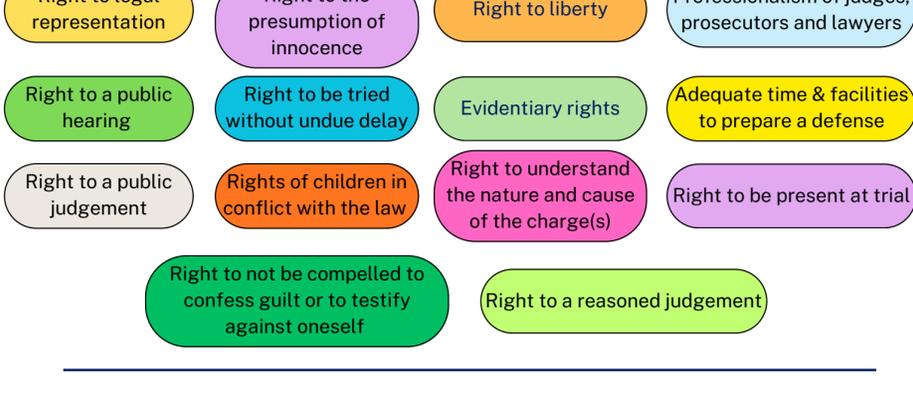


Fair Trial Rights Report 2024 – Key Findings

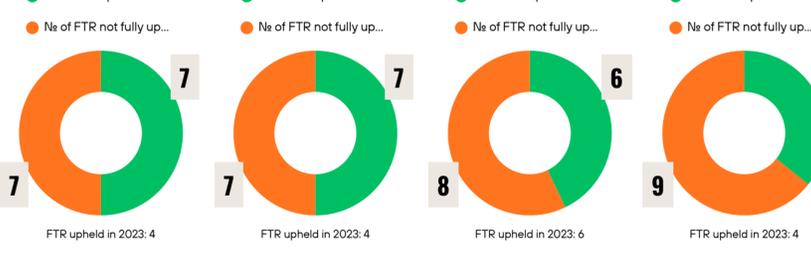
In 2024, CCHR’s Fair Trial Rights Monitoring project monitored 582 criminal trials of 822 defendants at the country’s four Appeal Courts: Phnom Penh, Battambang, Tboung Khmum and Preah Sihanouk.

CCHR assessed to what extent the Appeal Courts adhered to the right to fair trial, a right guaranteed under both Cambodian and international human rights law.

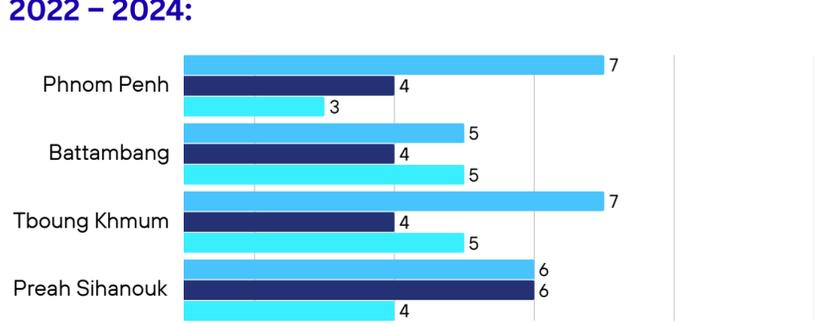
There are 14 components of the right to a fair trial, all of which were assessed during each trial monitored:



Overall performance of each of the Appeal Courts:



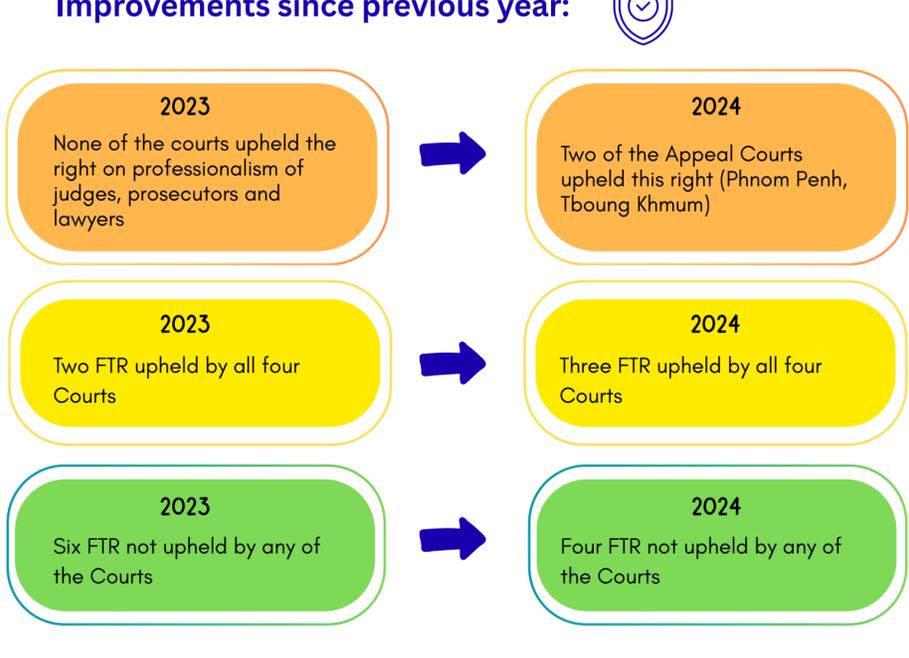
Record of each Appeal Court in upholding FTR, 2022 – 2024:



