



Aligning Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to Africans` Public Agenda and Citizens` Policy Preference



What is Afrobarometer?

- Public opinion surveys that measure citizens attitudes on democracy, governance, the economy and other topics.
- Started in 12 countries in 1999, expanded to 36 African countries between 2014/2015 surveys.

Goal: To give the public a voice in policymaking by providing high-quality public opinion data to policymakers, policy advocates, civil society organizations, academics, news media, etc.

- National Partners in each country conduct the survey.
- Sample size is 1200 for smaller populations and 2400 for larger populations.
- Nationally representative sample of adult citizens
 - ❑ Sample is distributed across [regions/states/provinces] and urban/rural areas in proportion to their share in the national population.
 - ❑ All respondents are *randomly* selected
- Face-to-face interviews In the language of the respondent's choice.
- Standard questionnaire allows comparisons across countries and over time.



Sustainable Development Goals: 2015-2030



Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

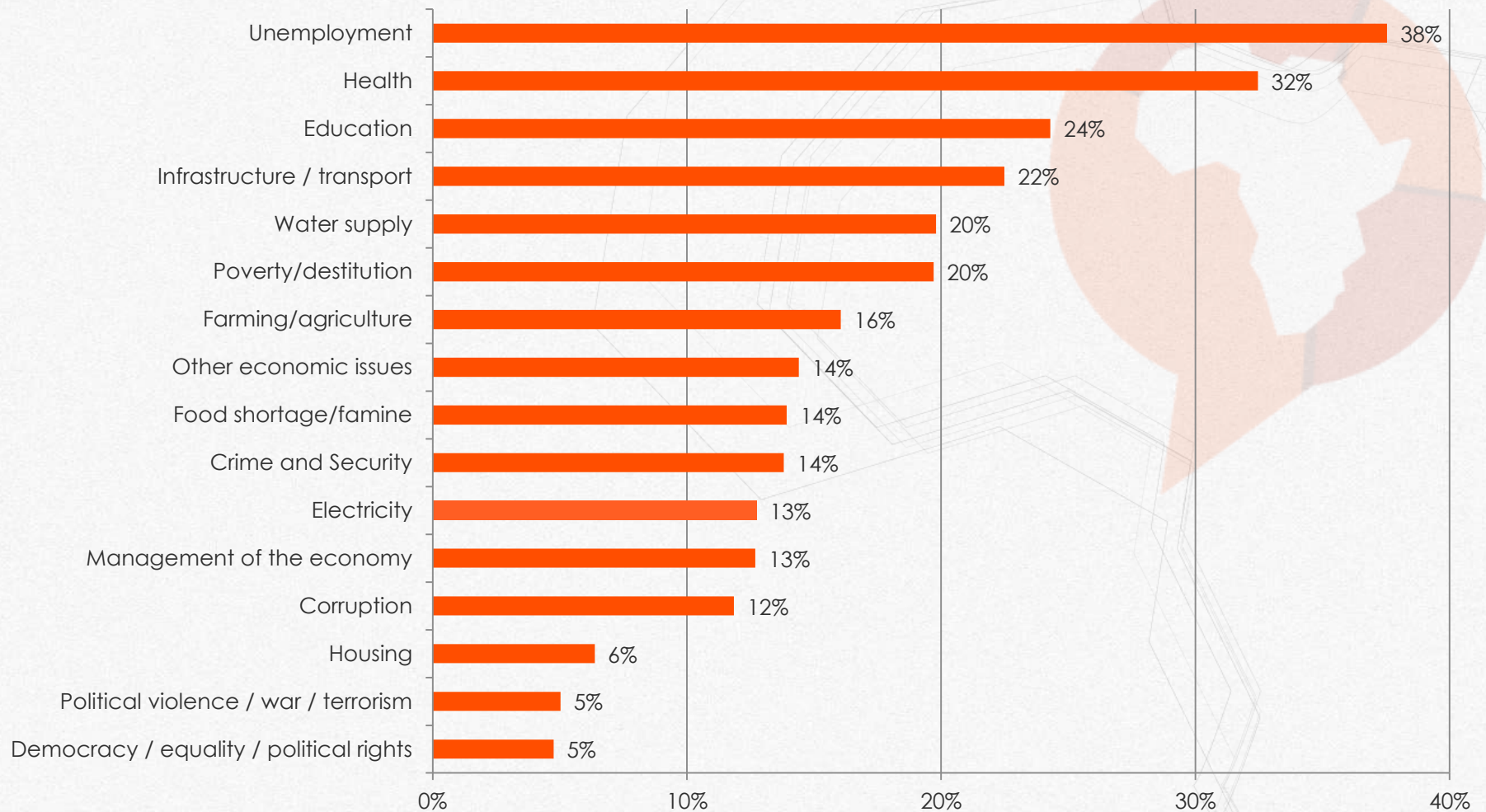
SDGs and Africans` Priorities

- SDGs create a starting point for governments to start addressing national challenges
- Amidst several goals and targets, which some analysts feel are too ambitious, while others feel are far way below expectations: important questions to ask are:

- ✓ Do the SDGs align with citizens` aspirations?
- ✓ What are the pressing issues that citizens identify themselves?
- ✓ What priority areas should the government focus on- in the face of innumerable challenges?



