



World Justice
Project

The Rule of Law in Brazil

Key Findings from the General
Population Poll 2022

Acknowledgements

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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 Brazil: 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 Brazil, this report also presents select findings over time and compared to Brazil's regional peers within the Southern Cone subregion of Latin America and the Caribbean.

The GPP was conducted between June and August 2022 through face-to-face interviews to a nationally representative sample of 1,109 Brazilian 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 Brazil 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 Brazilians. These thematic briefs focus on the current rule of law ecosystem in Brazil while simultaneously illuminating changes over time and comparisons across the following peer countries in the Southern Cone region: Argentina and Paraguay. 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 Brazil: Key Findings from the General Population Poll 2022 provides a comprehensive overview of how citizens perceive and experience the rule of law in Brazil alongside comparative findings across the Southern Cone region. The findings in this report indicate some positive trends in the general public's perspective on the rule of law in Brazil, including improvement in perceptions of fundamental freedoms, increasing levels of trust in institutions, and improvement in perceptions of personal safety. Despite these positive developments, however, these findings highlight the fact that many challenges—including relatively negative perceptions of fundamental freedoms, negative perceptions of personal safety, negative views on criminal justice system performance—persist. At the regional level, prominent trends include high perceptions of authoritarian behavior, negative perceptions of government accountability, and low confidence in criminal justice system performance.

SECTION 1

Authoritarianism, Fundamental Freedoms, and Accountability

1. Authoritarianism

Most respondents in Argentina and Brazil agreed that top government officials engage in authoritarian behavior. On average, Argentinians most often felt that top government officials attempt to undermine the judiciary, whereas Brazilians most often felt that top government officials attempt to undermine electoral systems and opposition parties and attack the media.

- When asked about authoritarian tendencies in Brazil, respondents most often felt that top government officials **attack or attempt to discredit the media and civil society organizations that criticize them** (77%), **attack or attempt to discredit the electoral system and other supervisory organs** (75%), and **resort to misinformation to shape public opinion in their favor** (75%).

2. Fundamental Freedoms

On average, more respondents believe that their freedoms of expression, political participation, election, and religion are guaranteed in Argentina and Brazil compared to 2018 and 2017, respectively. In 2022, Argentinians had the most positive perceptions of the state's respect for overall fundamental freedoms, on average, compared to other respondents in the Southern Cone. In contrast, Brazilians had the most negative perceptions of the state's respect for freedoms of expression and political participation, while Paraguayans had the most negative perceptions of the state's respect for electoral freedoms and freedom of religion, on average.

- When asked about respect for fundamental freedoms in Brazil, respondents had more favorable views on freedoms of political participation, with 83% of respondents agreeing that **people can attend community meetings**. Conversely, Brazilians had less favorable views on electoral freedoms, with 42% of respondents agreeing that **local government officials are elected through a clean process**.
- Between 2017 and 2022, Brazil's most significant trends in public opinions on freedoms include improvements in the perceptions that **local government officials are elected through a clean process** (up 18 percentage points), **people can attend community meetings** (up 17 percentage points), **religious minorities can observe their holy days** (up 17 percentage points), and **people can join any political organization** (up 17 percentage points).

3. Accountability

Perceptions of accountability are extremely negative in surveyed Southern Cone countries. Less than one-quarter of all respondents in the region believe that high-ranking officials would be held accountable for breaking the law. Only 14% of respondents in Argentina and Paraguay believe that high-ranking government officials would be held accountable for breaking the law, marking a decline of 5 percentage points in Argentina since 2018. Public perceptions of impunity improved in Brazil, where 24% of respondents believe that high-ranking government officials would be held accountable for breaking the law, compared to 14% in 2017.

SECTION 2

Corruption and Trust

4. Corruption

Public views on the pervasiveness of corruption among the legislature, national executive officials, and judges and magistrates deteriorated in both Argentina and Brazil between 2022 and the last year of data collection. Out of all Southern Cone countries, on average, more Paraguayans reported perceptions of corruption across all actors than their regional peers, whereas Brazilians reported the same least frequently.

- Between 2017 and 2022, Brazil's most significant trends in public opinions on the pervasiveness of corruption include an increase in percentage of respondents who believe that most or all **national government officers** engage in corrupt practices (up 10 percentage points) and a decrease in the percentage of respondents who believe the same of **police officers** (down 7 percentage points).
- **Members of political parties** and the **National Congress** are considered the most corrupt actors in Brazil. Approximately 77% of respondents believe that most or all members of Brazilian political parties and the legislature are involved in corrupt practices.
- **Teachers in public schools** are considered the least corrupt actors in Brazil, with 16% of respondents reporting that they believe most or all teachers are involved in corrupt practices.

5. Bribery Victimization

On average, respondents in the Southern Cone reported paying a bribe most often in Paraguay and least often in Argentina. Throughout the region, respondents most frequently had to pay a bribe when requesting a government permit and least often when using a public health service or securing a place at a public school.

6. Trust

Respondents in the Southern Cone trust people living in their country more than any other public actor. Respondents in the Southern Cone most often reported having some or a lot of trust in people living in their country and expressed the lowest levels of trust in national government officers. On average, respondents in Paraguay least often reported having some or a lot of trust in actors across all institutions. In contrast, respondents in Brazil reported the highest overall levels of trust.

- Levels of trust in Brazil improved across every institution between 2017 and 2022. Trust in **police officers** improved the most in Brazil in this time period, with 51% of respondents reporting some or a lot of trust in 2022 compared to 33% in 2017.

SECTION 3

Security and Criminal Justice

7. Crime Victimization

On average, roughly one-fifth (22%) of all respondents surveyed in the Southern Cone reported experiencing a crime in the last 12 months. On average, more than half (57%) of those respondents reported their crime experience to an authority.

- One-fifth (20%) of Brazilians reported experiencing a crime in the last 12 months, a figure just below the regional average (22%).
- More than half (55%) of Brazilian 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 (55%).

8. Security

Only one-third (33%) of all respondents in the Southern Cone feel safe or very safe when walking in their neighborhood at night, on average. Perceptions of safety declined in Argentina, where 31% of respondents reported feeling safe or very safe walking in their neighborhood at night in 2022, compared to 36% in 2018. In contrast, perceptions of safety improved in Brazil by 10 percentage points between 2017 and 2022. Compared to respondents in regional peer countries, Paraguayans most often reported feeling safe in their neighborhood at night (40% of respondents).

- Brazilians who live in an urban area were less likely to feel safe walking in their neighborhood at night than respondents with other sociodemographic characteristics, while Brazilians who have a lighter skin tone were more likely to feel safe.

9. Criminal Justice

Across the Southern Cone, respondents are most confident, on average, that the criminal justice system ensures equal treatment of victims and least confident that the criminal justice system ensures uniform quality of service. On average, respondents in Paraguay reported the highest levels of confidence in the criminal justice system overall, while respondents in Brazil reported the lowest levels of confidence. Average perceptions of the criminal justice system's overall performance deteriorated in Argentina between 2018 and 2022, while average perceptions of the criminal justice system's overall performance improved in Brazil between 2017 and 2022.

- Brazilians were most confident that the criminal justice system **ensures equal treatment of victims** (48%) and **is effective in delivering justice** (40%). Brazilians were least confident that the criminal justice system **ensures timeliness** (27%) and **ensures uniform quality of service** (28%).
- Perceptions of adherence to **proportionate punishments** and **equal treatment of victims** in the Brazilian criminal justice system improved the most between 2017 and 2022, with increases of 21 and 20 percentage points, respectively.

10. Police Performance

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

- When asked about their impressions of police performance, respondents in Brazil were most confident that:
 - Police perform effective and lawful investigations (52%).
 - Police are not involved in corrupt practices (52%).
 - Police resolve security problems in the community (44%).
- Respondents in Brazil were least confident that:
 - Police do not serve the interests of politicians (20%).
 - Police do not use excessive force (23%).
 - Police are investigated for misconduct (32%).
 - Police are held accountable for violating laws (32%).
 - Police are held accountable for accepting bribes (32%).
- In Brazil, respondents most often indicated that suspects with a darker skin tone and suspects with tattoos would most likely be at a disadvantage in a criminal investigation.

11. Victim Support

Less than one-third of all respondents in Argentina and Brazil, on average, believed that victims of crime receive adequate support and protection. In both countries, respondents were most confident that crime victims are addressed by the police using accessible language.

- Brazilians were most often confident that victims are addressed by the police using accessible language (42%) and receive a clear explanation of the crime reporting process (38%).
- Brazilians were least often confident that victims receive effective and timely medical and psychological care (26%), receive adequate care and protection as victims of domestic violence (27%), and receive protection from the police if their safety is in danger (27%).

SECTION 4

Access to Justice

12. Access to Justice

Roughly 2 in 5 (41%) respondents in the Southern Cone 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. On average, 47% of respondents in the Southern Cone reported that their legal problem has been resolved and the average time reported to resolve the problem was approximately 8.4 months.

- Thirty-two percent (32%) of Brazilians reported experiencing a legal problem in the last two years (a figure below the regional average of 41%). The most commonly reported problems included consumer issues and debt resolution.
- Less than one-third (30%) of surveyed Brazilians with a legal problem obtained advice from a person or organization that could help them better understand or resolve their problem, and 1 in 6 (16%) reported that it was difficult or nearly impossible to find the money required to resolve their problem.
- More than half (52%) of respondents in Brazil who resolved their legal issue experienced at least one hardship during the resolution process. The most frequently cited hardship was health-related – 39% 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

10 Authoritarianism

13 Fundamental Freedoms

17 Government Accountability

AUTHORITARIANISM

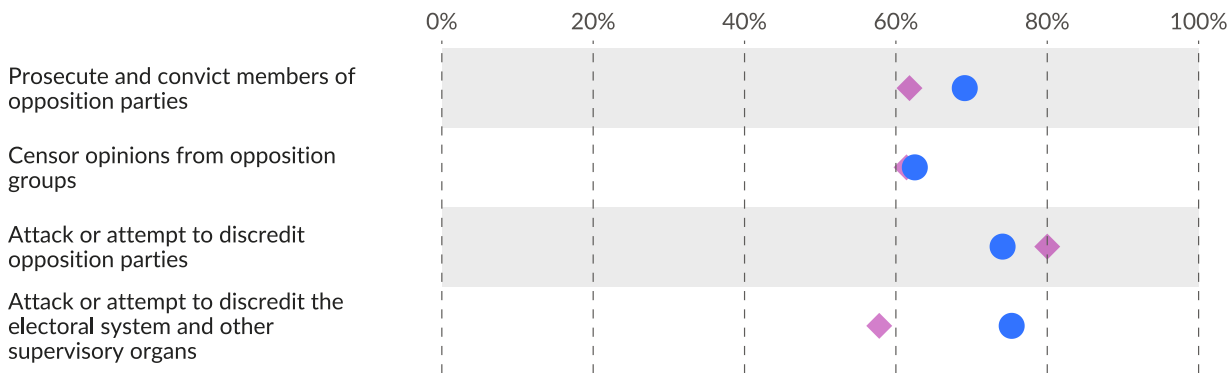
CHART 1.

