
Poll no. 54 May, 2005

**Poll Result On Palestinian Attitudes Towards
The Palestinian Political Issues**

Significant Opinion results

- There is a significant increase in ratio of Palestinians who consider the religious factor as an important factor when voting in the next Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) elections.
- A large majority of Palestinians (75.1%) want to participate in the next PLC elections.
- In case the elections programs are based on choice between fundamentalist trends versus secular trends, the largest ratio of Palestinians (48.6%) said it will choose the fundamentalist trends.
- The poll shows there is a clear majority (60.5%) of Palestinians who oppose the PLC member to be a minister in the government at the same time.
- Mahmoud Abbas got the highest ratio of trust (24.8%) while (32.9%) said they don't trust any figure.
- The poll results show slight decline in Fatah Movement popularity while Hamas Movement maintained a consistent ratio of trust with an increase in ratio of Palestinians who do not trust any faction.
- There is a notable rise in ratio of Palestinians who oppose the continuation of the Aqsa Intifada in the West Bank and Gaza Strip despite the fact that the majority of Palestinians still support it.
- The poll shows a majority of Palestinians who oppose continuation of military operations against Israeli targets and see such operations as harmful to the Palestinian national interests.
- Palestinians are divided almost equally on the issue of suicide bombing operations against Israeli civilians.
- A significant majority of Palestinians (65.2%) believe that the Palestinian national interests require maintaining the state of calm (ceasefire) between Palestinians and Israelis until the end of 2005, but there is also a majority of Palestinians (54.6%) who oppose using force by the security forces against those who violate the calm understandings.
- A majority of Palestinians (52.8%) see in Sharon's unilateral withdrawal from Gaza Strip as a step that can contribute to peace while (33.4%) say such a step harms a just peace between both sides.

Positions regarding the next PLC elections:

There is a significant increase in ratio of Palestinians who want to participate in the next PLC elections from (59.2%) in January 1996 to (75.1%) in May 2005.

The educational qualification, the struggle history, political affiliation and the religious factor emerged as the most important factors that will influence the voter in the next PLC elections. A ratio of (92.6%) of Palestinians said the educational qualification of the candidate is very important or important when they choose their representative in the next parliament while (86.1%) said the struggle history of the candidate is very important or important. A ratio of (86.1%) said political affiliation is a very important or important factor that will influence the voting and the religious factor was chosen by (82.9%) of the Palestinians as a very important or important factor in the next PLC elections.

When asked if the elections programs are based on secular trends versus fundamentalist trends, the highest ratio of Palestinians (48.6%) said they will choose the fundamentalist trends while (38.6%) said they will choose the secular trends.

The poll results show that a ratio of (47.9%) of Palestinians believe that some of the current PLC members will be re-elected while (30.8%) said none of the current PLC members will be re-elected and only (14.5%) said the current PLC members will be re-elected.

With regards to combining between membership in the PLC and government, a majority of Palestinians (60.5%) said they oppose a PLC member becoming a minister in the government at the same time while (33.8%) said they don't mind such a combination.

Trust in Figures and Factions:

In JMCC open ended trend question about the Palestinian figure they trust most, Mahmoud Abbas got the highest level of support (24.8%) among Palestinians which shows a slight decline when compared with (26.2%) in December 2004. Marwan Barghouti ranked second with (5.7%) compared with (9.8%) in the poll conducted in December 2004. Mahmoud Zahhar came in third place with (5.4%). The highest ratio (32%) of Palestinians said they do not trust any figure which shows a rise when compared with (25.4%) in December 2004.

The Poll results show a slight decline in popularity of Fatah Movement from (41.6%) in December 2004 to (36.1%) in May 2005.

The Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, maintained a consistent level of trust among Palestinians (19.8%) when compared with (20%) in December 2004.

Performance of the Executive and Legislative Authorities:

When asked about the performance of President Abu Mazen in general, the majority of Palestinians (58.7%) said they were either very satisfied or satisfied to a certain degree towards his performance while a ratio of (38.6%) said they were either dissatisfied to a certain extent or not satisfied at all. When the respondents were asked about the performance of President Abu Mazen as a President of the PNA, a ratio of (52.5%) said his performance is average while (23.8%) said his performance is good and (20.7%) said his performance is bad.

