



Citizens' perceptions of the economy and lived poverty

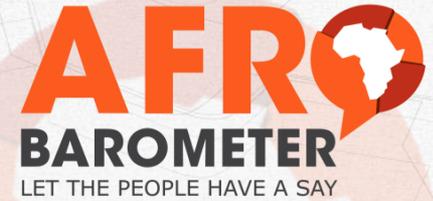
Findings from Afrobarometer Round 7 survey in Tanzania



14 March 2018

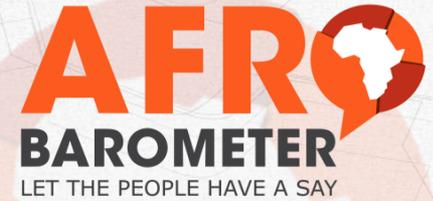


At a glance



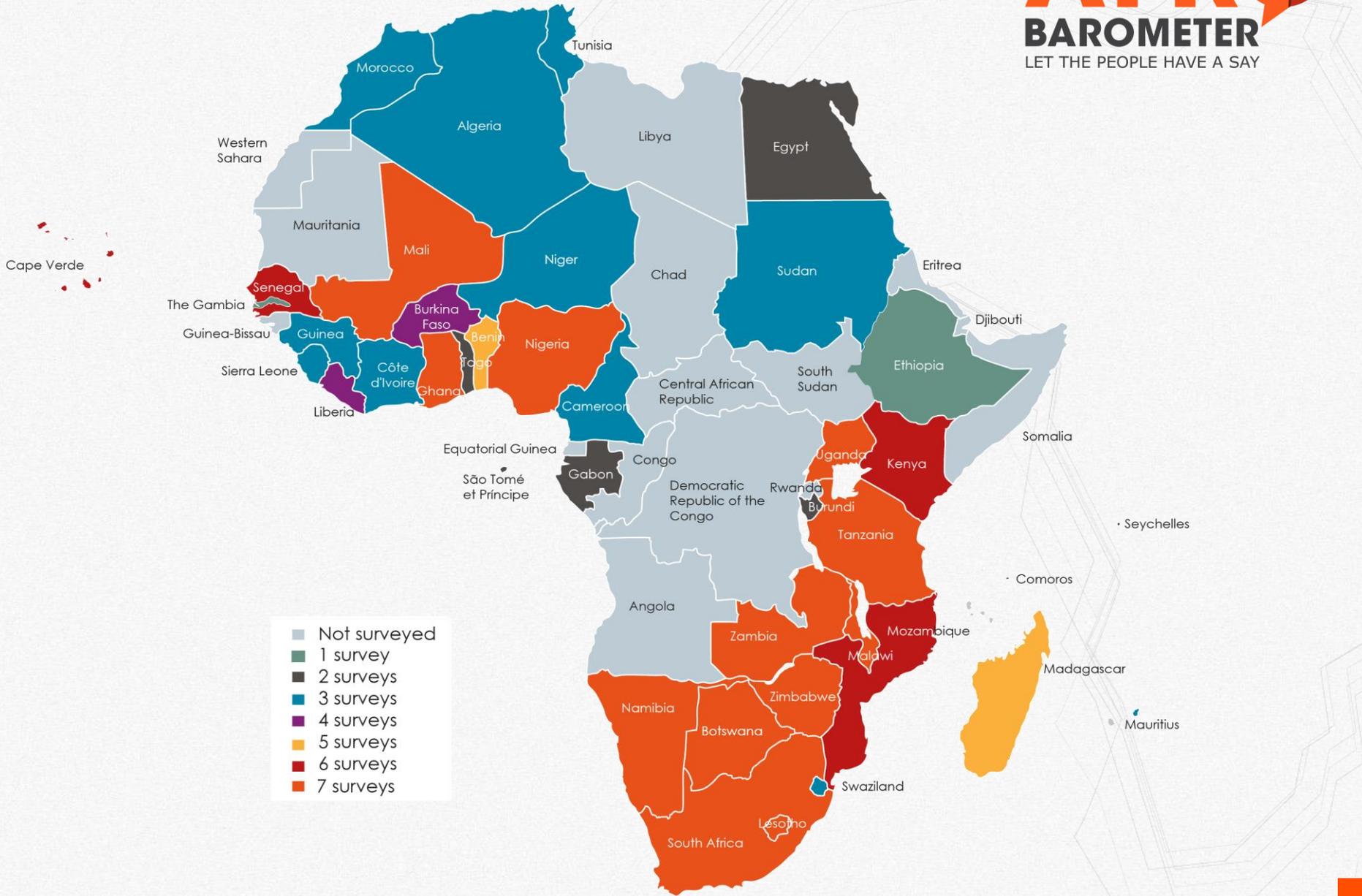
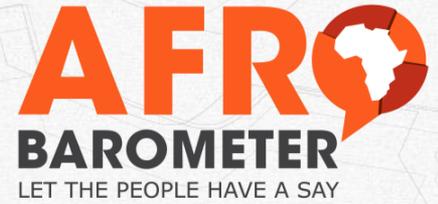
- **Direction of the country:** majority of Tanzanians believe the country is going in the right direction and the government is handling the economy well.
- **Country's economic situation:** many Tanzanians say the country's economic situation is worse than a year ago.
- **Optimism about future:** the number of citizens that think that things will get better has almost doubled.
- **Basic necessities:** a growing number of Tanzanians report going without basic necessities.

What is Afrobarometer?

