



REPOA
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News release

Tanzanians believe war on corruption is making progress, but fear retaliation if they report incidents

Most Tanzanians say corruption has decreased over the past year, a sharp reversal of public perceptions just three years ago, according to the most recent Afrobarometer survey.

Popular perceptions of corruption in key public institutions have declined across the board, and the proportion of Tanzanians who approve of the way the government is handling the war on corruption has almost doubled since in 2014.

These survey findings suggest that the government's intensified anti-corruption efforts are paying off. Still, many government agencies are still widely perceived as corrupt; only half of Tanzanians believe that they can make a difference in the fight against corruption; and a majority say people are afraid of retaliation if they report bribery incidents to the authorities. For more details, see Afrobarometer Dispatch No. 178 at www.afrobarometer.org.

Key findings

- More than seven in 10 respondents (72%) say the level of corruption in Tanzania has decreased "somewhat" or "a lot" over the past year. This is a sharp reversal from 2014, when only 13% saw a decrease (Figure 1).
- Similarly, seven in 10 Tanzanians (71%) say the government is fighting corruption "fairly well" or "very well" – almost twice the level of approval in 2014 (37%) (Figure 2).
- Popular perceptions of corruption in key public institutions have declined across the board. Even so, substantial proportions of Tanzanians still see corruption in their public institutions, especially the police and judiciary.
- Seven in 10 Tanzanians (71%) say people fear adverse consequences if they report corruption incidents to the authorities (Figure 3), and only half (50%) think that ordinary citizens can make a difference in the fight against corruption (Figure 4).

