

# PUBLIC (IN)SECURITY INDEX



A complex index measuring the weight of three key factors for daily security: homicides, road traffic deaths, and robbery.

Base 100

Belize.....	2,759.25
Costa Rica .....	787.37
El Salvador .....	4,606.82
Guatemala .....	2,373.56
Honduras.....	5,360.35
Nicaragua .....	690.51
Panamá .....	1,253.62

Average Central America:  
**2,731.48**

Average South America:  
**1,822.61**



Base Nordic countries 2012 (Finland, Norway, Sweden). The index weights homicide, robbery, and road traffic deaths in rates per 100,000 inhabitants. Updated data corresponding to 2014 from official sources in all cases.



# On the index of Public (In) Security



## What is the index?

It is a tool for measuring insecurity. It was produced through the weighting of three representative variables of the daily insecurity, especially if considering their economic and social impact: **Homicide**, **Road traffic deaths** and **Robbery**.



## Two different types of measures were used for its design:

- A simple index for each one of the variables, which are presented in a separate way (homicide, robbery, and traffic deaths).
- A complex, weighted index that brings together the three variables and synthesizes the incidence of insecurity.



## The base (= 100)

was constructed upon the analysis of a group of Nordic countries (Finland, Sweden and Norway), selected by their condition of relative internal security. This "ideal type" establishes a basis from which the case of each considered country can be located.



**It is a tool to measure the insecurity in a comparative way.**

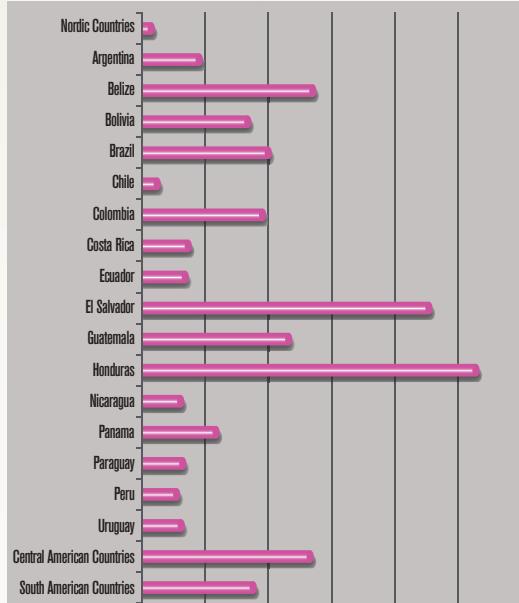


**The highest value represents a relative status of greater insecurity.**



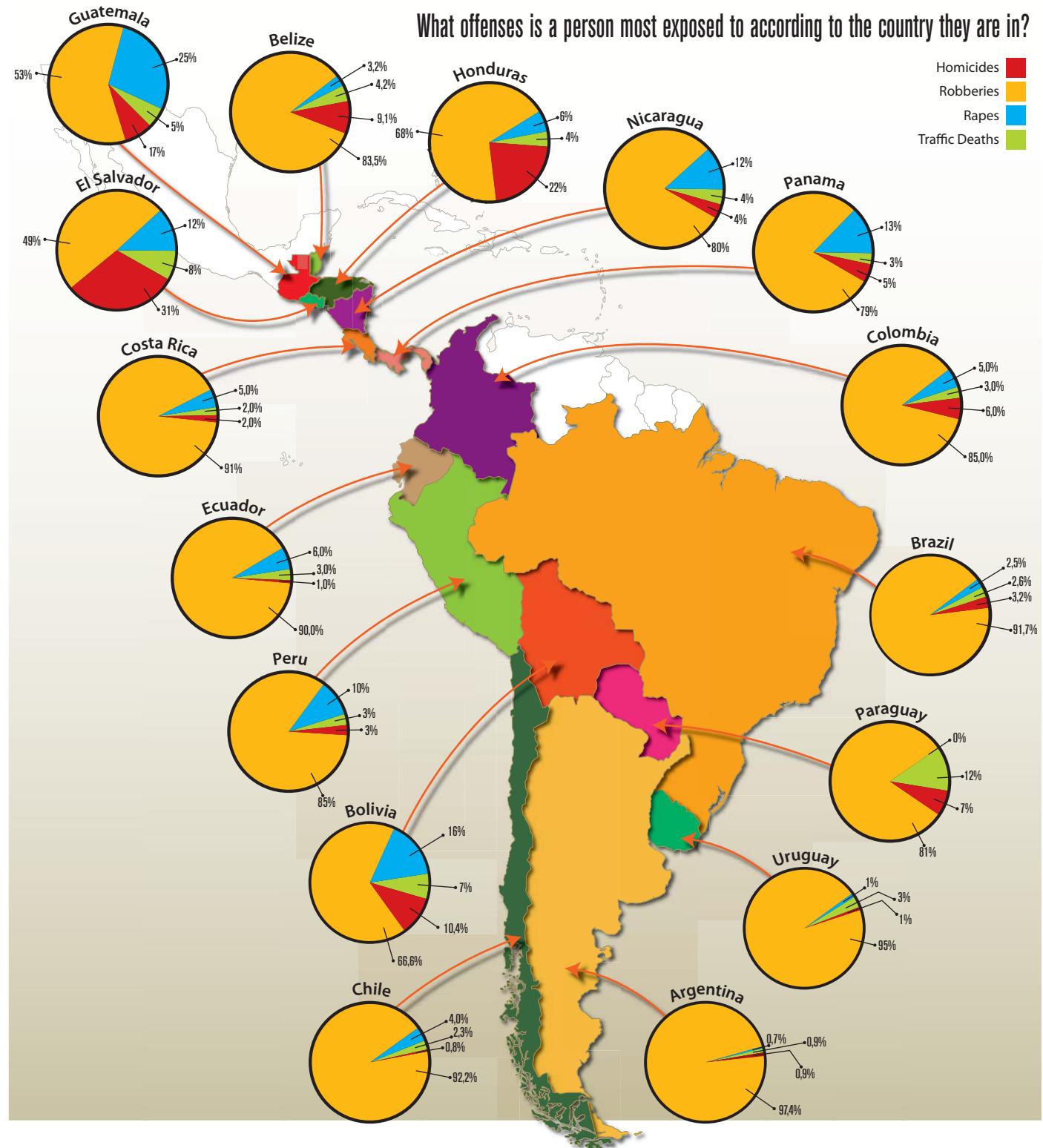
Country	Homicide Index	Robbery Index	Road Traffic Deaths Index
Base Nordic Countries	100	100	100
Argentina	1,203.6	1,864.0	298.9
Belize	3,654.8	500.0	446.3
Bolivia	2,252.6	215.9	404.2
Brazil	2,621.6	1,127.3	579.3
Chile	306.8	558.2	248.9
Colombia	2,602.9	519.4	354.0
Costa Rica	967.2	822.0	306.8
Ecuador	825.5	794.8	517.4
El Salvador	6,223.6	148.4	444.0
Guatemala	3,197.8	146.8	249.7
Honduras	7,288.6	333.9	386.0
Nicaragua	862.2	287.8	246.2
Panama	1,623.3	382.8	296.7
Paraguay	847.8	147.1	390.3
Peru	755.6	382.3	247.4
Uruguay	774.4	887.7	426.5