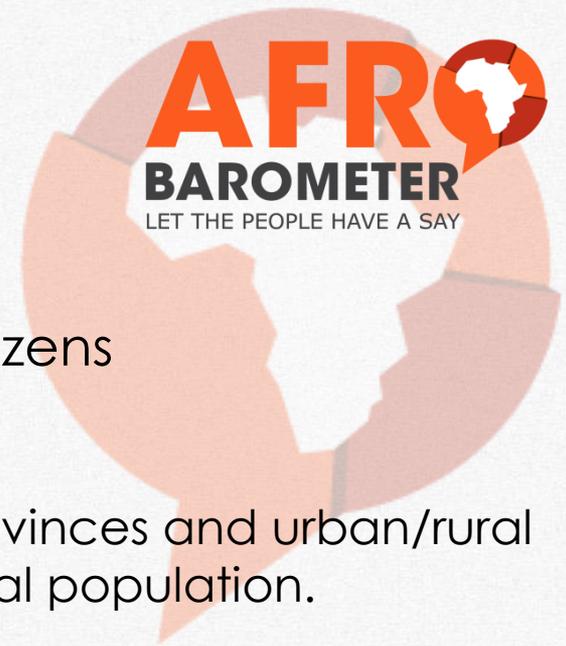


- A pan-African, non-partisan survey research project that measures citizen attitudes on democracy and governance, the economy, civil society, and other topics.
- Started in 12 African countries in 1999, expanded to 36 countries in Round 6 (2014/2015). Round 7 surveys are being conducted in 2016/2018.
- **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.
- A national partner in each country conducts the survey. In Tanzania, Afrobarometer Round 7 survey was conducted by REPOA.

Where Afrobarometer works



Methodology



- Nationally representative sample of adult citizens
 - ❑ All respondents are *randomly* selected.
 - ❑ Sample is distributed across regions/states/provinces 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 Tanzania of 2,400 adult citizens yields a margin of error of +/-2% at a 95% confidence level.
- Fieldwork for Round 7 in Tanzania was conducted between 30 April and 17 June 2017.

Survey demographics

Gender	%
Men	50
Women	50
Residence	
Urban	33
Rural	67
Education	
No formal education	12
Primary	63
Secondary	19
Post-secondary	5



Findings





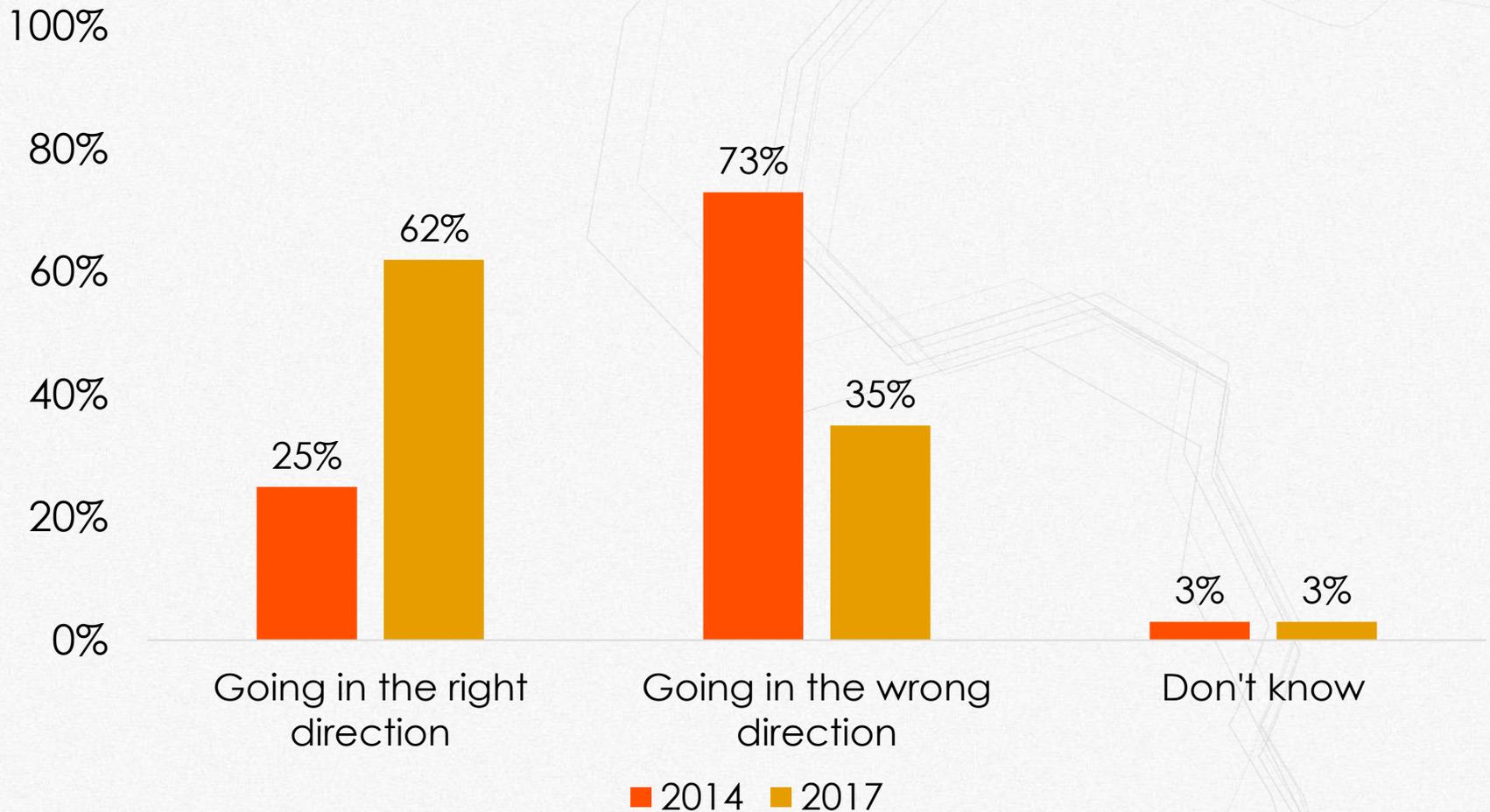
Overall direction of the country and actual situation

