Trust in institutions, government performance and elections

Findings from Afrobarometer Round 6 Surveys in BOTSWANA
At a Glance

- **Trust in Institutions**: Trust in institutions has declined for most institutions whilst opposition parties have shown an upward trend since 2008.

- **Government Performance**: Batswana say that government performance has declined on 13 matters surveyed.

- **Approval of Leaders**: The president has the highest approval rating on job performance (79%), followed by traditional leaders at 74%. Ratings for elected leaders are just above 50%.

- **Voting**: Political opposition is a viable alternative government.
What is Afrobarometer?

- An African-led, non-partisan survey research project that measures citizen attitudes on democracy and governance, the economy, civil society, and other topics.
- **Goal:** To give the public a voice in policymaking by providing high-quality public opinion data to policymakers, policy advocates, civil society organizations, academics, news media, donors and investors, and ordinary Africans.
- National Partners in each country conduct the survey. In Botswana, Afrobarometer Round 6 survey was conducted by Star Awards.
Where Afrobarometer works

Face-to-Face Interviews | 35 Countries
Surveys by state, region
Methodology

- Nationally representative sample of adult citizens
  - All respondents are randomly selected.
  - Sample is distributed across districts and urban/rural areas in proportion to their share in the national population.
  - Every adult citizen has an equal chance of being selected.
- Face-to-face interviews in the language of the respondent’s choice.
- Standard questionnaire allows comparisons across countries and over time.
- Sample size in Botswana of 1,200 adult citizens yields a margin of error of +/-3% at a 95% confidence level.
- Fieldwork for Round 6 in Botswana was conducted between 28 June and 13 July 2014.
## Survey Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unweighted</th>
<th>Weighted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gender</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Location</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-urban</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No formal schooling</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post secondary</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Survey Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Unweighted</th>
<th>Weighted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 to 29</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 to 49</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 to 64</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65+</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employment</th>
<th>Unweighted</th>
<th>Weighted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No (not looking)</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No (looking)</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes, part time</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes, full time</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LEVEL OF TRUST BY THE PEOPLE OF INSTITUTIONS
Key Findings

- Trust of the President has declined from 69% in 2012 to 67% in 2014.

- Trust of Parliament has increased from 54% in 2012 to 55% in 2014.

- Trust of the ruling party stands at 59% from 57% in 2012.

- Local government is at 53% from 52% in 2012.

- Trust of opposition parties remains low but has increased to 37% in 2014 from 32% in 2012.

- Trust on traditional leaders is the highest at 72%.
Trust of Institutions

- President: 77% (2008), 67% (2012), 66% (2014)
- Parliament: 54% (2008), 56% (2012), 52% (2014)
- Local govt: 58% (2008), 53% (2012), 57% (2014)
- Ruling Party: 74% (2012), 59% (2014)
- Opposition: 30% (2014)
- Traditional Leaders: 72% (2014)
Trust of institutions by location

- President: Urban 74, Rural 67, Semi-urban 57
- Parliament: Urban 48, Rural 62, Semi-urban 54
- Local govt: Urban 44, Rural 58, Semi-urban 52
- Ruling Party: Urban 48, Rural 67, Semi-urban 57
- Opposition: Urban 37, Rural 36, Semi-urban 35
- Traditional leaders: Urban 68, Rural 75, Semi-urban 71

Source: AFROBAROMETER
Trust of institutions by age group

- President
- Parliament
- Local govt
- Ruling Party
- Opposition
- Traditional leaders

- 18 - 29
- 30 - 49
- 50 - 64
- 65+

Percentages shown in the graph.
Trust of institutions by sex of respondent

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parliament</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local gov't</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruling Party</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opposition</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional leaders</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Trust of institutions by membership of voluntary association or community group

- Not a member
- Inactive member
- Active member
- Official leader

Percent

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Not a member</th>
<th>Inactive member</th>
<th>Active member</th>
<th>Official leader</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>75</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parliament</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>66</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local govt</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruling Party</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>63</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opposition</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>35</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional leaders</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>47</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AFROBAROMETER
Trust of institutions over time

