

Top Ten Largest Companies in Colombia

By Luis Ospino - April 18, 2026



[Ecopetrol](#) leads the top largest companies in Colombia, with operating income of \$144.82 billion. Credit: Josep Freixes/Colombia One

The Superintendence of Companies has unveiled its annual report on the 1,000 largest companies in Colombia, offering insights into the country’s corporate landscape, comparing their performance to the previous year.

This comprehensive analysis covers key financial indicators such as assets, liabilities, equity, and income statements, providing a holistic view of the corporate sector’s health.

Impressive Financial Upturn

According to the report, there is a remarkable 34% increase in the operational income of real-sector companies. Billy Escobar, the Superintendent of Companies, highlighted this surge as indicative of improved profitability, reflecting a healthier financial landscape for Colombian businesses.

The report integrates data from various regulatory bodies, including the Financial Superintendence, Private Surveillance and Security Superintendence, Health Superintendence, Public Utility Services Superintendence, and Transportation Superintendence. It encompasses financial metrics like assets, liabilities, equity, operational income, gains, and losses.

Top 10 companies in Colombia

Colombia, known for its diversity and economic opportunities, hosts several influential companies in Latin America. The Superintendence of Companies has outlined the ten largest companies in Colombia, shedding light on their impact on the country’s economy.

[Ecopetrol](#) S.A.

Undoubtedly, the largest company in Colombia, [Ecopetrol](#), dominates the mining and hydrocarbon sector. With operational revenues reaching \$144.82 trillion, showcasing an impressive 70.7% growth from the previous year, [Ecopetrol](#) significantly contributes to Colombia’s GDP and plays a pivotal role in generating employment

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Ecopetrol, the largest and most prominent oil company in Colombia. Photo: EEIM / CC BY-SA 3.0

Refinería de Cartagena S.A.S. (Reficar)

Reficar, also known as the Cartagena Refinery, holds the second position in Colombia's corporate hierarchy. As a crucial player in processing large quantities of crude oil, Reficar significantly impacts the hydrocarbon market. Its operational income amounted to \$27.86 trillion, reflecting the dynamism of the manufacturing sector.

Organización Terpel S.A.

Ranked third among Colombia's major companies, Terpel is a key player in the hydrocarbon sector. Specializing in fuel and lubricant distribution, Terpel plays a vital role in the country's energy supply chain. With an extensive network of service stations, Terpel not only caters to domestic fuel needs but also has a substantial presence in the Latin American market.

Cerrejon Coals Limited

A major player in the mining industry, Cerrejon Coals specializes in coal extraction and exportation. Operating one of the world's largest open-pit coal mines in La Guajira, the company significantly contributes to Colombia's economy by being a leading producer and exporter of coal globally.



Drummond Ltd

One of the leading companies in Colombia, Drummond operates extensive open-pit mining operations in the Cesar and Magdalena departments. With substantial coal production and export capabilities, Drummond is vital to the Colombian economy.

Almacenes Exito S.A.

Almacenes Exito stands out in the retail sector, boasting a vast network of supermarkets and stores offering a diverse range of products. Recognized for its innovation in customer service and marketing, Exito plays a crucial role in Colombia's retail sector, significantly contributing to employment and economic growth.



The Exito supermarket chain is the largest in Colombia. Credit: A.P. / Colombia One

Empresas Publicas de Medellin EPM

A major player in public utility services, Empresas Publicas de Medellin is headquartered in Medellin. With operational revenues of 15.07 trillion pesos in 2022, the company plays a crucial role in providing essential services to the Colombian population.

Nueva EPS S.A.

A significant player in the Colombian healthcare sector, Nueva EPS specializes in providing health services within the Colombian healthcare system.

Comunicacion Celular S.A. (Claro Colombia)

Claro Colombia, also known as Comcel, is one of the largest telecommunications companies in the country. Offering a wide range of services, including mobile and internet, Claro Colombia holds a significant position in Colombia's telecommunications market.





