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## **Police efficiency and public policies in Brazil and the United States in a comparative perspective.**

*Police efficiency and public policies in Brazil and the United States in a comparative perspective*

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### **Abstract:**

This study compares police efficiency in Brazil and the United States between 2015 and 2025, investigating how public policies, institutional structure, and legal support influence the performance of security forces. Based on a qualitative-quantitative approach, the analysis reveals that the North American model—decentralized and possessing a complete policing cycle—exhibits greater agility, accountability, and legal predictability, while the Brazilian system, fragmented between Military and Civil Police, suffers from bureaucracy, legal uncertainty, and administrative discontinuity.

The results indicate that police efficiency depends less on harsher penalties and more on coherence between policies, management, and institutional culture. In Brazil, low integration and impunity fuel recidivism and demotivation of officers; in the US, policy stability and professional recognition strengthen crime control and public trust. It is concluded that improving the Brazilian model requires integration between forces, standardization of indicators, legal support, and long-term, evidence-based policies capable of balancing operational efficiency and respect for fundamental rights.

**Keywords:** police efficiency; public policies; comparative public security; accountability; institutional structure; democratic legitimacy; Brazil; United States

### **Abstract**

This study compares police efficiency in Brazil and the United States between 2015 and 2025, analyzing how public policies, institutional structures, and legal safeguards influence the performance of law enforcement agencies. Using a qualitative-quantitative approach, the research reveals that the US model, decentralized and based on a full policing cycle — demonstrates greater agility, accountability, and legal predictability. In contrast, Brazil's dual police system, divided between Military and Civil forces, suffers from excessive bureaucracy, legal uncertainty, and administrative discontinuity. The findings indicate that police efficiency depends less on punitive severity and more on the coherence between policy design, management practices, and organizational culture. In Brazil, weak institutional integration and high levels of impunity foster recidivism and undermine officer motivation. In the United States, political stability and professional appreciation strengthen crime control and public confidence. The study concludes that improving Brazil's policing model requires integrated operations, standardized performance indicators, legal and institutional support, and long-term, evidence-based public policies that balance operational effectiveness with respect for fundamental rights.

**Keywords:** police efficiency; public policy; comparative security; accountability; institutional structure; democratic legitimacy; Brazil; United States

### **Introduction**

Police efficiency is one of the fundamental pillars of public safety and, therefore  
As a consequence of the social stability of any country, the State's capacity to prevent crime...  
Responding proportionally and quickly to incidents and ensuring justice for victims depends  
directly from the performance of their police forces and the quality of the public policies that...  
They govern. In nations where security policies are structured in an integrated way, with support  
With legal resources and adequate measures, a significant reduction in crime and a greater sense of security can be observed.  
collective security. On the other hand, in contexts where the police apparatus is fragmented, it is poorly managed.



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Whether funded or lacking institutional support, the result tends to be the opposite: impunity.

Professional demotivation and social distrust.

Public safety is one of the most complex and challenging issues in state policy.

modern, as it involves the intersection between criminal justice, public administration, human rights and

Social trust. At the center of this system is the police, an institution that represents the line of contact.

more direct communication between the State and the citizen. The efficiency of its actions is decisive in determining the degree

The discussion focuses on the perceived safety of the population and the effectiveness of public policies.

Police efficiency goes beyond operational performance: it's about understanding how the State...

how it organizes its security forces and how its policies and legislation impact daily life.

of the public official.

Brazil and the United States present two distinct models for managing public security.

Both are democratic, but with radically different operational and institutional realities.

While the United States adopts the so-called full-cycle policing approach — in which the same

The police force, which handles everything from patrolling to investigations, maintains a two-part model in Brazil.

inherited from the 19th century, which separates uniformed police from investigative police. This structural difference

This directly impacts the efficiency of the state's response to crime. Furthermore, public policies and...

