



CITIZENS ASSESSMENT OF PRESIDENT TINUBU'S PERFORMANCE, ONE YEAR IN OFFICE

➤➤ HUNGER, POVERTY & DISSATISFACTION TRAIL PRESIDENT TINUBU'S 1ST YEAR IN OFFICE – API NATIONAL SURVEY

Survey Highlights

- 78% of Nigerians rate President Bola Tinubu's job performance for the past year in office as abysmal, stating that the country is heading in the wrong direction (81%) and expressing profound sadness with the current state of the nation (84%).
- Hunger (36%), the Inability to meet basic needs (28%), Unemployment (13%), and Increased Insecurity were identified as the biggest challenges facing citizens today, as 74% of Nigerians affirmed that their personal economic situation has worsened under President Tinubu.
- Over 8 in 10 Nigerians rated the performance of the 10th Senate under Senate President Godswill Akpabio as dismal, compared to 79% who rated the performance of the House of Representatives under Speaker Tajudeen Abass, and 75% rated the performance of the Judiciary under CJN Olukayode Ariwoola, poorly.
- 68% do not believe any of the cabinet ministers have performed well. However, 32% identified the Minister of Education, Tahir Mamman (27%); Minister of the FCT, Nyesom Wike (25%); Minister of Works and Housing, Dave Umahi (21%); Minister of Communication, Innovation and Digital Economy, Bosun Tijani (14%); and the Coordinating Minister of Health and Social Welfare, Ali Pate (12) as the performing cabinet members.
- On the other hand, the non-performing cabinet members are the Minister of Power, Adebayo Adedun (44%); Minister of Works and Housing [again], Dave Umahi (30%); Minister of Finance and Coordinating Minister of the Economy, Wale Edun (27%); Minister of State for Petroleum Resources, Heineken Lokpobiri (22%); and Minister of Agriculture and Food Security, Abubakar Kyari, (20%).
- API has observed a growing mass of aggrieved and discontented citizens nationwide, especially among the youth. Many are unemployed or underemployed and have become local activists, waiting for the slightest opportunity to vent their anger against fellow citizens and the state.

Abuja, Nigeria, May 29th, 2024 – Africa Polling Institute hereby releases its May 2024 *#NigeriaSpeaks* survey report. The national survey was administered between May 1st and 18th, 2024, to elicit citizens' opinions and assessments of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's 1st Year in Office. The *#NigeriaSpeaks* project is a powerful governance tool, a periodic series of nationwide public opinion polls and surveys, to bridge the gap in credible primary data. It captures public attitudes and perceptions, giving citizens a significant role in shaping public policy discourse, practice, and advocacy, while underscoring the importance of their voices in strengthening democracy. The survey was conducted using a stratified random sampling method, ensuring representation from all nationwide demographic groups. A total of 3,996 citizens were interviewed, providing a robust and diverse dataset for analysis.

In summary, this latest API national survey reveals a stark reality: Hunger, Poverty, and Dissatisfaction trail President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's One Year in Office, as an overwhelming majority of citizens express profound sadness (84%) with the current state of affairs in the country. This dissatisfaction is a clear call for action, as a significant majority of citizens feel the country is headed in the wrong direction (81%), identifying Hunger (36%), Inability to meet basic needs (28%), Unemployment (13%), and Heightened Insecurity (9%), as the biggest challenges facing them personally today. In addition, a staggering 74% of citizens affirmed that their personal economic situation has deteriorated over the last year, compared to 20% who said their personal economic situation had remained the same and a mere 5% who said it had improved.

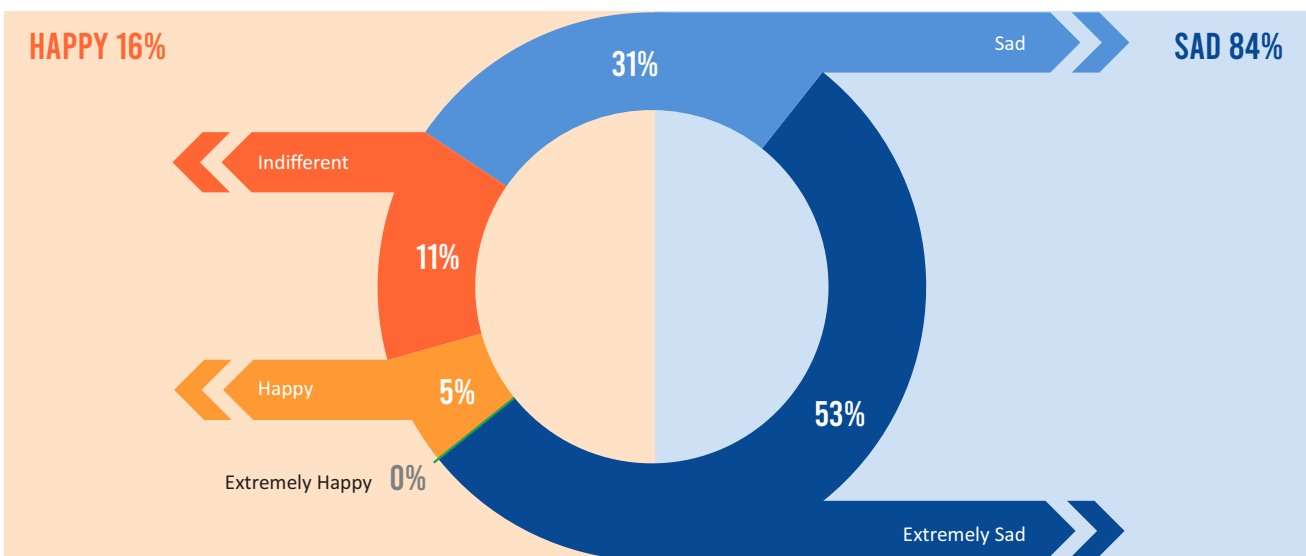
Furthermore, regarding the job performance of President Tinubu, 78% of citizens expressed that he had performed abysmally, as 49% rated him “Very Poor” and 29% “Poor.” This dissatisfaction also extends to other arms of government, as a striking 81% of citizens rated Senate President Godswill Akpabio dismally, compared to 79% who rated Honourable Tajudeen Abbas, Speaker of the House of Representatives, poorly. Also, the Nigerian Judiciary under the CJN, Justice Olukayode Ariwoola, was not spared, as 75% of citizens also rated him poorly. The data further presented citizens' ranking of performing and non-performing federal ministers. Finally, from the survey fieldwork, API has keenly observed a growing mass of aggrieved and discontented citizens nationwide, especially among the youth. Many are unemployed or underemployed and have become local crusaders and social activists in their communities, waiting for the slightest opportunity to vent their anger against fellow citizens and the Nigerian state.

