



Accra, Ghana
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News release

Approval rating of government's anti-corruption efforts dips after significant improvement in 2017, new Afrobarometer study shows

Large majorities of Ghanaians say the level of corruption in the country has increased and the government is doing a poor job of fighting it, a stark reversal from the positive assessments recorded in 2017, a new Afrobarometer survey shows.

Many citizens see widespread corruption in key institutions public institutions, but fear retaliations should they report cases of corruption to the authorities. The survey also shows higher levels of popular trust in the Ghana Armed Forces, and religious and traditional leaders, than in the political class.

Globally, Ghana ranks 73rd out of 180 countries on Transparency International's [2021 Corruption Perceptions Index](#), two places above its 2020 position.

Key findings

- Only one in seven (14%) of Ghanaians say the government is doing "fairly badly" or "very badly" in fighting corruption, a quarter of the proportion who applauded government's anti-graft efforts in 2017 (60%) (Figure 1).
- More than three-fourths (77%) of Ghanaians say the level of corruption in the country has increased "somewhat" or "a lot" over the past year, more than double the proportion recorded in 2017 (36%) (Figure 2). Only 6% say the level of corruption has decreased.
- Two-thirds (65%) say "most" or "all" police officials are corrupt while, more than half see widespread corruption at the office of the president (55%) and among members of Parliament (54%) (Figure 3). Non-governmental organizations are least commonly seen as corrupt (22%).
- Seven in 10 (69%) say people risk retaliations or other negative consequences if they report incidents of corruption to the authorities, up from 61% in 2019 (Figure 4).
- The Ghana Armed Forces is the most trusted institution (67% say they trust them "somewhat" or "a lot"), followed by religious leaders (49%), and traditional leaders (44%) (Figure 5).

Afrobarometer surveys

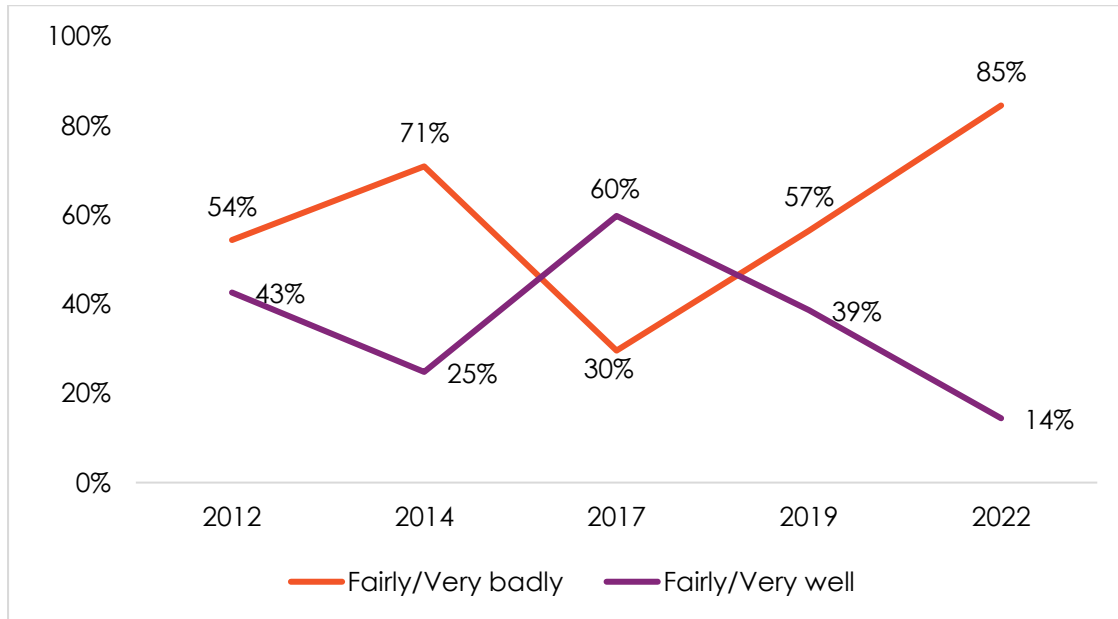
Afrobarometer is a pan-African, non-partisan survey research network that provides reliable data on African experiences and evaluations of democracy, governance, and quality of life. Eight survey rounds in up to 39 countries have been completed since 1999. Round 9 surveys (2021/2022) are currently underway.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

The Afrobarometer team in Ghana, led by the Ghana Center for Democratic Development, interviewed a nationally representative sample of 2,400 adult Ghanaians in April 2022. 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 Ghana in 1999, 2002, 2005, 2008, 2012, 2014, 2017, and 2019.

