Country Profile: Bolivia

Country Profile (PDF)

Country Resources

Topographic

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Bolivia 1:100,000 Scale Topographic Maps (DMA H032)	DMA	1:100,000	1993 – 1994	5
Bolivia 1:100,000 Scale Topographic Maps (DMA H632)	DMA	1:100,000	1976 – 1999	228
Bolivia 1:50,000 Scale Topographic Maps	IGMB	1:50,000	1961 – 2011	1,411
Bolivia 1:100,000 Scale Topographic Maps	IGMB	1:100,000	2003 – 2005	306
Bolivia 1:250,000 Scale Topographic Maps (H351)	IGMB	1:250,000	2003	87

Geoscientific

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Bolivia 1:100,000 Scale Geological Maps	SERGEOMIN	1:100,000	1962 – 2023	376
Bolivia 1:250,000 Scale Geological Maps	SERGEOMIN	1:250,000	1992 – 1996	45
Bolivia 1:1,000,000 Scale Geological Maps	SERGEOMIN	1:1,000,000	2001	4

Thematic

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
The World 1:30,000,000 Scale Topographic Map Series 1145 (NGA)	DMA	1:30,000,000		2
Bolivia Political Maps by Department	IGMB	Varies	2013	5
Bolivia Road Maps by Department	IGMB	Varies	2013	6

Global Census Archive: GIS Census Data

Year	Questions / Answers	ADM Level	Polygons at ADM	Data Points
2012	28 / 323	3	344	111,112

Global Resources

Topographic

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Soviet Military City Plans	VTU GSh	Varies	1944 – 2003	3,021
Soviet Military 1:100,000 Scale Topographic Maps	VTU GSh	1:100,000	1947 – 1999	24,897
Soviet Military 1:200,000 Scale Topographic Maps	VTU GSh	1:200,000	1949 – 2009	17,799
Soviet Military 1:500,000 Scale Topographic Maps	VTU GSh	1:500,000	1953 – 1998	3,093
Soviet Military 1:1,000,000 Scale Topographic Maps	VTU GSh	1:1,000,000	1948 – 1994	1,089

Nautical

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
NGA Nautical Charts POD Certified (All Scales)	NGA	Varies	1943 – 2013	4,517

Aeronautical

Series	Publisher	Scale	Years	Sheets
Joint Operations Graphic (JOG 1501A) 1:250,000 – Aeronautical	DMA	1:250,000	1958 – 2007	6,380
Tactical Pilotage Chart (TPC) 1:500,000 Scale – Aeronautical	DMA	1:500,000	1967 – 2006	618
Operational Navigation Chart (ONC) 1:1,000,000 Scale – Aeronautical	DMA	1:1,000,000	1969 – 2001	248
Jet Navigation Chart (JNC) 1:2,000,000 Scale – Aeronautical	DMA	1:2,000,000	1971 – 1999	117
Global Navigation and Planning Chart (GNC) 1:5,000,000 Scale – Aeronautical	DMA	1:5,000,000	1981 – 1999	27

Note: East View Geospatial is continuously sourcing new resources that may not yet be listed in Global Explorer. Please contact us if you have geodata needs beyond what is listed above and we will be happy to discuss available off-the-shelf and custom solutions.

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Historical Country Mapping Information

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Country Profile (PDF)

Topographic

Topographic mapping in Bolivia is the responsibility of the **Instituto Geográfico Militar** (**IGMB**), La Paz. Although it was founded in 1936, detailed topographic mapping did not get under way until the post-war period, mainly under the stimulus of the Agrarian Reform Act which resulted in the establishment of a National Planning Secretariat. In 1948, a joint mapping agreement was signed with the **Inter-American Geodetic Survey** and, following the establishment of a triangulation and levelling network, a 1:50,000 scale topographic series was initiated and the first sheets published in 1955. In the 1960s, **IGMB** was provided with modern air survey and photogrammetric equipment. The organization is a technical branch of the army, but is also now responsible for maintaining the cadastral archive. It produces topographic and urban maps, thematic maps and aeronautical charts.

The basic 1:50,000 scale series is a five-color map with 20 m contours and is now about 70 percent complete. Each sheet covers an area of 10 minutes of latitude and 15 minutes of longitude. Cover is most extensive in the southern half of the country and in the most northerly area. The 1:250,000 scale series is in six colors with 100 m contours, and also covers all but the central part of the country. Three sheets are also available with a satellite image base. Sheets each cover 1° latitude and 1° 30′ longitude. Until recently, these were the principal topographic series, although a 1:100,000 scale made a brief debut in 1980 (Series H631) with the publication of 9 sheets. In 1990, a new series of 1:100,000 scale topographic maps was launched (Series H632), published by the United States **Defense Mapping Agency** (now **National Imagery and Mapping Agency** (**NIMA**)). Progress of this series has been rapid with one-third of the country already covered. These sheets are in five colors with contours at intervals varying from 20 m to 80 m. The projection for all these topographic series is Transverse Mercator, International (Hayford) ellipsoid, and the maps have a UTM grid. New 1:50,000 scale sheets of the Quiquive River area have been completed by the Japanese overseas aid agency, **JICA**, using air photography flown in 1993.

