



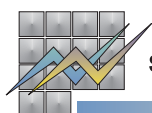
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United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



Corruption in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia:

BRIBERY AS EXPERIENCED
BY THE POPULATION



STATE STATISTICAL OFFICE

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Vienna

**CORRUPTION IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAV
REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA:**
BRIBERY AS EXPERIENCED BY THE POPULATION



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CONTENTS

Contents	1
Executive summary.....	3
Key findings	7
Introduction.....	9
International legal instruments and national policies	9
The complexity of corruption.....	10
The importance of studying direct experience	10
Previous studies conducted in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.....	10
The scope and methodology of this study	11
1. Prevalence of bribery	13
2. Nature of bribes	17
Forms of payment	17
Bribe-seeking modality and timing	18
Purposes of bribes.....	20
3. Public officials and bribery	23
4. Reporting of bribery.....	27
5. Other forms of corruption.....	29
Public sector recruitment.....	29
Vote-buying at recent elections.....	30
6. Vulnerabilities to bribery	33

7. Perceptions and opinions about corruption	35
8. Prevalence and patterns of other forms of crime	41
Reporting of crime.....	44
Perceptions of safety from crime.....	46
9. Concluding remarks	49
10. Methodological annex.....	51
11. Statistical annex.....	53



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Corruption is often reported in the international community to be an area of vulnerability for the countries of the western Balkans and it appears that the people of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia also express concern about this issue. Results presented in this report show that, after unemployment and poverty, citizens of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia consider corruption as an important problem their country is facing .

Corruption comes in many guises and, in contrast to other surveys that look at people's perceptions, this survey focuses on the actual experience of administrative corruption and provides information on the nature of bribery and its procedures. This is the kind of petty corruption that affects the daily lives of ordinary people in their dealings with the public administration, the service provider which plays such a huge a role in contemporary society that three quarters of adult citizens of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia interact with it at some point during the course of the year.

Such dealings may be for anything from a medical visit or school enrolment to the issue of a new passport or driving licence and, according to the results of this survey, a significant amount of them are of a dubious variety. Although there are notable variations between the regions of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, on average, 10.8 per cent of citizens aged 18 to 64 have been exposed – either directly or through a household member - to a bribery experience with a public official in the 12 months prior to the survey. But when focusing on bribes actually paid, the percentage of citizens of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia who pay at least one bribe in the same period – among those who have contacts with the public administration – is 6.2 per cent, and those who pay at least one bribe actually do so once every two months. The highest prevalence of bribery is observed in the Southeastern, Vardar and Skopje regions, while in all other regions it is below the national average.

The global tendency for corruption is to be an urban phenomenon. Yet in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, with a prevalence rate of 6.4 per cent in urban and 5.8 per cent in rural areas, bribery is almost as prevalent in rural as in urban areas. As to be expected, more men than women pay bribes in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, but despite established gender roles that assign more home-based activities to women, the difference between the sexes is not that marked either (7% and 5.3%, respectively).

Women in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia are evidently no strangers to corruption but they go about the bribery business in a slightly different manner to their male counterparts. They are more likely to pay a bribe in kind – in the shape of food and drink, for example – while men are more likely to use money. Cash accounts for almost a half (45%) of all bribes in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and although this type of corruption is petty, the sums paid are far from trivial: the average bribe paid being 28,813 MKD, or the equivalent of approximately 470 Euro¹.

Such cash payments are substantial, bearing in mind per capita income, but it would be wrong to assume that citizens of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia are always coerced into paying them. Almost a third of bribes paid (32%) are actually offered by citizens themselves, while in almost 50 per cent of cases they are paid in response to a direct or indirect request by a public official. This shows the lack of faith some citizens have in the ability of the public administration to function without the payment of some kind of kickback for facilitating bureaucratic procedures. And the existence of deficiencies and bottlenecks in the public sector is confirmed by the fact that 50 per cent of citizens who participate in a bribery act do so to speed up a procedure, 12 per cent do so to finalize a procedure and 11 per cent do so to receive better treatment, while 12 per cent pay a bribe without any specific purpose.

The need to reduce waiting times and receive better treatment probably explains why the public officials paid most kickbacks in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia are doctors. More than a half (58%) of citizens who pay bribes pay them to doctors, more than a third to police officers (35%), while 17 per cent do so to land registry officers and the same percentage to teachers. The latter mainly being paid for giving better grades and exam results.

The data also indicate that there is some resistance to bribery and citizens of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia do not always consent to the payment of bribes in order to facilitate or benefit from a particular administrative procedure: for every two citizens who pay a bribe there is one who refuses to do so and turns down the request made by a public official. On the other hand, only a negligible amount of bribe-payers (less than 1%) report their experience to the authorities. There are numerous reasons for this: some citizens do not deem bribery to be of the same gravity as “real” crimes, in part because there is a sense of acceptance that bribery is simply a common practice (13%) and also, when constituting an expression of gratitude for services rendered, actually a positive practice (13%). Citizens also fail to report bribery events because bribe payment can, of course, be of direct benefit to the bribe-payer (17%), and because they believe reporting to be a futile exercise as nothing would be done, nor would anyone care (38%).

Interestingly, for almost two thirds of bribe-payers (63%) this survey interview was the first time they had admitted to the payment of a bribe, having never previously shared the experience with anybody, even close friends or relatives. It seems that when it comes to bribery a well-established and selective code of silence still exists in many cases.

Bribery not only affects the services provided to citizens by public officials. The public administration is the largest employer in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and its associated job security and accompanying benefits are highly coveted. Some 20 per cent of citizens of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, or members of their households, applied for a job in the public sector in the three years prior to the survey, but of those whose application was successful some 6 per cent admit to paying money, giving a gift or doing a favour to help secure their position. Among those who failed, there is a widespread perception

¹ Amounts in Macedonian Denars are converted into Euro by using the annual average exchange rate published by Eurostat. For international comparisons, amounts in national currency should be converted by using Purchasing Power Parities (PPP): when using conversion rates in PPP, as published by Eurostat, 28,813 MKD are equivalent to approximately 1,212 EUR-PPP.

that factors such as cronyism, nepotism or bribery played a decisive role in the recruitment process, while only 7 per cent believe that the selection was made on merit.

Certain malpractices may also have played some kind of role in recent elections held in 2008 and 2009 in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Data show that an average of 5 per cent of citizens at the last local elections and 5 per cent at the last national elections were asked to vote for a certain candidate or political party in exchange for a concrete offer of money, goods or a favour.

Men in their thirties are those most exposed to bribery in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, but characteristics such as education level or employment status do not appear to have a direct effect on the probability of experiencing bribery in general. In relation to specific types of public official, such as police officers and doctors, there are, however, noteworthy differences between the vulnerability to bribery of men and women, and between different income groups.

No social group is exempt from bribery, nor is any social group exempt from the possibility of falling victim to the other five crime types examined in this survey, yet the prevalence rates for personal theft, assault/threat, burglary, robbery and car theft in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia are considerably lower than for bribery (4.1%, 2.1%, 3.1%, 0.8% and 1.4%, respectively). These are quite modest levels, on a par with those evidenced in other European countries, which probably explains why citizens of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia feel rather safe in relation to crime. Eight out of ten feel safe when walking alone after dark and an even larger majority citizens feel safe in their homes and neighborhoods.

But perceptions about corruption in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia are not so positive. A quarter of the population believe that corrupt practices occur often or very often in a number of important public institutions, including central and local government, parliament, hospitals, judiciary and the police. More than one third of citizens (36%) believe that corruption is actually on the rise in their country, while another 36 per cent believe it to be stable and a further 29 per cent think it is decreasing. Perceptions, it should be underlined, are nothing more than opinions and are not to be confused with the actual experience of corruption that provides the main focus of this report. Nevertheless, such a perception can be interpreted as an expression of citizens' awareness of one of the principal challenges facing the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, both now and in the years to come.



KEY FINDINGS

- Citizens of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia rank unemployment as the most important problem facing their country today (42% of adult population), followed by poverty/low standard of living (24%) and corruption (13%).
- Three quarters of the citizens of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (75%) interact with the public administration at some point during the course of the year.
- In the 12 months prior to this survey, 10.8 per cent of citizens of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia had been exposed – either directly or through a household member - to a bribery experience with a public official.
- The bribery prevalence rate among citizens who had contact with public officials in the 12 months before the survey is 6.2 per cent.
- There are no significant differences in the prevalence of bribery in urban and rural areas of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.
- The highest prevalence of bribery is observed in the Southeastern, Vardar and Skopje regions, while in the Southwestern, Polog, Pelagonia, Northeastern and Eastern regions it is below the national average.
- In the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia the bribery prevalence rate is 5.3 per cent for women, as opposed to 7 per cent of men.
- Everyone who reports the payment of at least one bribe, on average, actually pays six bribes or the equivalent of one bribe every two months.
- Almost a half (45%) of bribes are paid in cash and a quarter (25%) as food and drink.
- The average cash bribe paid in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is 28,813 MKD, or the equivalent of approximately 470 Euro.
- In about one third (32%) of bribery incidents, citizens of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia initiate the payment, whereas a bribe is explicitly requested in one in four cases (25%).

- The main purposes of paying bribes in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia are to speed up a procedure (50%), to finalize a procedure (12%), or to receive better treatment (11%). However, 12 per cent pay a bribe without any specific purpose.
- More than a half of all bribe-payers in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia pay kickbacks to doctors (58%), more than a third to police officers (35%).
- Of those citizens who refuse to pay bribes, almost 30 per cent refuse to pay doctors and almost one in five (18%) refuses to pay police officers.
- Less than 1 per cent of citizens who experience bribery actually report the incident. Citizens do not report bribery because they receive a benefit (17%), because they give bribes voluntarily as a sign of gratitude (13%) or they consider it a good practice (13%).
- Concerns about corruption in the public sector are confirmed by the experience of those who, in the three years prior to this survey, secured a job in the public administration: 6 per cent of them was recruited with the help of a bribe.
- The offer of goods, favours and money to attract voters was evidenced during recent local and national elections in 2008 and 2009: 5 per cent of citizens were approached at local elections and 5 per cent at the last national elections.
- Bribery has a higher prevalence rate than other crimes such as theft, burglary, assault and robbery. This is in line with the rather low crime rate in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, where citizens feel safe at home after dark and do not use advanced security systems to protect their homes.



INTRODUCTION

Corruption remains an issue for countries all over the world. Socio-economic development, the institutional and political setting, or the prevailing social and cultural norms are all elements that can shape it in very different manners, but corruption is still a scourge from which no country is truly exempt and it is often reported to be an area of vulnerability for the countries of the western Balkans, including the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Indeed, the citizens of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia perceive corruption to be a major problem: the results presented in this report show that they rank corruption as the most important problem facing their country after unemployment and poverty/low standards of living.

International legal instruments and national policies

In the last decade, awareness of corruption has increased in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and it has become an important priority in the political agenda of the country. Successive governments of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia have committed themselves to fighting corruption and key steps have been taken to address the issue, in part because of commitments deriving from the European Union accession process and the subsequent need to adapt national legislation to the *acquis communautaire*.

Important instruments in the upgrading of the legislative framework for the fight against corruption are represented by the ratification of two Council of Europe conventions – the Criminal Law Convention against Corruption (1999) and the Civil Law Convention against Corruption (2002). In 2007, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia also became party to the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), a consequence of which is the Implementation Review Mechanism, established in 2009 to enable all parties to review their implementation of UNCAC provisions through a peer review process. One of the objectives of this mechanism is to encourage a participatory and nationally driven process towards anti-corruption reform and it is noteworthy that the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia will be reviewed in the third wave (2012-2013).

Furthermore, the legal framework of national legislation for combating corruption was implemented in 2002 by the adoption of the Law on Prevention of Corruption, which was reviewed several times between 2004 and 2008, and the establishment of the State Commission for Prevention of Corruption (SCPC), an independent body, responsible for the

implementation of measures on corruption prevention and conflicts of interest. The SCPC is authorized and obliged to prepare and adopt the State Programme for Prevention and Repression of Corruption. The State Programme was adopted for the first time in 2003 and it contains measures and activities to be undertaken for the purpose of establishing an effective system for prevention and repression of corruption.

In 2005, an annex to the State Programme recommended numerous measures and activities to be applied for effective reduction of corruption at a local level. In 2007, a newly constituted State Commission began with the preparation of a new State Programme, taking into account lessons learned from the implementation of the previous State Programme. The new State Programme and the Action Plan for its implementation are based on precisely determined performance indicators.

The complexity of corruption

Corruption can occur at different levels. A distinction is usually drawn between grand and administrative (petty) corruption, with the former referring to corrupt practices affecting legislative process and policymakers, and the latter referring to dealings between civil servants and the public. In either case, it has a devastating impact on the rule of law, hinders equal access to public services, affects public trust in state institutions and is a hurdle to economic and social development, especially in young democracies.

Corruption is a complex crime with blurred boundaries making it often difficult to distinguish between culprit and victim. It is not necessarily a one-dimensional transaction in which an active perpetrator coerces a passive party: both sides may benefit, and the victim might be a third party or the community at large. Moreover, there are cultural and social factors that can further cloud the issue. The giving of gifts, for example, whether as a “thank you” or bureaucratic lubricant, may be considered acceptable in one culture yet unethical in another.

The importance of studying direct experience

In this context, comprehensive assessments of corruption can greatly assist Governments in better tailoring policies and enhancing the capabilities of anti-corruption bodies. At the same time, it is widely accepted that the collection of empirical data in this area represents a real challenge because of the complex and covert nature of corruption. These difficulties are sometimes circumvented by focusing on perceptions about corruption, rather than on actual experience of it. Perception-based indicators, while useful for raising awareness about the issue of corruption and helping to advocate policy measures for addressing it, fail to provide clear indications as to the extent of corruption and vulnerable areas. Increasing concerns are also expressed about the validity of methods used to build perception-based indicators.

In recent years, tools for collecting information on direct experiences of corruption have been developed: sample surveys can produce important indicators about the extent and nature of corrupt practices. More importantly, the wealth of information gathered can shed light on the modalities of corruption and the sectors, positions and administrative procedures more at risk. Promoted by a variety of international organizations, national institutions, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and development agencies, a number of such surveys have been conducted in several countries around the world, including the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the western Balkan region, thus proving the feasibility and relevance of this approach.

Previous studies conducted in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Research carried out in 2006 by the Institute for sociological, political and legal research of the Saints Cyril and Methodius University of Skopje asked a representative sample of 2,759 citizens of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia about the most acute problem they were personally facing and about the most acute problem the country was facing.

In both indicators corruption was ranked the third most important problem. On a personal level, 9 per cent of respondents ranked corruption below an unfavorable economic status (43%) and unemployment (38%). On a national level, 14 per cent of respondents ranked corruption as the most important problem that the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia was facing, below unemployment (50%) and the bad economic situation (30%).

