



Jerusalem Office
Tel.: +972-2-532 83 98
Fax: +972-2-581 96 65
Email: info@fespal.org
Web: www.fespal.org



POBox: 25047 Jerusalem
Tel: 02-2976555
Fax: 02-2976557
Email: poll@jmcc.org
Website: www.jmcc.org

Poll No. 88 September 2016

Poll among Youths Hamas responsible for failed elections Fatah enjoys greater trust Unemployment is number one enemy; what about the PNA? How do Palestinians define themselves and what are their news sources?

The Jerusalem Media and Communication Centre (JMCC) in cooperation with Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung conducted a poll among Palestinian youth with a sample including 1000 people ranging between 15-29 years of age in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, between September 28 and October 1, 2016. The results of the poll were interesting in that the youth expressed their desire for the PNA to be maintained in spite of the negative views of its performance. They also held Hamas responsible for the failure to hold local council elections and held both Fatah and Hamas responsible for the political division. Furthermore, they detailed how they would select their candidates if elections were held and the factions they trust most.

Local council elections: Hamas is responsible

The poll showed that the largest percentage of respondents, 24.1%, held Hamas responsible for the postponement of local council elections while 18.8% held Fatah responsible and 10.3% held the PNA responsible; In response to a question about the criteria on which respondents would select candidates in local council elections, the largest percentage, 34.7% responded they would select on the basis of qualifications and professionalism, 33.3% said on the basis of credibility and reputation, while 16% claimed on the basis of political affiliation and 10.2% on the basis of family ties.

In the same context, even though the largest percentage of respondents, 47.2%, said that the postponement of local council elections did not make any difference to them, 39.8% answered they were uncomfortable with the postponement while 9.3% said they were comfortable with it.

Who would they vote for in presidential elections?

In regards to who would win the most votes if President Abbas did not run again in presidential elections, the largest percentage of respondents, 13.4%, said they would vote for Marwan Al-Barghouthi. He is followed by Ismail Haniyeh, at 9.5%, and Mohammad Dahlan, with 8.5% of respondents saying they would vote for him. It should be noted that the majority of those who voted for Haniyeh and Dahlan are from the Gaza Strip while those who voted for Marwan Al-Barghouthi are equally distributed between Gaza and the West Bank.

The poll also showed that Fatah is still the most trusted faction among the people; the percentage of those who trust Fatah rose to 35.0% in this poll after it was 33.8% in the April, 2016 poll. In contrast, trust in Hamas dropped to 15.3% in this poll after it was 19.1% in the April poll.

Unemployment: the number one enemy

The majority of youths polled, 54.5%, said the biggest problem facing them was unemployment. This was followed by the deterioration of political conditions at 10.7%, low salaries, 9.6%, travel and movement difficulties 6.7%, rise in marriage expenses, 4.2% and finally social restrictions and customs, 3.2%

In regards to reasons for unemployment, the largest percentage of youth polled, 43.7%, cited restrictions from the occupation, mainly restrictions on movement, 31.5% said it was because of the PA's shortcomings and 22.9% answered that it was because of the incompatibility of university majors with the needs of the labor market.

University education and vocational training: lack of confidence and little appeal

The poll showed there was a drop in the overall level of confidence among youths regarding university education in Palestine; the largest percentage of those polled, 44%, said their confidence in university education was moderate, 13.3% said they had little confidence while 34.1% said they had much confidence in it.

The poll also showed that over half of the polled youth, 55.6%, do not believe that vocational training graduates found job opportunities while 30.7% said the opposite. Meanwhile, the majority of respondents, 57.1%, indicated that those who graduated from vocational training centers did not get good jobs. Furthermore, the largest percentage, 49.2% said vocational training graduates were not highly regarded by society.

How does change come about?

When asked what is the best way for Palestinian youths to instigate positive political change, the majority, 51.7%, said the best way is for youths to be good citizens (to study and work hard). 19.8% said the best way was to join civil society/grassroots organizations while 13.1% said that change would come through participating in demonstrations and 10.2% said it would be through joining a political party. Only 5.2% said change could be instigated through lone wolf attacks.

The youth and the PNA: Yes/No!

The majority of those polled, 63.8% said there was a need to maintain and perpetuate the PNA as opposed to 27.0% who said it needed to be dissolved even though 41.1% said the PNA's performance was bad in contrast to 58.7% who said it was good in general. This desire to maintain the PNA comes in tandem with the need for its perpetuation in spite of a sort of dissatisfaction in public opinion among youths regarding the performance of its leadership. In this regard, 36.3% of respondents said President Abu Mazen was performing his job badly, 33.4% said his performance was average while 27% said it was good.

As to whether the President was in control of the Palestinian internal situation, respondents were split in their opinions, with 50.8% saying he was not in control and 46.5% who said he was in control of the internal situation.

As for Prime Minister Rami Hamdallah, the largest percentage, 41.1% said he was doing an average job, while 28.8% said he was doing a bad job and 23.9% said he was doing a good job.

The division: Hamas or Fatah; what about ISIS?

The largest percentage of respondents, 35.6%, said that both Fatah and Hamas were the most responsible for the failed reconciliation. 21% claimed Hamas was responsible while 12.9% said Fatah was responsible. 20.8% blamed Israel for the failed reconciliation.

Meanwhile, the largest percentage, 48.1%, said ISIS harmed the Palestinian cause while 2.2% only said it served the cause and 44.6% said it had no impact on it.

Who are you and what are your news sources?

In response to the question on how they define themselves in one word, half of the polled youth, 51.1%, said they were Palestinian, 20.3% answered they were Muslim, 5.8% said Arab while 5.0% responded that they were Fatah-affiliated.

In regards to their first source of news, the largest percentage, 44.1% said it was social networking sites, 22.6% said internet news sites, 22.5% from television and 4.5% from radio. Newspapers were the first news source for only 1.2% of youths.

Methodology:

A random sample of **1000** people over the age of **15-29** was interviewed face-to-face throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip between **28th September and 1st of October 2016**. 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 108 sampling points chosen randomly according to population.

In the **West Bank**: **625** people were surveyed from the following areas:

Hebron: Hebron, Tarqumiya, Adu-dhahiriya, Taffuh, Bani Na'im, Kharas, Beit Kahil, Dura, Sa'ir, Al-Fawwar refugee camp, Shuyukh al-'Arrub, Hadab al- Fawwar. **Jenin**: Birqin, Qabatiya, Jaba', Faqu'a, Ajja, Kafr Qud, Jenin refugee camp. **Tubas**: Tubas. **Bethlehem**: Bethlehem, Beit Jala, Ad -Doha, Tuqu', Al-Duhesheh refugee camp, Artas. **Ramallah & al-Bireh**: Beituniya, Beit 'Ur at- tahta, Ramallah, AL- Bireh, Beit Sira, Deir Jarir, Ein Yabrud, Al-Jalzun refugee camp. **Jericho**: Jericho, Ein ad-duyuk al fauqa. **Jerusalem**: Ad-dahiya and al -Ram, Al-'Eizariya, Mikhmas, Jaba', Old City, Ras al-Amoud, Silwan, Beit Hanina, Qalandia refugee camp. **Nablus**: Nablus, Beit Furik, Qabalan, Awarta, Urif, Burqa, Askar refugee camp. **Salfit**: Biddya, Mas-ha. **Tulkarem**: Illar, Atil, Tulkarem, Kafr al-labad. **Qalqilya**: Qalqiliya, Azzun, Jayyus.

In the **Gaza Strip** : **375** people were surveyed from the following ares:

Gaza: As-shati reufgee camp. Al-Tuffah, Al-Durj, Sabra, Sheikh Ajleen, Al-Zaitoun, Al-Nasser, Al-Shaja'eyeh, Al-Sha'af, Al-Rimal A-Shamali, a-Rimal a-Janoubi. **Khan Younis**: Khan Younis, Al-Qarara, Bani Suheila, Abasan Al-Saghira, Khan Younis refugee camp. **Rafah**: Rafah, Shouket a-Soufi, Rafah Refugee Camp. **Gaza North**: Jabalia, Beit Lahia, Beit Hanoun, Jabalia Refugee Camp. **Deir al-Balah**: An Nuseirat, Az-Zawayda, Deir al-Balah, Al-Bureij refugee camp, Al-Nusseirat refugee camp.

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

53.0% of the respondents were from the West Bank 9.5 % from Jerusalem, 37.5% from the Gaza Strip.

17.0% said they live in villages, 10.0 % in refugee camps, and 73.0 % in towns/cities.

49.7% were male, 50.3% were female.

33.5 % were married, 64.7 %, single, 0.3 % widowed 1.2 % divorced, 0.3% no answer.

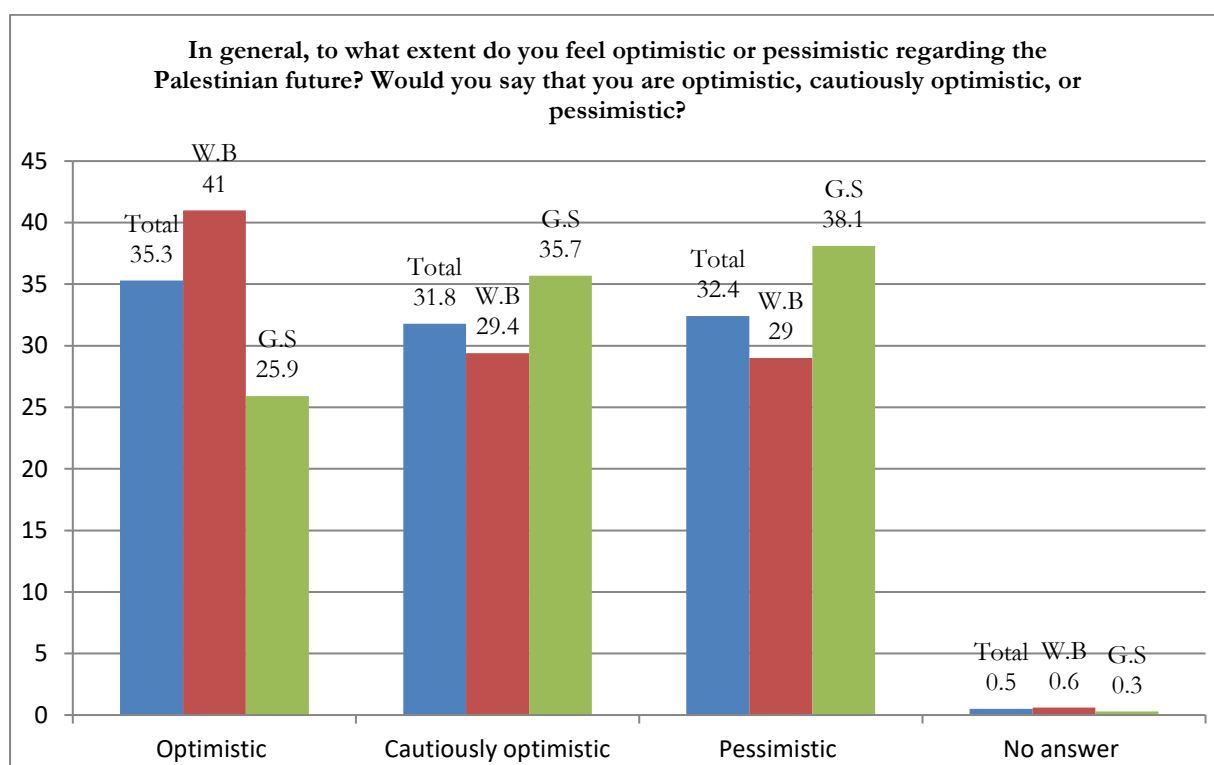
The average age of the respondents was **22** years.

- Students 39.9%
- Laborers 11.6%
- Housewives 22.3%
- Farmers/fishermen 1.1%
- Craftsmen 1.2%
- Businessmen/private business 6.0%
- Public Sector Employees 4.0%
- Private Sector Employees 4.9%
- Professionals (e.g. doctors/lawyers/ pharmacists/engineers) 1.2%
- Unemployed 7.6%
- No answer 0.2%

Results:

Q1- In general, to what extent do you feel optimistic or pessimistic regarding the Palestinian future? Would you say that you are optimistic, cautiously optimistic, or pessimistic?