## South American Countries



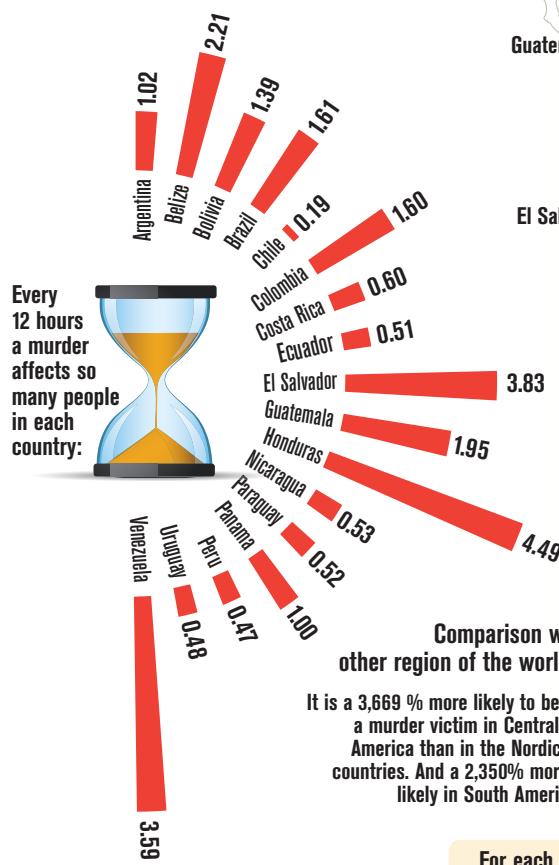
The crimes and different forms of violence considered have a large impact on the perception of security, and on the everyday life of the population. However, different impacts can be observed for each region. The situation regarding to killings appears to have a greater weight in Central America, while the impact of robbery is remarkable in the case of South America. Road traffic deaths have a similar effect in both regions.

## Exposure to common crimes



**Sources:** Argentina: Ministry of Security, Undersecretary of Criminal Statistics, *Estadísticas Criminales en la República Argentina*, 2014. Belize: Belize Police Department, Joint Intelligence Coordinating Center, Reported crimes. Bolivia: National Institute of Statistics. Brazil: *Sistema Nacional de Informações de Segurança Pública* sinesp, Criminal Statistics. Ministry of Health, Datasus. Chile: Ministry of Interior and Public Security, Undersecretary of Crime Prevention, *Frecuencia de casos policiales por delitos de mayor connotación social*, 2001-2015. CONASET, Observatory Accident Facts. Colombia: National Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences, *Información estadística sobre violencia y accidentalidad*, 2014. Costa Rica: *Memoria* 2014, Judicial Investigation Organism. Ecuador: Ministry Security Coordinator, *Informe de Rendición de Cuentas*, 2015. National Institute of Statistics Anuario de nacimientos y defunciones, 2014. El Salvador: Information provided by the National Civil Police and the Institute of Legal Medicine. Guatemala: Report of the Technical Secretariat of the National Security Council, 2014. National Institute of Statistics, *accidentes de tránsito* 2014. Honduras: Violence Observatory, UNAM, report nº 36. Nicaragua: *Anuario Estadístico* 2014, National Police. *Anuario* 2014 of the Institute of Legal Medicine. Panama: Ministry of Public Security, Informes del SIEC, 2014. Paraguay: Ministry of Interior, National Observatory of Citizen Security and Coexistence. Peru: National Institute of Statistics and Informatics, *Denuncias de delitos según tipo y Víctimas de accidentes de tránsito fatales*. Uruguay: Ministry of Interior, National Observatory on Violence and Crime. UNASEV, *Informe Anual Siniestralidad Vial*, 2015. For methodological reasons the source for population data is the ECLAC 2014 Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean, for all cases.

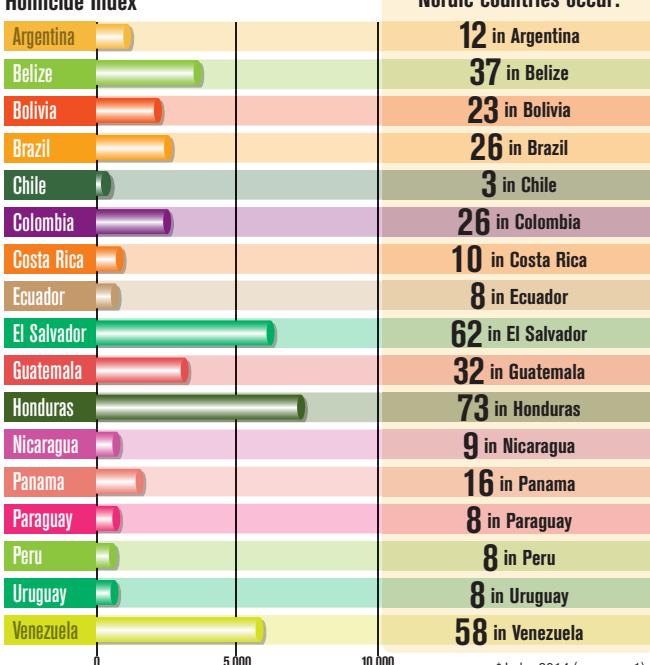
# The Homicide Index



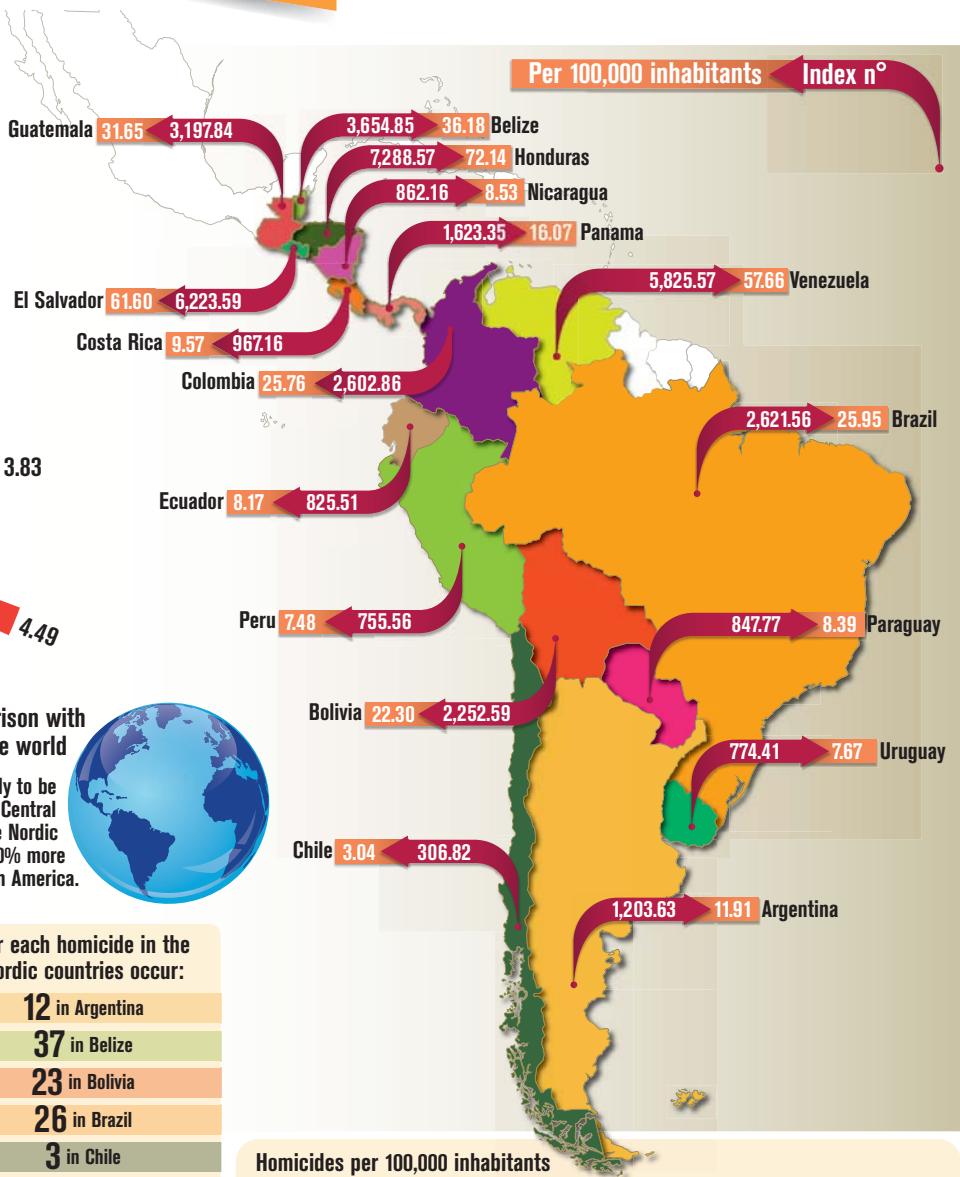
Comparison with other region of the world  
It is a 3,669 % more likely to be a murder victim in Central America than in the Nordic countries. And a 2,350% more likely in South America.



