

Chapter 4:

The Armed Forces

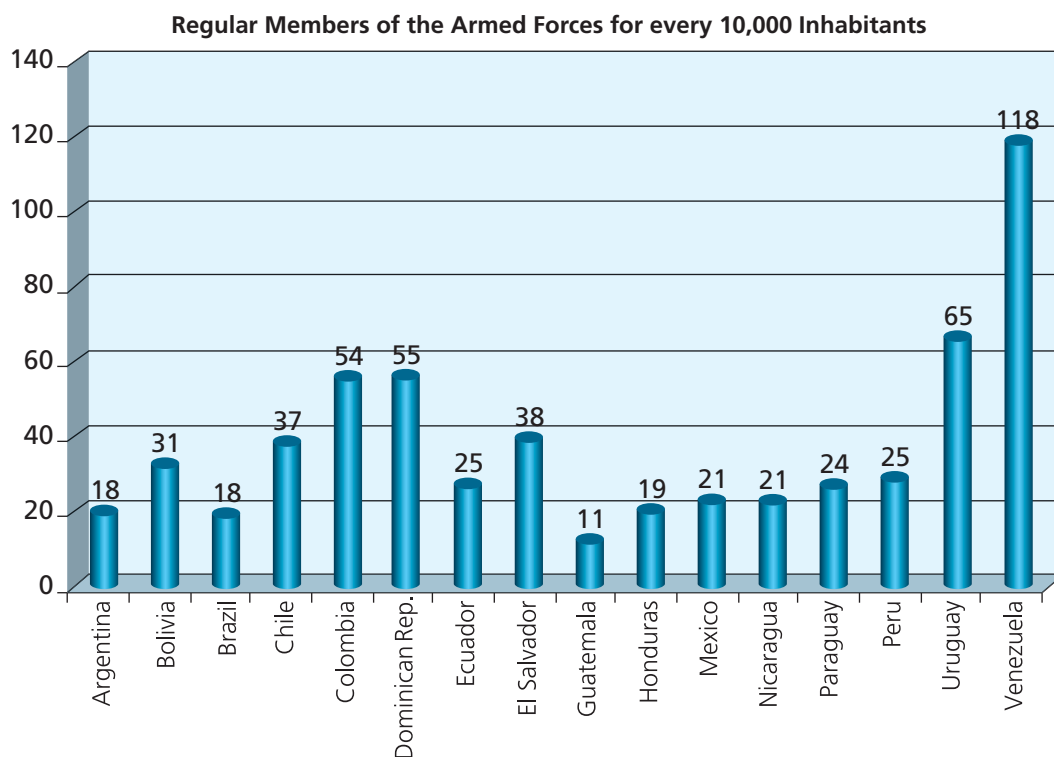
Armed Forces Strength 2016

Army			Navy			Air Force			
Argentina									
48,367			17,957			13,521			TOTAL
6,089	22,721	19,557	2,519	14,131	1,307	2,520	9,075	1,926	79,845
Officers	Non-commissioned officers	Enlisted soldiers	Officers	Non-commissioned officers	Enlisted soldiers	Officers	Non-commissioned officers	Enlisted soldiers	
Bolivia									
22,565			4,983			6,530			TOTAL
3,144	4,587	14,834	937	1,365	2,681	935	1,844	3,751	34,078
Officers	Non-commissioned officers	Enlisted soldiers	Officers	Non-commissioned officers	Enlisted soldiers	Officers	Non-commissioned officers	Enlisted soldiers	
Brazil									
214,941			85,605			66,068			TOTAL
27,715	49,681	137,545	14,365	29,129	42,111	11,487	26,493	28,088	366,614
Officers	Non-commissioned officers	Enlisted soldiers	Officers	Non-commissioned officers	Enlisted soldiers	Officers	Non-commissioned officers	Enlisted soldiers	
Chile									
40,417			18,973			8,293			TOTAL
4,075	20,486	15,856	2,404	15,546	1,023	1,377	6,460	456	67,683
Officers	Non-commissioned officers	Enlisted soldiers	Officers	Non-commissioned officers	Enlisted soldiers	Officers	Non-commissioned officers	Enlisted soldiers	
Colombia									
220,537			30,917			13,596			TOTAL
									265,050
Dominican Republic*									
28,815			11,320			18,146			TOTAL
									58,281*
Ecuador									
			41,403						TOTAL
									41,403
El Salvador									
3,976			1,477			18,570			TOTAL
Officers			Non-commissioned officers			Enlisted soldiers			24,023
Guatemala									
15,797			1,452			932			TOTAL
2,166	3,730	9,901	194	496	762	141	282	509	18,181
Officers	Non-commissioned officers	Enlisted soldiers	Officers	Non-commissioned officers	Enlisted soldiers	Officers	Non-commissioned officers	Enlisted soldiers	
Honduras									
10,269			2,830			2,117			TOTAL
586	145	9,538	314	197	2,319	292	381	1,444	15,216
Officers	Non-commissioned officers	Enlisted soldiers	Officers	Non-commissioned officers	Enlisted soldiers	Officers	Non-commissioned officers	Enlisted soldiers	
Mexico									
205,689			54,179			7,788			TOTAL
									267,656

