

**Analytical report on the assessment
of the level of corruption in various
sectors of the economy of Uzbekistan
and the regions of the republic**

Tashkent, 2023

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of the level of corruption in various sectors
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regions of the republic**

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1. INTRODUCTION

The concept of corruption is a multidimensional and complex phenomenon. Corruption can be present in all spheres of society, which makes it difficult to define it in detail and comprehensively. Corruption is the main enemy that hinders the implementation and achievement of effective results of reforms in society. Therefore, an important task for ensuring the development of society and the implementation of ongoing reforms is the desire to fight corruption, which requires determining the level and nature of corruption phenomena.

In recent years, serious measures have been taken in Uzbekistan aimed at combating and eradicating corruption phenomena in all spheres of state and public building. In particular, the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On Combating Corruption” was adopted, an anti-corruption body was created, etc., which contributed to an increase in the rating of Uzbekistan in the Transparency International index by 5 positions in 2019.

At the same time, Uzbekistan will have to take consistent measures aimed at early prevention and eradication of corruption phenomena, which require the organization to improve the system for assessing corruption risks and the causes of corruption. Based on this, an important task is to find answers to the following key questions. At what level is the problem of corruption in the sector/region? How has the level of corruption changed in recent years, is it decreasing or increasing? Which public administration procedures are more related to corruption phenomena in the sector/region and require the development of an effective methodology for assessing the perception of corruption factors?

Corruption in all its manifestations is one of the pressing problems that hinder both the development of business and the normal functioning of society. This ultimately hinders the achievement of strategic objectives for further economic growth, people’s welfare improvement, and investment climate in Uzbekistan. As noted in the Message of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh.M.Mirziyoyev to the Oliy Majlis, “Intolerance to any manifestations of corruption should become an integral part of our daily life.” Therefore, based on the relevance of the above problem, the main purpose of this study is to develop a methodology that makes it possible to assess the perception of corruption by the business factor through the use of mobile applications.

2. AIM OF THE PROJECT

The issue of corruption was not seen as an essential social reality occurring in the course of relations between state bodies, businesspeople, and the population in earlier research on the public's attitude towards corruption in Uzbekistan. In fact, this vice needs a comprehensive investigation, study of its patterns, and problem-solving. The purpose of this study is to conduct an online survey of the administrative staff of private legal entities and individual entrepreneurs (hereinafter referred to as the private sector) to obtain:

- assessment of the prevalence of corruption practices in the interaction of B2G and G2B in various sectors of the economy and regions of Uzbekistan and under various scenarios of interaction;
- estimates of the proportion of cases of corrupt interactions initiated by the business sector or government officials;
- general understanding of the factors and motivation of corruption interaction for the business sector;
- assurance of a balance between factors and the quality of regulatory legal acts;
- development of recommendations for improving legislative processes and corruption-related legislation.

3. RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

1. To create and test a protocol for an online survey of business entities and entrepreneurs on corruption issues, along with a set of exit and cross-testing tables and a draught report structure.
2. To consult with the National Programme Coordinator about the study protocol, a set of output and cross-tables, and the format of the study report in order to get permission to proceed with the study's launch.
3. To organize, assist and manage the study in accordance with the approved research protocol and provide online responses from at least 5,000 respondents in all regions of Uzbekistan.
4. To assure the relevance and accuracy of the collected data.
5. To create a set of cross-referenced results tables and a preliminary report. To consult with the national program coordinator about the produced materials.
6. To arrange a professional discussion of initial findings and presumptions with significant stakeholders to gather comments and evaluate potential policy recommendations.
7. To complete the research report and the formulation of suggestions for promoting business integrity concerns and lowering corruption risks in B2G and G2B interactions.

4. METHODOLOGY

Based on the relevance and purpose of this study, as well as the results of studying the experience of foreign countries, it is proposed to develop a methodology that contributes to the assessment of business perception of corruption in Uzbekistan. The assessment methodology is based on conducting surveys on the opinions of entrepreneurs regarding their perception of corruption factors.

The survey is carried out through a created telegram bot @consumersentiment_bot, which is valid starting from the 21st of each month and ending on the 1st of the next month (10 days). Sending SMS about the questionnaire for subscribers of Uzmobil, UMS, Perfectum, Ucell, and Beeline is carried out by the Ministry for the Development of Information Technologies on the basis of an agreement on practical assistance. Respondents in the survey are entrepreneurs or persons engaged in entrepreneurial activity.

The number of respondents participating in the survey is not limited, but the minimum number of respondents should be at least 3,000 respondents. This provision is justified by the goals of ensuring the representativeness of the sample and the reliability of the results.

The questionnaire was formed on the basis of the Guidelines for Conducting Surveys on Corruption of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, with consideration of the “individuality” of the Republic of Uzbekistan. The questionnaire consists of two sections, including the sections “Background information” and “Experience of bribery/corruption in interaction with the public sector”. In particular, the issues cover the corrupt experience of entrepreneurs and/or business representatives in the process of interaction with public officials on issues of administrative procedures important for business, the frequency of corruption manifestations, position/type of public official, the main causes of corruption manifestations, the impact of corruption manifestations on the decision-making process on the investment plan, the experience of entrepreneurs and/or business representatives in the process of obtaining bank loans from commercial banks.

After receiving the survey results, a table is formed with the corresponding variables (see Table 1). In particular, the variables of each question are named by their corresponding ordinal number (1,2,3,4, etc.). The results are also indicated by the corresponding ordinal numbers (a,b,c,d).

Table 1. Form of primary aggregation of the survey database

Nº	Question Nº1	Question Nº2	Question Nº13
1	(a,b,c,d)	(a,b,c,d)		
2	(a,b,c,d)	..		
3		

Source: Authors' calculations

The corresponding proportions of respondents for each question are determined using Stata software and the table of aggregated survey databases based on numerous factors, such as gender, education, age, location of residence, etc. (see Table 1).

The calculation of the corresponding frequencies at the country level will be carried out by weighing the corresponding frequencies at the regional level in relation to the population of this region.

In particular, a step-by-step mechanism for calculating the proportion of respondents (frequency counts) answering questions is carried out in the following order:

1. Counting the number of respondents who answered a particular question (X).
2. Counting the number of responders who selected one or another answer option (X_A).
3. Counting the share of the number of respondents who chose one or another answer option in the total number of respondents who answered a particular question ($X_{A\%} = \frac{X_A}{X}$).

To identify the proportion of respondents who answered two or more questions at the same time, cross-tabulation is performed. For this reason, dependent and independent variables are defined (the latter are traditionally used as column headers, and the dependent ones are in rows).

As a rule, demographic information is a dependent variable, since characteristics such as gender, age, industry, education, etc. usually determine the answers to other questions.

Cross-tabulation is also called a conjugacy table, that is, it is a means of representing the joint distribution of two variables.

The mechanism of calculating cross-tabs is better explained using a specific example:

1. Suppose there are two variables: gender (male or female) and level of education (with or without higher education).
2. Next, let us assume that 1000 people were randomly selected from a large population within a certain study. A Conjugacy Table is created to display the number of people who are men with and without higher education, women with and without higher education (see Table 2).

Table 2. Contingency table

Categories	Without higher education	With higher education	Total
Female	150	300	450
Male	220	330	550
Total	370	630	1000

Source: Authors' calculations

3. The number of men, women, as well as those with higher education and without is called the marginal total. The total, that is, the total number of people represented in the conjugacy table is the number in the lower right corner (1000).
4. This Table allows you to see the proportion of men and women with and without higher education.

In addition, frequency counting also includes multiple-answer questions. Multiple choice implies a form of objective assessment in which respondents are asked to choose several options offered in the form of a list.

The analysis of multiple response data is carried out by converting the data into binary indicators and then tabulating the average values of indicator variables.

Because questions like these involve multiple responses rather than just one, there is more than one data point per question. Therefore, the number of times for each answer option is counted. For example, when the count is 100, it means that the answer was selected 100 times.

The proportion of respondents who answered multiple-response questions is calculated by dividing the number of responses by the total number of unique respondents and multiplying the quotient by 100 to get the percentage. For example, if the count is 100 and the total number of unique respondents is 200, then the response rate would be $100/200=0.5$ and therefore $0.5*100=50\%$. The nature of multiple-answer questions is such that the total number of answers will be much larger than the number of respondents due to the fact that each respondent can choose more than one answer option.

For the sake of consistency of the text of this report, the terms corruption and bribery will be used to refer to the process of making a payment, rendering a return service, or transferring additional money to a public official.

5. FORMATION OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE

Center for Economic Research (CER) has prepared the first version of the questionnaire to determine the level of prevalence of corruption practices in the interaction of B2G and G2B in various sectors of the economy and regions of Uzbekistan and under various scenarios of interaction.

The prepared CER questionnaire and the developed methodology were revised with international, national experts, the national coordinator and finalized based on the results of 2 rounds of discussion, taking into account the suggestions and recommendations of experts.

Based on the results of 2 rounds of discussion, the final version of the questionnaire was agreed upon (Appendix 9.1.) and a decision was made to prepare software for the survey.

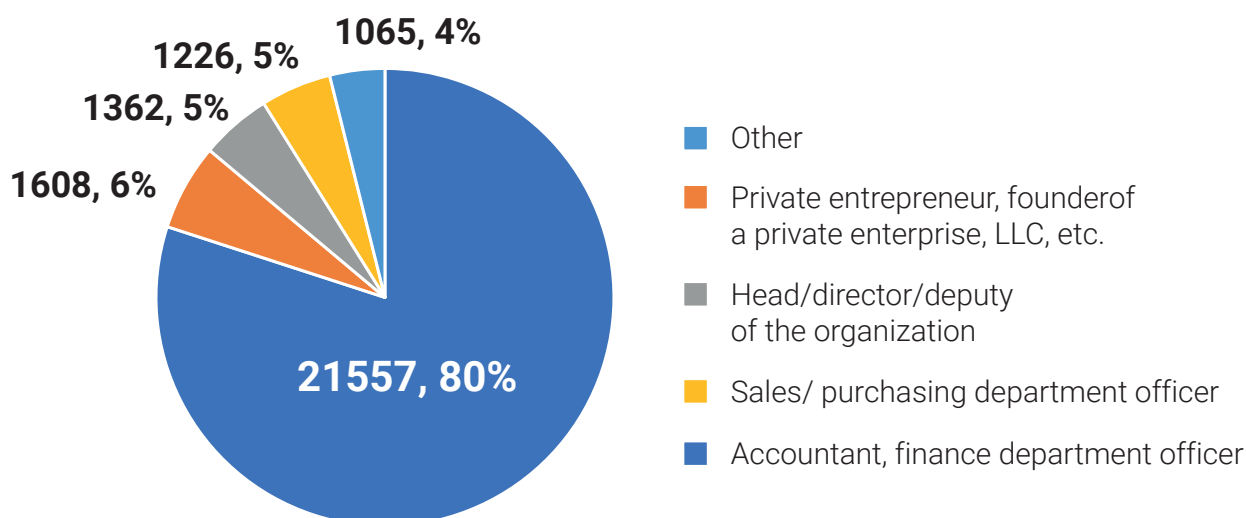
6. SUMMARY RESULTS OF THE SURVEY

6.1. CONDUCTING A SURVEY AND IDENTIFYING THE TARGET AUDIENCE

The survey was conducted from March 23 to May 29, 2023. For the entire reporting period, the total number of respondents was 26,818 people. It is worth noting that the target audience of this survey are business representatives who are involved in commercial activities at a particular official level. To identify the target audience, respondents were asked several step-by-step questions. First of all, the respondent's role in the organization he/she represented was clarified: 1) Private entrepreneur, founder of a private enterprise, LLC, etc.; 2) Head/ director/deputy of the organization; 3) Accountant, Finance Department employee; 4) Sales/Procurement Department employee; 5) Other.

If Option №5 was selected, the survey was automatically completed. If Option №1 was selected, the respondent moved on to the main questions. If Variables №2, №3 и №4 were selected, then respondents were asked an additional clarifying question. According to the results (Figure 1), the number of respondents who noted Option №5 (Other) was about 21,557 (80% of the total number of respondents).