The 1:250,000 scale map (series H531) now covers all but the central part of the country. These sheets are on the usual 1° x 1°30′ format, and are printed in six colors, with 100 m contours. Three sheets are also available with a satellite image base. **IGMB** has also published a number of departmental maps, mostly at scales of 1:500,000 or 1:250,000, and urban maps of La Paz, Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Tarija, Trinidad, Ciudad de Potosi and Viacha.

Soviet military topographic mapping of Bolivia exists at the following scales: 1:1,000,000 (10 sheets, complete coverage, published 1978-1985); 1:500,000 (30 sheets, complete coverage, published 1976-1983); 1:200,000 (23 sheets, primarily southwestern country coverage, published 1980-1981) and a city (1:10,000) topographic map of La Paz published in 1977. These products are available in print, digital raster and digital vector GIS formats from **East View Geospatial**.

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GIS/Vector

A number of **IGMB** maps have been digitized. The maps include the 1:250,000 topographic series; the 1:1,000,000 *Mapa físico* and *Mapa político*, and the 1:15 ,00 *Mapa topográfico de La Paz*.

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Geological/Scientific

Geological and mineral resource surveys are carried out by the **Servicio Nacional de Geología y Minería** (**SERGE- OMIN**), La Paz. In the 1960s a regular series of 1:100,000 scale geological maps was initiated, and about 50 sheets were published during that decade in the southwest of the country. After a hiatus, new sheets have been published at this scale during the 1990s with Spanish and Swedish aid, and a new project, *Projecto BID-USGS-GEOBOL* has been started with the **Inter-American Development Bank** and the **United States Geological Survey** (**USGS**). More than 50 sheets have so far been published in this 1:100,000 scale "new series". These sheets text in Spanish and English printed in the map margin.

Between 1976 and 1986, a cooperative undertaking with the **British Geological Survey** (**BGS**) in eastern Bolivia, *Proyecto Precámbrico* resulted in the production of 15 published full color sheets at 1:250,000 scale as the (DOS 1224), and a 1:1,000,000 general sheet of the whole area was accompanied by an Overseas Memoir, *The geology and mineral resources of the Bolivian Precambrian Shield* by **M. Litherland**. A 1:1,000,000 geochemical atlas of eastern Bolivia by **J.D. Appleton** and **A. Llanos** was published in 1985, and is available either complete or as separate 1:1,000,000 scale sheets.

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Imagery

In the mid-1970s, the **Centro de Investigación y Aplicación de Sensores Remotos** (**CAISER**) was established within **SERGEOMIN** to apply satellite image processing technology to resource survey. A number of maps were produced in the late 1970s. They included a 1:1,000,000 land cover map, a map of terrain types based on multispectral LANDSAT imagery, and some experimental digital 1:50,000 scale soil maps also based on LANDSAT. These were part of the **Programa ERTS Bolivia** (**PEB**).

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Thematic

SERGEOMIN has completed a number of multi-theme mineral resource studies at 1:250,000 scale, designated *Mapas temáticos de recursos minerales de Bolivia*. The maps show mining concessions, geology, tectonics, mineral occurrences and potential areas for mineral prospecting. A new 1:2,500,000 geological map is also planned.

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Atlas

A national *Atlas de Bolivia* was originally published in 1985, containing a wide range of thematic mapping, as well as general and departmental maps. Numerous LANDSAT image maps were also a feature of this atlas. A second edition was published in 1997.

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Tourist/Reference

Bolivia has become an increasingly popular destination for tourists and for mountaineers, and recently, some good quality commercially published maps have become available for these visitors. High quality topographic maps have been published in the *Alpenvereinskarte* series from the **Deutscher Alpenverein**, covering the Cordillera Real north (*Illampu*) and south (*Illimani*) issued in 1987 and 1990. A new map of the Cordillera Real de los Andes 1:135,000 scale has been produced by **L.P.O'Brien**, based on the **IGMB/NIMA** topographic maps. A small-scale travel map of the whole country has also been published by **O'Brien**, and small-scale educational maps are published by **Walter Guzman Cordova**. Good quality street maps of several cities are produced by **Quipus** and **IGMB**.

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Census/Demography/Statistics

The **Instituto Nacional de Estadística** (**INEB**) is responsible for organizing the demographic census and has produced a number of urban plans, most of which are rather dared, but include a series at 1:5,000 scale from 1983 covering La Paz. For rural areas, **INEB** has produced a series of 1:50,000 scale maps of cantons. Maps have been updated in preparation for the 2000 census, using satellite imagery.

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