Whether there is corruption in the PA or not, the ratio of Palestinians who believe there is corruption in the PA went down to (61.9%) from (90.3%) in June 2004. A ratio of (22.8%) of Palestinians think there is no corruption in the PA compared with (3.9%) in June 2004. A sizeable ratio of Palestinians (61.8%) said they are not satisfied with the PA administration of public funds while (29.8%) expressed satisfaction.

On the performance of the PLC, a ratio of (40.6%) said the performance of the PLC is either very good or good while (56%) said the PLC performance is either bad or very bad.

The peace process:

There seems to be a stable level of optimism among the Palestinians with regards to the future in general. The majority of the Palestinians (61.3%) are either very optimistic or optimistic in general compared with (59.3%) in December 2004. A ratio of (38.4%) feel very pessimistic or pessimistic compared with (40.2%) last December.

There is still a majority of Palestinians (53.3%) who support the continuation of the Aqsa Intifada, but there is a significant increase in ratio of Palestinians who oppose its continuation (44.1%) compared with (27.2%) in June 2004 and (22.2%) in April 2003.

The poll shows a rise in ratio of Palestinians who oppose suicide bombing operations against Israeli civilians from (31.5%) in June 2004 to (48%) in May 2005 with a notable decline in support to such operations from (62.1%) in June 2004 to (49.7%) this month.

The poll shows that (49.8%) of the Palestinians believe that the Intifada still exists while (46.5%) believe the Aqsa Intifada has ended.

A majority of Palestinians (57.2%) oppose continuation of military operations against Israeli targets and see such operations as harming the Palestinian national interests while (36.2%) believe that such operations are the proper response under the current political conditions.

Methodology

A random sample of 1200 people over the age of 18 was interviewed face-to-face throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip between 2nd and 7th of May 2005. 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 60 sampling points chosen randomly according to population.

In the **West Bank** 759 people were surveyed from the following areas: **Jenin:** Jenin, al- Yamoun, Jenin refugee camp, Zababdeh, 'Aqaba, Arabeh, Kufr Rai', Maythaloun, Sarees **Nablus:** Nablus ,Madama ,Asira al-Qiblia, Yasouf, Marda, Beit Fureek, Balata RC, Sabastia, Zawata.. **Tulkarem and Qalqilya:** Tulkarem, 'Tulkarem RC, Bala', Beit Leed, Qalqilia, Jayyous. **Hebron:** Hebron, Halhoul, Idna, al- Dahiria, Dura, Fawwar RC, Taffuh, Tarqoumia. **Bethlehem:** Bethlehem, Beit Sahour, Al Khader, a- Duha, Artas, Deheishe Refugee Camp. **Ramallah & al-Bireh:** Ramallah, al- Bireh, Beit Rima, Ramoun, Al- Am'ary Refugee Camp, Kuber. **Jerusalem:** a – Dahia, a- Ram, Beir Nabala, Qalqilia Refugee Camp, Shufat, Old City, Beit Hanina, Beit Hanina a – tahta, al- 'Issawia, Wadi al- Joz, Ras al- Amoud

In the **Gaza Strip:** 441 people were surveyed from: **Gaza:** Shati RC, al Zaytoun, Sabra, al-Durj, a-Shuja'ia, al-Rimal north, al-Rimal South, Sheikh Radwan, al-nasser, al-Tuffah. **Khan Younis:** al-Khuza', Khan Younis, Bani Suheila, Khan Younis RC, al-Qararah. **Rafah:** Rafah, Tal al- Sultan RC, Rafah RC. **Gaza North:** Jabalia, Beit Lahia, Jabalia RC, Beit Hanoun. **Deir al-Balah:** Deir al-Balah, al-Maghazi RC, al-Bureij RC, al-Nusseirat RC.

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

Sample Distribution

53.3% of the respondents were from West Bank, 9.9% from Jerusalem, 36.8% from the Gaza Strip.

29.4% said they live in villages, 16.0% in refugee camps, and 54.6% in towns/cities.

52.3% were male, 47.7% were female.
68.3 % were married, 24.9%, single, 2.4% widowed, 2.5% divorced, 1.9% no answer.

The average age of the respondents was 34 years.