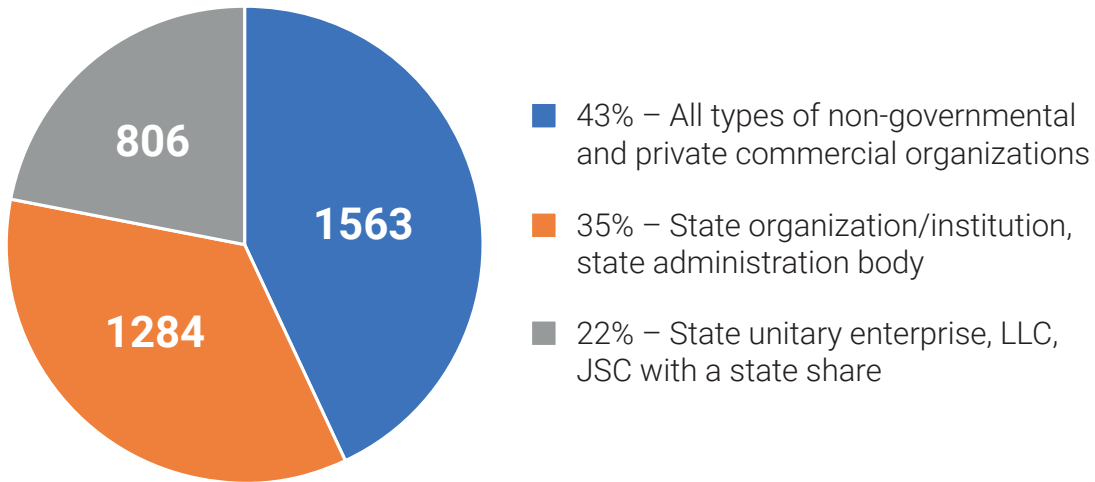
Chart 1. The role of the respondent in his/her organization (units, %)



Source: Authors' calculations

Consequently, the primary target audience was 5,261 respondents. Of these, 1,608 respondents automatically switched to the main questions (Option №1), and 3,653 respondents switched to the additional clarifying question (Variables №2, №3, and №4). This clarifying question determined the type of organization (Chart 2) that the respondent represented: 1) State organization /institution, public administration body; 2) State unitary enterprise, LLC, JSC with a state share; 3) All types of non-governmental and private commercial organizations.

Chart 2. Type of organization (units, %)



Source: Authors' calculations

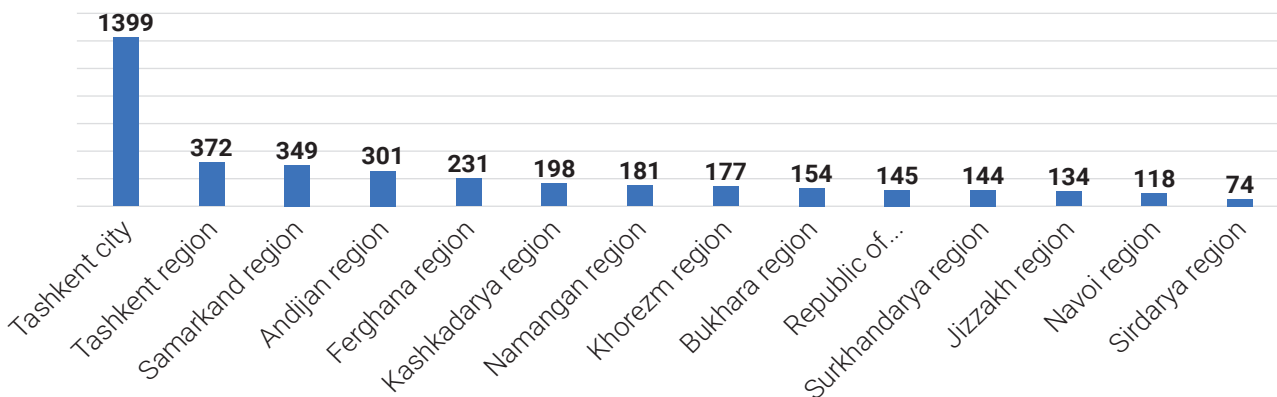
At the same time, for respondents who chose Option No. 1, the survey was completed. In case of Variables №2 and №3 were selected, then the respondents moved on to the main questions. As a result, out of 3,653 respondents who answered the above cut-off question, 1,284 respondents or 35% noted that they are representatives of a "State organization/institution, public administration body". Consequently, out of 3,653 respondents, 2,369 people switched to the main questions.

In general, after a series of step-by-step cutting-off questions, 3977 respondents switched to the main questions.

6.2. MAIN (DEMOGRAPHIC) CHARACTERISTICS OF RESPONDENTS

The regional distribution of respondents, that is, the represented organizations that carry out their main activities in a particular region, is shown in Figure 3.

Chart 3. A region in which the organization carries out its main activities (units).



Source: Authors' calculations

According to Chart 3, a relatively high reaction was observed in Tashkent, where the number of respondents was about 1,399 people, that is, 35% of the total number of respondents (3,977 units). Also, the Tashkent region accounted for 9%, the Samarkand region – 9%, and the Andijan region – 8%. On the other hand, relatively low reactions were recorded in Syrdarya (74 respondents or about 2% of the total number of respondents) and Navoi region (118 people or about 3% of the total number of respondents).

3004 organizations affiliated with the respondents (76% of the total number of respondents) carried out their main activities in the city (Chart 4), while 973 organizations (24%) – in rural areas.

Chart 4. Type of locality in which the organization carries out its main activity (units).

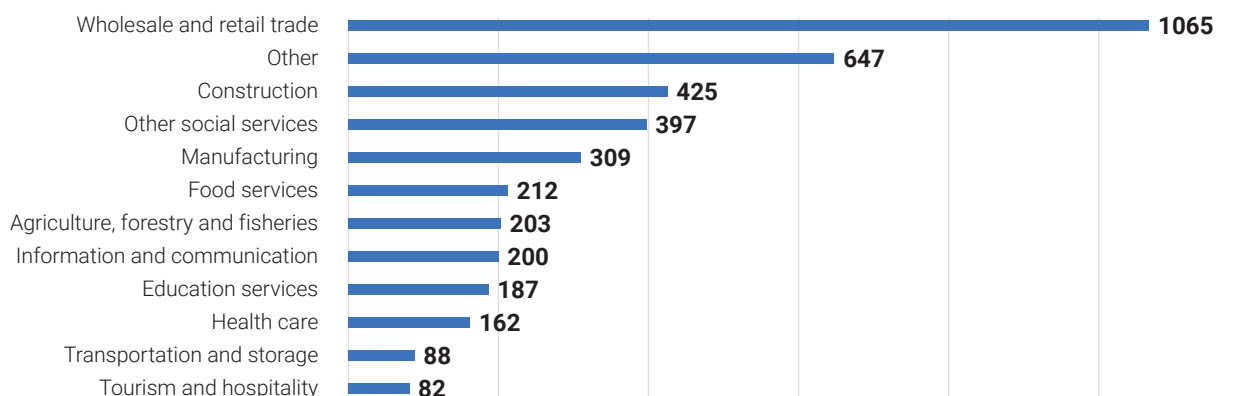


Source: Authors' calculations

Of the 3977 respondents, the proportion of men was 81% (3241 people), and the proportion of women was 19% (736 people). Also, about 48% of respondents (1,900 people) had higher education, 35% (1,383 people) – secondary-specialized, 11% (452 people) – general and 6% (242 people) – postgraduate. The average age of the respondents was 34 years. At the same time, the minimum age was 18 years, and the maximum was 86 years.

The sectoral distribution of organizations is shown in Chart 5. The prevailing number of organizations (27%) carried out their main activities in the wholesale and retail trade. From the construction sector, 11% of organizations were registered, the industrial sector – 8%, agriculture, forestry and fisheries – 5%, catering services – 5%, educational services – 5%, healthcare - 4%, and so on.

Chart 5. Sector in which the organization carries out its main activities (units).



Source: Authors' calculations

7. MAIN RESULTS

7.1. INTERACTION OF A BUSINESS WITH A PUBLIC OFFICIAL ON ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

Over the past 12 months, 47% of respondents (1,883 units) have been in contact with a public official, including through an intermediary, on issues related to a particular administrative procedure (Table 3).

Table 3. Interaction of business with a public official on administrative procedures (weighted by the proportion of the population, %)

Administrative procedures	Unweighted frequency (units)	Share (%)
Registration of import / export of goods through customs	515	32
Procedures related to tax return / tax legislation	517	28
Applications or contracts for connection of public utilities (electricity, gas supply, water supply, sewerage, etc.)	358	19
Competitive Bidding Process in Public Procurement	335	19
Obtaining other permits from government agencies	316	18
Obtaining or extending a business license	265	15
Procedures related to construction permits	258	14
Any other type of inspection by any other government agency	238	13
Conclusion of contracts with state institutions without competitive bidding	210	12
Litigation in administrative / civil / labor disputes	176	10
Procedures related to the allocation of land plots	175	9
Procedures related to labor legislation (including on-site inspections)	149	9
Procedures related to the health/safety of employees (including on-site inspections)	140	7
Procedures related to health/safety/environmental issues outside the enterprise	101	6
Criminal proceedings	80	4

Source: Authors' calculations

In particular, out of 1883 respondents who contacted a public official, 32% contacted in matters of registration of import / export of goods through customs, 28% - in procedures related to tax declaration / tax law, 19% - in matters of bids or contracts for connection to utilities (electricity, gas, water, sewerage, etc.), 19% - in the process of competitive bidding in public procurement procedures, 18% - in the process of obtaining other permits from state institutions, 15% - in obtaining or renewing a license for conducting business activities, 14% - in procedures

related to construction permits, 13% - in matters of any other type of inspection by any other state body, 12% - during the conclusion of contracts with state institutions without competitive bidding, 10% - during judicial administrative / civil / labor disputes, 9% - in procedures related to the allocation of land, 9% - in procedures related to labor law (including on-site inspections), 7% - in procedures related to health / safety employees (including on-site inspections), 6% in procedures related to health / safety / environmental issues outside the enterprise, 4% in criminal proceedings.

The regional distribution of the above procedures is shown in Table 3.1.

On the issues of import / export of goods through customs, business most of all contacted a public official in Tashkent (39%) and Bukhara region (31%), and on issues related to tax declaration/tax legislation - in Khorezm region (37%), Fergana (32%) and Kashka-Darya (35%) regions.

The third frequently contacted procedure - Competitive Bidding Process in Public Procurement - was relatively more often recorded in the Kashka-Darya (27%) region.

In other procedures, such as Applications or contracts for connection of public utilities (electricity, gas supply, water supply, sewerage, etc.) Khorezm region (27%) and Tashkent region (23%) were the leaders. Obtaining other permits from government agencies was especially widespread in Tashkent (21%). Obtaining or extending a business license was most spread in the Xorazm region (23%) while Procedures related to permits for Construction were leading in both the Xorazm region (21%) and Bukhara regions (21%). The conclusion of contracts with state institutions without competitive bidding was frequent in the Sirdaryo Region region (20%), and issues related to litigation on administrative/civil / labor disputes in the Republic of Karakalpakstan (15%) and Navoiy Region (15%).

The interaction of business with a public official in the procedures related to the allocation of land plots was most noted in the Syrdarya region (16% each).

Table 3.1. Interaction of business with a public official on administrative procedures: regional breakdown (weighted by the proportion of population, %).

