**Argentina**,[[a]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-18) officially the **Argentine Republic**,[[b]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-19) is a country in the southern half of [South America](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_America). Argentina covers an area of 2,780,400 km2 (1,073,500 sq mi),[[B]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-excl_area-11) making it the [second-largest country in South America](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_South_American_countries_by_area) after [Brazil](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brazil), the fourth-largest country in the [Americas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Americas), and the [eighth-largest country](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_and_dependencies_by_area) in the world. It shares the bulk of the [Southern Cone](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern_Cone) with [Chile](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chile) to the west, and is also bordered by [Bolivia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bolivia) and [Paraguay](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paraguay) to the north, Brazil to the northeast, [Uruguay](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uruguay) and the South [Atlantic Ocean](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atlantic_Ocean) to the east, and the [Drake Passage](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Drake_Passage) to the south. Argentina is a [federal state](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federation) subdivided into twenty-three [provinces](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Provinces_of_Argentina), and one [autonomous city](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Autonomous_city), which is the [federal capital](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federal_capital) and [largest city](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_cities_in_Argentina_by_population) of the nation, [Buenos Aires](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buenos_Aires). The provinces and the capital have their own constitutions, but exist under a [federal system](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federalism). Argentina claims sovereignty over the [Falkland Islands](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Falkland_Islands_sovereignty_dispute), [South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Georgia_and_the_South_Sandwich_Islands_sovereignty_dispute), the [Southern Patagonian Ice Field](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern_Patagonian_Ice_Field_dispute), and [a part of Antarctica](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Antarctica).

The earliest recorded human presence in modern-day Argentina dates back to the [Paleolithic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paleolithic) period.[[14]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEAbad_de_Santill%C3%A1n197117-20) The [Inca Empire](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inca_Empire) expanded to the northwest of the country in Pre-Columbian times. The country has its roots in [Spanish colonization](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spanish_Empire) of the region during the 16th century.[[15]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTECrow1992128-21) Argentina rose as the successor state of the [Viceroyalty of the Río de la Plata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Viceroyalty_of_the_R%C3%ADo_de_la_Plata),[[16]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTELevene194811S%C3%A1nchez_Viamonte1948196%E2%80%9397Vanossi196411-22) a Spanish [overseas viceroyalty](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Viceroyalty) founded in 1776. The [declaration](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Declaration_of_Independence) and [fight for independence](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_War_of_Independence) (1810–1818) was followed by an [extended civil war](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Civil_Wars) that lasted until 1861, culminating in the country's reorganization as a [federation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federation). The country thereafter enjoyed relative peace and stability, with [several waves of European immigration](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Immigration_to_Argentina), mainly [Italians](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Italian_Argentines) and [Spaniards](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spanish_Argentines), influencing its [culture](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Culture_of_Argentina) and [demography](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Demographics_of_Argentina).[[17]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-23)[[18]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-LaMatanza-24)[[19]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-25)[[20]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-26)

Following the death of President [Juan Perón](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Juan_Per%C3%B3n) in 1974, his widow and vice president, [Isabel Perón](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isabel_Per%C3%B3n), ascended to the presidency, before being overthrown [in 1976](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1976_Argentine_coup_d%27%C3%A9tat). The following [military junta](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Reorganization_Process), which was supported by the [United States](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States), persecuted and murdered thousands of political critics, activists, and leftists in the [Dirty War](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dirty_War), a period of [state terrorism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/State_terrorism) and civil unrest that lasted until the election of [Raúl Alfonsín](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ra%C3%BAl_Alfons%C3%ADn) as president in [1983](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1983_Argentine_general_election).

Argentina is a [regional power](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Regional_power), and retains its historic status as a [middle power](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Middle_power) in international affairs.[[21]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEWood198818Solomon19973-27)[[22]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEHuntington20006Nierop200161Lake200955Papadopoulos2010283Malamud20119Boughton2012101-28)[[23]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEMorris198863AdlerGreve200978Ruiz-DanaGoldschagClaroBlanco200918-29) A [major non-NATO ally](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Major_non-NATO_ally) of the United States,[[24]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-Major_Non-NATO_Ally_Status-30) Argentina is a [developing country](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Developing_country) with the second-highest [HDI](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human_Development_Index) (human development index) in [Latin America](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Latin_America) after [Chile](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chile).[[25]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-31) It maintains the [second-largest economy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Economy_of_Argentina) in South America, and is a member of [G-15](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Group_of_15) and [G20](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/G20). Argentina is also a founding member of the [United Nations](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Nations), [World Bank](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Bank_Group), [World Trade Organization](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Trade_Organization), [Mercosur](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mercosur), [Community of Latin American and Caribbean States](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community_of_Latin_American_and_Caribbean_States) and the [Organization of Ibero-American States](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Organization_of_Ibero-American_States).

**Etymology**

*Main article:*[*Etymology of Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Etymology_of_Argentina)

The description of the region by the word *Argentina* has been found on a [Venetian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Republic_of_Venice) map in 1536.[[26]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-32)

In English, the name *Argentina* comes from the [Spanish language](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spanish_language); however, the naming itself is not Spanish, but [Italian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Italian_language). *Argentina* ([masculine](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grammatical_gender) *argentino*) means in Italian '(made) of silver, silver coloured', derived from the Latin *argentum* for silver. In Italian, the adjective or the [proper noun](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proper_noun) is often used in an autonomous way as a substantive and replaces it and it is said *l'Argentina*.

The name *Argentina* was probably first given by the Venetian and Genoese navigators, such as [Giovanni Caboto](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Giovanni_Caboto). In Spanish and Portuguese, the words for 'silver' are respectively *plata* and *prata* and '(made) of silver' is *plateado* and *prateado*, although *argento* for 'silver' and *argentado* for 'covered in silver' exist in Spanish. *Argentina* was first associated with the [silver mountains legend](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sierra_de_la_Plata), widespread among the first European explorers of the [La Plata Basin](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/La_Plata_Basin).[[27]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTERock19876,_8Edwards20087-33)

The first written use of the name in Spanish can be traced to [*La Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/La_Argentina_(poem)),[[C]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-34) a 1602 poem by [Martín del Barco Centenera](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mart%C3%ADn_del_Barco_Centenera) describing the region.[[28]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTETraba198515,_71-35) Although "Argentina" was already in common usage by the 18th century, the country was formally named "[Viceroyalty of the Río de la Plata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Viceroyalty_of_the_R%C3%ADo_de_la_Plata)" by the [Spanish Empire](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spanish_Empire), and "[United Provinces of the Río de la Plata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Provinces_of_the_R%C3%ADo_de_la_Plata)" after independence.

The [1826 constitution](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Constitution_of_1826) included the first use of the name "Argentine Republic" in legal documents.[[29]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEConstitution_of_Argentina1826,_art._1-36) The name "Argentine Confederation" was also commonly used and was formalized in the [Argentine Constitution of 1853](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Constitution_of_1853).[[30]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEConstitution_of_Argentina1853,_Preamble-37) In 1860 a presidential decree settled the country's name as "Argentine Republic",[[31]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTERosenblat196478-38) and that year's constitutional amendment ruled all the names since 1810 as legally valid.[[32]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEConstitution_of_Argentina1860_amd.,_art._35-39)[[D]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-40)

In [English](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/English_language), the country was traditionally called "the Argentine", mimicking the typical [Spanish](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spanish_language) usage *la Argentina*[[33]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-41) and perhaps resulting from a mistaken shortening of the fuller name 'Argentine Republic'. 'The Argentine' fell out of fashion during the mid-to-late 20th century, and now the country is referred to as "Argentina".

**History**

*Main article:*[*History of Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_Argentina)

**Pre-Columbian era**

*Main article:*[*Indigenous peoples in Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indigenous_peoples_in_Argentina)

[A group of hands in a rock

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Cueva_de_las_Manos_(6811931046).jpg)

The [Cave of the Hands](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cueva_de_las_Manos) in [Santa Cruz province](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santa_Cruz_province,_Argentina)

The earliest traces of human life in the area now known as Argentina are dated from the [Paleolithic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paleolithic) period, with further traces in the [Mesolithic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mesolithic) and [Neolithic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neolithic).[[14]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEAbad_de_Santill%C3%A1n197117-20) Until the period of European colonization, Argentina was relatively sparsely populated by a wide number of diverse cultures with different social organizations,[[34]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEEdwards200812-42) which can be divided into three main groups.[[35]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEAbad_de_Santill%C3%A1n197118%E2%80%9319-43)

The first group are basic hunters and food gatherers without the development of [pottery](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pottery), such as the [Selk'nam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Selk%27nam_people) and [Yaghan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yaghan_people) in the extreme south. The second group are advanced hunters and food gatherers which include the [Puelche](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Puelche_people), [Querandí](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Querand%C3%AD) and Serranos in the centre-east; and the [Tehuelche](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tehuelche_people) in the south—all of them conquered by the [Mapuche](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mapuche) spreading from [Chile](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chile)[[36]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEEdwards200813-44)—and the [Kom](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kom_people_(South_America)) and [Wichi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wichi) in the north. The last group are farmers with pottery, such as the [Charrúa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charr%C3%BAa), [Minuane](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Minuane) and [Guaraní](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guaran%C3%AD_people) in the northeast, with [slash and burn](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Slash_and_burn_agriculture) semisedentary existence;[[34]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEEdwards200812-42) the advanced [Diaguita](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diaguita) sedentary [trading culture](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trade) in the northwest, which was conquered by the [Inca Empire](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inca_Empire) around 1480; the [Toconoté](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Toconot%C3%A9) and [Hênîa and Kâmîare](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comechingones) in the country's centre, and the [Huarpe](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Huarpe) in the centre-west, a culture that raised [llama](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Llama) cattle and was strongly influenced by the Incas.[[34]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEEdwards200812-42)

**Colonial era**

*Main article:*[*Colonial Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colonial_Argentina)

*See also:*[*Spanish colonization of the Americas*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spanish_colonization_of_the_Americas)

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:La_Reconquista_de_Buenos_Aires.jpg)

The surrender of Beresford to [Santiago de Liniers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santiago_de_Liniers) during the [British invasions of the Río de la Plata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_invasions_of_the_R%C3%ADo_de_la_Plata)

Europeans first arrived in the region with the 1502 voyage of [Amerigo Vespucci](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amerigo_Vespucci_(explorer)). The Spanish navigators [Juan Díaz de Solís](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Juan_D%C3%ADaz_de_Sol%C3%ADs) and [Sebastian Cabot](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sebastian_Cabot_(explorer)) visited the territory that is now Argentina in 1516 and 1526, respectively.[[15]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTECrow1992128-21) In 1536 [Pedro de Mendoza](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pedro_de_Mendoza) founded the small settlement of [Buenos Aires](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buenos_Aires), which was abandoned in 1541.[[37]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTECrow1992129%E2%80%9332-45)

Further colonization efforts came from [Paraguay](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paraguay)—establishing the [Governorate of the Río de la Plata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Governorate_of_the_R%C3%ADo_de_la_Plata)—[Peru](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peru) and Chile.[[38]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEAbad_de_Santill%C3%A1n197196%E2%80%93140-46) [Francisco de Aguirre](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Francisco_de_Aguirre_(conquistador)) founded [Santiago del Estero](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santiago_del_Estero) in 1553. [Londres](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Londres,_Catamarca) was founded in 1558; [Mendoza](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mendoza,_Argentina), in 1561; [San Juan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Juan,_Argentina), in 1562; [San Miguel de Tucumán](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Miguel_de_Tucum%C3%A1n), in 1565.[[39]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTECrow1992353-47) [Juan de Garay](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Juan_de_Garay) founded [Santa Fe](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santa_Fe,_Argentina) in 1573 and the same year [Jerónimo Luis de Cabrera](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jer%C3%B3nimo_Luis_de_Cabrera) set up [Córdoba](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/C%C3%B3rdoba,_Argentina).[[40]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTECrow1992134-48) Garay went further south to re-found Buenos Aires in 1580.[[41]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTECrow1992135-49) [San Luis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Luis,_Argentina) was established in 1596.[[39]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTECrow1992353-47)

The [Spanish Empire](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spanish_Empire) subordinated the economic potential of the Argentine territory to the immediate wealth of the silver and gold mines in [Bolivia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bolivia) and Peru, and as such it became part of the [Viceroyalty of Peru](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Viceroyalty_of_Peru) until the creation of the [Viceroyalty of the Río de la Plata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Viceroyalty_of_the_R%C3%ADo_de_la_Plata) in 1776 with Buenos Aires as its capital.[[42]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTECrow1992347-50)

Buenos Aires repelled [two ill-fated British invasions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_invasions_of_the_R%C3%ADo_de_la_Plata) in 1806 and 1807.[[43]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTECrow1992421-51) The ideas of the [Age of Enlightenment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Age_of_Enlightenment) and the example of the first [Atlantic Revolutions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atlantic_Revolutions) generated criticism of the [absolutist monarchy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Absolutist_monarchy) that ruled the country. As in the rest of Spanish America, the overthrow of [Ferdinand VII](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ferdinand_VII_of_Spain) during the [Peninsular War](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peninsular_War) created great concern.[[44]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEAbad_de_Santill%C3%A1n1971194ff-52)

**Independence and civil wars**

*Main articles:*[*Argentine War of Independence*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_War_of_Independence)*and*[*Argentine Civil Wars*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Civil_Wars)

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Jos%C3%A9_de_San_Mart%C3%ADn_(retrato,_c.1828).jpg)

Portrait of General [José de San Martin](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jos%C3%A9_de_San_Martin), [Liberator](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Libertadores) of Argentina and [Peru](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peru)(expedition)[[45]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-53)

Beginning a process from which Argentina was to emerge as successor state to the Viceroyalty,[[16]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTELevene194811S%C3%A1nchez_Viamonte1948196%E2%80%9397Vanossi196411-22) the 1810 [May Revolution](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/May_Revolution) replaced the viceroy [Baltasar Hidalgo de Cisneros](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Baltasar_Hidalgo_de_Cisneros) with the [First Junta](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Primera_Junta), a new government in [Buenos Aires](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buenos_Aires) made up from locals.[[44]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEAbad_de_Santill%C3%A1n1971194ff-52) In the first clashes of the Independence War the Junta crushed a royalist [counter-revolution in Córdoba](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liniers_Counter-revolution),[[46]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTERock198781-54) but failed to overcome those of the [Banda Oriental](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Banda_Oriental), [Upper Peru](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Upper_Peru_campaign) and [Paraguay](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paraguay_campaign), which later became independent states.[[47]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTERock198782%E2%80%9383-55) The French-Argentine [Hippolyte Bouchard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hippolyte_Bouchard) then brought his fleet to wage war against Spain overseas and attacked [Spanish California](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spanish_California), [Spanish Peru](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spanish_Peru) and [Spanish Philippines](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spanish_Philippines). He secured the allegiance of escaped Filipinos in San Blas who defected from the Spanish to join the Argentine navy, due to common Argentine and Philippine grievances against Spanish colonization.[[48]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-56)[[49]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-57) Jose de San Martin's brother, [Juan Fermín de San Martín](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Juan_Ferm%C3%ADn_de_San_Mart%C3%ADn), was already in the Philippines and drumming up revolutionary fervor prior to this.[[50]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-ins-58) At a later date, the Argentine sign of Inca origin, the [Sun of May](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sun_of_May) was adopted as a symbol by the Filipinos in the [Philippine Revolution](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Republic_of_Biak-na-Bato) against Spain. He also secured the diplomatic recognition of Argentina from King [Kamehameha I](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kamehameha_I) of the [Kingdom of Hawaii](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kingdom_of_Hawaii). Historian Pacho O'Donnell affirms that Hawaii was the first state that recognized Argentina's independence.[[51]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEO'Donnell1998-59)He was finally arrested in 1819 by Chilean patriots.

