

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE "THE IMAGE OF THE FUTURE IN COLOMBIA SOCIETY" SURVEY

Survey Overview

Conducted in May 2026 with 302 respondents across Colombia, this survey explores how Colombians envision their collective future — the challenges they fear, the institutions they trust, and the Colombia they want to build by 2046. The sample spans professionals from education, healthcare, business, technology, the arts, and more.

Respondent Profile

57% female · 43% male. Dominant age group: 30–46 (54%), followed by 16–29 (29%). 60% reside in major metropolitan areas. 53% live in conflict-free territories; 22% in active conflict zones; 15% in post-conflict or at-risk areas.

Key Findings at a Glance

Colombians describe the present as uncertain, unstable, and fragile — sharply contrasting with the sustainable, empathetic, dynamic future they desire. Uncertainty dominates emotional responses (64 mentions), yet hope persists (20). 62% plan to stay and build their lives in Colombia.

Critical Risks

Top threats: economic crisis and inequality (65%), climate change (59%), geopolitical conflicts (50%), institutional distrust in governments, courts and parliaments (46%), and risk of peace process reversal (41%).

Solutions Identified

Respondents believe the path forward requires environmental responsibility (65%), multi-sector collaboration between states, corporations, and civil society (61%), deep institutional reform (55%), and a transformative new education system (54%).

Institutional Trust

Trust in state institutions is critically low: Parliament 2.34/5, judiciary 2.44/5, executive 2.60/5. Knowledge institutions inspire far greater confidence: education system and scientific community both score 3.78/5; tech sector and creative industries 3.61/5.

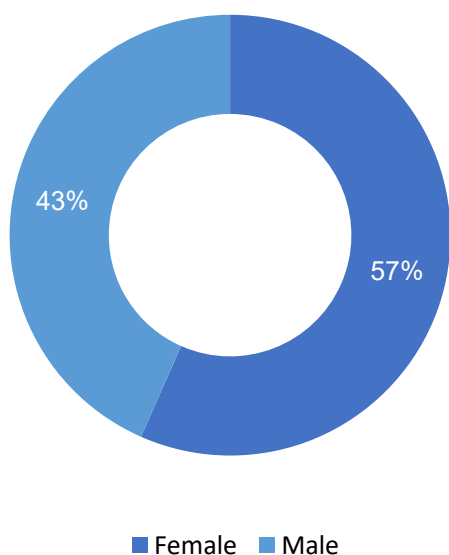
Vision for 2046

The imagined Colombia is built on prosperity and decent work (88%), full human rights (80%), peace without armed groups (76%), ecological balance (67%), and tech leadership in the green-digital economy (50%). The political landscape is expected to lean liberal right (35%) followed by conservative right (28%).

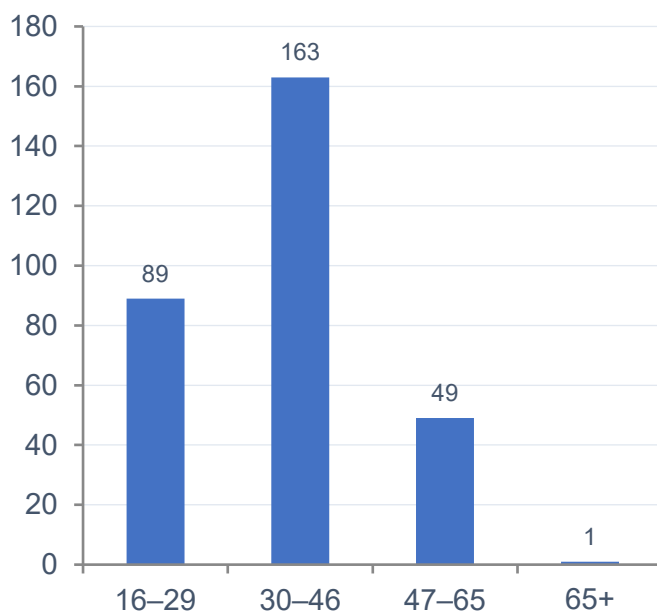
Colombia's Greatest Asset & Risk

Respondents identify their people as the country's most valuable resource, followed by education and biodiversity. The greatest danger? Corruption — cited by nearly 1 in 10 — followed by violence and political capture.

Gender Distribution



Age Distribution



PERCEPTION OF REALITY — PAST, PRESENT AND DESIRED FUTURE

A Country Searching for Stability

When asked to describe Colombia's reality across time, a consistent narrative of turbulence emerges. The period 2000–2020 is remembered as complex (145 mentions), unstable (123), dynamic (110), and uncertain (101). Economic and social transformation was real, but fragility was ever-present.

