



Dar es Salaam, Tanzania  
30 March 2022

## News release

---

### **Tanzanians see progress on health services, their top priority for government action, Afrobarometer survey shows**

While health still tops the list of problems that Tanzanians want their government to address, most citizens praise the government's efforts in the health sector, according to the latest Afrobarometer survey.

Three-fourths of citizens say the government is doing a good job of improving basic health services.

In addition, fewer Tanzanians report having difficulty obtaining medical care or having to go without needed care entirely.

#### **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 (2019/2021) cover 34 countries. Afrobarometer conducts face-to-face interviews in the language of the respondent's choice.

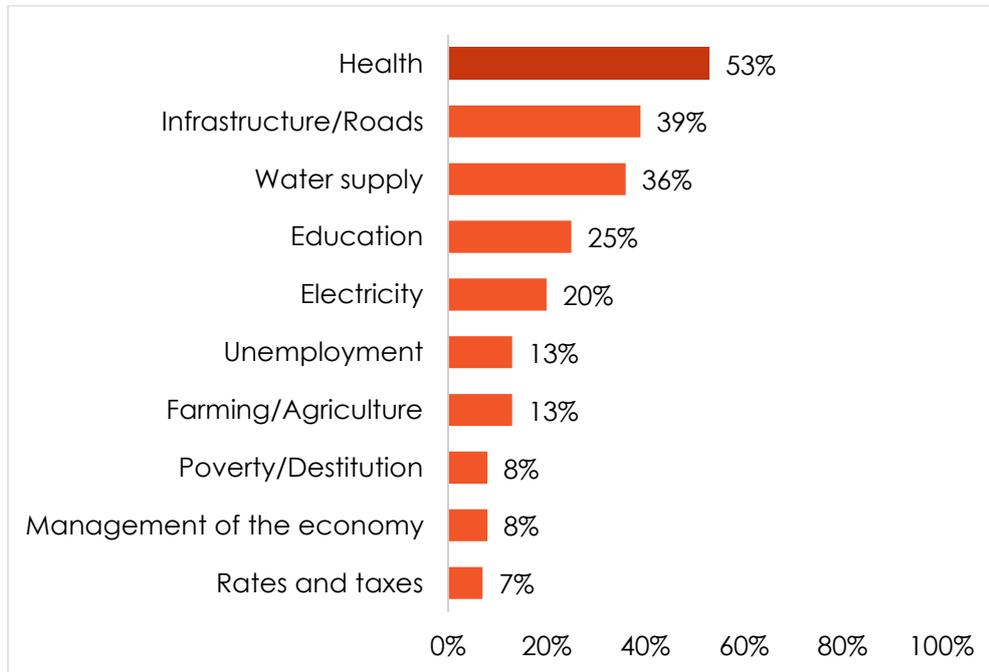
The Afrobarometer team in Tanzania, led by REPOA, interviewed a nationally representative, random, a stratified probability sample of 2,398 adults in February-March 2021. A sample of this size yields country-level results with a margin of error of +/-2 percentage points at a 95% confidence level. Previous surveys were conducted in Tanzania in 2001, 2003, 2005, 2008, 2012, 2014, and 2017.

#### **Key findings**

- Health tops the list of important problems that Tanzanians think the government should urgently address, cited by 53% of respondents as one of their three priorities (Figure 1).
- The share of citizens who went without needed medical care during the previous year declined from 71% in 2012 to 47% in 2021 (Figure 2).
- More than six in 10 respondents (62%) who had contact with a public health facility during the past year say they found it easy to obtain the care they needed, a 14-percentage-point improvement since 2012 (Figure 3).
- Three-quarters of Tanzanians (75%) say the government is doing a good job of improving basic health services, up from 43% in 2012 (Figure 4).

