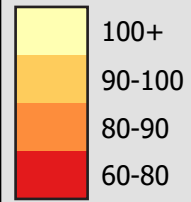


Climate Refugees Flee Central America

Drought caused by climate change is threatening agricultural areas & pushing people to migrate.

Rainfall: Percent of Normal (2019)



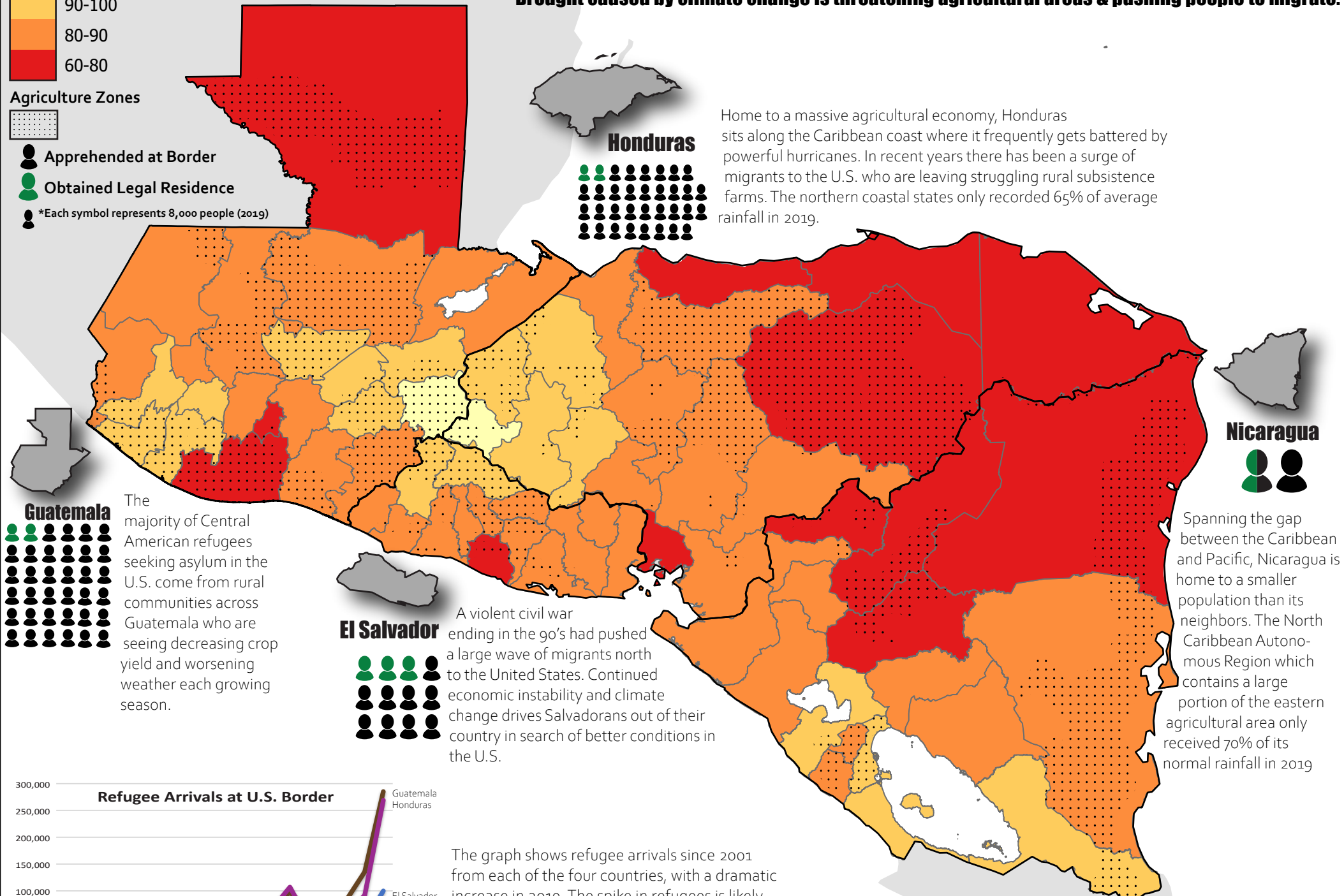
Agriculture Zones



● Apprehended at Border

● Obtained Legal Residence

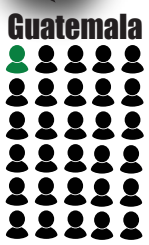
*Each symbol represents 8,000 people (2019)



Home to a massive agricultural economy, Honduras sits along the Caribbean coast where it frequently gets battered by powerful hurricanes. In recent years there has been a surge of migrants to the U.S. who are leaving struggling rural subsistence farms. The northern coastal states only recorded 65% of average rainfall in 2019.



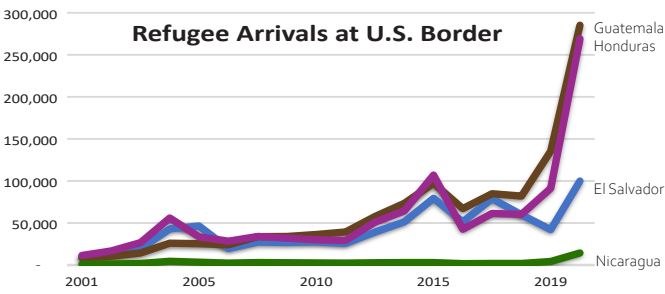
Spanning the gap between the Caribbean and Pacific, Nicaragua is home to a smaller population than its neighbors. The North Caribbean Autonomous Region which contains a large portion of the eastern agricultural area only received 70% of its normal rainfall in 2019



The majority of Central American refugees seeking asylum in the U.S. come from rural communities across Guatemala who are seeing decreasing crop yield and worsening weather each growing season.



A violent civil war ending in the go's had pushed a large wave of migrants north to the United States. Continued economic instability and climate change drives Salvadorans out of their country in search of better conditions in the U.S.



The graph shows refugee arrivals since 2001 from each of the four countries, with a dramatic increase in 2019. The spike in refugees is likely due to the persistent drought causing lower agricultural production.

Created by Eli Ganong

Sources: FEWS, FAO, Natural Earth, GADM, WFP, DHS. Projection: N. America Albers Equal Area Conic.