

NICARAGUA

Capital: Managua

GEODATA

Area

130,000 km²

Official language

Spanish

Major religious group

Roman Catholic (85%)

Surrounding countries

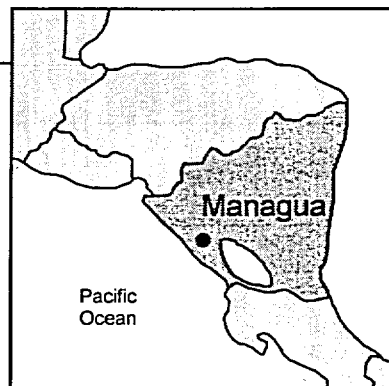
Cost Rica, Honduras

Population

4.81 million (July 2000 est.)

Population growth rate

2.2% (2000 est.)



POLITICAL DATA

Type of government

Republic

National legislature

Single chamber: National Assembly; multiparty

Leader

President Arnaldo Alemán Lacayo

Minister of Foreign Affairs

Eduardo Montealegre

Minister of Foreign Co-operation

Salvador Stadthagen

UN Human Development Index (2000)

Nicaragua ranks 116th among 174 countries

Canadian official development assistance

16.3 million (1998-1999)

ECONOMIC DATA

GDP

\$2.3 billion US (1999)

GDP growth rate

7% (1999)

GDP per capita

\$465 US (1999)

Main exports

Coffee, shrimp, lobster, sugar, bananas, gold, tobacco, cotton, beef

Main imports

Machinery, petroleum products, consumer goods

Main exports to Canada

\$24.4 million (1999), including coffee, clothing, fish and crustaceans, bananas, plantains, melons, cigars and cigarettes, ceramic sinks

Main imports from Canada

\$11.5 million (1999), including plastic articles, newsprint, tallow, beans and lentils, oats, books, lubricating oils, machinery

Canadian Representative

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