



مركز العالم العربي للبحوث والتنمية
Arab World for Research & Development

Quality Research... Matters

The Day After Series

Press Release: Results of a Public Opinion Poll among Palestinians in the Gaza Strip

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Report #1: The Ceasefire and the Half-Full Glass

Highlights

- 60% of Gaza Palestinians are optimistic about the future.
- 78% of Gazans found the ceasefire agreement, announced on January 15, 2025, to be an acceptable package when considering its conditions as a whole.
- 75% of respondents do not trust that Israel will honor its obligations under the agreement.
- 69% of respondents are optimistic about the full implementation of the ceasefire agreement.
- 62% of respondents believe that Israel did not achieve its declared objectives in the war on Gaza.
- 91% of respondents expressed a positive view of Qatar's role in reaching a ceasefire agreement.
- 66% of respondents positively evaluate the role of the United Nations in supporting Palestinians during the conflict.

Introduction

Overview

Between January 24-26, 2025, Arab World for Research and Development (AWRAD) conducted a public opinion poll among 600 adult Palestinians residing in the Gaza Strip. This survey took place shortly after the ceasefire agreement between Hamas and Israel on January 15, 2025. Interviews were conducted face-to-face using computer-assisted personal interview (CAPI) technology, covering multiple locations including shelters, tented camps, and residential sites.

Key Poll Information

Survey Dates: 24-26 January 2025
Sample size: 600 adult Palestinians (aged 18 or more) from the Gaza Strip
Margin of error: $\pm 4\%$
Confidence level: 95%
Interviewing method: Computer-Assisted Personal Interviews (CAPI)

Results

Highlight 1: Future Prospects

- **Future:** This optimism towards the implementation of the agreement is contributing to overall optimism about the future, where 60% of Gaza Palestinians say that they are optimistic about the future.
- **Direction:** The present poll that conditions (56%) of respondents in Gaza believe that things in Palestine are heading in the right direction.

Highlight 2: Widespread Acceptance of the Ceasefire Agreement, with Distrust Toward Israeli Implementation of its Part of the Agreement

- **Ceasefire Agreement:** A significant majority (78%) of Gaza Palestinians find the ceasefire agreement announced on 15 January 2025 to be acceptable, while 22% consider it unacceptable. Support is notably higher among females (84%) compared to males (72%).
- **Optimism Levels:** Despite 15 months of violence, 69% of respondents remain optimistic—18% expressing strong optimism and 51% some optimism—that the agreement will be fully implemented. Conversely, 32% are pessimistic.
- **Trust in Meeting Commitments:** Three-quarters (75%) of respondents expressed distrust in Israel's commitment to upholding its obligations under the ceasefire agreement, while 25% indicated some level of trust. Conversely, two-thirds of respondents trust Hamas to fulfill its commitments under the agreement.
- **Perception of War Outcomes:** A majority (62%) believe that Israel failed to achieve its declared objectives in Gaza, whereas 37% believe it has succeeded.

Highlight 3: A Vast Majority of Gaza Palestinians View Qatar's Role in Achieving a Ceasefire Agreement Positively

- **Qatar's Role:** The vast majority (91%) perceive Qatar's role in brokering the ceasefire as positive or somewhat positive, with only 6% expressing a negative view.
- **Perceptions of Other Mediators:** Egypt and the United States are also regarded favorably for their roles in facilitating the agreement.
- **Trump's Perceived Role:** There is a notable belief that Donald Trump contributed to securing the ceasefire, with 63% stating that his election was highly helpful and 33% considering it somewhat helpful.

Highlight 4: 66% have positive view of the UN's role, while 40% feel the same about the Palestinian Authority's role

- **Qatar's Support:** Qatar ranks highest in terms of perceived support for Palestinians during the war, with 82% of respondents rating its efforts as positive or somewhat positive.
- **Other Key Actors:** The **United Arab Emirates** came in second with 74% approval. **Jordan** ranked third with 70% approval, followed by the UN with 66% approval, while Egypt followed with 61% approval.
- **Palestinian Authority (PA):** The Palestinian Authority (PA) received a 40% positive evaluation.

Methodology

- **Sample size:** 600 respondents (adults aged 18+)
- **Mode:** Face-to-face computer-assisted interviewing.
- **Method:** Stratified cluster sampling, with random walks and kish grids.
- **Coverage:** Four of the five Governorates. North Gaza Governorate was excluded due to mass displacement and destruction.
- **Sampling Frame:** OCHA, UNOSAT, Site Management Working Group, Oxford University "NowPop" project. Locality listings and borders from Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics 2023 Enumeration Map.
- **Margin of error:** $\pm 4\%$ at a 95% confidence level.

Background and Context

Data collection was conducted on days six and seven of the ceasefire, as people awaited Israel's withdrawal from Al Rasheed Street. A large segment of the population was in anticipation mode,

bracing for the first opportunity to return to their homes or reunite with their families. A field researcher described the atmosphere:

“It felt as if all the families in Gaza were waking up simultaneously, preparing for what seemed to be the most exhilarating journey of their lives—yet possibly the harshest, as they faced the reality of the war’s aftermath. The first half of the day was filled with excitement and hope, with chants and optimism rising as preparations for the return were underway. However, that anticipation quickly turned into deep disappointment, as it became clear that things might not go as expected; displaced individuals were prevented from returning on that first day. The sense of frustration was evident among people, many fearing that their hopes and dreams could be shattered at any moment.”

The overwhelming majority of Palestinians in Gaza who participated in this survey shared these mixed emotions—a complex blend of hope and resilience, counterbalanced by caution and growing anxiety about the future.

About the “Day After Series”

Given the significant transformations occurring in Palestine following the ceasefire, understanding public opinion is essential to shaping future developments. AWRAD will publish the results of its recent public opinion poll in a series of reports to help provide scientific and objective insights into Gaza’s evolving political, social, and economic landscape.

The first report examines the ceasefire agreement that was agreed on January 15, 2025. Upcoming reports in the series will address:

- **Accountability to Affected Populations, Sources of Information, Humanitarian Conditions, and Emergency Response**
- **Governance and Administration in Gaza**
- **Elections**

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