Lobito-Benguela, Angola
20 November 2024

News release

Majority of Angolans have considered moving abroad; Europe most preferred destination among potential emigrants

A majority of Angolans have considered moving to another country to live, a new Afrobarometer survey indicates.

Released ahead of International Migrants Day (18 December), the analysis shows that thoughts of emigrating are particularly common among the most educated Angolans, the youth, economically better-off citizens, urban residents, and those who have jobs.

Among citizens who have considered the idea, most cite work opportunities and economic hardship as the primary reasons for their desire to move. Europe is the most preferred destination for potential emigrants, followed by North America and South Africa.

Key findings

- A majority (57%) of Angolans say they have considered moving to another country "a little bit" (11%), "somewhat" (8%), or "a lot" (38%) (Figure 1).
    - Men are more likely to consider emigrating than women (60% vs. 54%), as are more educated respondents (72%-74%) compared to those with less schooling (27%-44%) and economically better-off respondents (62%) compared to their poorer counterparts (55%) (Figure 2).
    - Urbanites are twice as likely as rural residents to consider emigrating (70% vs. 34%), as are youth compared to those over age 45 (66% vs. 32%). Employed Angolans (66%) are more likely to consider moving to another country than those who don't have jobs (43%-60%).
    - Residents of Luanda (78%) and the Northern region (65%) are more likely to consider leaving the country than those living in other areas (Figure 3).
- Among those who have considered emigration, the most frequently cited reasons are economic: work opportunities (37%), economic hardship (22%), and poverty (12%) (Figure 4).
- The most popular destination for potential Angolan emigrants is Europe (39%), followed by North America (21%), South Africa (10%), and other countries outside of Africa (10%) (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. Nine survey rounds in up to 42 countries have been completed since 1999. Round 10 were launched in January 2024. 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 27 March

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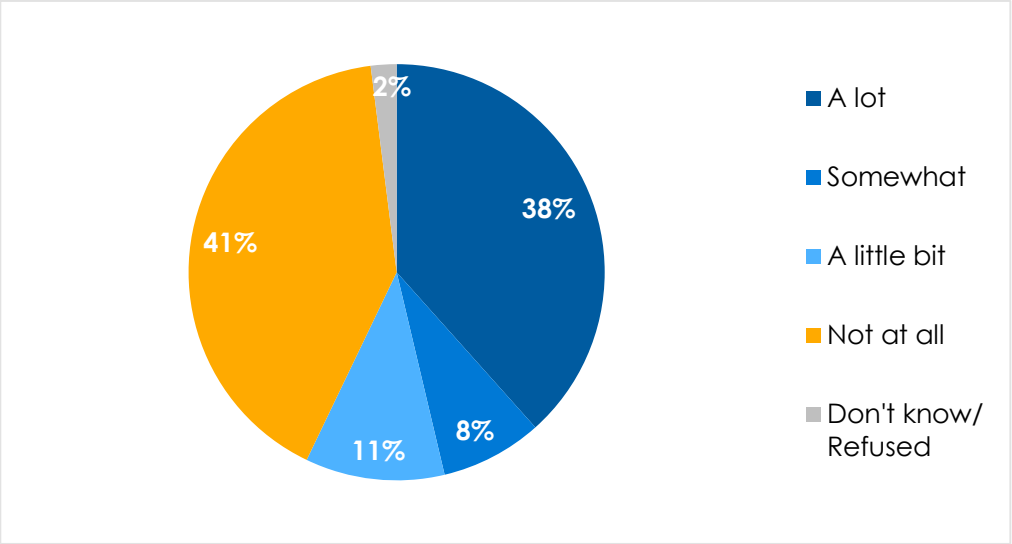
and 19 April 2024. A sample of this size yields country-level results with a margin of error of +/-3 percentage points at a 95% confidence level. Previous surveys were conducted in Angola in 2019 and 2022.

