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

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Summary

This fact sheet tracks the current heads of government in Central and South America, Mexico, and the Caribbean. It provides the dates of the last and next elections for the head of government and the national independence date for each country.
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### Table 1. South America

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Independence Date</th>
<th>Head of Government</th>
<th>Last Election</th>
<th>Next Election</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>Aug. 6, 1825</td>
<td>MORALES, Evo</td>
<td>Dec. 18, 2005</td>
<td>Dec. 6, 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>July 20, 1810</td>
<td>URIBE, Alvaro</td>
<td>May 28, 2006</td>
<td>May 30, 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>May 24, 1822</td>
<td>CORREA, Rafael</td>
<td>Apr. 26, 2009</td>
<td>Apr. 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paraguay</td>
<td>May 14, 1811</td>
<td>LUGO, Fernando</td>
<td>Apr. 20, 2008</td>
<td>Apr. 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>July 28, 1821</td>
<td>GARCIA, Alan</td>
<td>Apr. 9, 2006/ June 4, 2006</td>
<td>Apr. 2011</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a. José Mujica won the presidential election for Uruguay on November 29, 2009. He is expected to be inaugurated on March 1, 2010.

### Table 2. Mexico and Central America

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Independence Date</th>
<th>Head of Government</th>
<th>Last Election</th>
<th>Next Election</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>Sept. 16, 1810</td>
<td>CALDERÓN, Felipe</td>
<td>July 2, 2006</td>
<td>July 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honduras</td>
<td>Sept. 15, 1821</td>
<td>ZELAYA, Manuel</td>
<td>Nov. 29, 2009</td>
<td>Nov. 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicaragua</td>
<td>Sept. 15, 1821</td>
<td>ORTEGA, Daniel</td>
<td>Nov. 5, 2006</td>
<td>Nov. 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panama</td>
<td>Nov. 3, 1903</td>
<td>MARTINEZ, Ricardo</td>
<td>May 3, 2009</td>
<td>May 2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a. Porfirio Lobo Sosa won the presidential election for Honduras on November 29, 2009. He is expected to be inaugurated on January 27, 2010.
### Table 3. Caribbean

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Independence Date</th>
<th>Head of Government</th>
<th>Last Election</th>
<th>Next Election</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Antigua and Barbuda</td>
<td>Nov. 1, 1981</td>
<td>SPENCER, Baldwin</td>
<td>March 12, 2009</td>
<td>by March 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bahamas</td>
<td>July 10, 1973</td>
<td>INGRAHAM, Hubert</td>
<td>May 2, 2007</td>
<td>by May 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>May 20, 1902</td>
<td>CASTRO RUZ, Raúl</td>
<td>a</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dominica</td>
<td>Nov. 3, 1978</td>
<td>SKERRITT, Roosevelt</td>
<td>May 5, 2005</td>
<td>July 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dominican Republic</td>
<td>Feb. 27, 1844</td>
<td>FERNANDEZ, Leonel</td>
<td>May 16, 2008</td>
<td>May 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grenada</td>
<td>Feb. 7, 1974</td>
<td>THOMAS, Tillman</td>
<td>July 8, 2008</td>
<td>by July 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suriname</td>
<td>Nov. 25, 1975</td>
<td>VENETIAAN, Ronald</td>
<td>May 25, 2005</td>
<td>May 25, 2010</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a. On February 24, 2008, Raúl Castro was selected by Cuba’s legislature as President of the Council of State, a position that makes him head of state and government. Raúl had been serving as acting President since July 31, 2006, when Cuba’s long-serving communist leader, Fidel Castro, stepped down provisionally because of poor health. Since the 1959 Cuban Revolution, there have been no elections for head of government.

b. Stephenson King was sworn in as Prime Minister on September 10, 2007, following the death of Prime Minister John Compton, who had been elected in December 2006.

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