

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

(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

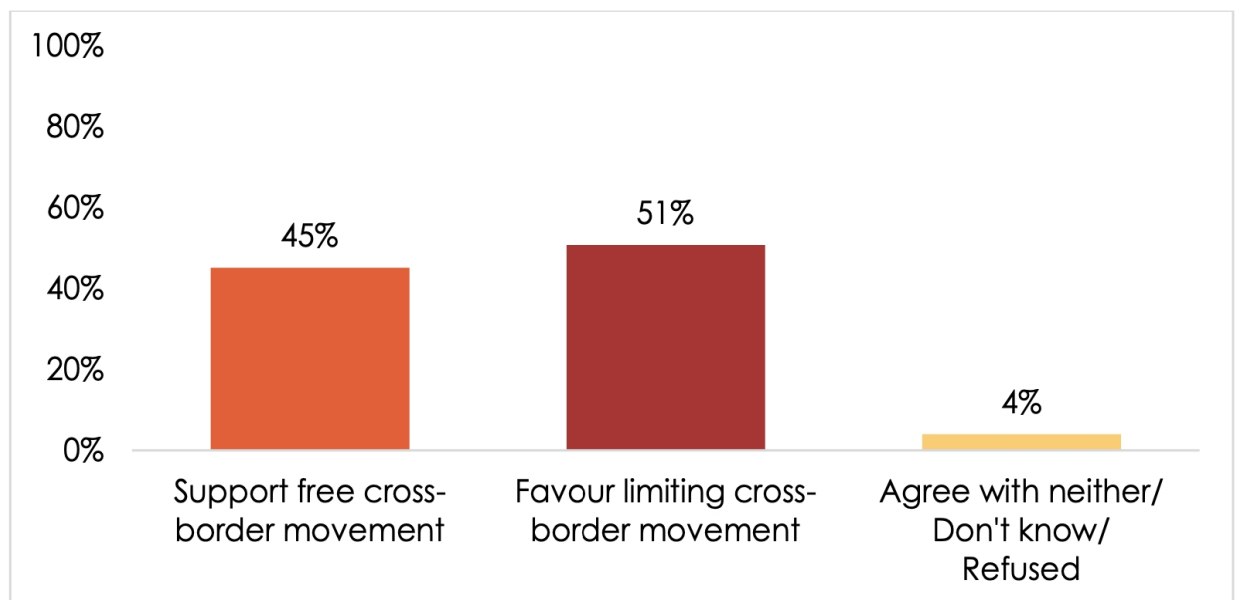
a remaining

20%

have not responded

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



The Afrobarometer survey was conducted from 15 April to 15 May 2021. The survey was conducted by the Afrobarometer team, which is a consortium of research organisations across Africa. The survey was conducted in South Africa, and the results are presented in this figure.