



World Justice
Project

The Rule of Law in Trinidad & Tobago

Key Findings from the
World Justice Project General Population Poll

2016

Acknowledgements

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About this Report

About this Report

Strengthening the rule of law is an important objective for citizens, governments, donors, and civil society organizations around the world. To be effective, however, strengthening the rule of law requires clarity about the fundamental features of the rule of law as well as a sound methodology for its evaluation and measurement. This report presents select findings from the World Justice Project General Population Poll, conducted in Trinidad and Tobago between July 13 and July 31, 2016.

The General Population Poll was conducted through face-to-face interviews in 1,008 urban households distributed proportionally across the three largest cities in Trinidad and Tobago. This poll was designed to capture data on the experiences and perceptions of ordinary people on a variety of themes related to the rule of law, including government accountability, bribery and corruption, crime, and access to justice.

This report represents the voices of people in Trinidad and Tobago 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 seven thematic briefs, each one highlighting a different facet of the rule of law as it is experienced by the population in Trinidad and Tobago. These briefs touch upon issues of trust, corruption, fundamental rights, crime, and dispute resolution. The thematic briefs are designed to call attention to Trinidad and Tobago's situation from a national perspective, while simultaneously illuminating comparisons to high income and Caribbean peer countries.

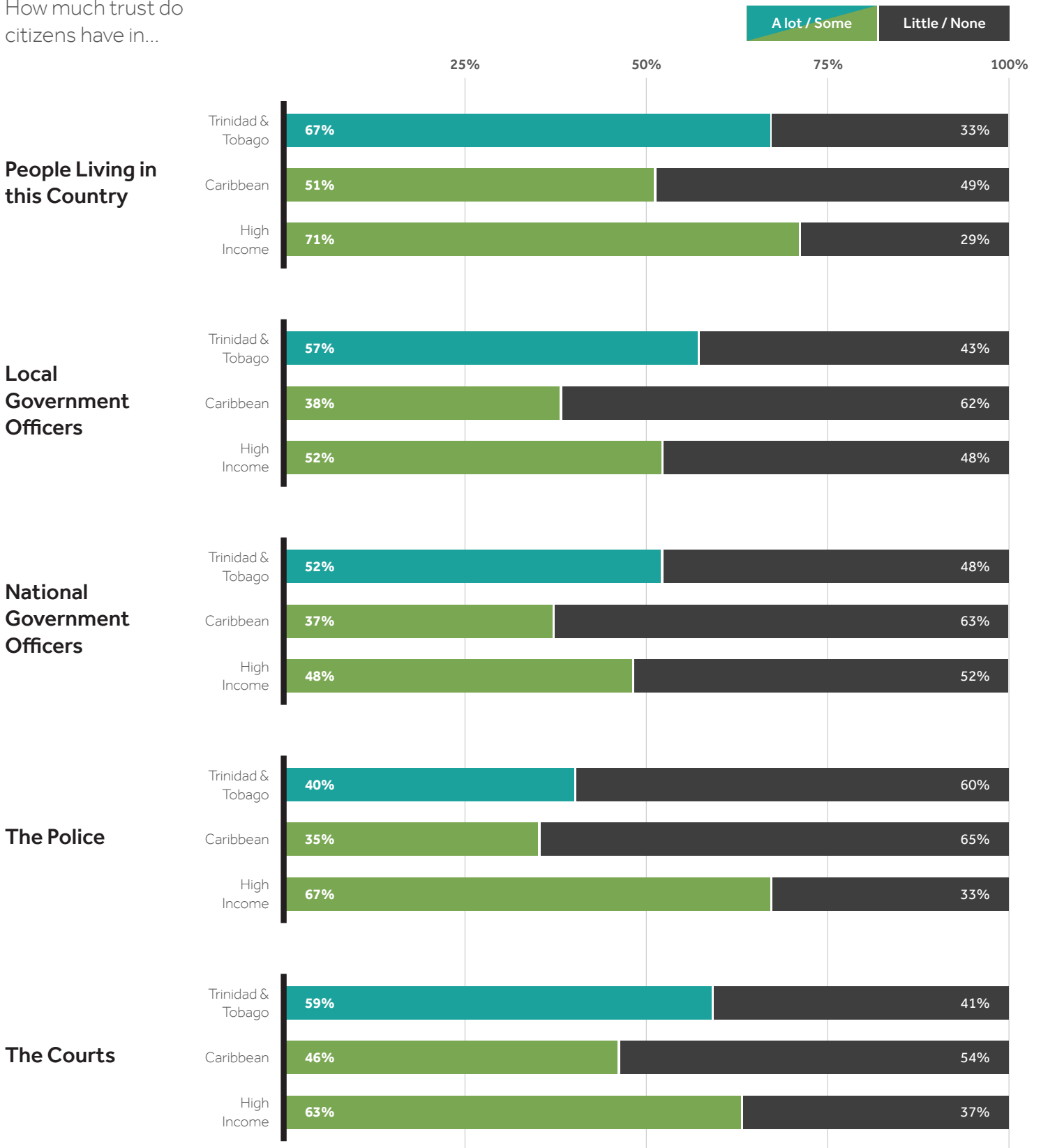
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II

