

Praia, Cabo Verde  
9 March 2022

## News release

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### **Cabo Verdeans give gloomy assessment of economic conditions, but majority optimistic that things will improve**

Cabo Verdeans offered a fairly gloomy assessment of their country's economic situation, but most expected things to improve, according to an Afrobarometer survey.

The survey, in late 2019, found that few citizens thought economic conditions had improved over the previous year, and only a minority described their personal living conditions as good. A majority said the country was going in "the wrong direction."

Most Cabo Verdeans gave their government poor marks on key economic issues, including job creation and poverty reduction. But a majority expressed optimism that economic conditions would improve over the next 12 months.

#### **Key findings**

- Fewer than half (47%) of Cabo Verdeans describe the country's economic condition as "fairly good" or "very good," unchanged from 2014 (Figure 1).
- The proportion of Cabo Verdeans who describe their personal living conditions as "fairly good" or "very good" has increased slightly compared to 2014, from 16% to 23% (Figure 2).
- Even though only 29% of Cabo Verdeans say the country's economic condition has improved over the past 12 months, almost three-fourths (73%) are optimistic that things will be "better" or "much better" in 12 months' time (Figure 3).
- The share of citizens who say the country is going in the wrong direction increased by 10 percentage points since 2014, from 46% to 56% (Figure 4).
- A majority of citizens say the government is performing "fairly badly" or "very badly" on creating jobs (84%), narrowing income gaps (77%), improving the living standards of the poor (76%), and managing the economy (64%) (Figure 5).

#### **Afrobarometer surveys**

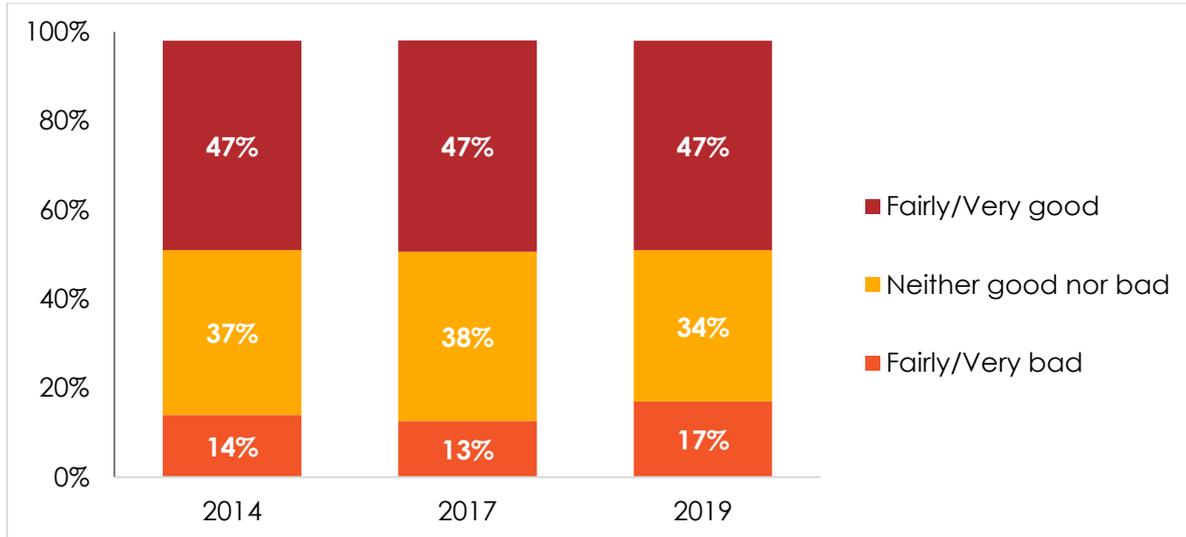
Afrobarometer is a pan-African, nonpartisan survey research network that provides reliable data on African experiences and evaluations of democracy, governance, and quality of life. Eight rounds of surveys have been completed in up to 39 countries since 1999. Round 8 surveys in 2019/2021 cover 34 countries.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

The Afrobarometer team in Cabo Verde, led by Afrosondagem, interviewed 1,200 adult Cabo Verdeans between 8 and 22 December 2019. A sample of this size yields country-level

results with a margin of error of +/-3 percentage points at a 95% confidence level. Previous surveys were conducted in Cabo Verde in 2002, 2005, 2008, 2011, 2014, and 2017.

