

# GUATEMALA IN CONTEXT

a cedepca publication

19th edition – February, 2008

---



## The Name

Guatemala is derived from the tlaxcalteca word *coactemahlán* which means *place of forests*. The tlaxcaltecas were a Mexican indigenous group who worked as mercenaries for Pedro de Alvarado when he invaded Guatemala.

## Geography

Guatemala is the third largest and the most populous of the Central American countries. The other four countries that form Central America are Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

Guatemala covers just over **42,000 square miles** and is roughly the size of the U.S. states of Ohio or Tennessee. Guatemala City is due south of the U.S. cities of Chicago and New Orleans.

## Demographics

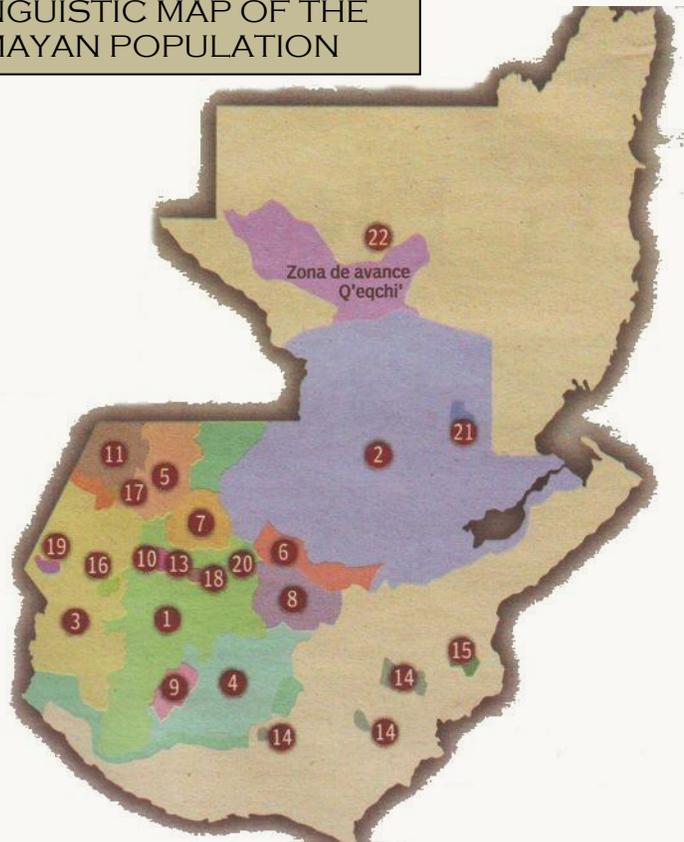
In **2007** the population of Guatemala reached **13.4 million**, with an annual natural **growth rate** of **2.8%**. **47%** of the population lives in **urban areas**. **43%** of the population is **under 15** years of age. **4%** is older than **65**. **Life expectancy** at birth is **66** years for **men** and **73** years for **women**. The **overall life expectancy** is **69** years. (PRB)

The population of greater Guatemala City is about 2.5 million people.

**Spanish** is the official language. There are **22 Mayan languages** spoken plus **Xinka** and **Garifuna**; about half of Guatemalans are Mayan. The Xinka are a non-Mayan indigenous group mostly located in the south eastern region near El Salvador. The Garifuna, who live on the Atlantic coast, are an Afro-Caribbean people. The largest Mayan groups are the K'iche', Kaqchikel, Q'eqchi' and Mam. **Mixed-blood people** who have abandoned Mayan language and customs are known as **Ladinos**. The definition of who is Maya and who is Ladino, however, is fluid and subjective. For example, as communities lose their Mayan roots, one generation will wear Mayan dress and speak K'iché combined with some Spanish, the next generation will not wear Maya dress and will speak K'iché as a second language, and the following generation will not wear Mayan dress or speak K'iché at all – people of this last generation, depending on their ongoing connections with the larger Mayan community, may define themselves as Maya or Ladino.

## LINGUISTIC MAP OF THE MAYAN POPULATION

Idioma	Hablantes
1. K'iche'	922 mil 378
2. Q'eqchi'	726 mil 723
3. Mam	519 mil 378
4. Kaqchikel	475 mil 889
5. Q'anjob'al	99 mil 211
6. Poqomchi'	69 mil 716
7. Ixil	69 mil 137
8. Achi	51 mil
9. Tz'utujil	47 mil 669
10. Chalchiteko	35 mil
11. Popti'	38 mil 350
12. Chuj	38 mil 253
13. Awakateko	16 mil 272
14. Poqomam	9 mil 548
15. Ch'orti'	9 mil 105
16. Sipakapense	6 mil 344
17. Akateko	5 mil 572
18. Sakapulteko	3 mil 940
19. Tektiteko	Mil 241
20. Uspanteko	Mil 231
21. Mopan	468
22. Itza'	123



Prensa Libre, April 23, 2006

## Government - The Executive, Congress and the Judiciary

Guatemala is a representative democracy. The country is divided into 22 administrative regions known as *departamentos*. Each *departamento* is divided into *municipios*, similar to counties in much of the U.S. Guatemala has 331 *municipios*.

Executive power is held by a president who is elected by direct universal adult suffrage to a term of four years. The President is assisted by a vice president and an appointed cabinet. The unicameral Congress consists of departmental and national representatives also elected to four-year terms. Judicial power rests in a Court of Constitutionality, a Supreme Court and subordinate courts.

The current government serves from January, 2008 to January, 2012.

### Executive:

**Alvaro Colóm Caballeros** was elected president in the November, 2007 election, his third attempt at national office. His party, the *Unión Nacional de la Esperanza* (UNE) is Social Democratic. Colóm is a business man whose previous government experience was leading a rural redevelopment fund (Fonapaz) set up after the Peace Accords. His uncle, **Manuel Colóm Arqueta**, was a reform-minded mayor of Guatemala City who was assassinated by the Guatemalan Army in the early 70s. His wife, **Sandra Torres**, is an

### Corruption in Guatemala

Transparency International's yearly Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) measures **public perception of corruption** in government and among public officials. **Guatemala** ranked **111<sup>th</sup>** of **163** countries in **2007**, scoring 2.8 on a 10-point scale. (TI)

entrepreneur from a regionally-prominent political family. His vice-president, **Rafael Espada**, is a renowned heart surgeon who returned to Guatemala from a successful practice in Houston to form part of the winning ticket.

## Congress:

158 seats. **UNE** begins with 48 seats; **GANA**, outgoing president Berger's party, with 37 seats; **Partido Patriota**, the second place finisher in the presidential race, with 30 seats; **FRG**, Rios Montt's party, with; **Encuentro por Guatemala**, the party that named Rigoberta Menchú as their presidential candidate in 2007, with only 4 seats. These totals will vary when some members of Congress switch their political affiliation as competing parties jockey for power in a highly fragmented legislature.