Thematic Findings

Trust in Trinidad & Tobago

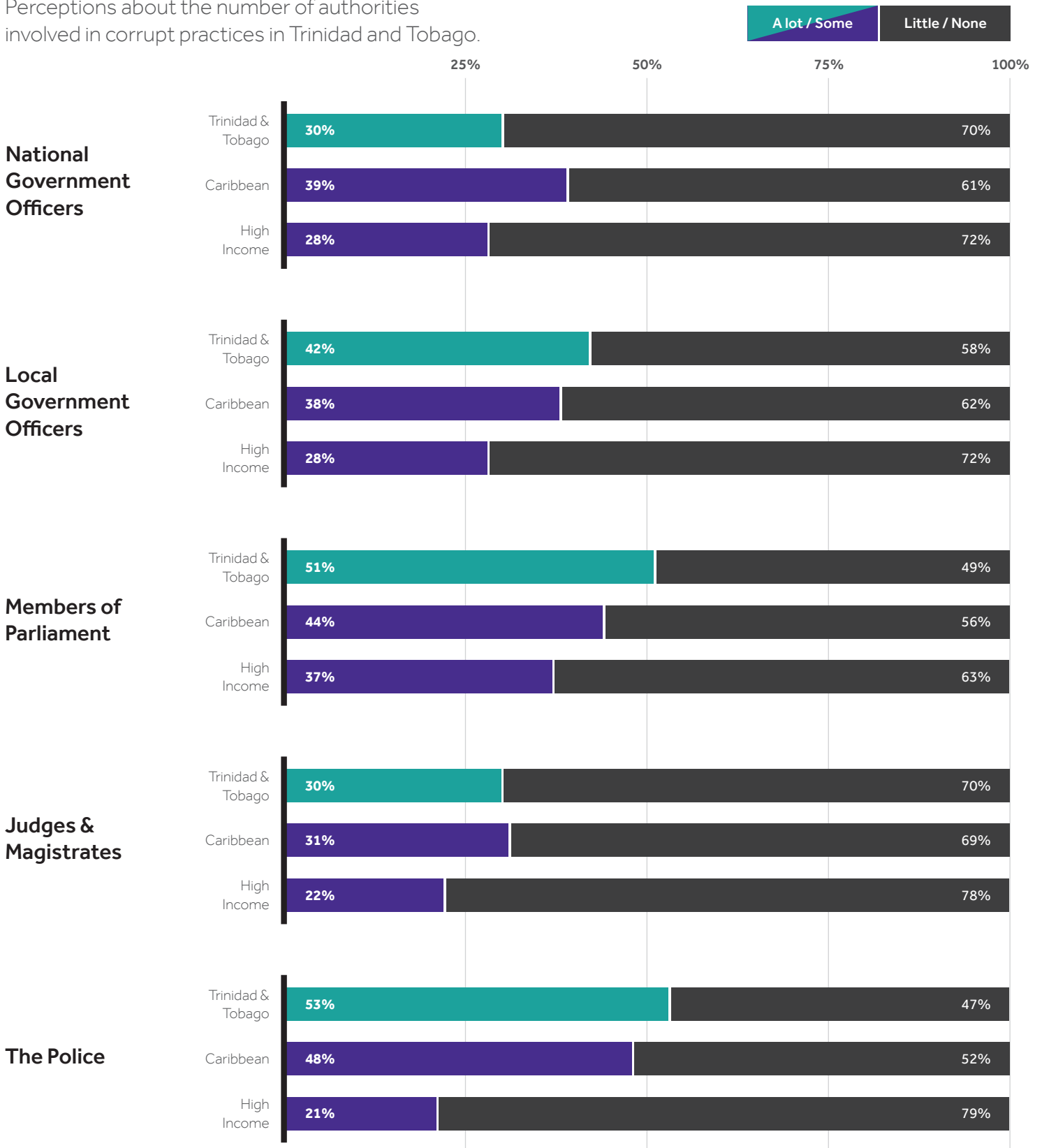
How much trust do citizens have in...



Source: WJP General Population Poll 2014 & 2016

Corruption Across Institutions

Perceptions about the number of authorities involved in corrupt practices in Trinidad and Tobago.



