



World Justice
Project

The Rule of Law in Bolivia

Key Findings from the General
Population Poll 2022

Acknowledgements

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. ABOUT THIS REPORT

- 5 About This Report
- 6 Executive Findings

2. THEMATIC FINDINGS

SECTION I: AUTHORITARIANISM, FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

- 11 Authoritarianism
- 14 Fundamental Freedoms
- 18 Government Accountability

SECTION II: CORRUPTION AND TRUST

- 20 Corruption
- 23 Bribery Victimization
- 24 Trust

SECTION III: SECURITY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

- 26 Crime Victimization
- 27 Security
- 28 Criminal Justice
- 30 Police
- 32 Victim Support

SECTION IV: ACCESS TO JUSTICE

3. PROJECT DESIGN

- 37 Methodology

4. APPENDIX

- 41 Appendix
- 42 About the WJP
- 43 Other Publications

ABOUT THIS REPORT

5 About This Report

6 Executive Findings

ABOUT THIS REPORT

EFFECTIVE RULE OF LAW reduces corruption, combats poverty and disease, and protects people from injustices large and small. Strengthening the rule of law is an important objective for governments, donors, and civil society organizations around the world. To be effective, rule of law development requires clarity about the fundamental features that define the rule of law, as well as an adequate basis for its evaluation and measurement.

The Rule of Law in Bolivia: Key Findings from the General Population Poll 2022 presents question-level data drawn from the General Population Poll (GPP), an original data source designed and collected by the World Justice Project. To provide a more in-depth view of trends in perceptions of rule of law in Bolivia, this report also presents select findings over time and compared to Bolivia's regional peers within the Andean subregion of Latin America and the Caribbean.

The GPP was conducted between June and July 2022 through face-to-face interviews to a nationally representative sample of 1,000 Bolivian households. 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.

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

The data derived from the General Population Poll is presented in this report as thematic briefs, each one highlighting a different dimension of the rule of law from the perspective of Bolivians. These thematic briefs focus on the current rule of law ecosystem in Bolivia while simultaneously illuminating changes over time and comparisons across the following peer countries in the Andean region: Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru. Each section touches upon perceptions of and attitudes towards the following topics: accountability, authoritarianism, fundamental freedoms, corruption, bribery victimization, trust in institutions, the criminal justice system and its actors, police performance, crime victimization, support for victims of crime, security, and access to justice.

EXECUTIVE FINDINGS

The Rule of Law in Bolivia: Key Findings from the General Population Poll 2022 provides a comprehensive overview of how citizens perceive and experience the rule of law in Bolivia alongside comparative findings across the Andean region. The findings in this report indicate some positive trends in the general public's perspective on the rule of law in Bolivia, including relatively positive perceptions of fundamental freedoms and low perceptions of corruption in the region. Despite these positive developments, however, these findings highlight the fact that many challenges—including negative perceptions of government accountability, negative views on police performance, and low confidence in victim support practices—persist. At the regional level, prominent trends include high perceptions of authoritarian behavior, worsening perceptions of personal safety, and low confidence in criminal justice system performance.

SECTION 1

Authoritarianism, Fundamental Freedoms, and Accountability

1. Authoritarianism

On average, between half and three-quarters of all respondents in the Andes agreed that top government officials engage in authoritarian behavior. Among respondents in the Andean region, on average, Ecuadorians most often felt that top government officials engage in authoritarian behavior and Peruvians least often felt that top government officials engage in authoritarian behavior.

- When asked about authoritarian tendencies in Bolivia, respondents most often felt that top government officials **attack or attempt to discredit the media and civil society organizations that criticize them** (73%), **prosecute and convict journalists and leaders of civil society organizations** (69%), and **attack or attempt to discredit opposition parties** (69%).
- Compared to their regional counterparts, respondents in Bolivia most often felt that top government officials **prosecute and convict journalists and leaders of civil society organizations** (69% of respondents).

2. Fundamental Freedoms

On average, fewer respondents believe that their freedoms of expression, political participation, election, and religion are guaranteed in Colombia and Ecuador compared to 2018 and 2017, respectively. In contrast, the average percentage of respondents who believe that these freedoms are guaranteed remained fairly consistent in Bolivia and Peru. Throughout the Andes, fewer respondents agreed that local government officials are elected through a clean process and that media freedoms are guaranteed when compared against the last year of data collection.

- Compared to respondents in regional peer countries, Bolivians, on average, had more positive perceptions of the state's respect for freedoms of participation and religion.
- When asked about respect for fundamental freedoms in Bolivia, respondents had more favorable views on freedoms of political participation, with 89% of respondents agreeing that **people can attend community meetings**. Conversely, Bolivians had less favorable views on electoral freedoms, with 37% of respondents agreeing that **local government officials are elected through a clean process**.
- Between 2018 and 2022, Bolivia's most significant trends in public opinions on freedoms include a decline in the perception that **local government officials are elected through a clean process** (down 9 percentage points) and an improvement in the perception that **people can organize around an issue or petition** (up 7 percentage points).

3. Accountability

Perceptions of accountability are negative in the Andes. Less than one-third of all respondents in Andean countries believe that high-ranking officials would be held accountable for breaking the law (with the exception of Peru, where 36% of respondents believe this to be the case). Respondents in Ecuador had the most negative perceptions of accountability when compared to regional peers in the Andes (only 20% of respondents believe that high-ranking government officials would be held accountable for breaking the law). Furthermore, public perceptions of impunity deteriorated the most in Ecuador, where the percentage of respondents who believe that high-ranking government officials would be held accountable dropped a dramatic 26 percentage points since 2017.

- Only 29% of Bolivians believe that high-ranking government officials would be held accountable for breaking the law, marking a slight improvement since 2018 (up 1 percentage point).

SECTION 2

Corruption and Trust

4. Corruption

Public views on the pervasiveness of corruption within the legislature deteriorated in every Andean country, and views on corruption within law enforcement, the executive branch, and the judiciary deteriorated in Bolivia, Colombia, and Ecuador. Compared to Andean peer countries, Ecuador saw the largest increases in the percentage of respondents who believe that some or all of the actors across all of these institutions are involved in corrupt practices. Out of all Andean countries, on average, more Colombians reported perceptions of corruption across all actors than their regional peers, whereas Bolivians reported the same least frequently.

- Perceptions of corruption in Bolivia deteriorated most for **judges and magistrates**, with a 19-point increase in the percentage of respondents who believe that most or all judges and magistrates engage in corrupt practices.
- **Political parties** are considered the most corrupt institution in Bolivia. Approximately 79% of respondents believe that most or all members of Bolivian political parties are involved in corrupt practices.
- **Teachers in public schools** are considered the least corrupt actors in Bolivia, with 13% of respondents reporting that they believe most or all teachers are involved in corrupt practices.

5. Bribery Victimization

On average, Andean respondents reported paying a bribe most often in Colombia and least often in Peru. Throughout the region, respondents most frequently had to pay a bribe when requesting a government permit with the exception of Colombia, where respondents most often reported paying a bribe to request public benefits or assistance.

6. Trust

Andean respondents trust people living in their country more than any other public actor. In 2022, respondents in the Andean region most often reported having some or a lot of trust in people living in their country and expressed the lowest average levels of trust in executive actors with the exception of Bolivians, who expressed the lowest average levels of trust in police officers. On average, respondents in Ecuador least often reported having some or a lot of trust across all institutions. In contrast, respondents in Colombia reported the highest overall levels of trust.

- Levels of trust in Bolivia improved across almost every institution between 2018 and 2022. Bolivians only reported lower levels of trust in prosecutors (18% of respondents in 2022 compared to 21% in 2018) and judges and magistrates (20% of respondents in 2022 compared to 23% in 2018).
- In 2022, respondents in Bolivia most often reported having some or a lot of trust in **people living in their country** (43%) and least often reported having some or a lot of trust in **prosecutors**. (18%).

SECTION 3

Security and Criminal Justice

7. Crime Victimization

On average, roughly one-third (34%) of all respondents surveyed in the Andes reported experiencing a crime in the last 12 months. The percentage of respondents who reported their crime experience to an authority was fairly similar throughout the region, ranging from 40% to 42%.

- Thirty-eight percent (38%) of Bolivians reported experiencing a crime in the last 12 months, a figure above the regional average (34%).
- More than half (58%) of Bolivian respondents who were victims of a crime did not report the crime to an authority, with those respondents most often citing the belief that reporting would not help as their reason for not reporting (33%).

8. Security

Less than one-third (30%) of all Andean respondents feel safe or very safe when walking in their neighborhood at night, on average. This figure marks an average decline by 7 percentage points from the previous round of data collection. Compared to respondents in regional peer countries, Bolivians most often reported feeling safe in their neighborhood at night (35%), while less than one-quarter of Ecuadorians (21%) reported the same.

- Bolivian women and Bolivians who had previously been a victim of a crime were less likely to feel safe walking in their neighborhood at night than respondents with other sociodemographic characteristics.

9. Criminal Justice

Across the Andes, respondents are most confident that the criminal justice system safeguards the presumption of innocence and least confident that the criminal justice system ensures timeliness. On average, respondents in Bolivia reported the highest levels of confidence in the criminal justice system overall, while respondents in Colombia reported the lowest levels of confidence. Average perceptions of the criminal justice system's overall performance deteriorated in all Andean countries, though perceptions declined most in Ecuador since the last year of data collection.

- Bolivians were most confident that the criminal justice system **safeguards the presumption of innocence of defendants** (44%) and **ensures equal treatment of the accused** (43%). Bolivians were least confident that the criminal justice system ensures timeliness (33%) and **ensures uniform quality of service** (34%).
- Perceptions of adherence to **equal treatment of victims** in the Bolivian criminal justice system worsened the most between 2018 and 2022, with a decline of 5 percentage points.

10. Police Performance

When asked about their impressions of police performance, respondents in the Andes had the most negative views on crime control and accountability and the most positive views on absence of discrimination and public service, on average.

- When asked about their impressions of police performance, respondents in Bolivia were most confident that:
 - Police treat all people with respect (49%).
 - Police are available to help when needed (46%).
 - Police investigate crimes in an independent manner (40%).
 - Police help them feel safe (40%).
- Respondents in Bolivia were least confident that:
 - Police respond to crime reports (13%).
 - Police are held accountable for violating laws (17%).
 - Police act lawfully (18%).
- In Bolivia, respondents most often indicated that suspects with tattoos and younger suspects would most likely be at a disadvantage in a criminal investigation.

11. Victim Support

In every country surveyed in the Andean region, a majority of respondents did not believe that victims of crime receive adequate support and protection. On average, respondents in Ecuador reported the most confidence in victim support practices overall, while respondents in Bolivia reported the least confidence in the victim support practices overall.

- Bolivians were most often confident that crime victims **are guaranteed their rights in criminal justice proceedings** (40%) and **receive protection during criminal proceedings to prevent repeat victimization** (24%).
- Bolivians were least often confident that crime victims **receive prompt and courteous attention when they report a crime** (11%) and **receive adequate care and protection as victims of domestic violence** (14%).

SECTION 4

Access to Justice

12. Access to Justice

Roughly 2 in 5 (42%) respondents in the Andes reported experiencing a legal problem in the last two years, on average. While the prevalence and severity of problems vary by country, the most common problems relate to consumer issues and housing. On average, 54% of respondents in the Andes reported that their legal problem has been resolved and the average time reported to resolve the problem was approximately 6 months.

- Forty-seven percent (47%) of Bolivians reported experiencing a legal problem in the last two years (a figure above the regional average of 42%). The most commonly reported problems included consumer issues, housing, and land disputes.
- Thirty-six percent (36%) of surveyed Bolivians with a legal problem obtained advice from a person or organization that could help them better understand or resolve their problem, and approximately 1 in 5 (21%) reported that it was difficult or nearly impossible to find the money required to resolve their problem.
- More than half (62%) of respondents in Bolivia who resolved their legal issue experienced at least one hardship during the resolution process. The most frequently cited hardship was health-related – 47% of respondents reported experiencing a physical or stress-related illness.

Note: In addition to the data found in regional charts included in this report, comparative data for regional peer countries referenced in the Executive Findings can be found in each country's respective report.

SECTION I

AUTHORITARIANISM,
FUNDAMENTAL
FREEDOMS,
AND
ACCOUNTABILITY

11 Authoritarianism

14 Fundamental Freedoms

18 Government Accountability

AUTHORITARIANISM

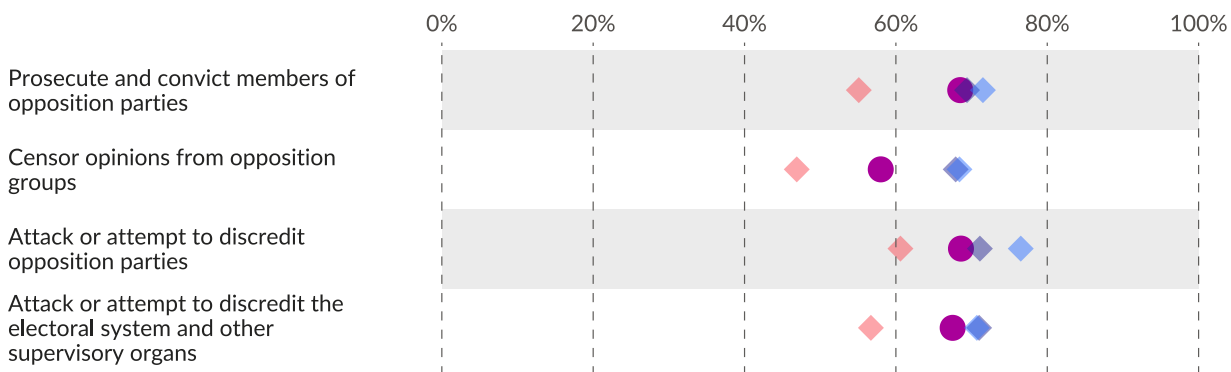
CHART 1.

