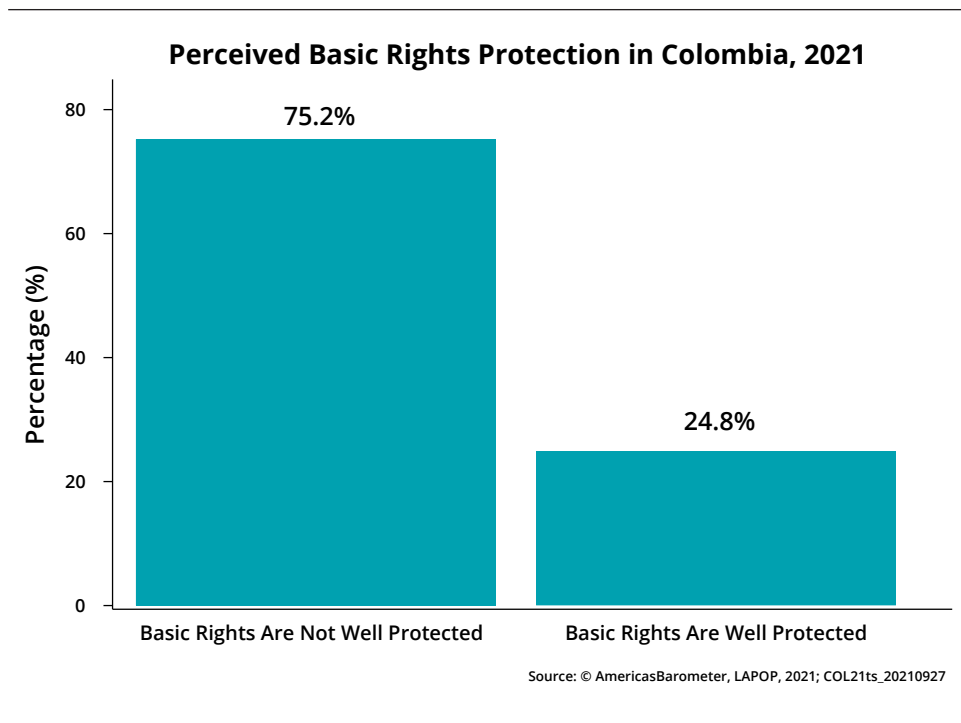


April, 2022 | Nikki Aminmadani and Mark Grujic

Spotlight on Perceived Basic Rights Protection in Colombia

Perceived basic rights protection in Colombia has steadily declined since 2008, with record-low levels in 2021

One in four individuals in Colombia believe that citizens' basic rights are well protected by the government



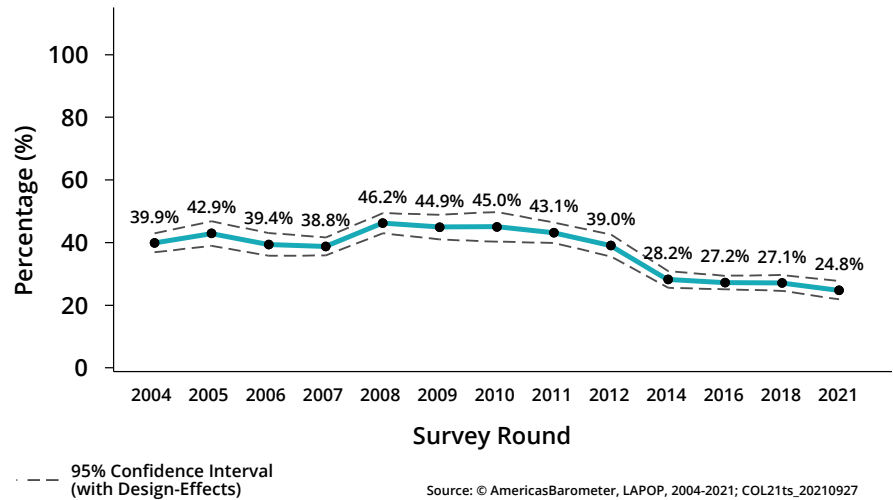
Since 2004, LAPOP's AmericasBarometer has measured perceived basic rights protection in Colombia with the following question: **B3: To what extent do you think that citizens' basic rights are well protected by the political system of Colombia?** Respondents indicated their opinion using a 1 to 7 scale, where 1 means "not at all" and 7 means "a lot." Here we recode responses into a dichotomous variable, which allows us to estimate the percentage of people in the country that trust that the government protects citizens' basic rights. Specifically, responses were recoded into a dichotomous variable indicating the belief that basic rights are protected by combining responses "5" through "7" into a "Basic Rights are Well Protected" category, while placing the remaining responses ("1" through "4") into a baseline "Basic Rights are Not Well Protected" category.