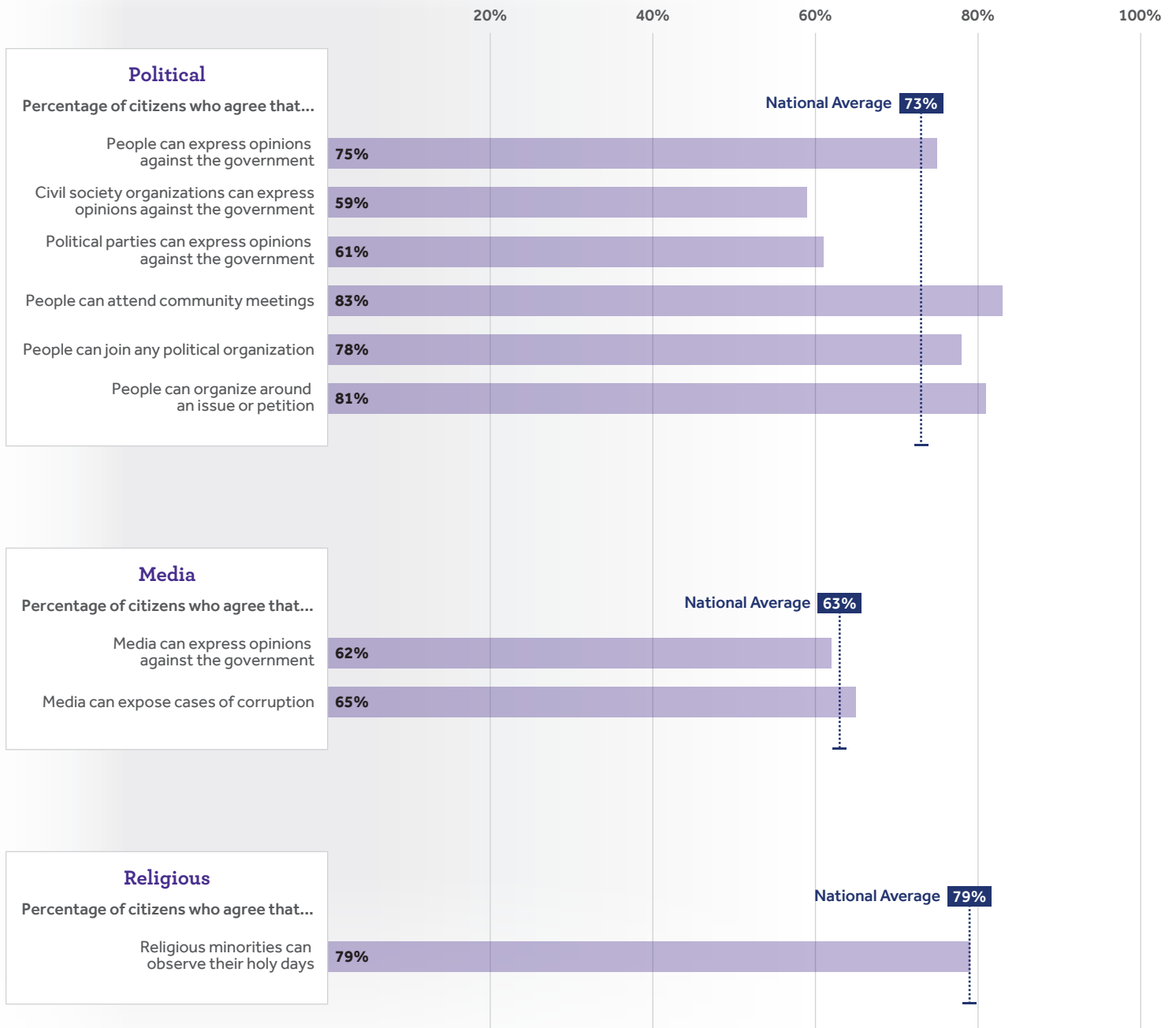
Bribery Victimization in the Caribbean

Percentage of citizens who were required to pay a bribe to...

	Receive Treatment at a Public Hospital	A Police Officer	Process a Government Permit	Obtain Information from the Government
Antigua & Barbuda	8%	6%	6%	12%
Bahamas	12%	18%	15%	8%
Barbados	1%	2%	4%	3%
Dominica	6%	13%	7%	3%
Dominican Republic	15%	48%	29%	21%
Grenada	3%	1%	4%	0%
Guyana	6%	45%	23%	6%
Jamaica	4%	11%	13%	7%
St. Kitts & Nevis	3%	6%	2%	0%
St. Lucia	6%	12%	5%	4%
St. Vincent & the Grenadines	4%	8%	12%	10%
Suriname	9%	10%	9%	0%
Trinidad & Tobago	4%	18%	11%	2%
Caribbean Average	6%	18%	11%	6%

