

Public Opinion Poll #24  
The Peace Process, Performance of the PNA, Performance of the PLC,  
September 1996

**Overview**

Attitudes toward the peace process, generally indicate a high level of support for its continuation. This finding is surprising given that this attitude was measured during and after a period of intense violent clashes between Palestinian civilians and security forces and Israeli military forces and settlers. Moreover, the poll also found that most Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip think that the peace process has negatively affected the economy; and barely a majority think that it will lead to a state in the near future.

These poll results, point to a possible explanation for this contradiction: Support for the continuation of the peace process with Israel remains high because support for a political leadership which in turn supports the process is high. In other words, positive evaluation for the Palestinian leadership, particularly for the Executive branch, is one of the most highly explanatory intervening variables in the relationship between people's perception of the economy and their expectations for the future and support or opposition for the peace process.

**Future of the Peace Process**

Although this poll was conducted during violent clashes in the West Bank and Gaza Strip at the end of September, 70% of all respondents support the continuation of the peace process with Israel. This support has decreased 11-percentage points, however, from its highest level (81%) in June 1996 (see Poll #23). Opposition to the continuation of the peace process rose from 12% to its highest level of 24.8%, during this same period. Also, despite such high support, general optimism does not exceed 53%; while 41.6% of all respondents are pessimistic about the future. Barely a majority (50.9%) of the respondents believe that the peace process will lead to the establishment of a Palestinian State in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in the near future, and 33.5% do not expect such an outcome. Table 2 summarizes the demographic distribution of responses toward of continuation of the peace process, expectations of a State and outlook for the future.

**Table 2**  
**Support for the Continuation of the Peace Process, Expectation for State and Future Outlook by Selected Demographic Variables, percentages & counts\***

	Continuation		Expect a State		Future	
	Support	Oppose	Yes	No	Optimistic	Pessimistic
<b>Total</b>	69.8 (856)	24.8 (304)	50.9 (624)	33.5 (410)	53.0 (652)	41.6 (512)
<b>Region</b>						
West Bank	67.8 (524)	26.4 (204)	49.4 (382)	37.0 (286)	51.4 (399)	44.1 (342)
Gaza Strip	73.3 (332)	22.1 (100)	53.5 (242)	27.4 (124)	55.7 (253)	37.4 (170)

<b>Gender</b>						
Male	67.1 (412)	27.7 (170)	48.4 (296)	38.6 (236)	51.9 (319)	44.4 (273)
Female	72.5 (444)	21.9 (134)	53.4 (328)	28.3 (174)	54.1 (333)	38.9 (239)
<b>Education</b>						
Illiterate-Elementary	80.3 (252)	15.0 (47)	61.3 (193)	20.6 (65)	52.5 (166)	39.2 (124)
Preparatory-Secondary	68.8 (454)	26.4 (174)	52.1 (343)	33.6 (221)	55.1 (365)	39.9 (264)
2 Years College	67.7 (63)	21.5 (20)	41.9 (39)	46.2 (43)	46.8 (44)	48.9 (46)
B.A.-Post Graduate	54.7 (87)	39.6 (63)	30.8 (49)	50.9 (81)	48.7 (77)	49.4 (78)

\* The Don't Know category is excluded from Table 2, but percentages are based on the total number of responses.

The results presented in Table 2 indicate that although general support for the continuation of the peace process is high, there are significant differences between Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza Strip, men and women and finally educational levels. As with many attitudinal variables, a consistent pattern of responses can be detected. That is, West Bankers, men and higher educated Palestinians tend to be more critical and pessimistic than their counterparts.

For example, educational level of the respondents is strongly correlated with support or opposition to the peace process, expectations for a State in the near future and general optimism or pessimism. In nearly inverse proportion, respondents with less education have more positive views on these key issues than respondents with higher education levels. There is also a significant difference between men and women, but these differences disappear when educational level is controlled. In other words, women and men with similar educational levels, with a few exceptions, tend to also share similar attitudes toward most issues.