Occupation of Respondents

Students 13.5%	Professionals - e.g. doctors/lawyers/ pharmacists/engineers 1.2%
laborers 11.7%,	Housewives 32.3%
Farmers/fishermen 3.5%	Unemployed 7.8%
Craftsmen 2.1%	Retired 1.2%,
Businessmen/private business 8.8%	No answer 0.6%.
Employees e.g. secretaries/municipal employees/teachers/nurses 17.3%	

Results:

Q1. In general how optimistic or pessimistic do you feel towards the future?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N= 1200	N= 759	N= 441
Very optimistic	5.8	4.3	8.4
Optimistic	55.5	51.6	62.1
Pessimistic	25.4	27.5	21.8
Very Pessimistic	13.0	16.1	7.7
No answer	0.3	0.5	0.0

Q2. Do you think that Al-Aqsa Intifada that started four years ago is finished or still exists?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N=1200	N= 759	N= 441
Still exists	49.8	42.7	61.9
Is finished	46.5	53.4	34.7
No answer	3.7	3.9	3.4

Q3. Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose the continuation of Al-Aqsa Intifada in the West Bank and Gaza strip?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N= 1200	N= 759	N=441
Strongly support	14.5	13.2	16.8
Somewhat support	38.8	39.4	37.6
Somewhat oppose	30.8	30.2	31.7
Strongly oppose	13.3	14.2	11.8
No answer	2.6	3.0	2.1

Q4. How do you feel towards suicide bombing operations against Israeli civilians? do you support them, or oppose them?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N= 1200	N= 759	N= 441
Strongly support	17.9	15.7	21.8
Somewhat support	31.8	30.2	34.7
Somewhat oppose	32.3	33.1	31.1
Strongly oppose	15.7	18.1	11.6
No answer	2.3	2.9	0.8

Q5. Do you support the resumption of the military operations against Israeli targets as a suitable response within the current political conditions, or do you reject them and find them harmful to Palestinians national interests ?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N= 1200	N=759	N= 441
Suitable response within the current political conditions	36.2	35.3	37.6
I reject them and find them harmful to Palestinian national interests	57.2	57.4	57.1
Others	1.1	1.5	0.5
I don't know	4.2	4.2	4.1
No answer	1.3	1.6	0.7

Q6. Under the current conditions, some believe that the peace process is dead and there is no chance in resuming the negotiations, while others see that the peace process is passing through difficult conditions with unclear future, a third group believes that the peace process is still alive and there is a possibility of resuming negotiations.

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N= 1200	N=759	N=441
The peace process is dead and there is no chance of resuming the negotiations	24.7	27.0	20.6
The peace process is passing through difficult conditions with an unclear future	47.9	48.4	47.2
The peace process is still alive and there is a possibility of resuming negotiations	24.8	21.3	30.8
Others	0.5	0.7	0.2
Don't know \ no answer	2.1	2.6	1.2

Q7. Some believe that a two-state formula is the favored solution for the Arab-Israeli conflict, while others believe that historic Palestine cannot be divided and thus the favored solution is a bi-national state on all of Palestine wherein Palestinians and Israelis enjoy equal representation and rights. Which of these solutions do you prefer?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N=1200	N=759	N=441
Two-state solution: an Israeli and a Palestinian	54.0	58.4	46.5
Bi-national state on all of historic Palestine	27.3	24.9	31.3
One Palestinian state *	7.8	5.4	12.0
Islamic state *	3.1	4.1	1.4
Others	0.3	0.1	0.5
There are no solution	5.1	5.0	5.2
I don't know\ no answer	2.4	2.1	3.1

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

Q8. Which Palestinian personality do you trust the most?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N=1200	N=759	N=441
Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazin)	24.8	25.0	24.3
Marwan al-Barghouthi	5.7	5.5	5.9
Mahmoud al-Zahhar	5.4	4.9	6.3
Khaled Mish'al	3.1	3.3	2.7
Mustafa al-Barghouthi	2.3	2.8	1.6
Isma'eel Hanieh	2.0	1.2	3.4
Ahmad Sa'adat	1.9	2.1	1.6
Sa'eb I'erikat	1.3	2.0	0.2
Yasser Arafat	1.1	1.1	1.1
Hassan Yousef	1.1	1.6	0.2
Abu Ala'	1.0	0.7	1.6
Others	13.5	11.3	16.8
I don't trust anybody	32.9	34.7	29.9
No answer	3.9	3.8	4.4

