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What Do Latin Americans Think of the IDB?

BY

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Abstract

Using the *Latinobarómetro* survey, this paper examines Latin Americans' perceptions of the IDB, the World Bank and the IMF. The study analyzes how people's knowledge and evaluation of these multilateral organizations are affected by the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of the respondents, the country where they live, the financial position of the IDB in that country, macroeconomic conditions and interviewees' political orientation and attitudes towards democracy and free markets. The results indicate both good and bad news for the IDB. Negatively, it is the least-known of the three international organizations; but positively, it is the best rated among those familiar with them. Demographic variables and socioeconomic levels are important determinants of who knows these organizations. In terms of grading, the demographic characteristics of the respondent seem to have no impact. Conversely, economic status, macroeconomic conditions (to some extent), and the political orientation of the respondent are significant determinants of people's evaluation.

1. Introduction

The regionwide economic downturn of 1998-2002 increased antagonism in Latin America toward the "Washington consensus" and its main proponents. Perceived results of economic reforms in the 1990s, which were supported strongly by international organizations, especially the IMF, were disappointing. As a result, the image of these institutions suffered and they became more unpopular. Given this context at a time of transformation for the Bank, it is instructive and important to understand what people in our region think of the IDB.

This paper addresses that question by using results from the *Latinobarometro* survey. This public poll offers an invaluable source of information about Latin Americans' opinions of politics, institutions and economics, perceptions about individual well-being, and public attitudes toward free markets and democracy. It has been held annually since 1995 in as many as 18 Latin American countries.[1]

The analysis of this paper is based on a question included in the 2001 survey, in which interviewees were presented with a list of institutions and asked to identify those with which they were familiar and to grade each on a 1-to-10 scale (with 1 being "very bad" and 10 being "very good"). The list included the IDB, the World Bank and the IMF, among others.[2] Unfortunately these organizations were included only in that year's survey, so it is not possible to study changes in people's opinion over time. Similar questions were asked in other years (1996, 1998, 2000 and 2003) but the list of institutions included neither the IDB nor the World Bank.[3] This study examines how people's knowledge and evaluation of these multilateral organizations are affected by the demographic and socioeconomic characteristics of the respondents, the country or region where they live, the financial position of the IDB in that country, the macroeconomic conditions, and interviewees' political orientation and attitudes toward democracy and the free market. Thus, the emphasis is on understanding how individuals and countries differ in their knowledge and evaluation of the IDB, both in absolute terms and relative to the World Bank and IMF.

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[1] The countries included are Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela and the Dominican Republic.

[2] The other institutions are Mercosur, ALCA, Mercado Común Centroamericano, Pacto Andino, the United Nations and the Organization of American States.

The 2001 sample comprised 18,135 individuals who were at least 16 years old and covered 17 countries.[4] The survey was conducted in April and May. The timing is relevant for interpretation of the results since important subsequent events, such as the September 11 terrorist attacks, the war in Iraq, the global economic slowdown and Argentina's default, may have altered Latin Americans' perceptions of international organizations.

The results indicate both good and bad news for the IDB. Negatively, it is the least-known of the three international organizations; but positively, it is the best rated among those familiar with them. Among countries in the sample, Uruguay had the largest fraction of people knowing the IDB, and Colombia the lowest. In terms of grading IDB, Nicaraguans gave the highest and Argentines the lowest marks.

Demographic variables and socioeconomic levels are important determinants of who knows the IDB, the IMF and the Word Bank. Older, more-educated, wealthier men are more likely to know the institutions.

Conversely, in terms of grading, the demographic characteristics of the respondent seem to have no significant impact, but economic status does (wealthier individuals tend to rate the IDB higher). Macroeconomic conditions matter (to some extent) for institutional grading. People from countries with higher growth gave higher grades. Nonetheless, the rates of unemployment and inflation did not have a significant impact. The political orientation of the respondent also correlated with the grade assigned. People from the right, those who believe privatizations were beneficial for their countries, and those with a good opinion of the United States gave the IDB higher scores. Finally, middle-class people and women tended to give a higher grade to the IDB than to the World Bank, while people who read and watch the news more often rated the World Bank better. Not surprisingly, countries with higher growth and lower inflation tended to give higher grades to the IMF (vis-à-vis the IDB).

The analysis in this paper proceeds as follows. First, the database is described and the methodology is outlined. Then econometric analyses are performed to answer three questions: Who knows the IDB, who likes the IDB, and who rates the IDB higher than its comparators. An appendix is included, describing the variables used in the analysis.

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[3] In 1996, 1998 and 2000, none of the international financial institutions was included; and the questionnaire only asks whether the respondent has heard or read about the institution, rather than asking for grading. The 2003 survey only includes the IMF.

[4] The Dominican Republic was included in 2004.

2. Data and Methodology

The *Latinobarómetro* surveys are conducted by national polling firms in each country using comparable sampling methodologies and the same questionnaire across countries. Different individuals are interviewed every year and several questions are replaced in each annual survey. The sample size by country varied from 1,000 to 1,200, with the exception of Panama, which had a sample of 603 individuals.

In most cases, the samples are representative across gender, socioeconomic status and age, especially in recent years.[5] Nonetheless, some limitations discussed in previous studies using this data source (for example, Panizza and Yañez, 2005) are worth mentioning here. First, early surveys focused exclusively on urban populations. In 2000, coverage was extended nationwide in all countries except Chile, Colombia and Paraguay, where the survey remains only urban (urban populations in these countries represent 86 percent, 75 percent and 55 percent of total population, respectively).[6] A second problem is that until 2002, the surveys were conducted only in a country's official language (Spanish or Portuguese). This may have induced lower participation by indigenous populations that do not speak those languages. Finally, some evidence shows that samples overrepresented more-educated individuals, at least in early years (Gaviria, Panizza and Seddon, 2004).

