



**COLLABORATORS**

	<i>TITLE :</i> 98		
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>NAME</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>SIGNATURE</i>
WRITTEN BY		August 10, 2024	

**REVISION HISTORY**

NUMBER	DATE	DESCRIPTION	NAME

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	98.guide . . . . .	1
1.2	98.guide/Guatemala . . . . .	1
1.3	98.guide/Geography (Guatemala) . . . . .	2
1.4	98.guide/People (Guatemala) . . . . .	3
1.5	98.guide/Government (Guatemala) . . . . .	4
1.6	98.guide/Government (Guatemala 2. usage) . . . . .	5
1.7	98.guide/Economy (Guatemala) . . . . .	6
1.8	98.guide/Economy (Guatemala 2. usage) . . . . .	7
1.9	98.guide/Communications (Guatemala) . . . . .	8
1.10	98.guide/Defense Forces (Guatemala) . . . . .	8

# Chapter 1

## 98

### 1.1 98.guide

Texified version of data for Guatemala.

Texified using wfact from

Gerhard Leibrock  
Neuhäuselerstr. 12  
D-66459 Kirkel  
Germany

Tel.: 06849 / 6134  
INTERNET: leibrock@fsinfo.cs.uni-sb.de  
fach5@cipsol.cs.uni-sb.de

Project Gutenberg

P. O. Box 2782

Champaign, IL 61825

When all other email fails try our Michael S. Hart, Executive  
Director:

hart@vmd.cso.uiuc.edu (internet) hart@uiucvmd (bitnet)

We would prefer to send you this information by email (Internet,  
Bitnet, Compuserve, ATTMAIL or MCI mail).

Guatemala

### 1.2 98.guide/Guatemala

Guatemala  
\*\*\*\*\*

---

Geography (Guatemala)  
 People (Guatemala)  
 Government (Guatemala)  
 Government (Guatemala 2. usage)  
 Economy (Guatemala)  
 Economy (Guatemala 2. usage)  
 Communications (Guatemala)  
 Defense Forces (Guatemala)

### 1.3 98.guide/Geography (Guatemala)

Geography (Guatemala)

=====

Location:

Central America, between Honduras and Mexico

Map references:

Central America and the Caribbean, North America, Standard Time Zones of  
 the  
 World ←

Area:

total area:

108,890 km<sup>2</sup>

land area:

108,430 km<sup>2</sup>

comparative area:

slightly smaller than Tennessee

Land boundaries:

total 1,687 km, Belize 266 km, El Salvador 203 km, Honduras 256 km, Mexico  
 962 km

Coastline:

400 km

Maritime claims:

continental shelf:

the outer edge of the continental shelf

exclusive economic zone:

200 nm

territorial sea:

12 nm

International disputes:

border with Belize in dispute; negotiations to resolve the dispute have  
 begun

Climate:

tropical; hot, humid in lowlands; cooler in highlands

Terrain:

mostly mountains with narrow coastal plains and rolling limestone plateau  
 (Petén)

Natural resources:

petroleum, nickel, rare woods, fish, chicle

Land use:

arable land:

12%  
 permanent crops:  
   4%  
 meadows and pastures:  
   12%  
 forest and woodland:  
   40%  
 other:  
   32%  
 Irrigated land:  
   780 km2 (1989 est.)  
 Environment:  
   numerous volcanoes in mountains, with frequent violent earthquakes;  
   Caribbean coast subject to hurricanes and other tropical storms;  
   deforestation; soil erosion; water pollution  
 Note:  
   no natural harbors on west coast

## 1.4 98.guide/People (Guatemala)

### People (Guatemala)

=====

Population:  
   10,446,015 (July 1993 est.)  
 Population growth rate:  
   2.63% (1993 est.)  
 Birth rate:  
   36.19 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)  
 Death rate:  
   7.74 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)  
 Net migration rate:  
   -2.18 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)  
 Infant mortality rate:  
   55.6 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)  
 Life expectancy at birth:  
   total population:  
     63.99 years  
   male:  
     61.46 years  
   female:  
     66.65 years (1993 est.)  
 Total fertility rate:  
   4.9 children born/woman (1993 est.)  
 Nationality:  
   noun:  
     Guatemalan(s)  
   adjective:  
     Guatemalan  
 Ethnic divisions:  
   Ladino 56% (mestizo - mixed Indian and European ancestry), Indian 44%  
 Religions:  
   Roman Catholic, Protestant, traditional Mayan

## Languages:

Spanish 60%, Indian language 40% (18 Indian dialects, including Quiche, Cakchiquel, Kekchi)

## Literacy:

age 15 and over can read and write (1990)

total population:

55%

male:

63%

female:

47%

## Labor force:

2.5 million

by occupation:

agriculture 60%, services 13%, manufacturing 12%, commerce 7%, construction 4%, transport 3%, utilities 0.8%, mining 0.4% (1985)