Administrative procedures	Andijan Region	Bukhara Region	Jizzakh	Navoiy Region	Namangan Region	Samarqand Region	Sirdaryo Region	Surxondaryo Region	Tashkent Region	Tashkent	Fergana Region	Xorazm Region	Qashqadaryo Region	Republic of Karakalpakstan	in the Republic
Registration of import / export of goods through customs	29	31	14	24	21	24	18	9	26	39	23	20	23	15	32
Procedures related to tax return / tax legislation	24	29	28	25	24	29	18	23	31	28	32	37	35	15	28

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Administrative procedures	Andijan Region	Bukhara Region	Jizzakh	Navoiy Region	Namangan Region	Samarqand Region	Sirdaryo Region	Surxondaryo Region	Tashkent Region	Tashkent	Fergana Region	Xorazm Region	Qashqadaryo Region	Republic of Karakalpakstan	in the Republic
Competitive Bidding Process in Public Procurement	17	18	19	19	15	15	7	10	21	20	16	14	27	16	19
Applications or contracts for connection of public utilities (electricity, gas supply, water supply, sewerage, etc.)	20	14	19	7	19	22	7	19	24	18	22	27	15	16	19
Obtaining other permits from government agencies	17	16	14	20	8	16	20	10	17	21	16	16	13	13	18
Obtaining or extending a business license	12	7	2	15	13	15	4	10	14	16	15	23	6	15	15
Procedures related to construction permits	8	21	19	9	13	13	18	14	12	14	11	21	17	14	14
Any other type of inspection by any other government agency	7	12	14	11	7	15	4	12	15	14	17	13	12	9	13
Conclusion of contracts with state institutions without competitive bidding	10	11	10	11	17	7	20	9	11	13	7	11	14	7	12
Litigation in administrative / civil / labor disputes	12	7	13	15	2	7	7	7	11	12	6	8	6	15	10
Procedures related to the allocation of land plots	8	13	13	9	7	13	16	12	13	8	6	12	12	13	9
Procedures related to labor legislation (including on-site inspections)	10	11	5	7	1	9	7	7	7	10	5	9	5	2	9

Administrative procedures	Andijan Region	Bukhara Region	Jizzakh	Navoiy Region	Namangan Region	Samarqand Region	Sirdaryo Region	Surxondaryo Region	Tashkent Region	Tashkent	Fergana Region	Xorazm Region	Qashqadaryo Region	Republic of Karakalpakstan	in the Republic
Procedures related to the health/safety of employees (including on-site inspections)	11	11	9	4	7	9	0	1	7	6	9	8	6	5	7
Procedures related to health/safety/environmental issues outside the enterprise	6	8	4	3	3	3	2	1	7	6	7	6	6	4	6
Criminal proceedings	5	3	5	3	2	3	2	3	6	4	5	3	4	5	4

Source: Authors' calculations

The sectoral distribution of the procedures by which the business contacted the public official is given in Table 3.2. For example, representatives of wholesale and retail trade (49%), transportation and storage (46%), and industry (41%) were most concerned about the registration of import/export of goods through customs.

Also, industrialists interacted more often in the procedures related to the tax return/tax legislation (40%), while the issues of competitive bidding in public procurement procedures were most relevant subjects for the industrial sector (28%), and construction – (27%). Further, on applications or contracts for connection of public utilities, representatives of educational services (34%) and catering services (33%) were the leaders.

In addition, when obtaining or renewing a business license, the tourism and hotel business (29%) were the leaders. The construction sector ranked first in procedures related to construction permits (38%). The information and communication sector ranked first in concluding contracts with public institutions without competitive bidding (18%), and the agriculture, forestry, and fishery sectors ranked first in administrative/civil/labor litigation and land allocation procedures (18 and 23% respectively).

Table 3.2. Interaction of business with a public official on administrative procedures: sectoral breakdown (weighted by the proportion of population, %)

Administrative procedures	Information and communication	Other	Other social services	Catering services	Industry	Healthcare	Transportation and storage	Educational services	Tourism and hotel business	Wholesale and retail trade	Agriculture, forestry and fisheries	Construction	in the Republic
Registration of import / export of goods through customs	26	26	12	17	41	32	46	9	22	49	30	21	32
Procedures related to tax return / tax legislation	25	32	24	27	40	29	12	25	31	29	28	24	28
Competitive Bidding Process in Public Procurement	17	24	16	15	28	11	22	12	10	15	19	27	19
Applications or contracts for connection of public utilities (electricity, gas supply, water supply, sewerage, etc.)	9	20	26	33	30	23	17	34	10	12	17	12	19
Obtaining other permits from government agencies	28	21	19	14	23	21	19	28	15	13	24	14	18
Obtaining or extending a business license	15	16	11	8	17	25	19	22	29	12	9	14	15
Procedures related to construction permits	9	12	14	13	14	14	12	8	13	6	13	38	14
Any other type of inspection by any other government agency	15	15	17	17	15	13	12	15	16	10	18	11	13
Conclusion of contracts with state institutions without competitive bidding	18	14	12	13	16	7	15	13	8	7	14	17	12
Litigation in administrative / civil / labor disputes	11	14	14	8	15	4	12	8	10	7	18	8	10
Procedures related to the allocation of land plots	11	12	13	4	9	5	6	9	8	5	23	12	9

Administrative procedures	Information and communication	Other	Other social services	Catering services	Industry	Healthcare	Transportation and storage	Educational services	Tourism and hotel business	Wholesale and retail trade	Agriculture, forestry and fisheries	Construction	in the Republic
Procedures related to labor legislation (including on-site inspections)	10	13	8	7	11	11	9	10	6	6	7	9	9
Procedures related to the health/safety of employees (including on-site inspections)	9	6	7	13	15	16	7	7	6	3	4	6	7
Procedures related to health/safety/environmental issues outside the enterprise	9	5	8	8	11	10	4	4	10	2	4	4	6
Criminal proceedings	1	9	2	4	4	5	7	2	6	3	6	4	4

Source: Authors' calculations

7.2. CORRUPT PRACTICES IN THE INTERACTION OF BUSINESS WITH A PUBLIC OFFICIAL

Of the 1,883 respondents who have been in contact with a public official in the last 12 months, 960 respondents (51%) said it was necessary to give gifts, provide a reciprocal service, or give additional money to a public official responsible for a particular procedure, including through an intermediary, in addition to the amount of the necessary official fees.

Table 4 shows the ratio of corrupt practices and cases of contact with a public official under certain administrative procedures.

Table 4. The ratio of corrupt practices and cases of contact with a public official (weighted by the proportion of the population, %).

Administrative procedures	Unweighted frequency (units)	Share (%)
Any other type of inspection by any other government agency	117	50
Procedures related to the allocation of land plots	71	40
Procedures related to construction permits	105	39
Applications or contracts for connection of public utilities (electricity, gas supply, water supply, sewerage, etc.)	139	37
Criminal Trials	28	36
Competitive Bidding Process in Public Procurement	125	36
Registration of import / export of goods through customs	197	36
Conclusion of contracts with state institutions without competitive bidding	76	34
Procedures related to health/safety/environmental issues outside the enterprise	33	33
Procedures related to the health/safety of employees (including on-site inspections)	43	32
Obtaining other permits from government agencies	101	32
Procedures related to tax return / tax legislation	163	32
Obtaining or extending a business license	76	25
Procedures related to labor legislation (including on-site inspections)	38	24
Litigation in administrative / civil / labor disputes	39	21

Source: Authors' calculations

In particular, respondents noted that the most corrupt procedure is the procedure for allocating land plots – 40% of businessmen who have contacted a public official on this issue have encountered the subject of corruption. It is followed by Procedures related to construction permits (39%), Bids or contracts for connecting utilities (37%), Criminal Trials (36%), Registration of import / export of goods through customs (36%), Competitive Bidding Process in Public Procurement (36%) and others.

Corruption cases occur relatively less frequently in administrative/civil/labor disputes (21%) and in procedures related to labor legislation (24%).

The regional distribution of the ratios of corrupt practices and cases of contact with a public official is given in Table 4.1.

In the procedures related to the allocation of land plots, most of all, entrepreneurs faced the subject of corruption in Navoi (69%), Samarkand (59%), and Khorezm (50%) regions.

In 69% of cases of business interaction with public officials, entrepreneurs from the Navoi region had to resort to corruption in obtaining construction permits, which is the highest indicator among other regions. On this issue, the Namangan Region and Khorezm Region took second place with 51% and 50% of cases of corruption respectively.

Corrupt practices in the interaction of business with a public official on bids or contracts for the connection to utilities were most common in Namangan (70%), Syrdarya (67%), and Surkhandarya (62%) regions.

In addition, Syrdarya Province (100%) was the leader in criminal proceedings, Surkhandarya Province (57%), Jizzak Province (56%) and Namangan Province (56%) in competitive bidding in public procurement procedures, and Syrdarya Province (88%) and Jizzak Province (82%) in registration of import/export of goods through customs.

Table 4.1. The ratio of corrupt practices and cases of contact with a public official: regional breakdown (weighted by the proportion of the population, %).

Administrative procedures	Andijan Region	Bukhara Region	Jizzakh	Navoiy Region	Namangan Region	Samarqand Region	Sirdaryo Region	Surxondaryo Region	Tashkent Region	Tashkent	Fergana Region	Xorazm Region	Qashqadaryo Region	Republic of Karakalpakstan	in the Republic
Any other type of inspection by any other government agency	49	31	65	25	40	33	100	63	49	56	39	36	54	40	50
Procedures related to the allocation of land plots	44	19	39	69	33	59	14	38	28	42	45	50	43	0	40
Procedures related to construction permits	38	24	33	69	51	22	12	30	42	42	43	50	24	38	39
Applications or contracts for connection of public utilities (electricity, gas supply, water supply, sewerage, etc.)	33	45	38	40	70	44	67	62	33	34	40	48	27	11	37
Criminal Trials	13	0	75	58	50	50	100	0	44	36	21	33	51	30	36

Analytical report on the assessment of the level of corruption in various sectors of the economy of Uzbekistan and the regions of the republic

Administrative procedures	Andijan Region	Bukhara Region	Jizzakh	Navoiy Region	Namangan Region	Samarqand Region	Sirdaryo Region	Surxondaryo Region	Tashkent Region	Tashkent	Fergana Region	Xorazm Region	Qashqadaryo Region	Republic of Karakalpakstan	in the Republic
Competitive Bidding Process in Public Procurement	44	27	56	39	56	40	33	57	30	36	24	25	36	44	36
Registration of import / export of goods through customs	32	42	82	20	58	39	88	67	19	37	40	35	22	63	36
Conclusion of contracts with state institutions without competitive bidding	43	11	51	37	31	31	33	50	34	33	26	45	29	75	34
Procedures related to health/safety/environmental issues outside the enterprise	11	0	67	50	33	58	0	100	33	37	26	0	30	0	33
Procedures related to the health/safety of employees (including on-site inspections)	28	12	29	0	50	47	0	0	21	36	31	14	29	0	32
Obtaining other permits from government agencies	38	35	18	17	71	36	56	57	18	32	36	28	31	0	32
Procedures related to tax return / tax legislation	31	41	21	28	60	26	25	38	29	32	15	34	43	38	32
Obtaining or extending a business license	55	17	50	9	33	43	50	43	23	20	33	15	29	63	25
Procedures related to labor legislation (including on-site inspections)	38	12	23	42	0	38	33	60	6	23	17	0	29	0	24
Litigation in administrative / civil / labor disputes	23	18	48	23	0	20	0	40	23	20	15	14	29	13	21

Source: Authors' calculations

An industry breakdown of the ratio of corrupt practices and cases of contact with a public official is given in Table 4.2.

At the same time, the most corrupt procedure – the allocation of land plots was most mentioned by businesses from the tourism and hotel business (85%) and healthcare (85%).

Entrepreneurs from tourism and hotel businesses faced corruption most of all in the procedures related to construction permits (84%). The tourism and hotel business also experienced corruption when submitting applications or concluding contracts for connecting utilities (electricity, gas, water, sewerage, etc.) – 89%.

Corruption, in criminal prosecutions, was the most encountered by healthcare (67%) and transportation and storage (57%) entrepreneurs.

