



Casablanca, Morocco
8 February 2022

News release

Moroccans demand employment, say government is not doing enough to help youth, Afrobarometer survey shows

A lack of jobs is the most pressing issue that Moroccans want the government to address, the latest Afrobarometer study shows.

Most Moroccans bemoan the government's performance on job creation and on meeting the needs of young people.

A majority of citizens are willing to pay higher taxes to support government programs to help young people, with job creation as the top priority for additional government investment.

Morocco is ranked 93rd in the [2020 Global Youth Development Index](#), which measures the status of young people in 181 countries around the world.

Key findings

- Unemployment is the most important problem that Moroccans want the government to address, followed by health, education, and poverty (Figure 1).
- Only about one in eight Moroccans (12%) say the government is doing “fairly well” or “very well” on job creation, an 8-percentage-point decrease since 2015 (Figure 2).
- Only one in five (19%) think the government is doing a good job on addressing the needs of the youth (Figure 3).
- Two-thirds (67%) of Moroccans say they would be willing to pay higher taxes to fund programs to help young people (Figure 4).
- If the government could increase its spending on youth programs, by far the highest priority in citizens' eyes would be job creation (cited by 66% of respondents) (Figure 5).

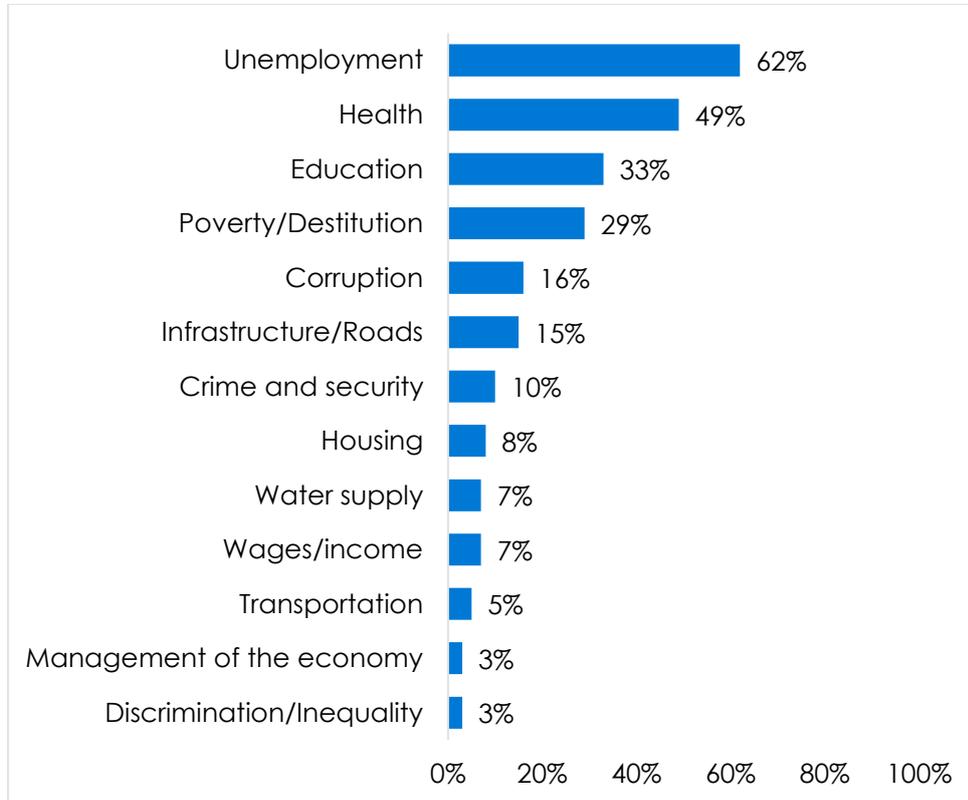
Afrobarometer surveys

Afrobarometer is a pan-African, nonpartisan survey research network that provides reliable data on Africans' experiences and evaluations of democracy, governance, and quality of life. Eight rounds of surveys have been completed in up to 39 countries since 1999. Round 8 surveys in 2019/2021 cover 34 countries. Afrobarometer conducts face-to-face interviews in the language of the respondent's choice with nationally representative samples.

The Afrobarometer team in Morocco, led by Global for Survey and Consulting (GSC), interviewed 1,200 adult Moroccans in February 2021. A sample of this size yields country-level results with a margin of error of +/-3 percentage points at a 95% confidence level. Previous Afrobarometer surveys were conducted in Morocco in 2013, 2015, and 2018.

