by:

- Assuring the Board that adequate arrangements are in place to manage and report on significant risks to the Central Bank's operations;
- Approving the Internal Audit Department's (IAUD's) annual risk-based work plan and assessing its performance against the approved plan;
- Reviewing the effectiveness of the IAUD's activities, with an emphasis on conformance with The Institute of Internal Auditors' International Standards for Professional Practice of Internal Auditing;
- Informing the Board of material findings, salient audit recommendations, and other significant matters;
- Providing recommendations to the Board to enable informed decision-making;
- Reviewing all significant concerns with management and the external auditors, including litigation, contingencies, claims or assessments, and all material accounting issues affecting the financial and operational conditions of the Central Bank; and
- Reviewing the Central Bank's audited financial statements and letter of recommendations with the external auditors before submission to the Board.

Internal Audit

Internal audit is an independent, objective assurance and consulting function designed to add value and improve the Central Bank's operations. This function enables the Central Bank to achieve its objectives through a systematic, disciplined approach to evaluating and improving the effectiveness of its internal controls, risk management, and governance processes. The IAUD adheres to the profession's Code of Ethics, the International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing, and the Central Bank's Internal Audit Charter.

The IAUD conducted 31 engagements, comprising audits, investigations, and real-time observations, across business units within the Central Bank. The IAUD completed audit engagements in the following areas:

- Management of local currency,
- Facility management,
- Disaster recovery,
- Video surveillance systems,
- Journal entries,
- Management of foreign reserve investments, and
- Adherence to SWIFT's Customer Security Controls.

Furthermore, the IAUD observed and monitored key real-time activities, including Treasury operations such as government securities auctions and account reconciliations, as well as local currency functions, comprising transportation, inventory checks, and destruction. The Department also oversaw foreign currency activities, including packing and shipping. Additionally, unannounced physical verifications of cash accounts, security, weapons, and ammunition were conducted. The findings from these activities were reported to Senior Management and the Audit Committee.

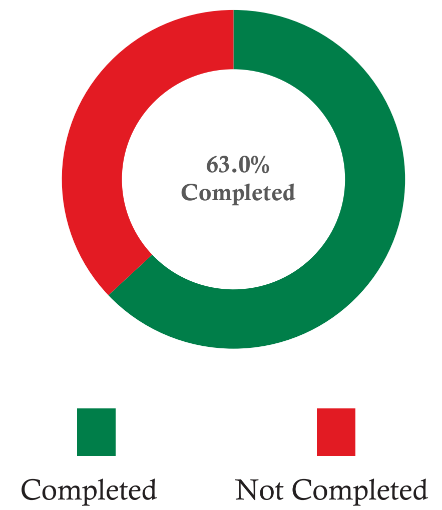
ADVANCING STABILITY THROUGH TRANSFORMATION: 2025 STRATEGIC PROGRESS

In 2025, the Central Bank reached a key milestone in its 2023–2027 Strategic Plan. By the end of the year, it completed 63.0% of its strategic initiatives, demonstrating a steadfast commitment to modernising Belize's financial system and maintaining monetary stability.

The Central Bank's initiatives focus on four core strategic themes:

- Human Resource Excellence,
- Operational Excellence,
- Monetary and Financial Policy Execution, and
- Strategic Partnerships.

Figure 1.2: Strategic Implementation Snapshot



Outlook

As global financial systems continue to digitise rapidly, the Central Bank will shift from foundation building to accelerated delivery in 2026, focusing on executing key regulatory, operational, and digital initiatives that advance inclusion and strengthen institutional resilience.

Box 1.1 | 2025 Strategic Implementation Matrix

HUMAN RESOURCE EXCELLENCE

Recruitment, training, and compensation are aligned to support staff retention and the evolving needs of the Central Bank.

Projects	Accomplishments	Percentage Completion	Next Steps
Performance Appraisal System	Completed the system and its subsequent enhancements.	92.0% Complete	Evaluate the system.
HR Efficiency	Initiated review of policies and procedures; commenced automation and process redesign.	9.0% Complete	Redevelop policies and digitise HR processes.

OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Stronger policies and processes to support improvement in operating performance.

Projects	Accomplishments	Percentage Completion	Next Steps
FAME 2.0	Completed upgrade to enhance analytics, statistical processing, and data management.	100.0% Complete	
New Building	Completed schematic design and initiated design development.	31.0% Complete	Award construction-related contracts, complete interior design, and initiate pre-construction activities.
APSSS 2.0	Completed system upgrade to improve its scalability and efficiency.	100.0% Complete	
SWIFT	Completed system upgrade, which improved transparency, compliance, and interoperability.	100.0% Complete	

Box 1.1 | 2025 Strategic Implementation Matrix *(continued)*

MONETARY AND FINANCIAL POLICY EXECUTION

Exchange rate and financial stability measures are maintained at or above agreed levels.

Projects	Accomplishments	Percentage Completion	Next Steps
Credit Reporting System	Licensed credit bureau and conducted public awareness initiatives.	71.0% Complete	Develop legal and oversight framework; oversee the onboarding of credit information providers.
Risk-Based Supervision (Phase I)	Strengthened the supervision of financial institutions by prioritising their highest risk areas to better identify and mitigate emerging threats.	100.0% of Phase 1	Implement Phase II of Risk-Based Supervision.
Basel II/III	Adopted a framework to strengthen bank capital, liquidity, and risk management to enhance financial stability.	100.0% Complete	
Digital Financial Services	Completed readiness assessment and vendor selection for the implementation of the BIPS.	94.0% Complete	Advance BIPS implementation activities toward a 2028 system launch.
New Currency Notes	Issued newly redesigned family of banknotes celebrating the nation's heritage, while introducing enhanced security features.	100.0% Complete	
New Coin Series	Designed a new coin series, highlighting the nation’s heritage.	72.0% Complete	Launch of new coins in late 2026.
Exchange Control Modernisation - Phase I: Delegation of Authority	Completed expansion of delegated authority to domestic banks to grant exchange control approval for a broader range of transactions and at higher monetary limits.	100.0% of Phase I	Initiate Phase II by updating the exchange control regulatory framework and designing an integrated exchange control system.

Box 1.1 | 2025 Strategic Implementation Matrix (*continued*)

MONETARY AND FINANCIAL POLICY EXECUTION (*continued*)

Exchange rate and financial stability measures are maintained at or above agreed levels.

Projects	Accomplishments	Percentage Completion	Next Steps
Credit Union Legislation	Drafted a new Credit Union Bill, with associated regulations, model by-laws, and requirements for internal controls systems.	77.0% Complete	Revise and implement the supervisory framework.

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

Formalised arrangements with partners to support the attainment of the strategic objectives of the Central Bank.

Projects	Accomplishments	Next Steps
National Financial Inclusion	Collaborated with the Ministry of Education to develop a financial education e-book for Belize's primary school curriculum.	In collaboration with the Ministry of Education, publish the e-book and implement a national financial literacy outreach campaign.

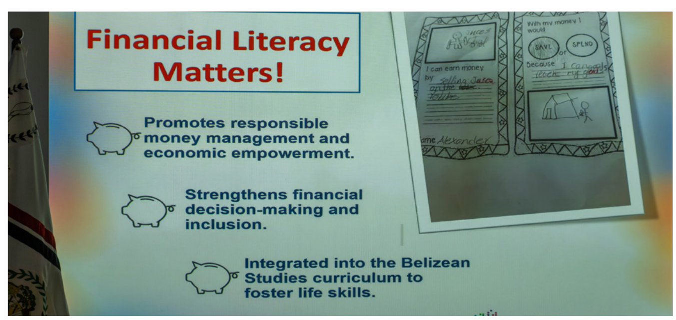
Figure 1.3: New Currency Notes Education Campaign

ADVANCING FINANCIAL LITERACY: LAUNCH OF BELIZE'S FIRST FINANCIAL EDUCATION E-BOOK

In a defining milestone for national financial capability, the Central Bank, in partnership with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, launched the e-book "Understanding Financial Institutions and Transactions." Aligned with the National Financial Inclusion Strategy (NFIS), this initiative marks the formal integration of financial literacy into the primary school curriculum.

To ensure effective delivery, the Central Bank trained 24 "champion" teachers to lead classroom implementation. The digital resource simplifies complex financial concepts for the Belizean context, empowering the next generation to navigate the financial system with confidence. By bridging the gap between classroom learning and real-world application, the Central Bank continues to advance its goal to transform financial knowledge from a privilege into a fundamental right for all citizens.

Figure 1.4: Launch of E-Book



HUMAN RESOURCES

In 2025, the Human Resources Management Department (HRMD) advanced the Central Bank's human capital strategy through the implementation of performance-driven systems, organisational restructuring, and targeted talent development initiatives. These actions strengthened the institution's culture of high performance and ensured alignment with the evolving demands of modern central banking.

Organisational Design and Efficiency

HRMD successfully led the comprehensive redesign of the Compliance and Information and Communication Technology Departments (ICTD). By streamlining workflows and realigning reporting structures, these interventions have bolstered the Central Bank's regulatory oversight capabilities and accelerated its digital transformation agenda.

Workforce Profile and Demographics

At the end of 2025, the Central Bank employed 229 staff, with a gender distribution of 58.1% female and 41.9% male. With four generations represented across the workforce, the Central Bank continues to benefit from deep institutional knowledge, fresh perspectives, and a dynamic environment that supports continuous mentorship, innovation, and learning.

Talent Acquisition and Career Progression

HRMD continued to prioritise internal mobility and high-calibre recruitment. In 2025, the Central Bank onboarded 20 new professionals, supported 24 staff promotions, including eight at the management and senior management levels, and maintained a turnover rate of 7.4%, inclusive of retirements. These results demonstrate ongoing commitment to succession planning and workforce stability.

Figure 1.5: Workforce Distribution by Generation

	25 Staff Born 1997 - 2012	**Generation Z (11%)**: Emerging talent bringing innovation and digital fluency.
	131 Staff Born 1981 - 1996	**Millennials (57%)**: Our largest cohort, driving core operations and digital-first initiatives.
	70 Staff Born 1965 - 1980	**Generation X (31%)**: Providing critical leadership and institutional stability.
	3 Staff Born 1946 - 1964	**Baby Boomers (1%)**: Vital pillars of institutional knowledge and mentorship.

Figure 1.6: Recruitment, Promotions, and Retention

20 Staff Recruited	
24 Staff Promotions	
6 Retirees	7 Resignations and 4 Separations

Figure 1.7: Internship Breakdown

5 - Bachelor's Level
8 - Associate Level
2 - High School Level

Youth Development and Student Engagement

In 2025, the Central Bank strengthened engagement with Belize's academic community to build a future-ready workforce. By aligning academic excellence with strategic priorities, we aim to be the top choice for graduates.

Strategic Outreach: HRMD represented the Central Bank at career fairs hosted by Galen University on 28 March and the University of Belize on 9 April. These events targeted students in Economics, Finance, Compliance, and Information Technology, helping to bridge the gap between academic theory and central banking practice.

Summer Employment and Internship Programme: Our outreach efforts directly fuelled the Summer Employment and Internship Programme, which remains a key element of our talent development strategy. In 2025, the Central Bank hosted 12 summer employees and 15 interns, providing them with rigorous, career-aligned experience and a pathway into the professional workforce.

Staff Appreciation and Recognition

The 2025 Staff Appreciation Week from 7–11 July served as a dual-purpose initiative. It strengthened internal morale and reinforced the Central Bank's commitment to the wider community.

- **Community Impact**: Through our annual outreach programme, staff volunteered to deliver essential care packages to an elderly home after a Thanksgiving celebration, embodying the Central Bank's core values of service and social responsibility.
- **Organisational Wellness**: A Health and Wellness Fair was hosted to promote preventative care. Staff participated in on-site screenings and wellness education, emphasising the Central Bank's proactive approach to maintaining a healthy, resilient workforce.
- **Professional Evolution (HR Ignite)**: This segment introduced the HR Ignite session led by guest speaker, Mrs. Carol David, from e-C.O.R.E followed by the "Check-In" Performance Framework. Through interactive leadership training, HRMD transitioned the Central Bank from traditional, static

appraisals toward a culture of continuous, real-time feedback.

- **Honouring Institutional Loyalty**: The week concluded with the Long-Service Awards, honouring over 30 employees for milestones of 10 to 35 years of service—a testament to the Central Bank's status as a premier employer of choice.

Figure 1.8: Employee Long-Service Recognition

12 Employees

5 Employees

6 Employees

4 Employees

3 Employees

Staff Training and Development

In 2025, the Central Bank invested in its staff by launching a wide-ranging development plan to build institutional capacity, demonstrating its commitment to the core strategic themes of Human Resource and Operational Excellence. A total of 224 employees across all departments attended local courses to improve their technical and professional skills. Of these, 74 staff members joined a Digital Transformation Programme on artificial intelligence and digital literacy, led by local facilitators. Another 45 employees gained analytical and supervisory skills through specialised training overseas. This year, staff also completed three advanced degrees and earned seven internationally recognised professional certifications.

In addition to developing individual skills, the Central Bank strengthened leadership in the financial sector by collaborating more closely with regulators and other agencies. These efforts were supported by several targeted initiatives, including:

- **Strategic Upskilling**: Provided focused professional development in key areas such as information technology, compliance, and internal audit.
- **Regulatory Outreach**: Offered specialised training on Delegation of Authority and AML/CFT/CPF standards to both internal teams and external stakeholders in the financial sector.
- **Systemic Leadership**: Seconded a senior Compliance Officer to lead the coordination of Belize's second National Risk Assessment.

Figure 1.9: Local Training: Employees Trained in Various Courses

	Time Management	52
	Business Communication	42
	Microsoft Outlook	32
	Management and Supervision	30
	Microsoft PowerPoint	23
	Microsoft Excel Intermediate	14
	Microsoft Excel Advance	14
	Conversational Spanish	9
	Human Resources	4
	Policy and Analysis	2
	Blockchain and Digital Assets	2
	TOTAL	**224**

Figure 1.10: Overseas Training: Employees Trained in Various Topics

	Macroeconomics and Statistics	23
	Crisis Management and Supervision	9
	Compliance and Legal Governance	9
	Professional and Facilities Management	4
	TOTAL	**45**

Staff Club and Community Engagement

In 2025, the Staff Club served as the driving force behind the Central Bank's prosocial initiatives, promoting a culture in which employee engagement directly contributes to community development.

Community Outreach: Queen Street Baptist School

The Staff Club deepened its commitment to local education by spearheading a transformative revitalisation initiative at Queen Street Baptist School, setting the tone for meaningful and sustained community impact. Members organised the repainting of two classrooms and a donation drive for essential books and school supplies. The Club also partnered with Von Prod to install wall fans, enhancing comfort for students and teachers.

Staff Activities: Fostering Camaraderie and Wellness

Beyond its outreach efforts, the Staff Club concentrated on strengthening the Central Bank's internal culture through activities designed to foster teamwork and work-life balance:

- High-energy events like Staff Day, the annual Sports Day, and various interdepartmental tournaments promoted physical wellness and encouraged meaningful connections across departmental boundaries.
- The Club organised seasonal highlights, including an Easter Egg Hunt Mini-Fair Family Day, and Christmas Gala creating meaningful opportunities for staff to build personal connections.
- To support a positive work environment, the Club organised themed food distributions and presented tokens of appreciation for birthdays

and professional milestones, including Administrative Professionals Day, Bosses Day, and Thanksgiving.

Advocacy and Awareness

In addition to social events, the Staff Club supported key social and health causes. For Cancer Awareness Month, the Club and the HRMD launched a multi-sensory campaign featuring a "Post-it Board" filled with messages of encouragement and thoughtfully curated awareness themed raffles.

The Central Bank also reinforced its commitment to diversity and inclusion by hosting Christy Almeida, founder of Autism Belize. Her session equipped staff with key tools to identify signs of autism and promoted a more compassionate, communicative, and inclusive workplace. The Staff Club also celebrated International Women's Day, recognising the vital contributions of women in the Central Bank.

Strategic Alignment

Through these employee-led initiatives, the Staff Club remains essential to the Central Bank's identity by fostering an inspired, engaged, and socially conscious workforce dedicated to its mission and community.

Figure 1.11: Staff Club Scholarship Programme

Figure 1.12: Annual Staff Appreciation and Recognition Week of Activities

Figure 1.13: Annual Employee Recognition Awardees

Figure 1.14: Staff Club Activities

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

During 2025, the Central Bank undertook a series of strategic initiatives aimed at modernising its payments infrastructure, strengthening supervisory collaboration, and enhancing its cybersecurity and operational resilience.

As part of its broader modernisation efforts, the Central Bank successfully completed the mandatory migration to SWIFT ISO 20022, implementing the MX message format, a modern, structured, and data-rich messaging standard that replaces the older MT format, for Real-Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) transactions. The transition has improved efficiency, compliance, and the overall quality of financial data exchanged through the system. The migration, required of financial institutions worldwide, including those in Belize that use SWIFT for international payments, positions the Central Bank firmly within global best practice for modern payments messaging. In parallel, the Central Bank continued to ensure the reliability, safety, and security of its SWIFT Alliance Access platform by maintaining full compliance with SWIFT's Customer Security Control Framework v2025 and its independent assessment requirements, as verified by the IAUD in 2025.

Building on this progress, the Central Bank advanced the expansion of the Digital Financial Services Project, with support from the World Bank, which encompassed the development and implementation of an instant payment system. The ICTD served as a key technical contributor in preparing the Request for Proposal for the design, supply, installation, and ongoing support of the BIPS. ICTD also played an integral role in conducting detailed technical and financial evaluations of the shortlisted and proposed BIPS vendors.

In parallel with these technological advancements, the National Anti-Money Laundering Committee (NAMLC) approved the Central Bank's sharing of its in-house–developed Sanctions Registry System with the Group of Supervisors, comprising the Financial Intelligence Unit, the Office of the Supervisor of Insurance and Private Pensions, and the FSC. Following this approval, ICTD, in collaboration with the Compliance Department, conducted a comprehensive workshop and system demonstration for all three supervisory authorities. This engagement provided an in-depth overview of the Sanctions Registry System's capabilities, illustrated its value in strengthening sanctions screening processes, and supported the supervisors' evaluation of the system's suitability for wider adoption. The successful completion of this initiative marks an important step towards coordinated national implementation of the Sanctions Registry System and further reinforces inter-agency cooperation in support of Belize's anti–money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism framework.

To strengthen its information security resilience, the Central Bank implemented internal network segmentation—a process that divides the network into smaller, isolated segments to limit unauthorised access, contain threats, and control traffic flow—thereby enhancing visibility and risk mitigation across both north–south and east–west traffic. Complementing this measure, the Central Bank deployed a simplified, enhanced

Secure Remote Access solution based on the Zero Trust security model and invested substantially in upgrading and patching third-party systems and devices to reduce exposure to supply-chain vulnerabilities. To further reinforce its cybersecurity posture, the Central Bank continued to provide ongoing training and awareness sessions, equipping staff to better identify and defend against ransomware, phishing, and other emerging cyber threats.

The Central Bank also strengthened its operational resilience by successfully completing an operational and technical business continuity exercise for the APSSS and SWIFT, its two most critical systems hosted at the disaster recovery site in Belmopan. The exercise demonstrated the institution's capacity to respond, adapt, recover, and learn in the face of disruptions. Its scope covered the restoration of critical services, ensuring business continuity across three key risk scenarios: the unavailability of the facilities, APSSS and SWIFT, and key personnel.

To enhance operational efficiency, the Central Bank implemented an internal Information Technology Asset and Strategic Management system. Throughout the planning and execution phases, the ICTD collaborated closely with internal stakeholders to ensure the full integration of critical processes into the system.

At the sectoral level, the Cyber Security Committee for the Financial System, comprising representatives from domestic and international financial institutions, convened twice in 2025 to discuss emerging cyber threats affecting the financial system, APSSS, and other critical systems and infrastructure services. During these sessions, two participating institutions reported customer-related cyber incidents, including one event that resulted in minor financial losses for a small number of affected customers. Additionally, the Committee unanimously endorsed the inclusion of Shared Services Network as the representative for credit unions within the body, thereby strengthening sector-wide coordination and information-sharing efforts.

CURRENCY AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE TRANSACTIONS

Currency Operations

In August 2025, the Central Bank launched a new family of banknotes and began a swift phase-out of the monarch-design series from circulation. These synchronised efforts increased demand for the new notes and marked a significant step towards modernising and enhancing the security of the national currency. By the end of 2025, the total value of currency in circulation had risen by 5.9%, reaching $781.3mn, up from $738.1mn a year earlier. This growth was driven mainly by a 5.8% increase in banknotes in circulation, which rose to $732.1mn from $691.6mn the previous year. The value of coins in circulation also grew by 6.0%, increasing from $46.5mn at the end of 2024 to $49.3mn one year later.

The $50.00 and $2.00 banknotes remained the most widely circulated denominations, accounting for 23.3% and 20.2% of all banknotes in circulation, respectively. By the end of 2025, the distribution of currency in circulation remained steady: banknotes constituted 93.7%, and coins 6.3%, similar to 2024's proportions. Meanwhile, domestic banks' vault cash rose significantly,

Chart 1.1: Currency in Circulation

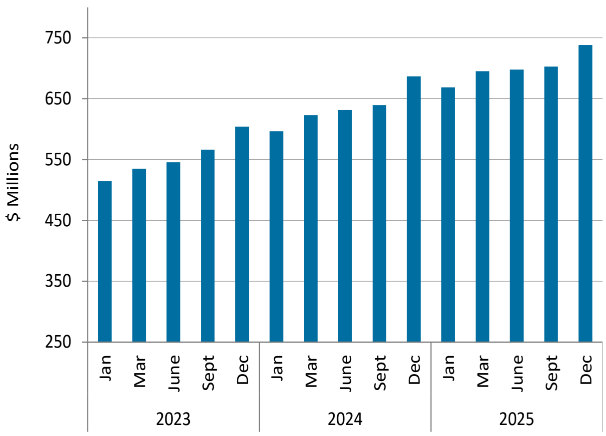
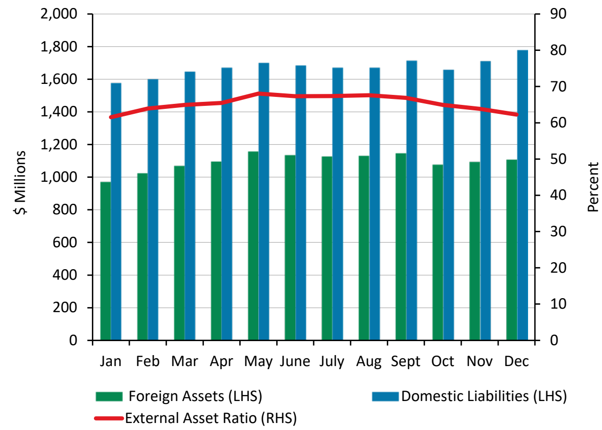


Chart 1.2: Monthly External Asset Ratio



from $92.5mn in 2024 to $114.4mn in 2025. Consequently, the currency held by the public, calculated as the difference between total currency in circulation and vault cash, increased by $21.4mn, reaching $667.0mn in 2025, compared with $645.6mn in the previous year.

External Assets Ratio

Under section 25(2) of the Central Bank Act, the Central Bank is mandated to hold a reserve of foreign assets amounting to no less than 40.0% of the total value of notes and coins in circulation plus its deposit liabilities. This legal requirement is intended to ensure that the Central Bank maintains adequate foreign reserves to meet the country's external obligations.

In 2025, the external assets ratio remained well above the statutory minimum of 40.0% throughout the entire year, fluctuating within a narrow band above 60.0%. In January, the ratio reached its lowest level at 61.6%, before climbing steadily to a peak of 67.6% in August. It then declined slowly toward the end of the year, reaching 62.2% in December.

On 1 January, the Central Bank's foreign asset position stood at $982.5mn. Over the first five months of the year, the foreign assets grew significantly by $161.0mn, reaching $1,143.5mn in May. This growth was supported by inflows from the acquisition of United States (US) dollars and Euros from domestic banks, foreign loans, international grants, sugar export receipts, and interest income from foreign investments. However, in June, the foreign asset position fell by $17.3mn to $1,126.2mn, reflecting outflows associated with the public sector external debt servicing obligations.

During the second half of the year, the foreign asset holdings rebounded. Between July and September, balances increased by $12.3mn, reaching $1,146.4mn in September, the highest level for the year. However, in October, the foreign assets declined sharply by $69.7mn to $1,076.7mn, due to payments related to the acquisition of energy assets, interest payments on the Blue Loan, and other Government of Belize (Government) foreign debt obligations. From November to December, foreign assets rose by

$29.1mn, driven by inflows from domestic banks tied to financing arrangements with domestic banks under Exchange Control Direction 19 to acquire the Fortis Belize Limited (FBL) and Belize Electricity Limited (BEL) shares, reaching $1,107.1mn by year end.

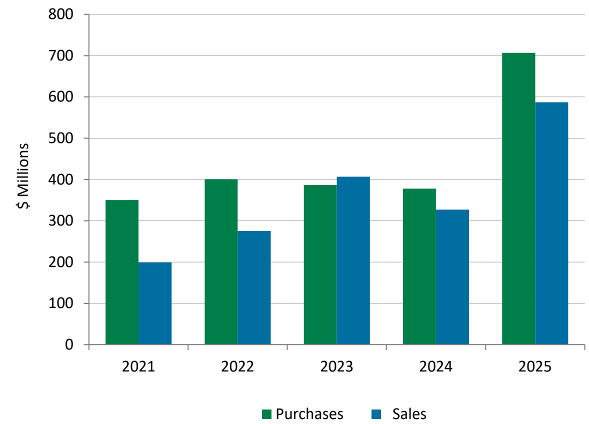
Over the year, the foreign asset portfolio remained relatively stable. The share of cash and fixed deposits in total foreign assets held steady at 25.9% between 2024 and 2025. At the same time, the proportion of Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) declined slightly from 11.6% in 2024 to 10.8% in 2025, while the proportion of foreign securities grew marginally from 62.5% in 2024 to 63.3% in 2025.

Foreign Exchange Transactions

Foreign currency operations, excluding CARICOM currencies, recorded net purchases of $119.5mn in 2025, more than double the $50.8mn in 2024. This sharp increase was driven mainly by a substantial rise in foreign currency purchases, which grew by $328.8mn, or 87.0%, to $706.8mn. Domestic banks and financial institutions accounted for the bulk of this growth, contributing $296.8mn more than in 2024. Additional foreign currency receipts included $82.6mn from sugar export receipts and $124.3mn from external loans and grants. Inflows from loans and grants comprised $34.4mn from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), $33.0mn from the Republic of China (Taiwan), $18.1mn from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), and $17.1mn from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD).

Foreign currency sales rose by $260.1mn, or 79.5%, to $587.3mn in 2025, due to the Government's

Chart 1.3: Trade in Foreign Currency



US-dollar payment to Fortis Incorporated of Canada (Fortis) for the acquisition of all shares in FBL, the owner of the Mollejon, Chalillo, and Vaca hydroelectric plants. Additionally, Government bought the 33.3% shareholding that Fortis Cayman Incorporated (FCI) held in BEL. The combined acquisition, valued at $260.0mn, was the primary driver of the significant increase in foreign currency outflows for the year.

Trading in CARICOM currencies yielded a small increase in net sales, which stood at $4.9mn at the end of 2025, and accounted fully for the deficit, as no purchases were made. Trade in CARICOM currencies mainly comprised the settlement of official transactions.

RELATIONS WITH CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

Overdraft Advances

Section 34 of the Central Bank of Belize Act, CAP 262, permits the Central Bank to extend direct advances to the Government, provided that the total outstanding at any time does not exceed 12.0% of its current revenues collected in the previous fiscal year (FY). For FY 2024/2025, the ceiling on direct advances available to the Government was $194.3mn. Direct advances are made through an overdraft facility linked to the Government's Consolidated Revenue Fund account held at the Central Bank. In line with its debt consolidation strategy, the Government has not utilised the overdraft facility since July 2021.

Treasury Bills

The outstanding nominal value of Treasury bills (T-bills) remained unchanged at $335.0mn in 2025, equivalent to 55.8% of the statutory ceiling of $600.0mn. This ceiling was raised by $200.0mn in October through an amendment to the Treasury Bills Act, CAP 83, enacted as part of the legislative package accompanying the Belize Electricity Investments Act, 2025.

To meet the Government's short-term financing needs, T-bills were reissued across several tranches: four 91-day issuances valued at $83.2mn, $64.4mn, $67.4mn, and $90.0mn, along with a six-month tranche, valuing $30.0mn. Throughout the year, the average yield on 91-day T-bills remained stable at 0.60%, maintaining the

Chart 1.4: T-bill Yield

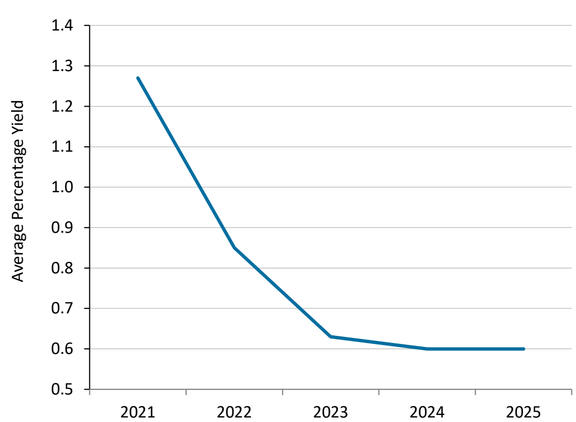
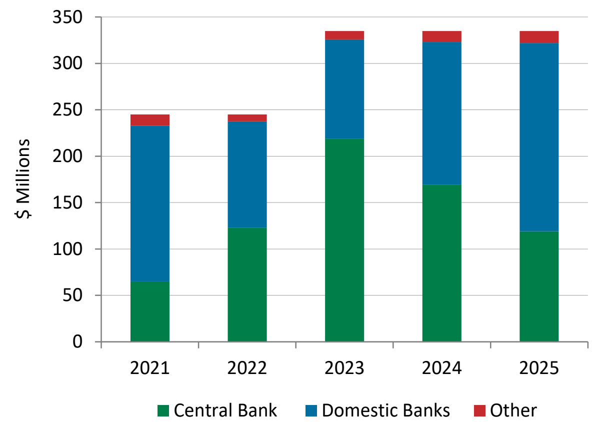


Chart 1.5: T-bill Distribution by Holder



low borrowing costs achieved after several years of steady downward repricing. Over the medium term, average yields fell significantly from 1.27% in 2021 to 0.85% in 2022, then continued to decline to 0.63% in 2023 and 0.60% in both 2024 and 2025, enabling a sustained low-interest-rate environment amid ample system liquidity.

By year-end 2025, domestic banks were the largest holders of T-bills, accounting for 60.5% of the market. The Central Bank held 35.5%, while other institutional investors held 3.9%. This composition reflected a continued shift in holdings observed in recent years. The Central Bank's T-bill portfolio fell by $50.4mn, marking the second consecutive year of reduction, while domestic banks increased their holdings by $49.3mn, bringing their position to its highest level since 2021. Holdings by other institutional investors rose modestly by $1.1mn, maintaining a relatively small but stable share of the market.

Trading activity in the secondary market was minimal, with only four trades totalling $114.0mn recorded for the year.

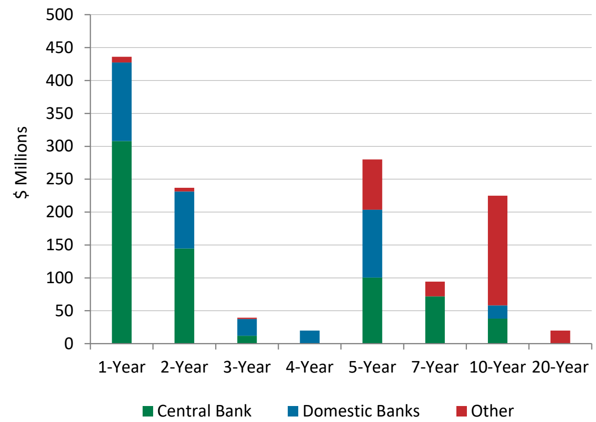
Treasury Notes

The stock of Treasury notes (T-notes) expanded markedly in 2025, rising by $245.8mn to $1,351.6mn. This represented 84.5% of the allowable outstanding amount, which was increased by $400.0mn in October to expand Government's borrowing capacity. In the same month, the Government issued $260.0mn in new T-notes across the one-year, two-year, and five-year tenors to finance the acquisition of FCI's remaining 33.3% stake in BEL (US$18.0mn) and 100% of FBL's shares to acquire its hydroelectric assets (US$112.0mn). These inflows were partially offset by the $14.2mn principal repayment on a five-year USD-denominated T-note in June 2025.

The $260.0mn issuance was initially taken up by the Central Bank, with the intention of reselling the instruments to domestic banks in exchange for US dollars to facilitate the Government's foreign payment for the national energy assets. The transfer of these securities is being executed over a six-month period from October 2025 to April 2026, comprising $120.0mn in one-year notes at 3.00%, $80.0mn in two-year notes at 3.25%, and $60.0mn in five-year notes at 4.25%. By year-end, domestic banks had already acquired $204.3mn in T-notes, including $94.3mn in one-year, $62.9mn in two-year, and $47.1mn in five-year notes.

The broader T-note portfolio continued to be heavily weighted towards shorter- and medium-term instruments. One-year notes remained the largest category outstanding, reflecting the combined holdings of the Central Bank, domestic banks, and institutional investors of $435.0mn. Two-year notes also remained substantial, with holdings of $230.0mn, while five-year instruments accounted for $280.0mn.

Chart 1.6: T-note Distribution by Maturity and Holder



Longer-dated securities—including the seven-year, 10-year, and 20-year tranches—were held primarily by institutional investors, with the 10-year segment representing the largest concentration of long-term positions.

In line with the Government's repricing strategy to lower short-term borrowing costs, six one-year T-notes were reissued at maturity at a reduced rate of 1.70%, down from 2.00%. Similarly, four two-year notes were repriced from 2.25% to 1.90%, and three five-year notes were repriced from 3.50% to 2.50%.

Trading activity in the secondary market remained minimal, with 16 trades totalling $15.4mn recorded for the year.

RELATIONS WITH DOMESTIC BANKS

Cash Reserves

The cash reserve requirement for domestic banks, which has remained fixed at 6.5% of average deposit liabilities since April 2020, was unchanged in 2025. As a result, the average required cash reserves increased by $22.9mn, from $270.2mn in

Chart 1.7: Cash Reserves

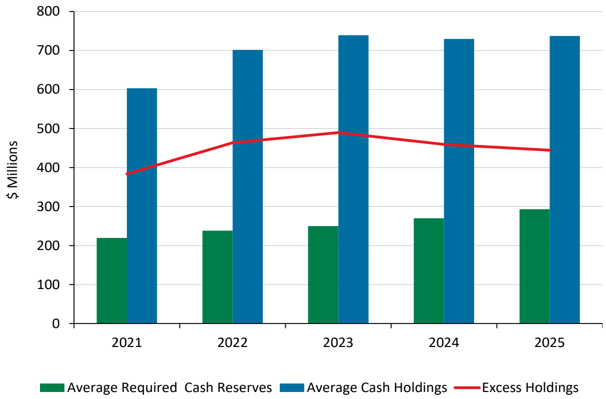
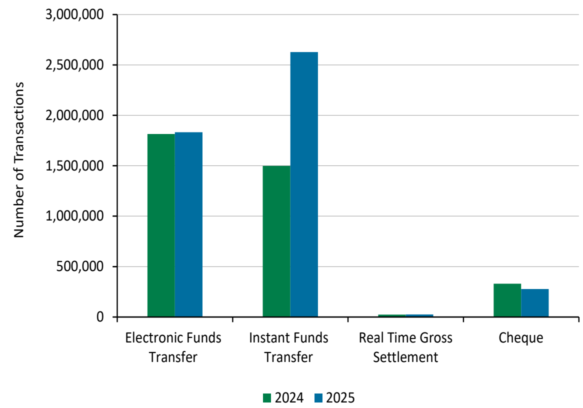


Chart 1.8: Non-Cash Payment Methods



2024 to $293.1mn. Domestic banks maintained average cash holdings of $737.4mn, a modest 1.1% ($7.8mn) increase on the previous year.

Excess cash holdings declined marginally over the year, reaching their lowest levels in August ($408.6mn) and October ($406.8mn). These reductions reflected two temporary liquidity-absorbing developments: (i) increased cash requisitions to support the rollout of Belize's new banknote series in August, and (ii) heightened liquidity usage in October associated with domestic banks' purchase of T-notes to facilitate the Government's acquisition of FCI and FBL's shares.

For the year, average excess cash holdings fell by 3.3%, from $459.3mn in 2024 to $444.3mn in 2025, indicating a slight tightening in system liquidity, driven by these temporary demand pressures.

Automated Payment and Securities Settlement System

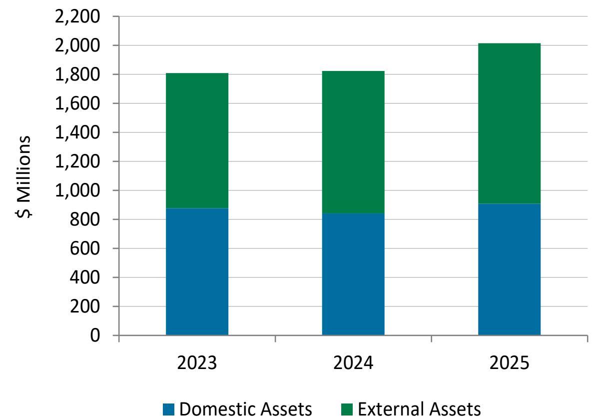
Total non-cash payment activity expanded significantly in 2025, with overall transaction volumes up 29.9%, driven largely by the continued migration towards digital payment channels. Electronic Funds Transfers (EFTs) increased slightly by 1.0% to 1,814,239 transactions in 2025. Instant Funds Transfers (IFTs) remained the most dynamic payment type, surging from 1,498,689 transactions in 2024 to 2,627,247 in 2025, a 75.3% increase that accounted for the majority of the system-wide gains in digital payments. RTGS transactions rose marginally from 23,873 to 25,472, maintaining their role as a small but high-value component of the payment ecosystem. In contrast, cheque usage continued its downward trend, falling from 330,199 transactions in 2024 to 277,606 in 2025, a 15.9% decrease. Together, these developments highlight an accelerating shift towards faster, digitally driven payment modalities, with IFTs increasingly serving as the primary channel for electronic retail payments.

CENTRAL BANK FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

Balance Sheet

The Central Bank's overall financial position strengthened as the balance sheet continued to grow in 2025, supported by gains across both domestic and external asset portfolios. Total assets rose by 10.0% to $2,015.4mn, an increase of $192.4mn compared to 2024. This result was mainly driven by a 13.0% ($125.0mn) boost in external assets, which grew from $982.1mn to $1,107.1mn during the year. Domestic assets also improved, rising from $840.9mn to $908.3mn, an increase of $67.4mn, contributing to the Central Bank's sixth consecutive year of balance sheet expansion.

Chart 1.9: Assets



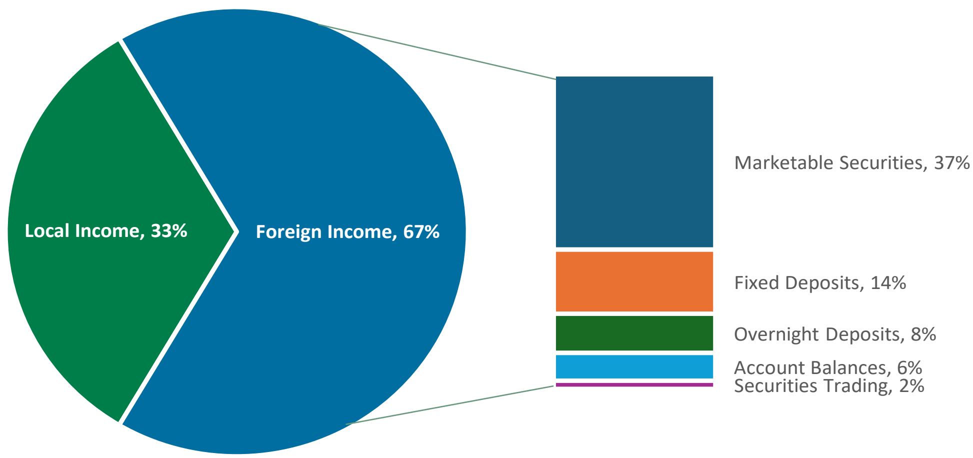
Income Statement

In 2025, the Central Bank recorded its third consecutive year of income growth, with gross income rising by $0.4mn (0.7%) to $58.6mn. This outturn was driven primarily by a strong increase in foreign income, which grew by 11.0%, from $35.1mn in 2024 to $39.2mn in 2025, raising its share of total earnings from 60.3% in 2024 to 67.0% in 2025. Despite a slight decline in the average rate of return on foreign assets, from 3.6% in 2024 to 3.5% in 2025, foreign income rose due to higher interest earnings on marketable securities and larger average balances held in overnight deposits.

In contrast, local income contracted markedly, falling by $3.8mn (16.2%), from $23.1mn in 2024 to $19.3mn in 2025. The decline was caused by reductions in several key areas. Extraordinary income shifted from a small gain in 2024 to a realised loss of $3.3mn, reflecting capital losses from selling low-yielding 5-year and 7-year US T-notes in exchange for higher-yielding foreign assets. Miscellaneous income decreased by $1.3mn (33.2%) due to lower inflows from cash-shipment services, penalties, and APSSS transaction fees. T-bill income fell by $0.3mn (22.5%), in line with reduced T-bill holdings over the year. These declines were partly offset by modest increases in earnings on T-notes and dividend income, the latter from shares held in Belize Telemedia Limited (BTL).

Total expenditure rose by 18.5% in 2025, increasing by $8.1mn to $51.9mn. The expansion reflected higher spending across all major cost categories. Staff costs remained the largest expense category, accounting for 40.7% of total expenditure. Administrative and operational costs followed, constituting 35.8% of total spending. These were driven by higher commission fees on foreign currency purchases from domestic banks, increased professional service fees, greater participation in overseas meetings and conferences, and higher spending on supplies. Currency expenses increased by 15.3%, primarily due to costs associated with issuing the new family of currency notes that went into circulation during the year. Interest expenses, which accounted for 8.2% of total expenditure, linked mainly to commission fees on SDR charges and one-off financing costs associated with the Government's initiative to further nationalise the energy sector.

Chart 1.10: Distribution of Income



The Central Bank recorded a surplus of $6.6mn in 2025, which will be allocated in accordance with Section 9(1) of the Central Bank of Belize (Amendment) Act, 2022. In line with the statutory requirement, 30.0% of the Central Bank's net profit, equivalent to $2.0mn, will be transferred to its General Reserve Fund. The remaining 70.0%, amounting to $4.6mn, will be remitted to the Accountant General for deposit into the Consolidated Revenue Fund.


SUB UMBRA FLOREO
BANK

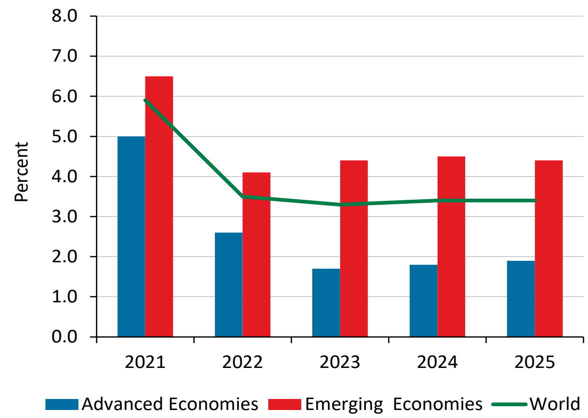
Photography @belizemytravels
Azure Crowned Hummingbird - Chan Chich Lodge

II. ECONOMIC REVIEW

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

In 2025, the global economy remained resilient despite navigating a more fragmented international landscape marked by increased uncertainty, driven in part by trade pressures, shifting US policies, and broader geopolitical tensions. According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), global growth held steady at 3.4% in 2025, unchanged from the previous year. Growth continued despite competing dynamics, as changing trade policies and renewed tariff disputes affected confidence and trade flows, while a surge in artificial intelligence-related trade and private-sector flexibility, through front-loaded inventory purchases, offered an important counterbalance. The convergence of these factors resulted in uneven yet resilient growth across economies. On the price front, global inflation continued to decline even though the speed of disinflation varied across countries. Inflation dropped to an estimated 4.1% in 2025, down from 5.8% in 2024, as supply chains returned to normal and energy markets stabilised.

