

2.2 STATISTIC FACTS OF SOLOLA

INDEX	FIGURE
TOTAL AREA OF SOLOLA:	1,061 Km ²
MAIN TOWN:	CITY OF SOLOLA
LOCATION:	14°38'35" N - 91°08'26" W
ELEVATION:	2,113.5 m.o.s.l
ANNUAL TEMPERATURE RANGE:	14.7 – 24.0 °C
AVERAGE ANNUAL PRECIPITATION:	1,817.20 mm

OCCUPATIONAL CATEGORY WITH RESPECT TO EAP (Economically Active Population)	
Private sector	28.2%
Self employed	49.9%
Government employee	3.1%
Employers	0.6%
Non remunerated family work	18.5%

NON ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE POPULATION	
Household work	58.8%
Students	35.6%
Retired	1.2%
Other	4.4%

PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH BASIC SERVICES	
Drinking water	86.5%
Electricity	55.4%
Drainage	14.3%
Drinking water, drainage and electricity	12.6%

HOUSEHOLD COOKING FUEL	
Firewood	92.6%
Propane gas	5.9%
Electricity	0.4%
Kerosene	0.2%
Charcoal	0.2%
Other	0.7%

2.2.1 GENERAL INFORMATION

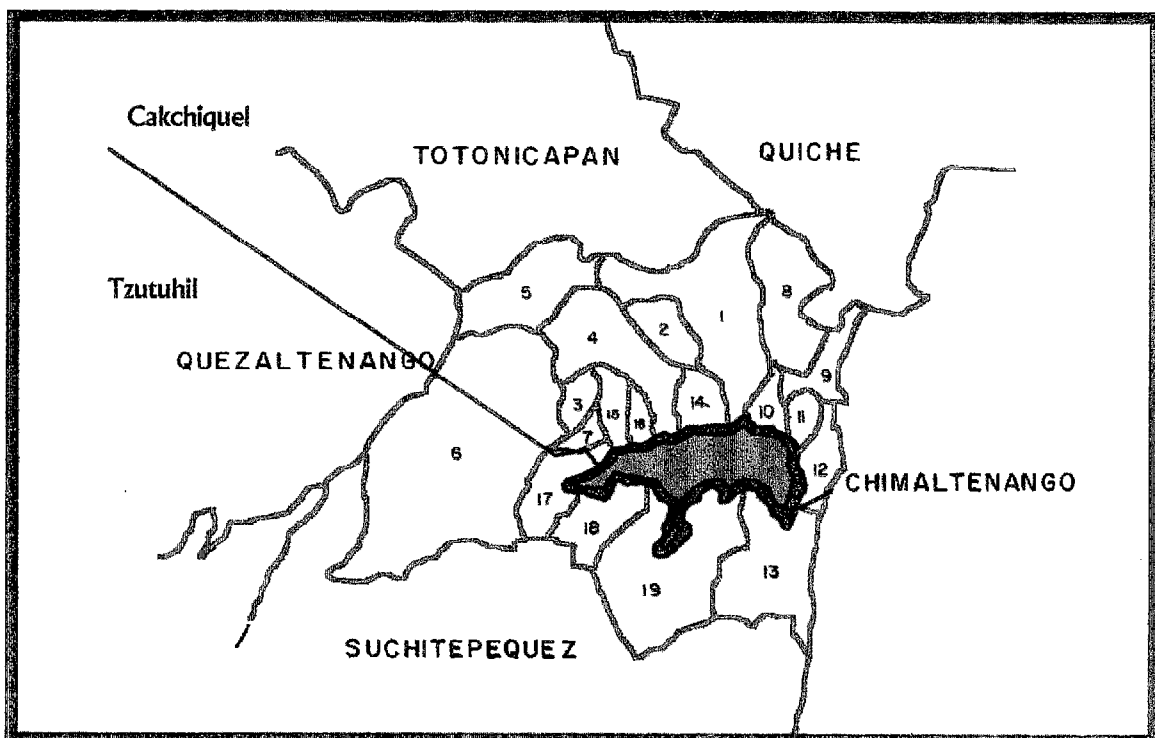
Sololá is one of 6 departments located in the central highlands of Guatemala, its main town in terms of public administration is the City of Sololá, located 137 kilometers west of Guatemala city, on the road to Lake Atitlán.