Perceptions of Authoritarian Behaviors

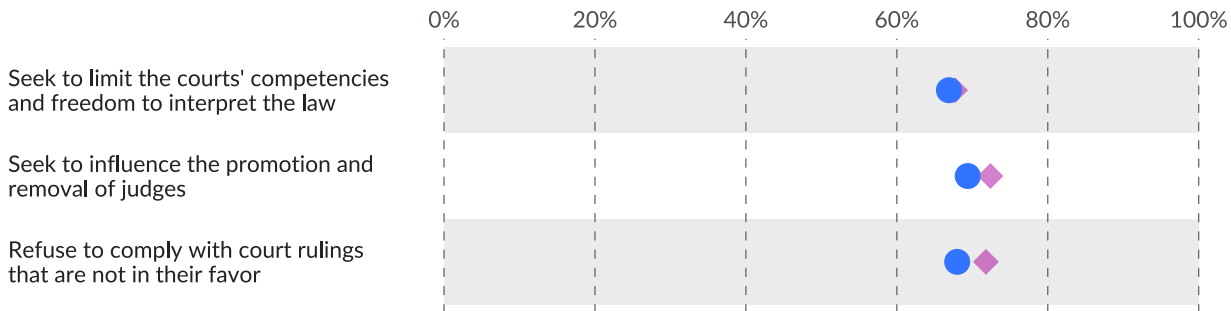
Percentage of respondents who believe that top government officials...

◆ Argentina ● Brazil

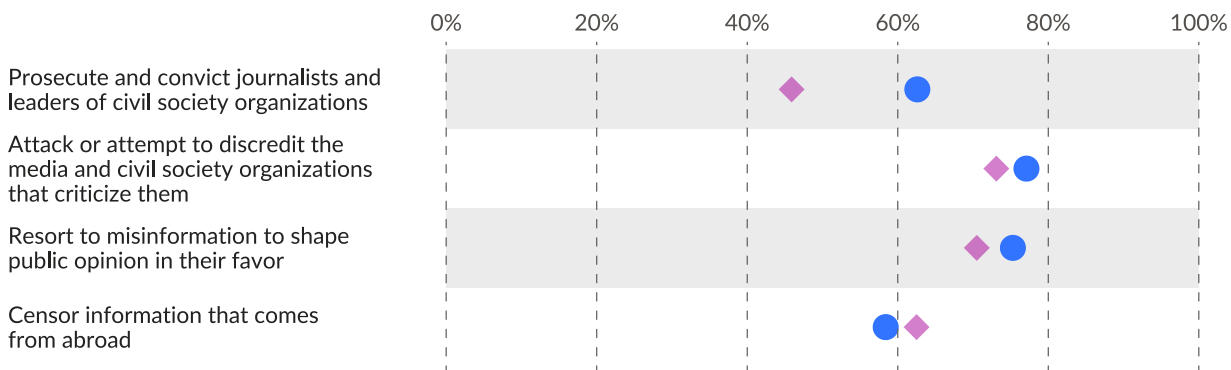
ATTACKS ON ELECTORAL SYSTEMS AND OPPOSITION PARTIES



ATTACKS ON THE JUDICIARY



ATTACKS ON THE MEDIA AND MISINFORMATION



Source: WJP General Population Poll 2022

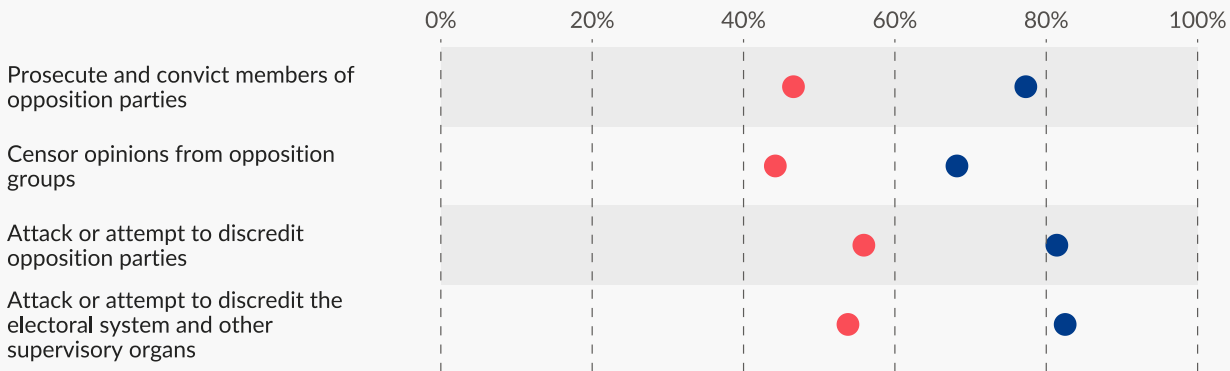
CHART 2.

Perceptions of Authoritarian Behavior, by Support for the Current Administration

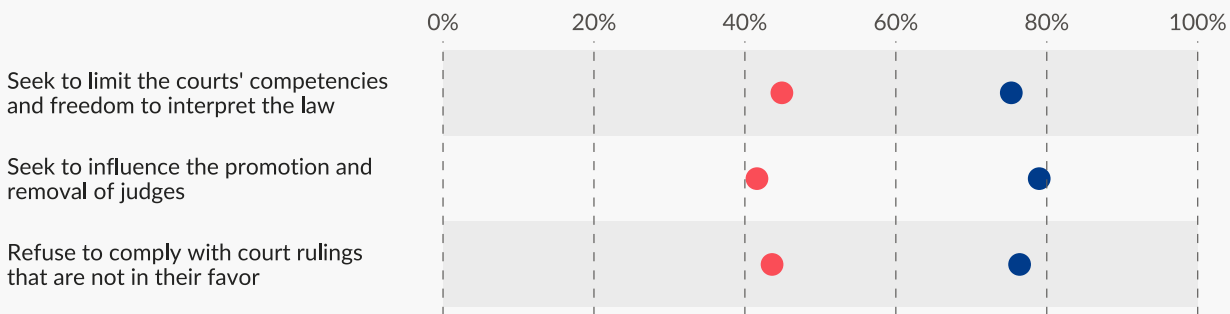
Percentage of respondents in Brazil who believe that top government officials...

● Government Supporter ● Non-Government Supporter

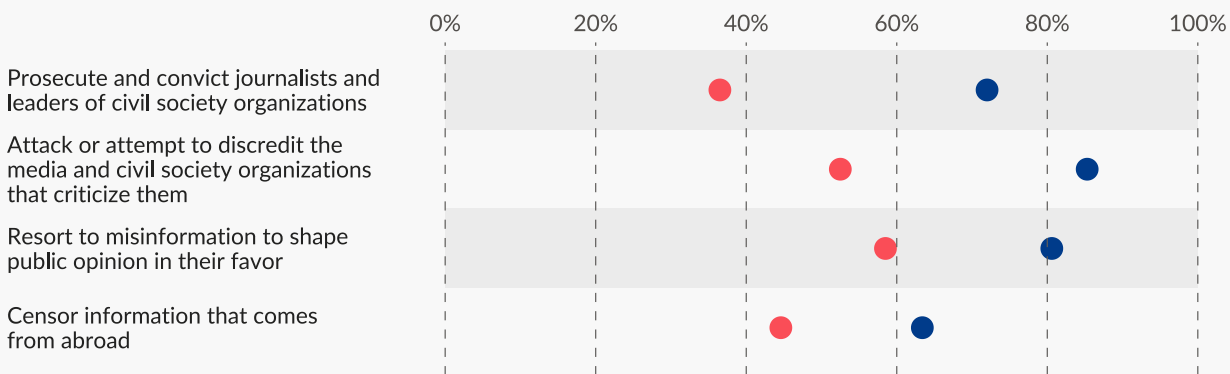
ATTACKS ON ELECTORAL SYSTEMS AND OPPOSITION PARTIES



ATTACKS ON THE JUDICIARY



ATTACKS ON THE MEDIA AND MISINFORMATION

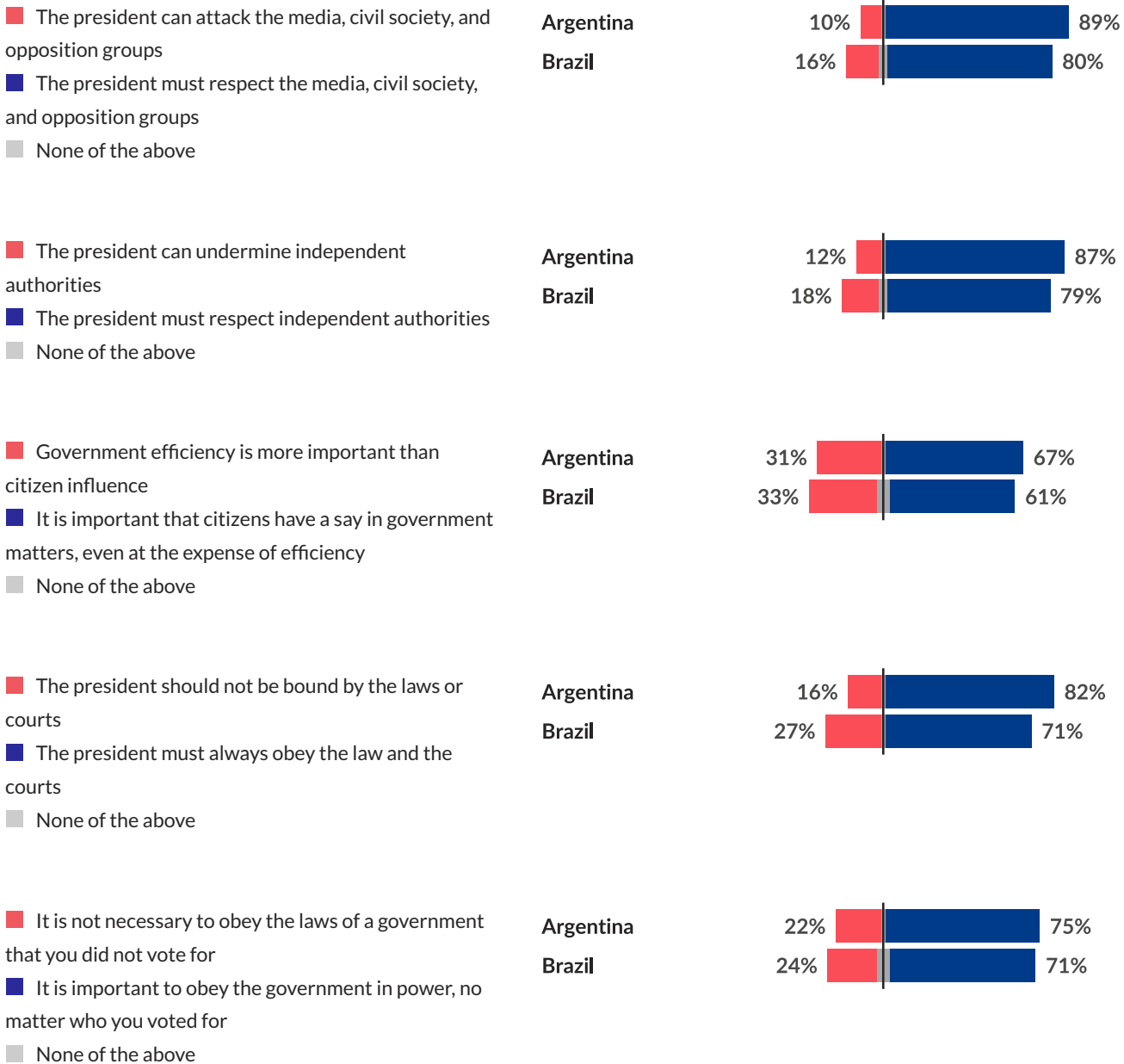


Source: WJP General Population Poll 2022

CHART 3.