## 1.5 98.guide/Government (Guatemala)

### Government (Guatemala)

=====

## Names:

conventional long form:

Republic of Guatemala

conventional short form:

Guatemala

local long form:

Republica de Guatemala

local short form:

Guatemala

## Digraph:

GT

## Type:

republic

## Capital:

Guatemala

## Administrative divisions:

22 departments (departamentos, singular - departamento); Alta Verapaz, Baja Verapaz, Chimaltenango, Chiquimula, El Progreso, Escuintla, Guatemala, Huehuetenango, Izabal, Jalapa, Jutiapa, Peten, Quetzaltenango, Quiche, Retalhuleu, Sacatepequez, San Marcos, Santa Rosa, Solola, Suchitepequez, Totonicapan, Zacapa

## Independence:

15 September 1821 (from Spain)

## Constitution:

31 May 1985, effective 14 January 1986

## note:

suspended on 25 May 1993 by President SERRANO; reinstated on 5 June 1993 following ouster of president

## Legal system:

civil law system; judicial review of legislative acts; has not accepted compulsory ICJ jurisdiction

## National holiday:

Independence Day, 15 September (1821)

## Political parties and leaders:

National Centrist Union (UCN), Jorge CARPIO Nicolle; Solidarity Action Movement (MAS), Jorge SERRANO Elias; Christian Democratic Party (DCG), Alfonso CABRERA Hidalgo; National Advancement Party (PAN), Alvaro ARZU Irigoyen; National Liberation Movement (MLN), Mario SANDOVAL Alarcon; ←  
Social

Democratic Party (PSD), Mario SOLARZANO Martinez; Popular Alliance 5 (AP-5) ←

Max ORLANDO Molina; Revolutionary Party (PR), Carlos CHAVARRIA; National Authentic Center (CAN), Hector MAYORA Dawe; Democratic Institutional Party (PID), Oscar RIVAS; Nationalist United Front (FUN), Gabriel GIRON; Guatemalan Republican Front (FRG), Efrain RIOS Montt

## Other political or pressure groups:

Federated Chambers of Commerce and Industry (CACIF); Mutual Support Group (GAM); Agrarian Owners Group (UNAGRO); Committee for Campesino Unity (CUC); leftist guerrilla movement known as Guatemalan National Revolutionary Union (URNG) has four main factions - Guerrilla army of the Poor (EGP); Revolutionary Organization of the People in Arms (ORPA); Rebel Armed Forces (FAR); Guatemalan Labor Party (PGT/O)

## Suffrage:

18 years of age; universal

## Elections:

## Congress:

last held on 11 November 1990 (next to be held 11 November 1995); results - UCN 25.6%, MAS 24.3%, DCG 17.5%, PAN 17.3%, MLN 4.8%, PSD/AP-5 3.6%, PR 2.1%; seats - (116 total) UCN 38, DCG 27, MAS 18, PAN 12, Pro - Rios Montt 10, MLN 4, PR 1, PSD/AP-5 1, independent 5

## 1.6 98.guide/Government (Guatemala 2. usage)

### Government (Guatemala 2. usage)

=====

## President:

runoff held on 11 January 1991 (next to be held 11 November 1995); results ←

Jorge SERRANO Elias (MAS) 68.1%, Jorge CARPIO Nicolle (UCN) 31.9%

## note:

President SERRANO resigned on 1 June 1993 shortly after dissolving Congress and the judiciary; on 6 June 1993, Ramiro DE LEON Carpio was chosen as the new president by a vote of Congress; he will finish off the remainder of SERRANO's five-year term which expires in 1995

## Executive branch:

president, vice president, Council of Ministers (cabinet)

## Legislative branch:

unicameral Congress of the Republic (Congreso de la Republica)

## Judicial branch:

Supreme Court of Justice (Corte Suprema de Justicia)

## Leaders:

## Chief of State and Head of Government:

President Ramiro DE LEON Carpio (since 6 June 1993); Vice President Arturo

HERBRUGER (since 18 June 1993)

Member of:

BCIE, CACM, CCC, ECLAC, FAO, G-24, G-77, GATT, IADB, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, ICFTU, IDA, IFAD, IFC, ILO, IMF, IMO, INTELSAT, INTERPOL, IOC, IOM, ITU, LAES, LAIA (observer), LORCS, NAM, OAS, OPANAL, PCA, UN, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNIDO, UPU, WCL, WFTU, WHO, WIPO, WMO

Diplomatic representation in US:

chief of mission:

Ambassador Juan Jose CASO-FANJUL

chancery:

2220 R Street NW, Washington, DC 20008

telephone:

(202) 745-4952 through 4954

consulates general:

Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans, New York, and San Francisco

US diplomatic representation:

chief of mission:

Ambassador Marilyn MCAFEE (since 28 May 1993)

embassy:

