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# Guatemala: Chiquimula

National Disaster Preparedness Baseline Assessment –  
Department Profile

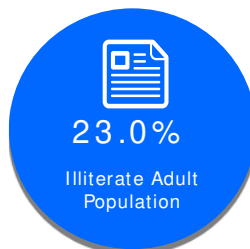
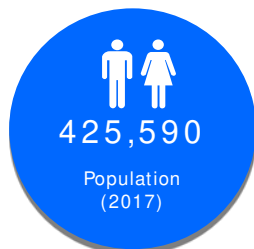
Department: Chiquimula



Department Capital: Chiquimula

Area: 2,376 km<sup>2</sup>

Chiquimula is in southeastern Guatemala in the highlands of the Sierra Madre mountain range, and borders Honduras to the southeast. The landscape is comprised of steep mountains, deep ravines, valleys, and wide plains. The region is also known for its maritime and palm-wood crafts sold throughout the country and internationally.



Municipality	Population
Chiquimula	104,525
Jocotán	67,355
Esquipulas	64,835
Camotán	61,038
Quezaltepeque	28,437
Olopa	28,268
Ipala	20,454
San Juan Ermita	14,442
Concepción Las Minas	13,912
San Jacinto	13,550
San José La Arada	8,772



Multi-Hazard Risk Rank:  
Very Low (19 of 22)

Lack of Resilience Rank:  
High (8 of 22)

RVA Component Scores

Table 1. Department scores and ranks (compared across departments) for each index

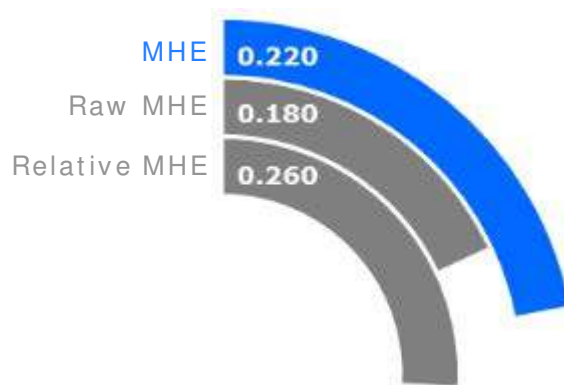
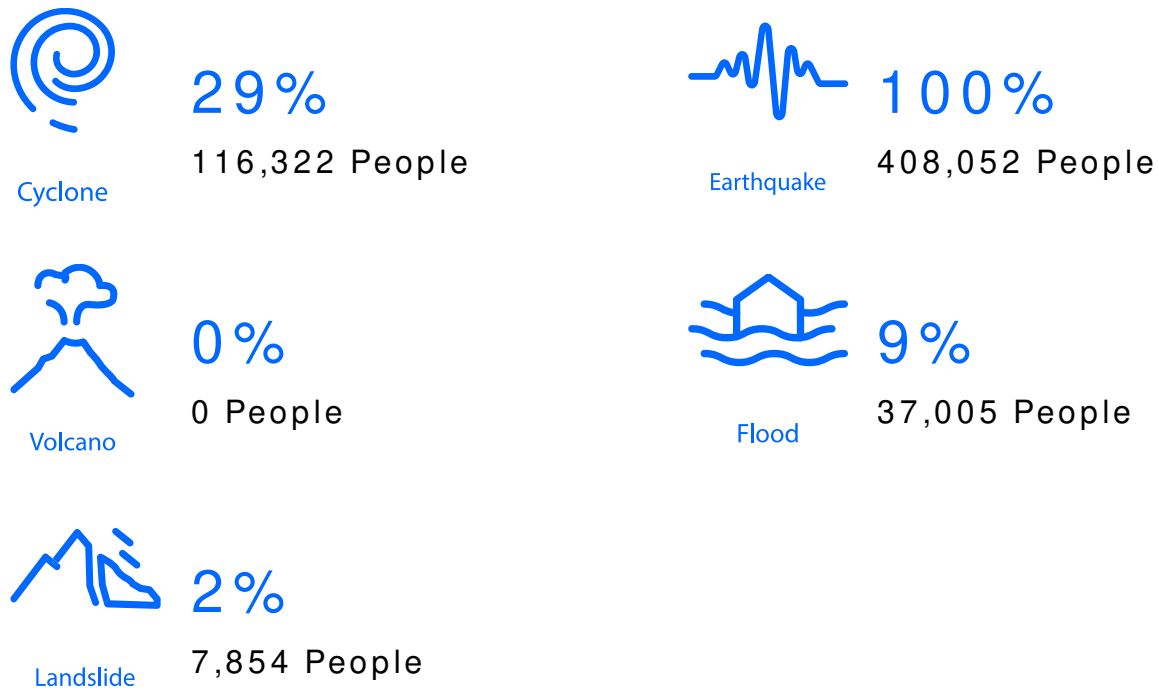
Multi-Hazard Risk		Lack of Resilience		Multi-Hazard Exposure		Vulnerability		Coping Capacity	
Very Low		High		Very Low		High		High	
Score	Rank (of 22)	Score	Rank (of 22)	Score	Rank (of 22)	Score	Rank (of 22)	Score	Rank (of 22)
0.447	19	0.561	8	0.220	20	0.579	5	0.457	8