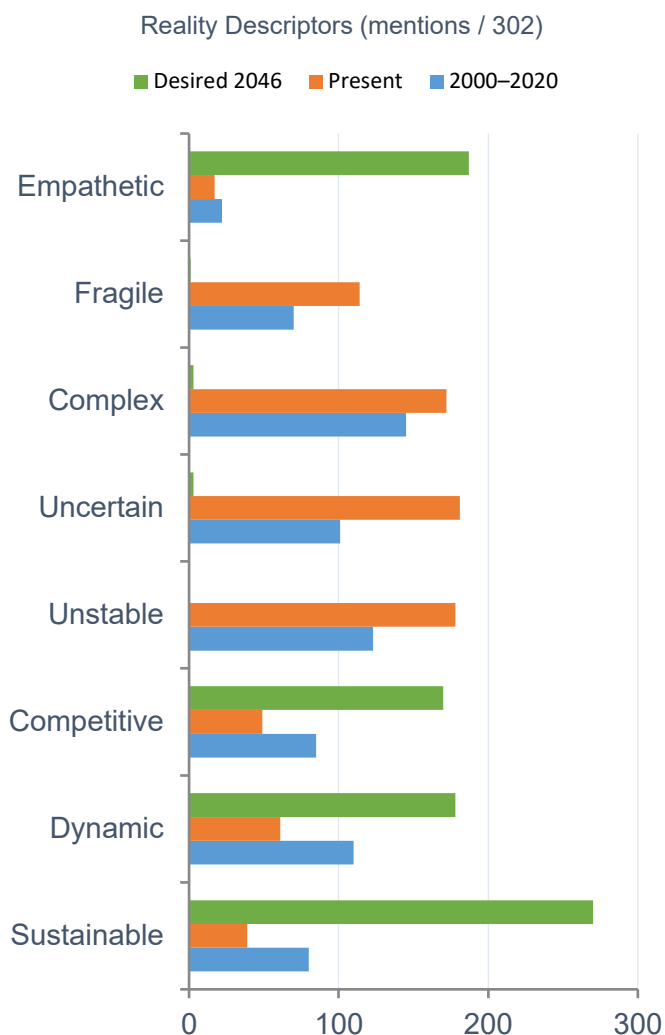
The Present: More Fragile Than Ever

Today, the perception intensifies sharply. 181 respondents describe the present as uncertain, 178 as unstable, 172 as complex, and 114 as fragile. The sense of incomprehensibility has grown notably — 63 respondents now call reality 'incomprehensible', up from 21 in the 2000–2020 period. Dynamism and competitiveness persist, but tension and anxiety now dominate the emotional register.

The Future Imagined: Sustainable and Empathetic

The desired future presents a striking contrast. Colombians overwhelmingly envision a sustainable society (270 mentions), reflecting deep concern for environmental and social systems. They want an empathetic Colombia (187), one that is dynamic (178) and competitive (170) — but grounded in human connection rather than chaos. The keywords of instability, uncertainty, and fragility nearly disappear from the imagined future.

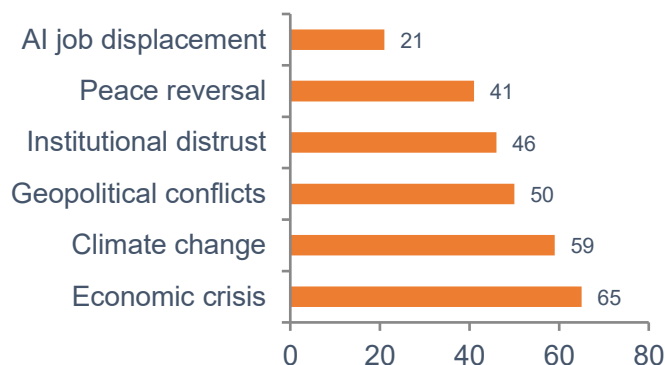
The chart shows frequency of key descriptors across time, revealing the collective arc from turbulence to aspiration.



RISKS, SOLUTIONS & INSTITUTIONAL TRUST

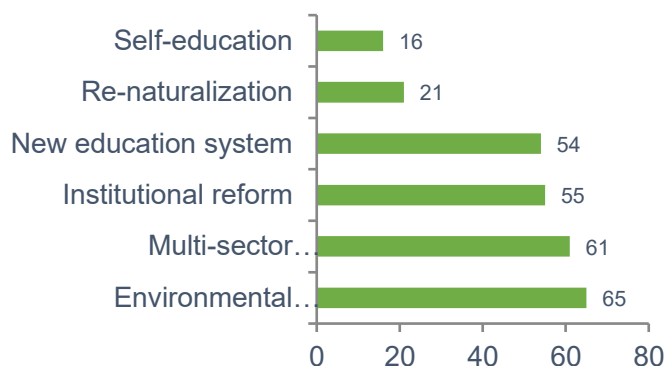
PERCEIVED THREATS TO A DIGNIFIED FUTURE

Economic crisis and inequality top the threats cited (65%), followed by climate change (59%), geopolitical instability (50%), institutional distrust (46%), and risk of peace process reversal (41%). AI-driven job displacement concerns 21%.



