



Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
26 November 2021

News release

In Tanzania, China outranks U.S. as positive influence and development model, Afrobarometer survey shows

In a new Afrobarometer survey in Tanzania, China is overwhelmingly seen as a positive influence and has surpassed the United States as a preferred development model.

Growing numbers of Tanzanians say that China's economic activities have "a lot" of influence on the Tanzanian economy and that China is the best model for the country's future development.

Citizens perceive China's economic and political influence on Tanzania more positively than that of the United States, Great Britain, or Russia. The East African Community (EAC), United Nations agencies, the African Union, and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) are also widely seen as having a positive influence on Tanzania.

Afrobarometer surveys

Afrobarometer is a pan-African, nonpartisan survey research network that provides reliable data on African experiences and evaluations of democracy, governance, and quality of life. Eight rounds of surveys have been completed in up to 39 countries since 1999. Round 8 surveys (2019/2021) cover 34 countries. Afrobarometer conducts face-to-face interviews in the language of the respondent's choice.

The Afrobarometer team in Tanzania, led by REPOA, interviewed a nationally representative, random, stratified probability sample of 2,398 adults in February-March 2021. A sample of this size yields country-level results with a margin of error of +/-2 percentage points at a 95% confidence level. Previous surveys were conducted in Tanzania in 2001, 2003, 2005, 2008, 2012, 2014, and 2017.

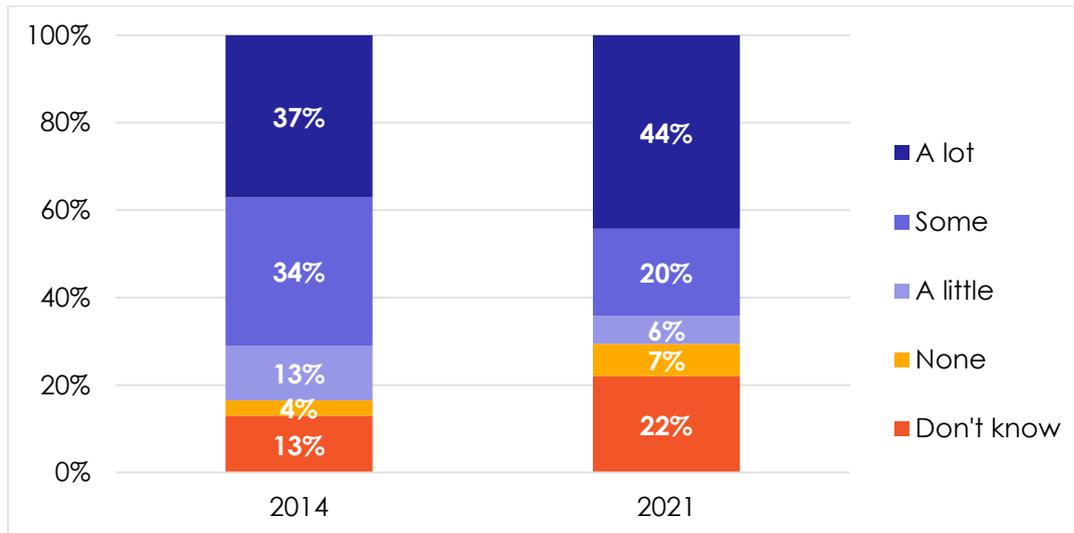
Key findings

- More than four in 10 Tanzanians (44%) say China's economic activities have "a lot" of influence on Tanzania's economy, an increase of 7 percentage points from 2014 (Figure 1).
 - This perception increases with respondents' education level (reaching 70% among those with post-secondary qualifications) and is more common among men (51%) than among women (37) (Figure 2).
- Three-fourths (75%) of respondents see China's economic and political influence on Tanzania as "somewhat positive" or "very positive." In terms of favourable perceptions, China outranks the United States (63%), Great Britain (52%), and Russia (36%) (Figure 3).
 - Tanzanians also offer overwhelmingly positive assessments of the economic and political influence of the East African Community (EAC) (77%), United Nations agencies (76%), the African Union (75%), and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) (67%) (Figure 3).

- China has passed the United States as Tanzanians' most preferred model for the country's future development, cited by 35% of respondents, up from 24% in 2014. The United States is favoured by 32%, and South Africa by 10% (Figure 4).

