



Dar es Salaam, Tanzania  
05 April 2023

## News release

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### **Tanzanians say climate change is making life worse, demand collective action to fight it**

A majority of Tanzanians who are aware of climate change say it is making life worse in their country, a new Afrobarometer survey shows.

While fewer than half of citizens say they have heard of climate change, perceptions of its adverse effects have increased by 23 percentage points since 2021.

Among those who have heard of climate change, a majority of citizens say the government is doing a good job of trying to limit it. But they see addressing climate change as a collective responsibility, and they want greater engagement on the issue by business and industry, developed nations, and ordinary citizens as well as the government.

#### **Key findings**

- About a third (32%) of Tanzanians say they have heard of climate change (Figure 1).
  - Awareness of climate change is higher among urbanites (46%) and men (39%) than among rural residents (24%) and women (25%) (Figure 2). More educated citizens are more likely to be aware of climate change than those with less education.
- Among citizens who are aware of climate change, more than eight in 10 (81%) say it is making life in their country worse (Figure 3). Perceptions of the adverse effects of climate change have increased by 18 percentage points since 2021 (63%).
- For Tanzanians, addressing climate change is a collective responsibility.
  - Almost nine in 10 Tanzanians who are aware of climate change “agree” or “strongly agree” that citizens can help limit climate change (86%) and want their government to take steps now to limit climate change, even if it is expensive, causes job losses, or takes a toll on the economy (86%) (Figure 4).
  - Most assign primary responsibility for fighting climate change and reducing its impact to ordinary citizens (45%) and the government (41%) (Figure 5).
  - Almost two-thirds (64%) of Tanzanians say the government is doing a “fairly” or “very” good job of addressing climate change (Figure 6).
  - But most demand “a lot more” climate action from the government (88%), business and industry (87%), developed countries (81%), and ordinary citizens (78%) (Figure 7).

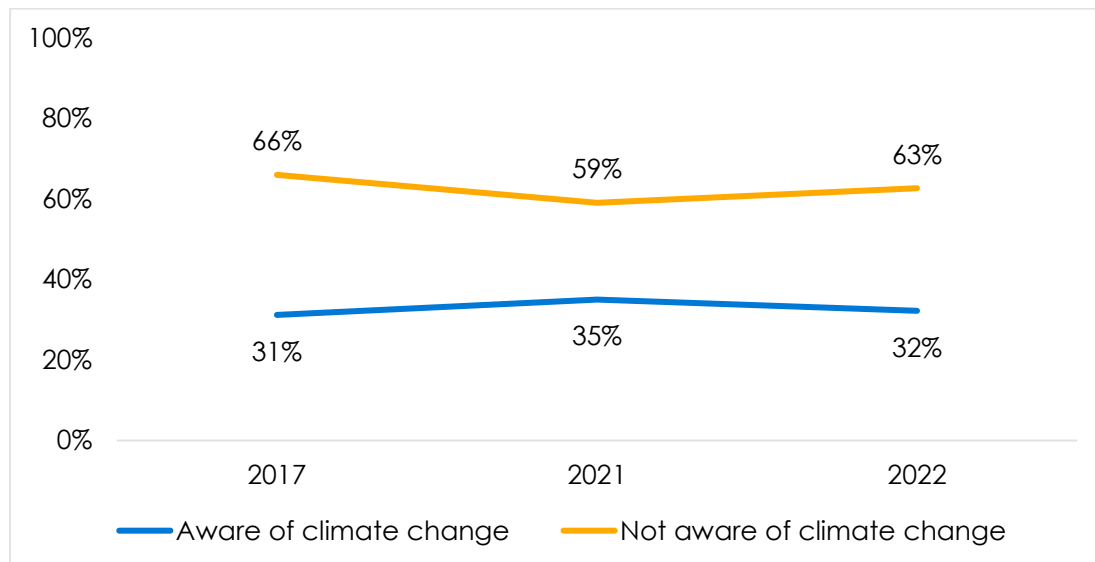
## Afrobarometer surveys

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 conducted in up to 39 countries since 1999. Round 9 surveys are being completed in early 2023. Afrobarometer conducts face-to-face interviews in the language of the respondent's choice.