Key findings



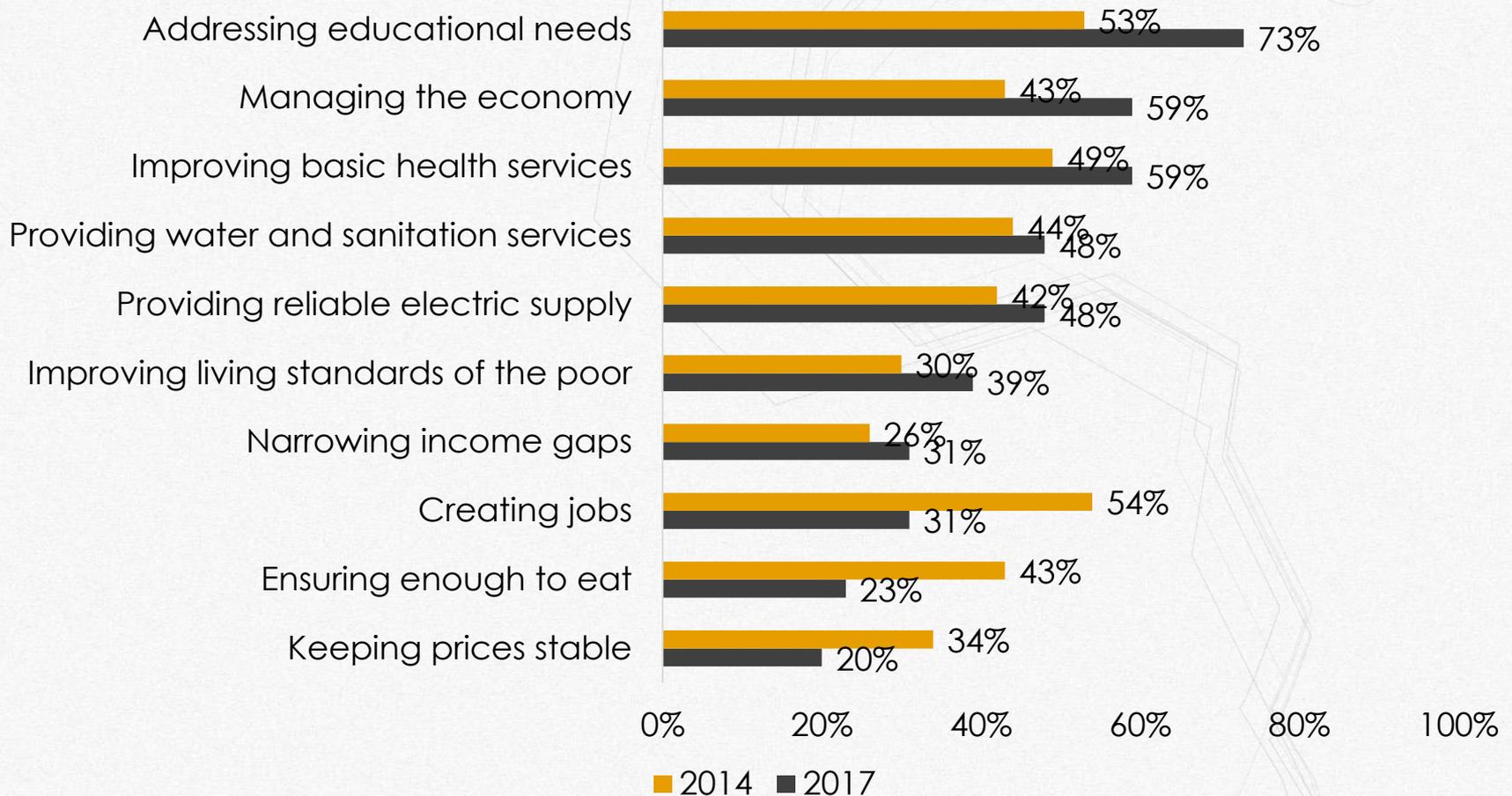
- Most citizens believe the country is going in the right direction.
- Many feel the government is handling the economy well.
- Both remarkable improvements from 2014.

Overall direction of the country | Tanzania | 2014-2017



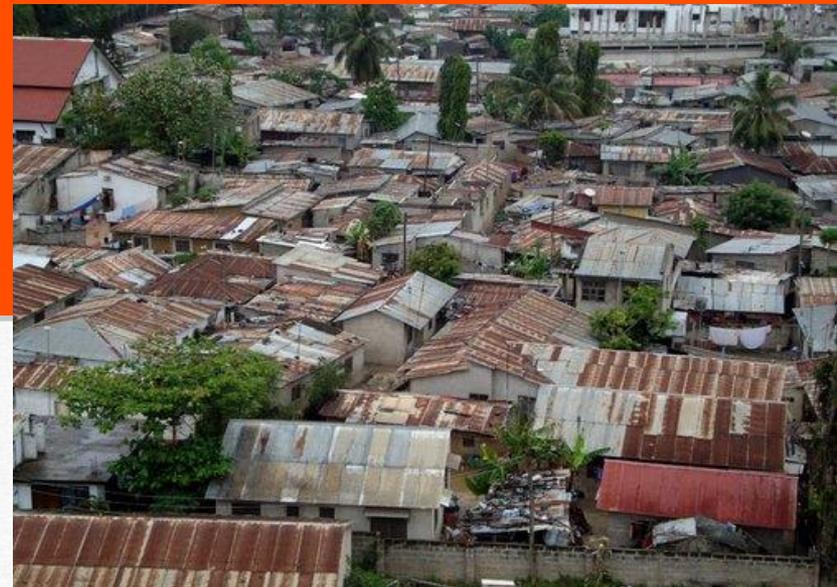
Respondents were asked: Some people might think the country is going in the wrong direction. Others may feel it is going in the right direction. So let me ask YOU about the overall direction of the country: Would you say that the country is going in the wrong direction or going in the right direction?

Approval of government performance | Tanzania | 2014-2017

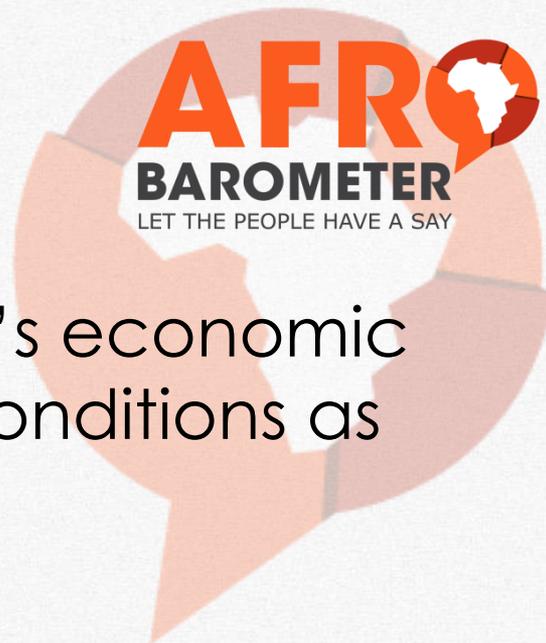


Respondents were asked: How well or badly would you say the current government is handling the following matters, or haven't you heard enough to say?

