

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

(January 12, 2025)

**FROM: Ronald D. Holmes**  
**President**  
**Pulse Asia Research, Inc.**

**RE: Pulse Asia Research's December 2025 Nationwide Survey on**  
**the Flood Control Projects Scandal**

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Pulse Asia Research, Inc. is pleased to share some findings on *the Flood Control Projects Scandal* from the December 2025 *Ulat ng Bayan* national survey. We request that you assist us in informing the public by disseminating this information.

The survey fieldwork was conducted from **December 12 to 15, 2025** using face-to-face interviews. This nationwide survey is based on a sample of 1,200 representative adults 18 years old and above. It has a  $\pm 2.8\%$  error margin at the 95% confidence level. Subnational estimates for the geographic areas covered in the survey have the following error margins at 95% confidence level:  $\pm 5.7\%$  for Metro Manila, the rest of Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao. Those interested in further technical details may refer to our website ([www.pulseasia.ph](http://www.pulseasia.ph))

Among the key developments from mid-November 2025 up to the survey period are the following:

1. The resolution issued by the Sandiganbayan on 10 December 2025 declaring former *Ako Bicol* Party-List Representative Elizaldy Co and three (3) other individuals as fugitives from justice as well as cancelling their passports; in November 2025, the former lawmaker released several videos where he claimed, among others, that the President and former House Speaker Ferdinand Martin Romualdez were behind the insertions in the 2024 General Appropriations Act (GAA) amounting to ₱ 100 billion worth of infrastructure projects, that House Majority Floor Leader Ferdinand Alexander Marcos III is responsible for anomalous budget insertions from 2023 to 2025, and that he (Co) did not receive any amount from these budget insertions;

2. Apart from the former *Ako Bicol* Party-List Representative, there are seven (7) other members of the Lower House who are facing cases of plunder, graft, bribery, and conflict of interest before the Office of the Ombudsman arising from their ownership of or links to construction firms that have contracts with the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH);
3. The resignation of Executive Secretary Lucas Bersamin and Department of Budget and Management (DBM) Secretary Amenah Pangandaman in the aftermath of former *Ako Bicol* Party-List Representative Co's claims that it was through them that the President conveyed his request for budget insertions; Department of Finance (DOF) Secretary Ralph Recto stepped in as Acting Executive Secretary while DBM Undersecretary Rolando Toledo has been designated as the agency's acting secretary;
4. The livestreaming of the hearings of the Independent Commission for Infrastructure (ICI) beginning 02 December 2025, but with some resource persons, such as House Majority Floor Leader Marcos, Pasig Representative Roman Romulo, and Bulacan Representative Danny Domingo, opting to testify behind closed doors;
5. The call made by former DPWH Secretary Rogelio Singson, who announced his resignation as a member of the ICI effective 15 December 2025, for the Senate and the House of Representatives to pass their respective versions of bills seeking to create an independent probe body that would have more powers and resources than the ICI to enable it to perform its investigative duty; a coalition of business and professional organizations echoed the same sentiment as it urged the President to certify these bills as urgent;
6. The referral made by the ICI on 03 December 2025 recommending the filing of bribery, corruption of public officials, and plunder charges against former Senator Ramon Revilla, Jr., among others, based on allegations made by former DPWH Undersecretary Roberto Bernardo that the ex-lawmaker received kickbacks from infrastructure projects; the ICI also recommended that the Office of the Ombudsman conduct further investigations into the other lawmakers named by the former DPWH Undersecretary during a Senate hearing, namely, Senators Nancy Binay, Francis Escudero, Grace Poe, and Mark Villar; all these individuals have denied any involvement in the flood control scam;
7. The surrender of Ms. Sarah Discaya to the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) on 09 December 2025 following the President's announcement that an arrest warrant against her was about to be issued after the filing of malversation and corruption charges against her and several others by the Office of the Ombudsman in connection with a ghost flood control project in Davao Occidental; Pasig City issued closure orders against nine (9) companies owned by the Discayas due to violations that include failure to pay taxes as well as operating without an occupancy permit and with a revoked license;
8. The Trillion Peso March and *Baha sa Luneta* rallies and other protest actions across the country, which were held on 30 November 2025, saw participants calling for an end to corruption in government and a demand for accountability on the part of those