Respondents were not optimistic about corruption decreasing in their country: a large portion of respondents (62%) believed that the level of corruption had increased in the year before the survey. On the other hand, 14 per cent of respondents stated that the corruption level had decreased in comparison to the previous year, while every fourth respondent was not able to give an answer.

Findings by the latest Global Corruption Barometer 2010, carried out by Transparency International, indicate that almost a half of respondents (46%) perceive that the level of corruption in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia has increased in the three preceding years, 29 per cent perceive it to be the same and one quarter feel that the level of corruption is on the decline. Over time, a slight decrease in the percentage of the population perceiving an increase of corruption can be noted when comparing the results of both studies.

The scope and methodology of this study

Following a bilateral agreement between the European Commission and the Government of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, UNODC provided its support in conducting this large-scale survey on corruption, with the State Statistical Office acting as the national partner for implementing the survey and research activities.

Map 1: Regional coverage of the Survey



The main objective of this survey was to examine actual experience of administrative corruption in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: the research probed the prevailing types and modalities of corruption that affect citizens' daily lives, with particular focus on bribery², a practice that, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption, is a criminal offence. Additional topics covered in the surveys include reporting of corruption to the authorities, citizens' opinions about corruption and integrity, and the experience, as victims, of other forms of crime. In order to collect this information, in 2010, a sample survey was conducted via face-to-face interviews with a nationally representative sample of 3,500 citizens of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia aged 18 to 64, selected randomly in each region of the country.

This report contains the analysis of the data collected in that survey. Its goal is not to rank the different regions of the country, nor any selected sector or ministry, on a corruption scale but rather to provide analytical knowledge about a complex phenomenon, both at a national and sub-national level. To fight corruption effectively it is necessary to understand its many facets since there is no simple "one-size-fits-all" solution to the problem. It is believed that the evidence-based information presented in this report will provide the authorities of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia with an additional tool for developing well-targeted anti-corruption policies. Information that can also be made use of in the peer review process of the UNCAC Implementation Review Mechanism, as well as represent a benchmark for measuring future progress in the fight against corruption.

² Bribery is defined as (a) the promise, offering or giving to a public official, directly or indirectly, of an undue advantage, for the official himself or herself or another person or entity, in order that the official act or refrain from acting in the exercise of his or her official duties and (b) as the solicitation or acceptance by a public official, directly or indirectly of an undue advantage, for the official himself or herself or another person or entity, in order that the official act or refrain from acting in the exercise of his or her official duties.

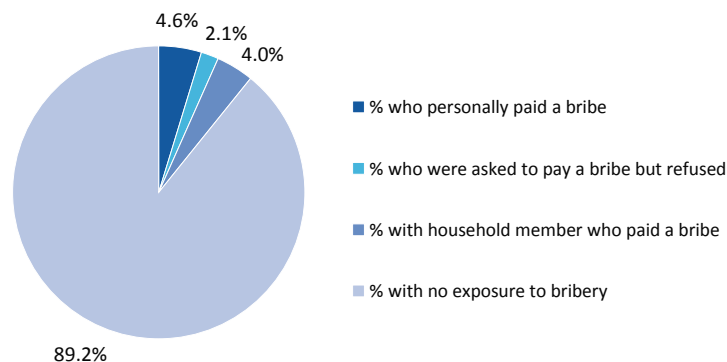


1. PREVALENCE OF BRIBERY

The public sector plays a major role in contemporary society. Whether for a medical visit, school and university enrolment or the issue of an ID card, to name but a few examples, citizens and households depend on its services for a huge variety of reasons. The fact that three quarters of adult citizens reported having at least one contact with a public official in the 12 months prior to this survey shows just how substantial that role actually is.

The demand made on the system is clear but when it comes to integrity in the provision and use of its services the picture that emerges is a somewhat cloudy one. One important finding of this survey is that a considerable number of citizens of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (146,000, equivalent to 10.8% of the adult population aged 18 to 64) had either direct or indirect exposure to a bribery experience with a public official in the 12-month period in question. As figure 1 shows, this number represents the sum of three different groups: the percentage of citizens who actually paid money, gave a gift or counter favour to a public official; the percentage of those requested to pay a bribe by a public official but refused to do so; and the percentage of those who shared a household with someone who did pay a bribe.

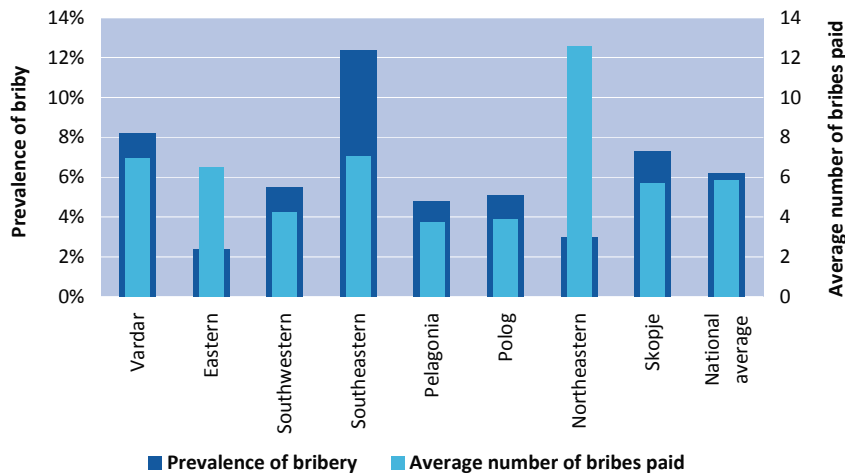
Figure 1: Direct and indirect exposure of adult population in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to bribery in the 12 months prior to the survey, (2010)



The data in figure 1 show that bribery is still a significant issue in the lives of many citizens of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. At the same time, it is encouraging to note that there is a significant portion of them capable of saying “no”, thus refusing to pay the kickback requested by a public official. Data show that for every two citizens who pay a bribe to a public official during the course of the year, there is one who turns down such a request.

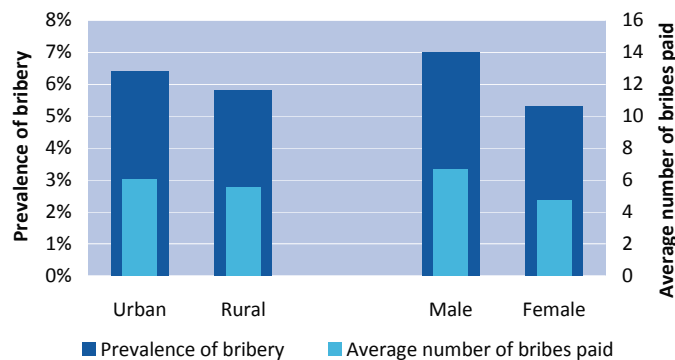
When focusing on bribes actually paid, the prevalence of bribery is calculated as the number of citizens who, in the 12 months prior to the survey, gave a public official some money, a gift or counter favour on at least one occasion, as a percentage of citizens who had at least one contact with a public official. As such, the average prevalence of bribery in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is 6.2 per cent at a national level, though there is quite considerable fluctuation in the prevalence rate throughout the country’s different regions (figure 2).

Figure 2: Prevalence of bribery and average number of bribes paid by region, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)



Note: Prevalence of bribery is calculated as the number of adult citizens (aged 18-64) who gave a public official some money, a gift or counter favour on at least one occasion in the 12 months prior to the survey, as a percentage of adult citizens who had at least one contact with a public official in the same period. The average number of bribes refers to average number of bribes given by all bribe-payers, i.e. those who paid at least one bribe in the 12 months prior to the survey.

Figure 3: Prevalence of bribery and average number of bribes paid, by sex and urban/rural areas, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)



Note: Prevalence of bribery is calculated as the number of adult citizens (age 18-64) who gave a public official some money, a gift or counter favour on at least one occasion in the 12 months prior to the survey, as a percentage of adult citizens who had at least one contact with a public official in the same period. The average number of bribes refers to average number of bribes given by all bribe-payers, i.e. those who paid at least one bribe in the 12 months prior to the survey.

For example, the prevalence rate is double the national average in the Southeastern region (12.4%) and somewhat higher in the Vadar region (8.2%), whereas it is considerably lower in the Eastern region (2.4%) and in the Northeastern region (3%) (figure 2). Although there are no significant differences in the prevalence of bribery in urban (6.4%) and rural (5.8%) sub-populations on a national level (figure 3), some variations on a regional level can be delineated. Thus, the most important fluctuation is registered in the Southeastern region, where the prevalence of bribery in rural areas is more than double that in local urban settlements (16% vs 7.5%). Other regions, such as the Northeastern and Skopje region, seem to have a much higher prevalence of bribery in urban areas (4.7% and 8.4%) in comparison to local rural areas (0.0% and 3.1%).

In Polog, the percentage of men participating in bribery (6.8%) is twice as high as the percentage of women (3.3%), while there is also a considerable disparity between the sexes in the Skopje (8.9% of men vs. 5.5% of women), Eastern (4.4% vs. 0.0%) and Southeastern regions (15.2% vs. 9.6%). In contrast, the Vadar and Southwestern regions show higher percentages of women involved in bribery (11% and 7%, respectively) than men (6% and 4%, respectively). On a national level, however, 7 per cent of the adult male population participates in bribery, as opposed to 5.3 per cent of females (figure 3). The difference is not that remarkable, showing that in spite of perceived gender roles, women undertake administrative procedures to a similar extent and are no strangers to bribery.

It is misleading, however, to consider the prevalence rate alone when evaluating the extent of bribery in any given country. To get a fairer impression, the frequency of bribe paying should also be taken into consideration since, while almost one third of bribe-payers in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia give bribes on only one occasion, more than two thirds do so on multiple occasions. Effectively, bribe-payers in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia pay, on average, slightly more than two public officials on two and a half different occasions, thus everyone who reported the payment of at least one bribe had to pay almost six bribes or the equivalent of one bribe every two months.

As figure 2 shows, the highest frequency is in the Northeastern region, whereas the lowest number of payments is observed in Pelagonia and Polog. There is no apparent difference between the frequency of bribes paid in urban and in rural areas but the divergence between the average number of bribes paid by male bribe-payers (6.7) and by female bribe-payers (4.7) is considerable (figure 3).

Although sizeable regional variations exist, data indicate that bribes are paid on a fairly regular basis by those citizens using this tool to overcome difficulties or bottlenecks when dealing with the public administration.



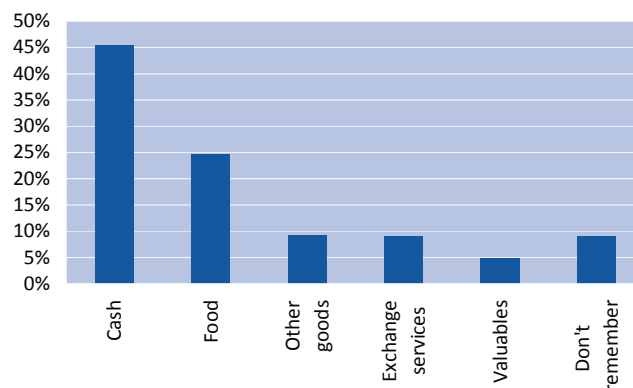
2. NATURE OF BRIBES

Payments to public officials come in several shapes and sizes and are made for different reasons in diverse contexts. Money or gifts, for example, may be explicitly requested by public officials for the completion of a procedure or offered by a citizen to facilitate a service or simply express gratitude for a service rendered. In this chapter, a number of payment characteristics are presented in order to shed some light on what is clearly a complex question.

Forms of payment

In the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, 45 per cent of bribes are paid in cash (figure 4), while 25 per cent are given in the shape of food and drink. Considerably lower down the scale come other goods (9%), the exchange of another service (9%) and valuables (5%). A large proportion of bribes take a form that can be interpreted as a barter – either explicit or implicit – between two parties in which each one of them both gives and receives something in the exchange. But it should be stressed that in most cases the two parties are not on an equal footing, with one of them (the public official) usually being in a position of strength from a negotiating perspective.

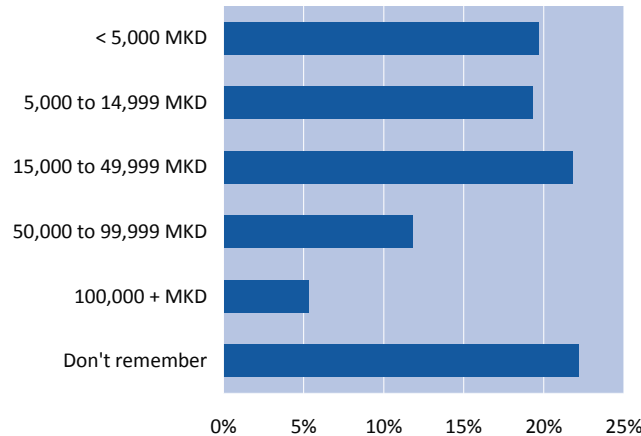
Figure 4: Percentage distribution of bribes paid by type of payment, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)



Note: Data refer to the last bribe paid by each bribe-payer in the 12 months prior to the survey. The sum is higher than 100 per cent since, in some cases, bribes are paid in more than one form (for example, cash and valuables)

When focusing on bribes paid in cash (figure 5), the results of this survey show that one in five of all bribes are for amounts smaller than 5,000 MKD (approximately 80 Euro³), 19 per cent are in the 5,000 – 14,999 MKD range (approximately 80 to 245 Euro), 22 per cent are in the 15,000 to 49,999 MKD range (approximately 245 to 815 Euro) and 12 per cent of them are paid in the 50,000 to 99,999 range (from 815 to 1,630 Euro). Some 5 per cent of bribes are of an amount larger than 100,000 (approx 1,630 Euro). While not quite “grand corruption” these are certainly very considerable amounts for the households involved. About 22 per cent of those who paid their last bribe in cash were not willing to disclose the amount paid.

Figure 5: Percentage distribution of bribes paid in cash by amount paid (in Denars), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)



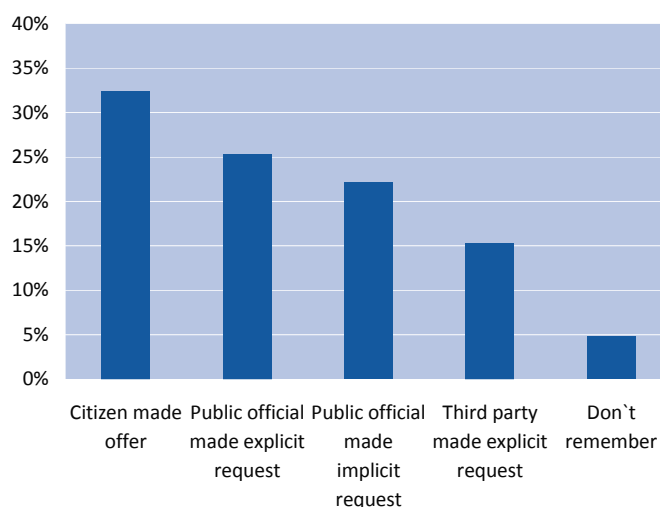
Taking into account the last bribes paid in cash, the average bribe amounts to 28,813 MKD, or the equivalent of approximately 470 Euro; a figure that corresponds to around 145 per cent of the average monthly salary in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in 2009. It can be noted that there is a noteworthy contrast between the high average amounts of bribes paid in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the relatively low prevalence rate of bribery (see chapter 1). This might suggest that bribes are less a part of day-to-day life but they are more used when the interests at stake are high for both bribe-payers and bribe-takers.