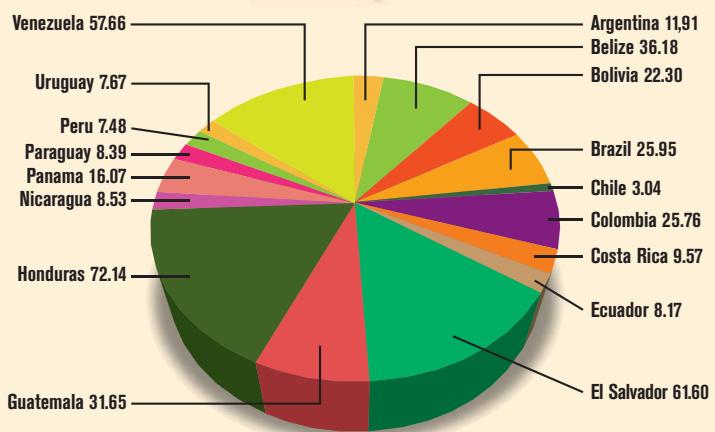
For each homicide in the Nordic countries occur:



\* Index 2014 (see page 1).



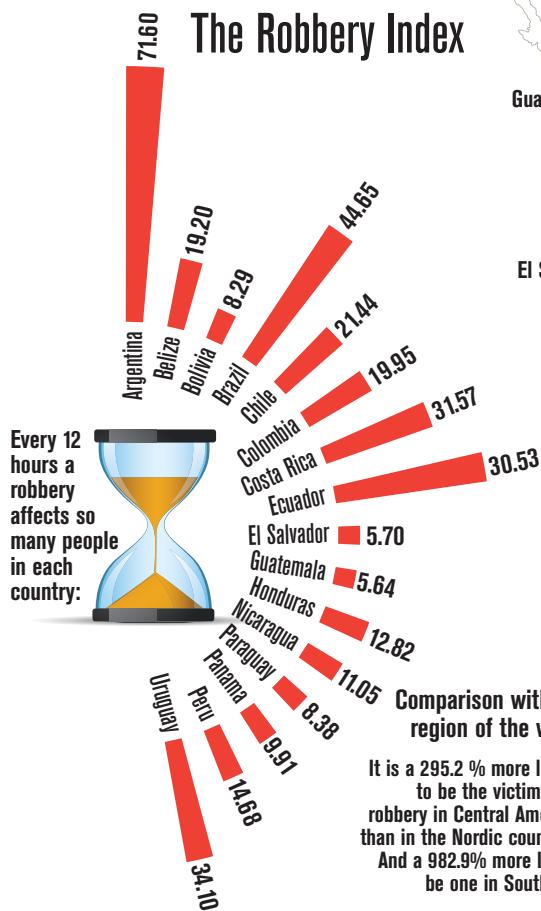
## Homicides per 100,000 inhabitants



Note: Venezuela, data for 2015.

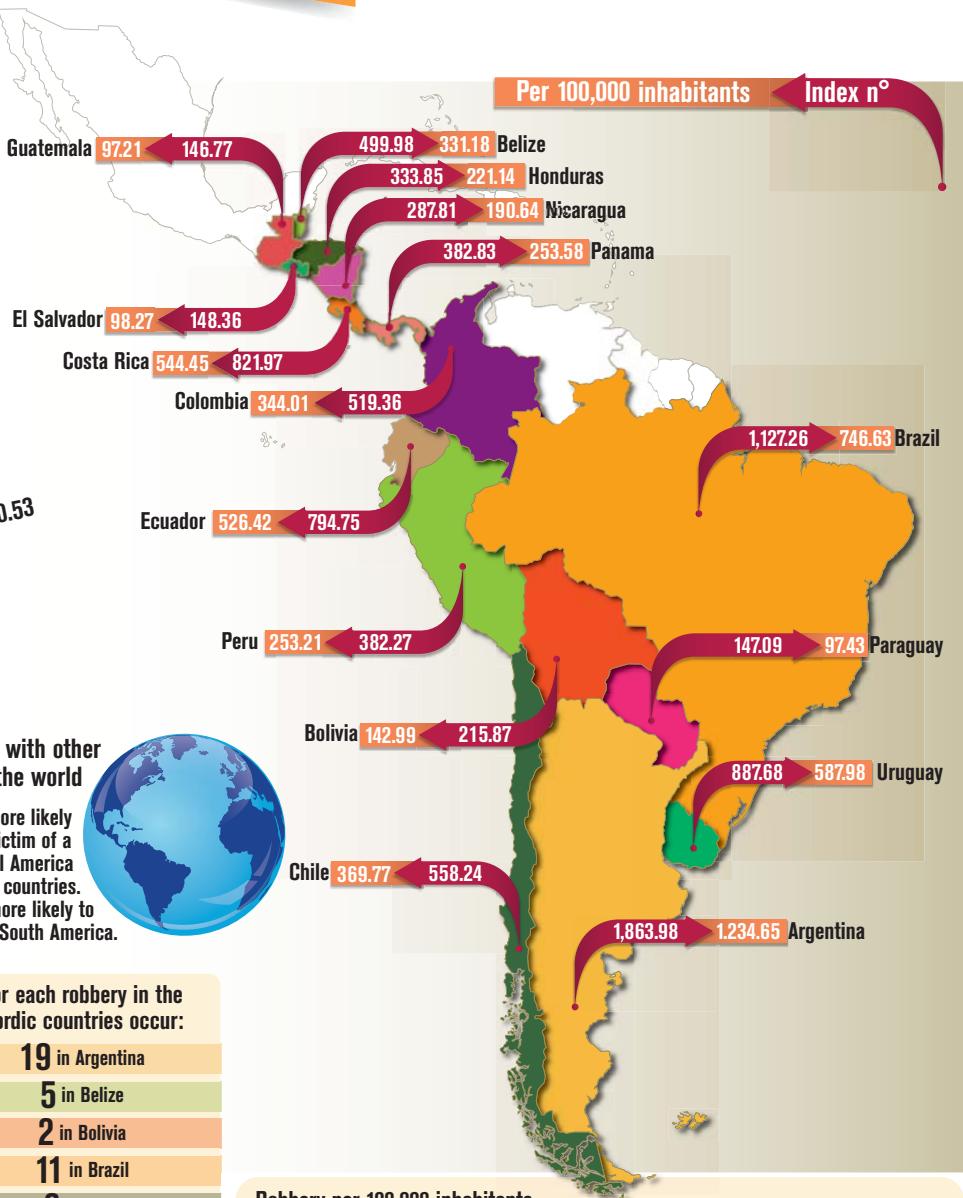
**Sources:** Argentina: Ministry of Security, Undersecretary of Criminal Statistics, *Estadísticas Criminales en la República Argentina*, 2014. Belize: Belize Police Department, Joint Intelligence Coordinating Center, Reported crimes. Bolivia: National Institute of Statistics. Brazil: *Sistema Nacional de Informações de Segurança Pública* sinesp, Criminal Statistics. Chile: Ministry of Interior and Public Security, Undersecretary of Crime Prevention, *Frecuencia de casos policiales por delitos de mayor connotación social*, 2001-2015. Colombia: National Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences, *Información estadística sobre violencia y accidentalidad*, 2014. Costa Rica: *Memoria 2014*, Judicial Investigation Organism. Ecuador: Ministry Security Coordinator, *Informe de Rendición de Cuentas*, 2015. El Salvador: Information provided by the National Civil Guard. Guatemala: Report of the Technical Secretariat of the National Security Council, 2014. Honduras: Violence Observatory, UNAM, report nº 36. Nicaragua: *Anuario Estadístico 2014*, National Police. Panama: Ministry of Public Security, *Informe SIEC*, 2014. Paraguay: Ministry of Interior, National Observatory of Citizen Security and Coexistence. Peru: National Institute of Statistics and Informatics, *Denuncias de delitos según tipo*. Uruguay: Ministry of Interior, National Observatory on Violence and Crime. Venezuela: Public ministry, *Informe Anual de Gestión*, 2015. For methodological reasons the source for population data is the ECLAC 2014 Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean, for all cases.