Interestingly, for this poll which was conducted during a time of intense clashes in the Gaza Strip and in the aftermath of closures throughout Palestine, Gazans are more likely than West Bankers to support continuing the peace process, have more optimism and expect the current negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians to lead to a State. This finding is surprising but not unusual. As in past polls, Gazans are usually more supportive and optimistic. Yet, unemployment rates in the Gaza Strip are consistently much higher than in the West Bank. Moreover, as displayed in Table 3, this poll finds that Gazans assess their economic conditions since the peace process as more negative than West Bankers.

**Table 3**  
**Economic Conditions by Selected Demographic Variables, percentages & counts\***

	Effect of Peace Process on Palestinian Economy				
	Very Positive	Positive	Between	Negative	Very Negative
<b>Total</b>	2.9 (29)	8.7 (107)	19.4 (239)	38.9 (479)	27.5 (338)
<b>Region</b>					
West Bank	1.7 (13)	8.3 (64)	17.8 (138)	40.9 (317)	28.1 (218)
Gaza Strip	3.5 (16)	9.5 (43)	22.2 (101)	35.6 (162)	26.4 (120)

<b>Gender</b>					
Men	2.3 (14)	8.9 (55)	15.8 (97)	39.5 (243)	31.9 (196)
Women	2.4 (15)	8.5 (52)	23.1 (142)	38.4 (236)	23.1 (142)
<b>Education</b>					
Illiterate-Elementary	2.5 (8)	9.5 (30)	18.4 (58)	38.0 (120)	27.5 (87)
Preparatory-Secondary	2.4 (16)	8.5 (56)	20.6 (136)	38.3 (253)	27.4 (181)
2 Years College	3.2 (3)	10.6 (10)	24.5 (23)	33.0 (31)	25.5 (24)
B.A.-Post Graduate	1.3 (2)	6.9 (11)	13.8 (22)	47.2 (75)	28.9 (46)

\* The Don't Know category is excluded from Table 3, but percentages are based on the total number of responses.

Overall, the plurality of respondents (66.4%) think that the peace process has had a 'negative' or 'very negative' affect on the Palestinian economy. When these categories are combined, the difference between the West Bank and Gaza Strip is substantial, as 69% of West Bankers and 62% of Gazans assess their economic conditions as negative or very negative. Men (32%) are also more likely than women (23%) to think that the economy has been 'very negatively' affected. Educational levels of the respondents, which are usually highly correlated with income levels, seem to have no discernible affect on their assessment of the economy. This could indicate that the problems of the economy (both in perceived and actual terms) are widespread, affecting all groups relatively similarly, rather than any group in particular.

These findings contradict conventional wisdom and one of the main premises of the peace process. That is, simply put, economic development will increase support for the peace process. What partly explains this contradiction, as indicated by the results of this and previous opinion polls, is that respondents' attitudes toward continuing the peace process are related to their assessment of the performance of their leadership and governmental institutions. It is the case that Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip can be broken (analytically) into roughly two groups: those that support the continuation of the peace process and favor their government and those who are critical of both.

## Political Affiliation

SRU has tracked political affiliation over time by asking respondents to directly state their affiliation (*i.e.*, party or faction). For this poll, there are no notable difference between the distribution of response since June 1996 (See [Poll #23](#)). Moreover, there is an overall stability in the structure of political affiliation since December 1994, with three notable exceptions. One, affiliation with Hamas has declined from 16.6% in December 1994 to 8.1% in this poll, averaging 9.5-percentage points. Two, affiliation with Fateh, the largest political party among Palestinian, has also declined from a high of 55.3% in December 1995, down 12-percentage points, to 43.6% in this poll. Three, there has been a steady increase in respondents with 'None of the Above' political affiliation. This group has grown from a low of 11.7% (in December 1995) to its highest point of 28.1% in June 1996, but has decreased slightly to 25.9% in this poll. Once again, the distribution of responses of all other parties are stable (see Table 14).