The legal framework that guides police action in each country shapes the behavior of...

agents, influencing everything from the use of force to the crime resolution rate. Comparative analysis

These factors allow us to understand how government decisions, laws, and institutional structures are shaped.

They translate into security (or insecurity) for the average citizen.

The relevance of police efficiency is a key indicator for measuring the capacity of

The state's role in guaranteeing public order and justice. An efficient police institution is not just one that...

that makes arrests or reduces crime rates, but the one that manages to do so within the limits of

law, with social legitimacy and institutional sustainability. When the police apparatus acts in

Although carried out in an agile, technically prepared, and legally sound manner, there is a cascading effect: impunity.

As crime decreases, public trust increases, and crime ceases to be perceived as a path of depravity.

risk. On the other hand, police inefficiency generates direct consequences on the feeling of insecurity and

in the weakening of the rule of law itself, creating a vicious cycle in which the criminal feels-

The officer is encouraged, but the police officer is demotivated or afraid to act.

### 1.1. Study objectives and hypothesis

Given this scenario, the main objective of this study is to analyze, from the perspective of...

Technically sound and free from political and ideological biases, the relationship between public policies and police efficiency,

taking Brazil and the United States as cases for comparison. The research focuses on the period of

2015 to 2024, a decade in which both countries faced distinct challenges — Brazil in the midst of

institutional modernization efforts and the US under debate on police accountability after



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episodes of global repercussion. The article seeks to answer a central question: to what extent...

Institutional support, organizational structure, and public policies influence performance.

What are the lessons to be learned from the role of police forces and public safety? Based on this reflection, the aim is to identify lessons to be learned.

applicable to the Brazilian context, without resorting to copying foreign models, but drawing inspiration from them.

based on best practices proven by international experience.

The hypothesis is that police efficiency is directly related to the level of support.

The more institutional clarity and clarity of the public policies governing its actions. In other words, the more

The State guarantees police officers the material, legal, and moral conditions to act within the law.

Without fear of undue reprisals, performance in preventing and suppressing crime tends to be higher.

crime. In the Brazilian case, it is assumed that structural fragmentation, excessive bureaucracy, and

Legal uncertainty is a factor that reduces efficiency, whereas in the United States...

The combination of operational autonomy and accountability contributes to superior results. Test it.

This comparative hypothesis will allow for discussion of possible ways to improve the Brazilian model.

of public safety, balancing rights, efficiency and social legitimacy.

## 1.2. Article Structure

This article is organized into nine sections, structured to guide the reader from...

Theoretical contextualization leads to comparative analysis and practical conclusions. Following this introduction, the

Chapter 2 presents the theoretical framework and literature review, addressing key concepts of

Police efficiency, public policies and institutional security models, based on studies.

national and international. Chapter 3 then describes the methodology adopted, explaining the

A comparative approach between Brazil and the United States, data sources, and analysis criteria.

employed in the time frame from 2015 to 2024.

Chapter 4 provides an overview of crime in both countries, highlighting differences.

Structural and historical trends. Chapter 5 analyzes the organization and security policies.

public, while chapter 6 explores institutional support, police culture, and the relationship between police.

and society. Chapter 7 presents the concrete impacts of public policies on efficiency.

police work, supported by data and illustrative cases. Finally, chapter 8 is dedicated to critical discussion.

The results are presented in Chapter 9, which concludes the article with the conclusions and recommendations. This structure

It seeks to offer a logical and progressive reading experience, allowing the reader to understand not only the...

differences between the models analyzed, but also lessons that can guide improvement.

of security policies in Brazil.

## 2- Theoretical Framework and Literature Review

The literature on public safety and police efficiency indicates that the performance of the forces

Security is a direct result of the interaction between institutional structure, public policies, and culture.



