

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	▼ Chile -2	▲ Colombia +2	▲ Uruguay +2
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Latin America's Friday was a day of prospective promises and paused operations, with Argentina courting investment-grade talk and U.S. support that remains unsigned, while Chile halted the world's largest copper mine after a fatal accident. Venezuela's interim government used the UN stage to pledge elections, though no timetable or fresh constitutional rupture emerged in the reporting window.

STRONGEST TODAY

1	Brazil	80	▼
2	Mexico	71	▲
3	Argentina	66	▼

WEAKEST TODAY

12	Ecuador	35	▼
13	Venezuela	29	▼
14	Bolivia	20	↔

The Power Board

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

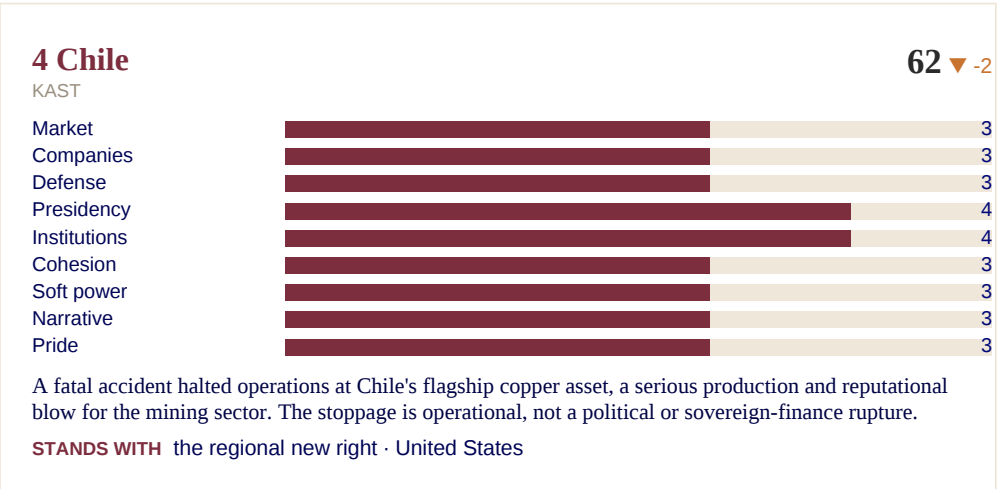
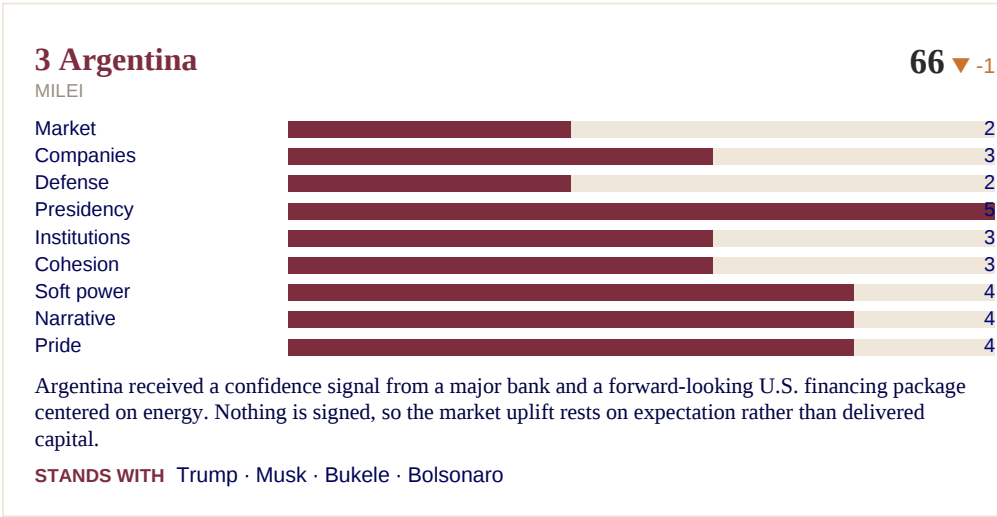
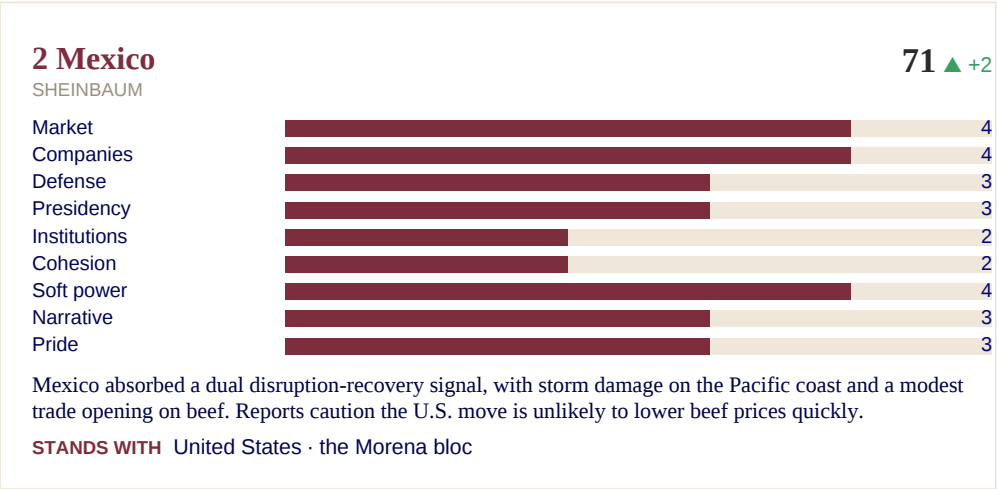
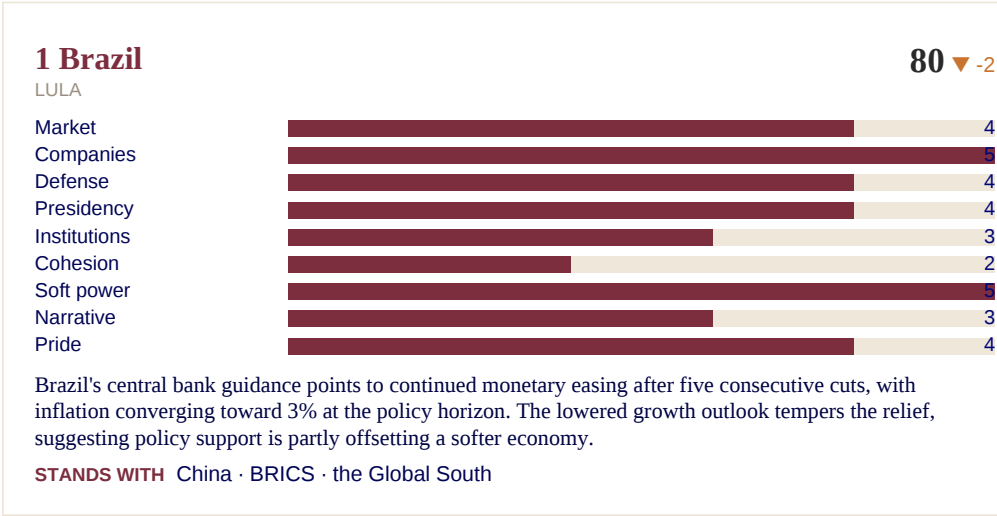
SINCE YESTERDAY The board shows no verified structural break in the last 24 hours for 13 of 14 tracked nations. Venezuela remains flagged as a major political transition, but the reporting dates the shift itself before this window.