Detailed Survey Results & Findings

May 29th, 2023, ushered in a new administration in Nigeria under the leadership of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu amidst new hopes and aspirations of the citizenry. President Tinubu’s 'New Hope Agenda' was a comprehensive platform anchored on eight key campaign promises. These promises aimed to foster a new society based on shared prosperity, tolerance, compassion, and the unwavering commitment to treating each citizen with equal respect and due regard. The promises included initiatives to address unemployment, improve security, and enhance the living standard for all Nigerians. He further pledged that if given the mandate to serve as President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, he would “build a Nigeria, especially for our youth, where sufficient jobs with decent wages create a better life.” It has been one year since President Tinubu assumed office, and mixed feelings from citizens and pundits alike have characterized his administration. In its role as the nation’s barometer, Africa Polling Institute (API) has recently conducted a national face-to-face household survey to gauge the opinions and perceptions of Nigerians regarding the state of governance under President Tinubu and to assess his performance over the period. The survey asked thirteen specific questions, and the responses provided by 3,996 citizens across the 36 states of the federation and the FCT, are presented below.

The first survey question sought citizens' opinions on how they feel about the current state of affairs in the country. From the responses, a total of 84% of citizens expressed sadness with the current state of affairs, as 53% said they felt Extremely Sad and 31% said they felt Sad. On the other hand, only a meagre 5% said they felt Happy, while 11% felt indifferent. There was no single respondent who felt Extremely Happy. The data shows that majority of Nigerians (84%) are dissatisfied with the current state of affairs in the country.

President Bola Tinubu’s administration is approaching its first anniversary. Let me start by asking you:
How do you feel about the current state of affairs in the country?

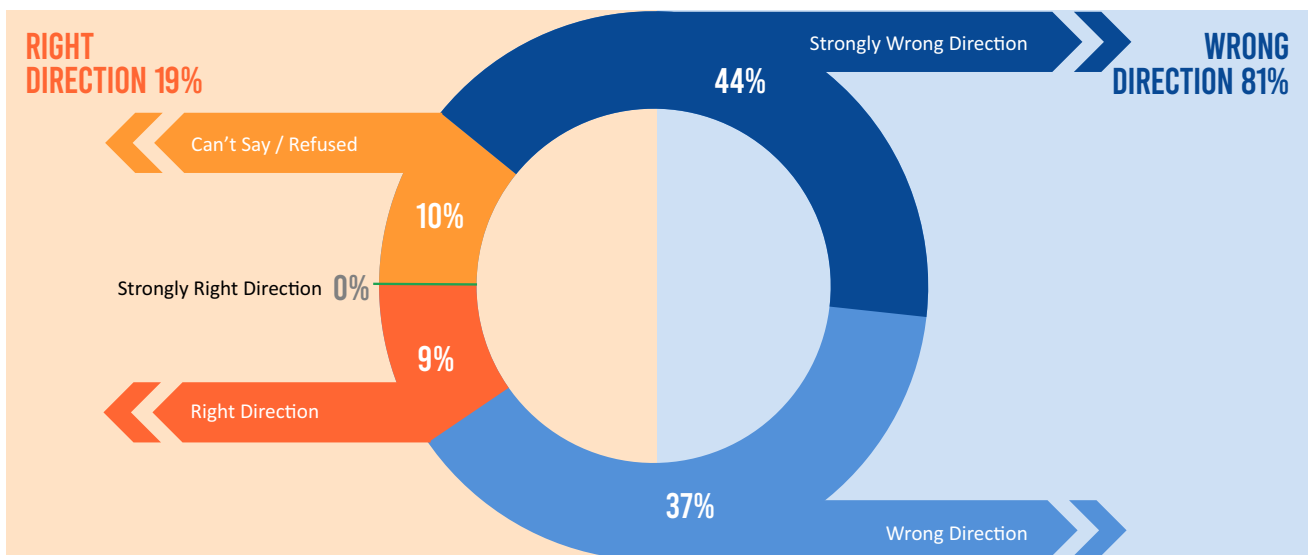


Further disaggregation of the data shows that the displeasure expressed by a majority of citizens regarding the state of affairs cut across gender (average of 89%), age (average of 82%), and geopolitical zones: South-East (98%), South-South (98%), North-East (88%), North-Central (84%), South-West (80%), and North-West (71%).

	National	Gender		Age Group			Geo-Political Zone					
		Male	Female	18 - 34 Years	35 - 60 Years	60 & Above	North Central	North East	North West	South East	South South	South West
Extremely Sad	53%	54%	54%	58%	52%	66%	41%	67%	33%	72%	79%	50%
Sad	31%	32%	29%	30%	31%	8%	43%	21%	38%	26%	19%	30%
Indifferent	11%	11%	11%	9%	12%	13%	10%	8%	24%	2%	2%	10%
Happy	5%	3%	6%	3%	5%	13%	6%	4%	5%	0%	0%	10%
Extremely Happy	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

To reinforce the findings from the first question, the second question sought citizens' opinions on the direction they think the country is moving. Similarly, 81% of citizens thought the country was heading in the Wrong Direction, with 44% feeling it was heading in a Strongly Wrong Direction and 37% feeling it was heading in the Wrong Direction. On the other hand, only 9% of citizens thought it was heading in the Right Direction, while 10% could not tell where they thought it was heading.

In your opinion, in what direction would you say the country is moving at the moment?
Would you say it is moving in the right direction or the wrong direction?

