

Latin America

Power Map

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

POWER SHIFTS · SINCE YESTERDAY

▼ Brazil -2	▼ Mexico -2	▼ Peru -2	▼ Uruguay -2	▼ Paraguay -2
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Latin America's agenda converged on the United Nations on Wednesday, with presidents and delegates taking the podium while domestic fault lines simmered beneath the surface. The day's only confirmed structural break came from Bolivia, where a \$1.9 billion IMF program cleared Congress and set the stage for painful fuel-subsidy cuts.

STRONGEST TODAY

1	Brazil	80	▼
2	Mexico	70	▼
3	Argentina	66	↔

WEAKEST TODAY

12	Paraguay	35	▼
13	Venezuela	31	▲
14	Bolivia	21	↔

The Power Board

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

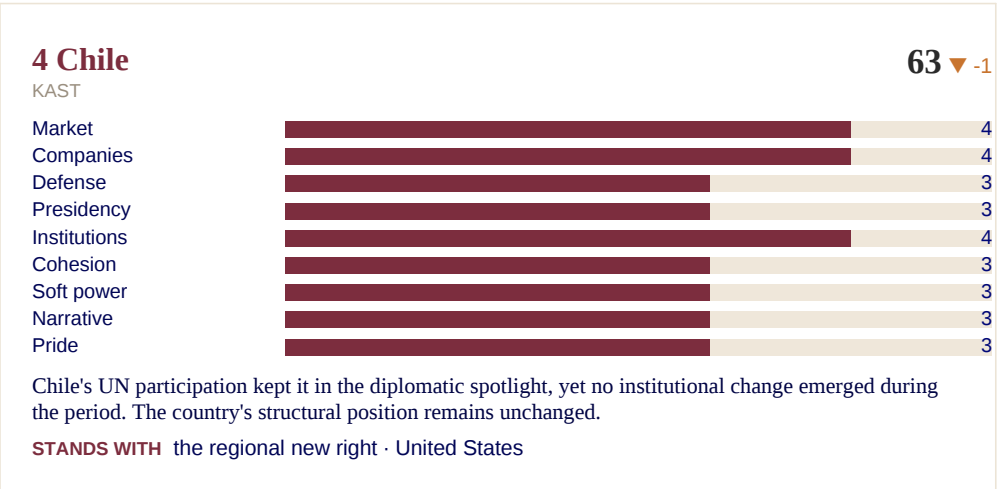
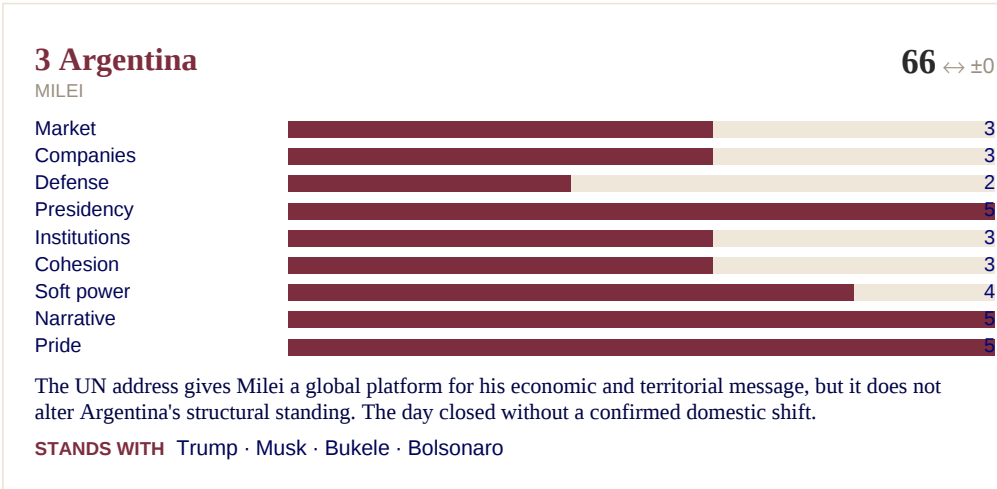
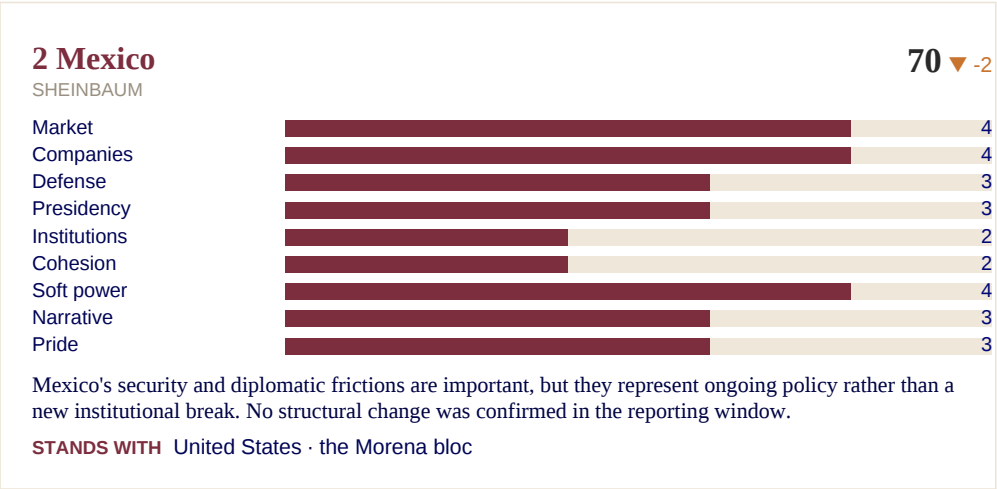
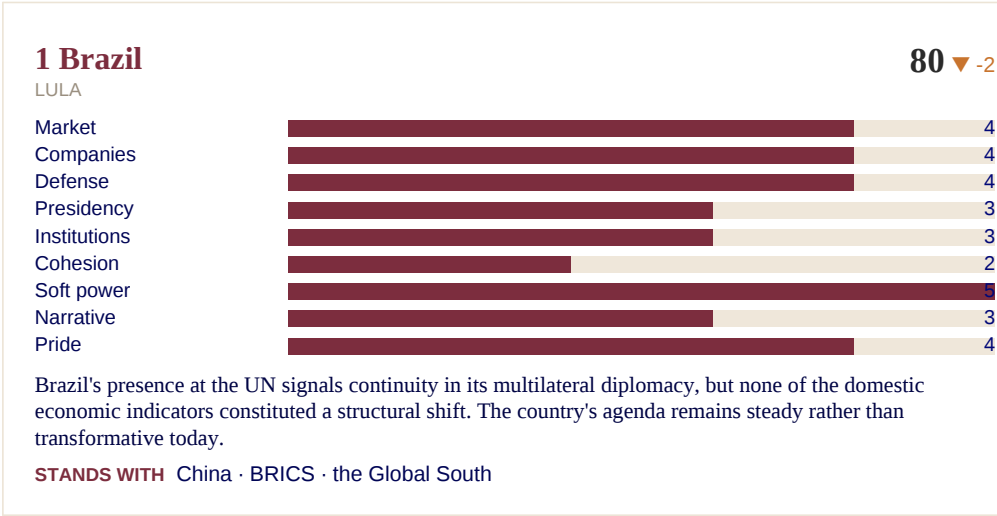
SINCE YESTERDAY The board moved on Bolivia's IMF approval, the first verified structural economic shift in the 24-hour window. Venezuela's reported post-Maduro transition remains unverified and is therefore not being scored as a completed transfer of power.