Chart 2.1: Global GDP Growth Rate



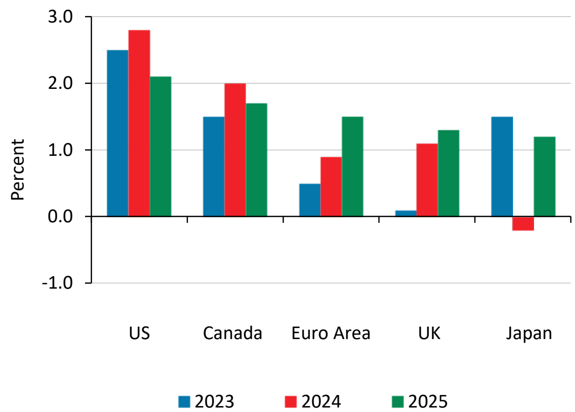
Source: IMF

Advanced Economies

Output in advanced economies edged up by 1.9% in 2025, slightly above the 1.8% outturn in 2024. The US recorded the strongest performance among advanced economies, expanding by 2.1%, down from the 2.8% a year earlier. Growth was supported by increased consumer spending, underpinned by resilient household demand, and business fixed investment, particularly in advanced digital technologies. This expansion was tempered by a sharp slowdown in the fourth quarter, reflecting the impact of the government shutdown, declines in exports, government spending, and tariff-related headwinds. Job growth slowed in 2025, with 0.6mn jobs added compared to 2.0mn in 2024, pushing the unemployment rate to 4.3% from 4.0% in 2024. As the labour market lost momentum and the effects of tariff adjustments took hold, the Federal Reserve gradually eased its policy stance throughout 2025, implementing three 0.25-percentage-point reductions that brought the policy rate range to 3.5% to 3.75% in December. Inflation for the 12 months ending December eased marginally to 2.7% from 2.9% in 2024, despite the tariff effects that kept core goods inflation elevated.

The United Kingdom (UK) economy in 2025 showed modest growth, with GDP growth edging up to 1.4% from 1.1% in 2024. After a strong start in the first half of the year, growth slowed in the second half, offsetting earlier gains. The slight improvement was supported by expansion in service output, construction, and industrial production. However, these gains were later tempered by downturns in the final two quarters, particularly due to declines in professional, scientific, and technical activities and in education services, as well as a sharp

Chart 2.2: Select Advanced Economies: GDP Growth Rate



Source: IMF and Statistical Offices of US, Canada, and UK

contraction in construction. UK inflation rose from 2.5% in 2024 to 3.4% in 2025, driven by persistent pressures from higher energy and food prices, increases in administered prices, and elevated labour costs linked to higher employer contributions and a rise in the national living wage. Meanwhile, the unemployment rate rose to 4.8% as the labour market cooled amid higher employer costs, prompting more cautious hiring, particularly among younger workers.

In the euro area, GDP grew by 1.4%, up from 0.9% in the previous year. This modest growth showed resilience despite global challenges, driven mainly by stronger domestic demand, supported by rising real wages and solid employment. By the end of 2025, unemployment rates had fallen to historic lows. Inflation declined to 2.1%, in line with the European Central Bank's target, reflecting slightly lower energy prices and easing food inflation.

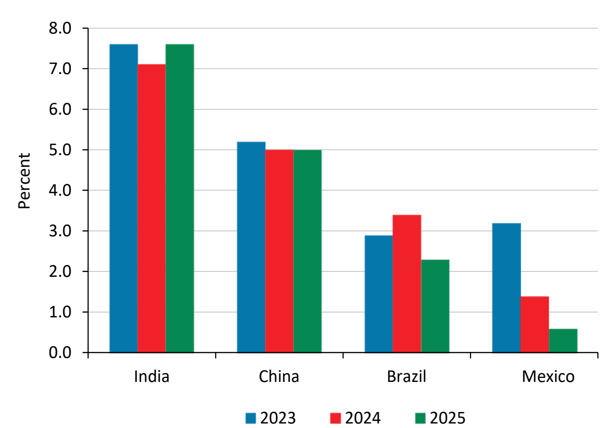
In Japan, real GDP increased by 1.2% in 2025, marking an improvement over the previous year. This result was mainly driven by resilience in private consumption alongside growth in business fixed investment, although net exports declined amid external headwinds from US tariffs.

Canada's real GDP grew by 1.7% year-over-year in 2025, marking the slowest annual pace since 2020, mainly due to weaker exports, particularly to the US, and drawdowns in inventory. After rebounding in the third quarter, economic momentum slowed in the fourth quarter, as businesses drew down inventories following earlier stockpiling measures. However, household consumption and government capital investment continued to support growth, partially offsetting the decline.

Emerging and Developing Economies

Growth among emerging and developing economies softened to 4.4% from 4.5% the previous year. Within the emerging economies, India remained the fastest-growing economy, expanding by 7.6%, supported by strong domestic demand and stable inflation throughout the year. China recorded growth of 5.0%, driven largely by resilient exports and an expansionary fiscal stance. However, the growth momentum

Chart 2.3: Select Emerging Economies: GDP Growth Rate



Sources: Statistical offices of India, China, Brazil, and Mexico weakened as the year progressed due to subdued domestic demand and persistent price deflation. Meanwhile, Russia's economy slowed sharply, rising by just 1.0% compared with 4.9% in 2024. This deceleration reflected a tight labour market, persistent inflationary pressures, and the ongoing burden of external sanctions—many of which had been in place since the start of Russia's full-scale war against Ukraine in February 2022. In Latin America, Brazil experienced a moderation in economic activity, with GDP growth declining from 3.4% to 2.3%, driven primarily by weaker household consumption resulting from contractionary monetary policy.

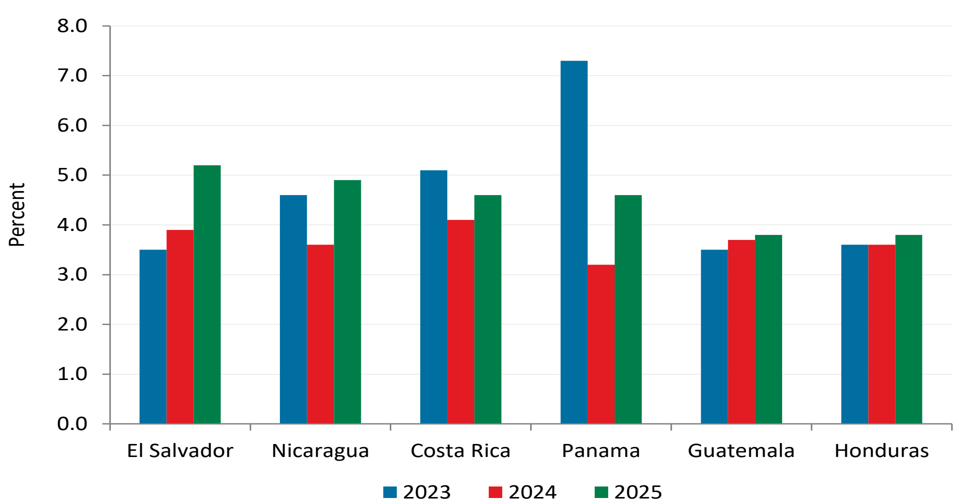
In Mexico, real GDP increased by just 0.6% in 2025, driven by sustained growth in the tertiary sector and reflecting expansion in primary activities, particularly agriculture and related activities. These positive contributions were partly offset by weaknesses in secondary activities, notably industry, manufacturing, and construction, which hindered overall growth.

Central America

Central American economies recorded an estimated average GDP growth of 4.5% in 2025, accelerating from the more moderate 3.7% recorded in 2024. Economic activity strengthened across most of the region despite a challenging global environment marked by tighter financial conditions and elevated external uncertainty. The region's relatively limited exposure to international trade volatility continued to serve as an important buffer, while inflation remained contained and international reserves positions generally improved.

Panama registered one of the strongest expansions in Central America, with growth rising robustly to 4.6% in 2025, up from 3.2% in 2024. This marked improvement reflected the ongoing recovery in key sectors, including non-mining activities, despite the closure of the Cobre Panamá mine. Meanwhile, inflation stood at -0.7% for 2025, continuing the deflationary trend from -0.2% at the end of 2024.

Chart 2.4: Central America: GDP Growth Rate



Sources: World Bank, ECLAC, INEC, Central Banks of El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Guatemala, and Honduras, In Costa Rica, economic growth also strengthened, reaching 4.6% in 2025, compared to 4.1% in 2024. The increase in activity reflected resilient domestic demand and continued support from service exports, even as tariff-related pressures persisted.

Guatemala and Honduras both recorded GDP growth of 3.8% in 2025, maintaining a stable upward trend from 3.7% and 3.6% in 2024, respectively. In Guatemala, growth was supported by prudent macroeconomic management and an expanding workforce. Private consumption was the main driver, bolstered by an 18.7% climb in remittance inflows. Inflation remained at 1.7%, unchanged from 2024. In Honduras, growth was sustained by steady remittance inflows and a gradual improvement in manufacturing-related activity, despite inflation rising to 4.9% in 2025 from 3.9% in the previous year.

Economic performance strengthened in Nicaragua to 4.9% in 2025, up from 3.6% in 2024. Higher domestic activity and improved external conditions contributed to the stronger outturn, although remittance flows grew more slowly than in previous years. Inflation eased marginally to 2.7%, down from 2.9% in 2024.

The most notable improvement in the region occurred in El Salvador, where GDP expanded by 5.2% in 2025, a notable rise from 3.9% in 2024. The acceleration reflected stronger domestic demand, supported by robust remittance inflows and recovering tourism activity. Inflation rose modestly from 0.3% in 2024 to 0.7% in 2025. This increase reflected a normalisation, following the unusually low inflation recorded in 2024, and remained consistent with the broader regional pattern of a mild inflationary recovery.

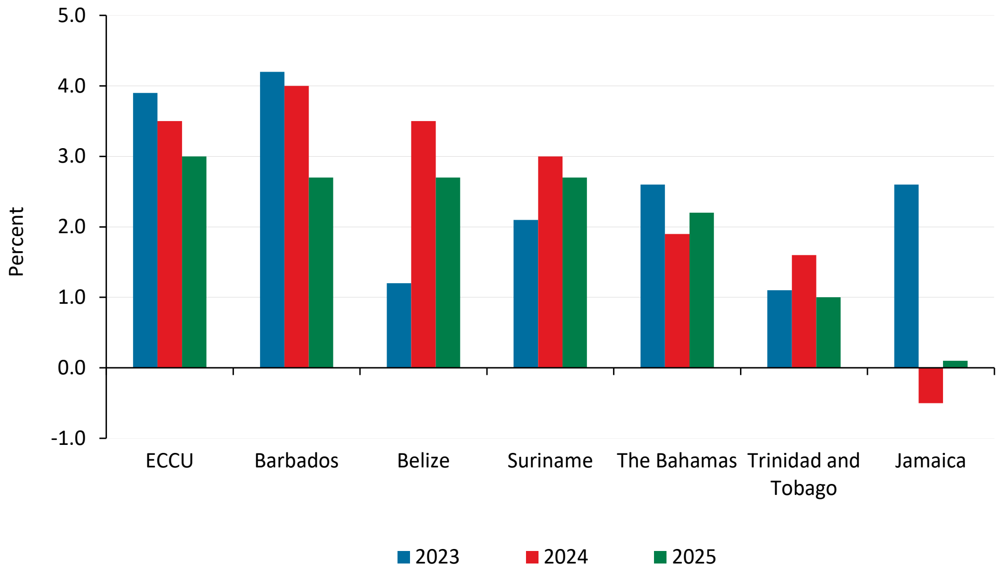
Caribbean

Economic activity across the Caribbean slowed in 2025 as global uncertainty, climate-related shocks, and renewed fiscal pressures affected regional performance. The CDB reported that, excluding Guyana, regional growth sharply declined to 0.6%, down from 1.4% in 2024. When Guyana's double-digit growth is included, overall regional growth reached 4.7%. Inflation continued its downward trend consistent with global developments, with the regional average decreasing from 4.3% in 2024 to 3.4%. However, fiscal conditions weakened across the region (excluding Guyana). The region’s primary surplus contracted to 1.3% of GDP, and to 0.2% of GDP when Guyana is included, driven by faster expenditure growth and considerable capital spending. These regional dynamics influenced country-specific growth outcomes and the evolving inflation landscape.

For some tourism-dependent Caribbean economies, 2025 results reflected an ongoing recovery in visitor arrivals, bolstered, in several cases, by investments in agriculture and infrastructure. However, weather-related shocks and global uncertainties moderated the overall momentum. The Bahamas grew by 2.2%, propelled by a strong rebound in the tourism sector alongside significant foreign investment. Inflation eased to 0.5%, while unemployment declined slightly to 9.8%. Similarly, output in member states of the Eastern Caribbean Currency Union grew by 3.0%, supported by recovering tourism and substantial infrastructure investment, although inflation rose to 2.5% and the fiscal deficit widened to 3.3% of GDP.

Barbados reported stable economic performance

Chart 2.5: Caribbean: GDP Growth Rate



Sources: CDB, ECLAC, IDB, ILO, IMF, Central Banks of ECCU, Barbados, Belize, Suriname, The Bahamas, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, Statistical Offices of Barbados, Belize, Trinidad & Tobago, and Jamaica

in 2025, with broad-based sectoral activity sustaining growth. Real GDP expanded by 2.7%, supported by tourism, business and other services, construction, and agriculture. Inflation slowed to 0.7%, aided by lower international oil and freight costs, even as elevated global tariffs exerted some upward pressure on prices. The unemployment rate fell to 6.6%, and the country maintained strong external buffers, with international reserves reaching US$3.0bn by the end of December, bolstered by tourism receipts and inflows for tourism-related projects.

Jamaica's economy expanded by 0.1% in 2025, supported by growth in the goods-producing industries despite a sharp fourth-quarter contraction following the passage of Hurricane Melissa. The storm, which struck as a Category 5 hurricane on 28 October, caused severe disruptions across the economy, with output in several key industries declining markedly. Despite this shock, the annual outturn also reflected the impact of the ongoing recovery in industries previously affected by Hurricane Beryl in 2024. In response to the extensive damage from Hurricane Melissa, the government secured a comprehensive US$6.7bn recovery package to be implemented over three years to support reconstruction efforts and strengthen long-term resilience. Inflation decelerated to 4.5%, while the unemployment rate decreased to 3.3%, signalling continued improvements in labour market conditions.

In contrast, performance among commodity-exporting economies diverged, with energy and resource-based producers experiencing varying levels of expansion depending on sectoral investment, reform progress, and external market conditions. Guyana maintained double-digit growth of 19.3%, driven largely by continued expansion of its offshore oil and gas industry alongside growth in its non-oil economy. Suriname's economy grew by 2.7%, supported by a recovery in the industry and services sectors as well as structural reforms implemented under an IMF program. Meanwhile, Trinidad and Tobago's economy grew by 1.0%, reflecting a rebound in its energy sector. Unemployment declined to 4.8%, and the fiscal deficit decreased modestly to 5.5% of GDP.

DOMESTIC OVERVIEW

Real Gross Domestic Product

Belize's real GDP increased by 2.7% in 2025, a slowdown from the 3.5% rise in 2024, yet marking the fifth consecutive year of economic expansion. The primary sector contributed substantially to this outcome, with a 7.8% increase, accounting for 26.9% of total GDP growth, due to stronger agricultural and fisheries output that offset a decline in mining. The secondary sector grew by 1.2%, contributing 6.2% to overall growth, with construction expanding by 9.0%, representing 16.6% of total growth, while manufacturing and electricity generation continued to weaken. The tertiary sector remained the largest contributor, with a 2.9% increase and accounting for 67.0% of GDP growth. This was mainly supported by robust growth in financial and insurance services, which alone contributed 42.2%, along with positive contributions from arts, entertainment, and recreation; public administration, defence, and other public services; and accommodation and food services. Nonetheless, service sector growth was partly constrained by declines in transportation and wholesale and retail trade, reflecting lower overnight tourism arrivals and weaker activity in tourism-related industries compared to the immediate post-pandemic period.

Unemployment

Labour market conditions improved further in 2025, with the average unemployment rate decreasing to a record low of 2.0%, down from 2.4% in 2024. The decline reflected ongoing employment gains, particularly within the tertiary sector. Improved labour market conditions also contributed to higher labour market attachment, as the labour force participation rate rose to 58.6% in 2025 from 56.9% in the previous year. On a disaggregated basis, unemployment rates remained historically low and broadly stable throughout the year, standing at 2.1% in April and 1.9% in September.

Prices

Inflation pressures continued to ease, with the average annual inflation rate falling to 1.1% in 2025, down from 3.3% in 2024, marking the third consecutive year of disinflation following the peak in 2022. Price increases were mainly driven by higher costs for food, housing rentals, and consumer-facing services such as restaurants and personal care. These upward trends were more than offset by declines in fuel prices and technology-related goods, which contributed to deflation in transport and information and communication services, respectively.

Fiscal and Debt

Central Government's fiscal position improved in 2025, reflecting a combination of enhanced revenue performance and broadly contained capital spending. Total revenues and grants increased by $70.4mn to $1,702.2mn, driven by higher tax collections and grant inflows. Meanwhile, total expenditure expanded marginally by $7.6mn to $1,688.1mn, as rising wages and salaries costs outweighed cutbacks in capital spending.

As a result, the primary balance moved further into surplus, reaching $175.2mn (2.5% of GDP). This strengthening of government finances led to an overall fiscal surplus of $14.1mn (0.2% of GDP) in 2025, reversing the deficit recorded in 2024 and representing an improvement of $62.8mn.

Gross financing needs amounted to $339.9mn (4.8% of GDP), reflecting amortisation obligations and one-off payments associated with the further nationalisation of the energy sector. Financing was met predominantly through domestic sources, supplemented by net external disbursements from development partners.

Against this background, the total public sector debt rose by 7.0% to $4,676.2mn, increasing the debt-to-GDP ratio to 70.2%, up from 64.0% in 2024. The rise was mainly driven by a growth in domestic debt, which expanded by $239.3mn to $1,692.1mn (25.4% of GDP), following the issuance of $260.0mn in Treasury securities to finance share acquisitions in the energy sector. External public sector debt increased more modestly, rising by 2.3% to $2,984.1mn (44.8% of GDP), supported by continued concessional borrowing from bilateral and multilateral partners.

External Sector

Belize's current account deficit widened in 2025 to $184.5mn (2.8% of GDP) from $103.5mn (1.6% of GDP) in 2024. This deterioration was largely driven by a wider merchandise trade deficit and a significant deterioration in the primary income balance due to higher profit repatriation. These developments were partly offset by higher inflows in the services account alongside a marginal uptick in the secondary income surplus. Net services exports expanded by $105.4mn to a record surplus, underpinned primarily by higher tourism receipts. Net travel inflows increased, as tourism earnings grew modestly even though overnight visitor arrivals dipped slightly amid global economic and geopolitical headwinds. Further support came from continued growth in business process outsourcing services and a sharp reduction in transportation outflows, reflecting lower international freight rates.

The current account deficit was financed by higher net capital and financial inflows—stemming from higher international grant inflows, increased use of domestic banks' foreign assets, and heightened public-sector borrowing—amid a sharp fall in net direct investment, the latter linked to the nationalisation of the energy sector. Nevertheless, Belize's external stability was maintained as the gross international reserves increased by $123.3mn to $1,104.7mn, equivalent to 4.4 months of merchandise import coverage.

Monetary Sector

Monetary conditions in 2025 were largely influenced by developments related to the nationalisation of the energy sector. Broad money supply (M2) increased by 5.9%, or $289.2mn, to $5,153.1mn, boosted by a sharp rise in net domestic credit. However, this growth was partly offset by a contraction in the banking system's net foreign assets.

The banking system's net foreign assets decreased by 9.4%, or $182.1mn, to $1,761.1mn, due to a 26.1% ($245.8mn) reduction in domestic banks' net foreign assets, as they provided a majority of the foreign currency to finance the energy-sector transaction. Conversely, the Central Bank's net foreign asset position strengthened, increasing by 6.4% ($63.7mn) to $1,064.3mn, mainly supported by foreign currency purchases from domestic banks.

Net domestic credit from the banking system rose by 11.9%, or $440.1mn, to $4,126.2mn, reflecting increased lending to both the Central Government and the private sector. Net credit to the Central Government surged by 22.5%, or $203.0mn, due to the issuance of $260.0mn in T-notes to finance the acquisition of shares in the energy sector. Private sector credit increased by a robust 7.5%, or $200.7mn, primarily driven by higher lending to tourism ($49.7mn), households ($38.3mn), infrastructure construction ($23.4mn), wholesale and retail distribution ($20.2mn), and manufacturing ($14.5mn).

Liquidity conditions tightened over the year. Domestic banks' excess liquid assets decreased by $25.8mn to $720.2mn, although they remained 75.4% above the secondary reserve requirement. Excess cash reserves slightly increased by $2.1mn to $474.4mn, standing 160.4% above the primary (cash) reserve requirement.

Interest rate conditions tightened modestly. The weighted-average lending rate increased by 15 basis points to 8.96%, while the average deposit rate declined by 16 basis points to 1.58%, widening the interest rate spread to 7.38%.

Economic Prospects

Global economic conditions in 2026 are expected to remain broadly supportive, though subject to heightened downside risks. In its January 2026 World Economic Outlook, the IMF projected global growth at 3.3%—unchanged from the estimated outturn in 2025—alongside a further easing in global headline inflation to 3.8% from 4.1% in the previous year. Since the release of the forecast, however, risks to the outlook have intensified amid elevated geopolitical tensions, particularly the ongoing conflict in the Middle East, and renewed uncertainty surrounding potential trade-restrictive measures by the US. These developments could adversely affect global trade, confidence, and financial conditions.

Against this backdrop, Belize's real GDP is projected to expand by 2.0% in 2026, supported by broad-based growth across all major sectors. The primary sector is forecasted to grow by 3.4%, moderating from the strong performance recorded in 2025, reflecting higher output of non-perennial crops alongside mixed prospects for legacy crops. The secondary sector is projected to expand by 3.4%, marking a notable acceleration from the previous year, driven by a recovery in manufacturing and electricity generation, as well as continued growth in construction and water supply activity. While remaining the largest contributor to growth, the tertiary sector is expected to decelerate to 1.5%, supported by a mild recovery in stay-over tourism and steady expansion in government and financial services.

On the external front, the current account deficit is projected to narrow to 3.8% of GDP, reflecting stronger net inflows from the services account, particularly tourism, alongside a reduction in net outflows from the primary income account.

Notwithstanding the baseline projection, downside risks to Belize's economic outlook remain elevated, tied to external developments. Further escalation of the conflict in the Middle East poses risks to global energy markets, shipping routes, and commodity prices, with geopolitical shocks transmitting through higher oil prices, increased freight and insurance costs, and renewed pressures in food and fertiliser markets. These spillovers could adversely affect inflation, fiscal balances, and external positions in small open economies.

In this context, Belize is exposed through several key transmission channels, reflecting its reliance on imports, dependence on tourism, and sensitivity to global financial and commodity market conditions. Higher global prices for fuel, food, and shipping could intensify imported inflation and delay the anticipated easing in domestic price pressures. Risks to the external position could arise if elevated import and transportation costs offset expected gains in services exports. Tourism-related vulnerabilities also remain significant, particularly if higher travel costs or weaker consumer confidence in key source markets dampen demand for Caribbean destinations. Fiscal pressures could increase in the event of sustained global commodity price shocks, as higher subsidy requirements may complicate efforts to contain deficits and debt levels. In addition, heightened global uncertainty could tighten external financing conditions and weigh on investment and confidence.

Overall, a less favourable external environment could dampen near-term growth and slow progress toward improved external and price stability.

MONETARY DEVELOPMENTS

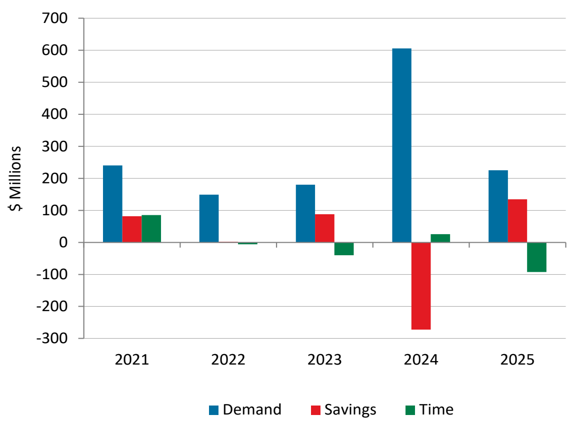
Money Supply

The nationalisation of key energy-sector assets in 2025 was the defining monetary development of the year, exerting significant influence on the financial system's external position, domestic credit activity, and liquidity conditions. Approved in October, the transaction involved the Government's acquisition of all the issued share capital of FBL and the purchase of one third of BEL's issued share capital from FCI.

Against this backdrop, M2 expanded by 5.9%, rising by \$289.2mn to \$5,153.1mn. Growth on the assets side of the banking system's balance sheet reflected a strong acceleration in net domestic credit, buoyed by sizeable increases in lending to both the public and private sectors. Net credit to the Central Government expanded markedly as its domestic financing needs rose to fund the electricity asset purchases, while private sector credit strengthened on the back of sustained demand in key industries. This broad-based credit expansion was complemented by an improvement in the Central Bank's net foreign asset position. However, the overall pace of monetary expansion was tempered by a steep contraction in domestic banks' net foreign assets, which declined significantly as they supplied the foreign exchange required for the nationalisation.

On the liabilities side, growth in M2 was anchored by robust growth in narrow money (M1), supplemented by modest gains in quasi-money. M1, the more liquid component of M2, rose by 7.4%, or \$247.0mn, to \$3,578.7mn, accounting for 85.4% of the overall increase in money supply. Demand deposits, the largest component of M1,

Chart 2.6: Deposit Growth



grew by 8.4% ($225.3mn) to $2,910.5mn, driven by higher transaction balances among business enterprises, public sector entities, and credit unions. Furthermore, currency with the public increased by $21.4mn to $667.0mn, partly due to higher demand for the new family of banknotes. Meanwhile, savings/chequing deposits recorded a marginal $0.3mn uptick to $1.3mn. Quasi-money expanded by 2.8%, or $42.3mn, to $1,574.4mn, reflecting a strong $134.6mn rise in savings deposits that more than offset a $92.4mn decline in time deposits, particularly for credit unions, business enterprises, and individuals.

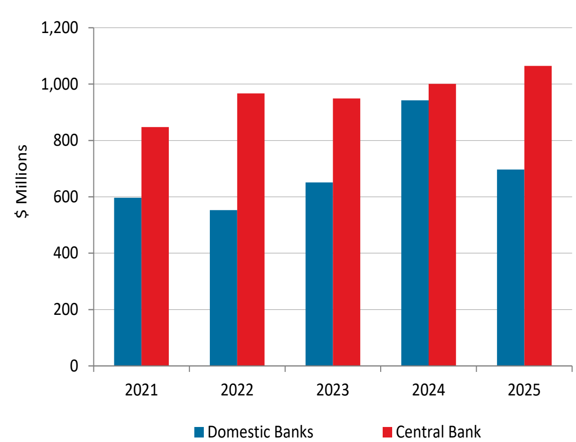
Net Foreign Assets

The banking system's net foreign assets contracted by $182.1mn (9.4%) to $1,761.1mn in 2025, reflecting the significant foreign-exchange requirements associated with the Government's purchase of Fortis-related electricity-sector assets.

Domestic banks' net foreign assets fell by $245.8mn (26.1%) to $696.8mn, reflecting their substantial foreign exchange sales to support the Government's acquisition of the energy sector assets. Although banks were required to provide the full US$130.0mn needed to fund the transaction, they had sold US$102.2mn (78.6%) to the Central Bank by the end of December 2025, with the remainder scheduled for sale through April 2026. The contribution from domestic banks was facilitated through Exchange Control Direction No. 19, a regulatory measure, which provides a framework for the Central Bank to extract foreign currency from Authorised Dealers and redistribute it to ensure monetary and financial stability. (See Box 2.2 for additional information on this transaction.) Additional pressures from higher import-related outflows and profit repatriation also contributed to the contraction. Nonetheless, robust inflows from tourism, business process outsourcing, and marine and banana exports helped cushion the overall reduction.

Meanwhile, the Central Bank's net foreign assets increased by $63.7mn (6.4%) to $1,064.3mn, as a $123.2mn increase in foreign assets was dampened by a $59.5mn upturn in short-term foreign liabilities. The foreign asset expansion resulted from gross foreign currency inflows of $717.7mn,

Chart 2.7: Net Foreign Assets



which outpaced gross foreign currency outflows of $594.5mn. Inflows rose by $333.0mn (86.6%), driven almost entirely by a $318.0mn increase in foreign-currency purchases from domestic banks. These were supported by higher external grants as well as the activation of a $60.0mn short-term credit facility in October 2025, as part of prudent liquidity management. In contrast, proceeds from external loans, purchases of sugar export receipts, and interest earnings on foreign portfolio investments all declined over the year.

Gross foreign currency outflows surged by $259.4mn (77.4%) to $594.5mn, owing to the $260.0mn payment made on behalf of the Central Government for the acquisition of the hydroelectric plants and BEL shares. Of note, the Central Bank supplemented foreign currency purchases from domestic banks by contributing $86.2mn from its own reserves to ensure the timely settlement of the transaction. Furthermore, external debt servicing remained a significant component of official outflows, accounting for about one-fourth of the total, while payments on behalf of statutory bodies and public utilities increased marginally.

By year's end, the Central Bank's gross official international reserves—the liquid portion of its foreign asset portfolio—rose moderately to 4.4 months of merchandise import coverage.

Net Domestic Credit

Net domestic credit from the banking system accelerated at an unprecedented pace in 2025, rising by 11.9% ($440.1mn) to $4,126.2mn. This expansion, the largest nominal growth on record, was propelled by robust private sector credit demand, the Government's financing operations tied to strategic energy-sector investment, and a deepening securities market that supported other public-sector entities.

Credit to the private sector increased by $200.7mn (7.5%) to $2,870.9mn, the largest annual increase since 2007 and nearly double the $106.0mn rise recorded in 2024. The expansion was dominated by commercial lending, with domestic banks recording sizeable net disbursements to tourism ($49.7mn), infrastructure development ($23.4mn), distribution ($20.2mn), and manufacturing ($14.5mn). These gains were tempered by net repayments in the transport ($11.3mn) and commercial real estate ($10.6mn) sectors. Meanwhile, retail lending also grew but at a more moderate pace. Within this category, net disbursements for personal loans ($38.3mn), home improvement ($28.9mn), and residential real estate ($22.4mn) outweighed a $6.5mn decline in residential construction loans. Loan write-offs totalling $22.6mn, primarily reflecting

Chart 2.8: Annual Change in Domestic Bank Lending

non-performing personal ($8.5mn) and building and construction ($2.1mn) loans, also tempered the private sector credit expansion.

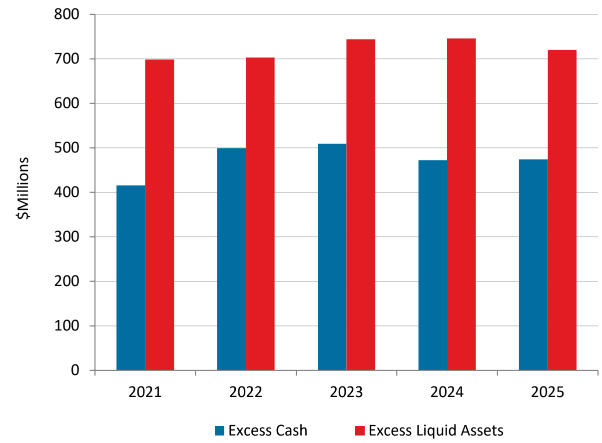
Shifting to the public sector, net credit to the Central Government surged by $203.0mn (22.5%) to $1,106.0mn. This reflected a substantial $247.9mn increase in the banking system's holdings of Government securities, following the issuance of $260.0mn in new T-notes to finance the acquisition of energy-sector assets from Fortis-related companies. This increase in securities holdings was partly offset by a $44.9mn rise in Central Government's deposits, which dampened net credit. Furthermore, credit to other public sector entities expanded by $36.4mn (32.3%) to $149.2mn, driven mainly by domestic banks' increased investment in the debentures of a public utility company. These gains were partly offset by net loan repayments of $5.7mn by local governments and $0.3mn by statutory bodies.

Domestic Bank Liquidity

Domestic banks' holdings of excess liquid assets declined by $25.8mn to $720.2mn in 2025. The contraction reflected a $60.0mn reduction in aggregate foreign balances, as domestic banks sold their foreign currency to the Central Bank. At the same time, required liquid assets rose by $51.4mn, in line with deposit growth. Despite the decline, domestic banks maintained a comfortable liquidity buffer. By year-end, cumulative excess liquid assets stood at 75.4% above the secondary reserve requirement of 21.0% of average deposit liabilities.

In contrast, excess cash reserves inched up by $2.1mn (0.4%) to $474.4mn, supported by an $18.0mn increase in daily average cash-reserve holdings. Required cash reserves also grew by $15.9mn, in line with the expansion of deposits, while domestic banks simultaneously increased their T-bill holdings, as a substitute for non-remunerated reserves. Notwithstanding, excess cash reserves remained ample at 160.4% above the primary (cash) reserve requirement of 6.5% of average deposit liabilities. However, these reserves remained unevenly distributed, with one domestic bank accounting for 71.9% of the total.

Chart 2.9: Excess Statutory Liquidity



Interest Rates

Interest rate movements on new loans and deposits diverged throughout the year. The 12-month (rolling) weighted-average interest rate on new loans increased by 15 basis points, rising from 8.81% in 2024 to 8.96% in 2025. This upward shift was driven by rate hikes of 128 basis points on "*other*" loans, 32 basis points on personal loans, and 18 basis points on commercial loans. These adjustments more than offset the 104-basis-point decline in residential construction lending rates.

Conversely, deposit rates moved in the opposite direction. The 12-month (rolling)

Chart 2.10: Annualised Interest Rates on New Loans and Deposits

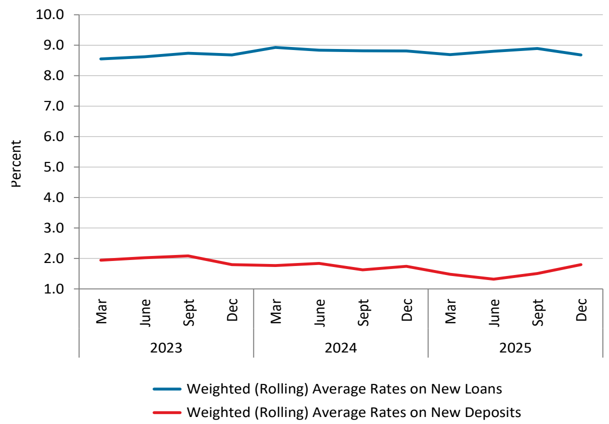
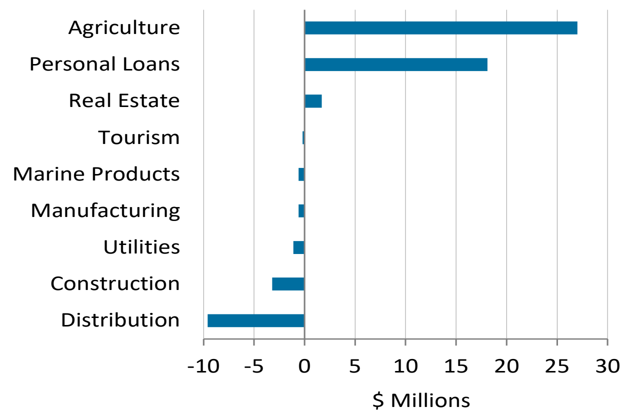


Chart 2.11: Annual Change in Credit Union Lending



weighted-average interest rate on new deposits fell by 16 basis points, falling from 1.74% in 2024 to 1.58% in 2025. The reduction reflected an 18-basis-point decline in demand deposit rates, while both savings and time deposit rates fell by eight basis points each. Although savings/chequing deposit rates increased by 40 basis points, this category accounts for a small share of the deposit base and therefore had only a marginal impact on the overall deposit rate trajectory.

With lending rates rising and deposit rates falling, the weighted-average interest rate spread widened by 32 basis points to 7.38%, reflecting credit conditions in which domestic banks were able to reprice loans upward while simultaneously reducing deposit funding costs.

Credit Union Lending

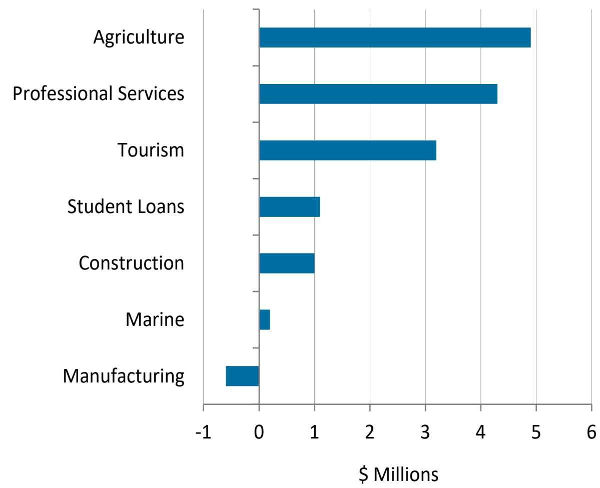
Credit unions' outstanding loan balances expanded by $31.6mn (4.2%) in 2025, moderating from the $58.7mn (8.5%) increase recorded in 2024. Loan growth remained heavily concentrated in the primary sector, which accounted for 84.2% of the total. Within this sector, loans to agricultural enterprises rose by $27.0mn, supported by strong increases in net lending to firms producing grains ($14.4mn), poultry and eggs ($9.1mn), as well as cattle and dairy ($5.0mn). Among other sectors, personal loans registered net disbursements of $18.1mn, while real estate lending within the tertiary sector increased by $1.7mn, driven mainly by a $9.0mn rise in commercial real estate, which outweighed contractions in the residential and land-acquisition segments. Offsetting these expansions were notable net repayments of $9.6mn by distribution firms and $3.2mn by building and construction entities.

Loan growth was further moderated by $6.3mn in write-offs, mostly applied to non-performing personal ($3.7mn) and building and construction ($1.8mn) loans.

Development Bank Lending

The Development Finance Corporation's (DFC) loan portfolio grew by $16.4mn (10.6%) in 2025, the largest annual growth since it resumed lending in 2009, following the launch of the Ninth Consolidated Line of Credit with the CDB in

Chart 2.12: Annual Change in Development Finance Corporation's Lending



February 2025. Like credit unions, loan growth was led by agriculture ($4.9mn), followed by professional services ($4.3mn), tourism ($3.2mn), and student loans ($1.1mn). Net repayments for manufacturing ($0.6mn) slightly tempered overall loan growth.

Open Market Operations

Heightened competition in the T-bill market led to a notable shift in holdings from the Central Bank to the domestic banks, as all four deposit-taking institutions participated in roll-over auctions throughout the year. The Central Bank's T-bill portfolio declined by $50.4mn (29.7%) to $119.1mn, representing 35.6% of the $335.0mn outstanding at the end of 2025. In contrast, domestic banks increased their holdings by $49.3mn (32.1%) to $202.8mn, expanding their market share from 45.8% in 2024 to 60.5% in 2025. The remaining T-bills were held by non-bank entities. Their combined holdings inched up by $1.1mn (9.2%) to $13.1mn, lifting their portion from 3.6% in 2024 to 3.9% in 2025.

Against the backdrop of highly competitive Dutch-auction bidding, the weighted-average yield remained steady at 0.60% over the 12 months between the last auctions of 2024 and 2025.

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND PUBLIC DEBT

Central Government Operations

The Central Government's fiscal performance improved modestly in 2025, supported by solid revenue performance and broadly contained expenditure growth. Total revenue increased over the year, driven primarily by stronger tax collections, alongside moderate contributions from non-tax revenue and higher grant inflows. On the expenditure side, Central Government spending rose only marginally, as a pronounced increase in current expenditure, reflecting the negotiated 4.5% wage adjustment for public officers, was largely offset by a contraction in capital outlays.

As a result, fiscal operations recorded an overall surplus of 0.2% of GDP ($14.1mn) in 2025, representing an improvement of $62.8mn relative to the deficit recorded in 2024. The improvement in the overall balance was accompanied by a further strengthening of the primary balance, which rose to a surplus of 2.6% of GDP ($175.2mn) from 1.8% of GDP ($112.2mn) in the previous year.

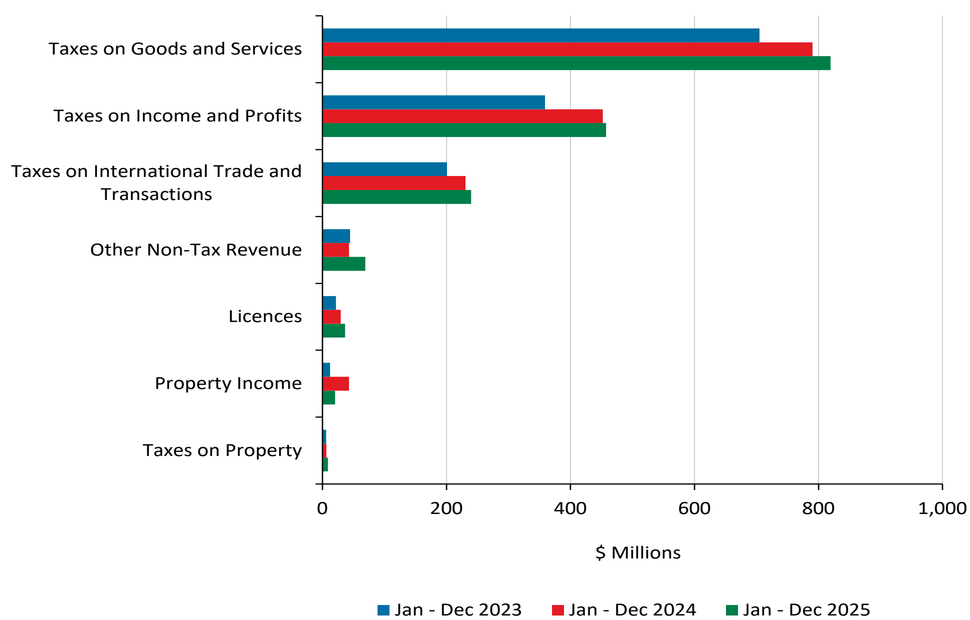
During the year, the Government also completed the nationalisation of FBL and BEL, financed through domestic borrowing. This transaction was fiscally neutral and, therefore, had no impact on the fiscal balance, as the value of the acquired assets equalled the liabilities assumed.

Revenue

Total revenue and grants increased by $70.4mn, or 4.3%, to $1,702.2mn, driven by a $45.8mn (3.1%) increase in tax revenue to $1,525.1mn. The latter accounted for 89.6% of total revenue and grants. Within this category, the strongest gains were recorded in "*Taxes on Goods and Services,*" which rose by $29.0mn to $819.3mn, reflecting higher General Sales Tax (GST) receipts in line with expanding economic activity. While the implementation of GST-free weekends in July-August and December temporarily removed tax levy on a range of consumer goods, their impact on overall collections was limited by their short duration, restricted coverage, and exclusion of major GST bases such as fuel, utilities, services, and imports. "*Taxes on Income and Profits*" also increased, rising by $5.5mn (1.2%) to $457.5mn, reflecting higher business tax receipts and resilient pay-as-you-earn (PAYE) collections, notwithstanding the increase in the annual income-tax-free threshold to $29,000 on 1 January 2025. The remaining tax categories also registered gains, with "*Taxes on Property*" rising by $2.4mn (38.6%) to $8.8mn, and "*Taxes on International Trade and Transactions*" increasing by $8.9mn (3.9%) to $239.6mn, reflecting higher receipts from social fees, environmental taxes, and import duties.

