

# A SURVEY OF THE NEPALI PEOPLE IN 2022

NATIONAL BRIEF



 *inter disciplinary analysts*



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*A Survey of the Nepali People in 2022* was implemented with support from the Australian Government, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade –The Asia Foundation Partnership on Subnational Governance in Nepal and Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation. The findings and any views expressed in relation to this activity do not reflect the views of the Australian Government, Swiss Government or those of The Asia Foundation.

#### Published by

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Cover Photo: Kshitiz Khanal  
Design & Print: Creative Press Pvt.Ltd.

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# FOREWORD

*A Survey of the Nepali People 2022 (SNP 2022)* is the fourth volume being published in continuation since 2017. As with the previous volumes, the main objective of this survey is to present the perception of Nepalis on the country's direction, situation of their household, local conditions, security, identity and social relations, governance, public service delivery, elections, political participation, and economic outlook.

We can expect this year's report to offer something new as it departs in both content and structure from the previous volumes, as necessitated by the context of SNP2022. The data collection for SNP 2022 took place from July 19 to August 25, 2022 which was immediately after the local elections of 2022 and first time since the aftermath of Covid-19. Considering the post Covid-19 scenario as one of the significant contexts of the survey, the survey team decided that including questions on the government's response to Covid-19 would be critical, as it would likely impact peoples' views on the overall performance of the government and the direction the country was moving in. Thus, to gauge Nepalis' evaluation of various actors' roles in handling the public health situation resulting from Covid-19, the 2022 survey included questions on the socio-economic impact of Covid-19 in terms of the government responsiveness to manage Covid-19, coping strategies, and what needs to be done for socio-economic recovery. This year, only 41.7% of surveyed Nepalis, the lowest percentage yet, think that the country is moving in the right direction; their perception on a positive economic outlook dropped to 20.7% compared to 40.1% in 2020. These results, to some extent, reflect the impact of Covid-19 on people's perceptions.

This volume of *A Survey of the Nepali People 2022 (SNP 2022)* is published in a compact format as a National Brief. This comparatively shorter national report will be complimented by seven detailed province-wise reports that will present findings from each particular province. Further, we will release a thematic report on one overarching theme based on the data generated by SNP 2022 and qualitative research.

While observing the SNP 2022 findings, I found the gender-related findings resonating with me on a personal level. It was heartening to me, as a woman and an educator, to learn that overall, only 1.4% of women respondents feel that their gender is a barrier to study in schools and universities. Indeed, this finding is confirmed by the 56.9% of women who graduated in the first phase of Kathmandu University's 28th Convocation on December 15, 2022. People are also gradually accepting of the equal roles of men and women in society. In 2022, the survey found that 78.8% of respondents disagreed with the statement that women should not have control over their income, movement, and decisions—a significant increment from 49.6% who said the same in 2018. This is reinforced by more than three-fourths (75% and above) of respondents in 2022 believing that both men and women are equally capable of leading different institutions/organizations, from government to the private sector and community groups, and those believing that leadership is determined by an individual's capabilities and not by gender.

Despite the positive picture emerging from the survey data, the reality is not so encouraging. Take, for example, the performance of women candidates in the 2022 local elections. The percentage of elected women at all three levels: federal, provincial and local government was 31.1%, 36.3%, and 41.2%, respectively, which is less than the mandatory 33% for federal and provincial parliaments and 50% for local government. Therefore, the researchers and funding agencies should work towards ensuring that such findings translate into affirmative actions to tackle the persistent skewed gender situation in Nepali society by collaborating with government and non-government actors to formulate policies and strictly implement them.

After four successful surveys, the time has come to go beyond presenting and disseminating survey-based quantitative data and to shift towards doing in-depth qualitative, critical research to better understand and address the gaps and reality highlighted by the data, such as the case of elected women lawmakers, and to further assess discrepancies between survey results and expectations. For example, in 2022, against the expected perception that the country is moving in the right direction, Bagmati (a much-developed province) recorded just 30.5% of its residents saying so, whereas Karnali and Sudurpashchim provinces stood at 42.1% and 46.9%, respectively. In fact, in all of the surveys, the people of Karnali and Sudurpashchim provinces are found to be more optimistic than those from Bagmati Province.

To dig deeper into these issues, the involvement of the School of Arts, Kathmandu University (KU-SOA) would be more meaningful and justifiable. Based on future availability of funds, KUSOA's social science faculty could lead academic research by engaging Master's-level students by incorporating SNP into the research component of their curriculum, by publishing research articles, and by conducting periodic comparative and qualitative studies using data generated by the SNP series.

Finally, I would like to take the opportunity to extend my deepest gratitude to all who contributed to making the survey successful and to producing this National Brief Report of SNP 2022. First and foremost, the team at The Asia Foundation who have made funds available via two grant agreements: one from the Australian Government, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and another from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation. Then, I would like to acknowledge Interdisciplinary Analysts, particularly for their assistance in designing the questionnaire, conducting field work, and compiling the data. Equally important is the contribution of the distinguished steering committee members who helped guide the project with their critical insights during every step of the process. They deserve our deepest appreciation. The colleagues from KUSOA who took on the challenge of SNP 2022 and saw it through successful completion culminating in writing this report, I acknowledge their effort and dedication. Last but not least, I would like to sincerely thank the enumerators and the Nepali people without whose participation the survey would not have been possible.

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January 4, 2023



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

*A Survey of the Nepali People in 2022* is led by the School of Arts, Kathmandu University (KUSOA). Interdisciplinary Analysts (IDA) and The Asia Foundation (the Foundation) collaborated with us as technical and academic partners with support from the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

Prof. Dr. Dhiraj Giri led the KUSOA team and contributed to overall data analysis as Principal Investigator (PI) and Dr. Uddhab Pyakurel assisted him as co-PI under the overall guidance of Ekku Maya Pun, Acting Dean of KUSOA. Both PI and co-PI, as well as Prof. Dr. Mahesh Banskota and Ayushma Pyakurel provided inputs and contributed to data analysis and the final write-up of the brief. All the logistics and administrative tasks were done jointly by Bharat Shrestha, Nirandira Shrestha, Krishnahari Neupane and Shubha Silwal.

From the IDA team, Dr. Sudhindra Sharma provided overall guidance. Hiranya Baral coordinated the survey fieldwork, Bal Krishna Khadka provided essential support in designing the survey methodology, Chandra Bahadur KC worked on the detailed sampling design and getting the dataset in a form ready for analysis, including generating tables and charts, and Dinesh Dangol and Sandeep Thapa designed the software for data entry using Open Data Kit (ODK). Preliminary analysis of each of the chapters was done jointly by Sudhindra Sharma, Bal Krishna Khadka, Chandra Bahadur KC and Pan-kaj Pokhrel.

On behalf of the Foundation, Srijana Nepal led the overall research work with support from Yasaswi Dhungel and Abhas Ghimire under the guidance of Carolyn O'Donnell and Bishnu Adhikari. Kimberly Keeton copy-edited the final brief report.

The SNP 2022 team expresses its sincere gratitude to all members of the Steering Committee for their critical and valuable guidance and input on the implementation of the survey. The team is also thankful to all the respondents of the survey for their honest views and generous time, and to all the enumerators and supervisors for their incredible efforts to collect data so that we could produce this report in its current shape. Appreciation also goes to Kathmandu University-Nepal Center for Contemporary Studies (KU-NCCS) and Kathmandu University School of Management (KUSOM) for offering their office space to conduct various activities during the survey lifecycle.



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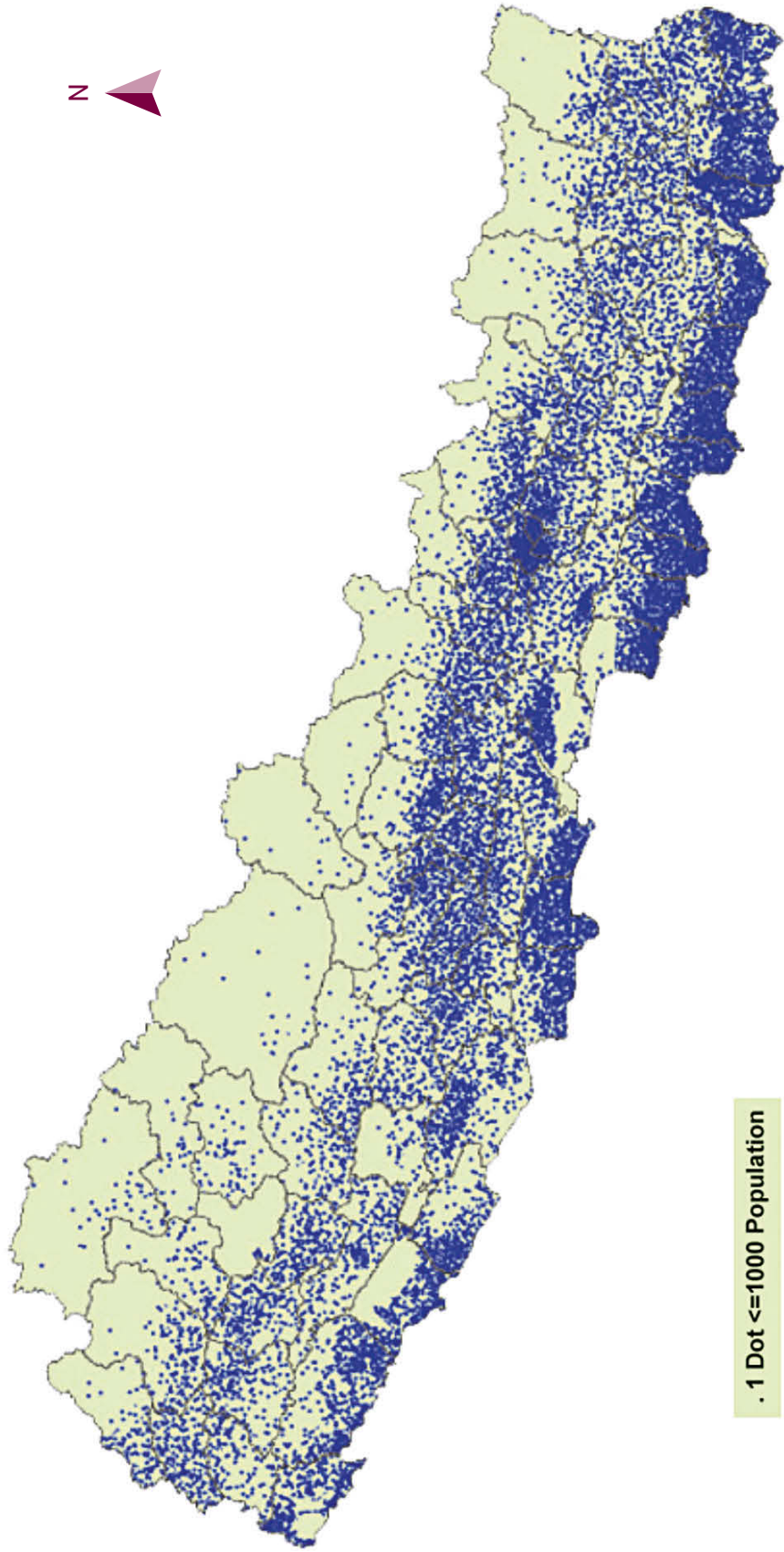
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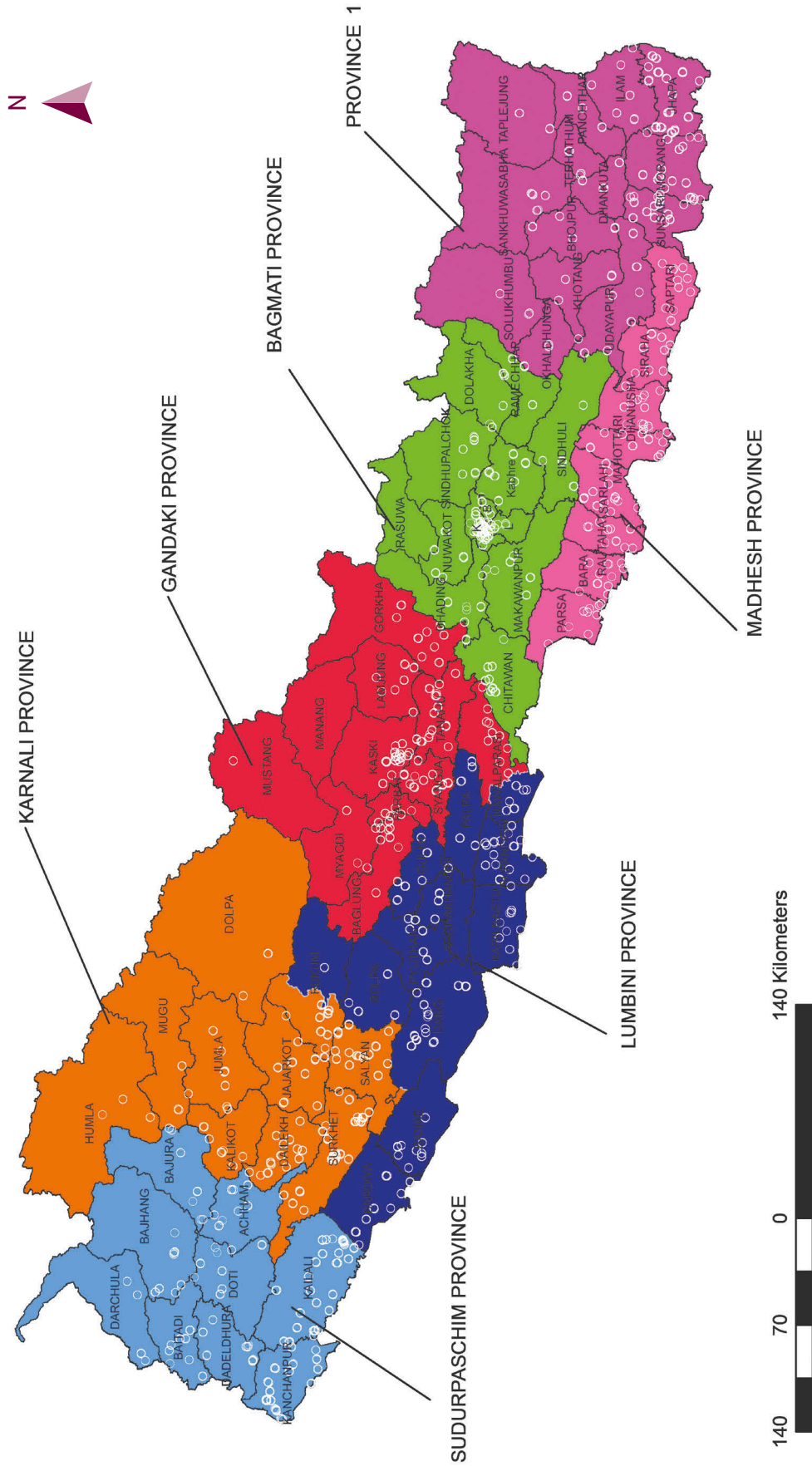
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# POPULATION DISTRIBUTION OF NEPAL

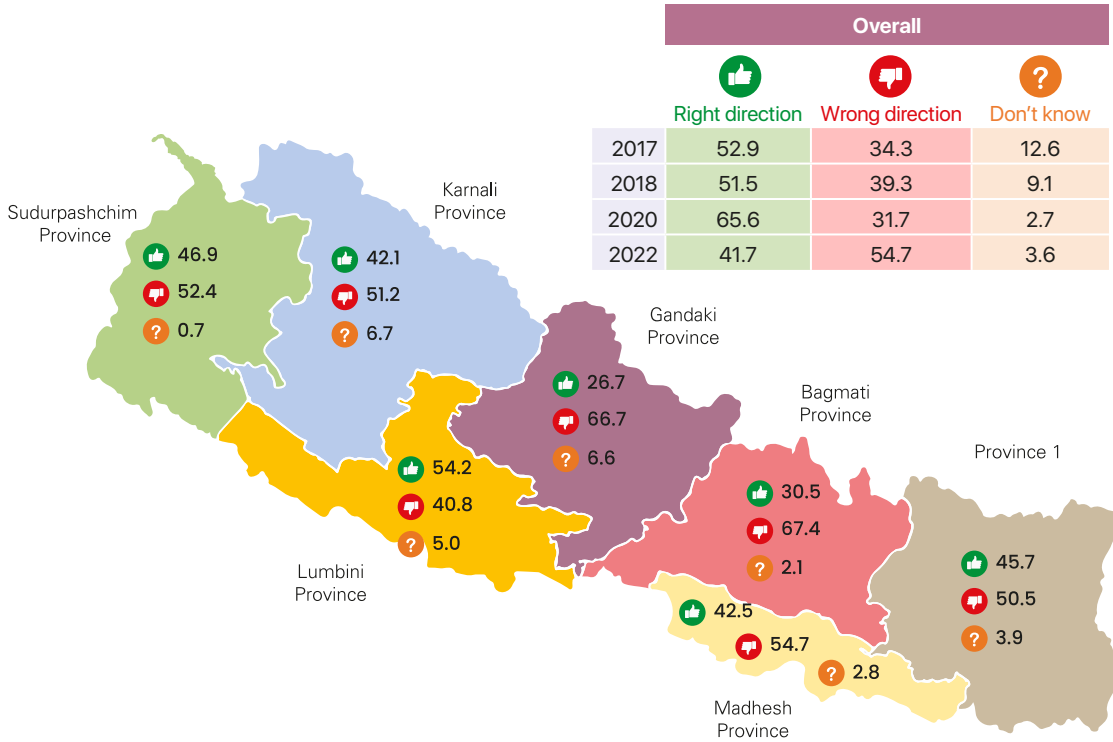


# SAMPLE DISTRIBUTIONS SNP 2022

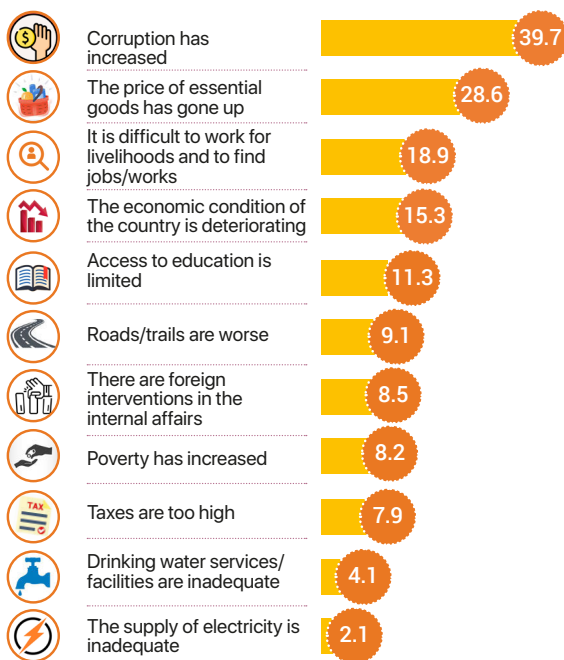


# KEY HIGHLIGHTS

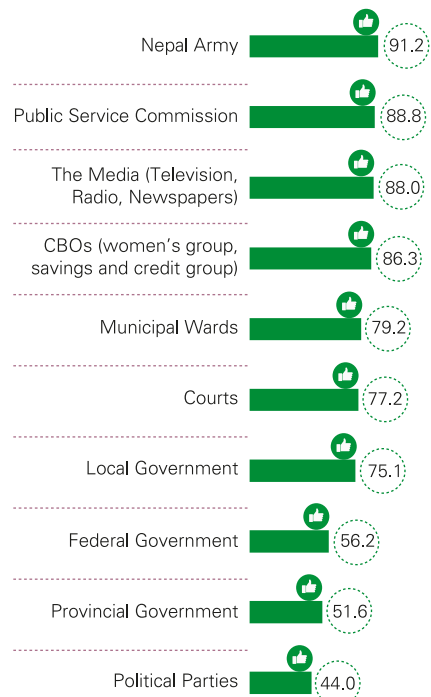
## Direction of the country (%)



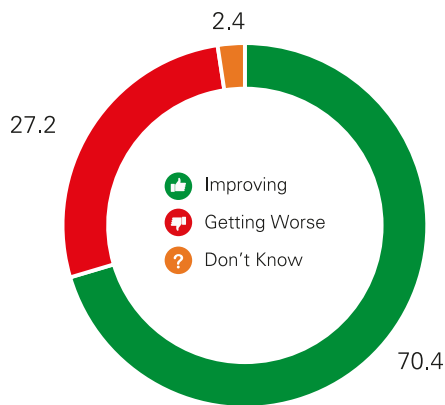
## Biggest perceived problems in Nepal (%)



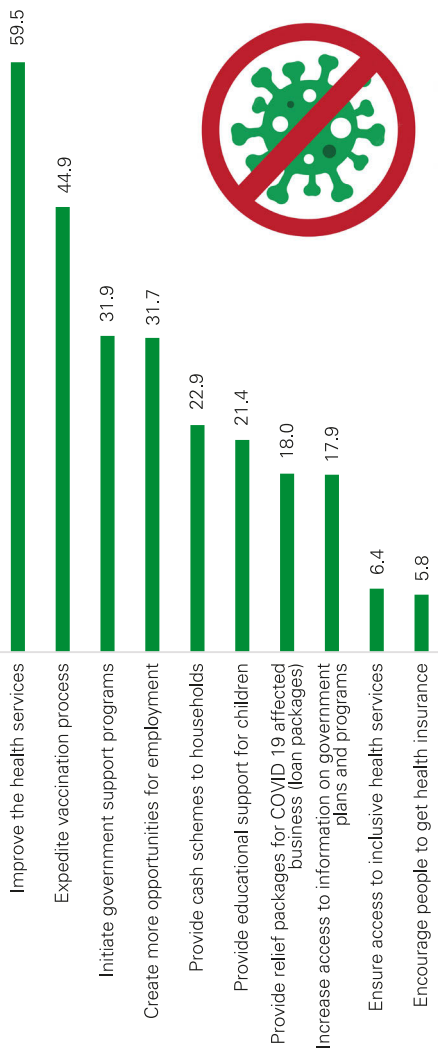
## Trust in institutions (%)



### Local conditions (%)



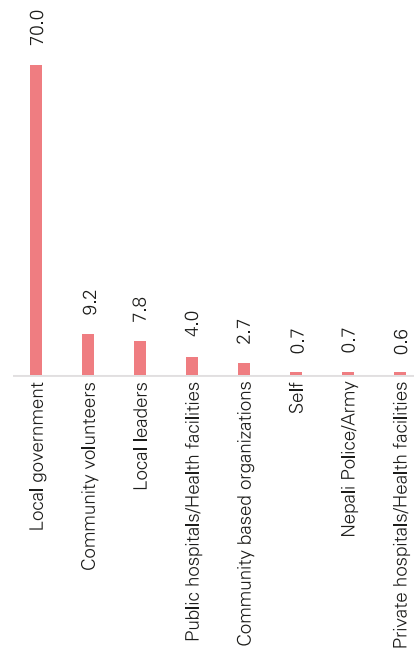
### Expected government actions to minimize the impact of Covid-19 (%)



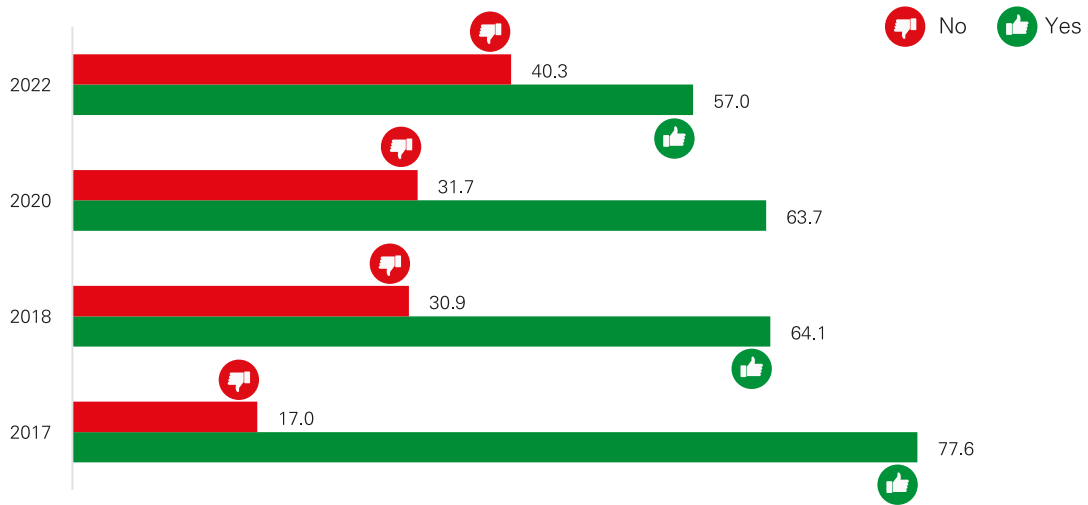
### Views on local economic conditions (%)



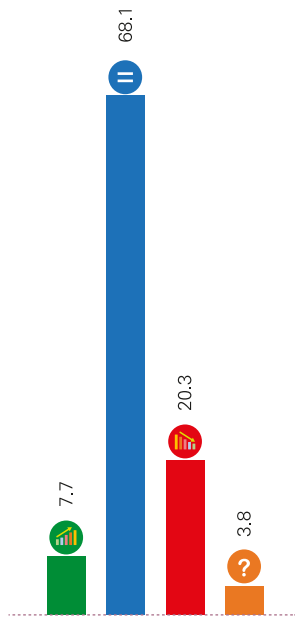
### Responsive actors during Covid-19 (%)



### Willingness to pay more local taxes for better services (%)

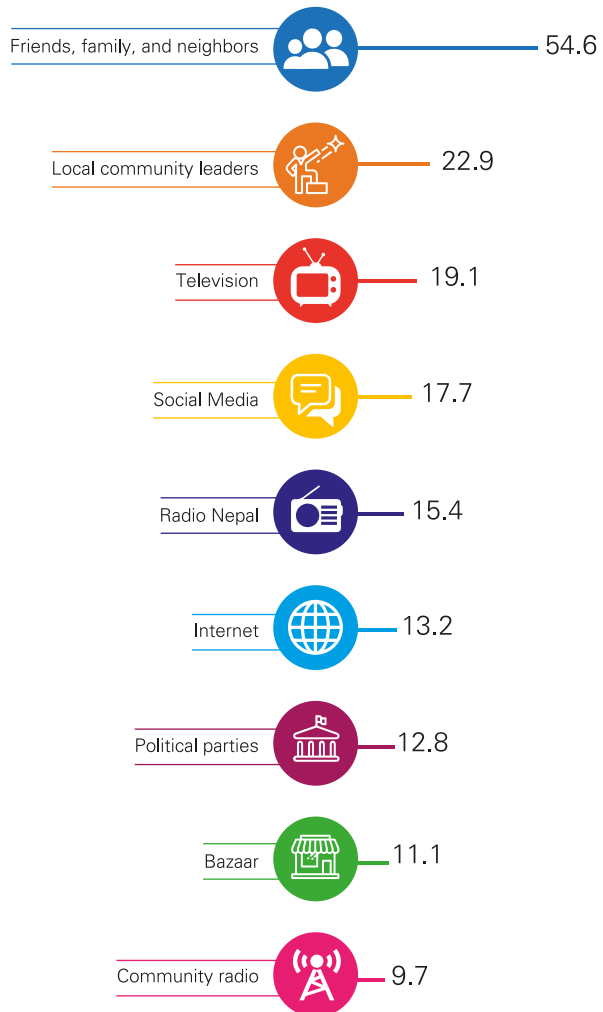


### Income generation opportunities in local area (%)



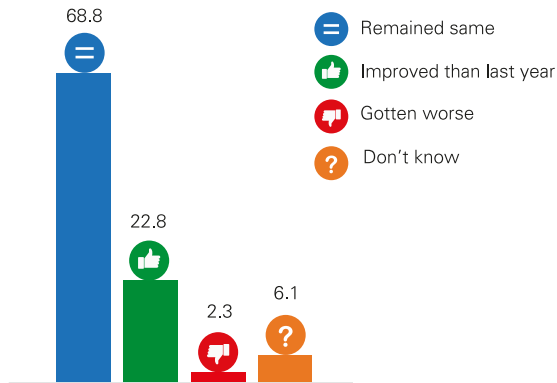
- More opportunities
- Same as the last year
- Less opportunities
- Don't know

### Sources of information for local government activities (%)

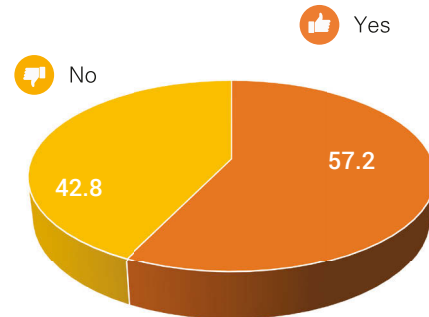




### Local government responsiveness to the needs of people (%)



### Overall satisfaction with local government service delivery (%)



### Views on gender roles and gender equality (%)

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree
It is more important for a family to have a son than a daughter	4.3	9.2	11.5	74.9
Women should not be encouraged to work outside the home	2.5	5.2	16.4	75.7
It is not suitable for women to engage in politics	2.5	4.8	17.7	74.9
Women should not have control over her income, movement and other decision making process	9.9	11.1	14.4	64.4
If a wife does not obey her husband, he has the right to punish her	3.9	13.0	17.3	65.7
When job opportunities are limited, men should have more right to a job	3.1	8.8	18.3	69.5
It is a man's responsibility to fulfil financial needs for his family	6.1	10.2	17.8	65.8

### Disadvantage by mother tongue and caste/ethnicity (%)

	Mother tongue	Caste/ethnicity
To interact with other people at work	13.0	2.6
To report a problem in police station	13.2	2.2
To obtain services in a government office	13.1	2.1
To access health services in a hospital/health post	11.7	1.8
To study at a school or a university	8.3	1.5
When attending public events	10.4	-



Photo by: Devraj Dhakal

# 1. INTRODUCTION

*A Survey of the Nepali People in 2022 (SNP 2022)* is based on a nationally representative sample of 7,056 Nepalis randomly selected from 588 wards across all seven provinces. The findings are representative both at the national and provincial levels. This survey attempts to gauge Nepalis' views on the country's direction, situation of their household, local conditions, security, identity and social relations, governance, public service delivery, elections, political participation, economic outlook, and the socio-economic impact of Covid-19.

The survey series began in 2017 when the country was transitioning into a federal governance structure and the first local elections within the new political set-up were just completed. Subsequent surveys were conducted in 2018 and 2020. While SNP 2020 captured the perception of Nepalis just before the onset of Covid-19, SNP 2022 reflects opinions on the socio-economic impact of Covid-19 in the country. Data collection for SNP 2022 was completed in August 2022 after the conduct of the second local election cycle held on May 13, 2022. Therefore, findings may also serve as a five-year report card of the country's federal, provincial, and local governments, as seen through the lens of its people.

Since SNP 2020, there have been significant events, both in Nepal and worldwide. The country witnessed dissolution of the Parliament and subsequent reinstatement following a Supreme Court ruling. Nepal also experienced new electoral coalitions, an impeachment motion against the Chief Justice, a series of corruption scandals, nationwide Covid-19 lockdowns, and disruptions in supply chains and rising inflation due to global economic downturn and the Russia-Ukraine war. These events had huge impacts on the trajectory of Nepal's development and the daily lives of its citizens, as reflected in the survey results. However, the survey findings only reflect a snapshot of perspectives from a sample of citizens at the time of data collection.

The previous surveys showed steady optimism in the overall direction of the country, including in the functioning of the federal structure and local governments. Contrary to the earlier rounds, this year, the survey findings depict a less optimistic outlook of the country's direction, economic conditions, and on political participation and governance. Nepalis who think that the country is moving in the right direction stand at its lowest among all surveys, at 41.7%. The socio-economic impact of Covid-19 on the country and on individual households is quite evident in the survey results, and people expect support from the government through improved health services, cash schemes, employment opportunities, and educational support for children to aid their recovery. Fewer Nepalis state that their

household financial situation is better compared to the previous year. Increased corruption, inflation, deteriorating economic conditions, and difficulty getting jobs are the most frequently reported problems in 2022. Political parties continue to remain the least trusted institution. Nepalis' perception on positive economic outlook has dropped to 20.7% compared to 40.1% in 2020.

Despite the lower levels of optimism, survey data indicates slightly favorable opinions about local areas and local governments. While there is a slight drop in percentages reporting local conditions are improving compared to 2020, the figure is still more than double compared to the outlook on the country's direction. Local government continues to garner more trust than federal and provincial government. Likewise, overall satisfaction with services delivered by the local government is at 57.2%.

The share of respondents who report ease in receiving services from local governments has increased. Local governments were cited as the most responsive actor to manage Covid-19. More than two-thirds of respondents report that the local government's responsiveness has remained the same compared to last year. However, the level of public awareness of and participation in the local governance processes continue to remain low. Over the years, there is a decline in the proportion of respondents who report feeling disadvantaged while obtaining public services and at their workplace due to their gender, caste/ethnicity, and mother tongue other than Nepali. There are increasingly favorable views on gender roles and equality when it comes to women's control over income, movement, and decisions.

Differences across variables, such as province, ethnicity, gender, education, and geographical location of respondents are fairly pronounced in the findings. However, this national brief only presents the key findings and significant variations across variables. This national brief will be accompanied by seven provincial briefs capturing provincial disaggregation in more detail, specific to each province.

This national brief presents key findings around the following six broad topics:

**Public outlook and national mood.** Views of Nepali people on the general direction of the country, conditions in the area where they live, and the situation of their household; what has improved and what problems remain.

**Security and dispute resolution.** Nepalis' sense of safety and experience of crime and violence, preferred avenues for dispute resolution, and level of confidence in those institutions to deliver justice.

**Identity.** Views on patterns of discrimination, social values, and leadership positions.

**Governance and political participation.** Views on local-level restructuring; trust in institutions; awareness on government services and the quality of public service delivery (education, health care, and roads); and local elections, and taxation.

**Economic outlook and access to information.** Views on local economic conditions, household income, migration and remittances, awareness and access to insurance, and preferred sources of information.

**Impact of Covid-19.** Government responsiveness to manage Covid-19, coping strategies, and what needs to be done for socio-economic recovery.





Photo by: Basanti Lama

## 2. PUBLIC OUTLOOK AND NATIONAL MOOD

### 2.1. DIRECTION OF THE COUNTRY

When asked, “Do you think the country is moving in the right direction or do you think it is moving in the wrong direction?,” 41.7% of respondents said it is moving in the right direction, and 54.7% said the wrong direction. Around 3.6% of the respondents had no opinion or could not say clearly.

This is the first time the level of optimism has dropped below 50% in the SNP survey since 2017; it was highest in 2020 (Figure 2.1.1). This decline in optimism is consistent across all provinces, with Gandaki Province (26.7%) showing the least amount of optimism (Figure 2.1.2).

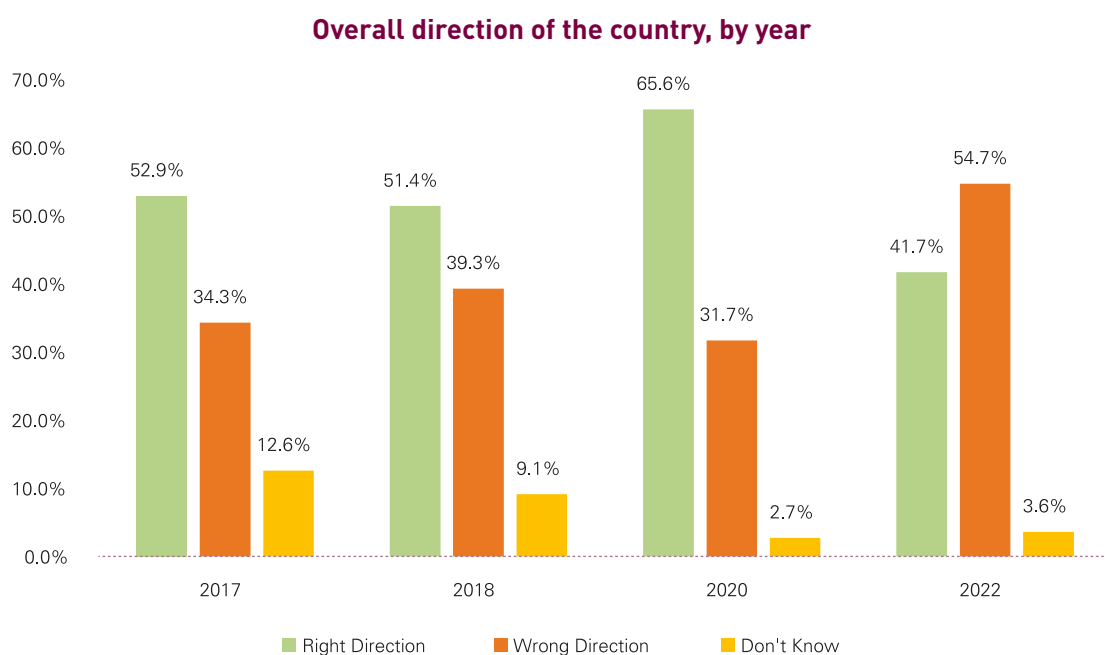


Figure 2.1.1: Do you think things in Nepal today are going in the right direction, or do you think they are going in the wrong direction? (N= 7,056)

Some of the differences in opinion are associated with the demographic characteristics of the respondents. For example, more young people in the 18-24 age group (49.7%) have positive outlooks than those in the 55 and above age group (38.4%). Meanwhile, respondents with higher levels of education (i.e. those with a Bachelor’s degree and above) (69.4%) tend to be less optimistic than those who have never received an education (46.5%). Similarly, respondents from rural municipalities (47.8%) are more optimistic than those from urban municipalities (38.5%).

Across socio-ethnic groups, a slightly higher proportion of respondents from Madhesi Dalit (54.5%) and Musalman (52.9%) groups are positive that the country is moving in the right direction compared to the national average (41.7%). Respondents from the Mountain (47.2%) and Terai (44.4%) region are more optimistic than those from Hill (38%).

### Country is moving in the right direction, by province and year

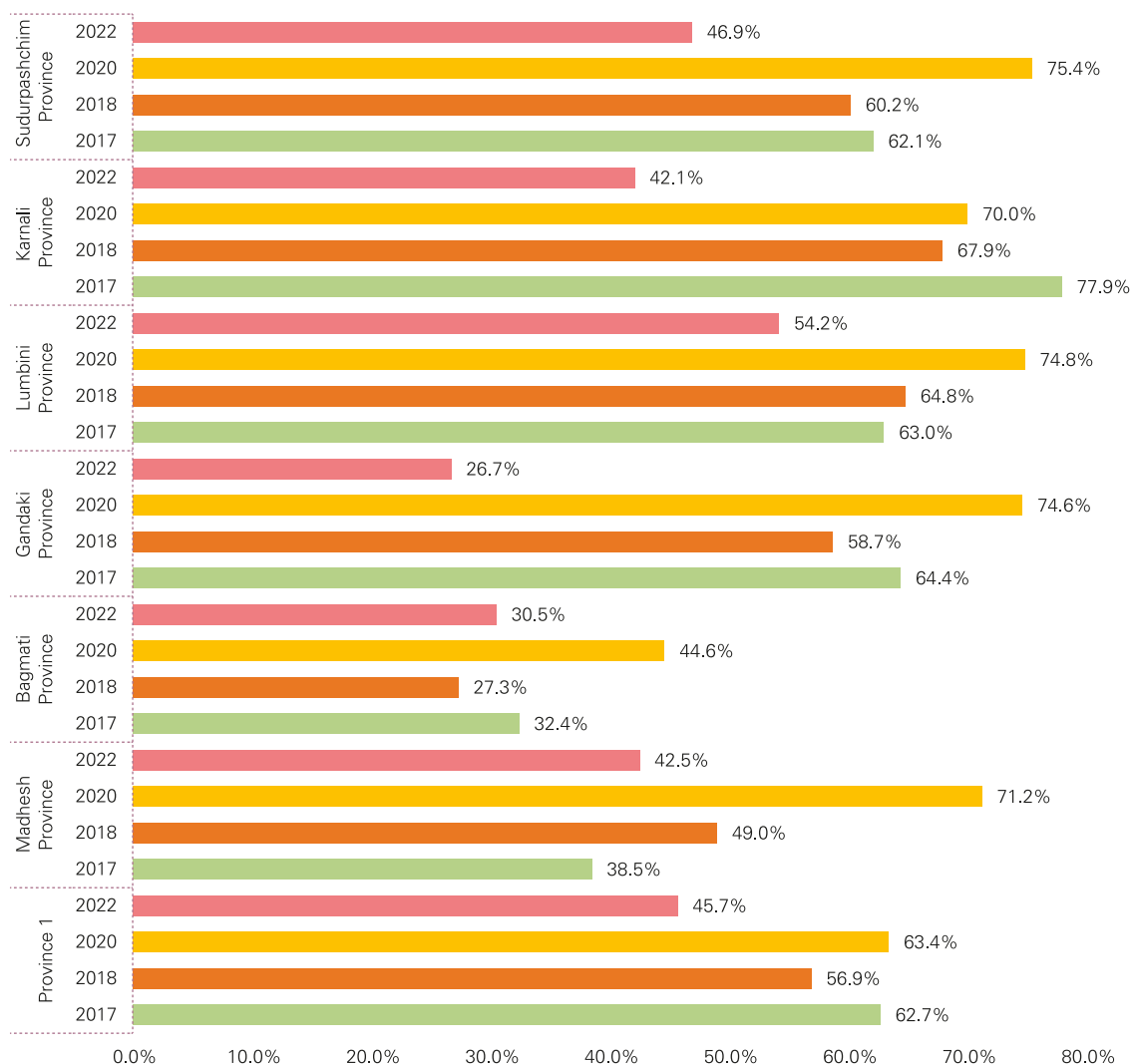


Figure 2.1.2: Do you think things in Nepal today are going in the right direction, or do you think they are going in the wrong direction? (N= 7,056)



In addition to the overall direction of the country, the survey also asked respondents about their outlook on the status of the social, economic, political, cultural, and physical infrastructure sectors across the country. Respondents seemed less positive in 2022 across all sectors compared to 2020 (Figure 2.1.3). More than half of respondents seemed positive about social (56.9%), cultural (57.2%), and physical infrastructure (60.8%), while fewer see the economy (31.3%) and political sphere (25%) headed in the right direction. Respondents of Bagmati and Gandaki provinces have a less positive outlook, compared to other provinces, on the country’s economic and political situation.