#	COUNTRY & LEADER	POWER · TODAY	30-DAY	POWER SIGNATURE Mkt-Co-Def-Pres-Inst-Coh-Soft-Narr-Pride	WHAT'S MOVING
1	Brazil LULA	80 ▼ -2			Lula delivered Brazil's opening address at the UN General Debate, while monthly deflation and flat services data painted a mixed economic picture.
2	Mexico SHEINBAUM	70 ▼ -2			Sheinbaum's government pressed a fuel-theft crackdown even as bilateral tensions with Washington flared over violence in Sinaloa.
3	Argentina MILEI	66 ↔ ±0			Milei took the UN stage to press his economic agenda and restate Argentina's sovereignty claim over the Falklands.
4	Chile KAST	63 ▼ -1			Kast represented Chile at the UN amid scrutiny of his foreign policy.
5	Costa Rica CHAVES ROBLES	57 ↔ ±0			International attention focused on Rebeca Grynspan's informal UN secretary-general candidacy rather than any domestic shift.
6	Colombia DE LA ESPRIELLA	54 ▼ -1			President de la Espriella delegated Colombia's UN address to Vice President Restrepo, an unusual diplomatic move.
7	Peru KEIKO FUJIMORI	48 ▼ -2			Keiko Fujimori was listed as president and scheduled to address the UN, while a central-bank growth forecast of 3.2% for 2026 circulated with unclear sourcing.
8	Uruguay ORSI	47 ▼ -2			The government presented workplace-safety and innovation-finance initiatives without any election, default, or major macro release.
9	Panama MULINO	45 ↔ ±0			Mulino addressed the UN while Panama's unresolved National Assembly dispute continued without a decisive resolution.
10	Cuba DÍAZ-CANEL	43 ▲ +1			Cuba suffered another major blackout linked to fuel shortages and deepening economic pressure.
11	Ecuador NOBOA	37 ▼ -1			Noboa addressed the UN, with no major new political or economic development reported domestically.
12	Paraguay PEÑA	35 ▼ -2			Paraguay moved to normalize relations with post-Maduro Venezuela, a diplomatic adjustment without domestic structural effect.
13	Venezuela RODRÍGUEZ	31 ▲ +1			Acting President Delcy Rodríguez was reported to be consolidating a post-Maduro constitutional order ahead of her UN debut as head of state.
14	Bolivia PAZ	21 ↔ ±0			Congress approved a \$1.9 billion IMF loan program tied to ending diesel subsidies, a major economic-policy shift.

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.

5 Costa Rica

CHAVES ROBLES

57 ↔ ±0

Market		3
Companies		3
Defense		2
Presidency		3
Institutions		5
Cohesion		4
Soft power		4
Narrative		4
Pride		4

Costa Rica's presence in the UN process is a soft-power story, not a domestic structural event. The country's institutional standing is unchanged.

STANDS WITH United States · the Western bloc

6 Colombia

DE LA ESPRIELLA

54 ▼ -1

Market		3
Companies		3
Defense		4
Presidency		3
Institutions		3
Cohesion		2
Soft power		3
Narrative		3
Pride		2

The delegation is politically notable and may signal internal dynamics, but it does not amount to a structural shift. Colombia's institutional framework remains intact.

STANDS WITH United States · the regional new right

7 Peru

KEIKO FUJIMORI

48 ▼ -2

Market		3
Companies		3
Defense		3
Presidency		2
Institutions		3
Cohesion		2
Soft power		3
Narrative		3
Pride		2

Peru's UN appearance and growth forecast are routine developments rather than structural breaks. The economic figure's date and primary source are not verified.