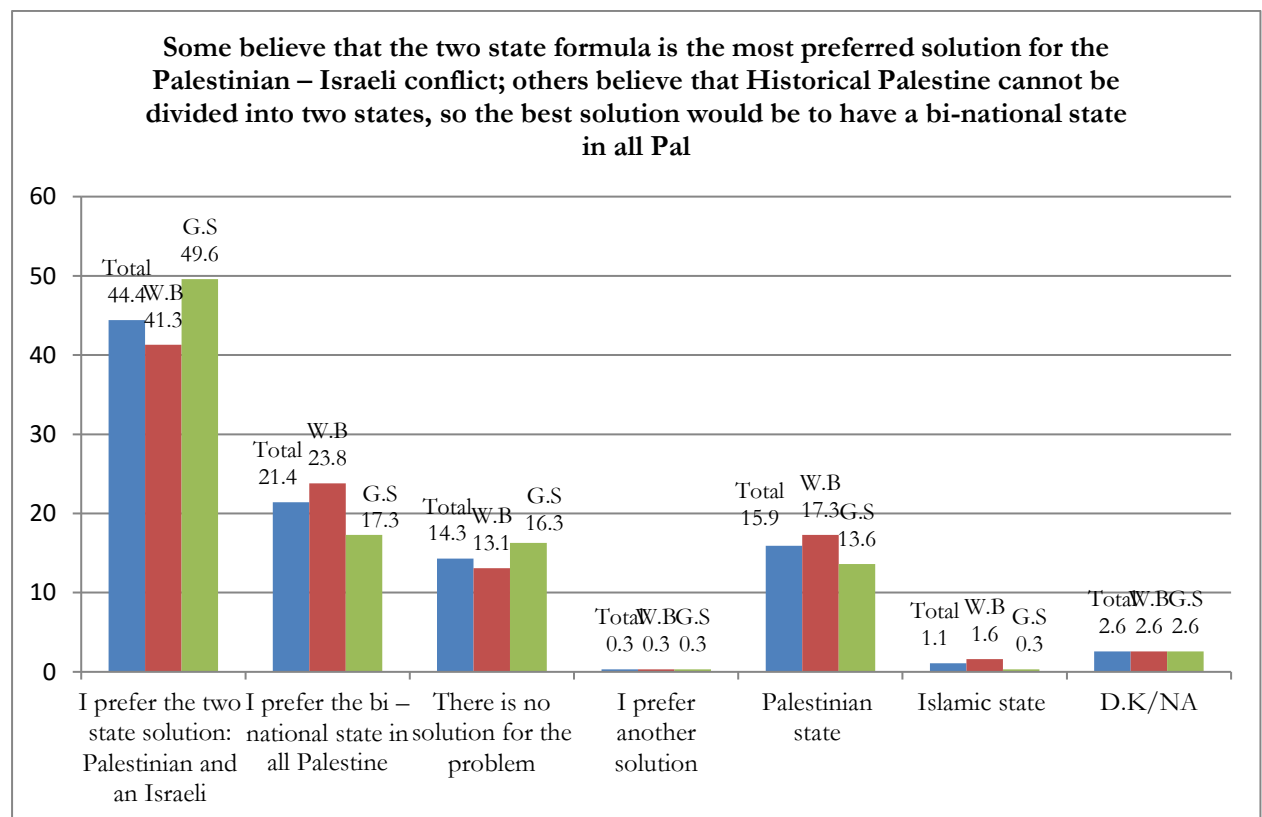
	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	n= 1000	n= 625	n=375
Optimistic	35.3	41.0	25.9
Cautiously optimistic	31.8	29.4	35.7
Pessimistic	32.4	29.0	38.1
No answer	0.5	0.6	0.3



Q2- Some believe that the two state formula is the most preferred solution for the Palestinian – Israeli conflict; others believe that Historical Palestine cannot be divided into two states, so the best solution would be to have a bi-national state in all Palestine where Palestinians and Israeli enjoy equal right, which solution do you prefer?

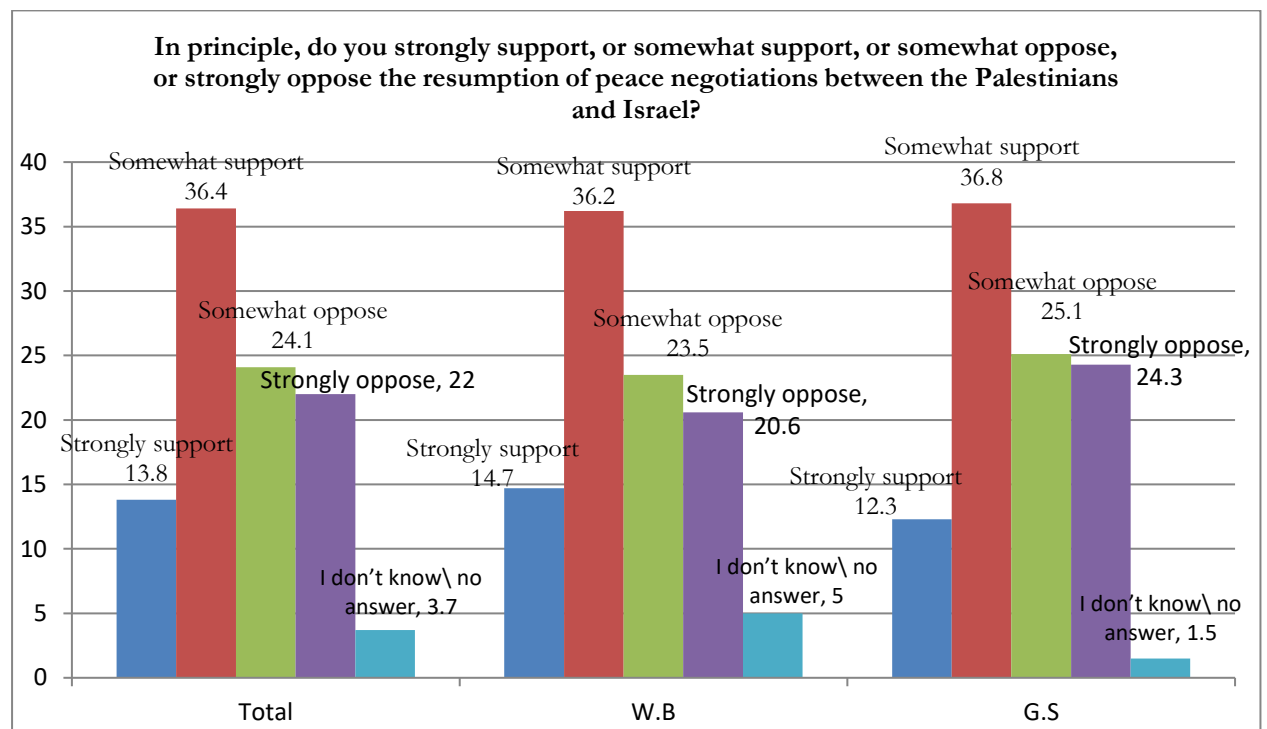
	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	n= 1000	n= 625	n=375
I prefer the two state solution: Palestinian and an Israeli	44.4	41.3	49.6
I prefer the bi –national state in all Palestine	21.4	23.8	17.3
There is no solution for the problem	14.3	13.1	16.3
I prefer another solution	0.3	0.3	0.3
Palestinian state*	15.9	17.3	13.6
Islamic state *	1.1	1.6	0.3
I don't know\ no answer	2.6	2.6	2.6

* These answers were not included as part of the options read to the interviewee



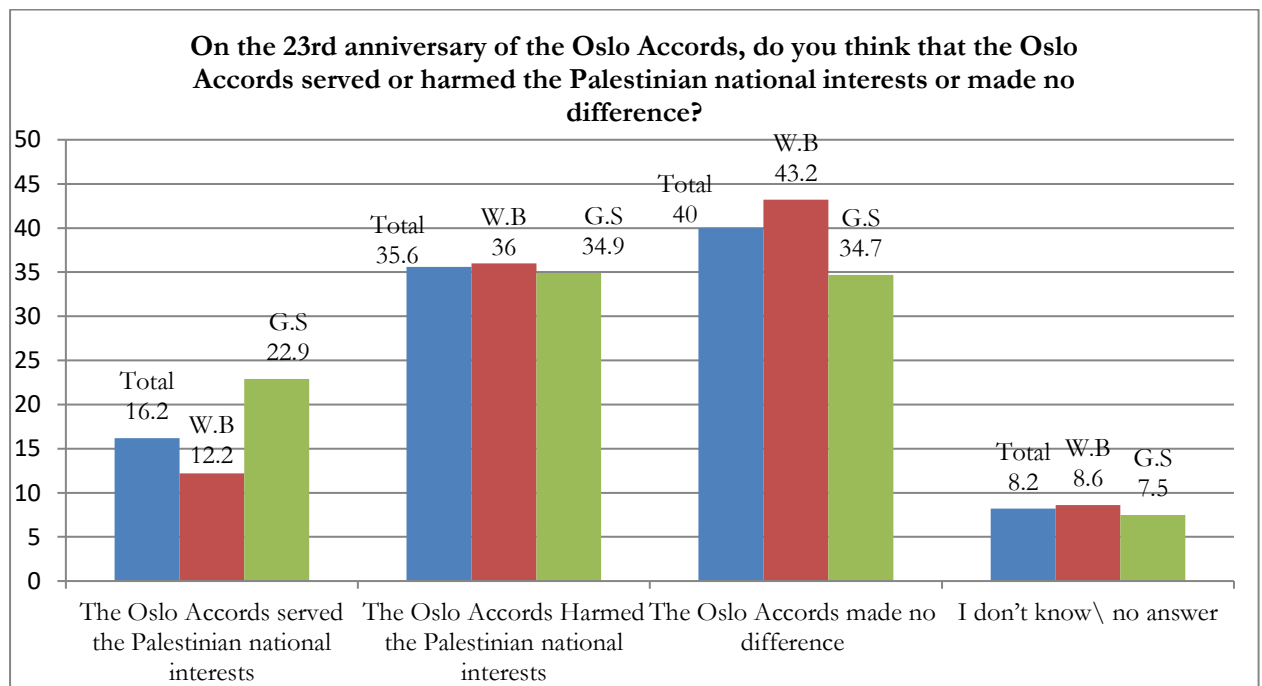
Q3- In principle, do you strongly support, or somewhat support, or somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose the resumption of peace negotiations between the Palestinians and Israel?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	n= 1000	n= 625	n=375
Strongly support	13.8	14.7	12.3
Somewhat support	36.4	36.2	36.8
Somewhat oppose	24.1	23.5	25.1
Strongly oppose	22.0	20.6	24.3
I don't know\ no answer	3.7	5.0	1.5



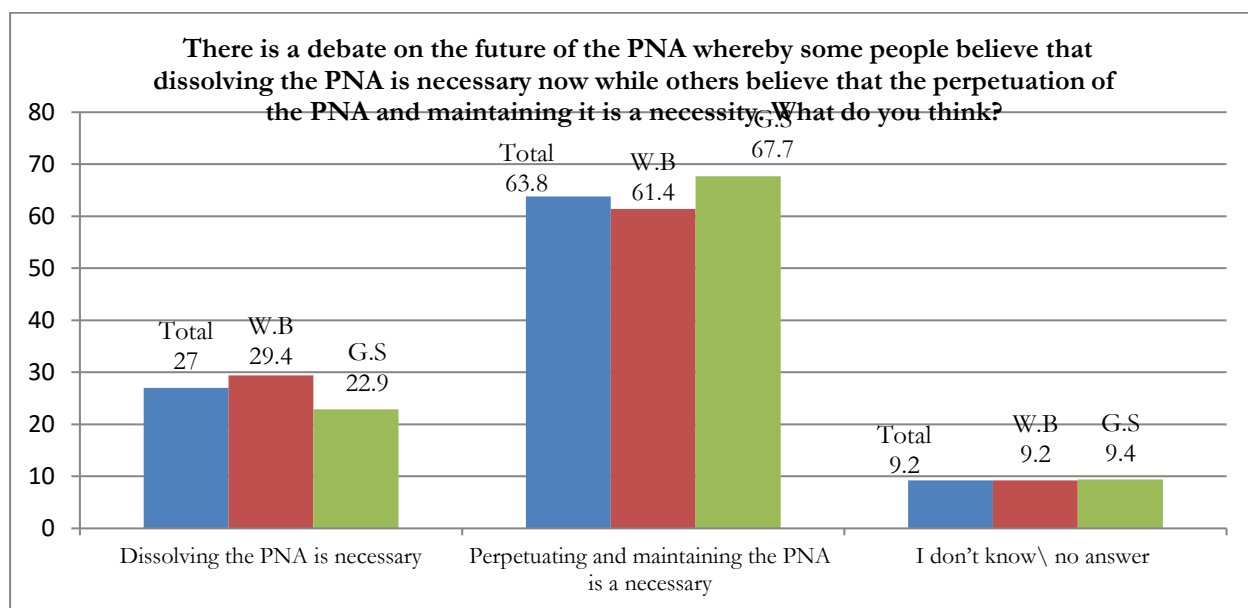
Q4- On the 23rd anniversary of the Oslo Accords, do you think that the Oslo Accords served or harmed the Palestinian national interests or made no difference?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	n= 1000	n= 625	n=375
The Oslo Accords served the Palestinian national interests	16.2	12.2	22.9
The Oslo Accords Harmed the Palestinian national interests	35.6	36.0	34.9
The Oslo Accords made no difference	40.0	43.2	34.7
I don't know\ no answer	8.2	8.6	7.5