Members of Congress who are Women: **12%**

Number of Political Parties in Congress: **11**

## Judiciary:

Guatemala's court system continues to struggle with the legacy of a culture of impunity: lack of training, lack of funding and lack of political will on the part of the government as a whole to consolidate the rule of law. According to the International Commission of Jurists, impunity in Guatemala is due to the influence of military and paramilitary factions on judicial decisions. The Commission also notes that most Guatemalans do not have access to the justice system. Noted human rights activist Helen Mack has observed: "It seems that the arms of organized crime are inside all state institutions, not only in the justice system. (*El Periódico*, Jan 6, 2006). Here are some grim indicators:



- **97** of every **100 homicides** remain **unsolved**. (*Prensa Libre*, August 6, 2005)
- Of **6,190 indictments** against alleged organized crime figures in 2006, **159** were brought to **trial**. Of these, **136** were **convicted** and **23** were found **Innocent** (*Prensa Libre* August 2, 2007).
- Of **14,184** reports of sexual crimes and **domestic violence in 2000**, only **40** perpetrators were **convicted**. (*Prensa Libre*, Feb. 11, 2007)

## Women and the Law

Guatemalan women gained the right to vote and to be elected in 1946. The first woman was elected to Congress in 1956. The Constitution of 1985 guarantees equality to men and women in all spheres of life. In 1996 Congress passed a law protecting women from physical and psychological violence in their homes. Only in 2006 did Congress revoke an 1877 law that had allowed husbands to bar their wives from seeking employment outside the home. The 2006 law also requires that rape and other sexual violence be punished. Previously, a rapist could avoid sanctions if he agreed to marry the victim.

### Violence Against Women

In **2007**, authorities reported **462 women murdered**, bringing the **8-year total to 3,379**. Guatemalan authorities have yet to identify why the sudden surge of violence against women, nor to discern if the murders fall into preventable patterns. Some independent analysts use the term *femicide* to describe this chilling trend. (*Prensa Libre*, Jan.27, 2008)

# A BRIEF POLITICAL HISTORY

**1524** **Hernán Cortés** invaded the land of the **Mexicas** in 1519. His lieutenant, **Pedro de Alvarado**, invaded the region that would become **Guatemala** in 1524. It took Alvarado more than a decade to complete the initial military phase of the conquest of the **Maya Empire**, a decentralized network of city-states.

Of the estimated 40 million people living in Mesoamerica when Cortés arrived, barely 5 million were alive in 1650. The Mexica, Maya and other Mesoamerican peoples succumbed to smallpox, influenza, sexually-transmitted diseases and bubonic plague as well as measles, mumps and other “childhood” diseases. Later, malaria and yellow fever were imported from Africa as by-products of the **slave trade**. (The European invaders had begun to import African slaves early in the Sixteenth Century due to the rapid decimation of the indigenous population on the islands of the Caribbean.)

**1821** Guatemala and the other four Central American countries declare **Independence from Spain**.

**1850s** Guatemala begins a shift to a **coffee-based** agricultural export economy. After the **Liberal revolution** in the **1870s**, the government gave key supporters land expropriated from Mayan communities and from the Catholic Church. This policy helped consolidate the power of *latifundistas* (large landowners with political clout) and left Mayan *minifundistas* (small landowners) with no alternative but to sell their labor to the *latifundistas* at harvest time. This was a time of **culture wars** between Liberals and Conservatives, with the Roman Catholic hierarchy, staunch allies of the Conservatives, paying a steep price in lost political, cultural and economic power.

**1882** Liberal dictator **Justo Rufino Barrios** challenges the power of the Catholic hierarchy by inviting the Presbyterian Church in the US to establish the first ongoing Protestant presence in Guatemala.

**1901** The Guatemalan government signs an agreement with the Boston-based **United Fruit Company**. United Fruit, a banana producer, soon became the largest landholder, employer and exporter in Guatemala.

**1944** Liberal dictator **Jorge Ubico**, who had presided

over an autocratic administration since 1931, is overthrown by a popular uprising led by students, teachers and progressive military officers.

**1945** **Dr. Juan José Arévalo** is elected president after approval of a new constitution. Labor, social security and education programs influenced by Roosevelt’s “New Deal” are adopted. Women are given the right to vote, and a minimum wage and national health care program are established.

**1950** **Col. Jacobo Árbenz**, a key leader in the ‘44 Revolution and Arévalo’s defense minister, is elected President. An **agrarian reform** program is initiated, mandating that arable land not under cultivation be expropriated for its declared tax value and turned over to landless peasants. **United Fruit** responded by fomenting opposition to the Árbenz government in Washington. Árbenz’ stated objective was to transform Guatemala into a “modern capitalist state.”

**1954** U.S. fears of President Árbenz’ alleged communist sympathies lead the **CIA** to terrorize the government, forcing the President to resign. U.S. agents bomb Guatemalan military targets.

**1960** November uprising led by **Yon Sosa** and **Turcios Lima**, two young army officers rebelling against the corrupt, servile regime of **President Ydígoras Fuentes**, who had allowed the CIA to use Guatemalan soil to train mercenaries for the Bay of Pigs invasion. This marks the **beginning of 36-year civil war**.

**1966** **Julio Cesar Méndez**, a civilian, is elected president. He is quickly reduced to figurehead status by the military.

**1976** On Feb. 4, Guatemala is shaken by a **massive earthquake** that kills 20,000 people and unmasks the growing political and economic chasm between city and countryside, Ladino and Maya, rich and poor.

**1977** **US aid** to Guatemala cut off because of human rights abuses. **US bans arms sales** a year later but continues covert and indirect support.

**1978** **Gen. Romeo Lucas García** is elected through fraud. His brother, Defense Minister **Benedicto Lucas**, initiates a scorched earth counter-insurgency campaign

that continues until the mid-80's. (Benedicto had served with the French in the Algerian counterinsurgency campaign). Specially targeted are Mayan villagers living in areas sympathetic to the insurgency. More than 400 villages are destroyed.

**1982 Gen. Efraín Ríos Montt**, a convert to neo-pentecostalism seizes power in a coup. Promises are made to end the death squads and dissolve the secret police. The “scorched earth” campaign continues and Guatemala is censured by the U.N. for massive human rights violations.



**1983** Ríos Montt is ousted by another army general, **Mejía Vítores**. Mejía begins the transition to a “formal democracy.”

**1985 Vinicio Cerezo** is elected president - the first civilian since 1966 - but, as Cerezo himself admits to the press, the military continues to be the power behind the throne.

**1987** In October, formal peace negotiations begin with the first publicly-acknowledged encounter between the Guatemalan government and URNG in Madrid, Spain.

