

Institutions & Legal Information

State Structure

The Constitution establishes that Colombia is a democracy, in which the will of the majority is expressed through laws and regulations. This fundamental principle defines Colombia as a participatory and pluralist democracy.

The Colombian State has three main branches of government: the Executive, the Legislative, and the Judiciary. The president of the Republic leads the executive power; Congress heads the legislative branch; and the Supreme Court, the State Council, and the Constitutional Court represent the judicial branch.

The president is the head of State and Government, and the supreme administrative authority. Accompanied by the vice-president the Ministries and the Administrative Departments, are part of the executive branch at the national level. The president, the vice-president and the congressmen are elected by popular vote. The term served by these are four years. The heads at the department level are the Governors, and the Mayors are in charge at the municipal level.

Congress is the highest legislative branch, comprised of the Senate and the House of Representatives. The main difference between the two chambers is the election process. The senators are elected on a national

basis while the departments elect their congressional representatives. Congress has legislative duties (to reform the Constitution and approve laws) as well as political duties which include, exercising political supervision of presidential on the government and the administration. It also has some judiciary functions which include, investigating and judging the president, if necessary.

The judiciary branch is divided in four jurisdictions.

Ordinary: handles labor, civil and criminal matters. Its maximum authority is the Supreme Court of Justice.

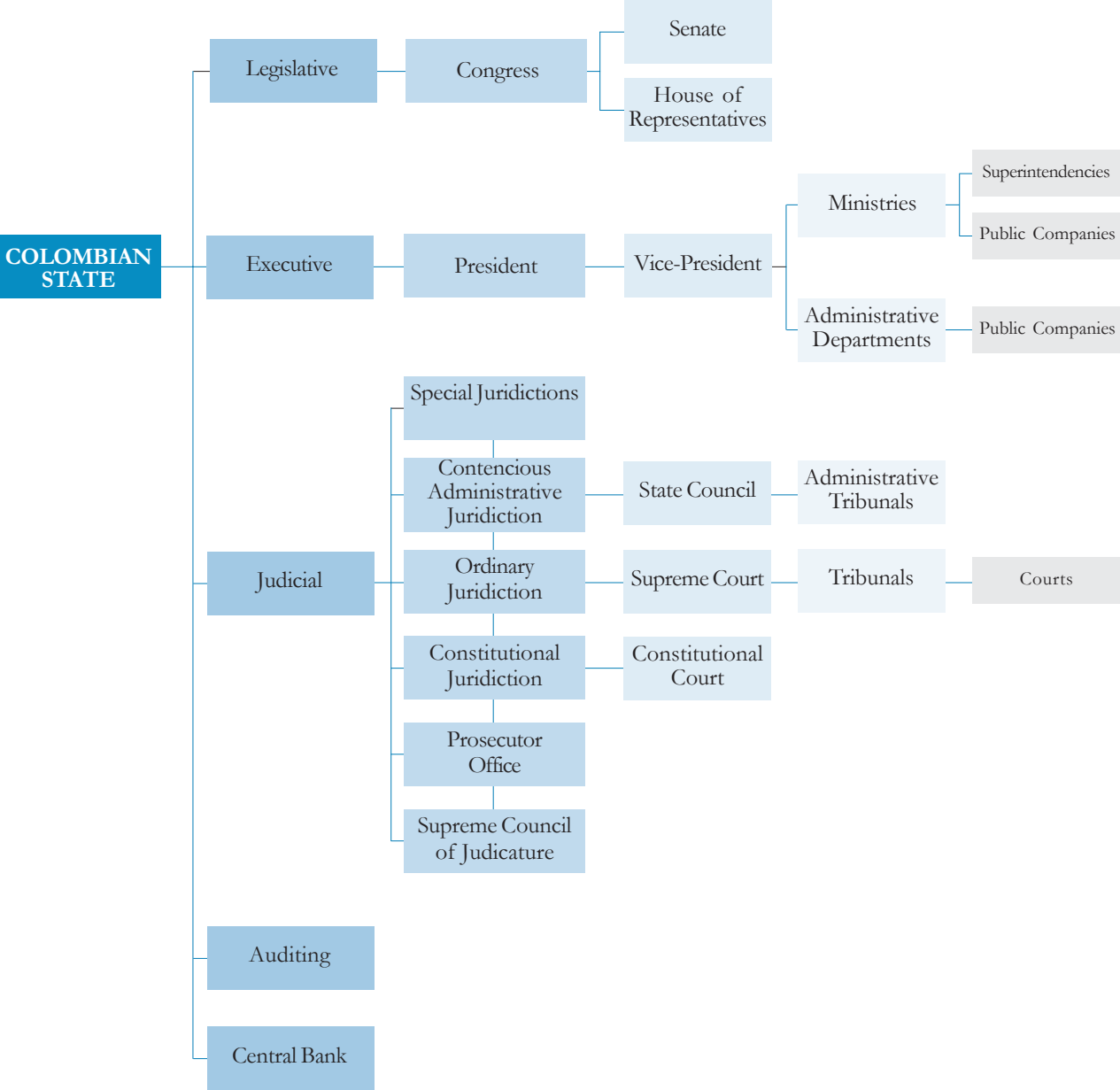
Contentious Administrative: resolves lawsuits between individuals and the government. Headed by the State Council.