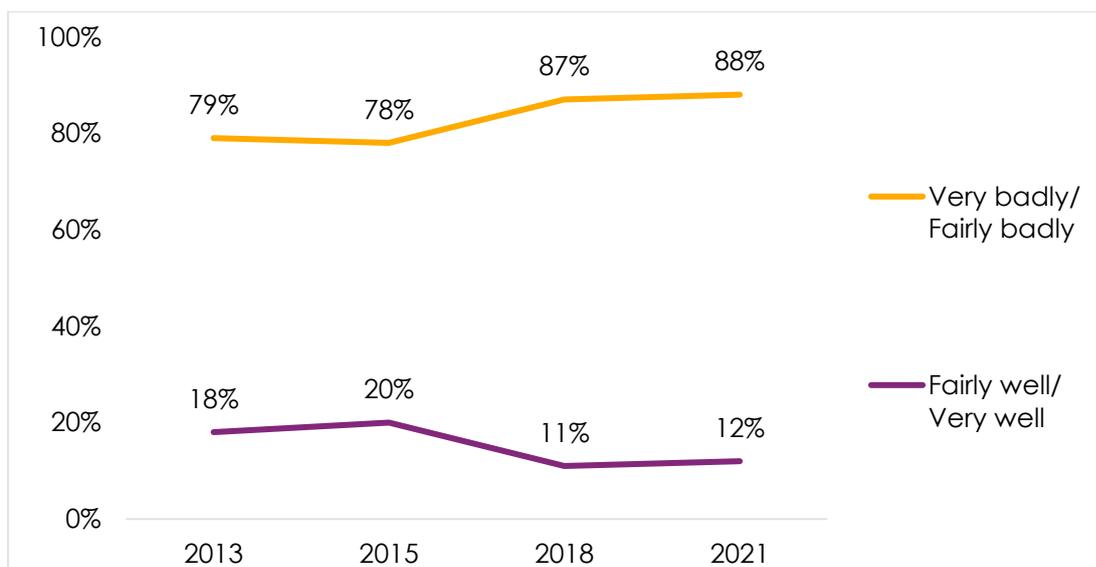
Charts

Figure 1: Most important problems | Morocco | 2021



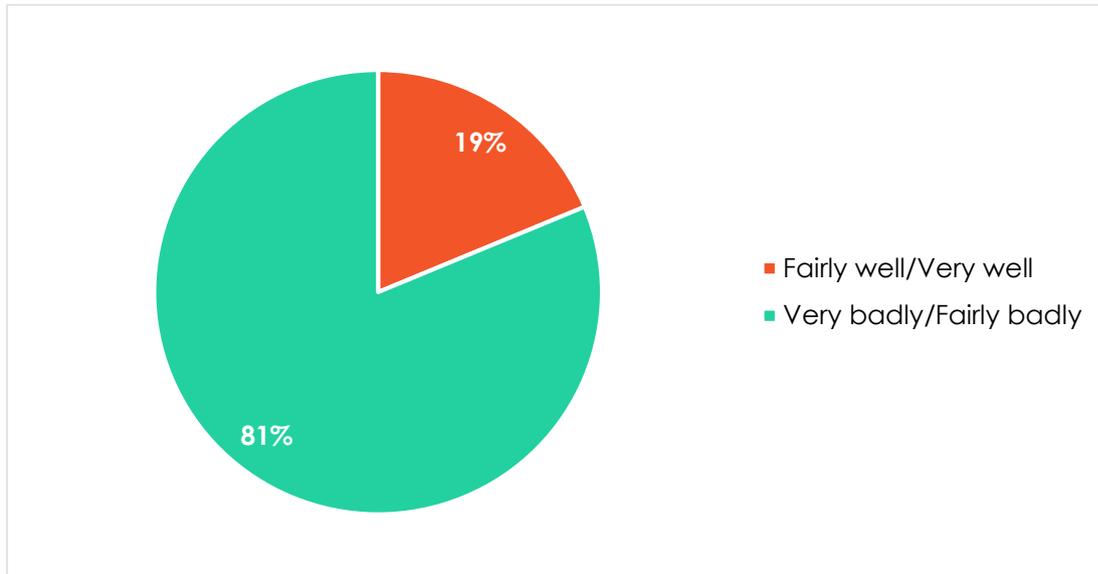
Respondents were asked: In your opinion, what are the most important problems facing this country that government should address? (Respondents could give up to three answers.)

