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Latin America and the Caribbean: Fact Sheet on Leaders and Elections

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This report provides the results of recent presidential elections in Latin America and the Caribbean. Below are three tables, organized by region, that include the date of each country's independence, the name of the most recently elected president or prime minister, and the projected date of the next presidential election. Information in this report was compiled from numerous sources, including the U.S. State Department, International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) Election Guide, Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), national electoral agencies, and other news sources.

Table 1. South America: Heads of Government and Election Schedules

Country	Independence Date	Head of Government	Last Election/ Runoff	Next Election/ Runoff
Argentina	July 9, 1816	MILEI, Javier	Oct. 22, 2023/ Nov. 19, 2023	Oct. 2027/ Nov. 2027
Bolivia	Aug. 6, 1825	PAZ, Rodrigo	Aug. 17, 2025/ Oct. 19, 2025	2030
Brazil	Sept. 7, 1822	DA SILVA, Luiz Inácio (widely known as "Lula")	Oct. 2, 2022/ Oct. 30, 2022	Oct. 4, 2026/ Oct. 25, 2026
Chile	Sept. 18, 1810	KAST, Antonio	Nov. 16, 2025/ Dec. 14, 2025	Nov. 2029/ Dec. 2029
Colombia	July 20, 1810	PETRO, Gustavo	May 29, 2022/ June 19, 2022	May 31, 2026/ June 21, 2026
Ecuador	May 24, 1822	NOBOA, Daniel	Feb. 9, 2025/ Apr. 13, 2025	Feb. 2029/ Apr. 2029
Paraguay	May 14, 1811	PEÑA, Santiago	Apr. 30, 2023	Apr. 2028
Peru	July 28, 1821	BALCÁZAR, José María ^a	Apr. 12, 2026/ June 7, 2026 ^b	Apr. 2031/ June 2031
Uruguay	Aug. 25, 1825	ORSI, Yamandú	Oct. 27, 2024/ Nov. 24, 2024	Oct. 2029/ Nov. 2029
Venezuela	July 5, 1811	RODRÍGUEZ, Delcy ^c	July 28, 2024	Uncertain ^d

Source: Compiled by the Congressional Research Service (CRS).

Notes: For information on Guyana and Suriname, see **Table 3**.

- a. On December 7, 2022, Pedro Castillo attempted to dissolve congress, create a government of exception, and rule by decree. That same day, the Peruvian Congress impeached Castillo, who was arrested shortly afterwards. Also on December 7, Vice President Dina Boluarte was sworn in as president. On October 9, 2025, Congress impeached Boluarte and the president of congress, José Jerí, became interim president. Congress impeached Jerí on February 17, 2026, and the next day voted to elect José María Balcázar president of congress and, therefore, interim president of Peru.
- b. Peru's presidential elections were impacted by voters unable to cast ballots due to missing materials, lawsuits for alleged electoral irregularities, and the resignation of a top electoral official. On May 17, 2025, Peru's national electoral tribunal announced that no candidate won outright. The top two candidates, Keiki Fujimori, with 17.19% of the vote, and Roberto Sanchez, with 12.04% of the vote, are scheduled to compete in a runoff election on June 7.
- c. On January 3, 2026, President Trump announced that U.S. military strikes across Venezuela culminated in the capture of President Nicolás Maduro and his wife, Cilia Flores. Both were subsequently indicted in the United States. On January 5, 2026, Vice President Delcy Rodriguez was sworn in as interim president. For more information, see CRS Insight IN12618, *U.S. Capture of Venezuela's Nicolás Maduro: Considerations for Congress*, by Clare Ribando Seelke.

- d. After a decade of increasingly authoritarian rule, Venezuela held presidential elections that most international observers, including the U.S. Department of State, concluded did not meet international standards. Venezuela's National Electoral Commission (CNE) claimed that Nicolás Maduro won 51.2% of the vote, compared with 44.2% for Edmundo González Urrutia. These results contradicted preelection polling, exit polls, and precinct-level vote tabulations published by the opposition. For more information, see CRS In Focus IF10230, *Venezuela: Political Crisis and U.S. Policy*, by Clare Ribando Seelke.