Sololá borders North with Totonicapán and Quiché; South with Suchitepéquez, East with Chimaltenango, and West with Quetzaltenango, and is divided into 19 municipalities.

The main indigenous groups are Tzutuhil and Cakchiquel. Tzutuhiles are concentrated mainly in the southern part of the department, as Cakchiquel villages are located in the northern area.

The main sources of household income are in order of importance: agriculture, handcrafts and tourism. As shown further ahead, the main crops of the region are grains (maize and beans) as well as vegetables for the Central American market.

Non traditional agricultural products are grown in some areas, while they are not yet an important source of income at departmental level.



No.	MUNICIPALITY	No.	MUNICIPALITY
1.	Sololá	11.	Santa Catarina Palopó
2.	San José Chacayá	12.	San Antonio Palopó
3.	Santa María Visitación	13.	San Lucas Tollimán
4.	Santa Lucía Utatlán	14.	Santa Cruz La Laguna
5.	Nahualá	15.	San Pablo La Laguna
6.	Santa Catarina Ixtahuacán	16.	San Marcos La Laguna
7.	Santa Clara La Laguna	17.	San Juan La Laguna
8.	Concepción	18.	San Pedro La Laguna
9.	San Andrés Semetabaj	19.	Santiago Atitlán
10.	Panajachel		

The department of Sololá is divided into 19 municipalities and more than 225 villages. The maximum authority is the Governor, however local power is exercised by majors, with the assistant of auxiliary majors selected by the communities.

As in most departments, there are district offices of the ministries of Health, Agriculture and Education, together with courts of justice of various levels and a departmental hospital.

For quite some time, Sololá has been benefited from international funds canalized through non governmental organizations and international cooperation agencies. The civil society is well-organized in local committees established for a wide variety of interests that go from access roads to health posts and micro credit.

Table No. 4

Main Agricultural products of Sololá

PRODUCT	NUMBER OF FARMS	PRODUCTION IN MT
MAIZE	14,144	13,380
BLACK BEANS	10,327	1,026
WHEAT	184	222
POTATOES	228	785
OTHER VEGETABLES	786	1,452

2.2.2 PHYSIOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

Sololá is located in a quite unstable geological area, where tectonic layers converge, increasing the possibilities of natural disasters related to earthquakes and volcanic activity. Another important characteristic of the area is the topography, with slopes beyond 100%.

There are four major volcanoes in less than 1,000 Km²:

VOLCANO	ELEVATION OVER SEA LEVEL
ZUNIL	3,406 m
ATITLAN	3,542 m
TOLIMAN	3,158 m
SAN PEDRO	3,020m

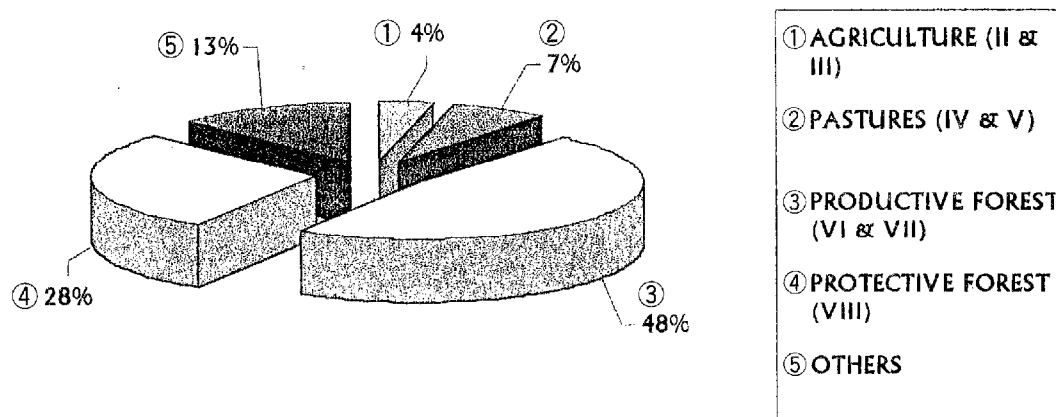
The department of Sololá is, therefore, located within three "geological provinces:

