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Preliminary Analysis of LAPOP’s National Survey in Jamaica, 2014

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Structure of the Presentation

I. General information about LAPOP and the national survey in Jamaica

II. A First Look at the Results for 2014
   1) Analysis of LAPOP’s standard indicators and cross-time comparisons of important indicators with principal results from 2014
   2) Preliminary analysis of special topics for 2014
      • Data used: Jamaica 2014 and Merged 2004-2014 version draft0612
LAPOP’s Database

2004-2014: 228,864 interviews (approx.)

- The only household surveys that include North, Central and South America, and key countries in the Caribbean
- The samples are of a minimum of 1,500 interviews per country
- Truly representative at the national level, and include rural and urban areas
- Face-to-face interviews, conducted in at least 8 languages
- Multiple pre-tests during an entire year

2014:
27 countries
50,000 interviews
(approx. a min. 1,500/country, with a margin of error of +/- 2.5%)
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National Survey in Jamaica, 2014

- Number of interviews: 1,506 (margin of error: ±2.5)
- Type of questionnaire: electronic (Adgys)
- Pre-test: November 2013
- Second pre-test and training of interviewers: February 8 - 14, 2014
- Start of fieldwork: February 25, 2014
- End of fieldwork: March 20, 2014
Adgys Electronic Questionnaire

Viewing the Jamaica questionnaire in Adgys:

Each question and response option of the questionnaire appears in English. After reading a question, the interviewer selects the answer of the respondent in a pop-up window.
National Survey in Jamaica 2014:  
*Preliminary Analysis of LAPOP’s Standard Indicators*
LAPOP’s Standard Indicators

- The most important problem in the country
- Crime victimization and perceptions of insecurity
- Economic perceptions
- Corruption victimization and perceptions of corruption
- Support for the political system
- Support for democracy
- Political tolerance
The Most Important Problem
Facing the Country
Security (crime in particular) is perceived as the most important problem in 2014, with economic issues ranking as a close runner-up.

A4. In your opinion, what is the most serious problem faced by the country?

- Crime: 48.70%
- Unemployment: 20.95%
- Crisis of/Problems with Economy: 12.74%
- Economy: 39.9%
- Security: 49.8%
- Politics: 6.7%
- Basic Services: 1.3%
- Other: 2.3%

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)
Concerns about different types of problems have remained fairly stable in Jamaica in recent years.

A4. In your opinion, what is the most serious problem faced by the country?

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)
Crime Victimization and Perceptions of Insecurity
Reports of crime victimization have decreased in recent years

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?
(1) Yes    (2) No

Percentage that report being a victim of crime in the last 12 months, Jamaica 2014

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)
Perceptions of insecurity have decreased since 2006

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?

(1) Very safe   (2) Somewhat safe   (3) Somewhat unsafe   (4) Very unsafe

The variable AOJ11 is recoded from 0-100, where 0 = Very safe and 100 = Very unsafe

Average perception of insecurity in the last 12 months in Jamaica

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)
Those with higher levels of wealth report greater rates of crime victimization

VICTEXT. 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?
(1) Yes  (2) No

Percentage that report being a victim of crime in the last 12 months by education level and wealth, Jamaica 2014

National Average: 6.7%

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)
Capital city residents report higher rates of crime victimization

Percentage that report being a victim of crime in the last 12 months by gender and place of residence, Jamaica 2014

National Average: 6.7%

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)
Most Jamaicans feel at least somewhat safe in their neighbourhood

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?
(1) Very safe   (2) Somewhat safe   (3) Somewhat unsafe   (4) Very unsafe

But, one in five Jamaicans feel somewhat unsafe or very unsafe

Perception of Neighbourhood Security

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)
Those with the highest levels of education and wealth have higher perceptions of insecurity.

Average perception of insecurity in the last 12 months by education level and wealth, Jamaica 2014

National Average: 27.2

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)
Women and capital city residents report higher perceptions of insecurity

Average perception of insecurity in the last 12 months by gender and place of residence, Jamaica 2014

- **Female**: 30.6
- **Male**: 23.9

Insecurity is lowest in Surrey

**National Average**: 27.2

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)
Economic Perceptions
The average retrospective evaluation of the national economic situation is negative in Jamaica in 2014.

**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? 

(1) Better  (2) Same  (3) Worse

- Better: 9.8%
- Same: 26.7%
- Worse: 63.4%

**Perception of National Economic Situation**

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)
Perceptions of the national economic situation worsened by almost double from 2012 to 2014

Percentage who think the economy is worse than it was 12 months ago

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)
Nearly half of Jamaicans report that their personal economic situation is worse in 2014.

**IDIO2.** Do you think that your economic situation is better than, the same as, or worse than it was 12 months ago?  
(1) Better       (2) Same       (3) Worse

- **Better** 18.6%
- **Same** 31.9%
- **Worse** 49.5%

**Perception of Personal Economic Situation**

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)
Perceptions of personal economic situation worsened, again nearly double, from 2012 to 2014

Percentage who think their personal economic situation is worse than it was 12 months ago

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)
Corruption Victimization and Perceptions of Corruption
Corruption victimization in 2014

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

**EXC6.** In the last twelve months, did any government employee ask you for a bribe?

**EXC11.** In the last twelve months, to process any kind of document in your local government, like a permit for example, did you have to pay any money above that required by law?