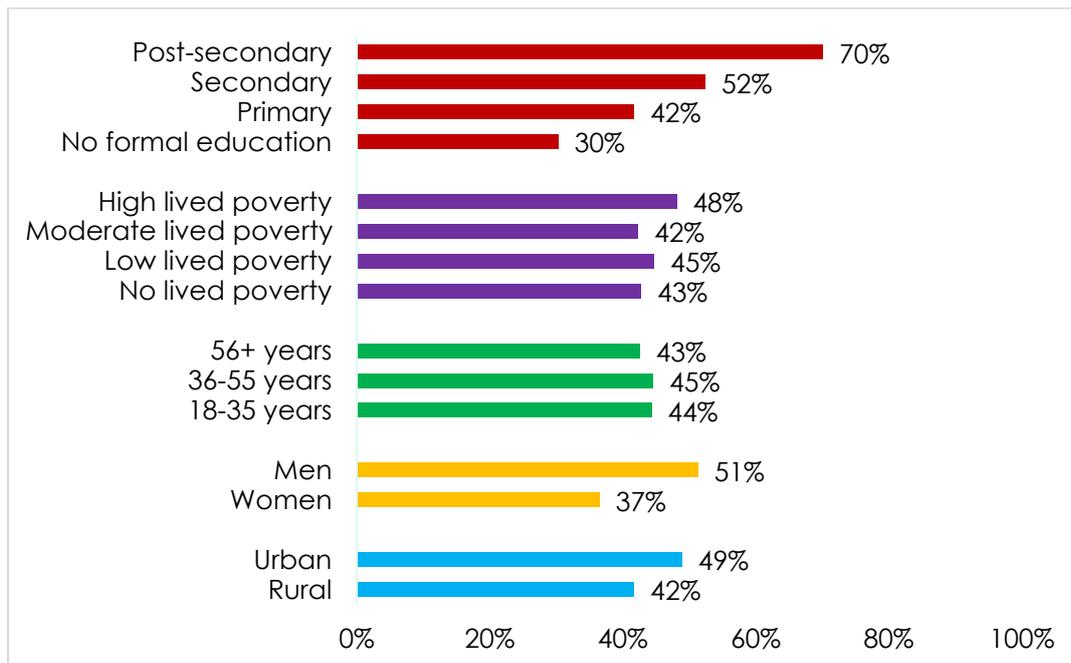
Charts

Figure 1: Influence of China's economic activities | Tanzania | 2021



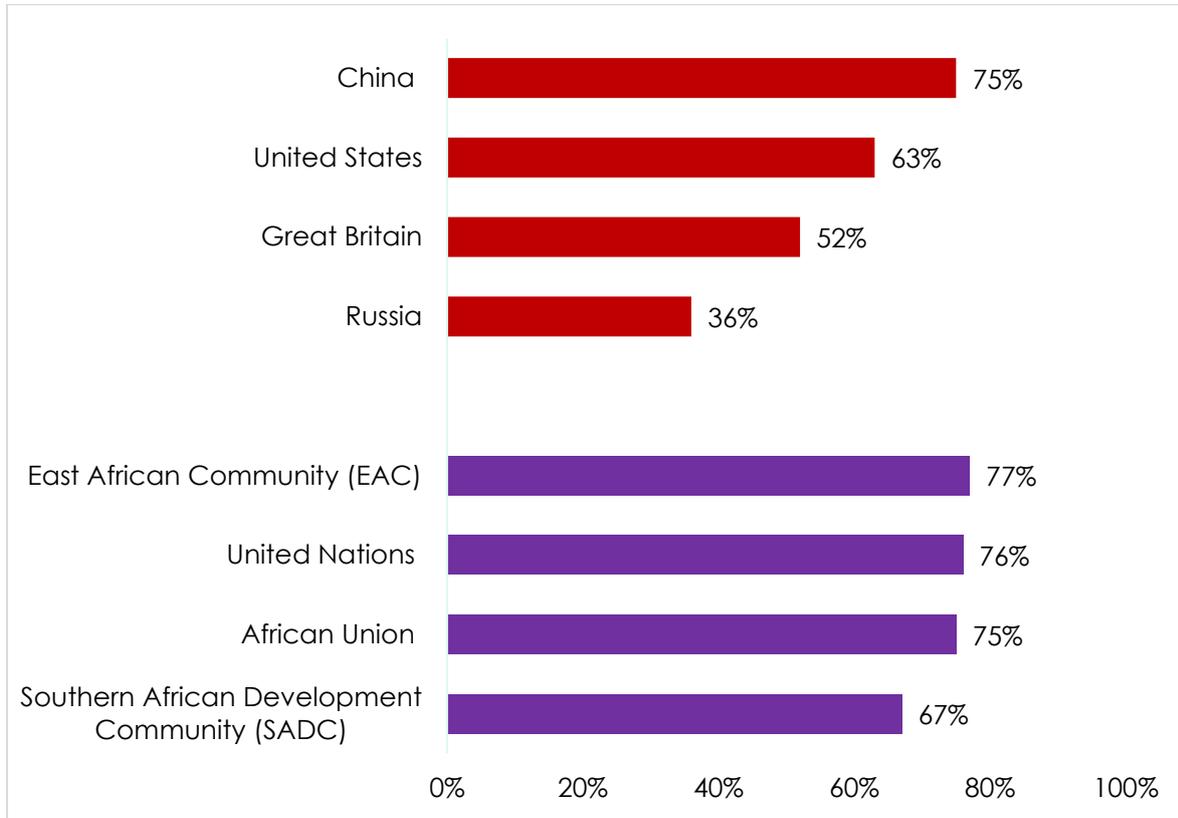
Respondents were asked: How much influence do you think China's economic activities in Tanzania have on our economy, or haven't you heard enough to say?