**Charts**

**Figure 1: Most important problems | top 10 | Tanzania | 2021**



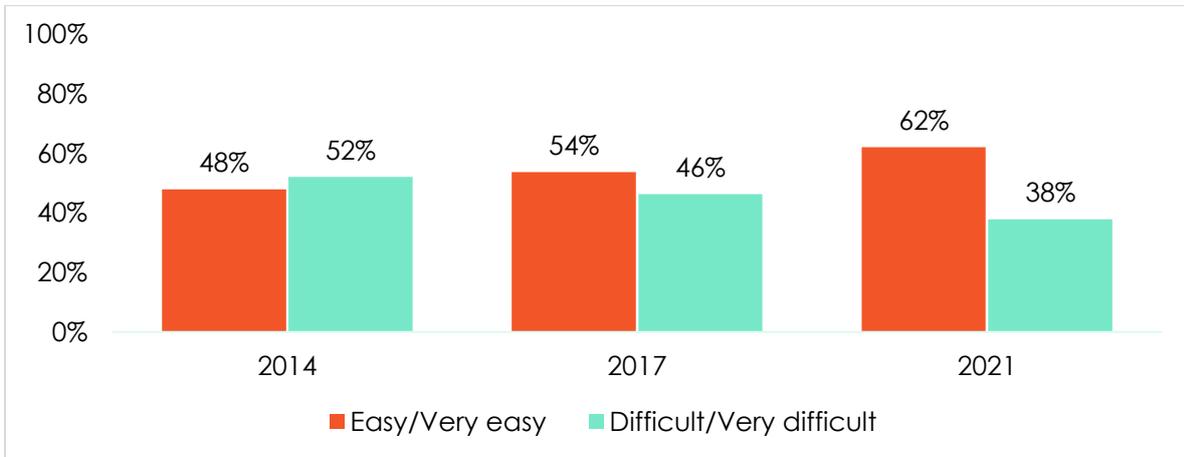
**Respondents were asked:** In your opinion, what are the most important problems facing this country that government should address? (Up to three responses per respondent were captured. The figure shows the percentage of respondents who identified each problem as one of their top three priorities.)

**Figure 2: How often gone without medical care | Tanzania | 2012-2021**



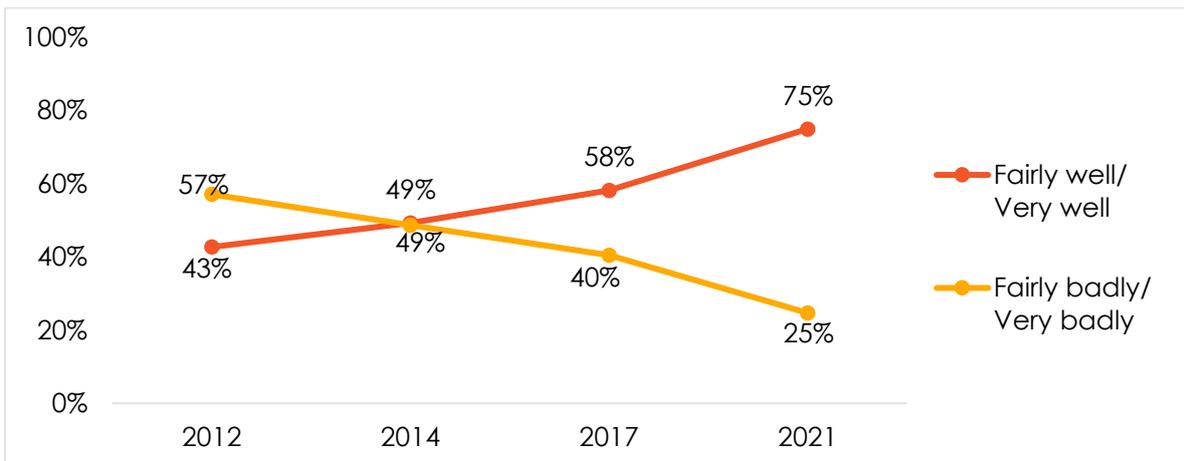
**Respondents were asked:** Over the past year, how often, if ever, have you or anyone in your family gone without medicines or medical treatment?

**Figure 3: How easy/difficult to obtain medical care | Tanzania | 2014-2021**



**Respondents were asked:** In the past 12 months, have you had contact with a public clinic or hospital? [If yes:] How easy or difficult was it to obtain the medical care you needed? (Respondents who had no contact were excluded.)

**Figure 4: Government performance on improving basic health services | Tanzania | 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: Improving basic health services?

**For more information, please contact:**

REPOA  
 Derick Msafiri  
 Tel.: +255659100766  
 Email: [derick@repoa.or.tz](mailto:derick@repoa.or.tz)

Visit us online at [www.afrobarometer.org](http://www.afrobarometer.org).

Follow our releases on #VoicesAfrica.

