Public Opinion Survey: Residents of Tunisia

December 3 - December 15, 2019
Detailed Methodology

• The survey was conducted by a Tunisian-owned and operated marketing research firm, ELKA Consulting, on behalf of the International Republican Institute’s [Center for Insights in Survey Research](#).

• Data was collected from December 3 to December 15, 2019 through face-to-face interviews at respondents’ homes by trained interviewers in Arabic. All data was collected on CAPI Solution tablets.

• The national sample consisted of n=1,013 respondents and is representative of the population of Tunisia aged 18 and older.

• The distribution of the sample across Tunisia’s 24 governorates is based on data from Tunisia’s National Statistics Institute, collected in 2014.
  • Within each governorate, the sample is stratified in urban and rural areas using probability proportionate to size.
  • Primary sampling units were randomly drawn within governorate urban/rural areas.

• Households were selected using a random route method. A left-hand rule was employed to attempt interviews at every third household encountered along the route.

• The Kish grid method was used to select respondents 18 years and older within randomly selected households.

• The sample was weighted for age and gender based on statistics from the 2014 Census.

• The overall margin of error is plus or minus 3.0 points at the midrange of the 95 percent confidence level.

• The response rate was 62 percent.

• Figures in charts and tables may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding.

• The information in this report has been compiled in accordance with international standards for market and social research methodologies.
National Indicators
In general, would you say that our country is heading in the right direction or in the wrong direction?

- In the right direction: 23%
- In the wrong direction: 67%
- Don't know/Refused: 10%
In general, would you say that our country is heading in the right direction or in the wrong direction?
What is the most important problem facing our country today? (Spontaneous response)

- Economy—cost of living, high prices: 33%
- Economy—unemployment: 28%
- Corruption: 9%
- Economy—other/general: 4%
- Poverty: 3%
- Insecurity: 3%
- Infrastructure: 2%
- Internal conflicts: 2%
- Politics (Political problems): 2%
- Healthcare: 1%
- Education: 1%
- Terrorism: 1%
- Political parties: 1%
- Crime/Public safety: 1%
- Economy—small business opportunities/access to loans: 1%
- Illicit drugs: 1%
- The political situation: <1%
- Agriculture: <1%
- Other (environment, transportation, religion, etc.): 5%
- Don't know/Refused: 3%
What, among the following, should be the top priority for the government?

- Living standards: 23%
- Employment: 17%
- Youth employment/opportunities for youth: 14%
- Corruption and transparency: 11%
- Economic development and reform: 9%
- Improvement of public services (health care, education, infrastructure): 8%
- Security: 6%
- Winning the war on terrorism: 3%
- Social reforms: 3%
- Development of southern and interior regions: 3%
- Improvement of service delivery (trash, roads, mail, etc.): 2%
- Don’t know/Refused: 1%
How would you describe the current economic situation in Tunisia?

- Very good: 1%
- Somewhat good: 10%
- Somewhat bad: 17%
- Very bad: 70%
- Don't know/Refused: 2%
Thinking ahead to next year, do you expect Tunisia’s national economy to:

- Get much better: 17%
- Get somewhat better: 46%
- Stay the same: 12%
- Get somewhat worse: 6%
- Get much worse: 10%
- Don’t know/Refused: 10%
How would you describe the current economic situation of your household?

- Very good: 4%
- Somewhat good: 51%
- Somewhat bad: 18%
- Very bad: 21%
- Don’t know/Refused: 1%
Thinking ahead to next year, do you expect your household’s financial situation to: get much better, get somewhat better, get somewhat worse, get much worse, or stay the same?*

*In polls before December 2019, this question was phrased as: “In the coming 12 months, how do you expect the economic situation of your household to change?”
Which of the following costs constitutes the heaviest burden on your household budget?

- Electricity: 31%
- Food: 26%
- Health: 12%
- Education: 10%
- Housing: 9%
- Fuel for automobiles: 4%
- Clothes: 1%
- Transportation: 1%
- Fuel for heating or cooking: 1%
- Mobile telephone: 1%
- Other: 2%
- Don’t know/Refused: 1%
What is your employment status?