# NDPBA Guatemala Report: Department Profile

## Multi-Hazard Exposure (MHE)

Multi-Hazard Exposure<sup>1</sup> Rank: 20 of 22 Departments (Score: 0.220)

Table 2. Estimated ambient population<sup>2</sup> exposed to each hazard



<sup>1</sup> Multi-Hazard Exposure: Average exposure of the population to hazards.

<sup>2</sup> Ambient Population: 24-hour average estimate of the population in each department. Ambient population typically differs from census population.

## NDPBA Guatemala Report: Department Profile

### Vulnerability (V)

Vulnerability<sup>3</sup> Rank: 5 of 22 Departments (Score: 0.579) Vulnerability in Chiquimula is primarily driven by Gender Inequality and Environmental Stress. The bar chart on the right indicates the socioeconomic themes contributing to the department's overall Vulnerability score.

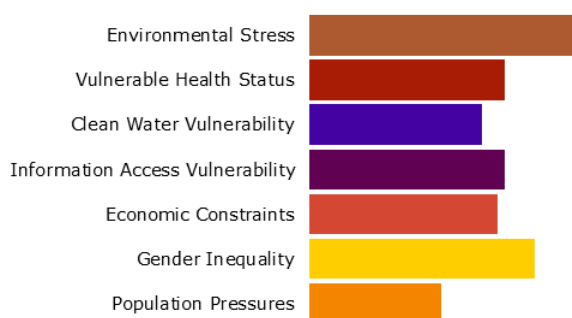









Table 3. Component scores for each Vulnerability sub-component

	<b>Environmental Stress</b>	61.2% Province at Drought Risk	-4.7% Annual Forest Change					
	<b>Vulnerable Health Status</b>	51 Infant Mortality Rate	118.1 Maternal Mortality Ratio	0.4% Acute Malnutrition	1.9% Population Disabled	12.1 TB Incidence	13.6 Dengue Prevalence	19.2 Malaria Prevalence
	<b>Clean Water Vulnerability</b>	73.2% Households with Access to Improved Water	51.7% Households with Access to Improved Sanitation					
	<b>Information Access Vulnerability</b>	23.0% Adult Illiteracy	4.1 Average Years of Schooling	84.4% Primary School Enrollment	4.6% Households with Internet	28.3% Households with Cable TV	75.1% Households with Radio	7.1% Speak Indigenous Language
	<b>Economic Constraints</b>	0.88 Economic Dependency Ratio	70.6% Population in Poverty	0.45 GINI Coefficient				
	<b>Gender Inequality</b>	0.0% Female Seats in Congress	0.07 Ratio of Female to Male Secondary Education Enrollment	0.21 Ratio of Female to Male Economic Activity				
	<b>Population Pressures</b>	2.6% Average Annual Population Change	1.7% Average Annual Urban Population Change	47.0% Food Insecurity				

<sup>3</sup> **Vulnerability:** The socioeconomic conditions that are associated with the susceptibility to disruptions in a country's normal functions.

