
Poll no. 55, December 2005

**Poll Results On Palestinian Attitudes Towards
The upcoming legislative elections and other Political Issues**

Significant Opinion results

- Political affiliation and religious grounds, as bases for choice of candidates in the upcoming PLC elections, rose (32.6%, 14.5% respectively compared with (27.7%) and (10.0%) in May 2005) at the expense of personal competence which decreased from (58.3%) in May 2005 to (45.2%) in December 2005.
- There remains a considerable majority of Palestinians (68.2%) who want to participate in the upcoming PLC elections although the ratio was higher in May 2005 (75.1%).
- The majority of the Palestinians expect the upcoming PLC elections to be honest (52.7%) while 39.9% expect the elections to be dishonest.
- The poll shows there is a slight increase in general optimism towards the future reaching (68%) in December 2005 compared with (61.3%) last May.
- With regards to the Palestinian figure trusted most by the Palestinian public, Mahmoud Abbas “Abu Mazin” remains the top figure with a ratio of (15.5%) compared with (24.8%) in May 2005. Marwan Barghouti got the second ranking with a ratio of (7.8%). Mahmoud Zahhar and Mohammed Dahlan got the third rank with a ratio of 5.8% each. A considerable ratio of 31.1% of Palestinians continues not to trust any figure.
- A considerable ratio of Palestinians (45.1%) believe that the economic conditions since Abu Mazin became President of the PNA has not changed and a ratio of (30.8%) of Palestinians said the economic conditions got worse during the same period.
- A significant majority of Palestinians (73.1%) believe Hamas decision to participate in the upcoming PLC elections is a positive step and (61.3%) believe that if Hamas becomes part of the PLC, it will abide by the decisions taken by the majority of the PLC members.
- The poll shows that a ratio of (40.2%) of the Palestinians believe the third party or path along side Fatah and Hamas must be from independent figures while (26.4%) say there is no need for a third party.
- With regards to the political situation of the Palestinian people since Abu Mazin assumed office, a ratio of (50.5%) said the situation remained the same while those who believe the situation got worse rose from (13.1%) in May 2005 to (22.2%) this December.
- On the reasons for the recent increase in security chaos incidents, a ratio of (41.5%) say the poor performance of the PA and its security services is the main reason while (33.1%) say the reason is because some groups exploit the political situation to evade the law and order.

Positions regarding the next PLC elections:

There is a slight decrease in ratio of Palestinians who want to participate in the next PLC elections from (75.1%) in May 2005 to (68.2%) in December 2005.

The educational qualification, democracy awareness and reputation emerged as the three most important factors that will influence the voter in the next PLC elections. A ratio of (91.5%) of Palestinians said the educational qualification of the candidate is very important or important when they choose their representative in the next parliament while (90.5%) said democracy awareness of the candidate is very important or important. A ratio of (89.3%) said the reputation of the candidate is a very important or important factor that will influence the voting. Religious grounds come in fourth place with a ratio of 83.3%.

A ratio of (58.3%) of Palestinians said they have made up their mind on whom to vote for in their constituency while (39.5%) said they are still undecided.

When asked if the elections programs are based on secular trends versus fundamentalist trends, the highest ratio of Palestinians (46.0%) said they will choose the fundamentalist trends while (37.5%) said they will choose the secular trends. However, a ratio of (60.3%) said they will choose the PLO's political program while (27.8%) of Palestinians said they will vote for the opposition's political program.

When asked if they would vote for a candidate who is not from the faction or party they trust most, a ratio of (52.3%) said they would vote for such a candidate while 41.4% said they would not.

When asked which is the better method to choose Fatah candidates to the PLC elections, a ratio of (45.5%) of the Palestinians said the choice should come from within the bases of Fatah Movement while (29.7%) said Fatah Central Committee should decide on the names of candidates to run in the PLC elections.

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 (15.5%) among Palestinians which shows a slight decline when compared with (24.8%) in May 2005 and with (26.2%) in December 2004. Marwan Barghouti maintained the second rank with (7.8%). Mahmoud Zahhar came in third place with (5.8%). Mohammed Dahlan also got 5.8% in general but received 13.9% in Gaza Strip. The highest ratio (31.1%) of Palestinians continues showing no trust in any figure.

