

Latin America Power Map

Who holds power in Latin America — and which way it is moving. Every day.

POWER SHIFTS · SINCE YESTERDAY

▲ Brazil +2	▼ Chile -2	▼ Argentina -1	▼ Costa Rica -1	▼ Peru -1
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Latin America begins the week on a quiet footing, with Brazil's Congress advancing debt-control legislation while Argentina's better-than-expected growth numbers reinforce Javier Milei's recovery narrative. Elsewhere, a diplomatic thaw between Mexico and Peru marks the only notable realignment on an otherwise slow news day across the region.

STRONGEST TODAY

1	Brazil	82	▲
2	Mexico	72	↔
3	Argentina	66	▼

WEAKEST TODAY

12	Paraguay	35	↔
13	Venezuela	30	↔
14	Bolivia	22	▲

The Power Board

Fourteen nations, ranked by power — with today's move and the thirty-day trend.

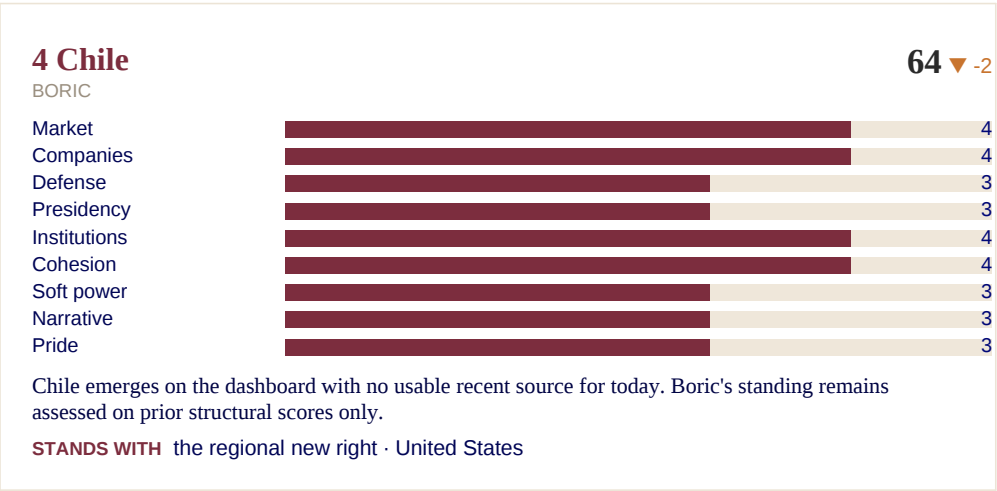
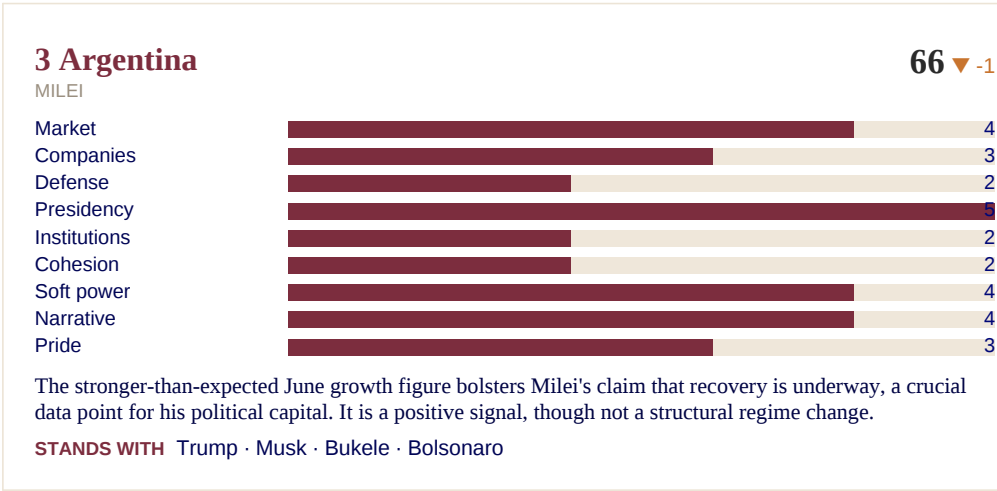
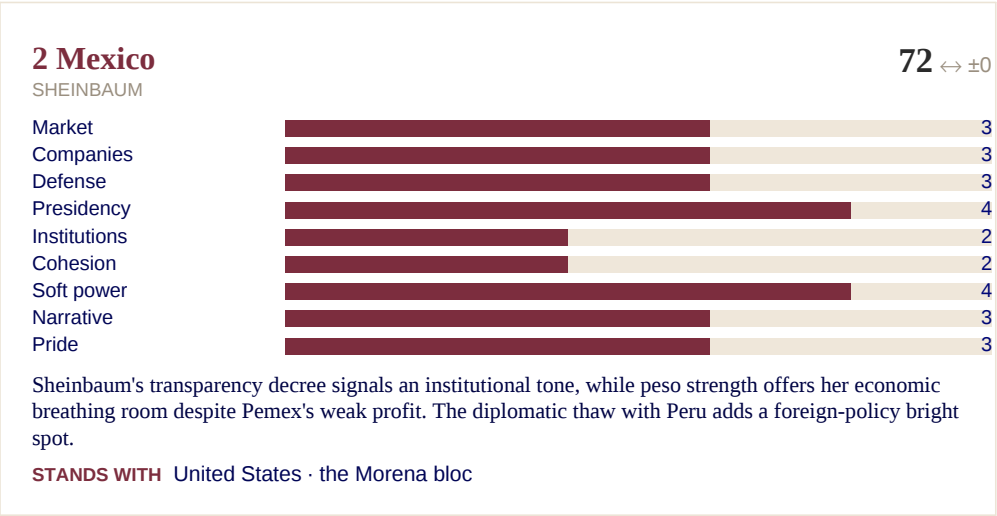
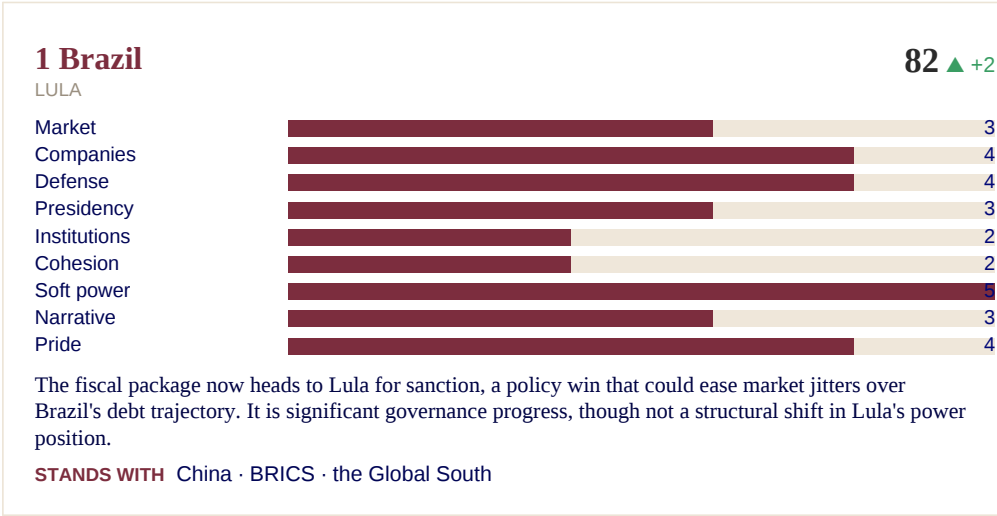
SINCE YESTERDAY The dashboard shows no structural power shifts in the past 24 hours. Brazil's spending-control bill moved toward presidential sanction and Argentina posted strong June growth, but neither constitutes an election, coup, default, or major institutional rupture.