## The Robbery Index

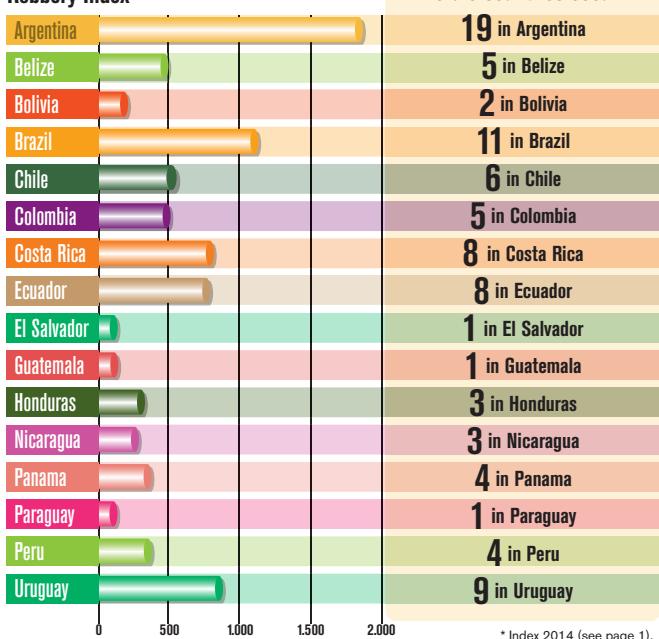


Comparison with other region of the world

It is a 295.2 % more likely to be the victim of a robbery in Central America than in the Nordic countries. And a 982.9% more likely to be one in South America.

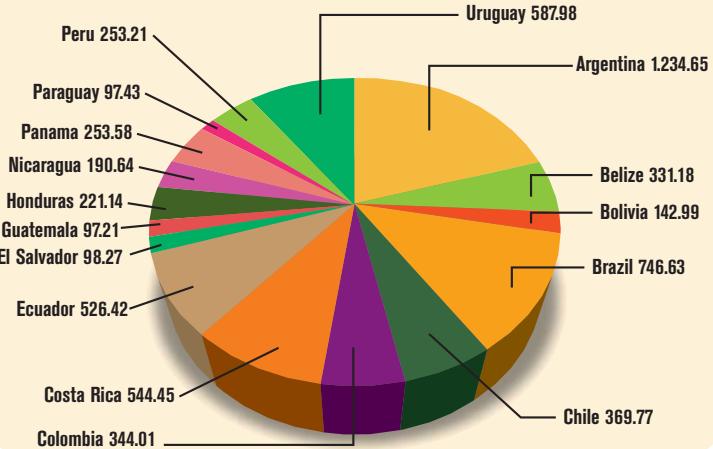


### Robbery Index\*



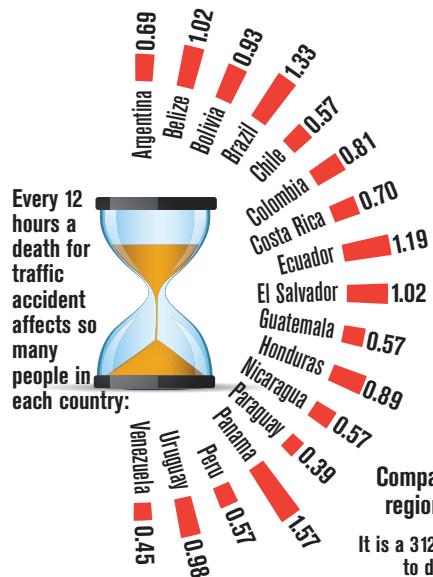
### For each robbery in the Nordic countries occur:

