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مركز العالم العربي للبحوث والتنمية
Arab World For Research & Development

Palestinian Youth: Politics, Information and Media Results of an Opinion Poll

**Youth lifestyles, values, communication and sources of information,
political and social attitudes, expectations and partisan issues**

**Publication Date:
11 June 2008**

Field work: 24-26 May 2008

**Sample Size: 1200 Young Palestinians (16-25 years) in the West Bank & Gaza
Margin of error: ± 3**

AWRAD - Arab World for Research & Development
Ramallah – Gaza, Palestine
Tele-fax: 00970-2-2950957/8
E-mail: awrad@awrad.org
Website: www.awrad.org

- **For more information, please contact Team Leader - Dr. Nader Said.**
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One: Introduction

The Arab World for Research and Development, (AWRAD) conducted a specialized opinion poll May 24-26 on the status of Palestinian youth and their political participation. A representative sample of 1200 Palestinian young women and men (16-25 years old) representing all districts in the West Bank and Gaza was interviewed. This poll is part of a study that AWRAD has launched to address youth issues and their social and political participation. The results of this poll will be incorporated in the study, which seeks to understand the internal and external factors that affect the participation of youth in social, economic and political life. In particular, the study also seeks to assess how youth view political parties, especially the Fateh movement. More importantly, the study will provide political parties and youth groups an opportunity to reassess their approaches and tools in involving Palestinian youth.

Two: Highlights

This poll shows the following significant findings and trends:

- **61% of the youth intend to vote in any upcoming national election.**
- **70% describe themselves as politically (inactive) or (nearly inactive).**
- **73% oppose discussing internal politics and parties in mosques.**
- **88% oppose the use of religion in election campaigns.**
- **53% say that they will vote for Fateh; 28% say that they will vote for Hamas.**
- **74% of Fateh youth support the convening of the Sixth Congress before the end of the year.**
- **35% of the youth say that their parents make decisions on their behalf.**
- **30% of the youth smoke Argela (water-pipe); 37% of the males and 12% of the females.**
- **54% of the youth use the internet.**
- **50% of Gaza youth and 43% of West Bank youth do not use the internet.**
- **Ma'an Electronic News Website is the most popular among youth, followed by Al-Quds Newspaper Website, Dunia Al Watan, and Firas Press Website.**
- **Al-Jazeera is the most watched TV station for news, followed by MBC, Palestine, Al Aqsa, and Al Arabeya.**
- **Ajyal Radio station is the most listened to station by youth, followed by Al Aqsa Radio, Quran Station, Marah, and Gaza F.M.**
- **47% of the youth say that they do not read newspapers or magazines.**

Three: Analysis of Results

Section One: Life Style

The poll showed the following results regarding the relationship between youth, education, employment, income, family and smoking:

1. Education:

- Approximately 60% of the youth are connected to the educational system. About one third of them (32%) are high school students, and 23% are university students.
- In addition, 5% of the respondents stated that they work and study at the same time.
- In total, 82% of the youth are full-time students, while 17% are part-time.
- The percentage of full-time students in Gaza (78%) is higher than the West Bank (88%).
- More female students (84%) are enrolled on a full-time basis than male students (80%).
- The majority (70%) of those who are not enrolled in the educational system at the present time had either dropped out of school (40%) or did not enroll in the university after completion of their high-school diploma (30%).
- About 6% enrolled in university but had to drop out, and 25% had already completed their university degree.
- More male respondents (45%) said they dropped out of school than female respondents (35%).
- At the same time, approximately 30% of the female respondents said they had attained a university degree, while only 20% of the male respondents said the same.

2. Employment:

- Around 17% of the respondents said they are employed, and 15% said they are unemployed.
- Among those who declared that they are employed, 65% said they are full-time, while 35% said they are part-time.
- Differences exist between Gaza and the West Bank: approximately 20% of the West Bank youth said they are employed compared to 13% in Gaza.
- At the same time, 19% of the Gaza youth said they were unemployed, compared with 12% among West Bank youth.
- In addition, 68% of the employed youth in the West Bank work full-time, compared with 59% of the Gaza employed youth.
- Gender is a significant factor in employment; 25% of the male respondents said they are employed, compared to 8% of the female respondents.

- This is partly due to the fact that more females are enrolled in university. It is also related to marriage, since 29% of the female respondents said they were married, while 12% of their male counterparts said the same.
- It is, however, interesting to note that among working males, 63% are full-time, while among female workers, 72% are full-time.
- 31% of the youth say that they face obstacles accessing the job market.
- The most significant obstacle is defined by 57% as (lack of jobs in the market). In addition, 27% said that the main obstacle is (discrimination).
- About 10% cited (lack of experience), while 7% cited (partisan affiliation) as the main obstacle.

3- Household Income:

- About 38% of the youth respondents said their household monthly income is less than 1000 NIS (about \$300).
- Half of the respondents said their household income ranges between 1000-3000 NIS (\$300-\$900). Only 10% said their household income is between 3001-5000 NIS. Less than 3% say that their family income is greater than 5000 NIS (\$1500).
- The gap between the West Bank and Gaza is significant. While 26% of the West Bank youth say their household income is less than 1000 NIS, 59% of the Gaza youth say that (33 points more), indicating higher poverty rates in Gaza.

