Lobito-Benguela, Angola
28 April 2022

News release

Majority of Angolans doubt those defeated in upcoming election will accept the results, Afrobarometer survey shows

A majority of Angolans say it's likely that the losing side will not accept the results of the general election in August, according to a new Afrobarometer survey.

The upcoming election, the country's fourth peacetime general election, is expected to be the most competitive since the inauguration of multiparty democracy in September 1992.

Three-fourths of survey respondents say they will "definitely" or "probably" vote in the August election, even though only a minority expect the election to be "completely free and fair."

Key findings

- A majority (57%) of Angolans consider it "somewhat likely" or "very likely" that the results of the August general election will not be accepted by the losing party or candidate (Figure 1).
    - The expectation that the losing candidate or party will not accept the election results is particularly widespread among urban residents (62%), economically well-off citizens (67%), and those with secondary (63%) or post-secondary (66%) education. More than six in 10 residents of both Huíla Province (63%) and Luanda Province (61%) share this view.
- Three-fourths of Angolans say they "definitely will vote" (57%) or "probably will vote" (18%) in the upcoming general election (Figure 2). Residents of Huíla Province are particularly likely to express their intention to vote (83% probably/definitely, compared to 68% in Luanda Province).
- Slightly more than half (53%) of Angolans say they think the election will be "completely free and fair" (31%) or "free and fair with minor problems" (22%). Fewer than half as many expect "major problems" (13%) or an election that is not free and fair at all (11%) (Figure 3).
    - Expectations that the election will be "completely free and fair" are considerably more common in Huíla Province (46%) than in Luanda Province (26%), in cities than in rural areas (37% vs. 28%), and among older citizens (46%) than among younger respondents (27%-31%).

Afrobarometer

Afrobarometer is a pan-African, non-partisan survey research network that provides reliable data on African experiences and evaluations of democracy, governance, and quality of life. Eight survey rounds in up to 39 countries have been completed since 1999. Round 9 surveys (2021/2022) are currently underway. Afrobarometer's national partners conduct face-to-face interviews in the language of the respondent's choice.

The Afrobarometer team in Angola, led by Ovilongwa – Estudos de Opinião Pública, interviewed a nationally representative sample of 1,200 adult Angolans between 9 February and 8 March 2022. A sample of this size yields country-level results with a margin of error of

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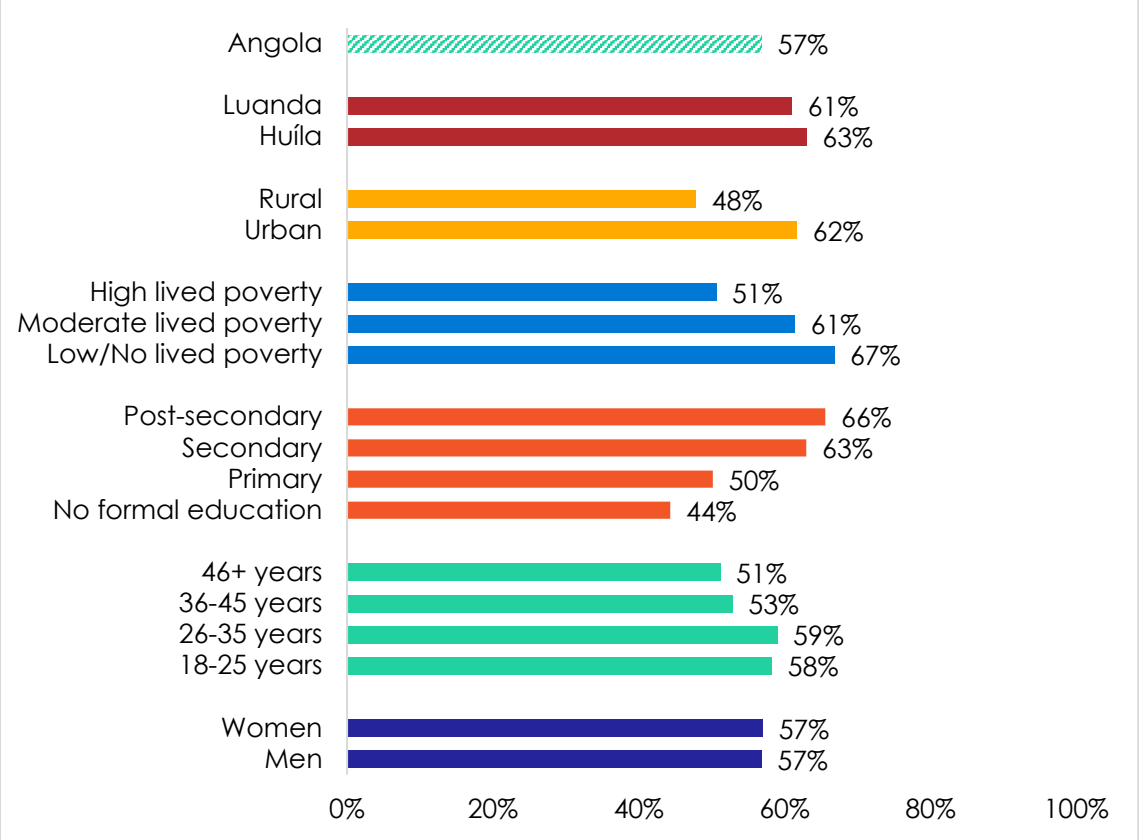
+/-3 percentage points at a 95% confidence level. A previous survey was conducted in Angola in 2019.

