Preliminary Analysis of the AmericasBarometer

Haiti 2017

August 16, 2017

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Structure of the report

1. Background Information
   a) LAPOP’s AmericasBarometer and the Haiti National Survey

2. Preliminary results for AmericasBarometer standard indicators and specific indicators for Haiti, with comparisons over time
   a) The most important problem facing the country
   b) Perceptions of the economy
   c) Crime victimization and insecurity perceptions
   d) Perceptions of the police and community-police relations
   e) Corruption victimization and perceptions of corruption and of anti-corruption agencies
   f) Perceptions of and experiences with local government and public services
   g) Perceptions of freedom of speech and elections
   h) The political culture of democracy in Haiti in 2017
Explanation of the graphs

- Each point estimate of a value (average or percentage) is based on a 95 percent confidence interval, which is expressed using confidence intervals around each value. These estimates take into account the complex sample design, including stratification and clustering.
  - When two estimates have significantly overlapping confidence intervals, the difference between those two values is typically not statistically significant (that is, the values are not differentiable from one another).

- The results shown and analyzed in this report are based on a preliminary version of the 2017 AmericasBarometer study in Haiti.

- The analysis also makes use of the entire AmericasBarometer Haiti time series.
The AmericasBarometer

- The only comparative survey that includes North, Central, and South America and broad coverage of the Caribbean
- Typical minimum of 1,500 interviews per country
- Nationally representative
- Urban and rural areas
- Face-to-face interviews in 8 languages
- Electronic questionnaires used in 100% of countries
- Multiple pilot studies

2016/7: 29 countries ~42,500 interviews
Our Partners in the Region
2017 AmericasBarometer Haiti National Survey

- 2,221 interviews
- Pretest: March 27 - 28, 2017
- Fieldwork: April 18 – June 2, 2017
- Data collected using electronic devices and paper questionnaires
The economy is the most important problem in Haiti

Main Findings

• Over half of Haitians reported the economy as the most important problem, including 28% who pointed to unemployment as their most serious concern

• 40% of Haitians report they are actively looking for a job in 2017

• 4 in 5 Haitians report that the national economic situation is worse than it was 12 months ago

• 81% believe the national economy has worsened in 2017 and 70% think the same about their personal economic situation
The economy (particularly unemployment) is perceived as the most serious problem in Haiti in 2017. However, the percentage of people who reported “the economy” as the most important problem has decreased from 63% in 2014 to 53% in 2017.

A4. In your opinion, what is the most serious problem faced by the country?
40% of Haitians report they are actively looking for a job in 2017 (the highest unemployment rate reported in the AmericasBarometer)

Only 23% report they are currently working. That is 10 percentage points lower than in 2014.

OCUP4A. How do you mainly spend your time? Are you currently: (1) Working? (2) Not working, but have a job? (3) Actively looking for a job? (4) A student? (5) Taking care of the home? (6) Retired, a pensioner or permanently disabled to work, or (7) Not working and not looking for a job?
Unemployment is more of an issue in an area around Port-au-Prince, with over 1 person out of 2 actively looking for a job.

![Bar chart showing unemployment rates by primary strata]

- Metropolitan Area: 52.1%
- Northern: 25.9%
- Central: 35.5%
- Rest of West: 56.8%
- Southern: 34.6%

Source: AmericasBarometer, LAPOP, 2017; v-HTits_D1
4 in 5 Haitians report that the national economic situation is worse than it was 12 months ago, nearly double 2014

Only 4% think that the economic situation in Haiti has improved

SOCT2. Do you think that the country's current economic situation is better than, the same as or worse than it was 12 months ago?
Haitians living in the South have the most negative perception of the national economy.
70% of Haitians report that their personal economic situation is worse, a significant increase from 2014.

Only 7% think that their personal situation in Haiti has improved.

IDIO2. Do you think that your economic situation is better than, the same as, or worse than it was 12 months ago?
Personal finances by region

Percent Reporting Personal Economy is Worse

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Primary Strata</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Metropolitan Area</td>
<td>70.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern</td>
<td>69.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central</td>
<td>62.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rest of West</td>
<td>74.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern</td>
<td>74.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

95% Confidence Interval (with Design-Effects)

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP, 2017, v:HTIt3_D1
73% report that their household income has decreased over the last two years, a significant increase from 2014.

