



Latin America and the Caribbean: Fact Sheet on Economic and Social Indicators

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This fact sheet tracks selected economic and social development indicators for Latin American and Caribbean countries. **Table 1** and **Table 2** illustrate levels of human development throughout the region. **Table 3** classifies country economies by income. **Table 4** lists poverty trends in selected Latin American countries. This fact sheet shows the most recent data available from the World Bank and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Table 1. Selected Human Development Indicators for 2012

Country	Population	Gross National Income (U.S. \$ millions)	GNI Per Capita (U.S. \$)	Life Expectancy at Birth, in Years	Mean Years of Schooling	Human Development Index (HDI) Rank ^a
Mexico and Central America						
Mexico	114,793,341	\$1,060,221	\$9,240	77.0	8.5	57
Costa Rica	4,726,575	36,191	7,660	79.3	8.3	69
El Salvador	6,227,491	21,670	3,480	72.2	7.5	105
Guatemala	14,757,316	42,359	2,870	71.2	4.1	131
Honduras	7,754,687	15,310	1,970	73.1	6.5	121
Nicaragua	5,869,859	6,842	1,170	74.0	5.8	129
Panama	3,571,185	28,258	7,910	76.1	9.4	58
Caribbean						
Antigua and Barbuda	89,612	1,081	12,060	72.6	8.9	60
Bahamas	347,176	na	na	75.6	8.5	53
Barbados	273,925	na	na	76.8	9.3	47
Belize	356,600	1,317	3,690	76.1	8.0	93
Cuba	11,253,665	na	na	79.1	9.9	51
Dominica	67,675	480	7,090	77.5	7.7	81
Dominican Republic	10,056,181	52,647	5,240	73.4	7.2	98
Grenada	104,890	757	7,220	76.0	8.6	67
Guyana	756,040	na	na	69.9	8.0	117
Haiti	10,123,787	7,050	700	62.1	4.9	158
Jamaica	2,709,300	13,479	4,980	73.1	9.6	79
St. Kitts and Nevis	53,051	662	12,480	73.1	8.4	72
St. Lucia	176,000	1,176	6,680	74.6	8.3	82
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	109,365	667	6,100	72.3	8.6	85
Suriname	529,419	na	na	70.6	7.2	104

Country	Population	Gross National Income (U.S. \$ millions)	GNI Per Capita (U.S. \$)	Life Expectancy at Birth, in Years	Mean Years of Schooling	Human Development Index (HDI) Rank ^a
Trinidad and Tobago	1,346,350	20,249	15,040	70.1	9.2	62
South America						
Argentina	40,764,561	397,190	9,740	75.9	9.3	45
Bolivia	10,088,108	20,546	2,040	66.6	9.2	108
Brazil	196,655,014	2,107,628	10,720	73.5	7.2	84
Chile	17,269,525	212,003	12,280	79.1	9.7	44
Colombia	46,927,125	286,546	6,110	73.7	7.3	87
Ecuador	14,666,055	60,657	4,140	75.6	7.6	83
Paraguay	6,568,290	19,511	2,970	72.5	7.7	107
Peru	29,399,817	161,701	5,500	74.0	8.7	80
Uruguay	3,368,595	39,956	11,860	77.0	8.5	48
Venezuela	29,278,000	349,054	11,920	74.4	7.6	73

Sources: The World Bank, World Development Indicators online for population, GNI, and GNI per capita; U.N. Human Development Indicators online for Life Expectancy at Birth, Mean Years of Schooling, and HDI Rank.

Notes: Gross national income (GNI) from the World Bank Atlas Method is the broadest measure of national income. It measures total value added from domestic and foreign sources claimed by residents. GNI per capita is GNI divided by mid-year population.

Life Expectancy at Birth is the number of years a newborn is expected to live if patterns of mortality prevailing at its birth were to stay the same throughout its life.

Mean Years of Schooling is the average number of years of education received by people 25 years old and older in their lifetime.

HDI Rank is a composite measure of three basic dimensions of human development: health, education, and income. Calculated for 187 countries, with 1 = highest human development.

a. Rank out of 187 countries.

