The literature on social protection in Latin America – and more specifically on Conditional Cash Transfers (CCTs) – is substantial and growing as, increasingly, more academics from around the world seem to be attracted to social policy developments in the region and the role of CCTs in these developments. As the articles in our themed section cite many of the key sources on particular aspects of CCTs, we chose in this guide to highlight those sources we consider essential for any academic interested to investigate CCTs and, more broadly, the development of social policies in Latin America for research or teaching purposes.

Academic publications
Influential academic publications in English on the evolution and impact of social policies in Latin America, including CCTs (listed by date of publication).


Details on CCT schemes and relevant organisations


Sources, reports and evaluations


Some of the reports that can be consulted for an overview of the history and outcomes of conditional cash transfers in Latin America are the following:


CEPAL (2014) *Transferencias de ingresos para la erradicación de la pobreza Dos décadas de experiencia en los países de la Unión de Naciones Suramericanas (UNASUR)*, Santiago: Comisión Económica para América Latina y el Caribe (only available in Spanish).

Governments throughout the region publish information on conditional cash transfer programmes. They can be accessed through the websites of each country’s government or the institutions that have conducted evaluations. The information may be available in Spanish or Portuguese only in the case of Brazil.

The International Food Policy Institute (IFPRI) publishes the evaluations that it has conducted for a number of programmes in the region, [http://www.ifpri.org/publication/conditional-cash-transfers-latin-america](http://www.ifpri.org/publication/conditional-cash-transfers-latin-america).

The Mexican government has published most of the internal and external evaluations of its programmes since 1997, many of them in English, [https://prospera.gob.mx/EVALUACION/index1.php](https://prospera.gob.mx/EVALUACION/index1.php).

ELLA (Evidence and Lessons from Latin America), a civil society initiative that seeks to transfer successful policies to other so-called ‘developing’ regions, publishes a compilation of evaluations from several countries, all in English, [http://ella.practicalaction.org/ella-knowledge/?thema=conditional-cash-transfers](http://ella.practicalaction.org/ella-knowledge/?thema=conditional-cash-transfers).

**Databases and indicators**

Probably the most complete source for socio-economic data and information on Latin America is the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). Its information system is called CEPALSTAT. The site includes statistics, indicators and publications, covering conditional cash transfers and other social protection policies, [http://estadisticas.cepal.org/cepalstat/web_cepalstat/Portada.asp?idioma=i](http://estadisticas.cepal.org/cepalstat/web_cepalstat/Portada.asp?idioma=i).
ECLAC maintains a database of conditional cash transfer programmes of all countries in the region. Information on social pensions and labour and productive inclusive programmes by country are also available. http://dds.cepal.org/bdptc/en/

L´opez-Calva and Urz´ua coordinated the project Fiscal Schemes for Inclusive Development, which considered the construction of micro-simulation models of taxes and benefits, including conditional cash transfers, using data from national surveys for five Latin American countries. The design of the project can be consulted here:


Outcomes of the project can be found here:

The models for each of the countries included in the project can be accessed here:
• Brazil: http://ideas.repec.org/c/ega/comcod/201102.html.
• Chile: http://ideas.repec.org/c/ega/comcod/201103.html.
• Uruguay: http://ideas.repec.org/c/ega/comcod/201106.html.

Barrientos, Nino-Zarazua and Maitrot integrated a database of social assistance policies in developing countries, which includes information on conditional cash transfer programmes of Latin American countries.


There are a great number of additional sources of comparative and country-specific data not included here because of lack of space. The guest-editors would be happy to provide information on them upon request.