A detailed description of the variables used in the analysis is presented in the Appendix, including their sample means and standard deviations. The demographic and socioeconomic variables include gender, age, education, wealth quintile, an index that reflects how often the respondent read and watched the news, and indicators for indigenous groups, heads of households, rural populations and people living in the capital city of the country. The general socioeconomic status of the individual is measured by the interviewer's perception, which is based on the respondent's general appearance and housing conditions. The macroeconomic variables included GDP growth, inflation and unemployment. Finally, country dummy variables were added to all the regression specifications (except those including macro variables) to capture national idiosyncratic effects.

Two alternative geographical categories were examined, following IDB classifications. The first, based on the Bank's regional departments, considers Region 1 excluding Brazil

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[5] In 2001, the sample was representative nationwide in 9 out of the 17 countries. The lowest representations were in Bolivia (52 percent), Peru (52 percent) and Paraguay (46 percent).

(Argentina, Uruguay, Chile, Bolivia and Paraguay), Brazil, Region 2 excluding Mexico (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Honduras and Panama), Mexico, and Region 3 (Colombia, Venezuela, Peru, and Ecuador). The second category is based on the IDB grouping of borrowing countries and is divided into Group A (Argentina, Brazil, Mexico and Venezuela), Group B (Chile, Colombia and Peru), Group C (Costa Rica, Panama and Uruguay, and Group D (Bolivia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua).

3. Who Knows the IDB?

According to the *Latinobarómetro* data, the IDB is the least known of the three international organizations included. As shown in Figure 1, 35.4 percent of sample respondents express knowledge of IDB, while 38.5 percent and 39.6 percent know the IMF and World Bank, respectively (with the gaps being statistically significant).

Region 1 (excluding Brazil) displayed the greatest knowledge of the IDB among the regions, with 43 percent of its sample recognizing the Bank. Nonetheless, this figure is still below those for the IMF and World Bank in the same region (see Figure 2). In all regions the percentage of people who know the IDB is below that for the other international organizations.

Figure 1. Percentage of the Sample that Knows the IDB, IMF and WB

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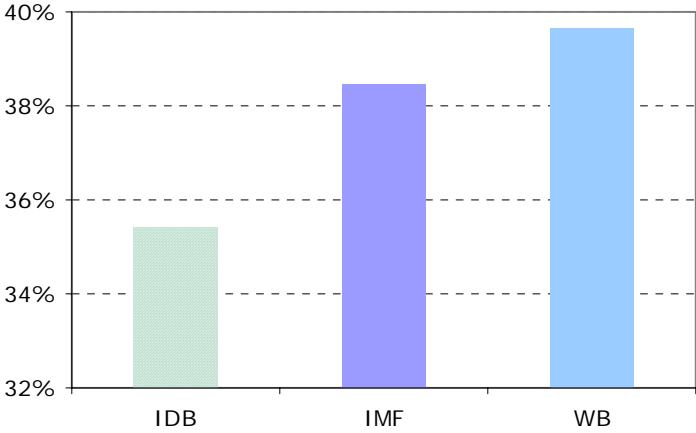
[6] *Latinobarómetro* announced that in 2006 the survey in Chile will also have national coverage.

Figure 2. Knowledge of the Institutions by Region and Country Group
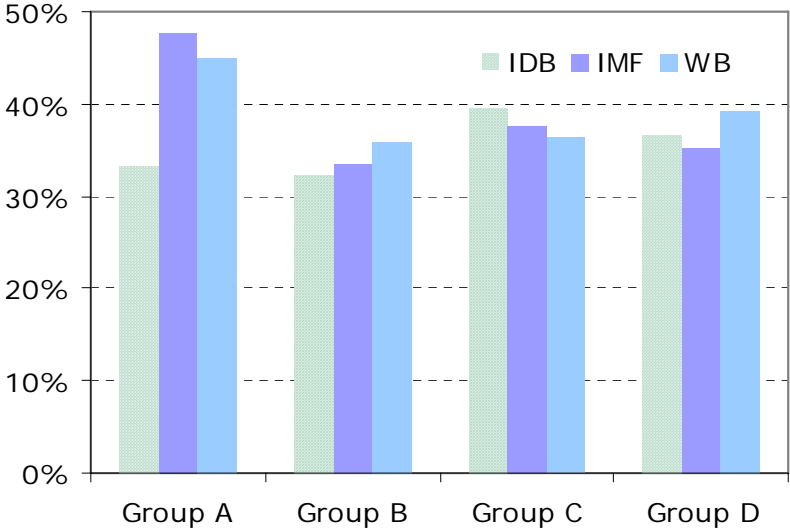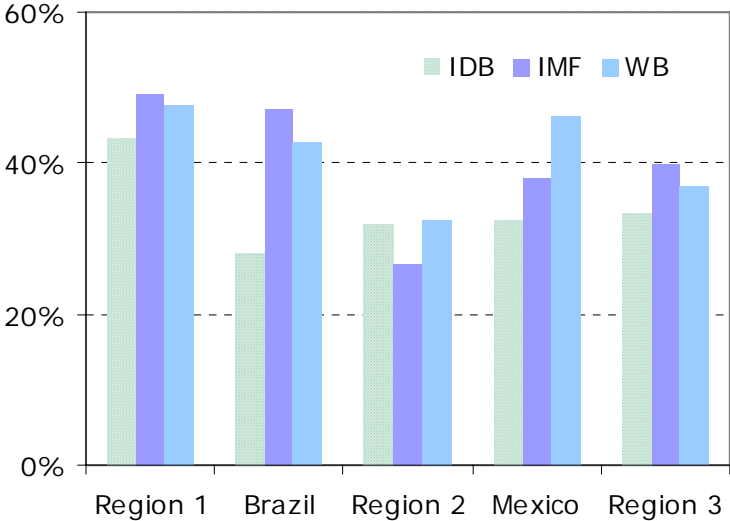
At the country level, Uruguay has the largest fraction of people familiar with the IDB (almost 57 percent), and Colombia has the lowest (around 17 percent). Knowledge is highly correlated across institutions (that is, those regions that know one institution are more likely to know the others as well).

