

News release

Despite security concerns, Mauritians feel safe in their homes

While crime and insecurity remain a leading concern, most Mauritians feel safe in their neighbourhoods and homes, according to a new Afrobarometer survey.

Very few Mauritians report having been victims of theft or physical violence, and the proportion of survey respondents who identified crime and insecurity as the nation's most important problem has declined, the 2014 survey findings show.

Key findings

- Crime and security, cited as the most important national problem for Mauritians in 2012, dropped to second place (after unemployment) in 2014. Only 13% of Mauritians placed crime and security as first among the top three national problems, compared to 21% in 2012.
- Four out of five Mauritians (83%) feel safe walking in their neighbourhoods, and 94% say they never fear crime in their homes.
- Nine out of 10 Mauritians (91%) had not been victims of theft in their homes in the past year, and 98% say they had not been physically attacked.

Afrobarometer

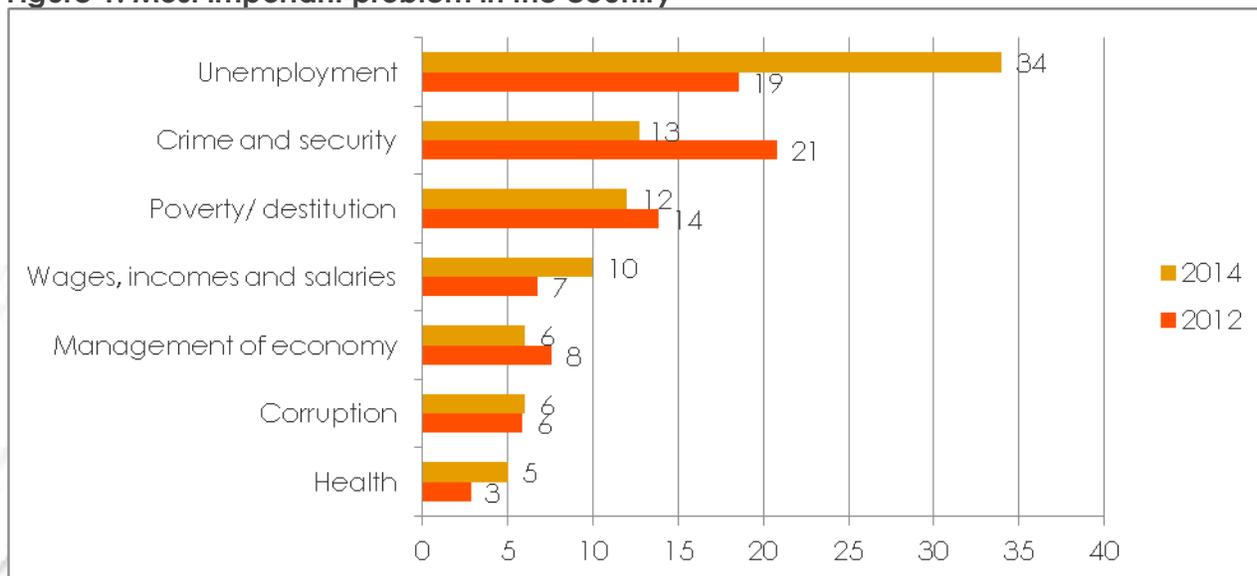
Afrobarometer is an African-led, non-partisan research project that has measured countries' social, political, and economic atmosphere since 1999. In its sixth survey round (2014-15), it is covering 35 countries. In Mauritius, the face-to-face interviews of 1,200 adults were conducted by StraConsult. Afrobarometer is funded by the UK Department of International Development (DFID), U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), Mo Ibrahim Foundation and the World Bank.

The Afrobarometer team in Mauritius, led by StraConsult, interviewed 1,200 adult Mauritians in June and July 2014. A sample of this size yields results with a margin of error of +/-3% at a 95% confidence level. A previous survey was conducted in Mauritius in 2012.