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organizational systems. Authors such as Bayley (2006) and Skolnick & Fyfe (1993) highlight that systems Effective police officers depend as much on material resources and training as on social legitimacy. and legal backing. In the Brazilian case, studies such as those by Soares (2018) and Darós (2021) show that the two-part model and excessive procedural bureaucracy compromise productivity and public confidence. In contrast, American research, such as that of Goldstein (1990) Walker (2012) emphasizes the role of the complete cycle, accountability, and community integration. in building a more efficient and transparent police force. Thus, the comparison between Brazil and The United States allows us to understand how different institutional arrangements and policy visions Criminal activity shapes not only police action, but also the very balance between freedom and security. and justice.

### **2.1. Concepts of police efficiency and public policies**

Police efficiency can be understood as the capacity of security institutions to... to achieve its objectives, which involve crime prevention, maintaining order, and enforcement. Applying the law effectively, legitimately, and proportionally. More than just productivity, efficiency. It includes qualitative aspects, such as respect for human rights, public trust, and speed in... State response. For Bayley (2006), an efficient police force is one that manages to balance the Coercive authority serving society, acting with transparency and legitimacy. In this way, efficiency is not measured solely by statistics on arrests or seizures, but also by... The positive impact of police actions on crime and on the perception of security. citizens. This analysis becomes especially relevant when applied to distinct realities, such as The Brazilian and the North American systems, in which structures, institutional cultures, and legal frameworks are quite different. different.

### **2.2. Institutional structures in public security**

Institutional security structures reflect how each country organizes its use. The legitimate use of force and distributes responsibilities among its police forces. In the United States, A decentralized model predominates, in which local, state, and federal departments operate in a decentralized manner. in an autonomous and integrated way, ensuring agility and accountability through the complete cycle of policing. In Brazil, a centralized and fragmented system persists, divided between the Police The Military Police are responsible for visible patrols, and the Civil Police are in charge of investigations. This separation of functions, coupled with bureaucracy and a lack of technological integration, limits the Efficiency and reduces the crime solving rate. Recent literature suggests that structural reforms Measures that promote cooperation and rationalization among forces are essential to improving performance. Brazilian standards of efficiency are those observed in consolidated democracies.



### 2.3. International comparative studies

Comparative studies between police systems demonstrate that the performance of the forces... Security is strongly linked to how each country structures its institutions and defines its... Public policies. International studies conducted by organizations such as the World Bank and the UN. The Igarapé Institute points out that countries with integrated police structures and investments... Consistent and balanced control mechanisms achieve better results in reducing Crime and social trust. Analyses of the United States, the United Kingdom, and Canada. They emphasize that administrative decentralization and operational autonomy, when accompanied by Transparency and oversight promote police efficiency. In the Brazilian case, research... They all agree in highlighting that institutional fragmentation and a lack of continuity in policies... Public institutions make it difficult to achieve the same levels of performance seen in democracies. consolidated.

## 3- Methodology

### 3.1. Qualitative-quantitative comparative approach

The study uses a comparative approach that combines qualitative and quantitative analysis. The qualitative method allows us to understand how institutional, legal, and cultural factors shape Police efficiency in each country, while the quantitative aspect relies on official data from Crime rates, crime clearance rates, and public investment indicators. The comparison. seeks to identify causal relationships between the policies implemented and their practical effects on the police performance, observing patterns and divergences between Brazil and the United States throughout the last decade.

### 3.2. Data sources and selection criteria

The information was collected from official databases and recognized studies, including reports from the Ministry of Justice and Public Security, Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), UN, World Bank and indexed scientific publications. Data that possessed the following were selected. Transparent methodology, recent updates, and comparability between countries. In addition to statistics. In criminal matters, legal norms, government policies, and specialized articles were analyzed. Police management and institutional efficiency, ensuring an integrated view between numbers and context.

### 3.3. Time frame and limitations of the study

The time frame covers the period from 2015 to 2024, chosen because it represents a a transitional phase in the security policies of both countries, marked by legislative changes, Structural reforms and new debates on police accountability. Among the limitations, it is acknowledged... the heterogeneity of sources, the variation in criteria for recording crimes, and the difference in contexts



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socioeconomic factors prevent absolute generalizations. Even so, the methodology adopted

It allows for the identification of solid trends and the proposal of consistent interpretations of how policies...

