



Khartoum, Sudan
18 May 2022

News release

Majority of Sudanese find it difficult to know which taxes to pay and how the government uses their tax revenues, Afrobarometer survey shows

A majority of Sudanese say it is difficult to find out which taxes and fees they are supposed to pay and how the government uses the tax revenues it collects, according to the latest Afrobarometer survey.

The survey findings also show that two-thirds of citizens think that Sudanese “always” or “often” avoid paying the taxes that they owe the government.

More than half of Sudanese say they would be willing to pay higher taxes in exchange for more government services.

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.

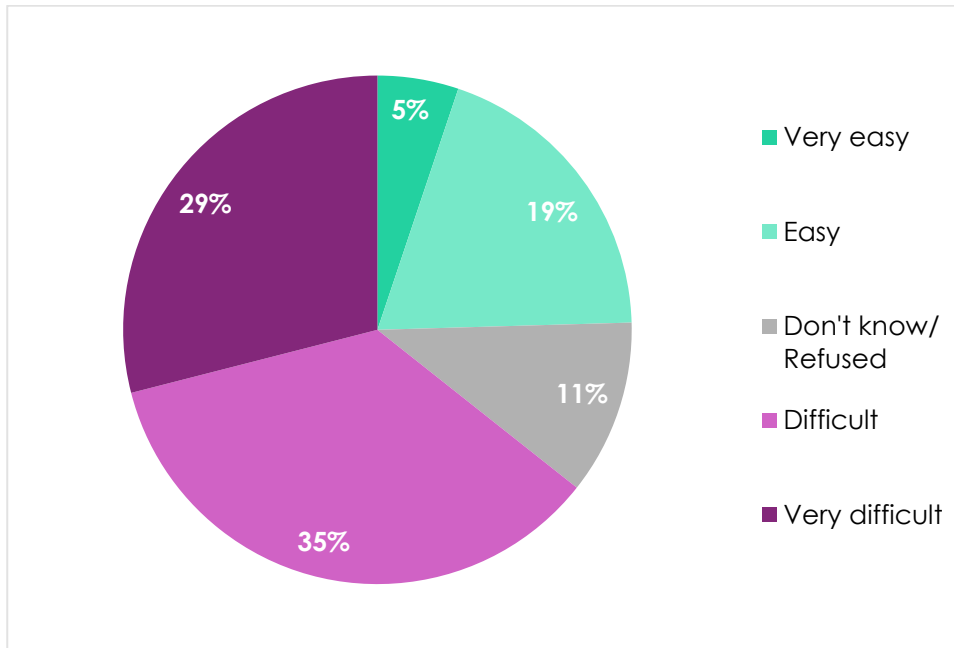
The Afrobarometer team in Sudan, led by Sudan Polling Statistics Center (SPSC), interviewed a nationally representative, random, stratified probability sample of 1,800 adults in February-April 2021. A sample of this size yields country-level results with a margin of error of +/-2.3 percentage points at a 95% confidence level. Previous surveys were conducted in Sudan in 2013, 2015, and 2018.

Key findings

- Almost two-thirds (64%) of Sudanese say it is “difficult” or “very difficult” to find out which taxes or fees they are supposed to pay (Figure 1).
- Seven in 10 (70%) report that it is difficult to find out how the government uses the tax revenues it collects (Figure 2).
- Two-thirds (67%) of citizens say that people in their country “often” or “always” avoid paying their taxes (Figure 3).
- More than half (55%) of citizens say they would be willing to pay higher taxes in exchange for more government services, while 39% would prefer lower taxes with fewer services (Figure 4).