Bribe-seeking modality and timing

In contacts with public officials resulting in a payment of money or gifts, it is noteworthy that in almost one third (32%) of cases payment is offered by citizens themselves, whereas in more than 60 per cent of all cases payment is actually made following a request. In one in four cases that request is made explicitly by the public official, while in 22 per cent of cases the public official makes the citizen understand implicitly that a kickback is necessary. Add to this the other 15 per cent of cases who receive the request through a third party intermediary (figure 6) and the complexity of corruptive practices can be seen.

³ Macedonian national currency is Macedonia Denars (MKD). Euro/MKD average exchange rate in 2010: 1 Euro = 61.3 MKD

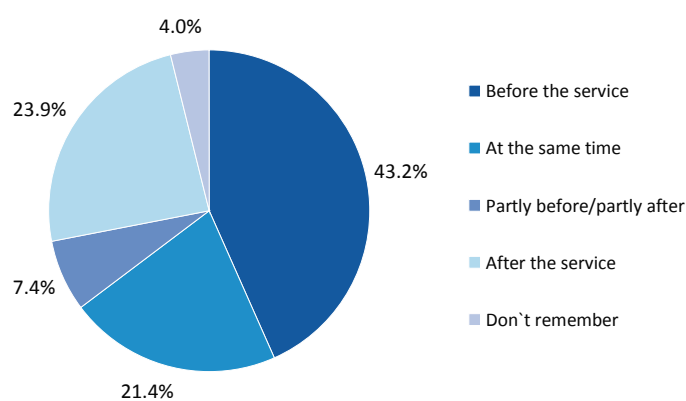
Figure 6: Percentage distribution of bribes paid by modality of bribe request/offer, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)



Note: Data refer to the last bribe paid by each bribe-payer in the 12 months prior to the survey.

The timing of a bribe payment can also shed light on the motivation behind it, in particular as to whether it is made to facilitate a specific service or as a “thank you” for the successful completion of the procedure. Data show that 43 per cent of payments are given before the service is actually carried out, while less than a quarter are given after the service. About 7 per cent are given in two instalments, one before and one after the service, and 21 per cent of bribes are paid at the same time the service is rendered (figure 7).

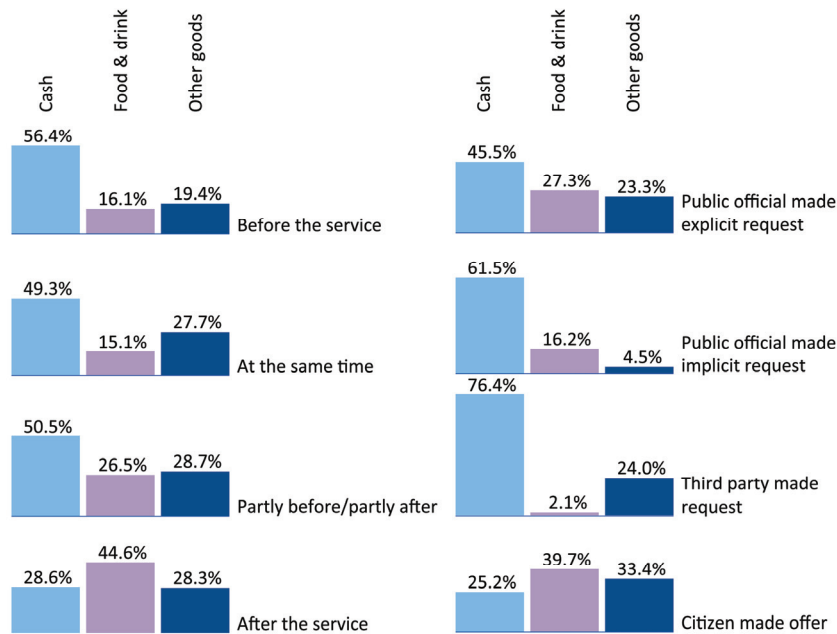
Figure 7: Percentage distribution of bribes paid by timing of payment in relation to service delivery, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)



Note: Data refer to the last bribe paid by each bribe-payer in the 12 months prior to the survey.

As shown in figure 8, cash is more often used than food when payment is made before the service is delivered, when it is made partly before and partly after the service and at the same time as the service is provided (56%, 51% and 49%, respectively), while food and drink are most frequently used as a bribe when the “transaction” is made after the service (45%).

Figure 8: Percentage distribution of bribes paid by type of payment and respectively, by timing of bribe payment in relation to service delivery and by modality of bribe request/offer, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)



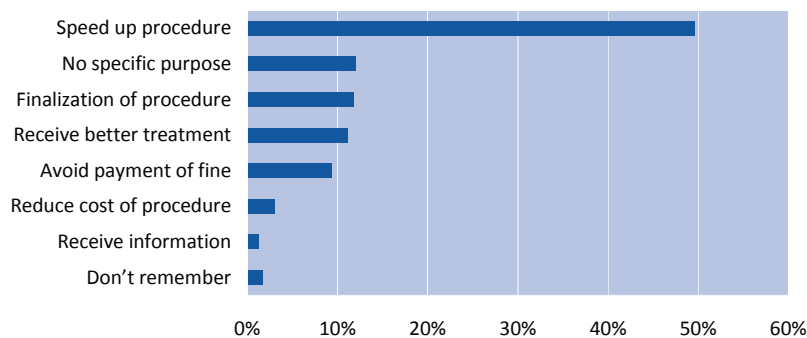
Note: Data refer to the last bribe paid by each bribe-payer in the 12 months prior to the survey. The sum is higher than 100 per cent since, in some cases, bribes are paid in more than one form (for example, cash and valuables)

Figure 8 also shows that cash is most often used when bribes are paid to a public official in response to a request from a third party (76%). Money is also the most common form of kickback when citizens are made to understand implicitly that a bribe is expected (62%) or when an explicit request has been made (46%). On the other hand, when a citizen makes an offer without being previously requested to do so, food and drink is the most common form of payment (40%), while cash is still given in one quarter of such cases.

Purposes of bribes

In every procedure bribes may be used for different purposes. People may, for example, give bribes in relation to the identity card or passport issuing procedure in order to speed up the procedure, reduce the official fee, receive information or get better treatment. Different purposes of bribes given, irrespective of the procedure for which they apply, are shown in figure 9.

Figure 9: Percentage distribution of bribes paid, by purpose of payment, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)



Note: Data refer to the last bribe paid by each bribe-payer in the 12 months prior to the survey.

Half of citizens of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia who get involved in a bribery act do so to speed up a procedure, while 12 per cent do so without any specific purpose in mind. Another 12 per cent pay a bribe to make the finalization of a procedure possible. Together with the fourth most common purpose – receive better treatment (11%) – these data indicate that bribery is mostly used to overcome deficiencies and weaknesses in public service delivery.

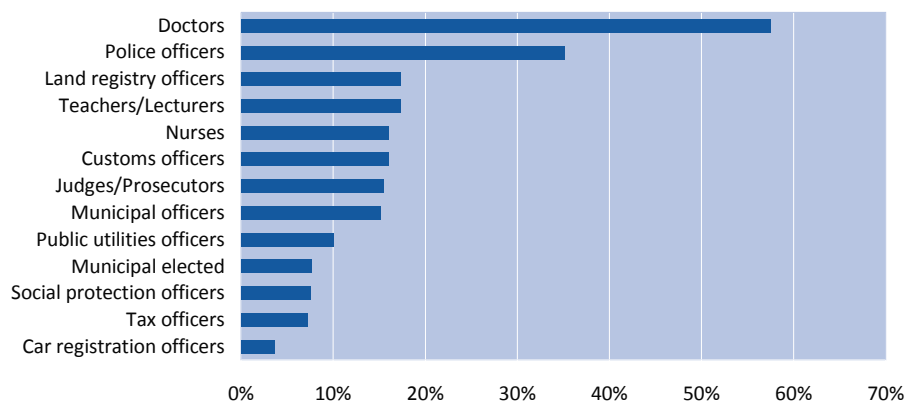


3. PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND BRIBERY

Just as bribery may be employed for diverse purposes in varying guises and different contexts, not all sectors of the public administration in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia are affected by corruption to the same extent. There are certain types of public official that seek bribes more frequently than others, while there are certain procedures and situations in which beneficiaries of public services are more prone to making offers to public officials in order to reduce red tape and finalize proceedings.

According to the experience of citizens who paid at least one bribe in the 12 months prior to the survey, the public officials who receive most kickbacks in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia are doctors (58% of citizens with recent corruption experience give bribes to doctors), police officers (35%), land registry officers (17%), teachers and lecturers (17%) nurses (16%), customs officers (16%), judges/prosecutors (16%) and municipal officers (15%) (figure 10). Other types of public officials receive a smaller percentage of bribes, ranging from car registration officers (4%) to public utilities officers (10%).

Figure 10: Percentage distribution of bribe-payers who paid to selected types of public officials, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)

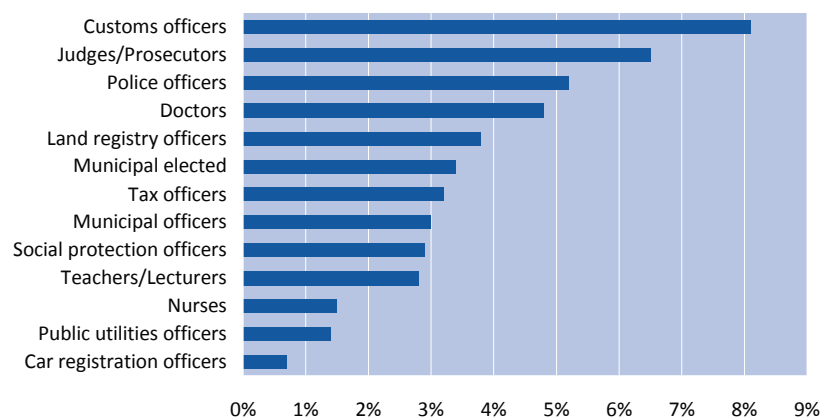


Note: The sum is higher than 100 per cent since bribe-payers could have made payments to more than one public official in the 12 months prior to the survey.

The size of communities of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia can also have an impact on the type of official involved in acts of bribery. For example, more citizens from urban than from rural areas pay bribes to police officers (40% vs. 26%), to teachers or lecturers (21% vs. 10%), judges or prosecutors (18% vs. 11%) and nurses (19% vs. 12%). Meanwhile, doctors are more often recipients of kickbacks or gifts in rural areas than in urban areas: 70 per cent of bribe-payers in rural areas make at least one such payment to doctors, in comparison to 51 per cent in urban areas.

To some extent, it is unsurprising that public officials with a high level of interaction with the public also receive the highest number of bribes. However, there are some positions in the public administration, such as in the judiciary or customs service, where the frequency of interaction with citizens is certainly more limited but where bribery experiences are still a recurrent problem. For this reason, it is useful to analyse not only which types of official account for the greatest number of bribe receipts but also the probability of a particular type of official receiving a bribe when he or she is contacted – independently from the frequency of interactions. To measure this, the number of citizens who paid a bribe to a selected type of public official is compared with the number of citizens who had contacts with that type of official in the 12 months prior to the survey. Figure 11 shows bribery prevalence rates calculated as the percentage of people who paid a bribe to a selected type of public official over those who had a contact with the same type of public official.

Figure 11: Prevalence of bribery for selected types of public officials receiving the bribe, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)

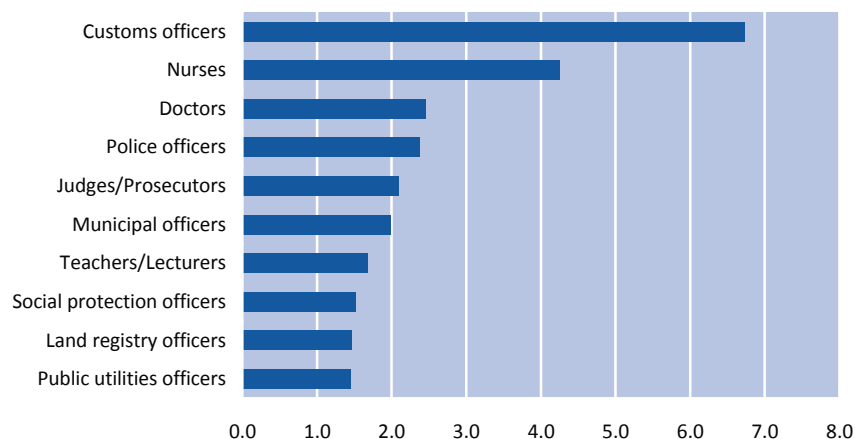


Note: Prevalence of bribery is calculated as the number of adult citizens (aged 18-64) who gave a public official some money, a gift or counter favour on at least one occasion in the 12 months prior to the survey, as a percentage of adult citizens who had at least one contact with a public official in the same period. In this chart prevalence of bribery is computed separately for each type of public official.

This indicator shows that the highest average prevalence rates are recorded in relation to customs officers (8%), judges/prosecutors (7%), police officers and doctors (both 5%). Moreover, a relatively high value is registered for land registry officers, indicating that they also request the payment of bribes with a certain frequency from the citizens with whom they deal. The values presented in figure 11 are also particularly relevant for identifying occupations where the risk of bribery is higher.

Another important indicator of the extent of bribery among selected public officials is the frequency of payments. Figure 12 shows the average number of bribes given by bribe-payers to selected public officials, with customs officers receiving almost seven bribes from each bribe-payer and nurses and doctors receiving more than four and two and a half, respectively. Also, those who admitted to paying a bribe to a police officer, in fact, paid 2.4 times.

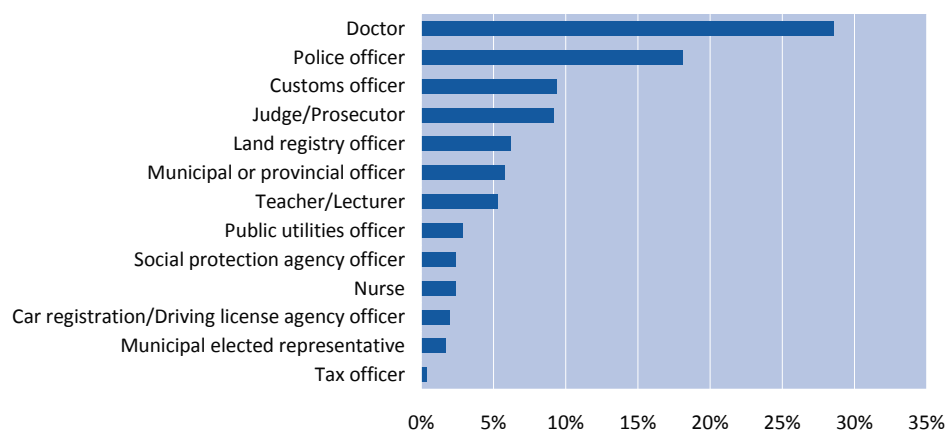
Figure 12: Average number of bribes paid to selected public officials, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)



Note: The average number of bribes refers to average number of bribes given by all bribe-payers, i.e. those who paid at least one bribe in the 12 months prior to the survey.