#	COUNTRY & LEADER	POWER · TODAY	30-DAY	POWER SIGNATURE Mkt-Co-Def-Pres-Inst-Coh-Soft-Narr-Pride	WHAT'S MOVING
1	Brazil LULA	82 ▲ +2			Congress approved spending-control mechanisms intended to rein in debt concerns.
2	Mexico SHEINBAUM	72 ↔ ±0			a transparency decree, a stronger peso, and weak Pemex profit dominated recent coverage.
3	Argentina MILEI	66 ▼ -1			the economy expanded faster than expected in June, reinforcing the growth-return narrative.
4	Chile BORIC	64 ▼ -2			no verifiable last-24-hour development in the gathered material.
5	Costa Rica CHAVES ROBLES	56 ▼ -1			no verifiable last-24-hour development in the gathered material.
6	Colombia DE LA ESPRIELLA	55 ↔ ±0			no verifiable last-24-hour development in the gathered material.
7	Peru KEIKO FUJIMORI	49 ▼ -1			a diplomatic reset with Mexico was reported after a safe-passage episode involving Betsy Chávez.
8	Uruguay ORSI	48 ↔ ±0			no verifiable last-24-hour development in the gathered material.
9	Panama MULINO	45 ▼ -1			no verifiable last-24-hour development in the gathered material.
10	Cuba DÍAZ-CANEL	41 ▼ -1			no verifiable last-24-hour development in the gathered material.
11	Ecuador NOBOA	37 ↔ ±0			no verifiable last-24-hour development in the gathered material.
12	Paraguay PEÑA	35 ↔ ±0			no verifiable last-24-hour development in the gathered material.
13	Venezuela MADURO	30 ↔ ±0			no verifiable last-24-hour development in the gathered material.
14	Bolivia ARCE	22 ▲ +1			no verifiable last-24-hour development in the gathered material.

Power Index 0–100, with today's move · ■ Market · Companies · Defense · Presidency · Institutions · Cohesion · Soft power · Narrative · Pride