**The question was an open-ended one*

Q9. Which Palestinian political or religious faction do you trust most?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N= 1200	N=759	N=441
Fateh	36.1	35.6	37.0
Hamas	19.8	18.6	22.0
Islamic Jihad	3.7	3.4	4.1
PFLP	2.9	2.9	2.9
PPP	1.1	1.7	0.0
DFLP	0.4	0.3	0.7
FIDA	0.4	0.5	0.2
AL-Aqsa brigades	0.3	0.1	0.5
Other Islamic Factions	2.3	2.0	2.9
Others	1.1	0.8	1.6
I don't trust any Faction	28.2	30.7	23.8
No answer	3.7	3.4	4.3

**The question was an open-ended one*

Q10. In general, how do you evaluate the performance of the PLC?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N=1200	N=759	N=441
Very good	2.8	2.6	2.9
Good	37.8	35.2	42.4
Bad	32.8	31.6	34.7
Very Bad	23.2	26.2	17.9
No answer	3.4	4.4	2.1

Q11. Are you going to vote in the coming PLC elections?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N=1200	N=759	N=441
Yes	75.1	73.3	77.8
No	21.5	22.5	20.2
No answer	3.4	4.2	2.0

Q11-a. Why aren't you going to vote?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N=260	N=171	N=89
I am not convinced in the PLC/ I don't trust the PLC	25.0	22.8	29.2
I don't trust anyone	20.4	22.8	15.7
I have no trust in the credibility of the elections	18.5	12.3	30.3
I don't like to/ I don't want/ I am not convinced	8.8	9.4	7.9
Personal reasons	5.4	5.3	5.6
Religious reasons	5.0	7.6	0.0
Political reasons	2.7	3.5	1.1
Others	8.5	9.9	5.6
No answer	5.7	6.4	4.6

** This question was asked to those who answered no in q 11*

Q12. To what extent will you take the following factors into consideration when you vote in the next elections?*

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
1.Democracy awareness	N=899	N=556	N=343
Very important	68.5	66.2	72.3
Important	20.5	21.6	18.7
Somewhat important	8.1	9.2	6.4
Not important at all	2.9	3.0	2.6

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
2. Political Affiliation	N=899	N=556	N=343
Very important	61.3	60.4	62.7
Important	22.6	22.5	22.7
Somewhat important	10.5	11.0	9.6
Not important	4.0	4.3	3.5
Not important at all	1.4	1.6	1.2
No answer	0.2	0.2	0.3

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
3. Religious Factor	N=899	N=556	N=343
Very important	64.1	57.4	74.9
Important	18.8	21.2	14.9
Somewhat important	11.5	13.5	8.2
Not important	4.0	5.6	1.5
Not important at all	1.2	1.8	0.3
No answer	0.4	0.5	0.2

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
4. History of struggle	N=899	N=556	N=343
Very important	60.5	61.9	58.3
Important	25.6	22.5	30.6
Somewhat important	9.3	9.7	8.7
Not important	4.2	5.6	2.0
Not important at all	0.1	0.2	0.0
No answer	0.3	0.1	0.4

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
5. Education	N=899	N=556	N=343
Very important	67.9	69.1	65.9
Important	24.7	22.8	27.7
Somewhat important	6.0	6.1	5.8
Not important	1.1	1.6	0.3
Not important at all	0.1	0.2	0.0
No answer	0.2	0.2	0.3

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
6. Residence	N=899	N=556	N=343
Very important	34.9	33.5	37.3
Important	24.8	23.9	26.2
Somewhat important	17.9	18.9	16.3
Not important	18.7	19.2	17.8
Not important at all	3.2	4.3	1.5
No answer	0.5	0.2	0.9

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
7. Social Status	N=899	N=556	N=343
Very important	31.0	31.8	29.7
Important	29.5	28.4	31.2

Somewhat important	21.1	19.1	24.5
Not important	14.2	16.0	11.4
Not important at all	3.6	4.3	2.3
No answer	0.6	0.4	0.9

