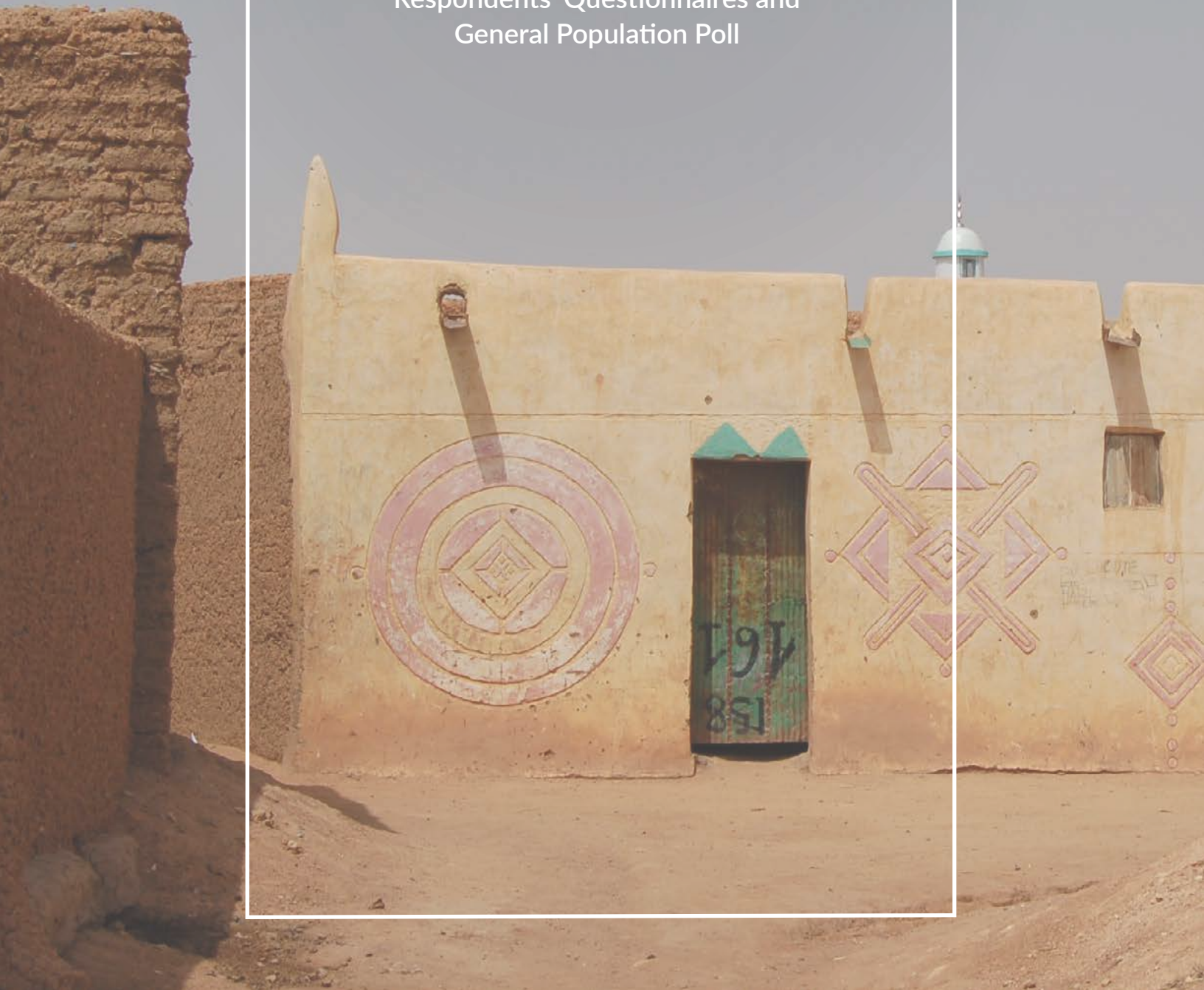




World Justice
Project

The Rule of Law in Niger

Key Findings from the Qualified
Respondents' Questionnaires and
General Population Poll



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I

About this Report

About this Report

STRENGTHENING THE RULE OF LAW is an important objective for governments, donors, and civil society organizations around the world. To be effective, however, strengthening the rule of law requires clarity about the fundamental features of the rule of law, as well as an adequate basis for its evaluation and measurement. This report presents select findings drawn from two original data sources collected by the World Justice Project: a series of Qualified Respondents' Questionnaires and the General Population Poll.

As an overview of the country's rule of law situation, this report presents Niger's country profile from the *WJP Rule of Law Index*[®] 2020, which aggregates data from both the Qualified Respondents' Questionnaires (QRQs) and the General Population Poll (GPP). The profile presents Niger's ranking and scores for each of the *WJP Rule of Law Index*'s factors and sub-factors, and draws comparisons between Niger's scores and the scores of other indexed countries in the same regional and income groups. In order to provide a more in-depth view of the data underlying Niger's *WJP Rule of Law Index* scores, this report also presents question-level data from the QRQs and the GPP that can provide more insights on the country's performance across various dimensions of the rule of law.

This report represents the voices of people in Niger and their experiences with the rule of law in their country.

Question-level data from the Qualified Respondents' Questionnaires are organized into several thematic dashboards in this report to highlight the performance of the civil and criminal justice systems in Niger. These dashboards provide insight into how each Factor score is calculated in the *WJP Rule of Law Index* by breaking down Factors 7 and 8 into their sub-factor, sub-sub-factor, and question-level components. The QRQs are administered online to in-country practitioners and academics with expertise in civil and commercial law; constitutional law, civil liberties, and criminal law; labor law; and public health. These questionnaires gather timely input on a range of topics from practitioners who frequently interact with state institutions. Such topics include information on the efficacy of courts, the strength of regulatory enforcement, and the reliability of accountability mechanisms. In total, 40 expert practitioners completed the QRQ in Niger in 2019.

The data derived from the General Population Poll are presented in this report as ten thematic briefs, each one highlighting a different facet of the rule of law from the perspective of Nigeriens. These briefs touch upon issues of accountability, corruption, fundamental freedoms, crime, criminal justice, police performance, dispute resolution, and trust. The thematic briefs are designed to call attention to governance issues in Niger from the perspective of the people, while simultaneously illuminating comparisons across the following peer countries: Ghana, Kenya, Mali, and Nigeria. These peer countries have been selected for this report because they are the Sub-Saharan African countries included in the Security Governance Initiative (SGI).¹ The General Population Poll was conducted through face-to-face interviews in 1,011 urban households distributed proportionally across the three largest cities in Niger in 2018. This poll was designed to capture data on the experiences and perceptions of ordinary people regarding a variety of themes related to the rule of law.

¹ The Security Governance Initiative (SGI) is a US-government initiative to improve security sector governance to address transnational threats in the form of violent extremism, illicit trade and trafficking, and other regional conflicts. The project was designed to support security sector initiatives in target countries in North and Sub-Saharan Africa.

Executive Findings

1 When it comes to accessibility of dispute resolution, the public's awareness of available remedies is a challenge.

Although Niger has a fair to moderate performance on sub-factor 7.1 on the accessibility and affordability of civil justice, a closer look at the question-level data under sub-sub factor 7.1.1 in Chart 2b reveals that the public's awareness of formal justice mechanisms, their legal rights, and court procedures for resolving disputes is poor, according to expert practitioners. Questions on whether the public is aware of formal justice mechanisms for resolving disputes, whether the public has adequate information about court procedures, and whether those court procedures are sufficiently simple and convenient are among the lowest scoring questions for Factor 7. The general public is more optimistic in this regard, with over half of Nigeriens who experienced a legal problem in the past year reporting that they knew where to get information and advice (see Chart 13).

2 The accessibility and efficiency of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms (ADRs) is a strength of civil justice in Niger.

Sub-factor 7.7 on accessible, impartial, and effective ADRs scores much higher than the other sub-factors for Factor 7 on Civil Justice, with Niger outperforming both its regional and income peers in this area (see country profile). As illustrated in Chart 2b, expert practitioners in Niger say that commercial arbitration proceedings are both conducted in a timely manner and may be accessed by plaintiffs without incurring unreasonable fees. That said, the sub-factor performs worse in sub-sub factor 7.7.2 on improper influence, as experts say commercial arbitrators are likely to request bribes in civil or commercial court cases.

3 Both the civil and criminal justice systems struggle with improper influence.

Practitioners with expertise in civil justice and criminal justice both agree that improper government influence in court cases are a challenge. A closer look at sub-factor 7.4 shows that civil justice experts have the most negative views on the extent to which the government exercises undue influence to affect the outcome of cases in which it has an interest (see Chart 2b). The question-level data underlying sub-factor 8.6 shows that both national courts and local courts are subject to political influence, and that the judiciary struggles to operate with independence from the government's power (see Chart 3b).

These data may also explain the general public's perception of courts, with judges and magistrates tied for second as the most corrupt state actors in Niger (see Chart 6) and courts being the second to least trusted institution (see Chart 14) according to the general public.

4 Criminal investigations are impeded by inadequate resources and corruption.

Factor 8 on Criminal Justice is one of Niger's lowest scoring factors, due in large part to its poor performance in sub-factor 8.1 on the effectiveness of its criminal investigation system (see country profile). As demonstrated in Chart 3b and Chart 4, expert practitioners in Niger say the criminal investigation system suffers from inadequate resources and technology, ineffective chain of custody procedures for material evidence, and ineffective systems to protect witnesses and whistle-blowers. Despite this, the majority of Nigeriens say that the criminal justice system is effective in bringing people who commit crimes to justice (see Chart 10), pointing to differences in experts' views and the general public's perceptions.

5 While prosecutors are perceived as generally corrupt, experts say they are unlikely to engage in bribery.

When asked generally whether prosecutors in Niger engage in corrupt practices, expert respondents have very negative perceptions (see Chart 4). However, looking closely at the question-level data on bribery in particular, prosecutors receive moderate to positive scores on the extent to which they request or receive bribes to prosecute criminals, tamper with evidence, and expedite court process. The country's low scores on corruption are likely more linked to practitioners' negative views on the extent to which prosecutors operate with independence from powerful government officials and private parties.

6 Inmate living conditions are the greatest challenge facing correctional institutions.

While Niger's correctional system faces a number of challenges, the question-level data on correctional institutions in Chart 4 reveal that the greatest challenges relate to conditions for inmates, namely living conditions and space as well as the provision of healthcare and nutrition.

7 While experts and the general public have differing views on police accountability, both agree that they are unlikely to engage in discriminatory practices.

Chart 4 shows that performance and due process are a serious problems facing police, according to expert practitioners, who flag access to adequate legal counsel while in police custody, arbitrary arrest, and unwarranted searches as the most serious issues when it comes to due process. The general public, on the other hand, has the most positive views on police performance as compared to other peer countries (see Chart 11a).

Despite this, the police perform fairly well when compared to other criminal justice institutions in Niger, as seen in the data under discrimination in Chart 4. Both expert practitioners and the general public believe that the police are unlikely to discriminate on the basis of gender, ethnicity, religion, and national origin. However, the general public's views on discrimination are even more positive than those of experts, who are more skeptical about the extent of police discrimination based on socio-economic status and sexual orientation.

8 Rights of the accused are a serious concern for criminal courts. As noted in Chart 4, expert practitioners in Niger have negative views on criminal courts' adherence to due process, particularly when it comes to rights of the accused. While they are more positive that courts can accurately convict individuals through pre-trial processes, their views are substantially more pessimistic when it comes to whether the criminal justice system accurately indicts or accuses perpetrators, whether suspects are allowed to challenge evidence used against them in court, and the use of pre-trial detention.

9 Niger underperforms its peers when it comes to checks and balances. Within Factor 1 on Constraints on Government Powers, Niger performs worse than the averages for its region and income groups overall and in every sub-factor (see country profile). While more Nigeriens believe that high-ranking government officials would be prosecuted and punished for misconduct as compared to citizens in other peer countries, a quarter of those surveyed also believe that an accusation of misconduct would be completely ignored by the authorities. Chart 5b reveals that, while Nigeriens are more likely than those in peer countries to agree with

statements favor government action over accountability, the majority believe that the president and citizens should abide by the law.

10 Bribery victimization is common in Niger. In the past year, nearly two out of every five Nigeriens had to pay a bribe in the process of requesting a government permit or document, and about one in every five people had to pay a bribe to obtain a government-issued ID, secure a place at a public school, or use health services (see Chart 7). When looking at responses broken down by gender, both men and women report bribery victimization at similar rates.

11 Media freedoms are not effectively guaranteed. Compared to political and religious freedoms in the country, media freedoms are perceived to be the most limited, according to the general public (see Chart 8a). What's more, Nigeriens are significantly less positive about media freedoms than people in peer countries, as demonstrated in the striking gap in Chart 8b. These views are reflected in Niger's low score in sub-factor 4.4 on freedom of expression, which also lags behind the average for countries in the same regional and income groups (see country profile).

12 High crime victimization is troubling, especially in light of Nigeriens' views on victim support and the police. Nearly a quarter of those surveyed reported being the victim of a crime in the last year, representing the highest crime victimization rate among peer countries featured in this report (see Chart 9a). While being troubling in and of itself, this is also important when viewed against other experiences and perceptions of Nigeriens. For one, despite this high victimization rate, only 19% of those surveyed reported actually contacting the police to report a crime in the last year (see Chart 12a). This may be due to the fact that, among all of the duties of the criminal justice system, Nigeriens are the least confident in its ability to provide support services to victims of crimes (see Chart 10). This low reporting rate may also be related to high perceptions of corruption and low trust in police, as demonstrated in Charts 6 and 14 respectively.

section

II

WJP Rule of Law Index Country Profile

How to Read the Country Profile

This section presents the country profile for Niger as included in the *WJP Rule of Law Index® 2020* report.

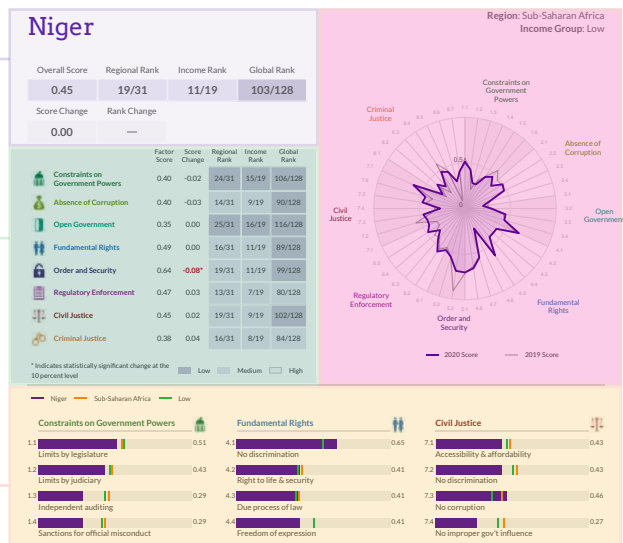
The profile presents scores for each of the WJP Rule of Law Index's factors and sub-factors, and draws comparisons between the scores of the featured country and the scores of other indexed countries in the same regional and income groups. Scores range from 0 to 1, where 1 signifies the highest possible score (strong adherence to rule of law) and 0 signifies the lowest possible score (weak adherence to rule of law). The country profiles consist of four sections, outlined below.