Economic situation & personal living conditions

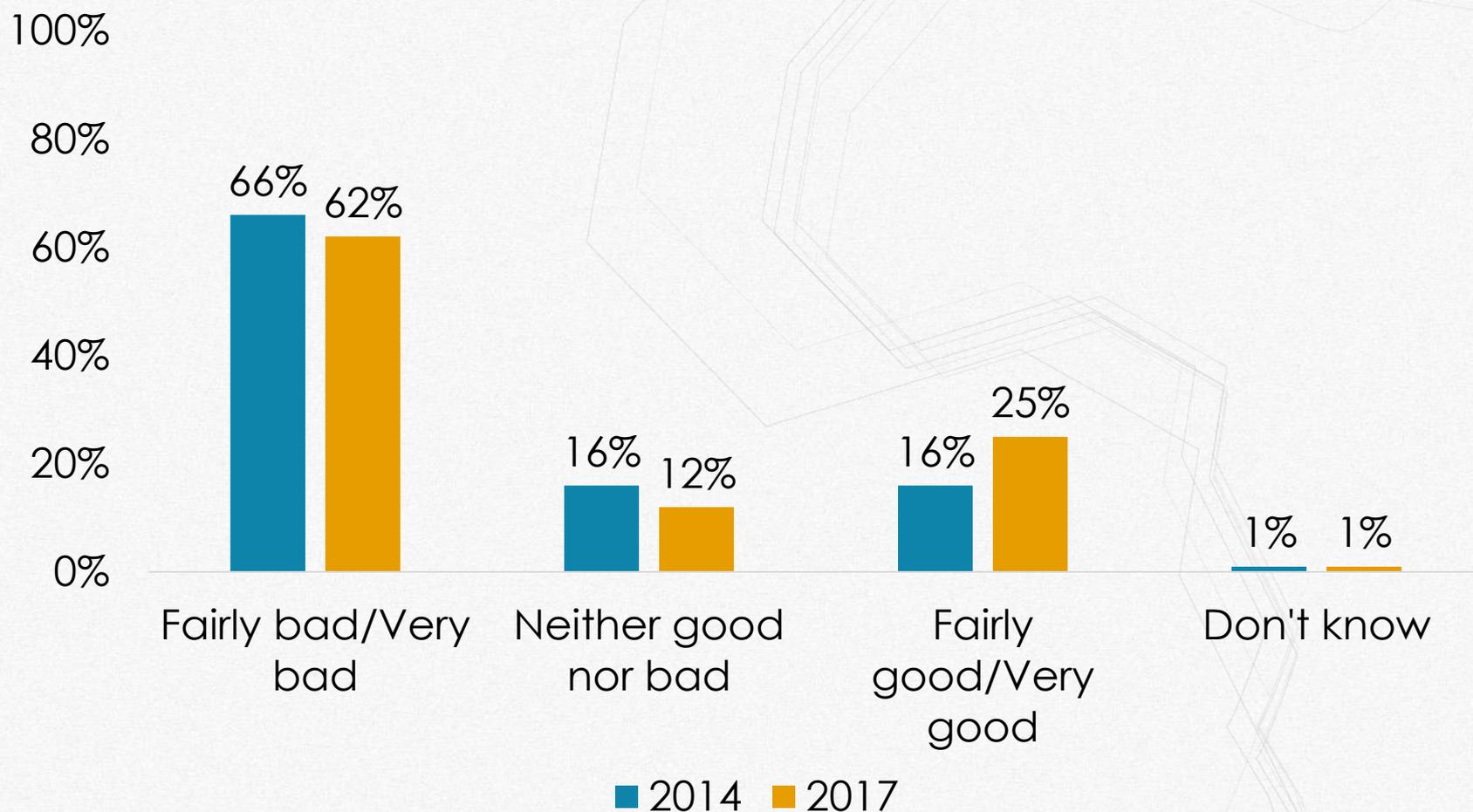


Key findings



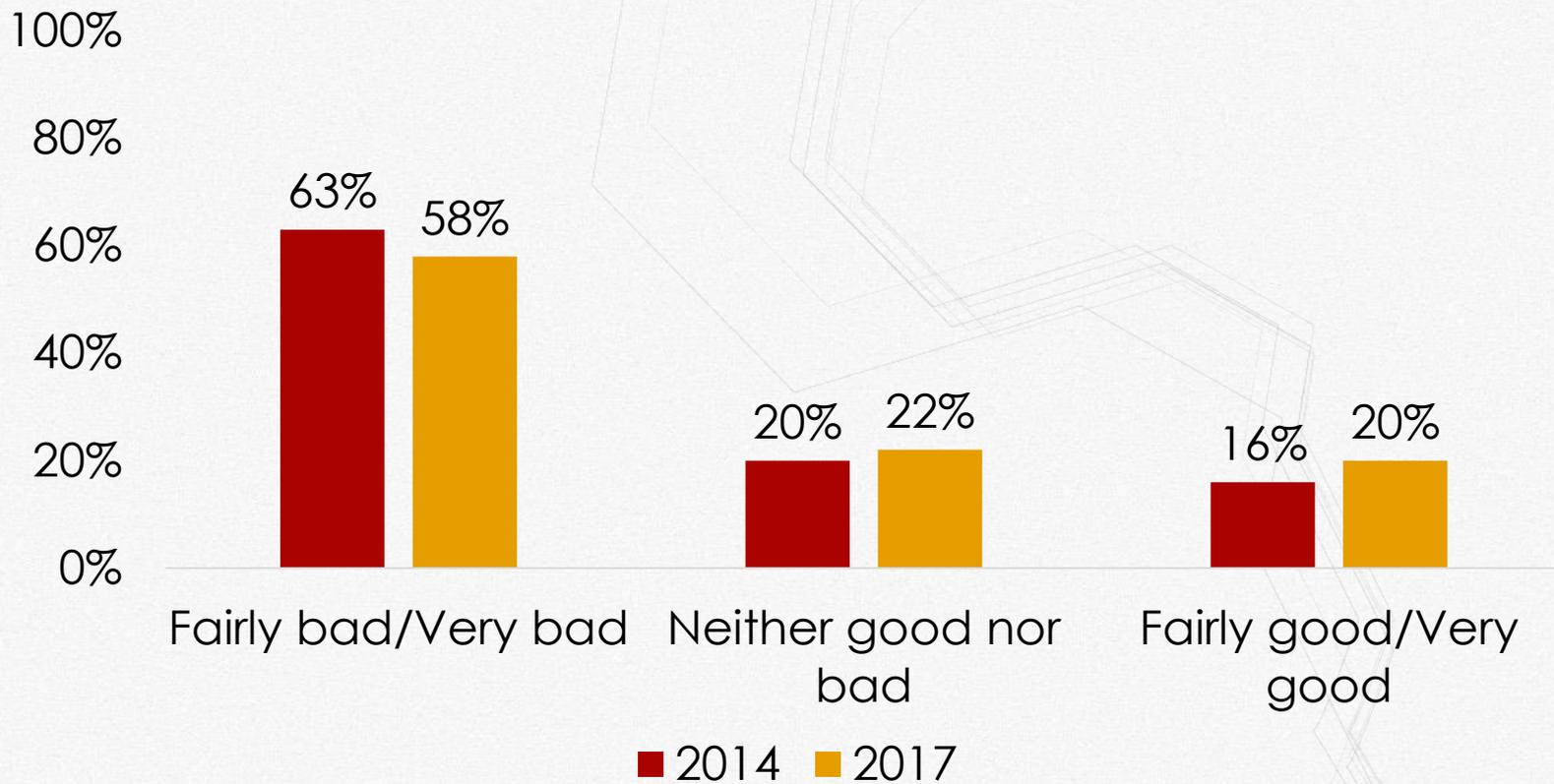
- A majority still describe the country's economic situation and their personal living conditions as bad.
- A majority (57%) of Tanzanians say the country's economic situation is “worse” or “much worse” than a year ago.