Non-tax revenue grew by $11.3mn (9.9%) to $125.8mn (7.4% of total revenue and grants), supported by higher "*Other*" non-tax revenue and licence fees, as "*Property Income*" fell. "*Other*" non-tax revenue jumped by $26.4mn to $69.0mn, on account of higher rent receipts on national lands and, to a lesser extent, royalties from petroleum. Meanwhile, "*Licenses*" increased by $7.2mn to $36.4mn, due to higher collections from motor vehicle registration and gaming-related fees. These gains more than offset a sharp $22.2mn decline in "*Property Income*" to $20.3mn, which fell due to lower transfers from quasi-governmental agencies.

Chart 2.13: Central Government's Revenue



Sources: MOF

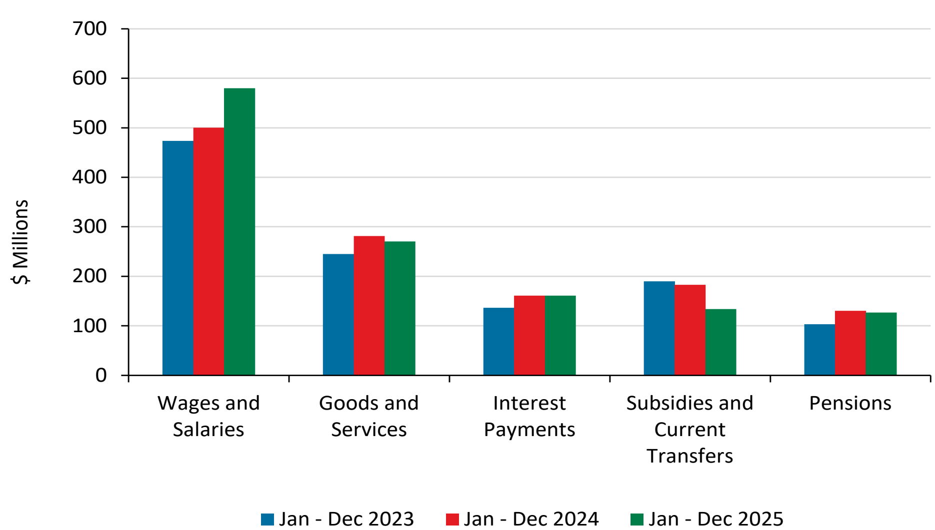
Grant receipts also strengthened markedly, rising by $44.4mn to $46.5mn (2.7% of total revenue and grants), reflecting increased funding from bilateral and multilateral development partners.

Expenditure

Total expenditure grew marginally by 0.5% ($7.6mn) to $1,688.1mn, as rising recurrent costs outweighed reductions in capital spending. Current expenditure rose by $15.9mn (1.3%) to $1,271.6mn (75.3% of total expenditure), largely due to a significant $79.5mn increase in wages and salaries to $579.7mn, which accounted for 45.6% of current expenditure or 38.0% of tax revenue. The sharp increase reflected the reclassification of compensation for teachers and support staff at grant-aided institutions—from "*Subsidies and Current Transfers*" to "*Wages and Salaries*"—as well as the 4.5% salary adjustment for public officers implemented on 1 October and a sizeable expansion in staffing, primarily within the security, health, and finance ministries. "*Subsidies and Current Transfers*" contracted sharply, falling by $49.0mn to $133.8mn. Furthermore, "*Interest Payments*" ticked upward by $0.2mn to $161.1mn, representing 9.5% of total expenditure. Of this amount, 27.0% of interest payments were paid to domestic creditors, while a larger share, 73.0%, went to external creditors, underscoring the Government's exposure to global interest-rate conditions. These cost pressures were partially offset by declines in other categories. "*Goods and Services*" fell by 3.9% ($11.0mn) to $270.2mn, reflecting lower operating and utility costs, while "*Pensions*" declined by 2.9% ($3.8mn) to $126.7mn, reflecting a partial unwinding of timing-related gratuity payments that had elevated pension outlays in the previous year. Nevertheless, outlays remained above pre-2024 levels as authorities continued to clear accumulated gratuity obligations.

Capital expenditure and net lending fell by $8.3mn to $416.5mn (24.7% of total expenditure), reflecting a 1.9% contraction relative to 2024. While Capital II expenditure

Chart 2.14: Current Expenditure

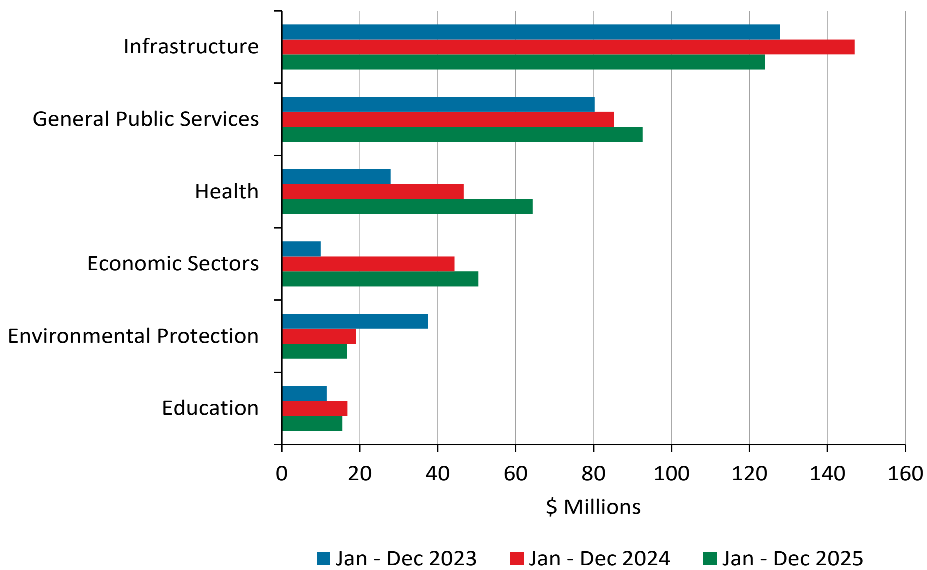


Sources: MOF and Central Bank

rose by $3.9mn to $339.2mn, Capital III spending declined by $12.0mn to $76.7mn, underpinnig the downward overall trend.

Capital III projects accounted for only 18.4% of total capital expenditure, a markedly lower share than in previous periods. Despite the overall reduction, the composition of capital spending continued to emphasise the Government's development priorities, with investments concentrated in infrastructure projects (29.8%), public services (22.3%), health (15.5%), economic sectors (12.1%), and environmental protection (4.0%).

Chart 2.15: Capital Expenditure



Sources: MOF and Central Bank

Financing

The Central Government's gross financing requirement for 2025 amounted to $339.9mn, or approximately 4.8% of GDP. This requirement was primarily driven by the $260.0mn acquisition of Fortis' assets and $94.0mn in amortisation payments, which were partially offset by an overall fiscal surplus of $14.1mn. Financing was largely sourced from the domestic market, with a net inflow of $215.1mn, mainly through commercial bank credit, supplemented by $40.3mn in net external disbursements. Additionally, $13.8mn in extraordinary financing was realised from unclaimed funds following the 2034 bond buyback. These combined inflows were sufficient to meet the year's core financing obligations while allowing the Government to strengthen its liquidity position through a $44.9mn accumulation of deposits.

Box 2.1 | Major Fiscal Initiatives in 2025

1 January 2025 - Officially came into effect on 1 January 2025, although enacted in December 2024, the Income and Business Tax (Amendment) Act, 2024 increased the Personal Allowance for Employed individuals by raising the income-tax-exemption threshold from $20,000 to $29,000.

22 January 2025 - The Designated Processing Areas (Amendment) Act, 2024 aimed to accommodate the continued development of the Global Digital Services Sector, incentivize and further support the Aquaculture Sector, as well as to establish a Special Border Entertainment Zone.

11 February 2025 - Fiscal Incentives (Amendment) Act, 2025 allowed registered co-operative societies to be eligible to receive fiscal incentives.

11 February 2025 - Belize Companies (Amendment) Act, 2025 provided for the administrative restoration of a company that has been dissolved, as well as to repeal and replace provisions relating to restoration of a dissolved company by the High Court.

11 February 2025 - The International Merchant Marine Registry Act, 2025 established the International Merchant Marine Registry of Belize as a statutory body.

6 June 2025 - Belize Building (Amendment) Act, 2025 made better provisions for regulating the construction, demolition, and movement of buildings.

17 July 2025 - The Government declared the days 31 July, 2, 15, and 16 August 2025 as GST-free back-to-school weekends. The GST waiver for this period only applied to school supplies.

1 October 2025 - School Teachers' Pensions (Amendment) Act, 2025 gave effect to the provisions of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Public Service Union of Belize, Belize National Teachers Union, Association of Public Service Senior Managers and the Government of Belize, 2021-2024 by clarifying that for the purpose of calculating pension for teachers in government-aided schools, salary refers to the percentage of salary covered by grant-in-aid as established under the Education and Training Act.

Box 2.1 | Major Fiscal Initiatives in 2025 *(continued)*

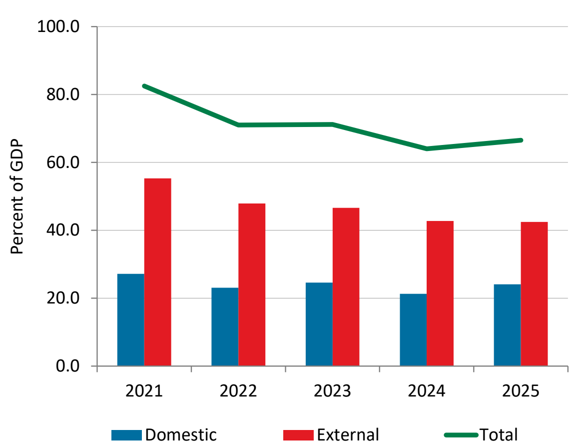
21 October 2025 - The Belize Electricity Investments Act, 2025 provides the legislative framework for the Government's strategic acquisition of the 8,000,000 issued and outstanding shares in FBL and 22,984,662 shares in BEL. The Act authorises the Government to enter into and give effect to two share purchases agreements for the acquisition of shares held by existing owners. It empowers the Minister to approve, execute, and implement all associated agreements, financing arrangements, and ancillary instruments necessary to complete the transaction.

14 November 2025 - The Government issued another GST waiver on local retail sales of all standard-rated goods on 6, 7, 20, and 21 December 2025, subject to certain exceptions.

Total Public Sector Debt

Belize's total public sector debt increased by 7.0% ($305.9mn) to $4,676.2mn in 2025, equivalent to 70.2% of GDP. The expansion was driven predominantly by an increase in the Central Government's domestic borrowing, which rose by $239.3mn to $1,692.1mn, accounting for 25.4% of GDP. Additionally, the external public sector debt grew by $66.7mn to $2,984.1mn, equivalent to 44.8% of GDP.

Chart 2.16: Public Sector Debt-to-GDP Ratio

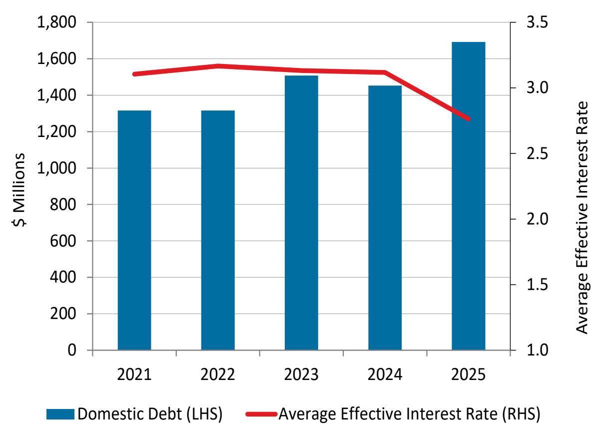


Central Government's Domestic Debt

Central Government's domestic debt increased by 16.5% ($239.3mn) to $1,692.1mn (25.4% of GDP). The expansion was driven primarily by $260.0mn in new T-note issuances in October, associated with the acquisition of FCL's shareholding in BEL. These issuances were partly offset by $19.4mn in principal repayments during the year.

Domestic debt servicing declined by 11.8% ($8.5mn) to $63.3mn in 2025, reflecting lower amortisation and interest payments following the completion of debt servicing obligations associated with a domestic bank legal settlement in September 2025. Principal repayments decreased from $24.6mn in 2024 to $19.4mn in 2025, while

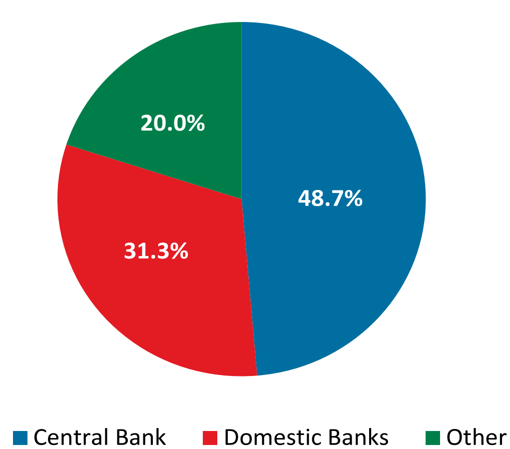
Chart 2.17: Domestic Debt and Average Effective Interest Rate



interest payments edged down from $47.3mn to $43.9mn over the same period. Central Government paid interest mainly to holders of T-bills ($0.9mn) and T-notes ($15.1mn). The average annual effective interest rate declined from 3.1% in 2024 to 2.8% in 2025, reflecting reduced interest rates, owing to the Government's continued efforts to keep domestic debt servicing costs low.

At year-end, the Central Bank held the largest portion of Central Government's domestic debt, amounting to 46.9%, primarily composed of $794.3mn in securities. Meanwhile, domestic banks accounted for 34.1%, and non-bank entities held the remaining 18.9%, consisting of a mix of securities and loans.

Chart 2.18: Holders of Domestic Debt



Public Sector External Debt

In 2025, the public sector's external debt expanded by 2.3% ($66.7mn) to $2,984.1mn, equivalent to 44.8% of GDP. This growth was driven by $171.1mn in loan disbursements, which exceeded principal payments of $110.0mn.

External loan disbursements to the public sector declined by $32.8mn in 2025, a modest reduction from the $203.9mn received in 2024. Central Government remained the primary beneficiary, receiving $137.3mn, or 80.0% of total disbursements from bilateral and multilateral partners. Bilateral creditors provided $53.1mn, consisting mainly of $38.4mn from the Republic of China (Taiwan) for budgetary support and the upgrading of the Corozal-Sarteneja Road. Additional bilateral funding included $12.5mn from the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development for the Caracol Road Upgrading Project and $1.3mn for the rehabilitation of the Hummingbird Highway. Multilateral partners contributed $84.2mn, comprising $26.6mn from the IDB, $23.2mn from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), $11.6mn from the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), and $9.2mn from the OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID).

Overall loan proceeds to the Central Government were directed towards a range of projects. The largest share was allocated to infrastructure

Table 2.1: Use of External Disbursement Proceeds in 2025

($mn)

Disbursements to the Public Sector	Amount
Central Government	**137.3**
General Financing	22.0
Caracol Road Project	20.6
Upgrading of Corozal Sarteneja Road and Construction of Laguna Bridge	16.4
Climate Resilient and Sustainable Agriculture Project	14.0
Philip Goldson Highway Expansion Project	9.0
Skills for the Future Program	8.6
Integral Security Program	7.0
COVID-19 Response Project	4.9
Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Development Program	4.2
Belize Blue Cities and Beyond Project	3.9
Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre	3.0
Public Non-Financial Sector	**20.9**
Working Capital Project	10.0
Caye Caulker Submarine Project	8.1
Water Supply and Modernization Program	1.6
Public Financial Sector	**12.9**
Consolidated Line of Credit	9.0
Global Credit Program for Safeguarding the Productive Sector and Employment	2.4
Credit Program for Safeguarding the Productive Sectors and Women Micro-Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)	1.5
TOTAL PUBLIC SECTOR DISBURSEMENTS	**171.1**

investments, with $46.0mn allocated to the rehabilitation of highways, roads, and bridges. In addition to infrastructure, disbursements also financed general government operations, reflecting broader budgetary needs. Further allocations supported targeted projects in education, climate change adaptation, and health, underscoring continued emphasis on social sector strengthening and resilience-building initiatives.

New disbursements also benefited other entities in the public sector, both non-financial and financial. The public non-financial sector received $11.6mn from IDB and $9.3mn from CDB, which went to BEL to fund its Seventh Power Project. Meanwhile, the public financial sector, namely the DFC, was allocated $12.9mn from the CDB, the International Cooperation and Development Fund (ICDF), and the IDB to reinforce its

Chart 2.19: External Debt Principal Payments

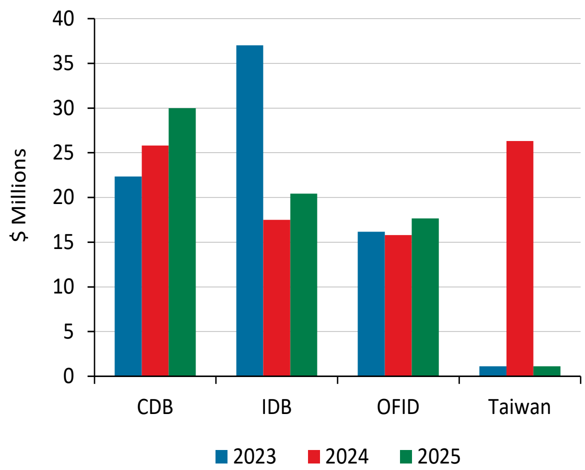
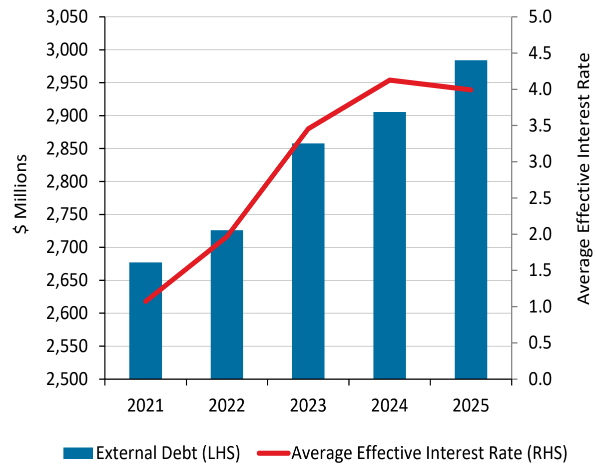


Chart 2.20: External Debt and Average Effective Interest Rate



consolidated lines of credit and bolster productive activity.

In 2025, the total external debt service payments amounted to $229.8mn, including principal repayments of $110.0mn and interest and other fees of $119.8mn. The Central Government's amortisation payments amounted to $95.7mn. Of this amount, Central Government repaid $80.6mn toward multilateral obligations, including $30.0mn to the CDB, $20.4mn to the IDB, and $17.7mn to the OFID. Bilateral amortisation totalled $3.6mn, including $2.5mn to the Government of Kuwait and $1.1mn to the Republic of China (Taiwan). The sharp reduction in principal repayments to the Republic of China (Taiwan), from $26.3mn in 2024 to $1.1mn in 2025, reflected the agreed moratorium on principal payments for the 2025-2027 period. Meanwhile, the public non-financial and financial sectors met external amortisation commitments of $9.8mn and $4.5mn, respectively.

Central Government's interest and other payments totalled $111.7mn, 4.7% lower than the $117.1mn recorded in 2024. The dip in interest payments was largely attributed to a lower external interest rate environment. As a result, the annual effective interest rate averaged 3.9%, down 0.1 percentage point compared to 4.0% in 2024. The Central Government accounted for 93.2% of total interest and other payments, with $43.9mn going to multilateral creditors, including $17.0mn to the IDB and $13.2mn to the CDB. Other payments included $37.5mn to blue loan creditors and $29.8mn to bilateral creditors. Lastly, the public non-financial and financial sectors paid their creditors $3.3mn and $4.9mn in interest, respectively.

At the end of 2025, the Central Government accounted for 90.0% of the total outstanding external public sector debt. The public financial sector held 7.6%, while the public non-financial sector possessed the remaining 2.3%. When broken down by creditor type, 41.2% of the outstanding debt was owed to multilateral lenders, 34.4% to bilateral lenders, and 24.4% to commercial lenders.

PRODUCTION

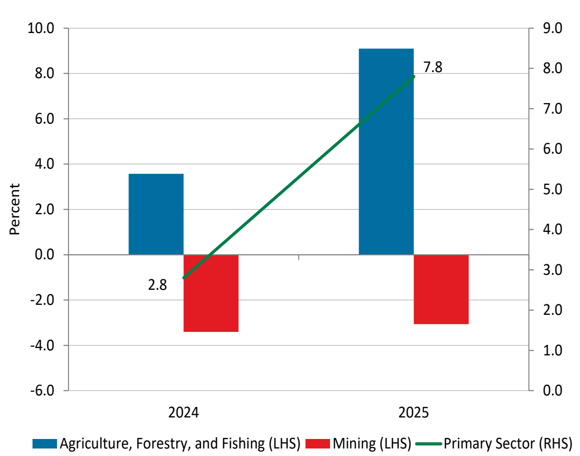
Real Gross Domestic Product

Belize's real GDP grew by 2.7% in 2025 to $5.4bn, slowing from 3.5% in 2024, but marking the fifth consecutive year of economic growth following the height of the pandemic. This expansion was supported by heightened value added across all major sectors. The primary sector was a key contributor, reflecting strong gains in agricultural and fisheries activities amid favourable weather conditions and ongoing improvements in disease management. These were partially offset by a contraction in mining. The secondary sector also made a positive contribution, driven by sustained growth in construction activities, which outweighed declines in manufacturing output and electricity generation. The tertiary sector remained the main contributor to overall growth, following robust performances in financial and insurance services, public administration, and arts and recreation services. However, activity in tourism-linked industries dimmed slightly due to a dip in overnight visitor arrivals, tempering the overall growth momentum compared with previous post-pandemic years.

The primary sector recorded a solid 7.8% expansion, led by a 9.1% increase in "*Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing*." Production of traditional commodities strengthened, with the volume of marine goods and bananas exported rising by 18.2% and 8.6%, respectively, while citrus deliveries to the processor expanded by 10.6% as disease-resistant varieties continued to mature. These gains more than offset an 8.9% decline in sugar deliveries, which fell to levels similar to those during the 2019/2020 crop year, when the industry faced a significant drought, amid heavy rainfall in the northern region and the rapid spread of Fusarium disease. Additional support came from higher production of non-traditional crops, including coconut, corn, sorghum, and soybeans, as well as increased livestock output. Conversely, "*Mining*" activity declined by 3.1%, owing to a decline in crude oil extraction.

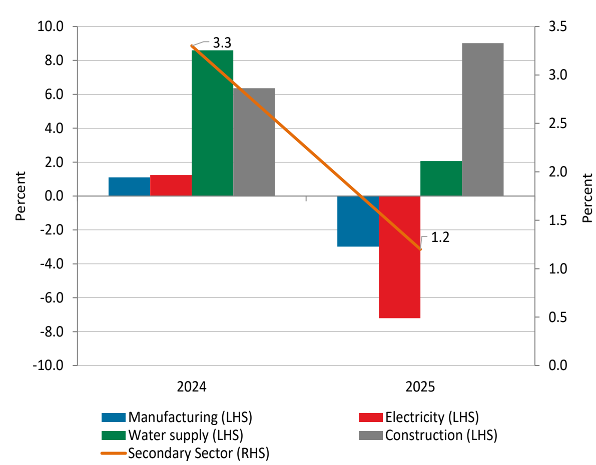
Growth in the secondary sector moderated to 1.2%, buoyed by the ongoing expansion in construction. "*Construction*" activity increased by 9.0%, boosted by elevated lending to the industry and increased imports of building

Chart 2.21: Percentage Change in Primary Industries



Source: SIB

Chart 2.22: Percentage Change in Secondary Industries



Source: SIB

materials. Additionally, "*Water Supply*" rose by 2.1% amid higher consumption and distribution to consumers. Offsetting these gains, "*Electricity*" output contracted by 7.2%, due to declines in hydroelectric generation (9.3%) and biomass production (7.9%). "*Manufacturing*" activity fell by 3.0%, reflecting weaker output of processed sugar and citrus juices. Beverage production also declined, with soft drinks down 4.2% and beer down 6.3%, though rum production surged notably by 82.4%. However, within the subsector, dairy production rose by 2.8%.

Growth in the tertiary sector slowed to 2.9%, hampered by a decline in tourism-related activities. Stay-over arrivals declined by 1.6%, the first contraction since 2020, contributing to a subdued outturn in "*Accommodation and Food Services*" (2.7%) and a marginal decline in "*Transportation*" (0.6%), following a 1.4% decrease in international air arrivals. "*Wholesale and Retail Trade*," the largest service industry, posted a slight 0.2% decline. By contrast, several smaller service industries registered robust gains, notably "*Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation*" (14.0%), "*Financial and Insurance Activities*" (14.0%), "*Information and Communication*" (3.5%), "*Administrative and Support Services*" (2.0%), and "*Real Estate*" (1.3%). Government-related services also strengthened, with "*Human Health and Social Work*" rising by 4.8%, and "*Public Administration and Defence*" increasing by 2.7%.

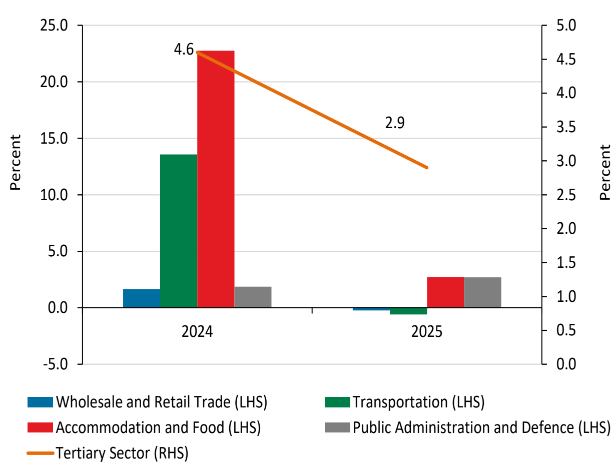
Additionally, a small 0.1% decrease in "*Taxes less Subsidies*" slightly dampened the overall performance.

Agriculture

<u>Sugarcane</u>

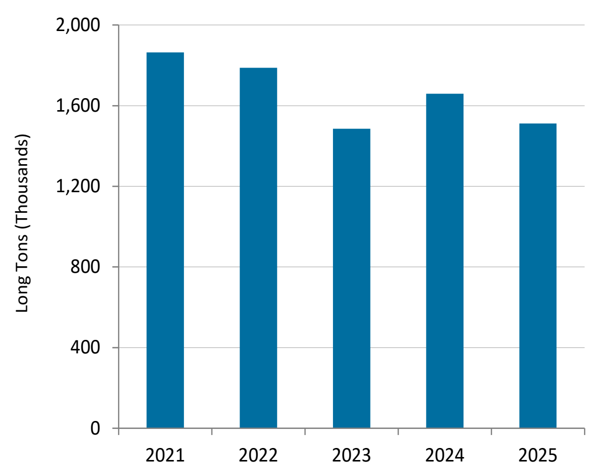
National sugarcane deliveries slumped by 8.9% to 1,511,713 long tons for the 2024/2025 crop year, following a stellar 11.7% growth recorded in 2023/2024. Of the total deliveries, the northern mill accounted for the majority share at 58.0%, while the western mill contributed 42.5%. The overall downturn was driven by reduced output from the northern region, as the rapid spread of the Fusarium disease and inclement weather significantly affected cane quality. As a result, total sugar production contracted by 15.0% to

Chart 2.23: Percentage Change in Select Tertiary Industries



Source: SIB

Chart 2.24: Sugarcane Deliveries



Sources: BSI/ASR and Santander Group

130,424 long tons, while molasses output declined by 4.6% to 60,550 long tons.

In the north, the 2024/2025 sugarcane crop season commenced on 27 December 2024 and concluded on 27 June 2025, spanning 183 days, 24 days shorter than the previous crop year. The reduced timeframe contributed to a 15.4% decrease in sugarcane deliveries to 869,540 long tons, reflecting the lowest volume since the 2009/2010 crop year. During the crop cycle, the mill was temporarily closed in February to avoid processing cane with high mud content, following heavy rainfall at the beginning of the year. Additionally, an industry-wide outbreak of Fusarium-infested fields further degraded cane quality. Subsequently, processed sugar plummeted by 23.9% to 78,160 long tons, worsening the long-ton sugar/cane ratio from 10.0 to 11.2. Meanwhile, molasses output decreased by 17.5% to 33,220 long tons.

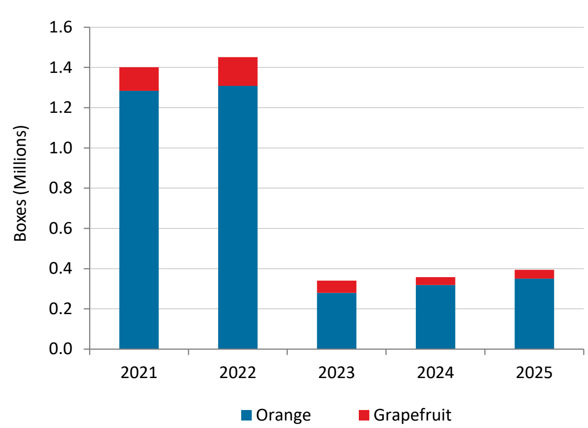
In the west, the sugarcane harvest commenced on 27 February 2025 and ended on 16 June 2025. The crop cycle spanned 110 days, and was also 24 days shorter than the previous cycle, following heavy rains at the beginning of the year. Nonetheless, sugar cane deliveries rose by 1.6% to 642,173 long tons, owing to improved farm management practices and stable weather conditions in the latter part of the season. Therefore, processed sugar grew by a larger 3.1% to 52,264 long tons, reflecting strengthened cane quality, while molasses output increased by 17.8% to 27,330 long tons.

The final cane price for the 2024/2025 harvest was shaped by both global supply/demand dynamics and country-specific climate and disease pressures. The final price paid to farmers for delivering sugarcane to the northern mill fell by 25.7% ($23.35) to $67.60 per long ton, down from the record high of $90.95 in the previous year. This decline reversed three consecutive final price increases recorded since the 2020/2021 crop year. The downward movement was partly driven by the mill's reduced production volumes, stemming from the Fusarium disease outbreak and adverse weather conditions that weakened cane quality. Externally, international sugar prices also softened as global supply expanded following strong output recoveries in key exporting countries such as Brazil and India. Together, these domestic constraints and improved global supply conditions exerted significant downward pressure on the 2024/2025 final cane price.

Citrus Juices

Citrus production registered a second year of modest recovery in the 2024/2025 harvest but remained depressed relative to historical levels. The 2024/2025 cycle ran from 8 October 2024 to 15 September 2025, spanning 343 days and ending four days earlier than the previous crop

Chart 2.25: Citrus Fruit Deliveries



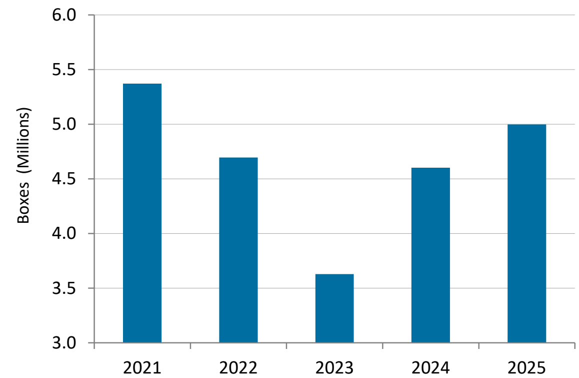
Sources: Citrus Products of Belize Limited and Citrus Growers' Association year. By crop-end, total deliveries rose by 10.6% to 393,897 boxes compared to 2023/2024, marking the industry's second consecutive year of growth. The improvement largely reflected the maturation of disease-resilient varieties replanted in previous years to mitigate the adverse effects of the Citrus Greening disease. Within the overall uptick, orange deliveries increased by 9.9% to 350,445 boxes, while grapefruit deliveries expanded by a stronger 16.6% to 43,452 boxes. These gains built on the previous year's rebound but did not fundamentally alter the industry's overall weakened production base.

Meanwhile, the final price for fruit deliveries improved by 3.6%. As a result, the final payment for orange deliveries rose by $0.11 to $3.27 per box, while grapefruit prices grew by $0.16 to $4.66 per box. The upward price adjustments were broadly aligned with global market developments, where prices offered to growers reached record highs due to supply constraints and labour shortages in major citrus-producing countries, namely Brazil and the US.

Banana

Banana production in 2025 was driven primarily by favourable weather condition and strengthened disease management efforts, which together supported higher yields and expanded cultivation. Output grew by 8.6% to 4,998,184 40-pound boxes relative to 2024, surpassing the 10-year historical average (2015–2024) of 4.6mn boxes and marking the highest volume since 2022. Favourable weather during the peak harvest months boosted yields, while improved cultivation techniques implemented throughout the year helped curb the spread of Black Sigatoka disease and supported overall production gains.

Chart 2.26: Banana Production



Source: Banana Growers' Association

Meanwhile, commercial banana acreage expanded, with total cultivated land rising by 1.6% to 7,283.0 acres at the beginning of 2025, compared with the start of 2024. Of this total, the area under active production increased by 1.1% to 6,897.2 acres, while the area of land ready to be planted declined sharply from 100.0 acres in 2024 to 44.0 acres in 2025, reflecting the shift of previously prepared fields into active production. No acreage was scheduled for rehabilitation in 2025, compared with 105.0 acres in the previous year, indicating improved Black Sigatoka disease control and reduced need for field renewal. Consequently, the area under Plantilla more than doubled, from 137.3 acres in 2024 to 342.2 acres in 2025, indicating that rehabilitated lands were used to plant young trees.

Marine Products

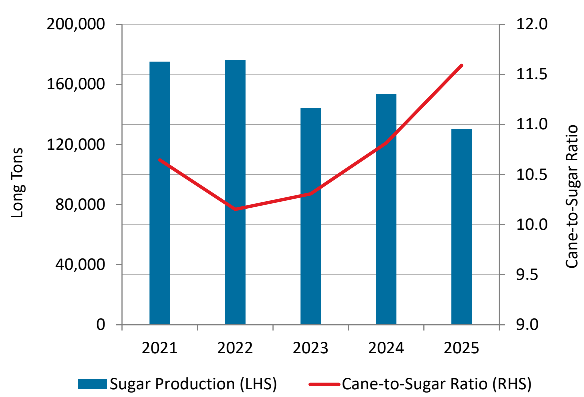
In 2025, marine output jumped by 18.2% to 248,671 pounds, driven by heightened hauls of wild spiny lobster and queen conch. Lobster production increased by a significant 40.4% to 974,966 pounds, due to a high catch rate concentrated in the second half of the year, owing to favourable weather conditions. Similarly, conch hauls rose by 5.0% to 999,551 pounds, continuing the growth levels witnessed in 2024. However, farmed shrimp production slid by 0.8% to 452,376 pounds, despite increased investments in technology to combat the effects of the early mortality syndrome disease.

Manufacturing

Sugar and Molasses

Sugar output weakened during the crop year as disease pressures and adverse weather eroded cane quality and overall throughput. In line with the downturn in sugarcane deliveries, total sugar production contracted by 15.0% to 130,424 long tons. The spread of the Fusarium disease and heavy rains in the northern region infected fields and disrupted milling operations. Subsequently, the long-tons-of-cane to long-tons-of-sugar ratio worsened by 7.2% to 11.6, signalling weakened cane quality. Meanwhile, molasses output declined by 4.6% to 60,550 long tons.

Chart 2.27: Sugar Production and Cane-to-Sugar Ratio



Sources: BSI/ASR and Santander Group

Citrus Juices, Oil, and Pulp

Total citrus juice production grew by 6.0% to 1.9mn pounds of solids (ps), despite fruit deliveries expanding by a larger 10.6%. This gap reflected lower fruit quality, which reduced the average juice yield by 4.1% to 4.9 ps per box. Despite the decline in yield, overall juice output still grew. When disaggregated by fruit type, orange juice production rose by 5.4% to 1.8mn ps, even as the average outturn per box fell by 4.1% to 5.1 ps. Grapefruit juice production climbed by 14.1% to 0.2mn ps, alongside a 2.2% decline in its average juice yield to 3.5 ps. Notably, production of not-from-concentrate juices more than doubled to 146,246 ps, driven by a sharp increase in orange juice volume.

In contrast, outturns of citrus by-products continued to weaken. Oil production fell by 28.7% to 103,220 pounds, with orange oil output down to 100,596 pounds and grapefruit oil to 2,624 pounds. No pulp was produced during this season, compared with a minimal 10,176 pounds in the previous year.

Other Manufacturing Production

The production of manufactured goods remained mixed in 2025, as weaker outputs of beverages and wheat flour offset gains in rum and flavoured milk. Soft drink production declined by 4.2% to 9.8mn gallons, while beer production decreased by a more pronounced 6.3% to 3.8mn gallons, partially owing to lower tourism arrivals. Conversely, rum production skyrocketed by 82.4% to 48,776 gallons due to increased exports, marking the seventh consecutive year of growth since 2019.

Meanwhile, dairy production of milk, cheese, and ice cream rose by 2.8% to 3.0mn pounds, relative to 2024. The expansion was driven by a 10.8% increase in flavoured milk to 1.4mn pounds, owing to stronger domestic consumption. In contrast, cheese and ice cream production declined by 4.1%

to 0.3mn pounds and 3.6% to 1.3mn pounds, respectively.

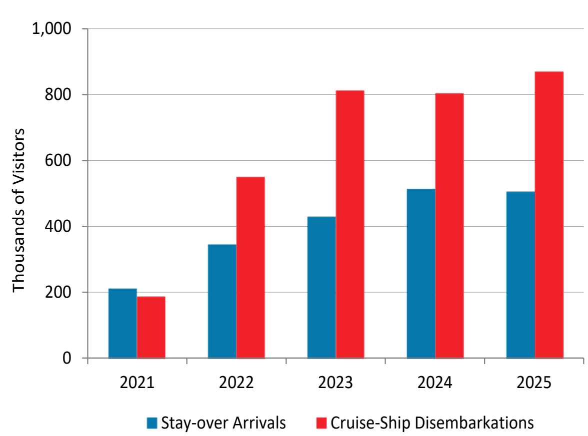
Furthermore, wheat flour production fell by 5.3% to 12,052 long tons, as elevated retail prices waned demand. Lastly, fertiliser production contracted by 7.9% to 18,749 long tons, in line with lower production of major agricultural goods.

Tourism

According to the World Tourism Organization, international arrivals grew by 4.0% to a record 1.5bn tourists in 2025, nearly converging to the pre-pandemic trend growth of 5.0%. The upward trajectory was underpinned by increased demand, air connectivity, and visa facilitation, despite heightened prices for tourism services amid geopolitical tensions. By region, Europe drove growth, with high-performing destinations Iceland (29.0%) and Norway (13.0%) registering double-digit gains. In the Western Hemisphere, the Americas grew by a modest 1.0%, owing to mixed results across subregions. While the Americas showed initial strength in the first half of 2025, the momentum stalled in the second half of the year due to a contraction in outbound travel from the US. Subsequently, South America and Central America decelerated to 7.0% and 5.0%, respectively, yet continued to drive regional growth. In contrast, the Caribbean recorded no growth, resulting fro, significant infrastructure damage caused by Hurricane Melissa in the final quarter of the year, which constrained tourist arrivals in several affected destinations.

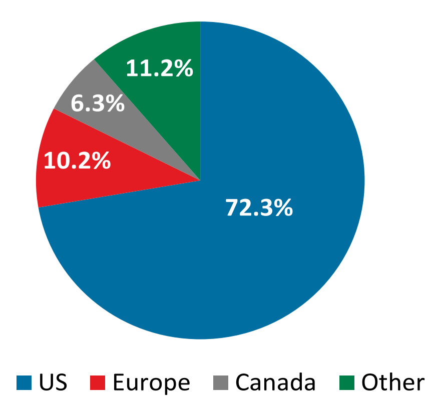
In Belize, international stay-over arrivals slid by 1.6% to 504,907 visitors in 2025. This decline contrasted sharply with the solid 19.4% growth witnessed in 2024 and marked the first downturn since the onset of the pandemic in 2020. Similar to the Caribbean, the weaker tourism performance was attributable to the combined effects of US policy adjustments, set against a backdrop of rising geopolitical tensions and weaker global growth. Subsequently, air arrivals fell by 1.4% to 418,870 visitors, as the number of flights to Belize decreased by a larger 3.6% (170 flights), despite the addition of new airline carriers over the year. Meanwhile, land arrivals decreased by 7.4% to 67,381 visitors, as sea arrivals grew by 21.5% to 18,656 visitors, partially cushioning the overall downturn.

Chart 2.28: Tourist Visitors



Sources: BTB and Central Bank

Chart 2.29: Shares of Stay-over Arrivals by Source Markets



Sources: BTB and Central Bank

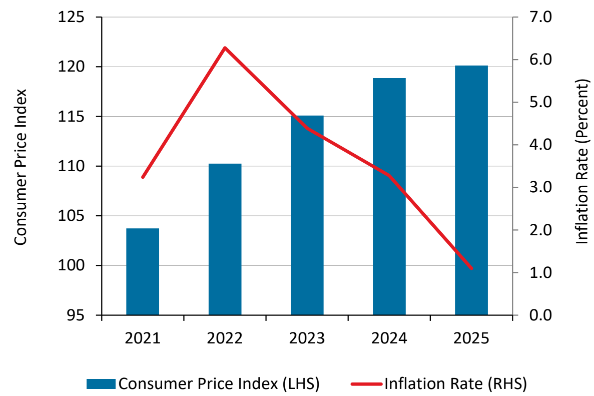
When analysed by visitors' country of origin, US visitors declined by 3.0% yet remained as the largest contributors to Belize's tourism sector, accounting for 72.3% of total arrivals. Visitors from Canada rose by 4.4% but constituted only 6.3% of the total market share. Meanwhile, visitors from "*Other*" regions decreased by 9.8% and accounted for 11.2% of the total tourists. In contrast, European visitors, namely from the UK, Germany, France, the Netherlands, Italy, and Spain, increased sharply by 18.3% and comprised 10.2% of total visitors, pointing to a growing diversification of Belize's tourism market away from the traditional US market concentration.

Meanwhile, cruise-ship disembarkations remained robust, rising by 8.1% to 870,495 visitors in 2025, relative to 2024. Port calls increased by 29 ships to 337, as the country benefited from redirected cruise routes following Hurricane Melissa's impact on Jamaica's cruise ports. As such, growth was concentrated at the Fort Street Tourism Village Port, which rose by 40 ships to 259, while Norwegian's Harvest Caye Port declined by 11 ships to 78.

Consumer Price Index

In 2025, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) moderated to 1.1% from 3.3% in 2024, marking the third consecutive year of disinflation after the record high of 6.3% in 2022. Notwithstanding, this year's inflation rate remained above the pre-pandemic 10-year average (2010-2019) of 0.7% due to rising food and home rental costs. Accordingly, "*Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages*" rose by 1.6%, driven by higher prices for bread and bakery goods, fresh meats, purified water, soft drinks, and juices. The "*Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas, and Other Fuels*" category climbed

Chart 2.30: Consumer Price Index and Inflation Rate



Source: SIB

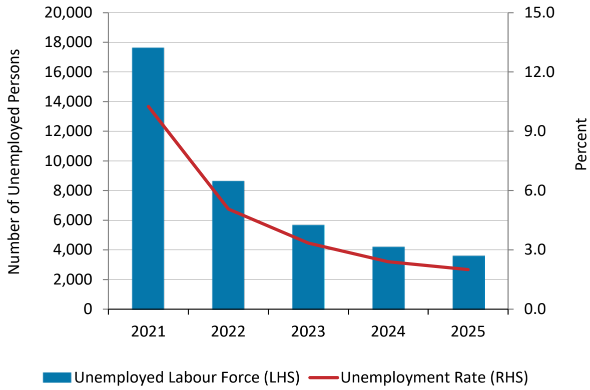
by 2.1%, due to higher liquefied petroleum gas prices and higher home rental rates. "*Restaurants and Accommodation Services*" rose by 2.1%, amid higher menu costs for restaurant and café services. "*Personal Care, Social Protection, and Miscellaneous Goods and Services*" grew by 2.5%, primarily due to rising costs of personal care products. In contrast, the "*Transport*" subindex declined by 1.8% as global fuel prices declined. Similarly, "*Information and Communication*" slid by 1.5%, due to lower cellular phone prices.

