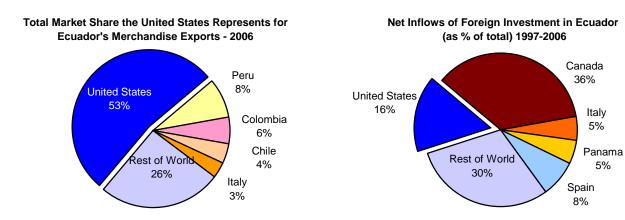
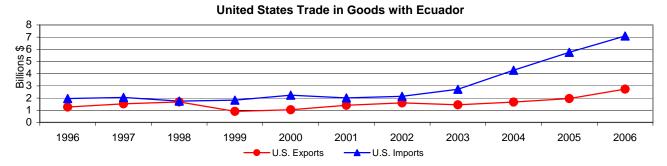


The United States Contributes to Economic Prosperity in Ecuador



- In 2006, U.S. direct investment in Ecuador reached \$461 million (BEA, Survey of Current Business, Sept. 2007); this is equivalent to 1.1 percent of Ecuador's GDP of \$40.8 billion (World Bank, World Development Indicators).
- The Ecuadorian affiliates of U.S. direct investors employed 7,200 people in 2005 and their value added contributed 2.7 percent to Ecuador's GDP (BEA, Survey of Current Business, Nov. 2007).
- The Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) provided over \$15.8 million in finance and insurance funds in 2006.
- The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) provided over \$20.5 million in aid to Ecuador in 2006.
- The Peace Corps currently has approximately 154 volunteers working throughout Ecuador; since 1963, 5,532 volunteers have aided communities in Ecuador.
- The United States purchased 53 percent of Ecuador's total merchandise exports in 2006 (World Trade Atlas).
- U.S. merchandise exports to Ecuador grew from \$1.3 billion in 1996 to \$2.7 billion in 2006, an increase of approximately 117 percent (U.S. Census Bureau).
- In 2006 over \$2.9 billion in remittance money was sent by Ecuadorians living abroad (Inter-American Development Bank).





The U.S. Department of Commerce, International Trade Administration (www.trade.gov) and the Association of American Chambers of Commerce in Latin America (AACCLA, www.aaccla.org) compiled this fact sheet. Last update - January 2008.



Ecuador

U.S. Companies Contribute to Economic Prosperity and Social Development



Training Health Professionals - 3M

In the past five years, 3M has paid \$5 million in taxes to Ecuador. Additionally, 3M has provided technical training free of charge to over 30,000 medical field technicians. Of these 30,000, 10,000 health professionals participated in 3M's biosafety training programs, 15,000 industrial health specialists were trained in breathing and hearing techniques, and 5,000 dental specialists were trained in modern dental and cosmetic techniques. In 2006, 3M began supporting housing for low-income families. In its first year, 3M sponsored the construction of 3 homes, and plans to increase this number on a yearly basis.

Future Business Leaders - Citigroup Ecuador

Since 2001, Citigroup has supported various business and financial education programs in Ecuador through the Junior Achievement Foundation. One such program is "Banks in Action" in which public high school students are taught the basics of bank management, decision-making, and analytical and strategic thinking skills. Since 2001, more than 6,000 children and young adults have benefited from 3,000 hours volunteered by Citigroup employees. Citigroup Ecuador has also supported micro-entrepreneur programs for the last four years, through Fundación Esquel and the Encuentro de Emprendedores contest in which youths and women are encouraged to present innovative business ideas, receiving training on how to put together a correct business plan and convert their ideas into real businesses. The winners receive funding to start their businesses. In 2004 Citigroup started a partnership with Habitat for Humanity, and to date, 10 houses have been built in the cities of Quito and Guayaquil, benefiting more than 60 individuals. In 2006, Citigroup and HPH launched a "Financial Literacy" Program to train potential homeowner families in the roles and responsibilities they will face when entering into a credit agreement. On the environmental perspective, in 2004 Citigroup supported a sustainable cocoa production project, sponsored by Rainforest Alliance, in the Ecuadorian Coastal Region, benefiting more than 500 local growers and their families.

Commitment to improving health in Ecuador - Merck

In 2006, Merck & Co.¹ donated 8,000 doses of VAQTA®, a vaccine to help prevent Hepatitis A, to the NGO Medical Assistance Programs International (MAP International) for use in Ecuador. MAP is collaborating with Ecuador's National Institute for Children and Family to administer the vaccine to children ages 5-10. Merck also donated 8,000 doses of this vaccine to Ecuador through MAP in 2004. Merck's commitment to improving health in Ecuador goes beyond these donations, and includes other initiatives, such as the Merck Mectizan Donation program, which has provided Mectizan (ivermectin) for the effort to eliminate river blindness (Onchocerchiasis) in Ecuador for the past 17 years (and now annually reaches 20,000 people in 119 communities.) Merck has also supported the local NGO Corporación Kimirina to help provide training in preand post-HIV/AIDS test counseling to the Red Cross in Guayaquil and Portoviejo – cities which account for 76 percent of the nation's HIV-positive population. The Red Cross then used a train-the-trainer program to expand the program to other cities throughout Ecuador.

¹ Merck & Co., Inc. is a global, research-based pharmaceutical company based in Whitehouse Station, NJ, USA. Merck & Co., Inc. and operates as Merck Sharp & Dohme (MSD) in most countries outside the United States. In Canada, the Company operates as Merck Frosst Canada, Ltd. In Japan, it operates as Banyu Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.