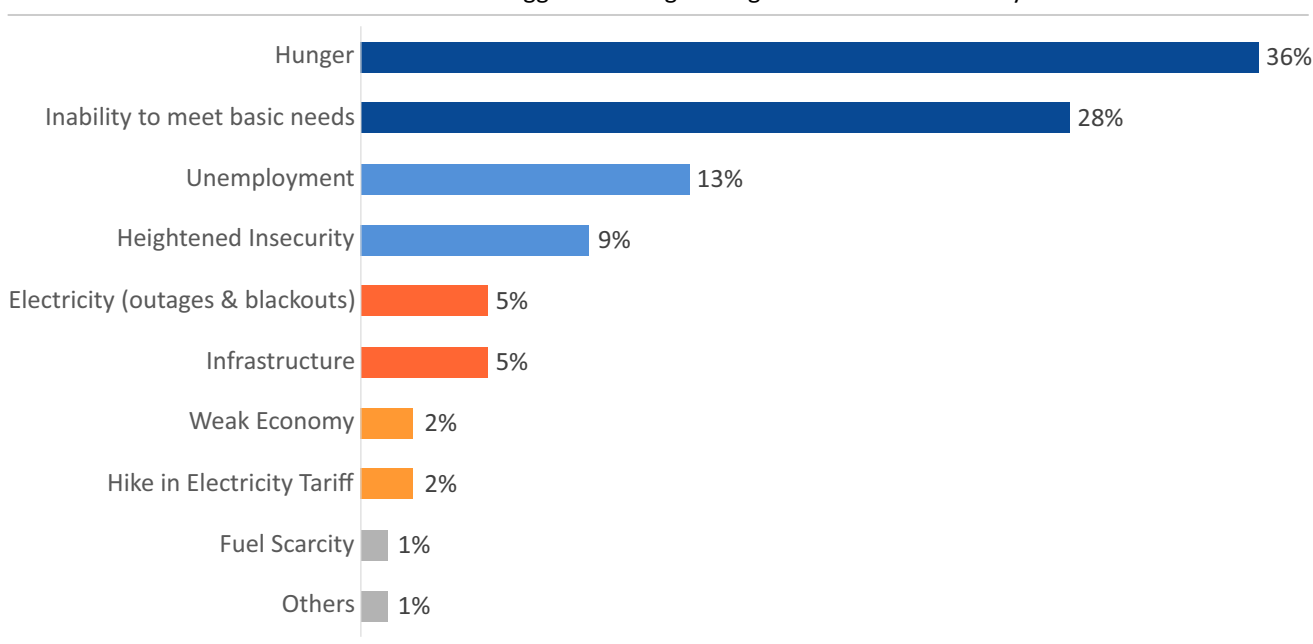


Again, further disaggregation of the data shows that the majority of citizens who feel the country is currently heading in the wrong direction cut across gender (average of 80%), age (average of 76%), and geopolitical zones: South-East (100%), South-South (98%), North-East (87%), North-Central (81%), South-West (75%), and North-West (63%). Interestingly, of the 9% of citizens who say the country is heading in the right direction, significant proportions are senior citizens aged 65 years and above (31%) and respondents in South-West and North-West geo-political zones (14% each). And of the 10% who cannot tell where the country is headed, significant proportions can be seen in the North-West (23%).

	National	Gender		Age Group			Geo-Political Zone					
		Male	Female	18 - 34 Years	35 - 60 Years	60 & Above	North Central	North East	North West	South East	South South	South West
Strongly Wrong Direction	44%	44%	42%	45%	41%	37%	33%	52%	25%	59%	69%	40%
Wrong Direction	37%	39%	35%	37%	38%	32%	48%	35%	38%	41%	29%	35%
Right Direction	9%	8%	10%	7%	10%	31%	7%	9%	14%	0%	1%	14%
Strongly Right Direction	0%	0%	1%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Can't Say/Refused	10%	9%	12%	10%	11%	0%	12%	4%	23%	0%	1%	10%

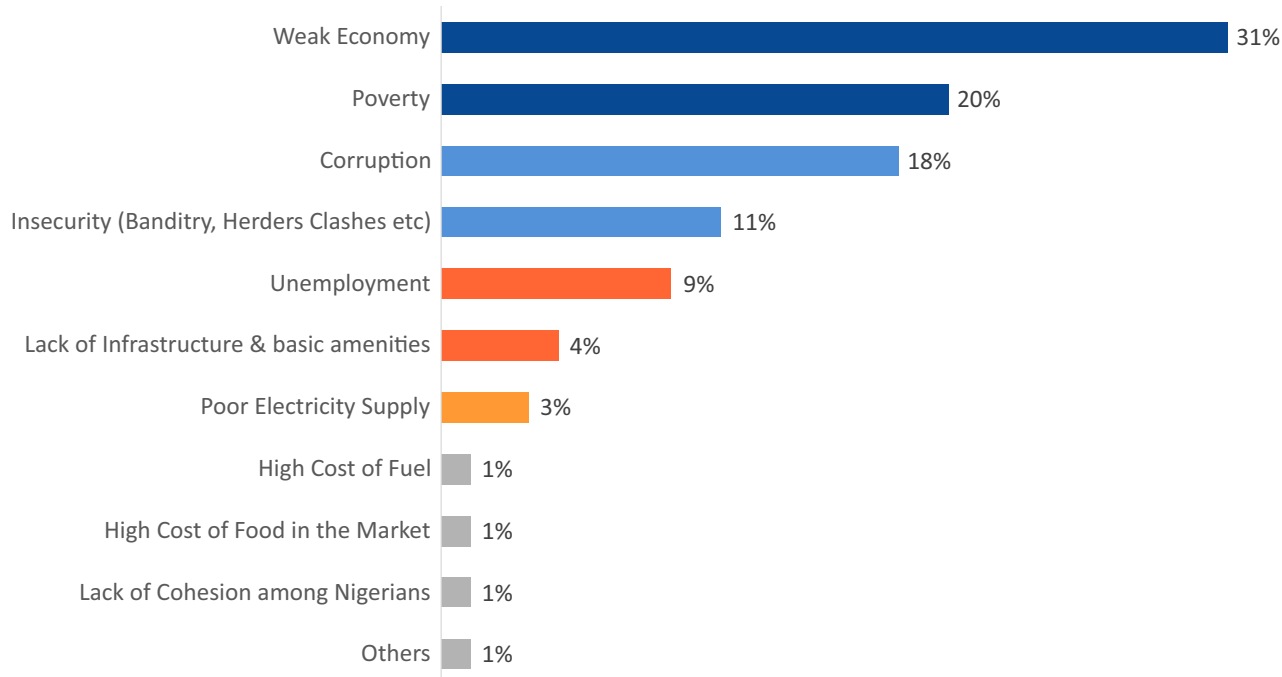
The third question sought to examine the biggest challenge facing Nigerians personally today. From the responses, citizens identified “Hunger” (36%) as the biggest challenge they face today. This was followed by their “Inability to Meet Basic Needs” (28%) and “Unemployment” (13%). This data reveals that the top three most significant challenges facing citizens today are Economic Challenges, which comprise 77% of their problems. Other challenges highlighted by citizens include: “Heightened Insecurity” (9%), “Lack of Basic Infrastructure” (5%), and “Electricity” (5%).