Table 4.2. The ratio of corrupt practices and cases of contact with a public official: sectoral breakdown (weighted by the proportion of the population, %)

Administrative procedures	Information and communication	Other	Other social services	Catering services	Industry	Healthcare	Transportation and storage	Educational services	Tourism and hotel business	Wholesale and retail trade	Agriculture, forestry and fisheries	Construction	in the Republic
Any other type of inspection by any other government agency	37	54	81	74	29	55	75	32	49	37	39	62	50
Procedures related to the allocation of land plots	49	27	55	43	19	85	28	49	85	63	23	30	40
Procedures related to construction permits	47	21	44	20	43	32	25	39	84	39	34	46	39
Applications or contracts for connection of public utilities (electricity, gas supply, water supply, sewerage, etc.)	51	31	39	41	31	49	15	55	89	31	29	33	37
Criminal Trials	0	35	0	53	19	67	57	0	24	39	34	42	36
Competitive Bidding Process in Public Procurement	55	34	35	53	17	56	73	11	49	43	28	32	36
Registration of import / export of goods through customs	36	30	41	41	14	36	43	31	31	42	37	37	36

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Administrative procedures	Information and communication	Other	Other social services	Catering services	Industry	Healthcare	Transportation and storage	Educational services	Tourism and hotel business	Wholesale and retail trade	Agriculture, forestry and fisheries	Construction	in the Republic
Conclusion of contracts with state institutions without competitive bidding	50	22	19	33	18	100	20	19	0	43	53	43	34
Procedures related to health/safety/environmental issues outside the enterprise	25	24	36	20	5	55	100	15	42	39	66	52	33
Procedures related to the health/safety of employees (including on-site inspections)	36	25	22	26	8	79	78	15	66	27	45	33	32
Obtaining other permits from government agencies	38	28	30	29	17	61	16	26	23	36	29	41	32
Procedures related to tax return / tax legislation	16	22	42	21	26	37	16	29	24	39	29	36	32
Obtaining or extending a business license	8	23	29	11	9	44	15	39	21	27	39	28	25
Procedures related to labor legislation (including on-site inspections)	44	21	19	8	10	46	67	41	0	14	20	30	24
Litigation in administrative / civil / labor disputes	6	18	29	12	12	61	25	0	29	29	21	19	21

Source: Authors' calculations

7.3. THE FREQUENCY OF CORRUPT PRACTICES IN THE INTERACTION OF BUSINESS WITH A PUBLIC OFFICIAL

The purpose of the next question was to assess the frequency of Giving a gift, providing a return service or transferring additional money in the last 12 months. The frequency of corruption was evaluated for each procedure according to the following frequency categories: "1 time", "2-5 times" and "more than 5 times" (Table 5).

Table 5. The ratio of the frequency of corrupt practices and cases of contact with a public official (%)

Administrative procedures	1 time	2-5 times	More than 5
Procedures related to construction permits	18	12	11
Any other type of inspection by any other government agency	18	18	13
Applications or contracts for connection of public utilities (electricity, gas supply, water supply, sewerage, etc.)	18	15	7
Criminal proceedings	18	11	6
Competitive Bidding Process in Public Procurement	17	11	9
Procedures related to the allocation of land plots	17	17	7
Obtaining or extending a business license	16	8	4
Procedures related to health/safety/environmental issues outside the enterprise	16	7	10
Registration of import / export of goods through customs	15	9	14
Conclusion of contracts with state institutions without competitive bidding	13	10	12
Procedures related to the health/safety of employees (including on-site inspections)	13	11	6
Obtaining other permits from government agencies	13	11	9
Procedures related to tax return / tax legislation	12	12	7
Procedures related to labor legislation (including on-site inspections)	12	7	7
Litigation in administrative / civil / labor disputes	11	6	5

Source: Authors' calculations

According to the results, the category (Giving a bribe) for "1 time" only was headed by such procedures as obtaining construction permits (in 18% of cases when a business contacted a public official, entrepreneurs had to give gifts, provide a return service or give extra money), applications or contracts for connecting utilities (18%), criminal cases (18%) and any other type of check on any other state institution (18%).

On the other hand, 17% of respondents who participated in procedures related to the allocation of land plots, and 15% in applications or contracts for the provision of utilities experienced corrupt practices from 2 to 5 times.

The most corrupt procedures in the last category "more than 5 times" were such activities as the registration of import/export of goods through customs (14%) and conclusion of contracts with government agencies without competitive bidding (12%).

7.4. THE LATEST CORRUPTION PRACTICE IN THE INTERACTION OF BUSINESS WITH A PUBLIC OFFICIAL: ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

In the next stage, those respondents (960 people) who had experience of bribery, in one form or another, with a public official, were interviewed for “Recent experience”, that is, the respondents were asked the following question (Table 6): “The last time your organization had to give a gift, provide a return service or give additional money to public officials or civil servants, for what administrative procedure was it intended?”.

Table 6. The latest corruption practice in the interaction of business with a public official (weighted by the proportion of the population, %).

Administrative procedures	Unweighted frequency (units)	Share
Refrain from answering	265	27
Registration of import / export of goods through customs	136	15
Procedures related to tax return / tax legislation	74	9
Competitive Bidding Process in Public Procurement	81	8
Any other type of inspection by any other government agency	62	7
Applications or contracts for connection of public utilities (electricity, gas supply, water supply, sewerage, etc.)	61	7
Obtaining other permits from government agencies	46	5
Procedures related to construction permits	53	5
Conclusion of contracts with state institutions without competitive bidding	40	4
Procedures related to the allocation of land plots	31	3
Obtaining or extending a business license	30	3
Procedures related to the health/safety of employees (including on-site inspections)	26	2
Procedures related to labor legislation (including on-site inspections)	19	2
Criminal proceedings	14	2
Procedures related to health/safety/environmental issues outside the enterprise	13	1
Litigation in administrative / civil / labor disputes	9	1
Total	960	100

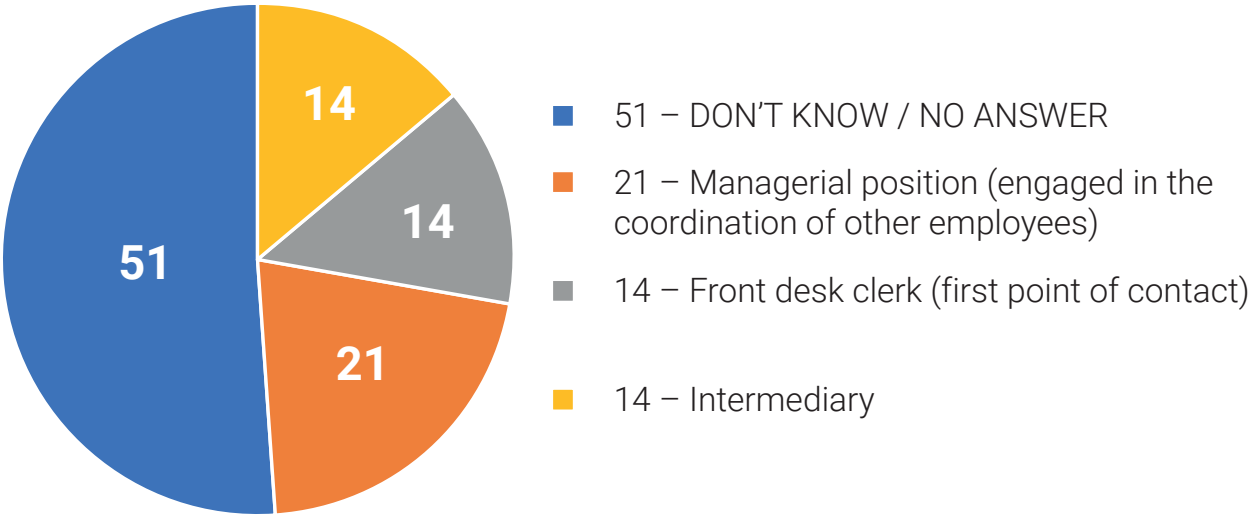
Source: Authors' calculations

In particular, out of 960 respondents, 27% refrained from clarifying their last corrupt experience, 15% had “the last experience of bribery” in the issues of registration oimport/exportrt of goods through customs, 9% – in procedures related to tax declaration/tax legislation, 8% – in the process of competitive bidding in public procurement procedures, 7% – in matters of any other type of inspection by any other state body, 7% – in matters of applications or contracts for the connection of utilities (electricity, gas, water, sewerage, etc.), 5% – in procedures related to construction permits, 5% – during the receipt of other permits from state institutions, 4% – during the conclusion of contracts with state institutions without competitive bidding, 3% – in procedures related to the allocation of land plots, 3% – in obtaining or renewing a business license, etc.

7.5. THE LATEST CORRUPTION PRACTICE IN THE INTERACTION OF BUSINESS WITH A PUBLIC OFFICIAL: POSITION/TYPE OF PUBLIC OFFICIAL

The next question concerned the position/type of public official who demanded a gift, a response or an additional payment from the respondent (organization) in the case of “Last Experience” (Chart 6).

Chart 6. The latest corruption practice in the interaction of business with a public official: Position/type of public official (weighted by the proportion of the population, %).



Source: Authors' calculations

Consequently, out of 960 respondents, 51% refrained from answering/did not answer, 21% indicated that a public person held a managerial position, 14% noted that a public person was an employee at the registration desk, 14% stated that the person who demanded a gift, a response or an additional fee from the respondent (organization) was an intermediary.

The fact that more than half of respondents (51%) refrain from answering with a high probability indicates concern about confidentiality and anonymity.

According to Table 7.1, which shows the regional breakdown of respondents' responses about the position/type of public official, involved in corrupt practices, the leading position was most often noted by entrepreneurs from the Ferghana (30%) and Kashkadarya (25%) regions.

In addition, the employee at the reception desk was involved in corrupt practices in 21% of cases in Surkhandarya, in 20% of cases in the Andijan region, and in 19% of cases in the Bukhara region.

Among other regions of the republic, the implementation of corrupt practices through an intermediary was most common in the Jizzakh (20%), Syrdarya (19%) and Surkhandarya (18%) regions.

Table 7.1. The latest corruption practice in the interaction of business with a public official: position/type of public official, regional breakdown (weighted by the proportion of the population, %).

Position/type of public official	Andijan Region	Bukhara Region	Jizzakh	Navoiy Region	Namangan Region	Samarqand Region	Sirdaryo Region	Surxondaryo Region	Tashkent Region	Tashkent	Fergana Region	Xorazm Region	Qashqadaryo Region	Republic of Karakalpakstan	in the Republic
DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER	53	52	53	57	54	64	69	39	57	47	47	53	53	57	51
Supervisory position (engaged in coordination of other employees)	19	19	15	20	17	14	4	21	17	24	30	18	25	11	21
Employee at the front desk (first contact person)	20	19	12	12	18	9	8	21	15	13	17	14	9	17	14
Intermediary	8	11	20	11	11	13	19	18	11	16	6	16	13	14	14

Source: Authors' calculations

By industry (Table 7.2), employees in senior positions demanded a gift, return, or additional payment, most of all from business representatives from the tourism and hotel business (28%) and from the agriculture, forestry, and fisheries sectors (30%).

Also, employees at the reception were involved in corruption relatively more than others with businesses from agriculture, forestry, and fisheries (21%), while intermediaries more often came from the healthcare sector (25%).

Table 7.2. The latest corruption practice in the interaction of business with a public official: position/type of public official, by sector (weighted by the proportion of the population, %)

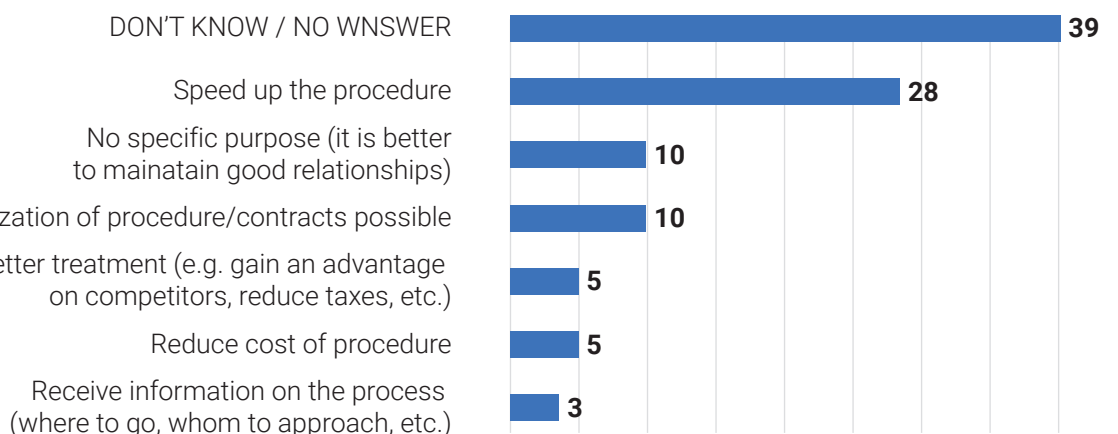
Position/type of public official	Information and communication	Other	Other social services	Catering services	Industry	Healthcare	Transportation and storage	Educational services	Tourism and hotel business	Wholesale and retail trade	Agriculture, forestry and fisheries	Construction	in the Republic
DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER	51	47	66	58	41	51	54	46	48	51	35	49	51
Supervisory position (engaged in coordination of other employees)	22	22	16	16	25	19	25	27	32	18	30	26	21
Employee at the front desk (first contact person)	12	15	12	15	19	6	18	15	12	15	21	9	14
Intermediary	15	16	6	11	15	25	3	12	8	15	14	16	14

Source: Authors' calculations

7.6. THE LATEST CORRUPTION PRACTICE IN THE INTERACTION OF BUSINESS WITH A PUBLIC OFFICIAL: THE PURPOSE/MOTIVES OF CORRUPTION

Following the series of questions about the “Last Experience”, respondents were also asked about the main purpose of giving a gift, providing a return service, or paying an additional amount of money (Chart 7).