Section 1: Displays the country's overall rule of law score; its overall global, income, and regional ranks.

Section 2: Displays the country's individual factor scores, along with its global, regional, and income group rankings. The global, regional, and income rankings are distributed across three tiers—high, medium, and low—as indicated by the color of the box where the score is found.

Section 3: Displays the country's disaggregated scores for each of the sub-factors that compose the *WJP Rule of Law Index*.

The featured country's score is represented by the purple bar and labeled at the end of the bar. The average score of the country's region is represented by the orange line. The average score of the country's income group is represented by the green line.



Section 4: Presents the individual sub-factor scores underlying each of the factors listed in Section 3 of the country profile.

Each of the 44 sub-factors is represented by a gray line drawn from the center to the periphery of the circle. The center of the circle corresponds to the worst possible score for each sub-factor (0), and the outer edge of the circle marks the best possible score for each sub-factor (1).

Niger

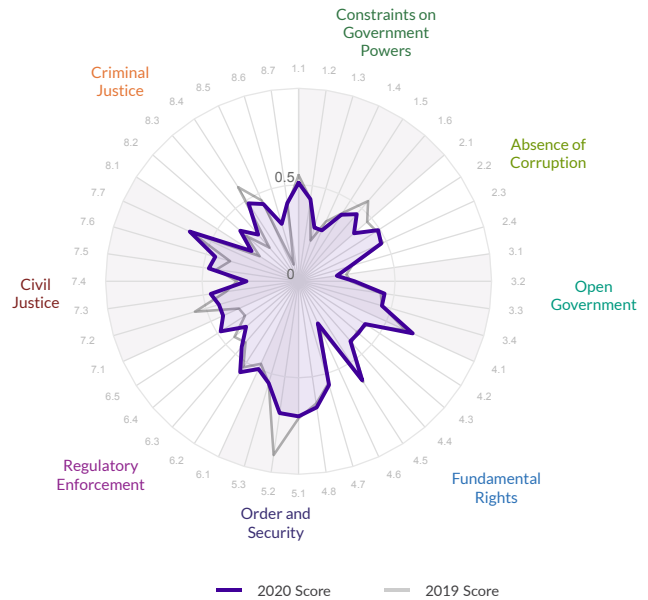
Region: Sub-Saharan Africa
Income Group: Low

Overall Score	Regional Rank	Income Rank	Global Rank
0.45	19/31	11/19	103/128
Score Change	Rank Change		
0.00	—		

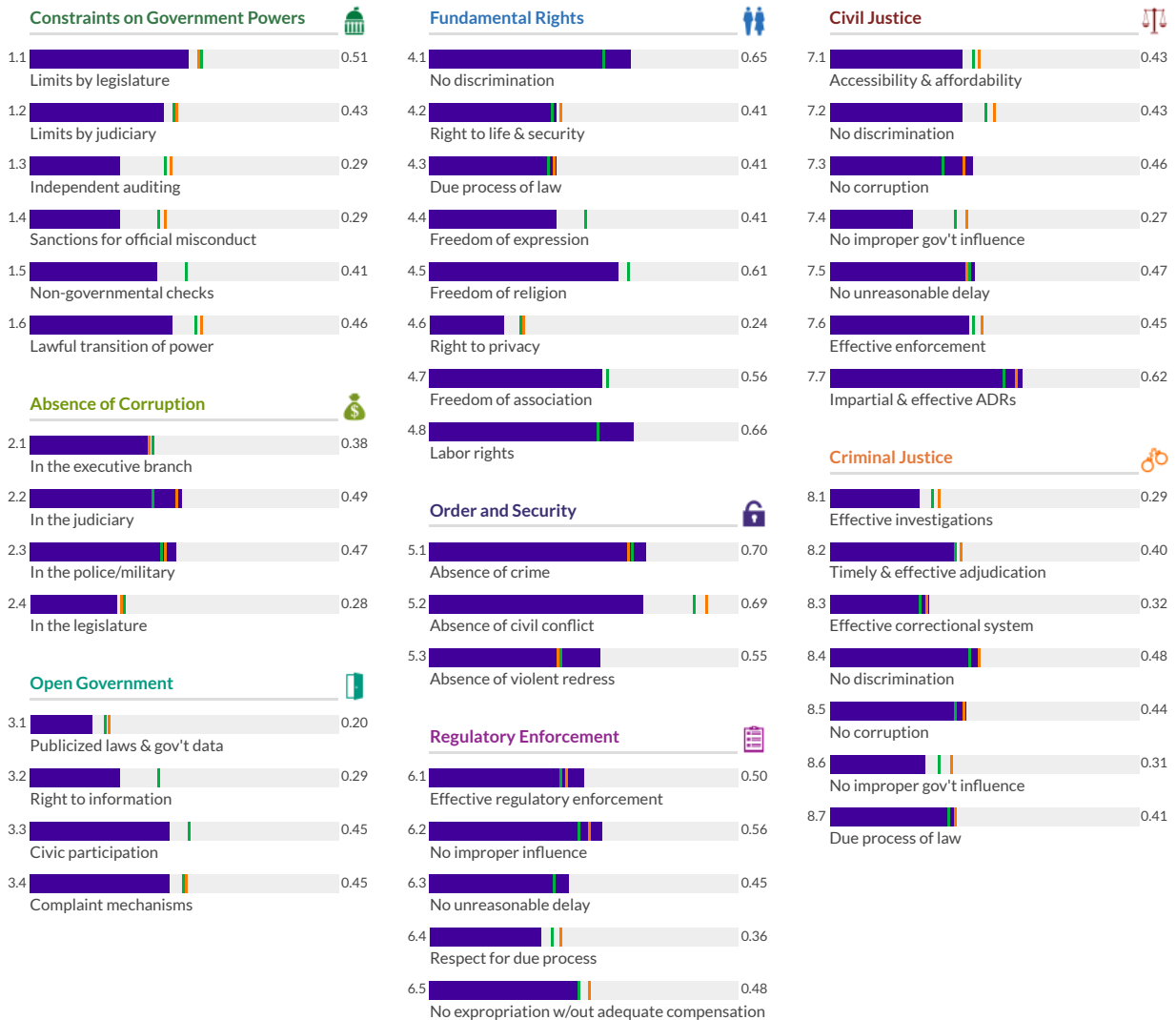
	Factor Score	Score Change	Regional Rank	Income Rank	Global Rank
Constraints on Government Powers	0.40	-0.02	24/31	15/19	106/128
Absence of Corruption	0.40	-0.03	14/31	9/19	90/128
Open Government	0.35	0.00	25/31	16/19	116/128
Fundamental Rights	0.49	0.00	16/31	11/19	89/128
Order and Security	0.64	-0.08*	19/31	11/19	99/128
Regulatory Enforcement	0.47	0.03	13/31	7/19	80/128
Civil Justice	0.45	0.02	19/31	9/19	102/128
Criminal Justice	0.38	0.04	16/31	8/19	84/128

* Indicates statistically significant change at the 10 percent level

Low Medium High



Legend: Niger (purple), Sub-Saharan Africa (orange), Low (green)



section

III

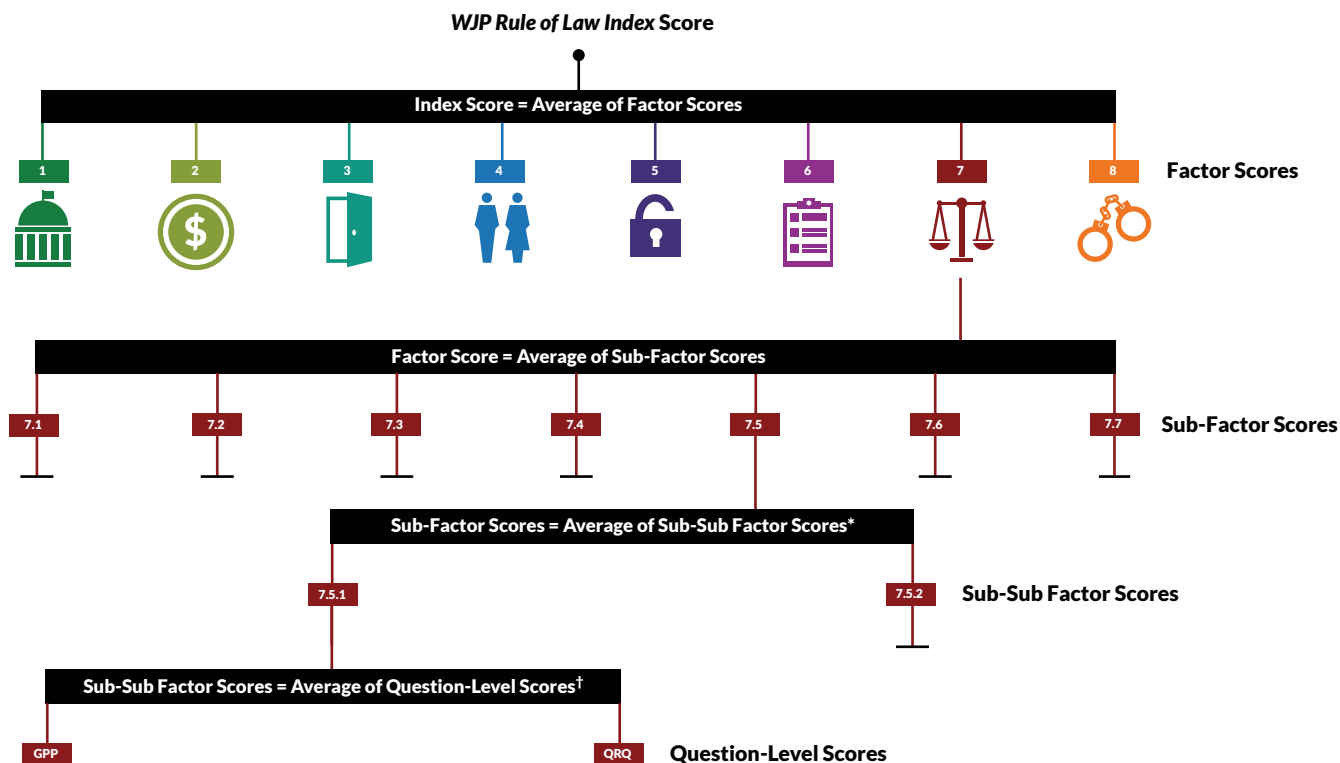
Thematic Findings from Expert Practitioners

Calculating WJP Rule of Law Index Scores

Guidance on building aggregate WJP Rule of Law Index scores and using the Factor Dashboards.

Chart 1a. Building Aggregate WJP Rule of Law Index Scores

WJP Rule of Law Index scores are constructed by aggregating data from more than 500 questions asked to expert practitioners and the general public in each country. The figure below provides an overview of the method followed to aggregate WJP's survey data to produce these scores.

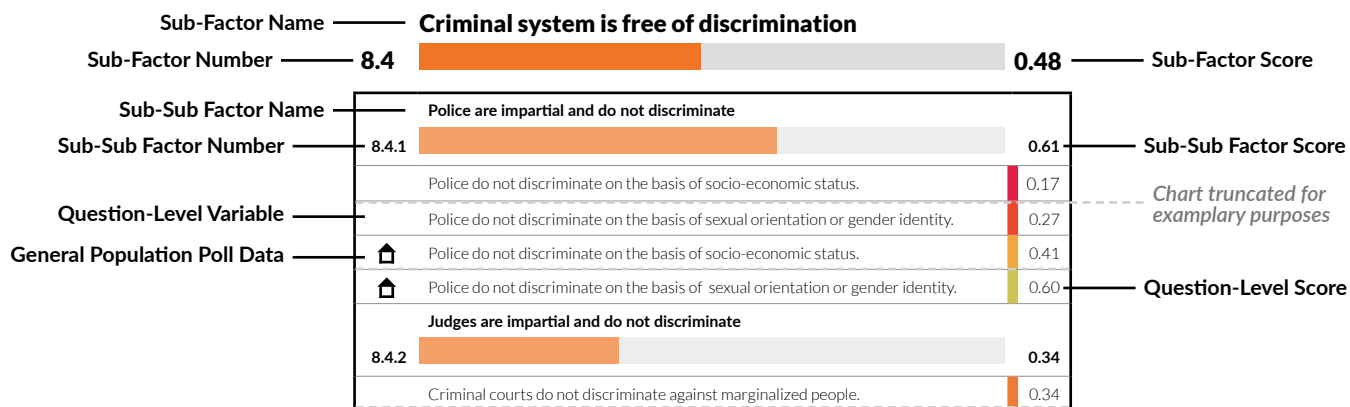


*Not all sub-factors contain sub-sub factors. In these cases, question-level scores are averaged to produce sub-factor scores.

† Question-level scores may have different weights.

Chart 1b. How to Read the Factor Dashboards

The pages that follow provide detailed information on the questions administered in Niger to collect data on civil justice and criminal justice, and used to produce scores on these dimensions – or “factors” – of the rule of law. The overview below provides an example of how the question-level scores from the survey data are aggregated into scores at the sub-sub factor, sub-factor, and factor levels. Scores range from 0 to 1, where 1 signifies the highest possible score. Unless otherwise indicated, data on civil and criminal justice come from expert practitioners in Niger.



Civil Justice Factor Dashboard

Data on the extent to which people can resolve their grievances peacefully and effectively through the civil justice system in Niger.

Chart 2a. Overview of Civil Justice Scores

Overview of Civil Justice scores at the factor, sub-factor, and sub-sub factor levels for Niger. Scores range from 0 to 1, where 1 signifies the highest possible score

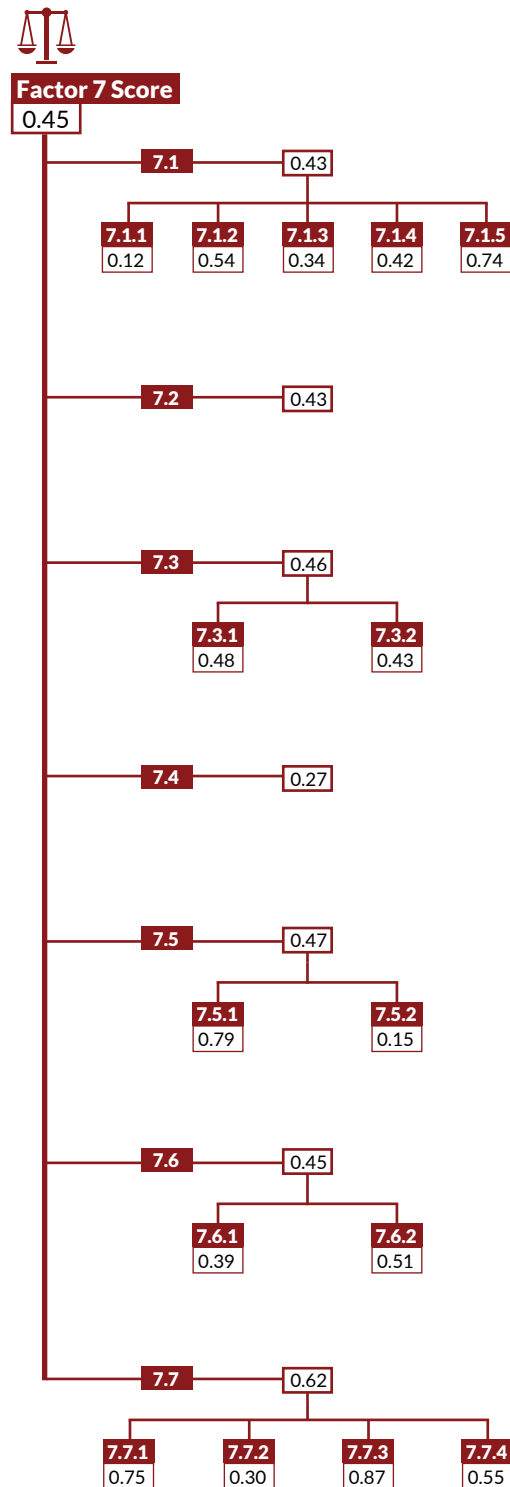
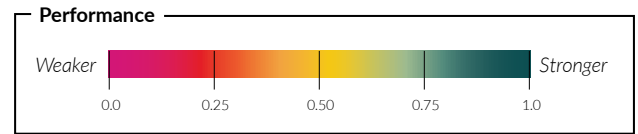


Chart 2b. Question-Level Variables on Civil Justice

Aggregation of question-level variables used to construct Niger's WJP Rule of Law Index score for the Civil Justice factor. Unless otherwise indicated, data come from expert practitioners in Niger.