4- Living Arrangements:

- A vast majority of young Palestinians (16-25) live with their families. The rest live alone, or with friends, or in dorms.
- It is interesting to find there is no difference between West Bank and Gaza youth, or between male and female youth in that respect.

5- Smoking:

- The results show that more youth smoke Argela (water-pipe) than cigarettes.
- About 18% of the respondents say they smoke cigarettes, with a 6% difference between Gaza (14%) and the West Bank (20%).
- One quarter of the youth say they smoke Argela (4% always and 21% sometimes).
- Argela smoking is more widespread among West Bank youth (31%) than Gaza youth (14%) indicating a gap in income and the availability of entertainment facilities in the two regions. This finding could also indicate more conservatism in Gaza than in the West Bank.
- Gender is highly correlated with smoking habits, where males are more prone to smoke than females.
- The data show that 30% of the male youth smoke, while only 4% of the female youth do the same.

- The gap, while existing, is not as large when it comes to smoking Argela. About 37% of the male youth say they smoke Argela, compared with 12% among female youth.

Section Two: Values

Palestinian youth were questioned about a number of social and political values that relate to gender, family relations, religion and politics.

1- Gender Relations:

- The results show a division among respondents in relation to this issue, with a dominantly “progressive” set of values.
- 61% of the respondents say that a “husband and wife are equal partners in a family and should be equal partners in decision making.”
- 8% say that “each one of them should only decide in his or her field of specialization.”
- 19% say that a husband should respect the views of his wife but should be the final decision maker.
- Approximately 11% say the “man is the head of household and his decisions should be obeyed.”
- Less than one percent thinks that a woman should take all the decisions.
- There is some difference between West Bank and Gaza youth in this regard. 14% of the Gaza youth say that the man should be the final decision maker. This view is shared by 10% of the West Bank youth. About 63% of West Bank youth say that a man and a woman should be equal, compared to 58% of the Gaza youth.
- Gender is a major factor in explaining views on this issue. Over 72% of the female youth think that a woman and a man are equal partners in decision making, while 50% of their male counterparts think the same way (22 point gap).
- 25% of the male respondents think that a husband should respect his wife but be the final decision maker. This is compared to 13% among female respondents (12 point difference).
- 16% of male respondents say that a husband's decision should always be obeyed compared to 6% among female respondents (10 point difference).

2- Parents-Youth Relations

- The results show a relatively “harmonious” relationship between the respondents and their parents. The majority (58%) say that they “make their own decision but after consulting with parents.”
- Results also show that 7% say they make their own decisions even if their parents disagree.
- In contrast, the data shows that 16% of the youth say their “parents make decisions after they consult with them.” Approximately 19% say they obey their parents on all issues.

- The gap between the West Bank and Gaza is significant, where 25% of the Gaza youth say they obey their parents on all issues, compared with 15% among the West Bank youth.
- 61% of West bank youth say they make their own decisions, but after consulting with parents. This is compared with 53% among Gaza youth.
- It was interesting to find minor gaps between males and females in their views in this regard. About 19% of the female youth say their parents make decisions on their behalf but after consulting with them, compared with 13% among male youth.
- 4% of the female youth say they make their own decisions regardless of their parents, compared with 10% among male youth.

3- Political views:

- Relating to the influence of parents on youth's political views, the results show that more youth (39%) have political views that differ from those of their parents, than those who said that they have similar political views as their parents (28%).
- However, 20% of the youth said that they both influence each other on political issues.
- About 9% declared that their parents have an influence on their political views, whereas 5% said that they have an influence over their parents' political views.
- Again, the gap between the West Bank and Gaza is wide, where 36% of Gaza youth said that they have similar political views as their parents. In the West Bank 22% said that they have similar views with parents (14 point gap).

4- Religion and Politics:

The majority of respondents agree that religion and internal Palestinian and partisan politics must be separated. They agree that religion should not be used to further one political agenda over another.

- Most of the respondents (60%) agree that internal politics and parties should not be discussed in mosques. In addition, 13% agreed "to some extent".
- A quarter of the respondents agree that partisan and internal politics should be discussed in the mosques.
- The vast majority (82%) also agrees with the statement that "every Palestinian has the right to support what ever party they choose, and still be respected as a Muslim." In addition, 9% agree "to some extent." Only 7% say that they disagree with this statement.
- 49% of youth "respect" the views of the Imam of mosque in terms of which political party deserves support.
- When asked about religion as a tool to influence voting for elections, the majority (67%) agreed that religion should not be a means to influence who to vote for. In addition, 11% agreed "to some extent." Only 20% believe that religion should be used to influence voting.

