

Lobito-Benguela, Angola
5 June 2020

News release

For many Angolans, lack of piped water and sanitation a cause for concern during COVID-19 crisis

Only three out of 10 Angolans have piped water inside their dwelling or compound, and four out of 10 have to leave their compound to use the bathroom, according to the country's first Afrobarometer survey. Almost half do not have a connection to the public electricity grid.

Based on data collected in November-December 2019, these findings highlight the challenges many Angolan families face in complying with hygiene and stay-at-home measures designed to fight the spread of COVID-19.

The government has declared a "state of public calamity" intended to gradually ease some of the restrictions imposed under the previous state of emergency. However, this new phase has coincided with an increase in cases of local coronavirus infection, heightening the risk of community circulation of the coronavirus. In these circumstances, infrastructure weaknesses challenge political leaders and development partners to improve the supply of piped water, field toilets, and electricity.

Key findings

- Only three out of 10 Angolans (30%) have piped water inside their dwelling, yard, plot, or compound (Figure 1). One out of eight (13%) obtain water for domestic consumption from a public tap or standpipe.
 - Urban residents are four times as likely as rural residents to have running water in their homes or compounds (41% vs. 9%). Even in Luanda, fewer than half (44%) of residents enjoy running water in their homes or compounds. But far fewer do in East (21%), North (17%), and Center North (16%) regions.
- More than one-third (34%) of Angolans went without enough clean water for home use "many times" or "always" during the preceding year, in addition to 35% who did so "just once or twice" or "several times." Only 29% had a consistent supply of clean water (Figure 2).
- Six out of 10 Angolans (59%) say they have a toilet or latrine inside their home or compound, while 20% have to go outside the compound and 20% say they have no access to a toilet or latrine (Figure 3).
 - More than three-fourths (77%) of urban residents have a toilet or latrine in their home or compound, but the same is true of just one-fourth (24%) of rural residents. More than four in 10 rural residents (42%) say they have no access to a toilet or latrine at all. Almost nine out of 10 respondents in Luanda (87%) have toilet facilities in their home or compound, about double the proportion in Center (40%) and South (44%) regions.
- More than four out of 10 Angolans (44%) live in houses without a connection to the public electricity grid (Figure 4).

- Only one out of six rural residents (16%) have an electric connection to their homes, compared to three-fourths (74%) of urbanites. Luanda residents (84%) are more than twice as likely to enjoy an electric connection as citizens in East (37%), South (38%), and Center (38%) regions. Cabinda province also enjoys a high rate of electrification (83%).

