GLOBAL CORRUPTION BAROMETER 10TH EDITION

LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN 2019

Conducted between January and March 2019, this is the **largest, most detailed survey of citizens' views on corruption and experiences of bribery** in Latin America and the Caribbean. It provides a snapshot of how ordinary people are experiencing the pervasive perpetuation of grand corruption across the region. Citizens think corruption is on the rise and show an overwhelming desire to tackle it.

17,000+ CITIZENS INTERVIEWED

18 COUNTRIES SURVEYED

CORRUPTION ON THE RISE

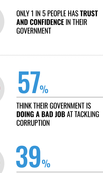
53% THINK **CORRUPTION INCREASED** IN THE PREVIOUS 12 MONTHS

16% THINK **CORRUPTION DECREASED**

29% THINK CORRUPTION **STAYED THE SAME**

CORRUPTION BY INSTITUTION*

*Percentage of citizens who think most or all people in the following institutions are corrupt



GOVERNMENT & CORRUPTION

85% THINK GOVERNMENT CORRUPTION IS A **BIG PROBLEM**

13% THINK GOVERNMENT CORRUPTION IS **NOT A PROBLEM OR A SMALL PROBLEM**

ONLY 1 IN 5 PEOPLE HAS **TRUST AND CONFIDENCE** IN THEIR GOVERNMENT

57% THINK THEIR GOVERNMENT IS **DOING A BAD JOB** AT TACKLING CORRUPTION

39% THINK THEIR GOVERNMENT IS **DOING WELL** AT TACKLING CORRUPTION

WOMEN AND CORRUPTION

As primary caretakers for their families, women are often dependent on public services, which also makes them more vulnerable to certain types of bribery.

WOMEN ARE MORE LIKELY TO PAY BRIBES FOR **HEALTH SERVICES** AND **PUBLIC SCHOOL EDUCATION**

POORER WOMEN ARE MORE VULNERABLE TO PAYING BRIBES FOR COURT SERVICES COMPARED TO WEALTHIER WOMEN

1 IN 5 PEOPLE **EXPERIENCES SEXTORTION** OR KNOWS SOMEONE WHO HAS

71% THINK **SEXTORTION HAPPENS** AT LEAST **OCCASIONALLY**

POLITICAL INTEGRITY

1 IN 4 PEOPLE **HAVE BEEN OFFERED BRIBES** IN EXCHANGE FOR VOTES

56% THINK **FAKE NEWS** OFTEN SPREADS AROUND ELECTIONS

65% THINK THEIR GOVERNMENT IS RUN BY **PRIVATE INTERESTS**

BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION

MORE THAN 1 IN 5 PEOPLE WHO USED A PUBLIC SERVICE IN THE PREVIOUS 12 MONTHS **PAID A BRIBE**

THIS IS EQUIVALENT TO APPROXIMATELY **56 MILLION** PEOPLE

BRIBERY RATES BY COUNTRY*

*Percentage of people who paid a bribe in the previous 12 months

HIGHEST

VENEZUELA 50% · **MEXICO 34%** · **PERU 30%**

LOWEST

COSTA RICA 7% · **BARBADOS 9%** · **BRAZIL 11%**

BRIBERY RATES BY SERVICE*

*Percentage of people who used these services and paid a bribe in the previous 12 months

TAKING ACTION

NEARLY **3/4** THINK PEOPLE WILL **SUFFER RETALIATION** IF THEY REPORT CORRUPTION

This is especially true for citizens in **El Salvador, Honduras, Jamaica** and **Venezuela**

77% THINK **ORDINARY PEOPLE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE** IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION

This is especially true for citizens in the **Bahamas, Guyana** and **Panama**

RECOMMENDATIONS

The work changing political environments and high profile corruption scandals remind us that even in the region, leaders need to fight corruption and strengthen institutions.

GOVERNMENTS SHOULD:

- **ELECTORAL INTEGRITY** — Ensure the integrity of political parties and elections and ban bribery
- **POLITICAL FINANCING** — Ensure disclosure of political party and political candidates' finances and campaigns
- **PUBLIC SERVICES** — Improve efficiency of public services and simplify procedures for citizens to access services.
- **COURTS** — Guarantee non-political appointments, appointments.
- **REPORTING** — Ensure whistleblowers, civil society and journalists can report corruption without retaliation and report corruption.
- **SEXTORTION** — Recognise sextortion as a form of corruption and ensure victim-centered laws that uphold rights to address these cases.
- **COMMITMENTS** — Implement and report progress towards the Lima Commitment Democracy Charter (Organization of the Americas).

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Read the full report at anticorrupcion.pri.org/GCB19lac

Speak out on social media

Contact your local chapter to see how you can help

Through chapters in more than 100 countries and an international secretariat in Berlin, Transparency International has been leading the fight against corruption for the last 25 years.

Join our efforts at transparency.org

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