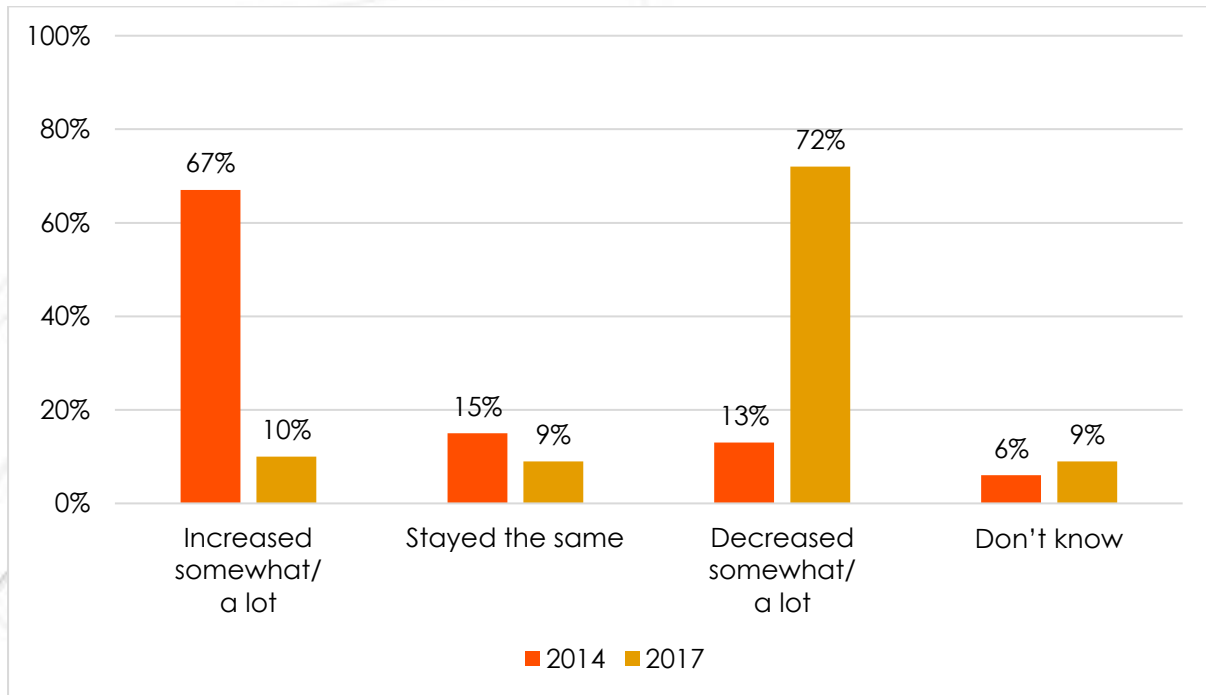
Afrobarometer

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 Tanzania, led by REPOA, interviewed 2,400 adult Tanzanians in April-June 2017. A sample of this size yields country-level results with a margin of error of +/-2% at a 95% confidence level. Previous surveys have been conducted in Tanzania in 2014, 2012, 2008, 2005, 2003, and 2001.