Perceptions of Authoritarian Behaviors

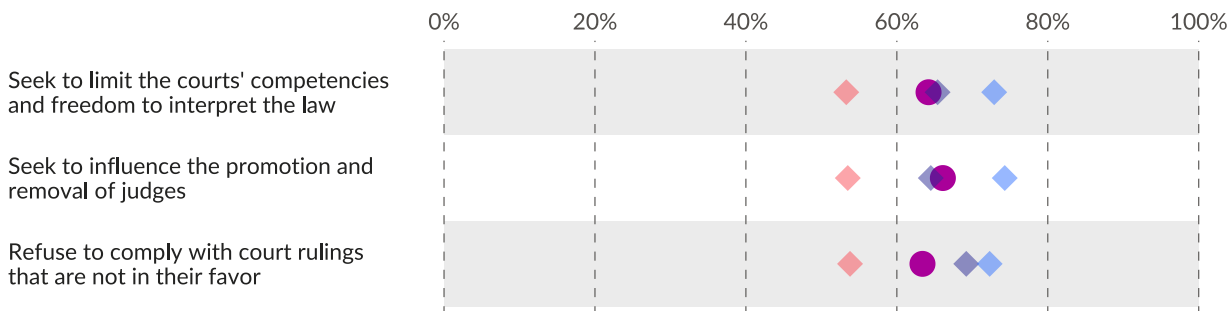
Percentage of respondents who believe that top government officials...

● Bolivia ◆ Colombia ◆ Ecuador ◆ Peru

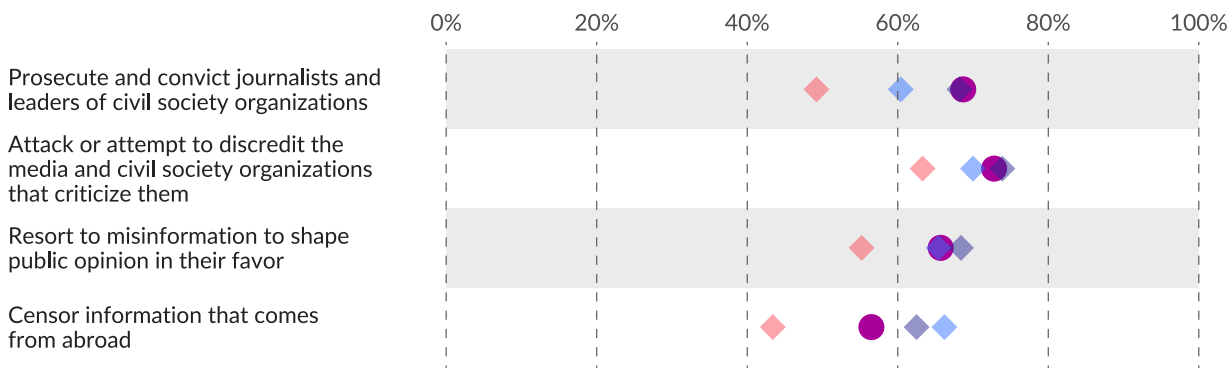
ATTACKS ON ELECTORAL SYSTEMS AND OPPOSITION PARTIES



ATTACKS ON THE JUDICIARY



ATTACKS ON THE MEDIA AND MISINFORMATION



Source: WJP General Population Poll 2022

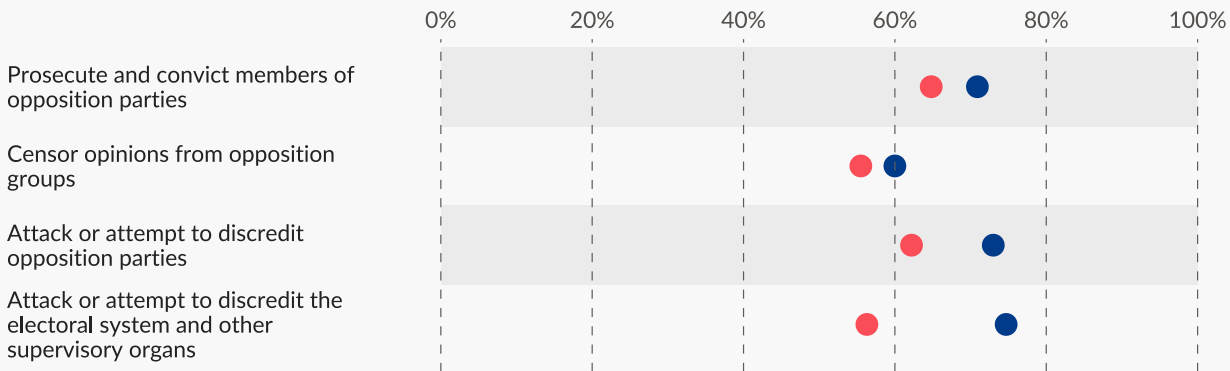
CHART 2.

Perceptions of Authoritarian Behavior, by Support for the Current Administration

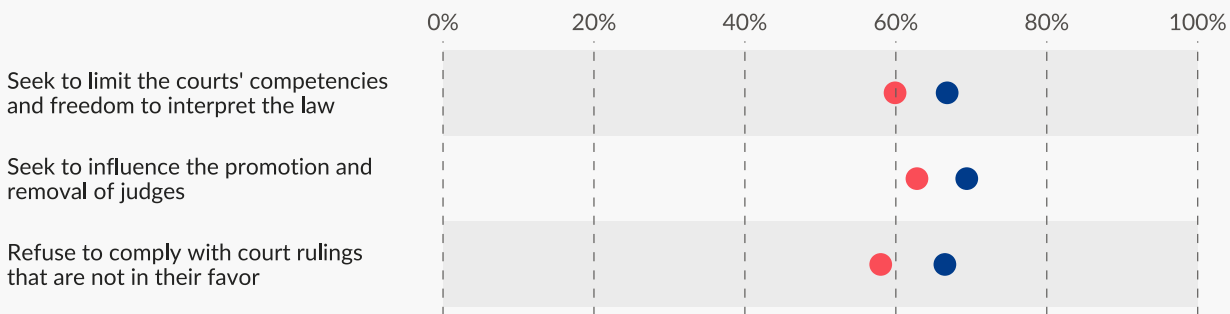
Percentage of respondents in Bolivia who believe that top government officials...

● Government Supporter ● Non-Government Supporter

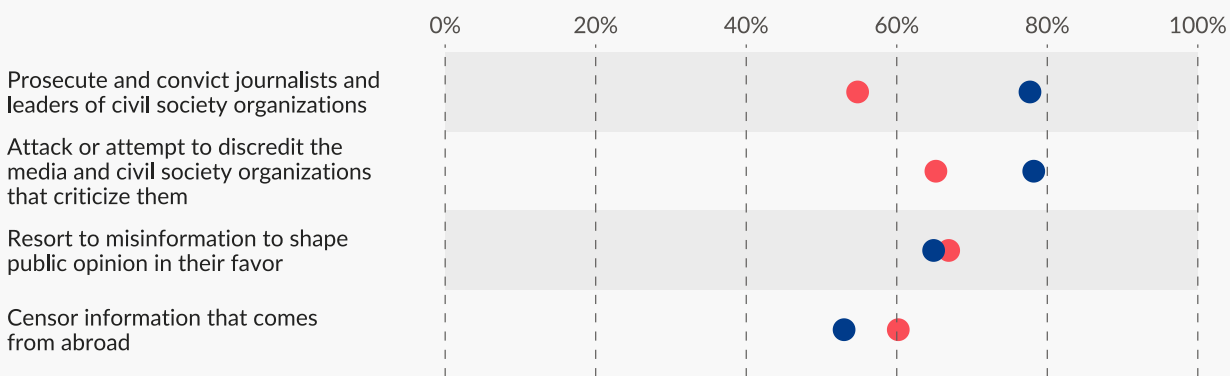
ATTACKS ON ELECTORAL SYSTEMS AND OPPOSITION PARTIES



ATTACKS ON THE JUDICIARY



ATTACKS ON THE MEDIA AND MISINFORMATION

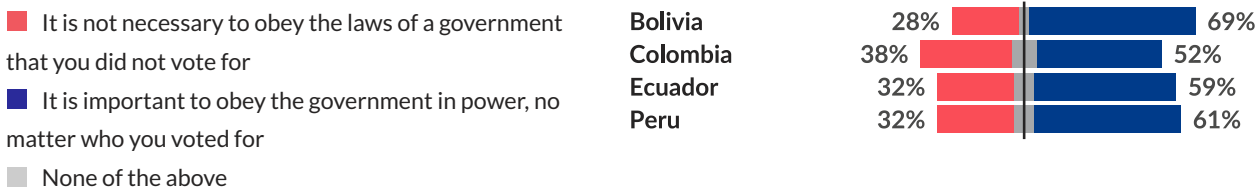
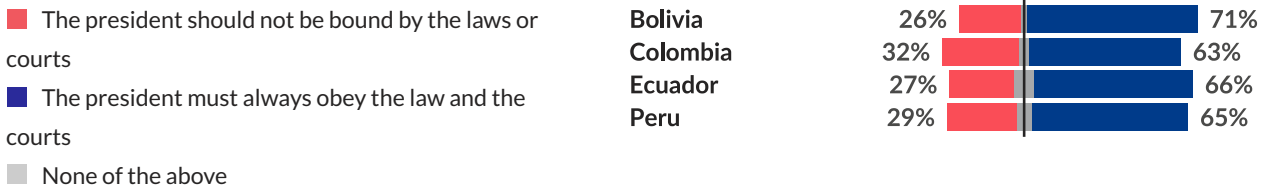
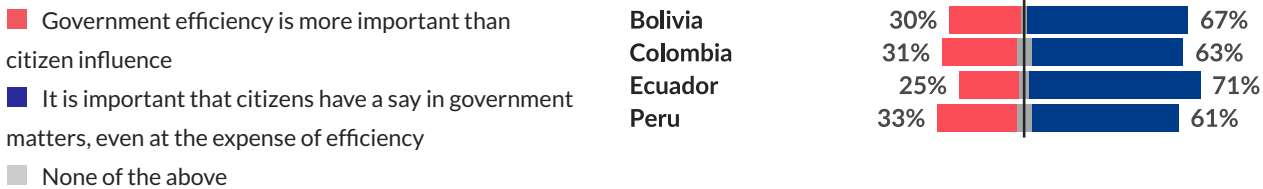
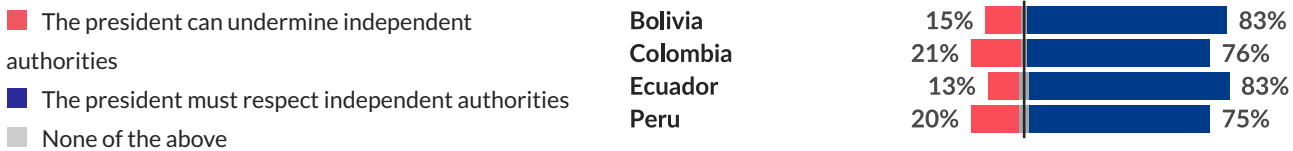
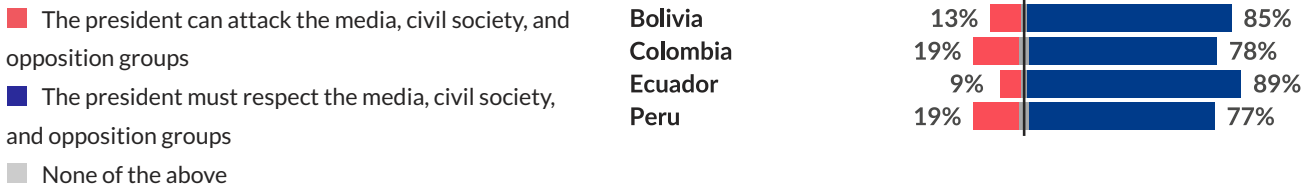


Source: WJP General Population Poll 2022

CHART 3.

Attitudes Towards Authoritarianism and Rule of Law

Percentage of respondents who agree with the following statements



FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

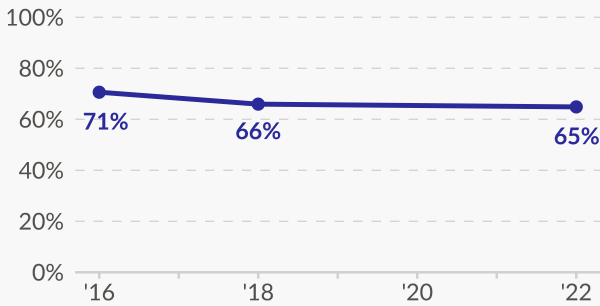
CHART 4.