Constitutional: led by the Constitutional Court. Ensures that all acts of the legislative, executive and judiciary branches of the Government are consistent with the Constitution

Special: created for the indigenous population. They can choose to be governed according to their traditional beliefs as long as their rules and regulations do not contradict the country's laws.



Figure 7.1
Colombia: Political Structure



Security, Efficiency and Transparency

The main goal of President Uribe is to provide security for all citizens, which was the basis of his presidential campaign. Consequently, the “Policy of Democratic Security” has been implemented since the beginning of his administration on August 7, 2002. It is based on the strengthening of the armed forces and the national police, and is intended to provide security to every citizen, with all due respect for human rights. The results have been encouraging and although a lot remains to be done in this area, there is a renewed sense of confidence and tranquility throughout the country.

The second-most important objective of President Uribe’s Government is to give Colombian citizens a participative state that involves citizens in the

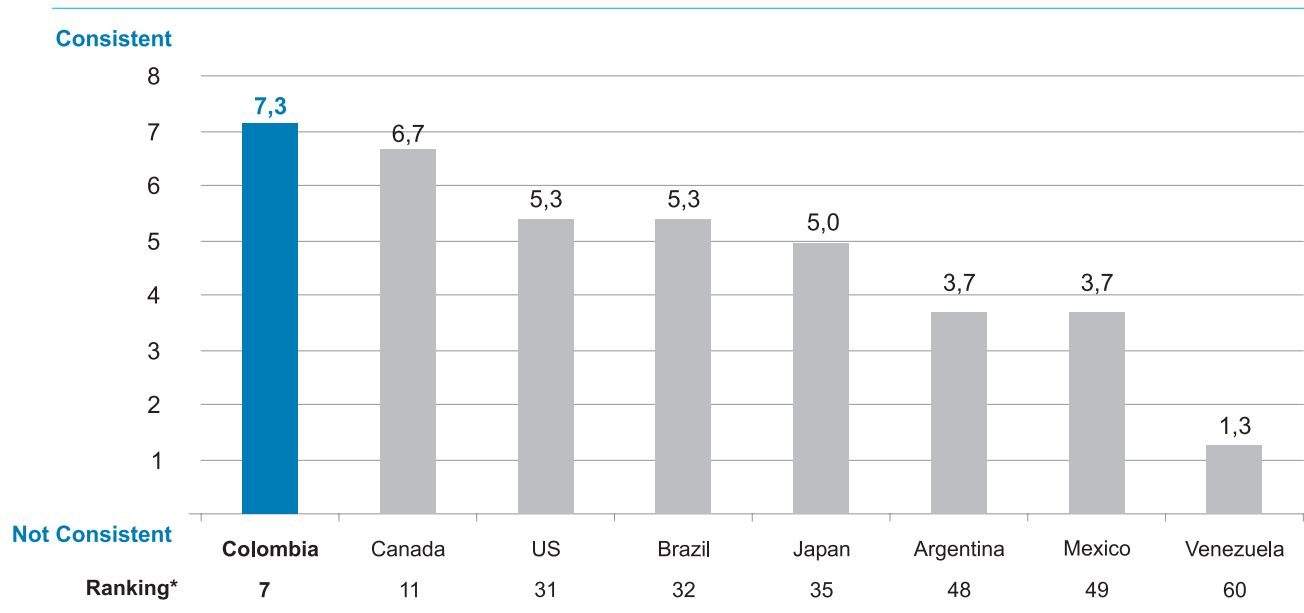
attainment of social goals. A managerial State that invests public resources in an efficient manner. A decentralized state that provides privileges to territorial austerity with transparency, political responsibility and community participation.

To make this a reality, and considering that corruption leads to the loss of legitimacy and to a mistaken allocation of public resources away from social investment, the battle against corruption and the quest for the transparency, decentralization, and efficiency of Colombian institutions, is set as a priority on the government’s agenda. In general, what is sought is the transformation of government- owned and private institutions into trustworthy, efficient and effective organizations, aware of their social responsibility.

Figure 7.2

Policy Direction of the Government (2004)

Policy Direction is:



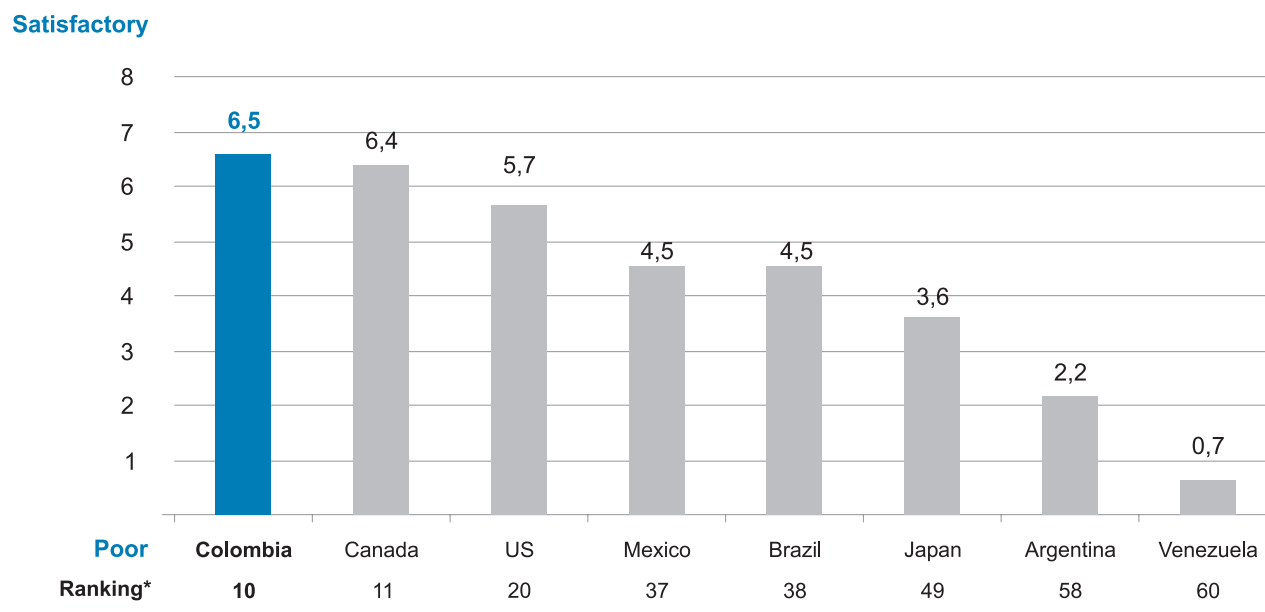
*Among 60 countries

Source: World Competitiveness Yearbook 2004-IMD



Three governmental actions or procedures evidence that Colombian institutions are well along the path to transparency:

Figure 7.3
Transparency of Government Policy (2004)
Is perceived as:



* Among 60 countries
 Source: World Competitiveness Yearbook, 2004-IMD

Colombia Offers Legal Stability for Investors

In order to promote new investments and the expansion of existing ones in the national territory, the investment Stability Law (Law 963 of 2005) for investors in Colombia was signed in July of 2005. This law is aimed at improving the stability of the rules of the game for domestic and foreign investors.

The Stability Law guarantees that certain rules in force at the time the contract was signed will continue to apply for the duration of the contract, which can be of up to 20 years. The investor must enter into a contract with the State and make new investments, or enlarge existing ones, in an amount equivalent to no less than 7,500 minimum current legal salaries (approx. US \$1 million).

The law applies to investment determinant national rules, with some exceptions.

The contract to be entered into with the State, to have access to the guarantee of stability, requires prior approval by a Committee that comprises the Minister of Finance and Public Credit, the Minister of Commerce, Industry and Tourism, the Minister of the sector in which the investment is made, the Director of the National Planning Department and the Director of the Autonomous Institution, in case of rules issued by said institutions.

Investors who sign the contract must pay, in favor of the Nation, a premium of 1 percent of the investment amount. However, if the investment includes unproductive periods, the premium amount will be reduced by half during the unproductive period.



Foreign Investment and Exchange Regimes

During the last decade, Colombia has made considerable progress regarding its foreign investment legislation. Requirements for prior government approval were eliminated, resulting in faster transactions and transparency for investors.

Basic Principles

Equal Treatment: Foreign investment is subject to the same treatment as domestic investment, and discriminatory conditions or treatment of foreign investors are prohibited

Universality: Foreign investment is welcome in virtually every sector of the Colombian economy. It is restricted only in activities concerning national defense and security, and treatment and disposal of toxic, hazardous or radioactive waste not produced in Colombia, and in the concessionaries of open television, where the foreign investment may not exceed 40% of the concessionary's corporate capital.

Automatic Authorization: Foreign investors may invest in all other areas of the Colombian economy without prior approval. However, some investments are subject to special rules, in which case the investor is bound by special regulations or arrangements, such as investments in the financial sector, the hydrocarbon and mining sectors, and portfolio investments.

Stability Guarantee: Conditions for capital and profit remittances in effect on the registration date of an investment may not be modified by subsequent laws that negatively affect the investor. However, in order to assure macroeconomic stability, these conditions may be temporarily altered in the event that international reserves drop below the amount required for three months of imports. It must be highlighted that during the last twelve years this situation has never occurred. At present, Colombia has reserves to serve imports for approximately 10 months.

Direct Foreign and Portfolio Investment

The Colombian legislation contemplates two types of foreign investment: direct foreign investment and portfolio investment.

Foreign Direct Investment:

A direct foreign investment is an investment made to:

- Acquire interests, shares, corporate quotas, bonds required to be converted into shares or any other contribution representing an interest share in the capital stock of a company,
- Acquire rights in autonomous equities created through a merchant trust contract as a means to develop a company or for the purchase, sale and management of interestshares in companies not registered in the National Record of Securities and Intermediaries,



- Acquire real estate, stock certificates in real estate securitization processes or real estate funds,
- Acquire contributions through deeds and contracts when such deeds and contracts do not represent a direct interest share in the company's capital and the returns depend on the company's profits. That is the case of technological transfer, collaboration, concession, administrative service and licensing contracts; and
- Make investments in branches created in Colombia by foreign corporations, investing in the branch's assigned capital or as a supplementary capital investment.