What is the biggest challenge facing YOU PERSONALLY today?



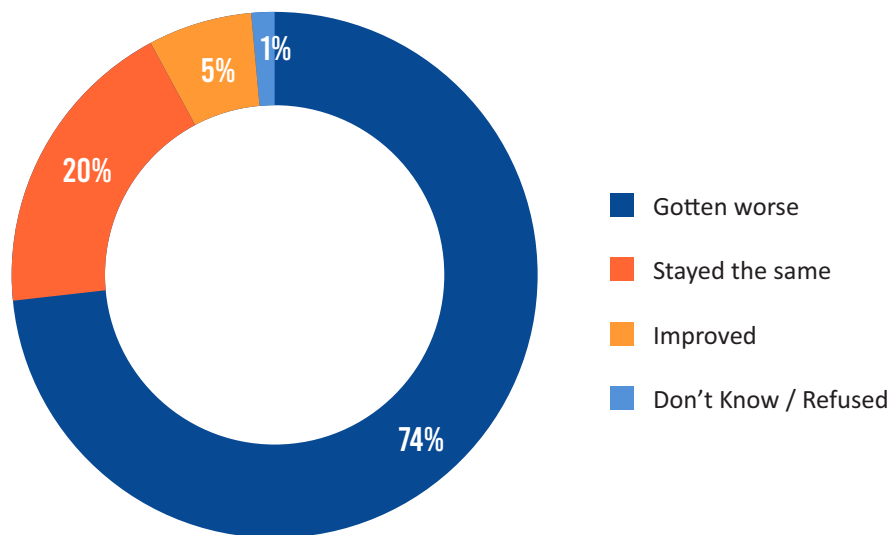
Similarly, the fourth survey question sought citizens' opinions on Nigeria's biggest challenges. From the responses, citizens thought that the top three issues currently facing the country are: the Weak Economy (31%), Poverty (20%), and Corruption (18%). Others include: Insecurity (11%), Unemployment (9%), Lack of Infrastructure and Basic Amenities (4%), and Poor Electricity Supply (3%).

Thinking about Nigeria, what do you consider the biggest challenge facing THE COUNTRY today?



Again, reinforcing this challenge of a weak economy, the fifth survey question asked citizens to describe their personal economic situation since President Tinubu assumed office a year ago. The responses revealed that a significant proportion of Nigerians (74%) have experienced a worsening of their personal economic situation since President Tinu’s administration kicked off a year ago. In addition, 20% affirmed that their economic situation had remained the same over the period, while 5% said their situation had improved.

How would you describe your PERSONAL economic situation over the past year?
Has it improved, stayed the same or gotten worse?

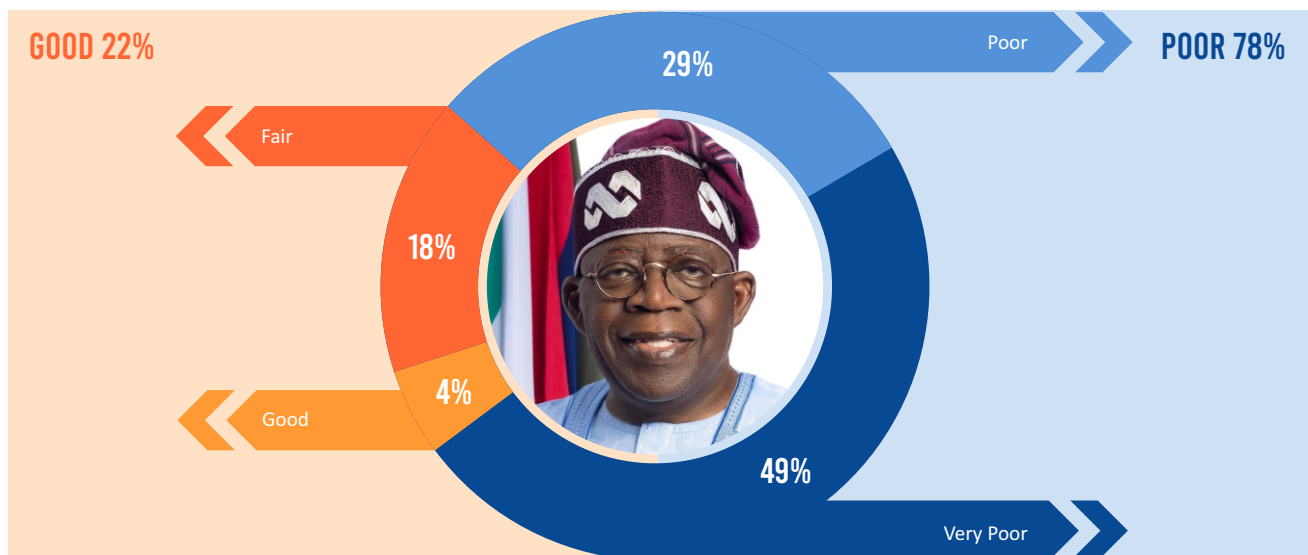


Moreover, further disaggregation shows that the majority of citizens who have experienced a worsening of their economic conditions under President Tinubu’s administration cut across gender (average of 74%) and age (average of 73%) demographics. Interestingly, the data showed that citizens resident in some parts of the country experienced more worsening of their economy than others, as seen in the North-East (85%), South-South (18%), South-East (80%), and North-Central (73%). On the other hand, those who said their economic situation has remained the same during the period are in the North-West (29%) and South-West (22%).