General Population Poll Data

People have access to affordable civil justice

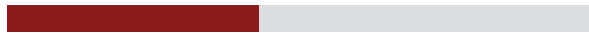
7.1 0.43

People are aware of available remedies	
7.1.1	0.12
The public is aware of the formal justice mechanisms for resolving disputes.	
	0.06
The public is aware of their legal rights in the event of arrest or interrogation.	
	0.21
The public has adequate information about court procedures for resolving disputes.	
	0.08
People can access and afford legal advice and representation	
7.1.2	0.54
Defendants in civil and commercial cases can afford pro-bono legal representation from the government, legal aid centers, or NGOs.	
	0.33
Low-income people facing eviction charges can access legal counsel.	
	0.36
Low-income people facing a child custody dispute can access legal counsel.	
	0.19
Low-income people facing major problems with public service providers can access legal counsel.	
	0.59
Cost of legal representation (absolute cost)	
	0.99
Cost of legal representation (% of GNI per capita)	
	0.78
Efficient and clear procedures	
7.1.3	0.34
It is possible to file one single lawsuit or petition on behalf of hundreds or thousands of affected residents (class action) to obtain compensation.	
	0.84
Court procedures are sufficiently simple and convenient for the public.	
	0.12
The public has adequate information about court procedures for resolving disputes.	
	0.08
Accessibility of courts	
7.1.4	0.42
People have access to interpretation and translation services.	
	0.61
Courthouses are conveniently located for the general public.	
	0.23
Affordability of courts, lawyers, and procedures	
7.1.5	0.74
Plaintiffs can afford the cost of resolving disputes through civil or commercial courts.	
	0.73
Plaintiffs can afford the cost of resolving disputes through small-claims courts or a magistrate.	
	0.75

* Question-level variables may have different weights.
Source: WJP Qualified Respondents' Questionnaires (unless otherwise noted).

Niger's performance for Factor 7 on Civil Justice is mixed. While expert respondents report that civil, commercial, and labor law procedures are accessible and cases are adjudicated in a timely manner – reflected in higher scores for sub-sub factors 7.1.5 and 7.5.1 – they also note that court proceedings are heavily affected by a lack of judicial independence. Sub-factor 7.4, measuring improper government influence in the civil justice system, received one of the lowest scores out of the 44 sub-factors used to calculate the Index's country rankings. Niger's low score in this sub-factor are linked to questions about the government affecting the outcome of cases as well as political influences in national courts.


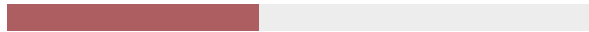

Civil justice is free of discrimination

7.2  0.43

Civil and commercial courts do not discriminate on the basis of socio-economic status.	0.34
Civil and commercial courts do not discriminate on the basis of gender.	0.39
Civil and commercial courts do not discriminate on the basis of religion.	0.38
Civil and commercial courts do not discriminate on the basis of national origin.	0.40
People do not face bias or discrimination in civil courts.	0.66

Civil justice is free of corruption

7.3  0.46

Absence of bribery	
7.3.1  0.48	
Judges and magistrates do not request bribes in civil or commercial cases.	0.52
Court personnel do not request bribes in civil or commercial court cases.	0.33
Commercial arbitrators do not request bribes in civil or commercial court cases.	0.30
People do not perceive judges and judicial officers to be corrupt.	0.35
Civil court judges and judicial officers are not corrupt.	0.51
People and private companies do not have to pay bribes or other inducements to expedite court processes.	0.52
Labor inspectors do not request bribes in labor court cases.	0.83
Absence of improper influence by powerful private interests	
7.3.2  0.43	
In civil cases between private parties decided by trial courts, the final decisions reflect the judges' honest evaluation of the available evidence and applicable law.	0.40
In civil cases between private parties decided by trial courts, the final decisions are not influenced by undue pressure from either party or influenced by corruption.	0.46
 Judges decide civil cases according to what the law says.	0.44



Civil justice is free of undue government influence

7.4  0.27

The government does not exercise undue influence to affect the outcome of cases in which it has an interest.	0.18
The government always obeys the decisions of the high courts, even when they disagree.	0.35
National courts are free of political influence.	0.28
Local courts are free of political influence.	0.29



Civil justice is not subject to unreasonable delays

7.5  0.47

Timely adjudication	
7.5.1  0.79	
Proceedings and judgments in civil and commercial court lawsuits are conducted in a timely manner.	0.87
Proceedings and judgments in small claims court or before a magistrate are conducted in a timely manner.	0.91
Civil cases tried in local courts are decided and enforced in a timely manner.	0.59
Perceptions of timeliness	
7.5.2  0.15	
The public perceives civil courts to be timely.	0.00
Civil and commercial courts decide cases on a timely basis.	0.31





Civil justice is effectively enforced

7.6  0.45

Quality of enforcement mechanisms	
7.6.1  0.39	
Civil and commercial courts have efficient enforcement mechanisms.	0.39
Timely enforcement of decisions	
7.6.2  0.51	
The winning party of a civil or commercial lawsuit is able to enforce the decision and collect compensation in a timely manner.	0.51

Alternative dispute resolution mechanisms (ADRs) are accessible, impartial, and effective

7.7  0.62

ADRs are accessible	
7.7.1  0.75	
A plaintiff using a commercial arbitration mechanism can access justice without incurring unreasonable fees.	0.75
ADRs are free of improper influence	
7.7.2  0.30	
Commercial arbitrators do not request bribes in civil or commercial court cases.	0.30
ADRs are efficient	
7.7.3  0.87	
Commercial arbitration proceedings are conducted in a timely manner.	1.00
The winning party of a commercial arbitration proceeding is able to enforce the decision and collect compensation in a timely manner.	0.74
ADR decisions are effectively enforced	
7.7.4  0.55	
Contractors are able to use local courts to enforce decisions against government agencies made by a national arbitration panel.	0.43
Contractors are able to use local courts to enforce decisions against government agencies made by an international arbitration panel.	0.67

* Question-level variables may have different weights.

Source: WJP Qualified Respondents' Questionnaires (unless otherwise noted).

Criminal Justice Factor Dashboard

Data on the effectiveness of the criminal justice system in Niger in redressing grievances and offenses against society.

Chart 3a. Overview of Criminal Justice Scores

Overview of Criminal Justice scores at the factor, sub-factor, and sub-sub factor levels for Niger. Scores range from 0 to 1, where 1 signifies the highest possible score.

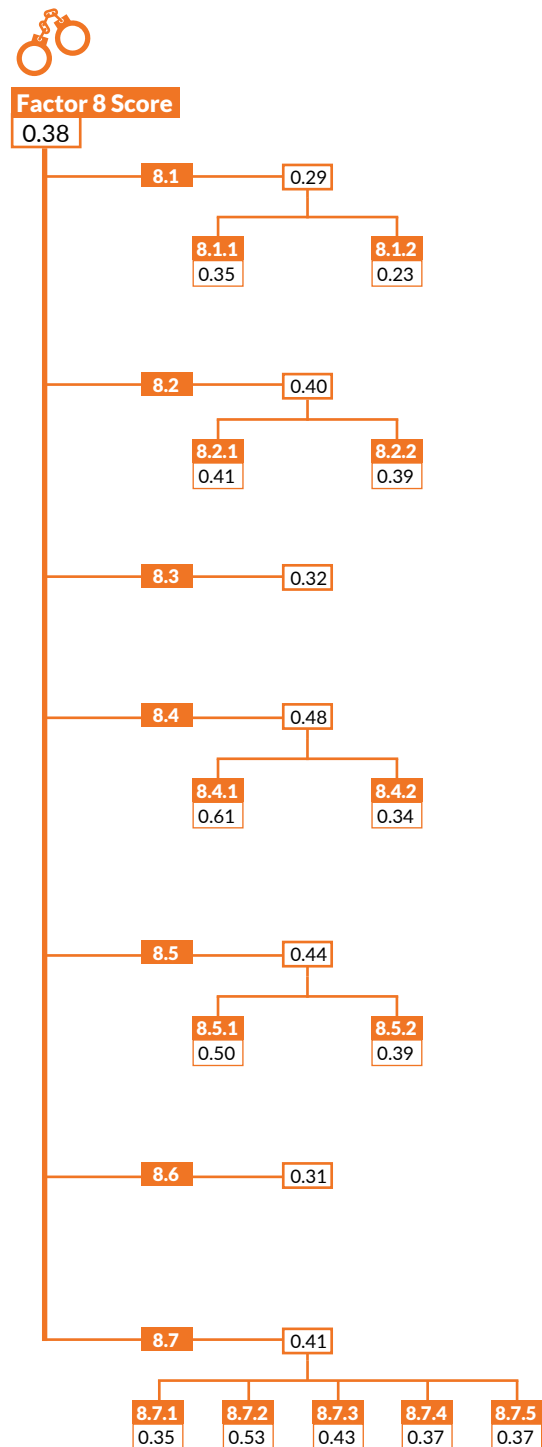
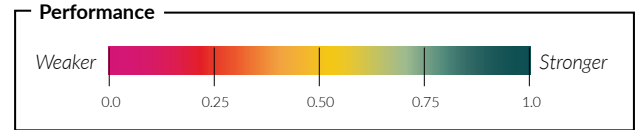


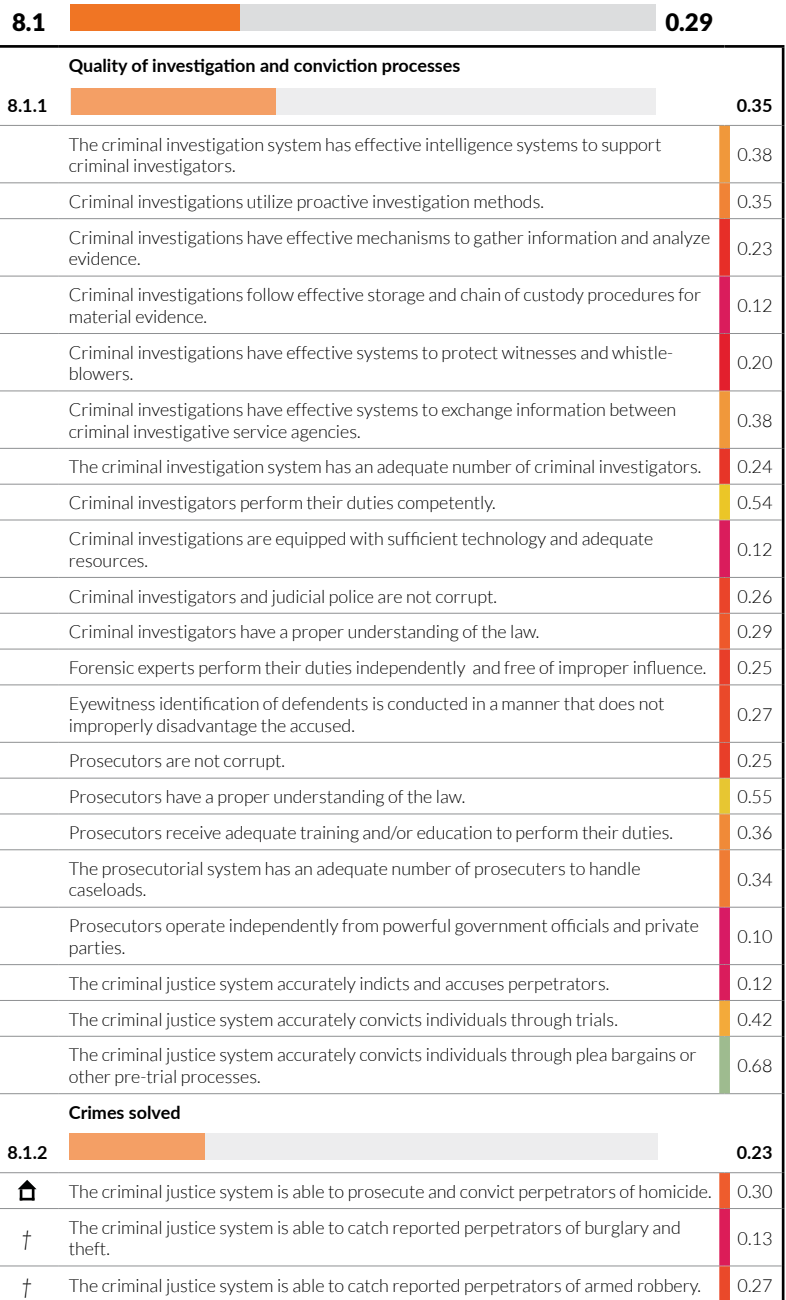
Chart 3b. Question-Level Variables on Criminal Justice

Aggregation of question-level variables used to construct Niger's WJP Rule of Law Index score for the Criminal Justice factor. Unless otherwise indicated, data come from expert practitioners in Niger.



General Population Poll Data

Criminal investigation system is effective




* Question-level variables may have different weights.

† Question no longer included in the General Population Poll. Values are imputed based on average values of regional and income peers polled in 2016 and 2017.

Source: WJP Qualified Respondents' Questionnaires (unless otherwise noted).

Niger's Criminal Justice Factor Dashboard provides additional insights into its Factor 8 performance, where Niger received its second lowest scores. Overall, expert respondents report the criminal investigation and criminal adjudication systems to be largely ineffective due to their poor exercise of due process, a lack of judicial independence, and insufficient resources. This is reflected in sub-factor scores 8.1 and 8.6, respectively. Question-level data reveal additional challenges faced by Niger's criminal justice system, including inadequate access to legal assistance and conditions in correctional facilities, captured in sub-sub factors 8.7.4 and 8.7.5, respectively. Despite low scores in these sub-sub factors, experts are more confident that the police are impartial and do not discriminate (8.4.1) and report that guards and correctional personnel do not physically abuse inmates (8.7.5).

