

Port-Louis, Mauritius
8 July 2022

News release

Mauritians see growing corruption and poor government performance, express mistrust of the political class

Almost three-quarters of Mauritians say the level of corruption in the country has increased over the past year, and majorities express mistrust of institutions and elected leaders, according to the latest Afrobarometer survey.

Low levels of popular trust mark the political class, including the ruling and opposition parties, the president, the prime minister, and the National Assembly. Many Mauritians see widespread corruption in these and other key institutions.

Nearly half of citizens do not approve of the performance of the prime minister, members of the National Assembly, and the president.

In addition, Mauritians give the government poor grades on keeping prices stable, narrowing income gaps, creating jobs, and other key issues.

Key findings

- A majority of Mauritians express “just a little trust” or “no trust at all” in the nation’s political institutions and leaders, including the president (59%), the prime minister (54%), the National Assembly (57%), municipal and district councils (57%), and both ruling (56%) and opposition parties (58%) (Figure 1).
- More than seven in 10 Mauritians (72%) say the level of corruption in the country increased “somewhat” or “a lot” over the past year (Figure 2).
- Nearly three-quarters (72%) of Mauritians believe that people who report acts of corruption to the authorities are at risk of retaliation or other negative consequences (Figure 3).
- Almost three in 10 citizens say “most” or “all” officials in the prime minister’s office (29%) and members of the National Assembly (28%) are corrupt, while large majorities see at least “some” corruption among all key public institutions and leaders the survey asked about (Figure 4).
- Large majorities say the government is doing “very badly” or “fairly badly” at keeping prices stable (91%), narrowing income gaps (83%), creating jobs (81%), reducing crime (78%), and fighting corruption (76%) (Figure 5).
- Half (50%) of Mauritians approve of the job performance of their elected municipal or district councillors. Fewer give positive performance ratings to Prime Minister Pravind Jugnauth (47%), their members of the National Assembly (42%), and President Prithviraj Roopun (31%) (Figure 6).

Afrobarometer surveys

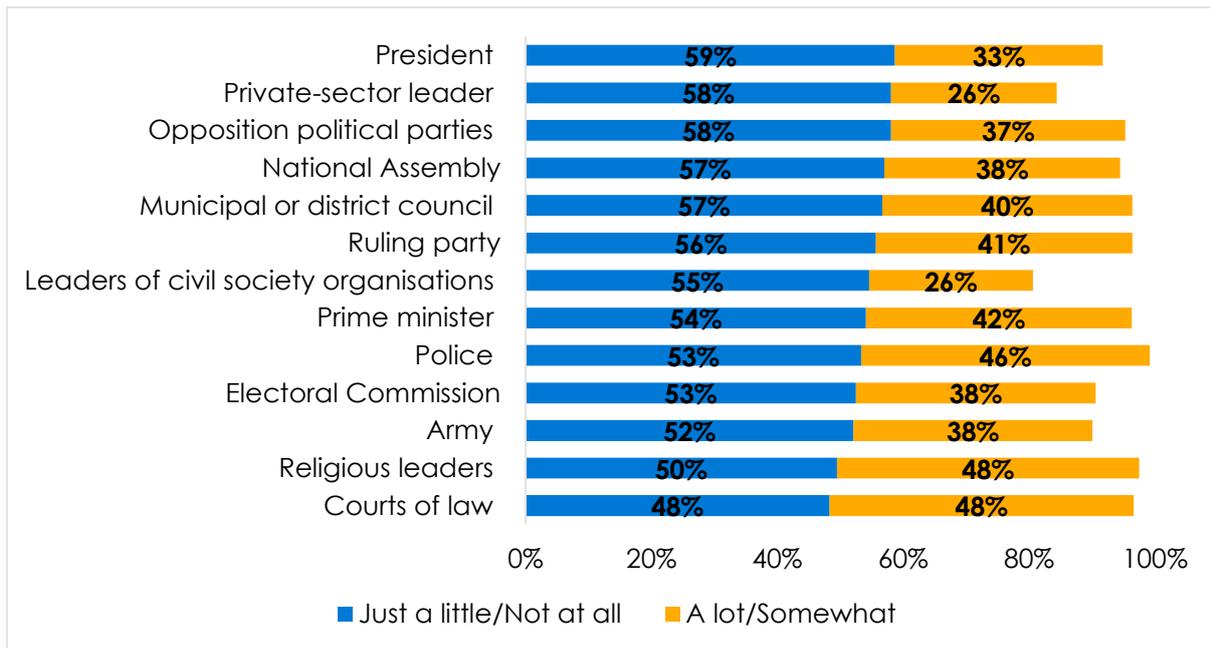
Afrobarometer is a pan-African, non-partisan survey research network that provides reliable data on African experiences and evaluations of democracy, governance, and quality of life. Eight survey rounds in up to 39 countries have been completed since 1999. Round 9 surveys

(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 Mauritius, led by StraConsult Ltd., interviewed a nationally representative sample of 1,200 adult Mauritians in 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. Previous surveys were conducted in Mauritius in 2012, 2014, 2017, and 2020.

