

Port-Louis, Mauritius  
8 November 2022

## News release

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### Mauritians' assessments of local government show mixed – and declining – levels of satisfaction and trust

Mauritians offer mixed, and declining, assessments of their elected municipal and district councillors' performance and trustworthiness, according to the latest Afrobarometer survey.

Only half of citizens think their local officials are doing a good job, and even fewer say they trust them.

Most citizens believe that at least some local government councillors are involved in corruption.

But majorities give local government good marks for maintaining street lights, keeping the community clean, and maintaining the local market and public buildings.

#### Key findings

- Half (50%) of Mauritians "approve" or "strongly approve" of the performance of their elected local government councillors, while 42% "disapprove" or "strongly disapprove." Approval has declined by 11 percentage points since 2014 (Figure 1).
- Only four in 10 Mauritians (40%) say they trust their municipality or district council "somewhat" or "a lot," a 12-percentage-point decline since 2014 (Figure 2). A similar proportion (38%) express "just a little" trust, while 19% say they don't trust their council at all.
- About one in five citizens (18%) say "most" or "all" of their local government councillors are involved in corruption, while 70% say "some of them" are (Figure 3). These numbers have not varied greatly over the past eight years.
- Majorities of Mauritians say local government councillors are doing "fairly well" or "very well" in maintaining street lights (75%), keeping the community clean (72%), and maintaining the local market (60%) and public buildings (54%). Fewer approve of councillors' performance in maintaining local roads (50%) and managing derelict land (34%) and private buildings (31%) (Figure 4).
- Only a minority of respondents say it is "somewhat" or "very" likely that they would be able to obtain information from their local government councillors about a contract for a government-funded project or purchase (25%) or about their local development plan and budget (30%) (Figure 5).
- Almost half of Mauritians say it is "somewhat" or "very" likely that their local government councillors would take action if citizens reported corruption (49%) or requested assistance for a development project in the community (47%) (Figure 6).

#### Afrobarometer surveys

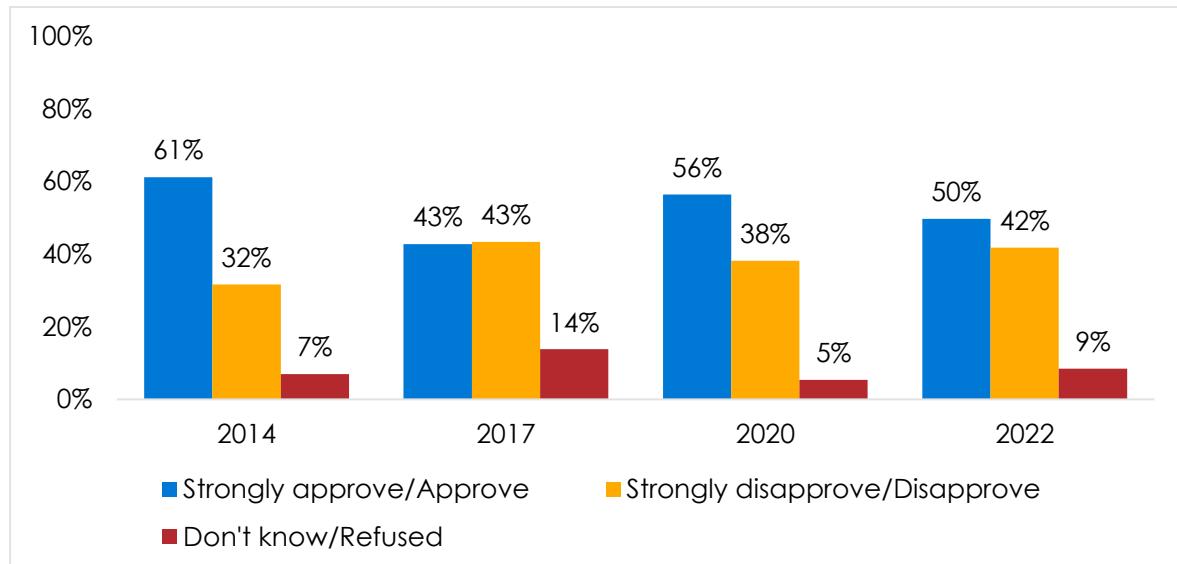
Afrobarometer is a pan-African, non-partisan survey research network that provides reliable data on African experiences and evaluations of democracy, governance, and quality of life. Eight survey rounds in up to 39 countries have been completed since 1999. Round 9 surveys

(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.