- However, respondents express a great deal of respect to religion as a tool to govern all aspects of life (social, economic and political). 81% agreed that religion should govern all aspects of life. In addition, 11% agreed “to some extent.” In contrast, 6% disagreed.
- If taken in its entirety, this data shows respect for religion as part of society's tradition and as a source of legislation, but not as a tool for “partisan politics” and confinement of youth in traditional family relations. If asked about the principles of human rights, most youth also agree these must be respected.
- There is a gap between respondents in the West Bank and respondents in Gaza. While Gaza youth have more respect to religion, they are less supportive of mixing religion and partisan politics. For example, 65% of Gaza youth believe that partisan politics shouldn't be discussed in the mosque, compared to 57% West Bank youth. In addition, 89% of Gaza youth feel that a Muslim should be respected regardless of his/her political views. This compares to 78% among West Bank youth.
- Male youth are less supportive of discussing politics in the mosque than their female counterparts. 56% of the female youth say that they agree that politics should not be discussed in mosques, while 64% of male youth say the same.

Section Three: Communications and Sources of information

1- Internet use:

- The internet has become a major source of information for youth. Still, the rates are still far lower than regional and international usage rates.
- The poll shows that 46% of the youth say they do not use the internet at all. This rate is higher in Gaza, where 50% say that they do not use the internet, compared to 43% in the West Bank.
- About one fifth of the respondents (21%) say they use the internet on a daily basis. More males use the internet daily (26%) than females (16%).
- 19% stated that they use the internet more than once a week, and 14% once a week.

2- Internet Sites:

- Ma'an news website is the most popular news website among youth users (with 37%). Followed by Al Quds newspaper website (13%), Dunia Al Watan (9%) and Firas Press (6%).
- Other websites as Palestine, Palestine Now Agency and Al Kufiyeh Information Network received between 3%-4% as favorite news websites.
- Viewing the news websites is regionally specific. While Ma'an is the most popular in both regions, it is much more popular among West Bank youth (44%) than Gaza youth (27%). Al Quds website is almost non-existent in Gaza, yet receiving 21% in the West Bank.
- In Gaza, Dunia Al Watan, Firas Press, Palestine and Al Kufiyeh are much more popular than in the West Bank.

- Gender is also influential. More males (42%) go to Ma'an than females (30%). In contrast, many more females (14%) go to Dunia Al Watan than males (5%).
- When asked about the most frequent socialization site they use, the majority of respondents (51%) stated that they use a messenger (chat) service. Another 5% use Facebook, and 38% stated that they do not use any socialization site.
- Internet usage for socialization is correlated with gender, where 51% of female youth say that they do not use any internet websites to socialize, while 27% of the males say the same.
- Over 62% of the male respondents use messenger/chat services, compared with 40% of the female respondents.

3- TV:

- Al Jazeera TV station is the most favorable news channel for 43% of the youth.
- It is followed by MBC (15%), Palestine (14%) and Al-Aqsa (12%).
- They were followed by Al Arabeyah at 8% and Al Manar at (4%).
- In terms of their favorite TV shows, series and movies were the favorite for 45% of the youth, followed by news (21%), documentaries (18%) and music (16%).
- The majority of female respondents (52%) say that their favorite shows are series and movies, compared with 38% of the male respondents. In contrast, 27% of the male respondents say that their favorite shows are the news, compared to 14% among female respondents.

4- Radio Stations:

- When asked about their favorite Palestinian radio station, Ajyal was on top of the list with 20%, followed by Al Aqsa radio station (11%) in the second place. Again, these radio stations are very regionally specific, where 34% of West Bank youth cited Ajyal as their favorite station, with almost no mention of the station in Gaza. In contrast, Al Aqsa received 26% rating in Gaza, with very limited audience in the West Bank.
- Radio Holy Koran comes in the third place and receives 7% (a station that only broadcasts Koran and other religious programs). Followed by Marah Radio station with 6% in the fourth place. Gaza FM comes in the fifth place, sixth is Amwaj, in the eighth place comes Angam and Voice of Palestine comes in the ninth place.

5- Newspapers

- A high percentage of youth (47%) do not read newspapers or magazines.
- 45% of the youth say they read newspapers or magazines occasionally, and 9% say that they read papers on a daily basis.
- Al Quds newspaper is the most popular among those who read the papers with 52% of respondents saying they read it.

- 26% indicated that they read Al Ayyam newspaper, followed by 10% who read Al Hayat newspaper.
- Al Resalah and Palestine Today (two Hamas papers, both are banned from circulation in WB) are read by 7% and 5% of the youth, respectively.

6- Sources of political information:

- Of all available sources of information on political issues, 47% of the youth rely more on television (51% in the West Bank and 41% in Gaza).
- Friends are also another source of information: 18% of the respondents say they rely on their friends for information on political issues.
- In addition, 13% of the youth say that they rely on parents for political information.
- Internet comes in fourth place as a source of information, where 10% rely on it.
- Political party leaders come in fifth place as source of information with 7%.
- Only 3% say that they rely on the mosque for their political information.
- Teachers come in last place with less than 2%.

7- Most Effective Communicator

Youth were questioned about the Palestinian personality who they perceive as most efficient communicator, regardless of their political views.

- Most youth (52%) still think that the late Yasser Arafat is the most effective as a political speaker.
- He was followed by Ismaeel Haneyyeh who receives 21% of the youth vote (30% in Gaza and 15% in the West Bank).
- Marwan Barghouthi receives 9% as an effective political speaker (with 11% in the West Bank and 5% in Gaza).