- President
- Ruling Party
- Opposition
- Parliament

Percent

- 0
- 5
- 10
- 15
- 20
- 25
- 30
- 35
- 40
- 45
- 50
- 55
- 60
- 65
- 70
- 75
- 80
- 85
- 90
- 95
- 100

Years:
- 2008
- 2012
- 2014

Data points:
- President:
  - 2008: 77
  - 2012: 69
  - 2014: 67

- Ruling Party:
  - 2008: 74
  - 2012: 66
  - 2014: 62

- Opposition:
  - 2008: 30
  - 2012: 32
  - 2014: 36

- Parliament:
  - 2008: 66
  - 2012: 57
  - 2014: 50
HANDLING OF MATTERS BY THE GOVERNMENT
Key Findings

- Managing the economy is at 64%, a drop of 3% from 2012.

- Addressing education needs is at 70%, a drop of 12% from 2012.

- Providing water and sanitation is at 61%, a decline of 6%.

- Fighting corruption is at 53%, a decline of 9%.

- Providing reliable supply of electricity is at 61%, a drop of 4%.
Current government performance on handling important matters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Managing the economy</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving living std. of poor</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reducing Crime</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing education needs</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing water &amp; sanitation</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fighting corruption in govt</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing reliable supply of electricity</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AFROBAROMETER
Government performance by location

- Managing the economy
- Improving living std. of poor
- Reducing Crime
- Adressing education needs
- Providing water & sanitation
- Fighting corruption in govt
- Providing reliable supply of electricity

Percent

Urban
Semi-urban
Rural
Government performance over time

- Adressing education needs
- Providing water & sanitation
- Fighting corruption in govt
- Providing reliable supply of electricity
Government performance by age

- Managing the economy
- Improving living std. of poor
- Reducing Crime
- Adressing education needs
- Providing water & sanitation
- Fighting corruption in govt
- Providing reliable supply of electricity

Percent

- Youth
- Lower middle age
- Upper middle age
- Retired

AFROBAROMETER
APPROVAL RATING ON THE PERFORMANCE OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS
Key Findings

- Job performance approval of the President is the highest at 79%.
- Traditional leaders - 74%.
- Member of Parliament – 56%.
- Local councillor - 53%.
Job Performance approval

- Local Councillor: 53%
- Traditional Leader: 74%
- Member of Parliament: 56%
- President: 79%

Percent
Job performance approval by location

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Urban</th>
<th>Semi-urban</th>
<th>Rural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member of Parliament</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional Leader</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Councillor</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Job performance by age

- President
- Member of Parliament
- Traditional Leader
- Local Councillor
ELECTIONS IN BOTSWANA
Key Findings

- Batswana believe that leaders of political parties are more concerned with serving their own political ambitions (65%), compared to 29% who believe that they serve the people.

- Less than half (44%) of Batswana believe that the opposition presents a viable alternative compared to 37% who disagree.

- Less than half (48%) agree with direct election of the president whilst 52% want president to be elected by Parliament.

- If elections were held in June/July the BDP would win elections. 52% of Batswana would vote for the BDP, followed by 20% for the BCP and UDC comes third with 13%, combining votes polled for the BNF and BMD.
How well do elections work in practice

Ensure that MPs reflect the views of voters

Enable voters to remove from office leaders who do not do what people want
How well do elections work by location

- Ensure that MPs reflect the views of voters
- Enable voters to remove from office leaders who do not do what people want

Percent:

- Urban: 61%
- Semi urban: 63%
- Rural: 65%

Legend:
- Orange: Percent
- Red: Percent
How often do the following occur

- Voters are threatened with violence at the polls: 74% often/always, 12% sometimes, 6% never.
- Voters are offered genuine choice in the elections: 77% often/always, 11% sometimes, 8% never.
- Voters are bribed: 33% often/always, 16% sometimes, 22% never.
- The media provides fair coverage for all candidates: 59% often/always, 22% sometimes, 8% never.
- Opposition candidates are prevented from running for office: 75% often/always, 13% sometimes, 8% never.
- Votes are counted fairly: 73% often/always, 13% sometimes, 8% never.
How often do the following occur by location

- Voters are threatened with violence at the polls
  - Rural: 12%
  - Semi-Urban: 13%
  - Urban: 73%

- Voters are offered genuine choice in the elections
  - Rural: 77%
  - Semi-Urban: 80%
  - Urban: 73%

- Voters are bribed
  - Rural: 33%
  - Semi-Urban: 36%
  - Urban: 61%

- The media provides fair coverage for all candidates
  - Rural: 60%
  - Semi-Urban: 61%
  - Urban: 72%

- Opposition candidates are prevented from running for office
  - Rural: 16%
  - Semi-Urban: 12%
  - Urban: 75%

- Votes are counted fairly
  - Rural: 13%
  - Semi-Urban: 12%
  - Urban: 70%
In whose Interest

More to serve the people - agree/strongly agree

Neither agree nor disagree

More to serve their own political ambitions - agree/strongly agree
In whose interest by location

- More to serve the people - agree/strongly agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- More to serve their own political ambitions - agree/strongly agree

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Neither</th>
<th>Agree + Strongly Agree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-Urban</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Political opposition is a viable alternative

- **agree/strongly agree**: 45%
- **neither agree nor disagree**: 13%
- **disagree/strongly disagree**: 37%
Viable alternative by location

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Agree/Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Disagree/Strongly Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semi-Urban</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Direct election of President

agree/agree strongly with statement 1
47%

agree/agree strongly with statement 2
52%
Direct election of President by location

Percent agree/strongly agree with statement 1

- Urban: 52
- Semi-urban: 48
- Rural: 44

Percent agree/strongly agree with statement 2

- Urban: 48
- Semi-urban: 51
- Rural: 53
Direct election of President over time

Percent choosing president through direct election

- 2008: 40%
- 2012: 59%
- 2014: 47%

Www.afrobarometer.org
Voting Intentions

- BCP: 20%
- BDP: 52%
- BMD: 2%
- BNF: 6%
- UDC: 5%
- Would not vote: 6%
- Refused to answer: 6%
- Don't know: 3%
Voting intentions by age

Percent

- youth
- lower middle age
- upper middle age
- retired

BCP
- Youth: 25
- Lower middle age: 3
- Upper middle age: 3
- Retired: 2
- Would not vote: 2
- Refused to answer: 4
- Don't know: 2

BDP
- Youth: 22
- Lower middle age: 62
- Upper middle age: 48
- Retired: 7
- Would not vote: 1
- Refused to answer: 5
- Don't know: 1

BMD
- Youth: 1
- Lower middle age: 76
- Upper middle age: 62
- Retired: 1
- Would not vote: 4
- Refused to answer: 2
- Don't know: 2

BNF
- Youth: 8
- Lower middle age: 5
- Upper middle age: 1
- Retired: 5
- Would not vote: 6
- Refused to answer: 4
- Don't know: 2

UDC
- Youth: 2
- Lower middle age: 5
- Upper middle age: 5
- Retired: 4
- Would not vote: 1
- Refused to answer: 7
- Don't know: 7

Would not vote
- Youth: 2
- Lower middle age: 4
- Upper middle age: 2
- Retired: 1
- Would not vote: 3
- Refused to answer: 4
- Don't know: 2

Refused to answer
- Youth: 9
- Lower middle age: 4
- Upper middle age: 5
- Retired: 4
- Would not vote: 2
- Refused to answer: 7
- Don't know: 7

Don't know
- Youth: 2
- Lower middle age: 2
- Upper middle age: 2
- Retired: 2
- Would not vote: 2
- Refused to answer: 3
- Don't know: 2
Thank you