Labour Force

In 2025, Belize experienced its strongest labour market performance to date. Unemployment averaged a historic 2.0% in 2025, down from the previous record of 2.4% in 2024, as job creation continued to outpace labour force growth.

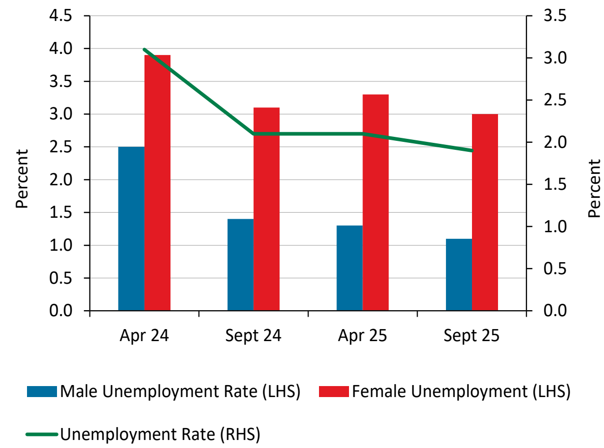
In April 2025, conditions improved markedly, with the unemployment rate falling to 2.1% from 3.1% in April 2024. The labour force expanded by 7.3% to 183,368 persons, surpassing the 3.5% growth in working-age population to 308,977 persons and lifting the labour force participation rate from 57.4% to 59.1%. The female

Chart 2.31: Unemployed Labour Force and Unemployment Rate



Source: SIB

Chart 2.32: Unemployment Rate by Gender

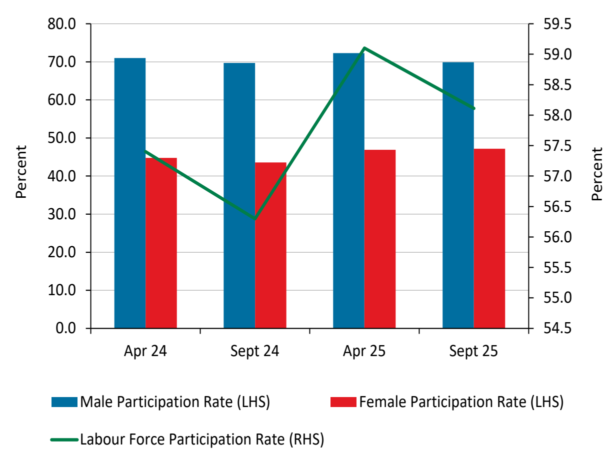


Source: SIB

participation rate rose by 2.1 percentage points to 46.9%, but remained well below the 72.3% male participation rate, underscoring persistent gender gaps linked to domestic duties and childcare responsibilities. Meanwhile, the employed population increased by 8.3% or 13,697 persons, with 70.4% of the job growth concentrated in the tertiary sector, particularly "*Wholesale and Retail Trade Services*" and "*Tourism.*" As a result, tertiary sector employment rose by 5.9%, while jobs in the secondary sector grew by 1.9%. In contrast, primary sector employment declined by 0.5%.

In September 2025, the unemployment rate declined further to 1.9% from 2.1% in September 2024. Employment rose by 9.6% to 178,442, outpacing labour force growth and reducing the number of unemployed by 0.8% to 3,421. The labour force participation rate improved by 1.8 percentage points to 58.1%, while the underemployment rate almost halved to 1.4%, signalling better labour utilisation. Despite the positive labour market trends, structural disparities persisted. Female unemployment stood at 3.0%, nearly triple the male rate of 1.1%. Females' participation in the labour market remained significantly below that of males at 47.2%. Furthermore, females comprised nearly two-thirds of persons outside the labour force, with financial dependency among non-participants remaining high at 78.2%. Additionally, employment remained concentrated in the service sector, with "*Wholesale and Retail Trade*" and "*Tourism*" accounting for nearly one-third of all jobs. The tertiary sector also held the largest share of informal employment at 35.9%, reflecting its dual role as both primary driver of job creation and the main channel for informal activity.

Chart 2.33: Labour Force Participation Rate by Gender



Source: SIB

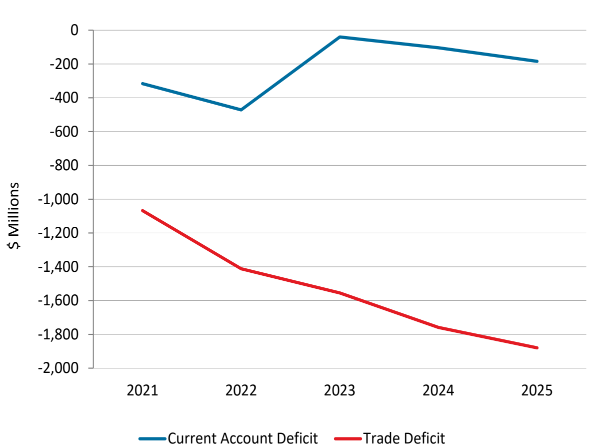
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

Belize's external current account deficit widened from $103.5mn (1.6% of GDP) in 2024 to $184.5mn (2.8% of GDP) in 2025, reflecting a deterioration in several key components of the external accounts.

This widening was driven primarily by a $121.2mn expansion in the merchandise trade deficit, as export earnings declined while imports increased modestly. In addition, the primary income deficit widened significantly, rising by $69.2mn. This reflected higher profit repatriation by foreign-owned enterprises and increased reinvestment of earnings by domestic banks. These pressures on the current account were partly offset by stronger performance in services and transfers. Net service inflows rose by $105.4mn, supported by higher tourism receipts, increased earnings from other service-related activities, and lower international freight costs. Meanwhile, the secondary income surplus improved by $4.1mn, driven mainly by higher inward private transfers.

The current account deficit was financed by net capital and financial inflows of $370.3mn, an increase of $206.5mn compared to the previous year. The surge in net liabilities largely reflected a sharp decline in domestic banks' foreign asset holdings, associated with the further nationalisation of the energy sector, as well as increased net external borrowings. By contrast, net direct investment inflows declined sharply, reflecting the one-off effects related to the Fortis divestment.

Chart 2.34: Current Account and Trade Deficit



Despite the wider current account deficit, overall external stability was preserved. The scale of capital inflows exceeded financing requirements, allowing gross international reserves to increase by $123.3mn to $1,104.7mn, equivalent to 4.4 months of merchandise import coverage.

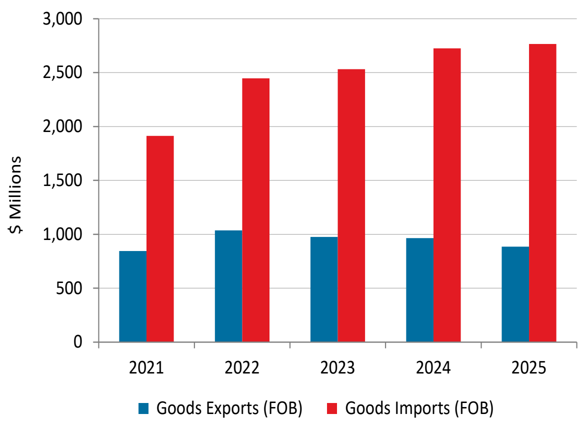
Merchandise Trade

In 2025, the merchandise trade deficit widened by 6.9% ($121.2mn) to $1,880.3mn, as a modest increase in import outlays coincided with a broad-based decline in export earnings. Imports (FOB) rose by 1.5% ($42.1mn) to $2,766.1mn, reflecting a 1.4% ($32.7mn) increase in domestic imports alongside a 2.9% ($9.5mn) uptick in Commercial Free Zone (CFZ) imports. Meanwhile, exports (FOB) fell by 8.2% ($79.1mn) to $885.8mn, reflecting a 9.3% ($45.6mn) reduction in domestic exports and a 7.1% ($33.5mn) decline in re-exported goods.

Imports

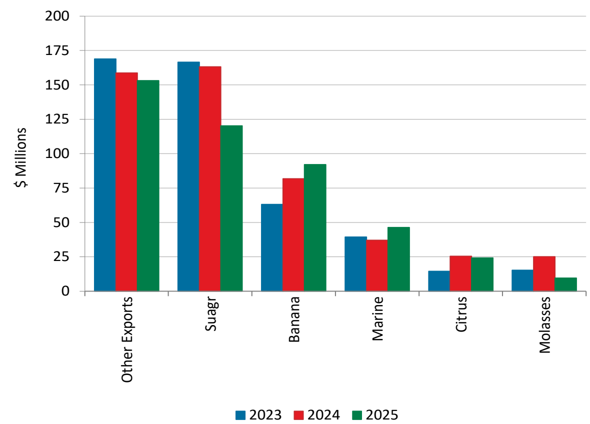
Imports (FOB) rose by 1.5% ($42.1mn) to $2,766.1mn during the year. The outturn was primarily driven by a $25.2mn surge in the "*Manufactured Goods*" subcategory, reflecting heightened purchases of galvanised steel coils, building cement, and metal cylinders. "*Food and*

Chart 2.35: Merchandise Exports and Imports



Sources: SIB and Central Bank

Chart 2.36: Domestic Exports



Sources: SIB and Central Bank

Live Animals" followed, growing by $15.3mn, driven by higher spending on evaporated milk, sweet biscuits, and animal nutrition premixes. Next, "*Chemical Products*" rose by $8.3mn due to additional spending on fertilisers, medicines, and other healthcare products. "*Crude Materials*" increased by $7.2mn on account of greater outlays on treated pine lumber and used clothing. Rounding out the major increases was a $5.6mn uptick in the "*Commercial Free Zone*" category, driven by higher imports of cigarettes, tennis shoes, and jerseys.

The overall import growth was limited by a $25.8mn reduction in "*Machinery and Transport Equipment*," reflecting the absence of several high-value items that were acquired the year before—particularly, an industrial generator and gas turbine—as well as the reduced importation of four-cylinder vehicles. In addition, "*Other Manufactures*" fell by $12.1mn due to fewer purchases of measuring instruments, metal furniture, and plastic crates. "*Mineral Fuels and Lubricants*" declined by $9.4mn, owing to lower outlays on regular gasoline, kerosene, and premium fuels, owing to reduced international fuel prices. Additionally, "*Oils and Fats*" decreased by $3.7mn due to less spending on cooking oils. Lastly, "*Designated Processing Areas*" dipped by $3.5mn on account of fewer imports of glass containers.

<u>Domestic Exports</u>

Domestic export earnings declined by 9.3% ($45.6mn) to $445.8mn, largely reflecting sector-specific challenges, with reduced receipts from sugar ($42.9mn), molasses ($15.6mn), other domestic exports ($5.5mn), and citrus products ($1.2mn). However, the overall outturn was partly offset by higher earnings from bananas ($10.3mn) and marine exports ($9.2mn).

Sugar and Molasses

Sugar export earnings contracted sharply, falling by 26.3% ($42.9mn) to $120.3mn during the review period. This downturn reflected a 9.5% decline in export volume to 109,141 long tons, compounded by an 18.5% drop in the average unit price. The steep price reduction reflected a softening in international sugar markets, as a surge in global supply outpaced demand, exerting downward pressure on prices. This expansion in supply was underpinned by favourable weather in major producing regions, particularly Brazil, India, and Thailand.

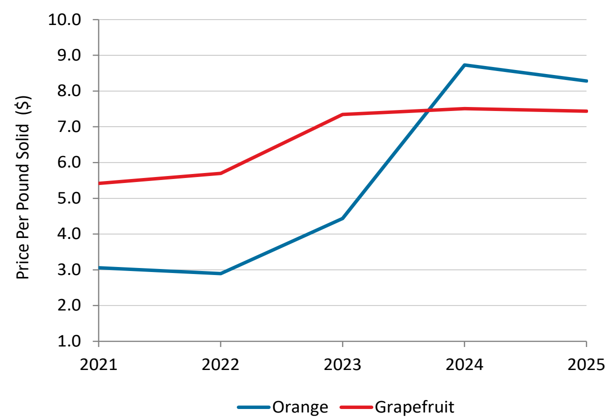
Europe remained Belize's principal export market, absorbing 77.9% (84,979 long tons) of total sugar shipments. However, receipts from this market declined by 22.0% ($24.2mn) to $85.6mn, as the export volume dipped by 4.3% and the average unit price plunged by 18.5%. The remaining 24,162 long tons of sugar shipments were directed to CARICOM (Caribbean Community, 11.9%) and the US (10.2%), both of which recorded notable reductions in receipts. Earnings from CARICOM dropped by 25.7% ($7.0mn) to $20.2mn, owing to a 13.0% downturn in export volume and a 14.7% reduction in the average unit price. Similarly, exports to the US decreased by 44.3% ($11.5mn) to $14.5mn, reflecting a 33.7% reduction in volume and a 16.0% fall in average unit price.

Molasses exports also weakened significantly. Molasses revenue plunged by 61.9% ($15.6mn) to $9.6mn, as the average unit price more than halved, while the export volume declined by 15.9%.

Citrus Juices and Pulp

Revenue from citrus juice exports declined by 4.5% ($1.2mn) to $24.3mn, mainly attributable to lower earnings from orange concentrate. Receipts from orange concentrate decreased by 4.5% ($1.0mn) to $22.1mn, as a 5.3% drop in the average unit price outweighed a slight 0.8% increase in export volume to 2.7mn ps. The decline in international

Chart 2.37: Average Price Paid for Citrus Juices



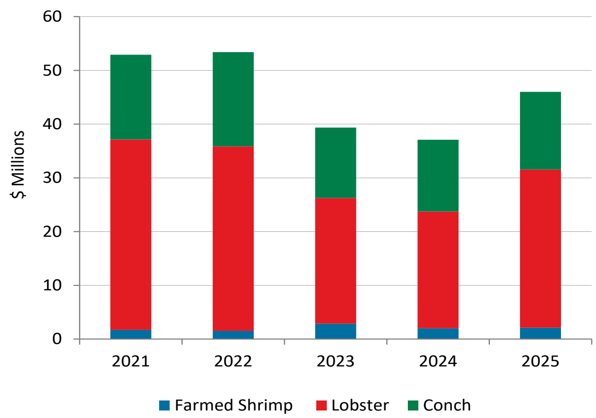
orange concentrate prices reflected improved global supply conditions, particularly in Brazil, the world's leading producer, combined with subdued consumer demand.

Grapefruit concentrate exports also weakened. Earnings fell by 8.2% ($0.2mn) to $2.0mn, owing to an 8.0% reduction in export volume to 0.3mn ps. alongside a 0.3% dip in the average unit price. All shipments of orange and grapefruit concentrate were destined for CARICOM markets during the review period. Exports of not-from-concentrate juices and pulp remained negligible.

Banana

Banana export earnings increased by 12.5% ($10.3mn) to $92.1mn, owing to an 8.6% rise in export volume to 90,681 metric tons, supported by favourable weather conditions and improved farming practices. The growth was further bolstered by a 3.6% uptick in the average unit price, stemming from higher premiums for customised fruit packages.

Chart 2.38: Exports of Marine Products



Source: SIB

Marine Exports

Marine export revenue grew by 24.9% ($9.2mn) to $46.4mn in 2025, reflecting stronger performances across all major fisheries and aquaculture products. Lobster earnings led the expansion, rising by 35.4% ($7.7mn) to $29.4mn, as a 40.4% increase in export volume outweighed a 3.5% decline in the average unit price. Conch receipts rose by 8.2% ($1.1mn) to $14.5mn, supported by a 5.0% increase in export volume alongside a 3.1% uptick in the average unit price. Meanwhile, farmed shrimp receipts edged up by 5.1% ($0.1mn) to $2.1mn, as a 5.9% rise in the average unit price more than offset a 0.8% dip in export volume. Exports of other fish remained negligible.

Other Domestic Exports

Receipts from other domestic exports decreased by 3.5% ($5.5mn) to $153.2mn over the review period. This outturn reflected reduced earnings from rum ($7.4mn), animal feed ($3.9mn), prefabricated houses ($1.7mn), and pepper sauce ($1.2mn). However, the revenue decline was partially offset by higher earnings from red kidney beans ($4.0mn), crude soybean oil ($3.0mn), and cacao beans ($1.3mn).

Re-Exports

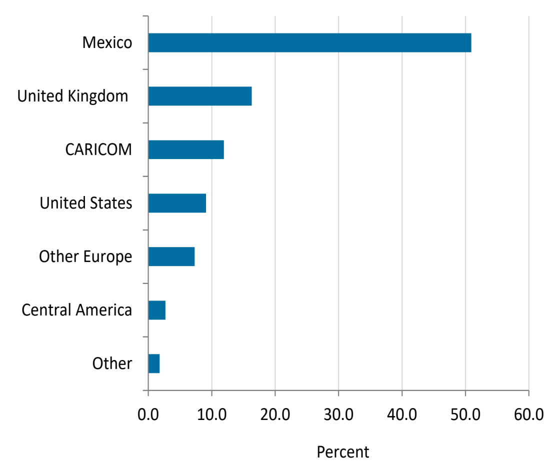
Total re-exports declined by 7.1% ($33.5mn) to $440.0mn, reflecting reductions in both CFZ sales and other re-exports. CFZ sales fell by 7.1% ($28.2mn) to $369.6mn. Meanwhile, other re-exports declined by 7.0% ($5.3mn) to $70.4mn, mainly attributable to lower sales of jet fuel.

Direction of Visible Trade

Mexico remained Belize's principal export destination in 2025, accounting for 50.9% of total merchandise exports, including re-exports from the free trade zone located along the northern border. The share of exports to Mexico increased by 3.1 percentage points, reflecting stronger sales of cigarettes and other goods from the CFZ area. The UK continued as the second-largest export market; however, its share fell by 3.7 percentage points to 16.3%, largely due to reduced sugar shipments.

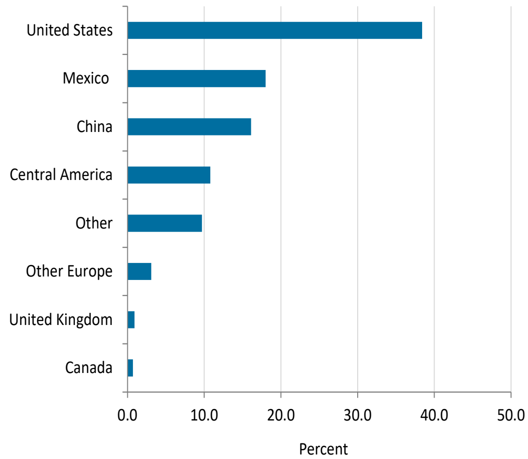
In contrast, exports to CARICOM increased modestly, with the region's share rising by 0.7 percentage points to 11.9%, bolstered by higher sales of red kidney beans and wood panels.

Chart 2.39: Direction of Visible Trade - Exports



Sources: SIB and Central Bank

Chart 2.40: Direction of Visible Trade - Imports



Source: SIB

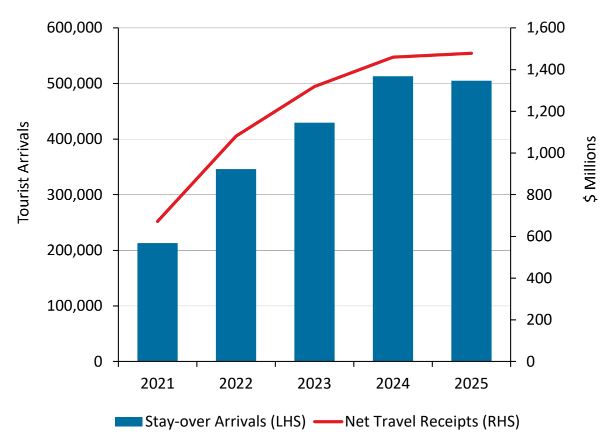
Meanwhile, the share of exports to the US declined by 3.0 percentage points to 9.1%, owing to lower exports of molasses, sugar, rum, conch, and pepper sauce. Exports to Europe, excluding the UK, increased by 2.2 percentage points to 7.3%, underpinned by higher sales of bananas, molasses, rum, and lobster.

As customary, the US remained Belize's primary source of merchandise imports. However, its share declined by 1.9 percentage points to 38.4%, reflecting reduced purchases of capital equipment. Mexico retained its position as the second-largest source of imports, with its share edging up by 0.3 percentage points to 18.0%, supported by higher spending on propane, cement, powdered milk, and electrical transformers. China ranked third, with its share rising by 0.8 percentage points to 16.1%, supported by increased imports of clothing, footwear, metal containers, and processing machinery. Meanwhile, imports from Central America fell slightly, with the region's share dipping by 0.3 percentage points to 10.8%, following lower purchases of cooking oils, trailers, bars, and rods.

Services

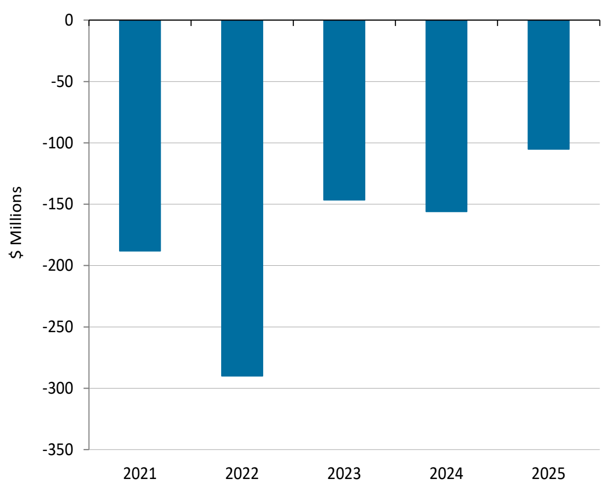
Net export of services expanded by 6.5% ($105.4mn) to $1,725.0mn, marking the highest level of surplus on the service account. This improvement was driven by higher tourism earnings, increased inflows from other service-related activities, and reduced ocean freight costs. Net travel inflows, which accounted for 85.7% of total service receipts, edged up by 1.3% ($19.0mn) to $1,478.4mn, broadly in line with the rise in tourism revenue. However, this expansion was tempered by a decline in overnight visitor arrivals amid global economic and geopolitical headwinds. The combined surplus from all other services rose by 11.2% ($35.5mn) to $351.8mn, supported by a continued expansion in business process outsourcing services, which increased by $16.4mn to $221.4mn, and inflows for government services, which rose by $11.3mn to $47.8mn, due to increased transfers to embassies, consulates, and military units and agencies. Meanwhile, net

Chart 2.41: Tourist Arrivals and Net Travel Receipts



Sources: BTB and Central Bank

Chart 2.42: Net Transportation Outflows

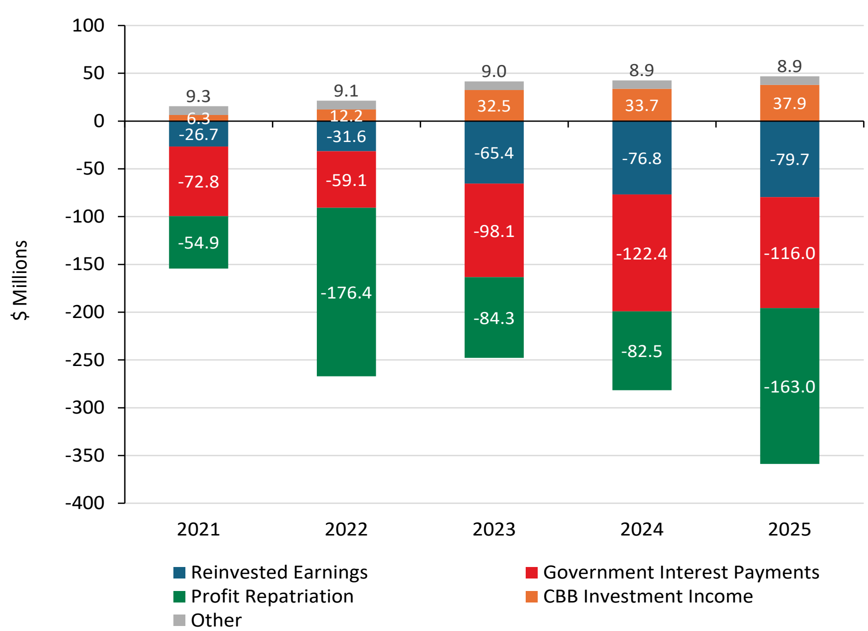


outflows for transportation services contracted sharply by 32.6% ($50.8mn) to $105.2mn, as international freight rates declined significantly, stemming from an oversupply of shipping capacity after supply-chain normalisation amid constrained global demand.

Primary Income

Net outflows on the primary income account increased by 26.6% ($69.2mn) to $329.1mn. The widening deficit was driven primarily by a sharp increase in profit repatriation by foreign-owned entities and, to a lesser extent, by higher reinvested earnings of domestic banks. Profit repatriation surged by $80.5mn to $163.0mn, propelled by substantial outflows from energy companies ($53.7mn), domestic banks ($24.0mn), insurance companies ($18.3mn), and airlines ($1.5mn). These increases were partly offset by lower profit repatriation from shipping companies ($8.2mn), beverage manufacturing enterprises ($3.4mn), and tourism-related entities ($3.3mn). At the same time, reinvested earnings of domestic banks rose modestly to $79.7mn, up $2.9mn, signalling improved profitability in the banking sector. The overall deficit was partly cushioned by a $6.4mn decline in interest payments on the public sector's external debt to $116.0mn, with the reduction in secured overnight financing rate on variable interest loans. In addition, the Central Bank's investment income increased by $4.1mn to $37.9mn.

Chart 2.43: Primary Income Components



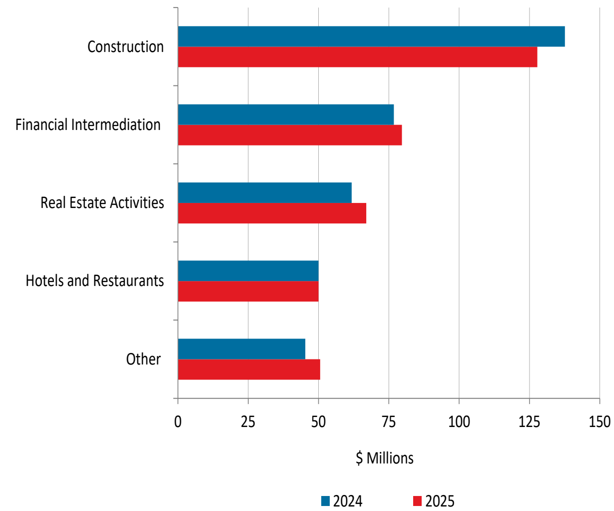
Secondary Income

The surplus on the secondary income account increased by 1.4% ($4.1mn) to $299.8mn in 2025, reflecting an uptick in private transfer inflows. The higher surplus was primarily driven by a $4.6mn increase in inward remittances to $242.9mn. This was alongside $11.0mn in grants from Republic of China (Taiwan), which supported the national feeding programme and expanded Wi-Fi connectivity in schools. These gains were partially offset by a $15.6mn reduction in transfers to religious and other non-profit organisations, to $75.5mn, alongside a $6.0mn decline in non-life insurance claims from foreign reinsurers to $15.7mn.

Capital Account

Net inflows on the capital account expanded by 66.9% ($8.5mn) to $21.3mn in 2025, reflecting increased grant funding to the Government from several bilateral and multilateral partners. This outturn included $6.9mn in grants from the CDB under the Basic Needs Trust Fund to support poverty alleviation initiatives. A further $2.9mn was disbursed by the IDB through the Skills for the Future Program to address workforce skill gaps. Additionally, the Government received $1.9mn from the Global Fund Cycle to support improvements in the country's healthcare infrastructure. CABEI also provided $1.9mn in technical assistance to advance the development of a climate-resilience project for municipalities across Belize. Lastly, $1.5mn was disbursed by IFAD for the Resilient Rural Belize Programme to strengthen agricultural practices and improve incomes for small-scale farmers in rural communities.

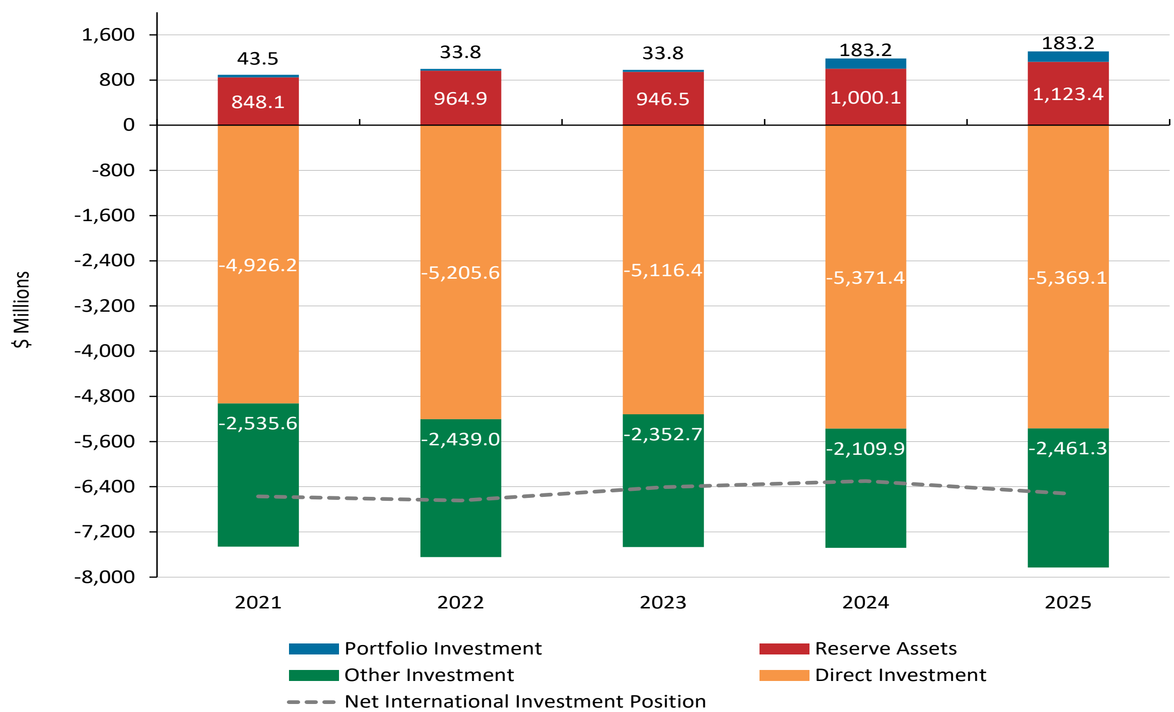
Chart 2.44: Inward Foreign Direct Investment



Financial Account

The financial account registered net inflows of $349.1mn in 2025, an increase of $198.0mn relative to the $151.1mn recorded in 2024. This sharp rise in net liabilities was primarily due to a substantial decline in the net foreign assets of domestic banks and an increase in net borrowings by the public sector. Domestic banks' net foreign asset outturn shifted from an accumulation of $291.5mn in 2024 to a reduction of $245.8mn in 2025. This reversal reflected domestic banks' sale of foreign currency to the Central Bank to facilitate the purchase of shares in FBL and BEL. Increased public sector borrowing further bolstered financial inflows, with net borrowings of $72.2mn by the public sector and $59.5mn by the Central Bank, which were partly offset by net loan repayments by the private sector ($26.1mn) and domestic banks ($12.9mn). Notably, net direct investments fell sharply, plunging by $254.0mn to $2.3mn, primarily due to Fortis' divestment

Chart 2.45: Net International Investment Position



from the energy sector. Nonetheless, new inward foreign direct investment continued to target tourism-related construction ($127.8mn) and real estate activities ($67.0mn), while outward foreign direct investment was mainly attributable to the $260.0mn divestment by Fortis and $114.6mn in land and property sales.

International Investment Position

Belize's net international investment position widened by $225.7mn in 2025 to a deficit of $6,523.8mn, reflecting a simultaneous rise in external liabilities and a contraction in foreign assets. Net financial liabilities of residents increased by $74.9mn to $8,609.2mn, primarily attributable to higher net borrowings that more than offset a reduction in foreign direct investment liabilities. Concurrently, the net foreign asset position declined by $150.9mn to $2,085.4mn, largely due to the reduction in domestic banks' foreign currency holdings.

Box 2.2 | Government's Acquisition of Fortis' Energy Assets in Belize

On 14 October 2025, the Government executed two share purchase agreements with Fortis Energy Cayman Incorporated and Fortis Cayman Incorporated, culminating in the acquisition of:

- 100.0% of the issued share capital of Fortis Belize Limited (FBL), subsequently renamed Hydro Belize Limited (HBL); and
- 22,984,662 ordinary shares in Belize Electricity Limited (BEL), representing 33.3% of BEL’s equity.

The transactions closed on 31 October 2025, following Parliamentary approval under the Belize Electricity Investments Act, 2025, marking Fortis’ full exit from Belize’s electricity sector after nearly three decades of ownership and operation.

This acquisition was driven by a convergence of Fortis’ corporate strategy and the Government’s policy objectives. Fortis’ decision to divest reflected a strategic withdrawal from Caribbean power generation in favour of regulated transmission and distribution assets elsewhere. For the Government, the acquisition advanced three interlinked objectives:

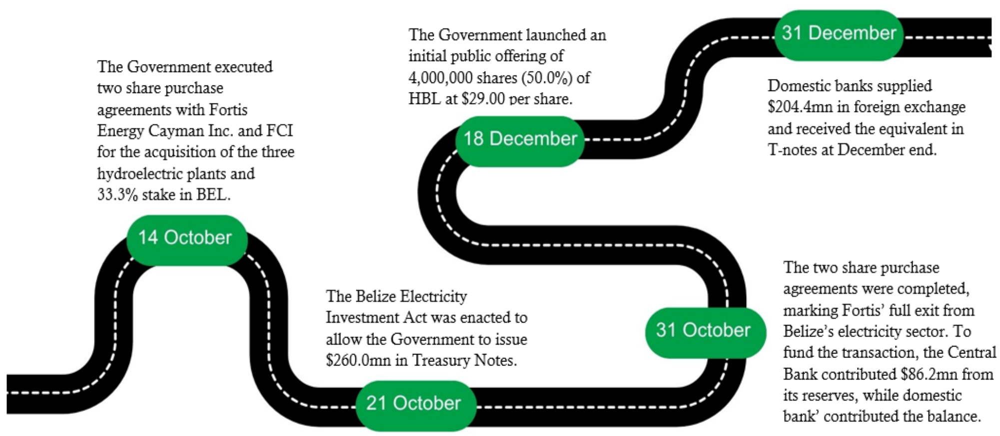
- Energy sovereignty and security by consolidating ownership of all major hydro assets under national control;
- Foreign exchange conservation by eliminating dividend repatriation and escalation linked power purchase payments; and
- Electricity cost stabilisation by removing contractual price escalators embedded in legacy power purchase agreements between Fortis owned generators and BEL.

The total transaction value was $260.0mn, allocated as follows:

- $224.0mn for 100.0% of HBL, comprising three hydroelectric plants on the Macal River—Mollejon (25.2 MW), Chalillo (7.0 MW), and Vaca (19.0 MW)—with a combined installed capacity of 51.2 MW; and
- $36.0mn for 33.3% of BEL, increasing Government ownership in BEL to 65.9%.

Box 2.2 | Government's Acquisition of Fortis' Energy Assets in Belize *(continued)*

Figure 2.1: Transaction Roadmap



This valuation is consistent with the NERA valuation referenced in the HBL Prospectus and is anchored in the plants' long-dated power purchasing agreements (expiring between 2055 and 2060), low operating cost structure, and audited financial performance. As disclosed in the Prospectus, in the three years prior to acquisition, HBL generated average annual net profits of $32.5mn, while the company paid average cash dividends of US$15.4mn on its ordinary shares (Financial Services Commission of Belize, 2026).

The acquisition and subsequent divestment were expressly authorised by the Belize Electricity Investments Act, 2025, which:

- Validated the Government's authority to enter into both share purchase agreements;
- Charged the Consolidated Revenue Fund with payment obligations;
- Authorised the issuance of T-bills and T-notes to finance the acquisition;
- Permitted the divestment of HBL and BEL shares to the public, provided that the shares are not sold below acquisition cost; and
- Conferred tax and stamp duty exemptions on public transfers and on dividends paid by HBL and BEL.

Box 2.2 | Government's Acquisition of Fortis' Energy Assets in Belize *(continued)*

To finance the acquisition, the Government issued $260.0mn in T-notes, structured across three maturities. Given the foreign currency settlement requirements of the share purchase agreements, the transaction carried a significant foreign exchange component. To manage the sudden impact on the banking system, the Central Bank temporarily absorbed the $260.0mn in T-notes issued and invoked Exchange Control Direction No. 19, requiring domestic banks to sell $260.0mn in foreign currency over a scheduled window from October 2025 to April 2026. By the end of 2025, domestic banks supplied $204.4mn in foreign exchange and received the equivalent in T-notes, while the Central Bank contributed $86.2mn from its international reserves, funded by a US$30.0mn short-term loan facility that served as a bridging mechanism. This approach not only smoothed foreign-currency outflows from the banking system but also alleviated liquidity pressures, reduced foreign exchange-market frictions, safeguarded gross international reserves, and helped preserve overall monetary stability.

Table 2.2: Holdings of the T-Notes Issued for the Acquisition by Financial Institutions

	Allocation ($mn)			
Tenor	**Face Value**	**Central Bank**	**Domestic Banks**	**CurrentYield (%)**
1-Year	120.0	25.7	94.3	3.00
2-Year	80.0	17.1	62.9	3.25
5-Year	60.0	12.8	47.2	4.25
Total	**260.0**	**55.6**	**204.4**	

Note. The Government issued $260.0mn in T-notes across three maturities with varied yields. Table 2.2 shows the distribution of the T-note holdings on 31 December between the Central Bank and domestic banks.

Nevertheless, the transaction resulted in sharp short-term movements across various sectors of the economy. In monetary developments, domestic banks' net foreign assets declined by 26.1% ($245.8mn) in 2025, reflecting the impact of the foreign currency sales to the Central Bank. Concurrently, net domestic credit to the Central Government rose by 22.5% to a record $1.1bn, driven by the banking system's uptake of the T-notes issued to fund the purchase. On the balance of payments, the acquisition was recorded as a reduction in direct investment liabilities, causing net foreign direct investments to fall sharply amid inflows from other sectors. On the fiscal front, the issuance of T-notes lifted the domestic debt-to-GDP ratio by 2.8 percentage points, from 21.3% in 2024 to 24.1% in 2025—a modest increase given the scale of the transaction and the revenue-generating nature of the acquired assets.

To partially unwind the debt incurred by the acquisition, the Government launched an initial public offering in December 2025, offering 4,000,000 shares (50.0%) of HBL at $29.00 per

Box 2.2 | Government's Acquisition of Fortis' Energy Assets in Belize *(continued)*

share. The offering was oversubscribed with 4,648,500 shares taken up, generating $134.8mn in gross proceeds. As a result, the shareholder base of this strategic national asset was broadened, while the Government retained majority control.

In line with both the HBL Prospectus and the Electricity Investments Act, the proceeds would be returned to the Consolidated Revenue Fund, and a portion of the acquisition-related debt would subsequently be retired. Thus, the initial public offering simultaneously advanced capital market development through increased participation in the equity market and strengthened fiscal sustainability by supporting long-term public debt management resilience.

The acquisition of Fortis' hydro and equity assets represents a structural reconfiguration of Belize's energy economy. While it imposed a significant short-term drain on the foreign- currency holdings of the banking system, these costs are counterbalanced by:

- Elimination of persistent foreign-currency leakage through dividends and escalated power purchase agreements;
- Enhanced national security at a time of rising uncertainty over the reliability of electricity imports from Mexico; and
- Retention of high-margin renewable generation revenues within the domestic economy.

The acquisition created a publicly owned, dividend-paying renewable energy entity governed under domestic law. With disciplined governance and prudent capital reinvestment to maintain and expand renewable power generation, the transaction positions the Government and people of Belize as the owners of a durable, income-generating national asset with meaningful growth potential as an independent power producer, while strengthening long-term foreign-exchange retention and supporting the country's future energy demand.

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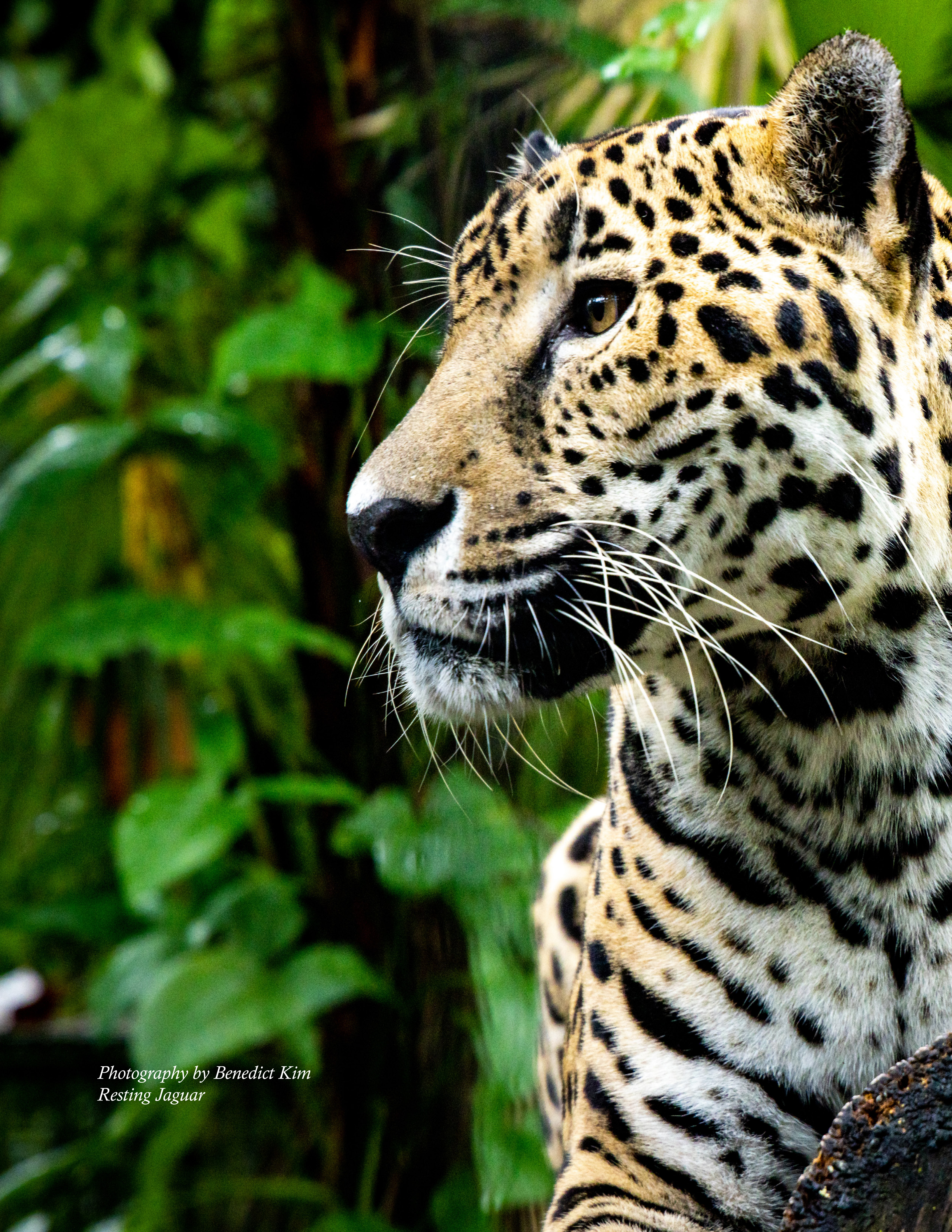
Financial Services Commission of Belize. (2026). Hydro Belize Limited Prospectus. https://www.belizefsc.org.bz/hydro-belize-limited-prospectus

National Assembly of Belize. (2025). Belize Electricity Investments Act, 2025 (Act No. 20 of 2025). https://www.nationalassembly.gov.bz/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Act-No.-20-of-2025-Belize-Electricity-Investments.pdf



Photography by Benedict Kim
Resting Jaguar

III. FINANCIAL SYSTEM OVERSIGHT

FINANCIAL SUPERVISION

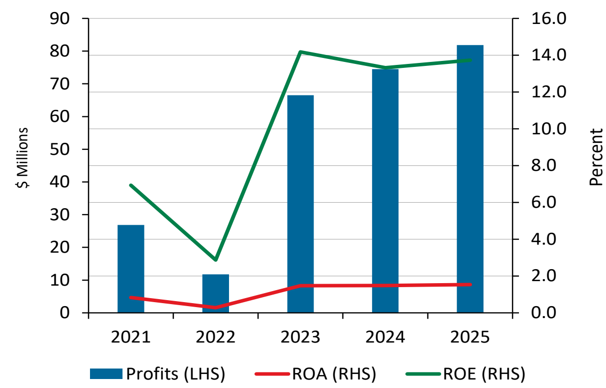
In fulfilling its mandate to promote monetary and financial stability, the Central Bank continued to employ a robust supervisory framework in 2025. This framework integrates continuous off-site monitoring with risk-focused on-site examinations of domestic and international banks, credit unions, moneylenders, and payment service providers. The supervisory approach is further strengthened by the ongoing adoption of international best practices in supervisory methodologies that emphasise assessments of capital adequacy, asset quality, governance, liquidity, risk management, and operational resilience.

