



Khartoum, Sudan
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News release

Sudanese hold gloomy views on the economy and the country's direction, Afrobarometer survey shows

Large majorities of Sudanese see the country as headed in the wrong direction and describe both the national economy and their personal living conditions as bad, according to the latest Afrobarometer survey.

Increasing numbers of citizens are going without basic life necessities, and fewer than half are optimistic that things will get better during the coming year.

Negative assessments of the country's overall direction increase with individuals' age and experience of poverty.

Key findings

- Three-fourths (74%) of Sudanese say the country is going in the wrong direction, almost unchanged from 2018 (76%) (Figure 1).
- Negative assessments of the country's overall direction are consistent across key demographic groups but are particularly strong among older (86%) and poor (80%) citizens (Figure 2).
- Only one in four Sudanese (24%) describe their personal living conditions as "fairly good" or "very good," and only 15% offer positive assessments of the country's economic condition (Figure 3).
- Management of the economy, education, health, corruption, and poverty are the top five problems that citizens want the government to address (Figure 4).
- Increasing numbers of citizens report going without a cash income (78%), medical care (61%), food (46%), water (39%) and cooking fuel (27%) at least "several times" during the previous year (Figure 5).

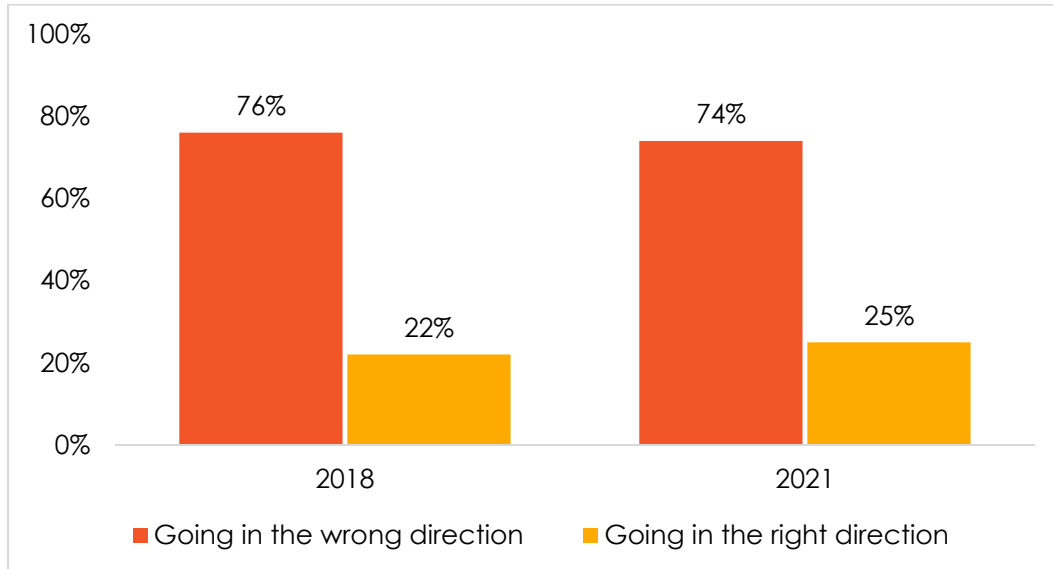
Afrobarometer surveys

Afrobarometer is a pan-African, nonpartisan survey research network that provides reliable data on African experiences and evaluations of democracy, governance, and quality of life. Eight rounds of surveys have been completed in up to 39 countries since 1999. Round 8 surveys (2019/2021) cover 34 countries. Afrobarometer conducts face-to-face interviews in the language of the respondent's choice.

The Afrobarometer team in Sudan, led by Sudan Polling Statistics Center (SPSC), interviewed a nationally representative, random, stratified probability sample of 1,800 adults in February-April 2021. A sample of this size yields country-level results with a margin of error of +/-2.3 percentage points at a 95% confidence level. Previous surveys were conducted in Sudan in 2013, 2015, and 2018.

