

Lobito-Benguela, Angola
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News release

Majority of Angolans say physical disciplining of children occurs frequently in their communities, Afrobarometer survey shows

A majority of Angolans say adults in their community frequently use physical force to discipline their children, even though more than half of citizens believe that this practice is never justified, according to a recent Afrobarometer survey.

A majority also report that child abuse and neglect are widespread in their communities. This view is particularly common in urban areas and among more educated citizens.

These findings contrast with the government's aim of "preventing and combating violence against children" as part of its 11 child-welfare commitments adopted in 2007 and updated in 2017.

Key findings

- More than six in 10 Angolans (63%) say physical disciplining of children is "somewhat frequent" or "very frequent" in their communities (Figure 1).
 - Urban residents are more likely than rural residents to report that adults frequently use physical force to discipline their children (67% vs. 56%) (Figure 2).
 - The view that physical disciplining of children is a frequent occurrence is also more common among citizens with secondary (69%) or post-secondary (63%) education than among those with less schooling (53%-58%).
- A majority (54%) of Angolans say it is "never justified" for parents to discipline their children using physical force. About one-third (32%) say it is "sometimes justified," and 12% see it as "always justified" (Figure 3).
 - A majority of older respondents (52%) and citizens without formal education (53%) consider it "sometimes" or "always" justified for parents to use physical force as a way to discipline their children (Figure 4). The practice is also more widely accepted in rural areas (49%) than in cities (41%).
- More than half of citizens (54%) report that child abuse and neglect occur "somewhat frequently" (32%) or "very frequently" (22%) in their communities (Figure 5).
 - Urban residents (59%) and women (57%) are more likely than rural residents (45%) and men (52%) to say child abuse and neglect are common. This perception increases with respondents' education level, ranging from 37% of those with no formal schooling to 62% of those with post-secondary qualifications (Figure 6).

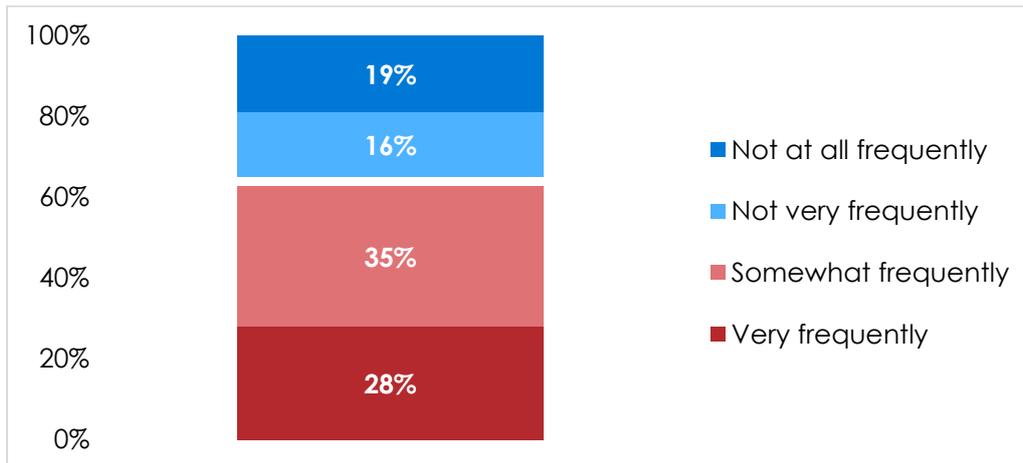
Afrobarometer

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 Angola, led by Ovilongwa – Estudos de Opinião Pública, interviewed a nationally representative sample of 1,200 adult Angolans between 9 February and 8 March 2022. A sample of this size yields country-level results with a margin of error of +/-3 percentage points at a 95% confidence level. A previous survey was conducted in Angola in 2019.