During the year, the Central Bank conducted nine risk-based and thematic on-site examinations across domestic banks, international banks, credit unions, and moneylenders. The risk-based examinations assessed each institution's compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and prudential requirements, while the thematic examinations evaluated banks' and credit unions' adherence to the Central Bank's 2023 Technology Risk Management Guidelines.

DOMESTIC BANKING SECTOR PERFORMANCE

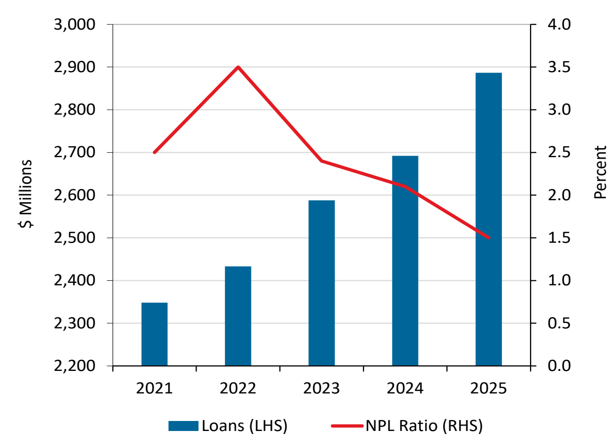
The domestic banking sector ended 2025 with aggregate profits of $81.8mn, up by $7.3mn from 2024. Strong lending activity remained the primary driver, with credit to the private sector expanding by $198.8mn to $2,859.5mn. The sector's profitability strengthened accordingly, with the Return on Assets (ROA) rising from 1.48% to 1.53% and the Return on Equity (ROE) increasing from 13.32% to 13.73%.

Chart 3.1: Profitability of Domestic Banks



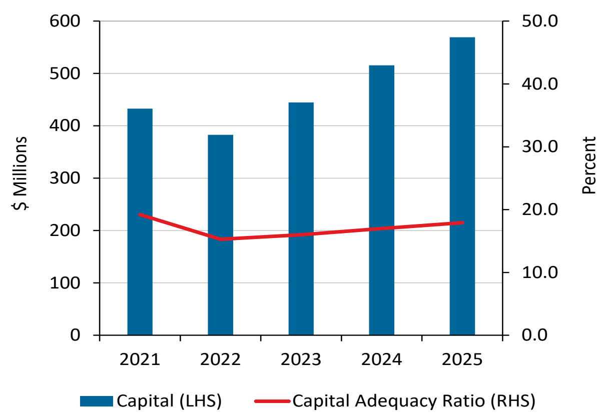
Credit growth was led by the building and construction, tourism, and real estate industries. At the same time, asset quality improved, with non-performing loans (NPLs) declining by $21.0mn to $95.8mn, supported by $23.5mn in write-offs, more than half of which (54.9% or $12.9mn) came from a single institution. Accordingly, the sector's NPLs (net of specific provisions) to total loans ratio, fell from 2.1% in 2024 to 1.5% in 2025, remaining well below the 5.0% prudential benchmark.

Chart 3.2: Asset Quality of Domestic Banks



Domestic banks' capital strengthened, as total capital increased from $515.5mn in 2024 to $569.1mn in 2025, driven primarily by the allocation of year-end profits to retained earnings and the reversal of $17.7mn in regulatory provisions. As a result, the capital adequacy ratio (CAR) improved from 17.0% to 17.9% over the year, with all domestic banks comfortably above the minimum regulatory requirement of 9.0%.

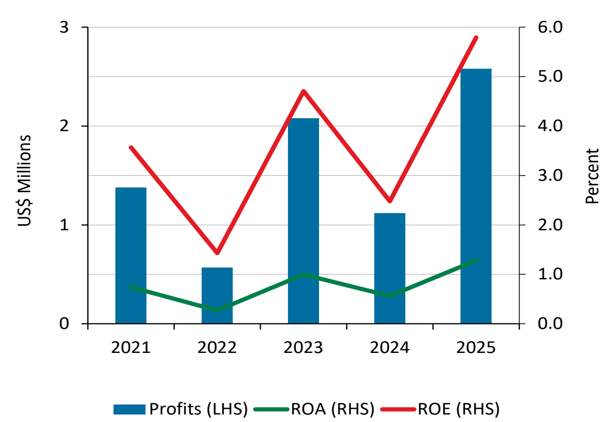
Chart 3.3: Domestic Banks' Capital and Capital Adequacy Ratio



INTERNATIONAL BANKING SECTOR PERFORMANCE

The international banking sector recorded a marked improvement in profitability in 2025, with aggregate profits rising from US$1.1mn in 2024 to US$2.6mn. This increase was largely attributable to reduced provisioning expenses, following the write-off of a long-outstanding NPL in accordance with the International Banking Act, Circular No. 2 on Loan Loss Provisions and Reserves. Consequently, the sector's NPL ratio fell to a historic low of 0.2% in 2025, far below the 5.0% prudential benchmark.

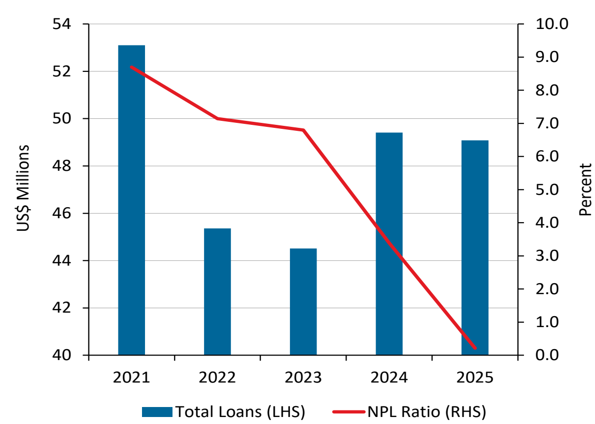
Chart 3.4: International Banking Sector Profitability



These developments contributed to a rebound in profitability, with ROA increasing from 0.6% in 2024 to 1.3% and ROE rising from 2.5% in 2024 to 5.8%, reaching their highest levels in five years.

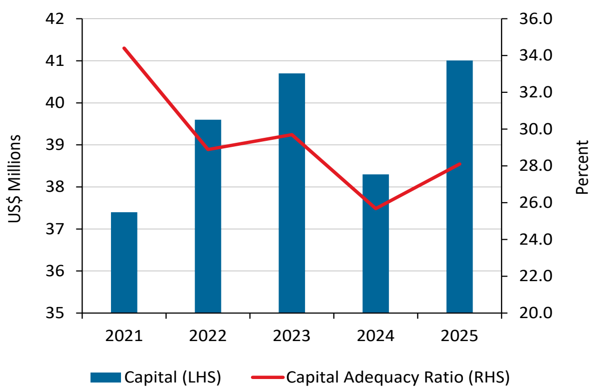
The sector's total loan portfolio contracted slightly from US$49.4mn in 2024 to US$49.1mn in 2025. Nevertheless, lending activity continued, with new disbursements concentrated in the tourism and real estate sectors.

Chart 3.5: International Banking Sector Asset Quality



The international banking sector's capital position strengthened further, with total capital rising by US$2.7mn to US$41.0mn in 2025, supported by the allocation of US$2.1mn in profits. Reflecting this growth, the CAR rose from 25.7% in 2024 to 28.1% in 2025, maintaining a substantial buffer above the regulatory minimum of 10.0%.

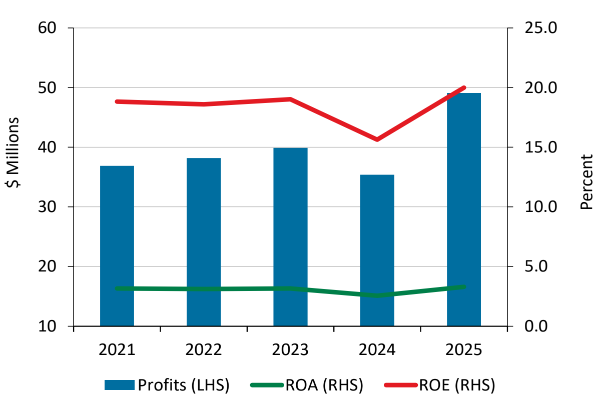
Chart 3.6: International Banking Sector Total Capital and Capital Adequacy Ratio



CREDIT UNION SECTOR PERFORMANCE

The credit union sector recorded profits of $49.1mn in 2025, up $13.7mn from $35.4mn in 2024. This significant improvement was driven mainly by the normalisation of provisioning expenses following unusually high provisions in the previous year, and by the reversal of $4.2mn in provisions, which helped reduce total provisions from $13.2mn in 2024 to $1.0mn in 2025. Notably, the largest credit union generated 67.6% of total sector profits. The sector's profitability indicators strengthened, with ROA rising from 2.6% in 2024 to 3.3% in 2025, and ROE increasing from 15.6% to 20.0% over the same period.

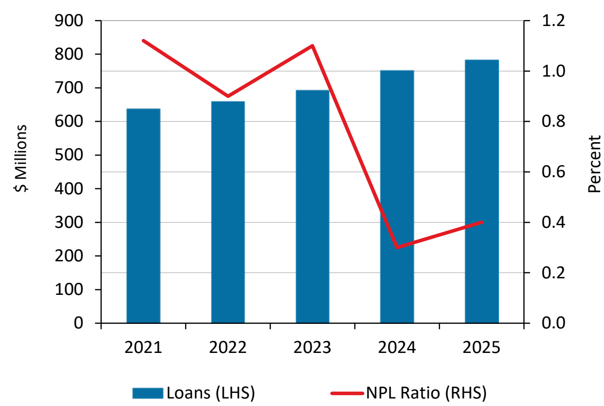
Chart 3.7: Credit Union Sector Profitability



Total assets rose by $105.0mn to $1,517.0mn in 2025, supported by a $31.6mn expansion in the aggregate loan portfolio and an additional $25.4mn in deposits with commercial banks. New loans were issued mainly to agricultural enterprises and for personal consumption, together accounting for 51.0% of all disbursements.

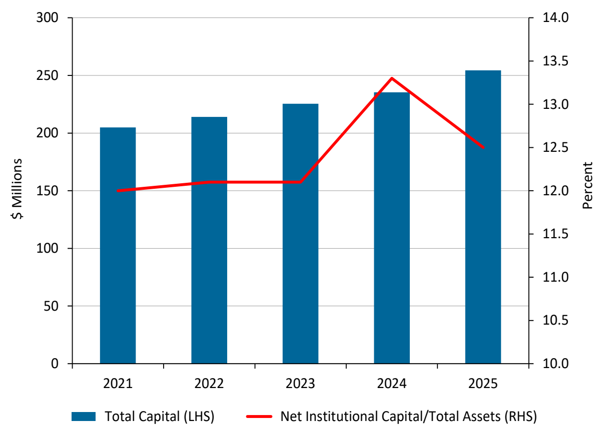
The sector also recorded notable improvements in asset quality. Total NPLs fell from $21.4mn in 2024 to $16.9mn in 2025, driven by $6.4mn in write-offs. The industry recorded an NPL ratio of 0.4%, as all eight credit unions maintained NPL ratios below the 5.0% threshold.

Chart 3.8: Credit Union Sector Asset Quality



Capital formation remained robust, with total capital rising by $19.1mn (8.1%) to $254.4mn at year's end, supported by profit allocations to retained earnings and statutory reserves. However, the net institutional capital-to-total assets (NIC) ratio declined from 13.3% in 2024 to 12.5% in 2025, as total assets expanded more quickly than capital. Despite this moderation, all credit unions maintained NIC ratios above the 10.0% regulatory requirement.

Chart 3.9: Credit Union Total Capital and Net Institutional Capital Ratio



COMPLIANCE

Belize's Mutual Evaluation Exercise

Following Belize's exceptional performance in the Fourth Round Mutual Evaluation Report, published in January 2025, the Compliance Department intensified its efforts to advance the country's post-mutual evaluation agenda and sustain the strong momentum generated by the assessment. The report reaffirmed Belize's standing as a high-performing jurisdiction within the region, highlighting significant progress in both the effectiveness and technical compliance of its AML/CFT/CPF regime.

In 2025, the Compliance Department prioritised preparation of Belize's First Regular Follow-up Report, scheduled for review by the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force at its 64th Working Groups and Plenary meetings in May 2027. Concurrently, the Department began early planning for Belize's Fifth Round Mutual Evaluation planned for 2031, to ensure proactive alignment with evolving Financial Action Task Force standards. This forward-looking approach aligns with Belize's national strategy and commitment to strengthening the country's overall AML/CFT/CPF framework.

Risk-Based AML/CFT Supervision

Throughout the year, the Central Bank continued to advance its risk-based supervisory framework across regulated sectors in accordance with the Money Laundering and Terrorism (Prevention) Act. Supervisory expectations emphasised the need for financial institutions to implement robust, risk-based anti-money laundering frameworks tailored to their specific institutional risk profiles. As such, the Central Bank sustained active engagement with financial institutions as they conducted and updated their institutional risk assessments, ensuring that risk identification, mitigation, and management practices remained proportionate and responsive to evolving threats and vulnerabilities.

The Central Bank's supervisory programme focused on several core areas, including:

- Enhancing supervisory policies and procedures to align with evolving international standards;
- Maintaining effective entry controls for licensing and fit-and-proper assessments;
- Conducting risk-based off-site surveillance;
- Undertaking targeted, risk-based on-site examinations;
- Providing targeted outreach and guidance to support sector-wide compliance; and
- Imposing proportionate, dissuasive, and effective sanctions to address identified deficiencies.

National Initiatives

The Central Bank played an essential role in strengthening national AML/CFT/CPF coordination efforts. The Governor, the Compliance Department's management, and other key Central Bank staff actively participated in numerous committees, working groups, and projects of national significance. These forums, which form essential components of Belize's domestic coordination framework, included:

- NAMLC - *Member*;
- Policy and Legislative Drafting Working Group - *Member*;
- Group of Supervisors - *Member*;
- NAMLC's Annual AML Conference Committee - *Member*;
- Update of Belize's National Risk Assessment, including involvement in the:
    - National Vulnerability Working Group - *Co-Chair*;
    - Banking Sector Vulnerability Working Group - *Chair and Co-Chair*;
    - Securities Sector Vulnerability Working Group - *Member*;
    - Insurance Sector Vulnerability Working Group - *Member*;
    - Other Financial Institutions Sector Vulnerability Working Group - *Chair and Co-Chair*;
    - Designated Non-Financial Businesses and Professions Sector Vulnerability Working Group - *Co-Chair and Member*;
    - Financial Inclusion Product Risk Assessment Working Group - *Chair and Co-Chair*; and
    - Legal Persons and Legal Arrangements Risk Assessment Working Group - *Member*.

To conclude the National Risk Assessment process, the Central Bank, in collaboration with the Financial Intelligence Unit and other competent authorities, delivered a series of sensitisation sessions in October 2025. These sessions ensured that relevant public- and private-sector stakeholders received an up-to-date understanding of Belize's national money-laundering and terrorist-financing risks, as well as sector-specific findings. All Central Bank-regulated sectors were included, ensuring that national and sector-specific risk findings and relevant priority areas were clearly communicated across the financial system.

The Compliance Department also represented the Central Bank, as the AML Supervisory Authority for financial institutions, during Belize's on-site assessment by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development in 2025. The review assessed Belize's implementation of the international standards on transparency and the exchange of information on request for tax purposes.

Looking ahead, the Central Bank remains committed to strengthening the resilience of Belize's financial system by enhancing supervisory effectiveness, supporting national coordination efforts, and ensuring alignment with international AML/CFT/CPF standards and Belize's National AML/CFT/CPF policy and strategy.

Box 3.1 | Basel II/III Framework for Banks

In 2025, the Central Bank completed the Basel II/III Framework, with the introduction of Pillar 3: Disclosure Requirements. This included industry sensitisation sessions and the adoption of standardised disclosure tables and templates to present key information on banks' regulatory capital and risk exposures. The introduction of Pillar 3 represents a major milestone in the Basel II/III implementation, which began in November 2018.

The Central Bank acknowledges the successful collaboration with banks over the past eight years, resulting in the following achievements:

- **Pillar 1: Minimum Capital Requirements** was adopted, applying the standardised approach to measuring credit, market, and operational risks, and became effective on 1 January 2020.

- **Risk Management Principles and Stress Testing Principles** were published between August 2021 and January 2022 and are to be applied by all banks in managing key risks, including credit, operational, liquidity, and interest rate risk in the banking book.

- **Pillar 2: Supervisory Review Process** was implemented, encompassing the Internal Capital Adequacy Assessment Process, through which banks assess capital adequacy relative to their overall risk profile, including risks not fully captured under Pillar 1. The first reports were submitted in March 2023 and were followed by supervisory review dialogues later that year.

- **The Liquidity Coverage Ratio and the Net Stable Funding Ratio Requirements** were introduced and took full effect in June 2025, alongside the adoption of liquidity monitoring tools. These measures promote short-term resilience in a bank's liquidity risk profile and reduce long-term funding risk.

- **Pillar 3: Disclosure Requirements** were introduced to promote market discipline through regulatory disclosures, became effective on 31 August 2025, and have first publications due in 2026.

With the finalisation of Pillar 3, the Central Bank consolidated all guidelines issued under the Basel II/III implementation roadmap into Practice Direction No. 10 and Circular No. 8 of 2025: Consolidated Basel II/III Capital Framework. This comprehensive document was distributed to the banking industry to ensure clarity, coherence, and ease of reference in applying the Basel Standards.

Box 3.1 | Basel II/III Framework for Banks *(continued)*

Additionally, the Central Bank developed and issued a pilot self-assessment Risk Management Survey to evaluate each bank's level of maturity in implementing the previously issued risk management principles. The survey will be submitted annually and is designed to:

- Assess the extent to which the established risk management principles have been adopted across key risk areas;
- Identify potential gaps in governance, policies, processes, and systems; and
- Inform the Central Bank's risk-based supervisory planning and thematic work.

By advancing the Basel Framework, the Central Bank has strengthened the alignment of banks' capital with risk and has reinforced the regulatory foundation for a more transparent, disciplined, and risk-sensitive financial sector in line with international standards. The Central Bank remains committed to continuously enhancing its supervisory framework to safeguard financial stability and support the long-term resilience of the banking sector.

Box 3.2 | Belize's Credit Reporting System

The Credit Reporting System project made significant progress in 2025, with the licensing of CRIF Information Services Belize Limited (CRIF Belize) as Belize's first credit bureau. CRIF Belize is a locally incorporated subsidiary of CRIF S.p.A., headquartered in Italy and operating in over 40 countries.

For Belize, implementing a formal credit reporting system offers immediate benefits for consumers by reducing information asymmetry between borrowers and lenders. The main function of such a system is to collect standardised, accurate, and timely credit histories for individuals and businesses. In the short term, access to these histories will enable fairer, more predictable lending, including quicker approval for formal credit, lower collateral requirements, and clearer lending decisions. Groups such as households and small entrepreneurs, who have previously been excluded from formal banking, can expect greater acceptance. Over time, as

Box 3.2 | Belize's Credit Reporting System *(continued)*

credit histories accumulate, consumers who demonstrate responsible financial behaviour will likely enjoy lower interest rates, longer repayment periods, and a wider array of financial products. Additionally, standardised credit histories will foster greater competition among lenders, encouraging product innovation and more favourable prices for consumers. Overall, this will promote ongoing economic and social improvements, strengthen resilience to economic fluctuations, and encourage greater participation in the formal economy.

Public engagement on the credit reporting system remained a priority, as demonstrated by the Central Bank's joint press briefing with CRIF Belize to announce the system's launch. The credit bureau's data infrastructure went live in January 2026, confirming that the necessary models and systems are ready for data submission by Credit Information Providers.

Credit information providers are currently being onboarded, so comprehensive consumer credit reports are expected to be available later in 2026.

Figure 3.1: Credit Bureau Introduction

Left to Right: Deputy Governor Hollis Parham, CRIF Directors Enrico Caruso and Davide Meo, and Governor Kareem Michael

Figure 3.2: CRIF Consultation Session with Stakeholders

Box 3.3 | Banking Stability Index Developments

The Banking Stability Index, a composite measure based on a weighted average of normalised financial soundness indicators, decreased slightly from 0.64 in 2024 to 0.63 in 2025, indicating a slight weakening in the overall strength of the sector. Although the change was minor, it reflected divergent trends across components, with improvements in asset quality and capitalisation partly offset by emerging liquidity pressures. Importantly, the index remains firmly positive, highlighting the continued resilience of Belize's deposit-taking institutions.

Figure 3.2: Banking Stability Index Component Contributions

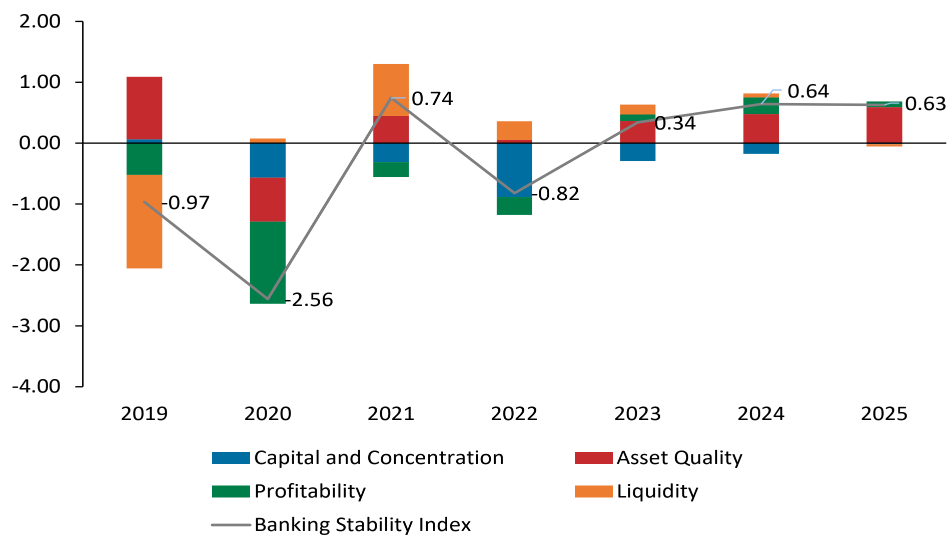


Figure 3.2 illustrates the evolution of the Bank Stability Index and its four sub-indices from 2019 to 2025. The data highlight a broad post-pandemic recovery in banking system fundamentals since 2022, with asset quality emerging as the dominant stabilising force in recent years, while liquidity has become an increasing source of vulnerability.

Asset Quality: Primary Anchor of Stability

Asset quality strengthened further in 2025, with the sub-index rising from 0.48 to 0.59, making it the largest positive contributor to the overall index outcome. This improvement reflects a structural reduction in credit risk, as evidenced by:

- A decline in the aggregate NPL ratio for deposit-taking institutions from 3.1% to 2.3%;
- A reduction in NPLs (net of specific provisions) to total gross loans from 1.4% to 1.0%; and
- Improved loan loss coverage, with the provisions-to-NPLs ratio increasing from 56.8% to 58.5%.

These developments point to more resilient loan portfolios, enhancing financial institutions' capacity to absorb potential credit shocks.

Box 3.3 | Banking Stability Index Developments *(continued)*

Profitability: Moderating but Still Supportive

Profitability continued to support stability, though its contribution weakened relative to 2024 as the sub-index fell from 0.27 to 0.09. The moderation reflects:

- Declines in return on assets from 3.0% to 2.6% and in return on equity from 18.4% to 15.3%, partially offset by a modest improvement in cost efficiency, with the non-interest expense-to-income ratio falling from 60.0% to 59.3%.

Overall, while profitability indicators remain healthy by historical standards, the 2025 outcome points to normalisation following exceptionally strong post-pandemic earnings, rather than systemic weakness.

Capital and Concentration: Strengthening Buffers

The capital and concentration sub-index, although still slightly negative, improved significantly, rising from -0.18 to -0.02, indicating stronger capital buffers and reduced concentration risks across the sector. This improvement was driven by:

- Higher aggregate regulatory capital-to-risk-weighted assets ratios, with the metric rising from 17.7% to 18.8%;
- A strengthening of the Tier 1 capital ratio from 16.0% to 17.0% and the Common Equity Tier 1 ratio from 15.7% to 16.7%; and
- Reduced concentration risks, as the ratio of large exposures relative to regulatory capital declined from 129.4% to 110.3%, and loan concentration by economic activity decreased from 122.8% to 115.8%.

These trends indicate enhanced shock-absorption capacity and improved risk diversification, mitigating concerns associated with historically concentrated credit structures.

Liquidity: Emerging Source of Downside Risk

Liquidity was the sole sub-index exerting a net downward pull on the Bank Stability Index in 2025. The liquidity sub-index declined from 0.07 to -0.04, reflecting tighter system-wide liquidity conditions. Key contributing factors included:

- A fall in the ratio of liquid assets to total assets from 28.6% to 28.4%;
- A decline in the ratio of liquid assets to short-term liabilities from 38.6% to 37.3%; and
- Faster growth in non-interbank lending relative to customer deposits, causing the customer deposits to total non-interbank loans ratio to decline from 133.1% to 129.5%.

Box 3.3 | Banking Stability Index Developments *(continued)*

While liquidity ratios remain above prudential thresholds, the 2025 outcome signals the need for closer monitoring, particularly amid sustained credit expansion.

Overall Assessment

Notwithstanding the slight decline in the headline index, the Banking Stability Index continues to indicate a generally sound and resilient banking system. Strong capital adequacy, improving asset quality, and adequate profitability provide a solid foundation for financial stability.

Looking ahead, liquidity management will likely be a key area of supervisory focus. Therefore, continued prudential oversight and early risk detection will remain central to safeguarding the stability of Belize's financial system.

Photography @belizemytravels
Loggerhead Turtle at Silk Cayes, Placencia, Belize

IV. STATISTICAL APPENDIX

Table A.1: Major Economic Indicators

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024[R]	2025[P]
POPULATION AND EMPLOYMENT								
Population (Thousands)	378.8	386.1	393.0	399.4	397.5	404.2	410.9	415.0
Employed Labour Force (Thousands)	155.9	167.7	134.9	154.7	162.4	164.8	164.3	179.0
Unemployment Rate (%)[(1)]	9.4	9.0	13.8	10.3	5.1	3.3	2.5	2.0
INCOME								
GDP at Current Market Prices ($mn)[(2)]	4,571.8	4,762.4	4,094.6	4,857.2	5,693.2	6,104.7	6,407.3	6,655.8
Current GDP Growth (%)	0.9	4.2	-14.0	18.6	17.2	7.2	5.0	3.9
Per Capita GDP at Current Market Prices ($)	12,070.2	12,333.9	10,418.8	12,162.1	14,323.1	15,103.3	15,592.5	16,037.3
Per Capita GDP Growth (%, Current Market Prices)	-1.1	2.2	-15.5	16.7	17.8	5.4	3.2	2.9
GDP at Constant 2014 Prices ($)	4,348.6	4,533.7	3,920.6	4,625.9	5,053.9	5,079.1	5,257.1	5,401.6
Real GDP Growth (%)	0.8	4.3	-13.5	18.0	9.3	0.5	3.5	2.7
Per Capita GDP at Constant Prices ($)	11,480.9	11,741.7	9,976.2	11,583.0	12,714.6	12,566.0	12,793.6	13,015.4
Per Capita GDP Growth (%, Constant Prices)	-1.2	2.3	-15.0	16.1	9.8	-1.2	1.8	1.7
Sectoral Distribution of Constant 2014 GDP (%)								
Primary Activities	10.4	9.9	10.8	11.3	10.3	9.6	9.5	10.0
Secondary Activities	13.9	13.9	16.2	15.9	14.5	14.2	14.2	14.0
Tertiary Activities	63.0	63.5	61.3	60.6	61.3	62.6	63.2	63.3
MONEY AND PRICES ($mn)								
Inflation (Annual Average Percentage Change)	0.3	0.2	0.1	3.2	6.3	4.4	3.3	1.1
Currency and Demand Deposits (M1)	1,598.5	1,681.8	1,965.5	2,233.1	2,423.5	2,667.7	3,331.7	3,578.7
Quasi-Money (Savings and Time Deposits)	1,418.8	1,510.4	1,568.3	1,735.5	1,731.1	1,778.9	1,532.1	1,574.4
Annual Change of Money Supply (%)	2.7	5.8	10.7	12.3	4.7	7.0	9.4	5.9
Ratio of M2-to-GDP (%)	66.0	67.0	86.3	81.7	73.0	72.8	75.9	77.4
Broad Money Supply (M2)	3,017.3	3,192.3	3,533.8	3,968.5	4,154.6	4,447.6	4,863.8	5,153.1
Excess Statutory Liquidity	240.6	200.7	420.3	698.3	702.9	744.1	746.0	720.2
Excess Cash Liquidity	196.6	193.8	351.9	415.6	499.3	509.3	472.3	474.4
Excess Securities	187.7	162.4	206.0	167.8	114.5	107.1	153.5	202.8
CREDIT ($mn)								
Domestic Banks' Loans and Advances	2,119.9	2,238.0	2,278.1	2,313.0	2,418.8	2,572.2	2,675.0	2,868.6
Public Sector	50.6	58.0	41.3	27.8	26.0	41.8	41.4	35.4
Private Sector	2,069.3	2,180.0	2,236.8	2,285.2	2,392.8	2,530.4	2,633.6	2,833.2
INTEREST RATES (%)								
Weighted Average Lending Rate	9.0	8.8	8.5	8.7	8.7	8.4	8.5	8.5
Weighted Average Deposit Rate	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2	0.9	0.9
Weighted Average Interest Rate Spread	7.7	7.6	7.3	7.4	7.5	7.2	7.5	7.6
CENTRAL GOVERNMENT FINANCES ($mn)								
Current Revenue	1,139.4	1,147.7	944.2	1,082.1	1,287.4	1,348.6	1,593.8	1,650.9
Current Expenditure	1,052.9	1,084.5	1,007.4	932.6	1,052.0	1,148.6	1,255.7	1,271.6
Current Account Surplus(+)/Deficit(-)	86.5	63.2	-63.2	149.5	235.4	200.0	338.1	379.4
Capital Expenditure and Net Lending	168.4	222.2	345.1	265.2	333.1	342.2	424.8	416.5
Overall Surplus(+)/Deficit(-)	-27.6	130.8	-365.9	-82.9	-43.9	-125.0	-48.7	14.1
Ratio of Budget Deficit-to-GDP at Current Prices (%)	-0.6	2.7	-8.9	-1.7	-0.8	-2.0	-0.8	0.2
Domestic Financing (Net)[(3)]	-2.9	54.3	162.2	-66.3	32.0	211.5	-22.6	215.1
External Financing (Net)	23.1	37.2	201.7	74.2	54.9	89.8	38.4	51.9

Table A.1: Major Economic Indicators *(continued)*

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024[R]	2025[P]
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS (US $mn)								
Merchandise Exports (FOB)[(4)]	451.7	425.3	289.0	422.1	517.7	488.1	482.5	442.9
Merchandise Imports (FOB)	896.9	968.5	731.4	956.1	1,223.6	1,265.4	1,362.0	1,383.1
Trade Balance	-445.2	-543.2	-442.4	-534.0	-705.9	-777.4	-879.5	-940.1
Remittances (Inflows)	89.7	94.5	118.3	133.0	140.1	115.9	119.2	121.5
Tourism (Inflows)[(5)]	478.9	526.7	247.1	374.1	600.4	730.6	813.2	827.3
Services (Net)	396.8	442.5	255.2	327.5	501.4	754.0	809.8	862.5
Current Account Balance	-151.7	-184.6	-127.9	-157.9	-235.6	-19.8	-51.8	-92.3
Capital and Financial Flows	134.5	145.7	183.1	290.8	217.1	63.1	81.9	185.2
Change in Gross Official International Reserves	-17.4	-17.6	70.3	75.3	60.2	-8.9	25.0	61.7
Gross Official International Reserves	286.3	268.7	339.0	414.3	474.5	465.6	490.7	552.3
Monthly Import Coverage	3.5	3.1	5.1	4.6	4.0	4.0	3.9	4.4
PUBLIC SECTOR DEBT								
Disbursed Outstanding External Debt (US $mn)	1,283.7	1,320.4	1,452.9	1,338.6	1,367.3	1,429.3	1,458.7	1,492.0
Ratio of External Debt-to-GDP at Current Prices (%)	56.2	55.5	71.0	55.1	48.0	46.8	45.5	44.8
External Debt Service Payments (US $mn)[(6)]	85.8	90.7	81.2	625.7	71.9	107.4	138.8	114.0
External Debt Service Ratio (%)	10.1	10.5	14.9	9.6	7.1	8.6	10.7	8.7
Disbursed Outstanding Domestic Debt ($mn)	1,035.9	1,090.6	1,297.2	1,294.0	1,279.9	1,454.5	1,452.9	1,692.1
Domestic Debt Service Payments ($mn)	77.0	44.8	48.8	51.5	60.4	81.4	71.8	63.3

Sources: MOF, SIB and CBB

(1) The average unemployment rate from 2020 onwards was measured using a revised methodology.

(2) The 2025 figure was estimated by the Central Bank.

(3) A total of $166.7mn in 2023 and $260.0mn in 2025 were deducted, as these amounts represented one-off payments related to the acquisition of shares and assets in Port of Belize Ltd (2023) and Fortis Inc. (2025).

(4) Includes CFZ gross sales.

(5) International tourism receipts are expenditures by international inbound visitors captured under travel inflows in the balance of payments.

(6) Debt service payments for 2021 included the US$552.9mn paid to external bondholders to repurchase and retire the 2034 US Dollar Bond.

P- Provisional

R- Revised

Table A.2: Central Bank Dealings in Foreign Exchange

$mn

Month	US $, Canadian $, and UK £			CARICOM Currencies		
	Purchases	Sales	Net	Purchases	Sales	Net
January	17.2	29.4	-12.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
February	60.9	9.1	51.8	0.0	0.9	-0.9
March	67.1	23.3	43.8	0.0	0.6	-0.6
April	72.5	49.1	23.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
May	69.4	20.7	48.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
June	22.7	33.7	-11.0	0.0	0.3	-0.3
July	21.3	28.1	-6.8	0.0	1.7	-1.7
August	15.7	13.1	2.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
September	29.6	9.6	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
October	259.0	328.1	-69.1	0.0	0.1	-0.1
November	35.1	19.1	16.0	0.0	1.3	-1.3
December	36.3	24.0	12.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total	**706.8**	**587.3**	**119.5**	**0.0**	**4.9**	**-4.9**

Table A.3: External Asset Ratio

Month	Foreign Assets $mn	Domestic Liabilities $mn	External Asset Ratio (%)
January	971.0	1,577.4	61.6
February	1,023.0	1,600.1	63.9
March	1,068.7	1,646.1	64.9
April	1,094.6	1,671.2	65.5
May	1,157.1	1,700.2	68.1
June	1,134.2	1,684.2	67.3
July	1,126.2	1,671.9	67.4
August	1,130.2	1,671.7	67.6
September	1,146.4	1,713.7	66.9
October	1,076.7	1,658.3	64.9
November	1,092.7	1,711.0	63.9
December	1,107.1	1,778.6	62.2

Table A.4: Domestic Banks' Balances with the Central Bank

$mn

Month	Average Deposit Liabilities	Required Cash Reserves	Actual Cash Holdings	Excess/ (Deficit)
January	4,293.8	279.1	721.1	442.0
February	4,353.7	283.0	715.8	432.9
March	4,428.5	287.9	754.8	467.0
April	4,520.0	293.8	764.2	470.4
May	4,548.8	295.7	766.3	470.7
June	4,573.8	297.3	759.1	461.8
July	4,576.0	297.4	738.4	441.0
August	4,572.9	297.2	705.9	408.6
September	4,576.5	297.5	728.4	430.9
October	4,571.2	297.1	704.0	406.8
November	4,551.6	295.9	720.6	424.7
December	4,551.4	295.8	770.2	474.4
Average	**4,509.9**	**293.1**	**737.4**	**444.3**

Table A.5: Currency in Circulation

$mn

Month	Notes	Coins	Total	Domestic Banks' Vault Cash	Currency with the Public
January	679.5	46.6	726.1	88.4	637.7
February	685.6	46.9	732.5	86.8	645.7
March	692.1	47.2	739.3	88.1	651.1
April	699.2	47.6	746.8	95.9	650.9
May	694.5	47.9	742.4	87.1	655.3
June	692.4	48.2	740.6	83.5	657.1
July	761.8	48.4	810.2	151.5	658.7
August	707.2	48.6	755.9	108.4	647.5
September	694.9	48.8	743.7	105.0	638.7
October	685.8	48.9	734.7	95.5	639.2
November	698.3	49.0	747.4	97.7	649.6
December	732.1	49.3	781.3	114.4	667.0

Table A.6: Composition of Treasury Notes

Tenor	Amount	Allocation ($mn) Central Bank	Domestic Banks	Others	Percent Previous Yield	Current Yield 2025
1-Year	316.0	282.4	25.0	8.6	2.00	1.70
1-Year	120.0	25.7	94.3		n.a.	3.00
2-Year	156.8	129.7	27.1	0.0	2.25	1.90
2-Year	80.0	17.1	62.9		n.a.	3.25
3-Year	39.5	12.0	25.5	2.0	2.80	2.80
4-Year	20.0	0.0	20.0	0.0	3.70	3.70
5-Year	220.0	87.5	53.0	79.5	3.50	2.50
5-Year	60.0				n.a.	4.25
7-Year	94.4	72.0	0.0	22.4	4.00	4.00
10-Year	224.9	38.1	3.5	183.3	5.25	5.25
20-Year	20.0	0.0	0.0	20.0	5.75	5.75
Total	**1,351.6**	**664.5**	**311.3**	**315.8**		

* Yield changes in 2025 did not affect the 3-, 4-, 7-, 10- and 20- Year Treasury Notes. These rates remained the same as the previous year.

Table A.7: Central Bank Credit to Central Government

$mn

Month	Treasury Bills	Treasury Notes	Overdraft Facility(1)	A	B
January	171.7	569.2	0.0	9.43	0.0
February	141.7	569.2	0.0	9.04	0.0
March	141.7	569.9	0.0	9.05	0.0
April	141.7	568.3	0.0	9.03	0.0
May	107.7	568.3	0.0	8.60	0.0
June	107.7	567.6	0.0	8.59	0.0
July	107.7	563.7	0.0	8.54	0.0
August	107.7	563.7	0.0	8.54	0.0
September	132.3	561.7	0.0	8.83	0.0
October	59.1	647.9	0.0	8.99	0.0
November	109.1	634.6	0.0	9.46	0.0
December	119.1	675.1	0.0	10.10	0.0

(1) Overdraft facility represents monthly averages rather than end of month positions.
A: The Central Bank's holdings of Government securities as a multiple of its paid-up capital and reserves.
B: There were no Advances to Government for the fiscal year 2025.

Table A.8: Key Indicators for Advanced, Emerging, and Developing Economies

	GDP Growth Rate (%)		Inflation Rate (%)		Unemployment Rate (%)	
Country	**2024[R]**	**2025[P]**	**2024[R]**	**2025[P]**	**2024[R]**	**2025[P]**
Advanced Economies	1.8	1.9	2.6	2.5	4.6	4.7
United States	2.8	2.1	2.9	2.7	4.0	4.3
Euro Area	0.9	1.4	2.4	2.1	6.4	6.3
United Kingdom	1.1	1.4	2.5	3.4	4.3	4.8
Canada	2.0	1.7	2.4	2.1	6.3	6.8
Japan	-0.2	1.2	2.7	3.2	2.5	2.5
Emerging and Developing Economies	4.5	4.4	8.0	5.2	n.a.	n.a.
China	5.0	5.0	0.2	0.0	5.1	5.2
India	7.1	7.6	2.1	4.7	4.9	4.9
Mexico	1.4	0.6	4.7	3.8	2.7	2.6
Russia	4.9	1.0	8.4	8.7	2.5	2.2
Brazil	3.4	2.3	4.7	4.3	6.6	5.6

Sources: IMF, UN, Bureau of Economic Analysis (US), Bureau of Labour Statistics (US), European Union Statistical Office (Eurostat), Office for National Statistics (UK), National Bureau of Statistics of China, Indian Central Statistics Office, Mexican National Institute of Statistics and Geography, and the Brazilian Institute of Geography.

Table A.9: Key Indicators for Central America

	GDP Growth Rate (%)		Inflation Rate (%)		Unemployment Rate (%)		Net International Reserves (US$bn)	
Country	**2024[R]**	**2025[P]**	**2024[R]**	**2025[P]**	**2024[R]**	**2025[P]**	**2024[R]**	**2025[P]**
Guatemala	3.7	3.8	1.7	1.7	2.6	2.6	24.4	32.7
Honduras	3.6	3.8	3.9	4.9	8.0	8.0	8.0	10.2
El Salvador	3.9	5.2	0.3	0.7	4.7	4.8	3.5	4.5
Nicaragua	3.6	4.9	2.9	2.7	3.4	3.4	6.1	8.3
Costa Rica	4.1	4.6	0.8	0.1	6.9	7.5	13.5	16.4
Panama	3.2	4.6	-0.2	-0.7	9.5	8.0	6.9	6.2

Sources: World Bank, ECLAC, and Central Banks of Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica.

Table A.10: Key Indicators for Selected Caribbean Countries

Country	GDP Growth Rate (%)		Inflation Rate (%)		Unemployment Rate (%)		International Reserves (US $mn)		Fiscal Balance (% of GDP)	
	2024R	2025P	2024R	2025P	2024R	2025P	2024R	2025P	2024R	2025P
The Bahamas	1.9	2.2	1.2	0.5	10.0	9.8	2,633.0	2,812.3	-1.3	-0.5
Barbados	4.0	2.7	1.4	0.7	7.1	6.6	3,184.3	3,000.0	1.5	0.0
Belize	3.5	2.7	3.3	1.1	2.5	1.9	482.1	559.3	-2.1	0.8
Eastern Caribbean Currency Union	3.5	3.0	1.9	2.5	n.a.	n.a.	2,202.0	2,118.0	-0.7	-3.3
Guyana	43.8	19.3	2.4	2.5	n.a.	n.a.	1,009.8	1,348.0	-5.0	-5.9
Jamaica	-0.5	0.1	5.0	4.5	3.5	3.3	5,583.7	6,279.3	0.2	-3.5
Suriname	3.0	2.7	16.2	9.6	10.3	9.0	1,632.4	1,615.8	-1.0	-7.5
Trinidad and Tobago	1.6	1.0	1.3	2.2	5.5	4.8	5,604.3	5,369.0	-5.9	-5.5

Sources: IMF, ECLAC, IDB, CDB, ILO, the Central Banks of Belize, Barbados, Guyana, Eastern Caribbean, Jamaica, Suriname, The Bahamas, and Trinidad and Tobago plus the Statistical Institutes of Belize, Jamaica, Barbados, Guyana, and Trinidad and Tobago.