* Data as of December 2015. Data related to the second half of 2016 can be found in the appropriate chapter.

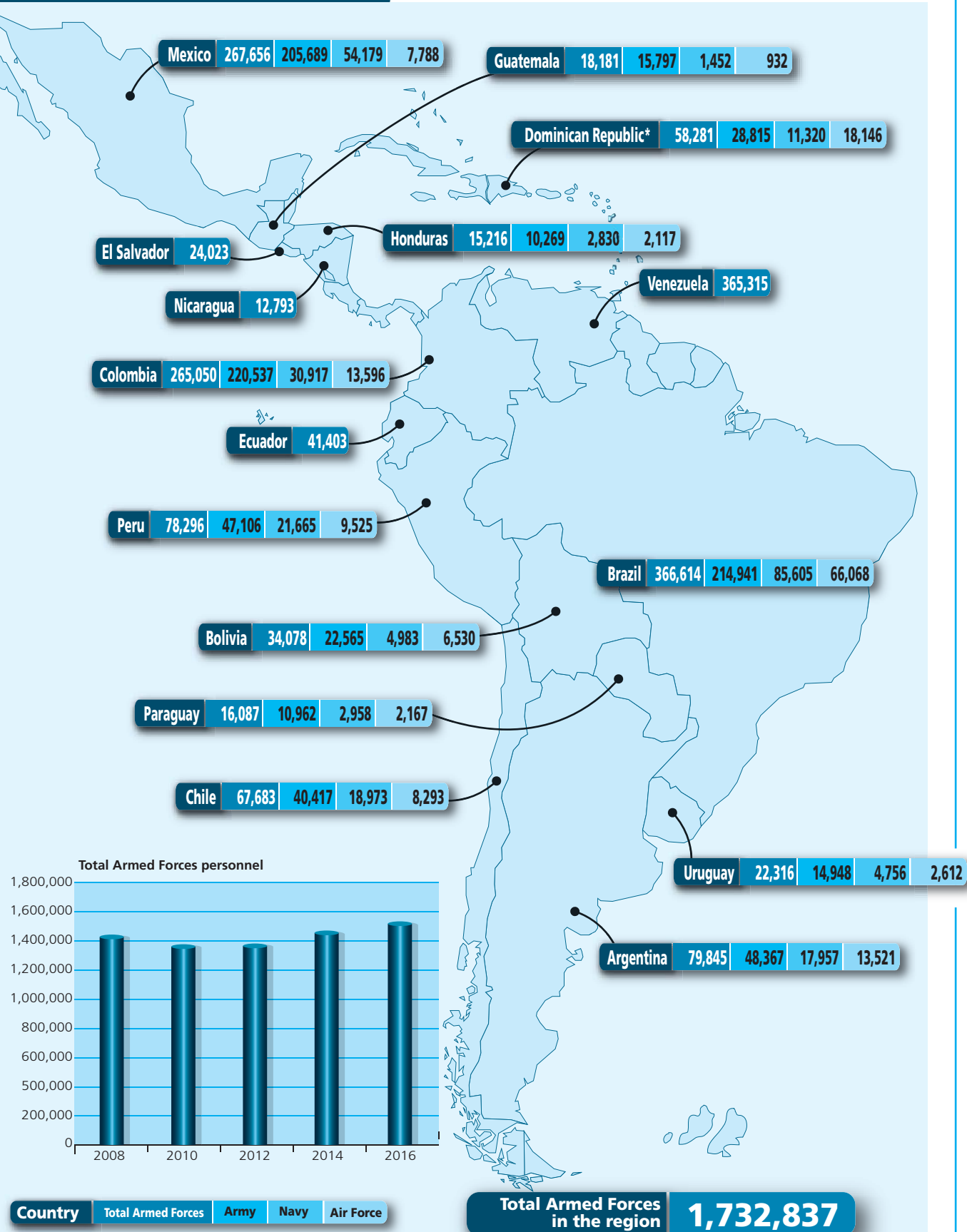
Army			Navy			Air Force			
Nicaragua									TOTAL 12,793
1,802 Officers			587 Non-commissioned officers			10,404 Enlisted soldiers			
Paraguay									TOTAL 16,087
10,962			2,958			2,167			
1,711 Officers	5,904 Non-commissioned officers	3,347 Enlisted soldiers	485 Officers	1,779 Non-commissioned officers	694 Enlisted soldiers	436 Officers	1,441 Non-commissioned officers	290 Enlisted soldiers	
Perú									TOTAL 78,296
47,106			21,665			9,525			
6,273 Officers	13,390 Non-commissioned officers	27,443 Enlisted soldiers	1,955 Officers	15,999 Non-commissioned officers	3,711 Enlisted soldiers	1,628 Officers	5,996 Non-commissioned officers	1,901 Enlisted soldiers	
Uruguay									TOTAL 22,316
14,948			4,756			2,612			
1,432 Officers	13,516 Non-commissioned officers		595 Officers	4,161 Non-commissioned officers		438 Officers	2,174 Non-commissioned officers		
Venezuela									TOTAL 365,315
Total: 1,732,837									

