



ETHICS AND ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION

KENYA NATIONAL GENDER AND CORRUPTION SURVEY, 2025



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ETHICS AND ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION

KENYA NATIONAL GENDER AND CORRUPTION SURVEY, 2025

EACC RESEARCH REPORT NO.1 OF 2026

EACC ORGANIZATIONAL STATEMENTS



FOREWORD

**By the Regional Representative, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC),
Regional Office for Eastern Africa**



Corruption is not gender neutral. Yet, for too long, anti-corruption strategies have been designed without the disaggregated data needed to fully capture this reality. The National Gender and Corruption Survey, 2025, is a landmark study that provides critical, gender-disaggregated insights into the nature, patterns, and impact of corruption in Kenya. This Survey represents an important step forward in advancing evidence-based policymaking and deepening our collective understanding of how corruption intersects with gender inequality.

Corruption remains one of the most significant impediments to sustainable development, undermining institutions, eroding public trust, and disproportionately affecting vulnerable populations.

Women and men experience corruption differently, shaped by structural inequalities, access to resources, and societal roles. In particular, the findings highlight the disproportionate burden borne by women in accessing essential public services, as well as the persistence of emerging forms of corruption such as sextortion, which demand targeted and sensitive policy responses.

The survey also aligns with the principles and obligations of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), which underscores the importance of evidence-based anti-corruption strategies (Article 5), integrity in public service (Article 8), transparency in public administration (Article 10), and the active participation of society (Article 13). It also reflects growing international recognition of the need to integrate gender perspectives into anti-corruption efforts, in line with the UNCAC Conference of the States Parties (COSP) Resolution 10/10 on Addressing the Societal Impact of corruption which calls on States Parties to strengthen gender-responsive anti-corruption policies, carry out surveys on the views and experiences of corruption, including its impact on women, men, girls and boys to enhance the collection and use of gender-disaggregated data, and address gender-specific forms of corruption.

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), through its Regional Office for Eastern Africa, is proud to have supported this initiative in close collaboration with national stakeholders, including the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC), the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), and the National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC). This partnership reflects a shared commitment to strengthening integrity systems and ensuring that anti-corruption responses are inclusive, data-driven, and responsive to the lived realities of citizens.

This work has been made possible through the support of the European Union under the Programme for Legal Empowerment and Aid Delivery (PLEAD II), which continues to play a pivotal role in strengthening criminal justice institutions and advancing rule of law and anti-corruption reforms in Kenya. We also acknowledge the valuable contributions of the Government of Denmark and Transparency International Kenya, whose support and engagement have enriched both the analytical depth and the policy relevance of this Survey.

The findings of this report come at a critical juncture, as Kenya continues to advance key legal and institutional reforms, including efforts to strengthen conflict of interest frameworks, enhance transparency in public service, and address emerging corruption risks within increasingly complex socio-economic systems. Importantly, the Survey also highlights the urgent need to address low reporting rates, strengthen protection mechanisms for whistleblowers and victims, and leverage digital solutions to reduce opportunities for corruption.

Looking ahead, UNODC remains committed to supporting Kenya and the broader Eastern Africa region in translating these findings into concrete action, working alongside government, civil society, and development partners. This survey provides a critical foundation for strengthening gender-responsive anti-corruption policies, enhancing institutional capacities for prevention and enforcement, and promoting innovative approaches to tackling illicit financial flows and corruption in all its forms.



ALI ELBEREIR
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE
UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME (UNODC)
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EASTERN AFRICA

PREFACE



Kenya has made significant progress in advancing gender equality through a robust legal and policy framework anchored in the Constitution. Key national instruments, including the National Policy on Gender and Development, Sessional Paper No. 2 on Gender Equality and Development, and Kenya Vision 2030, underscore the centrality of gender equity in achieving sustainable development. Complementary efforts such as legislation addressing gender-based violence, promotion of women's participation in leadership, and targeted socio-economic empowerment initiatives have further strengthened this commitment.

Despite these gains, gender inequality persists across multiple spheres, including access to economic opportunities, education, political participation, and social protection. These disparities are further compounded by corruption, which disproportionately affects vulnerable populations, particularly women, children, persons with disabilities, and low-income groups, by limiting access to essential public services and undermining fairness in service delivery.

Corruption and gender inequality are mutually reinforcing challenges. Corruption not only deepens existing inequalities but also creates additional barriers that hinder women's full participation in economic, social, and governance processes. Addressing corruption through a gender lens is therefore essential to achieving inclusive development.

It is within this context that the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC), in collaboration with key partners, presents the Kenya National Gender and Corruption Survey, 2025. This report provides critical, evidence-based insights into how corruption affects men and women differently, highlighting emerging patterns, vulnerabilities, and systemic challenges.

The findings demonstrate that corruption exacerbates gender disparities in access to public services, with women often facing unique and disproportionate burdens. The report also underscores the need to recognize and institutionalize gender-responsive approaches in anti-corruption strategies, policy frameworks, and legislative reforms.

This Survey represents an important step in elevating national discourse on the intersection of gender and corruption. It is our expectation that the findings will inform policy, strengthen partnerships, and support the design of targeted, evidence-based interventions to address both corruption and inequality in Kenya.

DR. DAVID OGINDE, PHD, EBS, FCS
CHAIRPERSON
ETHICS AND ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



The Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) expresses its sincere appreciation to all institutions and individuals who contributed to the successful completion of the Kenya National Gender and Corruption Survey, 2025.

This Survey was undertaken through a collaborative partnership involving the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) under the Programme for Legal Empowerment and Aid Delivery (PLEAD II), the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), the National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC), and Transparency International Kenya (TI-Kenya). Their technical expertise, financial support, and commitment were instrumental throughout the study.

We extend special recognition to the technical teams and experts from partner institutions whose input enriched the design, data collection, analysis, and validation of the report. We also acknowledge the dedicated EACC team whose coordination and leadership ensured the successful delivery of this important national study.

The Commission is grateful to the Ministry of Interior and National Administration, including County Commissioners, Deputy County Commissioners, Assistant County Commissioners, Chiefs, Assistant Chiefs, and community guides, for their invaluable support during fieldwork.

Above all, we sincerely thank the citizens of Kenya who generously shared their experiences and perspectives. Your participation forms the foundation of this report and contributes significantly to strengthening integrity, accountability, and equitable service delivery in our country.

We also appreciate all stakeholders who participated in the validation process and provided critical feedback that enhanced the quality and relevance of this report.

Your collective support and collaboration reflect a shared commitment to promoting integrity, advancing gender equality, and strengthening good governance in Kenya.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Abdi A. Mohamud', written over a horizontal line.

MR. ABDI A. MOHAMUD, EBS, MBS
SECRETARY/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
ETHICS AND ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

CSPro	Census and Survey Processing
DCI	Directorate of Criminal Investigations
EACC	Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission
EAs	Enumeration Areas
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
ID	Identity Card
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
KBC	Kenya Broadcasting Corporation
KES	Kenya Shilling
KHMSF	Kenya Household Master Sample Frame
KNBS	Kenya National Bureau of Statistics
KPHC	Kenya Population and Housing Census
KRA	Kenya Revenue Authority
KTN	Kenya Television Network
MCA	Member of County Assembly
MP	Member of Parliament
NCPD	National Council for Population and Development
NGEC	National Gender and Equality Commission
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NTSA	National Transport and Safety Authority
NTV	Nation Television
ODPP	Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
PhD	Doctor of Philosophy
PLEAD	Programme for Legal Empowerment and Aid Delivery
PSUs	Primary Sampling Units
ROEA	Regional Office of Eastern Africa
UNCAC	United Nations Convention Against Corruption
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
USD	United States Dollar

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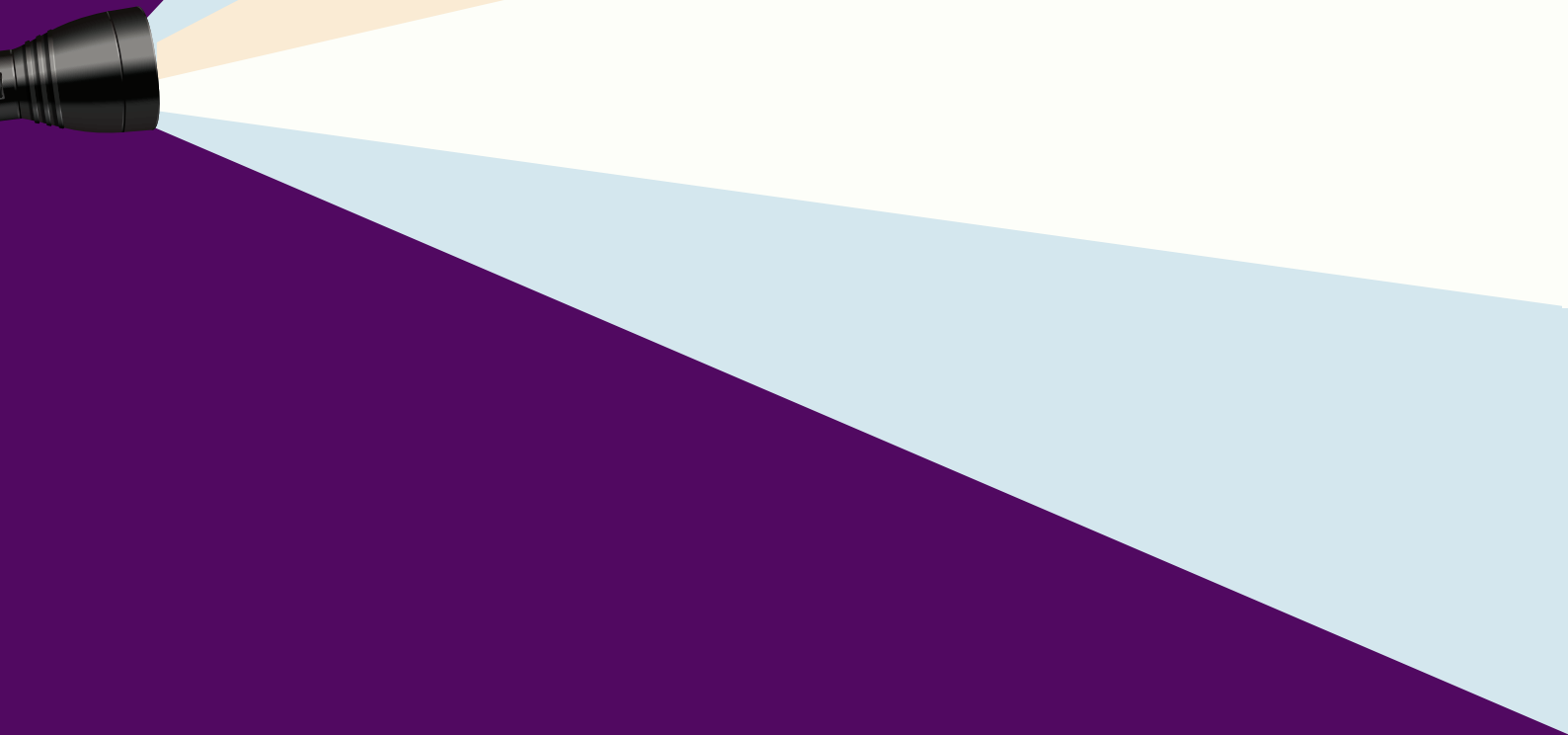
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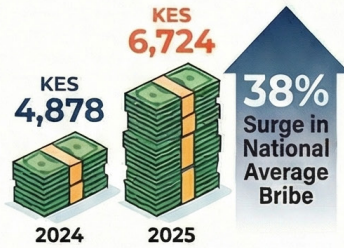


THE GENDERED FACE OF GRAFT:

Findings from the Kenya National Gender and Corruption Survey 2025



The Escalating Cost of Bribery



Corruption as a "Gatekeeper"



84.3% of bribes are paid BEFORE services are rendered, indicating corruption is a prerequisite for access

Public Perception of High Corruption



74.2%
(Up from 67.9% in 2024)

Gendered Bribery Pathways

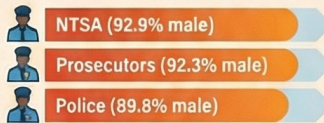
Men: Targeted by Law Enforcement



Most frequently reported giving bribes to Police Officers (31.6%) and NTSA Officers (12.9%)



Male Dominance in High-Corruption Sectors

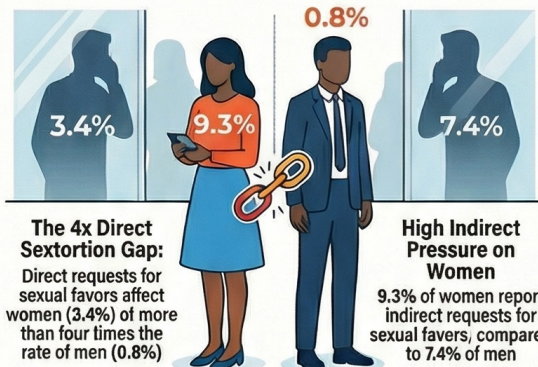


Women: Exploited During Service Seeking



Most frequently paid bribes to Civil Registration Officials (30.8%) to secure essential documents like birth and death certificates

Sextortion: The Invisible Bribe



Vulnerability in Job Seeking: Nearly half (49.8%) of all sextortion victims in the private sector were individuals seeking employment opportunities

The Culture of Silence



98.6% Non-Reporting Rate

Only 1.4% of Kenyans who paid a bribe reported the experience to an official institution



Why Kenyans Stay Silent
Belief it is "useless" (33.4%) and that no action will be taken

Disparities in Future Reporting

10.7% would consider reporting

6.9% would consider reporting to the EACC

Short-Term Recommendations for Reform



Launch Targeted Operations: Deploy undercover integrity testing in high-bribery sectors like police, civil registration, NTSA, and land registries.



Establish Anonymous Reporting: Create secure digital and USSD-based platforms for reporting bribery and sextortion without fear of retaliation.



Implement Sextortion Protocols: Train supervisors to recognize signs of sexual exploitation and provide victims with psychological and legal support.



Mandate Electronic Payments: Eliminate cash transactions by requiring mobile or electronic fee payments for birth certificates, IDs, and passports to create a



The overall aim of the NGCS, 2025 was to generate credible gender-disaggregated data that will inform Kenya’s anti-corruption strategies and enhance understanding of gendered experiences and perceptions of corruption.”



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Corruption remains one of the most significant challenges facing Kenya, with disproportionate effects on the poor and most vulnerable segments of society. Research consistently demonstrates that lower-income citizens pay a larger share of their income in bribes. The poor, vulnerable, and marginalized populations are particularly susceptible to victimization because they depend more heavily on state services and are perceived as having less power to resist corrupt demands. Women face compounded disadvantages, as corruption restricts both their access to quality public services and their participation in public, economic, and political spheres, thereby limiting their influence over decision-making processes.

In response to these challenges, the United Nations Convention Against Corruption Resolution 10/10, adopted in December 2023, calls on member states to integrate gender perspectives into anti-corruption strategies and to collect gender-disaggregated data for targeted interventions. The Kenya National Gender and Corruption Survey (NGCS) 2025 answers this call by providing comprehensive, credible data disaggregated by age, gender, ethnicity, location, income, education, disability status, marital status, and other variables.

The overall aim of the NGCS, 2025 was to generate credible gender-disaggregated data that will inform Kenya's anti-corruption strategies and enhance understanding of gendered experiences and perceptions of corruption. The Survey focused on citizens' interaction with select public and private sector employees in delivery of services across all the 47 counties in Kenya. Data collection employed a mixed-methods approach of quantitative, qualitative and analysis of previous studies and literature on corruption and gender. The survey employed a cross-sectional mixed methods design, integrating quantitative and qualitative evidence from household respondents, focus group discussions, and key informant interviews to generate nationally and county-representative estimates. The target population for the quantitative approach comprised one member per household aged 18 years and above randomly selected, where a total of 16,858 respondents were successfully interviewed. The qualitative information was obtained through 20 Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and 7 Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) with experts in governance drawn from state and non-state actors.

Healthcare professionals such as doctors, nurses, midwives (44.5%), teachers/lecturers (31.2%) and police officers (15.2%) were the top three public officials that service seekers interacted with. A majority (77%) of public service seekers, reported interactions with male elected representatives from county governments, male members of parliament, and both female and male teachers/lecturers. Public Service Seekers reported to mostly interact with female magistrates (28.1%), females judges (23.7%) and female civil registration officials (22.3%). Nineteen percent (19.8%) of respondents had interactions with doctors, 14.8 percent with nurses and 8.1 percent with bank employees in the private sector.

The target population for the quantitative approach comprised one member per household aged 18 years and above randomly selected, where a total of 16,858 respondents were successfully interviewed.

A higher proportion of respondents in rural areas interacted with private sector employees compared to those in urban. However, more respondents in urban areas (53.8%) interacted with teachers from the private sector than in rural areas (46.2%).

Overwhelming majority of bribes (84.3 percent) are paid before services are rendered, indicating a system of gatekeeping corruption that prevents access until payments are made. Cash remains the dominant form of bribery at 72.2 percent, followed by mobile money transfers at 10.5 percent. Notable gender and geographic differences emerge in bribery patterns: rural residents pay cash bribes at a rate of 77.3 percent compared to 65.5 percent for urban residents, while men pay cash bribes at 78.8 percent compared to 63.1 percent for women. Most female respondents gave bribes to civil registration officials (30.8%), while most male respondents gave bribes to police officers (41.6%). Among service seekers age 18–24 years half (51.4%) offered bribes to civil registration officials and 41.6 per cent to police officers. A similar pattern was observed where 42.2% and 32.6% of 25–34 and 29.9% and 26.4% of 50–64-year-olds reported offering bribes to police officers and civil registration officials, respectively. Those aged between 35–49 years offered bribes to police officers (38.4%) and land registry officers (30.0%). Among older respondents (65 years and above), 37.0 percent offered bribes to immigration officers and 33.0 per cent to NTSA officials.

The national average bribe increased considerably from KES 4,878 in 2024 to KES 6,724 in 2025, representing a 38 percent increase. Geographic variation is striking, with Kakamega County recording the highest average bribe at KES 79,305, driven primarily by bribes to judicial officers. West Pokot (KES 16,400), Isiolo (KES 13,912), Vihiga (KES 12,389), and Garissa (KES 12,297) follow. The least average bribes were recorded in Kitui (2,168), Siaya (2,155), Nyamira (KES 1,655), Kilifi (1,559) and Baringo (KES 1,314) counties. While over half of all bribes (51.8 percent) remain below KES 1,500, the concentration of high-value corruption in specific counties and institutions demands targeted intervention. The largest average cash bribe was paid to magistrates at the court at KES 164,367 while the lowest amount of average cash bribe (KES 1,415) was paid to civil registration officials. There is no much difference between the average cash bribe paid by women and men as men pay an average bribe of KES 6,748 while women pay an average bribe of KES 6,702. The largest average cash bribe of Ksh. 30,342 was paid by respondents aged above 65 years while the lowest amount of average cash bribe (KES 3,256) was paid by respondents aged 18–24 years. Rural residents paid the highest average cash bribe of Ksh.7,502 while urban residents paid an average bribe of Ksh. 5,603. Female respondents gave more bribes to employees in private insurance companies and employees in private banks while male respondents gave more bribes to teachers in private schools, doctors in private hospitals and nurses in private hospital. Doctors in the private sector received the largest average bribe of KES 5,164, followed by teachers (KES.5,020), and nurses (KES.3,366)

Female employees in banks (65.3%), insurance companies (44.1%) and nurses (17.9%) received more bribes compared to their male counterparts while male doctors (61.5%) and male teachers (42.1%) received more bribes compared to



The national average bribe increased considerably from KES 4,878 in 2024 to KES 6,724 in 2025, representing a 38 percent increase.

their female counterparts. Employees in private insurance companies (4.1%), teachers in private schools (2.9%) and nurses in private hospitals (0.8%) in rural areas take more bribes compared to those in urban areas. However, doctors in private hospitals in urban areas take more bribes compared to those in rural areas.

Citizens report paying bribes primarily to speed up procedures (32.1 %), because it was the only way to access services (27.8 %), and to avoid problems with authorities (12.2 %). Birth certificate applications attract the most frequent bribery (23.0 %), followed by securing release from detention (19.2 %), medical services (12.8 %), national identification (12.3 %), and public utilities (10.0 %). The highest bribe amounts are attached to seeking government employment (KES 85,033), obtaining government contracts (KES 24,020), and passport services (KES 12,514).

Police officers exhibit the highest bribery prevalence at 35.5 per cent, followed by civil registration officials (30.0 %), NTSA officers (25.4 %), land registry officers (23.3 %), and registration of persons officers (21.2 percent). The survey identifies tax and revenue officers (15.3 %), NTSA officers (10.8 %), and police officers (9.1 %) as the officials most likely to receive bribes on more than ten separate occasions from individual citizens. Magistrates receive the largest average cash bribe at KES 164,367, while civil registration officials receive the lowest cash bribe at KES 1,415.

Gender dynamics reveal that male officers dominate high-corruption sectors: NTSA (92.9 % male), prosecutors (92.3 % male), public utilities officers (90.9 % male), and police officers (88.8 % male). Women who pay frequent bribes tend to direct them toward tax and revenue officers (19.8 %), immigration officers (12.7 %), and health workers (6.7 %), while men more frequently bribe NTSA officers (12.6 %), police officers (10.9 %), and teachers (4.0 %). When faced with a bribe request, a majority of respondents (over 50%) refused to pay bribes to male public officials as compared to female. The top three largest proportion of male public officials to whom the respondents refused to pay a bribe to were prosecutors (89.9%), police officers (89.6%) and members of parliament (89.6%).

The survey uncovers significant levels of sexual exploitation in service delivery. Overall, 8.4 per cent of Kenyans report indirect requests for sexual favors, with women (9.3 %) affected more than men (7.4%). Direct requests affect 2.1 percent of the population, with women (3.4 %) facing such demands at more than four times the rate of men (0.8 %). Among the respondents who sought services from the private sector employees, 1.2 per cent were asked for sexual favours, 1.6 per cent preferred not to say. Male private sector employees made the highest demands for sexual favours (80.2%) compared to their female counterparts (19.8%). Among all individuals who reported being asked for sexual favors, women comprised 72.8 per cent. Young people aged 18-34 years (4.55%), face the highest rates of sexual demands from private sector employees, and those seeking employment account for nearly half (49.6 percent) of sextortion victims, followed by those seeking medical attention from doctors (25.0 %) and nurses (6.0 %). Single persons and those married monogamously face the highest rates of sexual coercion from private sector employees. Those aged between 24-34 years (2.37%), 18-24 years (2.18%) and 35-44 years (1.26%) were asked for sexual favours more frequently compared to other age brackets. Private sector employees mostly demanded sexual favours from respondents with secondary education (44.6%), primary education (27.9%) and those with college education (14.6%) respectively.

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Young people aged 18-34 years (4.55%), face the highest rates of sexual demands from private sector employees, and those seeking employment account for nearly half (49.6 percent) of sextortion victims.

Sexual favours were mostly demanded from unemployed (38.9%) and self-employed (35.9%) service seekers. Service seekers with low income level were more likely to be asked for sexual favours by the private sector employees, compared to those with high income level. Demand for sexual favours by the private sector employees were highest in Nairobi (2.7%), Kajiado (2.7%), Machakos (2.6%), Meru (2.3%) and Muranga (2.0%) Counties.

The most concerning finding is that 98.6 per cent of Kenyans who paid bribes did not report their experience to any official institution. Among the 1.4 per cent who reported, majority (57.2%) were women while 42.1 per cent were men. Most of the respondents (49.7%) that reported bribery incidents were ages 25 to 34 years, followed by ages 35 to 49 years (27.7%), 65 years and above (14.1%) and ages 50 to 64 (8.5%). Respondents between 18-24 years did not report any bribery incident. Sixty six percent (65.9%) of the counties did not report any incidents of bribery. Samburu shows highest reporting level (11.9%) followed by Baringo (11.5%) and Mandera (5.3%). While the overall bribery reporting rate remained very low, most respondents who paid a bribe or were approached for the payment of a bribe reported the incident to the police (30.2%), chiefs (13.2%) or the same institution of the officer requesting the bribe (11.8%).

More men respondents (40.2%) unlike women (22.6%) reported bribery incident to the police. Only men (3.1%) reported bribery incidents to the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission. More women (15.4%) than men (10.3%) reported to chiefs. More rural respondents (55.5%) compared to urban respondents (14.0%) reported bribery incident to the police. Only urban residents (2.1%) reported bribery incidents to the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission. Majority of respondents (93.5%) who paid bribes to private sector employees did not report their experiences. More urban residents (6.9%) reported bribery incidents compared to the rural residents (6.2%). More men (10.4%) compared to women (3.0%) reported bribery experiences. Most respondents (42.3%) stated that nothing happened after reporting bribery. One fifth (20.3%) said they did not know what happened while 12.5 per cent were advised not to go ahead with their report. More men respondents (54.5%) than women (33.2%) reported that nothing happened after reporting bribery. However, 10 times more men (14%) than women (1.4%) reported that a formal procedure was initiated against the officer but it was still in progress. More men respondents (34.5%) than women (31.8%) reported that the main reason why they do not report bribery is because it is useless and nobody would care about it. Nearly twice the number of women (12.7%) as men (7.1%) said they did not know to whom they should report to.

Most of the respondents (44.9%) reported that they would not report bribery incidents in future to any institution. About one third (34.8%) indicated that they would in future report bribery incidents to the chief's office, police (29.3%), EACC (13.7%), same institution of the officer requesting the bribe (11.7%), and social media (10%). One quarter (24.8%) of respondents ages 18-49 years reported that that they would not report bribery incidents in future. However, those aged 50 years and above reported that in future, they would report to the chief's office. More female respondents (31.1%) than men (22.5%) would prefer to report future bribery incidents to chief's office. More men (30.4%) than women (26.8%) would prefer not



The most concerning finding is that 98.6 per cent of Kenyans who paid bribes did not report their experience to any official institution.

to report any bribery incidents in future. More women (19.8%) would in future report bribery incidences to police as compared to men (18.5%). One tenth of men (10.7%) said they would report bribery incidents to EACC as compared to 6.9 percent of women. Six percent of women and men respectively said they would report to the same institution of the officer requesting the bribe, while 5 per cent women and 6 per cent men would report to social media

Public perception of corruption levels has worsened significantly, with 74.2 percent of respondents rating corruption as high in 2025, up from 67.6 percent in 2024. While 76.9 percent of male respondents rated the level of corruption to be high, the proportion for female was 71.6 percent. A majority, 65.8 percent, perceived that corruption has increased over the past twelve months. By sex, more female respondents ranked poverty (55.8%), health care (54.2%) and high cost of living (53.1%) as the most pressing problem facing the country today. On the other hand, more male respondents ranked corruption (55.7%) and unemployment (52%) as the most pressing problem. By residence, rural dwellers ranked high cost of living (63%), poverty (69.2%), health care (68.3%) and unemployment (52.9%) as the most pressing problem facing the country today compared to more urban dwellers who ranked corruption (52.1%) higher. Looking ahead, 55.2 percent expect corruption to increase further, while only 10.1 percent expect a decrease. Despite these pessimistic views, 78 percent of respondent's state they would not engage in corruption regardless of circumstances, though 9.7 percent would, in special circumstances and 8.5 percent if the opportunity presented itself. Young people aged 18-24 show the highest willingness to engage in corruption (12.3 percent), while those over 65 show the lowest. Slightly more men (29.1%) than women (24.2%) have been personally offered money before or during the 2022 General Election, some candidates offered favours, money or goods in exchange of votes.

Public confidence in government commitment to fighting corruption remains low: only 14.6 percent believe the government is committed, while 73 percent believe it is not. The National Police Service is perceived as the most corrupt national agency by 45.8 percent of respondents while the Ministry of Interior and National Administration (45.1 percent) leads government ministries. At the county level, health departments are perceived as most corrupt (31.8 percent). Citizens identify greed as the primary cause of corruption (52.9 percent), followed by lack of integrity (6.1 percent) and a culture of corruption (4.9 percent). The perceived main effects of corruption include increased poverty and poor living standards (21.0 percent), hampered economic growth (16.8 percent), and increased cost of living (13.6 percent).

Radio remains the leading source of anti-corruption information (70.1 percent), followed by television (60.3 percent), word of mouth (57.9 percent), social media (43.6 percent), and places of worship (37.2 percent). Men access radio information at higher rates than women (74.2 percent versus 66.4 percent), while women access information from places of worship at similar rates to men (38.1 percent versus 36.2 percent). Younger respondents prefer social media while older respondents prefer radio. Regional and vernacular radio stations lead listenership (40.1 percent), and Facebook dominates social media usage (38.4 percent). By place of residence, urban dwellers use social media more than rural dwellers.



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EACC awareness stands at 51.6 percent nationally, with significant variation by county: Kakamega leads at 70.4 percent while Turkana trails at 17.9 percent. Access to EACC services remains inequitable: 7.6 percent of men accessed services compared to only 3.9 percent of women, and those with postgraduate education accessed services at 61.0 percent compared to far lower rates for less educated groups. A majority of respondents rate EACC as either very effective (13.7 percent) or moderately effective (45.5 percent), though ratings on transparency, accessibility, reliability, and availability hover around “fair.”

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Launch targeted anti-corruption operations in high-bribery sectors:

Deploy undercover integrity testing and enhanced monitoring of police services, civil registration, NTSA, and land registries. Establish a dedicated task force to investigate judicial bribery in Kakamega County and other high-bribe jurisdictions. Set measurable targets to reduce bribery prevalence in these sectors by at least 20 percent within six months.

2. Establish secure, anonymous reporting channels:

Create confidential digital and mobile reporting platforms that allow citizens to report bribery and sextortion without fear of retaliation. These platforms should be accessible via USSD codes for non-smartphone users and should provide case tracking numbers for reporters to follow up on their complaints.

3. Implement emergency sextortion intervention protocols:

Train all public service supervisors to recognize signs of sextortion and establish clear disciplinary procedures. Create dedicated support services for victims, including psychological counseling and legal assistance. Prioritize protection for young women seeking employment and medical services, the groups most vulnerable to sexual coercion.

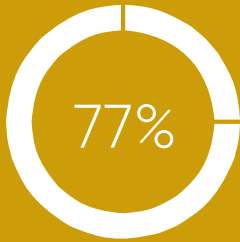
4. Reform service delivery payment systems:

Mandate electronic fee payments for high-corruption services including birth certificates, national IDs, passports, and court processes to eliminate cash transactions and create audit trails. Display official fee schedules prominently at all service points and publish them online.





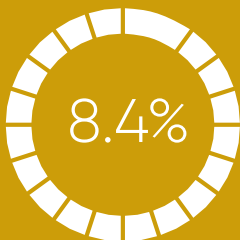
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Percentage of public service seekers who reported interactions with male elected representatives from county governments, male members of parliament, and both female and male teachers/lecturers.



More men respondents (40.2%) unlike women respondents (22.6%) reported bribery incident to the police



Percentage of Kenyans who reported indirect requests for sexual favors, with women (9.3%) affected more than men (7.4%).

14.6%

Percentage of Kenyans who have confidence in government commitment to fighting corruption



The national average bribe increased considerably from KES 4,878 in 2024 to KES 6,724 in 2025

Gender dynamics in official bribery reveal that male officers dominate high-corruption sectors: NTSA (92.9% male), prosecutors (92.3% male), public utilities officers (90.9% male), and police officers (88.8% male).





Background

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CHAPTER ONE

1. BACKGROUND

This chapter contextualizes the intricate nexus between gender and corruption, examines competing theoretical perspectives, and establishes the critical research gaps that necessitate gender-focused inquiry in Kenya's anti-corruption agenda. It articulates the study's objectives, underscores its significance, and delineates its scope, positioning this research as an essential contribution to both academic discourse and evidence-based policy formulation.

1.1. INTRODUCTION

Systemic gender inequality, deeply rooted in historical discrimination and perpetuated through corrupt institutional practices, continues to reinforce asymmetric power structures that produce and normalize gendered social roles. These entrenched imbalances not only sustain discriminatory behavior across public and private sectors but also create enabling environments for gendered forms of coercion, exploitation, and violence. Consequently, corruption transcends its conventional framing as merely an economic or governance challenge; it manifests as a complex, multi-dimensional social phenomenon that fundamentally erodes institutional trust, weakens the rule of law, and systematically undermines efforts toward achieving sustainable and inclusive development.

Beyond the direct diversion of public resources and the distortion of market mechanisms, corruption corrodes the moral and social fabric of societies, creating fertile conditions for organized crime, violent extremism, and deepening socio-economic inequalities to proliferate (UNODC, 2018). The corrosive effects of corruption extend to undermining collective global efforts to address critical challenges including climate change, environmental degradation, persistent poverty, and widening inequality gaps (OECD, 2022). When corruption intersects with gender inequality, it creates compounding vulnerabilities that disproportionately affect women, girls, and marginalized populations, thereby reinforcing cycles of poverty and exclusion that span generations.

Globally, nations aspire to achieve inclusive and equitable economic growth that enhances state capacity and ensures effective provision of essential public goods including quality healthcare, education, social protection systems, and critical infrastructure (Turrey & Maqbool, 2018). However, this transformative vision is persistently threatened by systemic corruption, particularly acute in developing economies where governance institutions remain fragile and accountability mechanisms are weak.

Systemic gender inequality, deeply rooted in historical discrimination and perpetuated through corrupt institutional practices, continues to reinforce asymmetric power structures.

In Africa, illicit financial flows represent one of the continent’s most devastating economic hemorrhages, with an estimated USD 88.6 billion—equivalent to 3.7% of the continent’s GDP—leaving the region annually through corruption, tax evasion, and related illicit practices. These staggering losses deprive African nations of critical resources needed for development, perpetuating dependency and underdevelopment.

In Kenya, corruption remains a pervasive and persistent challenge that undermines national development aspirations. Driven by governance inefficiencies, political patronage networks, high costs of living, and widespread poverty, corruption manifests through diverse mechanisms including grand corruption in public procurement, petty bribery in service delivery, and increasingly sophisticated forms of corruption that exploit digital platforms (EACC, 2023). The multifaceted effects are profound: slowed economic growth, grossly unequal wealth distribution, deteriorating quality of public services, and significantly diminished public trust in government institutions and the social contract itself. Combating corruption, therefore, is not merely a legal obligation or moral imperative but represents an essential and non-negotiable pathway toward achieving equitable, sustainable, and transformative development (OECD, 2022). Without addressing corruption through a gendered lens, anti-corruption efforts risk perpetuating the very inequalities they seek to eliminate.

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1.2. THEORETICAL PERSPECTIVES ON GENDER AND CORRUPTION

Scholarly efforts to conceptualize and explain the complex relationship between gender and corruption have crystallized into two principal—and often competing—theoretical frameworks: the idealist school and the realist school. The idealist perspective posits that women demonstrate inherently higher ethical standards and exhibit lower propensity toward corrupt behavior, attributing these differences to gender-differentiated socialization processes, distinct moral development trajectories, and culturally reinforced expectations of feminine virtue and integrity (Swamy et al., 2001; Dollar et al., 2001). This perspective suggests that women’s exclusion from traditional networks of power and patronage, combined with socialized risk aversion, positions them as naturally inclined toward ethical conduct.

Conversely, the realist school fundamentally challenges these essentialist assumptions, arguing persuasively that observed gender differences in corruption are context-dependent and shaped primarily by institutional environments, opportunity structures, and differential access to power rather than inherent gender traits or moral superiority (Wang & Min, 2014; Esarey & Chirillo, 2013). Realist scholars contend that when women gain equivalent access to political authority and administrative power, their susceptibility to corruption mirrors that of male counterparts, suggesting that apparent gender differences reflect structural constraints rather than moral disposition.

Central to this discourse is the critical distinction between sex and gender as analytical categories. Sex refers to biological and physiological differences between females and males—immutable characteristics determined by

chromosomal composition, reproductive anatomy, and hormonal profiles. Gender, in contrast, encompasses the socially and culturally constructed roles, behaviors, attributes, and expectations that societies assign to individuals based on perceived sex categories (Korsvik et al., 2018). Gender is therefore fluid, context-specific, and subject to change across time, space, and cultural contexts. Understanding and maintaining these analytical distinctions is fundamental to examining how structural inequalities, power asymmetries, and gendered social norms interact with corruption dynamics within public institutions, private sector organizations, and informal networks.

This theoretical tension between idealist and realist frameworks highlights the necessity for empirically rigorous, context-specific research that accounts for the complex interplay of cultural norms, institutional arrangements, differential access to power and resources, and socio-economic conditions. These competing perspectives also reveal that corruption cannot be adequately understood as merely an individual moral failing but must be analyzed as a systemic phenomenon deeply embedded within gendered structures of inequality, patriarchal power relations, and discriminatory institutional practices.

1.3. GENDER DIMENSIONS OF UNETHICAL PRACTICE AND CORRUPTION

Corruption has historically been conceptualized, measured, and addressed as a gender-neutral phenomenon, with mainstream anti-corruption frameworks treating it as an undifferentiated problem affecting all citizens equally. However, accumulating evidence from diverse geographical and institutional contexts demonstrates compellingly that women and men not only experience corruption differently but also participate in corrupt activities through divergent pathways, face distinct forms of corruption-related victimization, and encounter differential consequences from corrupt systems. For instance, men typically encounter corruption within business transactions, political processes, and law enforcement interactions, while women are disproportionately exposed to coercive, exploitative, and sexualized forms of corruption, particularly when accessing essential public services including healthcare, education, and social welfare programs. This gendered pattern of corruption victimization necessitates differentiated analytical frameworks and targeted interventions that recognize the varying risks, vulnerabilities, and impacts experienced across social groups.

Empirical research examining gender dimensions of corruption has generated mixed and sometimes contradictory findings, reflecting the complexity of the phenomenon and the contextual factors that shape corruption dynamics. Studies aligned with the idealist perspective assert that men demonstrate significantly higher involvement in bribery practices and exhibit greater tolerance for corrupt behavior across multiple cultural contexts (Swamy et al., 2001). This body of literature contends that the widespread belief in women's lower corruption propensity has empirical foundations. Variations in risk aversion tendencies, reciprocal behavior patterns, and differential socialization processes have been advanced to partially explain documented gender

...accumulating evidence from diverse geographical and institutional contexts demonstrates compellingly that women and men not only experience corruption differently but also participate in corrupt activities through divergent pathways.

differences in corrupt conduct (Frédéric Boehm, 2015). Research demonstrates that higher female representation in governmental positions and legislative bodies correlates with measurably lower levels of institutional corruption, suggesting a positive relationship between women's meaningful political participation and enhanced institutional integrity (Dollar et al., 2001). Similar findings have been documented across diverse contexts (Fernanda Cimini et al., 2024; Westminster Foundation for Democracy, 2012), indicating that increased proportions of women legislators in political institutions may contribute to reducing overall levels of political corruption through enhanced oversight, altered institutional cultures, and disruption of established patronage networks.

A landmark study conducted by UNODC (2010) in Serbia revealed that men were significantly more likely to engage in bribery transactions compared to women, with pronounced gender differences emerging in both the prevalence and nature of corrupt exchanges. The research highlighted critical gendered patterns in the types of officials targeted for bribes: men primarily bribed police officers for work-related purposes and to avoid sanctions, whereas women more frequently bribed healthcare professionals to secure medical attention for themselves or family members. These gendered patterns reflect broader social role divisions and differential service needs. Similar empirical patterns have been documented in Nigeria and Ghana, where men consistently demonstrated higher likelihood of both giving and receiving bribes compared to women (UNODC, 2020, 2022). Crucially, research in Ghana revealed that women were twice as likely to face demands for sexual favors from public officials—a disturbing finding that illustrates the dangerous intersection of corruption with gender-based exploitation, sexual harassment, and abuse of power. This form of “sextortion” represents a particularly insidious manifestation of corruption that weaponizes gender inequality and sexual vulnerability to extract illicit benefits.

In Kenya, research conducted by the National Gender and Equality Commission reveals that irrespective of gender identity, Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) experience disproportionate vulnerability to corruption and unethical behaviors across multiple service delivery contexts (NGEC, 2024). PWDs are simultaneously victims of corrupt practices that exploit their vulnerabilities, occasional beneficiaries of corrupt systems designed to circumvent discriminatory barriers, and in some instances, participants in corrupt and bribery practices as survival strategies within inaccessible systems. This complex positioning highlights how intersecting marginalized identities—including gender, disability, socio-economic status, and geographic location—create compounding vulnerabilities within corrupt systems.

Conversely, empirical evidence supporting the realist perspective maintains that apparent gender differences in corruption are products of institutional contexts, political environments, and opportunity structures rather than reflections of inherent moral differences or essential gender traits (Esarey & Chirillo, 2013; Wang & Min, 2014). In political and administrative systems where corruption has been normalized and institutionalized as standard operating procedure, both women and men demonstrate comparable likelihood of participating in corrupt activities when provided with equivalent opportunity, access to power, and exposure to corrupt networks (Sung, 2006). Evidence from China, for instance, demonstrates that when women gain substantial political or administrative authority within systems

characterized by endemic corruption, their susceptibility to and participation in corrupt practices closely mirrors that of male counterparts, suggesting that structural factors rather than gender-based moral differences determine corrupt behavior (Wang & Min, 2014).

These mixed and sometimes contradictory empirical findings underscore the critical need for context-specific research inquiry that rigorously considers cultural norms, institutional arrangements, gendered access to power and resources, opportunity structures, and prevailing socio-economic conditions. The evidence base collectively reveals that corruption is not adequately understood as simply a moral or individual character issue but must be analyzed as a systemic phenomenon embedded within gendered structures of inequality, discriminatory institutional practices, and asymmetric power relations that vary significantly across contexts.

1.4. PROBLEM STATEMENT

Despite Kenya's constitutional commitment to promoting ethical governance standards and its sustained efforts to combat corruption through legislative reforms, institutional strengthening, and public awareness campaigns, existing anti-corruption frameworks consistently lack a gendered analytical perspective. This critical gap has profound implications: the impacts of unethical practices and corruption are demonstrably not uniform across populations; rather, they disproportionately affect women, girls, and marginalized groups, thereby deepening poverty, exacerbating social inequality, and reinforcing discriminatory power structures that limit opportunities for vulnerable populations.

While numerous academic studies, governmental reports, and civil society assessments have explored the general state of corruption in Kenya, a significant and consequential knowledge gap persists regarding how gender mediates differential exposure to corruption, shapes patterns of participation in corrupt activities, influences reporting behaviors, and determines the varied consequences of corruption across diverse social groups. This gap is not merely academic but has direct policy implications, as gender-blind approaches to corruption measurement and intervention may inadvertently perpetuate the very inequalities they purport to address.

Existing national surveys, including successive iterations of the National Ethics and Corruption Surveys (NECSs), have historically provided aggregate data that systematically overlook gender-based disparities in corruption experiences, perceptions, and impacts. By treating corruption as a homogeneous phenomenon affecting all citizens equally, these surveys have produced data that obscures critical gender differences in corruption vulnerability, victimization patterns, and coping strategies. As a direct consequence, policymakers, anti-corruption practitioners, and civil society actors lack the disaggregated, gender-sensitive evidence necessary to design inclusive, equitable, and effective anti-corruption interventions that address the differentiated needs and experiences of diverse populations.

As a direct consequence, policymakers, anti-corruption practitioners, and civil society actors lack the disaggregated, gender-sensitive evidence necessary to design inclusive, equitable, and effective anti-corruption interventions.

This research therefore seeks to address this critical knowledge gap by systematically mainstreaming gender considerations throughout all stages of measurement, data collection, and analysis of unethical practices and corruption in Kenya. Through this comprehensive gender-sensitive approach, the study aims to generate robust empirical evidence that informs the development of gender-responsive anti-corruption interventions, strategies, and policies that effectively promote ethical standards, prevent corruption, and advance gender equality simultaneously. By illuminating the gendered dimensions of corruption, this research contributes to building more inclusive, accountable, and equitable governance systems that serve all Kenyans.

1.5. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

This study makes substantial contributions to both academic scholarship and evidence-based policy practice, bridging the persistent gap between theoretical understanding and practical application in anti-corruption work. From an academic perspective, this research significantly extends contemporary discourse on ethics and corruption by integrating sophisticated gendered analytical frameworks, thereby advancing empirical understanding of how gender dynamics, power relations, and social norms fundamentally shape ethical conduct, corrupt behavior, and institutional integrity across diverse contexts. The study contributes original empirical evidence to ongoing theoretical debates between idealist and realist perspectives, offering nuanced insights that move beyond simplistic binaries toward contextually grounded analysis.

From a policy and practice perspective, the study directly supports the development of evidence-based, gender-responsive strategies that align with Kenya's national development agenda and international commitments. The research operationalizes Article 61 of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC), which emphasizes the critical importance of data-driven approaches to understanding corruption trends, patterns, and impacts (UNODC, 2003). By generating robust, methodologically rigorous data, this study equips policymakers and practitioners with the analytical tools needed to design targeted, effective interventions.

The study's findings provide comprehensive gender-disaggregated data to guide the formulation of targeted interventions that enhance equity, transparency, accountability, and inclusive governance. This research directly aligns with Kenya's constitutional requirements under Article 254(1), which mandates periodic reporting on governance indicators. It fulfills obligations outlined in the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission Act (CAP 7H) and the Leadership and Integrity Act (CAP 185C) to systematically report on the impact and effectiveness of anti-corruption initiatives. Furthermore, the study responds to mandates articulated in the National Gender and Equality Commission Act (CAP 7K), which requires periodic reporting on the status of vulnerable populations, including women and marginalized groups, across various dimensions of life including access to healthcare, education, social protection, economic opportunities, and participation in public life.

The study's findings provide comprehensive gender-disaggregated data to guide the formulation of targeted interventions.

The study's results are expected to inform evidence-based policy formulation at both national and county levels, ensuring that anti-corruption measures are genuinely inclusive, contextually appropriate, and gender-sensitive. By demonstrating how corruption and gender inequality intersect and reinforce each other, this research provides policymakers with actionable insights for developing integrated approaches that simultaneously combat corruption and advance gender equality. The findings will serve as a foundational evidence base for designing interventions that protect vulnerable populations from corruption-related exploitation while dismantling the structural barriers that enable gendered corruption to persist.

1.6. OBJECTIVES

The overarching objective of the Survey is to generate credible, methodologically robust gender-disaggregated data that inform Kenya's anti-corruption strategies and enhance understanding of gendered experiences, perceptions, and impacts of corruption across diverse populations and contexts. The specific objectives of the survey are to:

- i) Identify and analyze the diverse forms, prevalence, and patterns of unethical practices and corruption in public and private sector service delivery, with particular attention to gender-specific manifestations;
- ii) Determine the levels, patterns, and barriers affecting corruption reporting among the general public, disaggregated by gender and other intersecting identities;
- iii) Assess public awareness levels and perceived effectiveness of existing anti-corruption initiatives, examining gender differences in knowledge, attitudes, and trust;
- iv) Analyze the social, institutional, cultural, and economic drivers of unethical practices and corruption, as well as their differentiated impacts on citizens across gender, disability status, and socio-economic categories;
- v) Establish comprehensive public perceptions of unethical practices and corruption in Kenya, identifying gender-based variations in attitudes, tolerance levels, and prioritization; and
- vi) Identify key sources and channels of information about unethical practices and corruption, examining gendered patterns in information access and media consumption.

1.7. SCOPE

The Survey was conducted by the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission in strategic collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime – Regional Office in Eastern Africa (UNODC-ROEA), the National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC), the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), and Transparency International Kenya. This multi-stakeholder partnership ensures methodological rigor, technical expertise, and alignment with international best practices in corruption measurement and gender analysis.

The study comprehensively examines citizens' interactions with public officers in the delivery of public services across all 47 counties, ensuring national representativeness and enabling county-level disaggregation. Additionally, the research investigates citizens' encounters with private sector employees, recognizing that corruption extends beyond the public sector into commercial transactions and private service provision. This dual focus provides a holistic understanding of corruption across Kenya's formal economy.

Data collection employed a sophisticated mixed-methods approach combining quantitative and qualitative techniques to capture both breadth and depth of understanding:

i) Quantitative approach:

Computer Assisted Personal Interviews (CAPI) with a nationally representative sample of 1,467 clusters drawn proportionately from all 47 counties, yielding robust data for statistical analysis and generalization;

ii) Qualitative approach:

Twenty (20) Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) conducted in ten purposively selected counties, involving diverse stakeholders including both state and non-state actors, complemented by seven (7) Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) with recognized governance and gender experts, providing nuanced contextual insights and explanatory depth; and

iii) Literature review:

Systematic analysis of previous empirical studies, theoretical frameworks, and policy documents on corruption and gender, establishing the study within existing knowledge while identifying gaps and innovations.



1.8. ORGANIZATION OF THE REPORT

This report is systematically organized to facilitate comprehensive understanding and accessibility:

1 Chapter One provides the background context, theoretical frameworks, problem statement, significance, research objectives, and scope of the Survey, establishing the foundational rationale for the research.

2 Chapter Two presents the detailed research methodology, including research design, sampling techniques and procedures, data collection instruments and protocols, and analytical strategies employed.

3 Chapter Three presents the empirical findings organized thematically around the survey's specific objectives, integrating quantitative and qualitative evidence to provide comprehensive insights.

4 Chapter Four synthesizes key findings and provides actionable, evidence-based recommendations for policy formulation, institutional reform, and targeted interventions to combat corruption while advancing gender equality.





Methodology

Methodology

CHAPTER TWO

2. METHODOLOGY

This Chapter outlines the methodological framework and techniques applied in the survey, including research design; sampling procedures and, data collection, processing and analysis. It provides a rationale for the selected approaches and discusses how they ensure validity, reliability and credibility of the findings. This chapter concludes with a conceptual framework and an overview of the analytical strategies employed in the survey.

2.1. RESEARCH DESIGN

The Survey adopted a cross-sectional mixed methods research design, which allows integration of both quantitative and qualitative evidence to enhance the depth and breadth of understanding of the survey objects (Creswell & Plano Clark, 2018). The design enabled collection of data from a large number of respondents at a single point in time to allow for gender disaggregated indicators at national and county levels.

Quantitative data were gathered using structured household questionnaires administered through face-to-face Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI). This face-to-face approach permitted interviewers to probe and clarify responses, leading to higher response rate, and enhancing accuracy and completeness.

The target population included all Kenyan adults, aged 18 and above, living in residential households and randomly selected using the Kish Grid Technique. To complement the quantitative data, the qualitative information was obtained through 20 Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and 7 Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) with experts in governance drawn from state and non-state actors so as to get further insights on the relationship between gender and corruption.

This design is appropriate as it facilitates descriptive and analytical examination of the relationships between gender, unethical practices, corruption, and social drivers while maintaining efficiency in cost and time. This approach further enhances the validity of findings through triangulation of quantitative and qualitative data.

2.2. SAMPLE FRAME, SAMPLING TECHNIQUE AND SAMPLE SIZE

The Survey used clusters from the Kenya Household Master Sample Frame (KHMSF), which was developed after conducting the 2019 Kenya Population and Housing Census (KPHC). The sampling frame is maintained by the Kenya National Bureau of

Statistics (KNBS). The frame contains 10,000 clusters selected with Probability Proportional to Size (PPS) from approximately 128,000 Enumeration Areas (EAs).

In designing the sample for the Survey, a two-stage stratified cluster sampling design was adopted, where the sampling units were selected in two stages. In the first stage a total of 1,467 clusters (911 rural and 556 urban) being the primary sampling units (PSUs) for the survey, were selected from the KHMSF using equal probability selection method. In the second stage, a total of 15 households per cluster were systematically selected from the list of households in the sampled clusters. The NGCS 2025 had a national sample size of 22,005 households proportionately allocated by county, Appendix 1.

2.3. RESEARCH INSTRUMENTS

Two sets of research instruments were utilized in the survey, one for the quantitative data collection and the other for the qualitative data collection. These instruments were co-created by a technical working group drawn from EACC, NGECC, KNBS, UNODC, TI (K), and National Council for Population and Development (NCPD) who were responsible for the design and finalization of the instruments. The research tools were customized using input from instruments previously used in Ghana and Nigeria studies about gender and corruption studies. The tools were then validated by 119 state and non-state actors in a one-day workshop at the Kenya School of Government, Nairobi.

2.4. TRAINING

Fifty-eight Research Assistants, 12 Supervisors and 19 Coordinators were trained from 28th April to 2nd May, 2025 at the Kenya School of Government. During this training the research instruments were pretested and improved in readiness for the survey.

2.5. DATA COLLECTION AND PROCESSING

Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission, in collaboration with KNBS, NGECC and in partnership with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and Transparency International (TI) Kenya coordinated data collection countrywide from May to September, 2025. Ethical protocols were strictly observed, including obtaining informed consent, maintaining respondent anonymity, confidentiality and ensuring voluntary participation. Field supervisors conducted random back check and used digital monitoring dashboards to verify data accuracy.

There were twelve (12) teams of 3 to 4 Research Assistants per team led by a supervisor. Each team visited 2 to 3 clusters a day, interviewing 15 (fifteen) households per cluster. The teams encountered challenges including incompetent respondent at home at time of visit, dwelling vacant, entire household absent for extended period of time, refusal, dwelling destroyed, insecurity, harsh weather and rough terrain.

Quantitative data were captured using programmed tablets equipped with the Census and Survey Processing System (CSPro) software and data electronically transmitted daily to EACC Server. In regard to qualitative data, twenty (20) Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) in 10 Counties were undertaken. The participants were drawn from both state and non-state actors. In addition, 7 key informant interviews were undertaken on issues of governance and gender. To complement quantitative data, secondary data was abstracted from previous studies. Data was cleaned through editing, validation and verification before weighting. Qualitative data was captured using theme-based guide questions, digital recorders and transcribed.

2.6. DATA WEIGHTING

Data was weighted based on the 2019 Kenya Household Master Sample Frame (KHMSF). The weighting procedure incorporated probabilities of selection of the clusters from the census EAs database into the KHMSF, the probabilities of selection of the 2025 NGCS clusters from the frame, the probabilities of selection of the households from each of the sampled cluster and the probabilities of selection of an individual among other eligible individuals at the household level. These design weights were then adjusted for individual and household non-response at the stratum level using the mathematical relation:

$$W_{hi} = D_{hi} \times \frac{S_{hi}}{I_{hi}} \times \frac{C_h}{c_h} \times \frac{I_{hij}}{1}$$

whereby,

W_{hi} = Overall cluster weight for the i-th cluster in the h-th stratum

D_{hi} = Sample cluster design weight obtained from cluster selection probabilities for the i-th cluster in the h-th stratum

S_{hi} = Number of listed households in the i-th cluster in the h-th stratum

I_{hi} = Number of responding households in i-th cluster in the h-th stratum

C_h = Number of clusters in h-th stratum

c_h = Number of selected clusters in the h-th stratum

I_{hij} = Number of listed eligible individuals within the j-th household in the i-th cluster in the h-th stratum.

The weights were further adjusted to ensure consistency with the projected population figures.

2.7. DATA ANALYSIS

Quantitative data analysis was conducted using International Business Machines (IBM), Statistical Packages for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 20. Strategy applied to decrease non-response included repeated visits. Substitution was not permitted. Data gathered has been presented using descriptive statistical tools such as frequency tables, percentages and charts. Out of 22,005 households sampled, 21,941 households were reached with 16,858 successfully interviewed as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Distribution of the Results of Households Sampled

Data Collection Results	Frequency	Percent
Completed	16,858	76.6
No Household Member at home/ no competent respondent at home at time of visit	1,688	7.7
Dwelling Vacant or address not a dwelling	1,339	6.1
Entire household absent for extended period of time	1,080	4.9
Refused	389	1.8
Dwelling not found/ Destroyed	546	2.5
Incomplete/Postponed	36	0.2
Households not interviewed for various reasons (insecurity, harsh weather, rough terrain)	69	0.3
Total	22,005	100.0

Qualitative data were analyzed using content analysis to identify recurring patterns and narratives to identify relationships between gender, unethical practices and corruption variables.

2.8. CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

The conceptual framework illustrates the hypothesized relationships between gender, social drivers of unethical conduct and corruption, and the prevalence of unethical conduct and corruption. Gender serves as the key independent variable, while social and institutional factors act as mediating variables influencing exposure, participation, and perception of unethical practices and corruption. The dependent variable is the occurrence of unethical conduct and corruption experienced or perceived by individuals. The framework as shown in Figure 1 assumes that gender interacts with socio-economic status, institutional culture, power dynamics and access to opportunities to determine vulnerability to or involvement in unethical practice and corruption.

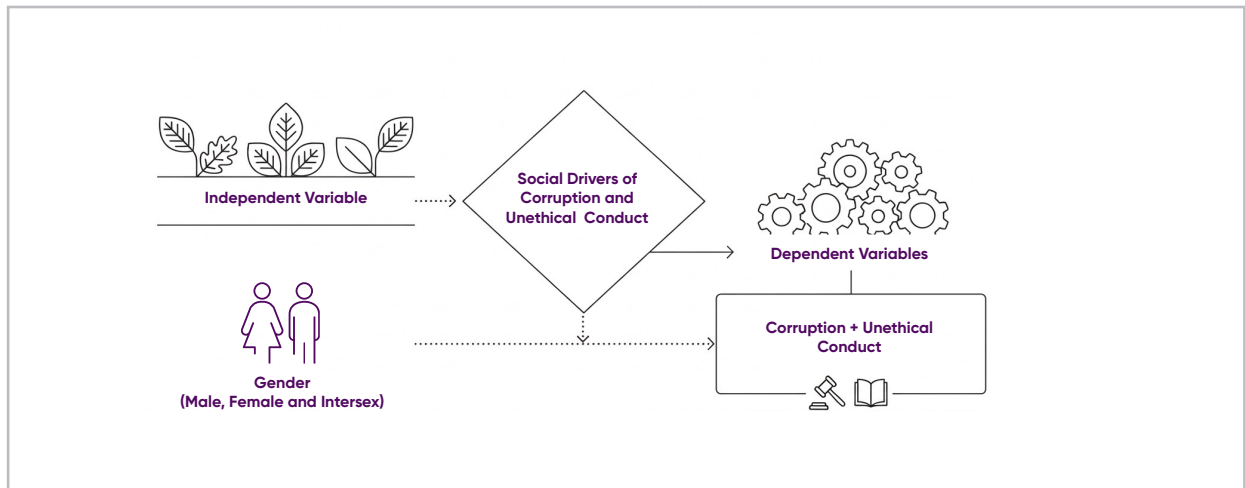
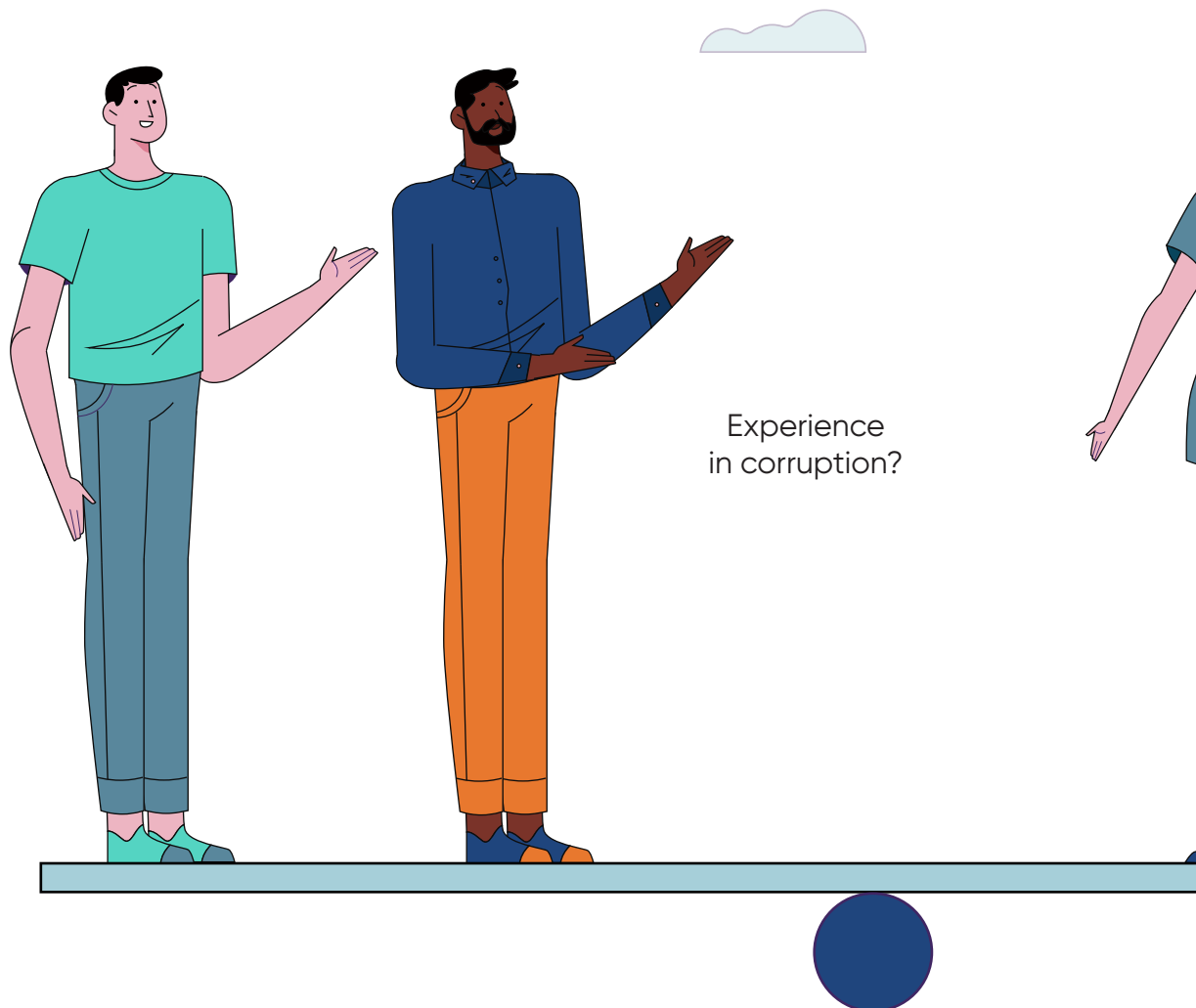
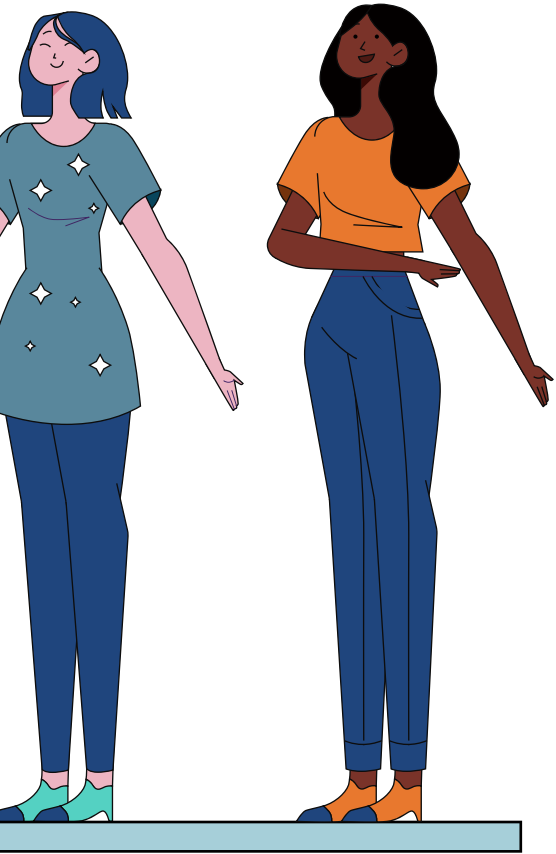
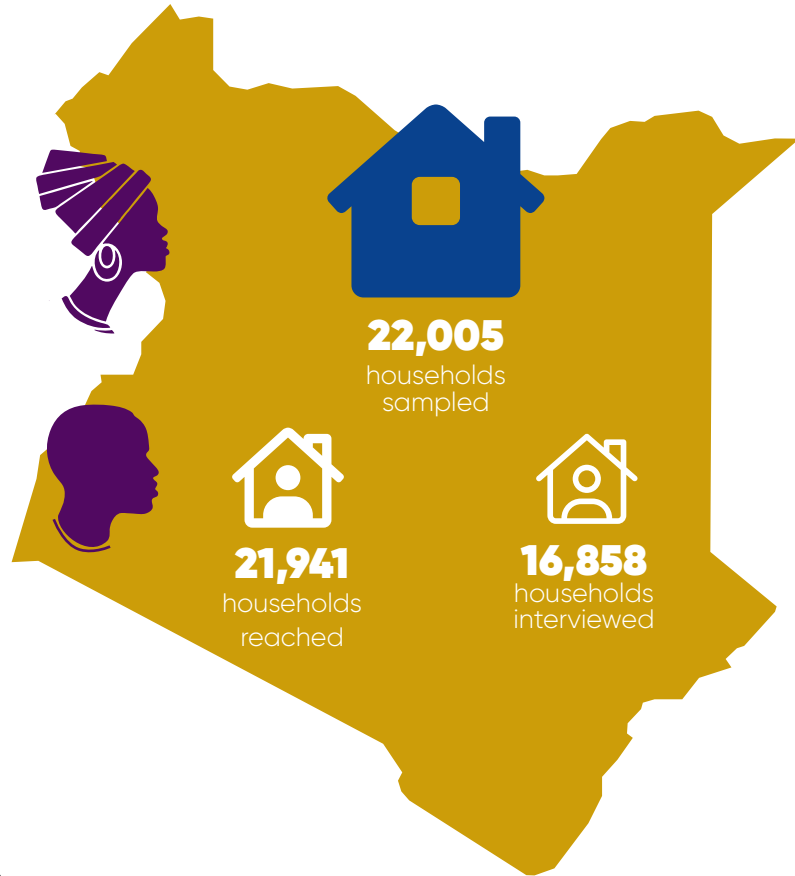


Figure 1: Conceptual Framework







Survey Findings

Survey Findings

CHAPTER THREE

3. SURVEY FINDINGS



This chapter presents and interprets the findings of the National Gender and Corruption Survey 2025. The data reflects citizens' interactions with public and private institutions, and highlights specific gender patterns with experiences, perceptions, and forms of unethical practices and corruption in Kenya. The presentation aligns with the Survey's objectives outlined in Chapter One and are underpinned by the methodologies as detailed in Chapter Two.