Claro Colombia worker. Credit: AP / Colombia One

D1 S.A.S.

D1 is a rapidly growing discount supermarket chain in Colombia, known for its low-price business model and a variety of high-rotation products. Revolutionizing the retail sector, D1 has become one of the most popular and fast-growing store chains in the country, influencing consumer behavior and the consumer goods market significantly.



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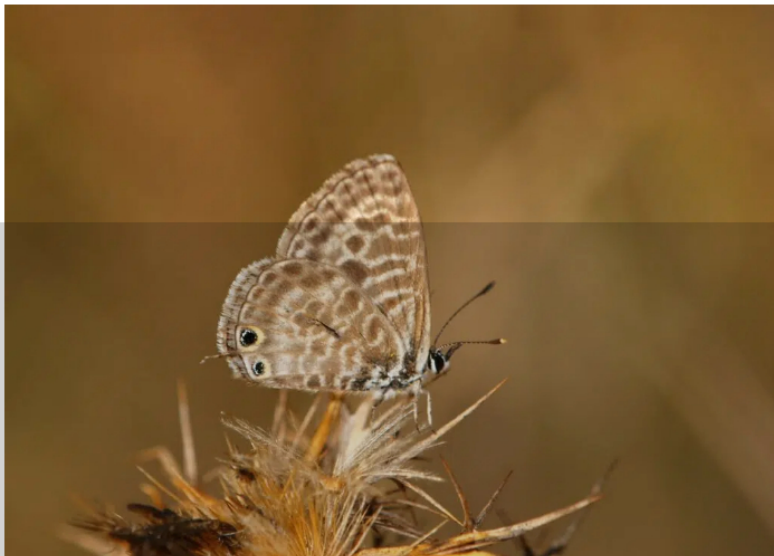


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Unique Butterfly Species in Colombia

By **Carol Viana** - April 18, 2026



Colombia is the country with the greatest number of butterfly species in the world. Around 200 unique species are found in the country. Credit: Ferran Pestaña, CC BY-NC-SA 2.0 / Flickr

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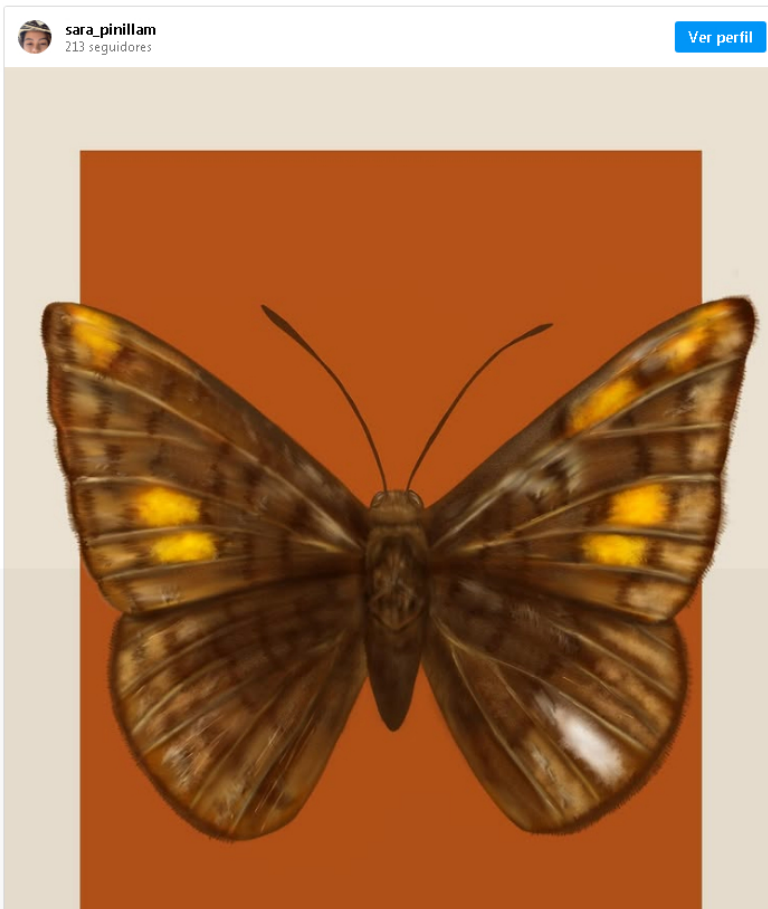
Five butterfly species unique to Colombia

