

# Citizens' policy priorities, economic conditions and government performance: Highlights from Afrobarometer Round 10 survey in Ghana

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31 October 2024

Second dissemination event, Accra

Dr. Edem Selormey, Director of Research

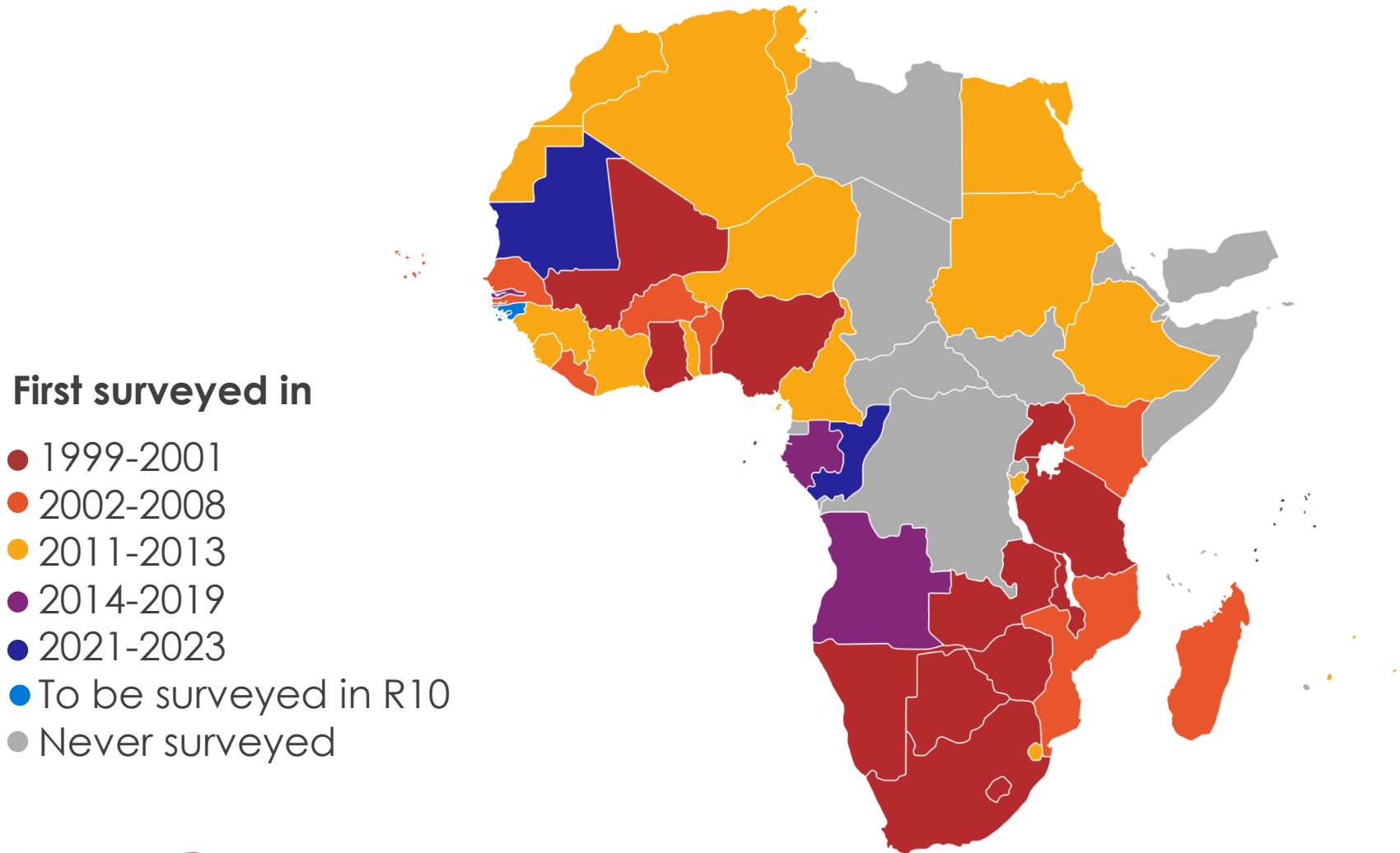
# What is Afrobarometer

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- Pan-African, non-partisan survey research network that provides reliable data on African experiences and evaluations of democracy, governance, and quality of life.
- **Goal:** To give African publics a voice in policy and decision making.
- Nine survey rounds in up to 42 countries have been completed since 1999.
- Round 10 surveys were launched in January 2024.



# Where Afrobarometer works



# Methodology

- Nationally representative sample of adult citizens (aged 18+)
- Face-to-face interviews in the language of the respondent's choice
- Standard questionnaire allows comparisons across countries and over time.
- Sample size of 2,400 yields country-level results with a margin of sampling error of +/-2 percentage points at 95% confidence level.
- Data collection for Round 10 started 5 August and ended 22 August 2024.



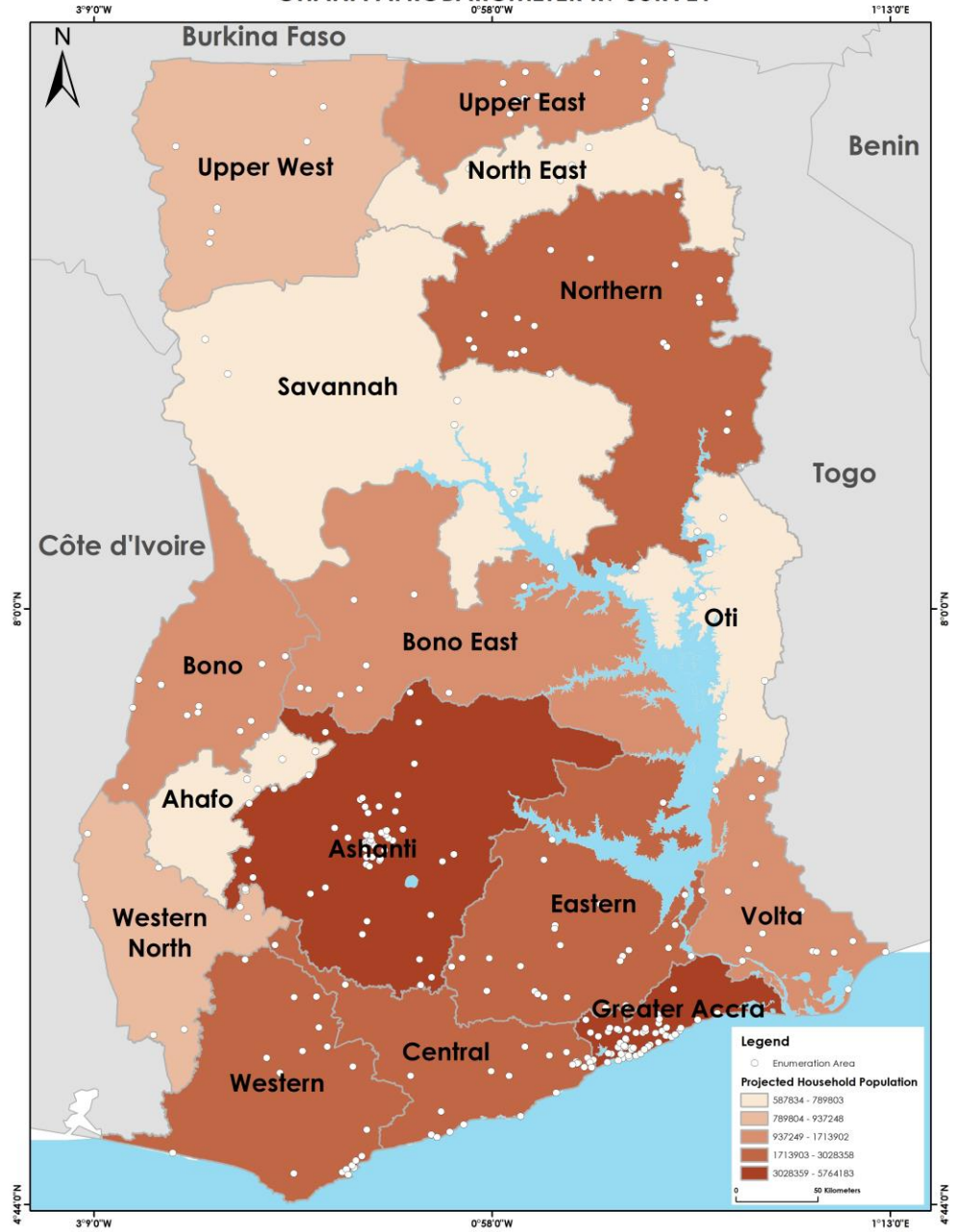
# Survey demographics

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Residence	National (%)	Sample (%)
Western	6.8	6.8
Western North	2.8	2.8
Central	9.2	9.2
Greater Accra	19.6	19.6
Volta	5.5	5.5
Oti	2.2	2.2
Eastern	9.6	9.6
Ashanti	17.8	17.8
Ahafo	1.8	1.8
Bono	4.0	3.9
Bono East	3.7	3.7
Northern	6.5	6.5
Savanna	1.9	1.9
North East	1.8	1.8
Upper East	4.0	4.0
Upper West	2.8	2.8
Urban	61.4	61.4
Rural	38.5	38.6