#	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			The Central Bank projected inflation near target and trimmed growth, reinforcing rate-cut expectations.
2	Mexico SHEINBAUM	71 ▲ +2			Hurricane Polo kept hitting the Pacific coast while U.S. cattle-import restrictions were eased.
3	Argentina MILEI	66 ▼ -1			JP Morgan floated eventual investment-grade status and the U.S. announced up to \$7 billion in prospective support.
4	Chile KAST	62 ▼ -2			BHP suspended Escondida, the world's largest copper mine, after a worker died.
5	Colombia DE LA ESPRIELLA	56 ▲ +2			Regional reporting highlighted a widening trade deficit and troop deployments to Santa Marta.
6	Costa Rica CHAVES ROBLES	55 ▼ -1			No qualifying national development was verified, though Rebeca Grynspan led informal UN polling.
7	Uruguay ORSI	49 ▲ +2			A Senate-approved budget-accountability bill and a port-union assembly anchored the news.
8	Panama MULINO	47 ▲ +2			No qualifying national development was verified in the 24-hour window.
9	Peru KEIKO FUJIMORI	47 ▼ -1			Focus fell on a contract-killing investigation involving two foreign suspects.
10	Cuba DÍAZ-CANEL	44 ▲ +2			Severe power shortages and blackouts continued, alongside new Chinese solar kits.
11	Paraguay PEÑA	36 ▲ +1			President Santiago Peña urged the UN to admit Taiwan, calling its exclusion a stain.
12	Ecuador NOBOA	35 ▼ -1			No qualifying national development was verified in the 24-hour window.
13	Venezuela DELCEY RODRÍGUEZ	29 ▼ -2			Interim President Delcy Rodríguez pledged elections at the UN but gave no timetable.
14	Bolivia ARCE	20 ↔ ±0			Petrobras resumed exploratory drilling in Bolivia after an eight-year pause.

