

Low trust in political institutions, optimism about the future, especially in Gaza

**Palestinian opinions on the local political situation
and the upcoming PLC elections**

The data: Representative survey of 2019 respondents

- **Fieldwork from 19 November to 10 December 2005**
- **Probability sample of 2019 respondents**
- **1848 completed interviews (91.5 %)**
- **Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics sample frame**
- **Allocated according to 2005 population estimates**
- **Three to four stage stratified sample**
 - 144 clusters with 12 interviews in each
 - One individual sampled randomly within each household
 - 291 households in Gaza selected randomly from satellite images
- **Weighted according to inclusion probabilities and adjusted to correct age/gender distribution**

Strong support for continued use of violence

- **69 percent believe that resumption of attacks against Israeli targets is a legitimate response to the current political situation.**
- **50 percent think suicide attacks against Israeli civilians are necessary to force Israel to make political concessions.**
- **... The support is stronger in Gaza (56%) and among Hamas voters (71%) than in WB (47%) and among Fatah voters (44%)**
- **However, 57 percent think the Intifada should stop, and...**
- **74 percent think that "military operations from the Gaza Strip against Israel" should cease**
- **West Bank (72%) and Gaza (76%) residents agree to a large extent**

Increased security and prosperity in Gaza after pullout

- **86 percent in Gaza feel more secure,**
- **while that only applies to 35 percent in the West Bank**

- **More than half (53%) feel their personal economic situation has improved after pullout (WB 42%, Gaza 74)**

- **For 40% there is no change – mainly in West Bank**

- **6 percent say situation has deteriorated**

- **Change independent of income level**

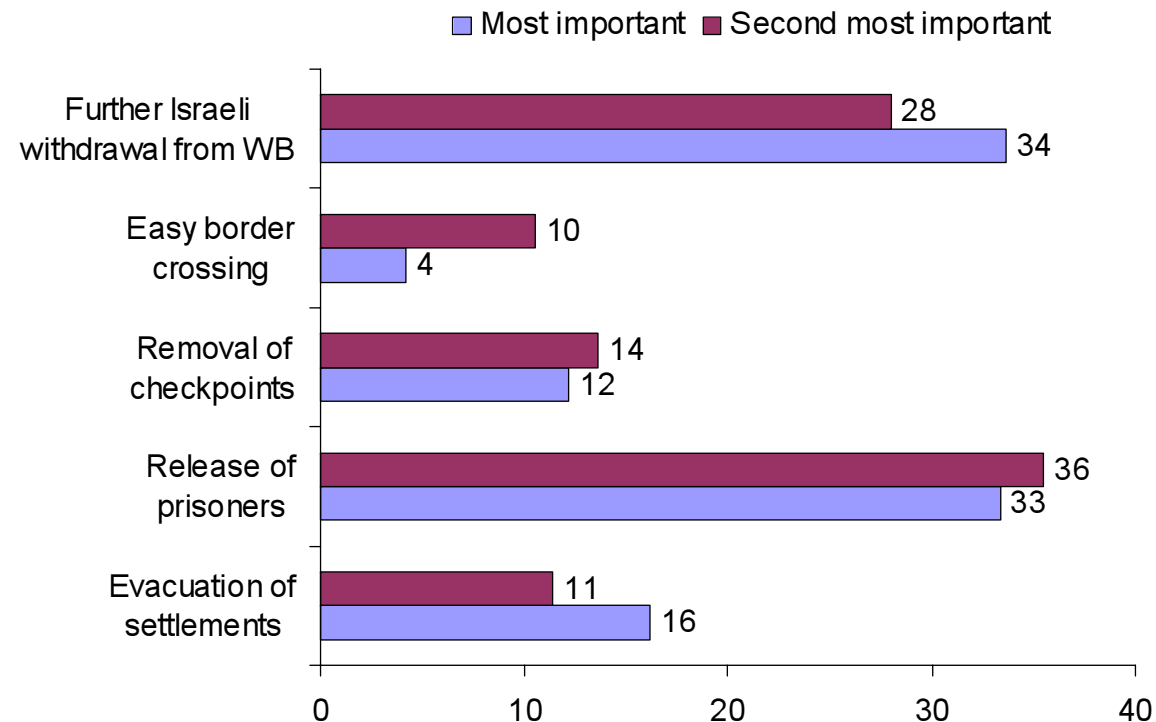
- **52 percent think the pullout affects Palestinian economy positively (both territories)**

Large majority supports the calm with Israel

- **Large majority (70%) think the agreement regarding Rafah border will improve their living conditions (WB 59%, Gaza 89%)**
- **Overall, 47 percent agree that pullout has moved the peace process back on track, but 57 percent in West Bank disagree.**
- **83 percent believe it is in the Palestinian people's interest to keep the calm (Thadiala) with Israel (WB 79%, Gaza 90%)**
- **But only 26 percent support the use of force by Palestinian security services against those who break the calm (WB 25%, Gaza 29%)**
- **And only 18 percent support military parades in Gaza**

