

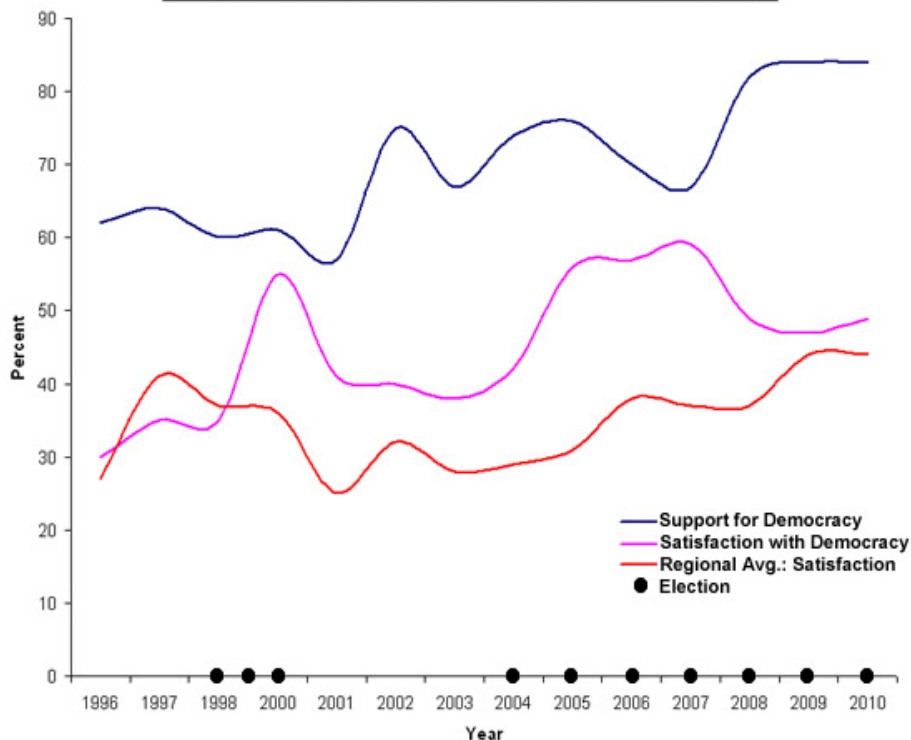


VENEZUELANAS REPORT HIGHEST SUPPORT FOR DEMOCRACY

According to 2011 Latinobarometro Survey of 18 Countries in Central and South America

- In both 2009 and 2010, support for democracy in Venezuela reached **84 percent**, the highest in the region.
- Venezuela's support for democracy has climbed steadily during President Hugo Chávez's tenure. In 1996 and 1997, before he was elected, it stood at **62 and 64 percent**, respectively.
- The report also shows that satisfaction with democracy has increased under President Chávez's government. In 1997 and 1998, satisfaction stood at 35 percent, rising to an average of **48 percent** between 2000 and 2010. In 2010 it reached **49 percent**, third in the region behind only Uruguay (62 percent) and Costa Rica (53 percent) and above the regional average of 35 percent.
- When asked to rank how democratic their government was, with 1 being "Not Democratic" and 10 being "Totally Democratic," Venezuelans ranked their government **7.1**. This ranking put Venezuela fourth in the region, tied with Chile and above the regional average of 6.5.
- Venezuelans also ranked highest in terms of their interest in politics, were least likely to argue that politics in their country is "complicated" and stood in fourth place when asked whether they believed their ideas had an impact on the government. Venezuelans were also second most-likely to express trust for their national congress and political parties.
- **Fifty-three percent** of Venezuelans approved of President Chávez's government from 2002-2010, putting it fourth in the region behind Argentina, Colombia and Chile and tied with Brazil. **Fifty-five percent** of Venezuela approved of President Chávez's tenure.
- **Fifty-two percent** of Venezuelans stated that the government's policies improved their lives, third in the region behind only Uruguay and Chile. They also ranked their country highest in the region in terms of distribution of wealth, with **38 percent** saying it was "Very Just" or "Just." The regional average was 21 percent. When asked whether or not they were satisfied with their lives, **84 percent** of Venezuelans answered affirmatively, second only to Costa Rica in the region.
- Venezuelans were fourth most likely to have used the Internet, and ranked second in the region in terms of their use of the social network Facebook.

Support/Satisfaction with Democracy in Venezuela



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