- Employed full-time: 22%
- Employed part-time: 14%
- Unemployed and searching for a job: 19%
- Unemployed but not searching for a job: 25%
- Student: 7%
- Retired or disabled: 12%
- Don’t know/Refused: 1%
Are you seeking a job? (Among respondents who are not retired/disabled or who are not unemployed but not searching for a job, n=638)

In what job sector are you interested in working? (Spontaneous response; respondents seeking a job: n=290)
Do you expect help from the government in finding a job? (Respondents seeking a job: n=290)

- Yes: 60%
- No: 34%
- Don’t know/Refused: 7%

What kind of help? (Spontaneous response; respondents who expect help from the government in finding a job: n=98)

- Loans to open businesses: 32%
- Exam for the public sector: 27%
- Making it easier to get licenses: 9%
- Job training: 7%
- Providing job opportunities: 3%
- Providing grants: 2%
- Transparent application/selection process: 1%
- Employment mechanisms: <1%
- Collaboration with the state: <1%
- Other: 3%
- Don’t know/Refused: 13%
What do you think is the best way to increase jobs in Tunisia?

- Reduce corruption: 28%
- Increase foreign direct investment: 16%
- Improve education/vocational training: 13%
- End strikes/sit-ins: 10%
- Improve security: 9%
- Expand public sector: 9%
- Reduce government regulation: 6%
- Increase tourism: 4%
- Other (agricultural investment, new projects, reforming the private sector, etc.): 3%
- Don’t know/Refused: 3%
How would you rate the performance of the government?

- Very good: 4%
- Somewhat good: 25%
- Somewhat bad: 15%
- Very bad: 41%
- Don’t know/Refused: 15%
For the following issues, is the national government doing a very good, somewhat good, somewhat bad, or very bad job?

- **Fighting terrorism**: 34% Very good, 31% Somewhat good, 7% Somewhat bad, 20% Very bad, 8% Don't know/Refused
- **Fighting corruption**: 14% Very good, 27% Somewhat good, 14% Somewhat bad, 40% Very bad, 5% Don't know/Refused
- **Encouraging investment in Tunisia’s economy**: 11% Very good, 26% Somewhat good, 16% Somewhat bad, 37% Very bad, 10% Don't know/Refused
- **Providing services (health care, electricity, clean water)**: 10% Very good, 19% Somewhat good, 18% Somewhat bad, 50% Very bad, 2% Don't know/Refused
- **Creating jobs**: 7% Very good, 16% Somewhat good, 19% Somewhat bad, 53% Very bad, 5% Don't know/Refused
Would you say that the national-level of government does a very good job, a good job, a poor job, or a very poor job of communicating with the public about the functions of their office and the projects they are working on?

- Very good: 17%
- Good: 22%
- Poor: 18%
- Very poor: 36%
- Don’t know/Refused: 8%
Would you say that your local government does a very good job, a good job, a fair job, a poor job, or a very poor job in delivering services to you and your community?

- Very good: 9%
- Good: 11%
- Fair: 26%
- Poor: 9%
- Very poor: 41%
- Don’t know/Refused: 3%
In general, are members of Parliament doing a lot, enough, little, or nothing to address the needs of people like you?

- A lot: 2%
- Enough: 3%
- Little: 12%
- Nothing: 75%
- Don't know/Refused: 9%
In general, are ministries doing a lot, enough, little, or nothing to address the needs of people like you?

- A lot: 2%
- Enough: 6%
- Little: 19%
- Nothing: 62%
- Don't know/Refused: 10%
Which of the following do you think should be the key priority of the new Parliament?

- Living standards: 21%
- Youth employment/opportunities for youth: 15%
- Employment: 14%
- Improve public services (health care, education, infrastructure): 11%
- Corruption and transparency: 10%
- Economic development and reform: 9%
- Development of Southern and interior regions: 6%
- Winning the war on terrorism: 3%
- Security: 3%
- Social reforms: 3%
- Improve service delivery (trash, roads, mail, etc.): 2%
- Don’t know/Refused: 2%
To what extent, if any, has corruption had a negative impact on you?

- It has had a lot of negative impact: 76%
- It has had some negative impact: 7%
- It has had little negative impact: 5%
- It has not had any negative impact: 10%
- Don't know/Refused: 2%
In the past 12 months, how often, if at all, have you had to do a favor, give a gift, or pay a bribe?