Charts

Figure 1: Loser will probably not accept election results | by socio-demographic group | Angola | 2022



Respondents were asked: *In your opinion, how likely is it that the following will happen: The candidate or party defeated in the elections does not accept the results of the presidential elections? (% who say "somewhat likely" or "very likely")*

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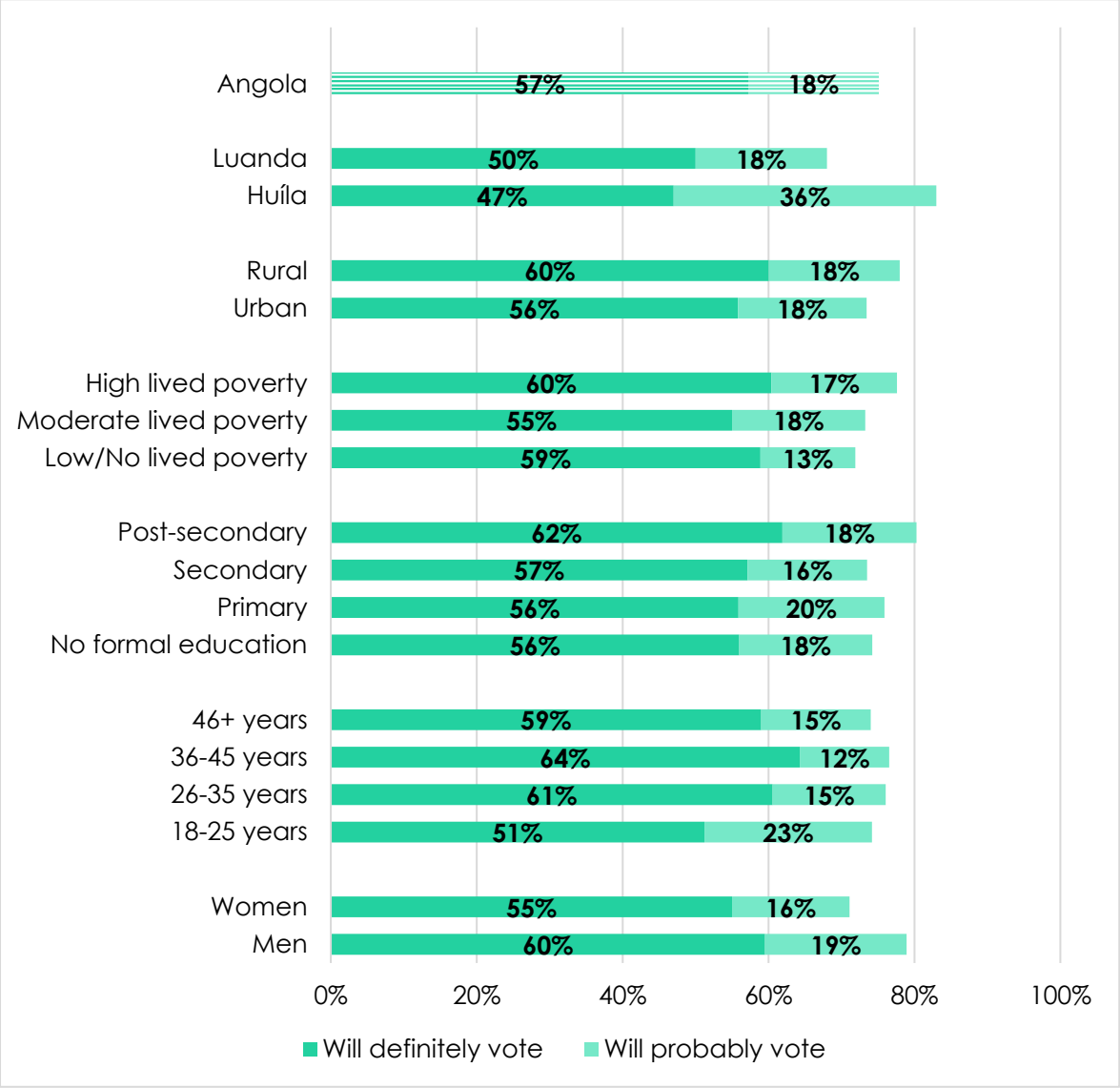
Figure 2: Will definitely or probably vote in the August elections | by socio-demographic group | Angola | 2022