Fundamental Freedoms in Bolivia Over Time

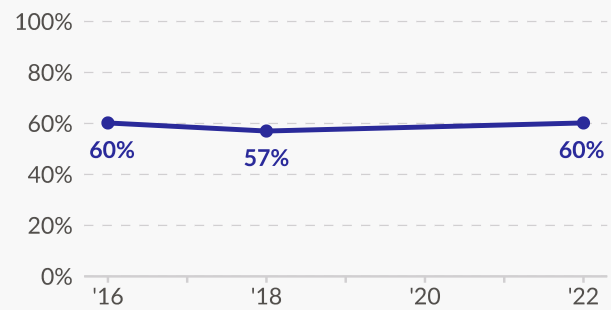
Percentage of respondents who believe the following statements

EXPRESSION

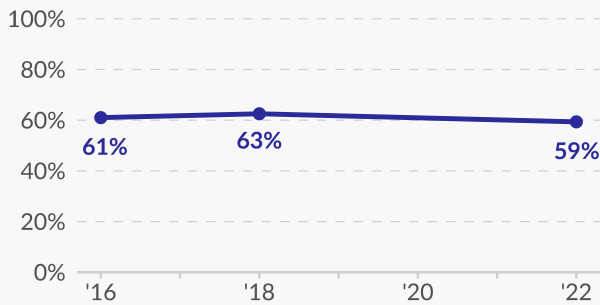
People can express opinions against the government



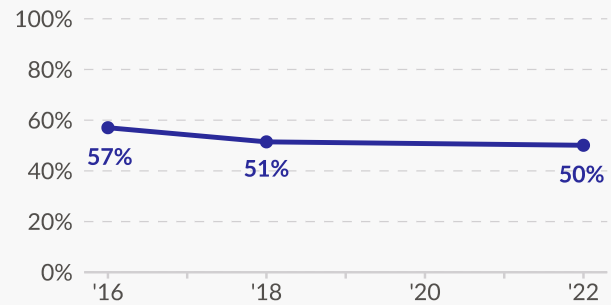
Civil society organizations can express opinions against the government



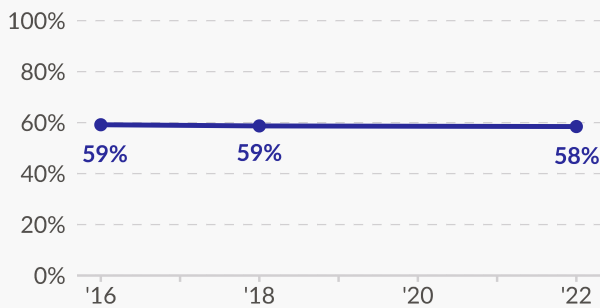
Political parties can express opinions against the government



The media can express opinions against the government without fear of retaliation



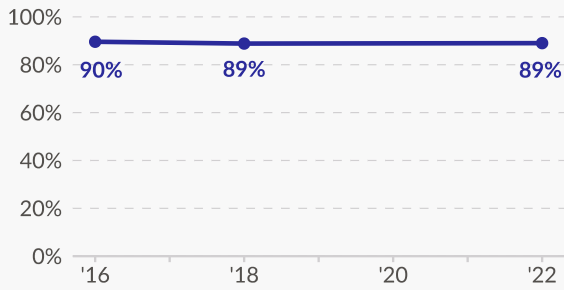
The media can expose cases of corruption



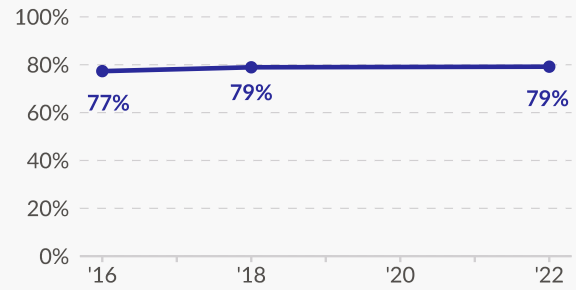
Source: WJP General Population Poll 2016, 2018, and 2022

PARTICIPATION

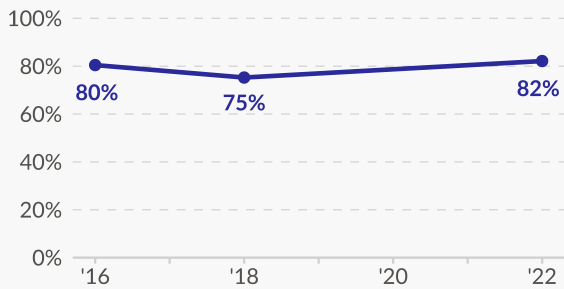
People can attend community meetings



People can join any political organization

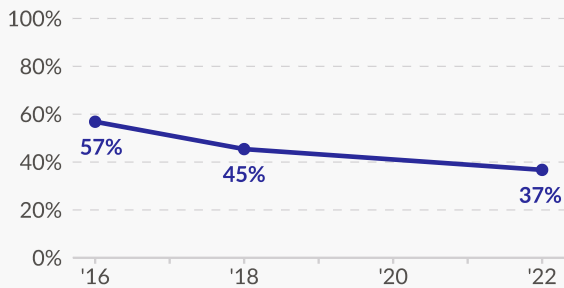


People can organize around an issue or petition

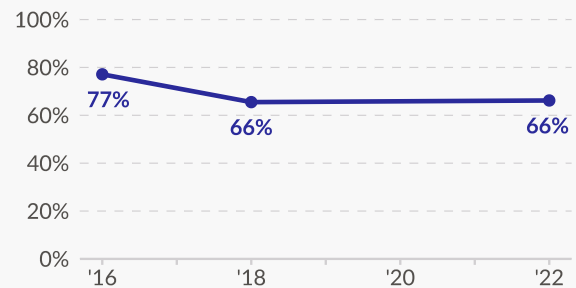


ELECTIONS

Local government officials are elected through a clean process

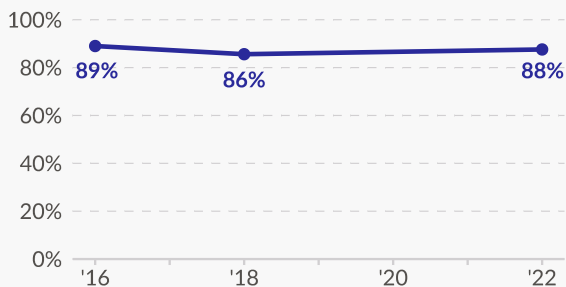


People can vote freely without feeling harassed or pressured



RELIGION

Religious minorities can observe their holy days



Source: WJP General Population Poll 2016, 2018, and 2022

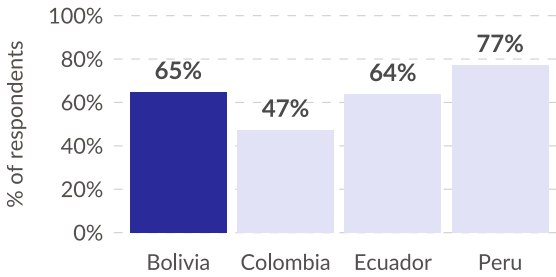
CHART 5.

Perceptions of Fundamental Freedoms in Andean Countries

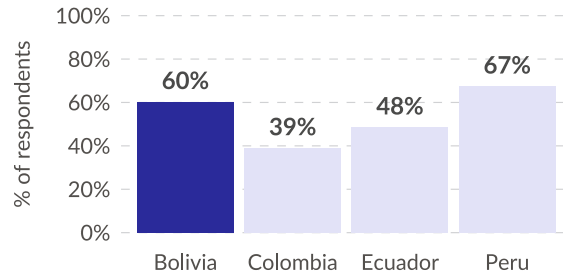
Percentage of respondents who believe the following statements

EXPRESSION

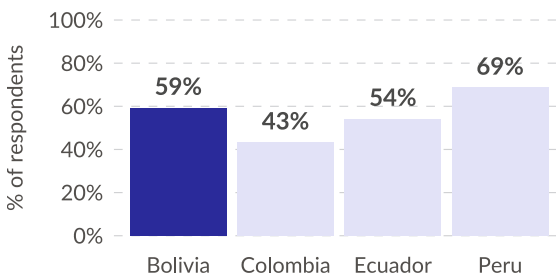
People can express opinions against the government



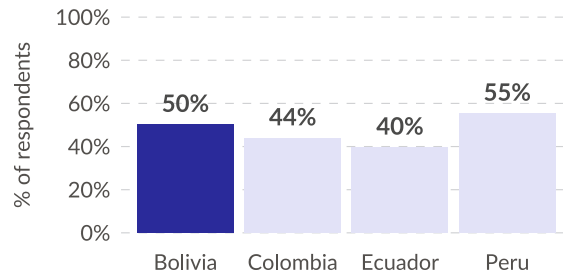
Civil society organizations can express opinions against the government



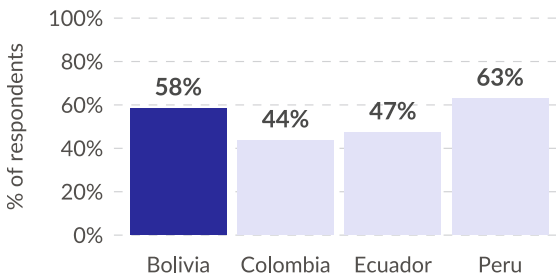
Political parties can express opinions against the government



The media can express opinions against the government without fear of retaliation



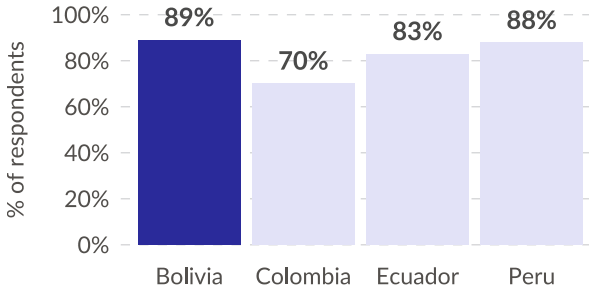
The media can expose cases of corruption



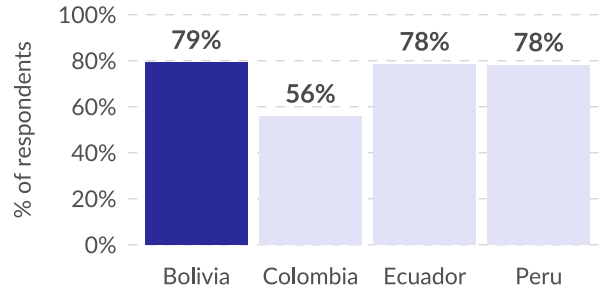
Source: WJP General Population Poll 2022

