

KANTAR

Perception of corruption in Mauritius

Report V 1.0

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Transparency
Mauritius
Affiliated to Transparency International

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1 Objectives and methodology

Objectives and methodology

Research Objectives

- Understand whether corruption is considered as a societal evil
- Assess the understanding of 'Corruption' and its magnitude in Mauritius as compared to other countries
- Measure the awareness of communication campaigns on corruption and awareness of anti-corruption institutions in Mauritius

Research Methodology

- 300 interviews were conducted using mixed methodology; CATI (Computer-Aided Telephone Interviews) and Online interviews.
- The sample is nationally representative in terms of age group, gender, region and socio-economic classification.
- 15% of the surveys were subjected to quality control call backs.

Fieldwork

- The survey was conducted between the 6th April to the 11th of May 2020.

Profile of sample

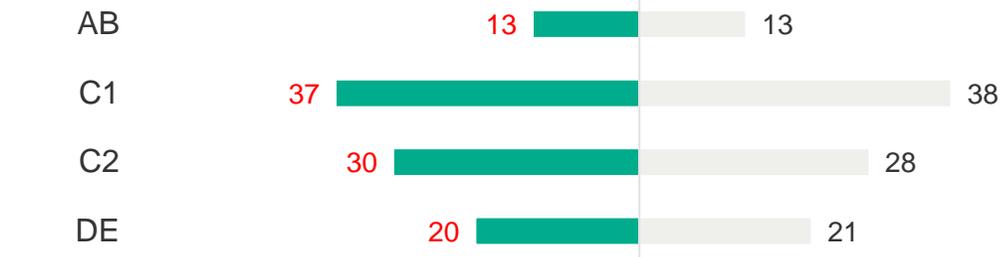
Sample Profile

National sample

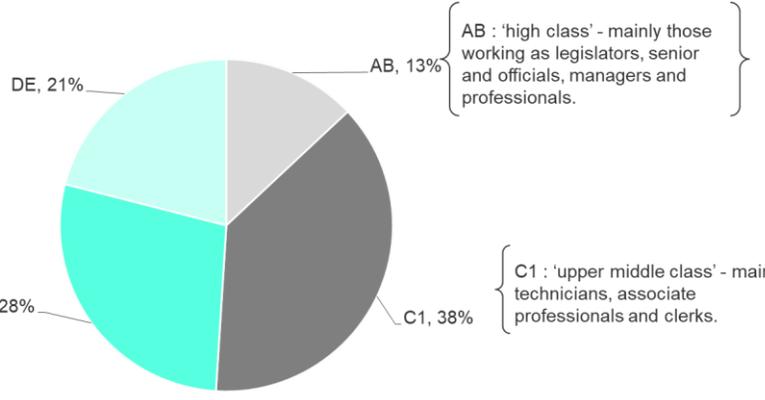
GENDER



SEC



DE : 'lower class' - plant and machine operators, assemblers and those who are working in elementary occupations.

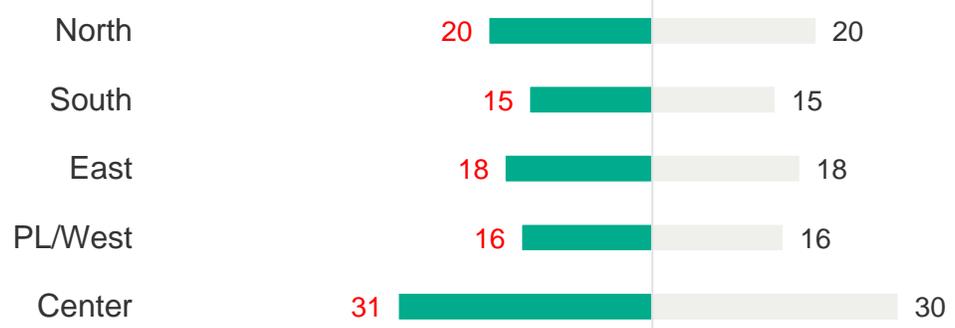


AGE



C2 : 'lower middle class' - skilled agricultural and fishery workers, craft and related trades workers.

REGION



2

Key findings and Way Forward

Conclusions and Key findings

Corruption is among the key pressing issues at the moment and is also strongly referred as a form of societal evil. In addition, the extent of corruption in Mauritius as a form of societal evil, is perceived to be at the same level as drug abuse.

- Corruption is spontaneously mentioned as a societal evil by 4 out of 10 respondents, while more than half of the respondents spontaneously mentioned 'Drugs'. However, when prompted, 90% consider Corruption as a societal evil in Mauritius, followed by 'drugs' with 87%.

The level of corruption in the country remains a concern : two thirds of the Mauritian population consider the level of corruption to be high/very high.

- The word corruption spontaneously evokes 'gaining money/favouritism for 86% of the respondents, while 50% mentioned about political moves. Fraud is considered as the main form of corruption in Mauritius followed by nepotism/favouritism, political corruption and money laundering.
- 65% of the Mauritians are of the opinion that the level of corruption in Mauritius is high/very high. The perceived level of corruption is over-represented among those between 25-44 years old.
- Moreover, as compared to other countries, 47% of the Mauritians consider the level of corruption in Mauritius to be high/very high.
- There is a high consensus that corruption leads to 'lack of proper justice', 'lack of quality in services', 'increases chances of unemployment, 'lack of faith in government and public authorities' and 'affects social stability'.

Conclusions and Key findings

In the past 12 months, 1 out of 4 Mauritians has witnessed an act of corruption. Nevertheless, the study reveals that even if this figure were higher, there is still a great reluctance to report a case. On one hand, it is believed that matters are not taken seriously (any action will not be taken) and on the other hand, there is a strong fear of consequences.

- 24% of the Mauritians have witnessed or experienced a case of corruption during the past 12 months, among which only 29% have reported the case. The major barriers for not reporting a case of corruption pertain to a lack of proactive measures from concerned institutions and fear of consequences.
- 49% of the Mauritians will not report or are unsure of reporting future cases of corruption which they may witness or experience. Among them, 60% will not report since the fear the consequences. Lack of sense of responsibility and limited awareness also act as barriers to report corruption.

Conclusions and Key findings

Besides ICAC, other organisations that fight against corruption have been spontaneously mentioned by very few respondents. However when prompted, one third of Mauritians declared having heard of Transparency Mauritius. Nevertheless, they cannot make a clear distinction with regards to its role as compared to ICAC . Both organisations are simply known for fighting against corruption.

- 49% of the Mauritians stated that they are aware of the organisation that fights against corruption in Mauritius, among which 94% have spontaneously cited ICAC. Only 5% mentioned Transparency Mauritius and 3% the Police.
- When prompted, 30% of the Mauritians declared having ever heard about Transparency Mauritius. However, very few are aware of the initiatives undertaken by the organisation (only 23% of those who know the organisation).
- Similar to ICAC, Transparency Mauritius is better known among the upper and upper middle socio-economic categories, those aged between 25-44 and living in the central part of the island.

Awareness and Souvenir of communication campaign

- 31% of the Mauritians have seen/heard/read a campaign/communication on corruption in the past 6 months. Those belonging to the upper and upper middle socio-economic categories and living the central part of the island and in Port Louis/West are more sensible to communication on corruption. Globally, Mauritians are more receptive to communication on TV, digital platforms and radio.
- Communication on corruption was quite easy/very easy to understand for 81% of those who have seen/heard about a campaign.
- When it comes to the preferred types of communication on corruption, the top 5 wish lists are: short informative audio on radio (61%), short informative videos on social media (58%), short informative videos on TV (56%), talks in place of work (49%) and talks in educational institutions (43%)

Recommendations

Conquering fear

Ensuring anonymity is paramount in reporting a corruption case. The public at large will have to be reassured about strict measures being put in place to ensure the confidentiality of the ones who disclosed corruption acts. An awareness campaign with regards to confidentiality and removal of fear is necessary to encourage people to denounce acts of corruption.

Educate the population on the impact of corruption on society

Talk shows on TV and radio should be emphasized in order to educate the population at large about the outcomes of corruption on the economic growth and social stability of the country. Talks can also be held in the workplace and educational institutions. The idea of short informative content on radio, digital platforms and TV is well accepted by the general public.