# Spread of sample

MAP SHOWING 2024 PROJECTED  
HOUSEHOLD POPULATION AND SELECTED  
ENUMERATION AREAS FOR  
GHANA AFROBAROMETER R9 SURVEY



# Survey demographics

<b>Gender</b>	<b>%</b>
Men	50
Women	50
<b>Education</b>	
No formal education	13
Primary	20
Secondary	47
Post-secondary	19
<b>Religion</b>	
Christian	75%
Muslim	18%
Traditional/Ethnic	3%
Other	4%



# Key findings

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# Policy priorities

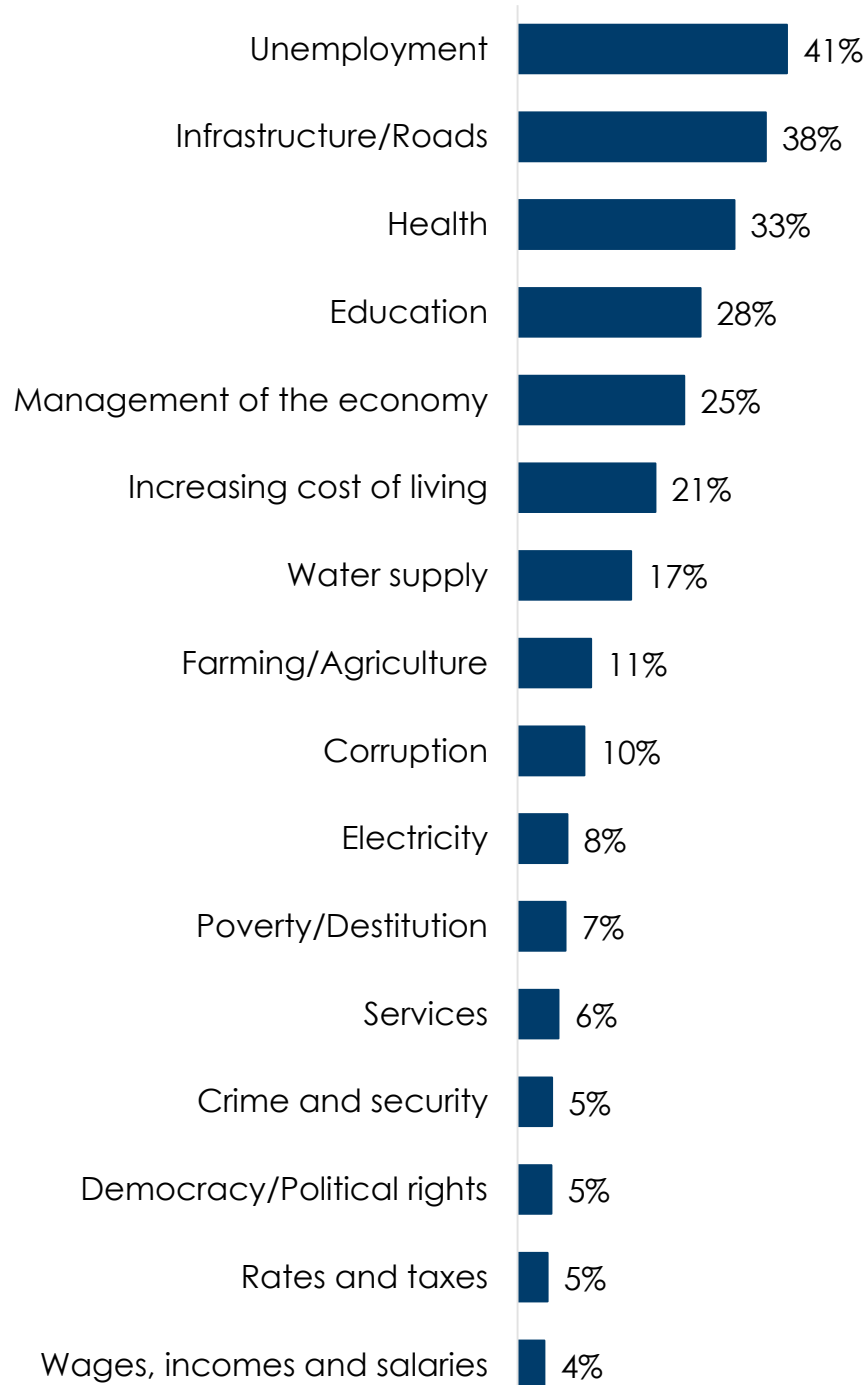
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# Most important problems

| Ghana  
| 2024

**Respondents were asked:** *In your opinion, what are the most important problems facing this country that government should address? (Respondents could give up to three answers. Figure shows % of respondents who cite each problem as one of their three priorities.)*



# Most important problems | Ghana | 2008-2024

	1st policy priority	2nd policy priority	3rd policy priority
2024	Unemployment <b>(20%)</b>	Health <b>(14%)</b>	Health <b>(11%)</b> Infrastructure <b>(11%)</b>
2022	Management of the economy <b>(22%)</b>	Unemployment <b>(14%)</b> Management of the economy <b>(14%)</b>	Infrastructure/ Roads <b>(12%)</b>
2019	Infrastructure <b>(26%)</b>	Unemployment <b>(14%)</b>	Education <b>(14%)</b>
2017	Unemployment <b>(26%)</b>	Education <b>(12%)</b>	Infrastructure <b>(12%)</b>
2014	Management of the economy <b>(18%)</b>	Education <b>(12%)</b>	Electricity <b>(12%)</b>
2012	Unemployment <b>(23%)</b>	Education <b>(14%)</b>	Health <b>(13%)</b>
2008	Unemployment <b>(25%)</b>	Water supply <b>(11%)</b>	Education <b>(12%)</b>

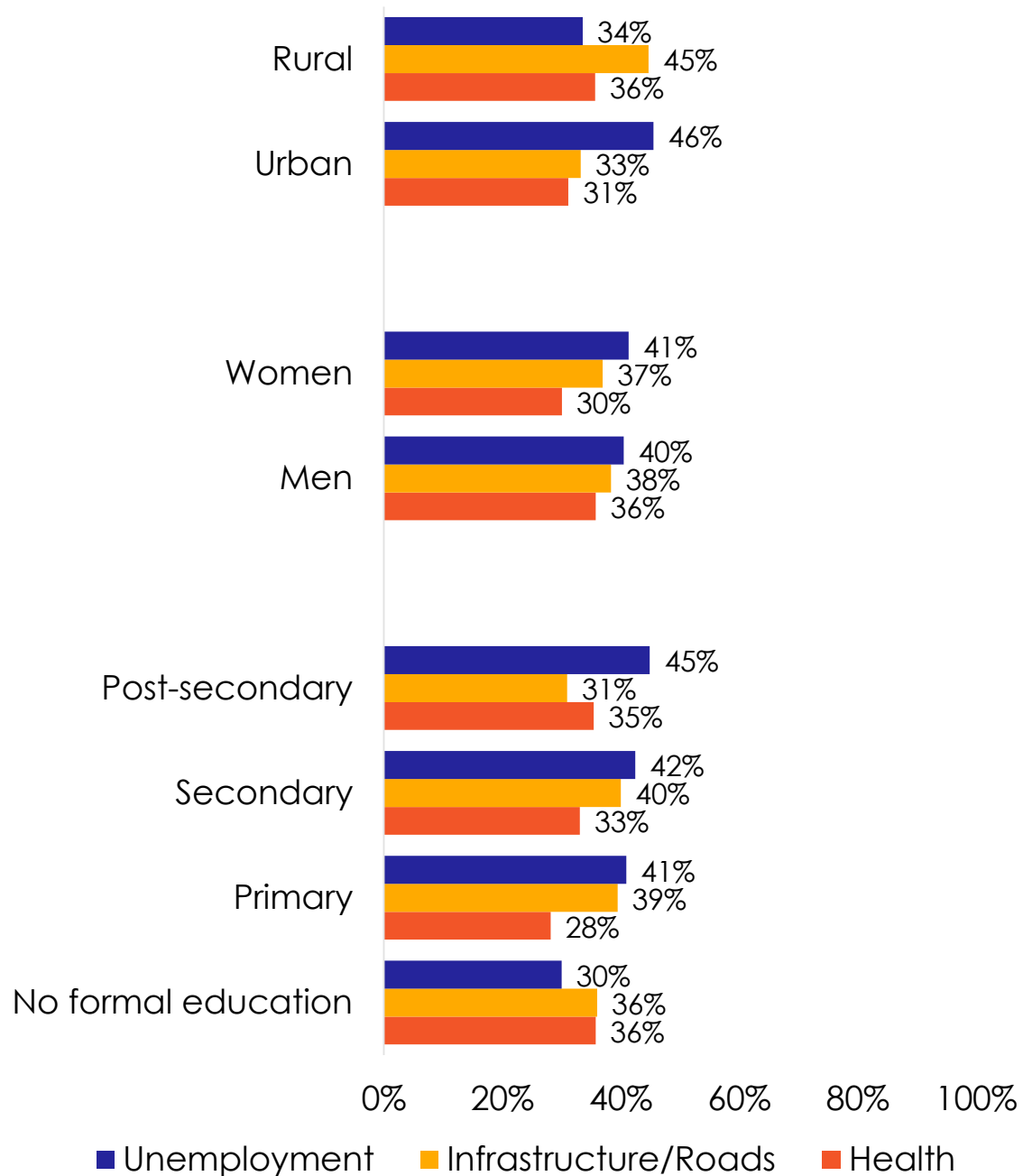
# Most important problems

| Ghana  
| by location, gender, and education | 2024

## Respondents were asked:

*In your opinion, what are the most important problems facing this country that government should address?*