Note: Bolivia data as of 2015. In Chile, the troops include conscripts and professional soldiers. Peru: data as of 2014. In Ecuador, the breakdown by service in 2015 was as follows: 61% Army, 23% Navy and 16% Air Force.



Source: Agencies and official documents specified in section "The Countries" of this publication. Information on population provided by *Anuario Estadístico de América Latina y el Caribe 2015*, ECLAC (Population projection 2016).

Armed Forces in the Region, 2016






























































* Data as of December 2015. Data related to the second half of 2016 can be found in the appropriate chapter.

Source: Agencies and official documents specified in section "The Countries" of this publication.

Military cooperation and multilateral exercises

Military cooperation in the region is materialized in the ongoing and regular conduct of combined exercises, both of a bilateral and multilateral nature, where the goal is to enhance greater interoperability among forces while contributing to the strengthening of confidence building between nations. Such exercises in many instances include, in addition to military training, the conduct of natural disaster response drills, multidimensional scenarios under UN mandate, search and rescue situations, and combatting illicit trafficking, among others.

Exercise	Type of Exercise	Force	Participants
Croix Du Sud (2015)	    	Army, Navy, Air Force	Australia, Britain, Canada, Chile, France, Fiji, Japan, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, United States and Vanuatu.
Cruzex (2015)	  	Air Force	Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, United States, Uruguay and Venezuela.
Dawn Blitz (2015)	  	Navy	Japan, Mexico, New Zealand and United States.
UNITAS LVII (2015)	  	Navy	Brazil, Britain, Chile, Guatemala, Mexico, Peru and United States.
Cambrian Patrol 2015	  	Army	Australia, Brazil, Britain, Canada, Chile, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Georgia, India, Ireland, Lithuania, Netherlands, Nepal, New Zealand, Oman, Pakistan, Poland, Switzerland and United States.
Emerald Warrior (2015)	  	Air Force	Chile, Britain, Netherlands, Turkey and United States.
Cooperación (2016)	    	Air Force	Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, Peru, United States and Uruguay.
Fuerza Comandos (2016)	  	Army	Argentina, Belize, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United States and Uruguay.
BRACOLPER (2016)	  	Navy	Brazil, Colombia and Peru.
PANAMAX (2016)	  	Navy and Army	Belize, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, France, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and United States.
FAHUM (2016)	    	Army, Navy, Air Force	Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama and United States.
Angel Thunder (2015)	   	Air Force	Colombia, Denmark and United States.
RIMPAC (2016)	    	Navy	Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Britain, Brunei, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Denmark, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Tonga and United States. Observers: Cambodia, Maldives, Papua New Guinea, Turkey and Vietnam.
Tradewinds 2016	   	Navy	Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Britain, Canada, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Granada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, Saint. Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and United States.
IBSAMAR (2016)	  	Navy	Brazil, India and South Africa.
KHAAN QUEST 2016	   	Army, Navy, Air Force	Bangladesh, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Britain, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Czech Republic, El Salvador, Fiji, France, Germany, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Malawi, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Norway, New Zealand, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Russia, Singapore, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Tajikistan, Tonga, United States, Uruguay and Vietnam