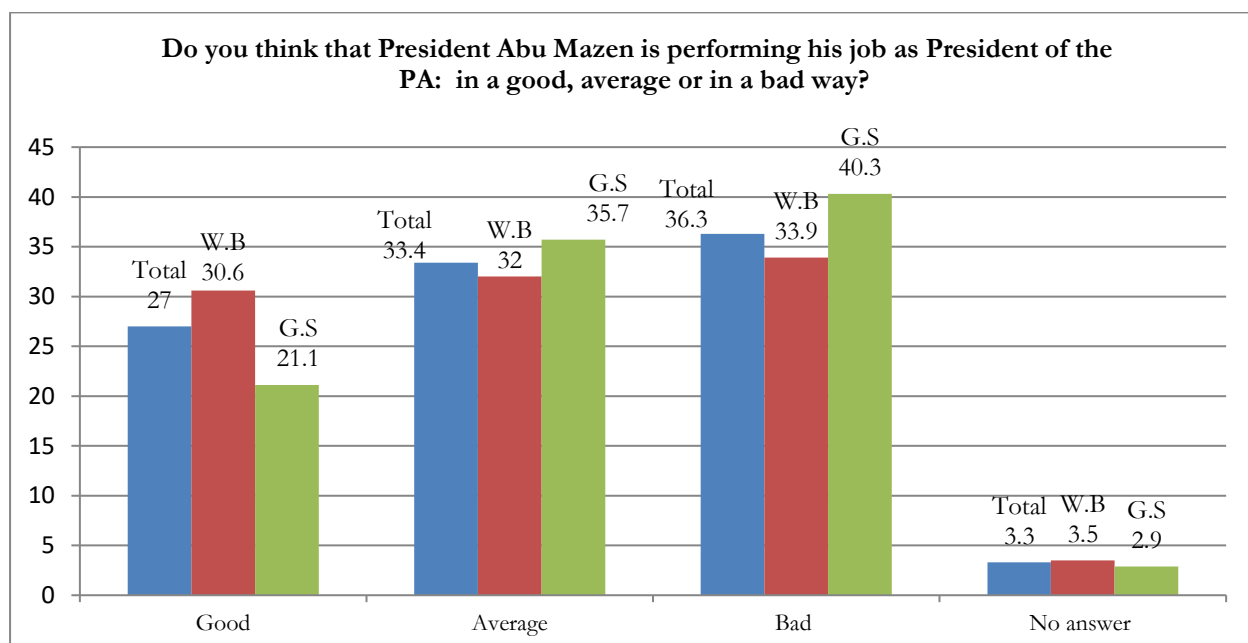
Q5- There is a debate on the future of the PNA whereby some people believe that dissolving the PNA is necessary now while others believe that the perpetuation of the PNA and maintaining it is a necessity. What do you think?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	n= 1000	n= 625	n=375
Dissolving the PNA is necessary	27.0	29.4	22.9
Perpetuating and maintaining the PNA is a necessary	63.8	61.4	67.7
I don't know\ no answer	9.2	9.2	9.4



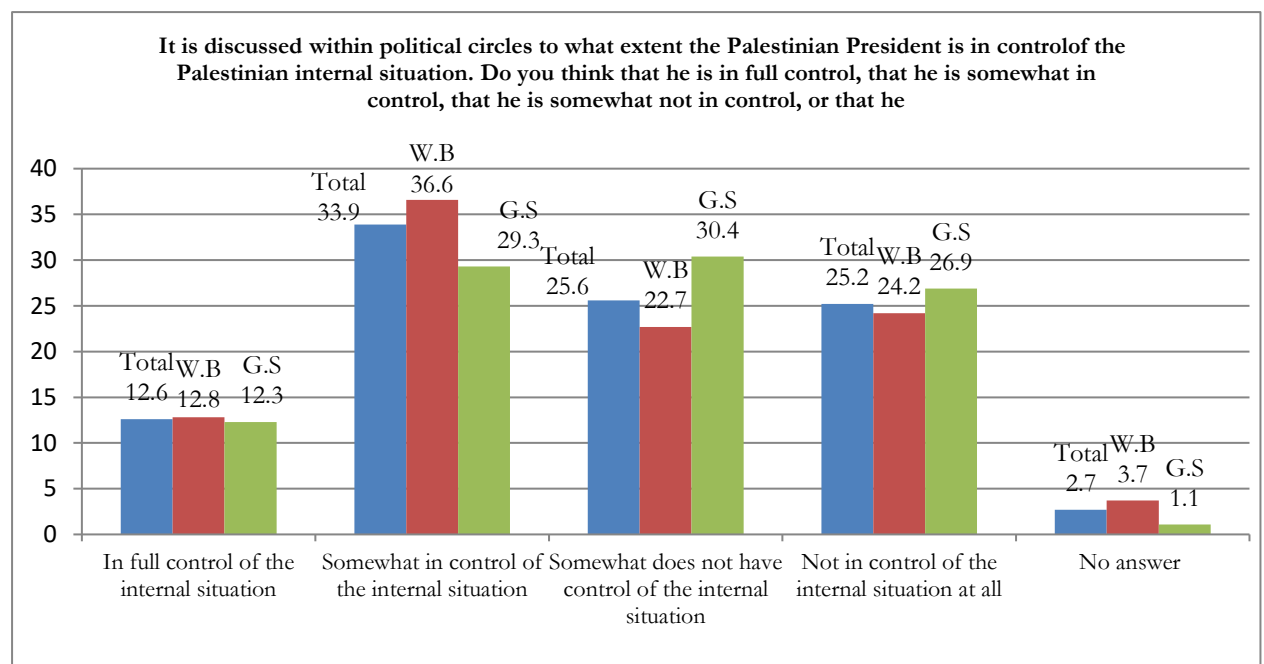
Q6- Do you think that President Abu Mazen is performing his job as President of the PA: in a good, average or in a bad way?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	n= 1000	n= 625	n=375
Good	27.0	30.6	21.1
Average	33.4	32.0	35.7
Bad	36.3	33.9	40.3
No answer	3.3	3.5	2.9



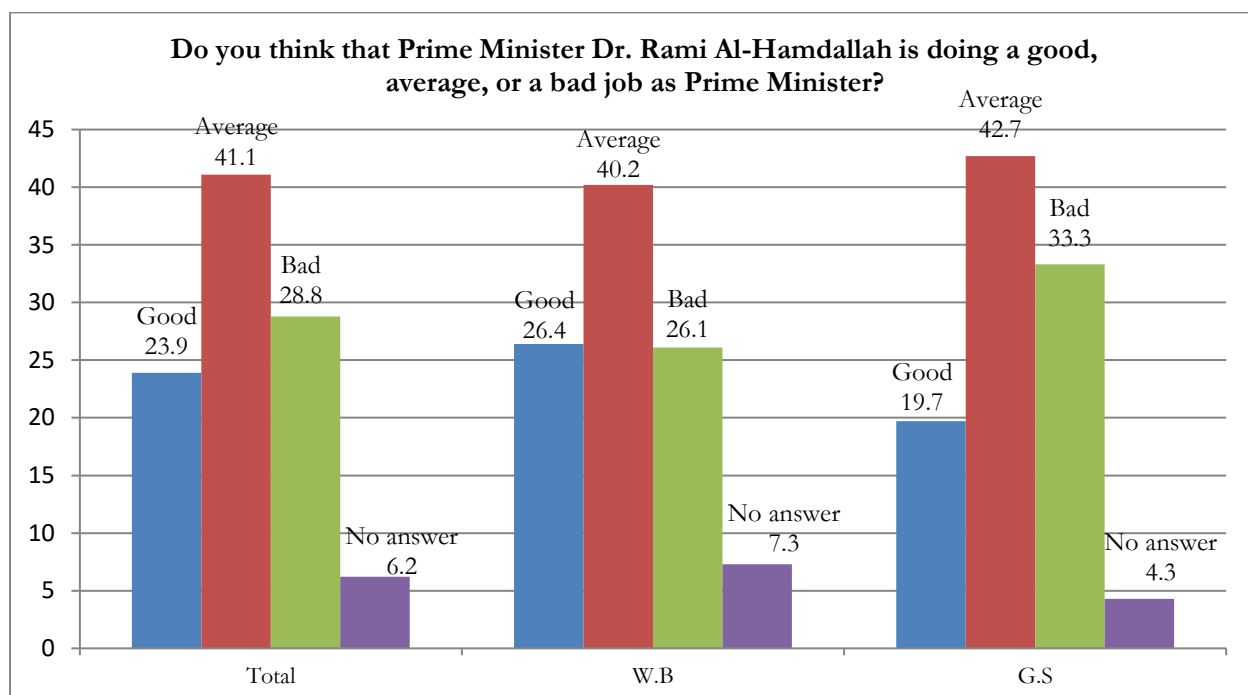
Q7- It is discussed within political circles to what extent the Palestinian President is in control of the Palestinian internal situation. Do you think that he is in full control, that he is somewhat in control, that he is somewhat not in control, or that he is not in control at all?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	n= 1000	n= 625	n=375
In full control of the internal situation	12.6	12.8	12.3
Somewhat in control of the internal situation	33.9	36.6	29.3
Somewhat does not have control of the internal situation	25.6	22.7	30.4
Not in control of the internal situation at all	25.2	24.2	26.9
No answer	2.7	3.7	1.1



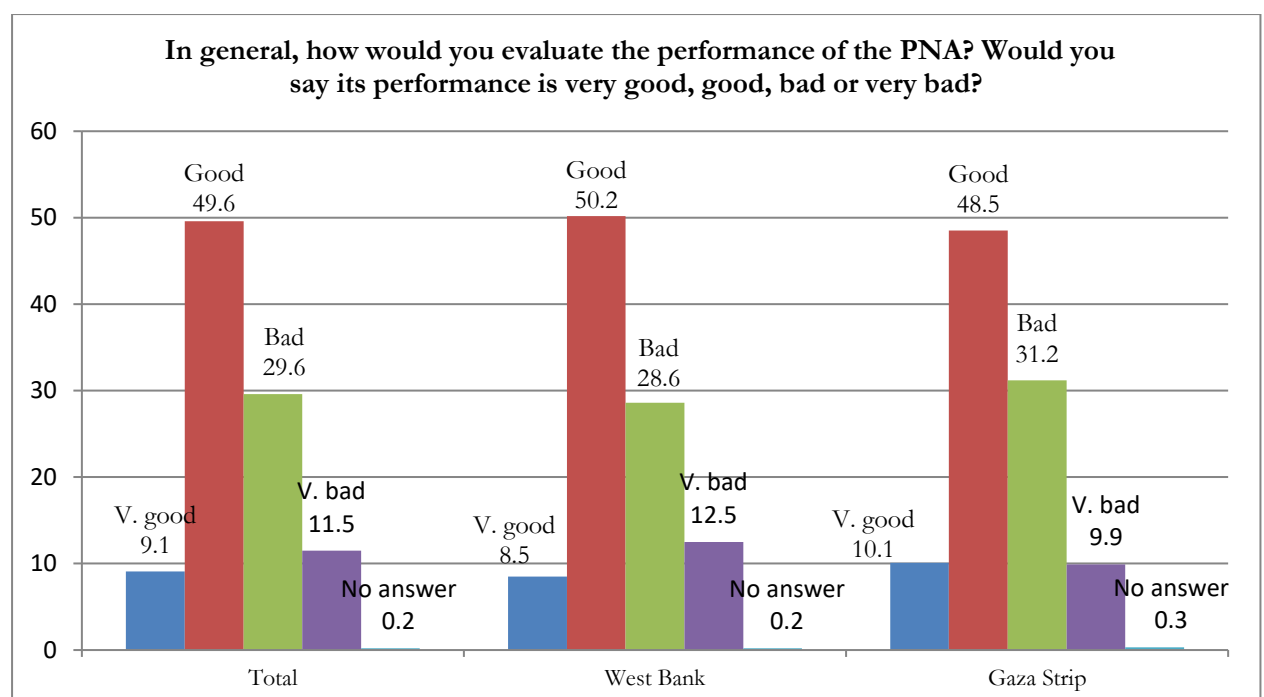
Q8- Do you think that Prime Minister Dr. Rami Al-Hamdallah is doing a good, average, or a bad job as Prime Minister?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	n= 1000	n= 625	n=375
Good	23.9	26.4	19.7
Average	41.1	40.2	42.7
Bad	28.8	26.1	33.3
No answer	6.2	7.3	4.3