Enhance awareness and knowledge of Transparency Mauritius through various channels

A mass media campaign is recommended to create awareness about Transparency Mauritius. However, the role of the organization should be clearly communicated, in particular its difference from ICAC. Transparency Mauritius can leverage on its hotline services to improve its visibility and also enhance proximity with the general public.

Recommendations

Communications should be adapted to media consumption behaviour

To effectively communicate its fight against corruption, the media consumption behaviour of the different socio-demographic groups have to be taken into account. Whilst those from the lower social classes prefer ‘Short informative audio on radio’ and billboards, the ABC1 prefer ‘Short informative videos on Social Media. Those aged between 45-65 years old have a preference for traditional media such as radio and newspapers /magazines while the younger ones are more geared towards Social media.

	Short informative audio on Radio	Short informative videos on Social media	Short informative videos on TV	Talks in place of work	Talks in educational institutions	Billboards	Visual inserts in newspapers/magazines	Pamphlets/flyers
Male	65%	54%	55%	54%	45%	43%	28%	22%
Female	58%	61%	57%	44%	42%	42%	33%	15%
ABC1	57%	67%	56%	46%	43%	35%	28%	17%
C2DE	66%	48%	56%	53%	44%	50%	33%	20%
16-24	42%	76%	42%	35%	35%	28%	20%	16%
25-44	65%	65%	56%	54%	48%	44%	30%	19%
45-65	67%	40%	64%	52%	43%	48%	36%	19%
North	75%	45%	60%	48%	47%	50%	34%	28%
South	48%	55%	44%	55%	55%	28%	21%	18%
East	66%	61%	59%	58%	45%	46%	38%	21%
PL / West	65%	58%	45%	45%	43%	49%	38%	19%
Central	55%	65%	63%	44%	35%	38%	24%	11%
Total	61%	58%	56%	49%	43%	42%	31%	18%

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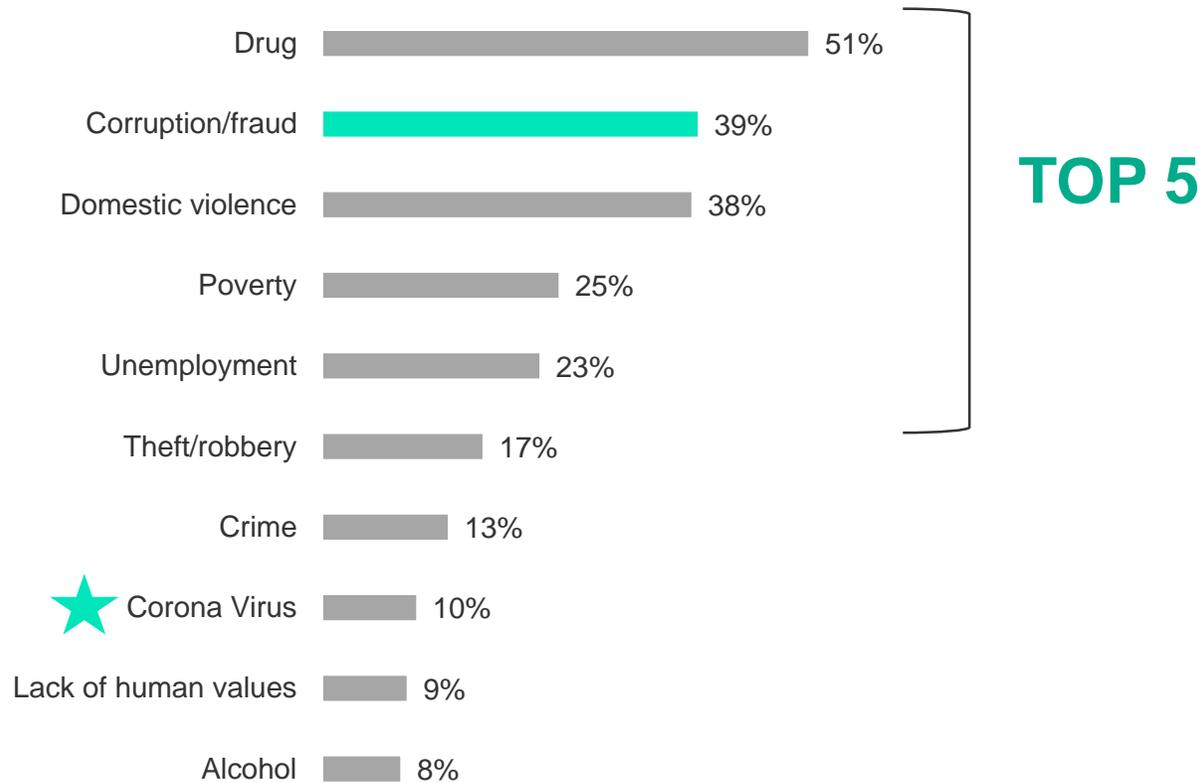
Perception of Societal Evils in Mauritius

39%

of Mauritians spontaneously associated corruption/fraud to societal evil

Corruption/fraud is the second most known form of societal evil similar to domestic violence. Drug is highly associated to societal evil. Poverty and unemployment are likely to be the third concern when it comes to societal evils. 1 out of 10 respondents spontaneously also associated the recent pandemic crisis with societal evils.

SPONTANEOUS ASSOCIATIONS WITH SOCIETAL EVILS



Other forms of societal evils spontaneously mentioned by ≤ 7% of the respondents interviewed

Financial problem/Economic crisis	7%
Rape	7%
Politics/bad governance	6%
Inequality/discrimination	6%
Juvenile delinquency	5%
Cybercrime	4%
Racism	4%
Prostitution	4%
Pollution	2%
Bullying	2%
Disparity between rich and poor	2%
Lack of freedom/democracy	2%

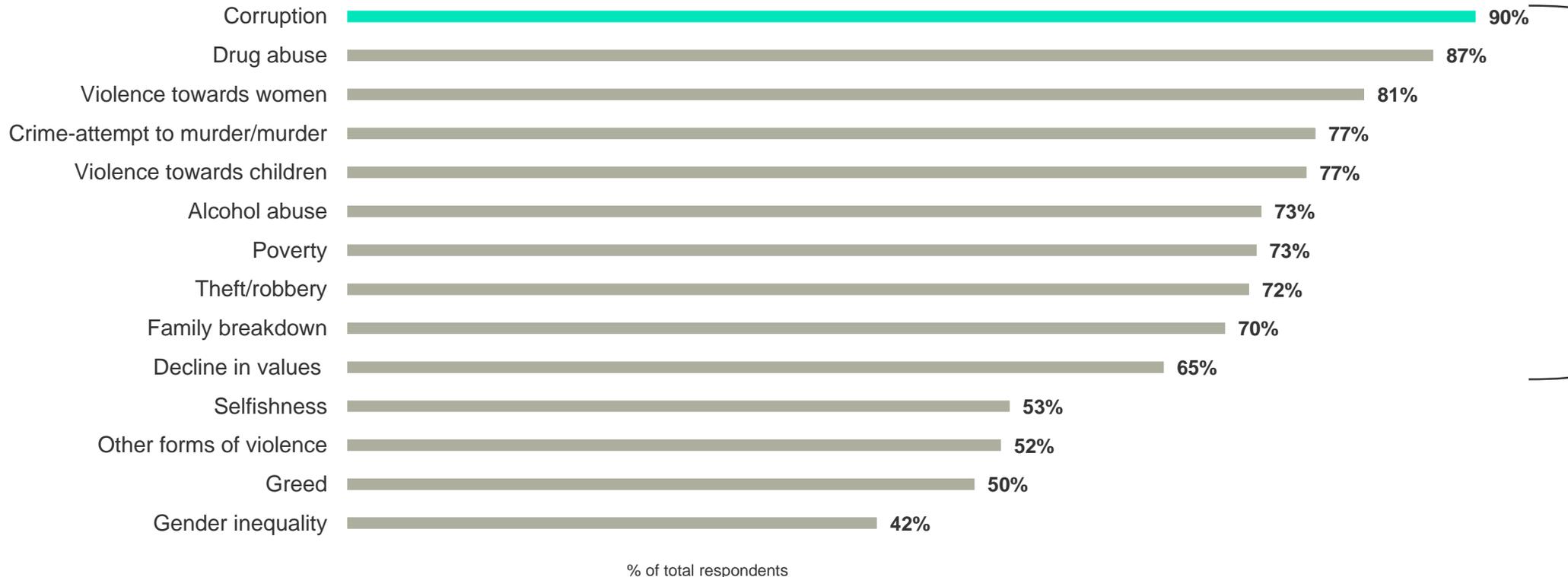
% of total respondents

90%

of Mauritians are of the opinion that Corruption is indeed detrimental to the society

While nearly 40% of the Mauritians spontaneously associated Corruption with societal evils, the majority (90%) is of the opinion that it is indeed detrimental to the society. Furthermore, there is a rather high consensus on most of the societal evils assessed in the study.

