

StraConsult Ltd  
Port Louis, Mauritius  
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## News release

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### Young Mauritians see unemployment as the most important problem facing the country

According to the most recent Afrobarometer survey, two-thirds of Mauritians say unemployment is the most important problem that the country is currently facing.

Moreover, the survey reveals that the majority of youth see unemployment as their most important problem. Almost a third of both women and men stated the same. This opinion is being expressed despite the fact that the official unemployment rate is currently 7%.

Mauritians say the government does well in handling the supply of electricity and promoting opportunities for women but struggles to narrow the gap between rich and poor, creating jobs and reducing crime.

#### Key findings

- More than two-thirds of Mauritians (73%) have cite unemployment as the most important problem that the government should address.
- According to the respondents, after unemployment, the second and third most important problems that the country is currently facing are namely: poverty/destitution (44%) and crime and security (31%) (Figure 1).
- Seven in 10 Mauritians (70%) feel that the issue of creating jobs is among the main issues that the current government is handling badly (Figure 2).
- Almost seven in 10 respondents (70%) believe that the government is badly addressing the issue of youth unemployment and this is mostly stated by respondents from the age group 18-25 (81%).

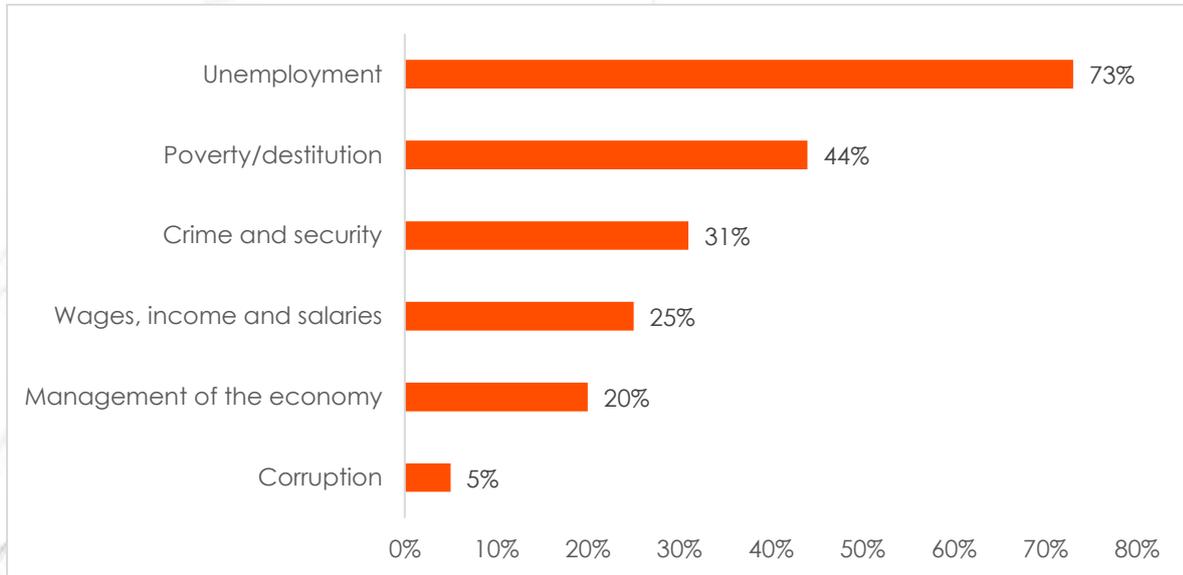
#### Afrobarometer

Afrobarometer is a pan-African, non-partisan research network that conducts public attitude surveys on democracy, governance, economic conditions, and related issues in Africa. Six rounds of surveys were conducted in up to 37 African countries between 1999 and 2016, and Round 7 surveys (2016/2017) are currently underway. Afrobarometer conducts face-to-face interviews in the language of the respondent's choice with nationally representative samples.

The Afrobarometer team in Mauritius, led by StraConsult, carried out face-to-face interviews with 1,200 adult Mauritians aged above 18 in October 2017 and respondents were determined by random sampling. A sample of this size yields country-level results with a margin of error of +/-3% at a 95% confidence level. Previous surveys have been conducted in Mauritius in 2012 and 2014.