The Poll results show that Fatah maintained a steady level of popularity (38.9%) compared with 36.1% last May. The Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, continues to be the second force in terms of popularity among Palestinians (18.5%) compared with (19.8%) last May.

Performance of the Executive and Legislative Authorities:

When asked about the performance of Abu Mazin as President of the PNA, the majority of Palestinians (50.3%) ranked his performance as average while 28.7% said his performance is good compared with 23.8% last May. However, when asked if Abu Mazin succeeded in achieving his election campaign programs on enforcing order and the rule of the law, the higher ratio of (44.8%) said he succeeded to a certain extent while (30.9%) said he succeeded to a low extent and 13.9% said he didn't succeed at all.

When asked about the performance of the PLC, a ratio of 66.4% ranked it as either average or bad while only 14.8% said the PLC performance is good. On the performance of the government of Qurei', a ratio of 30.1% ranked its performance as very good and good while a ratio of 33.1% ranked it as average and 32.8% ranked it as bad or very bad..

On the performance of the PNA, a majority of (53.4%) said the performance is either very good or good compared with 43.0% last June while (44.4%) said the PNA performance is either bad or very bad.

When asked to assess the level of progress or retreat in the reform process in various fields, reform in the civil service system achieved the best results with a ratio of 44.0% saying it witnessed progress while 31.8% said no change has happened in this field. Reform in the security service system got the lowest points as 35.9% said it witnessed retreat and 33.4% said there has been no change in this area. Rule of the law showed almost same results: a ratio of 38.0% said they witnessed no change in this area while 36.4% said this area witnessed retreat.

The peace process:

There seems to be a rising trend in level of optimism among the Palestinians with regards to the future in general. The majority of the Palestinians (68.0%) are either very optimistic or optimistic compared with (61.3%) in May 2005 and (59.3%) in December 2004.

A majority of Palestinians (55.1%) support the two state solution as the favored solution of the Israeli – Palestinian conflict while a ratio of (20.3%) believe a bi-national state on all of historic Palestine is the preferred solution. A ratio of (10.9%) say one Palestine state is the favored solution.

Methodology

A random sample of 1199 people over the age of 18 was interviewed face-to-face throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip between 5th and 9th, of December 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, Jenin Refugee Camp (RC), Tubas, Silat al- Harthia, Sanour, Jaba'a, Arabeh, Fahmeh al- Qadeimeh. **Nablus:** Nablus, Hiwara, A'in Abous, Salfit, Beit Dajan, 'Askar RC, Qouseen, Beit Iba. **Tulkarem and Qalqilya:** Tulkarem, 'Tulkarem RC, Ateel, 'Anabta, Qalqilia. **Hebron:** Hebron, Bani Na'im, Dura, Beit Ummar, Aroub RC, Beit Ula, Kurza. **Bethlehem:** Bethlehem, Nahaleen, a-Duha, Hindaza, Azza RC. **Ramallah & al-Bireh:** Beitunia, Al Bireh, Deir Ghasaneh, Deir Jreer, Kharbatha Bani Harith, al- 'Amari RC. **Jericho,** Jericho, Ain Sultan RC. **Jerusalem:** Izzaria, Abu Dees, Beit Surik, Qalandia RC, Shufat, Old City, Beit Hanina, Beit Hanina a-tahta, al- 'Issawia, Wadi al – Joz., Jabal Al Mukaber.

In the **Gaza Strip:** 440 people were surveyed from: **Gaza:** Shati RC, a- Shuja'ia, Attufah, al-Durj, Sheikh Radwan, a- Nasser, a-rimal a-Shamali, a-rimal al-janoubi, Sabra, a-Zeitoun. **Khan Younis:** Absan al-Saghira, Khan Younis, Bani Suheila, Abasan al-Kabira, Khan Younis RC. **Rafah:** Rafah, Tal al- Sultan RC, Rafah RC. **Gaza North:** Jabalia, Beit Lahia, Jabalia RC, Beit Hanoun. **Deir al-Balah:** Deir Al – Balah, Nusseirat RC, Al –Maghazi RC.

