



December 2020 | Abhinav S. Krishnan

Spotlight on Support for Democracy in Latin America and the Caribbean

Longstanding support for democracy in the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) region shows signs of decline

In most LAC countries, more than half support democracy

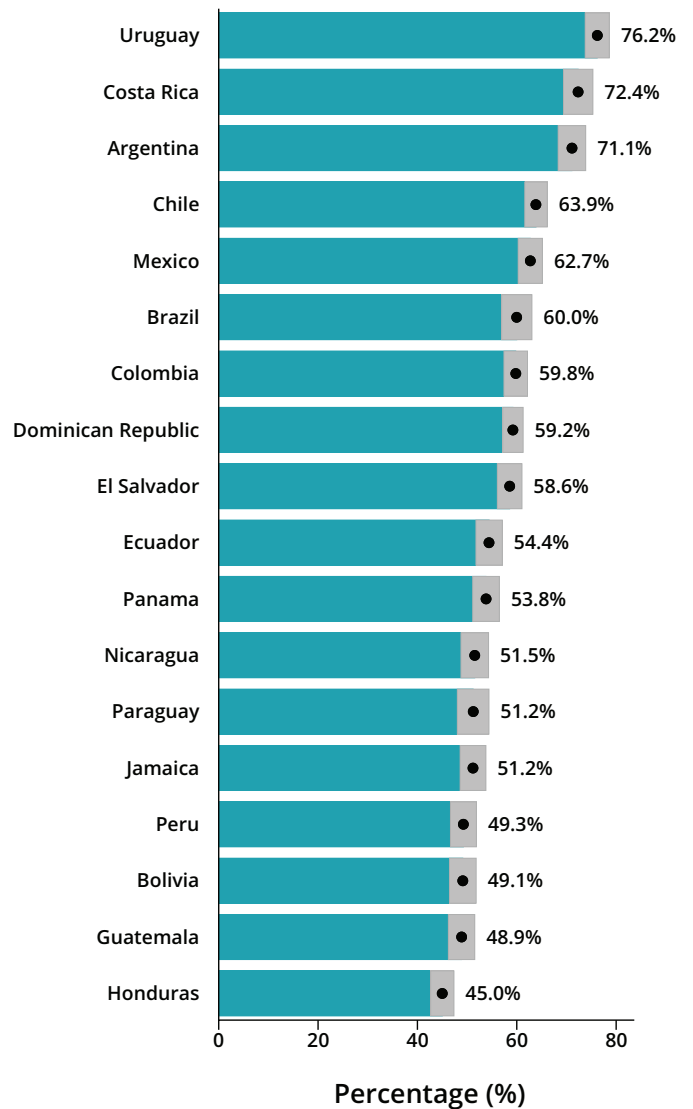
Since 2004, LAPOP’s AmericasBarometer has measured support for democracy by asking the following question:

ING4. Democracy may have problems, but it is better than any other form of government. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement?

In the 2018/19 round, this question was included in surveys in 18 LAC countries. Respondents indicated their level of agreement with the statement by using a 1-7 scale, where 1 means “strongly disagree” and 7 means “strongly agree.” Here we code responses into a dichotomous variable, which allows us to estimate the percentage of people in the region who support democracy. Specifically, responses were recoded into a dichotomous variable indicating support by combining the responses from “5” through “7” into one category, while placing the other responses (“1” through “4”) into a baseline category.

The country with the highest support for democracy in 2018/19 is Uruguay (76.2%), while Honduras (45.0%) holds the lowest support for democracy in the LAC region. In the majority of countries, more than half of adults support democracy in 2018/19.

Support for Democracy, 2018/19



95% Confidence Interval (with Design-Effects)

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP, 2018/19; GM1.0