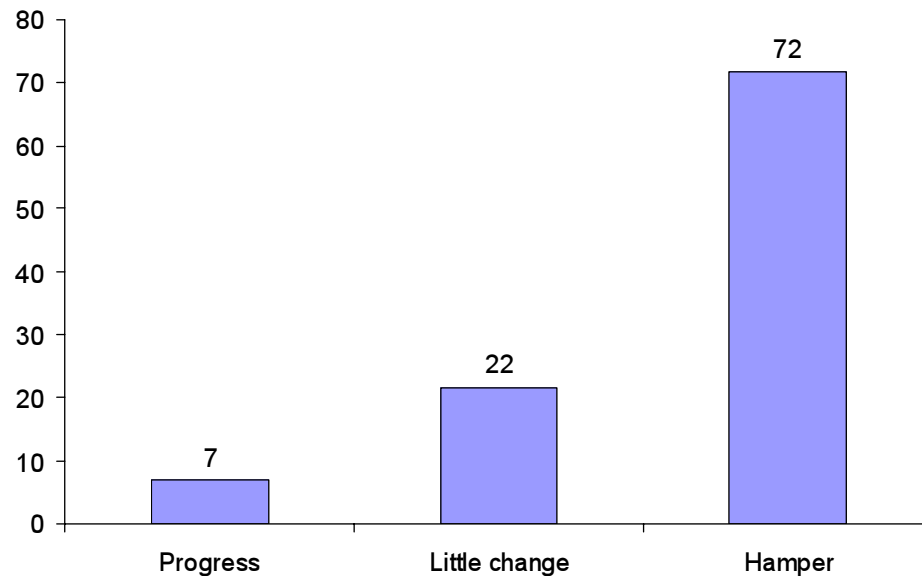
Continued withdrawal of Israeli forces and release of prisoners most important in order to revive peace process

- These two demands account for 67 percent of what people considers as most important
- West Bankers and Gaza residents agree.
- Evacuation of settlements more important for residents in WB (21% and) compared to Gaza citizens (8%).
- Removal of checkpoints secondary in spite of increased restrictions in WB, but more important in the West Bank than in Gaza



Majority see Sharon's new party 'Kadima' as a hinderance to peace-process

- How will Sharon's new party influence the peace-process – will it lead to progress, do little change or hamper it?

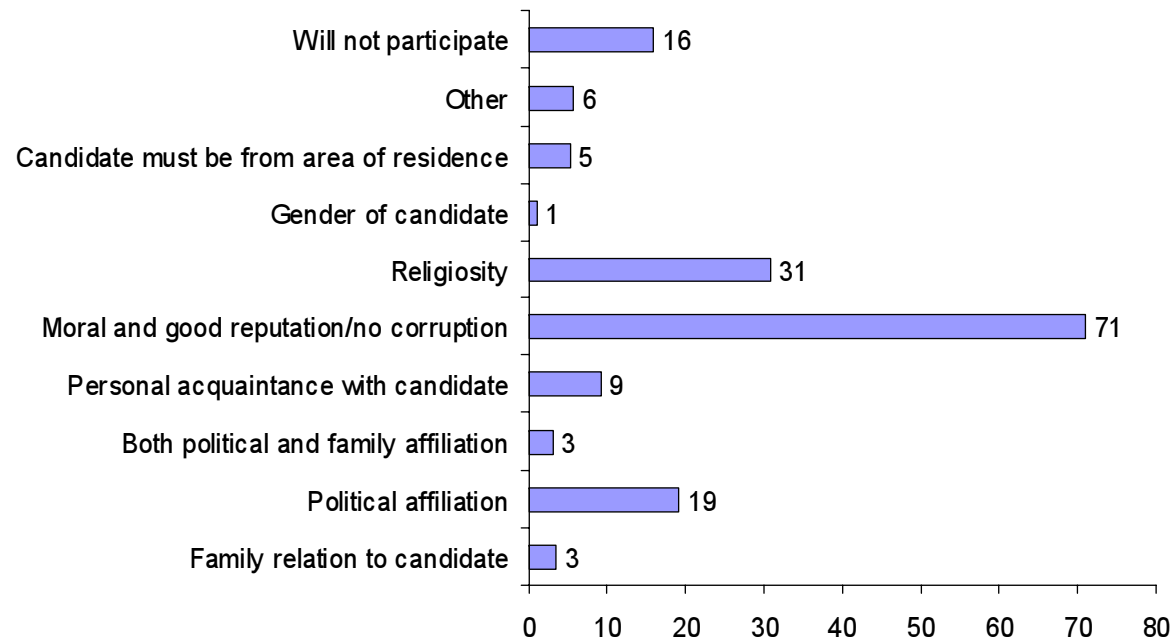


Optimism regarding outcomes of PLC elections

- **94 percent support creation of a National coalition government (WB 92%, Gaza 96%)**
- **93 percent believe elections should be held in January as planned (WB 91%, Gaza 95%)**
- **74 percent think election outcome will change things for the better while only 6 percent think situation will deteriorate**
- **More optimism in Gaza (83%) than in WB (69%)**
- **81 percent intend to vote (WB 78%, Gaza 85%)**

'Yes' to uncorrupt politicians!