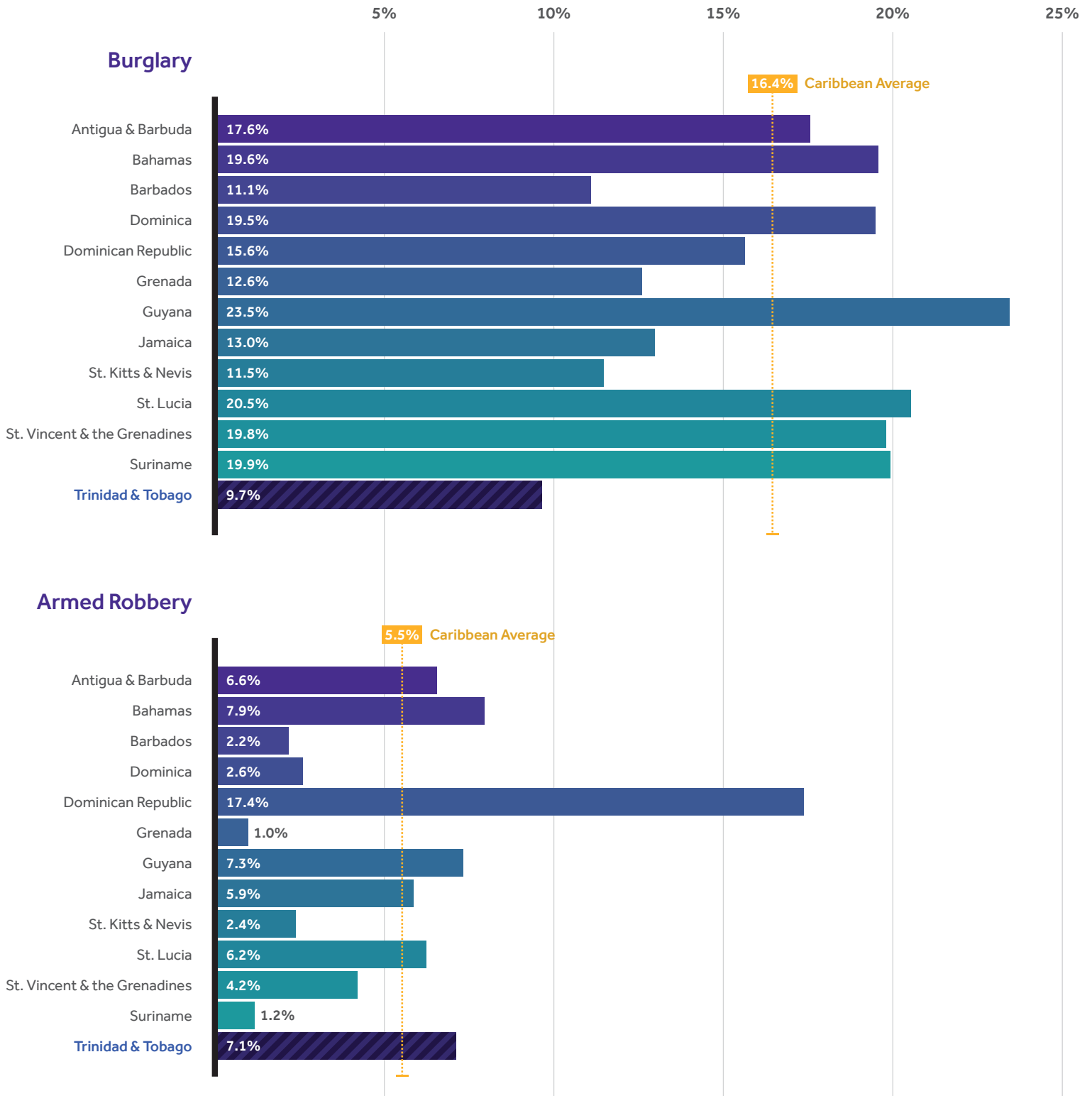
Perceptions of Fundamental Freedoms

Citizens' views on political, media, and religious freedoms in Trinidad and Tobago.



Crime Victimization in the Caribbean

Percentage of households that have been victims of burglary or armed robbery in the last three years.