**Direction of the country, by different sectors and year**

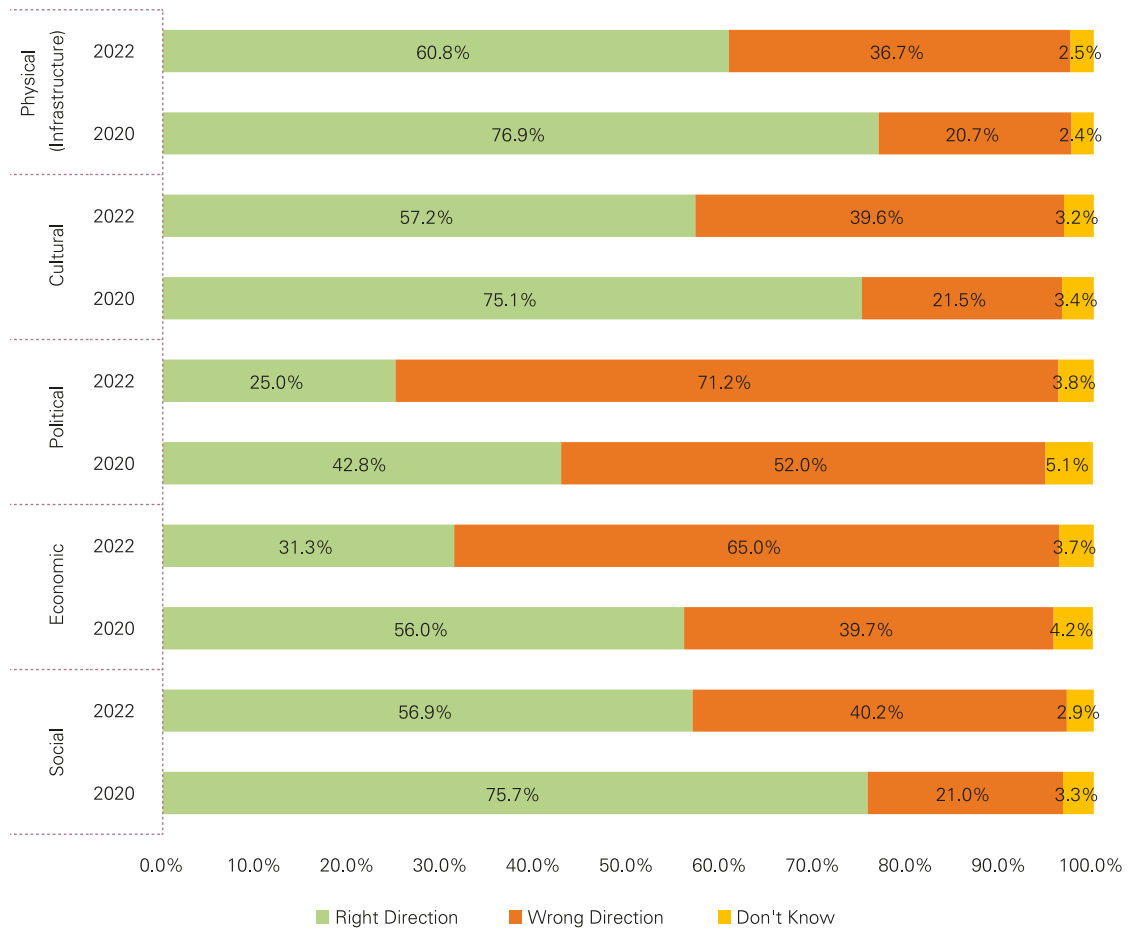


Figure 2.1.3: Do you think things in Nepal today are going in the right direction, or do you think they are going in the wrong direction? Please answer considering the overall as well as social, economic, political, cultural, and physical (infrastructural) conditions of the country. (N = 7,056)

## 2.2. REASONS FOR OPTIMISM

The survey further asked the 41.7% of respondents who said the country is going in the right direction to give their reasons. The most frequently cited reasons include improved roads/trails (46.2%), increased access to education (21.2%), and improved supply of electricity (15.6%). These responses are consistent among all provinces. Other common reasons for a positive outlook include promulgation of the new Constitution (11.9%), improvement in the country’s social aspects (11.1%), and the end of conflict (7.1%).

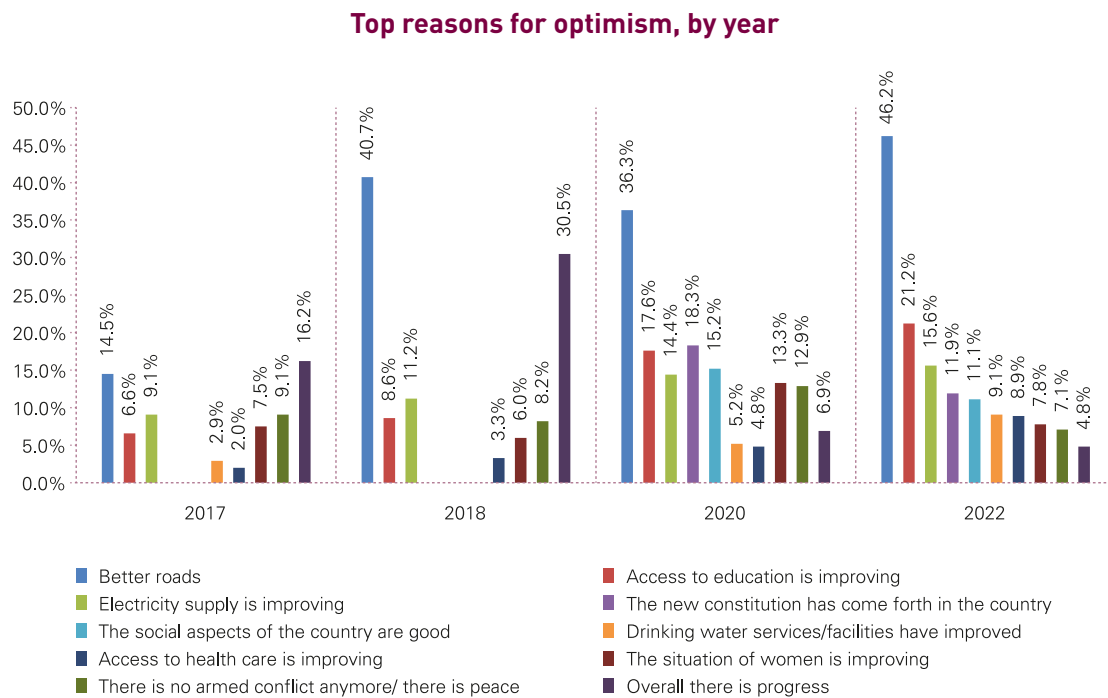


Figure 2.2.1: [If answered “Nepal is going in the right direction”] Why do you think that Nepal is going in the right direction? (N= 2,946)<sup>1</sup>

## 2.3. PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES

The survey respondents, regardless of their outlook, consider corruption (39.7%) and increasing prices of basic commodities (28.6%) to be the most pressing problems in the country. Compared to SNP 2020, fewer respondents identified corruption as one of the biggest problems; it was 47% in 2020. Meanwhile, 18.9% mentioned difficulty finding work for livelihoods; this was ranked at its highest in 2018, at 38% (Figure 2.3.1).

<sup>1</sup> In SNP 2017 and 2018 respondents were asked to mention the two reasons for their optimism but in 2020 and 2022 respondents were allowed to give multiple responses. To fairly compare the optimism of respondents across the survey years, first two responses of respondents in 2020 and 2022 are considered and analyzed.

### Biggest problem in Nepal, by year

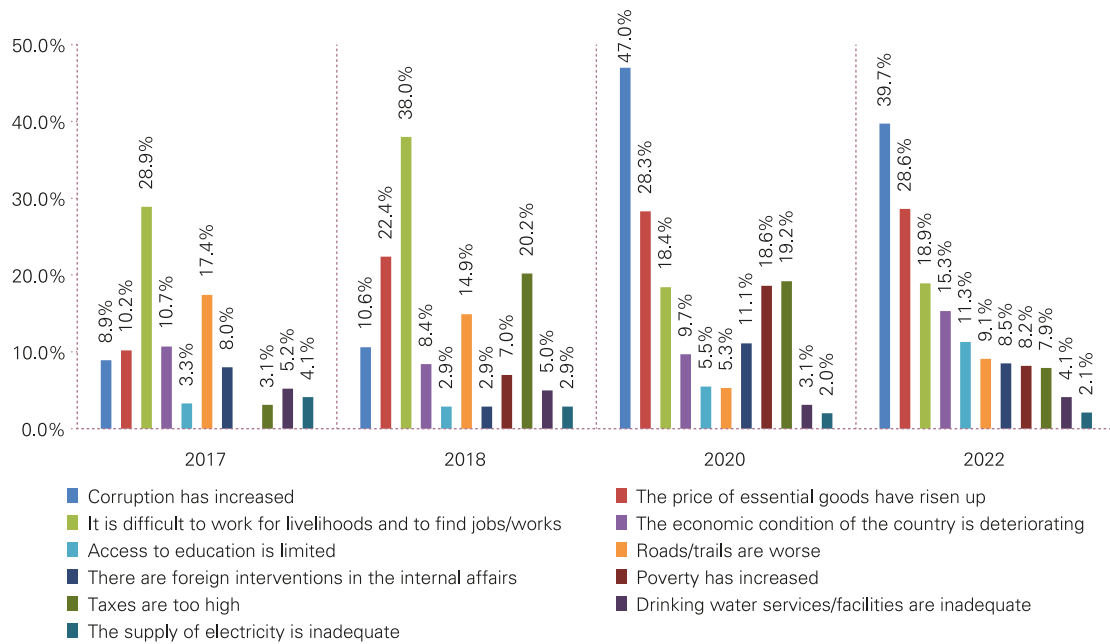


Figure 2.3.1: In your view, what are the major problems the country is facing? (N= 7,056, Percentage based on multiple responses)<sup>2</sup>

The most common major problem cited by youth (Nepalis within the 18–24 age group) is difficulty finding work/earning a living, at 20.1%. Those reporting this as the country’s major problem declines with age – further reflecting on how unemployment is a pressing issue particularly among young Nepalis.

## 2.4. LOCAL CONDITIONS

The survey also examined the opinions of respondents regarding the situation at the local level – areas where they live and work most of the time.

In contrast to the views of the overall direction of the country in 2022, most Nepalis believe that the situation in their local area is improving. While only 41.7% of Nepalis think the country is headed in the right direction, 70.4% of Nepalis perceive that things in their local area are improving. However, this is a drop of about eight percentage points from 2020.

2 In SNP 2017 and 2018 respondents were asked to mention the top two major problems the country is facing, but in 2020 and 2022, respondents were allowed to give multiple responses. To fairly compare responses on major problems the country is facing across the survey years, the first two responses of respondents in 2020 and 2022 are considered and analyzed.

### Local conditions, by year

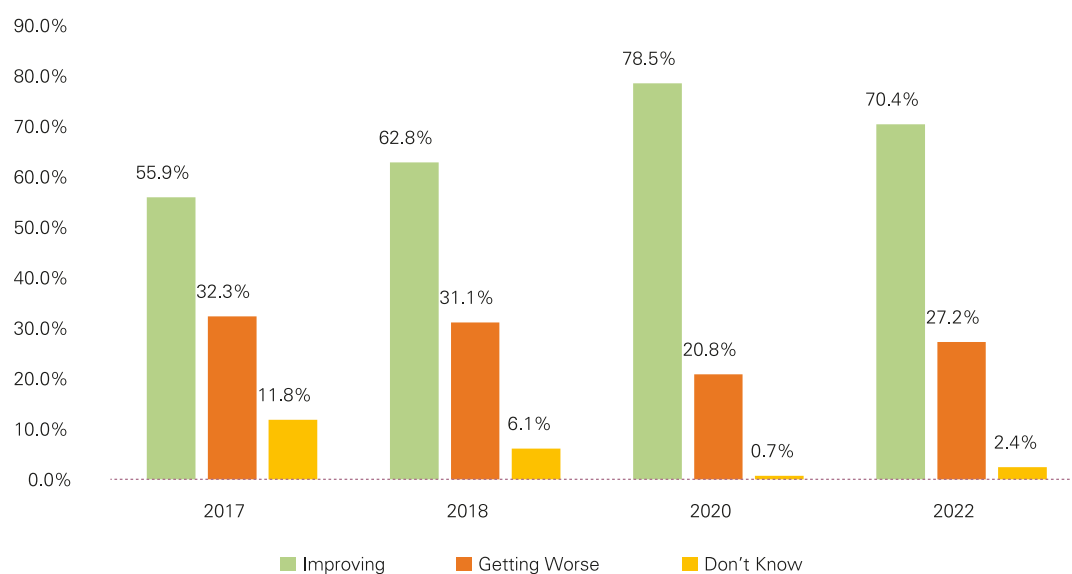


Figure 2.4.1: Now I would like you to think about the area where you live and work most of the time. Do you think things in your locality are improving, or do you think they are getting worse? (N = 7,056)

The data show that respondents from Province 1 (78.8%), Gandaki Province (75.2%), and Lumbini Province (75.1%) have more optimistic views about the conditions of their local area, with more than three-fourths of respondents assessing the local conditions positively. The decline in optimism, compared to 2020, can be seen across all provinces, with Province 1 witnessing minimal changes (Figure 2.4.2)

Respondents from rural municipalities (73.7%) have slightly more positive assessments of their local conditions than those in urban municipalities (68.6%). Likewise, more respondents from the Mountain region (74.4%) and Hill region (73.5%) believe that their local conditions are improving, compared to respondents from the Terai region (67.2%).

### Improving local conditions, by province and year

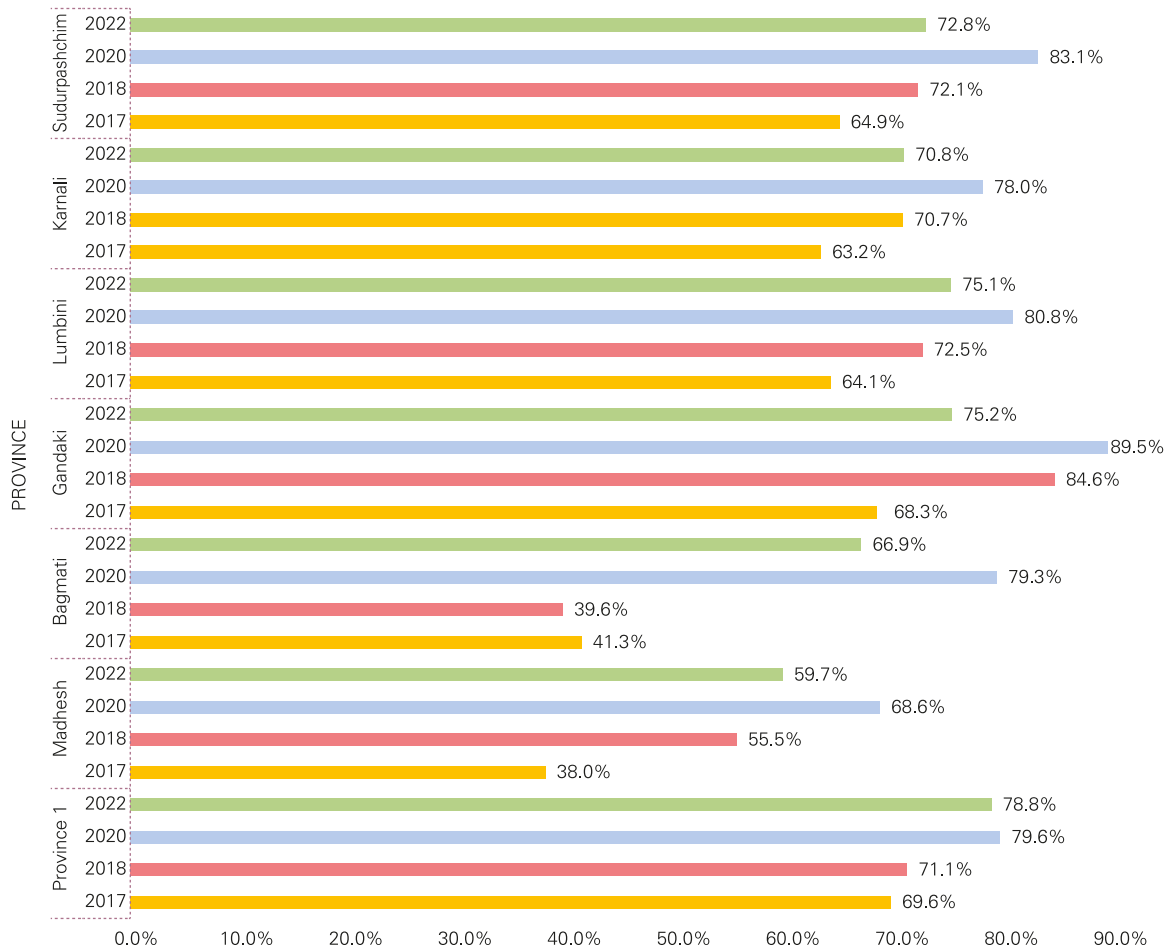


Figure 2.4.2: Now I would like you to think about the area where you live and work most of the time. Do you think things in your locality are improving, or do you think they are getting worse? By province and year (N = 7,056)

## 2.5. REASONS FOR IMPROVEMENT IN LOCAL CONDITIONS

More than half of respondents (55.6%) who reported improved situation at their local level cited better roads as the reason for their favorable outlook in 2022.

Since SNP 2017, better roads, improved access to drinking water, improved supply of electricity, and increased access to education are the most frequently cited reasons for people’s optimism about local conditions. For the first time in the SNP series, improved access to health services at their local level emerged as one of the reasons for optimism in 2022.

The respondents’ reasons for improved conditions at the local level and for optimism at the national level are similar; the majority regard better roads as the most important aspect of development, both nationally (46.2%) and locally (55.6%) (Figure 2.5.1)

### Reasons for optimism in local conditions, by year

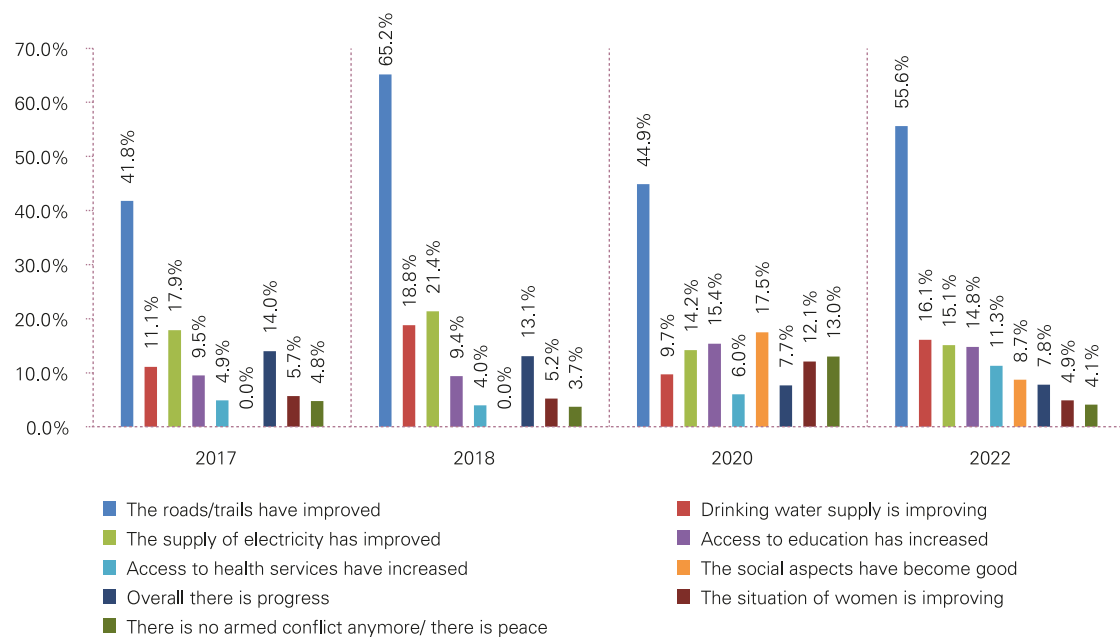


Figure 2.5.1: In your view, what things have improved in your area (municipality/rural municipality) compared to the past year (N= 4,968)<sup>3</sup>

Although better roads is a consistent reason for a perception of improvement across provinces, comparatively more respondents mentioned it in Sudurpashchim Province (66.2%) and Madhesh Province (65%). Similarly, the reasons for optimism vary slightly across the provinces. Sudurpashchim Province has the highest number of respondents citing better access to electricity (21.1%), whereas more respondents from Madhesh Province mentioned improved access to education (19%) compared to other provinces. More respondents from Bagmati Province (17.5%) mentioned overall improvement in conditions as the reason for positive changes in their locality.

## 2.6. PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

When asked about the major problems in their area, a little over one-quarter of respondents (26.6%) cite the deteriorating condition of roads/trails in their locality. A similar proportion of respondents (24.4%) mention increasing prices of basic goods and necessities, followed by difficulty finding work/earning a livelihood (18%) as major challenges in their locality. Around 14.2% regard inadequate drinking water supply as a pressing problem in their local area, while other commonly mentioned problems include increase in local taxes (12.3%), corruption (11.2%), and unavailability of basic education (9.1%).

Throughout the SNP series, Nepalis have identified increasing prices of basic commodities, bad roads, inadequate drinking water supply, and difficulty earning a living as the major problems in their locality.

<sup>3</sup> In SNP 2017 and 2018 respondents were asked to give two reasons for the improvements in the local area, but in 2020 and 2022, respondents were allowed to give multiple responses. To fairly compare responses on major improvements in the local areas across the survey years, the first two responses of the respondents in 2020 and 2022 are considered and analyzed.



Results show that, although respondents identified similar problems and challenges, the intensity of these problems differ across the years. Compared to previous years, in 2022, more people cite bad roads/trails than in 2020 (14.2%); however, it is cited less than it was in 2017 (51.4%) and in 2018 (34.8%). Over the years, the proportion of respondents who regard drinking water as a problem in their local area shows a decreasing trend.

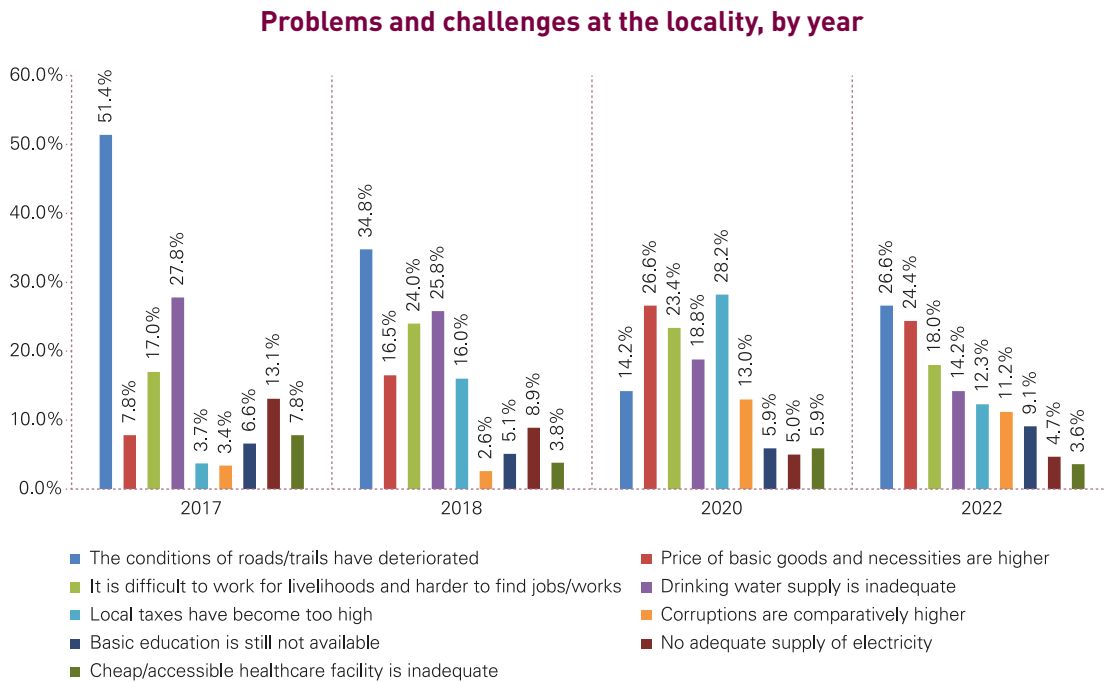


Figure 2.6.1: In your view what are the major problems in the area where you live and work most of the time? (N= 7,056)<sup>4</sup>

More respondents in Karnali Province (37.8%) and Sudurpashchim Province (33.4%) regard bad roads and trails as their major problem. Similarly, while only 14.2% of respondents at the national level mention drinking water as a problem, 27.5% of respondents in Karnali Province mention it.

Respondents from the Mountain and Terai regions are more likely to mention deteriorating roads and trails as the major problem in their local areas while those in the Hill region are more likely to cite inadequate water supply. While there are some differences in responses based on respondents' geographical region, disaggregating the responses by sex, age group, education, and income level does not reveal important variations.

## 2.7. SITUATION OF THE HOUSEHOLD

Respondents were asked about the evolution of nine aspects of their household situation over the past year (Table 2.7.1). Findings show that majority of respondents say their household situation is the same as last year in each of these nine aspects. However, there is a decline in the proportion of those who say it is better in 2022 compared to 2020; this is especially marked in the financial situation of the household (28.6% in 2022 compared to 41.8% in 2020) and access to electricity (30.2% in 2022 compared to 48.7% in 2020).

4 In SNP 2017 and 2018 respondents were asked to mention the top two major problems in their locality but in 2020 and 2022, respondents were allowed to give multiple responses. To fairly compare responses on major problems in the local areas across the survey years, the first two responses of respondents in 2020 and 2022 are considered and analyzed.

### Situation of the household, by year

	Year	Better	Same	Worse
Financial situation of your household	2017	31.8%	55.8%	12.4%
	2018	29.2%	63.0%	7.8%
	2020	41.8%	51.4%	6.7%
	2022	28.6%	60.4%	11.0%
Physical conditions of your house/dwelling	2017	20.0%	71.5%	8.5%
	2018	19.2%	77.2%	3.6%
	2020	30.5%	66.7%	2.8%
	2022	25.7%	69.5%	4.8%
Health/well-being of your family members	2017	21.4%	63.9%	14.6%
	2018	19.1%	70.6%	10.1%
	2020	32.7%	57.7%	9.6%
	2022	26.8%	61.3%	11.9%
Relations with other people in the community	2017	30.0%	68.0%	1.9%
	2018	25.2%	73.4%	1.2%
	2020	39.2%	59.9%	0.9%
	2022	30.3%	67.5%	2.2%
Relations with local government and authorities	2017	20.2%	72.9%	2.7%
	2018	17.7%	79.3%	3.0%
	2020	32.2%	66.5%	1.3%
	2022	23.4%	74.1%	2.5%
Access to electricity	2017	34.1%	50.5%	14.8%
	2018	34.3%	59.6%	6.2%
	2020	48.7%	48.5%	2.7%
	2022	30.2%	64.8%	5.0%
Access to drinking water	2017	15.8%	63.1%	20.4%
	2018	22.1%	69.6%	8.3%
	2020	28.1%	63.0%	8.9%
	2022	22.5%	68.2%	9.3%
Access to markets	2022	22.8%	72.6%	4.6%
Access to public transport	2022	25.3%	68.8%	5.9%

Table 2.71: Now I would like you to think about the situation of your household. Compared to last year, would you say that the situation for your household has gotten better, remained the same or gotten worse with respect to the following? (N= 7056)

## 2.8. HOUSEHOLD EXPERIENCES

When asked whether they had to skip a meal, go without medical treatment or medicine, and/or keep their children away from school due to financial issues, a vast majority said “never.” However, over the years, there is an increase in the share of respondents reporting “sometimes” for going without medical treatments, not sending children to school, and skipping a meal due to lack of money (Figure 2.8.1). This might be the result of hardships people faced due to Covid-19.

### Household experience due to lack of money, by year

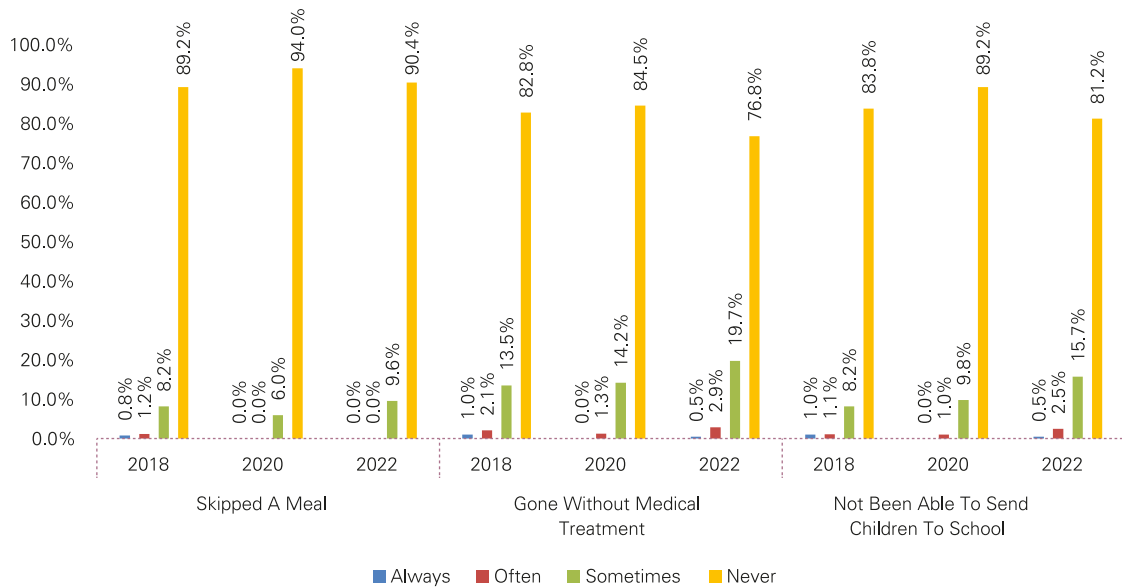


Figure 2.8.1: Thinking back over the past 12 months, how often have you or your household faced ..... because you didn't have money? (N= 7,056)

There are some important variations in responses across the provinces. Karnali and Madhesh provinces have the highest share of respondents having to “sometimes” go without medical treatment (35.6% and 28.9%, respectively), not send children to school (27.1% and 22.0%, respectively), and skip a meal (11.4% and 14.1%, respectively) compared to other provinces.

There is also a marked variation in answers based on caste and ethnicity, income bracket, and profession. Respondents from the lowest income bracket, labor category in profession, and Madhesi Dalits and Musalmans are more likely to report having gone through these situations. For instance, while 9.6% respondents report having sometimes skipped a meal, the figure stands at 25.5% among Madhesi Dalits, 22.7% for respondents who are wage laborers, and 16.1% for those in the lowest income bracket. The survey data shows that 19.7% have sometimes gone without medical treatment; however, the figure is higher among Musalmans (36.5%), Madhesi Dalits (34.6%), laborers (30.1%), and those in the lowest income bracket (27.1%). Similarly, while 15.7% respondents report having sometimes not been able to send children to school; the share of those reporting the same among Madhesi Dalits is 30%.



Photo by: Krita Raut

## 3. PERSONAL SAFETY AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

### 3.1. HOUSEHOLD EXPERIENCE OF VIOLENCE, CRIME, AND JUSTICE

Around 92% of respondents report that they or their family have not encountered any violence or criminal acts in the past year among 18 different types of crimes and violent acts mentioned in the survey (Table 3.1.1). Among respondents who report having experienced violence or criminal acts, theft is the most frequently reported crime (3.2%), followed by cheating in financial transactions (2.8%), and physical assault (1%). While the share of respondents who report experiencing crime or violence is fairly constant, reporting on some types of crime decreased over the years (Table 3.1.1). Fewer respondents report being victims of extortion (from 2.9% in 2018 to 0.5% in 2022) and financial exploitation during foreign employment (from 2.1% in 2018 to 0.8% in 2022).

#### Experience of violence and crime in the past year, by year

	2017	2018	2020	2022
Theft	3.9%	3.9%	3.6%	3.2%
Physical assault/beating	1.4%	1.0%	0.7%	1.0%
Assault with weapon	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%
Cheating in lending/borrowing or transactions	-	-	2.6%	2.8%
Burglary / Breaking and entering / Looting	0.4%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%
Extortion	1.5%	2.9%	0.4%	0.5%
Motor vehicle theft /property taken from vehicle or vehicle parts stolen	0.8%	0.5%	0.7%	0.6%
Livestock theft	0.9%	1.0%	0.8%	0.5%
Experienced any form of violence during a political rally, protest or bandh	0.5%	0.4%	0.1%	0.1%
Kidnapping	0.2%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%
Murder / murder attempt	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%

Sexual violence	0.2%	0.3%	0.1%	0.2%
Human trafficking	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Gender-based violence	-	0.6%	0.4%	0.7%
Physical exploitation faced in course of foreign employment	-	0.4%	0.5%	0.2%
Sexual exploitation faced in course of foreign employment	-	0.2%	0.0%	0.1%
Financial exploitation faced in course of foreign employment	-	2.1%	1.2%	0.8%
Others	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Table 3.1.1: Have you or has anyone in your household been the victim of the following types of violence or criminal acts in the past year? (N = 7,056)

### 3.2. JUSTICE AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION MECHANISMS

The survey asks if the respondent or a family member sought dispute resolution at any institution or through an official in the past year across five categories of cases, including disputes over land, disputes over borrowing/debt, domestic violence, other violence or crimes, and defamation or false accusations<sup>5</sup>.

People are more likely to seek resolution for disputes over land (2.6%) and financial disputes (1.1%), compared to violence and defamation cases.

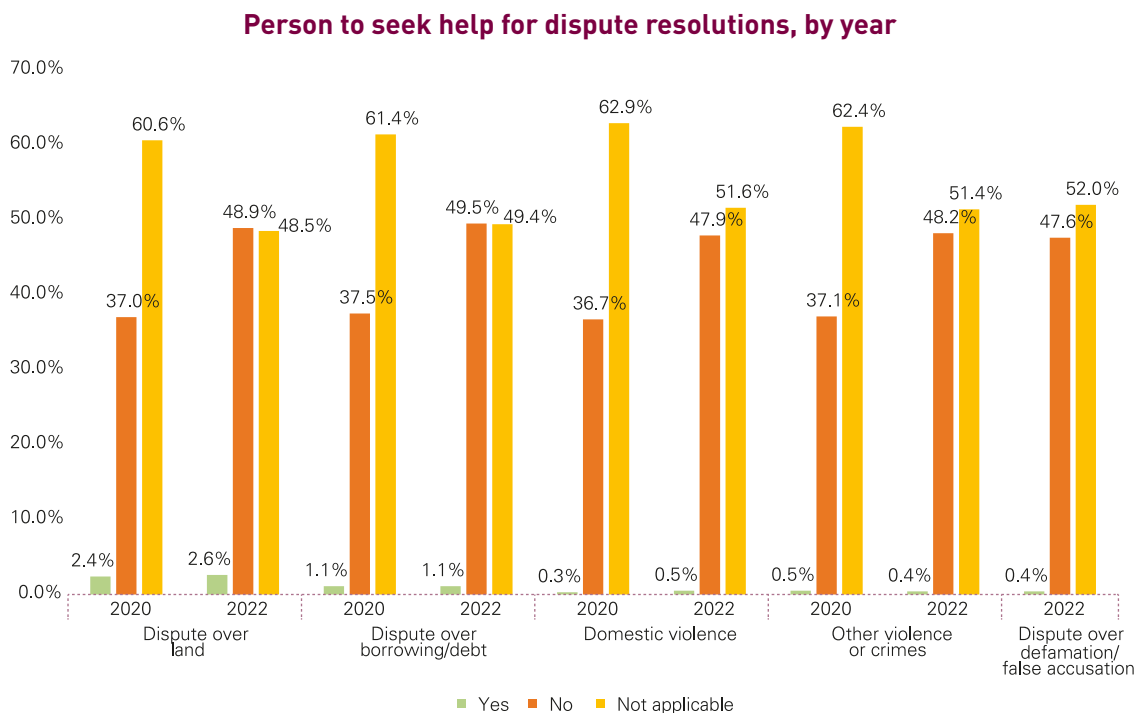


Figure 3.2.1: In the past one year, have you or the members of your family been to any institution, official or person to seek help for dispute resolutions? (N = 7,056)

5 In 2022 for the first time question related to defamation/false accusation is introduced.



Most respondents who sought assistance in dispute resolution opt for support from formal institutions, such as police, district court, municipal or ward offices, and other representatives. The survey findings show that Nepalis prefer police as their first choice to resolve disputes over land (25.7%), debt (42.6%), crime (50.1%) and defamation/false accusation (48.5%). Similarly, one-fourth of Nepalis consider ward chairpersons/members as their second choice to resolve disputes over land (24.9%), debt (21.7%), crime (33.2%) and defamation/false accusation (22.0%). While 45.9% prefer ward chairpersons/members as their first choice to resolve dispute over domestic violence, 42.6% prefer police as their second choice. About one-third of Nepali people seek the help of village/municipal assembly to resolve disputes over domestic violence (32.6%), followed by crime (21.5%), land (14.2%), and borrowing/debt (10.8%).

Nepalis approach local government officials or police more than the traditional justice mechanisms for dispute resolution in four different disputed settings: land, debt, domestic violence, and crime compared to 2020 (Table 3.2.1). Responses are consistent across socio-economic, demographic, and geographic variables.

### Chosen dispute resolution mechanisms, by year

	Chosen Avenue	2020	2022
If dispute over land, where did you go? (n = 187)	Police	30.6%	25.7%
	Ward Chairperson / members	35.7%	24.9%
	District court	17.1%	23.2%
	Mayor / Rural Municipality Chair	14.4%	16.8%
	Village or municipal assembly	3.9%	14.2%
	Land revenue office	16.3%	10.6%
	Traditional justice mechanisms	18.5%	5.4%
If dispute over borrowing/debt, where did you go? (n= 77)	Police	53.2%	42.6%
	Ward Chairperson / members	35.2%	21.7%
	Civil servants in village or municipal office	1.1%	16.8%
	Village or municipal assembly	1.5%	10.8%
	Mayor / Rural Municipality Chair	3.8%	10.0%
	District court	6.9%	9.9%
	Traditional justice mechanisms	29.1%	7.9%
If dispute over domestic violence, where did you go? (n = 33)	Ward Chairperson / members	20.4%	45.9%
	Police	62.1%	42.6%
	Village or municipal assembly	0.0%	32.6%
	Member of province assembly	0.0%	22.6%
	Province ministers	0.0%	19.7%
	Civil servants in village or municipal office	0.0%	15.1%
	Traditional justice mechanisms	17.6%	0.0%
If affected from other violence or crimes, where did you go? (n = 30)	Police	74.0%	50.1%
	Ward Chairperson / members	28.1%	33.2%
	Village or municipal assembly	0.0%	21.5%
	Member of District Coordination Committee	0.0%	11.8%
	Land revenue office	4.7%	10.1%
	Member of federal parliament	0.0%	10.1%
	Traditional justice mechanisms	24.4%	0.0%

If Dispute over defamation/ false accusation, where did you go? (n = 31)	Police	48.5%
	Ward Chairperson / members	22.0%
	Village or municipal Assembly	17.8%
	Province ministers	13.0%
	Civil servants in village or municipal office	11.2%
	Member of province assembly	11.1%
	Traditional justice mechanisms	6.4%

Table 3.2.1: If yes, where did you go? <sup>6</sup>

Among the 2.6% survey respondents who sought resolution for disputes over land, about half (50.5%) report having eventually received justice, and one in five (19.2%) have cases still in the resolution process. More than 60% of respondents seeking resolution in cases of domestic or other forms of violence report having eventually received justice. Less than half of respondents report receiving justice for financial disputes involving lending and borrowing (44.9%) and for defamation/false accusation cases (47.4%).

The share of respondents who report that they have received justice has increased in 2022. Those who said they received justice for disputes over land stood at 42.8% in 2020 and increased to 50.5% in 2022. Similarly, compared 2020, the share of respondents who say they received justice for disputes related to crime has more than doubled in 2022 at 60.1% compared to 23.5% in 2020 (Figure 3.2.2).

