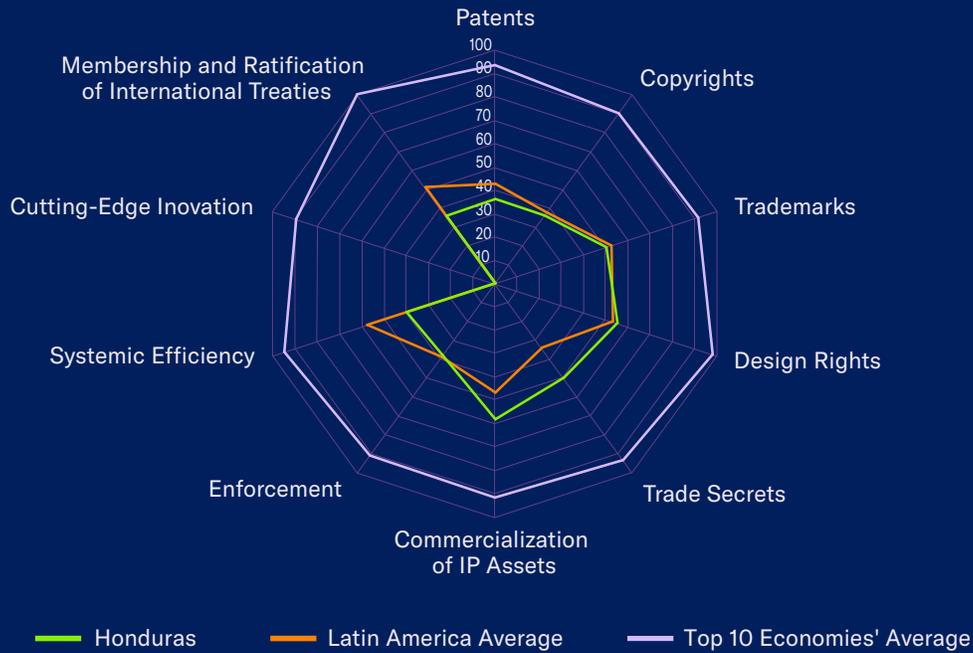




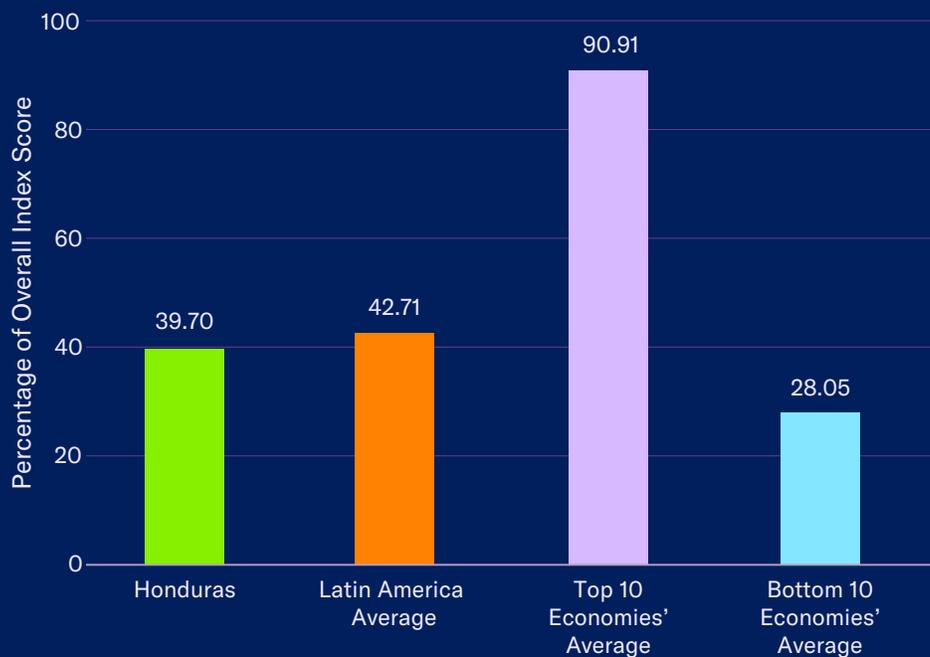
Honduras

Rank
38/55

Category Scores



Overall Score in Comparison





Key Areas of Strength

- CAFTA membership fundamentally improved national IP environment
- Plant variety protection in place
- No evidence of active government intervention in technology transfer or licensing

Key Areas of Weakness

- No special IP incentives for orphan medicinal product development
- Patentability standards outside international norms – key problem areas include second use claims for biopharmaceuticals and patent protection for CIIIs
- Uncertainty over access to statutory period of RDP: implementing regulations (*Acuerdo No. 024-2018*) provide broad basis for overriding exclusivity
- Challenging enforcement environment — particularly for online and digital content
- Infringement of copyright through signal piracy, online, and web-based streaming is highly pervasive and constitutes a major source of illegal content — not effectively addressed by government
- Industry estimated rates of software piracy among highest in the Latin American region at 75%
- Signal piracy and theft among highest in Latin America: total pirated or unreported market in Honduras estimated at 50% of total number of potential end-users

