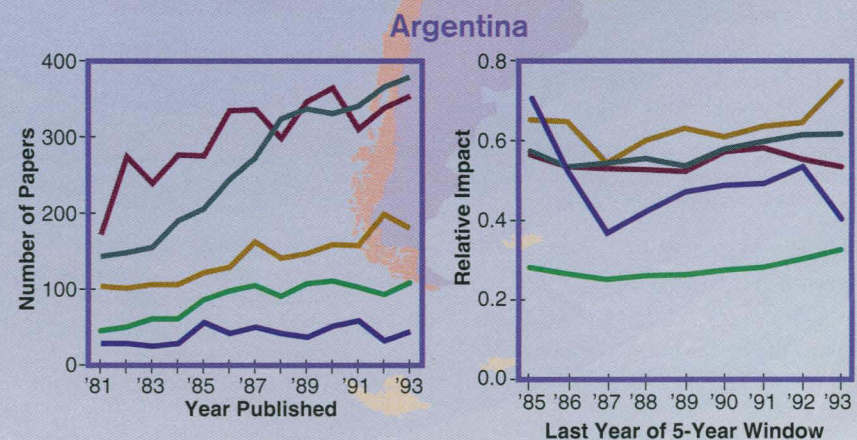
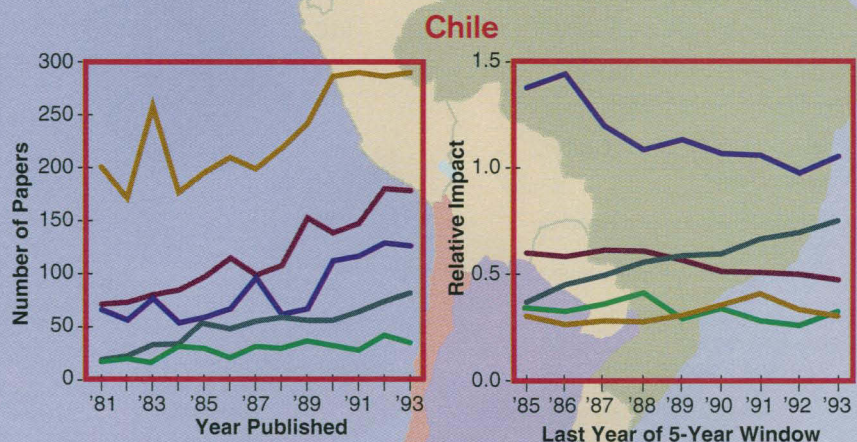
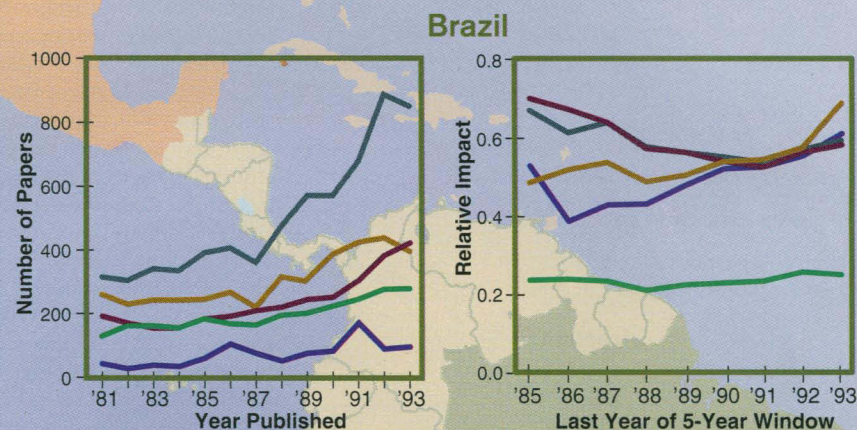
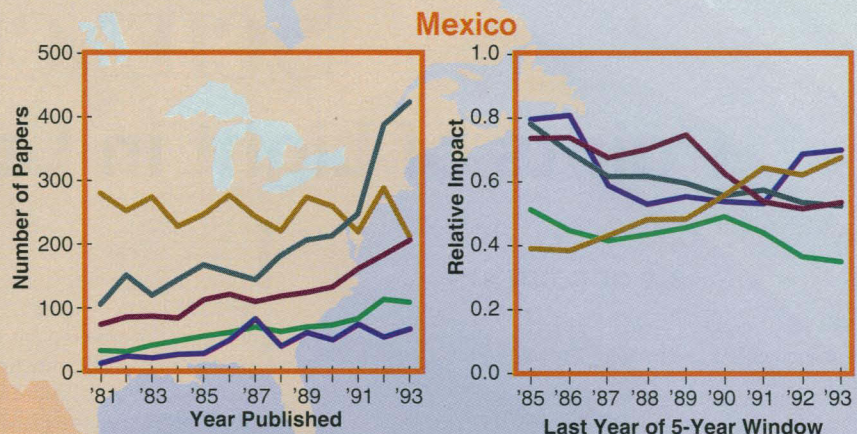
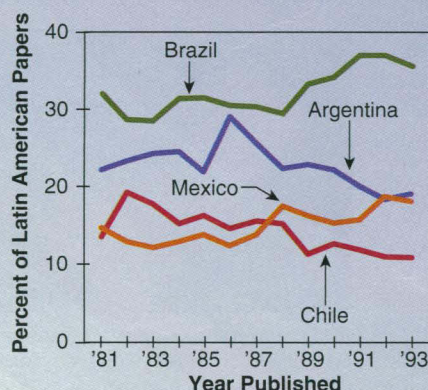
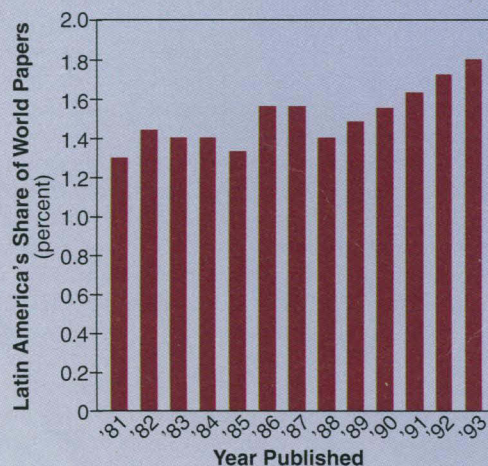


Publication Trends: Uneven Growth

In 1993, almost 13,000 papers with at least one author from Latin America made it into the world's elite scientific literature—the 3300 journals indexed by the Philadelphia-based Institute for Scientific Information (ISI). Although Latin American papers account for only about 1.8% of the total number of papers in those journals, an analysis performed for *Science* by ISI shows that since 1981 their share has risen substantially, from about 1.3%. Four countries—Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, and Chile—account for about 85% of those top Latin American papers (see charts below).

The eight charts to the right show publication trends in five disciplines in the big four countries. The data, from ISI's National Science Indicators On Diskette, show a wide variation in growth rates in different fields in each country. They also indicate that papers from these countries are cited on average 40% to 60% less often than the world average for papers in the same field. (Relative impact is a comparison with the world average, which is set at 1.0.) One exception is astrophysics papers with Chilean authors, which score higher than the world average.

Note: Because the scales of the graphs differ, comparisons between countries should be made with caution.



— Astrophysics — Molecular Biology and Genetics — Physics
 — Chemistry — Clinical Medicine