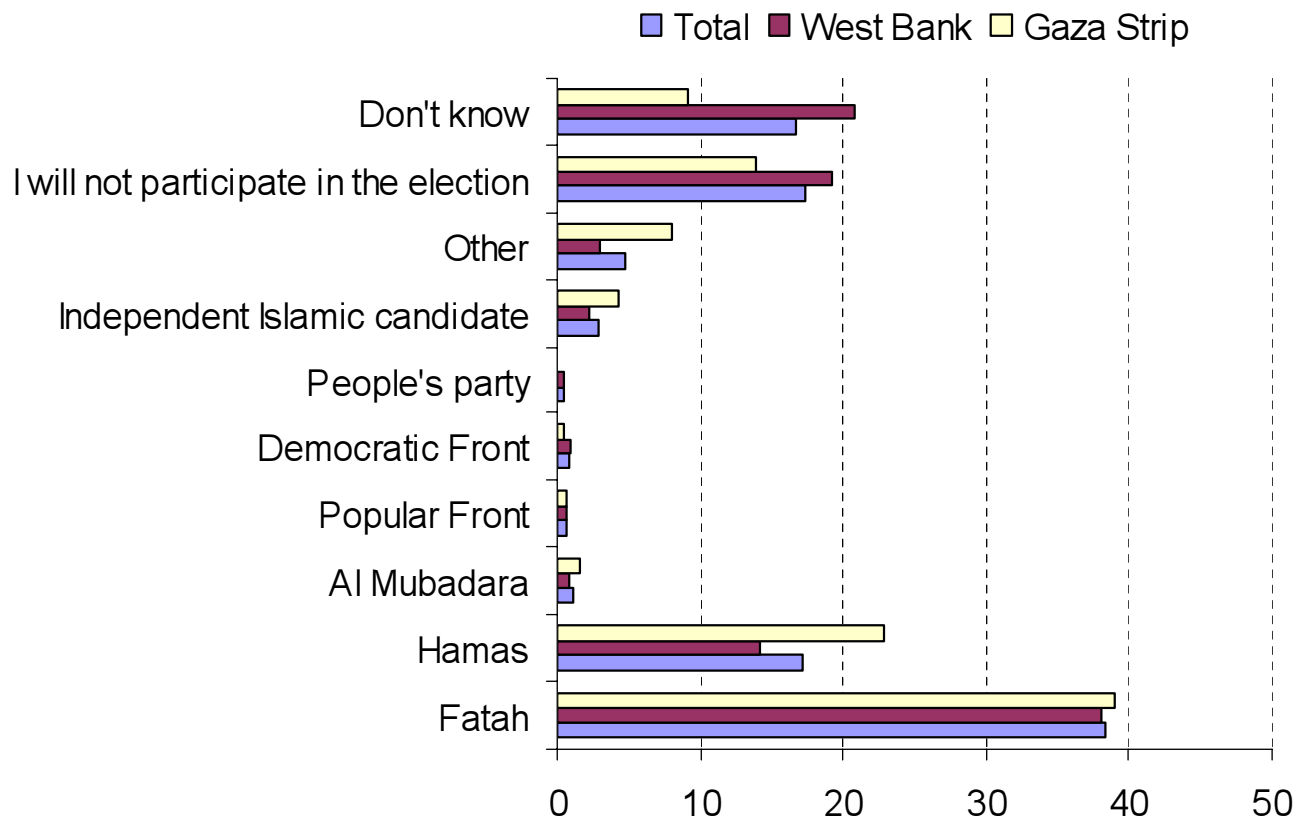
- Voters are tired of ruling corrupt elite – will vote for candidates with high morals
- Religiosity the second most important factor for people's choice of candidate (more in Gaza than WB)
- Political and family affiliations are less important factors



Reason for choosing candidate (more than one answer allowed)

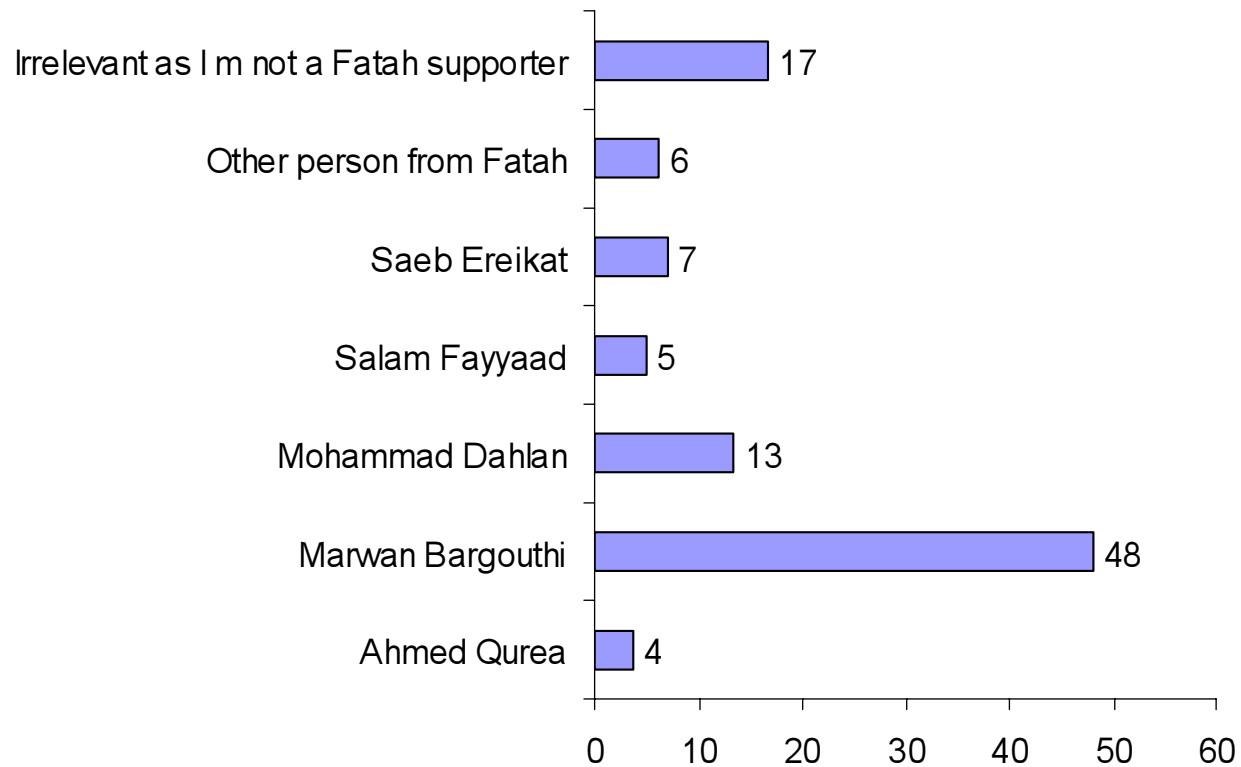
Fatah in lead, but many undecided voters in WB

