Country Profile: Ecuador

Country Profile (PDF)

Country Resources

Topographic

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Ecuador 1:50,000 Scale Topographic Maps (DMA J721)	DMA	1:50,000	1987 – 2009	160
Ecuador Provinces Topographic Maps	IGME	Varies	1981 – 1997	4
Ecuador 1:25,000 Scale Topographic Maps	IGME	1:25,000	1966 – 2012	488
Ecuador 1:50,000 Scale Topographic Maps	IGME	1:50,000	1964 – 2007	485
Ecuador 1:250,000 Scale Topographic Maps	IGME	1:250,000	1985 – 1998	12
VMAP0 1:1,000,000 Scale Vector Data	NIMA	1:1,000,000	1992	4

Nautical

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Ecuador Nautical Charts (All Scales)	INOCAR	Varies	2008 – 2024	54

Geoscientific

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Ecuador (Cordillera Occidental) 1:200,000 Scale Geological Maps	CODIGEM	1:200,000	1997	3
Ecuador 1:1,000,000 Geological Map – Single Sheets	DGGM	1:1,000,000	2017	1
Ecuador 1:25,000 Scale Geological Maps	DINAGE	1:25,000		4
Ecuador 1:50,000 Scale Geological Maps	DINAGE	1:50,000		13
Ecuador 1:100,000 Scale Geological Maps	DINAGE	1:100,000	1970 – 1997	85
Ecuador 1:250,000 Volcano Map	IEM	1:250,000	1982	1
Ecuador Cordillera Real 1:500,000 Scale Geological Maps	IEM	1:500,000	1994	2
Ecuador 1:1,000,000 Mineral Map	SNGM	1:1,000,000	1969	1

Thematic

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
The World 1:30,000,000 Scale Topographic Map Series 1145 (NGA)	DMA	1:30,000,000		2

Global Census Archive: GIS Census Data

Year	Questions / Answers	ADM Level	Polygons at ADM	Data Points
2001	32 / 1,084	6	32,115	34,812,660
2010 (ADM 5)	91 / 1,235	5	40,649	50,201,515
2010 (ADM 6)	92 / 555	6	232,701	129,149,055
2022	116 / 1,139	5	52,898	60,197,924

Global Resources

Topographic

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Soviet Military City Plans	VTU GSh	Varies	1944 – 2003	3,021
Soviet Military 1:100,000 Scale Topographic Maps	VTU GSh	1:100,000	1947 – 1999	24,897

Soviet Military 1:200,000 Scale Topographic Maps	VTU GSh	1:200,000	1949 – 2009	17,799
Soviet Military 1:500,000 Scale Topographic Maps	VTU GSh	1:500,000	1953 – 1998	3,093
Soviet Military 1:1,000,000 Scale Topographic Maps	VTU GSh	1:1,000,000	1948 – 1994	1,089

Nautical

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
NGA Nautical Charts POD Certified (All Scales)	NGA	Varies	1943 – 2013	4,517

Aeronautical

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Joint Operations Graphic (JOG 1501A) 1:250,000 – Aeronautical	DMA	1:250,000	1958 – 2007	6,380
Tactical Pilotage Chart (TPC) 1:500,000 Scale – Aeronautical	DMA	1:500,000	1967 – 2006	618
Operational Navigation Chart (ONC) 1:1,000,000 Scale – Aeronautical	DMA	1:1,000,000	1969 – 2001	248
Jet Navigation Chart (JNC) 1:2,000,000 Scale – Aeronautical	DMA	1:2,000,000	1971 – 1999	117
Global Navigation and Planning Chart (GNC) 1:5,000,000 Scale – Aeronautical	DMA	1:5,000,000	1981 – 1999	27

Note: East View Geospatial is continuously sourcing new resources that may not yet be listed in Global Explorer. Please contact us if you have geodata needs beyond what is listed above and we will be happy to discuss available off-the-shelf and custom solutions.

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Historical Country Mapping Information

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Country Profile (PDF)

Topographic

The topographic mapping authority in Ecuador is the **Instituto Geográfico Militar (IGME)**, Quito, founded in 1928. Its responsibilities were defined by law in 1978 as being those of surveying and mapping the national territory, and archiving geographical data about the country.

Early topographic mapping, undertaken in the 1930s, concentrated on the area around Quito and was at a scale of 1:25,000. In 1947, Ecuador entered a co-operative mapping agreement with the **Inter American Geodetic Survey**. Aerial photography was flown by the USAAF in 1961, and the following year the 1:50,000 scale topographic series was started. Subsequently, a 1:100,000 scale series was also initiated; about one-third of the country had been covered at this scale by the early 1990s. Except for a few areas in the east and the north, cover is now almost complete at this scale, although all mapping is confined to the area west of the line of the Protocol of Rio de Janeiro 1942. There is also now an extensive cover at 1:25,000 and a program of digitizing the 1:50,000 and 1:25,000 scale series is in progress.

