

Results from the Afrobarometer Round 5 Survey in Botswana 13th November 2012



UNIVERSITY OF BOTSWANA

www.afrobarometer.org





What is the Afrobarometer?

- The Afrobarometer (AB) is a comparative series of public opinion surveys that measure public attitudes toward democracy, governance, the economy, leadership, identity, and other related issues.
- The AB is an independent, non-partisan, African-based network of researchers.
- The first round of surveys took place in 1999-2001 in 12 countries. The Network is now conducting “Round 5” surveys in up to 35 countries during 2011-2012.
- **Purpose:** To measure popular perspectives on the social, political, and economic environments in each country where it is implemented and across Africa.
- **Goal:** To give the public a *voice* in policy making processes by providing high-quality public opinion data to policy-makers, policy advocates and civil society organizations, academics, media, donors and investors, and ordinary Africans.

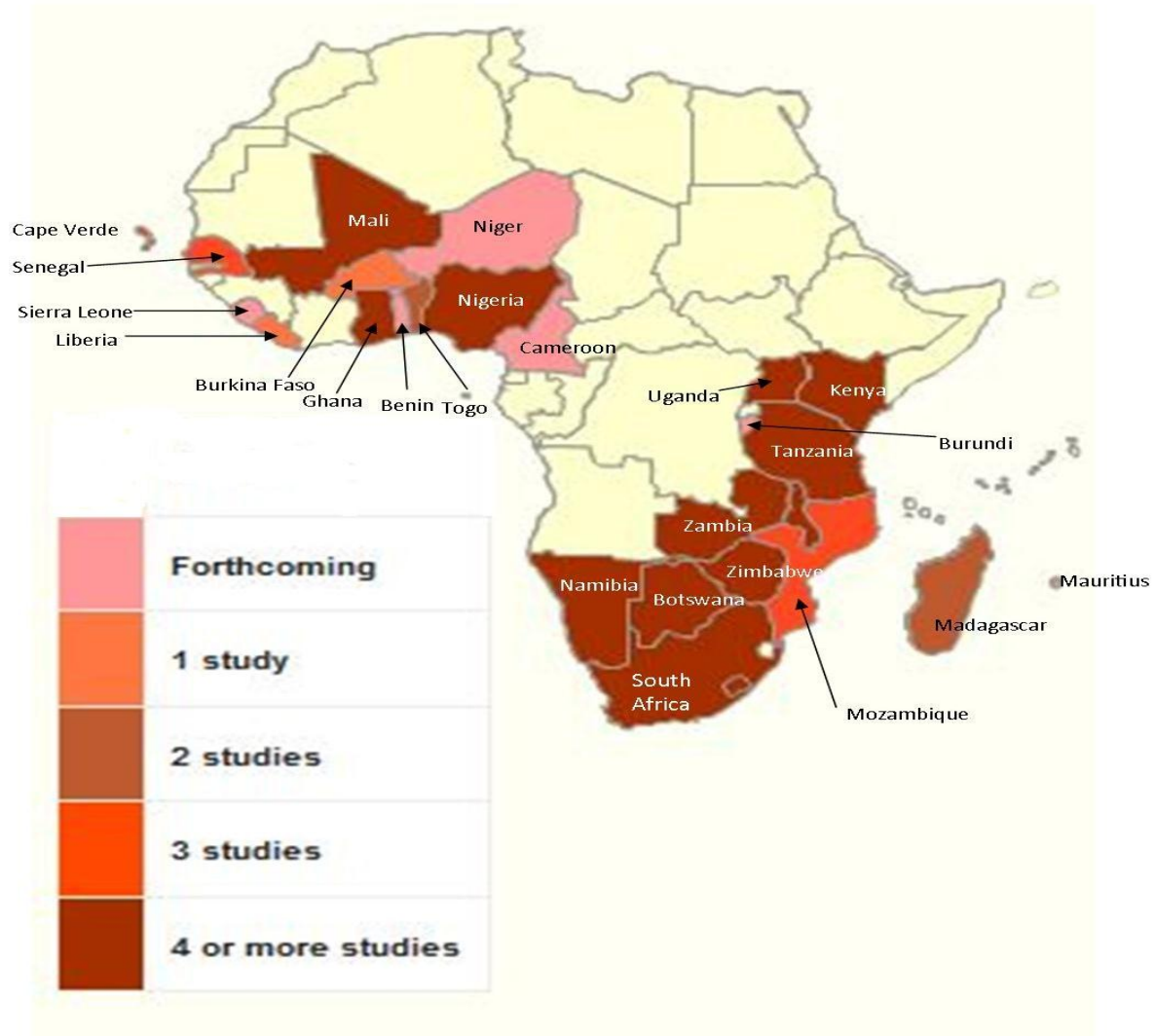


Country Coverage: 1999-2012

- Round 1, 1999-2001, 12 countries
 - Southern Africa: Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe
 - West Africa: Ghana, Mali, Nigeria
 - East Africa: Tanzania, Uganda
- Round 2, 2002-2003, 16 countries
 - Cape Verde, Kenya, Mozambique, Senegal
- Round 3, 2005-2006, 18 countries
 - Benin, Madagascar
- Round 4, 2008-2009, 20 countries
 - Burkina Faso, Liberia
- Round 5, 2011-2012, 26 countries
 - Burundi, Cameroon, Mauritius, Niger, Togo, and Sierra Leone



Country Coverage: 1999-2012



Who is the Afrobarometer?

An African-led Network of survey researchers and analysts:

- In each country there is a **National Partner** responsible for survey implementation. In Botswana, the National Partner is Southern African Barometer.
- Four **Core Partners** provide technical assistance and Network management:
 - Center for Democratic Development (CDD), Ghana
 - Institute for Democracy in South Africa (Idasa), South Africa
 - Institute for Development Studies (IDS), University of Nairobi, Kenya
 - Institute for Empirical Research in Political Economy (IREEP), Benin
- Two **Support Units** for capacity building and quality assurance
 - Michigan State University
 - University of Cape Town
- Round 5 **Core Funders** include DFID, SIDA, USAID and the Mo Ibrahim Foundation



Survey Methodology

- Nationally representative sample of adult citizens
 - all respondents are randomly selected
 - every adult citizen has a known chance of being selected
 - Five towns/Cities and nineteen districts/sub-districts covered
- Face-to-face interviews in the language of the respondent' s choice
- Standard survey instrument across all countries for comparability
- The survey interviewed 1200 adult Batswana; A sample of this size yields results with a margin of error of +/- 2.8% at a 95% confidence level.
- Field work for Round 5 in Botswana was conducted between June 30th and July 11th in 2012.
- Afrobarometer' s work in Botswana is coordinated by Prof. Mogopodi Lekorwe and field work was carried out by Southern African Barometer researchers at the University of Botswana.



