

For the 2021 AmericasBarometer, LAPOP Lab collected data in 22 countries in the Americas, from January to August 2021. All country datasets and reports available for download for free at www.LapopSurveys.org.

This survey was carried out between May 1st and July 19th 2021, as part of LAPOP ~ 2021 AmericasBarometer. It is a follow on to

LAPOP Lab instructed interviewers to call during business hours and on weekends, except when the potential respondent requested an appointment outside that timeframe. Callbacks after unsuccessful attempts were staggered over times of day and days of the week to maximize the chance of contacting informants and to minimize nonresponse. If no one was available to answer our call, we instructed interviewers to call back at least 4 times before a final disposition was made for that number.

Mobile phone coverage and response rates vary across socio-demographic groups, introducing survey errors that can potentially lead to biased estimations. To mitigate these sources of error, LAPOP Lab used [raking](#).¹¹ In this strategy, our team continuously monitors both collected data and para-data with the goal of reducing bias in survey estimates without significantly increasing the costs of the survey. More specifically, we pre-identify elements that can affect costs and errors of survey estimates, monitor those elements during the initial data collection stages, and adjust those elements while data collection is in progress. With the purpose of balancing our samples to mirror the distributions of high-quality benchmarks, we screen out individuals when necessary from overrepresented population group(s) during the final stages of data collection. Our goal in this approach is to keep the weighting effect below 1.5.

The dataset [available](#) [here](#) [provides](#) [a](#) [summary](#) [of](#) [the](#) [unweighted](#) [sample](#) [size](#) [in](#) [each](#) [of](#) [the](#) [eight](#) [regions](#) [\(strata\)](#) [and](#) [by](#) [demographic](#) [characteristics](#).

26-35	810	727
36-45	609	595
46-55	408	463
56-65	202	234
66+	118	146
Male	1,428	1,491
Female and Non-binary	1,571	1,508
No education	129	191
Primary	978	1,407
Secondary	1,104	1,135
University	766	244

When using this dataset for cross-country comparisons, LAPOP reweights each country data set in the merged files so that each country has an N of 1,500. The weight variable for cross-country comparisons is already activated in SPSS datasets. In Stata, the svyset command to weight the data and declare the sampling information to correctly compute standard errors that take into account the design effects is as follows: for single country, single year studies, the command is

`svyset [country] [year]`; for cross-country and/or cross-time studies, the command is

`svyset [country] [year], i=[country] t=[year]`. Stata datasets are preset; however, users must use the svy prefix with estimation commands to compute the weighted statistics and correct standard errors (see [within Stata for more information](#)).

In the 2021 AmericasBarometer, Quality Control was based on FALCON-CATI© (Fieldwork Administration, Logistics, and Quality Control Operations and Norms). It includes, but is not limited to, an interviewer identity monitoring check, time checks, a reading control check, and data fabrication and falsification checks. For more information, see the [Fieldwork Administration, Logistics, and Quality Control Operations and Norms](#) document.

In this section we present the survey response rates.¹³ The AmericasBarometer response rates are calculated as the number of completed interviews divided by the number of eligible reporting units in the sample. LAPOP Lab has programmed in STG a module that permits the accurate recording of the number of refusals, ineligible respondents, or non-contact. This in turn allows for estimating the response rates in each country. Two definitions of response rates are provided below, ranging from the definition that yields the lowest rate to the definition that yields the highest rate, depending on how partial interviews are considered and how cases of unknown eligibility are handled.

Response rates reported below are:

Response Rate 1 (RR1) = _____

Response Rate 3 (RR3) = _____

Where: where C refers to completed interviews, P to partial interviews, R to refusals, N for non-contacts, O for others, UH for unknown if household, UO to unknown others, and e is the eligibility rate calculation

Paraguay	1.2	1.4
El Salvador	4.2	5.8
Uruguay	1.4	1.4

For additional information on the survey design, contact Georgina Pizzolitto at Georgina.pizzolitto@vanderbilt.edu