Revolutionaries split into two antagonist groups: the [Centralists](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Unitarian_Party) and the [Federalists](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federales_(Argentina))—a move that would define Argentina's first decades of independence.[[52]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTELewis200339%E2%80%9340-60) The [Assembly of the Year XIII](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Assembly_of_the_Year_XIII) appointed [Gervasio Antonio de Posadas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gervasio_Antonio_de_Posadas) as Argentina's first [Supreme Director](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Supreme_Director_of_the_United_Provinces_of_the_R%C3%ADo_de_la_Plata).[[52]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTELewis200339%E2%80%9340-60)

On 9 July 1816, the [Congress of Tucumán](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Congress_of_Tucum%C3%A1n) formalized the [Declaration of Independence](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Declaration_of_Independence),[[53]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTERock198792Lewis200341-61) which is now celebrated as Independence Day, a national holiday.[[54]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-62) One year later General [Martín Miguel de Güemes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mart%C3%ADn_Miguel_de_G%C3%BCemes) stopped royalists on the north, and General [José de San Martín](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jos%C3%A9_de_San_Mart%C3%ADn). He joined [Bernardo O'Higgins](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bernardo_O%27Higgins) and they led a combined army [across the Andes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crossing_of_the_Andes) and secured the independence of Chile; then it was sent by O'Higgins orders to the Spanish stronghold of [Lima](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lima) and proclaimed the [independence of Peru](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Independence_of_Peru).[[55]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEGalasso2011349%E2%80%9353vol._I-63)[[E]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-65) In 1819 Buenos Aires enacted a [centralist constitution](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Constitution_of_1819) that was soon [abrogated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Repeal) by federalists.[[57]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTELewis200341-66)

Some of the most important figures of Argentine independence made a proposal known as the [Inca plan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inca_plan) of 1816, which proposed that the [United Provinces of the Río de la Plata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Provinces_of_the_R%C3%ADo_de_la_Plata) (Present Argentina) should be a monarchy, led by a descendant of the [Inca](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sapa_Inca). Juan Bautista Túpac Amaru (half-brother of [Túpac Amaru II](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/T%C3%BApac_Amaru_II)) was proposed as monarch.[[58]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-67) Some examples of those who supported this proposal were [Manuel Belgrano](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manuel_Belgrano), [José de San Martín](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jos%C3%A9_de_San_Mart%C3%ADn) and [Martín Miguel de Güemes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mart%C3%ADn_Miguel_de_G%C3%BCemes). The [Congress of Tucumán](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Congress_of_Tucum%C3%A1n) finally decided to reject the Inca plan, creating instead a republican, centralist state.[[59]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-68)[[60]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-69)

The 1820 [Battle of Cepeda](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Cepeda_(1820)), fought between the Centralists and the Federalists, resulted in the *end of the Supreme Director rule*. In 1826 Buenos Aires enacted another [centralist constitution](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Constitution_of_1826), with [Bernardino Rivadavia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bernardino_Rivadavia) being appointed as the first president of the country. However, the interior provinces soon rose against him, forced his resignation and discarded the constitution.[[61]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTELewis200343-70) Centralists and Federalists resumed the civil war; the latter prevailed and formed the [Argentine Confederation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Confederation) in 1831, led by [Juan Manuel de Rosas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Juan_Manuel_de_Rosas).[[62]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTELewis200345-71) During his regime he faced a [French blockade](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/French_blockade_to_the_R%C3%ADo_de_la_Plata) (1838–1840), the [War of the Confederation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/War_of_the_Confederation) (1836–1839), and an [Anglo-French blockade](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anglo-French_blockade_of_the_R%C3%ADo_de_la_Plata) (1845–1850), but remained undefeated and prevented further loss of national territory.[[63]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTELewis200346%E2%80%9347-72) His trade restriction policies, however, angered the interior provinces and in 1852 [Justo José de Urquiza](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Justo_Jos%C3%A9_de_Urquiza), another powerful [caudillo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caudillo), [beat him out of power](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Caseros). As the new president of the Confederation, Urquiza enacted the [liberal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liberalism) and federal 1853 Constitution. [Buenos Aires seceded](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/State_of_Buenos_Aires) but was forced back into the Confederation after being defeated in the 1859 [Battle of Cepeda](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Cepeda_(1859)).[[64]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTELewis200348%E2%80%9350-73)

**Rise of the modern nation**

*Main articles:*[*List of Presidents of Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Presidents_of_Argentina)*,*[*Generation of '80*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Generation_of_%2780)*, and*[*Infamous Decade*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Infamous_Decade)

*See also:*[*Argentine–Chilean naval arms race*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine%E2%80%93Chilean_naval_arms_race)*and*[*South American dreadnought race*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_American_dreadnought_race)

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:25_de_mayo_por_F._Fortuny.jpg)

People gathered in front of the [Buenos Aires Cabildo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buenos_Aires_Cabildo) during the [May Revolution](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/May_Revolution)[A crowd of people waiting for a ferry

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Italian_immigrants_buenos_aires.jpg)

Immigrants [from Italy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Italian_Argentines) arriving in Buenos Aires, during the [great European immigration wave to Argentina](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_European_immigration_wave_to_Argentina)

Overpowering Urquiza in the 1861 [Battle of Pavón](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Pav%C3%B3n), [Bartolomé Mitre](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bartolom%C3%A9_Mitre) secured Buenos Aires' predominance and was elected as the first president of the reunified country. He was followed by [Domingo Faustino Sarmiento](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Domingo_Faustino_Sarmiento) and [Nicolás Avellaneda](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nicol%C3%A1s_Avellaneda); these three presidencies set up the basis of the modern Argentine State.[[65]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEGalasso2011363%E2%80%93541vol._I-74)

Starting with [Julio Argentino Roca](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julio_Argentino_Roca) in 1880, ten consecutive federal governments emphasized [liberal economic policies](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Economic_liberalism). The [massive wave of European immigration](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Immigration_in_Argentina) they promoted—second only to the United States'—led to a near-reinvention of Argentine society and economy that by 1908 had placed the country as the seventh wealthiest[[66]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEBoltVan_Zanden2013-75) developed nation[[67]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTED%C3%ADaz_Alejandro19701-76) in the world. Driven by this [immigration](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Immigration) wave and decreasing mortality, the Argentine population grew fivefold and the economy 15-fold:[[68]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTELewis199018%E2%80%9330-77) from 1870 to 1910, Argentina's [wheat](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wheat) exports went from 100,000 to 2,500,000 t (110,000 to 2,760,000 short tons) per year, while frozen beef exports increased from 25,000 to 365,000 t (28,000 to 402,000 short tons) per year,[[69]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEMosk199088%E2%80%9389-78) placing Argentina as one of the world's top five exporters.[[70]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTECruz199010-79) Its railway mileage rose from 503 to 31,104 km (313 to 19,327 mi).[[71]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTED%C3%ADaz_Alejandro19702%E2%80%933-80) Fostered by a new [public, compulsory, free and secular education](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Law_1420) system, [literacy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Literacy) quickly increased from 22% to 65%, a level higher than most [Latin American](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Latin_America) nations would reach even fifty years later.[[70]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTECruz199010-79) Furthermore, real [GDP](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/GDP) grew so fast that despite the huge immigration influx, [per capita income](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Per_capita_income) between 1862 and 1920 went from 67% of developed country levels to 100%:[[71]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTED%C3%ADaz_Alejandro19702%E2%80%933-80) In 1865, Argentina was already one of the top 25 nations by per capita income. By 1908, it had surpassed Denmark, Canada and the Netherlands to reach 7th place—behind Switzerland, New Zealand, Australia, the United States, the United Kingdom and Belgium. Argentina's per capita income was 70% higher than Italy's, 90% higher than Spain's, 180% higher than Japan's and 400% higher than [Brazil](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brazil)'s.[[66]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEBoltVan_Zanden2013-75) Despite these unique achievements, the country was slow to meet its original goals of industrialization:[[72]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEGalasso2011567%E2%80%93625vol._I-81) after the steep development of capital-intensive local industries in the 1920s, a significant part of the manufacturing sector remained labour-intensive in the 1930s.[[73]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTELewis199037%E2%80%9338-82)

[A group of soldiers on horses

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:La_conquista_del_desierto.jpg)

[*Conquest of the Desert*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conquest_of_the_Desert), by [Juan Manuel Blanes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Juan_Manuel_Blanes) *(fragment showing*[*Julio Argentino Roca*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julio_Argentino_Roca)*, at the front, a major figure of the*[*Generation of '80*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Generation_of_%2780)*)*[[74]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-83)

Between 1878 and 1884, the so-called [Conquest of the Desert](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conquest_of_the_Desert) occurred, with the purpose of tripling the Argentine territory by means of the constant confrontations between natives and Criollos in the border,[[75]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-84) and the appropriation of the indigenous territories. The first conquest consisted of a series of military incursions into the Pampa and Patagonian territories dominated by the indigenous peoples,[[76]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-85) distributing them among the members of the *Sociedad Rural Argentina*, financiers of the expeditions.[[77]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-86) The conquest of Chaco lasted up to the end of the century,[[78]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-87) since its full ownership of the national economic system only took place when the mere extraction of wood and [tannin](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tannin) was replaced by the production of [cotton](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cotton).[[79]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-88) The Argentine government considered [indigenous people](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indigenous_peoples_in_Argentina) as inferior beings, without the same rights as Criollos and Europeans.[[80]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-89)

In 1912, President [Roque Sáenz Peña](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roque_S%C3%A1enz_Pe%C3%B1a) enacted [universal and secret male suffrage](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saenz_Pe%C3%B1a_Law), which allowed [Hipólito Yrigoyen](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hip%C3%B3lito_Yrigoyen), leader of the [Radical Civic Union](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Radical_Civic_Union) (or UCR), to win [the 1916 election](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_general_election,_1916). He enacted social and economic reforms and extended assistance to small farms and businesses. Argentina stayed neutral during [World War I](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_War_I). The second administration of Yrigoyen faced an economic crisis, precipitated by the [Great Depression](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Depression).[[81]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEGalasso20117%E2%80%93178vol._II-90)

[A crowd of people in a street

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Golpe_de_Estado_en_Argentina_en_1930.jpg)

Crowds outside the [Argentine National Congress](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_National_Congress) during the [1930 Argentine coup d'état](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1930_Argentine_coup_d%27%C3%A9tat) which marked the start of the [Infamous Decade](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Infamous_Decade)

In 1930, Yrigoyen [was ousted from power](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1930_Argentine_coup_d%27%C3%A9tat) by the military led by [José Félix Uriburu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jos%C3%A9_F%C3%A9lix_Uriburu). Although Argentina remained among the fifteen richest countries until mid-century,[[66]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEBoltVan_Zanden2013-75) this [coup d'état](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coup_d%27%C3%A9tat) marks the start of the steady economic and social decline that pushed the country back into underdevelopment.[[82]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-developed-91)

Uriburu ruled for two years; then [Agustín Pedro Justo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agust%C3%ADn_Pedro_Justo) was elected in a [fraudulent election](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_general_election,_1931), and signed a controversial [treaty with the United Kingdom](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roca-Runciman_Treaty). Argentina [stayed neutral during World War II](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina_in_World_War_II), a decision that had full British support but was rejected by the United States after the [attack on Pearl Harbor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Attack_on_Pearl_Harbor). In 1943 [a military coup d'état](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Revolution_of_%2743) led by [General Arturo Rawson](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arturo_Rawson) toppled the democratically elected government of [Ramón Castillo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ram%C3%B3n_Castillo). Under pressure from the United States, later Argentina declared war on the Axis Powers (on 27 March 1945, roughly a month before the [end of World War II in Europe](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/End_of_World_War_II_in_Europe)).

During the Rawson dictatorship a relatively unknown military colonel named [Juan Perón](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Juan_Per%C3%B3n) was named head of the Labour Department. Perón quickly managed to climb the political ladder, being named Minister of Defence by 1944. Being perceived as a political threat by rivals in the military and the conservative camp, he was forced to resign in 1945, and was arrested days later. He was finally released under mounting pressure from both his base and several allied unions.[[83]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEGalasso2011181%E2%80%93302vol._II-92) He would later become president after a landslide victory over the [UCR](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Radical_Civic_Union) in the [1946 general election](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1946_Argentine_general_election) as the [Laborioust](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Labour_Party_(Argentina)) candidate.[[84]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-93)

**Peronist years**

*Main article:*[*Peronism*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peronism)

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Juan_y_Eva_Oficial.jpg)

[Juan Perón](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Juan_Per%C3%B3n) and his wife [Eva Perón](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eva_Per%C3%B3n), 1947

The [Labour Party](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Labour_Party_(Argentina)) (later renamed [Justicialist Party](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Justicialist_Party)), the most powerful and influential party in Argentine history, came into power with the rise of Juan Perón to the presidency in 1946. He [nationalized](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nationalization) strategic industries and services, improved wages and working conditions, paid the full [external debt](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/External_debt) and claimed he achieved nearly [full employment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Full_employment). He pushed Congress to enact [women's suffrage](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Women%27s_suffrage) in 1947,[[85]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEBarnes19783-94) and developed a system of social assistance for the most vulnerable sectors of society.[[86]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEBarnes1978113ff-95) The economy began to decline in 1950 due in part to government expenditures and the [protectionist](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Protectionism) economic policies.[[87]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-Reutuers2014-96)

He also engaged in a campaign of political suppression. Anyone who was perceived to be a political dissident or potential rival was subject to threats, physical violence and harassment. The Argentine [intelligentsia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Intelligentsia), the middle-class, university students, and professors were seen as particularly troublesome. Perón fired over 2,000 university professors and faculty members from all major public education institutions.[[88]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-auth-97)

Perón tried to bring most trade and labour unions under his thumb, regularly resorting to violence when needed. For instance, the meat-packers union leader, [Cipriano Reyes](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Cipriano_Reyes&action=edit&redlink=1), organized strikes in protest against the government after elected labour movement officials were forcefully replaced by Peronist puppets from the [Peronist Party](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Justicialist_Party). Reyes was soon arrested on charges of terrorism, though the allegations were never substantiated. Reyes, who was never formally charged, was tortured in prison for five years and only released after the regime's downfall in 1955.[[89]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-98)

Perón [managed to get re-elected in 1951](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_general_election,_1951). His wife [Eva Perón](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eva_Per%C3%B3n), who played a critical role in the party, died of cancer in 1952. As the economy continued to tank, Perón started losing popular support, and came to be seen as a threat to the national process. The Navy took advantage of Perón's withering political power, and [bombed the Plaza de Mayo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bombing_of_Plaza_de_Mayo) in 1955. Perón survived the attack, but a few months later, during the [Liberating Revolution](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Revoluci%C3%B3n_Libertadora) coup, he was deposed and went into [exile](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Exile) in Spain.[[90]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEGalasso2011303%E2%80%9351vol._II-99)

**Revolución Libertadora**

*Main article:*[*Revolución Libertadora*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Revoluci%C3%B3n_Libertadora)

[A group of people lying on the ground

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Plaza-Mayo-bombardeo-1955.JPG)

Civilian casualties after the [air attack and massacre on Plaza de Mayo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bombing_of_Plaza_de_Mayo), June 1955

The new head of State, [Pedro Eugenio Aramburu](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pedro_Eugenio_Aramburu), [proscribed](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proscription) Peronism and banned the party from any future elections. [Arturo Frondizi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arturo_Frondizi) from the [UCR](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Radical_Civic_Union) won the [1958 general election](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_general_election,_1958).[[91]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEGalasso2011353%E2%80%93379vol._II-100) He encouraged investment to achieve energetic and industrial self-sufficiency, reversed a chronic [trade deficit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trade_deficit) and lifted the ban on Peronism; yet his efforts to stay on good terms with both the Peronists and the military earned him the rejection of both and a new coup forced him out.[[92]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTERobben201134-101) Amidst the political turmoil, Senate leader [José María Guido](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jos%C3%A9_Mar%C3%ADa_Guido) reacted swiftly and applied anti-[power vacuum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Power_vacuum) legislation, ascending to the presidency himself; elections were repealed and Peronism was prohibited once again. [Arturo Illia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arturo_Illia) was [elected in 1963](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_general_election,_1963) and led an increase in prosperity across the board; however he was overthrown in 1966 by another military [coup d'état](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coup_d%27%C3%A9tat) led by General [Juan Carlos Onganía](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Juan_Carlos_Ongan%C3%ADa) in the self-proclaimed [Argentine Revolution](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Revolution), creating a new military government that sought to rule indefinitely.[[93]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEGalasso2011381%E2%80%93422vol._II-102)

**Perón's return and death**

[A person in a military uniform standing next to a crowd of people

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Asunci%C3%B3n_de_Juan_Domingo_Per%C3%B3n_e_Isabel_Per%C3%B3n,_1973.png)[Juan Perón](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Juan_Per%C3%B3n) and his wife [Isabel Perón](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isabel_Per%C3%B3n), 1973

Following several years of military rule, [Alejandro Agustín Lanusse](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alejandro_Agust%C3%ADn_Lanusse) was appointed president by the [military junta](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_junta) in 1971. Under increasing political pressure for the return of democracy, Lanusse called for elections in 1973. Perón was banned from running but the Peronist party was allowed to participate. The presidential elections were won by Perón's surrogate candidate, [Hector Cámpora](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hector_C%C3%A1mpora), a left-wing Peronist, who took office on 25 May 1973. A month later, in June, Perón returned from Spain. One of Cámpora's first presidential actions was to grant amnesty to members of organizations that had carried out political assassinations and terrorist attacks, and to those who had been tried and sentenced to prison by judges. Cámpora's months-long tenure in government was beset by political and social unrest. Over 600 social conflicts, [strikes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Strike_action), and [factory occupations](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Workers%27_self-management) took place within a single month.[[94]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-103) Even though far-left terrorist organisations had suspended their armed struggle, their joining with the [participatory democracy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Participatory_democracy) process was interpreted as a direct threat by the Peronist right-wing faction.[[95]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-104)

Amid a state of political, social, and economic upheaval, Cámpora and Vice President Vicente Solano Lima resigned in July 1973, calling for new elections, but this time with Perón as the Justicialist Party nominee. Perón won the election with his wife [Isabel Perón](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isabel_Per%C3%B3n) as vice president. Perón's third term was marked by escalating conflict between left and right-wing factions within the Peronist party, as well as the return of armed terror guerrilla groups such as the Guevarist [ERP](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/People%27s_Revolutionary_Army_(Argentina)), leftist Peronist [Montoneros](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Montoneros), and the state-backed far-right [Triple A](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Anticommunist_Alliance). After a series of heart attacks and signs of pneumonia in 1974, Perón's health deteriorated quickly. He suffered a final heart attack on Monday, 1 July 1974, and died at 13:15. He was 78 years old. After his death, [Isabel Perón](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isabel_Per%C3%B3n), his wife and vice president, succeeded him in office. During her presidency, a military junta, along with the Peronists' far-right fascist faction, once again became the [de facto](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/De_facto) [head of state](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Head_of_state). Isabel Perón served as President of Argentina from 1974 until 1976, when she was ousted by the military. Her short presidency was marked by the collapse of Argentine political and social systems, leading to a constitutional crisis that paved the way for a decade of instability, left-wing terrorist guerrilla attacks, and state-sponsored terrorism.[[87]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-Reutuers2014-96)[[96]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-105)[[97]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-106)

**National Reorganization Process**

*Main articles:*[*National Reorganization Process*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Reorganization_Process)*and*[*Dirty War*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dirty_War)

[A group of people in military uniforms

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Junta_Militar_argentina_1976.png)The "[first military junta](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Reorganization_Process)"—Admiral [Emilio Massera](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emilio_Eduardo_Massera), Lieutenant General [Jorge Videla](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jorge_Rafael_Videla) and Brigadier General [Orlando Agosti](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Orlando_Ram%C3%B3n_Agosti) (from left to right)—observing the [Independence Day](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Declaration_of_Independence) military parade on [Avenida del Libertador](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Avenida_del_Libertador_(Buenos_Aires)), 9 July 1978

The "Dirty War" (Spanish: *Guerra Sucia*) was part of [Operation Condor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation_Condor), which included the participation of other right-wing dictatorships in the [Southern Cone](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern_Cone). The Dirty War involved [state terrorism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/State_terrorism) in Argentina and elsewhere in the Southern Cone against political dissidents, with military and security forces employing urban and rural violence against left-wing guerrillas, political dissidents, and anyone believed to be associated with socialism or somehow contrary to the [neoliberal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neoliberalism) economic policies of the regime.[[98]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-107)[[99]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-108)[[100]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-109) Victims of the violence in Argentina alone included an estimated 15,000 to 30,000 left-wing activists and militants, including trade unionists, students, journalists, [Marxists](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marxist), [Peronist](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peronism) [guerrillas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guerrilla),[[101]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-110) and alleged sympathizers. Most of the victims were casualties of [state terrorism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/State_terrorism). The opposing guerrillas' victims numbered nearly 500–540 military and police officials[[102]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-111) and up to 230 civilians.[[103]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-112) Argentina received technical support and military aid from the United States government during the [Johnson](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Presidency_of_Lyndon_B._Johnson), [Nixon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Presidency_of_Richard_Nixon), [Ford](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Presidency_of_Gerald_Ford), [Carter](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Presidency_of_Jimmy_Carter), and [Reagan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Presidency_of_Ronald_Reagan) administrations.

