

South America: What three countries are most in-need for Foreign Aid?

By: Jason Vo



Background Information

Data Sources

- [World Happiness Report](#)

A global survey that tracks important issues worldwide

- Food Access
- Employment Status
- Leadership performance
- General well-being
- Data sourced from [Gallup World Poll](#)
 - Conducted **since 2005**
 - Includes **160+ countries**

GALLUP

Data Preparation & Cleansing

Missing Data Records

- Countries missing data entries for multiple years

Result: Acknowledged

Incomplete Data Entry

- Missing one or more fields of data

Result: Removed entire records

Excess Data

- Provided data outside of time frame

Result: Removed entire records

Data Availability

- Countries that were excluded from data collection

Result: Acknowledged

Focus of Analysis

South America

- Top Ten Countries, narrowed to three
 - Maximizes effectiveness of resources

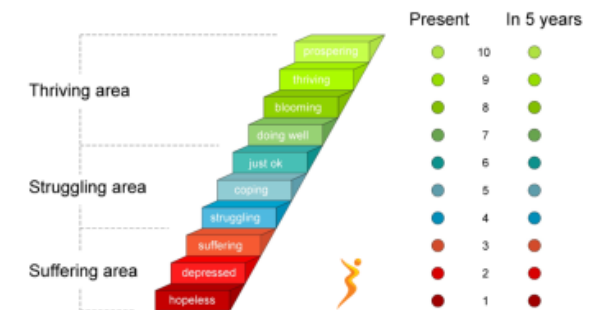
2017 Timeframe

- Most recent, complete data recorded

Life Ladder Score (LL Score)

- Individuals are asked to rank their current life satisfaction
 - Scale of 0 (bottom) to 10 (top)