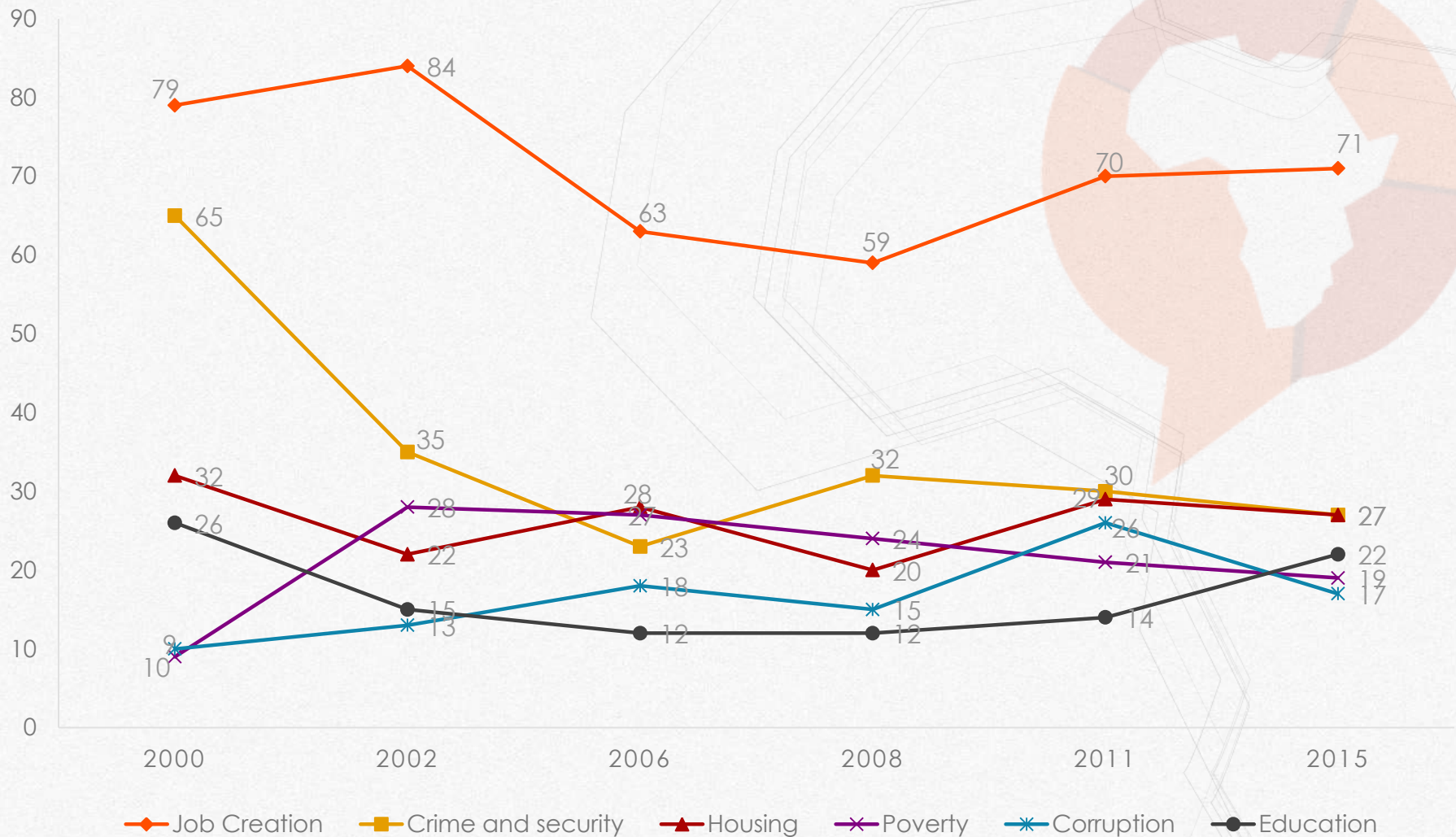
Africans' Most Important Problems | 36 AB Countries | 2014/2015



Respondents were asked: In your opinion what are the most important problems facing this country that the government should address?

Respondents were asked to highlight 3 issues. The figure represents an aggregate of the three responses.

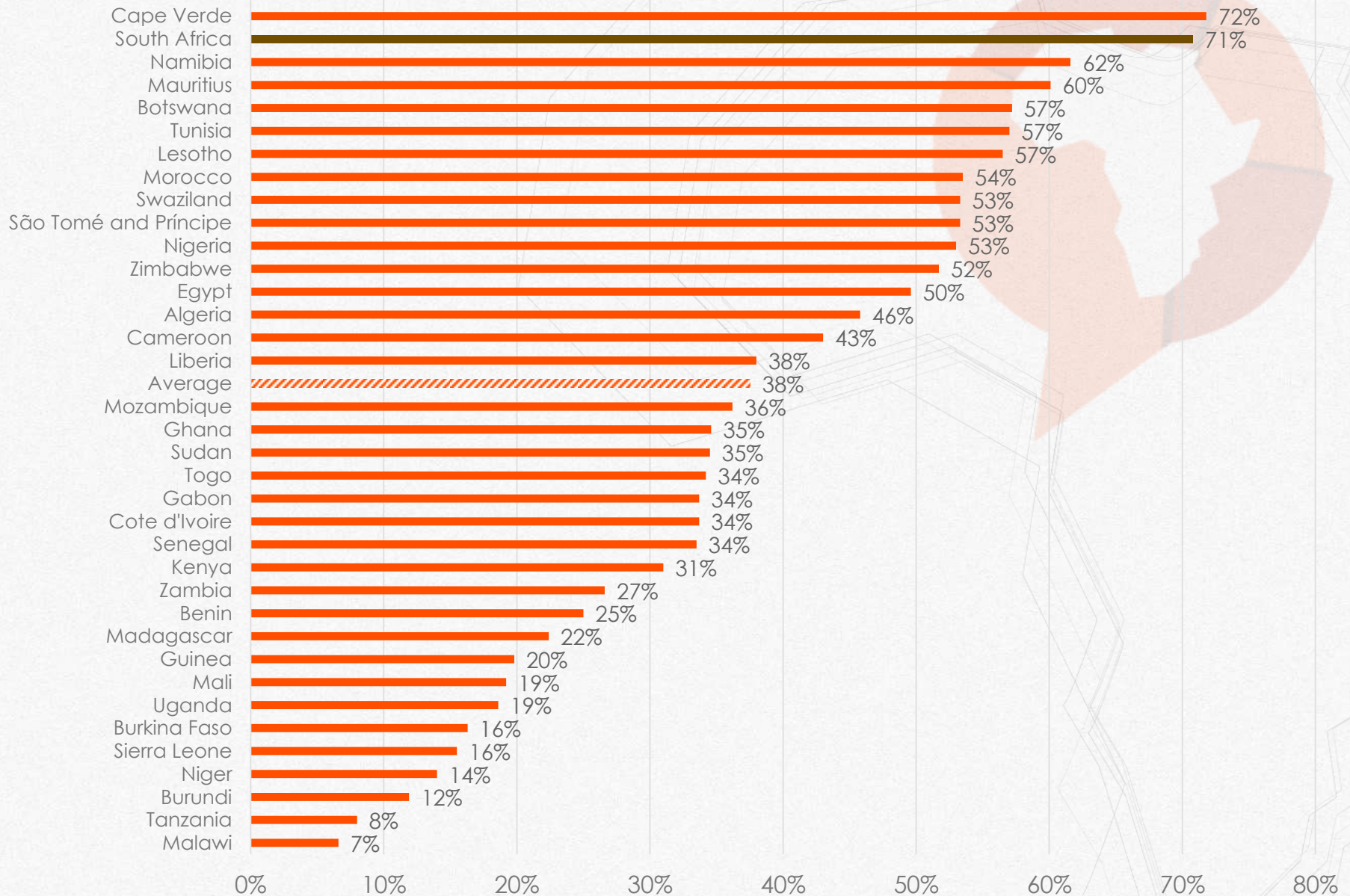
South Africans' Top Priorities | 2000 - 2015