AIDED ASSOCIATIONS WITH SOCIETAL EVILS (A PROMPTED LIST WAS USED)

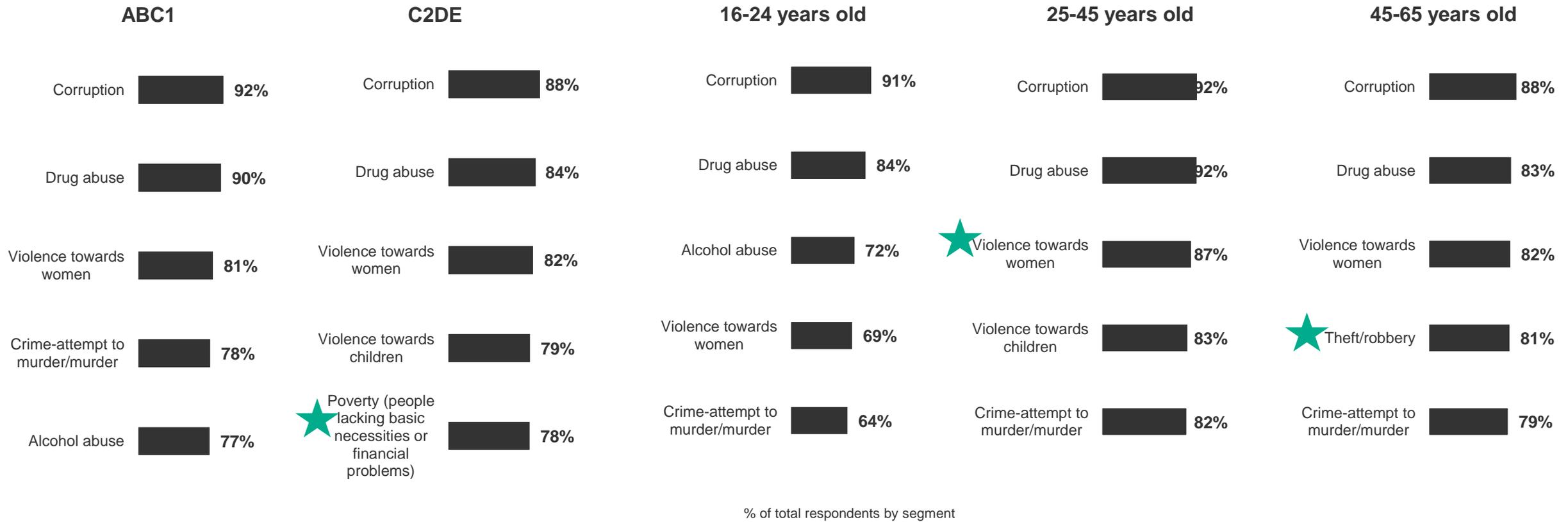


**HIGH
consensus**

Corruption and drug abuse are considered to be the Top 2 most pressing issues in our society irrespective of one's socio-demographic background.

However, some issues are relatively more of a concern for specific groups particularly poverty (is of higher concern among the C2DE), violence towards women (25-45 years) and theft/robbery (45 years and above).