**1990** Neo-pentecostal lay preacher **Jorge Serrano** is elected president; in **1993** he attempts to seize extra-constitutional powers by dissolving Congress and the judiciary. Serrano is deposed and a national referendum reforms the Constitution; special elections seat a new Congress.

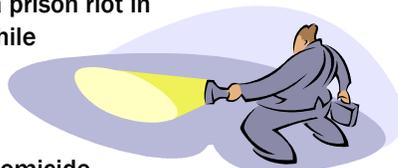
**1993 Ramiro de León Carpio**, former Human Rights Ombudsman, is elected president after Serrano is deposed. The populace demonstrates continued loss of confidence in Guatemala’s corrupt and ineffective “low-intensity democracy” as abstention rates in both the 1990 and 1994 elections exceed 80%.

**1996** Neo-conservative technocrat **Alvaro Arzú**, a travel agent, former mayor of Guatemala City and son of the landed oligarchy, is elected president. He focuses enormous energy on getting a peace

agreement signed before the end of the year. Despite the peace negotiations, his political effectiveness dissipates among charges of corruption and arrogance.

**Dec. 29, 1996** Signing of **Firm and Lasting Peace** in Guatemala City, including *Socioeconomic and Agrarian Accord, Accord to Strengthen Civil Society and Clarify the Role of the Army in a Democratic Society, Definitive Cease Fire, Constitutional and Electoral Reforms and Bases for Reincorporation of URNG into Civilian Life.*

**April 24, 1998** The Catholic Church presents **Guatemala Nunca Más**, a 1400-page report based on a three-year study coordinated by Guatemalan **Bishop Juan Gerardi Conadera** in which 600 trained interviewers conducted more than 6500 interviews with survivors of 36 years of civil war. The report charged that government soldiers and paramilitary groups were responsible for 85.43% of the violence, guerrillas were responsible for 9.3%, while responsibility for the remaining 5.27% was undetermined.

**April 26, 1998** Bishop **Gerardi** is brutally murdered in the garage of his home. In **June, 2001**, four people were convicted of the crime: retired Col. Byron Disrael Lima Estrada, his son, Capt. Byron Lima Oliva, army specialist Obdulio Villanueva, and Mario Orantes, a priest who shared Gerardi’s residence. All three soldiers are long-time members of army intelligence. The court characterized the murder as a political assassination. In a surprise move, in **mid-October 2002**, an appeals court threw out the verdict and called for a new trial, but Guatemala’s Supreme Court upheld the original verdict. Villanueva, one of those convicted, was beheaded in a prison riot in February, 2003, while  Lima Estrada and Lima Oliva had their verdicts reclassified from homicide to accomplice in 2005, reducing their jail terms from 30 to 20 years.

None of these four convicts are considered to have been the intellectual authors of the Gerardi murder, nor the hit men. For more, see **The Art of Political Murder: Who Killed the Bishop** (Francisco Goldman, Grove:2007).

**February, 1999** A second report on the war is published by the United Nations-sponsored **Commission for Historical Clarification**, commonly referred to as the

“Truth Commission.” The Commission was created in compliance with the Peace Accords. The report found that more than 200,000 people were killed or disappeared during the armed conflict. In particular, between 1981 and 1983, a deliberate policy of genocide against the Mayan population was carried out from 1981-83 by the Guatemalan state. Most massacres were carried out with the full knowledge, or by order, of the highest state authorities; 93% of all cases were attributed to the armed forces and paramilitary agents; 3% were traced to the left-wing Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity. The report also charges the U.S. government, via the CIA, with building close alliances with far-right political parties and the economic elite and with supporting their systematic use of state terror as a method of counterinsurgency.

**May 16, 1999** Guatemalan voters reject a package of constitutional amendments, including proposals to grant the nation’s majority indigenous population equal rights and to curb the power of the armed forces. Since the Guatemalan Congress had never ratified the Peace Accords, this package would have given legal standing to the agreements that addressed the social, political and economic problems that fueled the 36 year civil war. Of the 47 reforms on the ballot, only 15 were directly derived from the Peace Accords; opponents managed to pack the referendum question with extraneous “reforms” as part of their successful strategy to defeat this ballot initiative. The abstention rate again exceeds 80%. The Peace Accords, for all practical purposes, are dead in the water.

**1999** A healthy voter turnout leads to a resounding victory by **Alfonso Portillo**, an ex-Christian Democrat and a lawyer with the gift of gab. His adopted party, the Guatemalan Republican Front (FRG), still led by

charismatic strongman Efraín Ríos Montt, is a curious mixture of disaffected leftists, rural conservatives, urban citizens concerned about law and order, and ex-military officers tainted by the worst years of the repression. The Portillo government proved to be unusually corrupt and politically ineffective; Portillo is currently in exile in Mexico to avoid prosecution.

**2003 Oscar Berger**, like Álvaro Arzú a representative of the landed gentry and a former mayor of Guatemala City, assembled GANA, a coalition of microparties, to win back political power for the traditional elites. The FRG retained the largest delegation in Congress. Berger is ineffective at fighting corruption. Government-sponsored death squads carry out a campaign of “social cleansing” against suspected gang members and repeat offenders. In his final months in office Berger’s vice-president, Eduardo Stein, gets Congress to approve the creation of the **International Commission to Combat Impunity in Guatemala (CICIG)**, a UN-related agency that had been contemplated in the Peace Accords.

**2005** Tens of millions of **decaying files** were discovered in a **police station** in Guatemala City. Some appear to shed light on the fate of thousands of people disappeared by security forces during the war. A team of experts is classifying and scanning the documents prior to making them available for review.

**2007 Álvaro Colóm**, a Social Democrat and founder of the *Unión Nacional de la Esperanza* (UNE) is elected president over Otto Pérez Molina, a retired Army general who ran on a law-and-order platform with his *Partido Patriota*.

# CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATION

Historically, political and economic power in Guatemala has been held by an elite minority. With the signing of the 1996 Peace Accords, little changed. As violence and impunity permeate the economic, political and social atmosphere, Guatemalans are finding that peace must come to mean more than the absence of war.

Most Guatemalans feel estranged from the political process and focus their energy on economic survival. Important sectors of civil society try to combat this malaise by building spaces for effective citizen participation in the exercise of public power. But most people have come to expect that the rich and powerful will be corrupt and will use violence to protect their position of privilege. How to break the cycle of impunity and violence continues to be Guatemala's toughest political challenge.

The Alvaro Arzú regime, in office from 1996-2000, represented a coalition formed between traditional elites and professional technocrats. They signed the Peace Accords in December, 1996, but failed to get them ratified by Congress. A referendum to approve the Constitutional reforms contemplated in the Accords also failed.

Alfonso Portillo of the Guatemalan Republican Front (FRG), assumed the presidency in January, 2000. Voters rejected the perceived arrogance and political incompetence of the Arzú government and embraced the promises of FRG elder statesman, Efraín Ríos Montt for security, jobs, more taxes for the rich and justice for the poor. Ríos went on to become President of Congress.