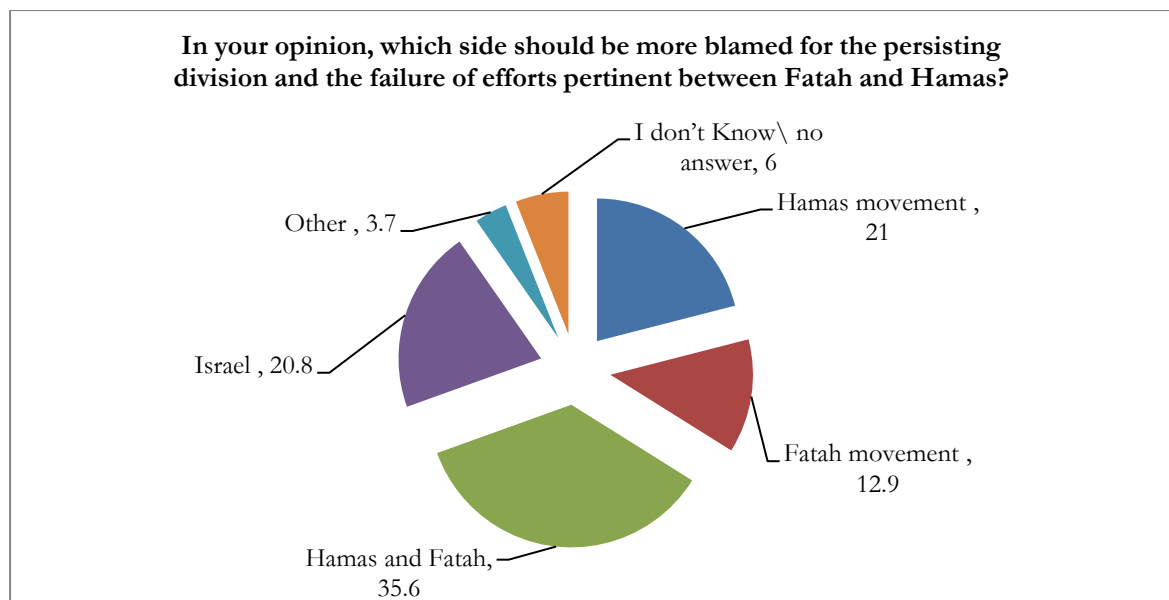
Q9- In general, how would you evaluate the performance of the PNA? Would you say its performance is very good, good, bad or very bad?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	n= 1000	n= 625	n=375
Very good	9.1	8.5	10.1
Good	49.6	50.2	48.5
Bad	29.6	28.6	31.2
Very bad	11.5	12.5	9.9
No answer	0.2	0.2	0.3



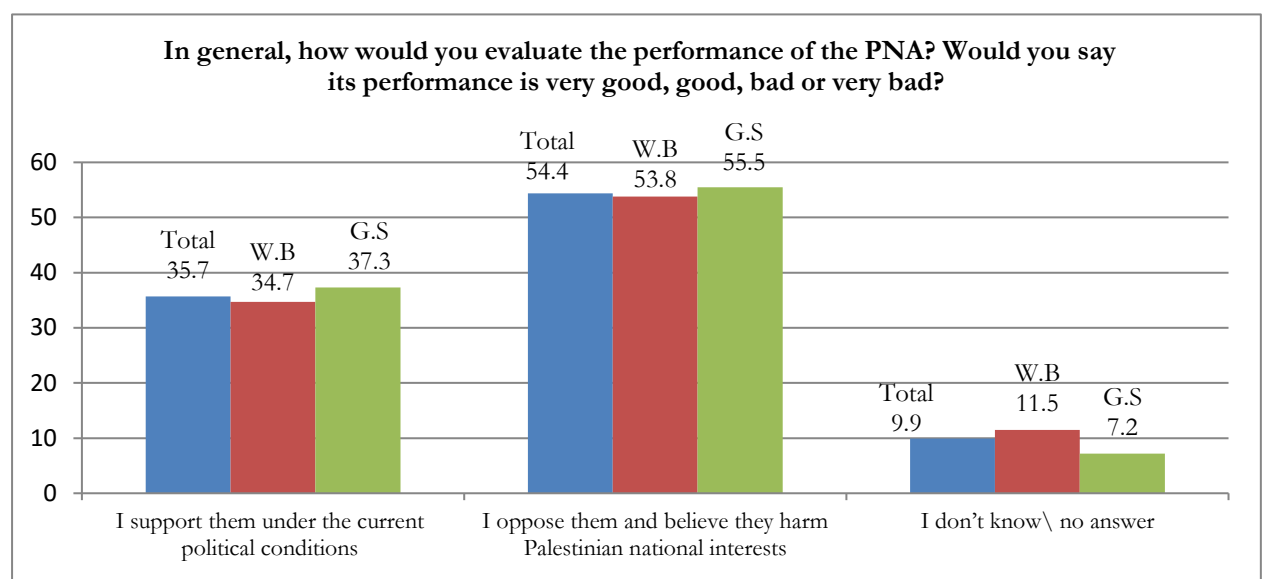
Q10- In your opinion, which side should be more blamed for the persisting division and the failure of efforts pertinent between Fatah and Hamas?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	n= 1000	n= 625	n=375
Hamas movement	21.0	19.4	23.7
Fatah movement	12.9	12.3	13.9
Hamas and Fatah	35.6	34.7	37.1
Israel	20.8	20.3	21.6
Other	3.7	4.2	2.9
I don't Know\ no answer	6.0	9.1	0.8



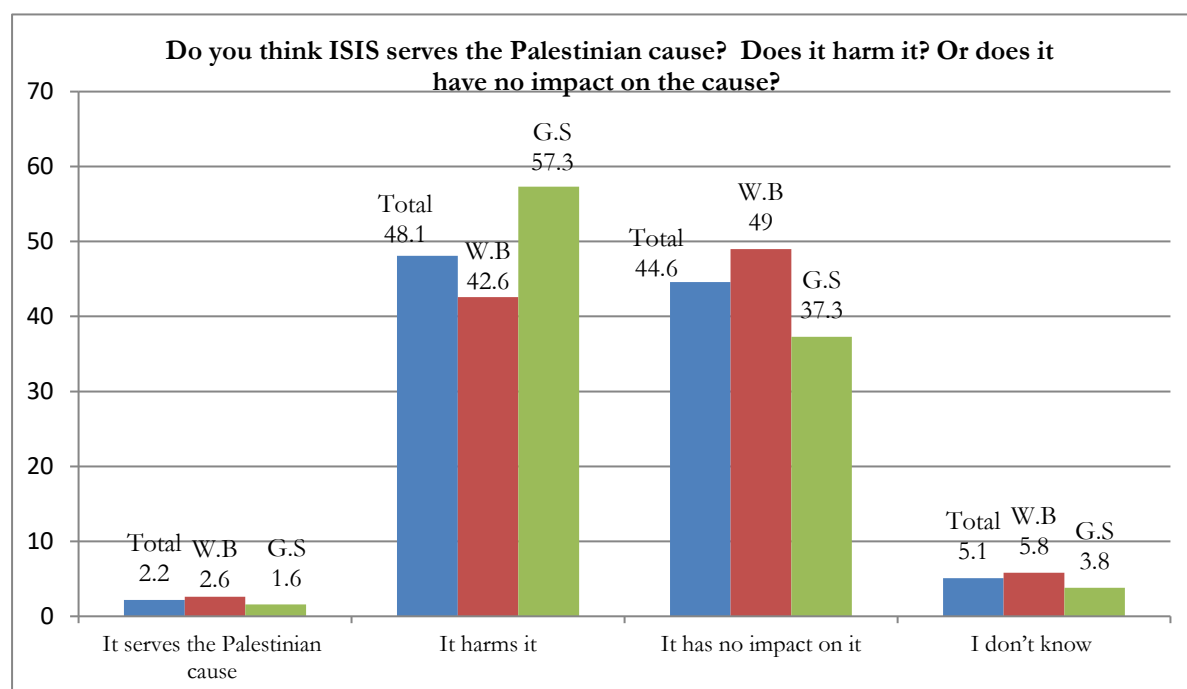
Q11- Do you support the continuation of military operations against Israeli targets as an appropriate response under current political conditions or do you oppose them and believe they harm Palestinian national interests?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	n= 1000	n= 625	n=375
I support them under the current political conditions	35.7	34.7	37.3
I oppose them and believe they harm Palestinian national interests	54.4	53.8	55.5
I don't know\ no answer	9.9	11.5	7.2



Q12- Do you think ISIS serves the Palestinian cause? Does it harm it? Or does it have no impact on the cause?

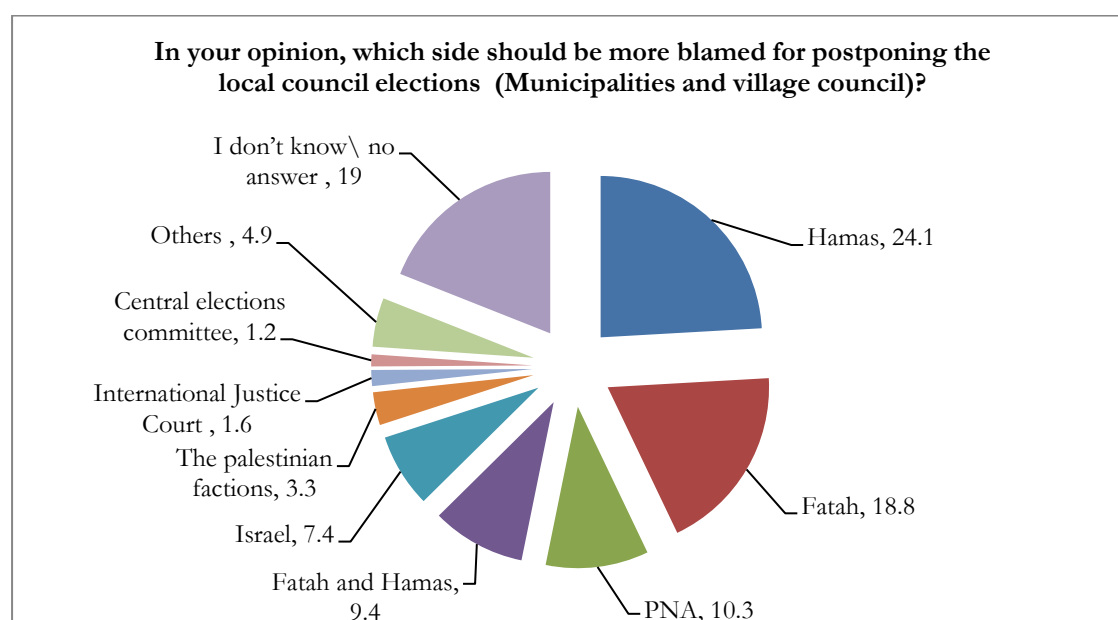
	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	n=1000	n= 625	n=375
It serves the Palestinian cause	2.2	2.6	1.6
It harms it	48.1	42.6	57.3
It has no impact on it	44.6	49.0	37.3
I don't know	5.1	5.8	3.8



Q13- In your opinion, which side should be more blamed for postponing the local council elections (Municipalities and village council)?

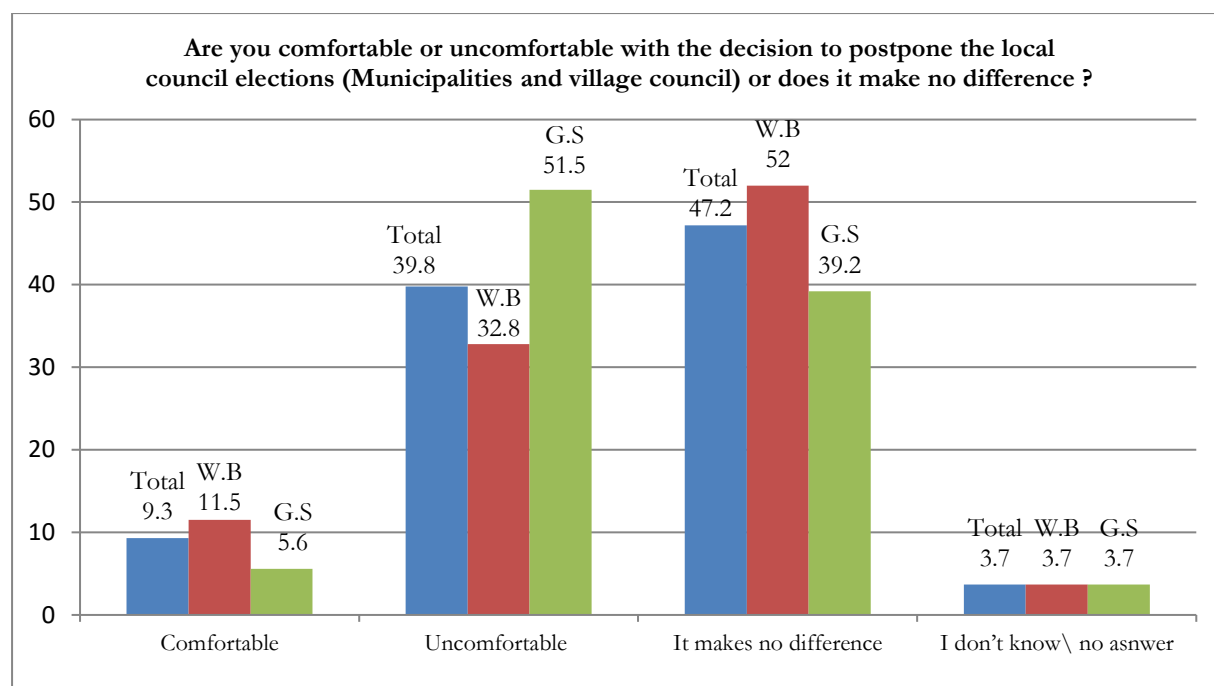
	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	n=1000	n= 625	n=375
Hamas	24.1	20.0	30.9
Fatah	18.8	14.7	25.6
PNA	10.3	15.4	1.9
Fatah and Hamas	9.4	5.3	16.3
Israel	7.4	7.0	8.0
The Palestinian factions	3.3	3.8	2.4
International Justice Court	1.6	2.2	0.5
Central elections committee	1.2	1.9	0.0
Others	4.9	6.4	2.4
I don't know\ no answer	19.0	23.3	12.0