Different public initiatives produce practical results in police efficiency.

#### **4. Overview of Crime: Brazil vs. United States (2015–2024)**

The period between 2015 and 2024 was marked by profound transformations in the dynamics of

Crime is rampant in both Brazil and the United States. Both countries have faced challenges.

complex, but with distinct natures: while Brazil dealt with the persistence of high rates

In the wake of homicides and urban violence, the United States focused on debates about the use of force.

Police, violent crimes, and reforms in the criminal justice system. A comparison of these contexts.

This reveals that crime is not only a reflection of social factors, but also of how each individual lives.

The state organizes its institutional response, defines priorities, and implements security policies throughout.

of time.

##### **4.1. Homicide and violent crime rates**

Homicide rates remain the primary indicator of lethal violence and one of the...

More effective metrics for evaluating public safety. In Brazil, even with regional variations,

The numbers remained high throughout the decade, frequently exceeding 20 homicides per month.

100,000 inhabitants, with peaks in 2017 and 2018. Disarmament programs, policy changes.

Prisons and integrated actions temporarily reduced crime rates, but the absence of

Administrative continuity and social inequality have prevented sustainable progress. In many

In these regions, the parallel power of factions and the low rate of crime solving have perpetuated the cycle of impunity.

In the United States, the situation was more stable, with averages of less than 6 homicides per

100,000 inhabitants, although there was a temporary increase during the 2020 pandemic and in the years

The following are data-driven local policing policies, such as CompStat and the expansion

Community policing initiatives have contributed to reducing crime in several cities. Still,

Episodes of police violence and racial tensions have reignited debates about the legitimacy of the police forces.

security. The difference between countries highlights the direct impact of the institutional structure and of

Continuity of public policies regarding concrete security outcomes.

##### **4.2. Regional disparities and socioeconomic factors**

In Brazil, crime rates vary significantly across regions. While some states...

The South and Southeast regions recorded gradual decreases in homicide rates, while the North and Northeast regions concentrated...

A large proportion of violent crimes. Factors such as income inequality, disorganized urbanization and

The presence of criminal organizations explains some of these variations. Furthermore, the absence of

Consistent education and employment policies for young people in vulnerable areas exacerbate the problem.



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fueling a cycle of social exclusion and violence. This regional inequality is also reflected in the operational capacity of police forces, which in many states face a lack of resources and poor infrastructure.

In the United States, regional disparities are smaller, but still noticeable. States with higher urban density, such as Illinois and California, have higher crime rates. Higher than the national average, while rural and suburban regions maintain lower levels. Literature suggests that socioeconomic factors, especially inequality and youth unemployment, directly influence violent crime rates. However, the existence of local policies adapted to the reality of each state, coupled with the autonomy of police agencies, facilitates responses faster and more efficient. This administrative decentralization contrasts sharply with the Brazilian model, which depends on national guidelines that are often disconnected from local realities.

#### **4.3. Historical trends in crime**

The historical analysis of crime between 2015 and 2024 shows opposite trajectories in the two countries. In Brazil, violence rates decreased slightly after 2019, but remained high. High levels, reflecting the lack of continuity in public policies and the difficulty of integration between security forces. Targeted reforms, such as data integration programs and the expansion of body cameras have shown positive, but localized, results. The absence of a consistent national security policy ensured that isolated advances did not translate into structural and lasting improvements.

In the United States, historical trends reveal stability, albeit with fluctuations. Specific events linked to socioeconomic and political events. The pandemic, the increase in urban poverty and the protests against police brutality, especially after 2020, momentarily had an influence. The statistics, but without compromising the overall standard of crime control. The investment in constant investment in technology, training, and accountability has allowed the American system to remain efficient even in the face of crises. This institutional resilience is one of the main differences observed in relation to Brazil, where security policies still depend strongly influenced by political cycles and regional circumstances.