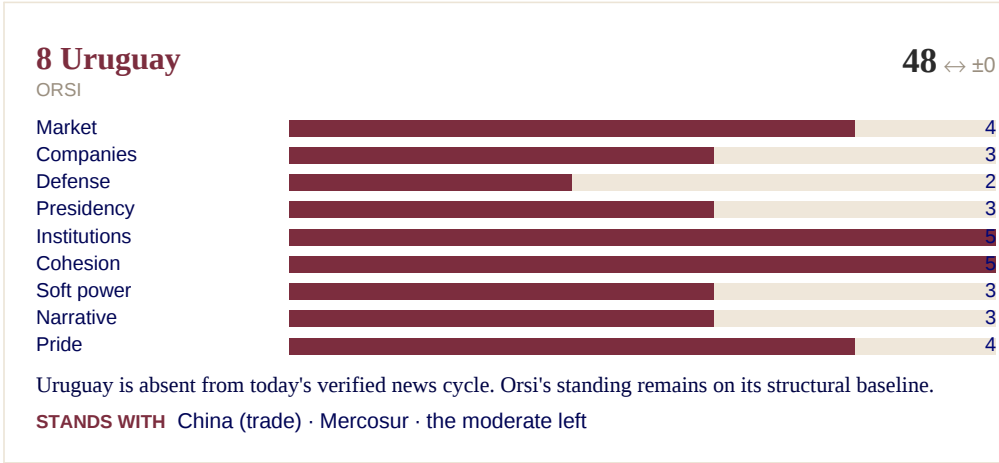
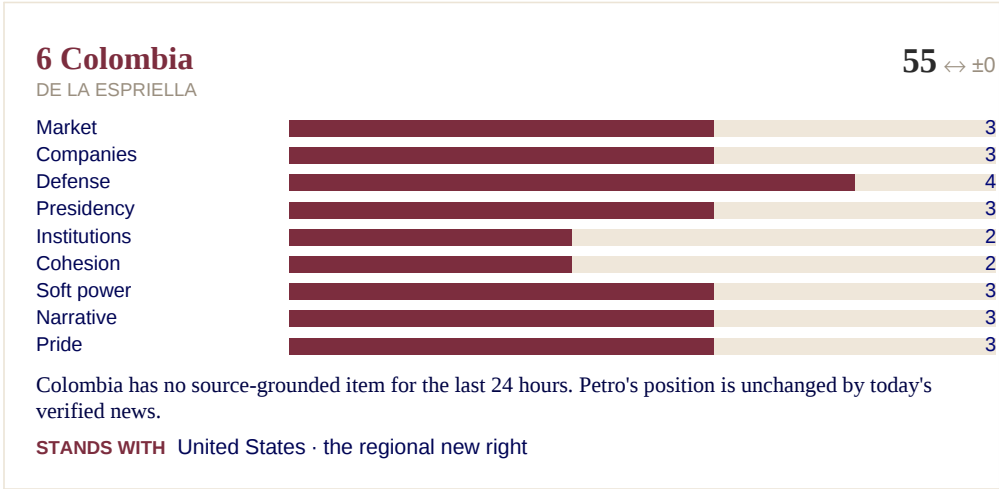
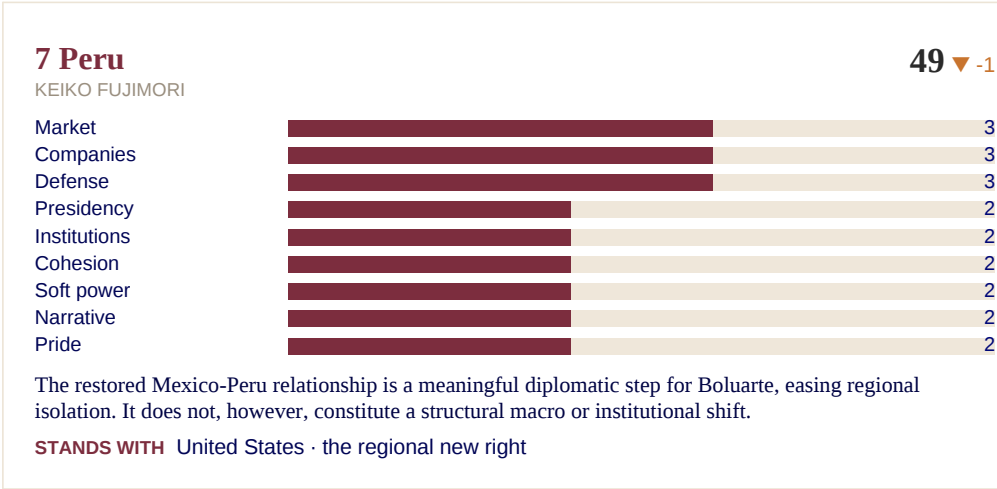
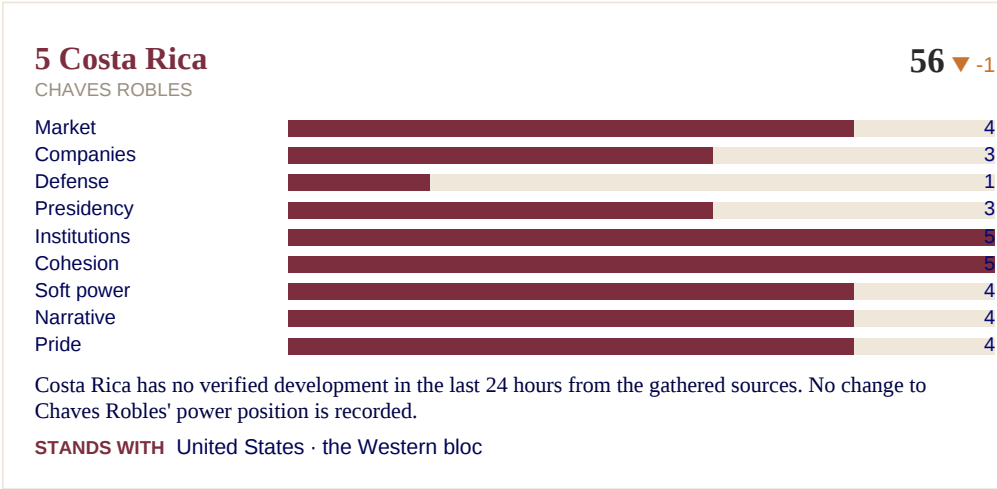
Country power profiles

How each nation's nine powers stack up — 1 of 4.



