

Guatemalan Values and the Prospects for Democratic Development Second Report

It was conducted by Development Associates and the University of Pittsburgh, in collaboration with the Guatemalan collaborating institution, the Asociación de Investigación y Estudios Sociales (ASIES).

The survey was a national probability design, with a total N of 1,198. The questionnaire was written in Spanish and in four Mayan languages spoken by the majority of Guatemala's indigenous population. An additional 200 indigenous respondents were added to the survey in order to allow a special focus on that population.

The 1995 sample was similar to the one used for the previous study in 1993. It represents 18 of the 22 departments in Guatemala and it includes several items aimed at discovering the reason why electoral turn in Guatemala is low. The full version of the report can be found at "The Democratic Culture of Guatemalans", written by Mitchell Seligson, Malcom Young, Joel Jutkowitz, Dinorah Azpuru and Eduardo Lucas and published by ASIES, Development Associates and the University of Pittsburgh.

This national sample was designed to be representative of the Guatemalan population, a goal that was largely achieved, with one important limitation. The great bulk of the native population speaks one of only four languages. The early 1980 figures show that of the 2.9 million Mayan language speakers, 2.3 million, or 79 percent are concentrated in these four languages: K'iche', 930,000; Mam, 644,000; Kaqchikel, 405,000; and Q'eqchi', 361,000. Although the sample attempted to incorporate all monolingual speakers of indigenous languages, it limited itself to the four principal indigenous languages spoken in Guatemala (Kaqchikel, Mam, Qeqchi and Kiché). Versions of the questionnaire were prepared in each of those languages, and interviewers were hired who could deliver the questionnaire in those languages. In an earlier study,