

# The Rule of Law in Dominica

Key Findings from the General Population Poll 2022

# Acknowledgements

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# ABOUT THIS REPORT

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# ABOUT THIS REPORT

**EFFECTIVE RULE OF LAW** reduces corruption, combats poverty and disease, and protects people from injustices large and small. Strengthening the rule of law is an important objective for governments, donors, and civil society organizations around the world. To be effective, rule of law development requires clarity about the fundamental features that define the rule of law, as well as an adequate basis for its evaluation and measurement.

The Rule of Law in Dominica: Key Findings from the General Population Poll 2022 presents question-level data drawn from the General Population Poll (GPP), an original data source designed and collected by the World Justice Project. To provide a more indepth view of trends in perceptions of rule of law in Dominica, this report also presents select findings over time and compared to Dominica's regional peers within the Eastern Caribbean subregion of Latin America and the Caribbean.

The GPP was conducted between July and August 2022 through face-to-face interviews to a nationally representative sample of 500 Dominican households. This poll was designed to capture data on the experiences and perceptions of ordinary people regarding a variety of themes related to the rule of law.

# This report represents the voices of people in Dominica and their experiences with the rule of law in their country.

The data derived from the General Population Poll is presented in this report as thematic briefs, each one highlighting a different dimension of the rule of law from the perspective of Dominicans. These thematic briefs focus on the current rule of law ecosystem in Dominica while simultaneously illuminating changes over time and comparisons across the following peer countries in the Eastern Caribbean region: Barbados, Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago. Each section touches upon perceptions of and attitudes towards the following topics: authoritarianism, fundamental freedoms, corruption, trust in institutions, the criminal justice system and its actors, police performance, crime victimization, support for victims of crime, and security.

# **EXECUTIVE FINDINGS**

The Rule of Law in Dominica: Key Findings from the General Population Poll 2022 provides a comprehensive overview of how citizens perceive and experience the rule of law in Dominica alongside comparative findings across the Eastern Caribbean region. The findings in this report indicate a number of positive trends in the general public's perspective on the rule of law in Dominica, including relatively low perceptions of authoritarian behavior, low rates of crime victimization, and positive perceptions of personal safety. Despite these positive developments, however, these findings highlight the fact that many challenges—including deteriorating perceptions of fundamental freedoms, declining levels of trust in institutions, and negative views on criminal justice system performance—persist. At the regional level, prominent trends include worsening perceptions of corruption, weakened confidence in criminal justice system performance, and low confidence in victim support practices.

# SECTION 1

# Authoritarianism and Fundamental Freedoms

#### 1. Authoritarianism

Views on authoritarian behavior in the Eastern Caribbean varied widely. Across the region, however, most respondents felt that top government officials resort to misinformation to shape public opinion in their favor. Among respondents in the Eastern Caribbean region, on average, Trinidadians and Tobagonians most often felt that top government officials engage in authoritarian behavior and Barbadians least often felt that top government officials engage in authoritarian behavior.

- When asked about authoritarian tendencies in Dominica, respondents most often felt that top government officials **attack or attempt** to discredit opposition parties (59%) and prosecute and convict members of opposition parties (54%).
- Compared to their regional counterparts, respondents in Dominica least often felt that top government officials resort to misinformation to shape public opinion in their favor (51%).

#### 2. Fundamental Freedoms

On average, fewer respondents believe that their freedoms of expression, political participation, election, and religion are guaranteed in Dominica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago compared to the last year of data collection. In contrast, the average percentage of respondents who believe that these freedoms are guaranteed increased in Barbados and Grenada. Within the region, Barbadians, on average, most often felt that fundamental freedoms are guaranteed by the state, while Vincentians least often felt the same.

- When asked about respect for fundamental freedoms in Dominica, respondents had more favorable views on freedom of religion, with 93% of respondents agreeing that **religious minorities can observe their holy days**. Conversely, Dominicans had less favorable views on overall electoral freedoms, with 43% and 44% of respondents agreeing that **local government officials are elected through a clean process** and **people can vote freely without feeling harassed or pressured**, respectively.
- Between 2018 and 2022, Dominica's most significant trends in public opinions on freedoms include declines in the perceptions that people can express opinions against the government (down 17 percentage points), people can vote freely without feeling harassed or pressured (down 15 percentage points), and people can join any political organization (down 12 percentage points).

# **SECTION 2**

#### **Corruption and Trust**

#### 3. Corruption

Public views on the pervasiveness of corruption within the legislature, the executive, and the judiciary deteriorated, on average, in four out of six countries in the Eastern Caribbean. Meanwhile, perceptions of corruption within law enforcement deteriorated in every country in the Eastern Caribbean. Public views on corruption across all of these institutions improved only in Grenada and St. Lucia. Within the region, on average, more Trinidadian and Tobagonian respondents reported perceptions of corruption across all actors than their regional peers, whereas Barbadian respondents reported the same least frequently.

- Political parties are considered the most corrupt institution in Dominica. Most (69%) respondents believe that most or all members of Dominican political parties are involved in corrupt practices.
- Doctors and nurses in public hospitals are considered the least corrupt actors in Dominica, with 11% of respondents reporting that they believe most or all doctors and nurses are involved in corrupt practices.

#### 4. Attitudes Towards Corrupt Behaviors

Acceptance of corrupt behaviors in the Eastern Caribbean is relatively rare compared to in the rest of Latin America and the Caribbean. Throughout the Eastern Caribbean, respondents, on average, most often found a public officer recruited on the basis of family ties and friendship networks to be acceptable. Company officials asking for a bribe from a job applicant was tolerated the least often. On average, respondents in St. Lucia most often found certain cases of bribery, nepotism, and embezzlement always or usually acceptable, whereas respondents in St. Vincent and the Grenadines least often found these behaviors acceptable.

#### 5. Trust

**Respondents in the Eastern Caribbean, on average, trust people living in their country more than any other public actor** and trust prosecutors the least. On average, respondents in St. Vincent and the Grenadines least often reported having some or a lot of trust across all institutions. In contrast, respondents in Barbados reported the highest overall levels of trust.