- 38 percent will vote Fatah – 4% increase in Gaza from last poll
- 17 percent will vote Hamas - strongest in Gaza
- Majority believe Fatah block is best qualified to achieve progress in peace process, prisoner-release, security, law and order, living conditions and reform



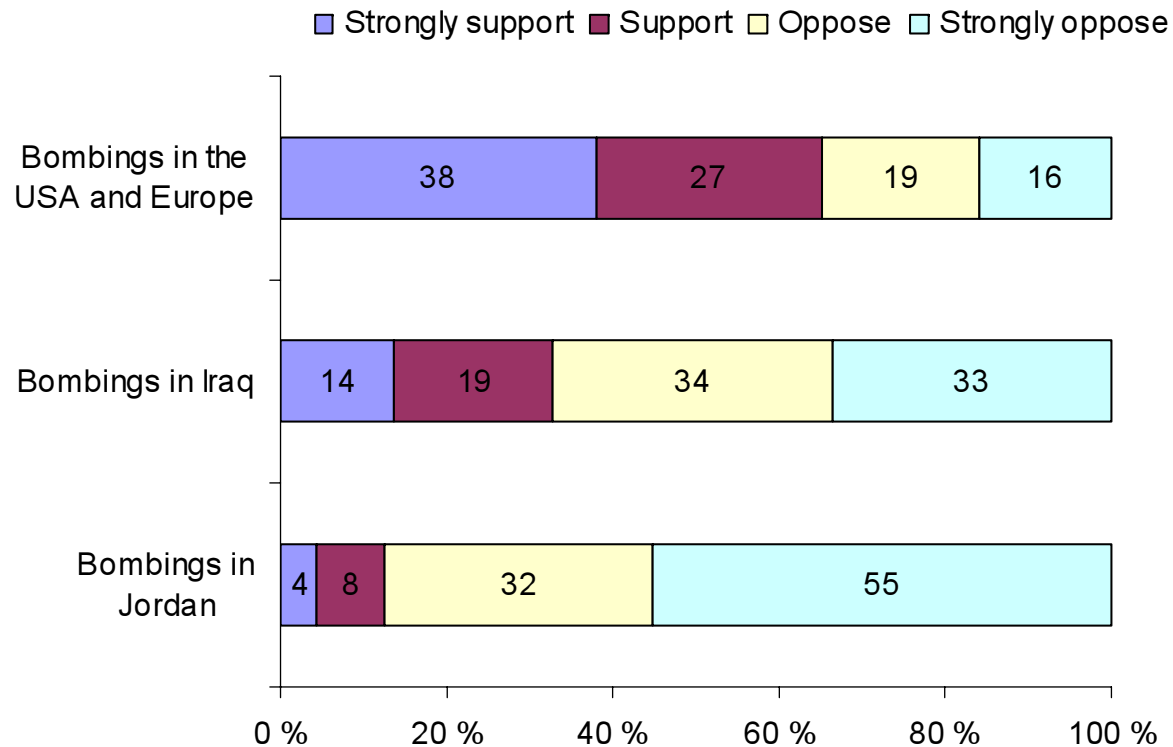
Jailed brigade leader wanted to head Fatah in elections

- 48 percent want Marwan Bargouthi as head of Fatah in the coming elections (WB 54%, Gaza 38%)
- Runner up is Mohammed Dahlan, but only popular in Gaza (WB 2%, Gaza 33%)



Wide acceptance for Al-Qaeda operations in the West, especially in Gaza

- 65 percent support attacks in USA and Europe (WB 57%, Gaza 79%)
- 32 percent support bombings in Iraq (WB 29%, Gaza 39%)
- 13 percent support the recent bombings in Jordan (WB 13%, Gaza 11%)
- Hamas voters more supportive than Fatah voters



Satisfaction with PNA higher in WB than Gaza

- 70 percent think President Abbas is doing a good job (WB 75%, Gaza 62%)
- 58 percent are satisfied with the PNA's performance (WB 62%, Gaza 51%)
- ...but 34 percent in Gaza are *very* unsatisfied, independent of refugee status (WB 17%)
- 51 percent think the PNA performs better than one year ago (WB 54%, Gaza 43%)
- While 36 percent think the performance is about the same
- 20 percent refugees and non-refugees in Gaza think PNA performs worse than one year ago compared to 14 percent refugees and 10 percent non-refugees in West Bank.