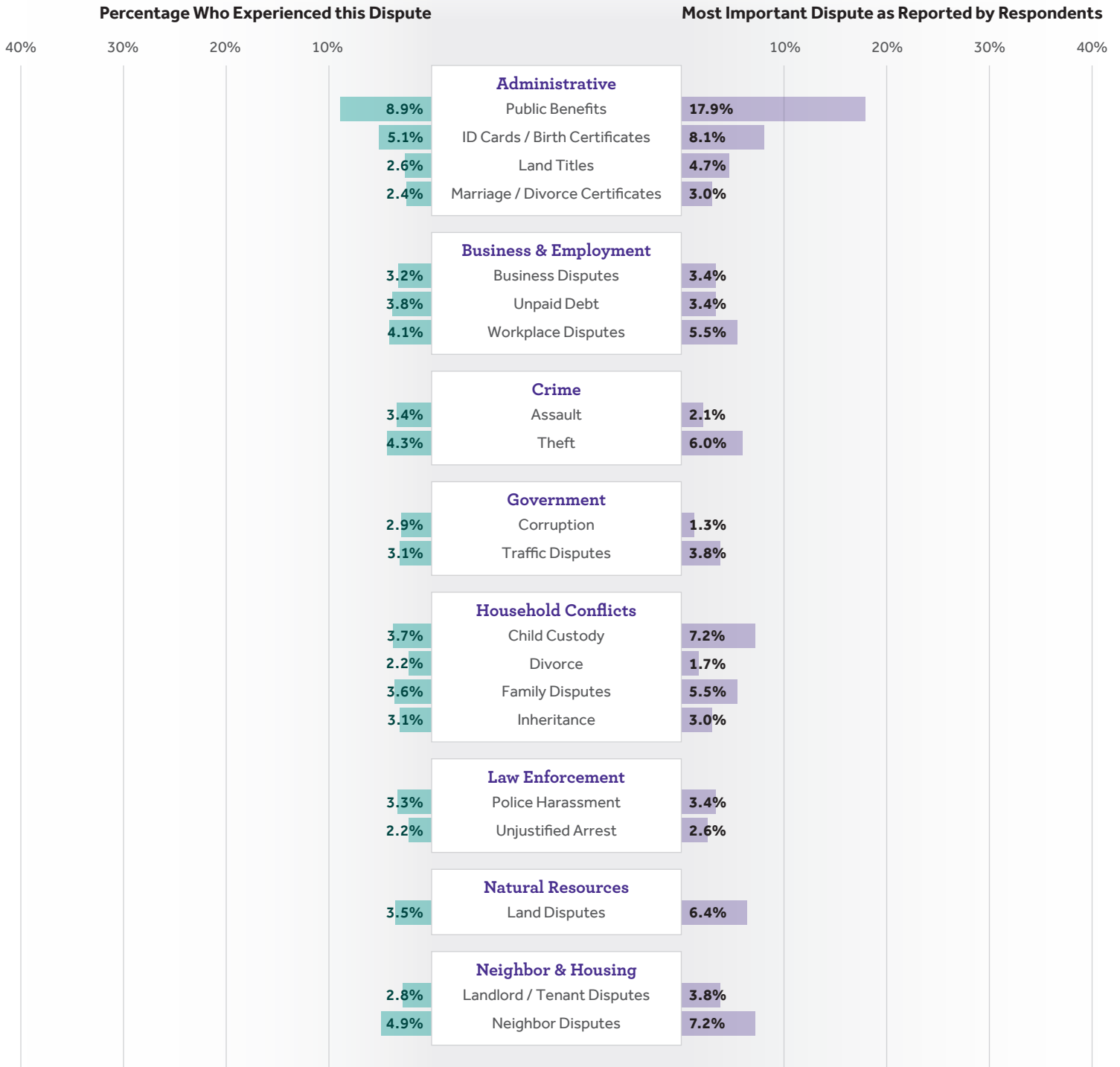


Dispute Resolution in Trinidad & Tobago

Dispute Types

Most common and most important disputes experienced in the last 12 months.

