



## Legal Inclusion Mapping Bolivia Survey Report



## Legal Inclusion Mapping Bolivia Survey Report

January 2019  
[www.microjustice4all.org](http://www.microjustice4all.org)

## Content

Legal Inclusion Mapping Bolivia .....	3
Survey Report.....	3
I. Introduction .....	3
II. Survey Description - Parameters.....	3
III. Survey Results .....	5
1. General Situation: Socio-Economic-Cultural Indicators.....	5
2. Access to work-related legal issues.....	9
3. Land and Housing related issues.....	11
4. Personal and Family-Related Legal Issues .....	12
5. Community organization related legal issues.....	13
6. Conflict resolution and Experience with the Administrative & Legal procedures .....	14
7. Legal Inclusion Perception .....	16
IV. Conclusion.....	18

## Legal Inclusion Mapping Bolivia Survey Report

### I. Introduction

“There is no justice for the poor” – a statement one can often hear on the streets of Bolivia, decrying the justice gap between high income individuals and the lower strata of society.

Obtaining correct identification documents, registering property or resolving legal disputes present a lengthy, unaffordable struggle for the poor. In recent years, cases of corruption in public institutions abound. Numerous civil servants dealing with basic legal documents have been implicated in corruption cases and the violation of rights which substantiated the opinion of low-income Bolivians about justice in Bolivia.

The justice gap widens for those who lack sufficient resources, have a lower level of education or migrated from rural areas or other cities. Access to justice requires financial means in addition to experience and knowledge on judicial and administrative procedures.

Many children inherit their parents’ legal issues and end up passing it on to their children, resulting in a downwards spiral of legal exclusion.

The objective of this survey is to gain insights into:

1. The socio-economic, cultural, labour and housing situation of the vulnerable population in Bolivia.
2. The legal problems of the individuals, their families and the societal organizations they belong to.
3. The experience the surveyed population had with various judicial procedures and the judicial system
4. The legal inclusion situation of the surveyed population and their access to social benefits

In brief, the purpose of the survey is to investigate and to document the legal exclusion as perceived by the Bolivian population. This survey provides factual evidence and context to what previously has merely been a sentiment of legal exclusion.

### II. Survey Description - Parameters

#### 1. *Statistical design*<sup>1</sup>:

- Population size: 11.307.000 (Bolivia, 49.6% are women and 50.4% are men. By area of residence, 69.4% of the population lives in the urban area and 30.6% in the rural area, according to the National Institute of Statistics (INE) in June 2018
- Confidence level: 99%
- Margin of error: 4.038%
- Statistical sample size: **1021**

According to the survey monkey size calculator a sample size of 1021 provides a level of confidence of 99% and a margin of error of 4%.

---

<sup>1</sup> Sample size calculator: [www.surveymonkey.com/mp/sample-size-calculator](http://www.surveymonkey.com/mp/sample-size-calculator)

**2. Population surveyed:**

The surveys were conducted in urban and peri-urban neighbourhoods of the capital cities of La Paz - El Alto, Cochabamba and Santa Cruz (905 respondents), as well as several rural communities in the department of La Paz (116 respondents). These neighbourhoods concentrate people with limited economic resources, mostly migrants from the countryside and other departments and with low or limited educational levels. The characteristics of the respondents are:

- Population of peripheral neighbourhoods, possibly migrants, and rural population.
- Population with presence and / or economic activity in peripheral neighbourhoods.
- Persons over 35 years of age, who presumably went through or know of their own legal or administrative problems or of a family member.
- Young women over 20 years of age, who presumably go through problems due to abandonment or lack of family assistance for their children.

**3. Survey form:**

Questionnaire with 33 open, closed or multiple-choice answers, as well as some scale of value questions on:

- Socio-economic situation,
- Personal, family-related and collective legal issues,
- Access to justice related issues, and
- Appreciation of legal inclusion and access to state benefits.

**4. Team of interviewers:**

- 13 interviewers in total: 8 in La Paz, 3 in Cochabamba, 2 in Santa Cruz
- Interns and students of law (5) or social work (6) in La Paz and Cochabamba; 2 statisticians in Santa Cruz; majority of interviewers originated from the surveyed area and speak native languages (Aymara and Quechua)

**5. Method of collecting information:**

- a. Personal interview:
  - The surveys were conducted in 1) neighbourhood fairs and meetings of organizations (associations and peasant communities), where people had time to answer the questions. 2) In private legal assistance institutions (Microjusticia Bolivia Foundation), where people had experience with procedures and judicial processes. 3) In the homes of the respondents (Santa Cruz), since people did not want to talk about their legal problems in public.
- b. Application of the Direct and Indirect questionnaire
  - The questionnaire was applied directly, with people with easy comprehension, and indirectly through friendly conversations, with people who were difficult to understand or who did not speak good Spanish.

### III. Survey Results

- Between May and July 2018,
- Total surveyed population: 1,021 Bolivian surveys were conducted in the capital cities of La Paz - El Alto, Cochabamba and Santa Cruz (905), and several rural communities in the department of La Paz (116).

Department	Men	Women	TOTAL	%
LA PAZ	217	304	<b>521</b>	51.0
COCHABAMBA	91	108	<b>199</b>	19.5
SANTA CRUZ	94	207	<b>301</b>	29.5
	<b>402</b>	<b>619</b>	<b>1021</b>	

#### 1. General Situation: Socio-Economic-Cultural Indicators

- **GENDER:** In total, 619 women and 402 men were surveyed.
- **DISTRIBUTION BY CATEGORIES OF EXCLUDED GROUPS:** Most of the respondents correspond to one or several categories of the identified excluded groups. For example, there are 165 senior adults, of whom 53 are indigenous, 16 have some disability, 21 live only in agriculture and 29 live in peripheral neighbourhoods of the cities.

CATEGORIES OF EXCLUDED GROUPS	N° of respondents	%
Senior	165	16.2
Persons with disability	29	2.8
Women with children	619	60.6
Migrants	404	39.6
Farmers	86	8.4
People for suburbs	158	15.5
Indigenous	246	24.1
Minority groups	2	0.2
other	72	7.1

- **AGE:** The survey was aimed at people over 20 years old, however, there were a couple of mothers of 19 years. 63.1% of respondents ranged between 31 and 59 years of age and were the ones who could provide relevant information.

Age	Men	Women	TOTAL	%
19 – 30 years	51	156	<b>207</b>	20.3
31 – 40 years	84	172	<b>256</b>	25.1
41 – 50 years	108	132	<b>240</b>	23.5
51 – 59 years	66	82	<b>148</b>	14.5
+ 60 years	93	77	<b>170</b>	16.7
	<b>402</b>	<b>619</b>	<b>1021</b>	

End of the preview of  
Microjustice4All Survey Report Bolivia  
Legal Inclusion Mapping.

If you wish to receive more information, please send an email to  
[info@microjustice4all.org](mailto:info@microjustice4all.org) to obtain the complete document