- High crystal lands
- High volcanic lands
- Recent volcanic slope

There are also three well-defined hydrographic basins with the following characteristics:

BASIN	SEA	AREA	MAX. ELEVATION	MIN. ELEVATION
NAHUALATE	PACIFIC	2,012 Km ²	3000m	0
LAKE ATITLAN		548 Km ²	2,400m	1,570
MADRE VIEJA	PACIFIC	905Km ²	2,300m	0

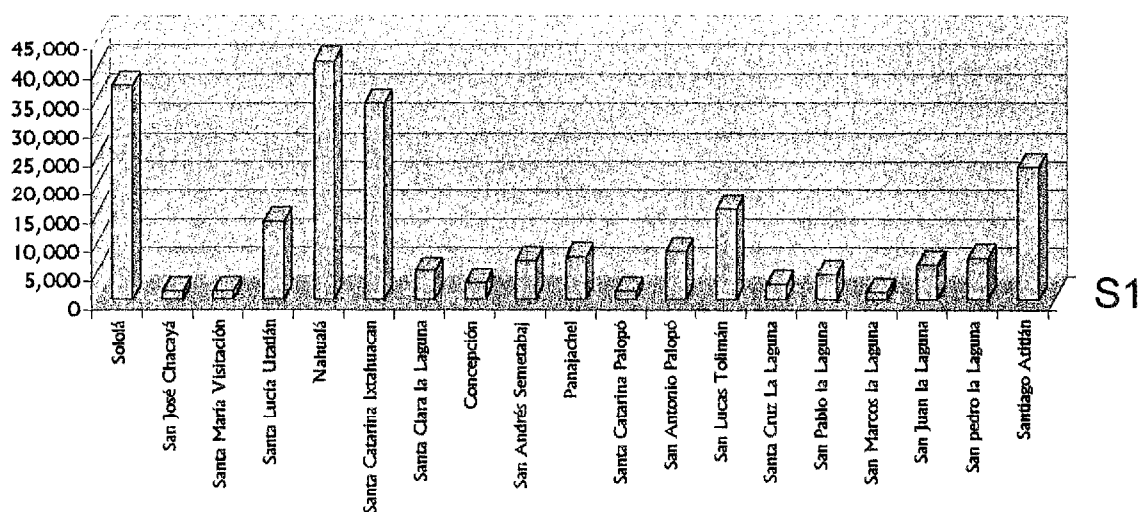
PRODUCTIVE CAPACITY OF THE SOILS OF SOLOLA

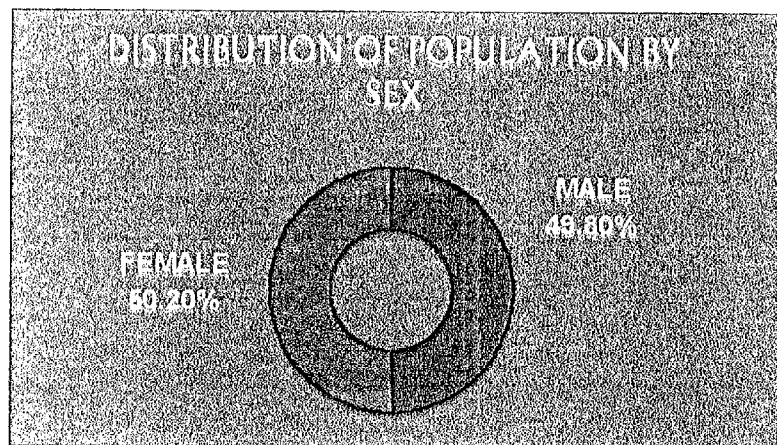
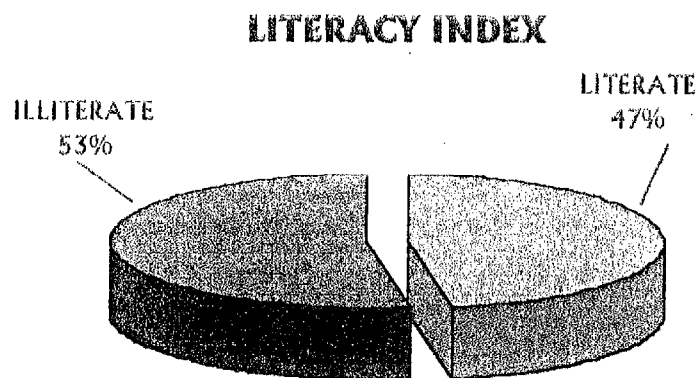
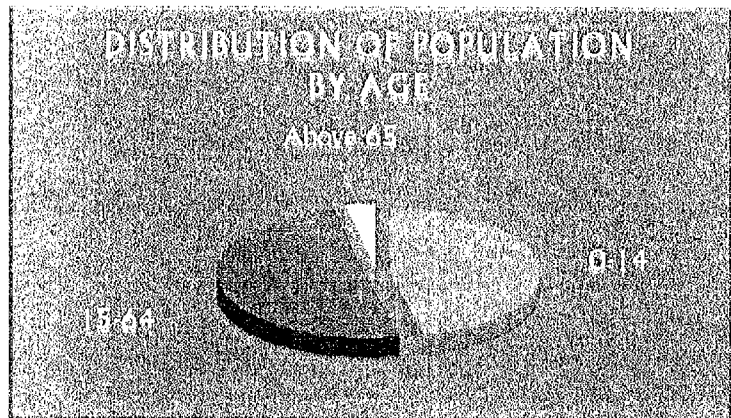