	National	Gender		Age Group			Geo-Political Zone					
		Male	Female	18 - 34 Years	35 - 60 Years	60 & Above	North Central	North East	North West	South East	South South	South West
Gotten worse	74%	74%	74%	78%	72%	70%	73%	85%	66%	80%	81%	68%
Stayed the same	20%	20%	21%	17%	22%	20%	19%	12%	29%	19%	11%	22%
Improved	5%	5%	4%	4%	5%	10%	6%	2%	3%	1%	7%	8%
DK/Refused	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	2%	1%	2%	0%	1%	2%

The sixth survey question assessed President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's job performance since assuming office on May 29, 2023. Citizens were asked: How would you rate President Bola Tinubu's job performance in leading the country over the last year? In response, 78% of citizens rated President Tinubu's job performance abysmally. This rating was constituted by 49% who scored him "Very Poor" and 29% who scored him "Poor". In addition, 18% rated the President's job performance as "Fair." In comparison, 4% rated him "Good." This abysmal rating of President Tinubu's job performance reflects the stark reality and angst of ordinary Nigerians, who freely expressed their views during the survey, citing the surge in fuel prices that witnessed his assumption into office, and the attendant worsening of the cost of living, stimulated by the skyrocketing cost of transport and hype-inflation on food prices, among others.

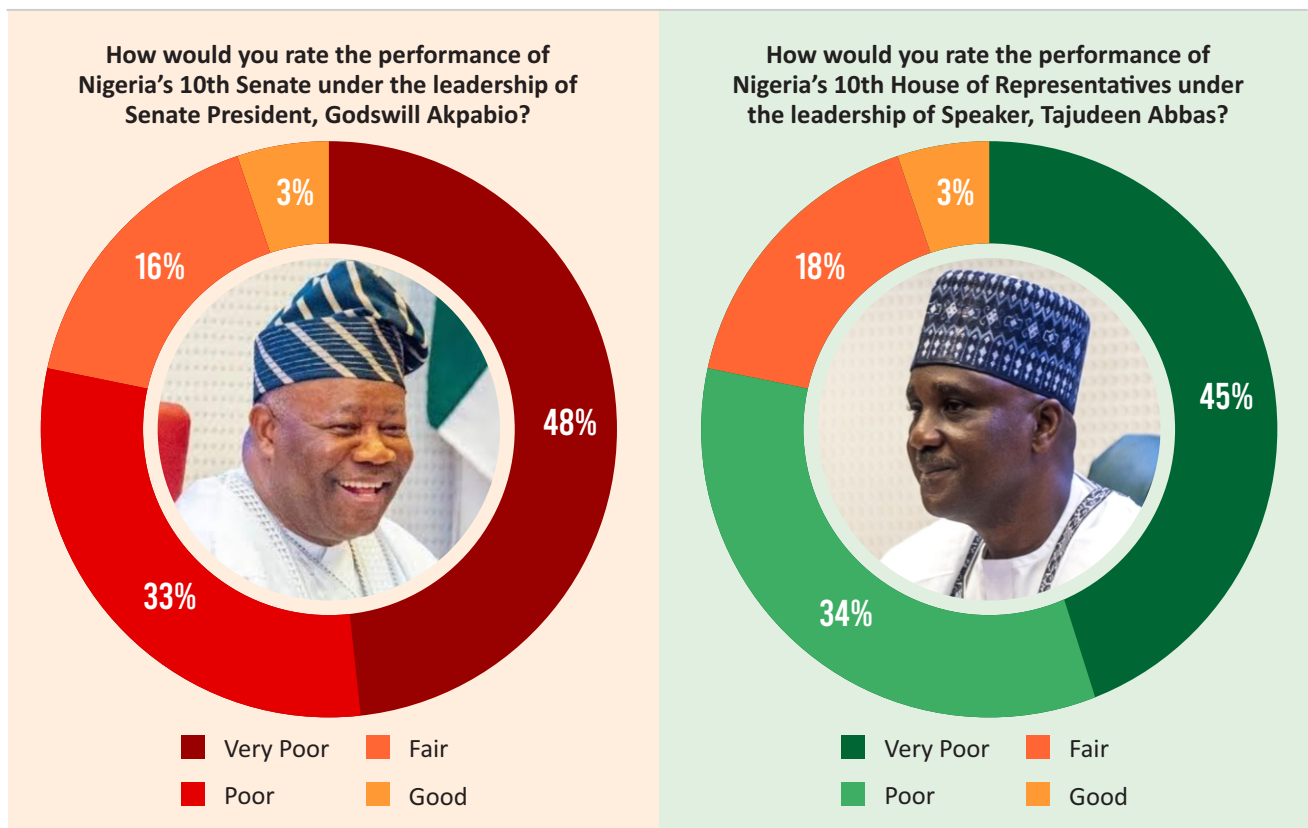
How would you rate President Bola Tinubu's job performance in leading the country over the last year?



Disaggregated data highlights that citizens' dissatisfaction towards President Tinubu's first year in office cuts across gender (average of 78%) and age (average of 72%) demography. Significantly, there were more younger citizens aged between 18 and 34 years who expressed dissatisfaction with President Tinubu's job performance and scored him abysmally (82%), compared to adults aged between 35 and 46 years (76%) and senior citizens aged 65 years and above (59%). Similarly, citizens residing in the South-East (99%) and South-South (96%) zones were among those who rated the President poorly, while those living in the North-West (32%), North-Central (24%), and South-West (21%) were among those that rated him fairly. 8% of his home base, the South-West, rated his job performance as "Good."