Chart 7. The latest corruption practice in the interaction of business with a public official: the purpose/motives of corruption (weighted by the proportion of the population, %).



Source: Authors' calculations

According to the results, out of 960 respondents, 39% refrained from answering / did not answer about the purpose of bribery.

On the part of 28%, it was noted that the main purpose of giving a gift, providing a return service or paying an additional amount of money was to speed up procedures, 10% had no specific goal (to maintain good relations).

The goal of 10% of respondents was to make it possible to complete the procedure /contract, 5% of respondents wanted to receive preferential treatment (for example, gaining an advantage over competitors, reducing taxes, etc.), 5% – reduce the cost of the procedure, and 3% – get information about the process (where to go, who to contact, etc.).

In the last 12 months entrepreneurs from Tashkent (33%) interacted with a public official the most in order to speed up procedures (Table 8.1).

In addition, the lack of a specific goal (to maintain good relations) was relatively more common among business representatives from the Bukhara region (21%).

Such Variables as “to make it possible to complete the procedure/contract” were more often noted by entrepreneurs from Namangan region (17%), “to receive preferential treatment (for example, gaining an advantage over competitors, reducing taxes, etc.)” – from the Republic of Karakalpakstan (18%), “to reduce the cost of the procedure” – from the Syrdarya region (24%), “to get information about the process (where to go, who to contact, etc.)” – from Namangan region (12%).

Table 8.1. The latest corruption practice in the interaction of business with a public official: the purpose/motives of corruption, regional breakdown (weighted by the proportion of the population, %).

Purpose/motives of corruption	Andijan Region	Bukhara Region	Jizzakh	Navoiy Region	Namangan Region	Samarqand Region	Sirdaryo Region	Surxondaryo Region	Tashkent Region	Tashkent	Fergana Region	Xorazm Region	Qashqadaryo Region	Republic of Karakalpakstan	in the Republic
DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER	45	42	41	50	40	46	46	39	45	33	53	44	45	61	39
To speed up the procedure	25	12	24	15	13	22	15	21	27	33	24	29	25	18	28
Lack of a specific goal (to maintain a good relationship)	7	21	6	13	13	10	4	18	10	10	9	9	8	0	10
To make it possible to complete the procedure/ contract	10	7	6	15	17	6	4	0	5	13	0	4	11	0	10

Purpose/motives of corruption	Andijan Region	Bukhara Region	Jizzakh	Navoiy Region	Namangan Region	Samarqand Region	Sirdaryo Region	Surxondaryo Region	Tashkent Region	Tashkent	Fergana Region	Xorazm Region	Qashqadaryo Region	Republic of Karakalpakstan	in the Republic
To get preferential treatment (for example, gaining an advantage over competitors, reducing taxes, etc.)	4	7	8	7	5	5	0	6	1	6	4	2	4	18	5
To reduce the cost of the procedure	7	4	8	0	0	7	24	12	3	5	6	9	0	0	5
To get information about the process (where to go, who to contact, etc.)	2	7	6	0	12	4	8	3	10	1	4	2	7	3	3

Source: Authors' calculations

The sectoral breakdown of the goals/motives of corruption practices is given in Table 8.2.

According to the results, entrepreneurs from industry (39%) and tourism and hotel business (39%) turned to corrupt practices in order to speed up procedures the most.

Further, such motives as "Lack of a specific goal (to maintain a good relationship)" were leading among organizations from the catering services sector (15%) and transportation and storage (15%), and "Make it possible to complete the procedure/contract" – from information and communication (22%), "obtaining preferential treatment (for example, gaining an advantage over competitors, reducing taxes, etc.)" – from transportation and storage (9%), "reducing the cost of procedures" – from tourism and hotel business (14%), "getting information about the process (where to go, who to contact, etc.)" – from transportation and storage (7%).

Table 8.2. The latest corruption practice in the interaction of business with a public official: the purpose/motives of corruption, sectoral breakdown (weighted by the proportion of the population, %).

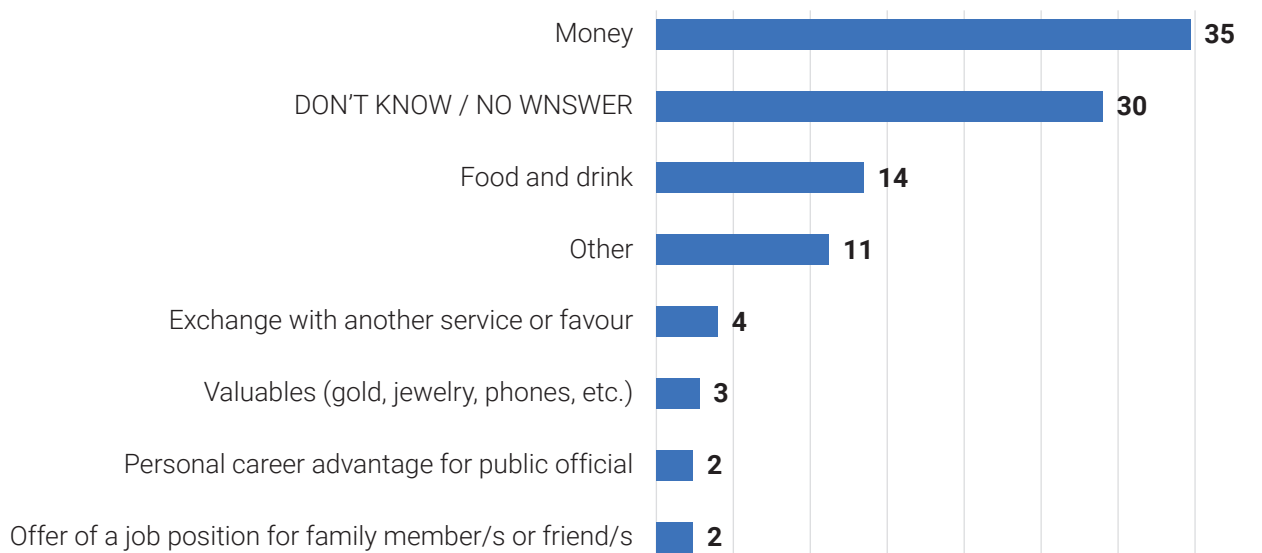
Purpose/motives of corruption	Information and communication	Other	Other social services	Catering services	Industry	Healthcare	Transportation and storage	Educational services	Tourism and hotel business	Wholesale and retail trade	Agriculture, forestry and fisheries	Construction	in the Republic
DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER	41	38	54	44	24	44	38	44	37	39	24	38	39
To speed up the procedure	21	28	16	23	39	27	11	28	39	30	30	32	28
Lack of a specific goal (to maintain a good relationship)	2	10	12	15	8	11	15	3	6	11	12	5	10
To make it possible to complete the procedure/contract	22	10	5	0	9	11	14	12	0	9	18	12	10
To get preferential treatment (for example, gaining an advantage over competitors, reducing taxes, etc.)	8	7	3	7	6	4	9	8	0	4	7	6	5
To reduce the cost of the procedure	2	4	3	7	13	3	6	4	14	4	4	5	5
To get information about the process (where to go, who to contact, etc.)	3	2	8	4	2	0	7	0	3	4	5	2	3

Source: Authors' calculations

7.7. THE LATEST CORRUPTION PRACTICE IN THE INTERACTION OF BUSINESS WITH A PUBLIC OFFICIAL: TYPE OF CORRUPTION

The respondents also clarified what exactly the respondent (organization) provided as a bribe to a public official (Chart 8).

Chart 8. The latest corruption practice in the interaction of business with a public official: type of corruption (weighted by the proportion of the population, %)



Source: Authors' calculations

Of the 960 respondents, 35% indicated money as a bribe, 30% abstained from answering / did not answer, 14% – Food and beverages, 11% – Other, 4% – Exchange for another service or benefit, 3% – Valuables (gold, jewelry, phones, etc.), 3% – Personal career advantage for a public official, 2% – Position for relative(s) or friends.

The regional distribution of the type /type of the latest corruption practice in the interaction of business with a public official is shown in Table 9.1. In particular, the most common type of corruption – money, was more popular among entrepreneurs from Tashkent (42%). On the other hand, food and beverages were most often presented by businesses from Syrdarya region (24%).

Also, exchange for another service or benefit as a bribe was offered most often in the Surxondaryo Region (12%), valuables (gold, jewelry, telephones, etc.) - in the Buzhar region (6%), personal career advantages for civil servant - in Namangan region (7%), and, lastly, position for relatives or friends was frequently offered as a bribe in Syrdarya region (8%).

Table 9.1. The latest corruption practice in the interaction of business with a public official: type of corruption, regional breakdown (weighted by the proportion of the population, %)

Type of corruption	Andijan Region	Bukhara Region	Jizzakh	Navoiy Region	Namangan Region	Samarqand Region	Sirdaryo Region	Surxondaryo Region	Tashkent Region	Tashkent	Fergana Region	Xorazm Region	Qashqadaryo Region	Republic of Karakalpakstan	in the Republic
Money	30	29	20	39	32	26	19	24	34	42	30	27	27	22	35
DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER	29	24	43	46	26	36	42	21	35	27	26	40	28	54	30
Food and beverages	20	21	10	4	17	19	24	15	15	12	14	16	15	7	14
Other	11	9	6	4	12	9	8	21	13	11	15	13	15	7	11
Exchange for another service or benefit	2	7	8	0	0	3	0	12	2	4	6	0	3	4	4
Valuables (gold, jewelry, phones, etc.)	1	6	2	4	6	3	0	0	1	3	4	0	2	0	3
Personal career advantage for a public official	5	0	4	4	7	4	0	6	0	1	2	4	2	0	2
Position for relative(s) or friends	1	4	6	0	0	0	8	0	1	2	2	0	7	7	2

Source: Authors' calculations

In terms of sectors (Table 9.2), bribery was most practiced by entrepreneurs from the health sector (44%), industry (47%), and the tourism and hospitality sector (45%).

In addition, the transfer of food and beverages was most often carried out by representatives of catering services (44%), in exchange for another service or benefit - by representatives of educational services (14%) and tourism and hotel businesses (13%), valuables (gold, jewelry, phones, etc.) – of educational services (6%) and construction (5%). Personal career advantage for a public official was most practiced by entrepreneurs from the tourism and hotel business (5%), while the position for relative(s) or friends was most often carried out by representatives from the information and communication sector (7%).

Table 9.2. The latest corruption practice in the interaction of business with a public official: type of corruption, sectoral breakdown(weighted by the proportion of the population, %).