- involved in the flood control scandal; earlier in the month, the *Iglesia ni Cristo* (INC) held a two-day rally in Manila during which its members called for a transparent investigation into the anomalies regarding flood control projects; in her speech during the INC rally, Senator Imee Marcos accused the President, the First Lady, and the House Majority Floor Leader of using illegal drugs, a statement that Malacañang referred to as a “destabilization move” on her part;
9. The filing of plunder, bribery, malversation, and graft complaints against the Vice-President and 15 other officials of the Office of the Vice-President (OVP) and the Department of Education (DepEd) before the Office of the Ombudsman on 12 December 2025; the charges stem from the alleged misuse of ₱ 612.5 million in confidential funds allocated to the OVP and the DepEd;
  10. The Appeals Chamber of the International Criminal Court (ICC) voted on 28 November 2025 to reject the request of the camp of former President Rodrigo R. Duterte for his interim release and, in the process, affirmed the decision of Pre-Trial Chamber 1 to keep him in detention in the Netherlands; meanwhile, following unconfirmed reports that an arrest warrant has been issued against him by the ICC for his involvement in the Duterte administration’s “war on drugs”, Senator Ronald dela Rosa has been absent from the Senate since 11 November 2025; the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) said it is aware of the lawmaker’s locations and movements as it has been monitoring him constantly;
  11. Following the President’s directive for Congress to prioritize four (4) bills, including one that will ban political dynasties, House Speaker Faustino Dy III and House Majority Floor Leader Marcos filed House Bill (HB) No. 6771, a legislative measure that seeks to disqualify relatives of an elected public officials within the fourth civil degree of affinity or consanguinity from simultaneously holding elective government positions;
  12. The passage by the Senate on 09 December 2025 of the proposed 2026 national budget amounting to ₱ 6.793 trillion, including ₱ 175 billion in unprogrammed appropriations, with the education sector getting the biggest share at ₱ 1.37 trillion; the 2026 budget also addresses the Supreme Court (SC) order requiring the return to the Philippine Health Insurance Corp. (PhilHealth) of ₱ 60 billion remitted by the national government to the Bureau of Treasury as the agency’s budget next year now includes the said returned amount in addition to the regular government subsidy of ₱ 53 billion;
  13. The life sentence imposed on former Bamban, Tarlac Mayor Alice Guo by the Pasig Regional Trial Court (RTC) after it found her guilty of qualified trafficking in connection with the criminal activities of a Philippine Offshore Gaming Operation (POGO) hub located in Bamban; in a related development, the passports of former Presidential Spokesperson Harry Roque and Ms. Cassandra Ong, both of whom are facing qualified trafficking in persons charges linked to POGO activities, have been cancelled by the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA);

14. The decision of the *Manibela* to conclude its three-day transport strike on its second day following talks with officials of the Department of Transportation (DOTr), the Land Transportation Office (LTO), and the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) regarding alleged abuses against jeepney drivers such as excessive fines, non-renewal of franchises, and the “payola” culture at the DOTr and LTFRB;
15. The granting of full military honors to former Senate President and Chief Presidential Legal Counsel Juan Ponce Enrile as he was laid to rest at the *Libingan ng mga Bayani* (LNMB) on 22 November 2025; activist groups denounced the latter’s interment at the LNMB given his role as the “architect of martial law” during the first Marcos administration;
16. The claim made by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) that ₱ 500 is sufficient for a Noche Buena meal for a family of four (4) since the prices of most Noche Buena items are unchanged over the past 12 months while some even had price rollbacks; the DTI’s claim has been characterized as “insensitive” and “out of touch with reality”, and even called part of a “government propaganda”; and
17. The depreciation of the Philippine peso vis-à-vis the American dollar to a new record closing low on 09 December 2025 at ₱ 59.22: \$ 1; despite this, analysts expect the local currency to bounce back due to the expected increase in OFW remittances during the holiday season.

Pulse Asia Research’s pool of academic fellows takes full responsibility for the design and conduct of the survey and for analyses it makes based on the survey data. In keeping with our academic nature, no religious, political, economic, or partisan group influenced any of these processes. Pulse Asia Research undertakes *Ulat ng Bayan* surveys independently without any party singularly commissioning the research effort.