Little trust in good governance

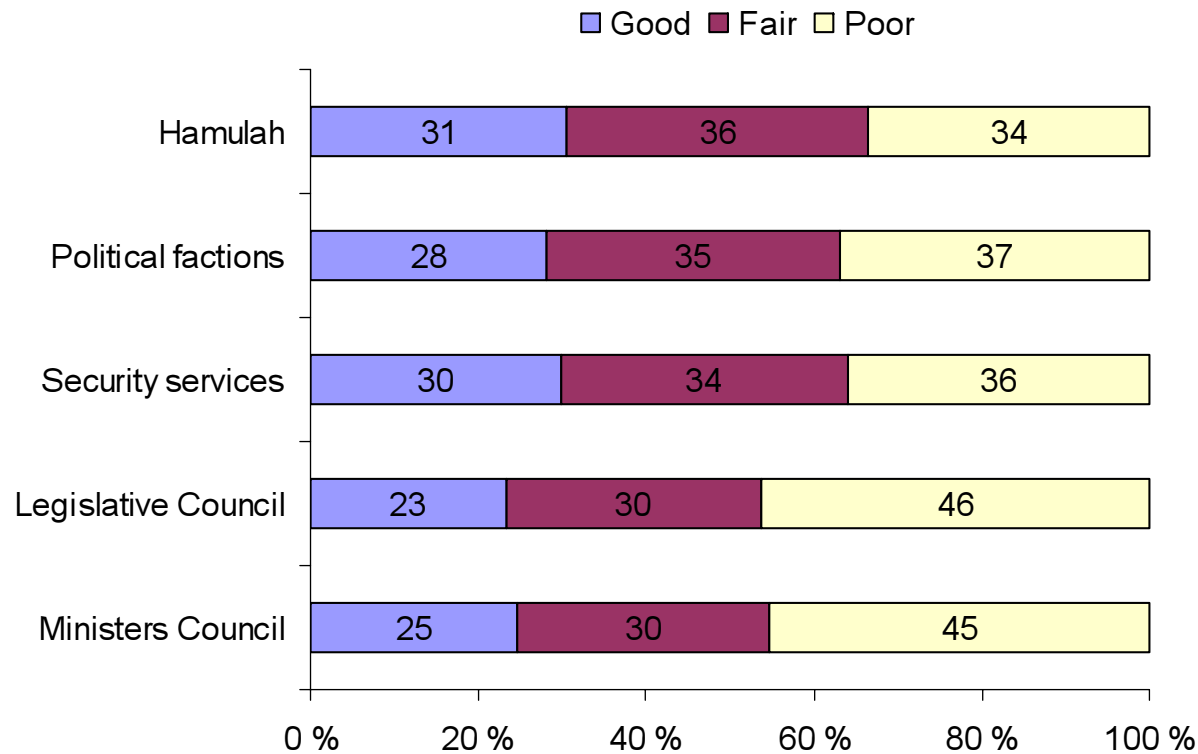
- **64 percent think the PNA is unsuccessful in fighting corruption (WB 58%, Gaza 72%)**
- **21 percent believe someone will be prosecuted for corruption and an additional 43 percent think this might happen**
- **...but people in Gaza are more sceptical as 45 percent do *not* believe anyone will be procecuted.**
- **Correspondent figure for the West Bank is 31 percent.**

... but still think the PNA tries hard to increase security

- **69 percent believe the PNA is committed to improve the security situation (WB 74%, Gaza 62% - down from 79% since last poll in Gaza)**
- **While 61 percent believe that the Palestinian security services are capable of establishing order in the streets (WB 65%, Gaza 55% - a decrease from 60 % since last poll in Gaza)**
- **49 percent believe that the land commission will distribute land left by the Isrealis fairly (WB 47%, Gaza 50% - a small decrease from 53 % since last poll)**

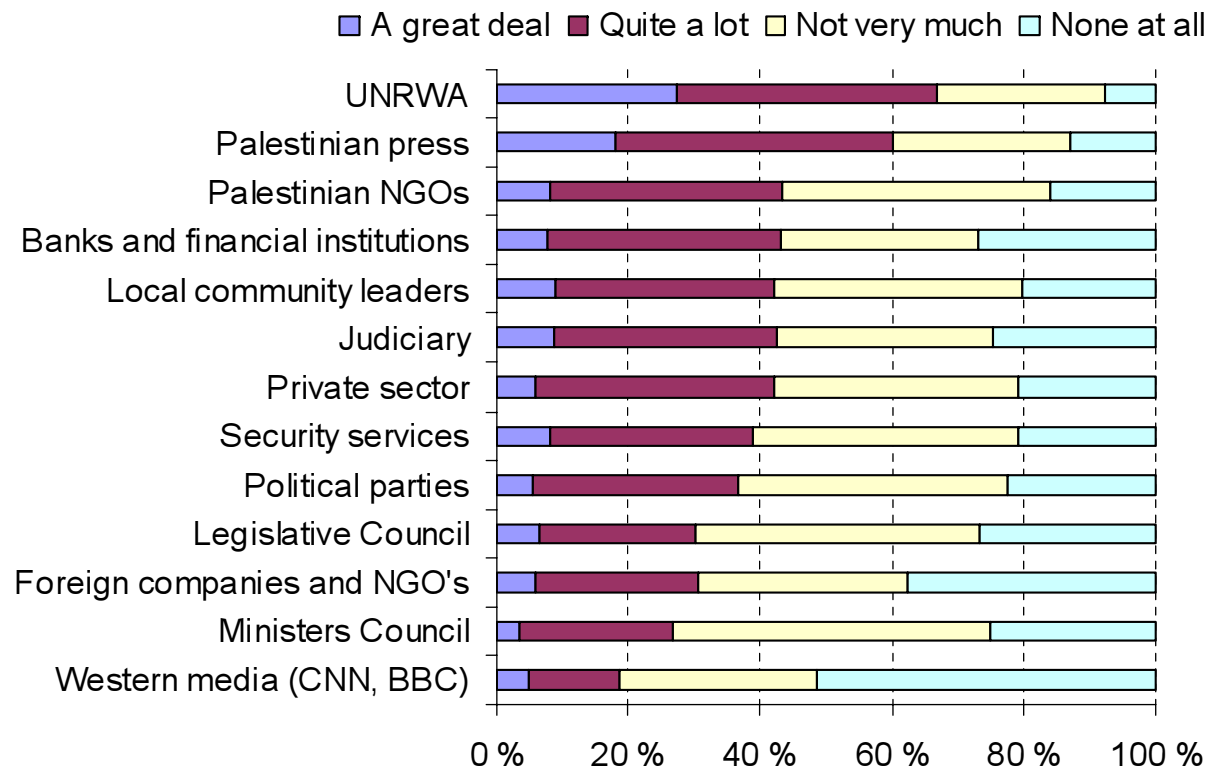
Moderate views on the performance of key institutions

- ... with regard to their attempts to put an end to illegal activities in the streets
- Lowest score to ruling elite, especially in Gaza where 59 and 58 percent respectively think the government and parliament perform poorly



... And generally low confidence in institutions, especially the government

How much confidence do you have in....