### **5. Structure and Policies of Public Security**

#### **5.1. Police models and the complete cycle: USA vs. Brazil**

The American policing model is based on the complete cycle, in which the same corporation carries out all stages of police activity, from patrolling to investigation and arrest of the suspect. This format provides speed and efficiency, as it eliminates fragmentation between agencies and reduces the loss of information in the process. In Brazil, the system is divided among police forces. Military and civilian personnel create a structural mismatch that affects the effectiveness of operations.



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Separation hinders the continuation of investigations and compromises the State's response time.

Recent research, such as that from the Brazilian Public Security Forum (2024), indicates that the adoption

Integrated models, even if partial, significantly improve the rates of solving problems and

It strengthens cooperation between forces.

## **5.2. Criminal policies and their impact on impunity**

Criminal policies have a direct influence on police efficiency, as they define the degree to which they can be effective.

of predictability and legal consequence of state actions. In the United States, the application

The firmness of the law, coupled with plea bargaining mechanisms and swift execution of sentences, reinforces the feeling

certainty of punishment and contributes to reducing recidivism. In Brazil, the penal system faces

Overburden, procedural delays, and differing interpretations ultimately lead to impunity. Furthermore...

Furthermore, the lack of integration between the police, the Public Prosecutor's Office, and the Judiciary prevents the work from being carried out.

The police action does not translate into effective convictions. The result is a scenario in which imprisonment does not always...

This represents the end of the criminal cycle, undermining the operational efforts of the security forces.

## **5.3. Investments, resources and training**

The level of investment in public safety is one of the main determinants of...

Quality of service provided. In the United States, policing spending is decentralized.

and tailored to local realities, allowing for greater budgetary flexibility and technological innovation.

Continuing education programs and the use of data analytics technologies have strengthened the

Tactical planning and operational efficiency. In Brazil, the dependence on federal transfers and the lack

Standardization in training creates significant regional disparities. States with higher

Some fundraising efforts are able to modernize their corporations, while others face a shortfall.

Equipment shortages, reduced staffing levels, and low training levels. This budgetary inequality...

This is directly reflected in security outcomes and public perception of police performance.

## **6 Institutional Support and Police Culture**

The efficiency of police forces depends not only on structure and resources, but also

depending on the level of institutional support and the organizational culture that guides its actions. In many countries,

Police performance is a direct result of how the State protects, supervises, and values its officers.

its agents. Institutional support defines the balance between autonomy and responsibility.

While police culture shapes the attitudes and values that guide the use of authority.

Interaction gives rise to both best practices and distortions that compromise the legitimacy of

police action.

### **6.1. Legal protection and institutional support for police officers**

In the United States, police officers operate within a legal framework that combines broad...



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Operational autonomy with clearly defined legal responsibility. Institutional support is... guaranteed by functional protection policies, liability insurance and strong representation. union. These mechanisms ensure that the agent can act with confidence, without fear. Political persecution or arbitrary interpretations of the law. The existence of procedures Standardized methods and independent audits allow for reconciling efficiency with control, strengthening the Trust between the State and the police force.

In Brazil, the context is more complex. Police officers frequently operate under conditions of insecurity. legal issues and excessive exposure to administrative or judicial processes, which generates hesitation and reduces Proactivity. The lack of clear legislation on the progressive use of force and the absence of Consistent institutional guarantees create an environment of vulnerability that directly affects the efficiency. This situation is aggravated by social pressure and the inconsistency of public policies, which They oscillate between harsher penalties and a discourse of guaranteeing rights, without offering legal stability or adequate psychological support for security professionals.

