Guatemala

Introduction

Guatemala is a country in Central America bordering the Northern Pacific Ocean, the Gulf of Honduras, El Salvador, Mexico, Honduras, and Belize. Two mountain chains enter Guatemala from west to east, with a small desert, sand dunes, and hills in-between. The government system is a presidential republic; the chief of state and head of government is the president. Guatemala has a mixed economic system which includes a variety of emerging private freedom, combined with centralized economic planning and government regulation.

Key Economic Facts

Income Level (by per capita GNI): Lower Middle Income
Level of Development: Developing
GDP, PPP (current international $): $187.78 billion (2022)
GDP growth (annual %): 4.12% (2022)
GDP per capita, PPP (current international $): $10,818.17 (2022)
External debt stocks, total (DOD, current US$): $26,964,587,120.10 (2021)
Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP): 14.10% (2022)
Current account balance (BoP, current US$): $2.11 billion (2021)
Inflation, consumer prices (annual %): 6.89% (2022)
Labor force, total: 6,884,303 (2022)
Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate): 2.57% (2022)
Imports of goods and services (current US$): $33.87 billion (2022)
Exports of goods and services (current US$): $18.07 billion (2022)

GDP Composition %

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Services</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>14</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Although Manufacturing is included in the Industry figures, it is also separately reported because it plays a critical role in economy.

Rankings

<table>
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<th>Index</th>
<th>Rank</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Corruption Perceptions Index</td>
<td>147 / 178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Competitiveness Index</td>
<td>98 / 141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Enabling Trade Index</td>
<td>69 / 136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Index of Economic Freedom</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Logistics Performance Index</td>
<td>125 / 160</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inward FDI Potential Index</td>
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<tr>
<td>KOF Index of Globalization</td>
<td>77 / 185</td>
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<tr>
<td>Networked Readiness Index (NRI)</td>
<td>103 / 139</td>
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<tr>
<td>Open Budget Index</td>
<td>25 / 114</td>
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Risk Assessment (Provided by Coface)

Country rating: C - A very uncertain political and economic outlook and a business environment with many troublesome weaknesses can have a significant impact on corporate payment behavior. Corporate default probability is high.

Business Climate rating: C - The business environment is difficult. Corporate financial information is often unavailable and when available often unreliable. Debt collection is unpredictable. The institutional framework has many troublesome weaknesses. Intercompany transactions run major risks in the difficult environments rated C.

Strengths

- Financial support from the United States and multilateral lenders
- Free trade agreements with the U.S. and the EU
- Geographic proximity to the United States and Mexico
- High potential for tourism, agriculture (bananas, coffee, sugar), mining, hydroelectricity and geothermal energy

Weaknesses

- Low tax revenues
- Poor infrastructure
- Rural poverty, inequalities, under-employment, informal economy, ethnic divisions
- Vulnerable to external shocks (natural disasters and commodity prices)
- Heavily reliant on low value-added industry and expatriate remittances flows
- Security issues related to drug trafficking
- Social and political instability

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