The exact chronology of the [repression](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Political_repression) is still debated, yet the roots of the long political war may have started in 1969 when trade unionists were targeted for assassination by Peronist and Marxist paramilitaries. Individual cases of [state-sponsored terrorism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/State-sponsored_terrorism) against Peronism and the left can be traced back even further to the [Bombing of Plaza de Mayo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bombing_of_Plaza_de_Mayo) in 1955. The [Trelew massacre](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trelew_massacre) of 1972, the actions of the [Argentine Anticommunist Alliance](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Anticommunist_Alliance) commencing in 1973, and [Isabel Perón](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isabel_Per%C3%B3n)'s "annihilation decrees" against left-wing guerrillas during [*Operativo Independencia*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operativo_Independencia) (Operation Independence) in 1975, are also possible events signaling the beginning of the Dirty War.[[F]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-116)

Onganía shut down Congress, banned all political parties, and dismantled student and worker unions. In 1969, popular discontent led to two massive protests: the [*Cordobazo*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cordobazo) and the [*Rosariazo*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosariazo). The terrorist guerrilla organization [Montoneros](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Montoneros) kidnapped and executed Aramburu.[[107]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTERobben2011127-117) The newly chosen head of government, [Alejandro Agustín Lanusse](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alejandro_Agust%C3%ADn_Lanusse), seeking to ease the growing political pressure, allowed [Héctor José Cámpora](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/H%C3%A9ctor_Jos%C3%A9_C%C3%A1mpora) to become the Peronist candidate instead of Perón. Cámpora won the [March 1973 election](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_general_election,_March_1973), issued [pardons](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amnesty) for condemned guerrilla members, and then secured Perón's return from his exile in Spain.[[108]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEGalasso2011423%E2%80%9365vol._II-118)

[A group of soldiers holding guns

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Soldadosargentinos3.jpg)Argentine soldiers during the [Falklands War](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Falklands_War), 1982

On the day Perón returned to Argentina, the clash between Peronist internal factions—[right-wing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Right-wing) union leaders and [left-wing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Left-wing) youth from the Montoneros—resulted in the [Ezeiza Massacre](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ezeiza_Massacre). Overwhelmed by political violence, Cámpora resigned and Perón won the following [September 1973 election](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_general_election,_September_1973) with his third wife [Isabel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isabel_Per%C3%B3n) as vice-president. He [expelled Montoneros from the party](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Expulsion_of_Montoneros_from_Plaza_de_Mayo)[[109]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTERobben201176%E2%80%9377-119) and they became once again a clandestine organization. [José López Rega](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jos%C3%A9_L%C3%B3pez_Rega) organized the [Argentine Anticommunist Alliance](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Anticommunist_Alliance) (AAA) to fight against them and the [People's Revolutionary Army](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/People%27s_Revolutionary_Army_(Argentina)) (ERP).[[110]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEAndersonSloan200940%E2%80%9341-120)[[111]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEWilson2016167-121)

Perón died in July 1974 and was succeeded by his wife, who signed a secret decree empowering the military and the police to "annihilate" the left-wing subversion,[[112]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTERobben2011145-122) [stopping ERP's attempt](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation_Independence) to start a rural insurgence in Tucumán province.[[113]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTERobben2011148-123) [Isabel Perón was ousted](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/March_1976_coup) one year later by a junta of the combined armed forces, led by army general [Jorge Rafael Videla](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jorge_Rafael_Videla). They initiated the [National Reorganization Process](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Reorganization_Process), often shortened to *Proceso*.[[114]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEGalasso2011467%E2%80%93504vol._II-124)

The *Proceso* shut down Congress, removed the judges on the Supreme Court, banned political parties and unions, and resorted to employing the [forced disappearance](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Forced_disappearance) of suspected guerrilla members including individuals suspected of being associated with the left-wing. By the end of 1976, the Montoneros had lost nearly 2,000 members and by 1977, the ERP was completely subdued. Nevertheless, the severely weakened Montoneros launched a counterattack in 1979, which was quickly put down, effectively ending the guerrilla threat and securing the junta's position in power.[[*citation needed*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Citation_needed)]

In March 1982, an Argentine force took control of the British territory of [South Georgia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Georgia) and, on 2 April, Argentina [invaded the Falkland Islands](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Operation_Rosario). The United Kingdom dispatched a task force to regain possession. Argentina surrendered on 14 June and its forces were taken home. Street riots in Buenos Aires followed the humiliating defeat and the military leadership stood down.[[115]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-125)[[116]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-126) [Reynaldo Bignone](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reynaldo_Bignone) replaced Galtieri and began to organize the transition to democratic governance.[[117]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEGalasso2011505%E2%80%9332vol._II-127)

**Return to democracy**

*Main articles:*[*Presidency of Raúl Alfonsín*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Presidency_of_Ra%C3%BAl_Alfons%C3%ADn)*and*[*Argentine economic crisis (1999–2002)*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_economic_crisis_(1999%E2%80%932002))

[A person in a suit holding a trophy

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:De_la_R%C3%BAa_con_Menem.jpg)[Carlos Menem](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carlos_Menem) with the new president, [Fernando de la Rúa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fernando_de_la_R%C3%BAa), on 10 December 1999

[Raúl Alfonsín](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ra%C3%BAl_Alfons%C3%ADn) won the [1983 elections](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_general_election,_1983) campaigning for the prosecution of those responsible for [human rights](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human_rights) violations during the *Proceso*: the [Trial of the Juntas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trial_of_the_Juntas) and other martial courts sentenced all the coup's leaders but, under military pressure, he also enacted the [Full Stop](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Full_Stop_Law) and [Due Obedience](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Law_of_Due_Obedience) laws,[[118]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-128)[[119]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-129) which halted prosecutions further down the [chain of command](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chain_of_command). The worsening economic crisis and [hyperinflation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hyperinflation) reduced his popular support and the Peronist [Carlos Menem](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carlos_Menem) won the [1989 election](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_general_election,_1989). Soon after, [riots forced Alfonsín to an early resignation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1989_riots_in_Argentina).[[120]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEGalasso2011533%E2%80%9349vol._II-130)

Menem embraced and enacted [neoliberal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neo-liberalism) policies:[[121]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEEpsteinPion-Berlin20066-131) a [fixed exchange rate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Currency_Board), business [deregulation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deregulation), [privatizations](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Privatization), and the dismantling of [protectionist](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Protectionism) barriers normalized the economy in the short term. He pardoned the officers who had been sentenced during Alfonsín's government. The [1994 Constitutional Amendment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1994_amendment_of_the_Argentine_Constitution) allowed Menem to [be elected for a second term](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_general_election,_1995). With the economy beginning to decline in 1995, and with increasing unemployment and recession,[[122]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEEpsteinPion-Berlin20069-132) the UCR, led by [Fernando de la Rúa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fernando_de_la_R%C3%BAa), returned to the presidency in the [1999 elections](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_general_election,_1999).[[123]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEGalasso2011551%E2%80%93573vol._II-133)

[A group of people riding horses

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Crisis_20_diciembre_2001.jpg)Protests in the city of Buenos Aires during the [December 2001 riots in Argentina](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/December_2001_riots_in_Argentina)

De la Rúa left Menem's economic plan in effect despite the worsening crisis, which led to growing social discontent.[[122]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEEpsteinPion-Berlin20069-132) Massive [capital flight](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Capital_flight) from the country was responded to with a [freezing of bank accounts](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corralito), generating further turmoil. The [December 2001 riots](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/December_2001_riots_in_Argentina) forced him to resign.[[124]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEGalasso2011575%E2%80%9387vol._II-134) Congress appointed [Eduardo Duhalde](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eduardo_Duhalde) as acting president, who revoked the fixed exchange rate established by Menem,[[125]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEEpsteinPion-Berlin200612-135) causing many working- and middle-class Argentines to lose a significant portion of their savings. By late 2002, the economic crisis began to recede, but the assassination of two [*piqueteros*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Piquetero) by the police caused political unrest, prompting Duhalde to move elections forward.[[126]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEEpsteinPion-Berlin200613-136) [Néstor Kirchner](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/N%C3%A9stor_Kirchner) was [elected as the new president](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_general_election,_2003). On 26 May 2003, he was sworn in.[[127]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-137)[[128]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEGalasso2011587%E2%80%9395vol._II-138)

[A person and person holding a stick

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Cristina_con_baston_de_mando_(cropped).jpg)[Néstor Kirchner](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/N%C3%A9stor_Kirchner) and his wife and political successor, [Cristina Kirchner](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cristina_Kirchner)

Boosting the [neo-Keynesian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neo-Keynesianism) economic policies[[126]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEEpsteinPion-Berlin200613-136) laid by Duhalde, Kirchner ended the economic crisis attaining significant fiscal and trade surpluses, and rapid [GDP](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gross_domestic_product) growth.[[129]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEEpsteinPion-Berlin200616-139) Under his administration, Argentina [restructured its defaulted debt](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_debt_restructuring) with an unprecedented discount of about 70% on most bonds, paid off debts with the [International Monetary Fund](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Monetary_Fund),[[130]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEEpsteinPion-Berlin200615-140) purged the military of officers with dubious human rights records,[[131]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEEpsteinPion-Berlin200614-141) [nullified and voided](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Void_(law)) the Full Stop and Due Obedience laws,[[132]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-142)[[G]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-144) ruled them as unconstitutional, and resumed legal prosecution of the Junta's crimes. He did not run for reelection, promoting instead the candidacy of his wife, senator [Cristina Fernández de Kirchner](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cristina_Fern%C3%A1ndez_de_Kirchner), who was [elected in 2007](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_general_election,_2007)[[134]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEGalasso2011597%E2%80%93626vol._II-145) and [reelected in 2011](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_general_election,_2011). Fernández de Kirchner's administration established positive foreign relations with countries such as Venezuela, Iran, and Cuba, while at the same time relations with the United States and the United Kingdom became increasingly strained. By 2015, the Argentine GDP grew by 2.7%[[135]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-146) and real incomes had risen over 50% since the post-Menem era.[[136]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-147) Despite these economic gains and increased renewable energy production and subsidies, the overall economy had been sluggish since 2011.[[137]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-148)

On 22 November 2015, after a tie in the first round of [presidential elections on 25 October](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_general_election,_2015), [center-right coalition](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Juntos_por_el_Cambio) candidate [Mauricio Macri](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mauricio_Macri) won the first [ballotage](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ballotage_in_Argentina) in Argentina's history, beating [Front for Victory](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Front_for_Victory) candidate [Daniel Scioli](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Daniel_Scioli) and becoming president-elect.[[138]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-149) Macri was the first democratically elected non-[peronist](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Justicialist_Party) president since 1916 that managed to complete his term in office without being overthrown.[[139]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-150) He took office on 10 December 2015 and inherited an economy with a high inflation rate and in a poor shape.[[140]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-151) In April 2016, the [Macri Government](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Presidency_of_Mauricio_Macri) introduced neoliberal austerity measures intended to tackle [inflation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inflation) and overblown public deficits.[[141]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-152) Under Macri's administration, economic recovery remained elusive with GDP shrinking 3.4%, inflation totaling 240%, billions of US dollars issued in sovereign debt, and mass poverty increasing by the end of his term.[[142]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-153)[[143]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-154) He ran for re-election in 2019 but lost by nearly eight percentage points to [Alberto Fernández](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alberto_Fern%C3%A1ndez), the Justicialist Party candidate.[[144]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-155)

President Alberto Fernández and Vice President Cristina Fernández de Kirchner took office in December 2019,[[145]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-156) just months before the [COVID-19 pandemic hit Argentina](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/COVID-19_pandemic_in_Argentina) and among accusations of [corruption](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corruption), [bribery](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bribery) and [misuse of public funds during Nestor and Cristina Fernández de Kirchner's presidencies](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Route_of_the_K-Money).[[146]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-157)[[147]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-Mercopress-158) On 14 November 2021, the center-left coalition of Argentina's ruling Peronist party, [Frente de Todos](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frente_de_Todos) (Front for Everyone), lost its majority in Congress, for the first time in almost 40 years, in midterm [legislative elections](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2021_Argentine_legislative_election). The election victory of the center-right coalition, [Juntos por el Cambio](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Juntos_por_el_Cambio) (Together for Change) limited President Alberto Fernandez's power during his final two years in office. Losing control of the Senate made it difficult for him to make key appointments, including to the judiciary. It also forced him to negotiate with the opposition every initiative he sends to the legislature.[[148]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-159)[[149]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-160)

In April 2023, President Alberto Fernandez announced that he will not seek re-election in the next [presidential election](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2023_Argentine_general_election).[[150]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-161) The 19 November 2023 [election](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2023_Argentine_general_election) run-off vote ended in a win for libertarian outsider [Javier Milei](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Javier_Milei) with close to 56% of the vote against 44% of the ruling coalition candidate [Sergio Massa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sergio_Massa).[[151]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-162) On 10 December 2023, Javier Milei was sworn in as the new president of Argentina.[[152]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-163)

**Geography**

*Main article:*[*Geography of Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geography_of_Argentina)

[A map of the south america

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Argentina_topo_blank.jpg)Topographical map of Argentina

With a mainland surface area of 2,780,400 km2 (1,073,518 sq mi),[[B]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-excl_area-11) Argentina is located in [southern South America](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern_Cone), sharing land borders with Chile across the [Andes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andes) to the west;[[153]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-164) Bolivia and Paraguay to the north; Brazil to the northeast, [Uruguay](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uruguay) and the [South Atlantic Ocean](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Atlantic_Ocean) to the east;[[154]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-igngeo-165) and the [Drake Passage](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Drake_Passage) to the south;[[155]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEMcKinney19936FearnsFearns200531-166) for an overall land border length of 9,376 km (5,826 mi). Its coastal border over the [Río de la Plata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/R%C3%ADo_de_la_Plata) and [South Atlantic Ocean](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Atlantic_Ocean) is 5,117 km (3,180 mi) long.[[154]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-igngeo-165)

Argentina's highest point is [Aconcagua](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aconcagua) in the [Mendoza province](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mendoza_province) (6,959 m (22,831 ft) above sea level),[[156]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-ignmax-167) also the highest point in the [Southern](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern_Hemisphere) and [Western Hemispheres](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Hemisphere).[[157]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEYoung200552-168) The lowest point is [Laguna del Carbón](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laguna_del_Carb%C3%B3n) in the *San Julián Great Depression* [Santa Cruz province](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santa_Cruz_province,_Argentina) (−105 m (−344 ft) below sea level,[[156]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-ignmax-167) also the lowest point in the Southern and Western Hemispheres, and the seventh lowest point on Earth).[[158]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-169)

The northernmost point is at the confluence of the [Grande de San Juan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/R%C3%ADo_Grande_de_San_Juan) and Mojinete rivers in [Jujuy province](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jujuy_province); the southernmost is [Cape San Pío](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cape_San_P%C3%ADo) in [Tierra del Fuego province](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tierra_del_Fuego_province,_Argentina); the easternmost is northeast of [Bernardo de Irigoyen, Misiones](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bernardo_de_Irigoyen,_Misiones) and the westernmost is within [Los Glaciares National Park](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Los_Glaciares_National_Park) in Santa Cruz province.[[154]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-igngeo-165) The maximum north–south distance is 3,694 km (2,295 mi), while the maximum east–west one is 1,423 km (884 mi).[[154]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-igngeo-165)

Some of the major rivers are the [Paraná](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paran%C3%A1_River), [Uruguay](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uruguay_River)—which join to form the Río de la Plata, [Paraguay](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paraguay_River), [Salado](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salado_River,_Argentina), [Negro](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/R%C3%ADo_Negro_River,_Argentina), [Santa Cruz](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santa_Cruz_River,_Argentina), [Pilcomayo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pilcomayo_River), [Bermejo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bermejo_River) and [Colorado](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colorado_River,_Argentina).[[159]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEMcCloskeyBurford20065,_7%E2%80%938,_51,_175-170) These rivers are discharged into the [Argentine Sea](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Sea), the shallow area of the Atlantic Ocean over the [Patagonian Shelf](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patagonian_Shelf), an unusually wide [continental platform](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Continental_platform).[[160]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEMcCloskeyBurford20068-171) Its waters are influenced by two major ocean currents: the warm [Brazil Current](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brazil_Current) and the cold [Falklands Current](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Falklands_Current).[[161]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEMcCloskeyBurford200618-172)

**Biodiversity**

*Main article:*[*Environment of Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Environment_of_Argentina)

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Aconcagua2016.jpg)[Aconcagua](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aconcagua) is the [highest mountain](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Extremes_of_Altitude) outside of Asia, at 6,960.8 metres (22,837 ft), and the highest point in the [Southern Hemisphere](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern_Hemisphere).[[162]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-UNC-Sigma-173)[A cactus in a desert

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Pncardones.jpg)[Los Cardones National Park](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Los_Cardones_National_Park)

Argentina is one of the most [biodiverse](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biodiverse) countries in the world[[163]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-cbd-174) hosting one of the greatest [ecosystem](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ecosystem) varieties in the world: 15 continental zones, 2 marine zones, and the Antarctic region are all represented in its territory.[[163]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-cbd-174) This huge ecosystem variety has led to a biological diversity that is among the world's largest:[[163]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-cbd-174)[[164]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-wcmc-175) 9,372 cataloged [vascular plant](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vascular_plant) species (ranked 24th);[[H]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-176) 1,038 cataloged bird species (ranked 14th);[[I]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-177) 375 cataloged [mammal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mammal) species (ranked 12th);[[J]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-178) 338 cataloged [reptilian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reptile) species (ranked 16th); and 162 cataloged [amphibian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amphibian) species (ranked 19th).