Respondents were asked: *How likely are you to vote in the 2022 general election?*

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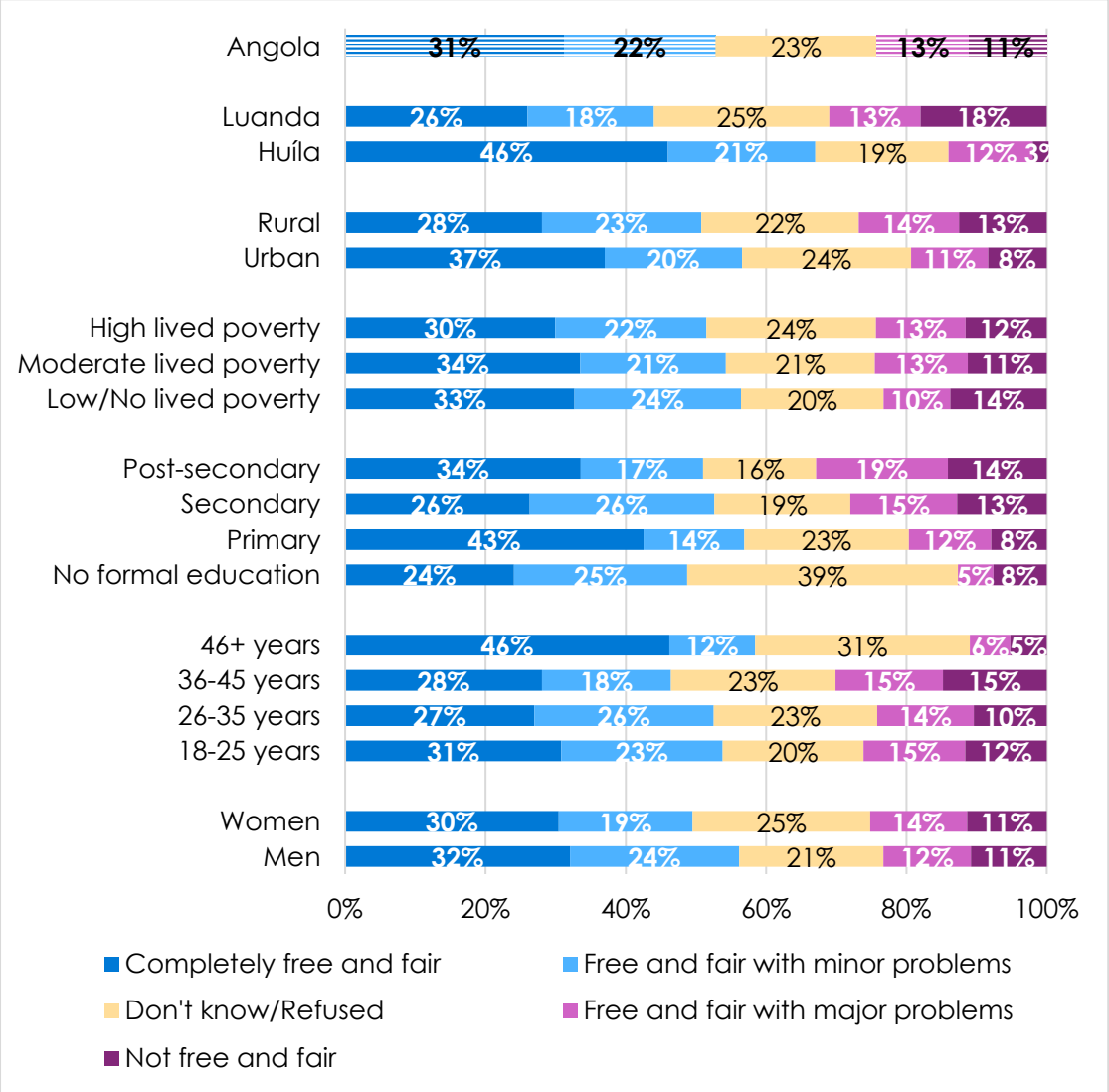
Figure 3: Will the upcoming election be free and fair? | by socio-demographic group | Angola | 2022



Respondents were asked: *Overall, do you think the upcoming 2022 general election will be free and fair?*

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