It should be noted, however, that citizens of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia do not always agree to the payment of bribes in order to facilitate or benefit from a particular administrative procedure. As shown in chapter 1, for every two citizens who pay a bribe there is one who refuses to do so and turns down the request made by a public official. Figure 13 shows that doctors and police officers are two types of civil servant whose bribery requests are often declined: among those citizens who turn down bribe requests, 29 per cent have been personally asked to pay a bribe by a doctor, 18 per cent by a police officer and 9 per cent by a customs officer or a judge/prosecutor.

Figure 13: Percentage distribution of adult population refusing payment of bribe in the 12 months prior to the survey by type of public official requesting the bribe, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)



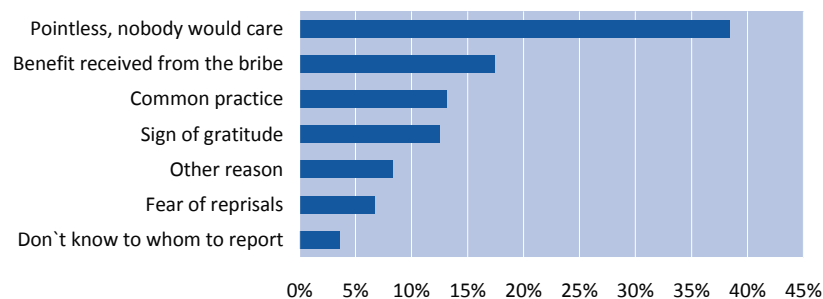


4. REPORTING OF BRIBERY

In general terms, the extent to which a crime is reported to the authorities by its victims is directly proportional to the combined effect of three factors: the perceived gravity of the crime experienced; faith in the authorities' resolve to identify the culprits; and the immediate benefit the victim can draw from reporting the crime (events covered by insurance, for example).

In the case of bribery, it appears that none of the above factors is currently playing a role in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. According to the results of this survey, less than 1 per cent of bribe-payers report their experience to the authorities. An important share of those who pay a bribe perceive it as a positive practice (13% say it is only a sign of gratitude) or simply as a common practice (13%); some 17 per cent say that they actually receive a direct benefit from paying the bribe so there would be no point in reporting it. A large proportion of bribe-payers (38%) candidly admit that reporting would be pointless as nobody would do anything about it. Furthermore, data show that factors such as the fear of reprisals (7%) or insufficient knowledge and awareness of the authorities responsible for processing citizens' complaints (4%) cannot be considered important motivations for explaining the low reporting rate (figure 14).

Figure 14: Percentage distribution of bribe-payers not reporting their personal bribery experience to authorities according to the most important reason for not reporting, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)

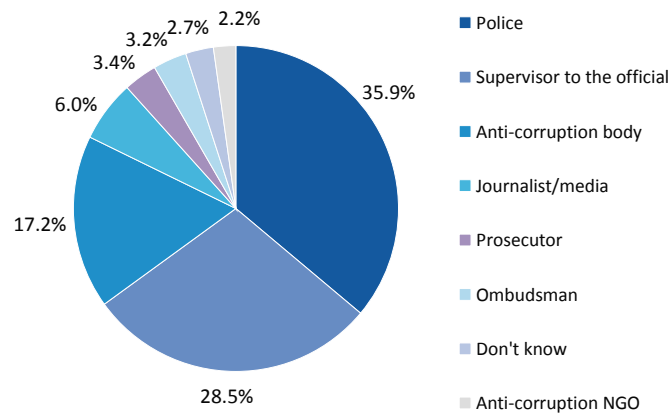


Note: Data refer to bribe-payers who did not report their last bribe paid in the 12 months prior to the survey to authorities/institutions.

Bribery experience may not usually be reported to the authorities but bribe-payers do share their experiences with people they know. About 35 per cent of citizens with bribery experience discuss it with friends or family but such talk does not go beyond the group of immediate acquaintances and only fractional numbers of bribe-payers discuss the bribe paid with individuals or groups who may subsequently spread the word, such as NGOs and journalists.

However, for a large big proportion of bribe-payers (63%) this survey interview was the very first time they had admitted to the payment of a bribe, meaning that they had never previously shared the experience with anybody, not even close friends or relatives. When it comes to bribery, a well established and selective code of silence evidently still exists in many cases.

Figure 15: Percentage distribution of adult population according to institutions indicated for future reports of bribery incidents, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)



As stated previously, very few citizens resort to the authorities to disclose their experience, but when citizens are asked which agency/official they would address in future if they had to report a bribery experience, more than a third (36%) would approach the police or the supervisor of the corrupt public official in question (29%), while another 17 per cent would report the episode to the anti-corruption body. Only 6 per cent would entrust the matter to a journalist, some 3 per cent would report the fact to the prosecutor and another 3 per cent to an ombudsman.



5. OTHER FORMS OF CORRUPTION

In addition to bribery related to public service delivery, citizens of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia were asked about certain behaviours and practices in public sector recruitment and vote-buying before elections.

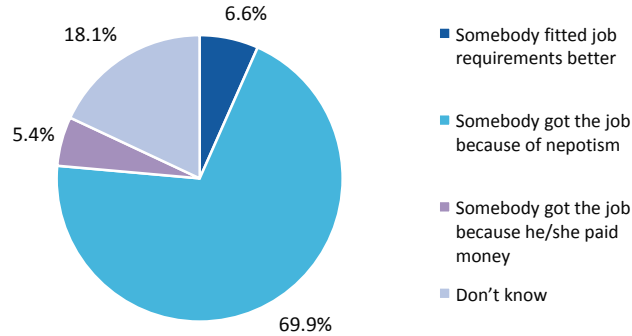
Public sector recruitment

As well as being providers of myriad vital services to the population, public sector institutions jointly make up the largest single employer in any given country. In the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the share of the workforce employed in the public sector is around 27 per cent according to recent ILO estimates⁴. Due to the sheer size and importance of the public administration, departments/agencies need to hire new staff on a regular basis. The recruitment process, while usually regulated in order to ensure transparency, leaves a varying degree of discretion to those officials selecting the new workforce. In accordance with national principles, regulations and best practice, new staff should be selected on the basis of criteria such as competence and experience, but it is often reported that other decisive factors can come into play, such as nepotism, cronyism or even bribery.

Job opportunities in the public sector are usually attractive to job seekers, not only for the nature of the work itself but also for the advantages typical of employment in the public administration, such as job security, associated social status and fair remuneration. In this sense, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is no exception and, according to the results of this survey, some 20 per cent of citizens or members of their households applied for a job in the public sector in the three years prior to the survey, of whom 18 per cent actually secured a job. Of those who were successful, 6 per cent admit paying money, giving a gift or doing a favour in order to be hired. Data show that public sector recruitment procedures in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia suffer from a lack of transparency, at least in the opinion of applicants who were not recruited: as shown in figure 17, in total, three quarters of those who did not get a job think that somebody else was employed either due to cronyism, nepotism or bribery (70%), or due to the payment of money (5%). Only about 7 per cent believe that somebody else better fitted the job requirements

⁴According to recent ILO estimates, the share of workforce in the public sector is 27.2 per cent in the FYR of Macedonia (2005)

Figure 16: Percentage distribution of adult population who applied for a job in the public sector in the three years prior to the survey and were not hired according to perceived reason for not being recruited, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)



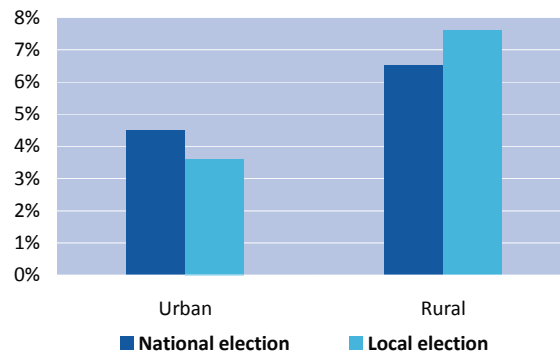
Note: Data refer to adult population (aged 18-64) who applied for a job in the public service in the 3 years prior to the survey and who were not recruited.

Vote-buying at recent elections

A key development in any democracy is manifested in the modalities, rules and regulations of the electoral process, including electoral campaign regulations, funding of parties and access to the media. These are all extremely important and sensitive topics for which countries implement thorough legislation in order to ensure fair and transparent elections.

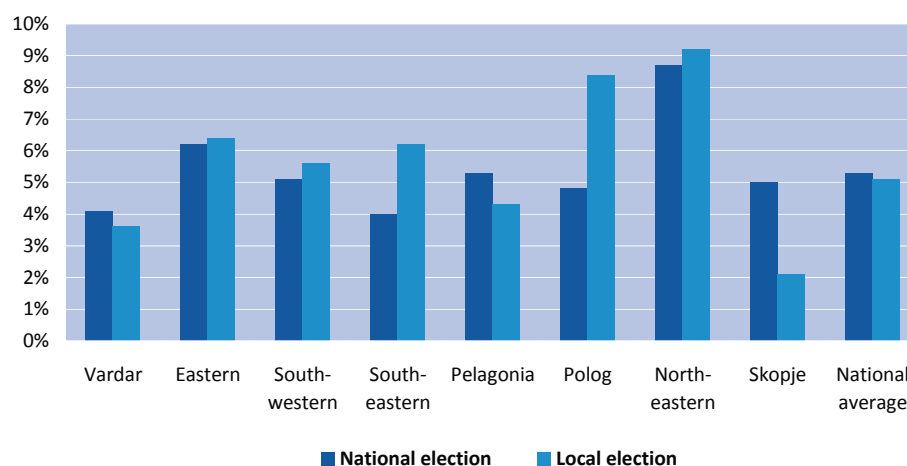
In this regard, the United Nations Convention against Corruption invites countries to identify criteria concerning candidatures for election to public offices and to enhance transparency in the funding of candidatures and, where applicable, of political parties. In this framework, the survey explored one specific aspect related to the electoral process, with citizens being asked whether they were exposed to vote-buying. The findings show that on the occasion of 2009 national elections 5 per cent of citizens were asked to vote for a certain candidate or political party in exchange for a concrete offer, such as money, goods or a favour. Also, in the case of local elections about 5 per cent stated that they received an offer. (figure 17). These vote-buying requests seem to be made with a differing prevalence in urban (4.5% national and 3.6% local elections) and rural areas (6.5% and 7.6%, respectively) (figure 17).

Figure 17: Percentage of adult population asked to vote for a candidate at last national and local elections in exchange for money, goods or a favour, by urban/rural, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)



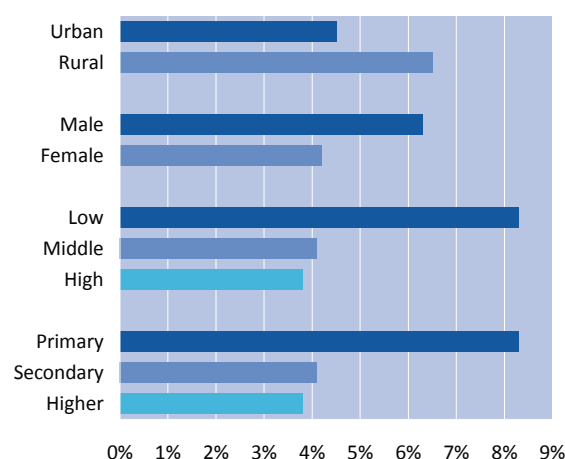
Most vote requests to individuals during national elections were reported in the Northeastern region (9%), as they were during local elections (9%), while in Polog the figure was 8 per cent in local elections. In the other regions the share of the adult population receiving offers for vote-buying was between 4 and 6 per cent, while in Skopje a lower share was approached at local elections (2%) (figure 18).

Figure 18: Percentage of adult population asked to vote for a candidate at last national and local elections in exchange for money, goods or a favour, by regions, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)



The highest number of offers were made in rural areas, more frequently to men than women, and more often to individuals with low incomes and a low level of education (figure 19).

Figure 19: Percentage of adult citizens asked to vote for a candidate at last general elections in exchange for money, goods or a favour, by selected variables (urban/rural, sex, income and educational attainment), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)



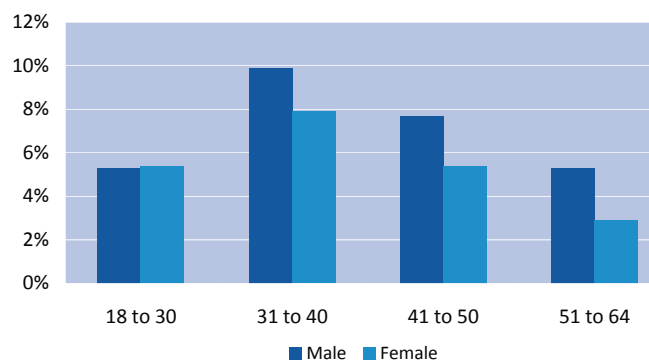


6. VULNERABILITIES TO BRIBERY

By definition, two parties play a role in an act of bribery, one giving and the other receiving a payment, gift or counter favour, though, as seen in previous chapters, on occasion a third person may act as an intermediary. Less clear is the identity of the victim: sometimes it is the bribe-payer, particularly when left with no choice but to pay in order to access a service, but in other cases the agreement between the two parties, whether explicit or implicit, is made at the expense of a third party, be it a specific individual, group or the community at large. Such blurred boundaries mean that any light, however faint, that can be shed on the features and characteristics of bribe-payers may be of assistance in developing anti-corruption policies and in assessing the impact of bribery.

In general terms, the demographic and socio-economic features of the bribe-paying population of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia closely match those of the population as a whole, though some distinctive characteristics can be noted. For example, the prevalence of bribery is higher among male citizens than female citizens (7% vs. 5%), men in their thirties are those most exposed to bribery and the probability of being confronted with bribe requests decreases with age (figure 20).

Figure 20: Prevalence of bribery in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, by age groups and sex (2010)



Note: Prevalence of bribery is calculated as the number of adult citizens (aged 18-64) who gave a public official some money, a gift or counter favour on at least one occasion in the 12 months prior to the survey, as a percentage of adult citizens who had at least one contact with a public official in the same period.

There are, however, noteworthy differences in vulnerability between men and women in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia when looking at the type of official receiving the bribe. For example, the prevalence rate in relation to police officers is 7 per cent for men but only 2 per cent for women, and in relation to customs officers it is 10 per cent for men but 5 per cent for women. The same can be said when analysing payments to certain types of official by household income of bribe-payers, with the likelihood of paying a police officer being highest among citizens with a high household income. But when looking at characteristics such as education level or activity status, no clear patterns emerge.

