

The Political Culture of Democracy in Bolivia 1998

Technical Information

Country	Year	Sample Size	Weighted/Unweighted
Bolivia	1998	National: 2,977 DDPC USAID Municipalities: 499	Weighted

This survey was carried out in 1998 as part of the Latin America Public Opinion Project (LAPOP). It was conducted by the University of Pittsburgh and Encuestas y Estudios under the direction of Dr. Luis Quiroga. The study was funded by a grant from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The survey was a national probability design, with a total N of 3,476 and an approximate margin of error of ± 2.0 . The sample was stratified into nine strata, one for each Department and then again into levels of urbanization: (cities with over 20,000, small cities with between 2,000 and 20,000, small rural areas and dispersed rural areas). The survey was carried out in Spanish, but monolingual speakers of Quechua and Spanish were administered versions of the questionnaire in those languages.

The sample design included a target number of 300 hundred interviews in each of Bolivia's 9 departments. An additional 100 interviews (for a total of about 400) were conducted in each of the three departments in what is known as the central axis (often called the "*media luna*") of the country (La Paz, Santa Cruz and Cochabamba). The logic of this design was to provide a large enough sample in each department so that a separate analysis could be conducted on each one. However, in order to reconstitute the sample at the national level, so that it would be representative, it is necessary to use weights to produce a PPS sample. To control for the overrepresentation of some of Bolivia's less populous departments, such as Pando, the data must be used with the weights (the WT variable) on. The report also contains an extra sample of 599 interviews conducted in 6 municipalities where USAID supported the Bolivian government in the implementation of the DDPC (Democracy Development and Citizen Participation) program. The DDPC Program data has a different technical report, and is also available in a separate dataset.

In analyzing this dataset, in order to the sample to be nationally representative, cases of USAID-sponsored DDPC Program must be excluded, which can be done by selecting the code 1 in the AAESTRAT variable. In doing so, the statistical software package excludes 499 cases of the DDPC data, except those observations corresponding to the Pando department, which serve the dual purpose of being part of the DDPC special sample and the general national sample as well. When the weights are turned on, the national sample totals 2,977 cases, which includes the 100 DDPC cases for Pando. In other words, the DDPC cases from all other departments must be

excluded to achieve a nationally representative sample. They will be excluded by following the selection process stated above. The complete report and the questionnaire can be found at <https://www.vanderbilt.edu/lapop/bolivia.php>. The report, “The Political Culture of Bolivian Democracy”, was written by Mitchell Seligson and published by Encuestas y Estudios and the University of Pittsburgh’s Department of Political Science with the support of USAID. These data have also been used in the following publications:

- Seligson, Mitchell A. 2001. “El reto de la tolerancia política en Bolivia.” *Reto, Revista Especializada de Análisis Político*, 8(Mayo): 5–15
- Hiskey, Jonathan T. and Mitchell A. Seligson. 2003. “Pitfalls of Power to the People: Decentralization, Local Government, Performance, and System Support in Bolivia.” *Studies in Comparative International Development*, 37(4): 64-88
- Seligson, Mitchell A. 2005. “The Measurement and Impact of Corruption Victimization: Survey Evidence from Latin America.” *World Development*, 34(2): 381-404

Containing data gathered in 1998, this national survey report analyzes the attitudes of Bolivian citizens towards support for stable democracy, political tolerance, justice administration, the rule of law, local government and social participation.

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