STANDS WITH United States · the regional new right

8 Uruguay

ORSI

47 ▼ -2

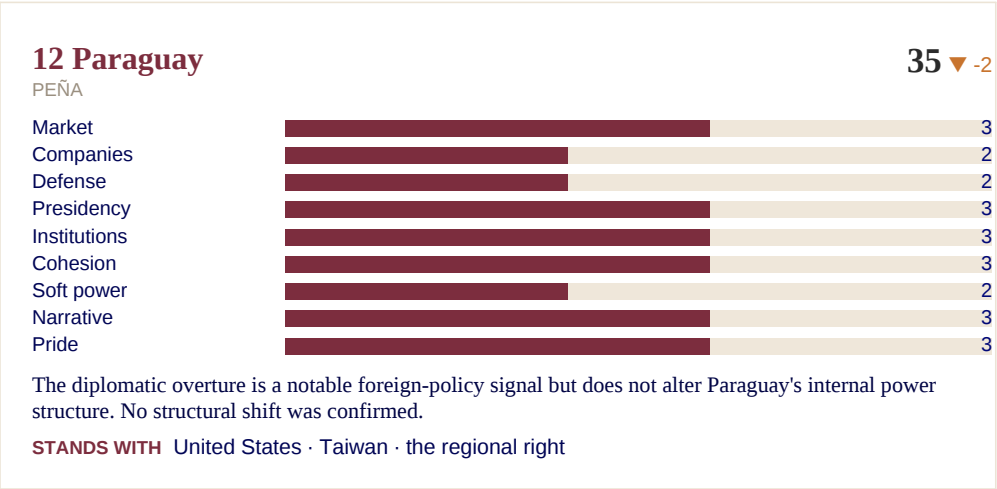
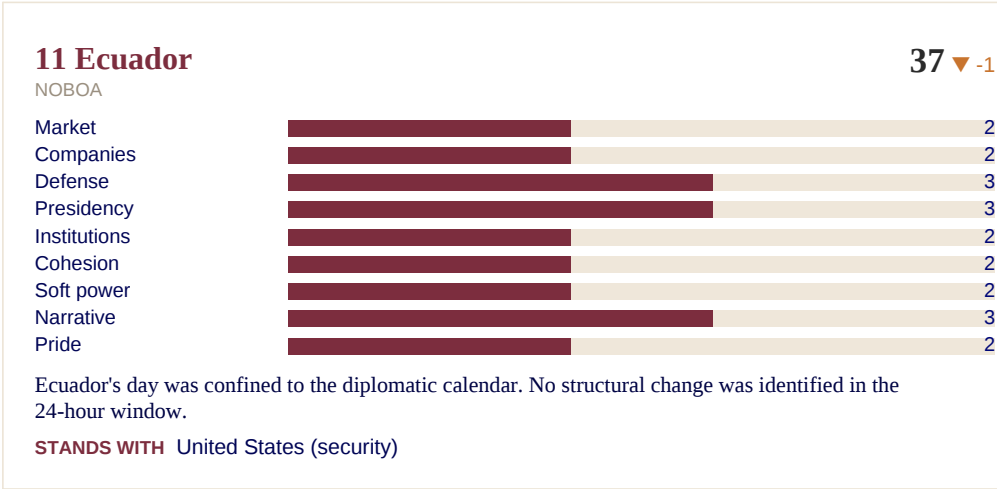
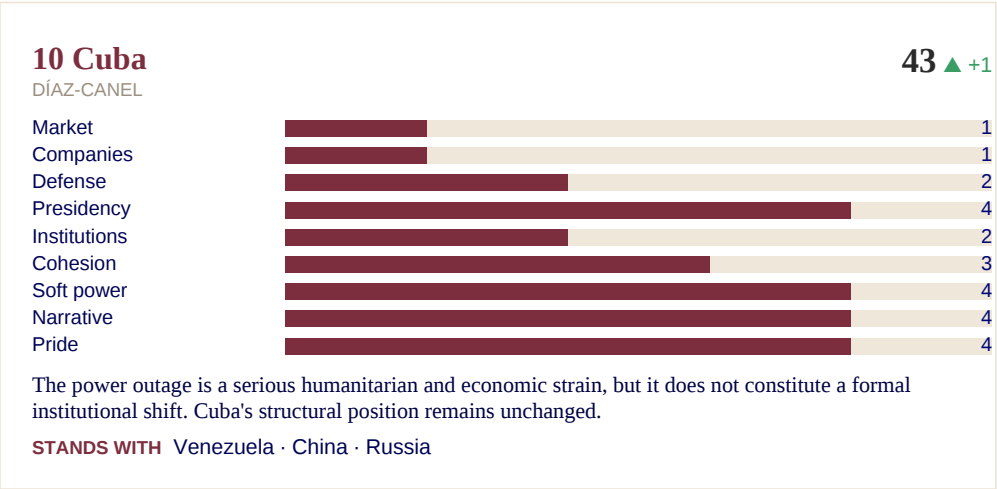
Market		4
Companies		3
Defense		2
Presidency		3
Institutions		5
Cohesion		4
Soft power		4
Narrative		3
Pride		4

Uruguay's policy agenda advanced modestly on routine fronts. There was no confirmed structural change in the window.

