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# Guatemala: Sampling Of Child Welfare Statistics

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## **Guatemala: Sampling Of Child Welfare Statistics**

*by Deborah Tyroler*

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On Sept. 30, daily newspaper El Grafico published the following statistics on child welfare as reported by Rosalina Tuyuc of the National Council of Guatemalan Widows (CONAVIGUA), and Nineth de Garcia of the Mutual Support Group (GAM). \* 45% of all Guatemalans are under 14 years of age. \* 40,000 children have been forcibly removed from their original communities (internally displaced). \* 56,000 have been orphaned by violence. \* 5,000 children live and work on city streets. \* 80% of the 365,000 children born in 1990 live in conditions of extreme poverty. \* 30% of infant deaths are caused by diarrhea; 28% by respiratory infections; and, 6% by preventable diseases. \* Child malnutrition is as high as 78% in western Guatemala. (Basic data from Cerigua Weekly Briefs, 09/29-10/05/91)

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