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News release

Gender gaps persist in Morocco as men dominate financial decisions, enjoy privilege in hiring

In Morocco, significant gender inequalities are reflected in financial decision making and perceptions of who should be entitled to scarce jobs, according to the latest Afrobarometer survey.

Men are twice as likely as women to make decisions on how household monies are spent, survey findings show, and a majority of Moroccans say men should be given priority in hiring. Only a minority endorse gender equality in land ownership.

In contrast, a majority of Moroccans believe women should have an equal chance of being elected to public office.

Despite persistent gender gaps, a majority of respondents say the government is doing a good job of promoting equal rights and opportunities for women.

In line with its accession to the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, Morocco has pursued gender equality through legislative texts including its family code, though critics have called for reform of the nearly two-decade-old code.

Key findings

- Men are three times as likely as women to say they make decisions themselves about how household money is spent (46% vs. 15%) (Figure 1).
 - o Women are more likely than men to defer such decisions to their spouses or other family members (38% vs. 14%).
- Six in 10 Moroccans (59%) say that if jobs are scarce, men should have more rights to employment than women. Only about one-third (36%) endorse equal rights in hiring (Figure 2).
- Only about four in 10 citizens (42%) say women should have the same rights as men to own and inherit land. Almost half (48%) disagree (Figure 3).
- More than six in 10 Moroccans (62%) say women should have the same chance as men of being elected to public office. Only 42% of men agree, vs. 83% of women (Figure 4).
- Almost two-thirds (63%) of respondents say the government is doing a "fairly good" or "very good" job of promoting equal rights and opportunities for women. Men (69%), urban residents (66%), the most educated (68%), and the economically well off (65%) are more likely to approve of the government's performance (Figure 5).



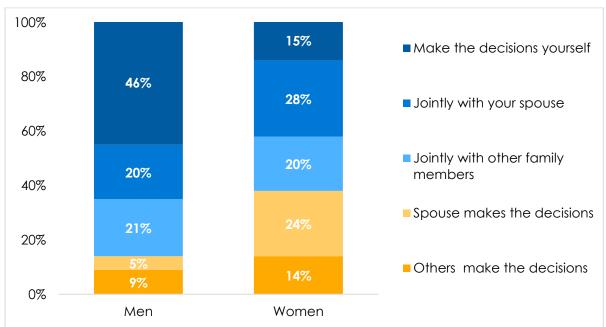
Afrobarometer surveys

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 (2021/2023) are currently underway. Afrobarometer's national partners conduct face-to-face interviews in the language of the respondent's choice.

The Afrobarometer team in Morocco, led by Global for Survey and Consulting (GSC), interviewed 1,200 adult Moroccans between 31 August and 19 September 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 Afrobarometer surveys were conducted in Morocco in 2013, 2015, 2018, and 2021.

Charts

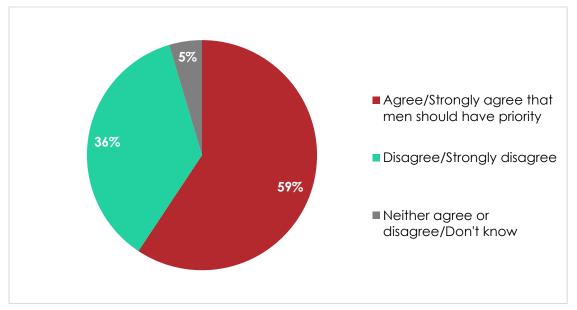




Respondents were asked: What is the main way that decisions are made about how to use any money that you have or earn, for example from a job, a business, selling things, or other activities?

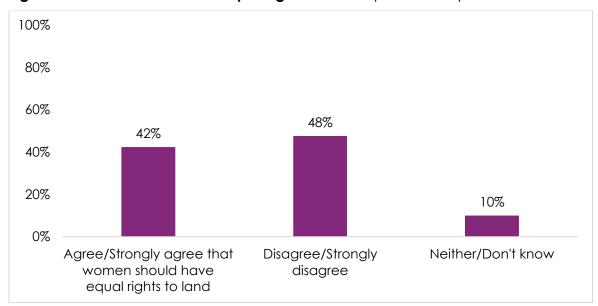


Figure 2: Should men have priority for scarce jobs? | Morocco | 2022



Respondents were asked: For each of the following statements, please tell me whether you disagree or agree: When jobs are scarce, men should have more rights to a job than women?

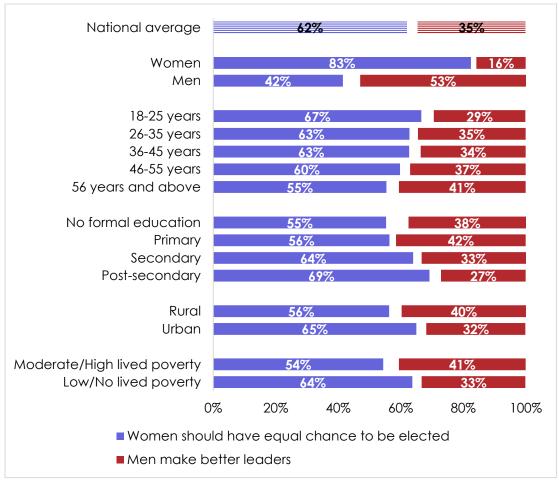
Figure 3: Should women have equal rights to land? | Morocco | 2022



Respondents were asked: For each of the following statements, please tell me whether you disagree or agree: Women should have the same rights as men to own and inherit land?



Figure 4: Should women have an equal chance to be elected? | by demographic group | Morocco | 2022

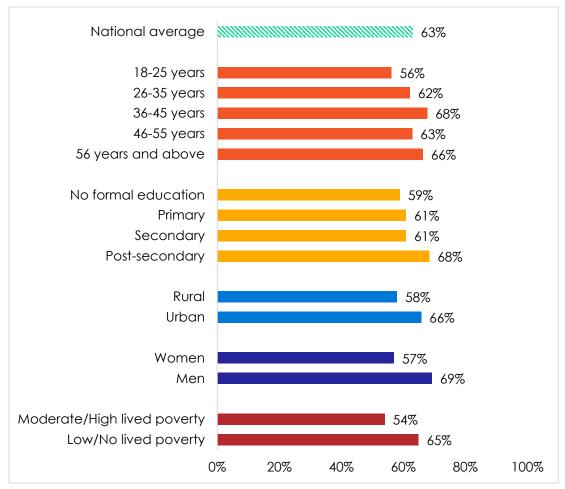


Respondents were asked: Which of the following statements is closest to your view? Statement 1: Men make better political leaders than women and should be elected rather than women.

Statement 2: Women should have the same chance of being elected to political office as men. (% who "agree" or "strongly agree" with each statement)



Figure 5: Government performance in promoting equal rights and opportunities for women | by demographic group | Morocco | 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: Promoting equal rights and opportunities for women? (% who say "fairly well" or "very well")

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