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
8. Reputation	N=899	N=556	N=343
Very important	66.6	61.7	74.6
Important	20.2	22.7	16.3
Somewhat important	9.1	10.1	7.6
Not important	3.1	4.3	1.2
Not important at all	0.4	0.7	0.0
No answer	0.6	0.5	0.3

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
9. Family Relations	N=899	N=556	N=343
Very important	28.1	25.5	32.4
Important	27.9	27.2	29.2
Somewhat important	22.4	21.0	24.5
Not important	15.8	18.7	11.1
Not important at all	5.1	6.7	2.6
No answer	0.7	0.9	0.2

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
10. Gender	N=899	N=556	N=343
Very important	26.6	24.5	30.0
Important	21.9	22.1	21.6
Somewhat important	19.6	21.2	16.9
Not important	25.3	24.3	26.8
Not important at all	6.5	7.7	4.4
No answer	0.1	0.2	0.3

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
11. Age	N=899	N=556	N=343
Very important	23.2	21.6	25.9
Important	29.3	25.9	34.7
Somewhat important	24.4	27.7	19.0
Not important	18.7	19.4	17.5
Not important at all	3.6	4.7	1.7
No answer	0.8	0.7	1.2

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
12. Campaign	N=899	N=556	N=343
Very important	50.3	48.9	52.5
Important	28.0	28.4	27.4
Somewhat important	12.8	13.3	12.0
Not important	6.8	6.1	7.9
Not important at all	1.9	3.1	0.0
No answer	0.2	0.2	0.2

** These questions were asked only to those who answered yes in q 11*

Q13. What will be the base of your choice of candidates in the PLC elections?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N=899	N=556	N=343
Political Affiliation	27.7	30.2	23.6
Personal Competence	58.3	59.5	56.3
Geographical Grounds (The place	2.6	2.7	2.3

where the Candidate comes from)			
Relatives and family	1.2	0.9	1.7
Religious Grounds	10.0	6.5	15.7
No answer	0.2	0.2	0.4

** This questions was asked only to those who answered yes in q 11*

Q14. If the PLC elections were based on the PLO's political program versus the opposition political program, which one you will choose?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N=899	N=556	N=343
PLO'S Political Program	59.8	61.7	56.9
Opposition political program	33.9	34.2	33.5
No answer	6.3	4.1	9.6

** This question was asked only to those who answered yes in q 11*

Q15. If the PLC elections programs were based on secular trends versus fundamentalist trends, which of them will you choose?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N=899	N=556	N=343
Secular Trends	38.6	44.8	28.6
Fundamentalist trends	48.6	48.4	49.0
No answer	12.8	6.8	22.4

** This question was asked only to those who answered yes in q 11*

Q16. Do you think that same PLC candidates will be elected, some of them, or none of them?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N=1200	N=759	N=441
Some Candidates shall be elected	14.5	17.7	9.1
Some of the PLC Candidates shall be elected	47.9	46.0	51.2
None of them shall be elected	30.8	29.0	33.8
No answer	6.8	7.3	5.9

Q17. Do you agree or disagree for a PLC member to be a minister in the government at the same time?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N=1200	N=759	N=441
I disagree	60.5	53.8	72.1
I don't mind	33.8	39.3	24.5
No answer	5.7	6.9	3.4

Q18. In light of the recent PLC ratification of the general budget, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the PNA administration of public funds?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N=1200	N=759	N=441
Satisfied	29.8	27.3	34.0
Dissatisfied	61.8	63.6	58.3
No answer	8.4	9.1	7.7

Q19. Do you think there is corruption in the PNA?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N=1200	N=759	N=441
Yes	61.9	56.3	71.7
No	22.8	27.0	15.4
I don't know	13.2	14.4	11.1
No answer	2.1	2.3	1.8

Q19-a. Please define the most important corruption factors?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N=743	N=427	N=441
Financial & administrative corruption	37.3	36.5	38.3
Favoritism	22.2	20.4	24.7
Security corruption	10.2	8.2	13.0
Corruption in all aspects & fields	8.7	11.5	5.1
Judicial corruption and no enforcement of the rule of the law	4.3	4.0	4.7
Corruption of senior officials	3.5	2.8	4.4
Moral corruption	3.1	3.5	2.5
Political corruption	2.7	4.4	0.3
Others	5.5	5.4	5.7
No answer	2.5	3.3	1.3