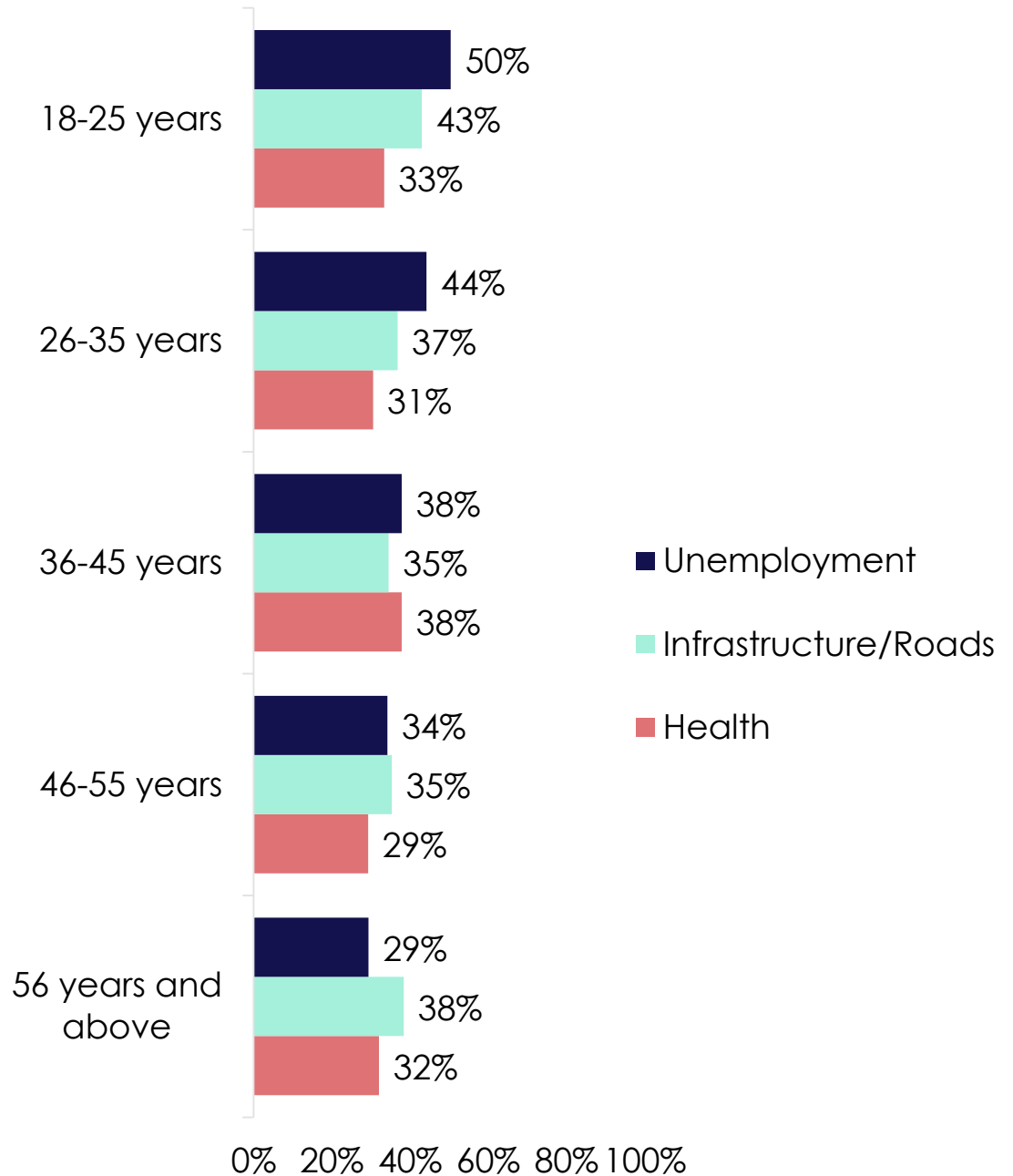
*(Respondents could give up to three answers.)*



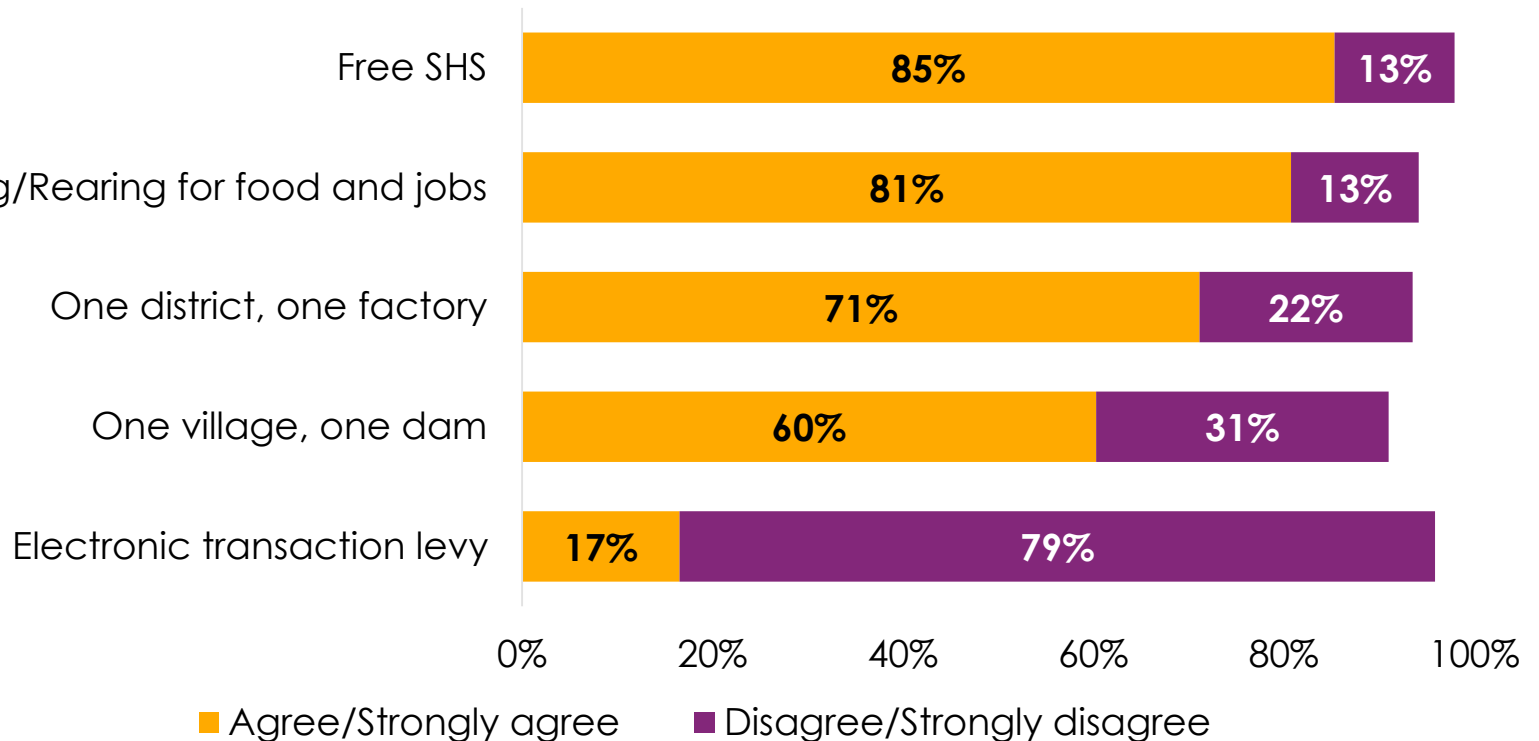
# Most important problems

| Ghana  
| by age  
| 2024

**Respondents were asked:**  
*In your opinion, what are the most important problems facing this country that government should address?  
(Respondents could give up to three answers.)*



# Should the next government retain these ongoing initiatives? | Ghana | 2024



**Respondents were asked:** Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statement: Regardless of which party wins the 2024 national elections, the next government should continue to implement the following initiatives, or have you not heard enough about them to say: The free senior high school or SHS programme? The one district, one factory initiative? The planting or rearing for food and jobs initiatives? The electronic transactions levy or E-levy? The one village, one dam initiative? ?