- Levels of trust in Dominica decreased across every institution between 2018 and 2022. Trust in **people living in Dominica** declined the most between 2018 and 2022, with 32% of respondents reporting some or a lot of trust in 2022, compared to 56% in 2018.
- In 2022, respondents in Dominica most often reported having some or a lot of trust in **judges and magistrates** (44%) and least often reported having some or a lot of trust in **people living in their country** (32%).

# **SECTION 3**

## **Security and Criminal Justice**

#### 6. Crime Victimization

On average, 18% of all respondents surveyed in the Eastern Caribbean reported experiencing a crime in the last 12 months. On average, half (50%) of those respondents reported their crime experience to an authority.

- Seventeen percent (17%) of Dominicans reported experiencing a crime in the last 12 months, a figure just below the regional average (18%).
- Most (67%) Dominican respondents who were victims of a crime did not report the crime to an authority, with those respondents most often citing the belief that reporting would not help as their reason for not reporting (45%).

#### 7. Security

The majority of respondents in the Eastern Caribbean feel safe or very safe when walking in their neighborhood at night. Perceptions of safety improved in almost every country between the previous round of data collection and 2022. Perceptions of safety declined only in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, where 76% of respondents reported feeling safe in their neighborhood at night, compared to 77% in 2018. Compared to respondents in regional peer countries, Barbadians most often reported feeling safe in their neighborhood at night (92%), while roughly two-thirds of Trinidadians and Tobagonians (67%) reported the same.

- In Dominica, most (86%) respondents reported feeling safe walking in their neighborhood at night in 2022, marking a slight improvement from 85% of respondents in 2018.
- Dominicans who had previously been a victim of a crime and Dominicans who do not have a high school diploma were less likely to feel safe walking in their neighborhood at night than respondents with other sociodemographic characteristics.

#### 8. Criminal Justice

Across the Eastern Caribbean, respondents are, on average, most confident that the criminal justice system ensures equal treatment of victims and least confident that the criminal justice system ensures timeliness. On average, respondents in Barbados reported the highest levels of confidence in the criminal justice system overall, while respondents in St. Lucia reported the lowest levels of confidence. Average perceptions of the criminal justice system's overall performance deteriorated in four out of six countries within the region, with average perceptions improving only in Barbados and Grenada.

- Dominicans were most confident that the criminal justice system **ensures equal treatment of the accused** (62%) and **safeguards the presumption of innocence of defendants** (56%). Dominicans were least confident that the criminal justice system **gives appropriate punishments** (16%) and **ensures timeliness** (28%).
- Perceptions of adherence to **proportionate punishments** in Dominica's criminal justice system worsened the most between 2018 and 2022, with a decrease of 31 percentage points.

#### 9. Police Performance

When asked about their impressions of police performance, respondents in the Eastern Caribbean had the most negative views on accountability, corruption, and due process and the most positive views on absence of discrimination and public service, on average.

- When asked about their impressions of police performance, respondents in Dominica were most confident that:
  - Police are available to help when needed (78%).
  - Police resolve security problems in the community (75%).
  - Police help them feel safe (71%).
- Respondents in Dominica were least confident that:
  - Police do not serve the interests of politicians (12%).
  - Police are investigated for misconduct (26%).
  - Police respect the rights of suspects (28%).
- In Dominica, respondents most often indicated that younger suspects and suspects with tattoos would most likely be at a disadvantage in a criminal investigation.

#### **10. Victim Support**

In almost every country surveyed in the Eastern Caribbean, less than half of all respondents, on average, believed that victims of crime receive adequate support and protection, with the exception of Barbados. In five out of six countries surveyed in the region, respondents were least confident that victims of sexual crimes and victims of domestic violence receive adequate care and protection. Respondents in Barbados reported the highest average levels of confidence in victim support practices overall, while respondents in Dominica reported the lowest average levels of confidence in the victim support practices overall.

- Dominicans were most often confident that crime victims are addressed by the police using accessible language (61%) and receive a clear explanation of the crime reporting process (52%).
- Dominicans were least often confident that crime victims receive adequate care and protection as victims of sexual crimes (2%) and domestic violence (5%).

Note: In addition to the data found in regional charts included in this report, comparative data for regional peer countries referenced in the Executive Findings can be found in each country's respective report.

THEMATIC FINDINGS

SECTION I AUTHORITARIANISM AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

10 Authoritarianism

13 Fundamental Freedoms

# **AUTHORITARIANISM**

## CHART 1.

### **Perceptions of Authoritarian Behaviors**

Percentage of respondents who believe that top government officials...



#### ATTACKS ON ELECTORAL SYSTEMS AND OPPOSITION PARTIES



### ATTACKS ON THE JUDICIARY

and freedom to interpret the law

Refuse to comply with court rulings

removal of judges



# that are not in their favor

#### ATTACKS ON THE MEDIA AND MISINFORMATION



Source: WJP General Population Poll 2022

that criticize them

from abroad

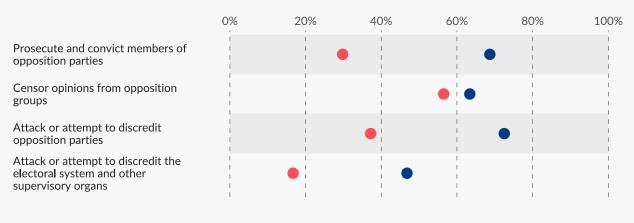
## CHART 2.

## Perceptions of Authoritarian Behavior, by Support for the Current Administration

Percentage of respondents in Dominica who believe that top government officials...

