

[Home](#) > [Journal](#) > [Social Sciences & Humanities](#) > [SM](#)[Indexing](#) [View Papers](#) [Aims & Scope](#) [Editorial Board](#) [Guideline](#) [Article Processing Charges](#)[SM](#) > [Vol.3 No.1, January 2013](#)[Open Access](#)

## Predictors of Electoral Participation among Spanish and Latin American Undergraduates

PDF (Size: 132KB) PP. 56-61 DOI: [10.4236/sm.2013.31010](https://doi.org/10.4236/sm.2013.31010)

### Author(s)

José Juan Vázquez, Sonia Panadero, Ana B. García-Varela

### ABSTRACT

This paper presents the results of a study of 709 undergraduates in Nicaragua, El Salvador, Chile, and Spain, countries with different developmental levels that held the first free elections following their respective dictatorships within a thirteen year span. The paper analyzes the electoral participation of undergraduates in relation to different factors. Results show a high electoral participation among Salvadoran, Nicaraguan, and Spanish undergraduates, while low turnout is observed among Chileans. The best predictors of electoral participation of undergraduates are related to their nationality, economic status, interest in politics, gender or living away from home.

### KEYWORDS

Electoral Participation; Predictors; Latin-America; Spain

### Cite this paper

Vázquez, J. , Panadero, S. & García-Varela, A. (2013). Predictors of Electoral Participation among Spanish and Latin American Undergraduates. *Sociology Mind*, 3, 56-61. doi: [10.4236/sm.2013.31010](https://doi.org/10.4236/sm.2013.31010).

### References

- [1] Almond, G., & Verba, S. (1963). *The civic culture: Political attitudes and democracy in five nations*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.
- [2] Bekkers, R. (2005). Participation in voluntary associations: Relations with resources, personality, and political values. *Political Psychology*, 26, 439-445. doi:10.1111/j.1467-9221.2005.00425.x
- [3] Brugha, T. S., & Cragg, D. (1990). The list of threatening experiences: The reliability and validity of a brief life events questionnaire. *Acta Psychiatrica Scandinavica*, 82, 77-81. doi:10.1111/j.1600-0447.1990.tb01360.x
- [4] Dekker, P., Koopmans, R., & Van den Broek, A. (1997). Voluntary associations, social movements and individual political behaviour in Western Europe. In J. Van Deth (Ed.), *Private groups and public life: Social participation, voluntary associations and political involvement in representative democracies* (pp. 220-239). London: Routledge.
- [5] Ellis, S. J. (2004). Young people and political action: Who is taking responsibility for positive social change? *Journal of Youth Studies*, 7, 89-102. doi:10.1080/1367626042000209976
- [6] Fuentes, C., & Villar, A. (2004). Registro automático. Presentation in the Chilean Senate. URL (last checked 15 May 2011). [www.flacso.cl/flacso/main.php?page=noticia&code=542](http://www.flacso.cl/flacso/main.php?page=noticia&code=542)
- [7] Hair, J. F., Anderson, R. E., Tatham R. L., & Black, W. C. (1999). *Multivariate data analysis*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice-Hall International.
- [8] Hritzuk, N., & Park, D. K. (2000). The question of Latino participation: From an SES to a social structural explanation. *Social Science Quarterly*, 81, 151-166.
- [9] Johnson, M., Stein, R. M., & Wrinkle, R. (2003). Language choice, residential stability, and voting among Latino Americans. *Social Science Quarterly*, 84, 412-424. doi:10.1111/1540-6237.8402012

[SM Subscription](#)[Free Newsletter Subscription](#)[Most popular papers in SM](#)[Publication Ethics Statement](#)[About SM News](#)[Frequently Asked Questions](#)[Recommend to Peers](#)[Recommend to Library](#)[Contact Us](#)

Downloads: 84,766

Visits: 281,475

### Sponsors, Associates, and Links >>

- [Conference on Psychology and Social Harmony \(CPSH 2014\), May 15-16, 2014, Suzhou, China](#)

- [10] Leighley, J. E. (1995). Attitudes, opportunities, and incentives: A field essay on political participation. *Political Research Quarterly*, 48, 181-209.
- [11] Moyser, G., & Parry, G. (1997). Voluntary associations and democratic participation in Britain. In J. Van Deth (Ed.), *Private groups and public life: Social participation, voluntary associations and political involvement in representative democracies* (pp. 24-46). London: Routledge.
- [12] Parry, G., Moyser, G., & Day, N. (1992). *Political participation in Britain*. Cambridge, MA: Cambridge University Press. doi:10.1017/CBO9780511558726
- [13] Seligson, A. (1999). Civic association and democratic participation in Central America. A test of the Putnam Hypothesis. *Comparative Political Studies*, 32, 342-362. doi:10.1177/0010414099032003003
- [14] Stolle, D., & Rochon, T. (1999). The myth of American exceptionalism: A three-nation comparison of associational membership and social capital. In J. Van Deth, M. Maraffi, K. Newton, & P. Whiteley (Eds.), *Social capital and European democracy* (pp. 192-209). London: Routledge.
- [15] Teorell, J. (2003). Linking social capital to political participation: Voluntary associations and networks of recruitment in Sweden. *Scandinavian Political Studies*, 26, 49-66. doi:10.1111/1467-9477.00079
- [16] UNDP (United Nations Development Programme) (2010). *Human Development Report 2010. The Real Wealth of Nations: Pathways to Human Development*. New York: UNDP.
- [17] Vázquez, J. J., Panadero, S., & Rincón, P. P. (2005). Actitudes hacia la política, asociacionismo y emigración entre estudiantes de psicología nicaraguenses. *Revista Electrónica de Psicología Política*, 8, 1-21.
- [18] Vázquez, J. J., Panadero, S., & Rincón, P. P. (2006). Actitudes hacia la política, instituciones y emigración entre estudiantes salvadoreños. *Revista Electrónica de Psicología Política*, 11, 1-20.
- [19] Vázquez, J. J., Panadero, S., & Rincón, P. P. (2007). Stressful life events in countries of differing economic development: Nicaragua, Chile, and Spain. *Psychological Reports*, 101, 193-201.
- [20] Verba, S., Schlozman, K. L., & Brady, H. (1995). *Voice and equality: civic voluntarism in American politics*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.