Attitudes Towards Authoritarianism and Rule of Law

Percentage of respondents who agree with the following statements



Source: WJP General Population Poll 2022

FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

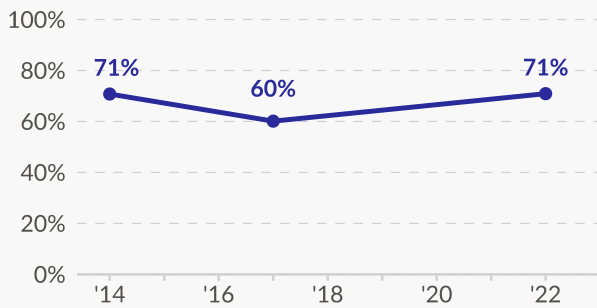
CHART 4.

Fundamental Freedoms in Brazil Over Time

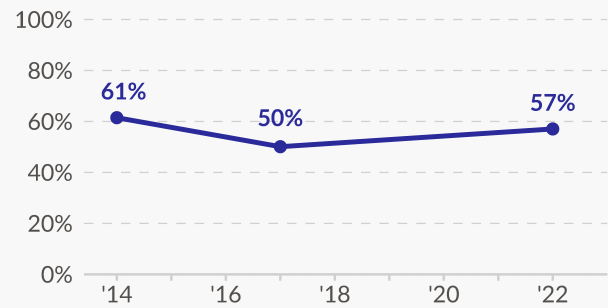
Percentage of respondents who believe the following statements

EXPRESSION

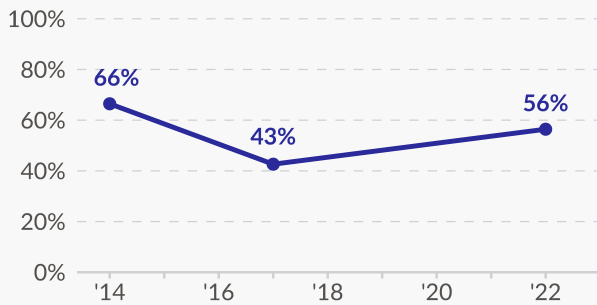
People can express opinions against the government



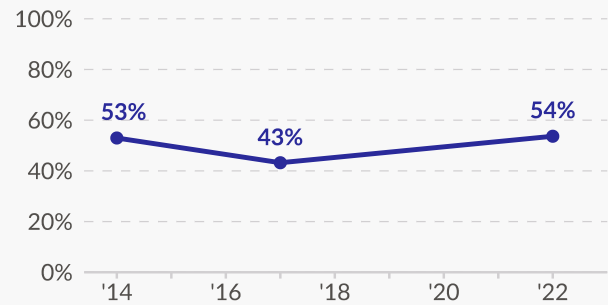
Civil society organizations can express opinions against the government



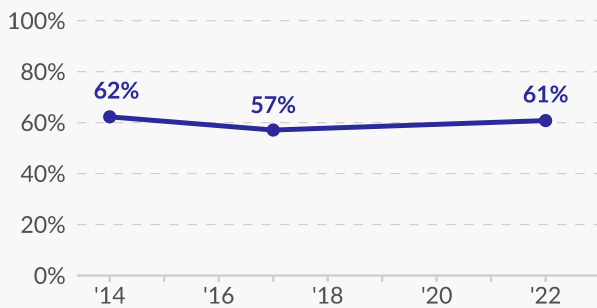
Political parties can express opinions against the government



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



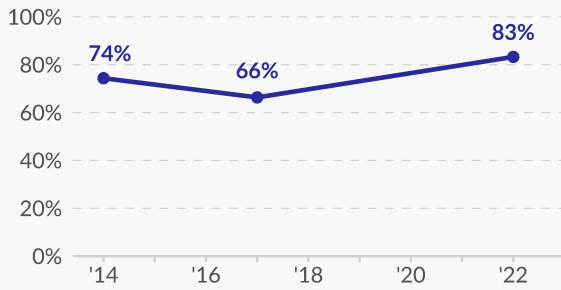
The media can expose cases of corruption



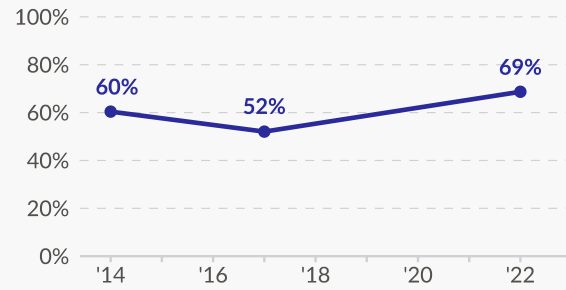
Source: WJP General Population Poll 2014, 2017, and 2022

PARTICIPATION

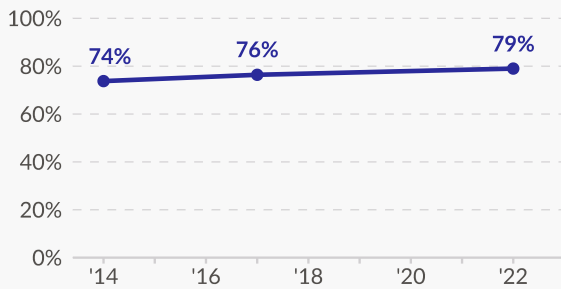
People can attend community meetings



People can join any political organization

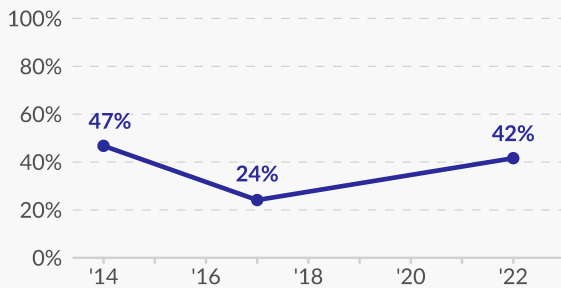


People can organize around an issue or petition

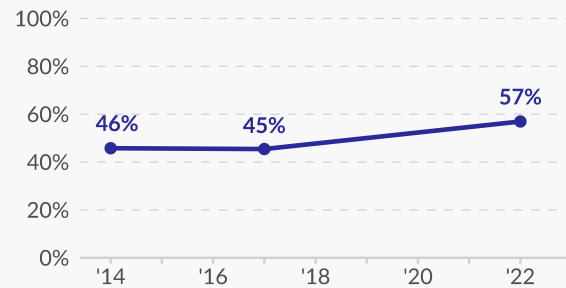


ELECTIONS

Local government officials are elected through a clean process

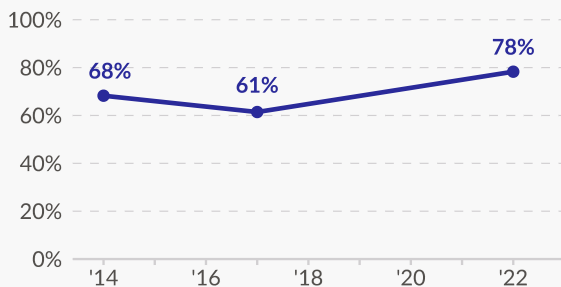


People can vote freely without feeling harassed or pressured



RELIGION

Religious minorities can observe their holy days



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

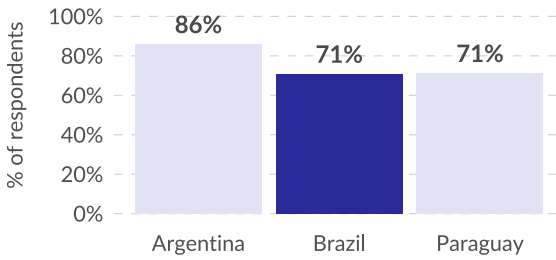
CHART 5.

Perceptions of Fundamental Freedoms in the Southern Cone

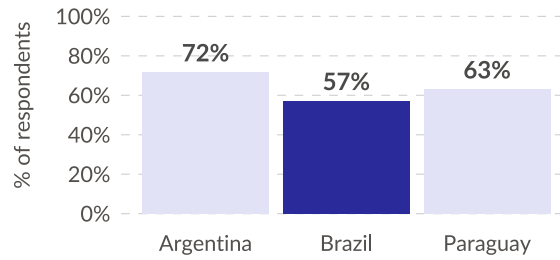
Percentage of respondents who believe the following statements

EXPRESSION

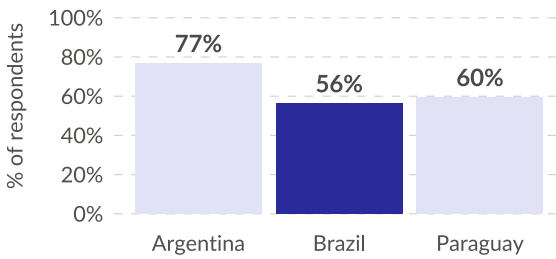
People can express opinions against the government



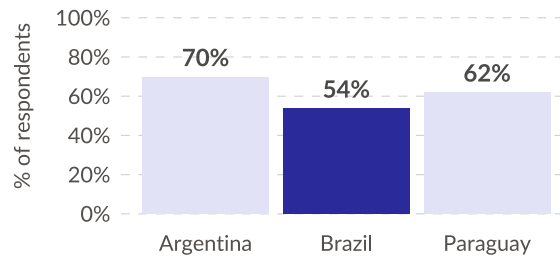
Civil society organizations can express opinions against the government



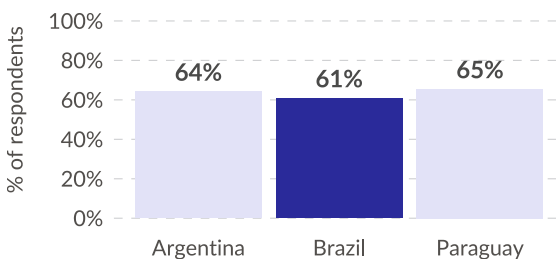
Political parties can express opinions against the government



