Corruption in Africa: Insights from the citizen perspective

AFRO BAROMETER
Let the people have a say

1 Perception of increased corruption

58% Perceive increase in corruption

A majority of Africans say corruption increased in the past year, with notable surges in Senegal (+39 percentage points) and Burkina Faso (+28) and a huge drop in Benin (-61).

2 COVID-19 pandemic and corruption

More than two-thirds believe substantial resources for the COVID-19 response were lost to corruption.

68% Say resources were lost

3 Police corruption

46%

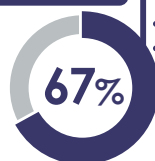Almost half of Africans perceive most or all police officials as corrupt, the highest among key public institutions.

4 Bribery in accessing public services

Among citizens who sought key public services during the past year, many had to pay bribes.

36% Police assistance

20% Medical services

31% Government documents

19% Education

5 Government performance in fighting corruption

REPORT CARD
FAIL

Two-thirds of Africans say their governments are performing poorly in combating corruption.

67%

6 Fear of retaliation

Only 26% believe one can report corruption without fear of retaliation.

Report corruption without fear **26%**

Afrobarometer surveys provide insights into African experiences and evaluations of democracy, governance, and quality of life. The latest survey round (2021/2023) covers 39 countries.