2.2.3 POPULATION

In order to provide a clearer idea of population and socioeconomic facts, such information is provided graphically.

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION





2.3 STATISTIC FACTS OF QUETZALTENANGO

INDEX	FIGURE
TOTAL AREA OF QUETZALTENANGO:	1,951 Km ²
MAIN TOWN:	QUETZALTENANGO
LOCATION:	14°50'16" N – 91°31'03"
ELEVATION:	2,333.03 m.o.s.l
ANNUAL TEMPERATURE RANGE:	6.8 – 24.4 °C
AVERAGE ANNUAL PRECIPITATION:	699.3 mm

OCCUPATIONAL CATEGORY WITH RESPECT TO EAP (Economically Active Population)	
Private sector	47.2%
Self employed	36.0%
Government employee	5.03%
Employers	1.3%
Non remunerated family work	10.2%

NON ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE POPULATION	
Household work	54.3%
Students	40.8%
Retired	2.3%
Other	2.6%

PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLDS WITH BASIC SERVICES	
Drinking water	69.7%
Electricity	63.2%
Drainage	31.0%
Drinking water, drainage and electricity	29.8%

HOUSEHOLD COOKING FUEL	
Firewood	70.0%
Propane gas	27.5%
Electricity	1.2%
Kerosene	0.4%
Charcoal	0.2%
Other	0.7%

2.3.1 GENERAL INFORMATION

The capital city of Quetzaltenango is the second largest city of the country. It is located 202 kilometers west of Guatemala city.

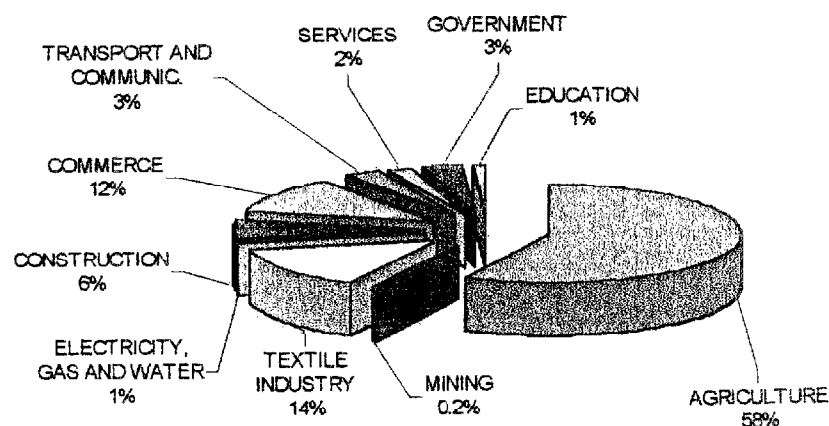
The department of Quetzaltenango borders North with Huehuetenango, South with Retalhuleu and Suchitepéquez; East with Totonicapán and Sololá, and West with San Marcos. With an area of 1,951 Km² and more than 500,000 inhabitants is one of the most important centers of the country for agricultural production, among which we can find grains, deciduous fruits and vegetables.