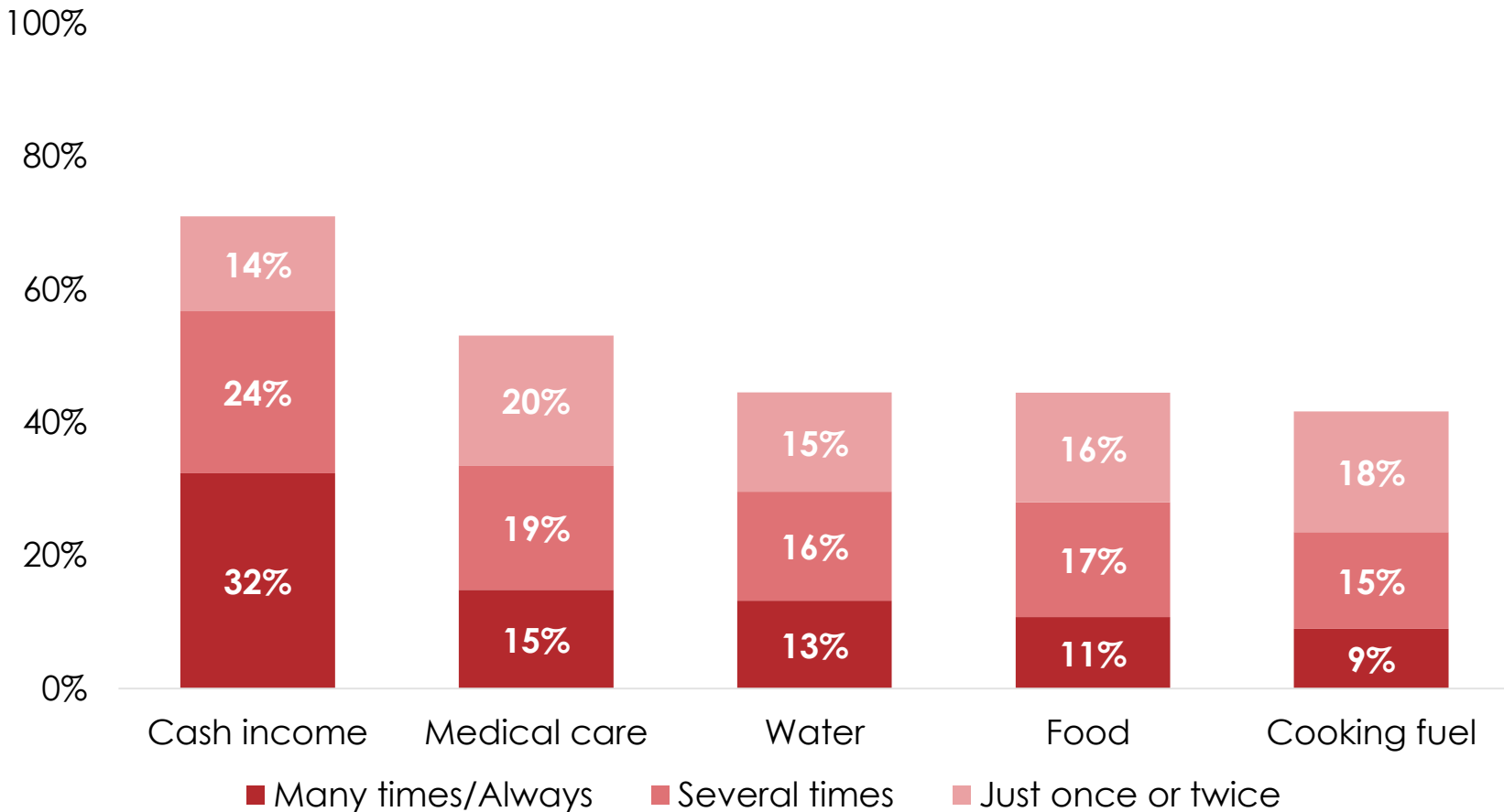


# Deprivation of basic necessities

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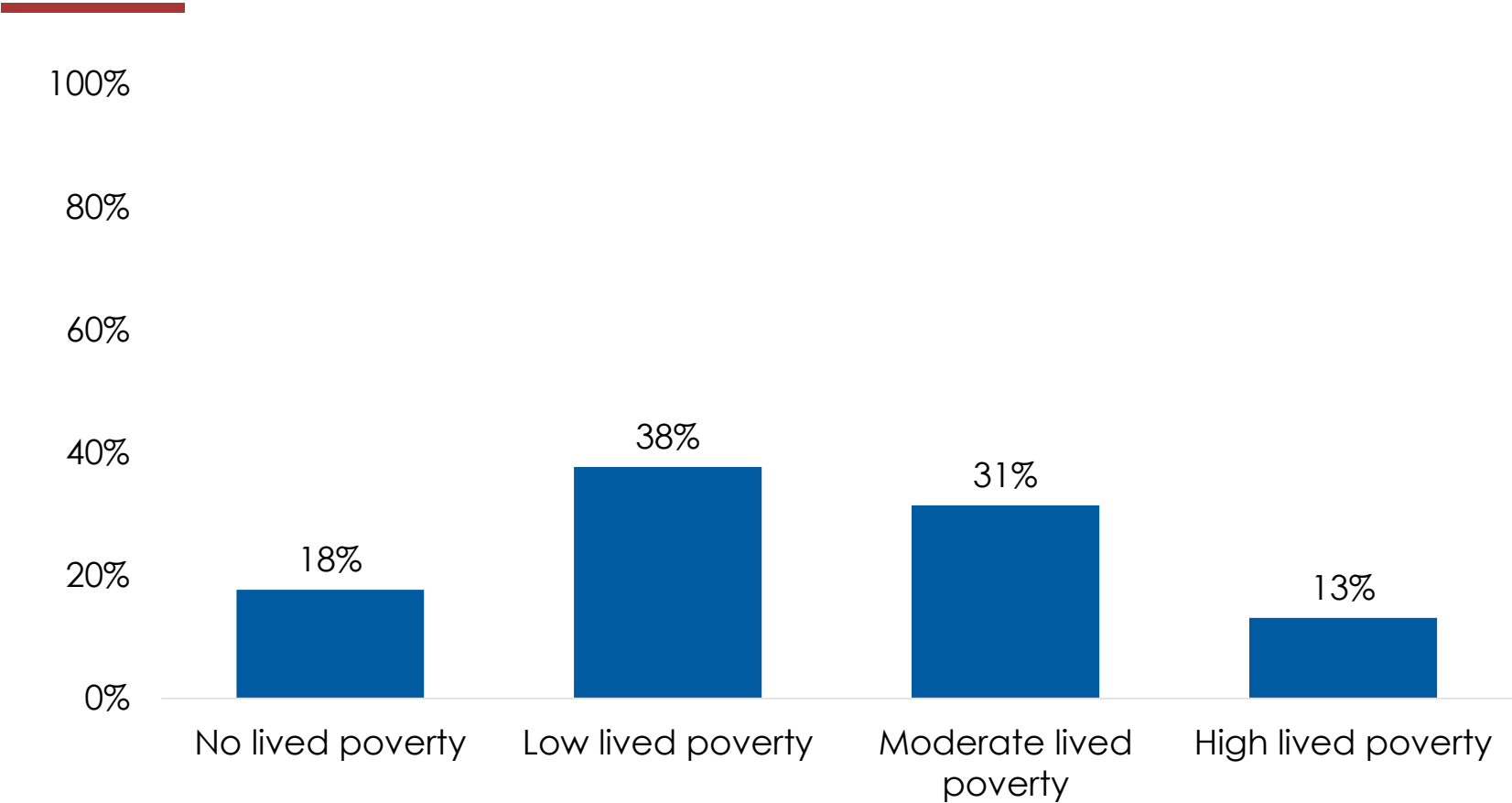


# Deprivation of basic necessities | Ghana | 2024



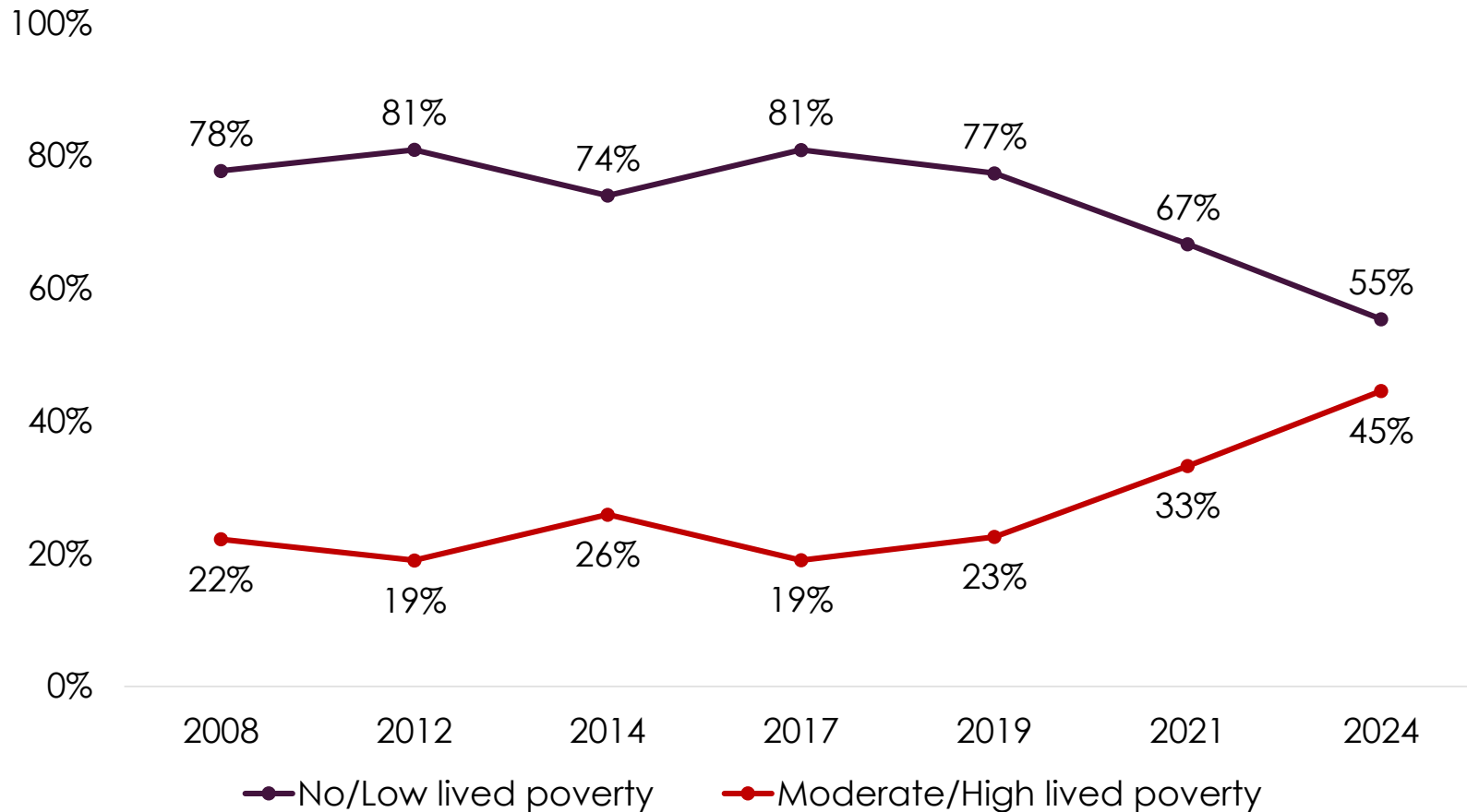
**Respondents were asked:** Over the past year, how often, if ever, have you or anyone in your family gone without: Enough food to eat? Enough clean water for home use? Medicines or medical treatment? Enough fuel to cook your food? A cash income?