Criminal adjudication system is timely and effective

8.2  0.40


Timeliness of criminal adjudication	
8.2.1	0.41
Suspected perpetrators of serious crimes are convicted in a timely manner.	0.58
Suspected perpetrators of minor crimes are convicted in a timely manner.	0.81
Detained suspects are not held in custody without a formal conviction for more than three months.	0.25
Detained suspects are not held in custody without a formal conviction for more than one year.	0.42
Detained suspects are not held in custody without a formal conviction for more than three years.	0.58
Criminal courts do not use pre-trial detention excessively.	0.11
Criminal courts decide cases on a timely basis.	0.13
Effective prosecution and punishment	
8.2.2	0.39
Criminal court judges make sound decisions.	0.35
† Perpetrators caught breaking and entering are prosecuted and punished for their crimes.	0.67
† Perpetrators of homicide are prosecuted and punished for their crimes.	0.50
† Perpetrators of armed robberies are prosecuted and punished for their crimes.	0.27
🏠 Perpetrators of homicide are prosecuted and punished for their crimes.	0.30

Criminal system is free of discrimination

8.4  0.48

Police are impartial and do not discriminate	
8.4.1	0.61
Police do not discriminate on the basis of socio-economic status.	0.17
Police do not discriminate on the basis of gender.	0.54
Police do not discriminate on the basis of ethnicity.	0.93
Police do not discriminate on the basis of religion.	0.79
Police do not discriminate on the basis of national origin.	0.62
Police do not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.	0.27
🏠 Police do not discriminate on the basis of socio-economic status.	0.41
🏠 Police do not discriminate on the basis of gender.	0.74
🏠 Police do not discriminate on the basis of ethnicity.	0.77
🏠 Police do not discriminate on the basis of religion.	0.79
🏠 Police do not discriminate on the basis of national origin.	0.72
🏠 Police do not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.	0.60
Judges are impartial and do not discriminate	
8.4.2	0.34
Criminal courts do not discriminate against marginalized people.	0.34

Correctional system is effective in reducing criminal behavior

8.3  0.32

Correctional facilities provide adequate living conditions and space for inmates.	0.07
Correctional facilities effectively rehabilitate inmates and prevent recidivism.	0.20
Correctional institutions provide separate facilities for dangerous and less serious offenders.	0.29
Correctional facilities have adequate security measures to prevent escapes.	0.46
Convicted criminals released from prison do not relapse into criminal behavior.	0.58


* Question-level variables may have different weights.

† Question no longer included in the General Population Poll. Values are imputed based on average values of regional and income peers polled in 2016 and 2017.

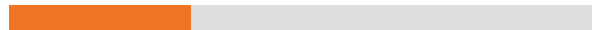
Source: WJP Qualified Respondents' Questionnaires (unless otherwise noted).

The criminal system is free of corruption

8.5  0.44

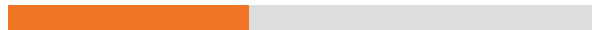
Police, military, and prosecutors are free of improper influence	
8.5.1  0.50	
The police are not influenced by criminal organizations.	0.33
The military is not influenced by criminal organizations.	0.50
Local police officers do not request bribes from traders and small merchants to carry on their business activities.	0.29
The police do not accept bribes from criminal organizations in exchange for impunity.	0.47
Police and court officers do not request or receive bribes or other informal payments to investigate a crime.	0.60
Police and court officers do not request or receive bribes or other informal payments to prosecute criminals.	0.58
Police and court officers do not request or receive bribes or other informal payments to drop charges or grant bail.	0.47
Police and court officers do not request or receive bribes or other informal payments to destroy or tamper with evidence.	0.67
Police and court officers do not request or receive bribes or other informal payments to expedite court processes.	0.61
Prosecutors do not request or receive bribes or other informal payments to investigate a crime.	0.60
Prosecutors do not request or receive bribes or other informal payments to prosecute a criminal.	0.66
Prosecutors do not request or receive bribes or other informal payments to drop charges or grant bail.	0.49
Prosecutors do not request or receive bribes or other informal payments to destroy or tamper with evidence.	0.69
Prosecutors do not request or receive bribes or other informal payments to expedite court processes.	0.66
Criminal investigators and judicial police are not corrupt.	0.26
Prosecutors are not corrupt.	0.25
 Police officers are not involved in corrupt practices.	0.49
Judges are free of improper influence	
8.5.2  0.39	
Members of the courts are not influenced by criminal organizations.	0.31
Criminal court judges and judicial officers are not corrupt.	0.38
Final decisions in criminal court cases are not influenced by undue political or professional pressure.	0.44
Final decisions in criminal court cases are not influenced by corruption.	0.48
 Judges and magistrates are not corrupt.	0.33
 Judges decide criminal court cases without improper influence by the government or powerful private interests.	0.44

The criminal system is free of improper government influence

8.6  0.31

National courts are free of political influence in their application of power.	0.27
Local courts are free of political influence in their application of power.	0.32
The judiciary operates with independence from the government's power.	0.32

Due process of law and rights of the accused


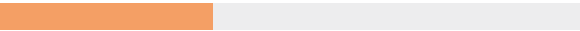
8.7  0.41

Presumption of innocence and adequate evidence	
8.7.1  0.35	
Suspects are presumed innocent by judges during trial until all evidence has been presented.	0.26
Suspects are presumed innocent during criminal investigations.	0.25
The criminal justice system accurately convicts individuals through trials.	0.42
The criminal justice system accurately convicts individuals through plea bargains or other pre-trial processes.	0.68
The criminal justice system accurately indicts and accuses perpetrators.	0.12
Police officers do not arrest innocent people on false charges in order to solicit bribes or fill quotas.	0.52
Prosecutors do not indict innocent people of false charges in order to fill quotas.	0.38
Suspects are allowed to challenge the evidence used against them in court.	0.13
Appropriate arrest and pre-trial detention procedures	
8.7.2  0.53	
Detained suspects are not held in custody without an indictment or formal conviction for more than three months.	0.59
Detained suspects are not held in custody without an indictment or a formal conviction for more than one year.	0.82
Detained suspects are not held in custody without an indictment or formal conviction for more than three years.	0.88
Detained suspects are not held in custody indefinitely without an indictment or formal conviction.	0.95
Police do not arbitrarily arrest citizens without probable cause.	0.20
Police do not use excessive force during arrests.	0.36
Political dissidents are not taken from their homes and detained without any warrant of arrest.	0.29
The police do not search houses of political dissidents without a warrant of arrest.	0.25
Suspects are made aware of the charges against them.	0.35
 The basic rights of suspects are respected by the police.	0.53
Absence of torture and abusive treatment towards suspects	
8.7.3  0.43	
Police interrogators do not inflict minor physical harm on detained suspects to force a confession.	0.48
Police interrogators do not inflict severe physical harm on detained suspects to force a confession.	0.50
Police (or military police) do not inflict severe physical harm on suspected members of dangerous criminal organizations during interrogation.	0.39
Suspected perpetrators of common crimes are not forced to confess to their alleged crimes.	0.35

* Question-level variables may have different weights.

Source: WJP Qualified Respondents' Questionnaires (unless otherwise noted).

8.7 Due process of law and rights of the accused (cont'd)

Accessibility of legal assistance		
8.7.4		0.37
	Detained suspects are granted adequate legal counsel from public defenders upon request while in police custody.	0.15
	Detained suspects are granted adequate legal counsel from public defenders upon request while in pre-trial detention.	0.29
	Detained suspects are granted adequate legal counsel from public defenders upon request during their trial.	0.41
	State-provided and pro-bono attorneys receive adequate training and education to perform their duties.	0.53
	The criminal defense system has an adequate number of state-provided and pro-bono attorneys to handle poor criminal defendants' cases.	0.17
	State-provided and pro-bono attorneys perform their duties competently.	0.43
	State-provided and pro-bono attorneys are able to gain access to clients while they are detained.	0.49
	Detained suspects that do not speak the same language as police officers or prosecutors are able to obtain access to an interpreter.	0.45
Rights of prisoners		
8.7.5		0.37
	Correctional facilities provide adequate living conditions and space for inmates.	0.07
	Correctional facilities provide inmates with adequate health care and nutrition.	0.23
	Guards and correctional personnel do not physically abuse inmates.	0.55
	There is not physical abuse between inmates in correctional facilities.	0.58
	Correctional institutions have accessible complaint mechanisms.	0.42

* Question-level variables may have different weights.

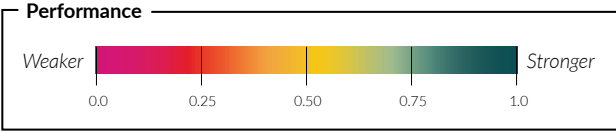
Source: WJP Qualified Respondents' Questionnaires (unless otherwise noted).

Criminal Justice Institutions

Data on the functioning of criminal justice institutions in Niger.

Chart 4.

Question-level variables organized by criminal justice institution or actor. The first column notes where each question maps into Niger's Criminal Justice score. Question-level scores range from 0 to 1, where 1 signifies the highest possible score.



🏠 General Population Poll Data

Prosecutors

Capacity		
8.1.1	Prosecutors have a proper understanding of the law.	0.55
8.1.1	Prosecutors receive adequate training and/or education to perform their duties.	0.36
8.1.1	The prosecutorial system has an adequate number of prosecutors to handle caseloads.	0.34
Corruption		
8.5.1	Prosecutors do not request or receive bribes or other informal payments to investigate a crime.	0.60
8.5.1	Prosecutors do not request or receive bribes or other informal payments to prosecute a criminal.	0.66
8.5.1	Prosecutors do not request or receive bribes or other informal payments to drop charges or grant bail.	0.49
8.5.1	Prosecutors do not request or receive bribes or other informal payments to destroy or tamper with evidence.	0.69
8.5.1	Prosecutors do not request or receive bribes or other informal payments to expedite court processes.	0.66
8.1.1	Prosecutors are not corrupt.	0.25
8.5.1	Prosecutors are not corrupt.	0.25
Independence		
8.1.1	Prosecutors operate independently from powerful government officials and private parties.	0.10
Performance & Due Process		
8.7.1	Prosecutors do not indict innocent people of false charges in order to fill quotas.	0.38
8.7.4	Detained suspects that do not speak the same language as police officers or prosecutors are able to obtain access to an interpreter.	0.45

Correctional Institutions

Capacity		
8.3	Correctional facilities provide adequate living conditions and space for inmates.	0.07
8.3	Correctional institutions provide separate facilities for dangerous and less serious offenders.	0.29
8.3	Correctional facilities have adequate security measures to prevent escapes.	0.46
8.7.5	Correctional facilities provide adequate living conditions and space for inmates.	0.07
8.7.5	Correctional facilities provide inmates with adequate health care and nutrition.	0.23
8.7.5	Correctional institutions have accessible complaint mechanisms.	0.42
Physical Safety		
8.7.5	Guards and correctional personnel do not physically abuse inmates.	0.55
8.7.5	There is not physical abuse between inmates in correctional facilities.	0.58
Resources		
8.3	Correctional facilities effectively rehabilitate inmates and prevent recidivism.	0.20
8.3	Convicted criminals released from prison do not relapse into criminal behavior.	0.58

Criminal Investigation

Corruption		
8.1.1	Criminal investigators and judicial police are not corrupt.	0.26
8.5.1	Criminal investigators and judicial police are not corrupt.	0.26
Independence		
8.1.1	Forensic experts perform their duties independently and free of improper influence.	0.25
Performance & Due Process		
8.1.1	Criminal investigators perform their duties competently.	0.54
8.1.1	Eyewitness identification of defendants is conducted in a manner that does not improperly disadvantage the accused.	0.27
8.7.1	Suspects are presumed innocent during criminal investigations.	0.25
Resources		
8.1.1	Criminal investigators have a proper understanding of the law.	0.29
8.1.1	The criminal investigation system has effective intelligence systems to support criminal investigators.	0.38
8.1.1	Criminal investigations utilize proactive investigation methods.	0.35
8.1.1	Criminal investigations have effective mechanisms to gather information and analyze evidence.	0.23
8.1.1	Criminal investigations follow effective storage and chain of custody procedures for material evidence.	0.12
8.1.1	Criminal investigations have effective systems to protect witnesses and whistle-blowers.	0.20
8.1.1	Criminal investigations have effective systems to exchange information between criminal investigative service agencies.	0.38
8.1.1	The criminal investigation system has an adequate number of criminal investigators.	0.24
8.1.1	Criminal investigations are equipped with sufficient technology and adequate resources.	0.12

Judges

Corruption		
8.5.2	Criminal court judges and judicial officers are not corrupt.	0.38
8.5.2	Final decisions in criminal court cases are not influenced by corruption.	0.48
8.5.2	🏠 Judges and magistrates are not corrupt.	0.33
Independence		
8.5.2	Members of the courts are not influenced by criminal organizations.	0.31
8.5.2	Final decisions in criminal court cases are not influenced by undue political or professional pressure.	0.44
8.5.2	🏠 Judges decide criminal court cases without improper influence by the government or powerful private interests.	0.44
Performance & Due Process		
8.2.2	Criminal court judges make sound decisions.	0.35
8.7.1	Suspects are presumed innocent by judges during trial until all evidence has been presented.	0.26

* Question-level variables may have different weights.

Source: WJP Qualified Respondents' Questionnaires (unless otherwise noted).

Respondents have a generally negative view of criminal justice institutions in Niger. Improper influence is widespread across institutions, with prosecutors receiving the lowest question-level scores in the “Independence” category. Despite these low scores, prosecutors are viewed as the least corrupt of the criminal justice institutions and actors. Both the general public and expert practitioners perceive the police in Niger to be relatively non-discriminatory, except on the basis of socio-economic status and sexual orientation. In contrast, practitioners say criminal courts often discriminate against marginalized people. While respondents have moderate views about the competence and accessibility of public defenders, they feel there are not enough state-provided or pro-bono attorneys to handle poor criminal defendants’ cases.