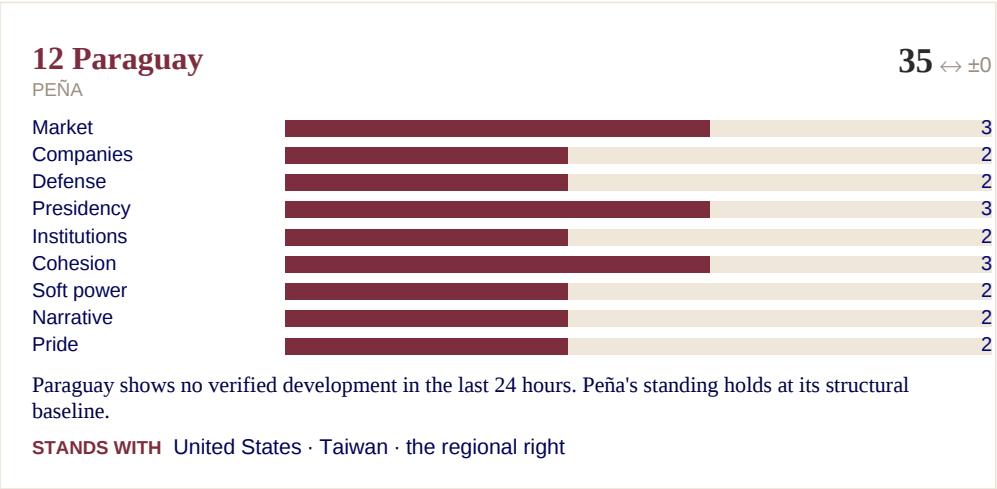
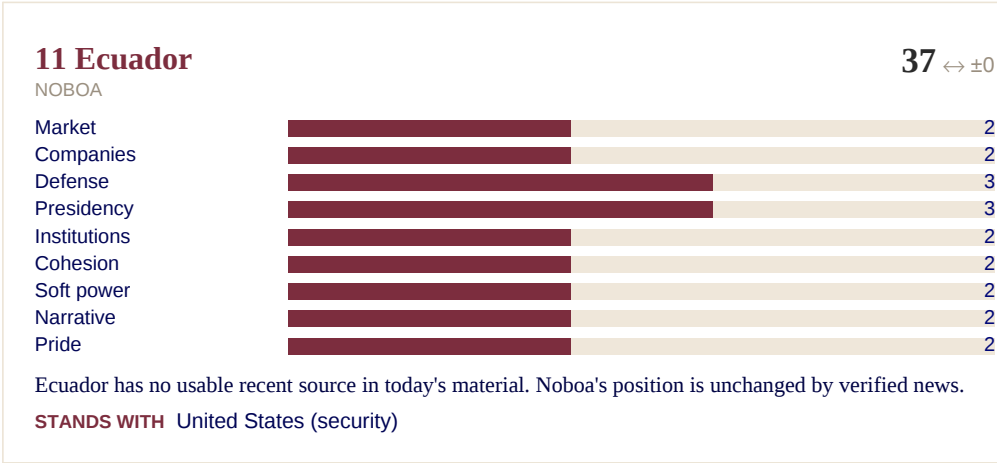
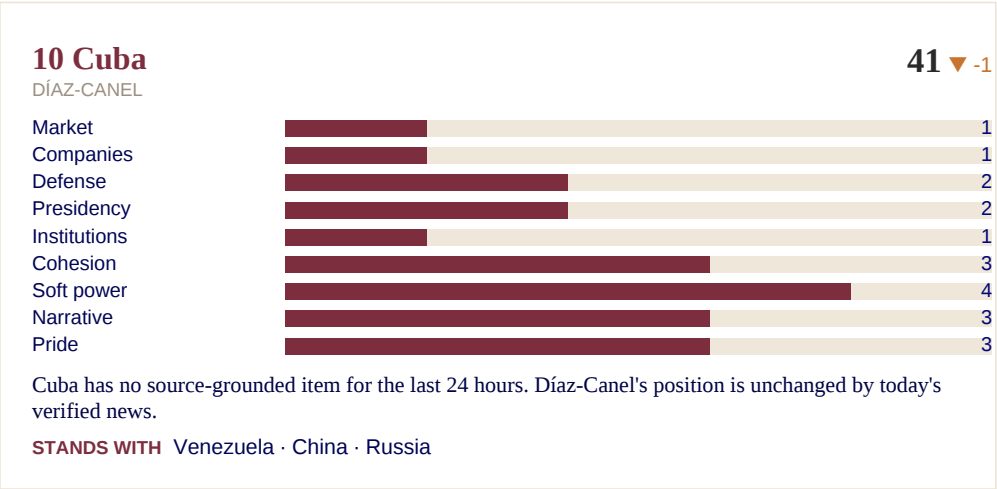
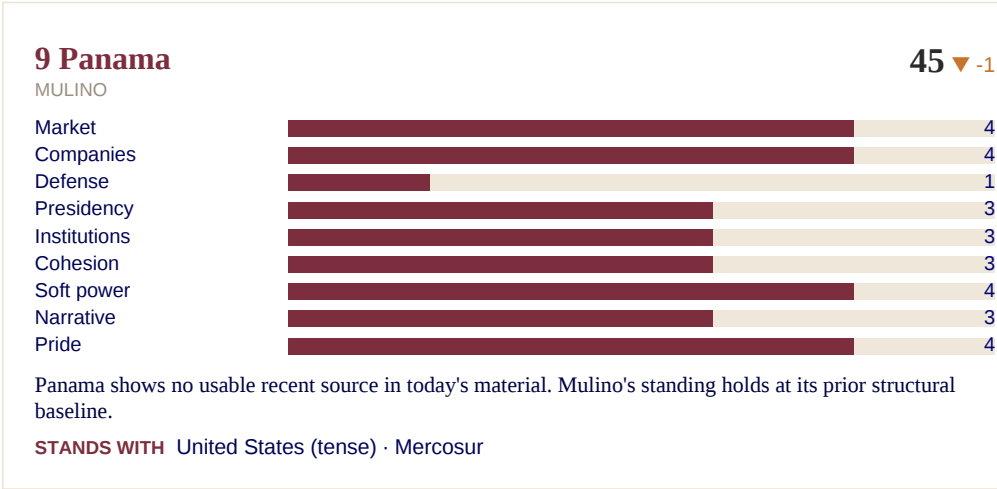
Country power profiles