The Afrobarometer team in Tanzania, led by REPOA, interviewed a nationally representative, random, stratified probability sample of 2,400 Tanzanian adults in September-October 2022. A sample of this size yields country-level results with a margin of error of +/-2 percentage points at a 95% confidence level. Previous surveys were conducted in Tanzania in 2001, 2003, 2005, 2008, 2012, 2014, 2017 and 2021.

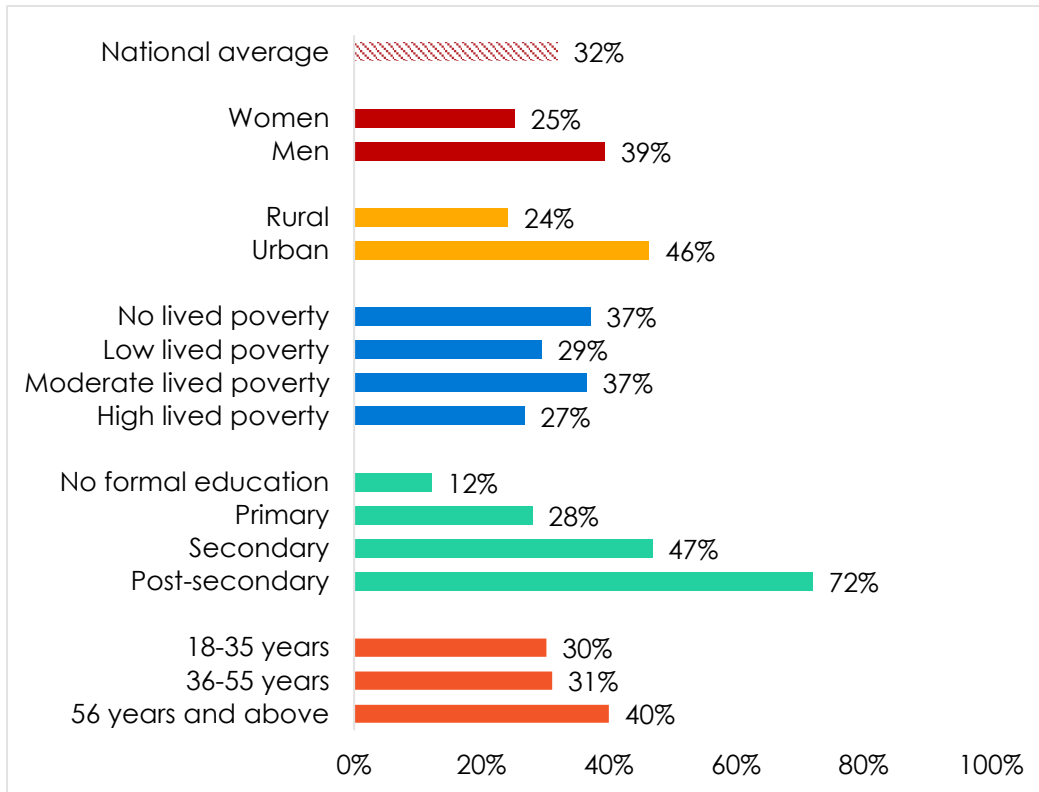
## Charts

**Figure 1: Awareness of climate change | Tanzania | 2017-2022**



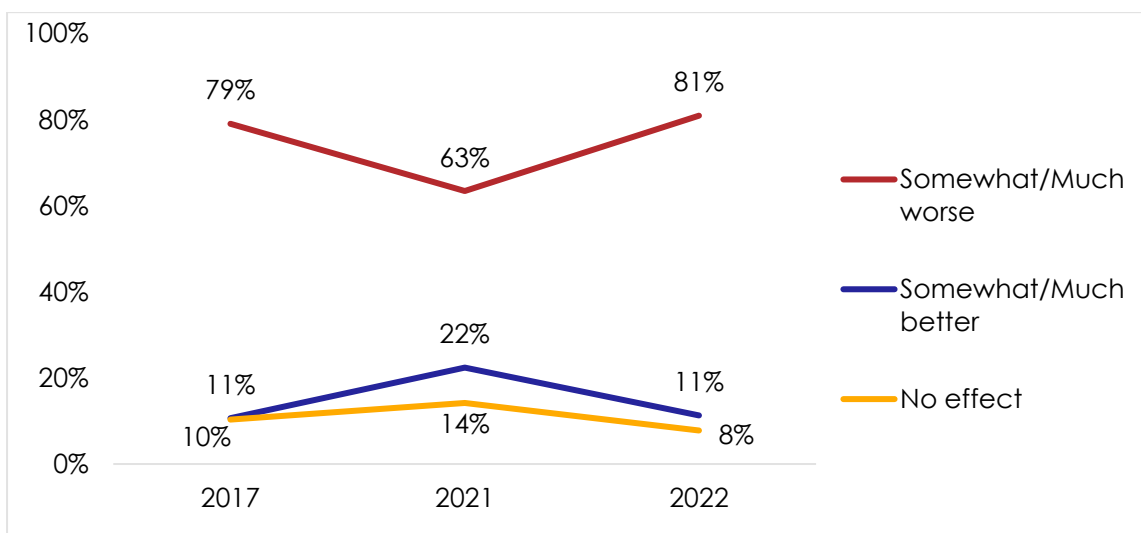