Police Officers

Corruption		
8.5.1	Local police officers do not request bribes from traders and small merchants to carry on their business activities.	0.29
8.5.1	Police and court officers do not request or receive bribes or other informal payments to investigate a crime.	0.60
8.5.1	Police and court officers do not request or receive bribes or other informal payments to prosecute criminals.	0.58
8.5.1	Police and court officers do not request or receive bribes or other informal payments to drop charges or grant bail.	0.47
8.5.1	Police and court officers do not request or receive bribes or other informal payments to destroy or tamper with evidence.	0.67
8.5.1	Police and court officers do not request or receive bribes or other informal payments to expedite court processes.	0.61
8.5.1	🏠 Police officers are not involved in corrupt practices.	0.49
Discrimination		
8.4.1	Police do not discriminate on the basis of socio-economic status.	0.17
8.4.1	Police do not discriminate on the basis of gender.	0.54
8.4.1	Police do not discriminate on the basis of ethnicity.	0.93
8.4.1	Police do not discriminate on the basis of religion.	0.79
8.4.1	Police do not discriminate on the basis of national origin.	0.62
8.4.1	Police do not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.	0.27
8.4.1	🏠 Police do not discriminate on the basis of socio-economic status.	0.41
8.4.1	🏠 Police do not discriminate on the basis of gender.	0.74
8.4.1	🏠 Police do not discriminate on the basis of ethnicity.	0.77
8.4.1	🏠 Police do not discriminate on the basis of religion.	0.79
8.4.1	🏠 Police do not discriminate on the basis of national origin.	0.72
8.4.1	🏠 Police do not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.	0.60
Independence		
8.5.1	The police do not accept bribes from criminal organizations in exchange for impunity.	0.47
8.5.1	The police are not influenced by criminal organizations.	0.33
Performance & Due Process		
8.7.2	Police do not arbitrarily arrest citizens without probable cause.	0.20
8.7.2	The police do not search houses of political dissidents without a warrant of arrest.	0.25
8.7.2	🏠 The basic rights of suspects are respected by the police.	0.53
8.7.4	Detained suspects are granted adequate legal counsel from public defenders upon request while in police custody.	0.15
8.7.4	Detained suspects that do not speak the same language as police officers or prosecutors are able to obtain access to an interpreter.	0.45
Physical Safety		
8.7.2	Police do not use excessive force during arrests.	0.36
8.7.3	Police interrogators do not inflict minor physical harm on detained suspects to force a confession.	0.48
8.7.3	Police interrogators do not inflict severe physical harm on detained suspects to force a confession.	0.50
8.7.3	Police (or military police) do not inflict severe physical harm on suspected members of dangerous criminal organizations during interrogation.	0.39

Criminal Courts

Independence		
8.6	National courts are free of political influence in their application of power.	0.27
8.6	Local courts are free of political influence in their application of power.	0.32
8.6	The judiciary operates with independence from the government’s power.	0.32
Discrimination		
8.4.2	Criminal courts do not discriminate against marginalized people.	0.34
Performance & Due Process		
8.1.1	The criminal justice system accurately convicts individuals through trials.	0.42
8.1.1	The criminal justice system accurately convicts individuals through plea bargains or other pre-trial processes.	0.68
8.1.1	The criminal justice system accurately indicts and accuses perpetrators.	0.12
8.7.1	Suspects are allowed to challenge the evidence used against them in court.	0.13
8.2.1	Criminal courts do not use pre-trial detention excessively.	0.11
Timeliness		
8.2.1	Suspected perpetrators of serious crimes are convicted in a timely manner.	0.58
8.2.1	Detained suspects are not held in custody without a formal conviction for more than three months.	0.25
8.2.1	Detained suspects are not held in custody without a formal conviction for more than one year.	0.42
8.2.1	Detained suspects are not held in custody without a formal conviction for more than three years.	0.58
8.2.1	Criminal courts decide cases on a timely basis.	0.13
8.2.1	Suspected perpetrators of minor crimes are convicted on a timely basis.	0.81
Public Defenders		
Performance & Due Process		
8.7.4	State-provided and pro-bono attorneys perform their duties competently.	0.43
8.7.4	State-provided and pro-bono attorneys are able to gain access to clients while they are detained.	0.49
8.7.4	Detained suspects are granted adequate legal counsel from public defenders upon request while in police custody.	0.15
8.7.4	Detained suspects are granted adequate legal counsel from public defenders upon request while in pre-trial detention.	0.29
8.7.4	Detained suspects are granted adequate legal counsel from public defenders upon request during their trial.	0.41
Resources		
8.7.4	State-provided and pro-bono attorneys receive adequate training and education to perform their duties.	0.53
8.7.4	The criminal defense system has an adequate number of state-provided and pro-bono attorneys to handle poor criminal defendants’ cases.	0.17

* Question-level variables may have different weights.

Source: WJP Qualified Respondents’ Questionnaires (unless otherwise noted).

section

IV

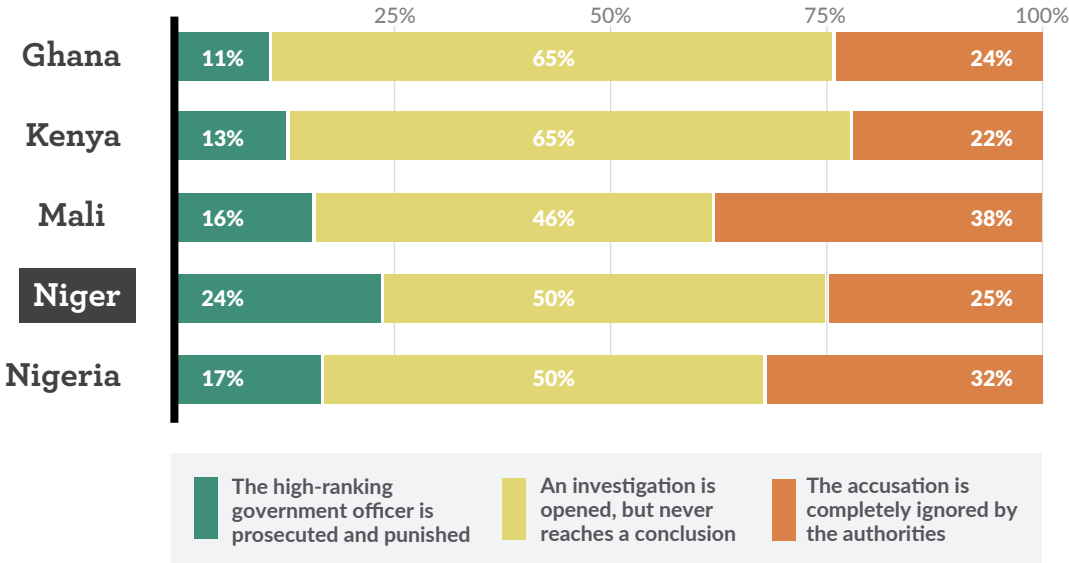
Thematic Findings from the General Public

Government Accountability

Views in Niger and select peer countries regarding accountability under the law.

Chart 5a. Perceptions of Accountability Across Peer Countries*

Most likely outcome if a high-ranking government officer is caught embezzling public funds.



There is a moderate perception of impunity in Niger. When presented with a hypothetical situation in which a high-ranking government officer is caught embezzling government funds (Chart 5a), 25% of respondents believed the accusation would be completely ignored by the authorities. Compared to perceptions of accountability across select peer countries, however, more Nigeriens believe that the government officer would be prosecuted and punished (24%) than respondents in Ghana, Kenya, Mali, and Nigeria.

Chart 5b. Checks on Government Power

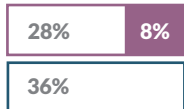
Nigeriens' views on the relative importance of government power and accountability compared to peer country averages.

Government Accountability

A It is more important to have a government that can get things done, even if citizens have no influence over what it does.



B It is more important for citizens to be able to hold government accountable, even if it means decisions are made more slowly.

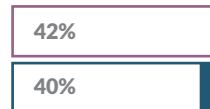


Presidential Power

A The president must always obey the laws and the courts, even if s/he thinks they are wrong.



B The president should not be bound by laws or court decisions that s/he thinks are wrong.

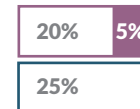


Adherence to Law

A It is important for citizens to obey the government in power, no matter who they voted for.



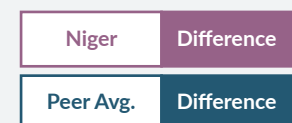
B It is not necessary for citizens to obey the laws of a government they did not vote for.



According to Chart 5b, Nigeriens believe that adherence to the law and constraints on presidential power are important. When asked about their views on the importance of accountability, only 28% of Nigeriens agree that it is more important for citizens to be able to hold a government accountable than to have a government that can get things done. Meanwhile, 55% of Nigeriens agree that the president must always obey the laws and the courts, even if s/he thinks they are wrong.

Key

Values based on percent that agreed with statement A or B



*Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding
Source: WJP General Population Poll 2018

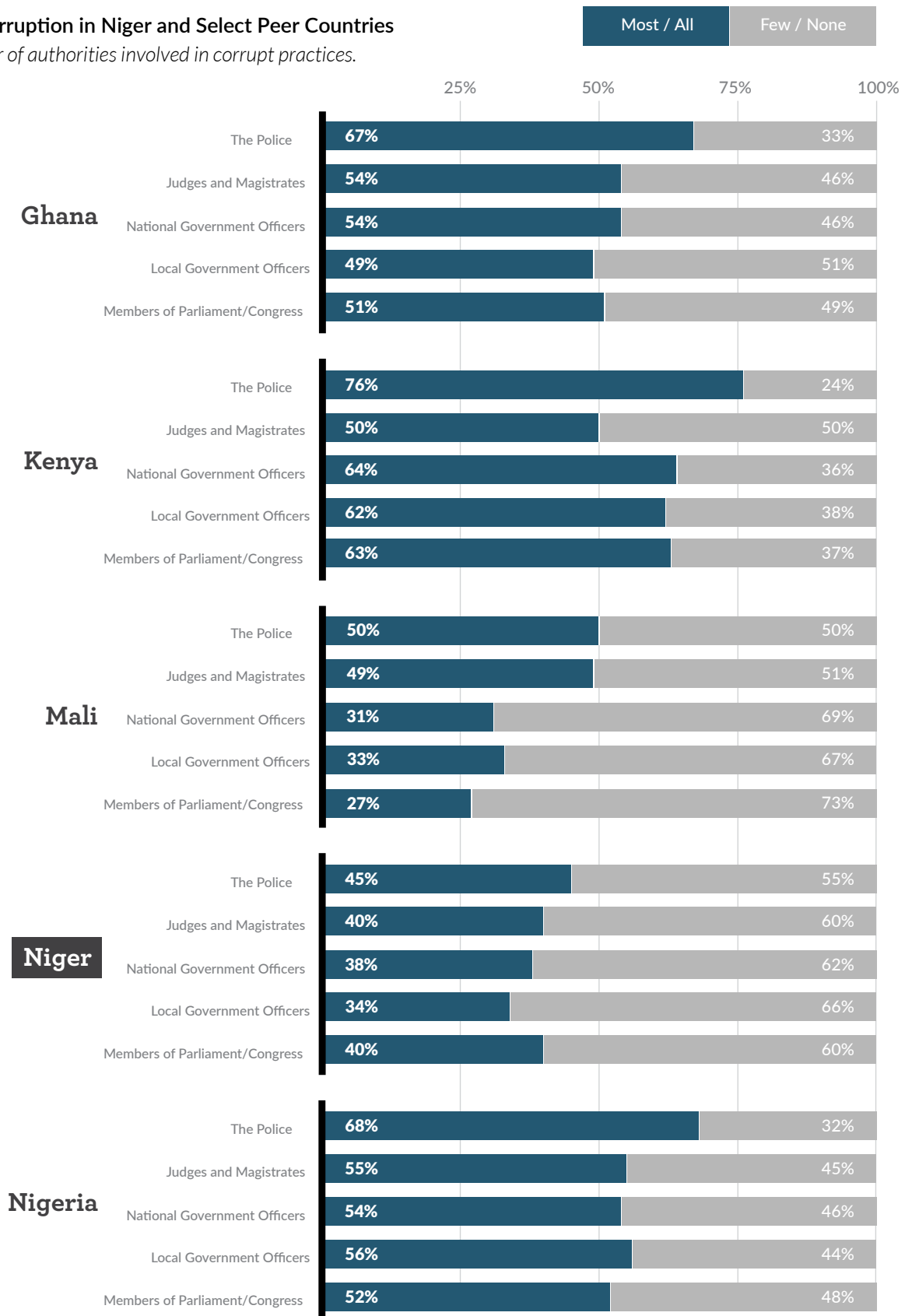
Corruption Across Institutions

Data on perceptions of corruption across institutions in Niger and select peer countries.

Chart 6. Perceptions of Corruption in Niger and Select Peer Countries

Perceptions about the number of authorities involved in corrupt practices.

Nigeriens believe that a moderate number of authorities are involved in corrupt practices. Local government officers are viewed as the least corrupt authority by respondents (34%), while members of the police are perceived to be the most corrupt (45%). Across select peer countries, members of the police are also viewed as the most corrupt authority by respondents in Ghana, Kenya, Mali, and Nigeria.



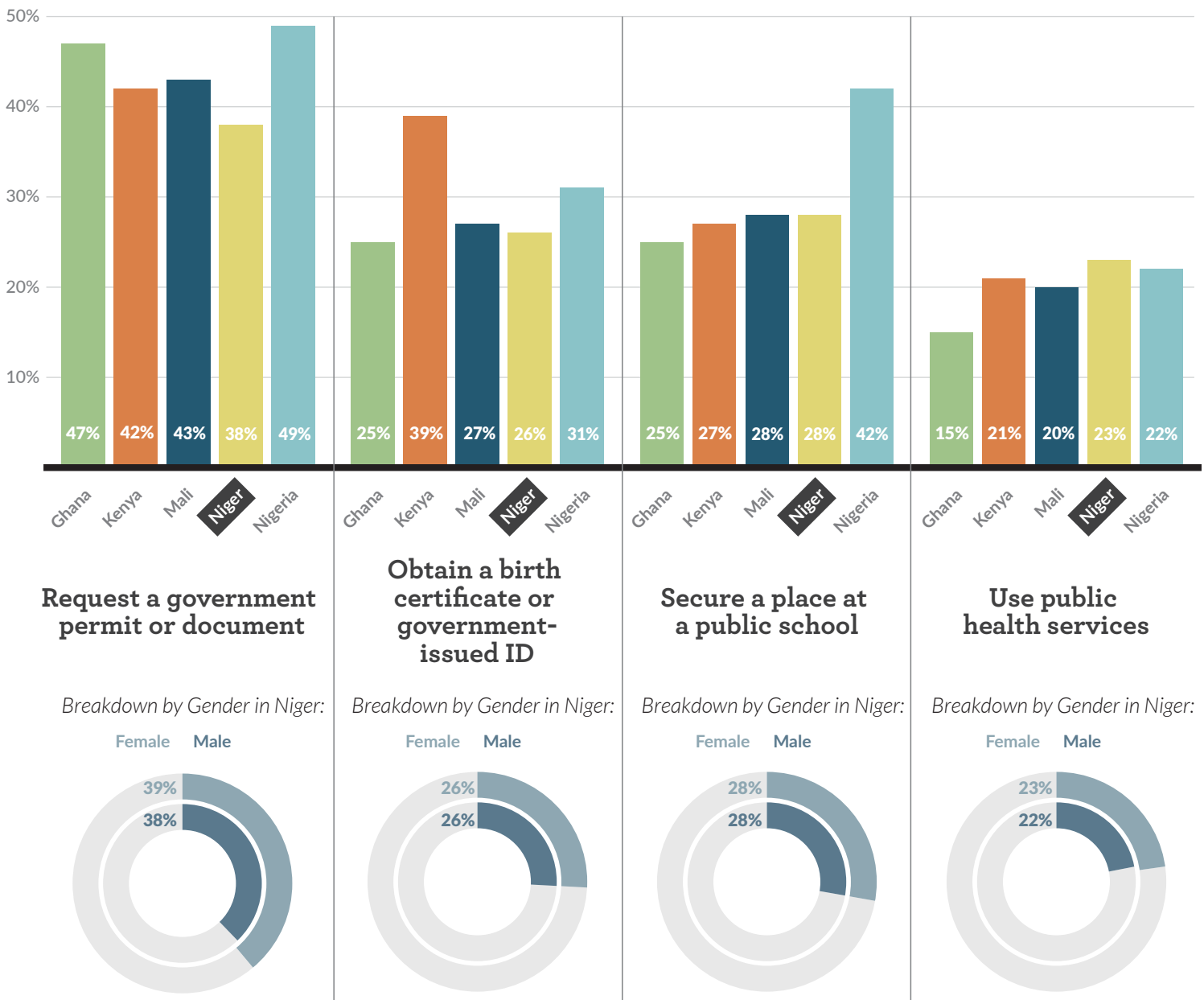
Bribery Victimization

Data on bribes paid in Niger and select peer countries to access public services.