Section Four: Political Activism

- The poll shows that 41% of youth define themselves as politically inactive.
- In contrast, 30% say that they are active or somewhat active in politics.
- About 29% say that they are a little active.
- Youth in Gaza define themselves as more active than their counterparts in the West Bank. About 37% of the Gaza youth defined themselves as politically active, compared with 26% in the West Bank.
- Gender is also important: 36% of the male respondents define themselves as active or somewhat active, compared with 24% among female respondents.
- If elections took place any time soon, 61% of the youth confirm that they will vote, while 15% say that they might vote. Approximately 22% say they will not vote.
- Around 30% confirm that they will work for a campaign, while 16% say that they might do that. In contrast, 53% say they will not work for any candidate's campaign.

- Male respondents are more inclined to confirm that they will vote (67%) than female respondents (55%). Seventeen percent of the female respondents say they might participate, compared with 13% among male respondents.

Section Five: Political Support

1- Voting Patterns (lists):

- If PLC elections took place today, Fateh will receive 36% of the youth vote. The Change and Reform list (Hamas) will receive 16% of the vote. Over 35% of the youth are “undecided” or “will not participate.”
- All other lists combined will receive about 12% of the vote.
- **If we take into consideration the previous voting patterns of those who say that they are undecided, Fateh will receive 53% of the youth vote, while Hamas will receive 28%.**
- **Other democratic groups will receive 15% of the youth vote, while other Islamist groups (Hizb Tahrir and Islamic Jihad) will receive about 5%.**
- Hamas is more popular in Gaza (21%) than in the West Bank (13%). It is also more popular among females (18%) than males (15%).
- Consistent with previous findings, the most interesting finding is the significant gap in support for Fateh, where 43% of the male respondents say they support Fateh, compared to only 29% of the female respondents (14 point gap).

2- Voting Patterns (Presidential Candidates)

- The most popular candidate among youth is Marwan Bargouthi with (21%) support. Isameel Haneyyeh receives 16% support and Mahmoud Abbas (12%) of the support. Mustafa Bargouthi receives (5%) support, followed immediately by Mohamed Dahlan (4%).
- The three Fateh candidates in the list (Marwan, Abbas, and Dahalan) receive a total of 37% of the support, while Hamas three candidates (Haneyyeh, Zahhar and Duweek) receive 18% support.
- It must be noted that almost 42% of the West Bank respondents were (undecided) or say that they will not vote, compared with 26% in Gaza. This leads to the conclusion that shifting in voting patterns is more expected in the West Bank than in Gaza.
- **It must be noted that about 36% are “undecided” or say they will not vote. If this is taken into consideration, all Fateh candidates will receive 55%, while Hamas candidates will receive 31%.**
- **All other independent candidates will receive 15%.**
- **Region is a major explaining factor, where Fateh candidates receive 50% of the vote in Gaza, while they receive 57% of the vote in the West Bank.**
- **Hamas candidates receive 38% of the Gaza vote, while they receive 27% of the West Bank vote.**

3- Evaluation of ministerial cabinets:

- 21% evaluated the performance of Salam Fayyad's cabinet as good, compared to 24% who evaluated the performance of Ismaeel Haneyyeh's cabinet as good
- While 38% evaluated Fayyad's cabinet as weak, 44% evaluated Haneyyeh's cabinet as weak.

4- Political leanings:

- In general, youth feel that they identify more with Fateh (46%) than Hamas (22%).
- Male respondents identify more with Fateh (52%), than do female respondents (39%). Whereas female respondents identify more with Hamas (25%), compared to 19% of male respondents who support Hamas.
- The results of the poll show significant results in terms of the willingness to vote for Fateh, under certain conditions.
- If Fateh had internal elections and a new, “clean” leadership was elected, 32% of the respondents who are currently not leaning towards the movement might consider voting for Fateh. Most of those respondents were from Gaza (40%). Twenty-five percent were not willing to vote for Fateh even after such reforms.
- Another condition was that Fateh adopt a political program that stresses the right of the Palestinians to build their state on all of the West Bank and Gaza, with no compromises. A majority (50%) of the youth who do not support Fateh are willing to vote for the movement under such a scenario. In addition to 22% who might be willing to vote for Fateh.
- In contrast 16% declared that they will not vote for Fateh under any conditions.

Section Six: Youth involvement in Fateh Movement:

Fateh supporters were asked a number of questions regarding the movement. The following are the responses of Fateh supporters only.

- Activism among Fateh supporters

- 62% of the Fateh youth describe themselves as active or somewhat active in the movement. In contrast, 38% describe themselves as inactive.
- More youth in Gaza describe themselves as active or somewhat active (67%), than in the West Bank (59%).
- Males are much more active (74%) than females (45%) in the movement.

- The Sixth Congress

- Respondents stress the importance of convening the sixth congress before the end of this year, where 74% support its convening, with higher rates in Gaza (84%) compared to the West Bank (69%).
- The majority of respondents (50%) believe that the sixth conference will lead to the solidification of the Fateh movement. As much as 37% expect that this

conference will not lead to any real changes. In contrast, 5% expect that the congress will lead to a split within Fateh.