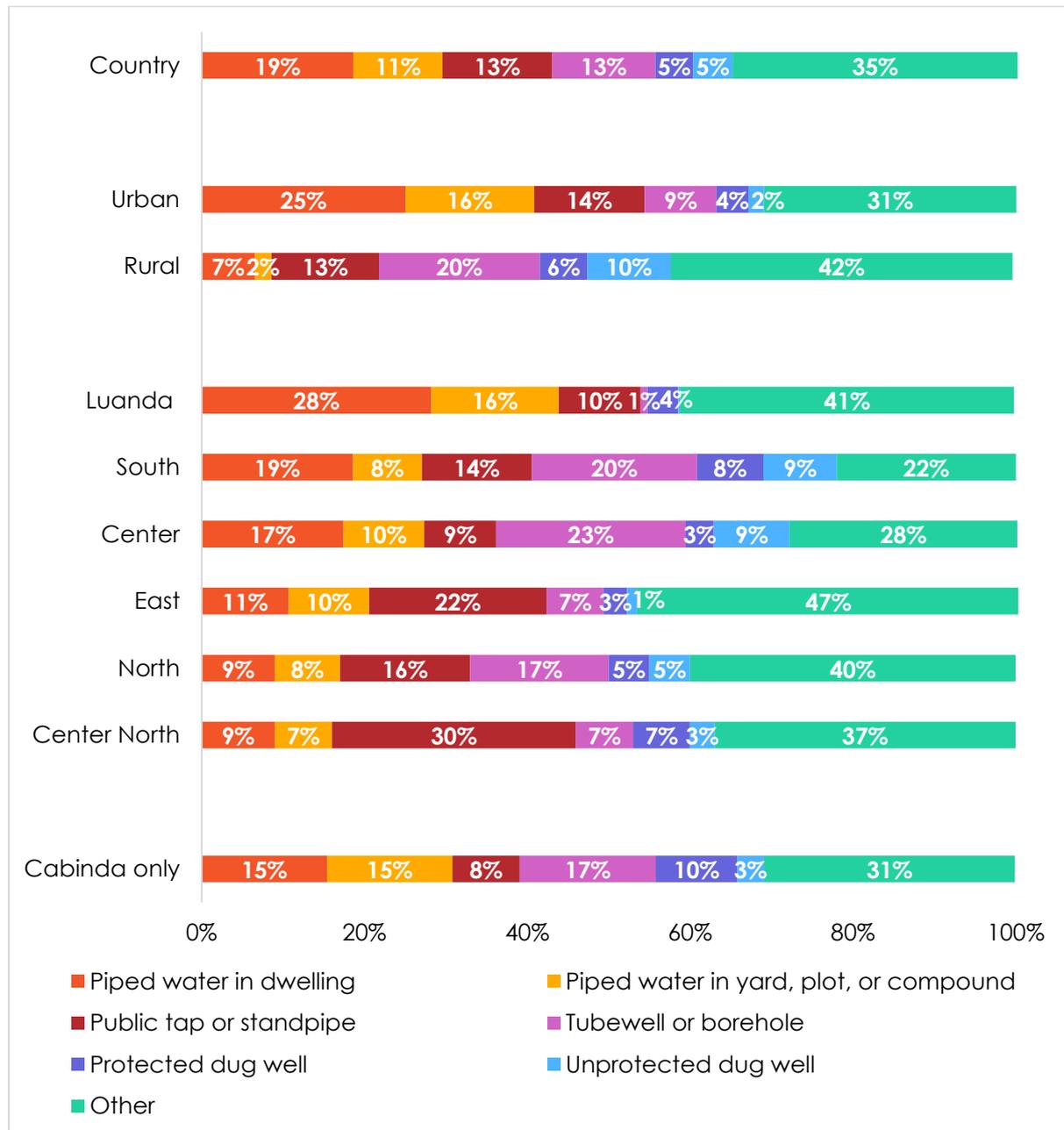
Afrobarometer surveys

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 are planned in at least 35 countries in 2019/2020. Afrobarometer conducts face-to-face interviews in the language of the respondent's choice with nationally representative samples.

In its first survey in Angola, the Afrobarometer team, led by Ovilongwa – Estudos de Opinião Pública, interviewed 2,400 adult Angolans between 27 November and 27 December 2019. A sample of this size yields country-level results with a margin of error of +/-2 percentage points at a 95% confidence level.

Charts

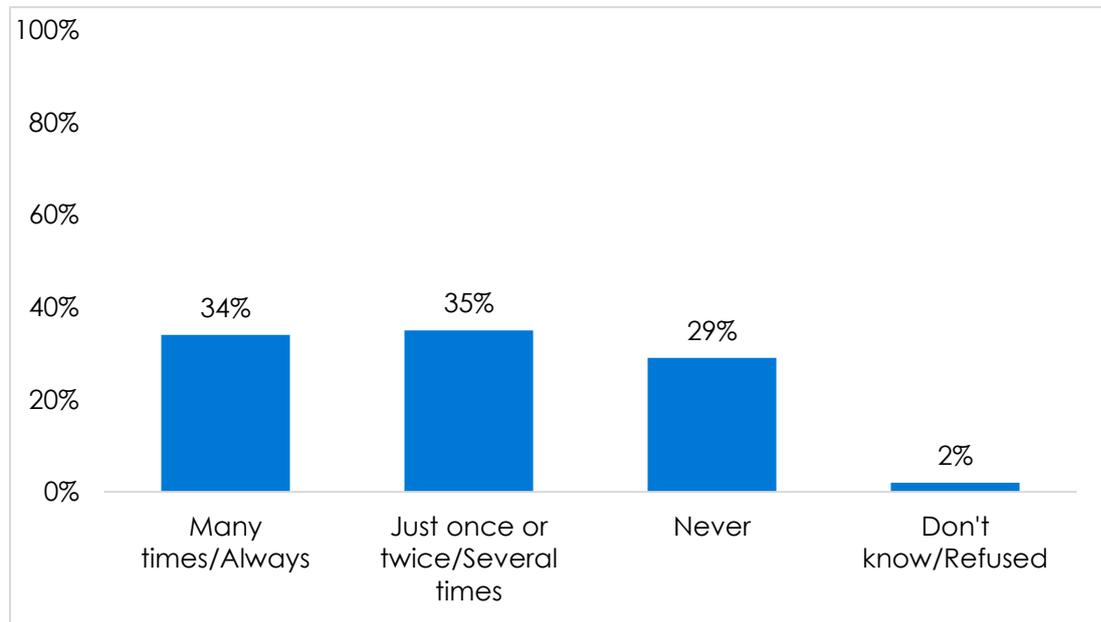
Figure 1: Source of water for domestic consumption | by region¹ and rural-urban residency | Angola | 2019