For any clarification or questions, kindly contact Ana Maria Tabunda, Research Director of Pulse Asia Research at 09189436816 or Ronald D. Holmes, Pulse Asia Research President via Telegram or WhatsApp at +639189335497 or at ronald.holmes@gmail.com (via email).

Pulse Asia Research's December 2025 Ulat ng Bayan Survey:  
Media Release on the Flood Control Projects Scandal  
12 January 2026

**The media is trusted by most Filipino adults (54%) to address the issue of corruption in flood projects in the country**

Among selected entities, a small majority of adults in the country (54%) identify the media as the one they trust to be able to address the problem of ghost or substandard flood control projects. A near majority (47%) expresses the same sentiment toward civil society organizations (CSOs) or non-governmental organizations (NGOs). In contrast, near to small majorities do not trust the President (48%) and the Department of Public Works and Highways (59%) to deal with the matter while big pluralities to bare majorities cannot say if they trust or distrust the House of Representatives (41%), the Office of the Ombudsman (49%), and the Independent Commission for Infrastructure (51%). In the case of the Senate, about the same percentages of adults are either ambivalent on the matter of trusting or distrusting the legislative body's capability to address the flood control projects issue (41%) or trust it to be able to handle the matter (37%). (Please refer to Table 1.)

**Table 1**  
**TRUSTWORTHINESS OF SELECTED ENTITIES IN**  
**ADDRESSING THE PROBLEM OF CORRUPTION IN FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS**  
December 12 - 15, 2025 / Philippines  
(Row Percent)

Selected Entities	Aware	Base: Aware						
		BIG TRUST			CANNOT SAY IF BIG OR SMALL	SMALL / NO TRUST		
		TOTAL	Very big	Big		TOTAL	Small	Very small/ None
PRESIDENT FERDINAND MARCOS JR.	100	30	5	25	22	48	26	22
SENATE	100	37	3	34	41	23	17	5
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	100	31	0.4	31	41	27	21	6
OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN	99	28	2	25	49	23	16	7
INDEPENDENT COMMISSION FOR INFRASTRUCTURE (ICI)	96	18	2	16	51	31	23	9
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS (DPWH)	100	13	1	11	28	59	27	32
MEDIA	100	54	4	50	30	16	13	3
CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS or NGOs	100	47	3	44	41	12	10	3

Q30. Gaano kalaki o kaliit ang tiwala ninyo sa bawat isa sa sumusunod na tao / institusyon / grupo upang tugunan ang katiwalian sa mga proyekto a-h. sa flood control? Masasabi ba ninyong ito ay...

Notes: (1) % Big Trust = % Very Big Trust plus % Big Trust; % Small/No Trust = % Small Trust plus % Very Small/None Trust.  
(2) Figures may not add up to 100% due to rounding off or to Don't Know and Refused responses.

Several notable movements occur between September 2025 and December 2025. While there is an increase in the level of trustworthiness of the House of Representatives (+6 percentage points), distrust in the legislative chamber eases (-9 percentage points). Similarly, trust in the Department of Public Works and Highways becomes more notable (+6 percentage points) and distrust in the agency becomes less pronounced (-22 percentage points). Furthermore, the level of ambivalence regarding the agency's trustworthiness in relation to its capability to deal with the flood control projects scandal goes up during this period (+15 percentage points). *(Please refer to Table 2.)*

In contrast, the level of trust in the Office of the Ombudsman drops (-11 percentage points) while distrust and indecision toward its trustworthiness become more marked (both at +6 percentage points). As regards the Independent Commission for Infrastructure (ICI), the level of distrust in the investigative body goes up (+10 percentage points).