STANDS WITH China (trade) · Mercosur · the moderate left

Country power profiles

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



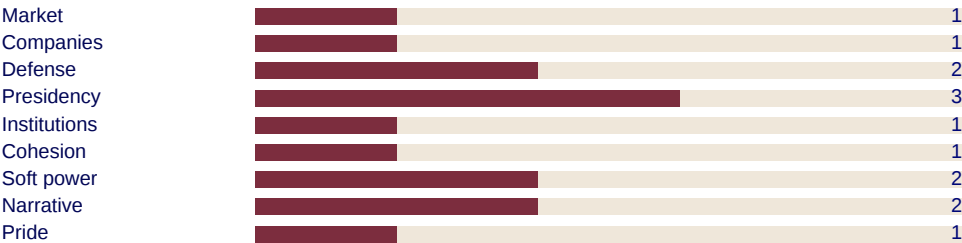
Country power profiles

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

13 Venezuela

RODRÍGUEZ

31 ▲ +1



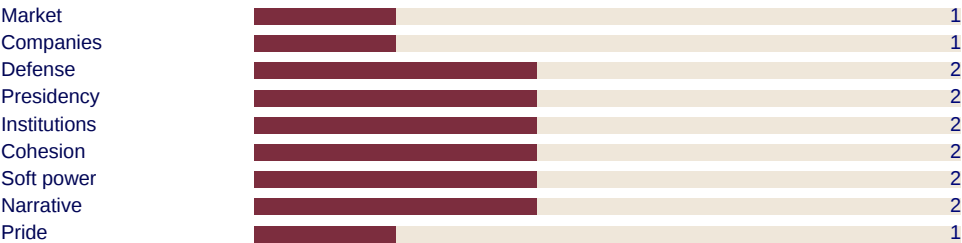
The reported transition remains unverified by the available sources and is not being treated as an established structural shift. Venezuela's legal and institutional status is therefore scored as unchanged pending authoritative confirmation.

STANDS WITH China · Russia · Cuba

14 Bolivia

PAZ

21 ↔ ±0



The IMF-backed adjustment marks a genuine structural change in Bolivia's fiscal policy, with unions already warning of protests and higher costs. This is the day's strongest confirmed shift in the region.

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

▼ LOSING POWER

-3	Mexico	Sheinbaum's government pressed a fuel-theft crackdown even as bilateral tensions with Washington flared over violence in Sinaloa.
-3	Chile	Kast represented Chile at the UN amid scrutiny of his foreign policy.
-2	Brazil	Lula delivered Brazil's opening address at the UN General Debate, while monthly deflation and flat services data painted a mixed economic picture.
-2	Argentina	Milei took the UN stage to press his economic agenda and restate Argentina's sovereignty claim over the Falklands.
-2	Peru	Keiko Fujimori was listed as president and scheduled to address the UN, while a central-bank growth forecast of 3.2% for 2026 circulated with unclear sourcing.
-1	Colombia	President de la Espriella delegated Colombia's UN address to Vice President Restrepo, an unusual diplomatic move.

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	187,423	5.10	14.25	4.7	197
2	Mexico	63,647	17.3	6.50	3.6	233
3	Argentina	3.12M	1,514	29.00	32.6	616
4	Chile	10,812	947	4.50	4.0	102
5	Colombia	2,260	3,203	12.00	5.7	282
6	Panama	—	1.00	—	0.9	159
7	Costa Rica	—	445	3.25	−1.6	165
8	Uruguay	—	40.1	5.75	3.2	78
9	Venezuela	—	852	58.91	612†	6,371
10	Paraguay	—	5,918	5.50	2.3	129
11	Peru	58,096	3.38	4.25	4.0	139
12	Ecuador	—	1.00	7.02	2.3	506
13	Bolivia	—	11.8	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