The 2003 elections found the FRG mired in charges of massive corruption, including the disappearance of several hundred million dollars of Social Security and military pension funds. Violence, impunity and social unrest continued unabated. Public distrust of the political system deepened.

Security has been a key issue in all recent national elections. Growing gang- and drug-related violence, combined with high unemployment and a stagnant economy, has led to a dramatic increase in street crime, vigilantism and paramilitary activity.

Most analysts agree that to achieve political viability, any Guatemalan government must demonstrate its ability to provide citizen security, healthcare and education while consolidating the rule of law.

The 2003 elections played out as "the revenge of the elite." Oscar Berger, like Álvaro Arzú a representative of the landed gentry and a former mayor of Guatemala City, assembled GANA, a coalition of micro-parties, to win back political power for the private sector. It was a bitter election. The FRG tried to hold on to power by virulently attacking the economic elite. Berger and his allies counterattacked by portraying themselves as competent technocrats, the rightful heirs to power that had been temporarily usurped by the FRG's uncouth and corrupt barbarians.

Berger, the winner, presided over a fragmented and uneven government. Activists in the Berger government pushed through unprecedented reparations payments to victims of human rights abuses, while public security forces harassed human rights groups and ran death squads targeting suspected gang members. Congress and the court system made little progress in consolidating the rule of law or dismantling a culture of impunity.

In its final months in office, the Berger government made its mark on history by getting Congress to ratify the UN-sponsored International Commission to Combat Impunity in Guatemala (CICIG). CICIG, first contemplated in the 1996 Peace Accords, provides technical assistance to Guatemalan prosecutors attempting to move through the courts selected cases of corruption and human rights violations, seeking some high-profile convictions to strike a blow against impunity.

The 2007 election pitted retired Army general Otto Pérez Molina against Social Democrat Álvaro Colóm Caballeros. Pérez heads the *Partido Patriota (PP)* and ran on a law-and-order platform, playing up his military ties. Colóm heads the *Unión Nacional de la Esperanza (UNE)*, proposing rural development and an "intelligent" approach to citizen security.

According to independent press accounts, both parties

are plagued with troubling ties to drug traffickers and include candidates suspected of corruption.

In the December, 2007 election Colóm pulled off a decisive 53% - 47% victory, winning in 20 of Guatemala's 22 departments. Colóm's ample victory is being interpreted as a rejection of rogue violence and militarism by Guatemalan voters.

Colóm comes from a courageous family: his uncle, Manuel Colóm Argueta, also a Social Democrat, was a visionary and reform-minded mayor of Guatemala City who was gunned down by a death squad in 1979.

Colóm's wife, Sandra Torres, is from an active political family and will be a key political player in the UNE administration.

After the 1996 Peace Accords, the Arzú government designated Colóm to negotiate the return of 40,000 refugees, mostly Mayas, from southern Mexico. Colóm went on to administer a rural development fund charged with re-building regions devastated by the civil conflict.

Colóm, a Roman Catholic, also practices Mayan spirituality and has received training as a Mayan spiritual guide.

Colóm and Torres also have experience in the world of business; they have owned and operated an apparel

factory in Guatemala City.

Colóm's Vice President is Dr. Rafael Espada, a renowned heart surgeon who returned to Guatemala from a successful practice in Houston to form part of the winning ticket. Espada brings useful international contacts and political capital to the Colóm team. Espada has promised to strengthen the Ministry of Health and to work for transparency in government.

While most of Colóm's cabinet appointments have been respected career technocrats, his Defense Ministry appointments have alarmed local observers. Both Marco Tulio García Franco, the new Minister of Defense, and Erwin Estuardo Sosa Lara, head of the Air Force, have close ties to Guatemala's paramilitary underworld.

*For a thorough analysis of Guatemala's underworld, and its ties to recent administrations, see **Hidden Powers in Post-Conflict Guatemala: Illegal Armed Groups and the Forces Behind Them** by Susan Peacock and Adriana Beltrán. Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA). Available free as a .pdf document at [www.wola.org](http://www.wola.org)*

## RELIGION

### Christianity



In a **2006** Pew Global Forum survey of **Guatemalan adults** 18 years and older, **48%** described themselves as **Roman Catholic** and **34%** as **Protestant**; **15%** said they were **unaffiliated**. In the survey, **85%** of **Protestants** and **62%** of **Catholics** described themselves as **Charismatics** or **Pentecostals**.

The more than **four million *evangélicos*** in Guatemala are divided into several hundred denominations. Local observers estimate that evangelicals have **between twelve and eighteen thousand local congregations**, making theirs the most widespread pastoral presence of any faith group in Guatemala.

Expressions of Christian faith in Guatemala include:

- 1. Roman Catholic Church**, the oldest Christian church in Central America, arrived in Guatemala in 1524 as part of the Spanish conquest. Historically, Guatemalan culture and identity have been deeply influenced by Catholicism;

most Guatemalans consider themselves to be Catholic. During the colonial period (1524-1821) the Catholic Church wielded enormous political, cultural and economic power. Since Vatican II (1962-65), the Catholic Church has been a committed advocate for the poor and oppressed as well as a vocal critic of military human rights abuses. Despite occasionally fierce persecution of Catholic social activists and ongoing membership losses, the Catholic Church has preserved its institutional integrity and learned to accommodate great internal diversity, ranging from Opus Dei to Maryknoll, from Charismatic Renewal to liberation theology.

- 2. Immigrant Churches:** English merchants brought Anglicanism to Guatemala in the 1830s. They established Abbottsville, an English-speaking colony on the shores of Lake Izabal. Frederick Crowe, an Anglican Bible salesman, established an influential school in Guatemala City in 1843, but conservative dictator Rafael Carrera forced Crowe to abandon the capital in 1845. German entrepreneurs brought Lutheranism to Guatemala in the 1870s, but they had little religious impact beyond their own community.
- 3. Protestant Mission Churches** are the daughters of U.S. Protestant and Evangelical denominations and represent widely varying mission strategies and doctrines. They include: Presbyterians (1882), Friends (1902), Church of the Nazarene (1904), Primitive Methodists (1921).
- 4. Evangelical Faith Missions** are non-denominational mission agencies that first appeared in the US at the end of the 19th Century. The Texas-based Central American Mission founded *La Iglesia Centroamericana* in Guatemala in 1899.
- 5. Pentecostal Mission Churches**, born out of the great Pentecostal awakening at the beginning of the 20th Century, are known for their manifestations of the Holy Spirit: speaking in tongues, divine healing and prophecy. Many members come from marginalized social groups that find in small Pentecostal churches communities of solidarity, consolation and healing. In Guatemala, these include the Church of God - Cleveland, TN. (*Iglesia de Dios del Evangelio Completo*- 1934) and Assemblies of God (1936).
- 6. National Pentecostal Churches** were born in Central America and share the Pentecostal emphasis on spiritual gifts. Typically, they derive from divisions in more traditional churches as charismatic Guatemalan leaders have challenged foreign liturgy and authority. Two examples would be the Iglesia de Dios de la Profecía (1941) and the Iglesia Príncipe de Paz (1955).
- 7. Neopentecostal Churches** add to Pentecostal practice an emphasis on Prosperity Theology, exorcism and such exotic spiritual gifts as being slain in the Spirit. They tend to be rooted in the middle and professional classes, with close ties to similar groups in the U.S. and other countries. Leaders of these denominations often proclaim themselves to be “apostles.” They organize mega-churches and invest heavily in radio and television. Four of the larger Neopentecostal churches in Guatemala are: *Fraternidad Cristiana* (1978); *El Shaddai* (1983); *La Familia de Dios* (1990); and *Casa de Dios* (1994).