The percentage of Haitians reporting a decline in their household income has nearly doubled since 2010.

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP, 2006-2017; v.HAIts_D1

Q10E. Over the past two years, has the income of your household: increased, remained the same, or decreased?
Haitians living in and around Port-au-Prince report the most important decline in household income.
Despite a negative economic outlook, reconstruction efforts have paid off

Main Findings

• The number of homes connected to public electricity network has constantly increased since 2010

• In 2017, the number of homes equipped with an indoor bathroom has surpassed the pre-earthquake level
Nearly three quarters of homes are connected to the public electricity network.

Yet, the average number of hours per day with electricity has declined substantially.
2 homes out of 5 are now equipped with indoor bathrooms

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP, 2006-2017; v.HAlts_D1
Crime and Attitudes toward the Judicial System and Police

Main findings:

• More than 2 in 5 persons reported being a crime victim
• 55% feel very or somewhat unsafe in their neighborhood, an increase in comparison to 2014 (40%)
• Most Haitians (63%) strongly agree that, in order to reduce crime, penalties for criminals need to increase
• 29% have no faith that the judicial system punishes the guilty, while 16% have a lot of faith in the judicial system, in 2017
• Confidence that the judicial system will punish the guilty increased in 2017 (58°), compared to 2014 (45°)
• Confidence in the police decreased in 2017
• More Haitians report slower (or no) police response in 2017, as compared to 2014
Reports of crime victimization increased in 2017: More than 1 in 5 persons reported being a crime victim.

Crime victimization experience rates returned to about the levels detected in 2010 and 2012.

**VIC1EXT.** Now, changing the subject, have you been a victim of any type of crime in the past 12 months? That is, have you been a victim of robbery, burglary, assault, fraud, blackmail, extortion, violent threats or any other type of crime in the past 12 months?
Those who are male, more education, younger (esp. 26-45), and wealthier report greater rates of crime victimization

VIC1EXT. Now, changing the subject, have you been a victim of any type of crime in the past 12 months? That is, have you been a victim of robbery, burglary, assault, fraud, blackmail, extortion, violent threats or any other type of crime in the past 12 months? [No differences by urban vs. rural place of residence]
55% feel very or somewhat unsafe in their neighborhood

Insecurity has increased:
In 2012 and 2014, 40% reported feeling very or somewhat unsafe

AOJ11. Speaking of the neighbourhood where you live and thinking of the possibility of being assaulted or robbed, do you feel very safe, somewhat safe, somewhat unsafe or very unsafe?
Percentage that feels very or somewhat unsafe, over time

AOJ11. Speaking of the neighbourhood where you live and thinking of the possibility of being assaulted or robbed, do you feel very safe, somewhat safe, somewhat unsafe or very unsafe?
In Haiti in 2017, men and those in rural areas report feeling very or somewhat unsafe to a greater degree.

There are no statistically differences by wealth, education, or age; note that the difference for gender is significant only at p<0.07.
Although those living in the Southern region are somewhat less likely to report experiences with crime victimization, they are more likely to report feeling very or somewhat unsafe.

VIC1EXT. Now, changing the subject, have you been a victim of any type of crime in the past 12 months? That is, have you been a victim of robbery, burglary, assault, fraud, blackmail, extortion, violent threats or any other type of crime in the past 12 months? [No differences by urban vs. rural place of residence]
Most Haitians strongly agree that, in order to reduce crime, penalties for criminals need to increase.

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP, 2017; v.HTIts_D1
29% have no faith that the judicial system punishes the guilty, while 16% have a lot of faith in the judicial system, in 2017.

Confidence that Judiciary will Punish the Guilty

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP, 2017; v.HTIts_D1

AOJ12. If you were a victim of a robbery or assault how much faith do you have that the judicial system would punish the guilty?
Confidence that the judicial system will punish the guilty increased in 2017, compared to 2014.

AOJ12. If you were a victim of a robbery or assault how much faith do you have that the judicial system would punish the guilty? Responses scaled from 0 to 100 degrees of confidence.

Survey Wave

Degrees of Confidence Guilty will be Punished

- 2006: 51.3
- 2008: 48.2
- 2010: 40.2
- 2012: 37.5
- 2014: 52.6
- 2016/17: 41.8

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP
However, confidence in the police decreased in 2017, returning to a level detected in 2006.