Table 2. Human Development Index (HDI) Classification, 2012

Very High Human Development	High Human Development	Medium Human Development	Low Human Development
Argentina	Antigua and Barbuda	Bolivia	Haiti
Barbados	Bahamas	Dominican Republic	
Chile	Belize	El Salvador	
	Brazil	Guatemala	
	Costa Rica	Guyana	
	Colombia	Honduras	
	Cuba	Nicaragua	
	Dominica	Paraguay	
	Ecuador	Suriname	
	Grenada		
	Jamaica		
	Mexico		
	Panama		
	Peru		
	Trinidad and Tobago		
	St. Kitts and Nevis		
	St. Lucia		
	St. Vincent and the Grenadines		
	Uruguay		
	Venezuela		

Source: U.N. Human Development Report, 2012.

Table 3. Economic Classification by Income, 2012

High Income	Upper Middle Income	Lower Middle Income	Low Income
Bahamas ^a	Antigua and Barbuda (\$12,060)	Belize (\$3,690)	Haiti (\$700)
Barbados ^a	Argentina (\$9,740)	Bolivia (\$2,040)	
Trinidad and Tobago (\$15,040)	Brazil (\$10,720)	El Salvador (\$3,480)	
St. Kitts and Nevis (\$12,480)	Chile (\$12,280)	Guatemala (\$2,870)	
	Colombia (\$6,110)	Guyana ^c	
	Costa Rica (\$7,660)	Honduras (\$1,970)	
	Cuba ^b	Nicaragua (\$1,170)	
	Dominica (\$7,090)	Paraguay (\$2,970)	
	Dominican Republic (\$5,240)		
	Ecuador (\$4,140)		
	Grenada (\$7,220)		
	Jamaica (\$4,980)		
	Mexico (\$9,240)		
	Panama (\$7,910)		
	Peru (\$5,500)		
	St. Lucia (\$6,680)		
	St. Vincent and the Grenadines (\$6,100)		
	Suriname ^b		
	Uruguay (\$11,860)		
	Venezuela (\$11,920)		

Source: World Development Indicators, The World Bank Databank, <http://databank.worldbank.org/data/home.aspx>.

Notes: The economies are classified based on GNI per capita.

- a. Estimated as high income, World Bank.
- b. Estimated as upper middle income, World Bank.
- c. Estimated as lower middle income, World Bank.

Table 4. Poverty Trends in Selected Countries

Latin American (18 Countries): Persons Living in Poverty and Indigence, Around 2010 and 2011	Poverty/ Indigence Around 2010		Poverty/ Indigence Around 2011
Argentina ^a	8.6	2.8	5.7/ 1.9
Bolivia	42.4	22.4	na
Brazil	24.9	7.0	20.9/ 6.1
Chile	11.5	3.6	11.0/ 3.1
Columbia ^b	37.3	12.3	34.2/ 10.7
Costa Rica ^c	18.5	6.8	18.8/ 7.3
Dominican Republic	41.4	20.9	42.2/ 20.3
Ecuador ^a	37.1	14.2	32.4/ 10.1

Latin American (18 Countries): Persons Living in Poverty and Indigence, Around 2010 and 2011	Poverty/ Indigence Around 2010		Poverty/ Indigence Around 2011
El Salvador	46.6	16.7	na
Guatemala	54.8	29.1	na
Honduras	67.4	42.8	na
Mexico	36.3	13.3	na
Nicaragua	58.3	29.5	na
Panama	25.8	12.6	25.3/ 12.4
Paraguay	54.8	30.7	49.6/ 28.0
Peru ^d	31.3	9.8	27.8/ 6.3
Uruguay ^a	8.6	1.4	6.7/ 1.1
Venezuela	27.8	10.7	29.5/ 11.7

Source: UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

Notes: ECLAC, on the basis of special tabulations of data from household surveys conducted in the respective countries.

- a. Urban areas.
- b. Figures from the National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE) of Columbia.
- c. Figures for 2010 and 2011 are not strictly comparable with data for previous years.
- d. Figures from the National Institute of Statistics and Informatics (INEI) of Peru.

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