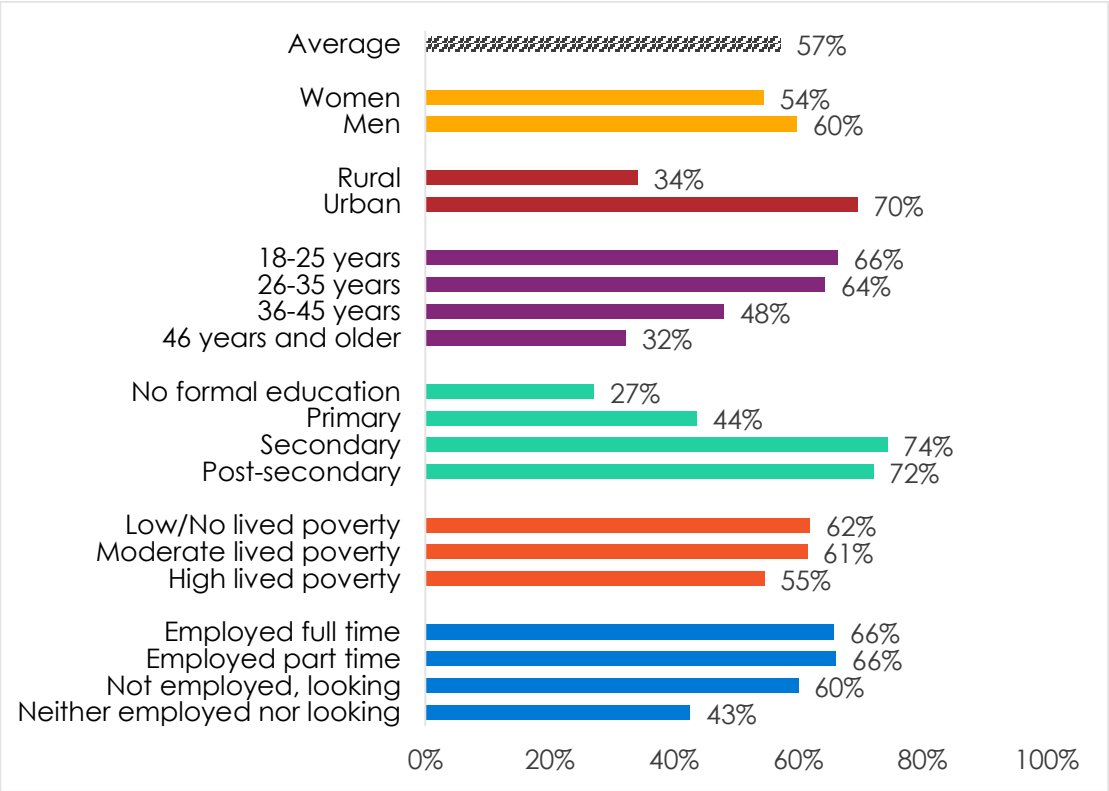
Charts

Figure 1: Considered emigrating | Angola | 2024



Respondents were asked: *How much, if at all, have you considered moving to another country to live?*

Figure 2: Considered emigrating | by demographic group | Angola | 2024



Respondents were asked: *How much, if at all, have you considered moving to another country to live? (% who say "a little bit," "somewhat," or "a lot")*