- The proportion of respondents who are optimistic that things will improve in a year's time has almost doubled since 2014, to 38%.

Country's present economic condition | Tanzania | 2014-2017



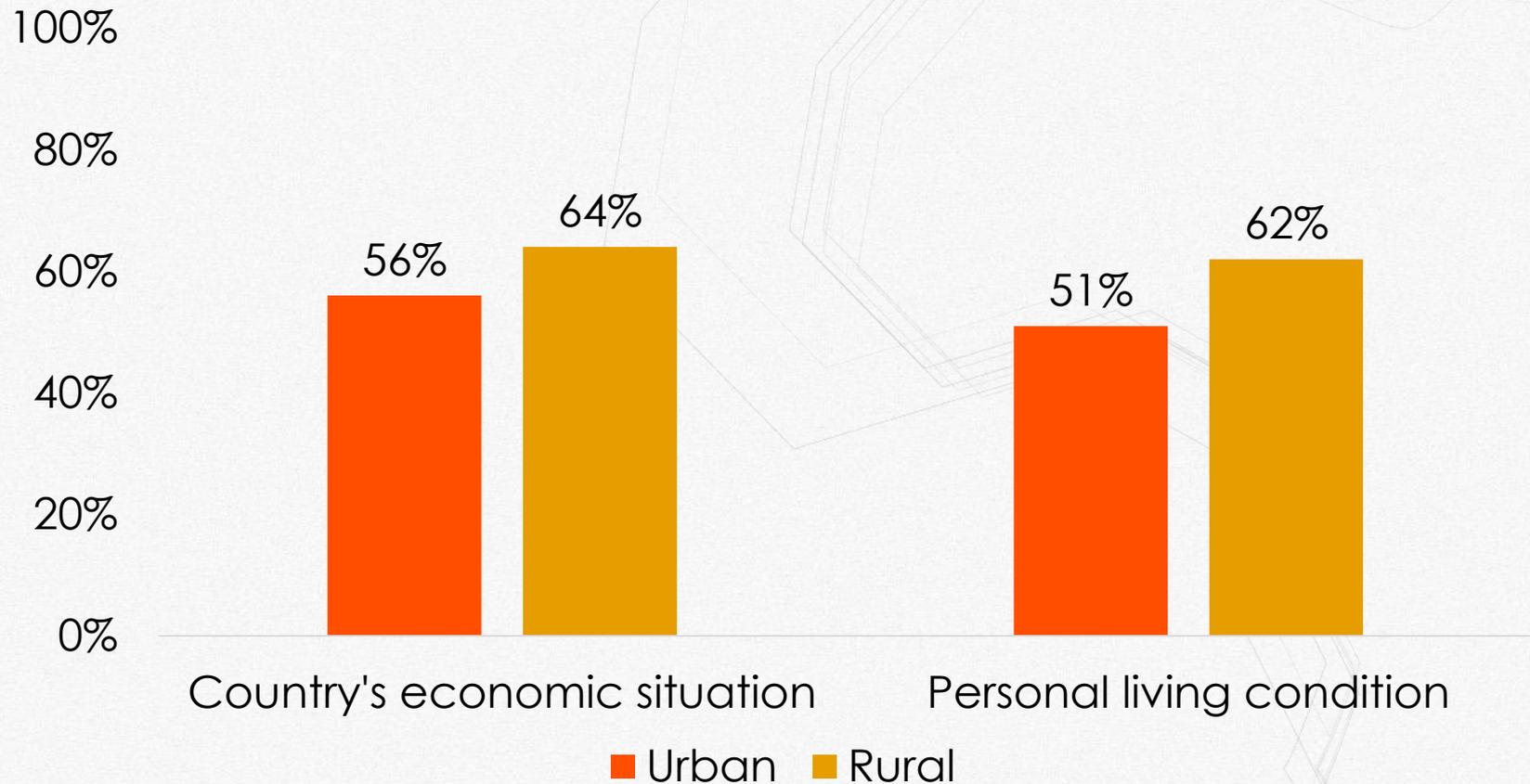
Respondents were asked: *In general, how would you describe the present economic condition of this country?*

