

CORRUPTION IS EATING US UP: A Call To Action

Survey Report on Citizens'
Knowledge, Perceptions and
Experiences of Corruption in the

ATEBUBU-AMANTIN DISTRICT



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Ghana Integrity Initiative (GII)
Local Chapter of Transparency International

gacc
Ghana Anti-Corruption Centre



DISCLAIMER

The author's views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

The Ghana Integrity Initiative (GII) Consortium was established in 2014, comprising GII, Ghana Anti-Corruption Coalition (GACC) and SEND GHANA to implement a 4-year USAID funded project titled “Accountable Democratic Institutions and Systems Strengthening (ADISS)” in 50 districts across the ten regions of Ghana.

ADISS seeks to renew and build upon on-going efforts and also increase the capacities of anti-corruption CSOs to motivate citizens to apply pressure on policy makers and institutions through a number of targeted and focused actions with the aim to reduce corruption in Ghana.

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Every effort has been made to verify the accuracy of the information contained in this report. All information was believed to be correct as of February, 2017. Nevertheless, GII Consortium cannot accept responsibility for the consequences of its use for other purposes or in other contexts.

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CHAPTER	PAGE
1.0 BACKGROUND	1
1.1 Knowledge, Perceptions and Experiences of Corruption Survey	1
1.2 Research Objectives	1
2.0 METHODOLOGY	1
2.1 Scope and Sampling	1
2.2 Research Design and Tool	1
2.3 Sources and Methods of Data Collection	1
3.0 DATA ANALYSIS	2
4.0 RESULTS	2
4.1.1 Demographic Characteristics of Sample: Sex, Age, Settlement Type, Educational Level, Literacy and Employment	2
4.1.2 Knowledge of Corruption	3
4.1.3 Change in the Level of Corruption over the past 12 months	3
4.1.4 Effort made by the District Assembly and District level Governance Institutions to Fight Corruption in the District	4
4.1.5 Most Trusted Institution to Fight Corruption	4
4.1.6 Citizens' Perception of Corruption in Institutions	5
4.1.7 Citizens' Actual Experience with Corruption: Payment of Bribe	5
4.1.8 Reasons for Paying Bribe	6
4.1.9 Citizens Willingness to Fight Corruption	7



FIGURE	PAGE
FIGURE 4.1.1 Demographic Characteristics of Sample	2
FIGURE 4.1.2 Citizens Knowledge on Forms of Corruption	3
FIGURE 4.1.3 Citizens' Assessment of the Change in the Level of Corruption	3
FIGURE 4.1.4 Citizens' Recognition of Effort of District Assembly to Fight Corruption	4
FIGURE 4.1.5 Citizens' Confidence in Institutions to Fight Corruption	4
FIGURE 4.1.6 Citizens' Perception of Corruption in Institutions	5
FIGURE 4.1.7 Percentage of Citizens Who made contact with the above Institutions and Paid Bribe	6
FIGURE 4.1.8 Reasons for Paying Bribe	6
FIGURE 4.1.9 Citizens' Willingness to Fight Corruption	7

1.0 BACKGROUND

1.1 Knowledge, Perceptions and Experiences of Corruption Survey

The GII Consortium (comprising Ghana Integrity Initiative, Ghana Anti-Corruption Coalition, and SEND-GHANA) conducted a Survey on the Knowledge, Perceptions and Experiences of Corruption in 50 districts across the 10 regions of Ghana. Research on the prevalence of corruption had always focused on perception and often aggregated at national level. This survey is novel in capturing citizens' actual experiences of corruption within their districts, focusing on where and how corruption manifests in their daily lives. This report, provides district specific evidence as the basis for engaging district level government institutions and stakeholders with the aim to reducing corruption at the subnational level.

1.2 Research Aim/ Objectives

The primary aim of the research was to assess the state of citizens' knowledge on corruption, perceptions and actual experiences on corruption at the district level. The specific objectives were:

1. To assess citizens' understanding of corruption;
2. To know citizens' assessment of the level of corruption in their districts;
3. To know how and where citizens experience corruption at the district level.

2.0 METHODOLOGY

2.1 Scope and Sampling

Sample for the study was determined by means of stratified random sampling. Each district was stratified based on the various settlements; urban, peri-urban and rural. For the sample size determination, the margin of error was +/-5% and 95% confidence level. The population of each district was used to determine the appropriate sample size. The average sample size of the districts was 384. The same sampling methodology was adopted for all the 50 targeted districts.