Figure 2: Government performance on creating jobs | Morocco | 2021



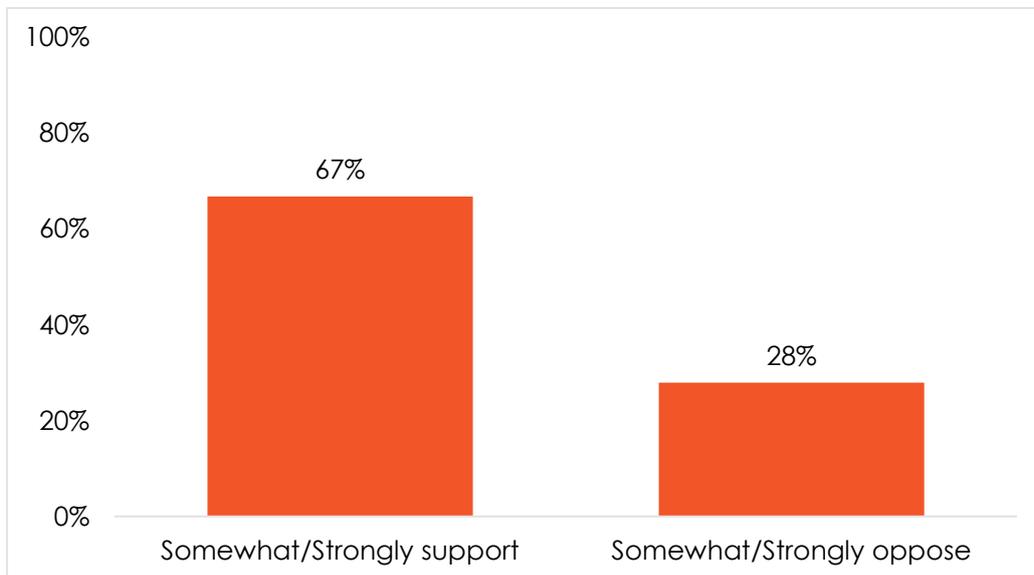
Respondents were asked: How well or badly would you say the current government is handling the following matters, or haven't you heard enough to say: Creating jobs?

Figure 3: Government performance on addressing needs of youth | Morocco | 2021



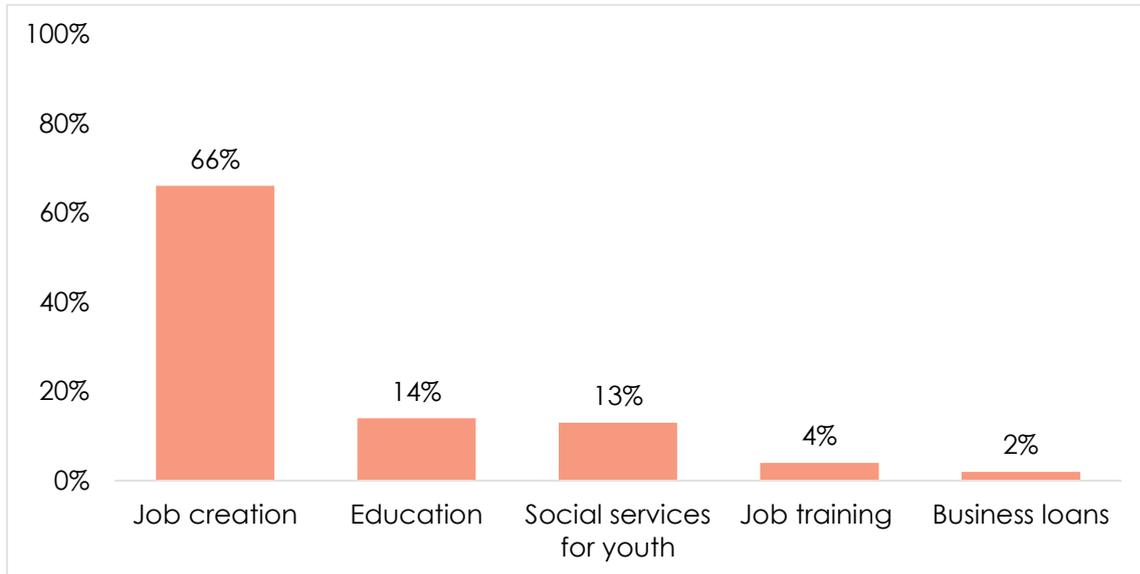
Respondents were asked: How well or badly would you say the current government is handling the following matters, or haven't you heard enough to say: Addressing the needs of young people?

Figure 4: Support for higher taxes to fund youth programs | Morocco | 2021



Respondents were asked: If the government decided to make people pay more taxes in order to support programs to help young people, would you support this decision or oppose it?

Figure 5: Highest priority to help youth | Morocco | 2021



Respondents were asked: *If the government could increase its spending on programs to help young people, which of the following areas do you think should be the highest priority for additional investment?*

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