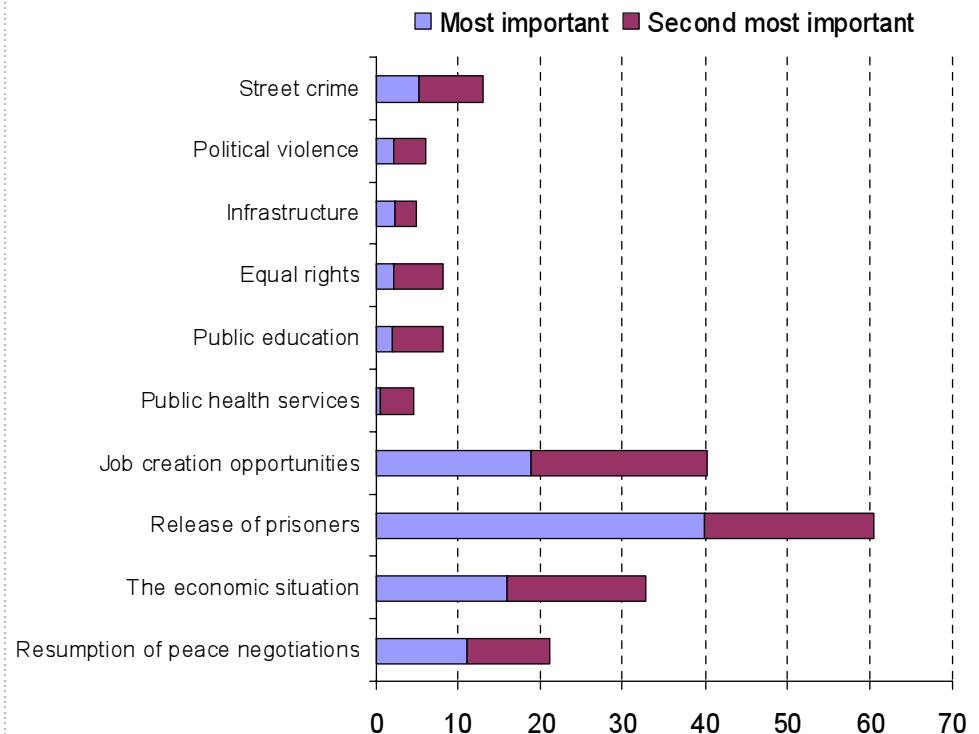


- **Strongest support for UNRWA, Palestinian press**
- **But overall low support for nearly all institutions**
- **Minority trusts Western media**

Release of prisoners - the most important political issue

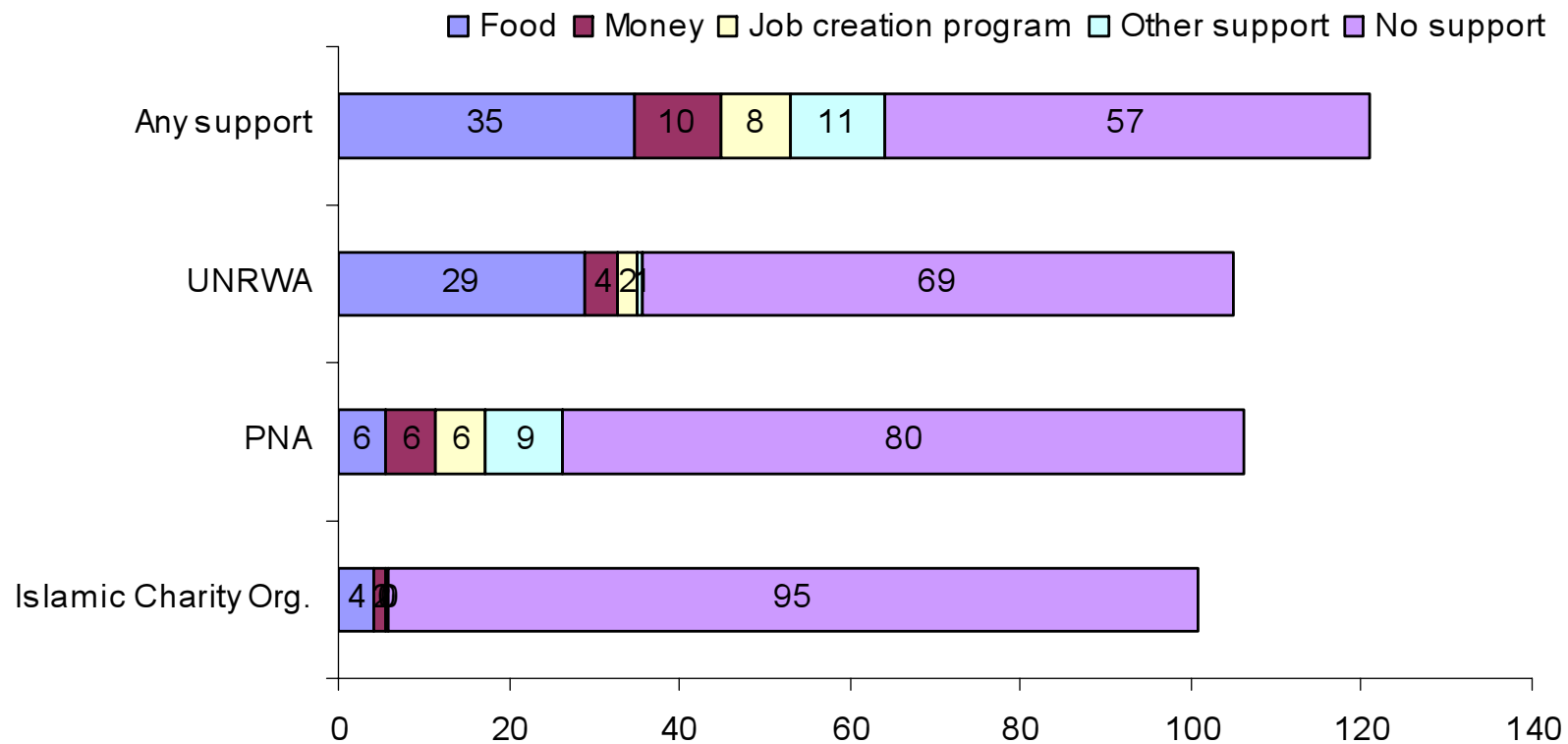
- 40 percent say release of prisoners is top priority
- 19 percent answers job creation opportunities
- 16 percent think the economic situation in general is the most critical issue.
- The same three issues are also reported as the second most important thing to address.
- While infrastructure development and violence are of less importance

