



Republic of Ecuador (August 2010)

Area: 283'560 km²
276'840 km² (land)
6'720 km² (water)

Population: 13'212'742 (2004)

Capital: Quito 1'830'000 inhabitants, altitude 2'800 m (one of the most elevated capitals of the world)

Government type: Republic with president

President: Rafael Correa (since autumn 2006)

Vice-President: Lenín Moreno (since autumn 2006)

Languages: Spanish (official), Amerindian languages: Quechua, Aymara and Jivaro



Ethnic groups: Mestizo (mixed Amerindian and white) 65 %, Amerindian 25 %, White people 7 %, Black people and Mulattos 3 %

Inhabitant-close Ø: 48 pro km²

Population under the poverty border: 65 % (2003)

Independence: 24 May 1822 (from Spain)

Religion: 95 % Roman Catholic

Currency: US dollar (USD)

Land boundaries: 2'010 km (Columbia 590 km, Peru 1'420 km)

Coastline: 2'237 km

Terrain:

Coast	(Coast, surface 25 %) 48 % of population,
Sierra	(Andean-highland, surface 25 %) 48 % of population)
Oriente	(Jungle/ Amazon, surface 50 %) 4 % of population

Adjacent states: Columbia (north), Peru (south and east)

Lowest point: Pacific Ocean 0m

Highest point: Chimborazo (volcano) 6'267 m

Main rivers: Rio Napo (420 km in Ecuador, total 900 km), Rio Guayas (320 km)

Head island: Galapagos 7'812 km² (Isabela 4'278 km²)

Nature resources: Timber, petroleum, hydropower, fish

Climate: Tropical along coast, becoming cooler inland at higher elevations, tropical in Amazonian jungle

Natural hazards: Earthquakes, landslides, floods, volcanic activities, periodic droughts