The main ethnic group of the region is Mam, although we can also find Quichés whom have come from Totonicapán and a few Cakchíqueles in the eastern area.

The municipalities of Zunil and Almolonga are quite famous for the intensive agricultural productions systems used to grow vegetables which supply the markets of El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua.

Among the main sources of income in Quetzaltenango, we can find the following, in order of importance: Agricultural production, textile industry and commerce.

MAIN INCOME GENERATING SECTORS IN TERMS OF EAP



2.3.2 PHYSIOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

Quetzaltenango is in the same geological province as Sololá, which gives them similar conditions in terms of soils, hydric resources and susceptibility to natural disasters. The following are the physiographic regions present in Quetzaltenango:

- High crystal highlands
- Volcanic Highlands
- Recent volcanic slope

Table No.

Volcanoes present in Quetzaltenango

VOLCANO	ELEVATION
SANTIAGUITO	3,772m
ZUNIL	3,542m
SIETE OREJAS	3,370m
CERRO QUEMADO	3,027m
CHICABAL	2,900m

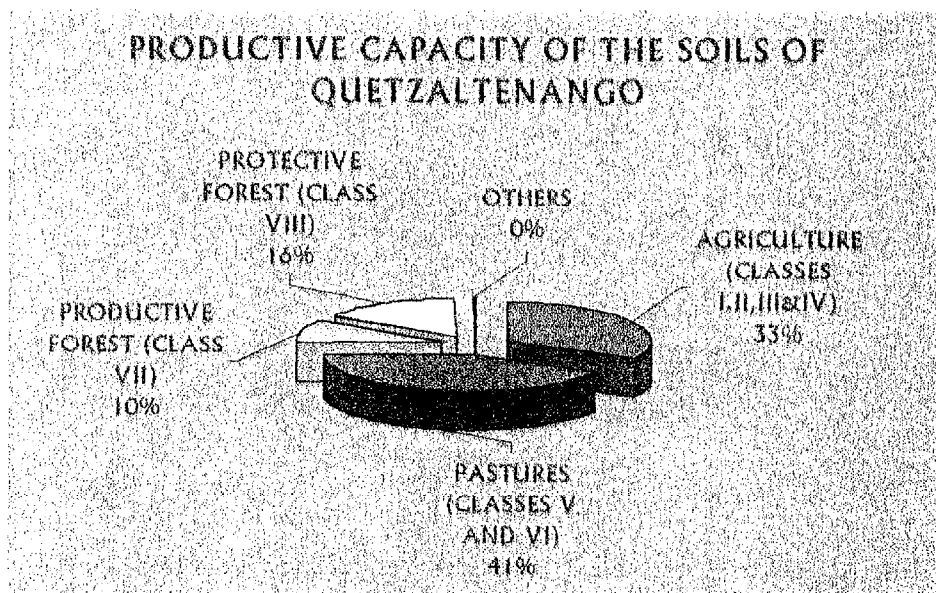
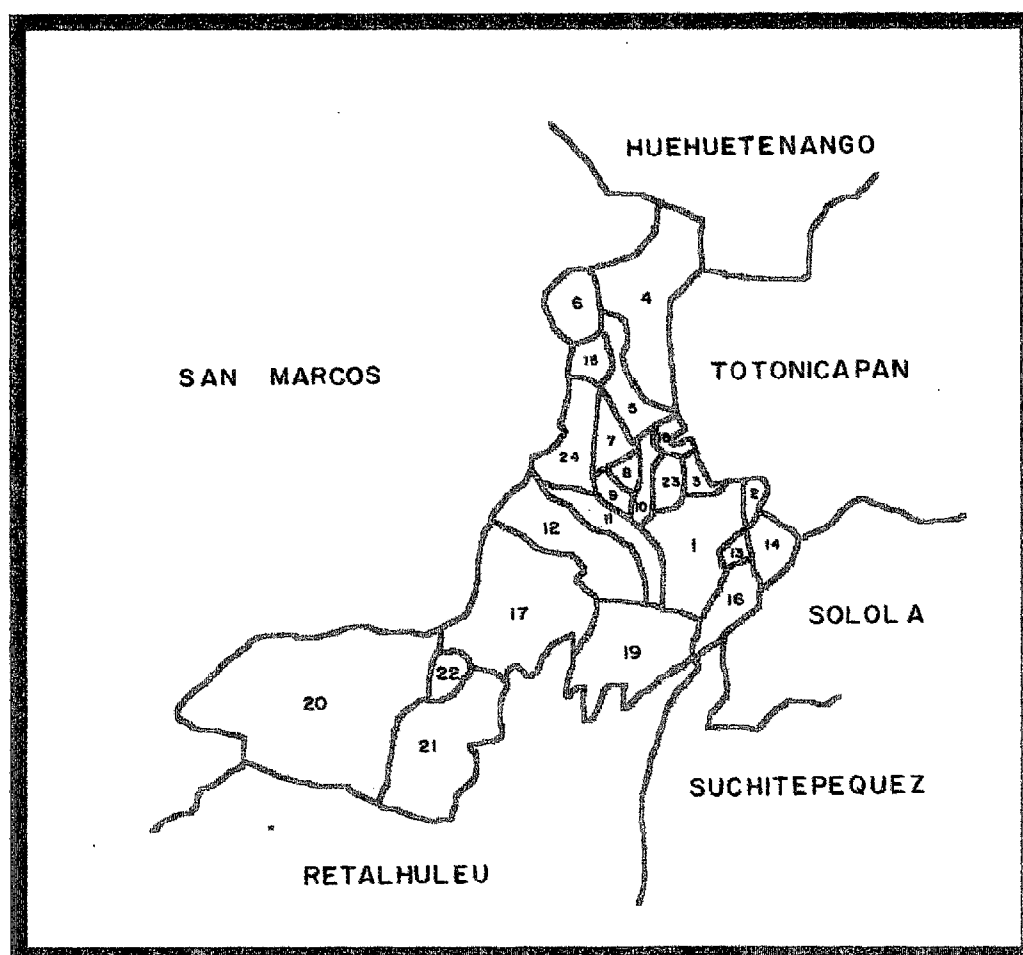