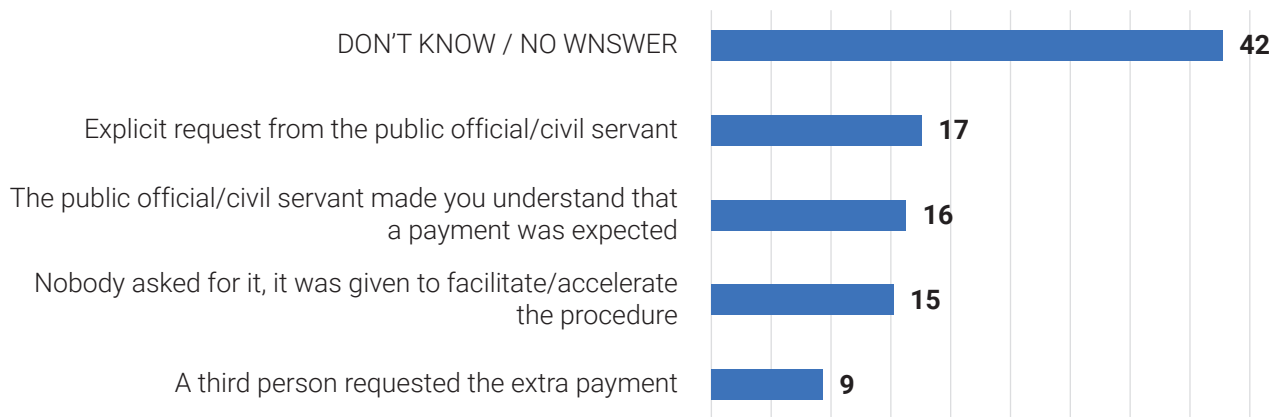
Type of corruption	Information and communication	Other	Other social services	Catering services	Industry	Healthcare	Transportation and storage	Educational services	Tourism and hotel business	Wholesale and retail trade	Agriculture, forestry and fisheries	Construction	in the Republic
Money	41	36	35	21	47	44	39	31	45	32	35	37	35
DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER	45	30	35	22	20	36	34	25	31	26	24	39	30
Food and beverages	2	8	2	44	8	2	16	0	3	22	17	9	14
Other	0	16	13	8	15	7	3	20	3	12	14	8	11
Exchange for another service or benefit	2	4	6	3	5	0	3	14	13	3	4	0	4
Valuables (gold, jewelry, phones, etc.)	0	2	5	0	1	3	0	6	0	3	1	3	3
Personal career advantage for a public official	3	1	3	1	1	3	2	4	5	1	3	2	2
Position for relative(s) or friends	7	4	0	2	3	5	3	1	0	0	2	1	2

Source: Authors' calculations

7.8. THE LATEST CORRUPTION PRACTICE IN THE INTERACTION OF BUSINESS WITH A PUBLIC OFFICIAL: THE ORIGIN OF CORRUPTION

To the question, how did you understand what happened in the end, the respondents answered as follows (Chart 9): 42% – refrained from answering/did not answer, 17% – indicated that this was done in order to obtain additional information, 16% – noted that officials made them understand that they expect a payment, 15% replied that no one asked for it and it was done to facilitate/speed up the procedure. 9% said that a third party demanded additional benefits.

Chart 9. The latest corruption practice in the interaction of business with a public official: the origin of corruption (weighted by the proportion of the population, %)



Source: Authors' calculations

The regional breakdown of the types of origin of corruption practices is given in Table 10.1.

Most of all, that is, 27% of entrepreneurs from the Xorazm Region reported that the bribe was a direct demand of a public official, and 31% of respondents from the Syrdarya region noted that a public person made it clear to the business that the payment was expected.

The answer in the form of "No one asked for this, it was done to facilitate/speed up the procedure" was most often noted by businesses from Namangan region (23%), and the option "A third party demanded an additional benefit" was chosen by businesses from Bukhara (19%) regions.

Table 10.1. The latest corruption practice in the interaction of business with a public official: the origin of corruption, regional breakdown (weighted by the proportion of the population, %)

The origin of corruption	Andijan Region	Bukhara Region	Jizzakh	Navoiy Region	Namangan Region	Samarqand Region	Sirdaryo Region	Surxondaryo Region	Tashkent Region	Tashkent	Fergana Region	Xorazm Region	Qashqadaryo Region	Republic of Karakalpakstan	in the Republic
DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER	41	42	37	50	33	57	38	42	41	40	51	47	52	50	42
A public official/civil servant has made it clear that a payment is expected	12	15	14	7	9	12	31	9	19	19	17	11	14	7	17

The origin of corruption	Andijan Region	Bukhara Region	Jizzakh	Navoiy Region	Namangan Region	Samarqand Region	Sirdaryo Region	Surxondaryo Region	Tashkent Region	Tashkent	Fergana Region	Xorazm Region	Qashqadaryo Region	Republic of Karakalpakstan	in the Republic
Direct demand from a public official/civil servant	24	12	24	24	21	15	8	24	17	15	13	27	7	18	16
No one asked for this, it was done to facilitate/speed up the procedure	14	13	14	15	23	10	15	15	15	17	11	9	10	14	15
A third party demanded an additional benefit	9	19	10	4	13	6	8	9	8	9	9	7	17	11	9

Source: Authors' calculations

Table 10.2 shows an industry breakdown of the origin of corrupt practices.

The fact that the bribe was a direct demand of a public official was most noted by organizations from the tourism and hotel business (24%).

At the same time, representatives of the industrial sector (23%) and of the Agriculture, forestry and fisheries (23%) reported that a public official made it clear to them that payment was expected.

Most often, 28% of respondents from the education sector and 27% from the healthcare sector noted that no one asked for a bribe – it was done to facilitate /speed up the procedure, and 15% from Transportation and storage sector as well as from Tourism and hotel business reported that a third party demanded an additional benefit.

Table 10.2. The latest corruption practice in the interaction of business with a public official: the origin of corruption, by sector (weighted by the proportion of the population, %).

The origin of corruption	Information and communication	Other	Other social services	Catering services	Industry	Healthcare	Transportation and storage	Educational services	Tourism and hotel business	Wholesale and retail trade	Agriculture, forestry and fisheries	Construction	in the Republic
DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER	49	45	51	51	31	41	42	43	42	40	30	46	42
A public official/civil servant has made it clear that a payment is expected	17	21	17	17	23	11	14	6	15	16	23	15	17
Direct demand from a public official/civil servant	18	14	13	18	20	9	16	14	24	19	16	15	16
No one asked for this, it was done to facilitate/speed up the procedure	4	17	9	10	13	27	14	28	4	16	19	13	15
A third party demanded an additional benefit	12	3	10	4	14	12	15	9	15	9	11	11	9

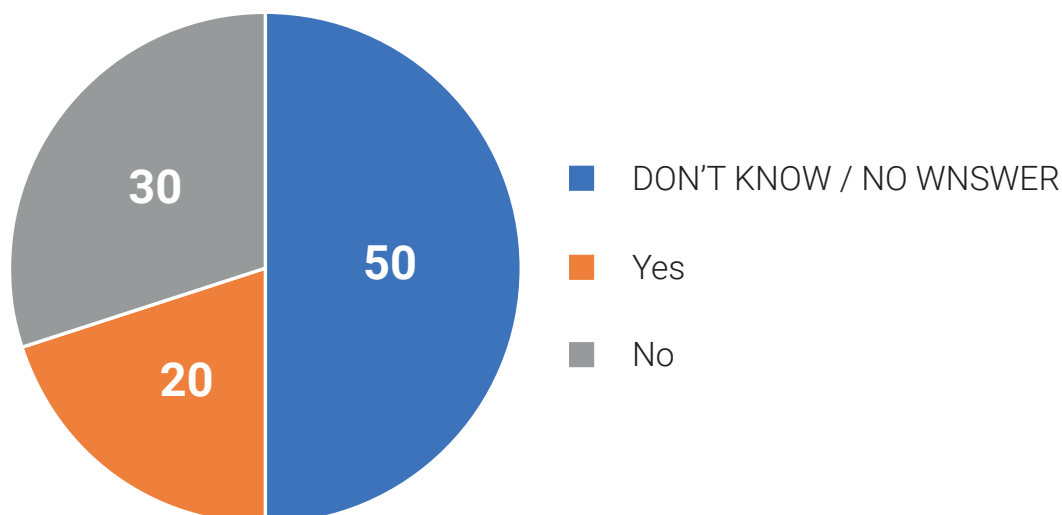
Source: Authors' calculations

7.9. THE IMPACT OF CORRUPTION ON BUSINESS INVESTMENT DECISIONS AND THE SUBJECT OF CORRUPTION IN THE INTERACTION OF BUSINESS WITH COMMERCIAL BANKS

The following questions were directed at the full target population (a total of 3977 respondents), who are business representatives and who engage in commercial activity at various levels of employment. However, since investment decisions are only made by the management of enterprises (founders, directors, deputy directors, etc.), and not by employees, the results of the question about refraining from investing due to fear of corruption are only based on their responses.

Based on the results of additional questions, the following were identified (Chart 10 and 11). In the last 12 months, 20% of respondents (organizations) refrained from investing due to fear of having to give a gift, provide a return favor or give extra money in order to obtain the necessary services/permits.

Chart 10. Businesses refraining from investment due to fear of the need for corruption, by sector (weighted by population, %)



Source: Authors' calculations

It was also revealed (Table 11.1) that the subject of corruption most often negatively influenced the investment decisions of organizations from the Syrdarya (32%) region.

Table 11.1. Businesses refraining from investment due to fear of the need for corruption, by sector (weighted by population, %).

Source: Authors' calculations

	Andijan Region	Bukhara Region	Jizzakh	Navoiy Region	Namangan Region	Samarqand Region	Sirdaryo Region	Surxondaryo Region	Tashkent Region	Tashkent	Fergana Region	Xorazm Region	Qashqadaryo Region	Republic of Karakalpakstan	in the Republic
DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER	46	43	32	45	59	54	35	45	49	49	52	47	55	53	50
No	32	38	42	36	31	30	33	33	32	28	26	28	29	30	30
Yes	22	20	26	19	10	15	32	22	19	22	22	25	16	17	21

It is worth noting that 30% of business representatives from agriculture, forestry, and fisheries noted that they refrained from investing due to fear of the need for corruption (Table 11.2).

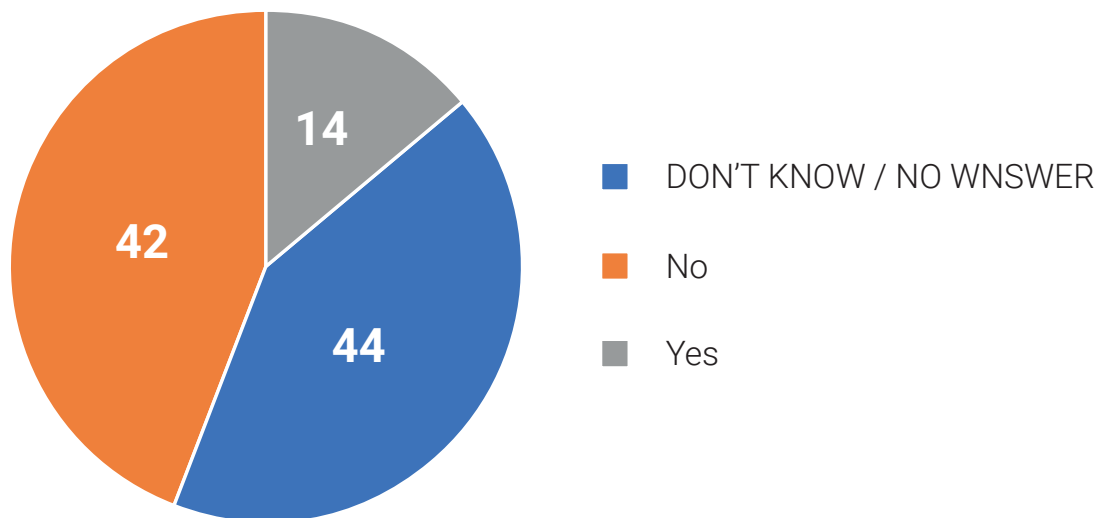
Table 11.2. Refraining from investments by businesses due to fear of the need for corruption, by sector (weighted by population, %)

	Information and communication	Other	Other social services	Catering services	Industry	Healthcare	Transportation and storage	Educational services	Tourism and hotel business	Wholesale and retail trade	Agriculture, forestry and fisheries	Construction	in the Republic
DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER	49	51	54	52	47	55	42	49	44	51	36	50	50
No	25	31	27	33	29	31	41	31	38	28	33	30	30
Yes	26	18	19	15	25	14	17	21	18	21	30	20	21

Source: Authors' calculations

The results of the next question showed that in the last 12 months, 14% of respondents (organizations) experienced bribery and/or corruption in the process of obtaining bank loans from commercial banks (Chart 11).