Many of Colombia's unique butterfly species inhabit hard-to-reach areas, which has helped preserve them but also makes them especially vulnerable to climate change and habitat loss. Below are five endemic butterfly species found in the country:

Emesis pacis

One of the most recent additions to the list of endemic species is *Emesis pacis*, known as the "Colombian Pacific butterfly." It is a diurnal species that lives in cloud forests of the Western Andes, especially in mountainous areas above 1,900 meters in altitude.

Its presence has been documented in regions with high humidity, cool temperatures, and dense vegetation. Its color patterns, featuring warm tones and strong contrasts, allow it to camouflage among dry leaves and moss.



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39 Me gusta
sara_pinillam

🚩🇨🇴 La Emesis Pacis o mariposa pacífica colombiana 🇨🇴
Desde los bosques nublados del Pacífico, esta nueva especie de mariposa mide solo 21 mm 🦋
La Emesis pacis fue reconocida como nueva especie en 2024, aunque su existencia se sospechaba desde los años 90. 🇨🇴

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
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Catasticta lycurgus



Another notable species is *Catasticta lycurgus*, recorded exclusively in the [Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta](#). This high-mountain butterfly is distinguished by its intense yellow coloration, which contrasts with dark patterns on its wings.

It inhabits isolated ecosystems at high elevations, which explains its extremely limited distribution. The unique geography of this mountain range — considered one of the highest coastal mountain systems in the world — has favored the evolution of species like this one.

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Catasticta lycurgus

(Godman & Salvin, 1880)



10 mm

Vista ventral



Colombia
Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta
San Pedro de la Sierra

Redescubrimiento despues de Cien años de soledad de la mariposa amarilla

Una de las mariposas más raras, endémicas y con una distribución restringida en la Sierra Nevada. Fue colectada por primera vez en 1878 y posteriormente en 1972 los cuales fueron los únicos ejemplares conocidos durante un largo periodo de tiempo. Sin embargo, en 2013 y 2016, se hallaron nuevamente lo que permitió su redescubrimiento y la descripción detallada de la hembra y la genitalia del macho.

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Les dejo el link del libro que se encuentra libre para que conozcan el resto de mariposas increíbles que solo habitan en Colombia.

<https://biblioteca.colombia.travel/es/mariposas-endemicas-colombia>

Fuentes: Huertas, B., Prieto, C., Montero, F., Adams, M., Le Crom, J. F., Bollino, M., Correa-Carmona, Y. & Padrón, P. S. (2021). One Hundred Years of Solitude: rediscovery of *Catantixia lycurgus* (Godman & Salvin, 1880), a yellow butterfly from the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, Colombia (Lepidoptera:Pieridae). *Zootaxa*, 4975, (1), 176-186

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Colombeia mycalesis



It belongs to the group of butterflies known for their camouflage patterns in brown and ochre tones. Credit: Wilson Ayovi, CC BY-NC 4.0 / Naturalist

Also noteworthy is *Colombeia mycalesis*, which belongs to a unique genus named in honor of Colombia. Its distribution is restricted to the Choco biogeographic region, one of the rainiest areas on the planet. This butterfly lives in tropical humid forests, where lush vegetation and constant moisture create ideal conditions for its life cycle.