Bribery victimization is common in Niger. In the last three years, 38% of people paid a bribe in order to request a government permit or document. More than one-quarter of respondents reported that they paid a bribe to enroll their child in a public school (28%) and to obtain a birth certificate or government-issued ID (26%). Nigeriens paid bribes least often to use public health services (23%). Although reported bribery victimization rates vary across peer countries, more respondents reported paying a bribe to obtain a government permit than for any other service. Both women and men are asked to pay bribes at similar rates.

Chart 7. Bribery Victimization by Country

Percentage of respondents who had to pay a bribe to...



Fundamental Freedoms

Views on the extent to which various political, media, and religious freedoms are effectively guaranteed.

Nigeriens' perceptions on fundamental freedoms in their country vary widely (Chart 8a). Although a majority of Nigeriens agree that, on average, their political and religious freedoms are guaranteed (61% and 80%, respectively), only 40% agree that their media freedoms are guaranteed. When asked about specific freedoms, 76% of respondents agree that people in their country are free to join any political organization, while only 37% of respondents agree that the media can freely express opinions against the government without fear of retaliation. Across select peer countries, Nigeriens have more pessimistic views on the extent to which media freedoms are guaranteed as compared to respondents in Ghana, Kenya, Mali, and Nigeria (Chart 8b).

Chart 8a. Fundamental Freedoms in Niger

Views on political, media, and religious freedoms in Niger.

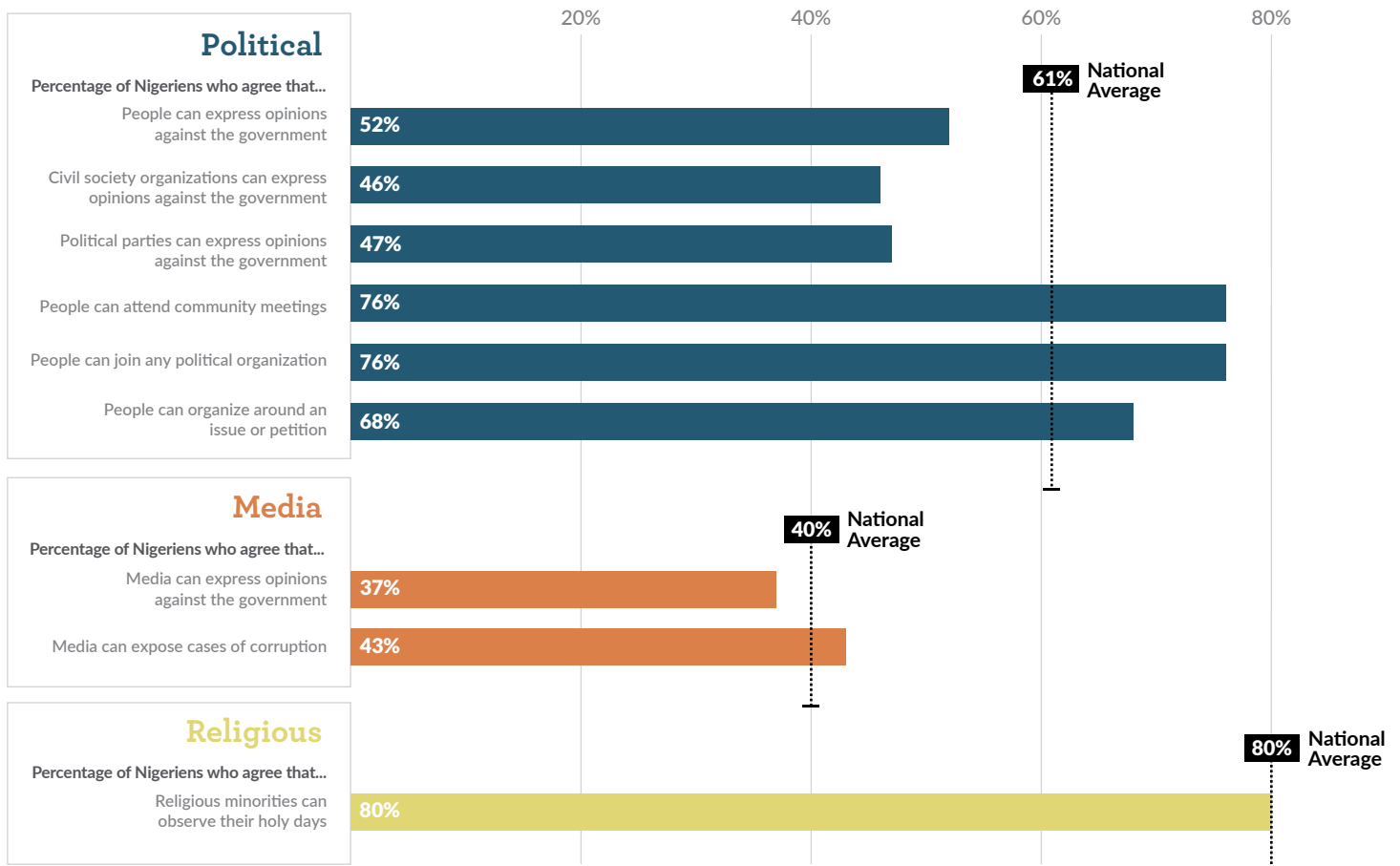
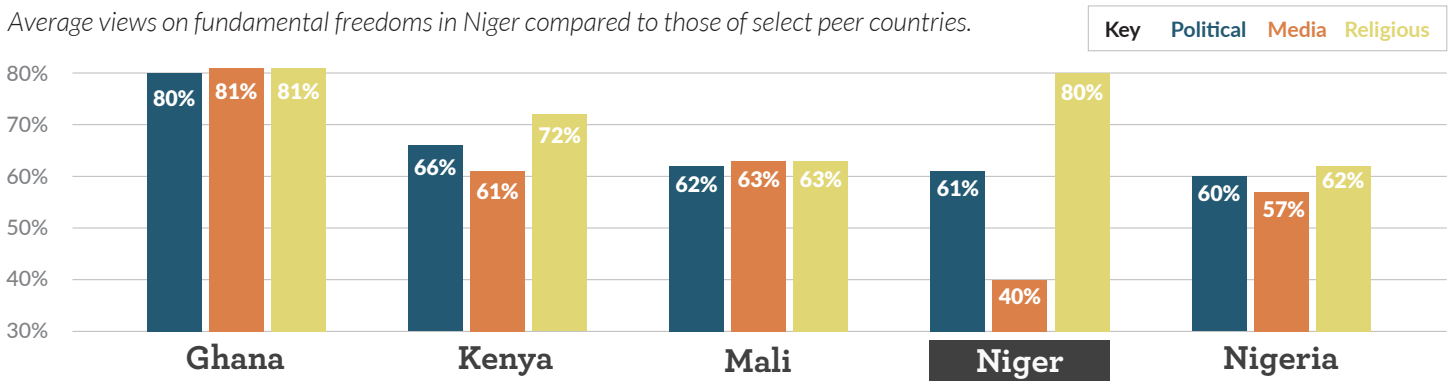


Chart 8b. Averages of Fundamental Freedoms

Average views on fundamental freedoms in Niger compared to those of select peer countries.



Crime Victimization

Data on crimes experienced in Niger and select peer countries.

Nigeriens experience crime at higher rates than citizens in select peer countries (Chart 9a). Twenty-three percent (23%) of Nigeriens reported that they were the victim of any crime in the last year, compared to 16% of respondents in Ghana, 15% in Kenya, 16% in Mali, and 15% in Nigeria. When asked about the crime they most recently experienced, 13% of Nigeriens reported that they were the victim of theft, 9% were the victim of a robbery, and 1% were the victim of a burglary (Chart 9b).

Chart 9a. Crime Victimization by Country

Percentage of respondents in Niger and select peer countries that experienced any crime in the last year.

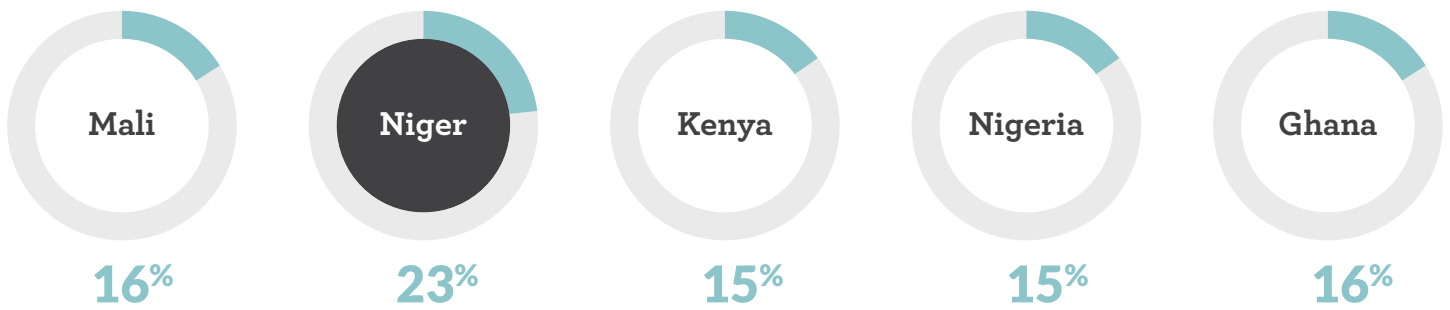
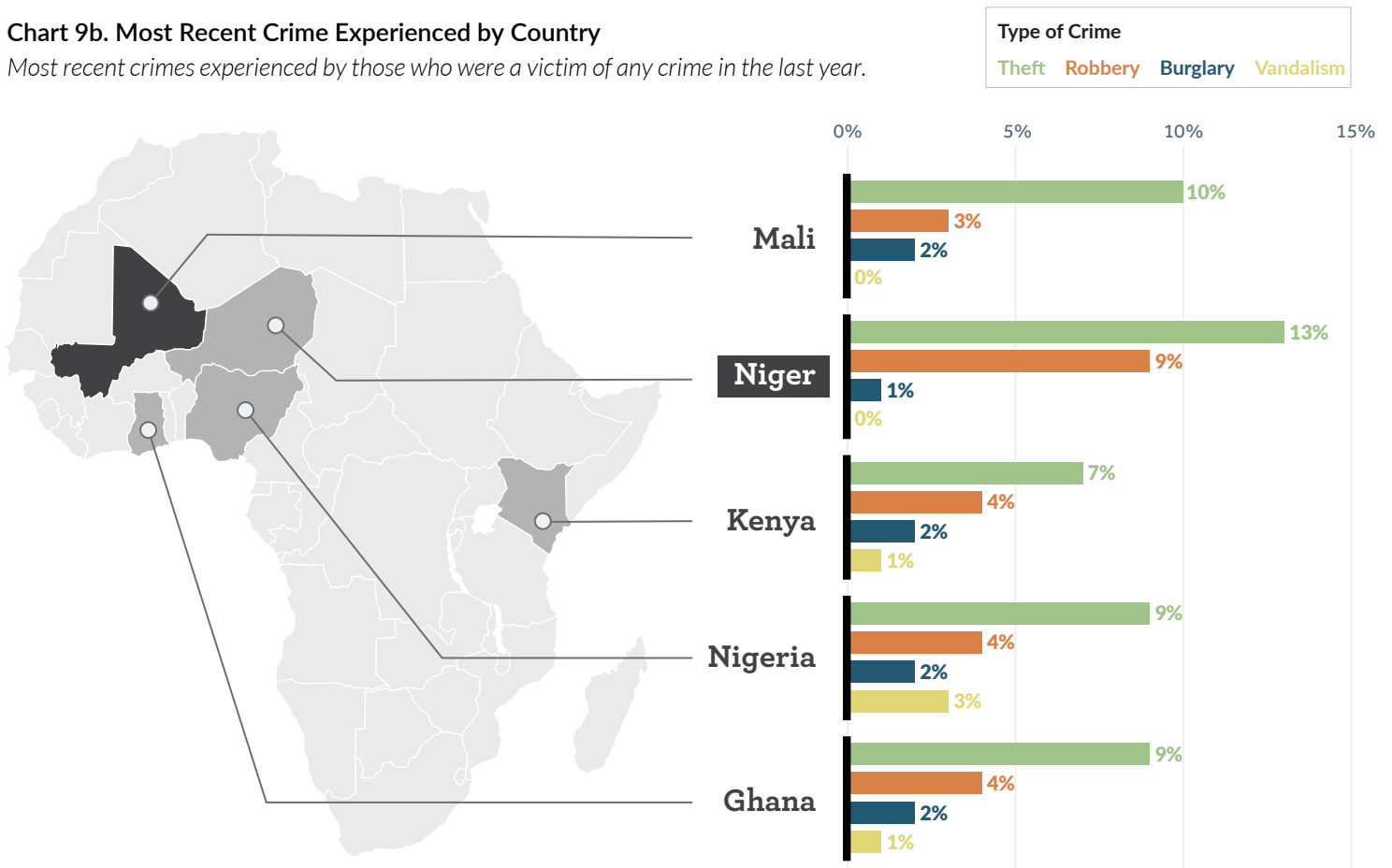


Chart 9b. Most Recent Crime Experienced by Country

Most recent crimes experienced by those who were a victim of any crime in the last year.