Figure 3. Knowledge of the Institutions by Country
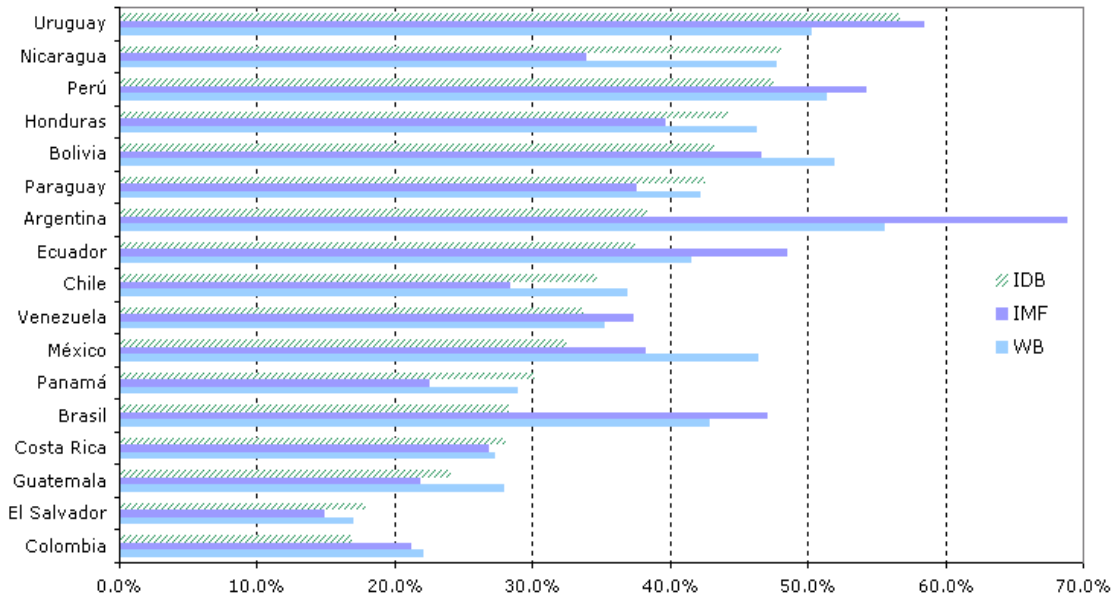
To understand what explains the differences of familiarity with the international organizations among Latin Americans, a regression analysis was followed. The dependent variable is defined as an indicator that equals 1 if the respondent knows the institution and 0 if he/she does not.

The results (Table 1) show that older people have a higher probability of knowing the IDB (at a decreasing rate, with each additional year of age increasing the likelihood of knowing the IDB, but with an impact greater for younger than for older individuals). Women and less-educated people are less familiar with the institution. Women are 9 percent less likely than men to know the IDB. The impact is very similar for the World Bank and IMF. When compared with respondents who have no education, people with primary schooling are 6.3 percent more likely to know the IDB. Measured against the same baseline, the impact is 18 percent for high school graduates and 31 percent for college graduates.

There is no significant difference for indigenous people. In other words, they are equally likely to know the IDB (and the other institutions) as nonindigenous respondents, controlling for all other characteristics. However, as mentioned above, this group might not be well represented in the sample.

Wealthier individuals know the IDB better. People in the top quintile of wealth have a 17 percent higher probability of knowing the institution than those in the lowest quintile. This is a

considerable difference since it is in addition to the effect from the higher educational levels of wealthier individuals. As expected, reading and watching the news more often has a significant impact (one standard deviation change in this index increases the probability of knowing the IDB by 7 percent).

People living in capital cities have better knowledge of the IDB, and there is no significant difference for those living in rural areas.[7] People classified by the pollster as having a regular socioeconomic level have lower chances of knowing the IDB than those with a good socioeconomic level, even after controlling for education, wealth and the other variables. In contrast, people with a low socioeconomic level are equally likely to know the IDB as the group with a good socioeconomic level.

After controlling for cross-regional demographic and socioeconomic differences, Region 3 has the highest knowledge of the IDB (3.5 percent more than Region 1 without Brazil). People living in Region 2 (excluding Mexico) have the lowest probability of knowing the institution. This result is the same for the IMF and World Bank. A different regression specification (not shown) demonstrates that after controlling for demographic and socioeconomic characteristics, Uruguayans still are the most likely to know of the IDB and Chileans are the least likely.

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[7] The finding for rural areas is probably affected by their underrepresentation in the sample.

Table 1. OLS Regressions, "Do you know the following institution?"