## **6.2. Organizational culture and accountability mechanisms**

Organizational culture is a determining factor for the efficiency and integrity of... police corporations. In the United States, accountability practices, such as the use of cameras. Corporate governance, public reports, and external audits strengthen transparency and self-criticism. institutional. In Brazil, although these measures have been gradually adopted, the hierarchy Rigidity and resistance to innovation still hinder deeper cultural changes. The transition of A shift from a reactive culture to a results-oriented culture requires committed leadership and appreciation. professional and evaluation mechanisms based on merit and performance.

## **6.3. Police-community relations and social trust**

Public trust is a strategic asset for police efficiency. Where the police are When community cooperation is perceived as legitimate and fair, it increases, facilitating the collection of Information and crime prevention. In the United States, the concept of community policing seeks to... To integrate the police into the social fabric, transforming the officer into a partner of the community. In Brazil, The relationship between the police and the community is often marked by distrust, especially in areas of high social vulnerability. Overcoming this situation requires outreach policies, Respect for human rights and a continuous effort to demystify the image of the police as a purely repressive apparatus.

## **7. Impacts of Policies on Police Efficiency**

### **7.1. Clearance rates and performance indicators**

Crime solving rates serve as a synthetic indicator of efficiency. police, as they reveal whether the operational effort results in the effective accountability of the perpetrators.



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Various surveys show that Brazil has low levels of education, especially in

Homicides and violent crimes weaken the credibility of institutions and fuel the feeling of...

of impunity. In the United States, although there are variations between states and cities, the rates of

Resolutions tend to be significantly higher, reflecting better integration between research,

Expertise, intelligence, and the Public Prosecutor's Office. More than a statistical issue, this difference

It expresses how much the institutional structure, the prioritization of resources, and the clarity of public policies matter.

They directly impact the performance of police forces.

## **7.2. Illustrative cases: São Paulo and “depolicing” in the USA**

In the Brazilian context, emblematic cases, such as those analyzed by the Brazilian Forum of Public Security (2024) shows how regulatory or administrative changes can alter the

Police behavior in the field. The adoption of body cameras, stricter protocols of

investigations and ambiguous statements regarding support for the legitimate use of force in some states,

They contributed to reducing police lethality, but were also associated with a decline in proactivity.

and to the reduction of approaches in higher-risk areas. Part of the troop began to operate with fear of being exposed, punished, or politicized directly impacts prevention capabilities and...

confronting organized crime. This scenario illustrates the importance of policies that combine

Institutional control and protection are necessary, otherwise the firm and technical enforcement of the law will be discouraged.

In the United States, high-profile incidents involving excessive force have generated...

Intense social pressure for reforms, resulting in revised protocols, greater transparency, and

Strengthening accountability mechanisms. In some cities, however, this process was

accompanied by reports of decreased police initiative, a phenomenon described as retraction.

operational or depolicing. When the officer realizes that any action can be interpreted

Politically, it tends to reduce its exposure, which, in certain contexts, has been associated with

Localized increases in violent crime. This contrast shows that both in Brazil and in...

Poorly calibrated public policies in the United States can produce unintended side effects.

when they fail to balance protection of society, strict control, and legal certainty for those who operate within the organization. on the front line.

## **7.3. Criminal recidivism and impunity**

Criminal recidivism is one of the main weak points in Brazilian public security.

and appears as a direct result of the combination of poor clarity, procedural weaknesses and

Ineffective penal policies in containing highly dangerous criminals. When the

The probability of imprisonment is low and the chance of actual incarceration is reduced.

Crime is now perceived as an activity of calculated risk. In practice, a large part of the crimes

The crime is committed by individuals with a prior history of it, indicating a failure to break the cycle.



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criminal. This situation compromises police work, as the effort to capture him does not translate into...

A consistent way to neutralize threats in a lasting way.

In contrast, models that associate a higher rate of clarification with faster execution  
Judicial decisions tend to reduce opportunities for recidivism. The central problem is not just  
The severity of the punishment, but the predictability of the State's response. In Brazil, the gap between the  
Flagrant violations, procedural steps, and the effective enforcement of the sanction leave room for successive [procedural irregularities].  
Opportunities for re-entry into criminal activity. Overcoming this situation requires integration between  
police, Public Prosecutor's Office, Judiciary and prison system, with a specific focus on offenders.  
violent and repeat offenders, otherwise we risk maintaining an environment in which the cost of crime remains  
artificially low.