## Mayan Spirituality

Mayas in Guatemala total about six million people, composing the largest Amerindian population of Central and North America.

As with many Amerindian belief systems, Maya spirituality emphasizes the need to preserve balance and harmony between the individual and the community and between humankind and all of creation. Maya spirituality is rooted in millennia of careful observation of the stars, the Earth's seasons, and human behavior; Mayan scientists and priests developed the concept of the zero before the Arabs and a calendar, still in use, that is more accurate than the one we use today.



Vast libraries filled with Mayan documents were destroyed by the Spanish invaders in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century, representing an enormous loss to scientific knowledge. Key founding myths of the Maya, ranging from creation stories to the origins of the K'iche' people, survive in the *Popol Vuh*, a post-Conquest text that is available in English.

Hispanic Christendom has never managed to eliminate Maya spirituality. As a cultural defense mechanism, post-Conquest Mayas developed an elaborate syncretism combining Catholic liturgy and Mayan spirituality. Protestants have tended to be less tolerant of Maya ways, characterizing their spirituality as satanic.

Mayas still worship at many sacred sites, bringing offerings to the Heart of Heaven and the Heart of Earth. Access to and control over sacred sites is an important cultural and political issue for Mayans.

## SOCIAL INDICATORS

The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) devised the Human Development Index (HDI), a coefficient that combines 27 indicators ranging from income, trade and education to life expectancy and women's political participation as a measure of human progress. In the 2007/8 report, based on a scale of 177 countries, Guatemala occupied 118<sup>th</sup> place with an HDI of .689. For comparison, Iceland occupied 1st place with an index of .968 and Sierra Leone the last with an index of .336.

### HEALTH

#### Life Expectancy:

- In 1975, it was 53.7 years; in 2005, it was 69.7 years. (HDI)
- 12.5% of the population is not expected to live past age 40. (HDI)
- The five most common causes of death are:
  1. Pneumonia
  2. Infectious Intestinal Diseases
  3. Homicide, accidents and self-inflicted wounds
  4. Birth-related mortality (e.g. asphyxia, congenital diseases, infections, premature birth)
  5. Heart disease (El Periódico Jan 20, 2008)

#### Nutrition:

- According to the UN Food and Agricultural Organization, undernourishment affected 29% of the population in 1970, declined to 16% in 1990, and rose again to 22% in 2004. (FAO)
- According to a national survey, 49% of children under five suffer chronic malnourishment (the rate for indigenous children increases to 69%). (Materno- Infantil)

#### Child Health and Mortality:

- In 1970, 115 nursing babies died for every 1,000 live births; in 2006, 34 died. (PRB)
- In 1970, 168 children under 5 years of age died for every 1,000 live births; in 2005, 43 died (down from 58 in 2001). (HDI)
- 47.5% of births are attended by a midwife, 37% by a doctor, and 4% by a nurse. (Prensa Libre June 26, '05)
- 27% of pregnant indigenous women and 18% of pregnant Ladino women receive no prenatal medical attention (Pueblos Indigenas)
- 15% of indigenous women and 51% of Ladino women give birth in hospitals – others usually give birth in their homes. (Pueblos Indigenas)
- 23% of children under age 5 are underweight. (HDI)
- 96% of children are immunized against tuberculosis and 77% against measles. (HDI)



## Health and Sanitation Services:

- **5% of the population does not have access to potable water.** (HDI)
- There are **90 doctors** for every **100,000** people. (HDI)
- **14% of the population does not have access to sewage and sanitation services.** (HDI)
- **2.3% of GDP** is spent on public healthcare. (HDI)

**24% of women have given birth by age 18.**

from **6.2** for **1970-75.** (HDI)

- **24% of women have given birth by age 18.** (PRB)
- **43% of married women age 15-49 use some form of birth control**, compared to rates of **62%** and higher in other Central American countries and **76%** in the U.S. (HDI)
- **Sterilization** is the most frequently used method of **contraception for married women** (**16.7%** are sterilized, **2.3%** use condom, **3.9%** receive an injection) (PRB)
- **5% of sexually active single women age 15-19 use some form of modern contraceptive; 13% for those aged 20-24.** (PRB)

## Health and Gender:

- The **fertility rate** for **2000-2005** was **4.6**, down

### HIV / AIDS

#### Prevalence:

- **0.9%** of the population between the **ages 15-49** has **HIV/AIDS** (UNAIDS)
- **Guatemala, Belize and Honduras** have the **highest prevalence** of HIV/AIDS in Latin America. (UNAIDS)
- **59,000 Guatemalan adults age 15 and older** are estimated to live with HIV. (UNAIDS)
- The **highest prevalence** is among **men** who have sex with men (**10%** have HIV/AIDS) and **sex-workers** (**3-4%** have HIV/AIDS). (UNAIDS)

#### Of the known adult HIV/AIDS cases:

- **58%** are **men; 42%** are **women** (PRB)
- **43%** are **receiving antiretroviral therapy** (UNAIDS)

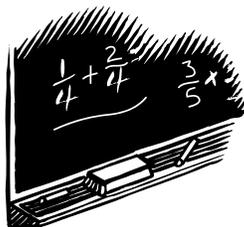
#### Prevention:

- **48%** of the **population at high risk** for HIV/AIDS has been reached by a **prevention program.** (UNAIDS)
- **15% of males and 7% of females** aged **15-19** report having had **sex before the age of 15.** (UNAIDS)

## EDUCATION

### Literacy:

- **69%** of the **adult population** is **literate.** (HDI)
- **53%** of **indigenous Guatemalans** are **literate**, compared to **82%** of **Ladinos.** (2000) (Pueblos Indígenas)



### School Enrollment and Completion:

- Guatemalans **age 15-24** have completed an **average of 5.5 years** of schooling. (2002) (El Periodico Jan 7, 2006)
- **Indigenous persons age 15-31** have completed **3.5 years** of schooling; **Ladinos** in the same age group