### Justice from the chosen dispute resolution avenue, by year

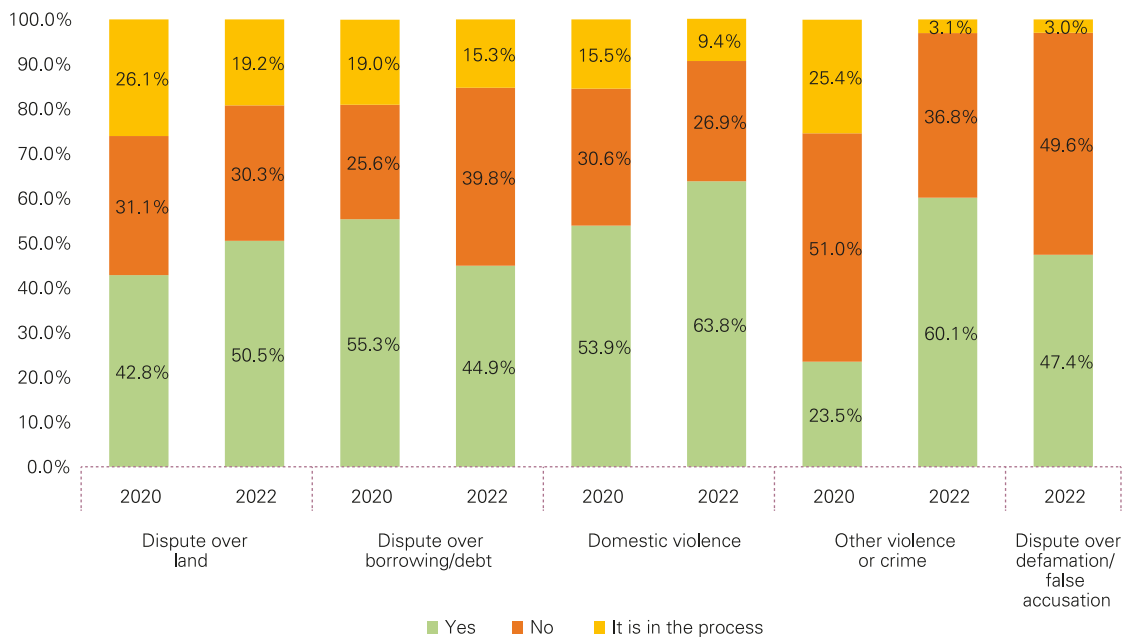


Figure 3.2.2: If yes, did you get justice eventually?

6 Only top seven chosen avenues are listed.



## 4. IDENTITY

### 4.1. MOTHER TONGUE

More than half of all respondents (51.7%) report other than Nepali as their mother tongue<sup>7</sup>. Madhesh Province has the highest proportion of such respondents (91.0%), followed by Lumbini and Sudur-pashchim provinces at 55% each. In Karnali Province, most respondents (97.3%) report Nepali as their mother tongue. Nearly one-third of respondents from Terai report Nepali as their mother tongue (29.4%), this proportion is 69.5% in the Mountain region and 66.9% in the Hill region (Table 4.1.1).

#### Mother tongue, by province and ecological region

		Overall	Ecological Region		
			Mountain	Hill	Terai
Across the Country	Nepali	48.3%	69.6%	66.9%	29.4%
	Other than Nepali	51.7%	30.4%	33.1%	70.6%
Province 1	Nepali	60.8%	61.7%	67.7%	56.3%
	Other than Nepali	39.2%	38.3%	32.3%	43.7%
Madhesh Province	Nepali	9.0%	-	-	9.0%
	Other than Nepali	91.0%	-	-	91.0%
Bagmati Province	Nepali	56.7%	42.3%	54.9%	85.0%
	Other than Nepali	43.3%	57.7%	45.1%	15.0%
Gandaki Province	Nepali	76.2%	-	77.2%	74.6%
	Other than Nepali	23.8%	100.0%	22.8%	25.4%

<sup>7</sup> According to 2011 census, Nepali is spoken as mother tongue by 44.6 percent of the total population. But the latest census data with regards to mother tongue is not available in preliminary findings of 2021 census.



		Overall	Ecological Region		
			Mountain	Hill	Terai
Lumbini Province	Nepali	44.8%	-	83.8%	28.7%
	Other than Nepali	55.2%	-	16.2%	71.3%
Karnali Province	Nepali	97.3%	100.0%	96.4%	-
	Other than Nepali	2.7%	-	3.6%	-
Sudurpashchim Province	Nepali	45.0%	81.0%	41.5%	32.9%
	Other than Nepali	55.0%	19.0%	58.5%	67.1%

Table 4.1.1: What is your mother tongue? (N = 7,056)

The highest share of respondents in Province 1 (60.8%) mentioned Nepali as their mother tongue, followed by Maithili (8.7%), Rai (6.7%), and Limbu and Tharu (4.9% each). The respondents cite Maithali (51.7%) and Bhojpuri (29.6%) as their mother tongue in Madhesh Province, while in Bagmati Province, Nepali is common (56.6%), followed by Tamang (22.2%) and Newari (16.7%). Likewise, a majority of respondents in Gandaki Province cite Nepali (76.4%) as their mother tongue, followed by Gurung (12.2%) and Magar (6.5%). In Lumbini Province, slightly more than two-fifths of respondents (44.8%) consider Nepali as their mother tongue, while a considerable number of respondents mentioned Awadhi (21.7%), Tharu (18.6%), Bhojpuri (7.6%) and Magar (5.8%) as their mother tongue. Likewise, in Sudurpashchim Province, Nepali (45.0%) is a dominant language, followed by Doteli (33.4%) and Tharu (16.6%).

## 4.2. PERCEIVED DISADVANTAGES DUE TO MOTHER TONGUE

The survey asked respondents who reported a language other than Nepali as their mother tongue if they experience any disadvantages in various situations, including: interacting with people at the workplace, going to the police station to report a problem, going to a government office to obtain public services, accessing health services in a hospital or a health post, studying in a school or a university, and attending public events.

Respondents with a mother tongue other than Nepali report being at a disadvantage when obtaining public services (13.1%), interacting with people at the workplace (13%), when accessing health services at a health post/ hospital (11.7%), and while obtaining an education (8.3%).

Over the years, the proportion of respondents who feel they are at a disadvantage for not being able to use their mother tongue in different situations has dropped significantly (Table 4.2.1). In 2017, those who reported facing disadvantages while interacting with people at work was as high as 32.8%; in 2022, this share dropped to 13%. Likewise, those who feel at a disadvantage reporting a problem in a police station decreased significantly, from 27.6% in 2017 to 13.2% in 2022.

This feeling of being at a disadvantage due to mother tongue varies across provinces. Residents of Lumbini (16.7%) and Madhesh Province (20.0%) are most likely to report feeling a disadvantage for not being able to use their mother tongue at work. Majority of the respondents from these provinces have Bhojpuri or Awadhi as their mother tongue.

Across the scenarios mentioned in the survey, respondents with Bhojpuri and Awadhi languages as their mother tongue report the most disadvantages, especially while interacting with people at work (27.6% and 31.5%, respectively), when obtaining public services (26.2% and 25.4%, respectively),

and when accessing health services (23.2% and 25.9%, respectively). Nepalis who identify Urdu as their mother tongue report feeling disadvantaged due to their mother tongue while interacting with people at work and going to a government office to obtain public services (80% each), when accessing health services from the hospital /health post, and while studying at school or university (50% each).

### Mother tongue as a disadvantage, by year

	Year	Overall	Province 1	Madhesh Province	Bagmati Province	Gandaki Province	Lumbini Province	Karnali Province	Sudurpashchim Province
To interact with other people at workplace	2017	32.8%	22.7%	45.9%	20.2%	6.9%	37.2%	2.5%	22.5%
	2018	19.9%	7.1%	29.0%	7.8%	10.5%	32.1%	0.0%	13.6%
	2020	18.2%	7.3%	27.8%	11.8%	10.9%	21.6%	0.0%	12.0%
	2022	13.0%	8.3%	20.0%	3.4%	0.8%	16.7%	0.0%	8.8%
To report a problem in police station	2017	27.6%	21.6%	38.4%	16.0%	4.7%	28.9%	5.9%	17.0%
	2018	12.2%	3.5%	22.7%	1.6%	11.0%	11.3%	0.0%	4.3%
	2020	16.6%	3.7%	29.3%	7.6%	14.5%	15.6%	0.0%	11.9%
	2022	13.2%	1.3%	20.0%	1.8%	0.0%	18.2%	0.0%	9.9%
To obtain services in a government office	2017	28.6%	20.8%	39.9%	16.9%	10.3%	32.9%	2.6%	18.9%
	2018	16.5%	6.7%	25.8%	4.3%	9.9%	25.4%	0.0%	11.1%
	2020	16.7%	5.5%	25.1%	11.6%	12.9%	22.3%	0.0%	9.3%
	2022	13.1%	7.1%	21.8%	2.3%	1.6%	14.6%	0.0%	8.9%
To access health services in a hospital/health post	2017	25.8%	18.9%	37.6%	14.9%	7.6%	27.0%	2.4%	16.5%
	2018	15.4%	4.5%	21.3%	6.8%	8.9%	25.3%	0.0%	11.6%
	2020	15.7%	4.5%	22.6%	11.1%	9.2%	24.5%	0.0%	7.5%
	2022	11.7%	4.5%	19.0%	3.2%	0.8%	14.5%	0.0%	8.3%
To study at a school or a university	2017	18.6%	16.2%	31.1%	14.2%	2.2%	24.5%	0.0%	11.2%
	2018	10.5%	3.8%	13.8%	2.4%	11.0%	20.7%	0.0%	9.1%
	2020	11.6%	3.4%	19.2%	9.5%	9.1%	13.0%	0.0%	6.0%
	2022	8.3%	4.7%	16.1%	0.5%	0.0%	7.2%	0.0%	5.6%
When attending public events	2022	10.4%	5.3%	16.4%	0.9%	0.0%	14.6%	0.0%	7.7%

Table 4.2.1: [If "No, Nepali is not my mother tongue"] Do you feel disadvantaged because you cannot use your mother tongue, instead of Nepali, in the following situations? (N= 3,648)

More respondents from urban municipalities and the Terai region report being at a disadvantage for having a different mother tongue than those from other regions. The numbers are also higher among Madhesi Dalits, Musalmans, and Madhesi caste (Level-2)<sup>8</sup> respondents.

8 According to 2011 census, CBS has categorized the Madhesi caste into two groups based on socio-economic status. Brahman-Terai, Rajput and Kayastha, etc. are categorized as Madhesi Caste (Socio Economic Level -1 and Yadav, Teli, Koiri, Kurmi and Dhanuk, etc as Madhesi Caste (Socio Economic Level -2)

Among the respondents with a mother tongue different from Nepali, their educational backgrounds, income levels, gender, and age have major implications on whether they report being at a disadvantage. For example, women are more likely to report it than men. Except in the field of education, those who feel at a disadvantage increases with age. Respondents with little or no education, and those who fall under the lower income bracket are more likely to report being at a disadvantage for not having Nepali as their first language.

### Mother tongue as a disadvantage, by ecological region

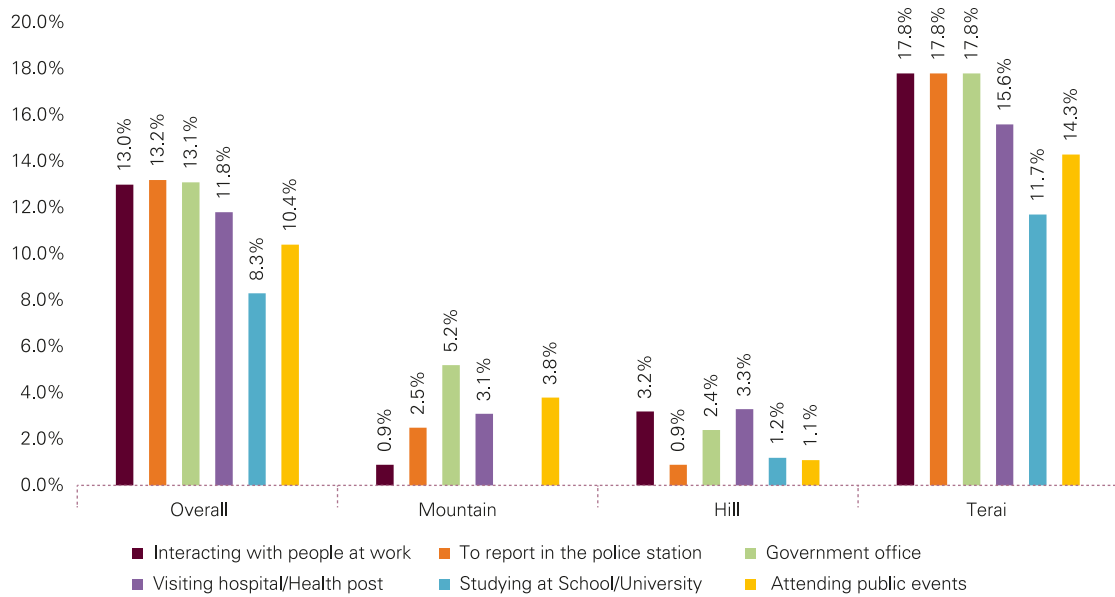


Figure 4.2.1: [If “No, Nepali is not my mother tongue”] Do you feel disadvantaged because you cannot use your mother tongue, instead of Nepali, in the following situations? (N=3,648)

### 4.3. PERCEIVED DISADVANTAGES DUE TO CASTE/ETHNICITY

Only a small proportion of respondents (1.5–2.6%) feel they are at a disadvantage because of their caste or ethnicity (Table 4.3.1).

Compared to the previous years, fewer respondents in 2022 consider caste or ethnicity as a factor for them being at a disadvantage,<sup>9</sup> especially while interacting with people at the workplace (from 7.8% in 2017 to 2.6% in 2022), and when accessing health services (5.3% in 2017 to 1.8% in 2022). Similarly, in a period of five years, the share of respondents who believe their caste and ethnicity can be a disadvantage while reporting a problem at the police station has dropped from 4.8% in 2017, to 2.2% in 2022.

Madhesh Province has the highest number of respondents who feel their caste or ethnicity can be a drawback in various situations: when reporting a problem at the police station (4.2%), when obtaining public services (4.4%), when accessing health services (3.8%), and while attending school or university (3.4%).

<sup>9</sup> This particular question in 2017 was addressed to measure whether or not Nepalis felt disadvantaged by caste/ethnicity/religion. In 2018, 2020 and 2022, it was limited to caste/ethnicity.



Residents of Bagmati and Gandaki provinces are least likely to report that their caste/ethnicity can be a disadvantage in any of the given situations. Across the provinces, the share of respondents who feel their caste or ethnicity can be a disadvantage across the five situations is as low as 0% and goes up to 4.9%. Lumbini Province has the highest share of respondents to report that their caste and ethnicity is a disadvantage when communicating with people at work (4.9%), followed by respondents from Karnali Province (4.6%) and Madhesh Province (4.1%). None of the respondents from Bagmati Province report that their caste and ethnicity is a disadvantage when accessing health services in a hospital and health post.

### Caste/ethnicity as a disadvantage, by province and year

	Year	Overall	Province 1	Madhesh Province	Bagmati Province	Gandaki Province	Lumbini Province	Karnali Province	Sudurpashchim Province
To interact with other people at workplace	2017	7.8%	6.8%	9.5%	4.5%	4.5%	11.9%	7.0%	5.6%
	2018	5.1%	2.5%	10.0%	1.0%	3.3%	6.5%	5.3%	7.1%
	2020	4.9%	2.3%	9.3%	3.0%	2.0%	6.2%	3.5%	5.3%
	2022	2.6%	0.9%	4.1%	0.2%	1.3%	4.9%	4.6%	3.8%
To report a problem in police station	2017	4.8%	5.0%	5.9%	2.8%	2.0%	7.9%	5.9%	2.8%
	2018	3.0%	1.6%	6.3%	1.0%	2.6%	3.7%	4.8%	1.1%
	2020	4.4%	2.1%	9.9%	1.3%	3.2%	5.8%	1.1%	3.2%
	2022	2.2%	0.5%	4.2%	0.3%	1.0%	3.5%	2.1%	2.9%
To obtain services in a government office	2017	5.9%	6.0%	7.4%	3.3%	3.9%	9.1%	5.9%	3.5%
	2018	3.4%	1.6%	8.1%	0.9%	1.7%	3.8%	6.0%	2.4%
	2020	4.2%	1.9%	8.2%	3.0%	2.1%	5.5%	2.1%	2.9%
	2022	2.1%	1.0%	4.4%	0.3%	0.7%	3.6%	1.9%	1.7%
To access health services in a hospital/ health post	2017	5.3%	5.1%	6.2%	2.5%	3.4%	9.0%	3.6%	3.6%
	2018	3.1%	1.7%	6.8%	0.9%	1.7%	4.3%	3.6%	2.2%
	2020	3.6%	1.5%	7.2%	2.3%	1.1%	5.4%	1.7%	2.4%
	2022	1.8%	0.8%	3.8%	0%	0.9%	3.2%	1.8%	1.5%
To study at a school or a university	2017	4.1%	4.9%	3.7%	2.3%	2.2%	8.0%	2.9%	2.7%
	2018	3.0%	1.7%	5.2%	0.5%	3.3%	4.6%	3.2%	3.6%
	2020	2.4%	1.3%	4.8%	2.0%	1.1%	2.5%	1.0%	2.0%
			1.5%	0.5%	3.4%	0.2%	0.9%	2.3%	0.8%

Table 4.3.1: Do you feel that your caste or ethnicity is a disadvantage in the following situations? (Response as 'Don't Know', 'Refused to Answer' and 'Not Applicable' are excluded)

Across all five situations cited in the survey, the highest number of respondents from the Terai region indicate that they believe their caste or ethnicity is a disadvantage. Nepalis residing in rural municipalities of the Terai region are more inclined to report that their caste/ethnicity is a disadvantage in the given situations.

Across castes and ethnicities, 9.2% of Muslims, followed by Madhesi Dalits (8.4%) and Hill Dalits (8.0%) report feeling disadvantages when interacting with people at work because of their caste or ethnicity, compared to the national average of 2.6%. Likewise, 8.6% of Madhesi Dalits report feeling disadvantaged while accessing health services and 7.5% while obtaining services from a government office, compared to the national average of 2.1%.

#### 4.4. PERCEIVED DISADVANTAGES DUE TO GENDER

A small proportion of women respondents report that their gender puts them at a disadvantage in the situations mentioned in the survey<sup>10</sup>. Although the share of women who report their gender as a disadvantage declined compared to previous years, they feel more at a disadvantage while traveling on public transport (5.5%), when reporting a problem in a police station (3.8%), and when roaming/walking around public places (3.5%) (Table 4.4.1).

##### Gender as a disadvantage, by province and year

	Year	Overall	Province 1	Madhesh Province	Bagmati Province	Gandaki Province	Lumbini Province	Karnali Province	Sudurpashchim Province
To interacting with other people at workplace	2017	8.4%	4.7%	11.6%	4.9%	3.6%	13.6%	13.1%	7.9%
	2018	6.5%	2.9%	14.8%	0.4%	1.4%	10.0%	8.9%	6.3%
	2020	6.5%	2.1%	19.6%	0.8%	1.9%	6.3%	5.7%	3.9%
	2022	3.0%	1.2%	6.9%	1.1%	0.7%	2.3%	6.1%	3.6%
To report a problem in police station	2017	6.9%	4.4%	7.9%	3.7%	3.5%	13.0%	15.0%	9.5%
	2018	4.6%	1.6%	10.5%	1.0%	1.9%	6.7%	10.5%	-
	2020	8.3%	2.9%	25.7%	0.3%	2.0%	6.7%	4.1%	10.7%
	2022	3.8%	1.6%	8.0%	2.3%	0.8%	3.7%	3.4%	2.4%
To obtain a government services	2017	7.0%	4.5%	9.7%	3.9%	6.1%	9.1%	13.4%	7.1%
	2018	5.2%	2.2%	15.3%	0.8%	1.0%	4.7%	10.4%	2.1%
	2020	6.5%	1.7%	20.9%	1.9%	0.4%	6.2%	3.7%	4.3%
	2022	2.6%	1.1%	7.2%	1.0%	0.4%	2.0%	2.5%	1.5%
To access health services	2017	5.1%	4.1%	6.5%	2.3%	3.8%	7.8%	7.9%	4.8%
	2018	4.5%	2.2%	11.9%	1.3%	1.3%	5.0%	7.6%	1.1%
	2020	5.7%	1.6%	17.9%	1.3%	0.3%	5.8%	3.8%	2.5%
	2022	2.4%	1.1%	6.7%	0.8%	0.4%	2.3%	2.0%	1.4%
To study at school or the university	2017	4.3%	3.5%	4.0%	2.2%	4.4%	6.9%	7.2%	4.9%
	2018	3.6%	0.9%	10.2%	0.5%	0.8%	5.3%	5.8%	1.6%
	2020	4.1%	2.0%	14.1%	1.5%	1.2%	3.6%	2.3%	1.5%
	2022	1.4%	1.3%	3.9%	0.6%	0.5%	0.8%	0.9%	1.3%
To travel in public transport	2017	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2018	9.9%	10.9%	14.0%	2.1%	4.9%	16.3%	13.2%	7.8%
	2020	10.3%	5.3%	16.1%	8.8%	4.4%	13.4%	5.7%	12.1%
	2022	5.5%	6.3%	6.9%	5.6%	1.8%	8.1%	3.5%	1.4%
To roam/walk around the public places	2017	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2018	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2020	8.7%	5.0%	17.0%	6.2%	3.4%	10.9%	2.8%	7.6%
	2022	3.5%	3.2%	5.8%	3.0%	1.1%	4.2%	4.0%	1.4%

Table 4.4.1: Do you ever have to feel disadvantaged in the following situations just because you are female (or others)? (N = 3,351; asked only to female respondents) (Response as 'Don't Know', 'Refused to Answer' and 'Not Applicable' are excluded)

10 This question was asked only to women respondents.

More women from Madhesh Province report feeling disadvantaged because of their gender, especially while interacting at their workplace (6.9%), when reporting a problem at the police station (8.0%), when obtaining public services (7.2%), when accessing health services (6.7%), and when studying in a school/university (3.9%). This proportion is higher than the national average across these situations, ranging from 1.4% to 3.8%.

More women from Lumbini (8.1%) and Madhesh provinces (6.9%) report facing a disadvantage while traveling on public transportation.

More women respondents from the Terai region report their gender as a disadvantage in the given circumstances than those from other ecological regions. Women from lower-income households and from the Madhesi Dalit community are more likely to regard their gender as a disadvantage. The proportion of Madhesi Dalit women respondents who report their gender as a disadvantage is higher than other groups. For instance, 5.1% of Madhesi Dalit women report that their gender is a disadvantage while interacting in their workplace, 7.1% while accessing public, and 6.4% while obtaining health services.

## 4.5. SOCIAL VALUES

### *Marriage between castes/ethnic groups*

Compared to 2017 (72.6%), slightly more respondents (74.1%) report that they will accept the marriage of their son/daughter with someone from a different caste in 2022 (Figure 4.5.1).

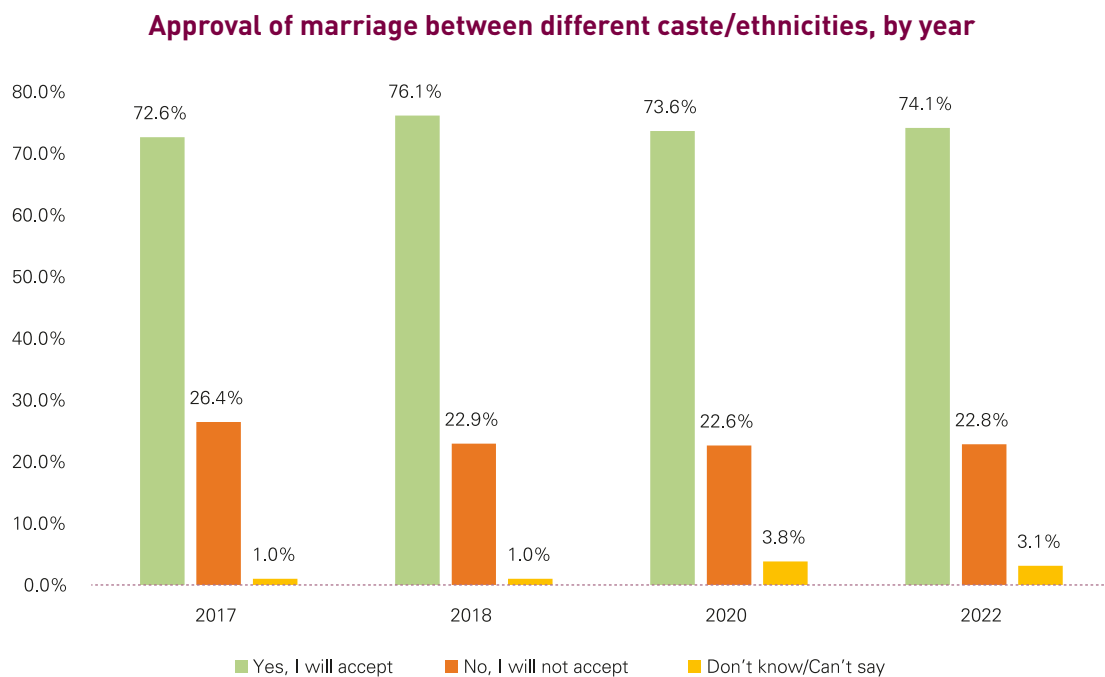


Figure 4.5.1: Would you accept if your son or daughter marry someone from a different caste? (N = 7,014)  
(Response as 'Not Applicable' and 'Refused to Answer' are not included)

Across the provinces, respondents from Bagmati Province (85.0%) and Karnali Province (83.7%) are more positive toward inter-caste marriage, whereas respondents from Madhesh Province (54.6%) are less likely to consent to their children getting married to someone from another caste.

### Approval of marriage between different caste/ethnicities, by province and year

	Year	Yes, I will accept	No, I will not accept	Don't know/ Can't say
Province 1	2017	80.2%	19.1%	0.7%
	2018	85.9%	13.2%	0.9%
	2020	86.5%	11.5%	2.0%
	2022	80.1%	17.6%	2.3%
Madhesh Province	2017	47.9%	51.3%	0.8%
	2018	59.0%	40.0%	1.0%
	2020	55.6%	35.2%	9.2%
	2022	54.6%	42.3%	3.1%
Bagmati Province	2017	77.0%	22.1%	0.9%
	2018	84.8%	13.5%	1.7%
	2020	77.2%	19.1%	3.7%
	2022	85.0%	8.5%	6.5%
Gandaki Province	2017	82.7%	16.6%	0.7%
	2018	82.8%	16.3%	0.8%
	2020	78.9%	20.4%	0.7%
	2022	77.5%	20.3%	2.2%
Lumbini Province	2017	75.2%	23.6%	1.2%
	2018	70.0%	28.9%	1.1%
	2020	69.4%	27.0%	3.6%
	2022	73.8%	23.7%	2.5%
Karnali Province	2017	79.6%	19.7%	0.7%
	2018	80.8%	18.7%	0.5%
	2020	82.9%	15.8%	1.2%
	2022	83.7%	15.3%	1.0%
Sudurpashchim Province	2017	78.3%	19.1%	2.5%
	2018	76.6%	23.3%	0.1%
	2020	78.9%	21.0%	0.1%
	2022	73.6%	26.1%	0.3%

Table 4.5.1: Would you accept if your son or daughter marry someone from a different caste? (N = 7,014)  
(Response as 'Not Applicable' and 'Refused to Answer' are not included)

Inter-caste marriage acceptance is higher among respondents from the Mountain region (80.9%), from the Hill Dalit community (86.9%), and from the Hill Adibasi/Janajati community (83.7%) compared to the national average of 74.1%. In contrast, Musalman respondents (58.5%) and Madhesi Caste (Level-1) (46.3%) are more likely to disapprove if their children get married to someone from another caste; the proportion is almost double the national average of disapproval of 22.8%.

The acceptance of inter-caste marriage is directly associated with respondents' educational levels; 9.8% of respondents with a bachelor's degree report disapproving an inter-caste marriage compared to 32.8% of uneducated respondents.

## 4.6. THE POSITION OF NEPALI WOMEN IN SOCIETY

More than nine out of 10 respondents agree<sup>11</sup> that women can engage in politics (92.6%) and should be encouraged to work outside their homes (92.1%). A significant proportion of respondents disagree with the following statements: *sons are more important than daughters* (86.4%), *men should have the right to jobs when there are limited jobs* (87.8%), and *male members of the family other than husband (father-in-law, brother-in-law) have the right to punish the daughter-in-law if she disobeys them* (88.6%) (Table 4.6.1).

Over the years, there has been a steady increase in the proportion of respondents who disagree with the statement that women should not have control over their income, movement, and decisions. In 2018 the figure was 49.6%, in 2020 it was 72.5%, and in 2022, it is 78.8%. The results show a similar trend in the proportion of respondents who disagree with the statement that it is solely a man's responsibility to fulfil his family's financial needs; it increased from 46.6% (2018) to 74.7% (2020) to 83.6% (2022).

### Views on gender roles and gender equality, by year

	Year	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree
It is more important for a family to have a son than a daughter	2017	2.8%	11.5%	36.5%	49.2%
	2018	2.9%	9.6%	34.8%	52.7%
	2020	4.0%	7.9%	13.7%	74.3%
	2022	4.3%	9.2%	11.5%	74.9%
Women should not be encouraged to work outside the home	2017	3.5%	6.8%	33.4%	56.1%
	2018	3.4%	6.9%	44.2%	45.2%
	2020	1.6%	5.2%	14.4%	78.7%
	2022	2.5%	5.2%	16.4%	75.7%
It is not suitable for women to engage in politics	2017	9.1%	10.4%	31.7%	48.2%
	2018	7.1%	13.3%	40.9%	38.2%
	2020	1.5%	4.7%	14.9%	78.7%
	2022	2.5%	4.8%	17.7%	74.9%
Women should not have control over her income, movement and other decision making process	2018	18.5%	31.1%	34.1%	15.5%
	2020	14.3%	13.1%	12.8%	59.7%
	2022	9.9%	11.1%	14.4%	64.4%
If a wife does not obey her husband, he has the right to punish her.	2018	5.7%	22.6%	35.9%	35.2%
	2020	3.9%	9.3%	14.9%	71.8%
	2022	3.9%	13.0%	17.3%	65.7%
When job opportunities are limited, men should have more right to a job.	2018	5.4%	19.8%	39.0%	34.3%
	2020	3.0%	8.8%	14.4%	73.5%
	2022	3.1%	8.8%	18.3%	69.5%

11 Combined figure for strongly disagree and somewhat disagree.

	Year	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree
It is a man's responsibility to fulfil financial needs for his family.	2018	18.8%	34.3%	28.1%	18.5%
	2020	8.2%	17.0%	13.1%	61.6%
	2022	6.1%	10.2%	17.8%	65.8%
Male members of family other than husband( father in law, brother in law) have right to punish the daughter in law if she disobeys them	2020	2.1%	5.4%	13.4%	79.0%
		2.7%	8.6%	19.0%	69.6%

Table 4.6.1: Now, I will read some statements about the position of men and women in the society. Would you tell me if you agree, or disagree with these statements? (N = 7,056) (Response as 'Don't Know' is not presented and 'Refused to Answer' is not included)

Although there are not any outstanding differences in responses when disaggregated by gender, approval of certain statements requires caution. For example, about 19% of men and 15% of women still agree that it is acceptable for a husband to punish his wife when she disobeys him. Similarly, about 14% of men believe that in case of limited job opportunities, men are more entitled to the right to a job, while around 10% of women agree with this.

#### 4.7. VIEWS ON LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

More than three quarters of respondents believe that both men and women are equally capable of leading different institutions/organizations, from government to the private sector and community groups. The findings over the years show that an increasing share of respondents believe that leadership is determined by an individual's capabilities and not by gender (Table 4.7.1).

In 2018, more respondents preferred women as chairperson of savings and credit cooperatives (47.6%), and chairperson of user groups (40.3%), whereas the preference rate dropped to 14.8% and 13.1% respectively in 2022. There is not any significant variation across responses by demographic characteristics, including gender.

#### Acceptable leadership positions in the different organisations/institutions by year

	Year	Women	Men	Capable Person
Chief Executive Position of Federal Government	2018	30.2%	32.3%	37.5%
	2020	13.8%	11.7%	74.5%
	2022	11.2%	8.8%	78.1%
Chief Executive Position of Provincial Government	2018	28.7%	32.7%	38.6%
	2020	11.3%	12.1%	76.6%
	2022	9.7%	8.9%	79.4%
Chief Executive Position of Local Government	2018	31.6%	30.4%	38.0%
	2020	12.3%	10.1%	77.6%
	2022	10.8%	8.6%	79.3%
Ward Chairperson	2018	33.9%	30.4%	35.7%
	2020	14.5%	11.2%	74.3%
	2022	12.4%	9.4%	77.9%



	Year	Women	Men	Capable Person
Chairperson of Political Party	2018	25.8%	34.7%	39.5%
	2020	10.4%	11.4%	78.2%
	2022	9.5%	10.1%	79.6%
Chairperson of User Groups	2018	40.3%	24.8%	34.9%
	2020	18.0%	8.1%	73.9%
	2022	13.1%	7.5%	78.3%
Chairperson of Saving and Credit Cooperatives	2018	47.6%	19.5%	32.8%
	2020	21.2%	6.7%	72.1%
	2022	14.8%	6.9%	77.2%
Chairperson of School Management Committee	2018	32.0%	31.6%	36.3%
	2020	12.3%	11.1%	76.6%
	2022	10.6%	8.6%	80.2%
CEO of Private Company/Organization	2018	27.0%	34.5%	38.5%
	2020	10.7%	10.2%	79.2%
	2022	8.9%	8.6%	80.9%

Table 4.71: Thinking about leadership positions, who would be more acceptable – either men or women – to you as leaders in the following organisations/institutions? (N= 7,056) (Response as 'Don't Know' is not presented and 'Refused to Answer' is not included)



Photo by: Puspa Paudel

## 5. GOVERNANCE AND POLITICAL PARTICIPATION

### 5.1. LOCAL BODY RESTRUCTURING

As Nepal completed five years of implementation of federalism, the survey assessed the impact of local body restructuring on the efficiency of the local government's service delivery. More than half of all respondents (54.4%) feel that the local body restructuring has improved the service delivery capacity of their local government. Over the years, there has been an upward trend on this sentiment, with a slight decline in 2022. The share of respondents who feel that local government's capacity for service delivery has either deteriorated or stayed the same has also increased in 2022 compared to 2020 (Figure 5.1.1).

Views on local body restructuring, by year

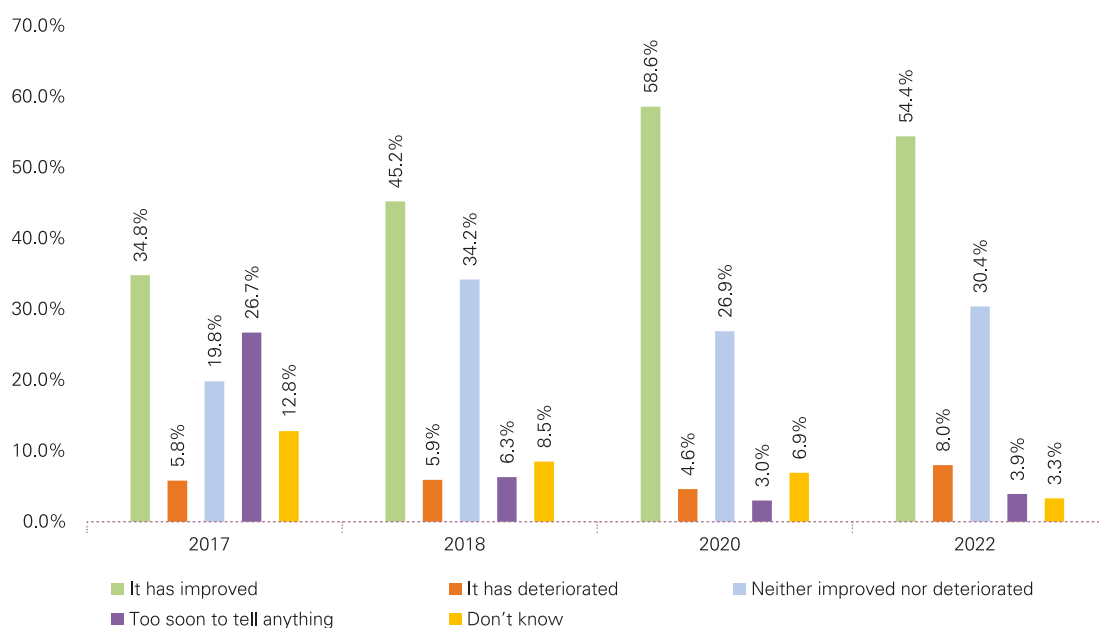


Figure 5.1.1: What kind of change have you felt/noticed in the capacity of local body to deliver services after restructuring of local body into existing structure? (N= 7,056)

More respondents from Sudurpashchim Province (69.4%) report that local-level restructuring has positively impacted service delivery capacity of their local government.

## 5.2. SOCIAL SECURITY

The survey also assessed respondents' awareness of the different social security benefits initiated by the Government of Nepal and whether they or their families have availed of those benefits. Of nine different types of social security provisions, an overwhelming majority of the respondents say that they have heard of Senior Citizen Allowance (97%), Single Women Allowance (93.6%), and Disability Allowance (86.3%). However, very few respondents know about grants for *Loponmukh Adivasi* (32.7%) and about contributions from employment (26.3%). More than three-fourths of respondents (75.5%) know about health insurance benefits; this is a significant increase compared to 59.9% in 2020. The share of households who have received this benefit is almost double in 2022 than in 2020 (from 11.8% to 21.9%) (Table 5.2.1).

### Awareness and receiving social security benefits, by year

Social Security Provisions	Yes, I have heard		Yes, we have received	
	2020	2022	2020	2022
Senior Citizen Allowance	98.4%	97.0%	18.8%	21.2%
Single Women Allowance	95.7%	93.6%	9.4%	10.1%
Disability Allowance	88.9%	86.3%	2.2%	3.6%
Unemployment Allowance	56.4%	50.2%	0.5%	1.3%
Health Insurance Benefits	59.1%	75.5%	11.8%	21.9%
Child Protection Grant	50.9%	59.9%	11.0%	9.4%
Benefits on Contribution from Employment	28.9%	26.3%	1.9%	7.7%
Child Nutrition Grant	51.3%	63.9%	13.7%	17.8%
Grant for Loponmukh Adivasi	31.3%	32.7%	0.6%	0.9%

Table 5.2.1: Have you heard about? (N= 7,056). Have you or the members of the family received any benefits under?

### Satisfaction with current social security benefits

Respondents were highly satisfied with their social security benefits. The survey asked those who receive the benefit to rate their satisfaction level on a scale of 0 to 10, where 0 represents highly dissatisfied, and 10 represents extremely satisfied. Findings indicate that respondents' satisfaction level is above average (7.06 points). Across the provinces, respondents from Madhesh Province have the lowest level of satisfaction (6.41), whereas those from Sudurpashchim Province have the highest level of satisfaction (7.76) with current social security benefits.

### Average level of satisfaction with current social security benefits

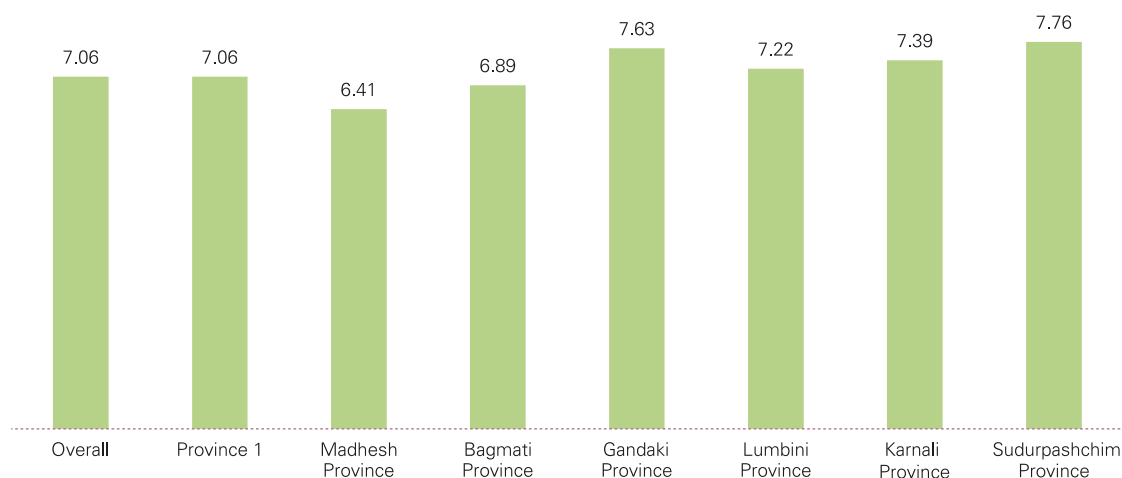


Figure 5.2.1: How satisfied are you with the current social security benefits of the Government? (N=6,987)  
(Response as 'Refused to Answer' is not included)

## 5.3. TRUST IN INSTITUTIONS

The survey measured respondents' level of trust towards 19 different entities, including government and independent institutions. Respondents report their most trusted institutions as the Nepal Army (91.2%), followed by the Public Service Commission (88.8%) and media organizations (88.0%), with their least trusted institution as political parties (44%). This pattern remains consistent over the years, but the overall level of trust across all institutions has decreased in 2022 (Table 5.3.1).

