



**PRESS RELEASE
CERC POLL,
September 2010**

BICENTENARY

- The Bicentenary was meaningful for half of Chileans (51%).
- This represents a drop on the 2009 LATINOBAROMETRO survey when 57% considered it meaningful.
- Opinions about the Bicentenary are affected by political views. It was most meaningful for government supporters (71% for UDI supporters and 66% for RN supporters) and less meaningful for opposition supporters.

EFFECTS OF THE CHANGE OF GOVERNMENT

- The change of government after 20 years has important effects on public opinion.
- Support for democracy doubles among UDI voters to 46%, stays constant among RN voters, and drops sharply among voters for opposition parties.
- It drops eight points to 34% among UDI voters supporter for authoritarian rule.

GOVERNMENT APPROVAL RATING

- There continues to be majority approval for the government of President Sebastián Piñera (56%) while 31% disapprove and 13% do not answer.
- Approval shows an increase in the areas worst affected by the earthquake (52%).
- Approval of the government is very high among its voters, although also among opposition and, especially, PDC voters (40%).
- Approval of the government shows an increase in low-income sectors (52%).
- This approval rating is similar to that of Michelle Bachelet in September 2006 and below that of Presidents Eduardo Frei and Ricardo Lagos in September 1995 and 2000 respectively.
- The survey shows that the government has not benefitted from its work to rescue the 33 trapped miners.

Corporación CERC Centro de Estudios de la Realidad Contemporánea
Orrego Luco 0124 Providencia, Santiago, Chile
Fono (56-2) 3218807
Correo Electrónico: estudios@cerc.cl
Página web: www.cerc.cl



OPINION ABOUT THE GOVERNMENT

- Opinion about the government of President Piñera holds steady: 41% have a good opinion, 47% consider it fair and 11% have a bad opinion.
- A positive opinion is practically universal among RN and UDI voters.

OPINION ABOUT PRESIDENT PIÑERA

- 45% have a good opinion of President Piñera, 41% consider him fair and 13% have a bad opinion.
- A positive opinion is practically universal among RN and UDI voters.

EVALUATION OF PRESIDENT PIÑERA'S PERFORMANCE

- There is an improvement in evaluation of President Piñera's performance: 57% give him a good mark (5 to 7 out of 7), the percentage giving him a fair mark (4) rises by seven points to 28% and the percentage giving him a bad mark (1 to 3) drops by seven points to 13% . .
- A positive opinion is practically universal among RN and UDI voters and 45% of PDC voters also have a good opinion.

THREE BEST EVALUATED MINISTERS

- There are changes in the three best evaluated ministers. Mining Minister Laurence Golborne takes first place (55%) followed by Education Minister Joaquín Lavín (43%).
- Golborne and Lavín have similar recognition levels (28% and 31%, respectively) and the former is more visible (27% as compared to 12%).
- The appearance of Minister Golborne in this group is the most obvious political consequence of the accident that trapped the 33 miners.

FIVE POLITICIANS WITH MOST FUTURE

There are changes in the five politicians with most future; Minister Golborne appears among this group, taking third place with 16%.
Former President Michelle Bachelet and Education Minister Joaquín Lavín retain first and second places, respectively. Senator Ricardo Lagos Weber and Carolina Tohá, president of the

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PPD, take fourth and fifth places, with 11% and 9%, respectively. Former independent presidential candidate Marco Enriquez-Ominami no longer appears in this group.

MINING ACCIDENT

-The vast majority of Chileans (73%) consider that the owners of the San José mine are mostly to blame for the accident that trapped 33 miners there while 11% hold the Mining Ministry responsible and 4% blame the previous government.

-The government and President Piñera receive a good evaluation of their rescue work, with 75% and 76%, respectively, giving them a good mark.

-Mining Minister Laurence Golborne is better evaluated than the government or the President (87%).

-The mine's executives are badly evaluated, with 78% giving them a mark of between 1 and 3.

-The accident has an impact on perceptions of workplace safety. A large majority (61%) consider that workers have a poor level of safety protection, particularly in small mines where 82% consider that safety is poor. However, large mines have the least negative image, with 47% considering that safety is poor there.

GOVERNMENT IMAGE

-The government's image shows an improvement as compared to the May survey; the percentage who consider it a government for businesspeople drops by 13 points to 42% while the percentage who consider it is not a government for businesspeople increases by eight points to 43%.

-This change is explained by a sharp drop in PS voters who consider it a government for businesspeople as well as among supporters of small parties and those who do not identify with any party.

-This change can be attributed to the government's performance in the mining accident.

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DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF SEBASTIÁN PIÑERA AND THOSE OF THE CONCERTACIÓN

-A minority of Chileans (36%) consider that there are differences between the government of Sebastián Piñera and those of the Concertación while the majority (52%) believe that there is little or no difference.

- UDI and RN believe that there are differences (72% and 62%, respectively) while, among opposition supporters, these figures are lower.

-These opinions show that the government has a divided image that is a source of difficulties for both it and the opposition.

The poll is face to face, 1200 cases, fieldwork between 3th and 13th September 2010

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