

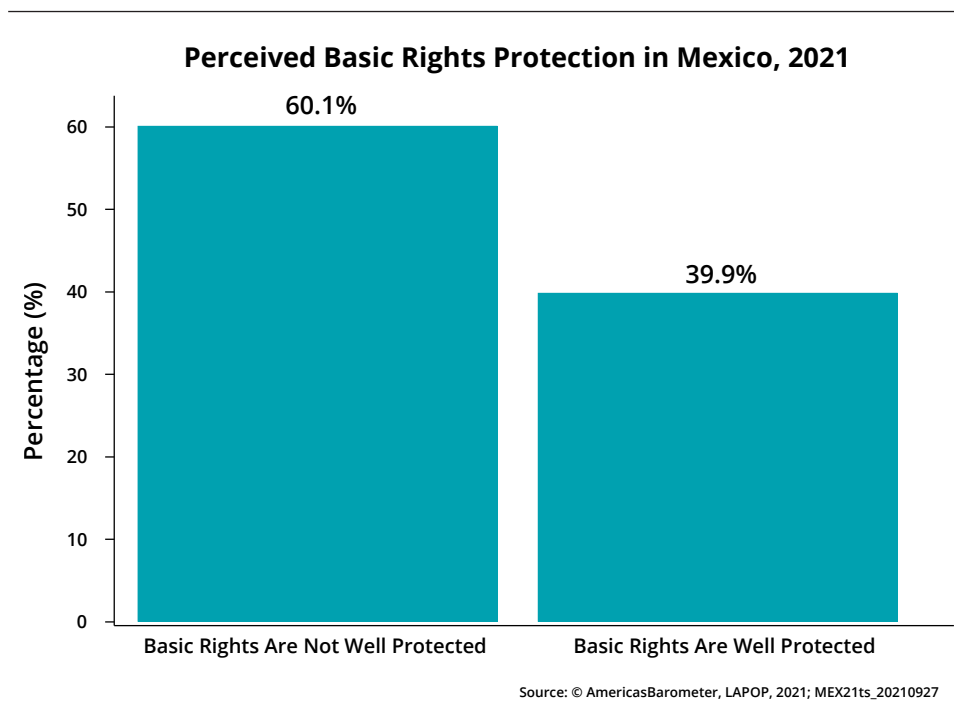


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Spotlight on Perceived Basic Rights Protection in Mexico

In Mexico, the belief that the political system protects citizens' basic rights has strengthened in the last five years

About two in five Mexicans believe that citizens' rights are well protected by the political system



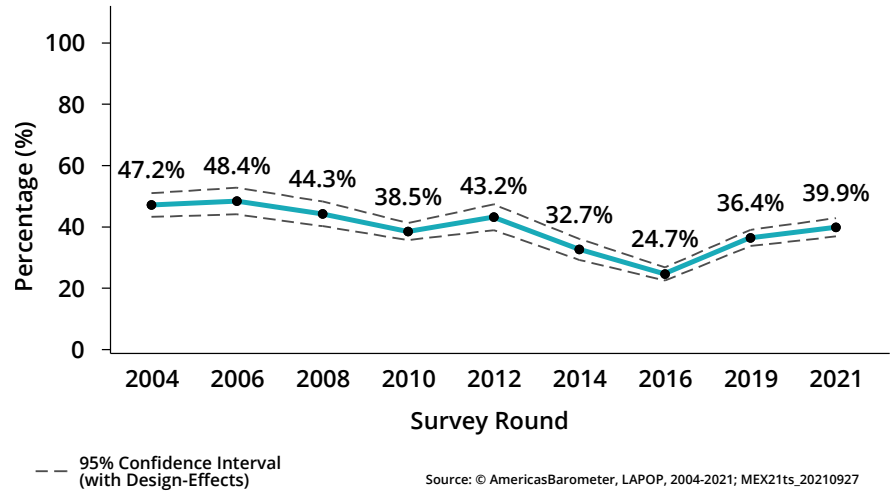
Since 2004, LAPOP's AmericasBarometer has measured perceptions of basic rights protection in Mexico by asking the following question: **B3. To what extent do you think that citizens' basic rights are well protected by the political system of Mexico?** Respondents indicated their opinion using a 1-7 scale, where 1 means "not at all" and 7 means "a lot." Here we code responses into a dichotomous variable, which allows us to estimate the percentage of people in the country that believe citizens' basic rights are well protected. Specifically, responses were recoded into a dichotomous variable indicating belief that 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.

We find that in 2021, while two in five Mexicans (39.9%) believe that citizens' basic rights are well protected by the political system, most (60.1%) disagree.

The belief that citizens' rights are well protected in Mexico has been steadily increasing since 2016

Perceptions that basic rights are well protected in Mexico reached its lowest level in the 2016 round of the AmericasBarometer, when just one in four (24.7%) believed that citizens' rights were well protected by the political system. Since then, the percentage of people that believe their rights are protected has increased, with 39.9% believing Mexico's system protects citizens' basic rights in 2021.

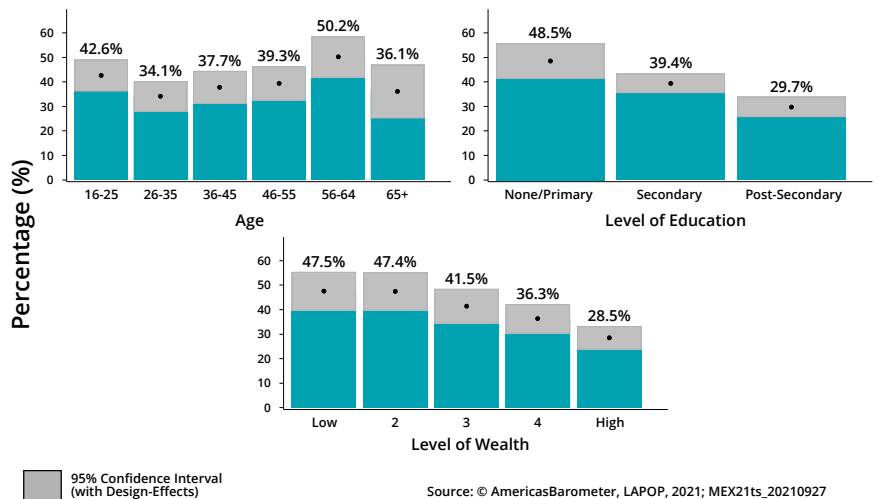
Belief that Basic Rights Are Well Protected in Mexico, 2004-2021



Individuals who are less educated, less wealthy, or age 56-64 are most likely to believe that citizens' rights are well protected in Mexico

What characteristics of individuals predict perception that basic rights are well protected in Mexico? Those age 56-64 have higher levels of belief that rights are well protected by the political system (50.2%) compared to all other age groups. Those with no education or at least some primary education have higher levels of belief that citizens' rights are well protected in Mexico (48.5%) compared to those with at least some secondary or post-secondary education (39.4% and 29.7%, respectively). Additionally, individuals in the lower wealth groups more commonly believe that their rights are well protected compared to individuals in the higher wealth groups.

Belief that Basic Rights Are Well Protected in Mexico, 2021



Gender was not a statistically significant predictor of perceived rights protection in Mexico.¹

Isabella Randle is an Advanced Undergraduate Research Assistant, Research Fellow, and Spotlight Series Captain at LAPOP. She is a senior majoring in political science and philosophy with a minor in Spanish. Isabella hopes to earn a higher degree in political science and pursue a career in research.

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



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

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