Survey Demographics



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	Weighted	Un-weighted
Mean Age	38.45	38.77
Gender		
Male	50	50
Female	50	50
Location		
Urban	21	21
Semi-Urban	43	43
Rural	36	36
Education		
None	12	13
Primary	22	22
Secondary	47	47
Higher	18	18

Structure of Presentation



- *Governmental accountability and responsiveness*
- *Perception of involvement in corruption*
- *Incumbent job approval*
- *Equality and rights of women*
- *Opinions on chieftainship and constitution*

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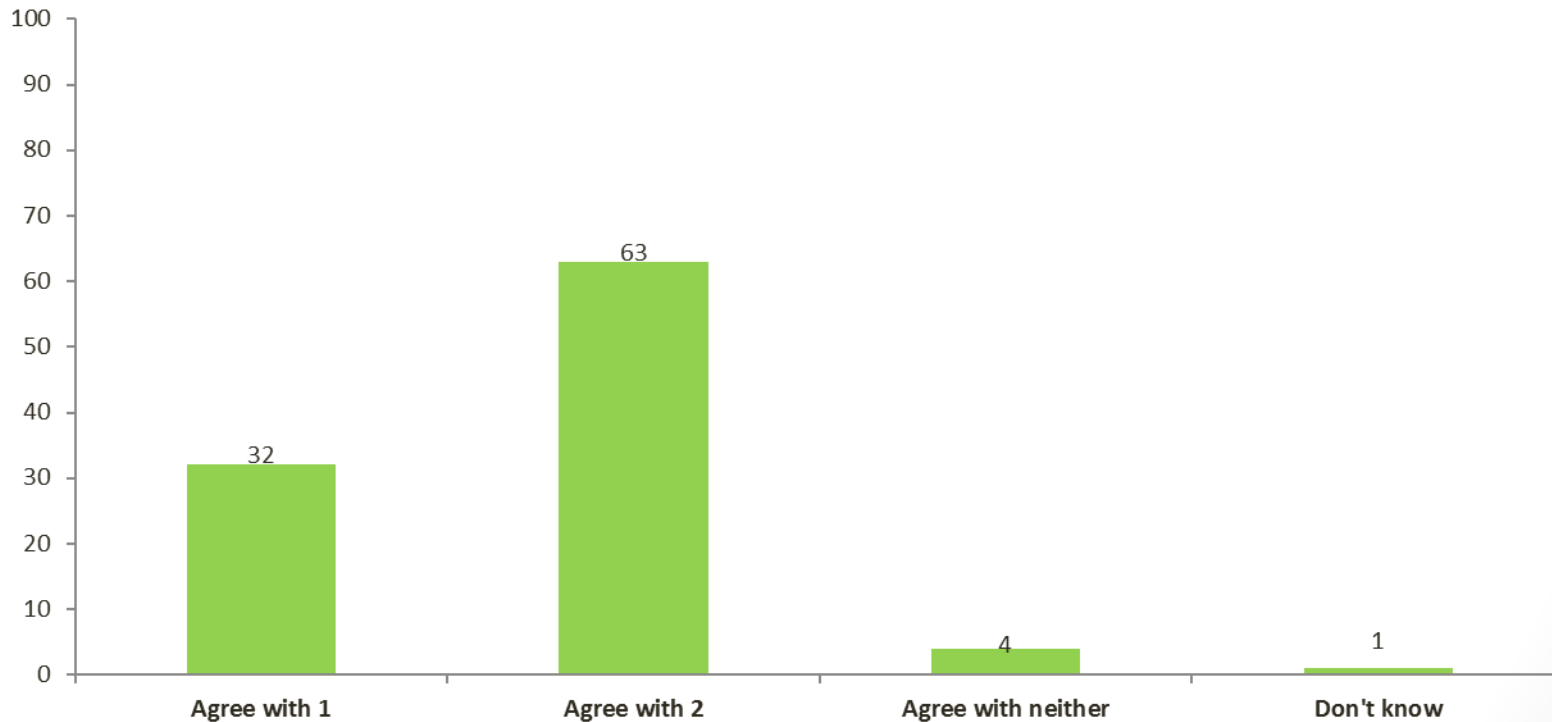
Governmental Accountability and Responsiveness

Key Findings



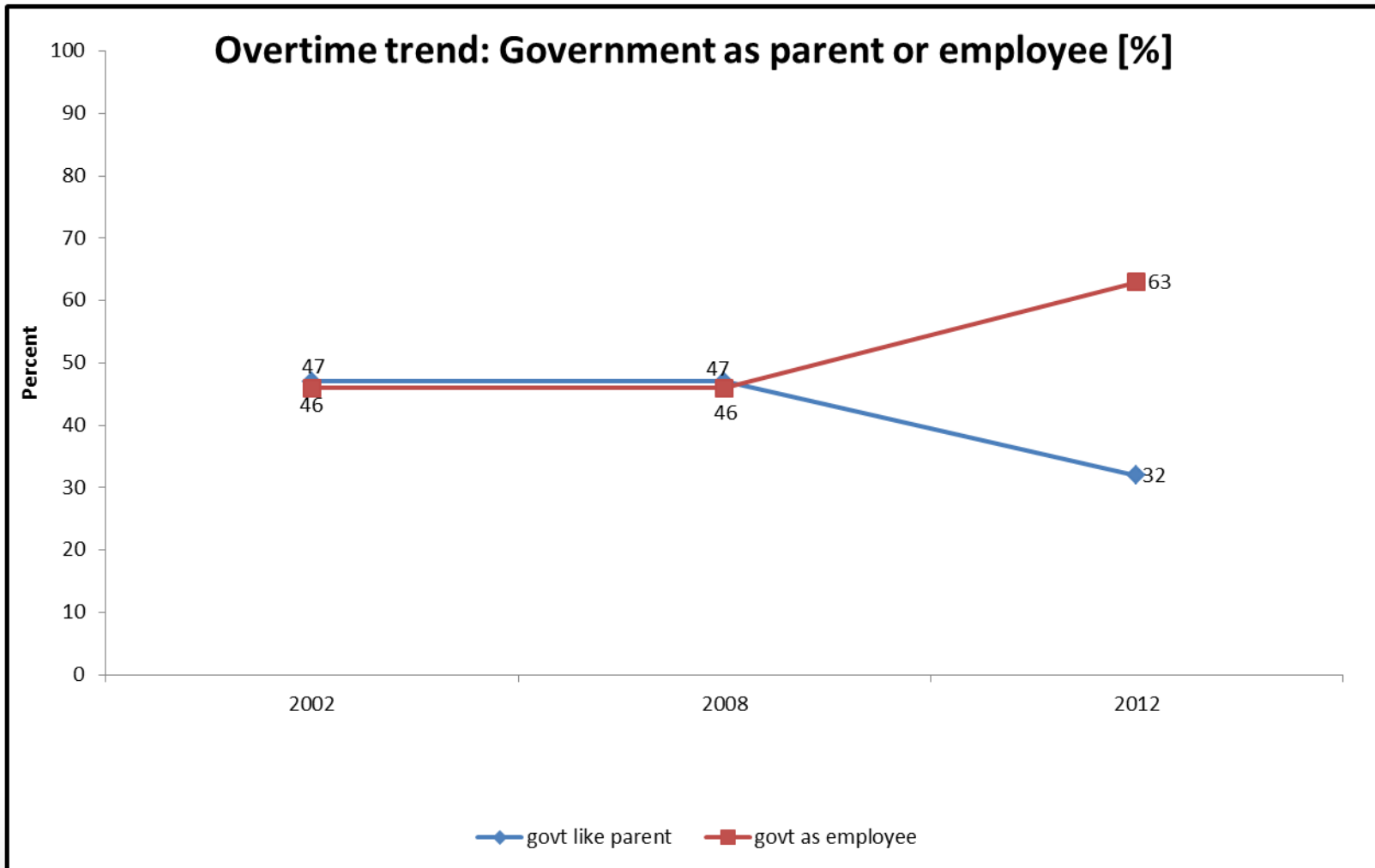
- Few Batswana contact their elected and other government officials
- Majority report 'never' contacting their elected leaders and other government officials.
- A large majority (87%) report never contacting a political party official about some important problem or to give them their views.
- Equally, (86%) say they never contact their MP
- Only three in ten (30%) report contacting their councillor either 'once', a 'few times' and 'often'.