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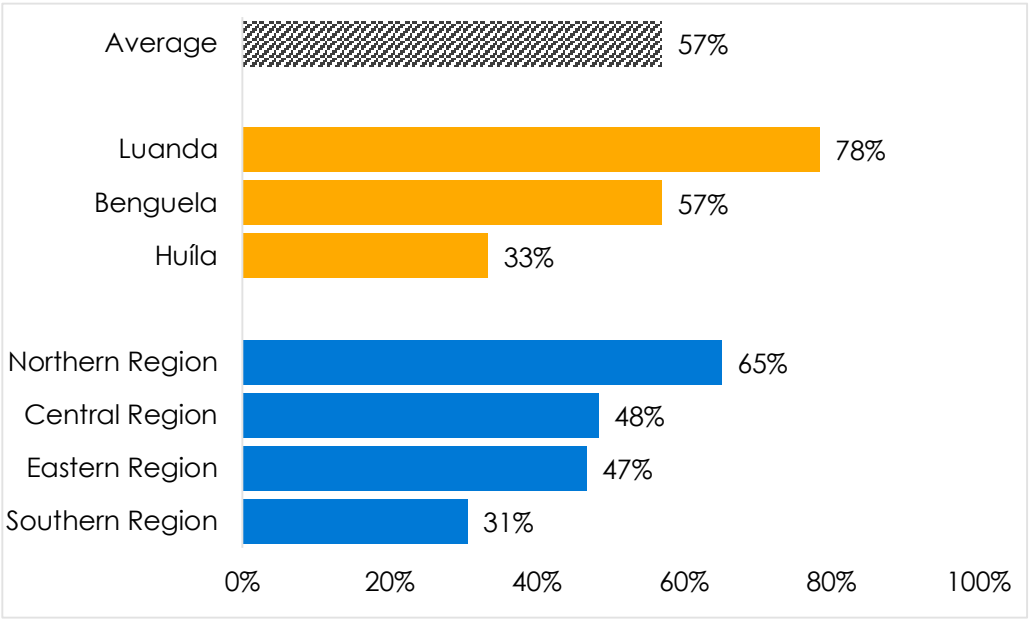
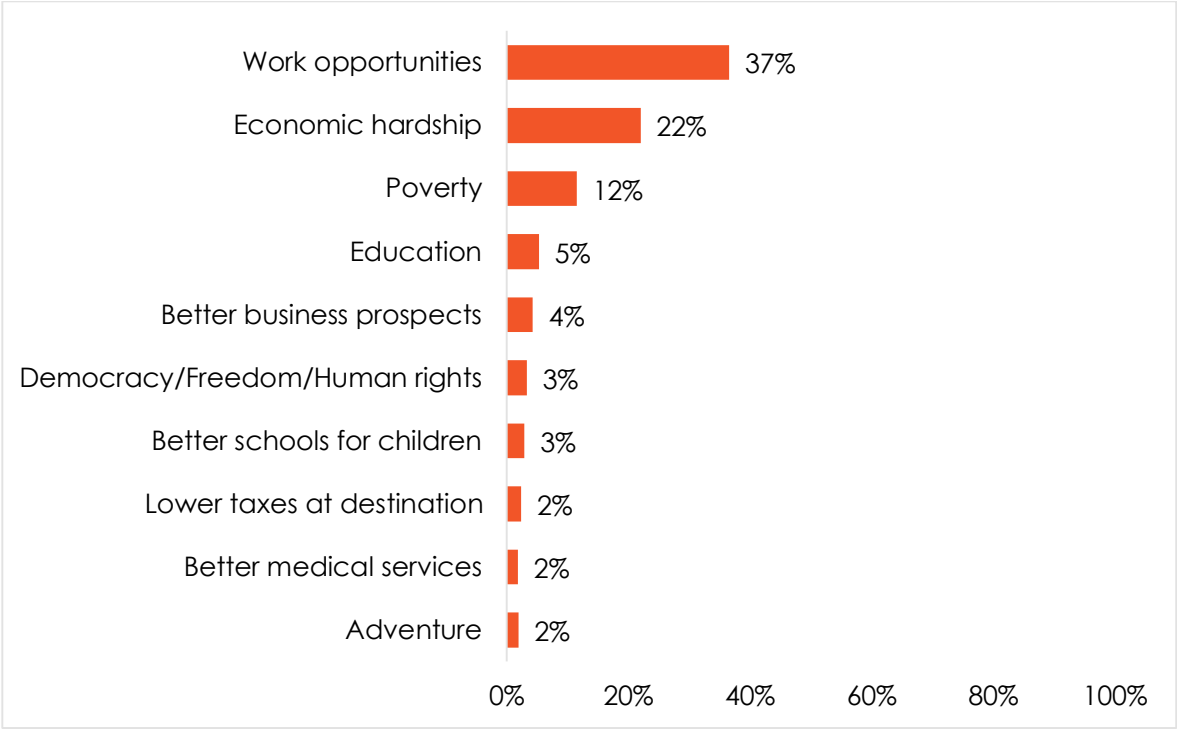
Figure 3: Considered emigrating | by location | Angola | 2024



