

Legislación Economía



Inequality in Panama and the ways to face it



The minimum salary and its impact on the economy

Infection with latent tuberculosis

Conservation and handling of hydrographic basins in Panama

Panama and the Doing Business 2020 report

What will bring us the year 2020?

Indira Gandhi, first and only woman First Minister of India



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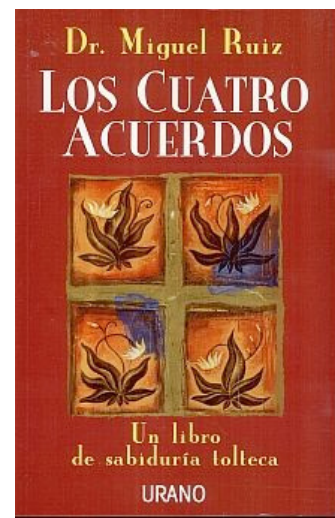
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PANAMA AND THE DOING BUSINESS
2020 REPORT



José Javier Rivera -Attorney
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Editorial

WHAT WILL BRING US THE YEAR 2020?

It has been seven months since the elections to choose those responsible for the Executive and Legislative Body and five months since the installation of both powers.

For most citizens, after the long period of uncertainty, decline in economic activity, rising unemployment, future of what remained of 2019 was flattering and automatic; So over the course of this brief period, citizens have felt that a presidential change doesn't mean a magical solution to the endless number of problems the country has.

For example, it was believed that public finances were robust to make payments to the creditors of the State, inject income through investment expenses, increase the State return and wages and from the private point of view, revive construction, attract Chinese investors who had taken over the political scene since the end of 2017 until the same date of the

elections and this sum would imply that in December, the country exhibited a new growth above 5%. The reality however has shown that the world economy is in a recession and the commercial war between the United States and China doesn't seem to come to an end and therefore the Panama Canal has not only been negatively impacted by this cause, but by the Little precipitation in the water collection areas for the Canal has implied a reduction in the maritime cargo that crosses the country.

In the institutional field, it turns out that the government on duty has faced a real offensive by the Assembly of Deputies that has limited its ability to set a calendar of legal norms of wide impact in the country.

The appointment of officials of the Judicial Branch has just begun at the level of the Supreme Court of Justice, but it is known that it is essential to undertake the

establishment of the judicial career and make changes in the Accusatory Criminal System to strictly comply with universal principles such as the presumption of innocence and the prevalence of the Judge of Guarantees on the initiatives of the Public Ministry.

It is known that, for widely disclosed reasons, the replacement of the position of attorney general of the Nation is pending and this will surely have implications of officials in the Public Ministry.

In the agricultural sector so far there has not been an increase in the prices of pig and cattle products, so producers are selling their animals for fear of an extended period of drought and the loss of their livestock due to lack of feeding. This requires a political decision on the importation of these products since it is clear that, if the local population consumed national production preferentially, this could alleviate the situation of the sector that represents more than 40% of the economically active population but only receives approximately 3% of GDP.

In the activity of services, the country maintained a spectacular development from the creation of the banking center in 1970, but new global regulations have limited the use of financial services from Panama and in the case of structures such as corporations, trusts, limited liability companies, private interest foundations the number has decreased.

The same has happened in the maritime field where the collection of flagging is practically scarce, so it is essential to take advantage of other

channels such as logistics, telecommunications and environmental benefits, coupled with security and political stability to attract investments from multinational companies that can add value in our country and incidentally reduce unemployment.

In the field of geopolitics, balance between powers and reception of academic and scientific research entities can transfer development to the provinces in general and in particular to western area that already has a master development plan led by CECOMRO.

In the financial field, infrastructure projects need to be addressed with priority, but the focus must be on the provinces to be able to reduce the inequality that the country exhibits and that constitutes a permanent source of possible social conflicts.

Up to now, management of reforms to the Constitution has been intelligent, because it has allowed the general public to express their point of view on this new economic, institutional, political and social model, but personally, at this time, engage in a constituent parallel or original can generate a very important political attrition and maintain a reserve or even cause an economic paralysis that is worse the remedy than the disease.

The Executive Branch should ponder the country's course with great serenity and patience and look in the mirror of recent events in several countries in Latin America and others in Europe and Asia.

It will dawn and we will see...L&E

Invited Writer

DESIGUALDAD EN PANAMÁ Y LAS VÍAS PARA ENFRENTARLA

Carlos Garcimartín - Economist
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During the National Meeting of Sustainable Development that was held on October 29 and 30 in the City of David, Chiriqui Province, the economist Carlos Garcimartín presented a very interesting presentation on the characteristics of Inequality in Panama and the Ways to Face It .

This presentation was complemented by a series of data of great impact and that I consider of great interest for our readers, so I have allowed myself to make a series of comments on a subject that has been worrying Panamanian citizens since it is a fact negative about the distribution of wealth and also about social spending and its importance to

improve the living conditions of the great majority. The first graph shows the gross domestic product per inhabitant of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, Central America and Panama and there we can see that this numerical manifestation indicates in a reliable way that, on paper, Panama has had a robust growth between 1990 and 2017 if compared with the rest of the countries already mentioned.

In the same order of ideas, however, this economic result of the country has not permeated in an equitable manner in all areas nor has it favored the great majority, because without a doubt, this growth has been concentrated in the province of

Panama and something in the province of Colon, but it has not been uniformly in the rest of the provinces and also in the indigenous regions.

The economist also showed that inequality in Panama is very high and this has recently been complemented by an ECLAC publication that indicates that Panama is among the three countries that have the highest inequality: Brazil (0.540), Colombia (0.497) and Panama (0.498).

- Latin America according to ECLAC is the most unequal region in the world.

- It was also shown that inequality is very resistant to decline.

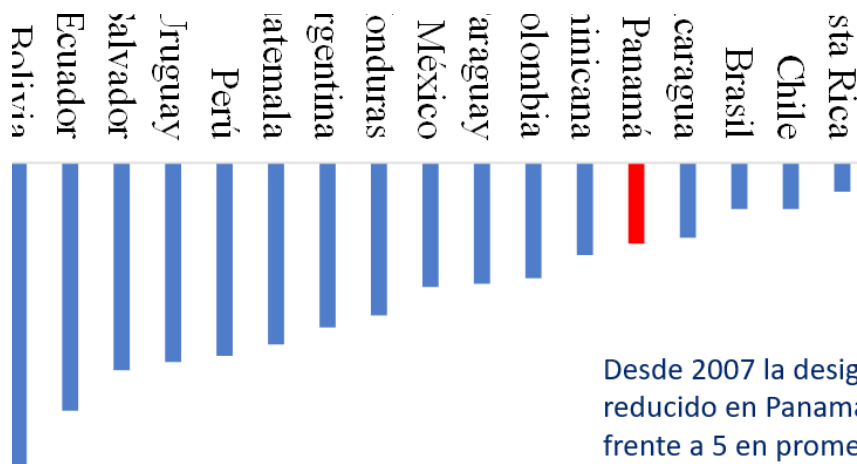
The presentation shows the Gini Index and there it is reflected that the inequality of our country is

much higher than the average for Latin America. The subsequent table on the Gini coefficient indicates that since 2007 inequality has been reduced in Panama by 2.8% compared to an average of 5% in Latin America. Another aspect that is highlighted in the presentation is that the province of Panama has 70.1% of the provincial distribution of gross domestic product and Colón has 13.4%, which means that both total and individual GDP growth only grows in the province from Panama.

Another of the data reflected in this presentation is that social spending in Panama is below the average for Latin America.

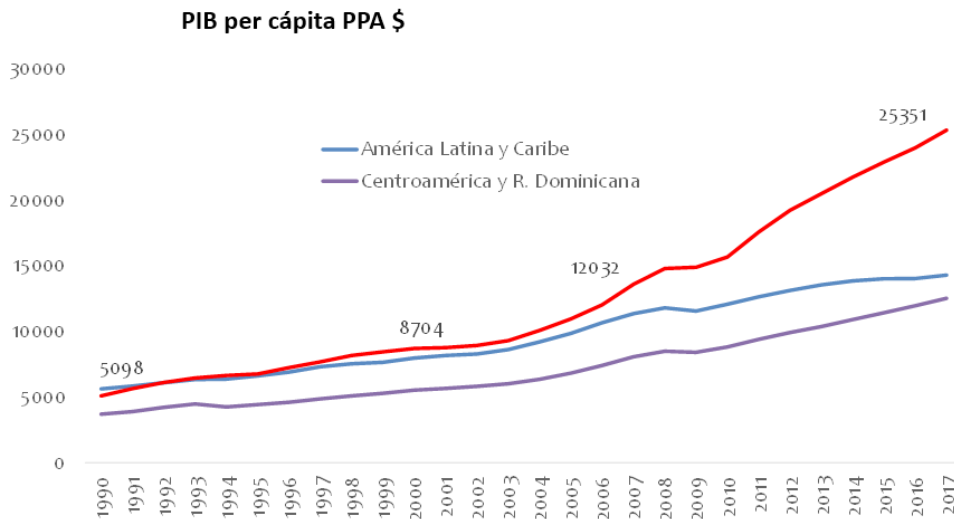
Finally, the presentation indicates that Panama's tax revenues are the lowest in Latin America and the fiscal pressure is also the lowest in Latin America.

Next, we show the presentation of economist Carlos Gacimartin:



Desde 2007 la desigualdad se ha reducido en Panamá 2.8 puntos frente a 5 en promedio de América Latina

La economía panameña ha sido una de las más dinámicas del mundo en los últimos años



PL- FINANCIAMIENTO DE LA AGENDA PARA EL DESARROLLO SOSTENIBLE
 _Nombre de la ponencia. Nombre Ponente / #enadesPAN19



El éxito económico de Panamá no se ha traducido en la misma medida en logros sociales.

No se trata solo de un problema de justicia social, sino que también afecta a las bases necesarias para garantizar un crecimiento sostenido



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DOS CARACTERÍSTICAS IMPORTANTES DE LA DESIGUALDAD EN PANAMÁ

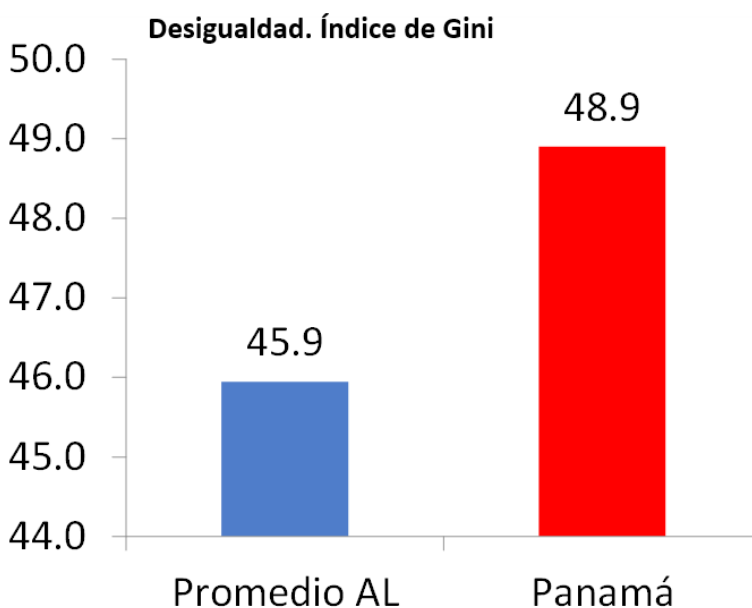
Es muy elevada

Es muy resistente a bajar



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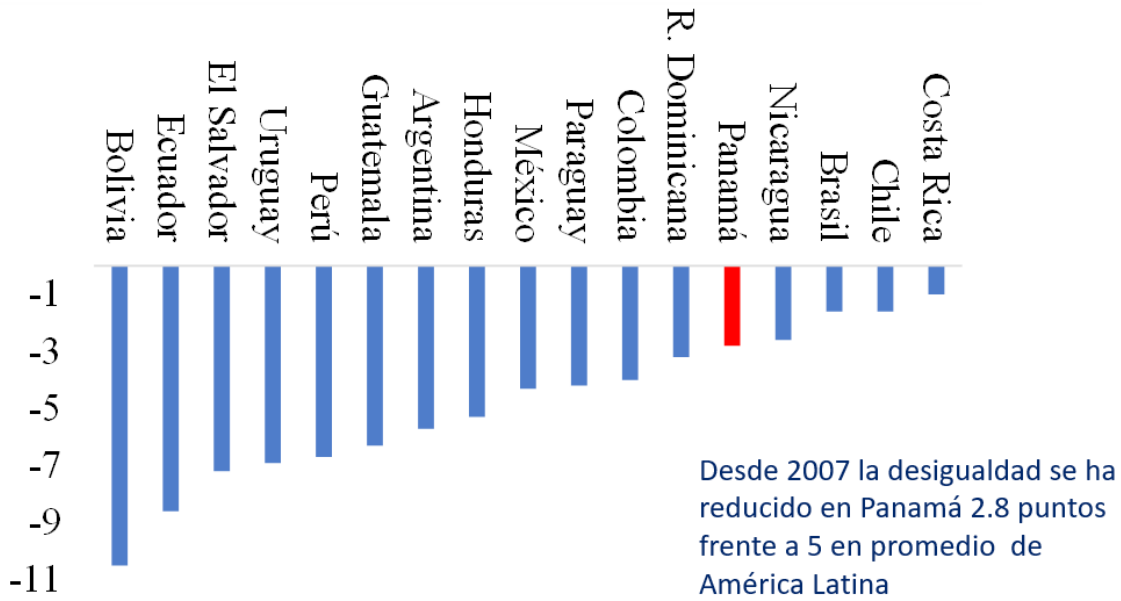
La desigualdad en Panamá es bastante superior a la del promedio de América Latina



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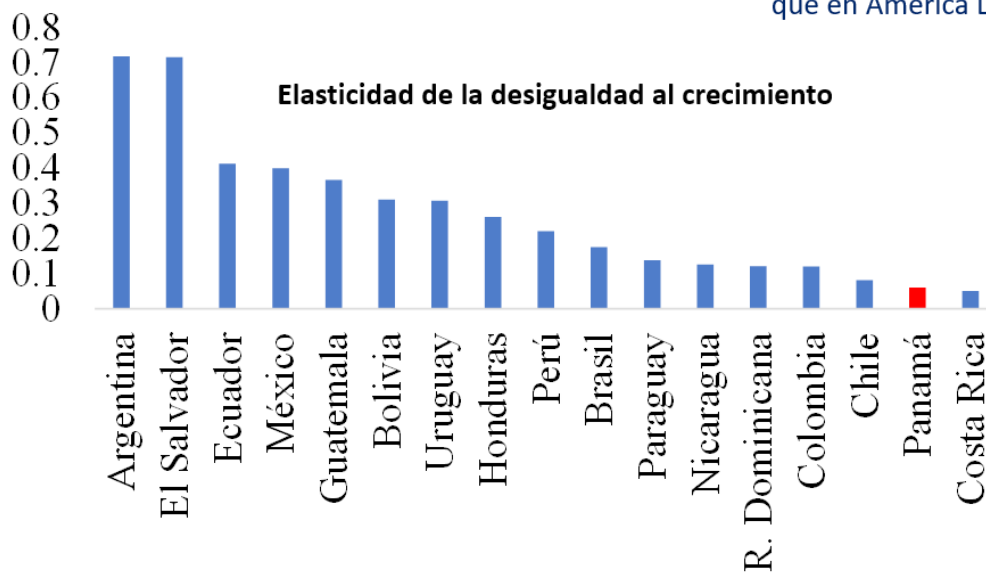
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Variación del coeficiente de Gini: 2007/17



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Y menor sensibilidad al crecimiento: por cada punto de crecimiento del PIB, la desigualdad cae 5 veces menos que en América Latina



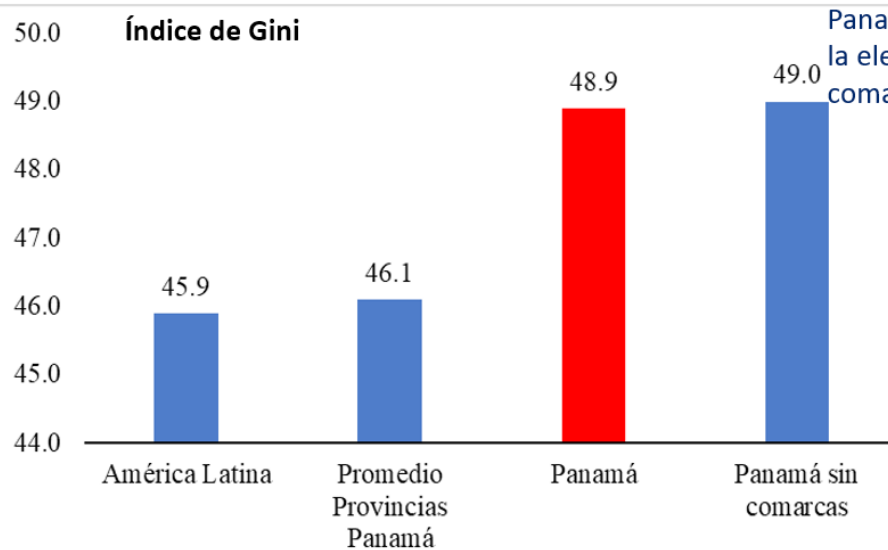
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DOS FACTORES IMPORTANTES EXPLICAN LA ALTA DESIGUALDAD EN PANAMÁ Y SUS RESISTENCIA A DISMINUIR



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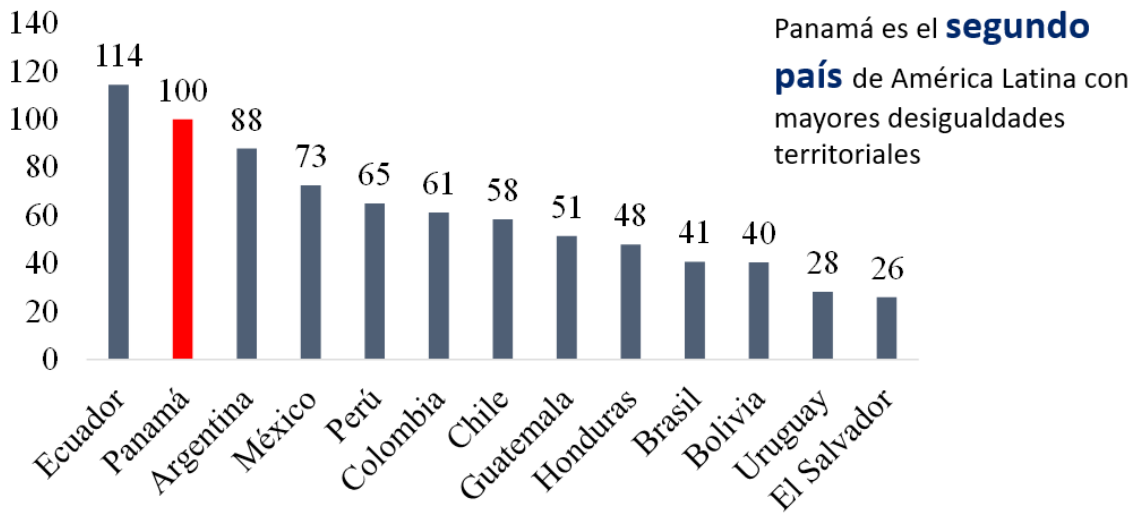
Las provincias no son más desiguales que América Latina y la mayor desigualdad en Panamá no es consecuencia de la elevada pobreza de las comarcas indígenas



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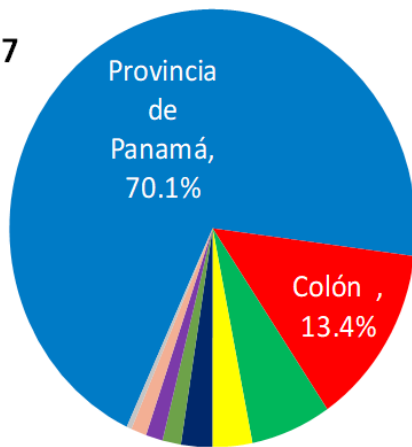
Coefficiente de variación del PIB pc. Panamá = 100



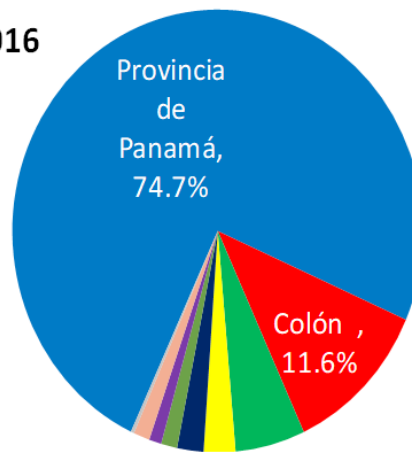
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Distribución provincial del PIB