Govt. like a parent vs. an Employee [%]



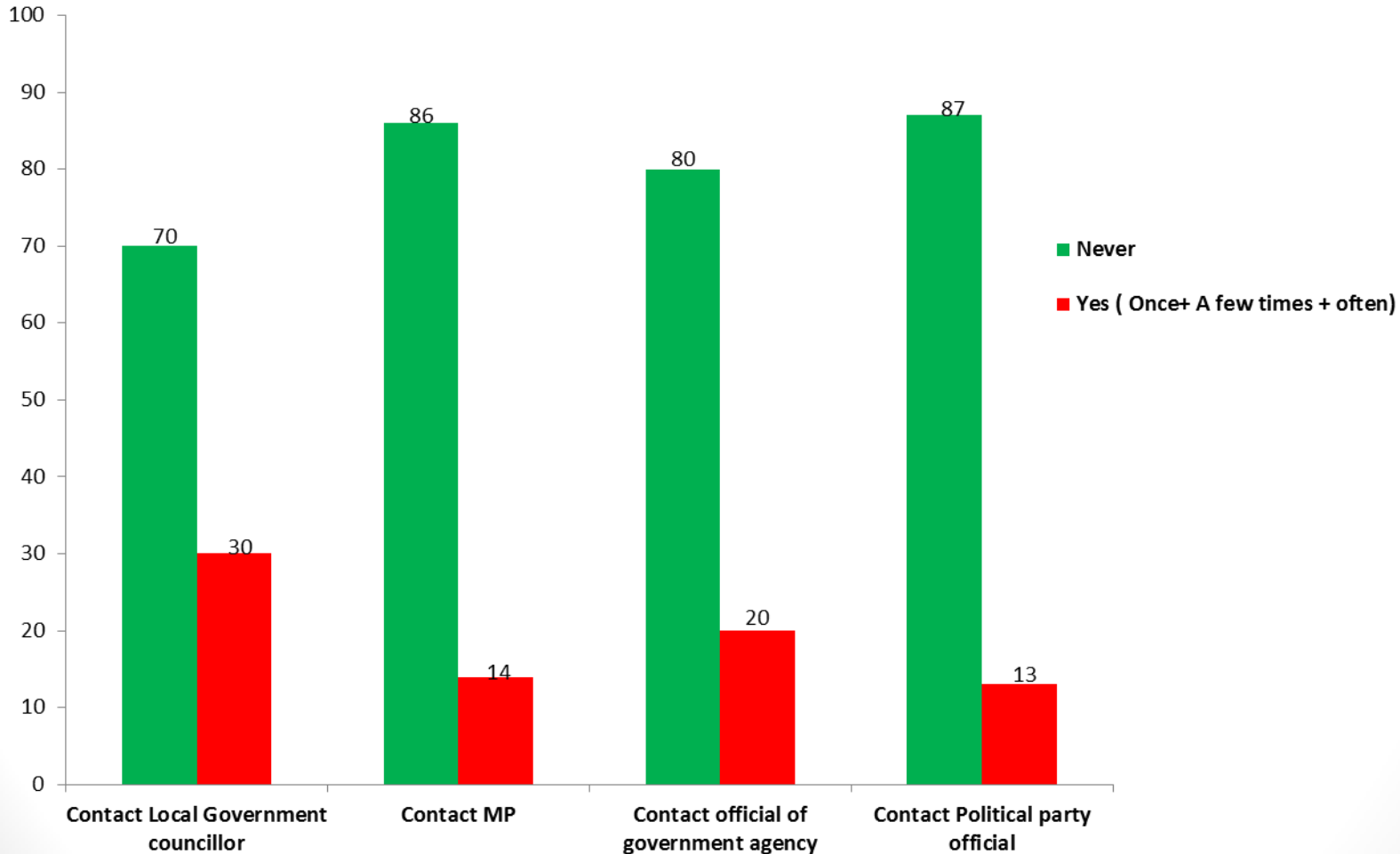
Stat1: The government is like a parent. It should decide what is good for us.

Stat2: The government is like our employee. We are the bosses and should tell government what to do





Contact with elected/government officials in the past year[%]



Q: During the past year, how often have you contacted any of the following persons about some important problems or to give them your views?



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	2002	2005	2008	2012	2002- 2008	2008- 2012
Contact govt. official	18	14	22	20	4	-2
Contact MP	14	12	22	14	8	-8
Contact Party official	16	12	--	13	--	--
Contact Local Govt. councillor	24	26	35	30	11	-5