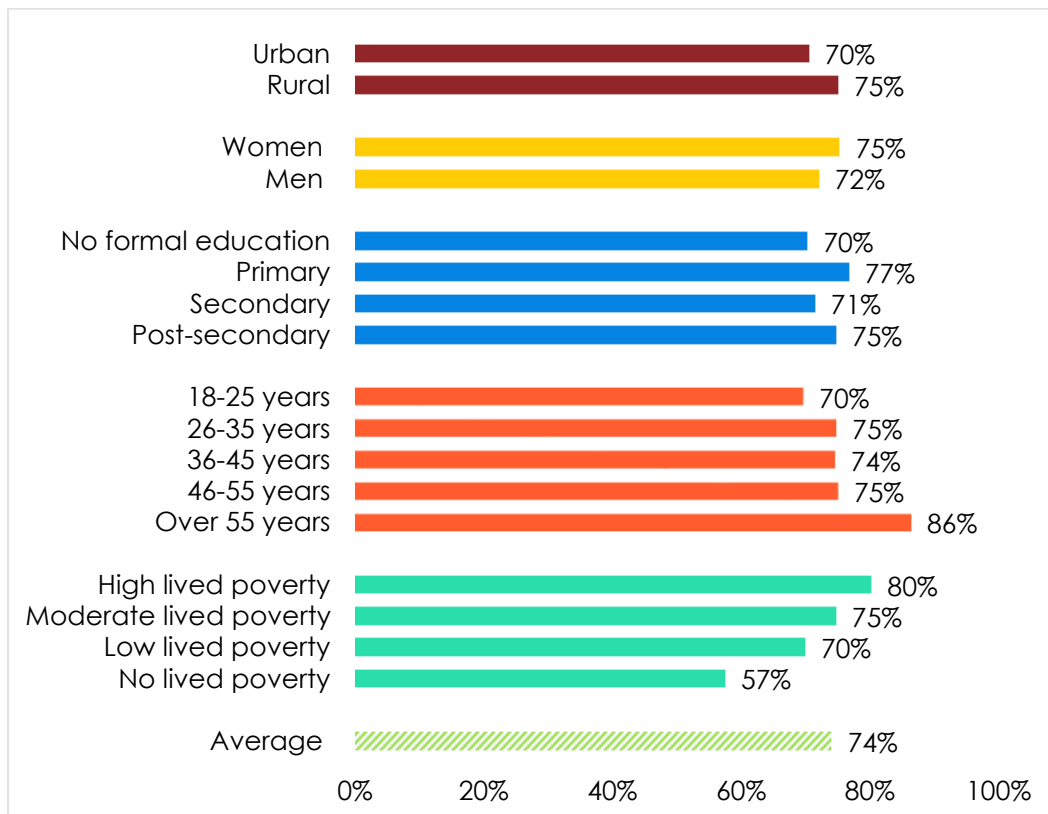
Charts

Figure 1: Direction of the country | Sudan | 2021



Respondents were asked: Would you say that the country is going in the wrong direction or going in the right direction?

Figure 2: Country going in the wrong direction | by socio-demographic group | Sudan | 2021



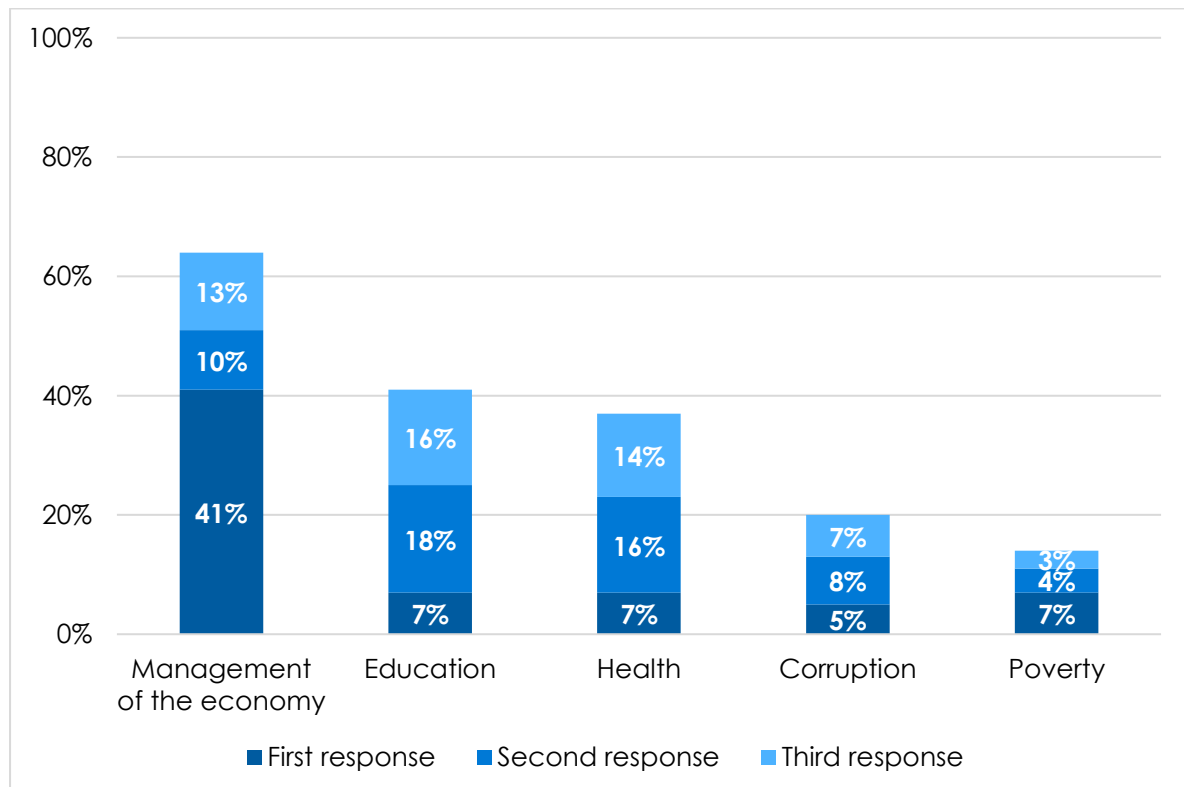
Respondents were asked: Would you say that the country is going in the wrong direction or going in the right direction? (% who say "wrong direction")