How each nation's nine powers stack up — 2 of 4.



Country power profiles

How each nation's nine powers stack up — 3 of 4.



Country power profiles

How each nation's nine powers stack up — 4 of 4.

13 Venezuela

MADURO

Market

Companies

Defense

Presidency

Institutions

Cohesion

Soft power

Narrative

Pride

1

1

3

2

1

1

1

2

1

30 ↔ ±0

Venezuela has no usable recent source in the gathered material. Maduro's position is unchanged by today's verified news.

STANDS WITH China · Russia · Cuba

14 Bolivia

ARCE

Market

Companies

Defense

Presidency

Institutions

Cohesion

Soft power

Narrative

Pride

2

2

2

2

2

2

1

2

2

22 ▲ +1

Bolivia is absent from today's verified news cycle. Arce's standing remains on its structural baseline.

STANDS WITH United States · the regional new right (Paz pivot)

Who's gaining, who's losing

This week's shifts in the power balance.

▲ GAINING POWER

+2	Bolivia	no verifiable last-24-hour development in the gathered material.
+1	Costa Rica	no verifiable last-24-hour development in the gathered material.
+1	Colombia	no verifiable last-24-hour development in the gathered material.
+1	Uruguay	no verifiable last-24-hour development in the gathered material.
+1	Ecuador	no verifiable last-24-hour development in the gathered material.
+1	Paraguay	no verifiable last-24-hour development in the gathered material.

▼ LOSING POWER

-2	Venezuela	no verifiable last-24-hour development in the gathered material.
-1	Peru	a diplomatic reset with Mexico was reported after a safe-passage episode involving Betsy Chávez.
-1	Panama	no verifiable last-24-hour development in the gathered material.

WHY THIS IS A MAP, NOT A LIST Power is volatile — it builds for months and can vanish in a week. So the Power Map is built to move: every score carries today's shift and a thirty-day trend, and this page tracks who is gaining and losing over the week and month.

The friends-and-rivals map

Two camps now organise the region — and the nations caught in between.