**Table 14**  
**Political Affiliation, percentages & counts**

	<b>December 1994</b>	<b>December 1995</b>	<b>March 1996</b>	<b>June 1996</b>	<b>October 1996</b>	<b>Average (%)</b>
<b>Hamas</b>	16.6 (177)	9.7 (110)	5.8 (73)	7.8 (76)	8.1 (100)	9.6
<b>PPP</b>	0.8 (9)	1.8 (21)	1.7 (22)	2.4 (23)	1.7 (21)	1.7
<b>PFLP</b>	6.7 (72)	3.8 (43)	2.1 (26)	4.0 (39)	4.0 (49)	4.1
<b>Fateh</b>	43.1 (460)	55.3 (628)	47.5 (597)	43.3 (424)	43.6 (535)	46.6
<b>Fida</b>	0.8 (9)	0.4 (5)	0.2 (2)	0.7 (7)	0.4 (5)	0.5
<b>Islamic Jihad</b>	2.6 (28)	2.0 (23)	1.0 (13)	1.9 (19)	2.4 (29)	2.0
<b>DFLP</b>	1.4 (15)	1.5 (17)	1.1 (14)	0.8 (7)	0.8 (10)	1.1
<b>Independent Islamist</b>	3.7 (39)	3.6 (41)	4.4 (55)	3.7 (36)	4.6 (56)	4.0
<b>Independent Nationalist</b>	4.9 (52)	3.2 (36)	6.0 (75)	4.5 (44)	5.5 (68)	4.8
<b>None of the Above</b>	11.7 (125)	13.8 (157)	25.0 (314)	28.1 (275)	25.9 (318)	20.9
<b>Others</b>	7.7 (82)	4.8 (55)	5.3 (67)	2.9 (28)	3.0 (37)	4.7
<b>Total</b>	100 (1068)	100 (1136)	100 (1258)	100 (980)	100 (1228)	---

In this poll, there are some notable demographic differences between the three largest political groups (Fateh, Hamas and None of the Above) among Palestinians. For example, male and the less educated respondents in the sample tend to be more supportive of Fateh. Also, more women (68.0%) than men (32.0%) identify their political affiliation with Hamas. (See Table 15.)

**Table 15**

**Political Affiliation with Fateh, Hamas and None of the Above by Selected Demographic Variables, percentages & counts**

	<b>Fateh</b>	<b>Hamas</b>	<b>None of the Above</b>
<b>Total</b>	43.6 (531)	8.1 (100)	25.9 (318)
<b>Gender</b>			
Male	53.5 (286)	32.0 (32)	47.5 (151)
Female	46.5 (249)	68.0 (68)	52.5 (167)
<b>Education</b>			
Illiterate-Elementary	27.9 (148)	26.5 (26)	27.4 (87)
Preparatory-Secondary	56.3 (299)	58.2 (57)	51.4 (163)
2-Year College	14.7 (78)	14.3 (14)	20.2 (64)
B.A.-Post Graduate	1.1 (6)	1.0 (1)	0.9 (3)

As discussed above, most respondents assess the performance of the Legislative Council, Judicial and the Executive (including the President and his Cabinet) branches of the Palestinian

Authority between a range of good to fair. It is the case that these evaluations are strongly related to political affiliation. That is, political groups and parties associated with the opposition to continuing the peace process with Israel, tend to give lower evaluations to the government and its institutions. Conversely, those who support the government tend also to support the peace process.

As can be expected, respondents affiliated with Fateh give the highest overall evaluations for each branch of the government. Moreover, they give the highest evaluation to their President (83 mean score), then to his Cabinet (75 mean score), dropping ten-points for the Council (65 mean score). Hamas affiliates, on the other hand, express their evaluations on the lower end of the scale: President (65 mean score), the Cabinet (62 mean score) and finally the Legislative Council (53 mean score). Respondent with None of the Above political affiliation straddle Fateh and Hamas in terms of their evaluation scores. (See Chart 4 for a graphic comparison of evaluations for the President and Legislative Council by political affiliation of respondents).