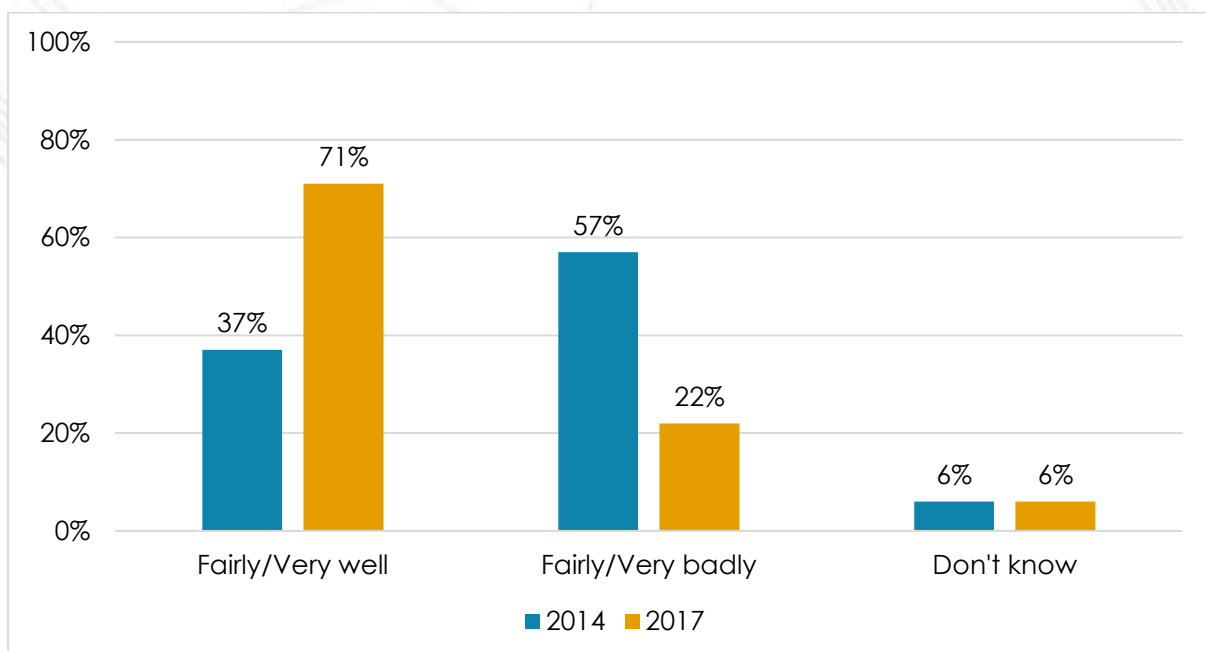
Charts

Figure 1: Level of corruption in the country | Tanzania | 2014-2017



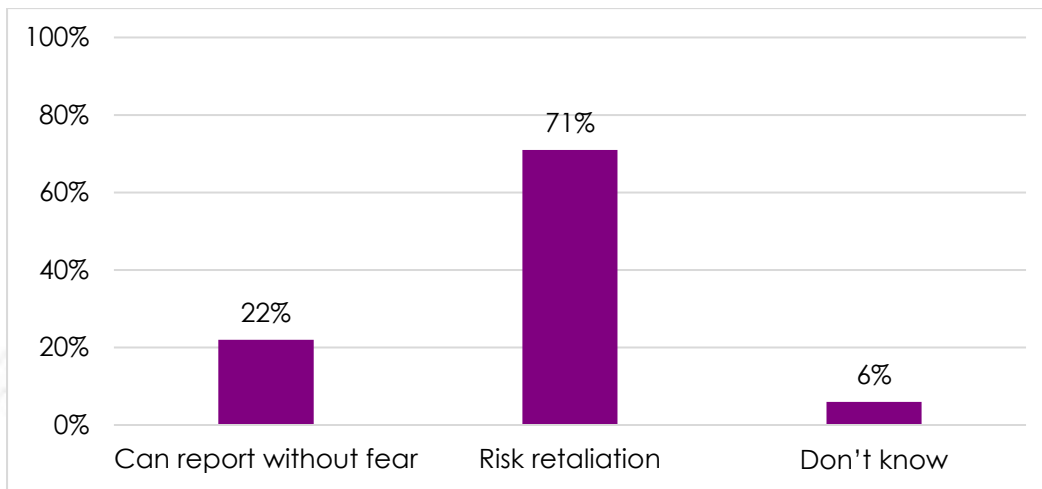
Respondents were asked: In your opinion, over the past year, has the level of corruption in this country increased, decreased, or stayed the same?

Figure 2: Government performance in fighting corruption | Tanzania | 2014-2017



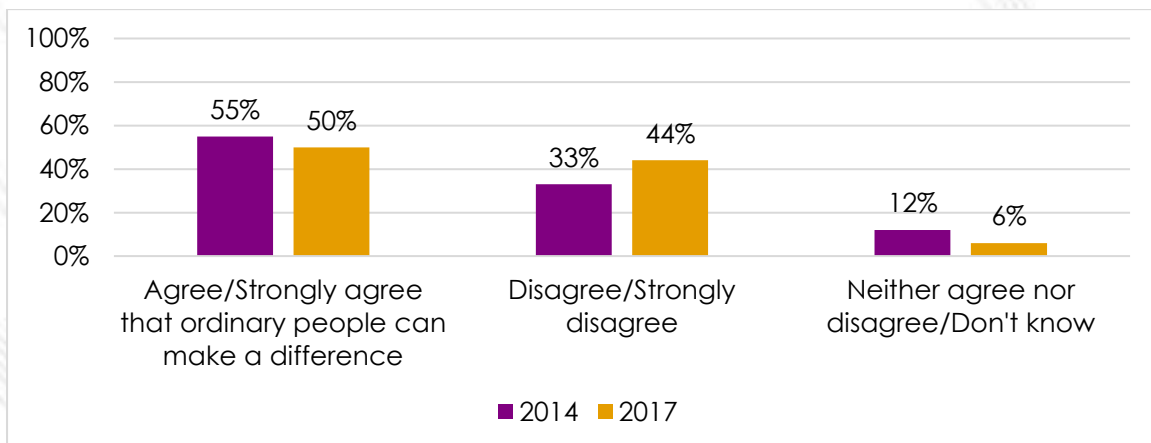
Respondents were asked: How well or badly would you say the current government is handling the following matters, or haven't you heard enough to say: Fighting corruption in government?

Figure 3: Can citizens report corruption without fear? | Tanzania | 2017



Respondents were asked: In this country, can ordinary people report incidents of corruption without fear, or do they risk retaliation or other negative consequences if they speak out?

Figure 4: Can ordinary citizens make a difference in the fight against corruption? | Tanzania | 2014-2017



Respondents were asked: Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statement: Ordinary people can make a difference in the fight against corruption?

For more information, please contact:

REPOA
 Stephen Mwombela
 Telephone: +255 22 270 0083
 Email: smwombela@repoa.or.tz

Visit us online at:
www.repoa.or.tz
www.afrobarometer.org