**Table 2**  
**COMPARATIVE TRUSTWORTHINESS OF SELECTED ENTITIES IN**  
**ADDRESSING THE PROBLEM OF CORRUPTION IN FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS**  
September and December 2025 / Philippines  
(Row Percent)

Selected Entities		Base: Aware						
		BIG TRUST			CANNOT SAY IF BIG OR SMALL	SMALL / NO TRUST		
		TOTAL	Very big	Big		TOTAL	Small	Very small / None
PRESIDENT FERDINAND MARCOS JR.	Dec 2025	30	5	25	22	48	26	22
	Sep 2025	32	5	27	23	45	22	23
	*Change	- 2	0	- 2	- 1	+ 3	+ 4	- 1
SENATE	Dec 2025	37	3	34	41	23	17	5
	Sep 2025	37	5	31	36	27	22	6
	*Change	0	- 2	+ 3	+ 5	- 4	- 5	- 1
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	Dec 2025	31	0.4	31	41	27	21	6
	Sep 2025	25	4	21	40	36	25	10
	*Change	+ 6	-3.6	+10	+ 1	- 9	- 4	- 4
OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN	Dec 2025	28	2	25	49	23	16	7
	Sep 2025	39	4	35	43	17	13	4
	*Change	- 11	- 2	- 10	+ 6	+ 6	+ 3	+ 3
INDEPENDENT COMMISSION FOR INFRASTRUCTURE (ICI)	Dec 2025	18	2	16	51	31	23	9
	Sep 2025	23	2	21	56	21	16	5
	*Change	- 5	0	- 5	- 5	+10	+ 7	+ 4
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS (DPWH)	Dec 2025	13	1	11	28	59	27	32
	Sep 2025	7	1	6	13	81	23	58
	*Change	+ 6	0	+ 5	+15	- 22	+ 4	- 26
MEDIA	Dec 2025	54	4	50	30	16	13	3
	Sep 2025	51	6	46	30	18	16	3
	*Change	+ 3	- 2	+ 4	0	- 2	- 3	0
CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS OR NGOS	Dec 2025	47	3	44	41	12	10	3
	Sep 2025	50	7	43	40	11	8	3
	*Change	- 3	- 4	+ 1	+ 1	+ 1	+ 2	0

Notes: (1) \*Change = Figures of December 2025 minus Figures of September 2025.

(2) % Big Trust = % Very Big Trust plus % Big Trust; % Small/No Trust = % Small Trust plus % Very Small/None Trust.

(3) Figures may not add up to 100% due to rounding off or to Don't Know and Refused responses.



**For about a third of the adult population (36%), investigations such as those being conducted by the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee regarding anomalous flood control projects sometimes reveal the truth but have limited impact; agreement with this view becomes more marked from September 2025 to December 2025 (+8 percentage points)**

At the national level, 36% of Filipino adults are of the view that the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee's investigations into the flood control projects scandal sometimes reveal the truth on the matter but have limited impact. Nearly a third of adults (29%) opine that these investigations are likely to uncover the truth and to hold those involved accountable while around a fifth of the adult population (21%) says such investigations rarely have meaningful outcomes. And for a little more than a tenth of Filipino adults (12%), legislative investigations like those being done by the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee are primarily for show or political theater. The rest of adults either have no opinion on the matter (1%) or are unaware of such investigations (0.4%). (Please refer to Table 3.)

**Table 3**  
**FILIPINOS' VIEWS ABOUT THE SENATE BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE'S**  
**INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE ALLEGED ANOMALIES IN FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS**  
December 12 - 15, 2025 / Philippines  
(In Percent)

Base: Total Interviews, 100%								
Which of the following statements comes closest to your own opinion about the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee investigations into the alleged anomalies in flood control projects?	LOCATION					CLASS		
	RP	NCR	BAL			C	D	E
			LUZ	VIS	MIN			
Investigations sometimes reveal the truth but are limited in impact	36	30	36	38	38	33	38	28
Investigations are likely to uncover the truth and hold those involved accountable	29	28	35	20	23	34	27	39
Investigations rarely lead to meaningful results	21	23	20	21	22	25	21	18
Investigations are mainly for show or political theater	12	15	8	19	12	7	13	11
No opinion	1	3	0	1	4	0	1	4
Not aware of investigations	0.4	0	1	0	0	0	1	0

Q32. Alin sa mga sumusunod na pahayag ang pinakamalapit sa iyong sariling opinyon tungkol sa mga pagsisiyasat ng Senate Blue Ribbon Committee sa mga sinasabing anomalya sa mga proyekto sa pagkontrol sa baha?