AIDED ASSOCIATION WITH SOCIETAL EVILS BY PROFILE – TOP 5 RESPONSES BY SEGMENT



4

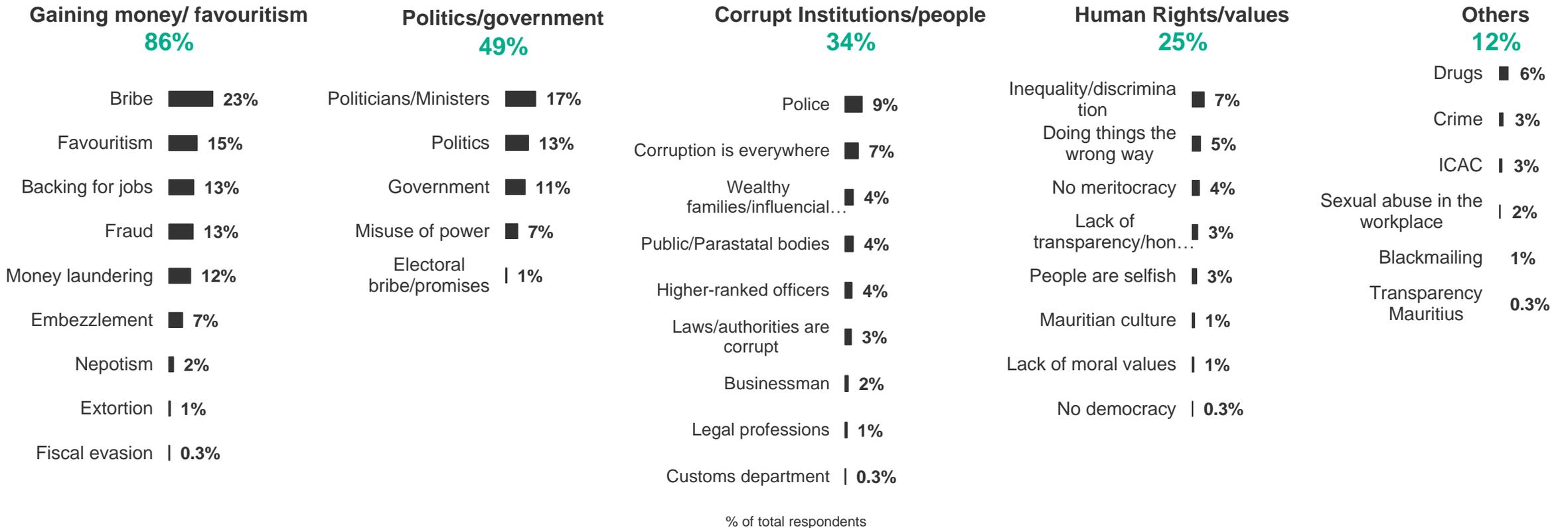
Perception of corruption in Mauritius

86%

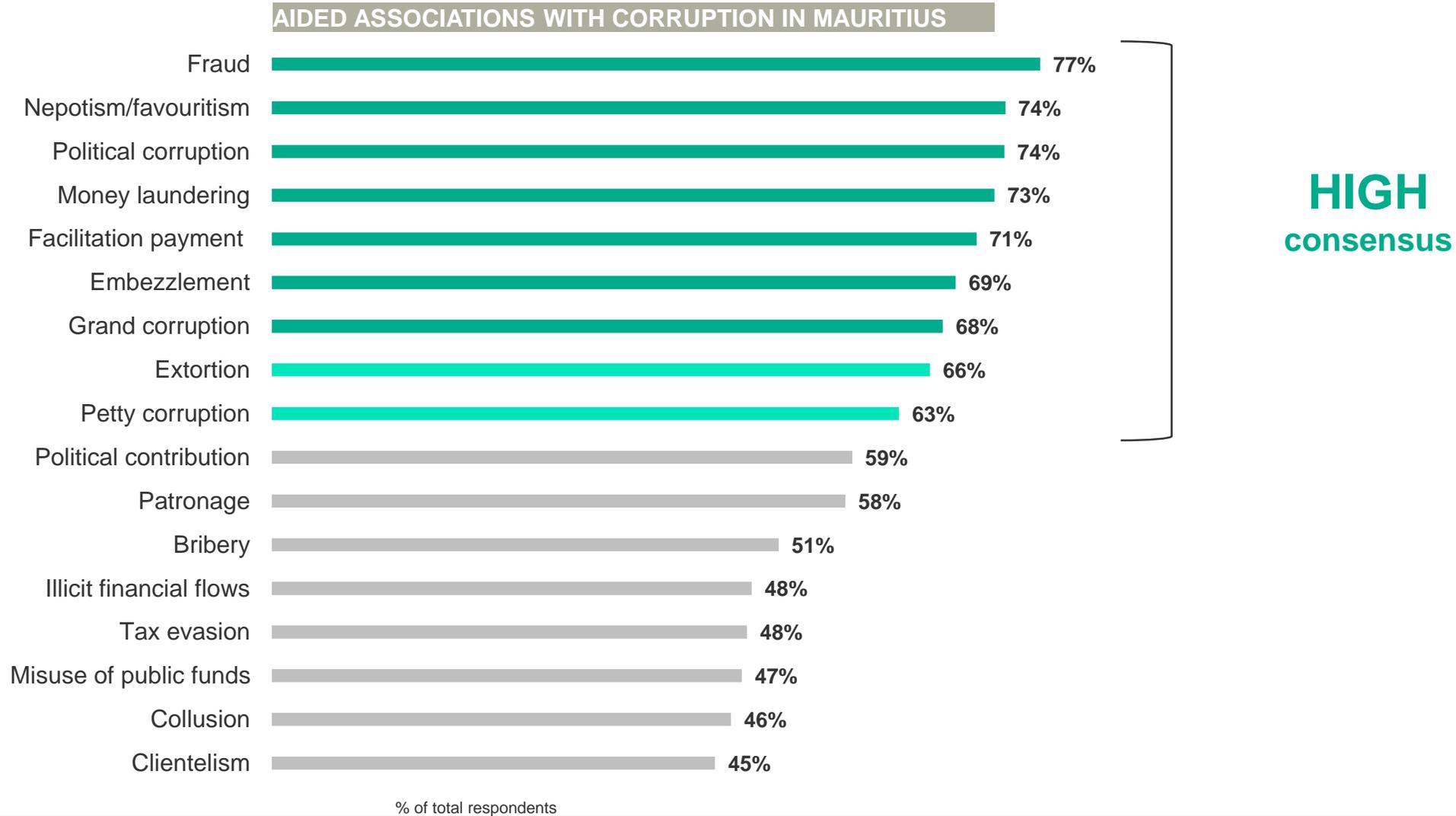
of Mauritians spontaneously associated corruption to money and favouritism

Local politics and institutions also portray a corrupt image. It is worth highlighting that spontaneously almost no connection is made between corruption and anti-corruption entities.

SPONTANEOUS ASSOCIATIONS WITH CORRUPTION



What is considered as a form of corruption ? The list is quite long : fraud, nepotism/favouritism, political corruption, money laundering, facilitation payment and embezzlement.

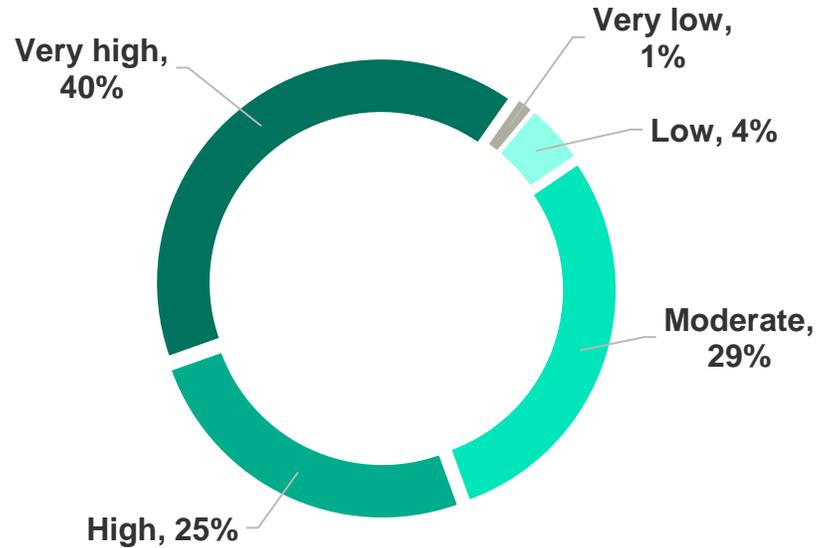


65%

of Mauritians think that the level of corruption in Mauritius is high/very high

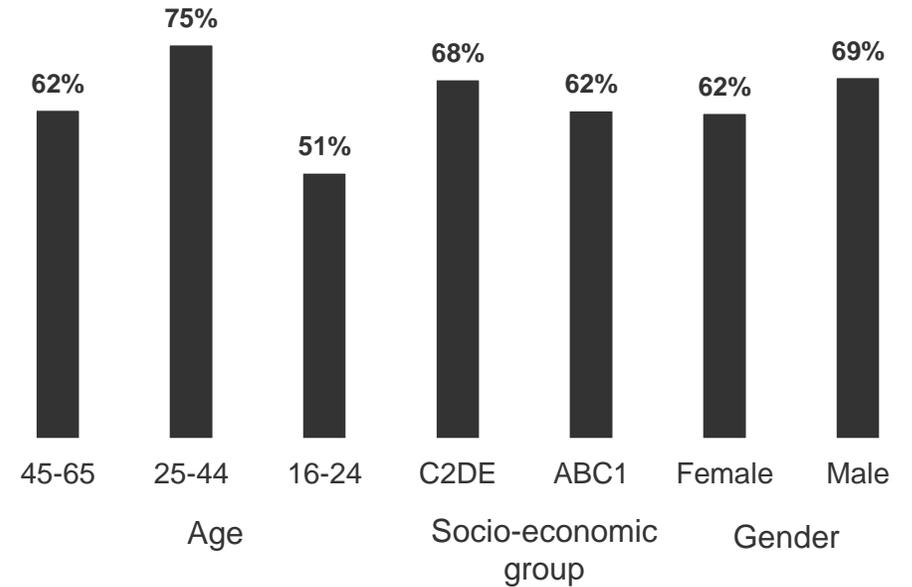
The perceived level of corruption is over-represented among those aged between 25-44 years old.

LEVEL OF CORRUPTION IN MAURITIUS



% of total respondents

EXTENT OF CORRUPTION BY PROFILE (HIGH + VERY HIGH)



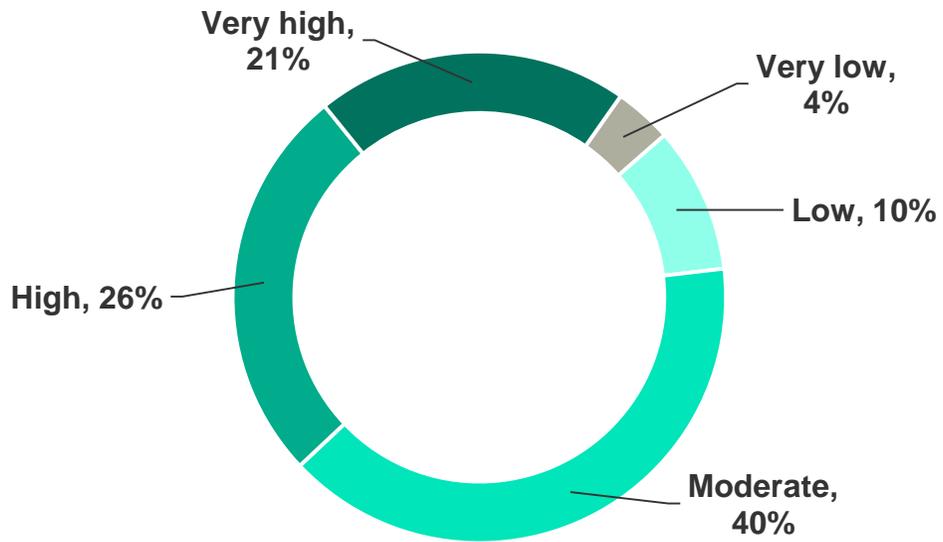
% of total respondents by segment

47%

of Mauritians position the level of corruption in Mauritius higher (High + Very High) in comparison to other countries

