![OpenData Barometer] **OpenData Barometer**
Fourth Edition

Latin America
Regional Snapshot

As citizens demand accountability, governments keep data locked away

The Web Foundation believes that open data must be:

*for **everyone** — a right for all*	*the data people **need***	*data people can **easily use***

In this edition of the Barometer, 1,725 datasets from 15 different sectors across 115 countries were assessed. We found that most governments are not meeting the basic Open Data Charter principles. In most cases, the right policies are not in place, nor is the breadth and quality of the datasets released sufficient.

Mexico, Uruguay and Colombia remain top 20 countries in the global rankings, confirming their political and technical leadership.

Most countries increased or maintained their scores in the past year.

Civil society in Latin America continues to play a leading role in the open data movement.

What is Open Data and why is it important?

Open data is data which is freely available and shareable online, without charge or any other restrictions. Without good data, it is impossible to hold governments to account for the decisions that they make, the policies they pass, and the money they budget and spend.
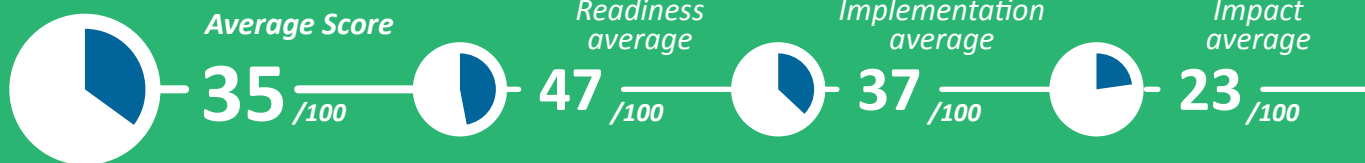
General regional highlights and findings

This regional snapshot covers the 15 Latin American countries assessed in the fourth edition of the Barometer. Four new countries have been added since the third edition of the Barometer: Bolivia, El Salvador, Panama and Paraguay.

Regional leaders — Mexico, Uruguay, Colombia and Brazil — extended their edge over the rest of the region in this edition of the Barometer. This group also significantly increased the impact they are delivering through open data. Argentina and Paraguay, rising 14 places and nine places respectively, also showed good progress.

Meanwhile, Ecuador (down 25 places) and Costa Rica (down 27) have both fallen dramatically, mostly due to a lack of sustained political support to deliver their initial open data commitments.

0	25	50	75	100

Produced by:

WORLD WIDE WEB FOUNDATION

In collaboration with our regional partner:

ILDA Iniciativa Latinoamericana por los Datos Abiertos

opendatabarometer.org

Open Data Barometer 4th Edition Regional Ranking

Global Rank	Score	Country	Global Rank	Score	Country
11	73	Mexico	53	28	Bolivia
17	61	Uruguay	63	24	Guatemala
18	59	Brazil	67	22	Ecuador
24	52	Colombia	71	20	Costa Rica
26	47	Chile	77	18	Panama
38	38	Argentina	85	14	El Salvador
48	33	Peru	90	12	Venezuela
53	28	Paraguay			

Average Score 35 /100 — **Readiness average** 47 /100 — **Implementation average** 37 /100 — **Impact average** 23 /100

⏱ Readiness for open data initiatives

Government Policies
45
43

Government Action
44
45

Citizens and Civil Rights
53
58

Enterpreneurs and Business
43
41
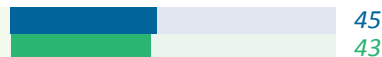
✅ The majority of Open Data Charter adopters globally come from the region.
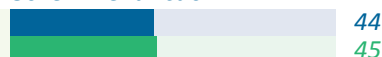
Most countries in the region are improving their policies and practices for collaborating with civil society to implement open data initiatives.

❌ Despite this progress, government engagement with civil society and support for innovation both remain limited.
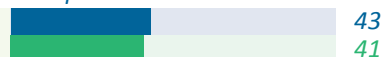
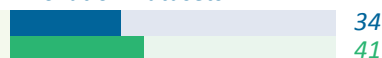Open data has not yet taken off at the subnational level in half of the countries we studied.

⏱ Implementation of open data programmes
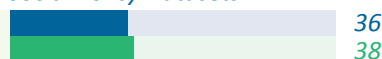
Innovation Datasets
34
41

Social Policy Datasets
36
38
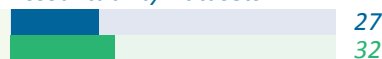
Accountability Datasets
27
32

✅ Influenced by its long held 'right to information' tradition, Latin America generally performs relatively well in opening up datasets that are key for holding governments to account. In fact, more of this type of data is available in the region than anywhere outside of Western Europe and North America.

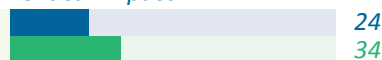❌ There is an alarming decrease of data availability and quality in the region, with implementation scores dropping by 4% on average since the third edition of the Barometer.
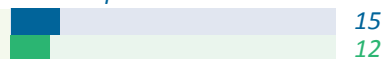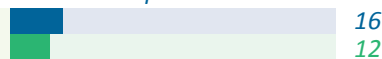
⏱ Impact that open data is having

Political Impact
24
34

Social Impact
15
12

Economic Impact
16
12

✅ There is increasing evidence that open data is improving government efficiency, both in high-income and in low/middle-income countries.

❌ Open data impact has not yet translated into concrete improvements in the lives of ordinary people, especially for traditionally marginalised groups.

Global average scores
0   50   100

Regional average scores

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Rising 14 places, **Argentina** shows outstanding progress, thanks mainly to comprehensive improvements in its policy and regulatory frameworks. These include a commitment to implement the Open Data Charter and the requirement for public agencies to prepare sectoral open data portals in areas such as justice, agro-industry and science and technology. In addition, Argentina passed an open data decree — outlining the national open data publication plan — and a law providing transparency and access to public information, with special emphasis on data disclosure through open and machine readable formats.

Brazil has shown solid progress on open data across all four editions of the Barometer, improving its scores on readiness, availability of data and impact delivery. The country has had a national open data infrastructure and a dedicated decree for open data since 2012, providing a set of standards, technologies and procedures for public information sharing. Last year the government announced a cross-sectoral open data policy decree, committing it to set data open by default. Several initiatives to boost government transparency and accountability have arisen, such as Gastos Abertos which monitors local budgets, and Orçamento ao seu Alcance, which monitors budgets at the national level.