Appendix A

Variables of political participation, the codification of categories and percentage frequencies

We describe the variables used in research, that are included in questionnaires of Americas Barometer in 2004, 2006-7, 2008, 2010 and 2012 rounds.

VB2. *Did you vote in the last presidential election of 20xx?*

1. Yes, I did. 2. I did not vote. 8. Don't know / did not respond.

PP2. *There are people who work for some party or candidate during the electoral campaigns. Did you work for any candidate or party in the last presidential elections of 2006?*

1. Yes, worked. 2. Did not work. 8. Don't know / did not respond.

Now, moving on to a different topic, sometimes the people and communities have problems that they cannot solve by themselves, and so in order to solve them they request help from a government official or agency.

In order to solve your problems, have you ever requested help or cooperation from...?

CP2. *A deputy of Congress?*

CP4. *Any ministry, public institution or state agency?*

CP4a. *Any local authorities (mayor, municipality, prefect)?*

1. Yes 2. No. 8. Don't know / did not respond.

→ For the 2004 and 2006 rounds

Now, I am going to ask you a few questions about your community and the problems it faces.

CP5. *In the past year have you contributed or tried to contribute toward the solution of a problem in your community or in your neighborhood?*

1. Yes 2. No. 8. Don't know / did not respond.

→ For the 2008, 2010 and 2012 rounds

CP5. *Now, changing the subject. In the last 12 months have you tried to help to solve a problem in your community or in your neighborhood? Please, tell me if you did it at*

least once a week, once or twice a month, once or twice a year or never.

1. Once a week 2. Once or twice a month 3. Once or twice a year

4. Never 88. Don't know 98. Did not respond

I am going to read a list of groups and organizations. Please tell me if you attend their meetings at least once a week, once or twice a month, once or twice a year, or never.

***CP8**. Meetings of a community improvement committee or association? Do you attend*

them…

***CP13**. Meetings of a community improvement committee or association? Do you attend them…*

Now, let's talk about your local municipality...

***NP1.** Have you attended a town meeting, city council meeting or other meeting in the past 12 months?*

***NP2.** Have you sought assistance from or presented a request to any office, official or councilperson of the municipality within the past 12 months?*

1. / Yes 2. / No 88. / Don't know 98. / Did not respond

***PP1.** During election time, some people try to convince others to vote for a party or candidate. How often have you tried to convince others to vote for a party or candidate?*

1. Frequently 2. Occasionally 3. Rarely 4. Never

8. Don't know / did not respond

<u>→ For the 2004, 2006 and 2008 rounds</u>

***PROT1.** Have you ever participated in a public demonstration or protest? Have you done it sometimes, almost never or never?*

<u>→ For the 2010 and 2012 rounds</u>

***PROT3.** In the last twelve months, have you participated in a demonstration or protest march?*

<u>→ Only for 2012 round</u>

***PROT6**. In the last twelve months, have you signed any petition?*

1. Yes 2. No 88. Don't know 99. Did not respond

Consider anyone who gave one of the response options described below as a participatory citizen, for each variable.

VB2: "Yes"/ ***PP2***: "Yes"/ ***CP2***: "Yes"/ ***CP4***: "Yes"/ ***CP4A***: "Yes"/ ***CP5*** (2004 and 2006/7 rounds): "Yes"/ ***CP5*** (2008, 2010 and 2012 rounds): "once a week", "once or twice a month" or "once or twice a year"/ ***CP8***: "once a week", "once or twice a month" or "once or twice a year"/ ***CP13***: "once a week", "once or twice a month" or "once or twice a year"/ ***NP1***: "Yes"/ ***NP2***: "Yes"/ ***PP1***: "frequently", "occasionally" or "very rarely"/ ***PROT1*** (2004, 2006/7 and 2008 rounds): "sometimes" or "almost never"/ ***PROT3*** (2010 and 2012 rounds): "Yes"/ ***PROT6***: "Yes".

Variables for corruption

A) Experience with situations of requests for bribes

Now, we want to talk about your personal experience with things that happen in everyday life...

EXC2. *Has a police officer asked you for a bribe in the last twelve months?*

EXC6. *In the last twelve months, did any government employee ask you for a bribe?*

0. No 1. Yes 8. DK / DNR

B) Intolerance with payment of bribes

EXC18. *Do you think given the way things are, sometimes paying a bribe is justified?*

0. No 1. Yes 8. DK / DNR

C) Perception of corruption among public officials

EXC7*. Taking into account your own experience or what you have heard, corruption among public officials is...*

(1) Very common (2) Common (3) Uncommon (4) Very uncommon

(88) DK (98) DNR

The following is a table with every index of political participation, considering all the rounds of data and all the countries included in the samples.