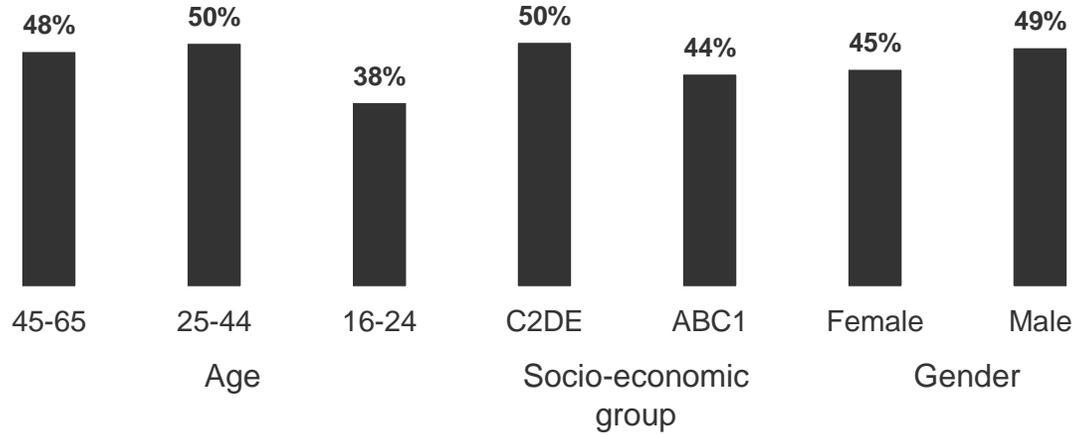
However 40% are “sitting in the middle”, they do not think the situation in Mauritius in worse or better compared with other countries.

LEVEL OF CORRUPTION IN MAURITIUS AS COMPARED TO OTHER COUNTRIES



% of total respondents

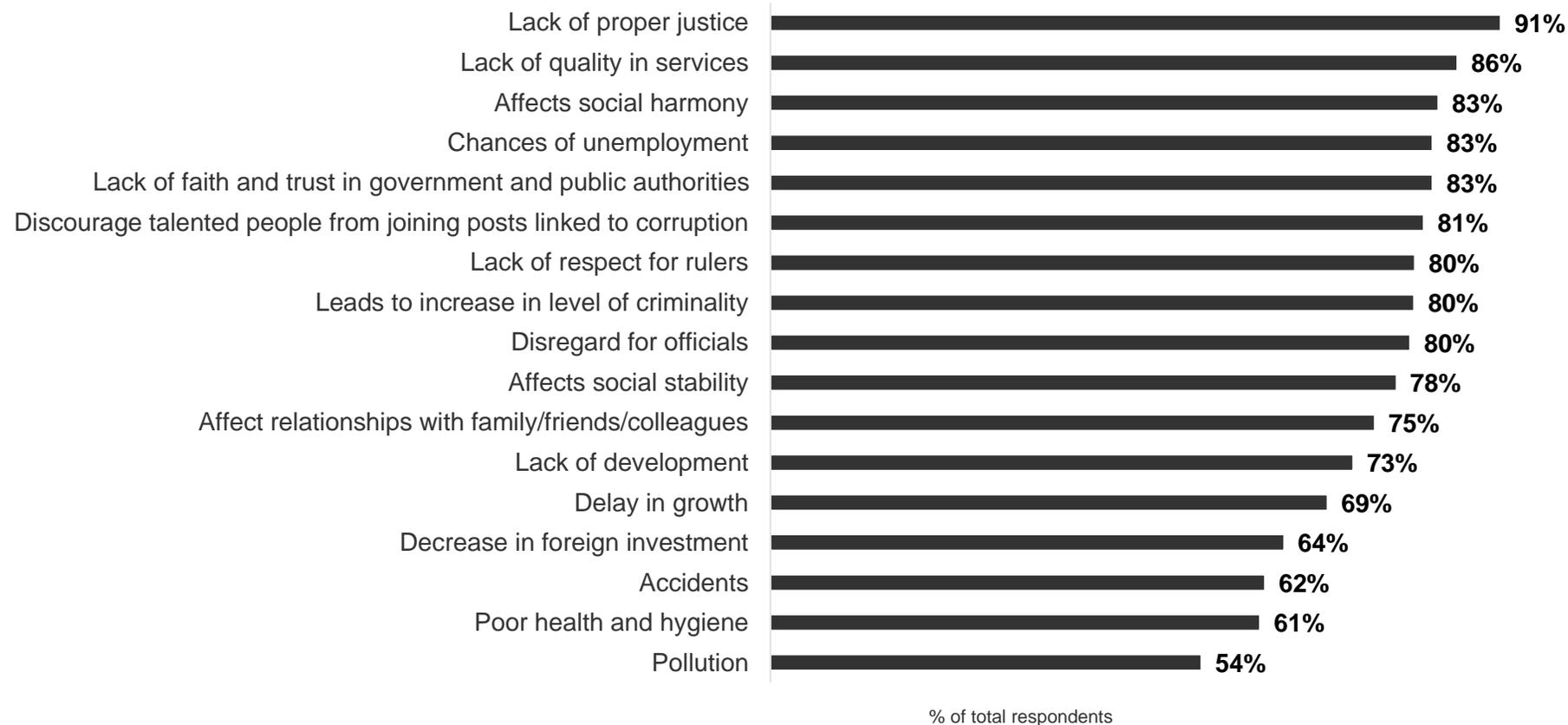
EXTENT OF CORRUPTION BY PROFILE (HIGH + VERY HIGH)



% of total respondents by segment

Corruption hinders economic growth and impacts on society, with ‘lack of proper justice’ being the highest concern. Corruption once again challenges trust in government and local institutions.

PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENTS (AGREE + STRONGLY AGREE)



5

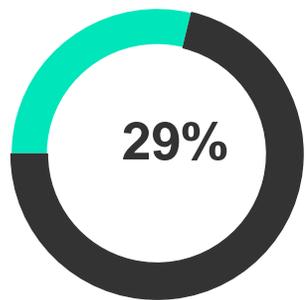
Attitudes towards corruption

24%

of Mauritians have witnessed or experienced any form of corruption during the past 12 months.

However, likelihood to report cases of corruption is rather low (less than a third of the 24% who have witnessed a case), the major barriers being lack of proactive measures and fear of consequences.

²Have you reported any of the cases?



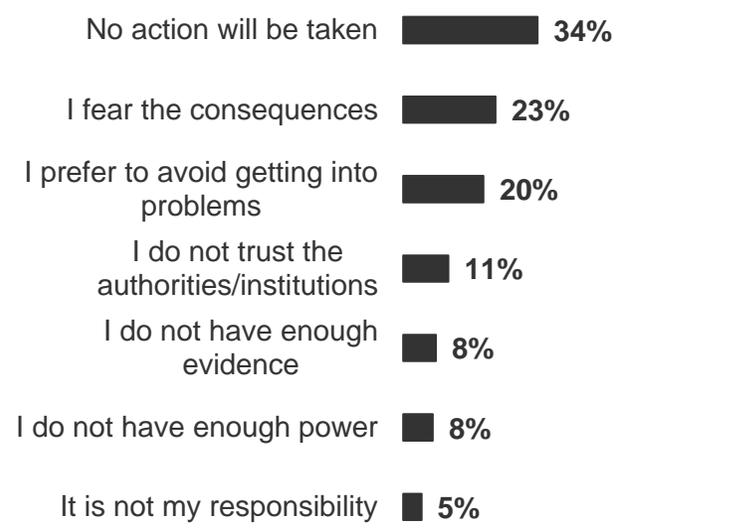
Base: Those who witnessed or experienced cases of corruption in the past 12 months

³Where reported the case?*

Police/CID	10
ICAC	3
Ministry of health	3
Citizens Advice Bureau	2
Ministry of Education	2
At my workplace	2
Consumer Protection Unit	1
Human Rights Commission	1