Table A.11: Determinants of Money Supply[1]

$mn

	Position as at			Changes During 2025
	Dec 2023	Dec 2024	Dec 2025	
Net Foreign Assets	1,599.9	1,943.2	1,761.1	-182.1
Central Bank	948.8	1,000.6	1,064.3	63.7
Domestic Banks	651.1	942.6	696.8	-245.8
Net Domestic Credit	3,610.3	3,686.1	4,126.2	440.1
Central Government (Net)	927.7	903.0	1,106.0	203.0
Other Public Sector	118.3	112.8	149.2	36.4
Private Sector	2,564.3	2,670.3	2,870.9	200.7
Central Bank Foreign Liabilities (Long-term)	116.7	113.4	119.1	5.7
Other Items (Net)	647.0	652.0	615.1	-37.0
Broad Money Supply (M2)	4,446.6	4,863.8	5,153.1	289.2

[1] Transactions associated with the Universal Health Services loan with Belize Bank Limited are not included in this table.

Table A.12: Money Supply

$mn

	Position as at			Changes During 2025
	Dec 2023	Dec 2024	Dec 2025	
Broad Money Supply (M2)	4,446.6	4,863.8	5,153.1	289.2
Narrow Money Supply (M1)	2,667.7	3,331.7	3,578.7	247.0
Currency with the Public	587.7	645.6	667.0	21.4
Demand Deposits	2,079.4	2,685.2	2,910.5	225.3
Savings/Chequing Deposits	0.6	1.0	1.3	0.3
Quasi-Money	1,778.9	1,532.1	1,574.4	42.3
Savings Deposits	1,054.5	782.0	916.7	134.6
Time Deposits	724.4	750.1	657.7	-92.4

Table A.13: Net Foreign Assets of the Banking System

$mn

	Position as at			Changes During 2025
	Dec 2023	Dec 2024	Dec 2025	
Net Foreign Assets	1,600.0	1,943.2	1,761.1	-182.1
Central Bank	948.8	1,000.6	1,064.3	63.7
Foreign Assets	951.5	1,001.3	1,124.5	123.2
Foreign Liabilities (Demand)	2.7	0.7	60.2	59.5
Domestic Banks	651.1	942.6	696.8	-245.8
Foreign Assets	710.1	996.2	737.5	-258.7
Foreign Liabilities (Short-term)	59.0	53.6	40.8	-12.9

Table A.14: Net Domestic Credit of the Banking System

$mn

	Position as at			Changes During 2025
	Dec 2023	Dec 2024	Dec 2025	
Total Credit to Central Government	1,128.5	1,123.8	1,371.7	247.9
From Central Bank	782.9	738.9	794.0	55.1
From Domestic Banks	345.6	384.9	577.7	192.8
Less Central Government Deposits	200.8	220.7	265.6	44.9
Net Credit to Central Government	927.7	903.0	1,106.0	203.0
Plus Credit to Other Public Sector	118.3	112.8	149.2	36.4
Plus Credit to the Private Sector	2,564.3	2,670.3	2,870.9	200.7
Net Domestic Credit of the Banking System	3,610.3	3,686.1	4,126.2	440.1

Table A.15: Domestic Banks - Sectoral Composition of Loans and Advances

$mn

	Position as at			Changes During 2025
	Dec 2023	Dec 2024	Dec 2025	
PRIMARY SECTOR	**264.1**	**253.4**	**260.9**	**7.5**
Agriculture	237.9	234.0	242.4	8.4
Sugar	94.2	92.3	87.2	-5.1
Citrus	11.9	7.3	9.4	2.1
Banana	56.7	57.5	58.0	0.5
Grains	12.7	8.8	7.3	-1.5
Poultry and Eggs	13.0	8.2	11.3	3.1
Cattle and Dairy	3.3	4.5	6.3	1.8
Other	46.1	55.4	62.9	7.5
Marine Products	21.0	15.1	14.2	-0.9
Other(1)	5.2	4.3	4.3	0.0
SECONDARY SECTOR	**848.4**	**855.4**	**923.1**	**67.7**
Manufacturing	75.2	89.1	103.6	14.5
Building and Construction	735.5	739.2	794.0	54.8
Residential	460.1	449.7	443.2	-6.5
Commercial	140.5	133.6	142.7	9.1
Infrastructure	38.4	29.5	52.9	23.4
Home Improvement	96.4	126.4	155.3	28.9
Utilities	37.7	27.1	25.5	-1.6
Public Sector	25.0	19.0	19.0	0.0
Private Sector	12.7	8.1	6.5	-1.6
TERTIARY SECTOR	**1,029.4**	**1,095.2**	**1,175.3**	**80.2**
Transport	67.9	75.2	63.9	-11.3
Tourism	298.5	283.1	332.8	49.7
Distribution	202.1	208.4	228.6	20.2
Real Estate	372.5	407.5	435.5	28.0
Residential	178.7	191.5	213.9	22.4
Commercial	111.7	116.7	106.1	-10.6
Land Acquisition	82.1	99.3	115.5	16.2
Professional Services	68.9	96.0	94.7	-1.3
Government Services	15.8	21.5	15.4	-6.1
Other(2)	3.7	3.5	4.4	1.0
PERSONAL LOANS	**430.3**	**471.0**	**509.3**	**38.3**
TOTAL	**2,572.2**	**2,675.0**	**2,868.6**	**193.6**

(1) Includes forestry and mining and exploration.
(2) Includes financial institutions and entertainment.

Table A.16: Domestic Banks - Holdings of Approved Liquid Assets

$mn

	Position as at			Changes During 2025
	Dec 2023	Dec 2024	Dec 2025	
Holdings of Approved Liquid Assets	**1,556.2**	**1,650.4**	**1,676.0**	**25.7**
Notes and Coins	119.6	116.6	132.3	15.7
Balances with Central Bank	765.7	748.1	772.7	24.7
Money at Call and Foreign Balances (due in 90 days)	454.3	512.9	452.9	-60.0
Central Government Securities Maturing within 90 days(1)	125.6	168.4	246.3	78.0
Other Approved Assets	91.0	104.5	71.8	-32.7
Required Liquid Assets	812.1	904.4	955.8	51.4
Excess/(Deficiency) Liquid Assets	**744.1**	**746.0**	**720.2**	**-25.8**
Daily Average Holdings of Cash Reserves	761.2	752.3	770.2	18.0
Required Cash Reserves	251.4	279.9	295.8	15.9
Excess/(Deficiency) Cash Reserves	**509.8**	**472.3**	**474.4**	**2.1**
Actual Securities Balances(2)	107.1	153.5	202.8	49.3
Excess/(Deficiency) Securities	**107.1**	**153.5**	**202.8**	**49.3**

(1) Four-week average of domestic banks' T-bill holdings
(2) Face value of domestic banks' T-bill holdings at month end

Table A.17: Domestic Banks - Weighted Average Interest Rates

Percentage

	Position as at			Changes During 2025
	Dec 2023	Dec 2024	Dec 2025	
Weighted Lending Rates				
Personal Loans	11.45	11.40	11.46	0.06
Commercial Loans	7.89	7.76	7.67	-0.10
Residential Construction	7.06	7.38	6.59	-0.79
Other	7.18	7.51	6.93	-0.57
Weighted Average	8.42	8.45	8.48	0.03
Weighted Deposit Rates				
Demand	0.13	0.15	0.15	0.00
Savings/Chequing	2.62	2.59	2.89	0.30
Savings	2.66	2.69	2.56	-0.13
Time	2.11	2.06	1.93	-0.13
Weighted Average	1.18	0.95	0.88	-0.06
Weighted Average Spread	**7.24**	**7.51**	**7.60**	**0.09**

Table A.18: Domestic Banks - Weighted Average Interest Rates on New Loans and Deposits

Percentage

	12-Month Rolling Averages			Changes During Dec 2024 to Dec 2025
	Jan - Dec 2023	Jan - Dec 2024	Jan - Dec 2025	
Weighted Lending Rates				
Personal Loans	10.00	10.44	10.76	0.32
Commercial Loans	8.14	7.98	8.16	0.18
Residential Construction	9.07	10.28	9.24	-1.04
Other	5.89	5.93	7.21	1.28
Weighted Average	8.68	8.81	8.96	0.15
Weighted Deposit Rates				
Demand	0.00	0.31	0.13	-0.18
Savings/Chequing	1.54	1.47	1.88	0.40
Savings	2.48	2.50	2.42	-0.08
Time	2.17	2.46	2.38	-0.08
Weighted Average	1.80	1.74	1.58	-0.16
Weighted Average Spread	**6.88**	**7.07**	**7.38**	**0.32**

Table A.19: Credit Unions - Sectoral Composition of Loans and Advances

$mn

	Position as at			Changes During 2025
	Dec 2023	Dec 2024	Dec 2025	
PRIMARY SECTOR	**74.2**	**79.5**	**106.1**	**26.6**
Agriculture	66.3	67.0	94.0	27.0
Sugar	5.2	4.9	5.1	0.2
Citrus	1.2	1.1	1.0	-0.1
Banana	2.0	2.8	3.5	0.7
Grains	25.3	24.7	39.1	14.4
Poultry and Eggs	9.2	10.7	19.8	9.1
Cattle and Dairy	6.5	6.9	11.9	5.0
Other	16.9	15.9	13.6	-2.3
Marine Products	7.7	12.3	11.7	-0.6
Forestry	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.2
Mining and Exploration	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
SECONDARY SECTOR	**240.0**	**250.1**	**245.2**	**-4.9**
Manufacturing	35.5	34.3	33.7	-0.6
Building and Construction	196.9	169.3	166.1	-3.2
Residential	109.7	83.8	89.6	5.8
Home Improvement	72.4	73.0	68.0	-5.0
Commercial	11.9	9.9	5.0	-4.9
Infrastructure	2.9	2.6	3.5	0.9
Utilities	7.6	46.5	45.4	-1.1
TERTIARY SECTOR	**132.5**	**135.8**	**127.5**	**-8.3**
Transport	4.8	5.1	3.8	-1.3
Tourism	3.7	1.1	0.9	-0.2
Distribution	20.5	31.6	22.0	-9.6
Real Estate	86.2	79.5	81.2	1.7
Residential	2.5	3.1	2.4	-0.7
Commercial	41.7	25.6	34.6	9.0
Land Acquisition	41.9	50.8	44.3	-6.5
Other[1]	17.3	18.5	19.6	1.1
PERSONAL LOANS	**246.0**	**286.0**	**304.1**	**18.1**
TOTAL	**692.7**	**751.4**	**782.9**	**31.6**

[1] Includes government services, financial institutions, professional services, and entertainment.

Table A.20: Development Finance Corporation - Sectoral Composition of Loans and Advances

$mn

	Position as at			Changes During 2025
	Dec 2023	Dec 2024	Dec 2025	
PRIMARY SECTOR	**43.2**	**49.0**	**54.0**	**5.0**
Agriculture	32.3	34.7	39.6	4.9
Sugar	3.8	4.5	4.8	0.3
Citrus	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.0
Bananas	8.6	12.6	13.0	0.4
Grains	5.1	4.7	4.1	-0.6
Cattle and Dairy	8.8	8.0	11.3	3.3
Other	5.5	4.4	6.2	1.8
Marine Products	10.6	14.1	14.3	0.2
Other(1)	0.3	0.2	0.1	-0.1
SECONDARY SECTOR	**46.4**	**46.4**	**46.4**	**0.0**
Manufacturing	5.7	5.5	4.9	-0.6
Building and Construction	40.7	40.9	41.9	1.0
TERTIARY SECTOR	**43.0**	**41.7**	**51.0**	**9.3**
Transport	1.6	1.5	1.4	-0.1
Tourism	18.3	14.0	17.2	3.2
Professional Services	18.9	20.4	24.7	4.3
Other(2)	4.2	5.8	7.7	1.9
PERSONAL LOANS	**0.5**	**0.7**	**1.2**	**0.5**
STUDENT LOANS	**16.1**	**16.9**	**18.0**	**1.1**
TOTAL	**149.3**	**154.7**	**171.1**	**16.4**

(1) Includes forestry and mining and exploration.
(2) Includes financial institutions, distribution, real estate, and entertainment.

Table A.21: Central Government - Revenue and Expenditure

$'000

	Approved Budget 2025/2026	Actuals			
		Fiscal Year 2024/2025	Jan - Dec 2023	Jan - Dec 2024[R]	Jan - Dec 2025[P]
TOTAL REVENUE AND GRANTS (1+2+3)	**1,740,630**	**1,655,766**	**1,365,824**	**1,631,792**	**1,702,228**
1). Current Revenue	1,657,285	1,630,566	1,348,630	1,593,772	1,650,909
Tax Revenue	1,522,123	1,499,673	1,270,286	1,479,308	1,525,137
Income and Profits	472,540	479,136	358,778	451,954	457,471
Taxes on Property	6,547	6,689	6,044	6,316	8,753
Taxes on Goods and Services	800,461	782,133	704,832	790,326	819,305
Taxes on International Trade and Transactions	242,575	231,715	200,631	230,713	239,609
Non-Tax Revenue	135,162	130,893	78,345	114,464	125,772
Property Income	28,909	25,760	12,248	42,554	20,324
Licenses	49,564	49,643	21,751	29,238	36,405
Other	56,689	55,489	44,346	42,672	69,043
2). Capital Revenue	11,559	11,526	6,267	9,321	4,829
3). Grants	71,786	13,674	10,926	2,047	46,490
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (1+2)	**1,782,304**	**1,692,297**	**1,490,853**	**1,680,509**	**1,688,095**
1). Current Expenditure	1,253,358	1,278,689	1,148,630	1,255,690	1,271,558
Wages and Salaries	584,265	502,994	473,551	500,266	579,724
Pensions	113,756	132,187	103,401	130,521	126,712
Goods and Services	296,114	288,079	245,083	281,198	270,210
Interest Payments on Public Debt	147,983	163,952	136,524	160,891	161,114
Subsidies and Current Transfers	111,240	191,477	190,070	182,813	133,799
2). Capital Expenditure	528,946	413,608	342,224	424,819	416,537
Capital II (Local Sources)	336,734	330,933	258,962	335,287	339,228
Capital III (Foreign Sources)	184,914	81,916	82,483	88,769	76,741
Capital Transfer and Net Lending	7,299	760	779	764	568
CURRENT BALANCE	403,927	351,877	200,000	338,083	379,351
PRIMARY BALANCE	106,309	127,421	11,495	112,175	175,246
OVERALL BALANCE	-41,674	-36,531	-125,030	-48,717	14,132
PRIMARY BALANCE WITHOUT GRANTS	34,523	113,747	568	110,128	128,756
OVERALL BALANCE WITHOUT GRANTS	-113,460	-50,205	-135,956	-50,764	-32,357

Table A.21: Central Government - Revenue and Expenditure *(continued)*

$'000

	Approved Budget 2025/2026	Actuals			
		Fiscal Year 2024/2025	Jan - Dec 2023	Jan - Dec 2024[R]	Jan - Dec 2025[P]
FINANCING	**41,674**	**36,531**	**125,030**	**48,717**	**-14,132**
Nationalisation	0	37,492	-166,740	0	-260,000
Extraordinary Finance				37,492	13,781
Domestic Financing		-68,785	211,464	-22,561	215,103
Central Bank		-28,225	132,267	-15,005	32,864
Net Borrowing		-23,399	105,472	-44,072	55,127
Change in Deposits		-4,826	26,794	29,067	-22,263
Commercial Banks		-50,198	82,372	-9,698	170,133
Net Borrowing		11,161	91,944	39,330	192,771
Change in Deposits		-61,359	-9,572	-49,028	-22,638
Other Domestic Financing		9,639	-3,174	2,143	12,106
Financing Abroad		50,833	104,494	73,787	40,305
Disbursements		156,426	204,481	184,784	134,320
Amortisation		-105,608	-99,986	-110,998	-94,015
Other		16,991	-24,189	-40,001	-23,321

Sources: MOF and Central Bank
[P]- Provisional
[R]- Revised

Table A.22: Central Government - Domestic Debt

$'000

	Disbursed Outstanding Debt 31/12/24[R]	Transactions Through December 2025				Disbursed Outstanding Debt 31/12/25[P]
		Disbursement/ New Issue of Securities	Amortisation/ Reduction in Securities	Interest	Net Change in Overdraft/ Securities	
Overdraft/Loans[(1)]	0	0	0	0	0	0
Treasury Bills	335,000	0	0	2,124	0	335,000
Central Bank	169,189	0	0	866	-50,290	118,898
Domestic Banks	153,415	0	0	1,132	49,140	202,555
Other	12,396	0	0	126	1,150	13,547
Treasury Notes	1,092,547	260,000	2,601	41,145	-1,300	1,348,646
Central Bank	569,968	86,200	0	15,149	-19,215	675,383
Domestic Banks	231,549	173,800	2,000	8,889	-28,321	375,028
Other	291,030	0	601	17,108	7,806	298,235
Belize Bank Limited[(2)]	15,801	0	15,801	475	0	0
Supplier's Credit[(3)]	8,959	0	847	112	0	8,113
Debt-for-Nature Swap	572	0	184	14	0	388
Total	**1,452,879**	**260,000**	**19,432**	**43,871**	**-1,300**	**1,692,147**

(1) The Central Bank may make direct advances to the Government by way of an overdraft facility. The total outstanding amount of such direct advances shall not exceed 12.0% of the current revenues of the Government collected during the preceding financial year.

(2) Following the Caribbean Court of Justice award in November 2017 against the Government of Belize in favour of the Belize Bank Ltd. relating to a loan guarantee, the Belize Bank Ltd. began offsetting its business tax liabilities against the Universal Health Services (UHS) debt in the first quarter of 2018. At the end of September 2025, the final payment was settled. In total, the Belize Bank Ltd. paid $118.8mn in taxes against the debt, comprising $91.0mn in principal payments and $28.1mn in interest payments.

(3) This line item represents a contractor-financed loan for upgrading of the road from Bullet Tree Village to Spanish Lookout Community.

Table A.23: Public Sector External Debt by Creditor

$mn

	Outstanding Debt 31/12/2024[R]	Disbursements	Amortisation	Interest and Other Charges	Valuation Adjustments	Outstanding Debt 31/12/2025[P]
Bilateral	980.3	54.6	7.5	31.2	0.0	1,027.4
Multilateral	1,197.6	116.5	90.9	50.7	5.5	1,228.7
Commercial	739.5	0.0	11.5	38.0	0.0	728.0
Total	**2,917.4**	**171.1**	**110.0**	**119.8**	**5.5**	**2,984.1**

Table A.24: Public Sector - External Debt

$'000

	Disbursed Outstanding Debt 31/12/24[R]	Transactions Through December 2025				Disbursed Outstanding Debt 31/12/25[P]
		Disbursements	Principal Payments	Interest and Other Payments	Parity Change	
CENTRAL GOVERNMENT	**2,645,467**	**137,320**	**95,715**	**111,674**	**-153**	**2,686,919**
Government of Venezuela[(1)]	429,692	0	0	0	0	429,692
Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development	47,152	13,792	2,509	1,292	2	58,438
Mega International Commercial Bank Company Limited	44,286	0	0	3,255	0	44,286
Republic of China (Taiwan)	429,251	38,400	1,121	25,299	0	466,529
Saudi Fund for Development	0	936	0	0	0	936
Caribbean Development Bank	353,504	7,805	29,979	13,174	0	331,330
CARICOM Development Fund	5,109	0	617	146	0	4,492
European Economic Community	3,207	0	431	20	-180	2,596
Inter-American Development Bank	291,988	26,581	20,438	17,010	0	298,132
International Fund for Agriculture Development	5,438	2,803	1,377	295	25	6,890
International Bank for Reconstruction and Development	81,104	23,211	4,618	4,583	0	99,697
OPEC Fund for International Development	187,186	9,165	17,664	6,677	0	178,686
Central American Bank for Economic Integration	26,317	11,627	3,729	1,925	0	34,215
Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre	1,700	3,000	1,700	47	0	3,000
Belize Blue Investment Company LLC	728,000	0	0	37,492	0	728,000
NON-FINANCIAL PUBLIC SECTOR	**57,807**	**20,889**	**9,792**	**3,282**	**0**	**68,903**
Caribbean Development Bank	35,018	9,289	5,903	1,763	0	38,403
Inter-American Development Bank	1,400	11,600	0	379	0	13,000
International Cooperation and Development Fund	21,389	0	3,889	1,139	0	17,500
FINANCIAL PUBLIC SECTOR	**214,134**	**12,900**	**4,452**	**4,854**	**5,685**	**228,267**
Caribbean Development Bank	63,613	9,000	3,785	3,048	0	68,828
European Investment Bank	1,001	0	667	21	0	334
Inter-American Development Bank	27,560	2,440	0	1,607	0	30,000
International Cooperation and Development Fund	8,540	1,460	0	178	0	10,000
International Monetary Fund[(2)]	113,421	0	0	0	5,685	119,106
GRAND TOTAL	**2,917,408**	**171,108**	**109,959**	**119,810**	**5,532**	**2,984,090**

P - Provisional

R - Revised

(1) Since September 2017, debt service payments for oil imports have been suspended due to US sanctions on Petroleos de Venezuela, S.A. Unpaid debt service payments up to the end of December 2025 amounted to principal of $150.5mn and interest of $29.3mn.

(2) International Monetary Fund Special Drawing Rights allocation is included as part of financial public sector external debt obligation.

Table A.25: GDP by Activity at Current and Constant 2014 Prices

$mn

	2023	2024	2025
GDP at Current Market Prices[1]	**6,104.7**	**6,407.3**	**6,655.8**
GDP at Constant 2014 Prices	**5,079.1**	**5,257.1**	**5,401.6**
Primary Sector	**486.6**	**500.0**	**538.9**
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing	430.5	445.9	486.5
Mining	56.0	54.1	52.5
Secondary Sector	**720.9**	**745.0**	**754.0**
Manufacturing	362.7	366.7	355.8
Electricity	69.3	70.2	65.1
Water Supply	37.2	40.4	41.2
Construction	251.8	267.8	291.9
Tertiary Sector	**3,178.4**	**3,323.9**	**3,421.3**
Wholesale and Retail Trade	726.4	738.5	736.7
Transportation	196.8	223.6	222.2
Accommodation and Food Service Activities	272.4	334.4	343.5
Information and Communication	181.7	189.2	195.8
Financial and Insurance Activities	427.2	438.0	499.4
Real Estate Activities	247.3	250.4	253.6
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Activities	43.0	37.8	36.4
Administrative and Support Service Activities	236.1	247.6	252.5
Public Administration and Defence	361.5	368.3	378.2
Education	229.2	234.7	232.6
Human Health and Social Work Activities	80.2	75.0	78.5
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	69.1	101.3	115.5
Other Service Activities	76.4	53.9	44.6
Activities of Households as Employers	31.0	31.4	31.8
Taxes and Subsidies	**693.3**	**688.2**	**687.4**
Gross Value Added	4,385.9	4,569.0	4,714.2

Source: SIB
[1] 2025 figure was estimated by the Central Bank

Table A.26: Annual Percentage Change in GDP by Activity at Current and Constant 2014 Prices

Percentage

	2023	2024	2025
GDP at Current Market Prices[(1)]	**7.2**	**5.0**	**3.9**
GDP at Constant 2014 Prices	**0.5**	**3.5**	**2.7**
Primary Sector	**-6.7**	**2.8**	**7.8**
Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing	-6.3	3.6	9.1
Mining	-9.9	-3.4	-3.1
Secondary Sector	**-1.7**	**3.3**	**1.2**
Manufacturing	-1.5	1.1	-3.0
Electricity	-15.2	1.2	-7.2
Water Supply	4.8	8.6	2.1
Construction	1.4	6.4	9.0
Tertiary Sector	**2.6**	**4.6**	**2.9**
Wholesale and Retail Trade	-0.8	1.7	-0.2
Transportation	-4.3	13.6	-0.6
Accommodation and Food Service Activities	23.5	22.8	2.7
Information and Communication	-0.5	4.1	3.5
Financial and Insurance Activities	2.4	2.5	14.0
Real Estate Activities	1.7	1.2	1.3
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Activities	-1.7	-12.0	-3.7
Administrative and Support Service Activities	11.0	4.9	2.0
Public Administration and Defence	1.6	1.9	2.7
Education	-0.4	2.4	-0.9
Human Health and Social Work Activities	5.3	-6.5	4.8
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	-4.2	46.6	14.0
Other Service Activities	1.7	-29.4	-17.2
Activities of Households as Employers	1.5	1.3	1.3
Taxes and Subsidies	**-1.1**	**-0.7**	**-0.1**
Gross Value Added	0.8	4.2	3.2

Source: SIB
[(1)] 2025 figure was estimated by the Central Bank

Table A.27: Sugar Cane Deliveries

	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025
Deliveries (long tons)	1,485,129	1,659,297	1,511,713

Sources: BSI/ASR and Santander Group

Table A.28: Citrus Fruit Deliveries

	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025
Deliveries ('000 boxes)	**341**	**359**	**394**
Oranges	279	319	350
Grapefruits	62	39	43

Sources: Citrus Products of Belize Limited and Citrus Growers' Association

Table A.29: Banana Acreage and Production

	2023	2024	2025
Production (40-pound Boxes)	**3,629,052**	**4,602,447**	**4,998,184**
Total Acreage Under Production	**7,438.0**	**7,166.8**	**7,283.4**
Harvestable Acreage	6,941.8	6,824.5	6,897.2
Acreage under Plantilla	224.2	137.3	342.2
Area ready to Plant	160.0	100.0	44.0
Area under Rehabilitation	112.0	105.0	0.0

Source: Banana Growers' Association

Table A.30: Production of Sugar and Molasses

	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025
Sugar Processed (long tons)	**144,090**	**153,433**	**130,424**
Molasses Processed (long tons)	**53,922**	**63,458**	**60,550**
Performance			
Cane-to-Sugar Ratio	10.3	10.8	11.6

Sources: BSI/ASR and Santander Group

Table A.31: Production of Citrus Juices, Pulp, and Oil

	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025
Production ('000 ps)	**1,695**	**1,815**	**1,924**
Orange Concentrate	1,381	1,654	1,652
Grapefruit Concentrate	240	111	125
Not-from-Concentrate	74	49	146
Production ('000 pounds)			
Pulp	81	10	0
Citrus Oil	103	145	103

Source: Citrus Products of Belize Limited

Table A.32: Tourist Arrivals

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Stay-over Arrivals	**212,568**	**345,728**	**429,541**	**513,065**	**504,907**
Air	197,261	293,412	347,674	424,942	418,870
Land	12,644	43,769	67,611	72,774	67,381
Sea	2,663	8,547	14,256	15,350	18,656
Cruise-Ship Disembarkations	**189,194**	**551,280**	**813,579**	**804,965**	**870,495**

Sources: BTB and Central Bank

Table A.33: Annual Percentage Change in Consumer Price Index Components by Major Commodity Group

Major Commodity	Weights	Average Annual Index			Annual Change
		2023	2024	2025	
Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	258	125.7	132.7	134.9	1.6
Alcoholic Beverages, Tobacco, and Narcotics	35	104.2	108.0	110.3	2.1
Clothing and Footwear	44	100.8	103.6	104.8	1.2
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas, and Other Fuels	195	104.0	106.5	108.8	2.1
Furnishing, Household Equipment, and Routine Household Maintenance	51	109.2	113.5	114.8	1.2
Health	26	108.0	111.3	113.3	1.9
Transport	153	130.3	130.2	128.3	-1.5
Information and Communication	46	96.9	95.2	93.7	-1.5
Recreation, Sport, and Culture	43	112.5	116.0	116.4	0.3
Education Services	25	100.3	100.7	100.6	-0.1
Restaurants and Accommodation Services	65	121.9	130.9	133.7	2.2
Insurance and Financial Services	8	103.6	105.2	104.9	-0.3
Personal Care, Social Protection, and Miscellaneous Goods and Services	51	105.0	109.6	112.4	2.5
All Items	**1,000**	**115.1**	**118.9**	**120.1**	**1.1**

Source: SIB

Table A.34: Labour Force Statistics

Indicators	Apr 2024	Sept 2024	Apr 2025	Sept 2025
Working Age Population	**298,464**	**298,379**	**308,977**	**312,772**
Employed Population	165,808	162,759	179,505	178,442
Unemployed Population	5,046	3,447	3,864	3,421
Persons Not in the Labour Force	126,946	129,007	125,608	130,167
Labour Force	**170,854**	**166,206**	**183,368**	**181,863**
Labour Force Participation Rate (%)	**57.4**	**56.3**	**59.1**	**58.1**
Male Participation Rate	71.0	69.7	72.3	69.9
Female Participation Rate	44.8	43.6	46.9	47.2
Underemployment Rate (%)	**2.5**	**2.2**	**1.8**	**1.4**
Unemployment Rate (%)	**3.1**	**2.1**	**2.1**	**1.9**
Male Unemployment Rate	2.5	1.4	1.3	1.1
Female Unemployment Rate	3.9	3.1	3.3	3.0

Source: SIB

Table A.35: Balance of Payments Summary

$mn

	2023	2024	2025
CURRENT ACCOUNT	**-39.5**	**-103.5**	**-184.5**
Goods: Exports FOB	976.1	965.0	885.8
Goods: Imports FOB	2,530.8	2,724.0	2,766.1
Trade Balance	-1,554.7	-1,759.0	-1,880.3
Services: Credit	2,123.8	2,344.6	2,428.2
Transportation	74.2	104.4	119.2
Travel	1,461.2	1,626.3	1,654.7
Other Goods and Services	461.7	517.6	551.8
Government Goods and Services	126.8	96.3	102.6
Services: Debit	615.8	724.9	703.2
Transportation	220.6	260.3	224.4
Travel	142.2	167.0	176.3
Other Goods and Services	203.2	237.8	247.8
Government Goods and Services	49.7	59.8	54.7
Balance on Goods and Services	-46.6	-139.4	-155.3
Primary Income: Credit	41.6	42.7	46.8
Compensation of Employees	4.7	4.7	4.7
Investment Income	36.9	37.9	42.0
Primary Income: Debit	264.0	302.5	375.9
Compensation of Employees	8.6	16.0	10.9
Investment Income	255.4	286.5	365.0
Balance on Goods, Services, and Income	-269.0	-399.3	-484.4
Secondary Income: Credit	361.6	390.6	398.2
Government	0.1	0.1	0.0
Private	361.4	390.5	398.2
Secondary Income: Debit	132.0	94.8	98.3
Government	25.8	13.4	14.4
Private	106.2	81.4	84.0
CAPITAL ACCOUNT, n.i.e.	**51.9**	**12.7**	**21.3**
Capital Account: Credit	51.9	12.7	21.3
Capital Account: Debit	0.0	0.0	0.0

Table A.35: Balance of Payments Summary (*continued*)

$mn

	2023	2024	2025
FINANCIAL ACCOUNT, n.i.e.	**-74.3**	**-151.1**	**-349.1**
Direct Investment Abroad	4.5	5.2	2.8
Direct Investment in Belize, n.i.e.	33.8	257.0	0.5
Portfolio Investment Assets	-29.3	-251.7	2.3
Portfolio Investment Liabilities, n.i.e.	0.0	0.0	0.0
Financial Derivatives Assets	0.0	0.0	0.0
Financial Derivatives Liabilities	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other Investment Assets	184.6	245.4	-277.0
Monetary Authorities	0.0	0.0	0.0
General Government	53.4	-37.5	-15.9
Banks	133.3	286.1	-258.7
Other Sectors	-2.0	-3.2	-2.4
Other Investment Liabilities	229.7	144.8	74.4
Monetary Authorities	0.0	-2.0	59.5
General Government	132.1	93.6	56.3
Banks	142.2	-5.4	-12.9
Other Sectors	-44.6	58.6	-28.5
NET ERRORS AND OMISSIONS	-104.5	-10.3	-62.4
RESERVE ASSETS	**-17.8**	**50.1**	**123.3**

Table A.36: Balance of Payments - Merchandise Trade

$mn

	2023	2024	2025	Percent Change
Goods Exports FOB	**976.1**	**965.0**	**885.8**	**-8.2**
of which: Domestic Exports	467.9	491.5	445.8	-9.3
Re-exports	508.3	473.5	440.0	-7.1
CFZ Sales	437.9	397.8	369.6	-7.1
Other Re-exports	70.4	75.7	70.4	-7.0
Goods Imports FOB	**2,530.8**	**2,724.0**	**2,766.1**	**1.5**
of which: Domestic Imports	2,191.9	2,400.0	2,432.7	1.4
CFZ[1]	339.0	324.0	333.4	2.9
Merchandise Trade Balance	**-1,554.7**	**-1,759.0**	**-1,880.3**	**6.9**

[1] CFZ excludes fuel and goods obtained from the free circulation area.

Table A.37: Gross Imports (CIF) by Standard International Trade Classification (SITC)

$mn

	2023	2024	2025
Food and Live Animals	301.8	329.0	344.3
Beverages and Tobacco	51.6	56.3	57.2
Crude Materials	48.9	50.8	58.0
Mineral Fuels and Lubricants	477.8	503.2	493.8
Of which: Electricity	82.5	86.4	93.1
Oils and Fats	32.5	37.1	33.4
Chemicals Products	266.5	271.7	280.0
Manufactured Goods	372.1	391.5	416.7
Machinery and Transport Equipment	590.1	729.1	703.3
Other Manufactures	210.4	233.5	221.4
Commodities - n.i.e.	0.0	0.0	0.0
Designated Processing Areas	39.0	33.6	30.1
Personal Goods	3.4	3.7	4.0
Total	2,394.1	2,639.6	2,642.3
CFZ Direct Imports	369.6	356.0	361.6
Grand Total	**2,763.7**	**2,995.5**	**3,003.8**

Sources: SIB and Belize Electricity Limited
n.i.e. - not included elsewhere

Table A.38: Domestic Exports

$mn

	2023	2024	2025	Percent Change
Traditional Exports	299.0	332.8	292.7	-12.1
Sugar[1]	166.5	163.2	120.3	-26.3
Citrus Juices[1]	14.5	25.4	24.3	-4.5
Citrus Concentrate	14.5	25.4	24.1	-4.8
Not-from-Concentrate	0.1	0.1	0.1	79.2
Molasses[1]	15.4	25.1	9.6	-61.9
Banana[1]	63.1	81.9	92.1	12.5
Marine	39.4	37.1	46.4	24.9
Non-traditional Exports	168.9	158.7	153.2	-3.5
Total Exports	**467.9**	**491.5**	**445.8**	**-9.3**

Sources: SIB, BSI/ASR, Banana Growers' Association, Santander Group, Geology and Petroleum Department, and Citrus Products of Belize Limited
[1] Reported exports by industry stakeholders.

Table A.39: Exports of Sugar and Molasses[(1)]

	2023		2024		2025	
	Volume (long tons)	Value ($'000)	Volume (long tons)	Value ($'000)	Volume (long tons)	Value ($'000)
Sugar	**132,185**	**166,503**	**120,633**	**163,206**	**109,141**	**120,312**
Europe	99,665	116,245	88,802	109,763	84,979	85,587
US	16,552	20,994	16,778	26,049	11,131	14,517
CARICOM	15,969	29,264	14,975	27,214	13,031	20,208
Other	0	0	78	180	78	180
Molasses	**37,576**	**15,366**	**55,812**	**25,138**	**46,974**	**9,571**

Sources: BSI/ASR and Santander Group

(1) Reported exports by industry stakeholders.

Table A.40: Exports of Citrus Juices and Pulp[(1)]

	2023	2024	2025	Percent Change
Concentrate Exports ('000 ps)	3,037	2,939	2,937	-0.1
Orange	2,684	2,646	2,668	0.8
Grapefruit	354	293	269	-8.2
Concentrate Value ($mn)	14.5	25.4	24.1	-5.1
Orange	11.9	23.1	22.1	-4.3
Grapefruit	2.6	2.2	2.0	-9.1
Not-from-Concentrate Exports ('000 ps)	14.0	10.0	16.0	60.0
Orange	11.0	0.0	5.0	0.0
Grapefruit	3.0	10.0	11.0	10.0
Not-from-Concentrate Value ($mn)	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
Orange	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0
Grapefruit	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0
Total Citrus Juice Exports ('000 ps)	**3,051**	**2,949**	**2,953**	**0.1**
Total Citrus Juice Receipts ($mn)	**14.5**	**25.4**	**24.3**	**-4.3**
Pulp Export ('000 pounds)	145	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pulp Value ($mn)	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0

Source: Citrus Products of Belize Limited

(1) Reflects actual sales as reported by the processor and not the value of export shipments as reported by SIB. Export shipments go into inventory for sale at a later point in time.

Table A.41: Exports of Banana

	2023	2024	2025
Volume (metric tons)	65,841	83,502	90,681
Value ($mn)	63.1	81.9	92.1

Source: Banana Growers' Association

Table A.42: Exports of Marine Products

	2023		2024		2025	
	Volume ('000 lbs)	Value ($'000)	Volume ('000 lbs)	Value ($'000)	Volume ('000 lbs)	Value ($'000)
Lobster	758	23,357.1	695	21,737.4	975	29,431.2
Farmed Shrimp	544	2,887.8	456	2,002.8	452	2,104.7
Conch	905	13,118.2	952	13,365.2	1,000	14,462.5
Whole/Fillet Fish	2	62.0	1	29.1	60	382.8
Other	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Total	**2,209**	**39,425.1**	**2,103**	**37,134.4**	**2,487**	**46,381.3**

Source: SIB

Table A.43: Other Domestic Exports

	Jan - Dec 2024	Jan - Dec 2025
Other Domestic Exports ($'000)	158,671	153,152
Of which:		
Crude Soybean Oil	8,389	11,436
Animal Feed	14,937	11,020
Red Kidney Beans	4,279	8,265
Pepper Sauce	8,170	7,000
Cacao Beans	1,845	3,114
Rum	9,707	2,333
Prefabricated Houses	3,932	2,234

Source: SIB

Table A.44: Percentage Distribution of Visible Trade by Country/Area

Percentage

	Exports			Imports		
	2023	2024	2025	2023	2024	2025
US	9.4	12.2	9.1	38.6	40.3	38.4
Mexico[(1)]	54.2	47.8	50.9	18.7	17.7	18.0
UK	10.4	20.0	16.3	0.7	0.9	0.9
EU	10.7	5.1	7.3	3.2	3.2	3.1
Central America	5.3	2.4	2.7	10.3	11.1	10.8
CARICOM	9.9	11.2	11.9	2.2	2.2	2.3
Canada	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	0.8	0.7
China	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.8	15.3	16.1
Other	0.0	1.3	1.8	9.6	8.6	9.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Sources: SIB and Central Bank

(1) Includes exports and imports by the CFZ.

Table A.45: Extended Balance of Payments Services Classification

$mn

		2023	2024	2025
Total Services	**Net**	**1,508.1**	**1,619.6**	**1,725.0**
	Credits	2,123.8	2,344.6	2,428.2
	Debits	615.8	724.9	703.2
Manufacturing Services	Net	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Credits	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Debits	0.0	0.0	0.0
Maintenance and Repair Services	Net	0.2	0.0	0.1
	Credits	0.2	0.0	0.1
	Debits	0.0	0.0	0.0
Transportation	Net	-146.5	-156.0	-105.2
	Credits	74.2	104.4	119.2
	Debits	220.6	260.3	224.4
Travel	Net	1,318.9	1,459.3	1,478.4
	Credits	1,461.2	1,626.3	1,654.7
	Debits	142.2	167.0	176.3
Telecommunications, Computer, and Information Services	Net	189.2	205.0	221.4
	Credits	210.2	231.7	246.6
	Debits	21.0	26.7	25.2
Construction Services	Net	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Credits	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Debits	0.0	0.0	0.0
Insurance and Pension Services	Net	-50.7	-76.4	-74.5
	Credits	1.0	1.0	1.0
	Debits	51.7	77.4	75.5
Financial Services	Net	14.1	24.7	19.8
	Credits	24.1	37.5	42.5
	Debits	10.0	12.8	22.7
Charges for the use of Intellectual Property, n.i.e.	Net	-24.5	-32.7	-38.3
	Credits	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Debits	24.5	32.7	38.3
Other Business Services	Net	124.9	155.3	168.2
	Credits	218.6	241.3	252.0
	Debits	93.7	86.0	83.9
Personal, Cultural, and Recreational Services	Net	5.3	3.8	7.4
	Credits	7.7	6.0	9.6
	Debits	2.4	2.2	2.2
Government Services, n.i.e.	Net	77.1	36.5	47.8
	Credits	126.8	96.3	102.6
	Debits	49.7	59.8	54.7

Table A.46: Balance of Payments - Service and Income Balances

$mn

	2023			2024			2025		
	Credit	Debit	Net	Credit	Debit	Net	Credit	Debit	Net
Services	**2,123.9**	**615.8**	**1,508.1**	**2,344.6**	**724.9**	**1,619.6**	**2,428.2**	**703.2**	**1,725.0**
Transportation	74.2	220.6	-146.5	104.4	260.3	-156.0	119.2	224.4	-105.2
Travel	1461.2	142.2	1,318.9	1,626.3	167.0	1,459.3	1,654.7	176.3	1,478.4
Other Goods and Services	461.7	203.2	258.5	517.6	237.8	279.7	551.8	247.8	304.0
Government Goods and Services, n.i.e.	126.8	49.7	77.1	96.3	59.8	36.5	102.6	54.7	47.8
Primary Income	**41.6**	**264.0**	**-222.4**	**42.7**	**302.5**	**-259.9**	**46.8**	**375.9**	**-329.1**
Labour Income	4.7	8.6	-3.8	4.7	16.0	-11.3	4.7	10.9	-6.2
Investment Income	36.9	255.4	-218.5	37.9	286.5	-248.6	42.0	365.0	-322.9
Secondary Income	**361.6**	**132.0**	**229.5**	**390.6**	**94.8**	**295.8**	**398.2**	**98.3**	**299.8**
Government	0.1	25.8	-25.7	0.1	13.4	-13.4	0.0	14.4	-14.4
Private	361.4	106.2	255.2	390.5	81.4	309.1	398.2	84.0	314.2

Table A.47: Official International Reserves

$mn

	Position as at			Changes During 2025
	Dec 2023	Dec 2024	Dec 2025	
Gross Official International Reserves	**931.2**	**981.3**	**1,104.7**	**123.3**
Foreign Currency Reserves	813.7	867.3	985.6	118.4
Securities	570.3	616.9	702.2	85.3
Deposits	243.4	250.4	283.4	33.1
IMF Reserve Tranche	17.4	16.8	17.0	0.2
SDRs	100.2	97.3	102.1	4.8
Other Foreign Currency Assets	**18.9**	**18.8**	**18.8**	**0.0**
Foreign Liabilities (Demand)	**2.7**	**0.7**	**60.2**	**59.5**
Deposits	2.5	0.6	0.2	-0.4
CARICOM Bilateral Clearings	0.2	0.1	0.0	-0.1
Other	0.0	0.0	60.0	60.0
Net Official International Reserves	**928.5**	**980.6**	**1,044.5**	**63.9**

Table A.48: Long-Term Private Sector External Debt by Economic Sector[1]

$'000

Economic Sectors	Disbursed Outstanding Debt 31/12/2024	Transactions Through December 2025			Disbursed Outstanding Debt 31/12/2025
		Disbursements	Principal Payments	Interest Payments	
Agriculture	37,454	1,613	383	0	38,684
Construction	1,051	0	0	0	1,051
Electricity and Gas	19,076	2,800	1,283	2,350	20,593
Financial and Insurance	111	0	0	0	111
Fishing	9,355	0	0	0	9,355
Real Estate	393	0	44	24	349
Tourism	91,974	1,594	9,538	398	84,031
Transportation	27,607	25,165	4,997	2,187	47,775
Wholesale and Retail Trade	1,662	0	384	106	1,278
Other	1,500	0	1,500	0	0
Total	**190,184**	**31,173**	**18,129**	**5,066**	**203,227**

[1] Data on contracted external private sector loans reported by residents to the Central Bank.

