

## Explore Economies

This page provides a snapshot of each country's aggregate ranking on the ease of doing business and on each of the ten topics that comprise the overall ranking. Data is also provided for each country for all the 10 topics covered in the database.

### Economic data

See a business environment summary:

### Economic data

Compare economies by [income per capita](#), [the informal sector](#), and [population](#).

[Methodology](#)

### Symbols

.. means "not available"

— means "not applicable"

### Featured snapshot report

## Guatemala

Region: Latin America & Caribbean

Income category: Lower middle income

Population: 12,599,059

GNI per capita (US\$): 2,400.00

Country laws: see our [Law Library](#)



Ease of...	2006 rank	2005 rank	Change in rank
<i>Doing Business</i>	118	128	+10
Starting a Business	130	133	+3
Dealing with Licenses	165	167	+2
Employing Workers	105	107	+2
Registering Property	26	52	+26
Getting Credit	48	41	-7
Protecting Investors	135	133	-2
Paying Taxes	122	117	-5
Trading Across Borders	122	115	-7
Enforcing Contracts	149	149	0
Closing a Business	83	81	-2

*Note:* 2005 rankings have been recalculated to reflect [changes to the 2006 methodology](#) and the addition of 20 new countries.

### Starting a Business (2006)

The challenges of launching a business in are shown below. Included are: the number of steps entrepreneurs can expect to go through to launch, the time it takes on average, and the cost and minimum capital required as a percentage of gross national income (GNI) per capita.

Indicator	Guatemala	Region	OECD
Procedures (number)	13	10.2	6.2
Time (days)	30	73.3	16.6
Cost (% of income per capita)	52.1	48.1	5.3
Min. capital (% of income per capita)	26.4	18.1	36.1

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### Dealing with Licenses (2006)

Shown below are the procedures, time, and costs to build a warehouse in , including obtaining necessary licenses and permits, completing required notifications and inspections, and obtaining utility connections.

Indicator	Guatemala	Region	OECD
Procedures (number)	23	15.4	14.0
Time (days)	390	198.7	149.5
Cost (% of income per capita)	496.5	246.2	72.0

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### Employing Workers (2006)

The difficulties that employers in face in hiring and firing workers are shown below. Each index assigns values between 0 and 100, with higher values representing more rigid regulations. The Rigidity of Employment Index is an average of the three indices.

Indicator	Guatemala	Region	OECD
Difficulty of Hiring Index	61	34.0	27.0
Rigidity of Hours Index	40	34.8	45.2
Difficulty of Firing Index	0	26.5	27.4
Rigidity of Employment Index	34	31.7	33.3
Hiring cost (% of salary)	12.7	12.5	21.4
Firing costs (weeks of wages)	101.1	59.0	31.3

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### Registering Property (2006)

The ease with which businesses in can secure rights to property is shown below. Included are the number of steps, time, and cost involved in registering property.

Indicator	Guatemala	Region	OECD
Procedures (number)	5	6.6	4.7
Time (days)	37	77.4	31.8
Cost (% of property value)	1.1	6.0	4.3

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### Getting Credit (2006)

Measures on credit information sharing and the legal rights of borrowers and lenders in Guatemala are shown below. The Legal Rights Index ranges from 0-10, with higher scores indicating that those laws are better designed to expand access to credit. The Credit Information Index measures the scope, access and quality of credit information available through public registries or private bureaus. It ranges from 0-6, with higher values indicating that more credit information is available from a public registry or private bureau.

Indicator	Guatemala	Region	OECD
Legal Rights Index	4	4.5	6.3
Credit Information Index	5	3.4	5.0
Public registry coverage (% adults)	16.1	7.0	8.4
Private bureau coverage (% adults)	9.2	27.9	60.8

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### Protecting Investors (2006)

The indicators below describe three dimensions of investor protection: transparency of transactions (Extent of Disclosure Index), liability for self-dealing (Extent of Director Liability Index), shareholders' ability to sue officers and directors for misconduct (Ease of Shareholder Suits Index) and Strength of Investor Protection Index. The indexes vary between 0 and 10, with higher values indicating greater disclosure, greater liability of directors, greater powers

of shareholders to challenge the transaction, and better investor protection.

Indicator	Guatemala	Region	OECD
Disclosure Index	3	4.3	6.3
Director Liability Index	3	5.1	5.0
Shareholder Suits Index	6	5.8	6.6
Investor Protection Index	4.0	5.1	6.0

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### Paying Taxes (2006)

The data below shows the tax that a medium-size company in must pay or withhold in a given year, as well as measures of the administrative burden in paying taxes. These measures include the number of payments an entrepreneur must make; the number of hours spent preparing, filing, and paying; and the percentage of their profits they must pay in taxes.

Indicator	Guatemala	Region	OECD
Payments (number)	50	41.3	15.3
Time (hours)	294	430.5	202.9
Total tax rate (% profit)	40.9	49.1	47.8

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### Trading Across Borders (2006)

The costs and procedures involved in importing and exporting a standardized shipment of goods in Guatemala are detailed under this topic. Every official procedure involved is recorded - starting from the final contractual agreement between the two parties, and ending with the delivery of the goods.

Indicator	Guatemala	Region	OECD
Documents for export (number)	9	7.3	4.8
Time for export (days)	20	22.2	10.5
Cost to export (US\$ per container)	1,785	1,068	811
Documents for import (number)	7	9.5	5.9
Time for import (days)	33	27.9	12.2
Cost to import (US\$ per container)	1,985	1,226	883

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### Enforcing Contracts (2006)

The ease or difficulty of enforcing commercial contracts in is measured below. This is determined by following the evolution of a payment dispute and tracking the time, cost, and number of procedures involved from the moment a plaintiff files the lawsuit until actual payment.

Indicator	Guatemala	Region	OECD
Procedures (number)	36	39.3	22.2
Time (days)	1,459	641.9	351.2
Cost (% of debt)	26.5	23.4	11.2

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### Closing a Business (2006)

The time and cost required to resolve bankruptcies in is shown below. The data identifies weaknesses in existing bankruptcy law and the main procedural and administrative bottlenecks in the bankruptcy process. The recovery rate, expressed in terms of how many cents on the dollar claimants recover from the insolvent firm, is also shown.

<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Guatemala</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>OECD</b>
Time (years)	3.0	2.6	1.4
Cost (% of estate)	14.5	13.6	7.1
Recovery rate (cents on the dollar)	28.3	25.7	74.0

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