Perceptions on involvement in Corruption

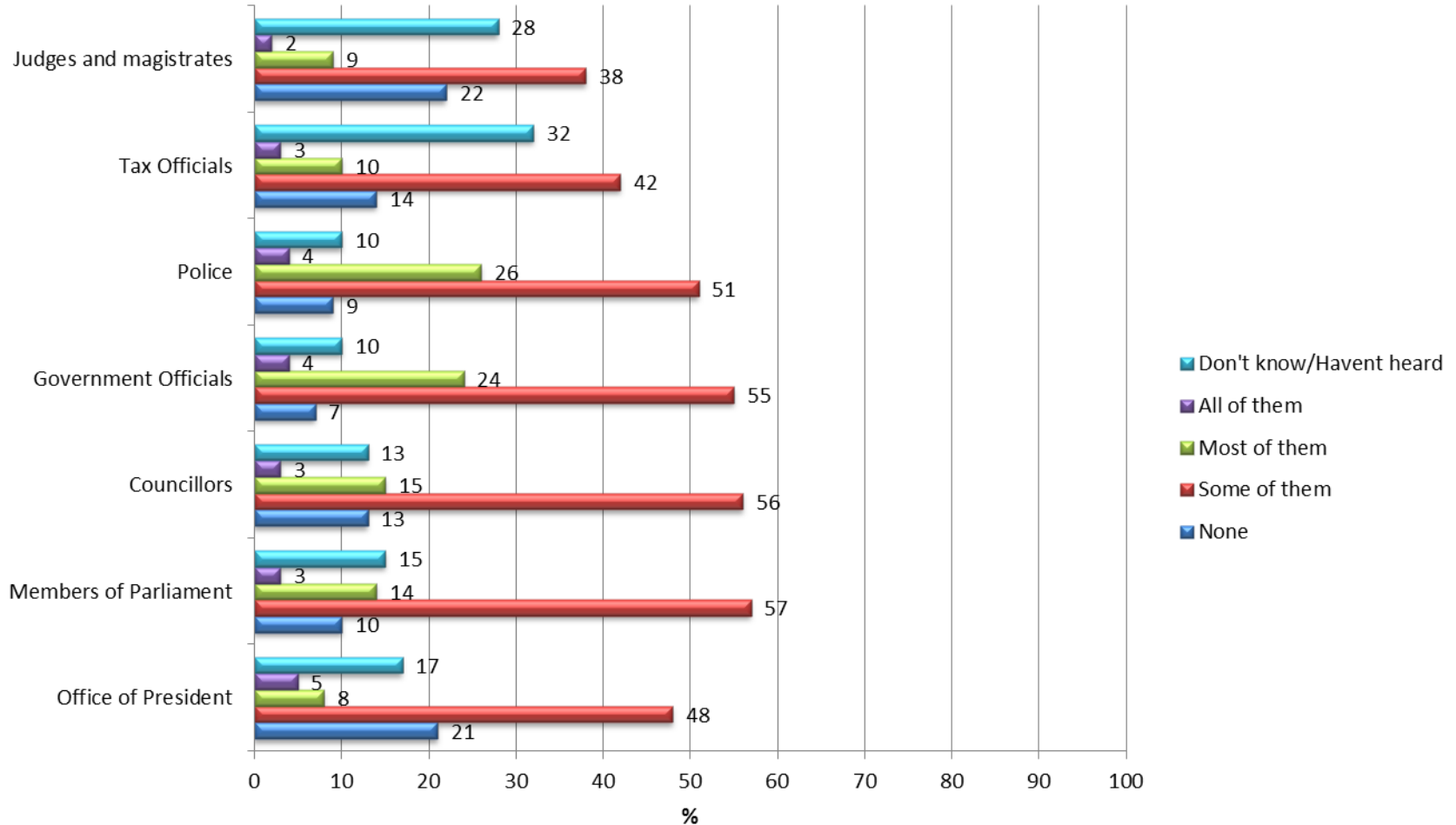
Key Findings

- Batswana generally are of the view that corruption is growing in the country
- More than half believe some MP's, Councillors, government officials and the Police are involved in corruption
- A substantial majority (83%) of government officials are believed to be involved in corruption
- They are closely followed by the police: 81% think most or all are corrupt
- Cumulatively (2008-2012) the highest growth rates of perceived corruption are in the President and officials in his office.



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Perception of corruption



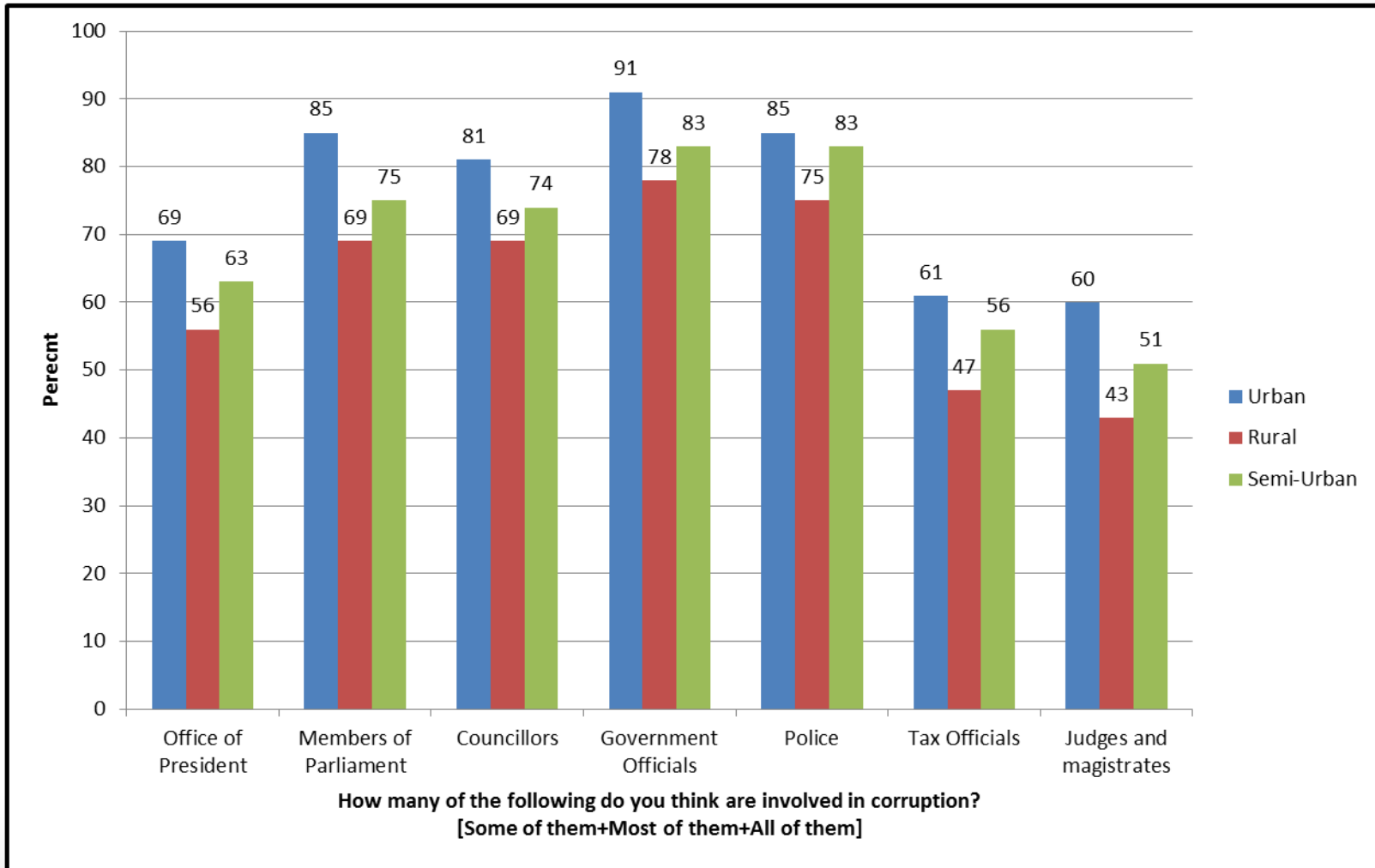
How many of the following people do you think are involved in corruption?

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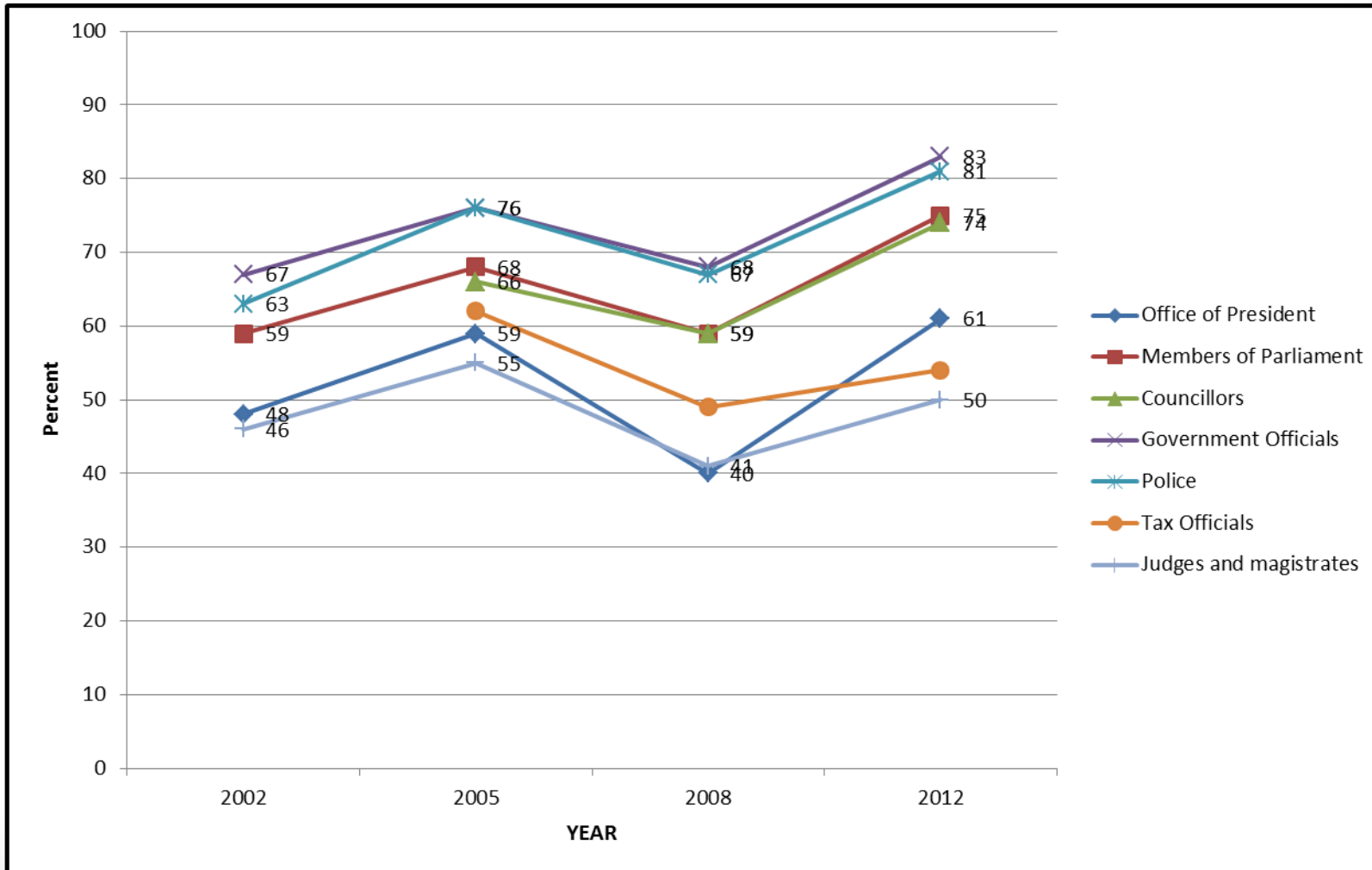
Overtime trend: involvement in corruption(% some/most/all involved)