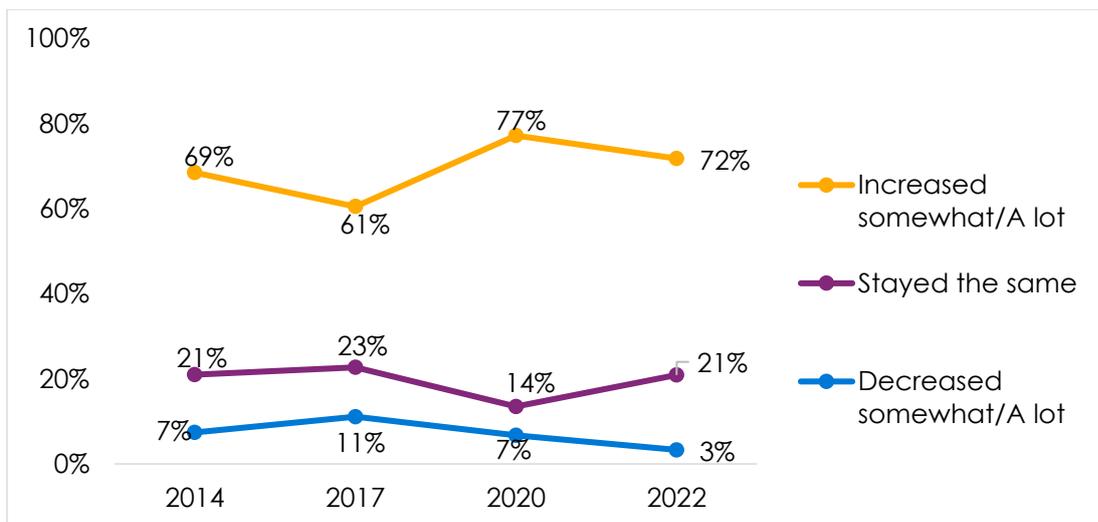
Charts

Figure 1: Trust in institutions and public leaders | Mauritius | 2022



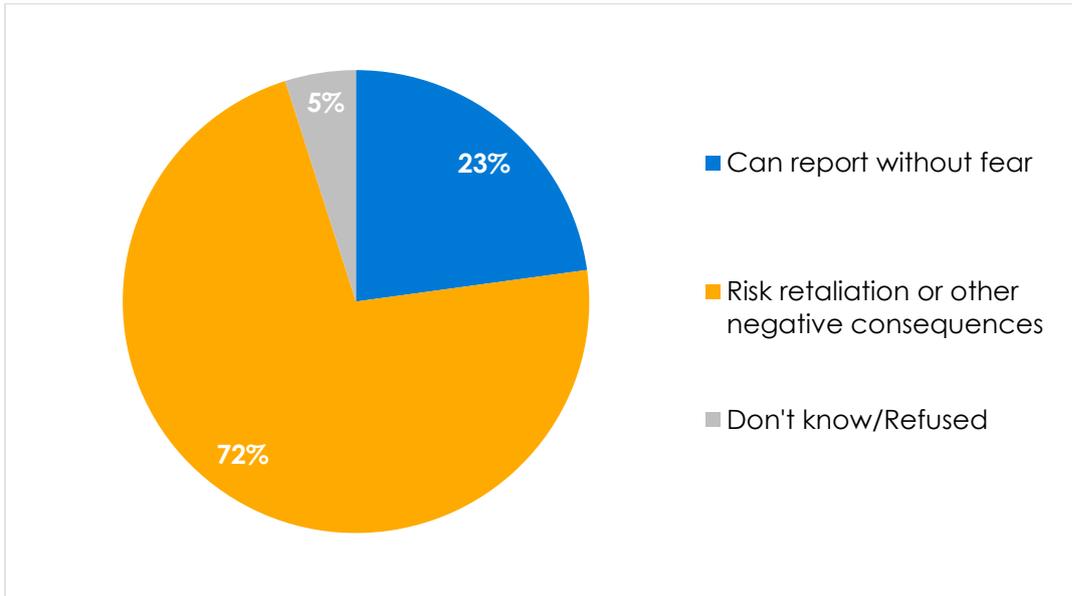
Respondents were asked: How much do you trust each of the following, or haven't heard enough about them to say?

