

Nicaraguans talk about corruption: A Follow-Up Study of Public Opinion

Technical Information

Nicaragua	1998	2,400	Weighted
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This survey was carried out in 1998 as part of the LAPOP series of surveys. It was a follow up to a similar survey conducted in Nicaragua in 1997. The fieldwork was carried out by Borge and Associates under the supervision of Prof. Andrew Stein.

The survey was a national probability design, with a total N of 2,400. The sample was drawn from every Nicaraguan department except Río San Juan, which, because of its remote location and low population density, was excluded due to budget constraints. The sample represents 98.3% of the population. The sample is representative at the department level, but weights need to be applied in order to adjust the distribution of the sample to match the national population distribution.

When compared with the 1996 sample, the departmental results will differ due to the correction in 1998 of small errors committed in 1996 while coding some cases.

The complete sample of 2,400 respondents was gathered by selecting six voting units in every department and conducting 150 interviews in each one. In the case of Managua, 300 interviews were conducted because of its demographic and political importance. It has an estimated margin of error at $\pm 2\%$ (at the 95% level).

It should be noted that at the time when the interviews were being conducted, Hurricane Mitch hit Nicaragua, which delayed the gathering of the remaining data. Therefore, when attempts were made to compare 1996 to 1998, the subset of interviews conducted in 1998 before the hurricane are utilized as a check in the full sample. The full version of the report as well as the complete questionnaire can be found in the report on the LAPOP website, “Nicaraguans talk about corruption, A Follow-Up Study of Public Opinion,” written by Mitchell Seligson and published by the University of Pittsburgh and Casals and Associates with the support of USAID.

Published in 1999, this national survey report analyzes the attitudes of Nicaragua’s citizens towards corruption experience, perceptions of corruption, system support, local government, and democracy.