This survey was carried out as part of the University of Pittsburgh Central American Public Opinion Project (CAPOP). The CAPOP was conceived in 1989, and designed to tap the opinion of Central Americans on a host of topics, being attitudes towards Central American integration the main one. As a whole, CAPOP’s funding sources include the Andrew Mellon Foundation, the Tinker Foundation, the Howard Heinz Endowment, the University of Pittsburgh Central Research Small Grant Fund, and the Instituto de Estudios Latinoamericanos (IDELA). The CAPOP collected attitudinal survey data on the opinions of over 4,000 Central Americans in the metropolitan areas of the six Spanish-speaking Republics of the region.

Ricardo Córdova coordinated the CAPOP Salvadoran mass study. The Centro de Investigaciones y Acción Social, and the Instituto de Estudios Latinoamericanos (IDELA) collaborated with this effort. The study was conducted in San Salvador (the capital and largest city in the country) and adjacent municipalities. Total number of observations was 910, 55.5% female and 44.5% male. This sample was gathered during July and August 1991. Within the household, individuals were selected for the interview using the next birthday selection system. As in virtually all LAPOP surveys, this study was conducted using face-to-face interviews in the homes of respondents. No phone interviews were used. Category labels for some variables remain undefined. A CAPOP elite survey was also conducted in El Salvador during this period.

A view of attitudes toward regional integration, that includes the Salvadoran data, can be found in the 1992 Central American Integration. Report for the Commission of the European Community, co-authored by Mitchell A. Seligson, Victor Bulmer-Thomas, Eugenia Gallardo, and Rodolfo Cerdas, under the coordination of Joaquin Roy. Another publication based on this sample is:


The complete questionnaire and other publications can be found at www.vanderbilt.edu/la-pop/el-salvador.php.

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