# Lived poverty levels | Ghana | 2024



**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?

# Lived poverty trends | Ghana | 2008-2024

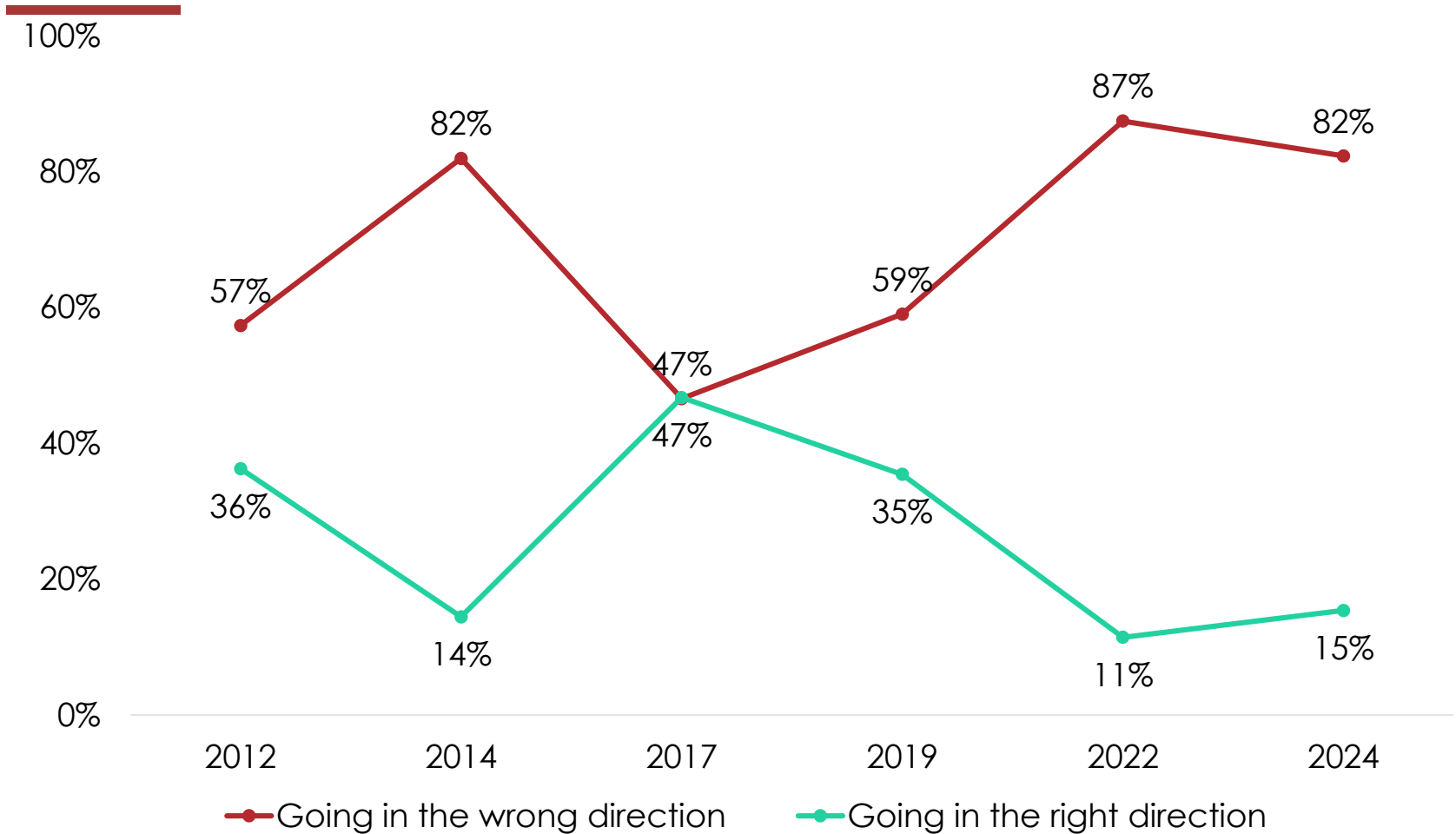


**Respondents were asked:** Over the past year, how often, if ever, have you or anyone in your family gone without: Enough food to eat? Enough clean water for home use? Medicines or medical treatment? Enough fuel to cook your food? A cash income?

# Citizens' assessments of economic and living conditions



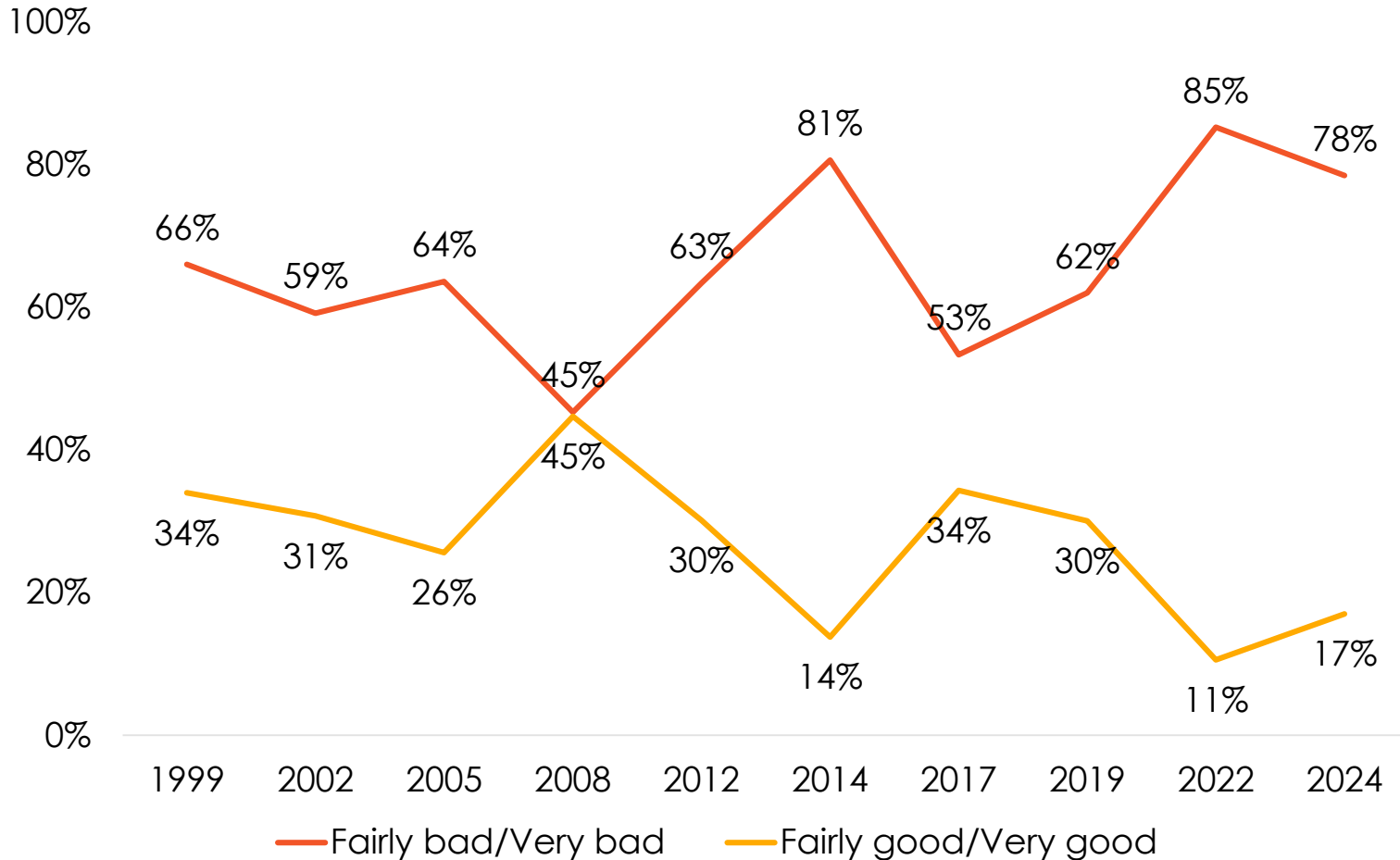
# Is the country going in the right direction? | Ghana | 2012-2024