Portfolio

Investments made through foreign investment funds in shares and other negotiable stocks in the securities market.

Exchange Rights

The exchange market handles all foreign currency that is channeled through authorized exchange intermediaries or current compensation accounts. Foreign currency generated by or required for any transaction pertaining to the exchange market must be channeled through authorized exchange intermediaries.

All foreign investments must be registered with the Central Bank by filing an exchange declaration form. This registration guarantees exchange rights for the remittance of net profits and for the repatriation of capital, among others.

Special Regimes

Hydrocarbon and mining

A more flexible and favorable special exchange regime applies to this sector. Branches of foreign companies that explore and develop oil and natural gas fields, coal, ferronickel or uranium and those dedicated exclusively to supply technical services for oil exploration and exploitation are under no obligation to convert proceeds from foreign sales into domestic currency in the exchange market. They are only required to convert enough foreign currency to cover their expenses.

Therefore, these companies do not have access to the exchange market to purchase foreign currency for exchange operations, and must retain their own foreign currency for this purpose.

On the other hand, national companies and those with foreign investment that perform the activities above mentioned, may sign and pay contracts with one another in foreign currency.

Free trade zones

Users of industrial free-trade zones do not need to convert foreign currency proceeds from exports and other exchange transactions in the exchange market, but may do so to purchase domestic currency to meet their expenses in Colombian pesos.



Foreign Investment Protection Agreements

Colombia has signed various foreign investment protection agreements:

Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC)

The purpose of OPIC is to encourage US investment abroad by financing projects and providing insurance against some types of risks, including non convertibility of foreign exchange, expropriation and political violence.

Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA)

Colombia is a member of this multilateral institution that offers guarantees against non-commercial risks such as foreign currency inconvertibility, discriminatory expropriation, war and civil unrest.

International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID):

This treaty was ratified by the Colombian Congress to provide a mechanism for international conciliation and arbitration.

Tax Regime

Companies are taxed at the national and local level. National taxes include income and related taxes (remittance tax and tax on windfall profits), net worth tax (provisional until 2006), value added tax (VAT), tax on financial transactions, stamp taxes. Local taxes include property tax applied to real state, those on industry and commerce, and registration tax.

National Taxes

Income and Related Tax

This tax is considered a single tax although it has three components: income tax, windfall profits tax and tax on remittances.

The Income Tax rate is 35%. For tax year 2005 and 2006 a surcharge of 10% will be applied, thus for a rate of 38.5%.

The tax is determined by applying the rate to the net taxable income. In general, said income is obtained by adding up all of the ordinary and extraordinary earnings likely to produce a net increase in holdings and that are not expressly exempted by law. Then, the costs and expenses imputable to such earnings are subtracted from the sum to obtain the gross income. Deductions are subtracted from the gross income to obtain the net income. The income items that are expressly declared exempt are subtracted and tax discounts are subtracted from the tax payable.

Any withholdings at the source applied to the taxpayer are credited to the tax Payable.

When net income, calculated as described above, is less than 6% of net worth (assets minus liabilities) the greater of these two amounts shall be regarded as net income for tax purposes

As for the tax on **Windfall Profits**, the rate is 35%, except on earnings from raffles, gambling, lottery and other similar games, for which it is 20%. Some examples of windfall profits are:

Profits from the sale of fixed assets owned for over two years.

- Profits from the sale of fixed assets owned for over two years
- Profits from liquidation of a company.

Remittance Tax is due on the transfer abroad of occasional income and gains earned in Colombia. In the case of foreign branch offices, the tax is payable due to mere obtainment of profits, which are presumed to be transferred abroad. Some exceptions to the remittance tax are dividends and shares (the drafting of dividends and shares to foreign countries involves an additional income tax rate of 7%), the credit interest obtained abroad by certain companies, and reinvestment of profits.

Remittance tax rates vary, depending on the origin of the funds remitted abroad. The most common rate is 7%. The tax base in the case of profits earned in Colombia, is comprised of commercial profits obtained during the tax year. As for commissions, fees, royalties, rental fees, payment for personal services, use of industrial property or know-how, and benefits or royalties from literary, artistic or scientific property, the tax base is calculated by deducting the income tax from the payment or partial payment.

Net Worth Tax (Patrimony Tax)

For taxable years 2005 and 2006, a patrimony tax must be paid by all taxpayers holding net worth in excess of COP 3.2 billion (approximately US\$ 1.3 million using COP\$2,400 as reference rate). The tax is computed on total assets less total liabilities as of January 1 of each year, at the rate of 0.3%. The value of investments in companies (shares and quotas) are excluded.

Value Added Tax (VAT)

The VAT is an indirect tax applicable to the provision of services and the sale and import of goods, in general being 16%. The VAT is structured as a value added tax, in such a way that at the moment the tax is determined, the application of discounts is allowed.