PARTICIPATION

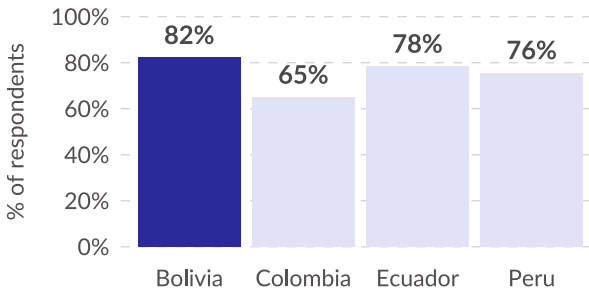
People can attend community meetings



People can join any political organization

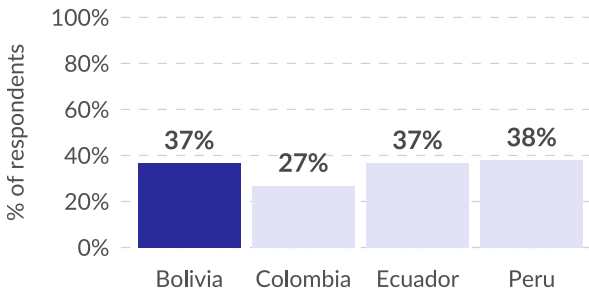


People can organize around an issue or petition

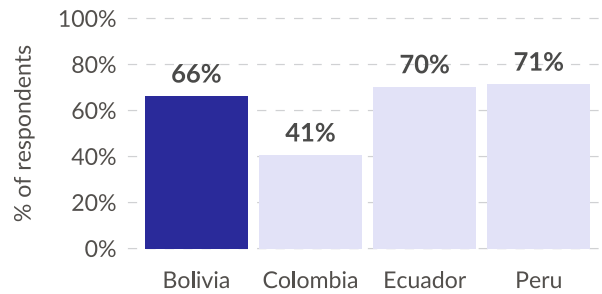


ELECTIONS

Local government officials are elected through a clean process

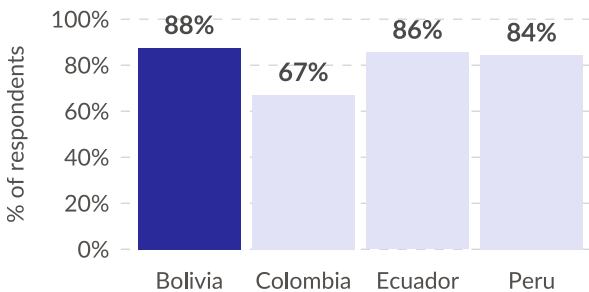


People can vote freely without feeling harassed or pressured



RELIGION

Religious minorities can observe their holy days



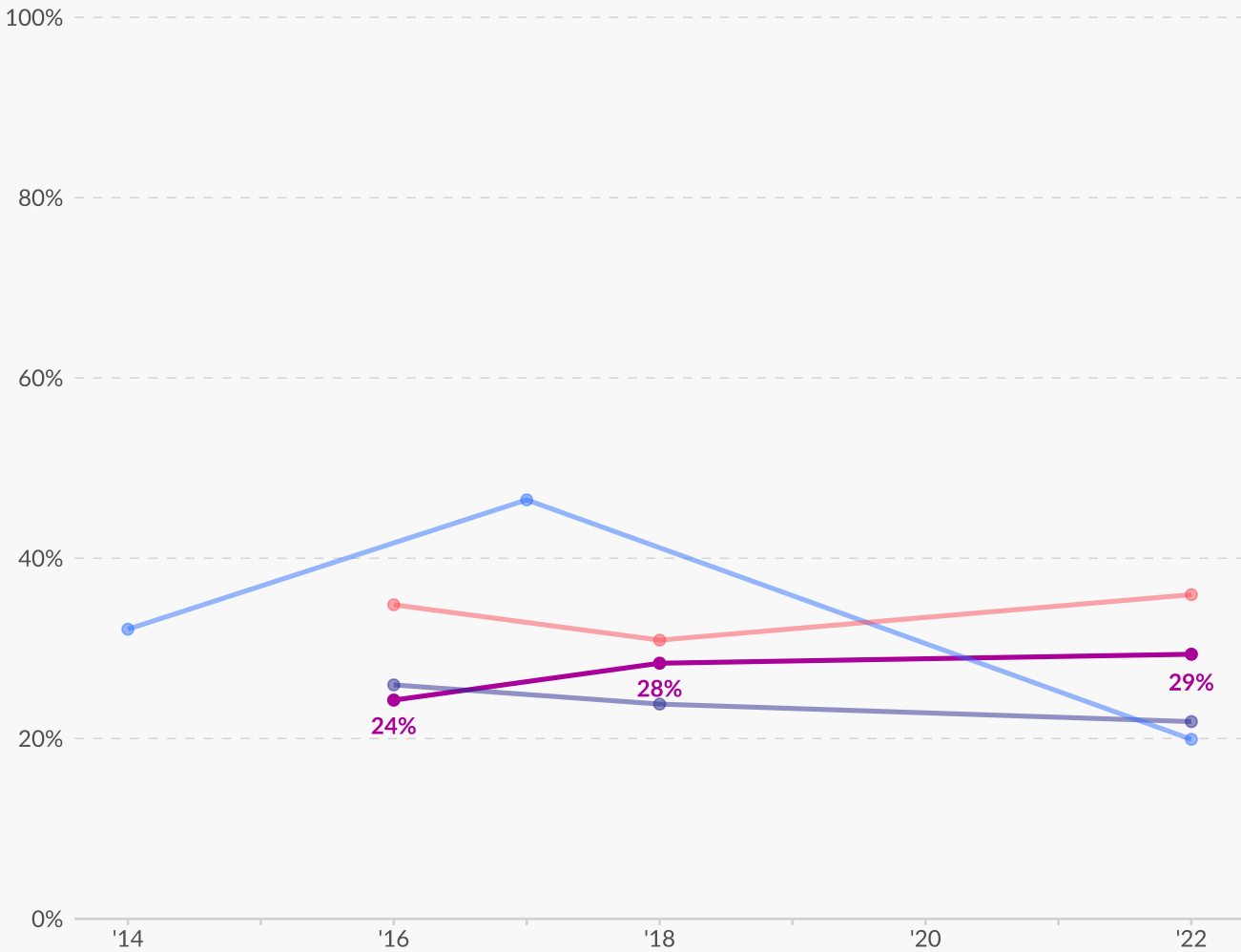
GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

CHART 6.

Perceptions of Accountability in Andean Countries Over Time

Percentage of respondents in Bolivia and regional peer countries who believe that high-ranking government officials would be held accountable for breaking the law

● Bolivia ● Colombia ● Ecuador ● Peru



Source: WJP General Population Poll 2014, 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2022

SECTION II
CORRUPTION
AND TRUST

- 20 Corruption
- 23 Bribery Victimization
- 24 Trust

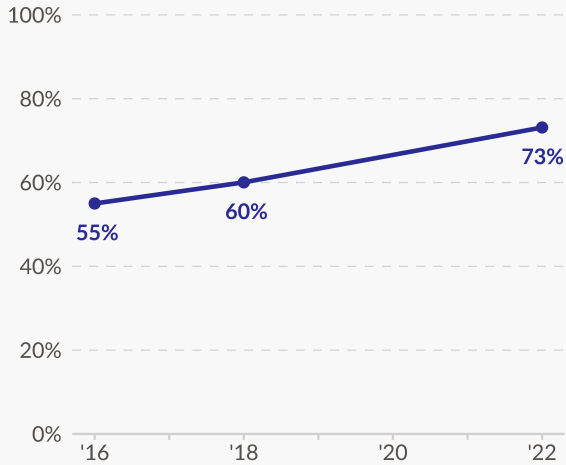
CORRUPTION

CHART 7.

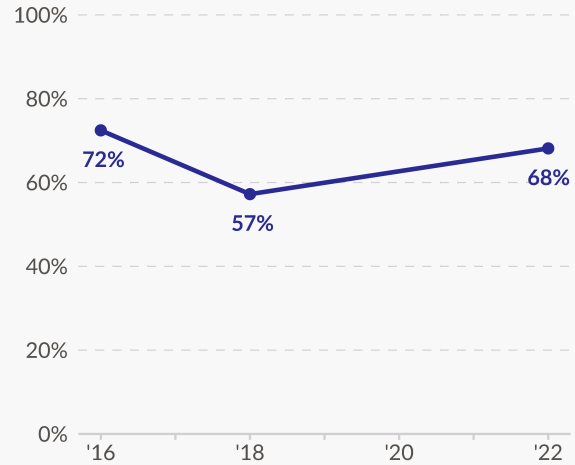
Perceptions of Corruption by Institution Over Time

Percentage of respondents who believe that most or all people working in the following institutions are corrupt

MEMBERS OF THE PLURINATIONAL LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

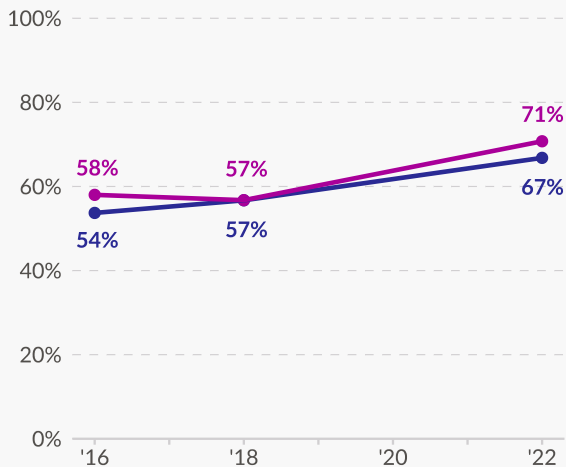


POLICE OFFICERS



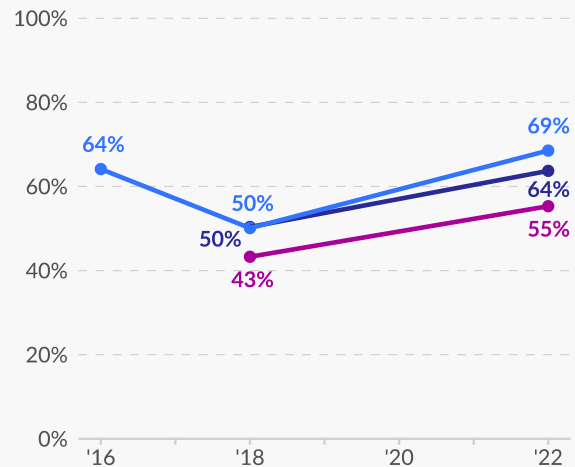
EXECUTIVE

- Local Government Officers
- National Government Officers



JUDICIARY

- Prosecutors
- Judges & Magistrates
- Public Defense Attorneys



Source: WJP General Population Poll 2016, 2018, and 2022

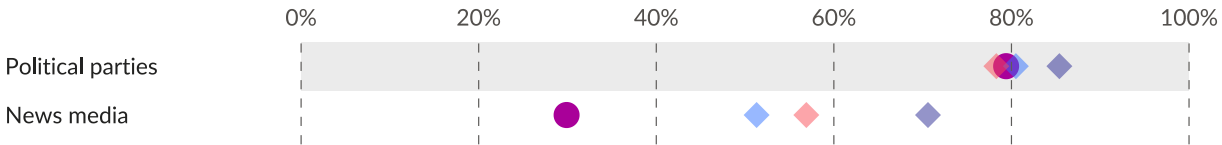
CHART 8.

Perceptions of Corruption in the Andean Region, by Institution

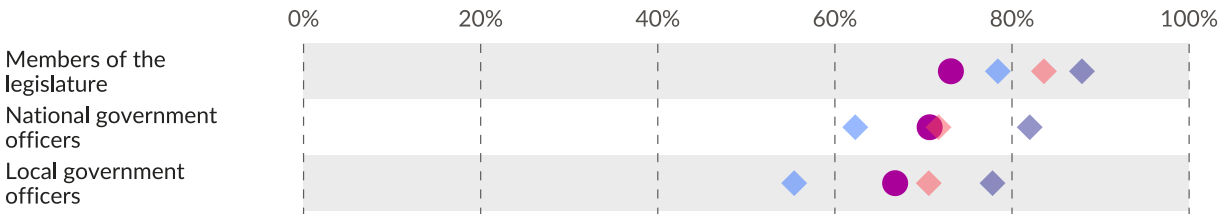
Percentage of respondents who think people in the following groups are involved in corrupt practices

● Bolivia ◆ Colombia ◆ Ecuador ◆ Peru

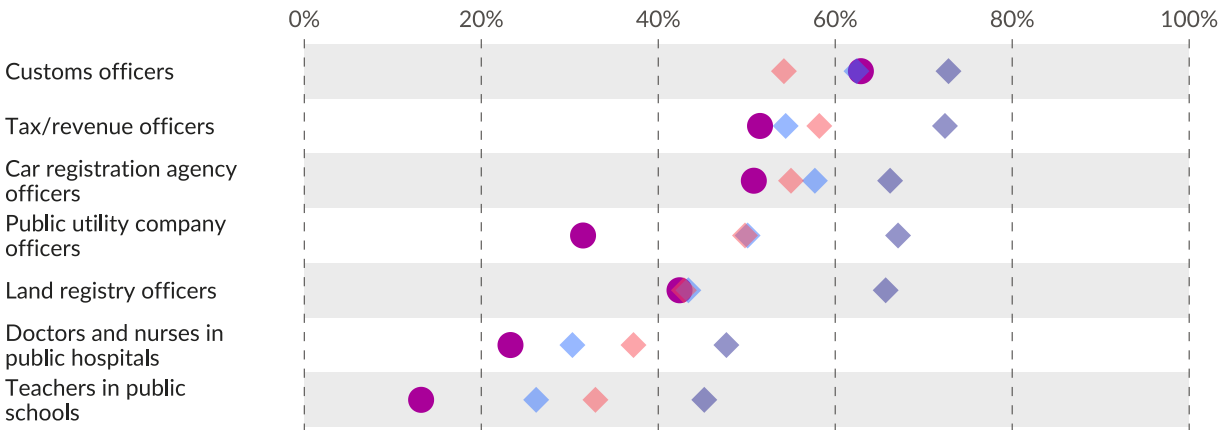
THE MEDIA AND POLITICAL PARTIES



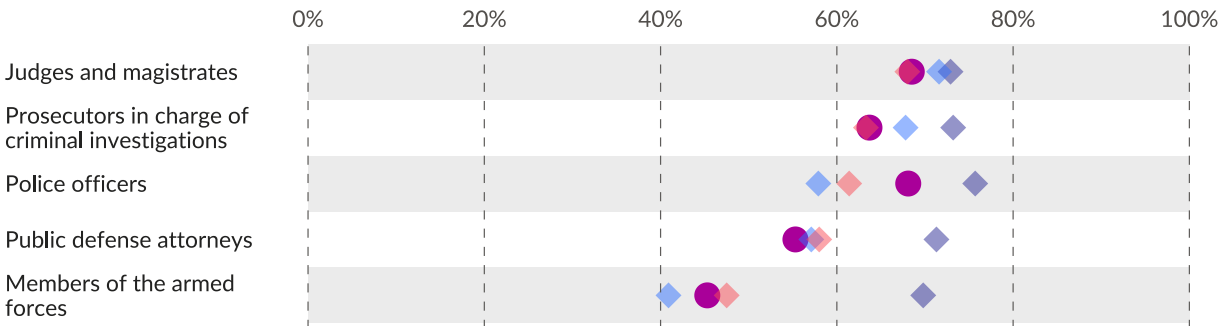
NATIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT



ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUREAUCRATIC INSTITUTIONS



SECURITY AND JUSTICE INSTITUTIONS



Source: WJP General Population Poll 2022

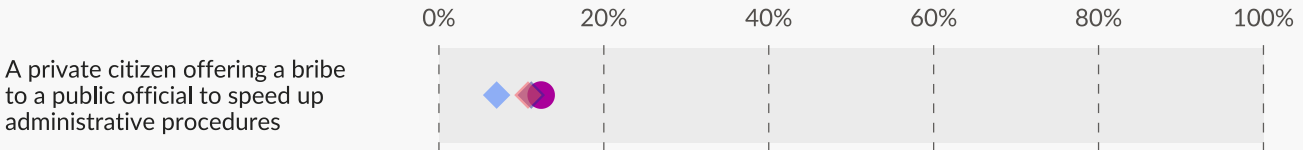
CHART 9.