- **Daily**: 2%
- **Weekly**: 1%
- **Monthly**: 2%
- **Less frequently**: 9%
- **Not at all**: 86%
- **Don't know/Refused**: 1%
From this list of institutions, tell me if you have personally experienced corruption with:

- Hospitals: 15% Yes, 85% No, <1% Don’t know/Refused
- Traffic police: 13% Yes, 87% No, <1% Don’t know/Refused
- Public administration: 11% Yes, 88% No, 1% Don’t know/Refused
- Courts: 5% Yes, 95% No, 1% Don’t know/Refused
- Private businesses: 4% Yes, 95% No, 1% Don’t know/Refused
- Public schools: 4% Yes, 96% No, <1% Don’t know/Refused
- Banks: 3% Yes, 96% No, 1% Don’t know/Refused
- Religious institutions: 2% Yes, 98% No, <1% Don’t know/Refused
As an average citizen, which of the following is the best way to fight corruption in your community?

- Report acts of corruption to authorities: 37%
- Better civic education and awareness: 31%
- Fix economic inequality: 9%
- There is nothing an average citizen can do: 8%
- Participate in protests: 4%
- Support political parties or candidates: 2%
- Run for elected office: 2%
- Don't know/Refused: 8%
In general, are political parties doing a lot, enough, little, or nothing to address the needs of people like you?

- A lot: 3%
- Enough: 6%
- Little: 17%
- Nothing: 69%
- Don't know/Refused: 5%
I’m going to read you a list of national figures that represent political organizations. For each, please tell me if you have a favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or unfavorable opinion of that individual.

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<tr>
<th>Figure</th>
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I’m going to read you a list of political organizations. For each, please tell me if you have a favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or unfavorable opinion of that organization.

- **UGTT**: 16% Highly favorable, 19% Somewhat favorable, 10% Somewhat unfavorable, 33% Highly unfavorable, 22% Don’t Know/Refused
- **Qalb Tunis**: 11% Highly favorable, 15% Somewhat favorable, 11% Somewhat unfavorable, 35% Highly unfavorable, 27% Don’t Know/Refused
- **Karama Coalition**: 10% Highly favorable, 16% Somewhat favorable, 9% Somewhat unfavorable, 22% Highly unfavorable, 42% Don’t Know/Refused
- **Tahya Tounes**: 9% Highly favorable, 17% Somewhat favorable, 11% Somewhat unfavorable, 29% Highly unfavorable, 34% Don’t Know/Refused
- **Ennahdha**: 8% Highly favorable, 16% Somewhat favorable, 12% Somewhat unfavorable, 51% Highly unfavorable, 15% Don’t Know/Refused
- **Harakat Al Chaab**: 7% Highly favorable, 18% Somewhat favorable, 8% Somewhat unfavorable, 19% Highly unfavorable, 47% Don’t Know/Refused
- **Free Destourian Party**: 7% Highly favorable, 15% Somewhat favorable, 10% Somewhat unfavorable, 32% Highly unfavorable, 36% Don’t Know/Refused
- **Tayar Democracy**: 6% Highly favorable, 17% Somewhat favorable, 13% Somewhat unfavorable, 19% Highly unfavorable, 45% Don’t Know/Refused
In which type of place do you hear the greatest amount of discussion about politics? (Spontaneous response)

- Cafes: 41%
- Households: 18%
- Workplaces: 5%
- In the street: 4%
- Schools: 1%
- Hospitals: 1%
- Media: 1%
- Transportation: 1%
- Supermarkets: 1%
- Everywhere: 1%
- Mosques: 1%
- In the neighborhood: <1%
- Other: 1%
- Not interested: 2%
- Don’t know/Refused: 23%
In your opinion, should there be more or fewer youth in Tunisian politics?

- More: 80%
- The same as there is currently: 9%
- Fewer: 8%
- Don't know/Refused: 3%
Political Participation
For people like me, voting...

- **Gives me some say about how the government runs things**: 54%
- **Doesn't really affect how the government runs things, but I still believe it is important to vote**: 27%
- **Doesn't really affect how the government runs things, so for me it's not really important to vote**: 14%
- **Don't know/Refused**: 5%
For people like me, voting...