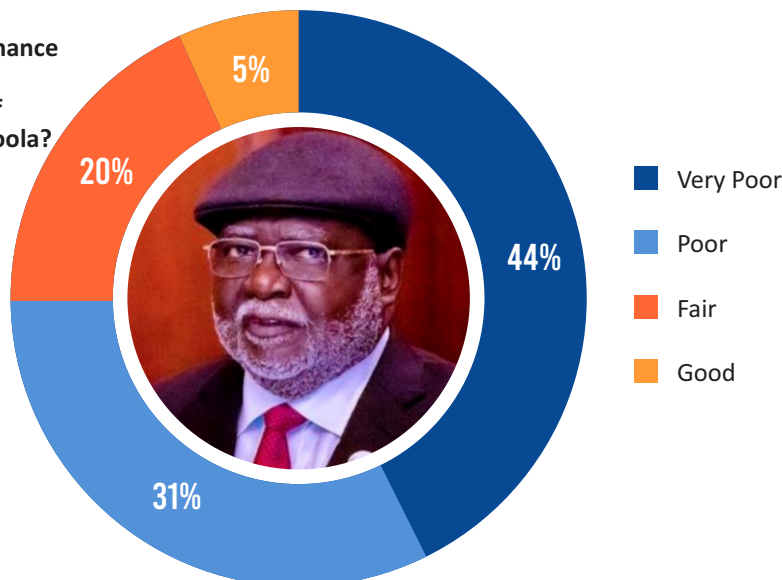
	National	Gender		Age Group			Geo-Political Zone					
		Male	Female	18 - 34 Years	35 - 60 Years	60 & Above	North Central	North East	North West	South East	South South	South West
Very Poor	49%	48%	50%	58%	45%	26%	35%	58%	35%	62%	78%	43%
Poor	29%	29%	29%	25%	31%	33%	39%	27%	29%	37%	18%	27%
Fair	18%	19%	17%	15%	19%	38%	24%	12%	32%	1%	4%	21%
Good	4%	4%	4%	2%	5%	3%	2%	3%	4%	0%	0%	8%
Excellent	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%

In addition to assessing the job performance of President Bola Tinubu, the survey also sought to assess the performance of other significant organs of government over the past year of the administration. The seventh survey question sought to assess the performance of the 10th National Assembly. First, citizens were asked to rate the performance of the 10th Senate under the President of the Senate, Godswill Akpabio. From the response, slightly worse than the performance rating of the President, over 8 in 10 Nigerians (81%) rated the performance of the Senate under Akpabio dismally. This shoddy performance comprised 48% of citizens who rated him “Very Poor” and 33% who rated him “Poor.” Secondly, the 10th House of Representatives, under the leadership of the Speaker, Honourable Tajudeen Abbas, was also assessed. In response, 79% of citizens rated the performance of the House of Reps poorly.



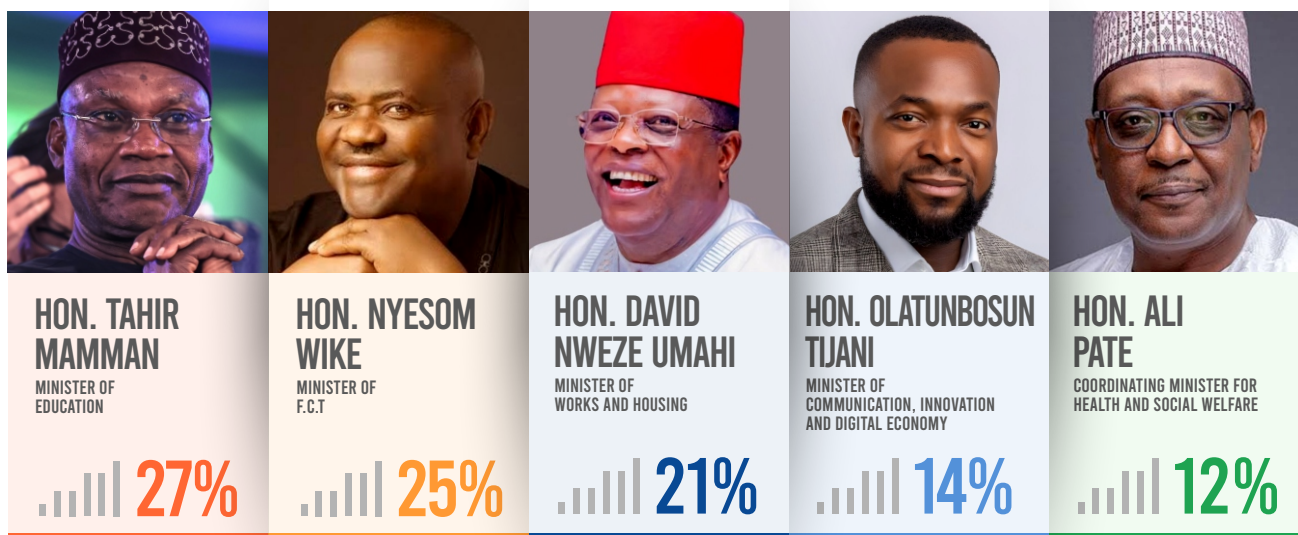
Similarly, the performance of Nigeria's Judiciary under the leadership of the Chief Justice of Nigeria (CJN), Justice Olukayode Ariwoola was also assessed. From the responses, 75% of citizens rated the Judiciary poorly over the past year, under the current CJN. This consisted of 44% who rated him “Very Poor” and 31% who rated him “Poor.” However, 10% of respondents rated him fairly, while a measly 5% said his performance was “Good.”

How would you rate the performance of Nigeria's judiciary under the leadership of the Chief Justice of Nigeria, Justice Olukayode Ariwoola?