2.2 Research Design and Tool

This was a research survey where data consistent with the objectives of the study was collected using a questionnaire. The questionnaire was categorized into three (3) sections. The sections sought information regarding:

- I. Demographic Characteristics of Respondents
- II. Knowledge of Corruption
- III. Perceptions and Experiences of Corruption

2.3 Sources and Methods of Data Collection

The survey collected primary, quantitative and qualitative data between April and May, 2016. The data came from households by means of face to face interviews using a structured questionnaire. Households were selected by means of a random walk method. The questionnaire was administered via an electronic platform by trained citizen groups in all the districts.

3.0 DATA ANALYSIS

Data was analysed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) software. SPSS was used to generate descriptive statistics and tested for statistical significance using the Chi-Square test. Statistical tests of significance were performed on the data at 0.05 (5%) level of significance. The results are presented by means of info-graphics to make them easily comprehensible, reader-friendly and appealing to a larger audience.

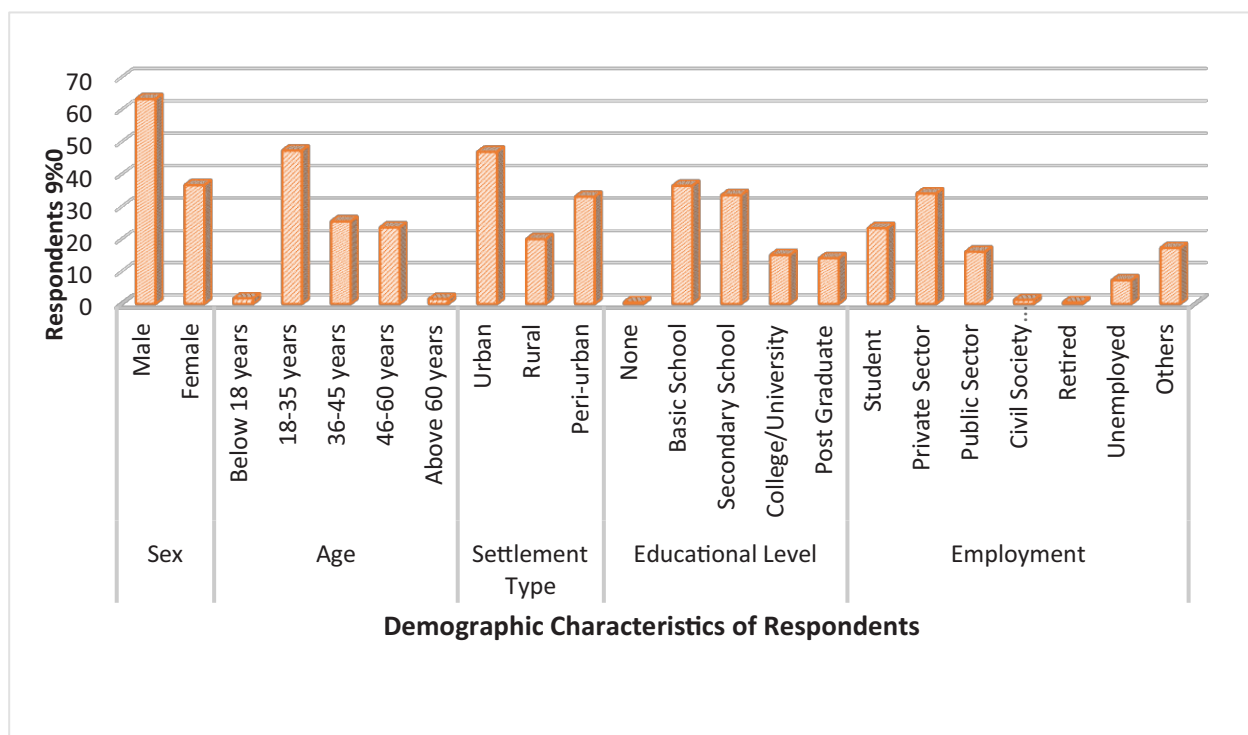
4.0 RESULTS

The Atebubu-Amantin District shares boundaries with the Pru District to the North, the Sene District to the East and to the West Kintampo South and Nkoranza North all in the Brong Ahafo Region. To the South, it is bounded by three districts in the Ashanti Region namely Ejura-Sekyedumase, Sekyere East and Sekyere West districts. The population for this district is 105,938 and the sample size for the survey was 411.