First and second most important issues to address



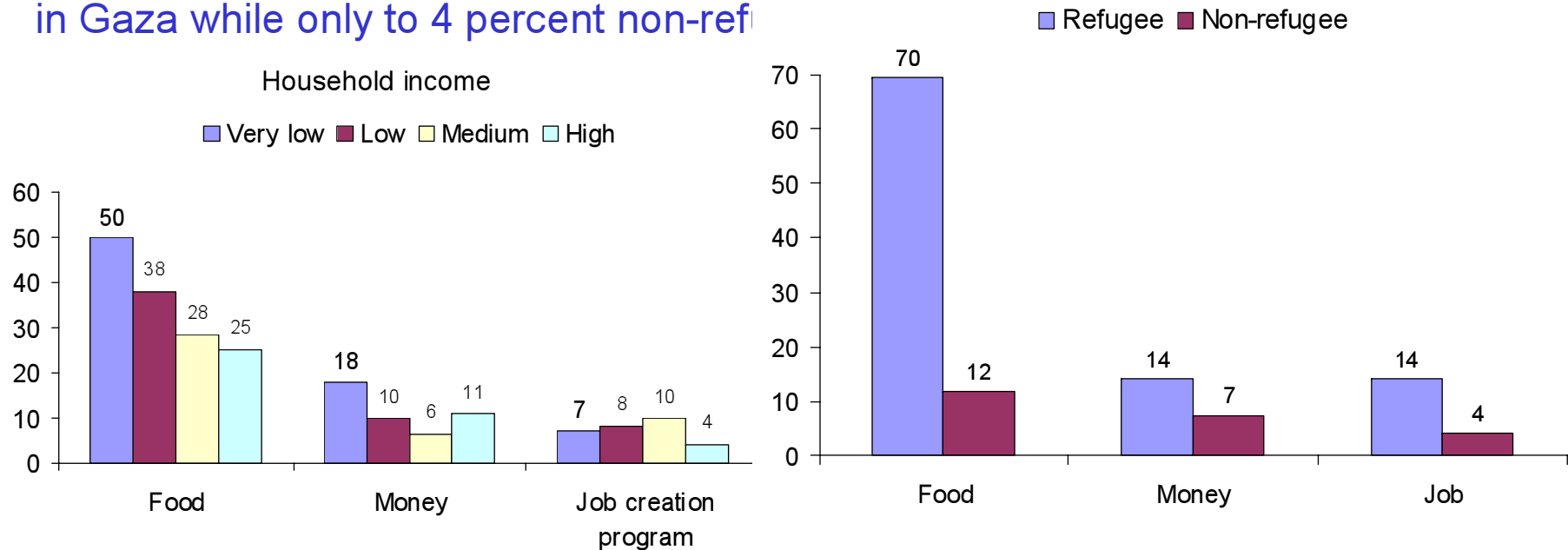
UNRWA is main charity supporter, mostly food to refugees

- 43 percent receive some kind of institutional support (WB 30%, Gaza 69%)
- Money support mainly to refugees in Gaza
- 'Other support' is mainly free health insurance from PNA to all trade union members
- Only 5 percent receives aid from Islamic charity organization



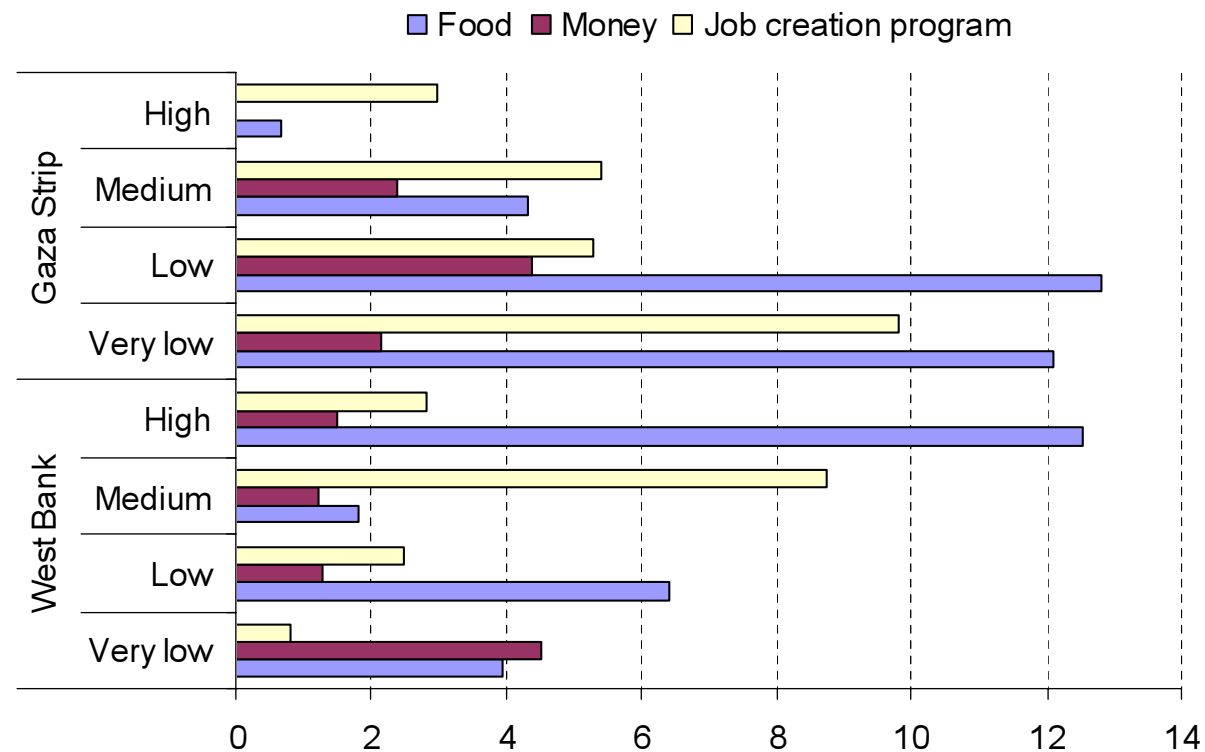
Aid not exclusive to poor families, but mainly to refugees