3.1. GENDER DIFFERENCES IN INTERACTIONS WITH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EMPLOYEES

3.1.1. Contact Rate by type of public official

The contact rate between service seekers and public officials varied by type of public official. Healthcare professionals such as doctors, nurses, midwives (44.5%) constituted the largest share of public officials that service seekers interacted with, 12 months prior to the Survey. They are followed by teachers/lecturers (31.2%), police officers (15.2%) and public utility officers (14.3%). Interactions with other types of public officials constituted less than 10 per cent (Figure 2).

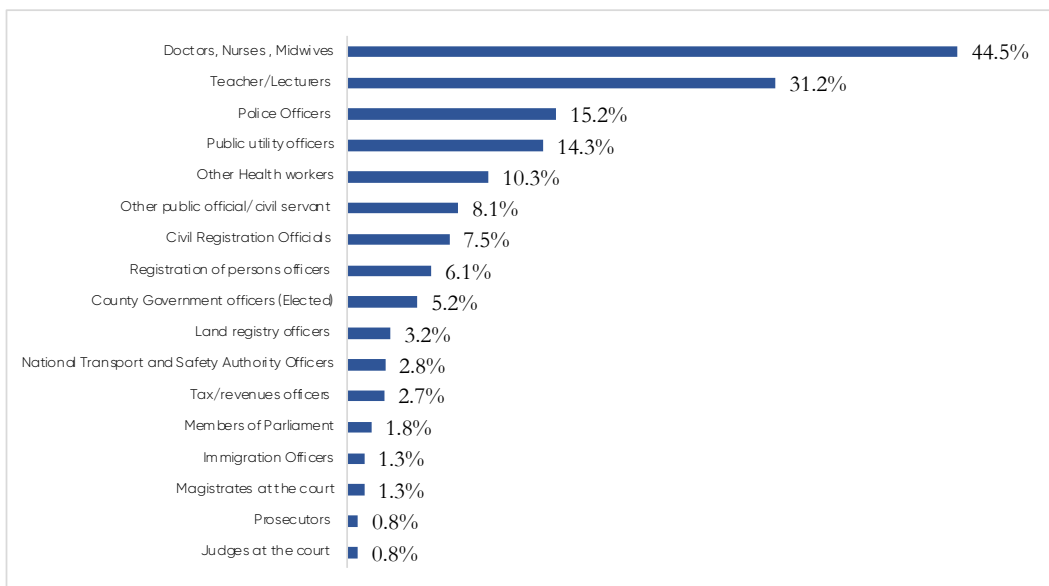


Figure 2: Contact Rate with Public Officials

3.1.2. Frequency of Contact by type of Public Official

Among service seekers who contacted public officials in the 12 months prior to the Survey, half reported having interacted with doctors, nurses or midwives and, land registry officers two to three times, followed by other health workers (47.7%), public utility officers, registration of persons officer and, elected representatives from county government at 46 per cent, respectively.

Nearly one half reported having interacted with civil registration officials and registration of persons officers, 44 per cent interacted with members of parliament, and 42 percent interacted with tax/revenues officers and magistrates once in the last 12 months.

Among service seekers who contacted public officials in the 12 months prior to the survey, 23.3 per cent reported having interacted with teachers and lecturers ten or more times followed by other public officials/civil servants at 19.0 per cent, other health workers (14.2%), judges (14.0%), tax/revenue officers (13.8%) and National Transport and Safety Authority officials (13.2%) as illustrated in Figure 3.

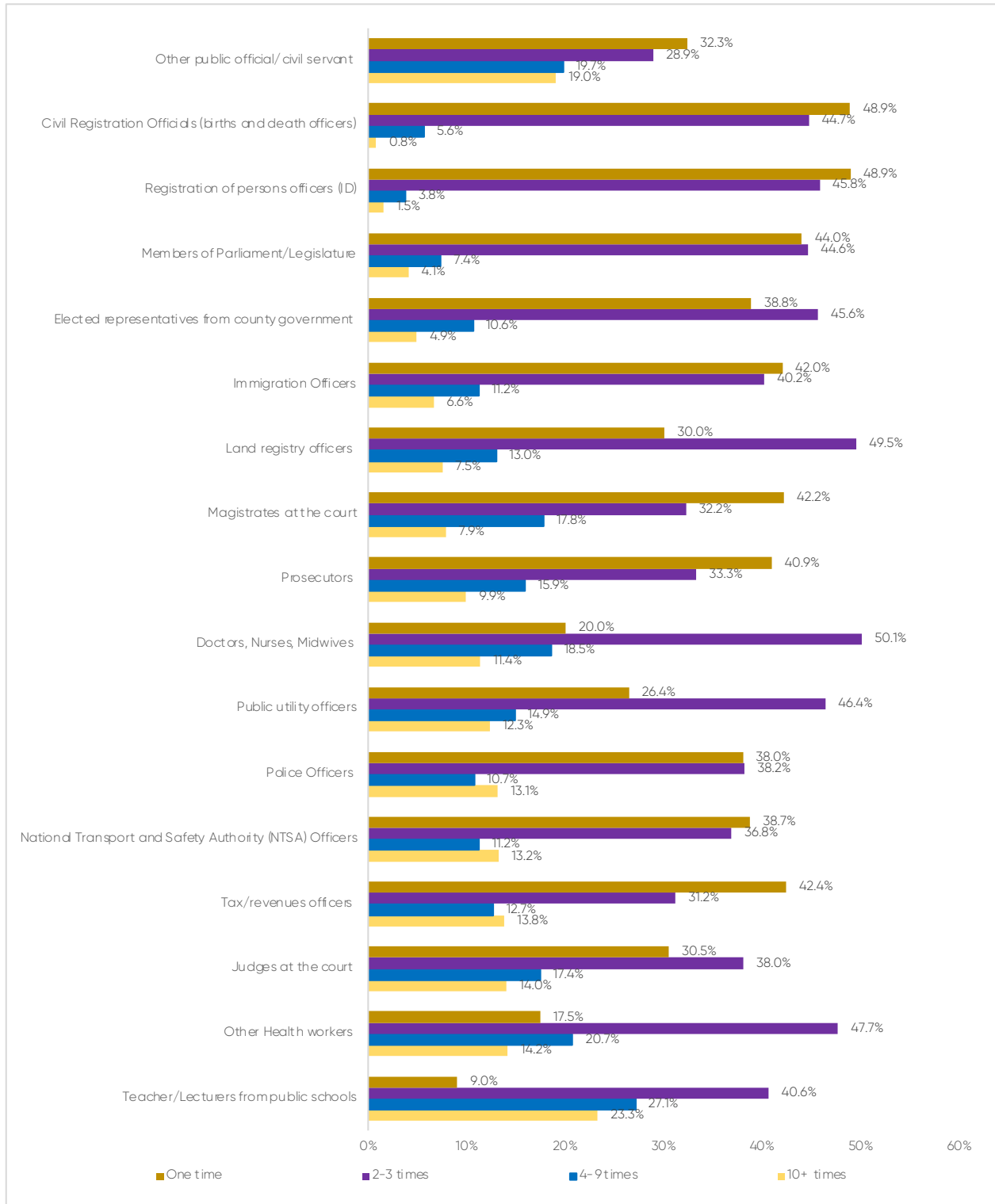


Figure 3: Frequency of Contact by type of Public Official

3.1.3. Contact with Public Officials by Sex

Seventy-seven percent of service seekers reported interactions with male elected representatives from county governments, and male members of parliament (77.0%), while a similar proportion interacted with both female and male teachers/lecturers. Twenty-eight per cent of service seekers interacted with female magistrates, 23.7 per cent with female judges and 22.3 per cent with female civil registration officials (Figure 4).

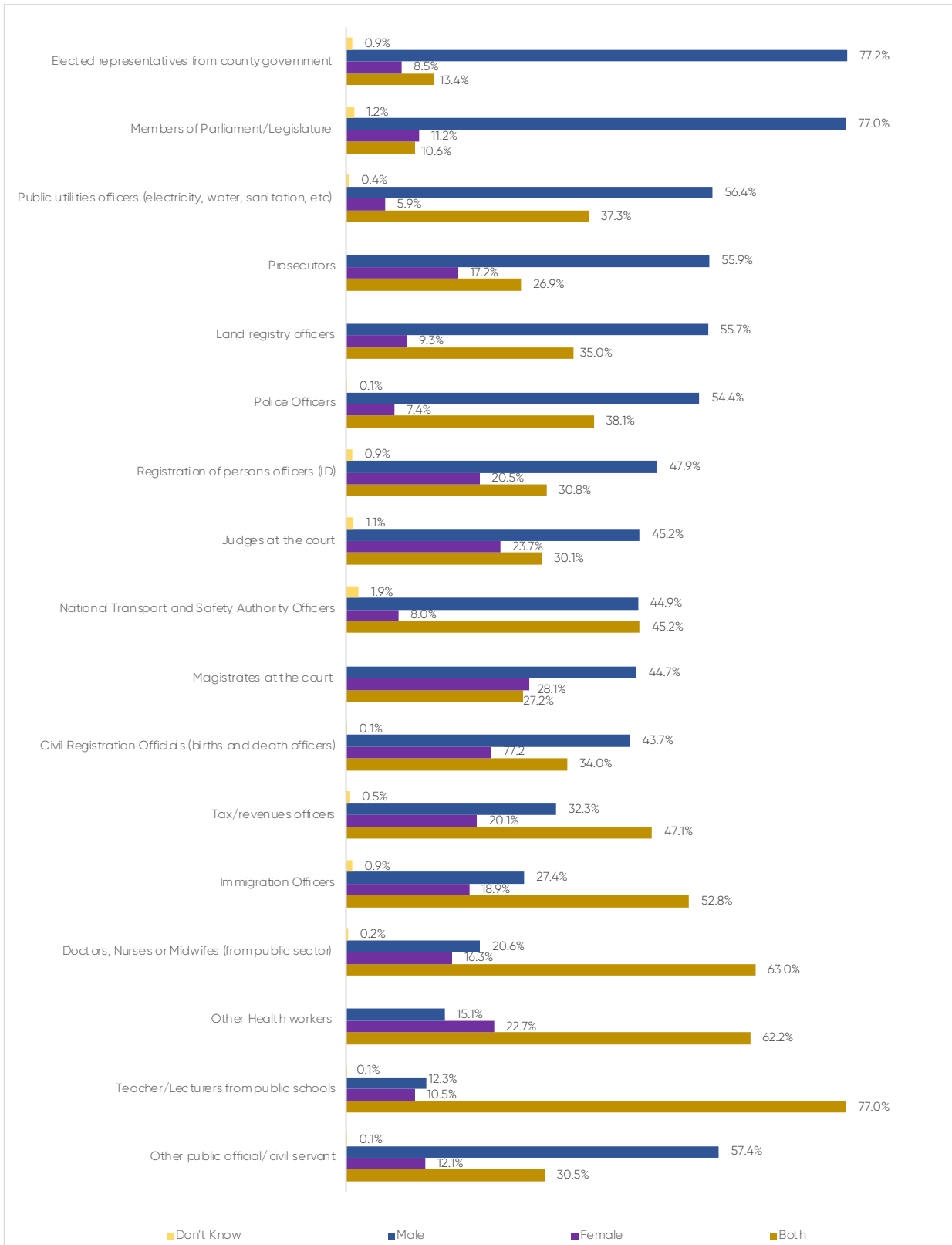


Figure 4: Contact with Public Officials by Sex

3.1.4. Contact Rate with Private Sector Employees

The Survey sought to establish the proportions of respondents who had interactions with private sector officials. Figure 5 indicates that 19.8 percent of respondents had interactions with doctors, 14.8 percent with nurses, 8.1 percent with bank employees, 7 percent with teachers, and 2.5 percent with insurance employees in the private sector.

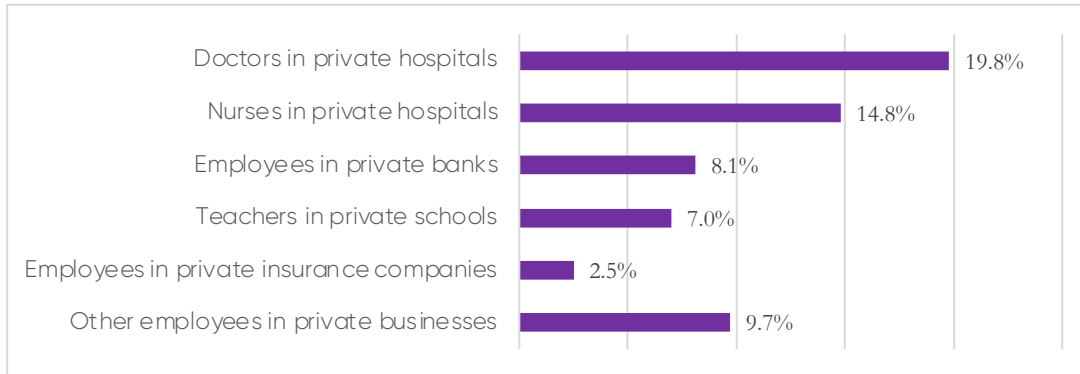


Figure 5: Respondents interactions with private sector employees

3.1.5. Contact Rate with Private Sector Employees by Type of Residence

Overall, a higher proportion of respondents in rural areas interacted with private sector employees compared to those in urban (Figure 6). More respondents in urban areas (53.8%) interacted with teachers from the private sector than in rural areas (46.2%).

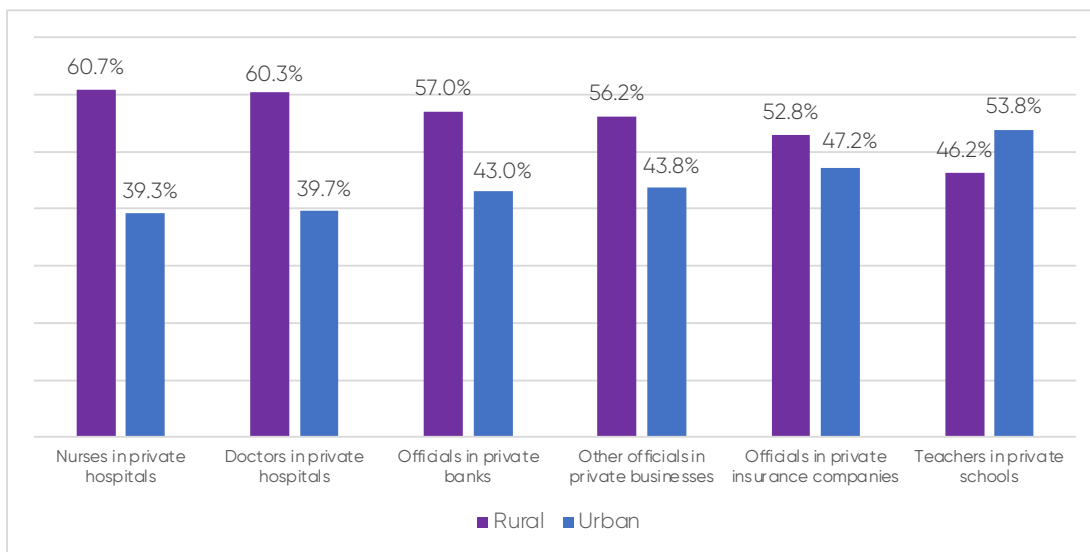


Figure 6: Respondents interactions with private sector employees by type of residence

3.2. GENDER DIFFERENCES IN BRIBE PAYMENT IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR

3.2.1. Prevalence of bribery by type of Public Official

In the 12 months prior to the Survey, 35.5 per cent of service seekers reported having given a bribe to police officers, civil registration officials (30.0%), NTSA officers (25.4%), land registry officers (23.3%) and registration of persons officers (21.2%) as presented in Figure 7.

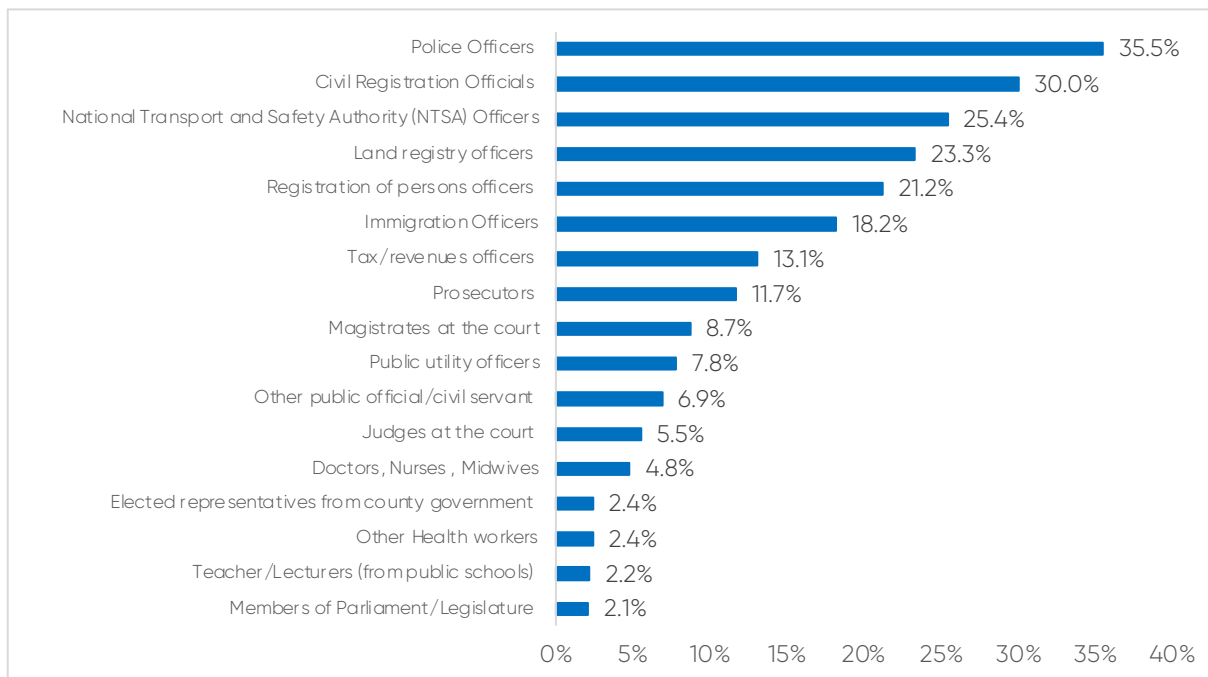


Figure 7: Prevalence of bribery by type of public officials



"In practice, if you follow the normal process, it can take up to two weeks to get a birth and death certificate. But if you pay a bribe – often around 1,000 shillings, though the official fee is only 150 – you can get it the same day. Civil Registration Officers deliberately create delays so that people are forced to pay more." (Uasin Gishu FGD)

"I worked at immigration... Sometimes you find there are some people just because they are called Ahmed, they will not be given passport. Their application will stay in the files. Someone decides they are not processing their passport so that they continue taking their money 50k, 20k. And sometimes I raised that issue and it got me in trouble a lot." (Kakamega FGD)

"At Mama Lucy Hospital, you are required to pay the consultation fee of KSh 100 via mobile phone and receive a notification. But after that, when you line up, unless it's a direct admission at the Accident and Emergency department, you'll often find delays. If your child is critically ill, the only way to get urgent attention is either through bribery or by waiting and risking the patient's condition worsening. That's the painful reality." (Nairobi FGD)

"Victims of abuse especially women and young children do not receive adequate support in hospitals. Documentation is often poor, especially for small children. Survivors also struggle to obtain medical reports required for legal cases, and many cannot move forward because they must pay for medical officers to testify, creating a barrier to justice." (Nakuru FGD)

"The problem is not only about whether you will eventually get the service, but about how long it takes—especially if you are not willing to pay something extra. Sometimes it even feels deliberate on the part of those working in these offices. For instance, if you apply for a passport, you might eventually get it after a year. But if you are willing to part with 5,000 shillings, the same passport can be ready in just two days." (Nairobi FGD)



"In Kenya, procedures are slow, frustrating, and costly. For example, in traffic cases, reaching court can take too long. The slow and complicated legal process will make you prefer to bribe and move on". (Uasin Gishu FGD)

"We are not looking at politicians' character anymore, we are looking at what they will give us when they come. Are they going to give us a 1000 shillings notes? Are they going to give us 2,000? Are they going to give us 500? Are they going to employ us? ... we follow them around and chant their names so that we can have something during the campaign." (Kakamega FGD)

3.2.2. Prevalence of Bribe Payment to Public Officials by Sex of Respondents

Most female respondents gave bribes to civil registration officials (30.8%), while most male respondents gave bribes to police officers (41.6%) as presented in Figure 8.

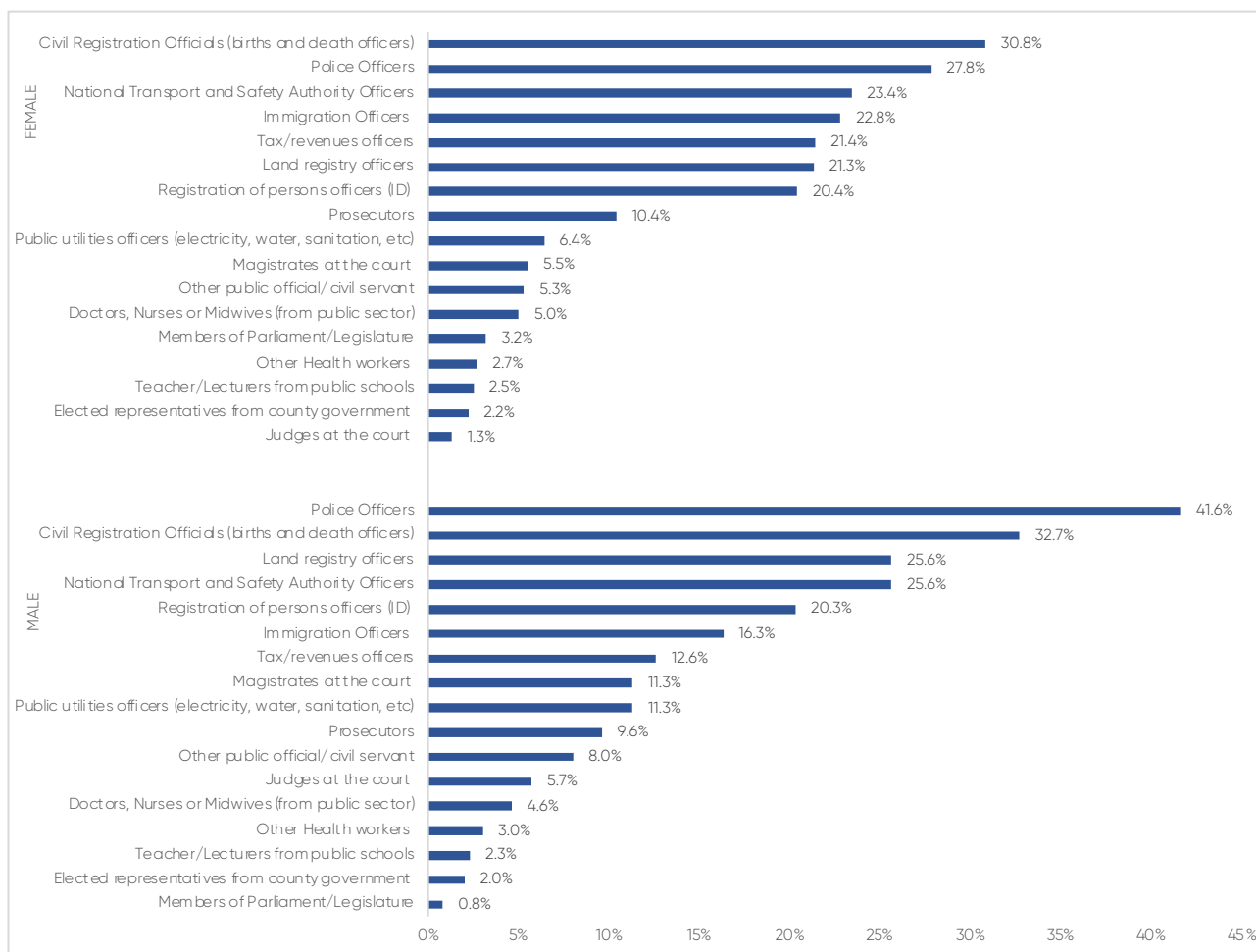


Figure 8: Prevalence of Bribe Payment to Public Officials by Sex of the Respondents



"Corruption affects women more than men. The reason is simple—women are usually at the forefront when it comes to seeking service delivery. If you look at the sectors that people often mention as the most corrupt—health and education—you'll notice that women are the ones most exposed." (Nairobi FGD)



“Because women are usually at the forefront of family and home affairs. They are the ones taking children to hospitals, managing household needs, and handling school matters. But when corruption comes into play, the people who engage in the negotiations, the bribes, or the deals are mostly men.” (Nairobi FGD)

3.2.3. Frequency of Bribe Payment to Public Officials by Sex of Respondents

Among service providers who reported giving a bribe to public officials in the 12 months prior to the Survey, female respondents gave bribes 10 or more times to tax/revenues officers (19.8%), immigration officers (12.7%) and other health workers (6.7%). On the other hand, male respondents gave bribes, 10 or more times to National Transport and Safety Authority Officers (12.6%), Police officers (10.9%), and teachers/lecturers from public schools (4.0%) as illustrated in Figure 9.

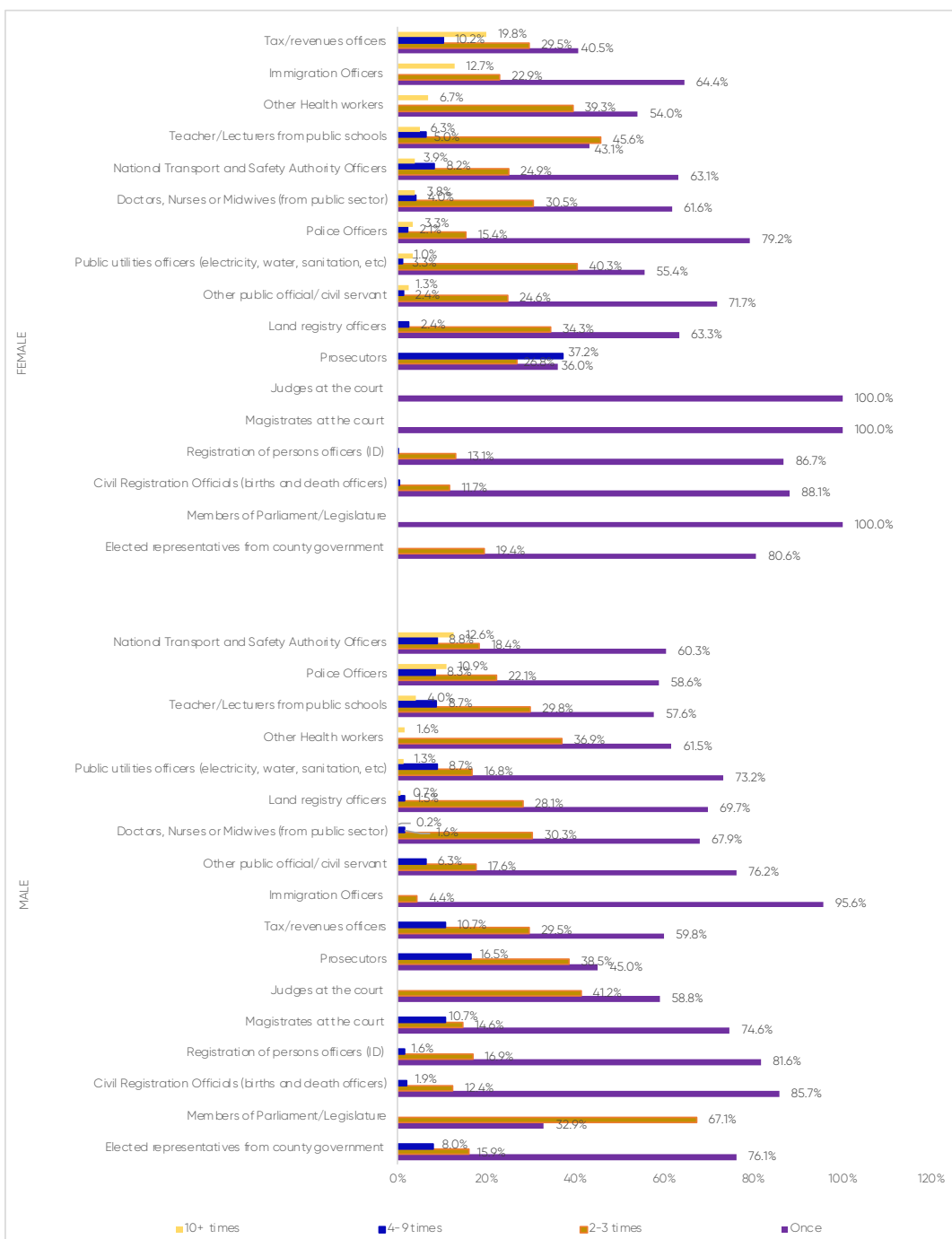


Figure 9: Frequency of Bribe Payment to Public Officials by Sex of Respondents

3.2.4. Bribes to Public Officials; made once by Income of Respondents

Among respondents who reported having paid a bribe only once in the 12 months prior to the Survey, service seekers whose monthly income is KES 0-9,999 paid the bribe to judges (100%), civil registration officials (87.2%) and immigration officials (86.6%). For those within a monthly income of KES 10,000-14,999 paid to elected representatives from county government (100%), registration of persons officials (96.7%) and civil registration officials (88.9%). Service seekers within monthly income level of KES 15,000-19,999 paid to immigration officers (100%), civil registration officials (89.5%) and land registry officials (72.0%). For those who fall in KES 20,000-24,999, the bribe was wholly paid to immigration officers, prosecutors, magistrates, elected representatives from county governments and public utility officers.

Service seekers within income level of KES 25,000-29,999, paid to civil registration officers (100%), elected representatives from county governments (100%) and tax/revenue officers (92.0%), while those in KES 30,000-49,999 income bracket paid wholly to immigration officers (100%), prosecutors, judges, magistrates and other health workers.

Service seekers in the KES 50,000-99,999 in come levels paid mainly to judges/magistrates, registration of persons officials, civil registration official and teachers and lecturers, while those with monthly income of over KES 100,000 paid to land registry officers, tax revenue officers, registration of persons officers and members of parliament (Figure 10).

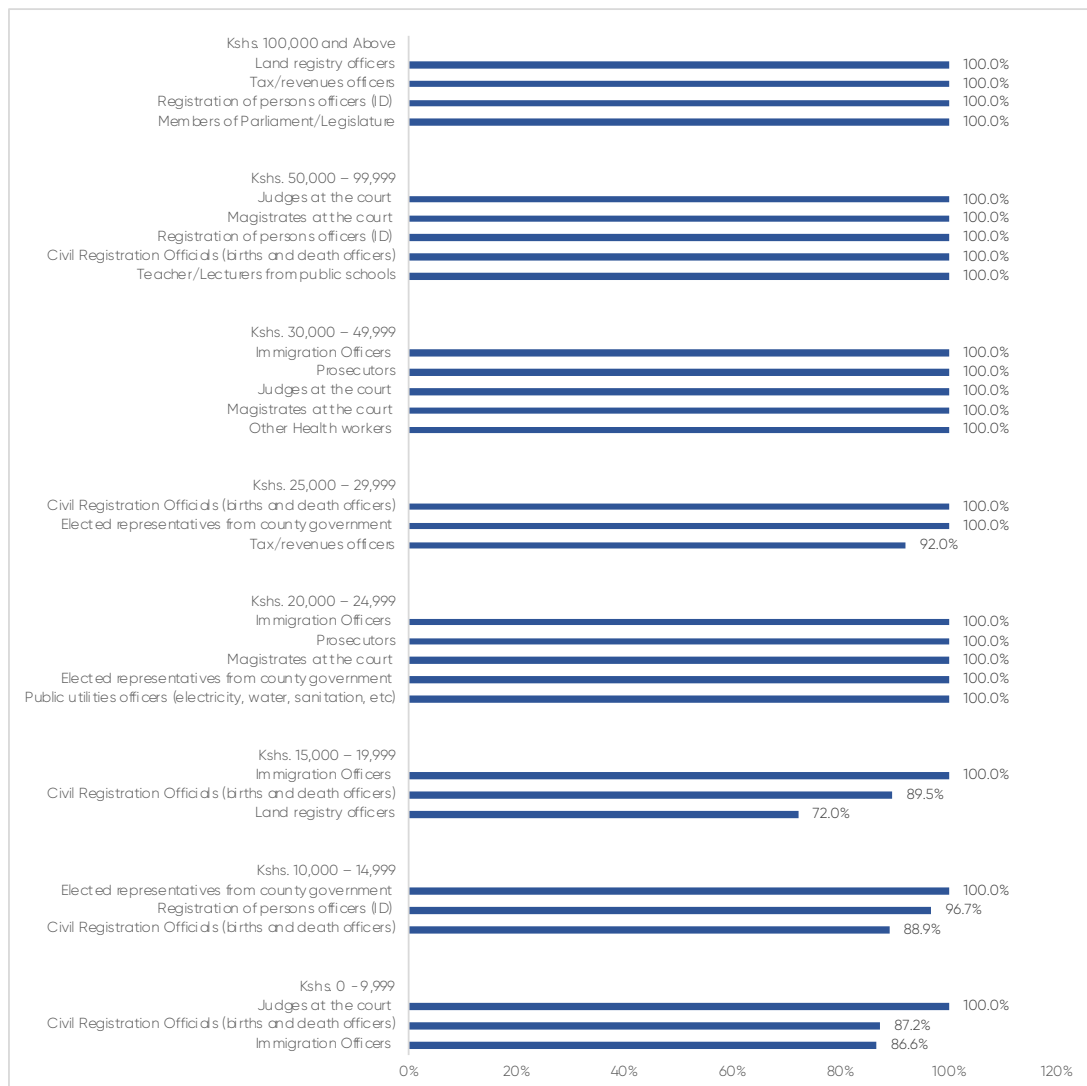


Figure 10: Lowest Frequency of Bribe Payment by Income of Respondents and Type of Public Officials

3.2.5. Prevalence of Bribes to Public Officials by Type of Residence

The prevalence of bribes made to public officials did not vary by residence. Most respondents in rural (36.6%) and urban (38.4%) offered bribes to police officers. One third (32.7%) of service seekers in rural offered bribes to civil registration officials as compared to 29.8% in urban (Figure 11).

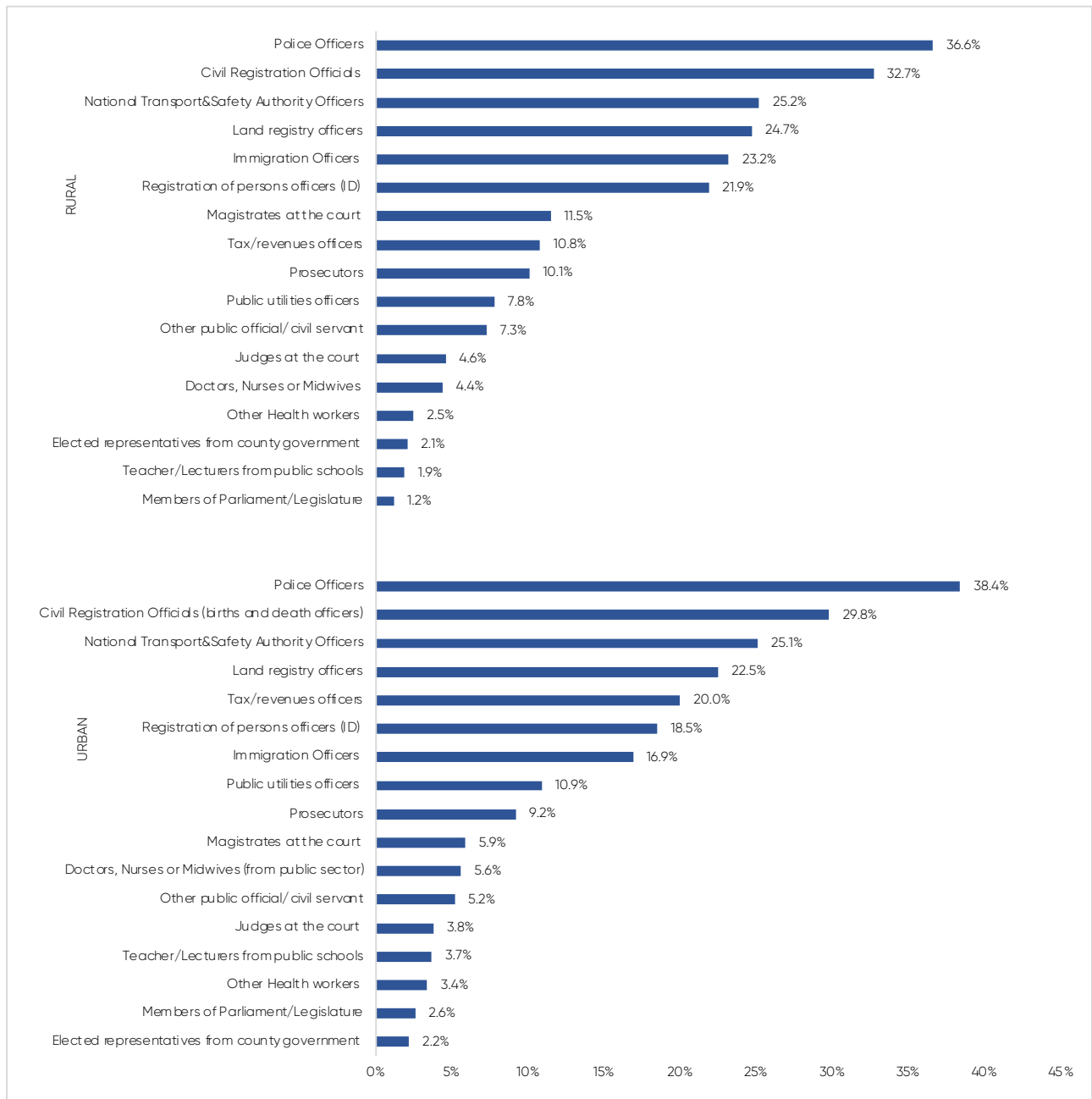


Figure 11: Prevalence of Bribes to Public Officials by Type of Residence

3.2.6. Prevalence of Bribes to Public Officials by Age of Respondents

Among service seekers age 18–24 years half (51.4%) offered bribes to civil registration officials and 41.6 per cent to police officers. A similar pattern was observed where 42.2% and 32.6% of 25–34 year olds and 29.9% and 26.4% of 50–64-year-olds reported offering bribes to police officers and civil registration officials, respectively. Those ages 35–49 years offered bribes to police officers (38.4%) and land registry officers (30.0%). Among older respondents (65 years and above), 37.0 percent offered bribes to immigration officers and 33.0 per cent to NTSA officials (Figure 12).

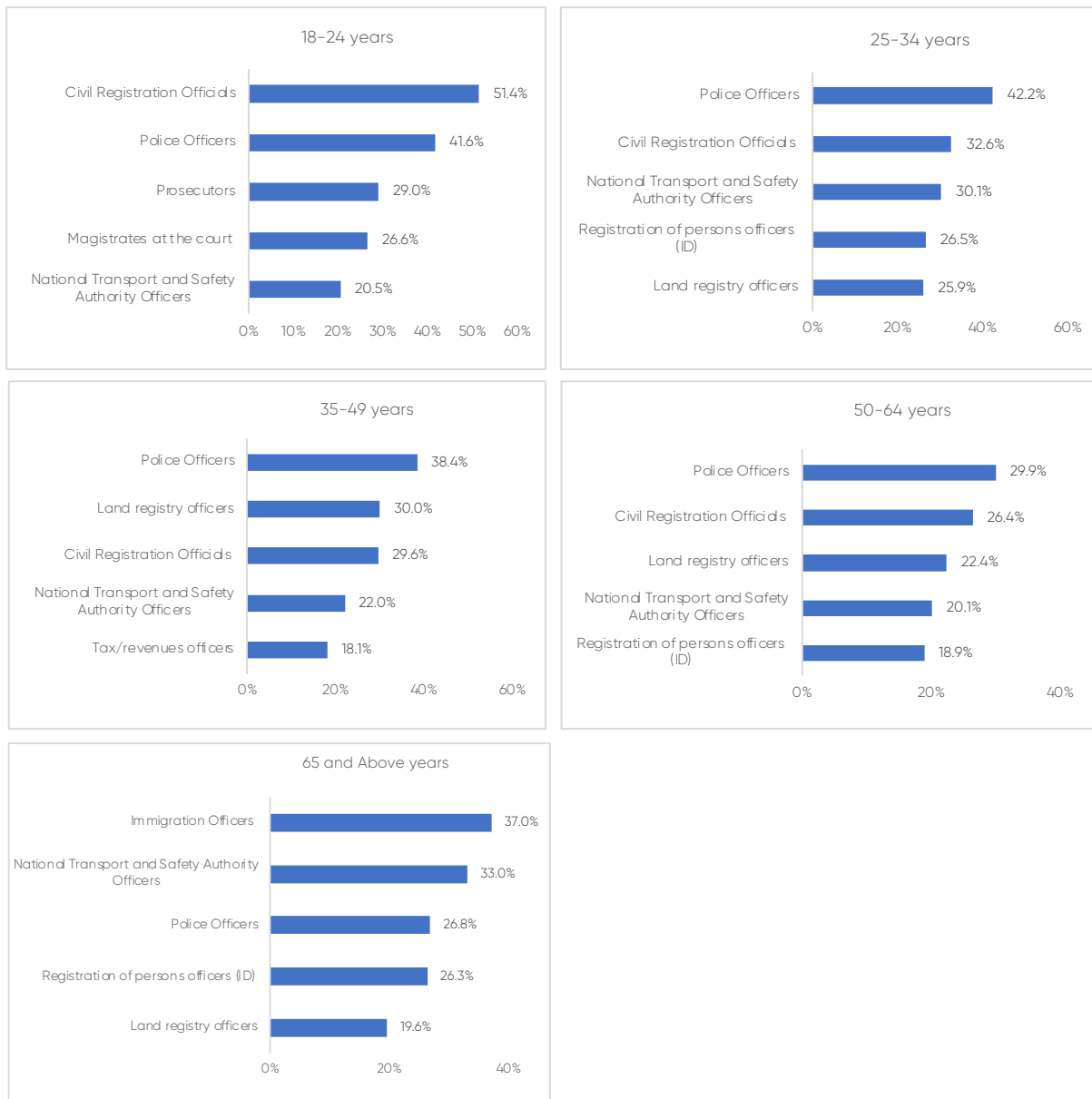


Figure 12: Prevalence of Bribes to Public Officials by Age Group of Respondents

3.2.7. Prevalence of Bribe Payment to Public Officials by Marital Status

Most single respondents gave bribes to civil registration officials (45%), followed by police officers 43.9 per cent.

Service seekers in monogamous marriages offered bribes largely to police officers (37.7%) and civil registration officials (30.8%).

Fifty-four percent of service seekers in polygamous marriages offered bribes to immigration officers and police officers (41.3%). A similar pattern was observed among those in separated marriages where 34.1 per cent offered bribes to immigration officers and 30.2 per cent to police officers.

Service seekers who were divorced mostly offered bribes to NTSA Officials (72.9%) and registration of persons (23.0%), while widowed service seekers offered bribes mainly to civil registration officials (28.3%) and NTSA Officials (Figure 13).

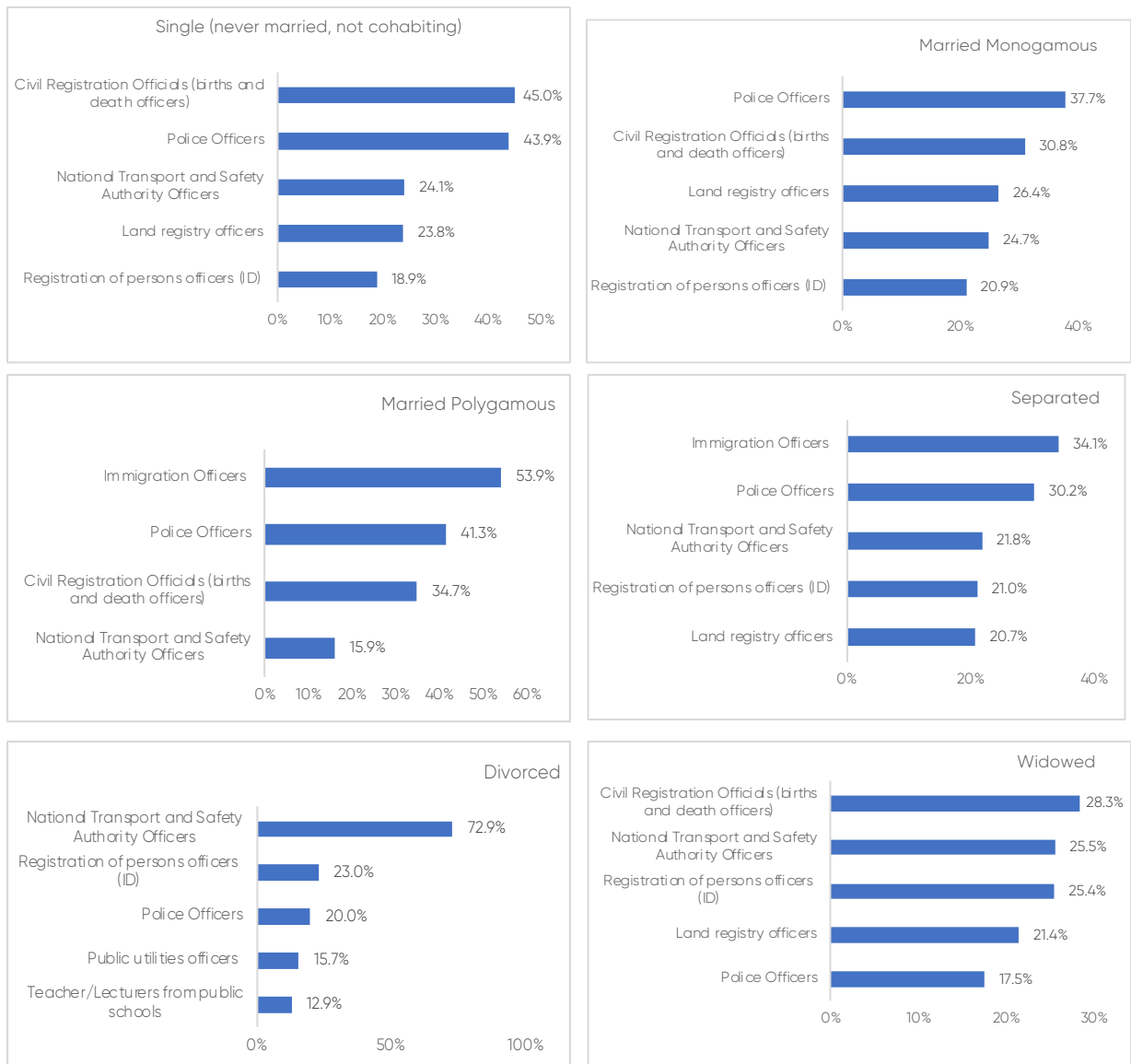


Figure 13: Prevalence of Bribe Payment to Public Officials by Marital Status of Respondents

3.2.8. Public Services for which Bribes are paid

Seeking a birth certificate was most frequently service attracting a bribe 23.0%, followed by releasing a person from jail/prison 19.2%, during a medical visit/examination or intervention (12.8%), seeking for an ID (12.3%) and public utility services (10.0%) as shown in (Figure 14).

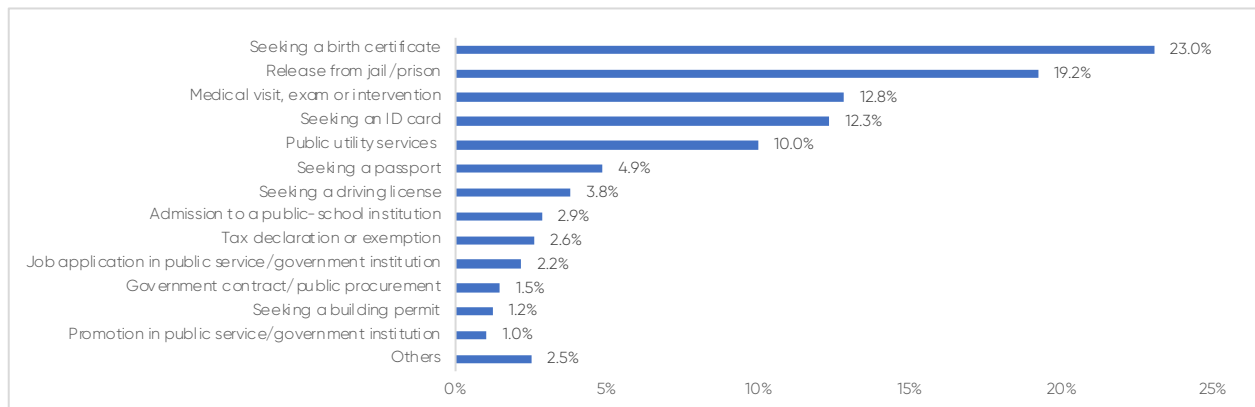


Figure 14: Public Services for which Bribes are paid

**FGD participants illuminated additional public services commonly associated with bribery:**

"I worked at immigration ...Sometimes you find there are some people just because they are called Ahmed, they will not be given a passport. Their application will stay in the files. Someone decides they are not processing their passport so that they continue taking their money: 50k, 20k. And sometimes I raised that issue and it got me in trouble a lot." **(Kakamega FGD)**

"The politicians will buy the electorate to again vote for them and get back to these offices and continue hurting the members of public." **(Mombasa FGD)**

"What's worse is that corruption has now been devolved. It's no longer just a problem at the national level—it has trickled down to the counties. Everyone is scrambling for their own "kiti" (seat of power), not to serve the people, but to secure personal benefits. That's why today, there is no department in Kenya where you can say, with certainty, that it is clean. Corruption has seeped into every corner of governance." **(Nairobi FGD)**

"First is pensions and benefits. Even after years of service, retirees struggle to access what is rightfully theirs. Files are deliberately "lost" until families pay bribes. You mentioned being asked for 100,000 shillings just to trace your mother's file. Many, like the teacher who retired in 2005 and died in 2018 without benefits, suffer silently. The same rot exists in NSSF, where officers demand bribes before processing claims." **(Uasin Gishu FGD)**

"Even where public participation and petitions are carried out, corrupt licensing still takes place. In Uasin Gishu, for instance, licenses are granted contrary to due process. Enforcement officers themselves compromise the system – instead of following official channels, they demand small cash payments like "fifty bob" for parking, bypassing the legal system of revenue collection." **(Uasin Gishu FGD)**

"Human resource departments have become gatekeepers of bribery – if you are not in good relationship with them they will not approve your request for training at Kenya School of Government (KSG) besides you cannot get promotion if you do not offer a bribe." **(Uasin Gishu FGD)**

"In Kenya, procedures are slow, frustrating, and costly. For example, in traffic cases, reaching court can take too long. The slow and complicated legal process will make you prefer to bribe and move on." **(Uasin Gishu FGD).**

"I want to highlight sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) cases. Investigations take far too long, and in many instances, the investigating officer only acts after being escalated to the OCS or a senior commissioner. It raises the question: must a case be forwarded for them to do their job? Excuses given are often frustrating—lack of fuel, the vehicle being used in court, and so on. This is taxpayer money, yet basic resources are cited as reasons for inaction. Cases like defilement or rape are particularly neglected because there's no financial gain for officers—they rely on state prosecution, which results in delays and frustration for victims." **(Mombasa FGD)**

"Beyond laws, structural barriers hold women back. Land ownership is a clear example. In this country, only about 4–6% of women own land. Land is wealth, and wealth translates into political power because it provides liquidity for campaigns. A young man who owns land can sell it to fund his campaign. A young woman without land has no such advantage. Gen Z women face an even harder reality: many of their peers are not registered as voters, and systemic delays in voter registration keep them out of the electoral process. This already sidelines them before campaigns even begin." **(Nyeri FGD)**

3.3. GENDER DIFFERENCE ON AVERAGE BRIBE

3.3.1. Average Bribe Paid to Public Officials

The national average bribe paid to public officials increased from KES 3,257 in 2005 to KES 4,878 in 2024 and to KES 6,724 in 2025 as shown in Figure 15.

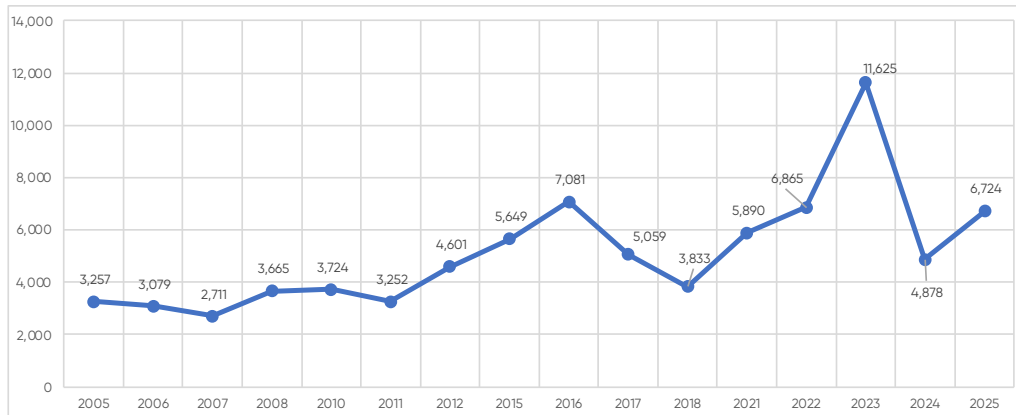


Figure 15: Trend in National Average Bribe Paid to Public Officials in KES, 2005–2025

3.3.2. Average bribes Paid per Public Service

Seeking employment in government institutions attracts the highest bribe amounting to KES 85,033. This was followed by obtaining government contracts through public procurement (KES 24,020) and seeking a passport (KES 12,514). The least bribe was paid while seeking promotion in government institution (KES 1,626), seeking a birth certificate (KES 1,729) and seeking a national identity card (KES 1,935) as presented in Figure 16.

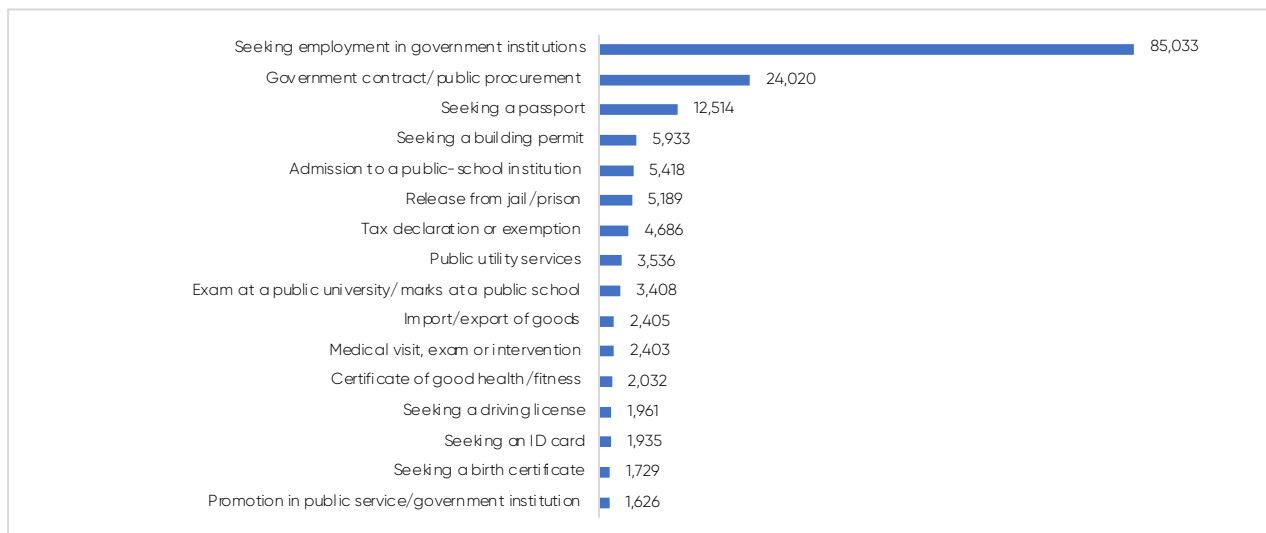


Figure 16: Average Size of bribes per Service

3.3.3. Average Bribe Size Paid to Public Officials

Sampled Service seekers reported that the largest average cash bribe they paid was to magistrates at the court at KES 164,367 while the lowest amount of average cash bribe they paid (KES 1,415) was to civil registration officials as presented in Figure 17.

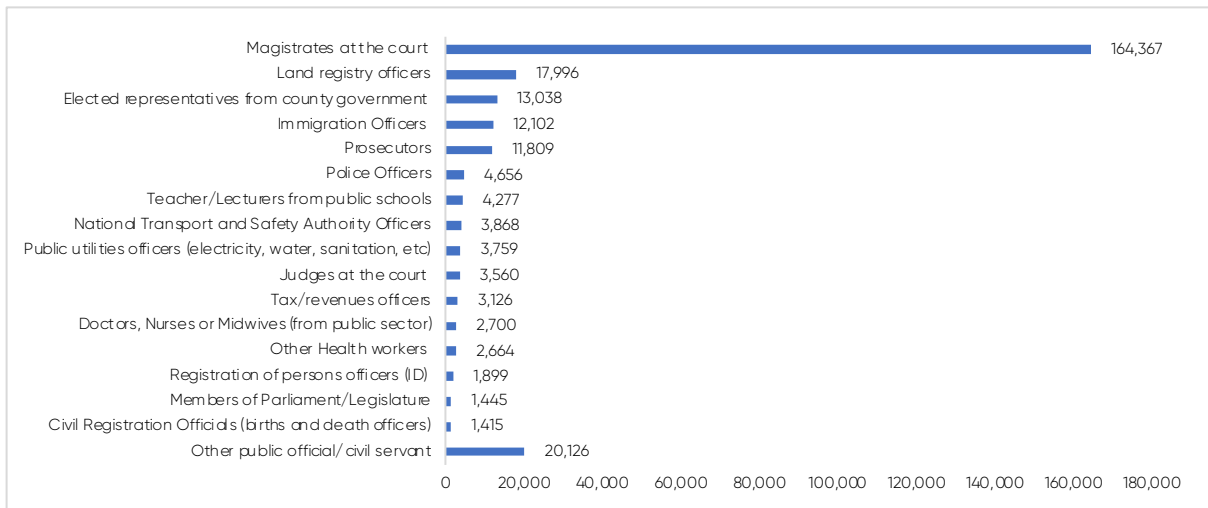


Figure 17: Average Bribe Size Paid to Public Officials

3.3.4. Average Bribe Paid to public Officials by Sex of Respondent

Men service seekers pay a slightly higher average bribe estimated at KES 6,748 compared to women KES 6,702 as presented in Figure 18.

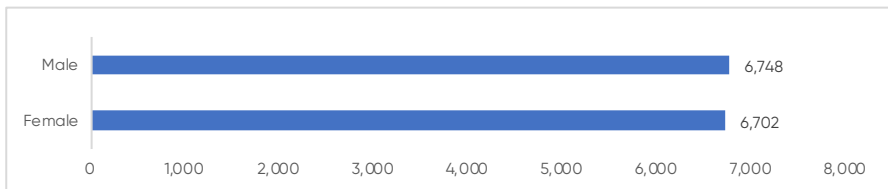


Figure 18: Average Bribe Size Paid to Public Officials by Sex of Respondent

3.3.5. Average Bribe Paid to public Officials by Age of Respondent

Respondents aged 65 years or more reported paying the largest average cash bribe of Ksh. 30,342 while young persons ages 18-24 reported paying the lowest amount estimated at (KES 3,256) as presented in Figure 19.

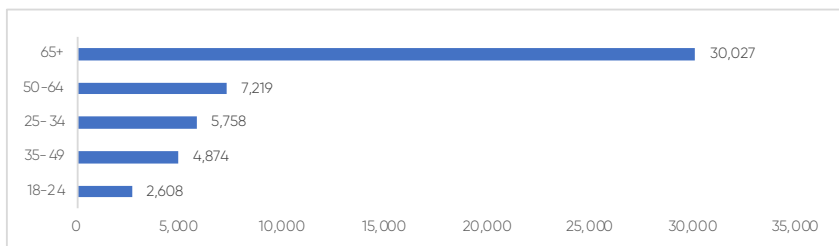


Figure 19: Average Bribe Size Paid to Public Officials by Age of Respondent

3.3.6. Average Bribe Paid to public Officials by Type of Residence of the Respondent

Rural residents paid the higher average cash bribe KES. 7,502 while urban residents paid an average bribe of KES. 5,603 as presented in Figure 20.

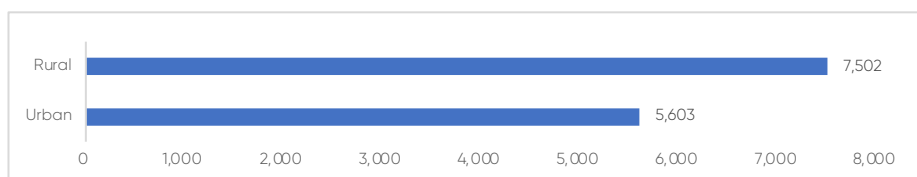


Figure 20: Average Bribe Size Paid to Public Officials by Type of Residence of the Respondent

3.3.7. Average size of Bribes paid to Public Officials per County

Figure 21 presents the average bribe paid in each county from the highest to the lowest. The top five counties with the largest average bribes were Kakamega (KES 79,305), West Pokot (KES 16,400), Isiolo (KES 13,912), Vihiga (KES 12,389) and Garissa (KES 12,297). In Kakamega County, huge amounts of bribes were made to judicial officers. The least average bribes were recorded in Kitui (2,168), Siaya (2,155), Nyamira (KES 1655), Kilifi (1,559) and Baringo (KES 1,314) counties.