#### **7.4. Police Lethality and Victimization of Officers**

Police lethality and the victimization of officers are sensitive indicators that reveal a lack of...  
not only the level of confrontation on the streets, but also the quality of training policies,  
Equipment and institutional support. In Brazil, the high rates of deaths caused by police officers.  
coexist with significant numbers of police officers killed on or off duty, which highlights a  
context of intense armed confrontation, unequal preparation, and limited support. In situations such as  
in which the agent finds himself simultaneously threatened by the crime and insecure regarding legal protection, the  
The trend is towards increased lethality as a self-protection mechanism, with serious impacts for the  
human rights and the institutional image of corporations.

In the United States, although there are also cases of police violence and serious incidents...  
Widely publicized, the relationship between training, use-of-force protocols, and less-than-ideal equipment  
lethal measures and accountability tend to produce lower proportional mortality rates, both in terms of  
suspects as well as agents. The combination of continuous investments, standardization of  
Procedures and a culture of incident assessment contribute to reducing extreme situations.  
A comparison between the two countries shows that consistent public policies can simultaneously  
protecting both the police officer and the citizen, provided that they combine effective institutional support with objective criteria of  
Accountability and technical training focused on decision-making in critical scenarios.

## **8. Discussion**

### **8.1. Interpretation of results**

A comparative analysis between Brazil and the United States shows that police efficiency is...  
directly related to the degree of institutional integration and continuous investment in training.  
and to the clarity of public policies. In contexts where there is operational autonomy combined with  
With robust control mechanisms, police forces are able to respond more quickly and  
It needs to meet social demands. The results suggest that American performance is sustained.



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due to legal predictability and the stability of security policies, factors that reduce the

The influence of short-term political changes. Brazil, however, remains vulnerable to discontinuity.

administrative issues, lack of standardization, and legal uncertainty directly impact performance.

police officer.

Furthermore, comparative data and studies show that efficiency does not depend solely on...

It's not about more resources or harsher penalties, but about consistency between public policies and practices.

institutional. In Brazil, the fragmented model and lack of communication between agencies compromise

the flow of information and strategic coordination, while in the United States the integration

Horizontal interaction between the police, prosecutors, and the community enhances results. This structural difference

This is reflected in the clearance rates, recidivism rates, and public perception of safety. The challenge

The Brazilian approach, therefore, is not only operational, but above all about management and setting priorities.

policies.

## **8.2. Lessons from the comparative models**

The main lesson drawn from the comparison is that police efficiency and democratic legitimacy are intertwined.

These are not antagonistic concepts, but complementary ones. The North American model demonstrates that it is...

It is possible to maintain firm yet transparent police action, provided that there are

Clear protocols, external oversight, and effective accountability mechanisms. The success of these

Practices depend on institutional stability and the continuous appreciation of security professionals.

factors that guarantee predictability and commitment. The Brazilian case, on the other hand, reveals

that without consistent political support and adequate legal backing, even the best efforts-

Well-intentioned ideas tend to get lost amidst bureaucracy and high turnover of managers.

Another relevant lesson is the importance of adapting security policies locally. The mere fact that

Importing foreign models is ineffective when it fails to consider cultural, social, and other differences.

legal. Brazil needs solutions that respect its federal reality and regional inequality.

but that also incorporate proven performance management and accountability practices. A

Technological integration between security forces, ongoing technical training, and autonomy.

Controlled budgeting is a possible way to align efficiency and legitimacy without breaking down [the system/principles].

with the Democratic Rule of Law.

## **8.3. Limits and implications for public policies**

Although the results offer a broad overview of the topic, it is important to recognize

The limitations of the analysis. The diversity of sources and the lack of data standardization make it difficult.