4.1.1 Demographic Characteristics of Sample: Sex, Age, Settlement Type, Educational Level, Literacy and Employment.

The sample was dominated by males, young persons (between the ages of 18 and 35), urban dwellers, literate persons and those who work in the private sector.

Figure 4.1.1: Demographic Characteristics of Sample

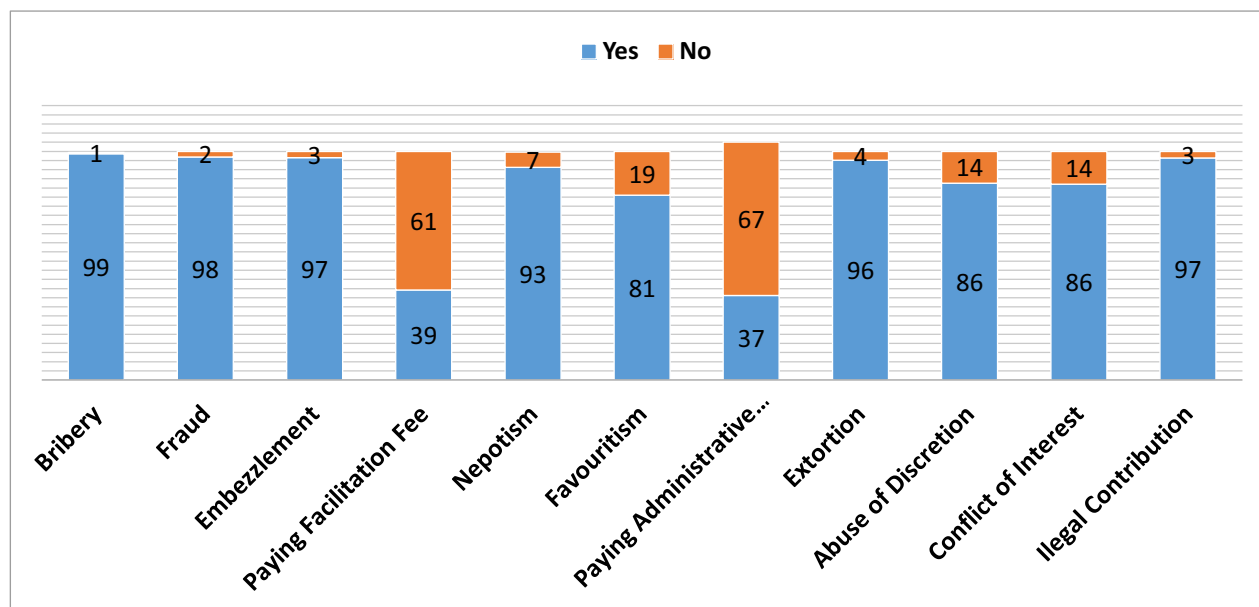


Source: Field Survey, 2016

4.1.2 Knowledge on forms of Corruption

Respondents in the Atebubu-Amantin district rightly identified all the manifestations of corruption. The majority also rightly identified the payment of Administrative fees as not an act of corruption.

