Police Harassment, No Problem For Most Jamaicans – Study

Published: Monday | June 22, 2015
A recent study has found that more than two thirds of Jamaicans do not view police harassment as a problem in their communities.

The Latin American Public Opinion Project (LAPOP) says police harassment includes casual stops, motor vehicle searches, false arrests and excessive use of force including beatings.

The 2014 international study, found that 67.7 per cent of Jamaicans saw police harassment as no problem. However, 14.4 per cent said it was a small problem, 5.4 per cent said it is a big problem, and 3.7 per cent said it is a very big problem.

The study found that 8.7 per cent of Jamaicans see police harassment as neither a big nor small problem.

Described as The American Barometer 2014, the study included more than 41,000 face to face interviews in 26 countries in the Americas.

Since the 1970s, LAPOP has been gathering data on political perspectives across the Caribbean and Latin America.