** This question was asked only to those who answered yes in q 19*

Q20. Please define the most important signs of corruption as you see them?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
1- Public Funds	N=1200	N=759	N=441
Improved	27.8	25.7	31.3
Fell Back	29.0	29.8	27.7
No change	42.1	43.2	40.1
I don't know\ no answer	1.1	1.3	0.9

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
2- Civil Service System	N=1200	N=759	N=441
Improved	25.3	20.6	33.6
Fell Back	26.1	30.8	17.9
No change	47.5	47.3	47.8
I don't know\ no answer	1.1	1.3	0.7

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
3- The rule of the law	N=1200	N=759	N=441
Improved	26.7	29.8	21.3
Fell Back	27.2	27.5	26.5
No change	45.0	41.2	51.5
I don't know\ no answer	1.1	1.5	0.7

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
4- Security Service System	N=1200	N=759	N=441
Improved	31.6	32.1	30.6
Fell Back	27.6	29.2	24.7
No change	39.8	37.4	44.0
I don't know\ no answer	1.0	1.3	0.7

Q21. In general, how do you evaluate the performance of the PNA, do you say it is:

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N=1200	N=759	N=441
Very good	3.8	4.3	2.9
Good	46.5	44.9	49.2
Bad	35.7	35.3	36.3
Very Bad	11.2	11.7	10.2
No answer	2.8	3.8	1.4

Q22. Do you think the President (Abu Mazen) is doing his job well as a president of the PNA?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N=1200	N=759	N=441
Good	23.8	23.3	24.9
Fairly good	52.5	51.1	54.9
Bad	20.7	22.1	18.1
No answer	3.0	3.5	2.1

Q23. In general, how do you evaluate the performance of President Abu Mazen, are you:

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N=1200	N=759	N=441
Very satisfied	11.1	11.6	10.2
Somewhat satisfied	47.6	45.2	51.7
Somewhat dissatisfied	27.3	28.5	25.2
Not satisfied at all	11.3	11.3	11.1
No answer	2.7	3.4	1.8

Q24. After 100 days have passed since Abu Mazen took office as a president of the PNA, to what extent do you think he has succeeded in achieving his election campaign programs on enforcing order and the rule of the law?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N=1200	N=759	N=441
To great extent	7.9	8.6	6.8
To certain extent	38.3	39.5	36.3
To a low extent	35.7	31.0	43.8
He didn't succeed at all	14.2	15.4	12.0
No answer	3.9	5.5	1.1

Q25. What do you think about the Political situation of the Palestinian's people since Abu Mazen assumed his authorities as a president of the PNA, do you think it has become better, didn't change, or worse than it was before?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N=1200	N=759	N=441
Better than it was before	35.0	34.0	36.7
No change	49.3	50.7	46.9
Worse than before	13.1	12.1	14.7
No answer	2.6	3.2	1.7

Q26. What about the Economic situation since Abu Mazen became a president of the PNA?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N=1200	N=759	N=441
Better than it was before	22.9	19.6	28.6
No change	54.4	60.3	44.2
Worse than before	21.1	18.2	26.1
No answer	1.6	1.9	1.1

Q27. What do you think about Sharon's unilateral Withdrawal from Gaza, do you think this step is good to achieve peace or it might be a bad step for the peace process between both sides?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N=1200	N=759	N=441
It's a good step for peace	52.8	50.3	57.1
It might be a bad step that will effect the peace between both parties	33.4	36.2	28.6
No answer	13.8	13.5	14.3

Q28. Do you think maintaining the calm (ceasefire) between the Palestinians and Israelis until the end of 2005 serves the interests of the Palestinian people?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N=1200	N=759	N=441
It will serve the interests of the Palestinian people	65.2	61.7	71.2
I don't think it's good for the Palestinians	29.6	32.9	23.8
No answer	5.2	5.4	5.0

Q29. Do you agree or disagree for the security services using force against those who oppose ceasefire as stipulated in Cairo dialogue?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza
	N=1200	N=759	N=441
I agree	38.5	41.0	34.2
I disagree	54.6	52.3	58.5
No answer	6.9	6.7	7.3