In terms of the reasons why citizens pay kickbacks, female citizens do so more often for personal/family reasons compared to men (82% vs. 66%), while male citizens do so more often for work/business-related reasons (23% vs. 14%). The youngest age group (18-29) also shows a high share of bribes being paid for work/business-related purposes (37%). Among low-income earners bribes related to personal/family reasons make up the vast majority of all bribes paid (96%), while citizens with a high household income to a lesser extent get involved in acts of bribery purely for work-related reasons (61%), meaning they are more likely to pay a bribe related to their work or business. But, in general, administrative bribery appears to affect the different social strata without establishing a clear pattern. It is a pragmatic practice employed when a problem needs solving or a bureaucratic bottleneck needs clearing and the better off can afford the payment of larger bribes in order to do so, but no social group appears to be exempt from such activities.



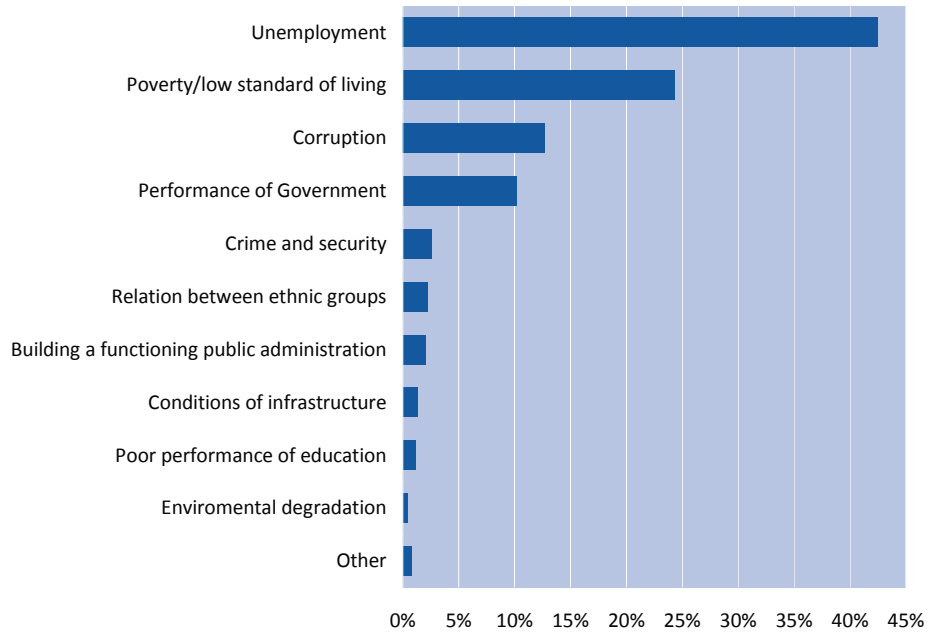
7. PERCEPTIONS AND OPINIONS ABOUT CORRUPTION

The perception of a certain phenomenon can be seen as the result of a process in which a piece of information, be it based on a direct or indirect experience, is processed and evaluated by any given person. Citizens' opinions about corruption are, therefore, the final outcome of a complex process and the type of information available to them is the first factor influencing their opinion. The media usually plays a major role in shaping public perceptions when, for instance, it focuses on specific episodes of corruption while neglecting others. And the same information can be interpreted in different ways by different people, depending on their culture, values, socio-economic status, occupation and other variables.

Perceptions of corruption, then, do not measure corruption per se, but instead measure the psychological impact of corruption on the population. This survey focuses on actual experiences of petty corruption but understanding how corruption is perceived by citizens is important in assessing the likelihood of corrupt practices occurring: the greater the perception of corruption, the greater the probability that certain practices will persist and develop further. If it is anticipated that the payment of a bribe is required to get something done, it is more likely that the bribe will be either requested or offered. Corrupt practices, including bribery, foster perceptions about corruption and those perceptions, in turn, foster corruption.

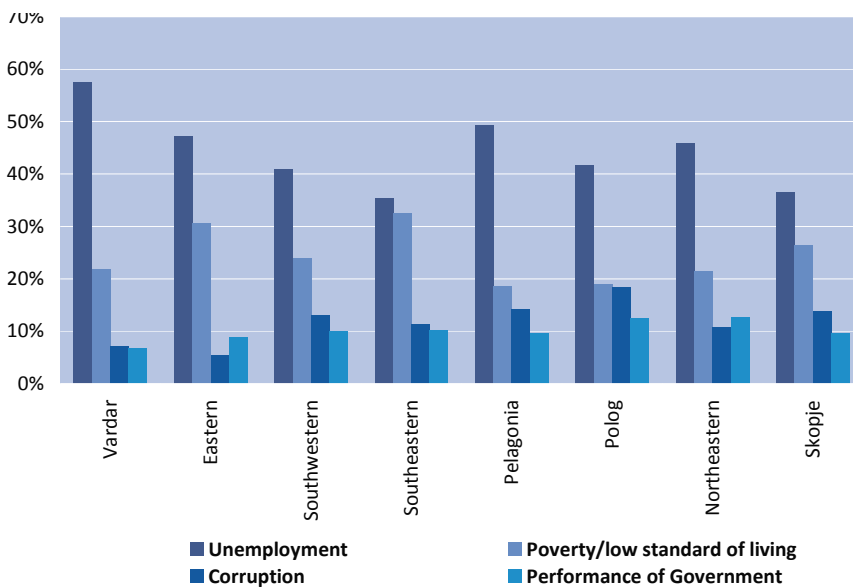
As already stated, according to the findings of this survey, the citizens of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia believe that corruption is one of the biggest problems facing their countries today: they rank it the third most important issue to be addressed at national level after unemployment and poverty/low standard of living (figure 21).

Figure 21: Percentage distribution of adult population considering selected issues as the most important in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)



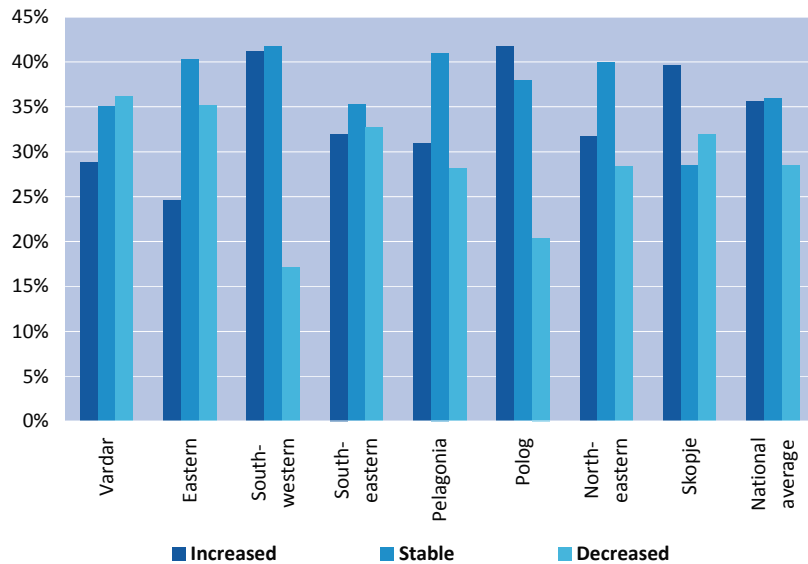
Unemployment and poverty are understandably rated the most important issues but corruption is actually ranked higher than issues such as the performance of the Government or crime. On a sub-national level corruption is perceived to be a higher or lower priority depending on how other socio-economic issues are perceived by the population. In fact, corruption is actually rated the third most important problem that the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is facing today in six out of eight regions. In the Eastern and Northeastern regions corruption only ranks fourth, just below the performance of the Government, which might be related to similar issues (figure 22).

Figure 22: Percentage of adult population considering selected issues as the most important in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, by region (2010)



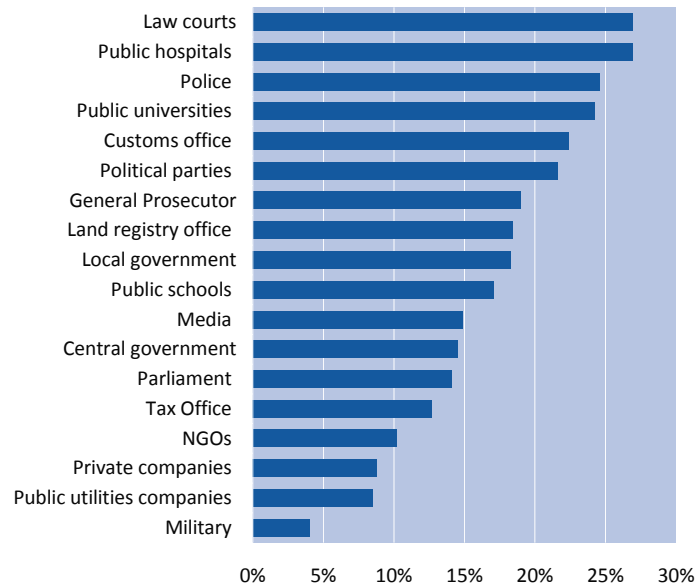
Another perspective to take into consideration when evaluating perceptions is whether corruption is perceived to be decreasing or increasing over time. As figure 23 shows, more than one third of citizens believe corruption is on the rise in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (although it must be reiterated that perceptions about time trends are different from actual bribery experience – as evidenced in previous chapters – and are also different from opinions about corruption compared with other topics). In this aspect, there are some noticeable variations between regions, with about 40 per cent of the adult population in the Polog, Southwestern and Skopje regions perceiving corruption to have increased in the three years prior to the survey. In the Eastern region only one quarter perceives corruption to be on the rise, and in Vardar less than 30 per cent of the population believes corruption to have increased while, on the other hand, 36 per cent think corruption to have actually decreased over the three years prior to the survey.

Figure 23: Percentage distribution of adult population according to perceived trends of corruption in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in the three years prior to the survey, at regional level (2010)



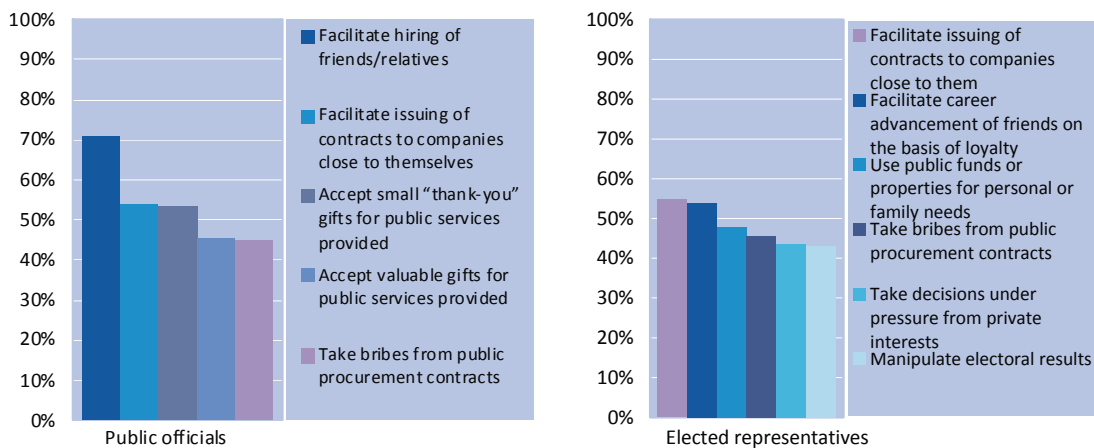
Several institutions or sectors are perceived to be permeated by corruption to a significant extent. Figure 24 shows that an important, though variable, share of the population believes that corrupt practices occur often or very often in those institutions selected, with the military, public utilities companies and private companies among the organizations perceived to be more immune to corruption. On the other hand, more than a quarter of the adult population perceives corrupt practices to occur often or very often in law courts and hospitals.

Figure 24: Percentage of adult population who consider that corrupt practices occur often or very often in selected sectors/institutions in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)



These evaluations of the perception of corruption play an important role in helping stakeholders to learn about citizens' trust in institutions and their perceptions about the integrity of various crucial bodies in the public service. Apart from the findings about the sectors perceived to be corrupt, it is highly relevant to see which practices are perceived to be corrupt and to which procedures they relate (figure 25).

Figure 25: Percentage of adult population who perceive that selected malpractices occur often or very often, respectively among public officials and elected representatives in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)

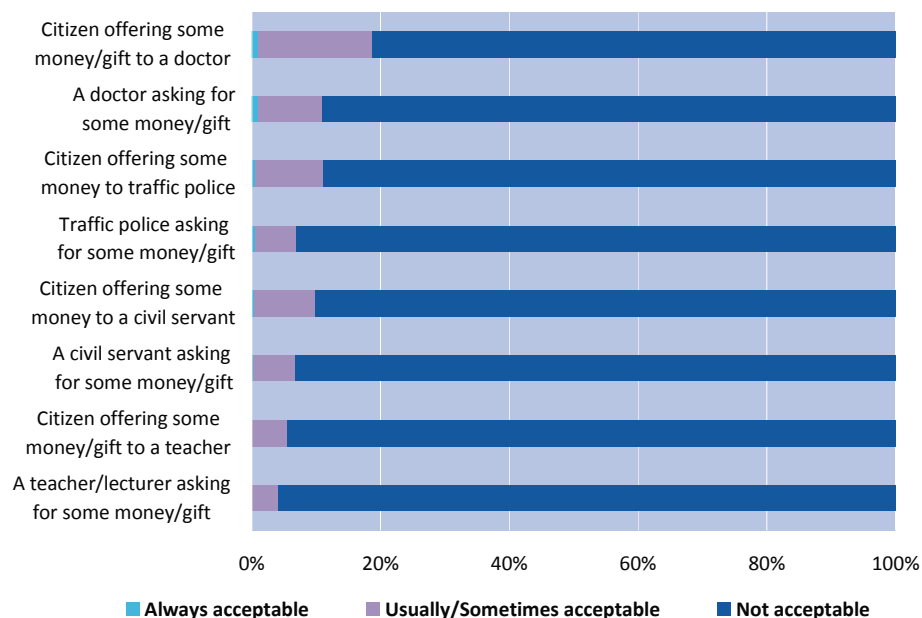


The hiring of friends and relatives is perceived to be by far the most common malpractice among public officials (71%). Among elected representatives, the facilitation of career advancements of friends is also perceived to happen often or very often by more than 50 per cent of the population. The awarding of contracts to private companies is perceived to happen on a frequent basis among elected representatives and unelected public officials in equal

shares (55% to 54%). A large share of the adult population of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia has the impression that all the malpractices listed in figure 25 happen on a regular basis. The manipulation of electoral results, although at the very bottom of the list, is still perceived to happen often or very often by more than 40 per cent of citizens. While remembering that such data only refer to perceptions, it is still remarkable that such a large share of the population believes certain practices to be so widespread.