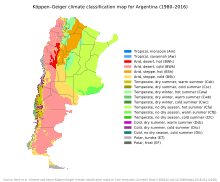
In Argentina [forest cover](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Forest_cover) is around 10% of the total land area, equivalent to 28,573,000 hectares (ha) of forest in 2020, down from 35,204,000 hectares (ha) in 1990. In 2020, naturally regenerating forest covered 27,137,000 hectares (ha) and planted forest covered 1,436,000 hectares (ha). Of the naturally regenerating forest 0% was reported to be [primary forest](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Primary_forest) (consisting of native tree species with no clearly visible indications of human activity) and around 7% of the forest area was found within protected areas. For the year 2015, 0% of the forest area was reported to be under [public ownership](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/State_ownership), 4% [private ownership](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Private_property) and 96% with ownership listed as other or unknown.[[165]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-179)[[166]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-180)

The original [pampa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pampa) had virtually no trees; some imported species such as the [American sycamore](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Platanus_occidentalis) or [eucalyptus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eucalyptus) are present along roads or in towns and country estates (*estancias*). The only tree-like plant native to the pampa is the evergreen [Ombú](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Omb%C3%BA). The surface soils of the pampa are a deep black color, primarily [mollisols](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mollisols), known commonly as *humus*. This makes the region one of the most agriculturally productive on Earth; however, this is also responsible for decimating much of the original ecosystem, to make way for commercial agriculture.[[167]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-181) The western pampas receive less rainfall, this *dry pampa* is a plain of short grasses or [steppe](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Steppe).[[168]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-182)[[169]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-183)

The [National Parks of Argentina](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Parks_of_Argentina) make up a network of 35 [national parks](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_park) in Argentina. The parks cover a very varied set of terrains and [biotopes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biotope), from [Baritú National Park](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barit%C3%BA_National_Park) on the northern border with [Bolivia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bolivia) to [Tierra del Fuego National Park](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tierra_del_Fuego_National_Park) in the far south of the continent. The [Administración de Parques Nacionales](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Administraci%C3%B3n_de_Parques_Nacionales) (National Parks Administration) is the agency that preserves and manages these national parks along with [Natural monuments](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natural_monument) and [National Reserves](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Reserve) within the country.[[170]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-184) Argentina had a 2018 [Forest Landscape Integrity Index](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Forest_Landscape_Integrity_Index) mean score of 7.21/10, ranking it 47th globally out of 172 countries.[[171]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FLII-Supplementary-185)

**Climate**

*Main articles:*[*Climate of Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Climate_of_Argentina)*and*[*Climatic regions of Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Climatic_regions_of_Argentina)

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Koppen-Geiger_Map_ARG_present.svg)[Köppen climate classification](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/K%C3%B6ppen_climate_classification) in Argentina[A glacier next to a body of water

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Perito_Moreno_(39986110524).jpg)Argentina features geographical locations such as this glacier, known as the [Perito Moreno Glacier](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Perito_Moreno_Glacier).[[172]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-186)

In general, Argentina has four main climate types: warm [humid subtropical](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Humid_subtropical_climate), moderate humid subtropical, [arid](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Desert_climate) and [cold](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cold_desert). all determined by the expanse across latitude, range in altitude, and relief features.[[173]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-arggov-187)[[174]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-188) Although the most populated areas are generally [temperate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Temperate_climate), Argentina has an exceptional amount of climate diversity,[[175]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FAO-189) ranging from [subtropical](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Subtropical) in the north to [polar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polar_climate) in the far south.[[176]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-190) Consequently, there is a wide variety of [biomes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biomes) in the country, including [Subtropical rainforests](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Subtropical_rainforests), [semi-arid](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Semi-arid_Pampas) and [arid](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Desert) regions, [temperate plains](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pampas) in the [Pampas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pampas), and cold [subantarctic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Subantarctic) in the south.[[177]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-Fernandez-191) The average annual precipitation ranges from 150 millimetres (6 in) in the driest parts of [Patagonia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patagonia) to over 2,000 millimetres (79 in) in the westernmost parts of Patagonia and the northeastern parts of the country.[[175]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FAO-189) Mean annual temperatures range from 5 °C (41 °F) in the far south to 25 °C (77 °F) in the north.[[175]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FAO-189)

Major wind currents include the cool [Pampero Winds](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pampero_Winds) blowing on the flat plains of Patagonia and the Pampas; following the cold front, warm currents blow from the north in middle and late winter, creating mild conditions.[[178]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEMenuttiMenutti198069-192) The [Sudestada](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sudestada) usually moderates cold temperatures but brings very heavy rains, rough seas and [coastal flooding](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coastal_flooding). It is most common in late autumn and winter along the central coast and in the Río de la Plata estuary.[[178]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEMenuttiMenutti198069-192) The [Zonda](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zonda_wind), a [hot dry wind](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Foehn_wind), affects Cuyo and the central Pampas. Squeezed of all moisture during the 6,000 m (19,685 ft) descent from the Andes, Zonda winds can blow for hours with gusts up to 120 km/h (75 mph), fueling wildfires and causing damage; between June and November, when the Zonda blows, snowstorms and [blizzard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blizzard) (*viento blanco*) conditions usually affect higher elevations.[[179]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEMenuttiMenutti198053-193)

[Climate change in Argentina](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Climate_change_in_Argentina) is predicted to have significant effects on the living conditions in Argentina.[[180]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-cambioclimatico2009-194): 30 The [climate of Argentina](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Climate_of_Argentina) is changing with regards to precipitation patterns and temperatures. The highest increases in precipitation (from the period 1960–2010) have occurred in the eastern parts of the country. The increase in precipitation has led to more variability in precipitation from year to year in the northern parts of the country, with a higher risk of prolonged [droughts](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Droughts), disfavoring agriculture in these [regions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Regions).

**Politics**

*Main article:*[*Politics of Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Politics_of_Argentina)

In the 20th century, Argentina experienced significant political turmoil and democratic reversals.[[181]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-Robinson-195)[[182]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-LevitskyMurillo-196) Between 1930 and 1976, the [armed forces](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Armed_Forces_of_the_Argentine_Republic) overthrew six governments in Argentina;[[182]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-LevitskyMurillo-196) and the country alternated periods of democracy (1912–1930, 1946–1955, and 1973–1976) with periods of restricted democracy and [military rule](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_regime).[[181]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-Robinson-195) Following a [transition](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transition_to_democracy) that began in 1983,[[183]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-Anderson-197) full-scale democracy in Argentina was reestablished.[[181]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-Robinson-195)[[182]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-LevitskyMurillo-196) Argentina's democracy endured through the [2001–02 crisis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1998%E2%80%932002_Argentine_great_depression) and to the present day; it is regarded as more robust than both its pre-1983 predecessors and other democracies in [Latin America](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Latin_America).[[182]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-LevitskyMurillo-196) According to the [V-Dem Democracy indices](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/V-Dem_Democracy_indices), Argentina in 2023 was the second most [electoral democratic country in Latin America](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Democracy_in_Latin_America_and_the_Caribbean).[[184]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-vdem_dataset-198)

**Government**

*Main articles:*[*Government of Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Government_of_Argentina)*and*[*Ministries of the Argentine Republic*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ministries_of_the_Argentine_Republic)

[Casa Rosada with a large entrance

Description automatically generated with medium confidence](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Casa_Rosada,_Buenos_Aires,_Argentina.jpg)[Casa Rosada](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Casa_Rosada), workplace of the [President](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/President_of_Argentina)[A building with a green dome

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Palacio_del_Congreso_in_Buenos_Aires_(6370115601).jpg)The [National Congress](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Congress_of_Argentina) composed of the [Senate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Senate) and the [Chamber of Deputies](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Chamber_of_Deputies)[[185]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEConstitution_of_Argentinaart._63-199)

Argentina is a [federal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federalism) constitutional republic and [representative democracy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Representative_democracy).[[186]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEConstitution_of_Argentinaart._1-200) The government is regulated by a system of [checks and balances](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Separation_of_powers) defined by the [Constitution of Argentina](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constitution_of_Argentina), the country's supreme legal document. The [seat of government](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seat_of_government) is the city of [Buenos Aires](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buenos_Aires), as designated by [Congress](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_National_Congress).[[187]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEConstitution_of_Argentinaart._3-201) Suffrage is [universal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Universal_suffrage), [equal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Equal_suffrage), [secret](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Secret_ballot) and [mandatory](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Compulsory_voting).[[188]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEConstitution_of_Argentinaart._37-202)[[K]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-204)

The federal government is composed of three branches. The [Legislative](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Legislature) branch consists of the [bicameral](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bicameralism) Congress, made up of the [Senate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Senate) and the [Chamber of Deputies](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Chamber_of_Deputies). The Congress makes [federal law](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federal_law), [declares war](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Declaration_of_war), approves [treaties](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Treaty) and has the [power of the purse](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Power_of_the_purse) and of [impeachment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Impeachment), by which it can remove sitting members of the government.[[190]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEConstitution_of_Argentinaarts._53,_59,_75-205) The Chamber of Deputies represents the people and has 257 voting members elected to a four-year term. Seats are apportioned among the provinces by population every tenth year.[[191]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEConstitution_of_Argentinaarts._45,_47,_50-206) As of 2014 ten provinces have just five deputies while the [Buenos Aires Province](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buenos_Aires_Province), being the most populous one, has 70. The Chamber of Senators represents the provinces, and has 72 members elected [at-large](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/At-large) to six-year terms, with each province having three seats; one-third of Senate seats are up for election every other year.[[192]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEConstitution_of_Argentinaarts._54,_56-207) At least one-third of the candidates presented by the parties must be women.

In the [Executive](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Executive_(government)) branch, the [President](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/President_of_Argentina) is the [commander-in-chief](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Commander-in-chief) of the military, can [veto](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Veto) [legislative bills](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_(law)) before they become law—subject to Congressional override—and appoints the [members of the Cabinet](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cabinet_of_Argentina) and other officers, who administer and enforce federal laws and policies.[[193]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEConstitution_of_Argentinaart._99-208) The President is elected [directly](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Direct_vote) by the vote of the people, serves a four-year term and may be elected to office no more than twice in a row.[[194]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEConstitution_of_Argentinaart._90-209)

The [Judicial](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Judiciary) branch includes the [Supreme Court](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Supreme_Court_of_Argentina) and lower [federal courts](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Law_of_Argentina) interpret laws and [overturn those](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Judicial_review) they find [unconstitutional](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constitutionality).[[195]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEConstitution_of_Argentinaart._116-210) The Judicial is independent of the Executive and the Legislative. The Supreme Court has seven members appointed by the President—subject to Senate approval—who serve for life. The lower courts' judges are proposed by the [Council of Magistracy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Council_of_Magistracy_of_the_Nation) (a secretariat composed of representatives of judges, lawyers, researchers, the Executive and the Legislative), and appointed by the president on Senate approval.[[196]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEConstitution_of_Argentinaarts._99,_114-211)

**Provinces**

Provinces of Argentina. Click to explore.

*Main article:*[*Provinces of Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Provinces_of_Argentina)

Argentina is a federation of twenty-three provinces and one [autonomous city](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Autonomous_city), Buenos Aires. Provinces are divided for administration purposes into [departments](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Departments_of_Argentina) and [municipalities](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Municipalities_of_Argentina), except for Buenos Aires Province, which is divided into [partidos](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Partidos_of_Buenos_Aires). The City of Buenos Aires is divided into [communes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barrios_and_Communes_of_Buenos_Aires).

Provinces hold all the power that they chose not to delegate to the federal government;[[197]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEConstitution_of_Argentinaart._121-212) they must be representative republics and must not contradict the Constitution.[[198]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEConstitution_of_Argentinaarts._5%E2%80%936-213) Beyond this they are fully autonomous: they enact their own constitutions,[[199]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEConstitution_of_Argentinaart._123-214) freely organize their local governments,[[200]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEConstitution_of_Argentinaart._122-215) and own and manage their natural and financial resources.[[201]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEConstitution_of_Argentinaarts._124%E2%80%93125-216) Some provinces have bicameral legislatures, while others have [unicameral](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Unicameralism) ones.[[L]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-218)

[La Pampa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/La_Pampa_Province) and Chaco became provinces in 1951. Misiones did so in 1953, and [Formosa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Formosa_Province), [Neuquén](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neuqu%C3%A9n_Province), [Río Negro](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/R%C3%ADo_Negro_Province), [Chubut](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chubut_Province) and Santa Cruz, in 1955. The last national territory, Tierra del Fuego, became the [Tierra del Fuego, Antártida e Islas del Atlántico Sur Province](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tierra_del_Fuego,_Ant%C3%A1rtida_e_Islas_del_Atl%C3%A1ntico_Sur_Province) in 1990.[[203]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTERey_Balmaceda199519-219) It has three components, although two are nominal because they are not under Argentine sovereignty. The first is the Argentine part of Tierra del Fuego; the second is an area of Antarctica claimed by Argentina that overlaps with similar areas claimed by the UK and Chile; the third comprises the two disputed British Overseas Territories of the [Falkland Islands](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Falkland_Islands) and [South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Georgia_and_the_South_Sandwich_Islands).[[204]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-Duggan_and_Lewis-220)

**Foreign relations**

*Main article:*[*Foreign relations of Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Foreign_relations_of_Argentina)

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:BRICS_members_and_guest_at_the_6th_BRICS_summit_2014.jpg)[Cristina Kirchner](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cristina_Kirchner) alongside the members of [BRICS](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/BRICS) and [Union of South American Nations](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Union_of_South_American_Nations) in 2014

Foreign policy is handled by the [Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Worship](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ministry_of_Foreign_Affairs,_International_Trade_and_Worship), which answers to the [President](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/President_of_Argentina). The country is one of the [G-15](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Group_of_15) and [G-20 major economies](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/G-20_major_economies) of the world, and a founding member of the [UN](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UN), [WBG](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Bank_Group), [WTO](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Trade_Organization) and [OAS](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Organization_of_American_States). In 2012 [Argentina was elected again](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Nations_Security_Council_election,_2012) to a two-year non-permanent position on the [United Nations Security Council](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Nations_Security_Council) and is participating in major peacekeeping operations in [Haiti](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Nations_Stabilization_Mission_in_Haiti), [Cyprus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Nations_Peacekeeping_Force_in_Cyprus), [Western Sahara](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_Sahara) and the [Middle East](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Middle_East).[[205]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-221) Argentina is described as a [middle power](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Middle_power).[[21]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEWood198818Solomon19973-27)[[206]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-Cooper-222)

A prominent Latin American[[22]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEHuntington20006Nierop200161Lake200955Papadopoulos2010283Malamud20119Boughton2012101-28) and Southern Cone[[23]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEMorris198863AdlerGreve200978Ruiz-DanaGoldschagClaroBlanco200918-29) [regional power](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Regional_power), Argentina co-founded [OEI](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Organization_of_Ibero-American_States) and [CELAC](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community_of_Latin_American_and_Caribbean_States). It is also a founding member of the [Mercosur](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mercosur) block, having Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay and [Venezuela](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Venezuela) as partners. Since 2002 the country has emphasized its key role in [Latin American integration](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Latin_American_integration), and the block—which has some supranational legislative functions—is its first international priority.[[207]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEGalasso2011600vol._II-223)

Argentina claims 965,597 km2 (372,819 sq mi) in [Antarctica](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Antarctica), where it has the world's oldest [continuous state presence](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Orcadas_Base), since 1904.[[208]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-224) This overlaps claims by [Chile](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chilean_Antarctic_Territory) and the [United Kingdom](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Antarctic_Territory), though all such claims fall under the provisions of the 1961 [Antarctic Treaty](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antarctic_Treaty), of which Argentina is a founding signatory and permanent consulting member, with the [Antarctic Treaty Secretariat](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antarctic_Treaty_Secretariat) being based in Buenos Aires.[[209]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-225)

Argentina [disputes sovereignty](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Falkland_Islands_sovereignty_dispute) over the Falkland Islands (Spanish: *Islas Malvinas*), and [South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Georgia_and_South_Sandwich_Islands_sovereignty_dispute),[[210]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEConstitution_of_ArgentinaT._P._1-226) which are administered by the United Kingdom as [Overseas Territories](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Overseas_Territories). Argentina is a party to the [Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rome_Statute_of_the_International_Criminal_Court).[[211]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-227) Argentina is a [Major non-NATO ally](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Major_non-NATO_ally) since 1998[[24]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-Major_Non-NATO_Ally_Status-30) and an [OECD](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/OECD) candidate country since January 2022.[[212]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-228)

**Armed forces**

*Main article:*[*Armed Forces of the Argentine Republic*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Armed_Forces_of_the_Argentine_Republic)

[A jet flying in the sky

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:A-4AR_Fightinghawk_2010.jpg)[Lockheed Martin A-4AR Fightinghawk](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lockheed_Martin_A-4AR_Fightinghawk) operated by the [Argentine Air Force](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Air_Force)[A ship in the water

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:D13_ARA_Sarandi_DN-SC-91-01826.jpg)Argentine destroyer [ARA *Sarandí* (D-13)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ARA_Sarand%C3%AD_(D-13))

The president holds the title of commander-in-chief of the Argentine Armed Forces, as part of a legal framework that imposes a strict separation between national defense and internal security systems:[[213]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-229)[[214]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-lsi-230) The [National Defense System](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_defense_industry), an exclusive responsibility of the federal government,[[215]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEConstitution_of_Argentinaarts._125%E2%80%93126-231) coordinated by the [Ministry of Defense](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ministry_of_Defense_(Argentina)), and comprising the [Army](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Army), the [Navy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Navy) and the [Air Force](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Air_Force).[[216]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-232) Ruled and monitored by Congress[[217]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEConstitution_of_Argentinaarts._21,_75,_99-233) through the Houses' Defense Committees,[[218]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-resdal-234) it is organized on the essential principle of legitimate self-defense: the repelling of any external military aggression in order to guarantee freedom of the people, national sovereignty, and territorial integrity.[[218]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-resdal-234) Its secondary missions include committing to multinational operations within the framework of the United Nations, participating in internal support missions, assisting friendly countries, and establishing a sub-regional defense system.[[218]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-resdal-234)

[Military service](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Military_service) is voluntary, with enlistment age between 18 and 24 years old and no [conscription](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conscription).[[219]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-235) Argentina's defense has historically been one of the best equipped in the region, even managing [its own weapon research facilities, shipyards, ordnance, tank and plane factories](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_defense_industry).[[220]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEMaldifassiAbetti199465%E2%80%9386-236) However, real military expenditures declined steadily after the defeat in the [Falklands/Malvinas War](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Falklands_War) and the defense budget in 2011 was only about 0.74% of GDP, a historical minimum,[[221]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-237) below the Latin American average. Within the defence budget itself, funding for training and even basic maintenance has been significantly cut, a factor contributing to the [accidental loss of the Argentine submarine San Juan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Disappearance_of_ARA_San_Juan) in 2017. The result has been a steady erosion of Argentine military capabilities, with some arguing that Argentina had, by the end of the 2010s, ceased to be a capable military power.[[222]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-238)

The [Interior Security System](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Interior_Security_System) is jointly administered by the federal and subscribing provincial governments.[[214]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-lsi-230) At the federal level it is coordinated by the Interior, [Security](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ministry_of_Defense_(Argentina)) and Justice ministries, and monitored by Congress.[[214]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-lsi-230) It is enforced by the [Federal Police](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Federal_Police); the [Prefecture](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Naval_Prefecture), which fulfills [coast guard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coast_guard) duties; the [Gendarmerie](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_National_Gendarmerie), which serves [border guard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Border_guard) tasks; and the [Airport Security Police](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Airport_Security_Police_(Argentina)).[[223]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-239) At the provincial level it is coordinated by the respective internal security ministries and enforced by local police agencies.[[214]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-lsi-230)

Argentina was the only South American country to send warships and cargo planes in 1991 to the [Gulf War](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gulf_War) under [UN](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Nations) mandate and has remained involved in [peacekeeping](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peacekeeping) efforts in multiple locations such as [UNPROFOR](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UNPROFOR) in [Croatia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Croatia)/[Bosnia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bosnia_and_Herzegovina), [Gulf of Fonseca](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gulf_of_Fonseca), [UNFICYP](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Nations_Peacekeeping_Force_in_Cyprus) in [Cyprus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cyprus) (where among Army and Marines troops the Air Force provided the UN Air contingent since 1994) and [MINUSTAH](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MINUSTAH) in [Haiti](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Haiti). Argentina is the only Latin American country to maintain troops in [Kosovo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kosovo) during [SFOR](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SFOR) (and later [EUFOR](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/EUFOR)) operations where [combat engineers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Combat_engineering) of the Argentine Armed Forces are embedded in an [Italian brigade](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Italian_Army).