Attitudes Towards Corrupt Behaviors in the Andean Region

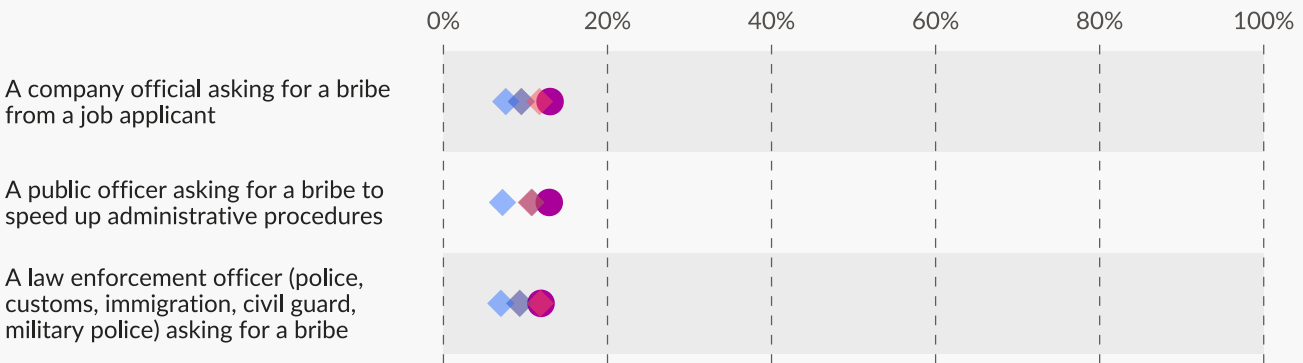
Percentage of respondents who believe the following behaviors are always or usually acceptable

● Bolivia ◆ Colombia ◆ Ecuador ◆ Peru

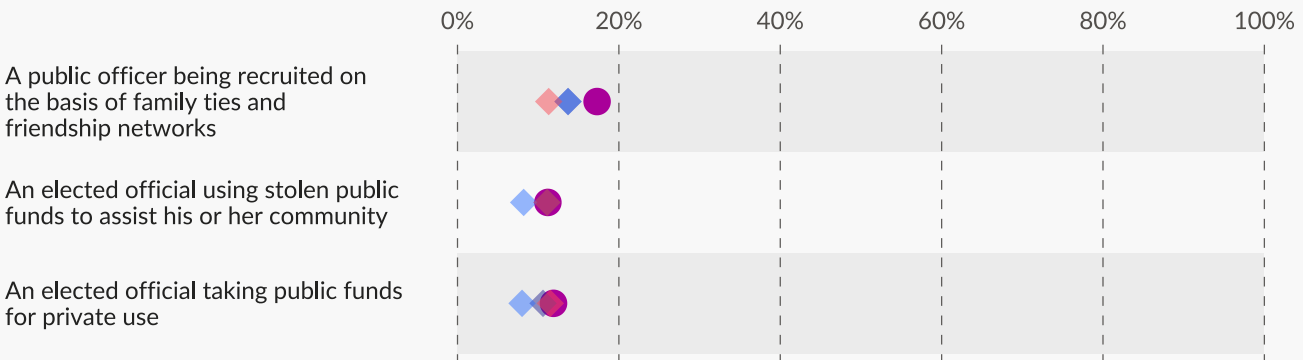
BRIBES OFFERED



BRIBES REQUESTED



NEPOTISM AND EMBEZZLEMENT



Source: WJP General Population Poll 2022

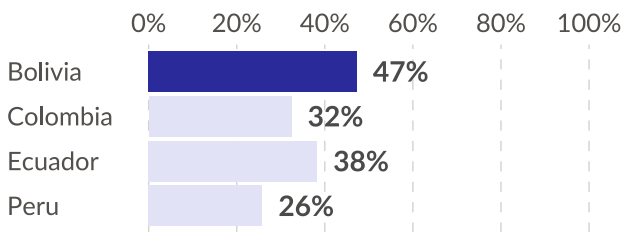
BRIBERY VICTIMIZATION

CHART 10.

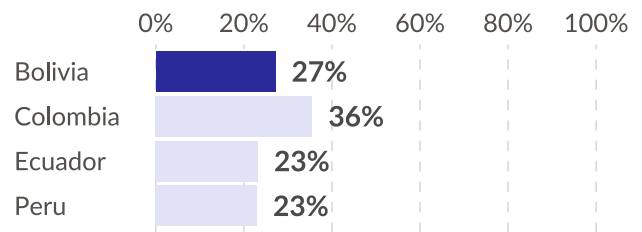
Bribery Victimization in Bolivia and Regional Peer Countries

Percentage of respondents who paid a bribe in the last three years to access the following services, out of those who used these services

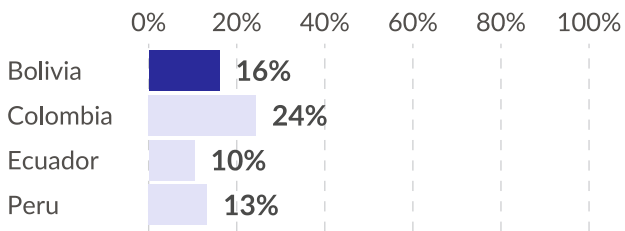
REQUEST A GOVERNMENT PERMIT OR DOCUMENT



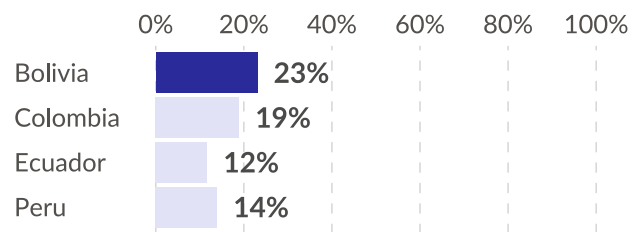
REQUEST PUBLIC BENEFITS OR ASSISTANCE



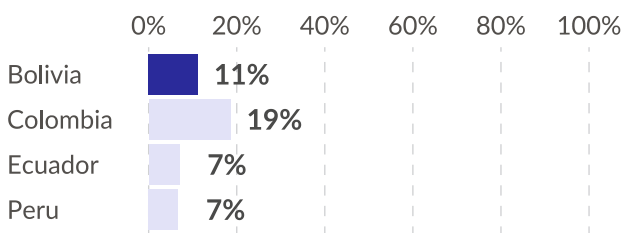
OBTAIN A BIRTH CERTIFICATE OR GOVERNMENT ISSUED ID



SECURE A PLACE AT A PUBLIC SCHOOL



USE A PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE



Source: WJP General Population Poll 2022

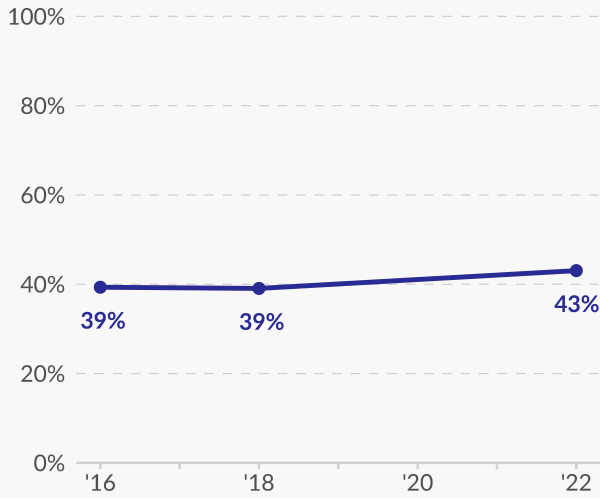
TRUST

CHART 11.

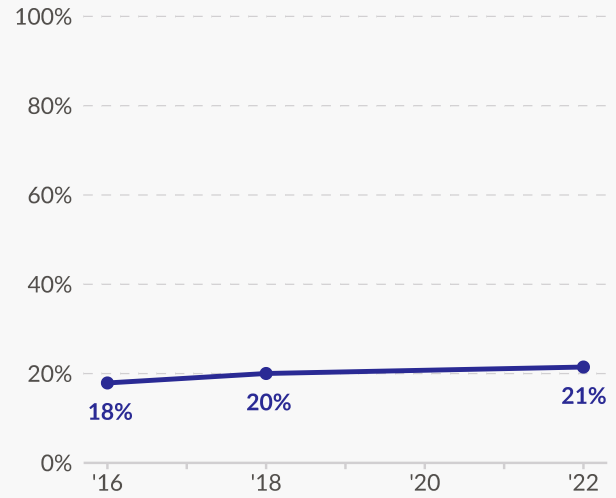
Trust in Institutions Over Time

Percentage of respondents who have a lot or some trust in...

PEOPLE LIVING IN THEIR COUNTRY

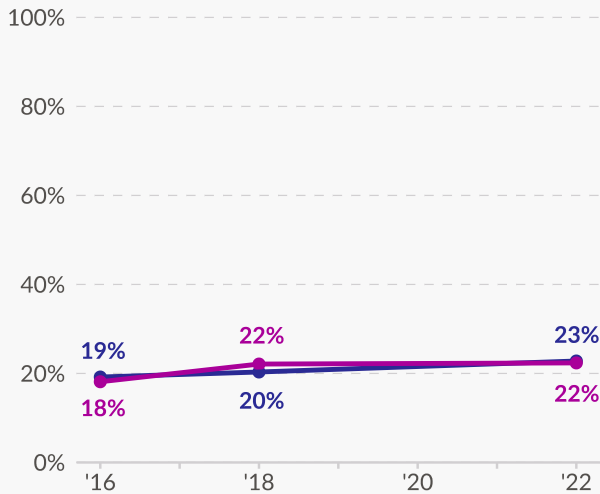


POLICE OFFICERS



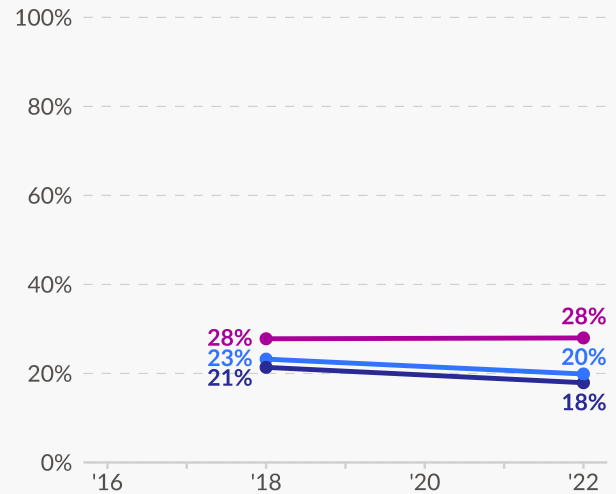
EXECUTIVE

- Local Government Officers
- National Government Officers



JUDICIARY

- Prosecutors
- Judges & Magistrates
- Public Defense Attorneys



Source: WJP General Population Poll 2016, 2018, and 2022

SECTION III
**SECURITY AND
CRIMINAL
JUSTICE**

26 Crime Victimization

27 Security

28 Criminal Justice

30 Police

32 Victim Support

CRIME VICTIMIZATION

CHART 12.1

Types of Crimes Experienced by People in Bolivia

Victimization rate, by type of crime

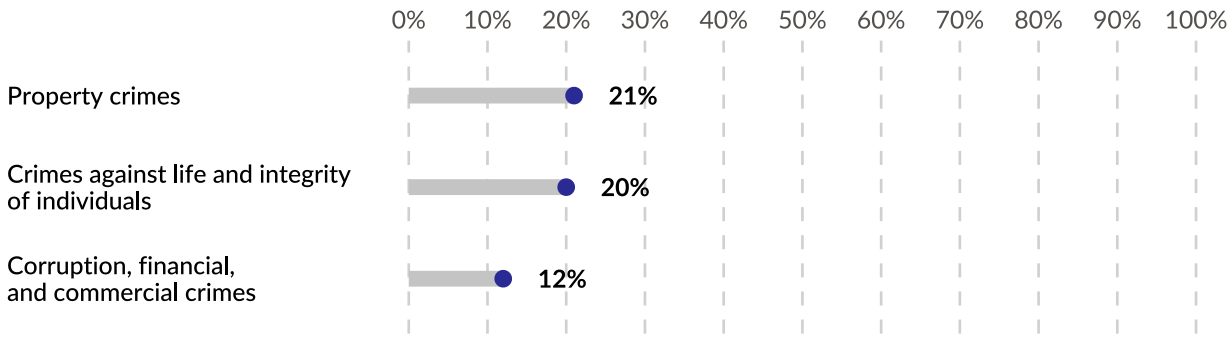
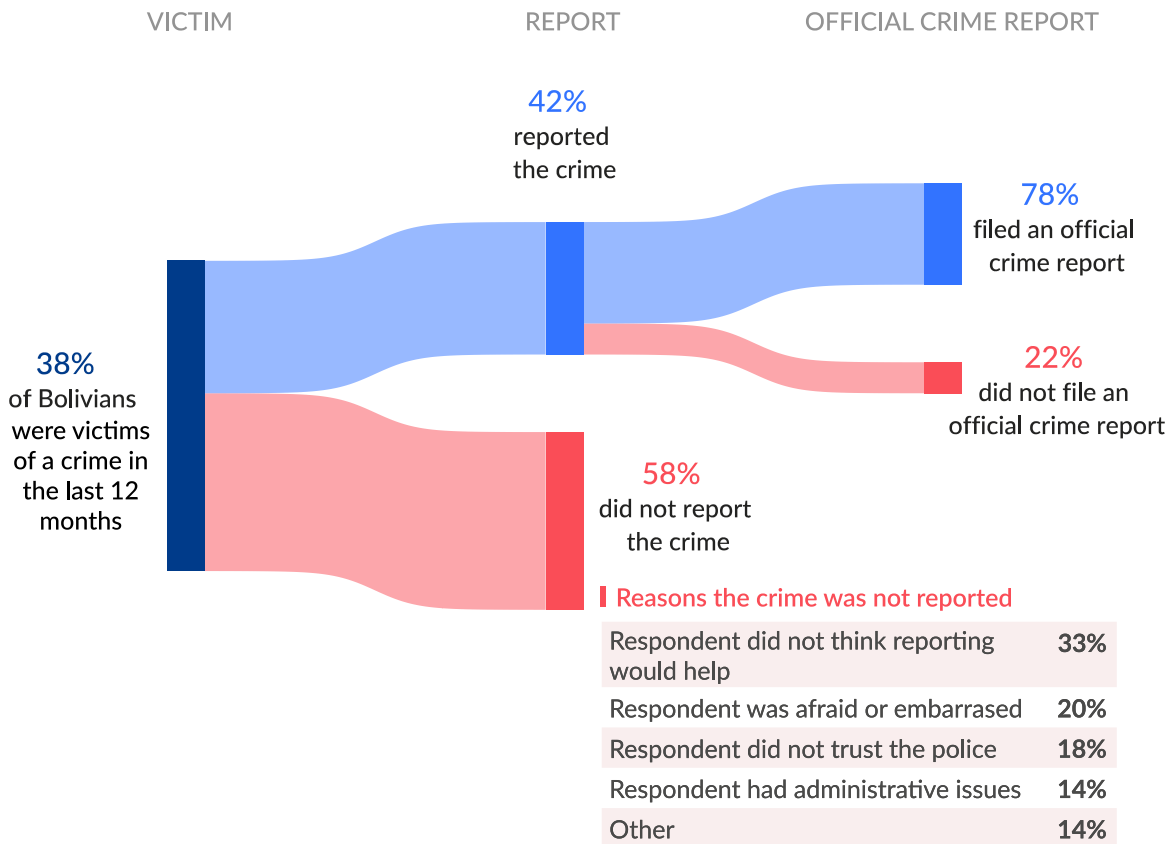


CHART 12.2

Crime Victimization Rates and Reporting

Data on crime victimization and reporting in Bolivia



Note: For additional information on how Chart 12.1 and Chart 12.2 were produced, please see the Appendix.