	IDB	IMF	World Bank
Age	0.007 ***	0.003 *	0.004 *
	(0.002)	(0.002)	(0.002)
Age^2	0.000 ***	0.000 **	0.000 **
	(0.000)	0.000	(0.000)
Woman	-0.094 ***	-0.086 ***	-0.103 ***
	(0.013)	(0.012)	(0.010)
Head	0.013	0.000	-0.013
	(0.013)	(0.009)	(0.010)
Primary	0.063 ***	0.075 **	0.073 ***
	(0.018)	(0.027)	(0.019)
Secondary	0.183 ***	0.204 ***	0.196 ***
	(0.026)	(0.036)	(0.027)
College	0.310 ***	0.316 ***	0.309 ***
	(0.038)	(0.039)	(0.036)
Indigenous	0.002	0.014	-0.013
	(0.014)	(0.018)	(0.019)
Quintile 2	0.045 ***	0.048 **	0.029 *
	(0.015)	(0.017)	(0.016)
Quintile 3	0.089 ***	0.081 ***	0.084 ***
	(0.021)	(0.019)	(0.016)
Quintile 4	0.109 ***	0.126 ***	0.114 ***
	(0.021)	(0.022)	(0.027)
Quintile 5	0.173 ***	0.185 ***	0.166 ***
	(0.022)	(0.020)	(0.021)
Soc_ec (regular)	-0.044 ***	-0.039 **	-0.02
	(0.014)	(0.014)	(0.017)
Soc_ec (bad)	-0.026	-0.043 **	-0.035 *
	(0.017)	(0.015)	(0.018)
Informed	0.111 ***	0.104 ***	0.104 ***
	(0.009)	(0.009)	(0.010)
Rural	0.019	0.005	0.017
	(0.013)	(0.017)	(0.012)
Capital	0.075 ***	0.086 ***	0.082 ***
	(0.021)	(0.021)	(0.020)
Brazil	-0.037 ***	-0.150 ***	-0.064 ***
	(0.012)	(0.016)	(0.013)
Region 2 (excl. Mexico)	-0.112 ***	-0.477 ***	-0.301 ***
	(0.008)	(0.009)	(0.009)
Mexico	-0.069 ***	-0.330 ***	-0.108 ***
	(0.007)	(0.006)	(0.007)
Region 3	0.035 ***	-0.162 ***	-0.096 ***
	(0.006)	(0.006)	(0.006)
Observations	15,673	15,673	15,673
R-squared	0.18	0.23	0.18

Regressions include constant and country dummies
Robust standard errors in parentheses
* significant at 10%; ** significant at 5%; *** significant at 1%

4. Who Likes the IDB?

Although it is the least known among the three international organizations, the IDB appears to be better liked in Latin America. On a 1-to -10 scale (where 1 is very bad and 10 is very good) the average grade given to the IDB by people who know the organization is 6 points, compared to 5.4 to the IMF and 5.8 to the World Bank (see Figure 4). The differences are small but statistically significant. This result holds even when comparing the average grade among those

who know the three institutions. That is, the samples of people reporting to know each institution are not necessarily the same across the IMF, IDB and World Bank. First, as previously noted, the number of individuals who know the IDB is around 12 percent lower than those who know the World Bank and 9 percent lower than those who know the IMF. Second, despite considerable correlation across institutions, some individuals may know one institution and not the others, so the average grades may be calculated over quite different samples. Consequently, it is interesting to know how grades compare for those who report knowing the three institutions. For this specific subsample (4,546 individuals), the average grades are 5.9 for the IDB, 5.4 for the IMF, and 5.6 for the World Bank (the differences are still statistically significant).

Figure 4. Average Grade (1-to-10 scale)
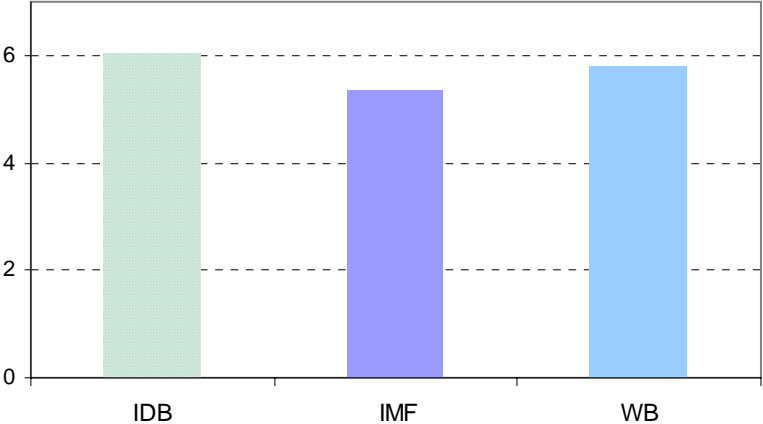
Among the regions, the highest grade for IDB was given by Region 2 (excluding Mexico) and the lowest was given by Region 1 (excluding Brazil), as shown in Figure 5. Grades are correlated across organizations (that is, those regions that give a high grade to one institution tend to give higher grades to the others as well). In terms of countries, the highest grade was given by Nicaragua (7.6) and the lowest by Argentina (3.9). Average grades by country are presented in Figure 6.

