

Ghana Center for Democratic Development
Accra, Ghana
19 May 2020

News release

Majority of Ghanaians see media as free of government interference (Correction)

A majority of Ghanaians say the country's media is "somewhat free" or "completely free" of government censorship and interference, the most recent Afrobarometer survey shows.

Due to a coding error, survey findings on this question were reported incorrectly in a press release issued 3 May 2020, which has since been corrected. Afrobarometer regrets the error.

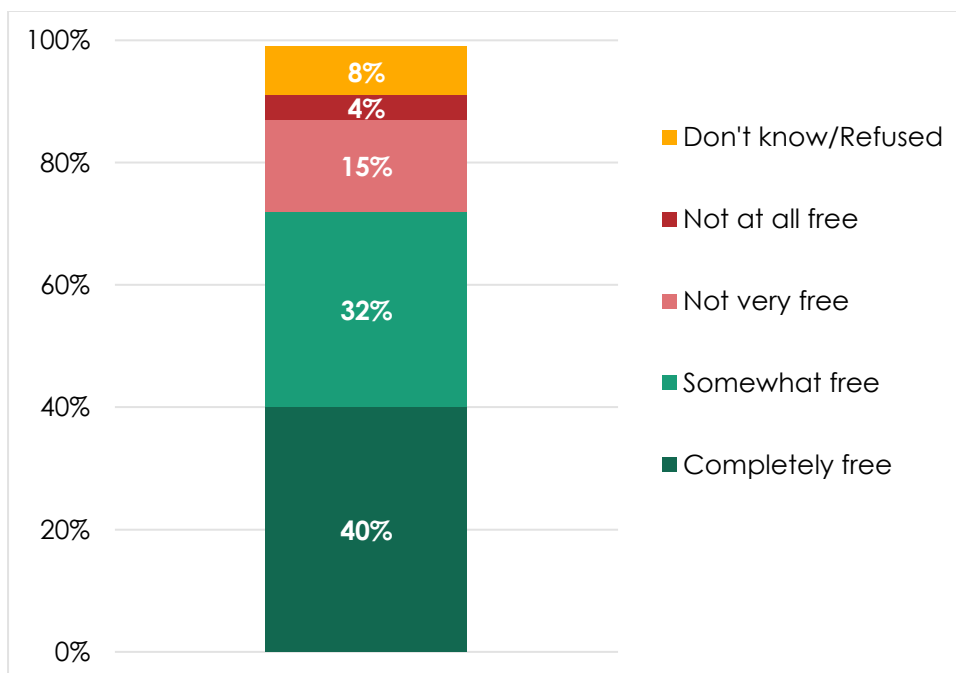
Comparing preliminary 2019 data from eight African countries, Ghana records the second-highest perceived supply of media freedom.

Key findings

- Seven in 10 Ghanaians (72%) say the media is "somewhat free" or "completely free" to report or comment on news without government censorship or interference (Figure 1). Only two in 10 (19%) think the media is "not very free" or "not at all free" to do so, the second-lowest perception of media censorship or interference among eight countries surveyed in 2019 (Figure 2).

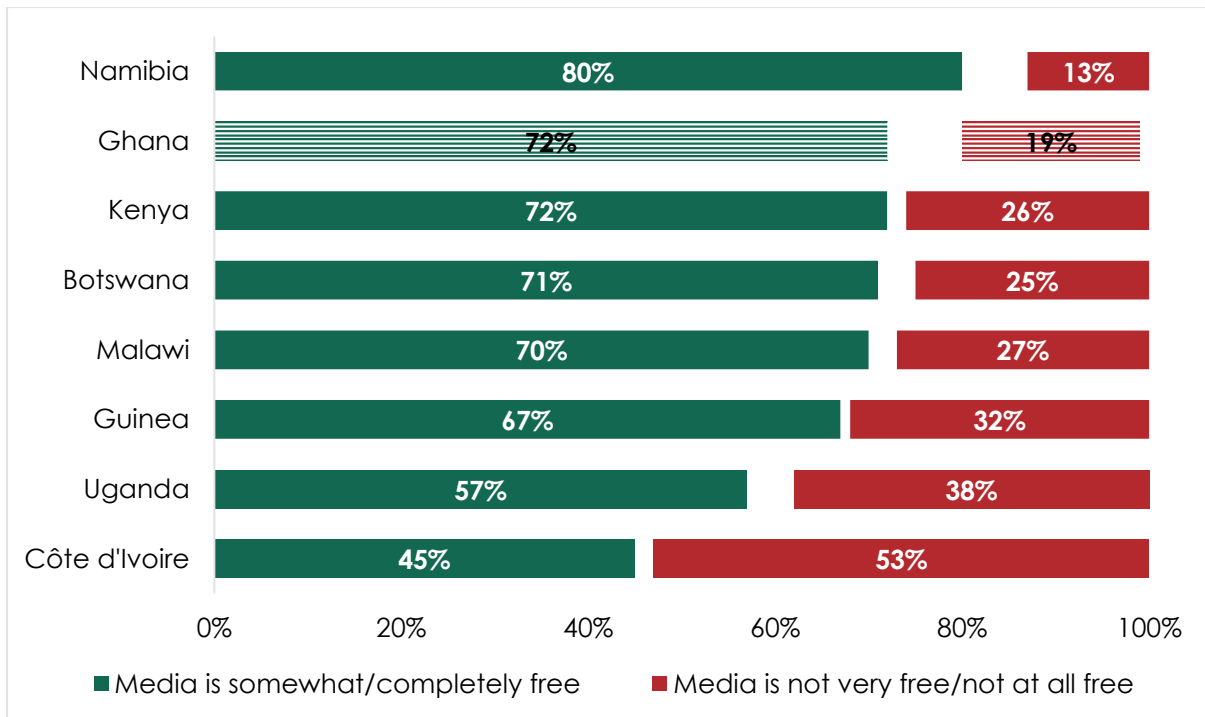
Charts

Figure 1: Perceived media freedom | Ghana | 2019



Respondents were asked: *In your opinion, how free is the news media in this country to report and comment on the news without censorship or interference by the government?*

Figure 2: Perceived media freedom | 8 countries | 2019



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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. Seven rounds of surveys were completed in up to 38 countries between 1999 and 2018. Round 8 surveys in 2019/2020 are planned in at least 35 countries. Afrobarometer conducts face-to-face interviews in the language of the respondent's choice with nationally representative samples.

The Afrobarometer team in Ghana, led by the Ghana Center for Democratic Development (CDD-Ghana), interviewed 2,400 adult Ghanaians between 16 September and 3 October 2019. 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 Ghana in 1999, 2002, 2004, 2008, 2012, 2014, and 2017.

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