The 1:100,000 scale mapping is in seven colors including a purple UTM grid, and has an 80 m contour interval and auxiliary contours at 40 m. The 1:50,000 scale map is in five colors with 20 m contours (40 m in the Sierra). Both series are on Transverse Mercator projection with UTM grid. The 1:100,000 scale sheets each cover 30′ longitude by 15′ latitude, while those at 1:50,000 have a 15′ x 10′ format.

A 1:250,000 scale cover was initiated in the early 1980s under the **PAIGH Hemispheric Mapping Program**, and although this programme is no longer operative, further sheets have been published.

General maps of the country are published by **IGME** at scales of 1:500,000 and 1:1,000,000. **IGME** has also published smaller scale provincial maps, tourist guide maps of Quito, Guayaquil and Loja, and undertakes urban mapping of numerous cities at scales ranging from 1:1,000 to 1:10,000.

Soviet military topographic mapping of Ecuador exists at the following scales: 1:1,000,000 (9 sheets, complete coverage, published 1962-1990) and 1:500,000 (9 sheets, complete coverage, published 1964-1984). These products are available in print, digital raster and digital vector formats from **East View Geospatial**.

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Nautical

Hydrographic charting is undertaken by the **Instituto Oceanográfico de la Armada (INOCAR)**, while aeronautical charts have been published by the **Dirección de Aviación Civil (DAC)**.

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Geological/Scientific

A geological mapping program, mainly at the 1:100,000 scale, was initiated in the 1960s by the **Ecuadorian Department of Geology and Mines**. The current organization is now the **Dirección Nacional de Geologia (DINAGE)**, formed in March 1999. Sheets have been published covering much of the Cordilleras and coastal plain. There have been over two decades of cooperation with the **British Geological Survey (BGS)**, with concentration on the exploration of mineral prospective areas. Between 1986 and 1994, the **Cordillera Real Project** focused on the Eastern Cordillera and the El Oro Metamorphic Complex, but in 1995 a new five-year **Geological Information Mapping Program** began. The Western Cordillera is the focus of this program, and one of its outcomes will be the production of five new 1:250,000 scale geological maps and associated databases. 1:500,000 scale maps of the metamorphic belts of Ecuador were published in 1994 as part of the **BGS** *Overseas memoir, No. 11*. New 1:1,000,000 scale geological and tectono-metallogenic maps of the whole country were published in 1993.

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Imagery

A center of integrated natural resource surveys, **Centro de Llevantaminetos Integrados de Recursos Naturales por Sensores Remotos (CLIRSEN)**, was established within **IGME** in 1977. It has undertaken resource survey and inventory using satellite imagery, and has produced a range of thematic mapping for the Province of Guayas.

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Soil

The **Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería (MAG)** has produced a number of soil maps and has carried out resource mapping in collaboration with the French **Institut Français de Recherche Scientifique pour le Développement en Coopération (ORSTOM)**. This includes several 1:1,000,000 scale maps published in the 1970s as part of a *Programa Nacional de Regionalización Agraria*. More recently, 1:1,000,000 scale land use and 1:750,000 scale physical, cultural and socio-economic maps were included in **ORSTOM** *Travaux et documents No. 212* by **M.M. Thomassin**, published in 1988.

A 1:1,000,000 soil map of the country prepared by the **Soil Science Society of Ecuador**.

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Atlas

The *Atlas del Ecuador*, published in 1994 to mark the 50th anniversary of I**GM**, has 86 thematic maps at a scale of 1:2,000,000.

ORSTOM produced an innovative multi-thematic atlas of Quito in association with **PAIGH** and **IGME**.

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Cadaster

Rural cadastral mapping is handled by the **Dirección Nacional de Avalúos y Catastros (DINAC)**.

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Tourist/Reference

Ecotourism is a growth industry in Ecuador, and the **Panamerican Center for Geographical Studies and Research (CEPEIGE)** has published *The Ecotourist's guide to the Ecuadorian Amazon* by **Rolf Wesche**. The guide includes several folded **IGME** topographic maps. **IGME** has published ecotourism maps of the volcanoes Chimborazo, Carihuayrazo and Cotopaxi.

Ediguias C. Ltda publishes street maps of several Ecuadorian cities, and a small format thematic atlas of the country. In 1999 it published a three-sheet map of the Galapagos Islands with index and text. **Auto-Mapa** has a Plano guía de Quito. Maps published by foreign publishers include a general map by **International Travel Maps (ITM)**.

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Census/Demography/Statistics

The **Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censos (INEC)** is responsible for the preparation of population censuses. As well as numerous large-scale census tract maps, it produces maps of the 19 provinces at 1:250,000 scale, and a general map of the country's administrative divisions.

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