Respondents were asked: *How much, if at all, have you considered moving to another country to live? (% who say "a little bit," "somewhat," or "a lot")*

Figure 4: Reasons for emigration | Angola | 2024



Respondents who say they have considered emigrating were asked: *There are several reasons why people leave their home to live in another country for an extended period of time. What about you? What is the most important reason why you would consider moving from Angola? (Respondents who say they have not considered emigrating are excluded.)*

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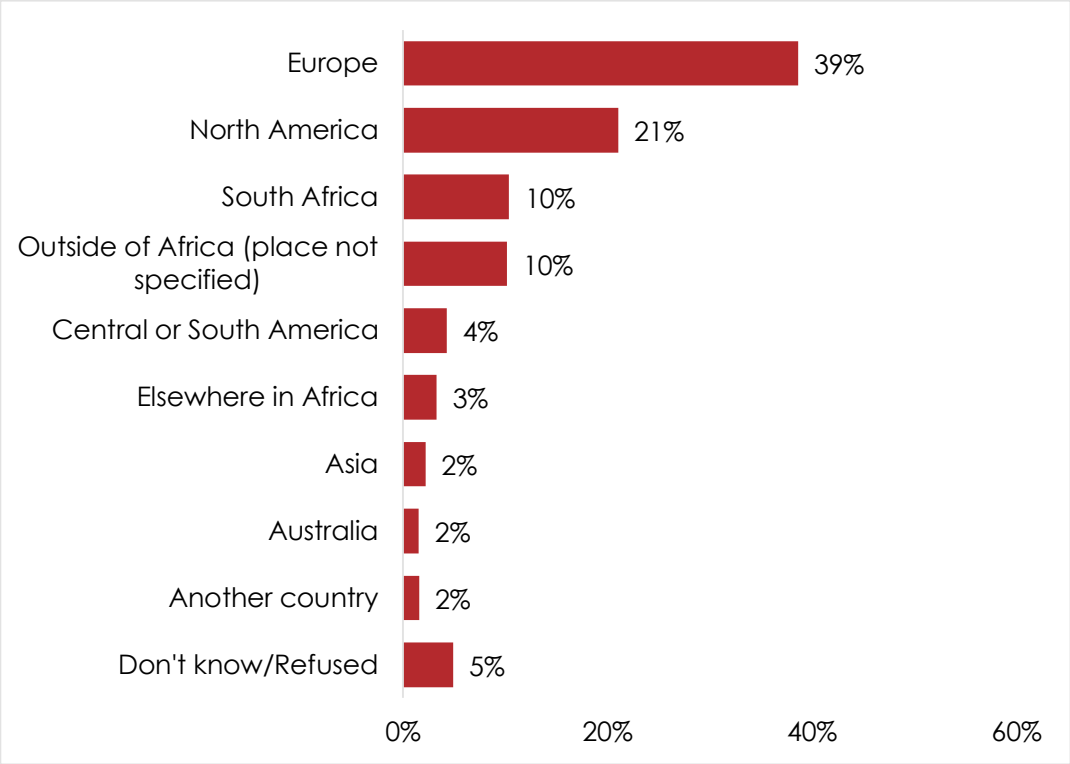
Figure 5: Preferred destination for emigration | Angola | 2024



Respondents who say they have considered emigrating were asked: *If you were to move to another country, where would you be most likely to go? (Respondents who say they have not considered emigrating are excluded.)*

For more information, please contact:

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