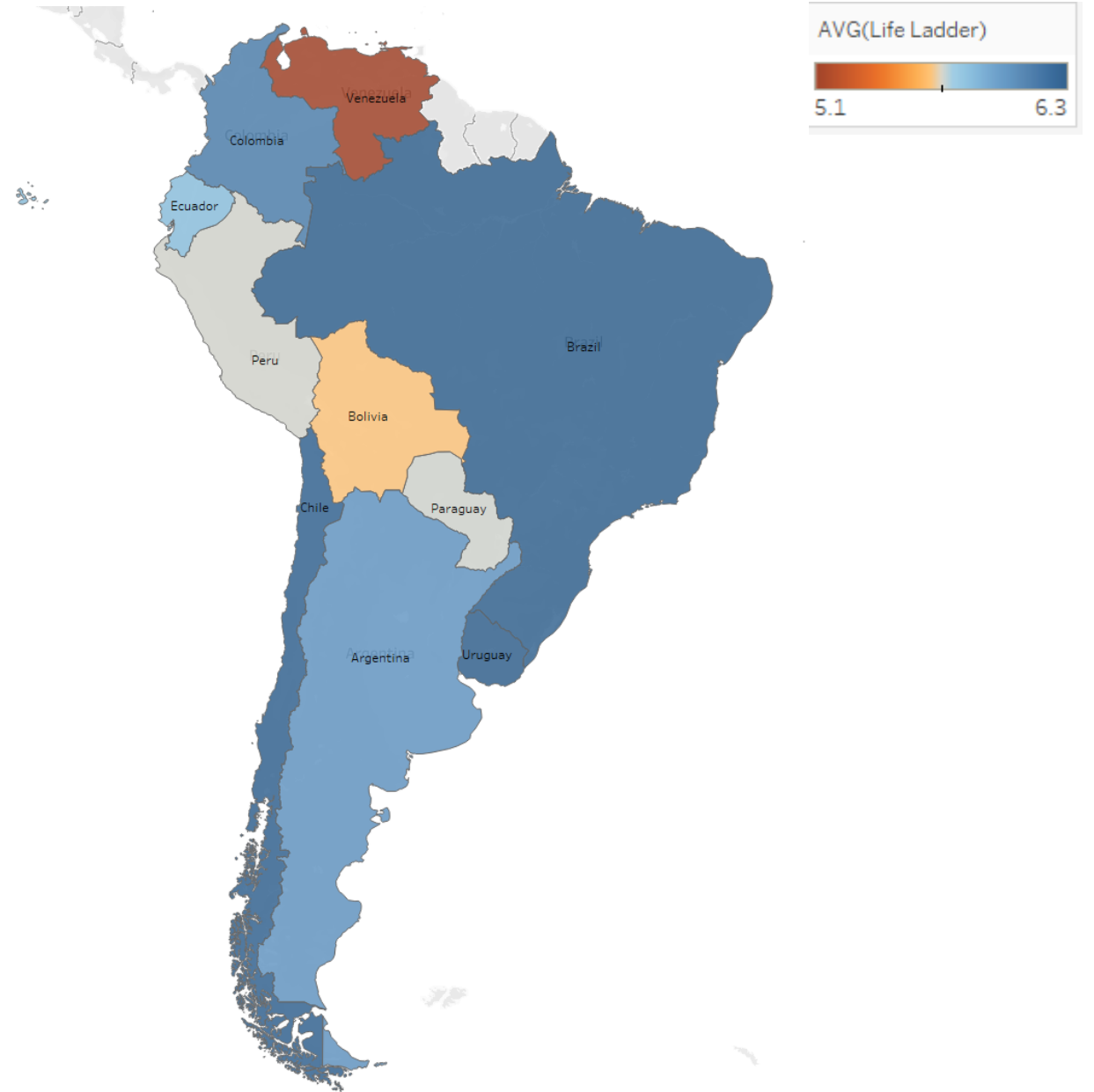
Log GDP per Capita





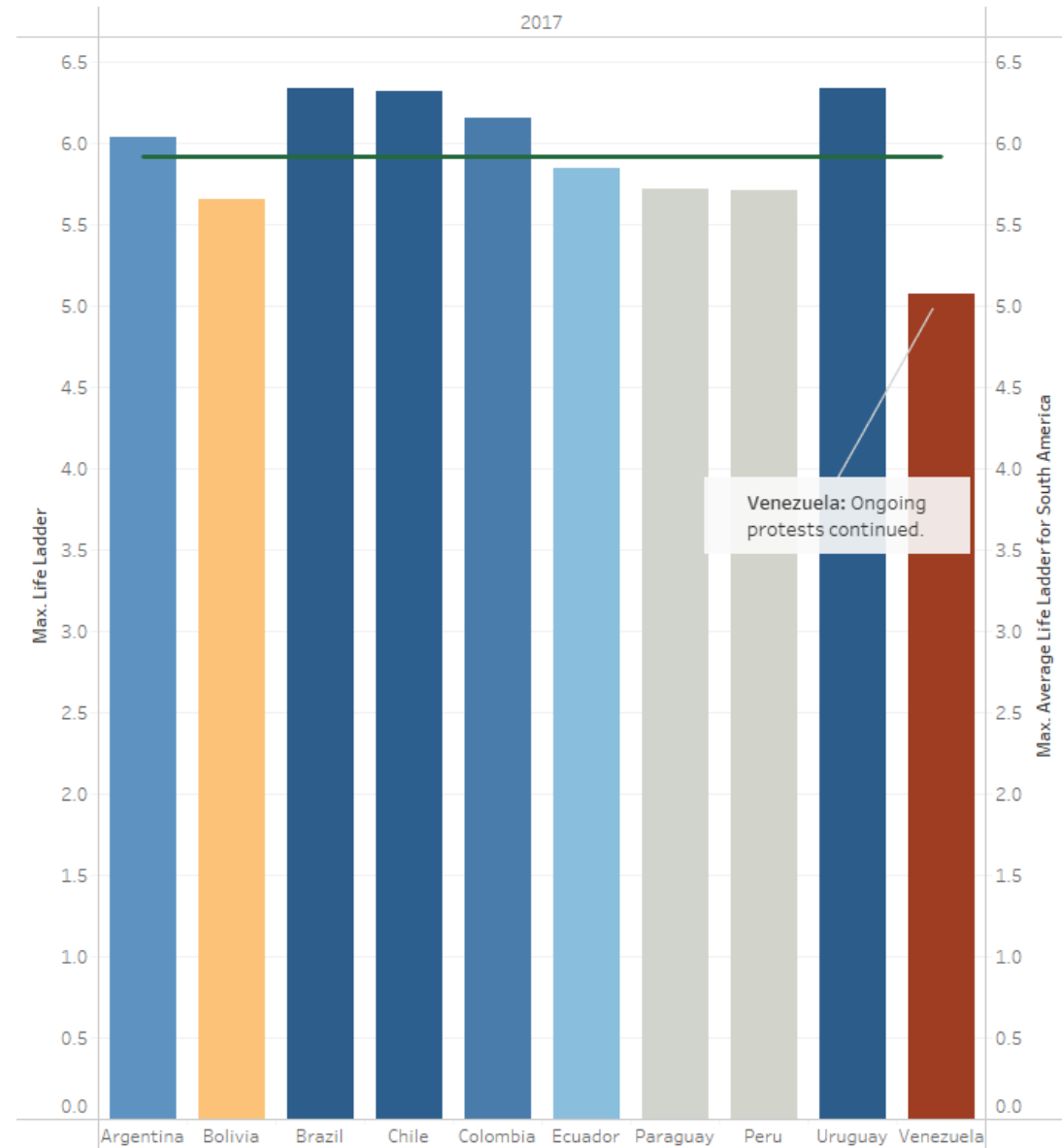
Analysis

Map of Life Ladder Scores



Individual Scores vs. Regional Average

