



The Asia Foundation

Improving Lives, Expanding Opportunities

2018 Timor-Leste Community Police Perceptions Survey

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. What is the 2018 Timor-Leste Community Police Perceptions Survey?

The 2018 Community Police Perceptions (CPP) Survey represents the fifth survey of its kind in Timor-Leste, with The Asia Foundation conducting its first nationwide survey on security perceptions in Timor-Leste in 2008. The Surveys were repeated in 2009, 2013, 2015, and 2018. It is both the longest-running and the most comprehensive survey of public opinion on matters related to security in Timor-Leste. Since 2008 The Asia Foundation has surveyed over 9,900 citizens of Timor-Leste. The 2018 CPP Survey objectives are to:

- Collect and analyze data to identify prevailing perceptions of safety and security in Timor-Leste
- Help relevant actors articulate policy positions which will inform the development of security-related policies and practices in Timor-Leste

The CPP Survey is a means of publicly communicating the views of Timorese citizens to key decision makers for the purposes set out above.

2. Who did you survey?

The total sample size for the CPP Survey was 3,178 people consisting of (as with previous surveys) the following three respondent groups:

- Public: n=1,808
- Community leaders: n=639
- Police: n=731

The population of the General Public (662,285) is based on the 2015 national census.¹ The *Policia Nacional de Timor Leste* (PNTL) personnel numbers are drawn from official data provided to The Asia Foundation by the PNTL. Community leader numbers are not based on any official sample frame, but are defined by the assumption that each of the 452 Villages or *Suku* (consisting of multiple Hamlets or *Aldeia*) in Timor-Leste has one chief and one communal Elder, and that each *Aldeia* also has one chief.

The breakdown of the three respondent groups by sex is as follows:

Sex	Public	Community leaders	PNTL
Male	50.3%	92.7%	80.5%

¹ The census included members of the general population aged 17 years and older living in private households in all 13 districts of Timor-Leste. Timor-Leste Population and Housing Census 2015.

Female	49.7%	7.3%	19.5%
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3. Where, when and how did you conduct surveying?

The sample was national, covering all 13 districts, and surveying was conducted over five weeks, from September 5 to October 12, 2018. Enumerators were provided by community-based organizations working under the auspices of the Timor-Leste Research & Advocacy Network (TRAIN). Enumerators received five days of data collection training from The Asia Foundation in August 2018.

For all Surveys, the method of data collection was an interviewer-administered, in-person survey, conducted in respondents' homes. In 2008 and 2009, the survey was paper-based. In 2013, 2015, and 2018 the method of data collection was digital, using open-source data collection software and Samsung Galaxy tablets.

For the public, disproportionate district interview quotas were set. At the first sampling stage, Suku were randomly selected. At the second stage, Aldeia were randomly selected. At the third stage, households were selected using a random systematic method from household lists drawn up by Aldeia chiefs. One respondent per household was selected for interview using a Kish Grid, with a 50% male/female gender quota and age limits set at 17 and 95 years.

Community leaders were sampled from the same Suku randomly selected for the public questionnaire, and there was a maximum of 3 Aldeia chiefs per Suku.

PNTL interviews were allocated to districts in proportion to the population of PNTL officers nationally. Individual PNTL officers were selected for interview by simple random sampling (random start, fixed interval) off lists provided by district commanders.

On average, each respondent interview took 51 minutes.

4. What topics are covered in the report?

The CPP Survey covers a wide range of issues which have implications for safety and security in Timor-Leste. The CPP Survey questions were divided into the following sections:

- Respondent demographics
- The security situation in Timor-Leste generally, and in respondents' communities
- Justice-seeking behaviors, focused on pathways which people use to respond to specific types of crime or disputes
- PNTL performance
- PNTL capacity
- Community policing, focused on measures of expectations, trust and cooperation

5. How did you develop the questions for the CPP Survey?

In 2018, the three questionnaires covered

- For the public, 88 questions
- For community leaders, 81 questions
- For PNTL, 72 questions

The Surveys have maintained a core set of questions for longitudinal comparison which have been refined through each successive Survey to elicit opinions on the issues considered most pertinent to safety and security in Timor-Leste. CPP survey data has been amalgamated and questionnaires streamlined in recent years. In 2014, a 'data standardization' exercise was undertaken, whereby the data from the nine separate data sets (three per survey) available at that time were checked, harmonized where possible, and merged into a single datafile in SPSS format. The single datafile helps ensure that the data from all surveys are properly archived. In addition, it can be used, if proper procedure is followed, to conduct further research using a variety of statistical analyses for any one survey. In 2017 this led to the creation of The Asia Foundation's [Data Portal](#) which enables quick and easy comparison of results over time and between groups.

The design and evolution of these questions have also been influenced by tried-and-tested questions that have been used in other surveys conducted by The Asia Foundation, both in Timor-Leste and in other countries. With the design and conduct of each Survey, some questions are added to cover emerging areas of interest, while other less salient questions are removed – for example, those pertaining to internally displaced persons in the 2013 CPP Survey. In 2018, as with the 2015 Survey, detailed questions relating to domestic violence were only put to PNTL and community leader respondents. Public respondents were only asked a few general questions about domestic violence, for example, around the extent to which it appears to be an issue within the community.

6. What is the Survey's margin of error?

The margin of error is based on a confidence interval of 95%.

7. How does the CPP Survey account for quality control?

Quality controls were implemented at each step of the process to ensure methodological consistency, for example through:

- Use of GPS tracking using tablet-based uploading of data to conduct spot-checks of locations
- Thirteen field supervisors, who were responsible for: monitoring fieldwork; controlling the download and cloud upload of data; and, coordinating with local leaders, PNTL district commanders and The Asia Foundation
- Random callbacks to thirty-nine respondents (3 in each district), to double-check that they had been interviewed appropriately
- Verification of respondents' identities against their electoral card. The verification rate was 100%. Had a case of identity non-verification occurred, the household would have been replaced
- Enumerators adopting a systematic approach to ensure consistency in clarifying response ambiguities (eg if respondents selected more than three of a range of options, enumerators retained all).

8. Who funded the CPP Survey?

The CPP Survey is a product of The Asia Foundation supported by the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade through the [Timor-Leste Community Policing Support Program](#).