Figure 5. Average Grade by Region and Country Group
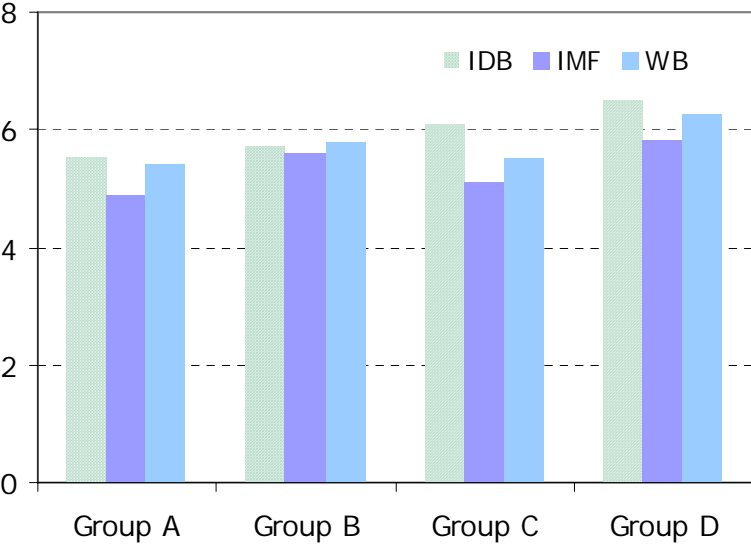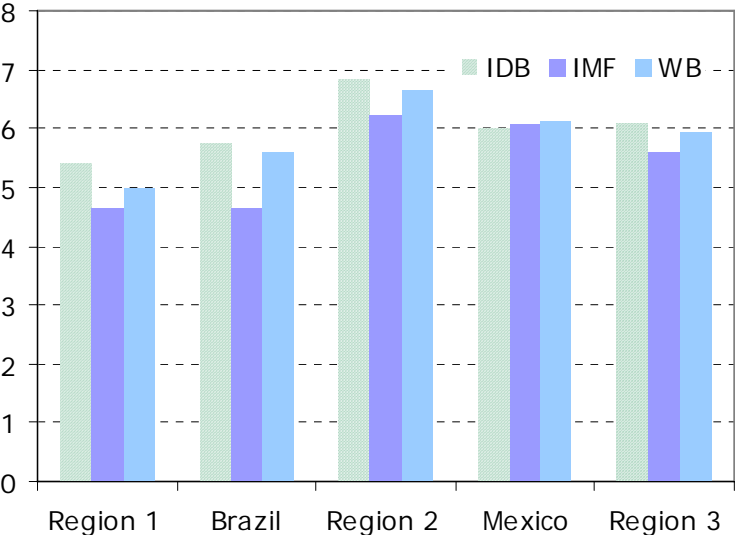
Figure 6. Average Grade by Country
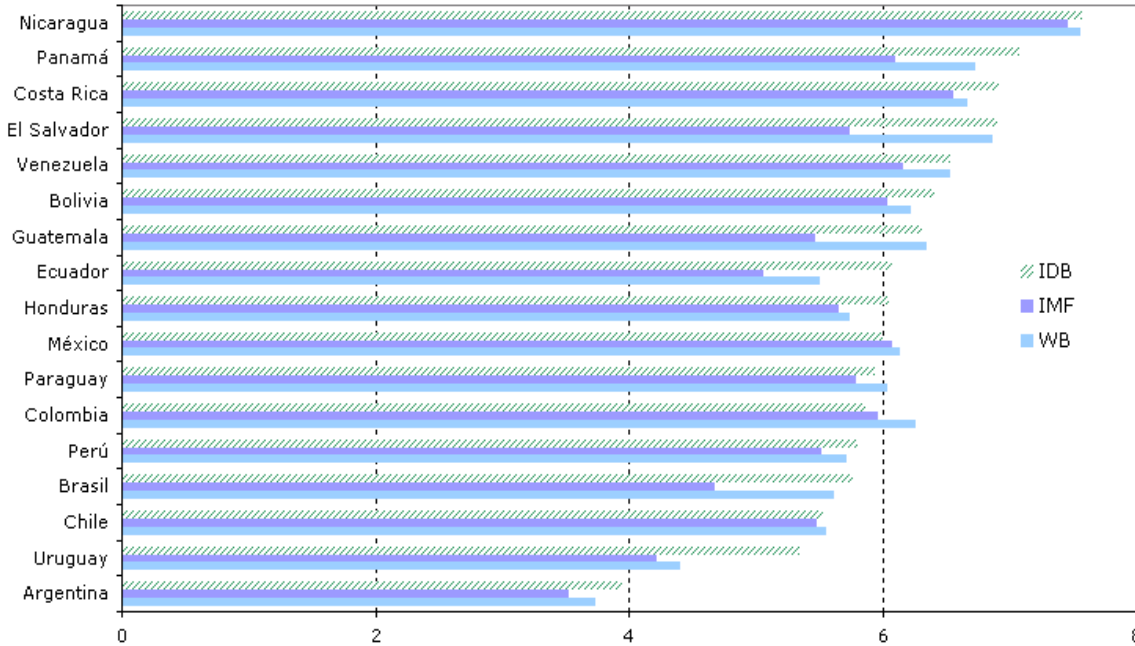
To understand how people grade the institutions, both in absolute and comparative terms, a regression analysis was followed. The dependent variable is the grade each individual gave the IDB. The sample includes only those individuals who reported knowing each institution. Table 2 presents separate regressions for each institution, including as regressors only demographic, socioeconomic and geographic variables. The results show that education and wealth are the only individual characteristics that have a significant impact on the grading of the IDB. Respondents with more education tend to give lower grades, on average. The only significant effect is found among high-school graduates, whose average grade is 2 points lower than those with no education. In terms of wealth, the only significant difference was between the highest and lowest quintile (the highest quintile's average grade is 2.9 points higher than the lowest quintile. The other demographic and socioeconomic variables do not seem to influence people's grading. Individuals with different age, gender, household position, ethnicity, information level, or socioeconomic status do not systematically differ in their perception of the Bank. Findings for the IMF and World Bank are similar, with the exception of age (older individuals give lower grades, on average).

The findings imply that the main source of grade variation derives from country and regional differences. Thus, even after controlling for demographic and socioeconomic

14

differences, Region 2 and Region 1 still give the highest and lowest grade to the IDB, respectively. Similarly, Nicaragua is the country with the highest and Argentina is the country with the lowest grade.[8]

In Table 3, regression variants for the IDB grade only are presented. The first column the country group classification is included instead of regional dummies. The results are not affected by this change. In the second and third column, regressions incorporate macroeconomic variables including real GDP growth, overall unemployment rate, and adjusted inflation (all measured in 2000).[9] When regional dummies are also included (column 3), the coefficient for all the macro variables are not statistically significant. This is in part because of the correlation between the regional dummies and the macro variables. When the regional dummies are omitted, GDP growth has a significant positive impact on the grading (countries with one percentage point more of GDP growth gave 1.4 point higher grade, on average).[10] Finally, the regression of the last column includes some measures of the political orientation of the individual and his/her attitude towards democracy and free-market. The results show that people who consider themselves from the right and center-right tend to rate the IDB better (their average grade is around half a point higher than left extremists, keeping all the other characteristics constant). Similarly, those individuals who believe privatizations were beneficial for their countries presented, on average, a 0.3 higher grade than those who do not. Lastly, there is a substantial correlation between the grade and the opinion people have on the United Sates. Other things being equal, having a good or very good opinion on United States increased the average IDB grade by 1 point.[11]

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[8] Countries' fixed effects are not shown.