**Guatemalans age 15-24 have completed, on average, 5.5 years of schooling.**

have completed **6.3 years** of schooling. (*Pueblos Indígenas*)

- **44%** of the **Indigenous** population **drops out** of school the **first year**, as does **31%** of the **Ladino** population (*Pueblos Indígenas*). **68%** of students who enter first grade reach fifth grade (*HDI*)
- **94** of every **100 children** enter **elementary school**. (*HDI*)
- **7%** of **women** in the **poorest 20%** of the population have **completed 5<sup>th</sup> grade** compared to **83%** of **women** in the **richest 20%** of the population. (*PRB*)

### Educational Conditions:

- **Average public elementary school class size is 31** students per teacher. (*ECLAC*)
- **40%** of **teachers** teach **more than one grade** at any

## LABOR, INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT

### Income:

- **13.5%** of Guatemalans live in **extreme poverty** (less than \$1 per day); **31.9%** live in **poverty** (less than \$2 per day). (*HDI*)
- **74%** of the **indigenous** population lives in **poverty** (having **dropped 14%** since 1989); **38%** of the **Ladino** population lives in **poverty** (having **dropped 25%** since 1989). (2000) (*Pueblos Indígenas*)
- **24%** of the **indigenous** population lives in **extreme poverty** (having **dropped 29%** since 1989) and **6%** of the **Ladino** population lives in **extreme poverty** (having **dropped 34%** since 1989). (2000) (*Pueblos Indígenas*)
- **Food prices** are **1.7 times higher** in 2006 than they were in 2000. (*ECLAC*)

one time. (*Prensa Libre June 23, 2005*)

### Education and Gender:

- **63%** of adult **women** are **literate**, whereas **75%** of adult **men** are **literate**. (*HDI*)
- **92%** of elementary school-aged **girls** have enrolled in **elementary school** vs. **97%** of elementary school-aged **boys**. (*HDI*)
- **32%** of **secondary** school-aged **girls** have enrolled in **secondary school** vs. **35%** of secondary school-aged **boys**. (*HDI 2006*)

### Income Gains from Education:

- **Each additional year of education** represents an average **13% income increase** for students. (*Pueblos Indígenas*)

### Employment:

- **30%** of the economically active population is underemployed, and **3.1%** is unemployed. (*ECLAC*)
- The **economically active population working in agriculture** has **declined** from **48%** in 1990 to **36%** in 2005; the percentage working in **services** has **increased** from **33%** to **44%** over the same time period, and the percentage working in **industry** has **remained steady**, moving from **19%** to **20%** over the same time period. In 2004, the **urban unemployment rate** was **4.4%** (*ECLAC*)

**13.5%** of Guatemalans earn less than \$1 a day; **31.9%** earn less than \$2 a day.

### Minimum Wage vs. Cost of Basic Food Basket (BB) & Basket of Goods and Services (BGS)

	<u>Jan. 1994</u>	<u>Jan. 1995</u>	<u>June 1998</u>	<u>May 2004</u>	<u>June 2007</u>
Minimum Wage	Q.426.46	Q. 548.47	Q.858.28	Q.1,276.00	Q.1,374.60
Cost of B.B.	Q.820.12	Q. 929.61	Q.1,226.14	Q.1,362.43	Q.1,574.05
Cost of B.G.S.	Q.1,495.36	Q.1,684.06	Q.2,153.37	Q.2,486.18	Q.2,872.35

*(These amounts are based on an average-sized family of 5.38 people. The Basic Food Basket measures the cost of a family's basic dietary requirements and the Basket of Goods and Services measures the cost of food, health, housing, clothing, education, transportation and leisure activities. The exchange rate for January, 2008 was 7.6 Quetzales per US Dollar (June 2007 min: Camacoos; B.B. and B.G.S. June 2007: El Periódico)*

### Organized Labor:

According to the International Labor Rights Fund, "In Guatemala, the laws guarantee the rights of free association and collective bargaining. In practice, they are not respected, owing to the situation of violence and insecurity that exists in the country, especially against union leaders who are intimidated, persecuted, threatened and dismissed to avoid the demands for social and economic rights."

Only **28%** of Guatemala's **economically active population** works in the **formal sector**, making labor organizing especially difficult. The rest are subsistence farmers, or work in the informal sector. Many workers migrate seasonally to work on coffee or sugar plantations, or they hold down two or three different jobs in the informal sector. (ILRF)

Unions became discredited during the years of armed conflict, accused of having been co-opted by the guerrillas or the CIA, and of achieving few concrete gains in the workplace.

The union movement has also been undermined by *solidarismo*, where management undercuts union organizing efforts by offering non-union workers management-subsidized credit and other services.

There are **364 active unions** (**141** in the **public sector** and **223** in the **private sector**), as well as **55 labor federations and confederations**. (ILRF)

### Child and Adolescent Labor:

The Guatemalan Constitution bars employment of minors under age 14 without written permission from their parent or guardian and the Ministry of Labor. The law also prohibits minors from working overtime, in establishments where alcohol is sold, in unhealthy or dangerous conditions, or at night. Children under 14 are not permitted to work more than 6 hours per day; children 14-17 year olds, 7 hours. That being said:

- **76% of child laborers** work for or with their **families, without pay**. (ILRF)
- **23% of Guatemalan children and adolescents aged 5-17 work**. This totals almost one million people. **30% of boys** aged 5-17 work, and **16% of girls**. (ILO)
- **5% of children aged 5-9 work, 24% of children aged 10-14, and 53% of adolescents aged 15-17**. (ILO)
- **26% of rural children and adolescents work**, compared to **18% of urban children and adolescents**. (ILO)
- **Minors work an average of 39.6 hours/week**. They principally work in agriculture, manufacturing, commerce, and as domestic workers. (ILO)
- **86% of children and adolescents who work are categorized as child laborers**, meaning that their work is physically, mentally, or morally harmful to them, or because it interferes with their education. (ILO)
- **55% of child laborers do not attend school**. (ILO)
- More than **half of the 7,000 workers who make fireworks are children**. (ILRF)

**Work and Gender:**

- In 2002, women earned **82%** of the salary earned by men doing the same work, up from



**70% in 1990.** (ECLAC)

- In 2005, **56%** of economically active women worked in the **service sector**, **18%** in **agriculture**, and **23%** in **industry.** (HDI)
- **34%** of the female population is in the **work force** compared to **82%** of the male population. (HDI)

**MACROECONOMIC INDICATORS**

**Gross Domestic Product (GDP)**

- **GDP** in 2005: US\$ **31.7 billion** (HDI)
- **GDP per capita** in 2005 - US\$ **2,517** (HDI)
- Average annual growth in GDP, 1990-2005 – **1.3%** (HDI)

