

Al-Hayat Center for Civil Society Development

Results of the Survey on Jordanian Youth Participation in Parliamentary Elections

Project for Monitoring the Election of the Sixteenth Lower House – Al Rased 2 – 2010

A total of 2,100 questionnaires were distributed. Upon analyzing the data, the results were as follows:

101 Gender:

Choice	Percentage
Male	53.4 %
Female	46.6%

102 Age Group:

Choice	Percentage
(18-21) years	20.5%
(22-30) years	79.5%

103 Educational Level:

Choice	Percentage
Less than high school	5.4 %
High school	21.7 %
Intermediate Diploma	18.2%
BA	46.0 %
Master's degree or higher	8.6%

104 Social Status:

Choice	Percentage
Single	61.7 %
Married	35.1 %
Other	3.1 %

105 Professional Sector

Choice	Percentage
Governmental sector	25.0 %
Private sector	25.2 %

Student	27.4 %
Housewife	9.1 %
Not working	13.3 %

201 Were you registered to vote in the 2007 Parliamentary elections?

Choice	Percentage
Yes	74.1%
No	23.6%
I don't know	2.3%

202 In the 2007 Parliamentary elections, were you registered to vote in the area in which you reside?

Choice	Percentage
Yes	82.5 %
No	17.5 %

203 Were you aware of the voter registration process?

Choice	Percentage
Yes	69.0 %
No	31.0 %

204 Did you face problems while attempting to register for the 2007 Parliamentary elections?

Choice	Percentage
Yes	27.3 %
No	72.7 %

205 Was the location of the polling station clear to you?

Choice	Percentage
Yes	87.3 %
No	12.7 %

206 Did you vote in the 2007 Parliamentary elections?

Choice	Percentage
Yes	57.5 %
No	43.5 %

207 What was the basis for your selection of your respective candidate?

Choice	Percentage
Religious	6.7 %
Partisan	3.0 %
Friendship	10.5 %
Tribe's will	32.6 %
Candidate's professional background	11.6 %
Personal interests	11.1 %
Campaign platform	9.3 %
Services promised	15.2 %

208 In the 2007 Parliamentary elections, did campaign literature and advertisements play a role in you changing your mind and voting for a candidate other than the one you initially intended to vote for?

Choice	Percentage
Yes	26.8 %
No	73.2 %

209 Why did you fail to vote in the 2007 Parliamentary elections?

Choice	Percentage
Lack of confidence in the role of the parliament	19.8 %
Lack of interest in political participation	18.2 %
Negative experience with previous parliaments	14.4 %
I did not know any of the candidates	17.0 %
Lack of parliament's ability to address youth issues	17.4 %
Not convinced with the power and influence of MPs	13.2 %

301 Will you participate in the election of the next Parliament?

Choice	Percentage
Yes	76.8 %
No	23.2 %

302 What will be the basis for your selection of your representative in the upcoming elections?

Choice	Percentage
Religious	9.5 %
Partisan	3.4 %
Friendship	6.4 %

Tribe's will	23.7 %
Candidate's professional background	14.6 %
Personal interests	13.4 %
Campaign platform	12.6 %
Services promised	16.3 %

303 Do you expect the upcoming electoral process to be fair, fair, and transparent?

Choice	Percentage
Yes	67.6 %
No	32.4 %

304 Do you expect to face difficulties in the upcoming electoral process?

Choice	Percentage
Yes	23.4 %
No	76.6 %

305 What types of difficulties do you expect to face in the upcoming electoral process?

Choice	Percentage
Polling center is far away	10.6 %
Harassment by supporters of the candidates	26.4 %
Overcrowded polling centers	30.2 %
Difficulty in choosing a candidate	27.7 %
Harassment by the polling committee	5.1 %

306 Why would you boycott the upcoming Parliamentary elections?

Choice	Percentage
Lack of confidence in the role of the parliament	20.2 %
Lack of interest in political participation	13.9 %
Negative experience with previous parliaments	9.9 %
I did not know any of the candidates	21.1 %
Lack of parliament's ability to address youth issues	10.7 %
Not convinced with the power and influence of MPs	11.9 %
I was below the legal voting age	12.3 %

401 Did you read or do you have any information regarding the current elections law in Jordan?

Choice	Percentage
Yes	37.7 %
No	62.3 %

402 In your opinion, does the election and nomination law play an important role in producing a strong legislative body?

Choice	Percentage
Yes	61.0 %
No	39.0 %

403 Do you think that limiting transgressions in the electoral process leads to a strong Parliament that is able to shoulder its responsibilities?

Choice	Percentage
Yes	79.5 %
No	20.5 %

404 Did you hear of any violations or vote-buying or transfer of voters from one district to another in the last Parliamentary elections in 2007?

Choice	Percentage
Yes	54.5 %
No	45.5 %

405 Did you witness any violations or vote-buying or transfer of voters from one district to another in the last Parliamentary elections in 2007?

Choice	Percentage
Yes	25.3 %
No	74.7 %

406 Does the environment surrounding polls on election day (campaigns, services presented by candidates, etc...) impact your choice of candidate and your vote?

Choice	Percentage
Yes	55.8%
No	44.2 %

407 Did you participate in awareness campaigns (lectures, forums, festivals) on the role of youth in elections?

Choice	Percentage
Yes	33.1 %
No	66.9 %

408 Do awareness campaigns and activities on elections and the role of Parliament strengthen youth participation in elections?

Choice	Percentage
Yes	76.5 %
No	23.5 %

409 Do you prefer to vote for a young candidate in the upcoming elections in an effort to strengthen youth's participation in the next Parliament?

Choice	Percentage
Yes	74.7 %
No	25.3 %

410 Do you support domestic monitoring of the electoral process by local Jordanian civil society organizations?

Choice	Percentage
Yes	72.4 %
No	27.6 %

411 In your opinion, does election administration play an important role in the fairness and success of elections?

Choice	Percentage
Yes	85.4 %
No	14.6 %

Section 5: How would you rate your expectations for the next Parliament?

No	Index	(5) Very High	(4) High	(3) Somewhat High	(2) Low	(1) Very Low
501	Policies and legislations aimed at limiting unemployment especially among youth	17.2 %	19.9 %	26.3 %	25.5 %	11.1 %
502	Policies and legislations aimed at limiting poverty and enhancing living conditions for citizens	16.8 %	18.5 %	30.9 %	24.5%	9.3 %
503	Moving away from personal interests	15.1 %	21.8 %	19.5 %	27.8 %	15.8 %
504	Expressing citizens' issues and opinions and solving them	16.4 %	17.0 %	30.5 %	20.8 %	15.3 %
505	Policies and legislations aimed	15.6 %	20.3 %	28.5 %	18.0 %	17.6 %

	at fighting corruption					
506	Policies and legislations aimed at monitoring government and holding it accountable	17.3 %	23.7%	26.7 %	19.4 %	12.9 %
507	Enhancing the House's legislative role	21.3 %	23.3 %	28.0 %	20.4 %	7.0 %
508	Policies and legislations aimed at motivating youth and encouraging them to be creative	17.0 %	21.1 %	28.1 %	25.3 %	8.5 %
509	Policies and legislations aimed at achieving equal opportunities among citizens	13.8 %	21.3%	30.8 %	23.2 %	10.9 %
510	Policies and legislations aimed at enhancing democracy and political reform	18.5 %	22.2 %	27.8 %	23.9 %	7.6 %