Spotlight on Approval of Same-Sex Marriage in the Dominican Republic

Fewer than one-fifth of individuals in the Dominican Republic approve of same-sex marriage

Since 2010, LAPOP’s AmericasBarometer has measured approval of same-sex marriage in the Dominican Republic by asking the following question: **D6. To what extent do you approve or disapprove of same-sex couples’ right to marriage?** Participants were asked to respond on a scale of 1 “strongly disapprove” to 10 “strongly approve.” Here, we recode responses into a dichotomous variable, which allows us to estimate the percentage of people in the Dominican Republic that approve of same-sex marriage. Specifically, responses of 8 through 10 were combined to indicate approval, and values 1 through 7 were combined to represent a group that does not approve of same-sex marriage.

Less than one in five (18.2%) approve of same-sex marriage. The vast majority of Dominicans (81.8%) do not approve of the right of same-sex couples to marry.
Approval of same-sex marriage has remained low in the last decade

Approval of same-sex marriage in the Dominican Republic reached its highest level in the 2016 round of the AmericasBarometer, when 19.1% of individuals indicated that they approve of the right to same-sex marriage. Since then, approval of same-sex marriage has remained relatively stable at less than one in five.

Approval of same-sex marriage is highest among young adults, those living in the lowest household wealth bracket, and individuals who have no or primary-level education

What characteristics of individuals predict approval of same-sex marriage in the Dominican Republic? The youngest respondents, those age 18-25, have significantly higher approval (24.7%) compared to their older counterparts (those age 46-55 and 66+). Those with none/primary or post-secondary education have a significantly higher level of approval than those with secondary education. Those in the lowest household wealth bracket demonstrate higher approval (23.8%) than those from the second and fourth wealth categories. Gender is not a statistically significant determinant of individuals’ approval of same-sex marriage.¹

1 The variable for place of residence (ur1new) has been omitted for this round of Spotlight Reports due to a change in survey mode for the 2021 AmericasBarometer.

Interested in knowing more about the LAPOP Lab's AmericasBarometer study? Consult the data and our reports at www.vanderbilt.edu/lapop.

As a charter member of the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) Transparency Initiative, LAPOP Lab is committed to routine disclosure of our data collection and reporting processes. More information about the AmericasBarometer sample designs can be found at www.vanderbilt.edu/lapop/core-surveys.php

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