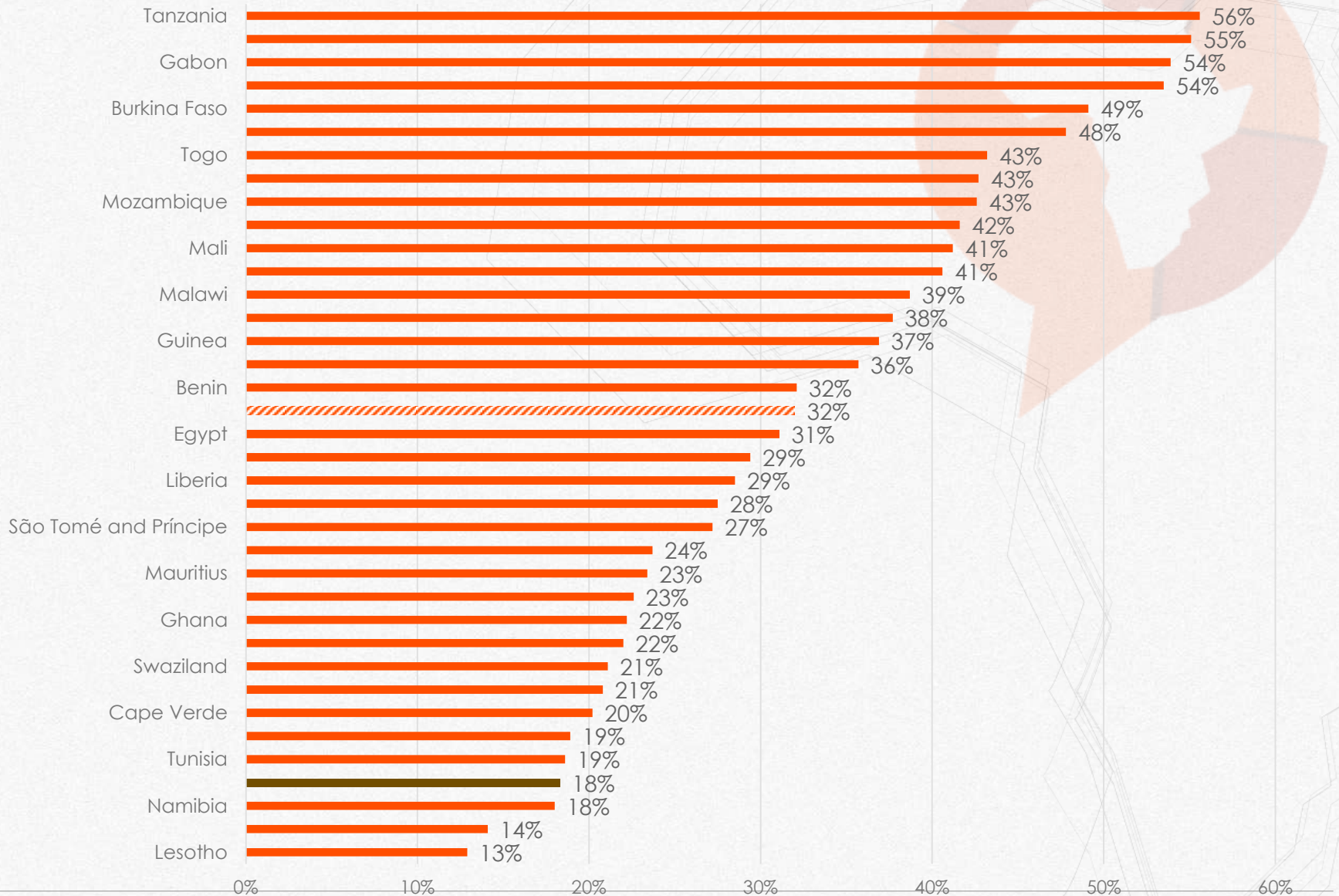
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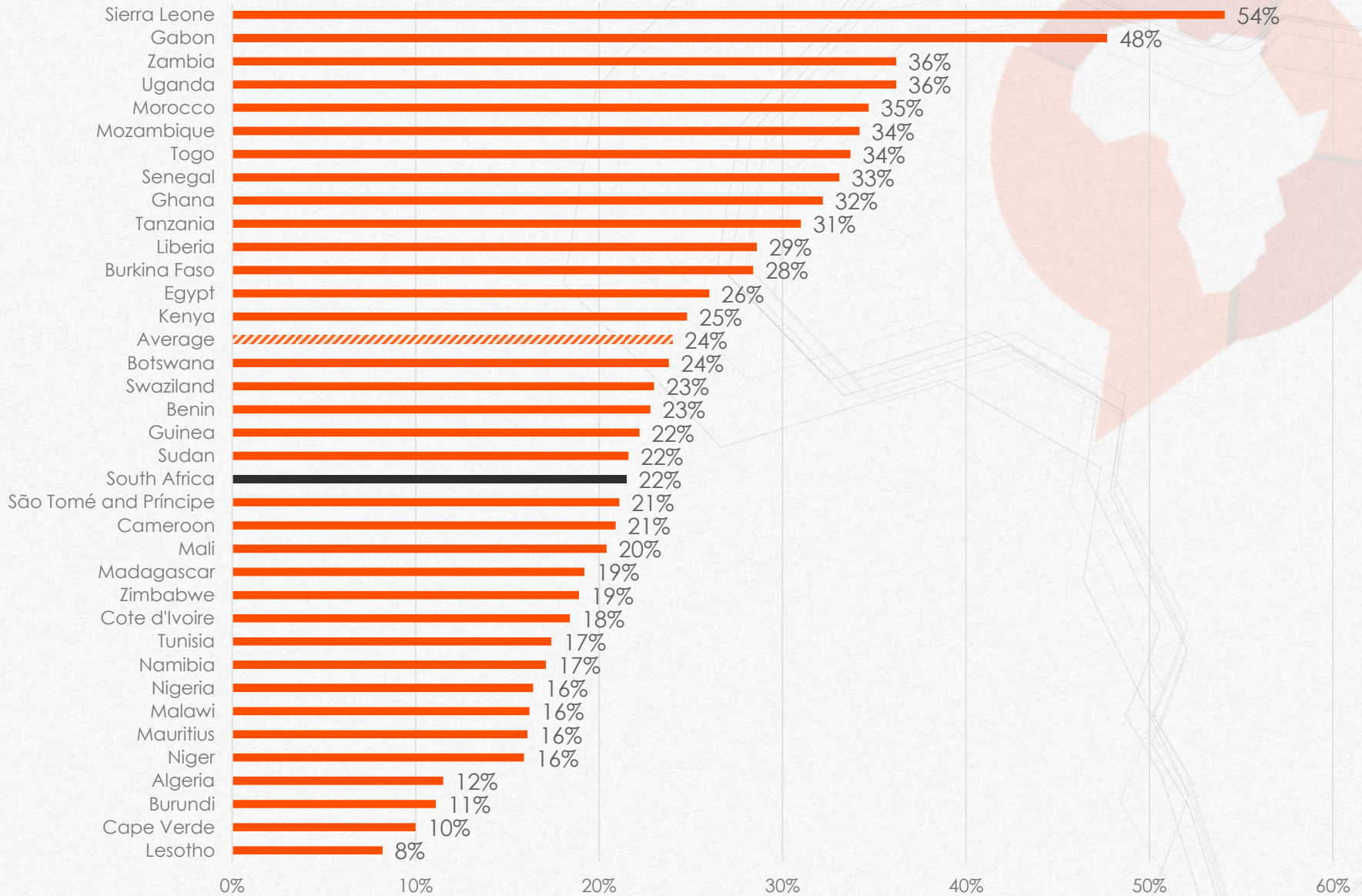
Unemployment | 36 Country | 2014/2015