Figure 2: Perceptions of the level of corruption | Mauritius | 2022



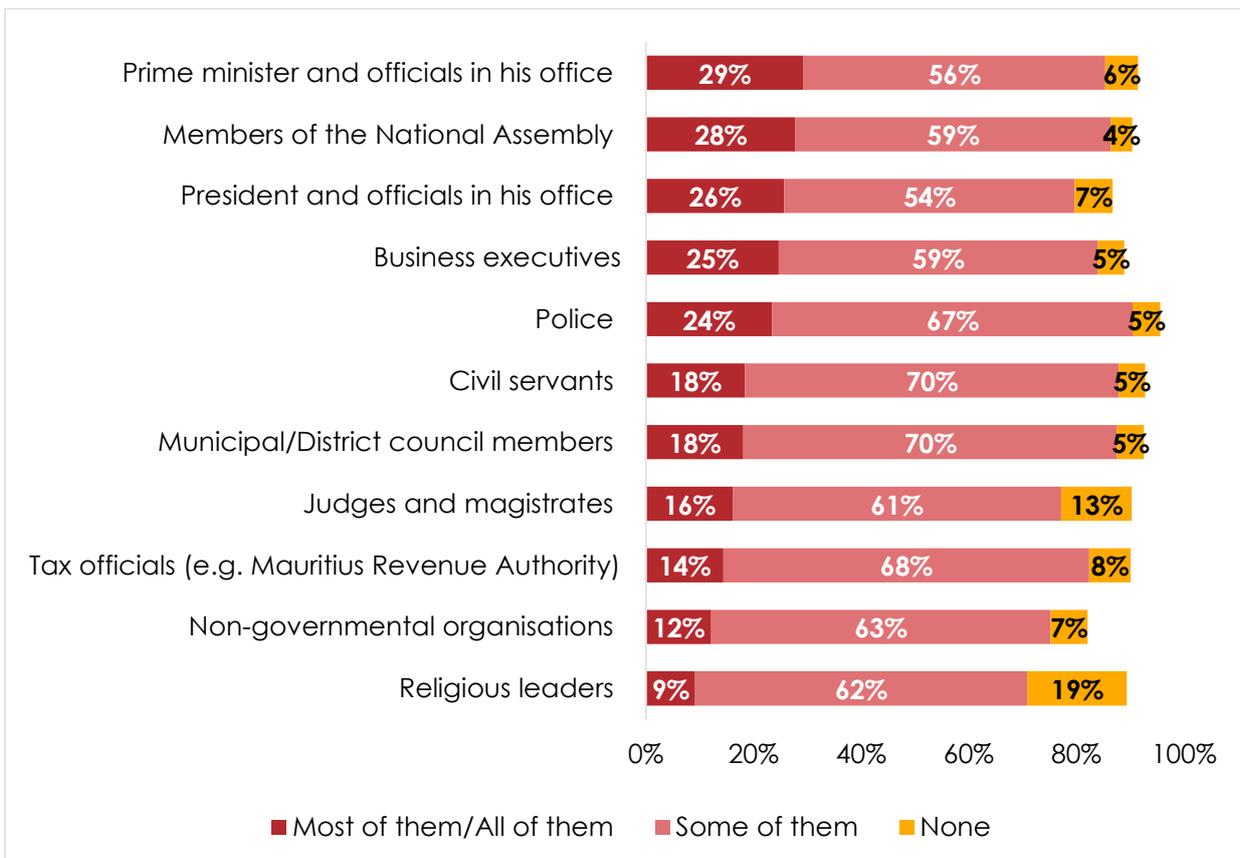
Respondents were asked: In your opinion, over the past year, has the level of corruption in this country increased, decreased, or stayed the same?

Figure 3: Can people report incidents of corruption without fear? | Mauritius | 2022