In addition to the perception of the extent of some behaviours, it is also important to understand to what point such practices are considered acceptable by the population as it is possible that the frequency of certain practices has the effect of making people consider such behaviours to be acceptable. Data presented in figure 26 indicate that for most citizens the various acts listed are not considered acceptable, though some nuances do exist and it appears that some behaviours are more acceptable than others. Moreover, the act of a citizen offering some money or a gift to a public official is usually more tolerated than the request actually made by a public official.

Figure 27: Percentage distribution of adult population in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia according to acceptability of certain practices among selected public officials (2010)



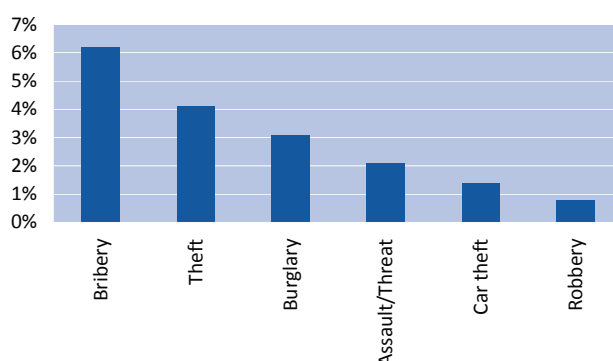


8. PREVALENCE AND PATTERNS OF OTHER FORMS OF CRIME

Besides corruption, the survey also addressed the victimization experience of respondents in relation to various other types of crime. Although bribery, car theft, personal theft, burglary and robbery are all criminal acts, their respective impacts are not easily comparable due to the substantive differences in material, psychological and socio-economic damages incurred. While bribery is liable to erode public integrity and the social fabric as a whole, other crime types such as assault, robbery and theft often have significant psychological effects on the victims, in addition to their material consequences.

In most countries, crime trends and patterns are usually evaluated through data on reported crime as collected by the police, prosecutors or courts. The collection of data about victims of crime can provide valuable information for at least two reasons: it provides an assessment of the so-called “dark figure” of crime, which represents all those criminal events that for various reasons are not reported by victims to the authorities and, secondly, it supplies a whole range of information about victims and modalities of crime episodes, which are not usually well represented in statistics produced by law enforcement and judiciary bodies.

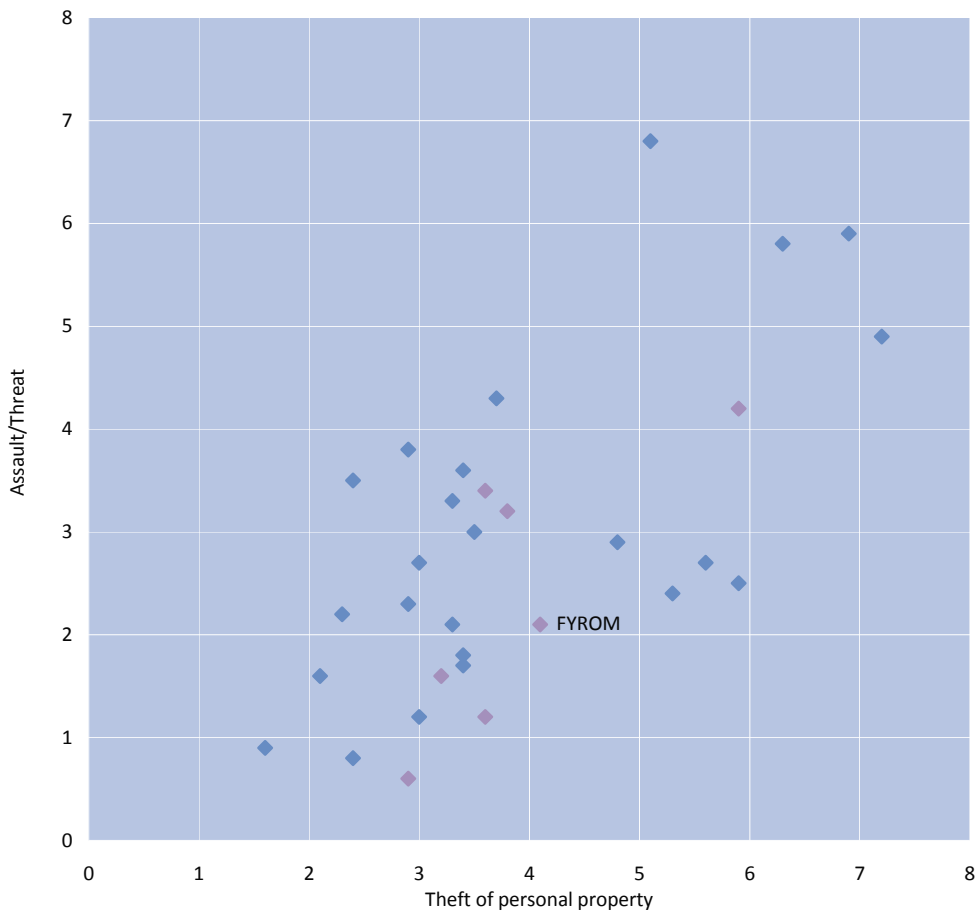
Figure 28: Annual prevalence rates for different types of crime, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)



Note: Prevalence of bribery is calculated as the number of adult citizens (aged 18-64) who gave a public official some money, a gift or counter favour on at least one occasion in the 12 months prior to the survey, as a percentage of adult citizens who had at least one contact with a public official in the same period; annual prevalence rates for personal theft, assault/threat, robbery and burglary are respectively calculated as the number of adult citizens experiencing each of these crimes, as a percentage of the total adult population (aged 18-64); the annual prevalence rate for car theft is calculated as the number of households who experienced one car, van or truck theft in the 12 months prior to the survey, as a percentage of households owning a car, van or truck.

As shown in figure 27, the annual prevalence rates of personal theft (4.1%), burglary (3.1%) assault/threat (2.1%), car theft (1.4%) and robbery (0.8%) are substantially lower than for bribery (6.2%). When considering these figures in an international perspective, it is evident that the victimization experience of the citizens of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is not markedly different to those recorded in other European countries. This is visualized in figure 28, where prevalence rates of assault and theft recorded in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and other countries of the western Balkan region are shown jointly with the most recent data available in a number of other European countries. Data indicate that the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is in a mid-table position in terms of the share of the population being victim to two typical crimes, one against property (theft) and the other against the person (assault).

Figure 29: Annual prevalence rates of theft and assault/threat in western Balkan countries/areas and selected other European countries (2010 and most recent year)



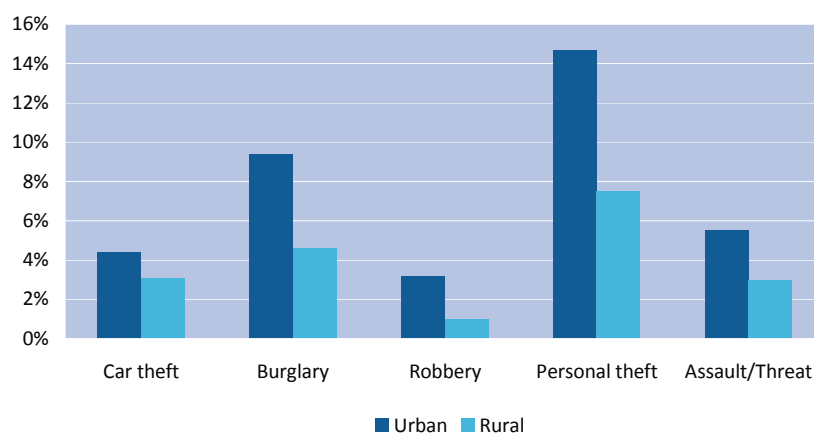
Note: Western Balkan countries/areas shown in red. Figures for other European countries shown in blue are taken from the European Survey on Crime and Safety (EU-ICS) and the International Crime Victim Survey (ICVS) and refer to the year before surveys conducted in 2004/2005. Source: WODC (2007), Criminal Victimization in International Perspective.

The same pattern is apparent when considering the share of the population that experienced at least one incident of a particular crime in the five years prior to the survey⁵: Personal theft remains the most common crime experienced by citizens of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (11.9%), followed by burglary (7.5%), assault/threat (4.5%), car theft (3.9%) and robbery (2.3%). There is a pronounced difference between victimization rates in urban and

⁵ This indicator (i.e. five year prevalence rates) yields larger sub-samples which can produce statistically significant estimates for further breakdowns of data, such as by region, urban/rural settlement, sex, etc.

rural areas, whereby five-year prevalence rates for personal theft, burglary and assault/threat are about double the rural rate, while the rate for robbery is about triple that of rural or other settlements. The gap between urban and rural five-year victimization rates is less pronounced for car theft (figure 29).

Figure 30: Five-year prevalence rates for selected types of crime in urban/rural areas, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)



Note Prevalence rates for personal theft, assault/threat, robbery and burglary are respectively calculated as the number of adult citizens experiencing each of these crimes in the five years prior to the survey, as a percentage of the total adult population (aged 18-64); the prevalence rate for car theft is calculated as the number of households who experienced one car, van or truck theft in the 5 years prior to the survey, as a percentage of households owning a car, van or truck.

Table 1: Five-year prevalence rates for different types of crime by region, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)

	Regions								National average
	Vardar	Eastern	South-western	South-eastern	Pelagonia	Polog	North-eastern	Skopje	
Personal theft	13.7	5.1	8.5	10.8	13.3	8.4	6.2	18.2	11.9
Burglary	9.9	9.8	3.3	12.5	9.6	3.6	5.2	8.1	7.5
Assault/threat (personal)	4.5	4.3	1.3	4.4	6.3	1.7	1.4	7.5	4.5
Robbery (personal)	1.4	1	1.3	3.3	2.6	1.2	1.6	3.7	2.3
Car theft	7.5	10.2	0	2.5	5.9	4	3.9	3.3	3.9

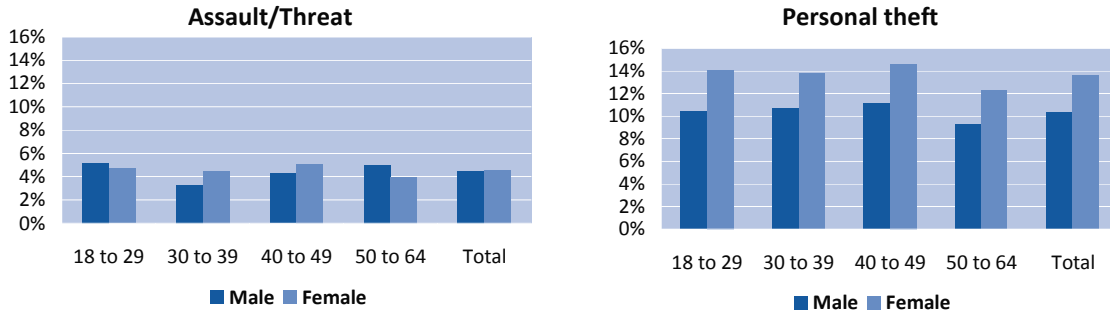
Note Prevalence rates for personal theft, assault/threat, robbery and burglary are respectively calculated as the number of adult citizens experiencing each of these crimes in the five years prior to the survey, as a percentage of the total adult population (aged 18-64); the prevalence rate for car theft is calculated as the number of households who experienced one car, van or truck theft in the 5 years prior to the survey, as a percentage of households owning a car, van or truck.

Regionally, it is noticeable that Skopje has by far the highest five-year prevalence rates for personal theft, assault/threat and robbery but a relatively low rate of car theft. Other regions that show comparably high rates of personal theft, assault/threat and burglary are Vardar, Pelagonia and the Southeastern region. Interestingly, by far the highest rate of car theft (10.2%) is reported in the Eastern region, way ahead of Vardar (7.5%) and Pelagonia (5.9%), while Skopje (3.3%) has a five-year prevalence rate for car theft that is below average (table 1).

Women are more likely than men to be victims of personal theft but have about the same chance of being victims of assault/threat or robbery. Victimization in personal crimes does not appear to have a strong correlation with age in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: the young age groups do seem to have a higher five-year prevalence rate for

assault/threat but the pattern for older age groups is not uniform (figure 30). Among the younger age groups, men face a somewhat higher risk of assault/threat than women but this pattern is not uniform for age groups over thirty, nor is there any discernable pattern in victimization rates by age groups for theft and robbery.

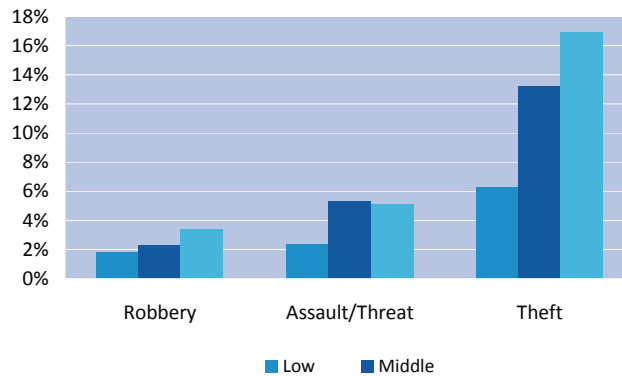
Figure 31: Five-year prevalence rates of assault/threat and personal theft by age groups and sex, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)



Note Prevalence rates for personal theft and assault/threat are calculated as the number of adult citizens experiencing each of these crimes in the five years prior to the survey, as a percentage of the total adult population (aged 18-64)

When considering other characteristics of crime victims, it appears that higher income levels are associated with a greater risk of falling victim to theft and robbery, while the economic status of citizens does not appear to be related to the likelihood of falling victim to personal assault (figure 31).

Figure 32: Five-year prevalence rates for selected crimes by income group, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)



Note Prevalence rates for robbery, personal theft and assault/threat are calculated as the number of adult citizens experiencing each of these crimes in the five years prior to the survey, as a percentage of the total adult population (aged 18-64)

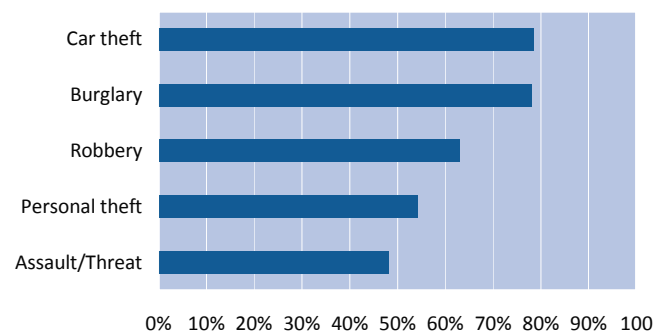
An important feature of crimes and of their impact on victims is their level of violence, and the use of weapons by offenders represents a direct indication of that level. Prevalence rates for violent crimes such as assaults and robberies are moderate in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and in most cases they are conducted without any weapon (73% for robberies, 71% for assaults). Only in a minority of cases are they perpetrated under the threat of arms such as knives (9% for robbery, 6% for assault) or guns (8% for robbery, 10% for assault).