**EXC13.** In your work, have you been asked to pay a bribe in the last twelve months?

**EXC14.** Did you have to pay a bribe to the courts in the last twelve months?

**EXC15.** In order to be seen in a hospital or a clinic in the last twelve months, did you have to pay a bribe?

**EXC16.** Have you had to pay a bribe at school in the last twelve months?

*This series of corruption victimization is converted to an index and then the percentage of respondents who were victims is calculated.*
In 2010 to 2014, reports of corruption victimization are much lower than in 2006 and 2008.
Corruption victimization in the Americas

2012 Data

In 2014: 9.6%

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; AmericasBarometer Merged 2012 v50.0 English
Those with the highest level of wealth report a higher level of corruption victimization

National average: 9.6%

Those with primary education report low levels

Percentage who report being victim of corruption in the last 12 months by education and wealth, Jamaica 2014

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612) *No Education dropped: too few cases
Men and capital city residents report higher rates of corruption victimization

Percentage who report being victim of corruption in the last 12 months by gender and place of residence, Jamaica 2014

National average: 9.6%

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)
Most Jamaicans believe corruption is commonplace and these perceptions are stable over time.

EXC7. Taking into account your own experience or what you have heard, corruption among public officials is:

(1) Very common (2) Common (3) Uncommon or (4) Very uncommon?

The variable EXC7 is recoded from 0-100, where 0 = Very uncommon and 100 = Very common.

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)
There are no differences across education or wealth subgroups classes in terms of corruption perception.
There are also no significant differences in corruption perceptions by gender or region.
In 2014, one in three Jamaicans justifies paying a bribe

EXC18. Do you think given the way things are, sometimes paying a bribe is justified? (1) Yes (2) No

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)
Levels of satisfaction with the fight against corruption have decreased in recent years.

Average belief that government combats corruption in Jamaica

- 2006: 30.3
- 2008: 60.9
- 2010: 43.7
- 2012: 42.8
- 2014: 40.4

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)
Political Tolerance
Support for the Political System
Support for Democracy
Support for democracy, political tolerance, and support for the political system

Support for democracy:

**ING4.** Changing the subject again, democracy may have problems, but it is better than any other form of government. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement?

Political tolerance:

**D1.** There are people who only say bad things about the (country) 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 (country) 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?

*This political tolerance series is converted into an index of political tolerance

Support for the political system:

**B6.** To what extent do you think that one should support the political system of (country)?

All of the variables are recoded from 0-100, where 0 = the weakest attitude and 100 = the strongest attitude
Democratic values remain mostly stable, with some downward shifts from 2012 to 2014.

Average democratic values in Jamaica

Largest difference: falling below the midpoint

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)
Democratic values vary by education level

Averages on democratic values by education level, Jamaica 2014

Source: © AmericasBarometer LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612) *No Education dropped: too few cases
More than half of Jamaicans prefer a democratic government.

Support for Democracy or Dictatorship

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)
Satisfaction with democracy declined in 2014, but still hovers near the mid-point of 50
Those with post-secondary education levels support a military coup to a lesser degree

Some people say that under some circumstances it would be justified for the military of this country to take power by a coup d'état (military coup). In your opinion would a military coup be justified under the following circumstances?

**JC10.** When there is a lot of crime.

**JC13.** When there is a lot of corruption.

---

**Average support of a coup when there is high crime or corruption, Jamaica 2014**

National average: 49.14

- **Primary Level of Education:**
  - Support for Military Coup: 52.3

- **Secondary Level of Education:**
  - Support for Military Coup: 51.0

- **Post-secondary Level of Education:**
  - Support for Military Coup: 38.9

- **Wealth Quintiles:**
  - Quintile 1: 56.6
  - Quintile 2: 50.3
  - Quintile 3: 47.2
  - Quintile 4: 44.7
  - Quintile 5: 46.8

95% Confidence Interval (with Design-Effects)

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612) *No Education dropped: too few cases
Though still a small percentage, the percentage of people who believe it justifiable to close Parliament in difficult times doubled in 2014.

**JC15A.** Do you believe that when the country is facing very difficult times it is justifiable for the Prime Minister of the country to close the Parliament and govern without Parliament?

### Percentage who justify closing Parliament in Jamaica

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>95% Confidence Interval</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>8.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>15.3%</td>
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Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)
Support for Civil Disobedience

Support for Certain Illicit Acts
Average approval of participating in legal demonstrations decreased in 2014, but still remains on the approval side of the midpoint.

E5. Of people participating in legal demonstrations. How much do you approve or disapprove?

Recoded from 0-100, where 0 = strongly disapprove and 100 = the strongly approve

Average approval of participating in legal demonstration in Jamaica

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Approval</th>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>76.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>68.9</td>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>71.3</td>
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<td>2012</td>
<td>73.0</td>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>66.1</td>
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95% Confidence Interval (with Design-Effects)

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)
Average approval of blocking roads during a protest increased in 2014, but still remains on the disapproval side of the midpoint

E15. Of people participating in the blocking of roads to protest. Using the same scale, how much do you approve or disapprove?