Base: Those who reported the case
*Sample size very small

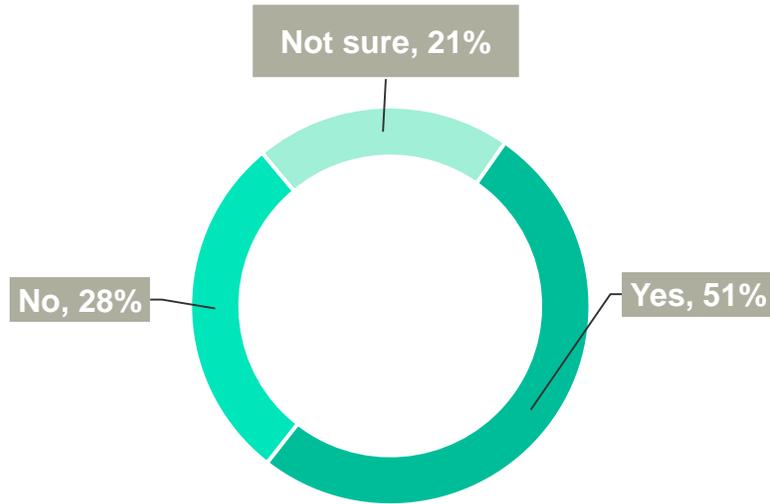
⁴Reasons for not reporting the case



Base: Those who did not report the case

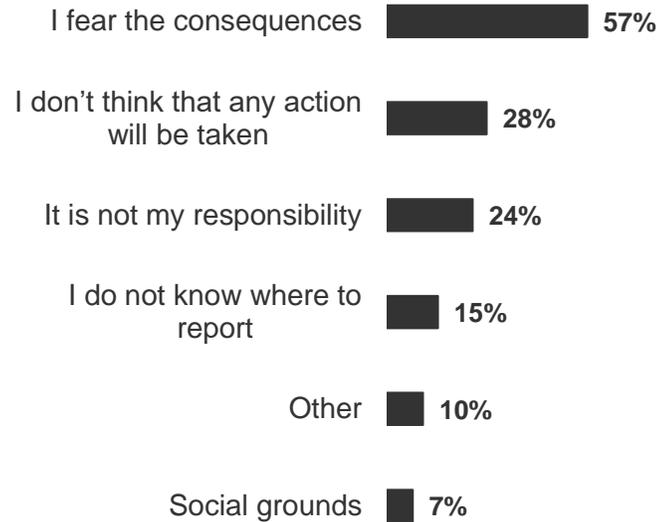
Only 1 out of 2 respondents is likely to report a case if ever they witness or experience corruption in the future. The major barriers being once again fear of consequences and lack of proactive measures from concerned authorities and. Lack of sense of responsibility and limited awareness also act as barriers to report corruption.

Will you report any cases of corruption in the future?



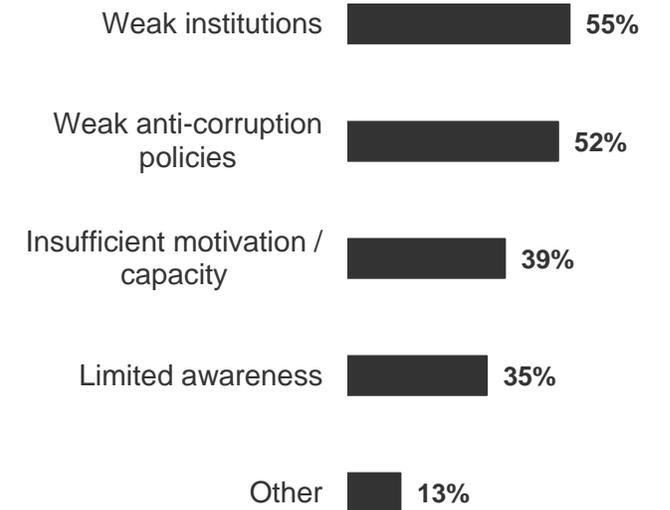
Base: All respondents

Why will you not report the case?



Base: Those who will not report or are not sure to report the case

Barriers to fight corruption



Base: All respondents

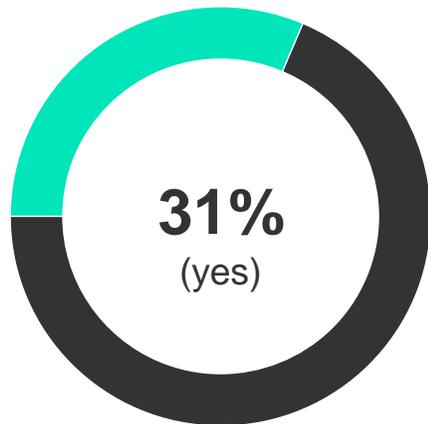
6

Awareness of
communication on
corruption

Less than a third of the Mauritians have seen/heard/read a campaign/communication on corruption in the past 6 months.

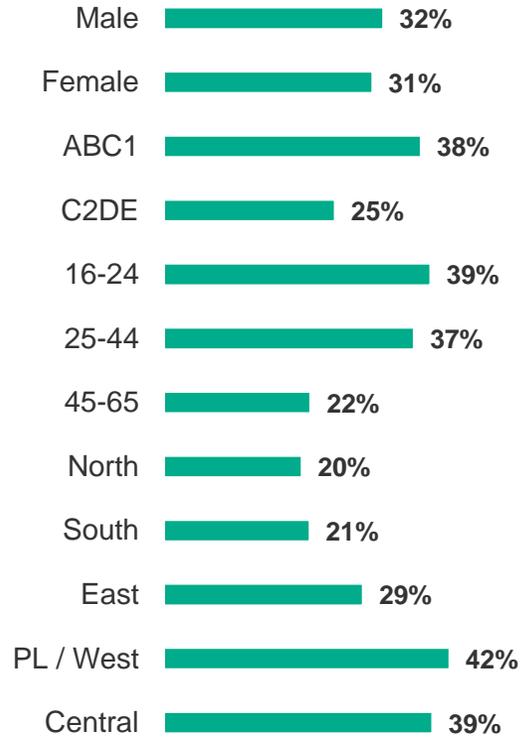
Those belonging to the upper and upper middle socio-economic categories and living the central part of the island and in Port Louis/West are more sensible to communication on corruption. It should be highlighted that the youth and those aged 25-44 years old also have a better recall of communication on corruption. Globally, Mauritians were seemingly more receptive to communication on TV, digital platforms and radio.

Have seen/read/heard a campaign/communication on corruption in Mauritius in the past 6 months

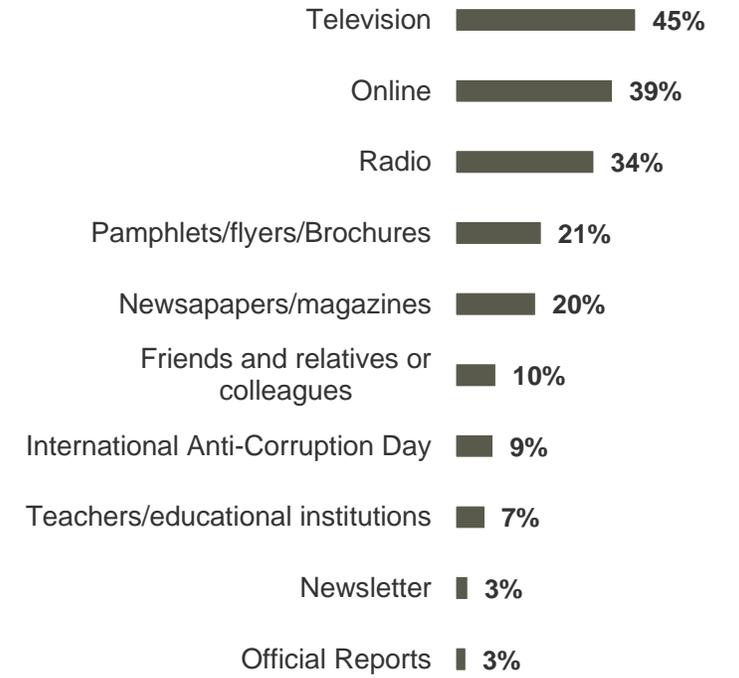


Base: Everyone

Awareness of communication campaigns by profile



Where seen/heard/read?



Base: Those who have seen/heard/read a communication campaign on corruption

Communication on corruption through digital platforms have better reach among those aged between 16 and 44 years old, residents living the central part of the island, females and the upper and upper middle socio-economic categories (ABC1). TV and Radio campaigns attract a higher proportion of those aged between 25-44 years.