In 2007, an Argentine contingent including helicopters, boats and water purification plants was sent to help [Bolivia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bolivia) against their worst floods in decades.[[224]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-240) In 2010 the Armed Forces were also involved in [Haiti](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Humanitarian_response_by_national_governments_to_the_2010_Haiti_earthquake) and [Chile](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Humanitarian_response_to_the_2010_Chile_earthquake) humanitarian responses after their respective earthquakes.

**Economy**

*Main article:*[*Economy of Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Economy_of_Argentina)

*See also:*[*Industry in Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Industry_in_Argentina)*and*[*Argentine foreign trade*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_foreign_trade)

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Puerto_Madero_-_Puente_de_la_mujer_(44673627614).jpg)[Puerto Madero](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Puerto_Madero) business complex in [Buenos Aires CBD](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buenos_Aires_Central_Business_District)

Benefiting from rich [natural resources](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natural_resources), a highly literate population, a diversified industrial base, and an export-oriented agricultural sector, the economy of Argentina is Latin America's third-largest,[[225]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-wsj1-241) and the second-largest in [South America](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_America).[[226]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-242) Argentina was one of the richest countries in the world, on the 20th century in 1913 it was one of the wealthiest countries in the world by GDP per capita[[227]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-243) It has a "[very high](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_Human_Development_Index)" rating on the Human Development Index[[13]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-UNHDR-16) and ranks 66th by [nominal GDP per capita](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_GDP_(nominal)_per_capita),[[228]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-244) with a considerable [internal market](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Single_market) size and a growing share of the [high-tech](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/High-tech) sector. As a [middle emerging economy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emerging_economy) and one of the world's top developing nations, it is a member of the [G-20 major economies](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/G-20_major_economies).[[229]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-undp2013-245)[[M]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-246)

[A field of crops in a snowy valley

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Vi%C3%B1edos_de_Mendoza.jpg)[Vineyard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vineyard) in [Mendoza](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mendoza_Province). Argentina is the [sixth-largest producer of wine](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_wine-producing_regions).[[230]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-Johnson_atlas_pg_300-301-247)

Argentina is the largest producer in the world of [yerba mate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yerba_mate) (due to the large domestic consumption of [mate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mate_(drink))), one of the five largest producers in the world of [soybeans](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Soybeans), [maize](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maize), [sunflower seed](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sunflower_seed), [lemon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lemon) and [pear](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pear), one of the ten largest producers in the world of [barley](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barley), [grape](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grape), [artichoke](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Artichoke), [tobacco](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tobacco) and [cotton](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cotton), and one of the 15 largest producers in the world of [wheat](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wheat), [sugarcane](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sugarcane), [sorghum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sorghum) and [grapefruit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grapefruit). It is the largest producer in South America of wheat, sunflower seed, barley, lemon and pear.[[231]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-248)[[232]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-249) In [wine](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wine), Argentina is usually among the ten [largest producers in the world](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_wine_production).[[233]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-250) Argentina is also a traditional meat exporter, having been, in 2019, the 4th world producer of [beef](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beef), with a production of 3 million tons (only behind US, Brazil and China), the 4th world producer of [honey](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Honey), and the 10th world producer of [wool](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wool), in addition to other relevant productions.[[234]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-251)[[235]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-252)

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Producci%C3%B3n_Minera_en_la_Cordillera_de_los_Andes,_prov._de_San_Juan.jpg)[Veladero mine](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Veladero_mine) is a [gold](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gold) mine located in the [San Juan Province](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Juan_Province,_Argentina).[A group of cars in a line

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Fiat-C%C3%B3rdoba.jpg)[Fiat](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fiat) factory in [Córdoba, Argentina](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/C%C3%B3rdoba,_Argentina)

The [mining industry](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mining_industry) of Argentina is not as relevant as that of other countries. It stands out for being the fourth-largest producer of [lithium](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lithium),[[236]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-253) 9th of [silver](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Silver)[[237]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-254) and 17th of [gold](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gold)[[238]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-255) worldwide (based on 2019 data). The country stands out in the production of [natural gas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natural_gas), being the largest producer in South America and the 18th-largest in the world, and has an average annual production close to 500 thousand barrels/day of [petroleum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Petroleum), even with the under-utilization of the Vaca Muerta field, due to the country's technical and financial inability to extract these resources.[[239]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-256)[[240]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-257)

In 2012, [manufacturing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manufacturing) accounted for 20.3% of GDP—the largest sector in the nation's economy.[[241]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-infoeco1-258) Well-integrated into Argentine agriculture, half of the industrial exports have rural origin.[[241]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-infoeco1-258) With a 6.5% production growth rate in 2011,[[242]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-259) the diversified manufacturing sector rests on a steadily growing network of [industrial parks](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Industrial_park) (314 as of 2013)[[243]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-260)[[244]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-261) In 2012 the leading sectors by volume were: food processing, beverages and tobacco products; motor vehicles and auto parts; [textiles](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Textiles) and leather; [refinery products](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Petroleum_refineries) and [biodiesel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biodiesel); chemicals and pharmaceuticals; steel, aluminum and iron; industrial and farm machinery; home appliances and furniture; plastics and tires; glass and cement; and recording and print media.[[241]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-infoeco1-258) In addition, Argentina has since long been one of the top five wine-producing countries in the world.[[241]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-infoeco1-258)

High [inflation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Inflation)—a weakness of the Argentine economy for decades—has become a trouble once again,[[245]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-nyt-2011-02-06-262) with an annual rate of 24.8% in 2017.[[246]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-Official_INDEC_consumer_price_index_figures_(Spanish)-263) In 2023 the inflation reached 102.5% among the highest inflation rates in the world.[[247]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-264) Approximately 43% of the Argentina's population lives below the poverty line as of 2023.[[248]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-265) To deter it and support the peso, the government imposed foreign currency control.[[249]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-266) [Income distribution](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Income_distribution), having improved since 2002, is classified as "medium", although it is still considerably unequal.[[12]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-gini-15) In January 2024, Argentina's poverty rate reached 57.4%, the highest poverty rate in the country since 2004.[[250]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-267)

Argentina ranks 85th out of 180 countries in the [Transparency International](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transparency_International)'s 2017 [Corruption Perceptions Index](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corruption_Perceptions_Index),[[251]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-268) an improvement of 22 positions over its 2014 rankings.[[252]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-269) Argentina settled its long-standing debt default crisis in 2016 with the so-called [vulture funds](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vulture_funds) after the election of Mauricio Macri, allowing Argentina to enter capital markets for the first time in a decade.[[253]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-270) The government of Argentina defaulted on 22 May 2020 by failing to pay a $500 million bill by its due date to its creditors. Negotiations for the restructuring of $66 billion of its debt continue.[[254]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-271)

Poverty in Argentina was 41.7 percent at the end of the second half of 2023.[[255]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-272)

**Tourism**

*Main article:*[*Tourism in Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tourism_in_Argentina)

The country had 5.57 million visitors in 2013, ranking in terms of international tourist arrivals as the top destination in [South America](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_America), and second in [Latin America](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Latin_America) after Mexico.[[256]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-UNWTO2014-273) Revenues from international tourists reached US$4.41 billion in 2013, down from US$4.89 billion in 2012.[[256]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-UNWTO2014-273) The country's capital city, [Buenos Aires](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buenos_Aires), is the most visited city in [South America](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_America).[[257]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-274) There are 30 [National Parks of Argentina](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Parks_of_Argentina) including many [World Heritage Sites](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Heritage_Sites_in_Argentina).

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Panorama_from_Cerro_Campanario_-_Bariloche_-_panoramio.jpg)

Panorama of the [Nahuel Huapi National Park](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nahuel_Huapi_National_Park) and the [Nahuel Huapi Lake](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nahuel_Huapi_Lake) from Cerro Campanario, [Bariloche](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bariloche)

**Transport**

*Main article:*[*Transport in Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transport_in_Argentina)

[A long shot of a road

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Autopista_Rosario_-_C%C3%B3rdoba_km_365_hacia_el_Este.JPG)Stretch of [National Route 9](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Route_9_(Argentina)) between [Rosario](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosario,_Santa_Fe) and [Córdoba](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/C%C3%B3rdoba,_Argentina)[A train on the tracks

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Mar_del_plata_station_1.jpg)A [Trenes Argentinos](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trenes_Argentinos) [CNR CKD8G](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CNR_CKD8G) at [Mar del Plata railway station](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mar_del_Plata_railway_and_bus_station)

By 2004 Buenos Aires, all provincial capitals except Ushuaia, and all medium-sized towns were interconnected by 69,412 km (43,131 mi) of paved roads, out of a total road network of 231,374 km (143,769 mi).[[258]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-275) In 2021, the country had about 2,800 km (1,740 mi) of [duplicated highways](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dual_carriageway), most leaving the capital [Buenos Aires](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buenos_Aires), linking it with cities such as [Rosario](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosario,_Santa_Fe) and [Córdoba](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/C%C3%B3rdoba_(Argentina)), [Santa Fe](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santa_Fe_(Argentina)), [Mar del Plata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mar_del_Plata) and [Paso de los Libres](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paso_de_los_Libres) (in border with Brazil), there are also duplicated highways leaving from [Mendoza](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mendoza,_Argentina) towards the capital, and between Córdoba and Santa Fé, among other locations.[[259]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-276) Nevertheless, this road infrastructure is still inadequate and cannot handle the sharply growing demand caused by deterioration of the railway system.[[260]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-eotn1-277)

Argentina has the largest [railway system](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rail_transport_in_Argentina) in Latin America, with 36,966 km (22,970 mi) of operating lines in 2008, out of a full network of almost 48,000 km (29,826 mi).[[261]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-278) This system links all 23 provinces plus Buenos Aires City, and connects with all neighbouring countries.[[260]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-eotn1-277) There are four incompatible [gauges](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Track_gauge) in use; this forces virtually all interregional freight traffic to pass through Buenos Aires.[[260]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-eotn1-277) The system has been in decline since the 1940s: regularly running up large budgetary deficits, by 1991 it was transporting 1,400 times less goods than it did in 1973.[[260]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-eotn1-277) However, in recent years the system has experienced a [greater degree of investment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rail_transport_in_Argentina#Recent_developments_and_moves_towards_re-nationalisation) from the state, in both commuter rail lines and long-distance lines, renewing rolling stock and infrastructure.[[262]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-279)[[263]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-280) In April 2015, by overwhelming majority the [Argentine Senate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_Senate) passed a law which re-created [Ferrocarriles Argentinos](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ferrocarriles_Argentinos) (2015), effectively re-nationalising the country's railways, a move which saw support from all major political parties on both sides of the political spectrum.[[264]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-281)[[265]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-282)[[266]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-283)

In 2012 there were about 11,000 km (6,835 mi) of [waterways](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Waterway),[[267]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-284) mostly comprising the La Plata, Paraná, Paraguay and Uruguay rivers, with Buenos Aires, [Zárate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Z%C3%A1rate,_Buenos_Aires), [Campana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Campana,_Buenos_Aires), Rosario, San Lorenzo, Santa Fe, [Barranqueras](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barranqueras) and San Nicolas de los Arroyos as the main [fluvial ports](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fluvial_port). Some of the largest [sea ports](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sea_port) are [La Plata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/La_Plata)–[Ensenada](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ensenada,_Buenos_Aires), Bahía Blanca, [Mar del Plata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mar_del_Plata), [Quequén](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quequ%C3%A9n)–[Necochea](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Necochea), [Comodoro Rivadavia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comodoro_Rivadavia), [Puerto Deseado](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Puerto_Deseado), [Puerto Madryn](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Puerto_Madryn), Ushuaia and [San Antonio Oeste](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Antonio_Oeste). Buenos Aires has historically been the most important port; however since the 1990s the Up-River port region has become dominant: stretching along 67 km (42 mi) of the Paraná river shore in Santa Fe province, it includes 17 ports and in 2013 accounted for 50% of all exports.

In 2013 there were 161 airports with paved runways[[268]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-285) out of more than a thousand.[[260]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-eotn1-277) The [Ezeiza International Airport](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ezeiza_International_Airport), about 35 km (22 mi) from downtown Buenos Aires,[[269]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEAeberhardBensonPhillips200076-286) is the largest in the country, followed by [Cataratas del Iguazú](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cataratas_del_Iguaz%C3%BA_International_Airport) in Misiones, and [El Plumerillo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/El_Plumerillo_International_Airport) in Mendoza.[[260]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-eotn1-277) [Aeroparque](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aeroparque), in the city of Buenos Aires, is the most important domestic airport.[[270]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEAeberhardBensonPhillips200024%E2%80%9325-287)

**Energy**

*Main article:*[*Electricity sector in Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Electricity_sector_in_Argentina)

[A water channel with buildings and a large body of water

Description automatically generated with medium confidence](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Central_Nuclear_Atucha_I_-_II.JPG)[Atucha Nuclear Power Plant](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atucha_Nuclear_Power_Plant) was the first nuclear power plant in [Latin America](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Latin_America).[[271]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-288)

In 2020, more than 60% of Argentina's electricity came from non-renewable sources such as natural gas, oil and coal. 27% came from [hydropower](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hydropower), 7.3% from wind and solar energy and 4.4% from nuclear energy.[[272]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-289) At the end of 2021 Argentina was the 21st country in the world in terms of installed hydroelectric power (11.3 GW), the 26th country in the world in terms of installed wind energy (3.2 GW) and the 43rd country in the world in terms of installed solar energy (1.0 GW).[[273]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-290)

The wind potential of the Patagonia region is considered gigantic, with estimates that the area could provide enough electricity to sustain the consumption of a country like Brazil alone. However, Argentina has infrastructural deficiencies to carry out the transmission of electricity from uninhabited areas with a lot of wind to the great centers of the country.[[274]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-291)

In 1974 it was the first country in Latin America to put in-line a commercial nuclear power plant, [Atucha I](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atucha_I_Nuclear_Power_Plant). Although the Argentine-built parts for that station amounted to 10% of the total, the nuclear fuel it uses are since entirely built in the country. Later nuclear power stations employed a higher percentage of Argentine-built components; [Embalse](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Embalse_Nuclear_Power_Station), finished in 1983, a 30% and the 2011 [Atucha II](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atucha_II_Nuclear_Power_Plant) reactor a 40%.[[275]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-292)

**Science and technology**

*Main article:*[*Science and technology in Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Science_and_technology_in_Argentina)

[A group of people in lab coats

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Leloir_festejando.jpg)[Luis Federico Leloir](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luis_Federico_Leloir) (left) and his staff toast his 1970 [Nobel Prize in Chemistry](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nobel_Prize_in_Chemistry).

Argentines have received three [Nobel Prizes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nobel_Prize) in the Sciences. [Bernardo Houssay](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bernardo_Houssay), the first Latin American recipient, discovered the role of [pituitary hormones](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pituitary_gland) in regulating [glucose](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glucose) in animals, and shared the [Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nobel_Prize_in_Physiology_or_Medicine) in 1947. [Luis Leloir](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luis_Leloir) discovered how organisms store energy converting glucose into [glycogen](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glycogen) and the compounds which are fundamental in [metabolizing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metabolism) [carbohydrates](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carbohydrate), receiving the [Nobel Prize in Chemistry](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nobel_Prize_in_Chemistry) in 1970. [César Milstein](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/C%C3%A9sar_Milstein) did extensive research in [antibodies](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antibody), sharing the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1984. Argentine research has led to treatments for [heart diseases](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heart_disease) and several forms of cancer. [Domingo Liotta](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Domingo_Liotta) designed and developed the first [artificial heart](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Artificial_heart) that was successfully implanted in a human being in 1969. [René Favaloro](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ren%C3%A9_Favaloro) developed the techniques and performed the world's first [coronary bypass surgery](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coronary_artery_bypass_surgery).