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

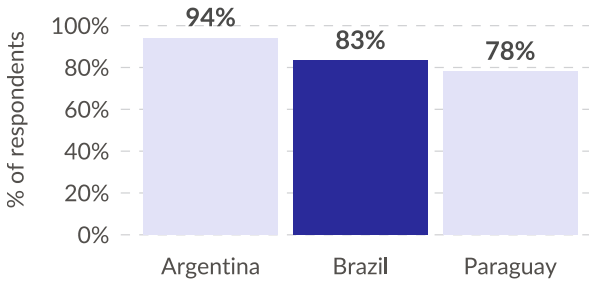


The media can expose cases of corruption

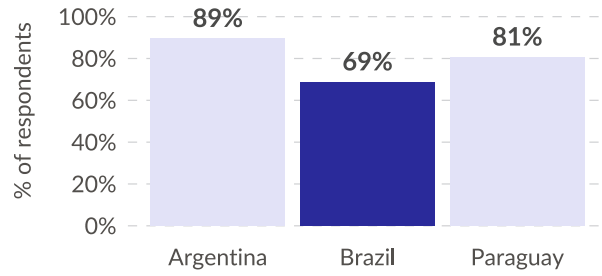


PARTICIPATION

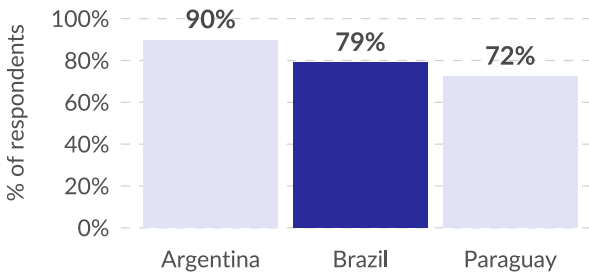
People can attend community meetings



People can join any political organization

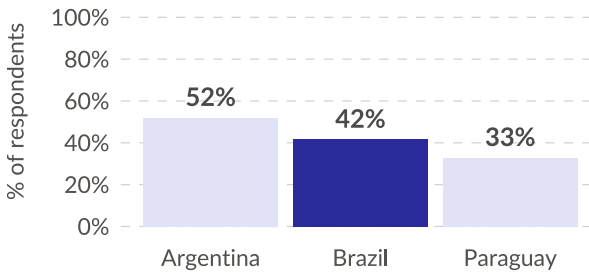


People can organize around an issue or petition

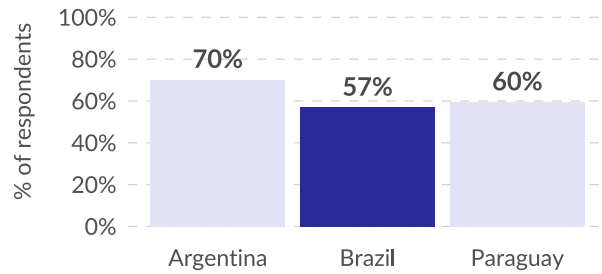


ELECTIONS

Local government officials are elected through a clean process

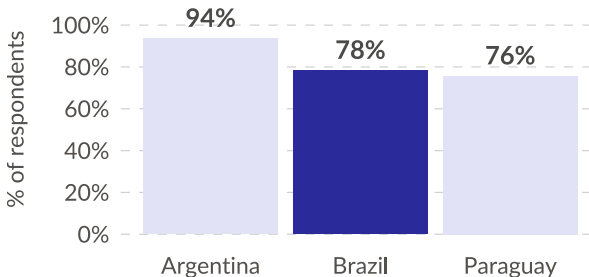


People can vote freely without feeling harassed or pressured



RELIGION

Religious minorities can observe their holy days



Source: WJP General Population Poll 2021 and 2022

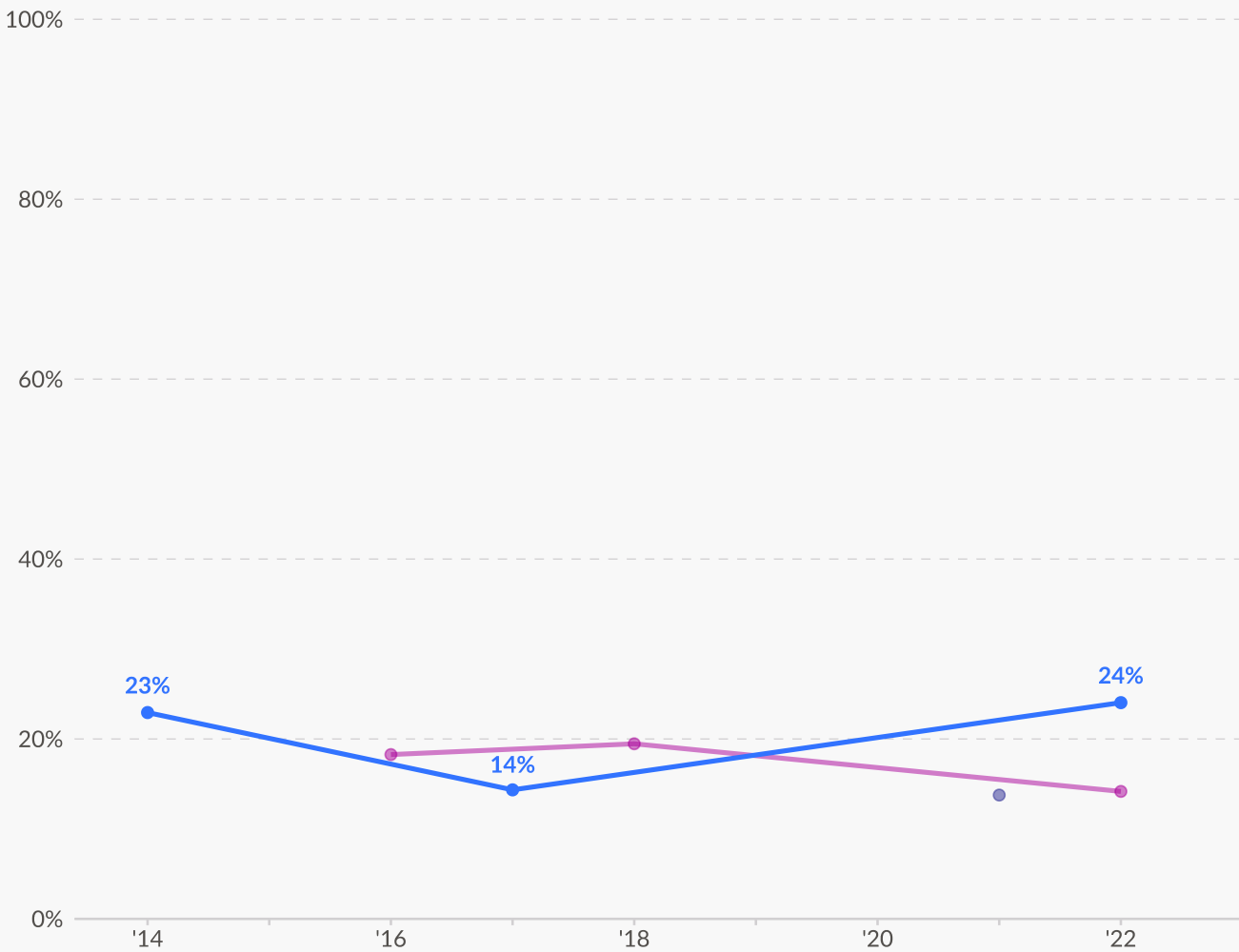
GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY

CHART 6.

Perceptions of Accountability in the Southern Cone Over Time

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

● Argentina ● Paraguay ● Brazil



Source: WJP General Population Poll 2014, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2021, and 2022

SECTION II
CORRUPTION
AND TRUST

- 19 Corruption
- 22 Bribery Victimization
- 23 Trust

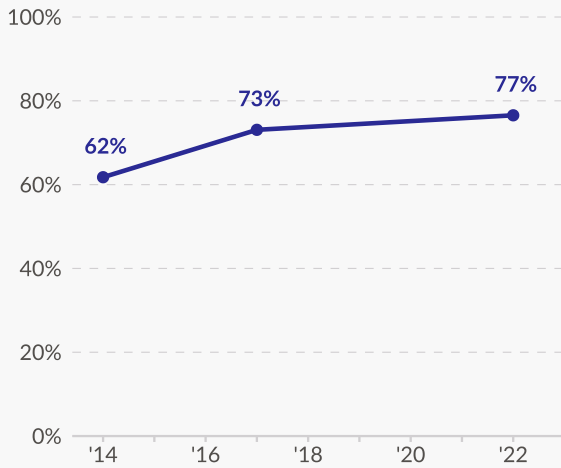
CORRUPTION

CHART 7.

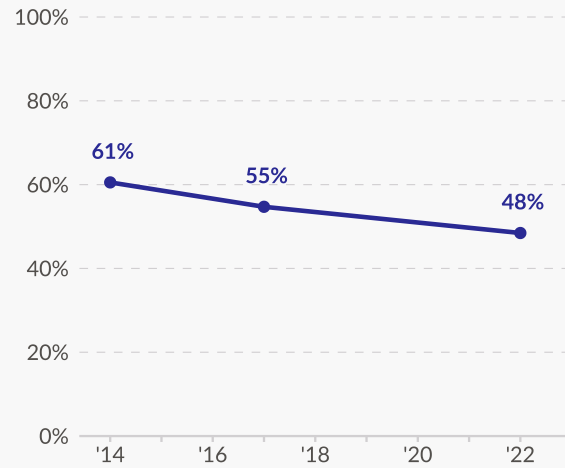
Perceptions of Corruption by Institution Over Time

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

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS

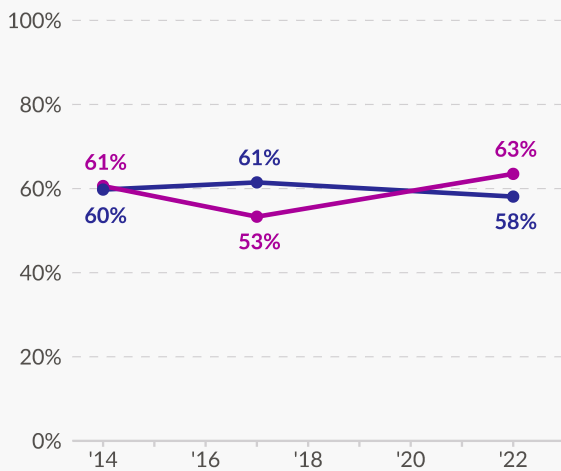


POLICE OFFICERS



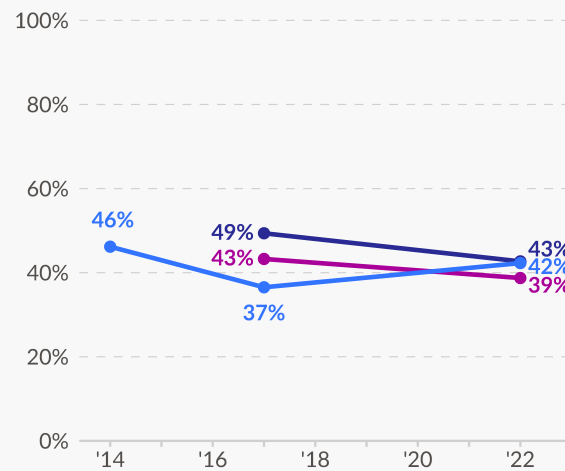
EXECUTIVE

- Local Government Officers
- National Government Officers



JUDICIARY

- Prosecutors
- Judges & Magistrates
- Public Defense Attorneys



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

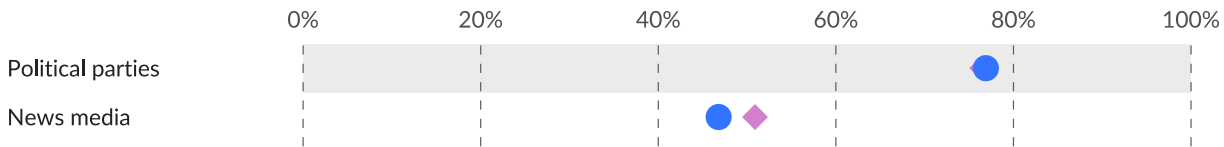
CHART 8.