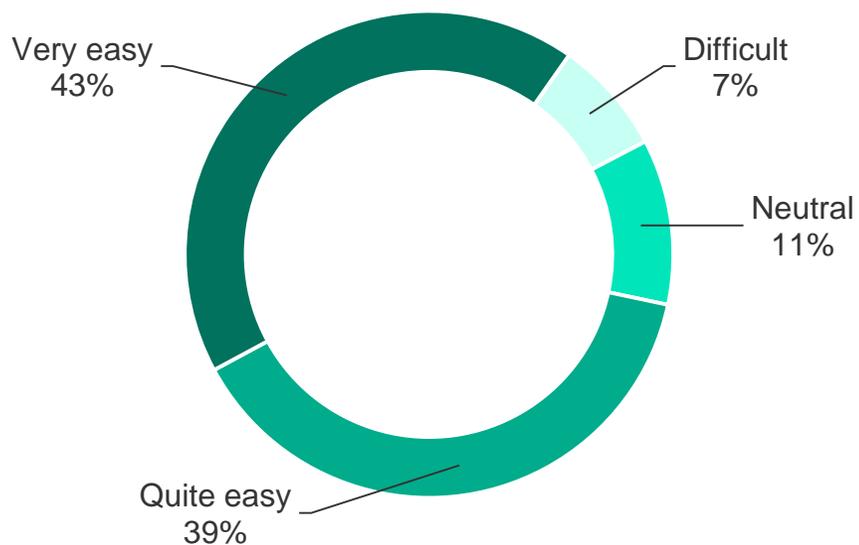
Read in column - % of respondents

	Television	Online	Radio	Total sample
16-24	16%	40%	16%	20%
25-44	57%	51%	49%	42%
45-65	27%	9%	35%	38%
North	10%	3%	17%	20%
PL / West	22%	19%	22%	16%
East	19%	17%	23%	18%
Central	38%	41%	28%	31%
South	11%	21%	10%	15%
Male	44%	41%	56%	51%
Female	56%	59%	44%	49%
ABC1	56%	65%	50%	50%
C2DE	44%	35%	50%	50%

Communication seen or heard on corruption is generally well understood.

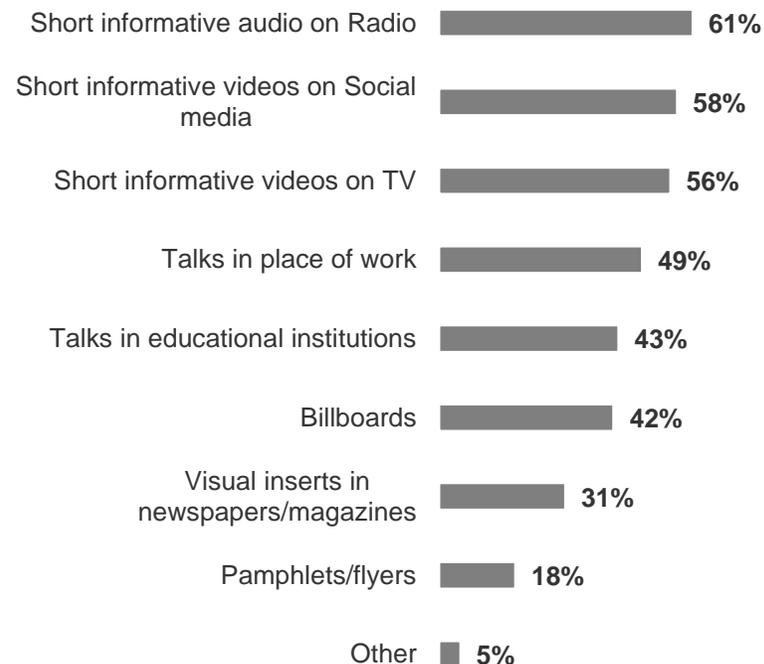
When it comes to preferred types of communication on corruption, short informative contents are sought after particularly through radio, social media and TV. Talks either in place of work or educational institutions are also welcomed.

Ease of understanding of communication on corruption in Mauritius



Base: Those who have seen/heard/read a communication campaign on corruption

Preferred types of communication



Base: All respondents

Preferred types of communication vary by socio-demographics

Whilst those from the lower social classes prefer 'Short informative audio on radio' and billboards, the ABC1 prefer 'Short informative videos on Social Media. Those aged between 45-65 years old have a preference for traditional media such as radio and newspapers/magazines while the younger ones are more geared towards Social media.

Read in row - % of respondents

	Short informative audio on Radio	Short informative videos on Social media	Short informative videos on TV	Talks in place of work	Talks in educational institutions	Billboards	Visual inserts in newspapers/magazines	Pamphlets/flyers
Male	65%	54%	55%	54%	45%	43%	28%	22%
Female	58%	61%	57%	44%	42%	42%	33%	15%
ABC1	57%	67%	56%	46%	43%	35%	28%	17%
C2DE	66%	48%	56%	53%	44%	50%	33%	20%
16-24	42%	76%	42%	35%	35%	28%	20%	16%
25-44	65%	65%	56%	54%	48%	44%	30%	19%
45-65	67%	40%	64%	52%	43%	48%	36%	19%
North	75%	45%	60%	48%	47%	50%	34%	28%
South	48%	55%	44%	55%	55%	28%	21%	18%
East	66%	61%	59%	58%	45%	46%	38%	21%
PL / West	65%	58%	45%	45%	43%	49%	38%	19%
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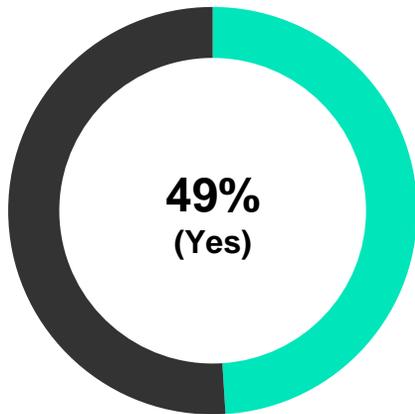
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Awareness of anti-
corruption institutions

1 out of 2 Mauritians stated that they are aware of the organisation that fights against corruption and the majority of them spontaneously relate to ICAC.

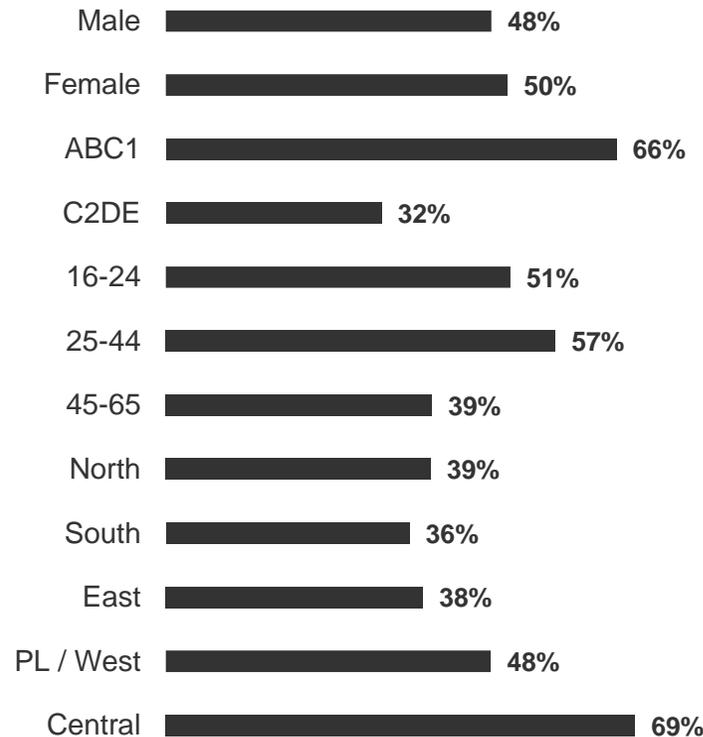
This leads us to say that Mauritians are not much aware of other stakeholders that fight against corruption. Once again, the study reveals that the upper and upper middle socio-economic categories, those aged 25-44 years old and living in the central part of the island, are the ones that are well informed about anti-corruption entities.