Figure 4.1.2: Citizens Knowledge on Forms of Corruption



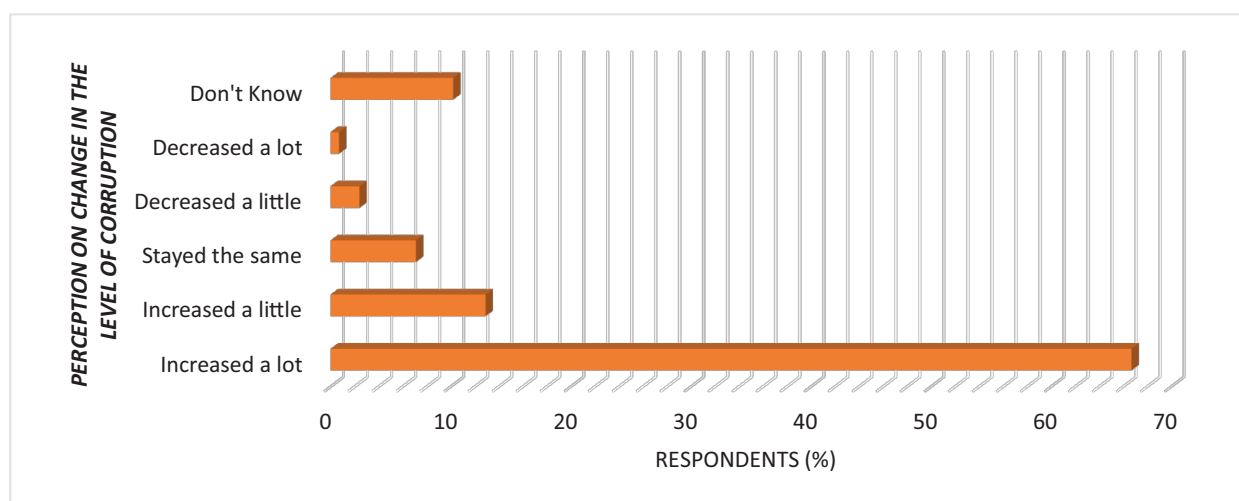
Source: Field survey, 2016

From Figure 4.1.2, almost all the respondents identified bribery, fraud, embezzlement, extortion, abuse of discretion, conflict of interest and illegal contribution as manifestations of corruption. However, majority thought that payment of facilitation fee did not constitute an act of corruption.

4.1.3 Change in the Level of Corruption over the past 12 months

Most respondents indicated that corruption had increased in the district over the past 12 months. Only 3 out of 100 people believed corruption in the district had decreased in the same period.

Figure 4.1.3: Citizens' assessment of change in the Level of Corruption

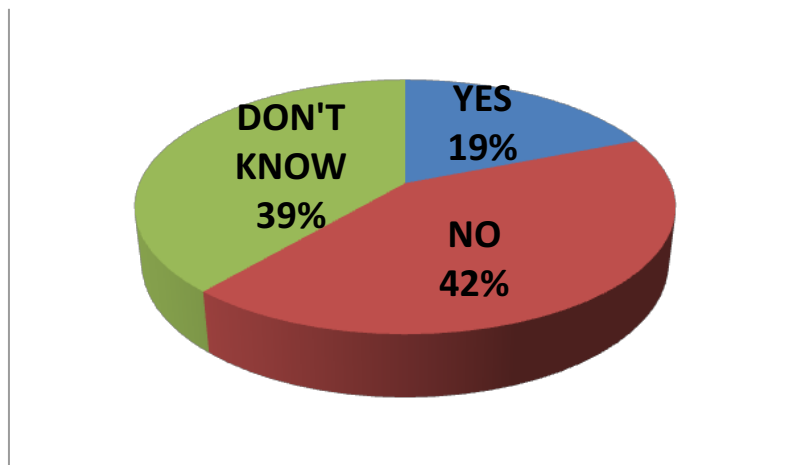


Source: Field survey, 2016

4.1.4 Effort made by the Assembly and District level Governance institutions to Fight Corruption in the District

Forty-two (42%) of respondents asserted that district level authorities were not putting in any effort to fight corruption; with only 19% agreeing that the District level authorities made efforts at tackling corruption. Others did not know whether efforts were made to fight corruption in the districts or not.

Figure 4.1.4: Recognition of the Efforts at Fighting Corruption by the District Assembly