Personal living conditions | Tanzania | 2014-2017



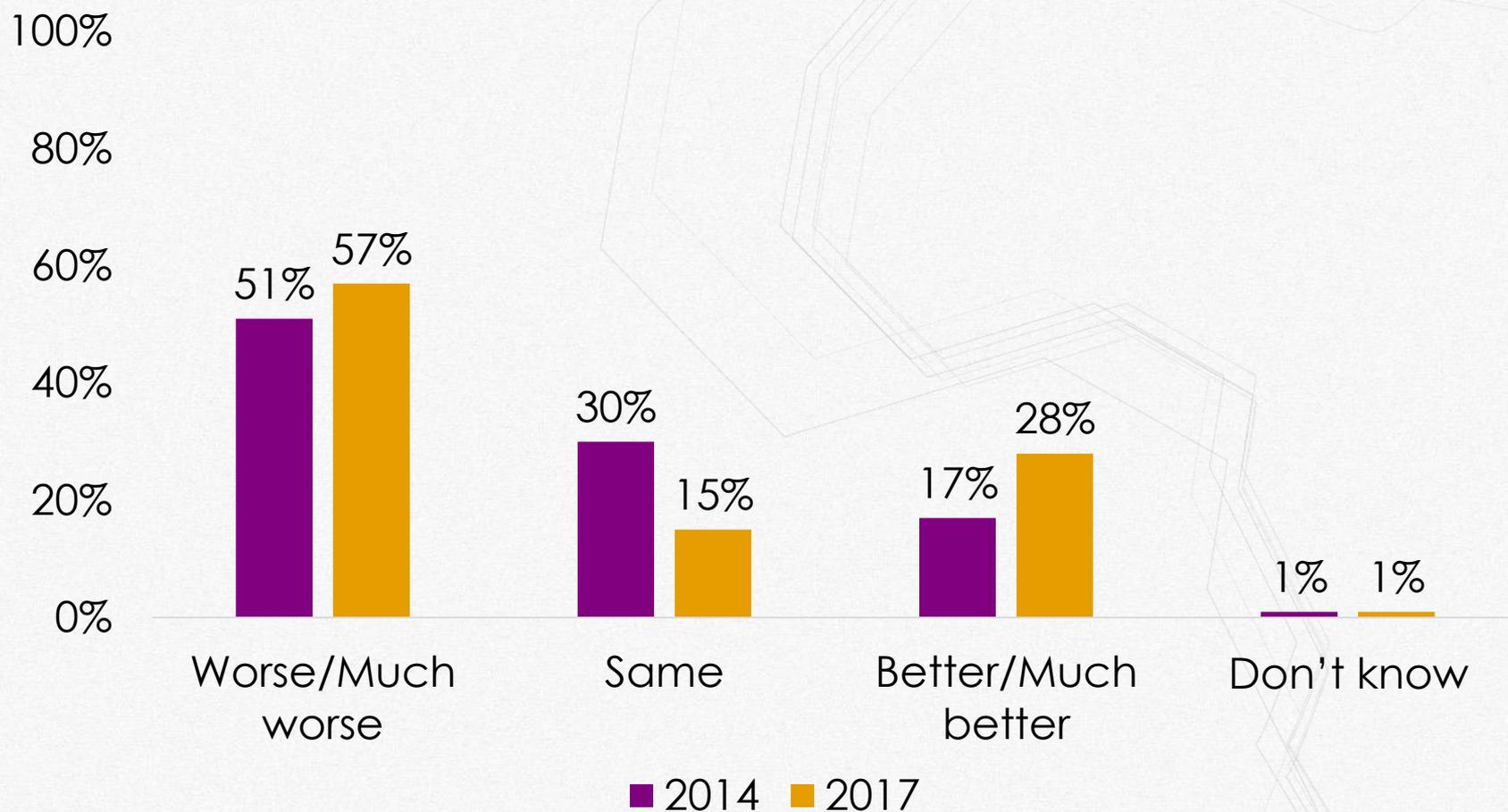
Respondents were asked: *In general, how would you describe your own present living conditions?*

Assessment of country's economic situation and personal living conditions | urban vs. rural | Tanzania | 2017