Recoded from 0-100, where 0 = strongly disapprove and 100 = the strongly approve

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)
Average approval increased for citizens overthrowing the government and vigilante justice in 2014, but both still fall on the disapproval side

E3. Of people participating in a group working to violently overthrow an elected government. How much do you approve or disapprove?
E16. Of people taking the law into their own hands when the government does not punish criminals. How much do you approve or disapprove?

Recoded from 0-100, where 0 = strongly disapprove and 100 = the strongly approve

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)
Support for the Rights of Homosexuals
Support for Abortion
Other Topics
Average support for homosexuals having the right to run for public office remains low in Jamaica

D5. And now, changing the topic and thinking of homosexuals, how strongly do you approve or disapprove of such people being permitted to run for public office?

Recoded from 0-100, where 0 = strongly disapprove and 100 = the strongly approve

Average support for homosexuals having the right to run for public office in Jamaica

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)
Those with post-secondary education levels and females have higher levels of support for the right of homosexuals to run for public office.

D5. And now, changing the topic and thinking of homosexuals, how strongly do you approve or disapprove of such people being permitted to run for public office?

Recoded from 0-100, where 0 = strongly disapprove and 100 = the strongly approve.

Average support for homosexuals having the right to run for public office, Jamaica 2014

National average: 16

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612) *No Education dropped: too few cases
Levels of support for same-sex marriage in 2014 are consistent with levels in 2012 and remain very low

D6. How strongly do you approve or disapprove of same-sex couples having the right to marry?
Recoded from 0-100, where 0 = strongly disapprove and 100 = the strongly approve

Average support for same-sex marriage in Jamaica

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)
Though national support for same-sex marriage remains low, small variations exist among levels of education and between genders.

D6. How strongly do you approve or disapprove of same-sex couples having the right to marry?

Recoded from 0-100, where 0 = strongly disapprove and 100 = the strongly approve

**Average support for same-sex marriage, Jamaica 2014**

National average: 5.1

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612) *No Education dropped: too few cases
Two-thirds of Jamaicans believe abortion is justifiable when the mother’s health is at risk

W14A. And now, thinking about other topics. Do you think it’s justified to interrupt a pregnancy, that is, to have an abortion, when the mother’s health is in danger?

- Yes, justified: 65.9%
- No, not justified: 34.1%

Abortion Justified When Mother's Health is at Risk

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)
Three-fourths of Jamaicans neither approve nor understand a husband hitting his wife for neglecting household chores.

**DVW1.** His wife neglects the household chores. Would you approve of the husband hitting his wife, or would you not approve but understand, or would you neither approve nor understand?

- Approve: 3.2%
- Don't Approve but Understand: 21.2%
- Neither Approve nor Understand: 75.6%

*Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)*
Only 69% of Jamaicans take a strong stance against domestic abuse in the case of an unfaithful wife.

**DVW2.** His wife is unfaithful. Would you approve of the husband hitting his wife, or would you not approve but understand, or would you neither approve nor understand?

- Approve: 5.6%
- Don’t Approve but Understand: 25.5%
- Neither Approve nor Understand: 68.9%

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)
The nature of influence that China and the U.S. have in Jamaica is perceived similarly.

**FOR7/FOR7B.** In general, the influence that China/the United States has on our country is very positive, positive, negative, or very negative?

1. Very positive  
2. Positive  
3. Neither positive nor negative  
4. Negative  
5. Very negative  
6. Has no influence

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP; Jamaica LAPOP merge 2006-2014 (draft0612)
Summary: Jamaica in 2014

CRIME AND INSECURITY

• Security (crime) is considered the most important problem among citizens
• However, reported crime and perceptions of insecurity are decreasing across time

ECONOMY

• The economy is considered the second most important problem in Jamaica
• In 2014, a majority of Jamaicans report that the national and their personal economic situations are worse than in the last 12 months

CORRUPTION

• In 2014, one in ten Jamaicans report being a victim of corruption; however perception of corruption among public officials is high
• One in three Jamaicans justify paying a bribe in 2014
• Levels of satisfaction with the government’s performance to fight against corruption are decreasing in recent years
Summary: Jamaica in 2014

DEMOCRATIC VALUES

• Support for democracy, support for the political system, and political tolerance decreased in 2014; support for the political system shows the largest decrease, bringing it just below the midpoint of 50

• In 2014, more than half of Jamaicans prefer a democratic government, but mean satisfaction with how democracy works in Jamaica is below the mid-point

CIVIL AND SOCIAL VALUES

• Average approval of participating in legal demonstrations in Jamaica remains high but, overall, Jamaicans disapprove of blocking roads during protests, overthrowing the government, and vigilante justice

• Support of homosexual rights is low in Jamaica in 2014

• A majority of Jamaicans do not approve nor understand a man hitting his wife when neglecting household chores or in the case of infidelity, yet an important minority does not condemn these cases of domestic violence