Three FTR were upheld by all four Appeal Courts – up from two FTR in 2023:

	Upheld by 4 Courts	Upheld by 3 Courts	Upheld by 2 Courts	Upheld by 1 Court	Upheld by 0 Court
Right to a public judgement	✓				
Right to adequate time to prepare a defense	✓				
Right to understand the nature & cause of the charge	✓				
Right to a public hearing		✓			
Right to be present at trial		✓			
Right to be tried without undue delay		✓			
Right to presumption of innocence			✓		
Professionalism of judges, prosecutors and lawyers			✓		
Right not to be compelled to confess guilt or testify against oneself				✓	
Right to a reasoned judgement					✓
Right to liberty					✓
Evidentiary rights					✓
Right to legal representation					✓
Rights of children in conflict with the law					✓

Improvements since previous year:



Regression since previous year:



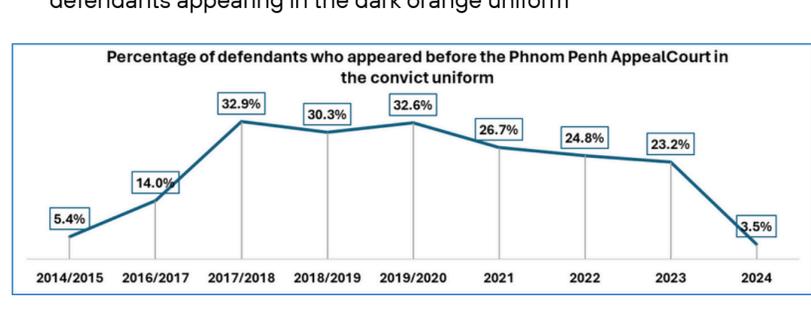
In 2024, there was a regression in adherence to the right not to be compelled to confess guilt or testify against oneself

- ★ 15 defendants recorded across three Appeal Courts (Phnom Penh, Preah Sihanouk, Battambang)
- ➔ However, the right was encouragingly upheld by the Tboung Khmum Court, the first time it has done so since CCHR began monitoring trials there

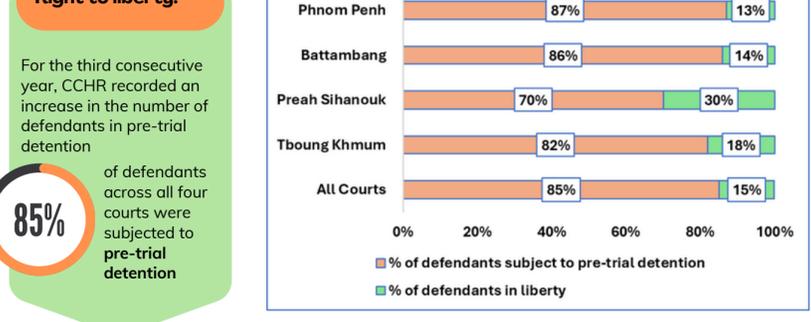
On the right to the presumption of innocence:

29% of detained defendants across the four Appeal Courts wore the blue uniform for convicted prisoners

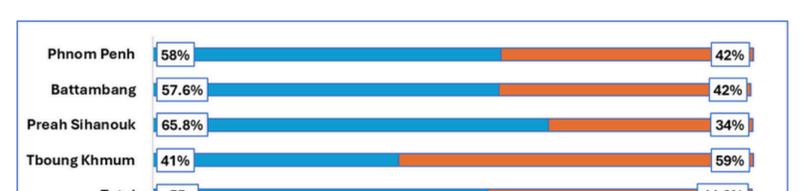
- ➔ Improvement since 2023, when 36.5% of detained defendants wore the blue convict uniform
- ➔ Phnom Penh had the most notable improvement, with 96% of defendants appearing in the dark orange uniform



Rights not upheld by any of the courts:



Right to legal representation:



Across the four courts, 55.8% of defendants in the cases monitored by CCHR were represented by a lawyer

- For the second year in a row, there has been a regression on this right across the four courts
- 2024: 55.8% of defendants had legal representation
- 2023: 58.7% of defendants had legal representation
- 2022: 66.7% of defendants had legal representation

This Report and the previous “Fair Trial Rights in Cambodia” reports can be found on CCHR’s website www.cchrcambodia.org and Sithi Portal. Should you have any questions or require any further information about this Report, please email CCHR at info@cchrcambodia.org.

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October 2025



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