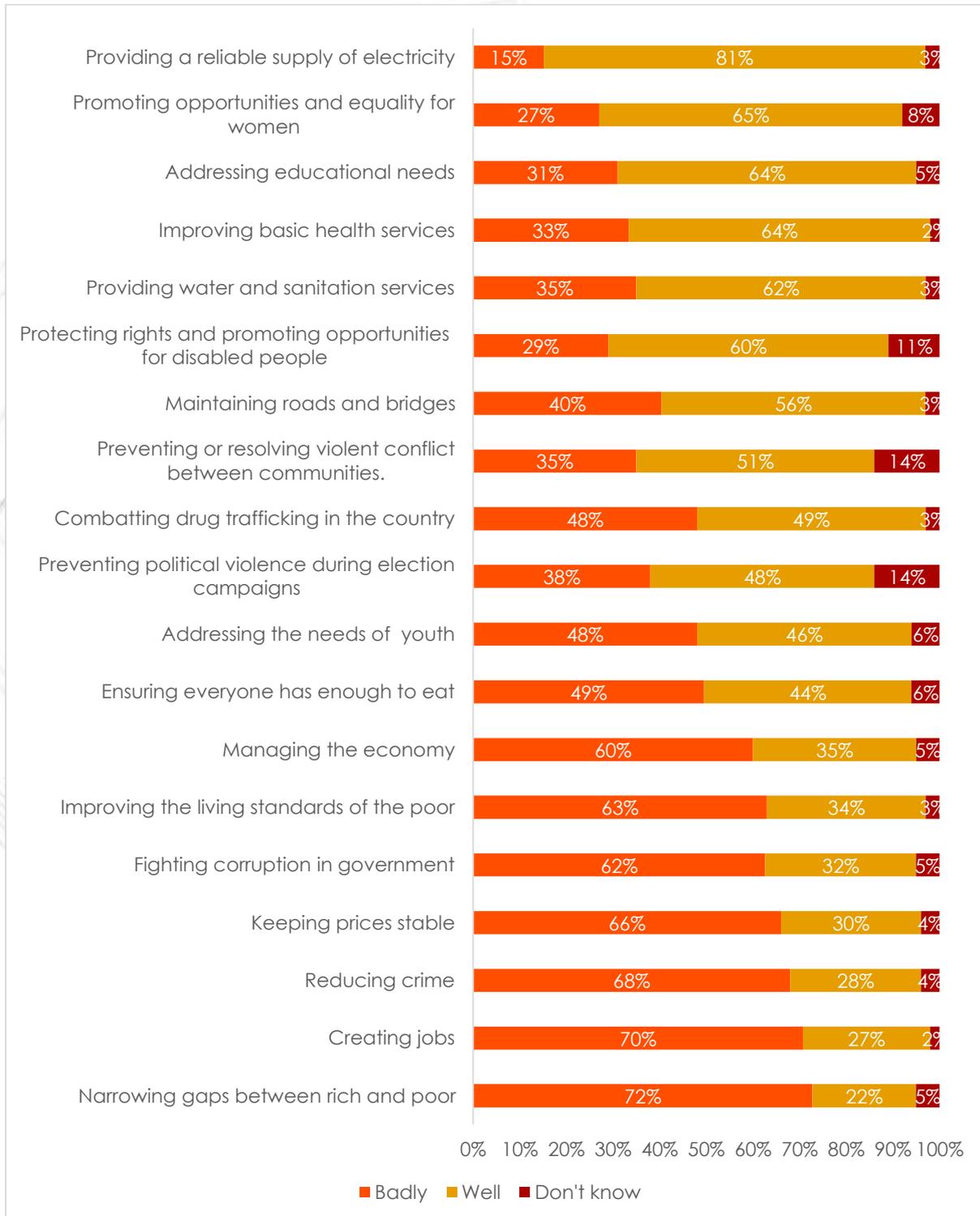
**Charts**

**Figure 1: Most important problems | Mauritius | 2017**



**Respondents were asked:** *In your opinion, what are the most important problems facing this country that government should address?*

**Figure 2: Handling problems | Mauritius | 2017**



**Respondents were asked:** How well or badly would you say the current government is handling the following matters, or haven't you heard enough to say?

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