2007



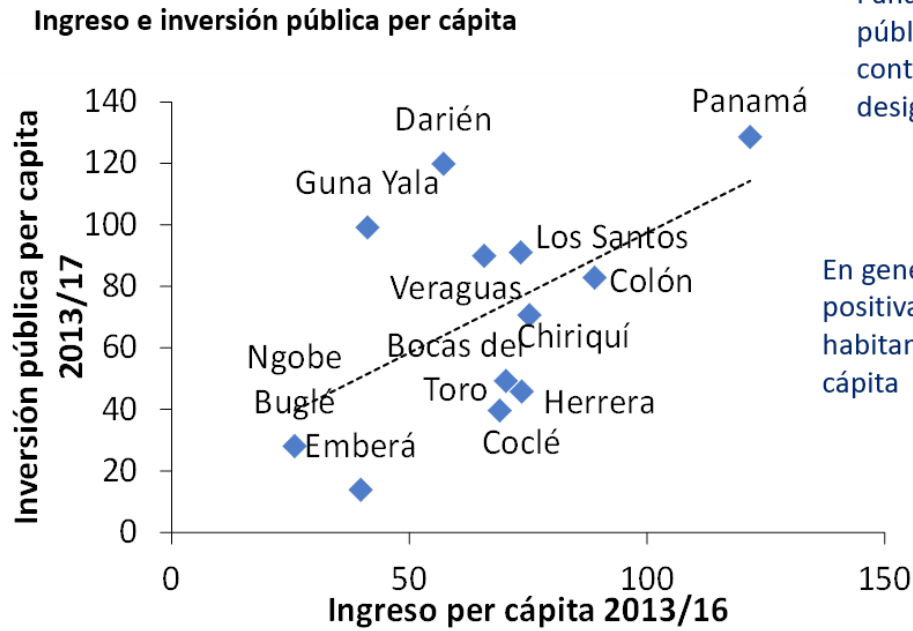
2016



Entre 2007 y 2016, el PIB relativo, tanto total como per cápita, solo crece en la provincia de Panamá



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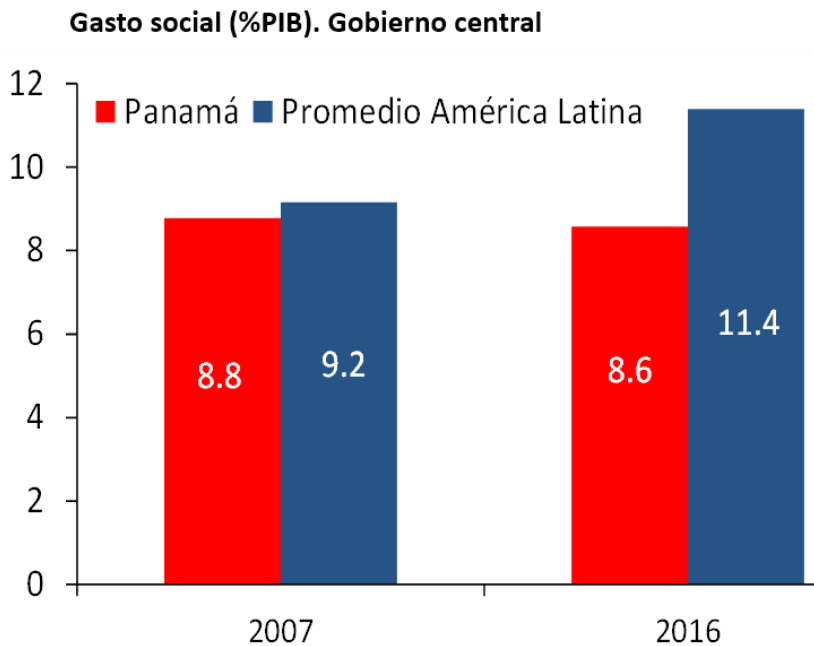


Esto en gran parte obedece al modelo de crecimiento de Panamá. Pero la inversión pública tampoco ha contribuido a la corrección de desigualdades territoriales

En general existe una relación positiva entre la inversión por habitante y el ingreso per cápita



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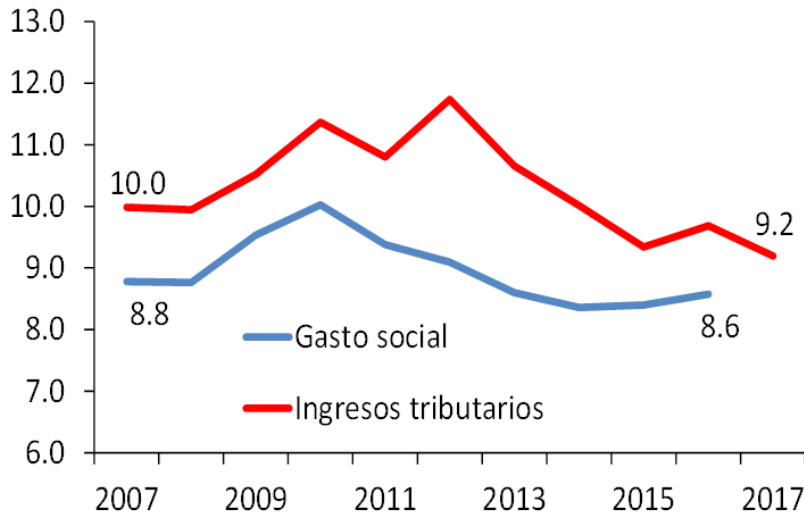


A pesar de todos estos problemas, el fuerte crecimiento de la economía no se ha traducido en un aumento del gasto social

El gasto social en Panamá es casi la mitad de Chile y Uruguay



Gasto social e ingresos tributarios (% PIB)



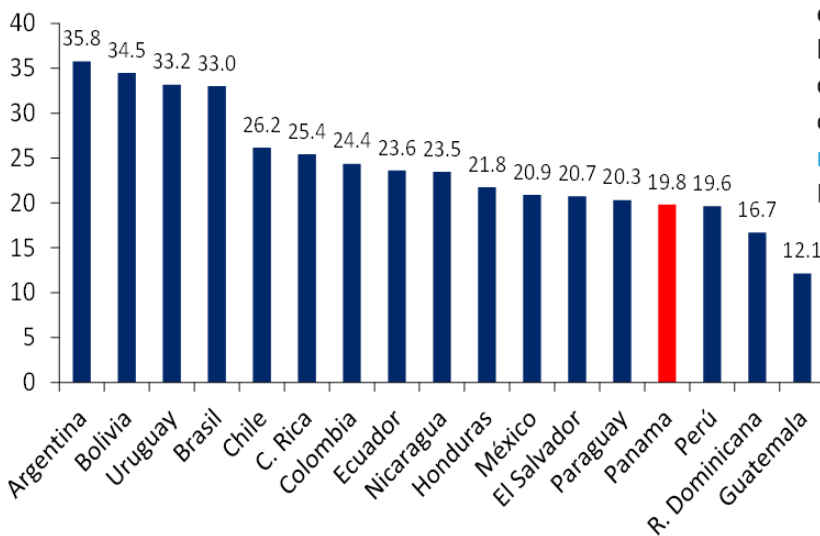
El bajo gasto social responde a la estructura de gastos del sector público y a los bajos ingresos tributarios.

Pese al fuerte crecimiento económico, éstos **han caído** entre 2007 y 2017, del 10% al 9,2% del PIB.



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Presión fiscal equivalente (% PIB). 2015



Los ingresos tributarios de Panamá son **de los más bajos** de América Latina.

La presión fiscal equivalente, que incluye los ingresos del Canal, las contribuciones sociales y otros, **también es de las más bajas** de América Latina



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En suma, reducir las desigualdades en Panamá pasa por:

- **Un mayor equilibrio territorial**
- **Eficiencia del gasto social**

Varias operaciones del BID se enfocan a estos objetivos: mejora en los PTMC, atención a primera infancia, salud en las comarcas, educación, electrificación rural, formación de trabajadores en las provincias, turismo, etc.

La preparación de la próxima estrategia del BID con Panamá también tiene este enfoque social, territorial y de gestión pública



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Conclusions and recommendations

In the opinion of the economist, IDB operations are focused on early childhood care, health in the regions, education, rural electrification, training of workers in the provinces and tourism.

The document also raises the need to redistribute public investment in the provinces and in the regions to balance the growth of society and therefore improve the country's productivity and universal access to the tools to achieve a social ascent and avoid this massive migration. to the cities of Panama and Colon.

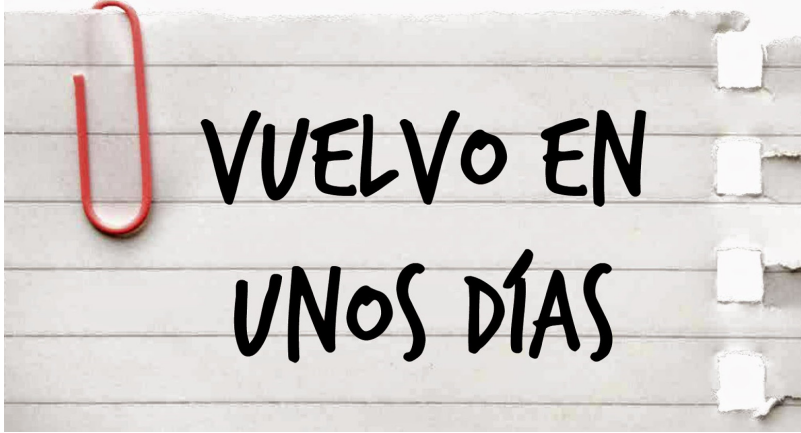
The reduction of poverty, although it is an objective that

has characterized the administrations, its centralist approach has prevented it from having a transverse effect and therefore more than 90% of the population

is in the low and middle strata segment; while in the upper stratum is less than 10% of the population.

But this high stratum population has an income that is 30 times higher than that of the lower stratum population, which maintains a high dependence on that

low strata population in the province of Panama. *L&E*



VUELVO EN
UNOS DÍAS

FREE DAYS AND EXALTATION OF VALUES

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“There was a time when I cheated others and cheated myself. I have already forgotten how to do it”.

Lampedusa, The Gatopardo.

The usual attempt in Panama to supposedly build a better society at the individual and collective level, to honor or encourage historical, civic, moral, regional, folkloric or cultural values or feelings is to decree days of “mandatory rest” known as “free days” for the Public or Private Sector, at the national or regional level. Very few ask the cost - who pays them - and what real civic, moral or economic benefits this custom produces.

You “rest mandatory”, you do not work. On January 1 and 9, Shrove Tuesday, Good Friday, Labor Day, Three, Four, Five, Ten and Twenty-eighth of November, December 8 and 25, as well as the employer’s party or anniversary of the

foundation of such or which city or population, are some of these supposed ephemeris. Similarly emanate from the lethargic mind of drones deputies or mayor more specific celebrations, supported by public funds and encouraged by suspicious patrons who are not accountable, to establish the meritorious character of the quarry, the shirt, the skirt, the petticoat, the petticoat ox cart, Afro-Antillean food, preñao bun, congo dances, marjoram guitar, carimañolas, pot tamale, guacho in totuma, almojábanos and other folk or culinary curiosities.

Do these dates and activities meet the

supposed objectives?

It is overwhelmingly proven that the majority of the Panamanian population, whether at the national or local level, is unaware of the significance of the events that it has been intended to honor for years, and rather sees in them the opportunity for a break, walk or fun. It is therefore an expensive waste and generalized self-deception and social hypocrisy to see or believe that days off are the appropriate way to participate in the exaltation of values and the rapport of the population with them.

Does the above mean that I disagree with people's fun and rest?

Not at all. I think we all have the right to have fun using our free time and our own funds.

To summarize, what are some economic, moral and social consequences of the unjustified abundance of days off in Panama:

- Loss of public services that people need and to which they have the right every day (government or district services, schools, official procedures, hospitals and others).
- Waste of public and private resources for payments to employees of the Public or Private Sector that are not based on work actually provided.
- Increase in cost of living by transferring these

costs to public and private users.

- Alarming deterioration of the basic moral value according to which a remuneration must be based on a job or service actually provided. not granted free.

- Discriminatory transfer of cost to sectors of the population that don't share certain regional benefits or religious values.

- Corrupt allocation of public funds according to personal or subjective values, by deputies, councilors and other authorities with the capacity to decide on public resources.

- Parasitism and corruption of community sectors that are accustomed to relying on public funds instead of the community effort to develop their activities.

- Loss of the true significance of a civic or moral date as a permanent action, every day, not of a specific date.

- Actual information on workers' salaries is distorted and the negotiation of minimum wages by activities or sectors is implicitly hindered.

Consequently, the holiday character of January 1 and 9, Carnival Tuesday, Good Friday, May 1, November 4, 5, 10 and 28, December 8 and December 25 must be eliminated.

Do I have no country? Yes I do, but it will be sufficient

and appropriate to honor with my actions all the values of the country every day and through November 3. Do I have no mother? If I have it and the summer every day, not only on December 8. Do you not honor the birth of Jesus? Yes, but a true Christian must do it every day, not only on December 25.

Similarly, the capacity of municipal governments to establish days off in the districts and even more for religious festivities that violate the secular character of the Panamanian State must be nullified.

Expressing the above, it is not the purpose of this article to recommend the elimination of unnecessary holidays as an end in itself, but to propose the adoption of a permanent, systematic and generalized program of **CIVIC, MORAL, POLITICAL AND CULTURAL VALUES**, which would be the set of lessons and activities that in each of these areas must bring cutely the educational bodies and media and other elements of the public and private sector to the entire population.

Due to its educational nature, it must be guided by the Ministry of Education. In a specific sense, it must include the following elements:

1. Intensify the teaching of Panama History, Civic Education and Ethics (without religious connotations) as compulsory subjects at all levels of public and private Secondary Education.

2. **Standardize texts and not allow improvisation or conceptual ignorance in the teaching of these subjects.**

3. Regulate the treatment and management of the History of Panama by the media and advertising agencies.

4. **Expand the holding of competitions on aspects of Panama's history among students, professional groups, civic organizations and other organizations.**

5. Expand the offer of teaching positions in the history of Panama, Civics and Ethics in secondary schools.

6. **Expand the enrollment offer available for the study of Panama History, Civic Education and Ethics in public and private universities.**

7. Establish mandatory compliance guidelines for parades and celebrations of patriotic commemorative events, eliminating circus and uniform shows and acts with militaristic dye, strengthening presentations of bands and other musical expressions, and using only uniforms commonly used in teaching establishments . Similarly for other regional, cultural or folkloric traditions.

8. **Regulate the participation of elements of the Public Force to avoid abusive, disruptive and intimidating military paraphernalia that contradicts the absence of the Army in Panama and the civilist character that its State must have.**

What is needed to carry out this plan permanently, systematically and deeply? First, abandon that love we have to the law of least effort. And fundamentally, it puts- Government and governed- our minds, arms, hearts and will and commitment in this transcendental task of true construction of our historical, civic and moral values. *L&E*



CASE STUDY THE MINIMUM SALARY AND ITS IMPACT ON THE ECONOMY

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In recent months, if not years, our country is convulsed by countless national and international situations, which in one way or another have negatively impacted our environment, so that with greater reason a balance between economic criteria and social, establishment of integrated economic and social policies to achieve sustained, inclusive, and sustainable growth.

A few days before the end of the year 2019, we face a new revision of the minimum wage, in accordance with the provisions of article 174 of the Labor Code, this revision must occur at least every two years, according to the recommendation of the National Minimum Wage Commission and by Decree of the Executive Branch.

Setting or not a minimum wage, by its very nature is an issue that raises controversy since it produces criteria found among the sectors involved, workers, private companies and government, which is why the National Competitiveness Council has developed a study called "Case Study The Minimum Wage and its Impact on the Economy", which was prepared by Roger Durán, Rosmery Piper and Ninotska Tam, with the collaboration of other professionals.

As it is a very important issue, we want to share with our readers an excerpt from the Study and we invite you to review the full text on the website of the National Competitiveness Council at the address:

<https://cncpanama.org/cnc/>

As you can see, the Study contains an Introduction, followed by a General Context that addresses the issues of Gross Domestic Product, Employment and Wages and the Analysis of selected sectors, as well as a separate section dedicated to Analysis Questions which in turn develops - What is the productivity - salary relationship in Panama? - How are price movements better measured in the economy and their impact on the population, business and competitiveness of the economy, through the inflation index or through the basic basket? - How could the expanded basic basket be measured? - What impact does the transfer of costs at prices have on inflation and on the basic basket? - Does it make sense to promote wage increases over productivity if they later become price increases that reduce the purchasing power of consumers? - How far does the minimum wage destroy formal jobs? o How does it impact on business informality? - How does the social ladder of education affect the levels of employment where the minimum wage applies? - Does the minimum wage contribute to equity?

Finally, it contemplates the Final Considerations: some practices for the determination of the Minimum Wage and the Conclusions, which we quote in a textual manner, so as not to distort their meaning:

1. "In the periods analyzed, the increase in the minimum wage is above economic growth and employment generation. This fact is evidenced in the general analysis and by economic activity, recording the disconnection of the minimum wage adjustments with the variables mentioned.

2. The use of the productivity variable has cultural, legal (in the specific case of minimum wage) and technical limitations. For the latter, the Institute of Statistics and Census is required to collect the necessary information for the calculation of national and sectoral productivity.

3. The consideration of productivity is of great importance as there is a link between employers and workers where productivity gives everyone advantages, making this relationship a win-win. There is also the development of the talents and abilities of the employees, managing to improve their qualification and therefore opening the opportunity to access higher incomes and stop being placed in minimum wage scales.

4. At the aggregate level, minimum wages can lead to more productive companies replacing less productive ones, and less productive companies that survived are because they were

forced to be more efficient and productive. These mechanisms can increase the overall productivity of the entire economy.

5. The Price Control applied to the Basic Food Basket (CBA) distorts the real results of the prices of the basic basket, and the real evolution of inflation is lost, which is why the Consumer Price Index is considered (CPI) as the best available indicator.

6. The Extended Basic Basket is a reference base to determine the cost of living as the methodology has limitations. In addition, the methodology used in other countries was used as a starting point, and it will always be better to use a methodology that responds to the national reality.

7. The prices used are based on an uncompetitive market and at prices distorted by intermediaries, which don't reflect the real market prices.

8. Increases in wages affect prices, as well as other variables; However, the impact of the increase in the minimum wage will be more or less significant depending on the importance of the worker with a minimum wage in a given production line, coupled with the elasticity of the good that is produced. That is, the more inelastic the demand for the product and

the importance of the worker is greater, the increases in wages will affect prices more. In addition, we must add the speculation factor because this will affect prices.

9. The increases in the CPI cause an imminent decrease in the purchasing power of individuals. This causes a cycle where price increases are found and the quality of life of the population deteriorates. At the end of the day, the minimum wage adjustment, which directly favors 33.6% (388,280 people) of the salaried population, ends up affecting the entire population, since the cost of living impacts both the minimum salary and those No workers. • When evaluating salaries by level of education, it is observed that workers in the income range related to the minimum wage (up to B / .599.00) workers have a lower level of education. While those with the highest income are those with the highest educational level.

10. In Panama, the minimum wage is expected to contribute to equity by allocating a minimum wage amount by region and economic activities (disaggregated). However, such disaggregation doesn't help to improve equity.

11. It is necessary to specify a method to

calculate the cost of living to avoid the various interpretations.

12. The incorporation of other variables, such as productivity, in addition to the cost of living, economic and employment policies, would be an advance in terms of setting minimum wages.”

We are at a crossroads, given that current conditions of our economy are not the same as a few years ago, where perhaps a stable economy was shown and now we are facing an economy that is below its potential, weakened, in that shows economic sectors that don't rise that continue to fall and rise in unemployment to name a few.

Hopefully the National Minimum Wage Commission will reach a consensus and deprive the interest of the development and progress of the country, on partisan and sectoral interests. *L&E*



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The graphic features a blue Twitter bird logo in the center, surrounded by several smaller, light blue bird silhouettes. At the bottom, four hands in different colored sleeves (red, teal, purple, yellow) are shown holding up smartphones, suggesting social media sharing. The entire graphic is enclosed in a dotted blue border.



Norms of INTEREST

NATIONAL ALPHABETIZATION PROGRAM

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W

ith the enactment of Law 101 of October 28, 2019, the National Digital Literacy Program is established, in charge of the National Secretariat of Science and Technology and Innovation (SENACYT) and aimed at the development of projects, campaigns and training instruments on correct use and management of information and communication technologies, for their personal, work and social development.

Among the objectives of the Program, are to contribute to the decline to promote continuous and social knowledge practices through the creation and integration of physical spaces called digital literacy centers and community training.

Another objective is to generate and promote

continuous training within the framework of the need to integrate all sectors of the population in the process of digital literacy and citizen competence; as well as guaranteeing access to equal opportunities by incorporating mobile digital literacy centers that can be moved temporarily to cover the need for hard-to-reach places.

Law 101 provides that SENACYT will develop the Program, through the public interest association INFOPLAZAS AIP, therefore, SENACYT must ensure that INFOPLAZAS have the required budget structure.

Law 101 must be regulated by the Executive Branch, but it became effective as of October 30, 2019. *L&E*

MODIFY TAX BALANCE OF THE NON-FINANCIAL PUBLIC SECTOR

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Through Law 102 of October 31, 2019, Article 10 of Law 34 of 2008 of Fiscal Social Responsibility is modified, in the sense of establishing that the maximum limit of the Fiscal Balance deficit for the Non-Financial Public Sector will be 3.50% for fiscal year 2019, 2.75% for fiscal year 2020 and 2.50% for fiscal year 2021 and 2.0% for fiscal year 2022.