**Respondents were asked:** *Have you heard about climate change, or haven't you had the chance to hear about this yet?*

**Figure 2: Awareness of climate change** | by demographic group | Tanzania | 2022



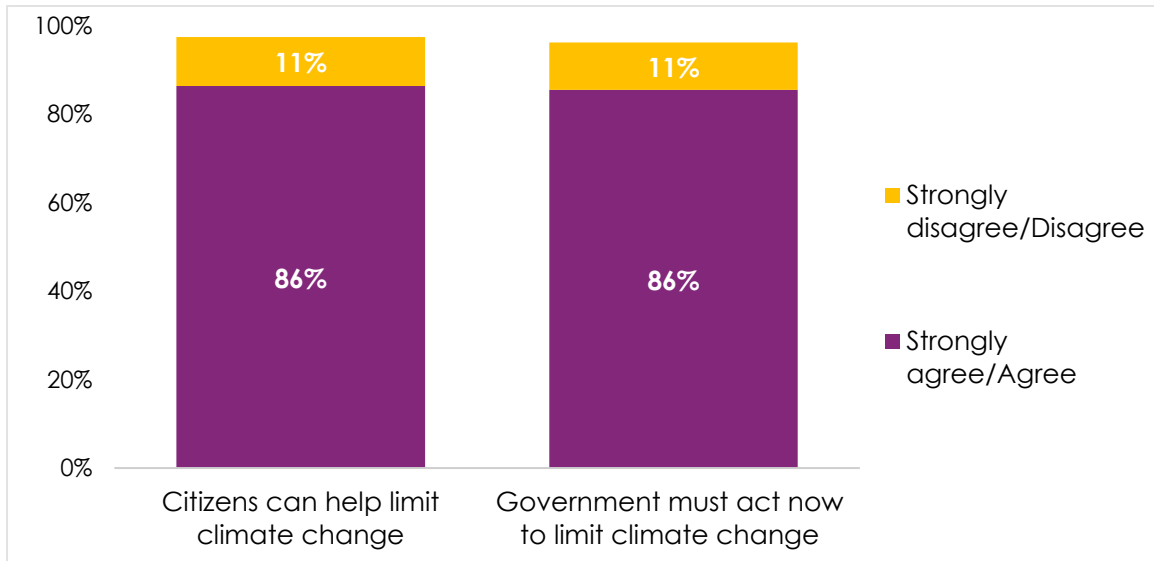
**Respondents were asked:** Have you heard about climate change, or haven't you had the chance to hear about this yet? (% who say "yes")

**Figure 3: Effect of climate change** | Tanzania | 2017-2022



**Respondents who are aware of climate change were asked:** Do you think climate change is making life in Tanzania better or worse, or haven't you heard enough to say? (Respondents who are not aware of climate change are excluded.)