[9] Adjusted inflation is computed as $1 - (1/(1 + CPI$ inflation rate). This is done to moderate the impact of outliers, mainly driven by Ecuador that had a 96 percent inflation rate in 2000.

[10] The significance of this coefficient disappears if the output gap is used as a measure of economic activity instead of GDP growth. The output gap is computed as the percentage difference of the GDP relative to its trend (calculated using a Hodrick-Prescott filter over the period 1970–2001)

[11] It is important to note that the survey was held in April and May of 2001, before the September 11 terrorist attacks and before the war in Iraq. This makes this period quite "neutral." Of those who responded to this question, 82 percent had a favorable or very favorable opinion of the U.S.

Table 2. OLS Regressions for IDB, IMF and World Bank Grades

Grade	IDB	IMF	WB
Age	-0.020	-0.050 ***	-0.051 ***
	(0.012)	(0.015)	(0.013)
Age^2	0.000	0.000 **	0.000 ***
	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)
Woman	0.135	0.138	0.083
	(0.090)	(0.079)	(0.059)
Head	-0.050	0.025	0.044
	(0.103)	(0.086)	(0.056)
Primary	-0.038	0.002	-0.071
	(0.098)	(0.129)	(0.144)
Secondary	-0.209 **	-0.139	-0.305 **
	(0.096)	(0.131)	(0.116)
College	-0.195	-0.007	-0.252
	(0.152)	(0.183)	(0.153)
Indigenous	0.020	-0.113	-0.156
	(0.137)	(0.112)	(0.117)
Quintile 2	-0.110	0.015	-0.042
	(0.094)	(0.077)	(0.117)
Quintile 3	0.028	-0.121	-0.042
	(0.109)	(0.122)	(0.110)
Quintile 4	-0.004	0.043	0.116
	(0.084)	(0.114)	(0.141)
Quintile 5	0.291 **	0.212 *	0.202 **
	(0.115)	(0.107)	(0.095)
Soc_ec (regular)	0.052	0.148	0.026
	(0.108)	(0.104)	(0.103)
Soc_ec (bad)	0.108	0.280	0.163
	(0.151)	(0.174)	(0.139)
Informed	-0.057	0.048	0.046
	(0.048)	(0.056)	(0.045)
Rural	-0.194	-0.063	-0.038
	(0.300)	(0.205)	(0.172)
Capital	-0.102	-0.165	-0.101
	(0.149)	(0.137)	(0.151)
Brazil	1.770 ***	1.042 ***	1.747 ***
	(0.059)	(0.068)	(0.063)
Region 2 (excl. Mexico)	2.938 ***	2.156 ***	2.642 ***
	(0.040)	(0.023)	(0.044)
Mexico	2.006 ***	2.361 ***	2.236 ***
	(0.061)	(0.046)	(0.053)
Region 3	2.616 ***	2.474 ***	2.839 ***
	(0.048)	(0.047)	(0.050)
Observations	5,655	6,086	6,251
R-squared	0.12	0.16	0.15

Robust standard errors in parentheses
* significant at 10%; ** significant at 5%; *** significant at 1%

Table 3. Regression Variants for IDB Grading, Including Macro and Political Variables

IDB grade	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Age	-0.020	-0.024 *	-0.023	-0.023 *
	(0.012)	(0.013)	(0.014)	(0.013)
Age^2	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000 *
	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)
Woman	0.135	0.128	0.100	0.106
	(0.090)	(0.088)	(0.082)	(0.101)
Head	-0.050	-0.045	-0.019	-0.092
	(0.103)	(0.102)	(0.110)	(0.072)
Primary	-0.038	-0.232 *	-0.242 *	0.056
	(0.098)	(0.116)	(0.130)	(0.098)
Secondary	-0.209 **	-0.348 **	-0.317 *	-0.141
	(0.096)	(0.133)	(0.168)	(0.096)
College	-0.195	-0.140	-0.134	-0.193
	(0.152)	(0.174)	(0.156)	(0.132)
Indigenous	0.020	-0.021	-0.117	0.054
	(0.137)	(0.157)	(0.185)	(0.123)
Quintile 2	-0.110	-0.080	-0.132	0.000
	(0.094)	(0.097)	(0.092)	(0.132)
Quintile 3	0.028	0.117	0.178	0.068
	(0.109)	(0.114)	(0.137)	(0.129)
Quintile 4	-0.004	0.064	0.103	0.040
	(0.084)	(0.093)	(0.112)	(0.106)
Quintile 5	0.291 **	0.418 **	0.548 ***	0.340 **
	(0.115)	(0.144)	(0.146)	(0.157)
Soc_ec (regular)	0.052	0.228	0.284 *	0.162
	(0.108)	(0.142)	(0.137)	(0.110)
Soc_ec (bad)	0.108	0.402 *	0.319	0.310 **
	(0.151)	(0.203)	(0.208)	(0.128)
Informed	-0.057	-0.033	-0.186	0.012
	(0.048)	(0.052)	(0.113)	(0.052)
Rural	-0.194	-0.500	-0.246	-0.175
	(0.300)	(0.389)	(0.378)	(0.269)
Capital	-0.102	-0.142	-0.163	-0.011
	(0.149)	(0.174)	(0.161)	(0.153)
Brazil		-0.060		1.324 ***
		(0.437)		(0.068)
Region 2 (excl. Mexico)		1.136 ***		1.901 ***
		(0.381)		(0.093)
Mexico		0.003		1.716 ***
		(0.640)		(0.081)
Region 3		0.236		1.438 ***
		(0.336)		(0.088)
Group B	1.813 ***			
	(0.040)			
Group C	2.869 ***			
	(0.024)			
Group D	2.017 ***			
	(0.050)			
GDP growth		0.093	0.143 *	
		(0.077)	(0.081)	
Inflation		1.309	0.894	
		(0.751)	(1.010)	
Unemployment		0.017	-0.002	
		(0.032)	(0.037)	
Democracy				0.098
				(0.145)
Cen-izq				-0.133
				(0.138)
Center				0.102
				(0.207)
Cent-right				0.431 **
				(0.194)
Right				0.506 **
				(0.190)
Privat				0.351 ***
				(0.064)
Prices				0.108
				(0.107)
Privprod				-0.001
				(0.075)
FDI				0.058
				(0.077)
USA				1.039 ***

