



Khartoum, Sudan
13 May 2022

News release

Majority of Sudanese have heard of climate change, but few see negative impacts, Afrobarometer survey shows

A majority of Sudanese say they are aware of climate change, but only a minority say it is making life in the country worse, according to the latest Afrobarometer survey

About four in 10 Sudanese say they have not heard of climate change, and even among those who are familiar with the concept, fully half say climate change is making life better rather than worse.

Sudan is one of the world's most vulnerable countries to the effects of climate change. Increased drought, high rainfall variability, and depletion of water resources place heavy stress on the region's rainfed agriculture and pastoralist systems, the dominant livelihoods in rural areas.

Key findings

- About six in 10 Sudanese (59%) say they have heard of climate change (Figure 1).
 - Awareness of climate change is higher among men (63%) and urban residents (64%) than among women (55%) and rural residents (57%). It increases with citizens' level of education, ranging from just 36% of those with no formal schooling to 70% of those with post-secondary qualifications.
 - Awareness is particularly low among those with no formal education (36%).
- Among citizens who have heard of climate change, more than half (54%) say it is making life in Sudan "somewhat worse" or "much worse." But four in 10 (41%) say it is making life better (Figure 2).

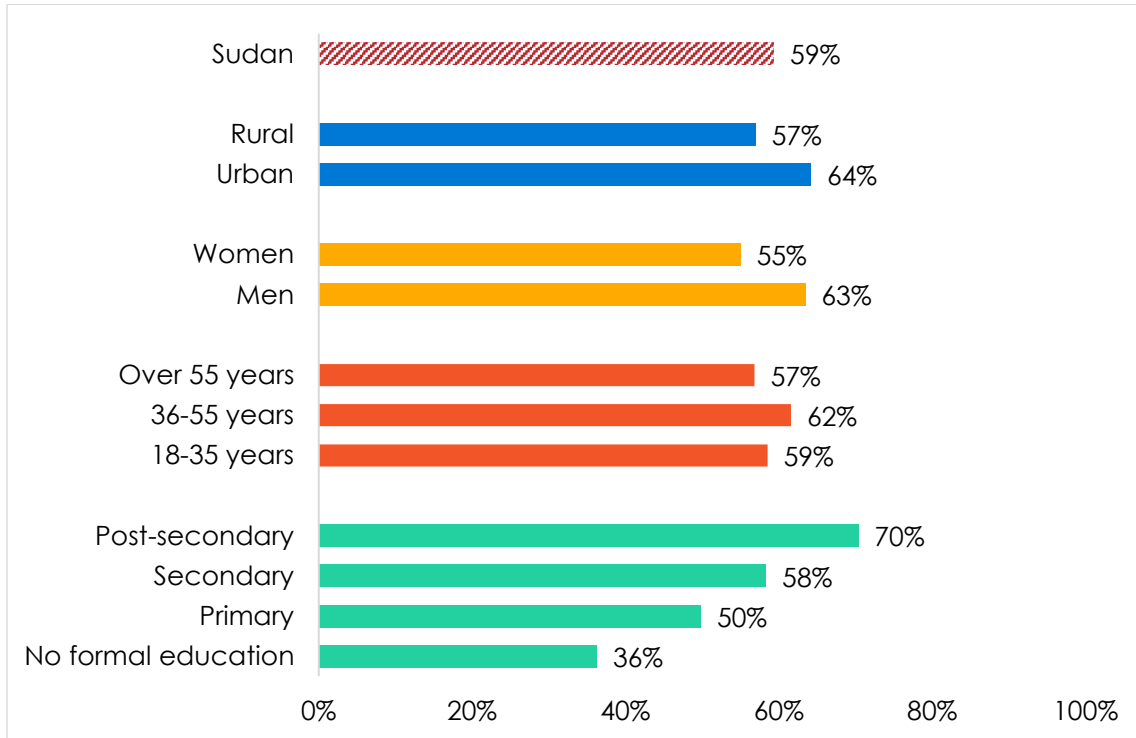
Afrobarometer surveys

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.

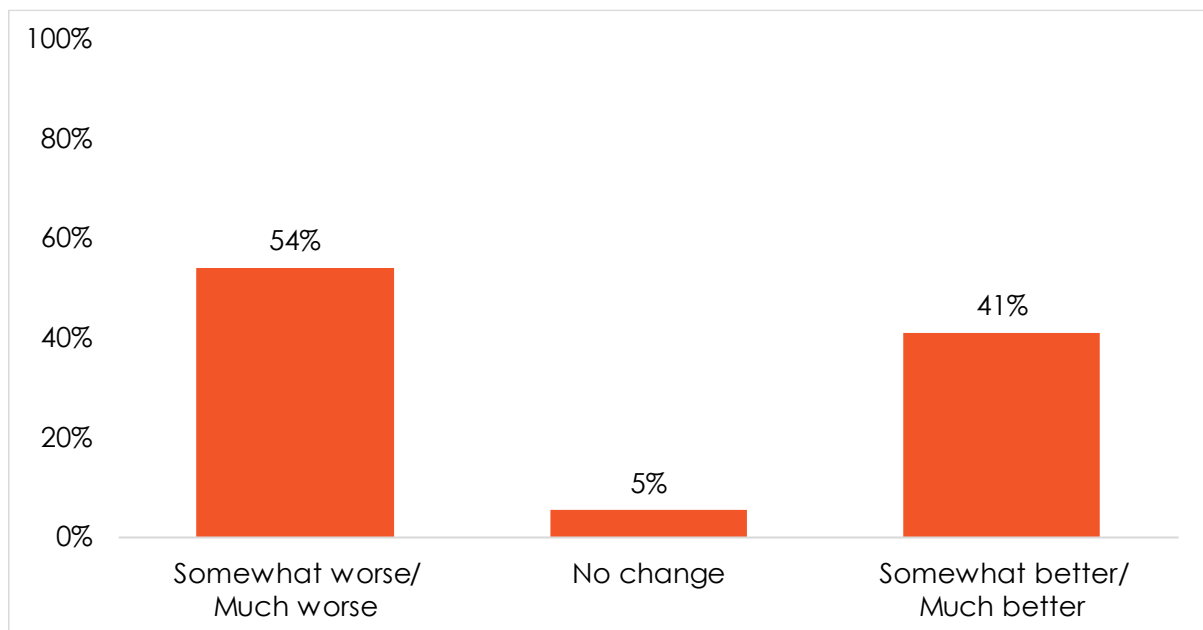
Figures

Figure 1: Awareness of climate change | Sudan | 2021



Respondents were asked: Have you heard about climate change, or haven't you had the chance to hear about this yet?

Figure 2: Impact of climate change | Sudan | 2021



Respondents were asked: Do you think climate change is making life in Sudan better or worse, or haven't you heard enough to say? (Note: The question was only posed to respondents who say they have heard of climate change)

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