References

-  Training
  Information exchange
  Search and Rescue
  Natural Disasters
  Illicit Trafficking
 Force deployment
  Simulation
  Humanitarian Assistance
  PKO

Sources: Compilation based on information provided in annual institutional reports and the websites Ministries of Defence and the Armed Forces of participating countries and information provided by Ministry of Defence of Chile and El Salvador, and Secretariat of National Defence and Secretariat of the Navy of Mexico.

Women's Admission to the Armed Forces (year)

Country	Officers						Non-commissioned officers					
	Professional Corps			Command Corps			Professional Corps			Command Corps		
	Army	Navy	Air Force	Army	Navy	Air Force	Army	Navy	Air Force	Army	Navy	Air Force
Argentina	1982	1981	1982	1997	2002	2001	1981	1980	2006	1996	1980	1998
Bolivia	1982	2010	2007	1979-1985/2003	2010	2007	1950	2010	2004	2008	2010	2004
Brazil	1992	1980	1982	2012/17(1)	2012(1)	1996	2001	1980	1982	2012/ 17(1)	2012	2002
Chile	1974	2003	1952	1995	2007	2000	1974	1937	1974	1998	2009	2009
Colombia	1976	1984	1979	2008	1997	1997	1983	1997	1992	1983	(2)	1997
Cuba	s/d	s/d	s/d	s/d	s/d	s/d	s/d	s/d	s/d	s/d	s/d	s/d
Dominican Rep.	1981	1981	1981	2001	2001	2001	1961	1961	1961	2001	2001	2001
Ecuador	1956	1977	2000	1999	2001	2007	1958	1953	2008	s/d	1965	2008
El Salvador	1985			2000			(2)					
Guatemala	1967	2001	2000	1997			1967	2000	2002	1997	1997	1997
Honduras	1970	1975	1964	1998	1999	1996	2004	1999	1997	2004	1999	1997
Mexico	1938	1972	1937	2007	2010	2007	1938	1972	1938	2007	1995	2007
Nicaragua	1979			1993			1979			1994		
Paraguay	1932	1970	1970	2003			(2)					
Peru	1997	1997	1997	1997	1999	1998	1997	1997	1997	1998	1998	1998
Uruguay	1973	None	1997	1998	2000	1997	1973	1992	1990	1973	1992	1997
Venezuela	1980	1979	1980	2001	1978	1978		(3)		2001	1975	1975

(1) In August 2012, the laws establishing admission requirements for officer courses at the Army and Navy were amended, providing for the admission of women (Nº 12705 – 2012/08/09 and Nº 12704 – 2012/08/09). In the case of the Army, a five-year term is established to make available the means necessary for their incorporation.

(2) In El Salvador and Paraguay, women cannot enter the services as NCO's. In Colombia, this only applies in the Navy.

(3) Under the *Ley orgánica de la Fuerza Armada Nacional Bolivariana* (GO Extraordinaria Nº 6020 – 2011/03/21), the senior professional non-commissioned officers were promoted to technical officers. Students who graduate from the Bolivarian Military Technical Academy are in the same category. Career sergeants fall under the professional troop category.

Note: The Command corps includes officers who have been educated at military academies from the beginning of their professional careers. The professional corps refers to those who develop a career in the civilian sphere and are then incorporated to the Armed Forces.

