

Costa Rica 1976 – Land Reform Survey

Technical Information

Country	Year	Sample Size	Weighted/Unweighted
Costa Rica	1976	753	Unweighted

The Costa Rica 1976 study is a follow-up to one conducted in 1973 (see LAPOP web site). The study was focused on the demographic impact of land reform. The survey asks many questions about land tenure status, size of family, and questions that attempt to measure modernization and other attitudes.

The sample in this study is not national, but a sample of land reform beneficiaries stratified by the type of reform program, from individual ownership of land to collective ownership. All land reform settlements in Costa Rica were included in the universe, and a sample of settlements was drawn from that universe, stratified by settlement type. Interviewers were drawn from employees of the Costa Rican Casa Presidencial Unidad de Opinión Pública.

The total sample size was 753 taken from rural areas in Costa Rica. The sample is a probabilistic one, stratified and clustered and has 262 segments in total. The interviews were carried out with the support and funding of a grant from the Ford and Rockefeller Foundations Joint Population and Development Policy Research Program and the Instituto de Tierras y Colonización de Costa Rica (ITCO). Assisting on the project was Lic. Elena Wachong. Miguel Gómez B. helped in the sample design and logistics.

The results were presented in the 1978 article “Political and Interpersonal Trust Among Peasants: A Reevaluation”, written by Mitchell A. Seligson and Jose Manuel Salazar and published in *Rural Sociology* 44 in Fall 1979. Results were also reported in Mitchell A. Seligson, *Peasants of Costa Rica and the Development of Agrarian Capitalism* (University of Wisconsin Press, 1980) and in “Public Policies in Conflict: Land Reform and Family Planning in Costa Rica,” *Comparative Politics*, 12 (October, 1979), pp. 49-62. Translated and reprinted: “Las políticas públicas en conflicto: La reforma agraria y planificación familiar en Costa Rica,” *Experiencias de reforma agraria y políticas estatales* (working papers), (San José, Costa Rica: Centro de Estudios Democráticos de América Latina, CEDAL, 1978).

These publications combine data from the 1973 and the 1976 study with peasants in Costa Rica to analyze the effects of land reform and the levels of trust among the peasants in this Central American country.