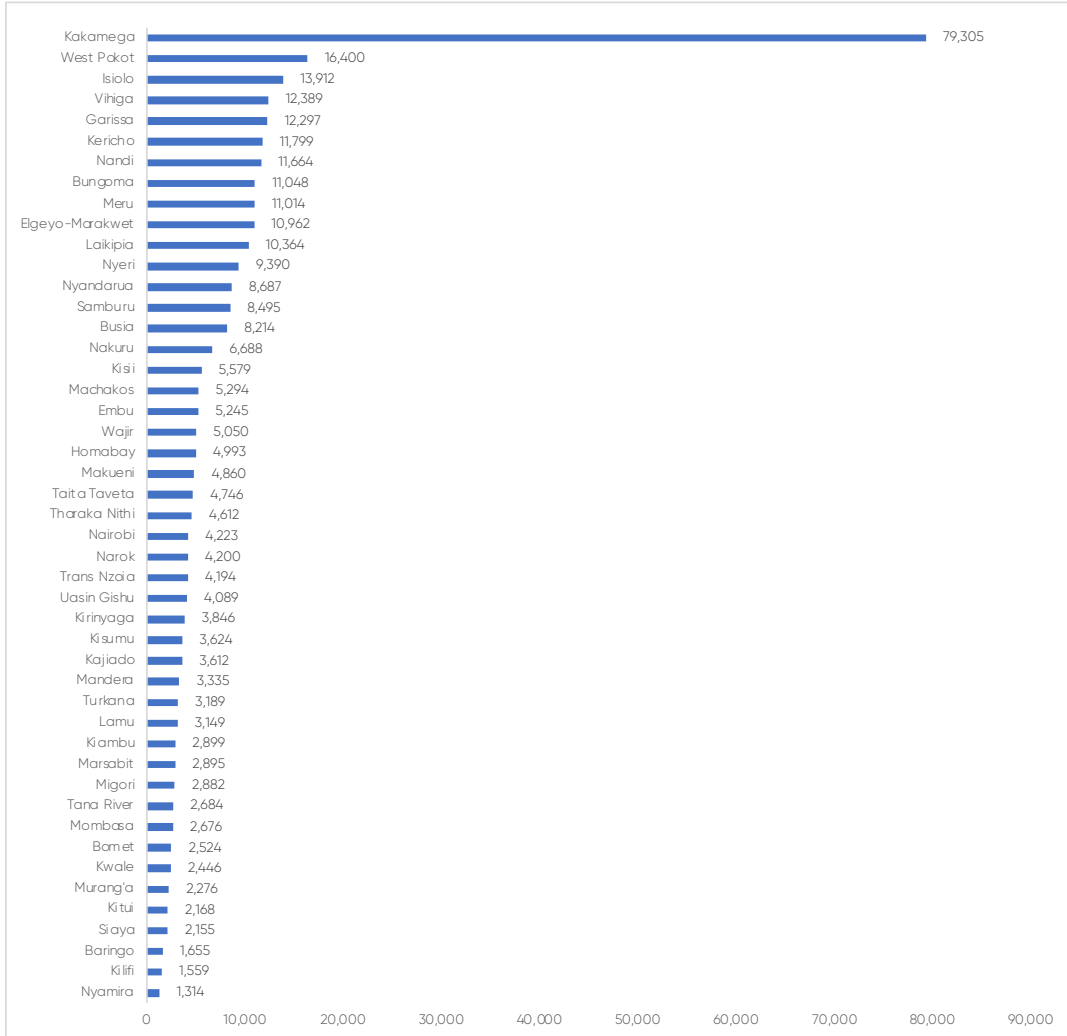


Figure 21: Average Size of Bribes paid to Public Officials in Counties

3.3.8. Distribution of Bribes paid to Public Officials in Cash

More than half of bribes (51.8%) paid in 2025 were below KES 1,500. Eighteen, per cent were ranged between KES 1,500 and 2,499 and 11.7 per cent ranged KES 2,500 – 4,999. Nine per cent of bribes ranged KES 5,000–9,999, 8 per cent KES 10,000 – 49,999, 1.1 per cent KES 50,000 – 99,999 and about one percent were more than KES 100,000 (Figure 22).

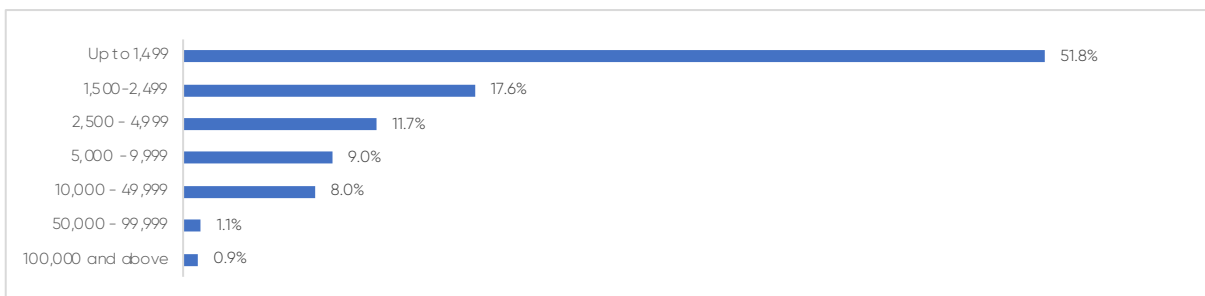


Figure 22: Distribution of Bribes paid to Public Officials in Cash

3.3.9. Distribution of Bribes Paid to Public Officials in Cash per County

Figure 23 presents the analysis of distribution of bribes paid in cash by county. Data shows that most of bribes were below KES 1,500. The top five counties where bribes paid were below KES 1500 included Nyamira (74.4%), Kilifi (71.1%), Bomet (70.8%), Murang'a (68.4%) and Kiambu (66.5). The top five counties where bribes paid were KES 100,000 or above were Isiolo (7.9%), Kakamega (6.3%), Bungoma (3.8%) Elgeyo Marakwet (3.8%) and Taita Taveta (3.5%).

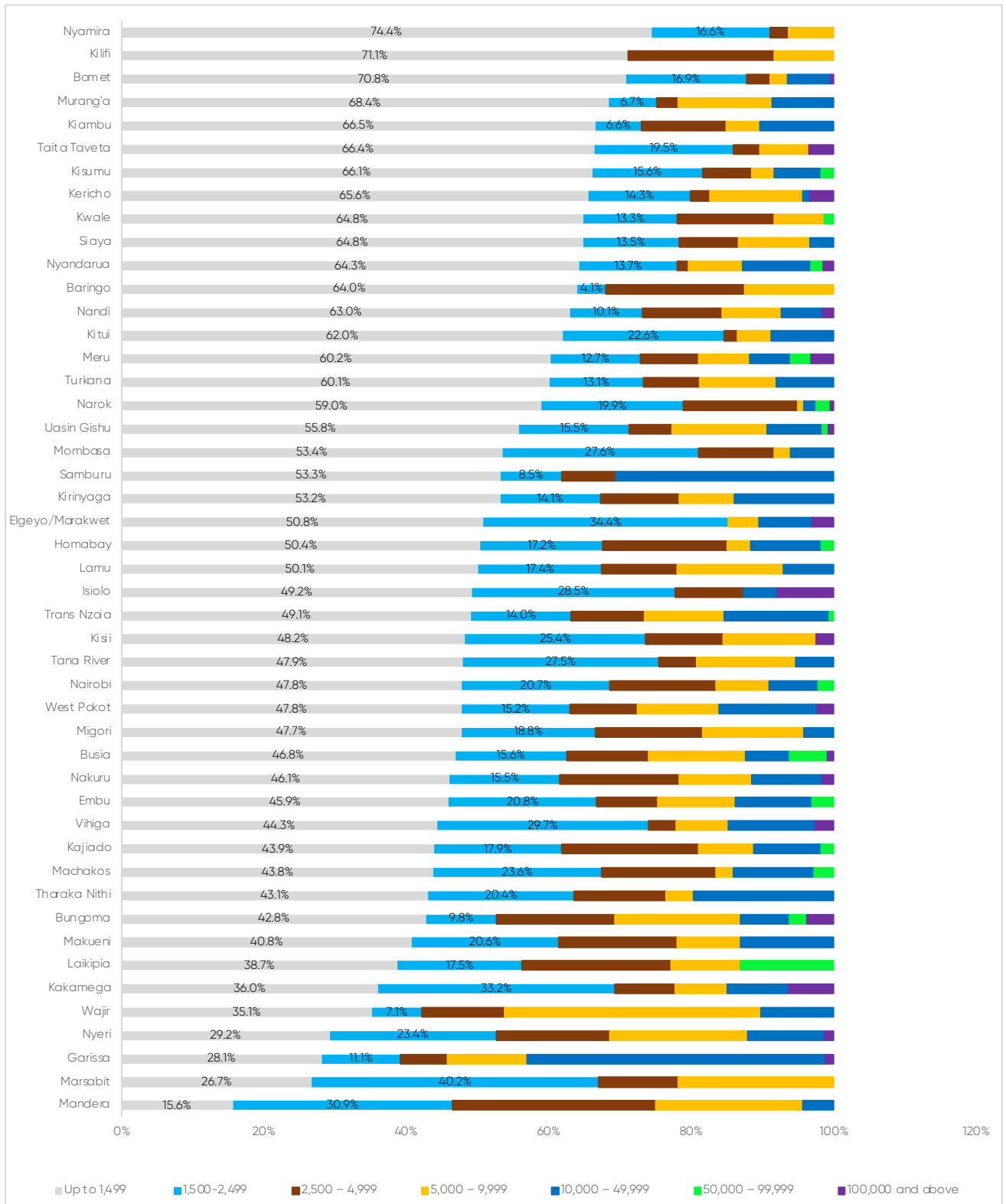


Figure 23: Distribution of Bribes Paid to Public Officials in Cash per County

3.3.10. Reasons for Payment of Bribes to Public Officials

The three main reasons why service seekers paid bribes were to speed up procedures (32.1%), the fact that it was the only way to access the service (27.8%) and to avoid problems with authorities (12.2%). Other reasons cited are presented in Figure 24.

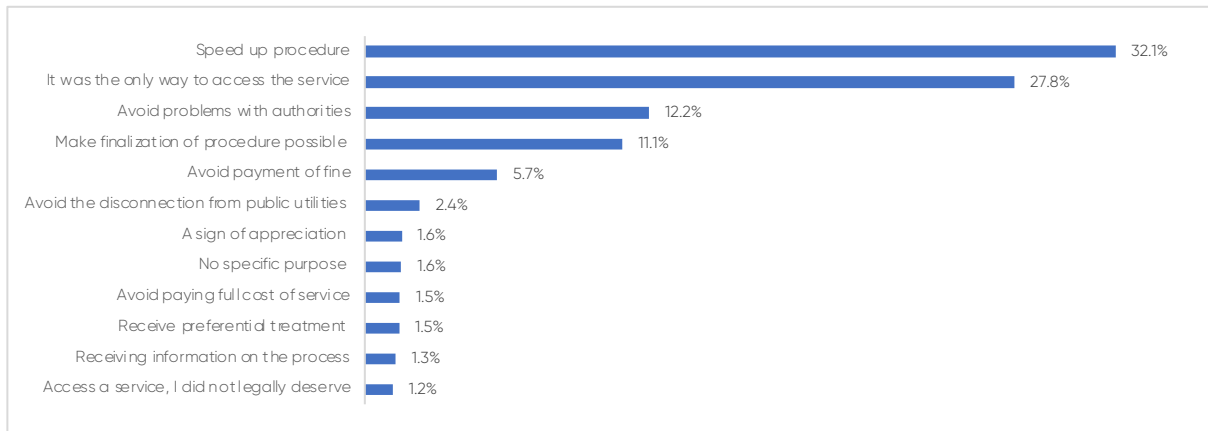


Figure 24: Reasons for Payment of Bribes to Public Officials

3.3.11. Prevalence of Bribe Payment to Private Sector Employees

The Survey indicates that those who had at least one contact with private sector employees paid bribes mostly to employees in private insurance companies (2.2%), followed by teachers in private schools (2.1%), doctors in private hospitals (1.8%), nurses in private hospitals (0.7%) and employees in private banks (0.6%) as presented in Figure 25.

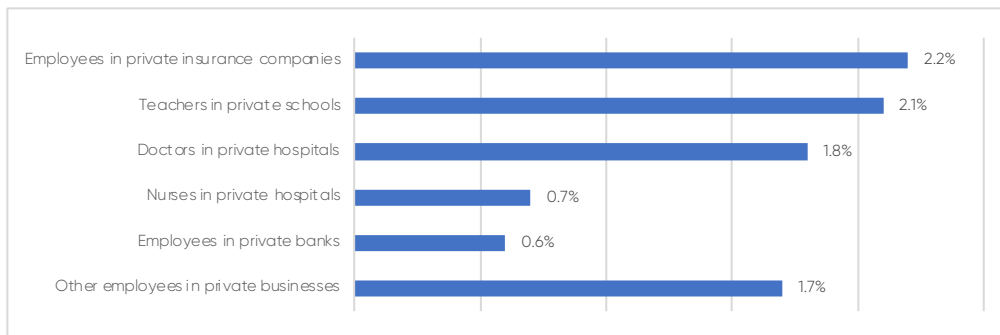


Figure 25: Prevalence of bribe Payment to private sector Employees

3.3.12. Prevalence of Bribe Payment to Private Sector Employees by Sex

The Survey indicates that women give more bribes to employees in private insurance companies and employees in private banks compared to men. On the other hand, men give more bribes to teachers in private schools, doctors in private hospitals, nurses in private hospital compared to women as shown in Figure 26.

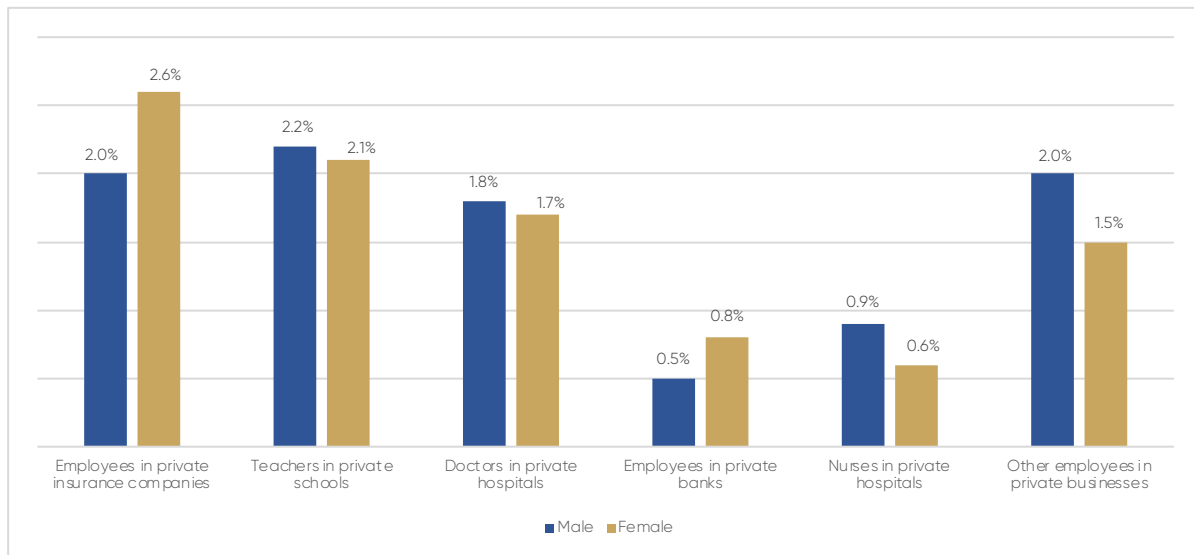


Figure 26: Prevalence of bribe Payment to private sector employees by Sex of Respondents

3.3.13. Average Size of Bribe Paid to Private Sector Employees

In the private sector, doctors received the largest average bribe (KES 5,164), followed by teachers (KES.5,020), nurses (KES.3,366), employees in insurance companies (KES.2,351) and employees in banks (KES.2,222). Figure 27 indicates variations in the average size of bribes received according to the type of private sector employees.

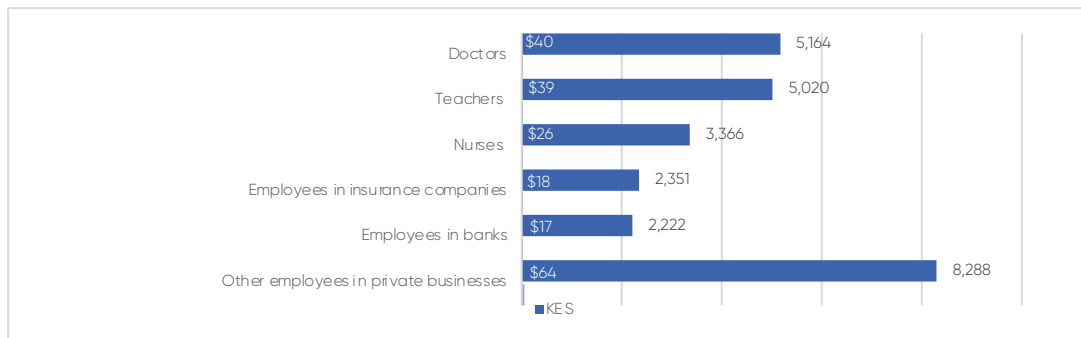


Figure 27: Average Size of Bribe Paid to private sector employees

3.4. GENDER DIFFERENCES IN FORMS OF BRIBE PAYMENT TO PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR EMPLOYEES

3.4.1. Forms of Bribe Payment to Public Officials

Bribes paid to public officials were presented in a number of forms, including cash, food and drinks, valuables, money transfer, animals or exchange with another service or favor. In Kenya, the vast majority of bribes (72.2 %) are paid in cash, while money transfers accounted for 10.5 per cent, food and drink (1.1%), an exchange for another service or favour (1.1%), payments using valuables (2.2%) or animals (2.2%) are less prevalent as detailed in Figure 28.

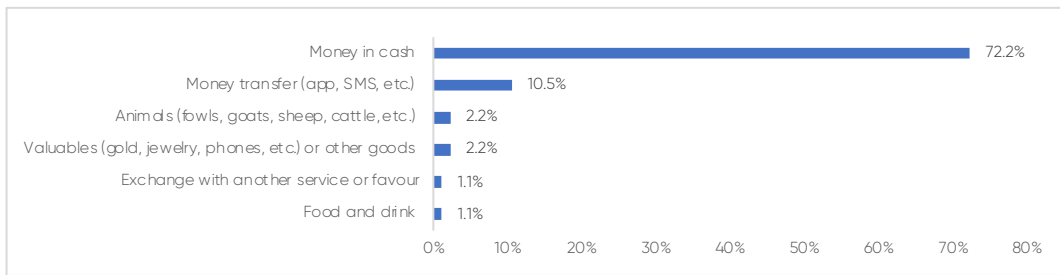


Figure 28: Forms of Bribe Payment to Public Officials

3.4.2. Forms of Bribe Payment to Public Officials by Type of Residence

There is a distinct difference between the type of bribes residents from rural areas and urban areas pay. Rural residents (77.3%) pay largely in the form of cash compared to urban residents (65.5%). Money transfers is, however, more commonly used to pay bribe in rural areas (11.3%) compared urban areas (9.9%). Use of valuables or animals in exchange of service was more common in rural areas compared to urban areas as shown in Figure 29.

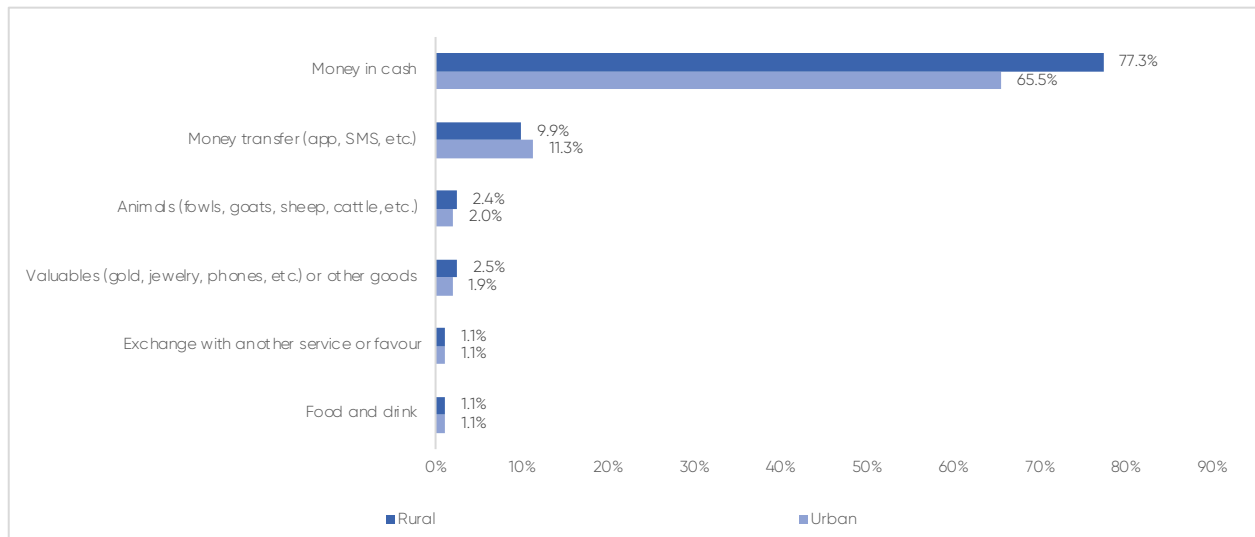


Figure 29: Form of Bribe Payment to Public Officials by Type of Residence

3.4.3. Forms of Bribe Payment to Public Officials by Sex of Respondents

There is a distinct difference between the type of bribes men and women pay. Men (78.8%) pay bribes in the form of cash compared to women (63.1%), while women (2.8%) are more likely than men (1.7%) to pay bribes in the form valuables or other goods. Women also use animals (2.3%) compared to men (2.1%) to pay bribes. This shows women pay bribes in kind compared to men who prefer to use cash or money transfer to pay bribes as in Figure 30.

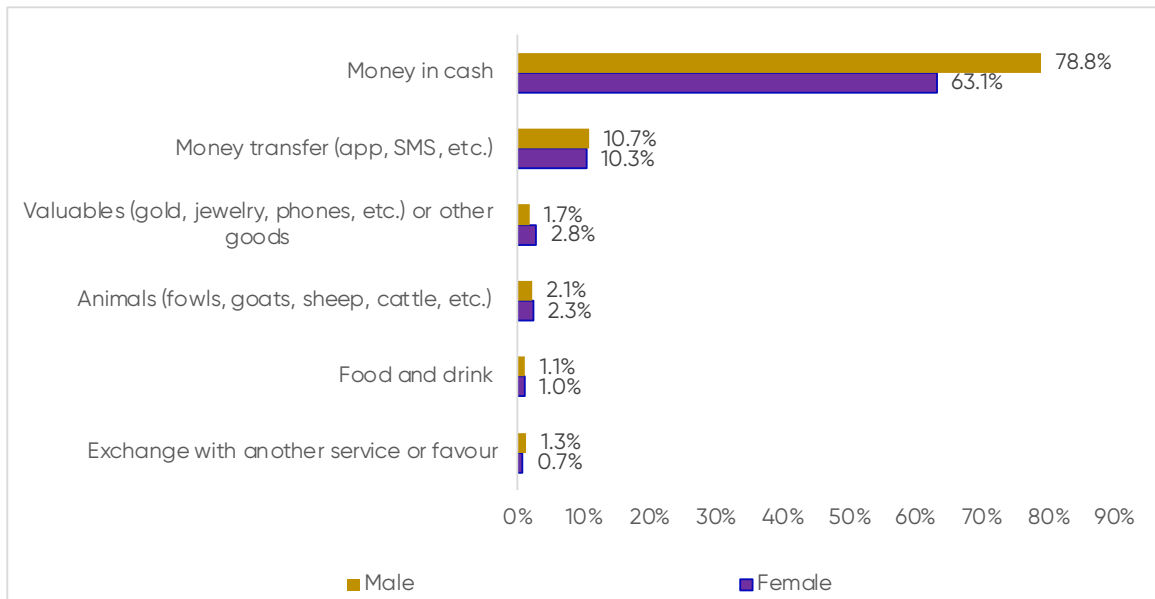


Figure 30: Form of Bribe Payment to Public Officials by Sex of Respondent

3.4.4. Forms of Bribe Payment to Public Officials by Age of Respondents

Among Kenyans who pay bribes in cash, a higher proportion are ages 50–64 (75.5%) and 18–24 (73.8%). Among those who pay bribes using money transfers, a higher proportion is among ages 25–34 at (13.1%) and those ages 65 years or more at 10.6 per cent as presented in Figure 31.

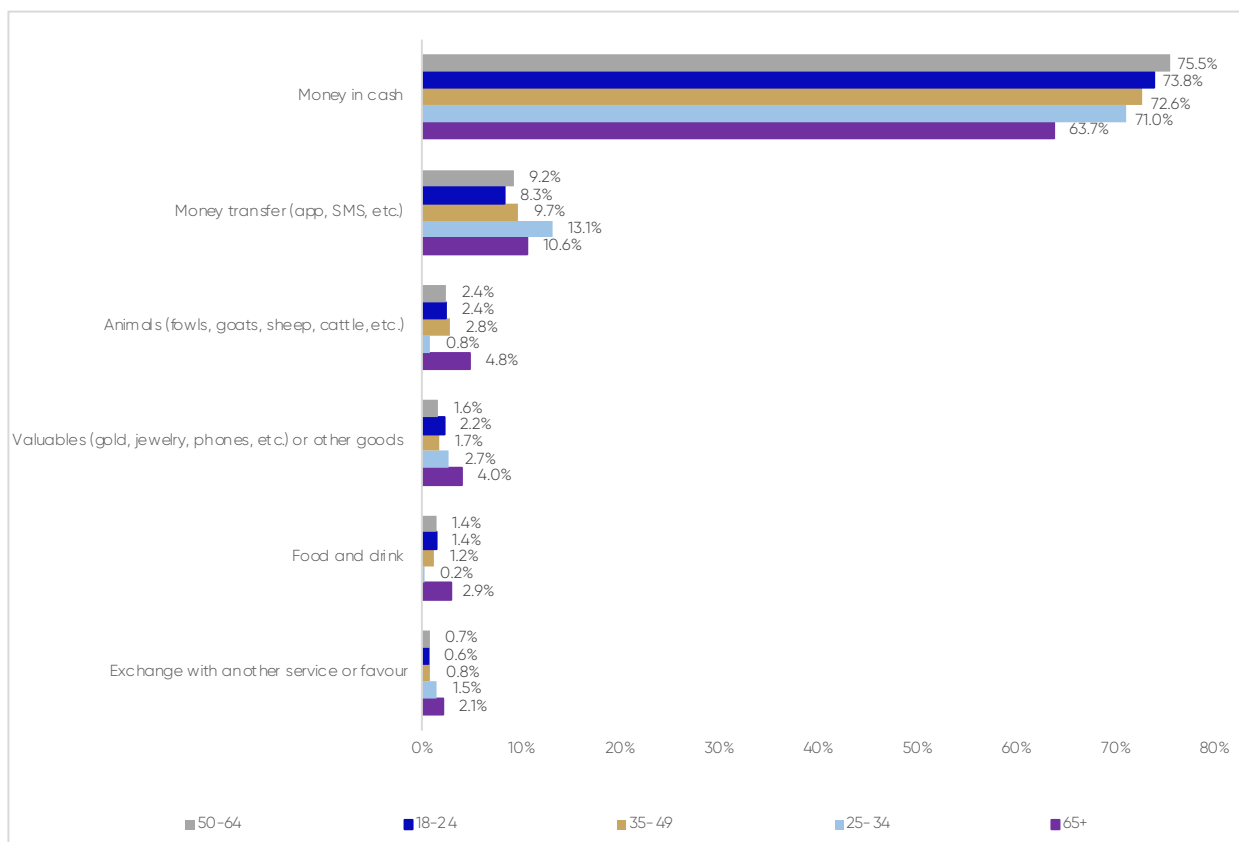


Figure 31: Form of Bribe Payment to Public Officials by Age Group of Respondents

3.4.5. Forms of Bribe Payment to Public Officials by Income of Respondents

Most respondents who earn an income of Kshs. 100,000 and above pay bribes in the form of cash (89.3 per cent), money transfers (26.1 per cent) and exchange with another service or favor (7.5 per cent). Conversely Kenyans with low monthly income of KES 0–24,999 are more likely to pay bribes mainly through animals or valuables compared to those earning higher incomes. Use of drinks and food is commonest among persons with monthly income of KES 30,000–49,999. The use of exchange with another service or favour is more common among persons with monthly income of KES 50,000 and above as presented in Figure 32.

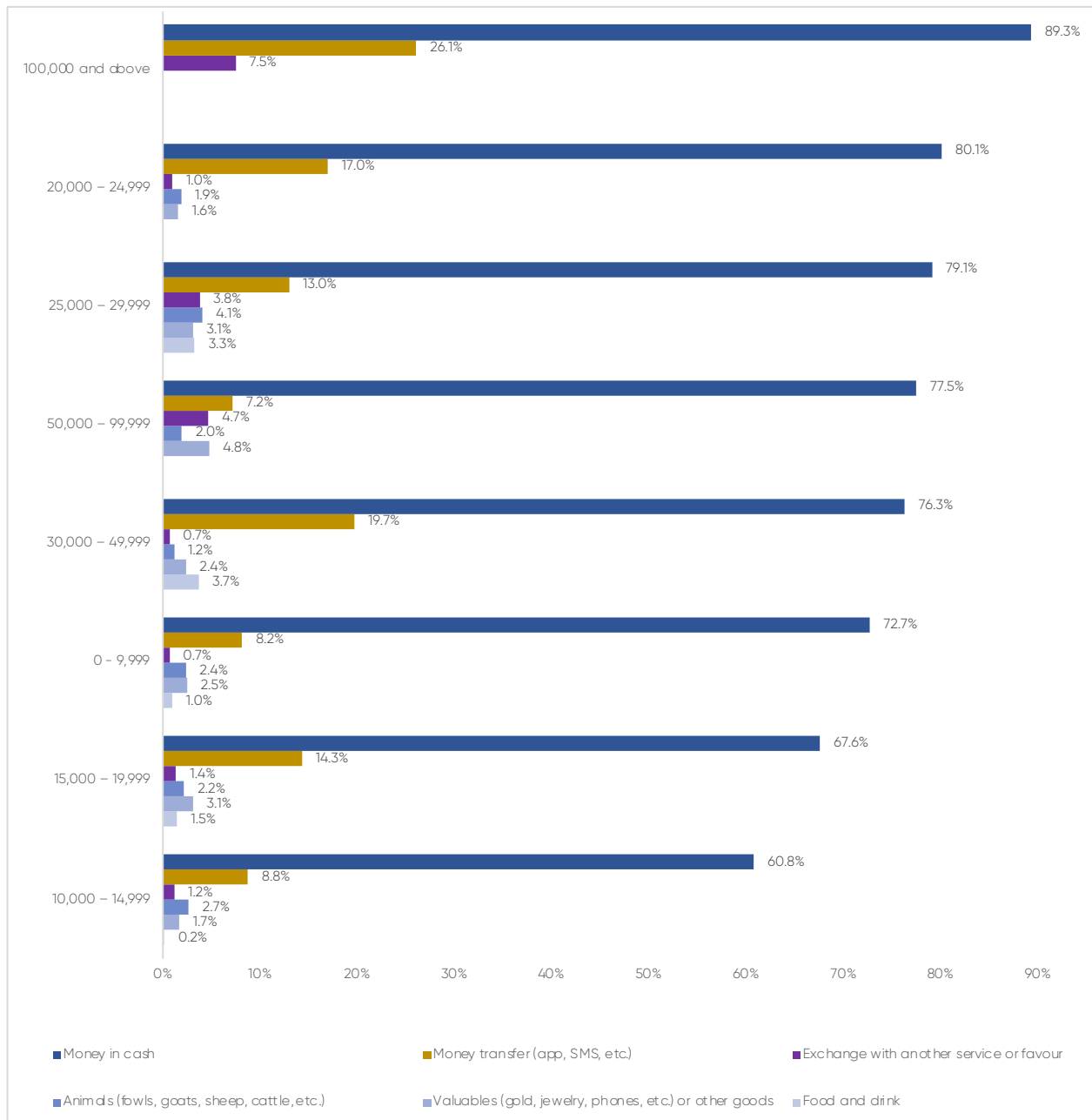


Figure 32: Forms of Bribe Payment to Public Officials by Income of Respondent

3.4.6. Forms of Bribe Payment to Private Sector Employees

The Survey revealed that majority of bribes paid to private sector employees take the form of cash. Seventy Four percent of teachers, 59.6 percent of nurses, 59.5 percent of doctors, 47.8 percent of employees in banks and 47.2 percent of employees in insurance companies received bribes in the form of cash as presented in Figure 33.

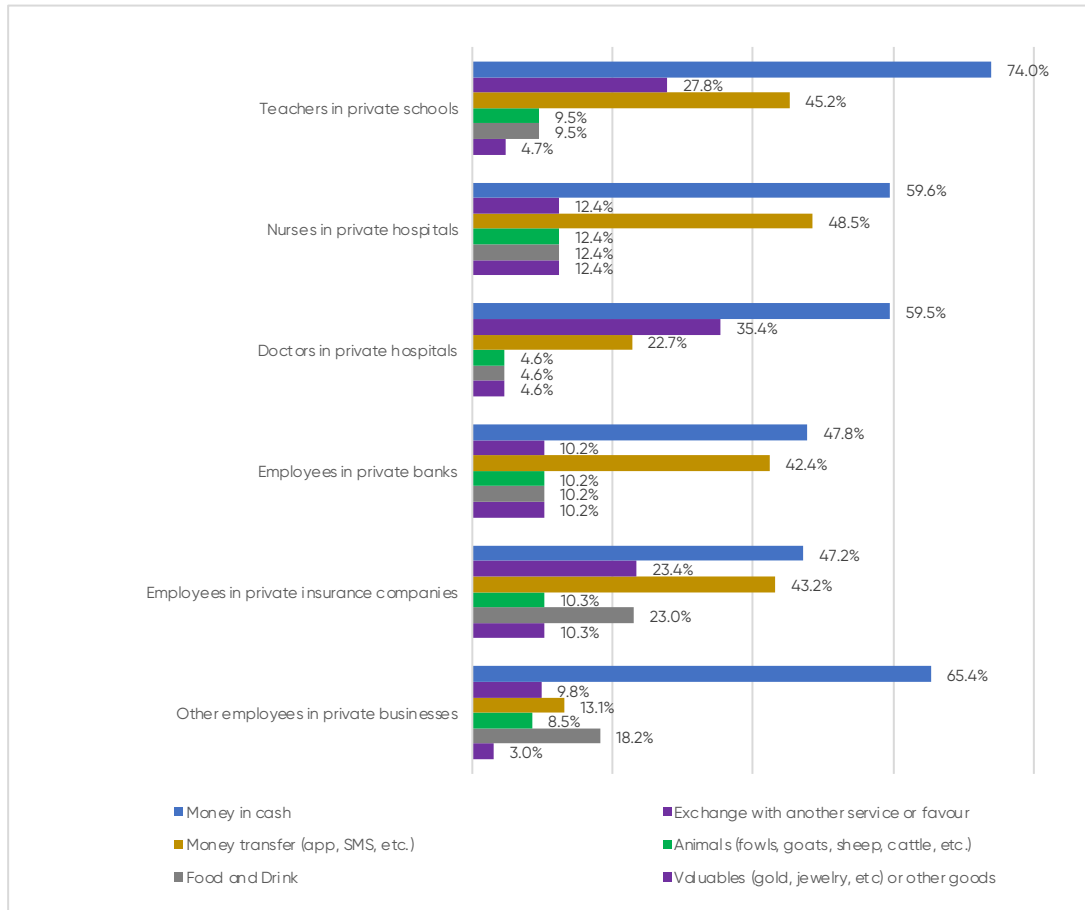


Figure 33: Forms of bribe payment to private sector employees

3.4.7. Other Forms of Bribe Payment to Private Sector Employees

The Survey sought to establish other types of favours that were offered -other than gifts or money- in exchange for services with private sector employees. The findings revealed that 36.1 percent of the respondents provided advantages (favoured) to private sector employees when they interacted at places of work, 29.5 percent provided work-related services for free or for less than the market rate, 13.8 percent gave up some rights or entitlements, 10.8 percent offered sexual favours and 9.9 percent preferred not say the kind of service or favour they offered as presented in Figure 34.

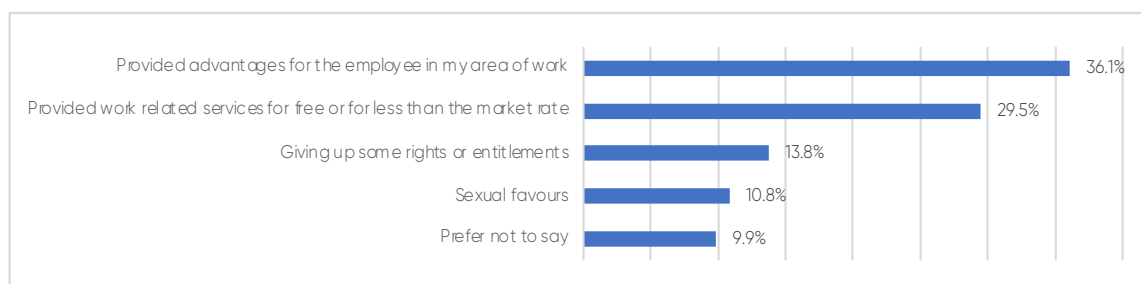


Figure 34: Other Forms of Bribes to Private Sector Employees

3.5. GENDER DIFFERENCES IN BRIBE-TAKING AMONG SELECTED PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR OCCUPATIONS

3.5.1. Frequency of Contacts with bribe-taking Public Officials

The frequency of contacts with bribe-taking public officials varied by type of public officials. Teachers/Lecturers from public schools, Police officers and National Transport Authority (NTSA) Officers are the three types of public officials with whom Kenyan citizens had the highest contact rate. Teachers and Lecturers from public schools recorded the highest frequency of contact rate of over 10 times at 18.2 per cent followed by police officers (13.7%), National Transport and Safety Authority (NTSA) Officers (6.7%), and public officers providing utility services (2.3%) as presented in Figure 35.

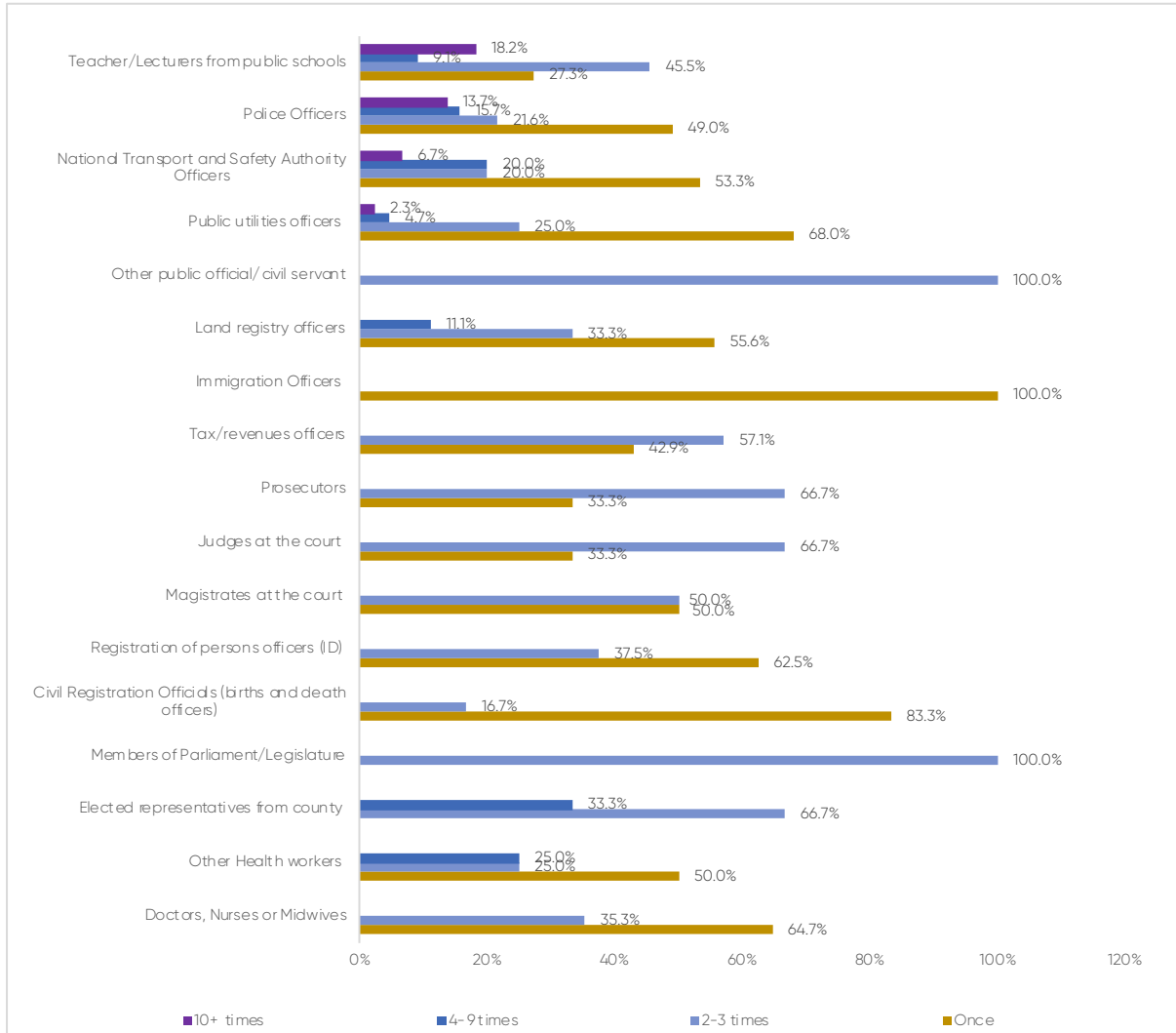


Figure 35: Frequency of Contacts with Bribe-Taking Public Officials

3.5.2. Sex of Public Officials Receiving bribes

The Survey collected information on the sex of public official to whom the bribe was paid to in the last 12 months. As presented in Figure 36 in most cases, (over 90%), bribe taking officials were male who included officials from National Transport and Safety Authority (NTSA) Officers, Prosecutors, Public utilities officers and Police Officers at 92.9%, 92.3%, 90.9% and 88.8% respectively. For the bribes paid to members of legislature (Parliament and County Assemblies), women (83.3%) often took the bribe compared to men (16.7%).

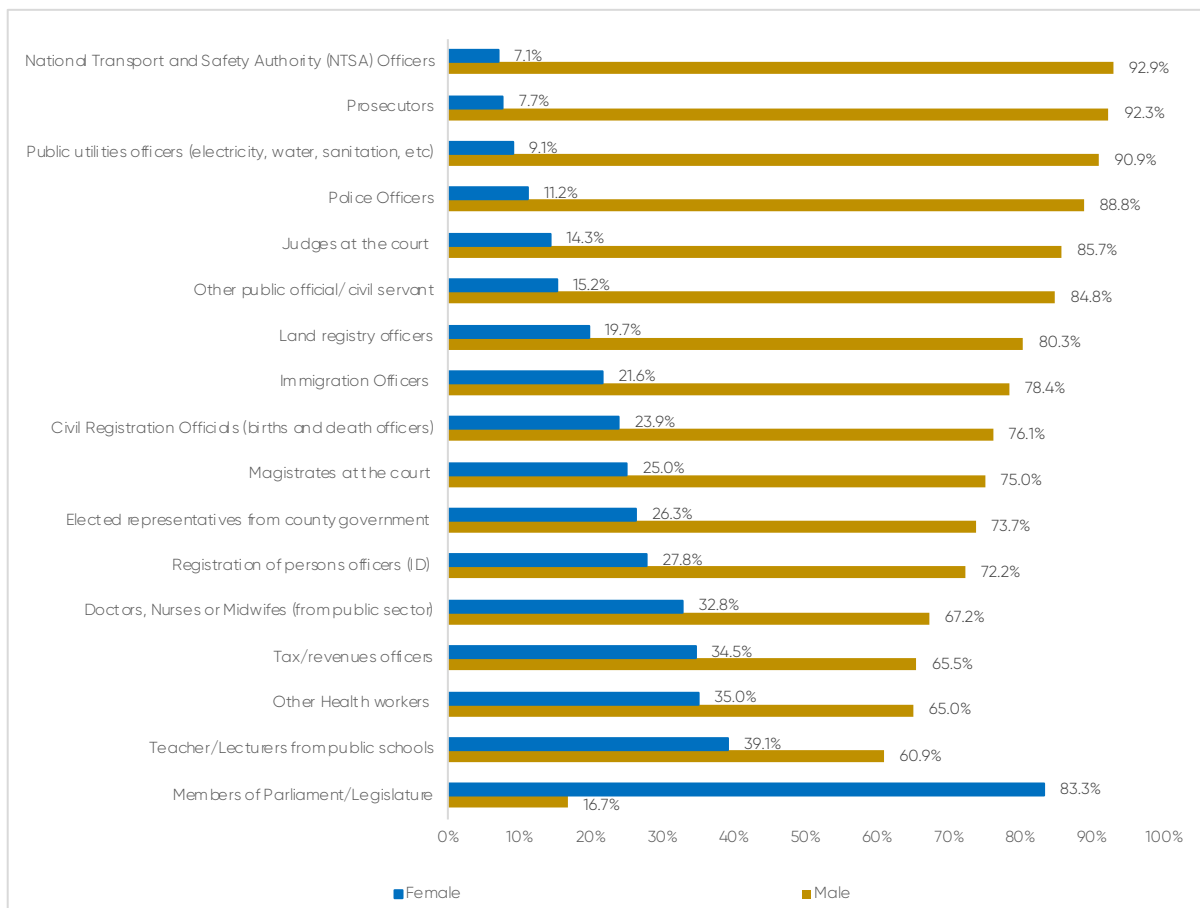


Figure 36: Sex of Public Official Receiving Bribes



“Qualitative data showed extent of bribery thus, the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA), especially regarding the importation of goods. Often, leaders will claim that locally produced sugar or other goods are substandard. However, investigations often reveal that the issue arises when manufacturers refuse to bribe officials or share in the Board but were not allowed. So, you find that when KRA is taxing a manufacturer of local sugar, it is being taxed higher. But someone who is importing the same sugar pays lower than the other person local one.” (Mombasa FGD)

“I’ll say Teachers Service Commission because there are many retired teachers who follow up on their benefits for years and every step they take, they have to part with something.” (Kisumu FGD)

3.5.3. Frequency of Bribe-Taking by Type of Public Officials

Tax/revenues officers (15.3%), National Transport and Safety Authority Officers (10.8%), Police officers (9.1%), immigration officers (6.7%) and teachers/lecturers from public schools (4.6%) were reported as the top five type of public officials that frequently received bribes, at a rate of 10 or more times in a year. Prosecutors (22.8%), magistrates in courts (8.7%), NTSA officials (8.7%), and public utility officials (6.5%) received briberies 4 to 9 times. Teaches in public schools (38.8%), health workers, and judges at court (37.5%) received bribes 2 to 3 times. Figure 37 presents the summary of these findings.

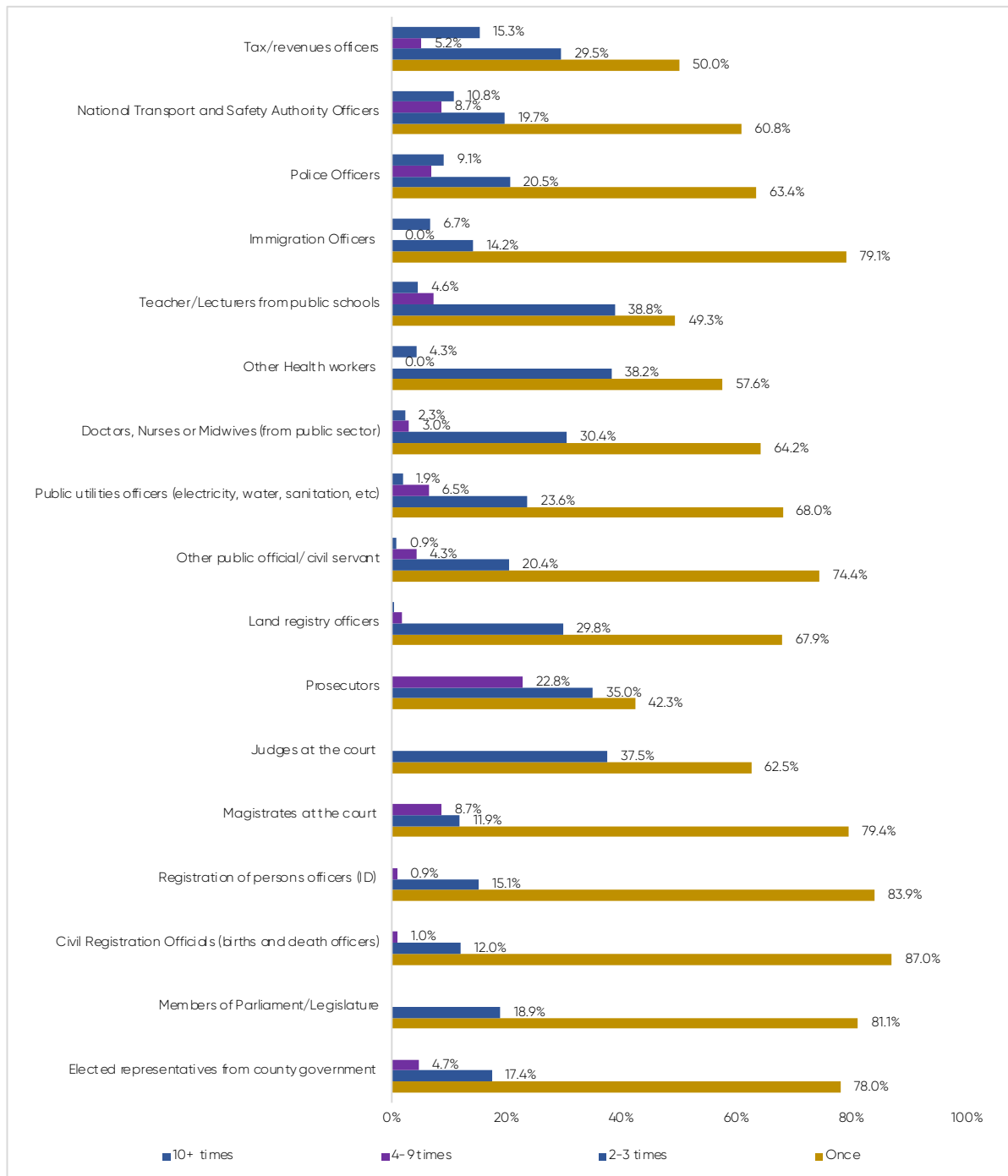
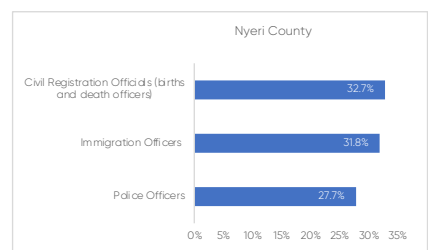
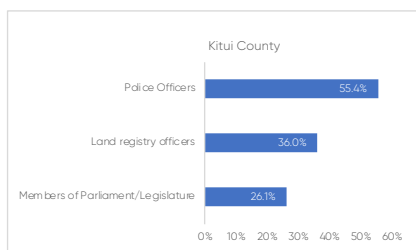
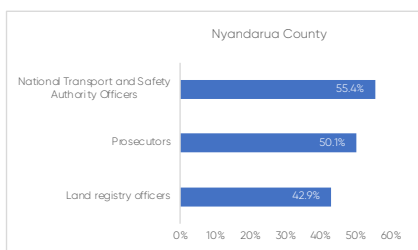
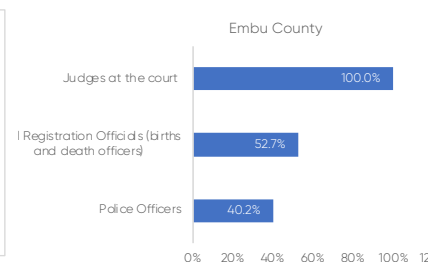
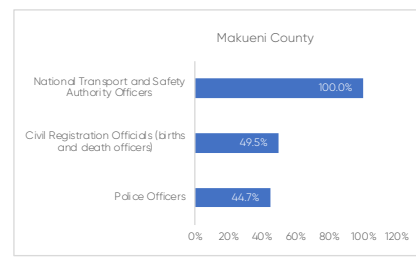
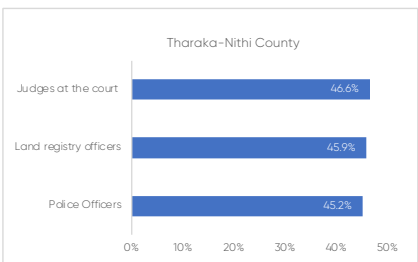
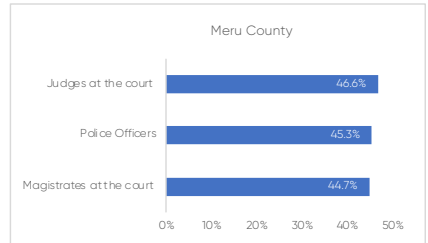
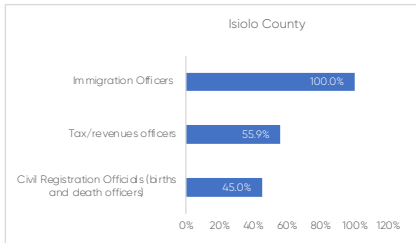
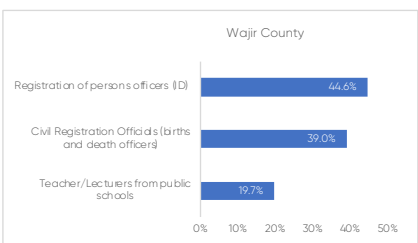
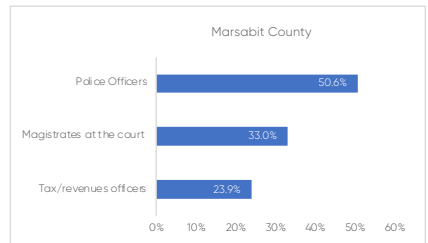
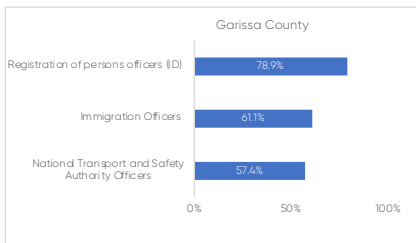
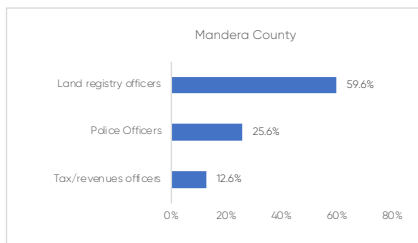
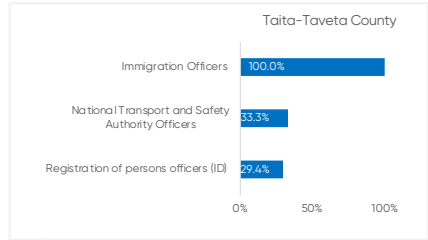
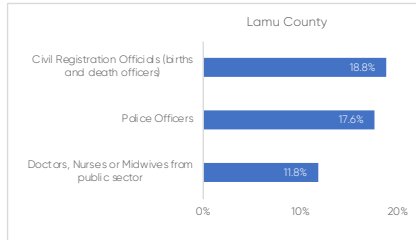
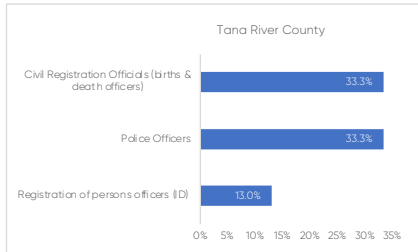
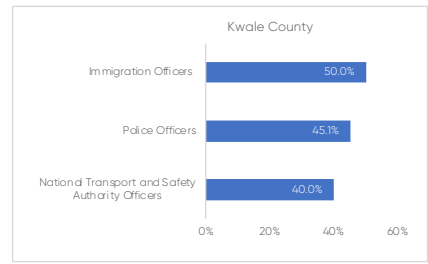
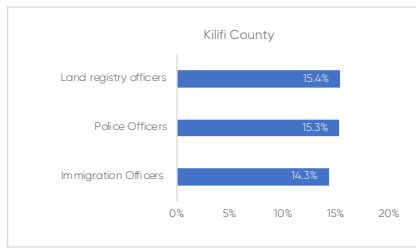
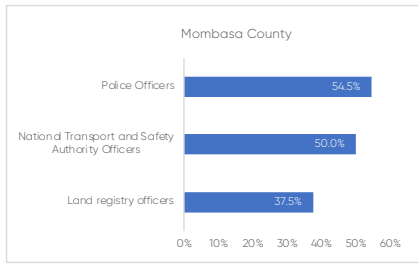
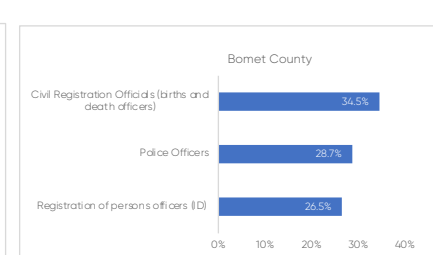
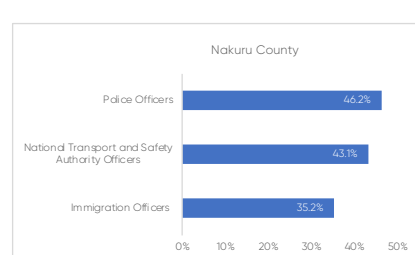
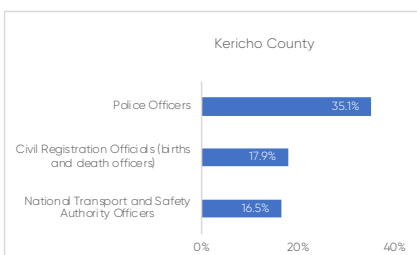
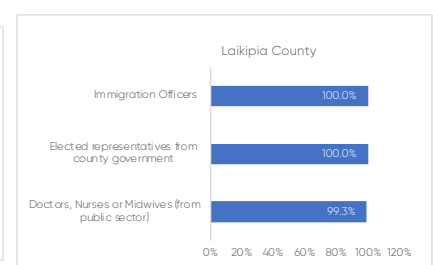
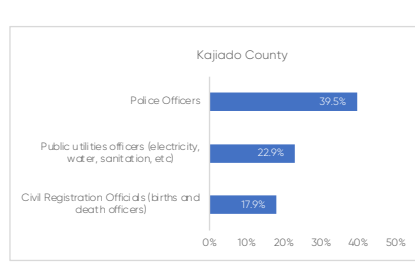
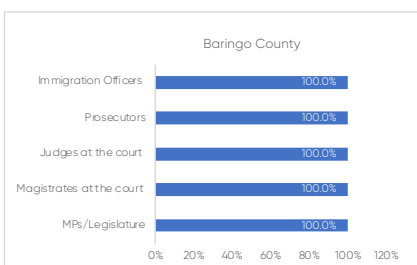
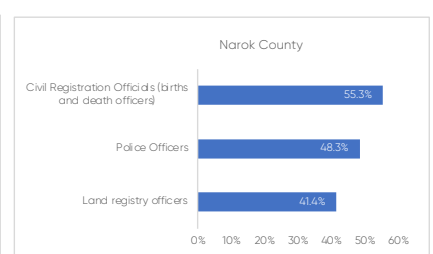
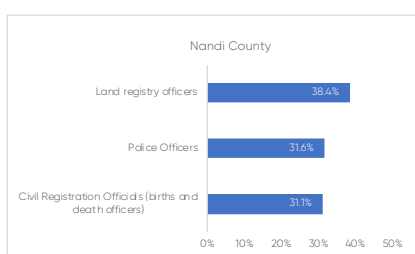
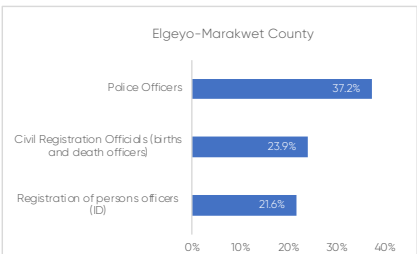
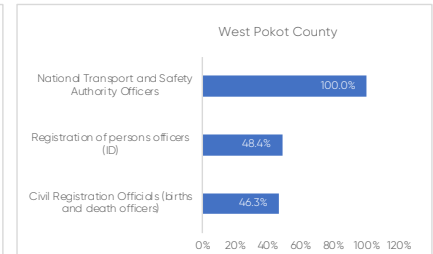
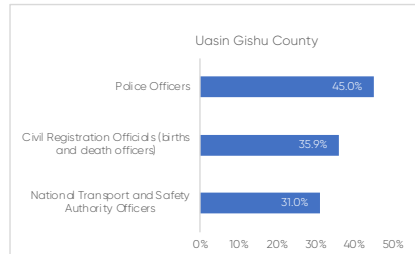
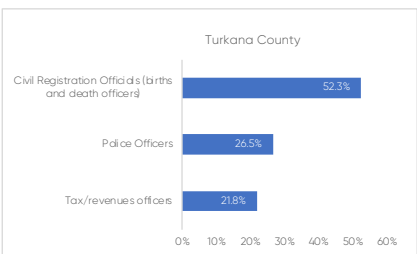
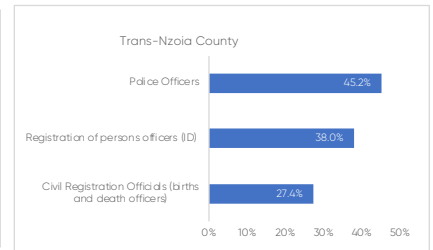
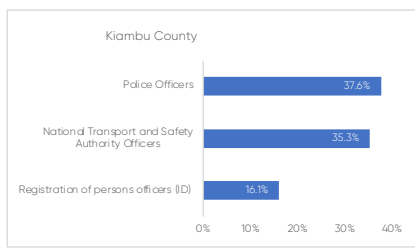
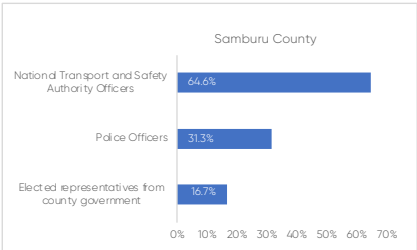
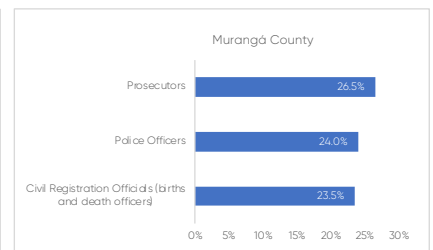
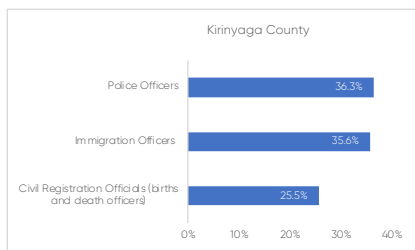
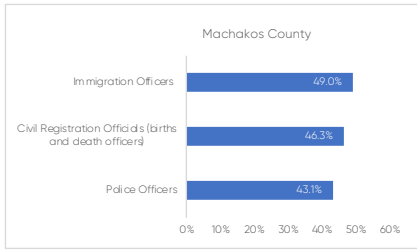


Figure 37: Frequency of Bribe-Taking by Type of Public Officials

3.5.4. Prevalence of Bribe Taking by Publics Officials per County

The top five categories of public officials who received bribes in the 47 counties included the police officers, followed by civil registration officials, National Transport and Safety Authority (NTSA) officers, Immigration officers and registration of persons officers respectively as presented in Figure 38.