Table 2. Mexico and Central America: Heads of Government and Election Schedules

Country	Independence Date	Head of Government	Last Election/ Runoff	Next Election/ Runoff
Mexico	Sept. 16, 1810	SHEINBAUM, Claudia	June 2, 2024	June 2030
Costa Rica	Sept. 15, 1821	FERNÁNDEZ, Laura	Feb. 1, 2026	Feb. 2030/ Apr. 2030
El Salvador	Sept. 15, 1821	BUKELE, Nayib	Feb. 4, 2024	Feb. 2029
Guatemala	Sept. 15, 1821	ARÉVALO, Bernardo	June 25, 2023/ Aug. 20, 2023	by 2027
Honduras	Sept. 15, 1821	ASFURA, Nasry	Nov. 30, 2025	Nov. 2029
Nicaragua	Sept. 15, 1821	ORTEGA, Daniel	Nov. 7, 2021 ^a	Nov. 2026
Panama	Nov. 3, 1903	MULINO, José Raúl	May 5, 2024	May 2029

Source: Compiled by CRS.

Notes: For information on Belize, see **Table 3**.

- a. Prior to the presidential elections, the Ortega government arrested eight people who sought to challenge Ortega in the elections and dozens of political and civil society leaders. Much of the international community, including the United States, rejected the elections; the Organization of American States declared that the elections “were not free, fair or transparent and have no democratic legitimacy.” See U.S. Mission to the Organization of American States, “OAS General Assembly Condemns the Ortega-Murillo Regime in Nicaragua,” November 12, 2021, <https://usoas.usmission.gov/oas-general-assembly-condemns-the-ortega-murillo-regime-in-nicaragua/>. See also CRS Report R48294, *Nicaragua: In Brief*, by Karla I. Rios.

Table 3. Caribbean: Heads of Government and Election Schedules

Country	Independence Date	Head of Government	Last Election/ Runoff	Next Election/ Runoff
Antigua and Barbuda	Nov. 1, 1981	BROWNE, Gaston	Apr. 30, 2026 ^a	by 2031
Bahamas	July 10, 1973	DAVIS, Philip	May 12, 2026	by Oct. 2026
Barbados	Nov. 30, 1966	MOTTLEY, Mia	Feb. 11, 2026	by Jan. 2031
Belize	Sept. 21, 1981	BRICEÑO, Johnny	Mar. 12, 2025	by 2030
Cuba ^b	May 20, 1902	DÍAZ-CANEL, Miguel	Apr. 19, 2023	2028
Dominica	Nov. 3, 1978	SKERRIT, Roosevelt	Dec. 6, 2022 ^c	by Mar. 2028
Dominican Republic	Feb. 27, 1844	ABINADER, Luis	May 19, 2024	May 2028
Grenada	Feb. 7, 1974	MITCHELL, Dickon	June 23, 2022 ^d	by June 2027

Country	Independence Date	Head of Government	Last Election/ Runoff	Next Election/ Runoff
Guyana	May 26, 1966	ALI, Irfaan	Sept. 1, 2025	by 2030
Haiti	Jan. 1, 1804	DIDIER FILS-AIMÉ, Alix ^e	Nov. 20, 2016 ^g	Aug. 30, 2026/ Dec. 6, 2026 Error! Reference source not found.
Jamaica	Aug. 6, 1962	HOLNESS, Andrew	Sept. 3, 2025	by 2030
St. Kitts and Nevis	Sept. 19, 1983	DREW, Terrance	Aug. 5, 2022	by 2027
St. Lucia	Feb. 22, 1979	PIERRE, Philip	Dec. 1, 2025	by 2030
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	Oct. 27, 1979	FRIDAY, Godwin	Nov. 27, 2025	by 2030
Suriname	Nov. 25, 1975	GEERLINGS-SIMONS, Jennifer	May 25, 2025	by 2030
Trinidad and Tobago	Aug. 31, 1962	PERSAD-BISSESSAR, Kamla	Apr. 28, 2025	Apr. 2030

Source: Compiled by CRS.

Notes: Although Belize is located in Central America and Guyana and Suriname are located in South America, all three are members of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM).

