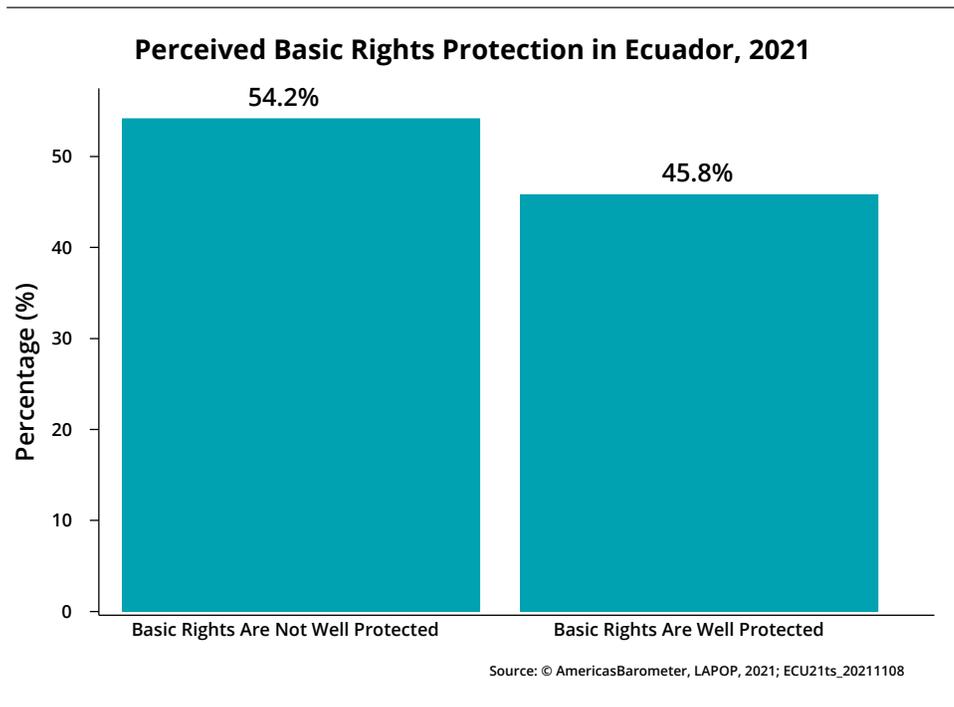


June, 2022 | Mark Grujic

# Spotlight on Perceived Basic Rights Protection in Ecuador

*In Ecuador, the belief that basic rights of citizens are well protected by the government remains low*

**Less than half of Ecuadorians believe that citizens' basic rights are well protected by the government**



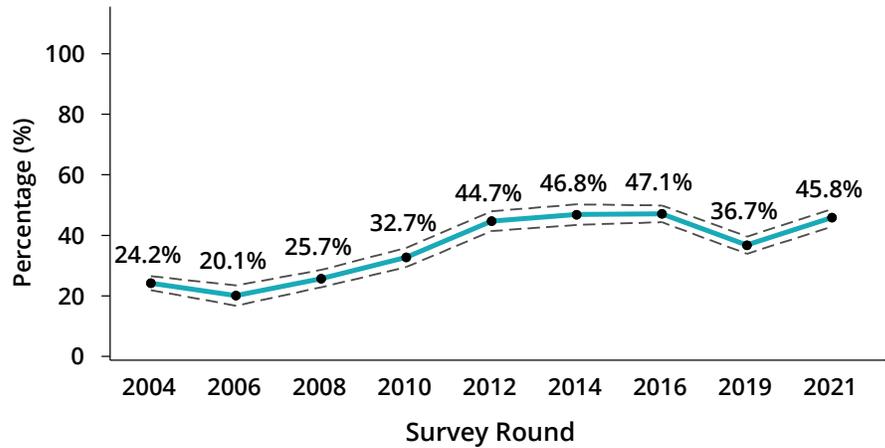
Since 2004, LAPOP's AmericasBarometer has measured perceived basic rights protection in Ecuador with the following question: **B3: To what extent do you think that citizens' basic rights are well protected by the political system of Ecuador?** Respondents indicated their opinion using a 1 to 7 scale, 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 Ecuador who 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 less than half (45.8%) of Ecuadorians believe that citizens' basic rights are well protected, while 54.2% believe that citizens' basic rights are not well protected.

## Belief that basic rights are protected increased in Ecuador since 2019, returning to levels observed in 2012-2016

The belief that citizens' basic rights are well protected by the government in Ecuador reached its highest level in the 2016 round of AmericasBarometer, when 47.1% of respondents believed that their basic rights were well protected by the government. This number dropped by 10.4 percentage points in 2019 but rebounded in 2021 to 45.8%.

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



— 95% Confidence Interval (with Design-Effects)

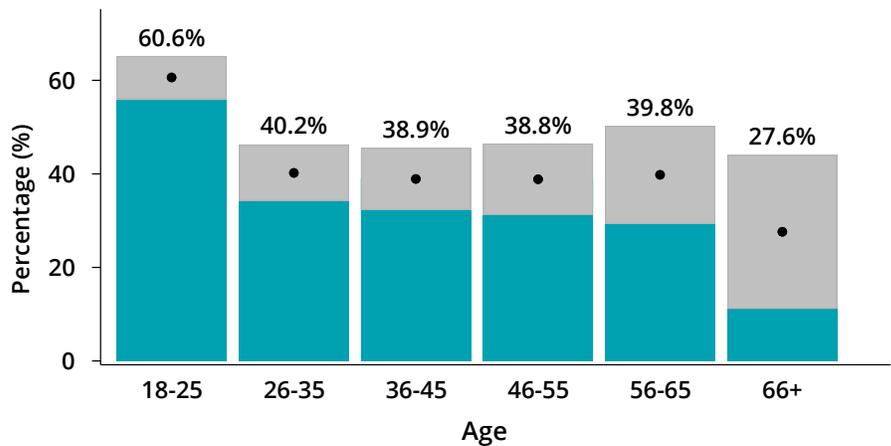
Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP, 2004-2021; ECU21ts\_20211108

## The belief that citizens' basic rights are well protected by the political system in Ecuador is highest among individuals age 18-25

What characteristics of individuals predict the belief that citizens' basic rights are well protected in Ecuador? Ecuadorians age 18-25 are more likely (60.6%) to believe that the government is protecting citizens' basic rights compared to older age groups.

Wealth, education, and gender were not significant predictors of the belief that citizens' basic rights are well protected.<sup>1</sup>

### Belief that Basic Rights Are Well Protected in Ecuador by Age, 2021



■ 95% Confidence Interval (with Design-Effects)

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP, 2021; ECU21ts\_20211108

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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](http://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](http://www.vanderbilt.edu/lapop/core-surveys.php)

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<sup>1</sup> Due to changes in survey mode in the 2021 AmericasBarometer, place of residence was not analyzed in this Spotlight report.