- Evaluation of Fateh Institutions:

- In general, the majority of respondents (69%) think that Fateh should change its strategies in dealing with youth. In Gaza there is a stronger (84%) feeling towards this change.

The respondents were also asked to evaluate specific organizations within Fateh:

- The Central committee:

- 39% of the youth evaluated Fateh in the central committee as good; most of the good evaluations come from Gaza (50%).
- In contrast 15% evaluated it as weak.

- The revolutionary council:

- 34% evaluated Fateh in the revolutionary council as good and the same percentage evaluated it as average.
- Whereas, 19% evaluated it as weak.

- The youth committees:

- The majority (58%) of youth evaluate Fateh in the youth committees as good and 26% as average.
- Further, 10% of the respondents evaluated it as weak.

- Women committees:

- 37% of the youth evaluate Fateh in the women committees as good and 34% as average, whereas, 19% evaluated their performance as weak.

- Fateh NGOs:

- 32% evaluate the Fateh NGOs as good and the same percentage as average.
- In contrast 22% evaluated them as weak.

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**Palestinian Youth (16-25 years)
(Politics and Information)**

Results of an Opinion Poll

(Tables)

Field work: 24-26 May 2008

Publication Date: 11 June 2008

Sample Size: 1200 young Palestinians in the West Bank & Gaza
Margin of error: $\pm 3\%$

Section One: Socio-Economic Background

1. What do you do in life at the present time?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
School student	31.8	32.1	31.3
University student	22.6	22.1	23.4
Employed & Student	4.9	5.5	4.0
Employed	17.1	19.7	12.7
Unemployed	14.7	12.4	18.5
Other	8.8	8.1	10.0

2. If you are a student, are you a?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Full time student	81.6	78.2	87.5
Part-time student	16.9	20.0	11.4
Other	1.5	1.8	1.1

3. If you are not a student at the present time, did you...?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Drop out of school	40.2	40.4	39.9
Finish high school but didn't continue to college	29.7	27.1	33.7
Enroll in college but had to drop out	5.7	6.1	5.1
Complete your college degree	24.5	26.4	21.3

4. If you work, are you..?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Full time employee	65.1	67.6	58.9
Part-time employee	34.9	32.4	41.1

5. Do you have any problems in your access for job opportunities?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Yes	31.2	30.5	32.5
No	12.3	12.6	11.7
Not applicable	56.5	56.9	55.8

6. If yes, what are the main obstacles?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Lack of jobs in the market	56.6	58.2	54.1
Partisan affiliation	6.5	2.7	12.6
Social discrimination	26.8	27.3	25.9
Lack of experience	10.1	11.8	7.4

7. What is your family's average monthly income?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Less than 1000 NIS	38.4	26.0	58.7
Between 1000-3000 NIS	49.4	57.1	36.6
Between 3001-5000 NIS	9.6	12.8	4.2
Over 5000 NIS	2.7	4.0	0.4

8. Where do you live?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
With family	95.7	96.1	95.1
Dorm	1.3	1.6	0.7
With friends	0.6	0.9	0.0
Alone	2.4	1.3	4.2

9. Do you smoke cigarettes?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Yes	17.6	19.7	14.1
No	82.4	80.3	85.9

10. Do you smoke Argelah (Water Pipe)?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
No	75.5	69.3	85.9
Sometimes	20.8	25.6	12.7
A lot	3.7	5.1	1.3

Section Two: Social and Political Views

11. Please indicate which of the following statements on the status of women is closest to your conviction:

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
A man is the head of the family and his decisions should be obeyed.	11.3	9.9	13.8
A husband should respect the views of his wife, but should be the final decision maker.	19.0	19.4	18.3
Each one of them should only decide in his or her field of specialization (a woman on household issues and a man on public issues).	8.3	7.6	9.6
A husband and wife are equal partners in a family and should share decision-making equally.	60.7	62.5	57.8
The wife should make the decisions	0.6	0.7	0.4

12. Thinking of your role in your family, please indicate which statement comes closest to your circumstance?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
I obey my parents on issues like school, choice of job and marriage	18.5	14.8	24.6
My parents make decisions on my behalf but they first consult with me	16.1	15.0	18.1
I make my own decisions but after I consult with my parents	58.4	61.4	53.3
I make my own decisions even if my parents don't agree	7.0	8.8	4.0

13. Thinking of your political views, please indicate which statement comes closest to your situation:

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
I have similar political views as my parents	27.5	22.3	35.9
I have my own views that differ from my parents	38.5	42.7	31.5
My parents have influence on my political views, but we have different views	8.6	8.3	9.2
I have influence on my parents' political views	5.4	5.9	4.5
We both influence each other on political issues	20.1	20.7	19.0

14. In terms of the role of religion in politics, do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

I do not think that internal politics and parties should be discussed in the mosque.