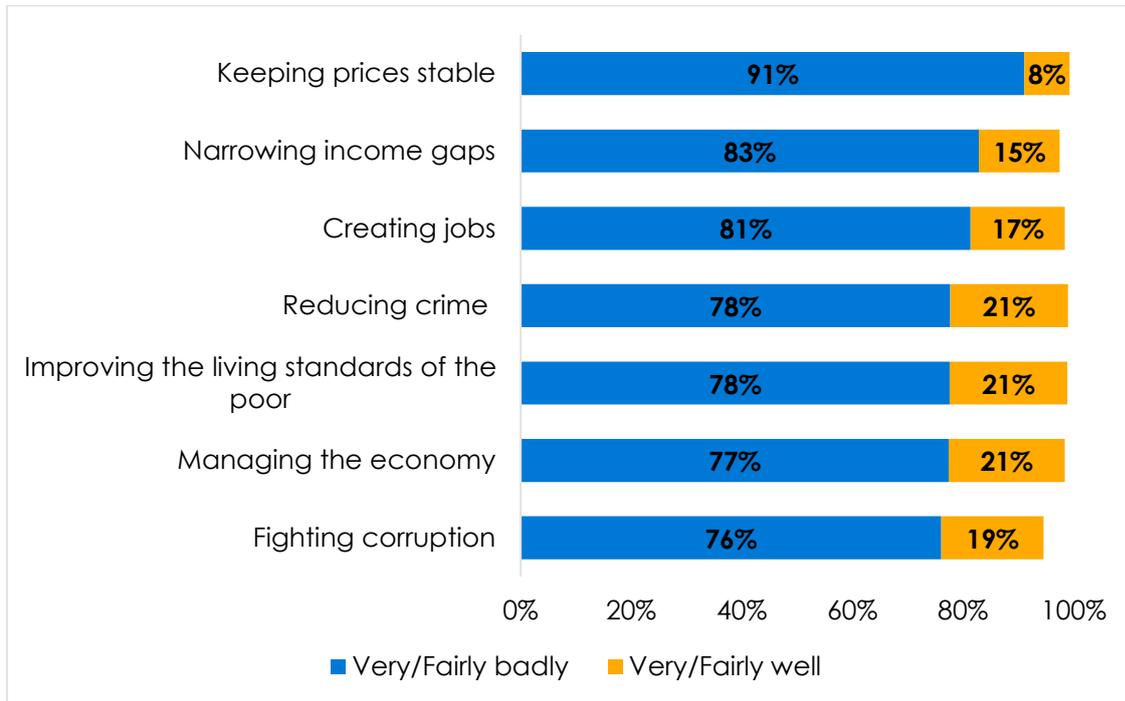
Respondents were asked: In this country, can ordinary people report incidents of corruption without fear, or do they risk retaliation or other negative consequences if they speak out?

Figure 4: Involvement in corruption | Mauritius | 2022



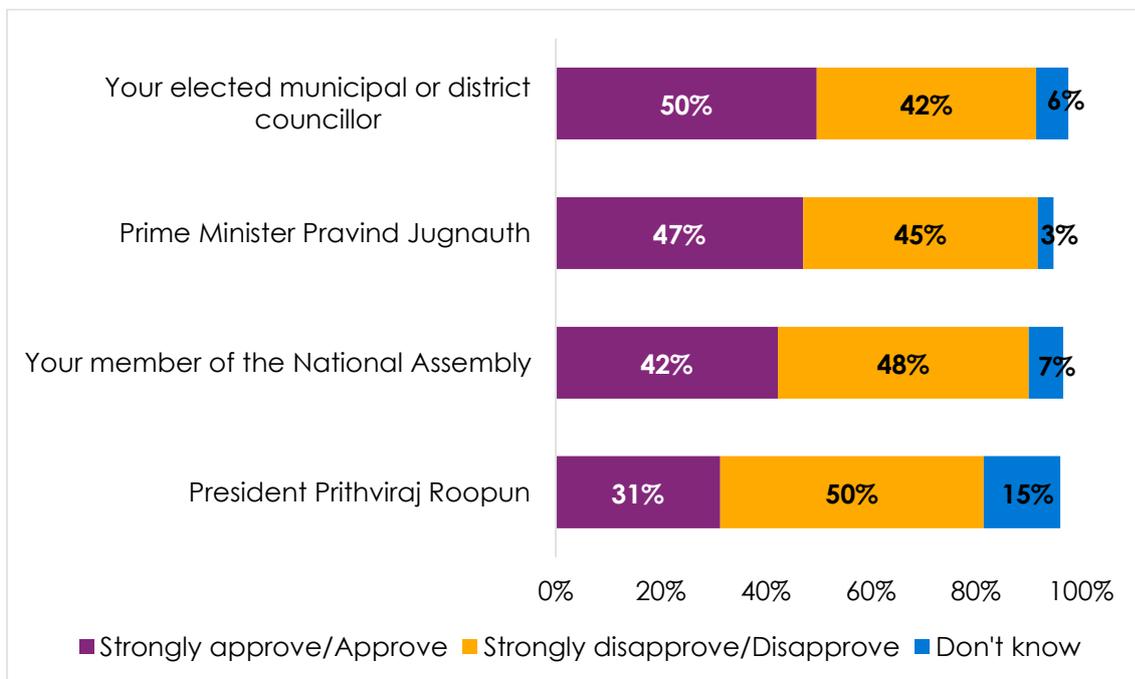
Respondents were asked: How many of the following people do you think are involved in corruption, or haven't you heard enough about them to say?

Figure 5: Government performance | Mauritius | 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 6: Performance of elected leaders | Mauritius | 2022



Respondents were asked: Do you approve or disapprove of the way that the following people have performed their jobs over the past 12 months, or haven't you heard about them to say?

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