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## IEA PRESS RELEASE

### **Most Ghanaians Continue to Back President Mahama**

#### **— IEA Poll Finds**

President John Mahama is now eighteen months into his administration. Since assuming office in January 2025, key economic indicators have moved in the right direction. Between January 2025 and April 2026, inflation has fallen from 23.5% to around 3.4%, the cedi has appreciated by 26% against major currencies, the Bank of Ghana's policy rate has been cut from 27% to 14%, and average commercial bank lending rates have declined from around 32% to approximately 20%. Ghana's debt-to-GDP ratio has also declined from 61.8% at end-2024 to 45.3% by end-2025. These gains have been recognised by international credit rating agencies, with Fitch, Moody's and S&P all upgrading Ghana's sovereign credit rating — the first triple upgrade in many years — in acknowledgement of the country's improved fiscal outlook.

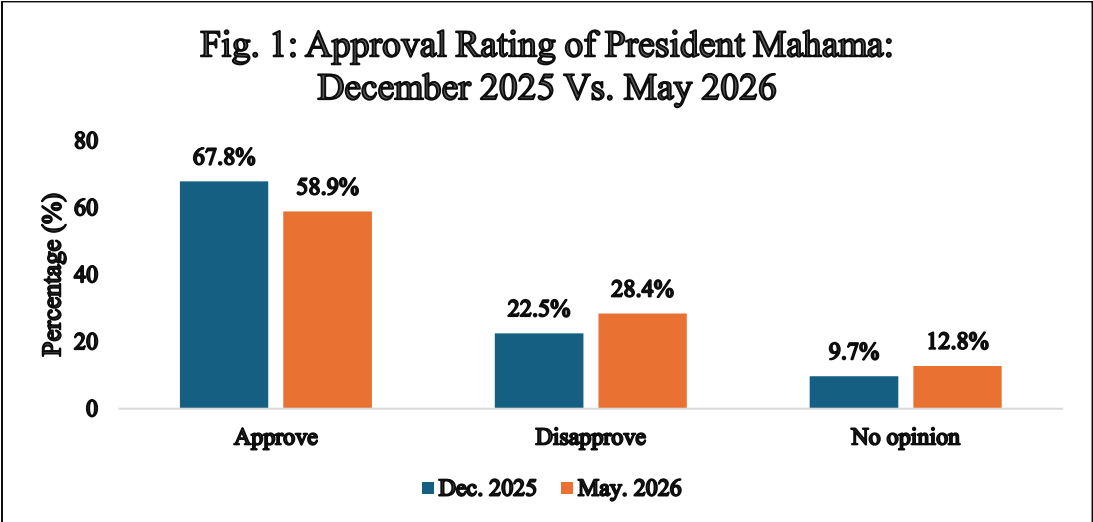
To gauge public sentiment on President Mahama's stewardship since taking office, the Institute of Economic Affairs (IEA) conducted a nationwide poll in May 2026, the latest in its regular series tracking presidential job performance. The poll covered over 1,000 people across all sixteen regions of Ghana and revealed the following key findings:

- Most Ghanaians continue to back President Mahama, with a 58.9% job approval rating.
- Among those who approve, 73.5% cite the economy while 16.0% point to road infrastructure.
- On the other hand, 30.9% of those who disapprove also cite the economy while 29.9% of them cite electricity.

**Public Support for President Mahama Remains High at 58.9% Approval**

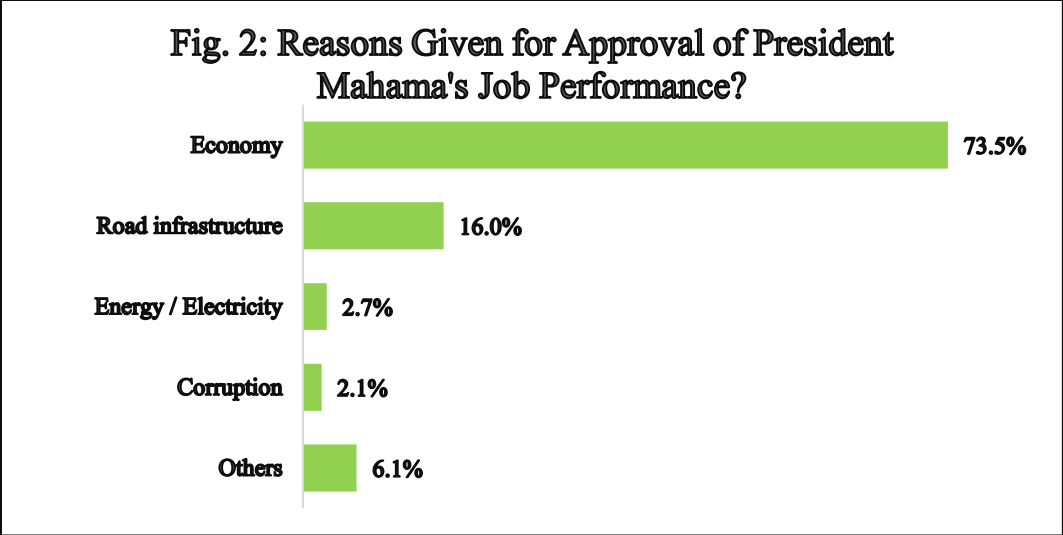
Public assessment of President John Mahama's job performance is positive, with most respondents approving of the way he is handling his job. When asked whether they approve or disapprove, 58.9% of respondents say they approve, 28.4% say they disapprove, and 12.8% report having no opinion. The gap between approval and disapproval — over thirty percentage points — indicates that positive assessments of the President's performance remain well ahead of critical ones.

Approval has nonetheless slipped from 68% in December 2025 to 58.9% in May 2026, reflecting a public that remains broadly supportive but increasingly expectant that the gains of the past sixteen months will reach their daily lives.



**Ghanaians Who Approve Cite Economy and Road Infrastructure**

When it comes to why Ghanaians approve of President Mahama's job performance, the economy tells the story. Nearly three in four approvers (73.5%) credit the government's handling of the economy as their main reason, a direct reflection of the administration's achievements in stabilising prices, strengthening the cedi, and restoring investor confidence. Thus, the data confirm that the government's economic record is its most powerful source of public goodwill. Road infrastructure (16.0%) and energy and electricity (2.7%) rank as the second and third reasons for approval, respectively.



Interestingly, 30.9% of those who disapprove also cite the economy as their main reason for disapproval. This is not necessarily a rejection of the government's macroeconomic achievements but may instead reflect the lived experience of Ghanaians for whom falling inflation and a stronger cedi have not yet fully translated into lower cost of living, more jobs, or higher household incomes.

Electricity supply was also cited by 29.9% of disapprovers, a finding that comes as no surprise given that the poll was conducted in the wake of a temporary power supply constraint in May 2026 that saw frequent outages affect homes and businesses across the country. Corruption is cited by 19.1% of disapprovers, a signal that the government's anti-corruption rhetoric has yet to fully convince a significant portion of the public. Visible action on corruption remains an expectation many Ghanaians hold firmly.

**Summary of Findings**

- Most Ghanaians continue to back President Mahama, with a 58.9% approval rating in May 2026, though this represents a decline from the 68% recorded in December 2025.
- Among those who approve, the economy and road infrastructure are the leading reasons, reflecting public recognition of the administration's achievements in stabilising the economy and embarking on a big push agenda.

- Disapprovers cited the economy, energy and electricity supply, and corruption as the main concerns.
- The findings suggest that Ghanaians are broadly supportive of the President's leadership but are expectant that the progress recorded at the macro level will increasingly be felt in their daily lives.

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