Respondents were asked: What is your main source of water for household use?

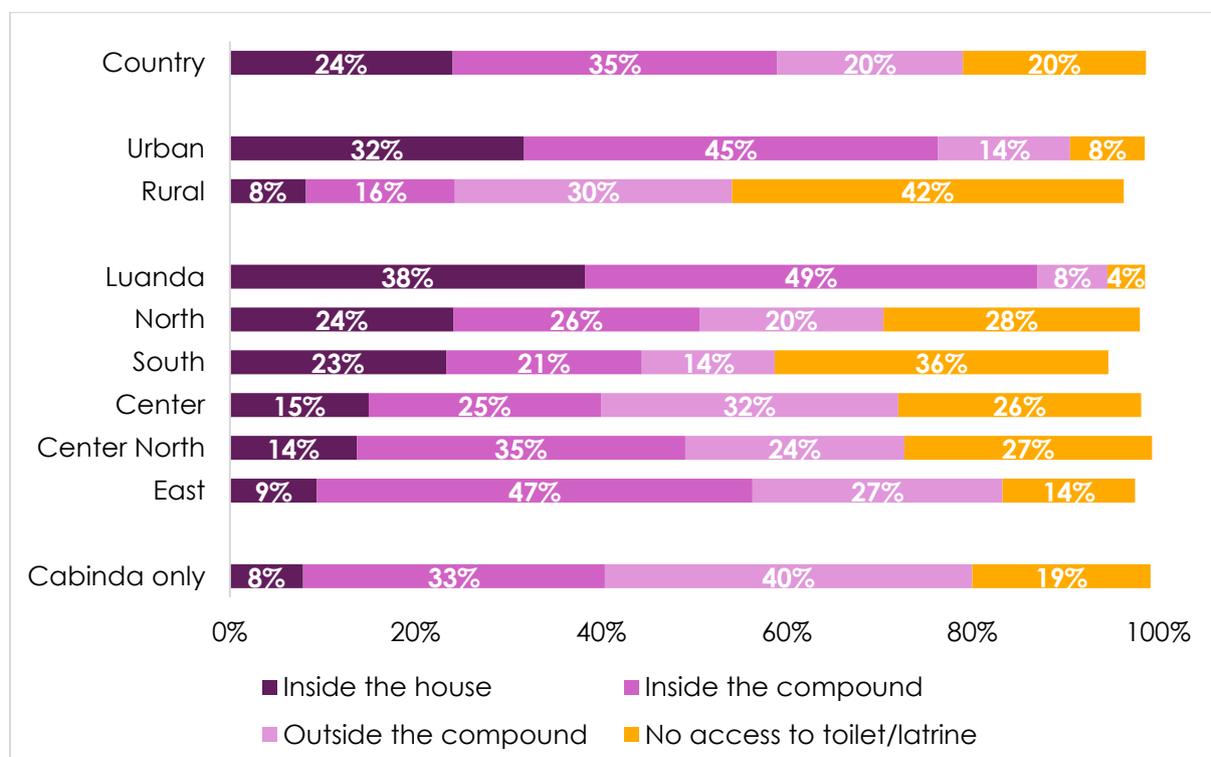
¹ In accordance with National Statistics Institute classifications, regions include the following provinces: North (Cabinda, Uíge, Zaire), Center North (Bengo, Cuanza Norte, Malange), Luanda, Center (Benguela, Bié, Cuanza Sul, Huambo), East (Cuando Cubango, Lunda Sul, Lunda Norte, Moxico), and South (Cunene, Huíla, Namibe). Results for Cabinda province, which are included in the North region average, are also shown separately.

