

TABLE 5.1 **Changes in Democracy Scores by Polity IV, 1975–2009**

| Country | Polity IV Score 1975 ^a | Polity IV Score 2009 ^a | Net Point Change Toward (+) or Away From (-) Democracy 1975–2009 |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Costa Rica | 10 | 10 | 0 |
| El Salvador | -1 | 10 | 11 |
| Chile | -7 | 10 | 17 |
| Uruguay | -8 | 10 | 18 |
| Panama | -7 | 9 | 16 |
| Peru | -7 | 9 | 16 |
| Nicaragua | -8 | 9 | 17 |
| Argentina | 5 | 8 | 3 |
| Guatemala | -3 | 8 | 11 |
| Dominican Republic | -3 | 8 | 11 |
| Brazil | -4 | 8 | 12 |
| Mexico | -6 | 8 | 14 |
| Paraguay | -8 | 8 | 16 |
| Mean all 18 countries | -2.4 | 7.8 | 10.2 |
| Colombia | 8 | 7 | -1 |
| Honduras | -1 | 7 | 8 |
| Bolivia | -7 | 7 | 14 |
| Ecuador | -5 | 5 | 10 |
| Venezuela | 8 | 0 | -8 |

Source: Marshall, Monty G., and Ted R. Gurr. "Polity IV Project: Political Regime Characteristics and Transitions, 1946–2013." Center for Systemic Peace and Colorado State University, <http://www.systemicpeace.org/polity/polity4.htm>.

Notes: Countries arrayed in order of highest Polity IV scores in 2009.

^aPolity IV scores range from negative 10 (highly authoritarian) to positive 10 (highly democratic).