Argentina's nuclear programme has been highly successful. In 1957 Argentina was the first country in Latin America to design and build a [research reactor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Research_reactor) with homegrown technology, the [RA-1 Enrico Fermi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RA-1_Enrico_Fermi). This reliance on the development of its own nuclear-related technologies, instead of buying them abroad, was a constant of Argentina's nuclear programme conducted by the civilian [National Atomic Energy Commission](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Atomic_Energy_Commission) (CNEA). Nuclear facilities with Argentine technology have been built in Peru, Algeria, Australia and Egypt. In 1983, the country admitted having the capability of producing weapon-grade [uranium](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uranium), a major step needed to assemble [nuclear weapons](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nuclear_weapon); since then, however, Argentina has pledged to use nuclear power only for peaceful purposes.[[276]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-293) As a member of the Board of Governors of the [International Atomic Energy Agency](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Atomic_Energy_Agency), Argentina has been a strong voice in support of nuclear non-proliferation efforts[[277]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-294) and is highly committed to global nuclear security.[[278]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-295)

[A group of people in a room

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:SAOCOM_1A_-_sala_de_integraci%C3%B3n_-_CEATSA_-_072018_-22_0.jpg)[SAOCOM 1A](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SAOCOM_1A) inside the facilities of [CEATSA](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CEATSA)

Despite its modest budget and numerous setbacks, academics and the sciences in Argentina have enjoyed international respect since the turn of the 1900s, when [Luis Agote](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luis_Agote) devised the first safe and effective means of [blood transfusion](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blood_transfusion) as well as [René Favaloro](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ren%C3%A9_Favaloro), who was a pioneer in the improvement of the [coronary artery bypass surgery](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coronary_artery_bypass_surgery). Argentine scientists are still on the cutting edge in fields such as [nanotechnology](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nanotechnology), [physics](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Physics), [computer sciences](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computer_science), molecular biology, oncology, ecology and cardiology. [Juan Maldacena](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Juan_Maldacena), an Argentine-American scientist, is a leading figure in [string theory](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/String_theory).

Space research has also become increasingly active in Argentina. Argentine-built satellites include LUSAT-1 (1990), Víctor-1 (1996), PEHUENSAT-1 (2007),[[279]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-296) and those developed by [CONAE](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CONAE), the Argentine space agency, of the SAC series.[[280]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-297) Argentina has its own satellite programme, nuclear power station designs (4th generation) and public nuclear energy company [INVAP](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/INVAP), which provides several countries with nuclear reactors.[[281]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-science-298) Established in 1991, the [CONAE](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CONAE) has since launched two satellites successfully and,[[282]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-299) in June 2009, secured an agreement with the [European Space Agency](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/European_Space_Agency) for the installation of a 35-m diameter antenna and other mission support facilities at the [Pierre Auger Observatory](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pierre_Auger_Observatory), the world's foremost [cosmic ray](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cosmic_ray) observatory.[[283]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-300) The facility will contribute to numerous ESA space probes, as well as CONAE's own, domestic research projects. Chosen from 20 potential sites and one of only three such ESA installations in the world, the new antenna will create a triangulation which will allow the ESA to ensure mission coverage around the clock[[284]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-301) Argentina was ranked 76th in the [Global Innovation Index](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global_Innovation_Index) in 2024.[[285]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-302)

**Demographics**

*Main articles:*[*Demographics of Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Demographics_of_Argentina)*and*[*Argentines*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentines)

[A map of the south america

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Population_density_by_municipality_in_Argentina,_2022.svg)Population density map of Argentina in the 2022 census

The [2010 census](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/INDEC) counted 40,117,096 inhabitants, up from 36,260,130 in 2001.[[286]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-303)[[287]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-304) Argentina ranks third in South America in total population, fourth in Latin America and 33rd globally. Its population density of 15 persons per square kilometer of land area is well below the world average of 50 persons. The population growth rate in 2010 was an estimated 1.03% annually, with a birth rate of 17.7 live births per 1,000 inhabitants and a mortality rate of 7.4 deaths per 1,000 inhabitants. Since 2010, the crude [net migration rate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Net_migration_rate) has ranged from below zero to up to four immigrants per 1,000 inhabitants per year.[[288]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-305)

Argentina is in the midst of a [demographic transition](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Demographic_transition) to an older and slower-growing population. The proportion of people under 15 is 25.6%, a little below the world average of 28%, and the proportion of people 65 and older is relatively high at 10.8%. In Latin America, this is second only to [Uruguay](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uruguay) and well above the world average, which is currently 7%. Argentina has a comparatively low [infant mortality rate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Infant_mortality_rate). Its birth rate of 2.3 children per woman is considerably below the high of 7.0 children born per woman in 1895,[[289]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-306) though still nearly twice as high as in Spain or Italy, which are culturally and demographically similar.[[290]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-307)[[291]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-308) The median age is 31.9 years and [life expectancy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Life_expectancy) at birth is 77.14 years.[[292]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-309)

Attitudes towards [LGBT people](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/LGBT_rights_in_Argentina) are generally positive within Argentina.[[293]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-310) In 2010, Argentina became the first country in Latin America, the second in the Americas, and the tenth worldwide to legalize [same-sex marriage](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Same-sex_marriage).[[294]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-311)[[295]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-312)

**Ethnography**

*Main article:*[*Argentines*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentines)

*See also:*[*Ethnography of Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ethnography_of_Argentina)*and*[*Immigration to Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Immigration_to_Argentina)

[A person shaking hands with another person

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Macri_con_F%C3%A9lix_Diaz.jpg)The cacique [Qom](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Toba_people) [Félix Díaz](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/F%C3%A9lix_D%C3%ADaz_(cacique)) meets with then president Mauricio Macri.

Argentina is considered a country of immigrants.[[296]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-encuesta-313)[[297]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-Coke-314)[[298]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-315) Argentines usually refer to the country as a *crisol de razas* (crucible of races, or [melting pot](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Melting_pot)). A 2010 study conducted on 218 individuals by the Argentine geneticist [Daniel Corach](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Daniel_Corach&action=edit&redlink=1) established that the average genetic ancestry of Argentines is 79% European (mainly Italian and Spanish), 18% indigenous and 4.3% African; 63.6% of the tested group had at least one ancestor who was [Indigenous](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indigenous_peoples_in_Argentina).[[299]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-onlinelibrary.wiley.com-316)[[300]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-317) The majority of Argentines descend from multiple European ethnic groups, primarily of [Italian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Italian_people) and [Spanish](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spanish_people) descent, with over 25 million Argentines (almost 60% of the population) having some partial Italian origins.[[301]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-318)

Argentina is also home to a notable [Asian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asian_Argentine) population, the majority of whom are descended from either West Asians (namely [Lebanese](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lebanese_people) and [Syrians](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Syrians))[[302]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-Lizcano2007-319) or East Asians (such as the Chinese,[[303]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-320) [Koreans](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Korean_people), and the [Japanese](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Japanese_people)).[[304]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-321) The latter of whom number around 180,000 individuals. The total number of [Arab Argentines](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arab_Argentines) (most of whom are of Lebanese or Syrian origin) is estimated to be 1.3 to 3.5 million. Many immigrated from various Asian countries to Argentina during the 19th century (especially during the latter half of the century) and the first half of the 20th century.[[305]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-Elindependiente-322)[[306]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-323) Most Arab Argentines belong to the Catholic Church (including both the Latin Church and the [Eastern Catholic Churches](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eastern_Catholic_Churches)) or the [Eastern Orthodox Church](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eastern_Orthodox_Church). A minority are [Muslims](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Muslims).

From the 1970s, immigration has mostly been coming from [Bolivia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bolivia), [Paraguay](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paraguay) and [Peru](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peru), with smaller numbers from the [Dominican Republic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dominican_Republic), Ecuador and [Romania](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Romania).[[307]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-324) The Argentine government estimates that 750,000 inhabitants lack official documents and has launched a program[[308]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-325) to encourage illegal immigrants to declare their status in return for two-year residence visas—so far over 670,000 applications have been processed under the program.[[309]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-326) As of July 2023, more than 18,500 Russians have come to Argentina after the [Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russian_invasion_of_Ukraine).[[310]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-327)

**Languages**

*Main article:*[*Languages of Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Languages_of_Argentina)

[A map of the country

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Dialectos_del_idioma_espa%C3%B1ol_en_Argentina.png)Dialectal variants of the [Spanish language](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spanish_language) in Argentina

The [*de facto*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/De_facto)[[N]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-328) official language is [Spanish](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spanish_language), spoken by almost all Argentines.[[311]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTELewisSimonsFennig2014-329) The country is the largest [Spanish-speaking society](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hispanophone) that universally employs [*voseo*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Voseo), the use of the [pronoun](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pronoun) *vos* instead of *tú* ("you"), which imposes the use of alternative verb forms as well. Owing to the extensive Argentine geography, Spanish has a strong variation among regions, although the prevalent dialect is [*Rioplatense*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rioplatense_Spanish), primarily spoken in the Pampean and Patagonian regions and accented similarly to the [Neapolitan language](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neapolitan_language).[[312]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEColantoniGurlekian2004107%E2%80%93119-330) Italian and other European immigrants influenced [*Lunfardo*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lunfardo)—the regional slang—permeating the vernacular vocabulary of other Latin American countries as well.

There are several second-languages in widespread use among the Argentine population: [English](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/English_language) (by 2.8 million people);[[313]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-331) [Italian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Italian_language) (by 1.5 million people);[[311]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTELewisSimonsFennig2014-329)[[O]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-332) [Arabic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arabic_language) (specially its [Northern Levantine dialect](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Levantine_Arabic), by one million people);[[311]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTELewisSimonsFennig2014-329) [Standard German](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Standard_German) (by 200,000 people);[[311]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTELewisSimonsFennig2014-329)[[P]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-333) [Guaraní](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guarani_language) (by 200,000 people,[[311]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTELewisSimonsFennig2014-329) mostly in Corrientes and Misiones);[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-Corrientes-5598-5) [Catalan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Catalan_language) (by 174,000 people);[[311]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTELewisSimonsFennig2014-329) [Quechua](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quechua_language) (by 65,000 people, mostly in the Northwest);[[311]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTELewisSimonsFennig2014-329) [Wichí](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wich%C3%AD_languages) (by 53,700 people, mainly in Chaco[[311]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTELewisSimonsFennig2014-329) where, along with [Kom](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kom_language_(South_America)) and [Moqoit](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moqoit_language), it is official *de jure*);[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-kom-7) [Vlax Romani](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vlax_Romani_language) (by 52,000 people);[[311]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTELewisSimonsFennig2014-329) [Albanian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Albanian_language) (by [40,000 people](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Albanians_in_South_America));[[314]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-334) [Japanese](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Japanese_language) (by 32,000 people);[[311]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTELewisSimonsFennig2014-329) [Aymara](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aymara_language) (by 30,000 people, mostly in the Northwest);[[311]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTELewisSimonsFennig2014-329) and [Ukrainian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ukrainian_language) (by 27,000 people).[[311]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTELewisSimonsFennig2014-329)

**Religion**

*Main article:*[*Religion in Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Religion_in_Argentina)

[A person in a white robe

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Francis_2013.jpg)[Francis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pope_Francis), the first pope from the Americas, was born and raised in Argentina.

[Christianity](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christianity) is the largest religion in Argentina. The Constitution guarantees [freedom of religion](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Freedom_of_religion).[[315]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEConstitution_of_Argentinaarts._14,_20-335) Although it enforces neither an official nor a state faith,[[316]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEFayt1985347Bidart_Campos200553-336) it gives [Roman Catholicism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_Catholicism) a preferential status.[[317]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEConstitution_of_Argentinaart._2-337)[[Q]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-339)

According to a 2008 CONICET poll, Argentines were 76.5% [Catholic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Catholic), 11.3% [Agnostics](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agnostic) and [Atheists](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atheist), 9% [Evangelical Protestants](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Evangelicalism), 1.2% [Jehovah's Witnesses](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jehovah%27s_Witnesses), and 0.9% [Mormons](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mormon), while 1.2% followed other religions, including [Islam](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Islam), [Judaism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Judaism) and [Buddhism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buddhism).[[319]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEMallimaciEsquivelIrraz%C3%A1bal20089-340) These figures appear to have changed quite significantly in recent years: data recorded in 2017 indicated that Catholics made up 66% of the population, indicating a drop of 10.5% in nine years, and the nonreligious in the country standing at 21% of the population, indicating an almost doubling over the same period.[[320]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-Latinobarometro_2017-341)

The country is home to both one of the [largest Muslim](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Islam_in_Argentina)[[318]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-irfr1-338) and [largest Jewish](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jewish_Argentine) communities in Latin America, the latter being the seventh most populous in the world.[[321]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEDellaPergola201350-342) Argentina is a member of the [International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Holocaust_Remembrance_Alliance).[[318]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-irfr1-338)

Argentines show high individualization and de-institutionalization of religious beliefs;[[322]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEMallimaciEsquivelIrraz%C3%A1bal200821-343) 23.8% claim to always attend religious services; 49.1% seldom do and 26.8% never do.[[323]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEMallimaciEsquivelIrraz%C3%A1bal200824-344)

On 13 March 2013, Argentine [Jorge Mario Bergoglio](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pope_Francis), the [Cardinal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cardinal_(Catholicism)) [Archbishop of Buenos Aires](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_Catholic_Archdiocese_of_Buenos_Aires), was [elected](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Papal_conclave,_2013) [Bishop of Rome](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pope) and [Supreme Pontiff](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Supreme_Pontiff) of the [Catholic Church](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Catholic_Church). He took the name "[Francis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St._Francis_of_Assisi)", and he became the first Pope from either the [Americas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Americas) or from the [Southern Hemisphere](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern_Hemisphere); he is the first Pope born outside of Europe since the [election](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Papal_conclave) of [Pope Gregory III](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pope_Gregory_III) (who was [Syrian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Syrian)) in 741.[[324]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-345)

**Health**

*Main article:*[*Health care in Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Health_care_in_Argentina)

[A building with many windows

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Nuevo_HECA_Rosario.jpg)[Clemente Álvarez Emergency Hospital](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hospital_de_Emergencias_Clemente_%C3%81lvarez) in [Rosario](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosario,_Santa_Fe)

Health care is provided through a combination of employer and labour union-sponsored plans (*Obras Sociales*), government insurance plans, public hospitals and clinics and through private health insurance plans. Health care cooperatives number over 300 (of which 200 are related to [labour unions](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Trade_union)) and provide health care for half the population; the national INSSJP (popularly known as PAMI) covers nearly all of the five million senior citizens.[[325]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-iadb-346)

There are more than 153,000 hospital beds, 121,000 physicians and 37,000 dentists (ratios comparable to [developed nations](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Developed_country)).[[326]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-deis-347)[[327]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-undata-348) The relatively high access to medical care has historically resulted in mortality patterns and trends similar to developed nations': from 1953 to 2005, deaths from [cardiovascular disease](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cardiovascular_disease) increased from 20% to 23% of the total, those from [tumors](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tumors) from 14% to 20%, [respiratory](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Respiratory) problems from 7% to 14%, [digestive](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Digestive_system) maladies (non-infectious) from 7% to 11%, strokes a steady 7%, injuries, 6%, and [infectious](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Infection) diseases, 4%. Causes related to [senility](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Senility) led to many of the rest. Infant deaths have fallen from 19% of all deaths in 1953 to 3% in 2005.[[326]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-deis-347)[[328]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-un57-349)

The availability of health care has also reduced [infant mortality](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Infant_mortality) from 70 per 1000 live births in 1948[[329]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-un97-350) to 12.1 in 2009[[326]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-deis-347) and raised [life expectancy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Life_expectancy) at birth from 60 years to 76.[[329]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-un97-350) Though these figures compare favorably with global averages, they fall short of levels in developed nations and in 2006, Argentina ranked fourth in Latin America.[[327]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-undata-348)

**Education**

*Main article:*[*Education in Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Education_in_Argentina)

[A large building with columns and a parking lot

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:School_of_Law_-_University_of_Buenos_Aires_(4729499370).jpg)[Faculty of Law](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Faculty_of_Law,_University_of_Buenos_Aires) of the [University of Buenos Aires](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_Buenos_Aires)

The Argentine education system consists of four levels.[[330]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-351) An initial level for children between 45 days to 5 years old, with the last two years[[331]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-352) being compulsory. An elementary or [lower school](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lower_school) mandatory level lasting 6 or 7 years.[[R]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-leveldiff-353) In 2010 the [literacy rate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Literacy_rate) was 98.07%.[[332]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-educ1-354) A secondary or [high school](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/High_school) mandatory level lasting 5 or 6 years.[[R]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-leveldiff-353) In 2010 38.5% of people over age 20 had completed secondary school.[[333]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-educ2-355) A [higher level](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Higher_education), divided in tertiary, university and post-graduate sub-levels. in 2013 there were 47 [national public universities](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Argentine_universities) across the country, as well as 46 private ones.[[334]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-356)

In 2010 7.1% of people over age 20 had graduated from university.[[333]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-educ2-355) The public universities of [Buenos Aires](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_Buenos_Aires), [Córdoba](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Universidad_Nacional_de_C%C3%B3rdoba), [La Plata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Universidad_Nacional_de_La_Plata), [Rosario](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Universidad_Nacional_de_Rosario), and the [National Technological University](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Technological_University) are some of the most important. The Argentine state guarantees universal, secular and free-of-charge public education for all levels.[[S]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-357) Responsibility for educational supervision is organized at the federal and individual provincial states. In the last decades the role of the private sector has grown across all educational stages.