**Figure 4: Government and citizen roles in limiting climate change | Tanzania | 2022**



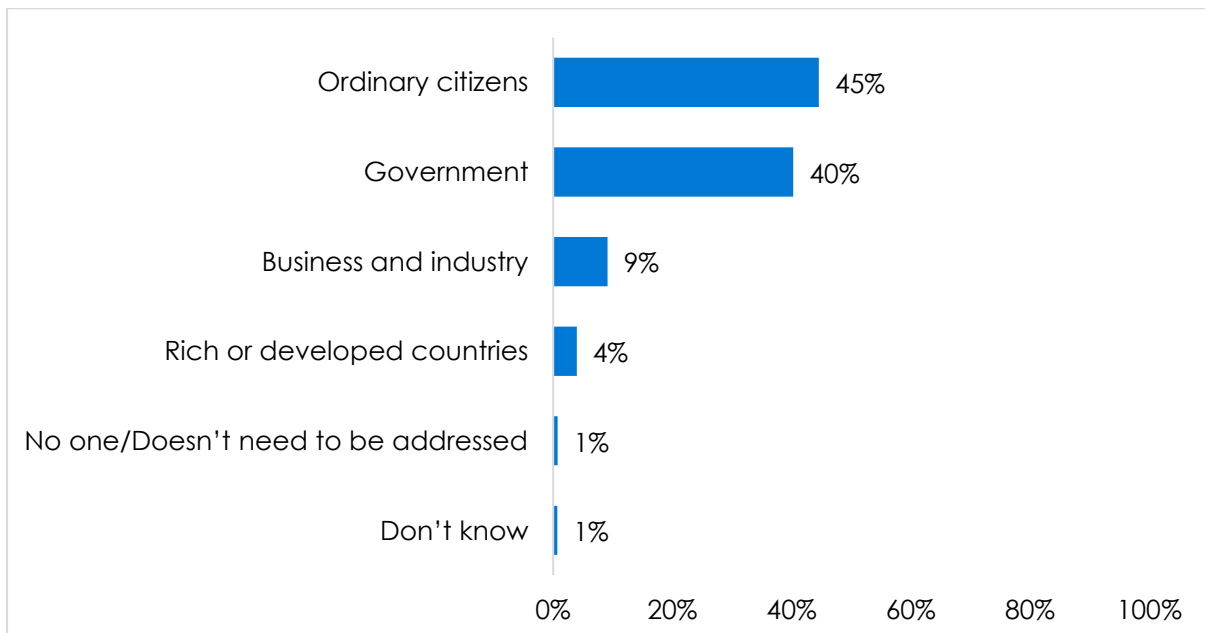
**Respondents who are aware of climate change were asked:** For each of the following statements, please tell me whether you disagree or agree:

*Ordinary Tanzanians can play a role in limiting climate change.*

*It is important for our government to take steps now to limit climate change in the future, even if it is expensive or causes some job losses or other harm to our economy.*

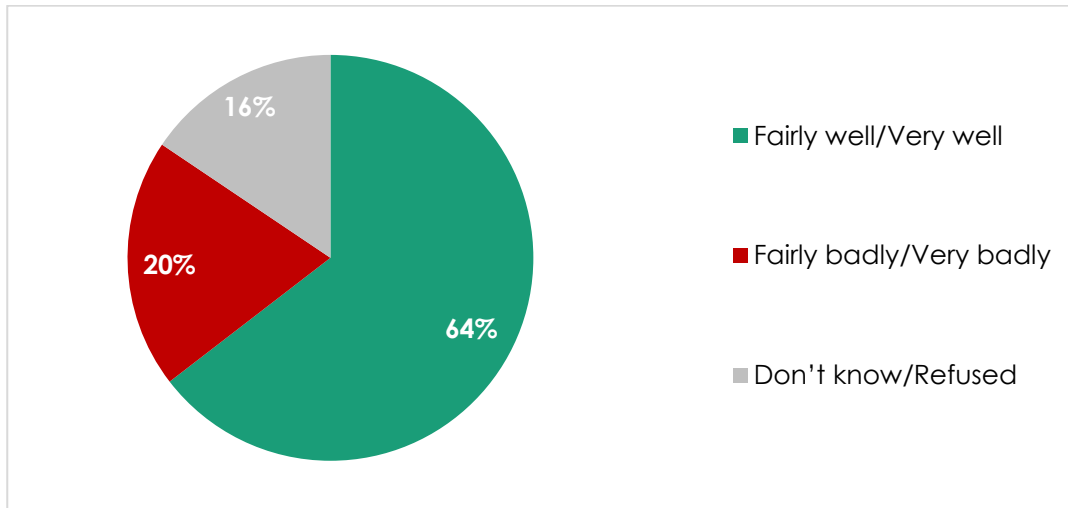
(% who “agree” or “strongly agree” with each statement. Respondents who are not aware of climate change are excluded.)