Admission of Women into Military Training Specialties (Officers, command corps)

Country	Admission level sorted by corps and specialty		
	Army	Navy	Air Force
1. Argentina	Total	Total	Total
2. Bolivia	Total	Total	Total
3. Brazil	Partial	Partial	Partial
4. Chile	Partial	Partial	Total
5. Colombia	Total	Total	Total
6. Cuba	Partial	Partial	Partial
7. Dominican Republic	Partial	Partial	Partial
8. Ecuador	Partial	Partial	Partial
9. El Salvador	Partial	Partial	Partial
10. Guatemala	Partial	Total	Total
11. Honduras	Partial	Total	Total
12. Mexico	Partial	Total	Partial
13. Nicaragua	Total	Total	Total
14. Paraguay	Partial	Partial	Partial
15. Peru	Partial	Partial	Partial
16. Uruguay	Total	Total	Total
17. Venezuela	Total	Total	Total

3. In the Air Force, they are not admitted in the Infantry and first-class "Taifeiro".

4. Not admitted in the infantry and armoured cavalry at the Army; not allowed into the marine corps and material specialties, tactical diving, and special forces at the Naval Force.

7. Not admitted to combat branches.

8. They are not admitted in the infantry, armoured cavalry and aviation at the Army; not allowed as submarine officers and Naval Force aviation members. Nor are they allowed in the air force infantry, special ops, air combat control and liaison officers at the Air Force.

9. Not admitted in branches related to combat at the Army and Air Force.

10. Not admitted in artillery, engineering and cavalry at the Army.

11. Not admitted in artillery, infantry and cavalry at the Army.

12. Not admitted in branches related to combat at the Army and Air Force.

14. Not admitted in artillery, infantry and cavalry in the Army. Submarines, infantry, special ops and diving and rescue in the Naval Force. Not allowed as fighter pilot, air defence and special ops at the Air Force.

15. Not admitted in artillery, infantry and cavalry as well as religious services at the Army; not allowed as submarine officers, intelligence and special ops forces at the Naval Force; or fighter pilot and intelligence at the Air Force.

Source: Army and Ministry of Defence (Argentina). Web sites of the Armed Forces (Brazil). Army and web sites of the Armed Forces (Chile). Ministry of Defence and National Navy (Colombia). Ministry of Defence and Military Academy (El Salvador). Army and Polytechnic School (Guatemala). General Command of the Air Force, General Command of the Naval Force and Joint Staff of the Armed Forces (Honduras). Secretariat of National Defence and Secretariat of the Navy (Mexico). J III of the General Staff of the Army; Public Affairs directorate of the Uruguayan Air Force and the Peacekeeping Operations School of the Army (Uruguay). Ministry of Popular Power for Defence (Venezuela). RESDAL project on Gender and Peace Operations.

Defence Attaché's Offices from Latin American countries, in the region

CS CR	Argentina	Bolivia	Brazil	Chile	Colombia	Cuba	Dominican Republic	Ecuador	El Salvador	Guatemala	Honduras	Mexico	Nicaragua	Paraguay	Peru	Uruguay	Venezuela
Argentina		●	●	●	●			●				●		●	●	●	●
Bolivia	●				●			●							●		●
Brazil	●	●		●	●		●	●		●		●		●	●	●	●
Chile	●		●		●		●	●	●		●	●		●	●	●	●
Colombia	●		●	●			●	●			●	●		●			●
Cuba		●			●							●	●				●
Dominican Republic					●												●
Ecuador	●	●	●	●	●							●			●		●
El Salvador				●									●				
Guatemala							●		●		●	●	●				
Honduras				●	●					●		●	●				
Mexico	●		●	●	●				●	●	●		●		●	●	●
Nicaragua				●		●			●	●	●	●					●
Paraguay	●		●	●	●										●	●	●
Peru	●	●	●	●	●			●				●					●
Uruguay	●		●	●								●		●	●		●
Venezuela	●	●	●	●				●					●		●		

CS: Country sending Attaché / CR: Country receiving Attaché

Attaché's Offices from Countries outside the Region:



Military Service

Argentina
2 years

Bolivia
2 years

Brazil
1 year

Chile
Up to 2 years

Colombia
1 to 2 years

Cuba
2 years

Dominican Republic
Up to 4 years

Ecuador
1 year

El Salvador
18 months

Guatemala
Up to 18 months

Haiti
Up to 3 years

Honduras
2 years

Mexico
1 year

Nicaragua
1 year

Paraguay
1 year

Peru
2 years

Uruguay
2 years

Venezuela
1 year

Voluntary

Mandatory

Preparation of Reserve Officers

In the Brazilian Armed Forces there is the possibility (alternative to military service) of applying to be part of the Reserve Officer Corps. Young persons between 17 and 18 years old can apply in Preparation Centers for Reserve Officers (CPOR), where they take a physical and written examination that, if passed, allows them to undertake the course (which has a 1 year duration). Following completion, they pass to the reserve force at the grade of Lieutenant.