5. Who Likes the IDB Better than the IMF or the World Bank?

To conclude, this section presents a comparative analysis of the grades received by the IDB and the IMF/World Bank. In this case, the dependent variable is an indicator that equals one if the grade given to the IDB exceeds the grade given to the IMF (or World Bank) and zero otherwise.

The results are presented in Table 4. Column 1 shows a regression including only demographic, socioeconomic and regional variables. Relative to the World Bank, the middle class (individuals with a regular socioeconomic level) rates the IDB better than do people with low socioeconomic status. Women also tend to give a higher grade to the IDB than to the World Bank. Better-informed people are less likely to give a higher grade to the IDB than to the World Bank. In terms of education, high-school and college graduates assign a higher relative rate to the World Bank than do people with no education. Among the regions, Regions 2 and 3 are more likely than Region 1 to give a lower grade to the IDB than to the World Bank.

In Column 2, the macroeconomic variables are added to the regression. Interestingly, the economic variables have a significant (and robust) impact on the relative grade of the IDB vis-à-vis the IMF. Countries with higher GDP growth and lower inflation are more likely to give a higher grade to the IMF. This effect disappears in the regressions comparing the IDB with the World Bank.

Finally, the regressions in Column 3 include political variables. Political orientation and attitudes toward the free market are not correlated with the relative grades among the institutions. This means that political orientation matters when grading the international organizations in absolute terms, but not in comparisons among them.

Table 4. Regression Variants in Grading the IDB Relative to the IMF and WB

1 if IDB grade is higher	(1)[1]		(2)		(3)[1]	
	IDB vs. IMF	IDB vs. WB	IDB vs. IMF	IDB vs. WB	IDB vs. IMF	IDB vs. WB
Age	0.002	-0.004	0.003	-0.004	0.000	-0.004
	(0.003)	(0.002)	(0.003)	(0.002)	(0.004)	(0.003)
Age^2	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)	(0.000)
Woman	0.003	3.000 **	0.006	0.046 **	0.025	0.044 **
	(0.018)	(0.017)	(0.019)	(0.017)	(0.020)	(0.019)
Head	-0.035	-0.021	-0.033	-0.020	-0.030	-0.013
	(0.022)	(0.027)	(0.022)	(0.027)	(0.025)	(0.031)
Primary	-0.004	-0.038	-0.002	-0.023	-0.013	-0.039
	(0.019)	(0.029)	(0.024)	(0.028)	(0.024)	(0.033)
Secondary	-0.013	-0.051 *	0.000	-0.026	-0.032	-0.045
	(0.022)	(0.028)	(0.029)	(0.031)	(0.024)	(0.028)
College	0.026	-0.079 *	0.046	-0.061	0.020	-0.060
	(0.018)	(0.040)	(0.028)	(0.039)	(0.022)	(0.042)
Indigenous	0.029	-0.006	0.030	0.006	0.021	-0.001
	(0.030)	(0.023)	(0.029)	(0.023)	(0.031)	(0.023)
Quintile 2	0.034	-0.012	0.037	-0.012	0.050	-0.006
	(0.027)	(0.022)	(0.027)	(0.022)	(0.043)	(0.030)
Quintile 3	0.062 *	0.001	0.069 *	-0.005	0.058	0.003
	(0.035)	(0.024)	(0.034)	(0.026)	(0.052)	(0.030)
Quintile 4	0.051 *	0.007	0.060 **	0.006	0.042	0.006
	(0.024)	(0.019)	(0.023)	(0.020)	(0.038)	(0.025)
Quintile 5	0.054	-0.028	0.066 *	-0.031	0.042	-0.020
	(0.037)	(0.030)	(0.034)	(0.031)	(0.055)	(0.034)
Soc_ec (regular)	-0.001	0.054 **	0.008	0.047 **	-0.020	0.055 ***
	(0.018)	(0.019)	(0.019)	(0.020)	(0.017)	(0.019)
Soc_ec (bad)	-0.022	-0.008	-0.007	-0.017	-0.049	-0.006
	(0.024)	(0.027)	(0.027)	(0.025)	(0.028)	(0.031)
Informed	-0.011	-0.079 ***	-0.015	-0.082 ***	-0.011	-0.070 ***
	(0.013)	(0.010)	(0.015)	(0.013)	(0.016)	(0.013)
Rural	-0.015	-0.081 *	-0.015	-0.087 *	0.003	-0.029
	(0.031)	(0.042)	(0.031)	(0.043)	(0.049)	(0.052)
Capital	-0.002	-0.027	-0.009	-0.033	-0.008	-0.023
	(0.028)	(0.024)	(0.028)	(0.024)	(0.027)	(0.026)
Brazil	0.160 ***	0.022 *	0.203 ***	0.090 **	0.151 ***	-0.018
	(0.012)	(0.012)	(0.027)	(0.039)	(0.014)	(0.013)
Region 2 (excl. Mexico)	-0.061 ***	-0.102 ***	-0.013	-0.101 **	-0.079 ***	-0.140 ***
	(0.008)	(0.009)	(0.034)	(0.043)	(0.015)	(0.010)
Mexico	-0.006	0.022 *	0.049	0.092 *	-0.017	0.009
	(0.012)	(0.012)	(0.042)	(0.051)	(0.015)	(0.015)
Region 3	-0.107 ***	-0.141 ***	0.011	-0.031	-0.013	-0.037 **
	(0.008)	(0.011)	(0.027)	(0.038)	(0.019)	(0.013)
GDP growth			-0.019 ***	0.004		
			(0.005)	(0.010)		
Unemployment			-0.003	0.003		
			(0.003)	(0.004)		
Inflation (Adj)			0.215 ***	0.136		
			(0.059)	(0.120)		
Democracy					-0.013	0.004
					(0.023)	(0.026)
Cen-izq					0.060	0.024
					(0.042)	(0.041)
Center					-0.016	-0.030
					(0.040)	(0.028)
Cent-right					0.005	-0.005
					(0.038)	(0.030)
Right					0.006	-0.011
					(0.048)	(0.032)
Privat					0.016	0.022
					(0.017)	(0.016)
Prices					0.011	-0.010
					(0.023)	(0.017)
Privprod					0.018	-0.002
					(0.016)	(0.015)
FDI					0.010	-0.016
					(0.033)	(0.023)
USA					-0.030	0.003
					(0.023)	(0.018)
Observations	4,413	6,251	4,413	6,251	3,397	4,694
R-squared	0.03	0.05	0.02	0.04	0.03	0.06