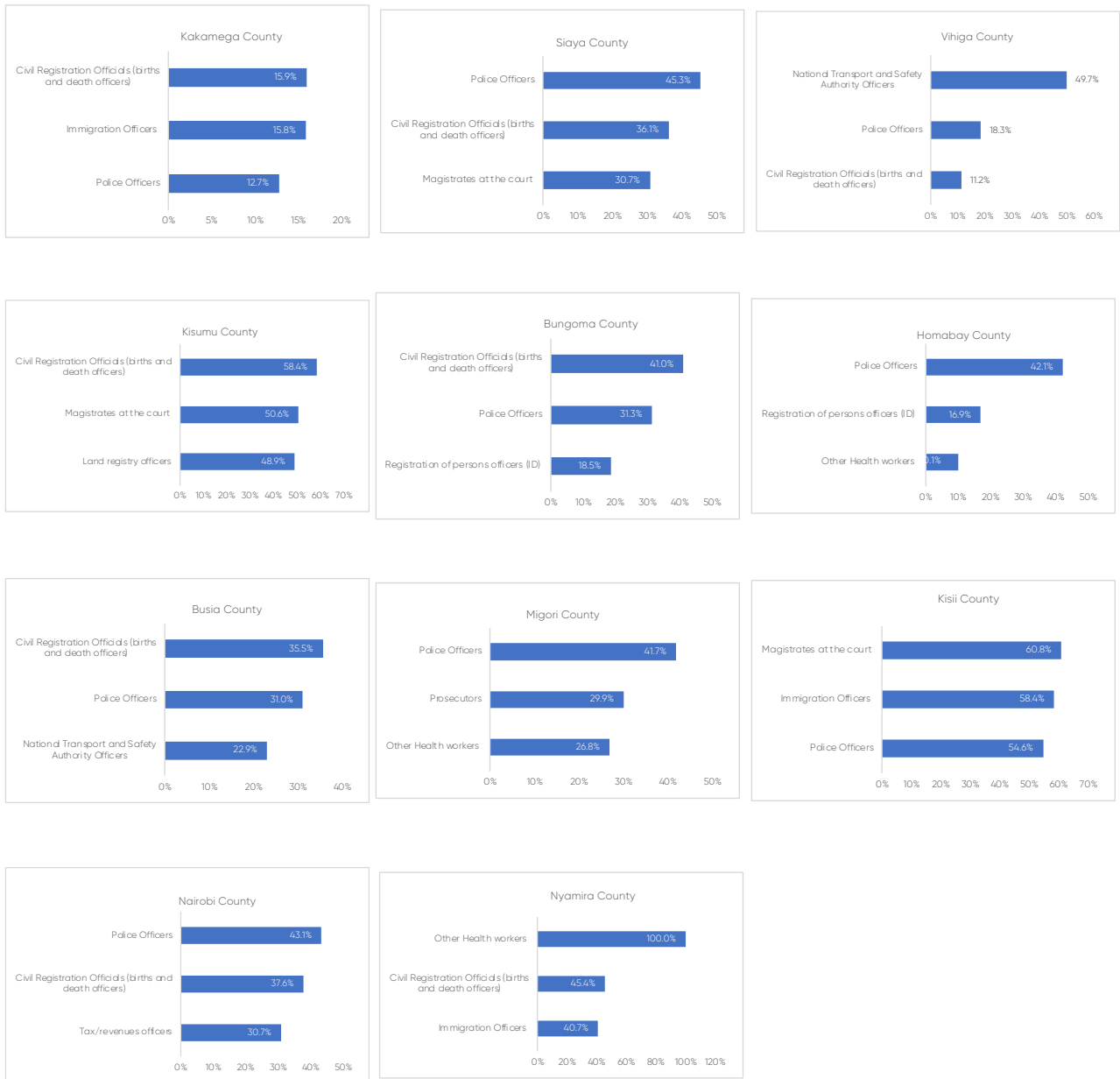


Figure 38: Prevalence of Bribe Taking of top three Public Officials by County



3.5.5. Ethnic Group of Bribe-Takers

Nearly half of the elected representatives of the county government, teachers from public schools and civil registration officials who received bribes, shared ethnicity with the bribe payer while almost a similar percentage of these officials received bribes from payers of a different ethnic group from the receiver. Member of Parliament (100%), immigration officers (92.2%), prosecutors (90.1%), NTSA (71.7%), tax officials and magistrates at court (69.1%) respectively, and public utility officials (67.6%) who received bribes did not share ethnic identity with the bribe payers. Judges at the court (69.0%), and land registry officials (55%) who received bribes mainly shared the ethnic identity with the bribe payer, as shown in Figure 39.

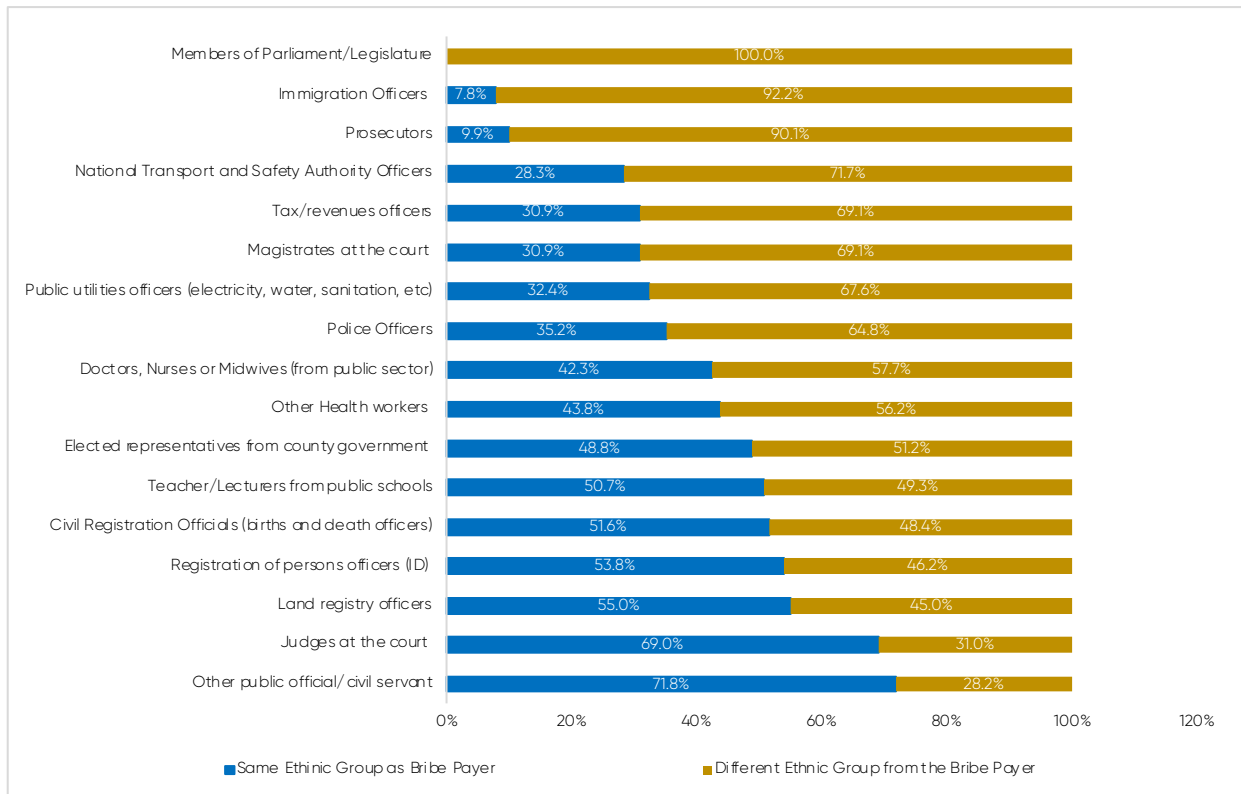


Figure 39: Ethnic Group of Bribe-Taking Public Officials

3.5.6. Frequency of Bribe-Taking by Type of Private Sector Employee

The survey revealed that nurses (50.9%) and doctors (39.8%) received bribes 2-3 times as indicated in Figure 40. Teachers in private schools (23.5%), employees in private insurance companies (22.7%) and doctors in private hospitals (8.5%) received bribes 4-9 times from the respondents. Nurses in private hospitals (7.1%) and teachers in private schools (5.4%) received bribes 10 or more times from service seekers.

50.9%

Percentage that are nurses who were reported to have received bribes 2-3 times.

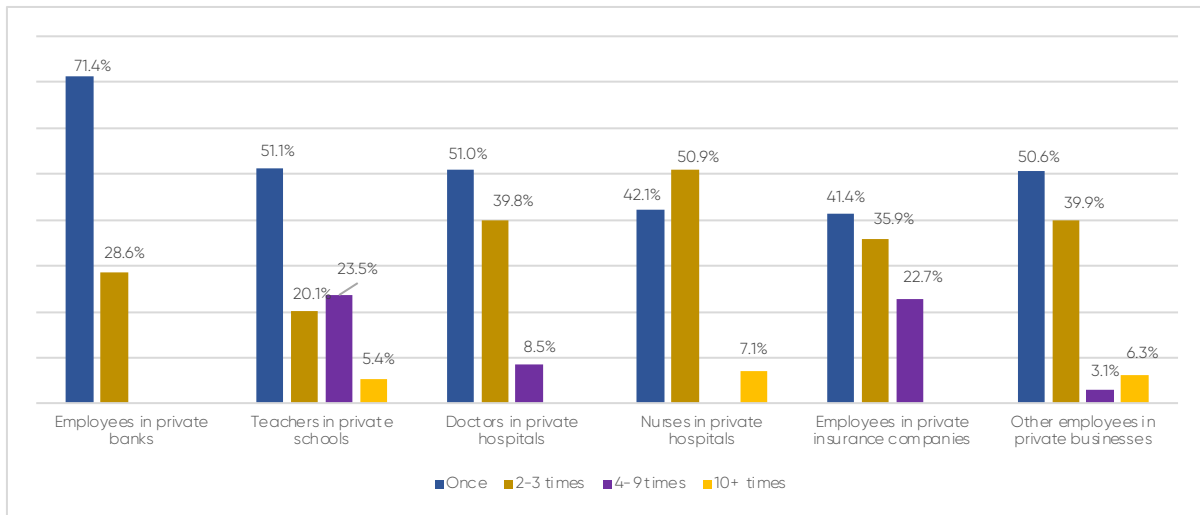


Figure 40: Frequency of bribe-taking by type of private sector employee

3.5.7. Prevalence of Bribe-taking by Sex of Private Sector Employees

The Survey revealed that female employees in banks (65.3%), insurance companies (44.1%) and nurses (17.9%) were more likely to receive bribes compared to their male counterparts in the same sector. On the other hand, male doctors (61.5%) and male teachers were more likely to receive bribes compared to their female counterparts in these sectors as presented in Figure 41.

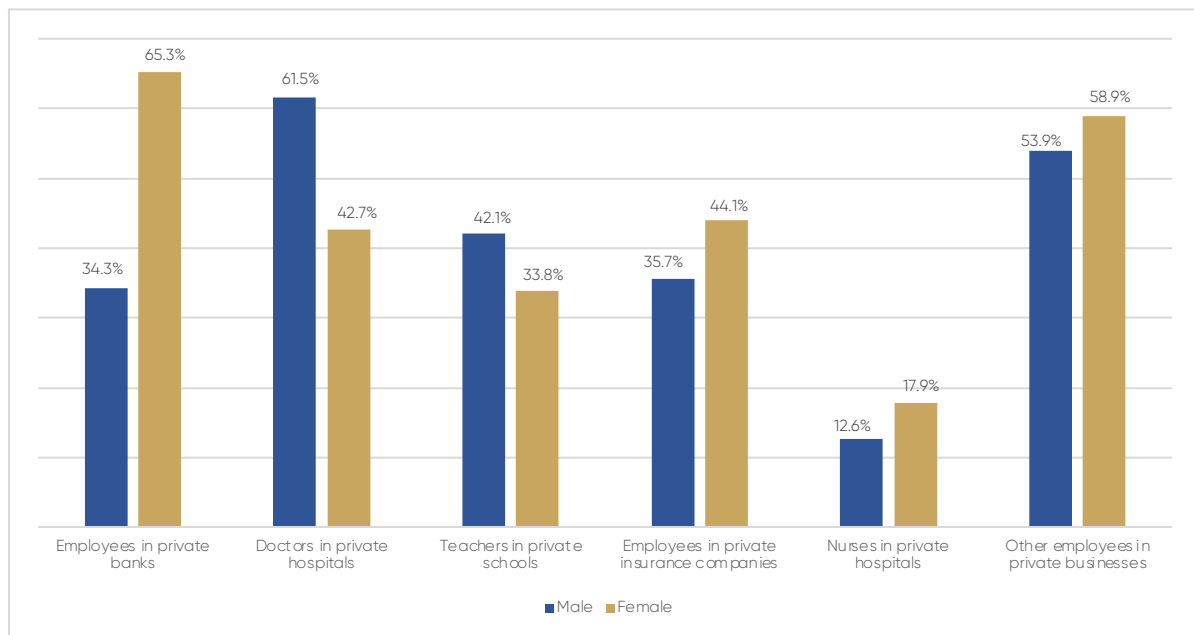


Figure 41: Prevalence of bribe-taking by Sex of private sector employees

3.5.8. Prevalence of Bribe-taking by Type of Residence of Private Sector Employees

The survey indicates that employees in private insurance companies (4.1%), teachers in private schools (2.9%), nurses in private hospitals (0.8%) and employees in private banks (0.7%) were more likely to take bribes from respondents in rural areas compared to those in urban areas. Conversely, doctors in private hospitals were more likely to take bribes from respondents in urban areas compared to those in rural areas (Figure 42).

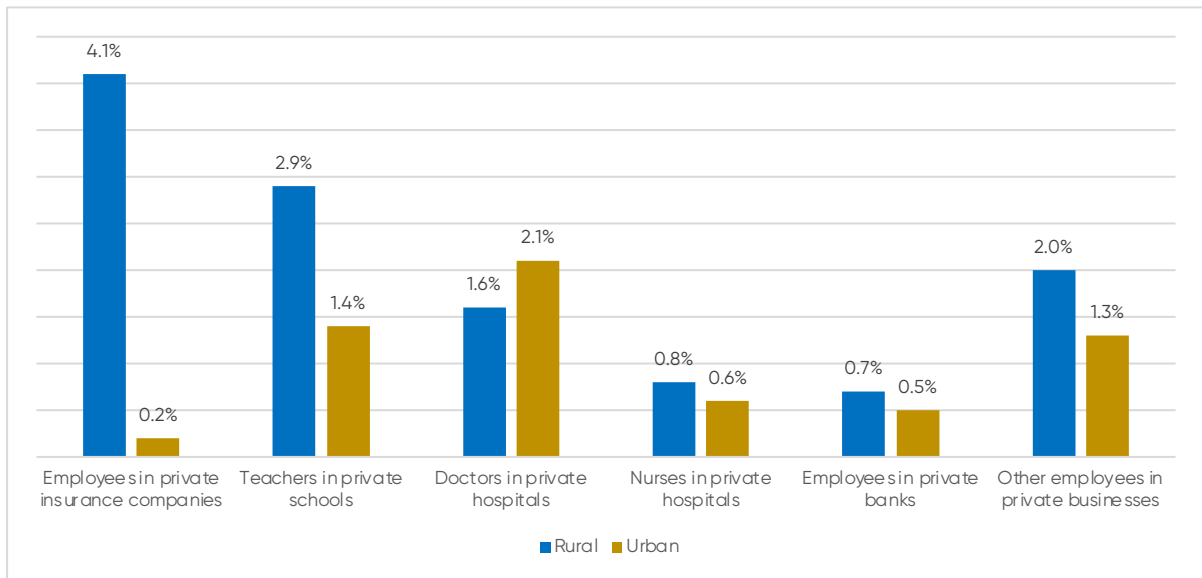


Figure 42: Prevalence of bribe-Taking Type of Residence of private sector Employees

3.6. GENDER DIFFERENCES ON HOW AND WHY BRIBERY OCCURS IN PUBLIC SECTOR

3.6.1. Timing of Bribe Payment to Public Officials

Over 80 percent of bribes (84.3%) are paid before a service is provided by a public official while about 16 per cent of the bribes are offered same time when the service is being offered. This informs timing of any intervention to arrest bribery seeking and giving behavior. Figure 43 presents survey findings on the timing of bribe payments in the process of delivery of public service.

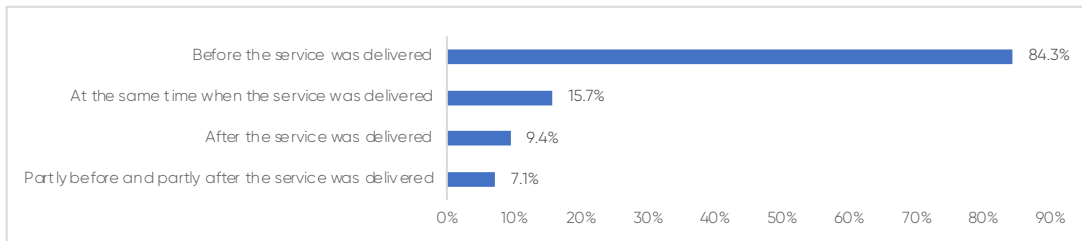


Figure 43: Timing of Bribe Payment to Public Officials

3.6.2. Timing of Bribe Payment by Type of Public Official

There are major variations on the timing of payment of bribery by type of the public official. Most bribes are paid to most public officials before a service is provided as shown in figure 44.

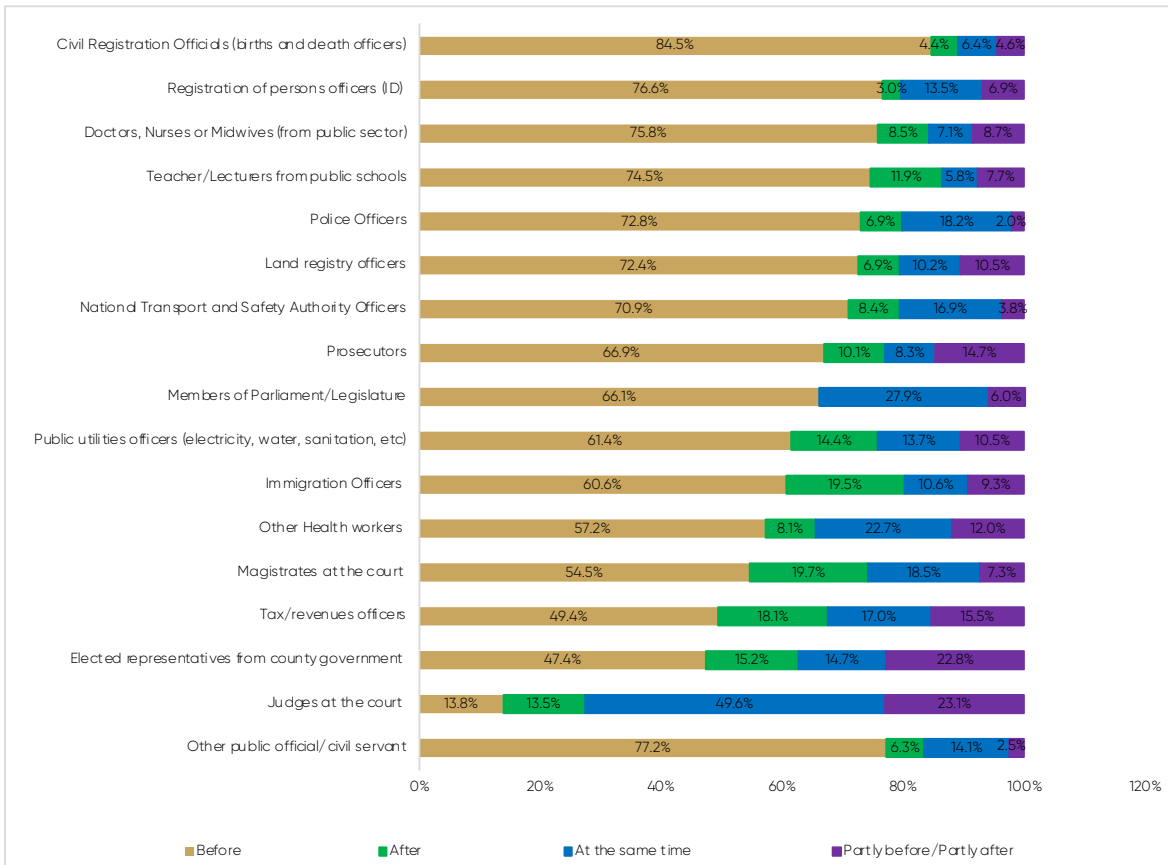


Figure 44: Timing of Bribe Payment by type of public official

3.6.3. Reasons for Bribe Payment to Public Officials

The most important reason for paying a bribe to a public official was to speed up service delivery as presented in Figure 45.

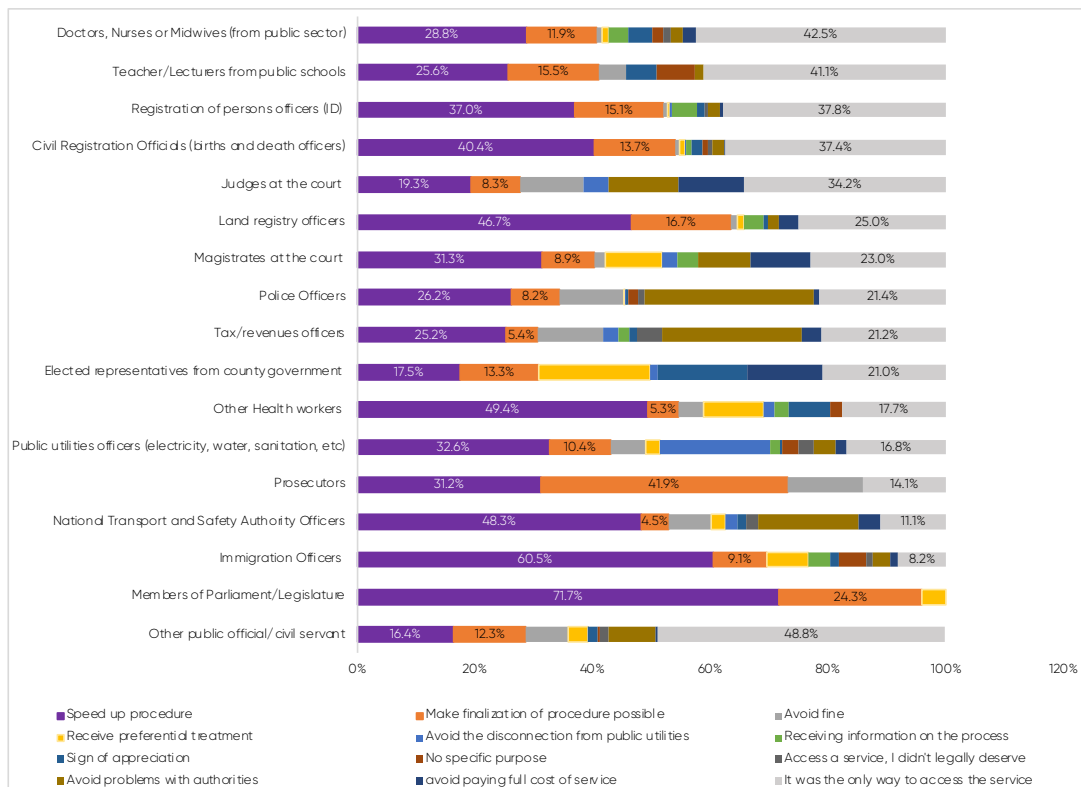


Figure 45: Reasons for Bribe Payment to Public Officials

3.6.4. Reasons for Bribe Payment to Public Officials by Sex of the Respondents

Women (35.2 per cent) paid bribes more often than men (30 per cent) to speed up procedure followed by the fact that it was the only way to access the service (30.5%) as presented in Figure 46.

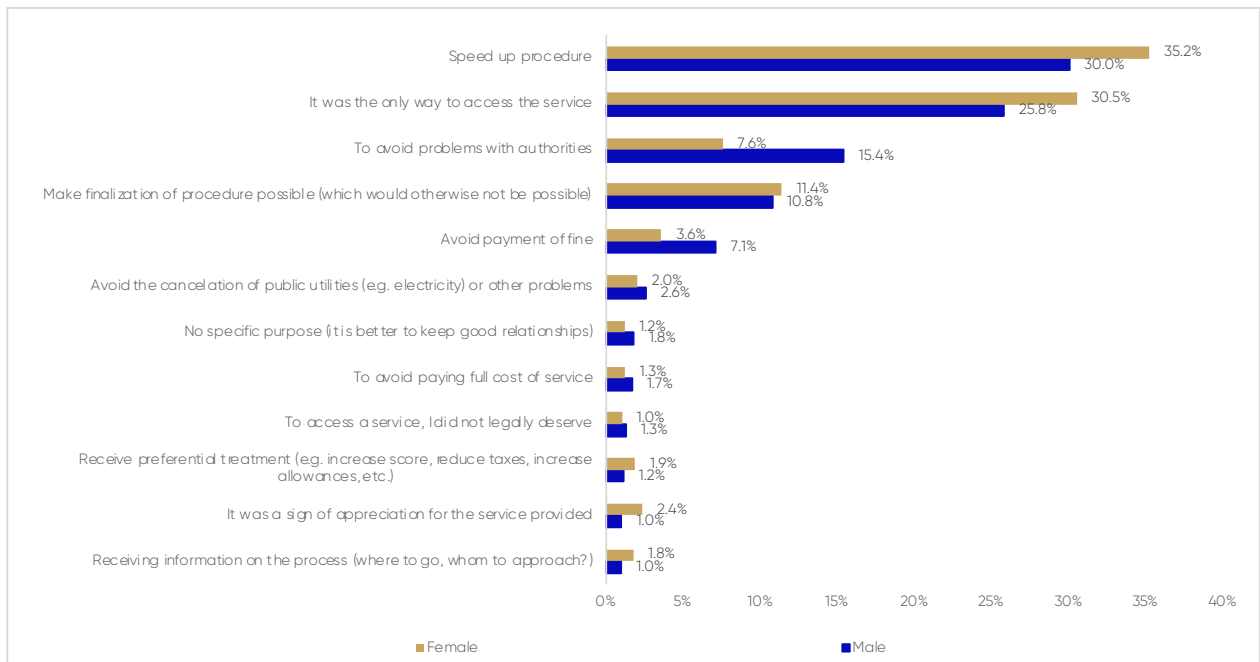


Figure 46: Reasons for Bribe Payment to Public Officials by Sex of the Respondents

3.6.5. Reasons of Bribe Payment to Public Officials by Type of Residence

Urban residents (41.1 per cent) paid bribes more often than rural residents (25.6 per cent) to speed up procedure while rural residents (33.2%) were more likely than urban residents (20.5%) to pay bribes for the reason that it was the only way to access the service as presented in Figure 47.

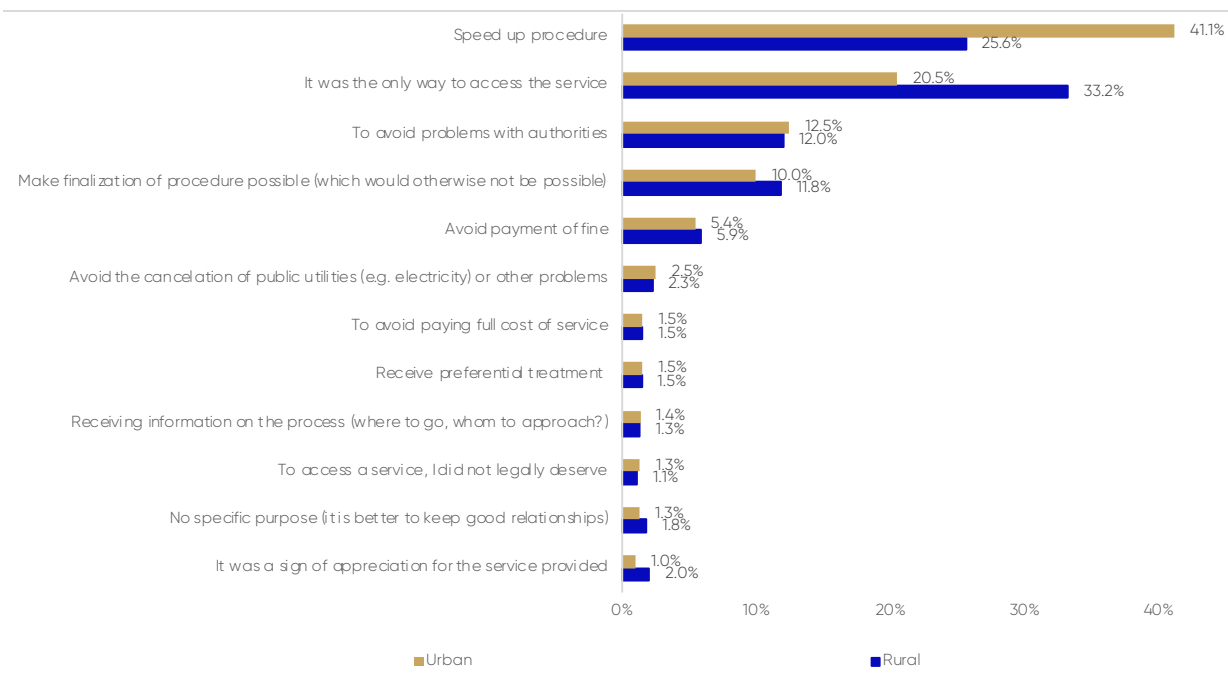


Figure 47: Reasons for Bribe Payment to Public Officials by Type of Residence of the Respondents

3.6.6. Reasons for Bribe Payment to Public Officials by Age of the Respondents

Most respondents aged 65 years and above (36.4%) paid bribes often since it was the only way to access the service while those aged between 18 – 64 years mostly paid a bribe to speed up procedure as illustrated in Figure 48.

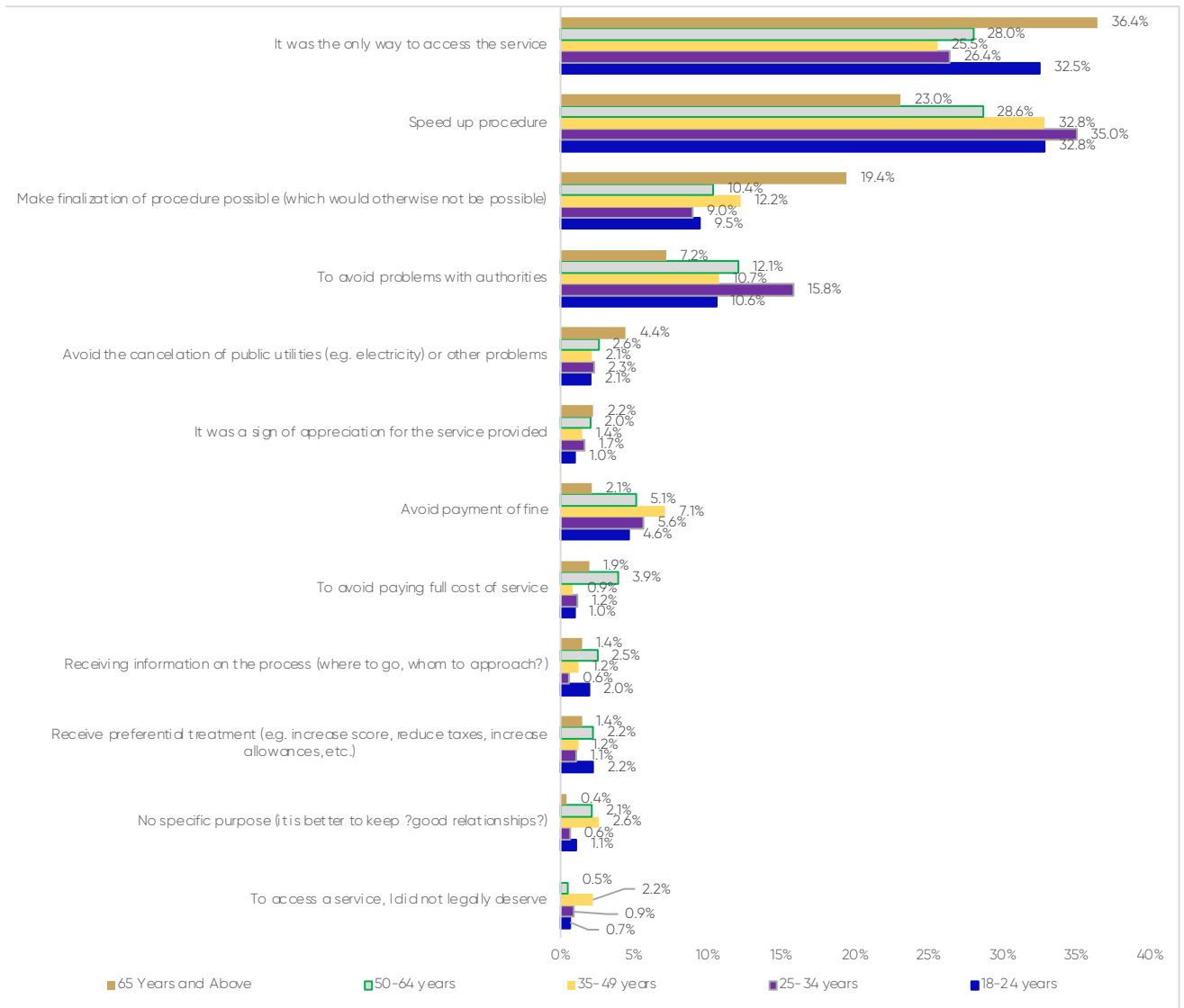


Figure 48: Reasons for Bribe Payment to Public Officials by Age of the Respondents

3.7. GENDER DIFFERENCES IN BRIBE REFUSAL

3.7.1. Service seekers who refused to pay a bribe to Public Officials

When faced with a bribe request, most of the citizens, 16.7 per cent, refused to pay a bribe to police officers, followed by those who refused to pay a bribe to land registry officers (13.2%), immigration officers (13.2%) and civil registration officials (13.0%) as presented in Figure 49.

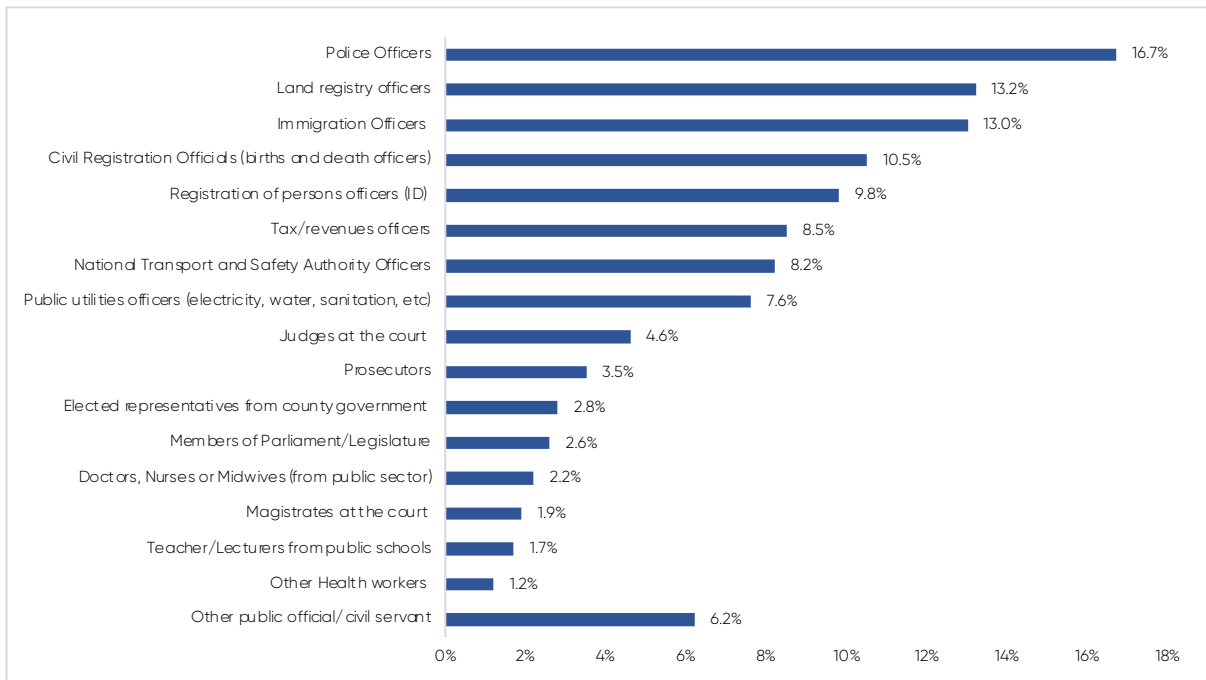


Figure 49: Respondents who refused to pay a bribe by type of public officials

3.7.2. Sex of Public Officials that were denied bribes

When faced with a bribe request, a majority of respondents (over 50%) refused to pay bribes to male public officials as compared to female. The top three largest proportion of male public officials to whom the respondents refused to pay a bribe were prosecutors (89.9%), followed by police officers (89.6%) and members of parliament (89.6%) as presented in Figure 50.

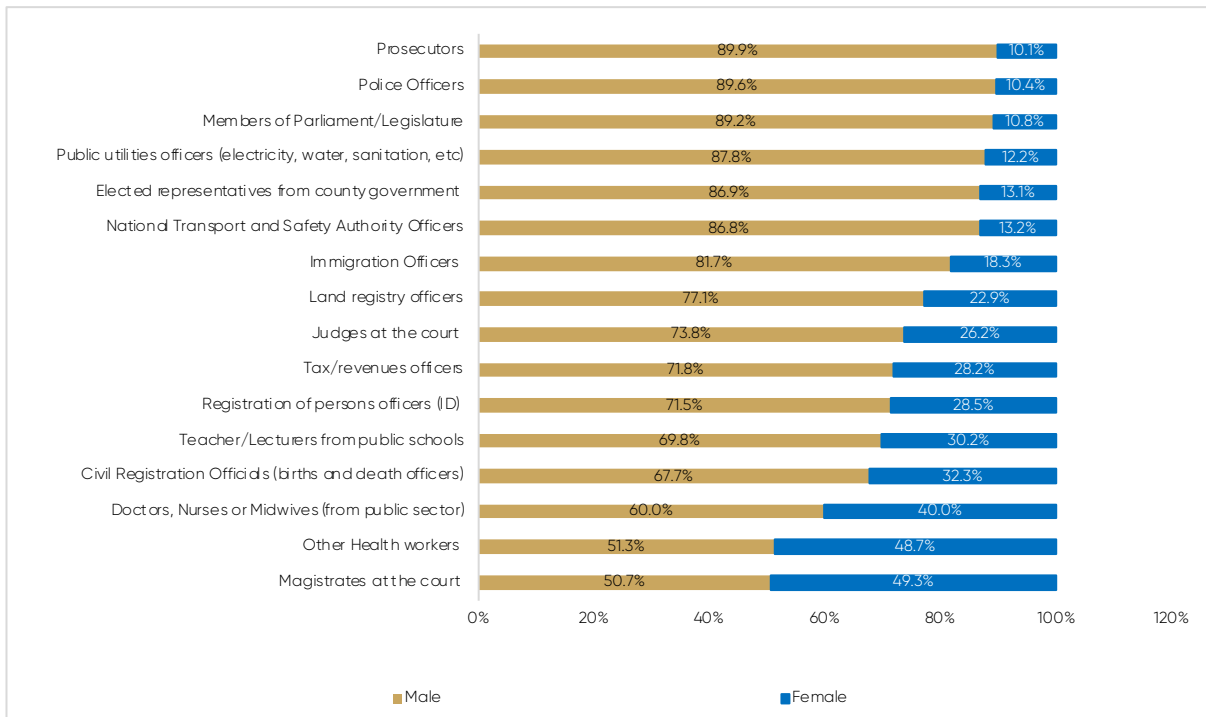


Figure 50: Sex of Public Officials that were denied bribes

3.7.3. Main Reason why Citizens refused to pay a bribe to public officials

The three main reasons why citizens refused to pay a bribe to public officials included the fact that they could not afford the requested gift or payment (44.7%), it was the right thing to do (31.9%) and that the service seekers had other options of getting what they wanted (13.1%) as presented in Figure 51.

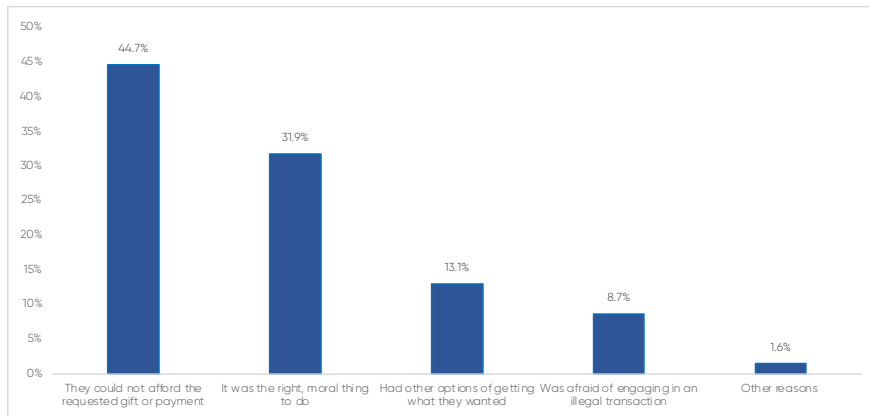


Figure 51: Main Reasons Why Citizens Refused to pay a bribe to public officials

3.7.4. Consequences Citizens Faced for Refusing to pay a bribe to public officials

Forty six per cent of service seekers who refused to pay a bribe to public officials did not experience any consequences. About one third (36.5%), suffered negative consequences while some 17.8 per cent were waiting to be sure if any consequences would occur as illustrated in Figure 52.

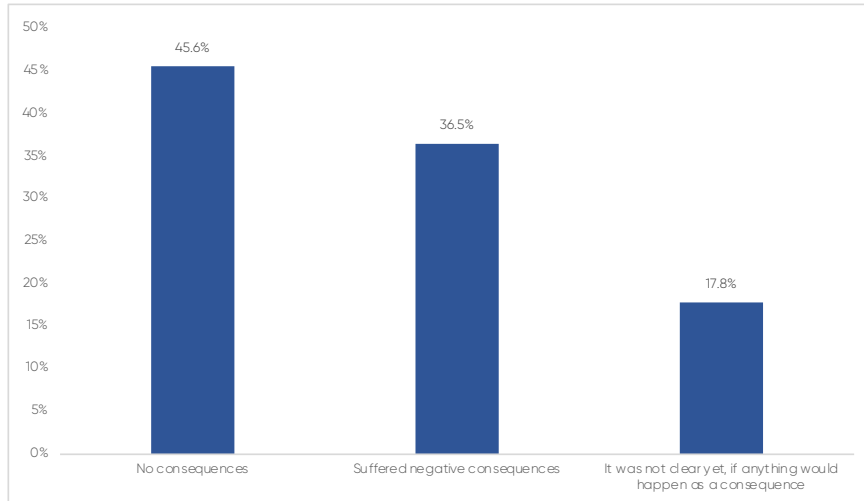


Figure 52: Consequences Citizens Faced for refusing to pay a bribe to public officials

3.8. GENDER DIFFERENCES IN REPORTING BRIBERY AT THE PUBLIC SECTOR

3.8.1. Bribery Reporting Rate in Kenya

The majority of Kenyans (98.6%) who paid bribes did not report their experience to any institution. Only 1.4 per cent of all bribe-payers reported their latest bribe payment to an official institution as presented in Figure 53.

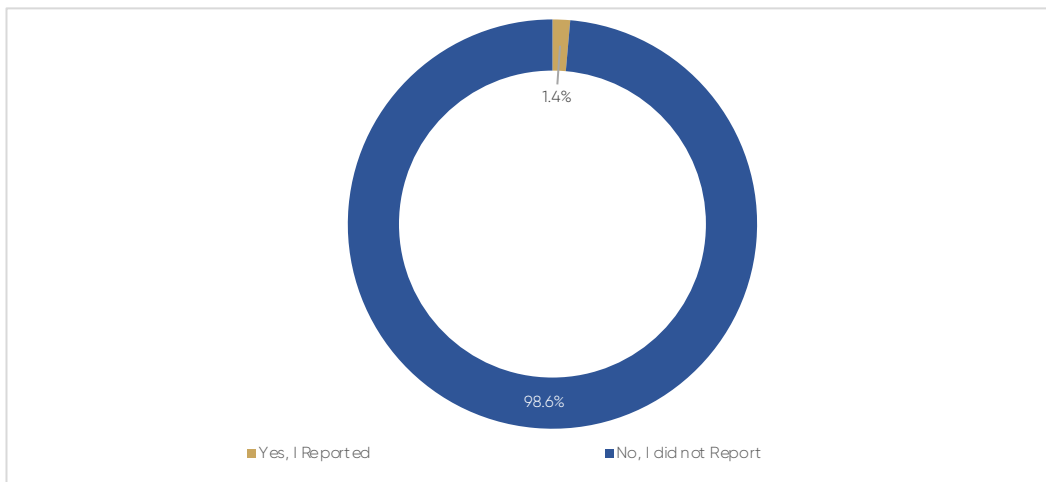


Figure 53: Bribery Reporting Rate in Kenya



“People don’t know where to report and we don’t have information. So, we need that information to know where to report.... Can EACC be given enough resources so that they now sensitize?” (Uasin Gishu FGD)

3.8.2. Bribery Reporting by Sex of Respondent

Of the 1.4% of the bribe payers that reported the bribery, a majority (57.2%) were women while 42.1% were men as illustrated in Figure 54.

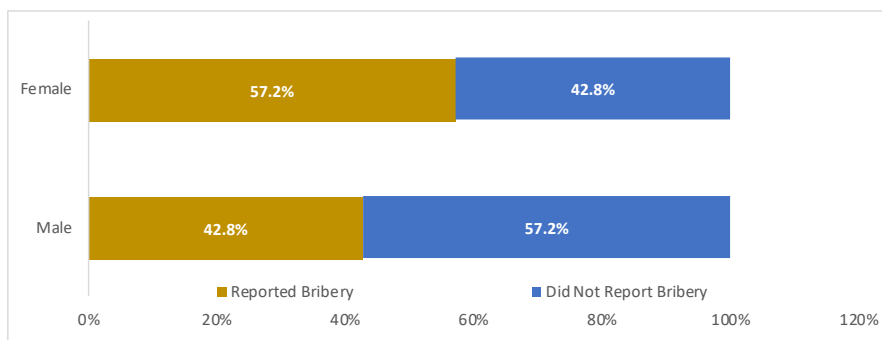


Figure 54: Bribery Reporting Rate by Sex of Respondents



“This extends even to the local administration level. For example, a woman may go to report domestic issues to the chief or at the police station—perhaps her husband has failed to pay school fees, has not provided food, and still comes home to cause violence. If the man has money and bribes the chief, nothing will be done. The woman is forced to return to the same home where she faces abuse again. The next day she is left wondering whether it is even worth reporting the case again, and when she tries going to the police, she encounters the same frustrations.” (Nairobi FGD)

3.8.3. Bribery Reporting by Age of Respondent

Most of the respondents (49.7%) that reported bribery incidents were between ages 25 to 34 years followed by those aged between 35–49 years (27.7%). Respondents between 18–24 years did not report any bribery incident as shown in Figure 55.

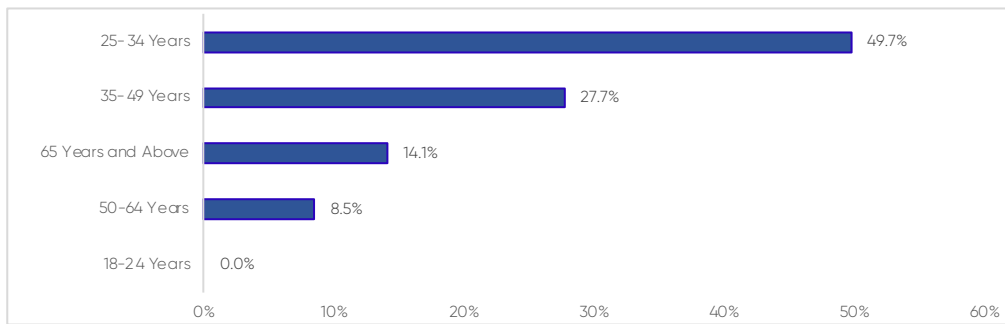


Figure 55: Bribery Reporting Rate by Age of Respondents

3.8.4. Bribery Reporting by County

Counties reporting bribery incidences are shown in Figure 56. Samburu shows highest reporting level (11.9%), Baringo (11.5%) and Mandera (5.3%). Sixty six percent (65.9%) of the counties did not report any incidents of bribery.

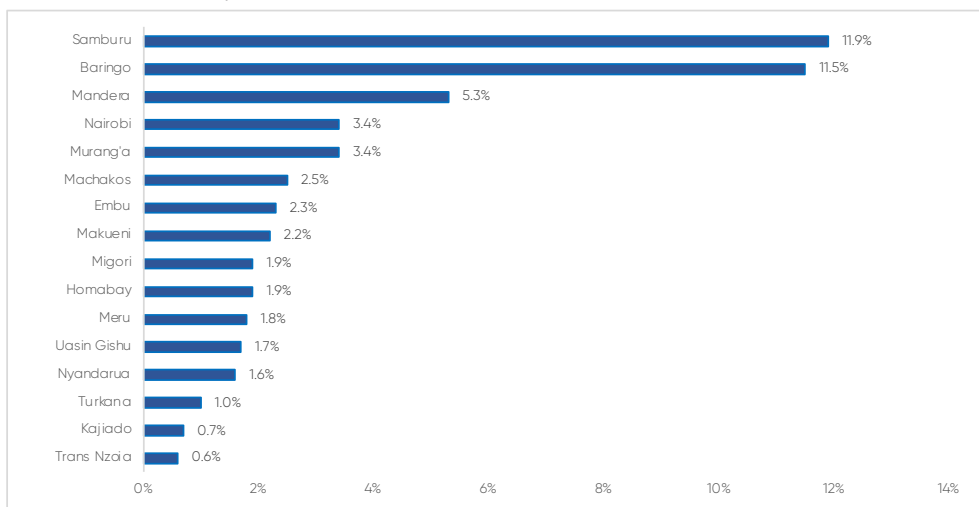


Figure 56: Bribery Reporting Rate by County of Respondents

3.8.5. Institutions where Bribery Incidents were reported

While the overall reporting rate remained very low, most respondents who paid a bribe or were approached for the payment of a bribe reported the incident to the police (30.2%), chiefs (13.2%) or the same institution of the officer requesting the bribe (11.8) as shown in Figure 57.

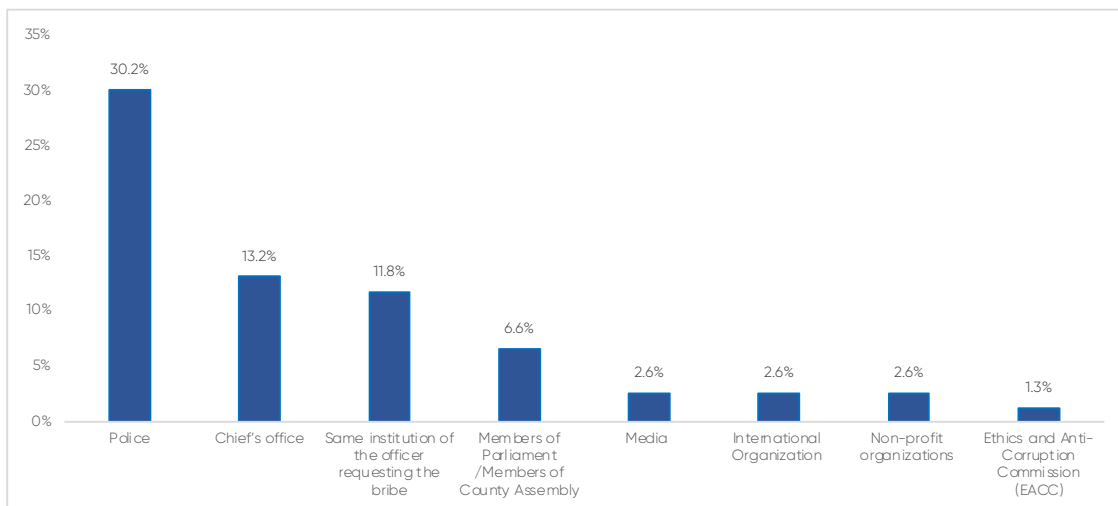


Figure 57: Institutions where Bribery Incidents were reported

3.8.6. Institutions where Bribery Incidents were reported by Sex of Respondent

More men respondents (40.2%) unlike women respondents (22.6%) reported bribery incident to the police. Three percent of men respondents (3.1%) reported bribery incidents to the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission. More women (15.4%) than men (10.3%) reported to chiefs as shown in Figure 58.

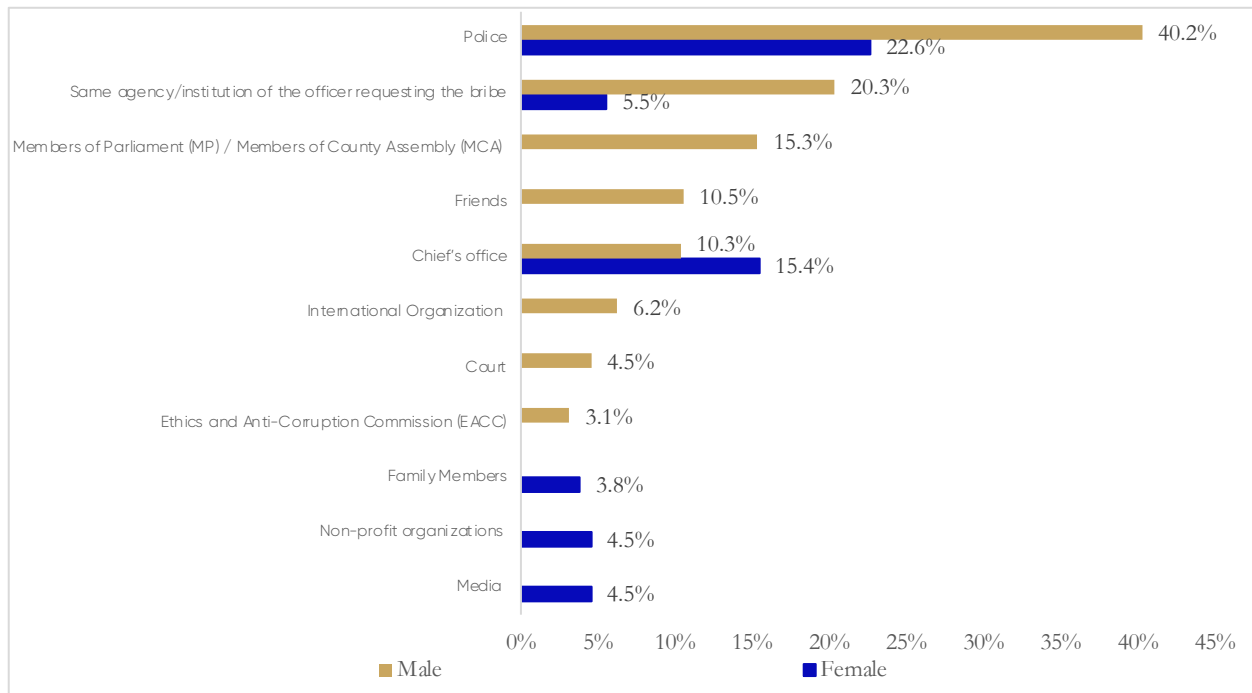


Figure 58: Institutions where Bribery Incidents were reported by Sex of Respondents

3.8.7. Institutions where Bribery Incidents were reported by Residence

More rural respondents (55.5%) compared to urban respondents (14.0%) reported bribery incident to the police. Only urban residents (2.1%) reported bribery incidents to the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission as shown in Figure 59.

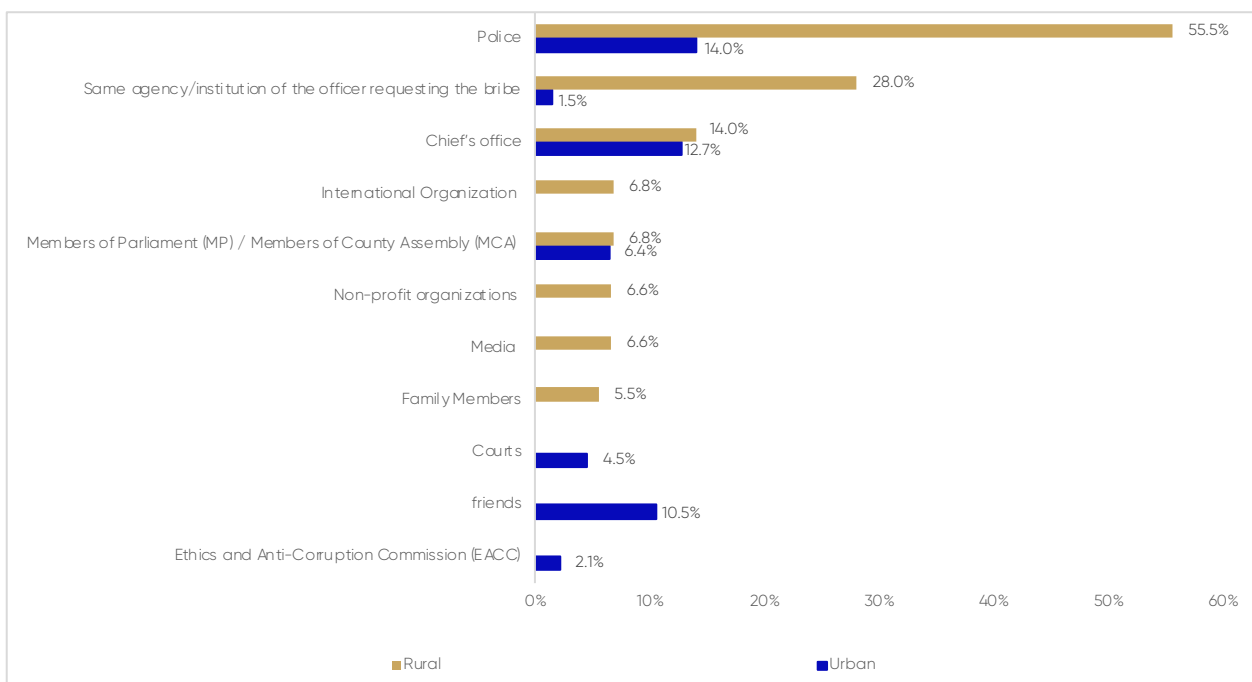


Figure 59: Institutions where Bribery Incidents were reported by Region of Residence of Respondents

3.8.8. Gender Differences in Bribery Reporting in the Private Sector

Majority of respondents (93.5%) who paid bribes to private sector employees did not report their experiences. More urban residents (6.9%) reported bribery incidents compared to the rural residents (6.2%). More men (10.4%) compared to women (3.0%) reported bribery experiences (Figure 60).



Figure 60: Gender Difference in Reporting of bribery in the private sector

3.8.9. Institutions and offices where private sector bribery was reported

Figure 61 presents various institutions, offices or persons where or to whom bribery incidents in the private were reported. The Survey indicates that nine percent of the respondents reported to the media, six percent (6.3%) reported to members of parliament (MP) or members of county assembly (MCA), five percent (5.4%) reported to family members and chiefs' offices and four percent reported to the police.

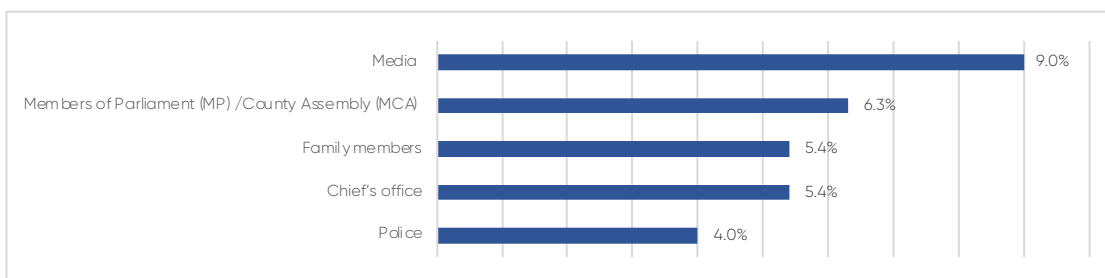


Figure 61: Institutions and offices where private sector bribery was reported

3.8.10. Action Taken by official Institutions after Citizens Reported Bribery

Most respondents (42.3%) stated that nothing happened after reporting bribery. One fifth (20.3%) said they did not know what happened and 12.5 per cent were advised not to go ahead with their report as presented in Figure 62.

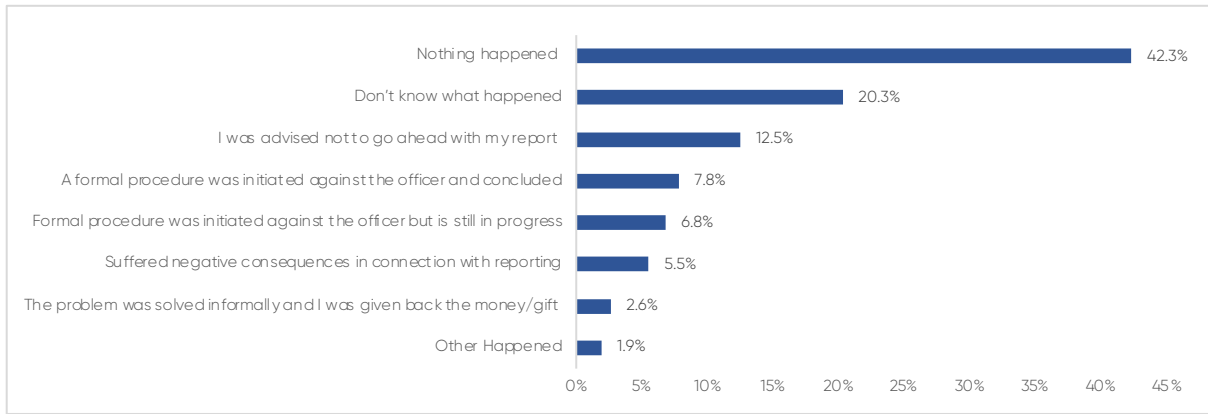


Figure 62: Action taken by Official Institutions when Citizens Reported Bribery Incidents

3.8.11. Action taken by Official Institutions by Sex of the Respondents

More men respondents (54.5%) than women (33.2%) reported that nothing happened after reporting bribery. However 10 times more men (14%) than women (1.4%) reported that a formal procedure was initiated against the officer but was still in progress as presented in Figure 63.

