



Dar es Salaam, Tanzania  
6 January 2025

## News release

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### **Tanzanians call for government action on climate change, want developed countries to take greater responsibility**

Most Tanzanians who are aware of climate change believe that wealthy or developed countries should take steps now to limit climate change in the future, even if it is costly for those countries, the latest Afrobarometer survey shows.

A similarly large majority believe that rich countries most responsible for causing climate change should provide climate aid to Tanzania to help it adapt. Tanzanians also believe that the government must act immediately to limit climate change, even if this entails high costs, job losses, or economic challenges.

Awareness of climate change among Tanzanians has risen modestly since 2022, but a majority still have not heard of the concept. Awareness varies across education levels: Those with post-secondary education are four times as likely as those lacking formal schooling to exhibit awareness.

A large portion of those who know about climate change report that it is making life in the country worse.

The survey also shows that a significant majority of climate-aware Tanzanians believe that human activities are the primary cause of climate change.

#### **Key findings**

- About four in 10 Tanzanians (38%) are aware of climate change, a 6-percentage-point increase from the 2022 survey (32%) (Figure 1).
  - Awareness varies across education levels: Respondents with post-secondary education are four times as likely as those lacking formal education to have heard about climate change (76% vs. 19%) (Figure 2).
  - Urban residents (48%) and men (43%) are more likely to be aware of climate change than their rural counterparts (31%) and women (32%).
- Among Tanzanians who are aware of climate change:
  - Three-fourths (76%) believe human activities are the primary cause of climate change, while about one-fifth (18%) attribute it to natural processes (Figure 3).
  - Eight in 10 (80%) believe climate change is making life in Tanzania “somewhat worse” or “much worse” (Figure 4).
  - About four-fifths (82%) “agree” or “strongly agree” that the Tanzanian government must act immediately to limit climate change, even if it entails high costs, job losses, or economic challenges (Figure 5).
  - Significant majorities say wealthy or developed countries should take steps now to limit future climate change (89%) and should provide climate aid to Tanzania to help the country adapt (88%).

## 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 42 countries have been completed since 1999. Round 10 surveys 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 Tanzania, led by REPOA, interviewed a nationally representative sample of 2,400 adult Tanzanians in August-September 2024. A sample of this size yields country-level results with a margin of error of +/-2 percentage points at a 95% confidence level. Previous surveys were conducted in Tanzania in 2001, 2003, 2005, 2008, 2012, 2014, 2017, 2021, and 2022.

