



# Guatemala



Background	The Maya civilization flourished in Guatemala and surrounding regions during the first millennium A.D. After almost three centuries as a Spanish colony, Guatemala won its independence in 1821. During the second half of the 20th century, it experienced a variety of military and civilian governments, as well as a 36-year guerrilla war. In 1996, the government signed a peace agreement formally ending the internal conflict.
Capital	name: Guatemala City
Government type	presidential republic
Area	total : 108,889 sq km land: 107,159 sq km water: 1,730 sq km
Climate	tropical; hot, humid in lowlands; cooler in highlands
Natural resources	petroleum, nickel, rare woods, fish, chicle, hydropower
Population	total: 18,255,216 (2024 est.)
Population growth rate	1.49% (2024 est.)
Ethnic groups	Mestizo (mixed Indigenous-Spanish - in local Spanish called Ladino) 56%, Maya 41.7%, Xinca (Indigenous, non-Maya) 1.8%, African descent 0.2%, Garifuna (mixed West and Central African, Island Carib, and Arawak) 0.1%, foreign 0.2% (2018 est.)
Religions	Evangelical 45.7%, Roman Catholic 42.4%, none 11%, unspecified 0.9% (2023 est.)
Languages	Spanish (official) 69.9%, Maya languages 29.7% (Q'eqchi' 8.3%, K'iche' 7.8%, Mam 4.4%, Kaqchikel 3%, Q'anjob'al 1.2%, Poqomchi' 1%, other 4%), other 0.4% (includes Xinca and Garifuna) (2018 est.)
Executive branch	chief of state: President Bernardo ARÉVALO de León (since 15 January 2024) head of government: President Bernardo ARÉVALO de León (since 15 January 2024)
Legislative branch	legislature name: Congress of the Republic (Congreso de la República)
Diplomatic representation in the US	chief of mission: Ambassador Hugo Eduardo BETETA (since 17 June 2024)
Diplomatic representation from the US	chief of mission: Ambassador Tobin BRADLEY (since 12 February 2024)
Economic overview	developing Central American economy; steady economic growth fueled by remittances; high poverty and income inequality; limited government services, lack of employment opportunities, and frequent natural disasters impede human development efforts and drive emigration

Real GDP (purchasing power parity)	\$232.673 billion (2024 est.) \$224.475 billion (2023 est.) \$216.815 billion (2022 est.)
Real GDP per capita	\$12,600 (2024 est.) \$12,400 (2023 est.) \$12,100 (2022 est.)
Exports	\$17.997 billion (2024 est.) \$17.342 billion (2023 est.) \$18.141 billion (2022 est.)
Exports - partners	USA 33%, El Salvador 11%, Honduras 9%, Nicaragua 6%, Mexico 4% (2023)
Exports - commodities	garments, bananas, coffee, palm oil, raw sugar (2023)
Imports	\$35.576 billion (2024 est.) \$33.056 billion (2023 est.) \$33.943 billion (2022 est.)
Imports - partners	USA 30%, China 19%, Mexico 11%, El Salvador 4%, Costa Rica 3% (2023)
Imports - commodities	refined petroleum, video displays, cars, trucks, packaged medicine (2023)

Population Pyramid