Figure 2: Went without enough clean water for home use | Angola | 2019



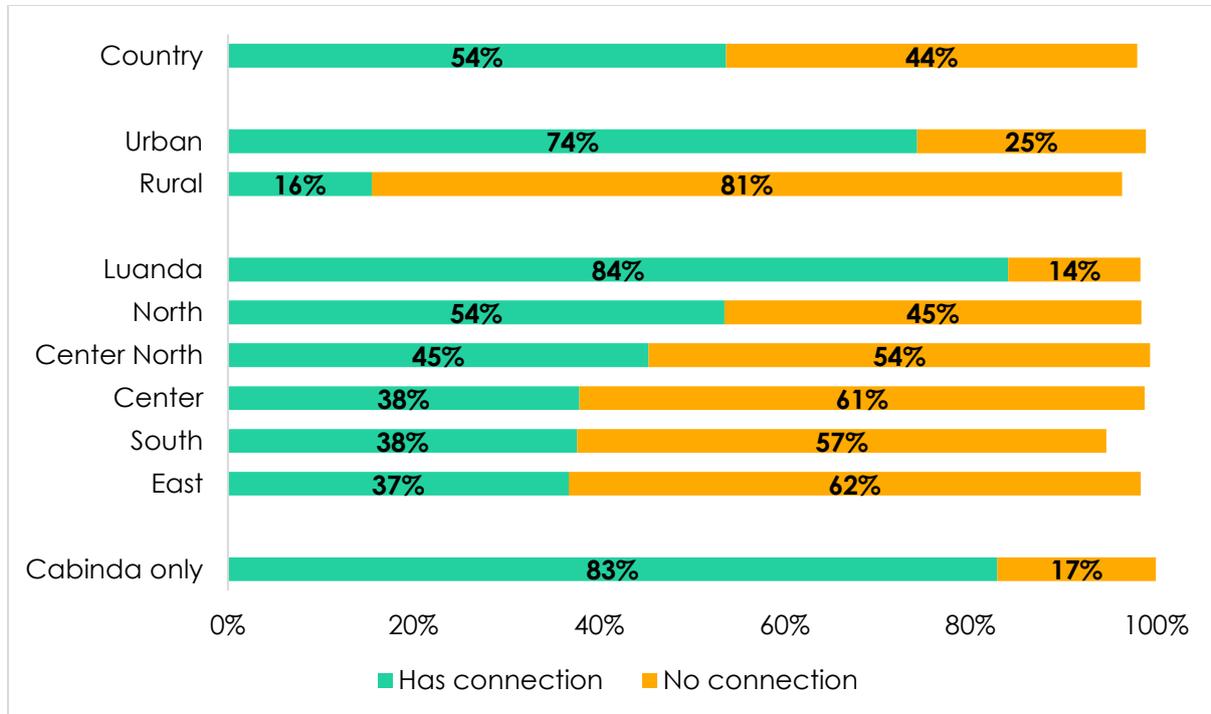
Respondents were asked: Over the past year, how often, if ever, have you or anyone in your family gone without: Enough clean water for home use

Figure 3: Availability and location of toilet or latrine | by region and rural-urban residency | Angola | 2019



Respondents were asked: Do you have a bathroom or latrine for your personal or family use? Is it inside your house, inside your yard, or outside the yard, or is there none available?

Figure 4: Access to public electricity grid | by region and rural-urban residency
 | Angola | 2019



Respondents were asked: Do you have an electric connection to your home from the National Company of Distribution of Electricity or ENDE?

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