Financial Transaction Tax

It is the tax on financial movements, which is equivalent to 0.4% of the value of a financial transaction, whereby resources are made available through deposit into checking, deposit or savings accounts and from drafting cashier's checks. From 2008 on, it will drop to 0.3%



Stamp Tax

The stamp tax is a national levy paid in Colombia to register public and private documents with contract value above an amount set each year by the national government. This amount in 2005 is COP\$60,142,00 (about US\$25.00). The standard rate is 1.5% of the total value of the contract. However, there are special rates and certain exemptions.

Local Taxes

Industry and Commerce Tax

It is a local tax on industrial, commercial or service activities performed within the municipality's territory. Exports do not pay this tax.

The taxable basis for the tax is the value of the revenues. For the case of industrial activities, the revenues under the item of production distribution are understood as earned in the municipality where the plant is located.

The taxable base can only be reduced in some cases expressly provided for such as the value of returns, exports and revenues from the sale of fixed assets, among others.

In the case of commercial or service-related activities, the taxable basis is the monthly average of the revenues for the last year, excluding the items mentioned in the previous paragraph.

The rate is set by each municipality within the following limits established by law:

Industrial activities: 0.2 to 0.7% a month

Commercial and service-related activities: 0.2 to 0.10% a month.

Property Tax

Charged on real estate. Tax rates may range from 0.1% to 0.16% of the assessed property value.

Registration Tax

These fees are charged to register acts, contracts or documentary legal transactions in which individuals are parties or beneficiaries and where registration with public records offices or chambers of commerce is mandatory under the law.

Registration fees are set by regional legislatures, within the following ranges.

The Colombian provinces (the department) fix the rates between 0.3% and 0.1% depending on the price involved in the document.

Acts, contracts or legal transactions of no established amount and subject to registration with public records offices or chambers of commerce, such as appointments of legal representatives or fiscal auditors, statutory amendments implying no assignment of rights or increase in capital, and explanatory deeds: between two and four times the minimum daily wage (minimum daily wage in 2005 is 12,717 pesos or about US\$5.3 taking COP\$2,400 as reference rate).



For legal documents, contracts or legal transactions that are subject to registration tax and have private and public entities as parties, the tax base is equal to 50% of the value established in the document containing the act or the proportion of subscribed capital or corporate capital stock corresponding to the private parties.

If a document is subject to registration tax, the national stamp tax is not charged.

Tax Benefits

The Colombian fiscal system has numerous benefits, as tax deductions, exempt earnings and tax discounts. In addition, the following benefits were designed to promote foreign and local investment:

Importing machinery

Companies with a large volume of exports are exempt from paying the VAT for imported machinery that is not manufactured in the country and which is used for transformation of raw material. Such benefit applies also when the importation of the machinery is made through a local leasing company.

Public Utilities

Exempted Income for the use of water, electricity, telecommunications, natural gas and community services.

Purchase of assets

Effective January 1, 2004, taxpayers who demonstrate the purchase of productive property plant and equipment are allowed to a special income tax deduction equivalent to 30% of the purchase value of each year's acquisitions. This tax benefit applies until 2007.

Building and remodeling of hotels

The building and remodeling of hotels enjoys a 30 years income tax exemption

Eco-tourism

Companies providing eco-tourism services certified by the Ministry of the Environment, Housing, and Development may qualify for income tax benefits.

New medical products and software

Companies registering new medical products and software that involved significant national scientific research are granted income tax exemptions.



Urban renovation plans

There is an income tax exemption for urban renovation projects.

Oil exploration

Seismic services for oil exploration have a 5-year income tax exemption.

Construction of aqueducts and sewage services

Public utility companies constructing aqueducts and sewage regional services or in nearby municipalities are entitled to an income tax discount.

Housing

Income tax exemption for housing lease contracts that have a purchase option.

Power generation using alternate fuels

Companies selling electric power generated with wind, biomass or agricultural waste, qualify for an income tax exemption.

River transport with shallow drafts

River transport of supplies using shallow-draft vessels and barges qualify for an income tax exemption.

Wood development for commercial purposes

New forest plantations, including 'guadua' (a type of bamboo), benefit from an income tax exemption, as do investments in commercial sawmills and properly registered commercial tree plantations.

Fuel alcohol

In Colombia's main cities, fuel alcohol that is mixed with gasoline will be exempt from the gasoline tax and surcharge.

Gas for vehicles

VAT is not charged on the vehicle conversion kits of gasoline to gas.

Temporary imports of heavy machinery

VAT is not paid on temporary imports of heavy machinery, not produced in the country, for basic industries (mining, hydrocarbons, heavy chemistry, iron and steel industry, extraction metallurgy, etc).



Labor Legislation

Every year the government, the private sector and the labor unions determine the minimum monthly legal wage (MMLW). There are no salary or minimum wage categories per activity; therefore, employer and employee can freely agree on salaries as long as the MMLW is paid. For 2004, the MMLW is COP\$ 358.000 (approximately US\$129.00, with a reference exchange rate of COP\$ 2,778/ US\$1).

There are two main methods for setting wages: Those earning less than ten MMLW are entitled to two premiums, payable in June and December, each equivalent to 15 daily wages, plus the equivalent of one month's salary payable into the worker's severance account with an authorized severance fund and a fifteen day paid vacation period. For those earning more than ten MMLW, compensation maybe freely agreed upon by employer and employee, and is called integral salary. These mechanism excludes premiums and severance payments.