# NDPBA Guatemala Report: Department Profile

## Coping Capacity (CC)

Coping Capacity<sup>4</sup> Rank: 8 of 22 Departments (Score: 0.457) Chiquimula displays a low level of Coping Capacity, which is attributable to low Infrastructure Capacity and low Environmental Capacity. The bar chart on the right indicates the socioeconomic themes contributing to the department's overall Coping Capacity score.

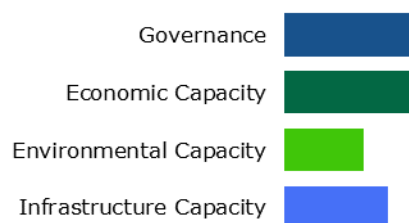


Table 4. Component scores for each Coping Capacity sub-component

	<b>Governance</b>	291.0 Crime Victims per 100K	16.0% Households with Garbage Collection			
	<b>Economic Capacity</b>	\$707.8 Remittances per Capita (USD)	15.86 Businesses per 1,000 persons	9,848 GDP per Capita (Quetzales)		
	<b>Environmental Capacity</b>	9.7% Protected Land	1.0% Reforested Area			
	<b>Infrastructure Capacity</b>					
	<b>Health Care Capacity</b>	12.2 Hospital Beds per 10,000 Persons	2.2 Nurses per 10,000 Persons	3.0 Physicians per 10,000 Persons	23.8 km Average Distance to Nearest Hospital	93.8% Children Completed Immunization Schedule
	<b>Communications Capacity</b>	6.3% Households with Access to Fixed Phone Line	76.4% Households with Access to Mobile Phone	88.8% Households with Access to Electricity		
	<b>Transportation Capacity</b>	17.3 km Average Distance to Nearest Port or Airport	27.5 km Total Length of Road per 100 km <sup>2</sup> (area)			

<sup>4</sup> Coping Capacity: The systems, means, and abilities of a country to absorb and respond to events that could potentially disrupt normal function.

## NDPBA Guatemala Report: Department Profile

### Lack of Resilience (LR)

Lack of Resilience<sup>5</sup> Rank: 8 of 22 Departments (Score: 0.561)

Chiquimula's score and ranking are due to high Vulnerability combined high Coping Capacity scores.

Table 5. The 3 thematic areas with the weakest relative scores



Gender  
Inequality



Environmental  
Stress



Infrastructure  
Capacity

### Multi-Hazard Risk (MHR)

Multi-Hazard Risk<sup>6</sup> Rank: 19 of 22 Departments (Score: 0.447)

Chiquimula's very low Multi-Hazard Risk is attributable to high Coping Capacity, high Vulnerability, and very low Multi-Hazard Exposure.

