

# Colombia by the Numbers

*Rankings, Ratings, and Sundry Facts*

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- 1** The United States is Colombia's top trading partner, accounting for 28.5 percent of its imports, followed by Mexico (8.3 percent), China (7.6 percent), Brazil (6.5 percent), and Venezuela (5.7 percent). The United States is also the top destination for Colombian exports, receiving 41.8 percent of all exports in 2005, the last year full data was available.
  - 1** Million Colombians live in the United States.
  - 2.2** Billion dollars were remitted from the United States to Colombia in 2005.
  - 3** Third-most-populous country in Latin America with 43,593,035 Colombians as of July 2006.

Three major armed groups operate inside the country: The 40-year old Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC based on the group's Spanish acronym; the National Liberation Army, or ELN, with which the Colombian government is in preliminary peace talks; and the recently demobilized United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia, or AUC. Each is an international terrorist organization according to the U.S. State Department.
  - 4** Fourth highest unemployment rate in Latin America.
  - 5** Fifth largest recipient of U.S. assistance and the largest outside the Middle East & Afghanistan; Colombia is slated to receive approximately \$600 million in fiscal year 2007.
  - 8** Number of members of the Colombian Congress who have been jailed in recent months as part of the country's escalating "para-politics" scandal linking politicians and Colombia's paramilitary organizations.
  - 14** Fourteenth highest Gross Domestic Product per capita in Latin America at \$2,763.32 as of 2006.
  - 15** Among the top 15 suppliers of oil to the United States, exporting more than 260,000 barrels of oil a day.
  - 39** Percentage of Colombians with favorable opinion of President Bush, compared with 21 percent with a favorable opinion of Fidel Castro and Hugo Chavez, and 31 percent with a favorable view of Brazilian President Lula de Silva.
  - 49.2** Percentage of Colombians living below the poverty line; seventh highest in Latin America.
  - 60** Percent share of the U.S. fresh cut flower market supplied by Colombia, the world's second-largest exporter of fresh cut flowers.
  - 73** Approval rating of President Álvaro Uribe Vélez.
  - 90** Percent share of the cocaine consumed in the United States that is produced in Colombia.
  - 170,000** The number of people estimated to have been forced to flee their homes last year by Colombia's internal conflicts. Decades of violence in Colombia have created one of the largest internally displaced populations in the world, estimated to include more than 3 million people as of 2006.