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|  | [Opinion Polls](http://home.birzeit.edu/dsp/opinionpolls/)  Poll No. 21, Part 2  Palestinian Legislative Election, Political Support & Presidential Election  (post-election survey)  **[ Analysis of Results ][** [**Detailed Results**](http://home.birzeit.edu/cds/opinionpolls/poll212/results.html) **][** [**Sample Distribution**](http://home.birzeit.edu/cds/opinionpolls/poll212/sample.html) **][** [**PDF Format**](http://home.birzeit.edu/cds/opinionpolls/poll212/poll212.pdf) **][** [**In Arabic**](http://home.birzeit.edu/dsp/arabic/opinionpolls/poll212/) **]**  Analysis of Results    **Main Findings**     * **84% support holding PLC election on its scheduled date (July 17, 2005), while 8% oppose.**      * **Over 73% said that they intend to participate in the upcoming election.**      * **68% of the respondents support an election system based on national lists and proportional representation.**      * **80% support the allocation of a specific quota to designate a percentage of seats for women in the PLC.**      * **About 48% of the respondents declared that they will vote for new fresh faces in the upcoming PLC election.**      * **Fateh receives 41% of the vote. Hamas receives 23% of the vote. Al Mubadara-PFLP bloc receives 7% of the vote. About 30% are undecided.**     **Analysis of Results**    **Section 1: The upcoming legislative election**    Plans are being made to hold an election for the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) in July 17, 2005. The following results show great support for these elections and a desire to participate.    1.            The majority of respondents support holding PLC election on its scheduled date and declare intent to participate.    ·        84% support holding PLC election on its due date (July 17, 2005), while 8% oppose.  ·        Over 73% say that they intend to participate in the upcoming election; 78% in Gaza compared with 70% in the West Bank.  ·        8% of the respondents are still undecided about their participation.  ·        In contrast, 20% (15% in Gaza and 23% in the West bank) say that they will not participate.    **2.**            **A majority supports a national proportional election system**    ·        68% of the respondents support the proposal that states that the election system should be based on national lists and proportional representation. 25% oppose the proposal and 7% are undecided.    **3.**            **A vast majority supports a quota for women in the PLC election**    ·        A little less than 80% support the allocation of a specific quota to designate a percentage of seats for women in the PLC. Support in the West Bank (82%) is higher than Gaza (74%). Women are more supportive of the quota (84%) than men (73%).  ·        Over 58% supported a quota to guarantee 30% or more seats in the PLC for women.  In fact, the largest group of respondents (30%) supported the allocation of half of the seats for women. Another 10% supported a quota of 40%, 18% supported a quota of 30%, 19% supported 20%, and 23% supported 10% quota.  ·        It was noticeable that the percentage support for a women's quota had increased from 62% before the PLC approved a similar quota designating seats for women in the recent Local Council Elections, to 79% now. This might be due to an increase in the perceived success by citizens of the implementation of the quota during the last local council elections.    **4.**            **Most respondents (48%) would like to vote for new candidates.**  ·        About 48% of the respondents declared that they will vote for new fresh faces in the upcoming PLC election; only 10% said that they will vote for the present members.   In contrast, 42% felt that this issue is not relevant in their decision.    **5.**            **Reputation and service to the community are most important in selecting a candidate**  The respondents were asked to evaluate 10 factors that might influence their selection of a candidate. These are the most important results:    ·        96% indicated that the most important factor is a good reputation and no record of corruption. That was followed by service to the community and education with 92% believing that they are important.  ·        The role in the struggle and religiosity were ranked fifth and sixth in relative importance, receiving about 78%.  ·        Political affiliation of the candidate is not as important as the previous factors, receiving 54%  ·        The place of residence of the candidate and familial connection to the candidate were the least important factors     |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Table (1): Criteria for selection of candidates** | | | | |  | Important  % | To some extent important % | Not Important % | | Good reputation / no corruption | 96 | 2 | 2 | | Provided services | 92 | 5 | 3 | | Educational attainment | 92 | 5 | 3 | | Role in the struggle | 78 | 11 | 11 | | Religiosity | 78 | 9 | 13 | | Access to decision-making within the PNA | 62 | 13 | 25 | | Political affiliation | 54 | 16 | 30 | | Gender | 44 | 15 | 41 | | The candidate must be from area of residence | 31 | 12 | 57 | | The candidate must be a relative | 15 | 8 | 77 |     **6.**            **Fateh receives the highest rate of support, Hamas follows.**    If all political groups decided to run on their own, based on a proportional election system for the whole country, the following results come out:  ·        Fateh receives 41% of the vote.  ·        Hamas receives 23% of the vote.  ·        24% are undecided (although they intend to participate); 5% will participate but will not vote for any of the lists provided in the poll.  ·        The PFLP will receive a little over 2%. Palestinian National Initiative (Al Mubadara), PPP, and DFLP will each receive 1.5%.  ·        The Fida, Nidal, Saeqa (Baath Group), Palestine Liberation Front, Arab Liberation Front, Popular Front – Public Leadership groups will each receive less than 0.3% of the vote (i.e., less than half percent).  All of them together receive less than 1%.    In case of coalitions made up from various groups, the results for Fateh and Hamas do not change. The change is significant for a Palestinian National Initiative (Al Mubadara) -PFLP bloc.    ·        A Fateh bloc that also includes Nidal, Fida, PPP, and others (led by Marwan Bargouti and supported by Mahmoud Abbas) will still receive 41%.  ·        A Hamas bloc with other Islamists (led by Mahmoud Zahar and supported by Khaled Mishal) will receive 23% of the vote.  ·        Al Mubadara-PFLP bloc (led by Mustafa Bargouti and supported by Haidar Abdel Shafi and Ahmad Saadat) will receive about 7%.   If they run separately, they will receive a combined total of 3.5%.  ·        These results can not be used to fully predict the outcome of the election in July, since nearly 30% are either undecided or they will not vote for any of these blocs. This (swing vote) might lead to significant changes in the current predictions.    **Table (2): Vote Distribution between blocs**   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Bloc | Total % | West Bank % | Gaza % | | Fateh bloc | 41 | 43 | 37 | | Hamas bloc | 23 | 20 | 27 | | Al Mubadara-PFLP bloc | 7 | 9 | 4 | | Undecided | 29 | 28 | 30 |     **7.**      **Perception of Bloc's Ability to Create Positive Change**    Palestinians were polled on their views of the ability of each bloc to make positive change on the various areas of their life:    ·        The results show that a majority of Palestinians trusts Fateh to achieve better success in 4 areas of concern: progress in the peace negotiations (70%), national unity (57%), improvement in economic conditions (57%), and reform internal conditions (53%).  ·        Hamas got the highest vote of trust in the area of representation of the poor and marginalized with 58%, whereas Fateh received 35%.  ·        Hamas receives higher scores in Gaza than in the West Bank on all issues; while Fateh receives higher scores in the West Bank than Gaza.     |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Table (3):  Perceived ability of the various groups to make change (%)** | | | | | | | |  |  | Progress in the peace process | Represent the poor | Reform internal conditions | Achieve national unity | Improve living conditions | | **Fateh bloc** | Total | **70** | **35** | **53** | **57** | **57** | | Wes Bank | 72 | 39 | 58 | 60 | 59 | | Gaza Strip | 66 | 28 | 46 | 52 | 53 | | **Hamas bloc** | Total | **25** | **58** | **41** | **36** | **38** | | Wes Bank | 22 | 54 | 35 | 32 | 35 | | Gaza Strip | 29 | 65 | 51 | 43 | 44 | | **Al Mubadara-PFLP bloc** | Total | **5** | **7** | **6** | **7** | **5** | | Wes Bank | 6 | 7 | 7 | 8 | 6 | | Gaza Strip | 5 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 3 |     **Section 2: Lessons from the Presidential Election**    **1.**      **A majority believe that the January Presidential election was fair; variance in the opinions of those who participated and those who did not participate.**  ·        Among those who voted and those who did not, the current poll reveals that 54% of the Palestinian public believes that the Presidential Election was fair; while 30% felt it was somewhat fair. Only 16% felt that was unfair.  ·        For those that actually voted in the Presidential election, as measured by a DSP election-day poll, 73% of the voters felt that the election was fair, while 22% felt it was fair to some extent and only 5% of the voters felt it was unfair.  ·        The current poll shows that respondents who did not participate in the election exhibit varying point of views compared to those who did  participated. 63% of those who said that they participated now feel that the election was fair, compared with 37% of those who declared that they did not participate.    **2.**      **Reasons for non-participation are mostly non-political. Personal and logistical issues are important.**    ·        22% said that the reason for their non-participation is that they were busy on the day of the election.  ·        Another 17% said that they did not find an appropriate candidate for whom to vote.  ·        About 10% said that the presidential election will make no difference in their lives or the life of the community.  ·        8% cited religious reasons for non-participation.  ·        5% cited logistical problems such as not finding their names in the records or not being able to find their election center.  ·        3% (mostly Jerusalem residents) cited fear of loss of rights such as social security that is provided by the Israeli government.  ·        Only 1% cited road blocks as the reason for their non-participation.  ·        West Bank respondents cited being busy, religion, road blocs, and fear of loss of rights as a primary reason more than Gazans. In contrast more Gaza respondents cited not being able to find proper candidates and the perception that election makes no difference.        [Top of this page](http://home.birzeit.edu/cds/opinionpolls/poll212/analysis.html#top)    |    [DSP Home](http://home.birzeit.edu/dsp/) | | |  |
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