Perceptions of Corruption in the Southern Cone, by Institution

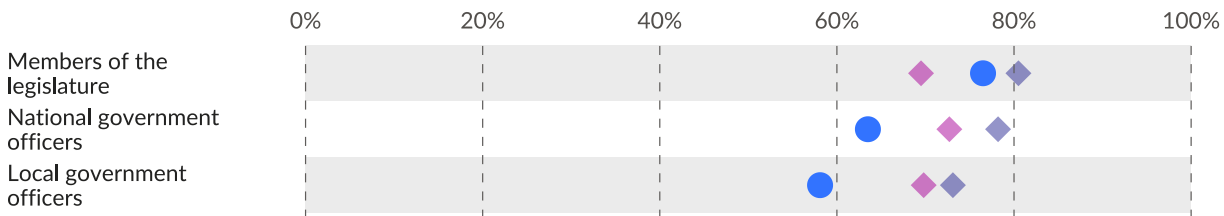
Percentage of respondents who think people in the following groups are involved in corrupt practices

◆ Argentina ● Brazil ◆ Paraguay

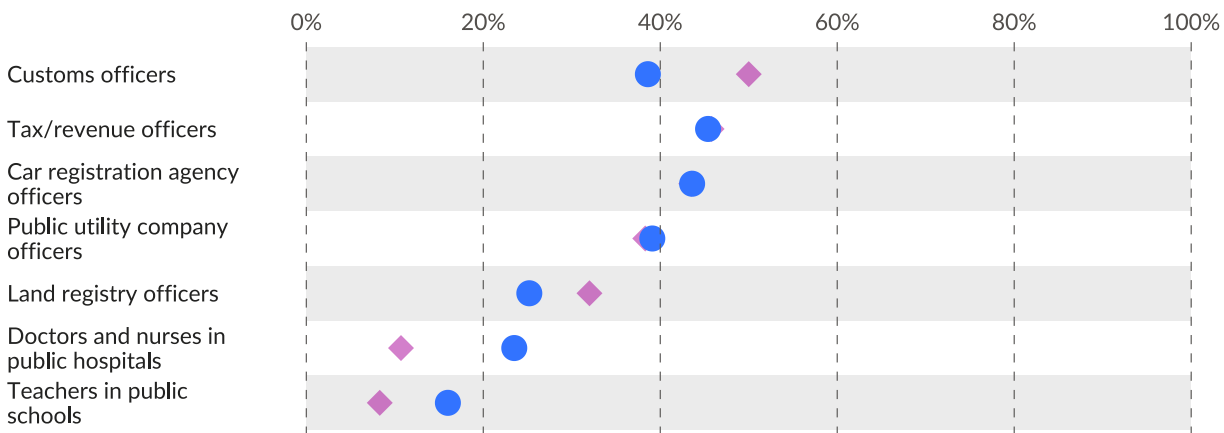
THE MEDIA AND POLITICAL PARTIES



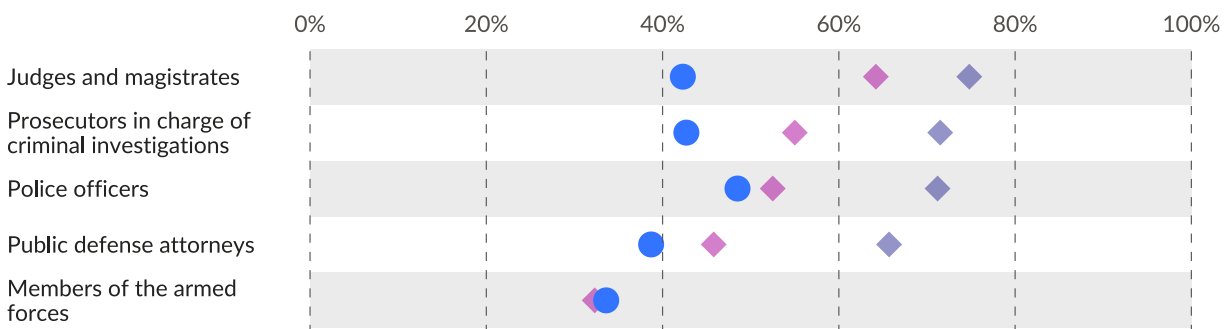
NATIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT



ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUREAUCRATIC INSTITUTIONS



SECURITY AND JUSTICE INSTITUTIONS



Source: WJP General Population Poll 2021 and 2022

CHART 9.

Attitudes Towards Corrupt Behaviors in the Southern Cone

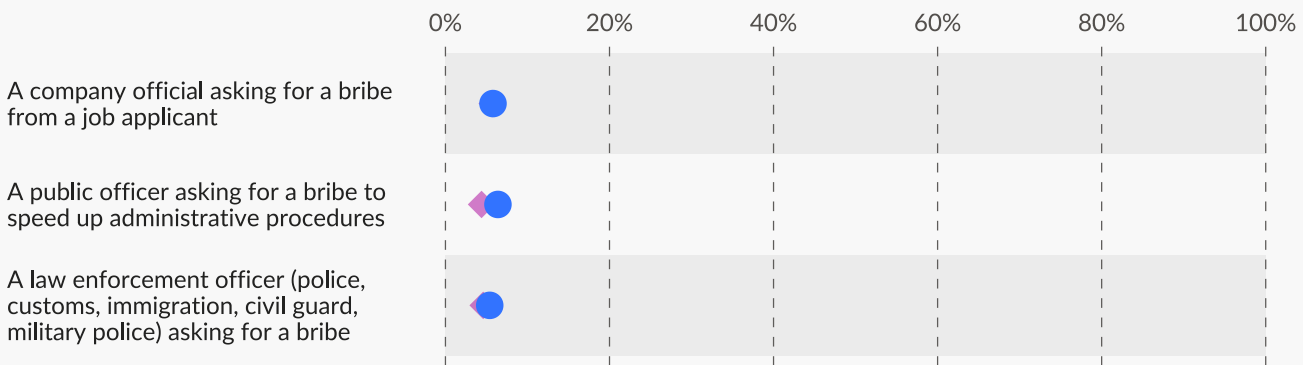
Percentage of respondents who believe the following behaviors are always or usually acceptable

◆ Argentina ● Brazil

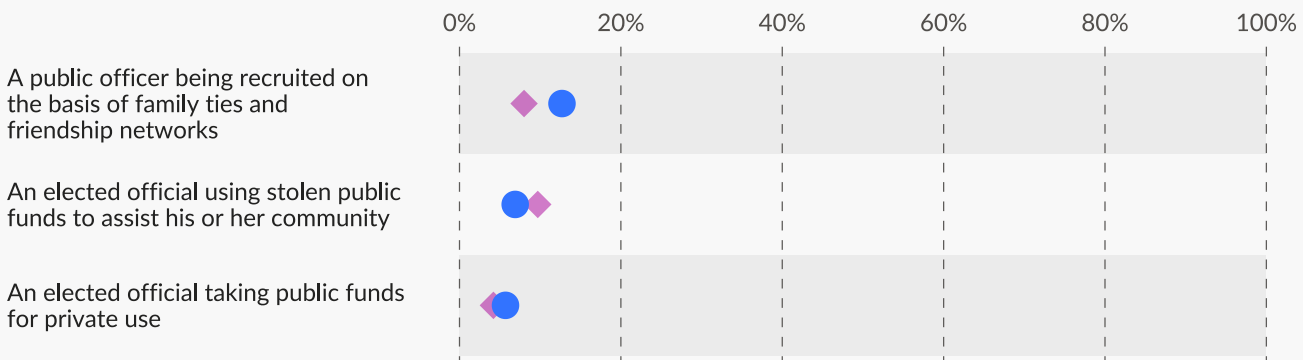
BRIBES OFFERED



BRIBES REQUESTED



NEPOTISM AND EMBEZZLEMENT



Source: WJP General Population Poll 2022

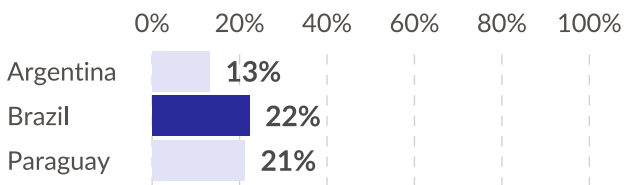
BRIBERY VICTIMIZATION

CHART 10.

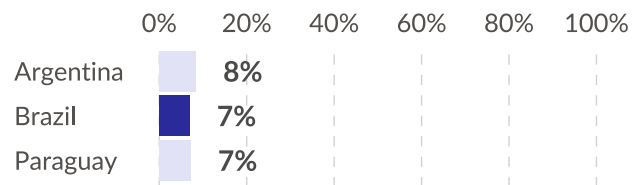
Bribery Victimization in Brazil and Regional Peer Countries

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

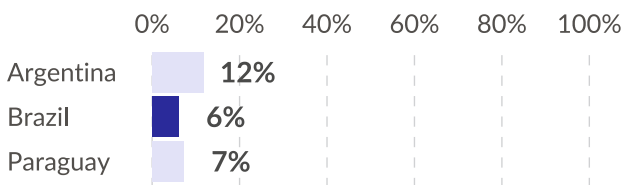
REQUEST A GOVERNMENT PERMIT OR DOCUMENT



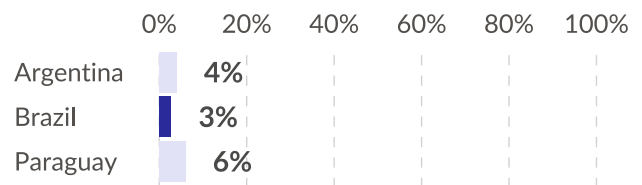
REQUEST PUBLIC BENEFITS OR ASSISTANCE



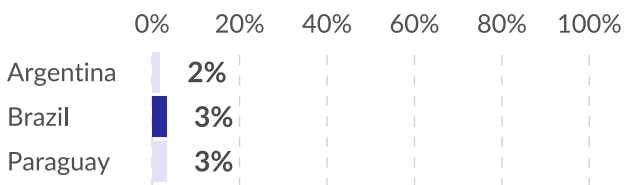
OBTAIN A BIRTH CERTIFICATE OR GOVERNMENT ISSUED ID



SECURE A PLACE AT A PUBLIC SCHOOL



USE A PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE



Source: WJP General Population Poll 2021 and 2022

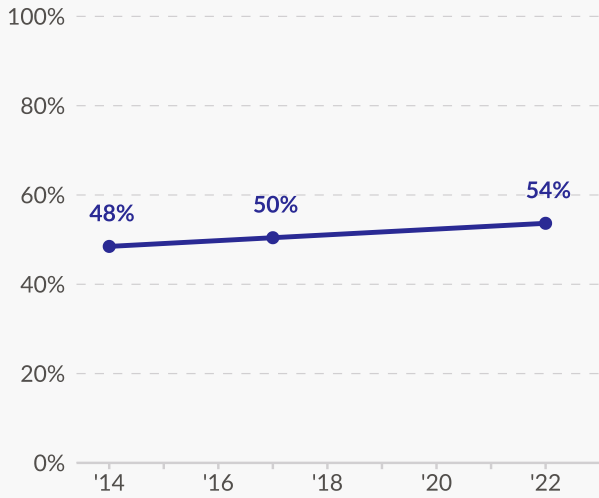
TRUST

CHART 11.