B18. To what extent do you trust the National Police? Responses on a 7-point scale from “not at all” to “a lot” rescaled from 0 to 100 degrees of confidence.
More Haitians report slower (or no) police response times in 2017, as compared to 2014

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP, 2017; v.HTIts_D1

Infrax. Suppose someone enters your home to burglarize it and you call the police. How long do you think it would take the police to arrive at your house on a typical day around noon?
Corruption

Main Findings

• 54% of Haitians believe more than half, or all, politicians are involved in corruption

• Reports of experiences with bribe solicitation (corruption victimization) by the police remain low (<7%)

• Men, those with more education, those who are below 55, and those who are wealthy are more often asked for a bribe by police

• Corruption victimization by police is higher in the Central and Southern parts of the country
54% of Haitians believe more than half, or all, politicians are involved in corruption

In comparison to other countries, 54% is low:
Out of 22 countries in which this question was asked in 2016/17, in only 5 countries does a lower proportion of individuals feel that more than half, or all, are corrupt.

EXC7NEW. Thinking of politicians in [country], how many do you believe are involved in corruption?
Reports of experiences with bribe solicitation (corruption victimization) by the police remain low

EXC2. Has a police officer asked you for a bribe in the last twelve months?
Men, those with more education, those who are below 55, and those who are wealthy are more often asked for a bribe by police.

EXC2. Has a police officer asked you for a bribe in the last twelve months?

There are no significant differences by urban vs. rural place of residence.
Corruption victimization by police is higher in the Central and Southern parts of the country.

EXC2. Has a police officer asked you for a bribe in the last twelve months?
Reports of experiences with bribe solicitation (corruption victimization) at work remain low

EXC6. In the last twelve months, did any government employee ask you for a bribe?
Satisfaction with Government and Services

Main findings:

• 26% evaluate the president as doing “well”; 12% report the same about parliament. The modal response for both questions is “neither well nor poorly.”

• Trust in the President (57°), Parliament (27°), and Local Government (33°) decreased in 2017 relative to recent prior years.

• The percentage of those satisfied with public schools and health services decreased in 2017, vs. recent prior years.

• The percentage of those satisfied with local roads stayed fairly constant between 2014 (32%) and 2017 (34%).
26% evaluate the president as doing “well”; 12% report the same about parliament. The modal response for both questions is “neither well nor poorly”

M1. Speaking in general of the current administration, how would you rate the job performance of President Jocelerme Privert?

M2. Now speaking of Congress/Parliament, and thinking of members/senators and representatives as a whole, without considering the political parties to which they belong, do you believe that the members/senators and representatives of Congress/Parliament are performing their jobs: very well, well, neither well nor poorly, poorly, or very poorly?
2017 levels of trust in the President (57°), Parliament (27°), and Local Government (33°) are lower than recent prior years.

The percentage of those satisfied with public schools and health services decreased in 2017, vs. recent prior years.

And thinking of where you live... **SD2NEW2**. Are you very satisfied, satisfied, dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied with the condition of the streets, roads, and highways? **SD3NEW2**. And with the quality of public schools? **SD6NEW2**. And with the quality of public medical and health services? Variable coded so that satisfied and very satisfied = 1, else 0, so chart shows % of those who are satisfied or very satisfied.
The percentage of those satisfied with public health services decreased in 2017, vs. recent prior years.
The percentage of those satisfied with public schools decreased in 2017, vs. recent prior years.

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP, 2017: v.HTits.D1
The percentage of those satisfied with local roads stayed fairly constant between 2014 and 2017.

And thinking of where you live... SD2NEW2. Are you very satisfied, satisfied, dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied with the condition of the streets, roads, and highways? SD3NEW2. And with the quality of public medical and health services? Variable coded so that satisfied and very dissatisfied = 1, else 0, so chart shows % of those who are satisfied or very satisfied.
Press Freedom

Main findings:

• Haitians are evenly divided over whether there is very little, enough, or too much freedom of the press and freedom of expression

• Most Haitians believe there is very little freedom to discuss political opinions without fear

• 79.5% of Haitians believe that there is very little protection of human rights

• More educated, wealthier Haitians are more likely to believe that the media is controlled by a small group of elites

• Trust in the media has not changed significantly since 2012

• Poorer Haitians and those in the North are less likely to trust the media
Haitians are evenly divided over whether there is very little, sufficient, or too much freedom of the press and expression.