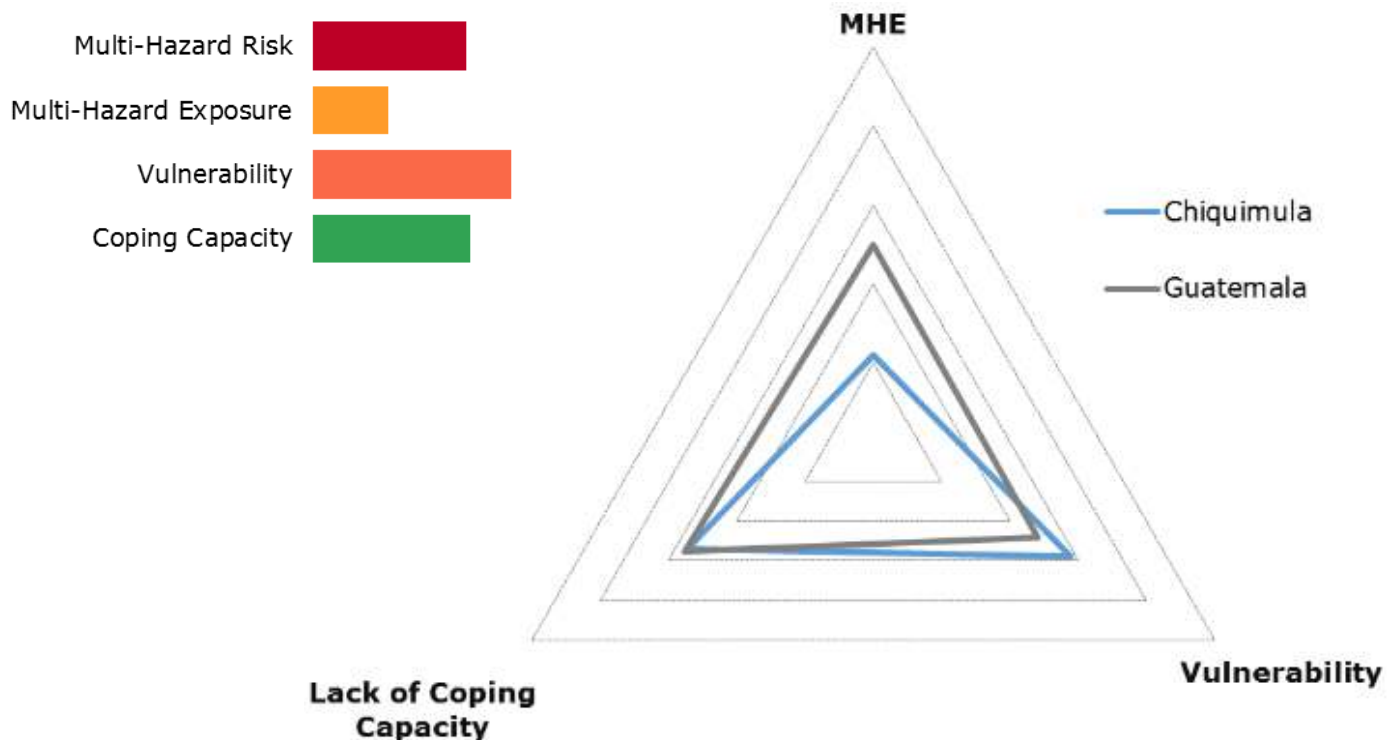


Figure 1. Department Multi-Hazard Risk component scores compared to overall average country scores

<sup>5</sup> **Lack of Resilience:** The susceptibility to impact from the short-term inability to absorb, respond to, and recover from disruptions to a country's normal function. This index provides a hazard-independent look at current socioeconomic conditions.

<sup>6</sup> **Multi-Hazard Risk:** The likelihood of losses or disruptions to a country's normal function due to interaction between multi-hazard exposure, socioeconomic vulnerability, and coping capacity.

## Successes



### High economic capacity

Ranked 8 of 22 departments, high environmental capacity indicates that natural resources and agriculture will be more resilient to the effects of a disaster and may recover faster.

## Recommendations

01

### Invest in transportation infrastructure

Investing in transportation infrastructure will facilitate the distribution of goods and services before, during, and after a disaster event.

02

### Promote environmental programs

Invest in environmental protection programs to preserve land and vegetation, increasing resiliency and coping capacity.

03

### Provide opportunities for women

Public education and awareness programs that focus on increasing the role of women in the workplace and the society will improve resilience and decrease vulnerability.



# Better solutions. Fewer disasters. Safer world.

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