Table No. 5

Hydrographic basins of Quetzaltenango

BASIN	AREA	MAX. ELEVATION	MIN. ELEVATION
NARANJO	1,266 Km ²	2,360 m	0
OCOSITO	2,024 Km ²	2,740 m	0
SAMALA	1,499 Km ²	3,000 m	0

2.3.3 POLITICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION



No.	MUNICIPALITY	No.	MUNICIPALITY
1.	QUETZALTENANGO	13.	ALMOLONGA
2.	SALCAJA	14.	CANTEL
3.	OLINTEPEQUE	15.	HUITAN
4.	SAN CARLOS SIJA	16.	ZUNIL
5.	SIBILIA	17.	COLOMBA
6.	CABRICAN	18.	SAN FRANCISCO LA UNION
7.	CAJOLA	19.	EL PALMAR
8.	SAN MIGUEL SIGUILA	20.	COATEPEQUE
9.	OSTUNCALCO	21.	GENOVA
10.	SAN MATEO	22.	FLORES COSTA CUCA
11.	CONCEPCION CHIQUIRICHAPA	23.	LA ESPERANZA
12.	SAN MARTIN SACATEPEQUEZ	24.	PALESTINA DE LOS ALTOS

As show above, administratively Quetzaltenango is divided into 24 municipalities and more than 800 villages. As in the rest of the country, the local power is exercised by municipal majors, with the assistance of auxiliary majors at community level. The Governor exercises his authority mainly at governmental instances and at the Departmental and Regional Development Councils.