Department	Year				Change	
	2002	2005	2008	2012	2002-2005	2008-2012
Office of President	48	59	40	61	+11	+21
Members of Parliament	59	68	59	75	+9	+16
Government Official	67	76	68	83	+9	+15
Councillors	-	66	59	74	-	+15
Police	63	76	67	81	+13	+14
Tax Official	-	62	49	54	-	+5
Judges & Magistrate	46	55	41	50	+9	+9

Perception of corruption among urban and rural respondents



Overtime trend: involvement in corruption (%some/most/all involved)





Incumbent job approval



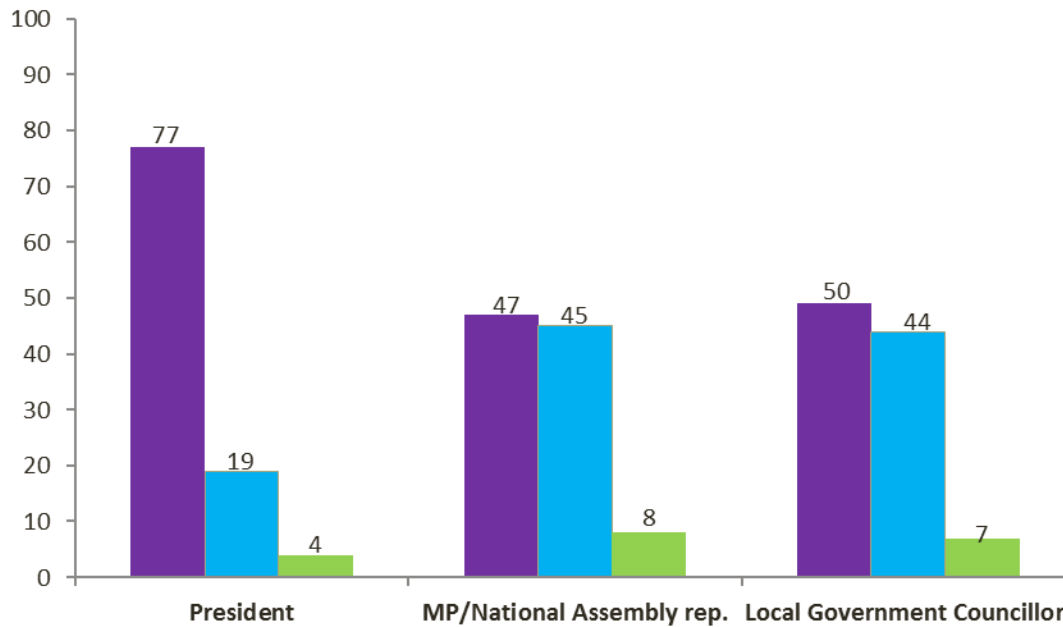
Key Findings

- Majority of Batswana (77%) approve what President Khama has done over the past twelve months
- Councillors scored half (50%) approval ratings
- About two in five Batswana(47%) approved performance of their MP's.



Performance rating of incumbent job approval [%]

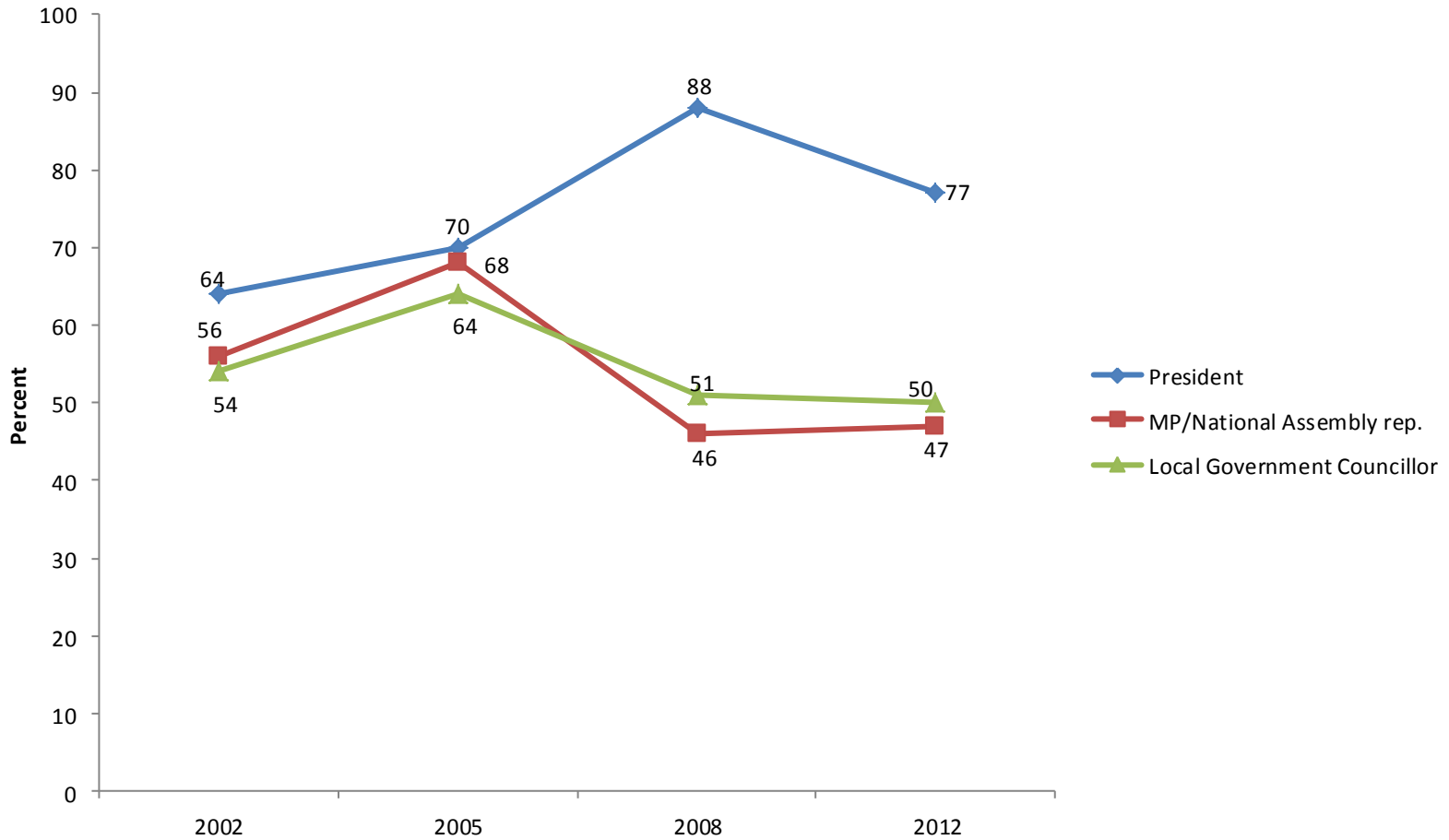
- strongly approve or approve
- strongly disapprove or disapprove
- don't know or haven't heard enough