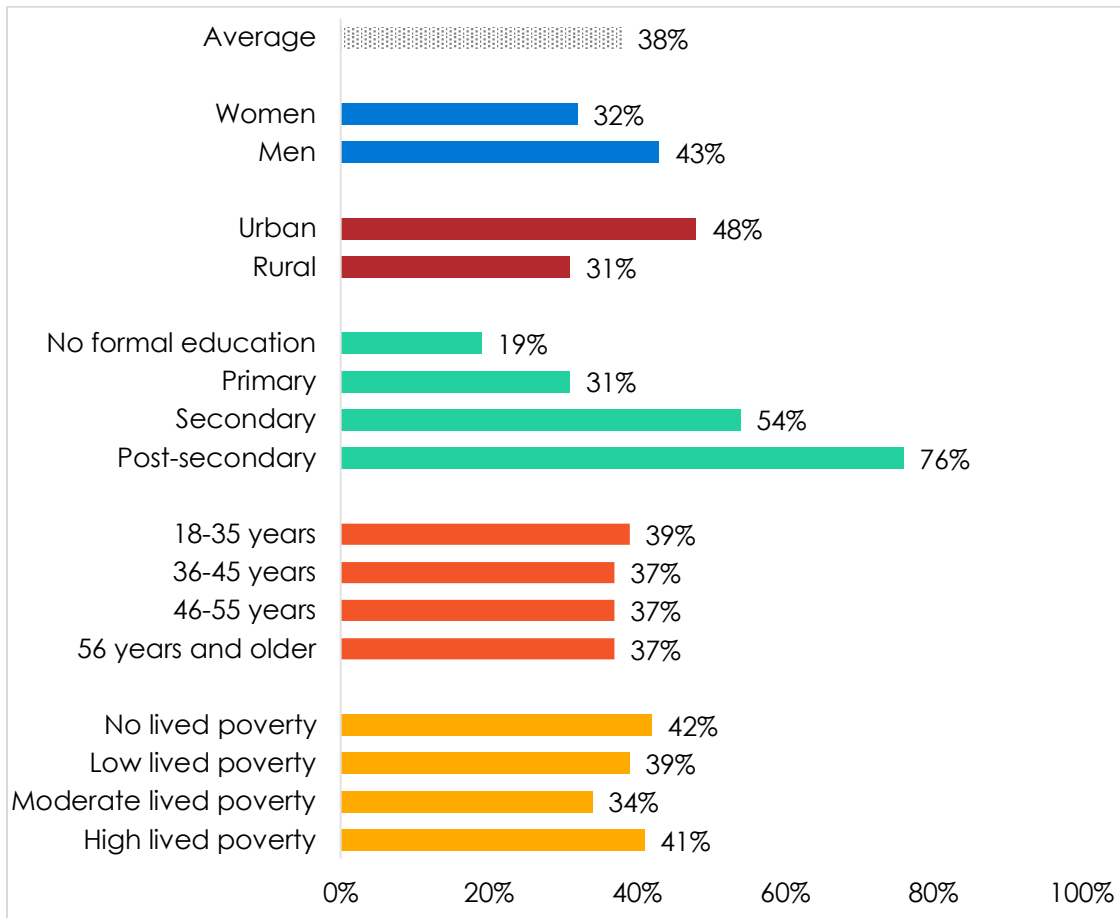
## Charts

**Figure 1: Awareness of climate change | Tanzania | 2017-2024**



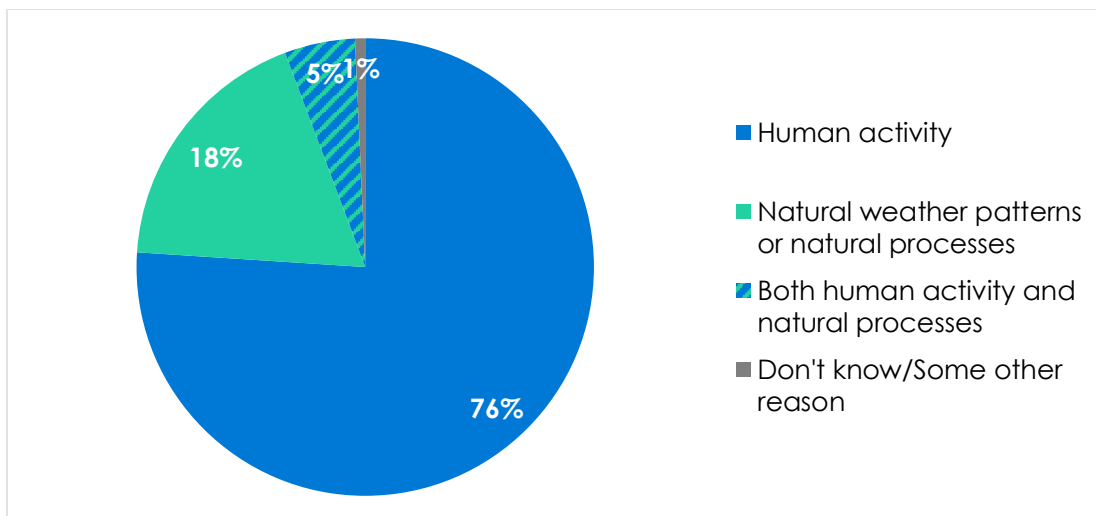
**Respondents were asked:** Have you heard about climate change, or haven't you had the chance to hear about this yet?