**LIB1.** Do you believe that now in the country we have very little, enough or too much Freedom of the press?

**LIB2B.** And Freedom of expression? Do we have very little, enough, or too much?
48% feel free there is too little freedom to express political opinions without fear, and 79.5% feel there is very little protection of human rights

LIB2C. And Freedom to express political opinions without fear? Do we have very little, enough, or too much?

LIB4. Protection of human rights? Do we have very little, enough, or too much?

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP, 2017; v.HAITI_D1
Highly educated, wealthier, rural, and younger Haitians are less likely to think the media represents different opinions.

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP, 2017; v.HAITI_D1
Haitians in metropolitan areas and in the western area of the country are more likely to believe that the media represents diverse opinions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Media Represents Different Opinions</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Metropolitan Area</td>
<td>45.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern</td>
<td>32.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central</td>
<td>29.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rest of West</td>
<td>49.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern</td>
<td>21.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP, 2017; v.HAITI_D1

**MEDIA3.** The information given by the Haitian news media represents well the different views that exist in Haiti? To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement? (7-point scale, ‘agreement’ is values of 5-7).
More educated and wealthier Haitians are more likely to respond that the media is controlled by the economic elite.

**MEDIA4.** The news media in [country] is controlled by a few economic groups. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement? To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement? (7-point scale, ‘agreement’ is values of 5-7).
Trust in the media has shifted slightly since the last time it was measured in 2012.

B37. To what extent do you trust the mass media? (7-point scale, ‘agreement’ is values of 5-7).
Poorer Haitians and Haitians from the Northern region are less likely to trust the mass media.

B37. To what extent do you trust the mass media? (7-point scale, ‘agreement’ is values of 5-7).
Main findings:

- Reported turnout declined by more than nine percentage points compared to 2014.
- Those with higher levels of educational attainment are more likely to report turning out to vote in the 2016 presidential election.
- Levels of partisanship have not changed significantly since 2014.
- More educated, wealthier Haitians are more likely to identify with a political party.
- Intentions to cast a protest vote increased 12 percentage points from 2014 to 2017.
56% of Haitians report turning out to vote in the 2016 presidential election, a level of reported participation that is down from 65.6% in the 2014 AmericasBarometer study.
Those with post-secondary education are substantially more likely to report turning out to vote in the 2016 election.

**VB2. Did you vote in the last presidential elections of (2016)?**
Rates of partisanship in 2017 are similar to those recorded in 2014

VB10. Do you currently identify with a political party?
Haitians with secondary and post-secondary education are significantly more likely to identify as partisans, as are wealthier respondents.

**Partisanship by Education Level**

- None: 17.9%
- Primary: 22.5%
- Secondary: 31.1%
- Post-Secondary: 41.7%

**Partisanship by Wealth Quintiles**

- Quintile 1: 24.7%
- Quintile 2: 25.0%
- Quintile 3: 33.6%
- Quintile 4: 32.1%
- Quintile 5: 35.3%

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP, 2017; v.HAITI_D1

**Question**: VB10. Do you currently identify with a political party?
Intention to vote for the incumbent decreased seven percentage points from 2014 to 2017, and intentions to cast a protest vote increased by 12 percentage points.

If the next presidential elections were being held this week, what would you do?

Vote Intention

- Abstain
- Incumbent Vote
- Opposition Vote
- Blank/ Spoiled Vote

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP, HAITI v.D1.1
Main findings:

• Only a quarter of Haitians expressed satisfaction with the functioning of democracy in their country, a significant decrease between 2014 and 2017

• Political tolerance (54°) increased among Haitians in 2017, while support for the political system (38°) and democracy decreased (58°)

• Men, those with the highest levels of education and wealth, and residents of the Metro and West regions report the highest levels of political tolerance in 2017

• Those with the lowest levels of education and wealth, as well as residents of the West report the highest levels of support for the political system

• Attitudes conducive to an unstable democracy (36%) or a democracy at risk (38%) predominate in 2017
Only a quarter of Haitians expressed satisfaction with the function of democracy in their country, a significant decrease between 2014 and 2017.