7-01 Avenida de la Reforma, Zone 10, Guatemala City

mailing address:

APO AA 34024

telephone:

[502] (2) 31-15-41

FAX:

[502] (2) 318855

Flag: three equal vertical bands of light blue (hoist side), white, and ←  
light blue

with the coat of arms centered in the white band; the coat of arms includes a green and red quetzal (the national bird) and a scroll bearing the inscription LIBERTAD 15 DE SEPTIEMBRE DE 1821 (the original date of independence from Spain) all superimposed on a pair of crossed rifles and a pair of crossed swords and framed by a wreath

## 1.7 98.guide/Economy (Guatemala)

### Economy (Guatemala)

=====

Overview:

The economy is based on family and corporate agriculture, which accounts ←  
for

26% of GDP, employs about 60% of the labor force, and supplies two-thirds ←  
of

exports. Manufacturing, predominantly in private hands, accounts for about 18% of GDP and 12% of the labor force. In both 1990 and 1991, the economy grew by 3%, the fourth and fifth consecutive years of mild growth. In 1992 growth picked up to 4% as government policies favoring competition and foreign trade and investment took stronger hold.

National product:

GDP - exchange rate conversion - \$12.6 billion (1992 est.)

National product real growth rate:

4.2% (1992)

National product per capita:  
\$1,300 (1992 est.)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):  
14% (1992 est.)

Unemployment rate:  
6.5% (1991 est.), with 30-40% underemployment

Budget:  
revenues \$604 million; expenditures \$808 million, including capital expenditures of \$134 million (1990 est.)

Exports:  
\$1.3 billion (f.o.b., 1992)  
commodities:  
coffee 26%, sugar 13%, bananas 7%, beef 3%  
partners:  
US 36%, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Germany, Honduras

Imports:  
\$1.8 billion (c.i.f., 1992)  
commodities:  
fuel and petroleum products, machinery, grain, fertilizers, motor vehicles  
partners:  
US 40%, Mexico, Venezuela, Japan, Germany

External debt:  
\$2.5 billion (December 1992 est.)

Industrial production:  
growth rate 1.9% (1991 est.); accounts for 18% of GDP

Electricity:  
847,600 kW capacity; 2,500 million kWh produced, 260 kWh per capita (1992)

Industries:  
sugar, textiles and clothing, furniture, chemicals, petroleum, metals, rubber, tourism

Agriculture:  
accounts for 26% of GDP; most important sector of economy; contributes two-thirds of export earnings; principal crops - sugarcane, corn, bananas, coffee, beans, cardamom; livestock - cattle, sheep, pigs, chickens; food importer

Illicit drugs:  
illicit producer of opium poppy and cannabis for the international drug trade; the government has an active eradication program for cannabis and opium poppy; transit country for cocaine shipments

Economic aid:  
US commitments, including Ex-Im (FY70-90), \$1.1 billion; Western (non-US) countries, ODA and OOF bilateral commitments (1970-89), \$7.92 billion

Currency:  
1 quetzal (Q) = 100 centavos

## 1.8 98.guide/Economy (Guatemala 2. usage)

Economy (Guatemala 2. usage)

=====

Exchange rates:  
free market quetzales (Q) per US\$1 - 5.2850 (December 1993), 5.1706 (1992),

---

5.0289 (1991), 2.8161 (1989), 2.6196 (1988); note - black-market rate 2.800 (May 1989)  
 Fiscal year:  
 calendar year

## 1.9 98.guide/Communications (Guatemala)

Communications (Guatemala)

=====

### Railroads:

1,019 km 0.914-meter gauge, single track; 917 km government owned, 102 km privately owned

### Highways:

26,429 km total; 2,868 km paved, 11,421 km gravel, and 12,140 unimproved

### Inland waterways:

260 km navigable year round; additional 730 km navigable during high-water season

### Pipelines:

crude oil 275 km

### Ports:

Puerto Barrios, Puerto Quetzal, Santo Tomas de Castilla

### Merchant marine:

1 cargo ship (1,000 GRT or over) totaling 4,129 GRT/6,450 DWT

### Airports:

total:

474

usable:

418

with permanent-surface runways:

11

with runways over 3,659 m:

0

with runways 2,440-3,659 m:

3

with runways 1,220-2,439 m:

21

### Telecommunications:

fairly modern network centered in Guatemala [city]; 97,670 telephones; broadcast stations - 91 AM, no FM, 25 TV, 15 shortwave; connection into Central American Microwave System; 1 Atlantic Ocean INTELSAT earth station

## 1.10 98.guide/Defense Forces (Guatemala)

Defense Forces (Guatemala)

=====

Branches:

---

Army, Navy, Air Force

Manpower availability:

males age 15-49 2,410,760; fit for military service 1,576,569; reach  
military age (18) annually 115,178 (1993 est.)

Defense expenditures:

exchange rate conversion - \$121 million, 1% of GDP (1993)