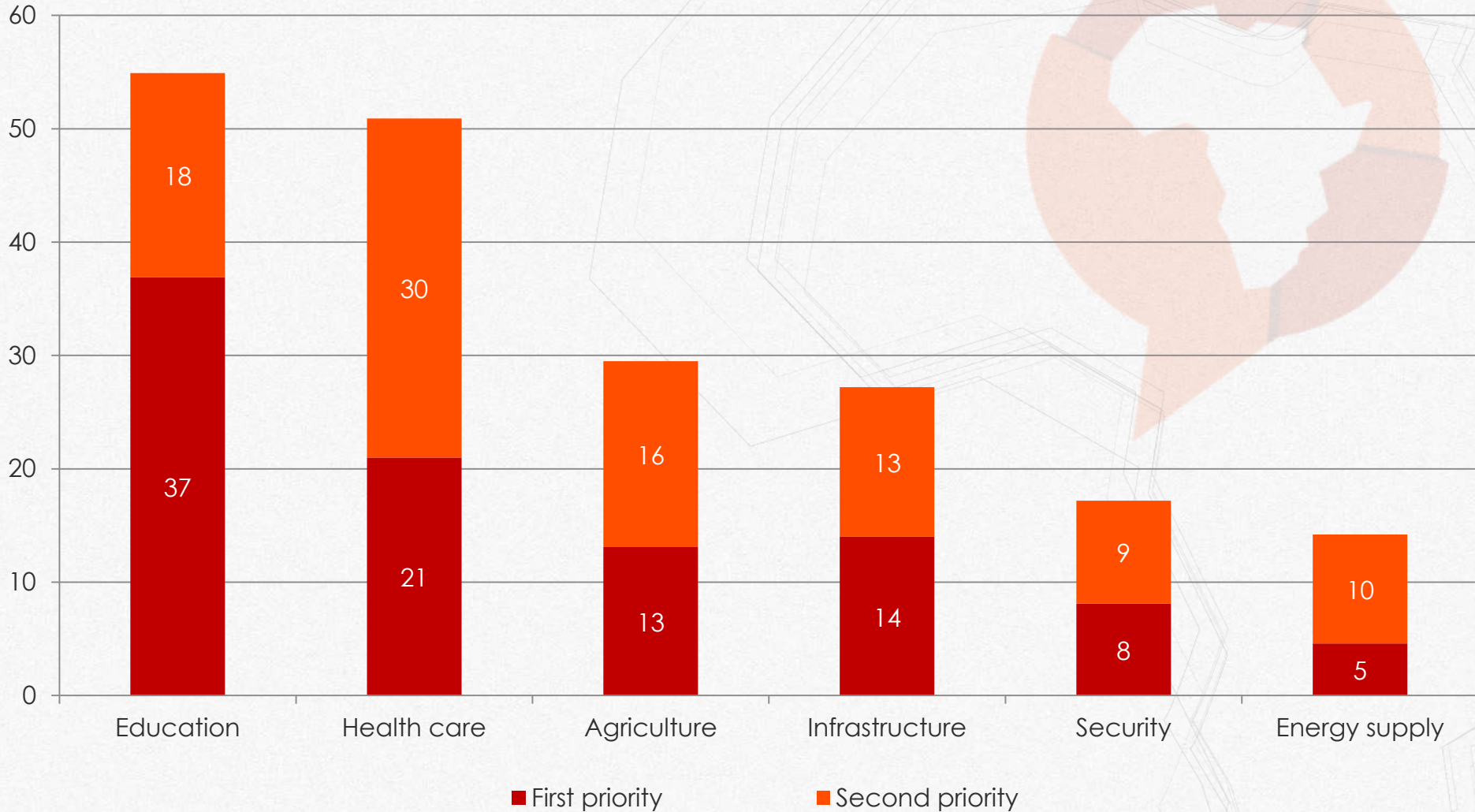
Health | 36 Country | 2014/2015



Education | 36 Country | 2014/2015

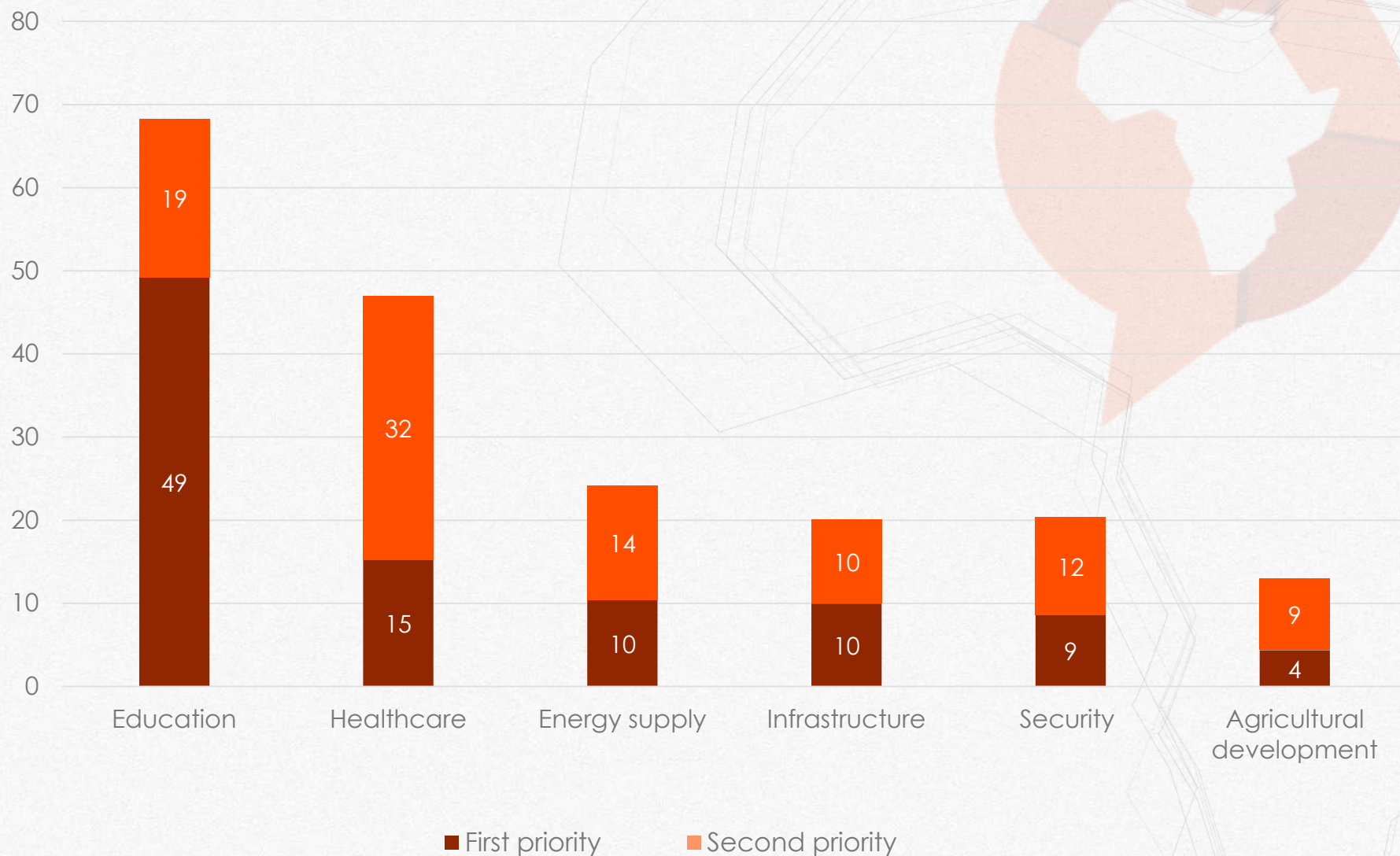


Priority areas for government investment | 36 Country | 2014/5



Respondents were asked: If the government of this country could increase its spending, which of the following areas do you think should be the top priority for additional investment?