Chart 11. The collision of business with bribery and/or corruption in the process of obtaining bank loans from commercial banks (weighted by the proportion of the population, %).



Source: Authors' calculations

Among the regions of the republic (Table 12.1), in terms of the level of encounter with corruption in the process of obtaining bank loans from commercial banks, the highest rates were in the Surxondaryo Region (25%).

Table 12.1. The collision of business with bribery and/or corruption in the process of obtaining bank loans from commercial banks, regional breakdown (weighted by the proportion of the population, %).

Variables	Andijan Region	Bukhara Region	Jizzakh	Navoiy Region	Namangan Region	Samarqand Region	Sirdaryo Region	Surxondaryo Region	Tashkent Region	Tashkent	Fergana Region	Xorazm Region	Qashqadaryo Region	Republic of Karakalpakstan	in the Republic
DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER	41	33	31	43	41	43	31	33	43	48	41	39	43	39	45
No	40	51	46	45	43	44	46	41	44	40	44	45	43	46	42
Yes	19	16	24	12	16	13	23	25	13	12	15	16	14	14	14

Source: Authors' calculations

By industry (Table 12.2), representatives of agriculture, forestry and fisheries (27%), as well as tourism and hospitality (26%), were more likely than others to encounter bribery and/or corruption in the process of obtaining bank loans from commercial banks.

Table 12.2. The collision of business with bribery and/or corruption in the process of obtaining bank loans from commercial banks, by sector (weighted by the proportion of the population, %).

Variables	Information and communication	Other	Other social services	Catering services	Industry	Healthcare	Transportation and storage	Educational services	Tourism and hotel business	Wholesale and retail trade	Agriculture, forestry and fisheries	Construction	in the Republic
DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER	52	46	48	44	50	41	46	33	39	47	26	39	45
No	37	42	40	43	36	44	42	52	42	41	47	45	42
Yes	11	12	12	12	14	15	12	15	19	12	26	16	14

Source: Authors' calculations

8. RECOMMENDATIONS ON PROMOTING INTEGRITY ISSUES IN BUSINESS AND REDUCING CORRUPTION RISKS

In recent years, the government of Uzbekistan has undertaken a number of key reforms in the field of anti-corruption policy. The definition of “corruption”, “corruption offenses” and “conflict of interest” were first spelled out in the Law “On Combating Corruption”, which entered into force on 03/01/2017. The law outlined the main objectives of government policy in the fight against corruption, including increasing public awareness of and adherence to the law, cultivating a culture of indifference towards corruption, putting measures in place to prevent corruption in all areas of state and social life, promptly identifying and suppressing corruption offenses, and eradicating the conditions that lead to and aggravate corruption offenses.

Additionally, the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan (No. UP-6257 of 06.07.2021) “On measures to create an environment of intolerance to corruption, radically reduce corruption factors in state and public administration, as well as broad public involvement in this process” and the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan (No. PP-5177 of 06.07.2021) “On additional measures for the effective organization of anti-corruption activities” have entered into force.

An open budget website for transparency of government spending has been launched. The operation of the initiative budgeting system has been started.

Such positive structural changes in the fight against corruption have affected the country’s positioning in international rankings. Thus, according to the Transparency International Corruption Perception Index, from 2016 to 2022, Uzbekistan improved its position in the country ranking by 30 positions and today occupies the 126th place (31 out of 100) among 180 countries

Despite the ongoing practical work in the field of combating corruption, the country faces a number of key challenges – the problem of corruption remains relevant.

It is also vital to note that the New Uzbekistan’s Development Strategy for 2022–2026 places a high priority on fighting corruption.

1. Establishment of a public civil service system based on contemporary criteria (Goal 10).
2. Establishment of standards of honesty for the public sector (Goal 83).
3. Identification of at-risk regions and industries, increased efficacy of the system for preventing corruption-related elements, and development of a society-wide irreconcilable attitude towards corruption (Goal 84).

In order to achieve the above goals, Uzbekistan will have to implement a number of consistent measures aimed at early prevention and eradication of corruption phenomena. At the same time, improving the system for assessing corruption risks and the causes of their occurrence is of particular importance.

In light of the aforementioned, it is seen recommended to carry out the following:

1. To introduce a National Corruption Barometer, which would be based on public opinion. The purpose of this barometer is an independent assessment of anti-corruption sentiments and anti-corruption policy of the government among the population.

One of the sources of information can be quarterly surveys among the population and businesses (by industry). This tool would facilitate the early detection of corruption phenomena and thus would allow the development of appropriate measures to eliminate them. Here, a special role is played by the timely publication of the results of the barometer, for example, on a quarterly basis, which would be a signal for the population and business in terms of balancing their expectations and short-term planning.

The construction of a National Corruption Barometer in Uzbekistan must necessarily be implemented with the assistance of international institutions/organizations, at least at the stage of methodology formation and testing.

2. To introduce semi-annual monitoring of the assessment of the level of corruption in various sectors of the economy of Uzbekistan and the regions of the republic through the prism of administrative procedures in which there is close interaction between the private and public sectors.

At the same time, to provide for further improvement of the existing methodology in accordance with international standards, taking into account the country identity of Uzbekistan and other global changes.

Since the Current study is an assessment based on the experience of respondents, the introduction of additional characteristics into the methodology that allow assessing the perception of respondents would allow us to get one step closer to assessing objective reality, including assessing the relationship between existing experience and perception.

3. To conduct a thorough investigation of administrative processes for corruption-related behaviours that the Recent Study uncovered. To simultaneously give a thorough study of every single administrative activity from the perspective of identifying the causes of corruption practises and creating specific prevention strategies.

9. ANNEX

9.1. QUESTIONNAIRE

SECTION 1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION.

Information on age, gender and education level will be collected in the register (not included as separate questions in the Questionnaire).

Question 1. What is your role in your organization?

Nº	Options	Answer (select)
1	Private entrepreneur, founder of a private enterprise, LLC, etc.	
2	Head/director/deputy of the organization	
3	Accountant, Finance Officer	
4	Sales/purchasing officer	
5	Other (specify)	

If option 5 is marked YES in Question 1, complete the survey. If option 1 is marked YES in Question 1, proceed to Question 3.

Question 2. What is the type of your organization?

Nº	Options	Answer (select)
1	State organization/institution, state management body	
2	State unitary enterprise, LLC, JSC with a state share	
3	All types of non-state and private commercial organizations	

If Option 1 is marked YES in Question 2, then complete the survey. If other Options are selected, continue with the survey.

Question 3. Select the region in which your organization conducts its main activities. (Please select only one answer)

Nº	Options	Answer (select)
1	Andijan region	
2	Bukhara region	
3	Tashkent city	
4	Jizzak region	
5	Kashkadarya region	
6	Navoi region	
7	Namangan region	
8	Republic of Karakalpakstan	
9	Samarkand region	
10	Surkhandarya region	
11	Syrdarya region	
12	Tashkent region	
13	Fergana region	
14	Khorezm region	

Question 4. Does your organization conduct its main activities in an urban or rural area? (Please select only one answer option)

Nº	Options	Answer (select)
1	Urban area	
2	Rural area	

Question 5. In which sector does your organization carry out its main activities? (Please select only one answer option)

№	Options	Answer (select)
1	Wholesale and retail trade	
2	Agriculture, forestry and fishery	
3	Tourism and hotel business	
4	Construction	
5	Catering services	
6	Industry	
7	Information and Communication	
8	Transportation and Storage	
9	Healthcare	
10	Educational services	
11	Other social services	
12	Other (specify)	

SECTION 2. EXPERIENCE OF BRIBERY/CORRUPTION IN INTERACTION WITH THE PUBLIC SECTOR

Question 6. In the past 12 months, has your organization been in contact with a PUBLIC OFFICIAL, including through an intermediary, for any of the following administrative procedures? (Please check all appropriate Options)

Respondents will see one by one the following types of procedures, which should be marked (YES/NO) separately.

Nº	Administrative procedures	Yes	No
1	Clearance of import / export of goods through customs	1	0
2	Competitive bidding in public procurement procedures	1	0
3	Conclusion of contracts with state institutions without competitive bidding	1	0
4	Procedures related to construction permits	1	0
5	Tax return / tax law procedures	1	0
6	Labor law procedures (including on-site inspections)	1	0
7	Litigation on administrative / civil / labor disputes	1	0
8	Procedures related to worker health/safety (including on-site inspections)	1	0
9	Procedures related to off-site health / safety / environmental issues	1	0
10	Applications or contracts for connection of public utilities (electricity, gas supply, water supply, sewerage, etc.)	1	0
11	Obtaining or renewing a business license	1	0
12	Obtaining other authorizations from government agencies	1	0
13	Trials for criminal offenses	1	0
14	Procedures related to allocation of land plots	1	0
15	Any other type of inspection by any other public authority	1	0

If no answer choice is selected, move to Question 14. If at least one option is marked YES in Question 6, go to Question 7. Only those Options that were marked YES in Question 6 should appear in Question 7.

Question 7. In the past 12 months, did your organization have to give a gift, return a favor, or give additional money to a civil servant or public official performing the procedure, including through an intermediary, other than the amount of official fees required?

Nº	Administrative procedures	Yes	No
1	Clearance of import / export of goods through customs	1	0
2	Competitive bidding in public procurement procedures	1	0
3	Conclusion of contracts with state institutions without competitive bidding	1	0
4	Procedures related to construction permits	1	0
5	Tax return / tax law procedures	1	0
6	Labor law procedures (including on-site inspections)	1	0
7	Litigation on administrative / civil / labor disputes	1	0
8	Procedures related to worker health/safety (including on-site inspections)	1	0
9	Procedures related to off-site health / safety / environmental issues	1	0
10	Applications or contracts for connection of public utilities (electricity, gas supply, water supply, sewerage, etc.)	1	0
11	Obtaining or renewing a business license	1	0
12	Obtaining other authorizations from government agencies	1	0
13	Trials for criminal offenses	1	0
14	Procedures related to allocation of land plots	1	0
15	Any other type of inspection by any other public authority	1	0

If at least one option in Question 7 is marked YES, go to Question 8. If none of the options were selected, go to Question 14. Only those Options that were marked YES in Question 7 should appear in Question 8.

Question 8. In the past 12 months, how many times has your organization given a gift, returned a favor, or given extra money?

Nº	Administrative procedures	1 time	2-5 times	More than 5 times
1	Clearance of import / export of goods through customs	1	2	3
2	Competitive bidding in public procurement procedures	1	2	3
3	Conclusion of contracts with state institutions without competitive bidding	1	2	3
4	Procedures related to construction permits	1	2	3
5	Tax return / tax law procedures	1	2	3
6	Labor law procedures (including on-site inspections)	1	2	3
7	Litigation on administrative / civil / labor disputes	1	2	3
8	Procedures related to worker health/safety (including on-site inspections)	1	2	3
9	Procedures related to off-site health / safety / environmental issues	1	2	3
10	Applications or contracts for connection of public utilities (electricity, gas supply, water supply, sewerage, etc.)	1	2	3
11	Obtaining or renewing a business license	1	2	3
12	Obtaining other authorizations from government agencies	1	2	3
13	Trials for criminal offenses	1	2	3
14	Procedures related to allocation of land plots	1	2	3
15	Any other type of inspection by any other public authority	1	2	3

If at least one option in Question 8 is marked YES, go to Question 9. If none of the options were selected, go to Question 14. Only the Options shown in Question 8 should appear in Question 9.