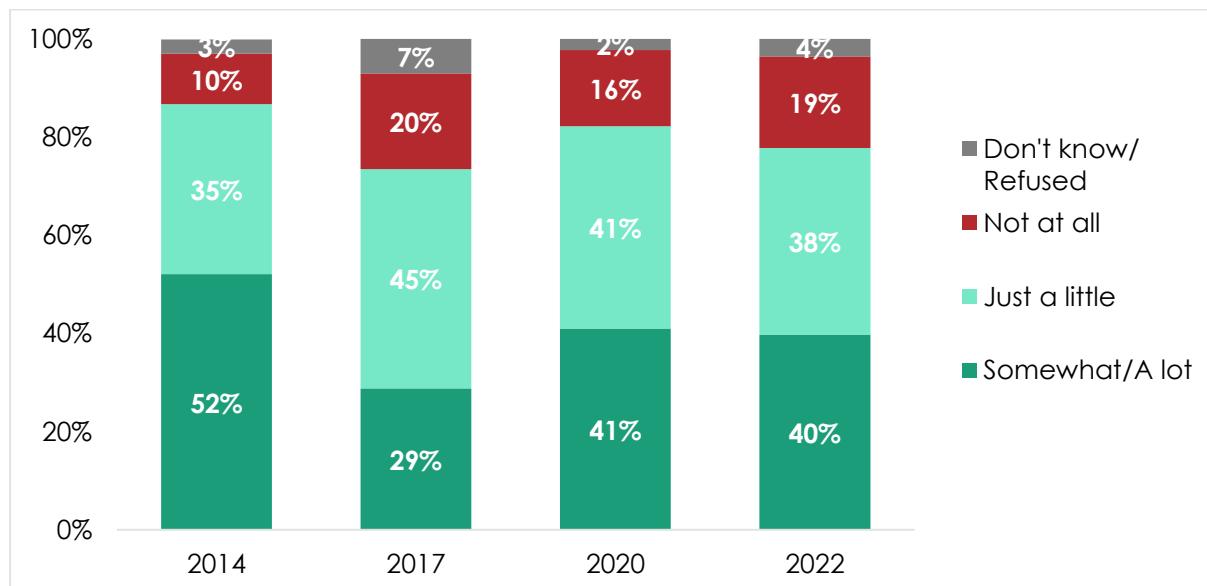
## Charts

**Figure 1: Performance of local government councillors | Mauritius | 2014-2022**



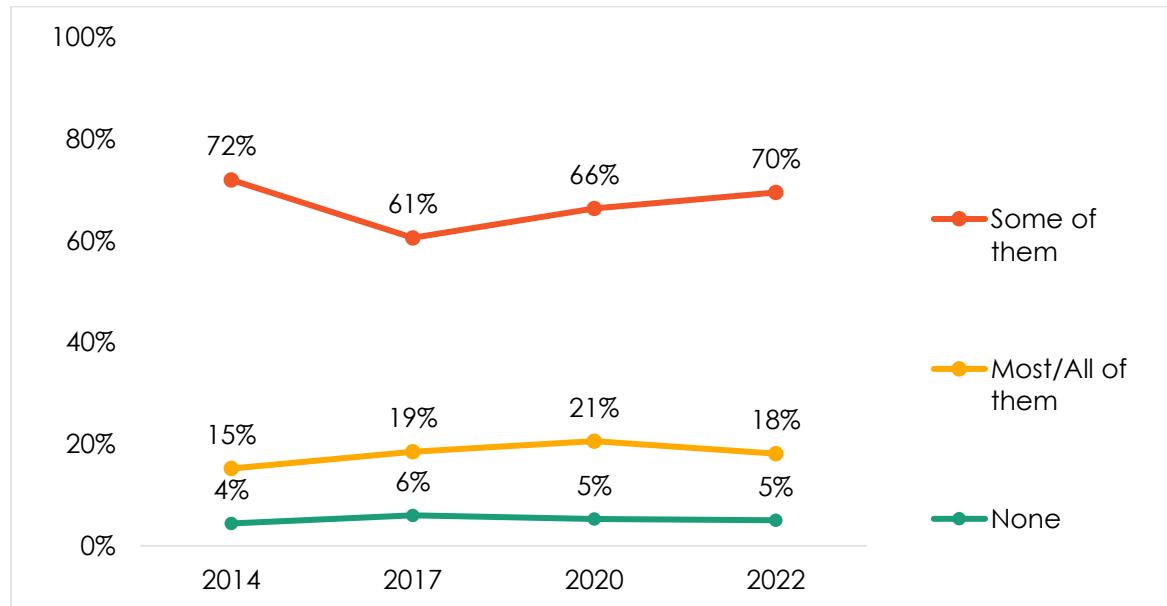
**Respondents were asked:** Do you approve or disapprove of the way that the following people have performed their jobs over the past 12 months, or haven't you heard enough about them to say: Your elected municipal or district councillor?