Indicator	Score	Indicator	Score
Category 1: Patents Rights and Limitations		3.25	
1. Term of protection	1.00	29. Direct Government intervention in setting licensing terms	1.00
2. Patentability requirements	0.25	30. IP as an economic asset	0.50
3. Patentability of CII	0.25	31. Tax incentives for the creation of IP assets	0.00
4. Plant variety protection	1.00	Category 7: Enforcement	
5. Pharmaceutical-related enforcement	0.50	2.68	
6. Legislative criteria and active use of compulsory licensing	0.00	32. Physical counterfeiting rates	0.43
7. Pharmaceutical patent term restoration	0.00	33. Software piracy rates	0.25
8. Membership of a Patent Prosecution Highway	0.00	34. Civil and procedural remedies	0.50
9. Patent Opposition	0.25	35. Pre-established damages	0.50
Category 2: Copyrights and Limitations		36. Criminal standards	0.50
2.51		37. Effective border measures	0.50
10. Term of protection	0.76	38. Transparency and public reporting by Customs	0.00
11. Exclusive rights	0.25	Category 8: Systemic Efficiency	
12. Expeditious legal remedies disabling access to infringing content online	0.00	2.00	
13. Cooperative action against online piracy	0.25	39. Coordination of IP rights enforcement	0.75
14. Limitations and exceptions	0.50	40. Consultation with stakeholders during IP policy formation	0.25
15. TPM and DRM	0.50	41. Educational campaigns and awareness raising	0.50
16. Government use of licensed software	0.25	42. Targeted incentives for the creation and use of IP assets for SMEs	0.50
Category 3: Trademarks Rights and Limitations		43. IP-intensive industries, national economic impact analysis	0.00
2.00		Category 9: Cutting-Edge Innovation	
17. Term of protection	1.00	0.00	
18. Protection of well-known marks	0.25	44. IP incentives for orphan medicinal product development	0.00
19. Exclusive rights, trademarks	0.50	45. IP incentives for orphan medicinal product development, term of protection	0.00
20. Frameworks against online sale of counterfeit goods	0.25	46. Restrictions on the effective use of existing IP incentives for orphan medicinal product development	0.00
Category 4: Design Rights and Limitations		Category 10: Membership and Ratification of International Treaties	
1.10		2.50	
21. Industrial Design Term of Protection	0.60	47. WIPO Internet Treaties	1.00
22. Exclusive rights, industrial design rights	0.50	48. Singapore Treaty on the Law of Trademarks and Protocol Relating to the Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks	0.00
Category 5: Trade Secrets and the Protection of Confidential Information		49. Patent Law Treaty and Patent Cooperation Treaty	0.50
1.50		50. Membership of the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants, act of 1991	0.00
23. Protection of trade secrets (Civil Remedies)	0.50	51. Membership of the Convention on Cybercrime, 2001	0.00
24. Protection of trade secrets (Criminal Sanctions)	0.50	52. The Hague Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Industrial Designs	0.00
25. Regulatory data protection term	0.50	53. Post-TRIPS FTA	1.00
Category 6: Commercialization of IP Assets		Category 9: Cutting-Edge Innovation	
3.50		0.00	
26. Barriers to market access	1.00	Category 10: Membership and Ratification of International Treaties	
27. Barriers to technology transfer	0.50	2.50	
28. Registration and disclosure requirements of licensing deals	0.50	Category 9: Cutting-Edge Innovation	
		0.00	

Total Score: 21.04

Spotlight on the National IP Environment

Past Editions versus Current Score

Honduras' overall score has decreased from 21.05 out of 53 indicators in the 13th edition to 21.04. This reflects a score decrease on indicator 32.

Copyrights and Limitations

11. Legal measures, which provide necessary exclusive rights that prevent infringement of copyrights and related rights (including Web hosting, streaming, and linking); and 15. Technological protection measures (TPM) and Digital rights management (DRM) legislation: Developments in 2025 highlighted the challenges rights holders continue to face from copyright infringement and signal piracy in Honduras. In a positive move, in late 2024, the Special Prosecutor's Office for Intellectual Property and Computer Security (FEPROSI) indicted a local business for offering circumvention devices. Together with the National Telecommunications Commission (CONATEL), FEPROSI should be commended for taking action on this issue. However, much more needs to be done.

As noted in previous editions of the Index, satellite and cable signal piracy in Honduras is high and has remained so for years, as in many parts of Central America and the Caribbean. In 2019, the Latin American industry association ALIANZA (*Alianza Contra la Piratería de Televisión Paga en América Latina*) released findings from a study estimating rates of signal piracy and theft in Latin America. The study found that the pirated or unreported market in Honduras was estimated at 50% of the total number of potential end-users.

Of the 19 Latin American economies sampled, Honduras' estimated rate of signal piracy was virtually the same as the top three signal piracy markets of Nicaragua (52%), Guatemala (51%), and Bolivia (51%), and double the estimated pirated rate in Argentina and Brazil. This has not changed in 2025. A new study on online piracy released by CETLA (the Latin American Telecommunications Studies Center) found that signal piracy and the use of circumvention devices, such as pirated IPTV boxes, continue to be significant problems in Honduras. The study found that Honduras continues to have the highest estimated rate of pirated IPTV boxes of the 12 Latin American economies included in the study. Signal and copyright piracy have remained high in Honduras despite both the U.S. Government and affected rights holders highlighting this issue and engaging with the Government of Honduras for years. The Index will continue to monitor these developments in 2026.