### Robbery per 100,000 inhabitants

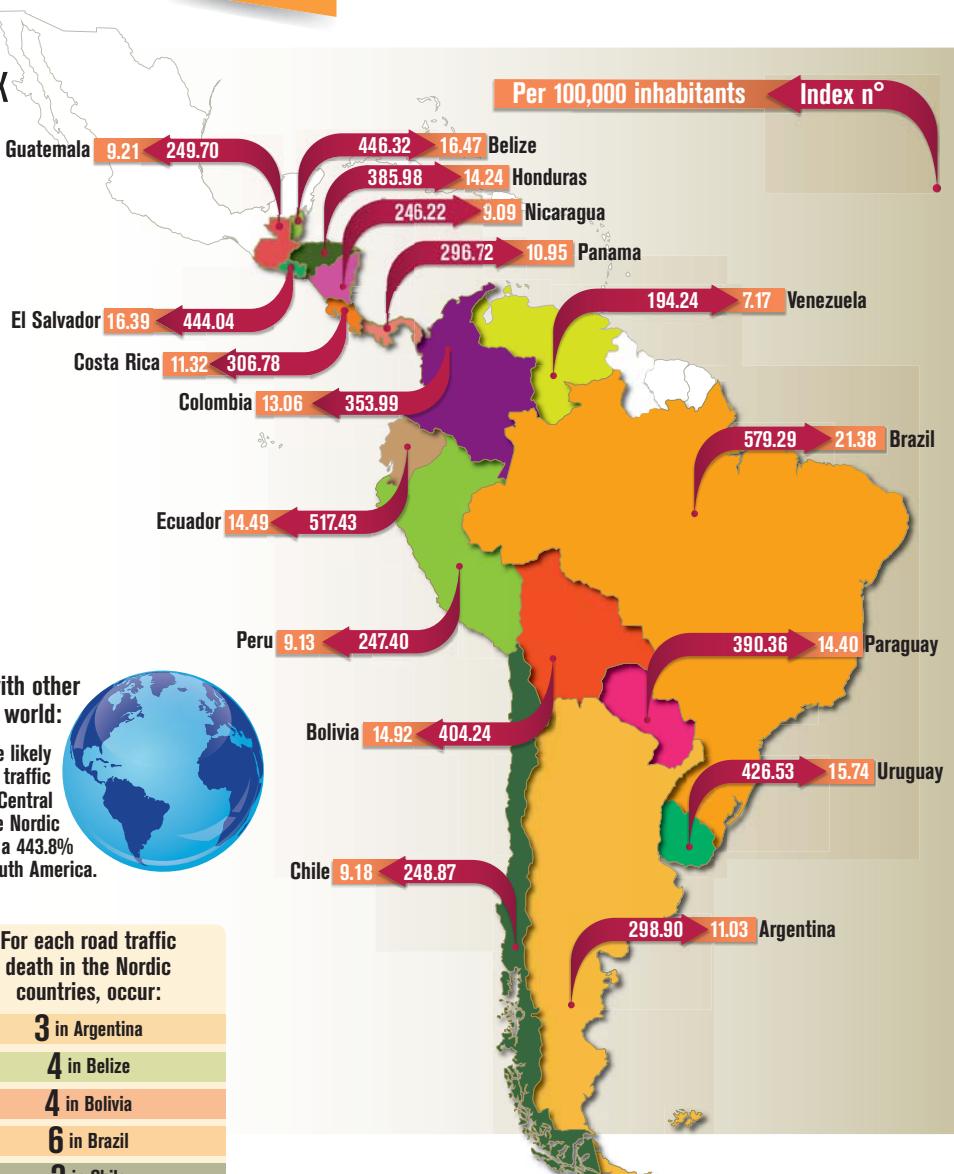


**Sources:** Argentina: Ministry of Security, Undersecretary of Criminal Statistics, *Estadísticas Criminales en la República Argentina*. Belize: Belize Police Department, Joint Intelligence Coordinating Center, Reported crimes. Bolivia: National Institute of Statistics. Brazil: no federal consolidated source is observed, for the purpose of comparing, the average data of six states is used: Amazonas, Mato Grosso, Pernambuco, Rio de Janeiro, Rio Grande do Sul, and São Paulo. Chile: Ministry of Interior and Public Security, Undersecretary of Crime Prevention, *Frecuencia de casos policiales por delitos de mayor connotación social*, 2001-2015. Colombia: Ministry of Defence, *Logros de la Política de Defensa y Seguridad*, 2015. Costa Rica: *Memoria 2014*, Judicial Investigation Organism. Ecuador: Ministry Security Coordinator, *Informe de Rendición de Cuentas*, 2015. El Salvador: Information provided by the National Civil Police. Guatemala: Report of the Technical Secretariat of the National Security Council, 2014. Honduras: Violence Observatory, UNAM, report n° 36. Nicaragua: *Anuario Estadístico 2014*, National Police. Panama: Ministry of Public Security, *Informes SIEC*, 2014. Paraguay: Ministry of Interior, National Observatory of Citizen Security and Coexistence. Peru: National Institute of Statistics and Informatics, *Denuncias de delitos según tipo*. Uruguay: Ministry of Interior, National Observatory on Violence and Crime. For methodological reasons the source for population data is the ECLAC 2014 Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean, for all cases.

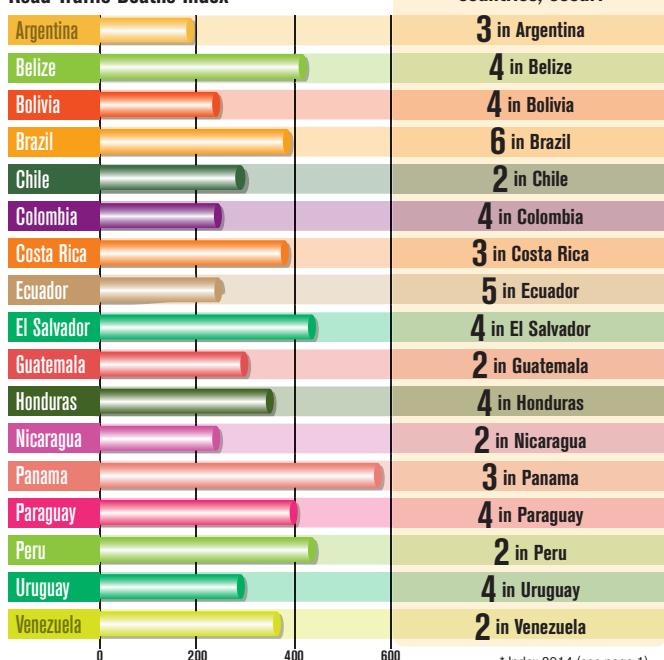
# The Road Traffic Deaths Index



Comparison with other region of the world:  
It is a 312.5% more likely to die from a traffic accident in Central America than in the Nordic countries. And a 443.8% more likely in South America.

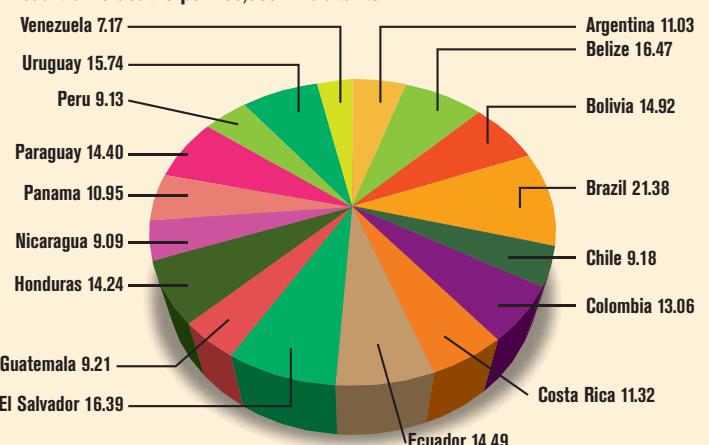


## Road Traffic Deaths Index \*



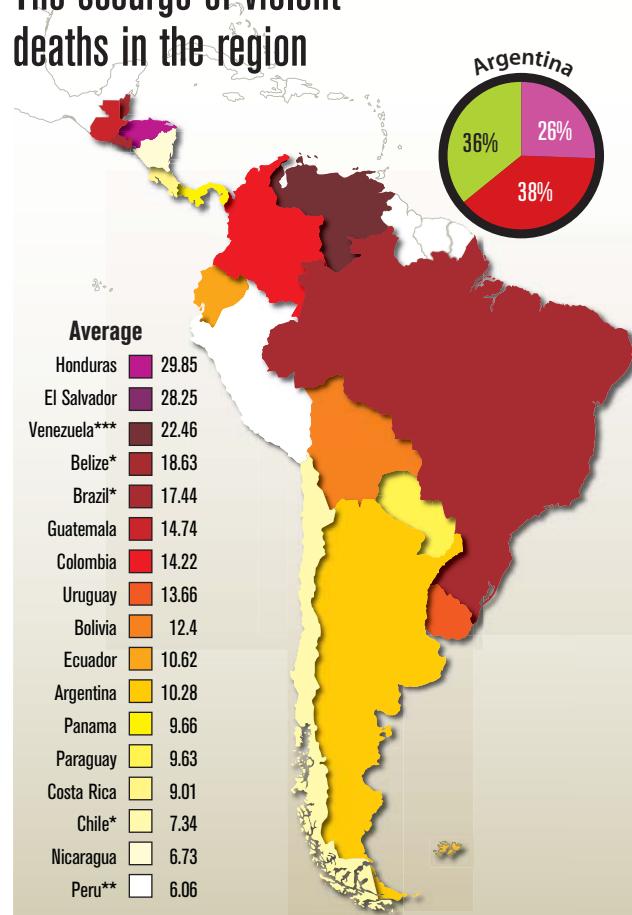
\* Index 2014 (see page 1).