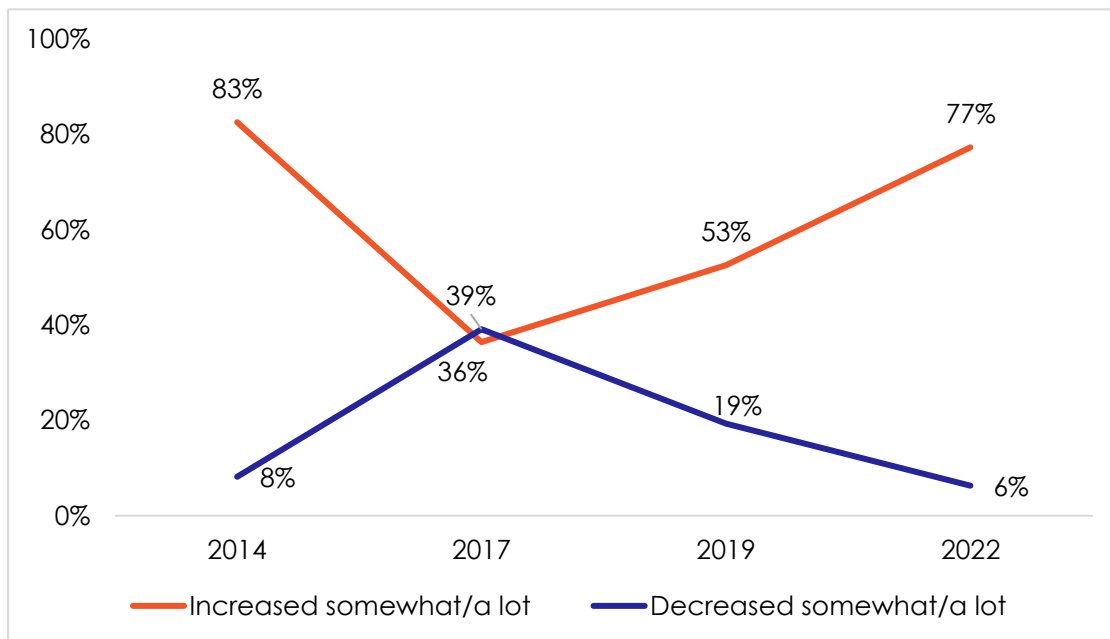
Charts

Figure 1: Evaluation of government performance in fighting corruption | Ghana | 2012-2022



