

JMCC Public Opinion Poll No. 22 - Part Three
On The Palestinian Legislative Council Elections
August 1997

Results

Q28. Do you think that, in general, people know how to vote for the right candidate?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	23.5%	22.5%	25.3%
Some	51.8%	53.6%	48.7%
No	20.0%	20.6%	18.9%
No answer	4.7%	3.3%	7.1%

Do you think people voted rationally or irrationally? Do you think you yourself voted rationally or irrationally?

Q29. People

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Rationally	44.6%	42.3%	48.5%
Irrationally	43.8%	45.1%	41.5%
No answer	11.6%	12.6%	10.0%

Q30. You

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Rationally	50.1%	48.9%	52.2%
Irrationally	10.5%	8.3%	14.4%
I did not vote	28.7%	31.3%	24.1%
No answer	10.7%	11.5%	9.3%

Do you think people voted responsibly or irresponsibly? Did you yourself vote responsibly or irresponsibly?

Q31. People

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Responsibly	55.6%	52.9%	60.1%
Irresponsibly	33.2%	35.2%	29.8%

No answer	11.2%	11.9%	10.1%
-----------	-------	-------	-------

Q32. You

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Responsibly	51.8%	50.0%	54.9%
Irresponsibly	8.5%	7.3%	10.5%
I did not vote	28.9%	31.9%	23.7%
No answer	10.8%	10.8%	10.9%

Q33. Given the election results, do you think the elected members represent the views/concerns of the people?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	13.2%	11.6%	15.9%
To a certain extent	54.3%	57.4%	49.0%
No	27.2%	25.8%	29.6%
No answer	5.3%	5.2%	5.5%

Q34. To what extent would you say the Council members know what the people want/need?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
A lot	29.3%	29.9%	28.2%
Not a lot	50.5%	49.9%	51.5%
Not at all	16.2%	15.5%	17.3%
No answer	4.0%	4.7%	3.0%

Q35. Some people say that the PLC is very restricted by the Executive Authority, others say there are only some restrictions by the EA, and others say there are no restrictions by the EA. What do you think?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Very restricted by the EA	35.2%	33.5%	38.3%
Some restrictions by the EA	43.2%	45.6%	39.0%
No restrictions by the EA	11.0%	10.6%	11.6%
No answer	10.6%	10.3%	11.1%

In general, how would you evaluate the Palestinian Legislative Council in the following area?

Q36. Democracy

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Very democratic	6.8%	5.6%	8.9%
Democratic	56.1%	56.0%	56.3%
Not democratic	27.4%	29.2%	24.1%
Very undemocratic	7.2%	7.5%	6.6%
No answer	2.5%	1.7%	4.1%

Q37. Effectiveness

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Very effective	3.5%	2.8%	4.8%
Effective	35.5%	34.5%	37.1%
Not effective	49.2%	51.9%	44.6%
Very ineffective	9.7%	9.0%	10.9%
No answer	2.1%	1.8%	2.6%

Q38. Responsiveness

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Very responsive	4.6%	3.2%	7.1%
Responsive	37.4%	40.5%	32.1%
Not responsive	45.7%	45.9%	45.3%
Very responsive	9.8%	8.2%	12.5%
No answer	2.5%	2.2%	3.0%

Q39. Independence from the EA

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Very independent	3.3%	2.0%	5.7%
Independent	24.2%	22.5%	27.1%
Dependent	54.7%	58.3%	48.5%
Very dependent	13.6%	14.4%	12.1%
No answer	4.2%	2.8%	6.6%

Q40. Independence from Judiciary

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Very independent	3.8%	2.5%	6.2%
Independent	34.0%	32.7%	36.2%
Dependent	48.9%	52.6%	42.4%
Very dependent	8.7%	8.5%	9.1%
No answer	4.6%	3.7%	6.1%

Q41. Pluralism

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Very pluralistic	5.9%	4.6%	8.2%
Pluralistic	31.1%	29.5%	33.9%
Not pluralistic	45.0%	47.5%	40.8%
Not pluralistic at all	13.1%	15.1%	9.6%
No answer	4.9%	3.3%	7.5%

Q42. Do you believe in the importance of having women in the Legislative Council?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	71.4%	70.2%	73.3%
No	22.4%	22.9%	21.6%
No answer	6.2%	6.9%	5.1%

Q43. Why do you think there is a need for women in the Legislative Council?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Women need to demand their rights	63.4%	63.8%	61.8%
Better for democracy	29.7%	27.3%	33.5%
Women are half of the society	0.9%	1.3%	0.3%
Other reasons	5.7%	6.4%	4.0%
No answer	0.3%	1.2%	0.4%

Q44. Why don't you believe in having women in the Legislative Council?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Men can represent women's needs	29.5%	29.5%	29.5%

No difference between the needs of men and women	19.4%	22.0%	12.6%
Not qualified for this position	39.6%	32.9%	47.4%
Other reasons	8.6%	9.8%	6.3%
No answer	2.9%	5.8%	4.2%

Q45. Looking back at the last year and a half since the Council has been elected, what is your opinion about its performance in general? Would you say you are very satisfied, satisfied, dissatisfied or very dissatisfied?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Very satisfied	5.2%	4.0%	7.3%
Satisfied	33.1%	33.9%	31.9%
Dissatisfied	38.7%	39.4%	37.6%
Very dissatisfied	17.1%	16.7%	17.8%
No answer	5.9%	6.0%	5.4%

Q46. Which of the following are the most important reasons for your satisfaction?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Responsiveness	11.8%	8.4%	17.4%
Democracy	41.7%	43.0%	39.5%
Effectiveness	7.4%	6.7%	8.7%
Independence	7.6%	8.7%	5.8%
Courage	13.3%	12.6%	14.5%
Accessibility	6.1%	6.6%	5.2%
New experience	0.9%	1.4%	--
Other reasons	6.1%	7.0%	4.7%
No answer	5.1%	5.6%	4.2%

Q47. Which of the following are the most important reasons for your dissatisfaction?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Lack of responsiveness	8.7%	9.0%	8.2%
Lack of democracy	7.2%	7.8%	6.2%
Lack of effectiveness	42.1%	43.9%	39.0%
Lack of independence	21.0%	20.3%	22.2%
Lack of courage	5.8%	5.0%	7.4%
Lack of accessibility	4.5%	4.2%	4.9%
Other reasons	8.5%	8.7%	8.2%
No answer	2.2%	1.1%	3.9%

Q48. In general, are you optimistic or pessimistic about the performance of the elected Legislative Council in the future?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Very optimistic	11.4%	9.4%	14.8%
Optimistic	47.7%	44.2%	53.8%
Very pessimistic	11.8%	12.8%	10.0%
Pessimistic	24.9%	29.4%	17.1%
No answer	4.2%	4.2%	4.3%