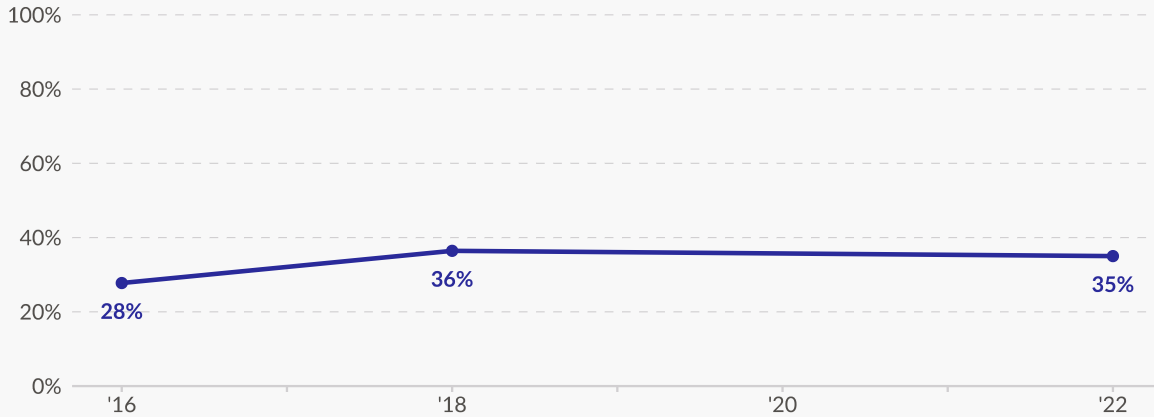
Source: WJP General Population Poll 2022

SECURITY

CHART 13.1

Perceptions of Security in Bolivia Over Time

Percentage of respondents who reported that they feel safe or very safe walking in their neighborhood at night

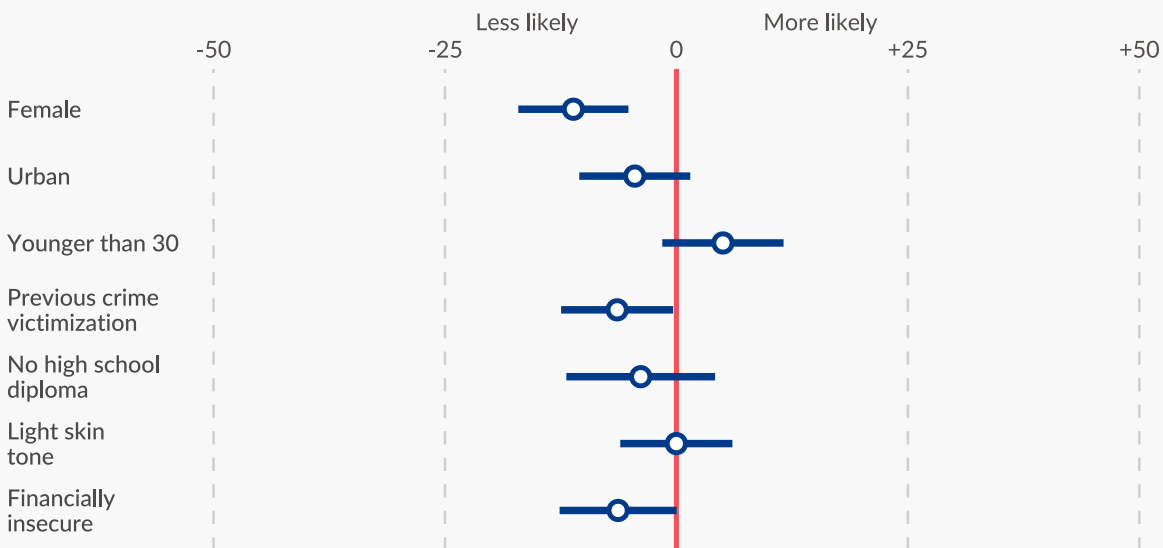


Source: WJP General Population Poll 2016, 2018, and 2022

CHART 13.2

Impact of Sociodemographic Characteristics on Perceptions of Safety

Likelihood that respondents feel safe or very safe walking in their neighborhood at night



Note: The results in this infographic were obtained from a logit regression. Each point indicates the average marginal effect of the corresponding sociodemographic characteristic on the predicted probability of a respondent to answer “safe” or “very safe” to the question “How safe do you feel walking in your neighborhood at night?” The lines indicate the 95% confidence intervals of each average marginal effect. For additional information on how Chart 13.2 was produced, please see the Regression Key linked in the Appendix.

Source: WJP General Population Poll 2022

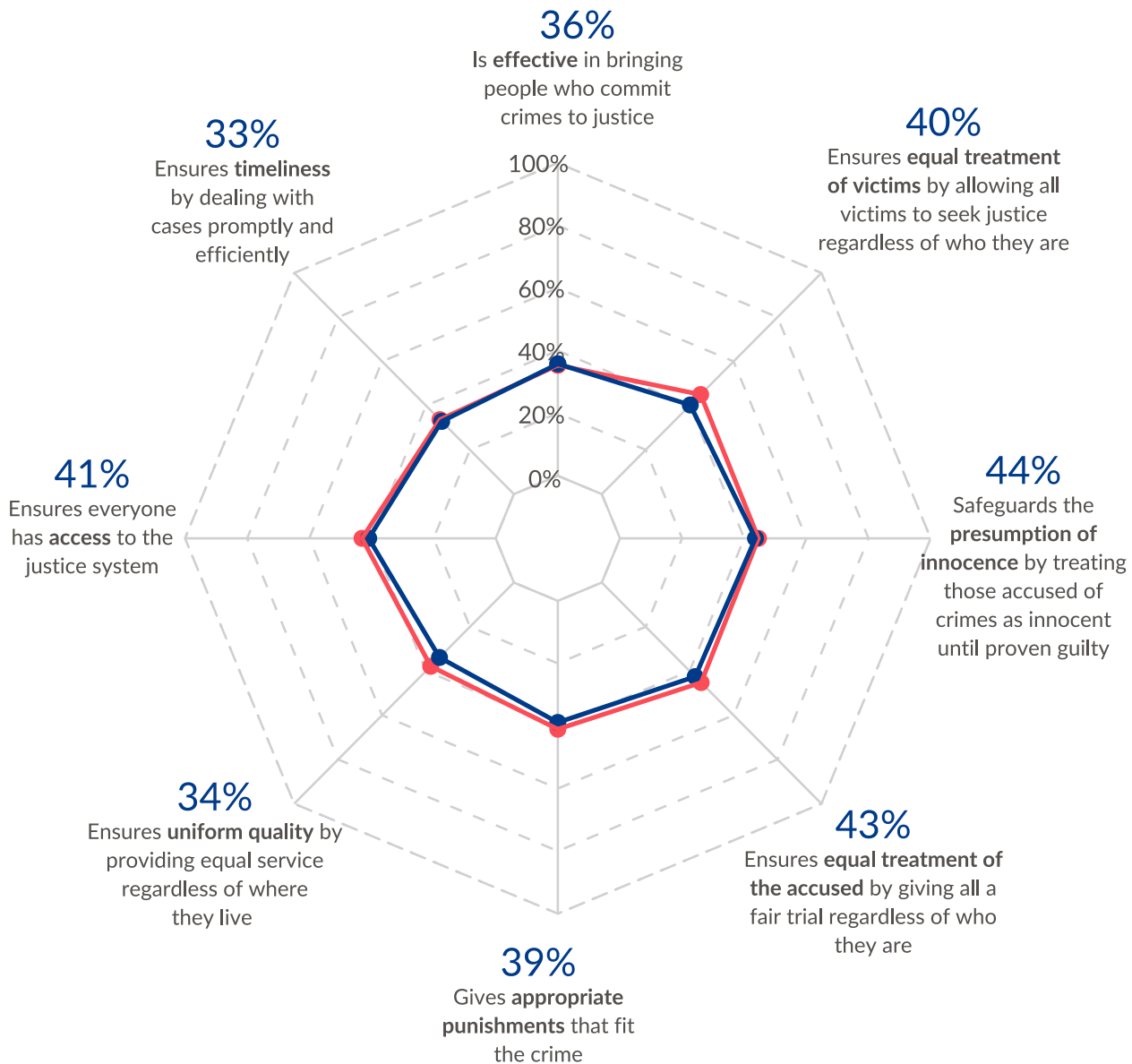
CRIMINAL JUSTICE

CHART 14.

Perceptions of the Criminal Justice System in Bolivia

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

● 2022 ● 2018



Note: For additional information on how Chart 14 was produced, please see the Appendix.

Source: WJP General Population Poll 2018 and 2022

CHART 15.

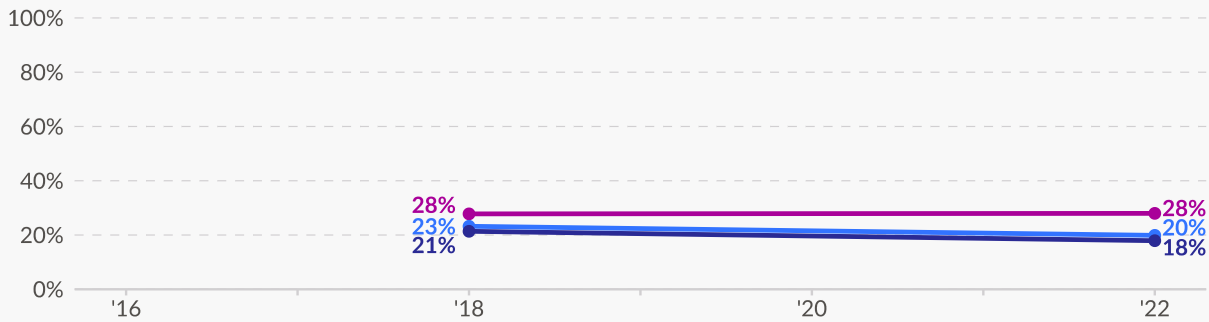
Criminal Justice Actors

Perceptions of criminal justice actors in Bolivia

● Prosecutors ● Public Defense Attorneys ● Judges & Magistrates

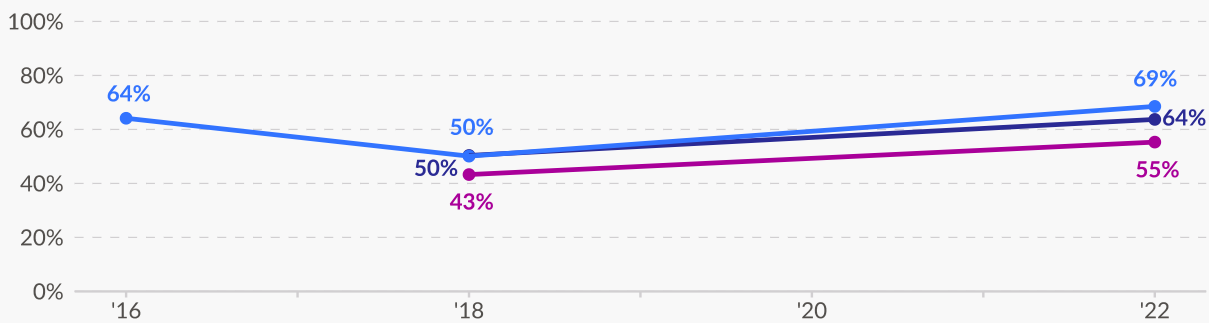
TRUST IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACTORS OVER TIME

Percentage of respondents who have a lot or some trust in prosecutors, public defense attorneys, and judges and magistrates



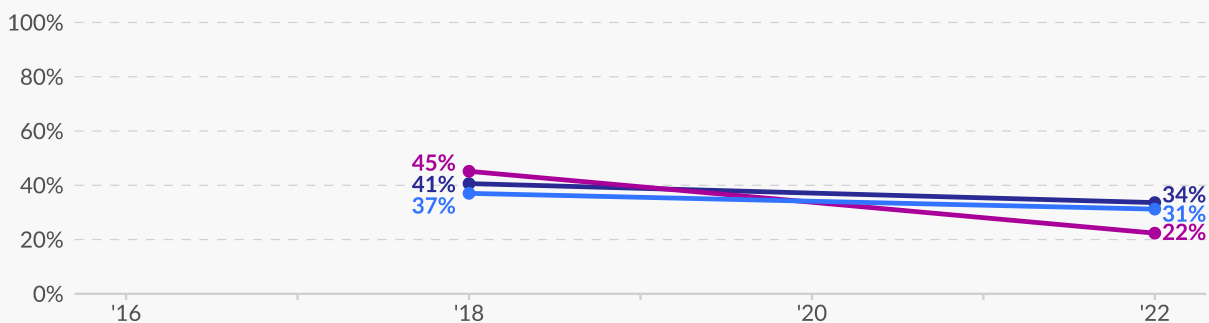
PERCEPTIONS OF CORRUPTION ACROSS CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACTORS OVER TIME

Percentage of respondents who believe that most or all prosecutors, public defense attorneys, and judges and magistrates are corrupt



PERCEPTIONS OF EFFECTIVENESS ACROSS CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACTORS OVER TIME

Percentage of respondents who believe that prosecutors, public defense attorneys, and judges and magistrates do their job well



Note: Variables in Effectiveness category are as follows: Prosecutors prosecute crimes committed in an independent manner and are not subject to any sort of pressure; Public defenders do everything they can to defend poor people that are accused of committing a crime; Judges decide cases in an independent manner and are not subject to any sort of pressure.

