

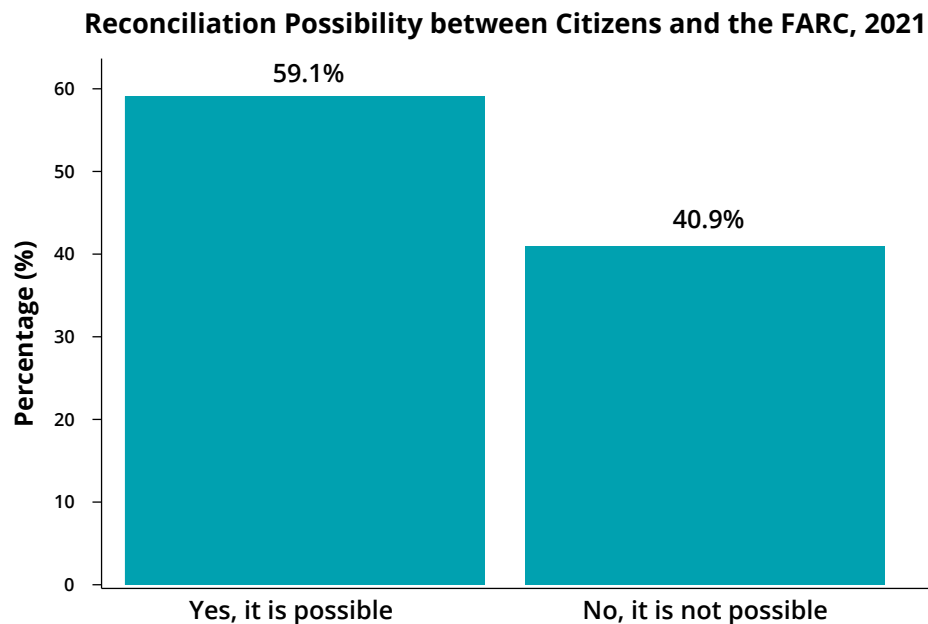


April, 2022 | Adin McGurk

Spotlight on Attitudes Toward Reconciliation Between the Citizens of Colombia and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC)

Perceived potential for reconciliation and forgiveness between Colombians and the former FARC members increased in 2021

Most Colombian citizens believe reconciliation with former FARC members is possible



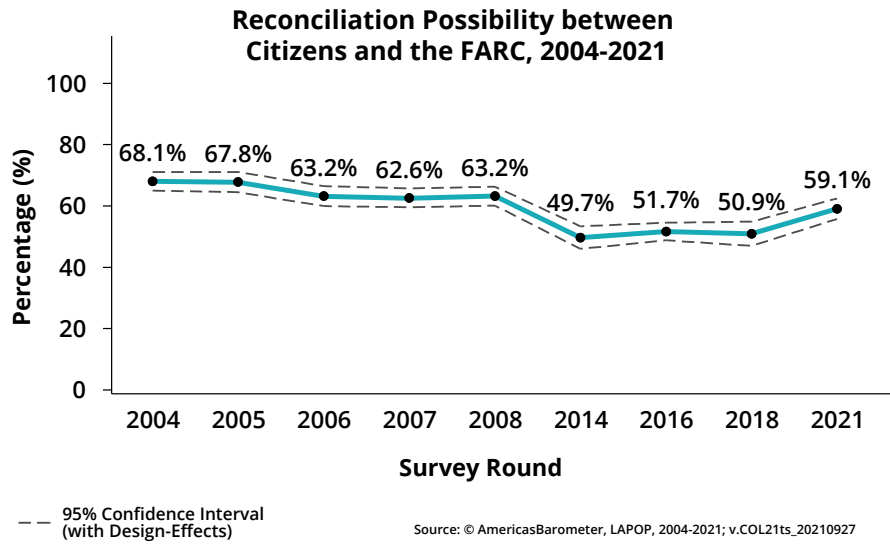
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Since 2004, LAPOP's AmericasBarometer has measured Colombians' perceived attitudes towards the possibility of reconciliation and forgiveness between them and the former FARC members by asking the following question: **COLPAZ6A. Do you believe, yes or no, that forgiveness and reconciliation is possible between the citizens of Colombia and the demobilized ex-combatants of the FARC?**

We find that most Colombians (59.1%) believe that reconciliation is possible; though about two in five (40.9%) disagree.

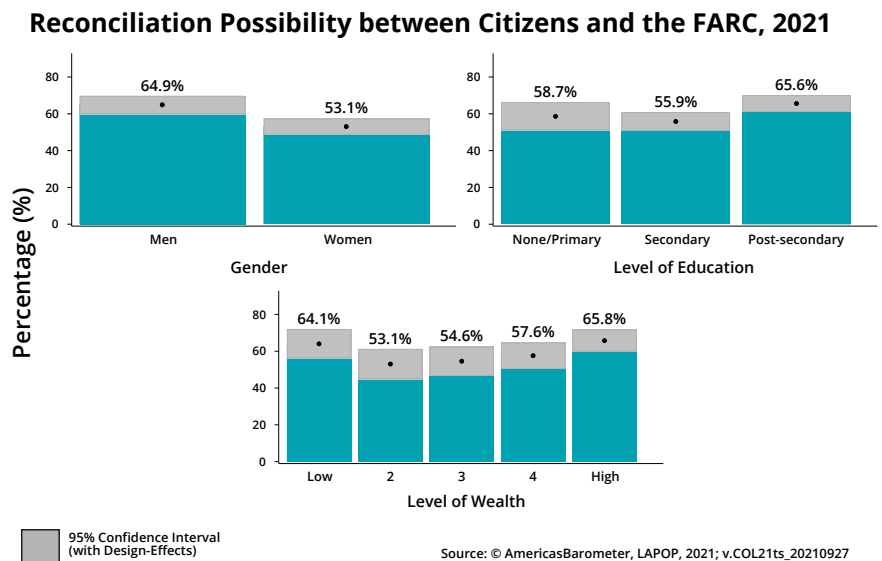
Positive attitudes toward reconciliation between citizens and former FARC members reached their highest level since 2008

The percentage of Colombians that believe that reconciliation with former FARC members is possible declined slowly but steadily from 2004 to 2008 (68.1% to 63.2%). These attitudes declined more rapidly between 2008 and 2014 (63.2% to 49.7%). After holding steady between 2014 and 2018, the rate of Colombians who believe reconciliation with former FARC members is possible recovered by nearly 10 percentage points between the 2018 and 2021 rounds, reaching the highest level since 2008.



Men, those with higher education, and those with higher levels of wealth have significantly higher belief in reconciliation

What characteristics of individuals predict the belief in possible reconciliation between Colombian citizens and former FARC members? Men (64.9%) report the belief that reconciliation is possible more frequently than women (53.1%).¹ Those with a post-secondary education (65.6%) have significantly higher belief in reconciliation than those with secondary education (55.9%). Those in the highest wealth group (65.8%) believe reconciliation is possible at a higher level than those in the second and third wealth groups.²



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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

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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.