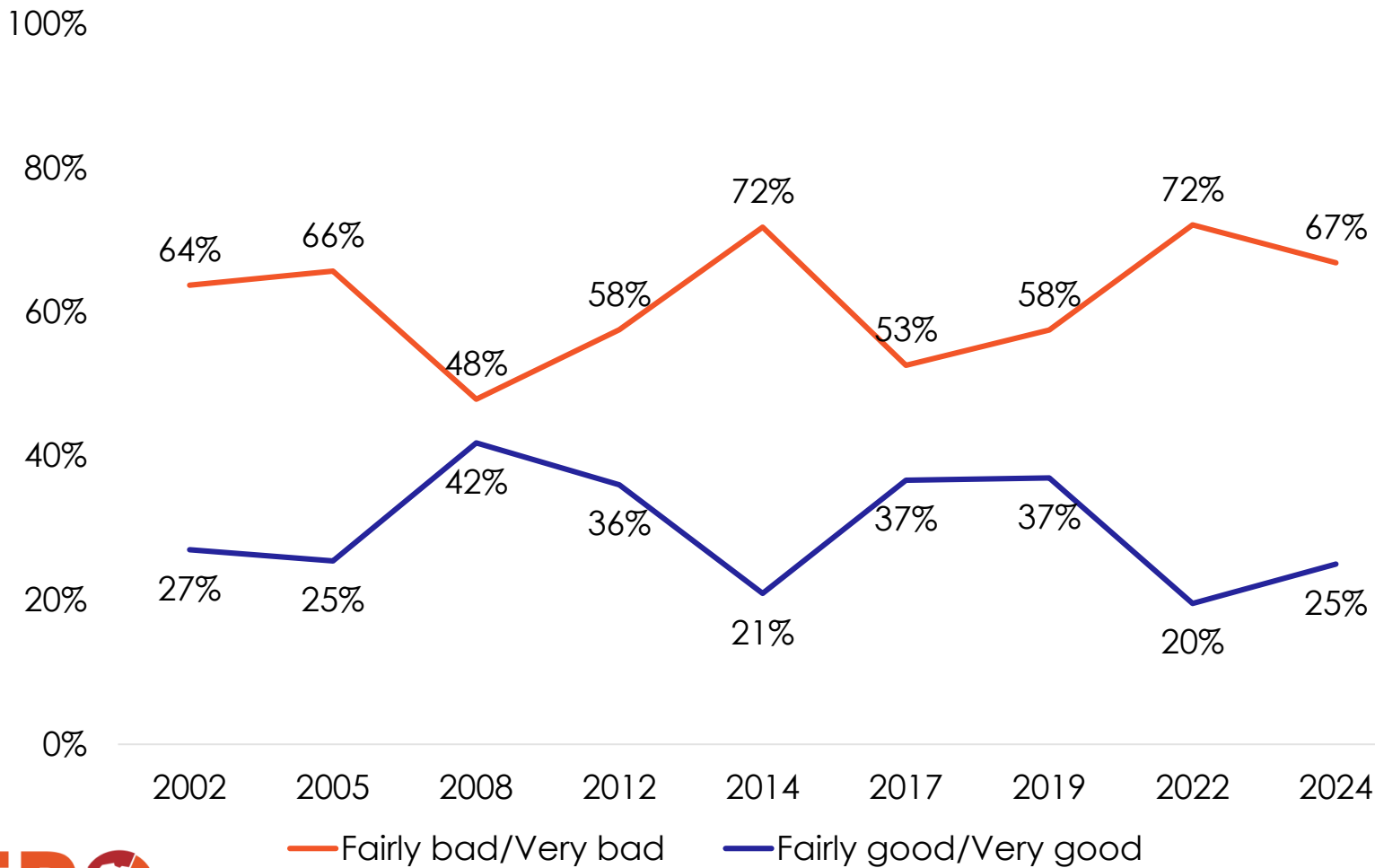
# Evaluation of country's economic condition

## | Ghana | 1999-2024

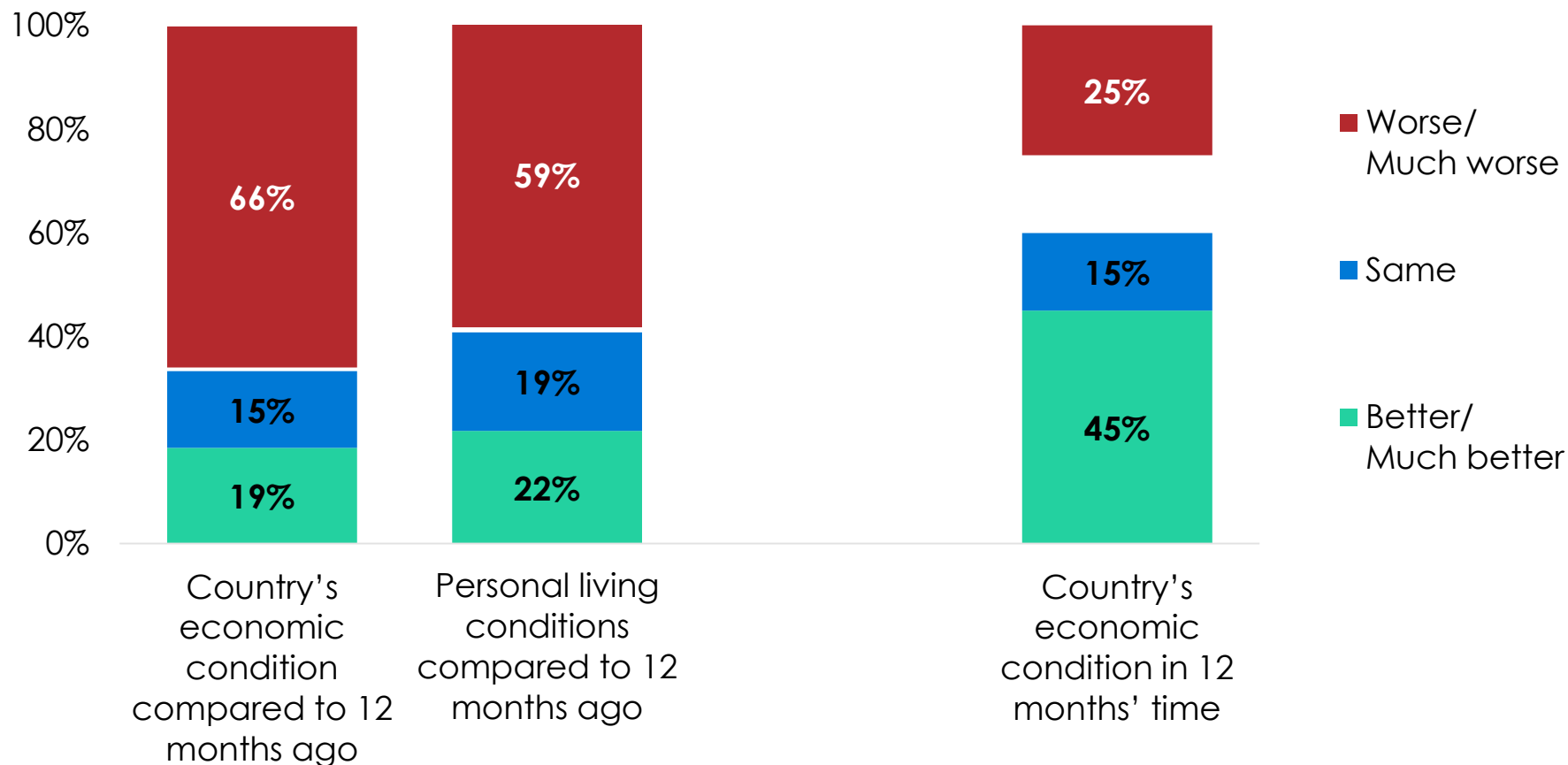


# Evaluation of personal living conditions | Ghana

## | 2002-2024



# Retrospective and prospective assessments of economic and living conditions | Ghana | 2024



## Respondents were asked:

Looking back, how do you rate the following compared to 12 months ago:

Economic condition of this country

Your living conditions?

Looking ahead, do you expect economic conditions in this country to be better or worse in 12 months' time?