Source: WJP General Population Poll 2016, 2018, and 2022

POLICE

CHART 16.

Perceptions of the Police

Opinions on the effectiveness and legitimacy of law enforcement

EFFECTIVENESS

Serve the Public

Percentage of respondents who believe that the police...

Are available to help when needed



Serve the interests of the community



Serve the interests of regular citizens



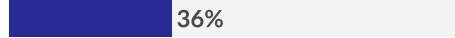
Crime Control and Safety

Percentage of respondents who believe that the police...

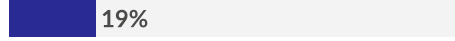
Respond to crime reports



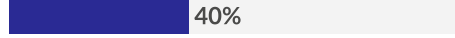
Resolve security problems in the community



Perform effective and lawful investigations



Help them feel safe

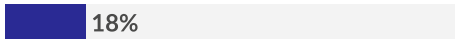


LEGITIMACY

Due Process

Percentage of respondents who believe that the police...

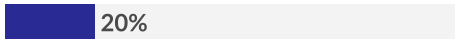
Act lawfully



Do not use excessive force



Respect the rights of suspects



Treat all people with respect



Discrimination

Percentage of respondents who believe that the police do not discriminate against suspects based on....

Age



Tattoos



Indigenous identity



Skin color



Gender



Source: WJP General Population Poll 2022

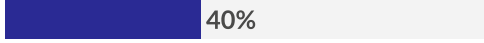
Corruption

Percentage of respondents who believe that the police...

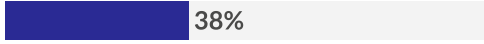
Are not involved in corrupt practices



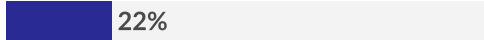
Investigate crimes in an independent manner



Do not serve the interests of gangs



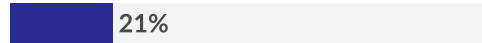
Do not serve the interests of politicians



Trust and Crime Reporting

Percentage of respondents who...

Trust the police



Report a crime when they are a victim



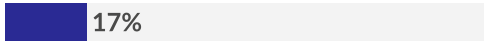
Feel safe in their neighborhoods



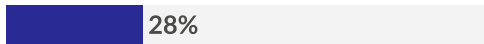
Accountability

Percentage of respondents who believe that the police...

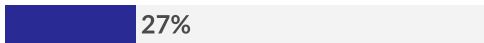
Are held accountable for violating laws



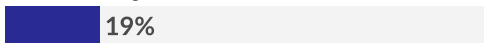
Are held accountable for seeking bribes



Are held accountable for accepting bribes



Are investigated for misconduct



Note: For additional information on how Chart 16 was produced, please see the Appendix

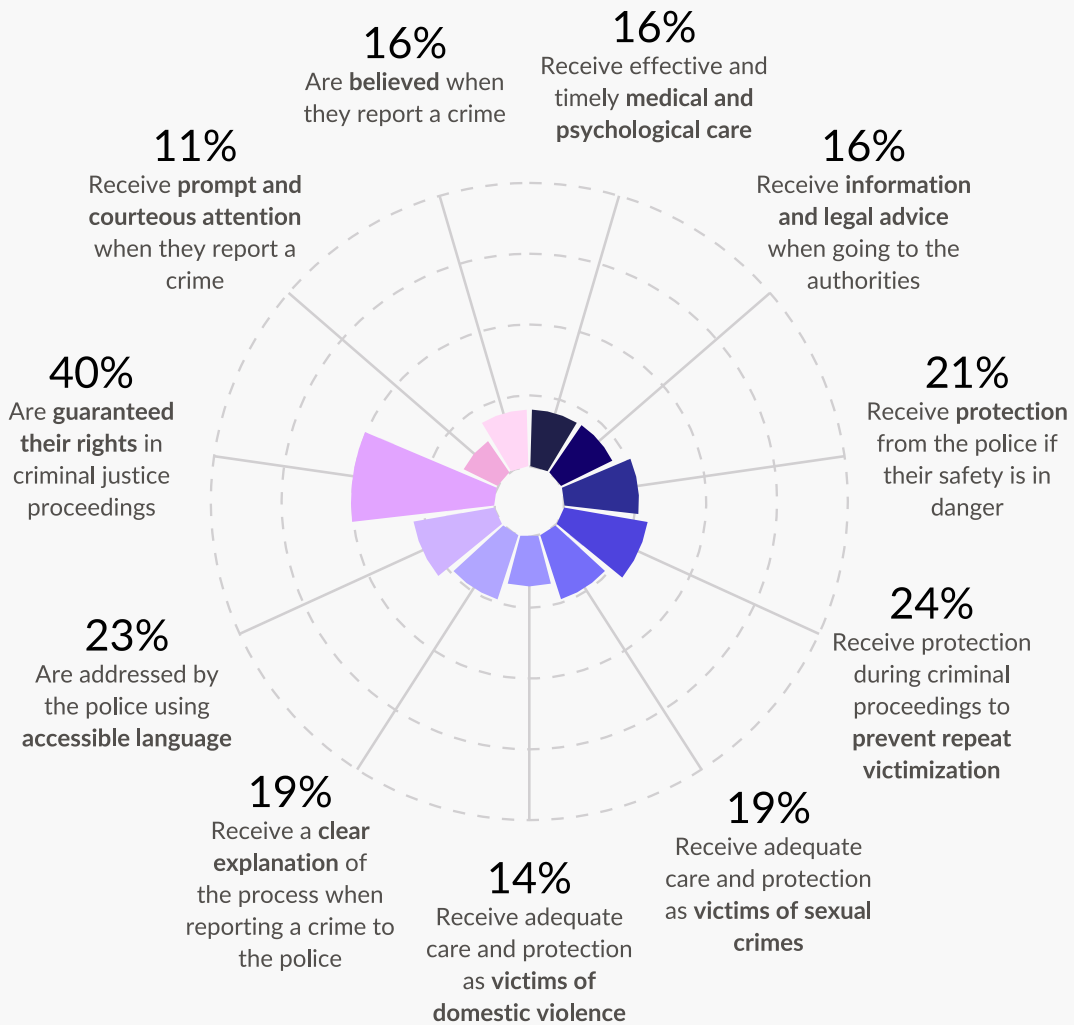
Source: WJP General Population Poll 2022

VICTIM SUPPORT

CHART 17.

Perceptions of the Treatment of Crime Victims

Percentage of respondents who are confident that crime victims...



Note: For additional information on how Chart 17 was produced, please see the Appendix.

Source: WJP General Population Poll 2022

THEMATIC FINDINGS

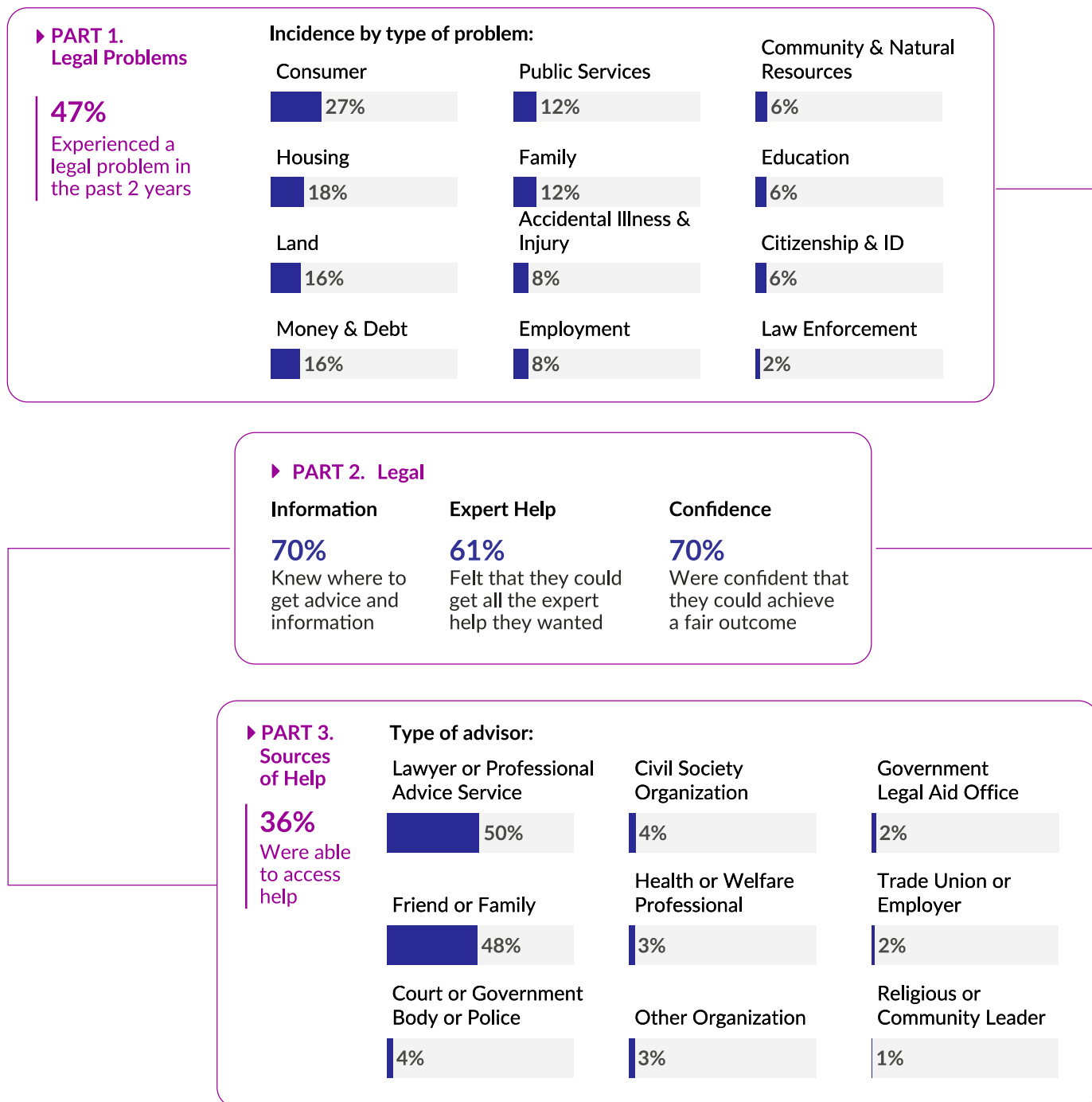
SECTION IV
ACCESS TO
JUSTICE

ACCESS TO JUSTICE JOURNEY

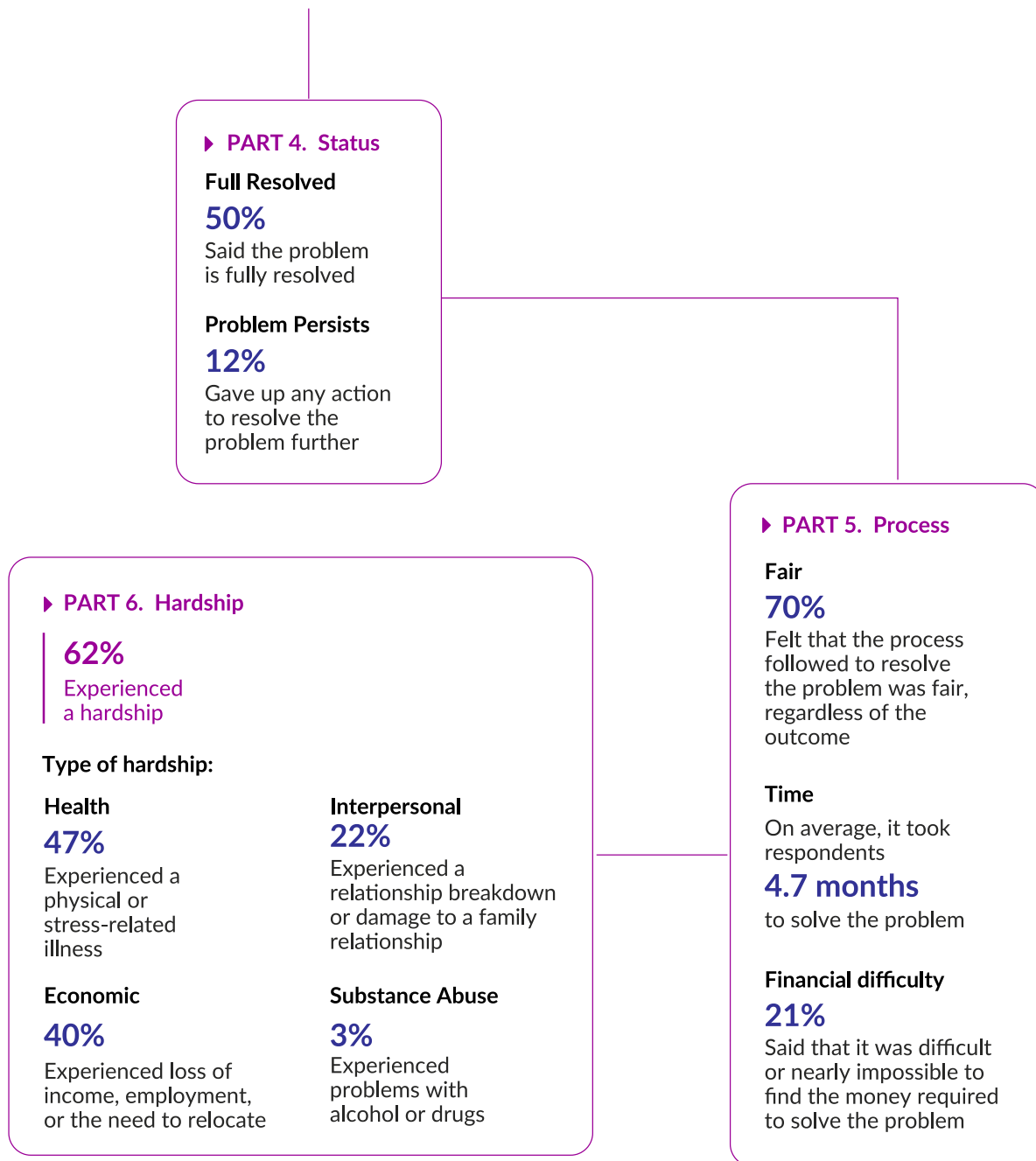
CHART 18

Justice Journey in Bolivia

Paths followed by Bolivians who experienced a legal problem in the last two years



