

Desire of protectionism remains high in Africa. Findings from a recent [survey](#) conducted by Afr

obarometer (a pan-African survey research network that conducts evaluations of democracy, governance, and quality of life in the continent),

show considerable resistance among South Africans to free movement and trade

Precisely, 51% of respondents is in favor of protecting domestic producers from foreign competitors against a 45% supporting free cross-border movement

Interestingly, opposition to free cross-border movement grows in cities (54%) more than in rural areas (44%) and increases with respondents' education level, reaching 56% among those with post-secondary qualifications. The survey also reveals that 44% of South African citizens consider crossing international

borders in Southern Africa

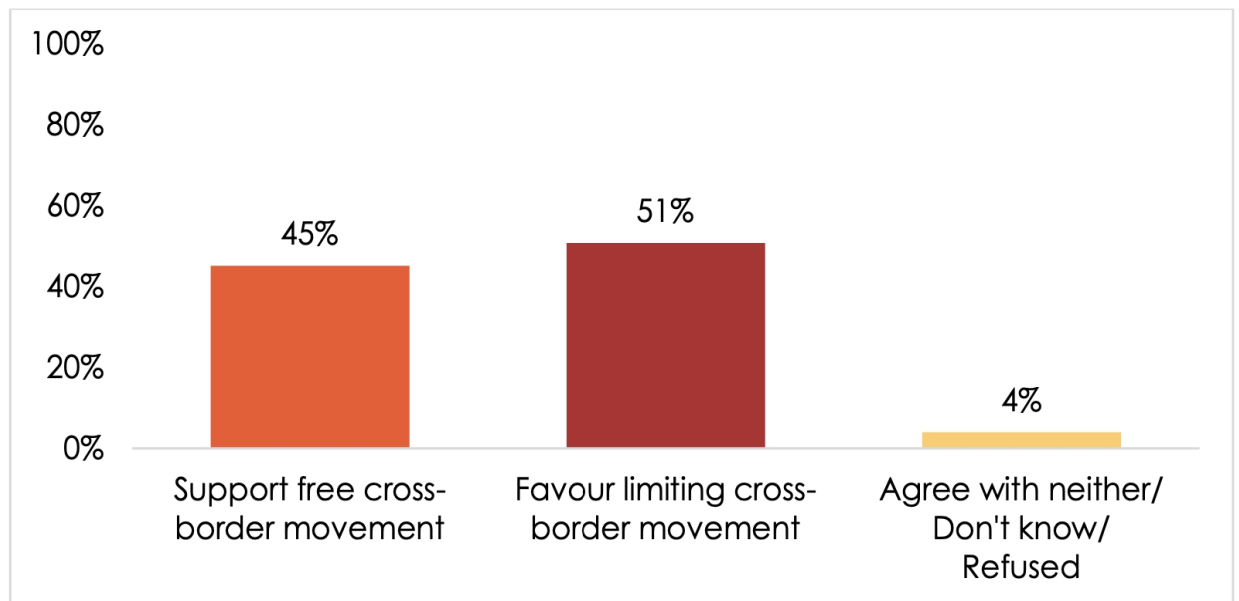
as difficult or very difficult

Only 35% say it is easy

while a remaining 20%

have not responded

Figure 1: Views on cross-border movement | South Africa | 2021



The Afrobarometer survey was conducted by the Centre for Applied Statistics, University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa. The survey was conducted between 15th and 21st February 2022. The survey was conducted using a random digit dialling method. The survey was conducted in English, isiZulu, isiXhosa, and isiNdebele. The survey was conducted with a response rate of 85%.