Charts

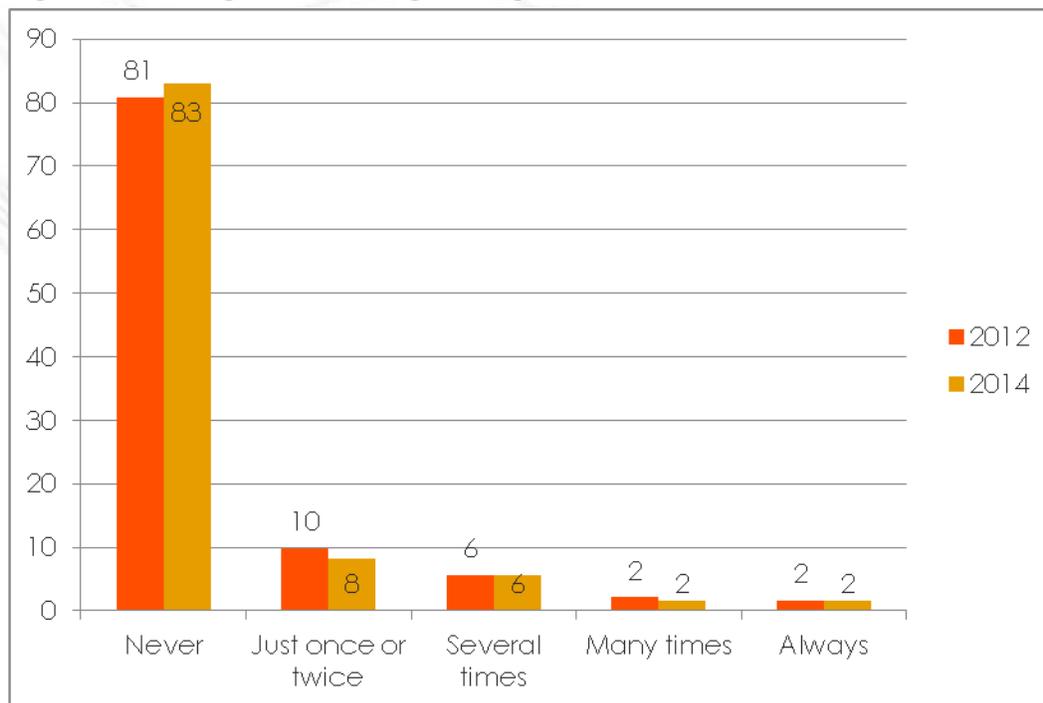
All figures for the following tables are percentages rounded to whole numbers. Due to rounding, the figures may not add to exactly 100%.

Figure 1: Most important problem in the country



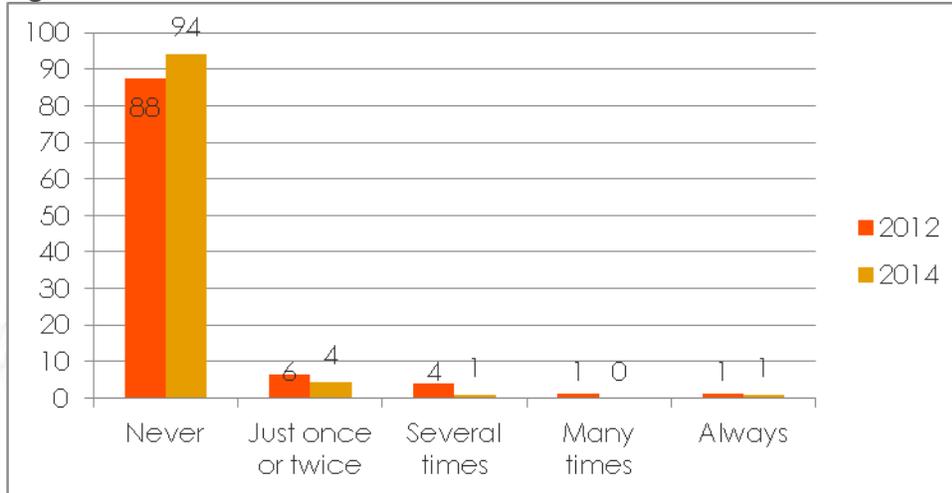
Respondents were asked: In your opinion, what are the most important problems facing this country that government should address? (% citing unemployment, crime, poverty, etc., among the top three problems)