While a quarter (24.8%) believe that citizens' basic rights are well protected, the vast majority of Colombians (75.2%) believe that citizens' basic rights are not well protected.

Belief that citizens' basic rights are well protected continues to decrease

The belief that citizens' basic rights are well protected in Colombia was highest in 2008, when less than half (46.2%) of respondents believed that citizens' basic rights were well protected. Between 2008 and 2021, this evaluation declined by 21.4 percentage points, reaching its lowest point in 2021 when just 24.8% of Colombians report that they believe citizens' basic rights are well protected.

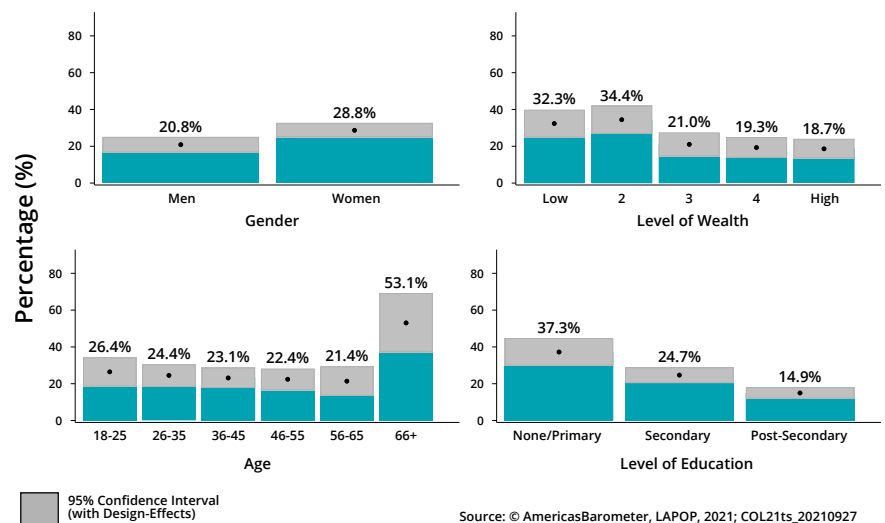
Belief that Basic Rights Are Well Protected in Colombia, 2004-2021



The belief that citizens' basic rights are well protected in Colombia is highest among women, those with lower levels of wealth, older individuals, and those with lower levels of education

What characteristics of individuals predict the belief that individuals' basic rights are well protected by the political system in Colombia? Women in Colombia are more likely to believe that the government is protecting citizens' basic rights compared to men (28.8% versus 20.8%, respectively).¹ Individuals with lower levels of wealth believe that the government is protecting citizens' basic rights at higher levels than individuals with higher levels of wealth. Individuals ages 66 and older have the highest perception that basic rights are well protected (53.1%) compared to those who are younger. Individuals with no education or at least some primary education (37.3%) are more likely to believe that citizens' basic rights are being protected than individuals with at least some secondary education or more.²

Belief that Basic Rights Are Well Protected in Colombia, 2021



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Interested in knowing more about the LAPOP Lab's AmericasBarometer study? Consult the data and our reports at www.vanderbilt.edu/lapop.

As a charter member of the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) Transparency Initiative, LAPOP Lab is committed to routine disclosure of our data collection and reporting processes. More information about the AmericasBarometer sample designs can be found at www.vanderbilt.edu/lapop/core-surveys.php

The contents of this Spotlight Report are the sole responsibility of the authors and LAPOP and do not necessarily reflect the views of any supporting organization. LAPOP's AmericasBarometer surveys are supported predominantly by USAID and Vanderbilt University. The 2021 round also had support from IADB, US National Science Foundation (NSF), and academic partners and researchers across the Americas.

¹ In order to avoid excluding non-binary respondents from the analysis, we recode the gender variable to include non-binary respondents with women. In this survey in Colombia, 0.10% of respondents identified as a gender other than man or woman.

² Due to changes in survey mode in the 2021 AmericasBarometer, place of residence was not analyzed in this Spotlight report.