The plurality sentiment in the Visayas, Mindanao, and Class D (all at 38%) is that investigations like the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee's hearings about the ghost flood control projects sometimes reveal the truth but have limited impact. Essentially the same percentages of those in the rest of Luzon and Class E either share this opinion (28% to 36%)

or believe that these investigations are likely to uncover the truth and to hold those involved accountable (35% to 39%). In Metro Manila and Class C, nearly the same percentages believe the Senate's investigations sometimes reveal the truth but with limited impact (30% to 33%), are likely to uncover the truth and to hold those involved accountable (28% to 34%), or rarely lead to meaningful results (23% to 25%).

From September 2025 to December 2025, agreement with the view that the Senate's investigations regarding the flood control projects controversy have limited impact becomes more manifest at the national level (+8 percentage points) and also in Mindanao (+12 percentage points) and Class D (+10 percentage points). Conversely, there is a decline in the level of agreement with the view that such investigations are likely to uncover the truth and to hold those involved accountable not only at the national level (-16 percentage points) but also in Metro Manila (-18 percentage points), the rest of Luzon (-13 percentage points), Mindanao (-25 percentage points), and Class D (-18 percentage points). Aside from these, the only other significant change during this period is the increase in the percentage of Filipino adults who see these investigations as rarely resulting in meaningful outcomes (+6 percentage points). (Please refer to Table 4.)

**Table 4**  
**COMPARATIVE FILIPINOS' VIEWS ABOUT THE SENATE BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE'S**  
**INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE ALLEGED ANOMALIES IN FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS**  
September and December 2025 / Philippines  
(In Percent)

Base: Total Interviews									
Which of the following statements comes closest to your own opinion about the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee investigations into the alleged anomalies in flood control projects?		RP	LOCATION				CLASS		
			NCR	BAL			ABC	D	E
				LUZ	VIS	MIN			
Investigations sometimes reveal the truth but are limited in impact	Dec 2025	36	30	36	38	38	33	38	28
	Sep 2025	28	28	28	29	26	25	28	32
	*Change	+ 8	+ 2	+ 8	+ 9	+12	+ 8	+10	- 4
Investigations are likely to uncover the truth and hold those involved accountable	Dec 2025	29	28	35	20	23	34	27	39
	Sep 2025	45	46	48	29	48	47	45	38
	*Change	- 16	- 18	- 13	- 9	- 25	- 13	- 18	+ 1
Investigations rarely lead to meaningful results	Dec 2025	21	23	20	21	22	25	21	18
	Sep 2025	15	19	15	19	12	15	16	15
	*Change	+ 6	+ 4	+ 5	+ 2	+10	+10	+ 5	+ 3
Investigations are mainly for show or political theater	Dec 2025	12	15	8	19	12	7	13	11
	Sep 2025	10	5	9	17	9	9	9	14
	*Change	+ 2	+10	- 1	+ 2	+ 3	- 2	+ 4	- 3
No opinion	Dec 2025	1	3	0	1	4	0	1	4
	Sep 2025	2	2	0	6	4	4	2	1
	*Change	- 1	+ 1	0	- 5	0	- 4	- 1	+ 3
Not aware of investigations	Dec 2025	0.4	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
	Sep 2025	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	*Change	+0.3	0	+ 1	0	0	0	+ 1	0

\*Change = Figures of December 2025 minus Figures of September 2025.



**Most Filipino adults (59%) are optimistic that government officials who are found to be involved in the flood control projects scandal will be punished; however, this figure is lower than that obtained by Pulse Asia Research in September 2025 (71%)**

Majorities at the national level (59%) as well as across most areas and all classes (57% to 65% and 58% to 68%, respectively) continue to believe that government officials found guilty in connection with the flood control projects issue will be punished. An exception is Metro Manila where almost the same percentages either agree with this opinion (42%) or express indecision on the matter (37%). Agreement with this view eases between September 2025 and December 2025 not only in the Philippines (-12 percentage points) but also in Metro Manila (-24 percentage points), Mindanao (-13 percentage points), Class D (-12 percentage points), and Class E (-21 percentage points). (Please refer to Tables 5 to 6.)