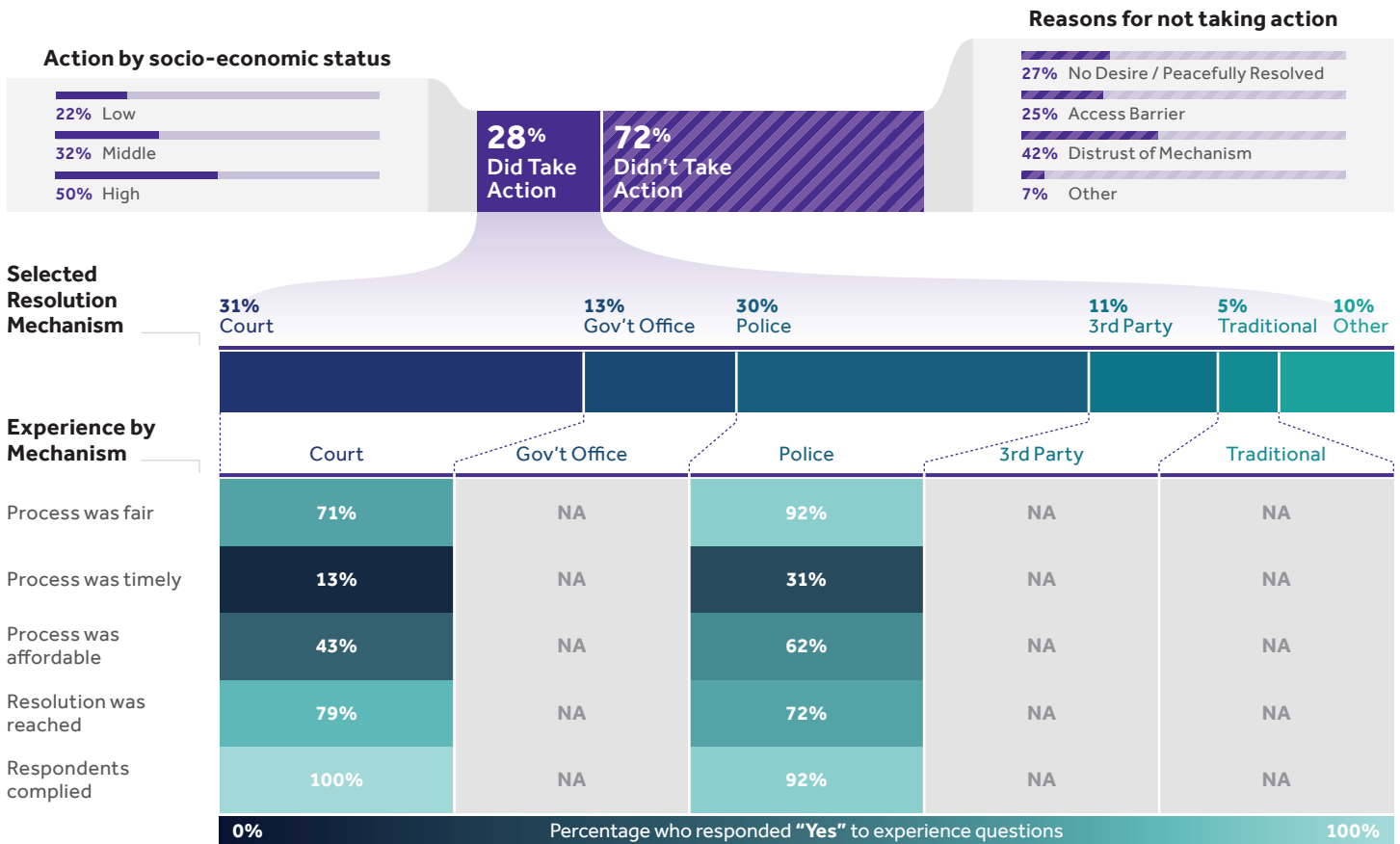
26% of respondents experienced a dispute in the last 12 months.



Dispute Resolution in Trinidad & Tobago

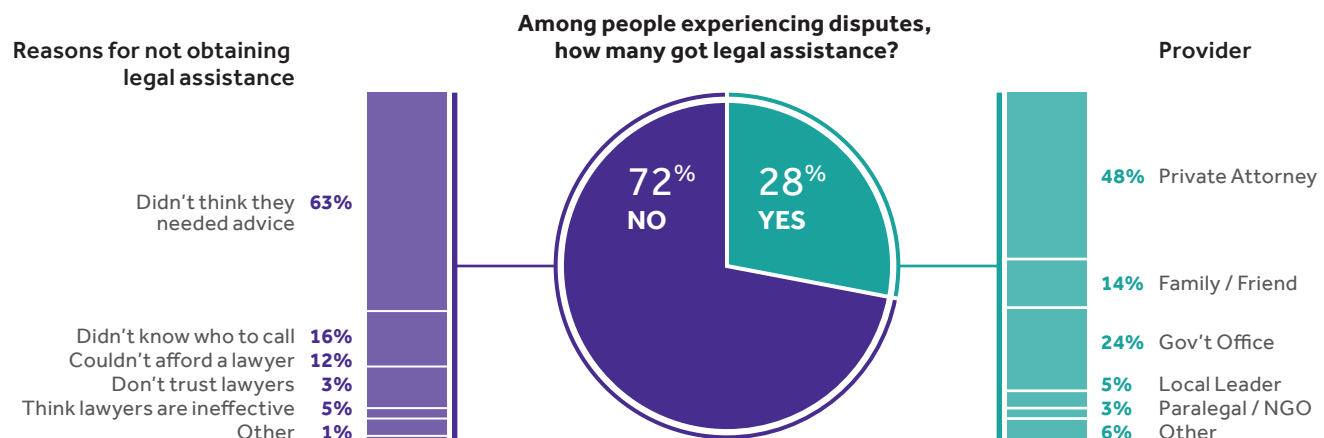
Action to Resolve Disputes

Percentage of respondents who took action to resolve their dispute, their selected dispute resolution mechanism, and experience with each.