Figure 2: Feeling safe walking in neighbourhood



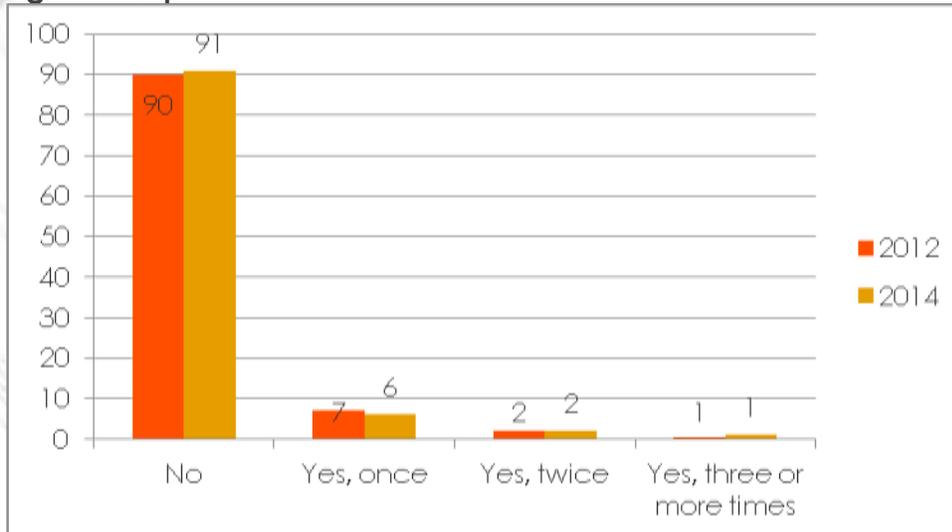
Respondents were asked: Over the past year, how often, if ever, have you or anyone in your family: Felt unsafe walking in your neighbourhood? (% who said Never, Just once or twice, Several times, Many Times or always)

Figure 3: Fear of crime in one's home



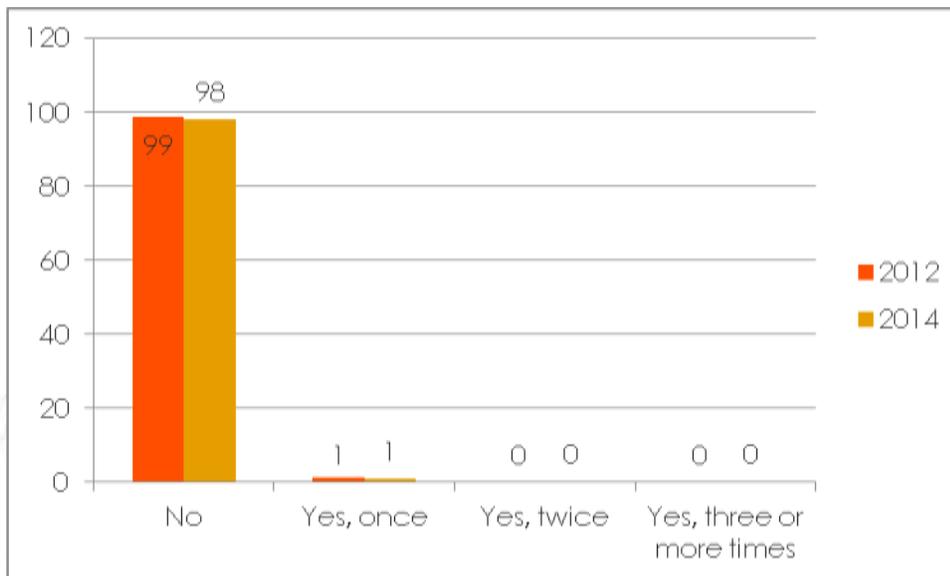
Respondents were asked: Over the past year, how often, if ever, have you or anyone in your family: Feared crime in your own home? ((% who said Never, Just once or twice, Several times, Many Times or always)

Figure 4: Experience of theft in the house



Respondents were asked: During the past year, have you or anyone in your family: Had something stolen from your house? (%)

Figure 5: Experience of physical aggression



Respondents were asked: *During the past year, have you or anyone in your family: Been physically attacked? (%)*

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