Government Supporter Non-Government Supporter

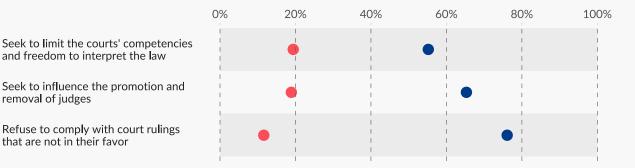
#### ATTACKS ON ELECTORAL SYSTEMS AND OPPOSITION PARTIES



# ATTACKS ON THE JUDICIARY

removal of judges

that are not in their favor



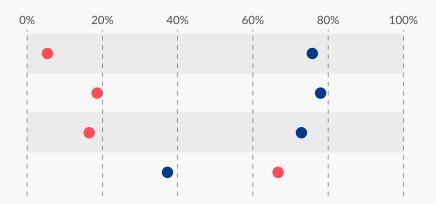
## ATTACKS ON THE MEDIA AND MISINFORMATION

Prosecute and convict journalists and leaders of civil society organizations

Attack or attempt to discredit the media and civil society organizations that criticize them

Resort to misinformation to shape public opinion in their favor

Censor information that comes from abroad



# CHART 3.

# Attitudes Towards Authoritarianism and Rule of Law

Percentage of respondents who agree with the following statements

<ul> <li>The prime minister can attack the media, civil society, and opposition groups</li> <li>The prime minister must respect the media, civil society, and opposition groups</li> <li>None of the above</li> </ul>	Barbados Dominica Grenada St. Lucia St. Vincent and the Grenadines Trinidad and Tobago	10%       85%         6%       94%         4%       93%         24%       66%         14%       84%         11%       88%
<ul> <li>The prime minister can undermine independent authorities</li> <li>The prime minister must respect independent authorities</li> <li>None of the above</li> </ul>	Barbados Dominica Grenada St. Lucia St. Vincent and the Grenadines Trinidad and Tobago	8%     83%       1%     97%       10%     88%       20%     73%       4%     93%       13%     86%
<ul> <li>Government efficiency is more important than citizen influence</li> <li>It is important that citizens have a say in government matters, even at the expense of efficiency</li> <li>None of the above</li> </ul>	Barbados Dominica Grenada St. Lucia St. Vincent and the Grenadines Trinidad and Tobago	42%     57%       25%     75%       35%     51%       22%     72%       24%     69%       31%     68%
<ul> <li>The prime minister should not be bound by the laws or courts</li> <li>The prime minister must always obey the law and the courts</li> <li>None of the above</li> </ul>	Barbados Dominica Grenada St. Lucia St. Vincent and the Grenadines Trinidad and Tobago	3%       95%         7%       91%         15%       76%         14%       82%         3%       88%         17%       81%
<ul> <li>It is not necessary to obey the laws of a government that you did not vote for</li> <li>It is important to obey the government in power, no matter who you voted for</li> <li>None of the above</li> </ul>	Barbados Dominica Grenada St. Lucia St. Vincent and the Grenadines Trinidad and Tobago	4%     94%       9%     89%       6%     93%       24%     69%       15%     81%       13%     85%

# FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

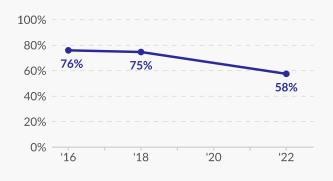
## CHART 4.

# Fundamental Freedoms in Dominica Over Time

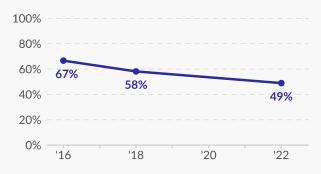
Percentage of respondents who believe the following statements

## EXPRESSION

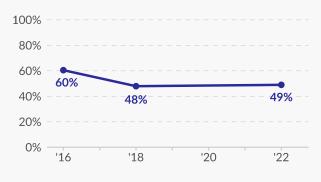
#### People can express opinions against the government



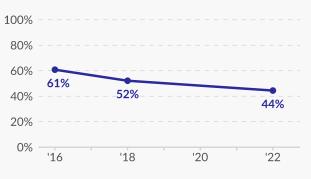
# Political parties can express opinions against the government



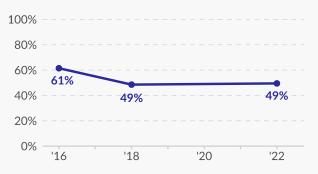
#### The media can expose cases of corruption



# Civil society organizations can express opinions against the government

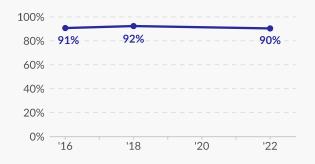


The media can express opinions against the government without fear of retaliation

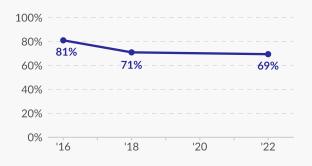


## PARTICIPATION

#### People can attend community meetings



#### People can organize around an issue or petition

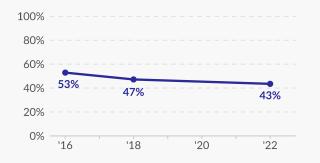


#### People can join any political organization



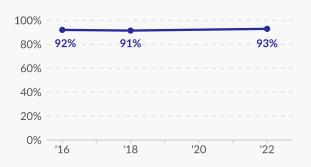
#### ELECTIONS

Local government officials are elected through a clean process



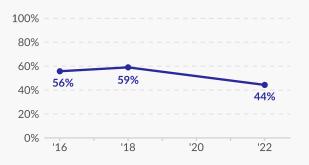
## RELIGION

Religious minorities can observe their holy days



Source: WJP General Population Poll 2016, 2018, and 2022

#### People can vote freely without feeling harassed or pressured



#### CHART 5.

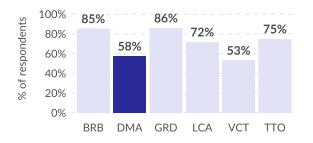
## Perceptions of Fundamental Freedoms in the Eastern Caribbean

Percentage of respondents who believe the following statements

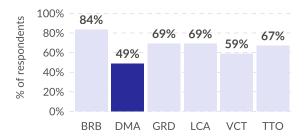
BRB = Barbados DMA = Dominica GRD = Grenada LCA = St. Lucia VCT = St. Vincent and the Grenadines TTO = Trinidad and Tobago