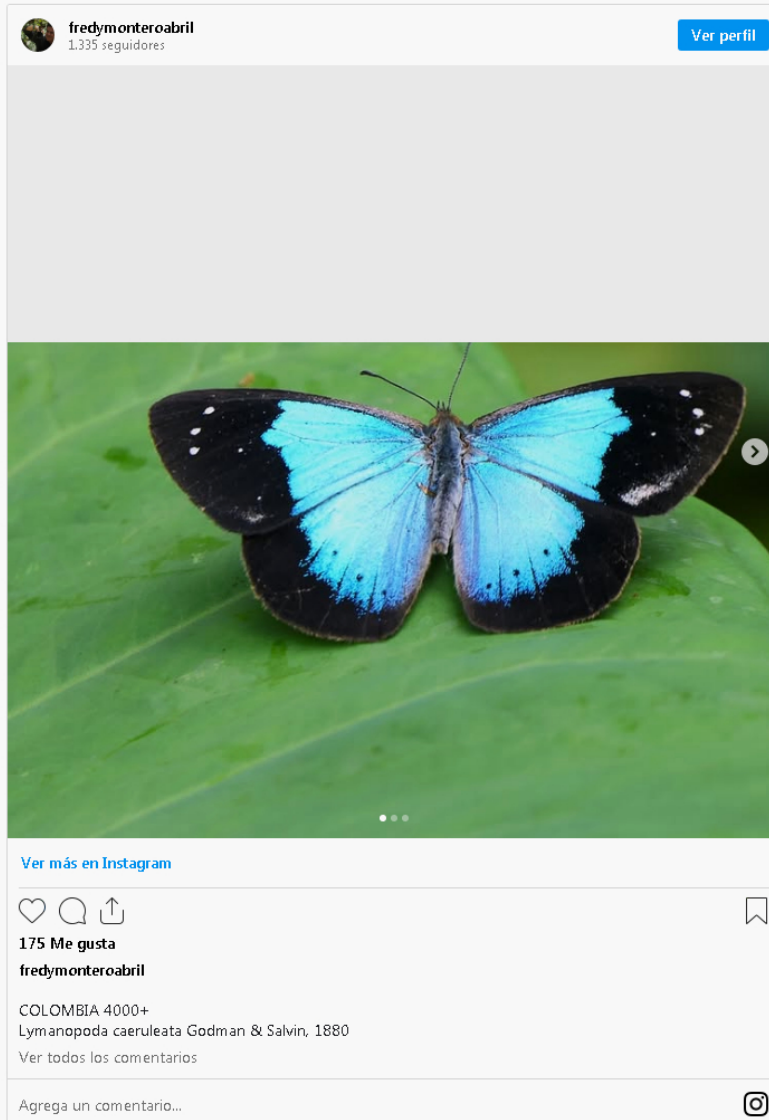
Perisama antioquia



This species inhabits cloud forests and mountainous areas. Credit: Andrew Neild, UK, CC BY-NC-ND 2.0 / Flickr

In the Andean regions, other endemic species of great scientific interest can be found. *Perisama antioquia*, for example, is known for its iridescent tones that shift between deep blue and metallic green depending on the angle of the light.

Lymanopoda caeruleata



Meanwhile, *Lymanopoda caeruleata* is characteristic of cold high-mountain environments and displays bluish tones that distinguish it from related species. Another representative of these ecosystems is *Pedaliodes pacifica*, associated with dense, humid forests dominated by understory vegetation.

Regions with the greatest butterfly diversity in Colombia

The distribution of these butterflies is closely linked to areas of high ecological diversity. Mountain systems, especially the Andes and their transitional zones, host a large number of endemic species. In particular, the Eastern Andes contain numerous habitats differentiated by altitude, which encourages the emergence of isolated populations and independent evolutionary processes.

Another key area is the Andean-Amazonian foothills, where species from humid rainforest environments meet mountain ecosystems. This

mosaic of habitats creates exceptional conditions for biological diversification.

Similarly, high-Andean forests and paramo ecosystems function as natural refuges for highly specialized species that depend on very specific climatic conditions.

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