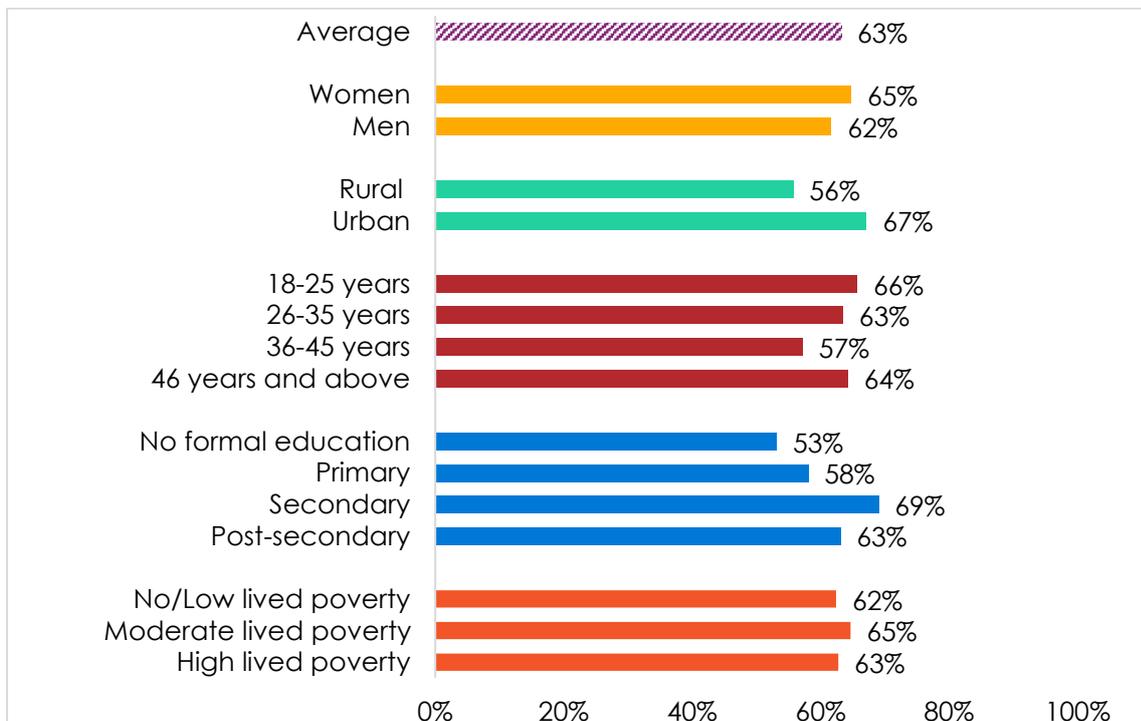
Charts

Figure 1: How often do adults physically discipline their children? | Angola | 2022



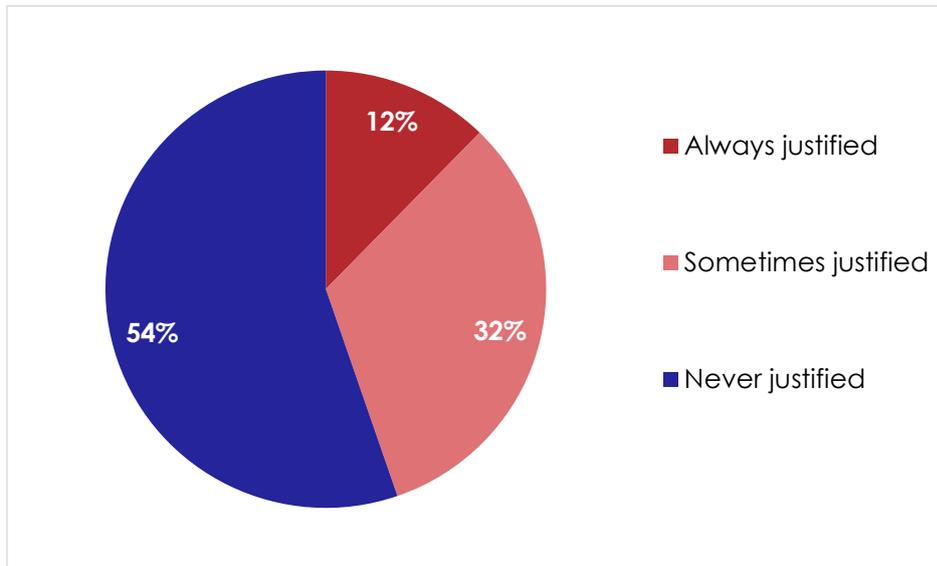
Respondents were asked: How frequently do you think the following things occur in your community or neighbourhood: Adults use physical force to discipline children?