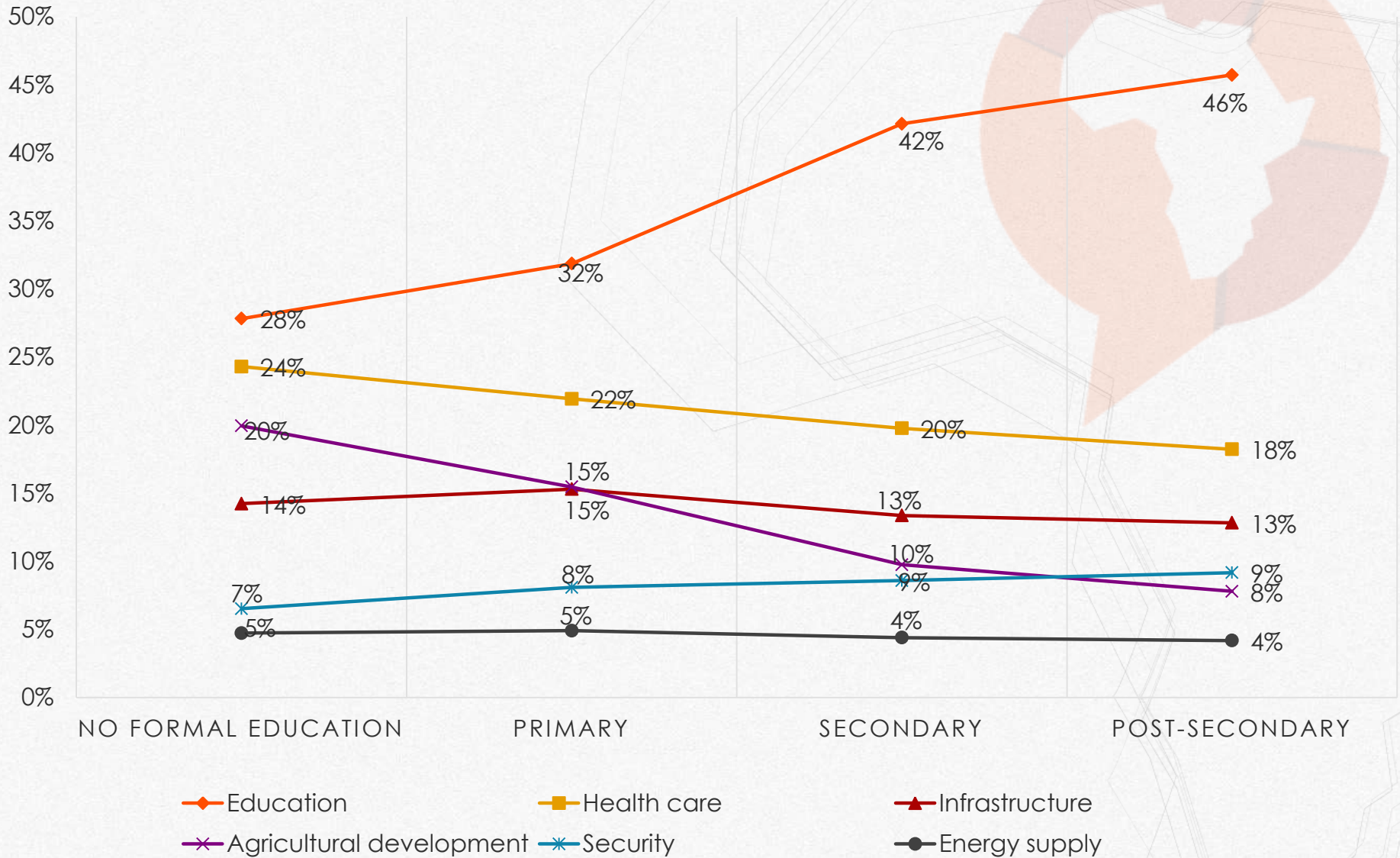
Priority areas for government investment | South Africa | 2015