- UNRWA gives food to refugees in all income groups, but money mainly to the poor.
- Gaza refugees are main recipients of food and money support
- Job creation programs offered to 16 percent refugees in West Bank and 13 percent in Gaza while only to 4 percent non-refugees



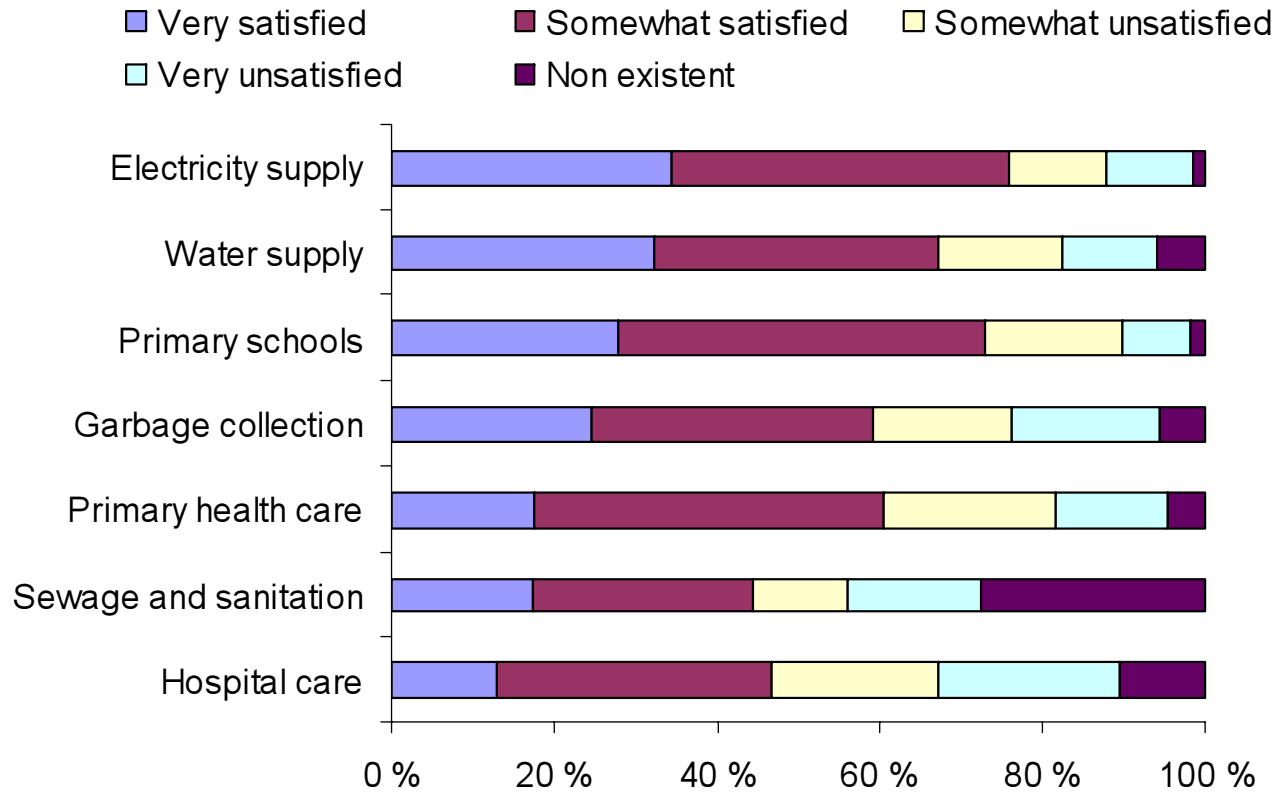
PNA's aid better targeted to poor in Gaza than in West Bank

- PNA's food and job creation aid in Gaza benefits the poorest
- ... while larger proportions of those better off receive money.
- Situation opposite in West Bank where high income families receive more food support and medium income families are offered more job creation programs than the poorest
- ... but a higher percentage of the poorest get money support compared to the richer.



People in Gaza more satisfied with public services

- Low satisfaction with public sewage and sanitation – 39 percent lacks this service in West Bank (5% in Gaza)
- Primary and secondary health care also better in Gaza
- Electricity and water supply have highest satisfaction together with primary schools



Improvement most needed in hospital care and sewage system

- ...both in Gaza and West Bank
- Primary education ranks third in most important issue to be addressed in both territories
- Garbage collection needs more improvement in Gaza than in West Bank