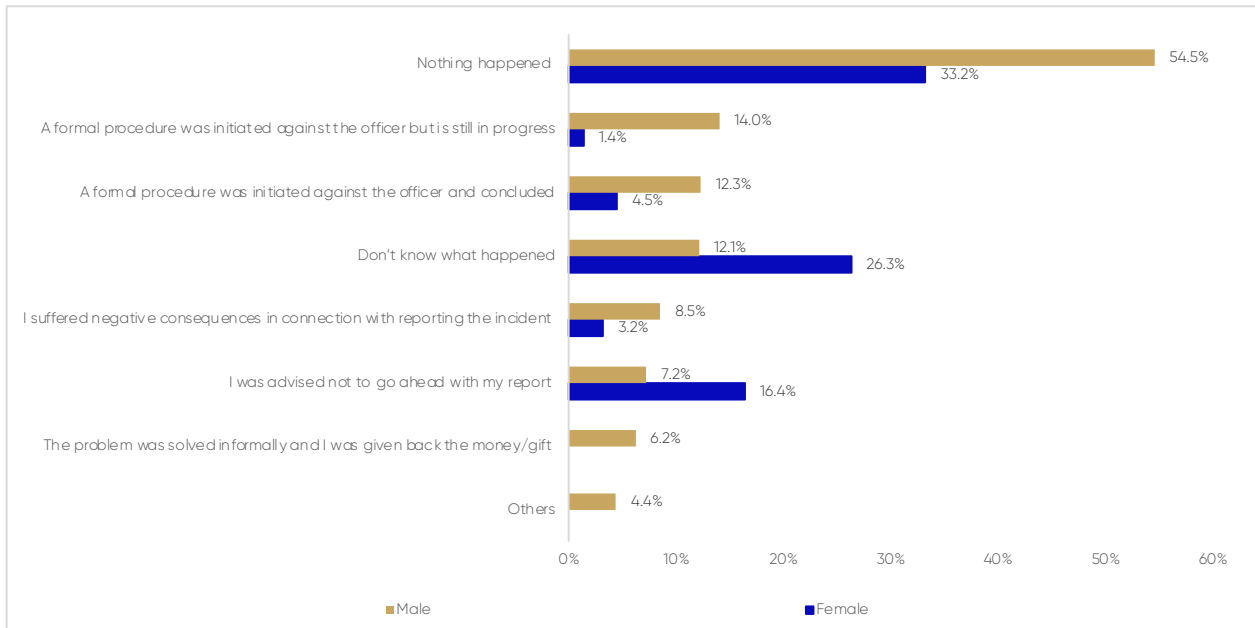


Figure 63: Action taken by Official Institutions by Sex of the Respondents

3.8.12. Reasons why citizens do not report bribery

The three major reasons why citizens do not report incidents of bribery are: it was useless and nobody would care about it (33.4%), it is acceptable practice to pay or make gifts (18.3%), and that citizens equally received a benefit from the payment or gift (13.9%) as illustrated in Figure 64.

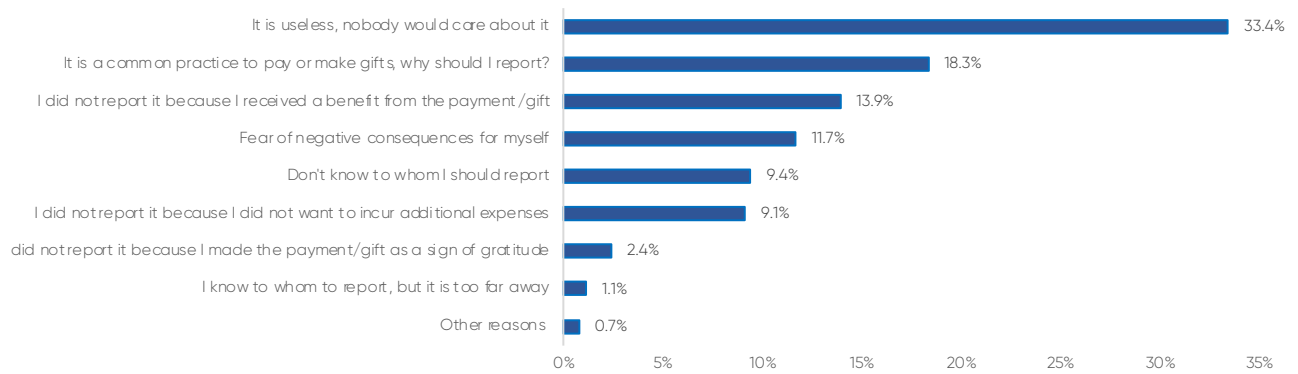


Figure 64: Reasons Why Citizens do not report bribery



"We will accept that the reason why we don't even trust reporting is one... we've never really seen whistle-blowers being protected, even though it is said. We really don't see that. There was a boy recently who was shot. That boy was a whistle-blower. We've seen many of them dying, especially if you are touching on sensitive matters." (Uasin Gishu FGD)

"It is true that we have mechanisms like the witness protection program in place, but the real problem lies elsewhere. Many people see no reason to report cases of corruption or theft, because even after making a report, nothing ever seems to happen. The matter simply ends at the point of reporting." (Nairobi FGD)

"You may report corruption, but the very person you report to might manipulate the system, turning it against you. Instead of justice, you could end up being prosecuted yourself creating a constant fear of victimization." (Nyeri FGD)

"There's no confidence in the organs charged with investigating corruption. People fear reprisals, and sometimes they're beneficiaries of corruption themselves, which makes it difficult to report. When people from certain groups dominate the system, others feel they need protection rather than justice." (Kakamega FGD)

"We have a law that says that the state will protect me as a witness. I don't think that is an effective law till now. So I am reporting corruption, I am supposed to prove that I am reporting the correct thing, I am fighting ourselves, there is no one to protect me, So what you have done is that you have left me at the mercy of the goons, I am exposed, and yet, all I wanted to do was report corruption. There has been a history in this country whereby the whistle-blowers have become our worst enemies." (Nyeri FGD)

3.8.13. Reasons Why Citizens do not report bribery by Sex of the Respondents

More men respondents (34.5%) than women (31.8%) reported that the main reason why they do not report bribery is because it is useless and nobody would care about it. Nearly twice women (12.7%) as men (7.1%) said they did not know to whom they should report to as illustrated in Figure 65.

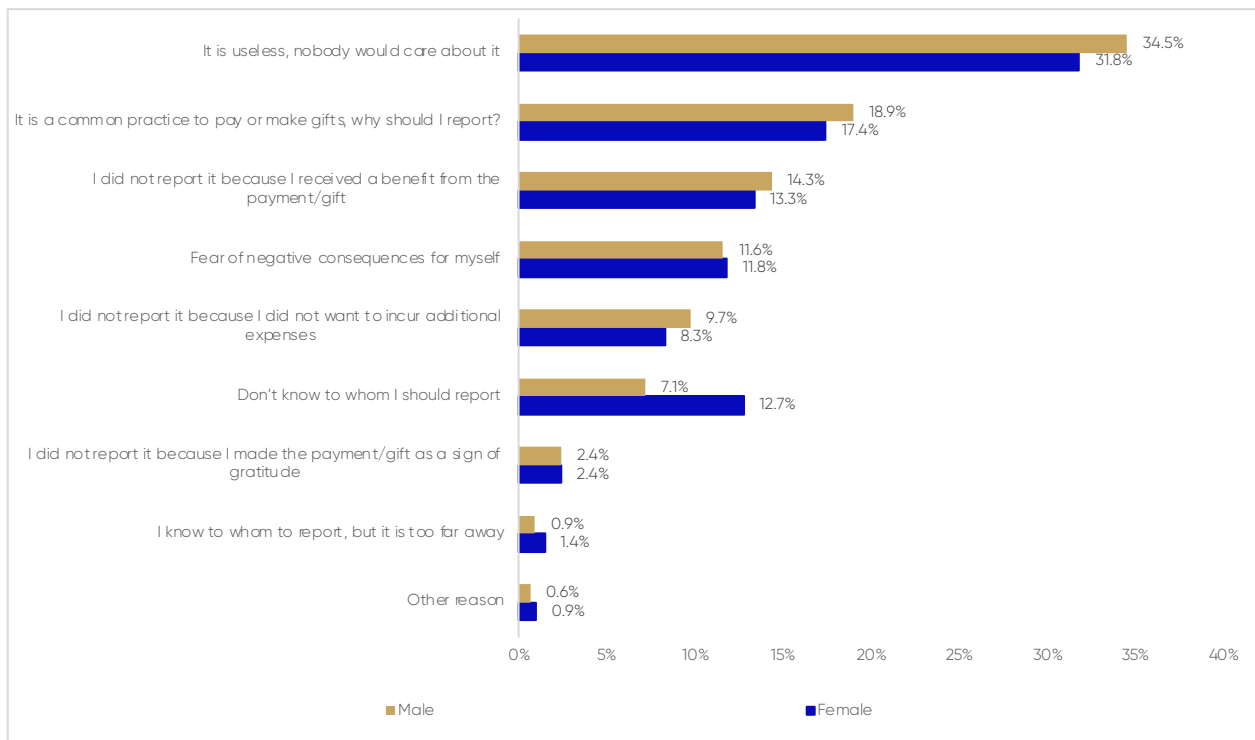


Figure 65: Reasons Why Citizens do not report bribery by Sex of the Respondents

3.8.14. Reasons Why Citizens do not report bribery by Age

Respondents aged between 18–24 years reported that the main reason why they did not report bribery incidents was that it was useless and nobody would care about it (38.4%). Respondents aged 65 years and above compared to the other age groups (19.6%) said that it is a common practice to pay or give gifts and they did not see the need to report as illustrated in Figure 66.

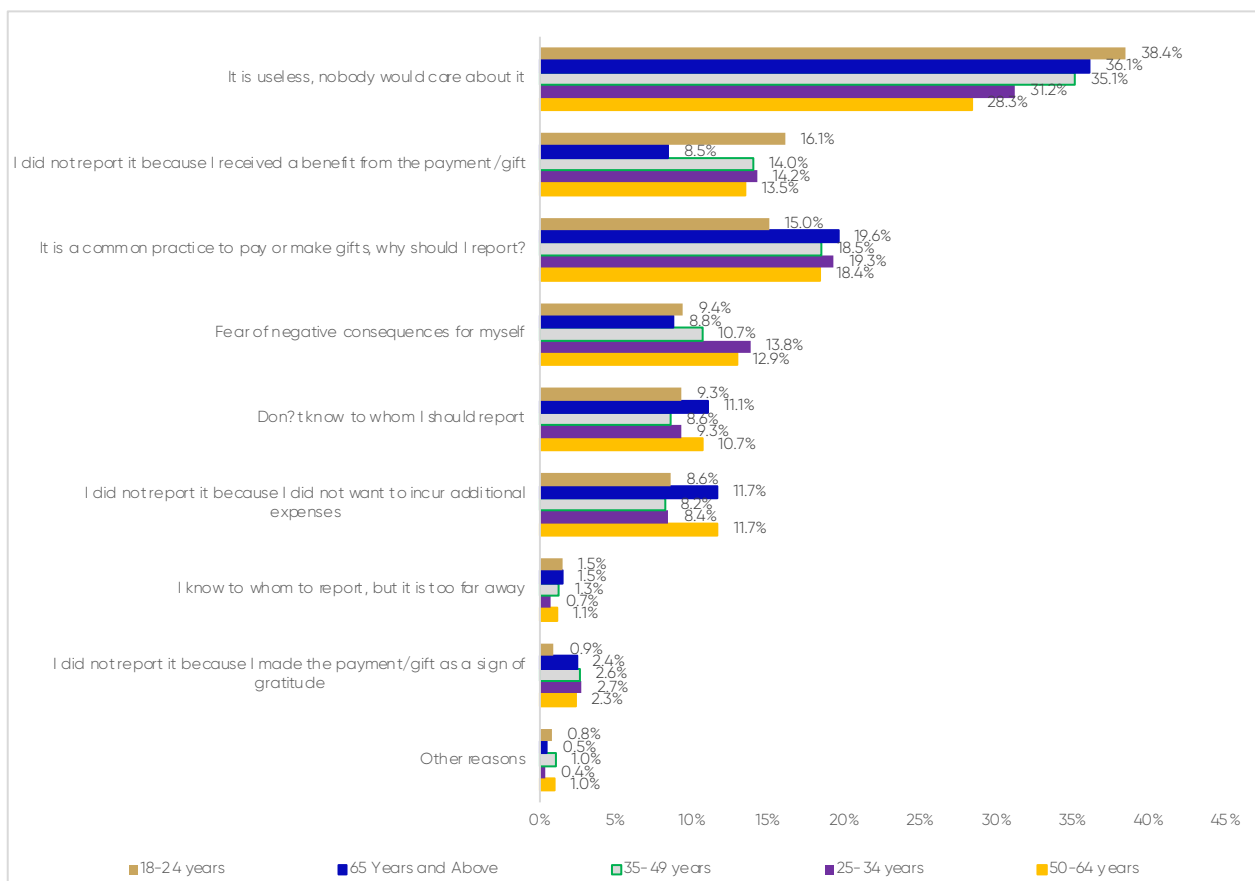


Figure 66: Reasons Why Citizens do not report bribery by Age of the Respondents

3.8.15. Institutions Citizens would Report Bribery in Future

Most of the respondents (44.9%) reported that they would not report bribery incidents in future to any institution. About one third (34.8%) indicated that they would in future report bribery incidents to the chief's office, police (29.3%), EACC (13.7%), same institution of the officer requesting the bribe (11.7%), and social media (10%) as presented in Figure 67.

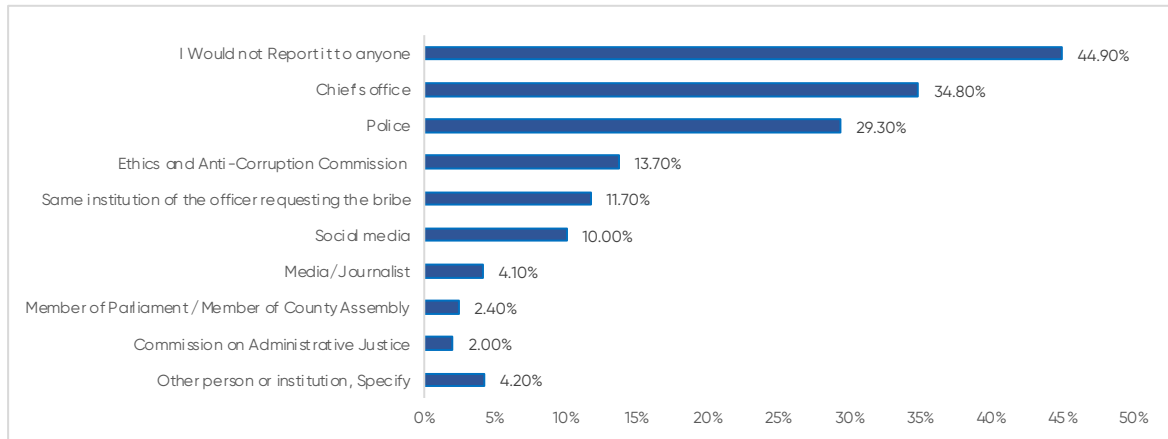


Figure 67: Rating on the most important institutions for future reporting of bribery incidents

3.8.16. Institutions Citizens would report bribery incidences in future by Age Group

One quarter (24.8%) of respondents ages 18–49 years reported that that they would not report bribery incidents in future. However, those aged 50 years and above reported that in future, they would report to the chief's office as illustrated in Figures 68.

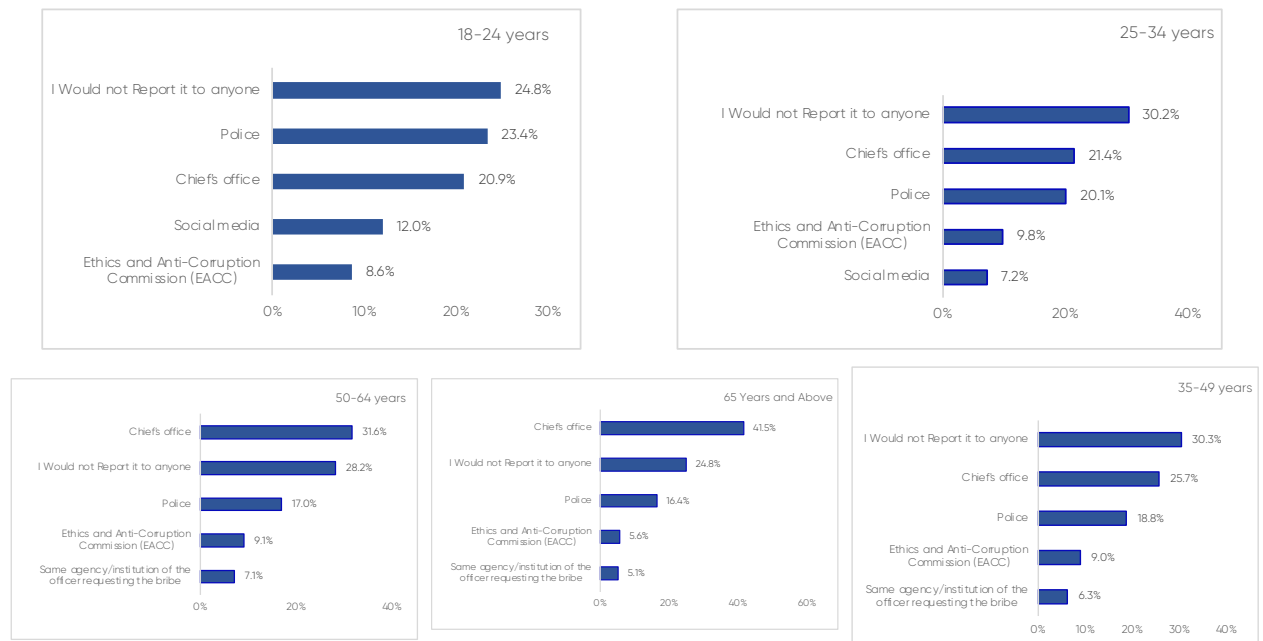


Figure 68: Rating on institutions for future reporting of bribery incidents by Age Group

3.8.17. Institutions citizens would report bribery incidences in future by Sex

More female respondents (31.1%) than men (22.5%) would prefer to report future bribery incidents to chief's office. More men (30.4%) than women (26.8%) would prefer not to report any bribery incidents in future. More women (19.8%) would in future report bribery incidences to police as compared to men (18.5%). More women (19.8%) would in future report bribery incidences to police as compared to men (18.5%). One tenth of men (10.7%) said they would report bribery incidents to EACC as compared to 6.9 percent of women. Six percent of women and men respectively said they would report to the same institution of the officer requesting the bribe, while 5 per cent women and 6 per cent men would report to social media as illustrated in Figure 69.

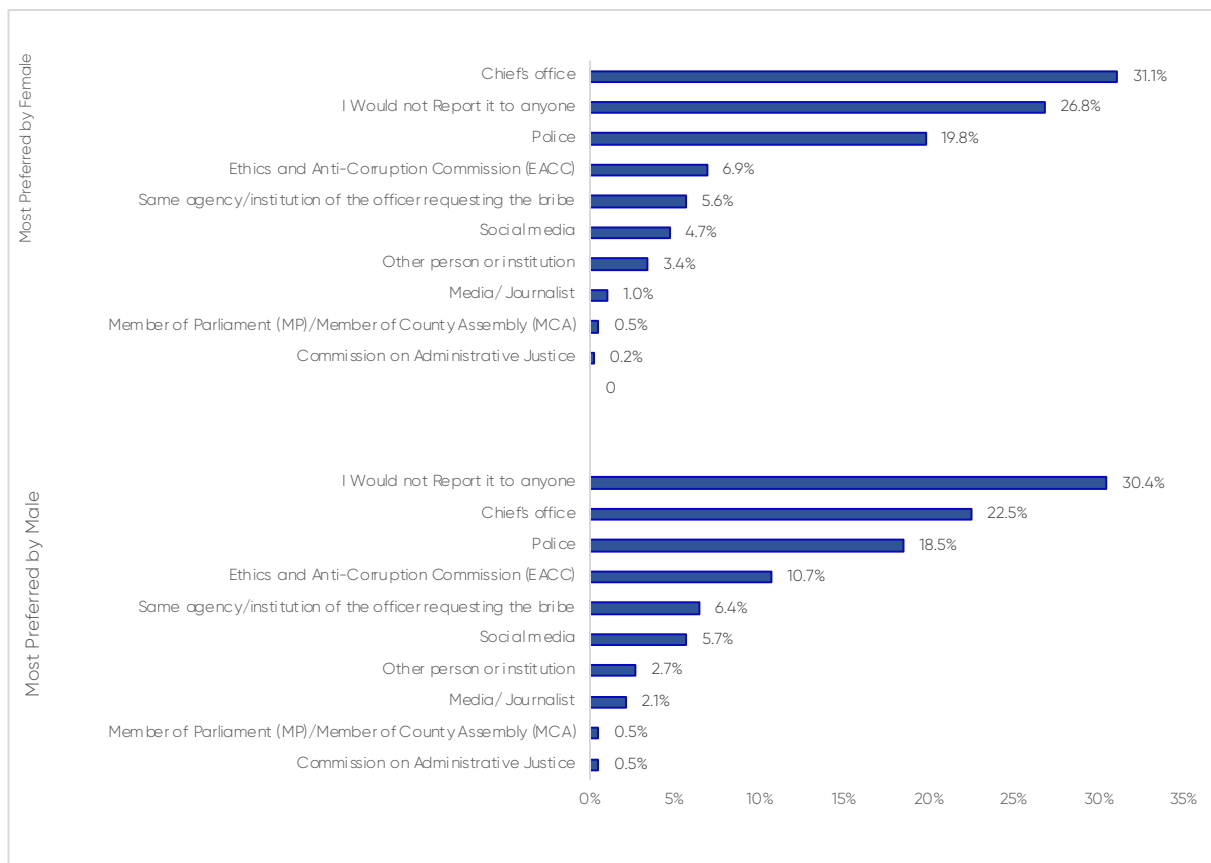


Figure 69: Rating on institutions for future reporting of bribery incidents by Sex of Respondents

3.9. SEXTORTION

In 2008 The International Association of Women Judges (IAWJ) coined the term Sextortion to define the abuse of power for sexual favors, essentially a bribe where sex replaces money. Sextortion is a form of corruption where someone in a position of power abuses that authority to demand sexual favors (like intercourse or photos) in exchange for a service, good, or opportunity, with sex acting as the bribe, relying on coercion of authority, to exploit victims, often women and girls, for personal gain (IAWJ 2008). Sextortion presents an intersection of corruption and gender based violence including sexual exploitation, where authority figures (judges, police, teachers, and officials) exploit dependency for sexual benefits (IAWJ 2008, UNDOC 2008, 2019). This study assessed levels and context within which sextortion occurs in Kenya.



"When we talk corruption, it does not mean monetary only. I understand especially in the fishing industry men go to deliver but as they come out there are ladies who are forced to get that fish in exchange for sex." (Kisumu FGD)

"I intervened in a horrific case: a 13-year-old girl was defiled by three people, her biological father, a friend of the father who was once a traffic police officer, and another person connected to a very senior police officer... When I reported the case, I was warned off, pressured, and told to drop the matter. Only the biological father was arrested; the others were shielded. That is how corruption silences people." (FGD, Nyeri)

3.9.1. Demands for Sexual Favours from Public Officials by Sex of Respondents

Overall, eight percent of service seekers were asked for sexual favours indirectly in return for service while, 2.1 percent were directly asked for sexual favour in the last 12 months prior to the survey. Among service seekers who were indirectly asked for sexual favour, 9.3 per cent were female while 7.4 percent were male. Three per cent female service seekers and about 1 per cent of male service seekers were directly asked for sexual favours in return for public services as shown in (Figure 70). The data shows the complexity of sextortion where sexual favours are often indirectly requested.

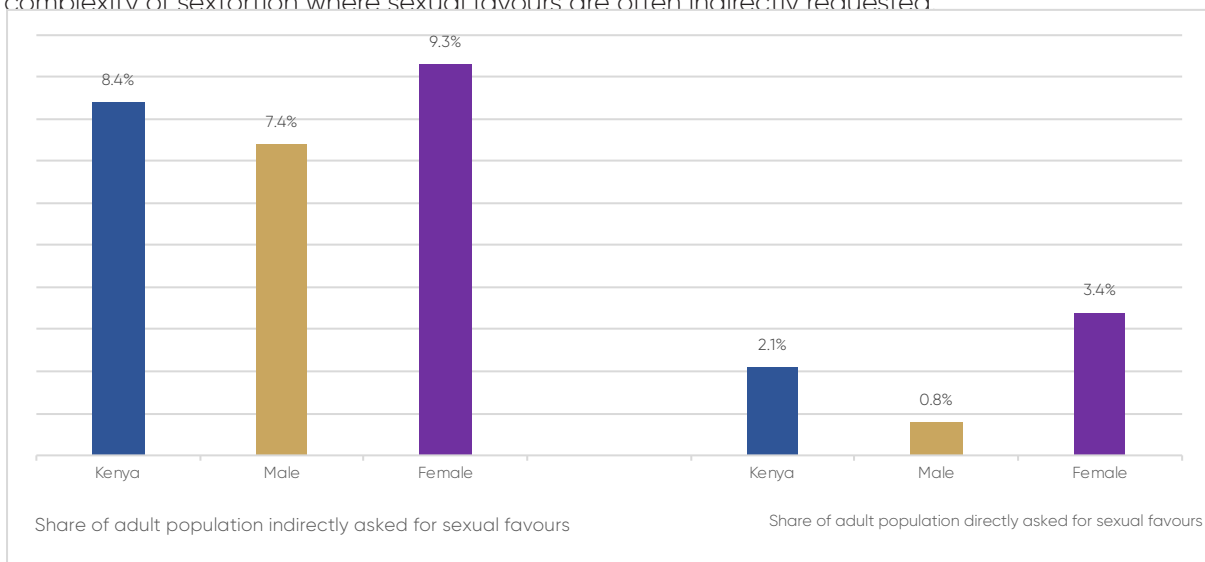


Figure 70: Demands for Sexual Favours from Public Officials by Sex of Respondents

3.9.2. Frequency of Sexual Demands from Public Officials by Sex of Respondent

Among respondents who were asked for sexual favours by public officials in the 12 months prior to the survey, women service seekers were more than twice as likely to be asked for sexual favours compared to men. Seventy three percent of women service seekers were asked for sexual favour in more than three occasions, 76 percent in three occasions, 84 percent two times and 82 percent once in the past 12 months prior to the survey as summarized in Figure 71. The findings further show that sextortion also affects men, with 18 percent reporting being asked for sexual favours once in the past 12 months and 27 percent reporting being asked at least three times during the same period.

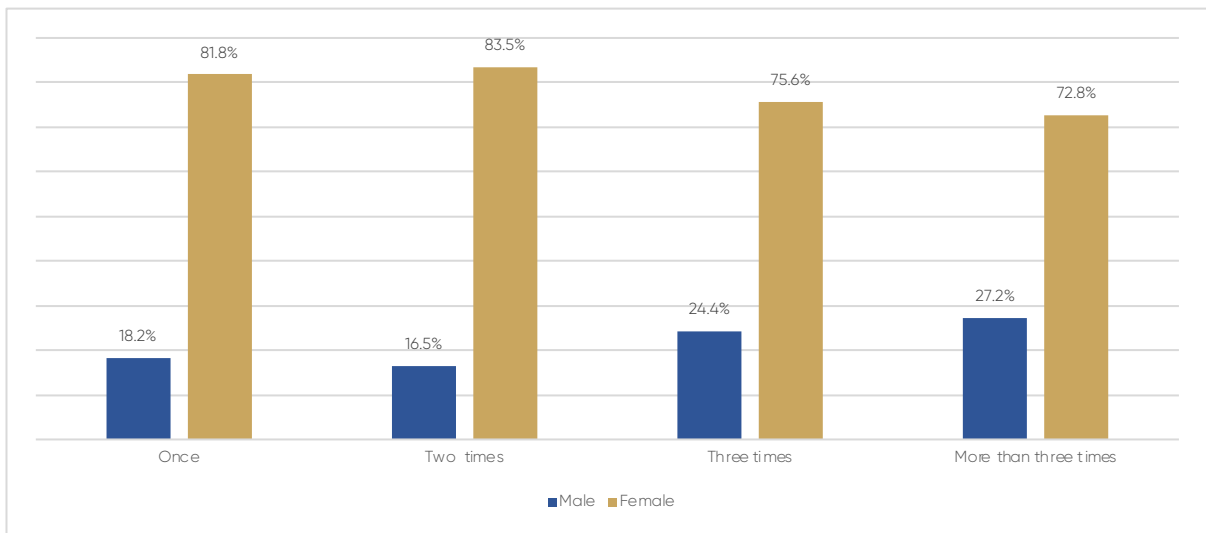


Figure 71: Frequency of Sexual Demands from Public Officials by Sex of Respondent

3.9.3. Demand for Sexual Favours by Private Sector Employees

Among the respondents who were made to understand that unless they provide sexual favours they will not get a service from the private sector, 5.2 percent were asked for sexual favours while about 1 percent preferred not to say if they were asked for sexual favours or not as presented Figure 72.

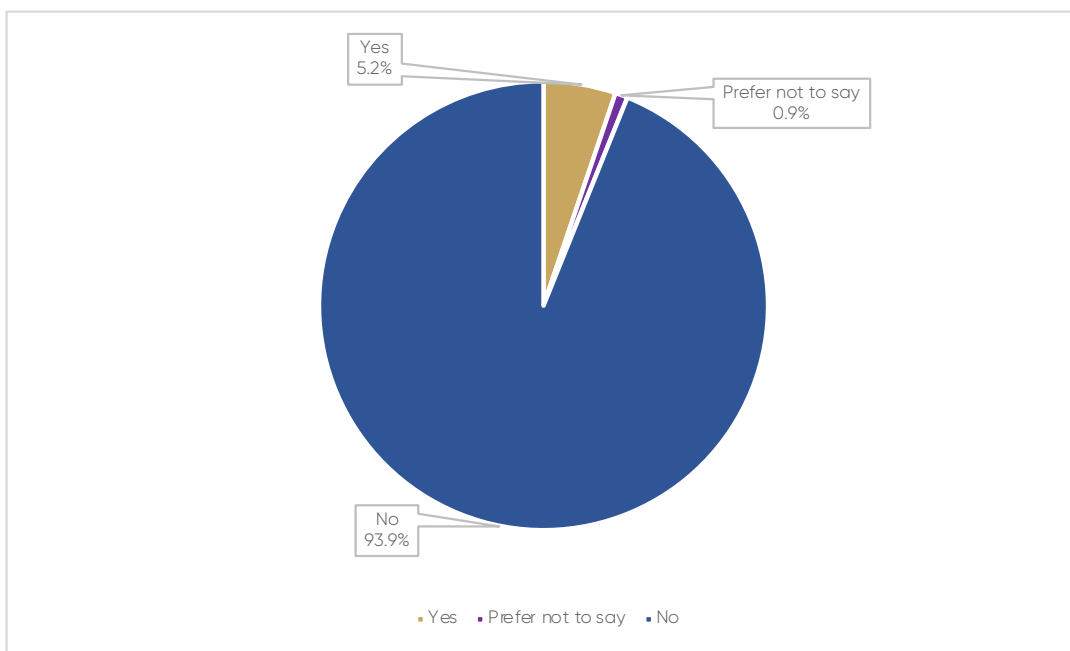


Figure 72: Proportion of respondents given a condition for sexual favour before accessing a private service

Among the respondents who sought services from the private sector employees 12 months prior to the survey, 1.2 percent were asked for sexual favours, and 1.6 percent indicated prefer not to say as presented in Figure 73. This findings points to possible under reporting of sextortion related behaviours in a general population.

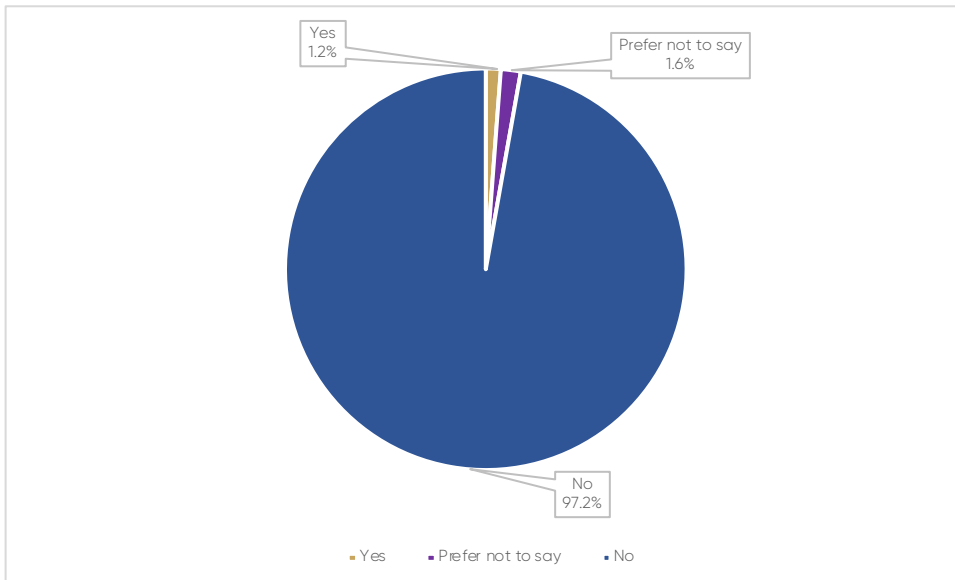


Figure 73: Proportion of respondents who were asked for sexual favours by private sector employees

3.9.4. Requests of Sexual favours by Sex of Private Sector Officials

Figure 74 indicates that among private sector officials who demanded sexual favours, 80 per cent were men compared to women 20 per cent.

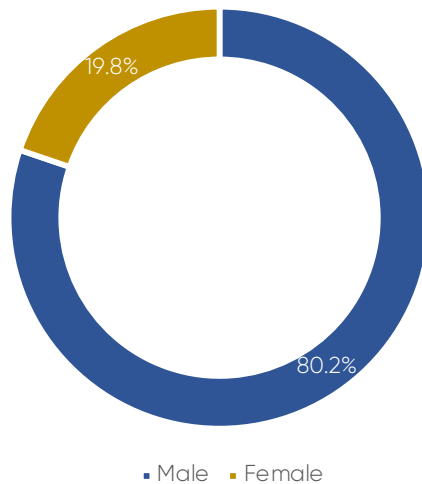


Figure 74: Sexual favours by private sector employees and by gender

3.9.5. Private Sector Services for which Sexual Favours were demanded

Respondents were asked to indicate the services they were seeking from private sector for which sexual favours were demanded. A half of respondents had sought employment, one quarter had sought medical services from a doctor, 6 per cent from nurse, 4 per cent from secondary school admission, and 3 per cent medical insurance from an insurance company and vehicle insurance from an insurance company respectively as presented in Figure 75. This data shows prevalence of sextortion in employment, health services, education and insurance sectors. The behaviour is also existent among seekers of banking and surveying services

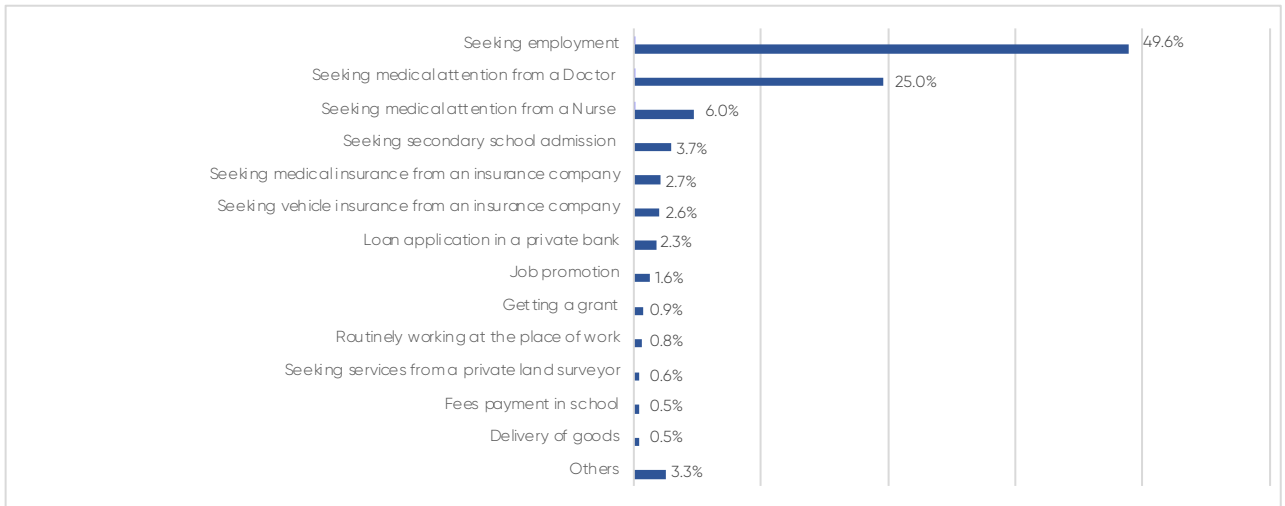


Figure 75: Private sector services for which sexual favours were demanded

3.9.6. Demand for Sexual Favours by Private Sector Employees by Age

About 2% of respondents ages 18–44) were asked for sexual favours by private sector officials while an equal percentage across all ages (18–65+) preferred not to say if they were asked for sexual favours, an estimate that is highest among respondent aged 65+. The percentage of respondents who reported that they were asked for sexual favour by private sector officials decreases as age increases and specifically after age 34 as indicated in the Figure 76. This depicts the social stigma associated with reporting sextortion among older service seekers.

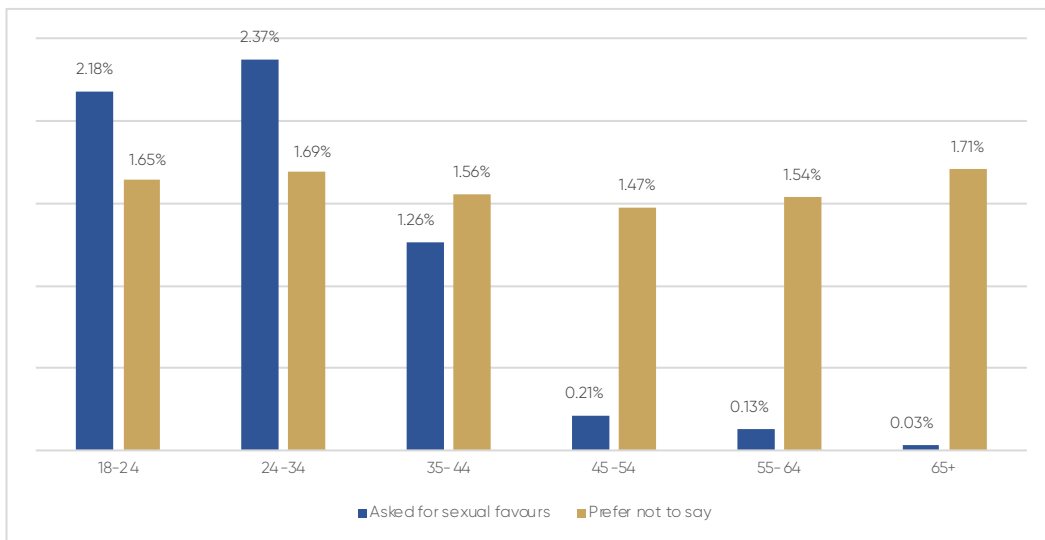


Figure 76: Demand for sexual favours by private sector employees by age of Respondents

3.9.7. Demand for Sexual Favours in private sector by Education Level of Respondents

Private sector employees demanded sexual favours mainly from respondents with secondary education (44.6%), those with primary education (27.9%) and those with college education (14.6%) as presented in Figure 77. Service seekers with no education, preferred not to say if private sector officials asked them for sexual favours depicting low self confidence in reporting incidences of sextortion.

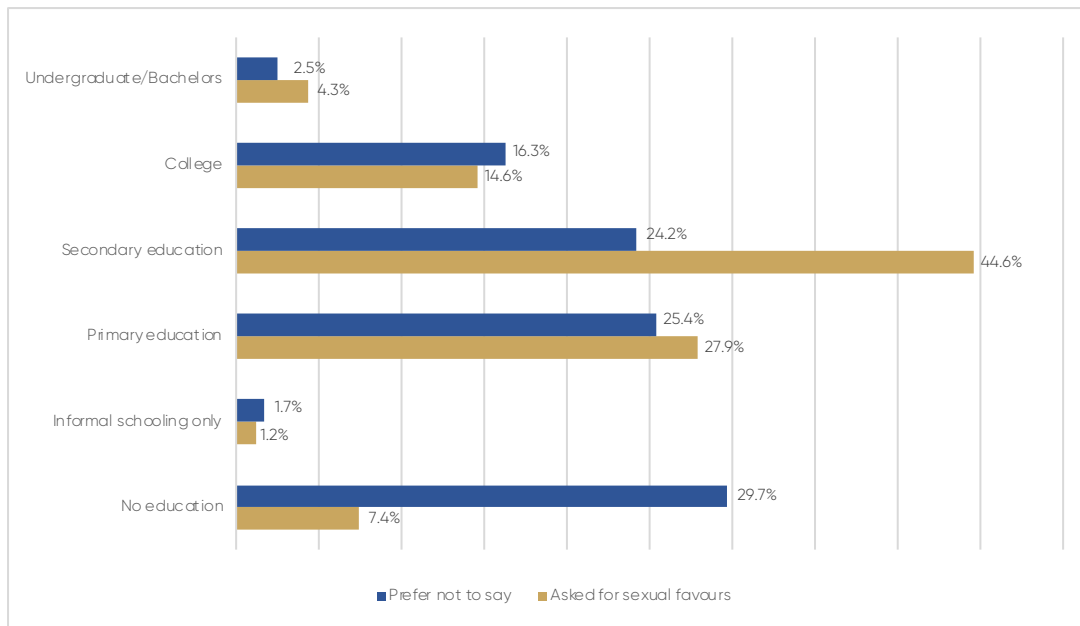


Figure 77: Demand for Sexual Favours in private sector by Education Level of Respondent

3.9.8. Demand for Sexual Favour in the Private Sector by Employment Status

Private sector officials requested sexual favours mainly from unemployed (38.9%, self-employed or those employed in a family business/farm(35.9%) service seekers, and domestic workers (7%) as shown in Figure 78. Other employment categories. This shows that private sector officials took advantage of the service seekers from the informal sector.

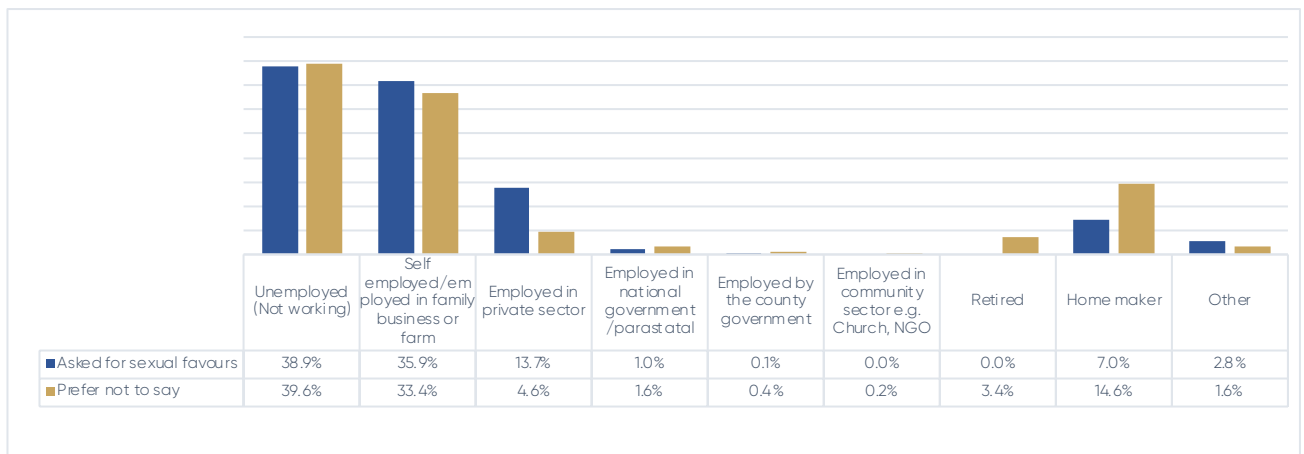


Figure 78: Employment status and demand for sexual favours by the private sector employees

3.9.9. Demand for Sexual Favours in Private Sector by Marital Status of Respondents

Private sector employees sought sexual favours mainly from service seekers who were never unmarried (45.7%) and those in monogamous marriages (44.3%) as shown in Figure 79.

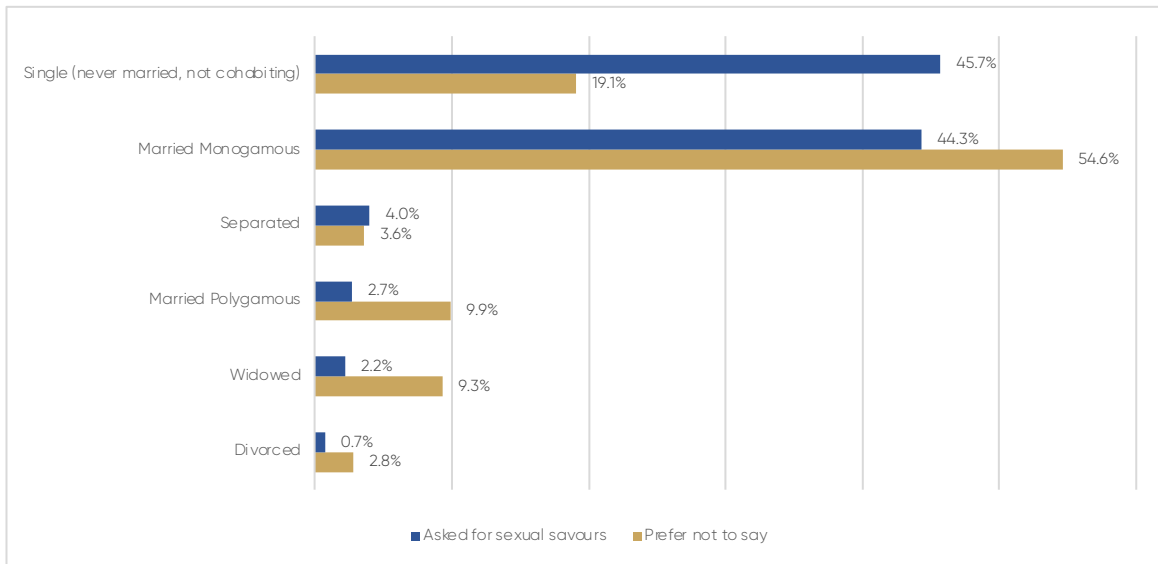


Figure 79: Demand for sexual favours in private sector by marital status of respondents

3.9.10. Demand for Sexual Favours by the Private Sector Employees by Income Level of Respondents

Service seekers with low income level were more likely to be asked for sexual favours by the private sector employees as compared to those with high level of income. The data show that as income level of the respondents goes up the lower the demand of sexual favours from the private sector employees Figure 80. This shows some correlation between sextortion and empowerment status where more empowered service seekers were less likely to receive requests for sexual favours.

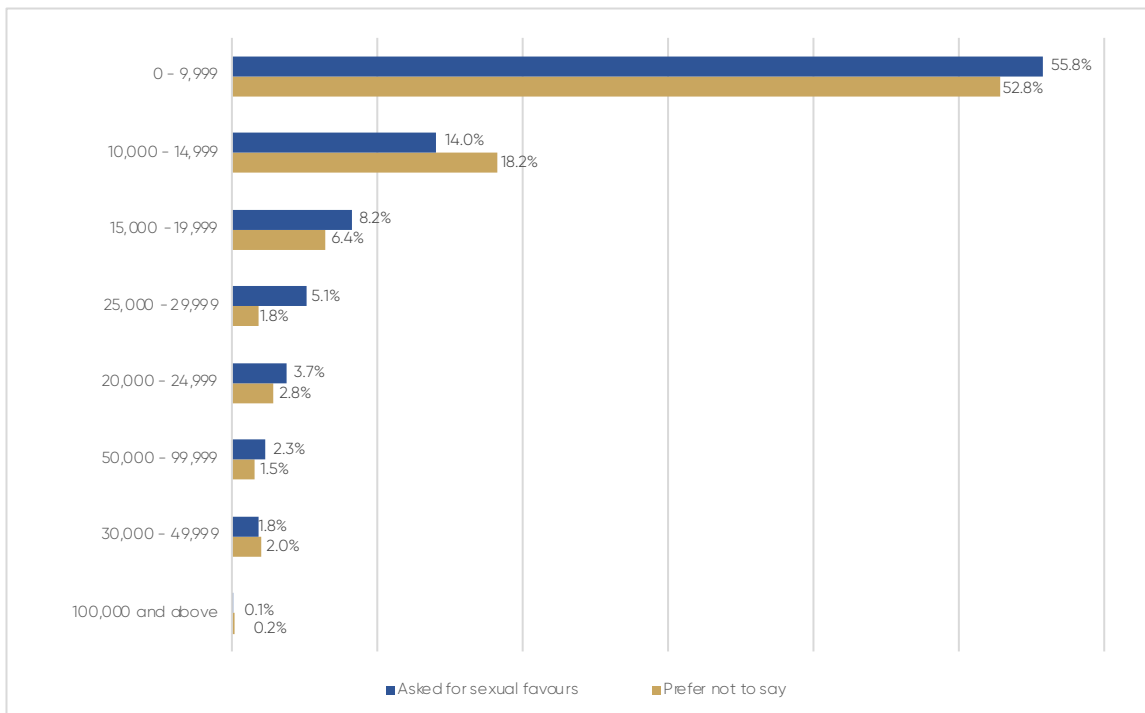


Figure 80: Demand for sexual favours in private sector by income level of respondents

3.9.11. Demand for Sexual Favours in Private Sector by County

Demands for sexual favours by the private sector employees were more common in Nairobi (2.7%), Kajiado (2.7%), Machakos (2.6%), Meru (2.3%) and Muranga (2.0%) and less commonly reported in Kakamega, Mandera, Marsabit, Nyeri, Nandio and Wajir counties as presented in Figure 81.

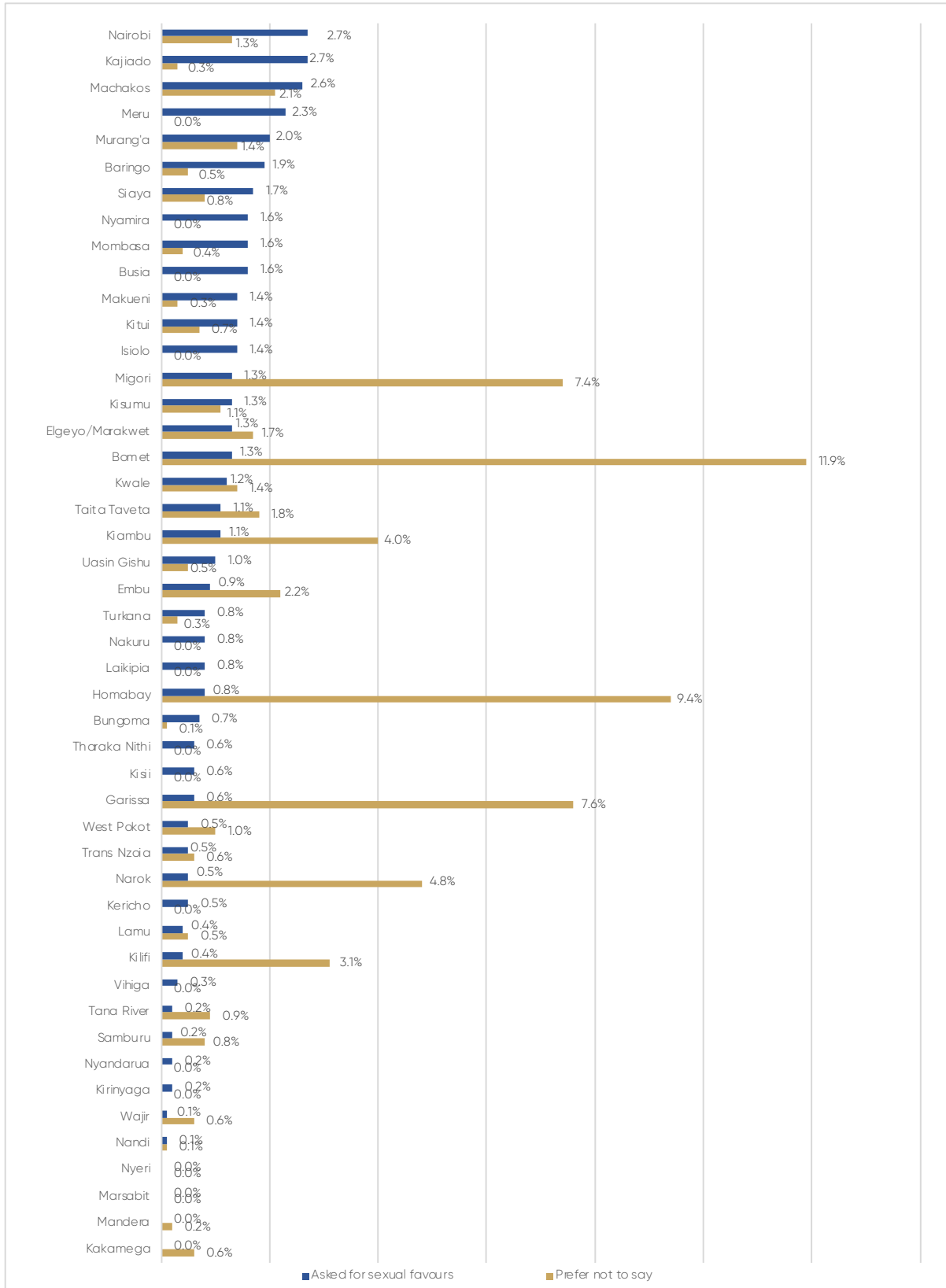


Figure 81: Demand for sexual favours in private sector by County

3.10. AWARENESS AND EFFECTIVENESS OF ANTI-CORRUPTION INITIATIVES

3.10.1. Awareness of Anti-Corruption Initiatives

Awareness of the Directorate of Criminal Investigation (DCI) as an anti-corruption agency was 65.4 percent, Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) (65.3%) Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) (51.6%), and office of the Attorney General (42.4%) as shown in Figure 82. About one third of the respondents were aware of Office of the Director of Public Prosecution, Anti-corruption courts, Office of the Controller of Budget, and Office of the Auditor General as agents of anti-corruption respectively (Figure 82).

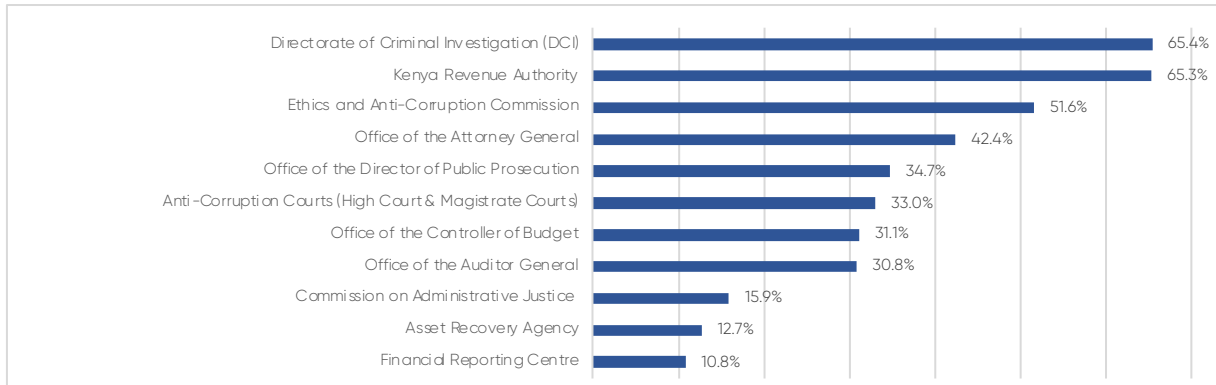
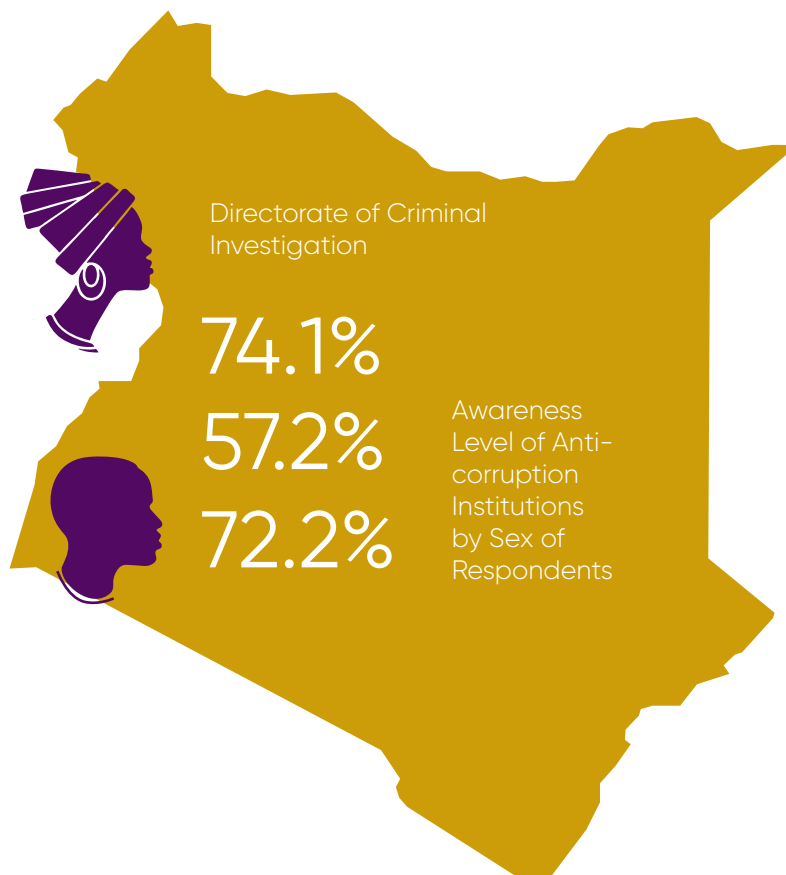


Figure 82: Awareness of anti-corruption institutions

3.10.2. Awareness Level of Anti-corruption Institutions by Sex of Respondents

Male service seekers exhibited higher awareness levels of anti-corruption agencies compared to female service seekers. Directorate of Criminal Investigation (74.1%) recorded the highest awareness level among the male respondents compared to (57.2%) women; Kenya Revenue Authority (73.4%) among men compared to (57.8%) women; and Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (63.5%) among men as compared to (40.5%) women as presented in Figure 83.



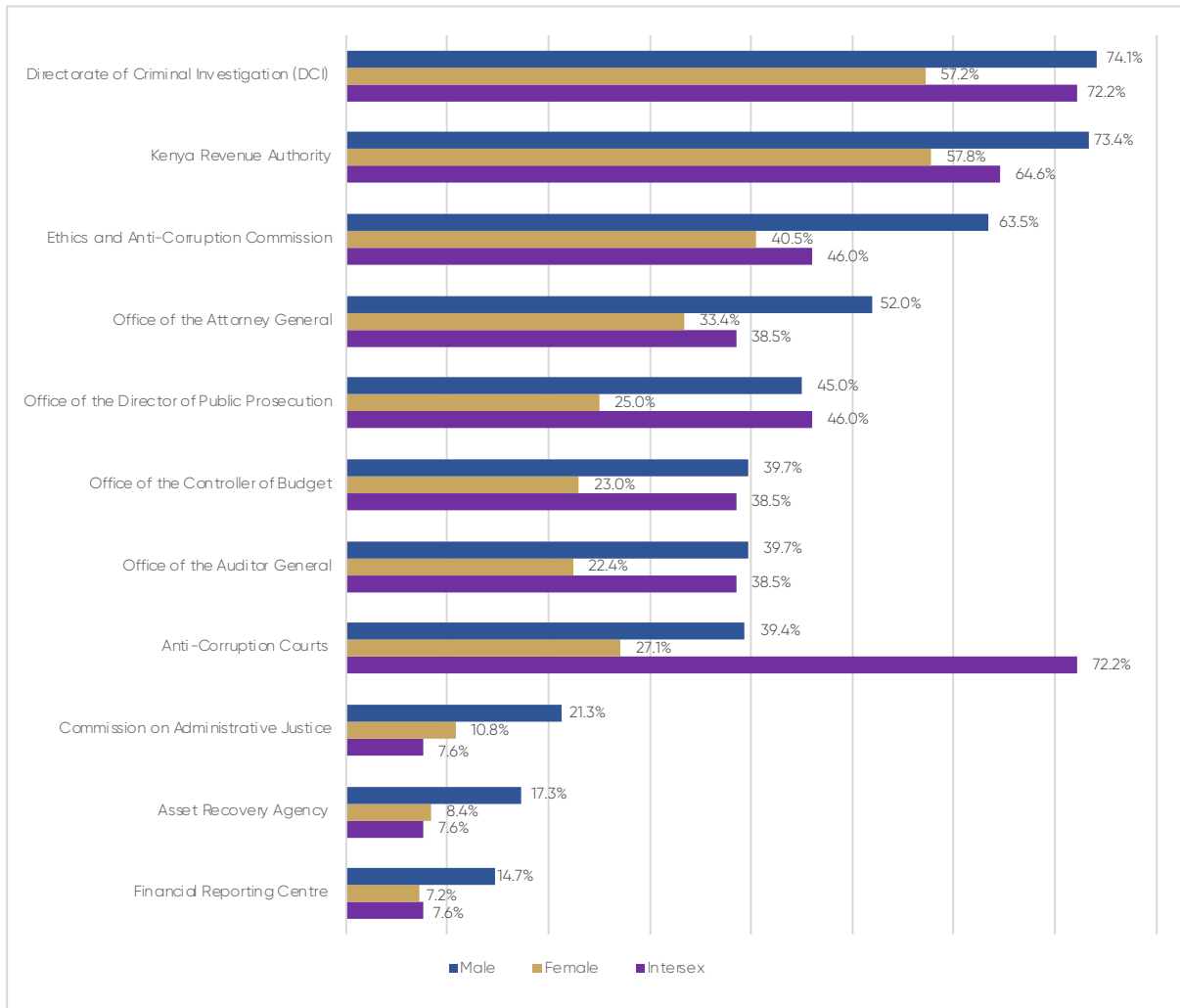


Figure 83: Awareness Level of Anti-corruption Institutions by Sex of Respondents

3.10.3. Awareness Level of Anti-Corruption Agencies by County

Table 2 presents county awareness level of anti-corruption agencies. The Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission was cited mainly in Kakamega (70.4%), Nairobi (69.0%) and Vihiga (67.9%). On the other hand, EACC was least cited in Turkana (17.9%), West Pokot (20.3%) and Garissa (26.6%), counties.