With the amendment to Article 34, a paragraph is established that states that the absolute amount of the Non-Financial Public Sector deficit based on Article 8 will be measured in cash terms in relation to the estimated Gross Domestic Product estimated for the year and may not exceed at one percent (1%) annually. *L&E*

REGIONAL AND SUBREGIONAL TAXES WILL KNOW COMPLAINTS ON THE FAMILY LEGAL ORDER

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Law No. 106 was sanctioned on October 31, 2019 modifying article 57 of Law No. 83 of 2013 that adopts measures to prevent violence against women and amends the Criminal Code to typify femicide and punish the acts of violence against women

The reform focuses on the fact that the Public Prosecutor's Office must enable regional and subregional prosecutors throughout the country to receive complaints of crimes against the

Family Legal Public Order and the Civil Status in any of its modalities, in compliance with the principles Justice proceedings in reasonable time, immediacy and constitutionalization of the process.

Before the reform, these issues were addressed by the specialized prosecutors for the investigation of crimes of violence against women, now the regional and subregional prosecutors are conferred competence. *L&E*

EXTEND THE VALIDITY OF SPECIAL PROCEDURE FOR EXPROPRIATION OF COMMUNITY SETTLEMENTS

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Law 31 of November 17, 2014 establishes a special extraordinary expropriation procedure to define and formalize community settlements by seniority, provides in its Article 21 a term of five (5) years from December 12, 2014.

The purpose of said norm is to assure the members of the community settlement, established for more than fifteen

(15) years in a consecutive, peaceful and uninterrupted manner the title to the private property they occupy.

With the approval of Law 107 of October 31, 2019, article 21 is modified and validity of Law 31 of 2014 is established, extended for five (5) years until December 12, 2019. *L&E*



PROMOTION OF ROAD EDUCATION

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On October 31, Law 108 was enacted, which adopts measures for the promotion of road education and aims to institute a compulsory educational program with specific content on road education in official pre-secondary and secondary education centers, in order to raise public awareness about the correct use of public roads and the proper behavior of its users.

It has been arranged that the road education program, mainly in the following thematic axes:

1. Basic traffic rules. 2. Safety regulations. 3.

Pedestrian behavior. 4. Use of public roads. 5. Alternative means of transport. 6. Violations and consequences. 7. Fire extinguisher management and fire prevention. 8. First aid. 9. What to do in case of natural disasters.

The Ministry of Education and the Land Transportation and Transportation Authority may expand the thematic axes through a program development guide. *L&E*

NATIONAL DRUG POLICY

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With the enactment of Law 109 of November 12, 2019, the National Drug Policy, its principles, objectives and strategies are adopted, to implement the actions that guide the governance of the health authority, the promotion of production, availability, accessibility, quality and control of medicines for the entire population of the country, destined to frame the activities that must be developed for its implementation.

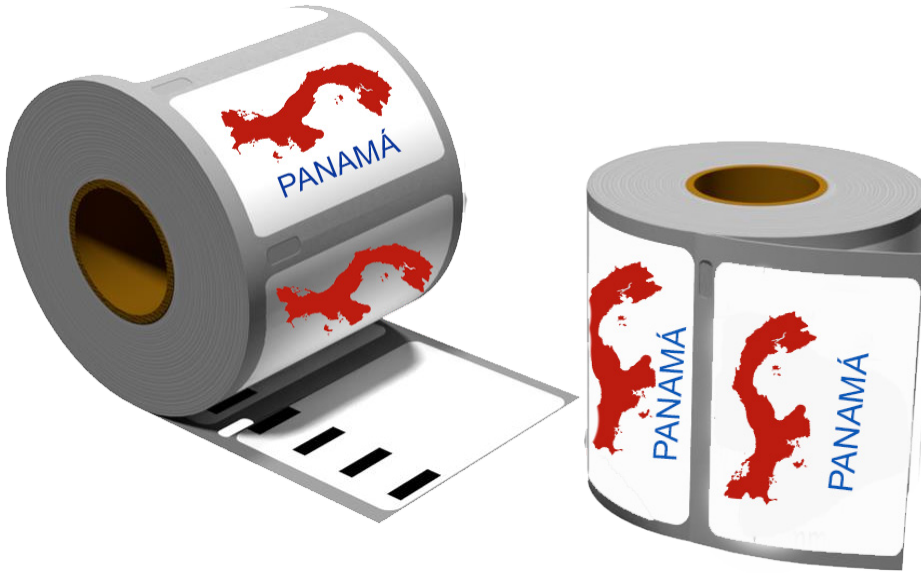
It has been established that Law 109 has among others the following objectives: 1. Strengthen the leadership and governance of the Ministry of Health, to guarantee the interests of public health. 2. Ensure the availability of essential medicines through the required financing. 3. Strengthen the information, monitoring and evaluation system of medicines in the country. 4. Ensure the efficacy, safety and quality of the medicines that are incorporated into the health system, through regulation and control of the pharmaceutical sector. 5. Ensure the availability of and coverage of essential medicines through

sustainable financing and in line with the context of the health system. 6. Prioritize and encourage the development and production of medicines that meet public health needs.

The strategies to achieve the objectives are: 1. Governance of the health authority. 2. Efficacy, safety and quality of medicines. 3. Availability and coverage of high-cost essential and specialized medicines. 4. Access to pharmaceutical services. 5. Human Resources. 6. Rational use of medications. 7. Production of medicines and 8. Information systems.

On the other hand, National Policy must be evaluated, at least, every four (4) years through methodologies and indicators defined by Ministry of Health, who will be governing body of public and private health institutions to ensure compliance about politics.

A period of six (6) months has been granted for Executive Branch to regulate Law 109. *L&E*



LOGOS FOR PANAMA PRODUCTS

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Through Law 112 of November 18, 2019, the distinctive **"MADE IN PANAMA"** logo is created for Panamanian products or manufactured in the Republic of Panama, which will be subject to the specifications, description and characteristics, as well as the conditions that the Ministry of Commerce and Industries determines for its use.

It will be the responsibility of the Ministry of Commerce, to issue the authorization for the use of the logo to those who request it, provided that the requirements established in Law 112 and the regulations are met.

They may request and make use of the logo, natural or legal persons with business or legal

activity throughout the national territory.

Another aspect to comment, is that the logo must be marked clearly, legibly and indelibly and can only be marked, printed and reproduced on the packages or packaging of expressly authorized products and on the authorized product or its label, when according to its characteristics doesn't contain container or packaging.

Finally, Law 112 must be regulated by the Ministry of Commerce and Industries in a period not exceeding twenty (20) calendar days from its promulgation, that is, from November 18, 2019. *L&E*

MANDATORY USE OF SIGNS THAT IDENTIFY THE PROCEDURE OF THE FOOD PRODUCT

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On November 18, Law 113 was published in the Official Gazette that establishes the mandatory use of signs that identify the origin of the food product, so that they indicate whether the product offered to the consumer is of national origin or of import, indicating the country of origin.

It provides the Law 113 that will be understood by food product all that of animal or vegetable nature, solid, liquid or processed, destined to be ingested by the human beings with the purpose of contributing to their feeding or nutrition.

Law 113 will be applicable to markets, supermarkets, grocery stores, shops and other

commercial stores selling food products.

This rule will take effect thirty (30) days after its promulgation and after its promulgation; Therefore, as of December 17, all commercial establishments selling food products are required to place the signs on the shelves that indicate whether the origin is national or imported. If the product is not national, the sign must indicate the name of the product and the country of origin in Spanish.

It will be up to the Authority for Consumer Protection and Defense of Competition to ensure compliance with the rule and impose fines and penalties to businesses that fail to comply with the provisions of Law 113. *L&E*



IMPUESTO SELECTIVO A BEBIDAS AZUCARADAS

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Before entering into the details of the newly sanctioned norm, we consider it appropriate to point out that it is the Bill 570 of 2018 approved in third debate on April 9, 2019, that is, it is a project that was several months pending to be sanctioned.

Law 114 of November 18, 2019 published in Official Gazette 28903-A of November 18, 2019, creates the Action Plan to Improve Health and dictates other provisions to establish the selective tax on the consumption of sugary beverages and sets the criteria for its use.

The Action Plan to Improve Health and the establishment of the selective tax on sugary beverages are intended to help the State to fulfill the constitutional function of ensuring the health of the population by promoting the development of

activities and policies that safeguard the right from the individual to the promotion, prevention, protection, conservation, restitution and rehabilitation of health. Within this context, the standard offers the definition of what should be understood as sugary drinks that are all non-alcoholic beverages, with added free sugars or added caloric sweeteners and Action Plan to Improve Health, a mechanism of collaboration articulated between the competent authorities, private companies, consumers and organized groups of society, who work together and harmoniously in a permanent dialogue on health, in order to develop programs focused on a healthy lifestyle.

The aforementioned Law 114 establishes the Commission for the Improvement of Health, which will

be responsible for verifying the appropriate use of the funds produced by the Law, as well as preparing, carrying out, implementing and monitoring the Action Plan.

This Law modifies article 1 of Law 45 of 1995, in the sense of including sugary drinks among the goods taxed by the Selective Consumption Tax.

Similarly, Article 9 of Law 45 is modified, establishing that the Selective Consumption Tax for sugary drinks is as follows:

- Soft drinks 7%
- Rest of national and imported sugary drinks 5%
- Syrups and concentrates for the production of sugary drinks 10%

It provides for the modification to article 9, which will be exempt from the Selective Consumption Tax on food, beverages based on dairy products, grains or cereals, nectars, fruit juices, vegetables with natural fruit concentrates and concentrates and those products in general grammage is less than 7.5 grams of sugar, per 100 ml of sugary drink.

It has been established that as of the entry into force of Law 114, the alcoholic beverage industry will have a period of ninety (90) business days to include in all its national and imported products the nutritional content in its labeling and must be in Spanish Language. *L&E*



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PANAMA AND THE DOING BUSINESS 2020 REPORT

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Doing Business It is a report prepared by the World Bank Group for 17 years, it contains a series of annual studies that evaluate the regulations that favor or restrict business activity in 190 economies in the world, with the objective of assessing the business environment In every economy.

In this 17th edition, economies are classified according to ease of doing business by analyzing the regulations that affect companies from the beginning and during their activities until the closing of their operations, starting from the opening of a business, the management of permits construction, obtaining of electricity, registration of properties, obtaining of credit, protection of minority investors, payment of taxes, cross-border trade, fulfillment of contracts, until the resolution of insolvency.

Although they are not included in the score and classification of this edition, the report also measures

the regulation of the labor market and contracting with the government as part of twelve areas analyzed that are part of life cycle of companies.

The honor chapter

According to the report released on October 24 of this year, the ten economies with the best score in the ease of doing business were **New Zealand (86.8 out of 100), Singapore (86.2), Hong Kong (Special Administrative Region of China) (85.3), Denmark (85.3), Republic of Korea (84), United States (84), Georgia (83.7), United Kingdom (83.5), Norway (82.6) and Sweden (82).**

Online processes for the constitution of companies, electronic platforms for the filing of taxes and online procedures for the transfer of properties and the granting of building permits act as some of the facilities that the Top 10 of Doing

Business grant in common to the Investors 79 to 86 of the global Doing Business ranking.

Additionally, the twenty economies that obtained the best scores have strong and highly transparent regulations for companies.

The classification of Panama

Of the 190 countries analyzed, in terms of the ease of doing business, the 2020 report places our country in the 86th place, with a score of 66.6 out of 100, below South Africa (Position 84 with a score of 67 out of 100) and Zambia (Position 85 with 66.9 out of 100), and well below other economies in the Latin American region such as Chile (Position 59), Mexico (Position 60), Colombia (Position 67) Jamaica (Position 71), Costa Rica (Position 74) or Peru (Position 76).

According to the report, the Panama score (66.66) places two thirds of the way to obtain optimum performance. Obtaining high marks areas such as the ease of opening businesses (92.0 of 100), cross-border trade (85.5 of 100) and ease of obtaining electricity (83.5 of 100). However, its major deficiencies are in matters such as contract fulfillment (49.0 of 100), tax payment (46.7 of 100) and insolvency resolution (39.5 of 100).

An incentive to make reforms

The Doing Business report encourages governments around the world to undertake reforms of the business environment in order to stimulate sustainable economic growth, as cumbersome bureaucratic procedures, in addition to representing obstacles for individual companies or investors, also limit the capacity of the economy to grow sustainably.

In the Fiscal field, it is ironic that Panama is considered - unfairly - as a tax haven where taxes are not paid when in the most recent edition of Doing Business Panama moved from position

The low score that Panama obtains is the result of the multiple obstacles and burdens that taxpayers in our country have to face to pay their taxes. Of the situations generated by the DGI that cause unnecessary expenses to the taxpayers, and sometimes even to the payment of taxes that they shouldn't pay, we could mention as an example applications of non-application of Fall, whose requirements, usually the taxpayer can meet and regardless of whether the taxpayer has complied with them, many times the grounds on which the Tax Administration relies to issue resolutions rejecting them completely depart from the meaning of the request.

This undoubtedly reflects that, no matter how tentative the incentives offered by countries may be, foreign investors often avoid unstable economies or those in which the rules prevent economic activity from prospering properly.

In this year's study, it was established that the 10 most advanced economies in terms of ease of doing business were Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Togo, Bahrain, Tajikistan, Pakistan, Kuwait, China, India and Nigeria.

Jordan, for example, strengthened access to credit by introducing a new guaranteed operations law, also amended the insolvency law and launched a modern registry of guarantees based on notifications. In addition, it facilitated the payment of taxes through the implementation of electronic mechanisms for the filing of returns and the payment of labor taxes and other mandatory contributions..

For their part, the Togolese authorities abolished the obligation to notarize the company's documents and reduced the time required to register a company, also simplified the process for obtaining construction permits and facilitated the process of connecting to the network electrical, property registration and obtaining credit.

In China, payment of taxes was facilitated by providing, among other measures, that corporate income tax rates would be subject to preferential tax treatment in the case of small businesses and companies with a small profit margin.

Nigeria instead facilitated the fulfillment of contracts by improving the quality of judicial proceedings.

Within the framework of the results obtained in the Doing Business 2020, the General Directorate of Revenue of the Ministry of Economy and Finance with the support of the Inter-American Center of Tax Administrations, the International Monetary Fund and the Inter-American Development Bank conducted an international evaluation to know weaknesses and shortcomings against their peers in the region. In the words of the General Director of Revenue Publio De Gracia *"More than just questioning, it is to see how we are to be able to move forward and meet the objectives set in this new administration of the Ministry of Economy and Finance, and the best way is to know our weaknesses and strengths"*.

The team of the General Directorate of Revenue, with the advice of international organizations, will work with the Tax Administration Evaluation and Diagnostic Tool (TADAT), used by more than 80 countries in the world, but which our country had not yet used.

Hopefully, this evaluation will help improve the fiscal management of our country so that in the Doing Business 2021 Panama takes a position among the ten economies in which the business climate improved to a greater extent, improving the perception of the investors and with it the national economy. *L&E*



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APPOINTMENT PERIOD OF REPRESENTATIVES OF WORKERS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY FUND

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The Office of the Attorney General of the Administration, issued Consultation C-116-19 of November 12, 2019, whereby it acquits questions raised regarding period of appointments made to three (3) representatives of workers before Board of Directors of Social Security Fund, through Executive Decree No. 309 of June 13, 2016.

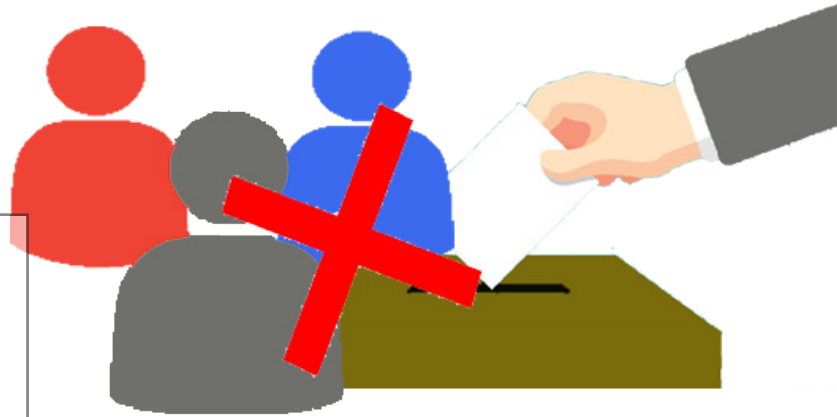
To answer the question raised, Mr. Attorney indicates that it is the criterion that the period of the appointments made to three (3) workers' representatives before the Board of Directors of the Social Security Fund, through Executive Decree No. 309 of June 13, 2016, expired on January 31, 2019.

It provides that as provided, Article 23 of Law 51 of 2005, the Board of Directors of the Social Security Fund is made up of eleven members, among them, "Three representatives of the workers, appointed by the Executive Body of a single payroll of six candidates that will be chosen by the National

Council of Organized Workers", meanwhile, article 26 states that "period of members of the Board of Directors and their alternates is five staggered years, according to what the Article 227 of this Law". He adds that according to article 227 of the aforementioned Law 51, the period of employee representatives began as of February 1, 2009, so that the five years expired on February 1, 2014 and then the other five years They occurred on February 1, 2019.

The Attorney General's Office concludes, noting that the period of appointments made to the three (3) representatives of the workers before the Board of Directors of the Social Security Fund, through Executive Decree No. 309 of June 13, 2016, expired on 31 January 2019, but they must remain in their positions even if their term has elapsed, until they have been submitted to replace those that have been appointed for this purpose, in accordance with the provisions of article 793 of the Administrative Code.^{L&E}

Politics



OUR PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES WHO RESIGNED BEFORE THE ELECTIONS

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Throughout our republican history, some of our electoral processes have generated all kinds of unlikely situations, such as unfortunate electoral frauds, gifts and canopies of all kinds in exchange for the vote, changes of representatives of the Electoral Court a few days after the elections, electoral manipulation, use of state assets to support the candidate of the ruling party, vote counting, unexplained changes in the trend that drastically modifies the destiny of the election and generates loss of confidence in the electoral process and delay in the outcome of the final votes, gaps in the transparency of counting procedures, clashes that generated violence between opposing political groups, irregularities in the electoral process, voters who vote more than once when a voter is supplanted, the purchase of voting juries, pressure against the public servant to vote for the candidate, the theft of electoral polls, in short, these and other anomalies that we could mention,

but in the case at hand we will refer to those cases contemplated in our history in relation to all cases in which presidential candidates finally resigned from participate in the announced electoral process.

Incredibly, the first case occurs at the end of 1907, when Dr. Manuel Amador Guerrero declines the possibility of being re-elected, in my opinion due to the serious illness he suffered, sarcoma, despite the support of supporters and his Constitutionalist Party, conservative majority, which had been constituted with the aim of obtaining his nomination for a new presidential term. Thus, on April 13, 1908, the Constitutionalist Party, led by President Manuel Amador Guerrero and Generals Santiago de la Guardia, Manuel Quintero Villarreal, Julio Arjona and Antonio "Papi" Aizpurúa as well as others who were liberals, nominated Ricardo Arias Feraud, Secretary (Minister) of Foreign Relations, as a candidate for the Presidency of the

Republic in the elections scheduled for July 2, 1908.

For these elections of July 2, 1908, the opposition, agglutinated in the so-called Republican Coalition, nominated José Domingo de Obaldía, a conservative who, in his capacity as First Designee to the Presidency of the Republic, had been in charge of the Executive Branch during the license requested by President Manuel Amador Guerrero for six months, from June 24 to December 29, 1907. This Republican Coalition was backed by the Liberal Party led by Dr. Carlos A. Mendoza and other liberal conspicuous such as: Eusebio A. Morales, Belisario Porras, Pedro A. Díaz, Guillermo Andreve, Próspero Pinel and prominent members of the Conservative Party such as: Nicanor de Obarrio, Víctor Manuel Alvarado, José Agustín Arango, Abel Bravo and others.

In such a way that the two political alliances faced in the general elections of 1908 were composed of conservatives and liberals. Once Don Ricardo Arias Feraud obtains his nomination to the Presidency of the Republic by the Constitutionalist Party, he immediately receives the obvious support of the power of the government and the resources of the state. The government of Amador Guerrero initiates changes in its cabinet, requesting resignations from those belonging to the Liberal Party, appointing new governors and mayors in order to establish a government organization with the objective of obtaining the triumph of the candidate of the ruling party in the elections.

A persecution against the groups of the Liberal Party in the Municipal Councils began. There were complaints in the Penonomé District, where it was said that the police who sympathized with the Liberal Party and the opposition candidate were dismissed. It was also evident that there were deficiencies in the list of citizens who had to attend the general elections, especially those that favored the Liberal Party. The violent participation of the National

Police was even denounced, which was accused of forcibly dissolving demonstrations in favor of the candidate of Obaldía, both in Colón and Chiriquí.

In these elections, President Manuel Amador Guerrero requested the supervision of the elections by the US government, after receiving a letter from the Secretary of War of the United States, William Taft, in which he referred to the charges made by a Party Commission Liberal to his government for electoral fraud and irregularities in the 1906 elections for deputies.

