

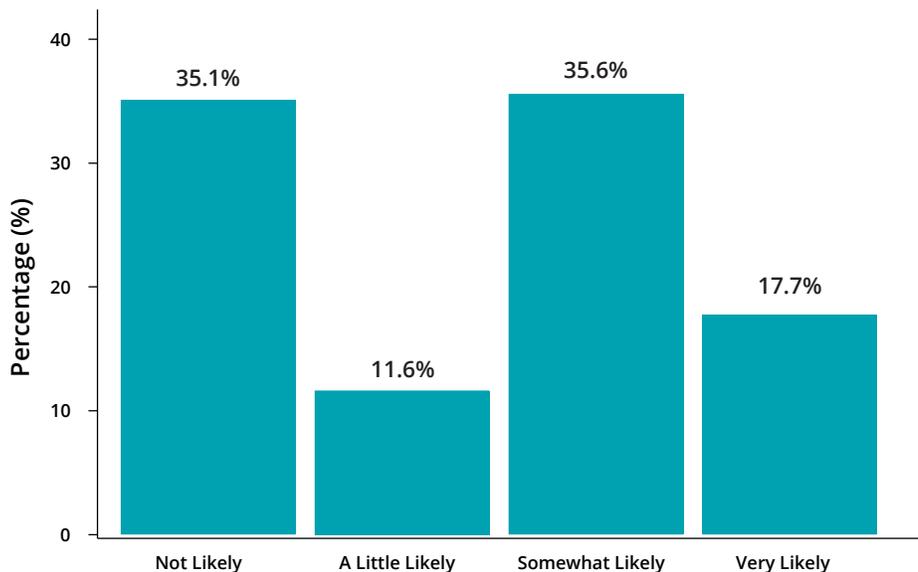
June, 2022 | Isabella Randle

Spotlight on Perception of Death or Harm from Natural Disasters in Haiti

Haitians are divided in their perceptions of death or harm from possible natural disasters in the next decade

Haitians are divided in their perceptions of the likelihood of death or harm from a possible natural disaster

Perception of Death or Harm from Natural Disaster in Haiti, 2021



Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP, 2021; GM_20211108

Haiti's poor infrastructure, high population density, and geographic location make it especially vulnerable to severe damage from earthquakes, hurricanes, and tropical storms. In 2021, LAPOP's AmericasBarometer measured the perceived personal threat of natural disasters by asking the following question: **DRK1N. How likely do you think it is that you or someone in your immediate family here in Haiti could be killed or seriously injured in a natural disaster, such as floods, earthquakes, or hurricanes/landslides/tornados/storms in the next 10 years?** Respondents were asked to answer on a four-point scale, with options ranging from "not likely" to "very likely."¹ Here we recode responses into a dichotomous variable, which allows us to compare the individual characteristics of people in Haiti who find death or injury from natural disasters to be likely. Specifically, responses indicating perception of harm from a natural disaster as "somewhat likely" and "very likely" were combined in one category, while placing "not likely" and "a little likely" into a baseline category.

Haitians are split on the perceived likelihood of serious harm or death from natural disasters. More than a third of Haitians (35.6%) found the threat of possible natural disasters to be "somewhat likely," and almost an identical amount (35.1%) found this threat to be "not likely" at all.

¹ The 2018/19 round of the AmericasBarometer asked a similar question: DRK1. "How likely do you think it is that you or someone in your immediate family here in Haiti could be killed or seriously injured in a natural disaster, such as floods, earthquakes, or hurricanes/landslides/tornados/storms, in the next 25 years?" Due to changes in question wording, the 2018/19 DRK1 data were not examined in this report.

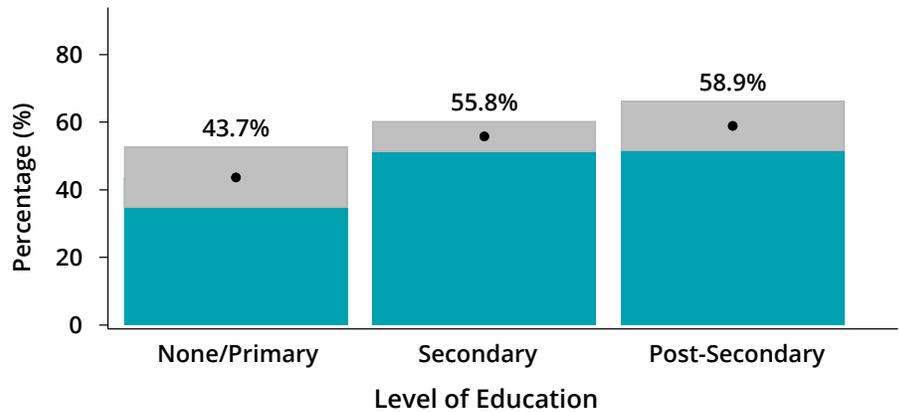
Perceived threat of death or injury from natural disasters differs is highest among those with a secondary or post-secondary education

What characteristics of individuals predict perceived high risk of death or injury from natural disasters in Haiti? Perceived threat from natural disasters is higher among those with at least some secondary (55.8%) or post-secondary education (58.9%) compared to those with no education or at least some primary education (43.7%).

Age was a significant predictor of perception of death or harm from possible natural disasters, but did not follow a linear pattern, and, as such, was excluded from the graph.²

Gender and wealth are not statistically significant predictors of perceived threat from natural disasters, and, as such, were excluded from the graph above.³

Perception that Death or Harm from Natural Disaster Is Likely in Haiti by Level of Education, 2021



95% Confidence Interval (with Design-Effects)

Source: © AmericasBarometer, LAPOP, 2021; GM_20211108

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 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

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² The only significant difference between age groups is that individuals age 36 to 45 (56.2%) are more likely to perceive a high threat from natural disasters than those age 16 to 25 (48.5%). Differences between all other age groups were insignificant.

³ Due to changes in survey mode to the 2021 AmericasBarometer, place of residence was not analyzed in this Spotlight Report.