Table 2: County Awareness Level of Anti-Corruption Agencies

County	Anti-Corruption Agencies										
	EACC	OAG& DOJ	ODPP	OAG	OCOB	Anti-Corruption Courts	KRA	CAJ	DCI	FRC	ARA
Kakamega	70.4%	49.1%	38.1%	14.7%	7.2%	41.3%	89.0%	5.3%	83.1%	0.8%	1.3%
Nairobi	69.0%	59.7%	41.2%	33.4%	33.8%	31.8%	82.5%	12.9%	87.1%	6.9%	9.0%
Vihiga	67.9%	47.3%	35.6%	22.4%	14.0%	31.8%	78.8%	3.3%	70.9%	1.5%	2.7%
Kisumu	67.7%	59.1%	53.3%	52.9%	54.9%	53.0%	83.6%	20.5%	80.4%	10.6%	13.7%
Trans Nzoia	67.5%	62.7%	46.1%	47.3%	43.7%	54.2%	80.1%	26.0%	74.7%	23.1%	27.1%
Kericho	64.0%	58.6%	46.3%	48.7%	55.1%	7.7%	84.7%	8.5%	78.7%	5.3%	8.8%
Nyeri	64.0%	60.7%	43.4%	43.0%	39.7%	46.8%	83.3%	24.5%	67.1%	23.6%	22.3%
Nandi	63.8%	58.7%	51.2%	43.9%	51.6%	12.0%	86.7%	10.2%	83.9%	8.1%	10.8%
Murang'a	62.4%	52.8%	43.3%	43.8%	36.7%	54.4%	58.4%	20.0%	55.5%	14.8%	18.0%
Kirinyaga	61.9%	60.6%	45.9%	41.0%	37.5%	47.1%	81.0%	21.0%	71.6%	20.2%	23.5%

County	Anti-Corruption Courts										
	EACC	OAG& DOJ	ODPP	OAG	OCOB	KRA	CAJ	DCI	FRC	ARA	
Laikipia	61.6%	44.1%	37.1%	30.7%	35.1%	14.8%	77.7%	19.5%	66.6%	12.3%	14.9%
Uasin Gishu	61.3%	61.2%	48.5%	49.5%	47.1%	50.0%	76.0%	29.7%	73.3%	26.5%	28.5%
Nyandarua	61.2%	50.0%	41.3%	34.2%	46.6%	5.6%	81.3%	7.5%	86.7%	3.5%	8.2%
Siaya	60.9%	62.1%	51.7%	51.8%	58.6%	48.8%	80.2%	19.8%	80.2%	9.5%	10.6%
Nakuru	59.8%	45.0%	36.6%	30.3%	35.0%	16.7%	82.9%	8.9%	82.0%	5.2%	13.6%
Busia	59.1%	49.9%	42.3%	36.0%	38.3%	52.0%	89.0%	26.6%	94.4%	22.3%	24.1%
Isiolo	57.7%	41.2%	46.6%	37.7%	39.8%	57.5%	43.5%	39.6%	58.8%	24.5%	19.4%
Kajiado	56.0%	43.6%	43.3%	35.2%	40.2%	53.1%	77.2%	29.2%	70.2%	15.4%	15.9%
Nyamira	54.4%	45.4%	35.5%	30.9%	38.3%	25.0%	74.9%	26.5%	73.9%	14.0%	14.6%
Kisii	52.5%	40.3%	29.4%	27.5%	39.0%	26.4%	60.2%	25.8%	63.2%	10.1%	11.6%
Bungoma	51.8%	50.6%	36.8%	35.8%	39.3%	56.5%	81.1%	22.9%	90.8%	24.4%	26.8%
Kitui	48.5%	46.4%	35.1%	37.8%	31.9%	51.7%	54.5%	18.4%	53.6%	13.0%	13.9%
Taita Taveta	48.0%	40.3%	34.8%	30.7%	30.7%	30.8%	64.6%	15.7%	68.5%	10.2%	14.3%
Bomet	47.9%	37.2%	32.2%	32.5%	34.4%	17.8%	64.9%	16.9%	54.1%	11.5%	12.4%
Lamu	46.9%	33.6%	33.1%	27.3%	30.5%	13.1%	70.2%	11.8%	59.5%	5.1%	7.6%
Kiambu	46.2%	30.6%	26.1%	25.0%	25.4%	23.6%	52.2%	15.8%	58.6%	13.1%	9.4%
Makueni	45.8%	32.0%	31.5%	27.9%	32.1%	37.1%	66.1%	18.4%	62.4%	10.1%	13.5%
Mandera	45.5%	15.1%	15.7%	20.8%	19.6%	20.2%	48.5%	9.0%	63.6%	4.7%	4.4%
Elgeyo/ Marakwet	43.6%	46.0%	39.9%	41.3%	32.5%	44.0%	61.0%	21.2%	51.8%	11.4%	19.1%
Homabay	43.6%	35.9%	32.2%	29.1%	29.8%	43.8%	44.6%	19.5%	38.4%	13.7%	16.9%
Tana River	43.3%	21.6%	19.0%	18.7%	22.9%	10.8%	49.3%	12.1%	48.8%	6.6%	7.3%
Baringo	43.0%	48.1%	37.4%	41.4%	30.3%	39.9%	59.8%	16.9%	51.0%	7.3%	10.3%
Mombasa	42.9%	31.4%	34.8%	27.1%	19.8%	22.8%	69.1%	9.0%	57.2%	5.1%	5.5%
Migori	41.1%	34.6%	27.8%	27.3%	26.2%	36.1%	50.0%	16.4%	39.1%	13.6%	14.3%
Samburu	40.4%	26.0%	27.9%	21.2%	21.0%	13.9%	50.0%	13.8%	47.5%	10.2%	12.3%
Tharaka Nithi	39.3%	37.0%	33.3%	30.3%	27.0%	46.4%	45.5%	24.7%	64.3%	22.6%	25.3%
Meru	39.1%	28.2%	21.7%	18.8%	19.7%	35.0%	48.4%	16.1%	65.8%	14.6%	17.1%
Narok	37.8%	30.0%	27.2%	24.6%	25.0%	15.1%	53.9%	12.4%	57.3%	7.0%	9.2%
Kilifi	35.1%	30.0%	27.1%	20.2%	21.3%	22.5%	48.8%	13.2%	57.8%	9.0%	13.1%
Machakos	33.5%	27.6%	23.7%	23.6%	22.9%	36.5%	38.7%	10.8%	45.4%	7.1%	7.4%
Marsabit	33.2%	24.3%	22.5%	25.3%	21.6%	35.5%	37.0%	17.4%	43.7%	11.6%	14.8%
Wajir	28.3%	16.7%	18.0%	15.2%	15.2%	16.7%	24.0%	10.0%	28.7%	8.9%	8.0%
Kwale	27.3%	14.1%	13.4%	8.8%	6.4%	13.8%	36.8%	4.3%	25.2%	3.0%	1.6%
Embu	26.6%	30.8%	24.4%	24.4%	21.4%	36.1%	41.3%	12.1%	39.3%	6.4%	8.7%
Garissa	26.6%	21.6%	29.3%	21.9%	21.1%	20.2%	34.4%	19.6%	38.7%	11.2%	14.1%
West Pokot	20.3%	12.8%	14.3%	11.6%	11.7%	17.8%	31.8%	7.9%	26.8%	2.8%	4.5%
Turkana	17.9%	7.6%	8.1%	8.8%	8.8%	20.0%	22.4%	6.1%	17.3%	1.8%	2.6%



“Parliament, in particular, stands out as one of the biggest scandals. Institutions like the EACC or the judiciary may try to hold high-ranking leaders accountable, but whenever that happens, Parliament retaliates by cutting their budgets. Without funds, these institutions are crippled, reduced to only paying salaries with nothing left for critical programs like civic education.” (Nairobi FGD)

3.10.4. Effectiveness of the Anti-Corruption Institutions

Majority of the respondents rated EACC as either very effective (13.7%) or moderately effective (45.5%). The Office of the Auditor General was rated very effective (15.0%), and moderately effective (40.0%). The Office of the Auditor General was rated very effective (15.0%), and moderately effective (40.0%). The Office of the Controller of Budget was rated effective (13.7%) and moderately effective (38.5%). About half of the respondents rated Asset Recovery Agency and Anti-Corruption Courts as effective while four-fifths of the respondents rated Directorate of Criminal Investigation as ineffective (41.8%) as shown in Figure 84.

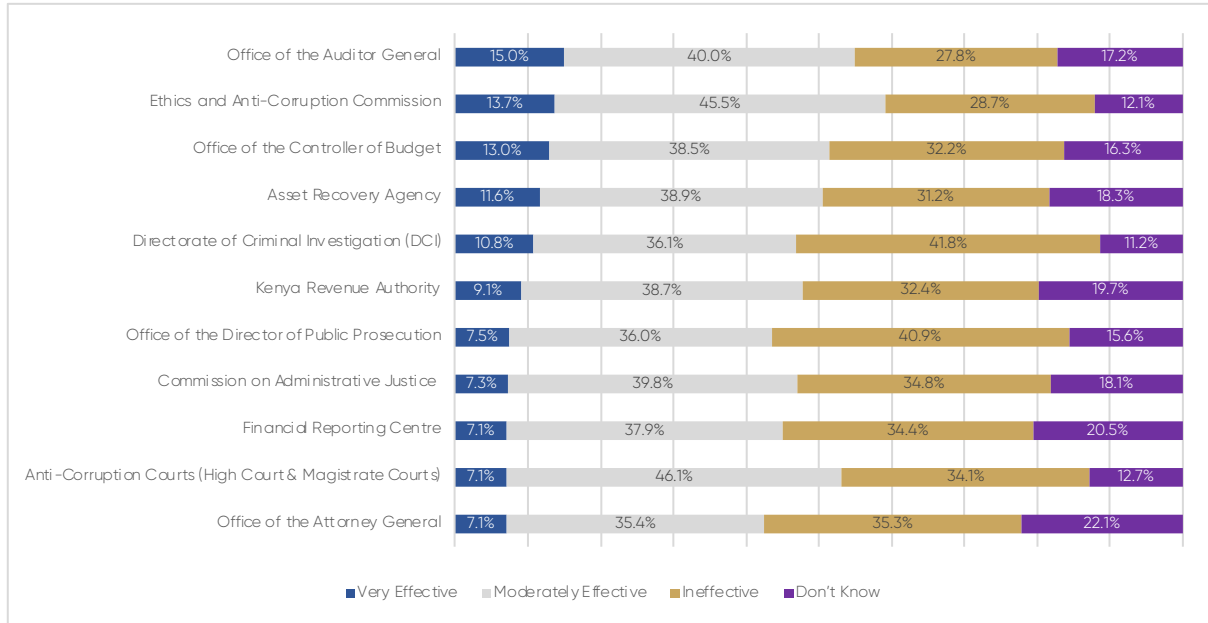


Figure 84: Effectiveness of the Anti-Corruption Institutions

3.10.5. Access to EACC Services

Six per cent of services seekers had accessed EACC services in the 12 months prior to the Survey (Figure 85).

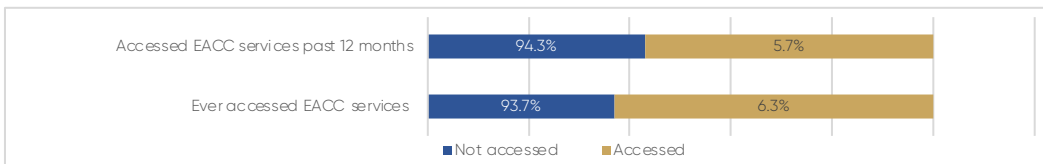


Figure 85: Access to EACC Services

3.10.6. Access to EACC services by sex of Respondent

Twice as many men (7.6%) than women service seekers (3.9%) had accessed EACC services in the 12 months prior to the survey (Figure 86).

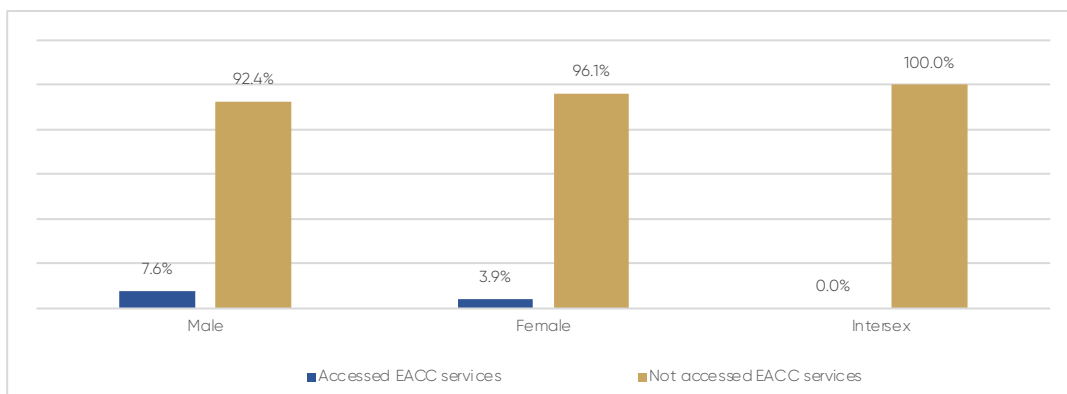


Figure 86: Access to EACC services by sex of Respondent

3.10.7. Access to EACC services by Education level

Respondents with postgraduate or PhD education (61.0%) had accessed EACC services compared to respondents, with graduate or master’s degree (32.0%) and those with undergraduate or bachelor’s degree (15.4%) as shown in Figure 87. Access to EACC services increases with level of education.

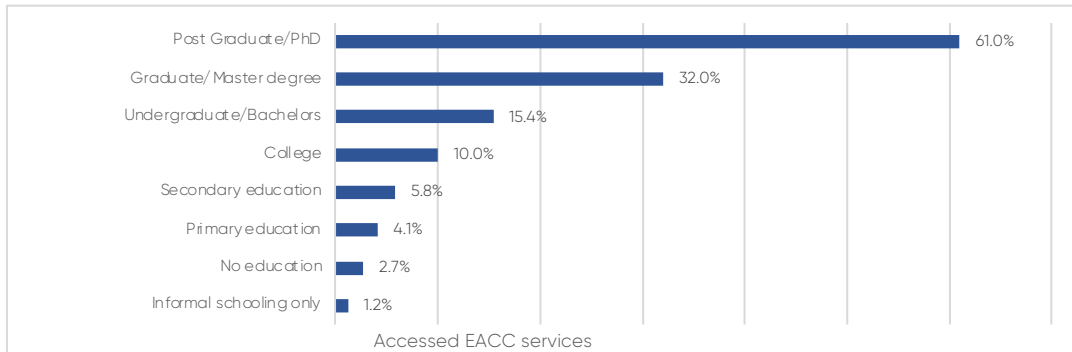


Figure 87: Access to EACC services by Education level

3.10.8. Access to EACC services by Income level

Respondents with highest level of income had the highest access to EACC services in the 12 months prior to the Survey. Service seekers with low levels of education reported less access to EACC services as shown in Figure 88.

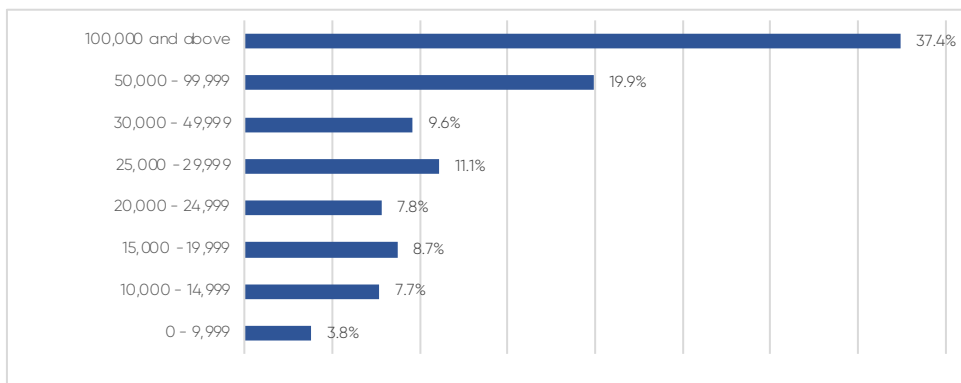


Figure 88: Access to EACC services by Income

3.10.9. Access to EACC Services by County

Most respondents from Lamu (91.5%), Bomet (90.2%) and Tana-River (89.9%) counties reported access to EACC services in the past 12 months prior to the Survey (Figure 89). In six counties (Wajir, Tharaka Nithi, Samburu, Laikipia, Kirinyaga and Kilifi) none of the respondents reported accessing EACC services in the past 12 months prior to the survey and only eight counties had a half of the respondents reporting access to EACC

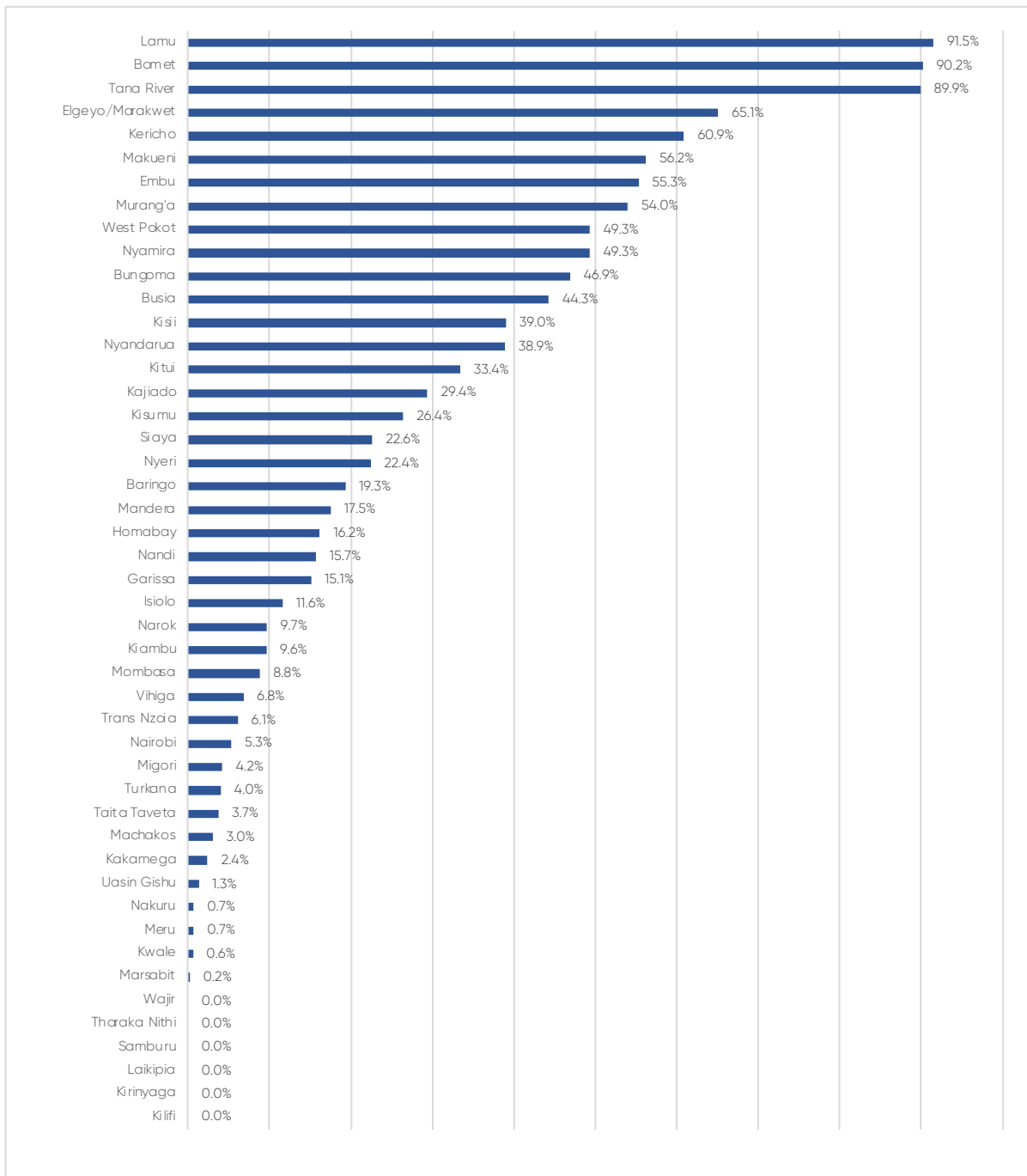


Figure 89: Access to EACC Services by County

3.10.10. EACC Services Accessed

The most accessed EACC services included receiving reports on ethical breaches and corruption (36.6%), integrity verification services (16.1%), and public education and awareness creation on unethical practices and corruption (8.6%) as summarized in (Table 3).

Table 3: EACC Services Accessed

Services	Percent
Receiving Reports on ethical breaches and corruption	36.6%
Integrity verification process (Vetting/clearance)	16.1%
Public Education & awareness creation on unethical practices and corruption	8.6%
Education and awareness to institutions of learning	8.1%
Investigation of unethical practices and corruption	7.0%
Prevention of unethical practices and Corruption (system review, CRAs, Advisories)	5.3%
Asset Recovery	4.5%
Support Services (e.g., procurement, accounts, HR etc)	4.0%
Compliance monitoring of the implementation of requirements under LIA and POEA e.g conflict of interest register, gifts	3.5%
Training programs by NIAca on unethical practices and corruption e.g IAO, investigations, leadership, asset tracing courses etc.	2.0%
Approval of Bank Accounts outside Kenya for public officers	1.6%
Other Service	2.6%

3.10.11. Rating of EACC Services

Respondents rated EACC services as fair on transparency and accountability (46.2%), accessibility (43.2%), reliability (42.8%), availability (36.3%), affordability (35.4%) as presented in Figure 90.

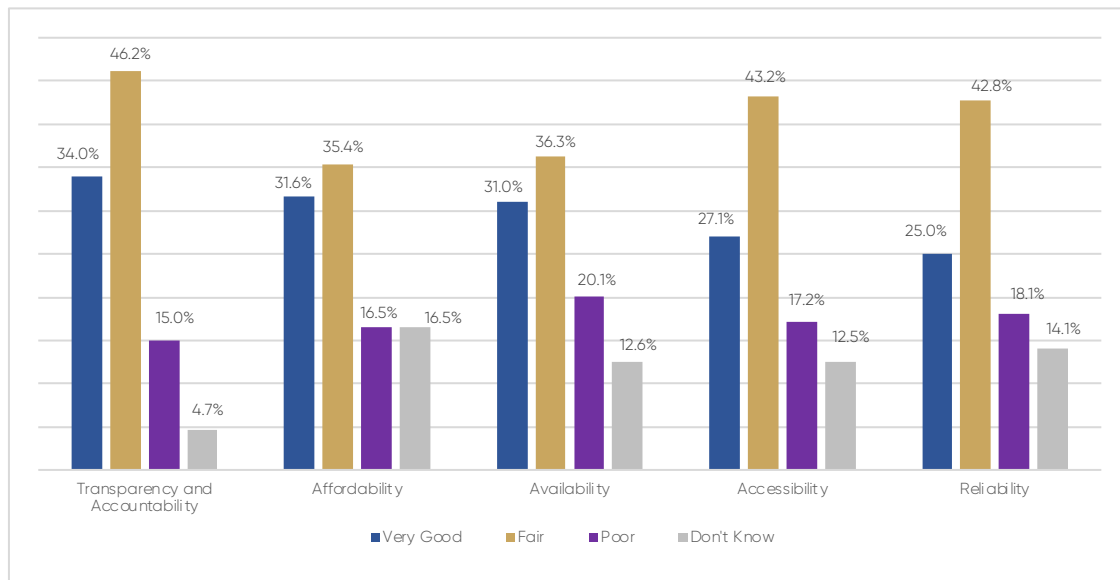


Figure 90: Rating of EACC Services



"... you will see members of public have lost trust in this institution (EACC) as far as matters corruption is concerned because ...a layman thinks that you arrest someone, you take them to court and they are jailed immediately." **(Mombasa FGD)**

"This is why our value system must be challenged. Unless we redefine leadership, embrace integrity, and treat national resources as belonging to all, we risk sinking deeper into corruption, division, and potentially even conflict. It is not enough to point fingers at institutions like the judiciary or the EACC. The real change begins with how we, as citizens, see ourselves, how we treat one another, and how we choose our leaders." **(Nyeri FGD)**

3.10.12. Rating Government's Commitment to Fight Corruption

Fifteen percent of the respondents indicated that the government is committed to fighting corruption while 73 percent said that the government is not committed while just about a tenth reported don't know as shown in Figure 91.

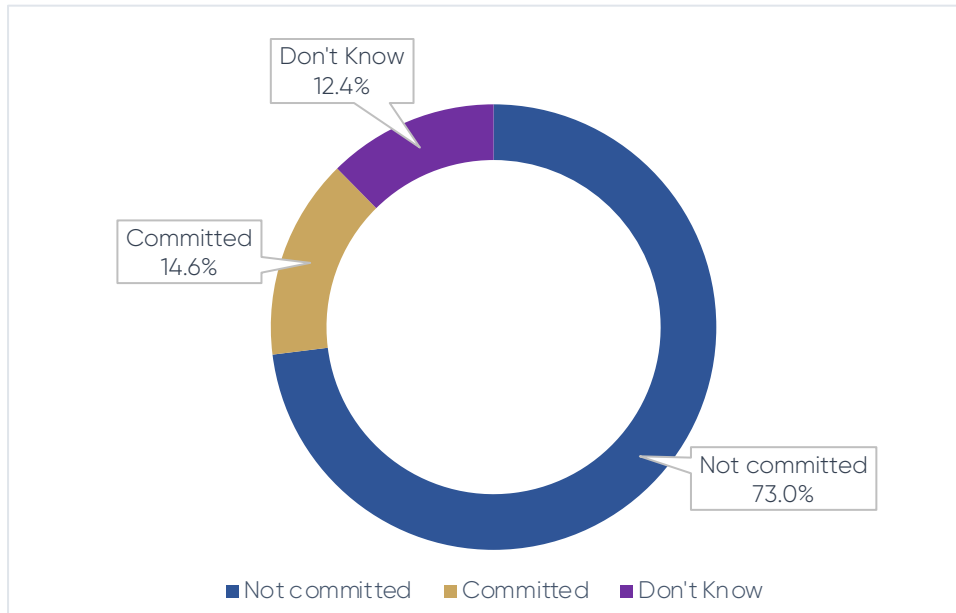


Figure 91: Rating Government's Commitment to Fight Corruption

3.10.13. Reasons for Government's Commitment to Fight Corruption

The reasons given among respondents who thought that government is committed to fight corruption were: top officials are being investigated (25.2%), corruption levels have reduced (13.3%) and government has formulated and enforces laws (9.3%) as presented in Table 4.

Table 4: Reasons for Government's Commitment to Fight Corruption

Reasons	Percent
Top officials are being investigated	25.2%
Corruption levels have reduced	13.3%
Government has formulated laws and enforce laws	9.3%
People are being arrested	7.6%
The president regularly speaks against the vice	7.1%
Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) is fighting corruption	5.5%
There is public education and awareness creation on corruption	5.4%
Leaders Condemn corruption	4.9%
Good service delivery	3.3%
Job termination/suspensions of corruption suspects	2.7%
Digitization of government services	2.7%
There is fear of engaging in corruption	2.3%
Media Programs enhance the fight against Corruption	1.5%
Vetting of public officers	1.2%
Existence of platforms for reporting corruption	1.1%
Increased Accountability and Public Participation	1.1%
Existence of anti-corruption agencies	0.7%
Others	5.1%



“Lack of public participation where MPs themselves will invite their own people to attend so that they can pass what the MP will suggest and at the end of the day ...the monies allocated does not favour the citizen but go into project that the MP desires.”

(Nakuru FGD)

3.10.14. Reasons for Government’s Non-commitment to Fight Corruption

Among respondents who said that the government is not committed in the fight against corruption cited high corruption levels (21.2%), lack of political good will to fight corruption (12.5%) and corruption that is deeply rooted (12.1%) as indicated in Table 5.

Table 5: Reasons for Government’s Non-commitment to Fight Corruption

Reason	Percent
Corruption is high	21.2%
Lack of political good will to fight corruption	12.5%
Corruption is deeply rooted	12.1%
Public/ State officers are corrupt	7.5%
No punishment/ prosecution of corruption suspects	6.2%
Presence of Impunity/abuse of office	6.2%
Poor service delivery	6.1%
Increased Media reports on corruption	5.3%
Bribes are demanded to access a public service	5.1%
Government institutions are not co-operative	3.2%
Public funds looted daily with no investigation	2.9%
Increased misappropriation of Public Funds	2.6%
Long duration of investigation and prosecution of corruption cases	2.5%
Weak Institutions to fight corruption	1.5%
Delay in adjudication of corruption cases by the courts	1.2%
Presence of Discrimination	1.1%
Sanctioning of corruption by public officers	1.0%
Inadequate platforms/Offices for reporting corruption	0.8%
Others	1.1%

3.10.15. Effectiveness of Measures to Prevent Unethical Conduct and Corruption

Respondents rated the effectiveness of measures already put in place to prevent unethical practices and corruption in the country. Adopting stricter laws against unethical practices and corruption was rated very effective (45.2%), enforcing accountability through public participation (44.0%) strengthening the powers and resources of anti-corruption agencies (43.5%) and educating citizens on evils of unethical conduct and corruption (41.8%) as shown in Table 6.

Table 6: Effectiveness of Measures to Prevent Unethical Conduct and Corruption

Measure	Very Effective	Moderately Effective	Ineffective	Do not Know
Adopt stricter laws against unethical practices and corruption	45.2%	32.7%	15.0%	7.1%
Enforce accountability through public participation	44.0%	35.4%	12.2%	8.5%

Measure	Very Effective	Moderately Effective	Ineffective	Do not Know
Strengthen the powers and resources of anti-corruption agencies	43.5%	32.7%	15.1%	8.8%
Educate citizens on evils of unethical conduct and corruption	41.8%	35.6%	16.0%	6.6%
Inclusion of anti-corruption into the education curriculum	40.7%	34.9%	15.0%	9.5%
Integrate gender into government programmes	32.9%	36.1%	19.8%	11.2%
Use of e-government services	30.4%	35.5%	18.7%	15.5%

3.11. GENDER DIFFERENCES IN PERCEPTION ON CORRUPTION AND UNETHICAL CONDUCT

3.11.1. Most Pressing Problem Facing the Country

The survey revealed that the most pressing problem facing the country today is high cost of living cited by 58.4 percent of the respondents unemployment (36.5%), corruption (30.4%), healthcare (25.7%), and poverty (21.9%). Other major problems cited include: insecurity (12.9%), education (11.6%), poor public transport infrastructure (11.1%), and poor leadership (10.4%) (Figure 92).

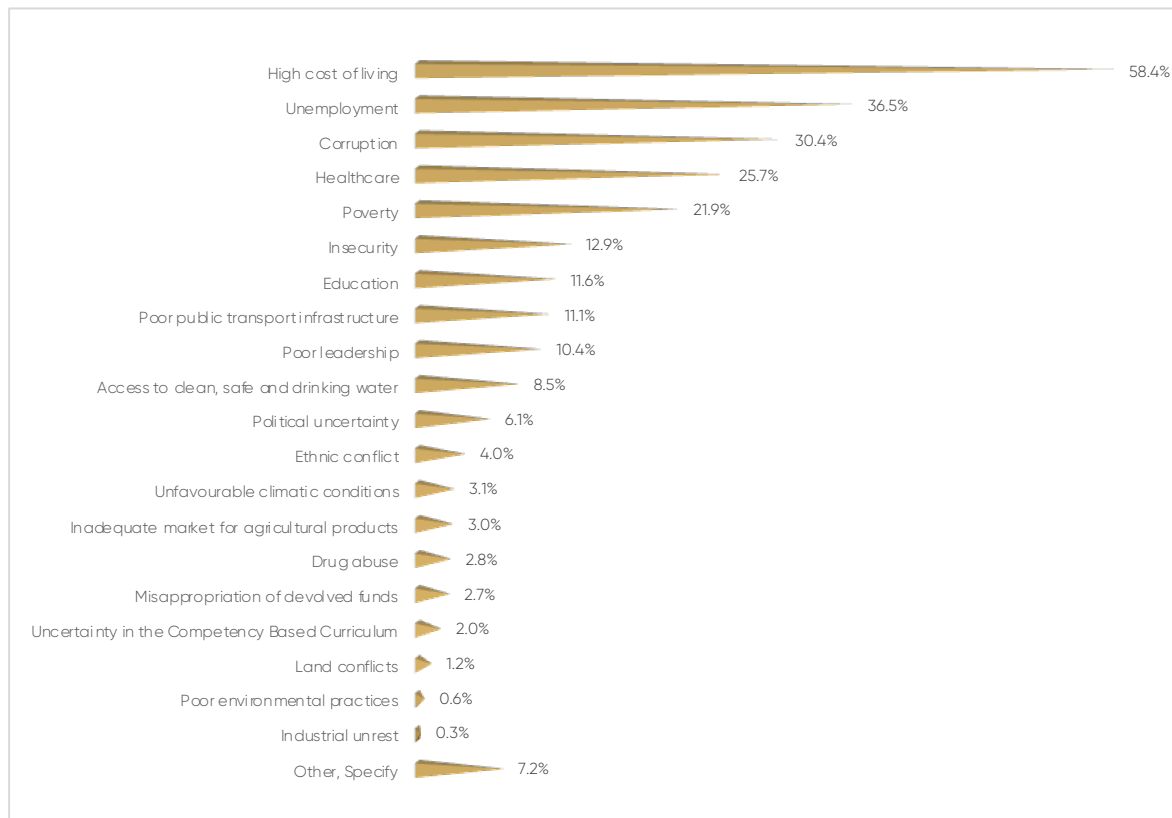


Figure 92: Most pressing problem facing the country

3.11.2. Most Pressing Problem Facing the Country by Socio-Demographic Characteristics

Table 7 shows more women than men ranked high cost of living (53.1%), poverty (55.8%) and health care (54.2%) as the most pressing problem facing the country today, while more men than women ranked corruption (55.7%) and unemployment (52%).

By residence, more rural than urban population ranked high cost of living (63% vs 37%), poverty (69.2% vs 30.8%), health care (68.3% vs 31.7) and unemployment (52.9% vs 47.1% as the most pressing problem facing the country today while more urban ranked corruption (52.1%) as the most pressing problem compared to rural population (47.9%).

Table 7: Most pressing problem facing the country by socio-demographic characteristics

	Demo-graphics	High cost of living	Unemployment	Corruption	Healthcare	Poverty
Sex	Male	46.9%	52.0%	55.7%	45.8%	44.1%
	Female	53.1%	47.9%	44.3%	54.2%	55.8%
	Intersex	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%
Residence	Rural	63.0%	52.9%	47.9%	68.3%	69.2%
	Urban	37.0%	47.1%	52.1%	31.7%	30.8%

Respondents were asked to rate the government in the handling of the major problems facing the country on a scale of good, fair or poor. Eighty eight percent of the respondents rated government handling of the high cost of living poor. Other interventions rated poor are: poverty (82.8%), unemployment (82.3%), corruption (75.8%), and healthcare (62.3%). Respondents were partially split on government handling of education with 46.3 percent rating such interventions as poor, 33.8 percent as fair while 14.4 percent as good. About one quarter of respondents reported that they did know how to rate government response to problems related affordable housing programme while 13.6 percent could not rate how government was responding to youth agenda as shown in Table 8.

Table 8: Rating of government in handling of major problems

National Issues	Poor	Fair	Good	Don't Know
High cost of Living	88.2%	9.3%	1.4%	1.1%
Poverty	82.8%	12.9%	2.3%	1.9%
Unemployment	82.3%	12.2%	2.4%	3.0%
Corruption	75.8%	14.8%	3.2%	6.2%
Healthcare	62.3%	26.7%	8.7%	2.3%
Management of public funds	62.0%	21.6%	4.7%	11.7%
Youth agenda	61.9%	19.6%	5.0%	13.6%
Transport Infrastructure	53.7%	32.0%	12.5%	1.8%
Insecurity	50.3%	28.4%	19.7%	1.5%
Education	46.3%	33.8%	14.4%	5.5%
Affordable housing programme	47.6%	18.7%	6.4%	27.3%



"Over time, corruption has become normalized, to the point where it feels like a way of life. If a big opportunity arose, even those of us who speak about integrity would instinctively look for "connections." This mindset where anything that gets me from point A to B is acceptable has shaped our national psyche. It shows up in our families, in our communities, in our politics, and even in the justice system." (Nyeri FGD)

"Injustice especially in accessing justice and dealing with government authorities like chiefs" (Kakamega FGD)

"Long duration of cases in court for instance compensation in accident cases taking more than 10 years." (Nakuru FGD)

"Education sector is one of the clearest reflections of this inequality. In marginalized areas, teachers live and work in small mud houses with very few resources, yet they are expected to prepare learners to compete with children in well-funded schools such as Makini. Both groups of students sit for the same national exams, but their circumstances are worlds apart. Entering national schools has also become a privilege for the wealthy, as parents are expected to pay not just school fees but also high maintenance costs including pocket money of at least 5,000 shillings. Families from low-resource settings cannot afford such demands. In fact, many parents end up paying much more than the official fees just to secure a place for their children." (Nyeri FGD)

"Another major challenge is high taxation. This issue has affected the cost of living directly, and we saw the impact clearly last year when young people—especially Gen Z—took to the streets to raise their voices against increased taxes on basic goods and services. It has become harder for young people to acquire what they need and to afford a decent life in the country." (Mombasa FGD)

"We also face the challenge of violence, particularly gender-based violence. Women and girls continue to be abducted, abused, and even killed in cases of femicide. Despite the existence of laws and initiatives—such as the femicide technical working group—progress is unclear. If measures are in place, then we must ask: why are women still unsafe in this country?" (Mombasa FGD)

"Another issue is the exclusion of persons with disabilities in leadership and governance. Despite constitutional provisions and laws meant to ensure their representation, implementation is weak. In Kenya, we are very good at drafting laws, but implementation remains our biggest weakness." (Mombasa FGD)

"While we talk about inclusivity, in reality, persons with disabilities often face barriers in accessing facilities. Many institutions claim to be PWD-friendly, but in practice, they are not." (Mombasa FGD)

"Another pressing issue is the misappropriation of public funds. Citizens pay taxes for services that are often not delivered. For instance, in my area, residents are taxed for fumigation. Yet, the service is rarely carried out properly. Sometimes, after complaints, a small car passes by with smoke, giving the impression that fumigation has been done, but the effort is minimal and ineffective." (Mombasa FGD)



“Justice System challenges are also evident. Notorious police stations such as Mtwapa, Kiembeni, and Changamwe demonstrate poor handling of cases. For instance, 24 youths were arrested for defending a court order on land disputes. They were charged with assault, later with robbery with violence, and finally with arson—showing inconsistent charges. Processing court orders is slow, creating prolonged detention. Investigations are inconsistent. While some high-profile cases, like Komburi MP’s alleged abduction, are handled properly, many ordinary cases are delayed or ignored. Witnesses are sometimes killed before justice can be served. IPOA and internal affairs units often fail to act promptly on police misconduct.”
(Mombasa FGD)

“Land registries are another challenge. Accessing information is extremely difficult, and errors or omissions can lead to citizens losing land. Files are hard to obtain, and some maps are held in other offices like Ruaraka, making the process frustrating and opaque.”
(Mombasa FGD)

“I’ll mention them very quickly. One is corruption, two is corruption, and three is corruption. The fourth one would be corruption. Maybe now fifth one would be issues to do with poverty. You know, again, high poverty cases, are making populations vulnerable to corruption related vices.”
(Nairobi, Key Informant)

“Economic hardship is pressing Kenyans hard; we are seeing unemployment and harassment of youth trying to earn a living.”
(Nakuru FGD)

“So, we have unemployment issues. Just because you don’t... uh, you don’t know where to look for that job, it doesn’t mean you’re not looking. Yeah. Personally before... after graduation, I think I did, uh, 123 of applications before I got an interview.”
(Kakamega FGD)

“Coupled with youth unemployment I would say corruption because for you to get a job in the civil service you have to know somebody or you will have to bribe for your name to be shortlisted.”
(Kisumu FGD)

“First, one of the major challenges we currently face in Kenya is unemployment. Every year, we see huge numbers of graduates from our universities and colleges, yet the opportunities available for them are very limited. Many young people are struggling to secure jobs, and this struggle has been ongoing for years. The reasons are many—sometimes it’s a mismatch of skills, other times it’s linked to corruption, where people feel they have to pay something small to get a position. Others point to nepotism and tribalism, where connections are valued over merit.”
(Mombasa FGD)

“The other issue is about the capitation. The current government promised that there is money for schools but when you visit the schools the teachers say that the money is yet to be received. When you go to the MPs they claim that they have already issued out the bursary. Children are being sent home and it is hard to determine who is telling the truth; is it the schools, the county or national government.one will also find a situation when the bursary is received and for example the student is in their forth form; it means that their funding will remain in school and not refunded even if the parent will have struggled to have paid the money will still remain in the school so the money becomes embezzled in the schools.”
(Nakuru FGD)



"Delays by parliamentarians to pass Bills every time, every time it is in parliament, people are absconded and the Bill is never passed." **(Mombasa FGD)**

"Inequality. The law is very clear that in any organization a minimum of 5% of staff should be persons with disabilities. As we speak right now it's less than 3%. When we do our audits what we get from HR departments is that PWDs don't apply. Yet there is evidence that they have applied." **(Kisumu FGD)**

"From the visits we have made, we can see that even though the policy says it is inclusive education—that children with and without disabilities should learn together—in practice, it does not work well. Every school should at least have one teacher who is trained to deal with disabilities. Such a teacher could rotate across classes and be called upon whenever a challenge arises." **(Nairobi FGD)**

"When it comes to the use of funds, you find procurement is a big issue—prices are inflated. A contractor is given a job that is supposed to cost maybe 10 billion, then you hear it has shot up to 50 billion." **(Nairobi FGD)**

"Another issue is the exclusion of persons with disabilities in leadership and governance. Despite constitutional provisions and laws meant to ensure their representation, implementation is weak. In Kenya, we are very good at drafting laws, but implementation remains our biggest weakness." **(Mombasa FGD)**

"Land registries are another challenge. Accessing information is extremely difficult, and errors or omissions can lead to citizens losing land. Files are hard to obtain, and some maps are held in other offices like Ruaraka, making the process frustrating and opaque." **(Mombasa FGD)**

"Another challenge is the management of CDF and GADF bursaries. Politicians often compete over control of bursary funds, whether MPs or governors, which leads to misallocation. Vulnerable children often miss out, while funds are given to those with connections to political leaders. The solution is simple: these bursaries should be managed directly by the education department, ensuring that all children in the country can access education support fairly, without political interference." **(Mombasa FGD)**

"Ethnicity further deepens this corruption. We defend our "own" even when they are wrong, while rejecting others simply because they are from a different community. Jobs and opportunities in government are politicized along ethnic lines. For example, highly qualified professionals from marginalized ethnic groups are left in acting roles for years, while positions are reserved for certain communities. Even something as basic as bursaries is politicized, where a child may be denied support simply because of their last name, despite growing up in the same county." **(Nyeri FGD)**

"On paper, hospitals are said to be built, stocked with medicine, and fully equipped to serve the community. But when you actually visit, you find mothers struggling through childbirth without the most basic care, and the promise of a "complete" facility quickly unravels. At times, it feels safe to give birth on the road, hoping to reach Kenyatta in time, than to place your life in the hands of an institution that exists more in reports than in reality." **(Nairobi FGD)**

3.11.3. Rating of Government in Handling of Major Problems by Sex of Respondents

There was no difference by gender in the rating of government in the handling of the major problems facing the country. However more men (78.9%) rated government handling of corruption as poor compared to women (73%) as shown in Table 9.

Table 9: Rating of government in handling of major problems by Sex of Respondents

	Male				Female				Intersex			
	Poor	Fair	Good	DK	Poor	Fair	Good	DK	Poor	Fair	Good	DK
High cost of Living	88.4%	9.6%	1.4%	0.6%	88.0%	9.1%	1.3%	1.6%	92.4%	7.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Poverty	83.5%	13.0%	2.2%	1.2%	82.2%	12.9%	2.3%	2.7%	92.1%	7.9%	0.0%	0.0%
Unemployment	83.8%	11.8%	2.3%	2.0%	80.9%	12.5%	2.5%	4.0%	92.1%	7.9%	0.0%	0.0%
Corruption	78.9%	13.9%	2.8%	4.4%	73.0%	15.6%	3.5%	7.9%	66.0%	34.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Healthcare	63.0%	26.7%	8.1%	2.1%	61.6%	26.7%	9.3%	2.4%	66.0%	0.0%	34.0%	0.0%
Management of public funds	65.0%	21.5%	4.2%	9.4%	59.2%	21.7%	5.2%	14.0%	84.5%	0.0%	7.9%	7.6%
Youth agenda	64.8%	19.8%	5.0%	10.4%	59.2%	19.4%	4.9%	16.5%	64.6%	7.9%	0.0%	27.5%
Transport Infra-structure	55.3%	31.7%	12.0%	1.0%	52.3%	32.4%	12.9%	2.5%	53.7%	46.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Insecurity	51.3%	28.7%	19.0%	1.0%	49.4%	28.2%	20.3%	2.1%	66.3%	33.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Education	47.6%	33.6%	14.1%	4.7%	45.2%	34.1%	14.6%	6.2%	66.0%	26.2%	7.9%	0.0%
Affordable housing programme	50.3%	19.3%	7.3%	23.0%	45.0%	18.2%	5.6%	31.3%	64.6%	7.9%	0.0%	27.5%

3.11.4. Rating of Government in Handling of Major Problems by Level of Education

Government handling of the major problems facing the country by level of education revealed that a higher proportion of respondents with higher education (secondary education and above) rated government response to corruption and unemployment as poor compared to those with lower education levels (primary and below). There were no major variations by education in the proportion of respondents who rated poor government handling to problems of healthcare, poverty and cost of living as summarized in Table 10.

Table 10: Rating of government in handling of major problems by level of education

Level of Education	Rating	Corruption	Unemployment	Healthcare	Poverty	High cost of Living
No education	Poor	61.1%	71.9%	60.7%	78.3%	83.5%
	Fair	18.4%	14.7%	24.3%	13.6%	10.5%
	Good	5.2%	4.1%	10.3%	3.4%	2.5%
	DK	15.2%	9.3%	4.7%	4.6%	3.5%
Informal schooling only	Poor	74.0%	79.2%	66.0%	81.9%	84.8%
	Fair	15.6%	12.7%	27.0%	14.2%	10.8%
	Good	1.9%	1.1%	4.0%	0.9%	1.1%
	DK	8.5%	7.0%	2.9%	3.0%	3.3%
Primary education	Poor	72.8%	82.1%	61.7%	83.2%	88.9%
	Fair	17.3%	12.4%	26.7%	12.4%	9.1%
	Good	3.6%	3.1%	9.6%	2.6%	1.3%
	DK	6.3%	2.4%	2.1%	1.8%	0.7%

Level of Education	Rating	Corruption	Unemployment	Healthcare	Poverty	High cost of Living
Secondary education	Poor	81.6%	87.1%	64.1%	84.2%	89.8%
	Fair	12.4%	10.3%	26.3%	12.9%	8.8%
	Good	2.5%	1.6%	7.9%	1.9%	1.0%
	DK	3.5%	1.0%	1.7%	1.0%	0.4%
College	Poor	86.0%	85.6%	60.7%	85.8%	89.2%
	Fair	10.5%	11.9%	29.5%	11.6%	8.9%
	Good	1.6%	1.1%	8.3%	1.3%	1.3%
	DK	1.8%	1.4%	1.5%	1.3%	0.6%
Undergraduate /Bachelors	Poor	84.2%	82.2%	61.9%	79.9%	88.3%
	Fair	12.6%	15.3%	31.2%	18.1%	11.1%
	Good	1.8%	1.7%	6.1%	1.5%	0.4%
	DK	1.4%	0.9%	0.9%	0.5%	0.1%
Graduate/ Master degree	Poor	84.4%	85.7%	60.3%	84.2%	91.2%
	Fair	6.3%	10.4%	36.0%	8.4%	6.8%
	Good	4.9%	2.0%	3.6%	2.8%	2.0%
	DK	4.4%	1.9%	0.0%	4.6%	0.0%
Post Graduate /PhD	Poor	82.7%	78.8%	69.6%	65.4%	70.1%
	Fair	17.3%	12.0%	21.2%	26.5%	29.9%
	Good	0.0%	9.2%	9.2%	0.0%	0.0%
	DK	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.1%	0.0%

On a four point scale, 84 percent of respondents indicated that it is not acceptable for: 'A citizen providing sexual favours for services that otherwise would have not been made available to them' (83.9%), 'An elected official taking public funds for private use' (83.9%), 'A company official asking for a bribe from a job applicant' (81.9%), 'A law enforcement officer (police, customs, immigration, army) asking for a bribe' (81.6%), 'A public officer asking for a bribe to speed up administrative procedures' (79.4%), and 'A public officer being recruited on the basis of family ties and friendship networks' (76.6%).

Some nine percent of respondent stated that it is sometimes acceptable for a public officer asking for a bribe to speed up administrative procedures and a similar percentage were of the same opinion for public officer being recruited on the basis of family ties and friendship networks, as shown in Table 11.

Table 11: Opinion on unethical practices

Unethical Practice	Not acceptable	Sometimes acceptable	Usually, acceptable	Always acceptable	No opinion
A citizen providing sexual favours for services that otherwise would have not been made available to them	83.9%	4.8%	4.7%	2.4%	4.1%
An elected official taking public funds for private use	83.9%	5.6%	4.5%	2.7%	3.2%
A company official asking for a bribe from a job applicant	81.9%	7.1%	5.0%	2.7%	3.3%
A law enforcement officer (police, customs, immigration, army) asking for a bribe	81.6%	7.4%	4.6%	2.7%	3.8%

Unethical Practice	Not acceptable	Sometimes acceptable	Usually, acceptable	Always acceptable	No opinion
A public officer asking for a bribe to speed up administrative procedures	79.4%	8.8%	5.4%	3.5%	2.9%
A public officer being recruited on the basis of family ties and friendship networks	76.6%	8.8%	5.5%	6.1%	3.0%

Public sector officials were evaluated on issues related to how they handle certain official functions in their daily work. The Survey revealed that ‘Influencing the hiring of friends or relatives in the public sector’ is very frequent as cited by 52.5 percent of the respondents. Forty- Eight percent indicated that ‘Requesting money or gifts for public services that should have been provided for free’ is very frequent and another 48 percent held the same view that ‘Influencing the award of government contracts to friends or relatives’ is very frequent

Twenty-four percent of respondents opined that ‘Public officials requesting sexual favors in exchange for giving a job is very frequent, another 24 percent thought that its fairly frequent while 22 percent thought that it is not very frequent but is not unusual. Sixteen per cent of respondents held the view that ‘Teachers/Lecturers asking for sexual favors to sit in or pass an exam is very frequent, another 16 per cent opined that this behavior is fairly frequent, and a quarter said it is not very frequent but not unusual. Same trends were observed on the practice of Teachers/Lecturers asking for sexual favors to give better grades where 15 percent of respondents thought that it is very frequent, 16 percent said it is fairly frequent and a quarter said it is not very frequent but not unusual, This data show a possible high prevalence of sextortion behaviors in the public sector (Table 12).

Table 12: Opinion on frequency of unethical practices among public sector officials

Unethical Practice	Very frequent	Fairly frequent	Not very frequent but not unusual	Never happens	Don't know
Influencing the hiring of friends or relatives in the public sector	52.5%	22.8%	9.6%	7.2%	8.0%
Requesting money or gifts for public services that should have been provided for free	48.4%	28.0%	10.8%	4.3%	8.6%
Influencing the award of government contracts to friends or relatives	48.0%	25.4%	9.7%	4.3%	12.7%
Public officials requesting sexual favours in exchange for giving a job, training or promotion	23.8%	23.9%	21.6%	10.2%	20.5%
Teachers/Lecturers asking for sexual favours to sit in or pass an exam	15.9%	16.4%	24.7%	19.4%	23.6%
Teachers/Lecturers asking for sexual favours to give better grades	14.9%	16.1%	25.8%	19.5%	23.7%

Similarly, in Table 13 respondents were asked to evaluate the private sector officials on how they handle certain official functions in their daily work. 'Influencing the hiring of friends or relatives in the private sector' (37.4%) and 'Influencing the award of contracts to friends or relatives in the private sector' (36.1%) were reported to be very frequent.

Respondents were fairly split on: 'Requesting money or gifts for private benefit instead of the benefit of the company', 'Requesting sexual favors in exchange for giving a job, training or promotion', and 'Teachers and lecturers in private schools or universities asking for sexual favors to sit in, give better grades or pass an exam'.

Table 13: Opinion on frequency of unethical practices among private sector employees

Unethical Practice	Very frequent	Fairly frequent	Not very frequent but not unusual	Never happens	Don't know
Influencing the hiring of friends or relatives in the private sector	37.4%	27.8%	14.1%	7.8%	12.9%
Influencing the award of contracts to friends or relatives in the private sector	36.1%	27.7%	12.8%	6.8%	16.6%
Requesting money or gifts for private benefit instead of the benefit of the company	29.2%	28.1%	17.1%	9.0%	16.5%
Requesting sexual favors in exchange for giving a job, training or promotion	19.4%	22.1%	23.7%	12.0%	22.8%
Teachers/Lecturers in private schools or universities asking for sexual favors to sit in, give better grades or pass an exam	15.8%	16.0%	23.0%	18.2%	27.0%

Among elected representatives and politicians, 'Influencing the employment and career advancement of their friends or relatives' (50.1%) is very frequently practiced followed by 'Using public funds or property for personal or family needs' (47.6%), 'Influencing the award of contracts to companies and individuals close to themselves' (44.5%), 'Taking bribes or gifts to influence public contracts or public decisions' (44.4%) and 'Manipulating electoral processes and electoral fraud' (40%) as shown in Table 14.

Table 14: Opinion on frequency of unethical practices among elected officials

Unethical Practices	Very frequent	Fairly frequent	Not very frequent but not unusual	Never happens	Don't know
<i>Influencing the employment and career advancement of their friends or relatives</i>	50.1%	26.9%	10.0%	2.9%	10.1%
<i>Using public funds or property for personal or family needs</i>	47.6%	28.2%	11.5%	3.1%	9.7%
<i>Influencing the award of contracts to companies and individuals close to themselves</i>	44.5%	27.9%	11.3%	2.6%	13.6%
<i>Taking bribes or gifts to influence public contracts or public decisions</i>	44.4%	29.1%	10.9%	2.7%	12.9%
<i>Manipulating electoral processes and electoral fraud</i>	40.0%	24.9%	13.8%	7.6%	13.8%

Respondents were asked to indicate whether before or during the 2022 General Election, some candidates offered favors, money or goods in exchange of votes. The Survey shows that 58.9 per cent of the respondents were not offered money by aspiring candidates for elective positions. Among those who were offered money, 26.6 per cent received such money personally, 9 per cent through another member of their household while 3.3 per cent were personally offered other favours.



“The same value system shapes our politics. We define leadership not by integrity, but by theft. We vote for the most “eloquent thief,” the one who has stolen enough to appear generous, not the one with a clean record.” (Nyeri FGD)

“In Kenya, politics has become a business, because many politicians do not join it to transform the country but to enrich themselves. Professionals from other fields often abandon their careers to enter politics simply for the money.” (Kisumu FGD)

“The problem is not the voter. You see, the voter votes in this person so that when the person get in, he does what he wants or what they had agreed on whichever party. When they arrive there (Parliament) they forget they were sent.” (Kakamega FGD)

“Elected leaders see the community members are very poor and they depend on them and they want to ensure the poor will always remain poor so that they can be elected by buying the electorate to again vote for them and get back to these offices and continue hurting the members of public.” (Mombasa FGD)

3.11.5. Perception on Bribery during Elections by Sex of the Respondent

The Survey further reveals that more men (29.1%) than women (24.2%) have been personally offered money before or during the 2022 General Election, in exchange of votes. Those aged between 50 – 64 years lead with 28.4 percent and 28.6 per cent for the rural dwellers have been personally offered money before or during the 2022 General Election, some candidates offered favors, money or goods in exchange of votes (Table 15).

Table 15: Opinion on frequency of unethical practices among elected officials by socio-demographic characteristics

		Yes, I have been personally offered money	Yes, I have been personally offered some other favors	Not personally, but another member of my household has been offered money or goods	No, I haven't been offered money	Don't know
Total Sample	Total Sample	26.6	3.3	9.0	58.9	2.2
Sex	Male	29.1	3.4	8.5	57.2	1.8
	Female	24.2	3.1	9.5	60.5	2.6
	Intersex	0.0	0.0	7.6	92.4	0.0
Age groups	18 - 24	22.0	2.5	8.7	63.5	3.3
	25 - 34	27.8	3.1	8.9	58.2	2.0
	35 - 49	27.9	3.6	8.5	58.1	1.8
	50 - 64	28.4	3.3	10.4	56.4	1.4
	65 +	22.2	3.6	8.6	61.8	3.8
Residence	Rural	28.6	3.0	9.1	56.8	2.4
	Urban	23.1	3.7	8.9	62.4	1.8

		Yes, I have been personally offered money	Yes, I have been personally offered some other favors	Not personally, but another member of my household has been offered money or goods	No, I haven't been offered money	Don't know
Marital status	Single (never married, not cohabiting)	25.1	3.3	8.9	60.2	2.4
	Married Monogamous	28.0	3.4	9.0	57.8	1.8
	Married Polygamous	21.9	3.2	10.6	60.9	3.5
	Married Polyandrous	14.4	32.7	0.0	46.2	6.7
	Separated	29.0	2.5	8.6	58.4	1.6
	Divorced	29.8	3.8	6.1	58.3	2.0
	Widowed	21.9	3.0	9.5	61.6	4.1
Religion	Christianity	27.2	3.3	8.8	58.7	2.0
	Islam	21.0	3.0	12.1	60.9	3.0
	Hindu	0.0	0.0	6.3	93.7	0.0
	Indigenous Traditional Faiths	23.8	6.8	6.0	48.1	15.2
	Atheist/Agnostic	19.5	0.6	6.6	66.4	6.9
	Other	25.8	0.0	0.0	74.2	0.0
	Prefer Not to say	24.9	0.9	1.8	63.8	8.5
	Don't Know	9.0	0.0	0.0	64.3	26.7
Household status of respondent	Head of household	27.5	3.5	8.5	58.5	1.9
	Spouse	25.5	2.8	10.1	59.0	2.6
	Child	23.5	1.8	9.8	62.2	2.7
	Other relatives	24.2	5.6	8.8	58.0	3.3
	Non-relatives	23.3	2.4	11.0	58.9	4.4
Highest education level attained	No education	24.0	3.2	8.0	60.0	4.7
	Informal schooling only	26.3	2.8	7.1	59.5	4.3
	Primary education	29.3	3.1	9.8	56.0	1.7
	Secondary education	26.4	3.6	8.7	59.9	1.4
	College	25.4	3.4	9.7	59.7	1.7
	Undergraduate/Bachelors	22.1	2.6	8.4	64.6	2.3
	Graduate/Master degree	16.5	2.9	4.0	76.1	0.4
	Post Graduate/PHD	8.6	0.0	0.0	91.4	0.0

		Yes, I have been personally offered money	Yes, I have been personally offered some other favors	Not personally, but another member of my household has been offered money or goods	No, I haven't been offered money	Don't know
Employment status	Unemployed (Not working)	22.8	3.4	8.3	61.9	3.6
	Self Employed/ Employed in family business or farm	29.8	3.1	8.5	57.5	1.1
	Employed in private sector	29.8	3.6	10.0	55.1	1.4
	Employed in National government / parastatal	24.4	4.3	9.1	59.6	2.5
	Employed by the County Government	21.4	3.0	5.2	69.6	0.9
	Employed in community sector e.g. church, NGO	26.9	5.1	10.9	54.3	2.8
	Retired	23.3	1.5	12.0	60.1	3.1
	Home Maker	21.2	2.4	11.3	61.8	3.3
	Other	32.4	11.7	10.3	42.8	2.8
Income per month (Kenya shillings)	0 - 9,999	26.9	2.5	7.2	61.1	2.2
	10,000 - 14,999	25.4	4.7	12.3	55.8	1.8
	15,000 -19,999	27.4	6.6	14.4	50.7	0.9
	20,000 - 24,999	29.8	5.3	13.6	51.0	0.3
	25,000 -29,999	23.5	3.5	12.6	59.4	1.0
	30,000 - 49,999	23.5	4.0	10.8	59.0	2.7
	50,000 - 99,999	25.8	1.7	8.3	62.0	2.2
	100,000 and above	9.8	7.4	8.1	74.3	0.4
County Code	Mombasa	22.5	2.4	18.5	55.3	1.2
	Kwale	27.2	4.1	8.3	56.7	3.7
	Kilifi	16.7	1.7	10.3	62.2	9.2
	Tana River	17.7	2.3	2.4	73.5	4.2
	Lamu	28.4	0.4	0.7	68.5	2.0
	Taita Taveta	21.5	1.8	2.7	66.0	8.0
	Garissa	9.1	4.5	23.3	62.7	0.4
	Wajir	14.7	0.9	15.4	63.1	5.8
	Mandera	36.4	3.5	7.1	48.1	4.8
	Marsabit	22.4	9.7	11.3	55.2	1.4
	Isiolo	41.3	5.8	11.8	40.4	0.7
	Meru	37.7	1.3	1.3	59.3	0.5

		Yes, I have been personally offered money	Yes, I have been personally offered some other favors	Not personally, but another member of my household has been offered money or goods	No, I haven't been offered money	Don't know
County Code	Tharaka Nithi	47.4	0.4	0.3	51.3	0.6
	Embu	26.5	4.4	8.0	57.7	3.4
	Kitui	32.6	9.3	12.3	45.3	0.5
	Machakos	16.3	4.4	15.2	58.1	6.0
	Makueni	22.0	5.6	10.7	61.3	0.4
	Nyandarua	35.6	0.4	16.2	45.9	2.0
	Nyeri	25.6	1.1	1.2	72.1	0.0
	Kirinyaga	23.3	0.9	1.8	74.0	0.0
	Murang'a	29.2	7.4	14.2	48.3	1.0
	Kiambu	20.3	6.4	11.4	58.1	3.8
	Turkana	24.6	2.0	5.4	65.2	2.8
	West Pokot	23.1	0.4	6.1	69.8	0.6
	Samburu	15.0	2.5	10.0	72.6	0.0
	Trans Nzoia	33.2	2.3	3.3	61.1	0.1
	Uasin Gishu	25.3	5.3	4.5	64.5	0.4
	Elgeyo-Marakwet	19.0	0.7	11.7	66.5	2.1
	Nandi	41.5	0.2	14.0	42.1	2.2
	Baringo	17.6	1.5	14.3	64.2	2.5
	Laikipia	15.4	1.2	9.1	74.3	0.0
	Nakuru	30.2	0.0	11.1	57.3	1.4
	Narok	10.9	0.0	1.3	80.7	7.1
	Kajiado	21.6	8.1	15.8	54.4	0.1
	Kericho	32.6	0.0	8.7	54.3	4.4
	Bomet	30.4	2.0	2.4	57.6	7.7
	Kakamega	43.2	2.7	16.1	38.1	0.0
	Vihiga	45.2	4.1	15.7	35.0	0.0
	Bungoma	25.7	0.3	0.6	73.4	0.0
	Busia	29.9	0.5	1.0	68.5	0.0
	Siaya	41.1	0.3	5.7	48.8	4.1
	Kisumu	34.6	1.2	5.4	52.8	6.0
	Homabay	31.9	14.4	18.7	34.6	0.5
	Migori	21.4	10.1	17.9	43.2	7.4
	Kisii	35.0	0.2	9.8	55.0	0.0
	Nyamira	36.1	0.6	3.7	59.6	0.0
	Nairobi	19.0	3.7	3.9	72.7	0.6

3.11.6. Forms of Corruption Witnessed by Sex, Age and Residence of Respondents

The Survey revealed that 26.9 percent of the respondents had witnessed unethical practices and corruption by public officials compared to 73.1 percent who had not. Bribery (85.9%) was the most witnessed form of corruption in the 12 months prior to the Survey. This was followed by favoritism (64%), abuse of office (53.3%), tribalism and nepotism (50.2%), embezzlement of public funds (36.9%) and misuse of public property (33.5%) in that order. The least observed form of corruption was secret inducement for advice cited by 9.2 percent of the respondents.

Table 16 indicates that more men (89.5%) than women (81.5%) witnessed bribery while there was no significant difference among age groups and place of residence. Generally, more men than women reported to have witnessed various forms of corruption.