# Assessments of government economic performance

## | Ghana | 2012-2024

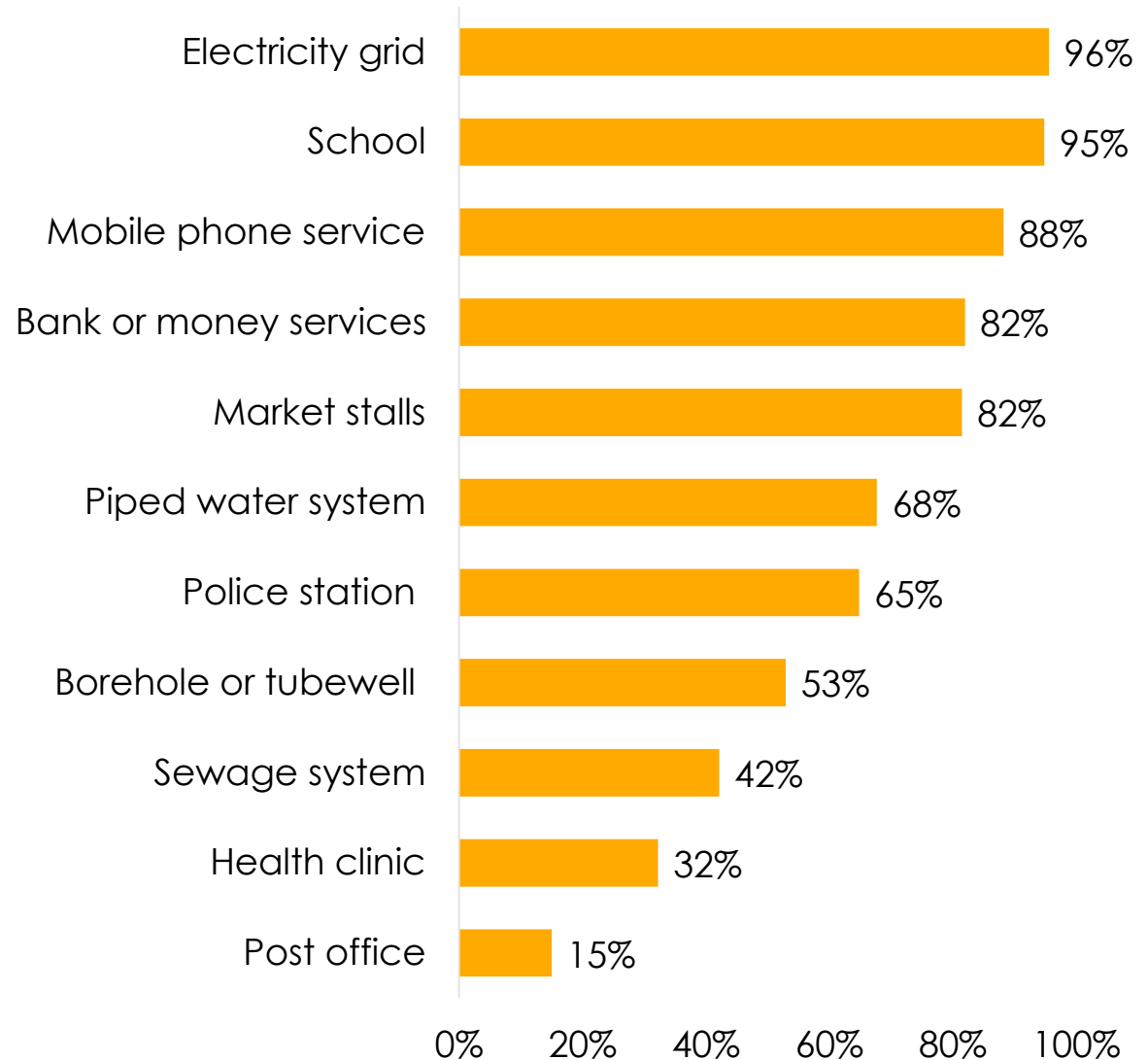
	2012	2014	2017	2019	2022	2024	Change 2022-2024 (pct,points)	Change 2012-2024 (pct,points)
<b>Managing the economy</b>	46%	25%	66%	51%	18%	19%	1	-27
<b>Creating jobs</b>	32%	21%	45%	42%	16%	18%	2	-14
<b>Improving the living standard of the poor</b>	34%	21%	53%	41%	15%	17%	2	-17
<b>Narrowing income gaps</b>	27%	19%	36%	29%	8%	11%	3	-16
<b>Keeping prices stable</b>	23%	17%	44%	29%	6%	8%	2	-15

# Public service delivery



# Presence of public infrastructure and services

| Ghana  
| 2024

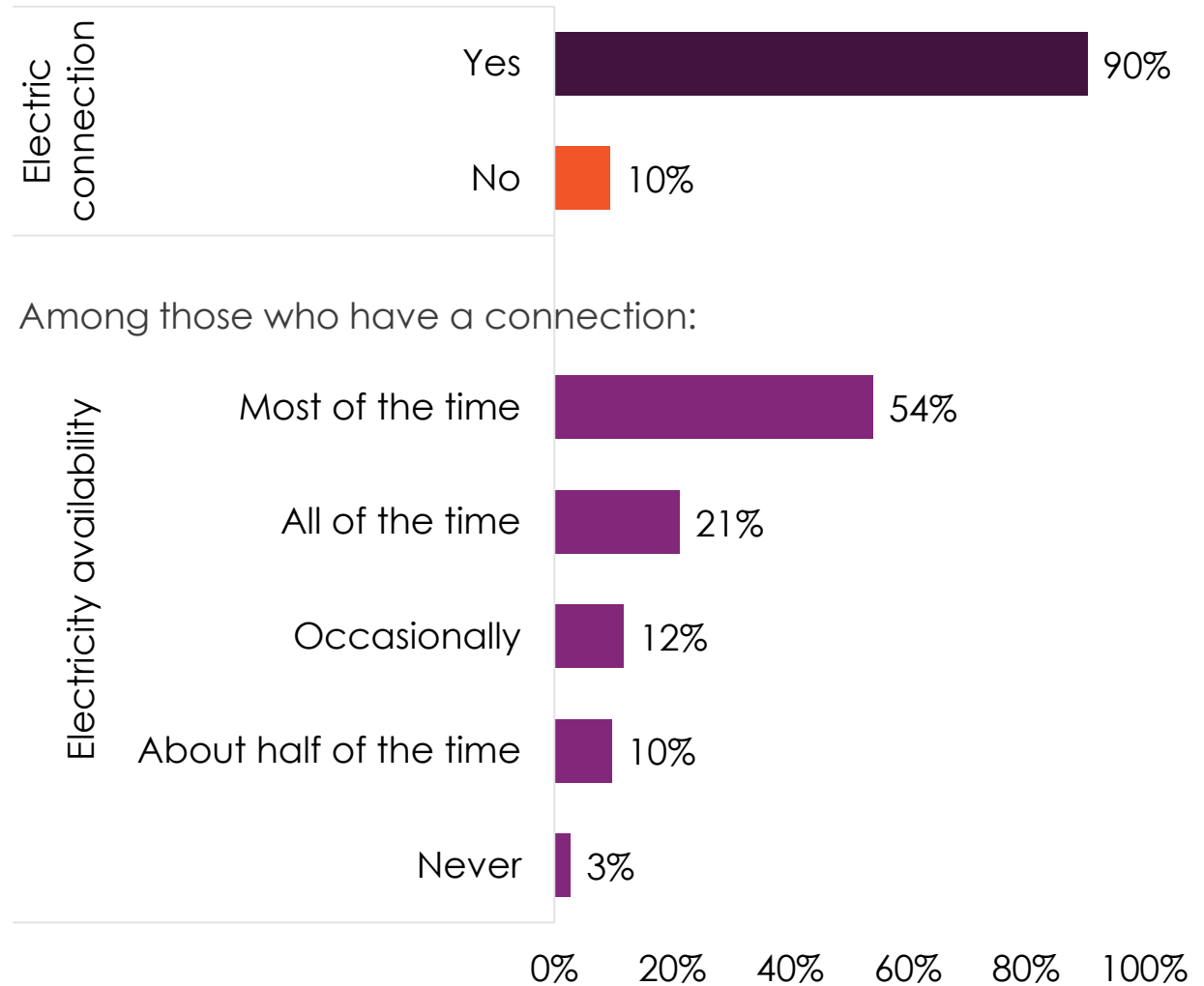


*Survey enumerators recorded the presence or absence in the enumeration area of key services and facilities, including electricity, piped water, and sewage systems that most houses can access; a school; a clinic; a police station; and a post office.*