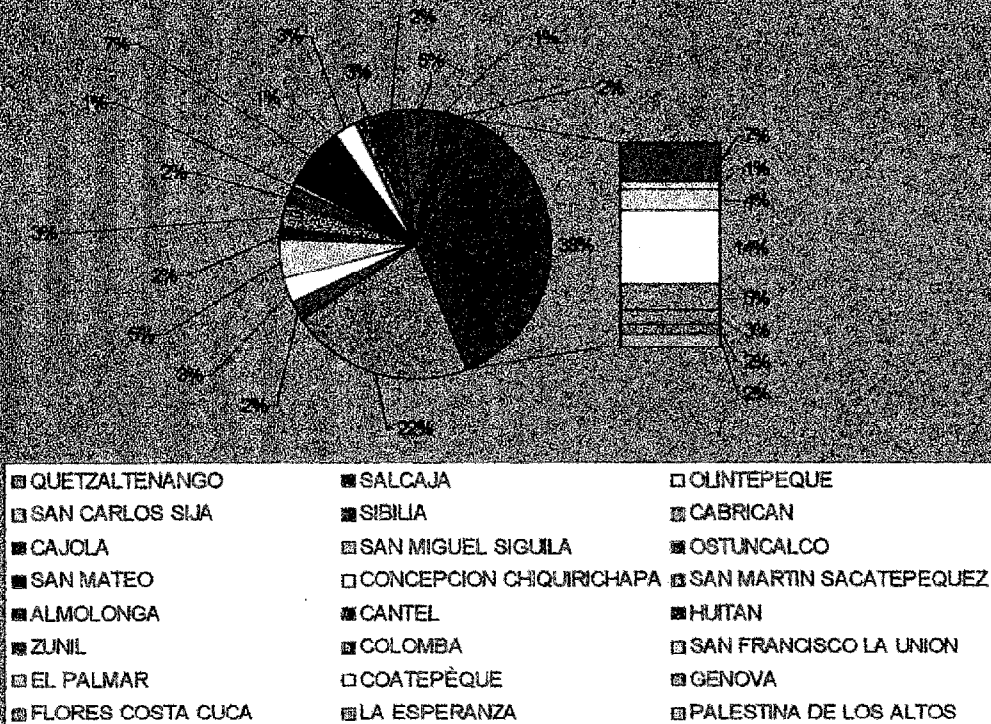
Besides Totonicapán, Quetzaltenango has one of the best organized civil societies, with development committees at local, municipal and departmental levels. As in the rest of the country, all rural development organizations belong to RADEAS (System of Agents for Sustainable Agricultural and Livestock Development), directing the activities of the Ministry of Agriculture.

2.3.4 POPULATION

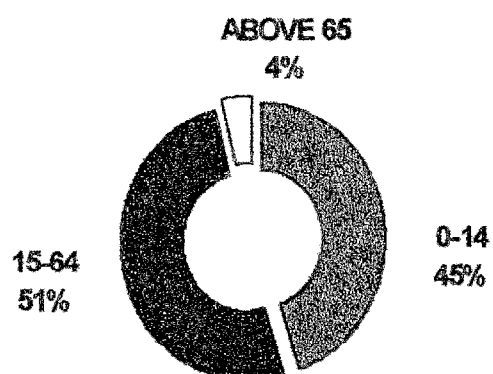
According to the 1994 census, the populations of Quetzaltenango was 503857 inhabitants, with an estimate for 1999 of 567,282 inhabitants, at a 2.4% annual growth rate.

Statistical information regarding population issues is presented below.

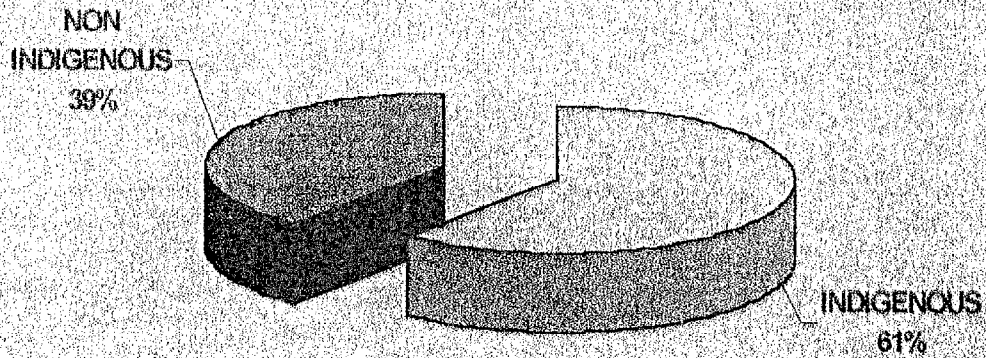
GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION



DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY AGE RANGE



DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY ETHNIC ORIGIN



DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION BY SEX