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

Sample Distribution

51.6 % of the respondents were from West Bank, 11.7 % from Jerusalem, 36.7 % from the Gaza Strip.

25.4% said they live in villages 17.1 % in refugee camps, and 57.5 % in towns/cities.

52.3% were male, 47.7% were female.

65.1 % were married, 26.7%, single, 3.5% widowed, 1.9 % divorced, 2.8% no answer.

The average age of the respondents was 34 years.

Occupation of Respondents

Students 13.3%

laborers 10.8%

Farmers/fishermen 3.2 %

Craftsmen 2.1%

Businessmen/private business 7.7%

Employees e.g.

secretaries/municipal

employees/teachers/nurses

17.2%

Professionals - e.g.

doctors/lawyers/
pharmacists/engineers
1.8%

Housewives 34.8%

Unemployed 6.8%

Retired 1.5%,

No answer 0.8%.

** This JMCC survey was conducted with support of Fredrich Ebert Stiftung Foundation, Germany.*

Results:

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

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|------------------|---------|-----------|--------|
| | N= 1199 | N= 759 | N= 440 |
| Very optimistic | 7.9 | 7.4 | 8.9 |
| Optimistic | 60.1 | 57.4 | 64.5 |
| Pessimistic | 20.0 | 20.6 | 19.1 |
| Very Pessimistic | 11.5 | 14.1 | 7.0 |
| No answer | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 |

Q2. Are you going to vote in the upcoming PLC elections?

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|---------------------|---------|-----------|--------|
| | N= 1199 | N= 759 | N= 440 |
| Yes | 68.2 | 65.7 | 72.5 |
| No | 25.9 | 28.6 | 21.1 |
| Haven't decided yet | 5.8 | 5.4 | 6.4 |
| No answer | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.0 |

Q3. What will be the basis of your choice of candidates in the PLC elections? *

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|--|--------|-----------|--------|
| | N= 818 | N= 499 | N= 319 |
| Political Affiliation | 32.6 | 32.3 | 33.2 |
| Personal Competence | 45.2 | 45.3 | 45.1 |
| Geographical Grounds (the place where the candidate comes from) | 3.3 | 3.4 | 3.1 |
| Relatives and family | 3.1 | 3.4 | 2.5 |
| Religious Grounds | 14.5 | 14.4 | 14.7 |
| No answer | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.4 |

Q4. Have you decided who are you going to vote for in your Constituency? *

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|-----------|--------|-----------|--------|
| | N= 818 | N= 499 | N= 319 |
| Yes | 58.3 | 57.3 | 59.9 |
| No | 39.5 | 41.1 | 37.0 |
| No answer | 2.2 | 1.6 | 3.1 |

Q5. Would you vote for someone who is from outside the party\ Faction you trust most? *

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|-----------|--------|-----------|--------|
| | N= 818 | N= 499 | N= 319 |
| Yes | 52.3 | 52.1 | 52.7 |
| No | 41.4 | 40.7 | 42.6 |
| No answer | 6.3 | 7.2 | 4.7 |

Q6. 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= 818 | N= 499 | N= 319 |
| PLO's political program | 60.3 | 60.1 | 60.5 |
| Opposition political program | 27.8 | 29.1 | 25.7 |
| No answer | 11.9 | 10.8 | 13.8 |

Q7. If the PLC elections programs were based on secular trends versus fundamentalist trends, which of them you will choose? *

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|--|--------|-----------|--------|
| | N= 818 | N= 499 | N= 319 |

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|
| Secular Trends | 37.5 | 36.9 | 38.6 |
| Fundamentalist trends | 46.0 | 47.1 | 44.2 |
| No Answer | 16.5 | 16.0 | 17.2 |

Q8. To what extent you will take the following factors into consideration when you vote in the next elections? *

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|------------------------------|---------------|------------------|--------------|
| 1.Democracy Awareness | N= 818 | N= 499 | N=319 |
| Very Important | 64.1 | 61.9 | 67.4 |
| Important | 26.4 | 28.1 | 23.8 |
| Somewhat important | 7.8 | 7.8 | 7.8 |
| Not important | 0.9 | 1.4 | 0.0 |
| Not important at all | 0.4 | 0.6 | 0.0 |
| No answer | 0.4 | 0.2 | 1.0 |