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

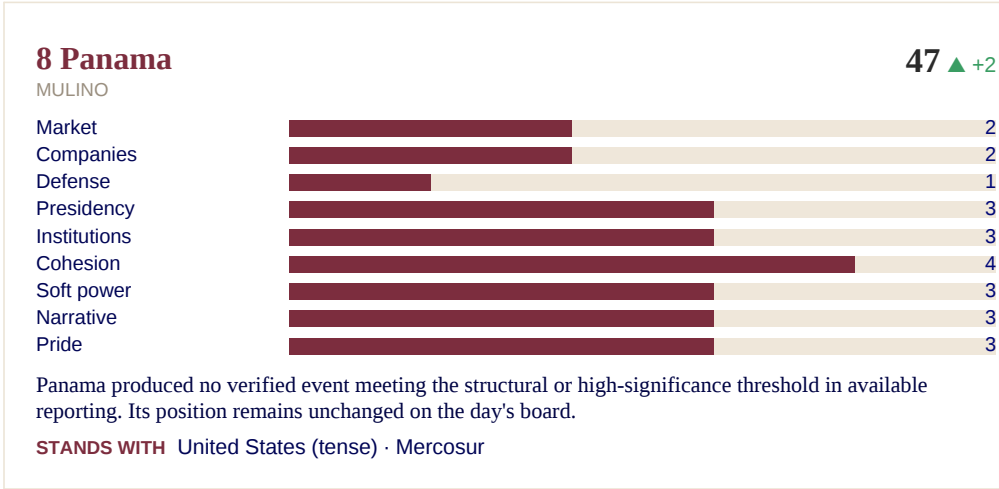
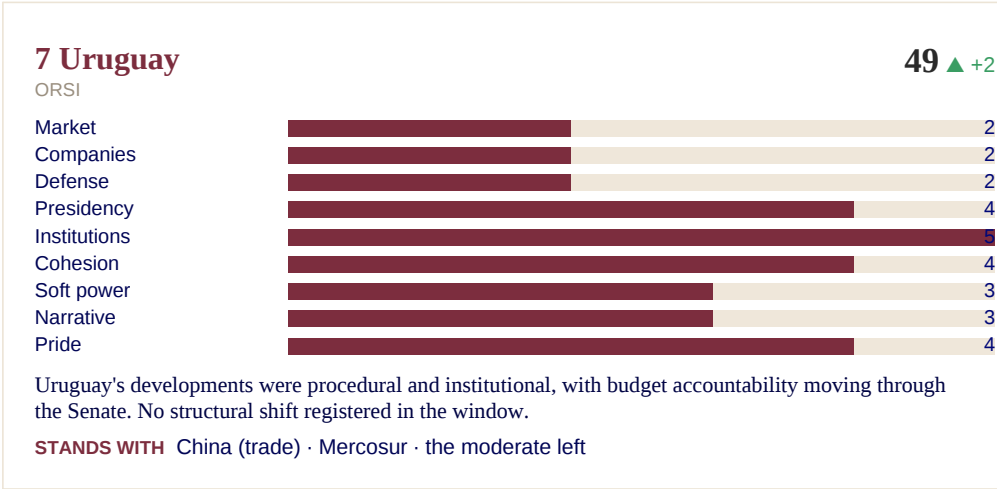
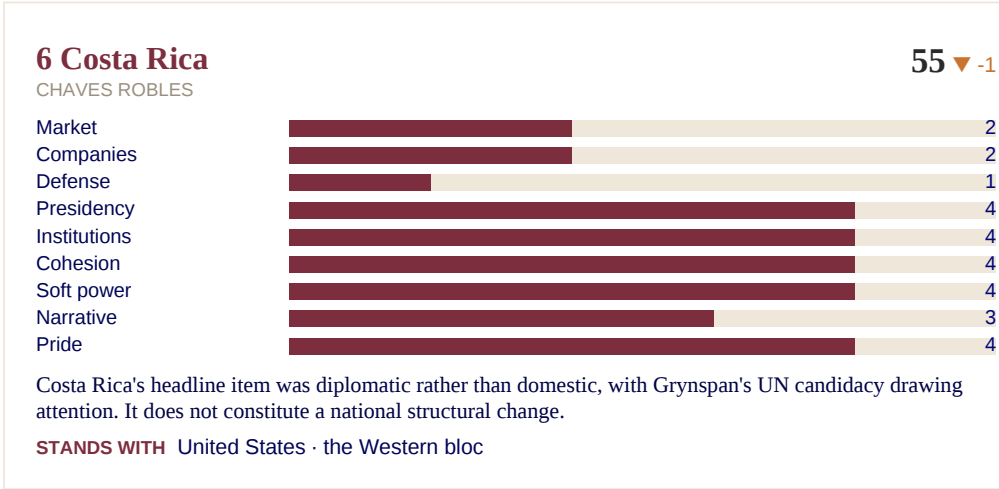
Country power profiles