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



Overtime trend: Performance rating of incumbent [% approval]





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Incumbent job approval by location

	Urban	Rural	Semi-Urban
President	75	81	73
MP	49	47	48
Councillors	51	50	48



Equality and Rights of Women

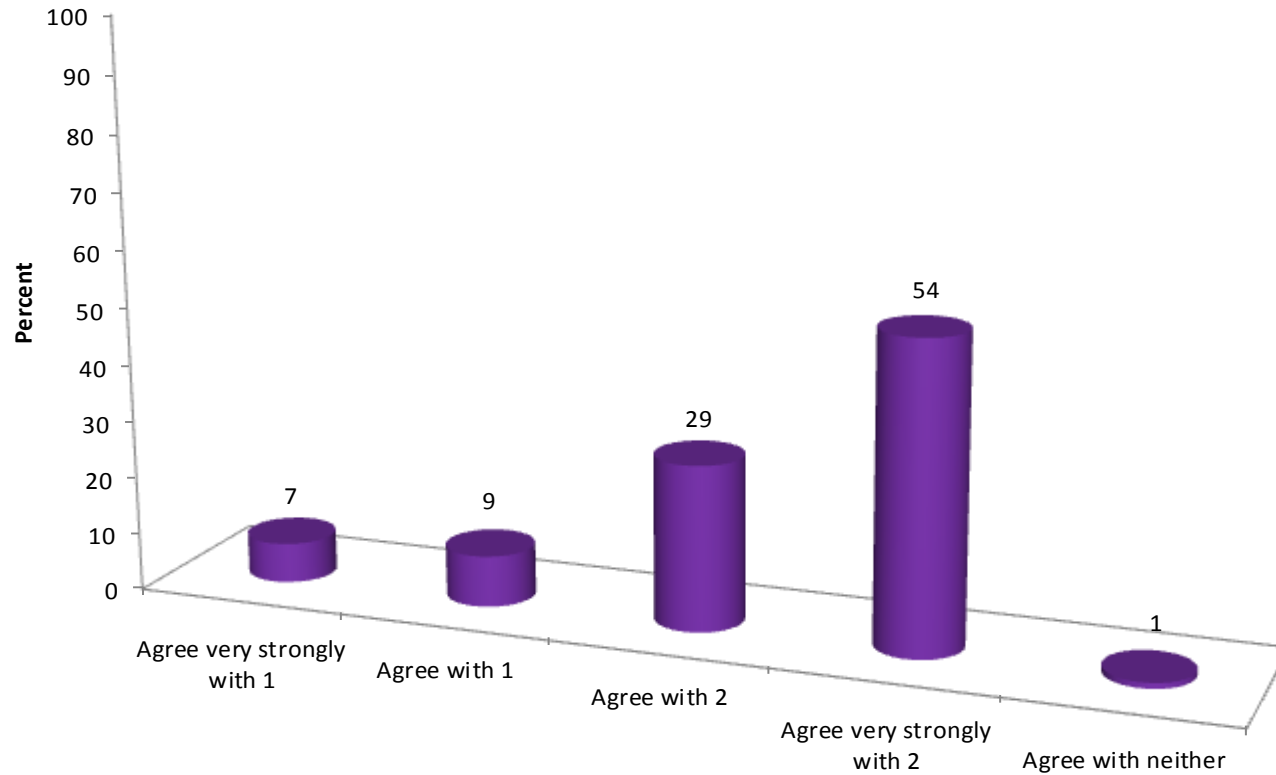
Key Findings

- Majority of Batswana (82%) tend to agree that elected leaders should treat all people equally
- An overwhelming majority (86%) of Batswana ‘agree’ or ‘strongly agree’ that women have equal chance of being elected into political office

Only a small minority (20%) say women should remain subject to traditional laws/customs



Leaders help own community vs. treat all equally[%]

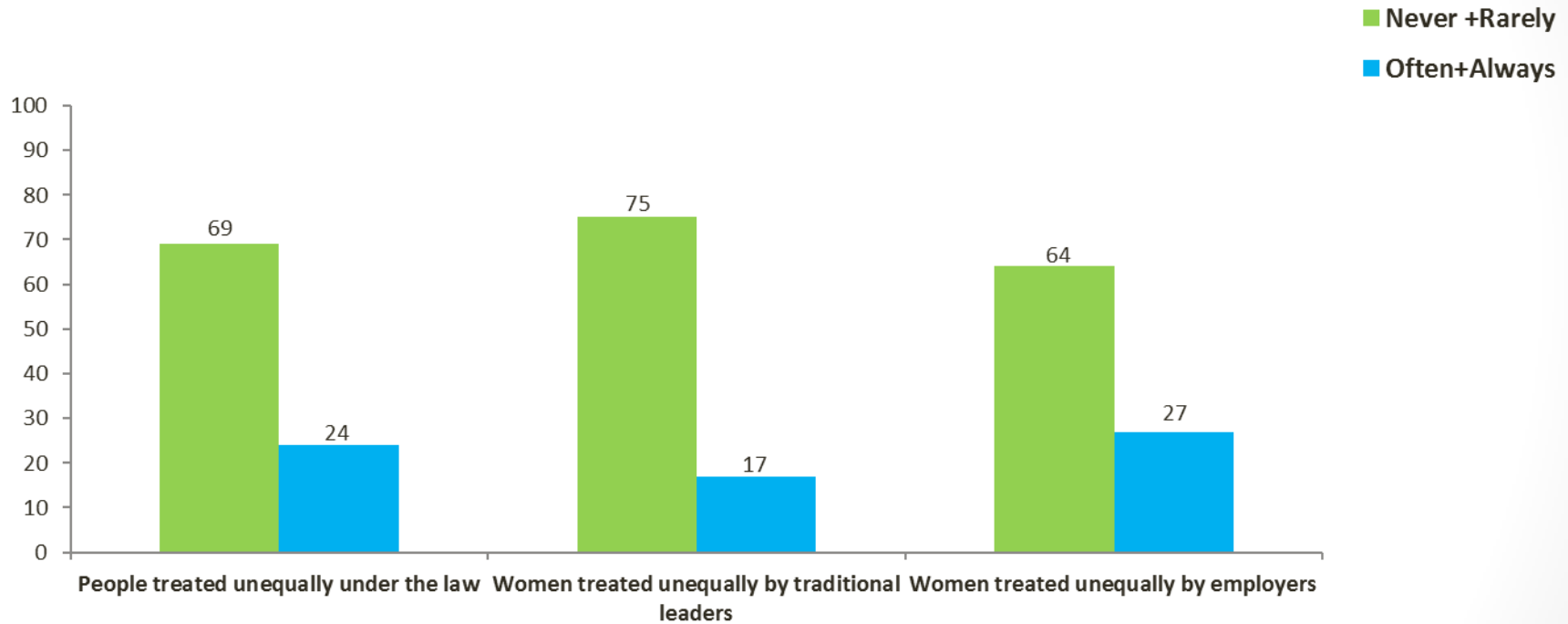


Which of the following statements is closest to your view:

Statement 1: Once in office, elected leaders are obliged to help their home community or group first.