Max Individual Life Ladder vs. Average for the Region



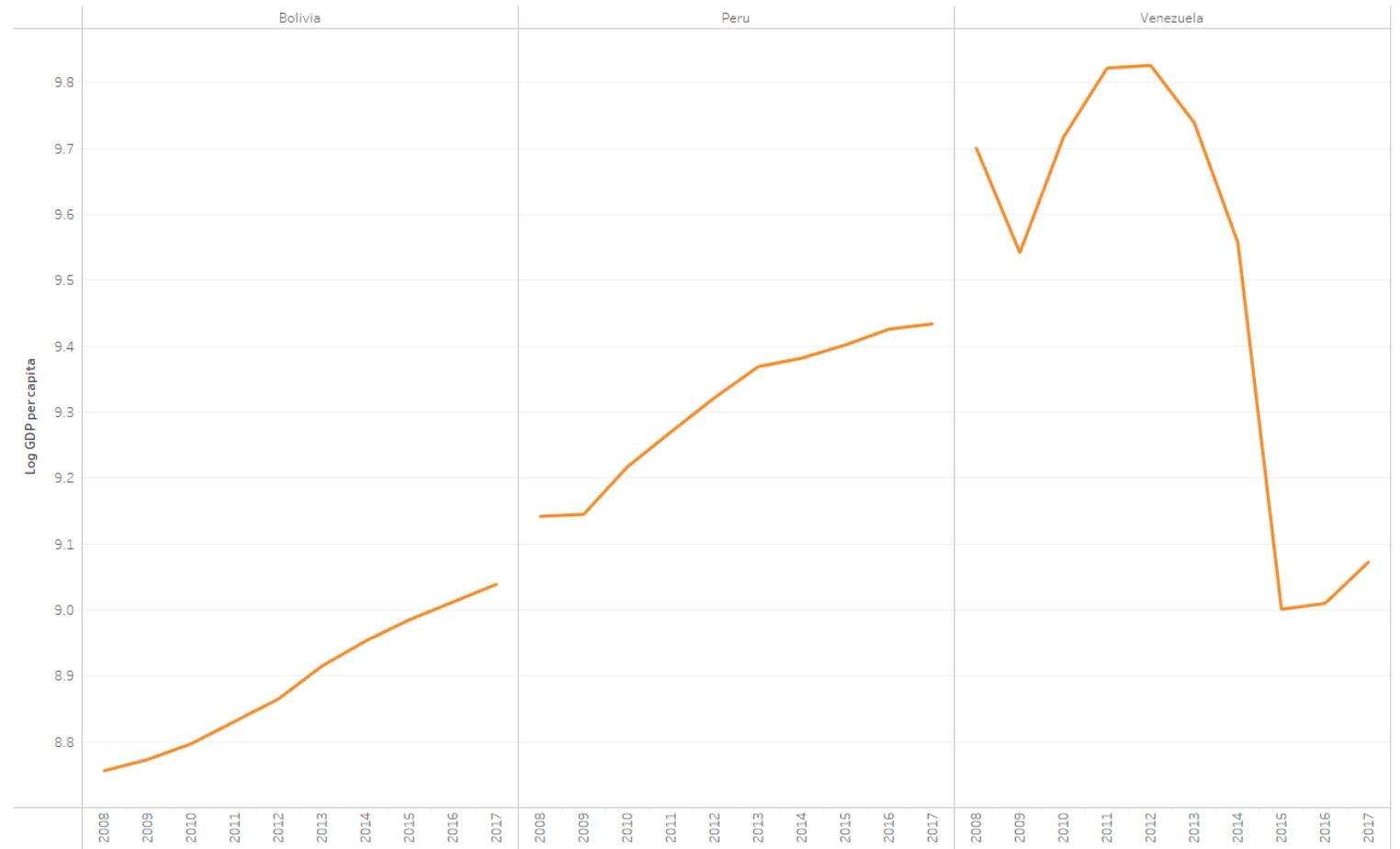
Outlier Detection

	2017
Argentina	6.0
Bolivia	5.7
Brazil	6.3
Chile	6.3
Colombia	6.2
Ecuador	5.8
Paraguay	5.7
Peru	5.7
Uruguay	6.3
Venezuela	5.1

	2017
Argentina	6.0
Bolivia	5.7
Brazil	6.3
Chile	6.3
Colombia	6.2
Ecuador	5.8
Paraguay	5.7
Peru	5.7
Uruguay	6.3
Venezuela	5.1