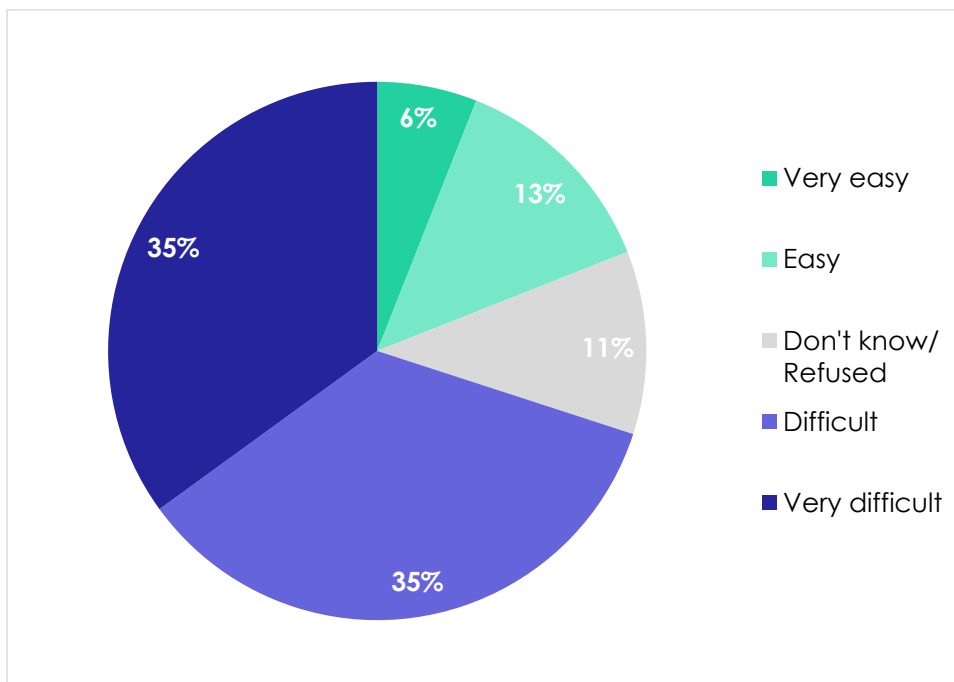
Charts

Figure 1: Difficulty of finding out which taxes and fees to pay | Sudan | 2021



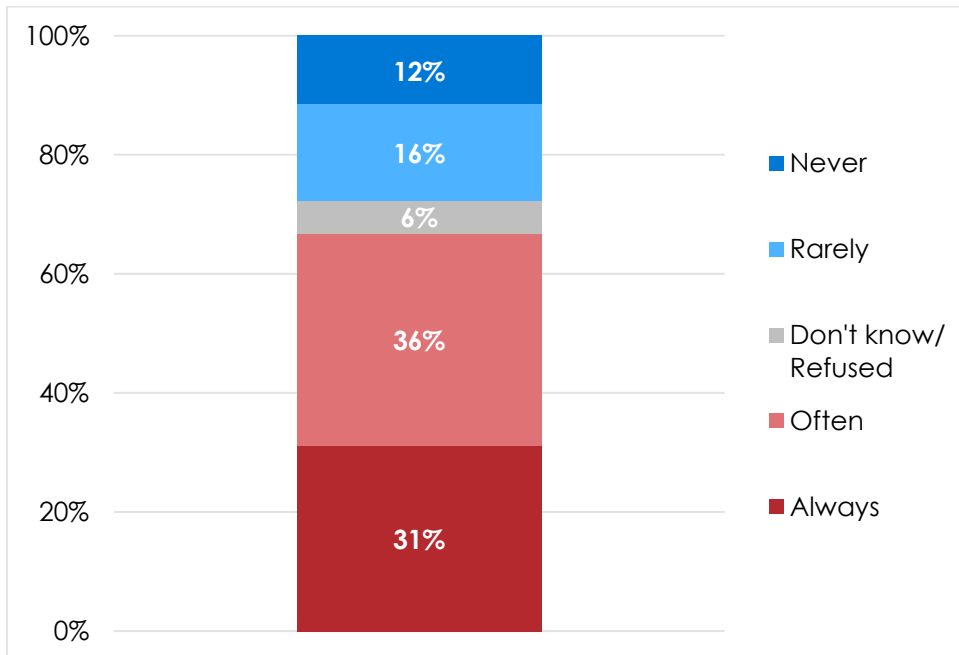
Respondents were asked: Based on your experience, how easy or difficult is it to find out what taxes and fees you are supposed to pay to the government?

Figure 2: Difficulty of finding out how government uses tax revenues | Sudan | 2021



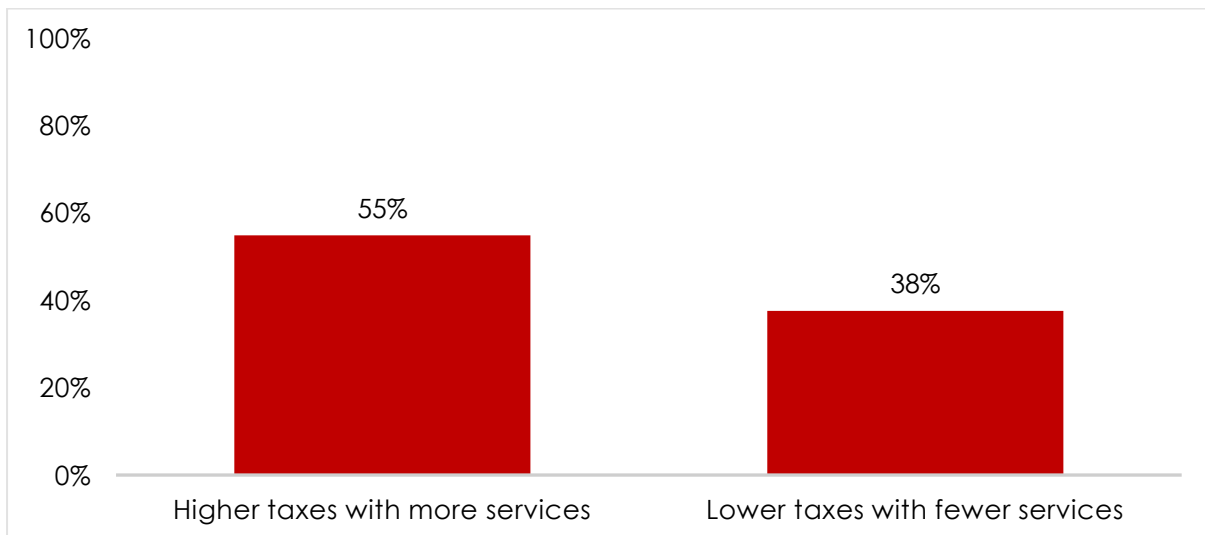
Respondents were asked: Based on your experience, how easy or difficult is it to find out how government uses the revenues from people's taxes and fees?

Figure 3: How often do people avoid paying their taxes? | Sudan | 2021



Respondents were asked: *In your opinion, how often, in this country, do people avoid paying the taxes that they owe the government?*

Figure 4: Higher taxes with more services or lower taxes with fewer services? | Sudan | 2021



Respondents were asked: *Which of the following statements is closest to your view?*
 Statement 1: *It is better to pay higher taxes if it means that there will be more services provided by government.*
 Statement 2: *It is better to pay lower taxes, even if it means there will be fewer services provided by government.*
 (% who "agree" or "strongly agree" with each statement)

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