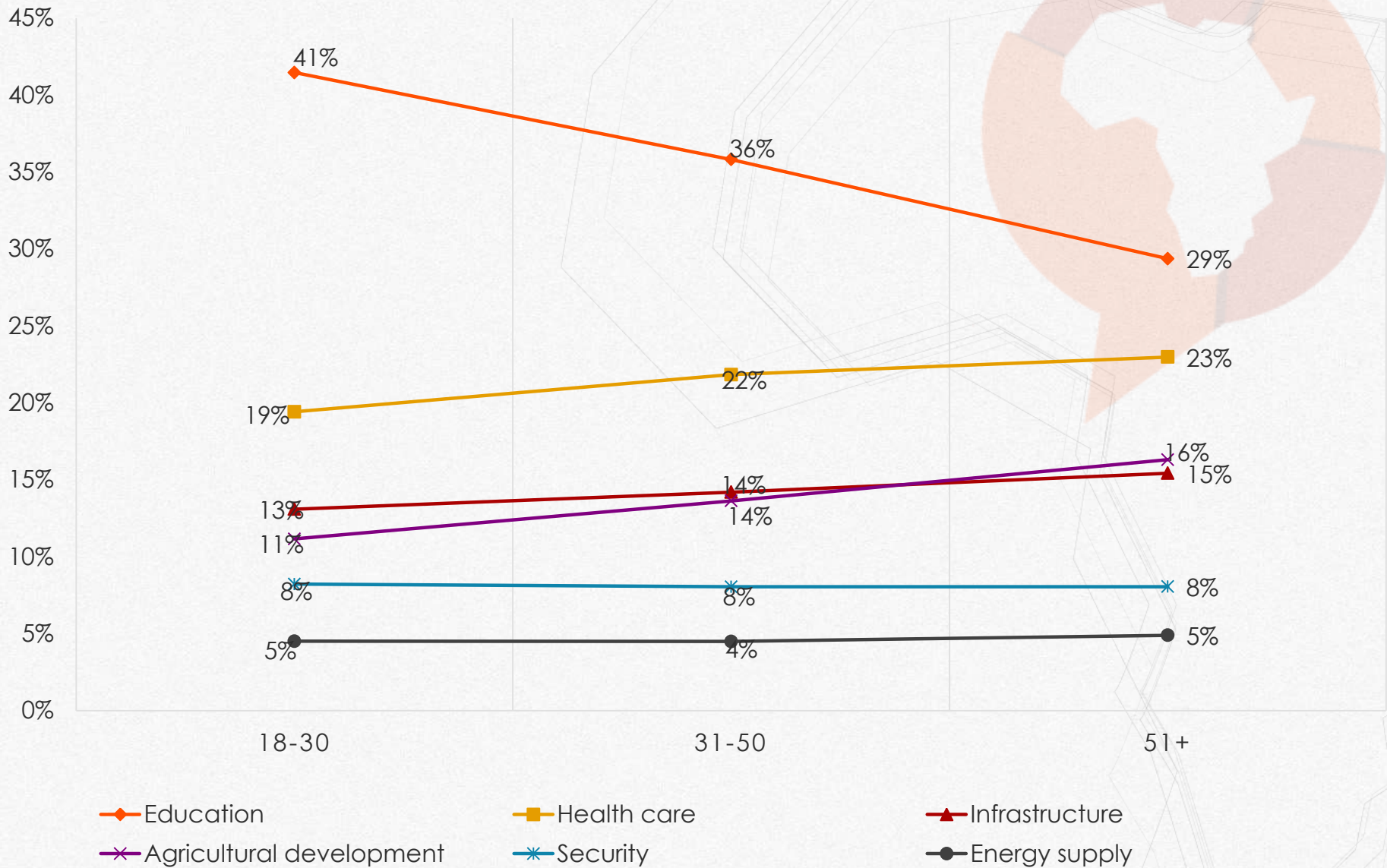
Priority areas for government investment | By region | 2014/5

	West Africa	East Africa	Southern Africa	North Africa	Central Africa
Education	34%	28%	38%	42%	47%
Infrastructure	14%	12%	15%	14%	15%