### Trust in institutions, by year

	Trust in institutions <sup>12</sup>			
	2017	2018	2020	2022
Nepal Army	88.0%	87.7%	90.6%	91.2%
Public Service Commission	NA*	78.0%	89.3%	88.8%
The Media (Television, Radio, Newspapers)	92.2%	91.3%	91.8%	88.0%
CBOs (women's group, savings and credit group)	92.0%	90.7%	90.7%	86.3%
Armed Police Force	85.8%	82.6%	87.1%	85.4%
Police	86.5%	78.2%	85.7%	79.7%
Municipal Wards	NA*	NA*	NA*	79.2%
Religious/Caste-Based Organizations	76.8%	74.6%	80.1%	77.6%
Courts	82.8%	82.1%	87.7%	77.2%
Government employee	NA*	NA*	82.7%	76.9%
Municipality/Rural Municipality /Local Government	NA* <sup>13</sup>	NA*	NA*	75.1%

12 Figure for "Trust" is derived by adding the figure of "Fully Trust" and "Moderately Trust"

13 In 2017, 2018 and 2020, respondent level of trust for local government was asked slightly differently. The question was framed to seek the trust for Mayor/Chairperson and Ward Chairperson instead of local government. The trust for Mayor / Chairperson and Ward Chairperson showed a gradual increase from 2017 to 2020. For instance, 69.6% people reported they trust Mayor/ Chairperson in 2017, this figure increased to 81.3% in 2018 and 80.4% in 2020. Similarly, 72.9% respondent cited they trust Ward Chairperson in 2017, this was increased to 81.3% in 2018 and slightly decreased 84.3% in 2020.

	Trust in institutions			
	2017	2018	2020	2022
Judicial Committees	NA*	74.0%	85.3%	73.7%
NGOs / Human Rights Defenders	78.9%	76.4%	78.7%	71.7%
Local Community Leaders- Tole Lane Development Organization	NA*	NA*	NA*	69.3%
Social media (Facebook/ Twitter etc.)	NA*	NA*	73.6%	62.9%
District Coordination Committee	NA*	70.3%	73.4%	58.6%
The Federal Government	63.7%	64.7%	67.2%	56.2%
Provincial Government	NA*	61.7%	67.1%	51.6%
Political Parties	64.3%	58.2%	56.2%	44.0%

Table 5.3.1: Now I am going to ask you about some individuals, federation, government agencies, and institutions. For each of them, I would like you to tell me how much you trust them? (Fully trust, moderately trust, don't trust them much, and don't trust them at all) (Response as 'Don't Know' and 'Refused to Answer' is not included)

## 5.4. AWARENESS OF PUBLIC SERVICES

More than half of the respondents (54%) are aware of the services provided by their local government, compared to 46.4% in 2018. In contrast, only 24.8% of respondents say they are aware of the services provided by provincial governments, and 27.4% are aware of the services provided by the federal government. This still represents an upward trend from 2018 and 2022 (Figure 5.4.1).

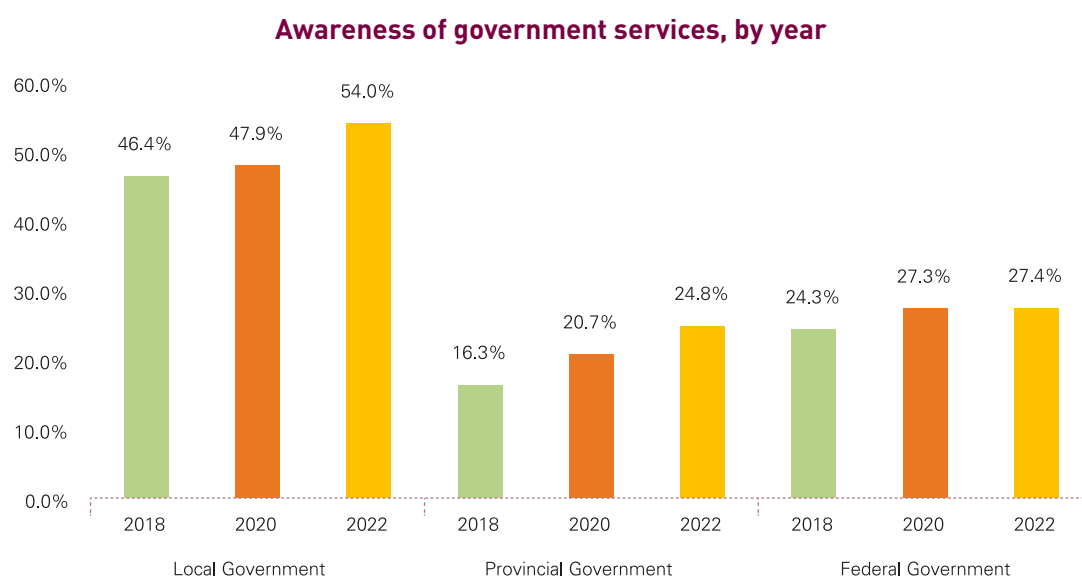


Figure 5.4.1: Are you aware about the public services provided by your local, provincial, and federal government? (N=7,048) (Response as 'Refused to Answer' is not included)

Residents of Province 1, Gandaki Province, and Sudurpashchim Province are relatively more informed about different services provided by the local, provincial, and federal government (Figure 5.4.2). Women in all provinces are considerably less aware than men when it comes to services provided by local governments, with the difference ranging from 11.5 percentage points in Gandaki Province to 17.5 percentage points in Sudurpashchim Province.

### Awareness of government services, by province

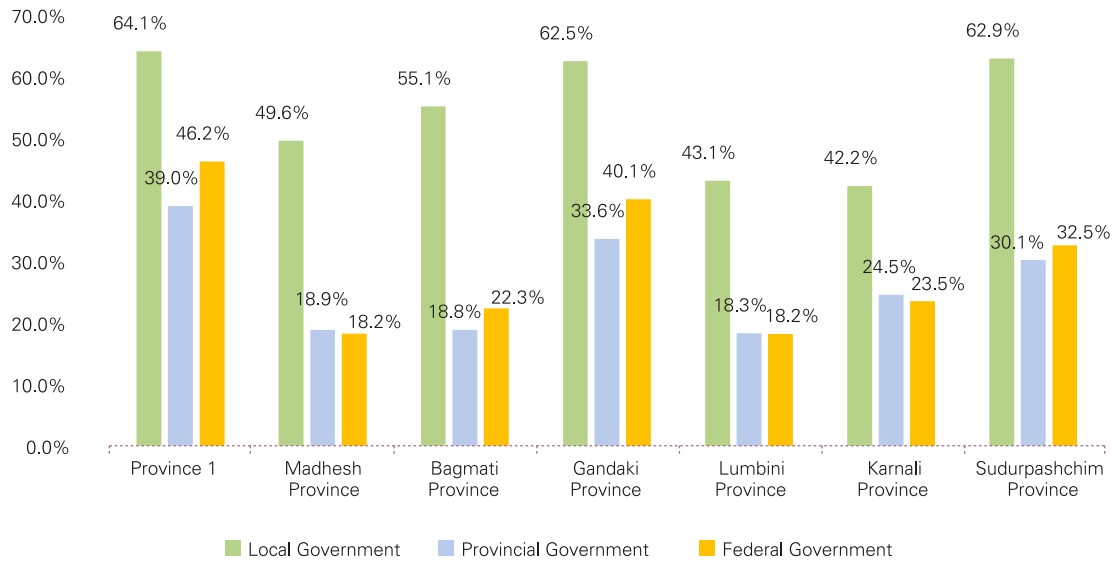


Figure 5.4.2: Are you aware about the public services provided by your local, provincial, and federal government? (Response as "Yes" is only included)

### Awareness of the types of services provided by the government

The survey asked respondents who are aware of the services to name all services provided by each tier of government. The most widely known service areas of local governments is roads/physical infrastructure (79.2% awareness), followed by drinking water services (44.7%), education (44.3%), health services (39.1%), and documentation-related services (28.9%).

Awareness of provincial government services shows a similar pattern, with most respondents (72.1%) mentioning roads/physical infrastructure, followed by education (54.2%), health (41.3%), drinking water (40.4%), and employment-related services (31.4%). One out of 10 respondents report transportation-related services (9.9%).

Regarding federal government services, most respondents (70.7%) mention higher education, followed by national highways/physical infrastructure (60.7%), employment (40.8%), health-related policy and services (40.3%), social security (39.5%), and large-scale electricity (34.4%).

To those who did not know about local government services, the survey further asked for suggestions on effective channels of information dissemination about local government services. Most respondents (46.8%) suggest informal sources, like friends, family, and neighbors, followed by community leaders (25.8%), radio /television (23%), and social media (17.2%).

### Effective channels for information dissemination about local government services

	Overall	Province 1	Madhesh Province	Bagmati Province	Gandaki Province	Lumbini Province	Karnali Province	Sudurpashchim Province
From friends and family and neighbors	46.8%	47.4%	44.1%	42.6%	45.9%	41.4%	59.0%	70.0%
Through the local community leaders	25.8%	18.4%	15.7%	25.2%	27.9%	34.3%	41.3%	29.1%
If disseminated from Radio Nepal	23.4%	40.5%	19.6%	18.6%	9.8%	21.7%	29.4%	27.9%



	Overall	Province 1	Madhesh Province	Bagmati Province	Gandaki Province	Lumbini Province	Karnali Province	Sudurpashchim Province
If disseminated from television	23.2%	35.1%	15.7%	30.1%	29.0%	21.2%	10.5%	18.6%
Through leaflets, pamphlets, posters	18.6%	16.6%	22.9%	25.8%	6.9%	14.8%	8.0%	21.4%
From social Media (Facebook, Twitter)	17.2%	15.5%	15.9%	21.9%	24.3%	17.3%	13.0%	9.4%
From the internet (By introducing these in the webpage of the Local Government)	15.1%	20.1%	13.4%	13.8%	18.4%	17.5%	8.3%	10.8%
Through the government officials	10.0%	11.7%	10.2%	12.1%	7.5%	9.1%	8.6%	6.7%
From local newspapers	9.9%	5.8%	9.8%	15.5%	9.0%	8.4%	13.9%	3.7%
If disseminated from community/local radio network/stations	9.8%	7.7%	5.4%	5.8%	15.2%	10.9%	26.6%	13.2%
From Bazaar/Market	9.6%	21.5%	13.0%	8.5%	4.2%	1.3%	8.8%	10.5%
From the political parties	9.2%	7.7%	7.6%	10.0%	9.6%	6.5%	15.4%	16.8%
Through SMS on my mobile phone	6.6%	5.1%	3.5%	9.1%	6.0%	7.0%	4.2%	13.7%
Through the community-based group (women's group, savings and credit etc.)	4.7%	4.0%	0.9%	4.2%	14.3%	5.8%	5.8%	5.1%
From national newspapers	4.5%	5.0%	4.3%	5.3%	6.1%	3.7%	5.3%	1.9%
From teachers of the local schools	2.0%	2.8%	1.1%	1.9%	0.4%	1.5%	5.9%	2.4%
Through Government's/ Local government's websites	1.2%	0.6%	0.6%	1.5%	2.7%	0.6%	4.2%	0.9%
Through Civil Society Organizations/NGO's	0.5%	0.4%	0.7%	0.0%	1.7%	0.1%	0.6%	0.6%
Don't know/Can't say	5.3%	3.1%	10.2%	2.5%	3.8%	6.1%	3.7%	2.3%

Table 5.4.1: [If answered "No"] How can your Local Government more easily inform you about the services they provide? (N =3,245)

## 5.5. EXPERIENCE ACCESSING PUBLIC SERVICES

The survey asked respondents if, in the past year, they received any of among 15 services from the local government read aloud to them by enumerators. Most report visiting the local health post or hospital to seek health services (65.5%), followed by land tax payments (39.1%) and other tax-related work (35.6%). Other services include admission to government schools (36.2%) and those related to vital registration (21.3%) (Table 5.5.1). For the first time in 2022, the survey added a question on disability-related services, to which 8.7% of all respondents said they had received such services from their local government. Data show an increase in the number of people who sought recommendations for citizenship from their local government, up from 17.6% in 2020 to 23.4% in 2022.

The survey further asked respondents who had received any of the services about the ease of their experience. Responses indicate that obtaining most of these services is generally “easy,” (82% for employment-related services and 99.4% for school admissions) (Table 5.5.1). Between 2020 and 2022, the share of respondents who report ease in receiving employment-related services from local governments has increased from 67.9% to 82%.

### Services received through local government and ease of receiving the services, by year

Types of services	Services received through local government in the past one year		If yes, ease of receiving the services in the urban municipality/rural municipality		
	2020	2022	n (2022)	2020	2022
				Easy <sup>13</sup>	
Recommendation for citizenship	17.6%	23.4%	1651	89.2%	87.3%
Recommendations for other social security services (disability, senior citizen, etc.)"	NA	14.1%	997	NA	91.8%
Social security allowance (Single woman, senior citizen, disable)	22.9%	18.3%	1295	95.3%	91.6%
Birth certificate, death certificate, marriage certificate, migration certificate	18.3%	21.3%	1500	95.0%	94.2%
Migration certificate	NA	2.3%	165	NA	94.8%
Services related to employment	3.9%	6.3%	445	67.9%	82.0%
Services given by judicial committee	2.2%	4.0%	281	89.9%	92.3%
Services related to land tax/revenue	42.5%	39.1%	2754	96.1%	95.7%
For admission in government school	36.5%	36.2%	2556	98.8%	99.4%
For health checkup in government health post/hospital	65.8%	65.5%	4622	95.4%	95.2%
Receiving service from police	7.5%	9.2%	650	86.4%	88.8%
Business license	4.8%	6.3%	445	87.2%	90.1%
Tax related work	40.2%	35.6%	2511	96.1%	96.3%
Recommendation for other government work	9.5%	12.3%	869	91.0%	94.5%
For disability specific services	NA	8.7%	617	NA	96.6%

Table 5.5.1: Based on your experience of past one year, how easy or difficult is it to obtain the following services? (N =7056)

Respondents who report having a “difficult” experience while trying to obtain any service from the local government cite the following reasons: “complicated process/hassle to receive services,” “delay in service,” and “officials’ irresponsible attitude.” Other concerns include discriminatory behavior while accessing police services, political influence in employment-related services, and inaccessible physical infrastructure or services for health check-ups in government health posts/hospitals.

## 5.6. VIEWS ON EDUCATION

### School type and quality of education

More respondents (57.2%) report having a child enrolled in a public school than in a private school (35.6%).

### Child enrolled in public or private school, by province and year

	Public School			Private School		
	2018	2020	2022	2018	2020	2022
Overall	56.6%	55.3%	57.2%	35.7%	36.8%	35.6%
Province 1	52.2%	54.9%	51.6%	41.8%	40.2%	44.1%
Madhesh Province	54.0%	56.9%	50.4%	30.9%	28.7%	37.6%
Bagmati Province	42.7%	37.4%	42.2%	54.6%	60.2%	54.3%
Gandaki Province	61.8%	58.0%	56.5%	32.9%	36.4%	38.7%
Lumbini Province	55.1%	56.1%	67.3%	38.0%	35.8%	25.5%
Karnali Province	79.3%	75.8%	80.1%	12.3%	17.3%	13.7%
Sudurpashchim Province	71.3%	68.0%	69.3%	22.0%	21.5%	20.8%

Table 5.6.1: Do you have children in your family who are studying in the government school? (Do you have children in your family who are studying in private school? (N = 4,268) (Response as 'Not Applicable' is not included).

More respondents from Karnali Province (80.1%), rural municipalities (76.3%), and the Mountain region (87.7%) report having their children enrolled in a public school, whereas more respondents from Bagmati Province (54.3%) and urban municipalities (45.3%) report having children enrolled in private schools.

The findings show that most children, enrolled in both public (94.3%) or private (97.5%) schools, live within one hour's distance from the school. Only a small proportion of respondents report a duration of more than one hour or beyond for their children to reach school from home.

### Distance to school, by year

	Year	Type	Less than one hour	One hour - Two hours	Two hours – Three hours	Three hours and more	Don't know
Overall	2018	Public	86.2%	11.0%	1.8%	0.6%	0.1%
		Private	91.8%	6.3%	0.8%	0.6%	0.4%
	2020	Public	93.5%	5.2%	0.5%	0.4%	0.4%
		Private	96.0%	2.3%	0.5%	0.3%	0.9%
	2022	Public	94.3%	4.8%	0.8%	0.1%	-
		Private	97.5%	1.6%	0.5%	0.4%	-

Table 5.6.2: By using the easiest means of transportation available, how much time does it take for your child/children to go to the government or private school in which he/she is reading (It could be by either using vehicle or by walking or by using the combination of both or by using any assistive devices or taking others support such as wheelchair, crutches, sticks, calipers, white cane, human guide, personal attendant, etc.)? (N=2,748 children going to public school, N=1,828 children going to private school)

Most parents rate the quality of education in both public and private schools as either “very good” or “good”—a trend that has increased gradually over the years, despite a marginal decline in the quality rating of public school education observed in 2022.

### Views on the quality of education, by year

	Year	Public School					Private School				
		Very good	Good	Bad	Very bad	Don't know/ Can't say	Very good	Good	Bad	Very bad	Don't know/ Can't say
Overall	2018	11.3%	78.8%	8.0%	1.9%	0.0%	29.8%	68.6%	1.3%	1.9%	0.0%
	2020	5.0%	80.5%	11.5%	0.9%	2.0%	11.9%	83.6%	2.6%	0.2%	1.8%
	2022	4.0%	79.9%	13.2%	11.8%	1.1%	13.1%	84.4%	2.0%	0.1%	0.5%

Table 5.6.3: How is the quality of education at that school? (N = 2,748 respondents with child/children going to public school, N = 1,828 Respondents with child/children going to private school)<sup>15</sup>

### Entities responsible for the quality of education provided at the school

Most parents regard the local government as the responsible entity for maintaining the quality of education in both public and private schools (88.4% and 81.3%, respectively).

Over the years, an increasing number of respondents report that local government is primarily responsible to maintain the quality of education in their area. None of the respondents said they believe the school management committee, teachers, or parents as responsible entities for maintaining the education quality in public schools.

### Responsible entity for maintaining the quality of education, by year

	Public School				Private School <sup>16</sup>		
	2017	2018	2020	2022	2018	2020	2022
Local government	82.9%	81.2%	83.6%	88.4%	76.5%	77.2%	81.3%
Provincial government	0.4%	2.4%	4.6%	2.1%	1.1%	4.1%	1.0%
Federal government	8.3%	6.6%	5.2%	5.3%	4.8%	4.4%	2.8%
Others (School management committee, teachers, parents)	0.4%	2.1%	1.8%	0.0%	8.9%	5.8%	9.8%
Don't know	8.0%	7.7%	4.8%	4.2%	8.7%	8.5%	5.1%

Table 5.6.4: Who do you think is primarily responsible for the quality of education that is being provided (to your children) by the schools in your areas? (N = 2,748 respondents with child/children going to public school, N = 1,828 Respondents with child/children going to private school)

15 Respondents were not asked to assess the quality of private school education in SNP 2017.

16 Respondents were not asked to mention who they thought was the responsible entity for maintaining the quality of private school education in SNP 2017.

### Changes in the quality of education

Respondents with school-going children are largely of the view that there has been some positive change in the quality education in the past year, both in public (50.3%) and private (54.3%) schools. Around 40% of them think there has been no change in quality while a small minority believes there has been negative change in the quality of education in the past year (Table 5.6.3).

### Positive and negative changes in the quality of education, by year

	Year	Type	Positive change	Negative change	No change	Don't know
Overall	2018	Public	53.6%	6.3%	35.6%	4.6%
		Private	57.3%	2.2%	36.7%	3.7%
	2020	Public	53.9%	6.8%	34.2%	5.1%
		Private	53.5%	2.3%	35.9%	8.3%
	2022	Public	50.3%	3.6%	42.4%	3.7%
		Private	54.3%	1.1%	40.4%	4.2%

Table 5.6.5: Have there been any positive or negative changes in the quality of public/private education in your municipality/ rural municipality during the past one year? (N = 2,748 respondents with child/children going to public school, N = 1,828 Respondents with child/children going to private school)

The survey further asked the respondents their reasons for perceived change in the quality of education.

The data shows “teaching and methods have improved” as the major reason behind perceived positive changes in the quality of education in public (57.6%) and private (67.1%) schools. Other commonly cited reasons include improvement in the quality of school management, school building, school syllabus/curriculum, and in the management of school staff. Similarly, a considerable proportion of respondents (26.7% for public schools and 34.2% for private schools) think that school being closer/near as the reason for positive changes in the quality of education.

### Reasons for positive change in the quality of education

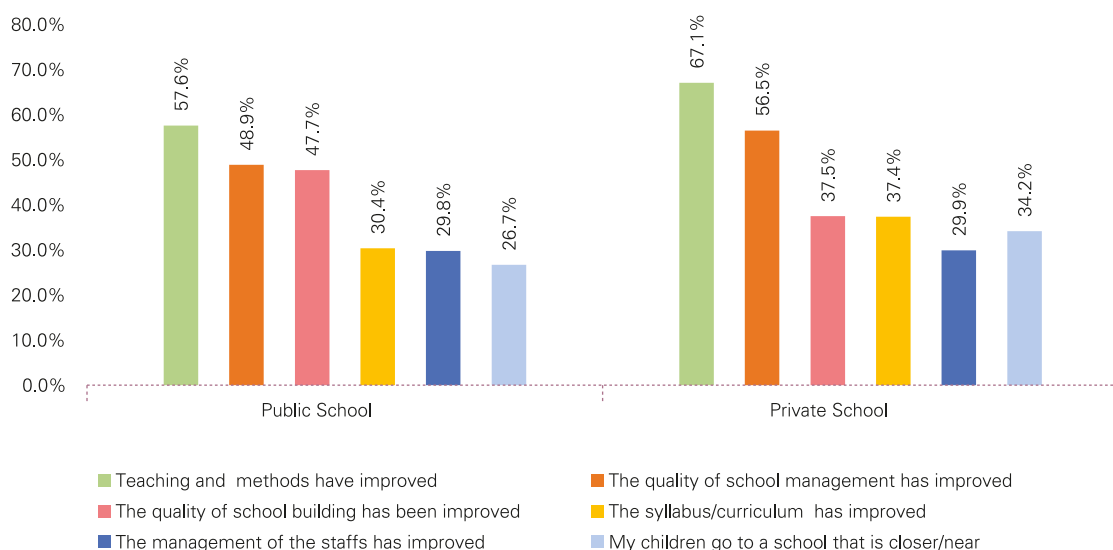


Figure 5.6.1. [If “Positive change”] What positive changes have there been? (N = 1,383 for public school, N = 992 for private school)

Among those who report negative changes, the main reasons given are decline in the quality of education, degrading quality of school management, decline in the quality/content of curriculum, etc.

### Suggestions for the improvement of quality of schools

The survey asked all respondents their opinion on what helps to improve the quality of education in schools. Most respondents say that good teaching methods (56.9%), ensuring the quality of school management (52%), and proper management of staff (44.5%) as some of the things that can improve the quality of education.

### Suggestions for the improvement of the quality of schools, by year

	Year	Overall	Province 1	Madhesh Province	Bagmati Province	Gandaki Province	Lumbini Province	Karnali Province	Sudurpashchim Province
Improved/ good teaching methods	2020	50.5%	42.6%	53.6%	50.1%	59.1%	50.4%	53.3%	50.0%
	2022	56.9%	61.6%	60.8%	54.4%	56.5%	51.6%	59.9%	54.3%
The quality of school management should be good	2020	49.7%	47.8%	48.6%	37.4%	49.0%	56.8%	58.9%	62.2%
	2022	52.0%	57.0%	53.9%	48.0%	45.5%	46.5%	54.4%	62.0%
Management of the staffs should be good in the school	2020	47.1%	44.1%	47.0%	31.3%	42.6%	57.4%	54.5%	64.2%
	2022	44.5%	43.2%	38.2%	35.2%	49.0%	51.1%	54.4%	57.8%
The quality of curriculum/syllabus should be improved	2020	38.7%	41.7%	36.9%	39.8%	35.5%	41.0%	33.1%	36.2%
	2022	37.1%	44.2%	39.5%	39.7%	32.8%	25.3%	37.6%	39.0%
Needy students should get scholarship	2020	33.8%	33.1%	39.0%	27.5%	29.8%	35.0%	21.6%	43.9%
	2022	28.3%	38.0%	27.0%	27.5%	30.3%	18.1%	32.3%	30.2%
The price of books, copies and uniforms should be less	2020	30.2%	24.2%	31.6%	35.1%	22.3%	35.2%	12.2%	34.5%
	2022	27.3%	18.4%	30.1%	40.3%	23.2%	21.1%	35.9%	19.4%
The quality of school building should be good	2020	29.8%	23.6%	34.9%	14.7%	24.5%	35.5%	37.5%	49.1%
	2022	33.2%	40.1%	34.7%	25.0%	26.0%	23.1%	49.8%	50.4%
My children should be able to learn in English	2020	23.2%	24.0%	28.5%	16.9%	24.5%	23.0%	20.9%	23.5%
	2022	12.8%	14.1%	16.3%	10.6%	11.4%	11.9%	15.2%	8.8%
The schools where my children go should be near	2020	22.4%	23.7%	28.0%	10.7%	27.7%	29.6%	21.1%	14.9%
	2022	19.0%	19.1%	17.9%	18.0%	21.5%	21.0%	28.1%	12.4%
Teachers should be trained in inclusive education and be able to teach children with diverse impairments.	2022	9.7%	7.2%	7.5%	13.0%	8.6%	8.3%	11.1%	14.1%
Should be flexible enough to address the diverse need of children including children with different impairments.	2022	2.5%	4.7%	1.1%	1.1%	3.6%	1.9%	5.3%	2.9%



	Year	Overall	Province 1	Madhesh Province	Bagmati Province	Gandaki Province	Lumbini Province	Karnali Province	Sudurpashchim Province
The teaching learning methods should be accessible and flexible enough to address the need of children with diverse need	2022	2.4%	4.0%	0.6%	1.6%	2.9%	1.6%	6.6%	3.0%
Should be accessible for all children including children with disabilities.	2022	2.0%	4.9%	0.1%	1.1%	2.7%	0.9%	3.8%	2.9%
Don't know/can't say	2022	3.3%	1.7%	5.3%	0.9%	4.1%	4.8%	1.2%	5.3%

Table 5.6.6: What needs to be done to improve the quality of the government/private schools in your area? (N =7,056)

## 5.7. SCHOOL EDUCATION DURING COVID-19

This year, the survey asked respondents with school-going children about the provision of alternative classes during the Covid-19 period.

During the pandemic, private schools (53.8%) were more likely to have provided alternative classes than public schools (23%). Responses vary across provinces (Table 5.7.1). Both public and private schools in Gandaki Province provided more alternative classes than those in other provinces. However, the public schools providing alternative classes in Madhesh Province, Lumbini Province, Karnali provinces and Sudurpashchim are lower than the national average (23%).

Respondents from urban municipalities and the Hill region are more likely to report that schools provided alternative classes during the pandemic compared to rural municipalities and Mountain and Terai regions.

### Alternative education provided by school during Covid-19, by province

School	Overall	Province 1	Madhesh Province	Bagmati Province	Gandaki Province	Lumbini Province	Karnali Province	Sudurpashchim Province
Public	23.0%	36.7%	11.7%	30.5%	63.9%	18.8%	6.8%	18.1%
Private	53.8%	63.8%	23.7%	84.6%	90.6%	36.2%	27.6%	46.2%

Table 5.7.1: Did the school in which your child/children are admitted to provide any alternative education options during Covid-19 period? (Online, home visits, community classes, or other) (N = 2,748 Children going to public school, N = 1,828 Children going to private school)

For those respondents who reported that their children received alternative education, teaching through online classes was the most common in both public and private schools. Public schools also opted for home-based learning through teacher visits and community-based education.

Respondents of public school-going children are more likely to provide a positive assessment (75.2%) of alternative classes provided by the school than that of private school-going children (66.3 %).

## 5.8. VIEWS ON PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

### Distance to the nearest public health post/ hospital

Over the years, more respondents report living closer to their nearest public health post/hospital (73.6% in 2017 compared to 93.0% in 2022). There is a considerable decline in the time taken to reach the nearest health facility (Figure 5.8.1). However, more people in Karnali (16.6%), Sudurpashchim (9.6%) and Gandaki provinces (9.2%) report having to travel more than one hour to reach their nearest public health post/hospital.

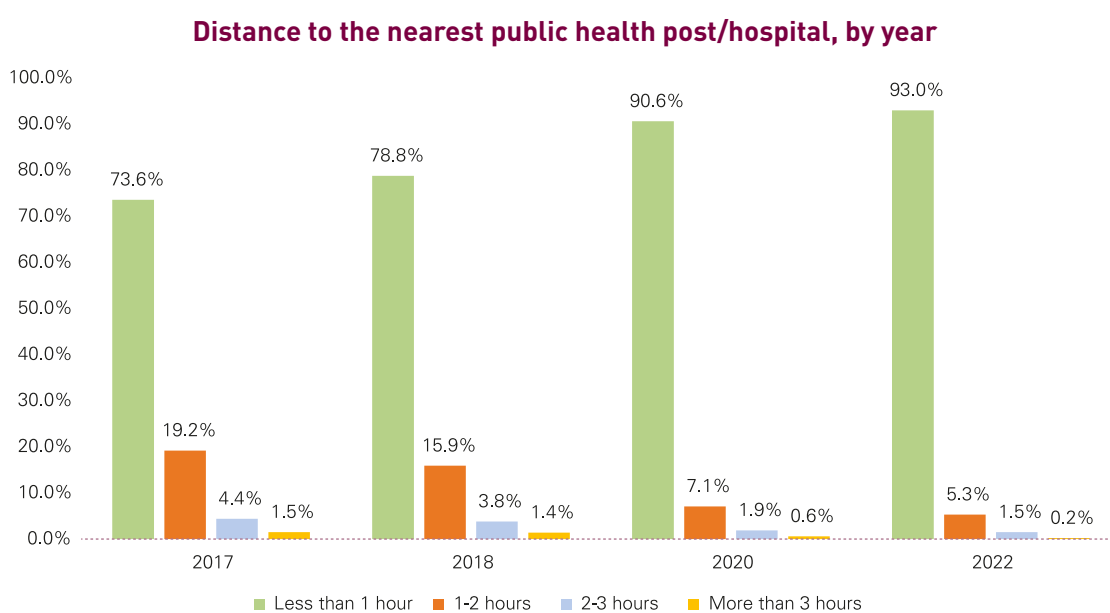


Figure 5.8.1: By using the easiest means of transportation available, how much time does it take you to go to the nearest health service center (health post/health center/hospital, etc.)? (N = 7,056)

### Views on quality of health services

More than three-fourths of respondents (79.5%) regard the quality of healthcare in their vicinity as “good,” while 3.6% consider it to be “very good.” In contrast, 12.7% regard it as “bad” and 1.4% report it to be “very bad.”

Over the years, the share of respondents showing positive sentiments about the quality of health services has increased gradually (Table 5.8.1). Notably, people’s perception of the quality of health services as being “very good” has declined. Respondents who believe that the quality of health services has become “bad” is similar to 2020.

### Views on the quality of public health care, by year

	Year	Very Good	Good	Bad	Very Bad	Don't know
Overall	2017	8.9%	68.4%	15.4%	2.7%	4.7%
	2018	10.0%	79.1%	9.9%	1.0%	0.0%
	2020	3.5%	78.8%	12.1%	1.1%	4.4%
	2022	3.6%	79.5%	12.7%	1.4%	2.8%

	Year	Very Good	Good	Bad	Very Bad	Don't know
Province 1	2017	11.2%	75.1%	9.2%	0.8%	3.6%
	2018	11.2%	76.9%	10.6%	1.2%	0.0%
	2020	2.6%	78.9%	15.9%	1.2%	1.5%
	2022	4.2%	82.8%	8.1%	1.2%	3.7%
Madhesh Province	2017	4.4%	60.0%	27.2%	5.8%	2.7%
	2018	13.0%	67.5%	17.0%	2.5%	0.0%
	2020	3.6%	77.2%	13.4%	1.5%	4.3%
	2022	4.7%	73.7%	18.0%	1.6%	2.1%
Bagmati Province	2017	4.6%	70.4%	15.7%	0.8%	8.5%
	2018	7.1%	84.1%	8.4%	0.4%	0.0%
	2020	2.3%	70.4%	14.7%	1.8%	10.8%
	2022	3.7%	81.8%	9.3%	1.1%	4.1%
Gandaki Province	2017	14.0%	65.9%	14.5%	1.8%	3.9%
	2018	10.7%	82.8%	6.1%	0.4%	0.0%
	2020	2.4%	85.3%	8.8%	0.2%	3.4%
	2022	2.0%	79.5%	12.7%	1.2%	4.6%
Lumbini Province	2017	12.4%	66.0%	12.3%	3.5%	5.8%
	2018	9.0%	83.2%	7.7%	0.2%	0.0%
	2020	6.5%	81.8%	8.5%	1.0%	2.2%
	2022	4.7%	75.0%	16.3%	2.1%	1.9%
Karnali Province	2017	12.2%	79.6%	5.8%	1.6%	0.9%
	2018	7.3%	80.2%	10.0%	2.4%	0.0%
	2020	3.2%	81.7%	10.9%	0.5%	3.7%
	2022	1.0%	82.2%	13.6%	2.0%	1.2%
Sudurpashchim Province	2017	9.4%	67.3%	15.8%	4.0%	3.5%
	2018	10.2%	85.2%	4.6%	0.0%	0.0%
	2020	3.7%	86.8%	7.8%	0.1%	1.6%
	2022	0.9%	88.4%	9.4%	0.6%	0.7%

Table 5.8.1: How would you rate the quality of the health service present in your area (municipality/rural municipality) (N=7,056)

### Responsible entity for maintaining the quality of healthcare

Through the years, the share of respondents who believe it is their local government's responsibility to maintain the quality of healthcare services is increasing. In 2022, 87.9% believed so, compared to 79.5% in 2017, 82.4% in 2018, and 83.6% in 2020. A nominal share of respondents report it as the role of provincial and federal government (Figure 5.8.2).

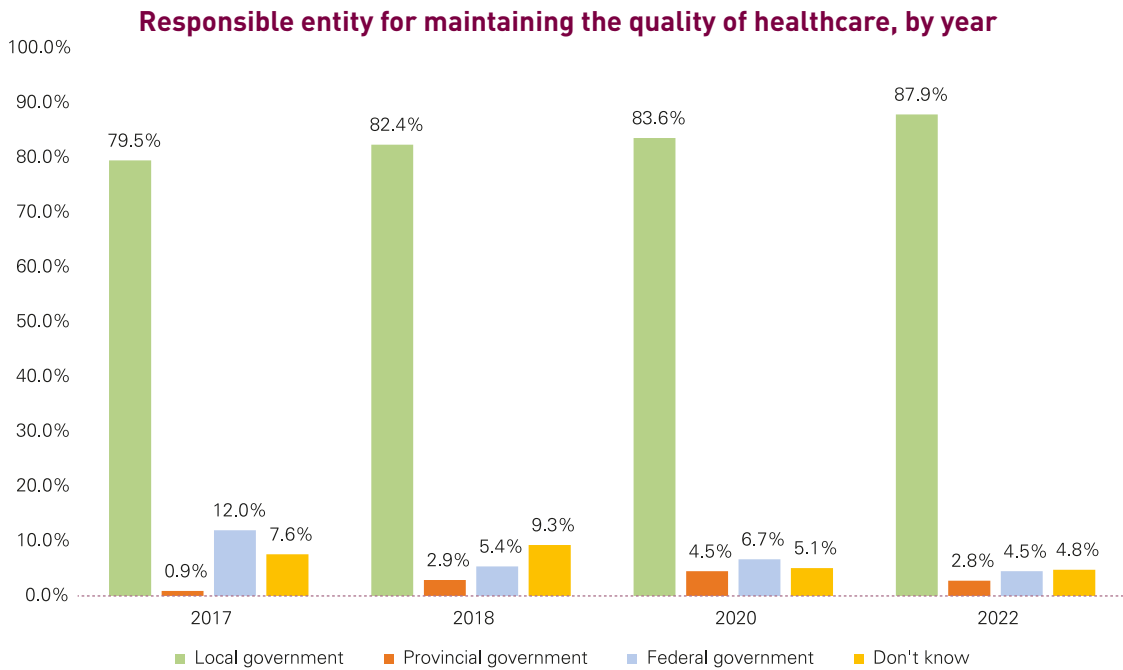


Figure 5.8.2: Who in government do you think is primarily responsible for improving the quality of the health service center/hospital/etc.? (N = 7,056)

A little less than half of respondents (47%) mention positive changes in the quality of public health care during the past year. More respondents from Province 1 (65.7%) and Sudurpashchim Province (64.4%) report positive changes, whereas a smaller share of respondents from Bagmati Province (27.4%) report positive changes in public health care during the past year.

### Changes in the quality of health service

Nearly half of respondents (47%) cite positive changes in the quality of health service in the past year. Compared to the earlier rounds of survey, the perception of positive changes has gradually increased since 2017; however, in 2022, there is a 3.4 percentage point drop compared to 2020. Respondents who state "I don't know" and "negative change" has decreased over time (Table 5.8.2).

At the province level, the highest proportion of respondents cite positive changes in the quality of health services in Province 1 (65.7%) and Sudurpashchim Province (64.4%), while 27.4% report a positive change in Bagmati Province, and 65.4% think that there has been no change at all in the quality of health services. The data show a steep fall of about 15 percentage points in the quality of health service in Lumbini Province in 2022 (41.3%) compared to 2020 (56.1%).

### Changes in the quality of health service, by province and year

	Year	Positive change	Negative change	No change	Don't know
Overall	2017	40.8%	8.8%	43.3%	7.1%
	2018	44.4%	5.8%	41.1%	8.8%
	2020	50.4%	5.0%	37.4%	7.1%
	2022	47.0%	2.6%	44.8%	5.6%

	Year	Positive change	Negative change	No change	Don't know
Province 1	2017	44.4%	5.5%	44.1%	6.0%
	2018	48.4%	6.1%	40.3%	5.2%
	2020	43.1%	2.2%	52.2%	2.4%
	2022	65.7%	1.7%	26.7%	5.9%
Madhesh Province	2017	35.5%	20.0%	39.8%	4.7%
	2018	34.3%	12.6%	43.1%	10.0%
	2020	56.2%	12.0%	23.6%	8.2%
	2022	45.1%	4.3%	46.3%	4.3%
Bagmati Province	2017	31.3%	10.7%	50.1%	7.9%
	2018	37.6%	4.5%	43.8%	14.2%
	2020	37.1%	5.4%	41.2%	16.3%
	2022	27.4%	1.7%	65.4%	5.5%
Gandaki Province	2017	48.5%	5.6%	41.8%	4.2%
	2018	54.6%	3.6%	33.7%	8.1%
	2020	51.4%	1.5%	40.2%	6.8%
	2022	48.6%	2.4%	45.0%	4.1%
Lumbini Province	2017	41.3%	4.8%	43.1%	10.8%
	2018	46.7%	2.9%	42.2%	8.1%
	2020	56.1%	3.9%	36.2%	3.9%
	2022	41.3%	3.2%	45.4%	10.1%
Karnali Province	2017	64.6%	2.0%	30.8%	2.7%
	2018	53.3%	3.6%	38.3%	4.8%
	2020	63.6%	1.0%	29.2%	6.2%
	2022	54.5%	2.5%	37.9%	5.2%
Sudurpashchim Province	2017	41.4%	3.7%	44.5%	10.4%
	2018	54.3%	1.9%	38.8%	4.9%
	2020	59.5%	2.1%	37.1%	1.3%
	2022	64.4%	1.9%	32.6%	1.0%

Table 5.8.2: Have there been any positive or negative changes in the quality of health services in your municipality/rural municipality during the past year? (N = 7,056)

The survey asked the respondents stating a positive change in health services (47%) for their reasons. Responses were left open-ended, allowing for multiple responses.

The data show the proper management of service centers as the major reason (39.8%) for the positive change in health services, followed by availability of medicine (38.5%), establishment of new health centers (36.7%), and improvement in the management of staff (36.3%). A notable share of respondents (35.9%) also report close distance to the health service center (35.9%) and quality of services (34.3%) as some of the other reasons for their positive outlook.

### Reasons for positive change in the quality of health service

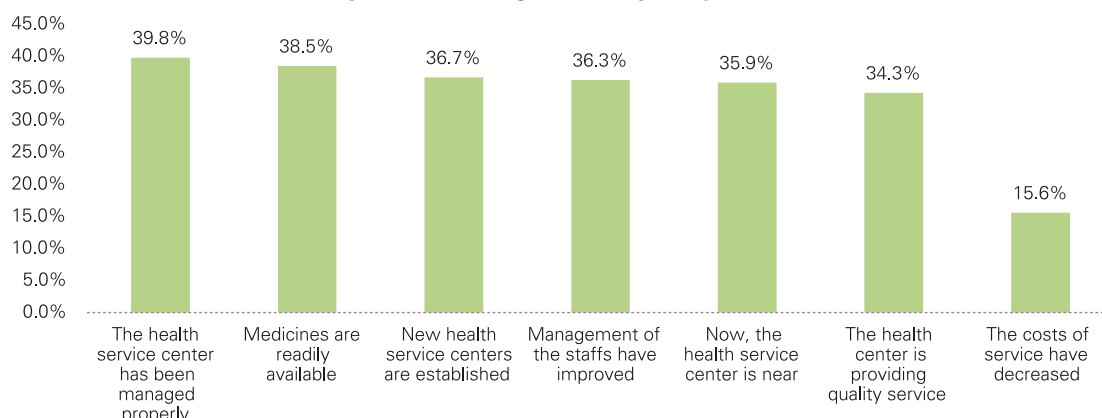


Figure 5.8.3: What positive changes there have been? (N=3,314)

The survey asked respondents who stated negative changes in the quality of health service (2.6%) for their reasons. While the share of respondents stating negative changes in the quality of health services decreased from 5% in 2020 to 2.6% in 2022, most who cited negative changes (64.2%) report scarcity of medicine as the main reason. Similarly, more than half of respondents (52.2%) stated “overall management of the health service center is not good” as their reason for citing a negative change, followed by the unavailability of staff in the health center (32.6%), deteriorating management of the staff (31.7%), degrading quality of health service (31.1%), increasing cost of services (20.7%), and “health services are far” (18.3%) as other reasons.

