Results from the Afrobarometer
Round 5 Survey in Namibia
25 April 2012

www.afrobarometer.org
www.ippr.org.na
## Survey Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Weighted</th>
<th>Un-weighted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mean Age</strong></td>
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## Survey Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Weighted</th>
<th>Un-weighted</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Caprivi</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erongo</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hardap</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karas</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kavango</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khomas</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>16%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kunene</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohangwena</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Omaheke</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Omusati</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oshana</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oshikoto</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Otjozondjupa</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[www.afrobarometer.org](www.afrobarometer.org)
Democracy Values

- 64% find democracy always preferable
- 76-79% oppose authoritarian alternatives
- 73% say that Namibia is a full democracy or a democracy with minor problems
- 67% fairly or very satisfied with democracy
- Namibia, USA, and South Africa seen as more democratic (6-10 rating)
- China and Zimbabwe seen as less democratic
Preference for democracy 1999-2012

- **Sometimes other**:
- **Doesn't matter**:
  - 1% in 1999, 1% in 2002, 2% in 2006, 1% in 2008, 2% in 2012.
- **Don't know**:
  - 2% in 1999, 2% in 2002, 1% in 2006, 2% in 2008, 1% in 2012.
Rejection of non-democratic alternatives.

- One party state: 76%
- Military rule: 77%
- One person rule: 79%

Disagree/Strongly disagree vs. Agree/Strongly agree:
- One party state: 20%
- Military rule: 15%
- One person rule: 13%
The supply side of democracy

• 73% think that Namibia is a full democracy or a democracy with minor problems the same as in 2008

• 62% say they are fairly or very satisfied with Namibia’s democracy down slightly from 67% in 2008
Extent of democracy

Not a democracy | A democracy with major problems | A democracy with minor problems | A full democracy

2012: 3 | 23 | 46 | 27
2008: 3 | 21 | 32 | 41

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Satisfaction with democracy

Demand for democracy

- 79% say leaders should be chosen through regular, open and honest elections, up sharply from 57% in 2008

- 72% say that many parties are needed to give Namibians real choices
Comparative democracy evaluations by Namibians (0-5 = less democratic; 6-10 = more democratic)
Political Party Issues

• 50% of respondents are “close to” SWAPO
• 61% would vote for SWAPO
• 31% are not close to any political party
• 67% trust the ruling party, whereas 32% trust the opposition parties “somewhat or a lot” vs. 64% and 38% in 2008

• SWAPO support is strongly rural and older
• Non-partisans are heavily young and urban
Close to a political party

- SWAPO: 50
- NA: 31
- Refused: 5
- RDP: 4
- APP: 4
- DTA: 4
- NUDO: 4
- UDF: 4

percent
Urban/rural differences for SWAPO and non-partisans

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SWAPO</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not applicable</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>25</td>
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SWAPO closeness by region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Close to SWAPO</th>
<th>Non-partisan</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Caprivi</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Erongo</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hardap</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karas</td>
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<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kavango</td>
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<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Khomas</td>
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<td>28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kunene</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ohangwena</td>
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<tr>
<td>Omaheke</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Omusati</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>35</td>
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<td>Oshana</td>
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<tr>
<td>Otjozondjupa</td>
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<td>31</td>
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Trust ruling party

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2008</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not at all</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Just a little</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Somewhat</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td>A lot</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>41</td>
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</table>
Trust opposition political parties

Vote for which party?