- **Total imports** rose from **\$4.65 billion** in **1998** to **\$10.07 billion** in **2006.** Consumer goods led the way with **\$2.97 billion** followed by raw materials with **\$2.86 billion.** (Banguat)

**Inflation:**

- **Inflation** in 2006 was **5.8%.** Average Inflation from **2000 – 2006** was **7.1%.** (Banguat)

**Foreign Debt:**

- **Foreign debt** at the end of **2005** was **\$3.723 billion.** In **1990** it was **\$2.488 billion.** (Banguat)
- **Total debt service** in **2004** was equivalent to **2%** of GDP, down from **3%** in **1990.** (HDI)

**Tourism:**

- Tourism generated **\$1.01 billion** in **2006**, **16%** higher than in 2005. **40%** of tourists come from neighboring **El Salvador**, **22%** from the **U.S.** (ASIES, Analysis Jan 2007)

**Communication: Cost and Access**

- In 2005, there were **358 cellphones x 1000** Guatemalans and **99 landlines x 1000.** (HDI)
- In 2005, **79** of every **1,000** Guatemalans used the **internet.** (HDI)



**Guatemala's biggest exports are coffee, sugar and bananas.**

**Exports vs. Imports:**

- **Exports** totaled **\$2.71 billion** in **2000**, dipped to **\$2.47 billion** in **2002**, and rose to **\$3.72 billion** in **2005.** (Banguat):
- **Coffee** peaked at **\$620 million** in **1997**, fell to **\$269 million** in **2002**, and rose to **\$464 million** in **2006.**
- **Sugar** – **\$299 million** in **2006.**
- **Bananas** – **\$216 million** in **2005.** (Banguat)

**Monthly Communication Cost Trends**

	<u>1985</u>	<u>1990</u>	<u>2002</u>	<u>2007</u>
Cable TV	Q50	70	102	75
Newspaper	Q9	22	54	68
Cellphone x min	Q8	5	1.2	1.2
Internet x month Q.	–	900	558	120

- HDI 2003, www.dataranking.com, and 2007 prices

### Income Inequality

- The **richest 10%** of the population receives **43.4% of income**; the **poorest 10%** receives **0.9%**. The **richest 10%** earns about **48 times more** than the **poorest 10%**. *(HDI)*

### Inequality in Land Distribution

- Approximately **two-thirds** of **Guatemalans** live in **rural areas**, and **over half** of the economically active population **works in agriculture**. Nearly **90% of farms** are **too small** to provide **subsistence**, while **2% of farms** occupy **65%** of the

**arable land**. Guatemala's wealth has been derived from export agriculture; land is the major source of wealth. In addition, land and the crop cycle carry important cultural and religious meaning for the Maya. The gross inequality in land distribution is a major structural reason for poverty in Guatemala. *(IMF)*.

- Guatemala has the **most unequal land distribution** in the Western Hemisphere. *(Nisgua)*

## “FREE TRADE” AGREEMENTS

CAFTA-DR is a free trade agreement signed in August 2004 between the United States, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, and the Dominican Republic. CAFTA-DR eliminated tariffs on more than 80 percent of U.S. consumer and industrial goods exported to Central America; the rest will be phased out over 10 years. Eighty percent of Central America's exports already entered the United States duty-free under the Caribbean Basin Initiative, the Generalized System of Preferences and Most Favored Nation programs; CAFTA-DR provides reciprocal access for U.S. products and services. *(USTR)*

The relative benefits of CAFTA-DR have been bitterly disputed.

Supporters of the agreement argue that:

- Central American economies may grow an additional 0.6% annually during the first 5 years of the agreement more than they would have without CAFTA-DR *(World Bank)*;
- CAFTA-DR will increase the U.S. economic and political ties with fragile democracies that need U.S. support against 'anti-reform forces' *(USTR)*;
- U.S. companies exporting to Central America will increase their markets;
- Merchants will benefit from the required modernization of Central America's corrupt and inefficient customs services;
- Central American consumers will have access to a larger variety of goods at lower prices;

Opponents of the agreement argue that:

- 50% of the economically active population in Guatemala, mostly poor peasants with little education, works in agriculture. These are the workers who will have to compete against low-priced corn, rice and chicken produced by government-subsidized U.S. agribusiness. These workers will have few employment alternatives and no government safety net, increasing pressure to emigrate.
- NAFTA did not produce lower food prices in Mexico. Although real prices for corn have dropped by 70 percent since 1994, the real price for a kilo of tortillas in Mexico has tripled in the same period. *(Oxfam)*
- CAFTA-DR allows foreign investors to file complaints with an international tribunal against a government that implements policies that, in the judgment of the investor, could affect projected future profits. *(Alliance)*
- Intellectual property rights as defined in the agreement make it illegal for farmers who purchase patented seeds from multinational companies to re-plant, exchange or innovate those seeds. Some varieties of rice, wheat, corn, soybean and sorghum used in Central America are protected by patents held by U.S. companies. *(Alliance)*
- Intellectual property rights as defined in the agreement also permit companies to extend patent rights on medicines beyond the normal 20 years period, up to a possible 25 additional years. *(Alliance)*

# MIGRATION AND REMITTANCES

## Migration:

- **1.1 million** Guatemalans live **abroad, 97%** of them in the **U.S.** (*Migration Policy Institute*)
- Most migrants are **20-45 years old** and leave the country **seeking higher income** to support their families. (*Migration Policy Institute*)
- **200,000-320,000** Guatemalans in the U.S. are **undocumented.** (*Migration Policy Institute*)
- **6,000-12,000** additional Guatemalans arrive in the U.S. **each year.** (*Migration Policy Institute*)
- In 2005, the **net number** of Guatemalans **who left** the country (those who left minus those who returned) was about **140,000.** (*Migration Policy Institute*)
- **Guatemalans living abroad** are from the departments of Guatemala (20.6 percent), San Marcos (9.7 percent), Huehuetenango (9.7 percent), Quetzaltenango (6.3 percent), Jutiapa (5.0 percent), Alta Verapaz (4.9 percent), Chiquimula (4.1 percent) and Escuintla (3.9 percent). (*Migration Policy Institute*)
- **Guatemalan immigrants** in the U.S. are **concentrated** in Los Angeles (36.3%), New York (10.6%) and Miami (8.3%), followed by Washington D.C., Houston, Boston and Chicago. (*Migration Policy Institute*)
- **"Coyotes"** (human traffickers) charge **\$5,000-\$10,000** to take a Guatemalan to the U.S. border; **plus** an additional **\$1,500** to cross the border. (*Migration Policy Institute*)