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



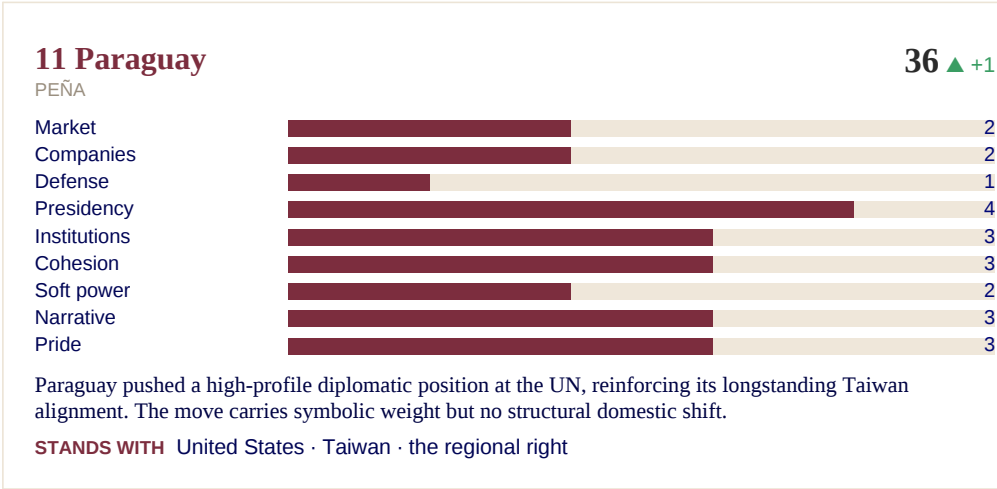
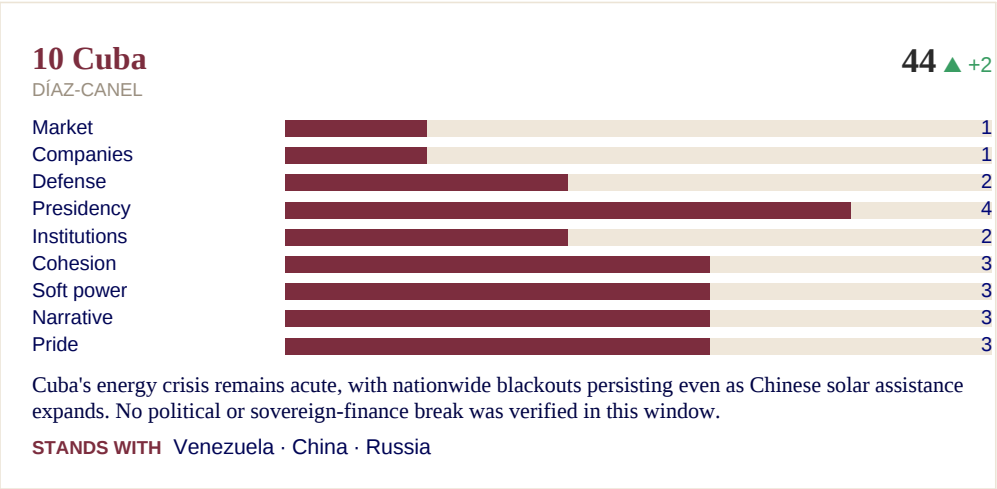
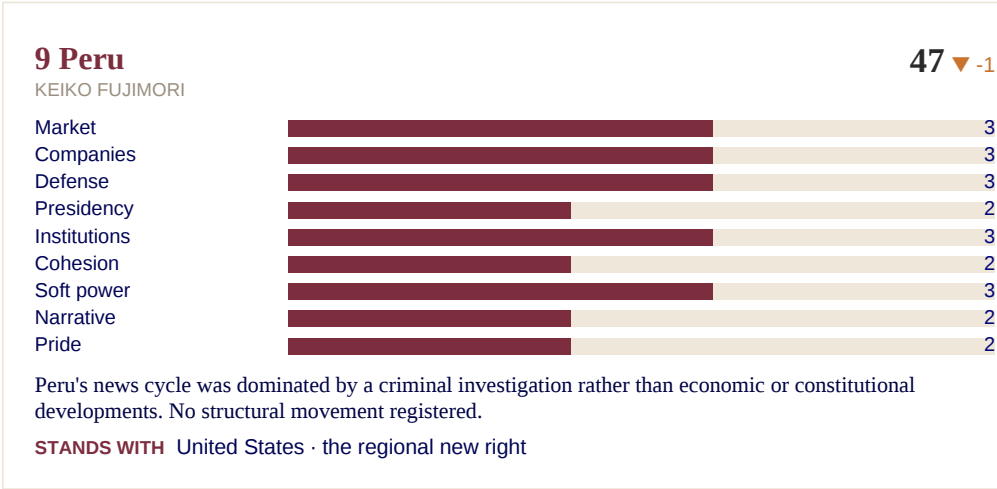
Country power profiles

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.