Table 1 - Frequency of the indices of each modality of political participation (in %)

Country of Nationality	Community Activism				Partisan Electoral Activism				Contact with Political and Governmental Actors				Voter Turnout		Protest Activism					
	2006-7	2008	2010	2012	2006-7	2008	2010	2012	2006-7	2008	2010	2012	2006-7	2008	2010	2012	2006-7	2008	2010	2012
Mexico	44.42	44.29	46.35	37.05	35.51	35.00	32.59	26.28	28.65	24.68	29.90	24.74	71.09	74.74	70.17	66.60	13.91	16.35	6.34	11.54
Guatemala	41.32	52.73	58.71	56.06	27.44	34.53	32.38	41.22	21.83	23.34	27.53	31.08	56.34	72.43	68.22	78.66	11.48	13.33	8.51	15.97
El Salvador	45.29	45.77	48.58	40.61	28.34	35.77	37.23	32.60	37.13	29.89	34.45	31.13	67.73	68.37	79.29	67.40	8.62	-	4.32	8.15
Honduras	55.33	42.90	38.53	47.50	44.54	63.4	39.54	35.07	26.50	14.45	15.35	19.98	76.28	63.86	60.65	50.32	14.45	-	6.58	10.38
Nicaragua	37.91	40.52	47.21	43.95	40.3	43.90	32.08	35.95	20.43	18.96	22.08	26.58	61.18	71.75	69.22	79.80	8.97	-	9.81	13.34
Costa Rica	43.80	39.27	36.67	28.50	39.80	51.27	34.47	33.91	37.73	19.20	21.80	22.30	70.80	66.47	57.40	65.82	17.20	19.40	5.40	9.75
Panama	37.63	33.92	39.84	30.76	54.43	44.34	36.65	35.17	19.08	15.76	15.30	14.39	79.49	71.09	81.51	66.38	18.68	-	4.82	7.00
Colombia	-	41.05	42.36	41.27	-	40.59	39.38	39.55	-	23.15	29.48	23.41	-	65.07	59.83	63.03	19.05	22.16	6.84	16.80
Ecuador	43.57	47.54	43.64	50.73	34.05	37.51	31.05	37.87	17.02	17.45	16.91	25.13	83.79	89.53	92.13	88.27	21.13	-	7.76	16.87
Bolivia	-	58.26	56.22	63.66	-	37.26	40.82	30.69	-	21.31	10.52	19.86	-	73.83	89.06	80.92	39.49	-	11.35	17.53
Peru	59.00	51.53	56.47	51.87	50.00	44.60	40.40	41.07	34.07	25.00	23.60	24.20	91.73	88.47	-	90.40	28.47	31.73	12.13	18.67
Paraguay	70.64	68.52	57.99	57.28	35.62	43.65	37.22	30.20	21.80	20.33	26.63	20.33	59.23	60.12	66.18	60.07	-	-	11.98	19.67
Chile	43.31	36.28	37.36	45.06	38.43	23.12	26.45	34.64	31.91	29.21	23.54	23.37	70.73	67.65	62.99	67.49	21.09	-	4.64	14.79
Uruguay	41.67	35.87	33.73	35.25	37.92	37.67	42.87	30.29	34.33	31.80	30.40	27.18	88.92	87.60	93.40	89.75	25.75	-	11.4	19.71
Brazil	-	47.76	33.45	33.93	-	51.97	43.93	45.27	-	31.66	22.76	18.40	-	84.57	82.60	88.47	14.42	17.57	5.37	17.20
Venezuela	50.07	49.4	54.93	43.60	44.83	47.93	40.87	31.60	26.36	20.53	21.20	18.73	76.69	80.47	68.47	76.40	23.84	-	6.34	10.80
Argentina	-	33.11	34.54	32.54	-	52.15	44.89	29.96	-	25.71	24.33	24.40	-	77.32	73.90	88.23	-	-	15.04	17.20
Dominican Republic	63.39	57.53	64.27	57.54	62.93	56.93	54.60	52.05	26.25	21.63	26.53	20.90	71.5	69.54	75.93	70.37	15.11	-	5.33	13.56
Haiti	49.85	68.49	69.01	73.24	42.58	52.28	60.52	55.07	17.35	18.10	24.40	29.93	76.98	69.08	58.98	77.03	24.31	-	16.89	22.91
Jamaica	50.91	55.9	51.86	54.33	45.89	53.9	33.78	42.6	32.54	29.55	27.93	32.67	46.46	63.98	56.78	60.93	11.60	-	3.12	4.07
Guyana	48.94	47.79	43.70	46.04	52.67	39.24	37.34	55.53	25.34	29.95	26.75	27.73	77.88	71.54	70.71	78.74	13.70	-	3.70	11.58
Trinidad and Tobago	-	-	39.38	40.82	-	-	41.19	37.31	-	-	27.22	28.91	-	-	68.73	68.53	-	-	6.57	13.92
Belize	-	45.23	40.76	36.97	-	51.10	52.39	49.47	-	20.04	27.26	26.46	-	75.52	76.13	83.80	-	17.72	4.99	17.53
Suriname	-	-	40.98	38.67	-	-	66.89	62.06	-	-	28.94	21.31	-	-	70.04	77.41	-	-	5.68	5.90

Source: Americas Barometer, Latin American Public Opinion Project (LAPOP), www.LapopSurveys.org.