#### EXPRESSION

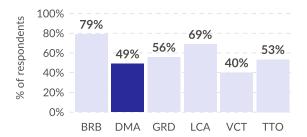
#### People can express opinions against the government



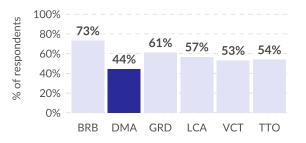
# Political parties can express opinions against the government



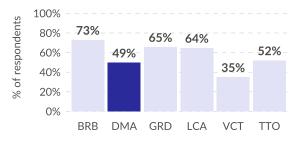
#### The media can expose cases of corruption



# Civil society organizations can express opinions against the government

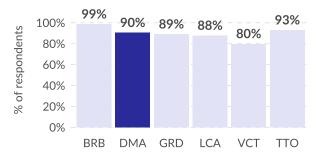


# The media can express opinions against the government without fear of retaliation

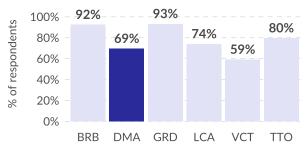


# PARTICIPATION

#### People can attend community meetings

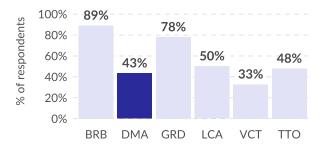


#### People can organize around an issue or petition



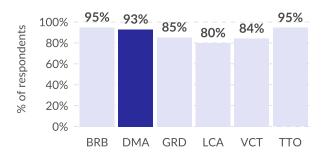
#### ELECTIONS

Local government officials are elected through a clean process



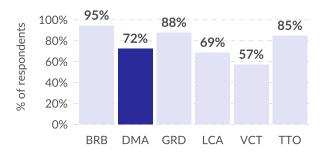
RELIGION

#### Religious minorities can observe their holy days

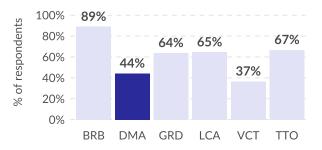


Source: WJP General Population Poll 2022

#### People can join any political organization



#### People can vote freely without feeling harassed or pressured



THEMATIC FINDINGS

SECTION II CORRUPTION AND TRUST

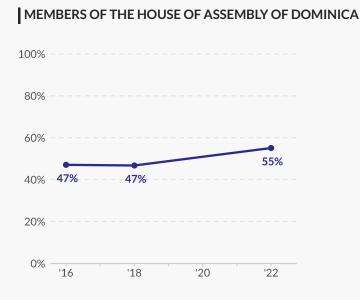
18 Corruption21 Trust

# CORRUPTION

CHART 6.

# Perceptions of Corruption by Institution Over Time

Percentage of respondents who believe that most or all people working in the following institutions are corrupt



## 

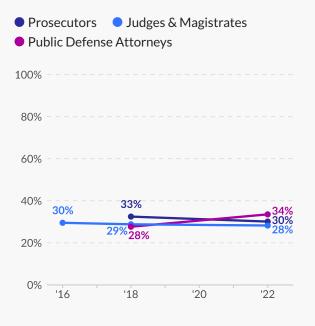
# EXECUTIVE

- Local Government Officers
- National Government Officers



# JUDICIARY

**POLICE OFFICERS** 



Source: WJP General Population Poll 2016, 2018, and 2022

## CHART 7.

## Perceptions of Corruption in the Eastern Caribbean, by Institution

Percentage of respondents who think people in the following groups are involved in corrupt practices



#### THE MEDIA AND POLITICAL PARTIES



#### NATIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT



#### ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUREAUCRATIC INSTITUTIONS



#### SECURITY AND JUSTICE INSTITUTIONS



Source: WJP General Population Poll 2022

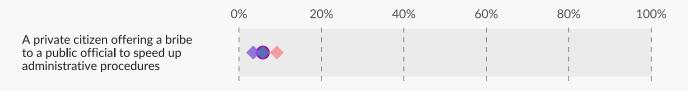
## CHART 8.

# Attitudes Towards Corrupt Behaviors in the Eastern Caribbean

Percentage of respondents who believe the following behaviors are always or usually acceptable

<ul> <li>Barbados</li> </ul>	Dominica	<ul> <li>Grenada</li> </ul>	♦ St. Lucia	<ul> <li>St. Vincent and the Grenadines</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Trinidad and Tobago</li> </ul>

#### **BRIBES OFFERED**



## **BRIBES REQUESTED**

A company offi	icial aski	ng for a	bribe
from a job appl		0	

A public officer asking for a bribe to speed up administrative procedures

A law enforcement officer (police, customs, immigration, civil guard, military police) asking for a bribe

0%	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1	1	1	1	I	1
1	I.	I.	1	I.	1
	I. I.	L	I. I.	L	1
	I.	I	1	T	1
I	I. I.	I. I.	1	I.	1
1	1	1		I	1
I	I	I	I	I	I
	I.	I	l.	I	1
	I.	L	I	I	1
	I	I	I	Ι	1
	ļ		1	I	1
1	I	I	1	I	1
	I	I	1	I	1
	I	I	1	I	1
		I		I	1
		I	1	I	
		1		1	

#### NEPOTISM AND EMBEZZLEMENT

A public officer being recruited on
the basis of family ties and
friendship networks

An elected official using stolen public funds to assist his or her community

An elected official taking public funds for private use

0%	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%
1	1	1	1	1	
I.	L. L.	L. L.	1	I.	1
		1	1	I.	1
		I. I.	1	I	1
I	I. I.	1	1	I	1
1	1	1	1	1	1
I	I	I.	I	I	I
		I.	l I	I	I.
	I.	I.	I.	I	I
I	I	I.	I.	I	1
1			1	I	1
I	I	I.	I.	I	1
	1	I	I	I	1
		I.	I	I	1
				I	
		1	1	1	1

Source: WJP General Population Poll 2022

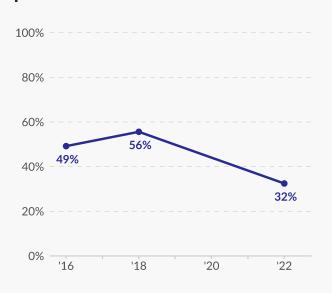
# TRUST

## CHART 9.

# **Trust in Institutions Over Time**

Percentage of respondents who have a lot or some trust in...