Absolute comparisons, especially in the Brazilian case, where criminal records still suffer

Underreporting and methodological inconsistency. In addition, external factors such as economic crises,

Pandemics and political instability can temporarily distort crime rates and



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Efficiency. Therefore, the conclusions presented must be interpreted within a context.

Dynamic, subject to cyclical variations that are beyond the direct control of public policies.

The practical implications of this comparison, however, are evident. The adoption of policies more integrated security strategies, based on measurable results and supported by evidence.

Empirical research tends to improve the performance of Brazilian police forces. Investing in intelligence,

Technology and human skills are being developed, while simultaneously strengthening control mechanisms.

Transparency and efficiency can create a virtuous cycle of efficiency and public trust. The challenge lies in...

transforming recurring diagnoses into long-term policies, shielded from partisan interests.

and guided by a genuine pursuit of security and justice.

## **9 Conclusion**

A comparative analysis between Brazil and the United States shows that police efficiency is the

The result of a combination of institutional structure, political coherence, and legal backing.

Efficiency is not built solely through investment or stricter laws, but through stability.

Integration and professional development. This comparison reveals that, although both countries face...

Despite the distinct challenges, effective solutions necessarily involve the consolidation of policies.

consistent, long-term public policies.

### **9.1. Summary of the main findings**

The results demonstrate that police efficiency is directly linked to the clarity of the...

security policies and the degree of operational autonomy of corporations. In the United States, the

Decentralization and the complete policing cycle allow for faster and more efficient responses.

which is reflected in significantly higher clearance rates and greater control over recidivism.

In contrast, in Brazil, the fragmented model still generates overlapping functions and loss of criminal justice.

lack of information, compromising performance.

It was also observed that institutional support is one of the fundamental pillars for the

Police action. Where the State guarantees legal security and administrative support, the agent acts with

Trust and professionalism. In Brazil, the absence of this support leads to hesitation and bureaucracy.

Excessive and low proactivity compromises the final outcome of public policies. Thus, the

Efficiency depends less on the quantity of actions and more on the quality and stability of the environment.

institutional context in which they occur.

### **9.2. Proposals for improving public policies**

Improving police efficiency in Brazil requires a structural reform that unites

Administrative rationalization and institutional strengthening. The creation of integration mechanisms.

Between the Civil and Military Police, investment in technology and the use of data for planning are key.



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Strategic measures are fundamental to increasing effectiveness and reducing impunity. In addition

In addition, policies to promote professional development, including ongoing technical training and psychological support,

They contribute to increasing motivation and internal confidence within corporations.

Another relevant proposal is the implementation of a national system of indicators.

Standardized measures of police efficiency. Currently, the absence of uniform metrics prevents...

Consistent comparisons and evaluations between states. A unified and public database.

This would allow for transparency, social control, and more efficient planning, as well as guide policies.

Based on evidence. The integration between the criminal justice system and the security forces.

It must also be strengthened, ensuring that police work translates into accountability.

effective.

### **9.3. Final considerations on the balance between rights and efficiency.**

The contemporary challenge for security forces lies in balancing efficiency and respect.

to fundamental rights. An efficient police force is not the one that arrests the most people, but the one that acts in a way that...

Technically sound, proportionate, and within the law. A comparison between Brazil and the United States demonstrates this.

Efficiency and individual guarantees can coexist when there are clear rules and oversight.

Independence and institutional commitment to legality. The modernization of public security.

It involves this balance between legitimate authority and responsible social control.

Brazil possesses sufficient human capital and operational experience to reach higher levels.

High efficiency is achieved, provided that structure, legislation, and institutional culture are aligned. Investing in

Management, technology, and training do not mean abandoning democratic principles, but rather strengthening them.

The consolidation of a modern, transparent, and effective police force depends on a change of

mindset: to see security not only as repression, but as an essential public service.

to citizenship and national development.

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