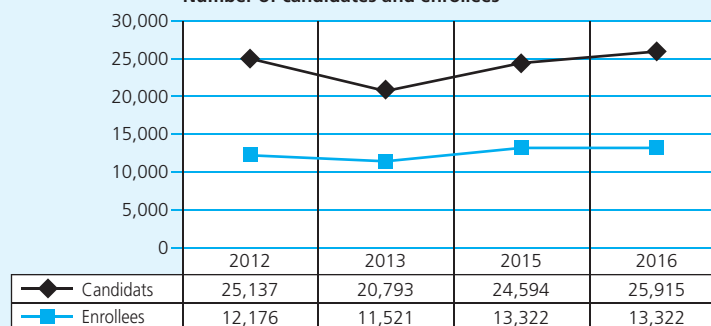
Reserve, 2015

Navy	47,824
Army	66,295
Total	114,119

Call-up within the different systems

In the case of voluntary systems, voluntary presentation for military service practically covers the projected needs and, in some cases, exceeds them. As far as Chile is concerned, for the eleventh year, it has completed the enrollment quota set for the Armed Forces, having 100% volunteers to the military service, thus ruling out the possibility of a final draw.

Number of candidates and enrollees



Pre-military Service

In the 'National Plan for Well-being in the Barracks' Bolivia planted as one of its objectives an increase in capacity in order to allow for the introduction of obligatory military service. One of the possibilities is to finish secondary schooling while completing the service.

A voluntary pre-military service also exists, for the basic military training of youth under 18 years old and in the 5th grade at secondary school. Activities occur during school holidays.

Admitted

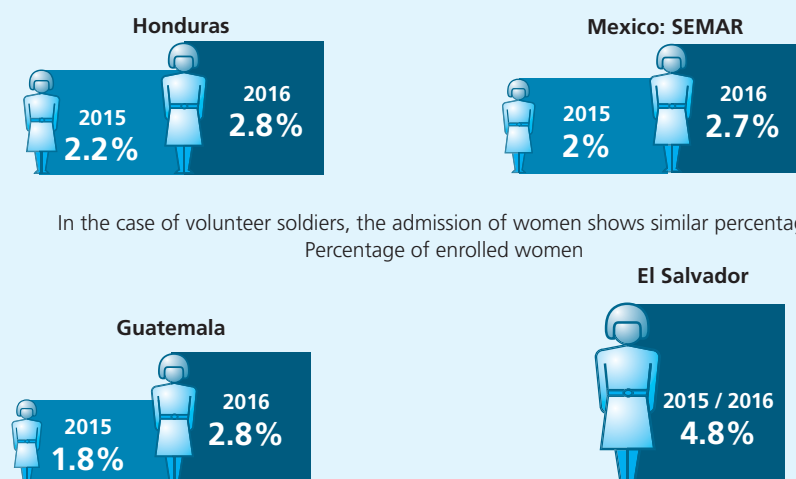
	2015	2016
Military Service	28,420	29,305
Pre-military Service	17,836	17,833

Women in military service

In countries with obligatory military service, men are always required to undertake the service. Women are able to undertake it on a voluntary basis in peacetime but are obliged during war or emergencies.

The examples of the military service in Honduras and the National Military Service of Mexico for the Office of the Secretary of the Navy are shown below:

Percentage of enrolled women



In the case of volunteer soldiers, the admission of women shows similar percentages:
Percentage of enrolled women

Source: Compilation based on legislation that regulates military service in the countries mentioned. Statistics: Information provided by the Ministries of Defence of Chile, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, and Secretariat of the Navy of Mexico; *Audiencia Pública de Rendición de Cuentas Inicial 2016* and *Audiencia Pública de Rendición de Cuentas final de gestión 2015*, of the Ministry of Defence of Bolivia, and public information from the Brazilian Army and Navy.