## PEOPLE LIVING IN THEIR COUNTRY

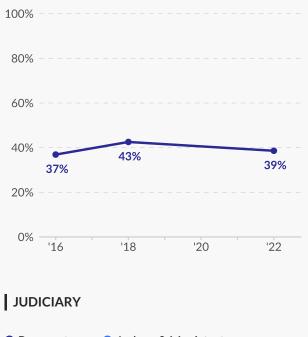


# EXECUTIVE

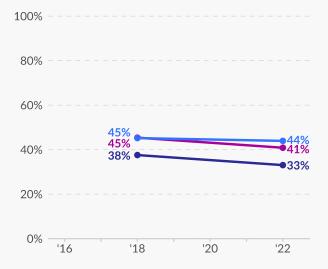
- Local Government Officers
- National Government Officers



## **POLICE OFFICERS**



- Prosecutors
   Judges & Magistrates
- Public Defense Attorneys



SECURITY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

- 23 Crime Victimization
- 24 Security
- 25 Criminal Justice
- 27 Police
- 29 Victim Support

# **CRIME VICTIMIZATION**

## CHART 10.1

# Types of Crimes Experienced by People in Dominica

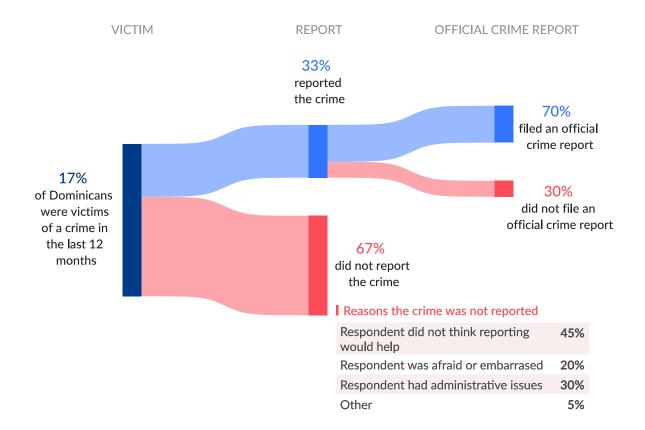
Victimization rate, by type of crime

	0%	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%	90%	100%	
		1	1		1					1		
<b>—</b>												
Property crimes			12%		1						1	
		I.	I.								I	
Cuine a secient life and intermite		1	1		1	1				1		
Crimes against life and integrity of individuals			9%	1			1	1	1	1	I	
		I.	I				1	1		1	1	
		- I	- I		1				- I	1	1	
Corruption, financial,		2%	I.								1	
and commercial crimes	I I	-/	-									
	1	1	I.	1		1	-	1	1	1		

#### **CHART 10.2**

# **Crime Victimization Rates and Reporting**

Data on crime victimization and reporting in Dominica



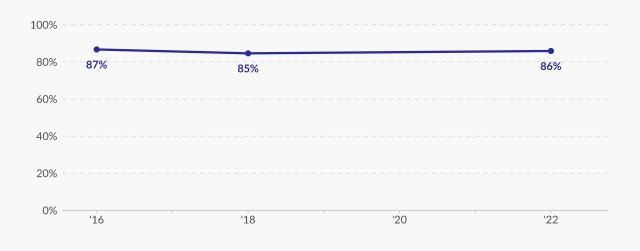
Note: For additional information on how Chart 10.1 and Chart 10.2 were produced, please see the Appendix.

# SECURITY

## **CHART 11.1**

## Perceptions of Security in Dominica Over Time

Percentage of respondents who reported that they feel safe or very safe walking in their neighborhood at night

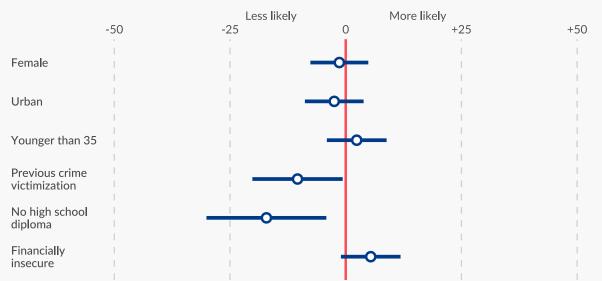


Source: WJP General Population Poll 2016, 2018, and 2022

## **CHART 11.2**

# Impact of Sociodemographic Characteristics on Perceptions of Safety

Likelihood that respondents feel safe or very safe walking in their neighborhood at night



Note: The results in this infographic were obtained from a logit regression. Each point indicates the average marginal effect of the corresponding sociodemographic characteristic on the predicted probability of a respondent to answer "safe" or "very safe" to the question "How safe do you feel walking in your neighborhood at night?" The lines indicate the 95% confidence intervals of each average marginal effect. For additional information on how Chart 11.2 was produced, please see the Regression Key linked in the Appendix.

