Revenue Statistics in Latin America
1990 - 2010

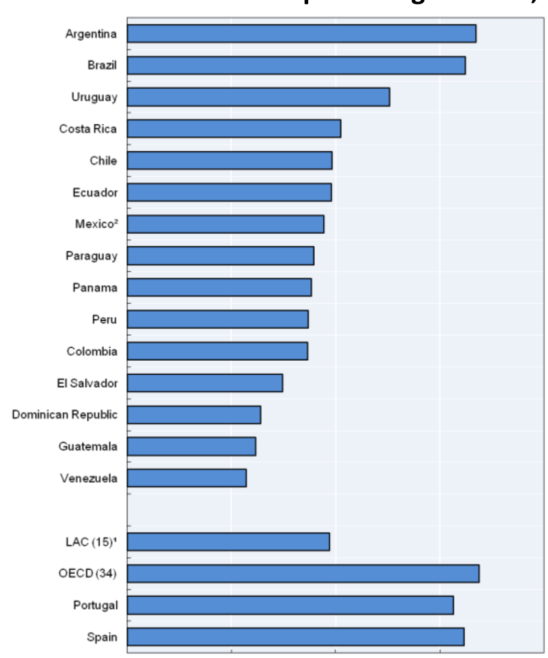
Revenue Statistics in Latin America provides detailed data for each of the countries' fiscal performance from both a static and a dynamic (over time) perspective. By following the OECD methodology, it enables comparisons with other countries in the region and with OECD countries.

This publication provides tax policy officials in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) with essential information which will enable them to make informed tax policy decisions about the overall size of the tax burden, the share of different taxes in the tax mix, setting tax rates and thresholds for individual taxes, and the attribution of taxes by level of government.

Main findings in the Second Edition of *Revenue Statistics in Latin America*

- Tax revenues in Latin American countries are lower as a proportion of their national incomes than in most OECD countries, but are rising slowly; although there is a wide variation among countries.
- Over the period 1990-2008, the tax to GDP ratio did rise significantly across LAC countries. While the crisis had a negative impact on these ratios, most countries of the region showed some recovery in 2010.
- The tax systems in Latin America could do more to address issues of inequality by becoming more progressive. The potential progressivity of the tax systems is reduced by the combination of high reliance on indirect taxes and the low contribution of personal income taxes to total tax revenues.
- The share of tax revenues collected by local governments in Latin America is small in most countries and has not increased, reflecting the relatively narrow range of taxes under their jurisdiction compared with OECD countries.

Total tax revenues as percentage of GDP, 2010



1. Represents the unweighted average for the 15 Latin American countries. Chile and Mexico are also part of the OECD (34).
2. This figure is different from those presented in ECLAC and CIAT publications because Revenue Statistics in Latin America includes fees levied on hydrocarbon production as tax revenues.

•*Statlink:* http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888932691194

Revenue Statistics in Latin America at a Glance

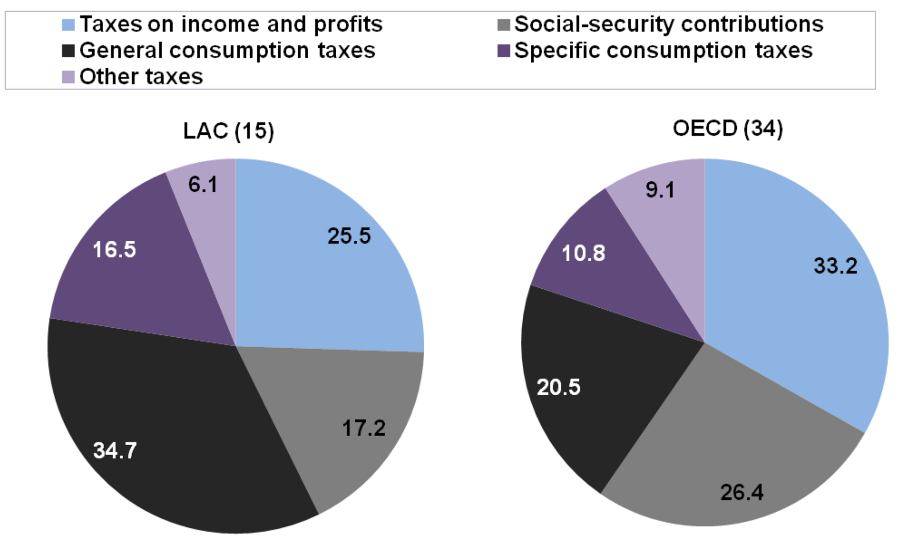
Tax to GDP ratios

- The average tax to GDP ratio in 2010 reached a level of 33.8% in the OECD and of 19.4% in Latin America.
- The difference between these two areas fell by 5 percentage points between 1990 and 2010, strongly supported by Brazil's robust and constant growth in tax revenues during this period.
- In 2010, the tax to GDP ratio rose in 10 of the 15 LAC countries and fell in 4.
- The largest increases in tax to GDP ratios in 2010 were in Chile (2.5 percentage points), Argentina (2.0 points), Ecuador (1.7) and Peru (1.1).
- The largest fall in 2010 was in Venezuela (2.9 percentage points).

Tax Structures

- Following strong growth over the past twenty years, general consumption taxes (mainly VAT and sales taxes) accounted for 34.7% of tax revenues in the Latin American countries in 2010 (compared to 20.5% in OECD countries) whereas the share of specific consumption taxes (such as excises and taxes on international trade) declined to 16.5% (in OECD it's 10.8%).
- Taxes on income and profits accounted for 25.5% of revenues on average in the Latin American countries and social security contributions represented 17.2% (in OECD the figures are 33.2% and 26.4% respectively).

Tax structures in Latin America and OECD, 2010



1. LAC (15) represents the unweighted average of the 15 Latin American and Caribbean countries in this publication. Chile and Mexico are also part of the OECD (34) group.
2. OECD (34) represents the unweighted average for OECD member countries.

•*Statlink:* http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888932691175

Country notes for a selected number of countries available at:
http://www.oecd.org/ctp/globalrelationsintaxation/RevenueStatsCountryNotes2012.htm

Revenue Statistics in Latin America is a joint publication by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the Inter-American Centre of Tax Administrations (CIAT).

www.oecd.org/tax/lacfiscal