Table A.49: International Investment Position

$mn

	Position as at Dec 2024	Financial Account Transactions Jan - Dec 2025	Position as at Dec 2025
Net Position	**-6,299.2**	**-225.7**	**-6,523.8**
A. Assets	**2,236.3**	**-150.9**	**2,085.4**
1. Direct Investment Abroad	161.5	2.8	164.3
2. Portfolio Investment	183.2	0.0	183.2
2.1 Equity Securities	58.6	0.0	58.6
2.2 Debt Securities	124.5	0.0	124.5
3. Other Investment	891.5	-277.0	614.5
3.1 Trade Credits	-2.9	-0.7	-3.6
3.2 Loans	0.0	0.0	0.0
3.3 Currency and Deposits	894.4	-276.3	618.1
3.4 Other Assets	0.0	0.0	0.0
4. Reserve Assets	1,000.1	123.3	1,123.4
4.1 Monetary Gold	0.0	0.0	0.0
4.2 Special Drawing Rights	97.3	4.8	102.1
4.3 Reserve Position in the Fund	16.8	0.2	17.0
4.4 Foreign Exchange	867.3	118.4	985.6
4.5 Other Claims	18.8	0.0	18.8
B. Liabilities	**8,534.3**	**74.9**	**8,609.2**
1. Direct Investment	5,532.9	0.5	5,533.4
2. Portfolio Investment	0.0	0.0	0.0
2.1 Equity Securities	0.0	0.0	0.0
2.2 Debt Securities	0.0	0.0	0.0
3. Other Investment	3,001.4	74.4	3,075.8
3.1 Trade Credits	98.8	24.2	123.1
3.2 Loans	2,863.9	4.1	2,867.9
3.3 Currency and Deposits	38.6	46.1	84.8
3.4 Other Liabilities	0.0	0.0	0.0

Table A.50: List of Licensed Banks

Domestic Banks	International Banks
Atlantic Bank Limited	Belize Bank International Limited
Belize Bank Limited	Caye International Bank Limited
Heritage Bank Limited	Heritage International Bank and Trust Limited
National Bank of Belize Limited	

Table A.51: List of Credit Unions

Blue Creek Credit Union Limited	St. John's Credit Union Limited
Holy Redeemer Credit Union Limited	St. Martin's Credit Union Limited
La Inmaculada Credit Union Limited	Spanish Lookout Credit Union Limited
St. Francis Xavier Credit Union Limited	Toledo Teachers Credit Union Limited

Table A.52: Capital for All Credit Unions

Capital Adequacy	Dec 2023	Dec 2024	Dec 2025
Total Capital/Deposits (%)	20.7	20.2	20.6
Total Capital/Total Assets (%)	17.0	16.7	16.8
Net Institutional Capital/Total Assets (%)	12.1	13.3	12.5
Total Capital ($mn)	**225.5**	**235.3**	**254.4**

V. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

CENTRAL BANK OF BELIZE

Financial Statements

For the years ended 31 December 2025 and 2024
and Independent Auditor's Report

CENTRAL BANK OF BELIZE

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CENTRAL BANK OF BELIZE

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of **Central Bank of Belize (the Bank)**, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2025, the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of changes in capital and reserves, the statement of cash flows for the year then ended and explanatory notes to the financial statements, comprising a summary of material accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Bank as at 31 December 2025, its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Bank in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code) together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Belize, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the IESBA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to form a basis for our opinion.

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Emphasis of Matter

We draw attention to the statement of comprehensive income and Note 25 to the financial statements, which show the effects of Section 50 of the Central Bank of Belize Act Revised Edition 2020, which requires the profits or losses from any revaluation of the Bank's net assets or foreign securities as a result of any change in the par value of the Belize dollar, or of any change in the par value of the currency unit of any other country shall be excluded from the computation of the annual profits and losses of the Bank. International Financial Reporting Standards require any foreign exchange gains and losses on monetary assets and liabilities to be recognised in profit or loss contrary to Section 50 of the Central Bank of Belize Act. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Other information

Other information consists of the information included in the Annual Report 2025, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Management is responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we will not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information identified above when it becomes available and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with IFRSs, and for such internal control as Management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, Management is responsible for assessing the Bank's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Bank or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Bank's financial reporting process.

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Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but does not guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

• Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

• Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Bank's internal control.

• Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by Management.

• Conclude on the appropriateness of Management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Bank's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Bank to cease to continue as a going concern.

• Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

• Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the Bank to express an opinion on the financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

Moore Belize LLP.

Chartered Accountants
Belize City, Belize, C.A.
22 April 2026

Central Bank of Belize

Statements of financial position as at 31 December 2025 and 2024

(in Belize dollars)

	Notes	2025	2024
Assets			
Approved external assets			
Balances with foreign banks and foreign currency notes	2h,2i,3	15,322,159	7,292,750
Reserve Tranche and balances with the International Monetary Fund	2h,2j,4	119,559,267	114,035,336
Other foreign credit instruments	2h,2k,5	267,316,394	242,776,768
Cash-in-transit	2h,2l,6	250,058	278,174
Marketable securities issued or guaranteed by foreign governments and managed by international financial institutions	2h,2m,7	704,662,137	617,749,419
Total approved external assets		1,107,110,014	982,132,446
Domestic assets			
Balances with local banks and cash on hand	2h,2n,8	2,780,374	1,839,142
Government of Belize securities	2h,2o,9	798,908,702	743,612,167
Other assets	10	48,429,448	37,566,580
Equity instruments	2h,2r,11	20,000,000	20,000,000
Property and equipment	2s,2u,12	35,280,468	35,504,172
Intangible assets	2t,2u,13	2,882,913	2,351,300
Total domestic assets		908,281,905	840,873,361
Total assets		2,015,391,920	1,823,005,808
Liabilities			
Demand liabilities			
Notes and coins in circulation	14	781,338,779	738,073,839
Deposits by licensed financial institutions	2h,2v,15	800,640,750	741,991,005
Deposits by and balances due to Government and Public sector entities in Belize	2h,2v,16	134,081,504	116,998,056
Deposits by international agencies	2h,2v,17	214,632	605,014
Total demand liabilities		1,716,275,666	1,597,667,914
Balances due to CARICOM central banks	2h,18	10,000	92,622
Short-term credit facility	19	60,000,000	-
Other liabilities	20	36,320,966	30,987,470
Defined benefit plan net obligation	2w,21	830,000	830,000
International Monetary Fund SDR Allocations	2h,22	119,646,305	114,057,277
Commercial banks' discount fund	2h,23	1,654,034	1,654,034
Total liabilities		1,934,736,970	1,745,289,317
Capital and reserves			
Capital account	2y,24	40,000,000	40,000,000
Revaluation account	2z,25	1,257,714	313,455
Assets revaluation reserve	26	163,732	163,732
Post employment obligation reserve	2w,21	745,398	745,398
General reserve fund	2aa,	38,488,105	36,493,906
Total capital and reserves		80,654,949	77,716,491
Total liabilities, capital and reserves		2,015,391,920	1,823,005,808

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 22 April 2026 and are signed on its behalf by:

Chairman

Governor

Deputy Governor
Finance and Administration

Central Bank of Belize

Statements of comprehensive income for the years ended 31 December 2025 and 2024

(in Belize dollars)

	Notes	2025	2024
Interest income	2ab		
Approved external assets	27	39,240,537	35,051,691
Government of Belize securities	28	16,518,641	16,403,264
		55,759,178	51,454,954
Interest expense	2ab,29	(4,264,896)	(4,624,569)
Net interest income		51,494,282	46,830,385
Other income			
Discount on Government of Belize securities		775,588	1,001,280
Commissions and other income	30	4,333,329	4,787,981
Dividends on equity instruments	11	1,040,000	900,000
Gain on sale of financial instruments		240,908	-
Total other income		6,389,825	6,689,261
Other expenses			
Printing of notes and minting of coins	31	(7,932,206)	(5,065,834)
Salaries and wages, including superannuation contribution and gratuities	32	(21,142,084)	(19,987,868)
Depreciation and amortisation	2s,2t,12,13	(3,688,102)	(3,569,515)
Administrative and general expenses	2ac,33	(14,885,427)	(10,578,791)
Loss on sale of financial instruments	7	(3,588,956)	-
Total other expenses		(51,236,776)	(39,202,007)
Profit for the year		6,647,331	14,317,639
Transfers			
General reserve fund	2aa	1,994,199	4,295,292
Consolidated revenue fund	2aa	4,653,132	10,022,347
		6,647,331	14,317,639
Other comprehensive income			
Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss			
Revaluation	24, 36(ii)	944,258	147,603
Post employment obligation reserve	20	-	1,511,500
Artwork	25	-	-
Other comprehensive income for the year		944,258	1,659,103
Total comprehensive income for the year		7,591,589	15,976,742

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

Central Bank of Belize

Statements of changes in capital and reserves for the years ended 31 December 2025 and 2024

(in Belize dollars)

	Capital account	Revaluation account	Asset revaluation reserve	Post employment obligation reserve (Note 20)	General reserve	Total
Balance as at 01 January 2025	**40,000,000**	**313,455**	**163,732**	**745,398**	**36,493,905**	**77,716,491**
Comprehensive income						
Profit for the year	-	-	-	-	6,647,331	6,647,331
Other comprehensive income	-	944,258	-	-	-	944,258
	-	944,258	-	-	6,647,331	7,591,589
Transfer to consolidated revenue fund	-	-	-	-	(4,653,131)	(4,653,131)
Balance as at 31 December 2025	**40,000,000**	**1,257,714**	**163,732**	**745,398**	**38,488,105**	**80,654,949**
Balance as at 01 January 2024	**40,000,000**	**165,853**	**163,732**	**(766,102)**	**32,198,614**	**71,762,097**
Comprehensive income						
Profit for the year	-	-	-	-	14,317,639	14,317,639
Other comprehensive income	-	147,603	-	1,511,500	-	1,659,102
Total comprehensive income	-	147,603	-	1,511,500	14,317,639	15,976,741
Transfer to consolidated revenue fund	-	-	-	-	(10,022,347)	(10,022,347)
Balance as at 31 December 2024	**40,000,000**	**313,455**	**163,732**	**745,398**	**36,493,905**	**77,716,491**

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

Central Bank of Belize

Statements of cash flows for the years ended 31 December 2025 and 2024

(in Belize dollars)

	Notes	2025	2024
Cash flows from operating activities			
Profit for the year		6,647,331	14,317,639
Adjustments to reconcile profit to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation of property and equipment	12	2,951,910	2,816,839
Amortisation of intangible assets	13	736,192	752,676
Gain on disposal of property and equipment		22,888	(56,524)
Loss on sale of financial instruments		3,348,048	-
Assets revaluation reserve		-	-
Change in expected credit loss, net		61,453	56,852
Accrued interest expense	29	4,264,896	4,624,569
Cash provided by operating activities before operating assets and liabilities		18,032,719	22,512,051
Changes in:			
Government of Belize securities		45,330,258	(43,543,186)
Marketable securities issued or guaranteed by foreign governments and managed by international financial institutions		(90,330,718)	(46,512,005)
Reserve tranche in the International Monetary Fund		(798,558)	487,025
Other assets		(10,862,970)	(7,110,260)
Other liabilities		5,333,496	2,066,799
Net cash used in operating activities		(33,295,774)	(72,099,575)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Acquisition of property and equipment	12	(2,751,093)	(3,811,905)
Acquisition of intangible assets	13	(1,267,805)	(1,010,697)
Proceeds from sale of assets		-	230,081
Net cash used in investing activities		(4,018,898)	(4,592,521)
Cash flows from financing activities			3,348,048
Net deposits (disbursements) made by CARICOM central banks		(82,622)	(132,951)
Net disbursements made by Government and Public sector entities in Belize		12,430,317	(42,636,461)
Net (disbursements) made by international agencies		(390,382)	(1,863,579)
Net (disbursements) deposits made by licensed financial institutions		58,649,745	(5,874,969)
Net change in International Monetary Fund SDR Allocations		5,685,099	(3,264,420)
Net change in notes and coins in circularisation		43,264,940	51,604,688
Short Loan Facility		60,000,000	-
Interest paid		(4,360,967)	(4,799,871)
Net cash provided by financing activities		175,196,129	(6,967,564)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		836,485,418	919,997,476
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents		137,881,457	(83,659,660)
Effect of revaluation of foreign funds and marketable securities		944,258	147,603
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		975,311,134	836,485,418
Cash and cash equivalents comprise of the following:			
External assets			
Balances with foreign banks and foreign currency notes	3	15,322,159	7,292,750
Other foreign credit instruments	5	267,341,508	242,810,484
Cash-in-transit	6	250,058	278,174
SDR Holdings	4	102,531,263	97,805,891
		385,444,988	348,187,299
Domestic assets			
Balances with local banks and cash on hand	8	2,780,374	1,839,142
Current portion of Government of Belize securities	37	587,085,774	486,458,981
		589,866,149	488,298,123
		975,311,134	836,485,418

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

2. Summary of material accounting policies (continued)

e. Foreign investment policy (continued):

Section 25(2) of the Act requires that the Bank maintains at all times a reserve of external assets of not less than 40.0% of the aggregate amount of notes and coins in circulation and of the Bank's liabilities to customers in respect of its sights and time deposits. As at 31 December 2025, total approved external assets approximated 64.5% of such liabilities (2024: 61.5%).

Section 25(3) of the Act requires that the reserve shall consist of any of the following:

• Gold in any form and at such a valuation as may be determined by the Bank;

• Foreign exchange in the form of demand or time deposits with foreign central banks, agents and correspondents, documents and instruments customarily used for making payments or transfers in international transactions;

• Notes and coins;

•Marketable securities issued or guaranteed by foreign governments and managed by international financial institutions;

• Belize's drawing facility equivalent to its reserve position in the International Monetary Fund;

• Belize's holdings of special drawing rights in the International Monetary Fund.

f. Significant accounting judgments and estimates

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with IFRS requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reported period. Actual results could differ materially from those estimates.

Information about estimates and assumptions that may have the most significant effect on recognition and measurement of assets, liabilities, income and expenses is provided below. Actual results may be substantially different.

Defined benefit obligation (DBO)

The estimate of the DBO is based on a number of critical underlying assumptions such as standard rates of inflation, mortality, discount rate and anticipation of future salary increases. Variation in these assumptions may significantly impact the DBO amount and the defined benefit expenses.

Useful lives of depreciable assets

Management reviews its estimate of the useful lives of depreciable assets at each reporting date, based on the expected utility of the assets. Uncertainties in these estimates relate to technological obsolescence that may change information technology equipment and software.

2. Summary of material accounting policies (continued)

f. Significant accounting judgments and estimates (continued)

Fair value measurement

Management uses valuation techniques to determine the fair value of financial instruments (where active market quotes are not available) and non-financial assets. This involves developing estimates and assumptions consistent with how market participants would price the instrument. Management bases its assumptions on observable data as far as possible, but this is not always available. In that case, management uses the best information available. Estimated fair values may vary from the actual prices that would be achieved in an arm's length transaction at the reporting date.

g. Changes in accounting policies

The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those used in the previous financial year except that the Bank has adopted the following standards, amendments and interpretations which did not have a material effect on the financial performance or position of the Bank. Some, however, may give rise to additional disclosures or changes to the presentation of the financial statements in future periods.

The following amendments to IFRSs have become effective for the annual periods commencing on or after 01 January 2025 and have been adopted:

• Amendments to IAS 21 - Lack of Exchangeability

The following standards and amendments will become effective for the annual periods beginning on or after 01 January 2026:

• IFRS 18 – Presentation and Disclosure in Financial Statements;

• IFRS 19 – Subsidiaries without Public Accountability: Disclosures;

• Amendments to IFRS 9 and IFRS 7 – Classification and Measurement of Financial Instruments;

• Amendments to IFRS 9 and IFRS 7 – Contracts referencing Nature-dependent Electricity;

• Amendments to IAS 21 - Translation to a Hyperinflationary Presentation Currency;

• Amendments to IFRS 10 and IAS 28 - Sale or Contribution of Assets between an Investor and its Associate or Joint Venture;

• Annual Improvements to IFRS Accounting Standards – Volume 11 (Amendments to IFRS 1, IFRS 7, IFRS 9, IFRS 10 and IAS 7).

The amendments will be adopted when they become effective. Their effects, if any, will be quantified at that time.

h. Financial instruments

Recognition and derecognition of financial assets

Financial assets are recognised when the Bank becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument. Financial assets are derecognised when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire, or when the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards are transferred.

2. Summary of material accounting policies (continued)

h. Financial instruments (continued)

Classification and initial measurement of financial assets

Except for those trade receivables that do not contain a significant financing component and are measured at the transaction price in accordance with IFRS 15, all financial assets are initially measured at fair value adjusted for transaction costs (where applicable).

Financial assets, other than those designated and effective as hedging instruments, are classified into the following categories:

• amortised cost;

• fair value through other comprehensive income (FVTOCI);

• fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL).

All income and expenses relating to financial assets that are recognised in profit or loss are presented within administrative and general expenses.

Subsequent measurement of financial assets

Financial assets at amortised cost (AC)

Financial assets are measured at amortised cost if the assets meet the following conditions (and are not designated as FVTPL):

• they are held within a business model whose objective is to hold the financial assets and collect its contractual cash flows;

• the contractual terms of the financial assets give rise to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

After initial recognition, these are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Discounting is omitted where the effect of discounting is immaterial. Fair value of assets stated at amortised cost is close to their carrying value as at the reporting date.

Financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income (FVTOCI)

A debt instrument is measured at fair value through other comprehensive income only if it meets both of the following conditions and is not designated as at fair value through profit or loss:

• the asset is held within a business model whose objective is achieved by both collecting contractual cash flows and selling financial assets; and

• the contractual terms of the financial asset give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

On initial recognition of an equity investment that is not held for trading, the Bank may irrevocably elect to present subsequent changes in fair value in other comprehensive income. This election is made on an investment-by-investment basis.

2. Summary of material accounting policies (continued)

h. Financial instruments (continued):

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss (FVTPL)

Financial assets that are held within a different business model other than ‘hold to collect’ or ‘hold to collect and sell’ are categorised at fair value through profit and loss. Further, irrespective of business model financial assets whose contractual cash flows are not solely payments of principal and interest are accounted for at FVTPL.

Impairment of financial assets

Assets in this category are measured at fair value with gains or losses recognised in profit or loss. The fair values of financial assets in this category are determined by reference to active market transactions or using a valuation technique where no active market exists.

The Bank uses forward-looking information to recognise expected credit losses – the ‘expected credit loss (ECL) model’. The Bank considers a broader range of information when assessing credit risk and measuring expected credit losses, including past events, current conditions, reasonable and supportable forecasts that affect the expected collectability of the future cash flows of the instrument. In applying this forward-looking approach, a distinction is made between:

• financial instruments that have not deteriorated significantly in credit quality since initial recognition or that have low credit risk (‘Stage 1’) and
• financial instruments that have deteriorated significantly in credit quality since initial recognition and whose credit risk is not low (‘Stage 2’);
• financial assets that have objective evidence of impairment at the reporting date ('Stage 3').

The mechanics of the ECL calculations are outlined below and the key elements are as follows:
ECL = EAD x LGD x PD. See also Note 37(i).

EAD – The Exposure at Default is an estimate of the exposure at a future default date, taking into account expected changes in the exposure after the reporting date, including repayments of principal and interest, whether scheduled by contract or otherwise, expected drawdowns on committed facilities, and accrued interest from missed payments.

LGD – The Loss Given Default is an estimate of the loss arising in the case where a default occurs at a given time. It is based on the difference between the contractual cash flows due and those that the lender would expect to receive, including from the realisation of any collateral.

PD – The Probability of Default is an estimate of the likelihood of default over a given period of time.

Measurement of the expected credit losses is determined by a probability-weighted estimate of credit losses over the expected life of the financial instrument.

2. Summary of material accounting policies (continued)

h. Financial instruments (continued):

Impairment of financial assets (continued):

The Bank recognises loss allowances for ECL on the following financial instruments that are not measure at the fair value through profit or loss:

• financial assets that are debt instruments;

• financial guarantee contracts issued; and

• loan commitments issued.

No impairment loss is recognised on equity investments.

For regular receivables, the Bank applies a simplified model of recognising lifetime expected credit losses as these items do not have a significant financing component.

Presentation of allowance for ECL in the statement of financial position

Loss allowances for ECL are presented in the statement of financial position as follows:

• financial assets measured at amortised cost: as a deduction from gross carrying amount of the assets;

• loan commitments and financial guarantee contracts: generally as a provision;

• debt instruments measured at fair value through other comprehensive income: no loss allowance is recognised in the statement of financial position because the carrying amount of these assets is their fair value. However, the loss allowance is disclosed and is recognised in the fair value reserve.

Recognition and derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are recognised when the Bank becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument. A financial liability is derecognised when it is extinguished, discharged, cancelled or expires.

Classification and measurement of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are classified as either financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss or other financial liabilities, which are measures at amortised cost.

Financial liabilities are classified at fair value through profit or loss if they are either held for trading or they are otherwise designated within this classification. Gains and losses on such financial liabilities are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income.

A financial liability is classified as held for trading if (a) it has been acquired principally for the purposes of subsequent short-term repurchase; (b) on initial recognition it is part of a portfolio of identified financial instruments which have a pattern of short-term profit taking; or (c) it is a derivative financial instrument that is not designated and effective as a hedging instrument.

Other financial liabilities are initially measured at fair value, net of transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at amortised cost using effective interest method, with interest expense recognised on an effective yield basis in the statement of comprehensive income.

2. Summary of material accounting policies (continued)

h. Financial instruments (continued):

Offsetting financial instruments

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount reported in the statement of financial position only when there is a legally enforceable right to offset the recognised amounts and there is an intention to either settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously. Such a right of set off (a) must not be contingent on a future event and (b) must be legally enforceable in all of the following circumstances: (i) in the normal course of business, (ii) in the event of default and (iii) in the event of insolvency or bankruptcy.

i. Bank balances and deposits with foreign bankers

Comprises of cash at overseas correspondent banks and demand deposits including highly liquid investments maturing within 90 days from the date of acquisition that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

j. Reserve tranche and balances with the International Monetary Fund (IMF)

The Reserve Tranche represents the difference between the assigned quota and the IMF currency holdings. The Reserve Tranche can be accessed at any time without fees or economic reform conditions. The remainder of the quota is held in Special Drawing Rights (SDR) which is a supplementary international reserve asset.

The SDR interest rate provides the basis for calculating the interest charged and the interest paid to members of the IMF for the use of their resources for regular (nonconcessional) IMF loans. It is also the interest paid to members on their SDR holdings and charged on their SDR allocation. The SDR interest rate is determined weekly and is based on a weighted average of representative interest rates on short-term debt instruments in the money markets of the SDR basket currencies.

k. Other foreign credit instruments

Comprises of short-term financial assets including fixed deposits and overnight deposits held at overseas financial institutions with maturities of a year or less. The Bank's intention is to hold these until maturity.

Other foreign credit instruments are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method. If there is objective evidence that the investment is impaired, by reference to external credit ratings, the instrument is then measured at the present value of its estimated future cash flows.

l. Cash-in-transit

Comprises of cash on hand held for shipment and in transit.

m. Marketable securities issued or guaranteed by foreign governments and managed by international financial institutions

Comprises of short-term financial assets including bonds, debentures and US Treasury notes with maturities beyond a year.

2. Summary of material accounting policies (continued)

n. Balances with local banks and cash on hand

Comprises of cash on hand and deposits held at local financial institutions that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

o. Government of Belize securities

Comprises of locally held financial assets including treasury bills and treasury notes issued and guaranteed by the Government of Belize.

Section 35 of the Act permits the Bank to purchase or sell treasury bills or notes issued or guaranteed by the Government of Belize for a period of maturity not exceeding 10 years. The Central Bank of Belize Amendment Act No. 28 of 2017 amended Section 35(2) of the principal Act on 31 March 2017 to stipulate that the Bank shall not at any time hold Government of Belize securities in an aggregate amount exceeding thirty times the aggregate amount at that time of the paid-up capital and general reserves of the Bank. As at 31 December 2025 the Bank's aggregate holding of these Government of Belize securities approximated 10.18 times (2024: 9.72 times), respectively, the amount of paid-up capital and general reserves of the Bank.

p. Advances to Government of Belize

Comprises of advances made to the Government of Belize as governed by section 33 and 34 of the Act. During 2025, GOB's current account remained as a deposit account, and continued to operate as a deposit account.

q. Other assets

Loans and other receivables

Loans are recognised when cash is advanced. It is stated at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Loans receivable are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or extinguished. Their net carrying value is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value as these financial assets are callable.

Inventory of notes and coins

Inventory of notes and coins are measured at cost upon initial recognition. After initial recognition, they are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost is determined on the weighted average cost method.

Supplies

Stationary, computer, building, kitchen and administrative supplies are held at cost and expensed when used.

Collectible coins inventory

Collectible coins, which are minted or packaged as collector items, are legal tender. New purchases of special coins are held as inventory and are charged against income when they are sold.

2. Summary of material accounting policies (continued)

r. Equity instruments

Equity instruments are measured at FVTPL. Fair value of equity instruments held by the Bank cannot currently be measured reliably; thus, the cost is considered the best estimate of fair value. Impairment charges are recognised in profit or loss.

s. Property and equipment

Land

Land held for use in the ordinary course of business is stated at costs. Cost is the amount of cash or cash equivalents paid or the fair value of the other consideration given to acquire an asset at the time of its acquisition or construction.

Property (buildings), equipment, vehicles

Buildings, equipment and vehicles are initially recognised at acquisition cost or manufacturing cost, including any costs directly attributable to bringing the assets to the location and condition necessary for them to be capable of operating in the manner intended by the Bank's management. The cost of self-constructed assets includes the cost of materials and direct labour, any other costs directly attributable to bringing the asset to a working condition for its intended use, and the costs of dismantling and removing items and restoring the site on which they are located. The cost of software that is integral to the functionality of the related equipment is capitalised as part of that equipment. Buildings, equipment and vehicles are subsequently carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairments. Depreciation is recognised on a straight-line basis to write down the cost less estimated residual value of the asset. The following rates are applied:

Category	**Percentage**
Property	1% – 5%
Furniture	10%
Equipment	10% – 25%
Vehicles	20%

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each balance sheet date. Assets that are subject to depreciation are reviewed at each reporting date to assess whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of the asset's fair value (less costs to sell) and value in use. Gains or losses arising on the disposal of property and equipment are determined as the difference between the disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the assets and are recognised in profit or loss within other income or other expenses.

2. Summary of material accounting policies (continued)

t. Intangible assets

Application software and licenses

Costs that are directly attributable to acquiring application software and licenses asset are recognised as intangible assets, provided they meet the following recognition requirements:

Category	Percentage
Application Software	33.3% – 10%
Application License	33.3% – 10%
Website	20%

Initial recognition of other intangible assets

• the costs can be measured reliably;

• the asset is technically and commercially feasible;

• the Bank intends to and has sufficient resources to complete the asset and the Bank has the ability to use or sell the application or licenses;

• the software will generate probable future economic benefits.

Costs not meeting these criteria for capitalisation are expensed as incurred.

Subsequent measurement

All finite-lived intangible assets are accounted for using the cost model whereby capitalised costs are amortised on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives. Residual values and useful lives are reviewed at each reporting date. In addition, they are subject to impairment testing annually.

Application software are amortised over a useful life of 3-10 years. Application licenses are amortised over the period the license is granted. Amortisation has been included within depreciation, amortisation and impairment of non-financial assets.

When an intangible asset is disposed of, the gain or loss on disposal is determined as the difference between the proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset, and is recognised in profit or loss within other income or other expenses.

u. Impairment of non-financial assets

At each reporting date, the Bank reviews the carrying amounts of its non-financial assets to determine whether there is any indication that those non-financial assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable of the non-financial asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss if any. Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the Bank estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

2. Summary of material accounting policies (continued)

u. Impairment of non-financial assets (continued)

If the recoverable amount of an asset (or cash-generating unit) is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset (cash-generating unit) is reduced to its recoverable amount. Impairment losses are recognised as an expense immediately. Where an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset (cash-generating unit) is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but so that the increase carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset (cash-generating unit) in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised as income immediately, unless the relevant non-financial asset is carried at a revalued amount, in which case the reversal of the impairment loss will be treated as an increase in the revaluation.

v. Deposits

Comprised of deposits accepted on behalf of licensed banks, other licensed financial institutions including Government of Belize and Public Sector entities. Their carrying value is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value.

Under the revised provisions of Domestic Banks and Financial Institutions Act (No. 11 of 2012), it stipulates that every licensed bank shall maintain on account in its name with the Central Bank a minimum balance which on average shall be equivalent to at least five per centum of its average deposit liabilities represented by demand deposits, plus at least three per centum of its average deposit liabilities not represented by demand deposits, or such higher proportion of such demand deposits or other deposit liabilities as may from time to time be prescribed or specified by the Central Bank.

w. Defined benefit plan

Under the Bank's defined benefit plan, the amount of pension benefit that an employee will receive on retirement is defined by reference to the employee's length of service and final salary. The legal obligation for any benefits remains with the Bank, even if plan assets for funding the defined benefit plan have been set aside.

The liability recognised in the statement of financial position for defined benefit plans is the present value of the defined benefit obligation (DBO) at the reporting date less the fair value of plan assets. Management estimates the DBO every 3 years with the assistance of independent actuaries. This is based on standard rates of inflation, salary growth rate and mortality.

x. Short-term employee benefits

Gratuity - the Bank is liable to pay gratuity for contract employees who are not eligible to participate in the pension scheme. In order to meet this liability, a provision is carried forward in the statements of financial position equivalent to an amount calculated on 20% of the annual salary for each completed year of service, commencing from the first year of service.

The resulting difference between the brought forward provision at the beginning of a year and the carried forward provision at the end of a year is dealt within the statement of income. The gratuity liability is neither funded nor actuarially valued.

2. Summary of material accounting policies (continued)

x. Short-term employee benefits (continued)

Severance benefits payable – severance obligations are recognised at the point of not being able to withdraw from provision of the benefit to qualifying employees. The provision is calculated in accordance with the Labour Act of Belize Chapter 297.

Other short-term employee benefits – short-term employee benefits, including holiday entitlement, are current liabilities included in pension and other employee obligations, measured at the undiscounted amount that the Bank expects to pay as a result of the unused entitlement.

y. Capital account

In 2022, amendment was made to the Central Bank of Belize Act, approved on 31 March 2022 and gazetted on 02 April 2022. In accordance with Section 8, 'Capital of the Bank', the authorised capital was increased to $50,000,000 and the paid-up capital was increased to $40,000,000.

z. Revaluation account

Section 50 of the Act requires the Bank to exclude profits or losses from any revaluation of the Bank’s net assets or liabilities from the computation of the annual profits and losses of the Bank. All such profits or losses are carried in a special account called the revaluation account.

The Act also requires that no profits shall be credited to the General Reserve Fund or paid to Government of Belize under section 9 of the Act whenever the Revaluation Account shows a net loss. Such profits shall be credited to the Revaluation Account in an amount sufficient to cover the loss.

aa. General reserve fund

The profits of the Bank shall be distributed in accordance with the Central Bank of Belize Act, Chapter 262, Section 8(4) (Amendment 2022) and Section 9(1).

In 2022, Section 9 of the Central Bank of Belize Act, which provides for the establishment of a General Reserve Fund, was amended to indicate that 30 percent of the Bank's profit shall be paid into the General Reserve Fund and the remainder to the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

The Consolidated Revenue Fund is established under Section 114(1) of the Belize Constitution. It serves as the central account into which all revenues or other moneys raised or received by Belize are deposited, unless specified by law to be placed into another public fund. This fund is utilized to finance government expenditures, ensuring that withdrawals are made in accordance with legal authorizations and appropriations.

2. Summary of material accounting policies (continued)

ab. Interest income and expense

Interest income and expense for all interest-bearing financial instruments are recognised in the statement of profit or loss at amortised cost using the effective interest method. The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset or a financial liability and of allocating the interest income or interest expense over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments or receipts through the expected life of the financial instrument or, when appropriate, a shorter period to the net carrying amount of the financial asset or financial liability. When calculating the effective interest rate, the Bank estimates cash flows considering all contractual terms of the financial instrument (for example, prepayment options) but does not consider future credit losses. The calculation includes all fees paid or received between parties to the contract that are an integral part of the effective interest rate, transaction costs and all other premiums or discounts.

Once a financial asset or a group of similar financial assets has been written down as a result of an impairment loss, interest income is recognised using the rate of interest to discount the future cash flows for the purpose of measuring the impairment loss.

ac. Administrative and general expense

Administrative and general expense are recognised in the profit or loss upon utilisation of the service or as incurred.

ad. Taxation

In accordance with Section 52 of the Central Bank of Belize Act, the Bank is exempt from the provision of any law relating to income tax or customs duties and from the payment of stamp duty.

ae. Segment-reporting

Operating segments are reported in a manner consistent with the internal reporting provided to the chief operating decision-maker. The chief operating decision-maker is the person or group that allocates resources to and assesses the performance of the operating segments of an entity. The Bank has one operating segment for financial reporting purposes.

3. Balances with foreign banks and foreign currency notes

	2025	2024
Foreign currency notes	**9,031,690**	626,056
Balances with other central banks and foreign banks	**6,290,469**	6,666,694
	15,322,159	7,292,750

4. Reserve tranche and balances with the International Monetary Fund

Belize joined the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on 16 March 1982. As at 31 December its financial position in the IMF was as follows:

	2025	2024
SDR Holdings	**102,531,263**	97,805,891
Reserve Tranche	**17,028,004**	16,229,445
	119,559,267	114,035,336

SDRs are converted at an exchange rate of BZD 2.739006 to SDR 1.0 at 31 December 2025 (2024: BZD 2.608269 to SDR 1.0).

5. Other foreign credit instruments

	2025	2024
Fixed deposits	**174,628,561**	210,597,387
Overnight deposits	**92,712,947**	32,213,097
Expected credit losses	**(25,114)**	(33,716)
	267,316,394	242,776,768

Other foreign credit instruments are held with foreign banks and other foreign financial institutions.

Movements in expected credit losses on other foreign credit instruments were as follows:

	2025	2024
1 January	**(33,716)**	(23,561)
(Charge)/release during the year	**8,602**	(10,155)
31 December	**(25,114)**	(33,716)

6. Cash-in-transit

	2025	2024
Cash-in-transit	**250,058**	278,174
	250,058	278,174

7. Marketable securities issued or guaranteed by foreign governments and managed by foreign financial institutions

Amounts comprise debt securities at amortised cost:

	2025	2024
Bonds	**353,441,126**	116,243,013
US Treasury notes	**350,250,103**	500,302,885
Debenture	**1,057,310**	1,219,971
Expected credit losses	**(86,402)**	(16,450)
	704,662,137	617,749,419

US Treasury Notes represent securities issued by the government of the United States of America that bear a weighted average interest of 3.33% (2024: 2.99%) and mature through 2031.

During the year, the Bank sold low yielding US treasuries realizing a loss of $3,588,956. The Bank reinvested the proceeds into higher yielding bonds.

Bonds represent bonds managed by foreign financial institutions that bear an average interest of 3.37% (2024: 3.37%) maturing through 2034.

Debenture represents a foreign government debenture that bears an interest of 3.5% and matures in 2034.

Movements in expected credit losses on marketable securities issued or guaranteed by foreign governments and managed by international financial institutions were as follows:

	2025	2024
1 January	**(16,450)**	(14,380)
Charge during the year	**(69,951)**	(2,070)
31 December	**(86,402)**	(16,450)

8. Balances with local banks and cash on hand

	2025	2024
Balances with local financial institutions	**2,581,152**	1,655,476
Cash on hand	**199,222**	183,666
	2,780,374	1,839,142

9. Government of Belize securities

Amounts comprise debt securities at amortised cost:

	2025	2024
Treasury notes	**679,915,334**	574,257,420
Treasury bills	**118,993,368**	169,354,747
	798,908,702	743,612,167

10. Other assets

	2025	2024
Financial assets		
Staff loans receivable	**11,433,807**	9,612,349
Accounts receivable	**1,389,649**	1,148,767
Expected credit losses	**(1,143)**	(47,460)
Subtotal (Note 2h)	**12,822,313**	10,713,656

	2025	2024
Non-financial assets		
Prepayments	**14,784,802**	13,335,047
Escrow accounts (Note 20)	**9,857,025**	9,477,025
Inventory of circulation notes and coins	**9,046,319**	1,962,165
Collectible coins inventory	**945,311**	1,051,485
Other assets	**361,173**	515,049
Supplies	**434,233**	333,883
Artwork	**178,270**	178,270
Subtotal (Note 2u)	**35,607,135**	26,852,924
	48,429,448	37,566,580

Movements in expected credit losses on accounts receivable and staff loans receivable were as follows:

	2025	2024
1 January	**(47,460)**	(2,834)
Charge/release during the year	**46,317**	(44,626)
31 December	**(1,143)**	(47,460)

11. Equity instruments

	2025	2024
Belize Telemedia Limited	**20,000,000**	20,000,000

The equity instruments represent the Bank's investment of 4,000,000 shares in Belize Telemedia Limited at a value of $5.00 per share totaling $20,000,000. Share certificates numbered 3165, 3166, 3167, 2668 and 2669 dated 17 June 2011 for 800,000 shares each have been received by the Bank. If the Bank chooses to sell, it can dispose of the shares at the rate of one million shares per annum and it shall offer the Government of Belize the right of first refusal and the right to object to any buyer before concluding the sale of any of the shares.

These instruments are secured by the Government of Belize with no valuation exposure to the Bank. As at 31 December 2025, BTL had declared dividends for the fiscal year 2025 at $0.26 (2024: $0.225) per share for a total of $1,040,000 (2024: $900,000).

Central Bank of Belize

Notes to the financial statements for the years ended 31 December 2025 and 2024

(in Belize dollars)

12. Property and equipment

	Property	Furniture	Equipment	Vehicle	Work in progress	Total
Cost						
Balance at 01 January 2025	36,595,746	2,038,337	18,117,521	1,019,475	2,155,190	59,926,270
Additions	-	339,583	1,752,659	50,000	608,851	2,751,093
Disposals	-	(132,202)	(939,748)	-	-	(1,071,950)
Transfers	1,607,934	486,874	-	-	(2,094,808)	-
Balance as at 31 December 2025	38,203,680	2,732,592	18,930,432	1,069,475	669,233	61,605,413
Accumulated depreciation						
Balance at 01 January 2025	(9,115,361)	(1,556,065)	(13,401,768)	(348,903)	-	(24,422,097)
Charge for the year	(1,009,939)	(135,788)	(1,599,768)	(206,415)	-	(2,951,910)
Disposals	-	115,929	933,133	-	-	1,049,062
Balance as at 31 December 2025	(10,125,300)	(1,575,924)	(14,068,403)	(555,318)	-	(26,324,945)
Net book value as at 31 December 2025	28,078,380	1,156,668	4,862,028	514,157	669,233	35,280,468
Cost						
Balance at 01 January 2024	35,480,950	2,034,910	18,197,126	1,070,011	304,700	57,087,698
Additions	1,114,796	109,011	322,958	109,950	2,155,190	3,811,905
Disposals	-	(105,584)	(707,263)	(160,486)	-	(973,333)
Transfers	-	-	304,700	-	(304,700)	-
Balance as at 31 December 2024	36,595,746	2,038,337	18,117,521	1,019,475	2,155,190	59,926,269
Accumulated depreciation						
Balance at 01 January 2024	(8,230,651)	(1,542,539)	(12,461,367)	(316,847)	-	(22,551,404)
Charge for the year	(884,710)	(98,722)	(1,640,865)	(192,542)	-	(2,816,839)
Disposals	-	85,196	700,464	160,486	-	946,146
Balance as at 31 December 2024	(9,115,361)	(1,556,065)	(13,401,768)	(348,903)	-	(24,422,097)
Net book value as at 31 December 2024	27,480,385	482,272	4,715,753	670,572	2,155,190	35,504,172

13. Intangible assets

	Application software and licenses	Work in progress	Total
Cost			
Balance at 01 January 2025	**7,864,402**	**798,969**	**8,663,371**
Additions	**1,193,990**	**73,815**	**1,267,805**
Disposals	**-**	**-**	**-**
Transfers	**798,969**	**(798,969)**	**-**
Balance as at 31 December 2025	**9,857,361**	**73,815**	**9,931,176**
Accumulated amortisation			
Balance at 01 January 2025	**(6,312,071)**	**-**	**(6,312,071)**
Charge for the year	**(736,192)**	**-**	**(736,192)**
Disposals	**-**	**-**	**-**
Balance as at 31 December 2025	**(7,048,263)**	**-**	**(7,048,263)**
Net book value as at 31 December 2025	**2,809,098**	**73,815**	**2,882,913**
Cost			
Balance at 01 January 2024	**7,675,842**	**128,249**	**7,804,091**
Additions	**211,728**	**798,969**	**1,010,697**
Disposals	**(151,417)**	**-**	**(151,417)**
Transfers	**128,249**	**(128,249)**	**-**
Balance as at 31 December 2024	**7,864,402**	**798,969**	**8,663,371**
Accumulated amortisation			
Balance at 01 January 2024	**(5,564,442)**	**-**	**(5,564,442)**
Charge for the year	**(752,676)**	**-**	**(752,676)**
Disposals	**5,047**	**-**	**5,047**
Balance as at 31 December 2024	**(6,312,071)**	**-**	**(6,312,071)**
Net book value as at 31 December 2024	**1,552,331**	**798,969**	**2,351,300**

14. Notes and coins in circulation

	2025	2024
Notes in circulation	**732,054,786**	691,598,957
Coins in circulation	**49,283,993**	46,474,882
	781,338,779	738,073,839

15. Deposits by licensed financial institutions

As at 31 December 2025 and 2024 deposits by local financial institutions comprised deposits of licensed financial institutions located in Belize.

16. Deposits by and balances due to Government and Public sector entities of Belize

	2025	2024
Government of Belize accounts	**129,222,548**	110,844,078
Public sector entities accounts	**4,858,956**	6,153,978
	134,081,504	116,998,056

17. Deposits by international agencies

The Bank acts as an agent for and accepts deposits from international financial agencies.

	2025	2024
International Monetary Fund	**185,381**	176,533
Caribbean Development Bank	**28,711**	398,741
International Bank for Reconstruction and Development	**540**	29,740
	214,632	605,014

18. Balances due to CARICOM central banks

	2025	2024
Bank of Jamaica	**10,000**	81,200
Bank of Guyana	**-**	11,422
	10,000	92,622

19. Short-term credit facility

During the period the Bank received a short-term credit facility from Raymond James & Associates of $60 million at a rate averaging 5.22% to provide funding to meet financial requirement for the Government of Belize, repayable within one year or less. As of 31 December 2025 the principal was $60 million. The facility was repaid in full in February 2026 (Note 39).

20. Other liabilities

	2025	2024
Financial liabilities		
Abandoned property	**10,987,485**	8,559,349
Deposits by licensed international offshore financial institutions (i)	**3,723,528**	3,723,528
Accounts payable	**3,589,481**	832,913
Contribution (deposit insurance) (ii)	**1,000,000**	1,000,000
Corozal Freezone Municipals Bonds – Sinking Fund	**144,131**	259,349
Unclaimed balances of Belize Unit Trust	**45,986**	45,986
Subtotal (Note 2h)	**19,490,611**	14,421,125
Non-financial liabilities		
Escrow accounts (Note 10)	**9,857,025**	9,477,025
Severance and gratuities	**5,146,286**	4,909,168
Other staff costs payable	**1,280,859**	1,341,429
Deferred income	**546,183**	838,723
Subtotal	**16,830,354**	16,566,345
	36,320,964	30,987,470

(i) Under Section 21 A (1) of the International Banking Act, licensed international offshore financial institutions are required to maintain an account of a minimum balance of $200,000 with the Bank. At 31 December 2025 total amount of such deposits included $ 3,114,462 (2024: $3,114,462) that relate to balances with international offshore financial institutions with active licenses and $609,066 (2024: $609,066) that relate to the Bank's liabilities in respect of minimal balances of such financial institutions, whose licensed have been revoked/surrendered by the Bank.

(ii) In accordance with Section 19 of the Deposit Insurance Act, 2020, the Central Bank is holding in escrow its contribution due on the commencement of the Deposit Insurance Corporation.

21. Defined benefit plan net obligation

The Bank operates a defined benefit pension scheme that receives contributions from the Bank and its eligible employees. The scheme is financially separate from the Bank and is managed by a Board of Trustees. Under the plan, the employees are entitled to annual retirement benefits capped at a maximum of 66 percent of the final pensionable salary on attaining the retirement age of 60. In addition, the Bank provides an optional post-retirement medical benefit. During the year under review, the Bank contributed $1,527,810 (2024: $1,451,328) to the scheme.