Log GDP per Capita of Bottom 3 Countries

Log GDP per Capita of the Bottom 3 Countries by Life Ladder





Outcome and Recommendations

Countries of Interest

Bolivia: 5.7

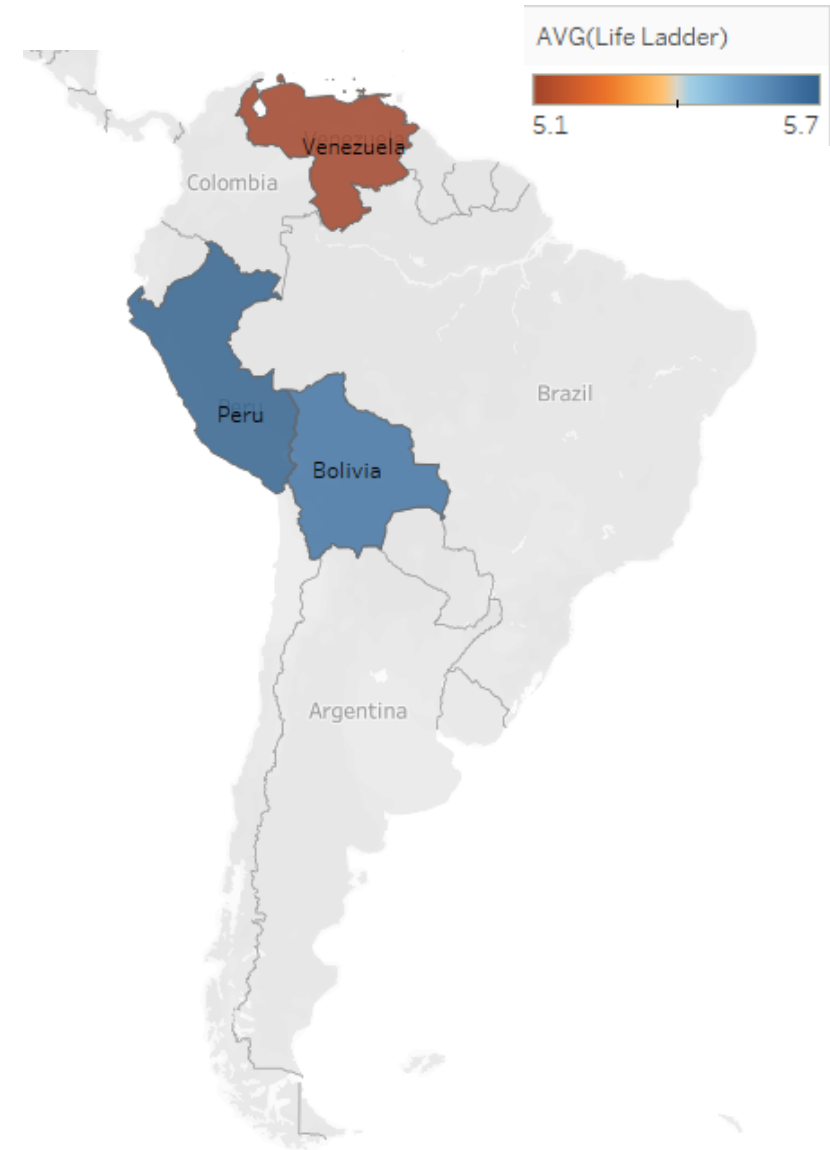
- Slightly below LL score regional average
- Political instability since 2009

Peru: 5.7

- Slightly below LL score regional average
- Political crisis since 2016

Venezuela: 5.1

- Significantly below LL score regional average
- LL score and GDP in decline since 2012
- Political issues since 2012