#### **Chart 4 Performance of the President and the Palestinian Legislative Council by Political Affiliation, mean scores**

As shown in Chart 4, the President tops the evaluation scores, receiving higher scores, even from the opposition, than the Palestinian Legislative Council. The greatest difference between evaluations of the President and the Council is within Fateh, followed by Islamic Jihad. It should be pointed out, however, that respondents affiliated with Islamic Jihad are the most critical of both the President and the Council than any other political group or party, where as supporters of Fateh give the highest approval ratings. Political parties and groups, considered left of center in Palestinian politics, tend to give high evaluation scores for both the President and the Council. Those parties and groups to the right of center, on the other hand, tend to evaluate all branches of the government lower than the average but also give the highest scores to the President and lower scores for the Council's performance.

To summarize, the results of this poll show a strong relationship between approval of the Palestinian Authority, its branches of government and institutions, and support or opposition to the peace process with Israel. The relationship is evident in several attitudinal variables, regarding expectations toward a State, outlook toward the future and on specific issues such as defense of Jerusalem and land against confiscation. That is, those who support the continuation of the peace process tend to also be less critical toward domestic issues than those who oppose it. Moreover, although a sizable percentage of the population opposes the continuation of the peace process and is critical of the PA, on the whole most respondents endorse the continuation of the peace process and are mainly satisfied with their government, especially the President and his Executive Cabinet.

### Appendix

	<b>Total</b>	<b>West Bank</b>	<b>Gaza Strip</b>
<b>Unemployment</b>	38.0%	34.0%	45.0%

### 1. How often do you follow the news?

Always	38.0 (467)	38.3 (297)	37.5 (170)
Often	16.9 (208)	17.4 (135)	16.1 (73)
Sometimes	40.9 (502)	40.6 (315)	41.3 (187)
Not Sure	4.2 (51)	3.6 (28)	5.1 (23)

### 2. Generally, are you optimistic or pessimistic about the future?

Optimistic	53.0 (652)	51.4 (399)	55.7 (253)
Pessimistic	41.6 (512)	44.1 (342)	37.4 (170)
Not Sure	5.4 (66)	4.5 (35)	6.8 (31)

### 3. Do you support or oppose the peace process between Palestinians and Israelis?

Support	69.8 (856)	67.8 (524)	73.3 (332)
Oppose	24.8 (304)	26.4 (204)	22.1 (100)
Don't Know	5.4 (66)	5.8 (45)	4.6 (21)

### 4. In your opinion, how has the peace process affected the Palestinian economy?

More Positively	2.4 (29)	1.7 (13)	3.5 (16)
Positively	8.7 (107)	8.3 (64)	9.5 (43)
Between	19.4 (239)	17.8 (138)	22.2 (101)
Negatively	38.9 (479)	40.9 (317)	35.6 (162)
More Negatively	27.5 (338)	28.1 (218)	26.4 (120)

### 5. Do you expect that the peace process will lead to a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in the coming years?

Yes	50.9 (624)	49.4 (382)	53.5 (242)
No	33.5 (410)	37.0 (286)	27.4 (124)
Not Sure	15.6 (191)	13.6 (105)	19.0 (86)

### 6. How do you evaluate the press coverage of the activities of the PLC?

Very Good	9.0 (111)	6.8 (53)	12.7 (58)
Good	32.8 (404)	31.9 (248)	34.2 (156)
Between	24.2 (298)	23.6 (183)	25.2 (115)
Bad	13.6 (168)	16.2 (126)	9.2 (42)
Very Bad	4.1 (51)	4.0 (31)	4.4 (20)
No Opinion	16.3 (201)	17.5 (136)	14.3 (65)

### 7. Are you interested in the activities of the PLC?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	54.8 (673)	51.7 (400)	60.1 (273)
Sometimes	24.2 (297)	23.1 (179)	26.0 (118)
No	18.2 (224)	21.7 (168)	12.3 (56)
No Opinion	2.8 (34)	3.5 (27)	1.5 (7)