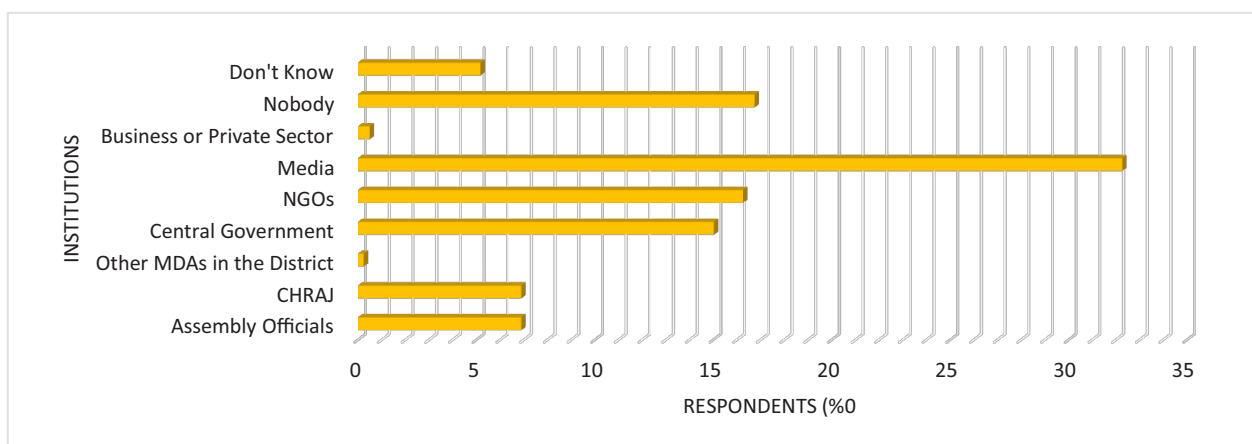


Source: GII Consortium, 2016

4.1.5 Most Trusted Institution to Fight Corruption

Citizens in the Atebubu-Amantin District trust the Private Sector and the districts the least to address corruption. On the other hand the citizens trust the media the most to fight corruption in the district.

Figure 4.1.5: Citizens' confidence in institutions to fight Corruption.

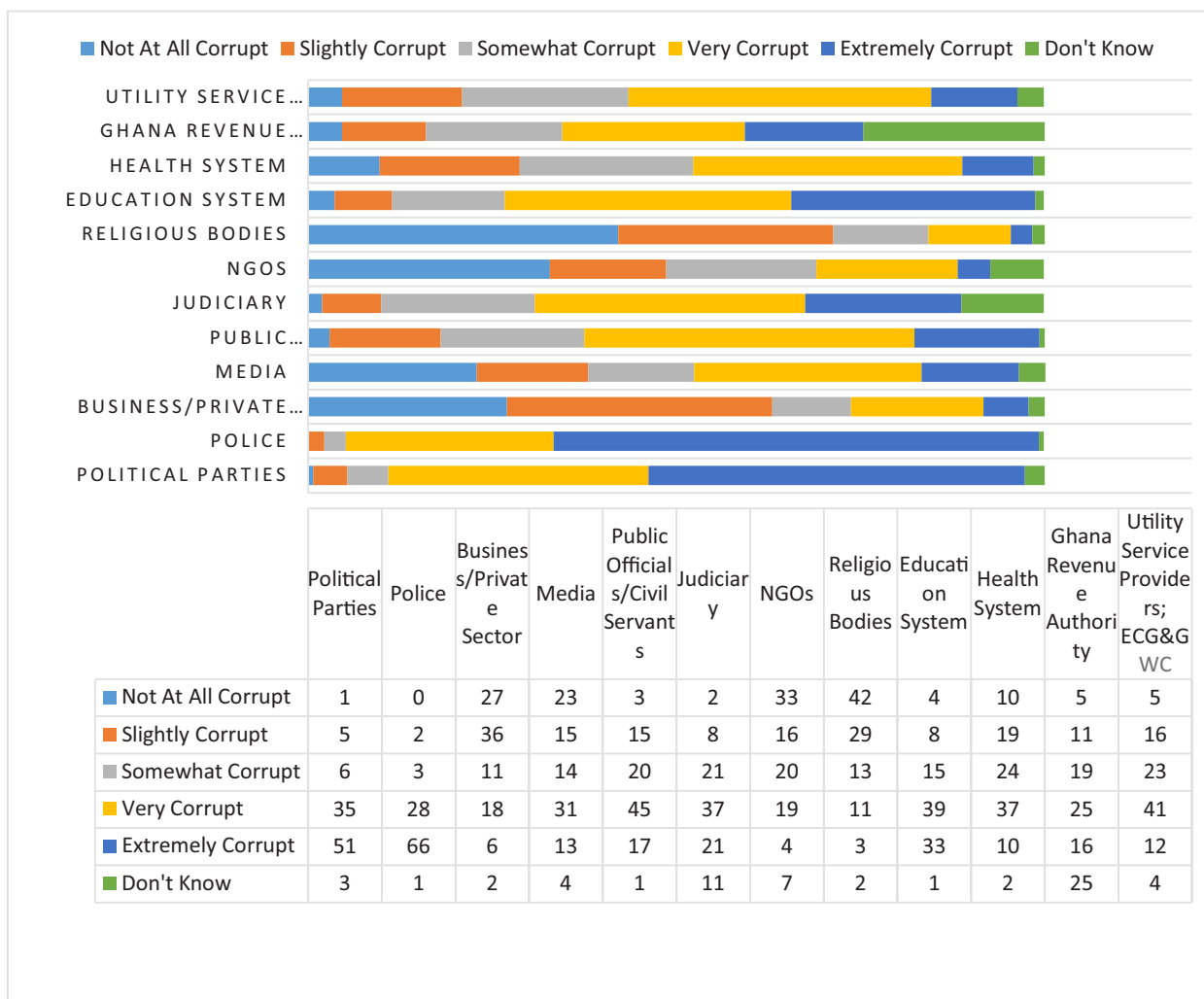


Source: Field survey, 2016

4.1.6 Citizens' Perception of Corruption in Institutions

Citizens perceived the Police Service and Political Parties as the most corrupt institutions, followed by Educational institutions, the Judiciary, Utility Service Providers and the Health System.