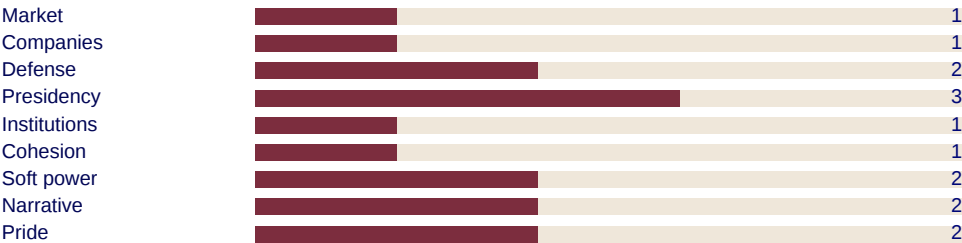
Country power profiles

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

13 Venezuela

DELCY RODRÍGUEZ

29 ▼ -2



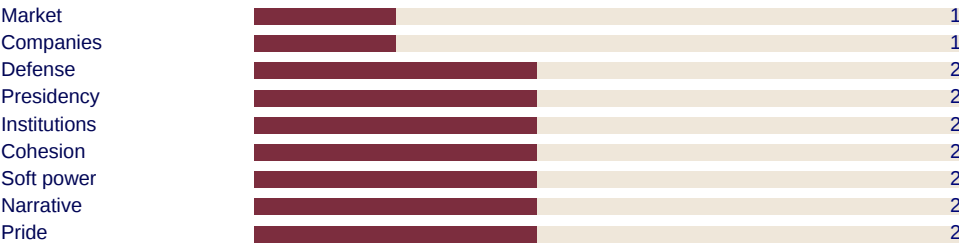
Venezuela remains the region's clearest political transition, with the interim government publicly committing to an electoral path. The reporting does not establish that the transition itself occurred within the last 24 hours.

STANDS WITH China · Russia · Cuba

14 Bolivia

ARCE

20 ↔ ±0



Bolivia regained a significant energy-sector partner as Petrobras returned to exploration. It is a notable economic signal, though not a structural regime or sovereign-finance shift.

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	Panama	No qualifying national development was verified in the 24-hour window.
+1	Colombia	Regional reporting highlighted a widening trade deficit and troop deployments to Santa Marta.
+1	Uruguay	A Senate-approved budget-accountability bill and a port-union assembly anchored the news.
+1	Cuba	Severe power shortages and blackouts continued, alongside new Chinese solar kits.
+1	Paraguay	President Santiago Peña urged the UN to admit Taiwan, calling its exclusion a stain.

▼ LOSING POWER

-4	Chile	BHP suspended Escondida, the world's largest copper mine, after a worker died.
-3	Peru	Focus fell on a contract-killing investigation involving two foreign suspects.
-3	Ecuador	No qualifying national development was verified in the 24-hour window.
-2	Brazil	The Central Bank projected inflation near target and trimmed growth, reinforcing rate-cut expectations.
-2	Argentina	JP Morgan floated eventual investment-grade status and the U.S. announced up to \$7 billion in prospective support.
-2	Venezuela	Interim President Delcy Rodríguez pledged elections at the UN but gave no timetable.

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

the new right

BEIJING · BRICS

the old & hard left



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	183,966	5.19	14.25	4.7	197
2	Mexico	64,000	17.7	6.50	3.6	233
3	Argentina	3.12M	1,520	29.00	32.6	616
4	Chile	10,812	963	4.50	4.0	102
5	Colombia	2,260	3,351	12.00	5.7	282
6	Panama	—	1.00	—	0.9	159
7	Costa Rica	—	451	3.25	−1.6	165
8	Uruguay	—	40.0	5.75	3.2	78
9	Venezuela	—	855	58.91	612†	6,371
10	Paraguay	—	5,894	5.50	2.3	129
11	Peru	58,096	3.40	4.25	4.0	139
12	Ecuador	—	1.00	7.02	2.3	506
13	Bolivia	—	12.2	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