WASHINGTON · SILICON VALLEY



Milei's world

Washington · Silicon Valley

Argentina Milei

Chile Kast

Paraguay Peña

Ecuador Noboa

Costa Rica Fernández

Panama Mulino

Colombia De la Espriella

Peru Keiko Fujimori

Bolivia Paz

Patrons abroad — Trump · Musk · Bukele · Bolsonaro · Israel

In play

Non-aligned · pragmatic

Mexico Sheinbaum

Uruguay Orsi

Lula's world

Beijing · BRICS

Brazil Lula

Venezuela Rodríguez

Cuba Díaz-Canel

Patrons abroad — Xi / China · Russia · BRICS

How we read power

The nine powers behind every score.

The nine powers

WHAT THE POWER INDEX IS BUILT FROM

Market —

Companies —

Defense —

Presidency —

Institutions —

Cohesion —

Soft power —

Narrative —

Pride —

Sources & method

HOW THE NUMBERS ARE MADE

How the Power Index is built from the nine structural scores.

How alliances and the axis are mapped, from documented ties only.

The Latin America Power Map is editorial analysis from The Rio Times. It is not investment advice.

The data behind the rankings

Thirty international benchmarks — the evidence under every score. Data appendix · 1 of 6.

1 · MARKETS & MONEY

#	COUNTRY	Equity	FX /USD	Policy %	Inflation %	Risk bp
1	Brazil	171,032	5.14	14.25	4.7	197
2	Mexico	65,729	16.9	6.50	3.6	233
3	Argentina	3.12M	1,500	29.00	32.6	616
4	Chile	10,812	915	4.50	4.0	102
5	Colombia	2,260	3,044	12.00	5.7	282
6	Panama	—	1.00	—	0.9	159
7	Costa Rica	—	450	3.25	−1.6	165
8	Uruguay	—	40.2	5.75	3.2	78
9	Venezuela	—	779	58.91	612†	6,371
10	Paraguay	—	5,996	5.50	2.3	129
11	Peru	58,096	3.36	4.25	4.0	139
12	Ecuador	—	1.00	7.02	2.3	506
13	Bolivia	—	11.4	6.24	14.2	561
14	Cuba	—	n/a	2.25	14.7	n/a

Rio Times feed, central banks, JPMorgan EMBI

The data behind the rankings

Thirty international benchmarks — the evidence under every score. Data appendix · 2 of 6.

2 · ECONOMY

#	COUNTRY	GDP \$bn	Per cap \$	Growth %	Unemp %	Reserves \$bn
1	Brazil	2,130	10,686	+1.9	6.0	367.6
2	Mexico	1,864	13,741	+0.6	2.6	256.3
3	Argentina	684	14,355	+3.5	7.4	32.7
4	Chile	344	17,735	+2.4	8.5	51.5
5	Colombia	438	8,623	+2.3	8.0	66.6
6	Panama	92	19,814	—	10.4	n/a
7	Costa Rica	103	19,162	—	6.3	20.9
8	Uruguay	80	24,549	—	7.5	18.6
9	Venezuela	109†	3,736†	+4.0†	35.6	13.3
10	Paraguay	46	7,692	+4.2	5.2	9.4
11	Peru	323	9,911	+2.8	5.9	101.0
12	Ecuador	126	7,199	+2.5	3.1	10.5
13	Bolivia	56	5,107	−3.3	3.3	0.15
14	Cuba	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

IMF WEO 2025/26, ECLAC, Trading Economics

The data behind the rankings

Thirty international benchmarks — the evidence under every score. Data appendix · 3 of 6.

3 · PUBLIC FINANCES & OPENNESS

#	COUNTRY	Debt %	Fiscal %	Curr acct %	S&P;	Econ free	
1	Brazil		76.5	−8.1	−3.0	BB	55.1
2	Mexico		49.7	−4.9	−0.4	BBB	61.3
3	Argentina		83.2	−0.4	−1.1	CCC+	54.2
4	Chile		41.7	−2.8	−2.3	A	73.2
5	Colombia		61.3	−5.7	−2.4	BB−	59.8
6	Panama		56.6	−3.7	+0.3	BBB−	65.5
7	Costa Rica		74.2	−3.4	−0.7	BB	68.6
8	Uruguay		70.3	−3.4	−0.5	BBB+	70.2
9	Venezuela		164†	−5.8	+2.6	n/r	27.6
10	Paraguay		45.2	−1.7	−3.5	BBB−	65.2
11	Peru		30.2	−2.4	+3.1	BBB−	65.9
12	Ecuador		50.6	−2.9	+5.8	B−	55.8
13	Bolivia		95.0	−11.6	−1.9	CCC−	44.1
14	Cuba		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/r	25.4

IMF, S&P Global, Heritage 2025

The data behind the rankings

Thirty international benchmarks — the evidence under every score. Data appendix · 4 of 6.