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|--------------------------------|--------------|------------------|---------------|
| 2.Political Affiliation | N=818 | N= 499 | N= 319 |
| Very Important | 51.5 | 50.9 | 52.4 |
| Important | 24.1 | 23.4 | 25.1 |
| Somewhat important | 14.1 | 14.6 | 13.2 |
| Not important | 7.7 | 8.6 | 6.3 |
| Not important at all | 2.0 | 2.0 | 1.9 |
| No answer | 0.6 | 0.5 | 1.1 |

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|---------------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| 3.Religious Factor | N= 818 | N= 499 | N= 319 |
| Very Important | 60.3 | 58.9 | 62.4 |
| Important | 23.0 | 21.0 | 26.0 |
| Somewhat important | 10.0 | 12.0 | 6.9 |
| Not important | 4.8 | 5.8 | 3.1 |
| Not important at all | 1.2 | 2.0 | 0.0 |
| No Answer | 0.7 | 0.3 | 1.6 |

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|------------------------------|---------------|------------------|--------------|
| 4.History of Struggle | N= 818 | N= 499 | N=319 |
| Very Important | 51.7 | 51.3 | 52.4 |
| Important | 31.2 | 28.5 | 35.4 |
| Somewhat important | 9.9 | 10.2 | 9.4 |
| Not important | 5.4 | 7.8 | 1.6 |
| Not important at all | 1.5 | 2.2 | 0.3 |
| No answer | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.9 |

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|----------------------|---------------|------------------|--------------|
| 5.Education | N= 818 | N=499 | N=319 |
| Very Important | 64.4 | 61.5 | 69.0 |
| Important | 27.1 | 27.5 | 26.6 |
| Somewhat important | 5.9 | 7.6 | 3.1 |
| Not important | 1.3 | 2.2 | 0.0 |
| Not important at all | 0.6 | 0.8 | 0.3 |
| No answer | 0.7 | 0.4 | 1.0 |

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|--------------------|---------------|------------------|--------------|
| 6.Residence | N= 818 | N=499 | N=319 |
| Very Important | 24.1 | 22.8 | 26.0 |
| Important | 27.0 | 26.3 | 28.2 |

| | | | |
|----------------------|------|------|------|
| Somewhat important | 23.1 | 21.6 | 25.4 |
| Not important | 19.1 | 20.8 | 16.3 |
| Not important at all | 6.4 | 8.4 | 3.1 |
| No answer | 0.3 | 0.1 | 1.0 |

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|------------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| 7.Social Status | N= 818 | N= 499 | N= 319 |
| Very Important | 22.5 | 19.6 | 27.0 |
| Important | 32.4 | 32.1 | 32.9 |
| Somewhat important | 20.8 | 18.8 | 23.8 |
| Not important | 18.1 | 20.6 | 14.1 |
| Not important at all | 5.6 | 8.4 | 1.3 |
| No answer | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.9 |

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|----------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| 8.Reputation | N= 818 | N= 499 | N= 319 |
| Very Important | 67.5 | 63.1 | 74.3 |
| Important | 21.8 | 22.8 | 20.1 |
| Somewhat important | 6.5 | 8.0 | 4.1 |
| Not important | 3.3 | 5.0 | 0.6 |
| Not important at all | 0.4 | 0.6 | 0.0 |
| No answer | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.9 |

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|---------------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| 9.Family Relations | N= 818 | N= 499 | N= 319 |
| Very Important | 23.2 | 22.2 | 24.8 |
| Important | 27.9 | 24.6 | 32.9 |
| Somewhat important | 21.4 | 24.2 | 16.9 |
| Not important | 18.8 | 19.2 | 18.2 |
| Not important at all | 8.2 | 9.6 | 6.0 |
| No answer | 0.5 | 0.2 | 1.2 |