**Figure 2: Trust in municipality or district council | Mauritius | 2014-2022**



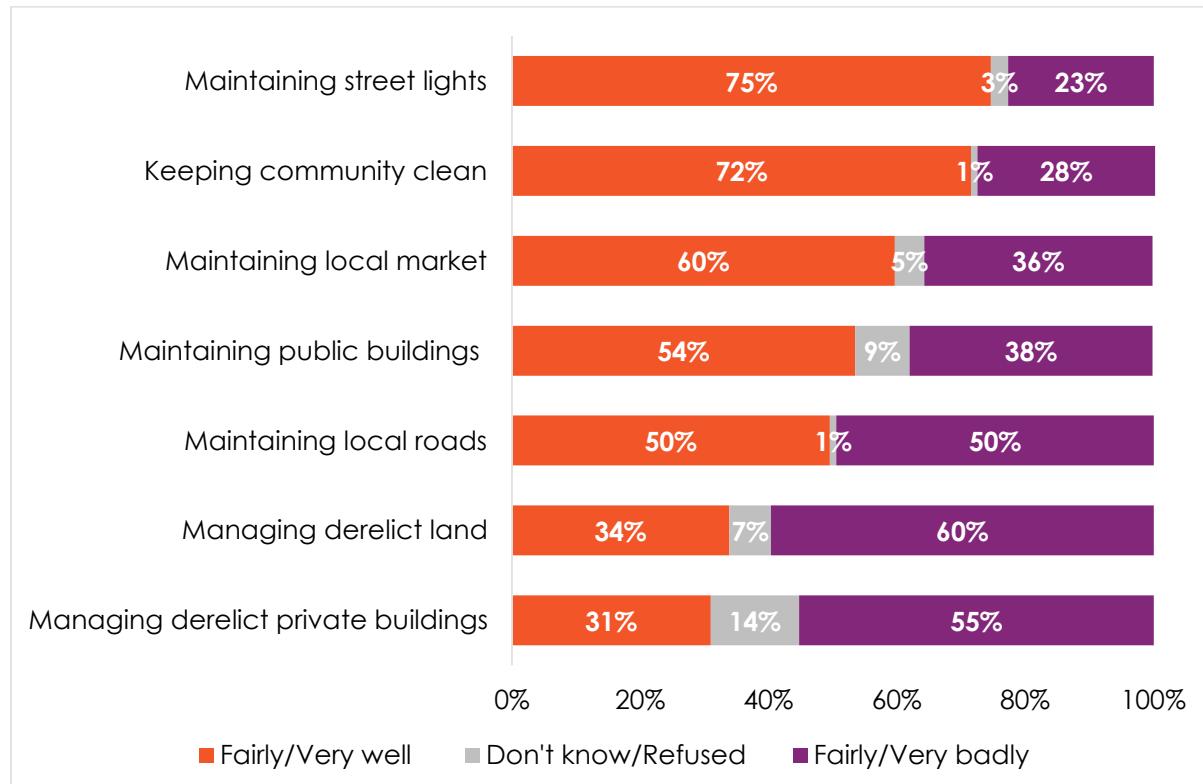
**Respondents were asked:** How much do you trust each of the following, or haven't you heard enough about them to say: Your municipality or district council?

**Figure 3: Perception of corruption among local government councillors | Mauritius | 2022**



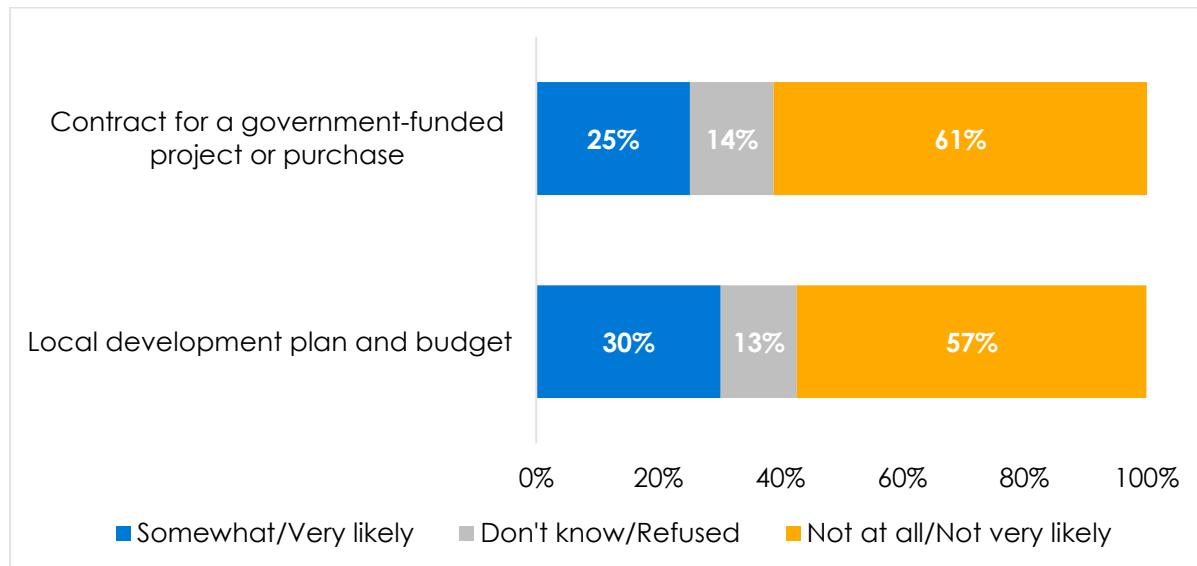
**Respondents were asked:** How many of the following people do you think are involved in corruption, or haven't you heard enough about them to say: Members of the municipality or district council?