Legal Assistance

Percentage of respondents who received legal assistance, the most common legal assistance providers, and reasons for not obtaining legal assistance.



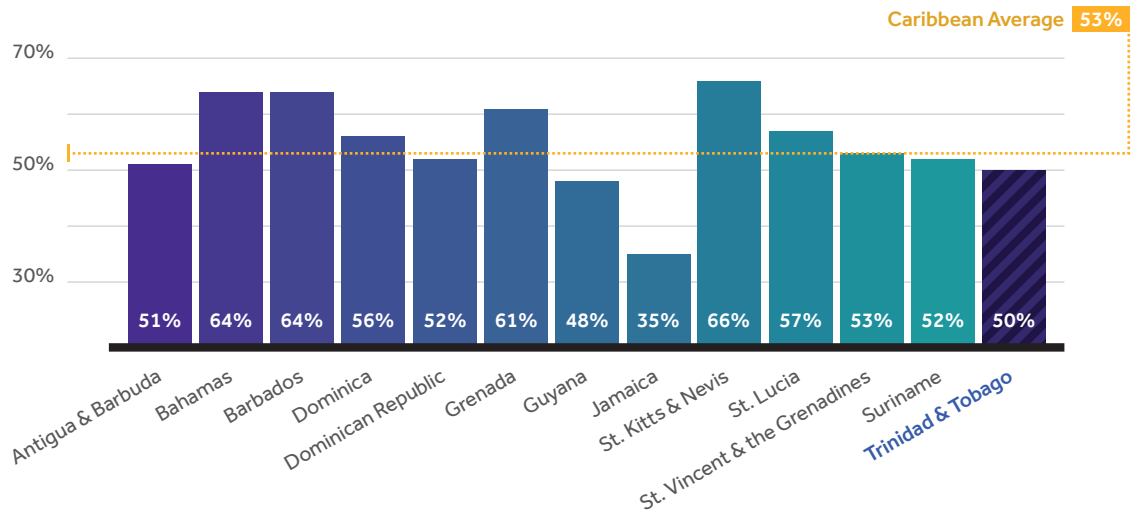
Note: Calculations based on fewer than 10 responses were excluded (NA). Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Perceptions of Police Performance in the Caribbean

Percentage of respondents who believe that...

