



REPOA
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News release

Perceived corruption levels drop in key public institutions, but popular trust yet to follow suit

Popular perceptions of corruption in Tanzania's public institutions have declined significantly, including for four agencies that are key to the fight against corruption: the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA), the Prevention and Combating Corruption Bureau (PCCB), the judiciary, and the police.

According to Afrobarometer's latest survey, perceptions of corruption in these four agencies have declined by double-digit percentage points in the period 2014-2017.

But public trust in these institutions has not (yet) shown comparable improvements.

These data are being released as the government of the United Republic of Tanzania continues to wage war against economic sabotage, including record revenue collections by the TRA and the PCCB's recovery of 78.2bn/- over the past two financial years of public funds which may have been embezzled. For more details, see Afrobarometer Dispatch No. 178 at www.afrobarometer.org.

Key findings

- Perceptions of corruption in four key public institution thought to be among the most corrupt have declined significantly since 2014. About one in three Tanzanians (36%) think that "most" or "all" of the police are corrupt, down from 50% in 2014. One in five citizens (20%) say the same about judges and magistrates, 14% about TRA officials, 12% about PCCB officials (see Figure 1 below).
- The TRA enjoyed the largest decline in perceived corruption, a 23-percentage-point drop in the proportion of citizens who view "all" or "most" TRA officials as corrupt. Double-digit decreases were also recorded for the PCCB (18), judges and magistrates (14), and the police (14) (Table 1).
- But the decline in perceived corruption in public institutions has not produced a corresponding increase in popular trust (Table 2).

Afrobarometer

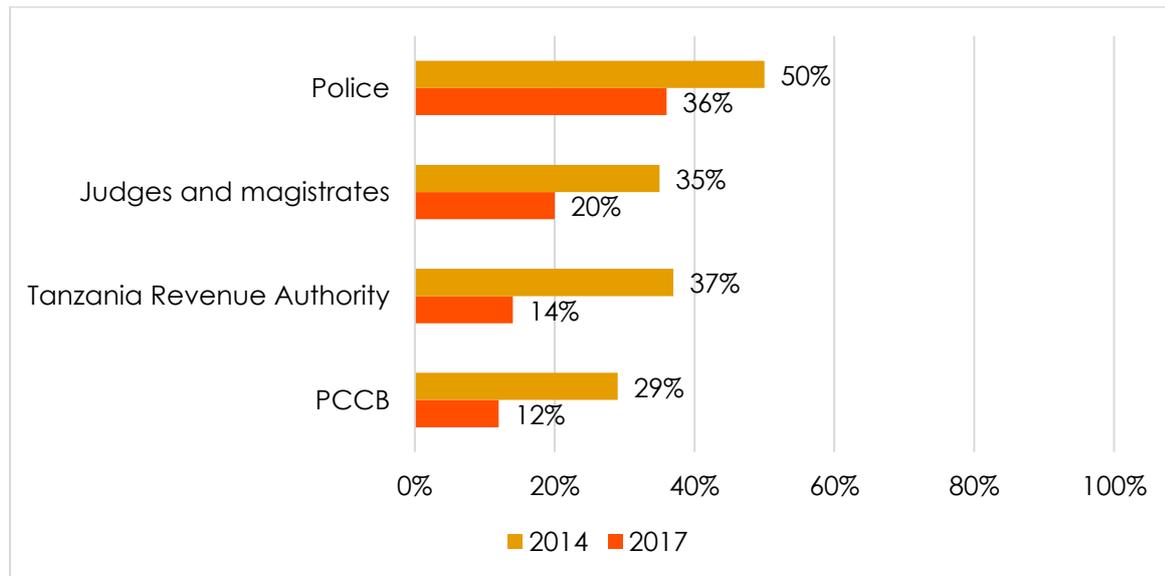
Afrobarometer is a pan-African, non-partisan research network that conducts public attitude surveys on democracy, governance, economic conditions, and related issues in Africa. Six rounds of surveys were conducted in up to 37 African countries between 1999 and 2016, and Round 7 surveys (2016/2017) are currently underway. Afrobarometer conducts face-to-face interviews in the language of the respondent's choice with nationally representative samples.

The Afrobarometer team in Tanzania, led by REPOA, interviewed 2,400 adult Tanzanians in April-June 2017. A sample of this size yields country-level results with a margin of error of +/-2%

at a 95% confidence level. Previous surveys have been conducted in Tanzania in 2014, 2012, 2008, 2005, 2003, and 2001.

Charts

Figure 1: Perceived corruption in public institutions | Tanzania | 2014 and 2017



Respondents were asked: How many of the following do you think are involved in corruption, or haven't you heard enough about them to say? (% who say "most of them" or "all of them")

Table 1: Perceived corruption in public institutions | Tanzania | 2014-2017

	Most/All are corrupt		Change 2014-2017 (percentage points)
	2014	2017	
Tanzania Revenue Authority	37%	14%	-23
Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB)	29%	11%	-18
Local government councillors	25%	10%	-15
Police	50%	36%	-14
Judges and magistrates	35%	21%	-14
Government officials	25%	12%	-13
Members of Parliament	21%	8%	-13
Office of the president	14%	4%	-10

Respondents were asked: How many of the following do you think are involved in corruption, or haven't you heard enough about them to say? (% who said "most of them" or "all of them")

Table 2: Perceived trust in public institutions | Tanzania | 2014 and 2017

	Trust somewhat/a lot		Change 2014-2017 (percentage points)
	2014	2017	
Parliament	72%	76%	+4
Police	61%	62%	+1
Courts of law	69%	66%	-3
Office of the president	80%	73%	-7
Local government council	72%	64%	-8
Tanzania Revenue Authority	60%	48%	-12
Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB)	58%	46%	-12

Respondents were asked: How much do you trust each of the following, or haven't you heard enough about them to say? (% who said "somewhat" or "a lot")

For more information, please contact:

REPOA
 Stephen Mwombela
 Telephone: +255 22 270 0083
 Email: smwombela@repa.or.tz

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