The last reform made labor hiring more flexible in Colombia. In general terms, the reform fixes day work period between 6:00 am and 10:00 pm., reducing overtime paid for nighttime hours worked; allows reduced fiscal labor payments under certain conditions. Authorizes employee and employer to agree on the organization of successive work shifts for each weekday.

Finally, Colombia has a series of export benefits such as local and national exemptions on duties and the value-added tax (VAT), which are referenced in chapter 4 of this publication. In addition, for complete information on the Colombian legal framework, visit the Legal Section of Proexport investment Webpage www.coinvertir.org, where you will find a detailed description of foreign investment regimes, international exchanges, taxes, labor and foreign trade regimes; as well as publications developed by Proexport investment team called Colombia Legal Framework, which contain all the updated legal information pertaining foreign investment, among other.



Websites of Interest

MAIN STATE INSTITUTIONS

Presidency

- Presidency of the Republic of Colombia
www.presidencia.gov.co

Ministries

- Ministry of Finance and Public Credit
www.minhacienda.gov.co
- Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism
www.mincomercio.gov.co
- Ministry of Government and Justice
www.mininteriorjusticia.gov.co
- Ministry of Defense
www.mindefensa.gov.co
- Ministry of Social Protection
www.minproteccionsocial.gov.co
- Ministry of Mines and Energy
www.minminas.gov.co
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
www.minrelext.gov.co
- Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
www.minagricultura.gov.co
- Ministry of Environment, Housing, and Development
www.minambiente.gov.co
- Ministry of Transportation
www.mintransporte.gov.co
- Ministry of Education
www.mineduccion.gov.co
- Ministry of Communications
www.mincomunicaciones.gov.co
- Ministry of Culture
www.mincultura.gov.co

Congress

- Senate
www.secretariasenado.gov.co
- House of Representatives
www.camararep.gov.co

Courts

- State Council
www.ramajudicial.gov.co
- Supreme Court
www.ramajudicial.gov.co
- Constitutional Court
www.ramajudicial.gov.co

Central Bank

- Banco de la Republica
www.banrep.gov.co

Other Governmental Organizations

- National Department of Statistics (DANE)
www.dane.gov.co
- National Planning Department (DNP)
www.dnp.gov.co
- Commission for Telecommunications Regulation (CRT)
www.crt.gov.co
- Commission for Energy and Gas Regulation (CREG)
www.creg.gov.co
- Commission for Potable Water Regulation (CRA)
www.cra.gov.co
- Special Administrative Branch of Civil Aeronautics (AEROCIVIL)
www.aerocivil.gov.co

Main Superintendencies

- Banking Superintendence (SUPERBANCARIA)
www.superbancaria.gov.co
- Superintendence of Securities (SUPERVALORES)
www.supervalores.gov.co

- Superintendence of Industry and Trade (SUPERINDUSTRIA)
www.sic.gov.co
- Superintendence of Societies (SUPERSOCIEDADES)
www.supersociedades.gov.co
- Superintendence of Public Services (SUPERSERVICIOS)
www.superservicios.gov.co
- Superintendence of Ports and Transport (SUPERTRANSPORTE)
www.supertransporte.gov.co

PROMOTION AND SUPPORT AGENCIES

National Agencies

- Foreign Trade Bank of Colombia (BANCOLDEX)
www.bancoldex.com.co
- Export Credit Insurance Company (SEGUROEXPO)
www.segurexpo.com
- Foreign Trade Fiduciary (FIDUCOLDEX)
www.fiducoldex.gov.co
- Colombia Competes (COLOMBIA COMPITE)
www.colombiacompite.gov.co
- National Exporters Association (ANALDEX)
www.analdex.org

Regional Agencies

- Probarranquilla
www.probarranquilla.org
- Promotora de Proyectos S.A.
www.promotora.com.co
- Bank of Opportunities of Investment for Valle del Cauca (BANKO)
banko.ccc.org.co

Main National Chambers of Commerce

- Chamber of Commerce of Bogota
www.ccb.org.co
- Chamber of Commerce of Cali
www.ccc.org.co
- Chamber of Commerce of Medellin
www.camamed.org.co

- Chamber of Commerce of Barranquilla
www.caramabaq.org.co
- Chamber of Commerce of Bucaramanga
www.camaradirecta.com

Bilateral Chambers of Commerce

- Colombo-Equatorial Chamber for Industry and Commerce
www.ecuadorcolombia.com.co
- Colombo-Venezuelan Chamber
www.comvenezuela.com
- Colombo-Panamanian Chamber of Commerce
www.cccolombiapanama.org
- Colombo-Mexican Chamber of Commerce and Integration
camcomex@hotmail.com
- Colombo-American Chamber of Commerce
www.amchamcolombia.com.co
- Colombo-Canadian Chamber of Commerce
www.cccc.com.co
- Colombo-British Chamber of Commerce
www.colombobritanica.com
- Colombo-French Chamber for Industry and Commerce
www.uccife.org/colombie/es
- Colombo-Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
www.empresario.com.co/camacoec
- Colombo-German Chamber of Commerce and Integration
www.ahk-colombia.com
- Italian Chamber of Commerce for Colombia
www.cccolombia.com