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|----------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| 10.Gender | N= 818 | N= 499 | N= 319 |
| Very Important | 20.3 | 17.6 | 24.5 |
| Important | 23.2 | 23.4 | 22.9 |
| Somewhat important | 18.7 | 16.8 | 21.6 |
| Not important | 26.8 | 28.5 | 24.1 |
| Not important at all | 10.5 | 13.7 | 5.6 |
| No answer | 0.5 | 0.0 | 1.3 |

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|----------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| 11. Age | N= 818 | N= 499 | N= 319 |
| Very Important | 15.0 | 15.4 | 14.4 |
| Important | 26.9 | 21.4 | 35.4 |
| Somewhat important | 24.1 | 21.4 | 28.2 |
| Not important | 24.7 | 29.5 | 17.2 |
| Not important at all | 8.9 | 12.2 | 3.8 |
| No answer | 0.4 | 0.1 | 1.0 |

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|----------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| 12.Campaign | N= 818 | N= 499 | N= 319 |
| Very Important | 41.8 | 38.9 | 46.4 |
| Important | 27.9 | 31.1 | 22.9 |
| Somewhat important | 18.3 | 15.8 | 22.3 |
| Not important | 9.0 | 11.0 | 6.0 |
| Not important at all | 2.6 | 3.2 | 1.6 |
| No answer | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0.8 |

* These questions were only asked to those who answered yes in Q 2.

Q9. In general, do you expect the next Palestinian Legislative Council elections to be honest or not?

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|-----------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| | N=1199 | N= 759 | N= 440 |
| Honest | 52.7 | 49.5 | 58.2 |
| Dishonest | 39.9 | 40.1 | 39.5 |
| No answer | 7.4 | 10.4 | 2.3 |

Q10. In general, how do you evaluate the performance of the Palestinian Authority? Do you say the performance is very good, good, bad, very bad, or no answer?

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|-----------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| | N=1199 | N= 759 | N= 440 |
| Very good | 4.7 | 5.4 | 3.4 |
| Good | 48.7 | 47.7 | 50.5 |
| Bad | 32.6 | 31.9 | 33.9 |
| Very Bad | 11.8 | 11.9 | 11.8 |
| No answer | 2.2 | 3.1 | 0.4 |

Q11. After eight months passed on Abu Al'a Government, what is your opinion on the government's performance? Is it very good, good, average, bad, or very bad?

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|-----------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| | N=1199 | N= 759 | N= 440 |
| Very good | 2.9 | 3.6 | 1.8 |
| Good | 27.2 | 29.1 | 23.9 |
| Average | 33.1 | 31.4 | 36.1 |
| Bad | 22.9 | 20.4 | 27.3 |
| Very bad | 9.9 | 10.0 | 9.8 |
| No answer | 4.0 | 5.5 | 1.1 |

Q12. In general, how do you evaluate the performance of the PLC? Do you say its performance is good, average, bad, or very bad?

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|-----------|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| | N= 1199 | N= 759 | N= 440 |
| Good | 14.8 | 14.6 | 15.0 |
| Average | 40.5 | 39.7 | 41.8 |
| Bad | 25.9 | 24.8 | 27.7 |
| Very bad | 15.9 | 16.3 | 15.2 |
| No answer | 2.9 | 4.6 | 0.3 |

Q13. There is talk inside the PNA with regards to reforms in several areas, please tell me if you noticed progress, retreat or no change in the following fields:

| Public Funds | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|---------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| | N= 1199 | N= 759 | N= 440 |
| Progress | 32.5 | 30.3 | 36.4 |
| Retreat | 28.9 | 29.4 | 28.0 |
| No change | 37.9 | 39.1 | 35.6 |
| No answer | 0.7 | 1.2 | 0.0 |

| Civil Service system | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|-----------------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| | N= 1199 | N= 759 | N= 440 |
| Progress | 44.0 | 38.6 | 53.4 |
| Retreat | 23.3 | 26.5 | 17.7 |
| No change | 31.8 | 33.5 | 28.9 |
| No answer | 0.9 | 1.4 | 0.0 |

| Rule of the law | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|------------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| | N= 1199 | N= 759 | N= 440 |

| | | | |
|-----------|------|------|------|
| Progress | 24.5 | 30.2 | 14.8 |
| Retreat | 36.4 | 31.1 | 45.7 |
| No change | 38.0 | 37.3 | 39.3 |
| No answer | 1.1 | 1.4 | 0.2 |