Source: WJP General Population Poll 2022

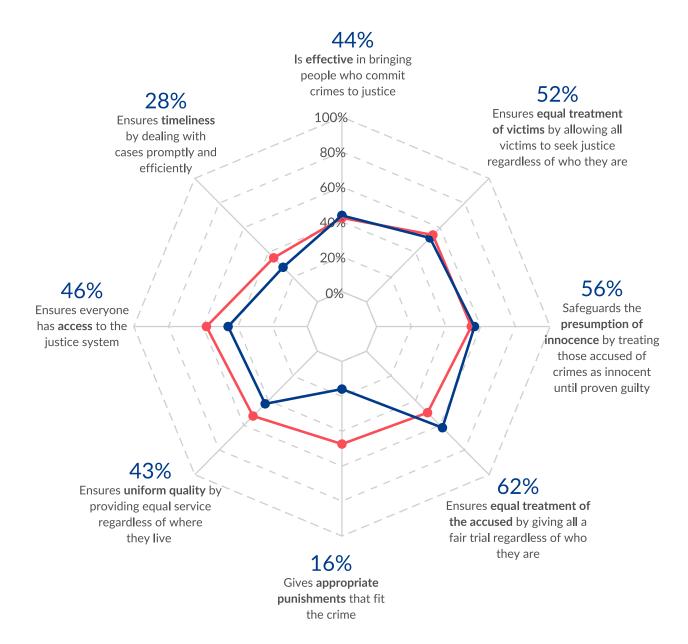
# **CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

## CHART 12.

# Perceptions of the Criminal Justice System in Dominica

Percentage of respondents who are confident that the criminal justice system...

• 2022 • 2018



Note: For additional information on how Chart 12 was produced, please see the Appendix.

Source: WJP General Population Poll 2018 and 2022

### CHART 13.

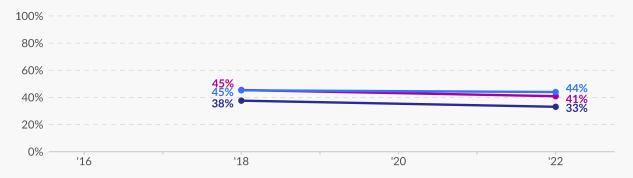
#### **Criminal Justice Actors**

Perceptions of criminal justice actors in Dominica

Prosecutors
 Public Defense Attorneys
 Judges & Magistrates

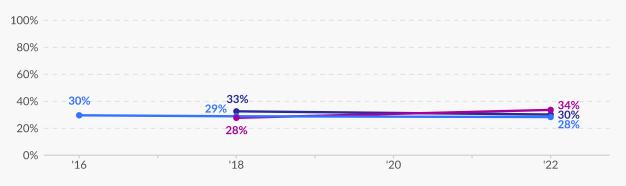
#### TRUST IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACTORS OVER TIME

Percentage of respondents who have a lot or some trust in prosecutors, public defense attorneys, and judges and magistrates



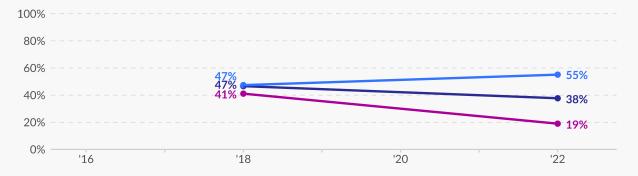
#### PERCEPTIONS OF CORRUPTION ACROSS CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACTORS OVER TIME

Percentage of respondents who believe that most or all prosecutors, public defense attorneys, and judges and magistrates are corrupt



#### PERCEPTIONS OF EFFECTIVENESS ACROSS CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACTORS OVER TIME

Percentage of respondents who believe that prosecutors, public defense attorneys, and judges and magistrates do their job well



Note: Variables in Effectiveness category are as follows: Prosecutors prosecute crimes committed in an independent manner and are not subject to any sort of pressure; Public defenders do everything they can to defend poor people that are accused of committing a crime; Judges decide cases in an independent manner and are not subject to any sort of pressure.

Source: WJP General Population Poll 2016, 2018, and 2022

#### **26** II Thematic Findings

# POLICE

# CHART 14.

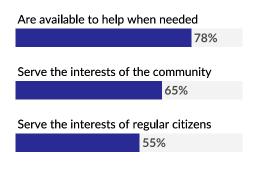
# **Perceptions of the Police**

Opinions on the effectiveness and legitimacy of law enforcement

## EFFECTIVENESS

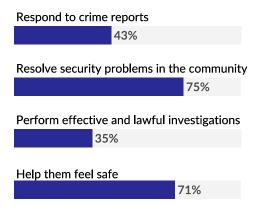
#### Serve the Public

Percentage of respondents who believe that the police...



# Crime Control and Safety

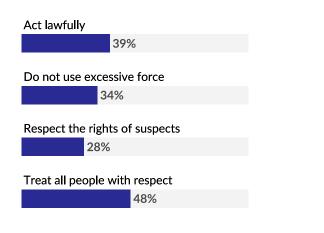
Percentage of respondents who believe that the police...



# LEGITIMACY

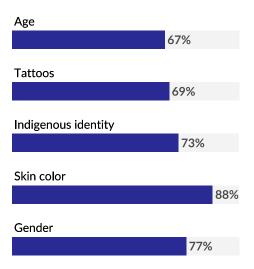
#### **Due Process**

Percentage of respondents who believe that the police...



## Discrimination

Percentage of respondents who believe that the police do not discriminate against suspects based on....



#### Corruption

Percentage of respondents who believe that the police...

Are not involved in corrupt practices 7 56% Investigate crimes in an independent manner 7 32% Do not serve the interests of gangs 7 58% Do not serve the interests of politicians 12%

#### **Trust and Crime Reporting**

Percentage of respondents who...

#### Trust the police

39%

Report a crime when they are a victim 33%

Feel safe in their neighborhoods

86%

#### Accountability

Percentage of respondents who believe that the police...

Are held accountable for violating laws	
44%	
Are held accountable for seeking bribes	
30%	
Are held accountable for accepting bribes	
34%	
Are investigated for misconduct	

26%

Note: For additional information on how Chart 14 was produced, please see the Appendix.