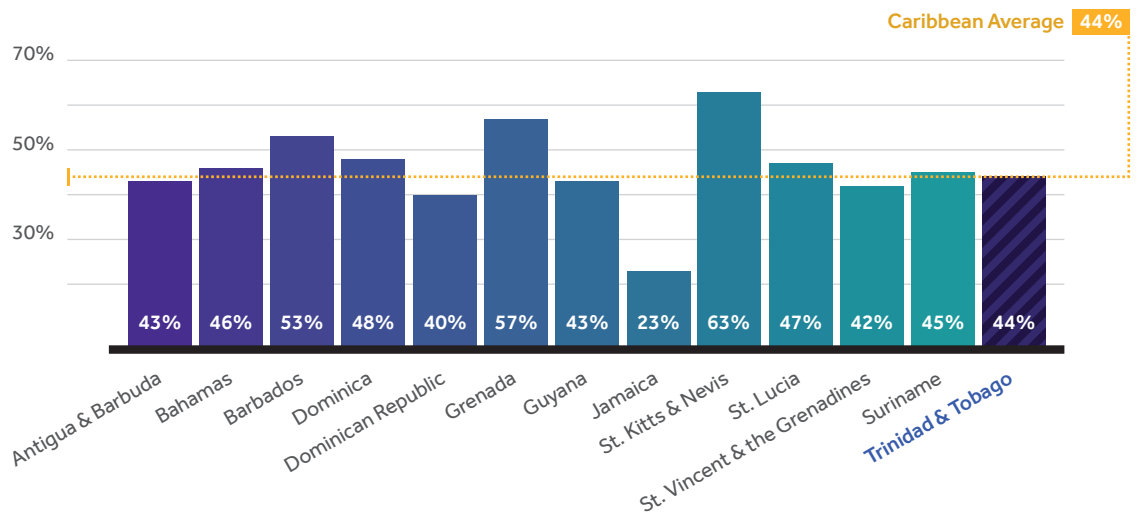
Police Act According to the Law

% Responding Always & Often



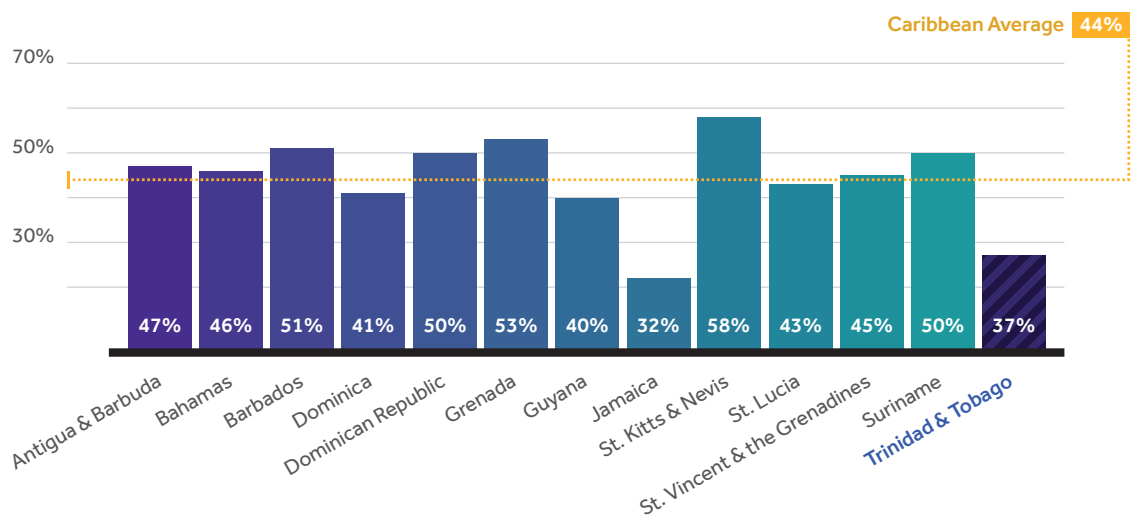
Police Respect Suspects' Basic Rights

% Responding Always & Often



Police Are Punished When They Violate the Law

% Responding Always & Often



Source: WJP General Population Poll 2014 & 2016

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Project Design

General Population Poll Methodology

The General Population Poll in Trinidad and Tobago was conducted for the *World Justice Project Rule of Law Index®* with sampling, fieldwork, and data processing by CID Gallup Latin America, based in Costa Rica. The survey fieldwork was conducted face-to-face between July 13 and July 31, 2016. The target populations for this survey were men and women, aged 18+, living in the three main urban areas of Chaguanas, San Fernando, and Port of Spain.

Sample Size & Sample Frame

The achieved sample size was 1,008 interviews distributed proportionally in the three main urban areas of Chaguanas, San Fernando, and Port of Spain. The sampling frame was comprised of the updated population figures from the 2011 census. The sample was proportionally stratified by city.

Descriptions of the Sample

City: Interviews were conducted in the three largest cities in Trinidad and Tobago, which are Chaguanas, San Fernando, and Port of Spain. The most interviews were conducted in Chaguanas (39%), then San Fernando (32%), and then Port of Spain (28%).

Ethnicity: Most respondents identified themselves as African (40%), Indian (39%), or Mixed (21%).

Gender: 50% of respondents were male and 50% were female.

Education: Most respondents (72%) reported that they had received a high school diploma or equivalent.

Sampling

Neighborhoods were the primary sampling unit, and were selected using probability proportionate to size systematic sampling. Within the selected neighborhoods, a systematic random route was performed to sample households, and the eligible adult within a household who was the last to celebrate a birthday was selected to participate in the survey.

Interviewing & Quality Control

A total of 14 interviewers worked on this project, including 13 female interviewers. All interviews were conducted in English. A total of 25% of interviews were back-checked by the central office. No questionnaires were rejected from the final sample for quality control reasons. A total of three contacts were attempted per respondent.

General Population Poll Methodology

Additional Countries

The report includes comparisons to high income and Caribbean peer countries previously surveyed by the World Justice Project. These countries are: Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bahamas, Barbados, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guyana, Hong Kong SAR China, Hungary, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Sweden, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States, and Uruguay. The countries listed above are a portion of the 113 countries included in the *World Justice Project Rule of Law Index 2016* report. The surveys in these additional countries are administered using a probability sample of 1,000 respondents in the three largest cities of each country. Detailed information regarding the methodology of the *WJP Rule of Law Index* is available at: www.worldjusticeproject.org.

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IV

Appendix

Appendix

Survey Instrument

General Population Poll

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

[World Justice Project General Population Poll 2016 – Survey Instrument](#)



**World Justice
Project**

About the World Justice Project

The World Justice Project® (WJP) is an independent, multidisciplinary organization working to advance the rule of law around the world. The WJP engages citizens and leaders from across the globe and from multiple work disciplines to advance the rule of law. Our work is founded on two premises: 1) the rule of law is the foundation of communities of peace, opportunity, and equity; and 2) multidisciplinary collaboration is the most effective way to advance the rule of law. Based on this, WJP's mutually-reinforcing lines of business – Research and Scholarship, the **WJP Rule of Law Index®**, and Engagement – employ a multi-disciplinary, multi-layered approach through original research and data, an active and global network, and practical, on-the-ground programs to advance the rule of law.