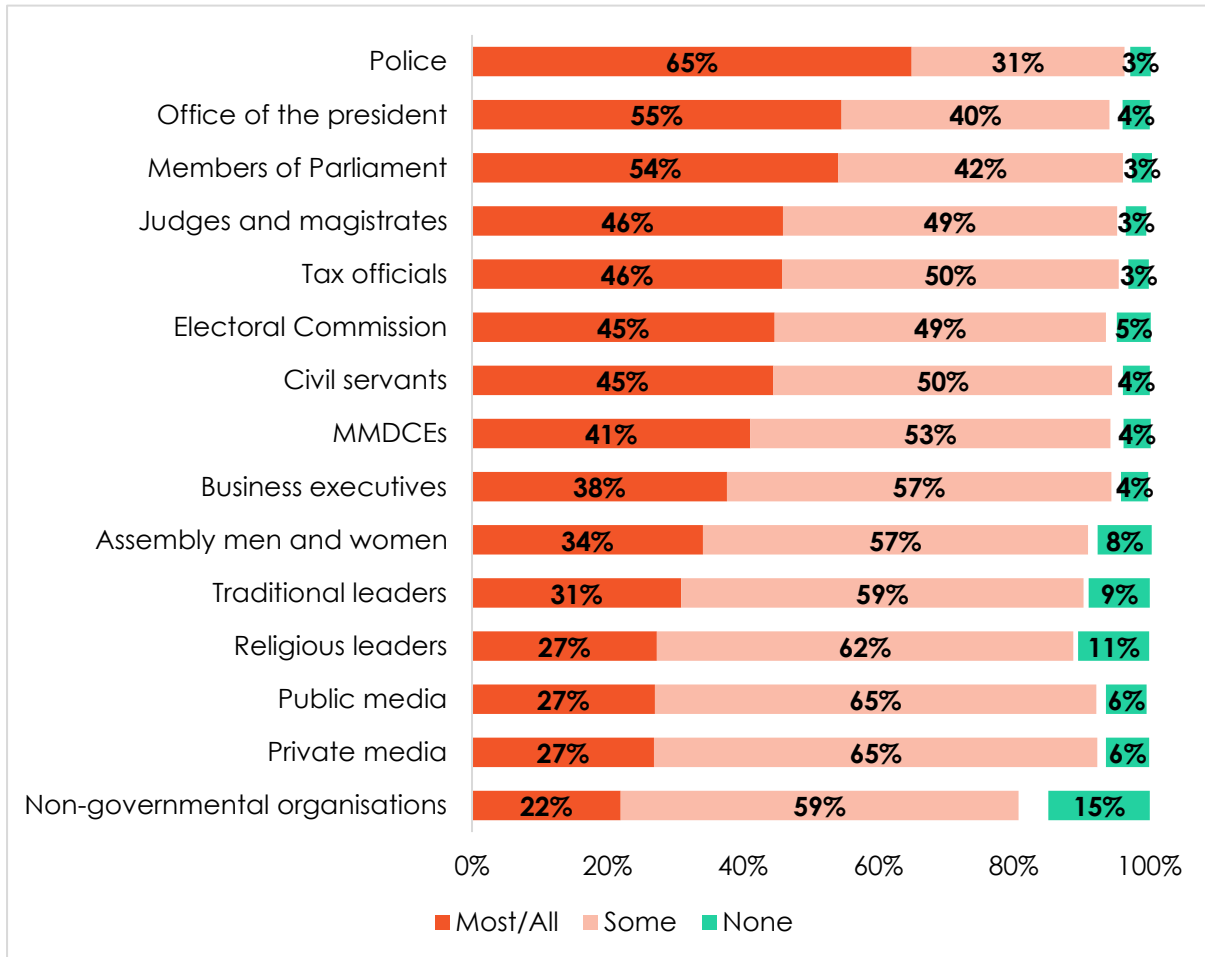
Respondents were asked: How well or badly would you say the current government is handling the following matters, or haven't you heard enough to say?

Figure 2: Level of corruption | Ghana | 2014-2022



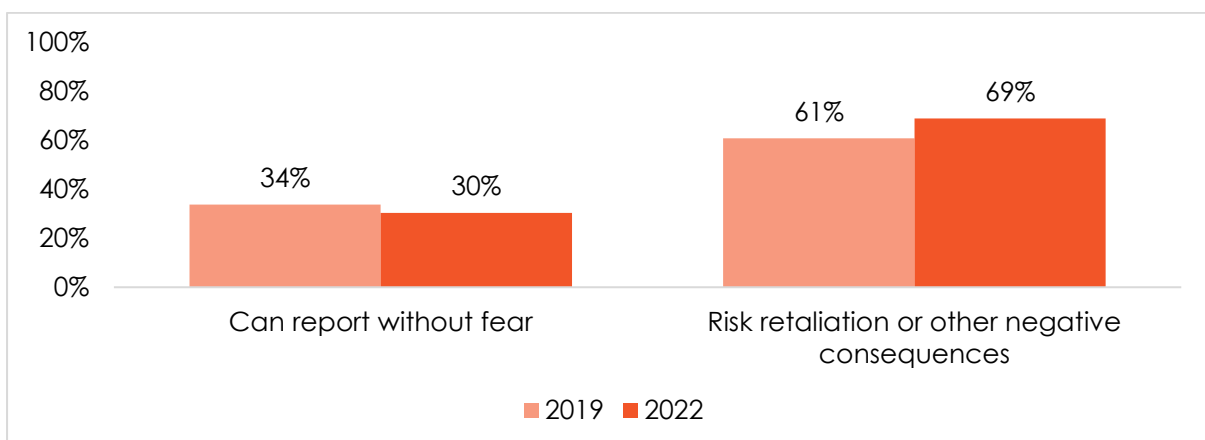
Respondents were asked: In your opinion, over the past year, has the level of corruption in this country increased, decreased, or stayed the same?