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Agree	59.8	56.7	65.0
Somewhat agree	13.3	15.3	10.0
Do not agree	25.4	25.8	24.8
Don't know/No opinion	1.4	2.1	0.2

Every Palestinian has the right to support whatever political party they choose, and still be respected as a Muslim

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Agree	81.7	77.5	88.6
Somewhat agree	9.3	11.9	4.9
Do not agree	7.2	7.9	6.0
Don't know/No opinion	1.9	2.8	0.4

I respect the views of my Imam, including which political parties deserve support.

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Agree	48.6	44.9	54.7
Somewhat agree	21.7	24.4	17.2
Do not agree	27.0	26.8	27.5
Don't know/No opinion	2.7	3.9	0.7

Religion should not be used as a means of influencing who we vote for

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Agree	67.1	66.8	67.6
Somewhat agree	11.0	12.7	8.3
Do not agree	20.3	18.2	23.9
Don't know/No opinion	1.5	2.3	0.2

The Koran and Hadith should govern all aspects of life: economic, social, political.

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Agree	81.4	77.1	88.6
Somewhat agree	11.4	13.8	7.4
Do not agree	6.1	7.4	4.0
Don't know/No opinion	1.1	1.7	0.0

Section Three: Information and Media

15. Do you use the Internet?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Yes, daily	21.1	21.8	19.9
Yes, more than once a week	18.6	20.6	15.4
Once a week	14.4	14.4	14.3
No	45.9	43.3	50.4

16. If yes, what is your favorite news website?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Ma'an	37.0	43.5	26.8
Al-Quds Newspaper Website	13.3	20.9	1.4
Dunia Al Watan	8.7	5.8	13.2
Firas Press	5.5	0.9	12.7
Palestine	4.8	2.3	8.6
Palestine-Now Agency	3.5	2.9	4.5
Al Kufiyeh Information Network	3.5	0.3	8.6
Palestinian Media Center	3.4	4.3	1.8
Palestine News	3.2	2.6	4.1
Palestine Network for Dialogue	2.3	0.6	5.0
Ramatan Agency	2.3	0.9	4.5
Non-Palestinian sites	2.1	3.5	0.0
Sama News	2.1	1.2	3.6
Fateh Voice news	1.9	2.0	1.8
Wafa Agency	1.6	2.0	0.9
Free Palestine	1.6	1.2	2.3
Pal Voice	1.1	1.7	0.0
Panet (Panorama online)	0.9	1.4	0.0
Palestine Monitor	0.7	1.2	0.0
Palestine Legal Gate	0.4	0.6	0.0
Palestinian Students Forum	0.2	0.3	0.0

17. What internet site do you use most frequently for socialization?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
I don't use any socialization sites	38.3	33.9	44.8
Facebook	4.3	6.2	1.5
My Space	1.2	2.0	0.0
Hi-5	1.2	1.0	1.5
Messenger (chat)	51.4	52.6	49.6
Another regional site	1.4	2.0	0.6
Another Palestinian site	2.3	2.4	2.1

18. What is your favorite TV station for news?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Al Jazeera	43.3	46.1	38.7
MBC	14.5	19.3	6.5
Palestine	13.8	12.0	16.8
Al-Aqsa	12.0	6.4	21.3
Al Arabiyah	7.9	6.8	9.6
Al Manar	4.3	4.5	3.8
CNN	0.8	0.4	1.6
Abu Dhabi	0.6	0.7	0.4
Other	2.8	3.7	1.3

19. Do you watch movies on TV?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
No	19.4	14.2	28.2
Once a week	31.5	32.2	30.4
More than once a week (2-6 times)	31.3	32.8	28.9
On a daily basis	17.7	20.9	12.5

20. What are you favorite TV programs?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Series and movies	44.9	50.6	35.4
News	20.5	14.0	31.5
Documentary	18.4	15.3	23.6
Music	16.1	20.1	9.5

21. What is your favorite radio station in Palestine?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Ajyal	20.4	33.6	0.5
Al Aqsa	11.1	0.2	26
Radio Holy Koran	6.5	8.1	4.0
Marah	6.1	4.3	8.8
Gaza FM	4.9	0.3	12.4
Amwaj	4.7	7.1	1.2
Angham	3.7	5.4	1.2
Voice of Palestine	3.1	2.5	4.2
Al Iradah	2.8	3.5	1.6
Alwan	2.7	0.3	6.7
Al Balad	2.5	4.1	0.0
Bethlehem 2000	2.3	3.8	0.0
Al Nawras	2.2	2.9	1.2
Al-Manar	2.2	0.6	11.6
Al Sha'b	2.1	0.2	4.9
Freedom Forum	1.9	1.8	2.1
Nablus FM	1.6	2.6	0.0
Farah	1.6	1.8	1.2
Nagham	1.5	2.5	0.0
Al Naqab Voice	1.5	2.0	0.7
Hebron	1.4	2.2	0.2
Al Ahlam	1.2	2.0	0.0
Dream	1.1	1.7	0.2
Annajah Voice	0.9	1.5	0.0
Al Manarah	0.8	0.5	1.4
Kul Ennas	0.8	1.4	0.0
Al Iman	0.6	0.2	1.1
Al Buraq	0.5	0.0	0.8
Mawwal	0.4	0.6	0.0
Jerusalem	0.4	0.0	0.9
Al Sharq	0.4	0.6	0.0
Isis	0.3	0.5	0.0
Moon	0.3	0.5	0.0
Al Rayah	0.3	0.5	0.0
Al Badeyeh	0.1	0.2	0.0
Ashams	0.1	0.2	0.0