Reporting of crime

Various factors, including the level of violence, have an impact on the willingness of victims to report crimes to the police (figure 32). Car theft is almost always reported to the police, for reasons of insurance and de-registration. In addition, crimes are more frequently reported the

greater the amount of damage or psychological trauma suffered. The survey results demonstrate that the share of crimes experienced in the 12 months prior to the survey that was reported to the police ranges from 48 per cent for assault/threat to 79 per cent for car thefts. In contrast, out of those who paid a bribe in the same period less than one per cent reported it to the police. Burglary is reported in about 78 per cent of all cases, with a somewhat higher reporting rate when something is actually stolen. Robbery is reported to the police, on average, in slightly more than 60 per cent of cases, with a greater tendency to be reported when significant damage occurs and when a gun, a knife or something used as a weapon is employed in the incident. Fifty four per cent of all incidents of personal theft were reported to the police.

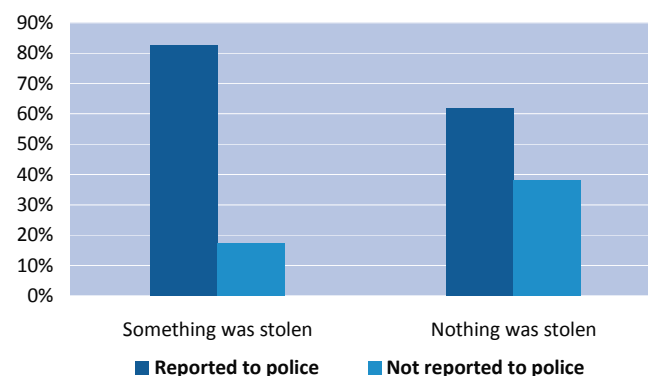
Figure 33: Percentage of victims of selected types of crime who reported their experience to authorities by type of crime, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)



Note: Reporting rates refer to the latest case reported to the police in the 5 years prior to the survey.

When comparing reporting rates for crimes experienced in the 12 months prior to the survey to reporting rates for the last incident experienced in the five years prior to the survey, it is notable that reporting rates remained roughly constant for burglary, theft and assault/theft. On the other hand, at 68.2 per cent and 89.7 per cent, five-year reporting rates for robbery and car theft are considerably higher than one-year reporting rates (63% and 78.6%, respectively), indicating a possible decline in the willingness of victims to report these crimes to the police. A closer analysis of five-year reporting rates reveals that men are somewhat more likely to report assault/threat, theft and robbery offences than women. Victims are also more likely to report thefts, burglaries and robberies to the police when something is stolen than in cases of criminal attempts that are not successful. For example, victims of burglary over the five-year period reported 82.7 per cent of burglaries to the police when something was stolen but only 61.8 per cent when nothing was actually stolen (figure 33).

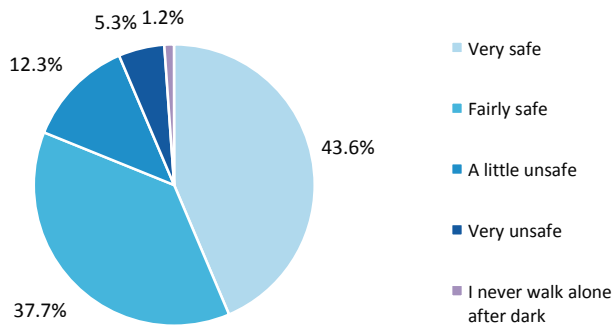
Figure 34: Percentage of victims of burglary reporting to police according to the loss suffered, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)



Perceptions of safety from crime

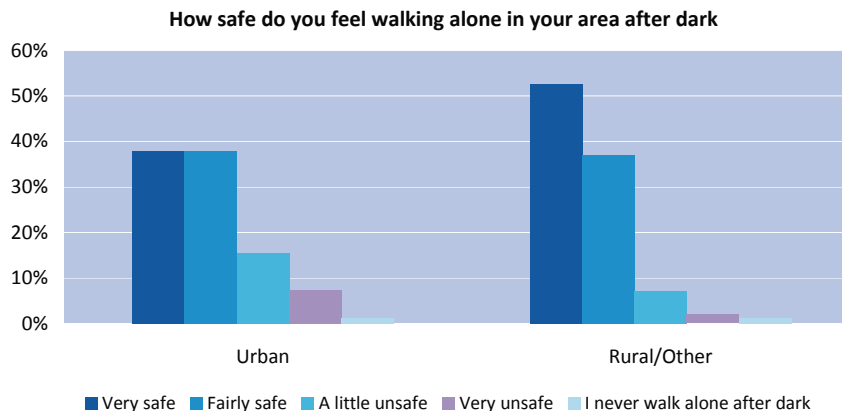
The incidence of assault and robbery might affect feelings of safety or fear in public spaces. One-year and five-year prevalence rates indicate that the risk of falling victim to a crime such as robbery, personal theft or assault in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is moderate. Consequently, over 80 per cent of citizens feel safe walking alone after dark (figure 34). By contrast, less than 20 per cent feel unsafe in the same situation or never walk alone after dark (1.2%). As expected, men are less afraid than women (88% and 75%, respectively, feel safe). The difference between men and women can be observed in all age groups. In addition, younger age groups tend to feel safer than those over fifty.

Figure 35: Percentage distribution of adult population according to feeling of safety, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)



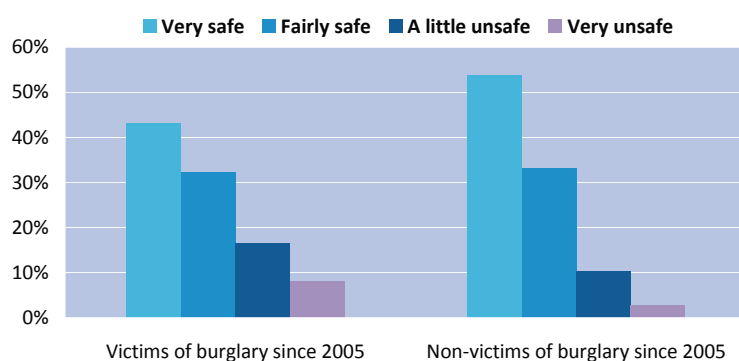
There is a pronounced difference in feelings of safety between residents who live in urban areas and those living in rural areas. The data show that the higher prevalence rate of street crimes in urban areas (figure 29) is also reflected in a greater feeling of insecurity among urban residents. Only 37.9 per cent of urban residents but more than a half (52.6%) of rural residents feel very safe while walking alone at night in their neighbourhood, while 7.4 per cent of residents in urban areas feel very unsafe while walking alone at night; a sense of insecurity that is shared by only 2 per cent of rural residents (figure 35). This gap in perceived safety between urban and rural areas is also reflected in regional data, with about one in ten inhabitants of the Skopje region feeling very unsafe walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark compared to about 1 per cent in the Southwest region.

Figure 36: Percentage distribution of adult population according to feeling of safety, respectively for urban and rural areas, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)



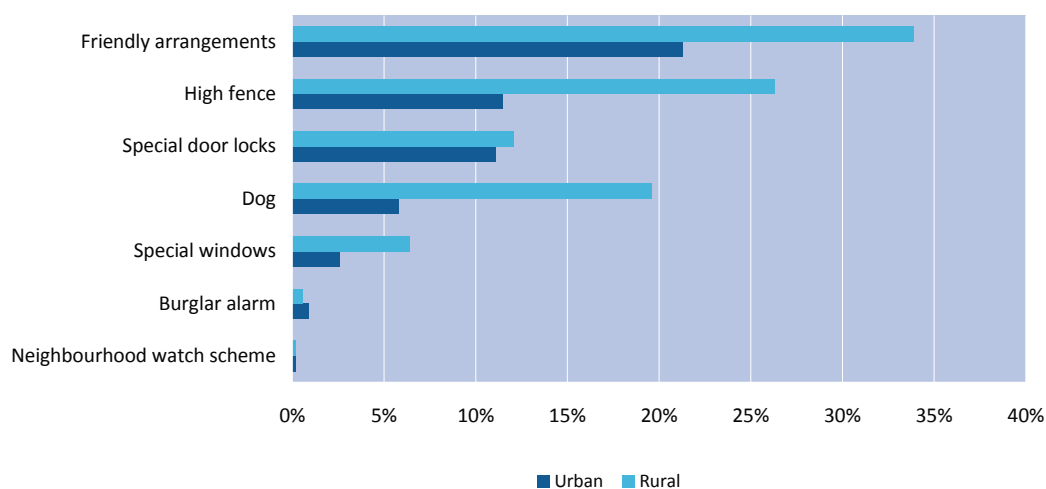
In total, 86.1 per cent of residents feel very or fairly safe at home alone after dark, while 10.7 per cent feel a little unsafe and 3.2 per cent feel very unsafe. Residents of rural/other areas feel more safe (90% feel very or fairly safe and 10% a little or very unsafe) than urban residents of whom 83.7 per cent feel safe and 16.3 per cent unsafe when home alone after dark. These differences in the perception of safety among residents of urban and rural areas may again be linked to the higher prevalence of burglary in urban areas (figure 36).

Figure 37: Percentage distribution of adult population according to feeling of safety, respectively for victims and non victims of burglary, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)



As noted above, five-year prevalence rates indicate that 9.4 per cent of urban households and 4.6 per cent of households in rural areas were victims of burglary in the five years prior to the survey (figure 29). Against this real risk of falling victim to burglary, it is interesting to note that around 50 per cent of homes have no protection systems at all and that many of the existing home protection systems can be considered to be quite light. The most common home protection system relies on “friendly arrangements with the neighbours” (26.2% of households), while a total of 17.2 per cent have a high fence, 11.5 per cent have special door locks and 11.2 per cent have a dog for home protection. Only a small minority of households have other types of home protection systems, such as special windows (4.2%), burglar alarms (0.8%) or a special neighbourhood watch scheme (0.2%).

Figure 38: Types of home protection used in rural and urban areas, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)



It is noteworthy that the use of almost all these home protection systems is considerably more common in rural areas than in urban areas: 19.6 per cent of rural households use a dog for

home protection in comparison to only 5.8 per cent of urban households, 26.3 per cent of rural vs. 11.5 per cent of urban households have a high fence as a means of home protection and 33.9 per cent of rural vs. 21.3 per cent of urban households make use of friendly arrangements with neighbours (figure 37). This is particularly surprising in view of the fact that the five-year prevalence rate of burglary in urban areas is approximately double that in rural areas (figure 29).



9. CONCLUDING REMARKS

Corruption means different things to different people but for many it is a kind of spectre whose pernicious presence can be felt while its structure remains both intangible and impossible to delineate. Yet this report shows that, thanks to the analysis of the direct experience of bribery undertaken in the corresponding background surveys, it is possible to draw at least a partial profile of this particular phantom.

As in many other fields, both on the economic and social front, the data and analyses provided in this report are not to be used to score or rank the different regions of the country, or any selected sector or ministry, on a corruption scale but rather to help understand a complex issue and to assist policymaking in developing appropriate measures against it. To this end, the following elements could be retained for further consideration with a view to developing effective anti-corruption measures at national level:

- There is no single modus operandi for bribery and any particular one in force may vary depending on the specific purpose of the payment, the public official and the administrative procedure involved. Data indicate that established practices exist, and policies for fighting bribery, including preventive measures, need to take this into account. A full understanding of the mechanism of bribery will assist the authorities of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in developing a combined set of preventive and criminalization measures for fighting bribery in its various guises.
- Malpractice occurs in the performance and duties of public officials in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia but some sectors appear to be more vulnerable to bribery than others. This obviously depends on the nature of the services provided but it also appears that certain practices are more established in certain sectors than in others. A better understanding of the reasons why bribes are paid and the identification of specific issues, such as the quality of services – for example, the reduction of health service waiting times or streamlining in the fining procedure – could assist in the implementation of specific measures. And sectors shown to be more vulnerable to bribery could undergo specific assessments in order to identify priority areas in need of specific support.
- An area of concern is the very low share of bribe-payers who file a complaint with the authorities. A thorough analysis of existing reporting channels could be considered in order to make them more easily accessible, better known and, where necessary, more

confidential. The information collected in this survey provides invaluable insights on how to improve such mechanisms.

- In general, corruption is not accepted by citizens of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia – they voiced concern about it in the survey – yet bribery appears to be tolerated as a tool for getting things done and receiving better treatment. Further initiatives might be developed to inform those who do not deem bribery to be on a par with “real” crimes, as well as to increase understanding about the pernicious effect that kickbacks have on the fair delivery of public services.
- Though still embryonic in nature, some of this survey’s findings touch on areas, such as public sector recruitment and vote-buying, which relate to the general provisions of the United Nations Convention against Corruption. Further analysis of the vulnerabilities that have emerged could thus be undertaken forthwith.

This survey has been conducted in the framework of a regional programme to assess the actual experience of bribery in the western Balkan region. As such, it provides the possibility of having a comparative perspective on the extent, modality and nature of bribery in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the other countries/areas of the region, thus giving added value in understanding this phenomenon. This is particularly true if such exercises can be repeated over time in order to monitor changes at national and regional level.

A monitoring system of corruption at national level should include a variety of tools for collecting evidence about its various manifestations and assisting policymaking:

- General assessments of the experience of bribery and other forms of corruption (both for the population at large and the business sector), for the purpose of providing benchmarks and measuring progress.
- Sectoral assessments of the working conditions and integrity of public officials by sector (health sector, judiciary, police, customs, etc.) for the purpose of providing more in-depth and specific information as well as assisting in identifying targeted policy measures.
- A system for monitoring the state response to corruption – both repressive and preventive measures – in order to identify successful and unsuccessful practices.

In the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, various exercises have been conducted in these areas but further involvement of government agencies responsible for producing statistical data, relevant ministries and experienced research centres, with the support of international and regional organizations, will enable the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to produce high quality and relevant information for fighting corruption more and more effectively.

As the data pertaining to the perception of corruption in this report reveal, public opinion about corruption in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia shows a considerable level of concern about the issue. A window of opportunity is, therefore, open and it is likely that the citizens of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia would warmly welcome the further implementation of anti-corruption policies.



10. METHODOLOGICAL ANNEX

Data presented in this report were collected in a sample survey representative of the resident population of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. This survey was part of a regional project in which independently administered surveys were conducted in the countries/areas of the western Balkan region. For the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the survey was conducted by the State Statistical Office (SSO). The anonymity of respondents was protected in all stages of the survey, all questionnaires were treated confidentially and were not made available to any third party.

A core questionnaire and other survey tools were jointly developed by UNODC and its national partners to ensure common methodological standards and comparability of results. After translation into Macedonian, the questionnaire was tested in a pilot survey in June 2010 and then finalized.

The survey was conducted in August/September 2010 through face-to-face interviews with randomly selected respondents. The target population was the resident population of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia of 18 to 64 years of age. A stratified two-stage sampling method was used: in the first stage the total population was stratified by eight geographical regions and two types of settlement (categorized by size of population according to national administrative system) and enumeration areas were selected. In the second stage, households were selected from the enumeration areas by simple random sampling. Within selected households the person (aged 18 to 64) with the next birthday was selected as the survey respondent. The response rate for all contacts made during fieldwork was 74.3 per cent resulting in a net sample size of 3,500 respondents.