This letter practically warned President Amador that according to the Panamanian Constitution, he would intervene so that no anomalies were committed and that he would prevent access to the presidency to the true President elected by the Panamanian people. It was even rumored that US troops would be ready to be sent to the polling stations in order to avoid electoral irregularities.

During the course of the electoral campaign, the candidate of ruling party Ricardo Arias Feraud, in the face of a possible electoral defeat, proposed that both he and Obaldía decline their candidacies in favor of a third party and Obaldía didn't accept it. The President of the Republic, Dr. Manuel Amador Guerrero, made same offer.

Subsequently, in the absence of popular support and in the face of a state of anarchy and repression, on June 6, Mr. Ricardo Arias Feraud, a candidate for the ruling party, withdrew his presidential candidacy before the elections were verified, which caused anger and surprise among his followers. On June 13, the voting for the presidential electors was verified and on July 2, 1908, José Domingo de Obaldía was elected.

This is the first case of our policy where a presidential candidate declines his aspirations before the elections.

In 1914, the year in which elections were held to elect Deputies to integrate the Assembly, a confrontation between two of its most important leaders emerges in Panamanian liberalism. They were Dr. Carlos A. Mendoza, former president of the republic and at that time President of the Board of the Liberal Party, and Dr. Belisario Porras Barahona, who at that time was serving as President of the Republic.

This dispute originated from the recommendations made by both leaders, one as President of the National Directory of the Liberal Party and the other for his status as Head of State. The rivalry produced a fragmented Liberal Party for the 1914 elections, with the election of 22 elected deputies who responded to the nation's first president, Dr. Porras, and a total of eight deputies who responded to Dr. Mendoza and the line of National Directory, therefore these were considered the genuine representatives of the party. Conservatives only got three seats for deputies.

The disunity between the two continued in the following years and was accentuated at the time of running for the candidate for the Presidency of the Republic, since Dr. Carlos A. Mendoza promoted the presidential candidacy of Rodolfo Chiari Robles and President Porras Barahona inclined to that the National Convention elect Dr. Ramón Maximiliano Valdés.

On February 21, 1916, the National Convention of the Liberal Party nominated Rodolfo Chiari Robles, almost seven days after the death of its strongest defender, Dr. Carlos A. Mendoza, President of the Liberal Party, who died of an attack cardiac on February 13, 1916 at age 59.

During the first months of 1916 a campaign of attacks against both presidential candidates was unleashed, primarily against the government of President Porras and his anointed, Dr. Ramón

Maximiliano Valdés, supported by the Porrista Liberal Concertación, whom Mendoza accused, as well as to his father, having been part of the Conservative Party.

On the other hand, the opposing candidate, Rodolfo Chiari Robles, asked the US State Department for electoral supervision to ensure the correctness of the elections, which the United States refused unless the Panamanian government so requested, to which Porras refused. In the electoral process of 1916 there were acts of violence, personal attacks, use of state resources, use of firearms, etc.

The spokesmen of the candidate Rodolfo Chiari Robles did not appear at the meeting of the Board of Electors on August 2, 1916 and on that date Dr. Ramón Maximiliano Valdés was proclaimed as President of the Republic for the four-year period 1916-1920. When Rodolfo Chiari Robles did not appear in this electoral tournament, where there was total control of the electoral apparatus by the official candidate, the second example in which a presidential candidate declines his participation was given credit.

For the general elections that were held on August 3, 1924, two presidential candidates were presented: Rodolfo Chiari Robles, who won the electoral victory with 19,372 votes, against Manuel Quintero Villarreal, who obtained only 2,920 votes. The candidate Rodolfo Chiari Robles was on this occasion the anointed one of Dr. Belisario Porras Barahona and won overwhelmingly over his opponent. In these elections occurs the second time that direct suffrage of citizens was used in the elections.

During the administration of Rodolfo Chiari Robles, over time, liberalism split between Chiaristas and Porrists. At this point the division arrived, that Dr. Porras was declared a public

enemy and was expelled, along with his relatives, from the National Directory of the Liberal Party.

Faced with such a situation of division, Dr. Belisario Porrás Barahona belatedly tried to organize a new party group to face the aspirations of the single candidate of the Liberal Party, Engineer Florencio Harmodio Arosemena, who was endorsed by President Rodolfo Chiari Robles. The new party group organized by Dr. Porrás, the National Porrist Coalition, proposed the presidential candidacy of Jorge F. Boyd at the national convention of that collective held in Panama City on April 12, 1928. The candidate Jorge F. Boyd was married to a niece of the wife of the President of the United States, Thomas Woodrow Wilson.

During the development of the political campaign there were situations of violence and partiality of the governmental establishment in favor of Dr. Florencio Harmodio Arosemena, including the fact that several friends of Dr. Porrás were imprisoned and persecuted as criminals, including Diógenes de la Rosa, Demetrio A. Porrás, Manuel Quintero Villarreal and Domingo H. Turner among others.

Given the perception that popular suffrage was threatened and in the absence of genuine freedom and the violence of official imposition, on the eve of the general elections announced to be held on August 5, 1928, Dr. Belisario Porrás Barahona declared that the National Cheerleader Coalition refrained from going to the elections and therefore, Dr. Jorge E. Boyd withdrew from the electoral contest, thus representing the third case in Republican history in which a candidate for president of the republic retires little before the electoral contest announced.

The elections were verified on the scheduled day and as it was obvious, the government candidate Florencio Harmodio Arosemena and backed by President Rodolfo Chiari Robles for

the four-year period 1928-1932 was the winner.

For the electoral campaign of 1936, Dr. Juan Demóstenes Arosemena was elected Constitutional President, in front of his adversary Domingo Díaz Arosemena for the four-year period 1936-1940. In these electoral elections all kinds of irregularities occurred.

First, the National Jury of Elections recognized the victory of Domingo Díaz Arosemena, opposition candidate, and then the triumph of Dr. Juan Demóstenes Arosemena was proclaimed by a difference of only 1,845 votes in his favor. Dr. Juan Demóstenes Arosemena assumed the Presidency of the Republic on October 1, 1936 and ended his period prematurely after dying of a heart attack on December 16, 1939. His First Designee (Vice President) Augusto Samuel Boyd, assumed the presidency for the rest of the period.

In the advance for the next presidential elections to be held on June 2, 1940, the official candidacy of Dr. Arnulfo Arias Madrid emerges, supported by his National Revolutionary political party and other groups that made up the alliance called Coaligados Parties. On the other hand, the opposition to the government was agglutinated in the rest of the political parties, constituting the so-called Popular Front, supporting the presidential candidacy of Dr. Ricardo Joaquín Alfaro Jované.

The electoral campaign was very violent, including some of the opposition rose in arms, there were dead policemen and small guerrilla outbreaks emerged that were stifled in some towns such as Chame, La Chorrera and San Carlos. Numerous oppositionists were arrested. The police acted violently and cruelly against the population, acting as assault troops. It

was even the case that the President of the Nation Augusto Samuel Boyd himself began to accompany Dr. Arias in the political events of the campaign.

Given this situation, Dr. Ricardo J. Alfaro, opposition candidate, denounced all kinds of anomalies being committed in the political campaign, including until the preparation of electoral fraud, before the President of the Republic, and he gave the answer that these denunciations lacked foundation as the government fulfilled its duty to maintain order and tranquility.

Also, the supporters of the official candidate made accusations against the opposition of having organized a subversive plan and seized bombs and weapons, all of which were denied by Dr. Ricardo J. Alfaro.

Consequently, on May 26, 1940, a few days after the electoral tournament held on June 2, 1940, the candidate for the Presidency of the Republic for the opposition Dr. Ricardo J. Alfaro decided to decline his aspirations, noting there were sufficient guarantees to participate in this tournament, and the candidates for deputies of the political parties that supported it also did the same. Thus, Dr. Arnulfo Arias Madrid, government candidate, went to the polls only.

Exposed all the cases mentioned, we could hardly consider them role models of truly democratic electoral elections.

During the development of elections, the neatness and legitimacy of all the actions that take place in them must be guaranteed. Starting with the security and confidence that should be given to the citizen and the opportunity to freely cast the vote for the different electoral options presented to the people.

In an election a process arises where voters choose

with their suffrage between two or a plurality of presidential candidates and other political positions. But when, in an election, some of the presidential candidates have the support of the government of the day focused on their political campaign to favor it, it ends up causing a difficult injury to the democratic system and the rule of law.

Then, in order for the election elections to be reliable, before, during and after the vote, the opposition must enjoy total freedom to organize and conduct an election campaign without fear and without harassment or persecution. Therefore, all candidates must have conditions of equality and competence. But if the day indicated to elect and vote the elector is found that only a single candidate for the presidency concurs, and it turns out that his or another has withdrawn from the elections, those elections are not democratic because they are not hindered, cloudy or distort the will of the citizens.

In these cases of a single presidential candidate who participates until the end, it is obvious that rules have prevailed that privilege some to the detriment of others with authorities acting in a partial manner. When a candidate is systematically denied the opportunity to compete with clear and impartial rules, we are simply not in the presence of effectively democratic elections..

The function of the electoral processes is to create and maintain during the process, conditions so that there is cleanliness and legitimacy in the elections that will choose our authorities that will govern us.

And, obviously, in all these examples of electoral tournaments of our republican history that we address in this article, none can be considered democratic because none met the minimum requirements to consider them as such. Rather, they represent a negative memory of our electoral systems of the past that we should never forget, much less repeat. *L&E*

Panamanian ECONOMY

MONTHLY INDEX OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Source: GCRP

The Monthly Index of Economic Activity (IMAE) in the Republic grew by 3.25%, from January to September 2019 compared to the same period of the previous year, according to data provided by the National Institute of Statistics and Census of the Comptroller General of the Republic.

The interannual variation referred to September 2019 was 3.98%, compared to the similar of the previous year.

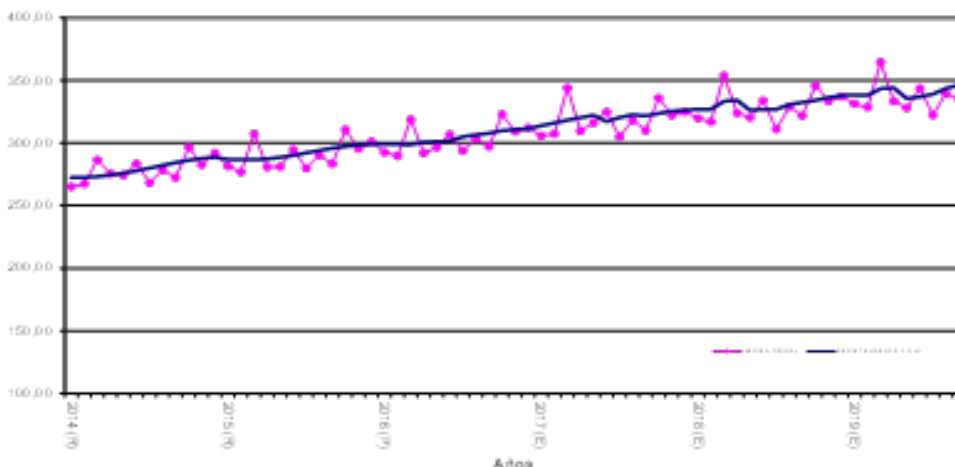
It should be noted that the economic activities that showed a favorable behavior were: commerce, transport, storage and communications, financial intermediation, agriculture, public administration, construction, electricity and water, mining and quarrying, and domestic services.

Transport and communications services showed favorable performances due to the operations of the expanded Panama Canal and the movement of containers of the National Port System in TEU. The agricultural sector registered an increase in items such as the raising of cattle and the cultivation of bananas, melons and watermelons, mainly for export.

The electricity and water supply category showed a good performance due to the greater generation of thermal energy with the participation of the new generation of electricity, based on natural gas.

Commercial activity registered positive results, due to the demand of local wholesale and retail trade. *L&F*

República de Panamá
CONTRALORIA GENERAL DE LA REPUBLICA
Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censo
INDICE MENSUAL DE ACTIVIDAD ECONOMICA DE PANAMA
ENERO 2014 - SEPTIEMBRE 2019



COMMENTARY ON THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI): OCTOBER 2019

Source: GCRP

The National Urban CPI accumulated from January to October showed a variation of -0.4%.

- The National Urban CPI presented an interannual variation of -0.7%.
- The CPI in the districts of Panama and San Miguelito reflected an interannual variation of -0.7%.
- The CPI in the Urban Rest recorded an interannual variation of -0.6%.
- The National Urban CPI is set at 104.8.

Groups that reflected decreases in the National Urban CPI for October, compared to September 2019 were: Food and non-alcoholic beverages with 0.3%; Alcoholic beverages and tobacco, and Restaurants and hotels both with 0.2%; Furniture, household items and for ordinary household preservation, and Health both with 0.1%.

The withdrawal presented in the Food and non-alcoholic beverages group was due to the decrease reflected in seven of its eleven classes.

The greatest variation was in the "Vegetables-Vegetables" class with 1.1%, due to the decrease in the price of legumes. The Alcoholic beverages and tobacco group showed a reduction in two of its four classes, "Beer" with 0.5%, and "Wine" with 0.4%.

The decrease observed in the group Restaurants and hotels was due to the decrease in one of its two classes, "Restaurants, cafes and similar establishments" with 0.2%, due to the decrease in the price of alcoholic beverages outside the home

The group Furniture, household items and for ordinary household preservation showed reduction in four of its eleven classes.

The class with the greatest variation was "Home textile products" with 0.6%, due to the decrease in the price of bed linen and shower curtain.

The Health group reflected low in three of its seven classes. The greatest variation was in the class "Artifacts and therapeutic equipment" with 0.8%, due to the reduction in the price of the lenses.

The Garments and Footwear groups; Housing, water, electricity and gas; Communications; Recreation and culture, and Education remained unchanged.

Groups that presented increases were: Transportation with 0.2%, and Miscellaneous goods and services with 0.1%. The increase reflected in the Transportation group was due to the increase recorded in two of its seven classes. The class with the greatest variation is "Fuel and lubricants for personal transport equipment" with 1.1%, due to the increase in the price of automobile fuel and engine oil.

The increase observed in the Miscellaneous goods and services group was due to the rise in two of its ten classes, "Other appliances, articles and products for personal attention" and "Jewelry, wall clocks and wristwatches" both with 0.3%. The increase presented in the class "Other appliances, articles and products for personal care" was due to the increase in the price of other personal care products, and "Jewelry, wall clocks and wrist watches" due to the increase in jewelry price.

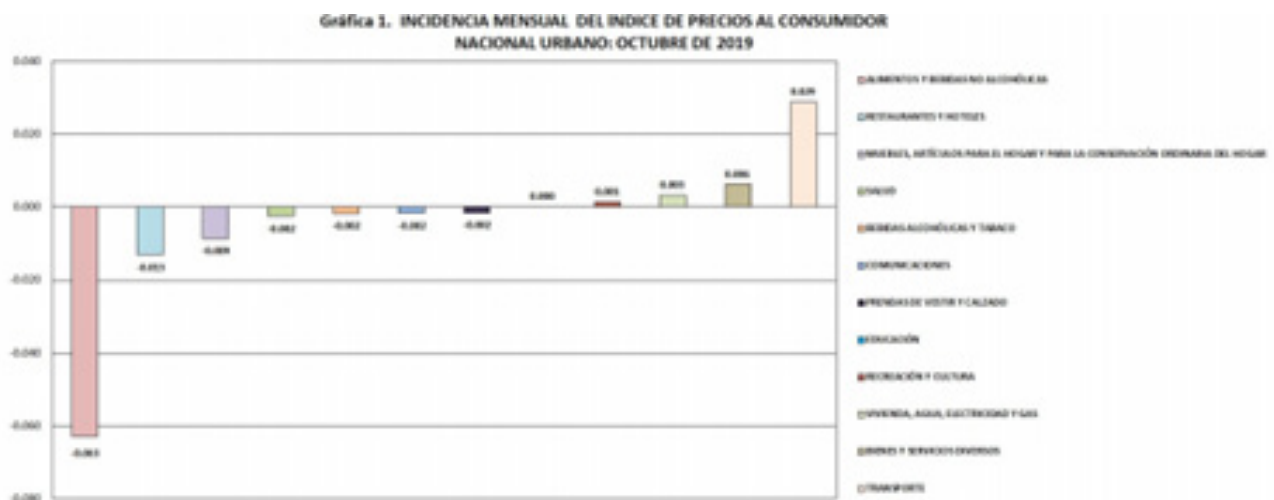
- The National Urban CPI of October 2019 regarding

its 2018 similar reflected a variation of -0.7%.

When comparing the National Urban CPI of October 2019, with its similar of 2018, the following decreases were observed: Transportation 4.7%; Furniture, household items and for ordinary household preservation, and Communications both 1.2%; Alcoholic beverages and tobacco, Clothing and footwear, and Recreation and culture all 0.4%; and Housing, water, electricity and gas 0.3%.

The groups that presented increases were: Restaurants and hotels 1.2%; Health 1.0%; Education 0.7%; Food and non-alcoholic beverages 0.5%; and Miscellaneous goods and services 0.3%.

Below, graph with the monthly incidence by group of the National Urban CPI of October 2019:



Incidence: Corresponds to the contribution of each group with respect to the total variation of the National Urban Index, therefore, the sum of the incidents results in the variation of the index. *L&E*

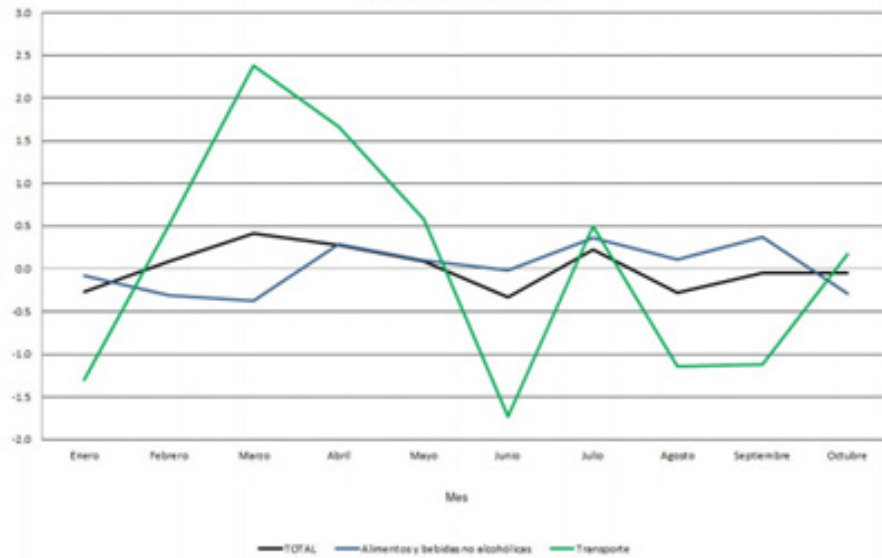
**CUADRO 1. INCIDENCIA Y VARIACIÓN PORCENTUAL MENSUAL DEL ÍNDICE DE PRECIOS AL CONSUMIDOR NACIONAL URBANO, SEGÚN GRUPO DE ARTÍCULOS Y SERVICIOS: OCTUBRE DE 2019
BASE 2013=100**

Grupo de artículos y servicios	Ponderaciones	Incidencia	Variación mensual
TOTAL	100.0	-0.1	-0.1
Alimentos y bebidas no alcohólicas	22.4	-0.063	-0.3
Bebidas alcohólicas y tabaco	0.7	-0.002	-0.2
Prendas de vestir y calzado	7.7	-0.002	0.0
Vivienda, agua, electricidad y gas	8.5	0.003	0.0
Muebles, artículos para el hogar y para la conservación ordinaria del hogar	7.8	-0.009	-0.1
Salud	3.4	-0.002	-0.1
Transporte	16.8	0.029	0.2
Comunicaciones	4.3	-0.002	0.0
Recreación y cultura	9.7	0.001	0.0
Educación	2.4	0.000	-
Restaurantes y hoteles	6.7	-0.013	-0.2
Bienes y servicios diversos	9.8	0.006	0.1

- Cantidad nula o cero.