22. Do you read newspapers or Magazines?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Yes, daily	8.5	10.3	5.4
Yes, occasionally	44.9	47.5	40.4
No	46.7	42.2	54.2

23. If you read a newspapers/magazines, please indicate which one do you read the most?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Al-Quds	51.8	66.2	21.6
Al Ayyam	25.8	25.3	26.9
Al Hayat	10.4	6.4	18.8
Al Resalah	6.5	1.1	17.8
Palestine Today	5.4	0.9	14.9

24. Thinking of your views of political issues, please indicate what sources of information you rely on in terms of political issues?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Television	47.1	50.5	41.3
My friends	18.4	20.4	15.2
My parents	13.2	12.6	14.3
Internet	10.0	8.4	12.5
Political Parties leaders	6.5	5.2	8.7
The mosque	2.9	1.3	5.6
My teachers	1.8	1.5	2.5

25. Thinking of how effective you think they are as political speakers and communicators, more than whether you agree with their message, which one of the following Palestinian leaders is the most effective?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Yaser Arafat	51.5	53.8	47.7
Ismaeel Haneyyeh	21.1	15.4	30.6
Marwan Barghouthi	8.6	10.9	4.9
Mahmoud Abbas	7.8	7.3	8.5
Mustafa Barghouthi	4.6	3.9	5.8
Ahmad Sa'dat	2.5	3.1	1.3
Saeb Ereekat	2.1	2.9	0.9
Hanan Ashrawi	1.1	1.6	0.2
Yaser Abed Rabo	0.7	1.1	0.0

Section Four: Prospects for Political Activism

26. Do you consider yourself.. ?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Active in politics	9.2	6.3	14.1
Somewhat active	20.9	19.4	23.2
A little active	28.9	31.0	25.4
Not active	41.0	43.3	37.3

27. It is likely that there will be an election or a referendum in the next year in Palestine.

Will you attend political events?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Yes	45.7	40.7	54.0
Maybe	19.4	22.4	14.3
No	33.4	34.4	31.7
Don't Know	1.5	2.4	0.0

Will you follow the news?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Yes	72.8	67.8	81.0
Maybe	14.5	17.9	8.9
No	11.2	11.9	10.0
Don't Know	1.5	2.4	0.0

Will you discuss it with friends and family?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Yes	63.3	59.5	69.6
Maybe	19.6	23.1	13.8
No	15.7	15.4	16.3
Don't Know	1.3	2.0	0.2

Will you vote?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Yes	61.0	58.2	65.6
Maybe	15.0	18.7	8.9
No	22.2	20.6	25.0
Don't Know	1.8	2.5	0.4

Will you work for a candidate?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Yes	29.8	22.7	41.7
Maybe	15.5	18.7	10.0
No	53.0	56.1	48.0
Don't Know	1.7	2.5	0.2

You will not be involved at all?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Yes	17.2	16.4	18.5
Maybe	10.5	12.3	7.6
No	68.4	65.0	73.9
Don't Know	3.9	6.3	0.0

Section Five: Political Support and Affiliation

28. If PLC elections took place today, which one of the following groups/lists would you vote for?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Fateh	36.4	36.4	36.4
Change and Reform (Hamas)	16.3	13.3	21.4
Independent Palestine	3.3	3.9	2.5
Martyr Abu Ali Mustafa	2.8	3.2	2.2
Islamic Jihad	2.5	2.1	3.1
Al Badil	0.7	0.4	1.1
Freedom and Social Justice	0.7	0.7	0.7
Third Way	0.7	0.3	1.3
Freedom and Independence	0.5	0.8	0.0
Martyr Abu Al Abbas	0.3	0.1	0.4
Hizb Tahreer	0.3	0.4	0.2
Social Justice	0.3	0.4	0.0
National Coalition for Justice and Democracy	0.2	0.3	0.0
I have not decided yet	17.0	20.6	10.9
Will not vote	18.1	17.2	19.6

29. If Presidential elections took place today, who would you vote for?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Marwan Bargouthi	21.3	23.3	17.9
Ismael Hanneyeh	15.5	11.1	22.8
Mahmoud Abbas	11.5	11.7	11.2
Mustafa Bargouthi	4.8	4.9	4.5
Muhamad Dahlan	4.2	0.5	10.3
Ahmad Sa'dat	2.5	2.7	2.2
Salam Fayad	1.7	1.5	2.0
Mahmoud Al Zahar	1.3	1.2	1.6
Azeez Duweek	1.3	1.3	1.1
I have not decided yet	17.5	22.7	8.7
I will not vote	18.5	19.1	17.7

30. How do you evaluate the ministerial cabinet headed by Salam Fayyad?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Good	21.1	18.1	26.1
Average	26.7	28.5	23.7
Weak	38.4	36.4	42.0
Don't know	13.8	17.0	8.3