## 8. Generally, how do evaluate the performance of the PLC?

Very Good	9.6 (118)	8.2 (64)	11.8 (54)
Good	37.9 (467)	38.0 (295)	37.7 (172)
Between	25.0 (308)	25.1 (195)	24.8 (113)
Bad	8.7 (107)	8.5 (66)	9.0 (41)
Very Bad	4.6 (57)	5.1 (40)	3.7 (17)
No Opinion	14.3 (176)	15.1 (117)	12.9 (59)

## 9. How do you evaluate the performance of the PLC in the following areas:

### a) Defending human rights

Very Good	12.6 (155)	10.9 (85)	15.4 (70)
Good	39.2 (483)	39.6 (308)	38.4 (175)
Between	20.9 (258)	19.9 (155)	22.6 (103)
Bad	13.6 (168)	14.5 (113)	12.1 (55)
Very Bad	4.4 (54)	4.8 (37)	3.7 (17)
No Opinion	9.3 (115)	10.2 (79)	7.9 (36)

### b) Defending land against settlements

Very Good	21.9 (270)	19.0 (147)	27.0 (123)
Good	38.0 (468)	40.1 (311)	34.4 (157)
Between	12.9 (159)	12.3 (95)	14.0 (64)
Bad	13.6 (167)	13.9 (108)	12.9 (59)
Very Bad	7.2 (89)	8.1 (63)	5.7 (26)
No Opinion	6.3 (78)	6.6 (51)	5.9 (27)

### c) Adopting laws that enhance democracy

Very Good	7.1 (87)	4.7 (36)	11.2 (51)
Good	35.3 (434)	35.5 (275)	35.0 (159)
Between	19.0 (233)	16.0 (124)	24.0 (109)
Bad	16.1 (198)	18.0 (139)	13.0 (59)
Very Bad	5.4 (66)	5.7 (44)	4.8 (22)
No Opinion	17.1 (210)	20.2 (156)	11.9 (54)

### d) Relationship with the Executive authority

Very Good	11.7 (144)	8.3 (64)	17.6 (80)
Good	40.1 (492)	39.8 (307)	40.7 (185)
Between	12.7 (156)	12.6 (97)	13.0 (59)
Bad	7.0 (86)	7.9 (61)	5.5 (25)
Very Bad	1.9 (23)	2.1 (16)	1.5 (7)
No Opinion	26.5 (325)	29.4 (227)	21.6 (98)

### e) Defending Jerusalem

Very Good	38.3 (472)	32.0 (248)	49.1 (224)
Good	32.5 (400)	35.8 (278)	26.8 (122)
Between	9.7 (119)	9.3 (72)	10.3 (47)

Bad	8.1 (100)	9.4 (73)	5.9 (27)
Very Bad	5.7 (70)	6.8 (53)	3.7 (70)
No Opinion	5.8 (71)	6.7 (52)	4.2 (19)

#### **f) Prisoners**

Very Good	19.6 (241)	15.9 (123)	25.9 (118)
Good	31.3 (385)	32.3 (251)	29.4 (134)
Between	15.3 (189)	14.4 (112)	16.9 (77)
Bad	16.0 (197)	16.9 (131)	14.5 (66)
Very Bad	11.6 (143)	13.9 (108)	7.7 (35)
No Opinion	6.2 (76)	6.4 (50)	5.7 (26)

#### **g) Negotiations with Israel**

Very Good	12.3 (151)	10.3 (80)	15.6 (71)
Good	29.6 (365)	31.0 (241)	27.3 (124)
Between	20.4 (251)	19.0 (148)	22.6 (103)
Bad	19.5 (240)	19.2 (149)	20.0 (91)
Very Bad	7.6 (94)	7.9 (61)	7.3 (33)
No Opinion	10.6 (130)	12.5 (97)	7.3 (33)

#### **h) Resolving citizens' problems**

Very Good	9.4 (115)	7.4 (57)	12.7 (58)
Good	32.1 (394)	32.3 (249)	31.9 (145)
Between	19.2 (235)	18.3 (141)	20.7 (94)
Bad	20.1 (246)	20.6 (159)	19.1 (87)
Very Bad	10.1 (124)	10.4 (80)	9.7 (44)
No Opinion	9.1 (112)	11.0 (85)	5.9 (27)