0.0 Cuando la cantidad es menor a la mitad de la unidad o fracción decimal adoptada para la expresión del dato.

Gráfica 2. EVOLUCIÓN DEL ÍNDICE DE PRECIOS AL CONSUMIDOR NACIONAL URBANO TOTAL, ALIMENTOS Y BEBIDAS NO ALCOHÓLICAS Y TRANSPORTE: ENERO-OCTUBRE DE 2019



CUADRO 2. EVOLUCIÓN DEL ÍNDICE DE PRECIOS AL CONSUMIDOR NACIONAL URBANO, SEGÚN GRUPO DE ARTÍCULOS Y SERVICIOS: ENERO-OCTUBRE DE 2019

Grupo de artículos y servicios	Variación porcentual mensual									
	2019									
	Enero	Febrero	Marzo	Abril	Mayo	Junio	Julio	Agosto	Septiembre	Octubre
TOTAL	-0.3	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.1	-0.3	0.2	-0.3	0.0	-0.1
Alimentos y bebidas no alcohólicas	-0.1	-0.3	-0.4	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.1	0.4	-0.3
Bebidas alcohólicas y tabaco	0.7	0.2	1.5	0.7	0.1	0.0	0.1	-1.1	0.2	-0.2
Prendas de vestir y calzado	0.1	-0.2	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.0
Vivienda, agua, electricidad y gas	-0.8	0.2	0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Muebles, artículos para el hogar y para la conservación ordinaria del hogar	0.0	0.3	0.1	-0.4	-0.1	0.0	-0.2	-0.5	0.1	-0.1
Salud	0.1	0.0	0.5	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	-0.1
Transporte	-1.3	0.5	2.4	1.7	0.6	-1.7	0.5	-1.1	-1.1	0.2
Comunicaciones	-0.1	-0.3	0.7	-0.1	0.0	-0.9	0.0	0.0	-0.2	0.0
Recreación y cultura	-	0.2	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	-0.1	-	0.0
Educación	-0.3	1.0	0.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Restaurantes y hoteles	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	-0.2	0.4	-0.2
Bienes y servicios diversos	0.0	-0.1	0.3	-0.1	-0.1	0.2	0.0	-0.3	0.2	0.1

- Cantidad nula o cero.

0.0 Cuando la cantidad es menor a la mitad de la unidad o fracción decimal adoptada para la expresión del dato.

World ECONOMY



IT IS PRECISE TO INCREASE ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND SUPERVISION CAPACITY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO IMPROVE BANK SYSTEMS

Source: World Bank

A decade after the global financial crisis, developing countries have increased the minimum capital requirements to promote the resilience of banking systems. However, they still do not offer sufficient access to information and lack the supervisory capacity necessary to maintain the proper functioning of the banking sector, according to a new World Bank report.

The report, entitled The Global Financial Development Report 2019/2020: Bank Regulation and Supervision a Decade after the Global Financial Crisis, a decade after the global financial crisis, is based on data

and analysis collected over ten years to show the evolution of the two normative pillars (market discipline and capital regulation) since the crisis. New data from the Bank Regulation and Supervision Survey, a World Bank database, one of a kind, covering regulation and supervision in 160 countries around the world, have been made available to the public.

After the crisis, much of the review of regulatory reforms focused on advanced economies, while there is a lack of evidence on reforms undertaken by developing countries and their impact on the stability

and lending practices of local banking sectors. The report aims to address this knowledge deficit and contribute to the analysis of banking regulation and supervision policies - what are the rules of the game and how they are applied - which are decisive in all countries to make banking systems work well.

“A correct environment in terms of regulation and supervision is essential to create a financial system that can both attract private capital and harmonize private incentives with the public good,” said lead author of the report, Asli Demirgüç-Kunt, chief economist at the World Bank for Europe and Central Asia. “The report shows that there is no valid recipe for everyone, and less complex regulations can result in more effective application and better supervision in developing countries.”.

It is also noted that, in low-income countries, capital ratios are particularly high, which is encouraging, since capital can be important to limit risks and ensure stability where supervisory capacity is scarce. More than 60% of low-income countries also have an explicit deposit guarantee system. This implies that the design and implementation will be crucial, since the guarantee of deposits can lead to instability when the institutional frameworks are weak. The report emphasizes that regulations must be devised taking into account the institutional environment, supervisory capacity and business model of a country's banks.

Worldwide, banking regulation became more complex after the crisis, which could have reduced transparency, increased regulatory arbitrage and imposed a heavy burden on resources and supervisory capacity. The report analyzes two key pillars of regulatory reforms:

Market discipline can contribute to financial stability, but the crisis exposed serious failures. In the last decade, almost 30 countries introduced laws that allow resolution of large financial institutions without resorting to bailouts financed by taxpayers in case of crisis. However, there are still serious deficiencies. Little has been done to improve the dissemination of information on the health of banks. Deposit guarantee systems have also grown tremendously. If designed and managed poorly, these mechanisms may further encourage banks to take risks, which can lead to instability, particularly in environments with inadequate supervision.

Capital regulation is also essential to manage risk. Data collected from 20,000 banks in 159 countries reveal that regulatory capital ratios - the relationship between capital and risk-weighted assets held by a bank - have improved since the financial crisis. However, this trend has been largely driven by a shift towards lower risk weighted asset categories, which may not adequately reflect real-world risk and could leave the financial sector vulnerable during a crisis. *L&E*



NACIONES UNIDAS

CEPAL

ECONOMIC GROWTH PROJECTIONS FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Source: ECLAC

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) revised downward projections of growth of economic activity of region for 2019, year in which an average expansion of 0.1% in Latin America and the Caribbean is expected.

By 2020, meanwhile, the agency projects the region to continue on a path of low growth, with an estimated expansion of gross domestic product (GDP) of 1.4%. This would be seven years in which Latin America and the Caribbean would remain located in a low-growth plateau, which has in turn translated into a deterioration in average per capita income levels. The per capita GDP of the region would be reduced by 4% between 2014-2019, which implies an annual average drop of -0.8%.

The slowdown in the growth rate is extended to most Latin American economies (17 of 20 countries) in

2019. This year the economies of South America, specializing in the production of primary goods, especially oil, minerals, and Food would fall by -0.2%, the first drop since 2016. In 2020, growth in this subregion is expected to be 1.3% on average.

For the economies of Central America and Mexico, meanwhile, an expansion rate of 0.7% is expected for 2019 and 1.6% for 2020, values that imply a reduction with respect to the average growth rate observed since 2014 in This subregion.

For the English or Dutch-speaking Caribbean, an average growth of 1.5% is estimated for 2019, and the expected rate for 2020 is 5.7%. It is worth noting that this latest figure is greatly influenced by the high growth expected for Guyana, linked to the beginning of oil production that would take place next year, says ECLAC.

According to the United Nations regional commission, the dynamics of economic activity in Latin America and the Caribbean take place in a context in which the global economy has reduced its contribution to the growth of the region in 2019, a situation that will most likely be maintained for next year.

Not only have the volume of global trade and the level of global activity been decelerating sharply - affecting the demand for exports facing Latin America and the Caribbean - but the prices of raw materials have also been affected that export many of the countries in the region. In addition, episodes of increases in financial volatility influenced the financial conditions and financing flows available to countries negatively at times, the agency adds.

In view of this external context characterized by commercial tensions and high uncertainty, the difficulties that the economies of the region tend to exhibit in the area of trade and trade are compounded, ECLAC warns.

The weaknesses of the global economy lead to the components of domestic demand having a greater relative weight in the dynamics of future growth. To the difficulties faced by the economies of the region to expand the policy space - both fiscal and monetary -, there is a growing demand for structural changes to face the deep inequalities that remain in the region, the Commission finally indicates. *L&E*

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nuestro**

twitter
@rbcabogados

The advertisement is enclosed in a dotted blue border. It features a large blue Twitter bird logo in the center. Below the logo, the word 'twitter' is written in a blue, lowercase, sans-serif font. Underneath that, the handle '@rbcabogados' is written in a blue, lowercase, sans-serif font. At the bottom of the advertisement, there are four hands holding smartphones, each with a different colored sleeve (red, teal, purple, and yellow). The background of the advertisement is white with several faint, light blue Twitter bird icons scattered around.



IDB LAUNCHES REPORT TO GIVE TO KNOW BENEFITS OF THE VIDEO GAME INDUSTRY

Source: IDB

New report "Video games are not a game", from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) seeks to highlight the talent and economic and social impact of the videogame industry. This industry, had an annual growth twice as much as that of the automotive industry in 2017, allowing it to position itself among the most attractive segments for the creation of new qualified jobs in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Currently, the region ranks second after Asia in terms of video game sector growth. In addition, in the last five years it experienced a growth of 56%, tripling the projected profits for the film industry.

However, its impact is not widely known or exploited.

Video games intertwine new technologies and art to develop sophisticated products, often for export. This has allowed the generation of thousands of jobs and multi-million-dollar profits, which is benefiting the entire region.

"Today, this industry enjoys one of the highest growths in the history of entertainment and represents an opportunity to put Latin America's talent on the global map. However, this will only happen if we implement the business and technological infrastructure that

allows us to develop the production necessary to compete in international markets,” says Alejandra Luzardo, IDB’s leading Innovation specialist.

Also, video games work as a tool to raise public awareness about social problems, inform and even educate. “The incorporation of gamification in educational processes allows attracting the young population, retaining their attention and interest. In addition, it can help them develop certain key skills for the 21st century. That is why some countries have already begun to include computational thinking, programming and robotics in the educational curriculum and to use video games not only as a tool to facilitate learning but also to measure skills,” explains Mercedes Mateo, IDB’s leading education specialist.

In the region there are hundreds of firms that are promoting development through video games. In this report, which analyzed more than 350 videogames, you will be able to know some of the most successful Latin American and Caribbean studies, market trends and some of the most outstanding products to understand the potential of the industry and its impact. *L&E*

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página de**



**Rivera, Bolívar y
Castañedas**



LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN EXPORTS WILL FALL 2.0% IN 2019 DUE TO THE INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT COMPLEX

Source: ECLAC

The pronounced slowdown that world trade in goods has suffered in this decade, and that has deepened since late 2018, will negatively affect the performance of Latin American and Caribbean foreign trade in 2019, ECLAC notes in a new annual report given to meet today in Mexico City, at a press conference headed by its Executive Secretary, Alicia Bárcena.

According to the regional agency of the United Nations, a fall in the value of regional exports and imports of goods of -2.0% and -3.0%, respectively, is projected for 2019, in the midst of a complex international context characterized by the worsening of commercial tensions, lower world demand, increasing import substitution by national production in some economies, the lower proportion of Chinese production destined for export, the decline in global value chains and the emergence of new technologies that cause an impact on the very nature of commerce, among other factors. In its report on International Trade Outlook for Latin America and the Caribbean 2019, the Economic

Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) indicates that regional commercial performance shows significant heterogeneity by subregions. South America would experience a contraction in the value of its shipments of -6.7%, much higher than the regional average. This is influenced by the economic stagnation that the subregion is going through - with a growth projection of just 0.2% in 2019, which negatively affects intra-regional trade - and the high weight of commodities in its export basket, several of which they have registered falls in their prices. Only three South American countries (Argentina, Ecuador and Uruguay) are projected to increase the value of their shipments in 2019, driven by increases in the volumes exported from their commodities.

Unlike South America, in 2019 Central America, the Caribbean and Mexico will register increases in the value of their exports (2.6%, 3.7% and 2.8% respectively). This reflects its lower dependence on commodities

and its greater commercial relationship with the United States, whose demand for imports has shown greater resilience than that of the other main export markets in the region. In particular, Mexico has benefited from the opportunities to replace Chinese products in the United States market and during 2019 it has become the most important trading partner of that country. Meanwhile, the report indicates that weak demand in a regional context of very low growth has hit especially intra-regional trade. Its value is projected to contract almost -10% in 2019, in contrast to shipments to the rest of the world, whose value would have a variation close to 0%. "This is especially serious given that intra-regional trade has a manufacturing component that is much higher than that of exports to other markets, and also because of its great importance for exporting SMEs," the document explains..

"This panorama forces us to rethink the strategies of international insertion of the region and to put greater efforts in promoting intra-regional trade," said Alicia Bárcena in the presentation.

In *Perspectives of International Trade in Latin America and the Caribbean 2019*, ECLAC also analyzes the contribution of trade to environmental sustainability. According to the report, international trade and its associated production have both positive and negative impacts on climate change. Also, their respective regulatory frameworks are interdependent.

He adds that the carbon footprint of exports from countries in the region intensive in natural resources is similar to that of other countries with a comparable export profile. In addition, in the seven countries of the region where this information is available, the carbon footprint of exports (associated with the use of fossil fuels) was reduced between 2005 and 2015, the last year with available information.

"Except in the Caribbean, few countries in the region have incorporated trade measures into their strategies to mitigate climate change. In the case of contributions determined at the national level (CRC) of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, trade-related elements are limited," explains the report.

In its third chapter, the document examines the situation of infrastructure and logistics, key aspects for international trade, production and regional integration. It identifies a series of weaknesses in this field, as an important infrastructure gap, which is the result of sustained low investment in recent decades; institutional and regulatory failures that affect competition, facilitation and trade; and lack of integrality in policies, which deepens territorial inequalities and does not adequately address negative externalities (environmental and social). ECLAC has estimated that to close the regional infrastructure gap, 6% of GDP should be invested annually between 2016 and 2030. This contrasts with the amount invested in a group of six countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru), whose average level of investment has been below 2% of GDP during this century. The gap is especially important in the transport sector, where the level of investment would need to be tripled to meet the expected growth of the population and the economy.

The report concludes that in order to advance progressive structural change and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), an integrated approach to logistics and mobility policies with other public policies, such as productive development, financing, social development and integration, is required. territorial and cross-border. This represents an effort of high complexity, but a certain opportunity for the fulfillment of the 2030 Agenda. *L&E*



FISHING NEEDS A NEW VISION FOR THE GROWING CONCERN ABOUT THE STATE OF THE OCEANS

Source: FAO

Fishing faces an important crossroads and the world needs a new vision of fishing activity in the 21st century. This was the main message of the Director-General of FAO, Qu Dongyu, at the inauguration of the International Symposium on fisheries sustainability (November 18-21).

With a world population that will reach almost 10 billion people in 2050, the land alone will not feed us; We also need food production of aquatic origin. But we must do it without compromising the health of the oceans and rivers. And at the same time improving the social conditions of those who depend on fisheries, which are often the poorest in society, said the Director General of FAO.

Millions of people around the world depend on fish for

food and for their livelihood. One person consumes 20.3 kg (average per capita figure) of good quality protein and essential micronutrients of fish every year. Worldwide, more than one in ten people depend on fishing for a living and feed their families.

But the state of the oceans is a matter of serious concern due to plastic pollution, the effects of climate change, habitat degradation and overfishing. One in three marine fish populations is overexploited - compared to only one in ten about 40 years ago - while the growing demand for freshwater fish is affecting the sustainability of inland fisheries.

FAO has observed a worrying trend: fisheries in developed regions are increasingly sustainable: fish stocks are rebuilt and conditions of workers

in the sector are improved, but fisheries in developing regions don't improve so quickly.

"This is creating a dangerous sustainability gap. We have to reverse this trend if we want to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals," said the head of FAO.

Oceans, seas, rivers and lakes as a solution

The FAO Director-General proposed three solutions to make fishing more sustainable:

First, reinvest in marine and freshwater sustainability programs.

Second, invest in the sustainable growth of the oceans. The FAO Blue Growth Initiative, for example, is based on the balance of ecological, social and economic principles. The development of industries such as aquaculture is beneficial to the needs of the planet.

And third, ensure that adequate protection measures are combined with effective management, including better addressing food waste in the fishing industry.

"We need more political will and more resources to achieve it. Let's not leave any region of oceans behind in our quest for sustainability. If we focus our science, our innovative spirit, our technologies, we will secure and protect one of the oldest

food industries and less valued. We need to aim high and act concretely!", concluded Qu. *"Let us treat the ocean with the respect it deserves, and it will forgive our stupidities, and it will recover and do what it has always done in the past: to be the great provider of life on planet Earth,"* said Peter Thomson, Envoy UN special for the Oceans, at the opening of the symposium.

Thomson stressed that four of the ten goals of Sustainable Development Goal 14 (SDG 14) expire in 2020, *"so we have to do everything we can to achieve them."*

To control illegal fishing and ensure that the fourth goal of SDG 14 is met in 2020, Thomson urged countries that haven't yet signed the FAO Port State Agreement (PSMA) To do it. He also asked consumers to demand guarantees in restaurants and supermarkets that they are not receiving stolen products when they buy seafood.

Finally, the Special Envoy of the UN Secretary General for the Oceans highlighted the importance of 2020, calling it "the year in which we will create a new agreement with nature", since the following events will take place: the Conference of the United Nations on the Oceans, to expand activities related to the oceans, the United Nations Conference on Biological Diversity, to establish the biodiversity framework after 2020, the World Conservation Congress of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the United Nations Summit on Climate Change (COP26), in which the parties to the Paris Agreement must give

an international response to the climate emergency.

Tijjani Muhammad Bande, President of the United Nations General Assembly, sent a video message in support of the symposium.

Speakers of the opening ceremony also included: Michael Pintard, Minister of Agriculture and Marine Resources of Bahamas; Harald Tom Nesvik, Minister of Fisheries of Norway; Ricardo Serrão Santos, Minister of the Sea of Portugal; Mona Mehrez, Deputy Minister of Agriculture of Egypt; and Rebecca Jayne Argo, Alaskan fisherwoman.

Increase in the consumption and trade of fish and other facts and figures

In a technical intervention at the beginning of the Symposium, FAO Deputy Director General for Fisheries and Aquaculture, Manuel Barange, highlighted the following aspects:

- While the human population has been growing at a rate of 1.5 percent annually since 1960, the consumption of animal proteins has grown at a rate of 2.5 percent, and that of fish at 3 percent.

- In 2017, fishing provided 173 million tons of fishery products, 153 million for direct human consumption, that is, seven times more than in 1950.

- Fishery products are one of the most

commercialized food products, surpassing the food trade of all land animals combined. In 2017, exports of fishery products reached a record US \$ 156 billion.

- Since the mid-1970s, developing countries have increased their net commercial fish profits from almost zero to more than US \$ 40 billion annually.

- Fish is especially important in countries with food deficits. Of the 30 nations that consume the most fish, 17 are low-income countries with food deficits, mostly in Africa, Asia and Oceania.

- About 95 percent of people who depend on fishing as a livelihood live in Africa and Asia. The vast majority of them are small-scale fishers who struggle to make a living with one of the toughest and most dangerous professions. In 2019, commercial fishing was rated as the second profession with the highest mortality rate in the world.

“The new frontier of the sector is to address the social dimension of fishing value chains: from decent working conditions and human rights-based approaches, to access to health and social services, among other aspects. We need to ensure the social sustainability and social responsibility in all fish value chains,” said Barange.^{L&E}



Organización
Internacional
Del Trabajo

AGREEMENT NO. 1: A MILESTONES WORKERS RIGHTS

Source: ILO

Regardless of where we work and activity we do, “working hours” is an aspect that affects all of us. However, few people know that the limitation of the number of hours during which we work has its origins in the adoption of the first International Labor Standard of the ILO, namely the Working Hours (Industry) Convention, 1919 (No. 1).

Before the outbreak of the war in 1914, the limitation of working hours, in particular the eight-hour workday, had been one of the main demands of the trade union movement worldwide.

Once the war was over, and following the establishment of the International Labor Organization

in the framework of the Treaty of Versailles, he again addressed this issue, due to large-scale labor unrest that threatened to spread in several countries. In the Constitution of the ILO, included in Article 427 of the aforementioned Treaty, the declaration that “the objective of approving as a norm a working day of 8 hours or a week of 48 hours in cases where it is not yet would have implanted a “particular” and pressing importance “.

Only a few months later, this issue was addressed on the agenda of the First Meeting of the International Labor Conference (ILC), which was held in Washington from October to November 1919. At the end of that Conference, the beginning

of the eight-hour workday had been embodied in the first Convention that was approved, namely the Working Hours (Industry) Convention of 1919.

Given that the eight-hour workday had been rejected several years earlier because it wasn't possible or viable due to international competition, the approval of Convention No. 1 constituted a breakthrough; the trade union movement had achieved its main objective to be recognized internationally: the eight-hour workday.

However, the ratification of Convention No. 1 by the ILO member states was not as broad as expected by Albert Albert, the first Director of the ILO. The Great Depression caused employers to be reluctant to defray higher labor costs. On the other hand, in several Member States and in certain sectors of the trade union movement, in particular in Germany and the United Kingdom, it was considered that the most effective method of reducing the number of hours of work should be based on union action and collective bargaining, not in legislation. Even today, only 46 of the 187 ILO member states have ratified the aforementioned Convention.

However, despite the few ratifications of member states, Convention No. 1 has contributed significantly to promoting the eight-hour workday.

Only four countries had approved the eight-hour day in their legislation before 1919, namely, Cuba, in 1909; Panama, in 1914; Uruguay, in 1915 and Ecuador, in 1916. In the period of time between the Armistice signed in November 1918 and the preparation of the

draft preparatory report for the ILC that took place in Washington, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Spain, France, Italy, Norway, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal and Switzerland had enacted legislation, of varying scope, aimed at implementing an eight-hour workday.

The 8-hour workday was also widespread in the United Kingdom and the United States; in the United Kingdom, the workday of more than 4 million workers of the 12 million people who constituted the labor force of that country, was reduced to eight hours, and in the United States, the number of workers whose labor agreement began to be governed for an eight-hour workday, it went from 172,000 in 1915 to 1.14 million in 1918.

Albert Thomas noted that "in 1918 and 1919, the 8-hour day had been implemented in most industrialized countries, through collective agreements or legislative measures."

In 1922, the 48-hour work week was common in Europe, particularly in the industrial sector, as well as in Australia, New Zealand and many Latin American countries. The duration of the workday had also been significantly reduced in Japan and India.