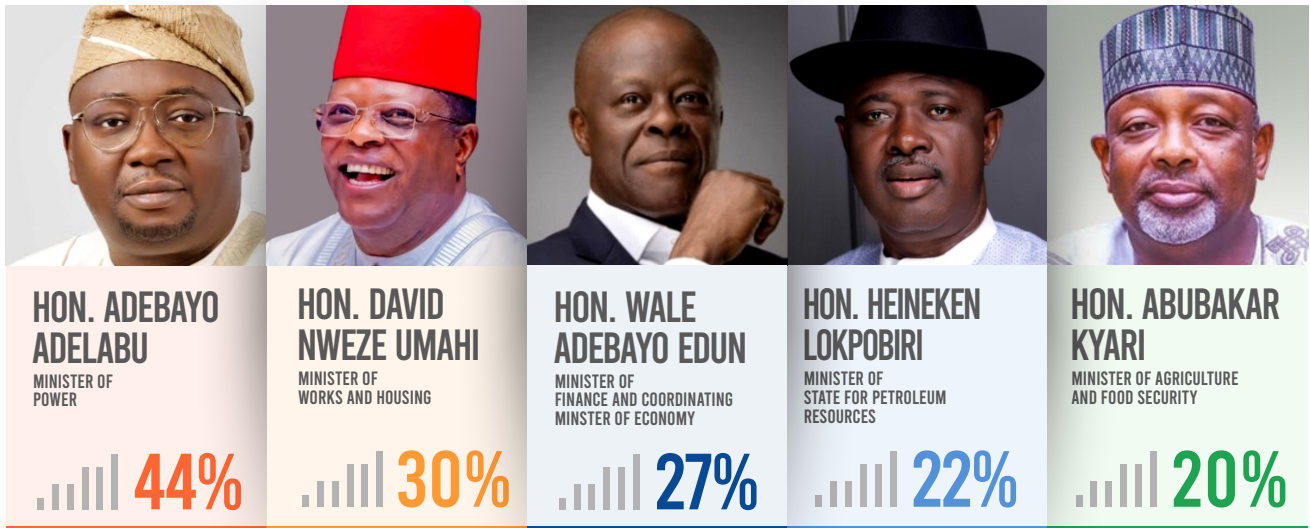
Moving on, the next question sought to assess the performance of President Tinubu's Cabinet Ministers to identify those appointees' citizens considered to be the performing ministers instead of those considered non-performing ministers. Interestingly, from the responses, 68% of citizens thought that none of the cabinet members had performed well since their appointments. However, 32% of citizens were willing to identify a few who they considered to be performing ministers. Based on the open-ended responses received in this segment, the top five performing ministers are: Professor Tahir Mamman, the Minister of Education (27%); Former River State Governor, Barr. Nyesom Wike, the Minister of the FCT (25%); Former Ebonyi State Governor, Dr. Dave Umahi, the Minister for Works and Housing (21%); Dr. Bosun Tijani, the Minister of Communication, Innovation and Digital Economy (14%); and Professor Ali Pate, Coordinating Minister of Health and Social Welfare (12%).

List of Top-Performing Ministers



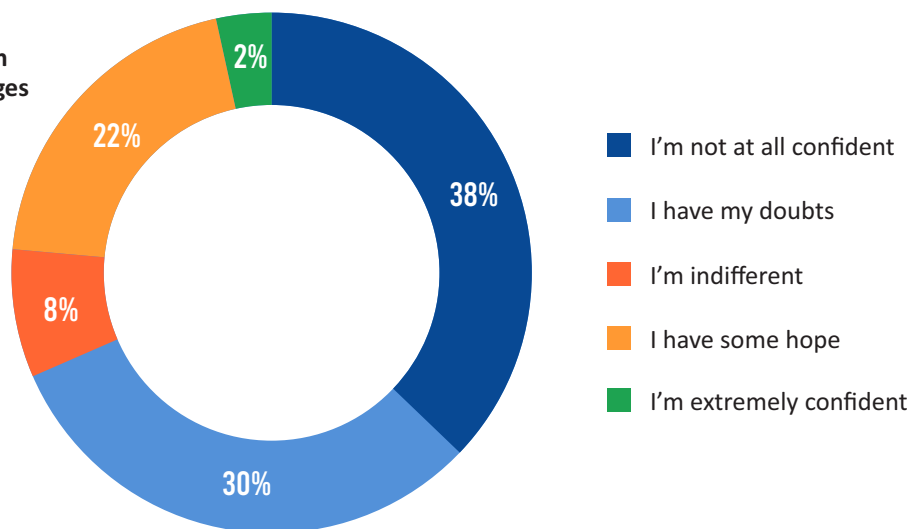
On the other hand, the open-ended responses from this segment also identified the following ministers as the cabinet's non-performing members: Hon. Adebayo Adelabu, Minister of Power (44%); Dr. Dave Umahi, Minister of Works and Housing (30%); Hon. Wale Edun, Minister of Finance and Coordinating Minister of the Economy (27%); Hon. Heineken Lokpobiri, Minister of State for Petroleum Resources (22%); and Hon. Abubakar Kyari, Minister of Agriculture and Food Security (20%). It is worth noting that the data listed Dr. Dave Umahi among the top-performing and least-performing ministers, and this may be a result of the mixed sentiments that have engulfed conversations over the Lagos-Calabar Coastal Road project, of which he has been in the eye of the storm.

List of Least-Performing Minsters



Next, citizens were asked to express their confidence in President Bola Tinubu and his team’s capacity to address the country’s challenges. From the responses, 38% of citizens said they were “not at all confident” that the President and his team would be able to address the challenges facing the country, and 30% expressed their doubts. However, on the flipside, 22% of citizens expressed some hope in the President and his team, while 8% expressed extreme confidence.

How confident are you that President Bola Tinubu and his team will be able to address the challenges currently facing the country?

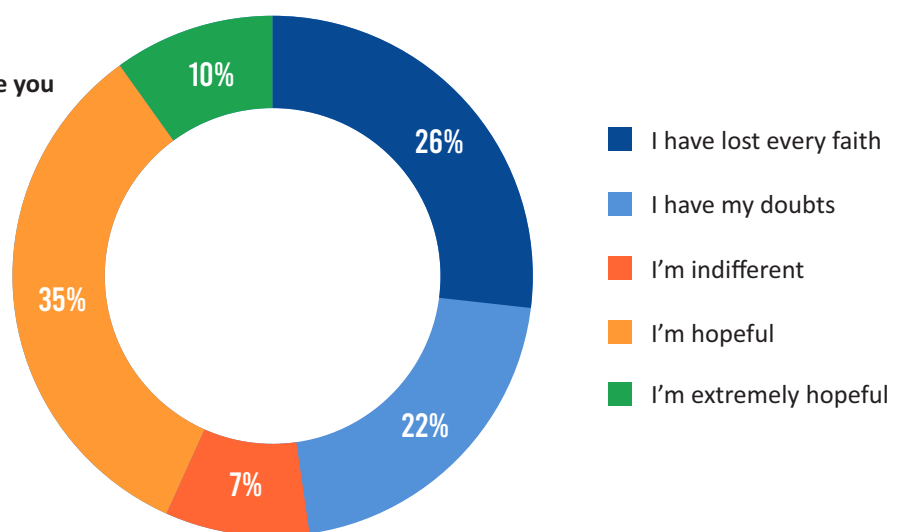


Further disaggregated data revealed that young citizens aged between 18 and 34 years (42%) and citizens residing in the South-South (61%), South-East (60%), and North-East (46%) geo-political zones constitute significant proportions of those who said they are not at all confident that President Tinubu and his team would be able to address the challenges facing the country.