## Road traffic deaths per 100,000 inhabitants

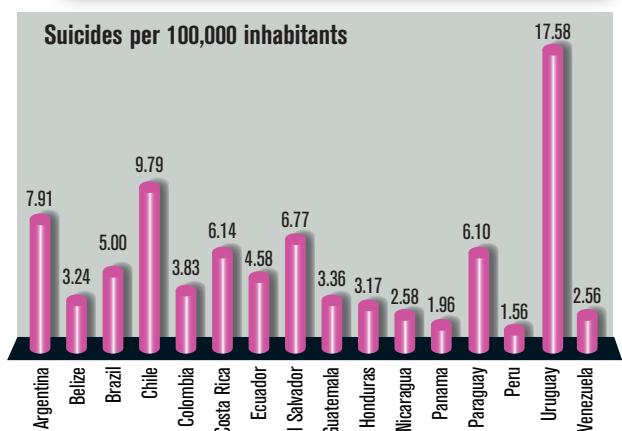


**Sources:** Argentina: Ministry of Security, Undersecretary of Criminal Statistics, *Estadísticas Criminales en la República Argentina*, 2014. Belize: Belize Police Department, Joint Intelligence Coordinating Center, Reported crimes. Bolivia: National Institute of Statistics. Brazil: Ministry of Health, Datasus. Chile: CONASET, Observatory Accident Facts. Colombia: National Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences, *Información estadística sobre violencia y accidentalidad*, 2014. Costa Rica: *Memoria 2014*, Judicial Investigation Organism. Ecuador: National Institute of Statistics *Anuario de nacimientos y defunciones*, 2014. El Salvador: Information provided by the National Civil Police. Guatemala: National Institute of Statistics, *accidentes de tránsito* 2014. Honduras: Violence Observatory, UNAM, report nº 36. Nicaragua: *Anuario 2014* of the Institute of Legal Medicine. Panama: Ministry of Public Security, *Informes SIEC*, 2014. Paraguay: Ministry of Interior, National Observatory of Citizen Security and Coexistence. Peru: National Institute of Statistics and Informatics, *Víctimas de accidentes de tránsito fatales*. Uruguay: UNASEV, *Informe Anual Siniestralidad Vial*, 2015. Venezuela: Ministry of Popular Power for Interior, Justice and Peace, *Memoria y Cuenta* 2014. For methodological reasons the source for population data is the ECLAC 2014 Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean, for all cases.

## The scourge of violent deaths in the region



■ Suicides ■ Homicides ■ Traffic accidents

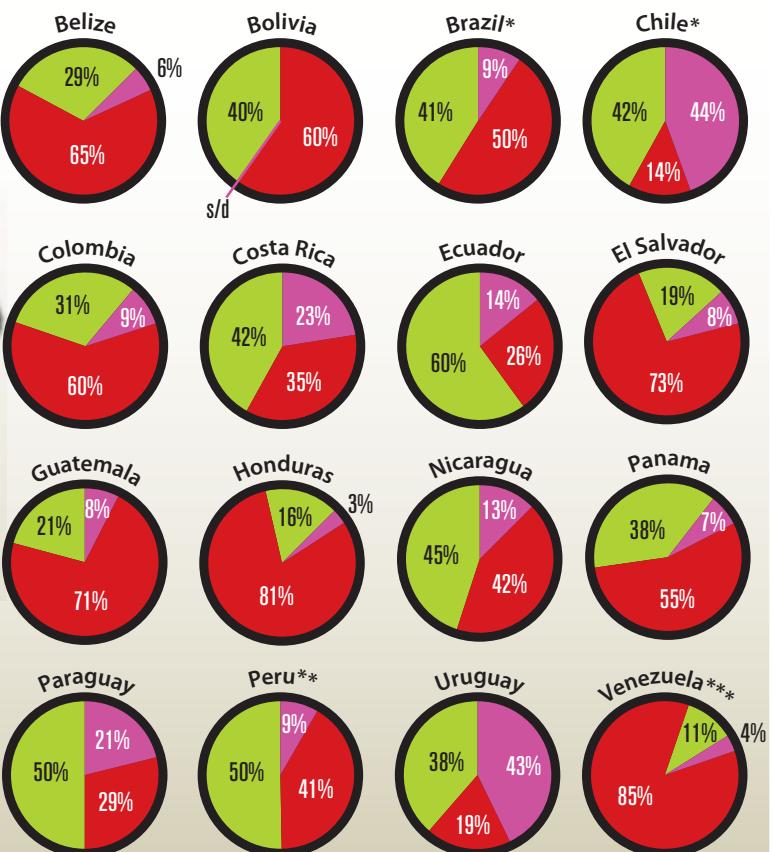


\*Suicides: Data 2013. / \*\* Suicides: Data 2011. / \*\*\* Suicides: Data 2012.

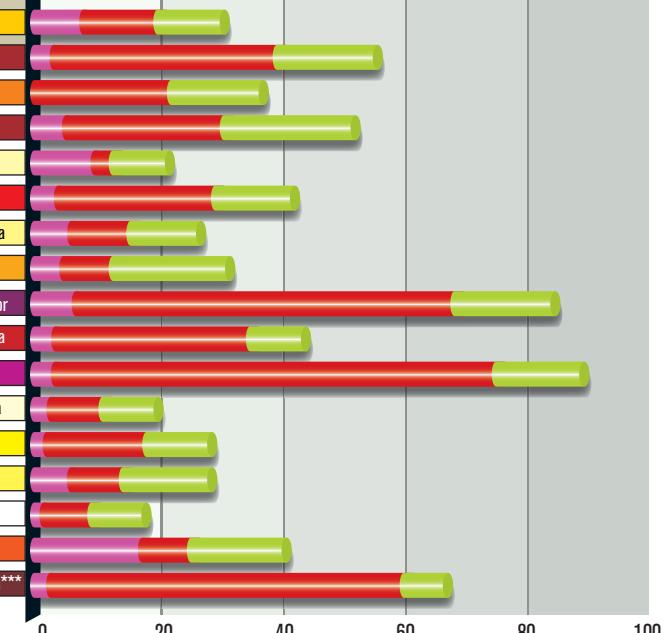
Notes: we are only considering deaths by homicide, traffic accidents, and suicides, leaving aside other categories of violent deaths. The case of Bolivia presents no official information available for data regarding suicide.