- a. Prime Minister Browne dissolved parliament and called for snap elections in April 2026, ahead of elections constitutionally due by October 2028. The incumbent party won the elections and the prime minister is serving a second consecutive term. See “Bahamas re-elects Progressive Liberal party’s Philip Davis as prime minister,” Reuters, May 13, 2026, <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2026/may/13/the-bahamas-reelects-progressive-liberal-party-philip-davis-as-prime-minister>.
- b. Cuba does not have direct elections for its head of government. Instead, Cuba’s legislature selects the members of the 31-member Council of State, with the president of that body serving as Cuba’s head of government and head of state. In April 2023, Cuba’s legislature selected Miguel Díaz-Canel for another five-year term. Díaz-Canel has served as president of the republic since Cuba’s legislature appointed him in October 2019. See Andrea Rodriguez, “Cuba’s Parliament Ratifies President Díaz-Canel for New Term,” Associated Press, April 19, 2023, <https://apnews.com/article/cuba-assembly-president-miguel-diazcanel-7f496a6b05f04aa3d3c7b4a1f3cb45dc>.
- c. In November 2022, Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit called a snap election that was held on December 6, 2022, ahead of elections constitutionally due by March 2025.
- d. In May 2022, Prime Minister Keith Mitchell called a snap election held on June 23, 2022, ahead of elections constitutionally due in March 2023.
- e. Haiti’s President Jovenel Moïse was assassinated on July 7, 2021. Ariel Henry, named by Moïse but not yet sworn in, became de facto prime minister on July 20, 2021. Under the Haitian Constitution, either the Council of Ministers under the prime minister should govern or, in the last year of a presidential term, the legislature should elect a provisional president. There has been no functioning legislature since January 2020, and there are no remaining elected officials. On March 11, 2024, Henry agreed to resign after a transitional council was formed. On April 12, 2024, the Haitian governmental gazette published a decree establishing a nine-person council, effective until February 7, 2026, tasked with naming a new prime minister and cabinet. Sworn in on April 25, 2024, the transitional council first selected Garry Conille as prime minister and later appointed Alix Didier Fils-Aimé on October 11, 2024. See U.S. Department of State, “Designation of a New Prime Minister in Haiti Press Statement,” November 12, 2024, <https://www.state.gov/designation-of-a-new-prime-minister-in-haiti/>. This follows a period of increasing civil unrest in Haiti. See CRS Report R47394, *Haiti: Recent Developments and U.S. Policy*, by Karla I. Rios and Clare Ribando Seelke. See

- f. also CRS Insight IN12331, *Haiti in Crisis: Developments Related to the Multinational Security Support Mission*, by Karla I. Rios. On February 7, 2026, the transitional council handed over all executive power to Prime Minister Fils-Aimé. See *LatinNews Daily*, “HAITI: PM takes over executive as CPT dissolves,” February 9, 2026, https://www.latinnews.com/component/k2/item/108894.html?period=2026&archive=3&Itemid=6&cat_id=838427:haiti-pm-takes-over-executive-as-cpt-dissolves.
- g. Haiti held controversial national elections on October 25, 2015. After postponing runoff elections several times, the Provisional Electoral Council announced that new presidential elections would take place in October 2016; these were delayed for a month due to Hurricane Matthew.
- h. An April 12, 2024, decree created a transitional council to exercise presidential powers until February 7, 2026, the date by which a new president must be sworn in. The transitional council appointed a provisional electoral commission, a requirement for elections to take place, on September 18, 2024. In late October 2025, the electoral council president said it would be “impossible” to hold elections before the end of transitional council’s term. In December 2025, the transitional council adopted an electoral decree and published an electoral calendar, although implementation will depend on meeting numerous prerequisites. In a May 2026 interview, Prime Minister Fils-Aimé expressed doubts about holding elections in August due to ongoing security challenges but no official electoral calendar changes have been announced. See Sarah Morland, “Haiti gang warfare stalls long-awaited elections,” Associated Press, updated October 22, 2025, <https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/haiti-gang-warfare-stalls-long-awaited-elections-2025-10-22/>. See also Juhakenson Blaise, “Inside Haiti’s road to 2026 elections: CEP revises calendar, keeps Aug. 30 vote date,” January 6, 2026, <https://haitiantimes.com/2026/01/06/haiti-cep-maintains-elections-august-30-2026/>. See also Harold Isaac, “Haiti too insecure for August presidential vote, PM says,” Reuters, May 11, 2026, <https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/haiti-too-insecure-august-presidential-vote-pm-says-2026-05-11/>.

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