A greater percentage of Haitians with no education (30%) expressed satisfaction with democracy than those with a secondary level (23) of education or higher (21%).

PN4. In general, would you say that you are very satisfied, satisfied, dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the way democracy works in Haiti? *Figure shows percent that responded “very satisfied” or “satisfied”
Political Tolerance and Support for the Political System

Political tolerance (index comprised of the following questions):
D1. There are people who only say bad things about the Haitian form of government, not just the incumbent government but the system of government. How strongly do you approve or disapprove of such people's right to vote?
D2. How strongly do you approve or disapprove that such people be allowed to conduct peaceful demonstrations in order to express their views?
D3. Still thinking of those who only say bad things about the Haitian form of government, how strongly do you approve or disapprove of such people being permitted to run for public office?
D4. How strongly do you approve or disapprove of such people appearing on television to make speeches?

Support for the political system (index comprised of the following questions):
B1. To what extent do you think the courts in Haiti guarantee a fair trial? (Read: If you think the courts do not ensure justice at all, choose number 1; if you think the courts ensure justice a lot, choose number 7, or choose a point in between the two.)
B2. To what extent do you respect the political institutions of Haiti?
B3. To what extent do you think that citizens’ basic rights are well protected by the political system of Haiti?
B4. To what extent do you feel proud of living under the political system of Haiti?
B6. To what extent do you think that one should support the political system of Haiti?

All of the variables are recoded from 0-100, where 0 = the weakest attitude and 100 = the strongest attitude.
Political tolerance increased among Haitians in 2017, while support for the political system and democracy decreased.

All of the variables are recoded from 0-100, where 0 = the weakest attitude and 100 = the strongest attitude.
An increase in the index of political tolerance in 2017 is due to increased in approval of the right to peaceful demonstrations and the right to make speeches.
Men, those with the highest levels of education and wealth, and residents of the Metro and West regions report the highest levels of political tolerance in 2017.

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP, 2017; v.HAItS_D1
A decrease in the index of support for the political system in 2017 is due to decreased pride in the system, as well as decreased trust in the courts’ ability to guarantee a fair trial and trust in the protection of basic rights.
Those with the lowest levels of education and wealth, as well as residents of the West report the highest levels of support for the political system.
Using these interviews, LAPOP monitors the combination of political orientations in each country, paying special attention to changes across cells in this figure, which shows the percentage of respondents with high or low political support by those with high or low political tolerance. High or low political support refers to questions B1-B6 and those individuals who are above or below 50 on a 100-unit scale, while political tolerance refers to individuals who are above or below 50 on a 100-point scale composed of responses to questions D1-D4.
Attitudes conducive to an unstable democracy increased in 2017

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP, 2012-2017; v.HAIts_D1
The 2017 wave of the survey includes an oversample in Haïti

- 9 target municipalities
  - Carrefour
  - Delmas
  - Kenscoff
  - Cap-Haitien
  - Limonade
  - Acul du Nord
  - Caracol
  - Ouanaminthe
  - Saint-Marc

- 1,207 interviews were completed in those municipalities (out of the 2,221 total interviews)
Involvement in community is higher in target municipalities

- Attendance at Meeting of Parent Assoc.:
  - National: 27.6%
  - Target municipalities: 32.5%

- Participation in Municipal Budget:
  - National: 8.9%
  - Target municipalities: 10.5%

- Attendance at Meetings of Community Improvement Groups:
  - National: 12.5%
  - Target municipalities: 14.4%

- Attendance at Municipal Meeting:
  - National: 11.4%
  - Target municipalities: 14.8%

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP, 2017; v.HIts_D1

95% Confidence Interval (with Design-Effects)
Respondents display more democratic attitudes in target municipalities.

- **Paying taxes makes a difference**
  - National: 37.9%
  - Target municipalities: 42.5%

- **Satisfied with democracy**
  - National: 23.7%
  - Target municipalities: 25.4%

- **Trust in local government**
  - National: 31.4%
  - Target municipalities: 35.7%

- **Quality of public service**
  - National: 19.5%
  - Target municipalities: 21.0%

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP, 2006-2017; v.HAIts_D1