***This was an open-ended question no options were read to the interviewee**



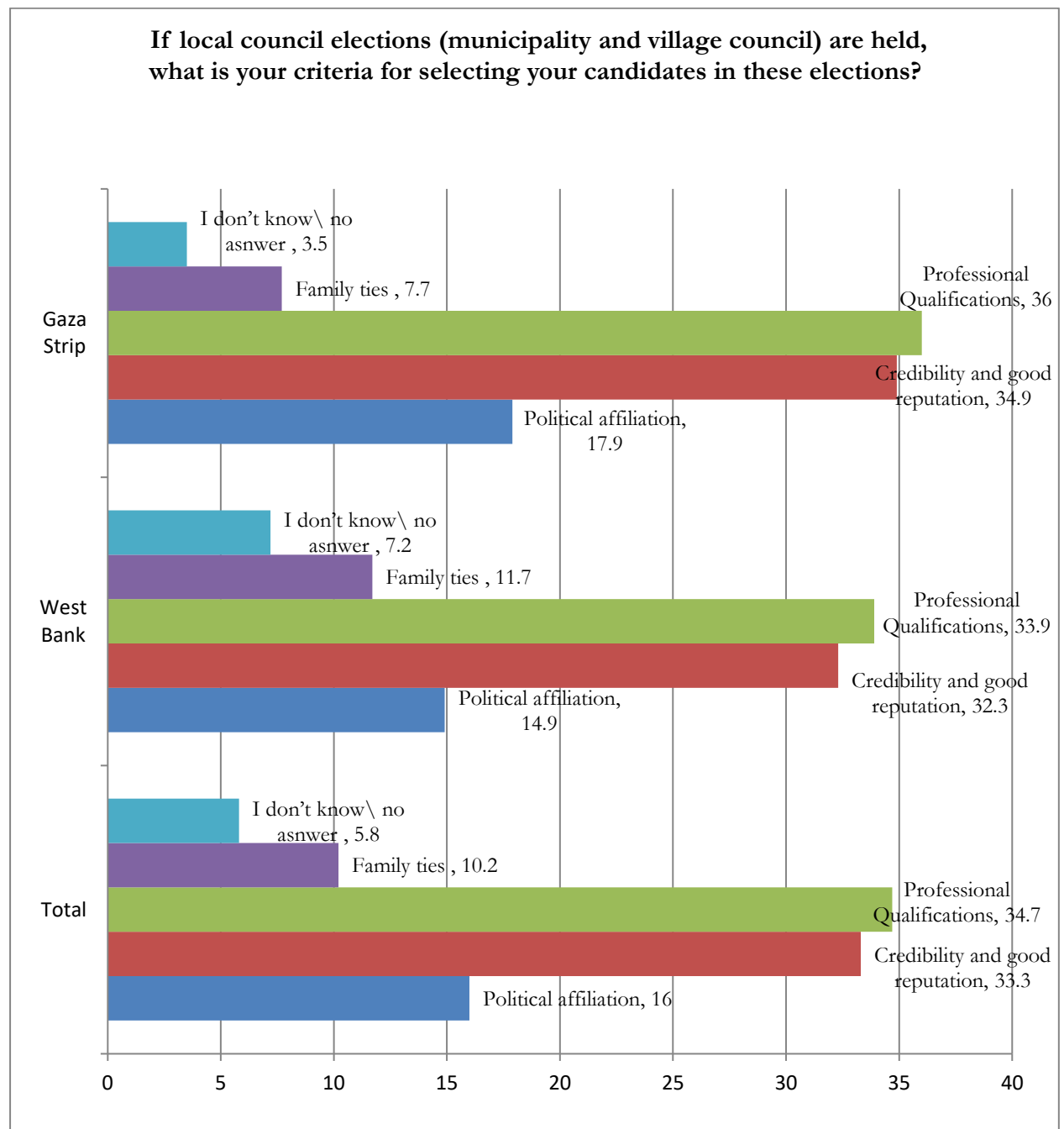
Q14- Are you comfortable or uncomfortable with the decision to postpone the local council elections (Municipalities and village council) or does it make no difference?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	n=1000	n= 625	n=375
Comfortable	9.3	11.5	5.6
Uncomfortable	39.8	32.8	51.5
It makes no difference	47.2	52.0	39.2
I don't know\no answer	3.7	3.7	3.7



Q15- If local council elections (municipality and village council) are held, what is your criterion for selecting your candidates in these elections?

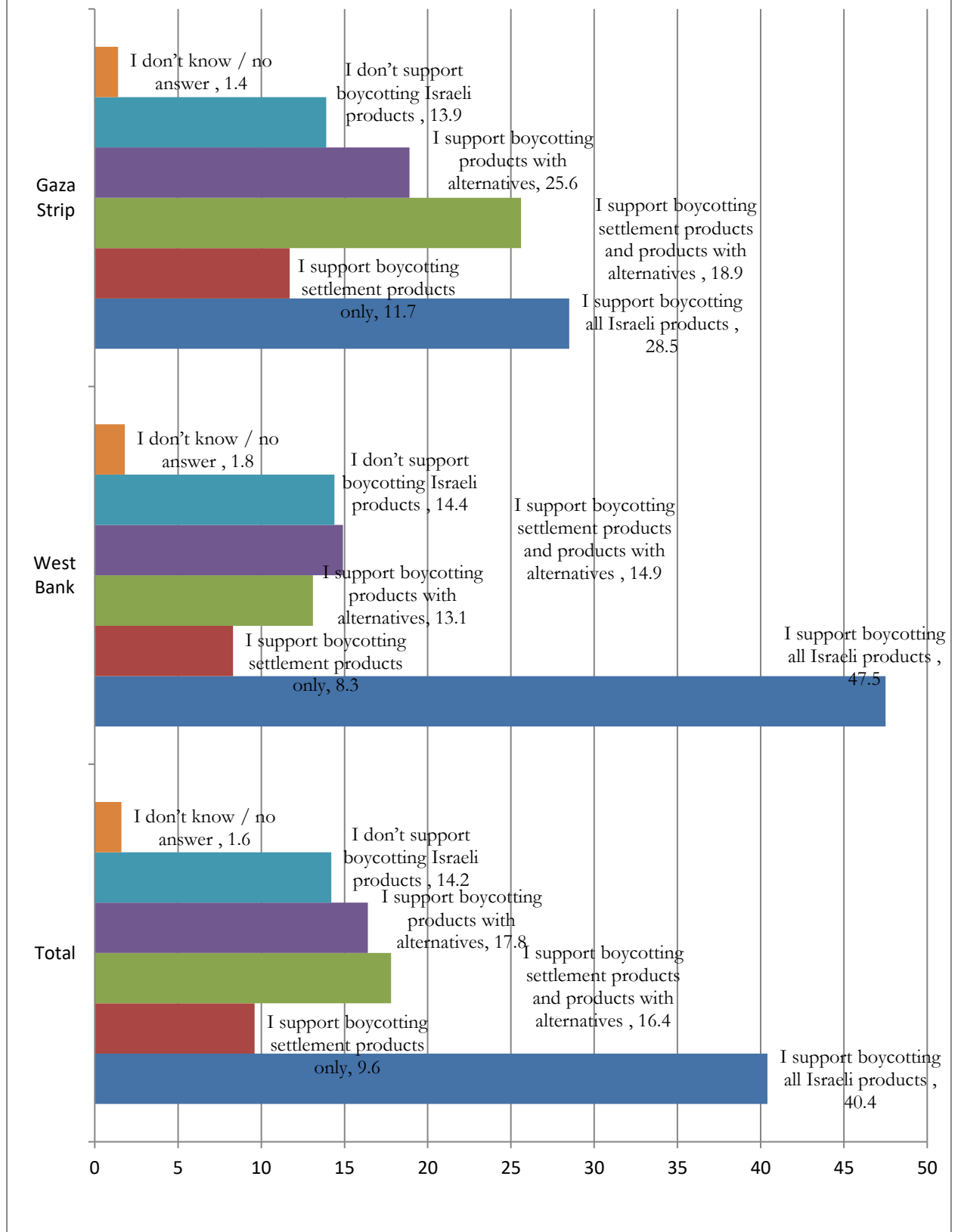
	Total n=1000	West Bank n= 625	Gaza n=375
Political affiliation	16.0	14.9	17.9
Credibility and good reputation	33.3	32.3	34.9
Professional Qualifications	34.7	33.9	36.0
Family ties	10.2	11.7	7.7
I don't know\ no answer	5.8	7.2	3.5



Q16-Currently, there are several attempts at boycotting Israeli products in Palestinian markets. Which of the following do you support most?

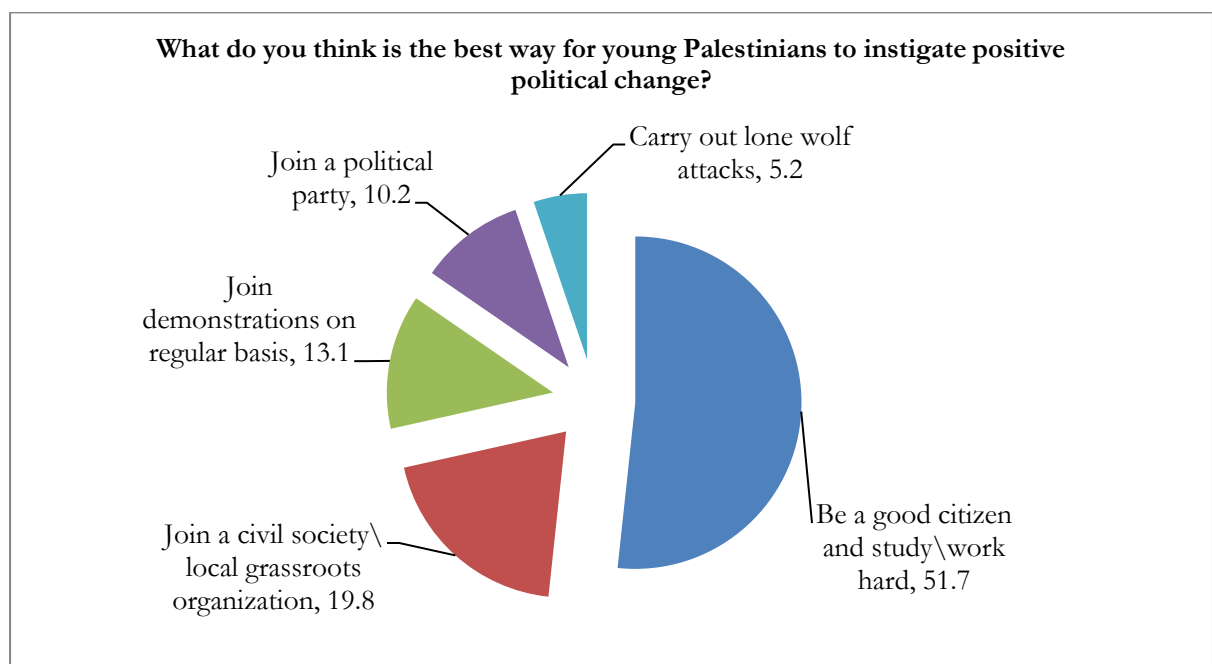
	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	n= 1000	n= 625	n=375
I support boycotting all Israeli products	40.4	47.5	28.5
I support boycotting settlement products only	9.6	8.3	11.7
I support boycotting products with alternatives	17.8	13.1	25.6
I support boycotting settlement products and products with alternatives	16.4	14.9	18.9
I don't support boycotting Israeli products	14.2	14.4	13.9
I don't know\ no answer	1.6	1.8	1.4

Currently, there are several attempts at boycotting Israeli products in Palestinian markets. Which of the following do you support most?



Q17- What do you think is the best way for young Palestinians to instigate positive political change?