### **10. Generally, how do evaluate the performance of your district representative to the PLC?**

Very Good	12.5 (151)	10.5 (79)	15.9 (72)
Good	33.5 (405)	35.1 (265)	30.8 (140)
Between	20.4 (247)	18.3 (138)	24.0 (109)
Bad	11.9 (144)	12.5 (94)	11.0 (50)
Very Bad	7.0 (85)	7.8 (59)	5.7 (26)
No Opinion	14.6 (177)	15.9 (120)	12.6 (57)

### **11. How do evaluate the performance of the government in the following areas:**

#### **a) Education**

Very Good	34.1 (419)	28.8 (222)	43.2 (197)
Good	44.3 (543)	47.3 (365)	39.0 (178)
Between	10.4 (128)	11.0 (85)	9.4 (43)
Bad	6.1 (75)	7.3 (56)	4.2 (19)
Very Bad	1.5 (19)	1.3 (10)	2.0 (9)
No Opinion	3.5 (43)	4.3 (33)	2.2 (10)

#### **b) Health**

Very Good	21.3 (261)	15.4 (119)	31.1 (142)
Good	45.2 (554)	44.7 (345)	45.8 (209)
Between	14.7 (180)	15.2 (117)	13.8 (63)
Bad	10.4 (128)	13.5 (104)	5.3 (24)
Very Bad	3.9 (48)	4.7 (36)	2.6 (12)
No Opinion	4.6 (56)	6.5 (50)	1.3 (6)

### **c) Economy**

Very Good	2.5 (31)	2.1 (16)	3.3 (15)
Good	18.3 (225)	18.9 (146)	17.3 (79)
Between	23.6 (290)	21.8 (168)	26.8 (122)
Bad	34.9 (428)	35.7 (275)	33.6 (153)
Very Bad	16.9 (207)	16.5 (127)	17.5 (80)
No Opinion	3.7 (46)	5.1 (39)	1.5 (7)

### **d) Democracy & Human Rights**

Very Good	6.5 (80)	5.2 (40)	8.8 (40)
Good	34.9 (428)	33.9 (261)	36.6 (167)
Between	20.6 (252)	20.9 (161)	20.0 (91)
Bad	19.7 (241)	20.3 (156)	18.6 (85)
Very Bad	10.4 (128)	9.7 (75)	11.6 (53)
No Opinion	7.9 (97)	10.0 (77)	4.4 (20)

### **e) Security of Citizens**

Very Good	21.5 (263)	16.1 (124)	30.5 (139)
Good	43.9 (538)	45.2 (348)	41.7 (190)
Between	13.7 (168)	13.9 (107)	13.4 (61)
Bad	12.3 (151)	14.0 (108)	9.4 (43)
Very Bad	5.3 (65)	6.4 (49)	3.5 (16)
No Opinion	3.3 (41)	4.4 (34)	1.5 (7)

## **12. Do you believe that the Executive authority should implement all of the decisions made by the PLC?**

Yes	60.0 (734)	56.2 (433)	66.3 (301)
No	23.6 (289)	25.8 (199)	19.8 (90)
No Opinion	16.4 (201)	17.9 (138)	13.9 (63)

## **13. In your opinion, what direction is the government heading toward?**

Democracy	31.9 (392)	29.2 (226)	36.6 (166)
Dictatorship	17.4 (213)	18.9 (146)	14.8 (67)
Combination of both	38.3 (470)	39.1 (303)	36.9 (167)
Not Sure	12.4 (152)	12.8 (99)	11.7 (53)

## **14. Generally, how do you evaluate the performance of the judicial authority and courts?**

Very Good	11.1 (136)	9.4 (73)	13.8 (63)
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Good	38.6 (474)	37.6 (291)	40.1 (183)
Between	18.5 (227)	18.4 (142)	18.6 (85)
Bad	8.6 (106)	7.8 (60)	10.1 (46)
Very Bad	3.8 (47)	3.5 (27)	4.4 (20)
No Opinion	19.4 (239)	23.3 (180)	12.9 (59)