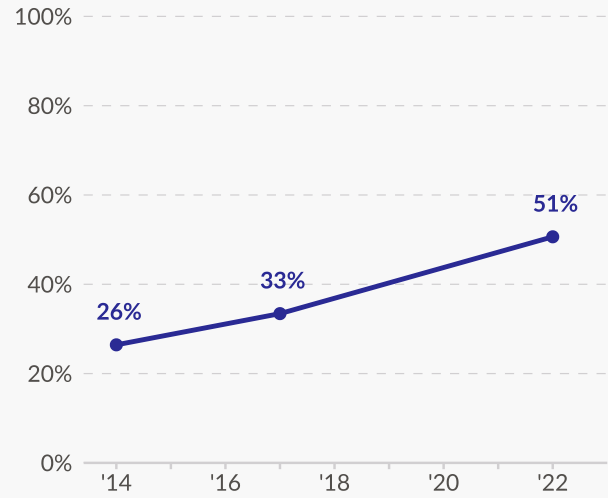
Trust in Institutions Over Time

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

PEOPLE LIVING IN THEIR COUNTRY

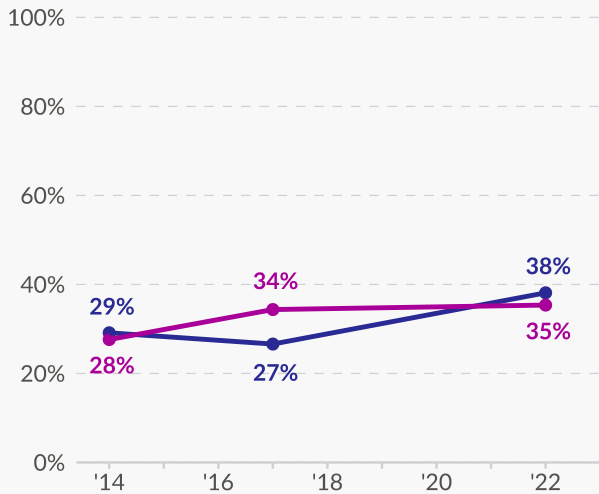


POLICE OFFICERS



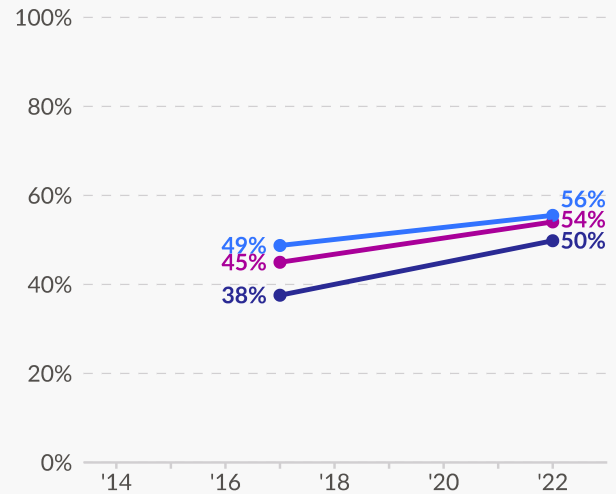
EXECUTIVE

- Local Government Officers
- National Government Officers



JUDICIARY

- Prosecutors
- Judges & Magistrates
- Public Defense Attorneys



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

SECTION III
**SECURITY AND
CRIMINAL
JUSTICE**

- 25 Crime Victimization
- 26 Security
- 27 Criminal Justice
- 29 Police
- 31 Victim Support

CRIME VICTIMIZATION

CHART 12.1

Types of Crimes Experienced by People in Brazil

Victimization rate, by type of crime

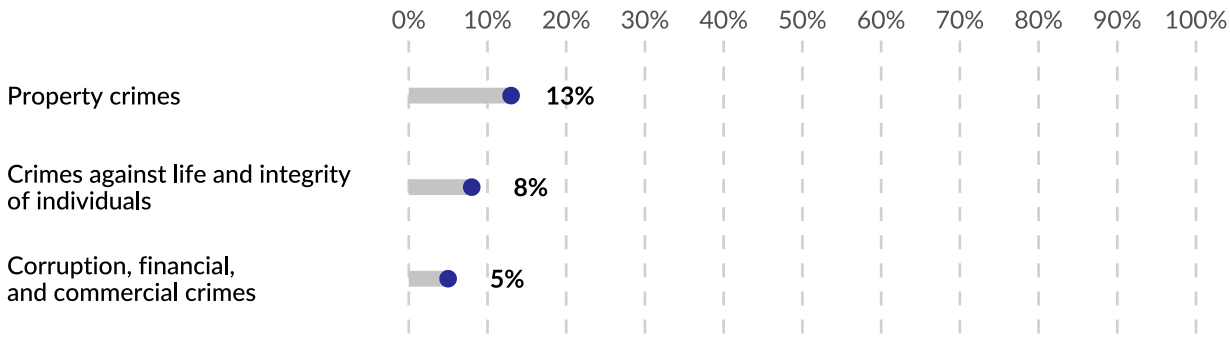
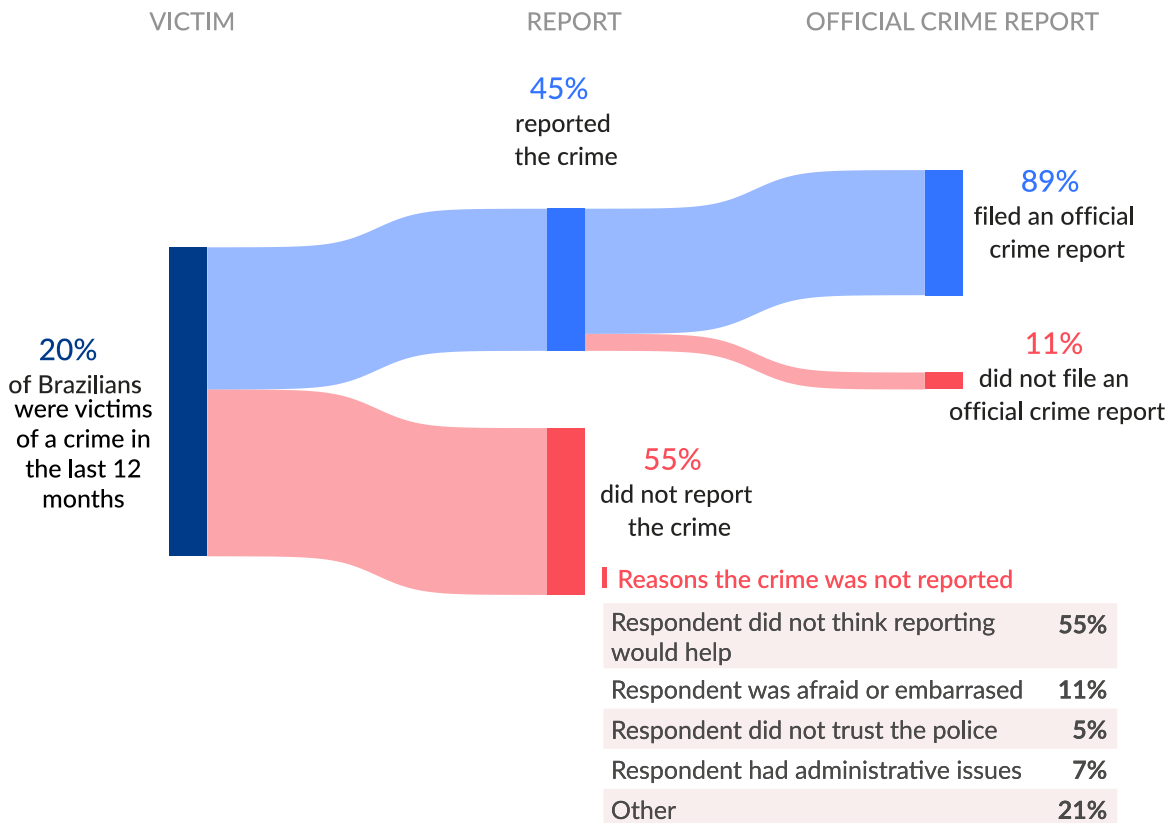


CHART 12.2

Crime Victimization Rates and Reporting

Data on crime victimization and reporting in Brazil



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

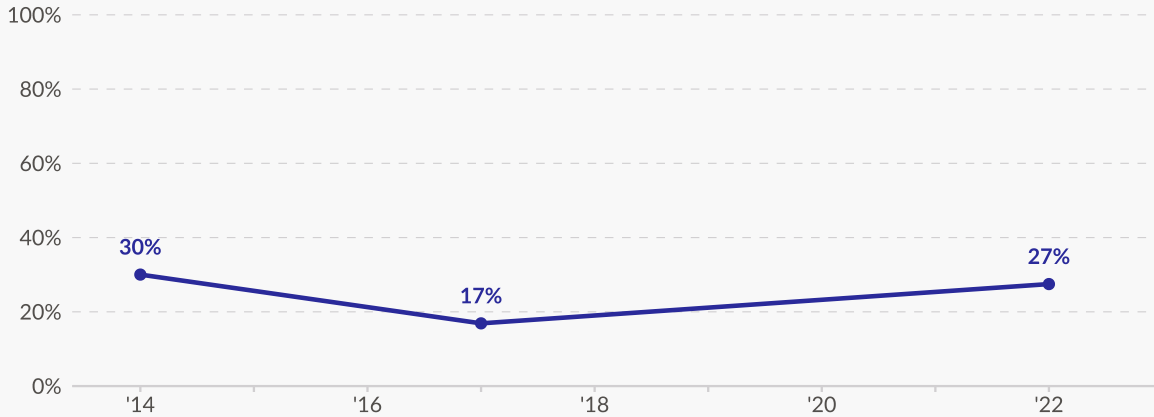
Source: WJP General Population Poll 2022