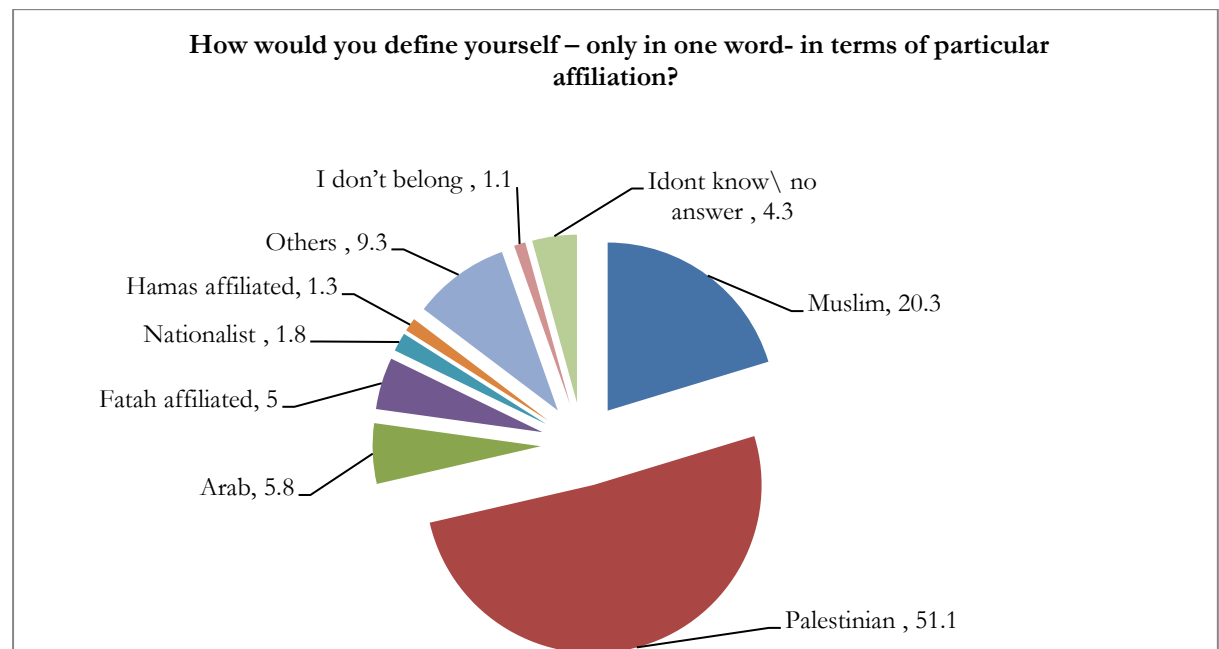
	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	n= 1000	n= 625	n=375
Be a good citizen and study\work hard	51.7	55.3	45.6
Join a civil society\ local grassroots organization	19.8	20.5	18.7
Join demonstrations on a regular basis	13.1	11.5	15.7
Join a political party	10.2	8.5	13.1
Carry out lone wolf attacks	5.2	4.2	6.9



Q18- How would you define yourself – *only in one word*- in terms of particular affiliation?

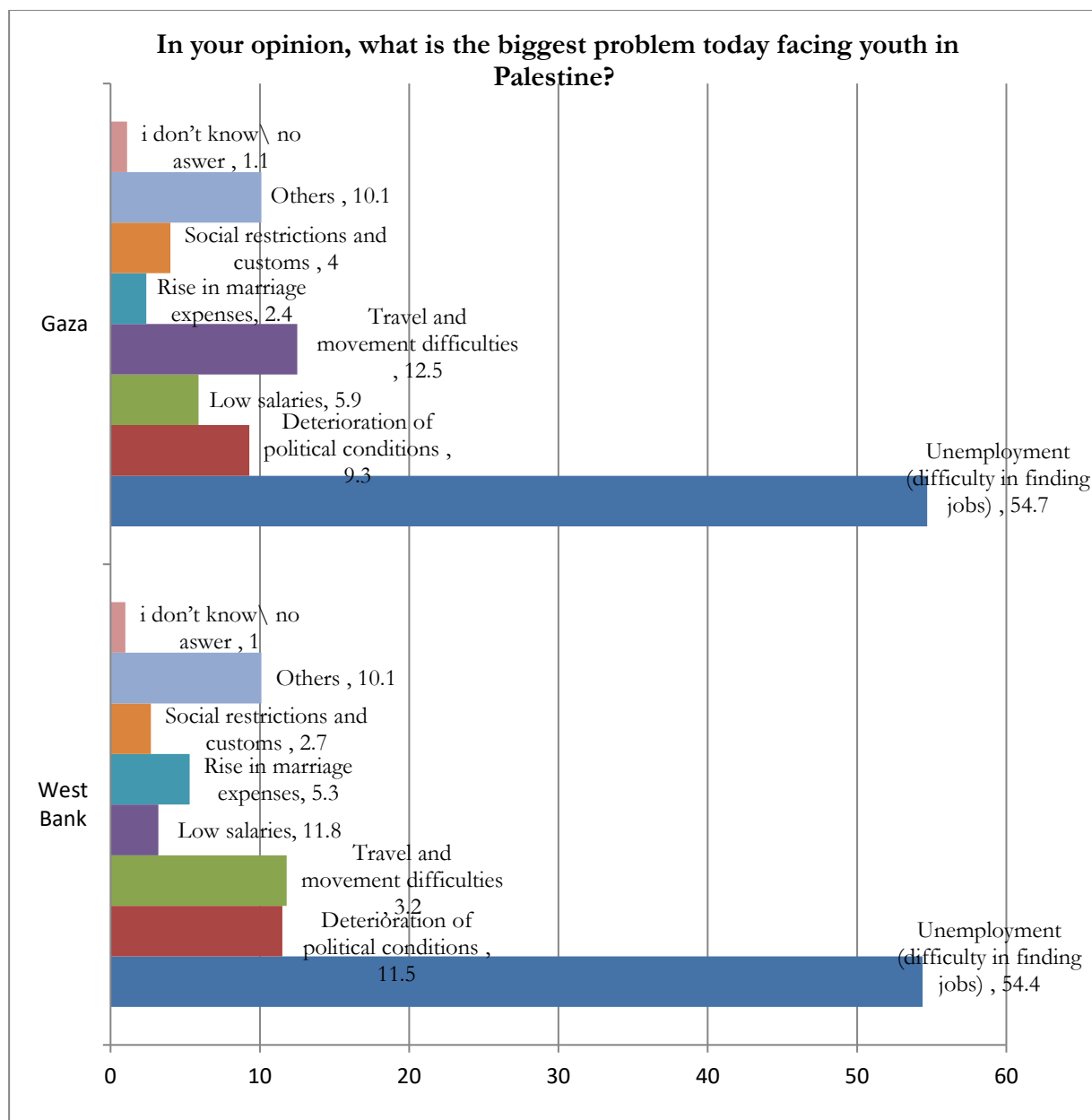
	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	n= 1000	n= 625	n=375
Muslim	20.3	20.3	20.3
Palestinian	51.1	49.1	54.4
Arab	5.8	7.2	3.5
Fatah-affiliated	5.0	4.2	6.4
Nationalist	1.8	1.9	1.6
Hamas –affiliated	1.3	0.5	2.7
Others	9.3	9.3	9.3
I don't belong	1.1	1.8	0.3
I don't know\no answer	4.3	5.7	1.5

***This was an open-ended question no options were read to the interviewee**



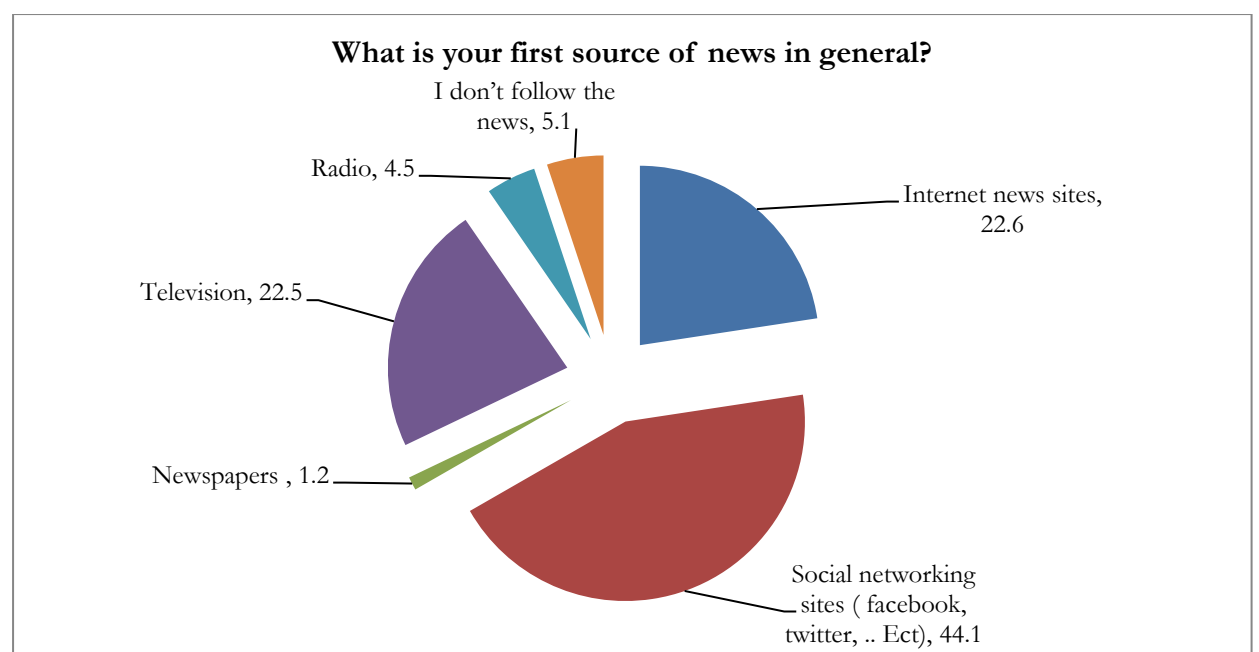
Q19- In your opinion, what is the biggest problem today facing youth in Palestine?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	n= 1000	n=625	n=375
Unemployment (difficulty in finding jobs)	54.5	54.4	54.7
Deterioration of political conditions	10.7	11.5	9.3
Low salaries	9.6	11.8	5.9
Travel and movement difficulties	6.7	3.2	12.5
Rise in marriage expenses	4.2	5.3	2.4
Social restrictions and customs	3.2	2.7	4.0
Others	10.1	10.1	10.1
I don't know\no answer	1.0	1.0	1.1



Q20- What is your **first** source of news in general?

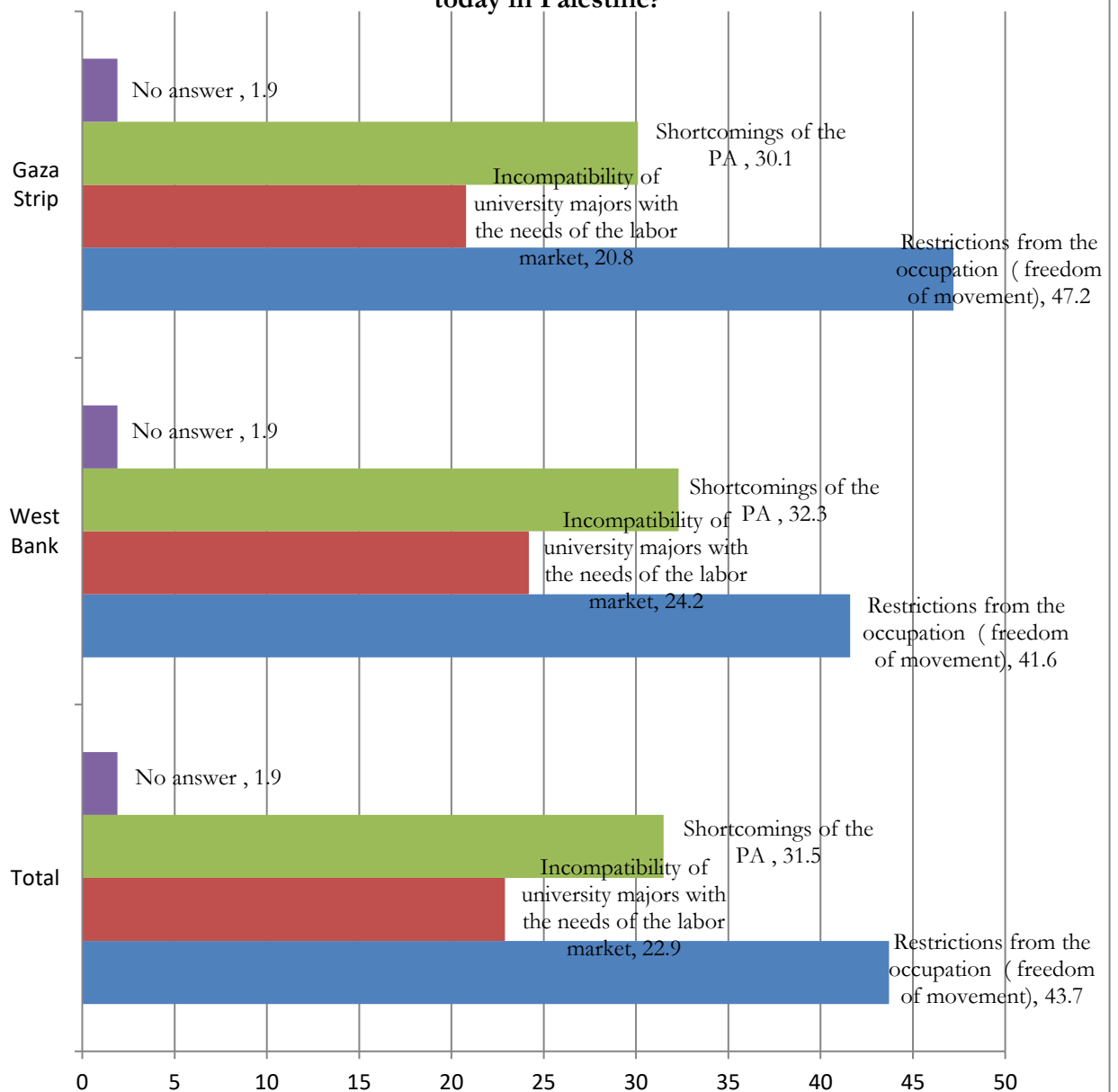
	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	n=1000	n=625	n=375
Internet news sites	22.6	20.5	26.1
Social networking sites (facebook, twitter, ... etc)	44.1	52.6	29.9
Newspapers	1.2	1.8	0.3
Television	22.5	19.7	27.2
Radio	4.5	2.4	8.0
I don't follow the news	5.1	3.0	8.5



Q21- In your opinion, what are the reasons for unemployment among youth today in Palestine?