SPECIAL FOREIGN TRADE REGIMES

Free Trade Zones

- Free Trade Zone of Barranquilla
www.zonafrancabarranquilla.com
- Free Trade Zone of Bogota
www.zonafrancabogota.com
- Free Trade Zone of La Candelaria, Cartagena
www.colombiaexport.com/zfcgena.htm

- Free Trade Zone of Cartagena
www.colombiaexport.com/zofranca.htm
- Free Trade Zone of Cucuta
members.tripod.com.co/pablito/principal.html
- Free Trade Zone of the Pacific, Cali
www.zonafrancadelpacifico.com
- Free Trade Zone of the Palmaseca, Cali
www.zonafrancacolombia.com
- Free Trade Zone of Quindio
zonafrancaje@telesat.com.co
- Free Trade Zone of Rionegro, Medellin
www.zonafrancarionegro.com
- Free Trade Zone of Santa Marta
www.colombiaexport.com/zfstamte.htm

Special Economic Export Zones (ZEEE)

- Special Economic Export Zone of Buenaventura (ZEEEB)
www.ccbun.org
eeconomico@ccbun.org
- Special Economic Export Zone of Cucuta
g_silva@camaradecomerciocucuta.org.co
- Special Economic Export Zone of Ipiales
ccipia@telecom.com.co
- Special Economic Export Zone of Valledupar
alcaldia@teleupar.net.co

SECTORS: GUILDS, ASSOCIATIONS & GENERAL INFORMATION

Infrastructure

Telecommunications

- Colombian Chamber of Informatics and Telecommunications (CCIT)
www.ccit.org.co
- Research Center for Telecommunications (CINTEL)
www.cintel.org.co
- National Planning Department, Telecommunications
www.dnp.gov.co/02_SEC/TELECOM/Telecom.htm

Power

- Colombian Association of Energy Generators (ACOLGEN)
www.acolgen.org.co

- Energy Planning and Promotion Institute (IPSE)
www.ipse.gov.co
- National Planning Department, Mines and Energy
www.dnp.gov.co/02_SEC/MINAS/Minas.htm
- National Association of Industry of Colombia, Energy and Gas
www.andi.com.co/camaras/energia/default.htm

Water and Sewerage

- National Planning Department, Water and Sewerage
www.dnp.gov.co/02_SEC/AGUA/agua.HTM

Roads and Ports

- Roads National Institute
www.invias.gov.co
- National Planning Department, Transport
www.dnp.gov.co/02_SEC/TRANSPOR/TRANSPOR.HTM

Railroads

- Colombia Railway Company (FERROVIAS)
www.ferrovias.gov.co
- National Planning Department, Railroads
www.dnp.gov.co/02_SEC/TRANSPOR/ferreo.htm

Urban Transportation

- Transmilenio
www.transmilenio.gov.co
- National Planning Department, Urban
www.dnp.gov.co/02_SEC/TRANSPOR/urban.htm

River Rehabilitation

- Institute of Hydrology, Meteorology, and Environmental Studies (IDEAM)
www.ideam.gov.co
- YUMA Project, Recovery of Navigability of the Magdalena River
www.mintransporte.gov.co/Portal_Servicios/proyecto_yuma/home.asp

Maritime Transport

- Colombian Association for Maritime Transport (ACOLDEMAR)
www.comitemaritime.org/memass/america/colombia.html
- National Planning Department, Waterways
www.dnp.gov.co/02_SEC/TRANSPOR/fluvial.htm

Airports

- Colombian Association of Air Transport (ATAC)
atac@cable.net.co

Industrial Sector

- National Association of Industry of Colombia (ANDI)
www.andi.com.co
- Colombian Association for Small and Medium Industries (ACOPI)
www.acopibogota.org.co

Agroindustrial

- Colombian Society of Farmers (SAC)
www.sac.org.co
- International Colombian Corporation (CCI)
www.cci.org.co
- National Agro-Competitiveness Observatory
www.agrocadenas.gov.co
- National Association of Industry of Colombia, Crop Protection
www.andi.com.co/camaras/protocultivos/default.asp

Coffee

- National Federation of Coffee Growers (FNC)
www.cafedecolombia.com/federacion/federacion.html
- Center for Coffee Research (CENICAFE)
www.cafedecolombia.com/quienesomos/cenicafe/cenicafe.html
- National Agro-Competitiveness Observatory, Coffee
www.agrocadenas.gov.co/home.htm
- National Planning Department, Coffee
www.dnp.gov.co/ArchivosWeb/Direccion_General/Cadenas/Cafe_%20y_Te.pdf

Floriculture

- Colombian Association of Flower Exporters (ASOCOLFLORES)
www.colombianflowers.com

Fruit Industry

- Colombian Vegetables and Fruit Association (ASOHOFrucol)
<http://www.asohofrucol.com/index.php>

