

JMCC Public Opinion Poll No. 15

On Palestinian Attitudes Towards the Peace Process April 1996

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Methodology

A random sample of 1,279 people over the age of 18 were interviewed face-to face throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip on 5-6 April 1996. The interviews were conducted in randomly selected homes, and the subjects inside each home were also selected randomly according to Kish tables. The interviews were conducted in 69 sampling points chosen randomly according to population concentrations. In villages and refugee camps, interviewers were instructed as to which street to take and the method of locating the building from which the household and the respondent are to be selected. As for cities where more than one sampling points were selected, the interviewers were instructed which neighborhood to choose and the manner by which they located the households.

In the West Bank, 835 people were surveyed (including Jerusalem) and 444 were surveyed in the Gaza Strip.

The margin of error is ± 3 percent, with a confidence level of 95 percent.

Sample Distribution

- 48.3% were male
- 51.7% were female
- 63.6% were married
- 29.7% were single
- 3.4% were widowed
- 0.9% were divorced
- 2.4% No answer

Local of Respondents - West Bank (including East Jerusalem) 65.9%, Gaza Strip 34.1%

The average of age of the respondents was 33 years.

Occupation respondents

- Students 12.9%
- Waged laborers 11.1%
- Housewives 36.0%
- Businessmen 6.0%
- Professionals - e.g. doctors/lawyers/pharmacists/engineers 2.9%
- Technicians 2.2%

- Clerks 15.7%
- Unemployed 7.9%
- Retired 1.3%
- No answer 4.0%

Results

Q1. To what extent do you feel optimistic or pessimistic regarding the future in general? Would you say that you are very optimistic, optimistic, pessimistic or very pessimistic?

	Total
Very Optimistic	22.2%
Somewhat optimistic	53.1%
Pessimistic	15.1%
Very pessimistic	7.3%
No answer	2.3%

Q2. To what extent do you support or oppose the Palestinian-Israeli Taba agreement on the interim period?

	Total
Strongly support	17.8%
Somewhat support	42.6%
Do not support	15.9%
Not familiar with it	18.2%
No answer	5.5%

Q3. Do you support or oppose the peace process?

	Total
Support	76.9%
Oppose	13.4%
Other	0.4%
No answer	9.3%

Q4. How would you rate the Palestinian Authority's performance?

	Total
Good	31.5%
Average	43.2%
Bad	20.6%

Other	0.9%
No answer	3.8%

Q5. How would you rate Yasser Arafat's performance as PA President?

	Total
Good	44.8%
Average	32.9%
Bad	14.9%
No answer	7.5%

Q6. Which political or religious party you trust most?

	Total
Fateh	33.4%
Hamas	7.9%
PFLP	1.6%
DFLP	0.3%
Jihad	1.6%
PPP	1.3%
FIDA	0.5%
Democratic Coalition	0.3%
Islam / Other	5.9%
Others	0.4%
Do not trust anyone	29.3%
No answer	17.5%