SECURITY

CHART 13.1

Perceptions of Security in Brazil Over Time

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

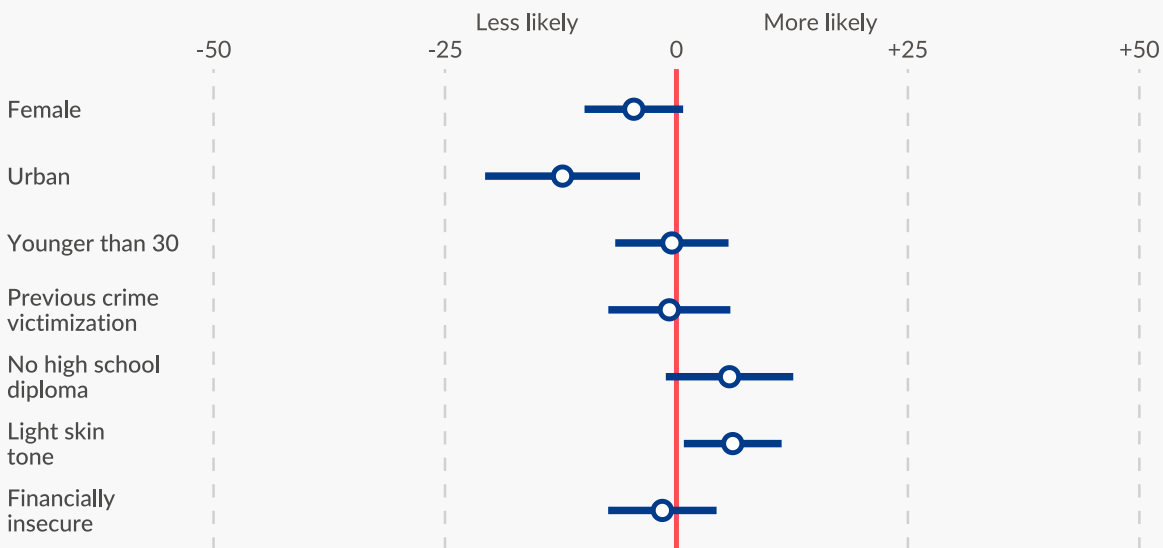


Source: WJP General Population Poll 2014, 2017, and 2022

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

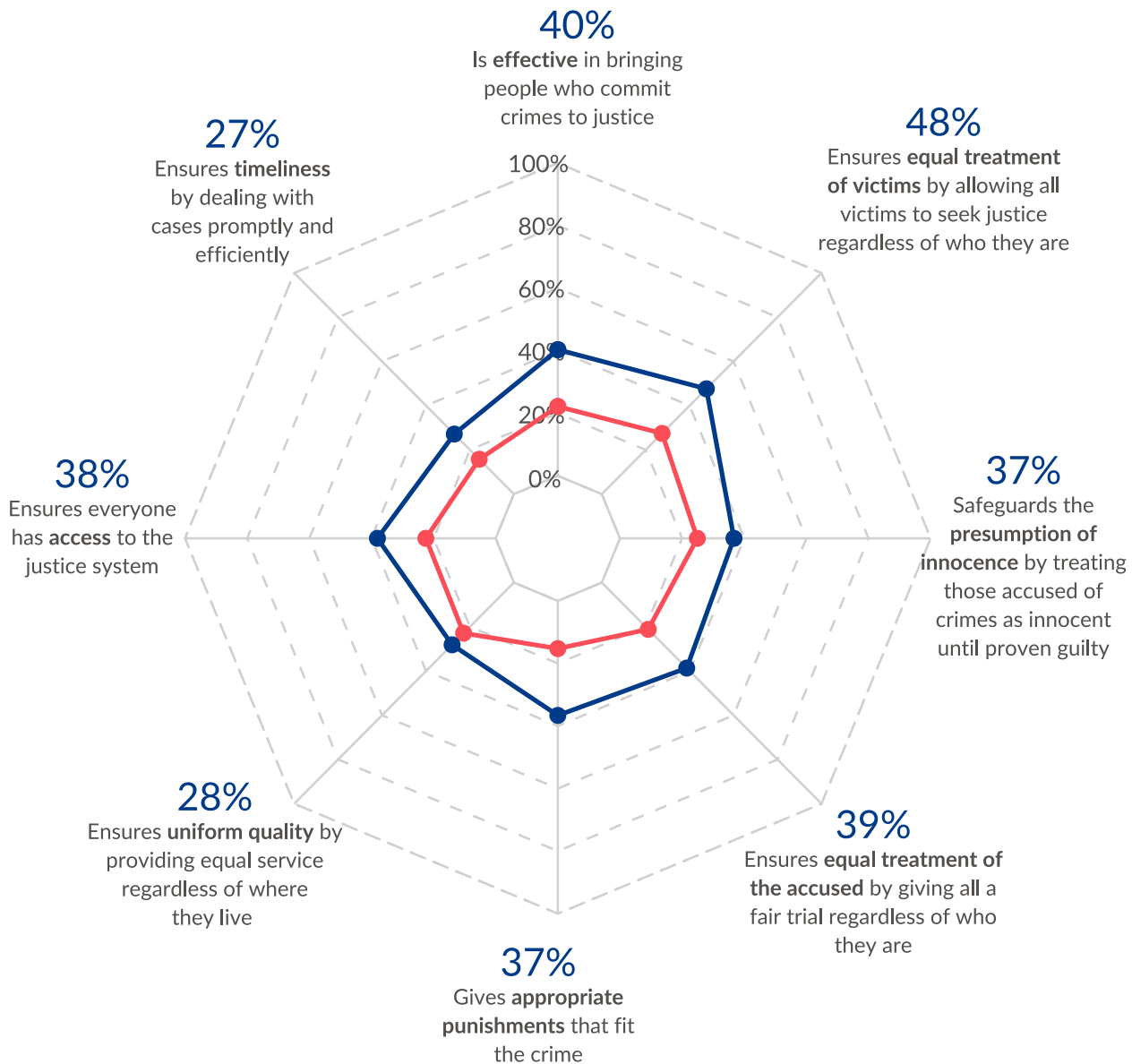
CRIMINAL JUSTICE

CHART 14.

Perceptions of the Criminal Justice System in Brazil

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

● 2022 ● 2017



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

Source: WJP General Population Poll 2017 and 2022

CHART 15.

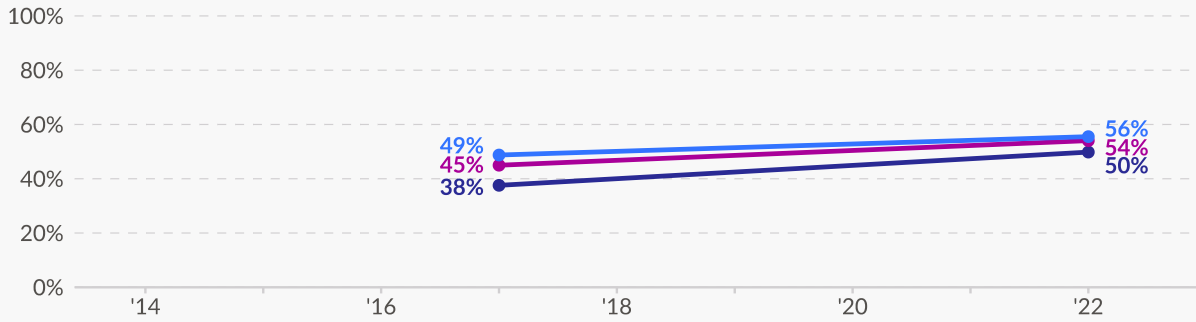
Criminal Justice Actors

Perceptions of criminal justice actors in Brazil

● Prosecutors ● Public Defense Attorneys ● Judges & Magistrates

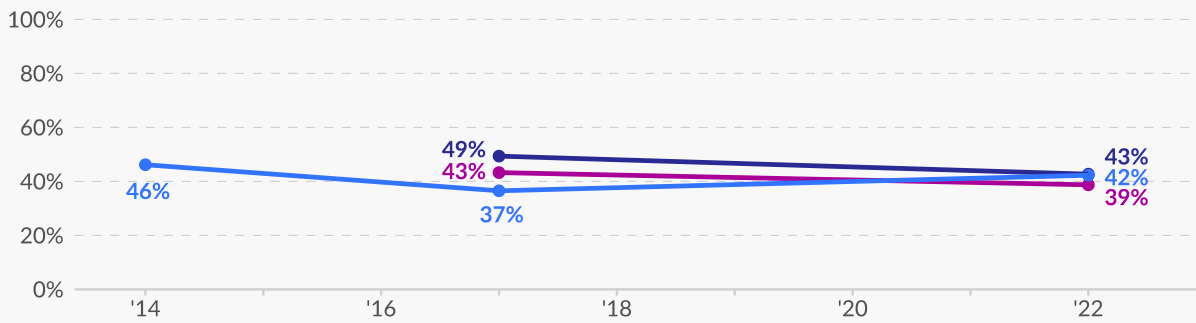
TRUST IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACTORS OVER TIME

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



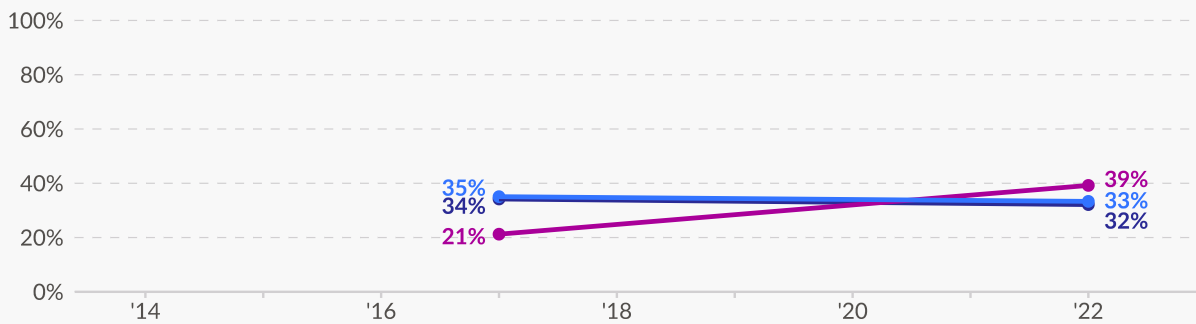
PERCEPTIONS OF CORRUPTION ACROSS CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACTORS OVER TIME

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 2014, 2017, 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

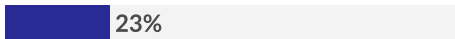
Due Process

Percentage of respondents who believe that the police...

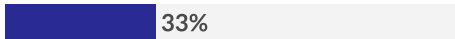
Act lawfully



Do not use excessive force



Respect the rights of suspects



Treat all people with respect



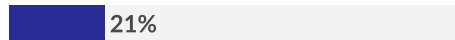
Discrimination

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

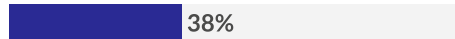
Age



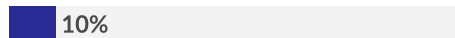
Tattoos



Indigenous identity



Skin color



Gender



Corruption

Percentage of respondents who believe that the police...

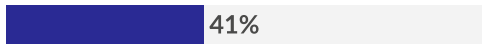
Are not involved in corrupt practices



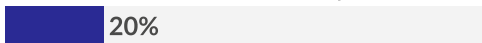
Investigate crimes in an independent manner



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



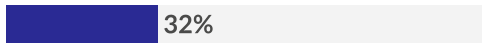
Feel safe in their neighborhoods



Accountability

Percentage of respondents who believe that the police...