31. How do you evaluate the ministerial cabinet headed by Ismael Hanneyeh?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Good	23.8	19.4	31.0
Average	20.6	21.6	19.0
Weak	43.6	43.3	44.2
Don't know	12.0	15.7	5.8

32. In general, do you describe yourself leaning towards Fateh, Hamas or other groups?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Fateh	45.9	47.0	44.0
Hamas	21.8	18.8	26.8
Other	32.3	34.1	29.2

33. (For those who selected Hamas or others only), If Fateh had internal elections and a new leadership was elected, would you vote for Fateh in a PLC elections?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Yes, if the new leadership is clean	31.6	25.9	40.3
Yes, if the new leadership is young	5.4	5.9	4.6
Not sure	16.9	18.4	14.7
No	25.3	24.3	26.9
Will not vote	20.7	25.4	13.4

34. (For those who selected Hamas or others only), If Fateh has a new political program that stresses the right of the Palestinians to build their state on the full West Bank and Gaza with no compromises on that, would you be willing to vote for the party if PLC elections took place?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Yes	50.4	46.1	57.6
Maybe	21.6	24.9	16.1
No	15.3	14.8	16.1
Will not vote	12.7	14.2	10.3

Section Six: Fateh Supporters Only

35. Do you consider yourself active inside Fateh?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Active	24.0	18.9	33.5
Somewhat active	37.7	39.9	33.5
Not active	38.4	41.2	33.0

36. Do you support the convening of the sixth internal congress before the end of this year?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Yes	74.0	68.7	83.9
No	10.2	9.7	11.1
Don't Know	15.8	21.6	5.0

37. Do you think that the sixth congress will lead to.....?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
The solidification of the Fateh movement	49.7	42.2	63.8
A split in Fateh movement	5.1	3.8	7.5
I don't expect any real changes	37.3	42.7	27.1
Don't Know	7.9	11.4	1.5

38. Do you think that Fateh should change its strategies in dealing with youth?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Yes	68.9	60.9	83.8
No	17.8	20.2	13.1
Don't Know	13.4	18.9	3.0

39. How do you evaluate the following bodies within the Fateh movement?

The Central committee

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Good	38.8	32.9	50.0
Average	36.7	39.1	32.3
Weak	15.3	14.0	17.7
Don't know	9.1	14.0	0.0

The Revolutionary council

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Good	35.0	27.2	49.5
Average	34.6	35.8	32.3
Weak	18.5	18.9	17.7
Don't know	12.0	18.1	0.5

The Youth Committees

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Good	58.3	54.4	65.7
Average	26.0	26.1	25.8
Weak	9.5	10.0	8.6
Don't know	6.2	9.4	0.0

The Women Committees

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Good	37.4	33.2	45.5
Average	34.1	32.3	37.4
Weak	19.0	19.9	17.2
Don't know	9.5	14.6	0.0

The Fateh NGOs

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Good	31.8	25.1	44.4
Average	32.2	31.3	33.8
Weak	22.3	23.2	20.7
Don't know	13.7	20.5	1.0

Section Severn: Prospects for the Future

40. How do you view the Palestinian future?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Very optimistic	8.3	6.3	11.6
Optimistic	51.2	49.5	54.0
Pessimistic	26.7	28.8	23.2
Very pessimistic	13.9	15.5	11.2

41. If you are pessimistic what is the reason most important reason out of the following for your feeling?

	Total (WB&G)	West Bank	Gaza
Deteriorating economical situation	36.8	35.0	40.8
The Israeli aggression and vicious policy	23.0	27.2	13.8
Social problems	8.8	8.7	9.2
The absence of political leadership	31.3	29.0	36.2



Results of an Opinion Poll

(Sample Distribution)

Field work: 24-26 June 2008

Publication Date: Wednesday, 11 June, 2008

Sample Size: 1200 Palestinians in the West Bank & Gaza

Margin of error: ± 3

Region	%	Type of locality	%	Refugee Status	%
West Bank	62.6	City	42.0	Refugee	42.7
Gaza Strip	34.4	Village- town	34.2	Non-refugee	57.3
Governorate	%	Camp	23.8	Education	%
Jenin	5.9	Gender	%	Up to 9 yrs	16.0
Tulkarm	4.8	Male	51.1	Secondary/Tawjihi (9-12 yrs)	20.2
Qalqilya	2.3	Female	48.9	More than Tawjihi	49.6
Nablus	9.4	Marital status	%	Household Income	%
Salfit	1.2	Single	78.4	Less than 1000 NIS	38.4
Tubas	1.2	Married	20.1	1000 – 3000 NIS	49.4
Ramallah	8.3	Others	1.4	3001 – 5000 NIS	9.6
Jerusalem	105	Age	%	More than 5000 NIS	2.7
Jericho	1.2	16 years old	10.3		
Bethlehem	4.8	17 years old	12.9		
Hebron	12.9	18 years old	12.6		
Jabalya	6.7	19 years old	8.8		
Gaza City	13.3	20 years old	8.2		
Deir al-Balah	5.3	21 years old	7.4		
Khan Younis	8.0	22 years old	10.2		
Rafah	4.0	23 years old	8.6		
		24 years old	9.3		
		25 years old	11.7		