Source: WJP General Population Poll 2022



Note: For additional information on how Chart 18 was produced, please see the Appendix.

Source: WJP General Population Poll 2022

PROJECT DESIGN

37 Methodology

METHODOLOGY

To present an image that accurately portrays the rule of law as experienced by ordinary people, data in this report is drawn from the General Population Poll (GPP), an original data source designed and collected by the World Justice Project (WJP). The GPP captures the experiences and perceptions of ordinary citizens concerning the performance of the state and its agents and the actual operation of the legal framework in their country.

The General Population Poll used to collect data in Bolivia in 2022 features several new questions that highlight perceptions on issues salient to the region, including corruption, authoritarian behaviors, police performance, criminal justice, and security. In total, the General Population Poll questionnaire includes 115 perception-based questions and 77 experience-based questions, along with sociodemographic information on all respondents. Additionally, the GPP in Bolivia was administered to a sample of 1,000 respondents.

Data Collection

The GPP in Bolivia was conducted for the WJP's *The Rule of Law in Bolivia: Key Findings from the General Population Poll 2022* with sampling, fieldwork, and data processing by Captura Consulting, based in Santa Cruz, Bolivia. Captura Consulting administered the surveys between June and July 2022, conducting face-to-face interviews using a multi-stage stratified random sampling design. The target population group for this survey included Bolivians aged 18 years or older residing across all nine departments throughout the country.

SAMPLE SIZE AND SAMPLE FRAME

The General Population Poll in Bolivia represents an achieved total sample size of 1,000 interviews distributed proportionally across nine departments. Captura Consulting based the sampling frame on the 2020 projected population figures from the National Statistics Institute, acquiring a proportionally stratified sample by department, age, gender, socioeconomic status, and level of urbanization.

In order to address all relevant topics while controlling the questionnaire length, the World Justice Project split three of the survey modules into two versions (Option A and Option B) and randomly assigned one option to each respondent for each module. These modules included: Hypothetical Situations, Civic Participation, and Institutional Performance. Aside from these modules, the questionnaires are identical. A link to the complete survey instrument, in English and Spanish, can be found in the Appendix of this report.

SAMPLING

Departments and cities were selected to achieve a nationally representative sample of the country. Within cities and towns, neighborhoods were selected as the primary sampling unit using probability proportional to size sampling. Within each neighborhood, enumeration areas were constructed around randomly selected sampling points and the number of interviews per enumeration area was determined by the population distribution in each primary sampling unit. Within each enumeration area, survey administrators performed a systematic random route to sample households and used a Kish grid to select respondents. If the selected respondent declined to be interviewed or otherwise did not meet the characteristics of the target quota, the interviewer moved on to the next household.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SAMPLE

COVERAGE: Interviews were distributed across departments to create a nationally representative sample. The majority of interviews took place in Santa Cruz (29%), La Paz (25%), and Cochabamba (18%).

GEOGRAPHY: Forty-six percent (46%) of respondents resided in rural areas and municipalities, while 54% of respondents resided in metro areas or cities.

RACIAL AND ETHNIC BACKGROUND: Almost half (49%) of all respondents identified themselves as Mestizo, followed by Aymara (22%) and Quechua (21%).

GENDER: Fifty percent (50%) of respondents were female and 50% were male.

EDUCATION: Most respondents (82%) reported that they had received at least a high school diploma or vocational degree, and the remaining 18% of respondents received up to a middle school diploma.

RESPONSE RATES

Eligible household, non-interview	6,204
Refusals	6,000
Break-off	200
Non-contact	4

INTERVIEWING AND QUALITY CONTROL

In total, 71 interviewers worked on this project, including 45 female interviewers. Interviews were conducted in Spanish.

The supervisory team directly oversaw 30% of all interviews in the field. During data processing, 300 interviews (approximately 30% of the sample) were backchecked via telephone by the central office. Additional quality control measures included GPS validation of all sampling segment interviews, checks for abnormal answer patterns, and photo verification. After quality control, 50 interviews were rejected from the final sample. Interviews averaged 45 minutes in length and ranged from 27 to 90 minutes.

DATA REVIEW AND JUSTIFICATION

As part of the data analysis process, the team consulted several third-party sources in order to contextualize and validate perception-based data captured by the General Population Poll and compare it with the objective rule of law situation in-country. Peer data sources consulted include select indicators measured by the Latin American Public Opinion Project (LAPOP)'s *AmericasBarometer*, *Latinobarómetro*, Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem), Transparency International's *Corruption Perceptions Index*, the Bertelsmann Stiftung's *Transformation Index (BTI)*, and Freedom House's *Freedom in the World*. While certain trends captured by the 2022 General Population Poll in Bolivia are comparable to trends in perceptions data measured by other indices, the experiences and perceptions presented in this report may not always coincide with the reality of Bolivia's rule of law performance as measured by other sources.

HISTORICAL DATA

Historical data in this report derives from the *WJP Rule of Law Index®*'s General Population Poll that is typically administered every two to three years using a nationally representative probability sample ranging from 500 to 1,000 respondents. These household surveys were administered in the three largest cities of most countries until 2018, when the World Justice Project transitioned to nationally representative coverage as the preferred methodology for polling. The historical polling data used in this year's reports was collected in the following intervals: Data for Bolivia, Colombia, and Peru was collected in 2016, 2018, and 2022. Data for Ecuador was collected in 2014, 2017, and 2022.

ADDITIONAL COUNTRIES

The Rule of Law in Bolivia: Key Findings from the General Population Poll 2022 includes comparisons to the following Andean countries surveyed by the World Justice Project during the same period: Colombia, Ecuador and Peru. This report is additionally part of a series that presents findings from the following five sub-regions within Latin America and the Caribbean: Andes (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru); Southern Cone (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay); Eastern Caribbean (Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago); Greater Antilles, The Bahamas, and the Guianas (The Bahamas, the Dominican Republic, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Suriname); and Central America (Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama). Together, these 26 countries are a portion of the 140 countries and jurisdictions included in the *WJP Rule of Law Index 2022* report. Detailed information regarding the methodology of the *Rule of Law Index* is available at: www.worldjusticeproject.org.

Country	Polling Company	Methodology	Sample
Argentina	StatMark Group	Face-to-face	759
The Bahamas	DMR Insights Ltd.	Face-to-face	500
Barbados	DMR Insights Ltd.	Face-to-face	500
Belize	CID Gallup	Face-to-face	1,500
Bolivia	Captura Consulting	Face-to-face	1,000
Brazil	About Brazil Market Research	Face-to-face	1,109
Colombia	Tempo Group SA	Face-to-face	1,000
Costa Rica	CID Gallup	Face-to-face	1,005
Dominica	DMR Insights Ltd.	Face-to-face	500
Dominican Republic	CID Gallup	Face-to-face	1,002
Ecuador	StatMark Group	Face-to-face	1,005
El Salvador	CID Gallup	Face-to-face	2,010
Grenada	DMR Insights Ltd.	Face-to-face	500
Guatemala	Mercaplan	Face-to-face	2,002
Guyana	StatMark Group	Face-to-face	500
Haiti	CID Gallup	Face-to-face	507
Honduras	Mercaplan	Face-to-face	2,000
Jamaica	StatMark Group	Face-to-face	1,001
Nicaragua	CID Gallup	Telephone	1,014
Panama	CID Gallup	Face-to-face	2,023
Paraguay	Datum Internacional S.A./BM Business Partners	Face-to-face	1,000
Peru	Datum Internacional S.A.	Face-to-face	1,029
St. Lucia	DMR Insights Ltd.	Face-to-face	500
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	DMR Insights Ltd.	Face-to-face	500
Suriname	D3: Designs, Data, Decisions	Face-to-face	502
Trinidad and Tobago	CID Gallup	Face-to-face	1,001

| APPENDIX

41 Appendix

42 About the WJP

43 Other Publications

APPENDIX

Methodological Materials

GENERAL POPULATION POLL (GPP)

The General Population Poll in South America 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 authoritarianism, government accountability, bribery, corruption, police performance, crime and security, and access to justice.

[World Justice Project General Population Poll 2022 – South American Survey Instrument \(English Versions A & B\)](#)

[World Justice Project General Population Poll 2022 – South American Survey Instrument \(Spanish Versions A & B\)](#)

[World Justice Project General Population Poll 2022 – South American Survey Instrument \(Portuguese Versions A & B\)](#)

VARIABLES USED IN INFOGRAPHICS ON CRIME VICTIMIZATION

This table lists the question-level variables from the General Population Poll used to construct Chart 12.1 and the “Reasons the crime was not reported” table in Chart 12.2.

[World Justice Project Crime Rates and Reporting Variable Map](#)

REGRESSION TABLES FOR REGRESSION ANALYSIS USED IN INFOGRAPHIC ON PERCEPTIONS OF SECURITY

This document includes the question-level variables from the General Population Poll used in the regression analysis and the regression results featured in Chart 13.2.

[World Justice Project Regression Tables](#)

VARIABLES USED IN INFOGRAPHIC ON THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

This table lists the question-level variables from the General Population Poll used to construct Chart 14.

[World Justice Project Criminal Justice System Variable Map](#)

VARIABLES USED IN INFOGRAPHIC ON THE POLICE

This table lists the question-level variables from the General Population Poll used to construct Chart 16.

[World Justice Project Police Performance Variable Map](#)

VARIABLES USED IN INFOGRAPHIC ON PERCEPTIONS OF THE TREATMENT OF CRIME VICTIMS

This table lists the question-level variables from the General Population Poll used to construct Chart 17.

[World Justice Project Victim Support Variable Map](#)

VARIABLES USED IN INFOGRAPHIC ON ACCESS TO JUSTICE

This table lists the question-level variables from the General Population Poll used to construct Chart 18.

[World Justice Project Access to Justice Variable Map](#)



**World Justice
Project**

ABOUT THE WORLD JUSTICE PROJECT

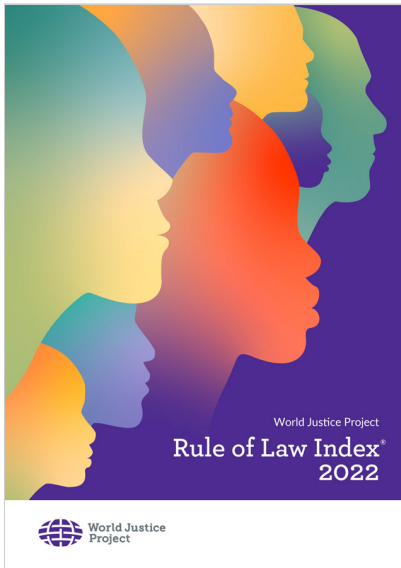
The World Justice Project (WJP) is an independent, multidisciplinary organization working to create knowledge, build awareness, and stimulate action to advance the rule of law worldwide. Effective rule of law is the foundation for communities of justice, opportunity, and peace—underpinning development, accountable government, and respect for fundamental rights.

The WJP builds and supports a global, multidisciplinary movement for the rule of law through three lines of work: collecting, organizing, and analyzing original, independent rule of law data, including the World Justice Project 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 advocates to advance the rule of law through strategic partnerships, convenings, coordinated advocacy, and support for locally led initiatives.

Learn more at: worldjusticeproject.org.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

For more information click on the publication.



WJP Rule of Law Index 2022



WJP Rule of Law Index 2022 Insights
Highlights and data trends from the WJP Rule of Law Index 2021



WJP Mexico States Rule of Law Index 2020-2021
Perceptions and experiences in 32 states



World Justice Challenge 2021
Outcome Report



Grasping the Justice Gap 2021



Environmental Governance Indicators for Latin America & the Caribbean 2020

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