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|   | [Opinion Polls](http://home.birzeit.edu/dsp/opinionpolls/) **Poll No. 9** **BACKGROUND****[**[**Background**](http://home.birzeit.edu/cds/opinionpolls/poll9/background.html)**] | [**[**Main Results**](http://home.birzeit.edu/cds/opinionpolls/poll9/results.html)**] | [**[**Analysis of Results**](http://home.birzeit.edu/cds/opinionpolls/poll9/analysis.html)**] | [**[**Detailed Results**](http://home.birzeit.edu/cds/opinionpolls/poll9/tables.html)**] | [**[**PDF Format**](http://home.birzeit.edu/dsp/DSPNEW/polls/poll_9/poll_9.pdf)**]  [**[**باللغة العربية**](http://home.birzeit.edu/dsp/arabic/opinionpolls/poll9/)**]**

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| **Work Team**·        75 Field researchers ·        **Team Coordinator: Nader Said, DSP Director** ·        **Field research**: Ayman Abdul-Majeed (Fieldwork Coordinator)·         Ayoub Mustapha (Data entry/Statistician), Ghassan Abu Hatab, Nida’ Abu-Taha, Emad Zehed, AbdelAziz AbuShamaleh, Rania Asmar, Mua’th Rabaia’, Mohammed Araj, Maisa Jayousi (Field supervisors).·        **Technical and administrative team**: Noran Nassif, Maisa Barghouthi, Bassam Al-Mohr, Raqia Abu Ghoush, Nawal Abu-Hadid, Shahnaz Jubran, Jibril Hijeh, Mohammed Nassar. ·        **Steering Committee:****Ramzi Rihan**: Vice-President for Planning and Development (Birzeit University)**Jamil Hilal**: Senior researcher, member of the advisory committee for the Palestinian Human Development Report**Reema Hamami**: Chairperson of the Post-Graduate Programme at the Women’s Studies Institute (Birzeit University)**Mu’in Rajab**: Professor of Economics (Al-Azhar University)**Jamil Rabah**: Survey Research Expert**Hassan Abu-Hassan**: Professor of Statistics (Birzeit University)           ·   *All results represent the opinions of the respondents and do not represent the viewpoint of Birzeit University or the Development Studies Programme or any other related body*.        ·   *For details on our methodology, refer to our web page.*        ·   *Many thanks go our field researchers, and to our friends at the* ***International Republican Institute (IRI)*** *for their support.* **Context** This section lists some of the most important events that took place during the two months preceding the poll field research (August and September), that are believed to have had an impact on Palestinian public opinion. ·                Confrontations have intensified during the past months; most Palestinian cities were under the direct control of the Israeli Army. Many localities were the scene of military operations that resulted in the killing of Palestinians, the arrest of hundreds, house demolitions, and curfews. ·                The poll was conducted during the olive harvesting season, a major economic and cultural activity for Palestinians, especially in rural areas. Reports of settler attacks on Palestinian farmers were documented. The attacks made it difficult for farmers to harvest olives and added further strain to the living conditions of Palestinians. ·                The Israeli forces besieged Palestinian President Yasir Arafat’s compound in Ramallah and demolished or annexed almost all of the buildings adjacent to Arafat’s headquarters September 9, 2002. The perceived threat on the life of the President led to widespread peaceful marches across the West Bank and Gaza.  ·                A number of Palestinian attacks took place in Israeli cities. Soldiers and settlers were also targeted.  Among the attacks was one near the city of Hadera on October 21, in which 14 Israelis were killed. ·                On the October 6, bloody confrontations took place in Gaza Strip between pro-Hamas and pro-PNA militants after a pro-Hamas group assassinated a high ranking security commander, Mr. Rajih Abu-Lihya.  The confrontations lead to the deaths of five Palestinians and wounding of many others. ·                Shortly after the resignation of the President’s Ministerial Cabinet, a new Palestinian Authority (PA) Cabinet was formed and confirmed by the Palestinian Legislative Council on October 29, by a vote of 56 to 18. ·                The United States continued to call for reforms in PNA institutions over the course of the past two months. Israel is attempting to make such reforms a precondition for moving forward with the political negotiations and for withdrawing from the occupied territories.  ·                Accordingly, the USA in October proposed a plan to resume negotiations and to reform PNA institutions. The plan, referred to as the 'American Road Map', calls for a final settlement that would put an end to the conflict by the year 2005. ·                Iraq’s perceived violation of UN weapons inspections and the possibility of a US strike against Iraq was a primary focus of world attention during the period. The United Nations Security Council was in the midst of discussing a new resolution on Iraq. **Fieldwork** The fieldwork for the poll was conducted under extremely difficult conditions. The greatest challenge for the researchers was accessing the various locales included in the sample. Due to Israeli roadblocks and the full closure of many roads, the field researchers had to reach these localities on foot, risking their lives because of potential IDF gunfire. Unfortunately, the strict closure of Palestinian territories made it impossible for the field researchers to reach Beit Fureeq, Jenin city and Barta'a El-Sharqiyeeh, in the northern West Bank.  These areas were replaced by localities with comparable social and demographic indictors. It is worth noting that the city of Jenin was the most difficult to research because of the continuing curfew imposed on the city, its suburbs and on some neighboring towns.  |
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  [Top of this page](http://home.birzeit.edu/cds/opinionpolls/poll9/background.html#top)    |    [DSP Home](http://home.birzeit.edu/dsp/)