**Urbanization**

*See also:*[*List of cities in Argentina by population*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_cities_in_Argentina_by_population)*and*[*List of cities in Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_cities_in_Argentina)

Argentina is highly urbanized, with 92% of its population living in cities:[[335]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-358) the ten largest metropolitan areas account for half of the population. About 3 million people live in the city of Buenos Aires, and including the Greater Buenos Aires metropolitan area it totals around 13 million, making it one of the largest urban areas in the world.[[336]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-majorcities-359) The metropolitan areas of Córdoba and Rosario have around 1.3 million inhabitants each.[[336]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-majorcities-359) Mendoza, San Miguel de Tucumán, La Plata, Mar del Plata, Salta and Santa Fe have at least half a million people each.[[336]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-majorcities-359)

The population is unequally distributed: about 60% live in the Pampas region (21% of the total area), including 15 million people in Buenos Aires province. The provinces of Córdoba and Santa Fe, and the city of Buenos Aires have 3 million each. Seven other provinces have over one million people each: Mendoza, Tucumán, Entre Ríos, Salta, Chaco, Corrientes and Misiones. With 64.3 inhabitants per square kilometre (167/sq mi), Tucumán is the only Argentine province more densely populated than the world average; by contrast, the southern province of Santa Cruz has around 1.1/km2 (2.8/sq mi).[[337]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-360)

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| * [v](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Template:Largest_cities_of_Argentina) * [t](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Template_talk:Largest_cities_of_Argentina) * [e](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special:EditPage/Template:Largest_cities_of_Argentina)   **Largest cities or towns in Argentina**  (2021 [INDEC](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/INDEC) metro area estimate)[[338]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-361) | | | | | | | | | |
|  | [**Rank**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_cities_in_Argentina_by_population) | [**Name**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_cities_in_Argentina) | [**Province**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Provinces_of_Argentina) | [**Pop.**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_cities_in_Argentina_by_population) | [**Rank**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_cities_in_Argentina_by_population) | [**Name**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_cities_in_Argentina) | [**Province**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Provinces_of_Argentina) | [**Pop.**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_cities_in_Argentina_by_population) |  |
| [Buenos Aires](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Puerto_Madero,_Buenos_Aires_(40689219792).jpg) [Buenos Aires](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buenos_Aires) [Córdoba](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Nueva_C%C3%B3rdoba.jpg) [Córdoba](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/C%C3%B3rdoba,_Argentina) | 1 | [Buenos Aires](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buenos_Aires) | [*(Autonomous city)*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Autonomous_city) | 3,003,000 | 11 | [Resistencia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Resistencia,_Chaco) | [Chaco](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chaco_Province) | 418,000 | [Rosario](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Rosario_National_Flag_Memorial_View-20110510-RM-144455.jpg) [Rosario](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosario,_Santa_Fe) [Mendoza](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:La_parte_m%C3%A1s_moderna_de_la_Ciudad_de_Mendoza..jpg) [Mendoza](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mendoza,_Argentina) |
| 2 | [Córdoba](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/C%C3%B3rdoba,_Argentina) | [Córdoba](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/C%C3%B3rdoba_Province,_Argentina) | 1,577,000 | 12 | [Santiago del Estero](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santiago_del_Estero) | [Santiago del Estero](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santiago_del_Estero_Province) | 407,000 |
| 3 | [Rosario](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rosario,_Santa_Fe) | [Santa Fe](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santa_Fe_Province) | 1,333,000 | 13 | [Corrientes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corrientes) | [Corrientes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corrientes_Province) | 384,000 |
| 4 | [Mendoza](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mendoza,_Argentina) | [Mendoza](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mendoza_Province) | 1,036,000 | 14 | [Posadas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Posadas,_Misiones) | [Misiones](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Misiones_Province) | 378,000 |
| 5 | [San Miguel de Tucumán](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Miguel_de_Tucum%C3%A1n) | [Tucumán](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tucum%C3%A1n_Province) | 909,000 | 15 | [San Salvador de Jujuy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Salvador_de_Jujuy) | [Jujuy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jujuy_Province) | 351,000 |
| 6 | [La Plata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/La_Plata) | [Buenos Aires](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buenos_Aires_Province) | 909,000 | 16 | [Bahía Blanca](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bah%C3%ADa_Blanca) | [Buenos Aires](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buenos_Aires_Province) | 317,000 |
| 7 | [Mar del Plata](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mar_del_Plata) | [Buenos Aires](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buenos_Aires_Province) | 651,000 | 17 | [Neuquén](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neuqu%C3%A9n,_Argentina) | [Neuquén](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neuqu%C3%A9n_Province) | 313,000 |
| 8 | [Salta](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salta) | [Salta](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Salta_Province) | 647,000 | 18 | [Paraná](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paran%C3%A1,_Argentina) | [Entre Ríos](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Entre_R%C3%ADos_Province) | 283,000 |
| 9 | [San Juan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Juan,_Argentina) | [San Juan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Juan_Province,_Argentina) | 542,000 | 19 | [Formosa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Formosa,_Argentina) | [Formosa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Formosa_Province) | 256,000 |
| 10 | [Santa Fe](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santa_Fe,_Argentina) | [Santa Fe](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santa_Fe_Province) | 540,000 | 20 | [Comodoro Rivadavia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comodoro_Rivadavia) | [Chubut](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chubut_Province) | 243,000 |

**Culture**

*Main article:*[*Culture of Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Culture_of_Argentina)

*See also:*[*List of Argentines*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Argentines)

[A coin with a sun face

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Sol_de_mayo_moneda.png)[Sun of May](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sun_of_May) on the [first Argentine coin](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asamblea_del_A%C3%B1o_XIII), 1813

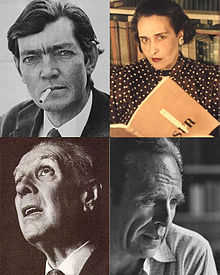
Argentina is a [multicultural country](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Multiculturalism) with significant European influences. Modern Argentine culture has been largely influenced by [Italian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Italian_people), [Spanish](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spanish_people) and other European immigration from [France](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/France), [Russia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russia), [United Kingdom](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Kingdom_of_Great_Britain_and_Northern_Ireland), among others. Its cities are largely characterized by both the prevalence of people of European descent, and of conscious imitation of American and European styles in fashion, architecture and design.[[339]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-frommer-362) Museums, cinemas, and galleries are abundant in all the large urban centres, as well as traditional establishments such as literary bars, or bars offering [live music](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Live_music) of a variety of genres although there are lesser elements of [Amerindian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amerindian) and [African](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/African_culture) influences, particularly in the fields of music and art.[[340]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEMcCloskeyBurford200691-363) The other big influence is the [gauchos](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gaucho) and their traditional country lifestyle of self-reliance.[[341]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEMcCloskeyBurford2006123-364) Finally, indigenous American traditions have been absorbed into the general cultural milieu. Argentine writer [Ernesto Sabato](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ernesto_Sabato) has reflected on the nature of the culture of Argentina as follows:

With the primitive Hispanic American reality fractured in La Plata Basin due to immigration, its inhabitants have come to be somewhat dual with all the dangers but also with all the advantages of that condition: because of our European roots, we deeply link the nation with the enduring values of the Old World; because of our condition of Americans we link ourselves to the rest of the continent, through the folklore of the interior and the old Castilian that unifies us, feeling somehow the vocation of the *Patria Grande* San Martín and Bolívar once imagined.

— [*Ernesto Sabato*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ernesto_Sabato)*, La cultura en la encrucijada nacional (1976)*[[342]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-365)

**Literature**

*Main article:*[*Argentine literature*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_literature)

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Argentine_literature.jpg)Four of the most influential Argentine writers. **Top-left to bottom-right**: [Julio Cortázar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julio_Cort%C3%A1zar), [Victoria Ocampo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victoria_Ocampo), [Jorge Luis Borges](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jorge_Luis_Borges), and [Adolfo Bioy Casares](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adolfo_Bioy_Casares).

Although Argentina's rich literary history began around 1550,[[343]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTERivas198911-366) it reached full independence with [Esteban Echeverría](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Esteban_Echeverr%C3%ADa)'s *El Matadero*, a [romantic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Romantic_literature) landmark that played a significant role in the development of 19th century's Argentine narrative,[[344]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEFosterLockhartLockhart199899-367) split by the ideological divide between the popular, federalist epic of [José Hernández](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jos%C3%A9_Hern%C3%A1ndez_(writer))' [*Martín Fierro*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mart%C3%ADn_Fierro) and the elitist and cultured discourse of [Sarmiento](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Domingo_Faustino_Sarmiento)'s masterpiece, [*Facundo*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Facundo).[[345]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEFosterLockhartLockhart199813,_101YoungCisneros201051-368)

The [Modernist](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Modernist_literature) movement advanced into the 20th century including exponents such as [Leopoldo Lugones](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leopoldo_Lugones) and poet [Alfonsina Storni](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alfonsina_Storni);[[346]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEYoungCisneros201051%E2%80%9352-369) it was followed by [Vanguardism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vanguardism), with [Ricardo Güiraldes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ricardo_G%C3%BCiraldes)'s [*Don Segundo Sombra*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Don_Segundo_Sombra) as an important reference.[[347]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEFosterLockhartLockhart1998104,_107%E2%80%9309YoungCisneros2010223-370)

[Jorge Luis Borges](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jorge_Luis_Borges), Argentina's most acclaimed writer and one of the foremost figures in the [history of literature](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_literature),[[348]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEBloom19942-371) found new ways of looking at the modern world in [metaphor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metaphor) and philosophical debate and his influence has extended to authors all over the globe. Short stories such as [*Ficciones*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ficciones) and [*The Aleph*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Aleph_(short_story_collection)) are among his most famous works. He was a friend and collaborator of [Adolfo Bioy Casares](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adolfo_Bioy_Casares), who wrote one of the most praised [science fiction](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Science_fiction) [novels](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Novel), [*The Invention of Morel*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Invention_of_Morel).[[349]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEYoungCisneros201052,_80-372) [Julio Cortázar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julio_Cort%C3%A1zar), one of the leading members of the [Latin American Boom](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Latin_American_Boom) and a major name in 20th century literature,[[350]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEYoungCisneros201079,_144-373) influenced an entire generation of writers in the Americas and Europe.[[351]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEYoungCisneros20103,_144-374)

A remarkable episode in Argentine literary history is the social and literarial dialectica between the so-called [Florida Group](https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grupo_Florida), named this way because its members used to meet together at the [Richmond Cafeteria](https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Confiter%C3%ADa_Richmond) at Florida street and published in the [*Martin Fierro*](https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mart%C3%ADn_Fierro_(Revista)) magazine, such as [Jorge Luis Borges](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jorge_Luis_Borges), [Leopoldo Marechal](https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leopoldo_Marechal), [Antonio Berni](https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antonio_Berni) (artist), among others; versus the [Boedo Group](https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grupo_Boedo) of [Roberto Arlt](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roberto_Arlt), [Cesar Tiempo](https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cesar_Tiempo), [Homero Manzi](https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Homero_Manzi) (tango composer), that used to meet at the [Japanese Cafe](https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caf%C3%A9_El_Japon%C3%A9s) and published their works with the [Editorial Claridad](https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Editorial_Claridad), with both the cafe and the publisher located at Boedo Avenue.

Other highly regarded Argentine writers, poets and [essayists](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Essay) include [Estanislao del Campo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Estanislao_del_Campo), [Eugenio Cambaceres](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eugenio_Cambaceres), [Pedro Bonifacio Palacios](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pedro_Bonifacio_Palacios), [Hugo Wast](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hugo_Wast), [Benito Lynch](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Benito_Lynch), [Enrique Banchs](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Enrique_Banchs), [Oliverio Girondo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oliverio_Girondo), [Ezequiel Martínez Estrada](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ezequiel_Mart%C3%ADnez_Estrada), [Victoria Ocampo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victoria_Ocampo), [Leopoldo Marechal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leopoldo_Marechal), [Silvina Ocampo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Silvina_Ocampo), [Roberto Arlt](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roberto_Arlt), [Eduardo Mallea](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eduardo_Mallea), [Manuel Mujica Láinez](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manuel_Mujica_L%C3%A1inez), [Ernesto Sábato](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ernesto_S%C3%A1bato), [Silvina Bullrich](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Silvina_Bullrich), [Rodolfo Walsh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rodolfo_Walsh), [María Elena Walsh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mar%C3%ADa_Elena_Walsh), [Tomás Eloy Martínez](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tom%C3%A1s_Eloy_Mart%C3%ADnez), [Manuel Puig](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manuel_Puig), [Alejandra Pizarnik](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alejandra_Pizarnik), and [Osvaldo Soriano](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Osvaldo_Soriano).[[352]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEFosterLockhartLockhart199866,_85,_97%E2%80%93121McCloskeyBurford200643D%C3%ADaz_Alejandro197022,_91YoungCisneros201051%E2%80%9354-375)

**Music**

*Main article:*[*Music of Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Music_of_Argentina)

[A person with her hands on her chin

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Mercedes_Sosa,_by_Annemarie_Heinrich.jpg)Photograph of [Mercedes Sosa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mercedes_Sosa) by [Annemarie Heinrich](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Annemarie_Heinrich)

[Tango](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tango), a [*Rioplatense*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/R%C3%ADo_de_la_Plata) musical genre with European and African influences,[[353]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEMiller200486-376) is one of Argentina's international cultural symbols.[[354]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEFosterLockhartLockhart1998121-377) The golden age of tango (1930 to mid-1950s) mirrored that of [jazz](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jazz) and [swing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Swing_music) in the United States, featuring large orchestras such as those of [Osvaldo Pugliese](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Osvaldo_Pugliese), [Aníbal Troilo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/An%C3%ADbal_Troilo), [Francisco Canaro](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Francisco_Canaro), [Julio de Caro](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julio_de_Caro) and [Juan d'Arienzo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Juan_d%27Arienzo).[[355]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEMcCloskeyBurford200643-378) After 1955, virtuoso [Astor Piazzolla](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Astor_Piazzolla) popularized [*Nuevo tango*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nuevo_tango), a subtler and more intellectual trend for the genre.[[355]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEMcCloskeyBurford200643-378) Tango enjoys worldwide popularity nowadays with groups such as [Gotan Project](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gotan_Project), [Bajofondo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bajofondo) and [Tanghetto](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tanghetto).

Argentina developed strong classical music and dance scenes that gave rise to renowned artists such as [Alberto Ginastera](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alberto_Ginastera), composer; [Alberto Lysy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alberto_Lysy), violinist; [Martha Argerich](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martha_Argerich) and [Eduardo Delgado](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eduardo_Delgado), pianists; [Daniel Barenboim](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Daniel_Barenboim), pianist and [symphonic orchestra](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Symphonic_orchestra) director; [José Cura](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jos%C3%A9_Cura) and [Marcelo Álvarez](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marcelo_%C3%81lvarez), tenors; and to [ballet dancers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ballet_dancer) [Jorge Donn](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jorge_Donn), [José Neglia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jos%C3%A9_Neglia), [Norma Fontenla](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Norma_Fontenla), *Maximiliano Guerra*, [Paloma Herrera](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paloma_Herrera), [Marianela Núñez](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marianela_N%C3%BA%C3%B1ez), [Iñaki Urlezaga](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/I%C3%B1aki_Urlezaga) and [Julio Bocca](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julio_Bocca).[[355]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEMcCloskeyBurford200643-378)

A national Argentine folk style emerged in the 1930s from dozens of regional musical genres and went on to influence the entirety of [Latin American music](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Latin_American_music). Some of its interpreters, such as [Atahualpa Yupanqui](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atahualpa_Yupanqui) and [Mercedes Sosa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mercedes_Sosa), achieved worldwide acclaim. The [romantic ballad](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Romantic_ballad) genre included singers of international fame such as [Sandro de América](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sandro_de_Am%C3%A9rica). [Tenor saxophonist](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tenor_saxophone) [Leandro "Gato" Barbieri](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gato_Barbieri) and composer and [big band](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Big_band) conductor [Lalo Schifrin](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lalo_Schifrin) are among the most internationally successful Argentine jazz musicians.

[Argentine rock](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_rock) developed as a distinct musical style in the mid-1960s, when Buenos Aires and Rosario became cradles of aspiring musicians. Founding bands such as [Los Gatos](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Los_Gatos), [Sui Generis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sui_Generis), [Almendra](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Almendra_(band)) and [Manal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manal) were followed by [Seru Giran](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seru_Giran), [Los Abuelos de la Nada](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Los_Abuelos_de_la_Nada), [Soda Stereo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Soda_Stereo) and [Patricio Rey y sus Redonditos de Ricota](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patricio_Rey_y_sus_Redonditos_de_Ricota), with prominent artists including [Gustavo Cerati](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gustavo_Cerati), [Litto Nebbia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Litto_Nebbia), [Andrés Calamaro](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andr%C3%A9s_Calamaro), [Luis Alberto Spinetta](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luis_Alberto_Spinetta), [Charly García](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charly_Garc%C3%ADa), [Fito Páez](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fito_P%C3%A1ez) and [León Gieco](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Le%C3%B3n_Gieco).[[355]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEMcCloskeyBurford200643-378)

A dance and a musical genre popular at present is [Cachengue](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Cachengue&action=edit&redlink=1), a subgenre of [Argentine cumbia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_cumbia) and [reggaeton](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reggaeton) spreading in popularity in nearby countries such as [Uruguay](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uruguay), [Chile](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chile), [Paraguay](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paraguay), and [Bolivia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bolivia).[[356]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-379)

**Theatre and cinema**

*Main articles:*[*Theatre in Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theatre_in_Argentina)*and*[*Cinema of Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cinema_of_Argentina)

[A person with a goatee

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Andr%C3%A9s_Muschietti.jpg)[Andy Muschietti](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andy_Muschietti), director of [*It*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/It_(2017_film)), the [highest-grossing horror film of all-time](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_highest-grossing_horror_films)[[357]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-380)[[358]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-381)

Buenos Aires is one of the great theatre capitals of the world,[[359]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-382) with a scene of international caliber centered on [Corrientes Avenue](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corrientes_Avenue), "the street that never sleeps", sometimes referred to as an intellectual [Broadway](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Broadway_(Manhattan)) in Buenos Aires.[[360]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEFosterLockhartLockhart199848-383) [Teatro Colón](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Teatro_Col%C3%B3n) is a global landmark for [opera](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Opera) and classical performances; its acoustics are considered among the world's top five.[[361]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTELong200921%E2%80%9325-384)[[T]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-385)

The Argentine film industry has historically been one of the three most developed in [Latin American cinema](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Latin_American_cinema), along with those produced in [Mexico](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cinema_of_Mexico) and [Brazil](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cinema_of_Brazil).[[362]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-386)[[363]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-387) Started in 1896; by the early 1930s it had already become Latin America's leading film producer, a place it kept until the early 1950s.[[364]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEKing200036-388) The world's first [animated feature films](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_animated_feature_films) were made and released in Argentina, by cartoonist [Quirino Cristiani](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quirino_Cristiani), in 1917 and 1918.[[365]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-389)