- **Gives me some say about how government runs things**
  - Dec-19: 54%
  - Jan-19: 29%
  - Nov-17: 40%
  - Apr-17: 37%

- **Doesn't really affect how the government runs things, but I still believe it's important to vote**
  - Dec-19: 27%
  - Jan-19: 29%
  - Nov-17: 26%
  - Apr-17: 23%

- **Doesn't really affect how the government runs things, so for me, it's not really important to vote**
  - Dec-19: 14%
  - Jan-19: 37%
  - Nov-17: 29%
  - Apr-17: 31%

- **Don't know/Refused to answer**
  - Dec-19: 5%
  - Jan-19: 5%
  - Nov-17: 5%
  - Apr-17: 9%
How likely or unlikely are ordinary people able to influence decisions made in our country?

- Very likely: 46%
- Somewhat likely: 24%
- Somewhat unlikely: 4%
- Very unlikely: 20%
- Don't know/Refused: 6%
How likely or unlikely are ordinary people able to influence decisions made in our country?

Dec-19

- Very likely: 46%
- Somewhat likely: 24%
- Somewhat unlikely: 4%
- Very unlikely: 20%
- Don’t know/Refused to answer: 6%

Jan-19

- Very likely: 33%
- Somewhat likely: 23%
- Somewhat unlikely: 9%
- Very unlikely: 30%
- Don’t know/Refused to answer: 5%
Thinking about Tunisia’s current political system, do you believe Tunisia is a:

- Full democracy: 14%
- Nearly full democracy: 36%
- Flawed democracy: 13%
- Not a democracy at all: 26%
- Don’t know/Refused: 11%
Thinking about our country’s current political system, do you believe Tunisia is a:

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<th>Month</th>
<th>Full democracy</th>
<th>Nearly full democracy</th>
<th>Flawed democracy</th>
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How important or unimportant is it that all members of our country’s adult population, including women, young adults, minorities, and people with disabilities, are included in political decision making?

- **Very important**: 76%
- **Somewhat important**: 14%
- **Somewhat unimportant**: 2%
- **Very unimportant**: 4%
- **Don't know/Refused**: 4%
Demographics
## Demographics

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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

70% Urban
30% Rural
### Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>18 - 35</th>
<th>36 - 55</th>
<th>56 and older</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Which language can you read?</th>
<th>Arabic</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>French</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What is the highest level of school you completed?</th>
<th>Never went to school</th>
<th>Primary school</th>
<th>Secondary school</th>
<th>Professional training</th>
<th>University/Graduate degree</th>
<th>Don’t know/Refused</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>How much does your household earn per month?</th>
<th>200 dinars or less</th>
<th>Between 201 and 500 dinars</th>
<th>Between 501 and 1,000 dinars</th>
<th>Between 1,001 and 1,500 dinars</th>
<th>Between 1,501 and 2,500 dinars</th>
<th>More than 2,500 dinars</th>
<th>Don’t know/Refused</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Yes Percentage</th>
<th>No Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Do you have access to the internet?</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do you or your family own your own home?</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>When you do use the internet, from where do you access it most often?</th>
<th>Home (Fixed or wifi connection)</th>
<th>Work (Fixed or wifi connection)</th>
<th>Mobile phone</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Please tell us which answer best describes your current economic situation:

- I have trouble feeding myself and my family and buying even the most essential things for survival: 33%
- I have enough means for survival, but I do not have enough money for extra things: 52%
- I am able to afford things like new clothes and eating at restaurants but not often: 11%
- I am able to afford things like new clothes and eating out and also support other members of my family who are not able to do these things: 3%
- Don't know/Refused: 1%
## Demographics

### What is your religion?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religion</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Muslim</td>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't know/Refused</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Compared to other people of your religion, do you observe religious practices and rules much more strictly, somewhat more strictly, somewhat less strictly, or much less strictly?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Observation</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Much more strictly</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat more strictly</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat less strictly</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Much less strictly</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't know/Refused</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### How religious would you say you are?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religious Description</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Very religious</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somewhat religious</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not very religious</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not religious at all</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't know/Refused</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>