Table 16: Forms of Corruption Witnessed by Sex, Age and Residence of Respondents

Forms of corruption witnessed	Total Sample Witnessed	Sex			Age groups					Residence	
		M	F	Intersex	18-24	25-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Rural	Urban
Bribery	85.9	89.5	81.5	100.0	88.4	85.9	85.1	86.3	84.6	85.5	86.6
Favoritism	64.0	56.0	44.0	0.1	11.7	27.1	23.0	17.1	11.0	61.4	38.6
Abuse of office	53.3	56.6	49.1	100.0	52.4	55.4	52.3	53.1	51.6	53.1	53.5
Tribalism/Nepotism	50.2	52.7	47.1	0.0	49.1	52.9	48.1	50.1	50.8	48.6	52.5
Embezzlement of public funds	36.9	40.7	32.3	100.0	35.6	35.1	35.4	37.3	48.2	37.7	35.7
Misuse of public property	33.5	36.5	29.7	100.0	32.6	37.2	30.1	33.6	34.8	33.2	33.9
Conflict of Interest	29.2	31.2	26.8	0.0	32.2	30.9	26.7	27.6	32.2	29.5	28.8
Misappropriation of public funds	28.7	31.1	25.8	0.0	27.5	30.5	27.0	28.3	31.5	28.0	29.8
Fraud/Forgery	25.3	27.8	22.2	0.0	23.5	26.6	23.7	25.1	29.6	24.1	27.2
Procurement irregularities	20.5	23.1	17.3	100.0	19.6	21.1	20.4	21.8	18.0	18.2	24.1
Extortion	20.5	21.5	19.3	0.0	24.2	23.7	19.0	17.0	18.6	18.3	23.9
Conspiracy to engage in corruption	20.0	21.9	17.6	0.0	20.3	20.8	20.1	19.5	17.8	19.0	21.4
Breach of trust	14.2	15.9	12.1	0.0	15.5	16.5	11.7	13.1	16.2	13.9	14.6
Money laundering	13.3	15.0	11.1	0.0	15.4	14.1	11.3	13.6	13.8	10.5	17.4
Tax Evasion	12.4	14.0	10.5	0.0	15.9	13.5	10.6	11.2	13.3	11.1	14.5
Dealing in suspect property	11.1	12.5	9.3	0.0	12.2	12.1	9.5	11.4	11.3	10.0	12.8
Deceiving the principal	11.1	12.6	9.3	0.0	11.5	11.5	10.1	11.7	12.0	10.1	12.7
Improper benefit to trustees for appointments	11.0	11.6	10.3	0.0	13.2	11.7	8.9	11.5	12.2	9.7	13.1
Secret inducements for advice	9.2	10.2	8.0	0.0	11.4	10.6	7.4	8.9	9.0	7.9	11.2
Other form	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.7	0.2	0.3

3.11.7. Forms of Unethical Practices Witnessed by Socio-demographic Characteristics

Among those who witnessed some form of unethical practices by public officials in the 12 months prior to the survey, 72.1 percent cited delays in service provisions by public offices. Discrimination (52.9%), lateness (46.5%), absenteeism (42.4%) and use of abusive or intimidating behavior including bullying and arrogance (38.9%) were unethical practices prominently witnessed. Provision of sexual favors (sextortion) (11.7%) and assault and physical abuse (11%) were the least observed unethical practices in public offices.

Those who witnessed some form of unethical practices by public officials in the 12 months prior to the survey and equal proportion of women and men (72%) experienced delay in delivery of service. More women (13.5%) compared to men (11.1%) witnessed sexual harassment. A higher percentage of service seekers 18–24 years compared to those older witnessed Abusive or intimidating behavior/Bullying/Arrogance, Non-compliance with rules & regulations, Negligence in performance of duties, Lying to employees, and Sexual harassment.

Table 17: Forms of Unethical Practices Witnessed by Socio-demographic Characteristics

Forms of Unethical Practices	Total Sample	Sex			Age groups					Residence	
		Witnessed	M	F	Intersex	18–24	25–34	35–49	50–64	65+	Rural
Delays in service provision	72.1	72.1	72.0	100.0	69.3	72.7	72.3	71.7	74.0	73.4	70.1
Discrimination	52.9	57.0	43.0	0.1	11.2	27.5	22.8	17.1	9.7	60.2	39.8
Lateness	46.5	48.2	44.4	100.0	41.6	49.8	44.5	48.5	46.0	45.6	47.9
Absenteeism	42.4	44.6	39.6	100.0	39.6	46.8	40.2	43.3	38.7	39.9	46.2
Abusive or intimidating behavior/Bullying/Arrogance	38.9	41.1	36.0	100.0	40.7	40.3	39.8	36.1	35.1	39.4	38.0
Non-compliance with rules & regulations	28.7	30.6	26.4	100.0	34.1	29.7	28.3	27.1	23.8	27.8	30.2
Being drunk while on duty	28.3	32.3	23.4	100.0	26.8	30.6	28.6	27.7	24.3	27.2	30.1
Discrimination in employment	28.3	31.6	24.2	0.0	29.9	30.9	28.0	23.4	29.8	28.1	28.6
Discrimination in resource allocation	27.7	30.3	24.4	0.0	27.2	27.3	26.1	28.9	31.8	28.9	25.8
Receiving of gifts that compromise the integrity of public officer (s)	25.7	27.2	23.8	100.0	27.6	24.0	26.0	25.2	27.9	24.6	27.3
Negligence in performance of duties	25.6	27.1	23.8	0.0	27.9	26.6	25.4	23.7	24.4	24.9	26.7
Political marginalization	19.1	23.1	14.3	0.0	16.5	19.3	18.3	22.0	19.0	17.4	21.8
Lying to employees	19.0	21.4	16.0	0.0	21.4	21.0	17.9	18.0	15.5	18.5	19.8
Indecent dressing	18.5	19.8	16.7	100.0	17.2	21.3	18.5	16.6	15.6	17.0	20.7

Forms of Un-ethical Practices	Total Sample	Sex			Age groups					Residence	
		Wit-nessed	M	F	Intersex	18- 24	25-34	35-49	50-64	65+	Rural
Intentionally giving inaccurate or wrong advice	15.8	17.3	13.9	0.0	17.6	17.7	15.1	14.0	13.8	15.0	17.0
Emotional and psychological abuse	14.6	15.9	13.0	100.0	15.8	16.0	14.2	14.3	10.8	12.4	17.8
Discrimination against PWDs in service delivery	13.4	14.4	12.1	100.0	11.0	12.5	14.2	14.4	14.6	12.6	14.6
Sexual harassment	12.3	11.1	13.7	0.0	16.4	15.2	11.0	9.2	9.0	10.9	14.4
Provision of Sexual favours (sextortion)	11.7	11.7	11.7	0.0	15.3	15.5	10.4	7.1	9.3	10.5	13.4
Assault/physical abuse	11.0	11.9	9.8	0.0	10.9	13.6	8.9	11.3	9.5	9.5	13.2
Other unethical practices	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.8	0.1	0.1



“Corruption, which I consider the mother of all problems in our nation. It manifests itself in almost every government office, and this has greatly hindered service delivery to the people”. (Mombasa FGD)

3.11.8. Perceptions on the level of corruption

In 2025, three quarters of the respondents rated high the level of unethical conduct and corruption compared to 67.6 per cent reported in 2024. Sixteen per cent rated the level of unethical conduct and corruption as moderate while only 3.1 percent rated low (Figure 93).

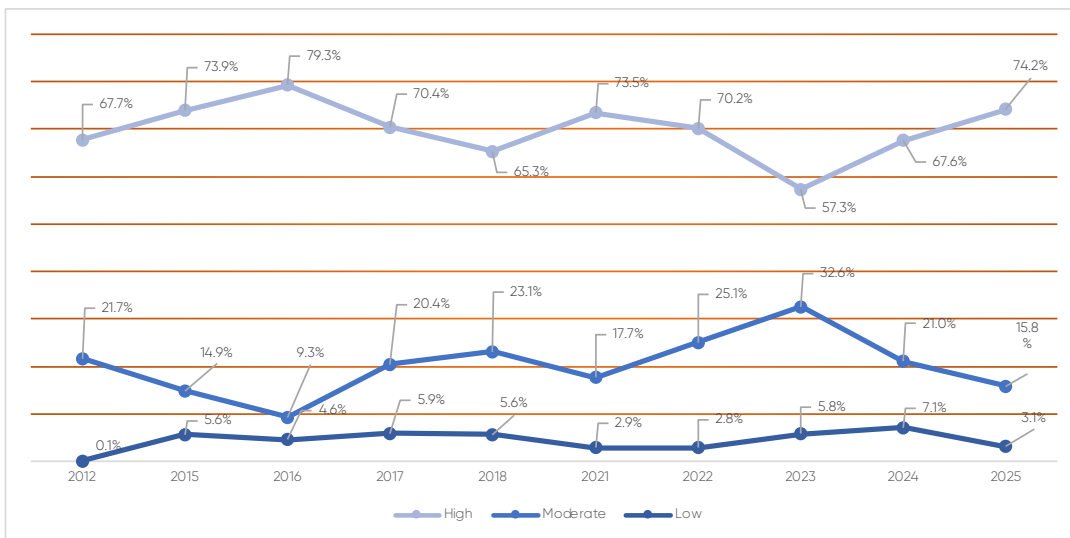


Figure 93: Perceptions on the level of corruption

3.11.9. Perceptions on the level of corruption by Socio-demographic Characteristics

While 76.9 percent of the male respondents rate the level of corruption to be high, the proportion for women is 71.6 percent. Those aged over 65 years recorded a slightly proportion of those rating corruption be high. More of urban dwellers rate corruption to be higher compared to the rural dwellers (Table 18).

Table 18: Perceptions on the level of corruption by Socio demographic Characteristics

		High	Moderate	Low	No Response	DK
Sex	Male	76.9	15.2	2.8	1.8	3.2
	Female	71.6	16.4	3.3	2.0	6.9
	Intersex	66.0	34.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Age groups	18 - 24	75.7	15.4	3.4	1.9	3.6
	25 - 34	76.7	14.9	3.2	1.7	3.5
	35 - 49	75.1	15.6	3.2	1.8	4.3
	50 - 64	73.5	17.2	2.5	2.1	4.7
	65 +	65.5	16.4	2.9	2.2	12.8
Residence	Rural	69.7	17.9	3.9	2.2	6.4
	Urban	81.7	12.3	1.7	1.4	2.9
	Head of household	75.8	15.1	2.5	1.8	4.8
	Spouse	69.4	18.0	4.0	2.2	6.4
	Child	75.7	15.2	4.1	1.8	3.3
	Other relatives	71.5	17.5	4.8	0.8	5.4
	Non-relatives	68.5	12.8	2.5	7.6	8.5
Level of education	No education	57.0	18.8	5.3	3.1	15.8
	Informal schooling only	68.6	13.4	1.9	3.8	12.2
	Primary education	72.0	18.3	3.5	1.8	4.5
	Secondary education	80.5	13.9	2.4	1.7	1.5
	College	83.5	12.7	1.6	1.0	1.2
	Undergraduate/Bachelors	86.9	9.5	1.0	1.3	1.3
	Graduate/Master degree	70.9	21.9	0.0	3.6	3.7
	Post Graduate/PHD	82.0	18.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Income	0 - 9,999	70.7	17.9	3.8	1.9	5.7
	10,000 - 14,999	78.1	15.1	2.3	2.0	2.5
	15,000 - 19,999	81.4	13.2	2.1	2.4	1.0
	20,000 -24,999	81.2	13.5	3.0	1.6	0.7
	25,000 - 29,999	81.5	13.1	2.5	1.8	1.0
	30,000 - 49,999	81.4	12.5	2.8	1.8	1.5
	50,000 - 99,999	80.6	14.9	1.7	2.1	0.7
	100,000 and above	80.7	13.1	1.9	1.0	3.4
County	Mombasa	71.5	18.8	3.5	0.7	5.5
	Kwale	60.4	22.0	6.6	0.9	10.1
	Kilifi	73.3	7.6	1.7	2.9	14.5
	Tana River	60.7	11.5	6.0	3.2	18.5
	Lamu	79.1	6.9	0.9	4.6	8.5
	Taita Taveta	78.7	5.3	1.5	4.9	9.6
	Garissa	55.5	27.3	9.1	2.5	5.6
	Wajir	48.3	28.9	7.4	3.5	12.0
	Mandera	73.6	7.6	0.4	2.7	15.8
	Marsabit	70.2	21.8	3.0	1.8	3.2
	Isiolo	73.6	13.8	5.9	0.7	5.9
	Meru	86.5	6.1	1.7	0.0	5.7
	Tharaka Nithi	85.8	9.9	0.5	0.2	3.7
	Embu	66.2	15.9	0.9	9.4	7.7
	Kitui	73.0	18.0	1.4	1.1	6.5

County	High	Moderate	Low	No Response	DK
Machakos	63.2	15.5	1.8	14.4	5.1
Makueni	78.1	18.3	2.5	0.6	0.5
Nyandarua	83.8	10.1	3.3	0.0	2.7
Nyeri	88.1	7.5	1.0	1.4	2.1
Kirinyaga	89.3	6.2	0.0	1.1	3.5
Murang'a	74.5	15.6	3.4	1.8	4.7
Kiambu	89.8	5.3	1.7	0.7	2.5
Turkana	70.8	8.5	1.5	1.0	18.2
West Pokot	70.3	16.2	3.6	0.6	9.3
Samburu	52.6	27.4	8.2	1.0	10.8
Trans Nzoia	84.3	11.9	0.2	0.6	3.0
Uasin Gishu	76.0	18.1	1.3	0.7	3.9
Elgeyo-Marakwet	54.0	32.1	2.9	0.6	10.4
Nandi	66.4	25.1	6.8	0.3	1.4
Baringo	54.5	25.8	2.5	1.5	15.8
Laikipia	71.9	15.3	3.9	0.6	8.3
Nakuru	78.8	14.8	2.4	0.8	3.3
Narok	61.6	14.2	5.4	6.3	12.5
Kajiado	83.0	14.9	0.4	0.0	1.8
Kericho	63.0	29.7	4.0	0.5	2.7
Bomet	52.4	23.5	7.3	4.7	12.2
Kakamega	54.6	41.2	1.6	0.8	1.8
Vihiga	60.6	31.4	4.8	0.4	2.8
Bungoma	80.3	16.1	1.9	0.0	1.6
Busia	79.6	17.1	0.5	0.0	2.8
Siaya	65.3	17.9	5.8	2.6	8.3
Kisumu	76.2	13.1	2.5	2.8	5.3
Homabay	54.3	16.0	15.5	6.9	7.3
Migori	54.6	15.9	18.1	5.5	5.9
Kisii	78.5	19.4	1.6	0.4	0.2
Nyamira	83.6	15.1	0.3	0.0	1.0
Nairobi	88.1	10.1	0.9	0.3	0.7

Table 19, provides the reasons cited for the high rating of the level of corruption in the country by the respondents. Bad governance (14.1%), high cost of living (13.7%), rampant corruption in public offices (12.2%), bribery demands while seeking services (9.4%) and more corruption incidences being reported (9.0%) were commonly stated reasons.

Table 19: Reason cited for High Level of Corruption

Reason cited for High Level of Corruption	%
Bad governance	14.1
High cost of living	13.7
Corruption is rampant in many public offices	12.2
Bribery demanded for service provision	9.4
More corruption incidences being reported	9.0
Poor service delivery in the public service	5.9
Selfish interests by public officers	5.8

Reason cited for High Level of Corruption	%
High poverty levels	3.6
Embezzlement of funds	3.5
Misappropriation of public funds	3.1
Favoritism in service provision	1.9
Lack of transparency and accountability	1.6
Unemployment is high	1.6
Corruption is a custom	1.4
Reports from media	1.3
Others	11.9

3.11.10. Trend on Perceived Levels of Corruption in Kenya

Sixty six per cent (65.8%) of the respondents reported that the overall level of corruption in Kenya has increased. 18.6 percent indicated that it has remained the same while 6.6 percent indicate that it has decreased (Figure 94).

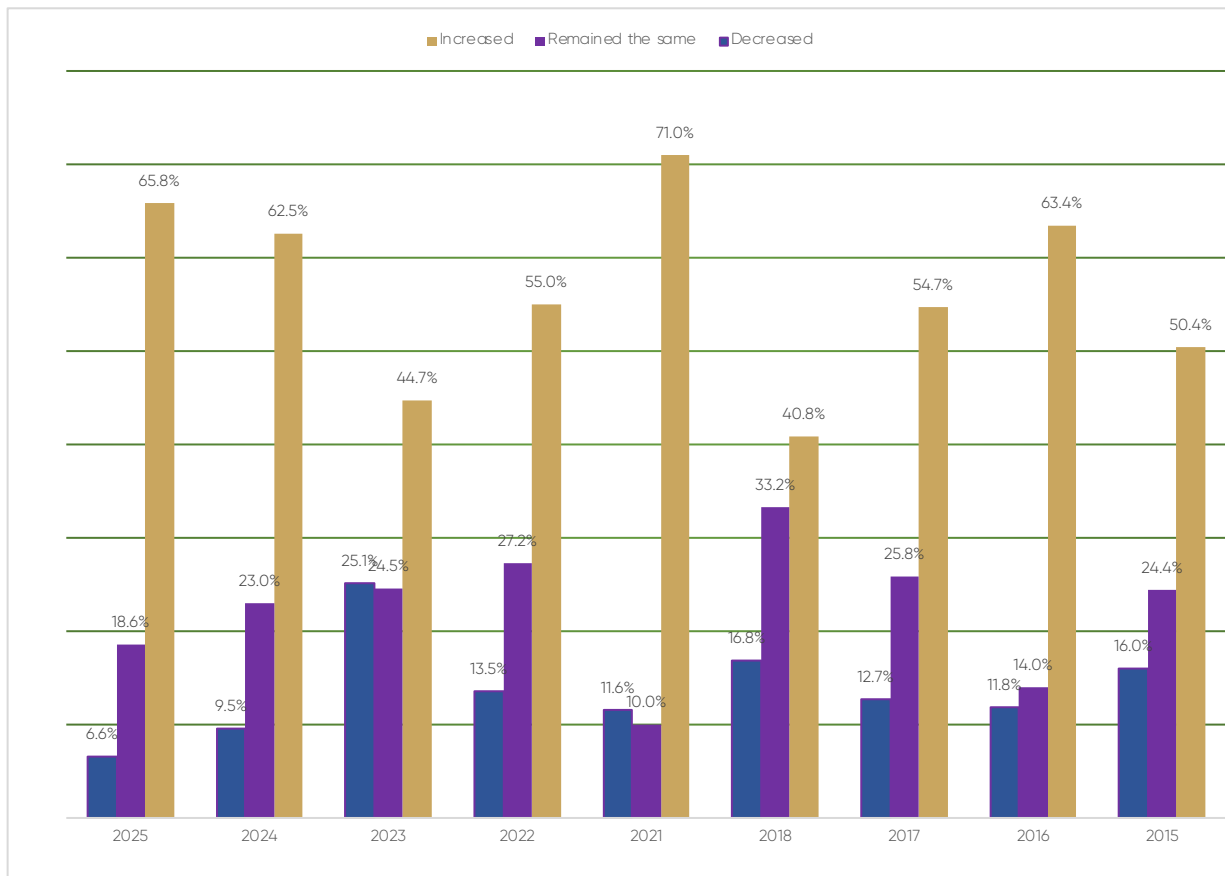


Figure 94: Perceptions on the level of corruption

3.11.11. Perceptions on the level of corruption compared to 12 months prior by Socio-Demographic Characteristics

Sixty Nine percent (68.5%) of the male respondents rate the level of corruption to have increased in the last 12 months prior to the survey, the proportion for women is 63.4 percent. Those aged over 65 years recorded a lower proportion of those rating corruption to have increased. More of urban dwellers rate corruption to be higher compared to the rural dwellers.



“In the past, there was a perception that corruption was more closely associated with men. But in today’s society, both men and women have been given equal opportunities, and it would be unfair to claim that one gender is more corrupt than the other. Corruption is not confined to gender.” (Nairobi FGD)

Table 20: Perceptions on the level of corruption

		Increased	Remained the same	Decreased	No Re-sponse	Do not know
Sex	Male	68.5	17.8	7.1	1.5	5.1
	Female	63.4	19.2	6.1	1.9	9.4
	Intersex	38.5	41.6	0.0	0.0	19.9
Age groups	18 - 24	66.1	18.6	7.3	1.4	6.6
	25 - 34	69.1	18.0	6.5	1.5	5.0
	35 - 49	65.7	18.8	7.3	1.8	6.4
	50 - 64	67.4	18.8	5.4	1.8	6.6
	65 +	56.4	18.7	6.0	2.4	16.5
Residence	Rural	61.4	20.4	7.5	2.0	8.7
	Urban	73.2	15.5	5.0	1.3	5.0
Employment status	Unemployed (Not working)	52.7	18.9	10.1	2.3	16.0
	Self Employed/Employed in family business or farm	58.6	20.0	9.0	1.6	10.8
	Employed in private sector	57.8	18.6	13.0	2.6	8.1
	Employed in National government /parastatal	61.4	18.5	13.5	0.2	6.3
	Employed by the County Government	63.6	15.9	11.9	1.5	7.0
	Employed in community sector e.g. church, NGO	58.6	25.0	7.0	1.9	7.4
	Retired	48.9	19.5	10.9	3.0	17.7
	Home Maker	45.3	22.1	12.0	1.8	18.9
	Other	57.6	18.8	12.6	2.8	8.2

Fifty five per cent (55.2%) of the respondent expect the levels of corruption in Kenya to increase 19.8 percent to remain the same according, while 10.1 percent the level of corruption to reduce. 2 percent expect no corruption while 13 percent said they do not know what would happen.

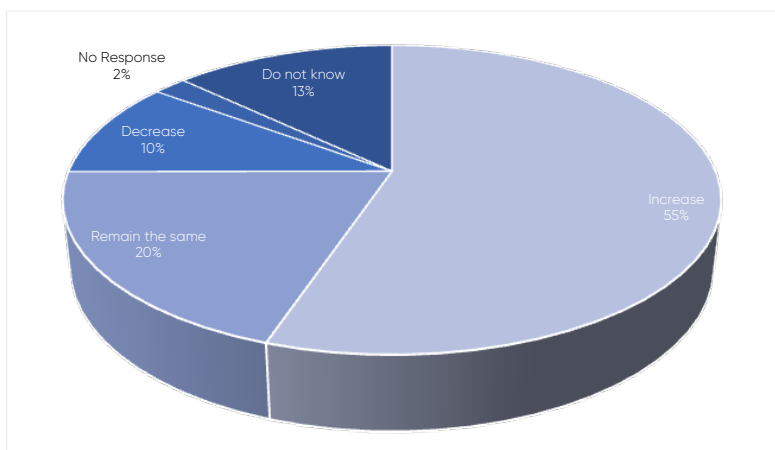


Figure 95: Expectations about levels of Corruption

Those who perceive that the fight against unethical practices and corruption is headed in the right direction in Kenya constituted 13.3 percent representing a drop from 16.7 in the 2024 Survey. Similarly, those who perceive that the fight against unethical practices and corruption is headed in the wrong direction decreased by 2.5 percentage points to 80.8 percent.

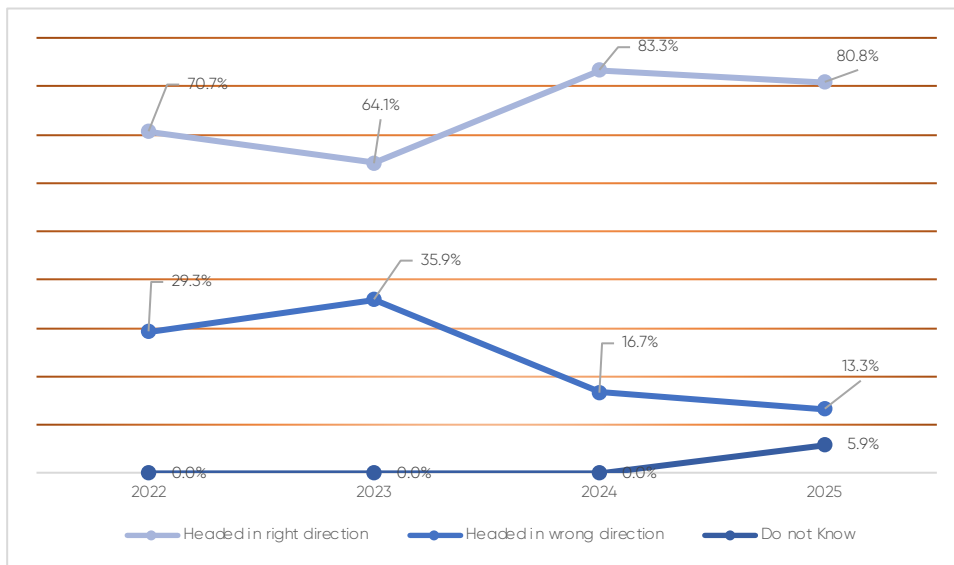


Figure 96: Perceptions about the direction of the fight against corruption

3.11.12. Perceptions about the direction of the fight against corruption by Socio-Demographic Characteristics

The Survey revealed not much difference in those who indicated that the fight against corruption is headed in the right direction by sex and age. However, more rural (15.2) dwellers indicate that the fight against corruption is headed in the right direction compared to the urban (10.3%) dwellers.

Table 21: Perceptions about the direction of the fight against corruption

		Headed in right direction	Headed in wrong direction	Don't Know
Sex	Male	13.5	82.6	3.9
	Female	13.2	79.0	7.8
	Intersex	0.0	100.0	0.0
Age in groups	18 - 24	13.5	81.2	5.3
	25 - 34	14.3	81.3	4.4
	35 - 49	13.5	81.4	5.1
	50 - 64	12.2	82.1	5.7
	65 +	12.6	75.2	12.2
Residence	Rural	15.2	78.0	6.8
	Urban	10.3	85.4	4.3

		Headed in right direction	Headed in wrong direction	Don't Know
Employment status	Unemployed (Not working)	12.8	79.5	7.7
	Self Employed/Em- ployed in family busi- ness or farm	12.6	82.4	4.9
	Employed in private sector	15.2	81.4	3.4
	Employed in National government /para- statal	17.1	80.9	2.0
	Employed by the County Government	15.1	80.3	4.6
	Employed in commu- nity sector e.g. church, NGO	7.5	89.6	2.9
	Retired	11.7	80.4	7.9
	Home Maker	17.1	75.1	7.8
	Other	11.2	84.3	4.5

Table 22 presents the reasons cited for the rating on the direction of the fight against unethical practices and corruption. Among those who said the fight against corruption is headed in the right direction, 36.4 per cent indicated that action is being taken against the corrupt individuals followed by 16.3 per cent who cited reduced level of corruption and bribery while 9.1 per cent cited increased awareness about corruption.

On the other hand, those who perceive the fight is headed in the wrong direction cited high levels of corruption (20.3%), poor leadership full of false promise (15.5%), and inaction against the corrupt (12.2%).

Table 22: Reasons for direction on the war against corruption

Reasons cited for right direction	%	Reasons cited for Wrong direction	%
Action is being taken against the corrupt Individuals	36.4	High levels of Corruption	20.3
Reduced level of corruption/Bribery	16.3	Poor Leadership full of false promises	15.5
Increased Awareness about Corruption	9.1	No action is being taken against the Corrupt	12.2
Government commitment to fight Cor- ruption	7.4	Corrupt government officials	7.9
Digitization of Services	4.1	Corruption is a way of life	7.7
Increased public participation	3.6	High level of discrimination and favoritism in public services	7.0
Acts of Restitution/Recovery of Assets	2.9	High cost of living that is constantly rising	5.1
Affordable and Better Services	2.9	Weak and ineffective anti-Corruption mea- sures and laws	2.9
Robust Anti-Corruption Laws in Place/ Measures to fight to Corruption in place	2.8	Delay and poor service delivery	2.0
Presence of EACC as a body to fight corruption	2.4	Government is not committed to fight corrup- tion	1.9

Reasons cited for right direction	%	Reasons cited for Wrong direction	%
Fair distribution of resources	1.8	High unemployment levels	1.9
Confidence in the existing institutions to fight Corruption	1.7	Lack of transparency and accountability	1.8
Increased accountability and transparency in the public sector	1.4	Minimal efforts put to fight corruption	1.5
Implementation of beneficial projects	1.3	Poor work ethics	1.4
Others	5.9	High levels of poverty	1.4
		Withdrawal of ongoing corruption cases	1.2
		Misplaced priorities by the government	1.2
		Lack of public participation in key government decisions	1.0
		Others	6.2

Respondents were also asked to indicate under what circumstances they can engage in unethical practices and corruption. Over 78 per cent said that they cannot engage in unethical conduct or corruption regardless of the circumstances. Among those who said they could engage in corruption, 9.7 per cent stated that such would happen only in special circumstances, 8.5 per cent if the opportunity presents itself, and 3.1 per cent were undecided.

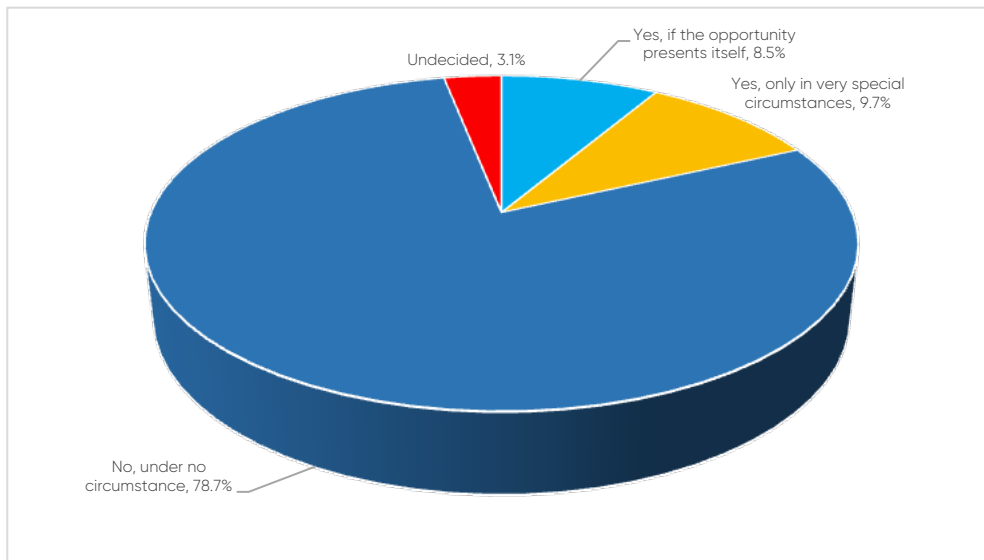


Figure 97: Engaging in corruption given an opportunity

3.11.13. Engaging in corruption given an opportunity by Socio-Economic Characteristics

There were marked differences by various socio demographic characteristics among those who would engage in corruption given an opportunity as illustrated in Table 23.

Table 23: Engaging in corruption given an opportunity by Socio-Economic Characteristics

		Yes, if the opportunity presents itself	Yes, only in very special circumstances	No, under no circumstance	DK
Sex	Male	10.9	10.3	76.4	2.4
	Female	6.3	9.0	80.8	3.8
	Intersex	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0

		Yes, if the opportunity presents itself	Yes, only in very special circumstances	No, under no circumstance	DK
Age groups	18 - 24	12.3	10.8	73.9	3.0
	25 - 34	9.7	11.9	75.8	2.6
	35 - 49	9.3	9.6	78.0	3.2
	50 - 64	6.4	9.7	81.4	2.5
	65 +	3.6	3.8	87.6	5.1
Residence	Rural	7.4	8.7	80.6	3.3
	Urban	10.4	11.3	75.5	2.8
Marital status	Single (never married, not cohabiting)	11.9	11.7	73.6	2.8
	Married Monogamous	8.2	9.4	79.6	2.7
	Married Polygamous	6.5	10.3	76.7	6.5
	Married Polyandrous	0.0	0.0	93.3	6.7
	Separated	9.3	11.0	77.1	2.6
	Divorced	9.6	13.3	74.2	2.8
	Widowed	3.8	5.6	85.3	5.3
Religion	Christianity	8.5	9.7	79.2	2.7
	Islam	8.5	9.6	77.1	4.8
	Hindu	0.0	6.3	58.6	35.0
	Indigenous Traditional Faiths	9.6	7.3	60.0	23.0
	Atheist/Agnostic	17.2	11.1	57.4	14.3
	Other	0.0	0.0	57.0	43.0
	Prefer Not to say	11.7	10.2	70.8	7.3
	Don't Know	8.8	0.0	61.9	29.3
Household status of respondent	Head of household	9.0	9.6	78.4	3.0
	Spouse	6.3	8.7	81.3	3.7
	Child	10.7	12.0	74.8	2.5
	Other relatives	8.1	11.8	78.5	1.6
	Non-relatives	11.9	7.9	73.9	6.2
Highest education level attained	No education	5.3	6.1	81.4	7.2
	Informal schooling only	4.3	9.9	81.7	4.0
	Primary education	8.2	9.3	79.7	2.8
	Secondary education	9.4	10.4	78.7	1.5
	College	11.0	13.1	73.5	2.3
	Undergraduate/Bachelors	12.0	11.1	74.5	2.4
	Graduate/Master degree	8.4	7.3	84.3	0.0
	Post Graduate/PHD	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0

		Yes, if the opportunity presents itself	Yes, only in very special circumstances	No, under no circumstance	DK
Employment status	Unemployed (Not working)	9.5	9.7	76.3	4.5
	Self Employed/ Employed in family business or farm	8.0	10.5	79.2	2.2
	Employed in private sector	12.9	11.1	74.9	1.0
	Employed in National government /para-statal	8.8	9.9	79.3	2.1
	Employed by the County Government	7.7	11.0	80.2	1.0
	Employed in community sector e.g. church, NGO	11.6	10.5	75.1	2.8
	Retired	3.4	3.8	89.7	3.1
	Home Maker	6.6	5.3	83.4	4.7
	Other	10.0	18.2	69.3	2.5
	County Code	Mombasa	10.4	18.6	69.1
Kwale		12.8	13.3	66.8	7.1
Kilifi		3.7	7.3	73.2	15.8
Tana River		4.8	8.2	79.1	7.8
Lamu		5.1	13.7	74.2	7.0
Taita Taveta		2.5	4.5	74.7	18.3
Garissa		4.0	1.2	90.5	4.3
Wajir		10.0	1.5	83.6	4.9
Mandera		8.8	22.4	62.3	6.5
Marsabit		11.5	11.6	75.3	1.6
Isiolo		8.7	3.9	85.1	2.3
Meru		10.9	9.1	78.6	1.3
Tharaka Nithi		17.0	10.9	71.4	0.7
Embu		3.7	6.0	84.3	5.9
Kitui		5.6	17.0	76.4	1.0
Machakos		8.4	10.4	74.2	7.0
Makueni		3.3	18.9	77.8	0.0
Nyandarua		14.5	0.8	83.6	1.2
Nyeri		10.0	2.2	87.5	0.4
Kirinyaga		9.3	2.0	88.2	0.4
Murang'a		6.1	15.9	78.1	0.0
Kiambu		9.4	13.2	75.3	2.1
Turkana		2.1	5.5	88.3	4.1
West Pokot		2.5	10.2	86.9	0.4
Samburu		3.3	1.0	92.4	3.2
Trans Nzoia		8.8	7.2	83.2	0.8
Uasin Gishu	5.9	11.2	81.8	1.1	
Elgeyo-Marakwet	4.6	5.7	84.6	5.1	

		Yes, if the opportunity presents itself	Yes, only in very special circumstances	No, under no circumstance	DK
County Code	Nandi	11.0	0.6	88.4	0.1
	Baringo	3.2	5.3	86.0	5.5
	Laikipia	1.5	0.3	97.6	0.6
	Nakuru	18.8	2.2	78.4	0.6
	Narok	7.6	3.7	79.1	9.6
	Kajiado	6.2	22.2	71.3	0.3
	Kericho	10.6	1.5	87.5	0.5
	Bomet	6.7	1.7	82.0	9.7
	Kakamega	6.7	13.6	79.3	0.4
	Vihiga	8.5	17.9	73.0	0.6
	Bungoma	9.5	9.5	80.9	0.0
	Busia	3.0	13.7	83.2	0.1
	Siaya	7.9	8.0	76.5	7.6
	Kisumu	6.5	5.6	80.9	7.0
	Homabay	12.3	22.0	65.2	0.5
	Migori	7.2	20.8	64.6	7.4
	Kisii	9.5	3.0	87.6	0.0
	Nyamira	12.5	1.8	85.3	0.5
	Nairobi	9.8	10.4	76.8	3.0

Figure 98 presents the circumstances under which one would feel right to engage in corruption. The top circumstances stated are ; assistance to be employed (56.7%), 33.8 percent if it's the only option, 26.1 percent to avoid police arrest, 22 percent to access medical services, 15.5 percent to get the service quickly while 14.8 percent if the service is in high demand.

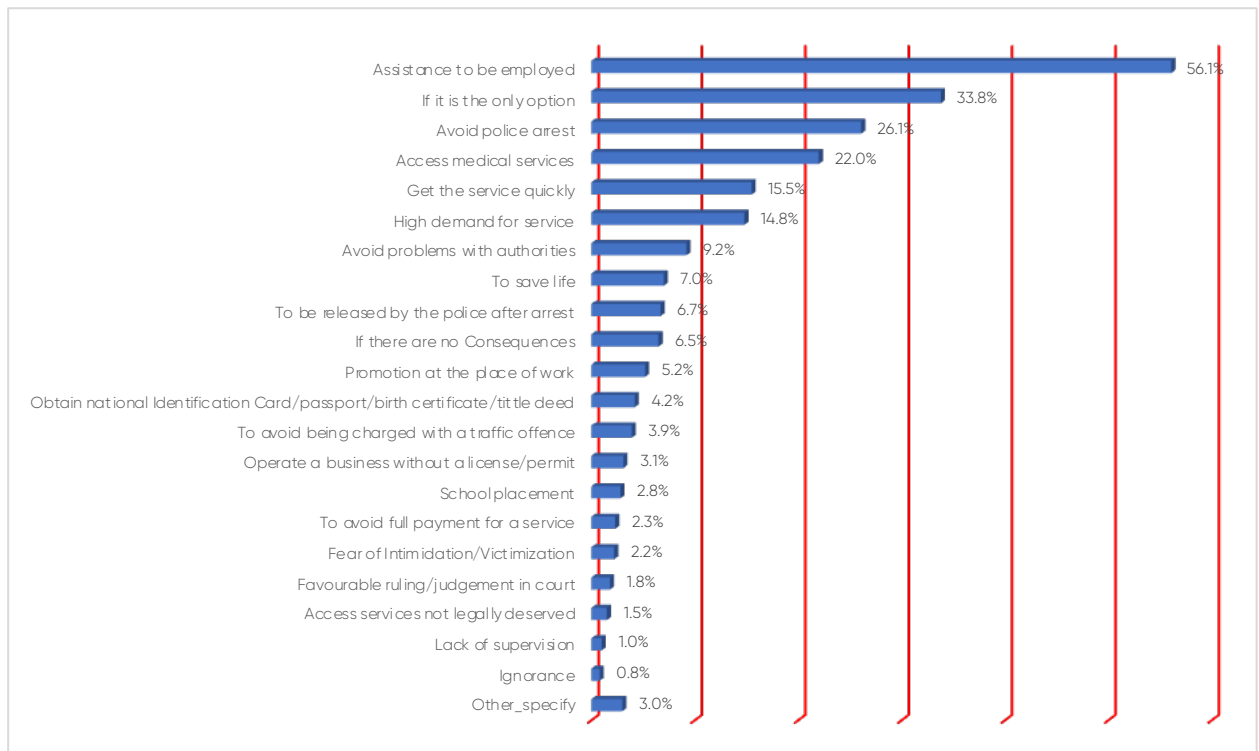


Figure 98: Circumstances for engaging in corruption

The National Government Ministry perceived to have most widespread corruption in Kenya is Ministries of Interior and National Administration cited by 45.1 percent of the respondents, Health (17.6%), Education (7.1%), National Treasury and Economic Planning (5.3%), Public Service, Gender and Affirmative Action (3.9%), Defence (3.8%), Roads and Transport (3.5%), Lands, Public Works, Housing and Urban Development (3.1%), Labour and Social Protection (2.7%), Agriculture and Livestock Development (2.2%), Water and Sanitation (1.0%), Foreign and Diaspora Affairs (0.9%), Youth Affairs, Sports and The Arts (0.6%), Trade, Investments and Industry (0.5%), Energy and Petroleum (0.3%), Co-operatives and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Development (0.3%), Information, Communications and The Digital Economy (0.2%), Environment and Forestry (0.2%), Tourism, Wildlife and Heritage (0.1%), Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs (0.1%), East African Community (EAC), The ASALS And Regional Development (0.1%), and None (1.3%).

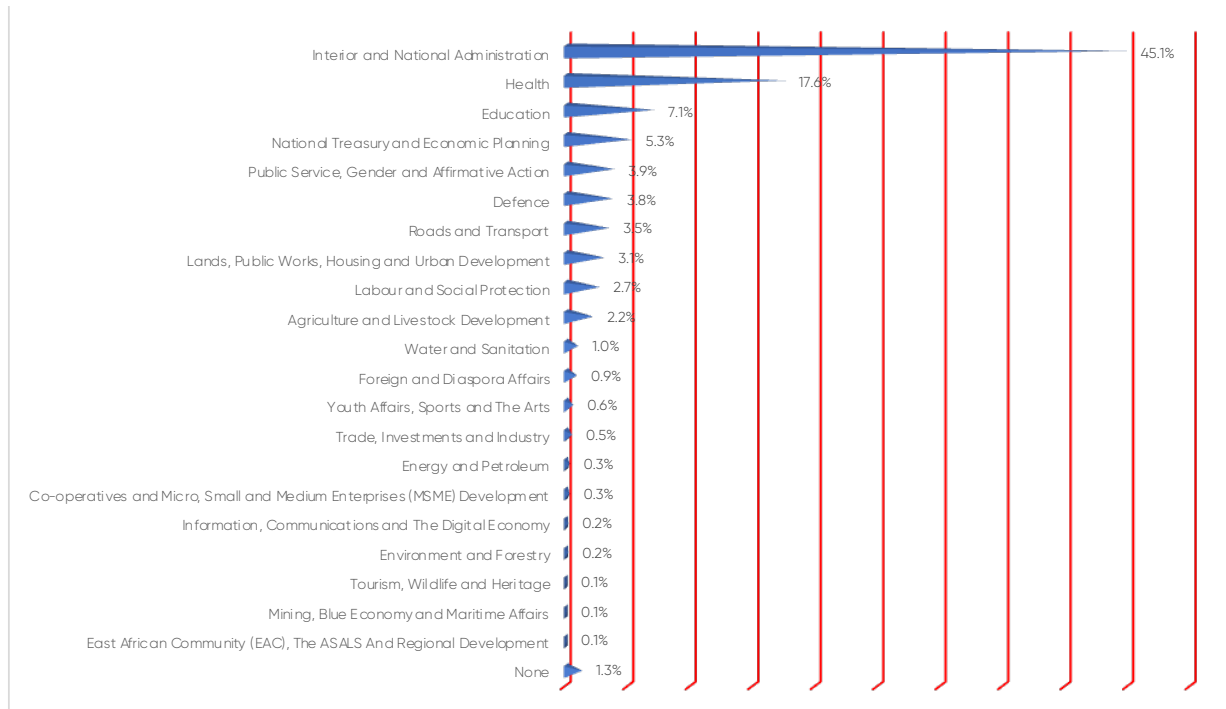


Figure 99: Ministries perceived with the most widespread corruption

The National Government Department or Agency perceived to have most widespread corruption is the National Police Service cited by 45.8 percent of the respondents, Social Health Authority (4.5 percent), Registration of Persons (4.3%), the National Treasury (3.7%), Office of the President (3.1%) and Directorate of Immigration (3%).

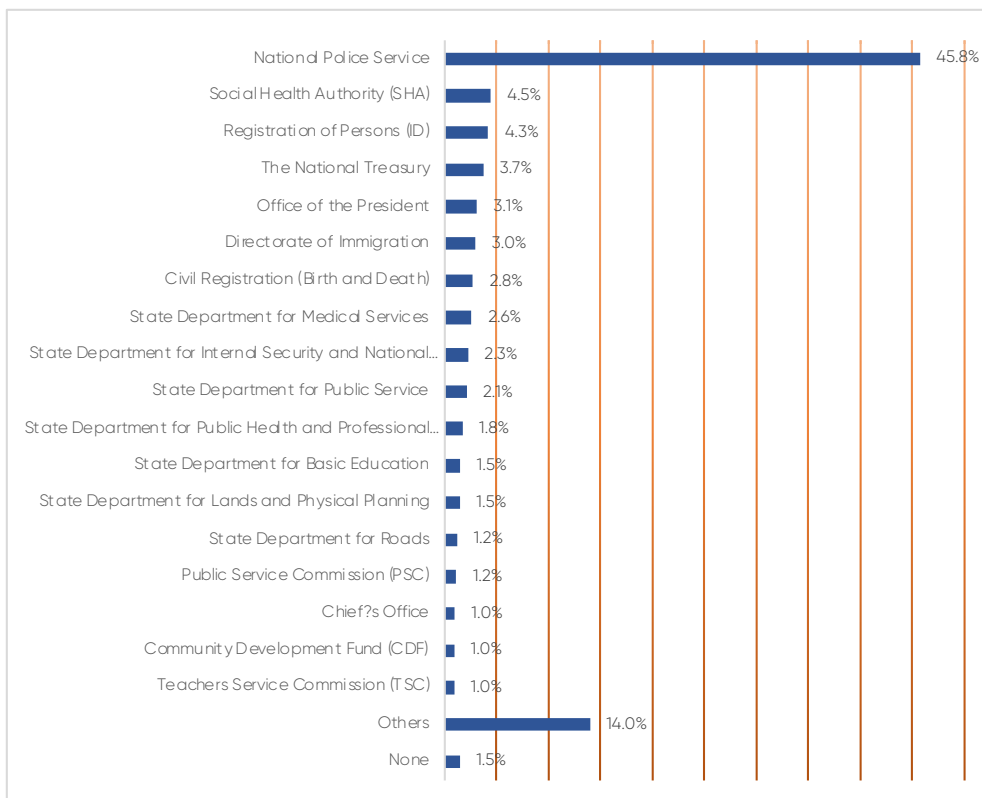


Figure 100: Government department or agency perceived to have the most widespread corruption

The County Government Department perceived to have most widespread corruption is County Health (31.8%), County Finance and economic planning (6.3%), County enforcement and inspectorate (6%), Governor's office (5.7%), County Education (4.6%), County Transport (4.4%) and County Executive (4%).

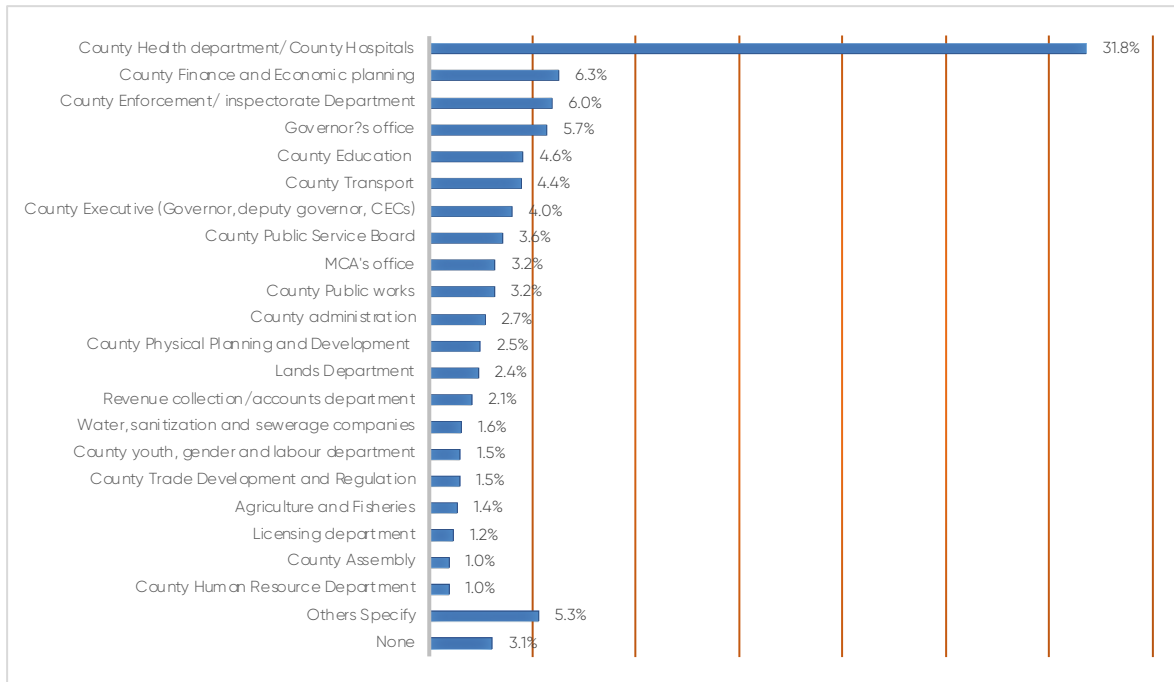


Figure 101: County department perceived to have the most widespread corruption

Respondents largely singled out greed (52.9%) as the main cause of corruption in public service. Other causes cited are lack of integrity (6.1%), culture (normalization) of corruption (4.9%), poverty (4.2%), poor pay (2.7%) and tone of corruption from the top (2.7%).

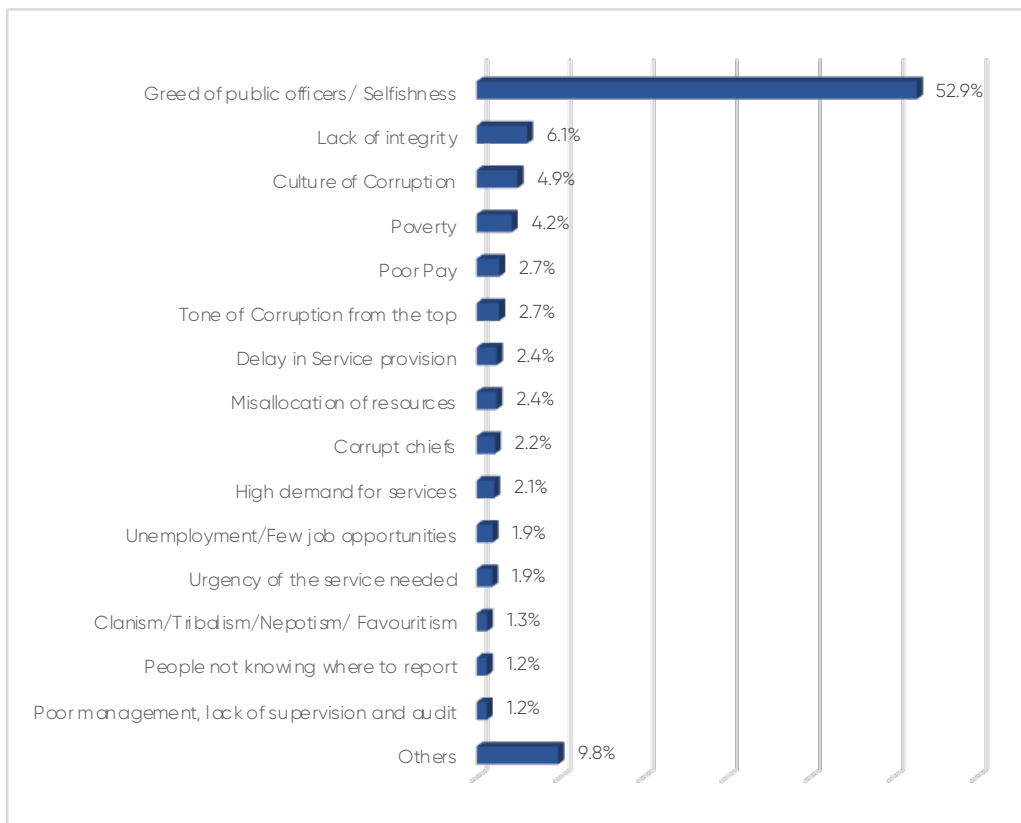


Figure 102: Causes of Corruption



"When I reflect on the root causes of corruption in Kenya, one major factor is tribalism. When electing leaders, many don't ask what the candidate will do for the community. The only question is: Is he one of us? Is he from my tribe? No one asks: Will he bring us water? What has he achieved before? What will he do differently? Instead, people accept handouts and say, "He is ours," and that is enough." (Nairobi FGD)

"Instead of giving opportunities to capable youth, leaders give them to relatives or tribesmen. This leads to mismatched roles for example, someone who is a good singer is given the job of a football coach, while the real footballer is sidelined. The wrong people end up in the wrong jobs, and the community loses." (Nairobi FGD)

3.11.14. Causes of Corruption by Selected Demographic Characteristics

Analysis of the top five causes of corruption are presented in Table 24 shows that there are no significant variations in percent distributions by sex, age and place of residence. More respondents in Christianity (49.2%) than Islam (43.2%) cited greed as a cause of corruption. By employment status, slightly less of those employed in National (42.8%) and County government (41%) cited greed as a cause of corruption compared to the other categories in employment.

Table 24: Causes of Corruption by demographics

		Greed of public officers/ Selfishness	Lack of integrity	Culture of Corruption	Poverty	Tone of Corruption from the top	Poor Pay
Sex	Male	49.5	5.7	4.8	3.7	2.7	2.5
	Female	47.7	5.4	4.2	4.1	2.3	2.5
	Intersex	66.3	0.0	26.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Age groups	18 - 24	49.2	4.4	3.6	3.9	2.4	2.4
	25 - 34	48.7	5.6	4.1	3.8	2.7	2.7
	35 - 49	48.0	5.7	4.9	3.3	2.3	2.9
	50 - 64	49.6	6.0	5.1	4.2	2.5	2.2
	65 +	47.7	5.6	4.6	5.1	2.2	1.5
Residence	Rural	48.9	5.2	4.2	4.4	2.3	2.2
	Urban	48.1	6.2	5.1	3.1	2.8	3.0
Marital status	Single (never married, not cohabiting)	49.4	5.2	3.9	3.5	2.5	2.2
	Married Monogamous	48.8	5.5	5.0	4.2	2.5	2.9
	Married Polygamous	41.6	4.1	3.9	4.0	2.1	1.3
	Married Polyandrous	28.1	0.0	0.0	3.1	0.0	0.0
	Separated	51.8	7.5	4.1	2.9	2.7	1.4
	Divorced	46.9	7.6	3.1	1.0	2.8	2.3
	Widowed	47.6	6.0	4.0	4.3	2.4	1.8

		Greed of public officers/ Selfishness	Lack of integrity	Culture of Corruption	Poverty	Tone of Corruption from the top	Poor Pay
Religion	Christianity	49.2	5.4	4.6	4.2	2.6	2.5
	Islam	43.2	7.7	4.2	1.7	1.7	2.1
	Hindu	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.0
	Indigenous Traditional Faiths	45.4	4.2	7.8	0.7	0.5	3.7
	Atheist/Agnostic	56.8	4.8	1.8	0.5	1.3	0.3
	Other	51.9	0.0	19.2	0.0	0.0	28.9
Household status of respondent	Head of household	49.4	5.6	4.7	3.8	2.8	2.3
	Spouse	45.8	5.6	4.3	4.3	1.8	3.2
	Child	50.0	5.3	3.8	4.1	2.1	2.6
	Other relatives	49.3	5.5	4.8	3.2	1.9	2.3
	Non-relatives	41.9	3.4	2.0	2.3	0.3	4.3
Highest education level attained	No education	43.8	5.0	3.8	4.0	1.9	1.6
	Informal schooling only	37.8	9.6	3.7	2.6	1.2	1.4
	Primary education	50.4	5.3	4.2	4.0	2.3	2.8
	Secondary education	48.7	5.6	4.8	4.3	3.0	2.7
	College	50.5	5.6	5.0	3.0	2.6	2.6
	Undergraduate/Bachelors	53.8	6.5	6.3	2.5	2.5	1.8
	Graduate/Master degree	33.0	15.9	4.0	7.4	1.4	2.5
	Post Graduate/PHD	50.4	4.4	26.4	0.0	10.1	8.7
Employment status	Unemployed (Not working)	49.2	5.4	3.8	3.5	2.4	1.9
	Self Employed/ Employed in family business or farm	49.4	5.8	4.9	3.6	2.4	2.5
	Employed in private sector	46.7	4.6	6.3	3.8	3.1	4.7
	Employed in National government /parastatal	42.8	7.5	4.2	5.2	2.4	3.2
	Employed by the County Government	41.0	5.6	5.6	4.1	4.3	5.5
	Employed in community sector e.g. church, NGO	45.7	6.9	2.7	2.3	6.3	0.8
	Retired	50.8	5.5	4.0	6.2	3.0	1.9
	Home Maker	49.1	5.7	3.7	5.5	2.0	2.6
	Other	37.3	2.0	5.2	2.8	0.4	0.9

		Greed of public officers/ Selfishness	Lack of integrity	Culture of Corruption	Poverty	Tone of Corruption from the top	Poor Pay
Income per month (Kenya shillings)	0 - 9,999	51.5	5.2	4.1	4.2	2.4	2.5
	10,000 - 14,999	44.8	6.2	5.0	4.3	3.2	2.4
	15,000 - 19,999	43.5	5.0	4.5	2.7	3.0	1.9
	20,000 - 24,999	43.8	7.1	4.6	2.8	2.3	2.5
	25,000 - 29,999	43.6	7.3	7.6	3.0	3.4	1.7
	30,000 - 49,999	41.4	8.2	4.7	3.1	2.3	4.1
	50,000 - 99,999	46.0	10.9	4.8	3.2	1.5	6.4
	100,000 and above	31.7	15.8	9.9	4.1	1.5	3.8
County Code	Mombasa	50.6	3.4	5.8	2.5	4.0	5.5
	Kwale	50.8	1.9	6.2	2.6	2.6	3.4
	Kilifi	59.3	6.1	3.7	2.1	0.7	5.4
	Tana River	39.6	6.7	4.4	2.3	2.4	1.3
	Lamu	51.1	2.6	6.0	0.0	2.7	3.2
	Taita Taveta	60.0	6.0	5.5	0.5	0.9	3.9
	Garissa	40.5	7.1	4.2	1.0	2.7	0.6
	Wajir	38.5	9.2	7.1	1.7	2.5	1.2
	Mandera	36.7	14.8	0.7	0.1	0.2	0.0
	Marsabit	47.2	9.2	4.3	3.2	0.7	0.0
	Isiolo	52.0	13.7	5.5	0.3	0.0	0.0
	Meru	69.5	3.6	6.4	1.8	1.7	3.0
	Tharaka Nithi	75.7	1.4	2.7	2.3	2.8	3.7
	Embu	21.3	4.9	7.3	4.3	2.5	2.1
	Kitui	37.8	2.6	3.9	3.5	4.2	0.0
	Machakos	26.5	6.1	6.5	2.8	0.6	4.3
	Makueni	41.6	5.7	2.2	6.2	1.9	2.5
	Nyandarua	77.2	2.5	2.0	5.7	0.9	2.9
	Nyeri	56.4	5.6	4.2	8.9	2.4	3.0
	Kirinyaga	52.0	3.3	4.1	3.7	6.9	3.2
	Murang'a	40.2	2.0	3.6	4.6	2.0	2.2
	Kiambu	52.0	6.3	4.0	2.3	0.9	0.1
	Turkana	32.3	6.2	0.7	9.4	0.9	0.8
	West Pokot	37.0	4.2	4.0	3.5	0.5	0.9
	Samburu	40.4	9.4	3.9	1.4	3.0	1.2
	Trans Nzoia	46.1	5.3	3.4	3.5	6.4	4.4
	Uasin Gishu	46.3	5.6	5.0	6.3	4.2	3.3
	Elgeyo-Marakwet	17.6	5.3	9.9	2.8	1.7	2.7
	Nandi	65.1	3.2	1.8	10.7	0.5	2.1
	Baringo	20.9	6.5	14.1	2.0	0.3	2.8
	Laikipia	61.3	7.6	1.6	0.3	3.0	0.5
	Nakuru	63.9	3.2	3.1	7.3	0.4	4.5
Narok	46.1	4.4	6.3	3.3	0.5	0.6	
	Kajiado	36.9	3.3	2.3	7.6	3.9	2.3

		Greed of public officers/ Selfishness	Lack of integrity	Culture of Corruption	Poverty	Tone of Corruption from the top	Poor Pay
County Code	Kericho	67.0	4.2	2.2	5.2	0.5	1.5
	Bomet	38.5	4.2	2.7	8.4	1.9	0.9
	Kakamega	68.3	3.4	3.3	1.4	4.2	0.7
	Vihiga	65.3	8.5	3.5	2.0	1.3	1.3
	Bungoma	64.3	4.0	3.3	2.8	3.2	4.3
	Busia	58.6	8.1	3.7	5.6	2.6	5.1
	Siaya	38.0	8.4	6.0	5.8	5.2	4.3
	Kisumu	46.2	10.2	3.7	3.7	5.3	2.1
	Homabay	26.9	4.4	1.9	6.1	1.0	2.0
	Migori	31.8	3.4	2.1	2.6	0.7	1.3
	Kisii	48.7	9.4	8.2	8.9	0.4	1.6
	Nyamira	53.9	5.8	9.7	3.6	4.4	0.2
	Nairobi	43.9	7.7	6.1	1.7	4.6	3.1

3.11.15. Effects of Corruption

The main stated effect of corruption is increase in poverty levels manifested by poor living standards (21%), hampered economic growth (16.8%) and increase in the cost of living (13.6%) as shown in figure 103.

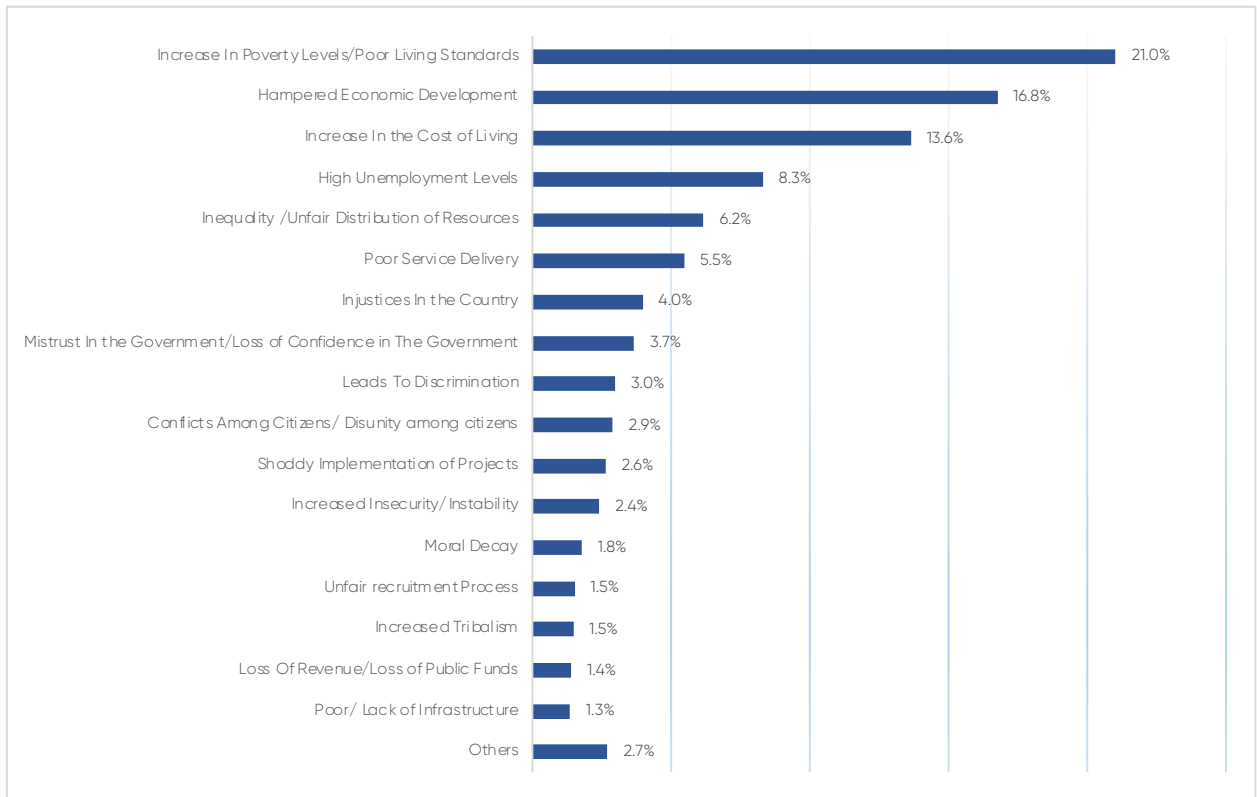


Figure 103: Effects of Corruption



"Another effect of corruption in our society is that it leads to conflict among citizens due to different political ideologies and also wide difference in social-economic status. So you find that those who have looted public funds are very rich and welcomed to the society as opposed to the seriously hardworking and honest citizens." (Uasin Gishu FGD)

The Survey revealed that 48.5 percent of the respondents would feel comfortable telling a family member if they paid a bribe to receive medical services at a hospital. Similarly, 42.7 per cent and 43.3 percent would feel comfortable telling a family member if they paid a bribe to be hired in a new job and if they had to pay police to avoid paying a fine, respectively. However, 42.1 per cent of the respondents would tell nobody if they had to provide sexual favors to a public or private official to receive some preferential treatment (e.g. to a teacher or hiring manager).