Argentine films have achieved worldwide recognition: the country has won two [Academy Awards for Best Foreign Language Film](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Academy_Award_for_Best_Foreign_Language_Film), for [*The Official Story*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Official_Story) (1985) and [*The Secret in Their Eyes*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Secret_in_Their_Eyes) (2009). In addition, Argentine composers [Luis Enrique Bacalov](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luis_Enrique_Bacalov) and [Gustavo Santaolalla](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gustavo_Santaolalla) have been honored with [Academy Awards for Best Original Score](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Academy_Award_for_Best_Original_Score), and [Armando Bó](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Armando_B%C3%B3_(screenwriter)) and [Nicolás Giacobone](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nicol%C3%A1s_Giacobone) shared in the [Academy Award for Best Original Screenplay](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Academy_Award_for_Best_Original_Screenplay) for 2014. Also, the [Argentine French](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/French_Argentine) actress [Bérénice Bejo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/B%C3%A9r%C3%A9nice_Bejo) received a nomination for the [Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Academy_Award_for_Best_Supporting_Actress) in 2011 and won the [César Award for Best Actress](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/C%C3%A9sar_Award_for_Best_Actress) and won the [Best Actress](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Best_Actress_Award_(Cannes_Film_Festival)) award in the [Cannes Film Festival](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cannes_Film_Festival) for her role in the film [*The Past*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Past_(2013_film)).[[366]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-CannesAwards-390) Argentina also has won seventeen [Goya Awards for Best Spanish Language Foreign Film](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Goya_Award_for_Best_Spanish_Language_Foreign_Film), being by far the most awarded country in [Latin America](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Latin_America) with twenty-four nominations. Many other Argentine films also have been acclaimed by international critique. In 2013 about 100 full-length motion pictures were being created annually.[[367]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-391)

**Visual arts and architecture**

*See also:*[*Argentine painting*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_painting)*and*[*Architecture of Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Architecture_of_Argentina)

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Fuente_de_las_Nereidas.jpg)*Las Nereidas Font* by [Lola Mora](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lola_Mora)

Some of the best-known Argentine painters are [Cándido López](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/C%C3%A1ndido_L%C3%B3pez) and [Florencio Molina Campos](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Florencio_Molina_Campos) ([Naïve style](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Na%C3%AFve_art)); [Ernesto de la Cárcova](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ernesto_de_la_C%C3%A1rcova) and [Eduardo Sívori](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eduardo_S%C3%ADvori) ([Realism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Realism_(art))); [Fernando Fader](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fernando_Fader) ([Impressionism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Impressionism)); [Pío Collivadino](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/P%C3%ADo_Collivadino), [Atilio Malinverno](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atilio_Malinverno) and [Cesáreo Bernaldo de Quirós](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ces%C3%A1reo_Bernaldo_de_Quir%C3%B3s) ([Postimpressionism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postimpressionism)); [Emilio Pettoruti](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emilio_Pettoruti) ([Cubism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cubism)); [Julio Barragán](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julio_Barrag%C3%A1n) ([Concretism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Concretism_(art)) and Cubism) [Antonio Berni](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antonio_Berni) ([Neofigurativism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neofigurativism)); [Roberto Aizenberg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roberto_Aizenberg) and [Xul Solar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Xul_Solar) ([Surrealism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Surrealism)); [Gyula Košice](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gyula_Ko%C5%A1ice) ([Constructivism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constructivism_(art))); [Eduardo Mac Entyre](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eduardo_Mac_Entyre) ([Generative art](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Generative_art)); [Luis Seoane](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luis_Seoane), *Carlos Torrallardona*, *Luis Aquino*, *Alfredo Gramajo Gutiérrez* ([Modernism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Modernism)); [Lucio Fontana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lucio_Fontana) ([Spatialism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spatialism)); [Tomás Maldonado](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tom%C3%A1s_Maldonado), [Guillermo Kuitca](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guillermo_Kuitca) ([Abstract art](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abstract_art)); [León Ferrari](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Le%C3%B3n_Ferrari), [Marta Minujín](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marta_Minuj%C3%ADn) ([Conceptual art](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Conceptual_art)); [Gustavo Cabral](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ciruelo_Cabral) ([Fantasy art](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fantasy_art)), and [Fabián Pérez (Neoemotionalism)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fabian_Perez).[[*vague*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Vagueness)]

In 1946 Gyula Košice and others created The [Madí Movement](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mad%C3%AD_Movement) in Argentina, which then spread to Europe and the United States, where it had a significant impact.[[368]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-392) Tomás Maldonado was one of the main theorists of the [Ulm Model](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ulm_School_of_Design) of design education, still highly influential globally. Other Argentine artists of worldwide fame include [Adolfo Bellocq](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adolfo_Bellocq), whose [lithographs](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lithograph) have been influential since the 1920s, and [Benito Quinquela Martín](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Benito_Quinquela_Mart%C3%ADn), the quintessential port painter, inspired by the immigrant-bound [La Boca](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/La_Boca) neighbourhood. Internationally laureate sculptors [Erminio Blotta](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Erminio_Blotta), [Lola Mora](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lola_Mora) and [Rogelio Yrurtia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rogelio_Yrurtia) authored many of the classical evocative monuments of the Argentine cityscape.[[*citation needed*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Citation_needed)]

The colonization brought the [Spanish Baroque architecture](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spanish_Baroque_architecture), which can still be appreciated in its simpler *Rioplatense* style in the [reduction](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Reductions) of [San Ignacio Miní](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/San_Ignacio_Min%C3%AD), the [Cathedral of Córdoba](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cathedral_of_C%C3%B3rdoba_(Argentina)), and the Cabildo of Luján. Italian and French influences increased at the beginning of the 19th century with strong [eclectic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eclectic_architecture) overtones that gave the local architecture a unique feeling.[[369]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-393)

**Mass media**

*Main article:*[*Communications in Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Communications_in_Argentina)

[A building with a flag on the side

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Canal_7_Argentina.JPG)Headquarters of the [Channel 7](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/TV_P%C3%BAblica_Digital_(Argentina)), the first television station in the country

The print media industry is highly developed in Argentina, with more than two hundred newspapers. The major national ones include [*Clarín*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clar%C3%ADn_(Argentine_newspaper)) (centrist, Latin America's best-seller and the second most widely circulated in the Spanish-speaking world), [*La Nación*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/La_Naci%C3%B3n_(Buenos_Aires)) (centre-right, published since 1870), [*Página/12*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/P%C3%A1gina/12) (leftist, founded in 1987), [*La Voz del Interior*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/La_Voz_del_Interior) (centre, founded in 1904),[[370]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEAeberhardBensonPhillips200045-394) and the [*Argentinisches Tageblatt*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentinisches_Tageblatt) (German weekly, liberal, published since 1878).[[371]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEAkstinat201320-395)

Argentina began [the world's first regular radio broadcasting](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_radio) on 27 August 1920, when [Richard Wagner](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Wagner)'s [*Parsifal*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parsifal) was aired by a team of medical students led by [Enrique Telémaco Susini](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Enrique_Tel%C3%A9maco_Susini) in Buenos Aires' [Teatro Coliseo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Teatro_Coliseo).[[372]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-396) By 2002 there were 260 [AM](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AM_broadcasting) and 1150 [FM](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/FM_broadcasting) registered radio stations in the country.[[373]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-397)

The [Argentine television](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Television_in_Argentina) industry is large, diverse and popular across Latin America, with many productions and [TV formats](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/TV_format) having been exported abroad. Since 1999 Argentines enjoy the highest availability of cable and satellite television in Latin America,[[374]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-398) as of 2014 totaling 87.4% of the country's households, a rate similar to those in the United States, Canada and Europe.[[375]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-399)

By 2011 Argentina also had the highest coverage of networked telecommunications among Latin American powers: about 67% of its population had internet access and the ratio of mobile phone subscriptions to population was 137.2%.[[376]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-400)[[*better source needed*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:NOTRS)]

**Cuisine**

*Main article:*[*Argentine cuisine*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_cuisine)

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Asado_2005.jpg)[Argentine beef](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_beef) as [*asado*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asado)

Besides many of the pasta, sausage and dessert dishes common to continental Europe, Argentines enjoy a wide variety of Indigenous and [Criollo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Criollo_people) creations, including [*empanadas*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Empanada) (a small stuffed pastry), [*locro*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Locro) (a mixture of corn, beans, meat, bacon, onion, and gourd), [*humita*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Humita) and [*mate*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mate_(beverage)).[[377]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEMcCloskeyBurford200679,_199,_221-401) In various localities of Argentina, this dish is consumed as a [beefmelt](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Beefmelt&action=edit&redlink=1).

The country has the highest consumption of [red meat](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Red_meat) in the world,[[378]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-402) traditionally prepared as [*asado*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asado), the Argentine barbecue. It is made with various types of meats, often including [*chorizo*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chorizo), [sweetbread](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sweetbread), [chitterlings](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chitterlings), and [blood sausage](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blood_sausage).[[379]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEMcCloskeyBurford200679-403)

Common desserts include [*facturas*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Facturas) ([Viennese-style](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Viennese_cuisine) pastry), [cakes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cake) and [pancakes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pancake) filled with [*dulce de leche*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dulce_de_leche) (a sort of milk [caramel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Caramel) jam), [*alfajores*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alfajor) (shortbread cookies sandwiched together with chocolate, *dulce de leche* or a fruit paste), and [*tortas fritas*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Torta_frita) (fried cakes)[[380]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEAeberhardBensonPhillips200031McCloskeyBurford200680,_143-404)

[Argentine wine](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentine_wine), one of the world's finest,[[381]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-405) is an integral part of the local menu. [Malbec](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malbec), [Torrontés](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Torront%C3%A9s), [Cabernet Sauvignon](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cabernet_Sauvignon), [Syrah](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Syrah) and [Chardonnay](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chardonnay) are some of the most sought-after [varieties](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_varieties).[[382]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEMcCloskeyBurford2006230,_252,_261%E2%80%9362,_265-406)

**Sport**

*Main article:*[*Sport in Argentina*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sport_in_Argentina)

[A person in a football uniform

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Lionel_Messi_WC2022.jpg)Footballer [Lionel Messi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lionel_Messi), eight-time [Ballon d'Or](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ballon_d%27Or) winner, is the current captain of the [Argentina national football team](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina_national_football_team).

[*Pato*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pato) is the [national sport](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_sport),[[383]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-pato1-407) an ancient horseback game locally originated in the early 1600s and predecessor of [horseball](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horseball).[[384]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTENaurightParrish2012124%E2%80%9325-408)[[385]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-pato2-409)

The most popular sport is [football](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Association_football). Along with [Brazil](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brazilian_national_football_team), [Germany](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/German_national_football_team) and [France](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/French_national_football_team), the [men's national team](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina_national_football_team) is the only one to have won each of the [World Cup](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/FIFA_World_Cup) (in [1978](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1978_FIFA_World_Cup), [1986](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1986_FIFA_World_Cup) and [2022](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2022_FIFA_World_Cup)), [Confederations Cup](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/FIFA_Confederations_Cup), and the [Olympic gold](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Football_at_the_Summer_Olympics). They have also won 16 [Copas América](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Copa_Am%C3%A9rica), 7 [Pan American Gold Medals](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Football_at_the_Pan_American_Games) and many other trophies.[[386]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTENaurightParrish201214%E2%80%9323-410) [Alfredo Di Stéfano](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alfredo_Di_St%C3%A9fano), [Diego Maradona](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Diego_Maradona) and [Lionel Messi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lionel_Messi) are widely considered to be among the best players in the game's history.[[387]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEFriedman200756,_127-411)

The country's [women's field hockey team *Las Leonas*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina_women%27s_national_field_hockey_team), is one of the world's most successful with four [Olympic medals](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Field_hockey_at_the_Summer_Olympics), two [World Cups](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Women%27s_Hockey_World_Cup), a [World League](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/FIH_Hockey_World_League) and seven [Champions Trophy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hockey_Champions_Trophy).[[388]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTENaurightParrish201211-412) [Luciana Aymar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luciana_Aymar) is recognized as the best female player in the history of the sport,[[389]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-hwc1-413) being the only player to have received the [FIH Player of the Year Award](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/FIH_Player_of_the_Year_Awards) eight times.[[390]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-fih1-414)

[Basketball](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Basketball) is a very popular sport. The [men's national team](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina_national_basketball_team) is the only one in the [FIBA Americas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/FIBA_Americas) zone that has won the quintuplet crown: [World Championship](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/FIBA_World_Championship), [Olympic Gold Medal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Basketball_at_the_Summer_Olympics), [Diamond Ball](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/FIBA_Diamond_Ball), [Americas Championship](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/FIBA_Americas_Championship), and [Pan American Gold Medal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Basketball_at_the_Pan_American_Games). It has also conquered 13 [South American Championships](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_American_Basketball_Championship), and many other tournaments.[[391]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-fiba1-415) [Emanuel Ginóbili](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emanuel_Gin%C3%B3bili), [Luis Scola](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luis_Scola), [Andrés Nocioni](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andr%C3%A9s_Nocioni), [Fabricio Oberto](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fabricio_Oberto), [Pablo Prigioni](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pablo_Prigioni), [Carlos Delfino](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carlos_Delfino) and [Juan Ignacio Sánchez](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Juan_Ignacio_S%C3%A1nchez) are a few of the country's most acclaimed players, all of them part of the [NBA](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Basketball_Association).[[388]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTENaurightParrish201211-412) Argentina hosted the [Basketball World Cup](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Basketball_World_Cup) in 1950 and 1990.

[Rugby](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rugby_Union) is another popular sport in Argentina. As of 2017, the [men's national team](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina_national_rugby_union_team), known as 'Los Pumas' has competed at the [Rugby World Cup](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rugby_World_Cup) each time it has been held, achieving their highest-ever result in [2007](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2007_Rugby_World_Cup) when they came third. Since [2012](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2012_Rugby_Championship), the Los Pumas have competed against [Australia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australia_national_rugby_union_team), [New Zealand](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Zealand_national_rugby_union_team) & [South Africa](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Africa_national_rugby_union_team) in [The Rugby Championship](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Rugby_Championship), the premier international Rugby competition in the Southern Hemisphere. Since 2009 the [secondary men's national team](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina_Jaguars) known as the 'Jaguares' has competed against the [US](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USA_Selects), [Canada](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canada_A_national_rugby_union_team), and [Uruguay](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uruguay_national_rugby_union_team) first teams in the [Americas Rugby Championship](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Americas_Rugby_Championship), which Los Jaguares have won six out of eight times it has taken place.

[A person on a horse playing polo

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Campeonato_Argentino_de_Polo_2010_-_5236515585_2b8cb412de_o.jpg)[Argentine Polo Open Championship](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Campeonato_Argentino_Abierto_de_Polo)

Argentina has produced some of the most formidable champions for [boxing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boxing), including [Carlos Monzón](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carlos_Monz%C3%B3n), the best [middleweight](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Middleweight) in history;[[392]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-thering1-416) [Pascual Pérez](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pascual_P%C3%A9rez_(boxer)), one of the most decorated [flyweight](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flyweight) boxers of all times; [Horacio Accavallo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Horacio_Accavallo), the former [WBA](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Boxing_Association) and [WBC](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Boxing_Council) world flyweight champion; [Víctor Galíndez](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/V%C3%ADctor_Gal%C3%ADndez), as of 2009, record holder for consecutive world [light heavyweight](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Light_heavyweight) title defenses and [Nicolino Locche](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nicolino_Locche), nicknamed "The Untouchable" for his masterful defense; they are all inductees into the [International Boxing Hall of Fame](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Boxing_Hall_of_Fame).[[393]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTERodr%C3%ADguez2009164%E2%80%9365-417)

[Tennis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tennis) has been quite popular among people of all ages. [Guillermo Vilas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Guillermo_Vilas) is the greatest Latin American player of the [Open Era](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_tennis),[[394]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTENaurightParrish2012144-418) while [Gabriela Sabatini](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gabriela_Sabatini) is the most accomplished Argentine female player of all time—having reached number 3 in the [WTA ranking](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/WTA_ranking),[[395]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTENaurightParrish2012135-419) are both inductees into the [International Tennis Hall of Fame](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Tennis_Hall_of_Fame).[[396]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-ithf1-420) Argentina has won the [World Team Cup](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Team_Cup) four times, in 1980, 2002, [2007](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2007_ARAG_World_Team_Cup) and [2010](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2010_ARAG_World_Team_Cup) and has reached the semifinals of the [Davis Cup](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Davis_Cup) 7 times in the last 10 years, losing the finals against Russia in [2006](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2006_Davis_Cup) and Spain in [2008](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2008_Davis_Cup) and [2011](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2011_Davis_Cup); the Argentine team also played the final in [1981](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1981_Davis_Cup), where they lost against the United States. The national squad won the [2016 Davis Cup](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2016_Davis_Cup).

Argentina reigns undisputed in [polo](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polo), having won more international championships than any other country and been seldom beaten since the 1930s.[[397]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEAeberhardBensonPhillips200050%E2%80%9351-421) The [Argentine Polo Championship](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Campeonato_Argentino_Abierto_de_Polo) is the sport's most important international team trophy. The country is home to most of the world's top players, among them [Adolfo Cambiaso](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adolfo_Cambiaso), the best in Polo history.[[398]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTENaurightParrish2012128-422)

Historically, Argentina has had a strong showing within [auto racing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Auto_racing). [Juan Manuel Fangio](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Juan_Manuel_Fangio) was a five-time [Formula One](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Formula_One) world champion under four different teams, winning 102 of his 184 international races, and is widely ranked as the greatest driver of all time.[[399]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTENaurightParrish201298Dougall2013170%E2%80%93171-423) Other distinguished racers were [Oscar Alfredo Gálvez](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oscar_Alfredo_G%C3%A1lvez), [Juan Gálvez](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Juan_G%C3%A1lvez_(racing_driver)), [José Froilán González](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jos%C3%A9_Froil%C3%A1n_Gonz%C3%A1lez) and [Carlos Reutemann](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carlos_Reutemann).[[400]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Argentina#cite_note-FOOTNOTEArbena1999147Dougall2013170%E2%80%93171,_195-424)