Figure 2: Adults frequently physically discipline their children | by socio-demographic group | Angola | 2022



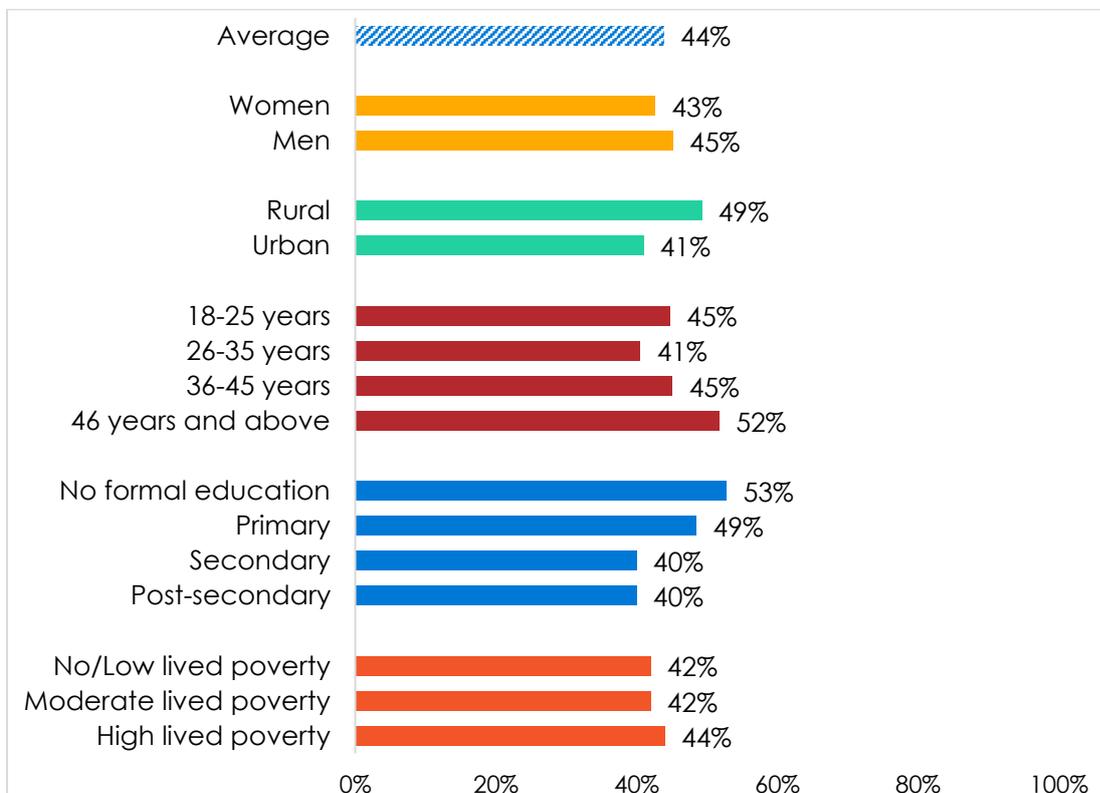
Respondents were asked: How frequently do you think the following things occur in your community or neighbourhood: Adults use physical force to discipline children? (% who say “very frequently” or “somewhat frequently”)

Figure 3: Is it justified for parents to physically discipline their children? | Angola
 | 2022



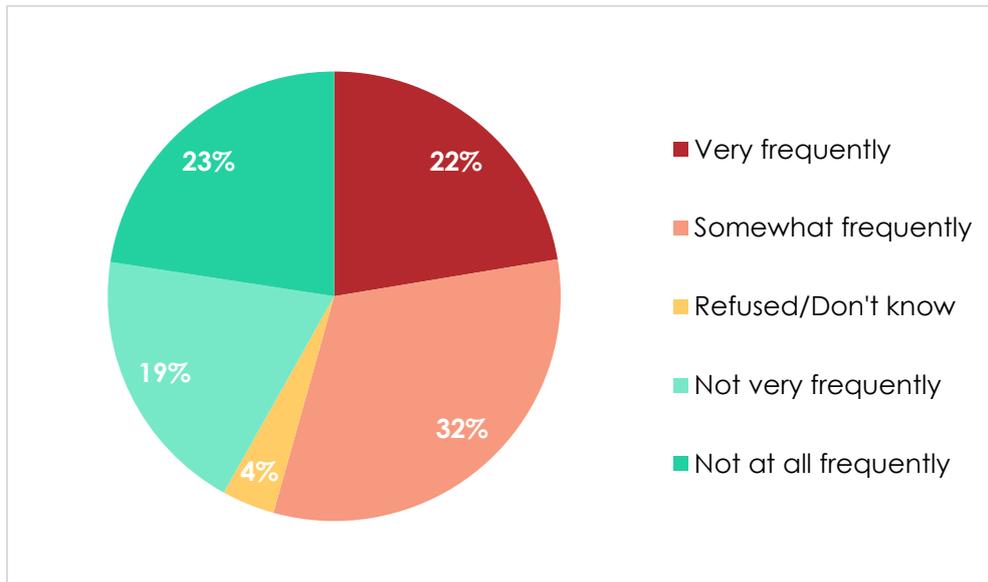
Respondents were asked: For each of the following actions, please tell me whether you think it can always be justified, sometimes be justified, or never be justified: For parents to use physical force to discipline their children?