Figure 3: Country's economic condition and personal living conditions | Sudan | 2021



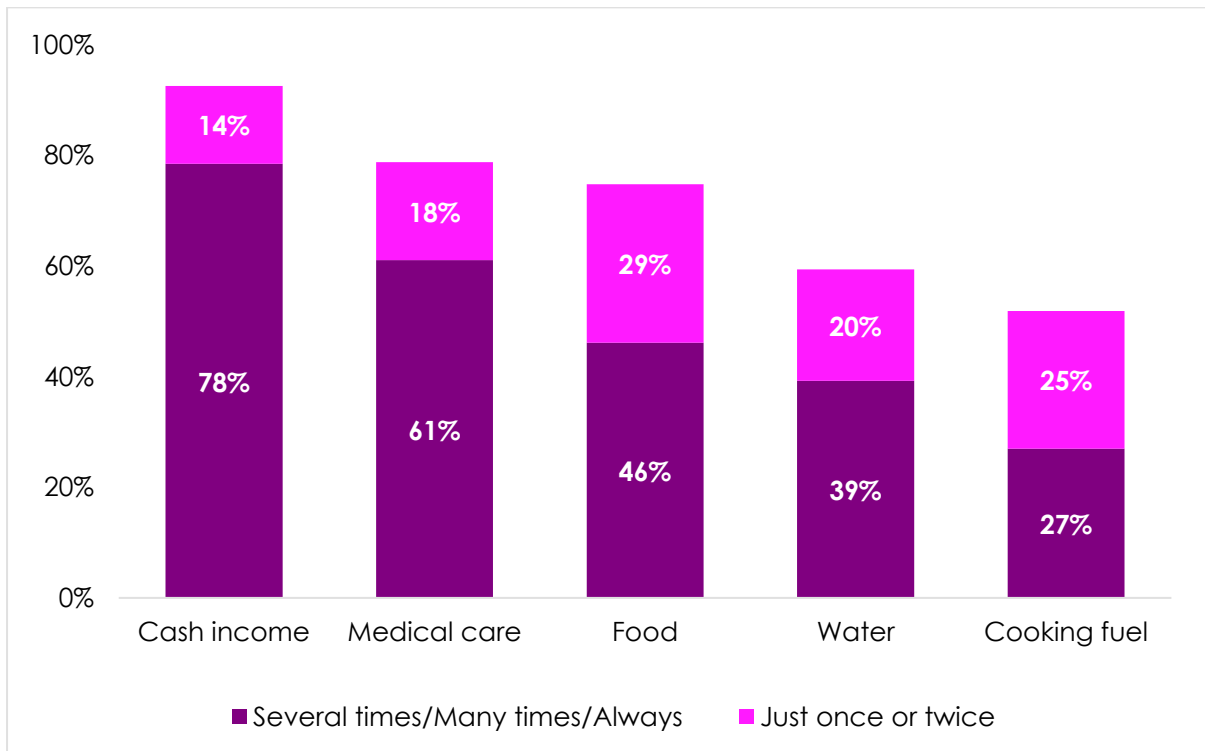
Respondents were asked: In general, how would you describe: The present economic condition of this country? Your own present living conditions?

Figure 4 : Most important problems government should address | Sudan | 2021



Respondents were asked: In your opinion, what are the most important problems facing this country that government should address? (Up to three responses per person)

Figure 5 : Going without basic necessities | Sudan | 2021



Respondents were asked: Over the past year, how often, if ever, have you or anyone in your family gone without: Enough food to eat? Enough clean water for home use? Medicines or medical treatment? Enough fuel to cook your food? A cash income?

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