Statement 2: Since elected leaders should represent everyone, they should not do anything that favours their own group over others.

Unequal treatment of people and women[%]

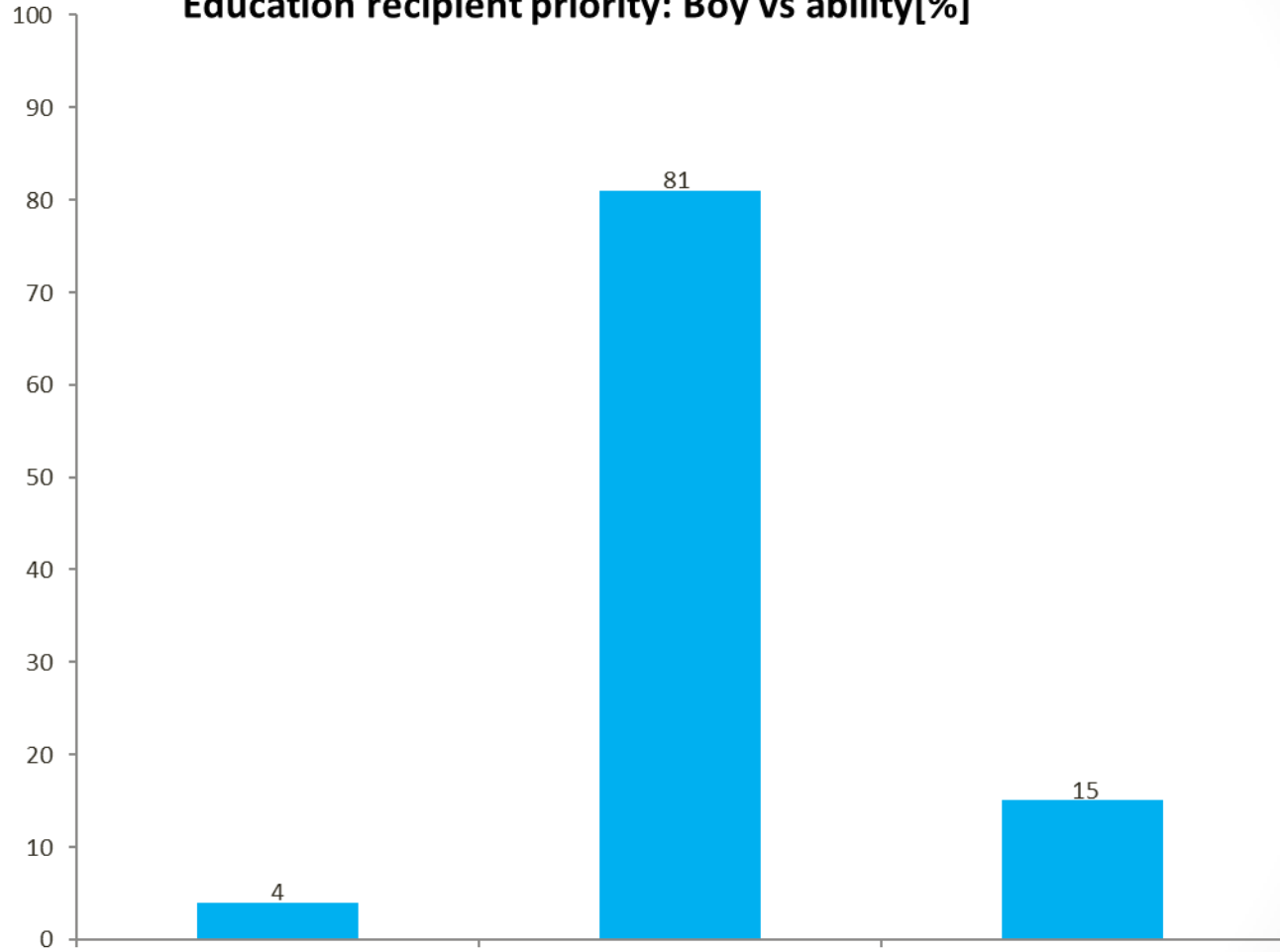


Q: In your opinion, how often, in this country...

Overtime trend: Equality and Gender

	2002	2005	2008	2012	Change	
					2002-2008	2008-2012
People treated unequally [Never+Rarely]	46	59	77	68	31	-9
People treated unequally [Often+Always]	44	33	18	25	-26	7

Education recipient priority: Boy vs ability[%]



Stat1: If funds for schooling are limited, a boy should always receive an education in school before a girl.
Stat2: If funds for schooling are limited, a family should send a child with the greatest ability to learn.



Which of the following statements is closest to your view? Choose Stat1 or Stat2	Strongly agree & Agree
Stat1: Men make better political leaders than women, and should be elected rather than women.	12
Stat2: Women should have same chance of being elected to political office as men.	86
Stat1: Women should have equal rights and receive the same treatment as men do	79
Stat2: Women have always been subject to traditional laws/customs, and should remain so.	20
Stat1: If funds for schooling are limited, a boy should always receive education in school before a girl.	4
Stat2: If funds for schooling are limited, a family should send a child with the greatest ability to learn.	80