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|--------------------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| Security Service System | N= 1199 | N= 759 | N= 440 |
| Progress | 30.0 | 40.6 | 11.8 |
| Retreat | 35.9 | 29.2 | 47.3 |
| No change | 33.4 | 29.0 | 40.9 |
| No answer | 0.7 | 1.2 | 0.0 |

Q14. Recently forms of chaos, lack of implementation of the law, and security order have increased, what in your opinion is the main cause of this situation? Is it poor performance on the part of the PA and security agencies in preserving law and order? Is it the Israeli re-occupation of PA-controlled areas? Or that some groups exploit the political situation to evade the law and order?

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|--|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| | N= 1199 | N= 759 | N= 440 |
| Poor performance on the part of the PA and security services in preserving law and order | 41.5 | 32.5 | 57.0 |
| Israeli re-occupation of PA areas | 23.3 | 32.5 | 7.0 |
| Some groups exploit the political situation to bypass law and order | 33.1 | 32.0 | 35.0 |
| No answer | 2.1 | 3.0 | 1.0 |

Q15. Do you think the President (Abu Mazen) is doing a good job as President of the PNA?

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|-----------|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| | N= 1199 | N= 759 | N= 440 |
| Good | 28.7 | 29.8 | 26.8 |
| Average | 50.3 | 48.2 | 53.9 |
| Bad | 18.8 | 19.1 | 18.4 |
| No answer | 2.2 | 2.9 | 0.9 |

Q16. After 11 months 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= 1199 | N= 759 | N= 440 |
| To great extent | 8.4 | 9.7 | 6.1 |
| To certain extent | 44.8 | 46.1 | 42.5 |
| To a low extent | 30.9 | 28.5 | 35.2 |
| He didn't succeed at all | 13.9 | 13.4 | 14.8 |
| No answer | 2.0 | 2.3 | 1.4 |

Q17. What do you think about the political Situation of the Palestinian 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= 1199 | N= 759 | N= 440 |
| Better than it was before | 26.3 | 24.0 | 30.2 |
| Didn't change | 50.5 | 53.9 | 44.8 |
| Worse than it was before | 22.2 | 20.7 | 24.8 |
| No answer | 1.0 | 1.4 | 0.2 |

Q18. What do you think about the Economic conditions to the Palestinian 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= 1199 | N= 759 | N= 440 |
| Better than it was before | 23.0 | 21.1 | 26.4 |
| Didn't change | 45.1 | 49.5 | 37.5 |
| Worse than it was before | 30.8 | 27.9 | 35.7 |
| No answer | 1.1 | 1.5 | 0.4 |

Q19. There is a discussion within the political circles whether the Palestinian President has full control over the Palestinian internal situation , or that he is somewhat in control, or somewhat does not have control, or he does not have control at all, what do you think?

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|--|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| | N= 1199 | N= 759 | N= 440 |
| Full control on the internal situation | 5.2 | 5.3 | 5.0 |
| Somewhat control on the internal situation | 48.8 | 50.1 | 46.6 |
| Somewhat does not have control on the internal situation | 32.0 | 30.6 | 34.5 |
| Does not have control at all on the internal situation | 12.1 | 11.3 | 13.4 |
| No answer | 1.9 | 2.7 | 0.5 |

Q20. Some believe that a two state formula is the favored solution for the Arab-Israeli conflict, while others believe that historic Palestine can't be divided and thus the favored solution is a bi-national state on all of Palestine where Palestinians and Israeli enjoy equal representation and rights , which of these solutions would you prefer?

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|---|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| | N= 1199 | N= 759 | N= 440 |
| Two- state solution: an Israeli state and a Palestinian state | 55.1 | 55.6 | 54.3 |
| Bi –national state on all of historic Palestine | 20.3 | 23.2 | 15.2 |
| One Palestinian state * | 10.9 | 7.1 | 17.5 |
| No solution | 6.9 | 6.6 | 7.5 |
| Islamic state * | 2.8 | 3.3 | 1.8 |
| Others | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.0 |
| Don't know | 2.4 | 2.2 | 2.7 |
| No answer | 1.3 | 1.5 | 1.0 |

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

Q21. Which Palestinian Personality do you trust the most?