The rest of Filipino adults are either ambivalent on the matter (28%) or doubtful that the guilty government officials will be punished (13%). From September 2025 to December 2025, the overall level of indecision on the matter goes up (+7 percentage points). The same movement occurs in Class D (+8 percentage points). Regarding agreement with the opinion that government officials found guilty in connection with the flood control scandal will not be punished, it becomes more pronounced among Metro Manilans (+14 percentage points).

**Table 5**  
**LIKELIHOOD OF PUNISHMENT FOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS FOUND**  
**RESPONSIBLE FOR IRREGULARITIES IN FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS**  
December 12 - 15, 2025 / Philippines  
(In Percent)

Base: Total Interviews, 100%								
If irregularities are found in flood control projects, what is the possibility that the involved officials will be punished? Would you say they ...?	LOCATION					CLASS		
	RP	NCR	BAL			C	D	E
			LUZ	VIS	MIN			
<b>WILL BE PUNISHED</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>58</b>
Will definitely be punished	22	13	22	22	26	24	21	30
Will likely be punished	37	29	40	35	39	44	37	28
<b>CANNOT SAY IF WILL BE PUNISHED OR NOT</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>WILL NOT BE PUNISHED</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>23</b>
Will likely not be punished	11	17	9	15	7	4	11	21
Will definitely not be punished	2	4	1	3	2	2	2	2

Q31. Kung may mga irregularidad na matutuklasan sa mga proyekto sa flood control, ano ang posibilidad na mapaparusahan ang mga sangkot na opisyal?  
Masasabi ba ninyo na sila ay... ?

Notes: (1) % Will be punished = % Will definitely be punished plus % Will likely be punished  
(2) % Will not be punished = % Will likely not be punished plus % Will definitely not be punished  
(3) Figures may not add up to 100% due to rounding off.

**Table 6**  
**COMPARATIVE LIKELIHOOD OF PUNISHMENT FOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS**  
**FOUND RESPONSIBLE FOR IRREGULARITIES IN FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS**  
September and December 2025 / Philippines  
(In Percent)

Base: Total Interviews									
If irregularities are found in flood control projects, what is the possibility that the involved officials will be punished? Would you say they ...?			LOCATION				CLASS		
			RP	NCR	LUZ	VIS	MIN	ABC	D
WILL BE PUNISHED	Dec 2025	59	42	62	57	65	68	58	58
	Sep 2025	71	66	70	68	78	69	70	79
	*Change	- 12	- 24	- 8	- 11	- 13	- 1	- 12	- 21
Will definitely be punished	Dec 2025	22	13	22	22	26	24	21	30
	Sep 2025	40	47	43	26	40	49	38	35
	*Change	- 18	- 34	- 21	- 4	- 14	- 25	- 17	- 5
Will likely be punished	Dec 2025	37	29	40	35	39	44	37	28
	Sep 2025	31	19	27	42	38	20	32	43
	*Change	+ 6	+10	+13	- 7	+ 1	+24	+ 5	- 15
CANNOT SAY IF WILL BE PUNISHED OR NOT	Dec 2025	28	37	28	25	26	27	30	19
	Sep 2025	21	27	24	15	16	21	22	13
	*Change	+ 7	+10	+ 4	+10	+10	+ 6	+ 8	+ 6
WILL NOT BE PUNISHED	Dec 2025	13	21	10	18	10	5	12	23
	Sep 2025	8	7	6	17	5	11	7	8
	*Change	+ 5	+14	+ 4	+ 1	+ 5	- 6	+ 5	+15
Will likely not be punished	Dec 2025	11	17	9	15	7	4	11	21
	Sep 2025	6	4	5	13	5	8	6	8
	*Change	+ 5	+13	+ 4	+ 2	+ 2	- 4	+ 5	+13
Will definitely not be punished	Dec 2025	2	4	1	3	2	2	2	2
	Sep 2025	2	3	1	4	1	3	1	0
	*Change	0	+ 1	0	- 1	+ 1	- 1	+ 1	+ 2

Notes: (1) \*Change = Figures of December 2025 minus Figures of September 2025.  
(2) % Will be punished = % Will definitely be punished plus % Will likely be punished  
(3) % Will not be punished = % Will likely not be punished plus % Will definitely not be punished  
(4) Figures may not add up to 100% due to rounding off.

