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

Updated October 30, 2026

Congressional Research Service
https://crsreports.congress.gov
98-684

CRS REPORT
Prepared for Members and
Committees of Congress

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, the International Foundation for Electoral Systems, the Election Guide, the Economist Intelligence Unit, 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[a]
Chile	Sept. 18, 1810	KAST, Antonio	Nov. 16, 2025/ Dec. 14, 2025	Nov. 2029/ Dec. 2029
Colombia	July 20, 1810	DE LA ESPRIELLA, Abelardo	May 31, 2026/ June 21, 2026	May 2030/ June 2030
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	FUJIMORI, Keiko	Apr. 12, 2026/ June 7, 2026	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[b]	July 28, 2024	Uncertain[c]

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

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

a. In the runoff election, Lula won with 51.79% of the vote while Flávio Bolsonaro received 48.21% of the vote. The presidential inauguration is scheduled for January 5, 2027. For more information, see CRS Report R46236, *Brazil: Background and U.S. Relations*, by Peter J. Meyer.

b. 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.

c. 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 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. 2028[b]
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.

b. On July 19, 2026, President Ortega said in a speech that there would be no more elections in Nicaragua. On September 1, the National Assembly approved a constitutional amendment that seeks to extend the presidential term length from six to seven years, among other reforms. A constitutional amendment requires ratification in two legislative sessions with the second scheduled for January 18, 2027. See U.S. Department of State, "Responding to the Murillo-Ortega Dictatorship's Legislative Sham," press release, September 2, 2026, https://ni.usembassy.gov/responding-to-the-murillo-ortega-dictatorships-legislative-sham/ . See also, Wilfredo Miranda Aburto, "Daniel Ortega suspends this year's elections and extends his mandate until 2028," *El País,* https://english.elpais.com/international/2026-09-02/daniel-ortega-suspends-this-years-elections-and-extends-his-mandate-until-2028.html. See also Inter-American Commission of Human Rights, "IACHR Condemns Constitutional Reform Aimed at Institutionalizing Indefinite Rule in Nicaragua," press release, August 3, 2026, https://www.oas.org/en/IACHR/jsForm/?File=/en/iachr/media_center/PReleases/2026/152.asp.

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 May 2031
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

Country	Independence Date	Head of Government	Last Election/ Runoff	Next Election/ Runoff
Grenada	Feb. 7, 1974	MITCHELL, Dickon	June 23, 2022[d]	by June 2027
Guyana	May 26, 1966	ALI, Irfaan	Sept. 1, 2025	by 2030
Haiti	Jan. 1, 1804	DIDIER FILS-AIMÉ, Alix[e]	Nov. 20, 2016[f]	Dec. 13, 2026/ Feb. 21, 2027[g]
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 Gaston 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, then-Prime Minister Keith Mitchell called a snap election held on June 23, 2022, ahead of elections constitutionally due in March 2023. The opposition won, and Dickon Mitchell was sworn in as prime minister on June 24, 2022.

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. This follows a period of increasing civil unrest in Haiti. On February 7, 2026, the transitional council's mandate expired, and it handed over all executive power to Prime Minister Fils-Aimé. On February 25, 2026, Prime Minister Fils-Aimé presented a governance pact with political parties and other sectors and a week later named a ministerial cabinet comprised of 18 members. See CRS Report R47394, *Haiti: Recent Developments and U.S. Policy*, by Karla I. Rios and Clare Ribando Seelke. See also CRS Insight IN12331, *Haiti in Crisis: Developments Related to the Multinational Security Support Mission*, by Karla I. Rios. See also *LatinNews Daily*, "Haiti: PM Takes over Executive as CPT Dissolves," February 9, 2026, https://www.latinnews.com/component/k2/item/

108894.html. See also *LatinNews Daily*, "Haiti: Fils-Aimé Presents New Ministers," March 5, 2026, https://www.latinnews.com/component/k2/item/109193.html.

f. 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.

g. 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. On July 27, 2026, Haiti's provisional electoral council set a revised date for the first round of elections for December 13, 2026, with February 21, 2027, as the revised run-off election date. See Jacqueline Charles, "Haiti Electoral Council Sets Calendar for First Elections in a Decade. Is It Realistic?," *Miami Herald*, updated July 24, 2026, https://www.miamiherald.com/news/nation-world/world/americas/haiti/article316646068.html.

Author Information

Carla Y. Davis-Castro
Senior Research Librarian

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