Figure 2: China's economic activities have 'a lot' of influence | by socio-demographic group | Tanzania | 2021



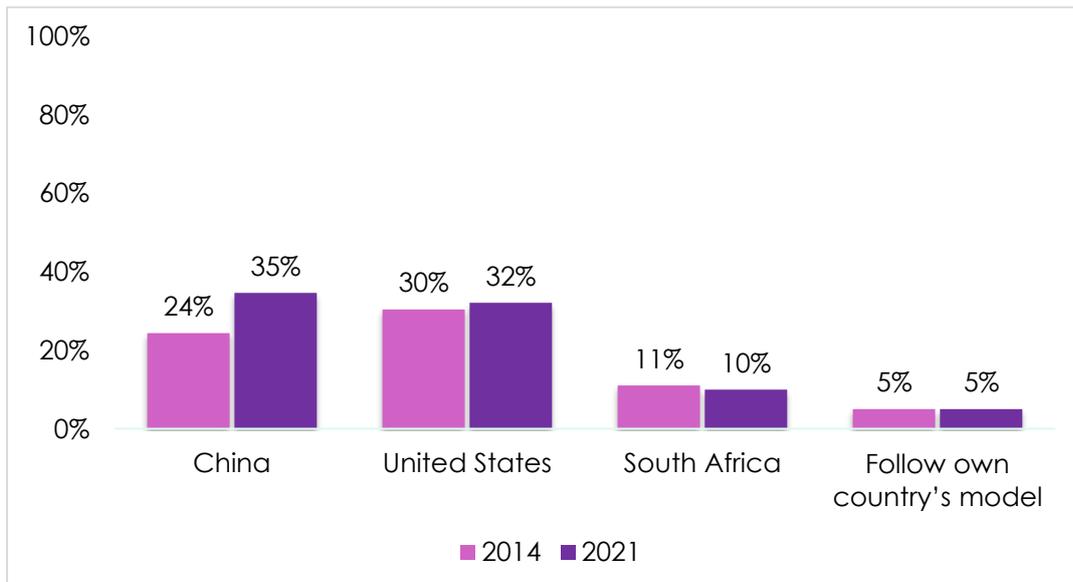
Respondents were asked: How much influence do you think China's economic activities in Tanzania have on our economy, or haven't you heard enough to say? (% who say "a lot")

Figure 3: Economic and political influence: positive or negative? | Tanzania | 2021



Respondents were asked: In general, do you think that the economic and political influence of each of the following countries and organizations on Tanzania is mostly positive, mostly negative, or haven't you heard enough to say? (% who say "somewhat positive" or "very positive")

Figure 4: Best model for country's development | Tanzania | 2014-2021



Respondents were asked: In your opinion, which of the following countries, if any, would be the best model for the future development of our country, or is there some other country in Africa or elsewhere that should be our model?

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