

# El Salvador

**2016**  
December**Country profile**[www.devinit.org/p20i](http://www.devinit.org/p20i)

This country profile is produced by Development Initiatives to support the National Dialogue on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. As one of the founding partners of the Leave No One Behind partnership, established in July 2015, our role is to provide data at a national level to help track progress against the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) so we can make sure that no one is left behind.

## Poverty profile

- The national poverty lines in El Salvador are US\$99.06 per person per month in urban areas and US\$61.46 in rural areas. According to the most recently available data (2014), 31.8% of the population lived below these poverty lines, of which 58.8% lived in urban areas.
- In El Salvador, extreme poverty, defined as those living on less than purchasing power parity (PPP) \$1.90 a day, has been decreasing since the end of the civil war in 1992, falling from 21.97% in 1996, to 3.0% in 2014.
- As of 2014, the richest 20% in El Salvador owned 48.3% of national income, in contrast to the 5.7% shared by the poorest 20%.

**National poverty lines  
(US\$ per person per month)**99.06 in urban areas  
61.46 in rural areas

Note: 2014 data. Source: Dirección General de Estadística y Censos.

**% of population living  
below the national  
poverty lines****31.8%**

Note: 2014 data. Source: World Development Indicators.

**% of population living  
below the national  
poverty line in urban  
areas****58.8%**

Note: 2014 data. Source: World Development Indicators.

**Mean per capita income  
per month (2011 PPP\$)****302.99**

Note: 2014 data. Source: World Bank's PovcalNet.

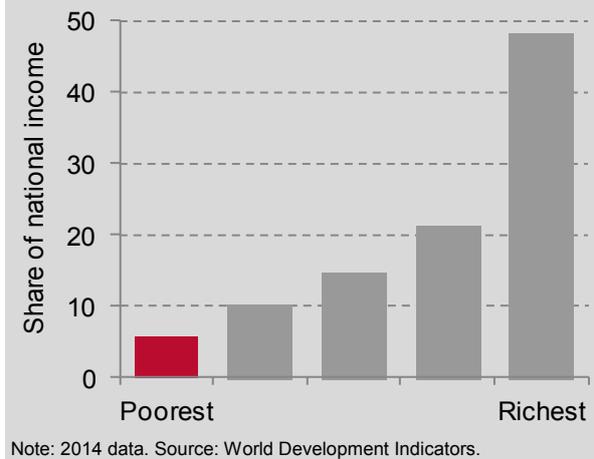
**% of population living below the  
international extreme poverty line****3.0%**

Note: 2014 data, international extreme poverty line is 2011 PPP\$ 1.90/day. Source: World Bank's PovcalNet.

### Is poverty reducing over time?



### How is income distributed?



## Economic profile

- In 2015, El Salvador's gross domestic product (GDP) per capita was PPP\$8,095.56 compared with a regional average of PPP\$14,651.21 for Latin America.
- The Gini index measures the equality of income distribution of a country's residents where 0 means everyone earns the same, and 100 being where one person earns everything. In El Salvador in 2014, the Gini index was 41.8, down from 51.3 in 2000, reflecting an increasingly even distribution of income.
- Out of 188 countries, El Salvador was ranked 116 on the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)'s Human Development Index in 2015, with a score of 0.666.

#### GDP per capita (2011 PPP\$)

8,095.56

Note: 2015 data. Source: World Development Indicators.

#### Human Development Index Ranking

116/188

Note: 2015 data. Source: UNDP.

#### Gini index

41.8

Note: 2014 data. Source: World Bank's PovcalNet.

## Education outcomes

- In 2011, the El Salvador government spent PPP\$259.61 per capita on education, which compares with a regional average for Latin America of PPP\$630.62.
- In 2015, El Salvador's adult literacy rate stood at 87.6%, up from 80.8% in 2004.

### Adult literacy rate (%)

87.6%

Note: 2015 data. Source: World Development Indicators.