It is clear from the analysis of those early years that the ILO and its Convention no. 1 have been key to achieving the eight-hour workday, by standardizing and promoting that labor policy and achieving its widespread application. At present, the eight-hour workday is the norm in many countries.*L&E*

Environmental CAPSULE



CONSERVATION AND HANDLING OF HYDROGRAPHIC BASINS IN PANAMA

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In recent days, the First National Symposium on Agricultural Management, the First National Symposium on Watershed Management, was held in the Auditorium of the Harmodio Arias Campus of the University of Panama.

At the Symposium was the Minister of Environment, Milcíades Concepción, who said that the greatest damage we do to the environment in our country is the deforestation of forests illegally without any control.

As indicated by the current administration, it is controlling deforestation through **Community-Based Organizations (CBOs)**, which consist of a work tool offered by the Ministry of Environment, to improve the quality of life of the most vulnerable communities in our country and achieve sustainable community development in protected areas.

The CBOs have legal status granted by the Ministry

of Environment, is registered in the Public Registry and is a great ally to monitor and protect watersheds. Logging without permits is an environmental crime. Permits have never been granted for clearcutting, 90% of the forests that have been lost are illegal logging, said Minister Concepcion.

He added that the management of river basins begins with compliance with environmental standards, citizen participation has to be involved, we require the support of the inhabitants of the country as environmental guards.

Similarly, the Wet Tropic Water Center for Latin America and the Caribbean (CATHALAC), Conagua, CATIE, Panama Canal Authority (ACP), IICA, Technological University of Panama, among other national and international experts were present.

On behalf of CATIE, Dr. Jorge Faustino participated with his presentation on the experiences of watershed

management in Central America and Panama.

Challenges are faced by 2030 to ensure the generation of ecosystem goods and services in the basin and to address them we must work on the following:

1. Water security mainly for human use.
2. Improve agricultural and forestry production (irrigation, intensification).
3. Ensure the generation of ecosystem goods and services in the basin.
4. River basin restoration (vegetation, soil, biodiversity)
5. Risk management for hydrometeorological disasters.
6. Management of urban basins.

CATIE has managed programs for watershed management and water resources, watershed planning, soil conservation and agroforestry disaster prevention, water harvesting, among others in countries such as Costa Rica, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Peru, Ecuador and Panama, he said. Dr. Faustino.

For Dr. Faustino, the event becomes an opportunity to highlight the advances and institutional challenges in addressing basin work.

He finished his presentation indicating some conclusions on the aforementioned topic, among which are indicated:

- Watershed management is still treated as an isolated and sectoral discipline, when in reality it is a pattern of transversal tendency to all development activities that are deployed in a hydrographic territory.
- The organizations that design and implement

the plans and projects deal with the technical principles that govern river basin management, rural development and water resources management.

- Absence or insufficiency of policies and guidelines on watershed management, exceptions to national plans, strategies and mechanisms. Efforts to create and operate basin committees are excepted.

Next, Dr. Gerardo Escudero, on behalf of IICA, explained that he started indicating that Panama has one of the largest water resources and we do not value it, nature is practically being sold.

Panama can't continue producing food in the same way that it has been done, supported by intensive agricultural techniques, chemical inputs and mechanization, we need to change to a more integrated approach to sustainability, said Dr. Escudero.

Some technologies that will be at the forefront during the next few years:

1. Organic agriculture.
2. Vertical agriculture and controlled environment.
3. The best irrigation techniques, management and water management.
4. The use of solar energy and alternative sources, among others.

Then Dr. Roberto Quiroz introduced himself with the topic of Climate Change and food production: challenges, strategies and measurements required for efficient and sustainable use of water.

Global warming (rains and droughts), water deficits, vulnerable crops are some factors that decrease yield and increase the cost of food production.

Water is wasted due to bad practices and improper handling. We must ask ourselves more frequently, how much water do we need? indicated Dr. Quiroz.

Dr. Carlos Him spoke about the challenges and perspectives in watershed management in the face of climate change scenarios.

The increasing pressures towards water resources, soils, forests, wildlife, infrastructure, related goods and services, jeopardize the sustainability of natural resources and the ecosystem services associated with them. This is a challenging scenario in which changes in land use for the execution of development projects without a coherent territorial planning have been creating negative impacts on river basins throughout the region, said Dr. Him.

On behalf of CONAGUA, Dr. Aaron Conte presented his presentation with the methodological approach for the preparation of feasibility studies on the construction of multipurpose reservoirs: La Villa River Basin, Los Santos.

The Rio La Villa River Basin has the following conditions:

- Concentrates a large number of human settlements in Herrera and Los Santos.
- Exploitation of predominantly agricultural and livestock land.
- Located in the Dry Arch where lower accumulated rainfall is recorded.
- Conflict between uses of human consumption and industrial agriculture.
- Effects of climate variability and deforestation generate depletion of river flows and water sources.
- Increased exploitation of sources.

Reservoirs require a soil analysis to analyze the feasibility of building them. The goal is water for socioeconomic growth, said Dr. Conte.

Finally, we can conclude that the Symposium had the participation of national and international exhibitors with a high level of knowledge and experiences, all with the mission of transmitting the importance of management and conservation for the strengthening of hydrographic basins in a strategic alliance of all that we have the responsibility to care for and conserve water to face the effects of climate change.

We have great challenges as a society, such as:

1. The Population and Housing Census 2020 will indicate the population of Panama's current population and give us a perspective of the required demand for water and population growth projections.
2. Update and optimization of the hydrological and meteorological network nationwide.
3. Establish a nationwide groundwater monitoring network.
4. Formalization of illegal users of water resources at the national level.
5. Promote research and capacity development within the Ministry of Environment.

We must develop technical actions to meet the sustainable development goals of our country. *L&E*



SCIENTIFIC CAPSULE

INFECTION WITH LATENT TUBERCULOSIS



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On October 29, we had the opportunity to participate in the **ENADES (National Meeting of Sustainable Development)** program, which aims to open and energize a multi-actor, multi-level, multi-disciplinary dialogue space for the implementation of the Agenda in Panama 2030 for Sustainable Development approved by the UN General Assembly. Within the area of innovation and entrepreneurship, Dr. Amador Goodrigde (researcher at INDICASAT AIP) participated, who presented his research work on issues related to human and animal tuberculosis.

We request Dr. Goodrigde, authorize us to publish part of his research in the field of tuberculosis in Panama, which we will transcribe below.

OVERWEIGHT, OBESITY AND ADVANCED AGE PROVIDE INFECTION WITH LATENT TUBERCULOSIS BETWEEN DOMESTIC CONTACTS IN ENVIRONMENTS

OF LOW INCIDENCE OF TUBERCULOSIS IN PANAMA. Summary

Latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI) remains the main source of new cases of active tuberculosis (TB) worldwide. Close household contacts (HCC) are at high risk of acquiring LTBI and the subsequent development of tuberculosis. In this study, our objective is to identify the risk factors associated with LTBI in the HCC of patients with tuberculosis living in a low incidence of tuberculosis. Our results revealed that HCCs who are over 50 years of age (OR 4.05) and overweight (OR 15.3) have a higher risk of acquiring LTBI. None of these LTBI household contacts progressed to active tuberculosis. These findings suggest that HCCs who are young adults and children with a normal and low body mass index are less likely to acquire LTBI after exposure to patients with tuberculosis, even in environments with low incidence of tuberculosis..

Tuberculosis (TB) is considered a global health problem due to its high prevalence and morbidity and mortality rates. According to WHO, in 2017, 10.4 million people became ill with tuberculosis and 1.8 million died from this disease. More than 95% of deaths from tuberculosis occur in low and middle-income countries, and tuberculosis remains leading cause of death in people infected with HIV. Unfortunately, a quarter of world's population suffers from a latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI). The vast majority of these cases of LTBI are not aware of their infection status, and 10% progress to active disease if left untreated. Consequently, understanding the risk factors for the progression of LTBI and disease remains key to ending the global epidemic. Interferon gamma release assays (IGRA) and tuberculin skin tests (TST) have been proposed to identify people with LTBI in high-income countries with low incidence of tuberculosis.

Both tests are based on the adaptive immune response to *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* Derivatives. A worldwide effort is being made to identify new biomarker tests for the diagnosis of LTBI and disease progression. Despite its usefulness for the monitoring and diagnosis of LTBI, the results of IGRA and TST are infected by the high burden of tuberculosis worldwide.

In fact, WHO has established differential guidelines for the management of LTBI in environments with low incidence of tuberculosis. Therefore, the identification of LTBI risk factors is essential for tuberculosis control even in regions with low tuberculosis burden. Our study aimed to determine the risk factors for acquiring LTBI among close household

contacts (HCC) of patients with tuberculosis in a low incidence of tuberculosis within Panama. Our findings suggest that older adults with a high body mass index (BMI) are more likely to acquire LTBI after exposure to tuberculosis patients with positive sputum smears. These patients with tuberculosis were treated with antituberculosis drugs for 6 months according to national guidelines. Close contacts of households living in the same house with tuberculosis patients with positive smears were invited to participate in our study. Those who provided written informed consent received a survey interview using a standardized questionnaire instrument. These HCC donated blood samples and were encouraged to report any disease within a period of 2 years. Only HIV-negative HCCs were included in our study. The study protocol was approved by the Board of Directors of the Social Insurance Fund Committee.

Five milliliters of blood were collected from each CCH participant. We analyze blood samples with the QuantiFERON-TB Gold In-Tube test (Cellestis Limited, Carnegie, Victoria, Australia) according to the manufacturer's instructions. All variables were described in percentages, and the comparison between the IGRA positive and IGRA-negative groups was completed using the exact Fischer test due to the small sample size. We use probabilities and 95% CI to test all possible associations between risk factors and IGRA status. All statistical tests were carried out using STATA v12.1 (StataCorp LLC, College Station, TX) and Microsoft Excel software (Microsoft Corporation, Redmond, WA).

A total of 61 HCH were recruited to participate in our study

during 2015. All participants approved and signed the consent / consent form. All participants were intimate HCC (they lived with patients during their treatment for a daily period of at least 6 hours). The province of Coclé had an average incidence of tuberculosis of 13.5 / 100,000 during the year of collection (2015) and two years of follow-up (2016-2017) (Figure 1). Therefore, we can state that the transmission of tuberculosis to HCCs occurred at home and not in schools, in the community or in the workplace. A total of four HCCs were excluded from the study:

one died naturally, two participants refused to complete the survey and one participant had respiratory symptoms not related to tuberculosis. The analysis of the characteristics of the HCC indicated an average family size of eight members, but 67% lived with more than five people per household. All HCCs lived in rural or semi-urban areas of multi-family housing, which means that household members shared common areas, such as kitchens, laundry rooms, and bathrooms with members of other households. **Table 1 shows the sociodemographic characteristics:**

TABLE 1
Description of the study population and univariate analysis of risk factors for latent tuberculosis infection

Characteristic	Total		QGTB+		QGTB-		OR	P-value*
	n	%	N	%	n	%		
Total	61	100	7	11.5	54	88.5	-	-
Age (years)								
≤ 9	17	27.9	0	0	17	100	Reference	-
10-19	19	31.1	0	0	19	100	NA	0.26
20-29	4	6.6	0	0	4	100	NA	0.1
30-39	8	13.1	2	25	6	75	8.3 (0.45-348.5)	0.08
40-49	6	9.8	1	16.7	5	83.3	5.2 (0.09-277.4)	0.19
≥ 50	7	11.5	4	57.1	3	42.9	29.5 (1.65-2,351)	0.01
Gender								
Male	24	39.3	3	12.5	21	87.5	1.18 (0.15-7.7)	> 0.99
Female	37	60.7	4	10.8	33	89.2	Reference	-
Education								
Elementary school or less	32	52.5	5	15.6	27	84.4	Reference	-
Middle school	19	31.1	2	10.5	17	89.5	0.64 (0.06-4.48)	0.95
High school or more	10	16.4	0	0	10	100	0.65 (0.01-7.30)	> 0.99
BMI†								
Underweight	8	13.1	0	0	8	100	2.7 (0.05-150.5)	0.27
Normal	22	36.1	0	0	22	100	Reference	-
Overweight	19	31.1	6	31.6	13	68.4	14.9 (1.23-972.3)	0.014
Obese	12	19.7	1	8.3	11	91.7	3.2 (0.03-327.4)	0.53
Living in overcrowded conditions								
Yes	52	85.2	4	7.7	48.0	92.3	0.17 (0.02-1.47)	0.07
No	9	14.8	3	33.3	6.0	66.7	Reference	-
BCG scar								
Yes	57	93.4	4	7.0	53	93.0	0.03 (0.001-0.33)	0.004
No	4	6.6	3	75.0	1	25.0	Reference	-
Caregiver								
Yes	17	27.9	3	17.6	14	82.4	2.14 (0.28-14.27)	0.39
No	44	72.1	4	9.1	40	90.9	Reference	-
Time of exposure								
≥ 12 hours/day	42	68.9	5	11.9	37	88.1	1.15 (0.17-13.1)	> 0.99
< 12 hours/day	19	31.1	2	10.5	17	89.5	Reference	-
Smear status of source case								
Positive	19	32.2	2	10.5	17	89.5	0.82 (0.07-5.71)	> 0.99
Negative	40	67.8	5	12.5	35	87.5	Reference	-

BCG = Bacillus Calmette-Guérin; BMI = body mass index; NA = not applicable; QGTB = quantiferon gold. Underweight: < 18.5 kg; normal: ≥ 18.5 kg and < 23 kg; overweight: ≥ 23 kg and < 27.5 kg; obese: ≥ 27.5 kg. Bold values resulted statistically significant at $P < 0.005$.

* Fisher exact test P -value (two-tailed).

† For ages 2-20 years, we used CDC growth charts for boys and girls.

The majority of patients (34 [56%]) were male. Of the contacts interviewed, 32 (52%) had completed primary school only; 27 (46%) identified as students and 17 (28%) identified as housewives. The 61 participants (100%) were Panamanians. The majority of the homes

described by the participants were made of cement blocks (53 [85%]), with the majority only one room. The degree of kinship between patients and contacts was mainly 1st or 2nd degree of consanguinity (62%). The IGRA test, QuantiFERON-TB-Gold, identified 11.5%

(7/61) of the HCC with LTBI, as shown in Table 1. By sex, the positive cases of LTBI accounted for 10.8% of female participants and 12.5% of male participants.

All participants were classified into six age groups. In LTBI risk factor analysis, we found that HCCs with more than 50 years had a significant OR of 29.5 (95% CI at 2.24-1.163). In this study, all LTBI positive HCCs were older than 30 years. The proportion of HCC LTBI positive was higher among group of participants with less primary education than in the groups with at least middle or secondary education.

Although the association between the educational level and LTBI was not significant among all HCCs, the trend showed that higher levels of education could be a potential protective factor against LTBI. The body mass index was calculated and used as a proxy for the nutritional status of adults. In the case of children, the BMI percentile tables for boys and girls for boys and girls developed by the CDC were used to classify HCCs as being underweight, normal, overweight or obese. When normal weight is used as a reference, we found that overweight significantly increased the risk of LTBI among HCC (OR 14.93, 95% CI at 1.57–483.3).

Meanwhile, the presence of a Bacillus Calmette-Guerin vaccine scar proved to be a protective factor against LTBI among HCC (OR = 0.029, 95% CI 0.001–0.33).

Almost 69% of participants reported being exposed to the case of origin for more than 12 hours a day and reported having been overcrowded; however, these were not identified as significant risk factors. Similarly, acid-rapid smear status of tuberculosis patient index was not related to LTBI status among the HCCs included in our study. Other health history information collected from the 61 HCC showed that all (100%) were non-smokers, and three patients (4.9%) had coexisting diseases.

When analyzed using a multivariable approach, age and overweight increased the risk of LTBI in HCC (Table 2). The aforementioned results revealed a LTBI prevalence of 11.5% among HCCs in the province of Coclé, Panama. This region has the lowest incidence rate of tuberculosis, so it is likely that HCCs were exposed to tuberculosis only in the country. Our study also found that obese, overweight and older HCCs have a higher risk of establishing LTBI.

TABLE 2
Exact logistic regression on risk factors for latent tuberculosis infection

Variables	OR	Suff	P-value	95% CI
Age (every 10 years)	4.05	37	0.0008	1.49–26.92
BMI (overweight)	15.29	6	0.04	1.09–1,065.75

BMI = body mass index; normal and underweight used as reference.

Recent systematic reviews have found that the opposite state of malnutrition, low BMI, didn't increase the performance of LTBI cases among domestic contacts. Others have indicated that malnutrition, in the form of excessive intake of excessive nutrient intake, could be a potential risk factor for LTBI. From the point of view of public health, obesity and overweight are risk factors for several other chronic diseases, including diabetes. Therefore, malnutrition should not only be considered for people with a low BMI (low weight).

Paradoxically, although obese adult HCCs are potentially more likely to harbor *M. tuberculosis* infection, but are less likely to progress to active tuberculosis. On the contrary, the control of body weight in obese adults could lead to the development of tuberculosis. Future studies should assess whether malnutrition (either as nutrient and energy deficiency) is related to LTBI.

It is also necessary to clarify whether obesity induces an exaggerated immune response to a mycobacterial challenge and, therefore, clearance of *M. tuberculosis* or a proinflammatory response, which may result in the establishment of LTBI and stop the progression of the disease. Due to the sample size of our study, we were unable to adjust the incidence of LTBI for concomitant chronic diseases.

The small number of participants prevents dividing them according to other risk factors. Our future plans include exploring the relationship between BMI and LTBI with the presence of other clinical conditions,

such as diabetes, kidney diseases, immunological disorders, HIV and autoimmune diseases, both in low and high incidence of tuberculosis.

None of the participants in our study developed secondary tuberculosis after 2 years of follow-up. Therefore, we could not estimate the operating room for developing secondary tuberculosis after reference LTBI. Further studies are conducted to investigate the role of overcrowding, exposure time, age and / or BMI in the development of secondary tuberculosis among overweight HCCs, especially in an environment of low incidence of tuberculosis.

In summary, our findings support the notion that young HCC with normal BMI are less likely to acquire LTBI after exposure to a positive patient with sputum smear tuberculosis. A plausible explanation is that the immune response in individuals with lower BMI and / or elderly is affected, and therefore IGRA tests are negatively affected. Therefore, the detection of LTBI among such an HCC group would result in minimal cases of LTBI.

However, more studies are warranted using a much larger sample size to confirm the role of obesity and age in the acquisition of LTBI, possibly using a logistic regression with backward analysis adjusting for other variables. For now, we recommend providing thorough follow-up with HCCs who are over 50 years of age and are overweight in settings with low incidence of tuberculosis. *L&E*

Illustrious PEOPLE

INDIRA GANDHI
(1917 - 1984)
FIRST AND ONLY WOMAN FIRST
MINISTER OF INDIA



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Indira Priyadarshini Gandhi was born on November 19, 1917 in New Delhi, was the daughter and political heiress of the Indian national hero, the descendant lawyer of a wealthy family in India, Jawaharlal Nehru.

Indira Gandhi grew up among the comforts offered by the family economic situation. Indira was educated

in prestigious schools and institutions in India, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. Indira Gandhi became the second person with the longest time to hold the position of Prime Minister of India (only surpassed by his father) 15 years exactly and is, until now, the only woman who has held that position in the history of India. After finishing her

education abroad, she returned to her native country, where she married Feroze Gandhi (from whom she took last name and who has no relationship with Mahatma Gandhi), with whom she had two children Sanjay and Rajiv Gandhi. However, continuous infidelities of her partner led her to progressive distancing that ended in abandonment, moving to

her father's residence and from then on becoming her confidant. This is how Indira Gandhi's approach to politics began.

She began her political life at an early age by entering the Indian National Congress (CNI) in 1938 and actively participated in the struggle for the independence of India, led by the legendary Mahatma Gandhi.

After independence of India in 1947, she became her father's political partner during the 17 years she remained in power. Indira's frequent appearances in political events, diplomatic trips, international and national events eventually made her a figure known to public and served as a basis for starting her own political career until in 1959 she is appointed head of Congress Party and begins Intervene more in politics.

In 1964, after the death of Jawaharlal Nehru, CNI politician Lal Bahadur Shastri assumed the position of Prime Minister of India with Indira Gandhi as Minister of Information and Broadcasting, a position in which she remained until 1973. It is then that in 1966, with the sudden death of Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri, the parliamentarians were left in the limbo of the leadership, before which, the heads and leaders of the different parties determined that the most convenient would be a docile leader, so, as far as they were concerned, the harmless Mrs. Gandhi would be the ideal option, recognized, renowned and linked to the portentous Nehru-Gandhi Dynasty. This is how she is appointed Prime Minister of India, but progressively the parliamentarians would discover how wrong they were, if they thought she would be a passive ruler.

In addition to the position of Prime Minister, she also held other positions as Minister of Foreign Affairs (1967-1969), Minister of Finance (1969-1970), Minister of Interior (1970-1973) and Minister of Defense (1975).

Gandhi took office at a critical moment in the country's history. The Indian-Pakistani war had begun a week before. The nation was in the middle of a two-year drought, resulting in severe food shortages and a deeper economic crisis with rising

inflation and unemployment. The political situation in India was equally affected. In the fourth general elections of 1967, Congress retained majority control (and re-elected Gandhi as its leader), but lost control in half of the state legislatures. After twenty years of political dominance, the Congress Party was experiencing serious difficulties.