	National	Gender		Age Group			Geo-Political Zone					
		Male	Female	18 - 34 Years	35 - 60 Years	60 & Above	North Central	North East	North West	South East	South South	South West
I'm not at all confident	38%	37%	37%	42%	35%	16%	17%	46%	19%	60%	61%	38%
I have my doubts	30%	31%	30%	29%	30%	26%	41%	32%	27%	34%	20%	29%
I'm indifferent	8%	9%	8%	9%	8%	15%	9%	4%	14%	4%	3%	11%
I have some hope	22%	21%	23%	18%	25%	40%	29%	17%	37%	2%	16%	19%
I'm extremely confident	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%	4%	1%	3%	0%	0%	3%

To conclude this survey, citizens were asked to express their hope about the country's future despite the stark economic realities and current challenges. From the responses, 45% of citizens affirmed that they have hope for the country's future, comprised of 35% who said they are hopeful, and 10% who said they were highly hopeful. On the other hand, about 46% seemed not to be quite promising, as 26% said they have lost every faith in the country, and 22% said they doubt the country's future. There was also 7% of citizens who were indifferent about the future of the country,

Despite the challenges facing the country today, how hopeful are you about the FUTURE of the country?



Further disaggregated data revealed that young citizens aged between 18 and 34 (29%) and citizens residing in the South-East (53%), South-South (44%), and North-East (36%) geopolitical zones constitute significant proportions of those who said they had lost all faith in the country. On the other hand, substantial proportions of those who remain hopeful about the future of the country reside in North-West (61%), North-Central (53%) and South-West (36%).

	National	Gender		Age Group			Geo-Political Zone					
		Male	Female	18 - 34 Years	35 - 60 Years	60 & Above	North Central	North East	North West	South East	South South	South West
I have lost every faith	26%	25%	28%	29%	25%	7%	5%	36%	10%	53%	44%	29%
I have my doubts	22%	27%	25%	24%	27%	25%	36%	26%	18%	38%	20%	27%
I'm indifferent	7%	8%	6%	7%	7%	11%	6%	7%	11%	6%	3%	8%
I'm hopeful	35%	34%	33%	32%	34%	40%	46%	26%	50%	3%	28%	27%
I'm extremely hopeful	10%	6%	8%	8%	7%	17%	7%	5%	11%	0%	5%	9%

In summary, the level of citizen dissatisfaction reported in this survey is a clear call for action, as a significant majority of citizens feel the country is headed in the wrong direction (81%). They identify Hunger (36%), the Inability to meet basic needs (28%), Unemployment (13%), and Increased Insecurity (9%) as the biggest challenges facing them personally today.

Finally, from the survey fieldwork, API has keenly observed a growing mass of aggrieved and discontented citizens nationwide, especially among the youth. Many are unemployed or underemployed and have become local crusaders and social activists in their communities, waiting for the slightest opportunity to vent their anger against fellow citizens and the Nigerian state. We encountered many of these citizens across the major cities, such as Lagos, Kano, Ibadan, Port Harcourt, Onitsha, Owerri, Kaduna, Warri, Maiduguri, Damaturu, and Yola. Consequently, we urge Mr. President and his economic advisers to urgently address this growing despondency and focus its policies on targeting sectors with immense potential for creating sustainable jobs for the citizenry, particularly young Nigerians.

Survey Methodology

This survey is part of the *#NigeriaSpeaks* series of national public attitudes surveys and polls conducted by Africa Polling Institute (API). The *#NigeriaSpeaks* project is a powerful governance tool, a periodic series of nationwide public opinion polls and surveys, to bridge the gap in credible primary data. It captures public attitudes and perceptions, giving citizens a significant role in shaping public policy discourse, practice, and advocacy while underscoring the importance of their voices in strengthening democracy. This latest national survey was administered between May 1st and 18th, 2024, to elicit citizens' opinions and assessments of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu's 1st Year in Office. It involved in-person, face-to-face, household interviews with a stratified random nationwide sample.

A total of 3,996 randomly selected Nigerians aged 18 years and above were interviewed in the 36 States and the FCT, representing the six geopolitical zones in the country. Three Local Government Areas (LGAs) were visited in each of the 36 States, covering the 108 Senatorial Districts in the country, as well as the urban, semi-urban, and rural residents. Only in the FCT were the entire 6 LGAs visited. The data was weighted using the 2016 population estimates by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) to enhance its representativeness to the national population. With a sample of this size, we can say with 95% confidence that the results are statistically precise - within a range of plus or minus 3%. For scholars, researchers, practitioners, and policymakers who wish to undertake further statistical analysis of our data, the raw data for this national survey can be purchased on our website, www.africapolling.org

Demographics

Variable Name	Variable Label	N = 3,996	% = 100
Gender	Male	2038	51%
	Female	1958	49%
Age Group	18 – 34 Years	1306	33%
	35 – 64 Years	2629	65%
	65 & Above	61	2%
Geo-Political Zone	North Central	604	15%
	North East	542	14%
	North West	1011	25%
	South East	453	11%
	South South	595	15%
	South West	790	20%

Africa Polling Institute (API) is an independent, non-profit, and non-partisan opinion research think-tank that conducts opinion polls, surveys, social research, and evaluation studies at the intersection of democracy, governance, economic conditions, markets, and public life to support better public policy, practice, and advocacy in sub-Saharan Africa.

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