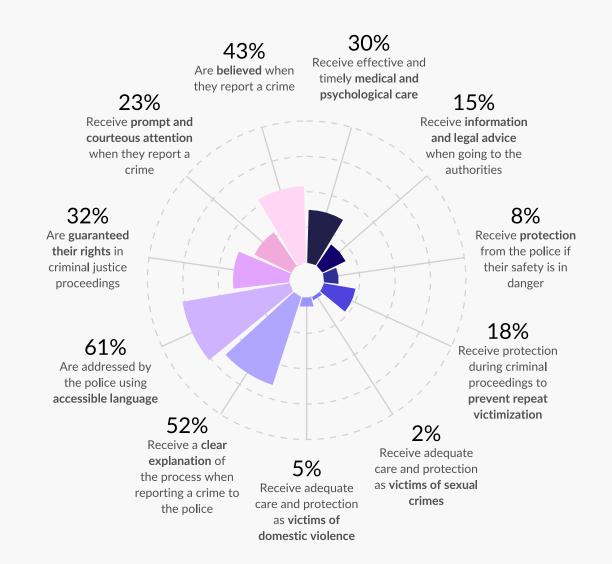
Source: WJP General Population Poll 2022

# VICTIM SUPPORT

# CHART 15.

# Perceptions of the Treatment of Crime Victims

Percentage of respondents who are confident that crime victims...



Note: For additional information on how Chart 15 was produced, please see the Appendix.



31 Methodology

# METHODOLOGY

To present an image that accurately portrays the rule of law as experienced by ordinary people, data in this report is drawn from the General Population Poll (GPP), an original data source designed and collected by the World Justice Project (WJP). The GPP captures the experiences and perceptions of ordinary citizens concerning the performance of the state and its agents and the actual operation of the legal framework in their country.

The General Population Poll used to collect data in Dominica in 2022 features several new questions that highlight perceptions on issues salient to the region, including corruption, authoritarian behaviors, police performance, criminal justice, and security. In total, the General Population Poll questionnaire includes 172 perception-based questions and 122 experience-based questions, along with sociodemographic information on all respondents. Additionally, the GPP in Dominica was administered to a sample of 500 respondents.

# **Data Collection**

The GPP in Dominica was conducted for the WJP's *The Rule of Law in Dominica: Key Findings from the General Population Poll 2022* with sampling, fieldwork, and data processing by DMR Insights Ltd., based in St. Lucia. DMR Insights Ltd. administered the surveys between July and August 2022, conducting face-to-face interviews using a multi-stage stratified random sampling design. The target population group for this survey included Dominicans aged 18 years or older residing across all 10 parishes throughout the country.

#### SAMPLE SIZE AND SAMPLE FRAME

The General Population Poll in Dominica represents an achieved total sample size of 500 interviews distributed proportionally across 10 regions. DMR Insights Ltd. based the sampling frame on 2011 census figures, acquiring a proportionally stratified sample by region, age, gender, socioeconomic status, and level of urbanization.

In order to address all relevant topics while controlling the questionnaire length, the World Justice Project split three of the survey modules into two versions (Option A and Option B) and randomly assigned one option to each respondent for each module. These modules included: Hypothetical Situations, Civic Participation, and Institutional Performance. Aside from these modules, the questionnaires are identical. A link to the complete survey instrument, in English, can be found in the Appendix of this report.

#### SAMPLING

Given Dominica's population size, regions served as the primary sampling unit. Interviewers were assigned a starting point within each primary sampling unit and performed a systemic random route, while paying close attention to target quotas for gender, age, and income. Interviewers used a Kish grid to select respondents. If the selected respondent declined to be interviewed or otherwise did not meet the characteristics of the target quota, the interviewer moved on to the next household.

# DESCRIPTION OF THE SAMPLE

**COVERAGE**: Interviews were distributed across regions to create a nationally representative sample. Twentythree percent (23%) of the interviews took place in Saint Paul, followed by 23% in Saint George, 15% in Saint Joseph, 11% in Saint Andrew, and the remaining 28% in other regions.

GEOGRAPHY: Thirty-nine percent (39%) of respondents resided in rural areas and municipalities, while 61% of respondents resided in metro areas or cities.

# RACIAL AND ETHNIC

BACKGROUND: Most respondents (77%) identified themselves as Afro-Dominican, followed by Mixed Race (14%).

**GENDER:** Fifty-one percent (51%) of respondents were female and 49% were male.

**EDUCATION:** Most respondents (89%) reported that they had received at least a high school diploma or vocational degree and the remaining 11% of respondents received up to a middle school diploma.

#### **RESPONSE RATES**

Eligible household, non-interview	393
Refusals	266
Break-off	64
Non-contact	63

#### INTERVIEWING AND QUALITY CONTROL

In total, 19 interviewers worked on this project, including 11 female interviewers. Enumerators worked in five groups of three to four interviewers. Interviews were conducted in English.

The supervisory team directly oversaw 10% of all interviews in the field. During data processing, 150 interviews (30% of the sample) were backchecked via telephone by the central office. After quality control, 19 interviews were rejected from the final sample due to abnormal interview length. Interviews averaged 48 minutes in length and ranged from 47 to 87 minutes.

#### DATA REVIEW AND JUSTIFICATION

As part of the data analysis process, the team consulted several third-party sources in order to contextualize and validate perception-based data captured by the General Population Poll and compare it with the objective rule of law situation incountry. Peer data sources consulted include select indicators measured by the Latin American Public Opinion Project (LAPOP)'s *AmericasBarometer*, Latinobarómetro, Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem), Transparency International's *Corruption Perceptions Index*, the Bertelsmann Stiftung's *Transformation Index (BTI)*, and Freedom House's *Freedom in the World*. While certain trends captured by the 2022 General Population Poll in Dominica are comparable to trends in perceptions data measured by other indices, the experiences and perceptions presented in this report may not always coincide with the reality of Dominica's rule of law performance as measured by other sources.

#### **HISTORICAL DATA**

Historical data in this report derives from the *WJP Rule of Law Index*®'s General Population Poll that is typically administered every two to three years using a nationally representative probability sample ranging from 500 to 1,000 respondents. These household surveys were administered in the three largest cities of most countries until 2018, when the World Justice Project transitioned to nationally representative coverage as the preferred methodology for polling. The historical polling data used in this year's reports was collected in the following intervals: Data for Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago was collected in 2016, 2018, and 2022.