**15. Have you had any direct experience with the Palestinian police and security services? (if yes, go to #16)**

Yes	19.6 (241)	17.9 (138)	22.7 (103)
No	79.1 (971)	81.2 (628)	75.6 (343)

**16. Generally, how do you evaluate the performance of the Palestinian police and security services?**

Very Good	25.2 (60)	25.7 (35)	24.5 (25)
Good	37.0 (88)	33.1 (45)	42.2 (43)
Between	13.4 (32)	13.2 (18)	13.7 (14)
Bad	13.4 (32)	16.9 (23)	8.8 (9)
Very Bad	10.1 (24)	10.3 (14)	9.8 (10)
No Opinion	0.8 (2)	0.7 (1)	1.0 (1)

**17. Do you think that there is corruption in PA institutions? (if yes, go to 18)**

Yes	49.3 (604)	49.7 (383)	48.7 (221)
No	27.1 (332)	28.8 (222)	24.2 (110)
Not Sure	23.6 (289)	21.5 (166)	27.1 (123)

**18. Will this corruption in PA institutions increase or decrease in the future?**

Increase	40.1 (242)	39.5 (151)	41.2 (91)
Remain as it is	10.0 (60)	10.7 (41)	8.6 (19)
Decrease	40.5 (244)	42.4 (162)	37.1 (82)
No Opinion	9.5 (57)	7.3 (28)	13.1 (29)

**19. Currently, the PLC is discussing municipal election laws for villages and cities. It is suggested that refugees should participate in these elections. Do you**

Support	84.5 (1038)	82.7 (639)	87.7 (399)
Oppose	9.4 (116)	10.7 (83)	7.3 (33)
No Opinion	6.0 (74)	6.6 (51)	5.1 (23)

**20. Generally, how do you evaluate the performance of the Palestinian government (the Cabinet)?**

Very Good	13.7 (168)	10.5 (81)	19.3 (87)
Good	48.9 (597)	49.4 (381)	47.9 (216)
Between	20.2 (247)	20.6 (159)	19.5 (88)
Bad	7.2 (88)	8.2 (63)	5.5 (25)
Very Bad	2.5 (31)	3.0 (23)	1.8 (8)
No Opinion	7.4 (91)	8.3 (64)	6.0 (27)

## 21. Generally, how do evaluate the performance of the institution of the Presidency?

Very Good	29.2 (358)	24.2 (187)	37.6 (171)
Good	42.8 (525)	43.8 (338)	41.1 (187)
Between	12.1 (149)	13.0 (100)	10.8 (49)
Bad	6.5 (80)	8.3 (64)	3.5 (16)
Very Bad	3.2 (39)	4.1 (32)	1.5 (7)
No Opinion	6.2 (76)	6.6 (51)	5.5 (25)

## 22. In comparison to election day, do you believe that Arafat's popularity has

Increased	52.4 (641)	50.5 (389)	55.5 (252)
No Change	20.4 (250)	17.8 (137)	24.9 (113)
Decreased	21.3 (261)	25.5 (196)	14.3 (65)
No Opinion	5.9 (72)	6.2 (48)	5.3 (24)

## 23. Which political party do you support?

PPP	1.7 (21)	1.6 (12)	2.0 (9)
PFLP	4.0 (49)	4.1 (32)	3.7 (17)
Fateh	43.6 (535)	41.8 (323)	46.6 (212)
Hamas	8.1 (100)	8.3 (64)	7.9 (36)
DFLP	0.8 (10)	0.9 (7)	0.7 (3)
Islamic Jihad	2.4 (29)	2.5 (19)	2.2 (10)
Fida	0.4 (5)	0.5 (4)	0.2 (1)
Independent	4.6 (56)	5.6 (43)	2.9 (13)
Islamists			
Independent	5.5 (68)	6.2 (48)	4.4 (20)
Nationalists			
No One	25.9 (318)	24.7 (191)	27.9 (127)
Other (specify)	3.0 (37)	3.9 (30)	1.5 (7)