### Reasons for negative change in the quality of health service

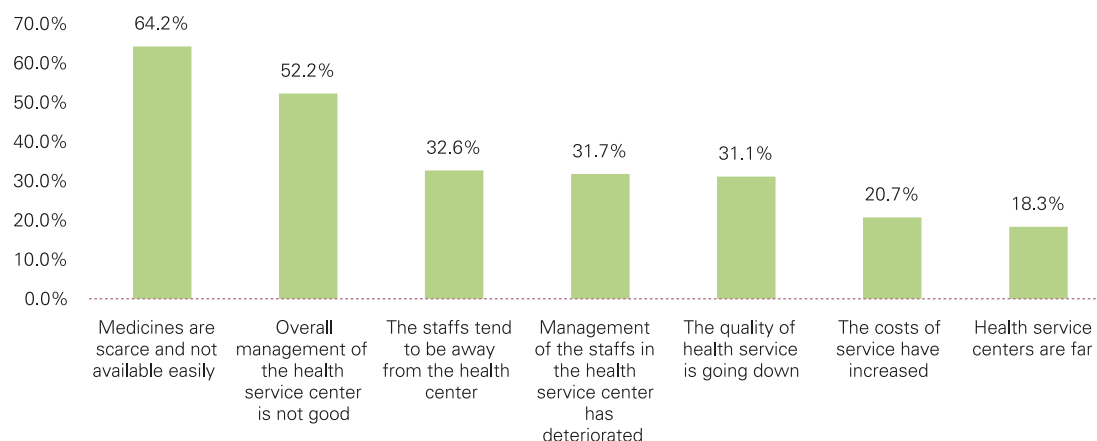


Figure 5.8.4: What negative changes there have been? (N=185)

### Suggestions for improvement in the quality of public health service

The survey asked all respondents for suggestions to improve the quality of healthcare services provided by healthcare centers in their areas. Majority of the respondents believe improving medical facilities (72.7%), providing quality health workers (53%), provision of good laboratories (51.9%), and practicing good diagnostic methods (50.4%) as possible contributors to improving the quality of health services in their area. Some respondents also mention that proper management of staff (32.7%), provision of free health care services (32.5%), and ensuring close proximity to health service centers (25.8%) would further improve the quality of health services in their local area.



## Suggestions for improvement in the quality of public health service

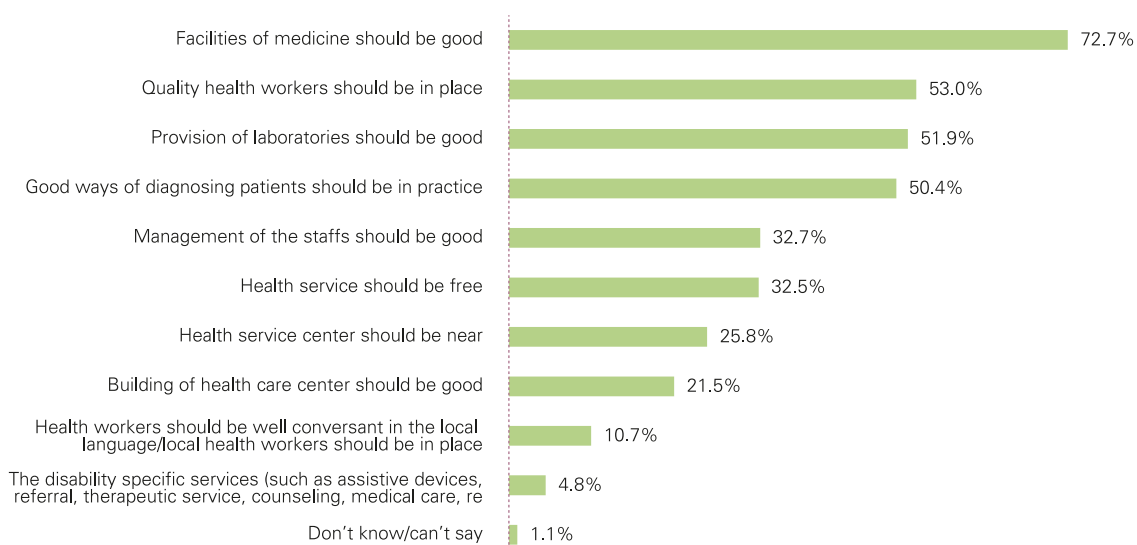


Figure 5.8.5: What needs to be done to improve the quality of health service provided by the health center in your local area (municipality/rural municipality)? (N =7,056)

## 5.9. VIEWS ON ROADS

### Quality of roads

Many respondents are satisfied with the quality of roads in their municipality/rural municipality. Almost two-thirds of respondents (63.3%) think the quality of roads is "good," but more than one-quarter (27.6%) report that the road quality is "not good" and a few (4%) report roads as "not good at all."

Each year from 2017 to 2020, a higher share of respondents reported the quality of roads as "good." However, compared to 2020 (74.5%) this share has declined by 11.2 percentage points in 2022. Similarly, in 2022 there is an increase in the proportion of respondents who say that the quality of roads in their local area is "not good" (27.6%). This share is much higher than in 2020 (16.5%) and 2018 (23.3%).

### Views on the quality of roads, by province and year

	Year	Very good	Quite good	Not good	Not good at all	Don't know
Overall	2017	6.6%	45.6%	32.1%	15.4%	0.3%
	2018	9.8%	60.1%	23.3%	6.5%	0.3%
	2020	6.3%	74.5%	16.5%	2.7%	0.0%
	2022	5.0%	63.3%	27.6%	4.0%	0.1%
Province 1	2017	7.0%	61.5%	23.2%	8.3%	0.0%
	2018	8.7%	69.8%	17.7%	3.7%	0.0%
	2020	7.0%	73.6%	18.5%	0.9%	0.0%
	2022	10.7%	63.1%	25.3%	0.9%	0.0%
Madhesh Province	2017	1.5%	38.5%	39.4%	20.6%	0.1%
	2018	12.0%	49.2%	26.3%	10.9%	1.5%
	2020	3.7%	68.2%	22.8%	5.2%	0.1%
	2022	7.2%	59.1%	27.9%	5.4%	0.3%

	Year	Very good	Quite good	Not good	Not good at all	Don't know
Bagmati Province	2017	2.1%	37.4%	40.2%	20.2%	0.1%
	2018	6.7%	47.6%	36.2%	9.4%	0.1%
	2020	7.7%	71.8%	16.6%	3.8%	0.1%
	2022	3.1%	65.4%	25.6%	5.8%	0.1%
Gandaki Province	2017	13.4%	43.1%	34.5%	8.7%	0.3%
	2018	15.6%	65.5%	17.2%	1.6%	0.0%
	2020	5.8%	79.8%	13.4%	1.0%	0.0%
	2022	4.8%	64.5%	27.0%	3.7%	0.0%
Lumbini Province	2017	13.4%	49.3%	23.5%	12.8%	1.1%
	2018	13.0%	65.3%	17.9%	3.7%	0.1%
	2020	10.8%	76.3%	10.6%	2.4%	0.0%
	2022	2.6%	66.7%	28.3%	2.4%	0.0%
Karnali Province	2017	10.2%	54.6%	21.7%	13.1%	0.4%
	2018	7.9%	62.0%	20.1%	10.0%	0.0%
	2020	2.7%	81.0%	14.6%	1.7%	0.0%
	2022	2.0%	64.4%	28.2%	5.4%	0.0%
Sudurpashchim Province	2017	5.0%	39.3%	36.0%	19.4%	0.3%
	2018	4.3%	76.9%	15.5%	3.2%	0.1%
	2020	1.9%	83.4%	14.4%	0.3%	0.0%
	2022	0.9%	60.0%	33.7%	5.4%	0.0%

Table 5.91: How would you rate the quality of roads in your municipality / rural municipality? (N = 7,056)

A majority of respondents (92.3%) believe that the local government is the primary entity responsible for maintaining roads—a response that is consistent in all rounds of SNP.

### Entity responsible for maintenance of roads, by year

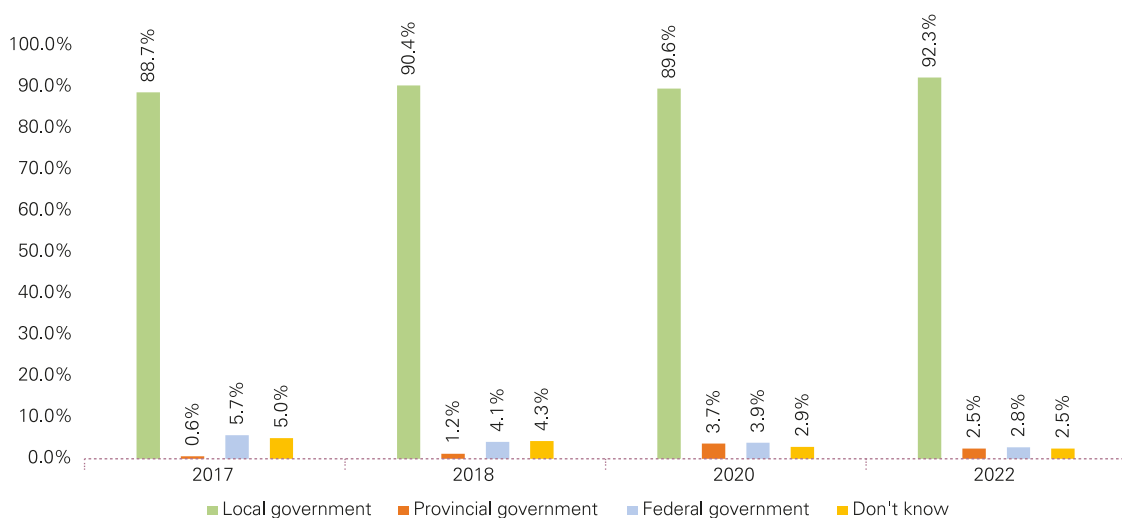


Figure 5.91: Who in government do you think is primarily responsible for building and maintaining roads in your local area? (N = 7,056)

### Changes in the quality of roads

Respondents' perceptions of positive changes in the quality of roads decreased in 2022, at 50.4% compared to 67.0% in 2020 and 52.7% in 2018. While those reporting the condition of roads as getting worse is consistent with 2020 (7.3%), an increasing number of respondents (41.5%) report no change in road quality in the past year.

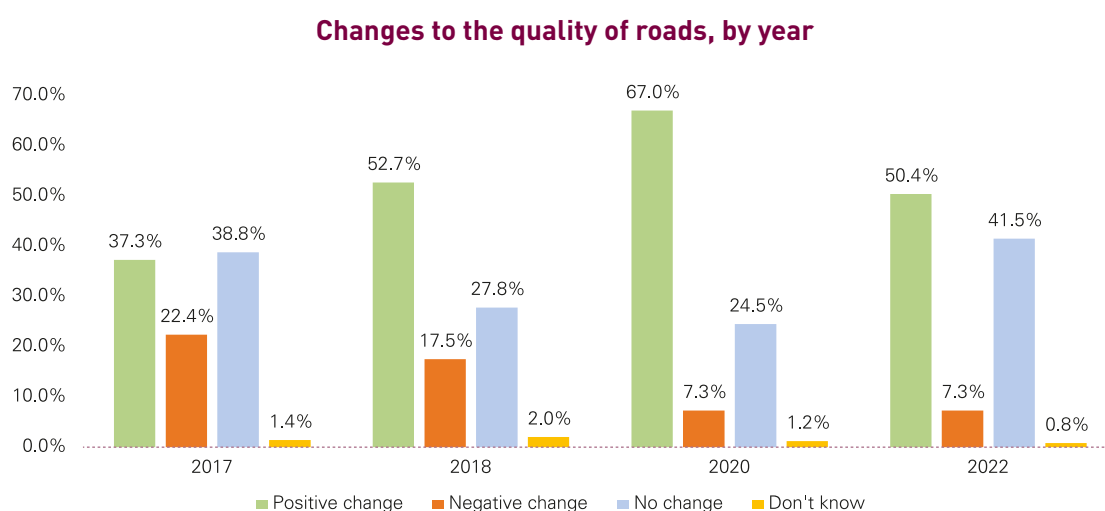


Figure 5.9.2: Have there been any positive or negative changes in the quality of roads in your municipality/rural municipality during the past year? (N = 7,056)

The share of respondents reporting positive changes in the quality of roads during the past year is highest in Province 1 (64.0%) and lowest in Bagmati Province (33.6%).

### Changes to the quality of roads in the rural municipality/municipality, by province

	Positive change	Negative change	No change at all	Don't know
Overall	50.4%	7.3%	41.5%	0.8%
Province 1	64.0%	5.9%	29.6%	0.5%
Madhesh Province	51.4%	6.4%	41.0%	1.2%
Bagmati Province	33.6%	9.1%	56.7%	0.6%
Gandaki Province	53.5%	8.1%	38.4%	0.0%
Lumbini Province	50.4%	5.3%	43.0%	1.3%
Karnali Province	50.2%	5.4%	42.6%	1.7%
Sudurpashchim Province	57.9%	11.8%	30.3%	0.0%

Table 5.9.2: Have there been any positive or negative changes in the quality of roads in your municipality/rural municipality during the past year? (N = 7,056)

### Reasons for positive change in the quality of roads

The survey further asked the respondents stating a positive change in the roads (50.4%) for their reasons. Responses were left open-ended, allowing for multiple responses.

The data shows "construction of roads" (51.1%) as the major reason for a positive change in perception of improved roads. Other reasons include roads being wider and upgraded (30.3%), prompt action taken by the government to maintain damaged roads (28.1%), and more roads being black-topped (27.9%).

### Reasons for negative change in the quality of roads

The survey also asked the respondents stating negative changes in the roads (7.3%) for their reasons. Most respondents cite deterioration in the condition of existing roads (72.3%), followed by delays by the government maintaining damaged roads (56.5%), and lack of road construction (44.0%) as major reason for negative changes.

### Suggestions to improve the quality of road service

Most respondents believe that black-topping roads (61.9%), prompt maintenance of damaged roads (58.5%), and proper upgrading of existing roads (48%) should be carried out to improve the quality of roads in their local area. Other commonly mentioned suggestions are the inclusion of local public in planning and discussions about road projects (31.3%) and proper designing of roads (27.8%). Respondents from Bagmati (66.8%) and Gandaki provinces (63.1%) emphasized on prompt maintenance of road services, whereas respondents from Province 1 (75.1%) and Sudurpashchim Province (73.2%) are more inclined towards black-topped roads. About two-fifths of respondents from Karnali Province (40.5%) suggest proper design of roads.

### Suggestions for the improvement of the quality of road service, by province

	Overall	Province 1	Madhesh Province	Bagmati Province	Gandaki Province	Lumbini Province	Karnali Province	Sudurpashchim Province
Roads should be black-topped	61.9%	75.1%	57.6%	50.1%	53.1%	64.1%	68.0%	73.2%
Prompt maintenance of road services should be in place in case of damaged roads	58.5%	51.8%	54.1%	66.8%	63.1%	53.1%	62.4%	65.7%
Proper upgrading of the existing roads should be in place	48.0%	58.4%	49.1%	37.6%	52.0%	44.6%	57.3%	47.1%
Planning and discussion about road projects should include all the local public	31.3%	22.8%	31.8%	36.8%	29.9%	29.0%	31.4%	39.3%
The roads should be designed properly	27.8%	31.1%	21.2%	30.1%	22.8%	29.9%	40.5%	24.1%
Taxes collected from roads should be spent in roads	21.1%	24.7%	23.0%	9.8%	16.7%	22.1%	34.7%	28.7%

	Overall	Province 1	Madhesh Province	Bagmati Province	Gandaki Province	Lumbini Province	Karnali Province	Sudurpashchim Province
Promoted the implementation of accessibility standards adopted by the Federal government	3.7%	4.1%	2.7%	2.9%	5.2%	3.8%	4.0%	5.2%
Corruption should be stopped	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%	0.2%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Bridge should be constructed	0.1%	0.0%	0.5%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know/can't say	1.3%	0.5%	5.5%	0.1%	0.5%	0.1%	0.4%	0.0%

Table 5.9.3: What needs to be done to improve the quality of road services in your local area (municipality/rural municipality)? (N =7,056)

## 5.10. TAXATION

To understand people's views on taxation in the country, the survey asked respondents about different types of taxes, including whether or not respondents had paid any of these taxes in the past year, their view on the tax rates, and their opinion on some tax-related statements.

More than fifty percent of respondents have paid one or more form of tax within the past one year. Land tax (65.9%), property tax (61.2%), vehicle tax (59.3%), entertainment tax (38.8%), and business tax (31.0%) are the most commonly paid taxes by the respondents in the past year. Other less commonly paid taxes within the past year are house rent tax (21.5%), land registration tax (19.3%), individual income tax (16.6%), and remuneration tax (10.8%).

Since 2018, there has been an increase in the share of respondents who say they have paid some kinds of taxes in the past year. For example, while 7.4% reported paying property tax in 2018, 58.7% say so in 2020, and 61.2% said the same in 2022. Similarly, a larger share of respondents also reported paying vehicle tax, land tax, house rent tax, and individual income tax in 2022 than they did in 2018 and 2020 (Table 5.10.1).

While most respondents report being unaware about changes in the current level of taxation for most types of taxes, a large share who report having paid property, vehicle, and land taxes say the current level of taxation is more than it was last year. A considerable share of respondents who paid house rent tax, individual income tax, land registration tax, business tax, and entertainment tax also report that it is more than last year (Table 5.10.1).

## Views on the current level of taxation<sup>17</sup>, by year

Have you or your family paid the following types of tax within the last one year?				If yes, do you think current level of taxation is appropriate				
Type of tax	2018	2020	2022	N	More than last year	Less than last year	Same as last year	Don't know
Property tax	7.4%	58.7%	61.2%	3796	68.3%	0.9%	18.6%	12.2%
House rent tax	5.4%	27.7%	21.5%	571	61.1%	1.0%	21.6%	16.3%
Individual Income tax	7.9%	22.0%	16.6%	573	47.2%	1.2%	34.1%	17.5%
Business tax	52.0%	39.2%	31.0%	852	66.4%	4.2%	18.6%	10.8%
Vehicle tax	2.9%	63.4%	59.3%	2125	75.8%	0.1%	10.9%	13.2%
Land registration tax	2.7%	30.8%	19.3%	639	76.5%	0.7%	11.1%	11.6%
Entertainment tax	0.2%	62.1%	38.8%	1478	56.9%	1.9%	28.7%	12.5%
Land tax	0.4%	65.6%	65.9%	4006	67.5%	0.7%	19.2%	12.5%
Advertisement tax	1.1%	13.0%	3.1%	66	57.5%	2.1%	38.9%	1.6%
Agriculture Income tax	8.0%	14.2%	5.4%	179	67.4%	3.5%	22.8%	6.3%
Institutional Income tax	13.5%	13.7%	3.1%	58	69.1%	4.0%	15.9%	11.0%
Remuneration tax	0.5%	21.4%	10.8%	358	35.6%	1.4%	45.4%	17.6%

Table 5.10.1: Have you or your family paid the following types of tax/service charge/fees with the last one year? [If "Yes"] Do you think current level of taxation/service charge/fees is appropriate? (Response as 'Not Paid Local Tax', 'Not Applicable' and 'Refused to Answer' is not included)

Most respondents who report having paid taxes in the past year (57.2%) say that the process of paying the tax/service charge/fee was easy. A small minority (4.3%) report feeling inconvenienced while paying taxes. Fewer people in 2022 than in 2020 (70.9%) report that paying taxes or service charges/fees is easy.

The 4.3% of respondents who say that paying taxes/service charges is difficult were further asked what could be done to ease the process. The two most cited means for making these payments more convenient include the provision of online payments for all kinds of taxes or fees (57.7%) and the facilitation of paying all taxes from the ward office itself (40.4%).

### Views on taxation

A vast majority of Nepalis agree that they do not have a clear understanding of taxes and could use clearer information by different levels of government on tax collection and on how the government spends it. The survey analyzed the understanding of an average Nepali on the issue of taxation and presented respondents with four statements they could "agree," "strongly agree," "disagree," or "strongly disagree" with.

Most respondents agree (combination of "agree" and "strongly agree") that they could use additional information on the following: how the different levels of government collects taxes from people (96.6%); how the government spends its collected taxes (97.0%); and what benefits citizens get in return for paying taxes (97.1%). Slightly less than half of respondents (43.0%) believe that the tax they pay is being properly utilized—similar to past survey responses.

<sup>17</sup> During the survey, all the respondents were asked whether or not they paid the types of taxes read out to them in the last one year. The possible choices of the question were: more than last year, less than last year, not paid local tax, Not applicable, refused, and don't know. While analyzing this question, only the response of those who said "Yes" were included in the analysis.



## Views on taxation, by year

	Year	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
I wish I had clearer information or understanding of taxes that I am supposed to pay for federal, provincial and local government	2018	33.6%	61.7%	1.6%	0.9%	2.2%
	2020	73.2%	25.3%	0.4%	0.2%	0.9%
	2022	65.5%	31.1%	1.2%	0.5%	1.6%
I wish I had more information on how the government spends taxes	2018	33.9%	62.8%	0.7%	0.4%	2.2%
	2020	74.3%	24.3%	0.4%	0.1%	0.9%
	2022	66.5%	30.5%	1.1%	0.5%	1.5%
I believe that the tax I paid is being properly utilized	2018	25.3%	15.0%	29.3%	22.6%	7.8%
	2020	26.1%	28.6%	23.6%	16.4%	5.3%
	2022	20.9%	22.1%	17.1%	15.5%	24.5%
As a citizen I wanted to know clear information on what benefits we get in return for paying the taxes	2018	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	2020	74.8%	23.8%	0.3%	0.2%	0.9%
	2022	67.0%	30.1%	1.0%	0.4%	1.5%

Table 5.10.2: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the statements? (N= 7,056)

## Experience of paying extra cash or gift while paying a tax

Around two out of 100 respondents report that they have had to pay some extra cash or some type of gift (other than that fixed by the government) to someone while paying taxes. These 2.2% of people who said they paid extra cash or some type of gift mentioned giving it to a third-party/broker (45.7%), employee of local government (34.3%), elected representative (23.1%), employee of federal government (12.1%), and employee of provincial government (11.9%). The proportion of respondents to report that they paid extra cash or some type of gift to a third-party/broker is highest in Bagmati Province (95.7%) and Lumbini Province (81.2%), while the most respondents from Madhesh Province report that they paid extra cash or some type of gift to an employee of local government (42.7%).

## Extra amount paid while paying a tax, by province

	Overall	Province 1	Madhesh Province	Bagmati Province	Gandaki Province	Lumbini Province	Karnali Province	Sudurpashchim Province
Third party (broker)	45.7%	56.8%	22.0%	95.7%	78.4%	81.2%	53.2%	11.5%
Employee of local government	34.3%	36.1%	42.7%	11.2%	25.0%	26.3%	37.1%	29.2%
Elected representatives	23.1%	18.5%	31.8%	13.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	29.6%
Employee of federal government	12.1%	14.8%	9.4%	11.3%	21.6%	25.6%	0.0%	22.7%
Employee of Province government	11.9%	18.6%	10.8%	7.0%	0.0%	0.0%	9.7%	65.8%

Table 5.10.3: [If answered 'Yes'] To whom did you have to pay extra amount? (N = 159)

### Willingness to pay more local taxes for better services

Over the years, fewer Nepalis say they would be willing to pay more local taxes if the quality of services were to improve; this proportion has steadily declined every year. Across the years, the lowest share of respondents in 2022 (57.0%) say they would pay more taxes/fees in exchange for better services. Similarly, there has been an increase in the share of respondents who express hesitancy to pay more taxes, even if quality of services were to improve (from 17% in 2017 to 40.3% in 2022).

Willingness to pay high taxes if public services are improved varies across provinces. The highest share of respondents from Karnali (69.1%) and Sudurpashchim provinces (66.0%) express their willingness to pay more taxes if the quality of services were to improve, while 45.1% (a decline from 59.3% in 2020) of respondents from Madhesh Province, the lowest number of respondents across all provinces, express the same.

### Willingness to pay more local taxes for better services, by year

	Year	Yes	No	Don't Know
Overall	2017	77.6%	17.0%	5.4%
	2018	64.1%	30.9%	5.0%
	2020	63.7%	31.7%	4.6%
	2022	57.0%	40.3%	2.7%
Province 1	2017	86.8%	8.9%	4.3%
	2018	70.4%	27.1%	2.5%
	2020	44.0%	54.0%	2.0%
	2022	63.9%	32.4%	3.7%
Madhesh Province	2017	73.1%	18.5%	8.5%
	2018	48.9%	44.6%	6.5%
	2020	59.3%	33.3%	7.5%
	2022	45.1%	50.4%	4.5%
Bagmati Province	2017	73.3%	19.5%	7.3%
	2018	65.6%	28.2%	6.2%
	2020	78.4%	10.8%	10.8%
	2022	47.7%	50.4%	1.9%
Gandaki Province	2017	70.9%	22.6%	6.5%
	2018	62.4%	34.4%	3.1%
	2020	82.4%	16.4%	1.2%
	2022	61.1%	36.2%	2.7%
Lumbini Province	2017	73.4%	23.0%	3.6%
	2018	65.0%	26.0%	9.0%
	2020	51.5%	46.8%	1.7%
	2022	64.2%	34.0%	1.8%

	Year	Yes	No	Don't Know
Karnali Province	2017	85.2%	13.5%	1.3%
	2018	71.9%	27.1%	1.0%
	2020	85.2%	12.8%	2.0%
	2022	69.1%	27.4%	3.5%
Sudurpashchim Province	2017	87.1%	10.2%	2.7%
	2018	76.6%	22.7%	0.7%
	2020	70.0%	30.0%	0.0%
	2022	66.0%	33.7%	0.3%

Table 5.10.4: Would you be willing to pay more local taxes or fees if the quality of services like road maintenance, education or healthcare were improved? (N=7,056)

## 5.11. CORRUPTION

The survey asked respondents if any of them had paid a bribe in the past year while trying to access any of the services read out to them by enumerators. Around 2.2% mention having paid a bribe for land-related services (buying, selling, transferring land, or paying land taxes, plotting, etc.), 1.9% for vehicle-related services (obtaining/renewing license/bluebook, name transfer, etc.), and 1.8% for vital registration/documentation-related services (citizenship, birth, marriage, death certificates, etc.) (Table 5.11.1). A small share of respondents report paying bribes to obtain other services listed in the table.

### Bribe in exchange for services, by year

	Year	To get land related services	To get various documents	To take service from police	To take service from court	In search for employment	To receive health service	To get admission in school or university	To get vehicle related services	To take banking related services
Overall	2017	14.7%	10.7%	6.9%	5.7%	5.4%	1.8%	1.9%	0.0%	0.0%
	2018	9.2%	6.0%	4.1%	2.7%	3.4%	0.8%	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%
	2020	4.3%	4.5%	4.6%	3.7%	2.7%	0.8%	0.9%	6.1%	2.1%
	2022	2.3%	1.8%	0.8%	0.8%	0.9%	1.0%	1.1%	1.9%	1.1%
Province 1	2017	9.9%	5.4%	3.4%	3.4%	3.0%	1.0%	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%
	2018	4.0%	2.2%	2.4%	1.9%	4.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	2020	3.0%	1.5%	1.2%	0.8%	0.8%	0.3%	0.2%	4.2%	2.1%
	2022	1.8%	0.5%	0.3%	0.2%	0.5%	0.9%	0.8%	1.6%	0.6%
Madhesh Province	2017	30.3%	31.4%	15.4%	10.1%	9.1%	3.3%	3.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	2018	20.2%	18.0%	11.5%	6.9%	3.6%	1.9%	2.1%	0.0%	0.0%
	2020	11.4%	13.6%	11.3%	5.5%	5.9%	2.6%	1.9%	10.9%	3.0%
	2022	6.5%	7.0%	3.1%	2.6%	2.5%	2.3%	2.3%	4.5%	3.2%
Bagmati Province	2017	11.8%	4.3%	1.8%	2.0%	1.3%	0.5%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%
	2018	8.7%	2.3%	0.2%	0.2%	4.0%	0.3%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
	2020	2.2%	2.5%	0.0%	2.8%	1.3%	0.2%	0.1%	3.2%	0.4%
	2022	1.5%	0.6%	0.3%	0.3%	0.8%	0.5%	0.9%	2.0%	0.7%

	Year	To get land related services	To get various documents	To take service from police	To take service from court	In search for employment	To receive health service	To get admission in school or university	To get vehicle related services	To take banking related services
Gandaki Province	2017	5.5%	2.6%	3.9%	4.0%	4.3%	2.6%	2.2%	0.0%	0.0%
	2018	1.4%	1.1%	1.0%	0.7%	2.8%	0.4%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
	2020	2.4%	2.3%	10.7%	7.7%	8.0%	0.5%	0.8%	1.0%	0.8%
	2022	1.0%	0.7%	0.3%	0.5%	0.7%	0.5%	0.2%	0.5%	0.0%
Lumbini Province	2017	16.4%	10.6%	13.7%	15.6%	15.7%	3.6%	4.2%	0.0%	0.0%
	2018	8.9%	4.4%	4.5%	4.7%	3.4%	1.3%	1.2%	0.0%	0.0%
	2020	5.9%	2.7%	6.3%	5.7%	3.5%	0.8%	1.5%	9.2%	2.9%
	2022	0.6%	0.5%	0.3%	0.6%	0.2%	0.6%	0.7%	0.8%	0.6%
Karnali Province	2017	3.9%	1.1%	0.5%	0.6%	1.4%	0.5%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%
	2018	2.4%	1.9%	2.4%	2.1%	1.2%	1.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
	2020	1.2%	1.5%	1.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.6%	3.2%	1.0%
	2022	0.8%	0.5%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%
Sudurpashchim Province	2017	10.9%	3.1%	3.1%	1.0%	4.5%	0.3%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
	2018	14.6%	6.7%	6.6%	1.8%	4.5%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
	2020	2.0%	2.1%	5.5%	5.4%	3.4%	0.8%	0.9%	5.7%	2.9%
	2022	0.7%	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.1%	1.3%	1.5%	1.2%	0.3%

Table 5.11.1: During the past year, did you have to give money or gift to perform a favor to obtain services from the officials in the following cases? (N = 7,056)

Across the provinces, the number of respondents who report having paid a bribe is highest in Madhesh Province. The share of respondents who reported paying a bribe while obtaining official documentation, such as a citizenship card, birth certificate (7.0%), and when obtaining land title (6.5%) is higher in Madhesh Province than national average of 1.8% and 2.3%, respectively.

In 2022, the share of respondents reporting having paid a bribe to obtain services from officials has declined since 2017 and 2018 but is consistent with the result in 2020.

## 5.12. PUBLIC AWARENESS AND PARTICIPATION IN LOCAL GOVERNANCE PROCESSES

The survey shows a not-so promising picture of public awareness and participation in local governance processes. Less than one-fifth of respondents (19.6%) say they are aware of any project budgeted and planned for execution by the local government in the current fiscal year. The level of awareness ranges from as low as 9.5% in Madhesh Province to 30.4% in Sudurpashchim Province. The share of respondents who are aware include more men (23.9%) compared to women (15.6%), people belonging to Hill castes (25.0%), people with higher education (34.6%), and those who have a service/job (34.1%).

The most widely known local government projects, as reported by aware respondents, are related to roads or physical infrastructure (64.1%).

The proportion of respondents who say they are aware of projects budgeted and implemented by their local government has decreased in 2022 compared to 2020 (Figure 5.12.1)

### Awareness of local government development projects, by province and year

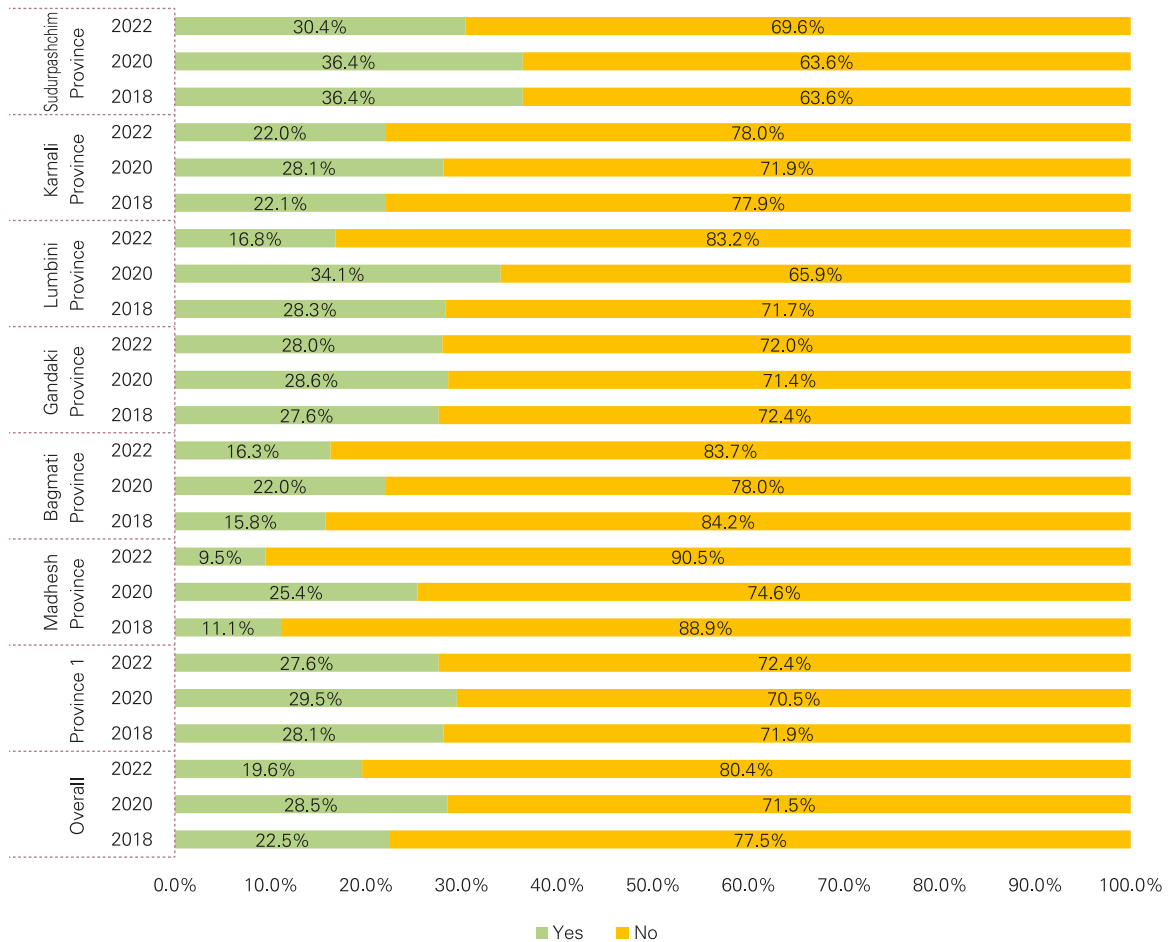


Figure 5.12.1: Are you aware of any projects/budget planned for execution by your local government in the current fiscal year? (N= 7,056)

### Priorities for local government services

The survey enumerators read out a list of 16 different services that local governments are supposed to provide, including health, education, agriculture, infrastructure, etc., and asked respondents what the main priority of their respective local governments should be.

The respondents report roads and physical infrastructure (31.3%) and education-related services (28.7%) as their preferences for local government’s top priorities. Other frequently cited services that should be prioritized are health (9.8%), drinking water (9.2%), and employment-related services (9%).

The survey data shows that the respondents from Madhesh Province highly favor education (49.9%), while those from Gandaki (43.4%) and Karnali provinces (39.2%) express their willingness to see road and other infrastructure-related services prioritized by local governments.

### Local government services that should get first priority, by province

	Overall	Province 1	Madhesh Province	Bagmati Province	Gandaki Province	Lumbini Province	Karnali Province	Sudurpashchim Province
Road and other physical infrastructure-related services	31.3%	27.4%	31.3%	33.4%	43.3%	27.1%	39.0%	26.7%
Education-related services	28.7%	30.5%	49.9%	15.8%	14.0%	24.7%	19.5%	33.9%
Health-related services	9.8%	17.9%	6.3%	8.0%	13.2%	8.3%	4.9%	9.3%
Drinking water-related services	9.2%	8.3%	0.8%	18.8%	8.6%	8.3%	13.1%	8.0%
Employment-related services	9.0%	8.3%	2.6%	12.2%	8.5%	12.4%	8.1%	11.9%
Agriculture and livestock-related services	2.2%	1.5%	2.6%	1.8%	2.2%	3.2%	1.0%	2.2%
Services related to drainage/sewerage management	2.0%	1.7%	1.2%	2.5%	1.5%	3.9%	1.2%	1.2%
Electricity-related services	1.8%	1.4%	0.3%	0.7%	0.8%	2.5%	8.1%	3.2%
Irrigation-related services	1.4%	0.6%	0.7%	0.3%	0.8%	4.7%	1.2%	1.3%
Waste management-related services	1.2%	0.3%	0.1%	4.2%	0.0%	1.1%	0.0%	0.6%
Services related to the management of community buildings/space	0.6%	0.4%	0.3%	0.4%	1.5%	0.9%	0.5%	0.1%
Protection of senior citizens and disabled people	0.6%	0.2%	0.3%	0.5%	1.2%	0.9%	1.2%	0.3%
Disaster management	0.3%	0.5%	0.1%	0.3%	1.4%	0.2%	0.0%	0.1%
Distribution of land ownership certificate	0.3%	0.4%	0.1%	0.0%	1.9%	0.1%	0.5%	0.1%
Management of local market/ haat bazaar	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.2%	0.1%
Environment protection	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.3%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%
Disability-specific services	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know/ Can't say	1.2%	0.1%	3.0%	1.0%	0.5%	1.0%	1.0%	0.7%

Table 5.12.1: In your opinion, which service should get first priority from your local government? (N=7,056)



In the past three surveys, respondents consistently mentioned these five services as priority items, with an increase in the mention of health and education in 2022 (Figure 5.12.2).

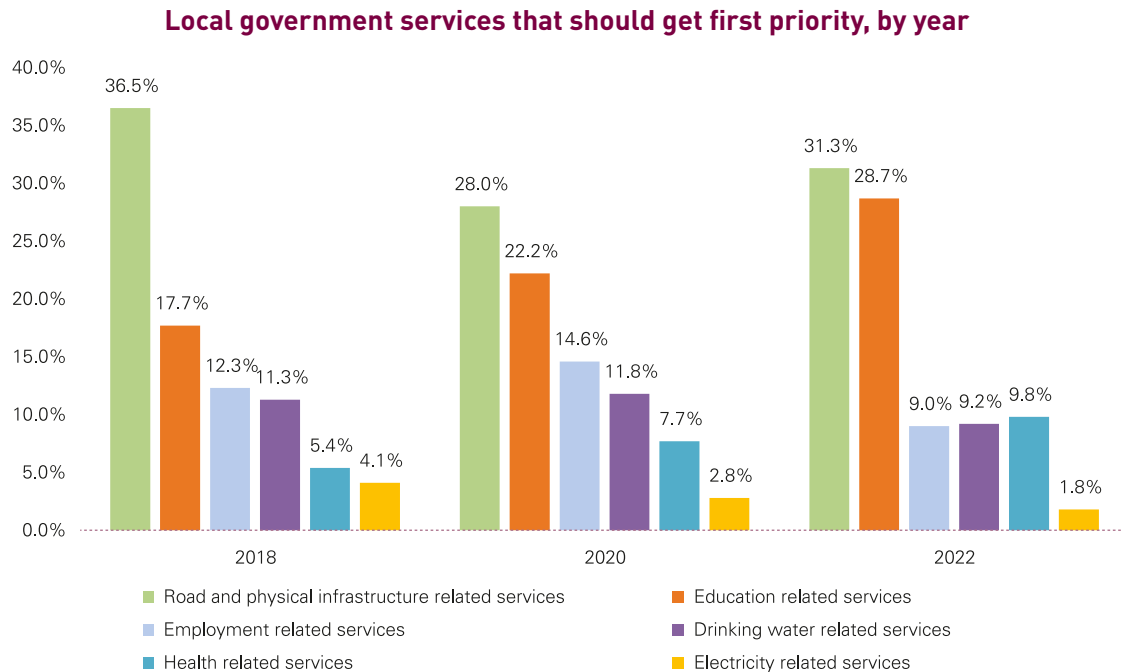


Figure 5.12.2: In your opinion, which service should get first priority from your local government? (N=7,056)

### Public awareness and participation in local governance processes

The state of people's participation in public accountability mechanisms, such as public hearings or public audits, in their ward or municipality, is similar to that of their awareness of local development projects described above.