4 · INSTITUTIONS

#	COUNTRY	Rule of law	Ctrl corr.	CPI 2024	V-Dem	Press free.	
1	Brazil		−0.45	−0.41	34	0.70	63.8
2	Mexico		−1.15	−0.94	26	0.22	45.6
3	Argentina		−0.25	−0.33	37	0.52	56.1
4	Chile		0.69	1.11	63	0.78	62.3
5	Colombia		−0.56	−0.29	39	0.56	49.8
6	Panama		−0.26	−0.55	33	0.58	66.8
7	Costa Rica		0.62	0.68	58	0.81	73.1
8	Uruguay		0.95	1.53	76	0.79	65.2
9	Venezuela		−2.20	−1.59	10	0.04	29.2
10	Paraguay		−0.58	−1.02	24	0.38	56.8
11	Peru		−0.51	−0.72	31	0.51	42.9
12	Ecuador		−0.97	−0.78	32	0.39	53.8
13	Bolivia		−1.27	−1.00	28	0.35	54.1
14	Cuba		−0.62	−0.23	41	0.06	26.0

World Bank WGI 2024, TI 2024, V-Dem 2025, RSF 2025

The data behind the rankings

Thirty international benchmarks — the evidence under every score. Data appendix · 5 of 6.

5 · SOCIETY

#	COUNTRY	Gini	Poverty %	HDI	Pop (m)	Fragile St.	
1	Brazil		51.6	23.1	0.786	213.6	70.3
2	Mexico		43.5	29.6	0.789	133.0	69.0
3	Argentina		42.4	38.1	0.865	46.0	44.2
4	Chile		43.0	6.5	0.878	19.9	41.1
5	Colombia		53.9	31.8	0.788	53.9	75.6
6	Panama		49.7	21.7	0.839	4.6	47.7
7	Costa Rica		45.8	20.3	0.833	5.2	39.4
8	Uruguay		40.9	17.3	0.862	3.4	33.7
9	Venezuela		44.7†	n/a	0.709	28.6	89.0
10	Paraguay		44.4	20.1	0.756	7.1	61.5
11	Peru		40.1	27.6	0.794	34.9	72.0
12	Ecuador		45.2	28.0	0.777	18.4	68.0
13	Bolivia		42.1	37.7	0.733	12.7	69.4
14	Cuba		38.0†	n/a	0.762	10.9	59.1

World Bank, UNDP 2025, UN WPP 2024, FFP 2024

The data behind the rankings

Thirty international benchmarks — the evidence under every score. Data appendix · 6 of 6.

6 · SECURITY & DEFENSE

#	COUNTRY	Homicide	Org-crime	Mil %	Firepower	Active
1	Brazil	19.3	6.77	0.97	11	376k
2	Mexico	24.9	7.57	0.62	36	387k
3	Argentina	4.5	5.00	0.37	32	108k
4	Chile	6.3	5.18	1.58	49	80k
5	Colombia	24.9	7.75	3.36	43	429k
6	Panama	11.7	6.98	—	135	16k
7	Costa Rica	17.7	5.53	—	n/a	n/a
8	Uruguay	11.2	3.22	2.31	97	24k
9	Venezuela	12.6†	6.72	—	51	109k
10	Paraguay	6.8	7.52	0.93	81	16k
11	Peru	8.6	6.40	0.91	50	120k
12	Ecuador	45.7	7.07	2.22	72	41k
13	Bolivia	4.4	4.95	1.37	82	40k
14	Cuba	4.5†	3.37	—	65	50k

UNODC, GI-TOC, SIPRI 2024, Global Firepower 2026