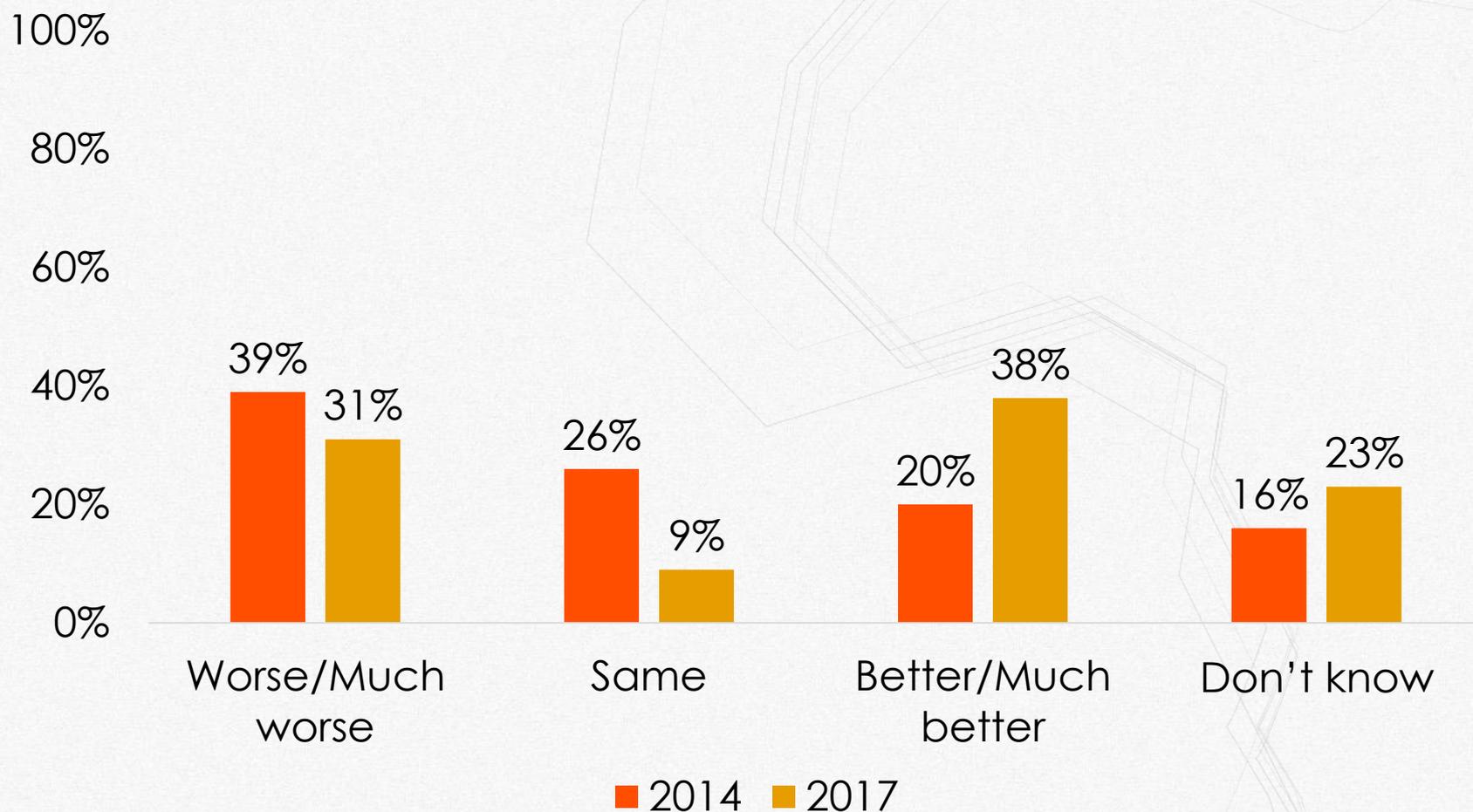
Respondents were asked: In general, how would you describe: The present economic condition of this country? Your own present living conditions? (% who say "fairly bad" or "very bad")

Country's economic condition compared to 12 months ago | Tanzania | 2014-2017



Respondents were asked: Looking back, how do you rate economic conditions in this country compared to 12 months ago?

Country's economic condition in 12 months' time | Tanzania | 2014-2017



Respondents were asked: Looking ahead, do you expect economic conditions in this country to be better or worse in 12 months' time?

Lived poverty increasing?