Only one out of five respondents (20.8%) could positively state that there has been at least one public hearing in their ward or municipality in the past year, out of which 61.9% have never participated in any such hearing. The level of awareness of public hearings ranges from 9.9% in Madhesh, to 36% in Sudurpashchim. More respondents from rural municipalities (25.4%) are aware than those from urban municipalities (18.2%). Similarly, more respondents from the Mountain region (35.6%) are aware than those from the Terai (20.3%) and Hill region (19.2%).

### Public hearing in the municipality/rural municipality/ward in the past one year

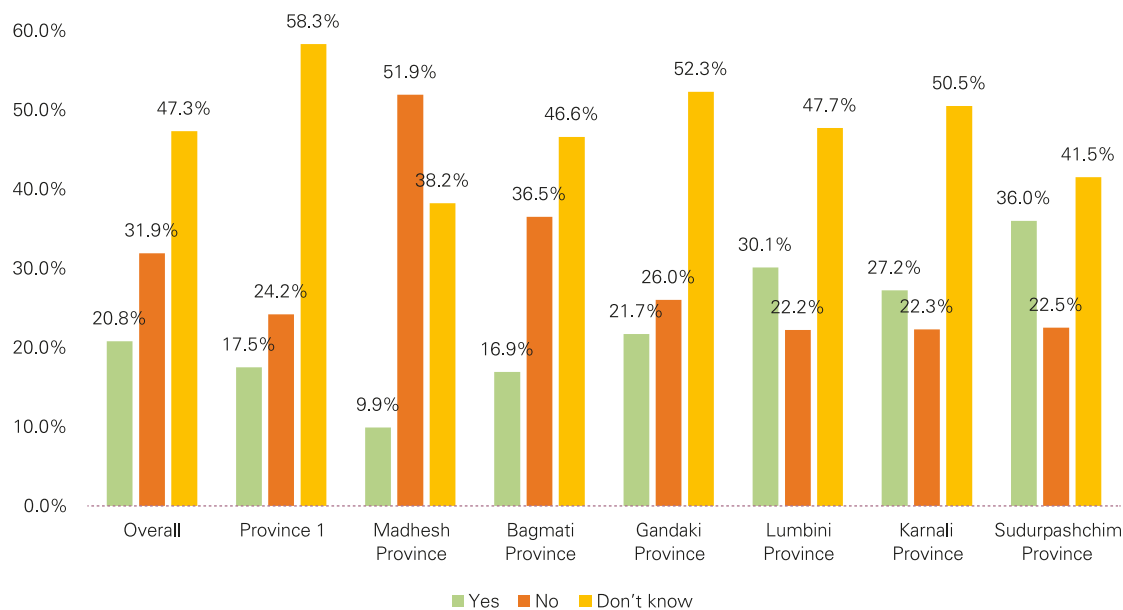


Figure 5.12.3: In last one year have there been any public hearing in your rural municipality/municipality, including in your ward? (N = 7,056)

Fewer people report being aware of public audits conducted in their ward or municipality in the past year. Only 16.1% of all respondents state that they know of at least one public audit in their local area, out of which 35.2% claim to have participated in some or most of them. This year's proportion of respondents to report that a public audit was held in their local area is about the same as those who reported the same in 2020. In Bagmati, Gandaki, and Karnali provinces, respondents' awareness level on public audits conducted in their ward or municipality in the past year has increased, while their participation has decreased in Province 1 (Table 5.12.2).

### Public audit in the municipality/rural municipality/ward in the past one year

	Year	Awareness of public audit			Participation in public audits		
		Yes	No	Don't know	Yes, in most of them	Yes, in some of them	No, never
Overall	2020	16.6%	35.6%	47.9%	8.5%	31.1%	60.4%
	2022	16.1%	33.4%	50.6%	6.6%	28.6%	64.8%
Province 1	2020	16.1%	48.5%	35.4%	9.7%	23.6%	66.7%
	2022	12.2%	24.2%	63.6%	26.5%	34.7%	38.8%
Madhesh Province	2020	11.0%	56.2%	32.8%	10.6%	23.8%	65.6%
	2022	7.6%	52.5%	39.9%	3.7%	30.3%	66.1%
Bagmati Province	2020	7.8%	26.9%	65.3%	12.3%	35.1%	52.6%
	2022	12.1%	41.5%	46.3%	4.0%	44.6%	51.4%
Gandaki Province	2020	9.2%	32.9%	58.0%	11.3%	32.1%	56.6%
	2022	16.6%	26.5%	56.9%	6.1%	21.2%	72.7%

	Year	Awareness of public audit			Participation in public audits		
		Yes	No	Don't know	Yes, in most of them	Yes, in some of them	No, never
Lumbini Province	2020	27.9%	18.0%	54.1%	6.8%	35.5%	57.7%
	2022	25.2%	21.8%	53.0%	1.9%	22.6%	75.5%
Karnali Province	2020	18.1%	32.9%	49.0%	6.8%	33.8%	59.5%
	2022	21.7%	22.5%	55.8%	4.5%	28.4%	67.0%
Sudurpashchim Province	2020	32.5%	23.8%	43.8%	6.3%	32.9%	60.8%
	2022	28.6%	25.3%	46.1%	4.6%	22.2%	73.2%

Table 5.12.2: In last one year have there been any public audit in your rural municipality/ municipality/ward? (N = 7,056). [If "Yes"] Did you participate in any of the public audits of the community development programs that was conducted in your rural municipality/municipality/ward? (N = 1,132)

An even smaller share of respondents participated in any local development planning process or in the implementation of such plans and programs. When asked if they had participated in preparing local development plans in their ward/municipality or while implementing those plans, 12.1% of all respondents say they participated in some or most of such activities relating to local planning or budget execution. Fewer women report participation compared to men. However, the level of participation remains unchanged compared to 2020.

Based on the responses of those who say they participated in any such activity, the plans and programs that elicited the highest levels of public participation are related to roads and other physical infrastructure (74.8%), drinking water (41.8%), education (32.8%) and health services (21.2%).

### Participation in the local development plans in the past one year (%)

	Overall	Province 1	Madhesh Province	Bagmati Province	Gandaki Province	Lumbini Province	Karnali Province	Sudurpashchim Province
Road and other physical infrastructure	74.8%	61.5%	76.4%	78.7%	78.0%	79.0%	75.1%	81.2%
Drinking water	41.8%	39.5%	48.2%	45.8%	44.2%	32.8%	54.4%	31.8%
Education related	32.8%	36.1%	42.1%	34.0%	24.8%	30.1%	24.5%	24.7%
Health related	21.2%	25.4%	24.9%	20.1%	26.0%	11.1%	31.0%	14.5%
Employment related	20.2%	24.1%	39.6%	22.8%	11.5%	7.4%	14.2%	6.4%
Electricity related	17.0%	26.5%	21.8%	13.5%	10.7%	10.2%	22.2%	10.4%
Management of community buildings/space	10.1%	10.3%	4.7%	6.8%	26.9%	13.6%	5.1%	10.9%
Agriculture and livestock related	8.8%	3.6%	8.2%	7.0%	26.8%	9.7%	4.9%	12.2%
Drainage/Sewerage management	7.4%	1.6%	9.9%	15.2%	10.3%	3.8%	4.9%	2.1%
Waste management	6.0%	8.6%	5.2%	7.0%	3.2%	1.5%	3.1%	10.0%
Irrigation	5.9%	3.9%	4.5%	4.5%	11.3%	3.4%	12.9%	10.1%

	Overall	Province 1	Madhesh Province	Bagmati Province	Gandaki Province	Lumbini Province	Karnali Province	Sudurpashchim Province
Disaster management	3.0%	3.6%	0.0%	0.6%	15.7%	0.8%	1.5%	6.4%
Protection of Senior citizen and disabled	2.1%	2.3%	0.0%	3.2%	7.3%	1.2%	1.0%	1.0%
Management of local market/haat bazaar	1.2%	3.4%	0.0%	0.0%	1.1%	0.0%	2.0%	2.4%
Environment protection	1.1%	1.4%	0.0%	1.0%	0.7%	0.0%	2.6%	3.0%
Distribution of land ownership certificate	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	1.8%	0.6%	2.2%	0.4%

Table 5.12.3: In the past one year, did you participate in preparing the local development plans of your rural municipality/municipality/ward or while implementing those plans/programs? (N= 7,056)

### 5.13. VIEWS ON ELECTED OFFICIALS

Nepalis are more likely to believe that their ward chairperson and ward members care about them more than their mayor and deputy mayor cares about them (Figure 5.13.1).

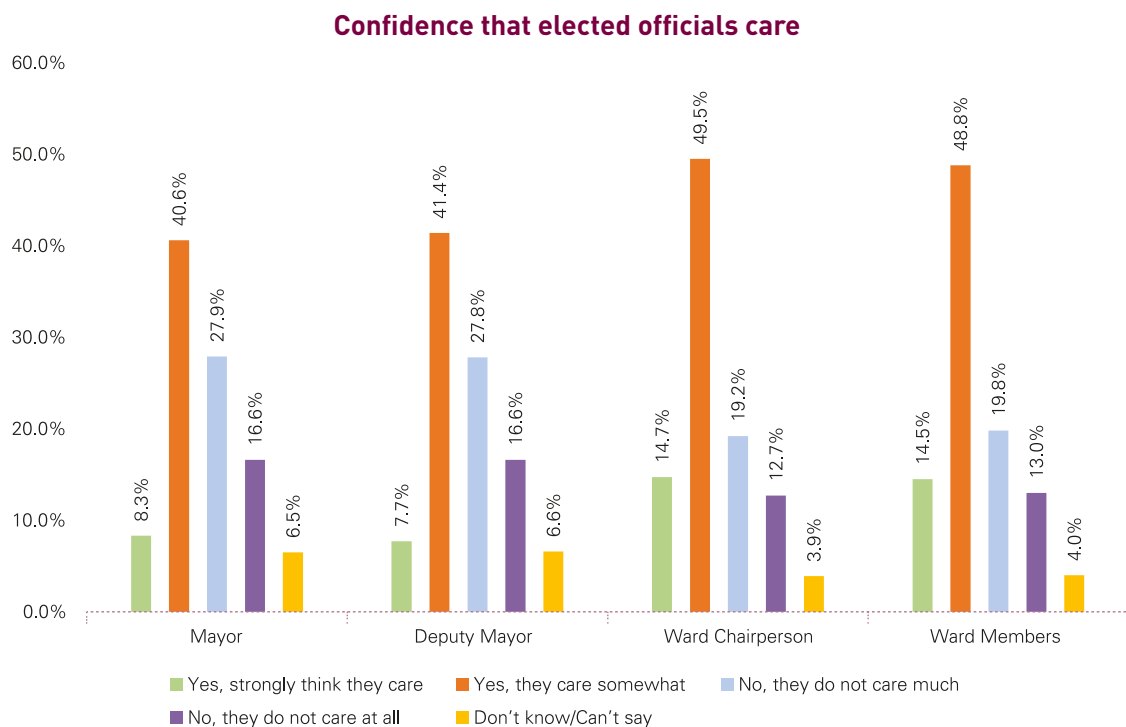


Figure 5.13.1: What do you think about the people who are elected to the government bodies? Do you think they care about people like you? (N = 7,056)

While more respondents from Bagmati Province and Province 1 believe that their elected local representatives care about them, respondents from Madhesh and Karnali provinces are less likely to believe so.

### Confidence that elected officials care, by province

		Overall	Province 1	Madhesh Province	Bagmati Province	Gandaki Province	Lumbini Province	Karnali Province	Sudurpashchim Province
Mayor	Care	48.9%	56.7%	38.7%	57.7%	51.8%	42.4%	38.0%	54.7%
	Don't care	44.5%	39.6%	50.0%	38.3%	43.1%	48.1%	54.8%	43.2%
	Don't know	6.5%	3.7%	11.2%	4.0%	5.1%	9.4%	7.2%	2.1%
Deputy Mayor	Care	49.1%	56.7%	38.6%	56.3%	52.0%	44.8%	38.0%	54.8%
	Don't care	44.4%	39.6%	50.2%	39.7%	42.9%	45.4%	54.8%	43.2%
	Don't know	6.6%	3.7%	11.2%	4.0%	5.1%	9.7%	7.2%	2.1%
Ward chairperson	Care	64.2%	73.0%	49.4%	70.6%	69.8%	63.8%	52.8%	69.8%
	Don't care	31.9%	25.1%	42.0%	27.4%	28.0%	32.1%	40.5%	29.7%
	Don't know	3.9%	1.9%	8.6%	2.0%	2.2%	4.1%	6.7%	0.6%
Ward members	Care	63.3%	73.9%	46.2%	69.5%	71.6%	62.8%	52.0%	68.1%
	Don't care	32.8%	24.3%	44.9%	28.3%	26.1%	32.6%	41.3%	31.6%
	Don't know	4.0%	1.7%	8.9%	2.1%	2.2%	4.6%	6.7%	0.3%

Table 5.13.1: What do you think about the people who are elected to the government bodies?  
Do you think they care about people like you? (N = 7,056)

### Contact with elected local representatives

In the past year, a small proportion of respondents (13.9%) report having approached their local elected representatives to resolve their personal or community-level problems. More respondents from Province 1 (23.1%) and Sudurpashchim Province (19.9%) report having approached their local representatives than those from other provinces. Respondents from Karnali (9.1%), Lumbini (9.5%) and Madhesh provinces (9.8%) are least likely to approach their local elected representatives to resolve their personal or community-level problems.

More than two-thirds of respondents who approached their elected local representatives for help in the last year report being satisfied with their experience. Around 14.8% report being "very satisfied," and 49.3% report being "somewhat satisfied."

## 5.14. VIEWS ON RESPONSIVENESS OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT

More than two-thirds of respondents (68.8%) report that the local government's responsiveness has remained the same compared to last year. One in five respondents (22.8%) believe that the responsiveness of local government has improved—a sharp decline from 58.9% in 2020 and 48.8% in 2018.

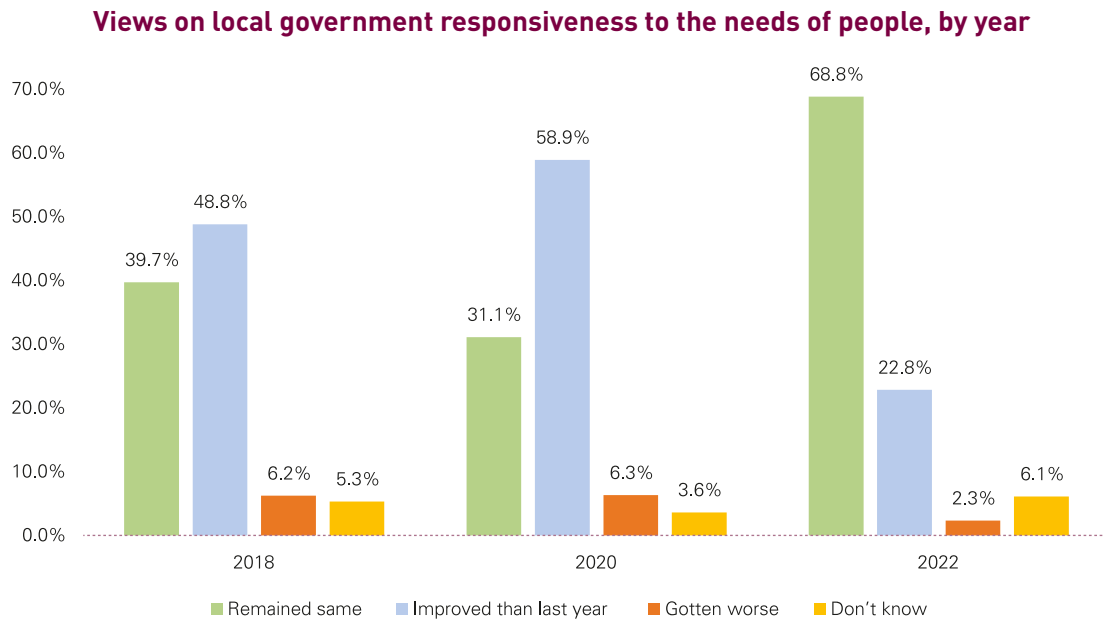


Figure 5.14.1: Compared to the past year, to what extent do you think the local government (Municipality/rural municipality) has become responsive to the needs of people? (N =7,056)

### Overall satisfaction with services delivered by the local government

While more than half of respondents (57.2%) report being satisfied with services delivered by their local government, a sizeable share (42.8%) say they are not satisfied. The share of those who are satisfied with services delivered by their local government has decreased from 68.3% in 2020 to 57.2% in 2022, while the proportion of those who are dissatisfied has increased from 30.9% in 2020 to 42.8% in 2022.

The highest satisfaction with local government services can be seen in Lumbini and Gandaki provinces; around seven in 10 respondents residing in Lumbini Province (71.1%) and Gandaki Province (70%) say they are satisfied with the services provided by their respective local governments. The highest share of respondents who are dissatisfied with local government services are from Madhesh Province (60.6%), followed by Bagmati Province (53%), compared to the national average (42.8%).



### Overall satisfaction with regards to services delivered by the local government, by province

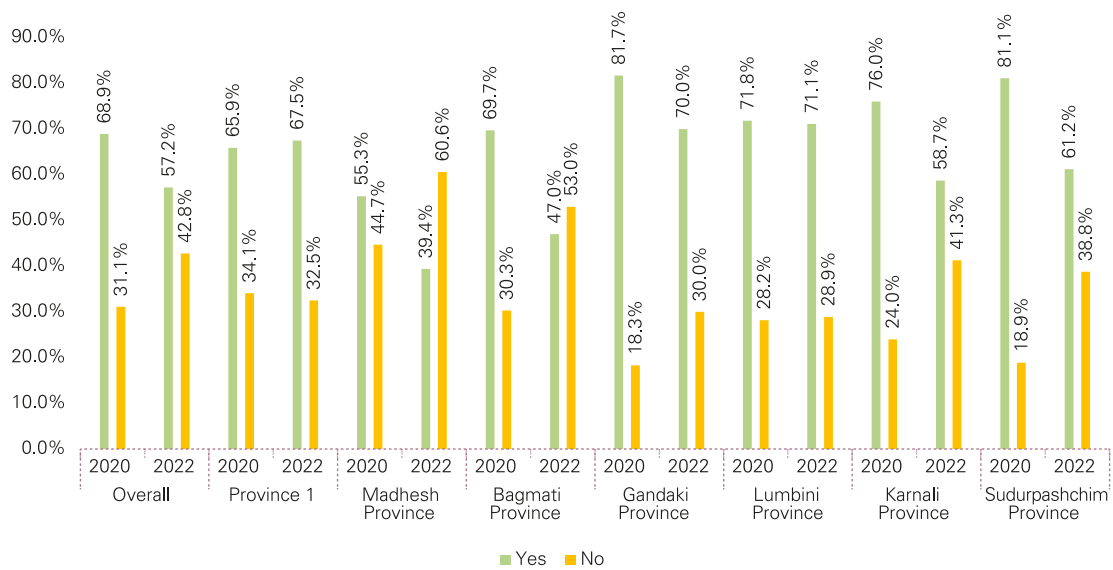


Figure 5.14.2: Overall, are you satisfied from the services delivered by the local government (rural municipality / urban municipality) of your area? (N = 7,006) (Response as 'Refused to Answer' is not included)

### Satisfaction with education, health, and road services delivered by local government

The survey also asked respondents to rate their satisfaction with the service provided by their local government in the education, health, and road sectors on a scale of 0 to 10, with 0 representing “highly dissatisfied,” and 10 representing “highly satisfied.” The overall satisfaction level for these services ranges from 5.7 to 6.25 (Table 5.6.1).

### Average level of satisfaction with education, health, and road-related services, by year

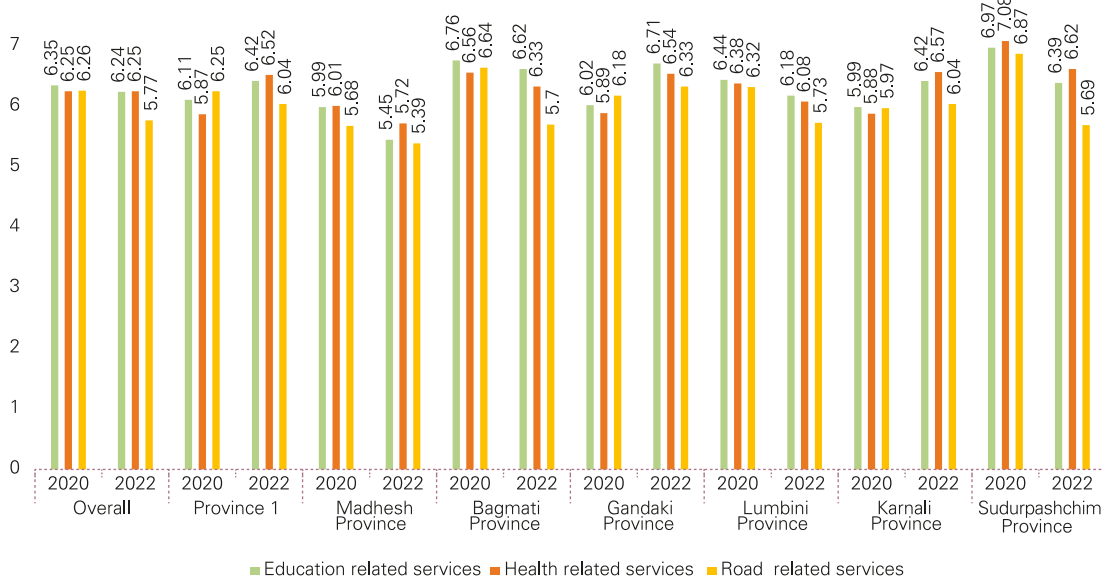


Figure 5.14.3: How satisfied are you with the education, health and road related services provided by the rural municipality/municipality in your areas? [Rate the level of your satisfaction in a scale of 0 to 10; while 0 represent highly dissatisfied, 5 represent neither dissatisfied nor satisfied and 10 represents extremely satisfied] (N =7,056)

## 5.15. LOCAL ELECTION

In an attempt to document the views of Nepalis on the second round of local elections held on May 13, 2022, the survey asked questions regarding respondents' participation in the local election, satisfaction with the results of the election, expectations from the local election, free and fairness of the local election, reasons for voting, and access to polling booths.

Around four out of five respondents (79.8%) report that they voted in the local election<sup>18</sup> and a large majority (89.2%) believe that elections were free and fair. Around one-third (33.1%) report being "very happy" and about half (51.4%) as being "happy" with the results.

When asked about the impacts of local elections on their lives, slightly more than half of respondents (56.3%) believe that it will improve their quality of life and a sizeable share of respondents (31.5%) think that it will not have any impact.

The respondents who say they believe that local elections will improve their quality of life gave the following reasons: improvement in public service delivery (53.4%), better accountability of leaders (46.8%), and local leaders' inclination towards addressing community needs (45.7%). More respondents from Sudurpashchim (68.0%) and Gandaki provinces (63.5%) believe that local elected officials are more likely to address their community's needs and concerns, whereas more respondents from Province 1 consider that public service delivery will improve.

### Reasons for expected improvement in the quality of life

	Overall	Province 1	Madhesh Province	Bagmati Province	Gandaki Province	Lumbini Province	Karnali Province	Sudurpashchim Province
Public service delivery will improve	53.4%	70.6%	53.3%	47.6%	44.5%	44.5%	54.3%	53.4%
People can better hold their leaders accountable	46.8%	49.1%	51.5%	39.5%	43.2%	52.4%	48.4%	41.8%
Local elected officials are more likely to address the needs and concerns in the community	45.7%	33.7%	37.8%	44.2%	63.5%	49.9%	45.2%	68.0%
It is a positive break from the past	13.7%	12.3%	11.6%	19.2%	7.5%	14.0%	20.0%	9.8%
More local leaders are from the political party I support	6.2%	8.6%	2.5%	7.3%	8.5%	4.2%	10.6%	5.7%
It is easier for me and my family to become a local leader	5.8%	6.1%	4.3%	8.7%	4.1%	1.6%	15.5%	5.0%
Easier to report abuses	5.5%	8.5%	4.4%	3.3%	2.7%	7.1%	6.5%	5.9%
More local leaders are from my caste/ethnicity	5.4%	6.5%	4.6%	4.7%	4.4%	4.8%	13.1%	4.2%

<sup>18</sup> According to the records of the Election Commission of Nepal, 64% of registered voters had cast their vote in the local election of 2017. Compared to ECN data more individuals in our sample reported voting during the local election.

	Overall	Province 1	Madhesh Province	Bagmati Province	Gandaki Province	Lumbini Province	Karnali Province	Sudurpashchim Province
More local leaders are from my religion	3.1%	4.6%	2.4%	1.9%	3.4%	3.1%	4.6%	2.9%
More local leaders are women	3.0%	1.8%	1.6%	1.7%	4.2%	3.8%	13.6%	3.5%
I will be less likely to pay bribes	2.6%	4.3%	1.0%	3.5%	1.0%	1.1%	8.1%	1.3%
There will be peaceful society	2.6%	5.4%	0.6%	1.1%	1.1%	2.8%	3.9%	4.8%
More leaders are elected through quotas	2.4%	2.7%	0.9%	3.9%	2.6%	1.1%	5.5%	1.7%

Table 5.15.1: Why do you think that quality of life will improve? (N = 3,966)

### Basis of voting

The survey further asked the 79.8% of those who voted in the local elections to mention the basis on which they decided to cast a vote. Almost two-fifths of respondents (39.2%) mention that they liked the candidate who stood for a political party, while one-quarter mention that they liked the independent candidate for his/her principles (Table 5.15.2).

### Basis of voting, by province

	Overall	Province 1	Madhesh Province	Bagmati Province	Gandaki Province	Lumbini Province	Karnali Province	Sudurpashchim Province
I liked the candidate who had stood from the political party	39.2%	41.2%	47.5%	33.3%	28.0%	40.4%	45.0%	35.2%
I liked the independent candidate and the principles he/she stood for	24.0%	19.1%	22.7%	30.4%	16.6%	26.1%	14.3%	31.7%
This political party/candidate will bring development and provide services in our area	23.6%	25.8%	15.0%	19.4%	31.8%	27.8%	15.9%	36.6%
I know this candidate so I voted for him/her	23.1%	26.3%	22.0%	24.3%	22.1%	20.5%	26.7%	19.5%
This political party stands for change	19.4%	20.1%	26.0%	16.1%	15.4%	17.6%	14.3%	21.2%
This party/candidate is working for people's right	17.1%	18.7%	13.5%	16.1%	22.6%	20.4%	17.0%	12.8%
I liked the candidate principles, vision etc.	14.2%	13.6%	16.6%	14.7%	12.0%	7.6%	18.7%	21.2%
I know that this party/candidate will win the election and so voted for him/her	9.0%	10.7%	9.1%	9.2%	12.8%	4.7%	11.4%	8.3%

	Overall	Province 1	Madhesh Province	Bagmati Province	Gandaki Province	Lumbini Province	Karnali Province	Sudurpashchim Province
My friends and family members told me to do so	8.8%	7.9%	2.9%	13.1%	5.1%	7.0%	21.7%	11.7%
I liked the candidate's election campaign	6.7%	7.9%	2.3%	8.0%	3.4%	5.8%	16.4%	9.2%
This candidate has a good political experience	6.5%	7.0%	9.3%	6.8%	3.8%	4.2%	6.5%	5.8%
My friends and family members were voting for this party/candidate	6.3%	6.5%	3.5%	8.7%	4.1%	5.4%	14.8%	5.2%
This party/candidate is clean and not engaged in corruption	4.9%	5.8%	5.6%	5.1%	3.4%	1.4%	7.6%	7.2%
Candidate is my family members/relatives/ friends	3.4%	3.1%	1.4%	4.4%	1.6%	1.7%	8.2%	8.1%
The cadres of this party convinced me to vote for it	2.9%	1.9%	2.2%	2.7%	2.4%	3.3%	8.3%	3.2%
I liked the social media campaign of this candidate/party	0.9%	1.0%	0.1%	2.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.8%	2.2%
This candidate belongs to my caste/ethnic group so I voted for him/her	0.9%	1.4%	1.1%	0.4%	0.3%	0.0%	1.9%	2.2%
This candidate is a woman and being a woman myself, I voted for her	0.5%	0.1%	0.2%	0.5%	0.7%	0.7%	1.5%	0.8%
This candidate provided the incentives	0.3%	0.6%	0.5%	0.0%	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
Prefer not to answer	0.2%	0.0%	0.6%	0.0%	0.1%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%

Table 5.15.2: On what basis did you decide who to vote for? (N = 5,625)

### Ease of voting

The survey further asked respondents who voted in the local elections (79.2% of total respondents) about how easy the process was for them in their respective polling booth.

Most respondents report “very easy” (20.5%) and “easy” (74.1%) polling experiences. The reasons they felt the process was easy include proximity to polling booths (60.9%), easy accessibility to polling booths (36.3%), and easily understandable ballot paper (35.9%).

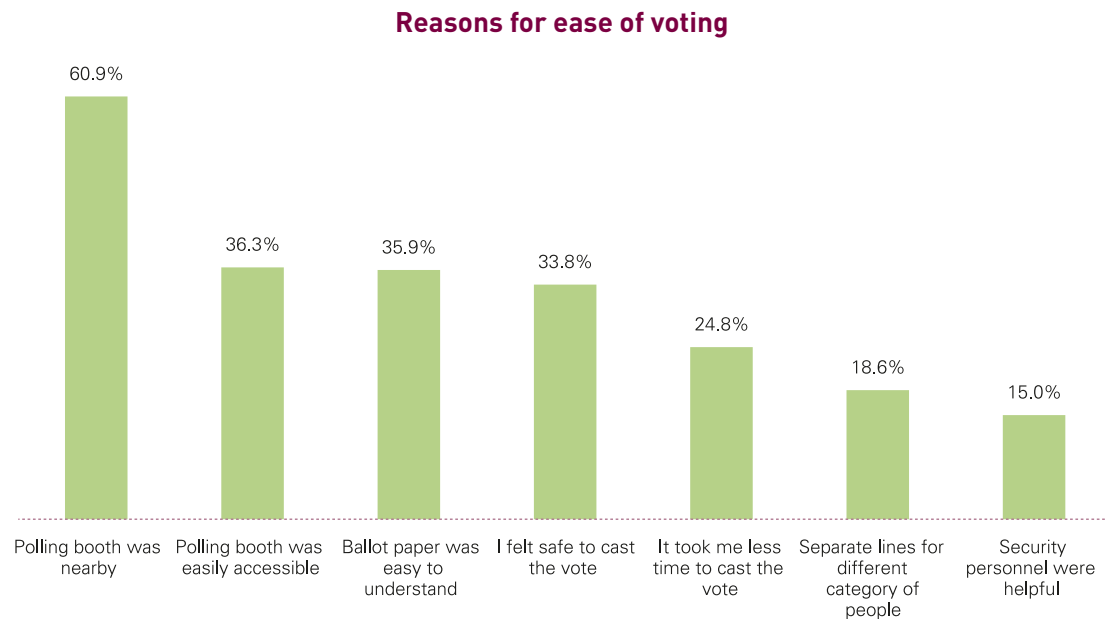


Figure 5.15.1: What made it easier for you to vote? (N = 5,319)



Photo by: Carolyn O' Donnell

## 6. ECONOMIC OUTLOOK AND ACCESS TO INFORMATION

### 6.1. PERCEPTIONS OF LOCAL ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

Nepalis are largely of the view that economic conditions have stayed the same in their municipality. Only one out of five respondents (20.7%) feels that local economic conditions are improving (Figure 6.1.1). The level of positivity in economic outlook has dropped by half from 2020, while the share of respondents who think economic conditions have neither improved nor deteriorated is the highest compared to previous rounds of surveys (68.1%). Data shows that residents from Madhesh Province are the least likely to report improved economic conditions (14.5%), while those from Province 1 are the most positive (28.8%).

Views on local economic conditions, by year

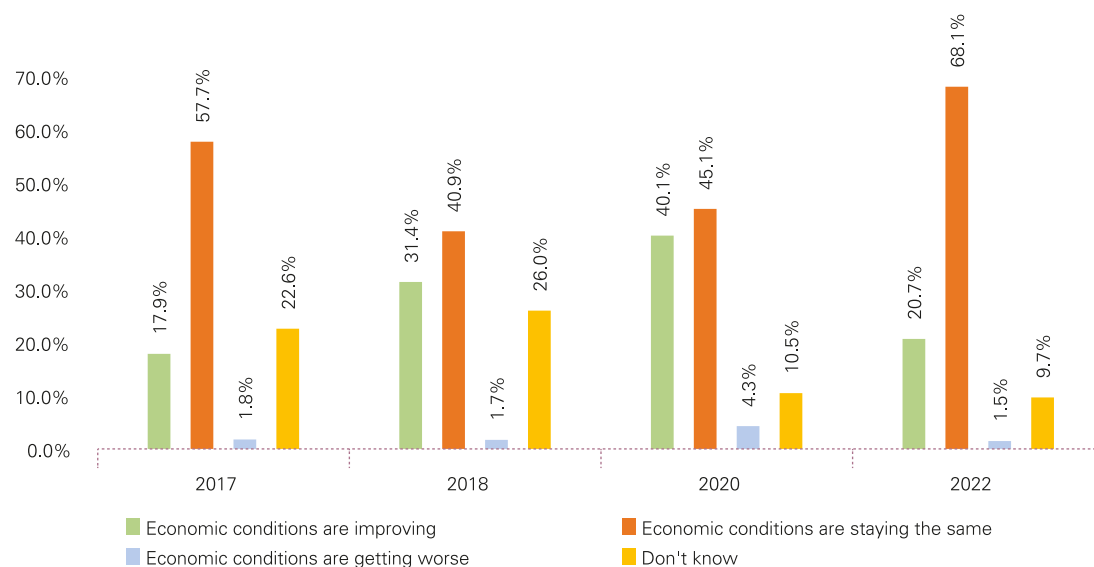


Figure 6.1.1: Do you think economic conditions in your municipality/rural municipality are improving? (N = 7,055) (Response as 'Refused to Answer' is not included)



Regarding the improvement of local economic conditions in respondents' municipalities/rural municipalities, less fluctuation was observed in Province 1, and more fluctuation was seen in Sudurpashchim and Gandaki provinces. In Sudurpashchim Province, 22.6% of respondents believe that the economic condition of their municipality/rural municipality is improving. While the proportion in Sudurpashchim Province increased from 14.2% in 2017 to 25.9% in 2018, and 53.2% in 2020, a sharp decline was observed in 2022. Likewise in Province 1, the percentage of people perceiving improvements in the economic condition of their municipality/rural municipality decreased from 43.0% in 2018 to 36.0% in 2020, to 28.8% in 2022.

Across the provinces, the share of respondents who think their economic conditions are getting worse has marginally increased in Sudurpashchim Province from 0.6% in 2020 to 1.3% in 2022, whereas the proportion decreased from 9.8% in 2020 to 1.4% in 2022 in Madhesh Province.

### Views on local economic conditions, by province and year

	Year	Economic conditions are improving	Economic conditions are staying the same	Economic conditions are getting worse	Don't know
Overall	2017	17.9%	57.7%	1.8%	22.6%
	2018	31.4%	40.9%	1.7%	26.0%
	2020	40.1%	45.1%	4.3%	10.5%
	2022	20.7%	68.1%	1.5%	9.7%
Province 1	2017	20.7%	58.9%	1.2%	19.2%
	2018	43.0%	36.2%	1.5%	19.4%
	2020	36.0%	54.5%	3.9%	5.6%
	2022	28.8%	62.7%	1.4%	7.1%
Madhesh Province	2017	10.2%	72.4%	5.6%	11.8%
	2018	28.1%	46.5%	4.2%	21.1%
	2020	34.4%	42.6%	9.8%	13.2%
	2022	14.5%	78.3%	1.4%	5.8%
Bagmati Province	2017	14.3%	63.1%	1.1%	21.5%
	2018	18.6%	42.8%	0.9%	37.6%
	2020	39.5%	38.1%	5.0%	17.5%
	2022	21.0%	64.9%	2.5%	11.6%
Gandaki Province	2017	16.1%	52.2%	3.2%	28.5%
	2018	45.7%	34.2%	0.3%	19.7%
	2020	49.3%	43.6%	1.5%	5.6%
	2022	20.2%	71.1%	1.2%	7.5%
Lumbini Province	2017	26.0%	37.2%		36.7%
	2018	36.1%	30.0%	0.7%	33.3%
	2020	43.0%	46.7%	1.0%	9.3%
	2022	18.8%	62.4%	0.6%	18.2%
Karnali Province	2017	31.0%	50.0%	0.2%	18.8%
	2018	30.4%	45.5%	2.4%	21.8%
	2020	30.2%	54.5%	3.2%	12.1%
	2022	21.7%	61.7%	1.7%	14.8%

	Year	Economic conditions are improving	Economic conditions are staying the same	Economic conditions are getting worse	Don't know
Sudurpashchim Province	2017	14.2%	61.9%	0.5%	23.4%
	2018	25.9%	54.9%	1.4%	17.8%
	2020	53.2%	42.2%	0.6%	4.0%
	2022	22.6%	74.7%	1.3%	1.3%

Table 6.1.1: Do you think economic conditions in your municipality/rural municipality are improving? (N=7,055) (Response as 'Refused to Answer' is not included)

The 20.7% of respondents who said that economic conditions in their municipality are getting better were further asked to provide their reasons for saying so. Frequently cited reasons include better infrastructure (56.5%), improving water supply (24.4%), and increased municipal budget (16.1%). Respondents in Sudurpashchim see better infrastructure as the main reason for their positive economic outlook, while in Bagmati Province, respondents cite more investment opportunities as a major reason.

### Reasons why local economic conditions are improving

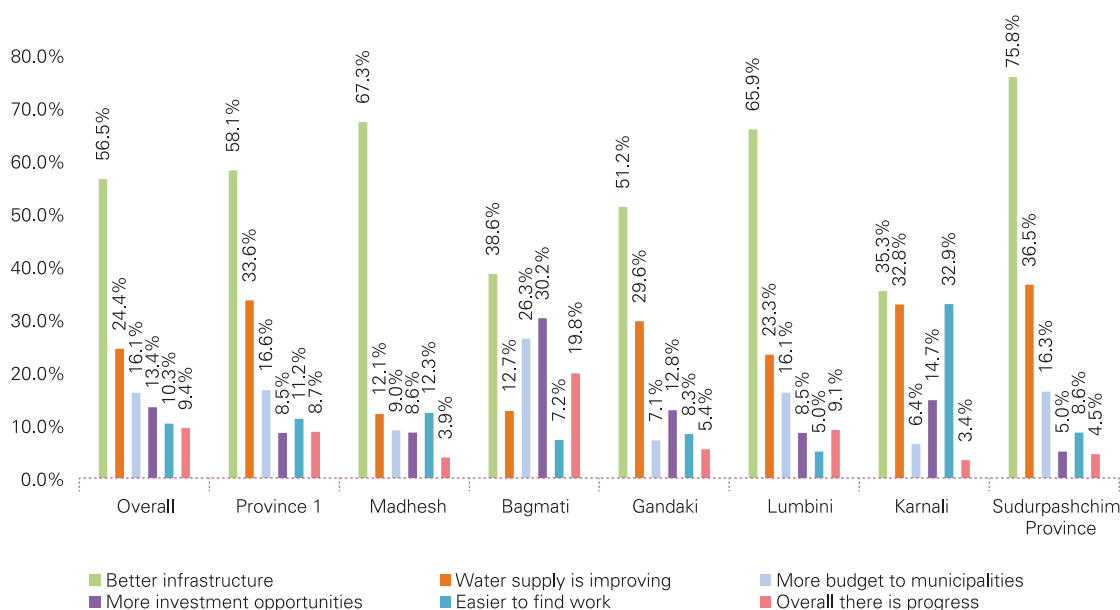


Figure 6.1.2: [If 'Yes, economic conditions are improving'] Why do you think that economic conditions are improving in your municipality /rural municipality? (N=1,463)<sup>19</sup>

19 In SNP 2017 and 2018 respondent were limited to give the two major reason for improvement in economic condition of their respective urban municipality/rural municipality, however in 2020 and 2022 respondent are allowed to give multiple responses. To fairly compare the responses of people regarding to main reason for improvement in economic condition of their respective urban municipality/rural municipality, in four different survey period, first two responses of respondent in 2020 and 2022 are considered and analyzed.

Although a small share (1.5%) responded that the economic conditions in their respective municipalities are getting worse, 39.2% of them considered it is due to more corruption and bribes, followed by deteriorating infrastructure (23.5%), and harder-to-find-work (15.5%). The share of those who say their economic conditions are getting worse due to harder-to-find work has decreased from 29.3% in 2017 to 15.5% in 2022. With the exception of SNP 2020, the proportion of respondents who think that their economic conditions are getting worse due to more corruption and bribery has increased (31.1% in 2017, 32.1% in 2018 and 39.2% in 2022). There has also been an increment in the proportion of respondents who think that degradation of infrastructure is the reason for the worsening economic conditions of their respective municipalities (12.6% in 2017, 23.5% in 2022).

## 6.2. HOUSEHOLD AND PERSONAL INCOME

### Household income

The survey gauged the level of personal and household incomes of respondents by asking them to disclose their monthly personal and household income brackets in intervals of NPR 10,000.

Overall, a little more than half of Nepalis (50.9%) report that their average household earning is more than NPR 20,000 per month, and one-third of respondents (33.9%) report that it is between NPR 10,000-19,999 per month. The share of respondents who report earning less than NPR 10,000 per month is 13.7%.

The proportion of respondents who mention that their monthly household income is less than NPR 10,000 is decreasing, whereas the proportion mentioning their household income is NPR 40,000 or greater is increasing. Compared to 2020, more respondents in 2022 mentioned that their household income range is within NPR 10,000-19,999 per month, while those who report that their income bracket is NPR 10,000-19,999 per month decreased in 2022 by 2.6 percentage point compared to 2020 (16.3%).

