

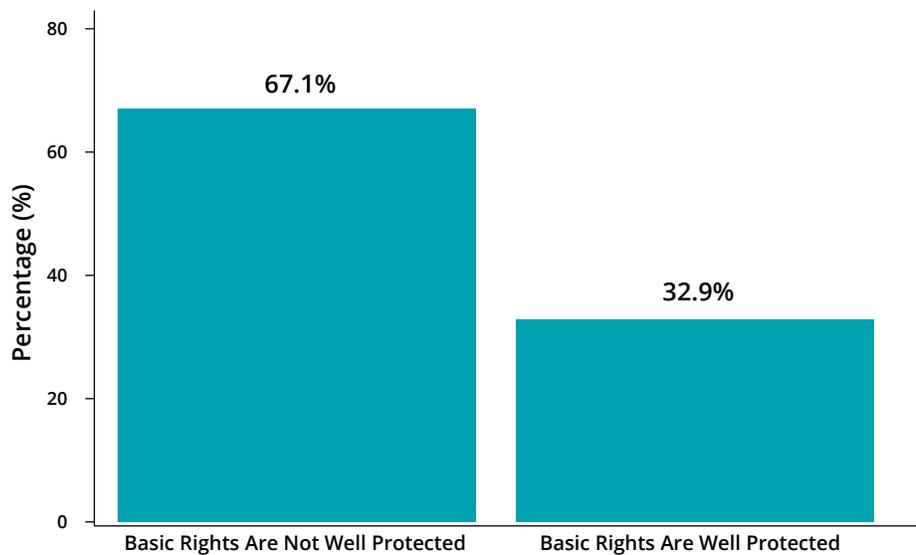
May, 2022 | Mark Grujic

# Spotlight on Perceived Basic Rights Protection in the Dominican Republic

*The belief that the basic rights of citizens are well protected by the government in the Dominican Republic has increased since 2019*

**A third of Dominicans believe that citizens' basic rights are well protected by the government**

**Perceived Basic Rights Protection in the Dominican Republic, 2021**



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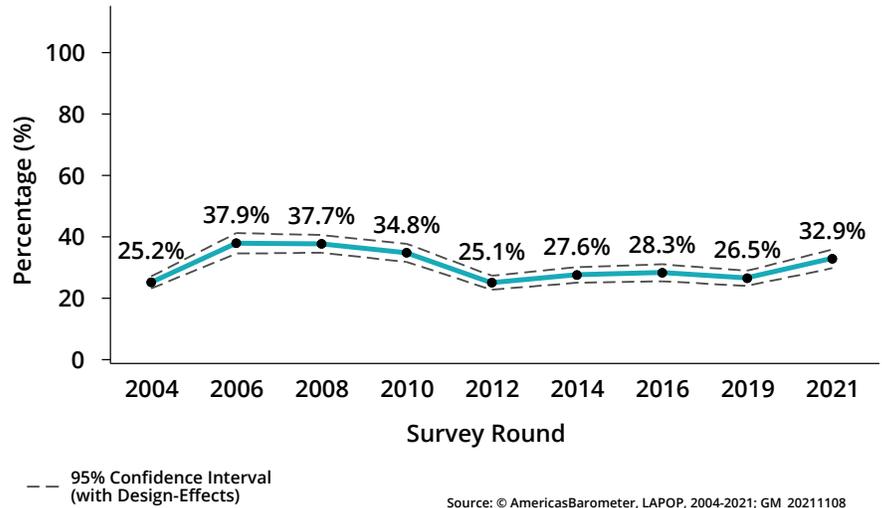
Since 2004, LAPOP's AmericasBarometer has measured perceived basic rights protection in the Dominican Republic with the following question: **B3: To what extent do you think that citizens' basic rights are well protected by the political system of the Dominican Republic?** Respondents indicated their 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 Dominican Republic that trust that the government protects citizens' basic rights. Specifically, responses were recoded into a dichotomous variable 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.

We find that about a third of Dominicans (32.9%) believe that citizens' basic rights are well protected, while more than two-thirds (67.1%) believe that citizens' basic rights are not well protected.

## Belief that citizens' basic rights are well protected in the Dominican Republic increased in 2021 to match levels observed in 2006-2010

The belief that citizens' basic rights are well protected in the Dominican Republic reached its highest level in the 2006 round of AmericasBarometer, when almost two in five (37.9%) believed that their basic rights were protected by the government. This belief reached its lowest point in 2012 (25.1%). In 2021, the percentage that believe their rights are well protected rebounded to one-third (32.9%).

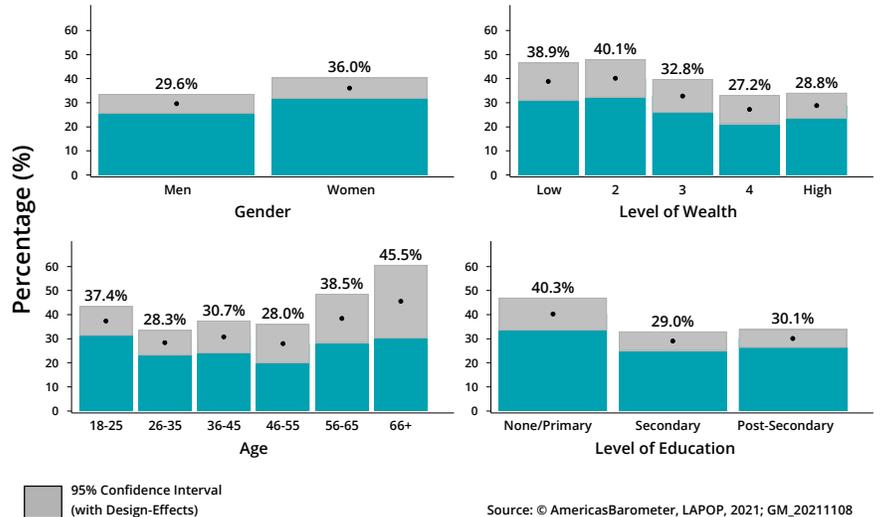
### Perceived Basic Rights Protection in the Dominican Republic, 2004-2021



## The belief that citizens' basic rights are well protected in the Dominican Republic is highest among women, individuals with low levels of wealth, individuals age 66 or older, and individuals with low education

What characteristics of individuals predict the perception that basic rights are protected in the Dominican Republic? Women in the Dominican Republic are more likely to believe that the government is protecting citizens' basic rights (36.0%) compared to men (29.6%).<sup>1</sup> Individuals with lower levels of wealth are more likely to believe that the government is protecting citizens' basic rights compared to individuals with higher levels of wealth. Individuals age 66 and older are more likely to believe that citizens' basic rights are well protected in the Dominican Republic (45.5%) than those age 46 to 55 (28.0%) and 26 to 35 (28.3%). Individuals with no education or at least some primary education (40.3%) are more likely to believe that that citizens' basic rights are being protected than individuals with at least a secondary education or more.<sup>2</sup>

### Perceived Basic Rights Protection in the Dominican Republic, 2021



Mark Grujic is a sophomore at Vanderbilt working on the Spotlights Team. He is majoring in history and public policy.

Series Editors: Sebastián C. Larrea, Vanderbilt University  
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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](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/lapop/core-surveys.php)

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<sup>1</sup> 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 the Dominican Republic, 0.40% of respondents identified as a gender other than man or woman.

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