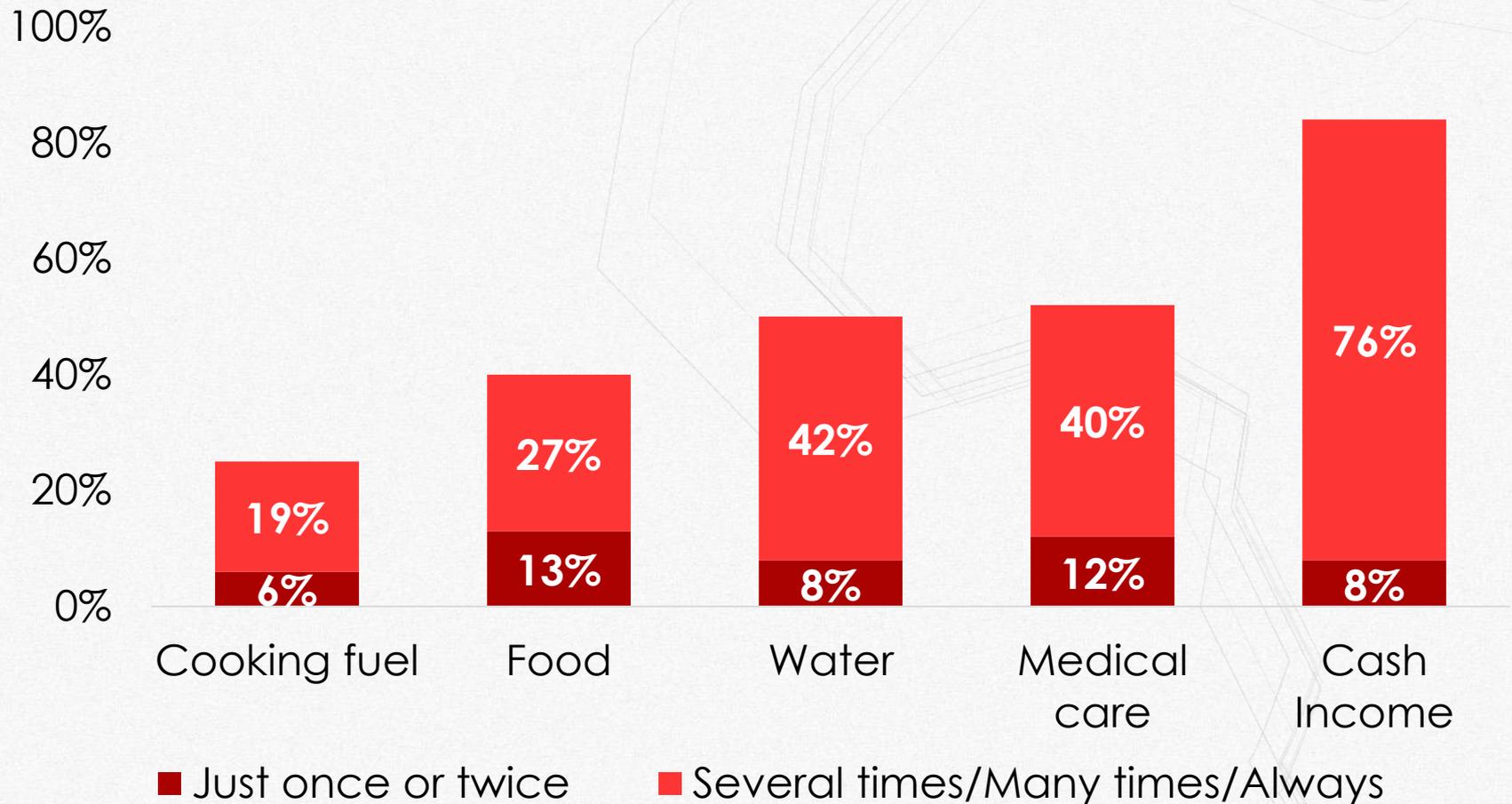


Key findings



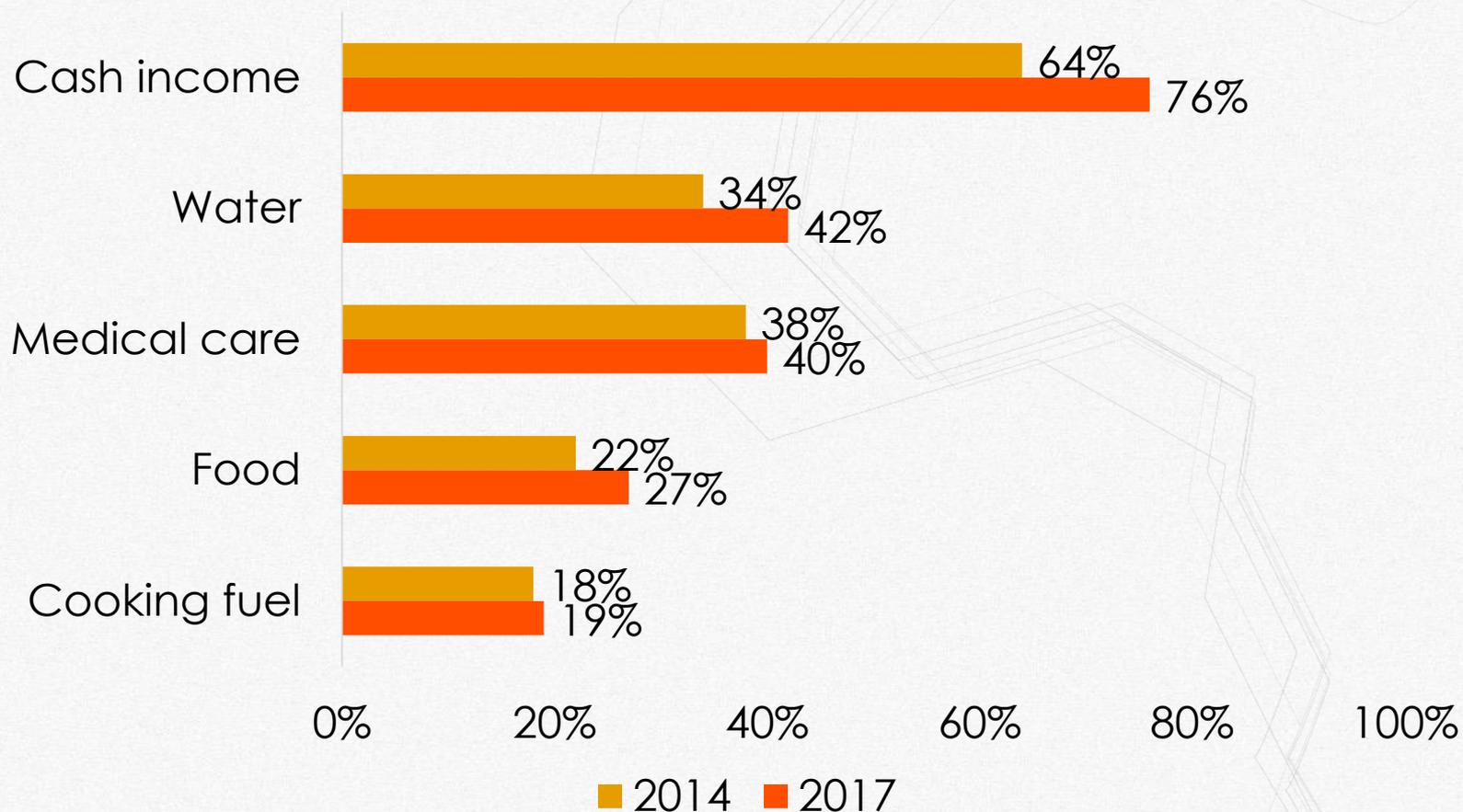
- Growing numbers of Tanzanians report going without basic necessities.
- Four in 10 say they went without enough clean water (42%) “several times” during the previous year.
- Four in 10 say they went without medical care (40%) “several times” during the previous year.
- Three-fourths (76%) say they went without a cash income at least “several times.”

Going without basic necessities | Tanzania | 2017



Respondents were asked: Over the past year, how often, if ever, have you or anyone in your family gone without: Enough food to eat? Enough clean water for home use? Medicines or medical treatment? Enough fuel to cook your food? A cash income? (% who say “just once or twice,” “several times,” “many times,” or “always”)

Going without basic necessities at least “several times” | Tanzania | 2014-2017



Respondents were asked: Over the past year, how often, if ever, have you or anyone in your family gone without: Enough food to eat? Enough clean water for home use? Medicines or medical treatment? Enough fuel to cook your food? A cash income? (% who say “several times,” “many times,” or “always”)

Conclusions



- In general, citizens believe the country is going in the right direction and that the government is handling the economy well – both striking improvements from 2014.
- But despite slight gains, more citizens still describe the country's economic situation and their personal living conditions as bad, indicating a need to review the effectiveness and impact of current poverty reduction strategies and measures.
- Survey results suggest perceived gains in the government's handling of the provision of basic health care, water and sanitation, electricity, and education services – key components of the government's goal of industrializing Tanzania.

**Thank you
Asante**

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