### Per capita public expenditure on education (2011 PPP\$)

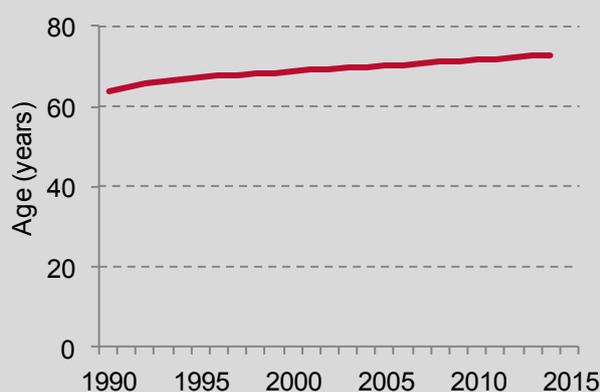
259.61

Note: 2011 data. Source: Development Initiatives based on World Development Indicators.

## Health outcomes

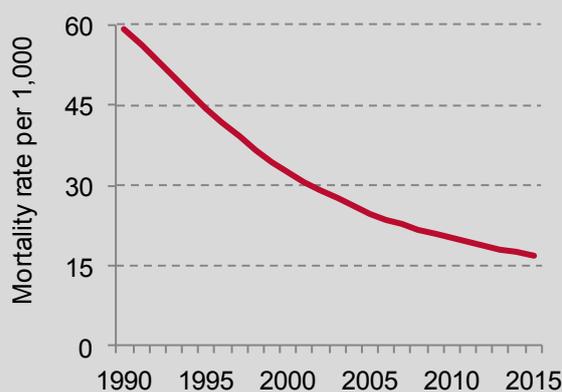
- Life expectancy in El Salvador has steadily increased from 64.0 in 1990 to 72.8 in 2014.
- Since 1990, the mortality rate of children under 5 has fallen from 59.4 per 1,000 down to 16.8 per 1,000 in 2015.
- In 2014, public spending on healthcare in El Salvador was PPP\$354.25 per capita, compared with a regional average for Latin America of PPP\$554.58.

### Life expectancy at birth



Source: Development Initiatives based on World Development Indicators.

### Under five mortality rate per 1,000



Source: Development Initiatives based on World Development Indicators.

### Per capita public expenditure on healthcare (2011 PPP\$)

354.25

Note: 2014 data. Source: Development Initiatives based on World Development Indicators.

Note: The economic, health and education data in this profile are Development Initiatives' calculations based on the World Bank's World Development Indicators and the UNDP's Human Development Index; please refer to these sources for a full definition of public spending. The poverty data is Development Initiatives' calculations based on the World Bank's PovcalNet.

## Achieving the SDGs

If global efforts to end poverty and achieve the SDGs are to be reached, it is essential that no one is left behind; the SDGs will not be considered met unless they are met for everyone.

However, current data is not good enough to tell us exactly who is being left behind, where they live and why. To better target resources and track their progress we need to better understand who they are. To achieve this we need more and better data disaggregated by at least geography, gender, age and disability.

A new project from Development Initiatives, the P20 Initiative, will be doing just this. The P20 Initiative will provide data on whether things are improving for the poorest 20% of people globally. It will do this by gathering and using existing data and promoting better disaggregation of data on people to ensure that those furthest behind are reached first and included in progress so the SDGs can be achieved for all.

### Contact:

If you would like more information on any of the data provided in this summary or on the P20 Initiative please contact Cat Langdon on [cat.langdon@devinit.org](mailto:cat.langdon@devinit.org)

### Data use survey

Do you use data in your work? How would you rate your use of data? What data sources do you use? We are interested to hear about the ways in which you use data in your work. Please follow the link below and complete our short survey: [goo.gl/iEJdZb](https://goo.gl/iEJdZb)

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The Leave No One Behind partnership seeks to drive global momentum to make sure that no one is left behind. Made up of three international non-profit organisations (CIVICUS, Development Initiatives, and Project Everyone), with the support of the United Kingdom's Department for International Development, we have come together as founding partners to catalyse a global movement to ensure that the pledge to Leave No One Behind turns from words into reality.

SUPPORTED BY



For more information on the Leave No One Behind partnership please email [info@leavenoonebehind.global](mailto:info@leavenoonebehind.global) or visit [www.leavenoonebehind.global](http://www.leavenoonebehind.global)

Development Initiatives (DI) is an independent international development organisation working on the use of data to drive poverty eradication and sustainable development.