Question 9. The last time your organization had to give a gift, return a favor, or give extra money to a public official or civil servant, for what administrative procedure was it intended? (Please select only one answer choice)

Nº	Administrative procedures	Yes	No
1	Clearance of import / export of goods through customs	1	0
2	Competitive bidding in public procurement procedures	1	0
3	Conclusion of contracts with state institutions without competitive bidding	1	0
4	Procedures related to construction permits	1	0
5	Tax return / tax law procedures	1	0
6	Labor law procedures (including on-site inspections)	1	0
7	Litigation on administrative / civil / labor disputes	1	0
8	Procedures related to worker health/safety (including on-site inspections)	1	0
9	Procedures related to off-site health / safety / environmental issues	1	0
10	Applications or contracts for connection of public utilities (electricity, gas supply, water supply, sewerage, etc.)	1	0
11	Obtaining or renewing a business license	1	0
12	Obtaining other authorizations from government agencies	1	0
13	Trials for criminal offenses	1	0
14	Procedures related to allocation of land plots	1	0
15	Any other type of inspection by any other public authority	1	0

Question 10. The last time your organization had to give a gift, return favor, or give extra money to public officials or civil servants, can you recall the position/type of public official/civil servant who requested a gift, return favor, or extra payment from your organization? (Please select only one answer option)

Nº	Options	Answer (select)
1	Front Desk Officer (first point of contact)	
2	Supervisory position (coordinates other staff)	
3	Facilitator	
4	DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER	

Question 11. What was the main purpose of giving a gift, returning a favor, or paying an additional amount of money? (Please select only one answer)

Nº	Options	Answer (select)
1	To speed up the procedure	
2	To make it possible to finalize the procedure/contract	
3	To reduce the cost of the procedure	
4	To receive preferential treatment (e.g. advantage over competitors, tax reduction, etc.)	
5	To get information about the process (where to go, who to contact, etc.)	
6	Lack of a specific purpose (to maintain a good relationship)	
7	DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER	

Question 12. Which of the following did your organization provide? (Please check all appropriate Options)

Nº	Options	Answer (select)
1	Food and beverages	
2	Valuables (gold, jewelry, phones, etc.)	
3	Money	
4	Personal career advantage for a public official	
5	Position for relative(s) or friends	
6	Exchange for another favor or benefit	
7	Other	
8	DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER	

Question 13. How did your organization understand that this was expected? (Please select only one answer)

Nº	Options	Answer (select)
1	Direct demand from a public official / civil servant	
2	The public official / civil servant has made it clear to you that payment is expected	
3	A third party has demanded an additional payment	
4	No one asked for this, it was done to facilitate / expedite the procedure	
5	DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER	

Question 14. In the past 12 months, has your organization refrained from investing because of fear of having to give a gift, return a favor, or give extra money to obtain needed services/permissions? (Please select only one answer)

Nº	Options	Answer (select)
1	Yes	
2	No	
3	DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER	

Question 15. In the last 12 months, has your organization experienced bribery and/or corruption in the process of obtaining bank loans from commercial banks? (Please select only one answer option)

Nº	Options	Answer (select)
1	Yes	
2	No	
3	DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER	

QUESTIONNAIRE

Dear respondent! The Center for Economic Research and Reforms carries out a survey on the most important issues of economic development in Uzbekistan. Please kindly answer the questions. It will not take more than 2 minutes of your time.

The survey is absolutely anonymous.

CERR does not collect and store any personal information of respondents.

Your contribution is highly appreciated and important for improving the economic policy of Uzbekistan.

Please select the language you prefer to use for the survey (Ўз / Рус / En)

SECTION 1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION.

Information on the age, gender, and education level will be collected in the roster (not included as separate questions in the Questionnaire).

Question 1. What is your role within your organization?

Nº	Options	Answer (select)
1	Private entrepreneur, founder of a private enterprise, LLC, etc.	
2	Head/director/deputy of the organization	
3	Accountant, finance department officer	
4	Sales/purchasing department officer	
5	Other (specify ¹)	

If option 5 is marked as YES in Question 1 then end the survey. If option 1 is marked as YES in Question 1 then move to Question 3.

Question 2. What is the type of your organization?

Nº	Options	Answer (select)
1	State organization/institution, state administration body	
2	State unitary enterprise, LLC, JSC with a state share	
3	All types of non-governmental and private commercial organizations	

¹ Create window in telegram bot.

If option 1 marked as YES in Question 2 then end the survey. If other options selected, please continue the survey.

Question 3. Select the region where you carry out economic activity. (Please choose only one answer)

Nº	Options	Answer (select)
1	Andijan	
2	Bukhara	
3	Tashkent city	
4	Jizzakh	
5	Kashkadarya	
6	Navoi	
7	Namangan	
8	The Republic of Karakalpakstan	
9	Samarkand	
10	Surkhandarya	
11	Sirdarya	
12	Tashkent region	
13	Ferghana	
14	Khorezm	

Nº	Options	Answer (select)
1	City	
2	Rural	

Question 4. Do you carry out your economic activities in a city or a rural area? (Please choose only one answer)

Question 5. In what sector do you carry out your economic activities? (Please choose only one answer)

Nº	Options	Answer (select)
1	Wholesale and retail trade	
2	Agriculture, forestry and fisheries	
3	Tourism and hospitality business	
4	Construction	
5	Food services	
6	Manufacturing	
7	Information and communication	
8	Transportation and storage	
9	Health care	
10	Educational services	
11	Other social services	
12	Other (specify ²)	

² Add a window for entering text in the telegram bot

SECTION 2. EXPERIENCE OF BRIBERY/CORRUPTION IN ENGAGEMENT WITH THE PUBLIC SECTOR.

Question 6. In the last 12 months, has your organization been in contact with a PUBLIC OFFICIAL, including through an intermediary, for one of the following administrative procedures? (Please mark each row)

Respondents will see the following type of procedures one by one, which will be marked (YES/NO) separately.

If none was selected go to Question 14. If at least one option in Question 6 marked as YES then go to Question

Nº	Administrative procedure	Yes	No
1	Clearing import/export of goods through customs	1	0
2	Bidding processes in public procurement procedures	1	0
3	Securing contracts with public institutions without a bidding process	1	0
4	Procedures related to construction permits	1	0
5	Procedures related to tax declaration/compliance	1	0
6	Procedures related to labor regulations (including on-site inspections)	1	0
7	Legal proceedings for administrative/civil/labor disputes	1	0
8	Procedures related to health/safety of workers (including on-site inspections)	1	0
9	Procedures related to off-site health/safety/environment issues	1	0
10	Requests for utilities connections or contracts (electricity, gas, water, sewage, etc.)	1	0
11	Obtaining or renewing licenses for performing a business activity	1	0
12	Obtaining other authorizations from public institutions	1	0
13	Legal proceedings for criminal offences	1	0
14	Procedure related to the allocation of land plots	1	0
15	Any other type of inspection by any other government body	1	0

7. Only the rows marked as YES in Question 6 must pop up in the Question 7.

Question 7. In the last 12 months, did your organization have to give the civil servant or public official administering the procedure some gift, a counterfavour, or some extra money, including through an intermediary, with the exclusion of the legally bound amount of official fees?

Nº	Administrative procedure	Yes	No
1	Clearing import/export of goods through customs	1	0
2	Bidding processes in public procurement procedures	1	0
3	Securing contracts with public institutions without a bidding process	1	0
4	Procedures related to construction permits	1	0
5	Procedures related to tax declaration/compliance	1	0
6	Procedures related to labor regulations (including on-site inspections)	1	0
7	Legal proceedings for administrative/civil/labor disputes	1	0
8	Procedures related to health/safety of workers (including on-site inspections)	1	0
9	Procedures related to off-site health/safety/environment issues	1	0
10	Requests for utilities connections or contracts (electricity, gas, water, sewage, etc.)	1	0
11	Obtaining or renewing licenses for performing a business activity	1	0
12	Obtaining other authorizations from public institutions	1	0
13	Legal proceedings for criminal offences	1	0
14	Procedure related to the allocation of land plots	1	0
15	Any other type of inspection by any other government body	1	0

If at least one option in Question 7 is marked as YES then go to Question 8. If none was selected go to Question 14. Only the rows marked as YES in Question 7 have to pop up in Question 8.

Question 8. Please indicate how many times the situation repeated in each type of administrative procedure during the last 12 months.

If at least one option in Question 8 is marked as YES then go to Question 9. If none was selected go to Question

Nº	Administrative procedure	Once	2-5 times	More than 5 times
1	Clearing import/export of goods through customs	1	2	3
2	Bidding processes in public procurement procedures	1	2	3
3	Securing contracts with public institutions without a bidding process	1	2	3
4	Procedures related to construction permits	1	2	3
5	Procedures related to tax declaration/compliance	1	2	3
6	Procedures related to labor regulations (including on-site inspections)	1	2	3
7	Legal proceedings for administrative/civil/labor disputes	1	2	3
8	Procedures related to health/safety of workers (including on-site inspections)	1	2	3
9	Procedures related to off-site health/safety/environment issues	1	2	3
10	Requests for utilities connections or contracts (electricity, gas, water, sewage, etc.)	1	2	3
11	Obtaining or renewing licenses for performing a business activity	1	2	3
12	Obtaining other authorizations from public institutions	1	2	3
13	Legal proceedings for criminal offences	1	2	3
14	Procedure related to the allocation of land plots	1	2	3
15	Any other type of inspection by any other government body	1	2	3

14. Only the rows shown in Question 8 have to pop up in Question 9.

Question 9. The **last time** that your organization had to give a gift, a counterfavour or some extra money to public officials or civil servants, for which administrative procedure was this? *(Please mark only one row)*

Question 10. The last time that your organization had to give a gift, a counterfavour or some extra money to a

Nº	Administrative procedure	Yes	No
1	Clearing import/export of goods through customs	1	0
2	Bidding processes in public procurement procedures	1	0
3	Securing contracts with public institutions without a bidding process	1	0
4	Procedures related to construction permits	1	0
5	Procedures related to tax declaration/compliance	1	0
6	Procedures related to labor regulations (including on-site inspections)	1	0
7	Legal proceedings for administrative/civil/labor disputes	1	0
8	Procedures related to health/safety of workers (including on-site inspections)	1	0
9	Procedures related to off-site health/safety/environment issues	1	0
10	Requests for utilities connections or contracts (electricity, gas, water, sewage, etc.)	1	0
11	Obtaining or renewing licenses for performing a business activity	1	0
12	Obtaining other authorizations from public institutions	1	0
13	Legal proceedings for criminal offences	1	0
14	Procedure related to the allocation of land plots	1	0
15	Any other type of inspection by any other government body	1	0

civil servant/public official, can you remember the position/type of official/civil servant that requested the gift, counterfavour or extra payment? *(Please choose only one answer)*

Nº	Options	Answer (select)
1	Front desk clerk (first point of contact)	
2	Managerial position (engaged in the coordination of other employees)	
3	Intermediary	
4	DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER	

Question 11. Recalling the last time situation what was the main purpose of giving the gift, counterfavour or extra payment? *(Please choose only one answer)*

Nº	Options	Answer (select)
1	Speed up the procedure	
2	Make finalization of procedure/contracts possible	
3	Reduce cost of procedure	
4	Receive better treatment (e.g. gain an advantage on competitors, reduce taxes, etc.)	
5	Receive information on the process (where to go, whom to approach, etc.)	
6	No specific purpose (it is better to maintain good relationships)	
7	DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER	

Question 12. What was given to them? *(Please mark all that apply)*

Nº	Options	Answer (select)
1	Food and drink	
2	Valuables (gold, jewelry, phones, etc.)	
3	Some money	
4	Personal career advantage for public official	
5	Offer of a job position for family member/s or friend/s	
6	Exchange with another service or favour	
7	Other	
8	DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER	

Question 13. How was it understood that it was expected? *(Please choose only one answer)*

Nº	Options	Answer (select)
1	Explicit request from the public official/civil servant	
2	The public official/civil servant made you understand that a payment was expected	
3	A third person requested the extra payment	
4	Nobody asked for it, it was given to facilitate/accelerate the procedure	
5	DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER	

Question 14. During the last 12 months, has your organization decided not to make investments because of fear of having to give a gift, a counterfavour or some extra money in order to obtain the necessary services/permits? (Please choose only one answer)

Nº	Options	Answer (select)
1	Yes	
2	No	
3	DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER	

Question 15. During the last 12 months, has your organization experienced bribery and/or corruption in the process of obtaining bank loans from commercial banks? (Please choose only one answer)

Nº	Options	Answer (select)
1	Yes	
2	No	
3	DON'T KNOW / NO ANSWER	

