The most recent U.S. census documents the Guatemalan population at 872,000. However, the actual number is estimated to be roughly 1.6 million. Given the country of Guatemala’s population of 13.9, a full 10% of the country now lives in the U.S. This growing population of second, third, and fourth generation Guatemalan-Americans contributes greatly to the economy, community, and cultural diversity in the United States.

### Population Distribution:
**Guatemalans in the U.S.**
According to the 2008 Census

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles, CA</td>
<td>280,333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York, NY</td>
<td>119,063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington, DC</td>
<td>55,476</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boston, MA</td>
<td>45,965</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Houston, TX (IOM 2000)</td>
<td>43,174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Francisco, CA</td>
<td>41,508</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago, IL (2000)</td>
<td>13,610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providence, RI (2000)</td>
<td>13,144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palm Beach County, FL</td>
<td>18,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Guatemalan Indigenous Communities
Guatemala’s population is 50-60% indigenous and comprised of about 24 different linguistic and cultural groups. In the U.S., 8.7% of those who identify as “American Indian” are from Guatemala. (2008 Census)

U.S. cities with notable Guatemalan indigenous communities:

- **Providence, RI:** K’iche
- **New Bedford, MA:** K’iche
- **Arlington, VA:** Mam
- **Indiantown, FL:** Q’anjob’al
- **Chattanooga, TN:** Mam & Q’anjob’al
- **Jupiter, FL:** Popti (Jakalteko)
- **Saluda, SC:** K’iche
- **Los Angeles, CA:** K’iche

### Common Occupations of Guatemalans in the U.S.
(2008 Census)

- **Service occupations:** 32.6%
- **Construction, extraction, maintenance, repair occupations:** 22.3%
- **Production and transportation occupations:** 22.5%
- **Sales and office occupations:** 13.9%
- **Management, professional, and related occupations:** 9.3%
- **Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations:** 2.4%
Guatemalan Organizations in the United States

There are over 300 community organizations formed by Guatemalans living in the U.S. Focuses range from legal support to business networking to cultural enrichment.

Guatemala Unity Information Agency

Location: Los Angeles, CA
Mission: To provide legal and social support to the Guatemalan community.
Programs:
- Immigration: Provides legal counseling
- Social Services: Health education, driver’s training, counseling
- Education: GED, computer, and literacy classes

Mission: To promote economic development and sustainability in Guatemala by connecting communities in the U.S. and in Guatemala.
Programs:
- Immigration: Aids immigrants in social transitions
- Youth: Connects youth movements across countries
- Historical Memory: Promotes knowledge of geographic and cultural backgrounds

El Sol: Jupiter’s Neighborhood Resource Center

Location: Jupiter, FL
Mission: To order to foster a strong economic and ethnically diverse community by organizing, educating, and assisting Jupiter’s immigrant population.
Programs:
- Labor center: Works with employers to meet day labor needs
- Education: Provides literacy, computer, and ESL programs.
- Legal Services: Advocates for fair compensation of workers

AWAL: Mayan Folkloric Dance Group

Location: Arlington, VA
Mission: To share Maya cultural traditions and support their community center in Concepcion, Chiquirichapa, Quetzaltenango.
Events:
- Gran Dia Chapin: an annual Guatemalan festival in the DC Area
- Performances at the Smithsonian Museum of the American Indian

Organización Maya K’iche’

Location: New Bedford, MA
Mission: To educate, support, and advocate for the Central American community.
Programs:
- Research and Awareness: Coordinates activities that advance civil rights knowledge and other community causes.
- Social: Promotes cultural values
- Political: Responds to immigration concerns, such as the March 2007 raid in New Bedford.