### Average monthly household income last year, by year

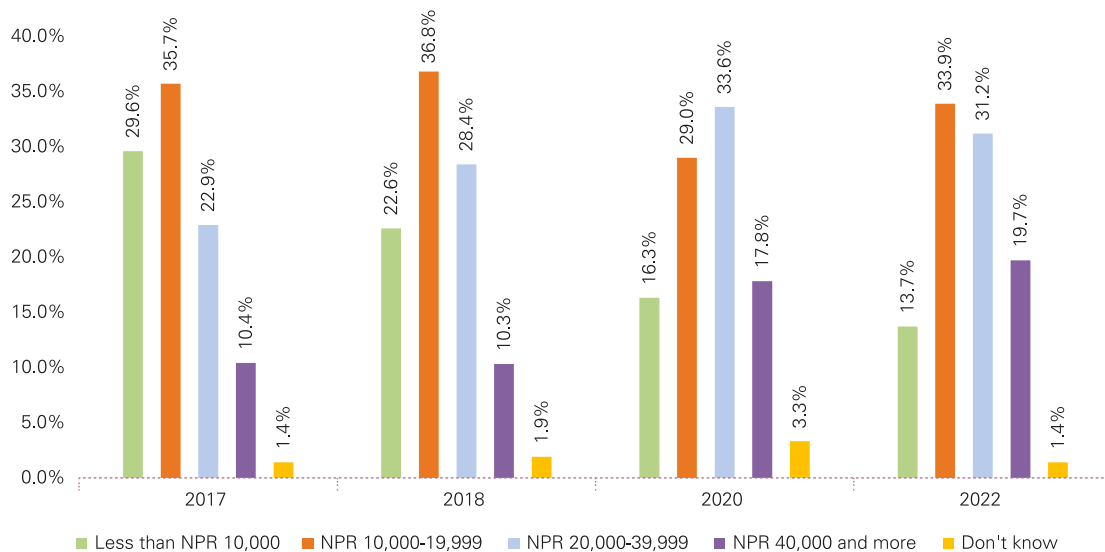


Figure 6.2.1: Approximately how much was your household income per month in the last year? (N = 6,866) (Response as 'Refused to Answer' is not included)

Across the provinces, the highest share of respondents from Gandaki (29.9%) and Bagmati provinces (29.7%) are likely to state that their monthly household income is more than NPR 40,000. About one-fifth of respondents from Karnali (21.4%) and Lumbini provinces (20.4%) are likely to report having a monthly household income of less than NPR 10,000. Over the years, there has been a considerable decline in the share of respondents from Sudurpashchim Province who say their income is below NPR 10,000. In 2017, while Sudurpashchim Province had the highest share of respondents who reported having an income below NPR 10,000 (38.9%), this proportion has declined to just 16.3% in 2022. Some 47% of respondents in Lumbini Province, followed by 44.7% in Sudurpashchim Province state that their monthly household income is between NPR 10,000 to 19,999. In Madhesh Province, the proportion of respondents who mention that their household income is less than NPR 20,000 has decreased in 2022, while there has been an increase in those who state their monthly household income is more than NPR 20,000. Likewise in 2022, respondents from Karnali Province who state that their household income is less than NPR 10,000 has decreased and the proportion of respondents with monthly household incomes of more than NPR 10,000 has increased. (Table 6.2.1).

### Average monthly household income, by province and year

	Year	Less than NPR 10,000	NPR 10,000-19,999	NPR 20,000-39,999	More than NPR 40,000	Don't Know
Overall	2017	29.6%	35.7%	23.0%	10.4%	1.4%
	2018	22.6%	36.8%	28.4%	10.3%	1.9%
	2020	16.3%	29.0%	33.6%	17.8%	3.3%
	2022	13.7%	33.9%	31.2%	19.7%	1.5%
Province 1	2017	33.6%	36.0%	21.7%	7.2%	1.5%
	2018	21.2%	43.4%	25.9%	8.3%	1.2%
	2020	18.3%	33.7%	33.3%	14.5%	0.2%
	2022	12.0%	32.7%	33.6%	21.3%	0.3%
Madhesh Province	2017	24.2%	41.1%	24.4%	8.9%	1.3%
	2018	29.2%	35.3%	25.5%	7.6%	2.5%
	2020	24.0%	35.8%	27.4%	10.0%	2.8%
	2022	13.0%	28.3%	38.4%	20.1%	0.3%
Bagmati Province	2017	20.6%	26.2%	29.3%	22.0%	1.9%
	2018	13.6%	34.2%	36.7%	14.3%	1.1%
	2020	8.4%	15.3%	31.2%	34.9%	10.2%
	2022	8.4%	26.6%	30.3%	29.7%	5.0%
Gandaki Province	2017	16.4%	37.3%	29.3%	16.7%	0.3%
	2018	13.1%	34.5%	32.9%	16.5%	3.0%
	2020	9.2%	28.6%	43.0%	18.2%	1.0%
	2022	9.5%	23.5%	36.4%	29.9%	0.7%

	Year	Less than NPR 10,000	NPR 10,000-19,999	NPR 20,000-39,999	More than NPR 40,000	Don't Know
Lumbini Province	2017	38.6%	39.0%	16.7%	4.4%	1.3%
	2018	27.9%	31.5%	26.4%	11.2%	3.0%
	2020	13.2%	28.9%	38.4%	16.9%	2.7%
	2022	20.3%	47.0%	22.2%	10.1%	0.4%
Karnali Province	2017	41.6%	40.7%	14.6%	2.2%	0.9%
	2018	30.2%	42.8%	20.2%	4.1%	2.7%
	2020	30.7%	35.4%	25.5%	7.2%	1.2%
	2022	21.4%	39.4%	27.2%	9.5%	2.5%
Sudurpashchim Province	2017	38.9%	34.2%	20.1%	5.2%	1.6%
	2018	26.0%	41.6%	25.3%	6.9%	0.1%
	2020	15.7%	31.8%	40.8%	11.7%	0.0%
	2022	16.3%	44.7%	29.0%	9.9%	0.2%

Table 6.2.1: Approximately how much was your household income per month in the last year?  
(N = 6,886) (Response as 'Refused to Answer' is not included)

Residents of Hill regions (54.2%) and Terai regions (50.7%) are more likely to have an income of NPR 20,000 and above compared to residents of Mountain regions (30.8%). Residents of Mountain regions (24.7%) are twice as likely to report that their household's monthly income is less than NPR 10,000 than an average Nepali (13.7%). About 6.1% of respondents from the Madhesi Dalit group report having an income of NPR 40,000 or above; this share is more than five times lower than the result reported by respondents in the Madhesi Caste (Level 1) group (28.1%). About 43.9% of people in the Madhesi Caste (Level 1) group, followed by the Madhesi Caste (Level 2) group (35.7%) report that their monthly household income is between NPR 20,000-40,000. However, respondents in the Madhesi Caste (Level 1) group (3.5%), are less likely to have a household income below NPR 10,000 than those in the Madhesi Dalit group (28.0%).

### Changes in household income

Household income remained the same for most respondents (71.1%) compared to the previous year. However, one in ten Nepalis (10%) say that within a year, their household income has declined. More respondents reported increased household income (17.3%) than those who reported a decrease (10.0%), except in Bagmati Province (9.5% vs. 10.5%).

This question has been asked across the past four surveys. On aggregate, the biggest increase in household income compared to the previous year was seen in 2020. There was a sharp drop of those reporting increased household incomes this year, and a larger share of people reporting decreased household incomes. Once again, people with more education or higher incomes reported an increase in household incomes compared to those with less education.

### Change in household income over the last year, by year

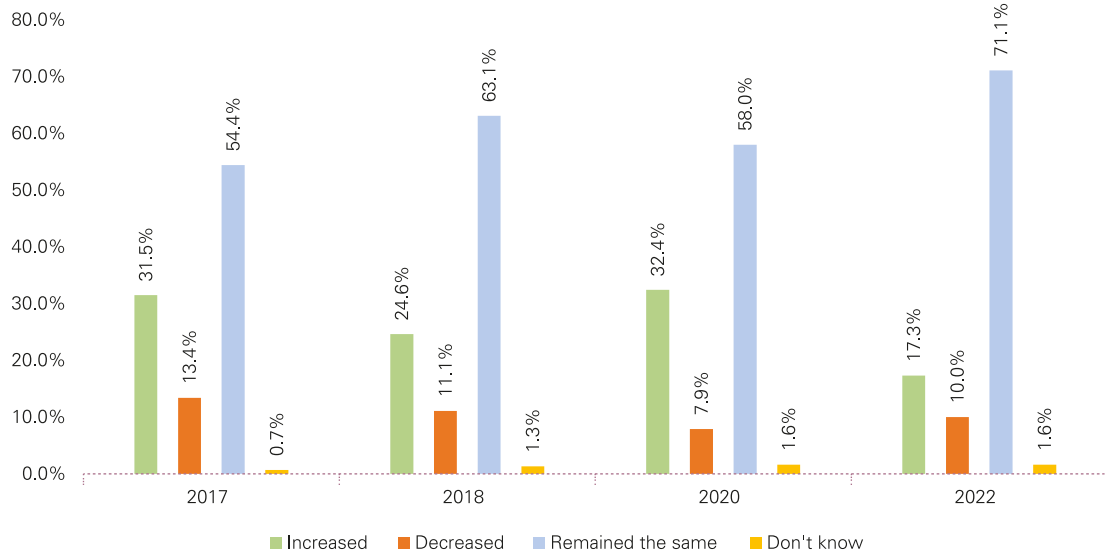


Figure 6.2.2: How has your household income changed in the last year? (N = 7,056)

### Personal income

Besides monthly household income, the survey also asked about the personal monthly incomes of respondents. For this question, the highest share of respondents (32.5%) either refused to answer or mentioned no source of monthly income (Figure 6.2.3.). On closer look, these respondents are mainly students and people who are engaged in agriculture or household work. Female respondents are twice as likely to refuse to answer personal monthly income as male respondents.

About one-third of all respondents report a personal monthly income of NPR 20,000 or more (33.5%)—about the same size as those earning less than NPR 10,000 (37%).

Responses about personal income vary slightly across the provinces. A higher share of respondents from Lumbini (56.0%), Karnali (50.2%) and Sudurpashchim provinces (49.7%) report that their monthly income is less than NPR 10,000. In contrast, more respondents from Madhesh (45.8%) and Bagmati provinces (42.3%) report that their monthly income is NPR 20,000 and more.

### Personal income, by province

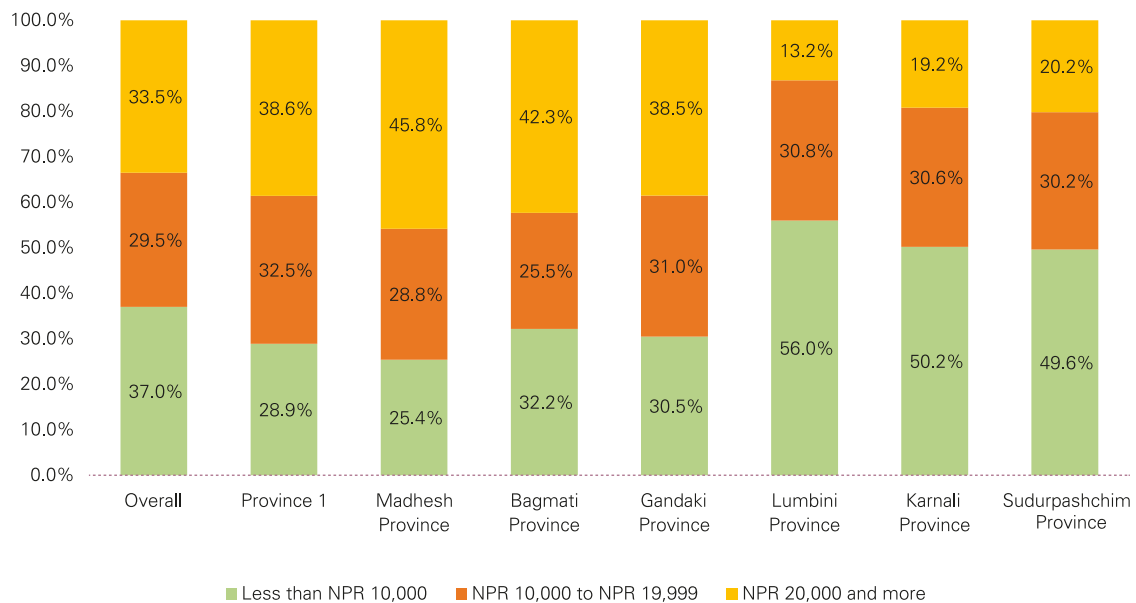


Figure 6.2.3: What is your present level of personal income that you earn per month in the last year? (N = 4,760) (Response as 'Refused to Answer' is not included)

Higher incomes are associated with higher levels of education. For instance, three-quarters of respondents (73.5%) with a bachelor's degree and above report a personal income of more than NPR 20,000 per month, whereas 21.4% of respondents with no formal education report the same.

### 6.3. MIGRATION AND REMITTANCES

About one-quarter of Nepalis (24.5%) report having at least one family member working in a foreign country; this is a similar trend from past years, with a marginal decline in 2022 (Figure 6.3.1). At the province level, respondents from Bagmati Province (14.7%) are less likely, and those in Gandaki Province (35.3%), followed by Sudurpashchim (33.1%) and Karnali provinces (30.4%) are more likely to report at least one family member working in a foreign country.



### Having a family member working in a foreign country, by province and year

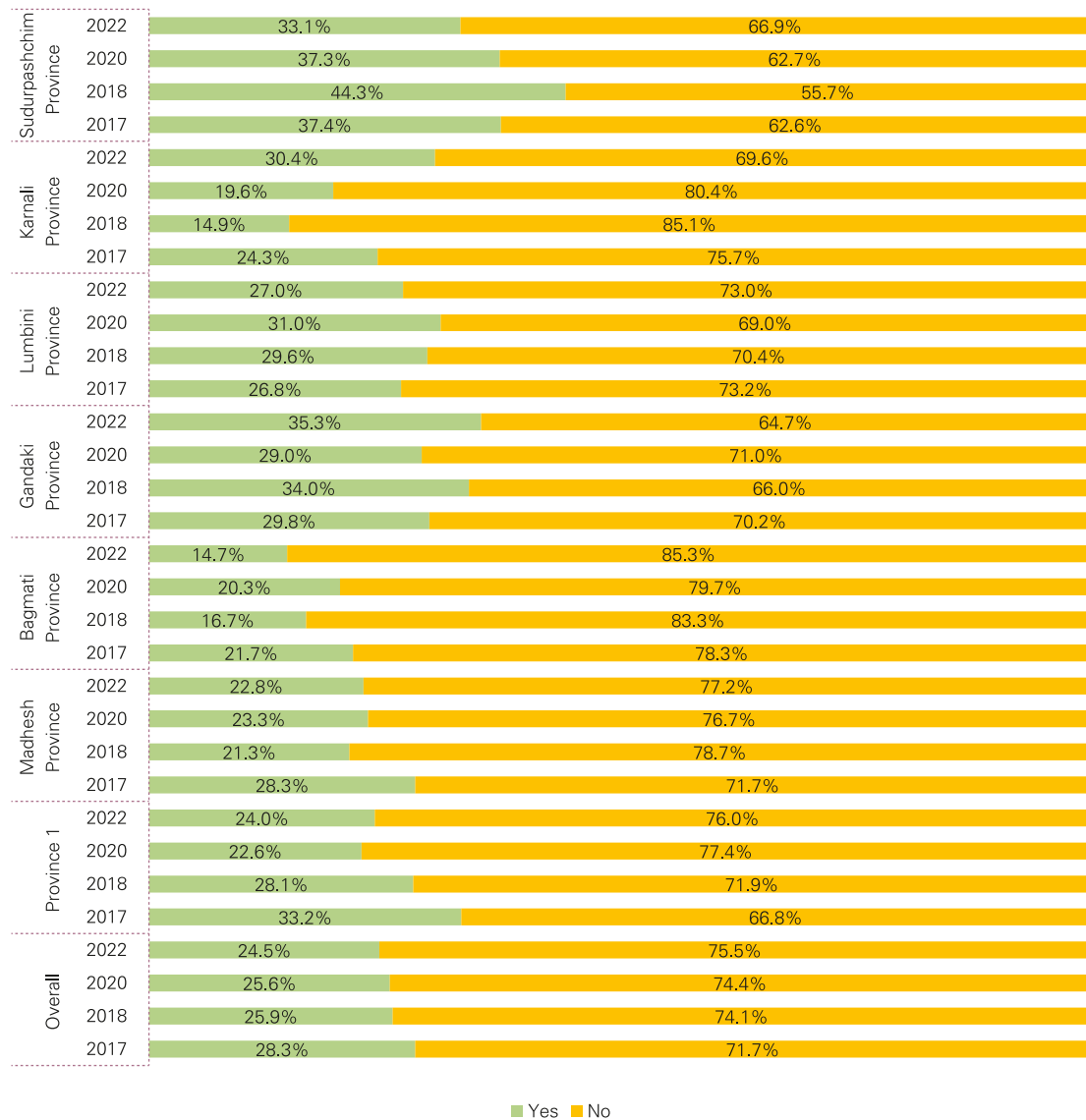


Figure 6.3.1: Is anyone in your family currently in a foreign country for work?  
(N = 7,055) (Response as 'Refused to Answer' is not included)

The 24.5% of respondents with a family member working abroad were further asked if their family members faced any problem; a majority (93.2%) mentioned they did not face any problems. A small proportion cite differences in the payment than what was agreed upon (3.2%), physical injuries or illness (1.9%), and different work than what was promised (1.5%).

The survey attempted to understand whether respondents encouraged their family members, friends, relatives, and other people they know to seek foreign employment. Similar to data recorded in 2020, in 2022, two-thirds of Nepalis (67.1%) are less likely to encourage people they know to seek foreign employment.

### Encouragement to seek foreign employment, by year

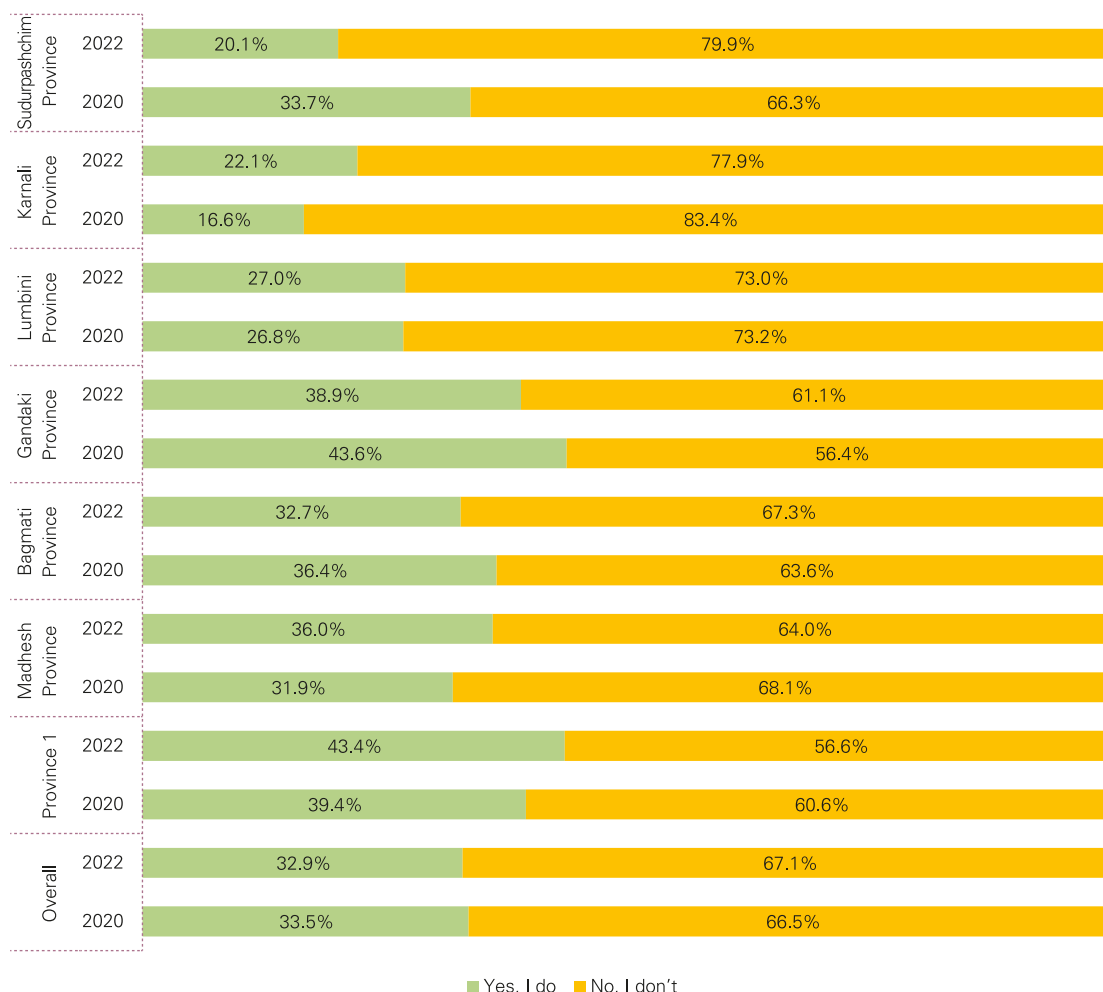


Figure 6.3.2: Do you encourage your family members, friends, relatives, and other people you know to go for foreign employment? (N = 7,036) (Response as 'Refused to Answer' is not included)

Residents of Province 1 (43.4%), Gandaki (38.9%), and Madhesh Province (36.0%) are more inclined to say that they encourage their friends and family to seek foreign employment than residents of other provinces.

### Remittances

The survey data show an increasing trend of Nepalis receiving remittances from within the country, at 13.2% in 2022 compared to 11.6% in 2020. Meanwhile, 19% report receiving remittances from outside Nepal in 2022, the lowest since SNP started recording remittances from outside Nepal. There is a gradual drop in the total respondents who report remittances are not applicable to them (Figure 6.3.4).

### Receipt of remittances, by year and province

	Year	From inside	From outside	From both inside and outside	Remittance not yet received	Not applicable	Don't know/ Can't say
Overall	2020	11.6%	19.6%	2.4%	8.9%	57.4%	0.1%
	2022	13.2%	19.0%	2.4%	4.2%	57.5%	3.7%
Province 1	2020	11.0%	19.4%	1.1%	6.4%	62.0%	0.1%
	2022	13.2%	17.2%	3.6%	6.8%	58.9%	0.3%
Madhesh Province	2020	16.6%	16.7%	4.6%	9.7%	52.5%	0.0%
	2022	12.1%	17.9%	1.9%	0.9%	58.6%	8.6%
Bagmati Province	2020	8.4%	15.8%	1.6%	9.4%	64.7%	0.1%
	2022	9.9%	11.5%	0.7%	2.3%	69.1%	6.6%
Gandaki Province	2020	6.6%	24.5%	1.7%	4.9%	62.3%	0.0%
	2022	9.4%	29.8%	2.9%	2.9%	53.4%	1.7%
Lumbini Province	2020	11.8%	23.5%	3.2%	9.9%	51.4%	0.2%
	2022	20.5%	20.0%	3.8%	4.4%	50.7%	0.6%
Karnali Province	2020	11.4%	9.9%	1.5%	13.3%	63.0%	1.0%
	2022	13.1%	22.5%	1.2%	5.4%	52.6%	5.2%
Sudurpashchim Province	2020	12.8%	28.5%	1.9%	9.4%	47.4%	0.0%
	2022	12.1%	27.1%	3.2%	10.9%	46.8%	0.0%

Table 6.3.1: In the past one year, have you or the members of your family received remittance from outside or inside the country? (N=7,045)<sup>20</sup> (Responses as 'Don't Know,' 'Remittance Not Yet Received' are not presented and responses as 'Refused to Answer' are not included.)

Nepalis residing in Gandaki (29.8%) and Sudurpashchim provinces (27.1%) are more likely to state that they receive remittances from outside the country. In contrast, the lowest share of respondents from Bagmati Province (11.5%) report the same. Across the ecological region, respondents from Hill regions (21.2%) are more likely to receive remittance from outside the country, while people from Mountain regions (15.4%) are more likely to receive remittances from inside the country. Across ethnicities, the highest share of respondents to receive remittances from outside the country are Hill Dalits (30.6%), followed by Musalmans (21.7%). In contrast, people from other cultural groups (24.0%) and Madhesis (Adibasi/Janajati) (19.1%) receive more remittance from inside the country.

#### Changes in remittance

The survey asked the 34.5% of respondents who said they received remittance from within the country, from outside the country, or both to further assess the changes in levels of remittances they received over the past year.

Slightly fewer people (25.7%) report that the remittance they receive has increased in 2022 compared to 2020 (29.6%), but it remains higher than what was recorded in 2017 (19.9%) and 2018 (22.2%). Residents of Bagmati Province (40.4%) and Province 1 (33.2%) are more likely to report that their level of remittance has increased than residents of other provinces. Likewise, the highest proportion of respondents from Sudurpashchim (74.0%) and Lumbini provinces (71.6%) report that the level of remittance they received over the year has remained the same. Across provinces, Bagmati

20 In SNP 2017 and 2018 respondent were asked "Have you or your family ever received remittance from inside or outside the country?", however in 2020 and 2022 they were asked "In the past one year, have you or the members of your family received remittance from outside or inside of the country?"

(42.4%) has the least share of respondents who say that their level of remittance over the year has remained the same.

**Use of remittances**

The survey asked the 34.5% of respondents who reported receiving remittances what they spend such money on.

Most Nepalis mentioned using the remittance for their daily life expenses (80.8%), healthcare and medical expenses (58.0%), and for children’s education (51.1%), followed by those who use it to pay off loans (25.4%) and to build a home (14.4%). A few say that the remittance is put towards savings in the bank (7.6%).

Between 2020 and 2022, while remittances used for household expenses, healthcare, education, and bank savings has increased, the share of people who use it to pay off loans has decreased from 36.9% in 2020 to 25.4% in 2022.

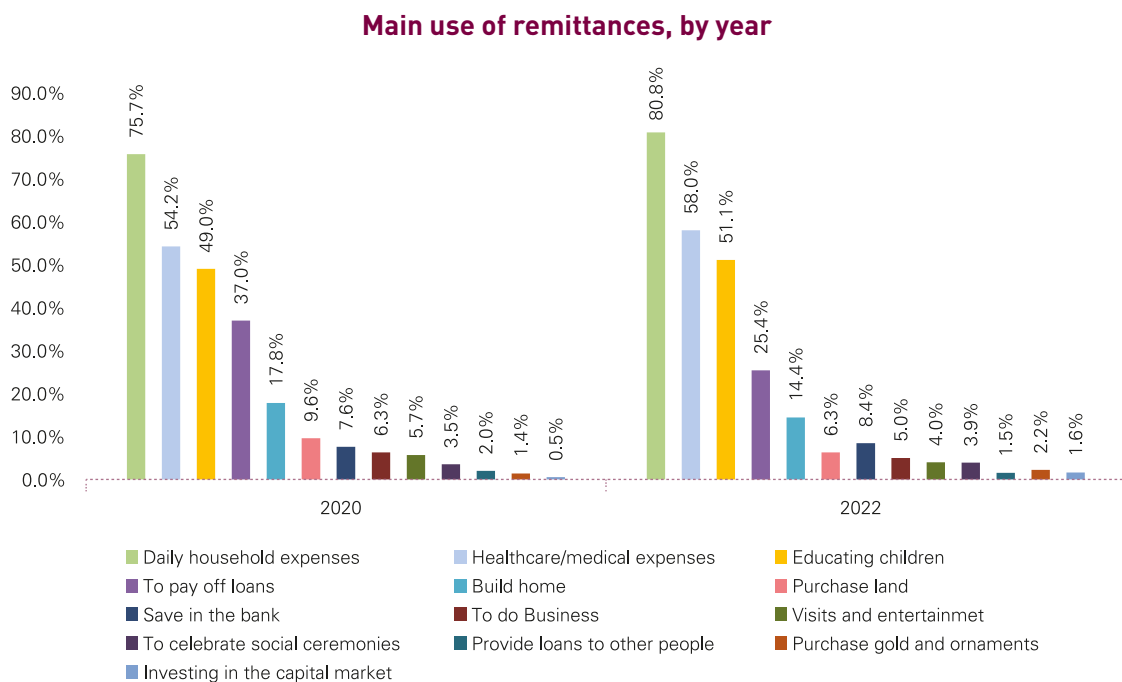


Figure 6.3.3: Generally for what purpose do you spend the remittance money that you or your family members receive? (N = 2,435)

**6.4. AWARENESS OF AND ACCESS TO INSURANCE**

The survey asked the respondents whether or not they heard about the different types of insurance read out to them by the enumerators. The survey found that life insurance (95.2%), health insurance (96.4%), and auto insurance (85.3%) are the most popular among the eight different types of insurance, while property insurance (64.6%) and travel insurance (55.2%) are among the least popular insurance types.

The survey also gauged whether respondents have taken the insurance they are aware of. Motor vehicle insurance (28.3%), medical insurance (23.5%), and life insurance (22.1%) are the most widely taken insurance by respondents.

Results show an increase in ownership of all eight types of insurance over time, while a considerable increase can be seen in the purchase of medical insurance (15.4%), followed by motor vehicle insurance (10.8%), and life insurance (6.9%) since 2018.

### Awareness and ownership of various types of insurance, by year

	2018		2020		2022	
	Aware	Own	Aware	Own	Aware	Own
Life Insurance	97.3%	15.2%	96.8%	19.7%	95.2%	22.1%
Personal/Accident Insurance	71.5%	4.9%	79.8%	6.2%	81.8%	7.6%
Auto Insurance	73.9%	17.5%	82.3%	23.9%	85.3%	28.3%
Health Insurance	80.6%	8.1%	87.4%	15.0%	96.4%	23.5%
Agricultural Insurance	58.4%	0.9%	66.4%	2.0%	74.4%	1.8%
Livestock Insurance	64.4%	3.2%	73.8%	6.2%	83.0%	7.1%
Property Insurance	50.2%	1.2%	51.8%	2.7%	64.6%	2.0%
Travel Insurance	56.3%	3.4%	59.6%	5.2%	55.2%	6.0%

Table 6.4.1. Have you heard of the following insurance? (N=6,269) and [If "Yes"] Do you have the following insurance? (Responses as 'Don't Know', 'Refused to Answer' and 'Not Applicable' are not included)

Awareness and ownership of different types of insurance increases with people's educational level. For instance, a higher proportion of respondents with a bachelor's degree and above (40.1%) have life insurance compared to respondents who are illiterate (12.2%). Likewise, life insurance is taken up by 23.6% of respondents in urban municipalities compared to 19.2% in rural municipalities. A significantly higher proportion of respondents in Province 1 (40.9%) have medical insurance, which is higher than the overall average (23.5%). Likewise, one-third of respondents from Gandaki (33.1%) and Bagmati provinces (31.8%) have auto insurance.

## 6.5. EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME GENERATION OPPORTUNITIES

Between 2018 and 2022, fewer respondents in 2022 feel there are more employment opportunities available in their local area; this proportion was 18.9% in 2018, and 22% in 2020, but dropped significantly to just 7.7% in 2022. More than two-thirds of Nepalis (68.1%) believe that employment opportunities in their local areas have remained the same.

### Employment and income generation opportunities in local area, by year

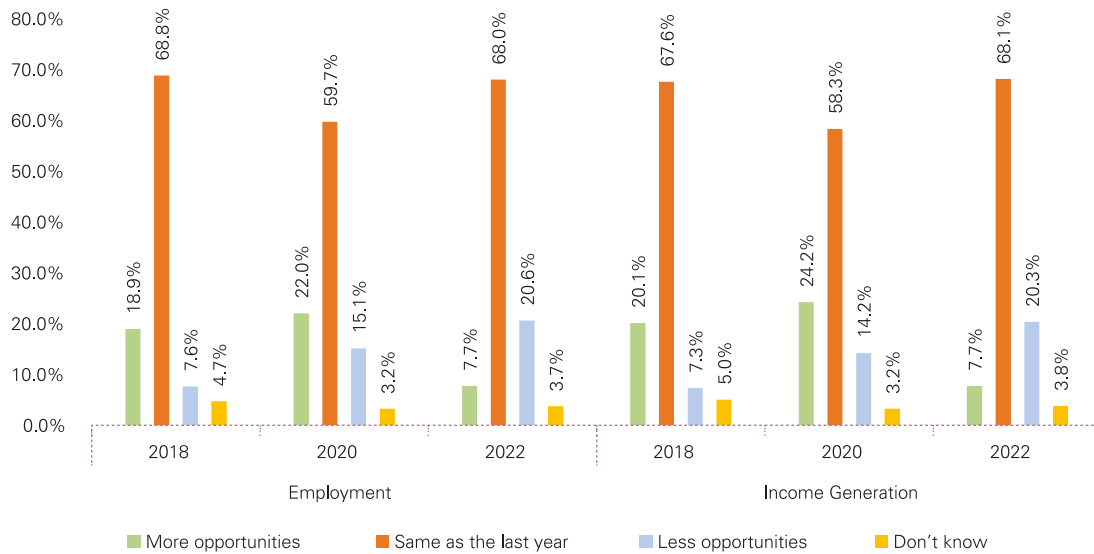


Figure 6.5.1: Compared to last year, how are the opportunities of employment and income generation in your area? (N = 7,054) (Response as 'Refused to Answer' is not included)

A similar question on income generation opportunities was asked to all respondents. While in 2020, the highest share of Nepalis (20.1%) had a positive outlook towards income generating opportunities in their local area, the lowest share held this view in 2022 (7.7%). With each passing year, more Nepalis are reporting lesser availability of income generation opportunities in their local area (from 7.3% in 2018, to 14.1% in 2020, to 20.3% in 2022). A little over two-thirds of Nepalis (68.1%) think that income generation opportunities in their local areas are the same as one year ago.

People residing in rural municipality of Hill and Terai regions are more likely to believe that they have more employment opportunities in their local area today than one year ago. Across ecological regions, people residing in rural municipalities of Mountain regions are more likely to believe they have more income generation opportunities, whereas people from urban municipalities feel they have more employment opportunities. People in rural municipalities of the Terai region are more likely to report greater employment opportunities in their local area.

## 6.6. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

More than half of all respondents (54.6%) cite friends, family, and neighbors as the main sources of their information about the local government's plans, programs, and budget. This is followed by local community leaders (22.9%), television (19.1%), and social media (17.7%).

Over the years, there is a steady increase in the share of respondents who get information on local government activities through social media (12.0% in 2018 to 17.7% in 2022) and from the internet (7.4% in 2018 to 13.2% in 2022).

### Sources of information for local government activities, by year

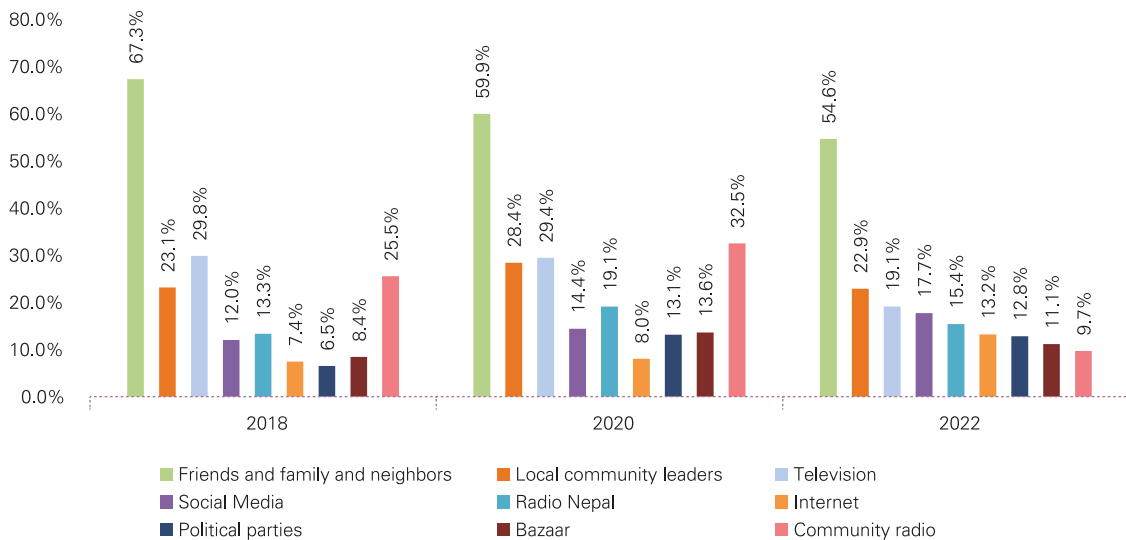


Figure 6.6.1: How do you get information about the plans, programs and budget of local government? (N=7,056)

Younger (23.5%) and more educated (45.4%) Nepalis are more likely to say they use social media to get information about local government.

When asked about the types of data and information that should be made publicly available by their municipality, most respondents mention information related to notices (40%) followed by data on budget and programs (28.2%), employment-related information (26.3%), and health-related information (26%) (Table 6.6.1).

Responses vary across provinces on the types of data and information Nepalis expect their municipality to make publicly available. Most respondents from Madhesh Province (58.7%) cite information of notices, those in Gandaki Province (36.0%) mention information on local government's budgets and programs, and those in Sudurpashchim Province (45.5%) mention employment-related information, whereas those in Karnali Province (44.9%) mention health-related information.

### Types of data and information that should be publicly available, by province

	Overall	Province 1	Madhesh Province	Bagmati Province	Gandaki Province	Lumbini Province	Karnali Province	Sudurpashchim Province
Notices	40.0%	44.2%	58.7%	40.9%	34.5%	23.1%	37.7%	28.2%
Budget and programs	28.2%	37.1%	14.5%	29.1%	36.0%	27.0%	26.5%	36.2%
Employment related information	26.3%	19.0%	13.2%	31.3%	17.1%	31.9%	40.4%	45.5%
Health related information	26.0%	26.0%	16.5%	29.4%	20.6%	24.5%	44.9%	35.3%
Education related information	22.0%	24.9%	13.4%	21.1%	16.1%	19.1%	41.5%	35.8%
Plans and projects	21.0%	14.6%	12.2%	28.1%	25.3%	19.5%	29.8%	29.9%



	Overall	Province 1	Madhesh Province	Bagmati Province	Gandaki Province	Lumbini Province	Karnali Province	Sudurpashchim Province
Agriculture and trade related information	19.7%	15.2%	14.0%	16.6%	19.8%	25.3%	28.7%	30.5%
Livelihood related information	19.7%	15.4%	10.1%	29.6%	13.2%	18.3%	23.5%	32.1%
Govt. initiatives, policies, and decisions	16.8%	25.3%	8.5%	13.9%	25.7%	14.9%	17.4%	20.4%
Social security information	15.2%	18.1%	15.2%	14.5%	18.6%	13.0%	13.7%	13.8%
Access to and use of public benefit services	12.4%	8.9%	9.4%	20.9%	8.6%	10.1%	16.0%	12.9%
Legal procedures	7.0%	5.7%	3.9%	10.9%	12.7%	6.2%	6.8%	3.9%
Tax information	6.5%	11.7%	2.0%	8.3%	8.7%	3.9%	8.5%	5.0%
Public procurement/ Tender notice	5.6%	13.0%	8.1%	3.4%	2.5%	2.7%	3.0%	1.9%
Public and social audits	5.1%	6.0%	1.7%	6.6%	7.6%	6.2%	5.7%	2.7%
Reports (progress, audits, and monitoring)	4.6%	13.1%	2.3%	2.8%	4.3%	3.2%	2.1%	2.8%
Registration information	4.4%	6.8%	2.8%	3.4%	11.1%	2.9%	3.2%	3.2%
Acts, laws, and directives	4.1%	7.2%	1.4%	5.4%	5.1%	2.1%	8.3%	2.1%
Citizen charter information	3.3%	3.3%	1.7%	2.2%	5.5%	3.7%	4.0%	5.8%
Ward profiles	1.7%	1.8%	0.7%	1.0%	4.7%	1.6%	1.7%	2.8%
Culture/traditions	1.2%	2.4%	0.2%	1.3%	1.0%	0.6%	0.5%	2.4%
Don't know	0.2%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	1.3%	0.2%	0.1%	0.0%

Table 6.6.1: What kind of data, and information do you expect your municipality, the rural municipality should provide people and make that public, regularly? (N = 7,056)

### Satisfaction with access to information

More Nepalis (48.3%) are dissatisfied with the information provided by their local government than those who are satisfied with it (34.7%). Most people from Madhesh Province (64.6%) express dissatisfaction with the information provided by their local governments. In contrast, respondents from Lumbini (55.6%) and Gandaki provinces (53.0%) are satisfied with the information provided by their local governments.

When asked if they made attempts to access information from the local government, only a small minority of respondents (7.8%) mention that they did so. The data shows that they tried to acquire information about budgets and programs (30.1%), followed by information on notices (26.6%), and information related to public benefits, such as power, sewage, and roads (17.1%).

Most respondents report that they tried to access information by talking to relevant government agencies (51.6%), followed by taking help from family and friends (41.2%), and through help from local political leaders (36.8%). The highest share of respondents from Sudurpashchim Province (70.3%) tried to access information by talking to relevant government agencies. Likewise, respondents from Karnali (53.4%) and Lumbini provinces (42.5%) took help from local political leaders.