Security	7%	11%	7%	13%	4%
Healthcare	22%	23%	19%	20%	21%
Agricultural development	16%	17%	13%	6%	8%
Energy supply	5%	3%	6%	2%	4%

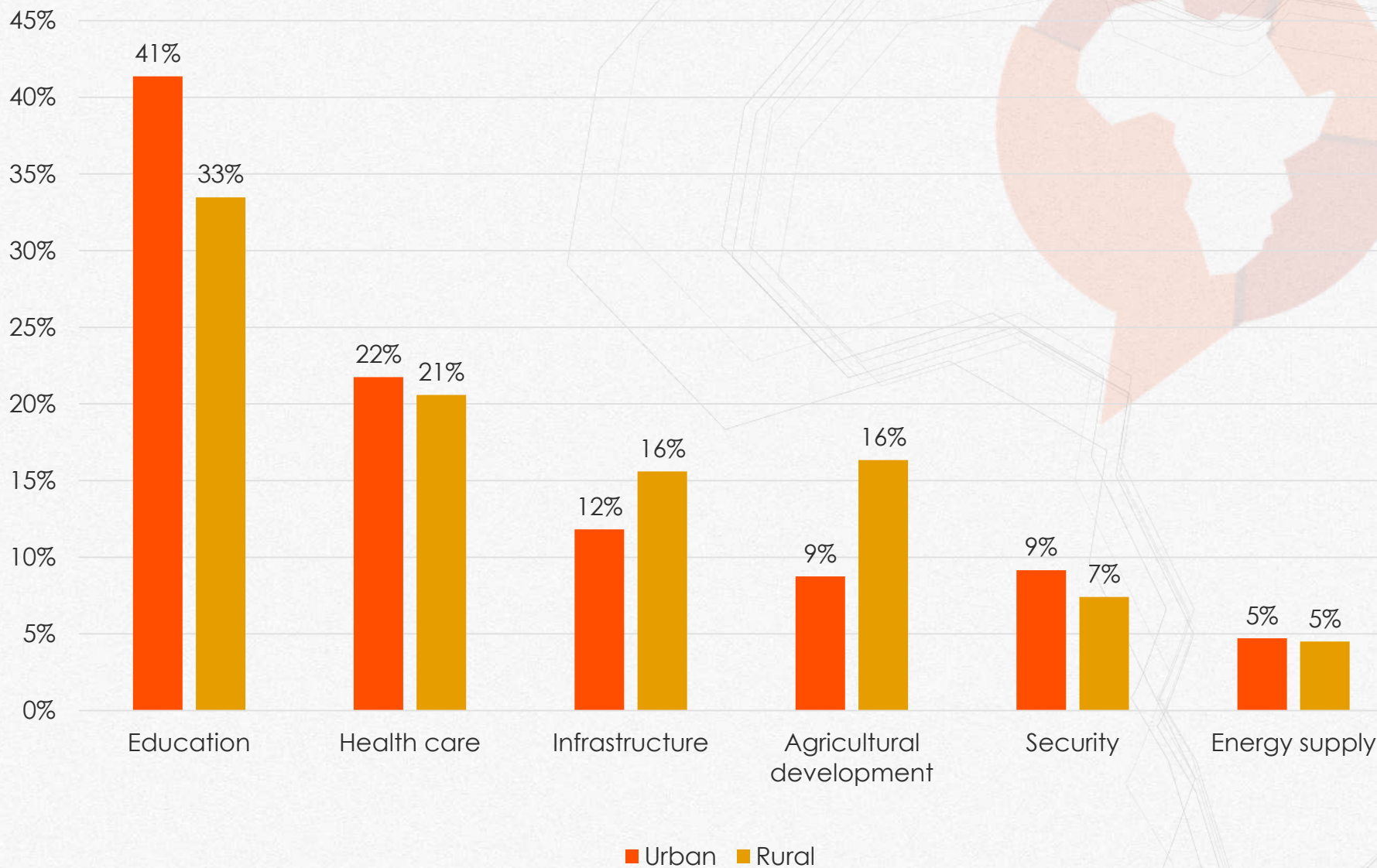
Priority Investment by education | 36 Country | 2014/5