The Indian-Pakistani War caused a massive immigration of population from Pakistan to India. Indira didn't stop mass immigration, but allowed them to enter India and maneuvered for their reception. This issue caused international tension to increase and the US government under administration of Richard Nixon considered Indira's actions irrational and irresponsible. But Indira knew very well what she was doing, she allowed refugees to continue arriving while at the same time making final arrangements to sign the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation with the Soviet Union, resulting in the political support of the other international giant and a Soviet veto at the UN, which left all countries out of action regarding the situation.

Indira prepared the Indian troops and with a total of 93,000 men deployed operations on eastern Pakistan, easily defeating the Pakistani armies and achieving with the popular support to install a new regime, freeing the territory with its military victory in 1971, thus being born Bangladesh, an "independent republic", but which was actually a satellite nation of India.

Indira Gandhi's victory granted her the status of heroin and definitively transformed her into a respected and popular prime minister. Her behavior had been impeccable and thanks to it India had not only shown the world its political and military potential but also its firmness. It was undoubtedly the best hour

of Indira in power, the only one in which everyone in India was completely and absolutely with her.

Ghandi later invited Pakistani President Zulfikar Ali Bhutto to Shimla for week-long summit. After almost bankruptcy of talks, the two heads of state finally signed Shimla Agreement, which united the two countries to resolve Kashmir dispute by peaceful means and negotiations. She was criticized by some for not making the Control Line (LoC) a permanent border, while some critics even believed that Kashmir, administered by Pakistan, should have been extracted from Pakistan, whose 93,000 prisoners of war were under Indian control. But in the agreement, interference of United Nations and third parties was immediately eliminated, and considerably reduced likelihood of Pakistan carrying out a major attack in near future.

The Special Agricultural Innovation Programs and the extra government support that were launched in the 1960s eventually transformed India's chronic food shortage into the production of surplus wheat, rice, cotton and milk. The success is mainly attributed to the workforce mostly from Sikh farmers in Panyab and instead of relying on humanitarian aid from the United States, India became a food exporting country.

This achievement, together with the diversification of its production of cash crops, has been known as the "Green Revolution"; At the same time, the White Revolution was an expansion in milk production, which helped to combat malnutrition, especially among young children. The program, called "Food Security," was another source of support for Gandhi in the years before 1975.

In response to the nuclear threat of People's Republic of China, Indira Gandhi initiated a national nuclear

program in 1967 in order to achieve national stability and security, independent of nuclear superpowers. By 1974, India successfully conducted an underground nuclear test, unofficially with code name "Smiling Buddha", near desert village of Pokhran in Rajasthan. The test was presented for peaceful purposes and India became youngest country at the time to use nuclear energy.

Her foreign policy also included a substantial distancing from the United States. In 1975 she declared the country in a state of emergency, censored criticism in the media, suspended the right to defense in courts of justice in the country, ordered mandatory sterilization and ruled by decree until 1977, at which time she called for new elections, which she lost against the Indian People's Party.

In 1975, on June 12, the Superior Court of Prayagraj declared Indira Gandhi's election vacant due to electoral fraud. The dismissal was triggered, following a petition filed by candidate Raj Narain, who had denounced her for several important charges, including the use of public resources to campaign. Thus, the Court ordered the dismissal of its seat in Parliament and was prohibited from participating in the elections for six years.

However, Gandhi rejected the waiver requests and announced plans to appeal to the Supreme Court. The verdict was pronounced by Mr. Sinha in the Superior Court of Justice of Prayagraj. Almost four years later, the case was brought by Raj Narain, the opponent defeated by Indira Gandhi in the 1971. Parliamentary elections, Gandhi, who testified in her defense during the trial, was found guilty of dishonest electoral practices, excessive electoral expenses, and of the use of machinery and government officials for their own use. The judge rejected the

most serious accusations of corruption against him.

Gandhi set out to restore order, ordering the arrest of the majority of the opposition involved in riots. Her cabinet and the government recommended that President Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed declare a state of emergency due to disorder and anarchy following the decision of the Superior Court of Prayagraj. Consequently, on June 26, 1975, Ahmed declared the state of emergency caused by the internal disorder, based on the provisions of article 352 of the Constitution. Through this act, civil liberties of citizens were suspended, the press was sharply censored and most of the opposition was arrested without trial. Throughout what is known as the "Kingdom of Terror," thousands of dissidents were imprisoned without due process.

After extending the state of emergency twice, in 1977 Indira Gandhi called for elections, to give the electorate the opportunity to claim their dominance. Gandhi could have misjudged her popularity immensely by reading what censored press wrote about her. In any case, Janata Party opposed. Janata, led by her old rival, Desai and with Jai Prakash Narayan as his spiritual guide, says elections were last chance for India to choose between "democracy and dictatorship." Indira Congress was defeated. Indira Gandhi and Sanjay both lost their seats, and Congress dropped to 153 seats (compared to 350 in last Lok Sabha), 92 of them in the south.

After the elections, Gandhi found herself without a job, income or residence. The Congress Party was divided during the 1977 election campaign: Gandhi's supporters, such as veteran Jagjivan Ram and his faithful Bahuguna Satpathy Nandini - very close to Indira - were forced to separate, due to politicization

and possibly created circumstances by Sanjay Gandhi. The main rumor was that Sanjay intended to evict Indira. The Congress Party was now a much smaller group in Parliament, despite official opposition.

Unable to govern due to conflicts of the rebel coalition, government minister Janata, Choudhary Charan Singh, ordered the arrest of Indira Gandhi and Sanjay on several charges, none of which would be easy to prove in an Indian court. The arrest meant that Indira Gandhi was automatically expelled from Parliament. These allegations included that Gandhi allegedly "would have planned or thought of killing all opposition leaders in jail during the emergency." However, this strategy failed resoundingly. Despite her arrest and long-term trial, she managed to win sympathy of many people who had feared she would become a tyrant just two years earlier.

The Janata coalition was united only by its hatred of Indira (or "that woman", as some called her). With so little in common, the government was overwhelmed by internal struggles and Gandhi was able to use the situation to her advantage. She began to give more speeches, tacitly apologizing for "mistakes" made during the emergency.

In the January elections of the following year, Congress returned to power with an overwhelming majority.

During the 1980s, Indira failed to stop the 40% fall in the value of the Indian rupee, 7 to 12 against the US dollar. However, it is argued that the Reserve Bank of India decided to devalue the Indian rupee to make exports more competitive.

During her second term, Gandhi led a radical birth

control program in the country. It included forced termination of pregnancy for women and mandatory sterilization for men of the lower classes of society.

Criticism of her tactics against opposition parties had been balanced by popular approval of her quick action to quell a Sikh terrorist outbreak in the state of Panyab. In July 1982, Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, leader of the Sikh religious institution Damdami Taksal, based in the northern Indian state of Panyab, led a campaign for the implementation of the Anandpur Sahib Resolution, with the intention of creating an independent Sikh confessional state in the region. In response to this independentist outbreak, Indira Gandhi ordered the Blue Star Operation on June 6, 1984, during one of the most sacred Sikh festivals, the Indian army opened fire at the Harmandir Sahib Golden Temple in Amritsar.

According to official government figures, about 600 people died in the attack on the temple, including the Sikh militant leader, Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale. Other reports put the figure as high as 1200. During the conflict access to international media, Sikh devotees and human rights organizations were prevented. This fact generated great discontent among the Sikh minority, leading to the murder of Indira Gandhi on October 31, 1984, at the hands of her Sikh bodyguards, who shot her 33 shots. The night before her death, she told a political rally: "I don't care if my life goes to the service of the nation if I die today, every drop of my blood will invigorate the nation." *L&E*



**Síguenos
en nuestra
página de**



**Rivera, Bolívar y
Castañedas**





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As human beings and society we must remain vigilant and encourage our society to be as fair and healthy as possible. And now I emphasize the sport, where more than anything you bet on the skills of each athlete and team of coaches, however, it is disappointing to see how in this area that should be more transparent, corruption is also achieved.

For example, we have that the former president of the Brazilian Football Federation (CBF), Ricardo Teixeira, was suspended for life for "corruption," FIFA announced on Friday.

On the other hand, the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) is deliberating the sanction to bring Russia for possible falsification of data. Russia could be suspended from international sport for four years, with its exclusion from competitions, including the Olympic Games. Motion that currently the International Olympic Committee indicated that "it will support the most severe sanctions"

taken against "all those responsible for this flagrant manipulation against the credibility of sport."

If we see it on the other hand, we notice that society is waking up, it is possible to reveal these kinds of information and they are sanctioned. We must not be tolerant of these situations.

The good thing is that athletes strive every day to be better, to increase their performance, and although many times they participate in championships that not everyone finds out, such as the Central American Senior Weightlifting Championship, which took place in El Salvador, in which Panama participated, these athletes continue to strive.

For this reason, many times we can see who, yes, have achieved success in sports, such as Mariano Rivera, who has been appointed as Sports Ambassador and the authorities of the district of La Chorrera, province of Western Panama, unveiled

the nomenclature of the road that leads from the center of the district to the corregimiento of Puerto Caimito, hometown of the excerrador of the New York Yankees, and is marked as Mariano Rivera Avenue.

And you should never slow down and always give

S CCER

Women's football is booming, and the president of the International Federation of Associated Soccer (FIFA), Gianni Infantino, announced that Panama and Costa Rica emerge as candidates to jointly organize the Women's Soccer World Cup 2020.

Women's Soccer League (LFF)

Next December 5 at the Maracaná stadium at 7:00 p.m. It will be the first leg, to know the teams that will be finalists of the 2019 Opening Tournament of the Women's Soccer League.

The current two-time University, will be measured at Atlético Nacional in one key and bullfighting will face the chiricanas in the other key to decide the finalists.

The second leg will be on December 12.

League of Nations of Concacaf, pass to Gold Cup 2021

Thanks to Mexico and its victory against Bermuda, Panama achieved its second place in Group B of the League of Nations of Concacaf, reaching its ticket to the 2021 Gold Cup.

The semifinals and grand final of the League of Nations will be played in the month of June next year.

For its part, the 2021 Gold Cup already

100% in each club, currently we only have two players in Major League Soccer (MLS), Michael Amir Murillo and Aníbal Godoy, after it was announced that they say goodbye to Roman Torres, Cristian Martínez, Harold Cummings and Omar Browne. *L&E*

We can't leave without mentioning the Golden Ball champion this year, in its second edition, Megan Rapinoe, one of the captains of the United States team, world champion last July and icon of the fight for rights of the LGTB collective and of man-woman equality.



has 12 of its 16 participating teams.

The classifieds are: Canada, EU, Costa Rica, Suriname, Mexico, Martinique, Jamaica, Honduras, Grenada, Curacao, El Salvador and Panama.

The remaining four tickets will be defined between Bermuda, Cuba, Trinidad and Tobago, Haiti, Montserrat, French Guiana, Guyana, Saint Vincent and

the Grenadines, Barbados, Guatemala, Bahamas and Guadeloupe.

The 12 teams will play a playoff phase

that will start in March next year.

Panama is currently in position 81 of the FIFA ranking, making it difficult for the World Cup qualification.

Concacaf Women's Pre-Olympic Championship

For the Concacaf Women's Pre-Olympic Championship, scheduled for January 2020, there will be a new coach, the Panamanian Kenneth Zseremeta.

Zseremeta, who attended the women's soccer team 10 years ago, has extensive experience, among which is to take Venezuela to its first FIFA Women's World Cup in the Under-17 category.

Similarly, the new manager indicated that he comes to work not only with the senior team, but also with the bases, as they have to be strengthened.

The Panamanians are located in group A along with the current world champions United States, Costa Rica and Haiti.

His first game is against the Ticas, followed by the clash against the Americans, on Friday, January 31 and group phase closes, on Monday, February 3 against Haiti.

Only the first two of each group advance to semifinal phase and the two teams that manage to advance to the final will be saying present at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics.

LPF

In the Grand Final of the Panamanian Football League, Tauro FC and Costa del Este will face each other next Monday, December 8, at 5:00 pm at Rommel Fernández Stadium.

El Tauro FC, will be looking for its 15th Championship, while Costa del Este is preparing to play its first title and looking for a rematch, after Taurus defeated them in the final of the 2018 Open Tournament.



National League of Ascent

With great uncertainty the final of the Ascent League will be played this Friday, December 6, the teams of Azuero FC and Atlético Nacional will play at 9:00 p.m. in the Maracaná stadium of El Chorrillo.

This is because Mario Corro, leader of the LPF made it clear that there will be no promotion, since it will remain in 10 teams, instead of 12 as promised in the middle of the year, and that all second division teams must wait to January 2021.



2020 America Cup

The 2020 America Cup, will be the first with double headquarters in Colombia and Argentina. His raffle will be on December 3.

Unlike in the past, when the selections were divided into three groups of four, this time the first phase will have two hexagons, in which all will face each other: The North Zone and the South Zone, previously defined.

In the North will be Brazil, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela, and Colombia, which will officiate as a group leader. And in the South, they will form Uruguay, Paraguay, Chile, Bolivia and Argentina, head of the hype. The

debutante Australia and Qatar, which repeats after participating in Brazil-2019, will be raffled on Tuesday. The four best teams of each hex will go to the quarterfinals, the winners to the semifinals and then to the final. Each venue will host a group stage, two quarter games and a semifinal.

On the other hand, this could be one of the last presentations in this tournament of current winner of his sixth Golden Ball, Lionel Messi, 32. With a rejuvenated albiceleste team, look for his revenge and make his way to the 2022 World Cup Qatar.

EURO CUP 2020

For the first time in history, this tournament, which will last one month, will be played in 12 countries.

The Eurocup-2020 will begin on June 12 at the

Olympic Stadium in Rome with the clash between Turkey and Italy and will end a month later with the final in London, in the mythical Wembley. *L&E*

BASEBALL

Probeis

The 2019/2020 season of the Panama Professional Baseball League (Probeis) is underway. The championship will be played:

- Los Toros de Herrera – Current champions of the Caribbean Series
- Los Astronautas de Chiriquí
- Águilas Metropolitanas
- Federales de Chiriquí. *L&E*

Here we leave the calendar of games:

5	SABADO	TOROS	ASTRONAUTAS	KENNY	3PM
6	30-nov	AGUILAS	FEDERALES	KENNY	7PM
7	DOMINGO	AGUILAS	TOROS	KENNY	1PM
8	01-dic	ASTRONAUTAS	FEDERALES	KENNY	4PM
9	LUNES	AGUILAS	FEDERALES	KENNY	3PM
10	02-dic	TOROS	ASTRONAUTAS	KENNY	7PM
11	MARTES	FEDERALES	TOROS	KENNY	3PM
12	03-dic	AGUILAS	ASTRONAUTAS	KENNY	7PM
13	MIERCOLES	TOROS	ASTRONAUTAS	KENNY	3PM
14	04-dic	AGUILAS	FEDERALES	KENNY	7PM
15	JUEVES	FEDERALES	AGUILAS	KENNY	3PM
16	05-dic	ASTRONAUTAS	TOROS	KENNY	7PM
17	VIERNES	FEDERALES	AGUILAS	KENNY	3PM
18	06-dic	ASTRONAUTAS	TOROS	KENNY	7PM
19	SABADO	TOROS	AGUILAS	KENNY	3PM
20	07-dic	ASTRONAUTAS	FEDERALES	KENNY	7PM
DOMINGO 08-dic LIBRE LIBRE LIBRE LIBRE LIBRE LIBRE					
LUNES 09-dic LIBRE LIBRE LIBRE LIBRE LIBRE LIBRE					
21	MARTES	ASTRONAUTAS	AGUILAS	KENNY	3PM
22	10-dic	FEDERALES	TOROS	KENNY	7PM
23	MIERCOLES	AGUILAS	FEDERALES	KENNY	3PM
24	11-dic	ASTRONAUTAS	TOROS	KENNY	7PM
25	JUEVES	AGUILAS	TOROS	KENNY	3PM
41	SABADO	FEDERALES	AGUILAS	CAREW	3PM
42	21-dic	ASTRONAUTAS	TOROS	CAREW	7PM
43	DOMINGO	ASTRONAUTAS	FEDERALES	CAREW	1PM
44	22-dic	AGUILAS	TOROS	CAREW	4.30PM
45	LUNES	FEDERALES	ASTRONAUTAS	CAREW	3PM
46	23-dic	AGUILAS	TOROS	CAREW	7PM
MARTES 24-dic LIBRE LIBRE LIBRE LIBRE LIBRE LIBRE					
MIERCOLES 25-dic LIBRE LIBRE LIBRE LIBRE LIBRE LIBRE					
47	JUEVES	FEDERALES	ASTRONAUTAS	CAREW	3PM
48	26-dic	AGUILAS	TOROS	CAREW	7PM
49	VIERNES	AGUILAS	ASTRONAUTAS	CAREW	3PM
50	27-dic	FEDERALES	TOROS	CAREW	7PM
PLAY OFF PLAY OFF PLAY OFF PLAY OFF PLAY OFF PLAY OFF PLAY OFF					
SABADO 28-dic 3er Lugar 2do Lugar					
DOMINGO 29-dic 2do Lugar 3er Lugar					
LUNES 30-dic 3er Lugar 2do Lugar					
MARTES 31-dic LIBRE LIBRE LIBRE LIBRE LIBRE LIBRE					
MIERCOLES 01-dic LIBRE LIBRE LIBRE LIBRE LIBRE LIBRE					

BASKETBALL

Central American Basketball Championship - COCABA U-14

The Central American Basketball Championship Sub 14, The national quintet achieved its pass to the Centrobasket Sub-15 of 2020 after defeating Guatemala by 83 to 40. *L&E*



GYMNASTICS

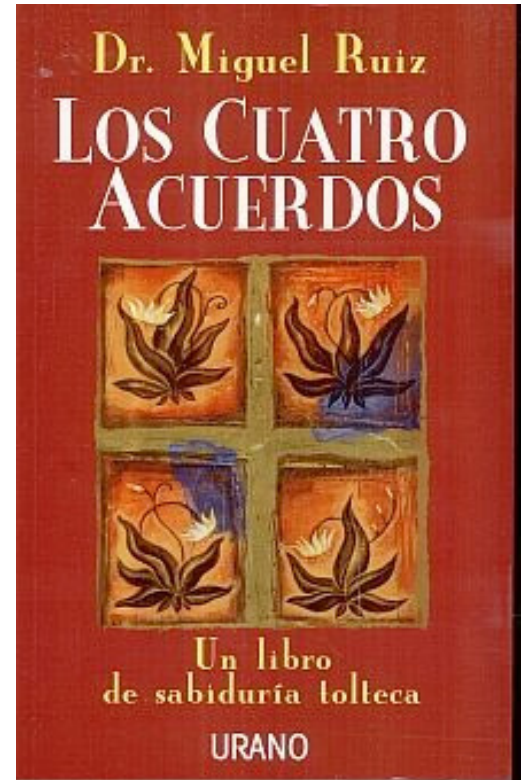
Central American Championship, Caribbean Islands and Mexico

In the Central American Championship, Caribbean Islands and Mexico that took place last weekend in Guatemala, Panama won a total of 41 medals divided into 18 gold, 11 silver and 12 bronze.

The outstanding gymnasts María Fernanda Delgado, Alyiah Lide, Karla Navas and Richard Atencio. *L&E*



THE CURRENT



LITERARY COFFEE, THE FOUR AGREEMENTS

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A literary coffee is a space aimed at people interested in reading, where it is shared, discussed and reflected on one or more literary works.

On November 25, the First Literary coffee was held, by the students of the third year of the Bachelor of Human Resources Administration at the San Miguelito Regional University Center Annex Juan Díaz of the University of Panama, suggested by Master Luz Denis Castro and coordinated by the students. The event was held at the temporary location of the Juan Díaz annex, facilities of the Cristal Plaza Shopping Center. It was a long coordination process, where various commissions were assigned such as budget,

academic, protocol, decoration, among others.

The event was divided into five teams to which several books were assigned, four of which were chosen by Magister Castro:

- **Running People with Success.** Author: Francesc Assens.
- **Time to Win.** Author: Carlos Cuauhtémoc Sánchez.
- **Who has taken my cheese?** Author: Spencer Johnson.

- The Leader Who Had No Charge. Author: Robin Sharma.

- The four Agreements. Author: Dr. Miguel Ruiz; This book that caught my attention and that of several of those present.

In the following months we will make a summary of the four books listed above.

The Four Agreements is a very spiritual literary work, published in 1997, whose agreements written in it, works for us in personal and professional life. It is a practical guide for personal freedom.

Once they immerse themselves in their reading, it makes us meditate and realize that every word related in it is totally true. It leads us to motivate ourselves and perform every function of our daily lives in a better way.

We are born with the ability to learn to dream, and the human beings that precede us teach us to dream the way society does.