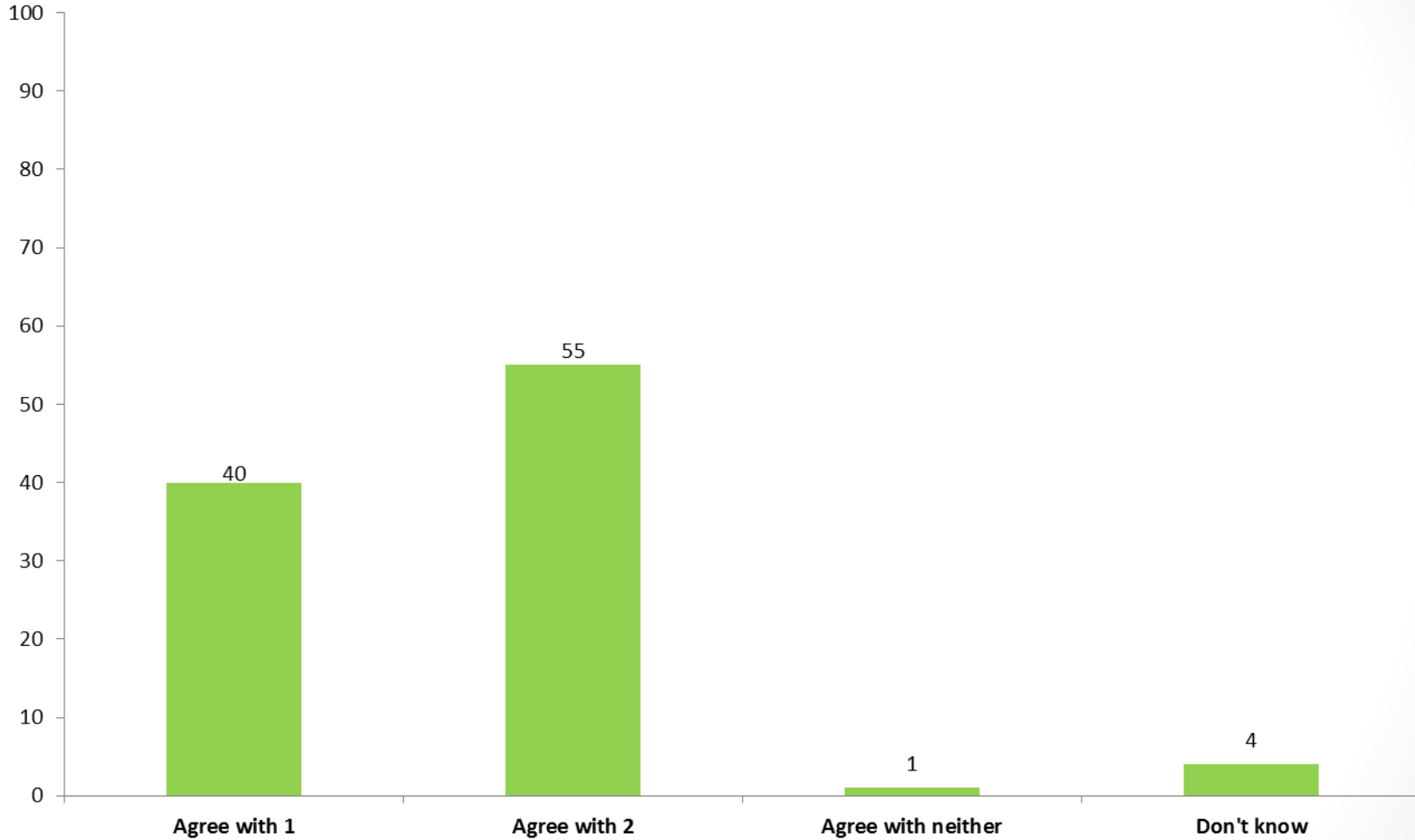
Opinions on Chieftainship and Constitution

Key Findings



- A majority (55%) of Batswana 'agree' or 'strongly agree' that the constitution is inadequate to deal with contemporary issues and should be reviewed.
- Batswana remain resolute about preserving their culture. 90% say Bogosi should be retained.

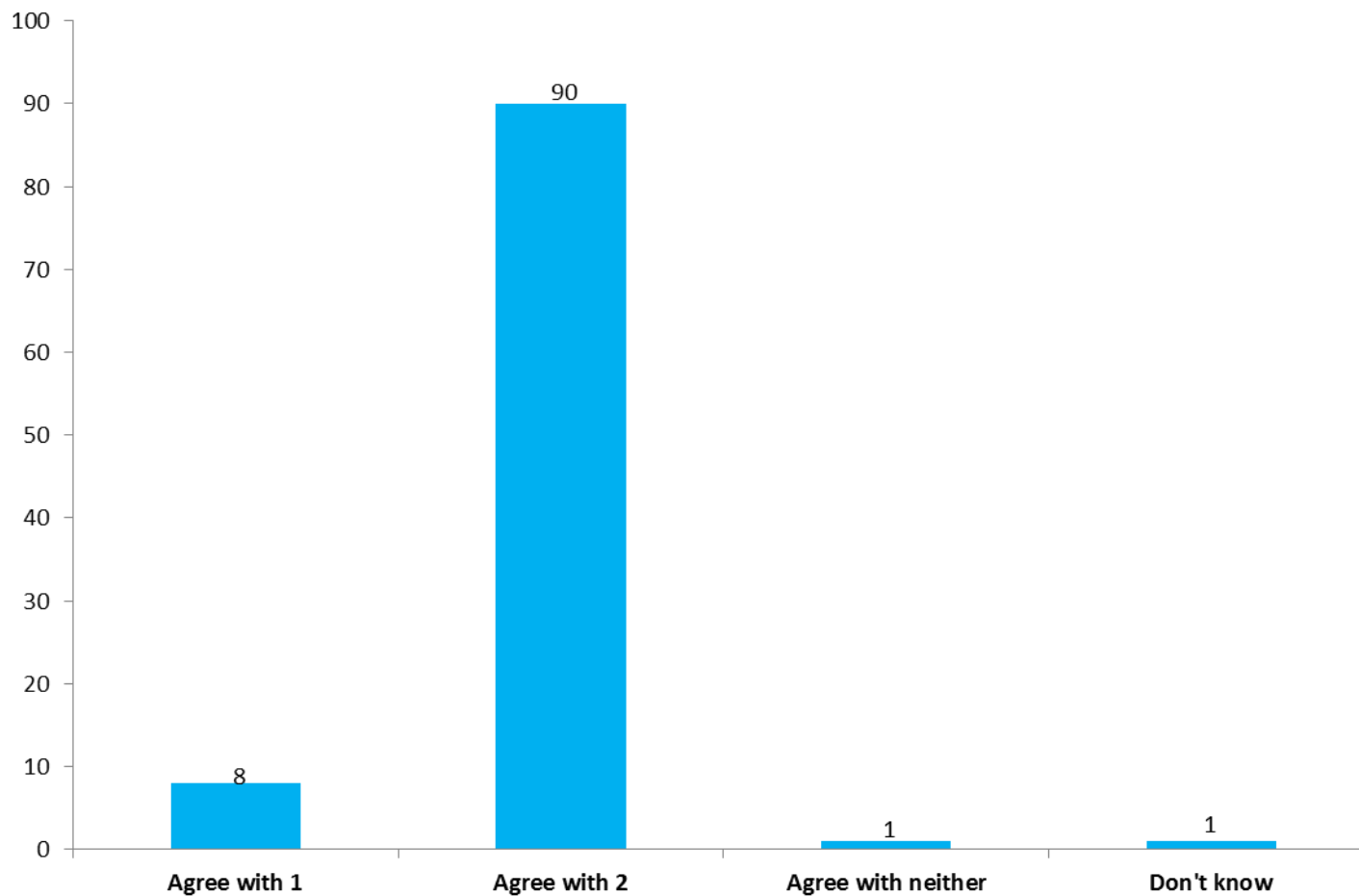
Constitution ok vs Review Constitution[%]



Stat1: The Constitution has served this country well and should be left unchanged.

Stat2: The existing Constitution of the Republic of Botswana is inadequate to deal with contemporary issues of governance and democracy and should therefore be revised

Abolish Chieftainship vs Retain Chieftainship [%]



Stat1: Bogosi or Chieftainship as an institution is outdated and is no longer useful in the democratic system and should therefore be abolished.

Stat2: Bogosi or Chieftainship is part of our value system and culture and helps to strengthen our democracy, it should therefore be retained



Conclusions

- Few Batswana contact their elected and other government officials
- Majority report ‘never’ contacting their elected leaders and other government officials.



Conclusions

- Majority of Batswana (77%) approve what President Khama has done over the past twelve months
- Councillors scored half (50%) approval ratings
- Batswana are dissatisfied with the performance of their MP's as only (47%) seem to be happy with what they are doing

Conclusions (Cont.)



- Majority of Batswana (82%) tend to agree that elected leaders should treat all people equally.
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Conclusions (Cont.)

- A majority (55%) of Batswana ‘agree’ or ‘strongly agree’ that the constitution is inadequate to deal with contemporary issues and should be reviewed.
- Overwhelming majority (90%) say Bogosi should be retained.



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