Table 25: Situations for bribe payment

Situations	Family Members	A close friend	A colleague or acquaintance	Nobody	Don't know
If you had to pay a bribe to receive medical services at a hospital	48.5%	16.9%	3.2%	26.2%	5.3%
If you had to pay a bribe to be hired in a new job	42.7%	20.0%	3.4%	28.1%	5.8%
If you had to pay a bribe to the police to avoid paying a fine	43.5%	20.1%	4.0%	26.9%	5.5%
If you had to provide sexual favors to a public or private official to receive some preferential treatment (e.g. to a teacher or hiring manager)	28.7%	18.5%	2.8%	42.1%	7.9%

The police ranked first to be institutions where corruption was perceived to be taking place very frequently by 66.7 percent of the respondents. This was followed by the County Assemblies (43.1%), National Assembly (41.4%), Law Courts (35.7%), Senate (32.6%), Lands Registry (31.7%) and NTSA (30.2%).

Table 26: Perceived Frequency of Corruption in Public Institutions

Institution	Very frequent	Fairly frequent	Not very frequent but not unusual	Never happens	Don't know
Police	66.7%	16.2%	5.1%	2.4%	9.6%
County Assemblies	43.1%	23.5%	9.0%	4.2%	20.3%
National Assembly	41.4%	21.7%	9.5%	4.9%	22.5%
Law courts	35.7%	23.3%	12.1%	5.2%	23.6%
Senate	32.6%	25.5%	11.4%	5.4%	25.1%
Lands Registry	31.7%	22.9%	13.2%	6.4%	25.8%
National Transport and Safety Authority	30.2%	21.9%	13.3%	4.1%	30.5%
County Public Hospitals	28.5%	29.9%	16.8%	12.0%	12.9%
Civil Registration (Deaths and Births)	27.7%	25.7%	15.1%	11.0%	20.5%
Chiefs/village elders/ Nyumba Kumi	27.7%	23.1%	16.8%	20.9%	11.5%
Registrar of Persons (ID)	25.7%	25.2%	16.4%	12.0%	20.6%
Kenya Power and Lighting Company (KPLC)	24.8%	23.5%	15.4%	11.2%	25.1%
Kenya Revenue Authority	24.6%	22.0%	14.0%	7.8%	31.7%
Immigration Department	24.4%	20.0%	12.8%	5.5%	37.3%

Institution	Very frequent	Fairly frequent	Not very frequent but not unusual	Never happens	Don't know
Kenya Defense Forces	24.1%	19.4%	14.6%	10.8%	31.2%
National Referral Hospitals	21.9%	26.9%	18.4%	11.8%	21.1%
National Roads Agencies (KeNHA, KURA, KERRA)	19.8%	21.8%	15.5%	5.3%	37.6%
Public Universities/Colleges	18.3%	21.7%	18.7%	13.5%	27.7%
Public Secondary Schools	16.5%	22.1%	22.2%	21.5%	17.6%
Public Primary Schools	16.3%	21.2%	21.9%	23.9%	16.6%

3.11.16. Bribe demand behavior by age of public official

The Survey shows that while dealing with a public official, 60.1 per cent expected no difference in bribe demand behavior between younger and older officials. However, 27.2 per cent indicated that older officials are more likely to ask for a bribe and 16.2 per cent said it is younger official who are more likely to ask for a bribe.

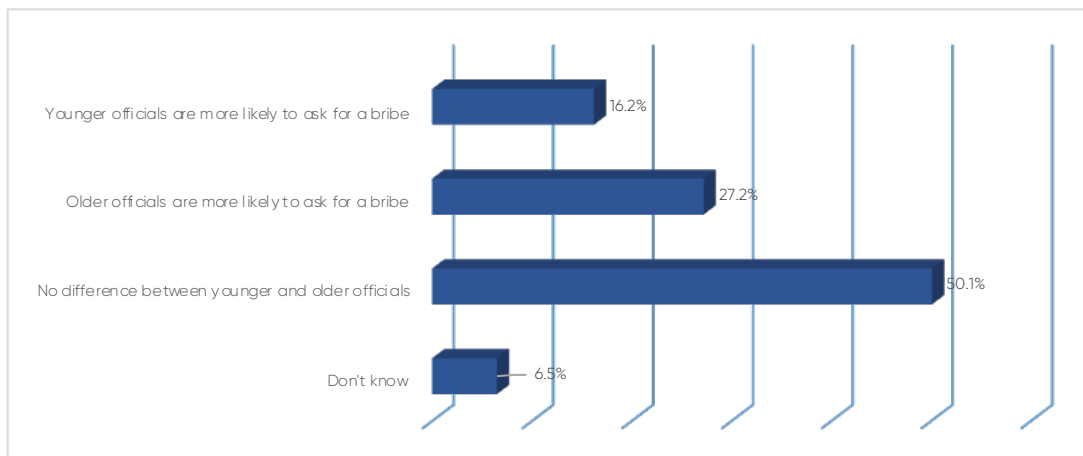


Figure 104: Bribe demand behaviour by age of public official

3.11.17. Bribe Demand Behavior by Sex of Public Official

Two thirds of respondents said that there is no difference between men and women in terms of bribery demands behavior when dealing with a public official. However, 26.1 percent said men are more likely to ask for a bribe and 3.9 percent said it is women who are more likely to ask for a bribe as shown in figure 105

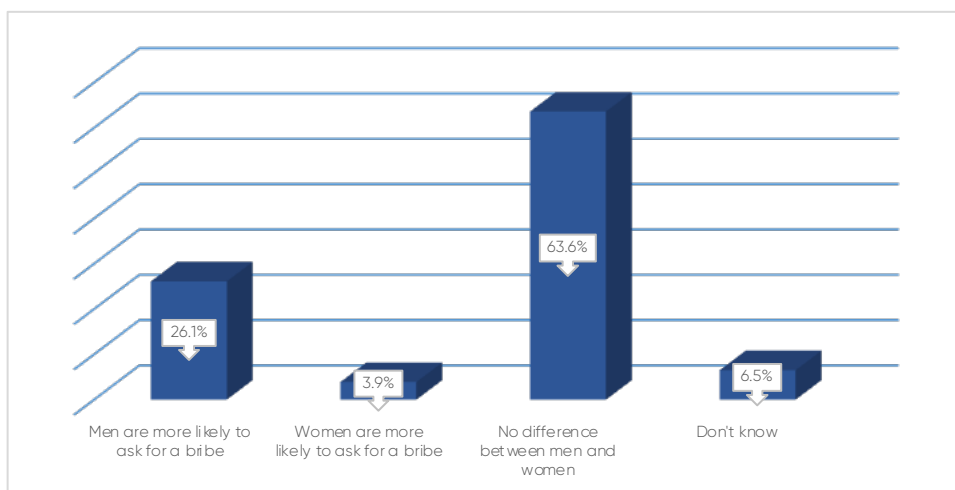


Figure 105: Bribe demand behaviour by sex of public official

3.11.18. Reasons for bribe demands by men

Fifty Six per cent of the respondents stated that men are more likely to ask for bribe 'because they are less afraid', 46.5 percent. "because they have less integrity than women", (43.3%) 'because they have to provide for the family, more than women' and 'because they are more likely to have jobs that may involve bribery than women', respectively . However, 91.6 percent of the respondents disagreed that men are more likely to ask for bribe 'because they make less money than women'.

Table 27: Reasons for bribe demands by men

Reasons for bribe demands	Yes	No
Because they are less afraid to ask for bribes	56.1%	43.9%
Because they have less integrity than women	46.5%	53.5%
Because they have to provide for the family, more than women	43.3%	56.7%
Because they are more likely to have jobs that may involve bribery than women	43.3%	56.7%
Because it is more accepted for them to ask for bribes than women	28.0%	72.0%
Because they are more protected if someone reports them	27.0%	73.0%
Because they make less money than women	8.4%	91.6%

3.11.19. Reasons for bribe demands by women

The survey findings shows that women are more likely to ask for bribes 'because they have less integrity than men' (35%), 'because they are more protected if someone reports them' (34%) and 'because it is more accepted for them to ask for bribes than men' (31.2%).

Table 28: Reasons for bribe demands by women

Reasons for bribe demands	Yes	No
Because they have less integrity than men	35.0%	65.0%
Because they are more protected if someone reports them	34.0%	66.0%
Because it is more accepted for them to ask for bribes than men	31.2%	68.8%
Because they make less money than men	29.7%	70.3%
Because they are less afraid to ask for bribes	29.2%	70.8%
Because they are more likely to have jobs that may involve bribery than men	28.0%	72.0%
Because they have to provide for the family, more than men	27.2%	72.8%



"This issue of rural verses urban I think I will be of contrary opinion, cause when you go to the rural, the people are mostly exploited out of ignorance, they are exploited, and when it comes to urban the people have deep pockets and they easily bribe, it's fifty fifty, the rural are exploited while the urban are the ones oiling it." (Nyeri FGD)

"And it seems people know corruption is bad, because, for example, if you are somewhere and they hear about anti-corruption, they want to run away. So, they know corruption is bad, but they also believe it is the easiest thing to get what they want." (Kisumu FGD)



"The youths joined work recently and you already see them driving big carsso you end up asking yourself what you are doing with your life, ...even if you didn't have that perception (corruption) and the opportunity presented to you in terms of temptations, then you are easily swayed. But if the narrative could be changed in terms of more awareness, more attitude change, more slogans and campaigns, I think it would change the mindset."

(Mombasa FGD)

"Actually, there's a statement that says maybe most people are corrupted. The only thing they've not done is they've not gotten an opportunity." **(Nakuru FGD)**

"Our African cultures... I'll speak from a Western Kenya perspective. Traditionally, when you visit someone or receive a service, you show appreciation with a gift. It was done in good faith, but now it's become a problem because people are abusing this tradition. There's nothing inherently bad about appreciating a teacher's work, but when it becomes a demand rather than voluntary appreciation, that's when it becomes corrupt." **(Kakamega FGD)**

"....if a society is grounded in integrity, then people will no longer idolize individuals who amass wealth through questionable means. At present, corruption has been so normalized that even small acts of bribery often fail to register as wrongdoing. One may give a few shillings to expedite service and walk away without the sense that anything corrupt has taken place." **(Nairobi FGD)**

"Whether in public or private institutions—people often feel compelled to give something extra, perhaps a small gift or token, in order to access the service or to have it delivered more quickly. This culture of informal payments not only entrenches corruption but also makes it seem acceptable or even necessary in daily life." **(Nakuru FGD)**

"Yes, like it's now my turn; I have to get as much as I can so that tomorrow my child does not suffer; because if my dad is nowhere up there and there are issue of nepotism, tribalism, I just got there through fortune then I will want to safeguard my generation." **(Mombasa FGD)**

"We have this saying - when you steal, steal enough to pay as many people as possible. It's like corruption has become the best business you can engage in." **(Kakamega FGD)**

"Lifestyles today have become highly competitive. For example, if you are a CEO, you may compare yourself with the person who previously held that position—someone who now owns numerous plots, buildings, or even airplanes. This creates pressure to measure up to that standard. I often wonder why the wealthy continue to grow richer through dubious means, particularly corruption. It seems to stem from both competition and class. At some point, you may feel comfortable sitting in a certain hotel, yet others may consider such spaces beyond their class. Once people place themselves in a particular social class, maintaining that lifestyle demands continuous resources, often driving them to seek corrupt ways of sustaining their status." **(Nyeri FGD)**

3.12. GENDER DIFFERENCE IN SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON UNETHICAL PRACTICES AND CORRUPTION

3.12.1. Sources of Information

Radio was identified as the most common (70%) source of information on unethical practices and corruption in the 12 months prior to the survey. Other sources are y Television (60.3%), word of mouth (57.9%), social media (43.6%) and place of worship (37.2%). Seven per cent of survey respondents stated Information, education and communication materials from the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission as a source of information on unethical practices and corruption as shown in figure 106.

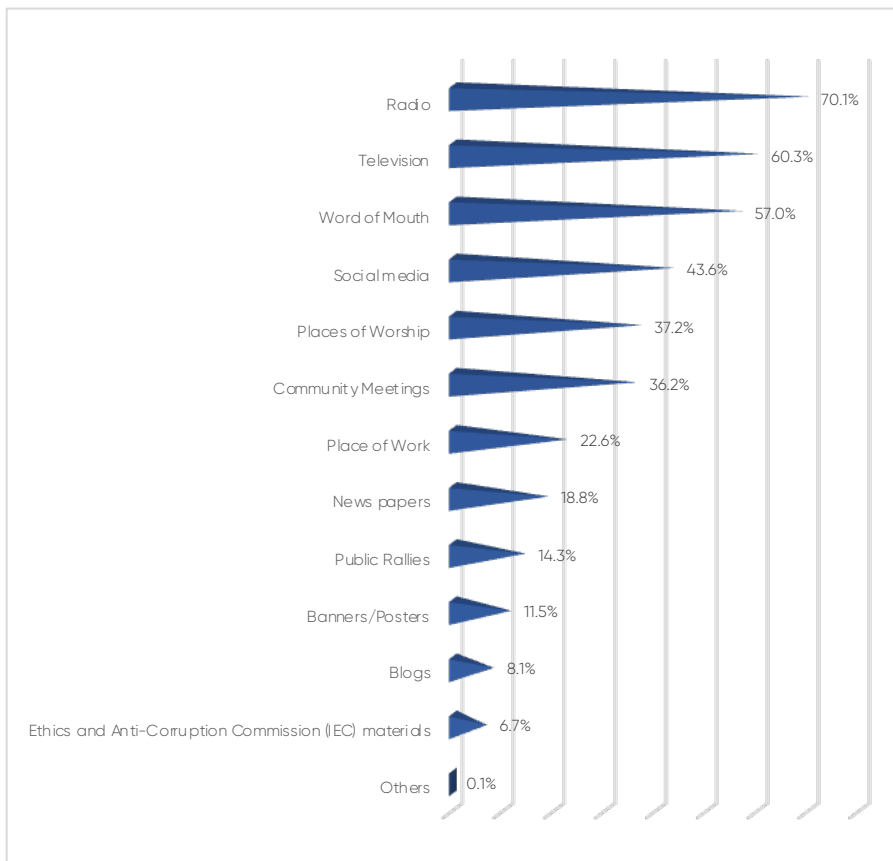


Figure 106: Sources of Information on Unethical Practices and Corruption

3.12.2. Sources of Information on Unethical Practices and Corruption by Sex, Age and Residence

Irrespective of gender, Radio, TV, Word of Mouth, and Social media, were commonly stated sources of information. However, more women (38.1%) compared to men (36.2%) stated places of worship as a source of information on unethical practices and corruption as shown in Table 29 were cited predominantly. By place of residence, urban dwellers eclipse rural dwellers in use of social media. Across age groups, those aged 18-24 years dominate use of social media which declines by increase in age.

Table 29: Sources of Information on Unethical Practices and Corruption by Sex, age and residence

		EACC IEC Materials	Radio	TV	Worship	Community Meetings	Public Rallies	Banners/ Posters	Social media	Word of Mouth
Sex	Male	8.7	74.2	64.8	36.2	38.2	16.9	13.8	48.4	58.8
	Female	4.9	66.2	56.2	38.1	34.2	11.9	9.2	39.2	55.3
	Intersex	0.0	34.0	80.1	26.2	33.7	0.0	7.6	53.9	72.5
Age groups	18 - 24	6.0	58.4	62.0	28.4	22.8	11.8	12.3	64.8	52.0
	25 - 34	7.3	67.3	65.5	34.7	32.4	14.0	13.3	58.5	54.4
	35 - 49	6.2	71.0	61.2	38.1	36.5	15.2	12.5	43.7	58.9
	50 - 64	7.6	77.6	59.4	42.1	45.5	15.6	10.5	28.9	60.0
	65 +	6.1	74.1	46.7	41.3	42.2	13.2	5.7	12.8	58.2
Residence	Rural	6.4	75.9	55.0	40.2	39.9	14.7	9.3	34.0	59.9
	Urban	7.3	60.4	69.3	32.0	29.8	13.7	15.1	59.8	52.1

3.12.3. Most utilized media

The Survey further sought to find out the most utilized media. The Nation is the leading newspaper read by 46.4 percent of the respondents followed by the Standard (23.4%), *Taifa Leo* (12.4%) and People Daily (3.2%).

Citizen television has the largest proportion of viewers with 63.8 percent of the respondents followed by *Inooro* (9.1%), NTV (5.1%), KTN (4.8%) and KBC (2.6%).

Regional or vernacular radio stations lead in listenership with 40.1 percent of the respondents followed by Citizen radio with 20.1 percent, *Radio Jambo* with 11.2 percent, *Radio Maisha* at 8.5 percent, Classic 105 radio with 4.9 percent and KBC *Taifa* with 3.6 percent.

Facebook (38.4%) is the leading social media platform by users to create and share content, participate in social networking, and build virtual communities followed by WhatsApp (19.2%), Tiktok (11.3%), Twitter (8.9%), YouTube (4.9%) and Instagram (3.4%).

Table 30: Most utilized media

Newspaper	%	Television	%	Radio	%	Social Media	%
The Nation	46.4	Citizen	63.8	Regional/Vernacular	40.1	Facebook	38.4
The Standard	23.4	Inooro TV	9.1	Citizen Radio	20.7	WhatsApp	19.2
Taifa Leo	12.4	NTV	5.1	Radio Jambo	11.2	Tiktok	11.3
People Daily	3.2	KTN	4.8	Radio Maisha	8.5	Twitter	8.9
Business Daily	2.3	KBC	2.6	Classic 105	4.9	Youtube	4.9
The Star	1.7	K24	1.1	KBC- Radio Taifa	3.6	Instagram	3.4
Alternative Press	10.6	Kass	0.4	Milele FM	3.5	Telegram	0.3
		Family	0.2	Kiss 100	2.1	Snapchat	0.1
		Kiss	0.1	Religious stations	2.1	Others	13.5
		Hope TV	0.1	Ghetto Radio	0.7		
		Njata	0.1	Homeboyz Radio	0.6		
		Hope Channel - Kenya (SDA)	0.1	Capital FM	0.5		
		Others	12.5	KBC- English Service	0.5		

Newspaper	%	Television	%	Radio	%	Social Media	%
				Nation FM	0.4		
				Metro	0.2		
				Qwetu Radio	0.1		
				Q FM	0.1		
				Smooth FM	0.1		
				Easy FM	0.1		
				Others	0.0		

3.12.4. Channel of Access to EACC IEC Materials

The respondents who had seen or read EACC Information Education and Communication (7.6%) materials mainly accessed them through television programmes such as infomercials, spots, messages, documentary (63.9%), social media platforms (62.2%), radio programmes (60.8%), posters (36%), and T-shirts, caps, bags, pens, book marks (23.1%).

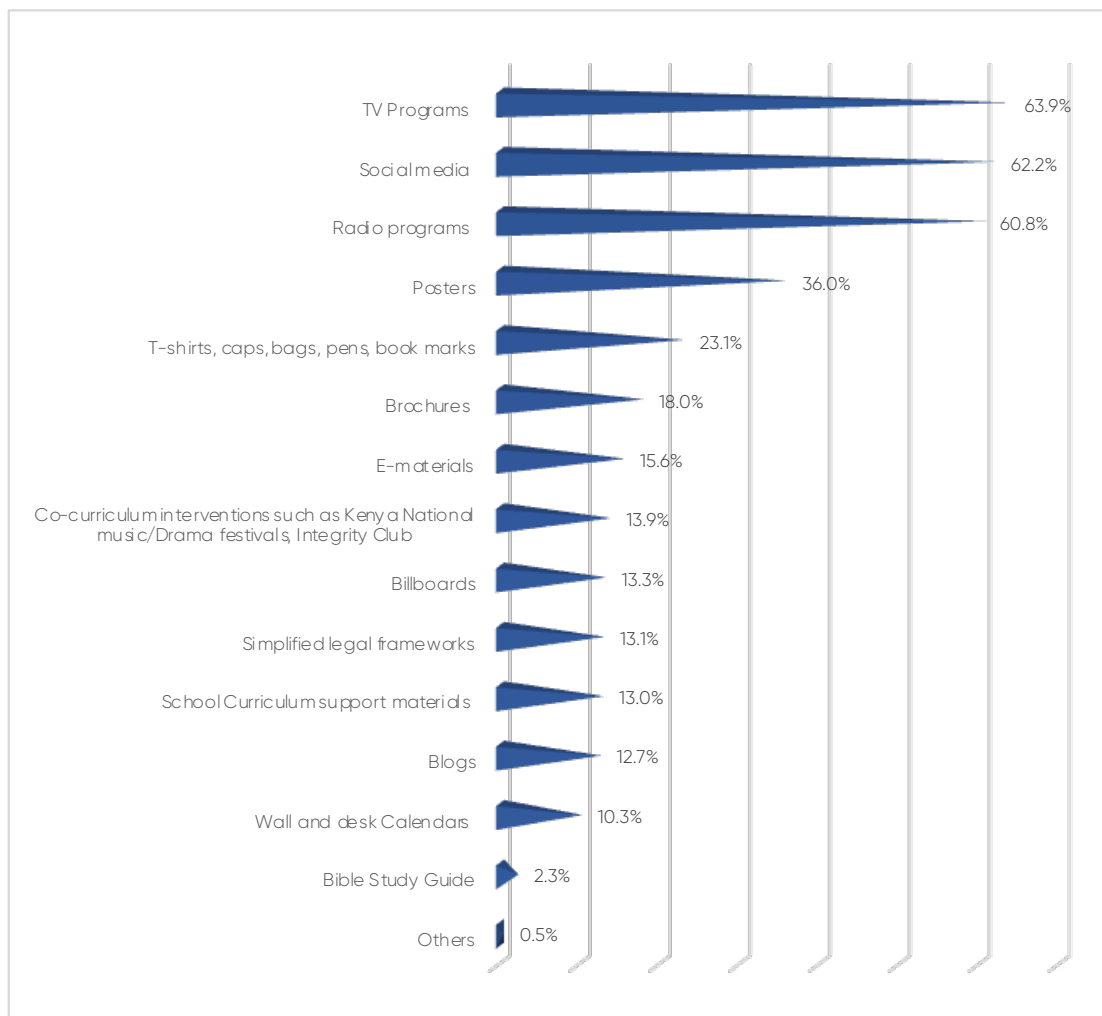


Figure 107: Channel of Access to EACC IEC Materials

3.12.5. Channel of Access to EACC IEC Materials by County

Comparisons by county revealed varying levels of access by medium with social media being the most utilized except in Tharaka Nithi, Laikipia and Samburu recording nil usage.

Table 31: Channel of Access to EACC IEC Materials by County

	Radio programs	TV Programs	Social media	T-shirts, caps, bags, pens, book marks
Mombasa	16.2	37.3	77.6	16.2
Kwale	63.9	77.3	62.8	20.6
Kilifi	22.4	38.7	88.5	11.3
Tana River	29.4	84.5	68.4	2.1
Lamu	12.3	46.5	47.8	3.7
Taita Taveta	15.5	0.0	90.0	0.0
Garissa	15.2	15.2	100.0	0.0
Wajir	0.0	100.0	100.0	68.8
Mandera	57.3	52.3	100.0	24.0
Marsabit	60.8	86.8	100.0	0.0
Isiolo	43.9	100.0	100.0	0.0
Meru	23.0	56.3	23.0	23.0
Tharaka Nithi	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Embu	71.3	80.3	83.2	0.0
Kitui	48.0	34.2	21.5	94.9
Machakos	50.0	30.9	78.8	0.0
Makueni	55.9	37.0	58.8	24.4
Nyandarua	94.1	89.1	77.5	41.7
Nyeri	37.6	61.5	64.7	0.0
Kirinyaga	13.8	29.6	61.3	0.0
Murang'a	46.3	51.3	24.6	87.9
Kiambu	65.9	65.9	55.6	55.3
Turkana	64.9	43.9	89.1	16.5
West Pokot	50.5	47.1	84.2	79.7
Samburu	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Trans Nzoia	28.9	45.0	78.7	0.0
Uasin Gishu	54.0	64.4	82.9	7.3
Elgeyo-Marakwet	66.5	59.0	59.0	0.0
Nandi	80.8	76.3	77.5	12.7
Baringo	52.8	56.9	92.6	0.0
Laikipia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Nakuru	83.0	73.0	93.9	62.8
Narok	60.2	80.9	53.8	14.0
Kajiado	30.3	79.4	52.2	6.6
Kericho	90.3	31.3	54.9	0.0
Bomet	47.9	84.5	83.3	6.8
Kakamega	86.2	83.7	31.1	0.0
Vihiga	84.2	72.9	43.6	2.1

	Radio programs	TV Programs	Social media	T-shirts, caps, bags, pens, book marks
Bungoma	89.3	89.6	85.7	64.8
Busia	61.7	76.6	87.7	93.5
Siaya	18.9	29.5	79.6	33.5
Kisumu	15.3	47.1	69.1	22.6
Homabay	37.6	40.6	50.1	72.0
Migori	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Kisii	46.5	43.3	92.5	99
Nyamira	0.0	0.0	78.0	0.0
Nairobi	67.5	75.7	65.8	22.0

3.12.6. Rating of EACC IEC Materials

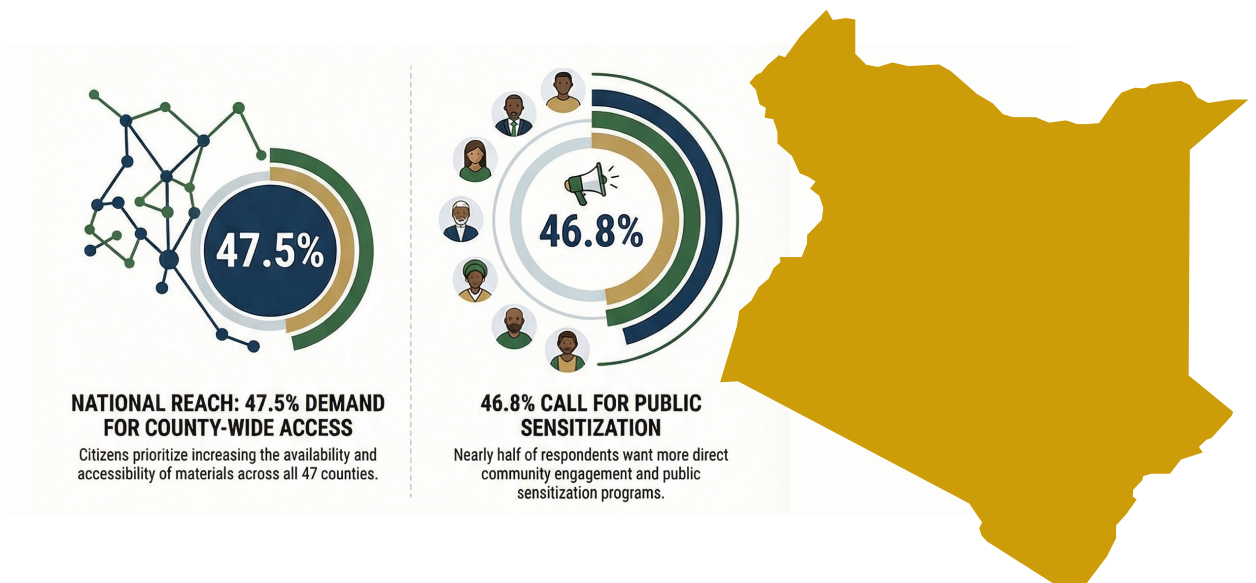
Respondents who had accessed information, education, and communication materials from EACC were asked to rate various attributes. Language (72.1%), relevance (55.2%) and clarity (51.8%) were rated good. Respondents were indifferent on their rating of influence, design and availability.

Table 32: Rating of EACC IEC Materials

Attributes	Good	Fair	Poor	No Response	Don't Know
Language	72.1%	24.4%	2.9%	0.2%	0.3%
Relevance	55.2%	40.1%	4.0%	0.2%	0.4%
Clarity	51.8%	36.3%	10.5%	0.7%	0.8%
Influence	45.2%	40.9%	12.6%	0.3%	1.1%
Design	43.0%	33.9%	9.0%	5.7%	8.4%
Availability	28.6%	35.1%	34.8%	0.2%	1.3%

3.12.7. Suggestions to improve EACC IEC Materials by Socio Demographic Characteristics

Increasing availability and accessibility in the whole country (47.5%), holding public sensitization programmes (46.8%), utilizing the media to communicate and disseminate information (45.9%) and use of language such as vernacular were suggested as ways of improving uptake of anti-corruption Information, Education and Communication materials reach.



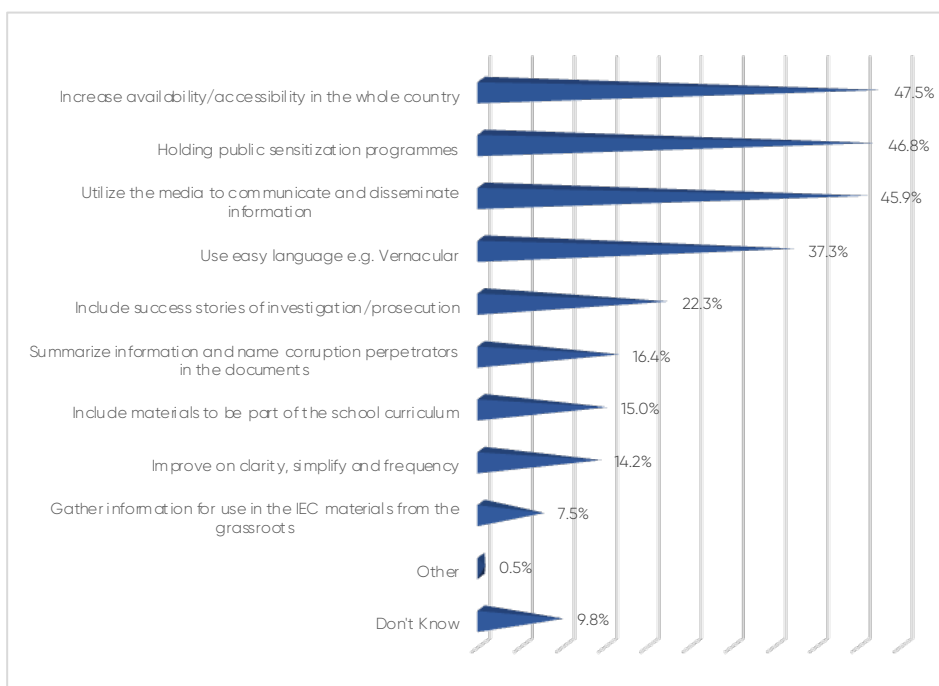


Figure 108: Suggestions to improve EACC IEC Materials

Table 33: Suggestions to improve EACC IEC Materials by Socio Demographic Characteristics

		Use easy language e.g. Vernacular	Utilize the media to communicate and disseminate information	Increase availability/accessibility in the whole country	Holding public sensitization programmes	Include success stories of investigation/prosecution
Sex	Male	7.8	10.7	14.1	13.8	12.6
	Female	6.8	9.0	11.3	14.2	14.2
Age groups	18 - 24	3.7	11.5	16.0	16.1	16.8
	25 - 34	9.4	13.3	13.9	11.2	13.7
	35 - 49	7.2	9.6	13.5	16.6	9.7
	50 - 64	8.0	8.0	10.4	11.8	15.6
	65 +	3.7	0.4	9.4	18.1	12.4
Residence	Rural	6.9	7.8	14.4	16.3	11.2
	Urban	8.2	13.2	11.0	10.7	15.9
Marital status	Single (never married, not cohabiting)	6.6	15.3	10.9	10.4	18.6
	Married Monogamous	8.8	9.1	14.7	14.9	10.2
	Married Polygamous	4.2	1.9	12.5	14.3	18.6
	Married Polyandrous	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Separated	1.5	11.1	9.8	21.1	16.2
	Divorced	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Widowed	3.0	5.9	3.2	7.7	20.5

		Use easy language e.g. Vernacular	Utilize the media to communicate and disseminate information	Increase availability/accessibility in the whole country	Holding public sensitization programmes	Include success stories of investigation/prosecution
Religion	Christianity	7.5	10.2	12.7	14.0	13.1
	Islam	7.1	4.4	20.6	10.7	18.5
	Hindu	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Indigenous Traditional Faiths	0.0	0.0	16.2	28.4	0.0
	Atheist/Agnostic	0.0	52.0	17.5	30.5	0.0
	Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Prefer Not to say	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Household status of respondent	Head of household	7.0	9.2	11.9	14.2	13.9
	Spouse	11.6	6.9	14.6	13.4	14.5
	Child	3.1	20.9	19.7	14.9	6.5
	Other relatives	8.8	15.7	11.7	9.0	0.0
	Non-relatives	22.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	17.6
Highest education level attained	No education	8.1	7.3	19.8	12.1	8.5
	Informal schooling only	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Primary education	6.2	6.5	13.2	13.9	16.6
	Secondary education	6.2	12.6	12.7	15.9	13.5
	College	10.3	13.1	12.7	11.9	8.8
	Undergraduate/Bachelors	8.3	6.9	11.6	14.3	14.9
	Graduate/Master degree	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	32.5
	Post Graduate/PHD	0.0	0.0	0.0	50.0	0.0

		Use easy language e.g. Vernacular	Utilize the media to communicate and disseminate information	Increase availability/accessibility in the whole country	Holding public sensitization programmes	Include success stories of investigation/prosecution
Employment status	Unemployed (Not working)	9.1	11.7	15.8	18.1	18.0
	Self Employed/ Employed in family business or farm	5.2	7.6	11.5	12.4	14.4
	Employed in private sector	9.0	17.8	11.6	10.1	8.7
	Employed in National government / parastatal	12.8	8.7	21.8	10.5	6.5
	Employed by the County Government	6.3	3.9	16.0	10.3	6.2
	Employed in community sector e.g. church, NGO	0.0	5.4	5.7	0.0	0.0
	Retired	2.0	7.1	10.3	12.2	15.7
	Home Maker	10.1	11.7	9.6	19.2	7.2
	Other	0.0	8.7	3.1	12.1	18.8
Income per month (Kenya shillings)	0 - 9,999	6.8	9.6	13.9	17.1	16.4
	10,000 - 14,999	7.4	9.5	11.4	12.1	13.2
	15,000 - 19,999	4.3	5.5	5.9	7.8	16.8
	20,000 - 24,999	8.9	11.9	22.6	9.8	5.9
	25,000 - 29,999	14.6	21.7	3.9	8.4	9.0
	30,000 - 49,999	7.7	6.4	13.3	12.7	4.6
	50,000 - 99,999	10.0	10.4	9.6	17.5	12.1
	100,000 and above	0.0	0.0	11.9	16.0	5.1

The most effective way to carry out public education and awareness on corruption in Kenya as suggested by respondents is through use of mainstream media (42.4%), social media platforms (30.1%), outreach clinics (28.7%) and strategic partnerships with stakeholders (5.7%).

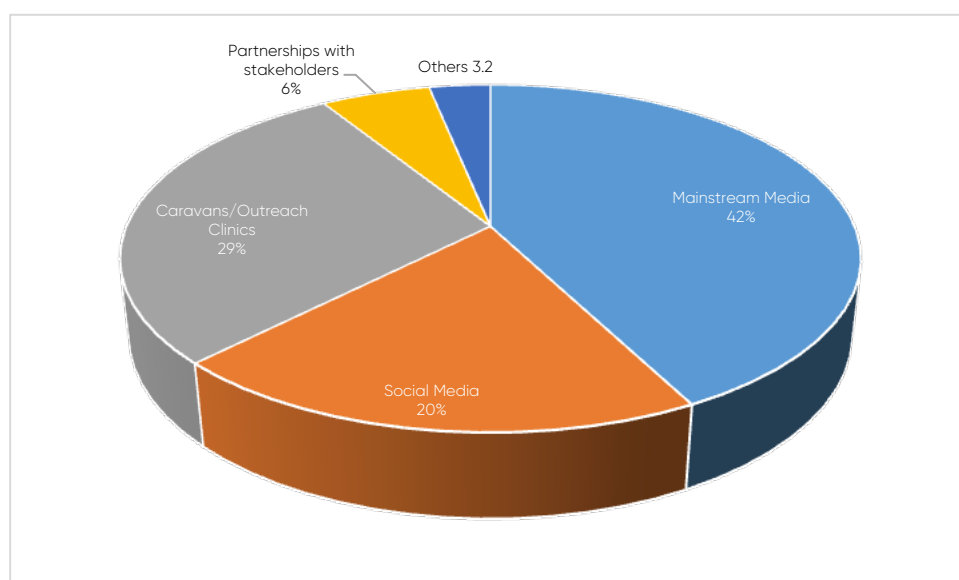


Figure 109: Most Effective way for public education and awareness on Corruption

More women (43.3%) than men (41.4%) stated main stream media as the most effective way for public education and awareness on corruption. Slightly more men (21.2%) than women (18.9%) prefer social media. The preference for partnerships with stakeholders is higher among men (6.2%) compared to women (5.1%).

Table 34: Most Effective way for public education and awareness on Corruption by Socio-demographics Characteristics

		Mainstream Media	Social Media	Caravans/Outreach Clinics	Partnerships with stakeholders
Sex	Male	41.4	21.2	28.5	6.2
	Female	43.3	18.9	28.9	5.1
	Intersex	46.1	46.3	7.6	0.0
Age groups	18 - 24	31.6	41.8	21.4	3.4
	25 - 34	38.8	30.1	23.6	4.7
	35 - 49	45.1	16.6	29.3	5.9
	50 - 64	46.6	8.3	35.2	6.6
	65 +	47.5	3.4	35.6	7.8
Residence	Rural	46.2	12.7	31.3	6.2
	Urban	35.9	32.3	24.3	4.8
Marital status	Single (never married, not cohabiting)	32.4	39.6	21.1	4.2
	Married Monogamous	45.1	16.8	29.2	5.9
	Married Polygamous	38.7	7.5	39.5	7.6
	Married Polyandrous	28.0	21.7	43.6	0.0
	Separated	47.1	16.6	27.8	5.3
	Divorced	39.1	20.7	29.5	8.5
	Widowed	46.1	5.6	37.9	6.2

		Mainstream Media	Social Media	Caravans/Out-reach Clinics	Partnerships with stakeholders
Religion	Christianity	44.2	19.7	27.4	5.6
	Islam	24.4	24.1	42.4	5.6
	Hindu	45.1	21.1	0.0	27.5
	Indigenous Traditional Faiths	41.2	4.5	41.3	8.1
	Atheist/Agnostic	37.4	24.1	27.1	7.4
	Other	0.0	91.2	0.0	5.5
	Prefer Not to say	45.3	21.2	16.4	5.9
Household status of respondent	Head of household	41.9	19.3	29.4	6.2
	Spouse	47.3	14.9	29.5	4.7
	Child	36.5	36.2	20.5	4.6
	Other relatives	35.7	30.4	28.7	3.8
	Non-relatives	23.5	33.7	32.4	7.6
Highest education level attained	No education	38.7	5.5	42.6	7.7
	Informal schooling only	29.6	15.5	36.0	13.6
	Primary education	50.2	11.5	30.6	5.0
	Secondary education	42.4	26.3	23.8	5.0
	College	32.8	39.3	21.1	4.4
	Undergraduate/Bachelors	33.0	40.4	17.4	5.7
	Graduate/Master degree	28.4	43.4	9.5	13.5
	Post Graduate/PHD	42.5	29.4	19.9	8.1
Employment status	Unemployed	35.2	25.4	30.4	5.5
	Self Employed/ Employed in family business or farm	46.9	17.8	27.9	5.0
	Employed in private sector	37.4	33.3	22.0	5.1
	Employed in National government / parastatal	35.1	31.1	22.6	8.3
	Employed by the County Government	41.3	30.3	16.6	10.5
	Employed in community sector e.g. church, NGO	34.6	22.9	33.5	6.8
	Retired	45.7	6.3	35.1	7.7
	Home Maker	45.1	8.6	34.4	7.1
	Other	48.1	22.4	18.7	4.6

		Mainstream Media	Social Media	Caravans/Out-reach Clinics	Partnerships with stakeholders
Income per month (Kenya shillings)?	0 - 9,999	42.2	16.8	32.8	5.2
	10,000 - 14,999	42.6	22.2	25.8	6.6
	15,000 - 19,999	41.4	25.7	26.2	4.8
	20,000 - 24,999	44.2	23.2	26.7	4.8
	25,000 - 29,999	37.3	28.6	26.9	4.7
	30,000 - 49,999	37.4	26.1	27.1	8.0
	50,000 - 99,999	45.6	26.3	14.3	10.0
	100,000 and above	27.2	38.8	14.1	9.6



"That's why I had suggested you revive the integrity assurance officers program, and you should have an office in every county if possible." (Nyeri FGD)

"We must accept that one of the main reasons people don't even trust the reporting process is because whistle-blowers are not protected. Although laws and policies promise protection, in reality, we don't see it. Recently, a young man who acted as a whistle-blower was shot. He is just one among many who have lost their lives, especially when dealing with sensitive matters. That is the reality we live with." (Uasin Gishu FGD)

"... I want to applaud whoever introduced the policy requiring every service department to have a service charter. This is important because when a citizen enters an office, they can immediately see what service they are entitled to, the timeline, and the exact amount they should pay. This has helped reduce corruption in some areas. I strongly believe this should be made mandatory across all institutions." (Nairobi FGD)

"Even when we talk about traffic enforcement, the same principle applies. Instead of a police officer asking me for 1,000 shillings on the road, I would much rather pay directly into an e-system through e-fines. That is why ICT innovation is so critical. For us, even in government services, we must fully embrace ICT. It is the only way forward." (Nairobi FGD)

"Set up dedicated to corruption cases with the trained judges and prosecutors to handle complex, for instance, financial evidence, you know." (Key Informant, Nairobi)

"Digitizing all government services. We can all agree that we have seen levels of corruption have dropped because of e citizen." (Kisumu FGD)

"Advocate on awareness on reporting mechanisms especially online." (Kisumu FGD)

"I can give you an example, for instance, of what is happening now. Right now there's there's a huge push for the e-GP (Electronic Government Procurement), for instance, systems very well thought of, very good initiative. If implemented successfully, it will to a large extent, in reducing corruption, especially in government." (Key Informant, Nairobi)

"Get EACC prosecutorial powers." (Kisumu FGD)



"Ensure that we create a framework that all public officers should declare their assets extensively and be monitored. This will give me an opportunity to understand where the excesses are coming from." **(Kisumu FGD)**

"Restoring integrity in public employment requires two critical reforms. First, we need to prioritize integrity in our selection process, ensuring that individuals appointed to public office demonstrate strong ethical character. Second, we must establish transparent reporting mechanisms with real-time feedback and timely resolution of cases." **(Uasin Gishu FGD)**

"I could say that on employment basis that there... let people be employed on merit because when people are employed on nepotism or favoritism, it encourages corruption." **(Kisumu FGD)**

"To begin the intervention, we must start with ourselves. I use a slogan: "We are the people, we are the problem, and we are the solution." First, we must admit we are all corrupted in different ways, beginning at the household level. Corruption is learned at home—small tolerances become habits—and until we face that truth, nothing else will change." **(Nyeri FGD)**



Summary and Recommendations

Summary and Recommendation

CHAPTER FOUR

4. SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS



This chapter presents the summary and policy recommendations derived from the findings of the National Gender and Corruption Survey (NGCS) 2025. The summary of the findings synthesizes the key patterns, relationships, and implications emerging from the data, while the recommendations provide actionable strategies that could be implemented by government institutions, the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC), county governments, and development partners in building a culture of integrity, transparency, and gender equity in Kenya. The chapter emphasizes the importance of mainstreaming gender-responsive and evidence-based approaches in the promotion of integrity and ethical conduct and strengthening Kenya's anti-corruption framework.

4.1. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The survey established that corruption remains pervasive across both public and private sectors in Kenya, with significant gendered variations in exposure, participation, and impact. The key findings are summarised as follows:



- **Prevalence and Forms of Corruption:** Bribery and abuse of office remain the most common forms of corruption, particularly in public service delivery. Approximately 84% of bribes were paid before delivery of services, demonstrating entrenched culture and expectations of informal payments in accessing public services.
- **Gender Dimensions:** Gender plays a critical role in shaping both exposure to and involvement in unethical practices and corruption. Men were more frequently involved in monetary bribery, while women were disproportionately exposed to coercive or exploitative forms such as sextortion, especially in education, health, and employment sectors.
- **Institutional and Regional Disparities:** Variations were observed across counties and institutions, with the highest incidences recorded in law enforcement, licensing, and land administration. Urban counties such as Nairobi, Kisumu, and Kakamega reported higher average bribe amounts compared to rural areas.
- **Reporting and Accountability:** Despite high public awareness of anti-corruption bodies/agencies such as EACC and the Judiciary, reporting of bribery incidents remained low (8%), largely due to fear of reprisal, mistrust of institutions, and normalization of corruption as a social coping mechanism.
- **Private Sector and Informal Practices:** Corruption in the private sector, particularly in procurement and recruitment, continues to undermine fair competition. Women entrepreneurs reported gender-specific barriers, including demands for both financial and sexual favours to access business opportunities.
- **Public Awareness and Civic Engagement:** Awareness of anti-corruption measures is relatively high, but knowledge on reporting mechanisms and gender-based corruption is limited. This gap reflects the need for targeted civic education and sensitization campaigns. The findings affirm that corruption in Kenya is both systemic and gendered, driven by structural inequalities, institutional weaknesses, and social norms that tolerate unethical conduct. The persistence of bribery and sextortion indicates that anti-corruption strategies must extend beyond enforcement to address underlying cultural and gender dynamics. Efforts should focus on enhancing transparency, accountability, and inclusivity across all governance systems. Gender emerges as a key determinant of unethical conduct and corruption vulnerability. Women face compounded disadvantages, particularly when economic dependence or limited decision-making power restricts their ability to resist or report unethical conduct and corruption.

4.2. POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are proposed to guide formulation and implementation of policy, strategies and intervention measures promoting integrity, ethical standards and anti-corruption:

4.2.1. Short-Term Interventions



1. **Launch targeted anti-corruption operations in high-bribery sectors:** Deploy undercover integrity testing and enhanced monitoring of police services, civil registration, NTSA, and land registries. Establish a dedicated task force to investigate judicial bribery in Kakamega County and other high-bribe jurisdictions. Set measurable targets to reduce bribery prevalence in these sectors by at least 20 percent within six months.
2. **Establish secure, anonymous reporting channels:** Create confidential digital and mobile reporting platforms that allow citizens to report bribery and sextortion without fear of retaliation. These platforms should be accessible via USSD codes for non-smartphone users and should provide case tracking numbers so reporters can follow up on their complaints.
3. **Implement emergency sextortion intervention protocols:** Train all public service supervisors to recognize signs of sextortion and establish clear disciplinary procedures. Link victims to support services for, including psychological counseling and legal assistance. Prioritize protection for young women seeking employment and medical services, the groups most vulnerable to sexual coercion.
4. **Reform service delivery payment systems:** Mandate electronic fee payments for high-corruption services including birth certificates, national IDs, passports, and court processes to eliminate cash transactions and create audit trails. Display official fee schedules prominently at all service points and publish them online.

4.2.2. Medium-Term Structural Reforms (6-18 months)



1. **Overhaul the reporting and response system:** Address the finding that 42 percent of service seekers experienced no action by public officials. Establishing mandatory response timelines for all corruption complaints. Require investigating agencies to provide written updates within 14 days and final disposition within 90 days. Implement consequences for officials who fail to act on valid complaints.
2. **Expand EACC presence and accessibility:** Address the severe access disparities by establishing mobile EACC service units in underserved counties, particularly Turkana, West Pokot, Garissa, and other areas with low awareness and access. Recruit and train local community liaison officers who can receive complaints in vernacular languages and follow up on cases.
3. **Design gender-responsive anti-corruption interventions:** Given that women face distinct corruption vulnerabilities, particularly regarding sextortion and access to health services, develop targeted programs that address these specific risks. Ensure anti-corruption messaging reaches women through their preferred information channels, including places of worship and community health programs.
4. **Reform government employment and procurement processes:** Address the finding that government employment attracts the highest bribes (KES 85,033) by implementing fully transparent, merit-based recruitment systems with independent oversight. All procurement contracts should be published online with complete bidding information and award justifications.

5. **Establish county-level anti-corruption performance metrics:** Given the significant county-level variation in bribery rates, create and publish quarterly county corruption indices. Link county government funding and performance evaluations to measurable reductions in corruption indicators.
6. **Public Awareness, Education, and Behavioural Change:** Strengthen civic education campaigns to raise awareness of citizens' rights and reporting mechanisms, with a specific focus on women and youth; and Partner with civil society and media organizations to promote positive narratives on integrity and ethical conduct.

4.2.3. Long-Term Structural Reforms (Over 18 months)



1. **Institutional and Legal Reforms:** Review and strengthen anti-corruption legislation to explicitly include gender-based corruption, including sextortion, as a punishable offence; Enhance institutional coordination among EACC, NGEC, ODPP, and the Judiciary to streamline case reporting, investigation, and prosecution; and Integrate gender-sensitive ethics frameworks into the performance management systems of public institutions.
2. **Capacity Building and Institutional Strengthening:** Provide regular gender-sensitive ethics and integrity training to public officials, law enforcement officers, and service providers; Strengthen EACC's data systems to generate and analyze gender-disaggregated corruption data for evidence-based policymaking; and Support county-level integrity committees to oversee local implementation of anti-corruption measures and ensure inclusion of women in oversight roles.
3. **Gender-Responsive Anti-Corruption Frameworks:** Develop and implement gender-responsive anti-corruption strategies within national and county governments; Mainstream gender analysis in corruption risk assessments, audits, and integrity training programs; and Support initiatives that empower women and marginalized groups to access leadership roles in governance, oversight, and decision-making structures.
4. **Partnerships and Multi-Sectoral Collaboration:** Foster partnerships between government, private sector, civil society, and international organizations to strengthen collective action against corruption and unethical practices; and engage faith-based and community-based organizations in promoting integrity and gender equity as social values.

Policy Dashboard

NATIONAL BRIBERY TRENDS & FINANCIAL IMPACT

38%

SURGE IN THE NATIONAL AVERAGE BRIBE

The average bribe paid by Kenyans increased from KES 4,878 in 2024 to KES 6,724 in 2025.



84.3% of Bribes are "Gatekeeping" Payments
An overwhelming majority of bribes are demanded and paid before services are rendered, effectively blocking access to public goods.



Cash Remains the Dominant Currency
72.2% of all bribes are paid in cash, followed by mobile money transfers at 10.5%.

SECTORS MOST AFFECTED BY BRIBERY



Police Service

35.5% Prevalence
The National Police Service remains the institution where service seekers are most likely to encounter bribery demands.



Civil Registration

30.0% Prevalence
Vital services such as birth and death registrations are the second most common flashpoints for corruption.



NTSA Operations

25.4% Prevalence
The National Transport and Safety Authority shows a high frequency of bribe-taking, particularly involving male officers.



THE GENDERED DIMENSION & SEXTORTION

GENDERED TARGETS FOR BRIBERY



Men most frequently pay bribes to the Police (41.6%)



Women are primarily targeted when seeking Civil Registration services (30.8%)

SEXTORTION DISPROPORTIONATELY IMPACTS WOMEN



Employment Seekers are High-Risk Victims

Nearly half (49.6%) of all extortion victims were individuals seeking employment opportunities.

THE REPORTING CRISIS

98.6%

OF BRIBE-PAYERS DO NOT REPORT

Only 1.4% of citizens who paid a bribe reported the incident to an official institution.



Futility is the Main Barrier to Accountability

33.4% of those who did not report felt that doing so would be useless and that "nobody would care."



42.3% "Nothing Happened" Rate

For the small fraction who did report, nearly half saw no action taken by the official institutions involved.



PRIORITY POLICY INTERVENTIONS



Launch Targeted Anti-Corruption Operations

Deploy undercover integrity testing in high-risk sectors like the Police, NTSA, and Land Registries.



Establish Secure, Anonymous Reporting

Create digital and mobile platforms (including USED for non-smartphones) that allow reporting without fear of retaliation.



Implement Sextortion Emergency Protocols

Train supervisors to recognize signs of sexual exploitation and provide victims with immediate legal and psychological support.



Mandate Electronic Payment Systems

Transition all high-corruption services to cashless systems to eliminate manual cash handling and create clear audit trails.

4.3. MONITORING AND EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

To ensure accountability and track progress, conduct annual follow-up surveys using the same methodology to measure changes in bribery prevalence, reporting rates, and public perceptions. Develop standardized gender-sensitive indicators for measuring corruption and ethical conduct in public service delivery including a reduction in average bribe amounts, increased reporting rates (targeting at least 10 percent within three years), improved outcomes for those who report (targeting at least 50 percent receiving meaningful responses), Improve reporting cases of sextortion and at long term implement a program that significantly reduce the number of service seekers exposed to sextortion behaviors and number of public and private officials who demand sex in exchange of services, and improved public confidence in government anti-corruption commitment. Publish quarterly progress reports and adjust interventions based on emerging data patterns to monitor progress and inform targeted interventions.

The Kenya National Gender and Corruption Survey 2025 provides unprecedented insight into the gendered dimensions of corruption and the systemic failures that perpetuate it. The findings are sobering: corruption is increasing, public trust is low, reporting systems are ineffective, and vulnerable populations including women, young people, and the poor bear disproportionate burdens. Yet the survey also reveals opportunities for intervention. The concentration of corruption in specific sectors and counties allows for targeted action. The public's stated unwillingness to engage in corruption provides a foundation of integrity to build upon. The identified information channels enable effective communication strategies. Most importantly, this gender-disaggregated data allows for the development of responsive interventions that address the distinct ways corruption affects different populations.

The recommendations outlined above provide a roadmap for translating these findings into meaningful reform. Establishing a national repository for gender and integrity data accessible to policymakers, researchers, and development partners. Success will require sustained political commitment, adequate resources, and consistent monitoring, but the alternative of allowing corruption to continue eroding public services and public trust is unacceptable.

This chapter has outlined key conclusions and proposed policy recommendations derived from the study's findings. It emphasizes that addressing corruption requires a holistic, gender-responsive approach that integrates institutional reforms, civic education, and data-driven policymaking. Strengthening collaboration among national and county institutions, civil society, and development partners will be vital in building a culture of integrity, transparency, and gender equity in Kenya.

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Appendices

Appendices

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: SAMPLE ALLOCATION

S/no	County	Clusters			Households		
		Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total
1	Nairobi City	-	45	45	-	675	675
2	Nyandarua	22	8	30	330	120	450
3	Nyeri	21	11	32	315	165	480
4	Kirinyaga	20	11	31	300	165	465
5	Murang'a	24	9	33	360	135	495
6	Kiambu	15	25	40	225	375	600
7	Mombasa	-	35	35	-	525	525
8	Kwale	20	10	30	300	150	450
9	Kilifi	19	15	34	285	225	510
10	Tana River	15	10	25	225	150	375
11	Lamu	13	9	22	195	135	330
12	Taita-Taveta	16	11	27	240	165	405
13	Marsabit	16	10	26	240	150	390
14	Isiolo	12	12	24	180	180	360
15	Meru	26	10	36	390	150	540
16	Tharaka-Nithi	20	7	27	300	105	405
17	Embu	21	9	30	315	135	450
18	Kitui	25	7	32	375	105	480
19	Machakos	20	15	35	300	225	525
20	Makueni	24	8	32	360	120	480
21	Garissa	18	11	29	270	165	435
22	Wajir	18	10	28	270	150	420
23	Mandera	17	11	28	255	165	420
24	Siaya	24	8	32	360	120	480
25	Kisumu	18	16	34	270	240	510
26	Migori	22	10	32	330	150	480
27	Homa Bay	24	9	33	360	135	495
28	Kisii	24	10	34	360	150	510
29	Nyamira	22	7	29	330	105	435
30	Turkana	20	10	30	300	150	450
31	West Pokot	22	6	28	330	90	420
32	Samburu	17	8	25	255	120	375
33	Trans Nzoia	21	11	32	315	165	480
34	Baringo	20	9	29	300	135	435
35	Uasin-Gishu	16	17	33	240	255	495
36	Elgeyo-Marakwet	22	6	28	330	90	420
37	Nandi	23	8	31	345	120	465
38	Laikipia	18	11	29	270	165	435
39	Nakuru	18	20	38	270	300	570
40	Narok	23	9	32	345	135	480
41	Kajiado	14	20	34	210	300	510
42	Kericho	22	9	31	330	135	465
43	Bomet	25	6	31	375	90	465
44	Kakamega	26	10	36	390	150	540

S/no	County	Clusters			Households		
		Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban	Total
45	Vihiga	21	8	29	315	120	435
46	Bungoma	25	10	35	375	150	525
47	Busia	22	9	31	330	135	465
Total		911	556	1,467	13,665	8,340	22,005

APPENDIX 2: SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

Characteristics	Categories	%
Sex	Male	48.5
	Female	51.5
	Intersex	0.0
Age in Years	18-24	12.4
	25-34	25.8
	35-44	22.0
	45-54	17.0
	55-64	10.8
	65 and Above	11.9
Marital Status	Single (never married, not cohabiting)	20.8
	Married Monogamous	57.6
	Married Polygamous	4.2
	Married Polyandrous	0.1
	Separated	5.2
	Divorced	1.6
	Widowed	10.0
Religion	Christianity	89.8
	Islam	8.7
	Hindu	0.0
	Indigenous Traditional Faiths	0.5
	Atheist/Agnostic	0.6
	Other- Rastafarian, ATR, Jainism,	0.0
	Prefer Not to say	0.2
	Don't Know	0.1
Household Status of Respondent	Head of household	66.0
	Spouse	22.5
	Child	7.9
	Other relatives	2.8
	Non-relatives	0.7
Highest education level attained	No education	16.7
	Informal schooling only	2.1
	Primary education	32.5
	Secondary education	31.1
	College	12.5
	Undergraduate/Bachelors	4.6
	Graduate/Master degree	0.3
	Post Graduate/PHD	0.1

Characteristics	Categories	%
Employment status	Unemployed (Not working)	26.2
	Self Employed/Employed in family business or farm	45.3
	Employed in private sector	7.4
	Employed in National government /parastatal	2.2
	Employed by the County Government	1.0
	Employed in community sector e.g. church, NGO	1.2
	Retired	3.4
	Home Maker	11.0
	Other	1.8
Income per month (Kenya shillings)	0 - 9,999	51.1
	10,000 - 14,999	14.5
	15,000 -19,999	8.0
	20,000 - 24,999	4.9
	25,000 - 29,999	3.1
	30,000 - 49,999	3.6
	50,000 -99,999	1.8
	100,000 and above	0.5
	No response	9.1
	Don't know	3.3
Monthly expenditure category (Kenya Shillings)	0 - 9,999	55.5
	10,000 - 14,999	15.0
	15,000 -19,999	7.5
	20,000 - 24,999	4.4
	25,000 - 29,999	2.3
	30,000 - 49,999	2.5
	50,000 -99,999	1.1
	100,000 and above	0.2
	No response	7.7
	Don't know	3.6
Usually have money left over at the end of the month that you can save	Yes	14.2
	No	81.0
	No Response	4.1
	Don't Know	0.7
How willing or unwilling are you to take risks?	Completely Unwilling	4.7
	Unwilling	16.9
	Indifferent/Not Sure	14.3
	Willing	43.9
	Very Willing	19.9
	No Response	0.4

Characteristics	Categories	%
Ethnic Group	Kikuyu	19.8
	Luhya	13.8
	Kalenjin	12.3
	Luo	11.5
	Kamba	10.7
	Kisii	6.3
	Mijikenda	5.1
	Meru	5.0
	Somali	4.4
	Maasai	2.2
	Turkana	1.9
	Embu	1.1
	Taita-Taveta	0.9
	Teso	0.7
	Samburu	0.6
	Borana	0.5
	Swahili (Bajuni)	0.4
	Kuria	0.4
	Gabbara	0.3
	Mbeere	0.3
	Rendille	0.2
Nubian	0.2	
Others	1.4	

APPENDIX 3: DISABILITY

Would you say you have difficulty in:						
	No Difficulty	Some Difficulty	A lot of Difficulty	Cannot do at all	Prefer not to Say	Don't Know
Difficulty in Using your usual (customary) language?	98.0%	1.6%	0.3%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Difficulty in Self-care such as washing all over or dressing?	96.1%	3.2%	0.6%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Difficulty in Remembering or concentrating?	94.3%	5.0%	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Difficulty in Hearing, even if using a hearing aid?	93.5%	5.8%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Difficulty in Walking or climbing steps?	87.4%	10.3%	2.2%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Difficulty in Seeing, even if wearing glasses?	86.0%	12.4%	1.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Could you tell me to what extent you are involved in the following household tasks						
	Mostly Me	Partially Me	Not Involved	Not Applicable	Prefer not to Say	Don't Know
Talk to public authorities in case of any problem	50.7%	29.7%	15.6%	3.3%	0.1%	0.6%
Contribute financially to the household income	49.9%	30.6%	17.2%	2.1%	0.1%	0.2%
Paying household's bills such as electricity, water, waste, e.t.c	43.9%	26.3%	19.4%	10.2%	0.1%	0.1%
Looking after the children. By that I mean caring for, not providing financial support.	40.5%	27.7%	15.6%	16.0%	0.1%	0.1%
Household official business such as when applying for building permits or similar	40.3%	22.9%	20.7%	15.6%	0.1%	0.4%
Financing education and/or training of children	36.5%	25.4%	20.8%	17.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Looking after parents/parents in law. By that I mean caring for, not providing financial support.	27.0%	32.1%	25.4%	15.3%	0.1%	0.2%

APPENDIX 4: DISCRIMINATION ON VARIOUS GROUNDS

On what grounds have you personally experienced discrimination or harassment during the past 1 year?		
	Yes (%)	No (%)
Socio-economic status (such as wealth or education level)	50.0%	50.0%
Ethnicity or language	28.5%	71.5%
Age	21.4%	78.6%
Marital and family status (such as being single, orphan)	19.5%	80.5%
Where you live	18.7%	81.3%
Sex	15.5%	84.5%
Political affiliation	10.2%	89.8%
Health status	6.8%	93.2%
Religion or faith	6.1%	93.9%
Migration status	5.0%	95.0%
Disability	4.8%	95.2%
Race	4.7%	95.3%
Skin color	3.9%	96.1%
Sexual orientation or Gender identity	2.6%	97.4%



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