**Figure 2: Awareness of climate change** | by demographic group | Tanzania | 2024



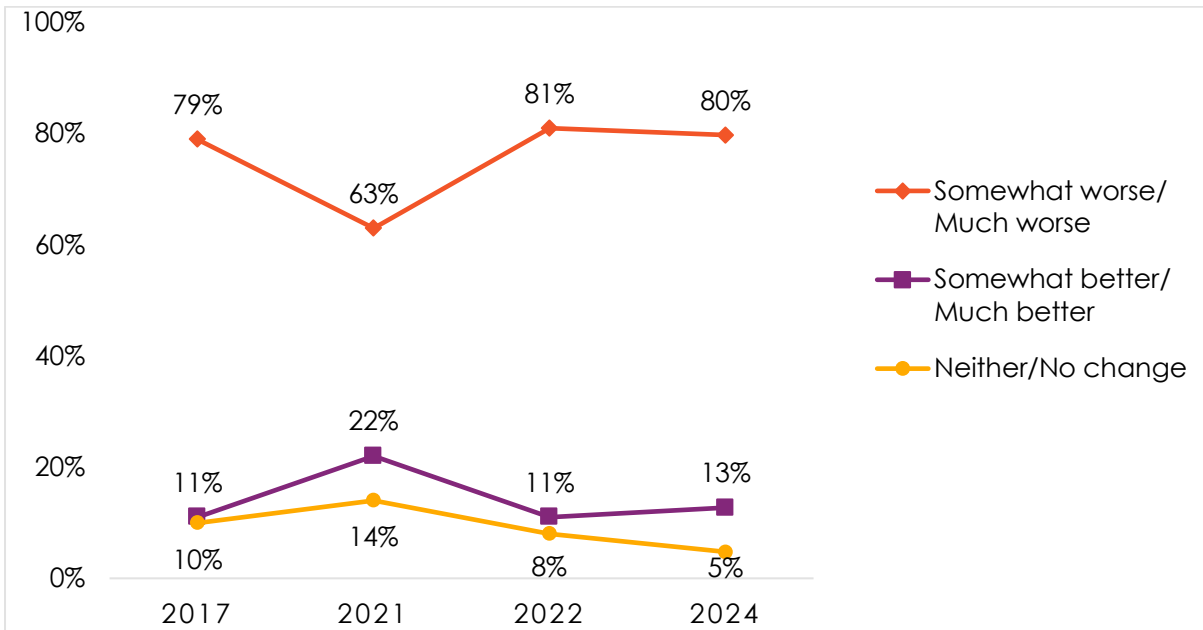
**Respondents were asked:** Have you heard about climate change, or haven't you had the chance to hear about this yet?

**Figure 3: Cause of climate change** | Tanzania | 2024



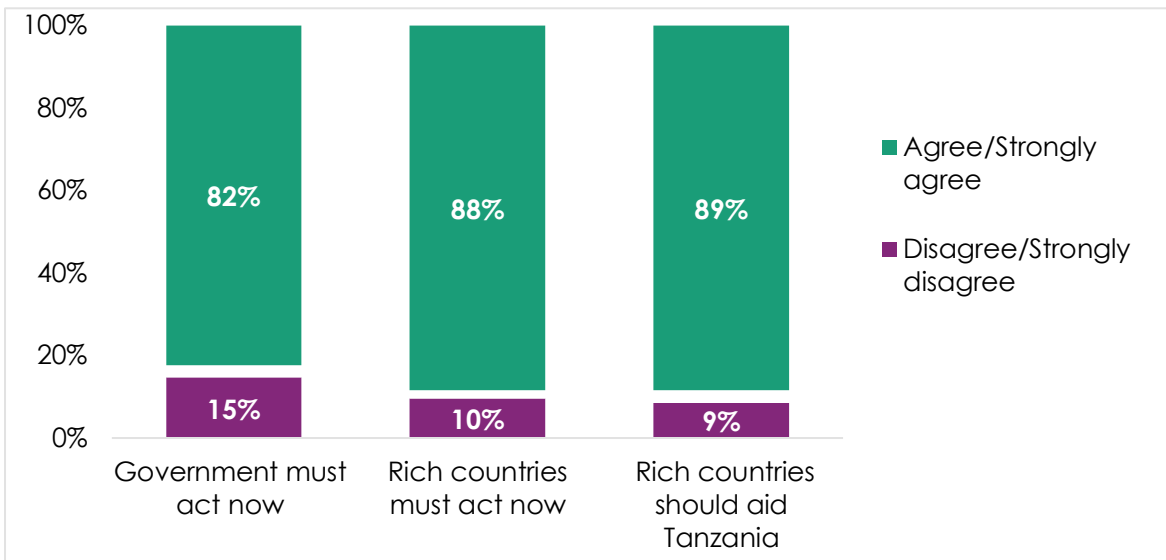
**Respondents who are aware of climate change were asked:** Which of the following do you think is the main cause of climate, or haven't you heard enough to say: Human activity, like cutting down forests, or burning fuel and other activities that pollute the atmosphere? Natural weather patterns or natural processes?

**Figure 4: Effect of climate change | Tanzania | 2017-2024**



**Respondents who are aware of climate change were asked:** Do you think climate change is making life in Tanzania better or worse, or haven't you heard enough to say? (Respondents who are not aware of climate change were excluded.)

**Figure 5: Who must act to limit climate change? | Tanzania | 2024**



**Respondents who are aware of climate change were asked:** For each of the following statements, please tell me whether you disagree or agree:

*It is important for our government to take steps now to limit climate change in the future, even if it is expensive or causes some job losses or other harm to our economy.*

*It is important for rich or developed countries that have done the most to cause climate change to take steps now to limit climate change in the future, even if it is costly for those countries.*

*Rich or developed countries that have done the most to cause climate change have an obligation to help Tanzania cover the costs of adapting and responding to the negative impacts of climate change.*

(Respondents who are not aware of climate change were excluded.)

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