Figure 3: Who is corrupt? | Ghana | 2022



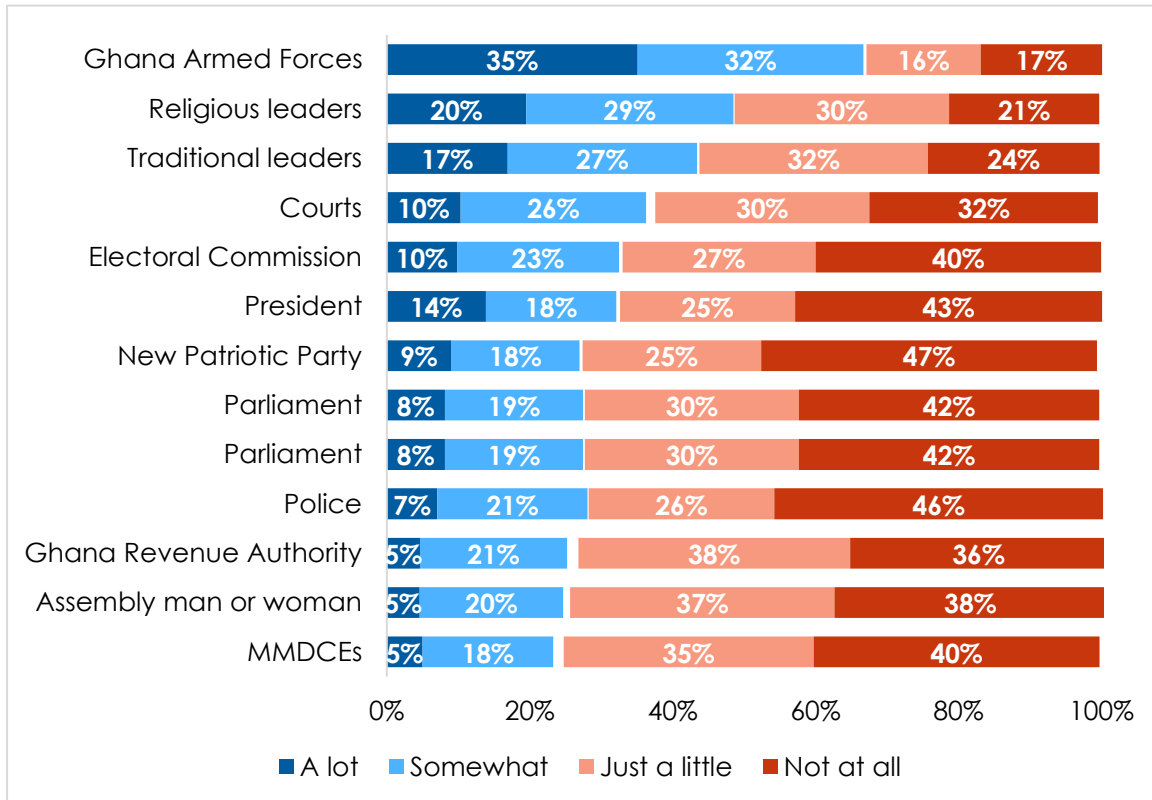
Respondents were asked: How many of the following people do you think are involved in corruption, or haven't you heard enough about them to say?

Figure 4: Risk of retaliation for reporting corruption | Ghana | 2019-2022



Respondents were asked: In this country, can ordinary people report incidents of corruption without fear, or do they risk retaliation or other negative consequences if they speak out?

Figure 5: Trust in institutions | Ghana | 2022



Respondents were asked: How much do you trust each of the following, or haven't you heard enough about them to say?

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