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| | N= 1199 | N= 759 | N= 440 |
| Abu Mazen | 15.5 | 17.9 | 11.4 |
| Marwan Barghouti | 7.8 | 8.0 | 7.3 |
| Mouhammad Dahlan | 5.8 | 1.1 | 13.9 |
| Mahmoud Azzahar | 5.8 | 4.7 | 7.5 |
| Esma'eel Hanieh | 2.4 | 1.3 | 4.3 |
| Mustafa Barghouti | 2.1 | 2.6 | 1.1 |
| Sa'eb I'rikat | 1.7 | 2.2 | 0.7 |
| Ahmad Sa'adat | 1.5 | 1.7 | 1.1 |
| Abu Ammar | 1.2 | 1.3 | 0.9 |
| Others | 18.5 | 18.6 | 18.4 |
| Don't Trust anyone | 31.1 | 32.8 | 28.2 |
| No answer | 6.6 | 7.8 | 5.2 |

- *The question was an open-ended one*

Q22. Which Palestinian Political or Religious factions do you trust the most?

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|------------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| | N= 1199 | N= 759 | N= 440 |
| Fateh | 38.9 | 38.2 | 40.2 |
| Hamas | 18.5 | 17.4 | 20.5 |
| Islamic Jihad | 4.4 | 5.0 | 3.4 |
| PFLP | 1.8 | 1.7 | 2.0 |
| PPP | 0.8 | 1.3 | 0.0 |
| Al Aqsa Brigades | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.5 |
| Fida | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| DFLP | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| Other Islamic Factions | 2.1 | 1.8 | 2.5 |
| Others | 2.1 | 2.2 | 1.8 |
| Don't Trust any one | 25.5 | 26.2 | 24.3 |
| No answer | 5.3 | 5.7 | 4.8 |

- *The question was an open-ended one*

Q23. Some believe that there is a need to have a third party alongside Hamas and Fatah Movements in the PLC elections, which, do you think, is the best structure for this party, a group of independent figures, a coalition between leftist parties or independent figures with leftist parties?

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|--|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| | N= 1199 | N= 759 | N= 440 |
| Group of Independent Figures | 40.2 | 37.5 | 44.8 |
| Coalition between leftist parties | 9.5 | 11.5 | 6.1 |
| Independent figures with leftist parties | 11.9 | 12.6 | 10.7 |
| No need for a third party | 26.4 | 25.0 | 28.9 |
| No answer | 12.0 | 13.4 | 9.5 |

Q24. According to your viewpoint, who is better to choose Fatah candidates to the PLC elections; is it Fatah Central Committee or the bases inside Fatah Movement?

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|-----------------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| | N= 1199 | N= 759 | N= 440 |
| Fatah Central Committee | 29.7 | 29.4 | 30.2 |
| Bases inside Fatah Movement | 45.5 | 44.5 | 47.0 |
| No answer | 24.8 | 26.1 | 22.8 |

Q25. Hamas will participate for the first time in the PLC elections. Do you believe this is a positive or negative step or maybe you think it will have no impact on the interests of the Palestinian people?

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|--|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| | N= 1199 | N= 759 | N= 440 |
| Positive step | 73.1 | 68.2 | 81.4 |
| Negative step | 11.3 | 15.2 | 4.8 |
| No impact on interests of the Palestinian people | 11.1 | 12.5 | 8.6 |
| No answer | 4.5 | 4.1 | 5.2 |

Q26. If and when Hamas becomes part of the PLC, do you expect it to abide by the decisions agreed upon by the majority of the PLC member's even if such decisions contradict with Hamas policies?

| | Total | West Bank | Gaza |
|--|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| | N= 1199 | N= 759 | N= 440 |
| Expect it to abide the decisions agreed upon | 61.3 | 58.6 | 65.9 |
| Reject the decisions agreed upon | 28.8 | 32.0 | 23.2 |
| No answer | 9.9 | 9.4 | 10.9 |