Quality-control measures were put in place both during and after the conduct of the interviews:

- fieldwork coordinators supervised 10 per cent of interviews directly
- fieldwork coordinators checked each questionnaire for errors and completeness
- back-checking by fieldwork coordinators was implemented, either by phone (20% of interviews) or face-to-face (1%)
- logic checks were conducted on the final data set

the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	
Responsible agency	State Statistical Office (SSO)
Survey period	August – September 2010
Target population	Resident population of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, aged 18-64
Sample design	Stratified two-stage random Stratified by eight regions and degree of urbanization (urban/other) Enumeration districts and households selected using simple random sampling Over-sampling for possible non-response
Respondent selection	Person (aged 18-64) with next birthday within selected household
Quality control measures	Fieldwork coordinators' check of each questionnaire 10 per cent of interviews conducted under direct supervision of fieldwork coordinators Fieldwork coordinators back-checking by phone (20% of interviews) and face-to-face (1%) Manual data entry with double entry control Logic checks conducted on final dataset
Net sample size	3,500
Response rate	74.3 per cent



11. STATISTICAL ANNEX

Table 1: Bribery indicators by region, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)

	Regions								National average
	Vardar	Eastern	Southwestern	Southeastern	Pelagonia	Polog	North-eastern	Skopje	
Percentage of population having contacts to public administration	88.7%	66.7%	58.3%	71.6%	88.2%	74.9%	81.5%	73.4%	74.7%
Prevalence of bribery	8.2%	2.4%	5.5%	12.4%	4.8%	5.1%	3.0%	7.3%	6.2%
Average number of bribes	6.94	6.52	4.23	7.04	3.73	3.87	12.59	5.72	5.86
Average bribe MKD	84040	38202	12422	18236	15385	14765	34859	27782	28813
Average bribe Euro	1371	623	203	298	251	241	569	453	470
Average bribe EUR-PPP	3534	1607	522	767	647	621	1466	1168	1212

Table 2: Percentage distribution of bribes paid by type of payment, by region, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)

	Regions								National average
	Vardar	Eastern	South-western	South-eastern	Pelagonia	Polog	North-eastern	Skopje	
Cash	28.9%	50.8%	27.4%	50.4%	45.3%	50.1%	76.0%	46.7%	45.4%
Food and drink	45.3%	30.8%	55.7%	24.8%	24.4%	15.7%	24.0%	13.1%	24.6%
Other goods	15.0%	28.0%	3.7%	4.2%	11.3%	24.1%	0.0%	45.2%	23.1%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Note: Data refer to the last bribe paid by each bribe-payer in the 12 months prior to the survey. The sum is higher than 100 per cent since, in some cases, bribes are paid in more than one form (for example, cash and food)

Table 3: Percentage distribution of bribes paid by timing of payment in relation to service delivery, by urban/rural, sex and age, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)

	Urban/Rural		Sex		Age			
	Urban	Rural	Male	Female	18 to 29	30 to 39	40 to 49	50 to 64
Before the service	40.1%	48.8%	51.7%	31.2%	50.3%	35.6%	39.3%	53.6%
After the service	18.7%	33.4%	21.9%	26.8%	24.4%	25.4%	18.7%	27.4%
At the same time	27.2%	10.9%	18.4%	25.6%	13.0%	28.2%	25.9%	13.8%
Partly before/ partly after	9.2%	4.1%	4.8%	11.2%	12.3%	3.8%	11.5%	2.0%
Don't remember	4.7%	2.7%	3.1%	5.3%	0.0%	7.0%	4.5%	3.2%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 4: Percentage distribution of bribes paid by modality of bribe request/offer, by urban/rural, sex and age, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)

	Urban/Rural		Sex		Age			
	Urban	Rural	Male	Female	18 to 29	30 to 39	40 to 49	50 to 64
Public official made explicit request	23.0%	29.4%	25.0%	25.8%	36.2%	17.8%	31.6%	16.1%
Public official made implicit request	26.1%	15.0%	20.5%	24.4%	18.7%	30.3%	19.0%	15.5%
Third party made explicit request	19.3%	8.0%	13.6%	17.7%	7.6%	20.5%	10.9%	21.8%
Citizen made offer	26.5%	43.0%	33.6%	30.7%	32.2%	29.1%	34.5%	36.3%
Don't remember	5.0%	4.6%	7.3%	1.3%	5.3%	2.3%	4.0%	10.2%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 5: Percentage distribution of bribes paid by purpose of bribe request/offer, by urban/rural, sex and age, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)

	Urban/Rural		Sex		Age			
	Urban	Rural	Male	Female	18 to 29	30 to 39	40 to 49	50 to 64
Speed up procedure	44.8%	58.1%	46.7%	53.7%	43.5%	45.6%	55.9%	57.3%
Avoid payment of fine	15.2%	5.6%	12.5%	10.8%	7.6%	16.1%	11.8%	9.1%
Receive better treatment	3.3%	2.4%	3.7%	2.1%	0.0%	5.3%	0.0%	6.9%
Receive information	12.9%	3.1%	14.4%	2.3%	14.7%	5.3%	10.3%	8.7%
Finalization of procedure	8.6%	15.7%	13.0%	8.6%	13.4%	13.6%	6.8%	9.2%
Reduce cost of procedure	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Avoid other problems	2.1%	0.0%	2.3%	0.0%	5.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
No specific purpose	11.7%	12.8%	5.8%	21.1%	15.4%	14.1%	9.2%	7.6%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 6: Percentage distribution of bribe-payers who paid to selected types of public officials, by urban/rural and sex, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)

	Urban/Rural		Sex	
	Urban	Rural	Male	Female
Police officers	40.2%	25.9%	51.7%	11.9%
Judges/Prosecutors	18.1%	10.9%	15.4%	15.8%
Land registry officers	16.4%	18.9%	17.0%	17.7%
Tax officers	5.8%	9.9%	9.3%	4.3%
Customs officers	15.2%	17.4%	22.5%	6.9%
Public utilities officers	7.4%	14.8%	8.9%	11.6%
Municipal officers	16.2%	13.4%	14.6%	16.1%
Doctors	50.9%	69.5%	50.0%	67.9%
Nurses	18.5%	11.5%	10.5%	23.8%
Teachers	21.1%	10.4%	14.0%	22.0%
Social protection officers	9.1%	4.7%	7.6%	7.5%
Car registration officers	4.8%	1.5%	3.3%	4.0%
Municipal elected representatives	6.2%	10.4%	11.5%	2.4%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

Note: The sum is higher than 100 per cent since bribe-payers could have made payments to more than one public official in the 12 months prior to the survey.

Table 7: Percentage distribution of bribe-payers not reporting their personal bribery experience to authorities according to the most important reason for not reporting, by urban/rural and sex, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)

	Urban/Rural		Sex	
	Urban	Rural	Male	Female
Common practice	10.3%	18.2%	15.0%	10.5%
Pointless, nobody would care	41.6%	32.7%	39.8%	36.5%
Don't know to whom to report	5.6%	0.0%	2.5%	5.1%
Fear of reprisals	5.8%	8.5%	6.1%	7.7%
Benefit received from the bribe	13.7%	23.9%	18.6%	15.6%
Sign of gratitude	11.5%	14.2%	8.7%	17.9%
Other reason	11.4%	2.7%	9.4%	6.7%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 8: Percentage distribution of adult population asked to vote for a candidate at last national election in exchange for money, goods or a favour, by regions, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)

	Regions								National average
	Vardar	Eastern	South-western	South-eastern	Pelagonia	Polog	North-eastern	Skopje	
Yes	4.1%	6.2%	5.1%	4.0%	5.3%	4.8%	8.7%	5.0%	5.3%
No	95.9%	93.8%	93.3%	95.5%	94.7%	95.0%	91.3%	95.0%	94.5%
Don't know	0.0%	0.0%	1.6%	0.5%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 9: Percentage distribution of adult population asked to vote for a candidate at last local election in exchange for money, goods or a favour, by regions, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)

	Regions								National average
	Vardar	Eastern	South-western	South-eastern	Pelagonia	Polog	North-eastern	Skopje	
Yes	3.6%	6.4%	5.6%	6.2%	4.3%	8.4%	9.2%	2.1%	5.1%
No	96.4%	93.6%	92.6%	93.1%	95.7%	91.6%	90.8%	97.9%	94.6%
Don't know	0.0%	0.0%	1.8%	0.7%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 10: Percentage distribution of adult population recruited in the public sector in the three years prior to the survey who paid money, gave gifts or did favours to facilitate their recruitment, by regions, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)

	Regions								National average
	Vardar	Eastern	South-western	South-eastern	Pelagonia	Polog	North-eastern	Skopje	
Yes	2.7%	5.9%	23.7%	0.0%	1.2%	0.0%	7.4%	4.6%	5.6%
No	97.3%	78.8%	53.2%	100.0%	98.8%	100.0%	92.6%	95.4%	90.4%
Don't know	0.0%	15.4%	23.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	4.1%
No answer	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Table 11: Percentage of adult population who consider that corrupt practices occur often or very often in selected sectors/institutions, by regions, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)

	Regions								National average
	Vardar	Eastern	South-western	South-eastern	Pelagonia	Polog	North-eastern	Skopje	
Parliament	0.6%	0.9%	0.8%	3.1%	0.9%	1.1%	32.7%	36.5%	14.1%
Central government	0.6%	2.0%	1.1%	5.1%	1.8%	0.5%	35.6%	35.9%	14.5%
Local government	2.1%	3.1%	4.5%	8.4%	4.4%	2.0%	39.0%	43.4%	18.3%
Law court	6.6%	4.6%	4.6%	18.6%	8.4%	11.3%	50.5%	58.1%	26.8%
General prosecutor	1.6%	3.0%	2.9%	13.1%	4.4%	4.6%	39.7%	43.3%	18.9%
Police	4.3%	5.9%	4.7%	20.7%	5.7%	14.0%	47.9%	50.4%	24.6%
Military	0.0%	1.5%	1.0%	1.3%	0.7%	0.3%	2.6%	11.1%	3.9%
Tax office	1.6%	4.1%	2.3%	12.0%	3.4%	1.7%	10.3%	32.5%	12.7%
Customs office	3.1%	5.8%	4.1%	23.7%	6.7%	8.0%	41.8%	47.1%	22.4%
Public utilities companies	1.8%	2.2%	3.0%	8.7%	2.4%	0.7%	4.0%	22.0%	8.5%
Public hospitals	7.3%	8.0%	7.4%	21.2%	9.5%	12.1%	48.7%	55.1%	26.9%
Public schools	5.2%	3.7%	7.1%	15.1%	7.3%	9.0%	17.2%	36.5%	17.1%
Public universities	3.4%	8.0%	6.8%	17.3%	9.2%	13.3%	41.7%	49.8%	24.3%
Land registry office	1.7%	2.5%	8.7%	7.6%	3.9%	6.7%	9.7%	48.5%	18.3%
Private companies	2.0%	0.5%	1.3%	7.6%	2.6%	1.4%	5.2%	23.8%	8.8%
NGOs	1.9%	0.6%	0.9%	3.9%	3.3%	0.5%	30.8%	22.3%	10.2%
Political parties	4.9%	7.9%	3.4%	15.6%	6.2%	5.6%	39.7%	47.9%	21.6%
Media	0.6%	3.1%	3.7%	6.4%	4.8%	1.1%	33.6%	34.7%	14.9%

Table 12: Five year prevalence rates for selected types of crime, by region, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)

	Regions								National average
	Vardar	Eastern	South-western	South-eastern	Pelagonia	Polog	North-eastern	Skopje	
Robbery	1.4%	1.0%	1.3%	3.3%	2.6%	1.2%	1.6%	3.7%	2.3%
Personal theft	13.7%	5.1%	8.5%	10.8%	13.3%	8.4%	6.2%	18.2%	11.9%
Threat/Assault	4.5%	4.3%	1.3%	4.4%	6.3%	1.7%	1.4%	7.5%	4.5%
Car theft	7.5%	10.2%	0.0%	2.5%	5.9%	4.0%	3.9%	3.3%	7.5%
Burglary	9.9%	9.8%	3.3%	12.5%	9.6%	3.9%	5.2%	8.1%	3.9%

Table 13: Percentage of victims of selected crimes who reported their experience to authorities by type of crime, by regions, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)

	Regions								National average
	Vardar	Eastern	South-western	South-eastern	Pelagonia	Polog	North-eastern	Skopje	
Robbery	50.8%	71.1%	100.0%	65.7%	85.5%	84.3%	73.2%	59.5%	67.9%
Personal theft	65.2%	86.3%	36.1%	55.6%	60.7%	34.5%	62.9%	55.7%	54.9%
Threat/Assault	71.6%	26.5%	35.2%	62.6%	60.7%	47.3%	75.1%	39.3%	47.2%
Car theft	79.3%	100.0%	0.0%	43.6%	91.4%	81.4%	100.0%	100.0%	89.7%
Burglary	77.3%	85.5%	86.1%	73.8%	79.0%	84.0%	76.8%	79.7%	79.7%

Table 14: Percentage distribution of adult population according to perceptions of safety, walking alone in neighbourhood after dark, by regions, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)

How safe do you feel walking alone in your area (i.e. neighborhood or village) after dark?

	Regions								National average
	Vardar	Eastern	South-western	South-eastern	Pelagonia	Polog	North-eastern	Skopje	
Very safe	35.9%	50.2%	46.1%	50.9%	40.2%	44.6%	29.9%	45.1%	43.6%
Fairly safe	42.2%	37.5%	43.3%	34.3%	35.8%	41.1%	48.7%	31.2%	37.7%
A little unsafe	18.1%	8.2%	8.7%	10.9%	17.3%	11.1%	12.5%	12.3%	12.3%
Very unsafe	3.4%	3.1%	1.4%	2.8%	6.5%	1.8%	6.6%	9.6%	5.3%
I never walk alone after dark	0.4%	1.0%	0.5%	1.1%	0.2%	1.4%	2.2%	1.7%	1.2%

Table 15: Percentage distribution of adult population according to perceptions of safety, home alone after dark, by regions, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (2010)

How safe do you feel when you are home alone after dark?

	Regions								National average
	Vardar	Eastern	South-western	South-eastern	Pelagonia	Polog	North-eastern	Skopje	
Very safe	45.8%	61.4%	45.7%	54.8%	48.1%	50.2%	55.0%	57.4%	53.0%
Fairly safe	39.1%	29.9%	39.4%	30.7%	33.7%	38.8%	30.4%	28.4%	33.1%
A little unsafe	12.3%	5.3%	13.6%	12.1%	14.0%	9.1%	11.9%	9.6%	10.7%
Very unsafe	2.8%	3.4%	1.2%	2.3%	4.2%	1.9%	2.7%	4.6%	3.2%