**Sources for suicide:** Argentina: Ministry of Security, Undersecretary of Criminal Statistics, *Estadísticas Criminales en la República Argentina*, 2014. Belize: Belize Police Department, Joint Intelligence Coordinating Center, Annual Statistical Report 2013. Brazil: Ministry of Health, Datasus. Chile: Ministry of Health, DEIS Anuario de estadísticas vitales 2013. Colombia: National Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences, *Información estadística sobre violencia y accidentalidad*, 2014. Costa Rica: Judicial Branch, Department of Planning: *Anuario Policial 2014 -Sección de Estadística*. Ecuador: National Institute of Statistics, *Anuario de nacimientos y defunciones*, 2014. El Salvador: Report of the Institute of Legal Medicine 2014. Guatemala: National Institute of Statistics, *Estadísticas vitales* 2014. Honduras: Violence Observatory, UNAM, report nº 36. Nicaragua: *Anuario 2014* of the Institute of Legal Medicine. Panama: Ministry of Public Security, *Informes SIEC*, 2014. Paraguay: Ministry of Interior, National Observatory of Citizen Security and Coexistence. Peru: Ministry of Health, *compendio de estadística de hechos vitales*, 2011. Uruguay: National Institute of Statistics, *Casos de suicidios registrados y tasa de mortalidad*. Venezuela: National Institute of Statistics, *Estadísticas Vitales, Suicidios registrados por año*. For methodological reasons the source for population data is the ECLAC 2014 Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean, for all cases.

The right to life is a fundamental human right that faces serious challenges in the region. The violent deaths include the murder, suicide, and deaths from traffic accidents.



Violent deaths per 100,000 inhabitants

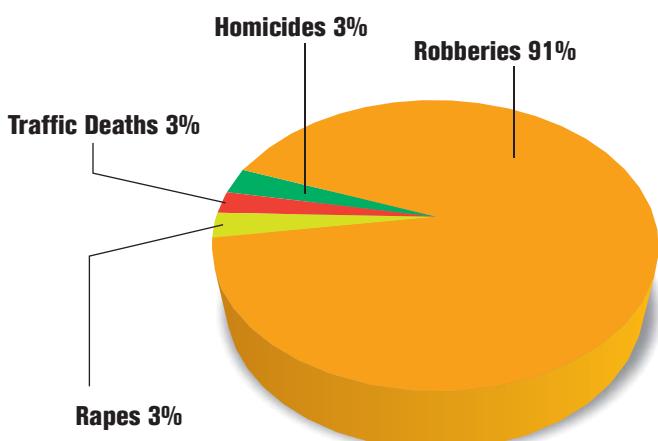


Daily insecurity	Homicides	Robberies	Rapes	Traffic Deaths
Argentina	13.6	1,413.1	10.7	12.6
Belize	0.3	3.1	0.1	0.2
Bolivia	6.5	41.5	9.9	4.3
Brazil	143.2	4,250.8	113.7	118.0
Chile	1.5	179.8	7.8	4.5
Colombia	34.6	461.9	28.0	17.5
Costa Rica	1.3	73.4	4.2	1.5
Ecuador	3.6	231.0	14.5	8.4
El Salvador	10.7	17.1	4.0	2.9
Guatemala	13.7	42.1	19.6	4.0
Honduras	16.3	49.8	4.1	3.2
Nicaragua	1.4	32.1	4.9	1.5
Panama	1.7	27.3	4.4	1.2
Paraguay	1.6	18.4	0.3	2.7
Peru	6.3	212.6	24.2	7.7
Uruguay	0.7	55.1	0.8	1.5

Every hour there are...



Distribution of violent crimes in the region



## Spread of the Major Crimes Committed in the Region (per 100,000 inhabitants)

### Homicides



### Robberies



### Traffic Deaths



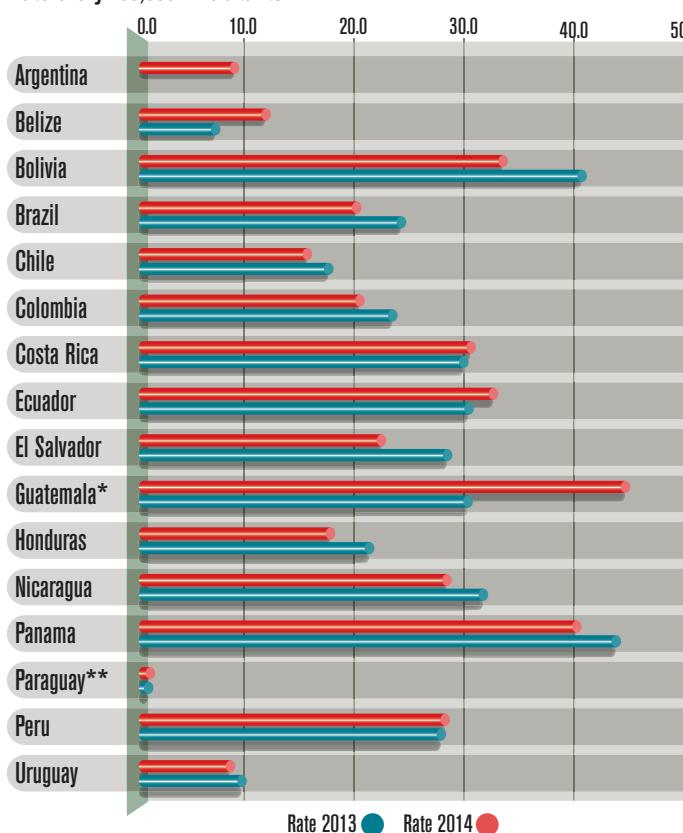
The data issue, its existence and its quality is key to both the design of security policies and for the analysis. However, the situation regarding data sources in most of the countries of the region is highly precarious. Among the most pressing problems are the confusion in the registry, the technical weaknesses of the categorization of criminal acts, the absence of series, the lack of complex analysis of what the statistics say, and the slowness of the official sources for the update. With the exception of some countries - including several in Central America - the crime statistics are presented one or two years after the year of registration. In some cases the date is grudgingly given on the disaggregation of the types of crime, particularly when it refers to offenses against property. Far from being a purely technical matter, a democracy of quality needs to register and publicize each case in which the lives of the citizens are affected by insecurity, and formulate policies according to them.