Figure 4: Physically disciplining children sometimes/always justified | by socio-demographic group | Angola | 2022



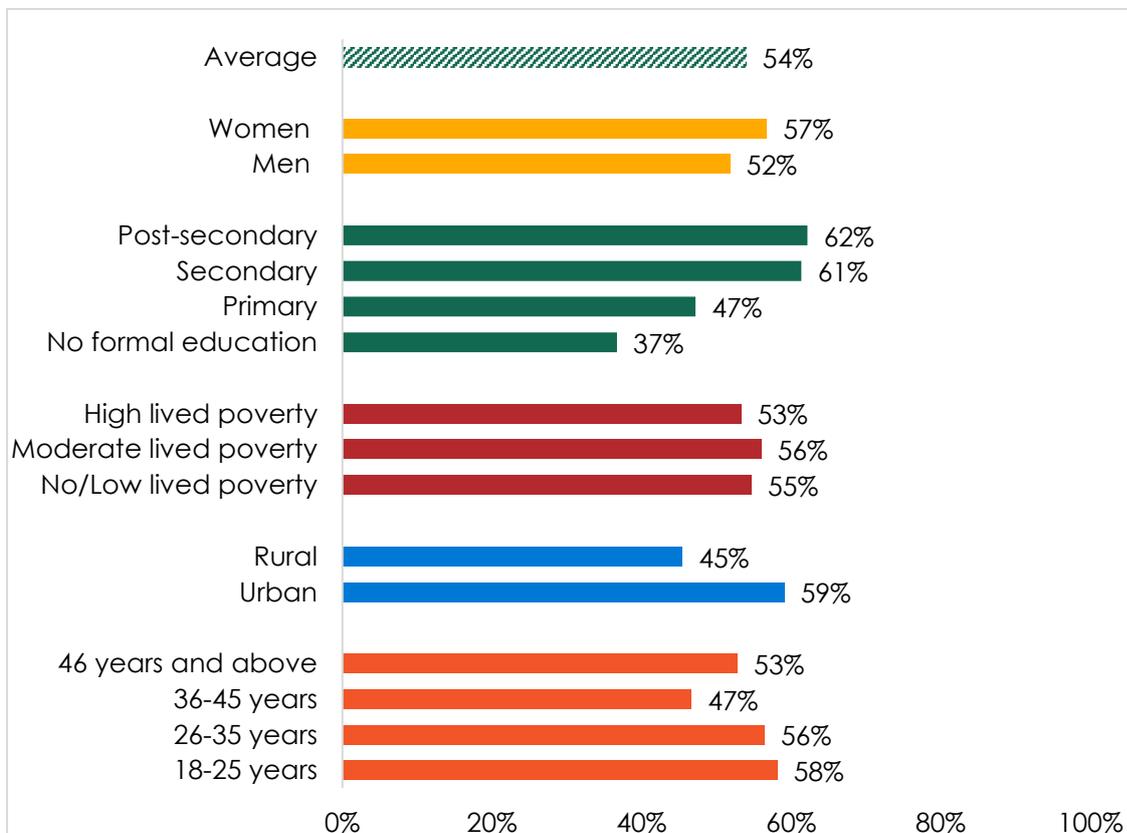
Respondents were asked: For each of the following actions, please tell me whether you think it can always be justified, sometimes be justified, or never be justified: For parents to use physical force to discipline their children? (% who say "sometimes justified" or "always justified")

Figure 5: Frequency of child abuse and neglect | Angola | 2022



Respondents were asked: How frequently do you think the following things occur in your community or neighbourhood: Children are abused, mistreated, or neglected?

Figure 6: Child abuse and neglect occur frequently | by socio-demographic group | Angola | 2022



Respondents were asked: How frequently do you think the following things occur in your community or neighbourhood: Children are abused, mistreated, or neglected? (% who say "very frequently" or "somewhat frequently")

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