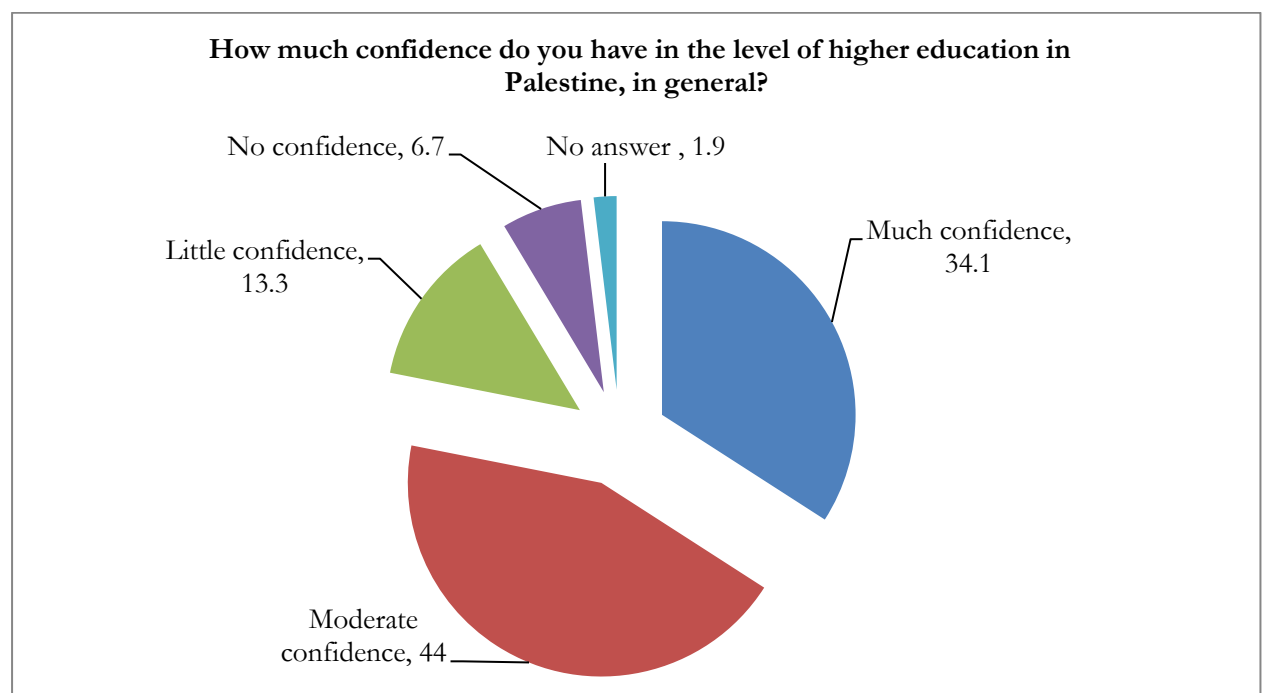
	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	n=1000	n=625	n=375
Restrictions from the occupation (freedom of movement)	43.7	41.6	47.2
Incompatibility of university majors with the needs of the labor market	22.9	24.2	20.8
Shortcomings of the PA	31.5	32.3	30.1
No answer	1.9	1.9	1.9

In your opinion, what are the reasons for unemployment among youth today in Palestine?



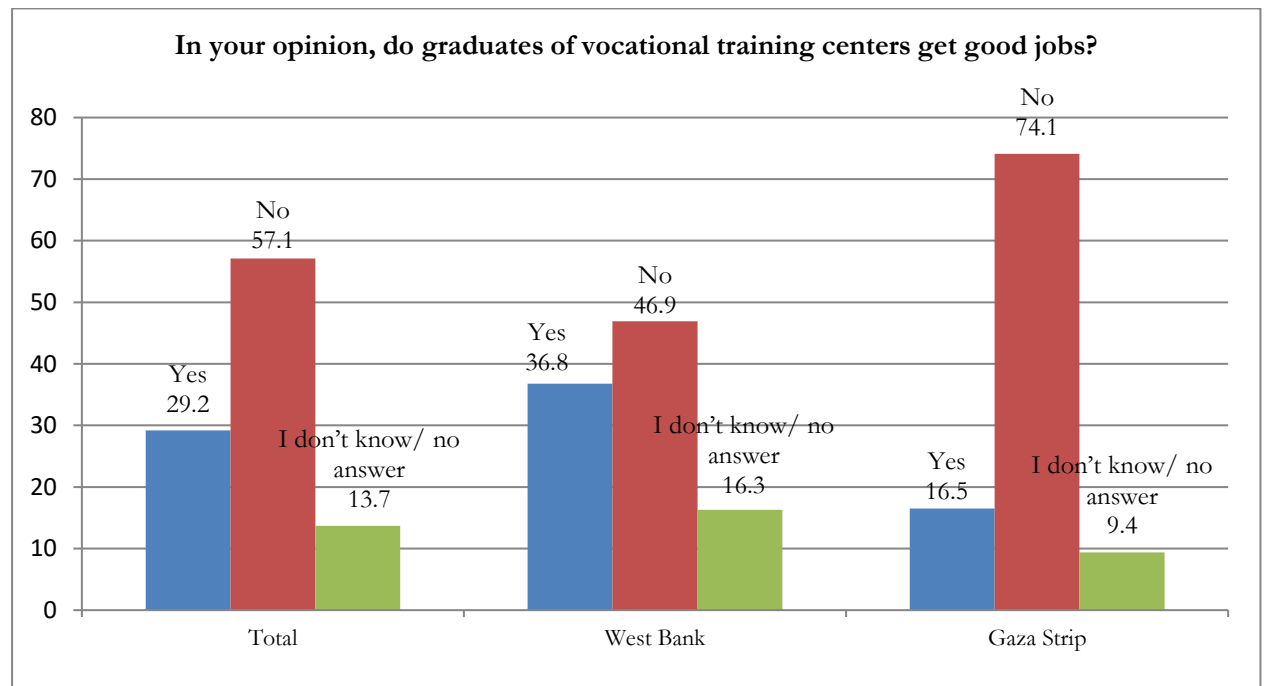
Q22- How much confidence do you have in the level of higher education in Palestine, in general?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	n=1000	n= 625	n=375
Much confidence	34.1	37.1	29.1
Moderate confidence	44.0	45.0	42.4
Little confidence	13.3	11.4	16.5
No confidence	6.7	4.6	10.1
No answer	1.9	1.9	1.9



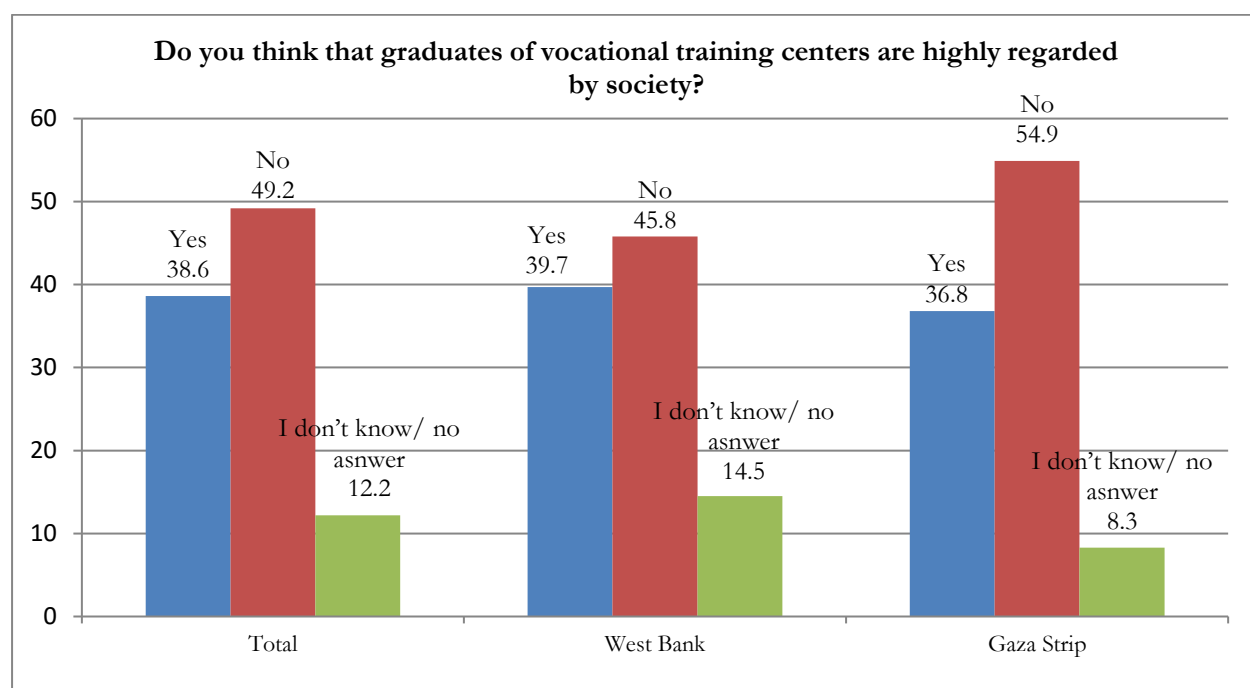
Q23- In your opinion, do graduates of vocational training centers get good jobs?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	n=1000	n= 625	n=375
Yes	29.2	36.8	16.5
No	57.1	46.9	74.1
I don't know\ no answer	13.7	16.3	9.4



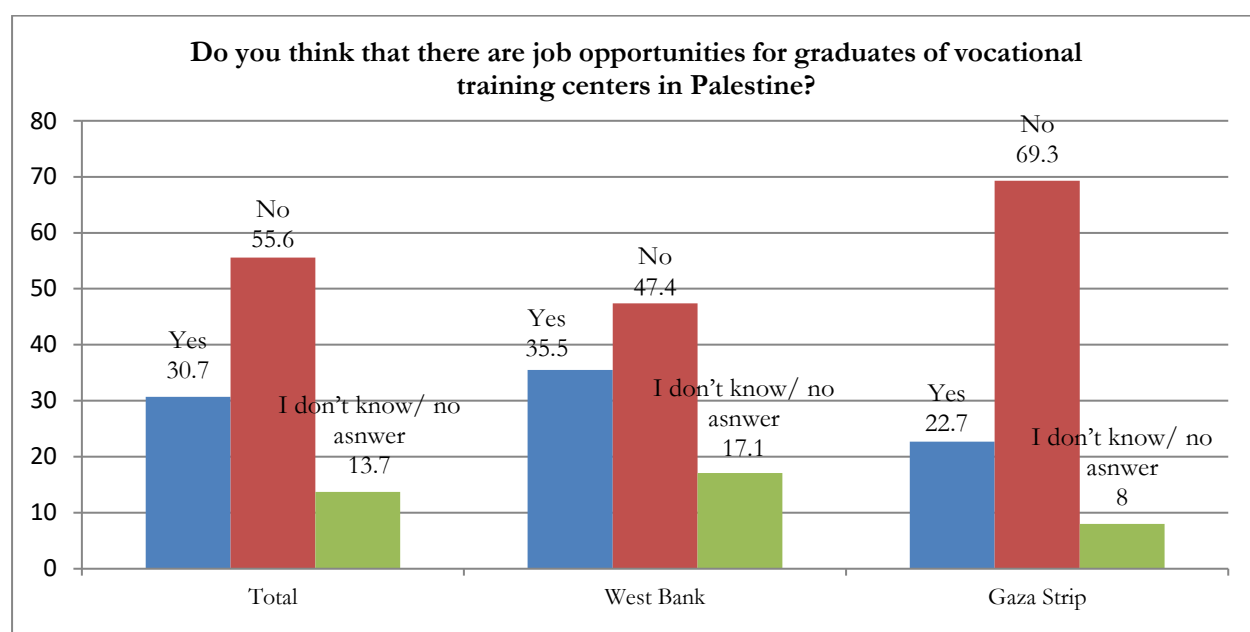
Q24- Do you think that graduates of vocational training centers are highly regarded by society?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	n=1000	n= 625	n=375
Yes	38.6	39.7	36.8
No	49.2	45.8	54.9
I don't know\ no answer	12.2	14.5	8.3