Bolivia

Life Ladder Score

- 2008: 5.3
- 2017: 5.7

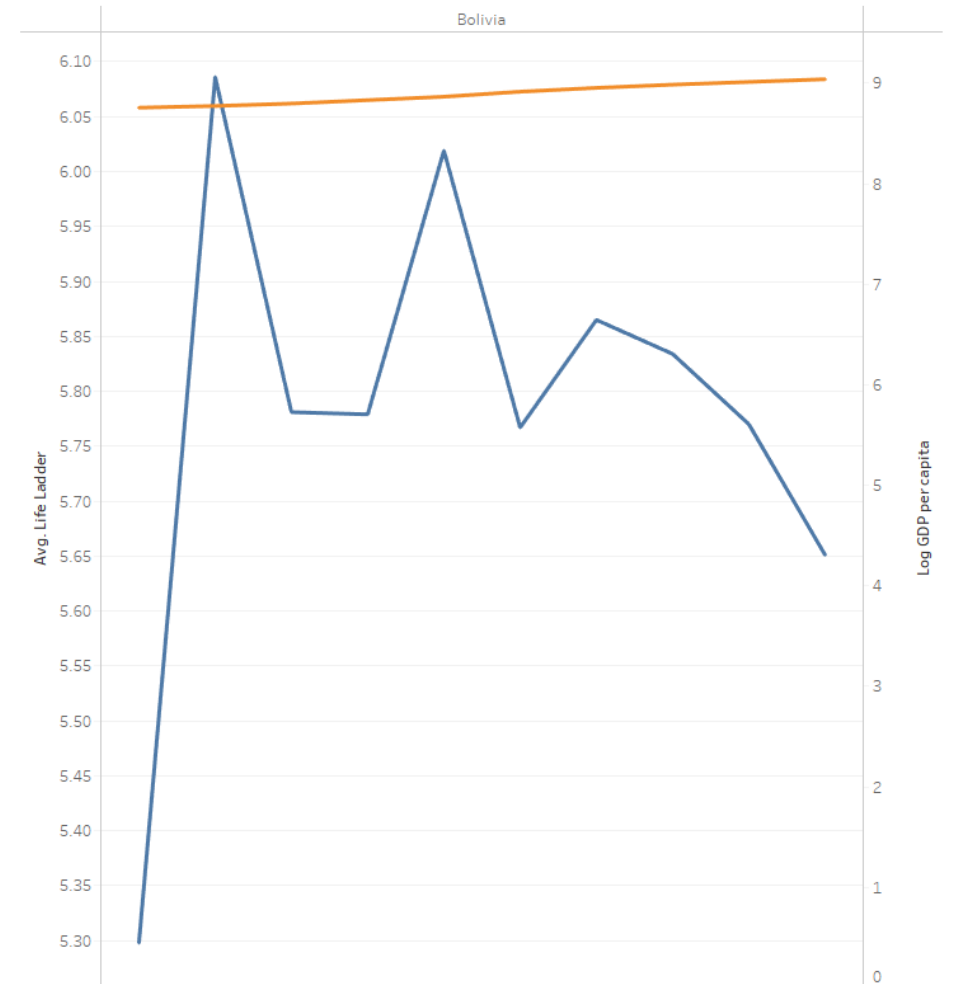
Net Change: +0.4 points

Log GDP per Capita

- 2008: 8.8
- 2017: 9.0

Net Change: +0.2 points

Life Ladder Score vs. Log GDP per Capita



Peru

Life Ladder Score

- 2008: 5.1
- 2017: 5.7

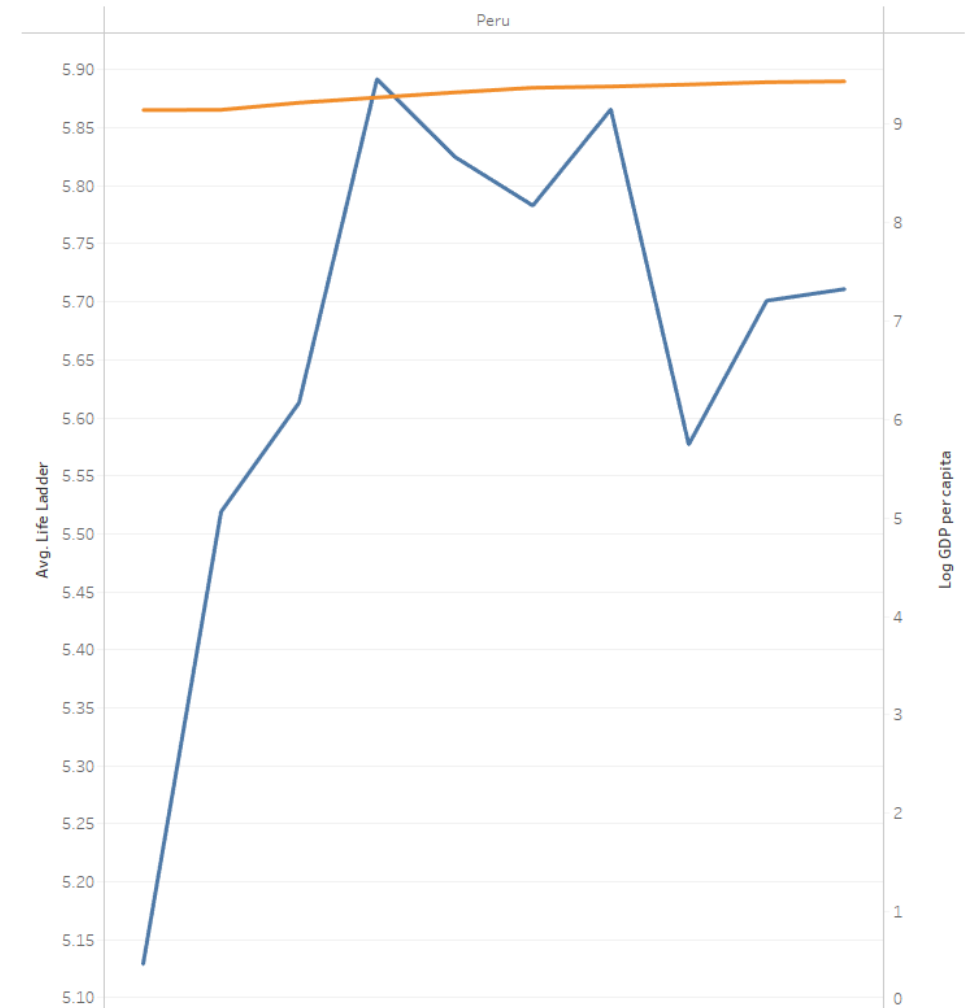
Net Change: +0.6 points

Log GDP per Capita

- 2008: 9.1
- 2017: 9.4

Net Change: +0.3 points

Life Ladder Score vs. Log GDP per Capita



Venezuela

Life Ladder Score

- 2008: 6.3
- 2017: 5.1

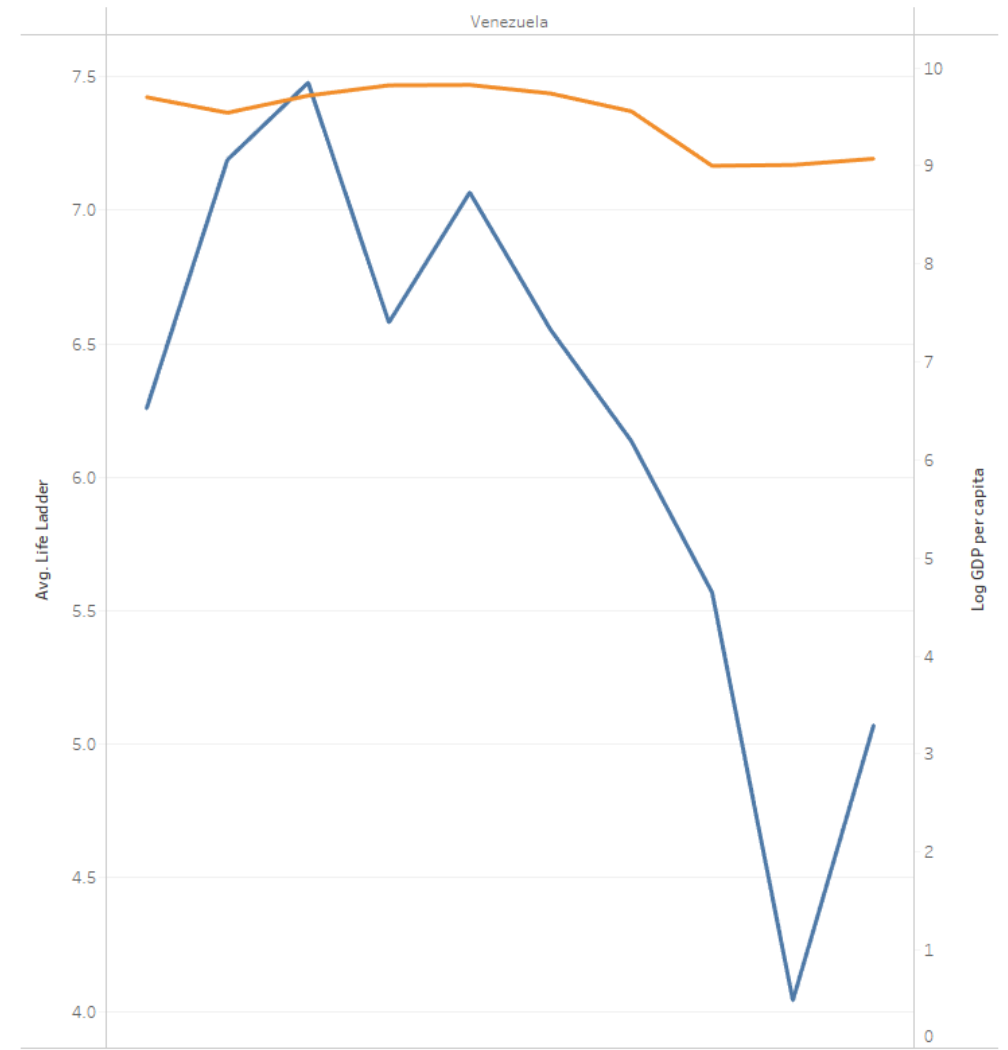
Net Change: -1.2 points

Log GDP per Capita

- 2008: 9.7
- 2017: 9.1

Net Change: -0.6 points

Life Ladder Score vs. Log GDP per Capita



Key Insights

Bolivia

- LL score: **3.4%** below regional average
- LL score: increased **7.5%**
- GDP: increased **2.2%**

Peru

- LL score: **3.4%** below regional average
- LL score: increased **11.8%**
- GDP: increased **3.3%**

Venezuela

- LL score: **13.56%** below regional average
- LL score: decreased **19.0%**
- GDP: decreased **6.2%**

Current Affairs of Politics

Bolivia

Corruption in Leadership, term limit removal

- 2006: Evo Morales elected
- 2009: New constitution, bypassed term limit. Re-elected
- 2013/2014: Re-elected through technicalities.
- 2019: Morales resigned, but party remains in power.

Peru

Instability in leadership, tensions with Congress