**Figure 4: Job performance of local government councillors | Mauritius | 2022**



**Respondents were asked:** How well or badly would you say your municipality or district council is handling the following matters, or haven't you heard enough about them to say?

**Figure 5: Likelihood of obtaining information from local government councillors**  
 | Mauritius | 2022

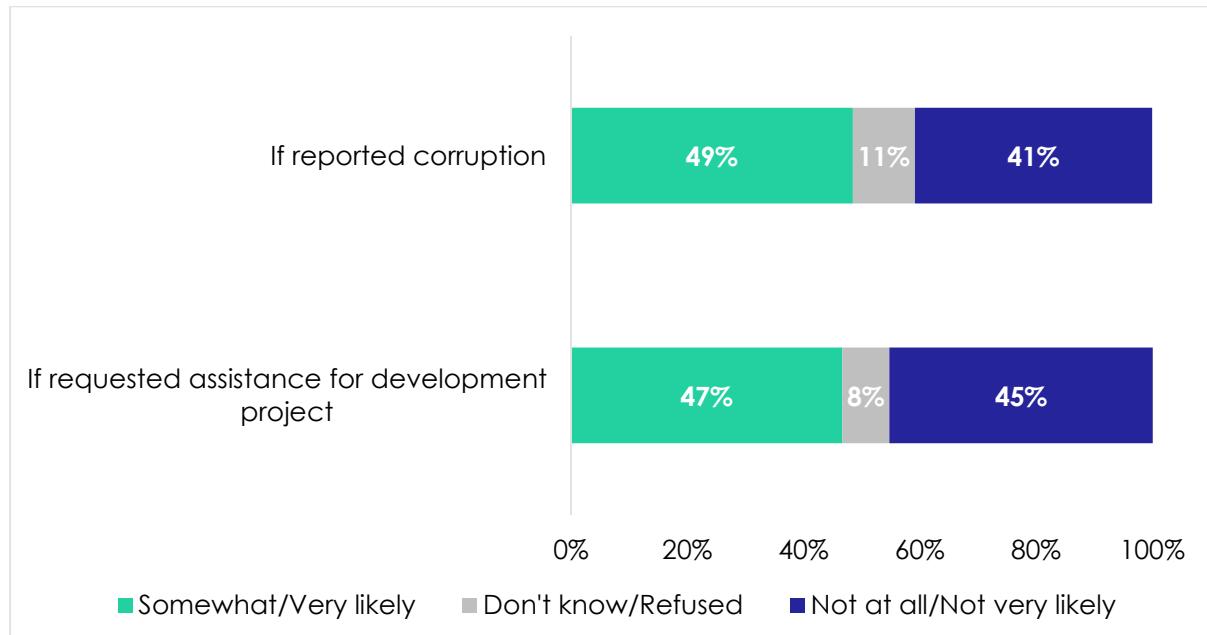


**Respondents were asked:** How likely is it that you could get the following information from government or other public institutions, or haven't you heard enough to say:

If you contacted your municipality or district council to find out about the local development plan and budget?

If you contacted your municipality or district council to request to see a contract for a government-funded project or purchase?

**Figure 6: Likelihood of local government councillors taking action | Mauritius | 2022**



**Respondents were asked:** How likely is it that you could get someone to take action:

If you went to a local leader or a municipality or district council to request assistance for a development project in your community, like an improved water supply or community clean-up activity?

If you went to a municipality or district council office or anti-corruption authority or ICAC to report corrupt behaviour like misuse of funds or requests for bribes?

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