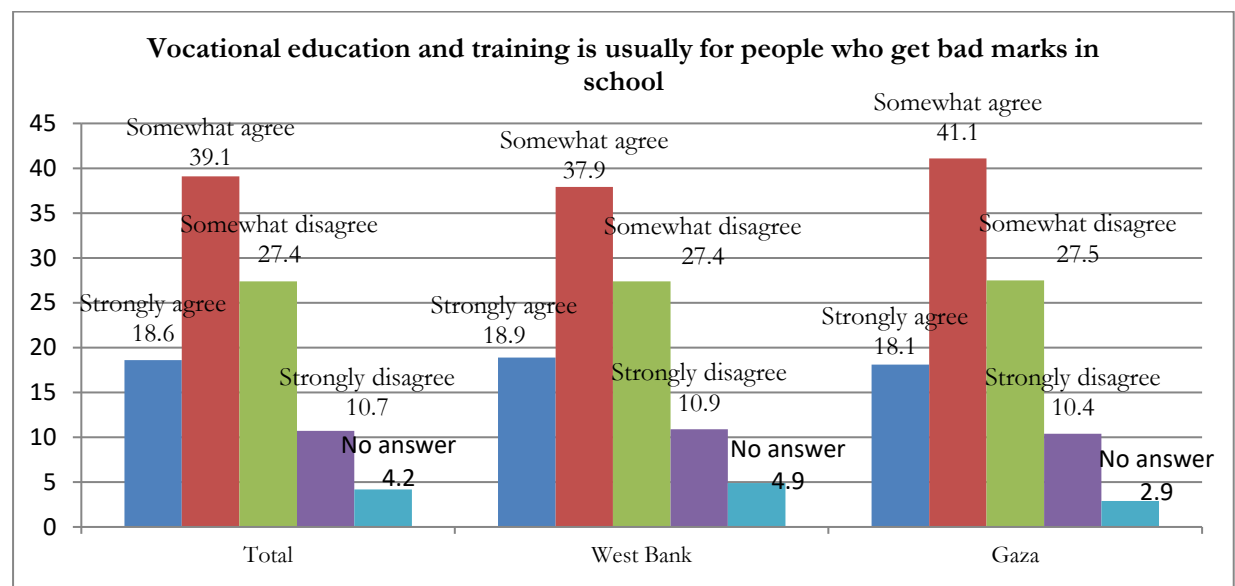
Q25- Do you think that there are job opportunities for graduates of vocational training centers in Palestine?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	n=1000	n= 625	n=375
Yes	30.7	35.5	22.7
No	55.6	47.4	69.3
I don't know\ no answer	13.7	17.1	8.0



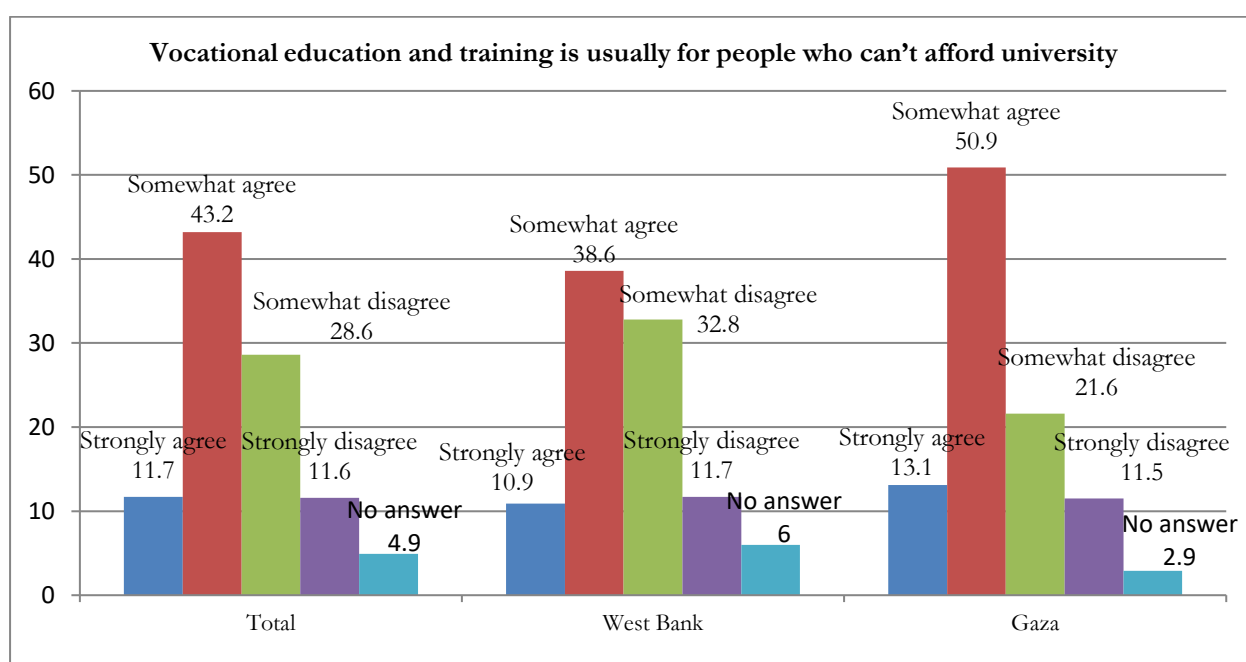
Q26- To what extent do you agree or disagree on each of the following statements:

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
1- Vocational education and training is usually for people who get bad marks in school	n=1000	n= 625	n=375
Strongly agree	18.6	18.9	18.1
Somewhat agree	39.1	37.9	41.1
Somewhat disagree	27.4	27.4	27.5
Strongly disagree	10.7	10.9	10.4
No answer	4.2	4.9	2.9



2- Vocational education and training is usually for people who can't afford university

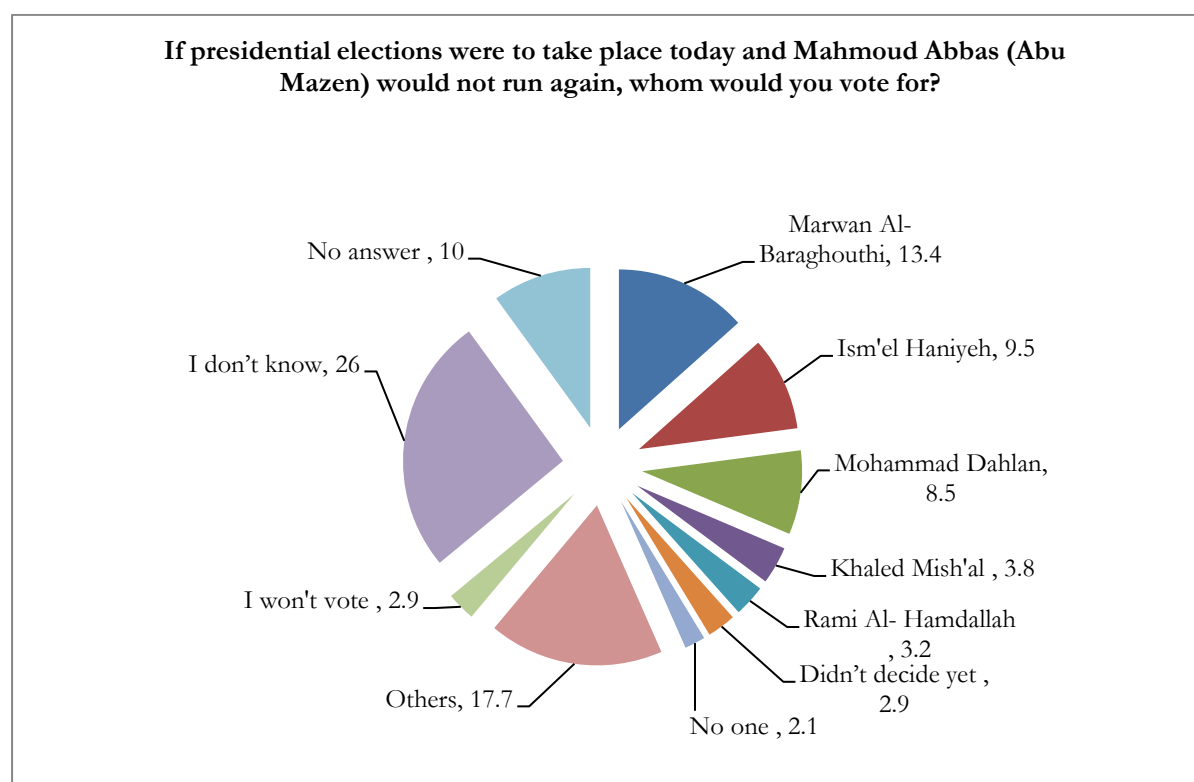
	Total n=1000	West Bank n= 625	Gaza n=375
Strongly agree	11.7	10.9	13.1
Somewhat agree	43.2	38.6	50.9
Somewhat disagree	28.6	32.8	21.6
Strongly disagree	11.6	11.7	11.5
No answer	4.9	6.0	2.9



Q27- If presidential elections were to take place today and Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen) would not run again, whom would you vote for?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	n=1000	n= 625	n=375
Marwan Al-Barghouthi	13.4	13.1	13.9
Ism'el Haniyeh	9.5	6.1	15.2
Mohamad Dahlan	8.5	4.0	16.0
Khaled Mish'al	3.8	3.8	3.7
Rami Al-Hamdallah	3.2	2.7	4.0
Didn't decide yet	2.9	3.4	2.1
No one	2.1	2.1	2.1
Others	17.7	15.5	21.3
I won't vote	2.9	3.7	1.6
I don't know	26.0	32.3	15.5
No answer	10.0	13.3	4.6

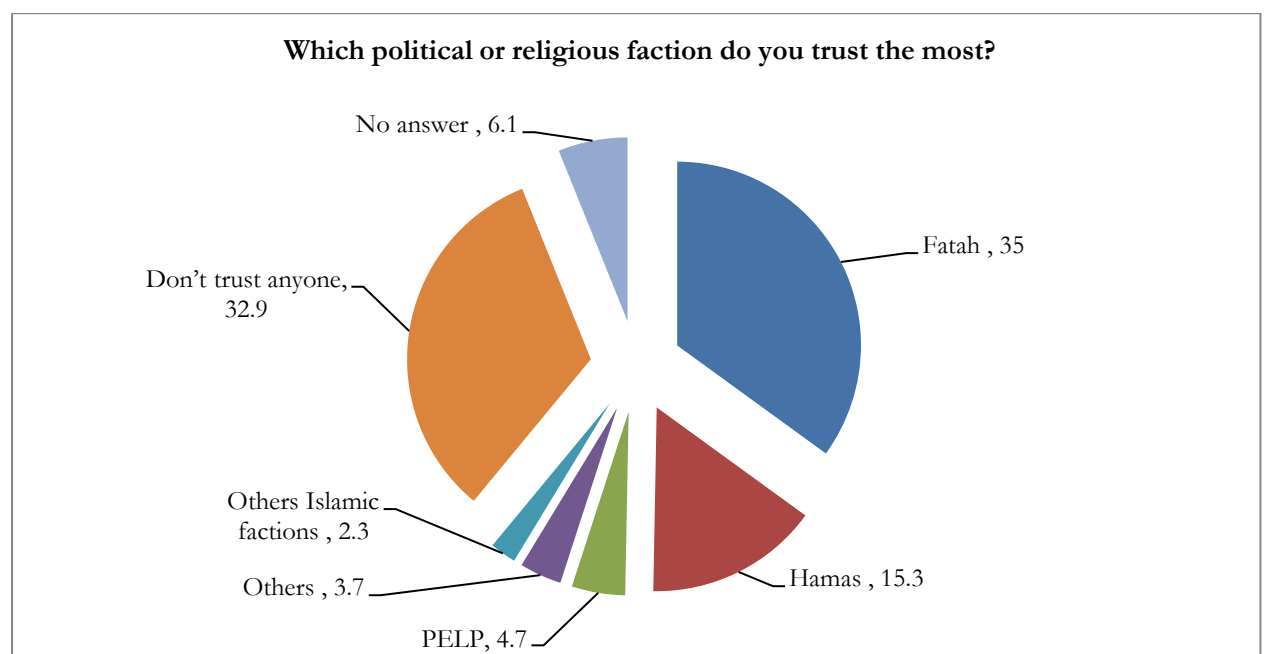
* This was an open-ended question no options were read to the interviewee



Q28- Which political or religious faction do you trust the most?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	n=1000	n= 625	n=375
Fatah	35.0	33.6	37.3
Hamas	15.3	12.3	20.3
PFLP	4.7	4.5	5.1
Others	3.7	3.0	4.8
Other Islamic factions	2.3	1.3	4.0
Don't trust anyone	32.9	35.8	28.0
No answer	6.1	9.5	0.5

* This was an open-ended question no options were read to the interviewee



Q29- Which Palestinian personality do you trust the most?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	n=1000	n= 625	n=375
Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen)	11.1	13.0	8.0
Marwan Al-Barghouthi	9.3	8.8	10.1
Ism'el Haniyeh	9.1	5.9	14.4
Mohamad Dahlan	5.8	1.4	13.1
Khaled Mish'al	4.0	4.0	4.0
Others	18.1	17.3	19.5
Don't trust anyone	34.6	37.6	29.6
No answer	8.0	12.0	1.3

* This was an open-ended question no options were read to the interviewee