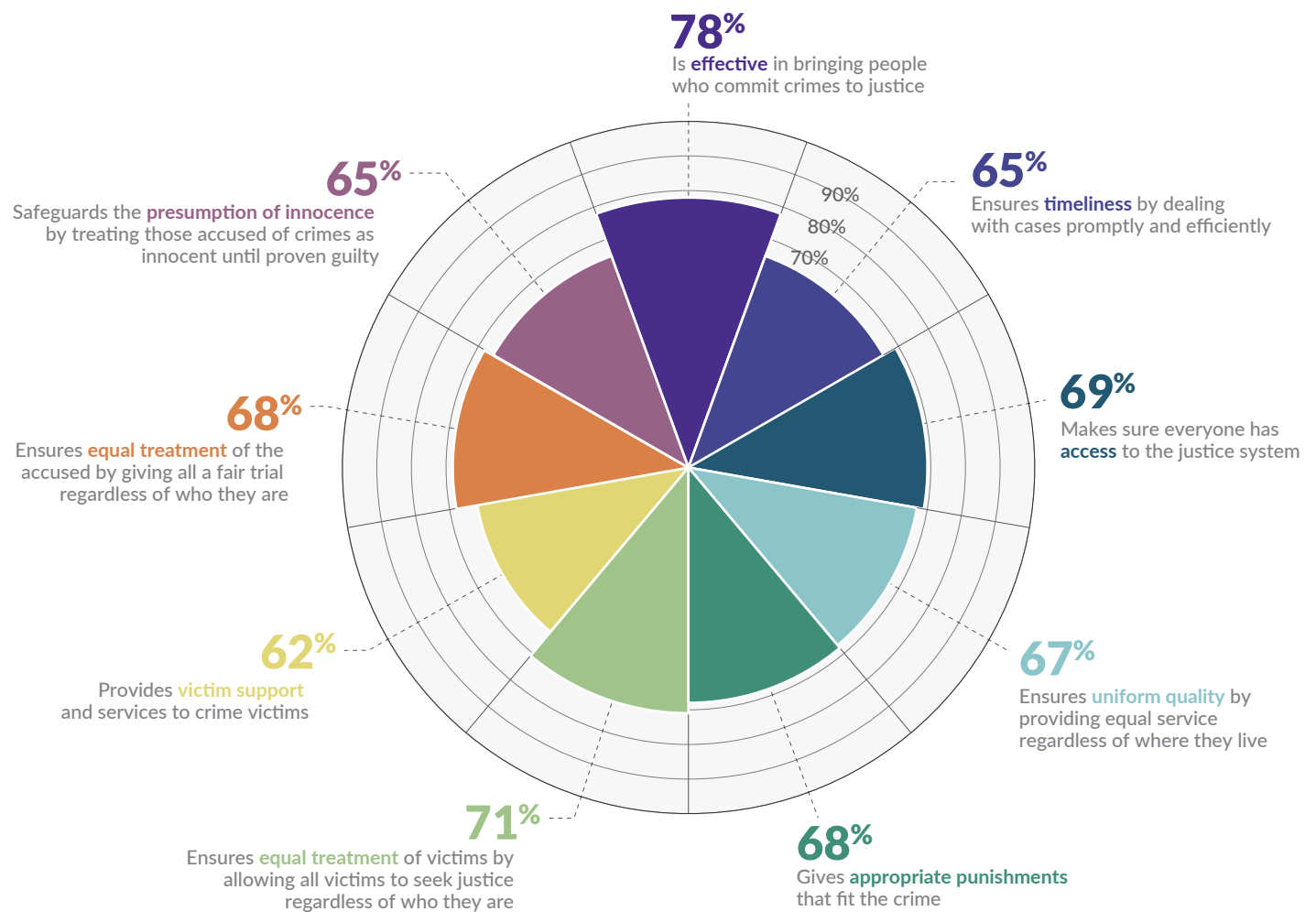
Perceptions of the Criminal Justice System

Views on the functioning of the criminal justice system in Niger.

Nigeriens report fairly high levels of confidence in the performance of the criminal justice system. The majority of respondents are confident that the criminal justice system is effective at bringing people who commit crimes to justice (78%), that victims are able to seek justice regardless of who they are (71%), and that everyone is ensured access to the justice system (69%). However, Nigeriens are slightly less confident that the criminal justice system provides support and services to crime victims (62%) and that the system is timely in dealing with cases (65%).

Chart 10. Citizen Views on Criminal Justice

Percentage of respondents who are confident that the criminal justice system...



Perceptions of the Police

Views on police accountability in Niger and select peer countries.

Nigeriens have the most positive views on police accountability compared to respondents in select peer countries. A large percentage of Nigeriens believe that the police always or often perform serious investigations to find perpetrators (85%), act in accordance with the law (76%), and respect the basic rights of suspects (70%). However, fewer respondents believe that the police are punished for violating the law (58%). When looking at perceptions of the across Niger's three largest cities, respondents in Maradi tend to have more positive views on police performance, while those in Niamey tend to have slightly less positive views.

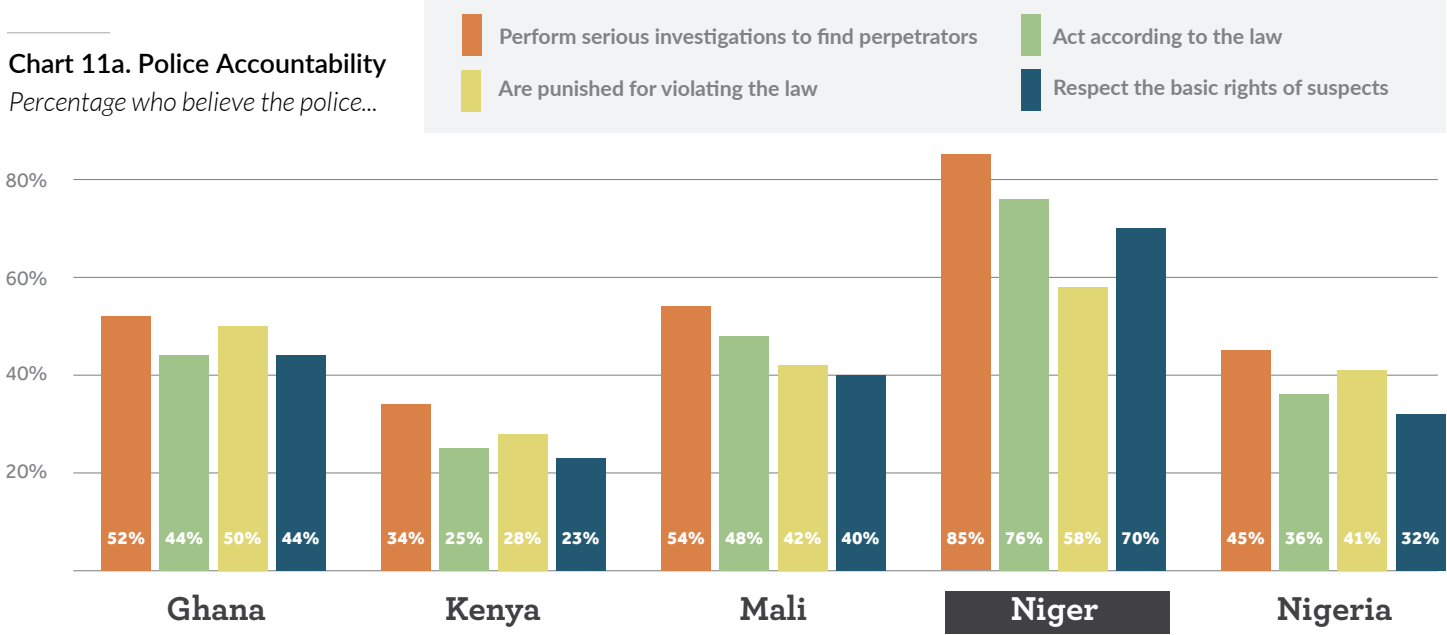
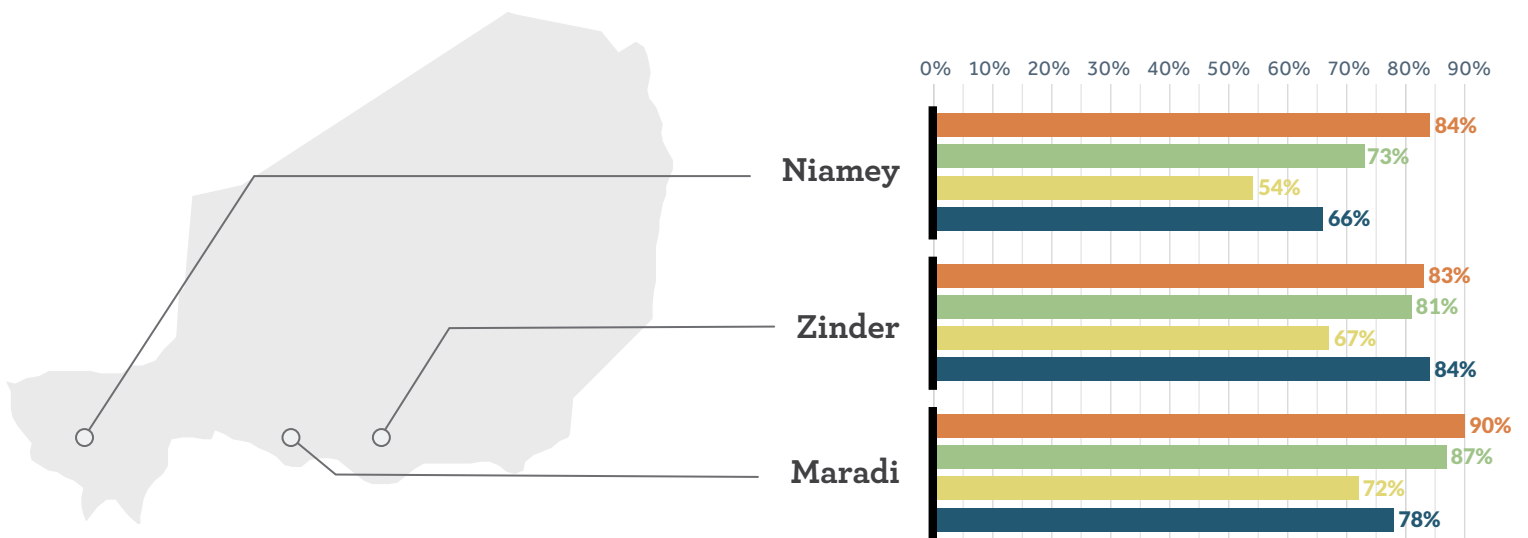


Chart 11b. Perceptions by City

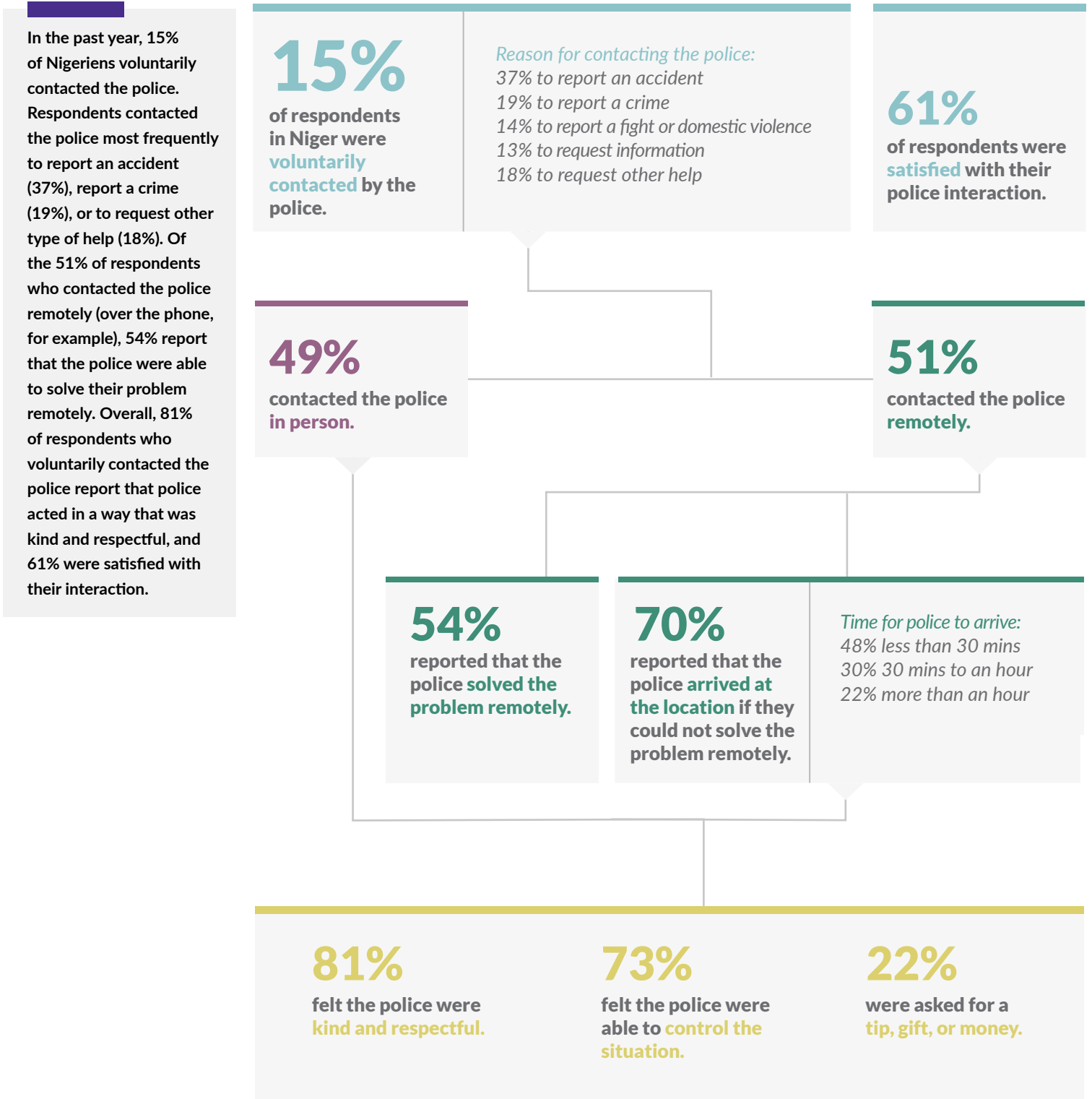


Interactions with the Police

Data on the experiences of citizens in Niger who interacted with the police in the last 12 months.

Chart 12a. Voluntary Contact with the Police*

Incidence of voluntary interactions with the police, reasons for contact, and reported experience.



*Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding
 Source: WJP General Population Poll 2018

Chart 12b. Involuntary Contact with the Police*

Incidence of involuntary interactions with the police, reasons for contact, and reported experience.

Thirty percent (30%) of Nigeriens experienced involuntary contact—contact that they did not initiate—with the police in the past year. Of this, 81% were stopped in a vehicle by police, and 19% report that they were approached in their home, at work, or in a public space. For those stopped in a vehicle, the majority (72%) were stopped as part of a routine check. Of those stopped at home, work, or in public, 46% were stopped because the police thought the respondent or their companion was doing something illegal. Overall, more Nigeriens believed that the police acted in a kind and respectful manner during vehicle stops (69%) than during involuntary interactions that occurred at their home, work, or in public (60%).