Significant actuarial assumptions used in the valuation were:	**2024**	2021
I. Discount rate at the end of the year (pa)	**7.5%**	6.0%
II. Future salary increases (pa)	**3.5%**	3.5%
III. Future pension increases (pa)	**0.0%**	0.0%

21. Defined benefit plan net obligation (continued)

The Bank has performed an actuarial valuation on its defined benefit pension scheme for the year ended 31 December 2024. The results of the valuation are presented below:

Reconciliation of defined benefit plan net obligation	
Defined benefit plan net (liability) as at 01 January 2024	**(2,341,500)**
Fair value of plan assets	**29,986,000**
Present value of defined benefit obligation	**(27,936,000)**
Adjusted defined benefit plan net asset as at 01 January 2024	**2,050,000**
Fair value of plan assets	**31,655,000**
Present value of defined benefit obligation	**(32,485,000)**
Defined benefit plan net (liability) as at 31 December 2024	**(830,000)**
Net change in defined benefit plan net obligation	**1,511,500**
Reconciliation of fair value of plan assets	
Fair value of plan assets at 01 January 2024	**29,986,000**
Interest income on plan assets	**2,269,000**
Members' contributions	**200,000**
Employer's contributions	**1,451,000**
Benefits paid	**(1,091,000)**
Reasurements - experience adjustments	**(1,160,000)**
Fair value of plan assets at 31 December 2024	**31,655,000**
Reconciliation of present value of defined benefit net obligation	
Present value of obligation at 01 January 2024	**(27,936,000)**
Interest cost	**(2,062,000)**
Service cost	**(2,820,000)**
Benefits paid	**1,091,000**
Members' contributions	**(200,000)**
Reasurements - experience adjustments	**(558,000)**
Present value of obligation at 31 December 2024	**(32,485,000)**
Defined benefit plan net (liability) as at 31 December 2024	**(830,000)**
Movement in net (liability)/asset	
Defined benefit plan net asset at 01 January 2024	**2,050,000**
Net interest income on plan assets	**207,000**
Service cost	**(2,820,000)**
Employer's contributions	**1,451,000**
Reasurements - experience net adjustments	**(1,718,000)**
Non-current pension liability 31 December 2024	**(830,000)**

21. Defined benefit plan net obligation (continued)

Revaluation of the pension plan is done on a 3-year rotation. An IAS 19 valuation was done during 2024 for the 2024 fiscal year, which shows a defined benefit plan net obligation of the plan of $830,000. Full revaluation of the plan will be done in the 2027 fiscal year.

Reconciliation of post employment obligation reserve	
Reserve as at 01 January 2024	**(766,102)**
Reasurements - net adjustments 2023	4,391,500
Reasurements - net adjustments 2024	**(2,880,000)**
Reserve as at 31 December 2024	**745,398**

22. International Monetary Fund SDR Allocations

	2025	2024
IMF SDR Allocations	**119,105,687**	113,420,588
Interest payable	**540,618**	636,689
	119,646,305	114,057,277

A general allocation of Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) equivalent to approximately US$ 250 billion became effective on 28 August 2009. The allocation is designed to provide liquidity to the global economic system by supplementing the Fund's member countries' foreign exchange reserves. The general SDR allocation was made to IMF members that are participants in the Special Drawing Rights Department (currently all 186 members) in proportion to their existing quotas in the Fund, which are based broadly on their relative size in the global economy. The Quota for the country of Belize is SDR 26,700,000 (2024: SDR 26,700,000) based on this Quota, the allocation for the country of Belize stood at SDR 43,485,004 (2024: SDR 43,485,004). At 31 December 2025, the SDR's were revalued at SDR 2.739006 to BZ$ 1.00 (2024: 2.608269 to BZ$ 1.00).

23. Commercial banks' discount fund

	2025	2024
Interest paid to United States Agency for International Development	**(2,311,316)**	(2,311,316)
Interest received by the Bank	**3,965,350**	3,965,350
	1,654,034	1,654,034

23. Commercial banks' discount fund (continued)

Commercial Bank Discount Fund (Fund) is a facility which was established by an agreement signed in March 1983 by the Government of Belize and the United States of America, providing for a discount fund to be operated through the Bank. The United States Government acting through United States Agency for International Development (USAID) earmarked US$ 5 million in loan funds up to 30 June 1987 to finance this facility. The facility enabled commercial banks in Belize to discount with the Bank up to 100% of loans made to sub-borrowers for projects approved by the Bank and USAID. The Bank is expected to accumulate significant net interest earnings over the repayment term of the USAID loan to form a permanent fund. In 1993, USAID and the Bank agreed that $2 million and $1.5 million from the reflows to the Discount Fund could be used as a line of credit to National Development Foundation of Belize and Development Finance Corporation, respectively.

24. Capital account

	2025	2024
Authorised capital	**50,000,000**	50,000,000
Paid-up capital	**40,000,000**	40,000,000

25. Revaluation account

	2025	2024
1 January	**313,456**	165,853
Revaluation of foreign funds and marketable securities	**944,258**	147,603
31 December	**1,257,714**	313,456

26. Assets revaluation reserve

At 31 December 2025, management conducted an assessment of its historical and contemporary pictures and paintings and determined that they hold the carrying amount assessed by an independent appraiser, Carlos Bardalez, of Belize City whose report is dated 09 November 2009.

27. Interest on approved external assets

	2025	2024
Marketable securities issued or guaranteed by foreign governments and managed by international financial institutions	**22,864,002**	18,117,733
Fixed deposits with foreign financial institutions	**8,001,063**	10,169,252
Overnight deposits with foreign financial institutions	**4,925,573**	2,335,880
International Monetary Fund' facilities	**3,398,804**	4,362,748
Other balances with foreign financial institutions	**51,095**	66,078
	39,240,537	35,051,691

28. Interest on Government of Belize securities

	2025	2024
Treasury notes	**16,518,641**	16,403,264

29. Interest expense

	2025	2024
International Monetary Fund facilities	**4,086,388**	4,449,021
Other interest expense	**178,508**	175,548
	4,264,896	4,624,569

30. Commissions and other income

	2025	2024
Commissions	**1,777,387**	902,159
License and examination fees	**1,123,023**	992,270
Automated Payment and Securities Settlement System (APSSS) transaction fees	**456,151**	599,491
Cash shipment income	**404,370**	1,157,810
Sales of collectible coins	**225,438**	43,544
Fiscal agency fees	**161,138**	-
Interest on staff loans	**115,208**	147,296
Penalty fees	**41,500**	715,000
Miscellaneous income	**29,114**	230,411
	4,333,329	4,787,981

31. Printing of notes and minting of coins

	2025	2024
Printing of currency notes	**6,058,791**	3,179,150
Minting of circulation coins	**1,868,005**	1,842,825
Currency publicity campaign expenses	**5,410**	43,859
	7,932,206	5,065,834

32. Salaries and wages, including superannuation contribution and gratuities

	2025	2024
Salaries and wages	**12,566,260**	12,289,499
Employee benefits expenses	**6,709,085**	5,915,303
Pension contributions	**1,527,810**	1,451,328
Social security costs	**338,929**	331,738
	21,142,083	19,987,868

At the end of 2025 the Bank staff count was 246 employees (2024: 224).

33. Administrative and general expenses

	2025	2024
Computer software licenses	**3,399,159**	2,256,409
Professional services and technical support	**3,060,667**	1,024,003
Repairs and maintenance	**1,320,897**	1,156,231
Miscellaneous	**1,313,730**	1,006,087
Meetings and conferences	**1,200,419**	880,812
Utilities	**947,385**	991,832
Supplies and small equipment	**747,101**	638,277
Commission fees for foreign exchange purchases	**682,780**	-
Foreign investment professional fees	**515,096**	379,573
Directors' fees	**355,588**	285,012
Membership fees	**230,537**	391,886
Insurance	**189,080**	179,840
Legal fees	**155,159**	368,940
Donations	**107,776**	67,260
Audit fees	**107,667**	131,999
Freight charges	**75,796**	130,585
Surveys	**75,647**	56,193
Expected credit losses on financial instruments	**61,453**	56,852
Bank charges	**63,231**	70,897
Advertising	**48,824**	72,480
Subscriptions	**45,000**	57,660
Entertainment	**41,778**	29,630
Business continuity	**37,723**	31,893
Corporate communications	**35,453**	200,243
Books and publications	**25,423**	23,271
Firearm license and ammunition	**24,866**	27,987
Travel	**17,193**	62,939
	14,885,427	10,578,791

34. Related party transactions

The Bank considers a party to be related if control or significant influence over the Bank is exercised. The Bank's related parties include the Governor of the Central Bank, members of the Board of Directors (key management personnel) Government of Belize and other related public sector entities and the Bank's Defined Benefit Plan. Unless otherwise stated, none of the transactions include special terms and conditions and no guarantees were given or received.

34. Related party transactions (continued)

Transactions with key management personnel

Transactions with key management personnel includes short-term benefits, post employment benefits and termination benefits. The following is an analysis of these amounts.

	2025	2024
Short-term benefits	**1,712,069**	1,299,873
Termination benefits	**233,819**	206,256
	1,945,888	1,506,129

As part of its normal operations, the Bank also makes loans and advances to key management personnel. As at 31 December 2025, a total of $525,518 (2024: $193,567) was receivable from key management personnel as approved advances made by the Bank. No expected credit losses have been recognised in respect of loans given to related parties. The amount of collateral in respect of loans to related parties as at 31 December 2025 $742,300 (2024: $742,300). The Bank has a residential mortgage loan program for qualifying permanent staff. This facility is available for a maximum period of 25 years with a variable interest rate initially set at 0.50% (2024: 0.50%).

Transactions with the Government of Belize and public sector entities in Belize

Receivables and payables to the Government of Belize and other related public sector entities arise mainly from the Bank carrying out one of its key functions as a fiscal agent for all transactions with International financial institutions (Section 31, 33, 34 and 35 of the Central Bank of Belize Act Revised Edition 2020). Section 24 also permits the Bank to make direct advances to the Government of Belize. Below is an analysis of the transactions with the Government and other related public sector entities:

	01 January 2025	**Disburse-ments**	**Deposits**	**31 December 2025**
Social Security Board	**(114,470)**	**188,710**	**(247,121)**	**(172,881)**
Development Finance Corporation	**(32,880)**	**15,110,348**	**(15,135,589)**	**(58,121)**
Financial Intelligence Unit	**(1,537,478)**	**3,121,721**	**(3,200,000)**	**(1,615,757)**
Belize Tourism Board	**(1,429,903)**	**17,017,783**	**(16,930,608)**	**(1,342,728)**
Belize Electricity Limited	**(24,925)**	**5,070,434**	**(5,070,434)**	**(24,925)**
Belize City Council Sinking Fund	**(1,510,595)**	**6,580,682**	**(5,070,087)**	**-**
Belize Water Services Limited Sinking Fund	**(17,541)**	**30,518,003**	**(30,658,822)**	**(158,360)**
Financial Services Commission	**(1,486,184)**	**-**	**-**	**(1,486,184)**
Government of Belize (current account)	**(47,961,352)**	**1,044,161,309**	**(1,036,353,053)**	**(40,153,096)**
	(54,115,328)	**1,121,768,990**	**(1,112,665,714)**	**(45,012,052)**

34. Related party transactions (continued)

Transactions with the Government of Belize and public sector entities in Belize (continued)

	01 January 2024	Disburse-ments	Deposits	31 December 2024
Social Security Board	(3,569)	249,099	(360,000)	(114,470)
Development Finance Corporation	(94,637)	23,231,757	(23,170,000)	(32,880)
Financial Intelligence Unit	(1,051,277)	2,713,799	(3,200,000)	(1,537,478)
Belize Tourism Board	(1,795,148)	13,232,885	(12,867,640)	(1,429,903)
Belize Electricity Limited	(24,925)	4,134,793	(4,134,793)	(24,925)
Belize City Council Sinking Fund	(310,082)	85,000	(1,285,513)	(1,510,595)
Belize Water Services Limited Sinking Fund	(128)	20,969,178	(20,986,591)	(17,541)
Financial Services Commission	(1,786,184)	300,000	-	(1,486,184)
Government of Belize (current account)	(68,457,293)	714,867,790	(694,371,849)	(47,961,352)
	(73,523,243)	779,784,300	(760,376,386)	(54,115,328)

Transactions with the Central Bank of Belize Pension Scheme

The Bank accumulates the pension contributions for the Scheme's members and remits it to the Scheme on a monthly basis along with its own contributions. In addition, the Bank acts as an intermediary for payments of benefits to the Scheme's members and payment of professional fees. The Scheme periodically reimburses the Bank for such expenses.

In 2025, the total amount of contributions paid by the Bank to the Scheme amounted to $1,527,810 (2024: $1,451,328).

35. Analysis of financial assets and liabilities by measurement basis

Financial assets and financial liabilities are measured on an ongoing basis either at fair value or at amortised cost. The principal accounting policies on Note 2h describes how financial instruments are measured, and how income and expenses, including fair value gains and losses, are recognised. The following table analyses the financial assets and liabilities in the statement of financial position by the class of financial instrument to which they are assigned, and therefore by the measurement basis:

As at 31 December 2025	Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	Financial assets at amortised cost	Financial assets at fair value through other compre-hensive income	Total
Financial assets				
Balances with foreign banks and foreign currency notes	-	15,322,159	-	15,322,159
Reserve Tranche and balances with the International Monetary Fund	-	-	119,559,267	119,559,267
Other foreign credit instruments	-	267,316,394	-	267,316,394
Cash-in-transit	-	250,058	-	250,058
Marketable securities issued or guaranteed by foreign governments and international financial institutions	-	704,662,137	-	704,662,137
Balances with local banks and cash on hand	-	2,780,374	-	2,780,374
Government of Belize securities	-	798,908,702	-	798,908,702
Other assets	-	12,822,313	-	12,822,313
Equity instruments	20,000,000	-	-	20,000,000
Total financial assets	20,000,000	1,802,062,138	119,559,267	1,941,621,404

35. Analysis of financial assets and liabilities by measurement basis (continued)

As at 31 December 2025	Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	Financial assets at amortised cost	Total
Financial liabilities			
Notes and coins in circulation	**-**	**781,338,779**	**781,338,779**
Deposits by licensed financial institutions	**-**	**800,640,750**	**800,640,750**
Deposits by and balances due to Government and Public sector entities in Belize	**-**	**134,081,504**	**134,081,504**
Deposits by international agencies	**-**	**214,632**	**214,632**
Balances due to CARICOM central banks	**-**	**10,000**	**10,000**
Other liabilities	**-**	**19,490,611**	**19,490,611**
International Monetary Fund' SDR Allocations	**-**	**119,646,305**	**119,646,305**
Commercial banks' discount fund	**-**	**1,654,034**	**1,654,034**
Total financial liabilities	**-**	**1,857,076,615**	**1,857,076,615**

As at 31 December 2024	Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	Financial assets at amortised cost	Financial assets at fair value through other compre-hensive income	Total
Financial assets				
Balances with foreign banks and foreign currency notes	-	7,292,750	-	**7,292,750**
Reserve Tranche and balances with the International	-	-	114,035,336	**114,035,336**
Other foreign credit instruments	-	242,776,768	-	**242,776,768**
Cash-in-transit	-	278,174	-	**278,174**
Marketable securities issued or guaranteed by foreign governments and managed by international financial institutions	-	617,749,419	-	**617,749,419**
Balances with local banks and cash on hand	-	1,839,142	-	**1,839,142**
Government of Belize securities	-	743,612,167	-	**743,612,167**
Other assets	-	10,713,656	-	**10,713,656**
Equity instruments	20,000,000	-	-	**20,000,000**
Total financial assets	20,000,000	1,624,262,075	114,035,336	**1,758,297,411**

35. Analysis of financial assets and liabilities by measurement basis (continued)

As at 31 December 2024	Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	Financial assets at amortised cost	Total
Financial liabilities			
Notes and coins in circulation	-	738,073,839	**738,073,839**
Deposits by licensed financial institutions	-	741,991,005	**741,991,005**
Deposits by and balances due to Government and Public sector entities in Belize	-	116,998,056	**116,998,056**
Deposits by international agencies	-	605,014	**605,014**
Balances due to CARICOM central banks	-	92,622	**92,622**
Other liabilities	-	14,421,125	**14,421,125**
International Monetary Fund' SDR Allocations	-	114,057,277	**114,057,277**
Commercial banks' discount fund	-	1,654,034	**1,654,034**
Total financial liabilities	**-**	**1,727,892,973**	**1,727,892,973**

36. Fair value measurement

Determination of fair value and fair value hierarchy

The Bank uses the following hierarchy for determining and disclosing their fair value of financial instruments by valuation technique:

Level 1: quotes (unadjusted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities).

Level 2: other techniques for which all inputs which have a significant effect on the recorded fair value are observable, either directly or indirectly.

Level 3: techniques that use inputs that have a significant effect on the recorded fair value that are not based on observable market data.

The Bank recognises transfers between levels of the fair value hierarchy at the end of the reporting period during which the change has occurred.

36. Fair value measurement (continued)

Determination of fair value and fair value hierarchy continued)

The following table provides the fair value measurement hierarchy of the Bank's assets and liabilities.

As at 31 December 2025	Notes	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Financial assets at FVOCI					
Reserve Tranche and balances with the International Monetary Fund	4	119,559,267	-	-	119,559,267
Financial assets at FVTPL					
Equity instruments	11	-	-	20,000,000	20,000,000
Total financial assets measured at fair value		119,559,267	-	20,000,000	139,559,267

As at 31 December 2024	Notes	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Financial assets at FVOCI					
Reserve Tranche and balances with the International Monetary Fund	4	114,035,336	-	-	114,035,336
Financial assets at FVTPL					
Equity instruments	11	-	-	20,000,000	20,000,000
Total financial assets measured at fair value		114,035,336	-	20,000,000	134,035,336

37. Financial risk management

By its nature, the Bank's activities are principally related to the use of financial instruments. The strategy for using these financial instruments is embedded in the mission of the Bank to foster an economic and financial environment conductive to sustainable economic growth and development.

The Bank has exposure to the following risks from its use of financial instruments:

- Credit risk
- Currency risk
- Liquidity risk
- Interest rate risk
- Operational risk

The Board of Directors has overall responsibility for the establishment and oversight of the Bank's risk management framework. It has established two committees for this purpose:

(i) Investment Committee, which is responsible for providing oversight on the conversion of investment strategy into performance, risk exposure for the Bank's Foreign Reserves, financial structure, and performance of the portfolio and investments.

(ii) Audit Committee, which is responsible for monitoring compliance with the Bank's risk management policies and procedures and for reviewing the adequacy of the risk management framework in relation to the risks faced by the Bank. The Audit Committee is assisted in these functions by the Internal Audit Department. This department undertakes both regular and ad hoc reviews of management controls and procedures, the results of which are reported to the Board of Directors and the Audit Committee.

(i) Credit risk

The Bank is exposed to credit risk, which is the risk of loss arising from the failure of a borrower, issuer, counterparty or customer to meet its financial obligations to the Bank. Credit risk arises in the Bank's management of its financial assets, for example in the investment of the Bank's own funds and in the course of the banking services it provides to its customers and employees.

Credit risk is managed on a portfolio basis consisting of both foreign, local and internal designations. Credit risk in respect of foreign designations, are managed via diversification of investments and held by major reputable financial institutions. In respect of local securities, the Bank transacts primarily with or investments related to the Government of Belize. Internal designations are managed using internal policies of eligibility and security for employee loans.

37. Financial risk management (continued)

(i) Credit risk (continued)

In measuring the expected credit losses, the Bank's foreign and local investments are considered to have low credit risk and the loss allowance recognised is based on the 12 months expected loss. Low credit risk are those with high-quality external credit ratings. The Bank has developed a model utilising external credit ratings to develop the probability of default (PD) against a loss given default of 25%.

Security

The Bank holds collaterals in respect of its internally designated financial assets as follows:

At 31 December 2025	**Maximum exposure**	**Stamped value**	**Appraised value**
Staff mortgage loans	**8,893,035**	**11,836,224**	**16,034,357**
Staff consumer loans (bills of sale)	**913,939**	**1,324,409**	**1,359,000**
Staff consumer loans (regular)	**1,626,875**	**-**	**-**
	11,433,849	**13,160,633**	**17,393,357**

At 31 December 2024	**Maximum exposure**	**Stamped value**	**Appraised value**
Staff mortgage loans	7,214,454	10,041,724	13,905,359
Staff consumer loans (bills of sale)	789,735	1,079,109	1,083,900
Staff consumer loans (regular)	2,405,086	-	-
	10,409,275	**11,120,833**	**14,989,259**

Significant increase in credit risk

The Bank continuously monitors all assets subject to ECL's. The Bank assesses whether there has been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition to determine whether a financial instrument is subject to 12 months ECL or life-time ECL.

37. Financial risk management (continued)

(i) Credit risk (continued)

Significant increase in credit risk (continued)

The following table details the gross carrying amounts and the corresponding ECL's by stage:

As at 31 December 2025	Notes	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Other foreign credit instruments	5	267,341,508	-	-	267,341,508
Expected credit loss		(25,114)	-	-	(25,114)
		267,316,394	-	-	267,316,394
Marketable securities issued or guaranteed by foreign governments and managed by foreign financial institutions	7	704,748,538	-	-	704,748,538
Expected credit loss		(86,402)	-	-	(86,402)
		704,662,137	-	-	704,662,137
Other assets	10	12,823,456	-	-	12,823,456
Expected credit loss		(1,143)	-	-	(1,143)
		12,822,313	-	-	12,822,313
Total net amounts		984,800,844	-	-	984,800,844
ECL as a % of carrying amounts		0.01%	-	-	0.01%

37. Financial risk management (continued)

(i) Credit risk (continued)

Significant increase in credit risk (continued)

As at 31 December 2024	Notes	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Other foreign credit instruments	5	242,810,484	-	-	**242,810,484**
Expected credit loss		(33,716)	-	-	**(33,716)**
		242,776,768	-	-	**242,776,768**
Marketable securities issued or guaranteed by foreign governments and managed by foreign financial institutions	7	617,765,869	-	-	**617,765,869**
Expected credit loss		(16,450)	-	-	**(16,450)**
		617,749,419	-	-	**617,749,419**
Other assets	10	10,761,116	-	-	**10,761,116**
Expected credit loss		(47,460)	-	-	**(47,460)**
		10,713,656	-	-	**10,713,656**
Total net amounts		871,239,843	-	-	**871,239,843**
ECL as a % of carrying amounts		0.01%	-	-	**0.01%**

Geographical concentration

The following tables break down the Bank's main credit exposure at their carrying amounts, as categorised by geographical regions as of 31 December 2025 and 31 December 2024. The Bank has allocated exposure to regions based on the country of domicile of the counterparties.

37. Financial risk management (continued)

(i) Credit risk (continued)

Geographical concentration (continued)

As at 31 December 2025

Financial assets	Belize	USA	Canada	UK	Europe	Dominica	Total
Balances with foreign banks and foreign currency notes	9,031,690	3,440,990	157,228	1,297,394	1,394,857	-	15,322,159
Reserve Tranche and balances with the International Monetary Fund	-	119,559,267	-	-	-	-	119,559,267
Other foreign credit instruments	-	244,570,920	-	22,745,474	-	-	267,316,394
Cash-in-transit	-	250,058	-	-	-	-	250,058
Marketable securities issued or guaranteed by foreign governments and managed by foreign financial institutions	-	703,605,192	-	-	-	1,056,945	704,662,137
Balances with local banks and cash on hand	2,780,374	-	-	-	-	-	2,780,374
Government of Belize securities	798,908,702	-	-	-	-	-	798,908,702
Other assets	12,822,313	-	-	-	-	-	12,822,313
Equity instruments	20,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	20,000,000
	843,543,080	1,071,426,427	157,228	24,042,868	1,394,857	1,056,945	1,941,621,405

37. Financial risk management (continued)

(i) Credit risk (continued)

Geographical concentration (continued)

As at 31 December 2025 (continued)

Financial liabilities	Belize	USA	Barbados	Jamaica	Guyana	Trinidad & Tobago	Total
Notes and coins in circulation	781,338,779	-	-	-	-	-	781,338,779
Deposits by licensed financial institutions	800,640,750	-	-	-	-	-	800,640,750
Deposits by and balances due to Government and Public sector entities in Belize	134,081,504	-	-	-	-	-	134,081,504
Deposits by international agencies	-	185,922	28,711	-	-	-	214,632
Balances due to CARICOM central banks	-	-	-	10,000	-	-	10,000
Short term credit facility	-	60,000,000	-	-	-	-	60,000,000
Other liabilities	19,490,611	-	-	-	-	-	19,490,611
International Monetary Fund' SDR Allocations	-	119,646,305	-	-	-	-	119,646,305
Commercial banks' discount fund	-	1,654,034	-	-	-	-	1,654,034
	1,735,551,644	181,486,261	28,711	10,000	-	-	1,917,076,615

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37. Financial risk management (continued)

(i) Credit risk (continued)

Geographical concentration (continued)

As at 31 December 2024

Financial assets	Belize	USA	Canada	UK	Europe	Dominica	Total
Balances with foreign banks and foreign currency notes	626,056	4,665,259	60,250	659,681	1,281,503	-	**7,292,750**
Reserve Tranche and balances with the International Monetary Fund	-	114,035,336	-	-	-	-	**114,035,336**
Other foreign credit instruments	-	200,953,292	-	41,823,476		-	**242,776,768**
Cash-in-transit	-	278,174	-	-	-	-	**278,174**
Marketable securities issued or guaranteed by foreign governments and managed by foreign financial institutions	-	616,529,869	-	-	-	1,219,550	**617,749,419**
Balances with local banks and cash on hand	1,839,142	-	-	-	-	-	**1,839,142**
Government of Belize securities	743,612,167	-	-	-	-	-	**743,612,167**
Other assets	10,713,656	-	-	-	-	-	**10,713,656**
Equity instruments	20,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	**20,000,000**
	776,791,020	**936,461,930**	**60,250**	**42,483,157**	**1,281,503**	**1,219,550**	**1,758,297,411**

37. Financial risk management (continued)

(i) Credit risk (continued)

Geographical concentration (continued)

As at 31 December 2024 (continued)

Financial liabilities	Belize	USA	Barbados	Jamaica	Guyana	Trinidad & Tobago	Total
Notes and coins in circulation	738,073,839	-	-	-	-	-	**738,073,839**
Deposits by licensed financial institutions	741,991,005	-	-	-	-	-	**741,991,005**
Deposits by and balances due to Government and public sector entities in Belize	116,998,056	-	-	-	-	-	**116,998,056**
Deposits by international agencies	-	206,273	398,741	-	-	-	**605,014**
Balances due to CARICOM central banks	-	-	-	81,200	11,422	-	**92,622**
Other liabilities	14,421,125	-	-	-	-	-	**14,421,125**
International Monetary Fund SDR allocations	-	114,057,277	-	-	-	-	**114,057,277**
Commercial banks' discount fund	-	1,654,034	-	-	-	-	**1,654,034**
	1,611,484,025	**115,917,584**	**398,741**	**81,200**	**11,422**	**-**	**1,727,892,973**

(ii) Currency risk

Currency risk is the risk that the market value of, or cash flow from, financial instruments will vary because of exchange rate fluctuations. The Bank takes on exposure to fluctuations in the prevailing foreign currency exchange rates on its financial position and cash flows. Because of its conservative nature, the Bank’s exposure is limited since a significant portion of its external assets are held in US funds and in SDR funds necessary to meet Belize’s quota with the IMF and SDR allocations. Other external asset funds are kept at a minimum. Management seeks to manage this risk by monitoring the levels of exposure by currency.

37. Financial risk management (continued)

(ii) Currency risk (continued)

As at 31 December 2025

Financial assets	BZD	USD	SDR	EUR	CAD	GBP	Total
Balances with foreign banks and foreign currency notes	-	14,436,377		613,784	157,228	114,770	15,322,159
Reserve Tranche and balances with the International Monetary Fund	-	-	119,559,267	-	-	-	119,559,267
Other foreign credit instruments	-	267,316,394	-	-	-	-	267,316,394
Cash-in-transit		250,058					250,058
Marketable securities issued or guaranteed by foreign governments and managed by foreign financial institutions	-	704,662,137	-	-	-	-	704,662,137
Balances with local banks and cash on hand	2,780,374	-	-	-	-	-	2,780,374
Government of Belize securities	798,908,702	-	-	-	-	-	798,908,702
Other assets	12,822,313	-	-	-	-	-	12,822,313
Equity instruments	20,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	20,000,000
	834,511,390	986,664,966	119,559,267	613,784	157,228	114,770	1,941,621,404

37. Financial risk management (continued)

(ii) Currency risk (continued)

As at 31 December 2025 (continued)

Financial liabilities	BZD	USD	SDR	EUR	CAD	GBP	Total
Notes and coins in circulation	781,338,779	-	-	-	-	-	781,338,779
Deposits by licensed financial institutions	800,640,750	-	-	-	-	-	800,640,750
Deposits by and balances due to Government and Public sector entities in Belize	119,297,552	14,783,953	-	-	-	-	134,081,505
Deposits by international agencies	-	29,251	185,381	-	-	-	214,632
Balances due to CARICOM central banks	-	10,000	-	-	-	-	10,000
Short term credit facility	-	60,000,000	-	-	-	-	60,000,000
Other liabilities	19,490,611	-	-	-	-	-	19,490,611
International Monetary Fund' SDR Allocations	-	-	119,646,305	-	-	-	119,646,305
Commercial banks' discount fund	1,654,034	-	-	-	-	-	1,654,034
	1,722,421,726	74,823,204	119,831,686	-	-	-	1,917,076,616
Net currency position	(887,910,336)	911,841,761	(272,420)	613,784	157,228	114,770	24,544,788

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37. Financial risk management (continued)

(ii) Currency risk (continued)
As at 31 December 2024

Financial assets	BZD	USD	SDR	EUR	CAD	GBP	Total
Balances and deposits with foreign banks	-	6,682,784		532,350	60,250	17,366	**7,292,750**
Reserve Tranche and balances with the International Monetary Fund	-	-	114,035,336	-	-	-	**114,035,336**
Other foreign credit instruments	-	242,776,768	-	-	-	-	**242,776,768**
Cash-in-transit	-	278,174	-	-	-	-	**278,174**
Marketable securities issued or guaranteed by foreign governments and managed by foreign financial institutions	-	617,749,419	-	-	-	-	**617,749,419**
Balances with local banks and cash on hand	1,839,142	-	-	-	-	-	**1,839,142**
Government of Belize securities	743,612,167	-	-	-	-	-	**743,612,167**
Other assets	10,713,656	-	-	-	-	-	**10,713,656**
Equity instruments	20,000,000	-	-	-	-	-	**20,000,000**
	776,164,964	**867,487,146**	**114,035,336**	**532,350**	**60,250**	**17,366**	**1,758,297,411**

37. Financial risk management (continued)

(ii) Currency risk (continued)

As at 31 December 2024 (continued)

Financial liabilities	BZD	USD	SDR	EUR	CAD	GBP	Total
Notes and coins in circulation	738,073,839	-	-	-	-	-	**738,073,839**
Deposits by licensed financial institutions	741,991,005	-	-	-	-	-	**741,991,005**
Deposits by and balances due to Government and public sector entities in Belize	112,334,968	4,663,088	-	-	-	-	**116,998,056**
Deposits by international agencies	-	428,481	176,533	-	-	-	**605,014**
Balances due to CARICOM central banks	-	92,622	-	-	-	-	**92,622**
Other liabilities	14,421,125	-	-	-	-	-	**14,421,125**
International Monetary Fund SDR allocations	-	-	114,057,277	-	-	-	**114,057,277**
Commercial banks' discount fund	1,654,034	-	-	-	-	-	**1,654,034**
	1,608,474,971	**5,184,191**	**114,233,810**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**1,727,892,972**
Net currency position	**(832,310,007)**	**862,302,955**	**(198,474)**	**532,350**	**60,250**	**17,366**	**30,404,440**

37. Financial risk management (continued)

(ii) Currency risk (continued)

Statement of revaluation as at 31 December 2025

	Foreign currency	Year-end rate	Belize dollar value
Euro Dollar Fund	**261,296**	**2.34900**	**613,784**
Canadian Fund	**107,705**	**1.45980**	**157,228**
SDR Fund	**43,457,206**	**2.73901**	**119,029,548**
USD Fund	**493,116,607**	**2.00000**	**986,233,213**
Sterling Fund	**42,650**	**2.69100**	**114,770**
Belize Dollar Fund	**(1,105,204,285)**	**1.00000**	**(1,105,204,285)**
Revaluation gain for the year	**-**	**-**	**944,258**
Revaluation balance as at 01 January 2025	-	-	**313,456**
Increase in revaluation	-	-	**944,258**
Revaluation balance as at 31 December 2025	**-**	**-**	**1,257,714**

37. Financial risk management (continued)

(ii) Currency risk (continued)

Statement of revaluation as at 31 December 2024

	Foreign currency	Year-end rate	Belize dollar value
Euro Dollar Fund	256,283	2.07720	**532,350**
Canadian Fund	43,376	1.38900	**60,250**
SDR Fund	43,720,696	2.60827	**114,035,336**
USD Fund	433,944,354	2.00000	**867,888,707**
Sterling Fund	6,928	2.50660	**17,366**
Belize Dollar Fund	(982,386,406)	1.00000	**(982,386,406)**
Revaluation loss for the year	**-**	**-**	**147,603**
Revaluation balance as at 01 January 2024	-	-	**165,853**
Decrease in revaluation	-	-	**147,603**
Revaluation balance as at 31 December 2024	**-**	**-**	**313,456**

The following table demonstrates the sensitivity of profit and equity to a reasonably possible change in the foreign exchange rates, with all other variables held constant.

A 10% strengthening of the Belize dollar against the following currencies as at 31 December would have increased/(decreased) equity and profit or loss by the following amounts (in $BZD'000):

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37. Financial risk management (continued)

(ii) Currency risk (continued)

	2025		2024	
	Profit or loss Effect of 10% increase/(decrease)	**Equity** Effect of 10% increase/(decrease)	**Profit or loss** Effect of 10% increase/(decrease)	**Equity** Effect of 10% increase/(decrease)
Financial assets				
SDR	-	**27**	-	44
CAD	-	**16**	-	6
EUR	-	**61**	-	53
USD	-	-	-	-
GBP	-	**11**	-	2
	-	**115**	-	105

(iii) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk arises from the possibility that changes in market interest rates will affect the future cash flows or fair values of financial instruments. CBB's objective in the management of interest rate risk is to reduce the sensitivity of its earnings and overall portfolio value to variations in interest rates. The strategy employed to achieve this involves keeping a significant portion of all financial assets in Belize and United States dollars. The only other major category is Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) that are necessary to meet Belize's requirements and quota with the IMF. Other financial assets are kept at a minimum.

37. Financial risk management (continued)

(iii) Interest rate risk (continued)

The following tables present interest rate gap analysis in BZD'000.

As at 31 December 2025	On demand/less than 1 month	1-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-12 Months	1-5 Years	Over 5 years	Total
Rate sensitive assets							
Fixed deposits	-	-	428	856	-	-	1,285
Treasury bills	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Treasury notes	-	-	1,013	2,700	4,388	6,076	14,177
Bonds	-	-	-	-	-	3,867	3,867
Debenture	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Reserve Tranche and balances with the International Monetary Fund	-	-	-	-	-	234	234
Total rate sensitive assets	-	-	1,441	3,557	4,388	10,177	19,563
Rate sensitive liabilities							
International Monetary Fund' SDR Allocations	-	-	-	-	-	239	239
Total rate sensitive liabilities	-	-	-	-	-	239	239
Interest sensitivity surplus	-	-	1,441	3,557	4,388	9,938	19,324

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37. Financial risk management (continued)

(iii) Interest rate risk (continued)

As at 31 December 2024	On demand/less than 1 month	1-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-12 Months	1-5 Years	Over 5 years	Total
Rate sensitive assets							
Fixed deposits	-	-	514	1,029	-	-	**1,543**
Treasury bills	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**
Treasury notes	-	-	855	2,279	3,703	5,127	**11,963**
Bonds	-	-	-	-	2,352	-	**2,352**
Debenture	-	-	-	-	-	1	**1**
Reserve Tranche and balances with the International Monetary Fund	-	-	-	-	-	964	**964**
Total rate sensitive assets	**-**	**-**	**1,369**	**3,307**	**6,055**	**6,092**	**16,823**
Rate sensitive liabilities							
International Monetary Fund' SDR Allocations	-	-	-	-	-	2,042	2,042
Total rate sensitive liabilities	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**2,042**	**2,042**
Interest sensitivity surplus	**-**	**-**	**1,369**	**3,307**	**6,055**	**4,050**	**14,781**

37. Financial risk management (continued)

(iii) Interest rate risk (continued)

The table below analyses the average interest rates for the Bank's foreign deposit accounts and investments.

	2025	2024
Balances and deposits with foreign banks	**3.39%**	4.52%
Other foreign credit instruments - fixed deposits	**4.01%**	5.02%
Other foreign credit instruments - overnight deposits	**4.12%**	5.11%
Marketable securities - US Treasury notes	**2.65%**	2.99%
Marketable securities - bonds	**4.30%**	3.37%
Marketable securities - debentures	**3.50%**	3.50%

(iv) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Bank will not be able to meet its financial liabilities as they fall due. Prudent liquidity management requires maintaining sufficient cash and marketable securities, and ensuring the availability of funding through an adequate amount of committed standby credit facilities to meet commitments.

IFRS 7 requires an analysis of the Bank’s assets and liabilities at the Statements of Financial Position date into relevant maturity groupings based on the remaining period to the contractual maturity date. This requirement is not relevant to the Central Bank which is the ultimate source of Belize dollar liquidity. In managing the foreign currency liquidity risk, the Bank makes every effort to hold appropriate cash balances by forecasting and monitoring liquidity through cash flow matching and holding a portfolio of liquid foreign exchange reserves. The table below analyses the Bank’s assets into relevant maturity grouping based on the remaining period at the statements of financial position date to the contractual maturity date.

Central Bank of Belize
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37. Financial risk management (continued)

(iv) Liquidity risk (continued)

As 31 December 2025

Financial assets	On demand/less than 1 month	1-3 Months	4-6 Months	6-12 Months	1-5 Years	Over 5 years	Total
Balances with foreign banks and foreign currency notes	15,322,159	-	-	-	-	-	15,322,159
Reserve Tranche and balances with the International Monetary Fund	-	-	-	-	-	119,559,267	119,559,267
Other foreign credit instruments	92,721,561	71,528,605	47,730,872	55,335,355	-	-	267,316,394
Cash-in-transit	250,058	-	-	-	-	-	250,058
Marketable securities issued or guaranteed by foreign governments and managed by foreign financial institutions	-	-	-	-	221,121,697	483,540,439	704,662,137
Balances with local banks and cash on hand	2,780,374	-	-	-	-	-	2,780,374
Government of Belize securities	9,996,890	232,523,467	73,634,793	270,930,624	197,153,558	14,669,370	798,908,702
Other assets	-	-	-	12,822,313	-	-	12,822,313
Equity instruments	-	-	-	-	-	20,000,000	20,000,000
Total	121,071,042	304,052,073	121,365,665	339,088,292	418,275,255	637,769,076	1,941,621,404

37. Financial risk management (continued)

(iv) Liquidity risk (continued)

As 31 December 2025 (continued)

Financial liabilities	On demand/less than 1 month	1-3 Months	4-6 Months	6-12 Months	1-5 Years	Over 5 years	Total
Notes and coins in circulation	-	-	-	-	-	781,338,779	781,338,779
Deposits by licensed financial institutions	-	-	-	800,640,750		-	800,640,750
Deposits by and balances due to Government and public sector entities in Belize	-	134,081,504	-	-	-	-	134,081,504
Deposits by international agencies	-	214,632	-	-	-	-	214,632
Balances due to CARICOM central banks	10,000	-	-	-	-	-	10,000
Short term credit facility	-	-	60,000,000	-	-	-	60,000,000
Other liabilities	-	-	-	19,490,611	-	-	19,490,611
International Monetary Fund SDR allocations	-	-	-	-	-	119,646,305	119,646,305
Commercial banks' discount fund	-	-	-	-	-	1,654,034	1,654,034
Total	**10,000**	**134,296,137**	**60,000,000**	**820,131,361**	**-**	**902,639,118**	**1,917,076,615**
Net liquidity position	**121,061,042**	**169,755,936**	**61,365,665**	**(481,043,069)**	**418,275,255**	**(264,870,041)**	**24,544,788**

37. Financial risk management (continued)

(iv) Liquidity risk (continued)

As 31 December 2024

Financial assets	On demand/less than 1 month	1-3 Months	4-6 Months	6-12 Months	1-5 Years	Over 5 years	Total
Balances with foreign banks and foreign	7,292,750	-	-	-	-	-	**7,292,750**
Reserve Tranche and balances with the International Monetary Fund	-	-	-	-	-	114,035,336	**114,035,336**
Other foreign credit instruments	55,623,463	68,462,184	65,676,531	53,014,590	-	-	**242,776,768**
Cash-in-transit	278,174	-	-	-	-	-	**278,174**
Marketable securities issued or guaranteed by foreign governments and managed by foreign	-	-	-	-	435,735,923	182,013,496	**617,749,419**
Balances with local banks and cash on hand	1,839,142	-	-	-	-	-	**1,839,142**
Government of Belize securities	65,360,520	223,697,705	75,325,528	122,075,228	182,240,727	74,912,459	**743,612,167**
Other assets	-	-	-	10,713,656	-	-	**10,713,656**
Equity instruments	-	-	-	-	-	20,000,000	**20,000,000**
Total	**130,394,049**	**292,159,889**	**141,002,059**	**185,803,474**	**617,976,650**	**390,961,291**	**1,758,297,412**

37. Financial risk management (continued)

(iv) Liquidity risk (continued)

As 31 December 2024 (continued)

Financial liabilities	On demand/less than 1 month	1-3 Months	4-6 Months	6-12 Months	1-5 Years	Over 5 years	Total
Notes and coins in circulation	-	-	-	-	-	738,073,839	**738,073,839**
Deposits by licensed financial institutions	-	-	-	741,991,005	-	-	**741,991,005**
Deposits by and balances due to Government and public sector entities in Belize	-	116,998,056	-	-	-	-	**116,998,056**
Deposits by international agencies	-	605,014	-	-	-	-	**605,014**
Balances due to CARICOM central banks	92,622	-	-	-	-	-	**92,622**
Other liabilities	-	-	-	14,421,125	-	-	**14,421,125**
International Monetary Fund SDR allocations	-	-	-	-	-	114,057,277	**114,057,277**
Commercial banks' discount fund	-	-	-	-	-	1,654,034	**1,654,034**
Total	**92,622**	**117,603,070**	**-**	**756,412,130**	**-**	**853,785,150**	**1,727,892,973**
Net liquidity position	**130,301,427**	**174,556,819**	**141,002,059**	**(570,608,657)**	**617,976,650**	**(462,823,859)**	**30,404,439**

37. Financial risk management (continued)

(v) Operational risk

The Bank is exposed to operational risk which can lead to financial losses through error, fraud or inefficiencies. The Bank mitigates this risk by constantly revisiting internal controls, adhering to its fraud policy and reliance on the internal audit function.

38. Commitments and contingencies

(i) Claims and litigations

The Bank is subject to certain legal proceedings and claims that arise in the ordinary course of business operations. Management believes that the amount of liability, if any, from these actions would not have a material effect on the financial statement of the Bank.

(ii) Printing of notes and minting of coins

The Bank commits to order currency from several minters and printers. As at 31 December, the Bank was committed to the following payments for currency:

	2025	2024
Not later than one year	**15,125,498**	5,595,455

39. Subsequent events

In February 2026, the Bank repaid its existing short-term credit facility held with Raymond James & Associates, Inc. (Note 19). In the same month the Bank acquired another short-term credit facility from a different financial institution for $30 million with a rate based on the Federal Fund Rate plus 1%. The credit facility does not have a fixed maturity date; however, the Bank expects to repay this credit facility in full during the fiscal year 2026.

Subsequent events have been evaluated through 22 April 2026. Management is unaware of any events after that date that they believe would materially and adversely affect these financial statements. Events occurring after that date have not been evaluated to determine whether a change in the financial statements would be required.