#### **ADDITIONAL COUNTRIES**

*The Rule of Law in Dominica: Key Findings from the General Population Poll 2022* includes comparisons to the following Eastern Caribbean countries surveyed by the World Justice Project during the same period: Barbados, Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago. This report is additionally part of a series that presents findings from the following five sub-regions within Latin America and the Caribbean: Andes (Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru); Southern Cone (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay); Eastern Caribbean (Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago); Greater Antilles, The Bahamas, and the Guianas (The Bahamas, the Dominican Republic, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Suriname); and Central America (Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama). Together, these 26 countries are a portion of the 140 countries and jurisdictions included in the *WJP Rule of Law Index 2022* report. Detailed information regarding the methodology of the *Rule of Law Index* is available at: www.worldjusticeproject.org.

Country	Polling Company	Mothedalogy	Sample
		Methodology	Sample
Argentina	StatMark Group	Face-to-face	759
The Bahamas	DMR Insights Ltd.	Face-to-face	500
Barbados	DMR Insights Ltd.	Face-to-face	500
Belize	CID Gallup	Face-to-face	1,500
Bolivia	Captura Consulting	Face-to-face	1,000
Brazil	About Brazil Market Research	Face-to-face	1,109
Colombia	Tempo Group SA	Face-to-face	1,000
Costa Rica	CID Gallup	Face-to-face	1,005
Dominica	DMR Insights Ltd.	Face-to-face	500
Dominican Republic	CID Gallup	Face-to-face	1,002
Ecuador	StatMark Group	Face-to-face	1,005
El Salvador	CID Gallup	Face-to-face	2,010
Grenada	DMR Insights Ltd.	Face-to-face	500
Guatemala	Mercaplan	Face-to-face	2,002
Guyana	StatMark Group	Face-to-face	500
Haiti	CID Gallup	Face-to-face	507
Honduras	Mercaplan	Face-to-face	2,000
Jamaica	StatMark Group	Face-to-face	1,001
Nicaragua	CID Gallup	Telephone	1,014
Panama	CID Gallup	Face-to-face	2,023
Paraguay	Datum Internacional S.A./BM Business Partners	Face-to-face	1,000
Peru	Datum Internacional S.A.	Face-to-face	1,029
St. Lucia	DMR Insights Ltd.	Face-to-face	500
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	DMR Insights Ltd.	Face-to-face	500
Suriname	D3: Designs, Data, Decisions	Face-to-face	502
	CID Gallup	Face-to-face	1,001

# APPENDIX

- 35 Appendix
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# APPENDIX

# **Methodological Materials**

# GENERAL POPULATION POLL (GPP)

The General Population Poll in the Caribbean was designed to capture high-quality data on the realities and concerns of ordinary people on a variety of themes related to the rule of law, including authoritarianism, corruption, police performance, and crime and security.

World Justice Project General Population Poll 2022 - Caribbean Survey Instrument (English Versions A & B)

# VARIABLES USED IN INFOGRAPHICS ON CRIME VICTIMIZATION

This table lists the question-level variables from the General Population Poll used to construct Chart 10.1 and the "Reasons the crime was not reported" table in Chart 10.2.

World Justice Project Crime Rates and Reporting Variable Map

# REGRESSION TABLES FOR REGRESSION ANALYSIS USED IN INFOGRAPHIC ON PERCEPTIONS OF SECURITY

This document includes the question-level variables from the General Population Poll used in the regression analysis and the regression results featured in Chart 11.2.

World Justice Project Regression Tables

# VARIABLES USED IN INFOGRAPHIC ON THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

This table lists the question-level variables from the General Population Poll used to construct Chart 12.

World Justice Project Criminal Justice System Variable Map

# VARIABLES USED IN INFOGRAPHIC ON THE POLICE

This table lists the question-level variables from the General Population Poll used to construct Chart 14.

World Justice Project Police Performance Variable Map

## VARIABLES USED IN INFOGRAPHIC ON PERCEPTIONS OF THE TREATMENT OF CRIME VICTIMS

This table lists the question-level variables from the General Population Poll used to construct Chart 15.

World Justice Project Victim Support Variable Map



# ABOUT THE WORLD JUSTICE PROJECT

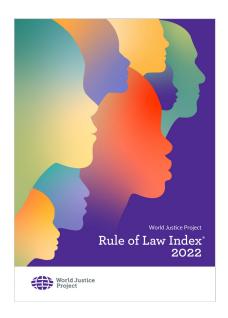
The World Justice Project (WJP) is an independent, multidisciplinary organization working to create knowledge, build awareness, and stimulate action to advance the rule of law worldwide. Effective rule of law is the foundation for communities of justice, opportunity, and peace–underpinning development, accountable government, and respect for fundamental rights.

The WJP builds and supports a global, multidisciplinary movement for the rule of law through three lines of work: collecting, organizing, and analyzing original, independent rule of law data, including the World Justice Project Rule of Law Index; supporting research, scholarship, and teaching about the importance of the rule of law, its relationship to development, and effective strategies to strengthen it; and connecting and building an engaged global network of policymakers and advocates to advance the rule of law through strategic partnerships, convenings, coordinated advocacy, and support for locally led initiatives.

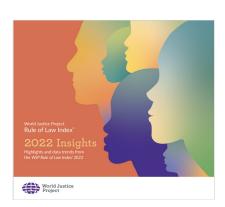
Learn more at: worldjusticeproject.org.

# OTHER PUBLICATIONS

For more information click on the publication.



#### WJP Rule of Law Index 2022



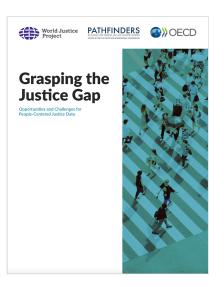
WJP Rule of Law Index 2022 Insights Highlights and data trends from the WJP Rule of Law Index 2021



WJP Mexico States Rule of Law Index 2020-2021 Perceptions and experiences in 32 states



World Justice Challenge 2021 Outcome Report



Grasping the Justice Gap 2021



Environmental Governance Indicators for Latin America & the Caribbean 2020

For more information or to read these reports, visit worldjusticeproject.org/our-work