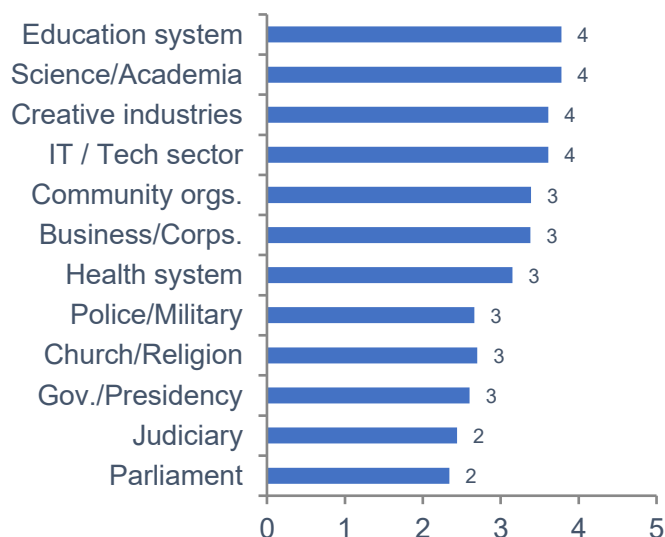
PATHWAYS TO A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Solutions reflect personal and systemic responsibility. Environmental accountability leads (65%), followed by multi-sector collaboration — states, corporations, and civil society (61%). Institutional reform is critical (55%), alongside a transformative new education system (54%).



INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY TO LEAD COLOMBIA TO A DIGNIFIED FUTURE (Scale 1–5)

A trust gap divides state from knowledge institutions. Parliament (2.34) and the judiciary (2.44) are the least trusted; executive scores 2.60. Education and scientific community both reach 3.78/5; tech sector and creative industries score 3.61/5.



VISION FOR COLOMBIA 2046 — PERSONAL FUTURES, POLITICAL LANDSCAPE & WORK

Most Colombians Choose to Stay

Despite pervasive uncertainty, 62% see their future in Colombia: a stable job and home of their own. Only 5% plan to emigrate permanently; 20% consider temporary emigration with the intention to return.

A Colombia Defined by Dignity

The imagined Colombia of 2046 is built on prosperity and decent work (88%), full human rights (80%), peace free of armed groups and narco-trafficking (76%), ecological balance (67%), and leadership in the green-digital economy (50%).

A Right-Leaning Political Future

The majority predict liberal right (35%) and conservative right (28%) currents will prevail by 2046. Liberal left stands at 21%; conservative left at 12%.

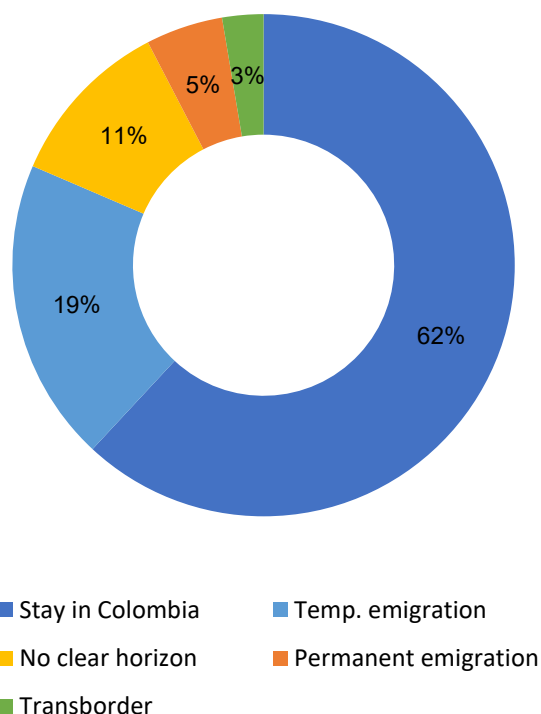
Work Transformed by Technology

40% expect technology to have taken over routine tasks. 37% foresee work becoming more collective. 35% expect to do the same work under AI supervision. Only 13% believe their profession will have disappeared.

Colombia's Greatest Asset and Greatest Risk

The country's people are its principal resource, followed by education and biodiversity. The gravest threat? Corruption — cited by nearly 1 in 10 — followed by violence and political capture.

Personal Future Vision



Desired Colombia 2046 (mentions / 302)