**Figure 5: Who has primary responsibility for limiting climate change? | Tanzania | 2022**



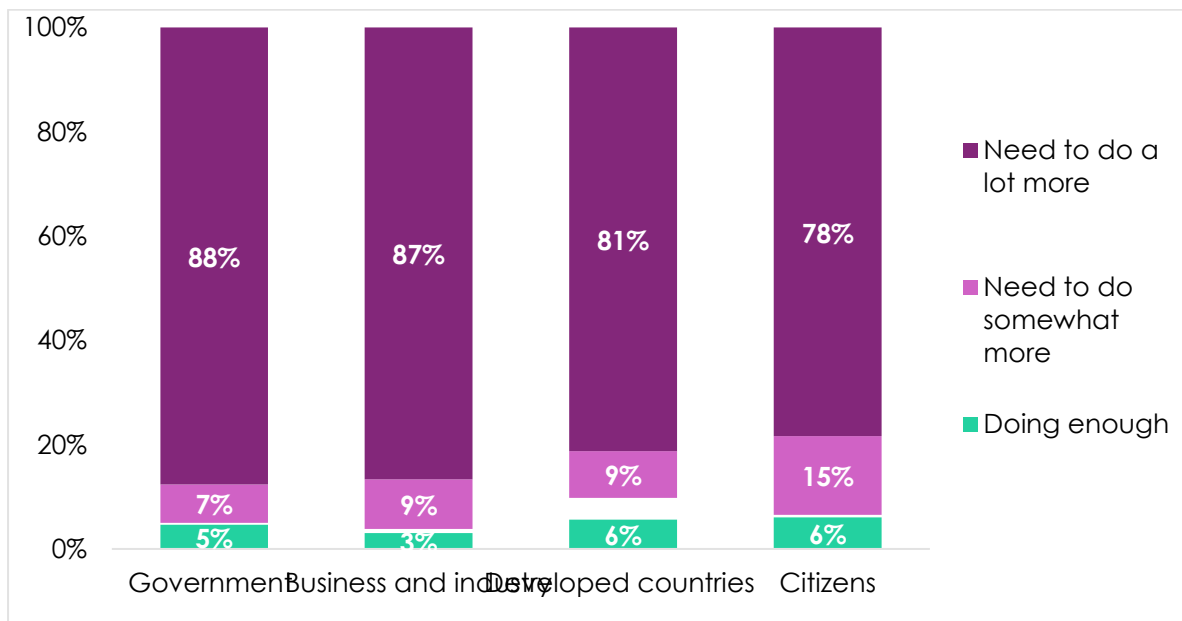
**Respondents who are aware of climate change were asked:** Who do you think should have primary responsibility for trying to limit climate change and reduce its impact? (Respondents who are not aware of climate change are excluded.)

**Figure 6: Government performance in handling climate change | Tanzania | 2022**



**Respondents were asked:** How well or badly would you say the current government is handling the following matters, or haven't you heard enough to say: Addressing the problem of climate change?

**Figure 7: Are stakeholders doing enough to limit climate change? | Tanzania | 2022**



**Respondents who are aware of climate change were asked:** Do you think each of the following are doing enough to limit climate change, or do they need to do more, or haven't you heard enough to say? (Respondents who are not aware of climate change are excluded.)

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