### **The plurality sentiment in the country is one of confidence in the ability of the justice system to successfully prosecute high-level corruption cases (44%)**

For 44% of Filipino adults, the Philippine justice system can successfully prosecute high-level corruption cases – a view held by big pluralities to bare majorities in the rest of Luzon (51%), Class D (44%), and Class E (49%). Indecision on the matter is expressed by a third of the adult population (33%) while around a quarter (24%) is not confident about the ability of the country's justice system to do so. Nearly the same percentages of Visayans are either confident or not confident that the Philippine justice system can successfully prosecute high-level corruption cases (46% versus 36%). Public opinion on the matter is split three (3) ways in Metro Manila, Mindanao, and Class C (29% to 38% confident, 31% to 35% undecided, and 27% to 40% not confident). (Please refer to Table 7.)

**Table 7**  
**LEVEL OF CONFIDENCE THAT THE PHILIPPINE JUSTICE SYSTEM**  
**CAN SUCCESSFULLY PROSECUTE HIGH-LEVEL CORRUPTION CASES**  
December 12 - 15, 2025 / Philippines  
(In Percent)

Base: Total Interviews, 100%								
How confident or not confident are you that the Philippine justice system can successfully prosecute high-level corruption cases?	LOCATION					CLASS		
	RP	BAL				C	D	E
		NCR	LUZ	VIS	MIN			
<b>CONFIDENT</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>49</b>
Very confident	6	5	8	7	3	6	6	7
Somewhat confident	37	33	43	39	25	30	38	41
<b>CANNOT SAY WHETHER CONFIDENT OR NOT CONFIDENT</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>NOT CONFIDENT</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
Somewhat not confident	19	21	8	28	32	23	18	23
Not confident at all	5	6	1	8	8	5	5	1

Q39. Gaano ka nagtitiwala o hindi nagtitiwala na kayang matagumpay na maparusahan ng sistemang panghukuman sa Pilipinas ang mga malulubhang kaso ng korupsiyon?

Notes: (1) % Confident = % Very confident plus % Somewhat confident ; % Not Confident = % Somewhat not confident plus % Not confident at all  
(2) Figures may not add up to 100% due to rounding off.

**For a bare majority of Filipino adults (51%), the use of influence of government officials to avoid conviction is the biggest factor that will affect court decisions in cases against officials accused of corruption**

The primary factor that will affect court decisions regarding cases involving corrupt government officials is the use of influence of such officials to avoid being convicted. This opinion is expressed by near to small majorities in the Philippines (51%), Metro Manila (49%), the rest of Luzon (57%), Visayas (51%), Class C (53%), and Class D (54%). For a small majority in Class E (52%), the biggest factor is the quality of evidence presented against corrupt government officials, a sentiment shared by a quarter of Filipino adults (25%). In Mindanao, around the same percentages identify either the use of influence of government officials to avoid conviction (43%) or the quality of evidence presented against these officials (35%) as the biggest factor that will affect court decisions in cases against those accused of corruption. Overall, the other factors cited by Filipino adults are the length of the trial of corruption cases (16%) and the fairness of judges handling these cases (8%). (Please refer to Table 8.)

**Table 8**  
**BIGGEST FACTOR THAT WILL AFFECT THE COURT'S DECISION**  
**IN CASES FILED AGAINST OFFICIALS ACCUSED OF CORRUPTION**  
December 12 - 15, 2025 / Philippines  
(In Percent)

Base: Total Interviews, 100%								
<i>In your opinion, what is the biggest factor that will affect the court's decision in cases filed against officials accused of corruption?</i>	LOCATION					CLASS		
	BAL							
	<u>RP</u>	<u>NCR</u>	<u>LUZ</u>	<u>VIS</u>	<u>MIN</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>E</u>
Use of influence of government officials to avoid being convicted	51	49	57	51	43	53	54	26
Quality of evidence	25	21	20	28	35	19	22	52
Length of the trial	16	22	17	15	13	20	16	10
Fairness on the part of the judge	8	8	7	7	10	8	7	12

Q40. Sa iyong palagay, ano ang pinakamalaking dahilan na makakaapekto sa desisyon ng korte sa mga kasong isinampa laban sa mga opisyal na inakusahan ng korupsiyon?