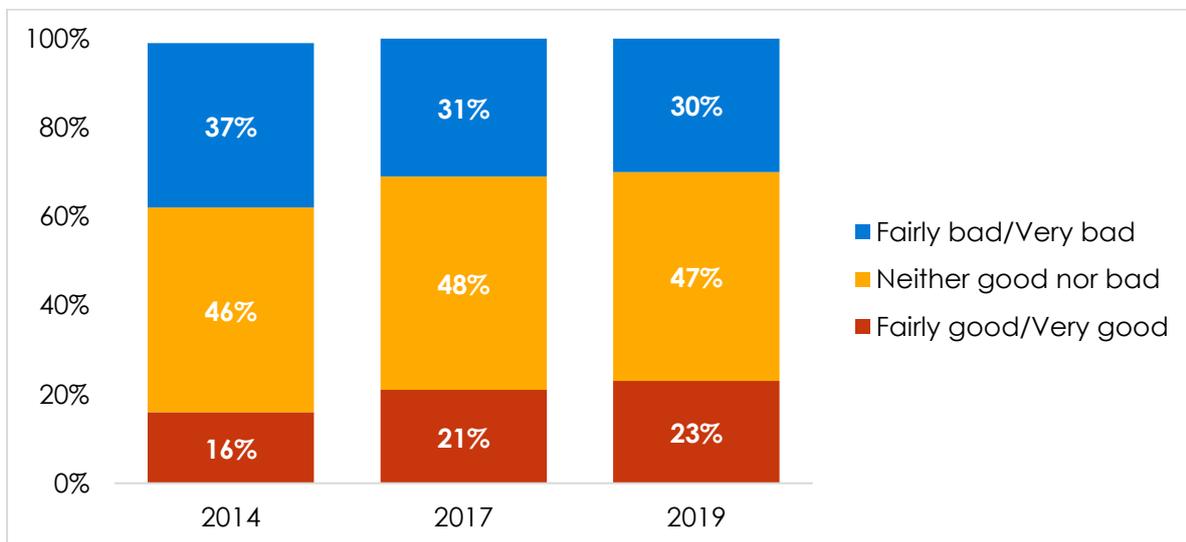
**Charts**

**Figure 1: Country's economic condition | Cabo Verde | 2014-2019**



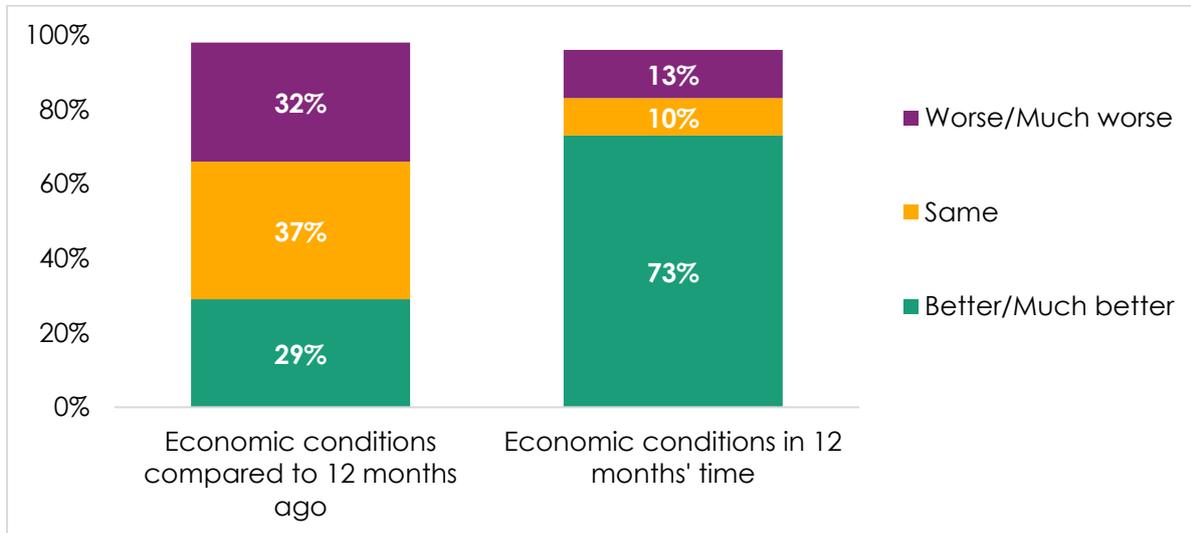
**Respondents were asked:** In general, how would you describe the present economic condition of this country?