- 2016-2018: Pedro Pablo Kuczynski served as President
- 2017: Failed removal of Kuczynski by Congress
- 2018: Kuczynski resigned under pressure of impeachment
- 2019: Replaced by Martin Vizcarra

Venezuela

Election fraud, power struggles, and declining conditions

- 2013: Nicolas Maduro Moros elected
- 2014-2019: Sustained mass protests across nation
 - Defiance of political powers, humanitarian crisis
- 2019: Maduro and party remains in power.

Recommendations

Bolivia

Recommendation: Low priority - Continue observation.

- Additional data on metrics needed – at least five years
 - Observe if metrics continue improvements or not
- Volatile political situation – corruption in government
 - Interference may lead to unforeseen consequences

Peru

Recommendation: Low priority - Continue observation.

- Additional data on metrics needed – at least five years
 - Observe if metrics continue improvements or not
- Volatile political situation – instability in leadership
 - Interference may lead to unforeseen consequences

Venezuela

Recommendation: High priority - Consider sending foreign aid.

- Metrics show overall and current decline
- Ongoing humanitarian crisis
- Volatile political situation – acting powers refusal of foreign aid

Source Citations

- “2016 Bolivian Constitutional Referendum.” *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 7 Mar. 2024, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2016_Bolivian_constitutional_referendum.
- “Bolivia.” *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 27 Nov. 2024, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bolivia#2005%E2%80%932019_Morales_presidency.
- “FA.gov.” *Foreignassistance.gov*, 2024, foreignassistance.gov/cd/paraguay/. Accessed 3 Dec. 2024.
- Inc, Gallup. “How Does the Gallup World Poll Work?” *Gallup.com*, 14 Oct. 2014, www.gallup.com/178667/gallup-world-poll-work.aspx.
- Ingram, George. “What Is US Foreign Assistance?” *Brookings*, 12 Sept. 2024, www.brookings.edu/articles/what-is-us-foreign-assistance/.
- “Peruvian Political Crisis (2016–Present).” *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 31 Mar. 2024, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peruvian_political_crisis.
- “Politics of Venezuela.” *Wikipedia*, Wikimedia Foundation, 10 Feb. 2019, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Politics_of_Venezuela.
- “Timeline of Protests in Venezuela in 2015.” *Wikipedia*, 4 Nov. 2022, en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timeline_of_protests_in_Venezuela_in_2015.
- World Happiness Report. “World Happiness Report.” *Worldhappiness.report*, WHR Editorial Board, 2024, worldhappiness.report.



Thank you for your time.