It tells us about the process of domestication in human beings, where we learn to live and dream. It indicates that we domesticate children in the same way as we domesticate our pets, through punishment and reward, where we learn to differentiate between good and evil and there we lose all natural tendencies and it is so powerful that there comes a time in our lives that we don't need her anymore.

error? The answer is: thousands of times. The human being is the only animal on Earth that pays thousands of times for the same error. Other animals pay only once for each mistake. But we don't. We have a great memory. We make a mistake, we judge ourselves, we plead guilty and punish ourselves. If it were a matter of justice, that would be enough; we don't need to repeat it, but every time we remember it, we judge ourselves again, we consider ourselves guilty again and we punish ourselves again, again and again, and again, and another one. If we are married, our wife or our husband also reminds us of the mistake, and so we judge again, we punish ourselves again and we feel guilty again. Is this fair?"

No one, in all your life, has mistreated you more than yourself. The limit of abuse that you will tolerate from another person is exactly the same to which you submit. If someone gets to mistreat you a little more, you will most likely get away from that person. However, if someone mistreats you a little less than you usually mistreat yourself, you will surely continue with that relationship and always tolerate it.

The first agreement: BE IMPECCABLE WITH YOUR WORDS.

This is one of the most difficult agreements to fulfill. Words are the most powerful weapon we have and it depends on how we use it, free you or enslave you; They determine the thinking of the human being. We

must acquire commitment and responsibility with the language we use corresponds to our values.

The second agreement says **DON'T TAKE ANYTHING PERSONALLY.**

You must understand that nothing other people do is for you. Many times people say hurtful things, but in reality they do it for themselves, because they can't stand to see others shine and prefer that you sink into depression.

If you omit the negative opinion of others, you will take care of your health avoiding stress, pain, anger and any other type of situation that affects you. Currently there are many situations that could lead us to lose our mind as a wake-up call or even inappropriate behavior of someone, which makes us fall into the error of thinking that it is due to a personal situation. Of all those situations it is better to take the most convenient and use them to improve.

Third agreement: **DON'T MAKE ASSUMPTIONS.**

If we go through life assuming things, we feed our negative charge and generate wrong or bad situations without need. People believe that everything we assume is real, which becomes a major problem, because most of the time they are inventions that we create to feel relieved. Before making a judgment, we can ask ourselves three questions: **What will I say is true? Is it good? Is it useful? If these three questions turn out to be negative, you better reserve your comment or question** **What is the reality?** Also, we must be very careful

and precise in speaking and searching for the exact words so that, precisely, we do not misunderstand what we say. I leave you with the following phrase: We own our silence and slaves of our opinions.

The fourth agreement states: **ALWAYS MAKE YOUR MAXIMUM EFFORT.**

Always do your best, even if they say you waste your time; but you will do it for yourself, to feel self-satisfaction, avoid frustrations. Nothing better than sleeping peacefully knowing that everything you did during the day was magnificent. In this agreement we can combine three previous agreements that can help to give best of you.

We must know our limits, if we do a job it is better to make sure we do it well and if we do not know how to do it, we do not do it or ask how?; Now, with this I don't want to say that everything we do will work out well, sometimes it may not go wrong, but what matters we put effort into the task is done.

As you well know, we are not perfect and we are constantly growing and the daily challenges are getting stronger; but the importance of that lies in continuing to try and learn from mistakes.

These four agreements must be practiced together and converted into daily habits, always creating a better version of oneself. *L&E*



¡OK, BOOMER!, ¡MILLENNIALS!

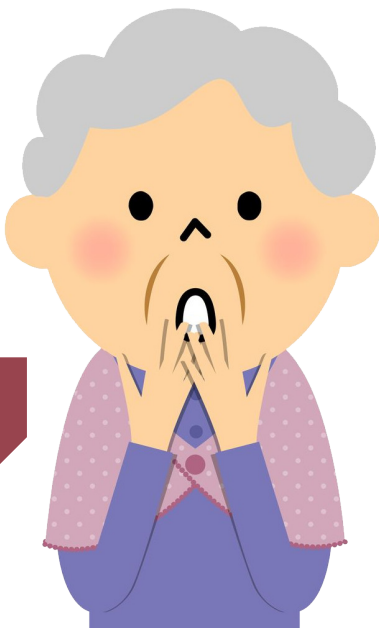
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What do these expressions have in common?

Well, they are references to memes of the differences that are currently taking place with the generations.

must first know that there are currently eight (8) generations living in the world, the Interbellum Generation being the oldest and in its last days, they have been divided sociologically as follows:

To understand a little more about the matter, you



Interbellum Generation



Born in the early 1900s until the early 1913

106 years - 119 years



Few are left of this generation.

They are known a term (derived from the Latin "between" and bellum "war") that is sometimes used to denote people born in the United States during the first decade of the last century. The name comes from the fact that those born during that time interval were too

young to have served in military service during World War I, and were generally too old to serve as enlisted personnel in World War II, although many of them they were able to participate in some way in the armed forces during that last conflict.



Great Generation



1914-1925



94 years - 105 years

It is the generation that lives in its childhood the golden years of the 20s and in its adulthood, it is marked by the Second World War. Men are hard workers who seek to achieve the welfare of their family during times of crisis, for this reason they always valued the meaning of having a job.

They are characterized by being patient, respectful, committed and conformist, and as a consequence of the terrible time they had to live, they always thought that the past was better.

Silent Generation



1926-1945



74 years - 93 years

This is the generation that lives most dramatic moments of modern history, during their childhood they are in the middle of Great Depression of the 30s, the Second War, rise of fascist governments.



This generation is educated in an era where institutions exercised great control over lives of individuals, thus they were indoctrinated by faith and educated to do what others had decided without questioning authority or making personal choices that came out of the norm; they were taught to shut up in the face of injustices, for this reason they were given their name.



Baby Boomers

1945-1964

55 years - 74 years

They were born in the years after World War II, and are named after the unusual rise in birth rates. ("Baby boom").

Work is the most important. (workaholics).

It values productivity and does not tolerate leisure.

Appreciate the status symbols and vertical growth in a company.

Women definitely enter the labor market. Change in the traditional family model.

X Generation

1965-1979

40 years to 54 years

They suffered great changes.

Analog life in childhood and digital at maturity.

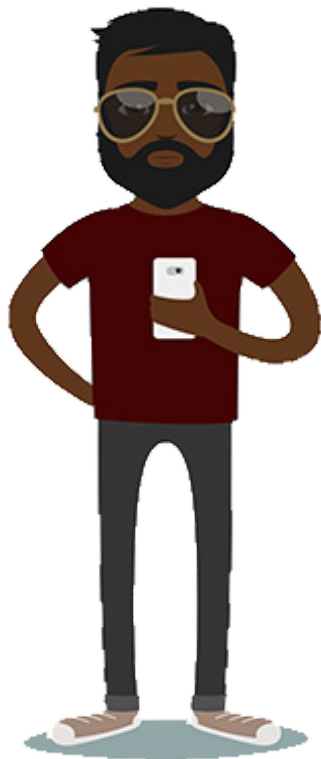


They lived the arrival of the Internet.

Accept the rules of technology and connectivity. It fails to get rid of organizational cultures altogether.

It is the generation of the transition.

It is the intermediate generation between boomers and millennials, it is known as the Bridge.



Millenials

1980-1993

26 years to 39 years

Until now, they are the generation that has undergone a change of millennium, transformation from the traditional to the purely technological and that became an adult in full economic boom.

Z Generation

1994-2010

9 years to 25 years

Z Generation is made up of young people who have grown hand in hand with the Internet. For them, knowledge lacks hierarchies and compartments.



In addition, his personality has become a diverse and crisis society.

The representatives of Generation Z are distracted every 8 seconds in something new, because according to medical studies, 11% of this segment was diagnosed with Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD).



Alpha Generation



2010 se presume que serán hasta 2025



Under 9 years old

It is the first generation totally 100% digital.

Each of these generations has its own characteristics and way of being, it is possible that many clash in thoughts with each other, such is the case of memes that give reference or make fun of the differences of each being one of them el: **OK, Boomer!**

The viral phrase **"OK, boomer"** has flooded social networks, expression is being used by so-called 'millennials and Z generation' as a symbol of rebellion and to label adults who consider "old", it is being used to express and highlight a generational distance between their ideas and way of thinking of people born between 1946 and 1980 especially those who were born after World War II or also called **'baby boomer'**.

In October 2019, an article was published in The New York Times newspaper called **'OK Boomer'**, which explains the origin of the phrase.

Journalist Taylor Lorenz says that the expression originated in response to a rather older man who was called a baby boomer, released the following comment in a viral video from TikTok:

"Millennials and Z Generation have Peter Pan syndrome, they never want to grow."

On the other hand, the word that young people called **"millennials"** and **Z Generation** on the Internet are using lately, became media when a New Zealand legislator, Chlöe Swarbrick, 25, launched an **"OK, boomer"** to another legislator to **"Shut up"** your colleague in full debate. She was giving a speech on climate change in the parliament of her country when she was interrupted by another much older legislator.

According to the Know Your Meme portal, the phrase **"OK, boomer"** is a derogatory replica that is often

used to ignore or make fun of Baby Boomers and for those who are perceived as outdated and foolish. institution about the singular term and this was the answer he received:

"The expression is used in social networks to disqualify someone's opinion based on their age, so there would be several options. On the other hand, "Boomer" is usually maintained as raw foreignism, written with highlighting, in Spanish texts."

It is true that generations have their differences, however, they must learn to cooperate with each other, to benefit reciprocally from the synergy that can be developed to win-win, learn that they will not always be the leaders, and that They must pass the torch and in the same way the new generations learn both from the right and the mistakes of the past generations, respect each other, many of the altercations that are currently taking place are due to the inflexibility between the generations to understand each other others.

Times change, everything transmutes and everything is transformed; In this way, young generations must understand that eventually they will also have to pass the torch to the generations behind them and older generations must understand when it is time for change.

The only sure thing in this life is the constant change in it. *L&E*

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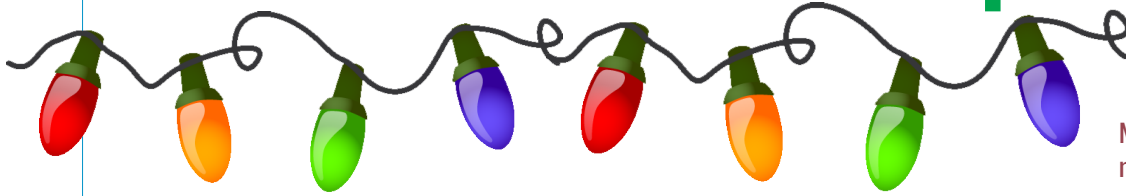
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PARADE AND ACTIVITIES IN THE PARKS

• I am Panama, I am Christmas from the Mayor's Office of Panama:

o The Christmas parade will be held on December 15 at the Coastal Strip at 5:00 p.m.

o Christmas Inn in Urracá Park on December 7.

o Children paint Christmas on the Coastal Strip on December 21.

• Christmas Parade in Brisas del Golf on December 28.

• Crossing Road: Walk through the forest and collect toys for children, on December 15.

• Mercadito Sabanero II Christmas Festival in Felipe Motta Park in Costa del Este from December 12 to 15.

• Christmas concerts of the Network of Orchestras and Youth Choirs of Panama:

o Tuesday 17: Urracá Park at 6:00 p.m.

o Wednesday 18: Plaza San Cristóbal in Chepo at 6:00 p.m.

o Thursday 19: Park October 19 in Aguadulce at 6:00 p.m.

o Friday 20: Mall Paseo Central -Chitré at 5.00 p.m.

o Saturday 21: Santiago Apostle-Santiago Cathedral at 6:00 p.m.

o Sunday 22: Cervantes-David Park at 6:00 p.m.

• Christmas concert "Bonun Noctis Exspectando" Polyphonic Choir of Panama at the Oratorio San Felipe Neri on December 18.

• Christmas concerts of the National Symphony Orchestra:

o Dorado Mall on December 3 at 6:00 p.m.

o Balboa Theater on December 4 at 8:30 a.m.

o Balboa Theater on December 5 at 8:30 a.m.

o San Francisco de la Montaña Parish in Veraguas on December 6 at 7:00 p.m.

o Parque Urracá on December 7 at 7:00 p.m..

• Christmas at the Omar Torrijos Recreational and Cultural Park:

o December 1 - Workshop how to arm your birth from 1:00 p.m. at 3:00 p. m

o December 3 - Creative workshop of Christmas crafts from 1:00 p.m. at 3:00 p.m.

o December 4 - Workshop of Christmas creations with recycled materials-10:00 a.m. at 11:00 a.m.

- o December 5 - Artistic platform-Santa's mailbox from 4:00 p.m.
- o December 6 - Lit the Christmas tree from 6:00 p.m.
- o December 7 - Craft fair, artistic stage, tribute to mothers. From 11:00 a.m. at 8:00 p.m.
- o December 10 - Recycling workshops-Cleanliness Authority
- o December 11- Christmas Creations Workshop from 1:00 a.m. at 3:00 p.m.
- o December 12 - Artistic rate starting at 4:00 p.m.
- o December 13 - 1:00 p.m. painting workshops at 3:00 p.m.
- o December 14 - Presentation of the National Ballet- with the piece the Nutcracker 6:00 p.m.
- o December 15 - Santa-Tarima artistic mailbox
- o December 17 - Theater workshop, dictated by producer and actor Renán Fernández
- o December 18 - Recycling workshop-Cleanliness Authority 10:00 -11: 00 a.m.
- o December 19 - Buzón de Santa, artistic stage from 4:00 p.m., .m
- o December 20 - Christmas workshop Why are there people who don't like Christmas?
- o December 21 -Picnic Grinch
- o December 22 - Artistic rate starting at 4:00 p.m.
- o December 27- Craft Workshop by Jaime Luna
- o December 29 - Exhibition of modified cars, artistic stage and wish lamp
- o January 6, 2020 - Artistic stage and the presentation of the Network of Orchestras and Youth Choirs of Panama.

THEATER

- Theater In Circle: Jazz in Bethlehem on December 12.
- Theater In Circle: How Mozart stole Christmas on December 18.
- El Ángel Theater: Superheroes save Christmas from November 24 to December 22.
- El Ángel Theater: The adventures of Cindy Lou on December 7.
- La Estación Theater: Without raisins please December 5 and 12.
- La Estación Theater: Posada Navideña: The story of the four Magician King from December 11 to 22.
- La Estación Theater: And if we do a Stand Up on December 13.
- La Plaza Theater: Neighbors until December 22.
- La Plaza Theater: Trabucaibo on December 20.
- Aba Theater: The King of the Jungle until January 26.
- ABA Theater: Good night not so good from December 6 to January 12.
- Pacific Theater: Christmas concert on December 22.
- Pacific Theater: Checkmate until December 16.
- Pacific Theater: Elves to the rescue until January 6.
- Pacific Theater: Thanksgiving dinner until December 7.
- Pacific Theater: The best find is not done by my mother on December 8.
- Pacific Theater: Angela Angeli, Soprano, one night at Bel Canto on December 7.
- Gladys Vidal Theater: Coexistence on December 5.
- Gladys Vidal Theater: December, December 5th.
- National Theater: Alfredo Rodríguez December 5.

- National theater: Richard Bona Trio on December 5.
- National Theater: Cienfue-Live in the tropic on December 7.
- National Theater: First Gala of Inclusive Culture on December 7.
- National Theater: Crush contemporary dance on December 14 and 15.
- National Theater: Horacio Valdes on December 12.
- National Theater: Fantastic Christmas from December 19 to 21.
- National Theater: Panama Ballet Festival on December 27.
- National Theater: Ballet Don Quijote on December 28.

MOVIES

- Zombieland the coup de grace, premieres on December 5.
- Last Christmas, another opportunity to love, opens on December 5.
- Star Wars: The rise of Skywalker, premieres December 19.
- Jumaji: The next level premieres on December 26.

MUSEUMS, EXHIBITIONS AND FORUMS

- MAC:
 - o "An invasion in 4 times" from December 4 to March 1.
- Biomuseum:
 - o December 7: Workshop creating seed bombs.
 - o December 14 and 15: Free entry.
 - o December 15: Cantus Panama and Live Music present: The Tree of Life.
- The House of the Soldier: The interrupted look photographic exhibition of Juanxu Rodriguez from December 3 to January 24.
- USMA: Forum on constitutional reforms with

- Fullbright Fellows in the Father Benjamin Ayesu Auditorium on December 4.
- Canal Museum: Christmas concert on December 12.
- Canal Museum: Last Folio: The Future is Memory until December 17.

EVENTS, FAIRS AND FESTIVALS

- Telethon 20-30: December 13 and 14 in ATLAPA
- Gamerton for the benefit of Telethon 20-30 in Atlapa, on December 14 and 15.
- ExpoLogistica: Atlapa on December 10 and 11.
- XIII China LAC Business Summit in Atlapa from December 9 to 11.
- End of Year Cocktail of Amcham Panama at the Hilton Hotel, Lobby Bar on December 4.

CONCERTS AND PRESENTATIONS

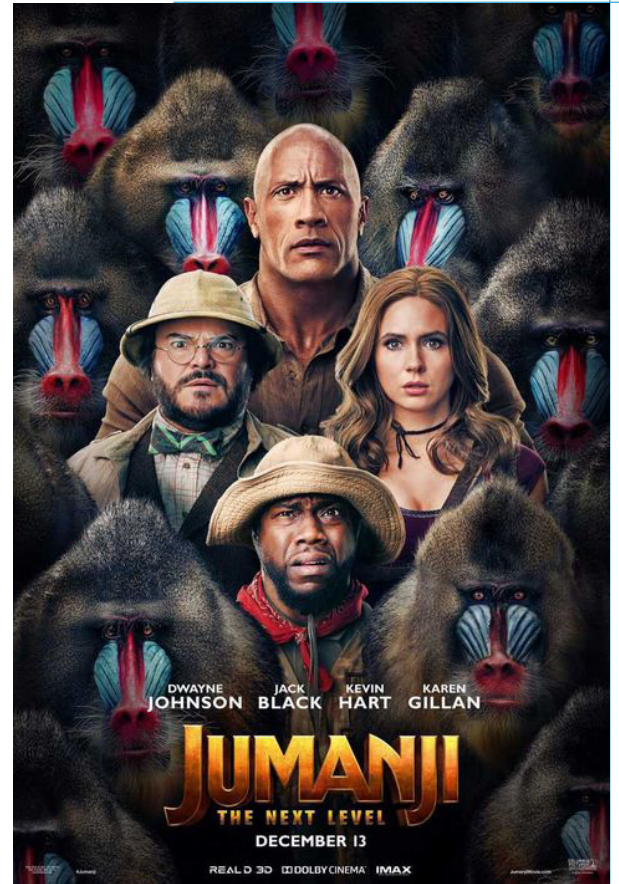
- Christmas musical: "The Christmas Song" at the Amador Convention Center on December 15.
- Golden Christmas with Ulpiano Vergara at the Sortis Hotel on December 18.
- Mega Concert for Mother's Day at Rod Carew Stadium on December 7 and 8.
- Gondwana Festival of the parking house, in Chitré, Herrera on December 14 and 15.
- Marc Anthony Opus Tour and Willie Colon and his orchestra at the Rommel Fernández Stadium on December 5.
- The National Dance School presents "Tribute to the 500th anniversary of Panama City" at the Balboa Theater on December 5.

IMPORTANT DATES

- December 1: Teacher's Day
- December 1: World AIDS Day
- December 2: International Slavery Abolition Day
- December 3: Day of people with disabilities.
- December 5: Volunteer Day
- December 8 Immaculate Conception of the Virgin

Mary, Mother's Day

- December 10 Human Rights Day
- December 11 UNICEF is created
- December 12: Our Lady of Guadalupe
- December 16: Birth of Ludwig Van Beethoven
- December 20: 30 years of the United States invasion of Panama
- December 21: Winter Solstice
- December 22: Foundation of the Portobelo National Park.
- December 24: Christmas Eve
- December 24 to January 1: Hanukkah or Festival of Lights
- December 25: Nativity of the Lord Jesus
- December 27: Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist
- December 28: Day of the Holy Innocents
- December 30: Foundation of the National Park Camino de Cruces and Holy Family Day
- December 31: last day of the year. *L&E*



Soy
PANAMÁ
SoyNavidad

CELEBREMOS TODOS JUNTOS

DESDE EL 1 DE DICIEMBRE

Alianzas alrededor del Mundo

Mitrani, Caballero, Rosso Alba, Francia, Ojam & Ruiz Moreno- ARGENTINA

Guevara & Gutiérrez S. C. Servicios Legales- BOLIVIA

Machado Associados Advogados e Consultores- BRASIL

DSN Consultants Inc- CANADÁ

Lewin & Wills Abogados- COLOMBIA

Rivera, Bolívar y Castañedas- PANAMÁ

Espinosa & Asociados- CHILE

Lawnetworker S.A. Asesores Legales- ECUADOR

Peter Byrne & Associates- ESTADOS UNIDOS

Machado Associados Advogados e Consultores- ESTADOS UNIDOS

Ortiz, Sosa, Ysusi y Cía., S.C.- MÉXICO

Estudio Rubio Leguía Normand & Asociados- PERU

Adsuar Muñoz Goyco Seda & Pérez-Ochoa, P.S.C.- PUERTO RICO

Pellerano & Herrera- REPÚBLICA DOMINICANA

Alvarado & Asociados- NICARAGUA

Torres, Plaz & Araujo- VENEZUELA

Facio & Cañas- COSTA RICA