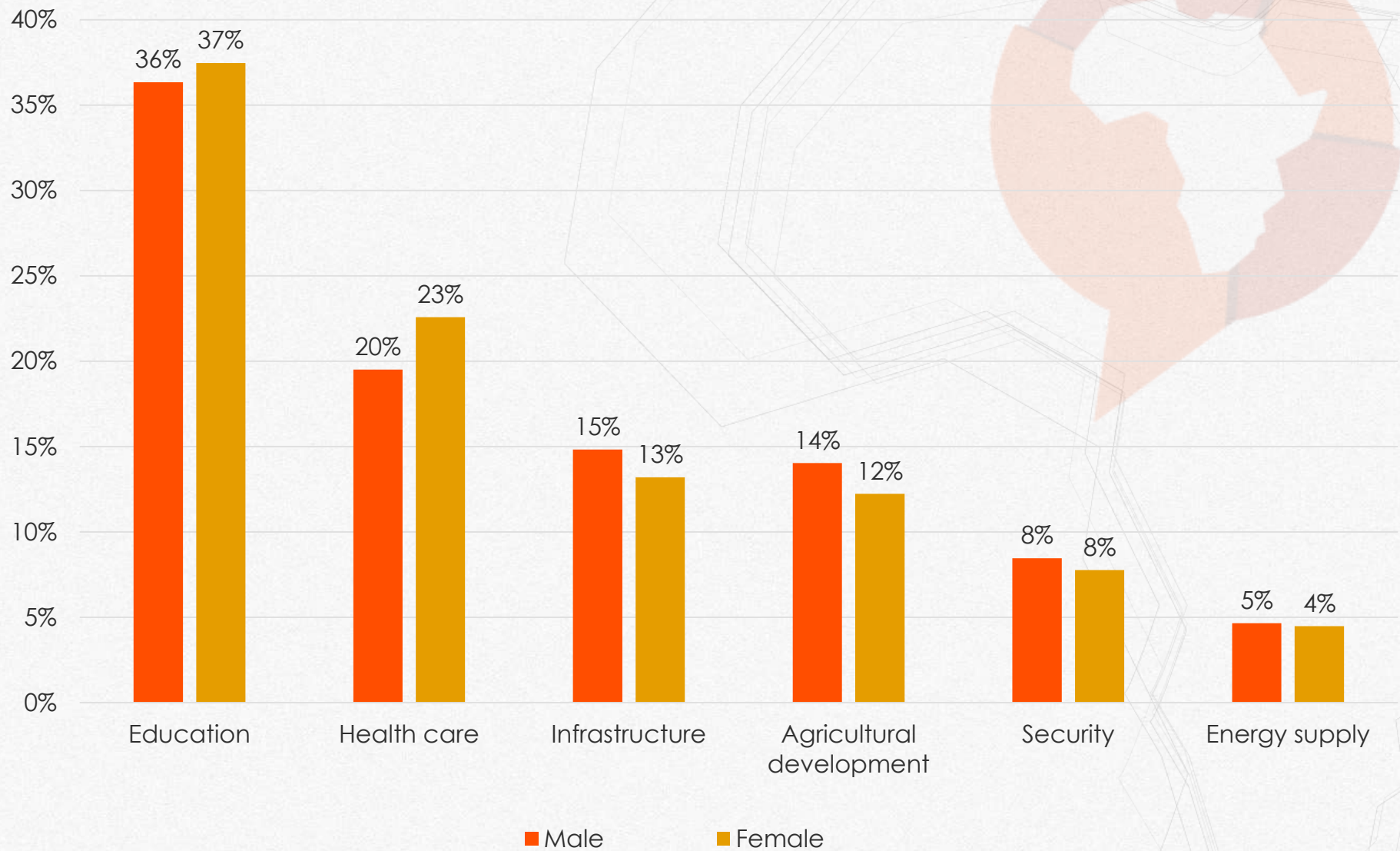
Priority Investment by age | 36 Country | 2014/5



Priority Investment by rural/urban | 36 Country | 2014/5



Priority Investment by gender | 36 Country | 2014/5



Conclusion

- Africans problems, aspirations and priorities clearly aligns to the 2030 SDGs.
- Citizens are clear on national problems: unemployment, health, education, infrastructure-although in terms of severity, national challenges differ across countries.
- Amidst competing needs, citizens require their governments to prioritise addressing challenges in the education sector, health and infrastructure.
- The survey provide a clear road map for governments in meeting the 2030 SDGs (priority areas). Because priority areas differ across the demographic variables, social and economic indicators, – government`s approach should align to these specifications.





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BAROMETER
LET THE PEOPLE HAVE A SAY

THANK YOU



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