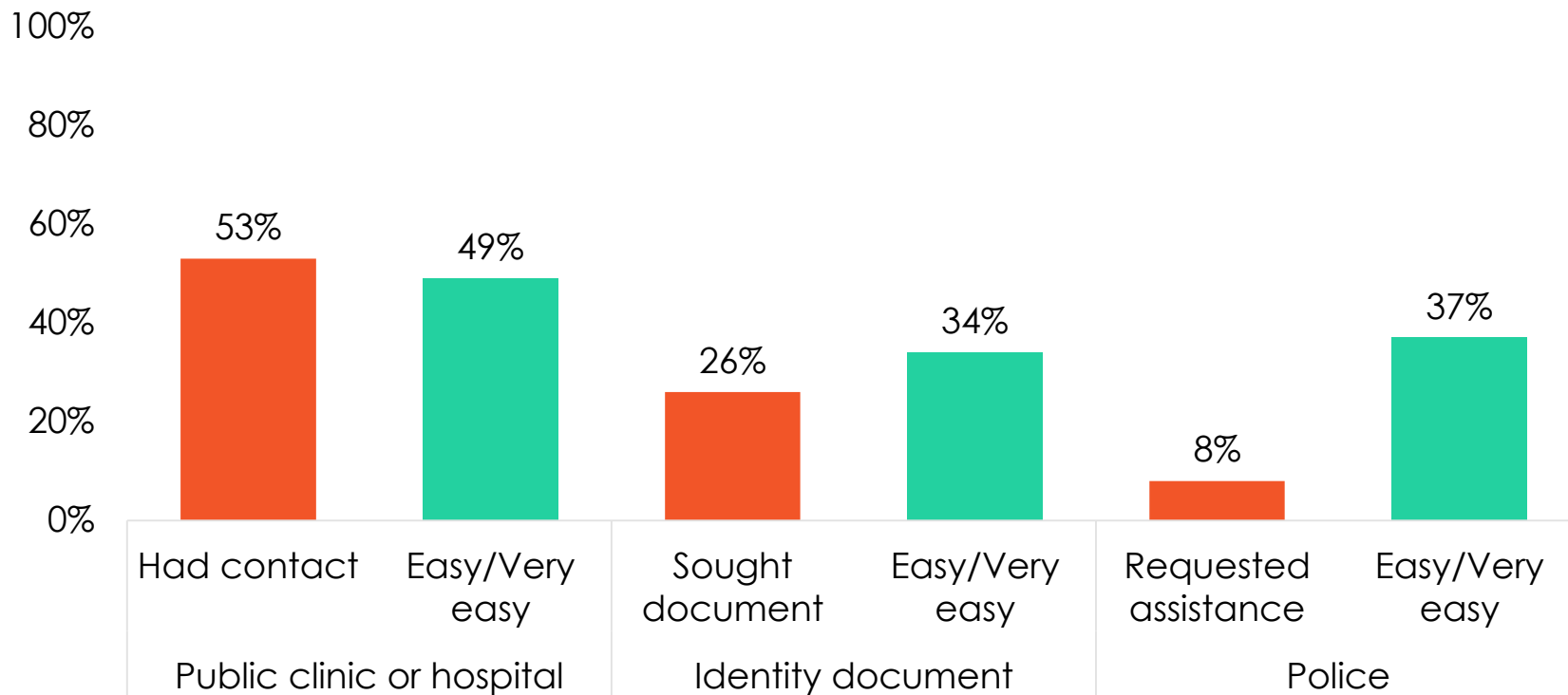
# Electricity connection and availability

| Ghana  
| 2024



**Respondents were asked:** Do you have an electric connection to your home from the Electricity Co. of Ghana (ECG) or the Northern Electricity Distribution Co. Ltd. (NEDCO)? [If “yes”:] How often is electricity actually available from this connection?

# Ease of obtaining public services | Ghana | 2024



**Respondents were asked: In the past 12 months, have you:**

*Had contact with a public clinic or hospital?*

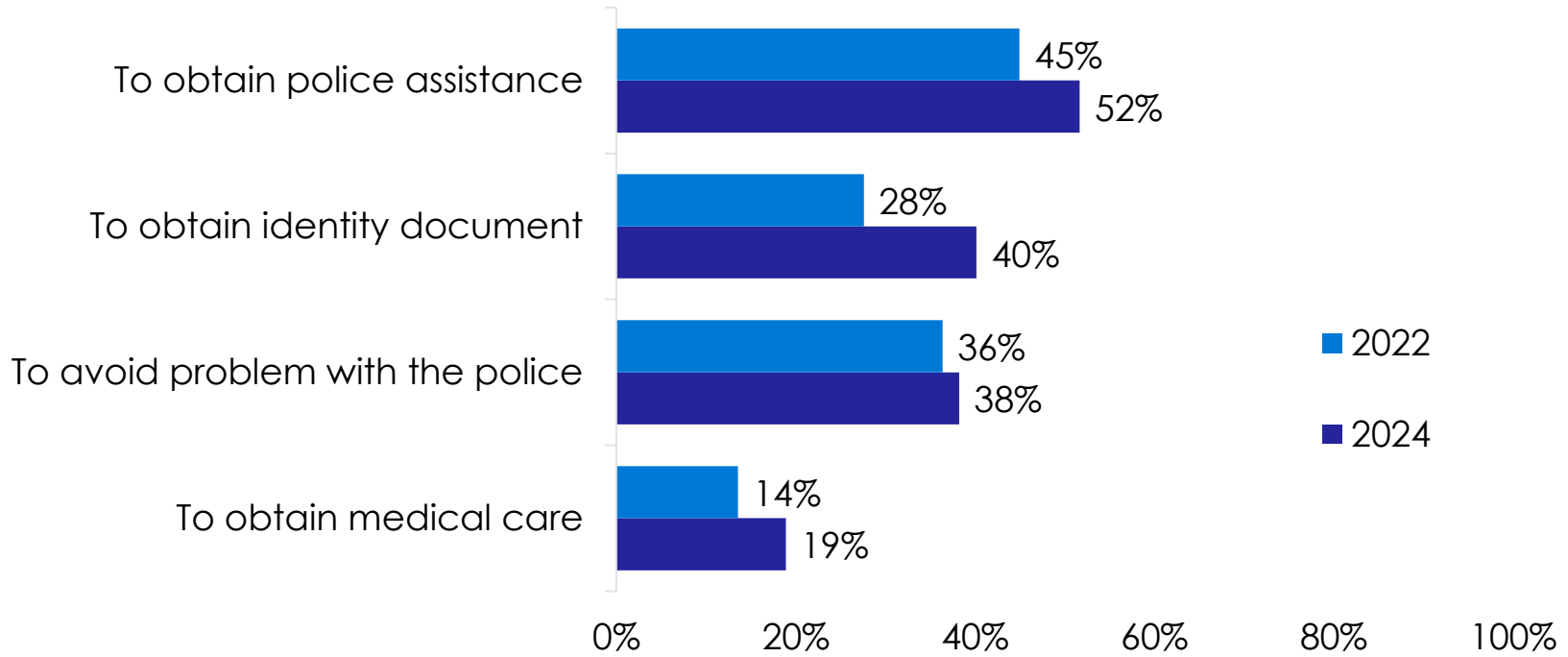
*Tried to get an identity document like a birth certificate, driver's license, passport or voter's card, or permit from government?*

*Requested assistance from the police?*

*(% "yes")*

**Respondents who had contact with these public services were asked:** *How easy or difficult was it to [obtain the needed services]? (% who say "easy" or "very easy")*

# Paid bribe to access public services | Ghana | 2022-2024



**Respondents were asked: In the past 12 months:**

- Have you had contact with a public clinic or hospital?
- Have you tried to get an identity document like a birth certificate, driver's license, passport or voter's card, or permit from government?
- Have you requested assistance from the police?
- How often have you encountered the police in other situations, like at checkpoints, during identity checks or traffic stops, or during an investigation?

**Respondents who had contact with these public services were asked:** And how often, if ever, did you have to pay a bribe, give a gift, or do a favour [for a public official to obtain the needed service or avoid problems]?

(% who say "once or twice," "a few times," or "often")



# Assessments of government performance in public service delivery | Ghana | 2012-2024

	2012	2014	2017	2019	2022	2024	Change 2022-2024 (pct. points)	Change 2012-2024 (pct. points)
Improving basic health services	63%	36%	64%	61%	41%	45%	4	-17
Addressing educational needs	59%	34%	80%	74%	38%	51%	13	-8
Providing water and sanitation services	48%	31%	59%	56%	30%	39%	10	-9
Maintaining roads and bridges	50%	29%	46%	38%	28%	32%	4	-18
Providing reliable supply of electricity	48%	23%	71%	67%	50%	53%	3	5

# Key findings

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- Unemployment (41%) is the most frequently cited problem that Ghanaians want the government to address, followed by infrastructure/roads (38%) and health (33%).
- There is a strong citizens' demand for the next government to continue the free senior high school (85%), planting for food and jobs (81%), one district-one factory (71%), and one village-one dam (60%) initiatives.
  - But 79% favour discontinuing the electronic transactions levy (e-levy).

# Key findings

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- Seven in 10 Ghanaians say they or someone in their household went without a cash income at least once during the previous year. Many also report shortages of medical care (54%), water (44%), food (44%), and cooking fuel (42%).
- In the past 12 months, eight in 10 Ghanaians (82%) have experienced low, moderate, or high levels of lived poverty.
- Since 2017, the share of Ghanaians who have experienced moderate or high lived poverty has increased from 19% to 45%.

# Key findings

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- A majority of Ghanaians say the country is heading in the wrong direction and offer negative assessments of the country's economic condition and their personal living conditions.
- Fewer than half (45%) expect the country's economic condition to improve over the coming year.
- Ratings of the government's economic performance have declined sharply and are overwhelmingly negative.



# Key findings

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- Nine out of 10 Ghanaians (90%) have electricity connected to their homes. Among those who have a connection, 75% say power is available all or most of the time.
- About half (52%) of Ghanaians who sought police assistance during the previous year say they had to pay a bribe.
- Among the 72% of Ghanaians who have medical insurance, half (50%) say they are not satisfied with their coverage.
  - About three in 10 citizens (28%) say they do not have health insurance.
- More than half of citizens say the government is doing a good job on education (51%) and provision of electricity (53%), but fewer approve of its performance on health care, water and sanitation, and maintaining roads and bridges

# Thank you

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