Figure 4.1.6: Citizens' Perception of Corruption in Institutions

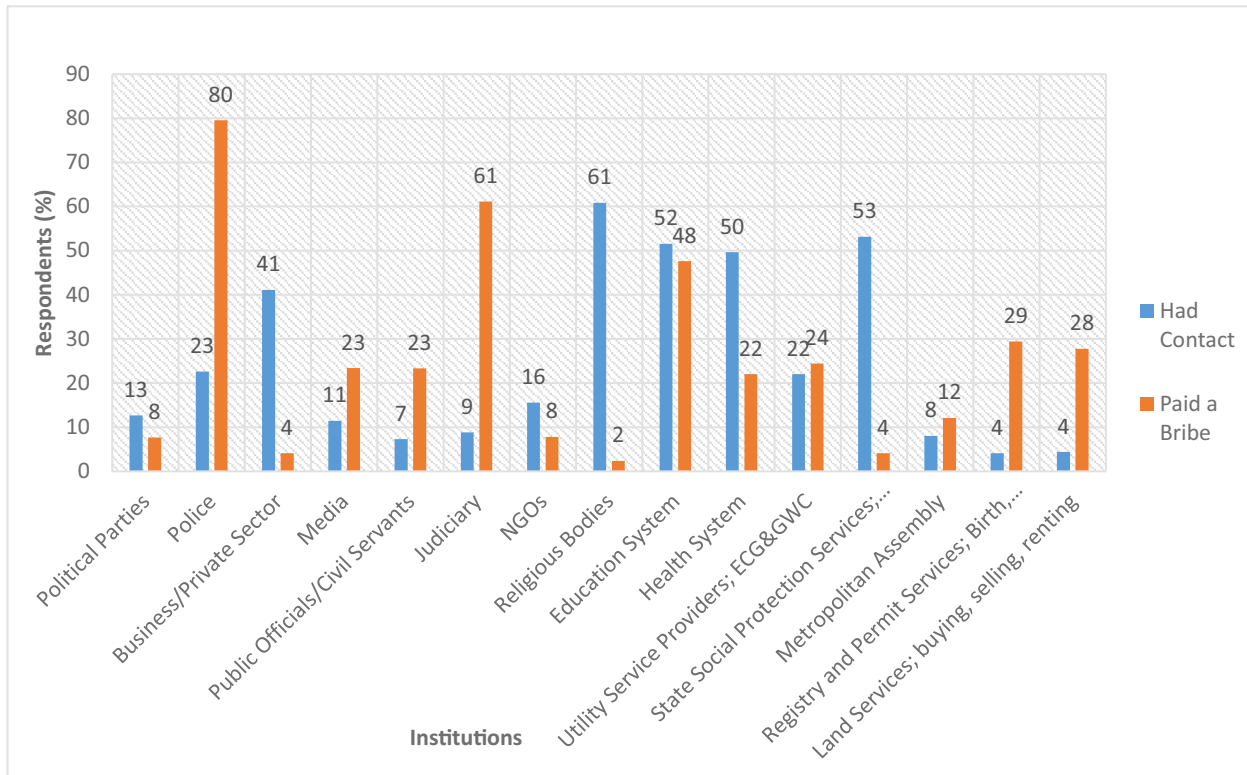


Source: Field survey, 2016

4.1.7 Citizens' Actual Experience with Corruption: Payment of Bribe

The graph below shows the number of respondents who had contact with some institutions, and those out of that number who actually paid bribes to that institution. Four out of every five persons who made contact with the police reported paying bribe. Five persons who made contact with the judiciary reported paying bribe.