## Remittances:

- In 2007, **916,732 households**, totaling **3,766,000 people**, received remittances from family members working abroad (*OIM Encuesta Sobre Remesas 2007*).
- In 2007, Guatemalans received **4.1 billion dollars of remittances** from relatives working outside the country. Total income from family remittances in 2007 **nearly surpassed the 4.2 billion dollars** earned from **total exports** (*El Periodico, Jan 11, 2008*).
- **Remittances** in 2007 made up **10% of GDP** (*El Periodico, Jan 11, 2008*).
- Just over **1 million Guatemalans** abroad sent remittances in 2004. **71.5%** were **men** and **28.5%** were **women.** (*Migration Policy Institute*).
- The **average Guatemalan** in the U.S. sends home **\$306/month.** (*Migration Policy Institute*).
- **48.7%** of remittances are used to **supplement household budgets**, mainly for food; **20.6%** are spent on **other goods and services**; **15.2%** are **invested or saved**; **15.4%** percent go toward **education and health.** (*Migration Policy Institute*)



# ENVIRONMENT

Just breathe the air in Guatemala City for a quick introduction to the ecological crisis. Over recent decades, Guatemala's lax regulatory environment, rapid urbanization, expanding export economy and growing consumer society have taken a toll on Mother Nature:

## Deforestation:

- In 2005, just under **40%** of Guatemala was **covered by forests**. 70% of the forested land is in the departments of Peten, Alta Verapaz and Izabal. *(Perfil Ambiental 2006)*

- **Since 1990** Guatemala has lost over **1% of its forest each year**. *(ECLAC)*



- Guatemala has **lost 43%** of its forest area **since 1950**. About 65% of the area lost each year is in the department of Peten. *(Perfil Ambiental 2006)*

- In the last 50 years only **3.3% of forests** lost have been **reforested**. *(Perfil Ambiental 2006)*
- Ecologists agree on the most **direct causes** of the deforestation:
  - unrestricted logging
  - oil exploration
  - expanding export agriculture
  - peasant firewood collection, and
  - the colonization of forested areas.

## Waste disposal:

- **5%** of the **rural** population and **60%** of the **urban** population have a **trash collection service**. *(Perfil Ambiental 2006)*
- There are an **estimated 6,000 clandestine** open air **trash dumps** in the country. *(Perfil Ambiental 2006)*

## Biodiversity

- **18% of animal species** and **43% of plant species** are endangered. *(Perfil Ambiental 2006)*

- *Research by Rudy Nelson and Marcia Towers*
- *written by Rudy Nelson, Marcia Towers and Dennis A. Smith*
- *edited by Dennis A. Smith*  
*February, 2008*

# SOURCES

Alliance	Alliance for Responsible Trade, with Bloque Popular Centroamericano “Why we say no to CAFTA: Analysis of the Official Text” ( <a href="http://www.citizen.org/documents/WhyWeSayNOtoCAFTA.pdf">www.citizen.org/documents/WhyWeSayNOtoCAFTA.pdf</a> )
ASIES	Asociación de Investigación y Estudios Sociales ( <a href="http://www.asies.org.gt">www.asies.org.gt</a> )
BANGUAT	Banco de Guatemala ( <a href="http://www.banguat.gob.gt">www.banguat.gob.gt</a> )
CAMACOES	Cámara Oficial Española de Comercio en Guatemala ( <a href="http://camaco.es">camaco.es</a> )
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean ( <a href="http://www.eclac.org">www.eclac.org</a> ), From Social Statistics and Environmental Statistics; Un- and Under-employment figures from “Guatemala: Evolución económica durante 2005 y perspectivas para 2006”
El Periódico	Guatemalan National Daily Newspaper ( <a href="http://www.elperiodico.com.gt">www.elperiodico.com.gt</a> )
FAO	United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization Food Security Statistics ( <a href="http://www.fao.org">www.fao.org</a> )
HDI	Human Development Index by the United Nations Development Program, statistics from the 2007/8 report unless otherwise noted ( <a href="http://www.hdr.undp.org/statistics/">www.hdr.undp.org/statistics/</a> )
ILO	International Labor Organization ( <a href="http://www.ilo.org">www.ilo.org</a> ) Data from “Summary of the Results of the Child Labor Survey in Guatemala”, July 2004 ( <a href="http://www.ilo.org/ipec/index.htm">www.ilo.org/ipec/index.htm</a> ).
ILRF	International Labor Rights Fund, ( <a href="http://www.laborrights.org">www.laborrights.org</a> ), “LABOR RIGHTS AND LEGAL, POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL OBSTACLES IN GUATEMALA”
IMF	International Monetary Fund ( <a href="http://www.imf.org">www.imf.org</a> ) 2001 Consultation with Guatemala
ICJ	International Commission of Jurists ( <a href="http://www.icj.org">www.icj.org</a> )
IOM	International Organization for Migration ( <a href="http://www.iom.int">www.iom.int</a> )
Materno-Infantil	Guatemala. Encuesta Nacional Sobre Salud Materno-Infantil 2002
Migration Policy Institute	( <a href="http://www.migrationpolicy.org">www.migrationpolicy.org</a> ), From “Guatemala: Economic Immigrants Replace Political Refugees” ( <a href="http://www.migrationinformation.org/Profiles/display.cfm?ID=392">http://www.migrationinformation.org/Profiles/display.cfm?ID=392</a> )
Nisgua	Network in Solidarity with the People of Guatemala ( <a href="http://www.nisgua.org">www.nisgua.org</a> )
Oxfam	( <a href="http://www.oxfam.org">www.oxfam.org</a> ) “CAFTA & Agriculture: Will the campesinos survive?”
Perfil Ambiental 2006	Published by Rafael Landivar University ( <a href="http://www.perfilambiental.org.gt/perfam2006/PERFAM2006.pdf">www.perfilambiental.org.gt/perfam2006/PERFAM2006.pdf</a> )
PRB	Population Reference Bureau ( <a href="http://www.prb.org">www.prb.org</a> )
Prensa Libre	Guatemalan National Daily Newspaper ( <a href="http://www.prensalibre.com">www.prensalibre.com</a> )
Pueblos Indigenas	“Pueblos Indigenas, Pobreza y Desarrollo Humano en America Latina 1994-2004” by the
TI	Transparency International ( <a href="http://www.transparency.org">www.transparency.org</a> )
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS ( <a href="http://www.unaids.org">www.unaids.org</a> )
USTR	United States Trade Representative ( <a href="http://www.ustr.gov">www.ustr.gov</a> )
World Bank	( <a href="http://www.worldbank.org">www.worldbank.org</a> )

## a cedezca publication

Centro Evangélico de Estudios Pastorales en CentroAmérica

Apartado 2834, 01901 Guatemala, Guatemala

PBX: (+502)2254-1093 Fax:(+502)2254-7538

cedepca@cedepca.org or dsmith@cedepca.org

[www.cedepca.org](http://www.cedepca.org)