**Each case matters:  
the difficulty of making  
policy without data**

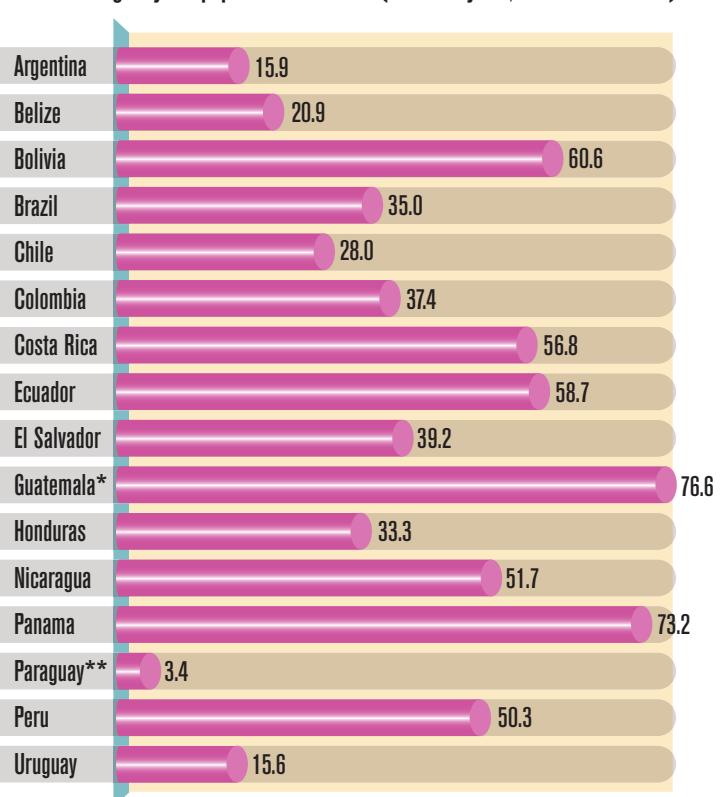
**Sources:** Argentina: Ministry of Security, Undersecretary of Criminal Statistics, *Estadísticas Criminales en la República Argentina*, 2014. Belize: Belize Police Department, Joint Intelligence Coordinating Center, Reported crimes. Bolivia: National Institute of Statistics. Brazil: *Sistema Nacional de Informações de Segurança Pública* sinesp, Criminal Statistics. Robberies: no federal consolidated source is observed, for the purpose of comparing, the average data of six states is used: Amazonas, Mato Grosso, Pernambuco, Rio de Janeiro, Rio Grande do Sul, and São Paulo. Ministry of Health, Datasus. Chile: Ministry of Interior and Public Security, Undersecretary of Crime Prevention, *Frecuencia de casos policiales por delitos de mayor connotación social*, 2001-2015. CONASET, Observatory Accident Facts. Colombia: National Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences, *Información estadística sobre violencia y accidentalidad*, 2014 and Ministry of Defence, *Logros de la Política de Defensa y Seguridad*, 2015. Costa Rica: Gender Observatory of the Judicial Branch and *Memoria 2014*, Judicial Investigation Organism. Ecuador: Ministry Security Coordinator, *Informe de Rendición de Cuentas*, 2015. National Institute of Statistics *Anuario de nacimientos y defunciones*, 2014. El Salvador: Information provided by the National Civil Police and the Institute of Legal Medicine. Guatemala: Report of the Technical Secretariat of the National Security Council, 2014. National Institute of Statistics, *accidentes de tránsito* 2014 and Public Ministry, *Memoria mayo 2014-2015*. Honduras: Violence Observatory, UNAM, report nº 36. Nicaragua: *Anuario Estadístico 2014*, National Police. *Anuario 2014* of the Institute of Legal Medicine. Panama: Ministry of Public Security, *Informes SIEC*, 2014. Paraguay: Ministry of Interior, National Observatory of Citizen Security and Coexistence. Peru: National Institute of Statistics and Informatics, *Denuncias de delitos según tipo* and *Víctimas de accidentes de tránsito fatales*. Uruguay: Ministry of Interior, National Observatory on Violence and Crime. UNASEV, *Informe Anual Siniestralidad Vial*, 2015. Venezuela: Public Ministry, *Informe Anual de Gestión*, 2015 and Ministry of Popular Power for Interior, Justice and Peace, *Memoria y Cuenta 2014*. For methodological reasons the source for population data is the ECLAC 2014 Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean, for all cases.

# Rapes

Rate every 100,000 inhabitants

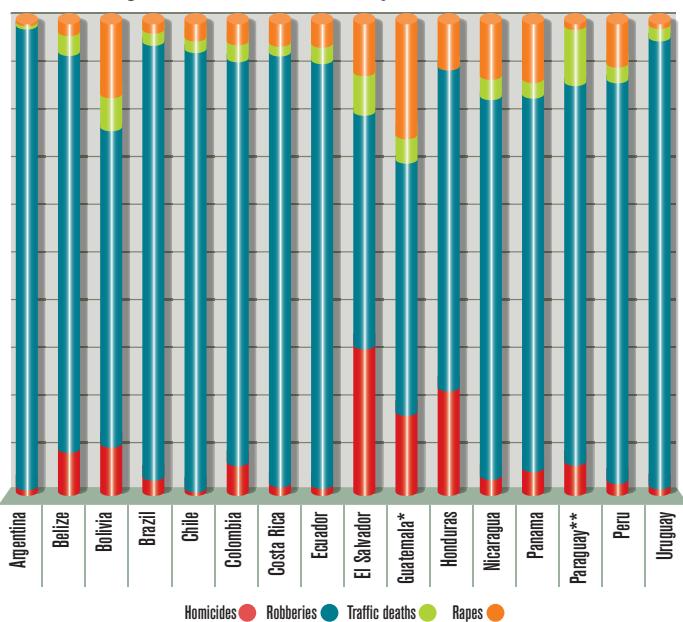


If considering only the population of women (Rate every 100,000 women -2014-)

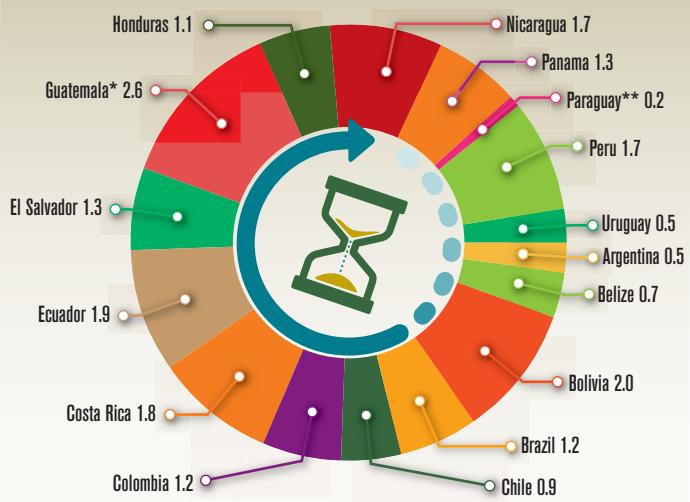


Rate 2013 ● Rate 2014 ●

Relative weight of the offenses as rates per 100,000 inhabitants



If we ponder the total population, each 12 hours a rape affects so many people in each country:



\* Data from May 2014 to March 2015 of the Public Ministry. \*\*Estimated data. there is no consolidated statistics per year.

**Notes:** Argentina did not present information for 2013. In Honduras rape and attempted rape are considered different categories. In Panama carnal violation, attempted rape, and rape are considered different categories.

**Sources:** Argentina: Ministry of Security, Undersecretary of Criminal Statistics, *Estadísticas Criminales en la República Argentina*, 2014. Belize: Belize Police Department, Joint Intelligence Coordinating Center, Reported crimes. Bolivia: National Institute of Statistics. Brazil: *Sistema Nacional de Informações de Segurança Pública* sinesp, Criminal Statistics. Chile: Ministry of Interior and Public Security, Undersecretary of Crime Prevention, *Freqüencia de casos policiais por delitos de maior connotação social*, 2001-2015. Colombia: Ministry of Defence, *Logros de la Política de Defensa y Seguridad*, 2015. Costa Rica: Gender Observatory of the Judicial. Ecuador: Ministry Security Coordinator, *Informe de Rendición de Cuentas*, 2015. El Salvador: Information from the Institute of Legal Medicine. Guatemala: Public Ministry, *Memoria mayo 2014-2015*. Honduras: Violence Observatory, UNAM, report nº 36. Nicaragua: *Anuario Estadístico 2014*, National Police. Panama: Ministry of Public Security, *Informes SIEC*, 2014. Paraguay: Ministry of Interior, National Observatory of Citizen Security and Coexistence. Peru: National Institute of Statistics and Informatics, *Denuncias de delitos según tipo* and *Víctimas de accidentes de tránsito fatales*. Uruguay: Ministry of Interior, National Observatory on Violence and Crime. For methodological reasons the source for population data is the ECLAC 2014 Statistical Yearbook for Latin America and the Caribbean, for all cases.