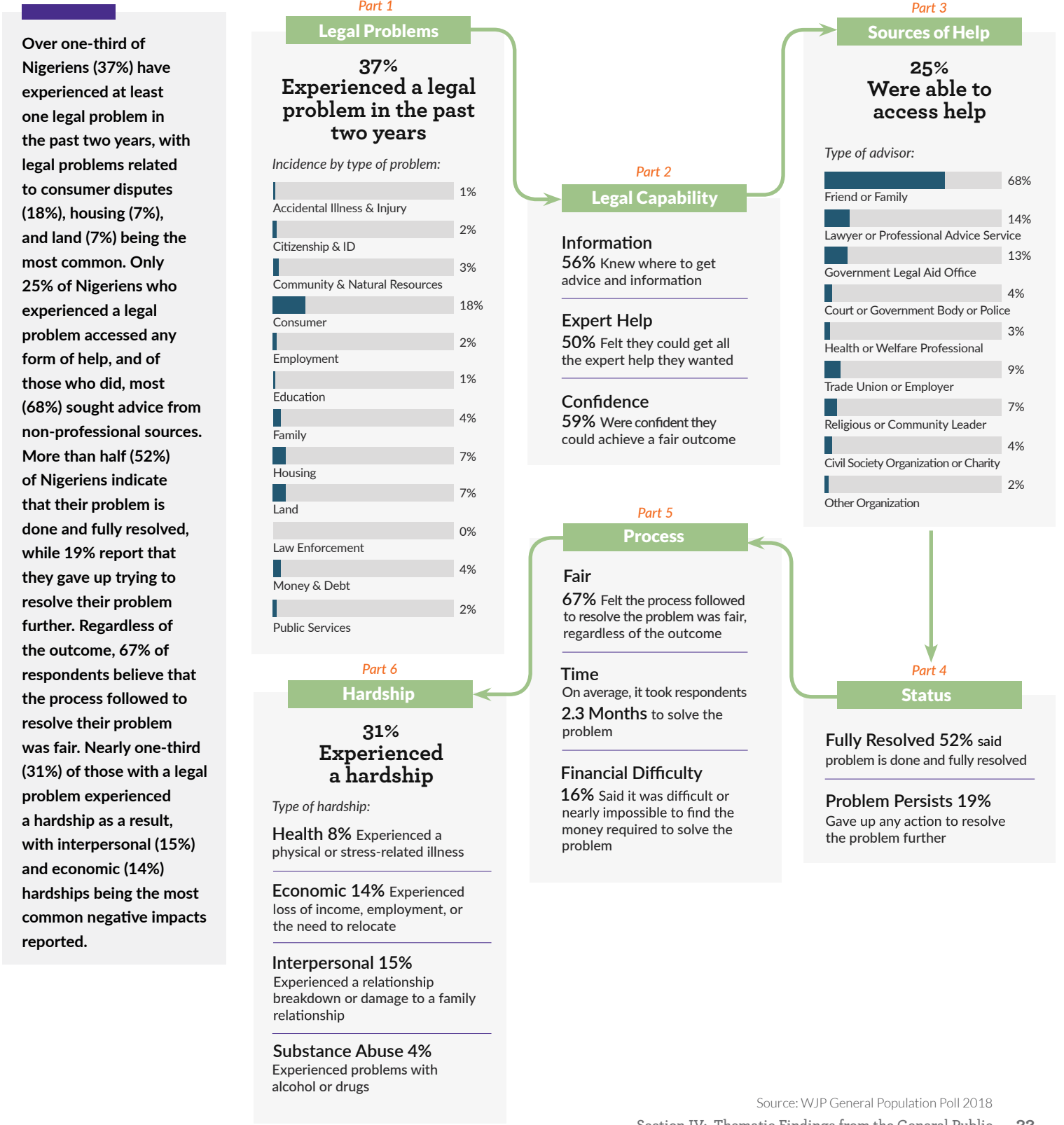
*Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding
Source: WJP General Population Poll 2018

Access to Civil Justice

Data on the paths followed by people in Niger to deal with their everyday justice problems.

Chart 13. Civil Justice Journey in Niger

Incidence of legal problems in Niger, respondents' legal capability, access to sources of help, problem status, assessment of the resolution process, and problem impact.



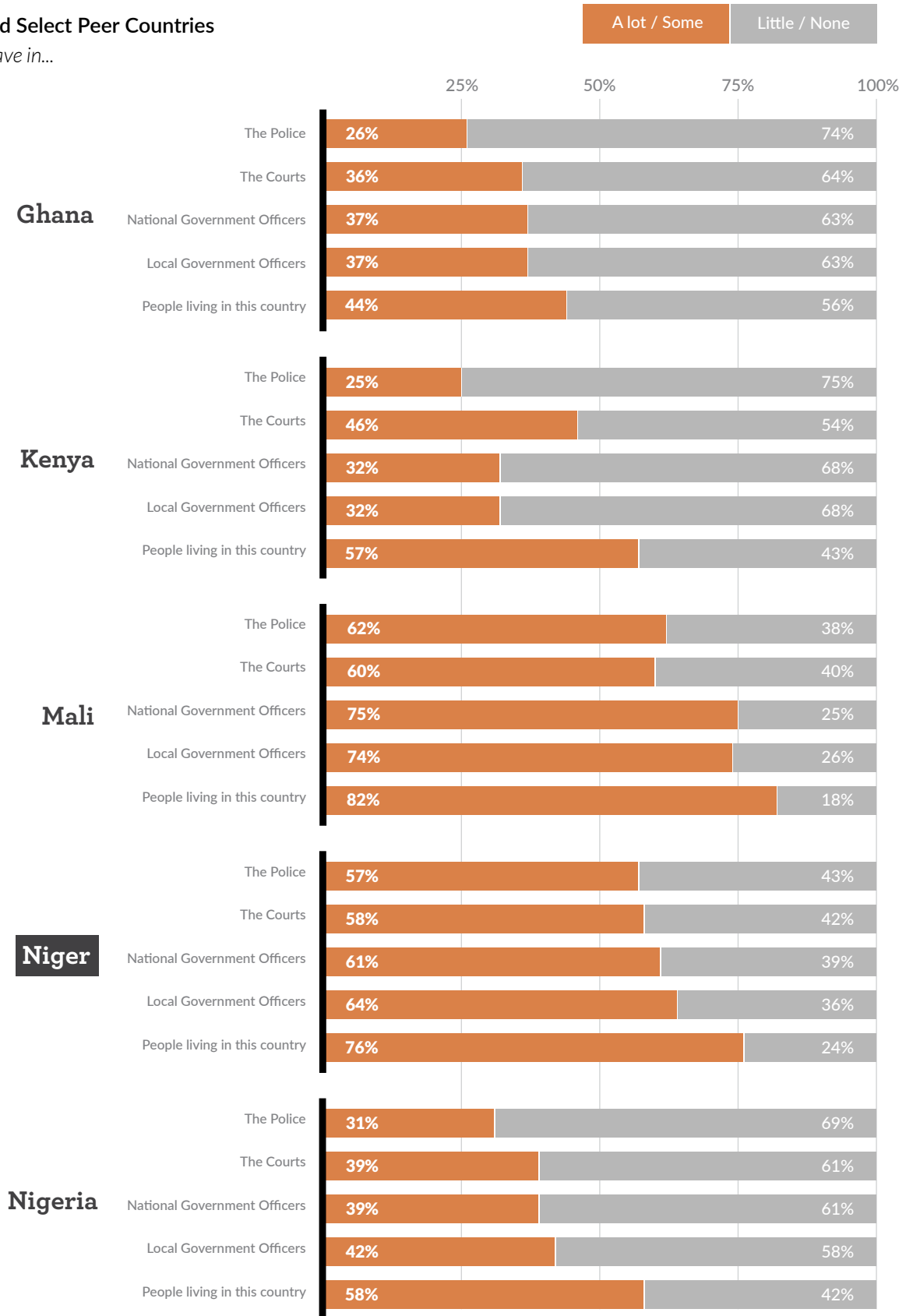
Trust in Institutions

Data on the extent to which citizens in Niger and select peer countries trust various groups and institutions.

Chart 14. Trust in Niger and Select Peer Countries

How much trust do citizens have in...

Nigeriens have a high degree of trust in their fellow citizens, with 76% reporting that they have a lot or some trust in other people living in Niger. Across institutions, respondents have the most trust in local and national government officials (64% and 61%, respectively), and the least trust in the police (57%). Compared to peer countries, Nigeriens have a lower degree of trust in institutions than respondents in Mali, but a higher degree of trust than respondents in Ghana, Kenya, and Nigeria.





section

V

Project Design



Methodology

Data Sources

To present an image that accurately portrays the rule of law as experienced by ordinary people, the findings of this report are drawn from two original data sources collected by the World Justice Project in Niger: a series of Qualified Respondents' Questionnaires (QRQs) and a General Population Poll (GPP). These two data sources collect up-to-date firsthand information that is not available at the global level, and constitute the world's most comprehensive dataset of its kind. They capture the experiences and perceptions of ordinary citizens and in-country professionals concerning the performance of the state and its agents and the actual operation of the legal framework in their country.

Qualified Respondents' Questionnaires

The Qualified Respondents' Questionnaires (QRQs) were conducted for the *World Justice Project Rule of Law Index*® by the World Justice Project's research team based in Washington, DC. The surveys were administered online from June 2019 through early November 2019. The QRQ surveys are conducted annually, and the questionnaires are completed by in-country professionals selected from directories of law firms, universities and colleges, research organizations, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), as well as through referrals from the WJP global network of practitioners, and all are vetted by WJP staff based on their expertise.

These questionnaires encompass four areas of practice, including civil and commercial law, criminal justice, labor law, and public health, and gather timely input on a range of topics from practitioners who frequently interact with state institutions. Such topics include information on the efficacy of courts, the strength of regulatory enforcement, and the reliability of accountability mechanisms. The questionnaires contain closed-ended perception questions and several hypothetical scenarios with highly detailed factual assumptions aimed at ensuring comparability across countries.

The expert surveys are administered in five languages: English, French, Portuguese, Russian, and Spanish. The QRQ data for this report include more than 3,800 surveys, which represents an average of 30 respondents per country. In Niger, a total of 40 expert practitioners completed the QRQs, with 12 practitioners completing the Civil and Commercial Law QRQ; 11 practitioners completing the Criminal and Constitutional Law QRQ; 3 practitioners completing the Labor Law QRQ; and 14 practitioners completing the Public Health QRQ.

General Population Poll

The General Population Poll in Niger was conducted for the *World Justice Project Rule of Law Index* with sampling, framework, and data processing by Liaison Marketing based in Senegal. The survey fieldwork was conducted face-to-face between November 19th and November 29th, 2018, using a multi-stage stratified random sampling design. The target population for this survey was Nigeriens, 18 years of age or older, living in the three largest cities of Maradi, Niamey, and Zinder.

SAMPLE SIZE AND SAMPLE FRAME

The achieved sample size was 1,011 interviews distributed proportionally across the three largest cities of Maradi, Niamey, and Zinder. The sample was proportionally stratified by region, urbanization, age, gender, and socioeconomic status.

SAMPLING

The greater metropolitan areas of Niger's three largest cities were the primary sampling units. Cities were sampled using probability proportionate to size sampling, and included rural sampling points in villages around the city. Administrative divisions were the secondary sampling units for both the urban and rural strata. All administrative divisions were selected according to data from PopulationData.net. Neighborhoods were the tertiary sampling units, and were sampled using probability proportionate to size sampling. Within the sampled neighborhoods, a systematic random route was performed to sample households, and the last birthday method was used to select respondents within each household.

Descriptions of the Sample

CITIES Interviews were conducted in the three largest cities of Maradi, Niamey, and Zinder. Interviews were distributed proportionally across the three largest cities, with 71% of interviews occurring in Niamey, 16% in Zinder, and 13% in Maradi.

ETHNICITY Most respondents identified themselves as Haoussa (44%) or Djerma (25%).

GENDER Fifty-three percent (53%) of respondents were male and 47% were female.

EDUCATION Twenty-six percent (26%) of respondents reported that they had no formal education, 14% had an elementary school diploma, 21% had a middle school diploma, 14% had a high school diploma, and 24% had a Bachelor's degree or higher.

INTERVIEWING AND QUALITY CONTROL

A total of 24 interviewers worked on this project. Training was provided to the surveyors on the administration of the questionnaire and management of the survey software. Interviews were conducted in French. Eighty percent (80%) of interviews were conducted under direct supervision, and 25% of interviews were either checked using telephone call backs or were back-checked by the supervisory field team. Ten percent (10%) of interviews were back-checked by the central office. Three contacts were attempted per respondent. The average length of interview was 66 minutes.

Additional Countries

This report includes comparisons to the following Sub-Saharan African countries surveyed by the World Justice Project: Ghana, Kenya, Mali, and Nigeria. These four countries are a portion of the 128 countries and jurisdictions included in the World Justice Project Rule of Law Index 2020 report. The surveys are administered every two to three years to a probability sample of 1,000 respondents in the three largest cities or nationally representative in most countries. Detailed information regarding the methodology of the *WJP Rule of Law Index* is available at: www.worldjusticeproject.org.

The WJP Rule of Law Index

The *WJP Rule of Law Index 2020* is the latest report in an annual series measuring the rule of law based on the experiences and perceptions of the general public and in-country experts worldwide. The Index presents a portrait of the rule of law based on eight factors: Constraints on Government Powers, Absence of Corruption, Open Government, Fundamental Rights, Order and Security, Regulatory Enforcement, Civil Justice, and Criminal Justice. This year's and previous versions of the *WJP Rule of Law Index* are available online at www.worldjusticeproject.org. In addition to the Index report, an interactive online platform for *WJP Rule of Law Index* data is available at data.worldjusticeproject.org. The interactive data portal invites viewers to browse each of the 128 country profiles and explore country and factor scores. The site features the Index's entire dataset, as well as global, regional, and income group rankings.

section

VI

Appendix

Appendix

Methodological Materials

QUALIFIED RESPONDENTS' QUESTIONNAIRES (QRQS)

The Qualified Respondents' Questionnaires (QRQs) measure the experiences and perceptions of in-country professionals concerning the performance of the state and its agents and the actual operation of the legal framework in their country. Administered annually, the QRQs gather timely input on a range of topics, including information on the efficacy of courts, the strength of regulatory enforcement, and the reliability of accountability mechanisms.

[World Justice Project Qualified Respondents' Questionnaires 2019 – Survey Instruments](#)

GENERAL POPULATION POLL (GPP)

The General Population Poll was designed to capture high-quality data on the realities and concerns of ordinary people on a variety of themes related to the rule of law, including government accountability, bribery and corruption, crime, and access to justice.

[World Justice Project General Population Poll 2018 – Survey Instrument](#)

VARIABLES USED TO CONSTRUCT THE *WJP RULE OF LAW INDEX*[®]

This table lists the question-level variables from the Qualified Respondents Questionnaires and the General Population Poll used to construct the factors of the *WJP Rule of Law Index*.

[Variables Used to Construct the *WJP Rule of Law Index*](#)



World Justice
Project

About the World Justice Project

THE WORLD JUSTICE PROJECT® (WJP) is an independent, multidisciplinary organization working to advance the rule of law worldwide. Effective rule of law reduces corruption, combats poverty and disease, and protects people from injustices large and small. It is the foundation for communities of justice, opportunity, and peace—underpinning development, accountable government, and respect for fundamental rights.

WJP builds and supports a global, multi-disciplinary movement for the rule of law through three lines of work: collecting, organizing, and analyzing original, independent rule of law data, including the *WJP Rule of Law Index*®; supporting research, scholarship, and teaching about the importance of the rule of law, its relationship to development, and effective strategies to strengthen it; and connecting and building an engaged global network of policymakers and activists to advance the rule of law through strategic partnerships, convenings, coordinated advocacy, and support for locally led initiatives.