Among those who tried to access information, half of the respondents (50.9%) report that they got the necessary information, one-quarter (26.1%) report that the time taken to respond was too long, and 17.3% say that government officials were uncooperative. The highest share of respondents from Province 1 report that the information provided was out of date (26.1%) and the agency lacked sufficient knowledge to answer their query (20.1%).



Photo by: Arnav Upadhyay

# 7. EXPERIENCE AND IMPACT OF COVID-19

## 7.1. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO MANAGE COVID-19

During the Covid-19 pandemic, all three levels of government implemented measures to prevent and control Covid-19 and to minimize its socio-economic impacts. The survey asked all respondents whether they think the government response was sufficient.

Although most respondents believe that the response from all three levels of government was appropriate, a considerably larger proportion (37%) felt that the local level's response was either "sufficient" or "very sufficient." Only a marginal share of respondents cited it as "insufficient" and "very insufficient" (Figure 7.1.1).

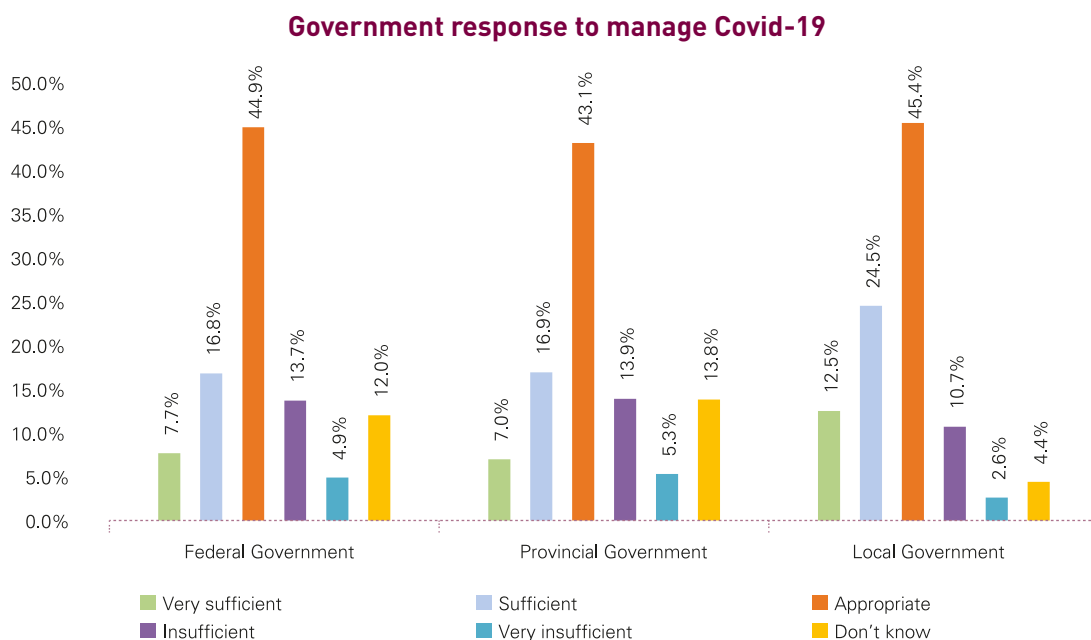


Figure 7.1.1: How sufficient was the government's response to manage Covid-19 crisis? (N=7055)  
(Response as 'Refused to Answer' is not included)

### Rating for government response

On a scale of 0 to 10, respondents were asked to rate the measures taken by the government to prevent and reduce the spread of Covid-19, where 0 represents “not effective at all” and 10 represents “very effective.” Most Nepalis consider the government’s responses and measures as “effective” (Table 7.1.1).

Among the highest ranked government prevention and control measures (i.e. those ranked as “highly effective”) were the government’s enforcement of the use of masks and social distancing (mean 8.18 points), and their restrictions on mobility and travel (mean 7.93 points).

### Mean rating for the government response during Covid-19

Statistics	Mobility and travel restrictions to reduce spread of virus	Enforcing use of masks and social distancing to reduce the spread	Enforcing business closures/openings	Covid -19 testing	Quarantine facilities	Covid -19 treatment (hospitals, ICU beds, etc)	Response to support vulnerable population suffering loss of livelihoods	Migrant workers returning to Nepal
N	7055	7054	7052	7050	7045	7026	7044	6961
Mean	7.93	8.18	6.73	6.88	6.69	6.25	6.19	6.45
Median	8	8	7	7	7	6	6	7
Mode	10	10	5	8	8	5	5	5
SD	1.79	1.71	1.99	2.03	2.08	2.21	2.30	2.30
Percentiles 25	7	7	5	5	5	5	5	5
Percentiles 50	8	8	7	7	7	6	6	7
Percentiles 75	10	10	8	8	8	8	8	8

Table 7.1.1: How do you rate the government’s following response to prevent and reduce the spread of Covid-19? (Response as ‘Refused to Answer’ is not included)

### Expected action of government for the socio-economic recovery from Covid-19

The survey asked all respondents about their outlook on the areas the government could further support for socio-economic recovery and to mitigate the socio-economic consequences of Covid-19.

The most cited suggestions include improvements in health services (59.5%) and expediting the vaccination process (44.9%). A considerable share also mention initiation of government support programs (31.9%), creating more employment opportunities (31.7%), cash schemes for households (22.9%), and educational support for children (21.4%) to better support the socio-economic recovery from Covid-19. The most respondents from Gandaki Province expect the government to expedite the vaccination process (51.5%), whereas respondents from other provinces expect improvements in health services, followed by an expedited vaccination process.

## Expected government action

	Overall	Province 1	Madhesh Province	Bagmati Province	Gandaki Province	Lumbini Province	Karnali Province	Sudurpashchim Province
Improve the health services	59.5%	69.3%	62.9%	55.4%	49.7%	48.2%	65.6%	69.9%
Expedite vaccination process	44.9%	52.1%	45.0%	38.3%	51.5%	34.7%	49.1%	56.6%
Initiate government support programs	31.9%	32.5%	31.1%	41.0%	32.2%	28.3%	34.0%	18.2%
More opportunities for employment	31.7%	44.6%	26.0%	33.0%	22.5%	21.8%	36.3%	41.3%
Cash schemes to households	22.9%	18.0%	15.1%	33.0%	14.3%	33.3%	19.0%	17.3%
Educational support for children	21.4%	26.1%	22.1%	15.7%	21.3%	18.8%	22.0%	28.1%
Relief packages for COVID 19 affected business (loan packages)	18.0%	25.0%	17.9%	23.7%	10.6%	8.9%	21.3%	15.3%
Distribute information access to government plans and programs	17.9%	17.7%	13.7%	15.3%	26.1%	19.5%	16.5%	23.8%
Ensure access to health services especially for women, people with disability and marginalized communities	6.4%	11.9%	3.9%	4.6%	12.4%	4.3%	8.4%	2.8%
Encourage people to get health insurance	5.8%	11.0%	4.4%	6.4%	4.8%	2.3%	9.5%	3.4%
Food distribution	0.6%	0.1%	2.8%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Don't know	2.9%	2.0%	5.7%	0.0%	2.1%	5.6%	1.3%	1.2%

Table 7.1.2: To support socio-economic recovery from Covid-19, what could the government do more to support its citizens? (N= 7056)

## 7.2. RESPONSIVE ACTORS DURING COVID-19 AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

During the Covid-19 pandemic, several actors and entities were involved in managing and responding to the pandemic. Most Nepalis (70%) regard local government (70%) as the most responsive actor during the management of Covid-19, while fewer respondents considered community volunteers (9.2%) and local leaders (7.8%) to be most responsive in managing the pandemic.

### Responsive actors during Covid-19

	Overall	Province 1	Madhesh Province	Bagmati Province	Gandaki Province	Lumbini Province	Karnali Province	Sudurpashchim Province
Local government	70.0%	74.3%	72.0%	71.6%	70.1%	66.0%	62.8%	66.7%
Community volunteers	9.2%	5.3%	4.7%	11.0%	9.5%	13.0%	11.9%	13.0%
Local leaders	7.8%	7.4%	5.2%	6.4%	8.5%	8.4%	13.6%	12.3%
Public hospitals/ health facilities	4.0%	2.4%	9.0%	1.7%	2.9%	2.3%	6.5%	3.7%

	Overall	Province 1	Madhesh Province	Bagmati Province	Gandaki Province	Lumbini Province	Karnali Province	Sudurpashchim Province
Community based organizations/CSOs	2.7%	2.7%	1.8%	4.7%	4.1%	1.3%	1.2%	2.6%
Self	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	0.8%	1.0%	0.8%	0.5%	
Nepali police/Army	0.7%	0.7%	1.5%	0.2%	0.2%	1.3%		0.1%
Private hospitals/ health facilities	0.6%	0.4%	0.3%	0.9%	0.5%	0.6%	1.0%	0.1%
Don't know	4.2%	6.0%	4.8%	2.7%	3.2%	6.3%	2.5%	1.3%

Table 7.2.1: Which actor has been the most responsive to manage Covid-19 within your community (N=7054) (Response as 'Refused to Answer' is not included)

### 7.3. MAJOR PROBLEMS AND COPING STRATEGIES DURING COVID-19

About half of Nepalis report facing problems due to the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown restrictions. While 49.2% report not having faced any problems, of those facing problems, most report increased food prices (51.7%), difficulty acquiring basic services (40.9%), and decreased income/profits (36.4%) that they or their family members faced due to the pandemic (Figure 7.3.1).

The proportion of respondents who did not face any problems due to the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown restrictions is highest in Gandaki Province (64.6%), followed by respondents from Bagmati Province (56.5%), whereas this figure is 32.6% in Sudurpashchim Province.

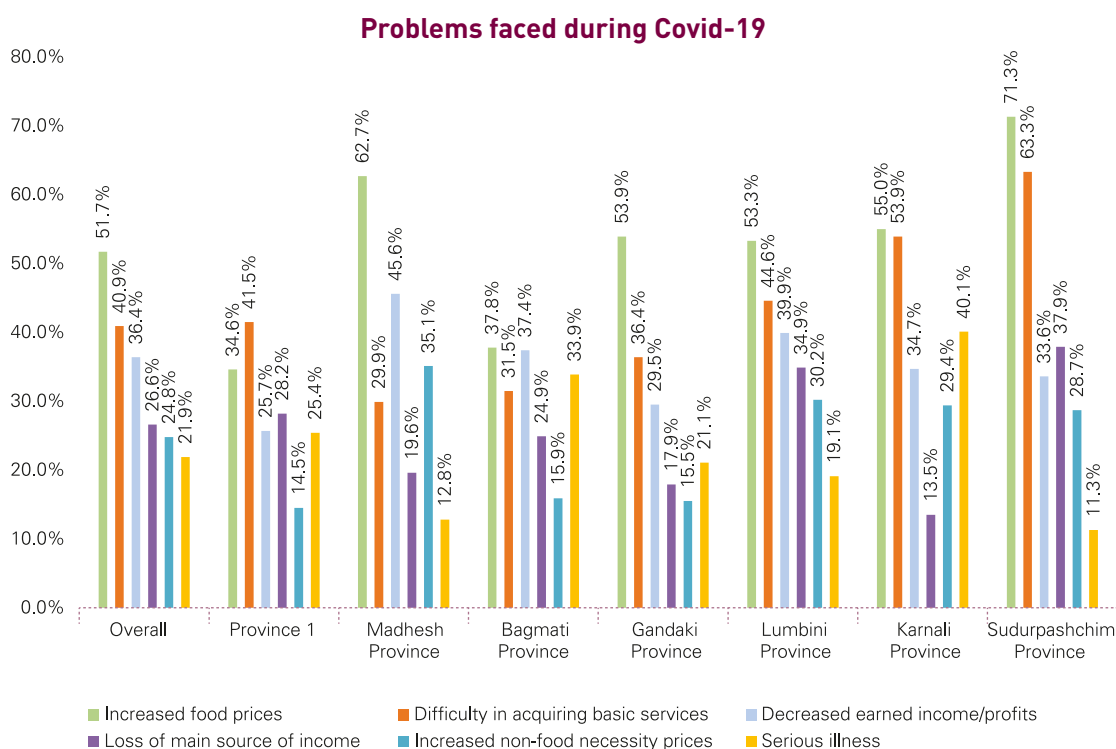


Figure 7.3.1: What are the major problems that you and your household members faced due to Covid-19 pandemic, and the ensuing lockdown? (N = 3,574)

### Coping strategies during Covid-19

The survey asked respondents who reported facing some problems due to Covid-19 (50.8%) about their coping strategies. More than one-quarter (26.9%) responded that they did not do anything to cope with the impacts of Covid-19.

However, most Nepalis stated using different coping mechanisms to minimize the impact. The data show a considerable proportion opting to use their savings (29.5%) and taking assistance from relatives/neighbors (20.7%). More than one in ten Nepalis also say that as a part of their coping mechanism, they reduced their food consumption during the pandemic. This response is widely cited by residents of Sudurpashchim (24.3%) and Karnali provinces (17.4%).

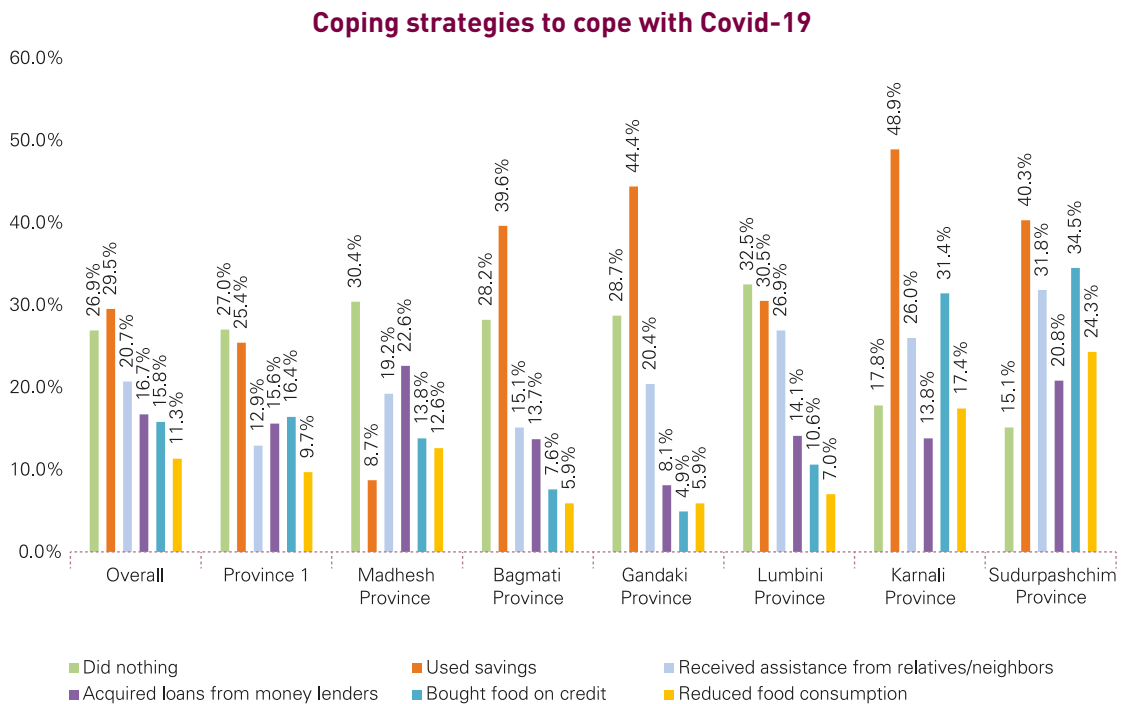


Figure 7.3.2: How did you cope with these problems during the lockdown and in the months after the lockdown? (N= 3,574)

Madhesi Dalits (24.3%) and Hill Dalits (20.5%) are more likely to have taken loans from money lenders to cope with Covid-19 than an average Nepali (16.7%) and Nepalis from other castes/ethnicities.



# APPENDIX A: METHODOLOGY

## SAMPLING METHOD

*A Survey of Nepali People (SNP) 2022* applied the same sampling design adopted in the previous rounds of the SNP–2017, 2018, and 2020. A sample of 7,056 respondents was selected by using a nationally representative sample. The survey was administered to randomly selected respondents to document public opinion on issues of public concern, including public outlook/national mood, security, identity, governance, politics, economics, and access to information. Although the same sampling design was adopted as in the earlier surveys, wards, households, and respondents are randomly selected and are different in each round of the survey.

The sampling design was developed to ensure representation of the findings with a minimum margin of error at both national and provincial level at 95% confidence level. The sample size at the national level of 7,056 is produced at  $\pm 1.2\%$  margin of error, while the error margin at the provincial level is  $\pm 3\%$ . To make the findings comparable, the sample has been distributed equally across the country's seven provinces.

While generating the findings at the national level, the survey team used a weighted dataset to reflect the distribution of the actual population.

The survey adopted a three-stage probability sampling design to select the sample.

## SAMPLING FRAME

The sampling frame for this survey was obtained from the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) of the Government of Nepal (GoN). The frame consists of provinces, districts, urban and rural areas, and their wards with population sizes as per the 2011 National Population and Housing Census<sup>21</sup>.

## SELECTION OF WARDS WITHIN PROVINCES

In the first stage of sampling, the national population was stratified into seven provinces as per the new federal structure of the country. In each province, equal sample size was allocated to compare findings across the provinces at the same error margin and confidence level. Within the provinces, a sample frame was created listing all the rural and urban municipalities and their respective wards, with their population size. To spread the sample to cover more geographical regions of the province, the wards were further divided into smaller clusters. The clusters within the wards were created. A total of 588 clusters were then selected using the probability proportional to size sampling (PPS-Sampling) technique. Thus, the 'cluster' in this sampling frame is the primary sampling unit (PSU). Even though this cluster is the smallest administrative unit, they are geographically large, and it is not possible to list all households of the sampled clusters to select the 12 households in the sample using probability. Given the high density in urban areas, household listing is even more difficult than in rural areas. To overcome this situation while still selecting households based on probability, the sample clusters were further divided into enu-

21 At the time of designing the sample frame, the results and the ward-level population size data of the national census of 2021 had not been published. Hence, the survey designed the sample frame with the national census of 2011.

merations areas (EA); implying that one cluster would have several EAs. Out of these EAs, one EA was randomly selected. Thus, altogether, 588 sample wards were selected, which were spread in 201 urban and 183 rural municipalities of 76 districts out of Nepal's 77 districts.

## SELECTION OF HOUSEHOLDS WITHIN WARDS

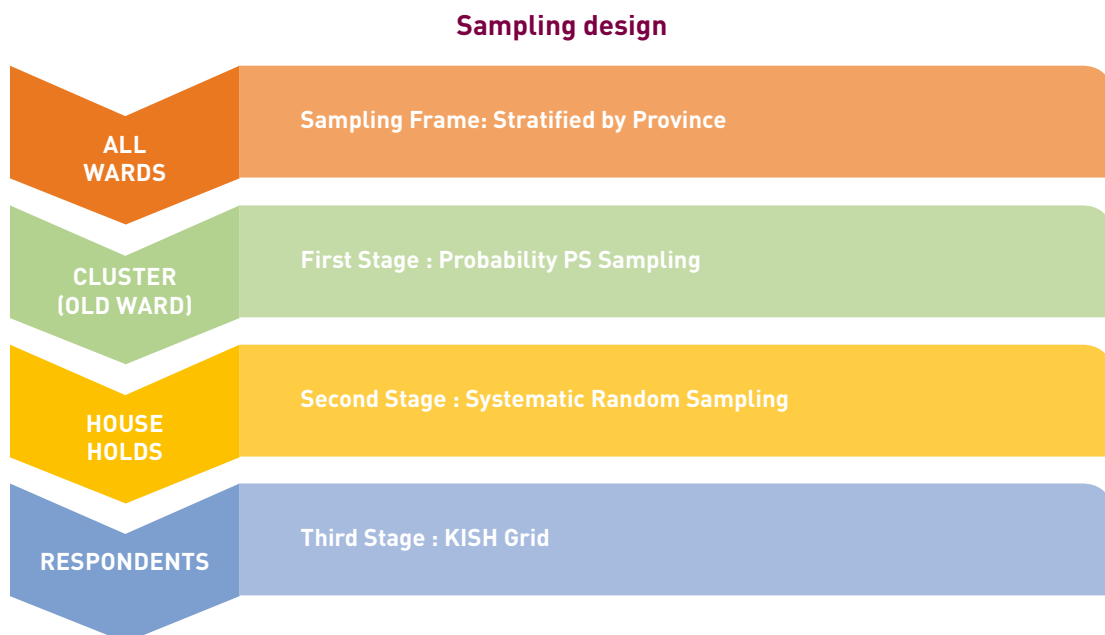
In the second stage, a household list was prepared within a sampled EA. After that, households were selected using a systematic random sampling technique. From this list, a total of 12 households were selected.

## SELECTION OF RESPONDENTS WITHIN HOUSEHOLDS

In the third stage, one respondent from each of the sampled household was selected through a simple random sampling using the Kish Grid, which is a random number selection technique. According to this technique, all members of the household, both male and female, aged 18 and above, are listed, and one member is randomly selected. This method ensures an equal chance for any household member aged 18 and above to be selected.

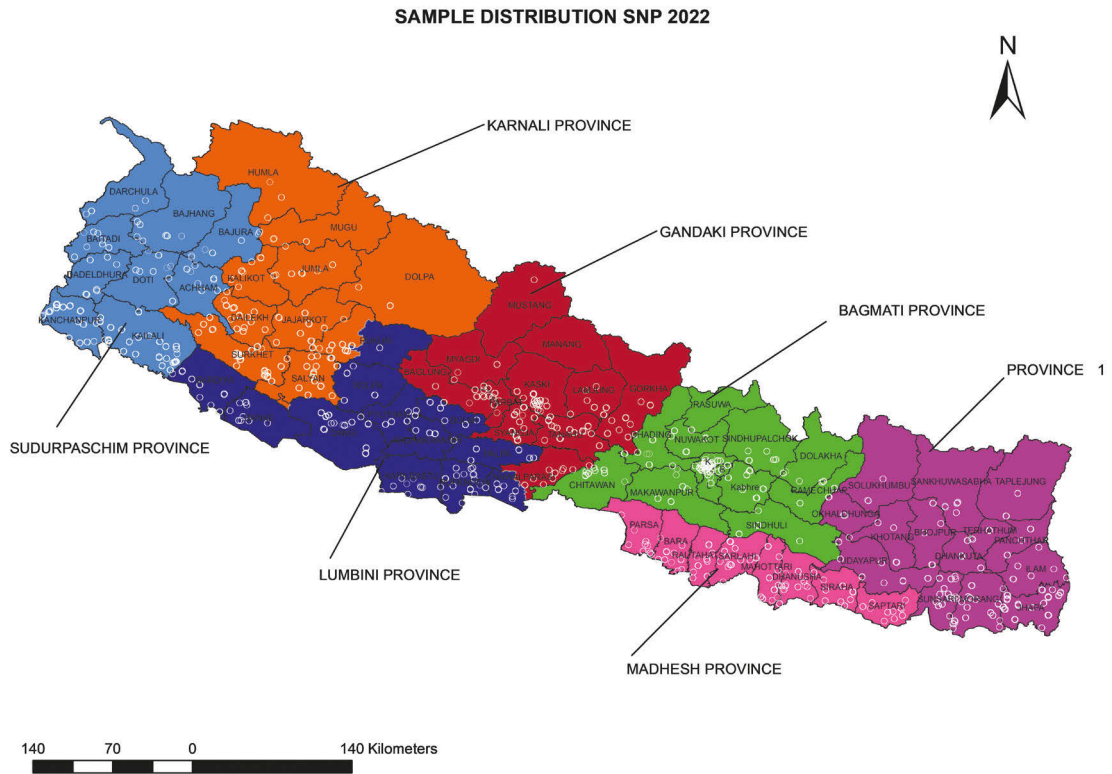
Since the unit of analysis is the individual and not the household, the findings are generalizable to individuals across the country.

The detailed sampling design across the various levels is shown in the figure below.



The survey employed probability sampling in each stage of the sampling stage to ensure that the sample is representative.

**Data weighting:** In each province, an equal sample was allocated to maintain an equal margin of error and to make the sample representative at the provincial level, which would then allow comparison of findings among provinces. While generating the findings, weighting was done as per the National Census of 2011. The dataset was weighted using four parameters: province, sex, age, and caste/ethnicity<sup>22</sup>.



22 Results of the National Census 2021 were not published during the time of data analysis and report writing. Therefore, the survey weights were constructed based on the 2011 census.

# APPENDIX B: DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

The sample of 7,056 is spread across all seven provinces, 201 urban municipalities and 183 rural municipalities as per Nepal's new federalized structure, and across 76 districts.

This section presents the geographical, demographic, social, educational, and economic composition of the survey respondents. Overall, the sample closely matches the various parameters of the country's population.

## GEOGRAPHICAL COMPOSITION

The sample of 7,056 respondents is spread across all seven provinces, all three ecological regions, and both rural and urban municipalities.

The sample characteristics across provinces, ecological regions, and residence (rural municipality vs. urban municipality) closely resemble that of the population. The composition of the sample by geographical region of SNP 2022 survey and national population is presented in the table below.

### Geographical composition, by province

Provinces	2011 Population	2021 Population	SNP 2022 Sample
Province 1	17.1%	17.0%	17.1%
Madhesh	20.4%	21.0%	20.5%
Bagmati	20.9%	20.8%	20.7%
Gandaki	9.1%	8.5%	8.4%
Lumbini	18.5%	17.6%	17.9%
Karnali	4.4%	5.8%	5.7%
Sudurpashchim	9.6%	9.3%	9.6%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

### Geographical composition, by ecological region

Ecological region	2011 Population	2021 Population	SNP 2022 Sample
Mountain	6.7%	6.1%	6.4%
Hill	43.0%	40.3%	43.6%
Terai	50.3%	53.7%	50.0%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

### Geographical composition, by municipality type

Municipality type	2011 Population	2021 Population	SNP 2022 Sample
Rural Municipality	36.81%	33.9 %	35.2%
Urban Municipality	63.19%	66.1%	64.8%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

## DEMOGRAPHIC COMPOSITION

In terms of respondents' marital status, an overwhelming majority (81%), are married. Over the four surveys, this proportion has remained mostly the same.

In terms of age group, 23.0% of respondents are between 18 to 24 years old, 25.0% are between 25 to 34 years old, 27.2% are between 35 to 49 years old, and nearly one quarter (24.7%) of the respondents are aged 50 and above.

To reflect the gender distribution of the country, men and women are equally distributed in the sample. The table below presents the detailed findings.

### Demographic composition, by marital status

Marital Status	SNP 2022 Sample
Never married	14.6%
Single married	81.0%
Divorced/separated/widowed	4.4%
Total	100.0%

### Demographic composition, by age

Age Group	2011 Population	SNP 2022 Sample
18 - 24	22.6%	23.0%
25 - 34	25.0%	25.0%
35 - 49	27.3%	27.2%
50 & above	25.1%	24.7%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

## Demographic composition, by gender

Gender	2011 Population	2021 Population	SNP 2022 Sample
Women	51.5%	51.0%	51.8%
Men	48.5%	49.0%	48.2%
Total <sup>23</sup>	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

## SOCIAL COMPOSITION

The sample comprises respondents from 90 caste and ethnic communities, which closely resembles their presence in the country's population. In Nepal, Chhetri and Hill Brahman are the two most dominant castes, which comprise more than one quarter of the country's population; these are proportionately reflected in the sample. A detailed comparison of caste and ethnic groups in the sample and in the population is presented in the table below.

The actual and weighted breakdown of castes/ethnic groups compared with the population (based on the National Census of 2011) is presented in the table below.

## Caste/ethnic composition

Caste/Ethnicity	2011 Population	SNP 2022 Sample	Caste/Ethnicity	2011 Population	SNP 2022 Sample
Chhetri	16.6%	18%	Kanu	0.5%	0.3%
Brahman - Hill	12.2%	11.3%	Rajbansi	0.4%	0.4%
Magar	7.1%	6.7%	Sunuwar	0.2%	0.4%
Tharu	6.6%	6.8%	Sudhi	0.4%	0.1%
Tamang	5.8%	6.3%	Lohar	0.4%	0.4%
Newar	5%	6.8%	Tatma/Tatwa	0.4%	0.2%
Musalman	4.4%	4.4%	Dhobi	0.4%	0.3%
Kami	4.8%	4.3%	Majhi	0.3%	0.4%
Yadav	4%	5.2%	Nuniya	0.3%	0.4%
Rai	2.3%	2.6%	Kumhar	0.2%	0.1%
Gurung	2%	1.9%	Danuwar	0.3%	0.2%
Damai/Dholi	1.8%	1.7%	Haluwai	0.3%	0.1%
Limbu	1.5%	1.1%	Rajput	0.2%	0.2%
Thakuri	1.6%	1.9%	Badhaee	0.1%	0.1%
Sarki	1.4%	1.4%	Bantar/Sardar	0.2%	0.2%
Teli	1.4%	1.3%	Baraee	0.3%	0.2%
Chamar/Harijan/Ram	1.3%	1.8%	Kahar	0.2%	0.1%
Koiri/Kushwaha	1.2%	1%	Gangai	0.1%	0%
Kurmi	0.9%	0.9%	Lodh	0.1%	0.2%
Sanyasi/Dashnami	0.9%	0.4%	Dhimal	0.1%	0.1%

<sup>23</sup> CBS has not categorized "others" in 2011 and 2021 census. Even though the survey contained "others" in gender, no information in "others" category was recorded in the data.

Caste/Ethnicity	2011 Population	SNP 2022 Sample	Caste/Ethnicity	2011 Population	SNP 2022 Sample
Dhanuk	0.8%	0.7%	Bin	0.3%	0.2%
Musahar	0.9%	0.4%	Tajpuriya	0.1%	0.1%
Dusadh/Pasawan/Pasi	0.8%	0.7%	Chidimar	0%	0.1%
Sherpa	0.4%	0.3%	Badi	0.1%	0.2%
Sonar	0.2%	0.4%	Khawas	0.1%	0.1%
Kewat	0.6%	0.7%	Kori	0%	0.2%
Brahman - Terai	0.5%	0.6%	Amat	0%	0.3%
Kathbaniyan	0.5%	0.1%	Dalit Others	0.6%	0.7%
Gharti/Bhujel	0.4%	0.3%	Janajati Others	0%	0.3%
Mallaha	0.7%	0.6%	Terai Others	0.4%	0.7%
Kalwar	0.5%	0.5%	Undefined Others	0.1%	0.3%
Kumal	0.5%	0.6%	Not reported	1.4%	0.1%
Hajam/Thakur	0.4%	0.5%	Total	100.0%	100.0%

These caste/ethnic groups are further categorized into nine broad groups: Hill Caste (Chhetri, Brahman-Hill, Thakuri, Sanyasi, etc.), Hill Adibasi/Janajati (Magar, Newar, Tamang, Rai, Gurung, Limbu, Sherpa, etc.), Hill Dalit (Kami, Sarki, Damai, etc.), Madhesi Caste/(socio-economic level 1) (Brahman-Terai, Rajput, and Kayastha, etc.), Madhesi Caste/(socio-economic level 2) (Yadav, Teli, Koiri, Kurmi, and Dhanuk, etc), Madhesi Adibasi/Janajati (Tharu, Rajbanshi, etc.), Madhesi Dalit (Chamar, Musahar, Dusadh, etc.), and Musalman and other cultural groups (Marwadi, Bangali, Punjabi and Foreigner, etc.)<sup>24</sup>. Details are presented in the table below.

### Broad groups of caste/ethnicities of respondents

	2011 Population	SNP 2022 Sample
Hill Caste	31.2%	31.5%
Hill Adibasi/Janajati	27.2%	27.7%
Hill Dalit	8.1%	8.3%
Madhesi Caste (Level -1)	0.8%	0.8%
Madhesi Caste (Level - 2)	14.5%	14.6%
Madhesi (Adibasi/Janajati)	7.6%	7.8%
Madhesi Dalit	4.5%	4.5%
Other Cultural Groups	0.3%	0.3%
Musalman	4.3%	4.4%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

<sup>24</sup> On National Census 2011, CBS has categorized the Madhesi caste into two groups based on socio-economic status. Brahmin-Terai, Rajput and Kayastha, etc. are categorized Madhesi Caste (Socio-Economic Level - 1) and Yadav, Teli, Koiri, Kurmi, and Dhanuk, etc as Madhesi Caste (Socio-Economic Level - 2)



### Caste/ethnic groups by origin of respondents

	SNP 2022 Sample
Madhesi	32.5%
Non-Madhesi	67.5%
Total	100.0%

These nine broad caste/ethnic groups are further categorized into two broad categories by origin: Non-Madhesi (Hill Caste, Hill Dalit, and Hill Adibasi/Janajati) and Madhesi (Madhesi Caste, Terai-Madhesi Ethnic, Madhesi Dalit, and Musalman).

The table below presents the religious composition of the sample and the country's population. The breakdown shows that the sample closely matches the composition of religions in the country's population. However, in the sample of all surveys, respondents who are Hindus are slightly greater and those who follow Buddhism (Bouddha) are relatively less than the estimation compared to the country's population.

### RELIGIOUS COMPOSITION

Religion	2011 Population	SNP 2022 Sample
Hindu	81.3%	83.6%
Buddhist	9.0%	8.6%
Islam	4.4%	4.5%
Kirat	3.0%	2.1%
Christian	1.4%	1.5%
Others	0.2%	0.4%
Total	100.0%	100.0 %

### EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC COMPOSITION

The table below shows the occupation composition of respondents. In SNP 2022, around half of the respondents (46.8%) are from an agricultural background. The next largest group (13%) report business as their main occupation, while 12.8% cite household work as their main occupation.

### Occupation

Occupation	SNP 2022
Agriculture	46.8%
Labor	6.5%
Business	13.0%
Service/Job	6.4%
Household work	12.8%

Occupation	SNP 2022
Student	8.3%
Unemployed	2.9%
Others	3.3%
Total	100.0%

In terms of respondents' educational level, 18.1% say they are illiterate, 5.2% are literate but have no formal education, 16.8% completed primary level education, 13.3% completed lower secondary level education, and 15.9% completed secondary level education. Around 8.5% of the respondents have completed School Leaving Certificate (SLC), 15.8% have completed intermediate, and 6.4% say they have a bachelor's degree and above.

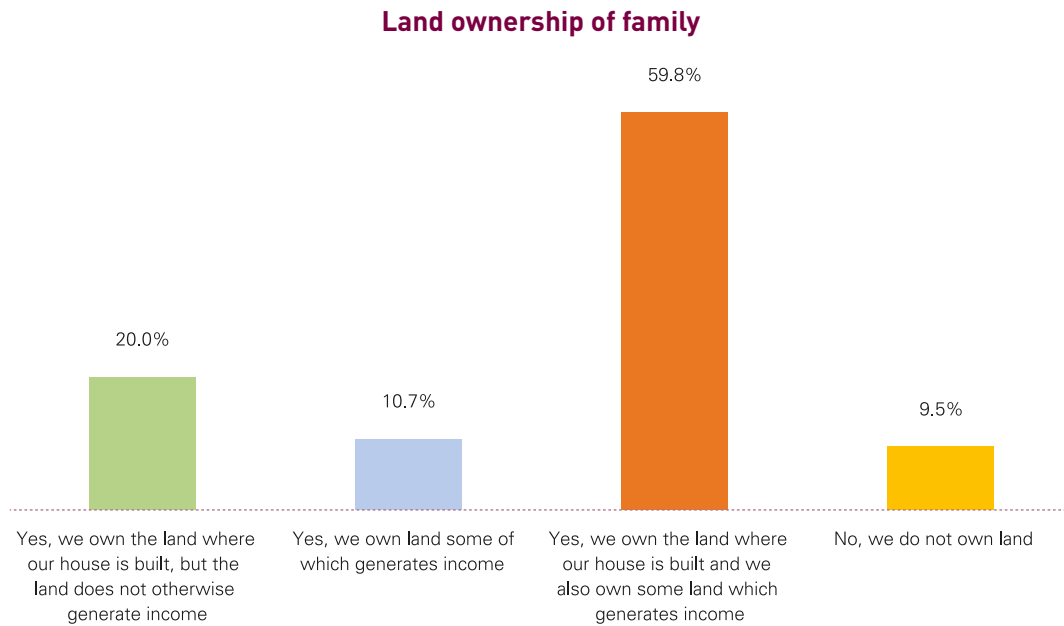
In SNP 2022, the composition of the respondents' educational attainment is comparable to that of earlier surveys. In 2022, there are slightly more respondents who have completed secondary level education and slightly fewer respondents who say they are illiterate. Details of the respondents' educational composition are presented in the table below.

## Education

Educational Status	SNP 2022 Sample
Illiterate	18.1%
Non-formal education	5.2%
Primary	16.8%
Lower secondary	13.3%
Secondary	15.9%
SLC	8.5%
Intermediate	15.8%
Bachelor & above	6.4%
Total	100.0%

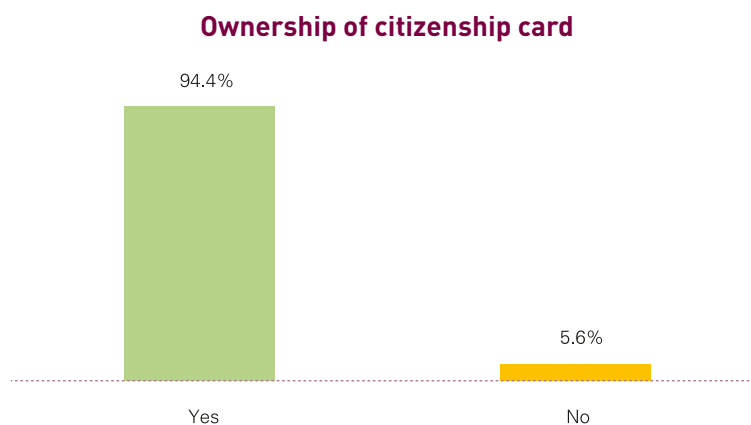
## LAND OWNERSHIP

In terms of land ownership, an overwhelming majority of respondents (90.5%) say their family owns land. While 20% say they own the land where their house is built, but the land does not generate income, 10.7% report that their family owns land, some of which generates income. Nearly two-thirds of respondents (59.8%) say they own the land where their house is built and that they also own some land which generates income.



## CITIZENSHIP

Out of all respondents, 94.3% report having a citizenship certificate.



The respondents who do not have a citizenship certificate were further asked to cite a reason for not having one. Most respondents cited not making any attempts to obtain one (70.5%), followed by not having the necessary documentation to generate a citizenship certificate (11.5%)

## DISABILITY STATUS

Of the total respondents, more than 90% say they do not have any kind of disability, such as poor eyesight, poor hearing, limited mobility, etc.

	No difficulty	Yes – some difficulty	Yes – a lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all
Do you have difficulty seeing, even if wearing glasses?	94.4%	5.0%	0.5%	0.1%
Do you have difficulty hearing, even if using a hearing aid?	98.2%	1.6%	0.1%	0.0%
Do you have difficulty walking or climbing steps?	94.2%	4.8%	0.9%	0.1%
Do you have difficulty remembering or concentrating?	96.6%	3.2%	0.1%	0.0%
Do you have difficulty (with self-care such as) washing all over or dressing?	98.0%	1.7%	0.2%	0.0%
Using your usual (customary) language, do you have difficulty communicating, for example understanding or being understood?	98.7%	1.2%	0.1%	0.0%

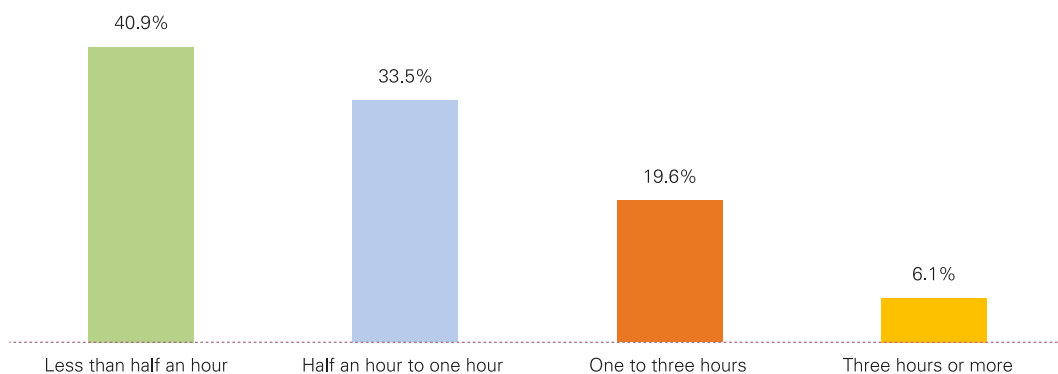
## REMOTENESS

The categories of remoteness are based on the distance of the respondents' home to their rural municipality/urban municipality using the quickest means of transportation.

"Less remote" homes are less than one hour away from the municipality/rural municipality; "remote" homes are 1-3 hours from the municipality/rural municipality; "more remote" homes are more than three hours away from the municipality/ rural municipality.

Most respondents either live in less remote (42.1%) or remote (51.8%) areas, whereas 6.1% of respondents reside in more remote areas.

### Remoteness: rural municipality/municipality office and respondent's home



Similarly, the categories of remoteness are based on the distance of a respondents' home to their nearest ward office using the quickest means of transportation.

"Less remote" homes are less than an hour away from the ward office; "remote" homes are 1-3 hours from the ward office; "more remote" homes are more than three hours from the ward office.

Most respondents either live in less remote (72.7%) or remote (26.8%) areas, whereas very few (0.5%) reside in more remote areas.