Awareness of anti-corruption institutions



Base: All respondents

Awareness by profile



Names of institutions



94% mentioned ICAC as the institution fighting against corruption in Mauritius

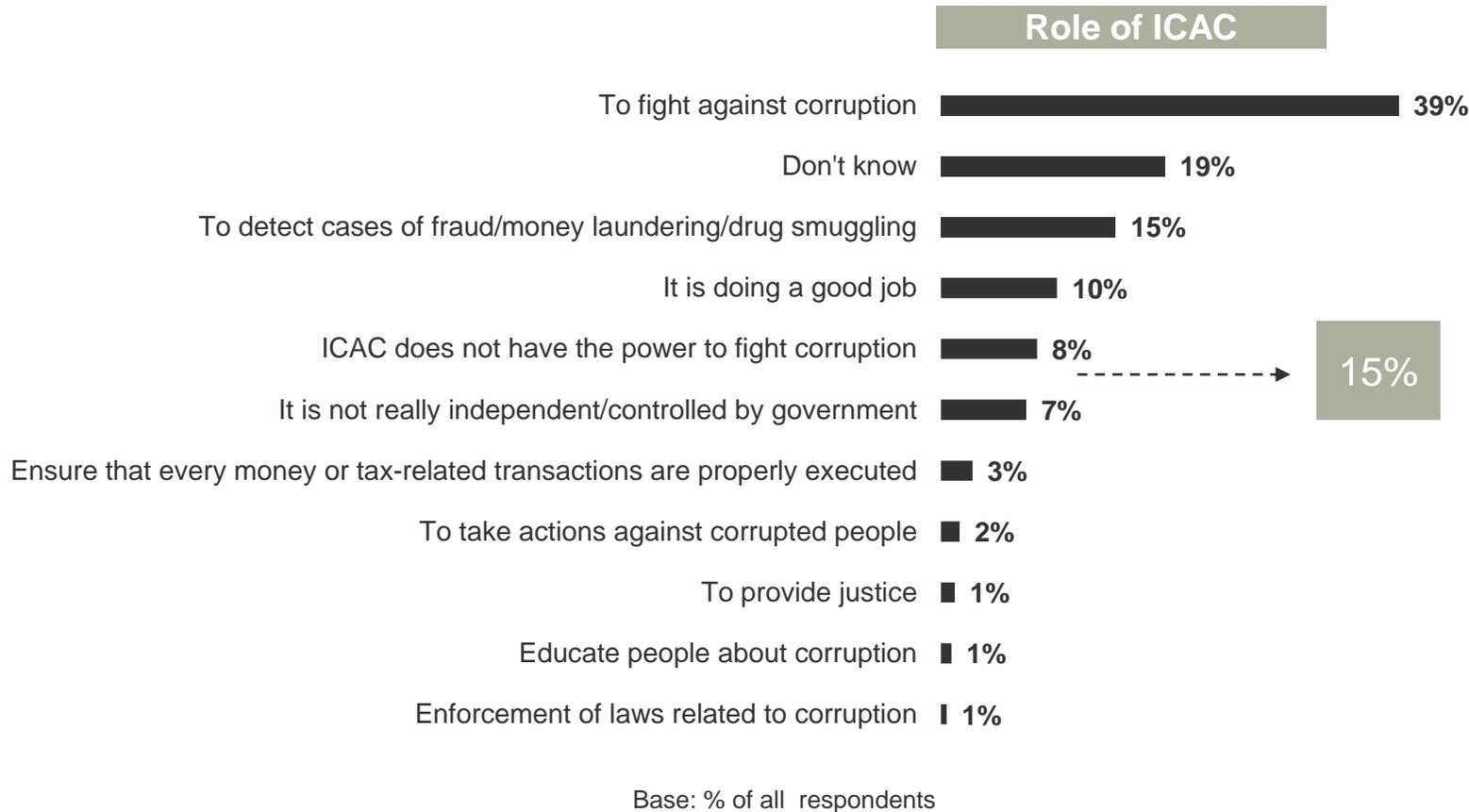
Other Institutions/organisations

Transparency Mauritius	5%	Top FM	1%
Police	3%	ADSU	1%
MRA	3%	CID	1%
ACIM	3%	CPU	1%
Aret kokin nu la plaz	1%	EOC	1%
CAB	1%	Human Rights Commission	1%
FIU	1%	Law	1%
FSC	1%	NGO	1%

Base: Those who are aware of anti-corruption institutions

The role of ICAC is believed to be more action-oriented and less involved in public sensitization.

Some negative associations is noted with ICAC particularly in terms of lack of power to fight corruption and lack of independence.

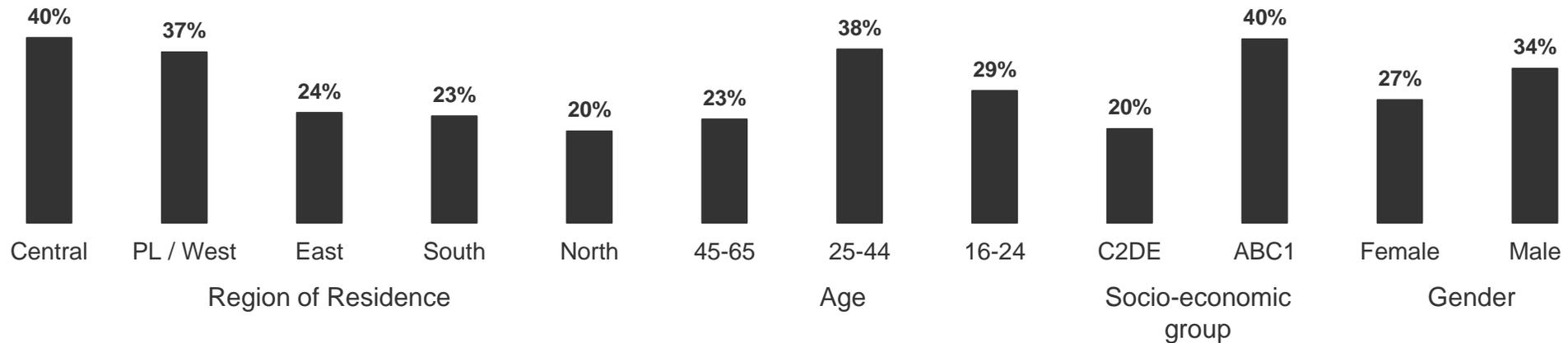


30%

of Mauritians, when prompted, have heard about Transparency Mauritius

Transparency Mauritius is known to nearly a third of the Mauritians. Similar to ICAC, Transparency Mauritius is well known among the upper and upper middle socio-economic categories, those aged between 25-44 and living in the central part of the island.

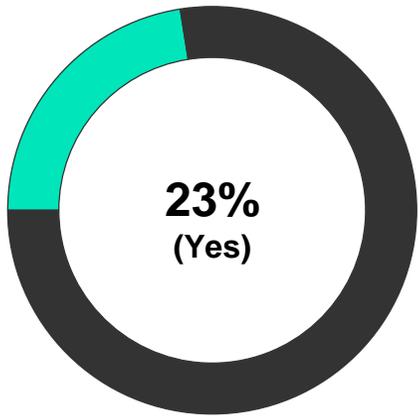
Awareness by profile



Base: % of all respondents

Few respondents are aware of the initiatives undertaken by Transparency Mauritius (only 23% of those who know the organisation). Besides fighting against corruption, others activities done by Transparency Mauritius are not known.

Awareness of Transparency Mauritius' projects and campaigns



Base: % of those who are aware of Transparency Mauritius

Projects/campaigns of Transparency Mauritius*

To fight against corruption	21
Cyber crime	2
Educate people on corruption	2
Ensure elections take place without any conflict of interest	2
It is an independent institution	2
Laws against corruption	2
Meritocracy in the workplace	2
Pledge project	2
Prevents money laundering/drug smuggling	2
Rank countries according to extent of corruption	2
No bribe	1
Post on Facebook	1
Proposes new perspectives to government	1
Talks in schools	1
Talks on human rights on radio	1
Violence towards women	1

Base: Those who are aware of projects/campaigns of Transparency Mauritius