Figure 4.1.7: Citizens' Actual Experience with Corruption: Payment of Bribe

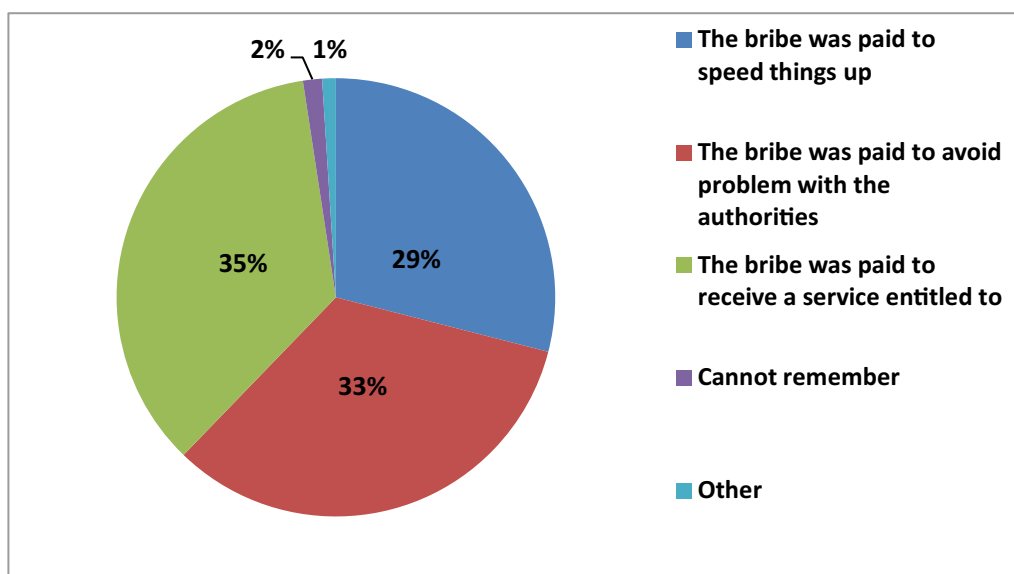


Source: Field survey, 2016

Respondents claimed that they paid bribes to speed things up; to avoid problems with the authorities; and to receive services they were entitled to. Figure 12.1.9 probes into the reasons why citizens in Atebubu-Amantin paid bribes.

4.1.8 Reasons for Paying Bribe

Figure 4.1.9: Reasons for Paying Bribe

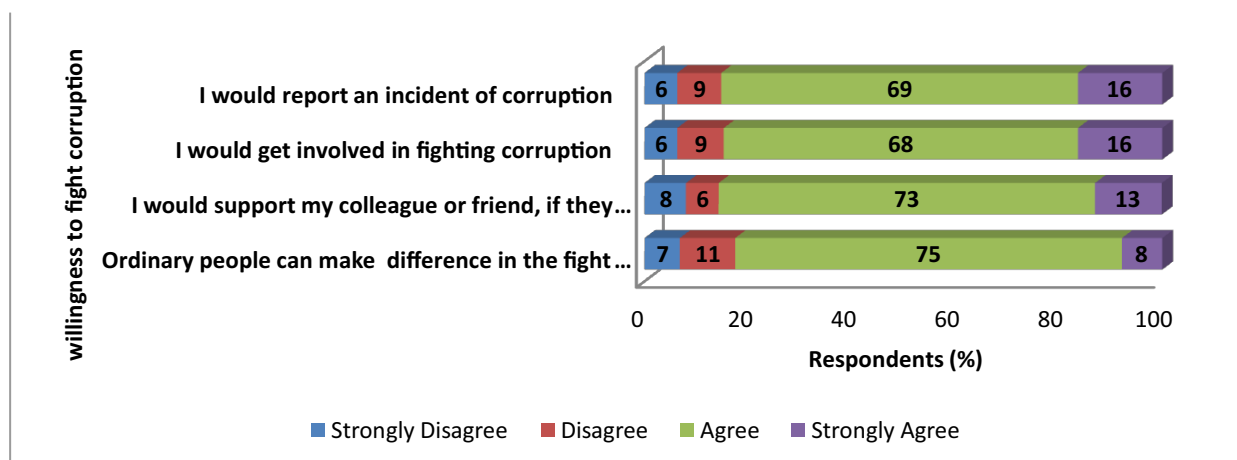


Source: Field survey, 2016

4.1.9 Citizens' Willingness to fight Corruption

Most citizens in the district believe that ordinary people could make a difference in the fight against corruption. This also reflects in how they would support a colleague, get involved or report incidents of corruption.

Figure 4.1.9: Citizens' Willingness to Fight Corruption.



Source: Field GII Consortium, 2016