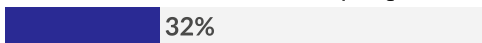
Are held accountable for violating laws



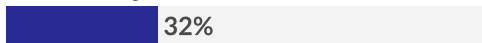
Are held accountable for seeking bribes



Are held accountable for accepting bribes



Are investigated for misconduct



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

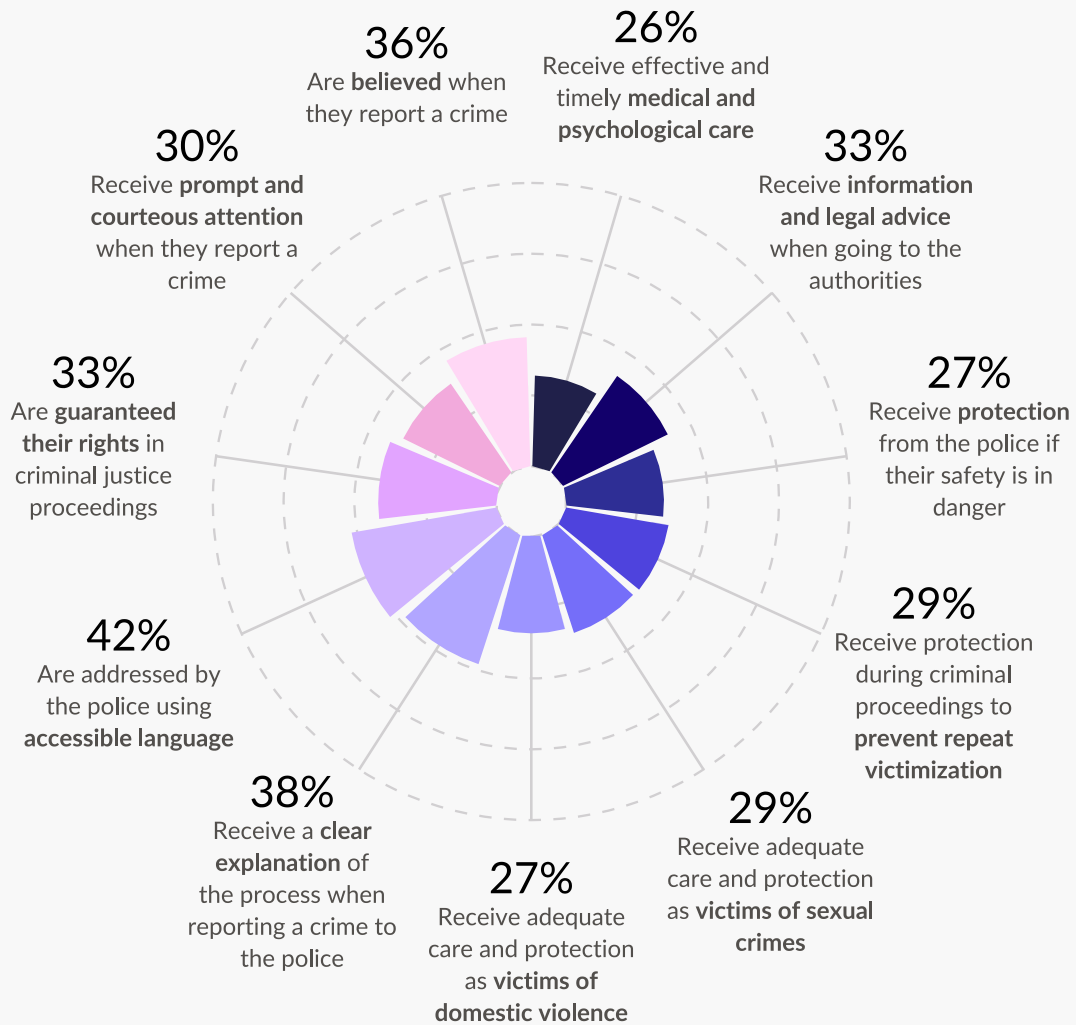
Source: WJP General Population Poll 2022

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

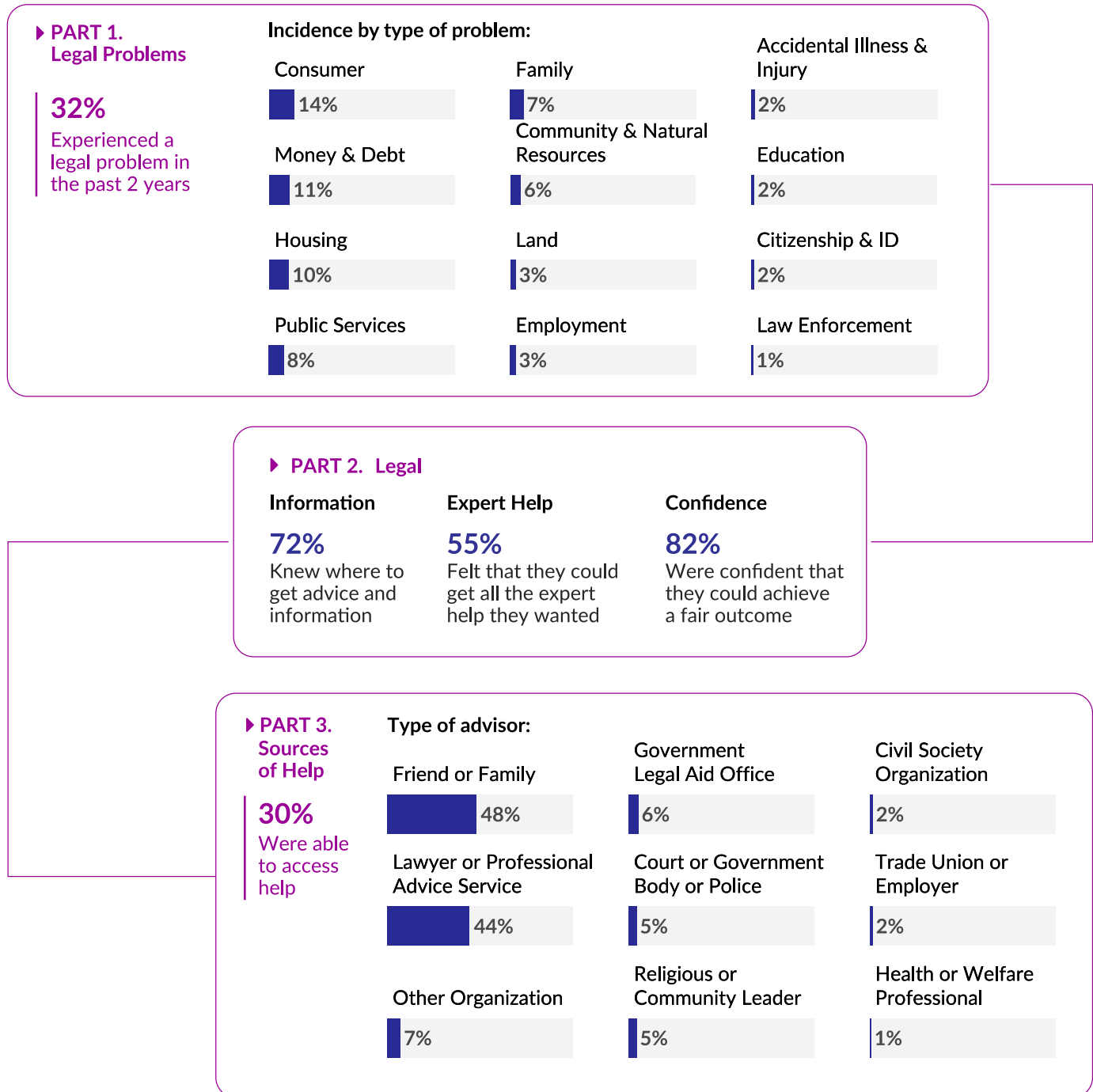
SECTION IV
ACCESS TO
JUSTICE

ACCESS TO JUSTICE JOURNEY

CHART 18

Justice Journey in Brazil

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



▶ **PART 4. Status**

Full Resolved

56%

Said the problem is fully resolved

Problem Persists

13%

Gave up any action to resolve the problem further

▶ **PART 6. Hardship**

52%

Experienced a hardship

Type of hardship:

Health

39%

Experienced a physical or stress-related illness

Economic

31%

Experienced loss of income, employment, or the need to relocate

Interpersonal

19%

Experienced a relationship breakdown or damage to a family relationship

Substance Abuse

4%

Experienced problems with alcohol or drugs

▶ **PART 5. Process**

Fair

72%

Felt that the process followed to resolve the problem was fair, regardless of the outcome

Time

On average, it took respondents

7.4 months

to solve the problem

Financial difficulty

16%

Said that it was difficult or nearly impossible to find the money required to solve the problem

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

Source: WJP General Population Poll 2022

PROJECT DESIGN

36 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 Brazil 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 Brazil was administered to a sample of 1,109 respondents.

Data Collection

The GPP in Brazil was conducted for the WJP's *The Rule of Law in Brazil: Key Findings from the General Population Poll 2022* with sampling, fieldwork, and data processing by About Brazil Market Research, based in Fortaleza, Brazil. About Brazil Market Research administered the surveys between June and August 2022, conducting face-to-face interviews using a multi-stage stratified random sampling design. The target population group for this survey included Brazilians aged 18 years or older residing across eight states throughout the country.

SAMPLE SIZE AND SAMPLE FRAME

The General Population Poll in Brazil represents an achieved total sample size of 1,109 interviews distributed proportionally across five regions. About Brazil Market Research based the sampling frame on the most recent population figures from the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE), acquiring a proportionally stratified sample by region, 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 Portuguese, can be found in the Appendix of this report.

SAMPLING

Regions and states were selected to achieve a nationally representative sample of the country. Within municipalities, census sectors were randomly selected, and the number of census sectors assigned to each municipality was proportionate to each municipality's population. Within each census sector, survey administrators performed a systematic random route based on listed addresses 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 regions to create a nationally representative sample. The majority of interviews (54%) took place in the Southeast region, followed by 21% in the Northeast, 15% in the South, 7% in the North, and 3% in the Midwest.

GEOGRAPHY: Fourteen percent (14%) of respondents resided in rural areas and municipalities, while 86% of respondents resided in metro areas or cities.

RACIAL AND ETHNIC

BACKGROUND: Forty-three percent (43%) of respondents identified themselves as White, followed by Mixed Race, (35%), and Black (20%).

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

EDUCATION: Most respondents (72%) reported that they had received at least a high school diploma or vocational degree, and the remaining 28% of respondents received up to a middle school diploma.

RESPONSE RATES

Eligible household, non-interview	393
Refusals	58
Break-off	133
Non-contact	202

INTERVIEWING AND QUALITY CONTROL

In total, 87 interviewers worked on this project, including 47 female interviewers. Enumerators worked in 18 groups of four to five interviewers. Interviews were conducted in Portuguese.

The supervisory team directly oversaw 11% of all interviews in the field. During data processing, 160 interviews (approximately 14% of the sample) were selected for audio review by local supervision teams and 194 (approximately 18% of the sample) were selected for audio review by the central office. All interviews under 30 minutes were reviewed in full and disqualified if not properly conducted. After quality control, 180 interviews were rejected from the final sample. Interviews averaged 45 minutes in length and ranged from 28 to 101 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 Brazil 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 Brazil'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 Argentina was collected in 2016, 2018, and 2022. Data for Brazil was collected in 2014, 2017, and 2022. Data for Paraguay was collected in 2021.

ADDITIONAL COUNTRIES

The Rule of Law in Brazil: Key Findings from the General Population Poll 2022 includes comparisons to the following Southern Cone countries surveyed by the World Justice Project during the same period: Argentina and Paraguay. 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

40 Appendix

41 About the WJP

42 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

For more information or to read these reports, visit worldjusticeproject.org/our-work



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Project**