[1]Include country dummies

6. Appendix

Definition of Variables and Descriptive Statistics

Descriptive Statistics	Mean	Std. Dev.
Age	38.5	16.0
Woman	51%	50%
Head	50%	50%
Indigenous	12%	32%
Informed	0.00	0.65
No education / basic inc.	25%	43%
Basic complete / secondary inc.	37%	48%
Secondary compl / college inc	32%	47%
College complete	7%	25%
Rural	7%	25%
Capital	24%	43%
Region 1 (excl. Brazil)	54%	45%
Brazil	6%	23%
Region 2 (excl. Mexico)	33%	47%
Mexico	7%	25%
Region 3	25%	44%
Group A	26%	44%
Group B	19%	39%
Group C	18%	38%
Group D	38%	49%
Soc_ec 1 (good)	40%	49%
Soc_ec 2 (regular)	42%	49%
Soc_ec 3 (bad)	18%	38%
USA	82%	38%
Democracy	28%	45%
Privat	31%	46%
Prices	59%	49%
Privprod	45%	50%
FDI	75%	43%
Left	10%	30%
Center-Left	14%	35%
Center	30%	46%
Center-Right	25%	43%
Right	22%	42%
GDP growth	2.9%	2.1%
Inflation	12.8%	22.6%
Unemployment	9.4%	4.9%

Variable	Description	Scale
Age, Age^2/100	Years of age, and years-of-age squared divided by 100	
Woman, head, indigenous	Constructed as dummy variables for women, heads of household, and self-reported indigenous	
Informed	Constructed as the principal component of the questions: How many days in a week do you read the news in the newspapers? How many days per week do you watch the news on TV? How many days per week do you listen to the news on the radio?	Continuous variable. Min: -1.07; Max: 1.25
Wealth quintile	Constructed based on the principal component of the reported asset holdings	
Education	Level of education	1 – no education / primary incomplete (base group) 2 – primary complete / secondary incomplete 3 – secondary complete / college incomplete 4 – college complete
Soc_ec	Pollster's assessment of the socioeconomic level of the individual, based on quality of housing, quality of furniture, and general appearance of the individual.	1 – good (base group) 2 – regular 3 - bad
Rural	Constructed from variable *tamciu* (size of city)	1 – city with less than 5,000 people 0 – otherwise
Capital	Constructed from variable *tamciu* (size of city)	1 – capital city 0 - otherwise
Region 1 (excluding Brazil)	Constructed based on IDB regional departments	1 – Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, Bolivia and Paraguay 0 - otherwise
Brazil		1 – Brazil 0 - otherwise
Region 2 (excluding Mexico)	Constructed based on IDB regional departments	1 – Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama 0 - otherwise
Mexico		1 – Mexico 0 - otherwise
Region 3	Constructed based on IDB regional departments	1 – Colombia, Ecuador, Venezuela and Peru 0 - otherwise
Democracy	Are you satisfied with the way democracy is working in your country?	1 – satisfied / very satisfied 0 – dissatisfied / very dissatisfied
U.S.	Do you have a very good, good, bad or very bad opinion of the United States?	1 – good / very good 0 – bad / very bad
Privat	Do you agree with the following statement: Privatization of public companies was beneficial for the country?	1 – agree 0 - disagree
Prices	Do you agree with the following statement: Prices should be set by free competition in the market?	1 – agree 0 - disagree
Privprod	Do you agree with the following statement: The state should leave productive activity to the private sector?	1 – agree 0 - disagree

FDI	Do you agree with the following statement: The government should promote foreign investment?	1 – agree 0 - disagree
Political orientation scale	Constructed based on the following question: On a scale of 0 to 10, how right-left would you consider yourself?	0–1 equals left extremists 2-4 equals center-left 5 equals center 6-8 equals center-right 9-10 equals right extremists
GDP growth	Real GDP growth in 2000	
Inflation adjusted	Computed as 1 - (1/(1 + CPI inflation in 2000)	
Unemployment	General unemployment rate in 2000	
Approved loans IDB	Total amount of IDB loans approved for the country during 2000 (per capita)	
Executed loans IDB	Total amount of IDB loans executed in the country during 2000 (per capita)	
IDB disbursements	Total amount of IDB disbursements in the country during 2000 (per capita)	