**Figure 2: Citizens' living conditions | Cabo Verde | 2014-2019**



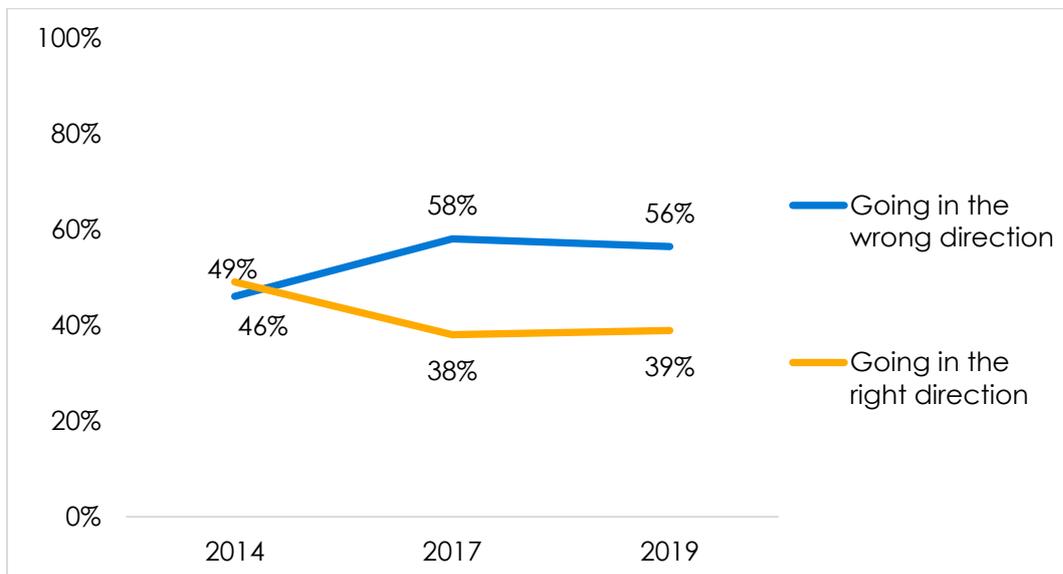
**Respondents were asked:** In general, how would you describe your own present living conditions?

**Figure 3: National economic conditions: Looking back and ahead** | Cabo Verde | 2019



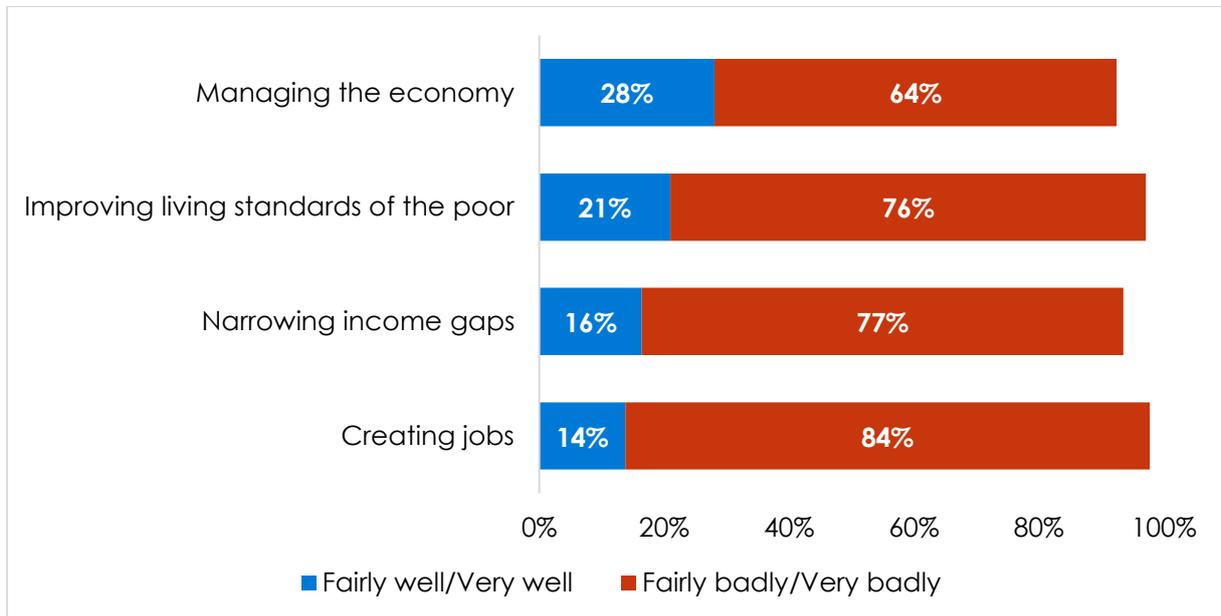
**Respondents were asked:** Looking back, how do you rate economic conditions in this country compared to 12 months ago? Looking ahead, do you expect economic conditions in this country to be better or worse in 12 months' time?

**Figure 4: Is the country going in the right direction?** | Cabo Verde | 2014-2019



**Respondents were asked:** Would you say that the country is going in the wrong direction or going in the right direction?

**Figure 5: Government's economic performance** | Cabo Verde | 2019



**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?

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