- SWAPO: 61 percent
- RDP
- DTA
- APP
- NUDO
- Refused to answer
- Would not vote
- Don't know

2 percent
Q97. Vote for which party

Cases weighted by within wt
Corruption Perception

• Government officials and Police rank as the most corrupt at 44% and 42% “most or all”
• Bribery is rare in Namibia
• Corruption perception of most national institutions is stable or declining
• Corruption perception of sub-national governments is similar to other national institutions +/- 20% “most or all”
National institutions corruption perceptions

- Some of them
  - President and officials: 41
  - National Assembly: 46
  - National Council: 42
  - Government officials: 38
  - Police: 37
- Most of them
  - President and officials: 11
  - National Assembly: 14
  - National Council: 12
  - Government officials: 16
- All of them
  - President and officials: 3
  - National Assembly: 2
  - National Council: 3
  - Government officials: 8
  - Police: 10
  - Judges and magistrates: 4
- None
  - President and officials: 31
  - National Assembly: 29
  - National Council: 28
  - Government officials: 13
  - Police: 14
## Experience with bribes in the past year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2008</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Document</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Household Service</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>3%</td>
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</table>
Experience with bribery

- 2012:
  - Document: 1%
  - Household service: 3%
  - Police: 3%

- 2008:
  - Document: 6%
  - Household service: 6%
  - Police: 3%
## Trend in corruption perceptions at national level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Perceptions of corruption over time</th>
<th>2012 (%)</th>
<th>2008 (%)</th>
<th>2006 (%)</th>
<th>2003 (%)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office of the President</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parliament</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>27</td>
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<tr>
<td>National government officials</td>
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<td>35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Police</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tax officials</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>39</td>
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<tr>
<td>Judiciary</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sub-national levels corruption perceptions

Some

- Regional governor: 51
- Regional councillors: 53
- Local authority councillors: 49

Most of them

- Regional governor: 14
- Regional councillors: 18
- Local authority councillors: 17

All

- Regional governor: 3
- Regional councillors: 3
- Local authority councillors: 4

None

- Regional governor: 26
- Regional councillors: 22
- Local authority councillors: 21
Earlier summaries

• Youth disinterest
• Economic conditions and lived poverty
• Government performance
• Trust ratings for institutions
• Policy evaluations positive and negative
• Regional and local government issues
Key Findings on Youth

Born Free (18-24 year olds) respondents consistently had less preference for democracy, had less interest in public affairs, discussed public affairs less, and felt close to political parties substantially less than other age groups.

Born Frees also voted less (60% rate) than others (high 70-90% range) in 2009.
Key Findings on National Economic Conditions

• Economic conditions: 61% of national and 45% of personal responses were “fairly good to very good”.
• In 2006 and 2008 Namibia had the highest ranking on this question of all Afrobarometer countries surveyed.

• 71% of respondents felt that government was “heading in the right direction”.
• 71% felt that government should focus more on the rural poor rather than urban poor.
Key Findings on Lived Poverty

- Food shortage is a major indicator of poverty with 53% of respondents reporting some experience of deprivation.

- Cash shortage has consistently been in the high 70% range over the past three surveys, putting pressure on businesses, especially in rural areas.

- However, Namibia does not rank very high on the lived poverty “without cash” question at 13th highest out of 20 in 2008.
Summary of government performance

• Government institutions retain high levels of trust and positive performance evaluations

• Most government policies receive strong support, but policies are seen negatively on poverty and unemployment [68-80% bad/very bad]

• Regional Councils, Local Authority Councillors, and Governors have high performance ratings, though with some variation by region

• Government’s handling of corruption has declined but the ACC retains slight majority support
Citizens’ Trust in Public institutions 2012

- President: Somewhat/a lot 81, Just a little/not at all 19
- National Assembly: Somewhat/a lot 65, Just a little/not at all 30
- National Council: Somewhat/a lot 61, Just a little/not at all 35
- Ministry of Finance: Somewhat/a lot 54, Just a little/not at all 38
- Police: Somewhat/a lot 75, Just a little/not at all 24
- Courts: Somewhat/a lot 75, Just a little/not at all 23
- Army: Somewhat/a lot 24, Just a little/not at all 21
Government policies receiving negative responses 2012

- Improving the living standards of the poor
- Creating jobs
- Keeping prices down
- Narrowing gaps between rich and poor
- Providing water and sanitation services
- Ensuring everyone has enough to eat
- Providing a reliable supply of electricity

The chart shows the percentage of people who have responded negatively to various government policies in 2012.