Sugar and Ethanol

- Colombian Sugar Cane Association (ASOCAÑA)
www.asocana.com.co

- Colombian Sugar Cane Research Center (CENICAÑA)
www.cenicana.org
- Colombian Association of Sugar Cane Producers and Suppliers (PROCAÑA)
www.procana.org
- International Sugar and Honey Commercialization S.A. (CIAMSA)
www.ciamsa.com
- National Agro-Competitiveness Observatory, Sugar
www.agrocadenas.gov.co/home.htm

Cacao

- National Federation of Cacao Growers (FEDECACAO)
www.fedecacao.com
- National Cacao Council
www.agrocadenas.gov.co/cacao/cacao_cnc.htm
- National Agro-Competitiveness Observatory, Cacao
www.agrocadenas.gov.co/home.htm

Cattle

- National Cattlemen's Federation (FEDEGAN)
www.fedegan.org.co
- National Agro-Competitiveness Observatory, Cattle
www.agrocadenas.gov.co/home.htm

Fish and Seafood

- National Shrimp Aquaculture Association (ACUANAL)
www.fis.com/acuanal
- National Pisciculture and Fishermen's Association
www.polcolan.edu.co/pispesca
- National Pisciculture and Fishery Institute
www.inpa.gov.co
- National Agro-Competitiveness Observatory, Shrimp
www.agrocadenas.gov.co/home.htm
- National Planning Department, Fishery-Tuna
www.dnp.gov.co/ArchivosWeb/Direccion_General/Cadenas/pesca.pdf
- National Association of Industry of Colombia, Fishery
www.andi.com.co/camaras/pesquera/default.htm

Textiles and Apparel

- Colombian Association for Textile Producers (ASCOLTEX)
ascoltex@007mundo.com
- Colombian Center for Textile Manufacturing, Research and Development (CIDETEXCO)
www.textil-confeccion.com.co
- Colombia Fashion (COLOMBIAMODA)
www.colombiamoda.com
- Colombian Institute for Fashion and Exports (INEXMODA)
www.inexmoda.org.co
- National Planning Department, Textiles
www.dnp.gov.co/ArchivosWeb/Direccion_General/Cadenas/Textiles.pdf
- National Association of Industry of Colombia, Textiles
www.andi.com.co/camaras/textil/default.htm

Leatherwork

- National Planning Department, Coffee
www.dnp.gov.co/ArchivosWeb/Direccion_General/Cadenas/Cueros.pdf
- National Association of Industry of Colombia, Leather
www.andi.com.co

Forestry

- National Corporation for Forestry Research and Development
www.conif.org.co
- National Agro-Competitiveness Observatory, Forestry-Wood
www.agrocadenas.gov.co/home.htm
- National Planning Department, Woods
www.dnp.gov.co/ArchivosWeb/Direccion_General/Cadenas/Maderas.pdf
- National Association of Industry of Colombia, Pulp, Paper and Cardboard
www.andi.com.co/camaras/pulpapapel/cppc1.htm

Chemical

- National Association of Industry of Colombia, Pharmaceutical
www.andi.com.co
- National Association of Industry of Colombia, Cosmetics and Cleaning Products
www.andi.com.co
- National Planning Department
http://www.dnp.gov.co/paginas_detalle.aspx?idp=336

Jewelry

- Folk Art of Colombia
www.artesantiasdecolombia.com.co

Financial Institutions

- Colombian Banking Association (ASOBANCARIA)
www.asobancaria.com
- Financial Institutions National Association (ANIF)
www.anif.com.co

Tourism

- Tourism Promotion Fund
www.turismocolombia.com
- National Association of Industry of Colombia, Health
www.andi.com.co

Software

- Software Industry of the Colombian Federation (FEDESOFI)
www.fedesoft.org
- Software Technological Park (PARQUESOFT)
www.parquesoft.org
- Colombian Cellular Industry Association (ASOCEL)
www.asocel.org.co
- National Communication Association (ASOMEDIOS)
www.asomeditos.com
- Colombian Association of System Engineers (ACIS)
www.acis.org.co
- Colombian Chamber of Informatics and Telecommunications (CCIT)
www.ccit.org.co

Call Centers

- Colombian Association of Call Centers
www.acdecc.org

Commerce

- National Federation of Traders (FENALCO)
www.fenalco.com.co

Minning And Quarrying

- National Hydrocarbons Agency (ANH)
www.anh.gov.co
- Colombian Association of Miners (ASOMINEROS)
www.asomineros.com
- Energy Mining Planning Association (UPME)
www.upme.gov.co
- Institute for Neo-scientific, Mining, Environmental and Nuclear Research (INGEOMINAS)
www.ingeominas.gov.co
- National Federation for Distributors of Oil Derivates (FENDINAL)
www.fendinal.org.co
- Carbones del Cerrejón
www.cerrejoncoal.com
- ECOPETROL, Nacional Oil Company
www.ecopetrol.com.co

Regional Trade Agreements

- Andean Community (CAN)
www.comunidadandina.org
- MERCOSUR
www.mercosur.org.uy
- Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA-ALCA)
www.ftaa-alca.org
- The Group of Three (G-3)
g3.minrelext.gov.co
- Caribbean Community (CARICOM)
www.caricom.org
- Latin American Integration Association (ALADI)
www.aladi.org

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